

Court statistics 2014

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 2014, 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 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases filed					
FT cases ¹	22 173	21 222	22 952	21 790	21 199
Joint petitions ²	22 371	21 818	22 953	23 381	22 497
Other family cases	15 772	16 066	17 149	18 184	17 779
Other civil cases	25 485	23 638	25 160	25 287	24 783
Total civil cases	85 801	82 744	88 214	88 642	86 258
Other criminal cases ³	39 712	39 271	39 455	37 824	38 187
Criminal cases involving fines	13 527	11 856	10 166	8 428	6 046
Financial crimes	1 844	1 743	1 611	1 498	1 691
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	22 407	23 163	22 677	22 728	23 096
Crime against property	14 942	14 896	15 914	15 065	14 679
Total criminal cases	92 432	90 929	89 823	85 543	83 699
Environmental cases	2 007	2 204	2 323	2 276	2 475
Property cases	1 082	1 032	1 071	1 145	1 212
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	1 414	2 079	2 432	1 894
Total	181 322	178 323	183 510	180 038	175 538
Cases determined					
FT cases ¹	22 127	21 531	22 472	22 178	21 595
Joint petitions ²	22 704	22 062	21 929	23 412	22 718
Other family cases	14 768	16 200	16 840	18 158	18 519
Other civil cases	25 200	24 253	25 276	25 743	26 292
Total civil cases	84 799	84 046	86 517	89 491	89 124
Other criminal cases ³	40 946	40 412	39 690	37 765	38 125
Criminal cases involving fines	13 265	12 311	11 192	8 487	6 760
Financial crimes	1 599	1 813	1 678	1 667	1 742
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	20 659	23 379	22 467	23 023	22 495
Crime against property	14 300	14 777	15 705	15 141	14 765
Total criminal cases	90 769	92 692	90 732	86 083	83 887
Environmental cases	2 109	2 046	2 335	2 285	2 502
Property cases	1 173	1 173	1 094	1 072	1 311
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	724	2 034	2 279	2 047
Total	178 850	180 681	182 712	181 210	178 871
Cases pending					
FT cases ¹	5 991	5 679	6 059	5 569	5 108
Joint petitions ²	8 970	8 726	9 543	9 317	8 907
Other family cases	10 805	10 672	11 128	11 291	10 716
Other civil cases	15 078	14 466	14 406	14 015	12 573
Total civil cases	40 844	39 543	41 136	40 192	37 304
Other criminal cases ³	13 573	12 412	12 052	11 995	11 900
Criminal cases involving fines	4 082	3 626	2 556	2 462	1 725
Financial crimes	1 345	1 279	1 212	1 047	993
Crimes against persons/crimes committed against persons	9 417	9 199	9 426	9 114	9 721
Crime against property	5 137	5 255	5 444	5 349	5 243
Total criminal cases	33 554	31 771	30 690	29 967	29 582
Environmental cases	1 520	1 678	1 670	1 668	1 649
Property cases	920	779	754	826	728
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	690	738	891	741
Total	76 838	74 461	74 988	73 544	70 004

