

Court statistics 2012

Official statistics of Sweden

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Introduction

According to the Official Statistics Act (2001:99) official statistics must be made available to the general public and committees of enquiry and for research purposes. The Swedish National Courts Administration has been responsible for official statistics relating to the work of the courts since 2002. During the period 1993-2001 such statistics were produced by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (BRÅ). In the early years, the provision of this statistical information was the responsibility of Statistics Sweden (SCB).

Court statistics comprise statistics for cases and matters at the general courts and general administrative courts as well as matters dealt with at the rent and tenancy tribunals. Since 2004, certain statistical information has also been published for individual courts.

Contents of this publication

These statistics are divided into three chapters, each of which begins with a summary of the work of each court category. The first chapter presents statistics from the general courts, i.e. the district courts, the courts of appeal and the Supreme Court, whilst statistics from the general administrative courts, i.e., the administrative courts, administrative courts of appeal and the Supreme Administrative Court, are presented in the second chapter. The third chapter contains information about the rent and tenancy tribunals.

Further legal statistics

In addition to the court statistics in this publication, further legal statistics are available from the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, the Prison and Probation Service and Statistics Sweden.

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Explanation of symbols

- Nil
- .. No information available

1. Cases and matters in the general courts

The work of the general courts

The general courts comprise the district court as the court of first instance, the court of appeal as the court of second instance and the Supreme Court as the court of third instance. At the beginning of 2012, there were forty-eight district courts and six courts of appeal.

The District Courts

The principal task of the district courts is to adjudicate in criminal and civil cases.

Crime, in a legal sense, is an action that is punishable and the basic rules that apply to crimes are to be found in the Penal Code, which contains, for example, the rules applicable to crimes of violence and theft. Certain crimes, such as drug offences, tax crimes and traffic offences, are dealt with using special legislation.

The majority of disputes fall under either property law or family law. The former generally involve the inability of the parties to agree on the terms of a contract, e.g. in conjunction with a purchase where there is a dispute regarding the price agreed for a particular item, the lawful ownership of an object or liability for damages. A family law dispute could involve divorce proceedings, custody of children, child maintenance and paternity.

On 2 May 2011, five land and environment courts were established and located at five district courts. Previously, there were special property courts and environmental courts in these same district courts. The land and environment courts handle cases that were previously dealt with by the environmental courts, cases relating to the Planning and Building Act that were dealt with by the administrative courts and the government, and the majority of cases from the property courts. This means that the land and environment courts adjudicate in cases such as leasehold rights, environmentally hazardous activities, permits, compensation for expropriation, environmental damages, water operations etc. A Land and Environment Court of Appeal was also established, located at the Svea Court of Appeal, to handle appealed cases from the land and environment courts.

A number of matters are processed and determined by the district courts, such as distraint cases, which mainly consist of appeals against seizure orders, debt management and bankruptcies.

Determination of cases and matters in the district court

At a main hearing in a crime case, the general rule is that the court should consist of one legally trained judge and three lay judges.

Law clerks also serve in the district courts and after a certain period of service they are usually appointed to adjudicate regularly in less complicated cases such as traffic offences.

At a main hearing in a civil case, the general rule is that the court should consist of three legally trained judges, although there are several exceptions to this. In certain family law cases, the court consists of one legally trained judge and three lay judges. The court could even consist of a single legally trained judge in those instances where the hearing takes the form of a simplified procedure, if the parties have granted their consent or if the case is of a less complicated nature.

Both civil and criminal cases can in certain instances be determined on the basis of documentary evidence, whereby the court acquaints itself with the documents and written evidence presented.

Whilst the majority of criminal cases are determined following a main hearing this applies to less than half the civil cases.

The district court also examines the question of compulsory powers in criminal cases, such as when a public prosecutor asks for a suspect to be remanded in custody. In a custody hearing the court decides whether the suspect will be detained or released.

As a rule, district court judgments can be appealed to a court of appeal.

The courts of appeal

Cases filed at the courts of appeal are classified as civil cases, criminal cases or other cases. Other cases include appeals from the district courts as well as specific decisions taken before or during the hearing at the district court, e.g. remanding a defendant in custody or the replacement of a public defence counsel.

Leave to appeal is required for a court of appeal to examine a judgment or decision of a district court. It is also required for such appeals in civil cases. As regards criminal cases, leave to appeal is required in any appeal where the defendant has only been fined or has been acquitted, when the maximum punishment applicable to the crime is six months' imprisonment or when the appeal relates only to the part of the judgment dealing with compensation.

Leave to appeal may be granted only when the court of appeal is in doubt regarding the correctness of the judgment in the district court, if it is necessary for the court of appeal to determine whether the district court judgment is correct, if an appeal to a higher court constitutes a precedent, or if there are pressing reasons.

Case determination at the courts of appeal

At the main hearing in a civil case, the general rule is that the court must comprise three legally trained judges. If the case to be examined has already been adjudicated by this number at the district court, the court must comprise at least four legally trained judges. In criminal cases the general rule is that the court must comprise three legally trained judges and two lay judges at the main hearing.

The majority of civil cases are determined in a court of appeal without a main hearing. The rules in the Code of Judicial Procedure state that a case can be determined without a main hearing if the matter can be examined satisfactorily and

the parties have requested that it be determined in this way. The court of appeal can also adjudicate in a criminal case without a main hearing, although the majority of criminal cases are determined after a main hearing.

The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court examines cases that come to it on appeal from one of the six courts of appeal. The majority of cases require leave to appeal. The general rule is that leave is only granted if the judgment or decision of the Supreme Court could be an important precedent. Only a few per cent of the cases referred to the Supreme Court are granted leave to appeal. The Parliamentary Ombudsman (JO) and the Chancellor of Justice (JK) have the right to refer a case that is the subject of public prosecution to the Supreme Court, without leave to appeal.

