

**Circuit Probate ❖ Overview**

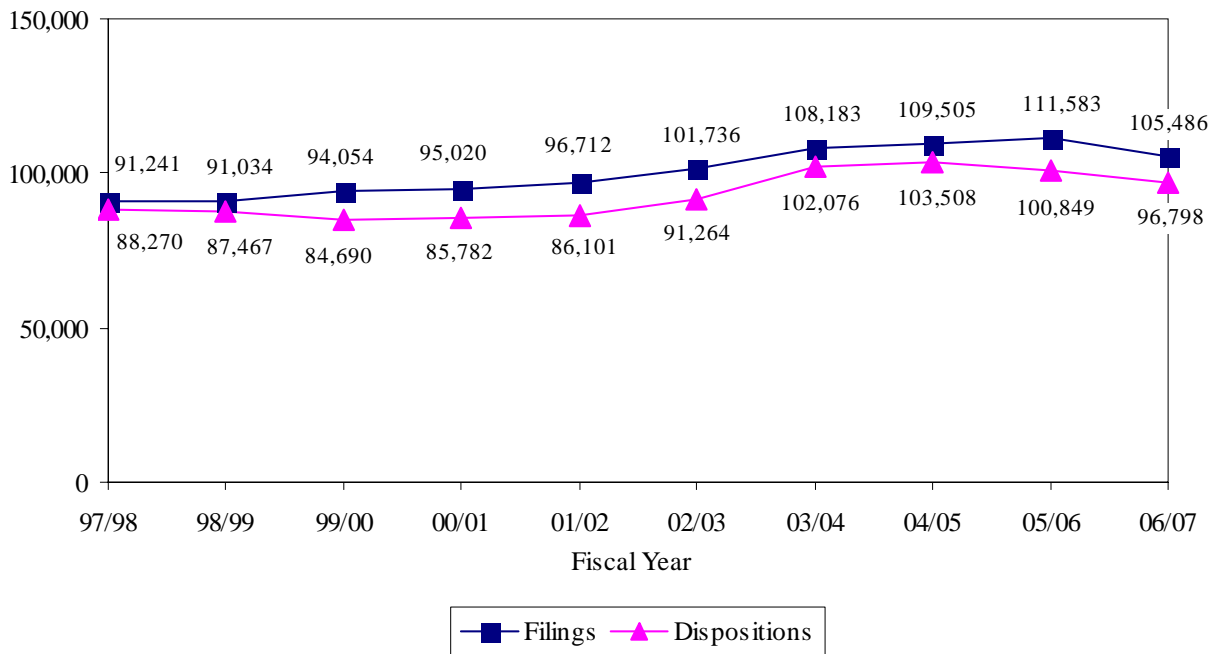
The Circuit Probate division includes the following two categories of probate cases: probate & mental health and trust & guardianship. Within these categories are the following case types:

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

**Trust & Guardianship** - adult and minor guardianship and trust

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

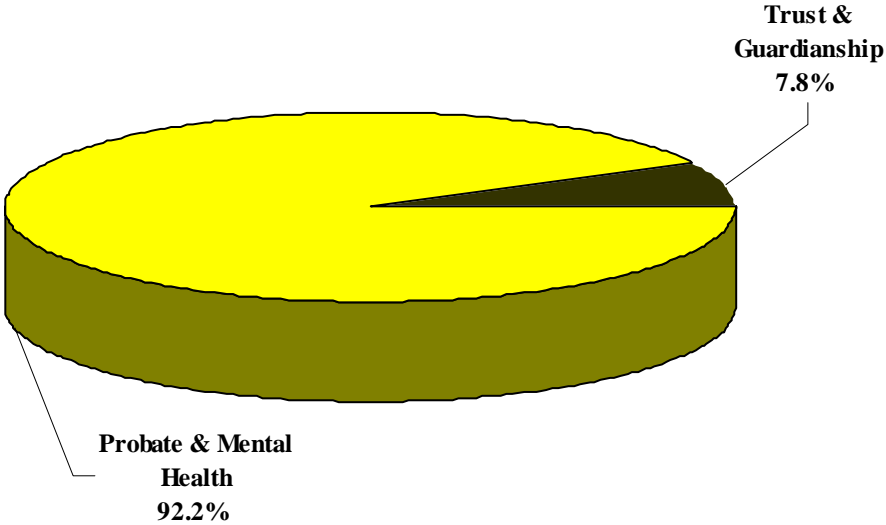
**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS**  
*FY 1997-98 to FY 2006-07*



