

VANUATU COURTS

COURT OF APPEAL  
SUPREME COURT  
MAGISTRATES COURT  
ISLAND COURT

2025 – A Reflection

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW - ALL

- A very busy year for the Vanuatu Courts in respect to total cases filed. A 5% increase overall, with 3,932 cases filed in 2025 compared to 3,749 cases filed in 2024 across the four jurisdictions, reflecting the workload on the courts/judiciary and the court administrators. Despite Port Vila Magistrate Court experiencing a later start in Quarter One because of the 7.3 earthquake that happened on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2024. The Port Vila Magistrate Court building was severely damaged causing judicial officers and staffs to have no access to their building. For a period of 3 months, one on call duty rostered magistrate and one secretary were temporarily placed at the Island Court building rotating each week, to manage only urgent applications.
- The Supreme Court saw 958 cases filed, a 9% increase from 875 on previous year. The Magistrates Court saw 2,492 a 4% increase from 2,393 of cases filed on previous year. The Island Court's filings increased by almost 3% across the country, with 399 cases filed compared to 389 cases in 2024.
- Disposals in Supreme Court were 933, a 15% increase from 810 on previous year. The Magistrate saw 2,215 a 2% decrease from 2,268 disposed in the previous year. The Island Court saw 418, a 1% decreased from 423 in the previous year 2024.
- With respect to the international court performance indicators, we have seen a decrease in Clearance Rate. Showing less than 100%, is Supreme Court with 97%, Magistrate Court with 89% and Court of Appeal with 93% – causing 3 out of four jurisdictions having their pending #s increase. Island Court with a clearance rate of 105% saw their pending #s decrease. In addition, the time to finalize cases across criminal and civil, all four jurisdictions have reduced, and same for civil matters all four jurisdictions have reduced, an extremely positive result.

## CONTINUED

- Pending numbers has always been one of the key indicators of the courts, our overall numbers have increased.
- 3,227 cases are now pending across the four jurisdictions, with 48% (1536 pending cases) being in the Magistrate Court, 32% (1043 pending cases) in the Supreme Court, 19% (622 pending cases) in the Island Court and 1% (26 pending cases) in the Court of Appeal. The Pending to Disposal Ratio (PDR) is still higher then ideal – 1.1 in the Supreme Court, 0.7 in the Magistrates Court and 1.5 in the Island Court. The lower the PDR the better, and ideally 1.0 or lower for the Supreme Court and 0.5 or lower for the Magistrates Court and Island Court. The Court of Appeal is doing well with a PDR of 0.5
- Another key indicator is the Attendance Rate (measures the number of visits/appearances at court to dispose a matter). The target for all courts internationally is to keep this indicator as low as possible. The attendance rates for completed cases in the year 2025 has seen a slight increase to 2024. On average, 5.3 in the Supreme Court, 2.7 in the Magistrate Court and 2.5 in the Island Court.
- The productivity of our judges and magistrates in 2025, with respect to disposals per judicial officer on average in the Supreme Court is 109 cases disposed per Judge and in the Magistrate Court 269 cases per Magistrate. This is slightly down against 2024 numbers, potentially caused by more case complexity as measured by the higher attendance rates.

## CONTINUED

- Supreme Court cases appeal rate has decreased to almost 7% compared to 9% in 2024 – a positive result.
- The ongoing commitment that the Supreme Court shows to the criminal workload has ensured the timeliness of cases to be finalized has decreased on average from 197 days in 2024 to 183 days in 2025, with attendance rates at 4.7. In addition, in the Magistrate Court timeliness of cases to be finalized has also decreased on average from 246 days in 2024 to 197 days in 2025, with attendance rate steady at 3.1.
- With Supreme Court civil cases, timeliness of cases to be finalized has also decrease on average from 630 days in 2024 to 562 days in 2025 and the attendance rate at 5.4 due to the number of adjournments such as lack of compliance, which has direct impact and cost to the parties. And seen the same in Magistrate Court, timeliness of cases to be finalized has decrease on average from 408 days in 2024 to 309 days in 2025, with attendance rates at 4.3.
- Reserved Judgments in the Supreme Court now stand at 51 cases and most of these judgments are older than 90 days and will continue to be a focus for Judges in 2026.

## CONTINUED

- Over the last year, filing of Preliminary Inquiry cases in the Magistrates Court has increase by 9% from 366 in 2024 to 400 in 2025 and finalization decrease by 21% from 403 in 2024 to 320 in 2025.
- Filing of DV (Issuing of Protection Order) cases has decreased by 5% from 1,226 in 2024 to 1,167 in 2025 and finalization increase by 2% from 1,113 in 2024 to 1,135 in 2025.
- Criminal Cases with DV as an Influencing factor by percentage in the Supreme Court is 13% of the 255 registered in 2025. And in the Magistrate Court 45% of the 692 registered in 2025. Overall, 36% of the 947 Criminal cases registered in 2025 of with DV as an Influencing factor that were dealt by Supreme Court and Magistrate Court.
- Finally, as we reflect on the performance of cases dealt with across the four jurisdictions, we will continue to drill into more specifics such as who appears before us – for example, gender, parties, as well as the criminal charge outcomes and results associated with the cases in this 2025 detailed analysis that will appear on the website within the week.
- Our ability to reflect on the performance of the courts at the end of 2025 is a credit to the Chief Registrar and his team, to be able to present to you, the Government and the Community, our 2025 performance analysis within the month of January is testament to the work of many.