The majority of cases are decided on the basis of documentation following a presentation, although oral hearings with the parties also take place.

Case determination at the Supreme Court

Cases in the Supreme Court are decided by the Justices of the Supreme Court and when a case is to be examined, five or a maximum of seven justices are present. If the matter to be examined is of a less complicated nature only three justices take part. If the result conflicts with a previous ruling by this court then the matter must be referred to a plenum, which consists of all the justices, or to a 'small plenum', which consists of nine justices. The matter of leave to appeal is decided by one or three justices.

Table 1.1
District courts
Cases filed, determined and pending 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cases filed					
FT cases ¹	17 504	21 299	22 173	21 222	22 952
Joint petitions ²	21 098	22 729	22 371	21 818	22 953
Other family cases	12 853	14 108	15 772	16 066	17 149
Other civil cases	20 991	24 326	25 485	23 638	25 160
Total civil cases	72 446	82 462	85 801	82 744	88 214
Other criminal cases ³	-	-	39 712	39 271	39 455
Criminal cases involving fines	-	-	13 527	11 856	10 166
Financial crimes	-	-	1 844	1 743	1 611
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	-	-	22 407	23 163	22 677
Crime against property	-	-	14 942	14 896	15 914
Total criminal cases	83 037	87 476	92 432	90 929	89 823
Environmental cases	1 846	2 075	2 007	2 204	1 071
Property cases	1 155	1 244	1 082	1 032	2 323
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act				1 414	2 079
Total	158 484	173 257	181 322	178 323	183 510
Cases determined					
FT cases ¹	16 976	20 018	22 127	21 531	22 472
Joint petitions ²	20 940	21 803	22 704	22 062	21 929
Other family cases	12 871	13 507	14 768	16 200	16 840
Other civil cases	20 998	23 350	25 200	24 253	25 276
Total civil cases	71 785	78 678	84 799	84 046	86 517
Other criminal cases ³	-	-	40 946	40 412	39 690
Criminal cases involving fines	-	-	13 265	12 311	11 192
Financial crimes	-	-	1 599	1 813	1 678
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	-	-	20 659	23 379	22 467
Crime against property	-	-	14 300	14 777	15 705
Total criminal cases	82 504	85 714	90 769	92 692	90 732
Environmental cases	1 850	1 910	2 109	2 046	1 094
Property cases	1 234	1 373	1 173	1 173	2 335
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act				724	2 034
Total	157 373	167 675	178 850	180 681	182 712
Cases pending					
FT cases ¹	4 863	6 049	5 991	5 679	6 059
Joint petitions ²	8 777	9 511	8 970	8 726	9 543
Other family cases	8 911	9 653	10 805	10 672	11 128
Other civil cases	13 659	14 660	15 078	14 466	14 406
Total civil cases	36 210	39 873	40 844	39 543	41 136
Other criminal cases ³	-	-	13 573	12 412	12 052
Criminal cases involving fines	-	-	4 082	3 626	2 556
Financial crimes	-	-	1 345	1 279	1 212
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	-	-	9 417	9 199	9 426
Crime against property	-	-	5 137	5 255	5 444
Total criminal cases	30 697	32 163	33 554	31 771	30 690
Environmental cases	1 459	1 622	1 520	1 678	754
Property cases	1 267	1 129	920	779	1 670
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act				690	738
Total	69 633	74 787	76 838	74 461	74 988

¹ Civil cases where the amount claimed does not exceed half a base amount and where the case is always determined by a single judge.

² For divorce and custody of children.

³ The statistics are revised for the period 2010.

Table 1.2
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012, individual district courts

District court	FT cases	Joint petitions	Other family cases	Other civil cases	Criminal cases	Property cases	Environmental cases	Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act
Alingsås								
Filed	234	276	170	198	826	-	-	-
Determined	264	264	182	233	872	-	-	-
Pending	44	121	109	97	280	-	-	-
Attunda								
Filed	992	1 175	835	1 246	3 383	-	-	-
Determined	983	1 099	789	1 340	3 326	-	-	-
Pending	242	539	601	644	1 192	-	-	-
Blekinge								
Filed	326	362	201	254	1 387	-	-	-
Determined	309	351	182	255	1 335	-	-	-
Pending	102	150	147	165	495	-	-	-
Borås								
Filed	387	445	337	356	1 468	-	-	-
Determined	351	415	327	299	1 460	-	-	-
Pending	115	188	217	213	522	-	-	-
Eksjö								
Filed	210	226	155	182	645	-	-	-
Determined	198	210	168	181	652	-	-	-
Pending	30	100	60	54	160	-	-	-
Eskilstuna								
Filed	334	354	297	342	1 417	-	-	-
Determined	323	346	266	333	1 411	-	-	-
Pending	77	135	188	146	437	-	-	-
Falu								
Filed	371	456	356	348	1 792	-	-	-
Determined	343	466	309	351	1 810	-	-	-
Pending	97	166	265	222	689	-	-	-
Gotlands								
Filed	117	114	56	131	448	-	-	-
Determined	105	86	80	123	413	-	-	-
Pending	45	43	41	90	194	-	-	-
Gällivare								
Filed	68	91	66	80	415	-	-	-
Determined	70	94	64	70	424	-	-	-
Pending	14	36	39	38	102	-	-	-
Gävle								
Filed	394	361	263	290	1 175	-	-	-
Determined	356	329	266	292	1 159	-	-	-
Pending	101	171	166	154	335	-	-	-
Gothenburg								
Filed	1 826	1 839	1 481	2 036	5 914	-	-	-
Determined	1 839	1 735	1 438	2 069	6 018	-	-	-
Pending	606	773	1 079	1 390	2 570	-	-	-
Halmstads								
Filed	311	301	179	294	1 285	-	-	-
Determined	299	277	202	264	1 257	-	-	-
Pending	86	148	127	165	541	-	-	-
Haparanda								
Filed	106	65	82	121	361	-	-	-
Determined	102	75	75	120	380	-	-	-
Pending	26	24	40	63	129	-	-	-
Helsingborgs								
Filed	856	741	507	892	2 947	-	-	-
Determined	870	710	459	951	3 096	-	-	-
Pending	204	308	354	504	953	-	-	-
Hudiksvalls								
Filed	373	255	137	172	937	-	-	-
Determined	367	235	136	171	985	-	-	-
Pending	86	97	91	107	262	-	-	-
Hässelholms								
Filed	128	131	92	137	575	-	-	-
Determined	131	140	110	145	574	-	-	-
Pending	31	45	60	48	157	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012, individual district courts

