

**Circuit Probate Overview**

The Circuit Probate division includes the following two categories of probate cases: probate & other probate and trust & guardianship. Within these categories are the following cases types:

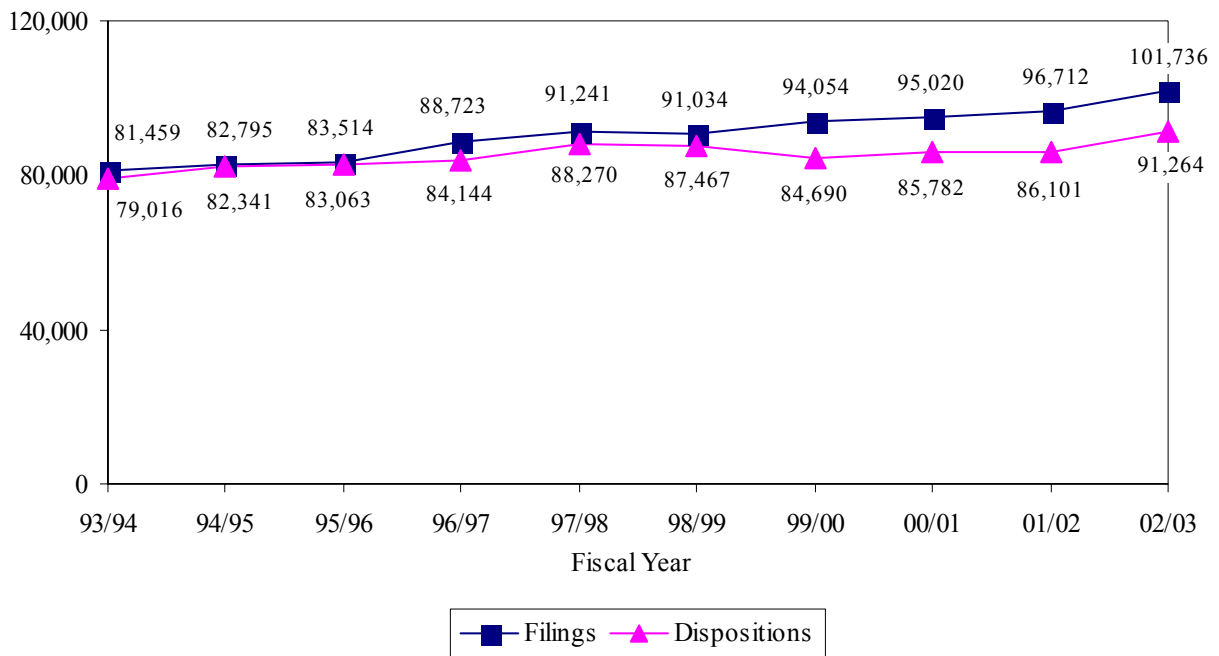
**Probate & Other Probate** - probate, Baker Act, substance abuse, and other social cases

**Trust & Guardianship** - guardianship and trust

In the Circuit Probate division, *Filings* correspond to each petition filed. *Dispositions* correspond to each petition disposed.