# SUPREME COURT

## Key Messages

- SC filings increased – with 958 cases filed – highest seen compared to previous years and to 2024, with 875 cases filed.
- SC finalizations were up from 810 in 2024 to 933 in 2025
- Clearance rate less than 100% - at 97%, but overall, the last 7 years at 101% - a solid effort
- Pending increased to just over 1,043, due to the Clearance Rate at less than 100%
- PDR is 1.1 – a decrease from 1.2 in 2024 however still slightly above the target of 1.0 for any Supreme Court
- There are still approximately 25% of cases older than 2023 – reflecting many old cases needing to be addressed
- Timeliness for completing Criminal cases decreased by 7% – now at 183 days versus 197 days last year – and Civil cases decreased from 630 days to 562 days – a decrease of 11% - an excellent result

## Overall

- The age of pending cases see 25% of cases older than 3 years is still a concern and will be a focus of attention in 2026 to reduce the % of aged cases
- Judicial output (productivity) – as calculated by disposals/full time Judicial Officer – a slight decrease from previous years – but still a solid performance by the Judges and in-line with the average across the 7 previous years
- Overall, the % of cases with a future listing has increased from 41% to 46% from previous year – a good improvement, but the international benchmark is 80%, so more work needed to ensure cases have a future date
- Over 43% are under ‘case management’ without a future listing – a reduction from the 46% the previous year – but further reduction is needed
- Attendance rates (which impact and cost to the community) are being monitored carefully. Some variances between case types – overall has been increase. from 4.9 appearances to 5.3 appearances in the last year – while it does not look like a big difference – it is approximately 10% increase from the previous year which is a concern (and 25% increase across the past 2 years)

# MAGISTRATES COURT

## Key Messages

- MC filings increased – with 2,492 cases filed – highest seen in the last 4 years and to 2024, with 2,393 cases filed.
- MC finalizations were down from 2,268 to 2,215 in 2025
- Clearance rate less than 100% - at 89%, but overall, the last 7 years at 96% - could be better
- Pending increased to 1,536, due to the Clearance Rate at less than 100%, at 89%
- PDR is 0.7 – remains the same as in 2024 and is still slightly above the target of 0.5 for any Magistrate Court
- There are still approximately 25% of cases older than 2024
- Timeliness for completing Criminal cases decreased by 20% – now at 197 days versus 246 days last year – and Civil cases decreased from 408 days to 309 days – a decrease of 24% - an excellent result

## Overall

- The age of pending with 25% of cases older than 2 years is still a concern and will be a focus of attention in 2026 to reduce the % of aged cases
- Judicial output (productivity) – as calculated by disposals/full time Judicial Officer – a slight decrease from previous years – but still a solid performance by the Magistrate and in-line with the average across the 7 previous years
- Overall, the % of cases with a future listing has increased from 18% to 45% from previous year – a good improvement, but the international benchmark is 80%, so more work needed to ensure cases have a future date
- Over 39% are under ‘case management’ without a future listing – a reduction from the 52% the previous year – but further reduction is needed
- Attendance rates (which impact and cost to the community) are being monitored carefully. Some variances between case types – overall has decreased from 2.8 appearances to 2.7 appearances in the last year

# ISLAND COURT

## Key Messages

- IC filings increased – with 399 cases filed – higher compared to the previous year 2024, with 389 cases filed.
- IC finalizations were down from 423 in 2024 to 418 in 2025
- Clearance rate above 100% - at 105% - a solid result and overall, the last 7 years at 100% - again a solid result
- Pending decreased to 622, due to the Clearance Rate at more than 100%
- PDR is 1.5 – a decrease from 1.8 in 2024 however still above the target of 0.5 for any Island Court
- There are still approximately 60% of cases older than 2024 – needs to be addressed
- Timeliness for completing Criminal cases decreased by 16% – now at 199 days versus 238 days last year – and Civil cases decreased from 873 days to 524 days – a decrease of 40% - an excellent result

## Overall

- The age of pending with 60% of cases older than 2 years is still a concern and will be a focus of attention in 2026 to reduce the % of aged cases
- Overall, the % of cases with a future listing has increased from 30% to 35% from previous year – a good improvement, but the benchmark is 80%, so more work needed to ensure cases have a future date
- Over 43% are under ‘case management’ without a future listing – an increase from the 41% the previous year – but further reduction is needed
- Attendance rates (which impact and cost to the community) are being monitored carefully. Some variances between case types – overall has remains at 2.5 same as last year.



