

MAYOR'S COURTS

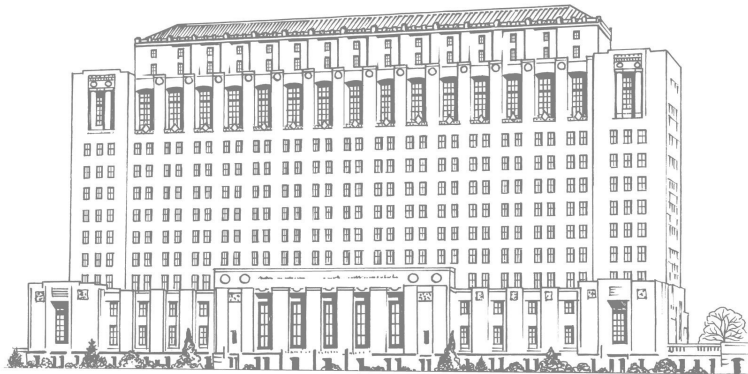
2005 SUMMARY



THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

2005

MAYOR'S COURTS SUMMARY



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2005

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All population figures contained in this report are based on the 2000 U.S. census

Ohio Mayor's Courts

Ohio law allows mayors of municipal corporations populated by more than 100 people that have no municipal court to conduct mayor's court. These courts, which are not courts of record, hear only cases involving violations of local ordinances and state traffic laws. Those convicted in a mayor's court may appeal their conviction to the municipal or county court having jurisdiction within the municipal corporation. Ohio law does not require mayors hearing cases to be attorneys.

Section 1905.033 of the Ohio Revised Code, effective Jan. 1, 2004, requires mayor's courts to register annually and file statistics quarterly with the Supreme Court of Ohio. At the request of the Ohio General Assembly, the Supreme Court of Ohio adopted rules providing for court procedures and basic legal education for mayors hearing cases. Furthermore, mayors whose courts hear alcohol and drug-related traffic offenses have additional educational requirements.

In 2005, there were 336 municipal corporations operating mayor's courts. The populations of those municipal corporations fall into the following groupings:

Population Range	Number of Courts
Less than 100 ¹	3
Between 100 and 499	46
Between 500 and 999	58
Between 1,000 and 4,999	156
Between 5,000 and 9,999	34
Between 10,000 and 19,999	23
Between 20,000 and 29,999	9
Between 30,000 and 39,999	6
Greater than 40,000	1

¹ Population data based on 2000 U.S. census.

General Notes

Incomplete Data

The following mayor's courts first became active midway through 2005 and therefore only submitted quarterly caseload reports for part of the year:

- Cairo (first became active in May 2005)
- Camden (first became active in April 2005)
- Maineville (first became active in May 2005)
- Milan (first became active in October 2005)
- Mowrystown (first became active in April 2005)
- Mt. Sterling (first became active in December 2005)
- Salineville (first became active in October 2005)

The following mayor's courts were registered active throughout 2005 but failed to submit a complete set of quarterly caseload reports:

- Jerry City (only submitted first quarter report)
- Nashville (only submitted first and second quarter reports)

Definition of "Clearance Rate"

As used in this report, "clearance rate" is a measure of a court's ability to keep up with its incoming caseload. It is determined by comparing the number of cases filed during the year to the number of cases terminated during the same year. The clearance rate, expressed as a percentage, is calculated by dividing the total number of terminations by the total number of new filings, transfers and reactivations. The calculation does not include cases pending at the beginning of the year.