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS**

*FY 1993-94 to FY 2002-03*

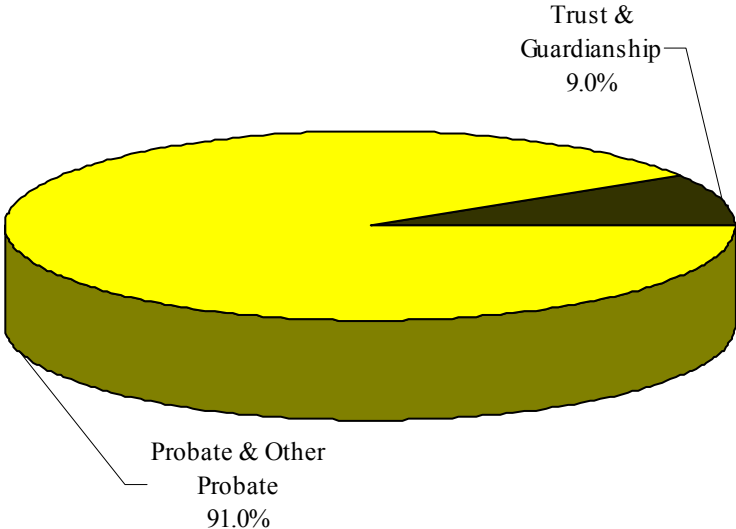


**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*Statewide by Category, Case Type and Month*  
**FY 2002-03**

Category/ Case Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Probate &amp; Other Probate</b>	<b>7,706</b>	<b>7,839</b>	<b>7,397</b>	<b>8,059</b>	<b>6,608</b>	<b>7,046</b>	<b>7,704</b>	<b>7,621</b>	<b>8,474</b>	<b>8,166</b>	<b>8,088</b>	<b>7,851</b>	<b>92,559</b>
Probate	4,656	4,805	4,316	4,896	4,076	4,336	4,676	4,704	5,108	4,969	4,877	4,787	56,206
Baker Act	2,046	2,038	2,042	2,048	1,711	1,833	1,993	1,893	2,205	2,070	2,059	1,992	23,930
Substance Abuse	535	522	555	614	456	491	590	595	688	626	624	603	6,899
Other Social Cases	469	474	484	501	365	386	445	429	473	501	528	469	5,524
<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>9,177</b>
Guardianship	714	814	693	783	592	583	682	607	614	740	654	652	8,128
Trust	74	86	73	97	97	78	106	83	87	96	93	79	1,049
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,494</b>	<b>8,739</b>	<b>8,163</b>	<b>8,939</b>	<b>7,297</b>	<b>7,707</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>8,311</b>	<b>9,175</b>	<b>9,002</b>	<b>8,835</b>	<b>8,582</b>	<b>101,736</b>

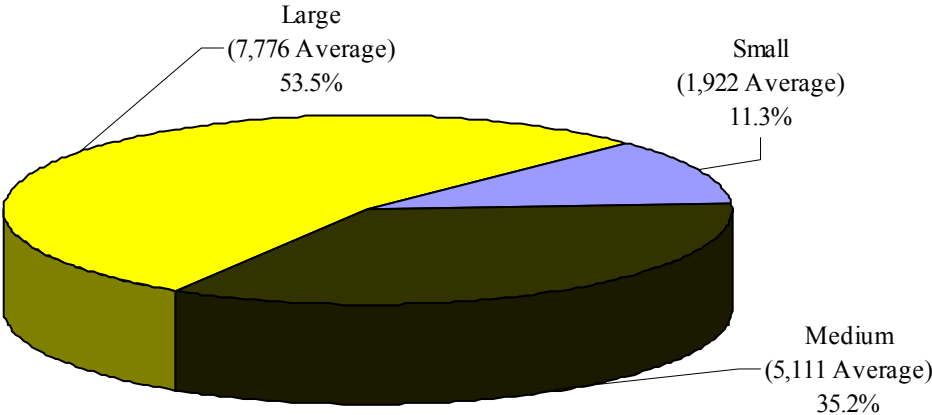
5

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Category*  
**FY 2002-03**



5

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Circuit Size\**  
**FY 2002-03**



\*Small Circuits- 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 14th, 16th, 19th;  
Medium Circuits- 1st, 5th, 7th, 10th, 12th, 18th, 20th;  
Large Circuits- 4th, 6th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th (as defined in the Glossary).

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Case Type and Circuit*  
**FY 2002-03**

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Probate</b>	<b>Baker Act</b>	<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>Other Social Cases</b>	<b>Guardianship</b>	<b>Trust</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	1,971	1,315	190	175	284	36	3,971
2	974	732	78	228	239	44	2,295
3	693	127	129	21	66	7	1,043
4	2,510	953	1,034	165	373	7	5,042
5	3,963	996	63	299	452	78	5,851
6	6,008	2,926	96	489	614	90	10,223
7	3,271	1,068	577	144	314	87	5,461
8	810	877	138	78	101	6	2,010
9	2,423	1,184	260	234	424	2	4,527
10	2,243	1,136	197	171	313	13	4,073
11	4,180	3,160	578	943	984	76	9,921
12	3,130	1,034	13	349	710	47	5,283
13	2,561	1,821	383	480	507	57	5,809
14	894	406	149	47	132	0	1,628
15	5,158	1,013	1,288	475	669	252	8,855
16	371	76	16	32	38	0	533
17	5,253	2,762	721	588	641	89	10,054
18	2,431	793	449	183	445	41	4,342
19	2,344	856	350	111	273	87	4,021
20	5,018	695	190	312	549	30	6,794
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,206</b>	<b>23,930</b>	<b>6,899</b>	<b>5,524</b>	<b>8,128</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>101,736</b>