# SUMMARY AGAINST MAJOR COURT PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

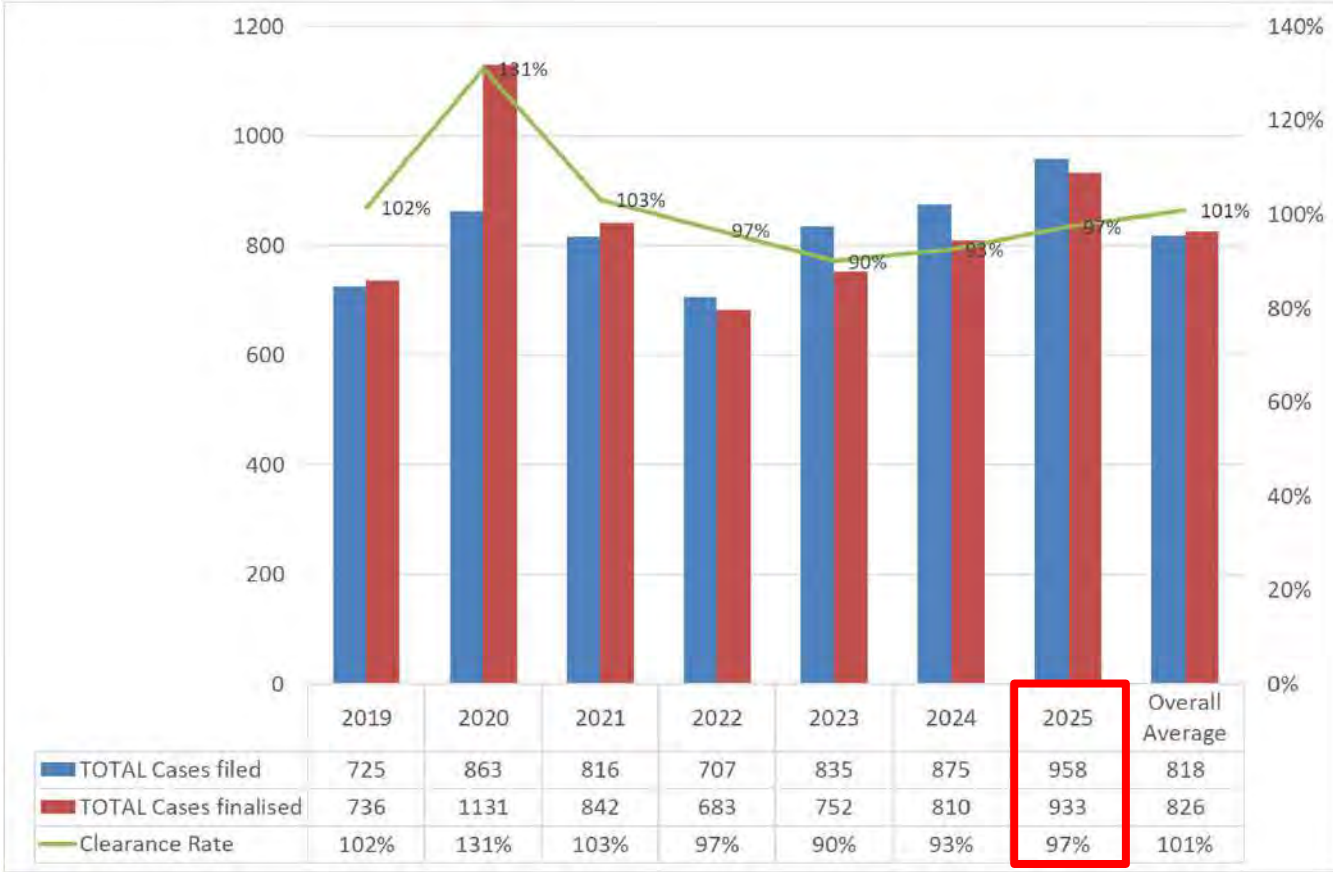
| Court Indicator    | Supreme Court  | Magistrates Court  | Island Court                  | Court of Appeal                   |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Filing #s          | Up by 9% on 2024 – Highest on previous years                 | Slightly up by 4% on 2024                                    | Slightly up by 3% on 2024     | Down by 20% on 2024               |
| Disposal #s        | Significantly up by 15% on 2024                              | Slightly down by 2% on 2024                                  | Slightly down by 1% on 2024   | Significantly down by 28% on 2024 |
| Clearance Rate     | 97%  | 89%  | 105%                          | 93%                               |
| Pending #s         | Slight increase on 2024                                      | Significant increase on 2024                                 | Slight decrease on 2024       | Stable                            |
| PDR                | Still high at 1.1  | Remains at 0.7   | Still too high at 1.5         | Under control at 0.5              |
| Pending age/tail   | 25% older than 3 years                                       | 25% older than 2 years                                       | 61% older than 2 years        | Under control                     |
| Pending stages     | Only 46% with future listing                                 | Only 45% with future listing                                 | Only 35 % with future listing | Under control                     |
| Timeliness         | Reducing   | Reducing   | Reducing                      | Reducing                          |
| Attendance Rate    | Some variances between case types – overall increase on 2024 | Some variances between case types – overall increase to 2024 | Not applicable                | Not applicable                    |
| Productivity       | Slight decrease  | Slight decrease  | Not applicable                | Not applicable                    |
| Reserved Judgments | Still some outstanding Judgments                             | Under control  | Not applicable                | Under control                     |

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# I. CASE WORKLOAD

# SUPREME COURT TOTAL WORKLOAD



Cases being filed in 2025 over 900 cases – the highest workload seen since 2019 and comparing to 2024, a 9 % increase. Finalization up, over 900 cases compared to 2024 a 15% increase, however it came close to the high number of filings resulting a Clearance rate of 97% less than the targeted 100% - adding over 40 cases to Pending #s..

The overall average for the last 7 years is 101% - a solid performance

# SUPREME COURT CRIMINAL WORKLOAD



Criminal cases being filed by the OPP #'s it has significantly increase compared to previous years, from 236 in 2024, up to 255 in 2025 – an 8 % increase. Finalization up from 243 in 2024, to 252 in 2025 – a 4% increase. Despite the increase with finalization, it came close to the high number of filings resulting a clearance rate to 99 %, just under target of 100%.

The overall average for the last 7 years is 98% - still solid.