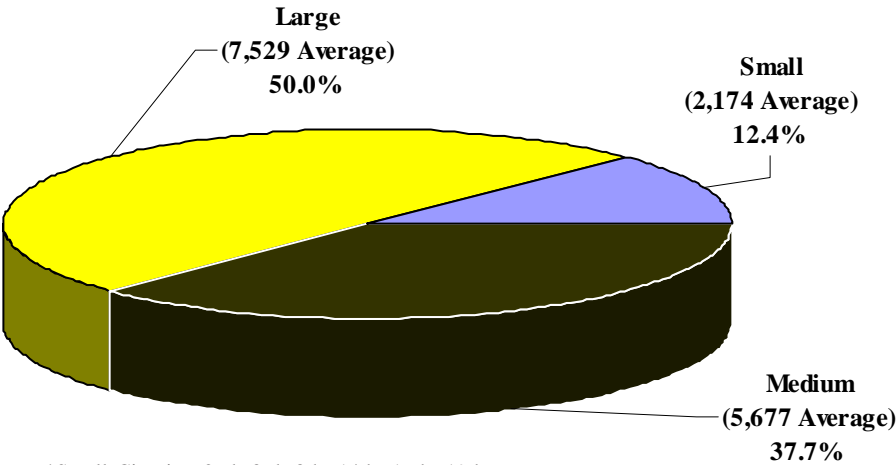
**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*Statewide by Category, Case Type and Month*  
**FY 2006-07**

Category/ Case Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Probate &amp; Mental Health</b>	<b>7,827</b>	<b>8,674</b>	<b>7,873</b>	<b>8,394</b>	<b>7,302</b>	<b>7,381</b>	<b>8,174</b>	<b>7,977</b>	<b>8,894</b>	<b>8,405</b>	<b>8,423</b>	<b>7,955</b>	<b>97,279</b>
Probate	4,642	5,229	4,639	4,859	4,314	4,354	4,713	4,728	5,314	4,921	4,946	4,666	57,325
Baker Act	2,108	2,167	2,071	2,357	1,921	2,034	2,316	2,076	2,261	2,318	2,267	2,133	26,029
Substance Abuse	725	779	738	783	692	631	721	716	850	768	804	744	8,951
Other Social Cases	352	499	425	395	375	362	424	457	469	398	406	412	4,974
<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>8,207</b>
Guardianship	524	697	632	608	567	511	616	588	661	559	625	584	7,172
Trust	69	70	81	79	97	86	73	85	70	64	184	77	1,035
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,420</b>	<b>9,441</b>	<b>8,586</b>	<b>9,081</b>	<b>7,966</b>	<b>7,978</b>	<b>8,863</b>	<b>8,650</b>	<b>9,625</b>	<b>9,028</b>	<b>9,232</b>	<b>8,616</b>	<b>105,486</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Category*  
FY 2006-07



**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Circuit Size\**  
FY 2006-07



\*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 2006-07**

<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>
<b>1</b>	1,942	1,539	402	110	221	10	4,224
<b>2</b>	970	1,316	138	430	150	41	3,045
<b>3</b>	686	164	247	70	51	1	1,219
<b>4</b>	2,548	1,283	1,205	139	464	0	5,639
<b>5</b>	4,447	1,263	94	386	439	19	6,648
<b>6</b>	5,216	2,778	281	401	498	74	9,248
<b>7</b>	3,462	1,332	665	115	310	16	5,900
<b>8</b>	921	1,011	190	229	110	6	2,467
<b>9</b>	2,510	1,032	646	304	469	63	5,024
<b>10</b>	2,497	1,239	301	242	369	8	4,656
<b>11</b>	4,189	3,575	740	887	915	72	10,378
<b>12</b>	3,055	1,037	449	67	496	171	5,275
<b>13</b>	2,507	1,914	540	352	410	57	5,780
<b>14</b>	1,050	462	210	44	100	1	1,867
<b>15</b>	4,778	1,054	1,067	238	493	252	7,882
<b>16</b>	494	47	17	10	40	3	611
<b>17</b>	5,010	2,105	643	411	491	93	8,753
<b>18</b>	2,747	948	677	192	449	47	5,060
<b>19</b>	2,269	1,003	234	92	195	40	3,833
<b>20</b>	6,027	927	205	255	502	61	7,977
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,325</b>	<b>26,029</b>	<b>8,951</b>	<b>4,974</b>	<b>7,172</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>105,486</b>