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 2014, 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	176	291	175	182	787	-	-	-
Determined	180	288	171	204	768	-	-	-
Pending	28	130	102	77	299	-	-	-
Attunda								
Filed	1 006	1 207	794	1 176	3 142	-	-	-
Determined	983	1 221	850	1 309	3 176	-	-	-
Pending	294	539	514	453	1 176	-	-	-
Blekinge								
Filed	305	296	181	256	1 200	-	-	-
Determined	290	302	210	253	1 275	-	-	-
Pending	101	129	121	149	343	-	-	-
Borås								
Filed	341	424	337	358	1 530	-	-	-
Determined	343	413	344	371	1 555	-	-	-
Pending	79	186	228	194	492	-	-	-
Eksjö								
Filed	161	211	167	156	666	-	-	-
Determined	156	214	169	159	673	-	-	-
Pending	21	74	78	42	176	-	-	-
Eskilstuna								
Filed	302	345	313	341	1 385	-	-	-
Determined	305	323	369	370	1 349	-	-	-
Pending	72	156	173	146	528	-	-	-
Falu								
Filed	368	441	391	360	1 618	-	-	-
Determined	346	461	395	376	1 570	-	-	-
Pending	100	172	248	174	787	-	-	-
Gotlands								
Filed	89	67	86	101	446	-	-	-
Determined	98	102	74	115	470	-	-	-
Pending	22	22	62	58	186	-	-	-
Gällivare								
Filed	77	84	66	67	345	-	-	-
Determined	80	81	81	64	370	-	-	-
Pending	18	37	27	29	82	-	-	-
Gävle								
Filed	298	350	307	295	1 144	-	-	-
Determined	309	362	320	312	1 034	-	-	-
Pending	69	141	174	119	434	-	-	-
Gothenburg								
Filed	1 615	1 732	1 641	2 110	5 752	-	-	-
Determined	1 584	1 712	1 681	2 257	5 767	-	-	-
Pending	504	684	1 025	1 020	2 372	-	-	-
Halmstads								
Filed	291	269	208	317	1 099	-	-	-
Determined	307	266	224	333	1 146	-	-	-
Pending	55	105	119	135	348	-	-	-
Haparanda								
Filed	115	70	71	92	352	-	-	-
Determined	92	76	66	96	339	-	-	-
Pending	53	26	50	57	140	-	-	-
Helsingborgs								
Filed	867	724	477	929	2 781	-	-	-
Determined	856	733	513	964	2 737	-	-	-
Pending	185	277	317	362	874	-	-	-
Hudiksvalls								
Filed	266	255	167	180	925	-	-	-
Determined	275	275	164	192	901	-	-	-
Pending	57	99	106	99	286	-	-	-
Hässelholms								
Filed	148	120	105	155	564	-	-	-
Determined	145	109	107	157	575	-	-	-
Pending	25	47	66	43	142	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2014, 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	403	483	312	376	1 505	-	-	-
Determined	442	493	323	382	1 522	-	-	-
Pending	68	196	176	151	393	-	-	-
Kalmar								
Filed	474	463	281	414	1 516	-	-	-
Determined	469	426	310	385	1 552	-	-	-
Pending	132	239	178	260	510	-	-	-
Kristianstads								
Filed	211	254	175	200	1 023	-	-	-
Determined	239	247	216	223	1 035	-	-	-
Pending	36	118	103	83	308	-	-	-
Linköpings								
Filed	400	566	403	419	1 537	-	-	-
Determined	418	535	385	417	1 536	-	-	-
Pending	62	242	199	168	422	-	-	-
Luleå								
Filed	325	302	228	272	1 280	-	-	-
Determined	317	298	224	249	1 162	-	-	-
Pending	106	137	144	179	502	-	-	-
Lunds								
Filed	690	657	461	716	2 575	-	-	-
Determined	675	658	487	798	2 530	-	-	-
Pending	145	272	317	324	851	-	-	-
Lycksele								
Filed	64	56	83	61	298	-	-	-
Determined	65	50	91	64	311	-	-	-
Pending	8	18	23	10	48	-	-	-
Malmö								
Filed	952	1 068	909	1 365	4 254	-	-	-
Determined	953	1 081	975	1 374	4 326	-	-	-
Pending	236	396	588	656	1 839	-	-	-
Mora								
Filed	156	119	81	156	576	-	-	-
Determined	173	138	88	174	583	-	-	-
Pending	45	45	51	71	160	-	-	-
Nacka								
Filed	385	487	309	625	1 302	474	662	678
Determined	419	463	287	614	1 365	518	702	761
Pending	74	199	189	263	440	299	454	282
Norrköpings								
Filed	296	402	313	378	1 380	-	-	-
Determined	307	451	304	399	1 399	-	-	-
Pending	65	149	175	148	495	-	-	-
Norrårlje								
Filed	159	141	86	149	541	-	-	-
Determined	162	139	102	163	488	-	-	-
Pending	29	57	46	63	117	-	-	-
Nyköpings								
Filed	329	321	321	301	1 308	-	-	-
Determined	329	348	364	306	1 282	-	-	-
Pending	53	116	121	88	289	-	-	-
Skaraborgs								
Filed	402	486	440	417	1 530	-	-	-
Determined	414	480	432	458	1 592	-	-	-
Pending	101	190	243	204	464	-	-	-
Skellefteå								
Filed	126	142	119	84	571	-	-	-
Determined	129	130	151	86	576	-	-	-
Pending	27	62	52	51	148	-	-	-
Solna								
Filed	1 144	1 118	1 069	1 366	3 846	-	-	-
Determined	1 189	1 135	1 165	1 452	3 841	-	-	-
Pending	288	397	655	616	1 415	-	-	-