District court	FT cases	Joint petitions	Other family cases	Other civil cases	Criminal cases	Property cases	Environmental cases	Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act
Jönköpings								
Filed	372	439	323	386	1 730	-	-	-
Determined	359	445	314	362	1 670	-	-	-
Pending	75	171	190	163	494	-	-	-
Kalmar								
Filed	563	407	279	417	1 494	-	-	-
Determined	520	371	287	387	1 561	-	-	-
Pending	182	199	182	281	569	-	-	-
Kristianstads								
Filed	260	255	168	209	1 184	-	-	-
Determined	251	226	165	247	1 156	-	-	-
Pending	69	108	122	93	352	-	-	-
Linköpings								
Filed	421	514	344	441	1 743	-	-	-
Determined	421	505	383	430	1 910	-	-	-
Pending	97	196	174	204	437	-	-	-
Luleå								
Filed	274	296	236	219	1 350	-	-	-
Determined	300	297	220	207	1 365	-	-	-
Pending	60	145	133	121	360	-	-	-
Lunds								
Filed	742	699	470	793	2 589	-	-	-
Determined	705	695	443	760	2 683	-	-	-
Pending	172	284	321	414	707	-	-	-
Lycksele								
Filed	82	56	66	45	290	-	-	-
Determined	80	48	67	42	269	-	-	-
Pending	14	19	21	12	59	-	-	-
Malmö								
Filed	1 134	1 031	956	1 343	5 351	-	-	-
Determined	1 130	1 015	951	1 319	5 355	-	-	-
Pending	281	443	692	731	2 005	-	-	-
Mora								
Filed	220	139	75	204	629	-	-	-
Determined	211	123	88	231	630	-	-	-
Pending	64	58	47	131	316	-	-	-
Nacka								
Filed	436	445	295	581	1 537	472	675	655
Determined	487	411	308	588	1 492	435	653	685
Pending	73	220	165	240	486	299	493	228
Norrköpings								
Filed	352	410	248	392	1 351	-	-	-
Determined	343	405	252	387	1 382	-	-	-
Pending	98	183	147	164	404	-	-	-
Norrårlje								
Filed	169	133	79	197	553	-	-	-
Determined	167	118	65	172	566	-	-	-
Pending	30	54	57	97	112	-	-	-
Nyköpings								
Filed	324	348	279	339	1 489	-	-	-
Determined	307	362	274	328	1 533	-	-	-
Pending	65	129	117	102	298	-	-	-
Skaraborgs								
Filed	469	472	377	439	1 746	-	-	-
Determined	474	466	331	426	1 849	-	-	-
Pending	121	192	255	244	515	-	-	-
Skellefteå								
Filed	145	111	147	78	566	-	-	-
Determined	159	112	144	80	583	-	-	-
Pending	32	49	84	39	146	-	-	-
Solna								
Filed	1 068	1 182	1 144	1 357	4 091	-	-	-
Determined	1 009	1 151	1 200	1 452	4 144	-	-	-
Pending	323	452	744	761	1 471	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012, individual district courts

District court	FT cases	Joint petitions	Other family cases	Other civil cases	Criminal cases	Property cases	Environmental cases	Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act
Stockholms								
Filed	1 582	1 113	679	3 169	7 141	-	-	-
Determined	1 544	1 023	667	3 277	7 105	-	-	-
Pending	405	329	363	2 759	2 377	-	-	-
Sundsvalls								
Filed	305	276	186	231	1 236	-	-	-
Determined	293	271	179	203	1 140	-	-	-
Pending	113	124	117	159	566	-	-	-
Södertälje								
Filed	293	300	237	389	1 328	-	-	-
Determined	265	249	237	313	1 257	-	-	-
Pending	123	143	171	232	589	-	-	-
Södertörns								
Filed	1 708	1 912	1 566	2 090	7 065	-	-	-
Determined	1 697	1 813	1 569	2 083	6 966	-	-	-
Pending	310	738	945	758	2 229	-	-	-
Uddevalla								
Filed	361	378	236	399	1 267	-	-	-
Determined	360	358	228	359	1 294	-	-	-
Pending	83	157	147	224	407	-	-	-
Umeå								
Filed	267	280	227	199	1 103	80	156	90
Determined	232	229	213	198	1 210	89	150	81
Pending	132	142	161	104	412	49	154	32
Uppsala								
Filed	661	827	560	691	3 372	-	-	-
Determined	637	817	505	697	3 511	-	-	-
Pending	140	334	366	312	1 167	-	-	-
Varbergs								
Filed	332	328	215	350	1 191	-	-	-
Determined	337	331	201	382	1 321	-	-	-
Pending	97	155	142	195	405	-	-	-
Vänersborgs								
Filed	263	320	303	276	1 191	229	572	687
Determined	285	334	262	260	1 285	259	631	624
Pending	77	133	205	146	332	204	305	246
Värmlands								
Filed	570	534	362	473	2 296	-	-	-
Determined	537	511	354	457	2 268	-	-	-
Pending	138	225	232	266	784	-	-	-
Västmanlands								
Filed	537	659	487	594	2 374	-	-	-
Determined	543	639	487	621	2 235	-	-	-
Pending	200	303	366	317	977	-	-	-
Växjö								
Filed	384	376	320	315	1 273	180	771	491
Determined	347	369	320	352	1 306	182	729	481
Pending	116	162	244	220	485	139	625	183
Ystads								
Filed	431	384	238	454	1 283	-	-	-
Determined	410	315	222	448	1 285	-	-	-
Pending	125	198	164	234	416	-	-	-
Ångermanlands								
Filed	257	263	155	189	1 081	-	-	-
Determined	218	224	164	182	1 150	-	-	-
Pending	112	111	96	137	298	-	-	-
Örebro								
Filed	644	674	490	553	2 785	-	-	-
Determined	664	653	521	592	2 970	-	-	-
Pending	138	270	268	291	1 062	-	-	-
Östersunds								
Filed	293	200	188	269	1 169	110	149	155
Determined	270	211	166	237	1 109	129	172	163
Pending	88	74	105	155	435	63	93	48