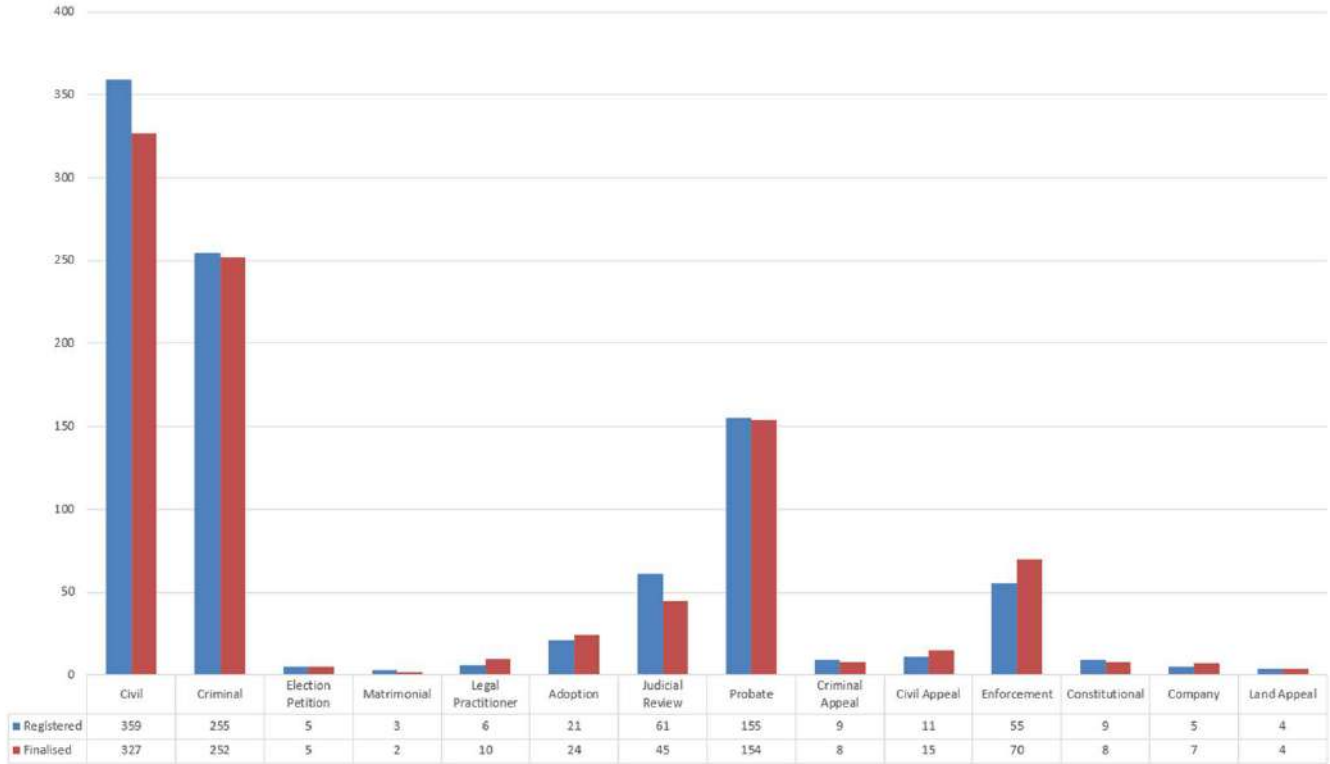
# SUPREME COURT CIVIL WORKLOAD



Civil cases being filed has increased from 320 in 2024 to 356 in 2025 – a 12% increase. Finalization up from 286 in 2024 to 327 in 2025. Despite Finalization up, it came close to filing numbers resulting in a clearance rate of 91 %, below target of 100%.

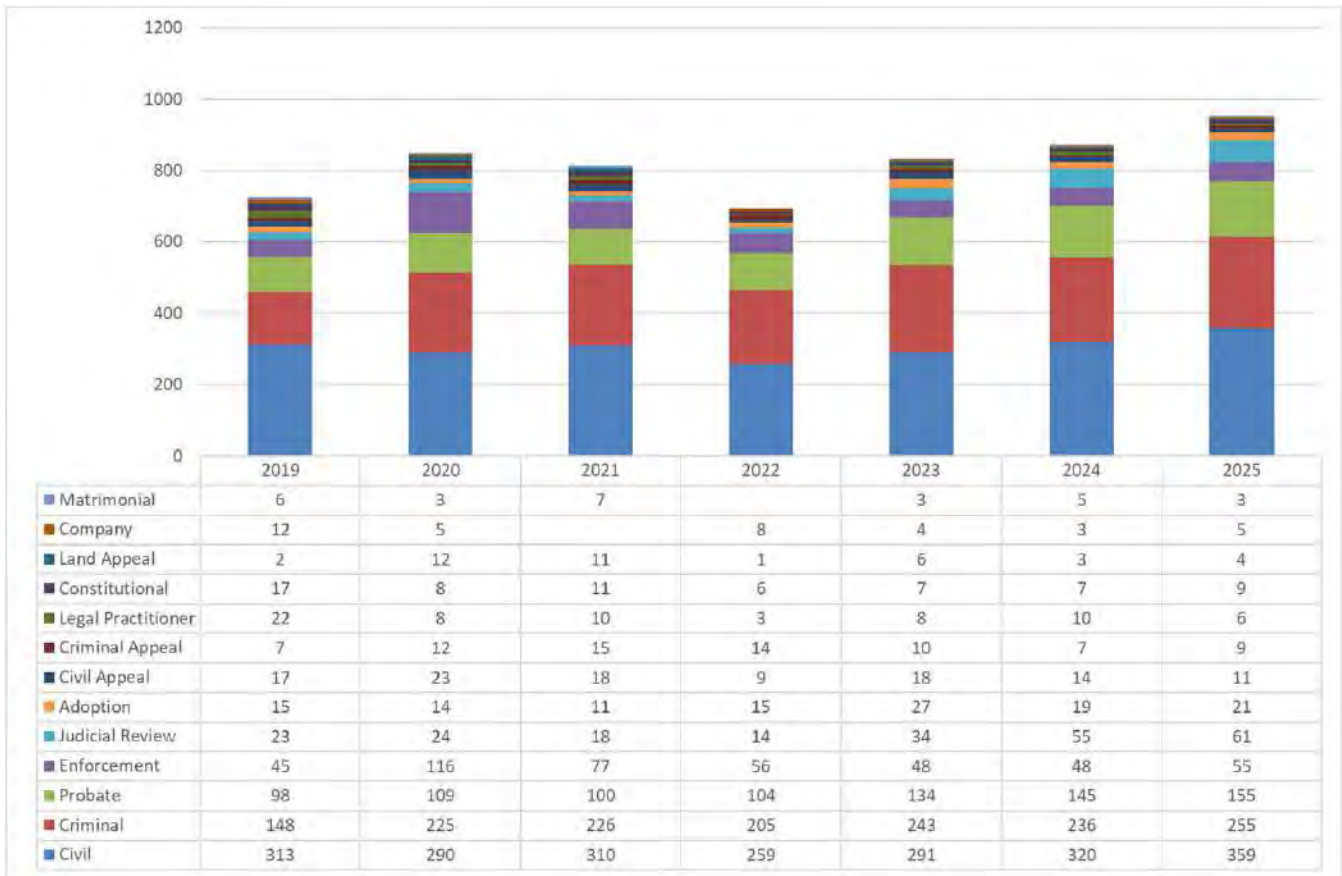
The overall average for the last 7 years is 102% - still solid.

# SUPREME COURT ALL CASE WORKLOAD



Civil and criminal workload accounts for approximately 2/3rds of the Supreme Court filings and both came close to finalize as many as registered. Also seen a high number of Probate matters, followed by Enforcement and Judicial Review matters.