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**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS**  
*by Category and Circuit/County*  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 1</b>	<b>3,993</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>4,224</b>
Escambia	2,030	88	2,118
Okaloosa	1,185	66	1,251
Santa Rosa	495	60	555
Walton	283	17	300
<b>Circuit 2</b>	<b>2,854</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>3,045</b>
Franklin	80	4	84
Gadsden	552	85	637
Jefferson	98	5	103
Leon	1,904	83	1,987
Liberty	41	2	43
Wakulla	179	12	191
<b>Circuit 3</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1,219</b>
Columbia	402	30	432
Dixie	142	5	147
Hamilton	79	2	81
Lafayette	33	0	33
Madison	124	4	128
Suwannee	219	6	225
Taylor	168	5	173
<b>Circuit 4</b>	<b>5,175</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>5,639</b>
Clay	479	64	543
Duval	4,438	357	4,795
Nassau	258	43	301

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
*by Category and Circuit/County*  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 5</b>	<b>6,190</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>6,648</b>
Citrus	1,068	75	1,143
Hernando	1,407	123	1,530
Lake	1,575	86	1,661
Marion	1,860	155	2,015
Sumter	280	19	299
<b>Circuit 6</b>	<b>8,676</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>9,248</b>
Pasco	2,807	168	2,975
Pinellas	5,869	404	6,273
<b>Circuit 7</b>	<b>5,574</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>5,900</b>
Flagler	536	45	581
Putnam	512	22	534
St. Johns	703	60	763
Volusia	3,823	199	4,022
<b>Circuit 8</b>	<b>2,351</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>2,467</b>
Alachua	1,609	76	1,685
Baker	243	12	255
Bradford	106	6	112
Gilchrist	62	5	67
Levy	259	16	275
Union	72	1	73
<b>Circuit 9</b>	<b>4,492</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>5,024</b>
Orange	3,545	422	3,967
Osceola	947	110	1,057

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**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 10</b>	<b>4,279</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>4,656</b>
Hardee	118	22	140
Highlands	1,091	53	1,144
Polk	3,070	302	3,372
<b>Circuit 11</b>	<b>9,391</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>10,378</b>
Dade	9,391	987	10,378
<b>Circuit 12</b>	<b>4,608</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>5,275</b>
Desoto	94	24	118
Manatee	1,645	236	1,881
Sarasota	2,869	407	3,276
<b>Circuit 13</b>	<b>5,313</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>5,780</b>
Hillsborough	5,313	467	5,780
<b>Circuit 14</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1,867</b>
Bay	992	45	1,037
Calhoun	69	4	73
Gulf	76	5	81
Holmes	107	7	114
Jackson	335	27	362
Washington	187	13	200
<b>Circuit 15</b>	<b>7,137</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>7,882</b>
Palm Beach	7,137	745	7,882
<b>Circuit 16</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>611</b>
Monroe	568	43	611

**CIRCUIT PROBATE FILINGS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 17</b>	<b>8,169</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>8,753</b>
Broward	8,169	584	8,753
<b>Circuit 18</b>	<b>4,564</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>5,060</b>
Brevard	2,798	310	3,108
Seminole	1,766	186	1,952
<b>Circuit 19</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>3,833</b>
Indian River	984	85	1,069
Martin	713	55	768
Okeechobee	245	15	260
St. Lucie	1,656	80	1,736
<b>Circuit 20</b>	<b>7,414</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>7,977</b>
Charlotte	1,881	105	1,986
Collier	1,575	156	1,731
Glades	40	2	42
Hendry	201	22	223
Lee	3,717	278	3,995
<b>State Total</b>	<b>97,279</b>	<b>8,207</b>	<b>105,486</b>