5

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 1</b>	<b>3,651</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>3,971</b>
Escambia	1,879	174	2,053
Okaloosa	1,035	88	1,123
Santa Rosa	506	52	558
Walton	231	6	237
<b>Circuit 2</b>	<b>2,012</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>2,295</b>
Franklin	75	4	79
Gadsden	394	56	450
Jefferson	59	19	78
Leon	1,327	173	1,500
Liberty	29	1	30
Wakulla	128	30	158
<b>Circuit 3</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>1,043</b>
Columbia	322	27	349
Dixie	75	4	79
Hamilton	43	8	51
Lafayette	49	1	50
Madison	115	7	122
Suwannee	207	14	221
Taylor	159	12	171
<b>Circuit 4</b>	<b>4,662</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>5,042</b>
Clay	356	48	404
Duval	4,069	312	4,381
Nassau	237	20	257

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 5</b>	<b>5,321</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>5,851</b>
Citrus	881	86	967
Hernando	1,377	203	1,580
Lake	1,261	111	1,372
Marion	1,596	119	1,715
Sumter	206	11	217
<b>Circuit 6</b>	<b>9,519</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>10,223</b>
Pasco	2,710	156	2,866
Pinellas	6,809	548	7,357
<b>Circuit 7</b>	<b>5,060</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>5,461</b>
Flagler	448	29	477
Putnam	357	33	390
St. Johns	634	127	761
Volusia	3,621	212	3,833
<b>Circuit 8</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>2,010</b>
Alachua	1,302	62	1,364
Baker	187	7	194
Bradford	119	14	133
Gilchrist	46	7	53
Levy	185	15	200
Union	64	2	66
<b>Circuit 9</b>	<b>4,101</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>4,527</b>
Orange	3,332	330	3,662
Osceola	769	96	865

5

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

<b>Circuit/County</b>	<b>Probate &amp; Other Probate</b>	<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Circuit 10</b>	<b>3,747</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>4,073</b>
Hardee	87	19	106
Highlands	821	71	892
Polk	2,839	236	3,075
<b>Circuit 11</b>	<b>8,861</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>9,921</b>
Dade	8,861	1,060	9,921
<b>Circuit 12</b>	<b>4,526</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>5,283</b>
Desoto	128	23	151
Manatee	1,806	150	1,956
Sarasota	2,592	584	3,176
<b>Circuit 13</b>	<b>5,245</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>5,809</b>
Hillsborough	5,245	564	5,809
<b>Circuit 14</b>	<b>1,496</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,628</b>
Bay	936	61	997
Calhoun	50	4	54
Gulf	71	12	83
Holmes	87	6	93
Jackson	243	39	282
Washington	109	10	119
<b>Circuit 15</b>	<b>7,934</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>8,855</b>
Palm Beach	7,934	921	8,855
<b>Circuit 16</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>533</b>
Monroe	495	38	533

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 17</b>	<b>9,324</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>10,054</b>
Broward	9,324	730	10,054
<b>Circuit 18</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>4,342</b>
Brevard	2,537	327	2,864
Seminole	1,319	159	1,478
<b>Circuit 19</b>	<b>3,661</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>4,021</b>
Indian River	868	80	948
Martin	799	81	880
Okeechobee	187	14	201
St. Lucie	1,807	185	1,992
<b>Circuit 20</b>	<b>6,215</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>6,794</b>
Charlotte	1,534	117	1,651
Collier	1,526	156	1,682
Glades	39	1	40
Hendry	107	18	125
Lee	3,009	287	3,296
<b>State Total</b>	<b>92,559</b>	<b>9,177</b>	<b>101,736</b>