Table 1.2 (Cont'd.)

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2014, 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	1 400	1 063	691	3 023	6 517	-	-	-
Determined	1 364	1 098	643	3 330	6 551	-	-	-
Pending	396	264	407	2 777	2 543	-	-	-
Sundsvalls								
Filed	241	286	211	218	1 176	-	-	-
Determined	250	306	225	237	1 137	-	-	-
Pending	56	117	130	117	531	-	-	-
Södertälje								
Filed	332	323	245	373	1 251	-	-	-
Determined	381	347	267	431	1 346	-	-	-
Pending	94	111	181	160	482	-	-	-
Södertörns								
Filed	1 713	1 923	1 615	2 186	6 802	-	-	-
Determined	1 697	1 891	1 637	2 258	6 603	-	-	-
Pending	309	720	919	655	2 110	-	-	-
Uddevalla								
Filed	347	360	241	409	1 210	-	-	-
Determined	354	381	262	442	1 194	-	-	-
Pending	92	131	136	219	532	-	-	-
Umeå								
Filed	204	243	256	169	1 122	103	170	67
Determined	248	242	258	168	1 181	87	175	55
Pending	54	124	135	137	421	70	164	39
Uppsala								
Filed	635	777	551	749	3 267	-	-	-
Determined	665	810	568	791	3 356	-	-	-
Pending	117	309	348	294	1 034	-	-	-
Varbergs								
Filed	244	376	192	266	1 190	-	-	-
Determined	253	357	201	304	1 203	-	-	-
Pending	43	164	123	142	357	-	-	-
Vänersborgs								
Filed	238	313	272	267	1 197	288	695	566
Determined	261	313	274	304	1 088	338	685	600
Pending	54	129	161	115	452	153	342	197
Värmlands								
Filed	462	525	357	483	1 975	-	-	-
Determined	508	538	359	509	1 992	-	-	-
Pending	107	226	233	268	667	-	-	-
Västmanlands								
Filed	501	582	538	624	2 297	-	-	-
Determined	553	597	583	678	2 281	-	-	-
Pending	156	252	357	293	926	-	-	-
Växjö								
Filed	375	336	334	332	1 260	236	786	507
Determined	378	347	404	356	1 303	271	793	568
Pending	76	135	194	175	426	115	551	171
Ystads								
Filed	385	357	250	422	1 125	-	-	-
Determined	376	354	246	476	1 139	-	-	-
Pending	89	143	161	211	398	-	-	-
Ängermanlands								
Filed	257	218	185	186	952	-	-	-
Determined	306	227	174	198	1 012	-	-	-
Pending	77	91	118	128	279	-	-	-
Örebro								
Filed	648	628	571	512	2 481	-	-	-
Determined	655	644	575	509	2 569	-	-	-
Pending	164	246	347	283	996	-	-	-
Östersunds								
Filed	276	236	194	190	1 099	111	162	76
Determined	297	256	201	225	1 127	97	147	63
Pending	66	88	96	107	362	91	138	51

Table 1.3
District courts
Bankruptcies and court matters 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Bankruptcy applications					
Filed	11 451	12 795	11 324	11 217	10 292
Bankruptcies					
Concluded ¹	7 241	7 820	7 001	7 923	7 922
Court matters					
Filed	71 885	63 968	41 800	43 885	44 360
Determined	71 631	66 482	44 226	43 194	44 513
Pending	14 327	11 618	9 074	9 661	9 455