Table 1.3
District courts
Bankruptcies and court matters 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Bankruptcy applications					
Filed	9 675	11 609	11 451	12 795	11 324
Bankruptcies					
Concluded ¹	6 558	6 544	7 241	7 820	7 001
Court matters					
Filed	59 909	68 976	71 885	63 968	41 800
Determined	59 822	67 994	71 631	66 482	44 226
Pending	13 555	14 358	14 327	11 618	9 074

¹Bankruptcies concluded due to dismissal or rescission of a bankruptcy judgment or a decision that results in a composition arrangement.

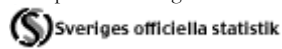


Table 1.4
District courts
Civil cases determined according to family law 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Joint petitions for divorce	20 641	21 508	22 348	21 753	21 653
of which dismissed	1 979	1 955	2 044	2 155	1 831
Divorce petitions	6 985	7 415	8 209	8 816	8 823
of which dismissed	1 426	1 433	1 698	1 746	1 830
Paternity cases	621	655	786	1045	1 209
of which dismissed	98	80	74	106	97
Petitions for custody of children	3 660	3 839	4 126	4 586	5 109
of which dismissed	766	736	798	870	906

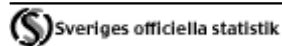


Table 1.5
District courts
Civil cases¹ 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Percentage of cases determined following a hearing (%)	36	34	34	35	33
Percentage of cases determined on a collegial basis (%)	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.3
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.6
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Average hearing time in cases determined after a hearing (hours per case)	2.17	2.15	2.19	2.18	2.18
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	0.78	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.73
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	40.5	40.2	40.4	42	41.2
Percentage of cases determined by default (%)	15.9	17.8	19.6	19.5	20.8
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	34.8	32.8	32.4	31.1	30.3
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	8.8	9.2	7.6	7.4	7.7

¹ Excluding joint petitions for divorce and child custody.

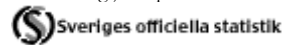


Table 1.6
District courts
Criminal cases 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	77.0	62.9	58.9	58.7	56.2
Percentage of cases with more than one defendant that were determined through a judgment (%)	8.8	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.2
Average number of defendants in cases determined through a judgment	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13
Percentage of cases with a remand hearing (%)	10.2	9.4	8.9	8.8	8.8
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	5.3	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.6
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.0
Average time in cases decided following a hearing (hours per case)	1.59	1.82	1.92	1.93	2.00
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	1.32	1.21	1.20	1.19	1.20
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	79.5	79.2	78.4	76.5	75.2
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	11.4	12.3	13.4	15.0	15.5
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	9.1	8.5	8.2	8.5	9.3

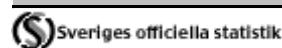


Table 1.7
Courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cases filed¹					
Criminal cases	9 028	9 079	9 374	9 527	9 344
Civil cases	2 734	2 796	2 951	2 863	2 824
Other cases	11 200	10 659	11 147	11 033	11 476
Environmental cases	597	631	662	654	786
Property cases	95	100	95	172	279
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	-	-	243	750
Total	23 654	23 265	24 229	24 492	25 459
Cases determined¹					
Criminal cases	9 298	9 226	9 451	9 404	9 228
Civil cases	2 801	3 287	2 950	2 833	2 805
Other cases	11 423	10 839	11 024	11 256	11 392
Environmental cases	553	606	782	680	772
Property cases	81	102	99	131	281
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	-	-	161	684
Total	24 156	24 060	24 306	24 465	25 162
Cases pending¹					
Criminal cases	3 316	3 169	3 092	3 215	3 318
Civil cases	1 391	900	901	931	946
Other cases	1 437	1 257	1 380	1 156	1 258
Environmental cases	289	314	194	168	182
Property cases	44	42	38	79	76
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	-	-	82	149
Total	6 477	5 682	5 605	5 631	5 929

¹The statistics are revised for the period 2008-2010.

Table 1.8
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012, individual courts of appeal

Court of appeal	Criminal cases	Civil cases	Other cases	Environmental cases	Property cases	Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	Total
Svea Court of Appeal							
Cases filed	3 587	1 184	5 035	786	279	750	11 621
Cases determined	3 590	1 167	4 980	772	281	684	11 474
Cases pending	1 305	389	528	182	76	149	2 629
Göta Court of Appeal							
Cases filed	1 437	449	1 775	-	-	-	3 661
Cases determined	1 396	418	1 773	-	-	-	3 587
Cases pending	411	153	141	-	-	-	705
Court of Appeal for Skåne and Blekinge							
Cases filed	1 572	420	1 621	-	-	-	3 613
Cases determined	1 564	455	1 651	-	-	-	3 670
Cases pending	560	112	179	-	-	-	851
Court of Appeal for Western Sweden							
Cases filed	1 828	500	1 989	-	-	-	4 317
Cases determined	1 748	510	1 938	-	-	-	4 196
Cases pending	715	177	226	-	-	-	1 118
Court of Appeal for Lower Norrland							
Cases filed	514	138	620	-	-	-	1 272
Cases determined	526	126	613	-	-	-	1 265
Cases pending	166	53	101	-	-	-	320
Court of Appeal for Upper Norrland							
Cases filed	406	133	436	-	-	-	975
Cases determined	404	129	437	-	-	-	970
Cases pending	161	62	83	-	-	-	306


