

Table 5.2
STATE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS AND GENERAL TRIAL COURTS: NUMBER OF JUDGES AND TERMS

State or other jurisdiction	Intermediate appellate court			General trial court		
	Name of court	2012 No. of judges	Term (years)	Name of court	2012 No. of judges	Term (years)
Alabama.....	Court of Criminal Appeals	5	6	Circuit Court	144	6
Alaska.....	Court of Civil Appeals	3	8	Superior Court	42	6 (a)
Arizona.....	Court of Appeals	22	6	Superior Court	174	4
				Tax Court	Superior Court judges serve	4
Arkansas.....	Court of Appeals	12	8	Chancery/Probate Court and Circuit Court	121	(unless rotated to a different court by the presiding judge)
California.....	Courts of Appeal	105	12	Superior Court	1,662	6
Colorado.....	Court of Appeals	22	8	District Court	160	6 (b)
				Denver Juvenile Court	3	6 (b)
				Denver Probate Court	1	6 (b)
Connecticut.....	Appellate Court	9	8	District Court judges serve		At pleasure of the Supreme Court
Delaware.....	...	...	...	Superior Court	159	8
				Superior Court	19	12
				Court of Chancery	5	12
Florida.....	District Courts of Appeals	61	6	Circuit Court	599	6
Georgia.....	Court of Appeals	12	6	Superior Court	205	4
Hawaii.....	Intermediate Court of Appeals	6	10	Circuit Court	33	10
Idaho.....	Court of Appeals	4	6	District Court	42	4
Illinois.....	Appellate Court	54	10	Circuit Court	517	6
Indiana.....	Court of Appeals	15	12 (c)	Superior Court, Probate Court and Circuit Court	317	6
Iowa.....	Tax Court	1	10	District Court	355 (d)	6 (c)
	Court of Appeals	9	6	District Court	234 (f)	4
Kansas.....	Court of Appeals	13	4	Circuit Court	94	8
Kentucky.....	Court of Appeals	14	8	Family Court	51	8
Louisiana.....	Courts of Appeal	60	10	District Court	217	6
				Juvenile and Family Court	18	6
Maine.....	...	...	...	Superior Court	17	7
				District Court	36	7
Maryland.....	Court of Special Appeals	13	10	Circuit Court	157	15
Massachusetts.....	Appeals Court	28 (g)	To age 70	Superior Court	82	To age 70
Michigan.....	Court of Appeals	28	6	Circuit Court	219	6
				Court of Claims	7	6
Minnesota.....	Court of Appeals	19	6	District Court	280	6
Mississippi.....	Court of Appeals	10	8	Circuit Court	53	4
Missouri.....	Court of Appeals	32	12	Circuit Court	334 (h)	6 (f)
Montana.....	...	...	...	District Court	46 (f)	6
				Water Court	5	4
Nebraska.....	Court of Appeals	6	3 (k)	Workers' Compensation Court	1	6
Nevada.....	...	...	...	District Court	55	6 (l)
New Hampshire.....	...	...	...	District Court	72	6
New Jersey.....	Appellate Division of Superior Court	34	7 (m)	Superior Court	22	To age 70
				Superior Court	414	7 (n)

See footnotes at end of table.