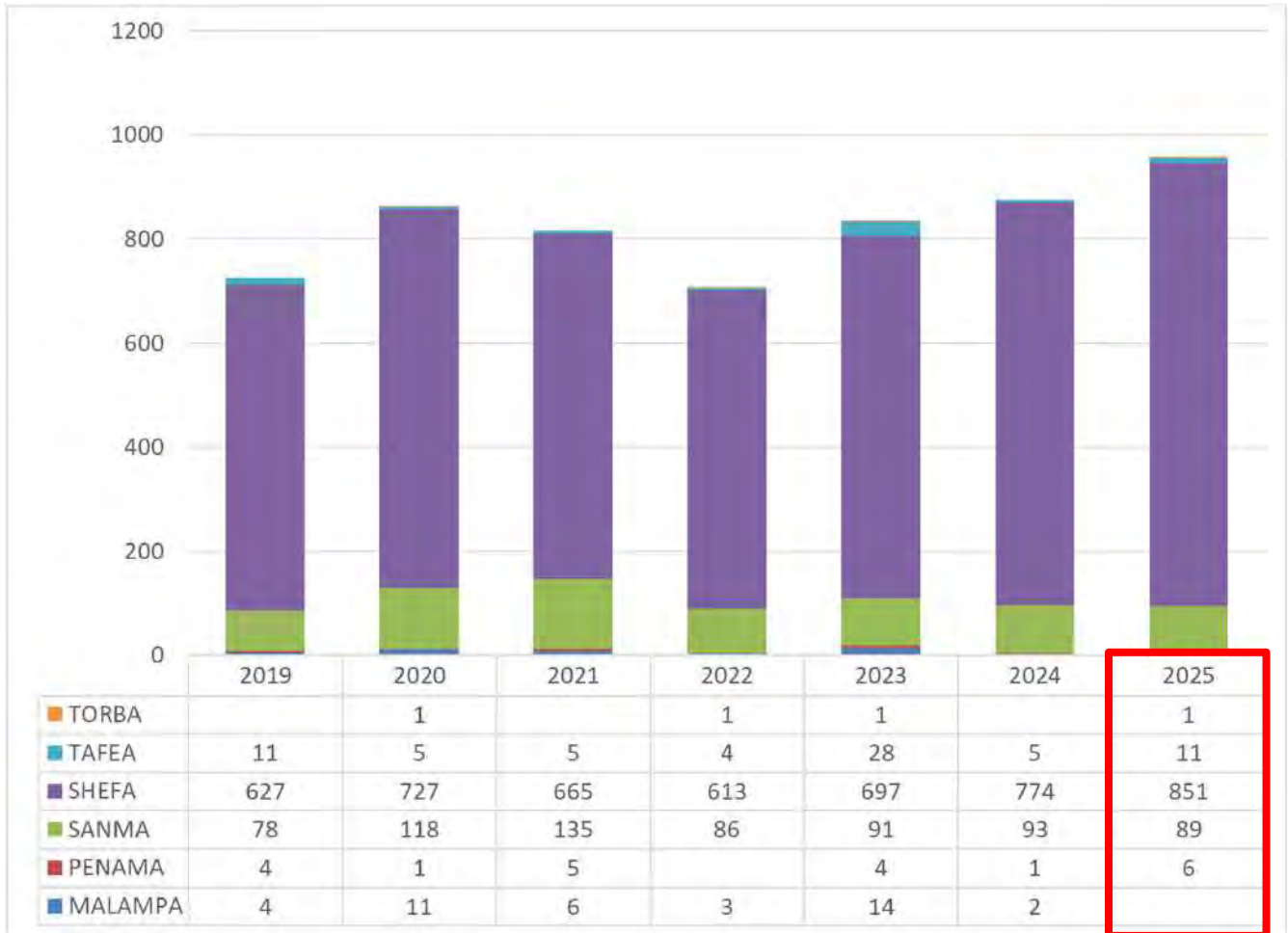
# SUPREME COURT WORKLOAD TRENDS



An increase in most case types like civil, criminal, probate, enforcement, judicial review and adoption matters over the years.



## SUPREME COURT LOCATION WORKLOAD



Case filings emanating from 2 main provinces has seen a significant increase in SHEFA – Port Vila, while SANMA – Luganville, slightly decreased and other provinces showing very low number over the years.

# MAGISTRATES COURT TOTAL WORKLOAD



Having a late start Magistrate Court, starting in Quarter 2 of 2025, due to earthquake damages to their building in late December of 2024. Cases filed were significantly up from 2,393 in 2024, to 2,492 in 2025 a 4% increase and finalization down from 2,268 in 2024, to 2,215 in 2025 a 2% decrease resulting an 89% Clearance Rate – adding over 140 cases to Pending #s.

The overall average for the last 7 years is 96%

# MAGISTRATES COURT CIVIL WORKLOAD



Civil filings increased by 15%, from 141 in 2024 to 162 in 2025 and finalization up by 10%, from 98 in 2024 to 108 in 2025 – got swamped by more work and despite finalizing more, not able to keep up – more time needs to be directed to civil to clear backlog.

The overall average for the last 7 years is 98%.

# MAGISTRATES COURT DV WORKLOAD



Protection orders (non-criminal) filings is down by 5% from 1,226 in 2024 to 1,167 in 2025 and finalizations up by 2% from 1,113 in 2024 to 1,135 in 2025. Although finalizations up in 2025, its still not a match the incoming work resulting in a 97% Clearance Rate .

The overall average clearance rate for the last 7 years is 96%.

# MAGISTRATES COURT PI WORKLOAD



PI matters filed by the OPP up 400 cases – highest seen to previous years. An increase of 9% from 366 in 2024 to 400 in 2025. Finalizations is significantly low by 21% from 403 in 2024 to 320 in 2025 resulting in a Clearance Rate of 80% - needs focus.

Overall average clearance rate over the last 7 years is 95%.

This workload is thus expected to flow on to the Supreme Court in the coming year.

