

Court statistics 2015

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 2015, 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 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases filed					
FT cases ¹	21 222	22 952	21 790	21 199	19 706
Joint petitions ²	21 818	22 953	23 381	22 497	21 608
Other family cases	16 066	17 149	18 184	17 779	18 021
Other civil cases	23 638	25 160	25 287	24 783	22 452
Total civil cases	82 744	88 214	88 642	86 258	81 787
Other criminal cases	39 271	39 455	37 824	38 187	38 500
Criminal cases involving fines	11 856	10 166	8 428	6 046	5 286
Financial crimes	1 743	1 611	1 498	1 691	1 422
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	23 163	22 677	22 728	23 096	23 652
Crime against property	14 896	15 914	15 065	14 679	13 984
Total criminal cases	90 929	89 823	85 543	83 699	82 844
Environmental cases	2 204	2 323	2 276	2 475	2 640
Property cases	1 032	1 071	1 145	1 212	1 185
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	1 414	2 079	2 432	1 894	1 952
Total	178 323	183 510	180 038	175 538	170 408
Cases determined					
FT cases ¹	21 531	22 472	22 178	21 595	20 142
Joint petitions ²	22 062	21 929	23 412	22 718	21 799
Other family cases	16 200	16 840	18 158	18 519	18 352
Other civil cases	24 253	25 276	25 743	26 292	24 146
Total civil cases	84 046	86 517	89 491	89 124	84 439
Other criminal cases	40 412	39 690	37 765	38 125	38 597
Criminal cases involving fines	12 311	11 192	8 487	6 760	5 536
Financial crimes	1 813	1 678	1 667	1 742	1 481
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	23 379	22 467	23 023	22 495	23 780
Crime against property	14 777	15 705	15 141	14 765	14 154
Total criminal cases	92 692	90 732	86 083	83 887	83 548
Environmental cases	2 046	2 335	2 285	2 502	2 595
Property cases	1 173	1 094	1 072	1 311	1 228
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	724	2 034	2 279	2 047	2 078
Total	180 681	182 712	181 210	178 871	173 888
Cases pending					
FT cases ¹	5 679	6 059	5 569	5 108	4 622
Joint petitions ²	8 726	9 543	9 317	8 907	8 560
Other family cases	10 672	11 128	11 291	10 716	10 515
Other civil cases	14 466	14 406	14 015	12 573	10 941
Total civil cases	39 543	41 136	40 192	37 304	34 638
Other criminal cases	12 412	12 052	11 995	11 900	11 706
Criminal cases involving fines	3 626	2 556	2 462	1 725	1 463
Financial crimes	1 279	1 212	1 047	993	933
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	9 199	9 426	9 114	9 721	9 613
Crime against property	5 255	5 444	5 349	5 243	5 059
Total criminal cases	31 771	30 690	29 967	29 582	28 774
Environmental cases	1 678	1 670	1 668	1 649	1 699
Property cases	779	754	826	728	685
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	690	738	891	741	617
Total	74 461	74 988	73 544	70 004	66 413

¹Civil 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.