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Table 1.9
Courts of appeal
Cases determined 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Criminal cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	63.0	62.6	64.9	66.1	62.4
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	62.2	62.0	64.3	65.5	61.7
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	3.60	3.80	3.75	3.77	4.04
Civil cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	12.3	5.9	3.2	3.9	4.3
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	31.5	18.6	11.8	11.0	13.5
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	4.39	5.24	6.21	6.48	6.74
Environmental cases					
Percentage of cases decided following a main hearing (%)	6.5	5.6	3.6	2.2	2.9
Property cases					
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	-	2.9	2	0.8	4.3


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Table 1.10
Courts of appeal
Frequency of amendment in civil and criminal cases 2012

	Number of determined cases	of which amended	
		number	percentage
Criminal cases	9 237	3 506	38.0%
Civil cases	2 807	598	21.3%
Judgment in criminal cases appealed to the court of appeal by the			
Defendant	6 530	1 957	30.0%
Public prosecutor	759	485	63.9%
Public prosecutor and defendant	1 018	551	54.1%
Other	930	513	55.2%
Total	9 237	3 506	38.0%


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Table 1.11
The Supreme Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Filed	5 420	6 024	6 010	6 004	5 709
Determined	5 221	5 923	6 107	5 706	5 893
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	138	142	133	128	152
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	4 276	4 757	5 221	4 680	4 897
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	807	1024	753	898	844
Pending at the end of the year	1 318	1 418	1 318	1 614	1 430



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Table 1.12
The Supreme Court
Cases determined 2012

	Criminal cases	Civil Cases	Other cases	Total
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	36	28	88	152
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	1 608	300	2 989	4 897
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	93	20	731	844
Total	1 737	348	3 808	5 893

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2. Cases at the general administrative courts

The work of the general administrative courts

The administrative courts handle cases relating to disputes between individuals and public authorities and are arranged under a three-tier system. The first court tier is the administrative court, the second is the administrative court of appeal, and the third and highest is the Supreme Administrative Court. There are twelve administrative courts and four administrative courts of appeal. On 15 February 2010, the former 23 County Administrative Courts were reorganized to 12 Administrative Courts. At the administrative courts in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö, there are migration courts that hear alien and citizenship cases as the court of first instance, whilst the Migration Court of Appeal is attached to the Administrative Court of Appeal in Stockholm and is the highest instance for such cases.

The administrative courts

The administrative courts hear appeals against decisions by an administrative authority or decisions submitted to it by such an authority. They are staffed by judges, law clerks, officials who present the cases and administrative staff. At these courts, lay judges often take part in the judicial process.

Tax cases are among the case categories handled by administrative courts following referral when a decision by the tax authorities is appealed. The decisions in question could refer to income assessment or value-added tax.

Certain decisions by a municipal social welfare committee, such as decisions regarding income support, can be appealed to an administrative court. These are shown under the heading 'Cases involving the Social Services Act'.

Social insurance cases involve appeals against decisions by the Social Insurance Agency on matters such as the right to compensation for occupational injuries, sickness benefit, parental payments or car subsidies for the disabled.

In cases that fall under the Care of Young Persons Act (LVU), the court examines whether children or young persons up to eighteen years of age, in certain cases twenty, can be made subject to a compulsory care and protection order outside their parental home.

In cases covered by Compulsory Care for Substance Abusers Act (LVM), the court must decide, following an application from the social welfare committee, whether such individuals should receive medical treatment for their abuse even if they withhold consent.

The administrative courts also examine issues relating to compulsory psychiatric care and in other psychiatric care cases. The court must decide whether a person is in need of such care, whether a term of compulsory psychiatric care should be extended or whether forensic psychiatric care should be terminated. In such cases the senior consultant involved makes an application to the administrative court, which can also examine various issues following an appeal by the patient.

This could, for example, involve deciding whether compulsory care should be stopped or whether a patient should be allowed a period of leave outside the treatment unit.

Administrative courts also handle cases relating to public procurement (LOU).

Migration cases involve appeals against decisions mainly made by the Migration Board and could relate to asylum, e.g. a residence permit for a refugee, or Swedish citizenship.

Other cases at the administrative court may relate to the Animal Welfare Act, licences to serve alcoholic beverages and testing the legality of the Local Government Act. Since Sweden joined the EU, cases involving EU legislation also arise. Mention can be made, for example, of cases relating to certain agricultural subsidies.

Case determination at the administrative courts

In accordance with the general rule at an administrative court, a legally trained judge and three lay judges adjudicate. In certain matters falling under the Local Government Act two special members participate, whilst in property assessment cases a member who has valuation skills may take part. A large number of cases are also determined by a single judge.

As a rule, proceedings are in writing although they may include an oral hearing if it can be assumed to be of benefit to the enquiry or could expedite a decision in the case. If an individual party who is presenting the case requests an oral hearing, this should be granted unless it is deemed unnecessary. In certain cases, e.g., the provision of care for young people or substance abusers, an oral hearing takes place unless it is clearly unnecessary. If, in such cases, an individual party requests such a hearing it should always be granted.

If the plaintiffs are dissatisfied they can lodge an appeal with an administrative court of appeal.

The administrative courts of appeal

The administrative courts of appeal examine cases appealed from the administrative courts.