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

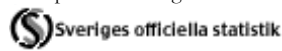


Table 1.4
District courts
Civil cases determined according to family law 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Joint petitions for divorce	22 348	21 753	21 653	23 109	22 441
of which dismissed	2 044	2 155	1 831	1 942	1 895
Divorce petitions	8 209	8 816	8 823	9 449	9 603
of which dismissed	1 698	1 746	1 830	1 752	1 816
Paternity cases	786	1 045	1 209	1 318	1 347
of which dismissed	74	106	97	104	90
Petitions for custody of children	4 126	4 586	5 109	5 585	5 783
of which dismissed	798	870	906	963	1 009

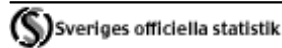


Table 1.5
District courts
Civil cases¹ 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of cases determined following a hearing (%)	34	35	33	33	30
Percentage of cases determined on a collegial basis (%)	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.5
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.3
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6
Average hearing time in cases determined after a hearing (hours per case)	2.19	2.18	2.18	2.33	2.44
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	0.74	0.75	0.73	0.77	0.67
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	40.4	42	41.2	43.5	43.3
Percentage of cases determined by default (%)	19.6	19.5	20.8	19.8	21
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	32.4	31.1	30.3	29.1	26.3
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	7.6	7.4	7.7	7.6	9.4

¹ Excluding joint petitions for divorce and child custody.

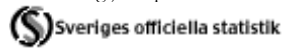


Table 1.6
District courts
Criminal cases 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	58.9	58.7	56.2	54.6	52.9
Percentage of cases with more than one defendant that were determined through a judgment (%)	8.5	8.4	8.2	8.1	8.1
Average number of defendants in cases determined through a judgment	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.00
Percentage of cases with a remand hearing (%)	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.1
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds six hours (%)	6.4	6.3	6.6	7.1	6.4
Percentage of cases where the hearing time exceeds twelve hours (%)	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.2	1.9
Average time in cases decided following a hearing (hours per case)	1.92	1.93	2.00	2.11	1.91
Average hearing time for all cases (hours per case)	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.21
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	78.4	76.5	75.2	72.3	70.0
Percentage of cases determined through dismissal (%)	13.4	15.0	15.5	18.3	20.3
Percentage of cases determined in a different manner (%)	8.2	8.5	9.3	9.4	9.7

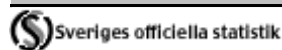


Table 1.7
Courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases filed¹					
Criminal cases	9 374	9 527	9 344	9 204	8 823
Civil cases	2 951	2 863	2 824	2 945	2 821
Other cases	11 147	11 033	11 476	11 707	12 491
Environmental cases	662	654	786	780	834
Property cases	95	172	279	289	316
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	243	750	902	870
Total	24 229	24 492	25 459	25 827	26 155
Cases determined¹					
Criminal cases	9 451	9 404	9 228	9 209	9 126
Civil cases	2 950	2 833	2 805	2 831	2 996
Other cases	11 024	11 256	11 392	11 625	12 589
Environmental cases	782	680	772	782	816
Property cases	99	131	281	287	314
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	161	684	888	887
Total	24 306	24 465	25 162	25 622	26 728
Cases pending¹					
Criminal cases	3 092	3 215	3 318	3 307	2 993
Civil cases	901	931	946	1 052	870
Other cases	1 380	1 156	1 258	1 348	1 278
Environmental cases	194	168	182	180	195
Property cases	38	79	76	77	78
Cases relating to the Planning and Building Act	-	82	149	164	148
Total	5 605	5 631	5 929	6 128	5 562

¹The statistics are revised for the period 2010.