Table 1.2
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015, 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	138	287	188	170	837	-	-	-
Determined	131	283	176	164	817	-	-	-
Pending	35	133	115	83	318	-	-	-
Attunda								
Filed	2 107	1 092	789	1 767	3 396	-	-	-
Determined	1 919	1 113	811	1 576	3 190	-	-	-
Pending	481	506	504	648	1 379	-	-	-
Blekinge								
Filed	258	285	235	284	1 170	-	-	-
Determined	226	302	207	279	1 166	-	-	-
Pending	130	111	150	156	345	-	-	-
Borås								
Filed	273	453	296	299	1 523	-	-	-
Determined	278	463	302	301	1 445	-	-	-
Pending	72	173	225	193	564	-	-	-
Eksjö								
Filed	148	209	174	123	715	-	-	-
Determined	146	206	171	119	697	-	-	-
Pending	23	77	81	46	194	-	-	-
Eskilstuna								
Filed	246	315	297	280	1 433	-	-	-
Determined	261	350	300	296	1 456	-	-	-
Pending	57	118	173	130	501	-	-	-
Falu								
Filed	316	416	399	295	1 544	-	-	-
Determined	327	420	383	311	1 715	-	-	-
Pending	86	166	266	161	616	-	-	-
Gotlands								
Filed	77	101	101	107	479	-	-	-
Determined	81	91	98	114	465	-	-	-
Pending	18	35	59	51	200	-	-	-
Gällivare								
Filed	73	67	80	52	304	-	-	-
Determined	79	75	66	48	278	-	-	-
Pending	11	29	42	34	108	-	-	-
Gävle								
Filed	274	342	356	265	1 223	-	-	-
Determined	264	337	345	277	1 274	-	-	-
Pending	77	144	188	110	380	-	-	-
Gothenburg								
Filed	1 486	1 646	1 598	1 874	5 690	-	-	-
Determined	1 595	1 673	1 713	2 021	5 765	-	-	-
Pending	394	639	924	883	2 288	-	-	-
Halmstads								
Filed	218	279	206	284	1 098	-	-	-
Determined	217	280	200	273	1 136	-	-	-
Pending	56	105	124	146	308	-	-	-
Haparanda								
Filed	115	54	71	81	363	-	-	-
Determined	136	54	84	89	384	-	-	-
Pending	32	26	36	49	119	-	-	-
Helsingborgs								
Filed	713	656	556	840	2 620	-	-	-
Determined	761	651	574	896	2 710	-	-	-
Pending	135	276	304	309	786	-	-	-
Hudiksvalls								
Filed	248	269	198	154	1 060	-	-	-
Determined	244	263	171	174	1 007	-	-	-
Pending	61	105	132	79	339	-	-	-
Hässelholms								
Filed	135	138	129	126	543	-	-	-
Determined	144	114	130	138	560	-	-	-
Pending	15	65	70	32	124	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015, 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	322	435	319	293	1 639	-	-	-
Determined	306	449	322	320	1 561	-	-	-
Pending	83	175	180	125	471	-	-	-
Kalmar								
Filed	387	395	370	345	1 509	-	-	-
Determined	423	467	359	387	1 522	-	-	-
Pending	93	163	194	220	489	-	-	-
Kristianstads								
Filed	273	251	234	190	1 011	-	-	-
Determined	239	262	213	214	975	-	-	-
Pending	70	105	127	58	340	-	-	-
Linköpings								
Filed	333	498	386	359	1 411	-	-	-
Determined	339	551	392	395	1 409	-	-	-
Pending	56	184	198	131	425	-	-	-
Luleå								
Filed	291	280	210	190	1 191	-	-	-
Determined	312	296	214	221	1 188	-	-	-
Pending	88	121	139	148	503	-	-	-
Lunds								
Filed	589	704	422	648	2 636	-	-	-
Determined	601	693	449	696	2 617	-	-	-
Pending	131	279	293	279	868	-	-	-
Lycksele								
Filed	42	53	87	42	253	-	-	-
Determined	46	52	87	44	249	-	-	-
Pending	4	19	24	8	52	-	-	-
Malmö								
Filed	908	1 048	955	1 040	4 047	-	-	-
Determined	935	1 048	954	1 213	4 089	-	-	-
Pending	208	392	591	483	1 789	-	-	-
Mora								