Many cases require the administrative court of appeal to grant leave to appeal for the appeal to be heard. It may be granted only if it is of importance in guiding the application of the law (precedent) or if there are pressing reasons to hear an appeal (extraordinary leave). Regarding alien and citizenship cases certain rules are applied.

The administrative court of appeal is the first instance in what are termed secrecy cases, which relate to the right to view the contents of a public document.

Case determination at the administrative courts of appeal

In accordance with the general rule three legally trained judges adjudicate at the administrative court of appeal. In certain cases they are joined by two lay judges

or special members. The question of leave to appeal is decided by two legally trained judges if their decision is unanimous, or by three if it is not.

As a rule, proceedings are in writing. An oral hearing may be included in the proceedings if it can be assumed to be of benefit to the inquiry or if it could expedite the hearing of the case. If an individual party to the case requests an oral hearing, this should be granted unless it is deemed unnecessary. In certain cases, e.g. the provision of care for young people or substance abusers, an oral hearing is held unless it is clearly unnecessary. If, in such cases, an individual party requests such a hearing it should always be granted.

The Supreme Administrative Court

This is the highest general administrative court and examines cases appealed from one of the four administrative courts of appeal. It also examines appeals from the Council for Advance Tax Rulings and the Patent Appeals Board. The majority of appeals at this level require leave to appeal, which is granted only if it could be of importance as a precedent, i.e. provides guidance on how other similar cases are to be determined, or if there are pressing reasons to do so. Only a small percentage of the cases referred to the Supreme Administrative Court of Appeal are granted leave to appeal. The Chancellor of Justice (JK) and the Parliamentary Ombudsman (JO) do not require this in cases of a disciplinary offence or revocation or restriction of the right to work as a doctor or other medical professional within the healthcare system. Nor does the Chancellor of Justice in cases concerning permits for CCTV cameras, etc.

The members of this court are called justices and when the facts of a case are to be examined five justices usually take part. The case may also be determined by the court in a full plenary session. Questions regarding leave to appeal may be decided by one justice although no more than three may take part in deciding such issues.

Proceedings are as a rule in writing and an oral hearing may be included if it can be assumed to be of benefit to the inquiry or if it could expedite the hearing of the case.

Table 2.1
Administrative courts
Cases filed, determined and pending 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cases filed²					
Tax cases	16 389	13 998	13 082	12 709	14 841
Congestion charge cases	129	653	555	296	229
Social insurance cases	14 462	16 532	22 378	20 012	16 593
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	21 633	23 963	24 137	23 272	24 399
Psychiatric care cases	13 635	13 597	13 332	13 296	13 215
LVU cases	3 216	3 180	3 347	3 593	3 605
LVM cases	1 186	1 185	1 274	1 151	1 139
LOU cases	1 428	2 082	3 571	2 719	3 262
Quantitative cases ¹	9 446	10 822	7 366	8 656	9 283
Migration cases	22 729	22 495	23 573	25 353	25 771
Other cases	15 370	16 949	18 497	17 629	17 045
Total	119 623	125 456	131 112	128 686	129 382
Cases determined²					
Tax cases	18 455	15 095	13 928	12 305	13 537
Congestion charge cases	153	592	407	409	278
Social insurance cases	21 888	14 040	14 612	24 094	21 611
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	22 109	22 245	22 970	24 309	24 662
Psychiatric care cases	13 649	13 551	13 309	13 267	13 242
LVU cases	3 258	3 109	3 305	3 590	3 544
LVM cases	1 196	1 166	1 280	1 164	1 126
LOU cases	1 360	1 990	3 154	2 959	3 038
Quantitative cases ¹	9 925	10 040	6 850	9 201	9 008
Migration cases	19 276	22 870	23 824	26 658	28 760
Other cases	16 038	15 186	15 358	19 001	18 647
Total	127 307	119 884	118 997	136 957	137 453
Cases pending²					
Tax cases	9 588	8 491	7 642	8 082	9 424
Congestion charge cases	14	75	223	109	59
Social insurance cases	8 593	11 085	18 857	14 772	9 745
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	5 152	6 870	8 010	6 960	6 700
Psychiatric care cases	272	318	306	321	281
LVU cases	401	472	513	511	571
LVM cases	43	62	53	39	51
LOU cases	212	304	722	480	739
Quantitative cases ¹	1 341	2 123	2 623	2 078	2 354
Migration cases	9 478	9 202	9 022	7 819	4 884
Other cases	5 636	7 399	10 557	9 218	7 642
Total	40 730	46 401	58 528	50 389	42 450

¹ Quantitative cases: real estate assessment, national registration, correctional treatment, driving licence and study allowances.

² The statistics are revised for the period 2008.

