



SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2003 Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Mississippi provides a synopsis of the appellate court system consisting of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals and the trial court system including chancery, circuit, county, and youth courts.

APPELLATE COURTS

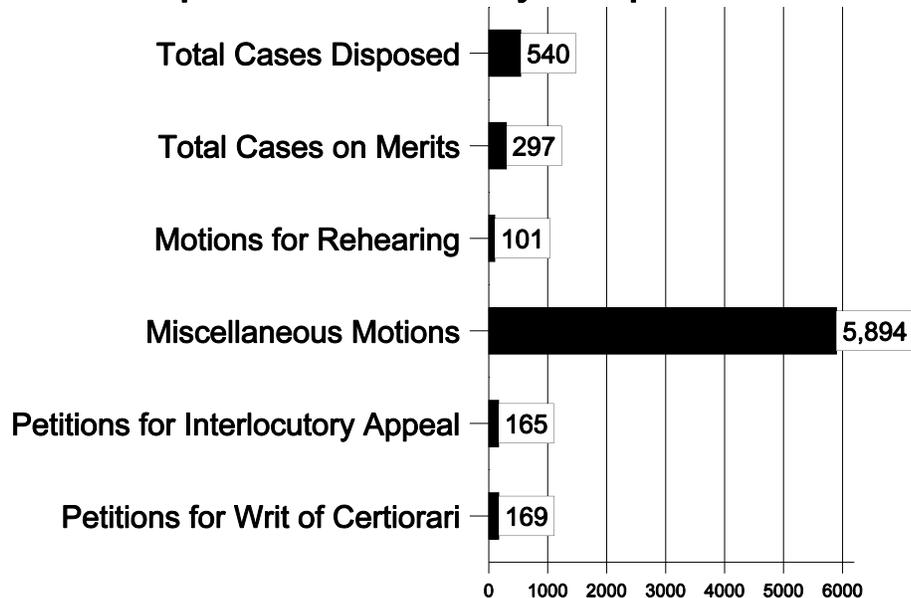
There were 1163 new filings in 2003 in the appellate court system. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 1115 cases in 2003. Of this number, 840 were decisions on the merits. The remaining 275 were dismissed. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 423 (or 73%) and reversed 155 (or 27%) of the total of 578 civil case dispositions on the merits. Of the total of 262 case criminal dispositions on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 222 (or 85%) and reversed 40 (or 15%). There were 1723 cases on the merits pending before the appellate courts as of December 31, 2003.

SUPREME COURT

In 2003, the Supreme Court disposed of 540 cases. Of this number, 297 were decisions on the merits. The remaining 243 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 204 (or 69%) were civil and 93 (or 31%) were criminal. Overall, the Court affirmed 214 (or 72%) of the cases decided on the merits in 2003, while reversing 83 (or 28%). Of the total of 204 civil case dispositions, the Court affirmed 144 (or 71%) and reversed 60 (or 29%). Of the total of 93 criminal case dispositions, the Court affirmed 70 (or 75%) and reversed 23 (or 25%).

The Supreme Court disposed of 101 motions for rehearing in 2003: 89 were denied, 9 were granted and 3 were dismissed. The number of other motions disposed of in 2003 by the Court was 5894. Pursuant to M.R.A.P. 5, the Court disposed of 165 petitions for interlocutory appeal in 2003: 51 were granted, 101 were denied, and 13 had other dispositions. The Court disposed of 169 petitions for writ of certiorari: 137 were denied, 31 were granted, and 1 was dismissed. The following chart represents a summary of the cases, motions, and petitions disposed of by the Supreme Court in 2003.

Supreme Court - Summary of Dispositions

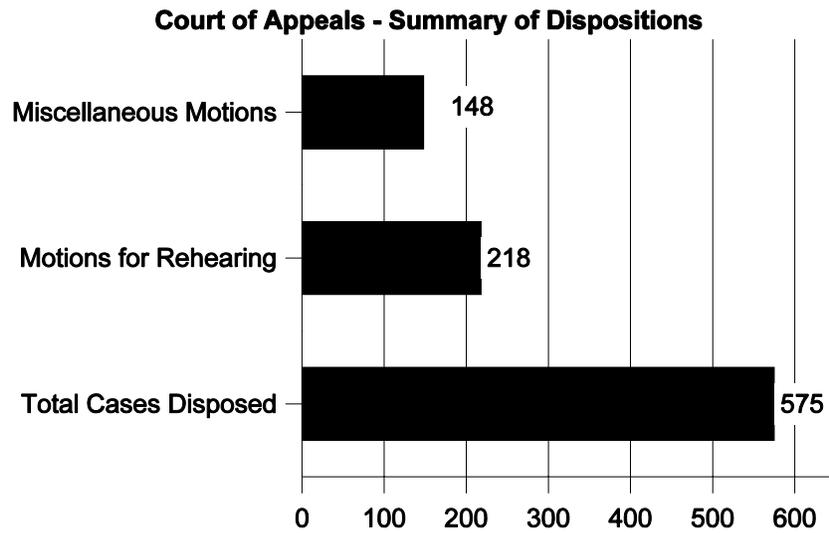


The Supreme Court heard oral argument in 27 cases in 2003. The majority of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court originated in circuit court.

COURT OF APPEALS

In 2003, the Court of Appeals disposed of 575 cases. Of this number, 543 were decisions on the merits. The remaining 32 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 374 (or 69%) were civil and 169 (or 31%) were criminal. Overall, the Court of Appeals affirmed 431 (or 79%) of the cases decided on the merits in 2003, while reversing 112 (or 21%). Of the total of 374 civil case dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 279 (or 75%) and reversed 95 (or 25%). Of the total of 169 criminal case dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 152 (or 90%) and reversed 17 (or 10%). Seventeen (17) cases originated in the Workers' Compensation Commission.

The Court of Appeals disposed of 218 motions for rehearing in 2003: 201 were denied, 4 were granted and 13 were dismissed. The number of other motions disposed of in 2003 was 148. The following chart represents a summary of the cases and motions disposed of by the Court of Appeals in 2003.



The Court of Appeals heard oral argument in 65 cases in 2003. The majority of cases disposed of by the Court of Appeals originated in circuit court.

TRIAL COURT SYSTEM

Due to problems identified with the import of data from the trial courts, the trial court system data will be provided at a later date.