

# Family Courts

## 2015 Family Court Case Filings

Table 1

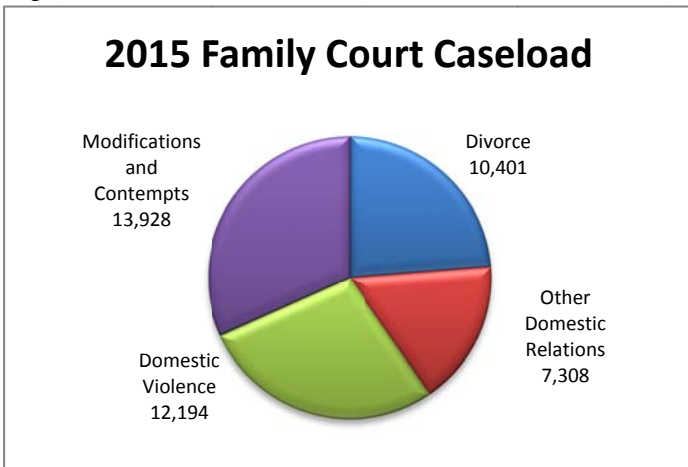
	Total Filings	Divorce	Domestic Violence	Other Domestic Relations	Total	Contempt	Modification
Barbour	287	96	115	76	134	56	78
Berkeley	1,471	565	457	449	464	173	291
Boone	468	145	166	157	305	106	199
Braxton	191	86	47	58	90	26	64
Brooke	306	112	111	83	54	31	23
Cabell	1,708	557	663	488	672	231	441
Calhoun	132	67	40	25	57	24	33
Clay	167	80	61	26	111	44	67
Doddridge	93	39	33	21	51	26	25
Fayette	818	297	284	237	499	236	263
Gilmer	94	35	45	14	43	14	29
Grant	199	79	84	36	133	62	71
Greenbrier	618	186	280	152	284	192	92
Hampshire	327	105	76	146	134	46	88
Hancock	463	155	155	153	41	20	21
Hardy	178	63	64	51	139	54	85
Harrison	1,018	331	477	210	542	246	296
Jackson	529	201	213	115	239	106	133
Jefferson	640	230	219	191	323	145	178
Kanawha	3,773	1,070	1,927	776	1,992	867	1,125
Lewis	245	121	61	63	87	41	46
Lincoln	384	144	156	84	781	568	213
Logan	726	268	331	127	498	152	346
Marion	722	245	305	172	247	118	129
Marshall	404	120	168	116	194	53	141
Mason	475	176	165	134	167	66	101
McDowell	427	140	183	104	209	84	125
Mercer	1,566	451	708	407	773	360	413
Mineral	389	135	140	114	233	92	141
Mingo	806	254	368	184	150	58	92
Monongalia	1,016	314	438	264	326	120	206
Monroe	256	94	118	44	78	47	31
Morgan	156	54	46	56	112	42	70
Nicholas	425	176	164	85	192	88	104
Ohio	491	162	156	173	126	63	63
Pendleton	65	29	19	17	45	17	28
Pleasants	105	41	44	20	23	9	14
Pocahontas	132	48	53	31	65	35	30
Preston	536	177	249	110	217	90	127
Putnam	785	317	273	195	299	131	168
Raleigh	1,325	519	632	174	672	328	344
Randolph	531	156	278	97	195	62	133
Ritchie	132	61	43	28	63	26	37
Roane	245	136	40	69	155	62	93
Summers	192	68	57	67	161	97	64
Taylor	171	79	60	32	125	51	74
Tucker	84	43	24	17	34	14	20
Tyler	122	44	63	15	48	9	39
Upshur	314	143	67	104	98	46	52
Wayne	552	283	139	130	310	165	145
Webster	151	63	5	83	109	45	64
Wetzel	214	73	74	67	48	14	34
Wirt	125	36	60	29	42	24	18
Wood	1,606	524	725	357	429	191	238
Wyoming	548	208	265	75	310	111	199
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29,903</b>	<b>10,401</b>	<b>12,194</b>	<b>7,308</b>	<b>13,928</b>	<b>6,184</b>	<b>7,744</b>

## 2015 Family Court Marriages Performed by Count

Table 2

County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages
Barbour	12	Kanawha	15	Preston	31
Berkeley	92	Lewis	7	Putnam	0
Boone	17	Lincoln	0	Raleigh	95
Braxton	14	Logan	41	Randolph	20
Brooke	5	Marion	2	Ritchie	0
Cabell	52	Marshall	4	Roane	0
Calhoun	0	Mason	50	Summers	9
Clay	2	McDowell	0	Taylor	7
Doddridge	1	Mercer	9	Tucker	0
Fayette	0	Mineral	0	Tyler	4
Gilmer	0	Mingo	6	Upshur	12
Grant	1	Monongalia	106	Wayne	0
Greenbrier	1	Monroe	0	Webster	0
Hampshire	0	Morgan	0	Wetzel	4
Hancock	5	Nicholas	52	Wirt	0
Hardy	24	Ohio	3	Wood	57
Harrison	149	Pendleton	2	Wyoming	3
Jackson	3	Pleasants	1	<b>Grand total</b>	<b>966</b>
Jefferson	48	Pocahontas	0		

Figure 1



West Virginia has forty-five family court judges in twenty-seven family court circuits. To serve, family court judges must have practiced law for at least five years. Their terms are eight years.

Family courts have jurisdiction over divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, paternity, grandparent visitation, name change, infant guardianship, child custody, and family support proceedings, except those incidentals to child abuse and neglect. Family court judges also hold final hearings in civil domestic relations and may perform marriages.

In 2015, there were 29,903 new cases filed in family court in West Virginia, a 4.0 percent decrease from 2014 cases filed. Of those, 12,194 were domestic violence, 10,401 were divorces, and 7,308 were other domestic relations. There were also 13,928 modifications and contempt proceedings in cases reopened during the year, which were not counted as new cases filed. Details can be seen in Table 1 and Figure 1.

In 2015, 966 weddings were held in family courts. Details can be seen in Table 2.

Family court judges can refer divorcing parents to mediation and parent education and refer children for guardian *ad litem* services. Details can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3

<b>West Virginians Served by Supreme Court–Supported Family Visitation Centers in 2015</b>	
Category	Number
Total Clients Served.....	925
Fathers.....	428
Mothers.....	450
Grandparent /Legal Guardian....	47
Children Involved.....	699
Supervised Visitation.....	493
Neutral Drop-off.....	440
<i>Total number of clients served = fathers + mothers + grandparent/legal guardian</i>	