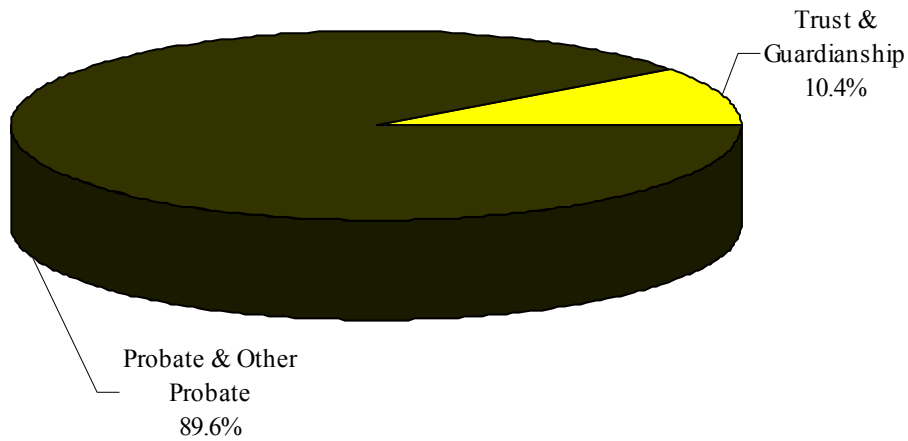
5



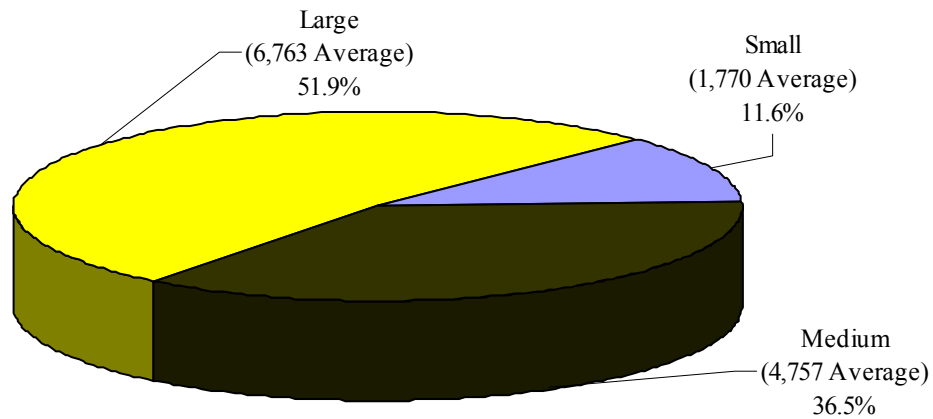
**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**Statewide by Category, Case Type and Month**  
**FY 2002-03**

Category/ Case Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Probate &amp; Other Probate</b>	<b>7,074</b>	<b>6,901</b>	<b>6,429</b>	<b>8,144</b>	<b>6,190</b>	<b>6,082</b>	<b>6,913</b>	<b>6,328</b>	<b>6,944</b>	<b>7,106</b>	<b>6,744</b>	<b>6,929</b>	<b>81,784</b>
Probate	4,558	4,477	4,144	4,907	4,097	4,017	4,410	4,092	4,420	4,539	4,314	4,457	52,432
Baker Act	1,628	1,571	1,485	2,281	1,281	1,309	1,631	1,431	1,607	1,546	1,470	1,497	18,737
Substance Abuse	496	461	406	544	496	426	524	488	563	598	559	525	6,086
Other Social Cases	392	392	394	412	316	330	348	317	354	423	401	450	4,529
<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>9,480</b>
Guardianship	747	793	783	780	751	770	729	852	739	700	509	536	8,689
Trust	50	70	69	75	63	62	44	67	56	122	56	57	791
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,871</b>	<b>7,764</b>	<b>7,281</b>	<b>8,999</b>	<b>7,004</b>	<b>6,914</b>	<b>7,686</b>	<b>7,247</b>	<b>7,739</b>	<b>7,928</b>	<b>7,309</b>	<b>7,522</b>	<b>91,264</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**by Category**  
**FY 2002-03**



**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**by Circuit Size\***  
**FY 2002-03**



\*Small Circuits- 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 14th, 16th, 19th;  
Medium Circuits- 1st, 5th, 7th, 10th, 12th, 18th, 20th;  
Large Circuits- 4th, 6th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th (as defined in the Glossary).