Filed	100	120	104	113	512	-	-	-
Determined	118	120	118	136	517	-	-	-
Pending	24	44	37	49	151	-	-	-
Nacka								
Filed	354	464	297	558	1 402	406	716	678
Determined	367	477	315	570	1 359	469	754	738
Pending	61	183	173	253	474	236	418	223
Norrköpings								
Filed	275	355	328	290	1 290	-	-	-
Determined	279	355	321	344	1 403	-	-	-
Pending	61	144	187	95	381	-	-	-
Norrälje								
Filed	161	108	101	157	567	-	-	-
Determined	155	135	89	138	553	-	-	-
Pending	34	29	59	83	130	-	-	-
Nyköpings								
Filed	240	340	338	238	1 400	-	-	-
Determined	262	326	309	239	1 384	-	-	-
Pending	32	128	151	87	303	-	-	-
Skaraborgs								
Filed	326	430	404	331	1 451	-	-	-
Determined	352	454	420	388	1 494	-	-	-
Pending	75	163	230	147	419	-	-	-
Skellefteå								
Filed	87	136	150	58	571	-	-	-
Determined	91	139	138	74	561	-	-	-
Pending	23	59	64	34	158	-	-	-
Solna								
Filed	1 091	1 068	1 174	1 259	3 766	-	-	-
Determined	1 113	1 019	1 175	1 293	3 961	-	-	-
Pending	262	437	659	584	1 220	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015, 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	1 278	1 051	701	2 969	6 164	-	-	-
Determined	1 358	1 004	668	3 592	6 423	-	-	-
Pending	306	302	444	2 166	2 278	-	-	-
Sundsvalls								
Filed	235	291	205	213	1 099	-	-	-
Determined	236	285	203	228	1 196	-	-	-
Pending	57	121	133	101	436	-	-	-
Södertälje								
Filed	297	293	247	358	1 207	-	-	-
Determined	314	274	263	386	1 341	-	-	-
Pending	71	131	164	135	346	-	-	-
Södertörns								
Filed	1 525	1 686	1 515	1 927	6 897	-	-	-
Determined	1 536	1 740	1 574	1 856	6 846	-	-	-
Pending	299	643	881	726	2 158	-	-	-
Uddevalla								
Filed	288	378	244	295	1 139	-	-	-
Determined	303	366	247	332	1 189	-	-	-
Pending	74	141	135	184	480	-	-	-
Umeå								
Filed	182	277	194	147	1 116	116	200	85
Determined	206	271	225	209	1 170	103	174	102
Pending	34	127	107	76	365	83	189	22
Uppsala								
Filed	575	755	587	608	3 045	-	-	-
Determined	560	740	566	628	2 983	-	-	-
Pending	129	323	370	277	1 096	-	-	-
Varbergs								
Filed	233	357	179	271	1 085	-	-	-
Determined	228	377	197	287	1 093	-	-	-
Pending	47	143	106	127	348	-	-	-
Vänersborgs								
Filed	253	279	288	223	1 115	278	653	531
Determined	244	305	318	245	1 108	293	672	584
Pending	63	101	133	93	458	138	325	144
Värmlands								
Filed	369	529	386	396	1 948	-	-	-
Determined	385	538	407	458	1 928	-	-	-
Pending	92	214	214	205	688	-	-	-
Västmanlands								
Filed	457	621	471	512	2 323	-	-	-
Determined	434	612	497	520	2 318	-	-	-
Pending	178	256	336	285	919	-	-	-
Växjö								
Filed	277	351	283	277	1 270	261	880	578
Determined	312	325	309	328	1 308	239	808	567
Pending	39	161	168	126	387	137	624	185
Ystads								
Filed	316	351	228	333	1 175	-	-	-
Determined	343	361	254	384	1 146	-	-	-
Pending	63	132	134	157	425	-	-	-
Ängermanlands								
Filed	198	228	199	166	954	-	-	-
Determined	228	219	221	211	960	-	-	-
Pending	47	99	97	83	272	-	-	-
Örebro								
Filed	429	640	536	446	2 583	-	-	-
Determined	502	630	597	521	2 592	-	-	-
Pending	90	251	292	209	988	-	-	-
Östersunds								
Filed	190	227	206	199	1 070	124	191	80
Determined	206	234	200	213	1 040	124	187	87
Pending	45	82	102	97	388	91	143	43