STATE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS AND GENERAL TRIAL COURTS: NUMBER OF JUDGES AND TERMS — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Intermediate appellate court			General trial court		
	Name of court	2012 No. of judges	Term (years)	Name of court	2012 No. of judges	Term (years)
New Mexico.....	Court of Appeals	10	8	District Court	75	6
New York.....	Appellate Division of Supreme Court	58	5 (o)	Supreme Court	263	14
	Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	15	Duration of term	County Court	126	10
North Carolina.....	Court of Appeals	15	8	Superior Court	105 (p)	8 (q)
North Dakota.....	Temporary Court of Appeals	3 (r)	1 (s)	District Court	44	6
Ohio.....	Courts of Appeals	69	6	Court of Common Pleas	384	6
Oklahoma.....	Court of Appeals	12	6	District Court	235 (t)	4 (u)
Oregon.....	Court of Appeals	10	6	Circuit Court	173	6
				Tax Court	1	6
Pennsylvania.....	Superior Court	15 (v)	10	Court of Common Pleas	449 (x)	10
	Commonwealth Court	9 (w)	10			
Rhode Island.....	...	...	...	Superior Court	25 (y)	Life
South Carolina.....	Court of Appeals	9	6	Circuit Court	46	6 (aa)
South Dakota.....	...	...	...	Circuit Court	41	8
Tennessee.....	Court of Appeals	12	8	Chancery Court	34	8
	Court of Criminal Appeals	12	8	Circuit Court	83	8
				Criminal Court	33	8
				Probate Court	2	8
Texas.....	Courts of Appeals	80	6	District Court	456	4
Utah.....	Court of Appeals	7	6 (aa)	District Court	71	6 (aa)
Vermont.....	...	...	...	Superior Court	32	6 (aa)
Virginia.....	Court of Appeals	11	8	Circuit Court	156	8
Washington.....	Courts of Appeal	22	6	Superior Court	189	4
West Virginia.....	...	...	...	Circuit Court	70	8
Wisconsin.....	Court of Appeals	16	6	Circuit Court	249	6
Wyoming.....	...	...	...	District Court	22	6
Dist. of Columbia.....	...	...	...	Superior Court	62	15
Puerto Rico.....	Circuit Court of Appeals	39	16	Court of First Instance	314 (bb)	12 (cc)

Sources: S. Strickland, R. Schaffner, R. LaFountain, and K. Holt, eds. *State Court Organization*. Last updated March 6, 2013. National Center for State Courts. March 13, 2013. www.ncsc.org/scso.

- Key:
- ... — Court does not exist in jurisdiction or not applicable.
 - (a) The initial term for Superior Court judges is three years.
 - (b) The initial term for District Court, Denver Juvenile Court and County Court judges is two years.
 - (c) Two years initial; 10 years retention.
 - (d) The number of District Court judges includes associate judges and magistrates.
 - (e) The initial term for District judges is at least one year. Associate judges serve a term of four years with an initial term of at least one year, and magistrate judges serve a term of four years.
 - (f) The number of District Court judges includes magistrates.
 - (g) The judges of the Appeals Court are assisted by the services on recall of several retired judges.
 - (h) The number of Circuit Court judges includes associate judges.
 - (i) Associate Circuit judges serve a term of four years.
 - (j) Three of those judges serve the Water Court.
 - (k) More than three years for first election and retention is every six years thereafter.
 - (l) The initial term is for three years but not more than five years.
 - (m) Followed by tenure. All judges are subject to gubernatorial reappointment and consent by the Senate after an initial seven-year term; thereafter, they may serve until mandatory retirement at age 70.
 - (n) After an initial seven-year term, the reapportionment term for Superior and Tax Court judges is open-ended until mandatory retirement age at age 70.
 - (o) Or duration.
 - (p) The number of Superior Court judges includes special judges.
 - (q) Special judges serve a term of four years.
 - (r) The supreme court may provide for the assignment of active or retired district court judges, retired justices of the supreme court, and lawyers, to serve on three-judge panels.
 - (s) Assignments are for a specified time, not to exceed one year or the completion of one or more cases on the docket of the Supreme Court.
 - (t) The number of District Court judges includes associate judges and special judges.
 - (u) District and associate judges serve four-year terms; special judges serve at pleasure.
 - (v) The judges of the Superior Court are assisted by senior judges specially appointed by the Supreme Court.
 - (w) The judges of the Commonwealth Court are assisted by senior judges specially appointed by the Supreme Court. Also, senior Common Pleas Court judges occasionally serve on the Commonwealth Court.
 - (x) Includes both active and senior judges.
 - (y) The number of judges includes magistrates.
 - (z) Four to five judges are currently working as active retired judges.
 - (aa) The initial term of appointment is until the next general election immediately following the third year from the time of the initial appointment.
 - (bb) The number of Court of First Instance judges includes Municipal Division judges.
 - (cc) Municipal judges serve a term of eight years.