Table 1.8
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2014, 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	3 347	1 173	5 397	834	316	870	11 937
Cases determined	3 349	1 225	5 433	816	314	887	12 024
Cases pending	1 285	368	540	195	78	148	2 614
Göta Court of Appeal							
Cases filed	1 384	432	1 738	-	-	-	3 554
Cases determined	1 456	467	1 836	-	-	-	3 759
Cases pending	413	117	111	-	-	-	641
Court of Appeal for Skåne and Blekinge							
Cases filed	1 348	379	1 889	-	-	-	3 616
Cases determined	1 383	382	1 760	-	-	-	3 525
Cases pending	430	133	293	-	-	-	856
Court of Appeal for Western Sweden							
Cases filed	1 742	556	2 191	-	-	-	4 489
Cases determined	1 926	594	2 274	-	-	-	4 794
Cases pending	549	168	199	-	-	-	916
Court of Appeal for Lower Norrland							
Cases filed	576	165	752	-	-	-	1 493
Cases determined	544	182	755	-	-	-	1 481
Cases pending	213	56	76	-	-	-	345
Court of Appeal for Upper Norrland							
Cases filed	426	116	524	-	-	-	1 066
Cases determined	468	146	531	-	-	-	1 145
Cases pending	103	28	59	-	-	-	190


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Table 1.9
Courts of appeal
Cases determined 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Criminal cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	64.9	66.1	62.4	60.6	59.8
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	64.3	65.5	61.7	60.2	59
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	3.75	3.77	4.04	4.14	4.59
Civil cases					
Percentage of cases determined by judges and lay judges (%)	3.2	3.9	4.3	3.7	4.3
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	11.8	11.0	13.5	12.8	14.5
Average hearing time in cases determined following a hearing (hours per case)	6.21	6.48	6.74	7.68	6.80
Environmental cases					
Percentage of cases decided following a main hearing (%)	3.6	2.2	2.9	1.5	2.2
Property cases					
Percentage of cases determined following a main hearing (%)	2	0.8	4.3	1.4	0.3


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Table 1.10
Courts of appeal
Frequency of amendment in civil and criminal cases 2014

	Number of determined cases	of which amended	
		number	percentage
Criminal cases	9 136	3 317	36.3%
Civil cases	2 996	675	22.5%
Judgment in criminal cases appealed to the court of appeal by the			
Defendant	6 551	1 869	28.5%
Public prosecutor	695	446	64.2%
Public prosecutor and defendant	950	523	55.1%
Other	940	479	51.2%
Total	9 136	3 317	36.3%


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Table 1.11
The Supreme Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Filed	6 010	6 004	5 709	6 406	6 215
Determined	6 107	5 706	5 893	6 090	6 447
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	133	128	152	158	120
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	5 221	4 680	4 897	4 966	5 344
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	753	898	844	966	983
Pending at the end of the year	1 318	1 614	1 430	1 742	1 506



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Table 1.12
The Supreme Court
Cases determined 2014

	Criminal cases	Civil Cases	Other cases	Total
Cases in which leave to appeal is granted	23	42	55	120
Cases in which leave to appeal is not granted	1 692	293	3 359	5 344
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	46	18	919	983
Total	1 761	353	4 333	6 447