Table 1.3
District courts
Bankruptcies and court matters 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bankruptcy applications					
Filed	12 795	11 324	11 217	10 292	9 629
Bankruptcies					
Concluded ¹	7 820	7 001	7 923	7 922	8 089
Court matters					
Filed	63 968	41 800	43 885	44 360	44 764
Determined	66 482	44 226	43 194	44 513	44 482
Pending	11 618	9 074	9 661	9 455	9 706

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

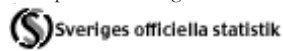


Table 1.4
District courts
Civil cases determined according to family law 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Joint petitions for divorce	21 753	21 653	23 109	22 441	21 575
of which dismissed	2 155	1 831	1 942	1 895	1 772
Divorce petitions	8 816	8 823	9 449	9 603	9 066
of which dismissed	1 746	1 830	1 752	1 816	1 627
Paternity cases	1 045	1 209	1 318	1 347	1 224
of which dismissed	106	97	104	90	93
Petitions for custody of children	4 586	5 109	5 585	5 783	6 296
of which dismissed	870	906	963	1 009	889

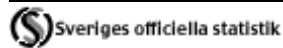


Table 1.5
District courts
Civil cases¹ 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of cases determined following a hearing (%)	35	33	33	30	32
Percentage of cases determined on a collegial basis (%)	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.7
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.3	3.2
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.8
Average hearing time in cases determined after a hearing (hours per case)	2.18	2.18	2.33	2.44	2.57
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	0.75	0.73	0.77	0.67	0.79
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	42	41.2	43.5	43.3	44.3
Percentage of cases determined by default (%)	19.5	20.8	19.8	21	19.4
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	31.1	30.3	29.1	26.3	24
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	7.4	7.7	7.6	9.4	12.3

¹ Excluding joint petitions for divorce and child custody.

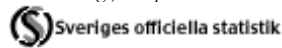


Table 1.6
District courts
Criminal cases 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	58.7	56.2	54.6	52.9	52.6
Percentage of cases with more than one defendant that were determined through a judgment (%)	8.4	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.2
Average number of defendants in cases determined through a judgment	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.00	1.10
Percentage of cases with a remand hearing (%)	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.1	8.8
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	6.3	6.6	7.1	6.4	7.3
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	1.8	2.0	2.2	1.9	2.1
Average time in cases decided following a hearing (hours per case)	1.93	2.00	2.11	1.91	2.13
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.21	1.18
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	76.5	75.2	72.3	70.0	69.2
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	15.0	15.5	18.3	20.3	21.5
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	8.5	9.3	9.4	9.7	9.3

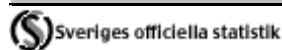


Table 1.7
Courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases filed					
Criminal cases	9 527	9 344	9 204	8 823	8 781
Civil cases	2 863	2 824	2 945	2 821	2 772
Other cases	11 033	11 476	11 707	12 491	11 858
Environmental cases	654	786	780	834	914
Property cases	172	279	289	316	320
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	243	750	902	870	901
Total	24 492	25 459	25 827	26 155	25 546
Cases determined					
Criminal cases	9 404	9 228	9 209	9 126	9 066
Civil cases	2 833	2 805	2 831	2 996	2 821
Other cases	11 256	11 392	11 625	12 589	11 749
Environmental cases	680	772	782	816	840
Property cases	131	281	287	314	348
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	161	684	888	887	878
Total	24 465	25 162	25 622	26 728	25 702
Cases pending					
Criminal cases	3 215	3 318	3 307	2 993	2 691
Civil cases	931	946	1 052	870	825
Other cases	1 156	1 258	1 348	1 278	1 393
Environmental cases	168	182	180	195	269
Property cases	79	76	77	78	86
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	82	149	164	148	172
Total	5 631	5 929	6 128	5 562	5 436