Table 2.2

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012 administrative courts

Administrative courts	Tax cases	Congesti on charge cases	Social insurance cases	Cases relating to the Social Services Act	Psychiatric care cases	LVU cases	LVM cases	LOU cases	Quantitative cases ¹	Migration cases	Other cases
Falun											
Filed	816	-	860	1 068	907	267	69	250	511	-	827
Determined	971	-	1 316	934	906	255	68	203	406	-	770
Pending	701	-	967	393	18	44	4	73	220	-	669
Gothenburg											
Filed	2 068	-	3 230	3 691	1 834	573	215	375	1 343	9 449	1 972
Determined	1 982	-	3 890	3 641	1 819	560	220	414	1 298	9 528	1 972
Pending	1 026	-	1 131	633	52	84	4	62	250	1 684	626
Härnösand											
Filed	467	-	522	695	779	148	60	124	555	-	1 051
Determined	307	-	514	657	784	148	59	100	486	-	962
Pending	362	-	481	377	14	12	3	41	214	-	612
Jönköping											
Filed	677	-	1 043	1 388	942	292	85	186	658	-	1 356
Determined	684	-	1 136	1 412	944	275	83	161	650	-	1 617
Pending	332	-	677	343	17	57	3	54	104	-	387
Karlstad											
Filed	517	-	706	1 328	552	292	50	120	608	-	1 303
Determined	544	-	1 015	1 399	556	283	47	116	633	-	2 258
Pending	327	-	332	273	20	67	5	20	103	-	339
Linköping											
Filed	1 568	-	1 003	2 004	1 502	302	110	219	757	-	1 016
Determined	1 258	-	1 028	1 933	1 493	301	108	221	816	-	1 062
Pending	951	-	954	486	30	43	3	30	162	-	748
Luleå											
Filed	338	-	537	253	448	90	24	90	225	-	550
Determined	344	-	501	248	451	87	24	80	264	-	575
Pending	160	-	351	57	2	16	1	16	24	-	179
Malmö											
Filed	2 285	-	1 934	3 824	1 402	419	130	410	1 233	6 766	1 611
Determined	1 684	-	2 984	3 719	1 416	430	132	384	1 160	7 295	1 615
Pending	1 565	-	969	907	31	68	7	73	239	1 237	583
Stockholm											
Filed	4 789	229	4 375	7 180	2 155	615	174	750	2 001	9 556	5 263
Determined	4 216	278	6 581	7 775	2 171	616	172	693	1 886	11 937	5 524
Pending	2 935	59	2 273	1 739	48	74	8	167	558	1 963	2 454
Umeå											
Filed	180	-	609	313	457	98	57	84	259	-	417
Determined	127	-	570	318	455	100	57	78	254	-	527
Pending	148	-	385	181	7	10	0	21	95	-	226
Uppsala											
Filed	699	-	987	1 728	1 364	302	109	202	741	-	898
Determined	1 061	-	1 306	1 710	1 358	274	100	188	789	-	1 024
Pending	706	-	857	1 096	35	64	11	40	308	-	613
Växjö											
Filed	437	-	787	927	873	207	56	452	392	-	781
Determined	359	-	770	916	889	215	56	400	366	-	741
Pending	211	-	368	215	7	32	2	142	77	-	206

¹ Quantitative cases: real estate assessment, national registration, correctional treatment, driving licence and study allowances.

Table 2.3
Administrative courts
Cases determined 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Percentage of cases determined following an oral hearing (%)	15.7	17.3	16.0	13.9	13.6
Percentage of cases determined by a single judge (%)	46.6	49.5	53.4	54.1	56.9
Percentage of cases determined by a judge and lay judges (%)	52.7	49.9	45.9	45.4	42.7
Percentage of cases determined with a different composition (%)	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	89.6	88.5	87.7	88.1	88.3
Percentage of cases determined following a decision (%)	10.4	11.5	12.4	11.9	11.7


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Table 2.4
Administrative courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cases filed²					
Tax cases	6 978	6 512	5 441	4 819	5 141
Congestion charge cases	18	107	55	45	31
Social insurance cases	6 487	4 702	3 978	8 401	7 371
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	2 340	2 139	1 935	2 136	2 019
Psychiatric care cases	1 058	1 064	1 166	1 169	1 229
LVU cases	884	901	956	1 152	1 196
LVM cases	185	192	220	207	196
LOU cases	371	410	586	755	771
Quantitative cases ¹	1 743	1 696	1 030	1 360	1 410
Migration cases	8 590	11 058	10 786	11 178	11 714
Other cases	6 130	5 738	5 655	6 548	6 078
Total	34 784	34 519	31 808	37 770	37 156
Cases determined²					
Tax cases	7 170	6 756	6 812	5 367	4 971
Congestion charge cases	23	69	80	55	34
Social insurance cases	6 800	5 631	4 243	5 086	10 099
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	2 275	2 264	2 072	2 046	2 019
Psychiatric care cases	1 055	1 047	1 190	1 157	1 241
LVU cases	843	893	943	1 136	1 233
LVM cases	191	182	222	214	198
LOU cases	360	409	544	717	716
Quantitative cases ¹	1 819	1 663	1 175	1 277	1 352
Migration cases	8 258	10 841	10 911	11 023	11 825
Other cases	6 254	5 835	6 101	6 427	6 200
Total	35 048	35 590	34 293	34 505	39 888
Cases pending²					
Tax cases	5 685	5 441	4 075	3 560	3 737
Congestion charge cases	2	40	15	5	2
Social insurance cases	2 872	1 943	1 677	4 995	2 271
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	645	520	379	470	470
Psychiatric care cases	121	138	113	125	112
LVU cases	161	169	182	198	161
LVM cases	24	34	32	25	23
LOU cases	45	46	88	127	182
Quantitative cases ¹	324	357	212	296	354
Migration cases	1 304	1 553	1 437	1 558	1 447
Other cases	2 219	2 122	1 700	1 939	1 849
Total	13 402	12 363	9 910	13 298	10 608

¹ Quantitative cases: real estate assessment, national registration, correctional treatment, driving licence and study allowances.

² The statistics are revised for the period 2008 and for 2011. The revision of 2011 is due to some social insurance cases that had not yet been registered at the time of the collection in 2012.

Table 2.5
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2012, individual administrative courts of appeal

Administrative court of appeal	Tax cases	Congestion charge cases	Social insurance cases	Cases relating to the Social Services Act	Psychiatric care cases	LVU cases	LVM cases	LOU cases	Quantitative cases ¹	Migration cases	Other cases
Stockholm											
Filed	2 469	31	2 321	765	403	295	40	244	405	11 714	2 129
Determined	2 380	34	2 385	759	416	309	47	221	399	11 825	2 156
Pending	1 535	2	604	154	19	34	1	45	97	1 447	559
Gothenburg											
Filed	1 363	-	3 459	720	368	445	76	231	485	-	2 125
Determined	1 355	-	5 866	687	388	459	75	226	426	-	1 994
Pending	1 339	-	1 172	223	33	62	10	41	156	-	789
Sundsvall											
Filed	629	-	752	173	215	193	35	74	216	-	764
Determined	606	-	827	189	191	199	34	110	207	-	895
Pending	524	-	301	38	42	33	6	10	60	-	234
Jönköping											
Filed	680	-	839	361	243	263	45	222	304	-	1 060
Determined	630	-	1 021	384	246	266	42	159	320	-	1 155
Pending	339	-	194	55	18	32	6	86	41	-	267

¹ Quantitative cases: real estate assessment, national registration, correctional treatment, driving licence and study allowances.