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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 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases filed					
Tax cases	13 082	12 709	14 841	15 960	14 663
Congestion charge cases	555	296	229	357	489
Social insurance cases	22 378	20 012	16 593	12 075	13 881
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	24 137	23 272	24 399	26 098	25 086
Psychiatric care cases	13 332	13 296	13 215	12 959	13 790
LVU cases	3 347	3 593	3 605	3 688	4 046
LVM cases	1 274	1 151	1 139	1 236	1 421
LOU cases	3 571	2 719	3 262	3 200	3 502
Quantitative cases ¹	7 366	8 656	9 283	9 550	10 578
Migration cases	23 573	25 353	25 771	26 385	27 023
Other cases	18 497	17 629	17 045	20 749	18 545
Total	131 112	128 686	129 382	132 257	133 024
Cases determined					
Tax cases	13 928	12 305	13 537	14 253	17 016
Congestion charge cases	407	409	278	264	616
Social insurance cases	14 612	24 094	21 611	14 941	14 029
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	22 970	24 309	24 662	25 687	25 975
Psychiatric care cases	13 309	13 267	13 242	12 942	13 836
LVU cases	3 305	3 590	3 544	3 761	4 074
LVM cases	1 280	1 164	1 126	1 222	1 422
LOU cases	3 154	2 959	3 038	3 295	3 565
Quantitative cases ¹	6 850	9 201	9 008	9 846	9 298
Migration cases	23 824	26 658	28 760	25 539	27 737
Other cases	15 358	19 001	18 647	20 573	19 238
Total	118 997	136 957	137 453	132 323	136 806
Cases pending					
Tax cases	7 642	8 082	9 424	11 219	9 026
Congestion charge cases	223	109	59	152	26
Social insurance cases	18 857	14 772	9 745	6 878	6 738
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	8 010	6 960	6 700	7 108	6 224
Psychiatric care cases	306	321	281	293	236
LVU cases	513	511	571	501	473
LVM cases	53	39	51	64	62
LOU cases	722	480	739	649	594
Quantitative cases ¹	2 623	2 078	2 354	2 063	3 345
Migration cases	9 022	7 819	4 884	5 752	5 059
Other cases	10 557	9 218	7 642	7 863	7 207
Total	58 528	50 389	42 450	42 542	38 990

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

Table 2.2

Cases filed, determined and pending in 2014 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	564	-	637	1 117	694	290	113	837	682	-	1 316
Determined	438	-	643	1 300	692	292	110	868	585	-	1 070
Pending	585	-	334	200	15	38	7	55	304	-	904
Gothenburg											
Filed	1 835	-	1 416	3 687	2 024	573	277	400	1 415	9 287	2 123
Determined	1 805	-	1 382	3 738	2 026	577	282	406	1 283	9 633	2 083
Pending	1 232	-	844	624	59	67	10	63	409	1 487	725
Härnösand											
Filed	431	-	329	619	821	120	64	138	623	-	1 156
Determined	457	-	459	700	823	122	64	144	516	-	1 257
Pending	345	-	166	169	8	14	2	39	246	-	445
Jönköping											
Filed	584	-	708	1 350	1 099	359	111	172	796	-	1 167
Determined	533	-	669	1 323	1 113	362	109	170	642	-	1 168
Pending	352	-	502	375	13	56	4	32	236	-	396
Karlstad											
Filed	415	-	507	1 275	607	332	76	258	699	-	1 042
Determined	456	-	600	1 342	611	334	72	215	625	-	1 140
Pending	283	-	212	270	6	58	6	86	179	-	249
Linköping											
Filed	2 119	-	676	1 868	1 513	320	139	280	844	-	1 226
Determined	2 451	-	780	2 091	1 517	334	134	291	721	-	1 211
Pending	1 191	-	651	600	24	24	7	47	368	-	788
Luleå											
Filed	584	-	290	288	499	95	30	70	283	2 132	555
Determined	702	-	308	291	500	104	31	74	245	1 838	515
Pending	230	-	187	87	4	3	-	14	84	737	229
Malmö											
Filed	2 032	-	1 430	4 112	1 576	467	151	404	1 507	6 599	1 747
Determined	2 605	-	1 276	3 877	1 589	446	156	410	1 249	6 546	1 604
Pending	1 039	-	696	1 300	15	44	4	54	410	1 865	689
Stockholm											
Filed	4 956	487	6 248	7 647	2 382	698	183	550	2 028	9 005	6 188
Determined	6 188	614	6 076	7 906	2 386	713	188	574	1 950	9 720	7 024
Pending	2 814	26	2 231	1 774	59	75	5	122	420	970	2 016
Umeå											
Filed	135	-	370	328	438	125	55	76	289	-	403
Determined	168	-	386	363	437	122	59	86	260	-	444
Pending	75	-	273	65	3	11	1	14	97	-	123
Uppsala											
Filed	645	-	666	1 880	1 287	369	148	195	878	-	895
Determined	797	-	666	2 101	1 289	369	142	195	771	-	971
Pending	686	-	383	588	15	46	13	47	446	-	445
Växjö											
Filed	363	-	604	915	850	298	74	122	534	-	727
Determined	416	-	784	943	853	299	75	132	451	-	751
Pending	194	-	259	172	15	37	3	21	146	-	198