Table 1.8
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015, 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	3 406	1 168	4 975	914	320	901	11 684
Cases determined	3 584	1 189	5 026	840	348	878	11 865
Cases pending	1 097	350	493	269	86	172	2 467
Göta Court of Appeal							
Cases filed	1 289	425	1 904	-	-	-	3 618
Cases determined	1 343	451	1 669	-	-	-	3 463
Cases pending	358	91	346	-	-	-	795
Court of Appeal for Skåne and Blekinge							
Cases filed	1 331	387	1 636	-	-	-	3 354
Cases determined	1 305	397	1 759	-	-	-	3 461
Cases pending	455	122	172	-	-	-	749
Court of Appeal for Western Sweden							
Cases filed	1 792	494	2 124	-	-	-	4 410
Cases determined	1 828	503	2 166	-	-	-	4 497
Cases pending	511	161	157	-	-	-	829
Court of Appeal for Lower Norrland							
Cases filed	551	167	727	-	-	-	1 445
Cases determined	597	161	656	-	-	-	1 414
Cases pending	166	62	147	-	-	-	375
Court of Appeal for Upper Norrland							
Cases filed	412	131	492	-	-	-	1 035
Cases determined	409	120	473	-	-	-	1 002
Cases pending	104	39	78	-	-	-	221


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Table 1.9
Courts of appeal
Cases determined 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Criminal cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	66.1	62.4	60.6	59.8	60.6
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	65.5	61.7	60.2	59	59.3
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	3.77	4.04	4.14	4.59	4.38
Civil cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	3.9	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.6
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	11	13.5	12.8	14.5	14
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	6.48	6.74	7.68	6.80	6.59
Environmental cases					
Percentage of cases decided following a main hearing (%)	2.2	2.9	1.5	2.2	2
Property cases					
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	0.8	4.3	1.4	0.3	0.3


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Table 1.10
Courts of appeal
Frequency of amendment in civil and criminal cases 2015

	Number of determined cases	of which amended	
		number	percentage
Criminal cases	9 081	3 393	37.4%
Civil cases	2 821	603	21.4%
Judgment in criminal cases appealed to the court of appeal by the			
Defendant	6 458	1 899	29.4%
Public prosecutor	729	454	62.3%
Public prosecutor and defendant	921	529	57.4%
Other	973	511	52.6%
Total	9 081	3 393	37.4%


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Table 1.11
The Supreme Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Filed	6 004	5 709	6 406	6 215	6 293
Determined	5 706	5 893	6 090	6 447	6 675
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	128	152	158	120	103
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	4 680	4 897	4 966	5 344	5 428
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	898	844	966	983	1 144
Pending at the end of the year	1 614	1 430	1 742	1 506	1 122



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Table 1.12
The Supreme Court
Cases determined 2015

	Criminal cases	Civil Cases	Other cases	Total
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	26	23	54	103
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	1 792	301	3 335	5 428
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	37	30	1 077	1 144
Total	1 855	354	4 466	6 675

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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, Malmö and Luleå, 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) and the Utilities Procurement Act (LUF). LUF regulates procurement for entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors.

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.

Law clerks also serve in the administrative courts and after a certain period of service they are usually appointed to adjudicate regularly in less complicated cases concerning for example driving licenses.

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 require leave to appeal in cases concerning the law of collection of debts.

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 are generally decided by one up to three justices.