5

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**by Case Type and Circuit**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit	Probate	Baker Act	Substance Abuse	Other Social Cases	Guardianship	Trust	Total
1	1,973	1,789	194	185	282	35	4,458
2	852	701	61	222	114	64	2,014
3	491	76	94	8	26	2	697
4	2,469	951	725	170	354	2	4,671
5	3,696	793	68	267	467	31	5,322
6	6,129	2,838	94	506	584	59	10,210
7	3,040	1,003	588	121	233	20	5,005
8	831	875	134	69	91	8	2,008
9	2,559	1,136	252	217	387	2	4,553
10	2,241	480	325	154	266	14	3,480
11	3,791	1,671	289	526	1,079	47	7,403
12	3,336	425	11	256	480	23	4,531
13	2,561	1,832	381	477	533	50	5,834
14	822	377	147	31	107	0	1,484
15	5,177	786	1,227	344	521	168	8,223
16	366	72	16	29	34	0	517
17	2,528	848	567	372	1,989	145	6,449
18	1,972	744	429	175	382	22	3,724
19	2,467	683	316	89	264	80	3,899
20	5,131	657	168	311	496	19	6,782
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,432</b>	<b>18,737</b>	<b>6,086</b>	<b>4,529</b>	<b>8,689</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>91,264</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 1</b>	<b>4,141</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>4,458</b>
Escambia	1,995	153	2,148
Okaloosa	1,456	103	1,559
Santa Rosa	495	54	549
Walton	195	7	202
<b>Circuit 2</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>2,014</b>
Franklin	36	1	37
Gadsden	350	16	366
Jefferson	56	17	73
Leon	1,339	144	1,483
Liberty	17	0	17
Wakulla	38	0	38
<b>Circuit 3</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>697</b>
Columbia	205	6	211
Dixie	49	3	52
Hamilton	21	2	23
Lafayette	0	0	0
Madison	112	6	118
Suwannee	154	3	157
Taylor	128	8	136
<b>Circuit 4</b>	<b>4,315</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>4,671</b>
Clay	258	25	283
Duval	3,822	245	4,067
Nassau	235	86	321

**Circuit Probate ❖ Dispositions**

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 5</b>	<b>4,824</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>5,322</b>
Citrus	835	100	935
Hernando	1,035	111	1,146
Lake	1,308	157	1,465
Marion	1,419	116	1,535
Sumter	227	14	241
<b>Circuit 6</b>	<b>9,567</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>10,210</b>
Pasco	2,736	148	2,884
Pinellas	6,831	495	7,326
<b>Circuit 7</b>	<b>4,752</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>5,005</b>
Flagler	404	16	420
Putnam	329	22	351
St. Johns	440	15	455
Volusia	3,579	200	3,779
<b>Circuit 8</b>	<b>1,909</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>2,008</b>
Alachua	1,328	58	1,386
Baker	183	12	195
Bradford	115	20	135
Gilchrist	27	1	28
Levy	193	6	199
Union	63	2	65
<b>Circuit 9</b>	<b>4,164</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>4,553</b>
Orange	3,405	303	3,708
Osceola	759	86	845

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 10</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>3,480</b>
Hardee	72	13	85
Highlands	855	80	935
Polk	2,273	187	2,460
<b>Circuit 11</b>	<b>6,277</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>7,403</b>
Dade	6,277	1,126	7,403
<b>Circuit 12</b>	<b>4,028</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>4,531</b>
Desoto	25	1	26
Manatee	1,586	182	1,768
Sarasota	2,417	320	2,737
<b>Circuit 13</b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>5,834</b>
Hillsborough	5,251	583	5,834
<b>Circuit 14</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1,484</b>
Bay	942	76	1,018
Calhoun	60	0	60
Gulf	41	5	46
Holmes	78	2	80
Jackson	175	22	197
Washington	81	2	83
<b>Circuit 15</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>8,223</b>
Palm Beach	7,534	689	8,223
<b>Circuit 16</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>517</b>
Monroe	483	34	517