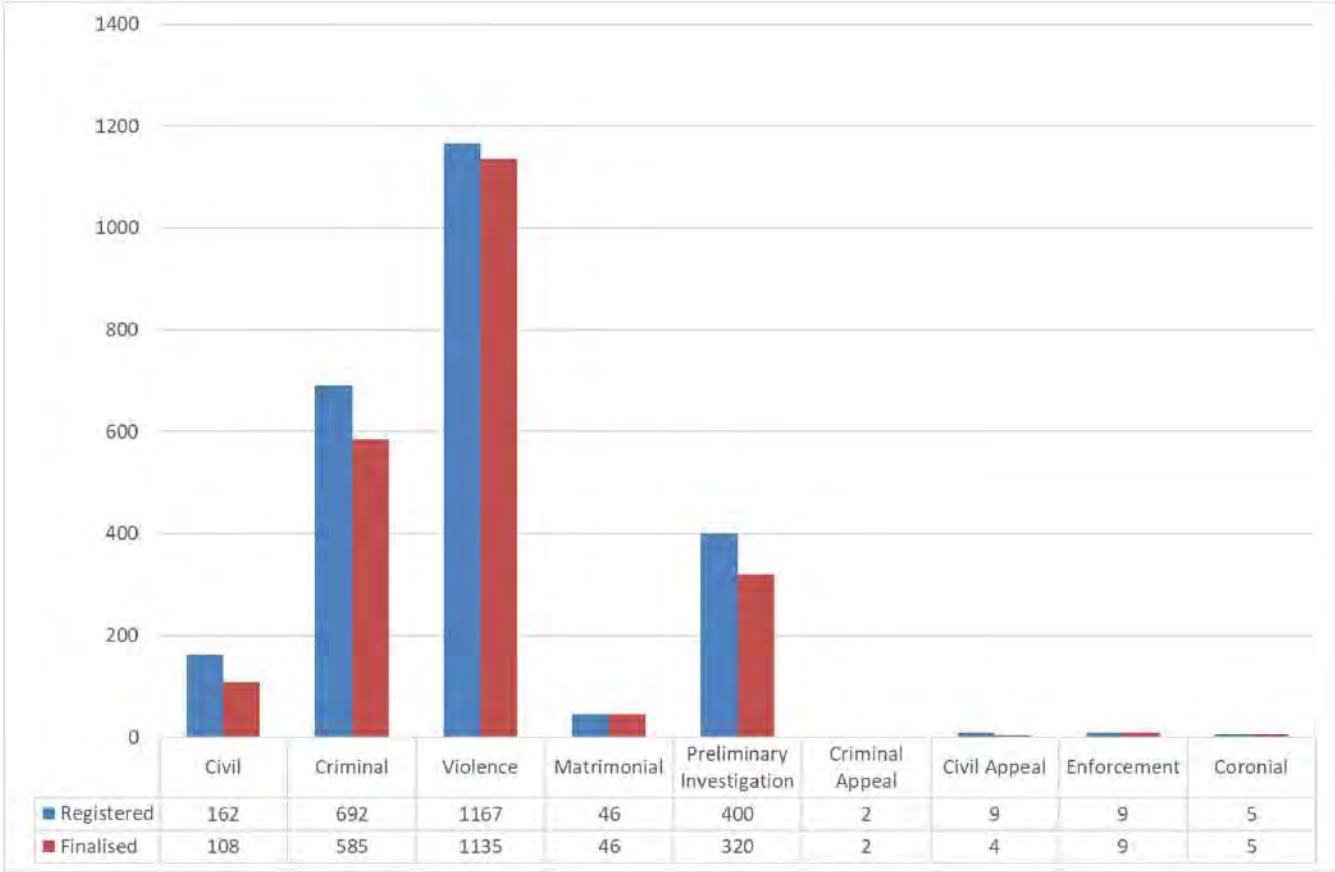
# MAGISTRATES COURT CRIMINAL WORKLOAD



The filings emanating from VPF/SPD has increase significantly by 26% from 549 in 2024 to 692 in 2025. Like filings, finalizations #s up by 5% from 556 in 2024 to 585 in 2025, however it still did not match the incoming work in 2025 resulting in a Clearance Rate of 85%.

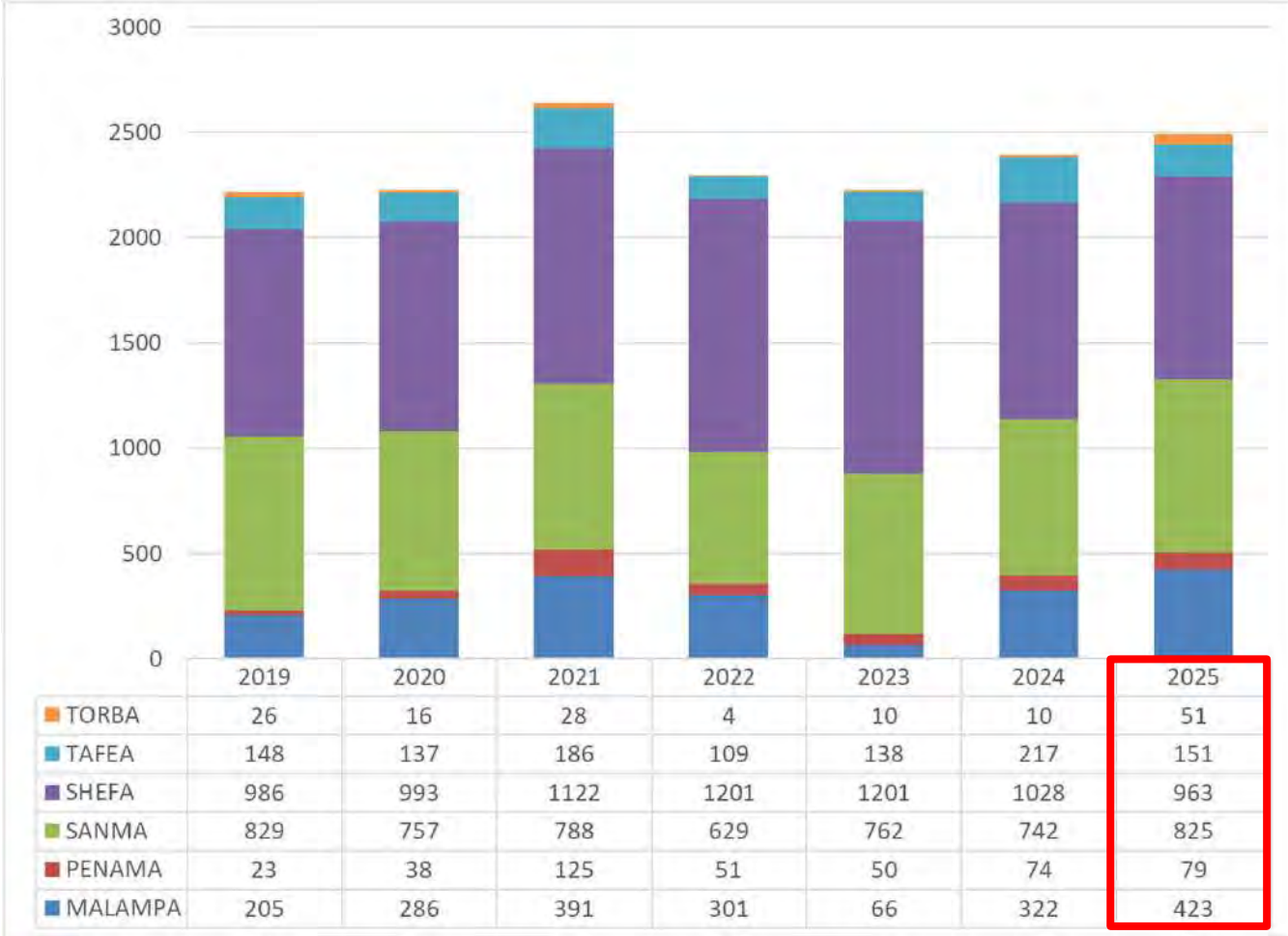
The overall average for the last 7 years is 98% - still solid.