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 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases filed					
Tax cases	12 709	14 841	15 960	14 663	12 812
Congestion charge cases	296	229	357	489	239
Social insurance cases	20 012	16 593	12 075	13 881	11 355
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	23 272	24 399	26 098	25 086	24 205
Psychiatric care cases	13 296	13 215	12 959	13 790	14 068
LVU cases	3 593	3 605	3 688	4 046	4 367
LVM cases	1 151	1 139	1 236	1 421	1 451
LOU cases	2 719	3 262	3 200	3 502	2 973
Quantitative cases ¹	8 656	9 283	9 550	10 578	9 705
Migration cases	25 353	25 771	26 385	27 023	25 806
Other cases	17 629	17 045	20 749	18 545	20 650
Total	128 686	129 382	132 257	133 024	127 631
Cases determined					
Tax cases	12 305	13 537	14 253	17 016	15 497
Congestion charge cases	409	278	264	616	228
Social insurance cases	24 094	21 611	14 941	14 029	11 269
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	24 309	24 662	25 687	25 975	25 470
Psychiatric care cases	13 267	13 242	12 942	13 836	14 034
LVU cases	3 590	3 544	3 761	4 074	4 262
LVM cases	1 164	1 126	1 222	1 422	1 462
LOU cases	2 959	3 038	3 295	3 565	2 868
Quantitative cases ¹	9 201	9 008	9 846	9 298	10 293
Migration cases	26 658	28 760	25 539	27 737	27 371
Other cases	19 001	18 647	20 573	19 238	20 199
Total	136 957	137 453	132 323	136 806	132 953
Cases pending					
Tax cases	8 082	9 424	11 219	9 026	6 412
Congestion charge cases	109	59	152	26	37
Social insurance cases	14 772	9 745	6 878	6 738	6 816
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	6 960	6 700	7 108	6 224	4 959
Psychiatric care cases	321	281	293	236	253
LVU cases	511	571	501	473	575
LVM cases	39	51	64	62	51
LOU cases	480	739	649	594	705
Quantitative cases ¹	2 078	2 354	2 063	3 345	2 764
Migration cases	7 819	4 884	5 752	5 059	3 517
Other cases	9 218	7 642	7 863	7 207	7 671
Total	50 389	42 450	42 542	38 990	33 760

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

Table 2.2

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015 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	581	3	542	1 074	741	317	136	287	594	-	1 120
Determined	554	2	490	964	738	322	140	289	605	-	1 241
Pending	611	1	386	309	18	33	3	56	293	-	786
Gothenburg											
Filed	1 880	20	1 384	3 660	2 049	656	263	338	1 277	8 547	2 081
Determined	2 531	9	1 380	3 813	2 057	647	263	333	1 396	9 106	2 094
Pending	599	11	852	475	50	73	10	68	291	932	709
Härnösand											
Filed	367	-	363	616	846	129	52	85	554	-	1 240
Determined	486	-	258	596	849	127	54	110	605	-	1 048
Pending	227	-	271	190	5	16	0	16	195	-	635
Jönköping											
Filed	567	5	692	1 292	1 040	384	107	116	709	-	1 291
Determined	631	1	656	1 357	1 034	372	106	118	779	-	1 117
Pending	297	4	539	310	14	68	5	31	166	-	574
Karlstad											
Filed	390	3	464	1 431	560	326	86	223	684	-	1 173
Determined	496	1	459	1 280	560	343	90	251	689	-	975
Pending	178	2	217	420	6	41	2	58	172	-	446
Linköping											
Filed	2 042	6	601	1 675	1 534	363	138	296	745	-	1 398
Determined	2 360	4	675	1 936	1 522	346	139	298	907	-	1 474
Pending	884	2	577	337	35	41	6	45	213	-	712
Luleå											
Filed	572	-	276	284	522	98	42	67	212	1 842	503
Determined	625	-	325	312	522	92	41	62	267	2 266	598
Pending	177	-	138	59	2	8	1	19	29	321	140
Malmö											
Filed	1 997	4	1 419	4 153	1 640	537	165	547	1 356	6 236	2 093
Determined	2 212	3	1 496	4 471	1 633	499	165	445	1 415	6 930	2 162
Pending	830	1	617	981	21	82	4	156	353	1 179	620
Stockholm											
Filed	3 417	193	4 072	7 099	2 411	761	178	664	1 973	9 181	7 465
Determined	4 441	206	4 056	7 724	2 411	736	174	616	2 018	9 069	7 411
Pending	1 803	13	2 236	1 149	54	100	9	170	376	1 085	2 073
Umeå											
Filed	185	-	357	342	452	118	54	59	265	-	409
Determined	190	-	445	322	449	116	53	62	262	-	377
Pending	70	-	185	85	6	13	2	11	100	-	156
Uppsala											
Filed	542	2	598	1 737	1 379	406	154	174	816	-	1 076
Determined	622	1	546	1 853	1 373	397	161	183	804	-	911
Pending	614	1	435	472	21	56	6	38	458	-	612
Växjö											
Filed	272	3	587	842	894	272	76	117	520	-	801
Determined	349	1	483	842	886	265	76	101	546	-	791
Pending	122	2	363	172	21	44	3	37	118	-	208