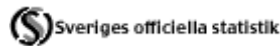


Table 2.6
Cases determined in the Administrative¹ Courts of Appeal 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Determined	26 794	24 749	23 382	23 448	28 063
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	3 013	3 095	2 995	2 756	6 405
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	12 581	11 121	9 310	10 486	11 934
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	11 200	10 533	11 076	10 206	9 723

¹ Excluding migration cases

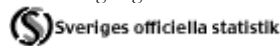


Table 2.7
The Supreme Administrative Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2008-2012


	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cases filed²					
Tax cases	2 267	2 447	2 185	2 265	1 412
Congestion charge cases	7	14	26	23	12
Social insurance cases	2 261	1 925	1 482	1 671	2 050
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	586	490	464	543	475
Psychiatric care cases	125	136	195	161	192
LVU cases	169	180	217	269	309
LVM cases	11	15	17	7	13
LOU cases	123	124	108	257	218
Quantitative cases ¹	460	434	331	377	376
Other cases	2 680	2 498	2 694	2 497	2 267
Total	8 689	8 263	7 719	8 070	7 324
Cases determined²					
Tax cases	2 874	2 610	2 361	2 466	1 443
Congestion charge cases	7	15	24	20	15
Social insurance cases	2 693	2 694	1 603	1 498	1 715
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	561	744	429	498	523
Psychiatric care cases	125	144	195	153	198
LVU cases	152	209	206	243	323
LVM cases	10	16	15	9	13
LOU cases	128	129	107	234	216
Quantitative cases ¹	532	473	389	324	391
Other cases	3 272	3 076	2 984	2 613	2 063
Total	10 354	10 110	8 313	8 058	6 900
Cases pending²					
Tax cases	1 221	1 058	861	657	616
Congestion charge cases	2	1	3	6	3
Social insurance cases	1 438	669	542	712	1 045
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	305	51	86	130	81
Psychiatric care cases	22	14	14	22	16
LVU cases	47	18	29	55	40
LVM cases	1	-	2	-	0
LOU cases	14	9	10	33	35
Quantitative cases ¹	132	93	36	89	76
Other cases	1 708	1 130	859	736	925
Total	4 890	3 043	2 442	2 440	2 837

¹ Quantitative cases: real estate assessment, national registration, correctional treatment, driving licence and study allowances.

² The statistics are revised for the period 2008.

Table 2.8
The Supreme Administrative Court
Cases determined in the Supreme Administrative Court 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Determined	10 313	10 110	8 313	8 058	6 900
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	162	206	196	139	125
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	9 250	9 154	7 381	7 204	6 231
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	901	750	736	715	544

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3. Matters dealt with at the Rent and Tenancy Tribunals

The work of the Rent and Tenancy Tribunals

Rent Tribunals can mediate in disputes between landlords and tenants or between tenant associations and tenants if the parties themselves cannot reach agreement. Rent tribunals also examine certain rent and tenant issues and pronounce a decision that is binding on the parties. Rent tribunals also deal with matters that involve special administration of residential properties. The purchaser of a rental property may in certain cases require the consent of the tribunal to validate the purchase.

A rent tribunal normally consists of three members during a procedure. The tribunal is chaired by a rent tribunal judge whilst the other members represent different interest groups, of whom one is well versed in property management and the other in the situation of the tenants.

A tenancy tribunal has similar duties to a rent tribunal when it comes to applying legislation relating to leases. Its composition is also similar to that of the rent tribunal except that the members represent the interests of landowners and tenants.

Most of the decisions of a rent tribunal can be appealed to Svea Court of Appeal whilst certain leasehold matters can be appealed to the court of appeal within whose jurisdiction the leased property is located.

There are eight rent and tenancy tribunals.

Table 3.1
Rent tribunals and tenancy tribunals
Matters filed, determined and pending 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Rent tribunals					
Filed	27 470	27 616	27 191	27 117	29 778
Determined	27 585	27 849	26 938	26 623	29 071
Pending at the year-end	6 431	6 111	6 259	6 626	7 479
Tenancy tribunals					
Filed	2 464	1 896	2 302	2 055	2 767
Determined	2 472	1 945	2 178	1 898	2 330
Pending at the year-end	1 378	1 326	1 446	1 598	2 030



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Table 3.2
Rent tribunals and tenancy tribunals
Matters determined according to category 2008-2012

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Rent tribunals					
Mediation or arbitration in tenancy disputes	754	704	754	749	748
Unprotected tenancies	13 928	14 909	13 982	13 969	15 499
Extension of tenancy agreements	2 453	2 288	2 374	2 343	2 232
Court order to perform work, extension of time for work	421	479	559	507	472
Amendment of tenancy terms	695	608	530	536	639
Mediation regarding security of tenure in non-residential property	3 626	3 727	3 571	3 815	3 568
Matters governed by the Rent Negotiation Act	522	438	438	381	968
Other matters	2 733	2 768	2 565	2 444	2 632
Total	25 132	25 921	24 773	24 744	26 758
Tenancy tribunals					
Agricultural leases	220	211	158	163	186
Residential leases	1 361	1 016	1 194	1 018	1 006
Other matters	891	718	826	717	1 138
Total	2 472	1 945	2 178	1 898	2 330

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