# MAGISTRATES COURT ALL CASE WORKLOAD



Violence (issuing of protection orders), Criminal and Preliminary Investigation matters continue to be the biggest case filing types in the MC.

# MAGISTRATES COURT LOCATION WORKLOAD



Case filings emanating from 2 main provinces SANMA – Luganville and SHEFA – Port Vila, seen a decrease in SHEFA and an increase in SANMA. For other provinces e.g., MALAMPA & TORBA now showing very higher numbers compared to the previous year.



# ISLAND COURT TOTAL WORKLOAD



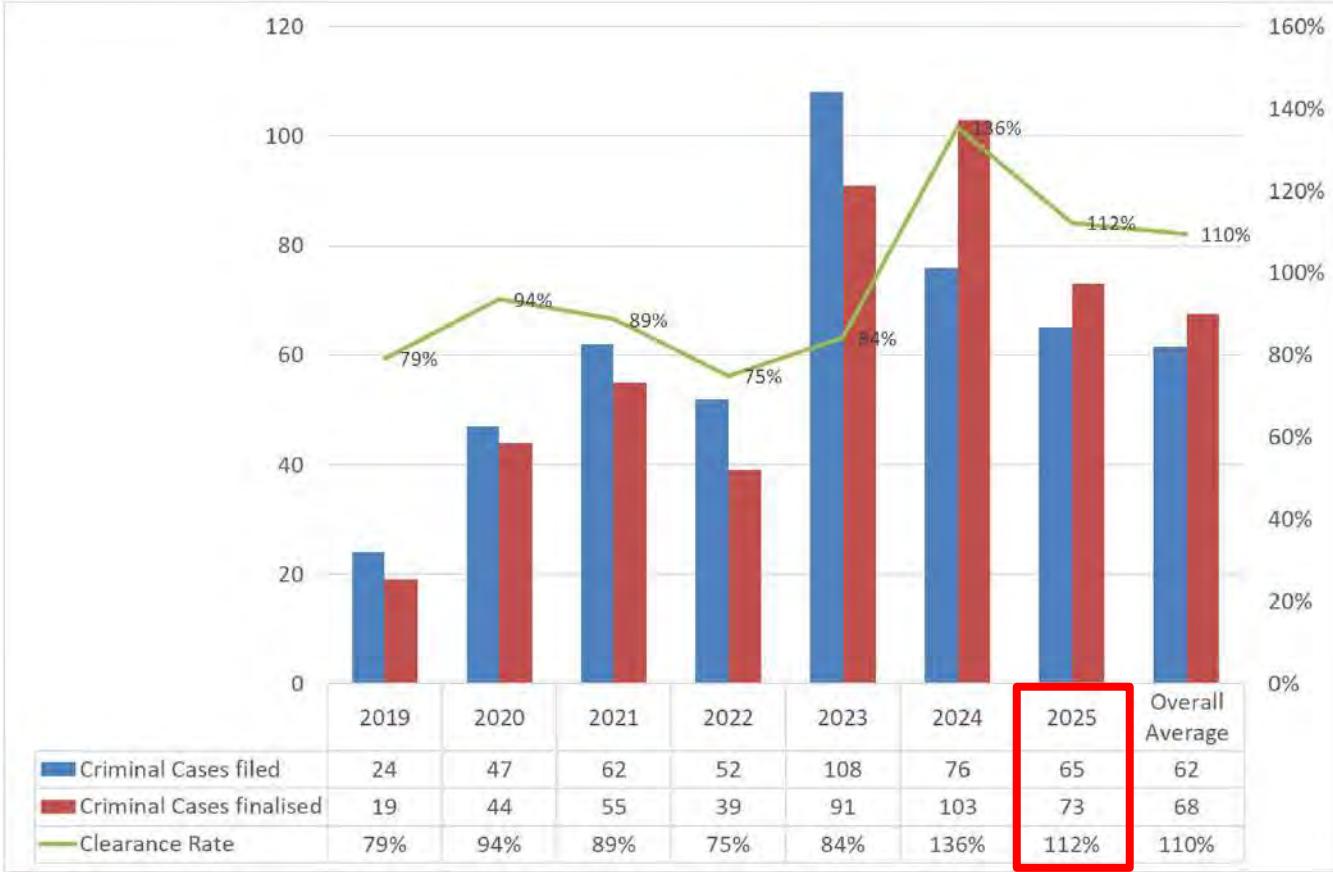
Cases filed has up by 3% from 389 in 2024 to 399 in 2025, and finalizations down by 1% from 423 in 2024 to 418 in 2025, higher than filing in 2025 resulting in a clearance rate of 105% on 100% target - a solid year.