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

Table 2.3
Administrative courts
Cases determined 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of cases determined following an oral hearing (%)	13.9	13.6	13.7	13.9	13.9
Percentage of cases determined by a single judge (%)	54.1	56.9	60.4	61.4	62.7
Percentage of cases determined by a judge and lay judges (%)	45.4	42.7	39.1	37.9	37.1
Percentage of cases determined with a different composition (%)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.2
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	88.1	88.3	87.6	88.2	88.8
Percentage of cases determined following a decision (%)	11.9	11.7	12.4	11.8	11.2


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Table 2.4
Administrative courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases filed²					
Tax cases	4 819	5 141	5 350	5 662	5 029
Congestion charge cases	45	31	57	96	38
Social insurance cases	8 401	7 371	4 125	4 924	4 670
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	2 136	2 019	2 195	2 116	2 234
Psychiatric care cases	1 169	1 229	1 282	1 502	1 466
LVU cases	1 152	1 196	1 310	1 469	1 694
LVM cases	207	196	256	295	313
LOU cases	755	771	778	798	621
Quantitative cases ¹	1 360	1 410	1 435	1 544	1 474
Migration cases	11 178	11 714	9 254	10 017	10 004
Other cases	6 548	6 078	6 021	5 820	5 807
Total	37 770	37 156	32 063	34 243	33 350
Cases determined²					
Tax cases	5 367	4 971	5 448	4 772	6 032
Congestion charge cases	55	34	47	100	43
Social insurance cases	5 086	10 099	4 896	3 622	3 064
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	2 046	2 019	2 195	2 088	2 206
Psychiatric care cases	1 157	1 241	1 281	1 508	1 445
LVU cases	1 136	1 233	1 313	1 421	1 666
LVM cases	214	198	242	303	317
LOU cases	717	716	818	802	640
Quantitative cases ¹	1 277	1 352	1 468	1 567	1 471
Migration cases	11 023	11 825	9 697	9 831	10 403
Other cases	6 427	6 200	6 057	6 050	5 685
Total	34 505	39 888	33 462	32 064	32 972
Cases pending²					
Tax cases	3 560	3 737	3 639	4 524	3 568
Congestion charge cases	5	2	12	8	3
Social insurance cases	4 995	2 271	1 503	2 806	4 880
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	470	470	470	499	530
Psychiatric care cases	125	112	113	108	129
LVU cases	198	161	158	206	233
LVM cases	25	23	37	29	26
LOU cases	127	182	142	138	119
Quantitative cases ¹	296	354	321	297	304
Migration cases	1 558	1 447	1 004	1 190	793
Other cases	1 939	1 849	1 826	1 615	1 827
Total	13 298	10 608	9 225	11 420	12 412

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

² The statistics are revised for the period 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 2011.

Table 2.5
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2015, 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	1 944	34	2 886	871	449	487	82	197	450	10 004	2 137
Determined	2 725	41	1 192	919	435	486	86	195	491	10 403	2 326
Pending	1 476	1	4 100	166	36	52	6	38	81	793	502
Gothenburg											
Filed	1 717	3	942	828	438	571	112	232	501	-	1 864
Determined	1 695	1	982	742	440	543	114	238	452	-	1 657
Pending	1 139	2	327	232	30	95	10	47	131	-	669
Sundsvall											
Filed	603	1	385	206	264	277	54	91	232	-	868
Determined	825	1	409	235	261	269	55	98	246	-	904
Pending	415	-	130	32	31	45	1	9	25	-	236
Jönköping											
Filed	765	-	457	329	315	359	65	101	291	-	938
Determined	787	-	481	310	309	368	62	109	282	-	798
Pending	538	-	323	100	32	41	9	25	67	-	420