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

Table 2.3
Administrative courts
Cases determined 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of cases determined following an oral hearing (%)	16.0	13.9	13.6	13.7	13.9
Percentage of cases determined by a single judge (%)	53.4	54.1	56.9	60.4	61.4
Percentage of cases determined by a judge and lay judges (%)	45.9	45.4	42.7	39.1	37.9
Percentage of cases determined with a different composition (%)	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7
Percentage of cases determined through a judgment (%)	87.7	88.1	88.3	87.6	88.2
Percentage of cases determined following a decision (%)	12.4	11.9	11.7	12.4	11.8


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Table 2.4
Administrative courts of appeal
Cases filed, determined and pending in 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases filed²					
Tax cases	5 441	4 819	5 141	5 350	5 662
Congestion charge cases	55	45	31	57	96
Social insurance cases	3 978	8 401	7 371	4 125	4 924
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	1 935	2 136	2 019	2 195	2 116
Psychiatric care cases	1 166	1 169	1 229	1 282	1 502
LVU cases	956	1 152	1 196	1 310	1 469
LVM cases	220	207	196	256	295
LOU cases	586	755	771	778	798
Quantitative cases ¹	1 030	1 360	1 410	1 435	1 544
Migration cases	10 786	11 178	11 714	9 254	10 017
Other cases	5 655	6 548	6 078	6 021	5 820
Total	31 808	37 770	37 156	32 063	34 243
Cases determined²					
Tax cases	6 812	5 367	4 971	5 448	4 772
Congestion charge cases	80	55	34	47	100
Social insurance cases	4 243	5 086	10 099	4 896	3 622
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	2 072	2 046	2 019	2 195	2 088
Psychiatric care cases	1 190	1 157	1 241	1 281	1 508
LVU cases	943	1 136	1 233	1 313	1 421
LVM cases	222	214	198	242	303
LOU cases	544	717	716	818	802
Quantitative cases ¹	1 175	1 277	1 352	1 468	1 567
Migration cases	10 911	11 023	11 825	9 697	9 831
Other cases	6 101	6 427	6 200	6 057	6 050
Total	34 293	34 505	39 888	33 462	32 064
Cases pending²					
Tax cases	4 075	3 560	3 737	3 639	4 524
Congestion charge cases	15	5	2	12	8
Social insurance cases	1 677	4 995	2 271	1 503	2 806
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	379	470	470	470	499
Psychiatric care cases	113	125	112	113	108
LVU cases	182	198	161	158	206
LVM cases	32	25	23	37	29
LOU cases	88	127	182	142	138
Quantitative cases ¹	212	296	354	321	297
Migration cases	1 437	1 558	1 447	1 004	1 190
Other cases	1 700	1 939	1 849	1 826	1 615
Total	9 910	13 298	10 608	9 225	11 420

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 2014, 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	2 856	96	2 767	759	424	398	83	199	487	10 017	2 127
Determined	1 875	100	1 208	700	426	384	81	205	475	9 831	2 129
Pending	2 226	8	1 942	211	22	51	10	36	118	1 190	608
Gothenburg											
Filed	1 515	-	1 002	766	462	503	99	269	510	-	1 780
Determined	1 835	-	1 255	826	469	488	103	277	541	-	1 986
Pending	1 113	-	367	146	32	68	11	53	82	-	461
Sundsvall											
Filed	567	-	523	233	288	227	43	223	248	-	901
Determined	542	-	646	234	278	222	48	215	268	-	962
Pending	634	-	154	61	28	37	2	16	39	-	268
Jönköping											
Filed	724	-	632	358	328	341	70	107	299	-	1 012
Determined	520	-	513	328	335	327	71	105	283	-	973
Pending	551	-	343	81	26	50	6	33	58	-	278