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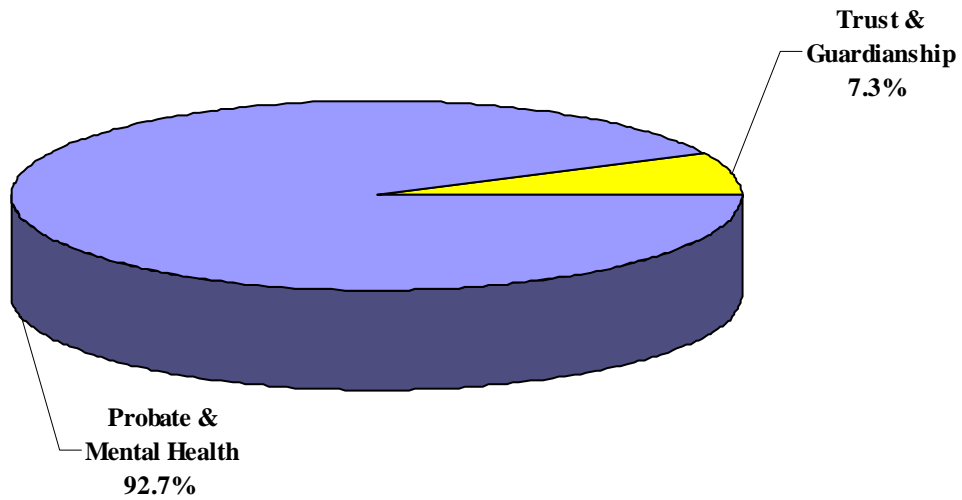


**Circuit Probate** ❖ **Dispositions**

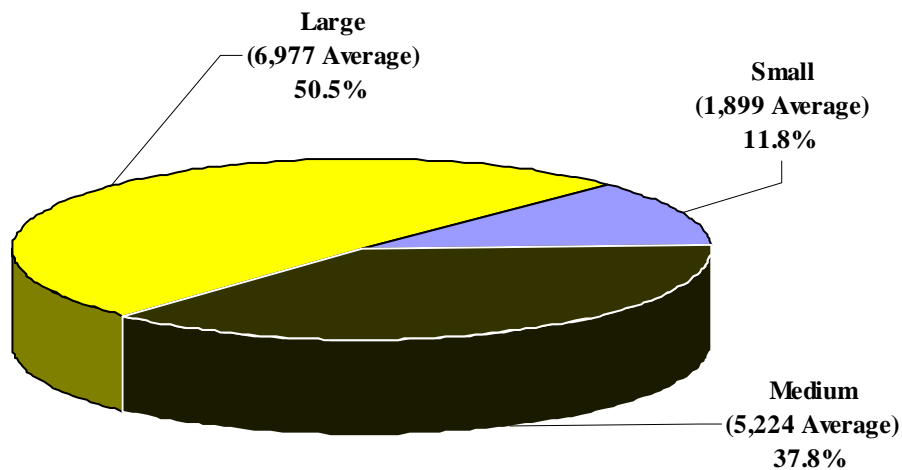
**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**Statewide by Category, Case Type and Month**  
**FY 2006-07**

Category/ Case Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Probate &amp; Mental Health</b>	<b>7,353</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>7,513</b>	<b>7,704</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>6,786</b>	<b>7,705</b>	<b>6,901</b>	<b>7,689</b>	<b>7,120</b>	<b>7,927</b>	<b>7,469</b>	<b>89,747</b>
Probate	4,383	4,966	4,549	4,498	4,578	4,047	4,617	4,011	4,475	4,047	4,512	4,543	53,226
Baker Act	2,006	2,172	1,946	2,166	1,868	1,863	2,139	1,970	2,121	2,066	2,262	1,940	24,519
Substance Abuse	648	716	676	654	617	602	621	627	696	673	799	646	7,975
Other Social Cases	316	346	342	386	317	274	328	293	397	334	354	340	4,027
<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>7,051</b>
Guardianship	512	595	559	605	546	494	517	490	596	524	517	539	6,494
Trust	44	34	51	40	51	61	64	42	36	37	53	44	557
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,909</b>	<b>8,829</b>	<b>8,123</b>	<b>8,349</b>	<b>7,977</b>	<b>7,341</b>	<b>8,286</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>8,321</b>	<b>7,681</b>	<b>8,497</b>	<b>8,052</b>	<b>96,798</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*by Category*  
**FY 2006-07**



**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*by Circuit Size\**  
**FY 2006-07**



\*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).