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

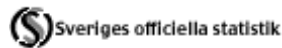


Table 2.6
Cases determined in the Administrative¹ Courts of Appeal 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Determined	23 448	28 063	23 765	22 233	22 569
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	2 756	6 405	2 701	2 808	2 404
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	10 486	11 934	10 938	9 791	9 365
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	10 206	9 723	10 126	9 634	10 800

¹ Excluding migration cases

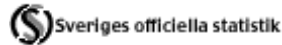



Table 2.7
The Supreme Administrative Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases filed					
Tax cases	2 265	1 412	2 667	1 432	2 006
Congestion charge cases	23	12	20	30	26
Social insurance cases	1 671	2 050	1 710	1 283	1 097
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	543	475	516	483	526
Psychiatric care cases	161	192	229	280	279
LVU cases	269	309	328	390	458
LVM cases	7	13	25	29	35
LOU cases	257	218	222	236	206
Quantitative cases ¹	377	376	410	498	445
Other cases	2 497	2 267	2 360	2 385	2 297
Total	8 070	7 324	8 487	7 046	7 375
Cases determined					
Tax cases	2 466	1 443	2 395	1 957	1 874
Congestion charge cases	20	15	23	29	26
Social insurance cases	1 498	1 715	2 129	1 548	1 101
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	498	523	454	522	566
Psychiatric care cases	153	198	227	282	274
LVU cases	243	323	323	389	424
LVM cases	9	13	19	34	33
LOU cases	234	216	233	229	200
Quantitative cases ¹	324	391	376	375	567
Other cases	2 613	2 063	2 256	2 531	2 395
Total	8 058	6 900	8 435	7 896	7 460
Cases pending					
Tax cases	657	616	883	357	489
Congestion charge cases	6	3	-	1	1
Social insurance cases	712	1 045	623	358	354
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	130	81	144	105	65
Psychiatric care cases	22	16	18	16	21
LVU cases	55	40	45	46	80
LVM cases	-	-	6	1	3
LOU cases	33	35	24	31	37
Quantitative cases ¹	89	76	106	229	108
Other cases	736	925	1 022	862	753
Total	2 440	2 837	2 871	2 006	1 911

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

Table 2.8
The Supreme Administrative Court
Cases determined in the Supreme Administrative Court 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Determined	8 058	6 900	8 435	7 896	7 460
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	139	125	119	513	92
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	7 204	6 231	7 756	6 647	6 770
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	715	544	560	736	598

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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. Some of the decisions cannot be appealed.

There are eight rent and tenancy tribunals.

Table 3.1
Rent tribunals and tenancy tribunals
Matters filed, determined and pending 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Rent tribunals					
Filed	27 117	29 778	29 775	30 827	33 114
Determined	26 623	29 071	30 824	30 295	32 012
Pending at the year-end	6 626	7 479	6 279	6 714	7 734
Tenancy tribunals					
Filed	2 055	2 767	1 945	2 261	2 113
Determined	1 898	2 330	3 013	1 842	1 636
Pending at the year-end	1 598	2 030	938	1 328	1 791



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Table 3.2
Rent tribunals and tenancy tribunals
Matters determined according to category 2011-2015

	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Rent tribunals					
Mediation or arbitration in tenancy disputes	749	748	677	717	658
Unprotected tenancies	13 969	15 499	16 604	17 487	19 148
Extension of tenancy agreements	2 343	2 232	2 504	2 479	2 623
Court order to perform work, extension of time for work	507	472	454	470	429
Amendment of tenancy terms	536	639	666	618	447
Mediation regarding security of tenure in non-residential property	3 815	3 568	3 669	3 699	3 948
Matters governed by the Rent Negotiation Act	381	968	652	535	577
Other matters	2 444	2 632	2 622	2 454	2 553
Total	24 744	26 758	27 848	28 459	30 383
Tenancy tribunals					
Agricultural leases	163	186	130	142	112
Residential leases	1 018	1 006	1 823	1 031	911
Other matters	717	1 138	1 060	669	613
Total	1 898	2 330	3 013	1 842	1 636

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