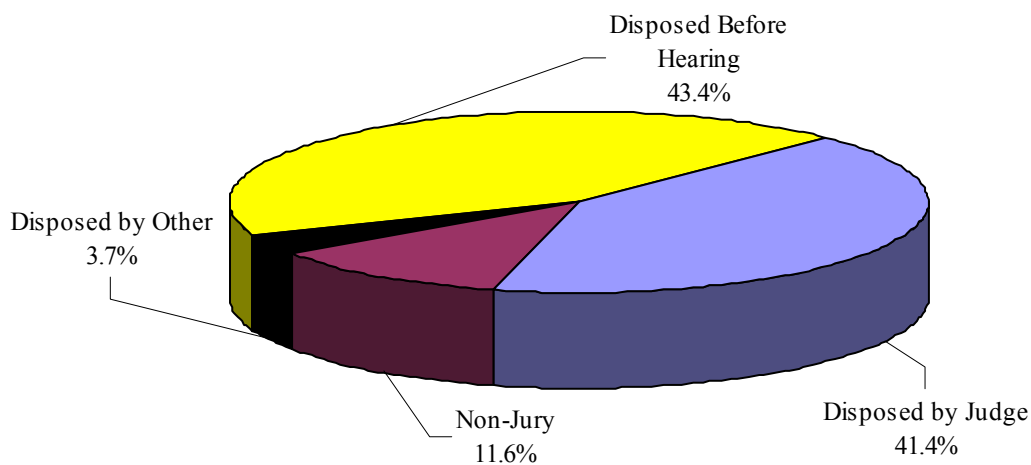
**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit/County	Probate & Other Probate	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 17</b>	<b>4,315</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>6,449</b>
Broward	4,315	2,134	6,449
<b>Circuit 18</b>	<b>3,320</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>3,724</b>
Brevard	2,144	268	2,412
Seminole	1,176	136	1,312
<b>Circuit 19</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>3,899</b>
Indian River	952	75	1,027
Martin	751	85	836
Okeechobee	230	8	238
St. Lucie	1,622	176	1,798
<b>Circuit 20</b>	<b>6,267</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>6,782</b>
Charlotte	1,702	131	1,833
Collier	1,579	146	1,725
Glades	26	5	31
Hendry	97	10	107
Lee	2,863	223	3,086
<b>State Total</b>	<b>81,784</b>	<b>9,480</b>	<b>91,264</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*Statewide by Case Type and Disposition Type*  
 FY 2002-03

Disposition Type	Probate	Baker Act	Substance Abuse	Other Social Cases	Guardianship	Trust	Total
Disposed Before Hearing	25,832	9,679	1,551	836	1,313	365	39,576
Disposed by Judge (No Trial)	25,215	4,395	2,568	1,650	3,691	219	37,738
Disposed by Non-Jury	300	4,046	1,828	1,952	2,397	29	10,552
Disposed by Other	1,085	617	139	91	1,288	178	3,398
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,432</b>	<b>18,737</b>	<b>6,086</b>	<b>4,529</b>	<b>8,689</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>91,264</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*by Disposition Type*  
 FY 2002-03





**Circuit Probate** ❖ **Special Proceedings**

The Circuit Probate division also involves special proceedings in the form of reopenings. **These data are provided by the 67 clerks of court. However, special proceedings data are not audited for accuracy by the OSCA.**

**Reopening** - A reopening occurs when a case that has previously been reported as disposed is resubmitted to the court through a motion or petition.

**CIRCUIT PROBATE SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**by Circuit**  
**FY 2002-03**

Circuit	Reopenings
First (Pensacola)	3,100
Second (Tallahassee)	521
Third (Lake City)	31
Fourth (Jacksonville)	1,992
Fifth (Tavares)	2,523
Sixth (Clearwater)	11,560
Seventh (Daytona Beach)	2,319
Eighth (Gainesville)	674
Ninth (Orlando)	4,745
Tenth (Bartow)	2,109
Eleventh (Miami)	23,213
Twelfth (Sarasota)	2,553
Thirteenth (Tampa)	4,566
Fourteenth (Panama City)	163
Fifteenth (West Palm Beach)	6,799
Sixteenth (Key West)	47
Seventeenth (Ft. Lauderdale)	17,831
Eighteenth (Sanford)	1,287
Nineteenth (Ft. Pierce)	3,089
Twentieth (Ft. Myers)	4,274
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,396</b>

-This page intentionally left blank-