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**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
**by Case Type and Circuit**  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit	Probate	Baker Act	Substance Abuse	Other Social Cases	Guardianship	Trust	Total
1	1,963	1,432	375	87	200	7	4,064
2	640	1,235	76	68	72	3	2,094
3	466	135	222	24	29	0	876
4	2,402	1,275	849	114	360	0	5,000
5	4,467	1,180	134	336	336	12	6,465
6	5,107	2,709	277	354	439	49	8,935
7	3,469	1,335	661	113	313	11	5,902
8	898	996	189	228	110	6	2,427
9	2,297	978	648	278	406	46	4,653
10	2,695	1,256	416	188	341	9	4,905
11	4,287	3,532	663	892	1,111	50	10,535
12	2,924	537	295	43	287	41	4,127
13	2,583	1,896	538	359	429	52	5,857
14	1,027	443	190	18	51	0	1,729
15	4,425	963	989	192	434	164	7,167
16	364	48	15	9	64	0	500
17	3,433	1,933	465	243	602	14	6,690
18	2,332	730	567	133	287	23	4,072
19	2,239	973	229	85	204	36	3,766
20	5,208	933	177	263	419	34	7,034
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,226</b>	<b>24,519</b>	<b>7,975</b>	<b>4,027</b>	<b>6,494</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>96,798</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*by Category and Circuit/County*  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 1</b>	<b>3,857</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>4,064</b>
Escambia	2,169	89	2,258
Okaloosa	955	52	1,007
Santa Rosa	527	59	586
Walton	206	7	213
<b>Circuit 2</b>	<b>2,019</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>2,094</b>
Franklin	10	0	10
Gadsden	58	3	61
Jefferson	20	0	20
Leon	1,787	57	1,844
Liberty	17	0	17
Wakulla	127	15	142
<b>Circuit 3</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>876</b>
Columbia	343	15	358
Dixie	72	3	75
Hamilton	1	0	1
Lafayette	31	0	31
Madison	102	2	104
Suwannee	153	6	159
Taylor	145	3	148
<b>Circuit 4</b>	<b>4,640</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>5,000</b>
Clay	359	64	423
Duval	4,046	258	4,304
Nassau	235	38	273

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**Circuit Probate ❖ Dispositions**

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 5</b>	<b>6,117</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>6,465</b>
Citrus	1,089	73	1,162
Hernando	1,291	57	1,348
Lake	1,528	61	1,589
Marion	1,939	143	2,082
Sumter	270	14	284
<b>Circuit 6</b>	<b>8,447</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>8,935</b>
Pasco	2,729	148	2,877
Pinellas	5,718	340	6,058
<b>Circuit 7</b>	<b>5,578</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>5,902</b>
Flagler	492	36	528
Putnam	408	21	429
St. Johns	709	78	787
Volusia	3,969	189	4,158
<b>Circuit 8</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>2,427</b>
Alachua	1,569	90	1,659
Baker	253	8	261
Bradford	115	14	129
Gilchrist	57	0	57
Levy	252	3	255
Union	65	1	66
<b>Circuit 9</b>	<b>4,201</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>4,653</b>
Orange	3,281	348	3,629
Osceola	920	104	1,024

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2006-07**

Circuit/County	Probate & Mental Health	Trust & Guardianship	Total
<b>Circuit 10</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>4,905</b>
Hardee	93	14	107
Highlands	1,123	29	1,152
Polk	3,339	307	3,646
<b>Circuit 11</b>	<b>9,374</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>10,535</b>
Dade	9,374	1,161	10,535
<b>Circuit 12</b>	<b>3,799</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>4,127</b>
Desoto	75	12	87
Manatee	1,616	93	1,709
Sarasota	2,108	223	2,331
<b>Circuit 13</b>	<b>5,376</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>5,857</b>
Hillsborough	5,376	481	5,857
<b>Circuit 14</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1,729</b>
Bay	1,053	17	1,070
Calhoun	4	0	4
Gulf	30	0	30
Holmes	96	6	102
Jackson	311	20	331
Washington	184	8	192
<b>Circuit 15</b>	<b>6,569</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>7,167</b>
Palm Beach	6,569	598	7,167
<b>Circuit 16</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>500</b>
Monroe	436	64	500