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

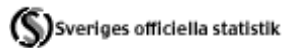


Table 2.6
Cases determined in the Administrative¹ Courts of Appeal 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Determined	23 382	23 448	28 063	23 765	22 233
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	2 995	2 756	6 405	2 701	2 808
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	9 310	10 486	11 934	10 938	9 791
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	11 076	10 206	9 723	10 126	9 634

¹ Excluding migration cases

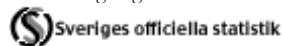



Table 2.7
The Supreme Administrative Court
Cases filed, determined and pending 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases filed					
Tax cases	2 185	2 265	1 412	2 667	1 432
Congestion charge cases	26	23	12	20	30
Social insurance cases	1 482	1 671	2 050	1 710	1 283
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	464	543	475	516	483
Psychiatric care cases	195	161	192	229	280
LVU cases	217	269	309	328	390
LVM cases	17	7	13	25	29
LOU cases	108	257	218	222	236
Quantitative cases ¹	331	377	376	410	498
Other cases	2 694	2 497	2 267	2 360	2 385
Total	7 719	8 070	7 324	8 487	7 046
Cases determined					
Tax cases	2 361	2 466	1 443	2 395	1 957
Congestion charge cases	24	20	15	23	29
Social insurance cases	1 603	1 498	1 715	2 129	1 548
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	429	498	523	454	522
Psychiatric care cases	195	153	198	227	282
LVU cases	206	243	323	323	389
LVM cases	15	9	13	19	34
LOU cases	107	234	216	233	229
Quantitative cases ¹	389	324	391	376	375
Other cases	2 984	2 613	2 063	2 256	2 531
Total	8 313	8 058	6 900	8 435	7 896
Cases pending					
Tax cases	861	657	616	883	357
Congestion charge cases	3	6	3	-	1
Social insurance cases	542	712	1 045	623	358
Cases relating to the Social Services Act	86	130	81	144	105
Psychiatric care cases	14	22	16	18	16
LVU cases	29	55	40	45	46
LVM cases	2	-	-	6	1
LOU cases	10	33	35	24	31
Quantitative cases ¹	36	89	76	106	229
Other cases	859	736	925	1 022	862
Total	2 442	2 440	2 837	2 871	2 006

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 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Determined	8 313	8 058	6 900	8 435	7 896
Cases where leave to appeal is granted	196	139	125	119	513
Cases where leave to appeal is not granted	7 381	7 204	6 231	7 756	6 647
Cases not requiring leave to appeal	736	715	544	560	736

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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 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Rent tribunals					
Filed	27 191	27 117	29 778	29 775	30 827
Determined	26 938	26 623	29 071	30 824	30 295
Pending at the year-end	6 259	6 626	7 479	6 279	6 714
Tenancy tribunals					
Filed	2 302	2 055	2 767	1 945	2 261
Determined	2 178	1 898	2 330	3 013	1 842
Pending at the year-end	1 446	1 598	2 030	938	1 328



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Table 3.2
Rent tribunals and tenancy tribunals
Matters determined according to category 2010-2014

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Rent tribunals					
Mediation or arbitration in tenancy disputes	754	749	748	677	717
Unprotected tenancies	13 982	13 969	15 499	16 604	17 487
Extension of tenancy agreements	2 374	2 343	2 232	2 504	2 479
Court order to perform work, extension of time for work	559	507	472	454	470
Amendment of tenancy terms	530	536	639	666	618
Mediation regarding security of tenure in non-residential property	3 571	3 815	3 568	3 669	3 699
Matters governed by the Rent Negotiation Act	438	381	968	652	535
Other matters	2 565	2 444	2 632	2 622	2 454
Total	24 773	24 744	26 758	27 848	28 459
Tenancy tribunals					
Agricultural leases	158	163	186	130	142
Residential leases	1 194	1 018	1 006	1 823	1 031
Other matters	826	717	1 138	1 060	669
Total	2 178	1 898	2 330	3 013	1 842

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