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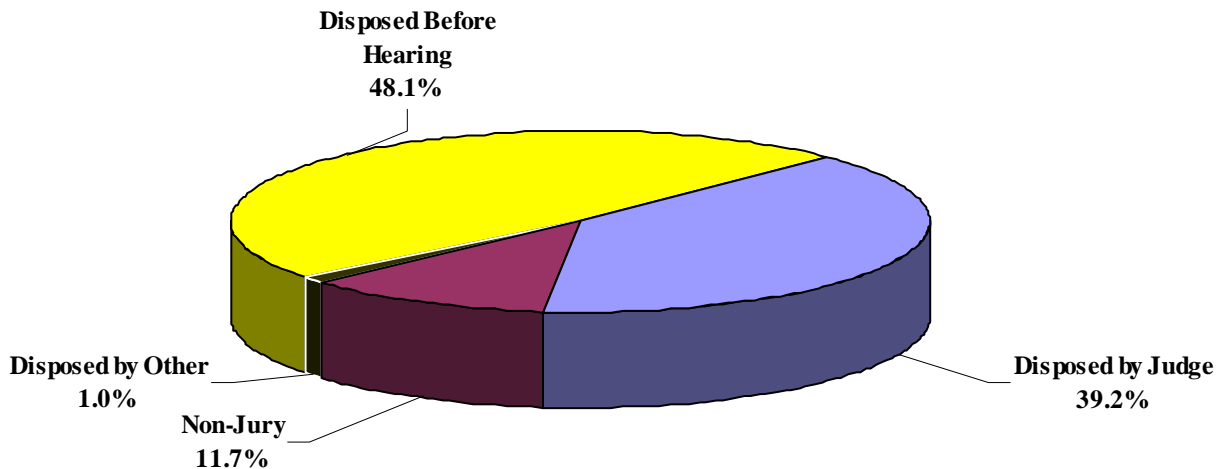
**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS, Continued**  
**by Category and Circuit/County**  
**FY 2006-07**

<b>Circuit/County</b>	<b>Probate &amp; Mental Health</b>	<b>Trust &amp; Guardianship</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Circuit 17</b>	<b>6,074</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>6,690</b>
Broward	6,074	616	6,690
<b>Circuit 18</b>	<b>3,762</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>4,072</b>
Brevard	1,951	138	2,089
Seminole	1,811	172	1,983
<b>Circuit 19</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>3,766</b>
Indian River	994	83	1,077
Martin	742	77	819
Okeechobee	180	3	183
St. Lucie	1,610	77	1,687
<b>Circuit 20</b>	<b>6,581</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>7,034</b>
Charlotte	1,715	65	1,780
Collier	1,469	141	1,610
Glades	18	1	19
Hendry	176	16	192
Lee	3,203	230	3,433
<b>State Total</b>	<b>89,747</b>	<b>7,051</b>	<b>96,798</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*Statewide by Case Type and Disposition Type*  
 FY 2006-07

Disposition Type	Probate	Baker Act	Substance Abuse	Other Social Cases	Guardianship	Trust	Total
Disposed Before Hearing	28,478	13,745	2,761	637	609	300	46,530
Disposed by Judge (No Trial)	24,201	5,132	3,248	1,459	3,642	242	37,924
Disposed by Non-Jury	356	5,126	1,903	1,825	2,146	10	11,366
Disposed by Other	191	516	63	106	97	5	978
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,226</b>	<b>24,519</b>	<b>7,975</b>	<b>4,027</b>	<b>6,494</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>96,798</b>

**CIRCUIT PROBATE DISPOSITIONS**  
*by Disposition Type*  
 FY 2006-07



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**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 2006-07**

Circuit	Reopenings
First (Pensacola)	3,143
Second (Tallahassee)	713
Third (Lake City)	47
Fourth (Jacksonville)	1,589
Fifth (Tavares)	2,749
Sixth (Clearwater)	8,861
Seventh (Daytona Beach)	2,428
Eighth (Gainesville)	601
Ninth (Orlando)	4,718
Tenth (Bartow)	3,339
Eleventh (Miami)	24,861
Twelfth (Sarasota)	313
Thirteenth (Tampa)	3,878
Fourteenth (Panama City)	306
Fifteenth (West Palm Beach)	5,747
Sixteenth (Key West)	91
Seventeenth (Ft. Lauderdale)	1,154
Eighteenth (Sanford)	2,828
Nineteenth (Ft. Pierce)	3,177
Twentieth (Ft. Myers)	3,672
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,215</b>

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