# ISLAND COURT MAINTENANCE WORKLOAD



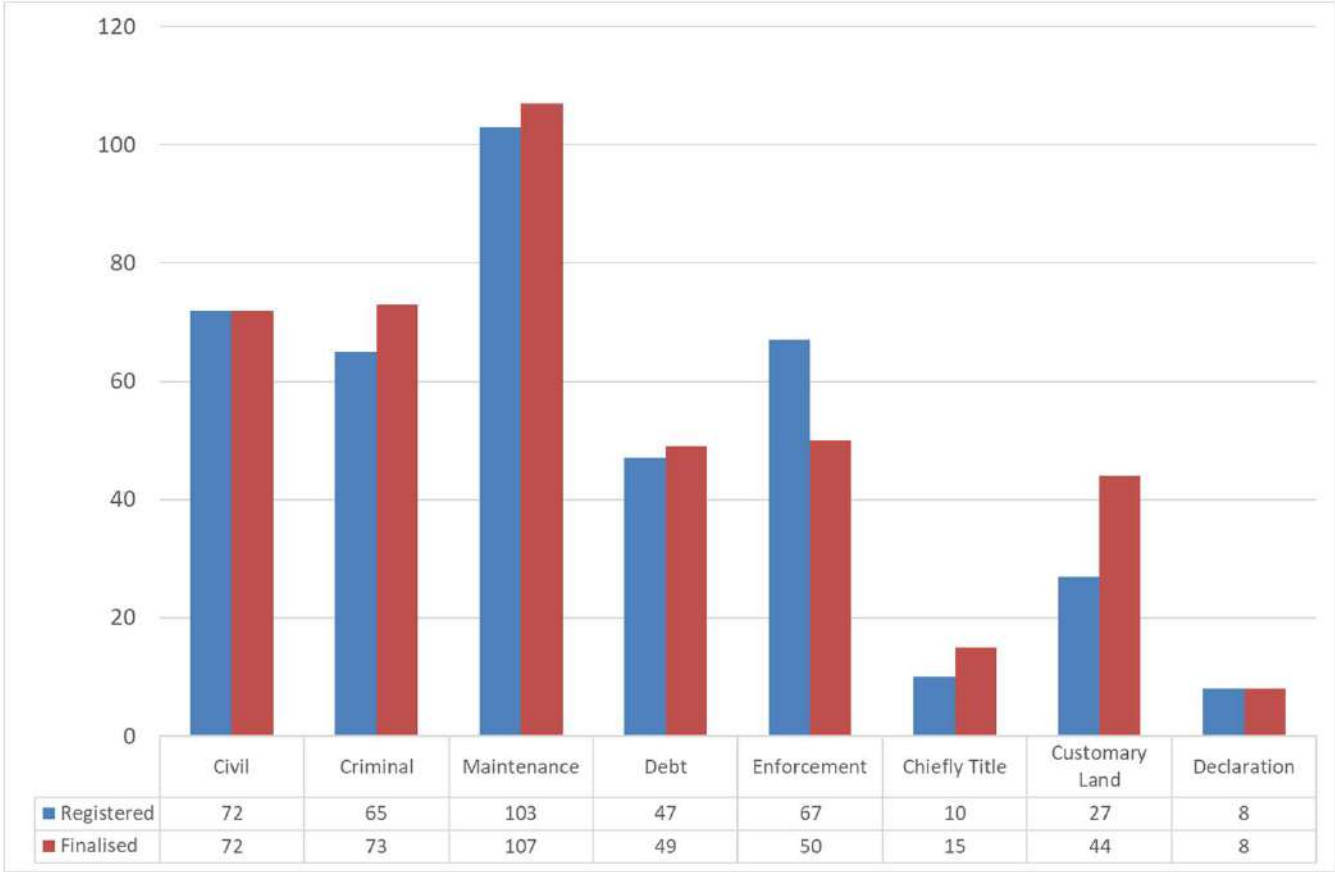
Maintenance matters filed has decreased by 9% from 113 in 2024 to 103 in 2025. Finalization down by 32% from 158 in 2024 to 107 in 2025 however numbers still up on filing in 2025 therefore resulting in a clearance rate 104% - still solid. Overall, Clearance rates have an average of 109% over the last 7 years.

# ISLAND COURT CRIMINAL WORKLOAD



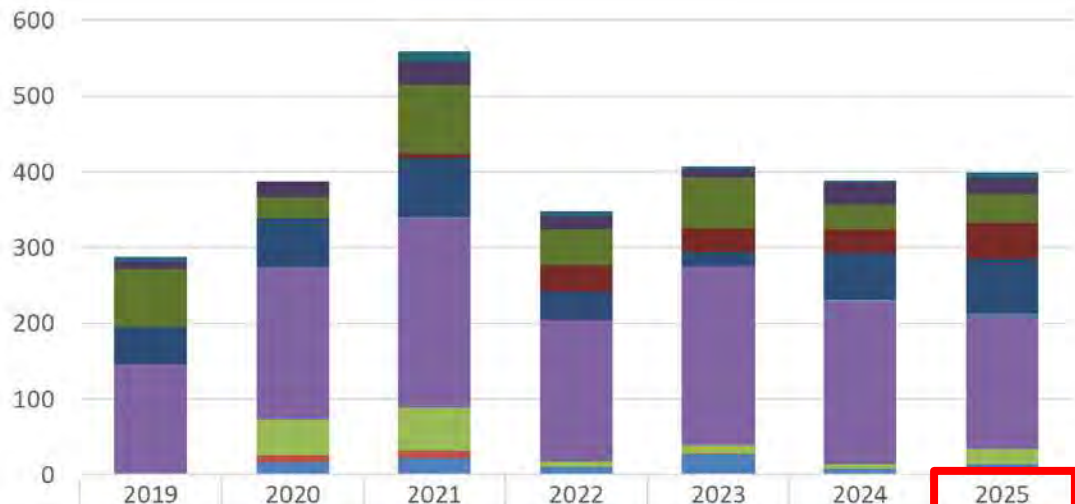
Criminal cases filing has dropped by 14% from 76 in 2014 to 65 in 2025. Finalization has decrease by 29% from 103 in 2024 to 73 in 2025 however still higher than incoming work in 2025 resulting in a clearance rate of 112% - still solid Overall,Average clearance rate is 110%.

# ISLAND COURT CASE WORKLOAD



Maintenance and Civil are the biggest caseload on the Island Court.

## ISLAND COURT LOCATION WORKLOAD

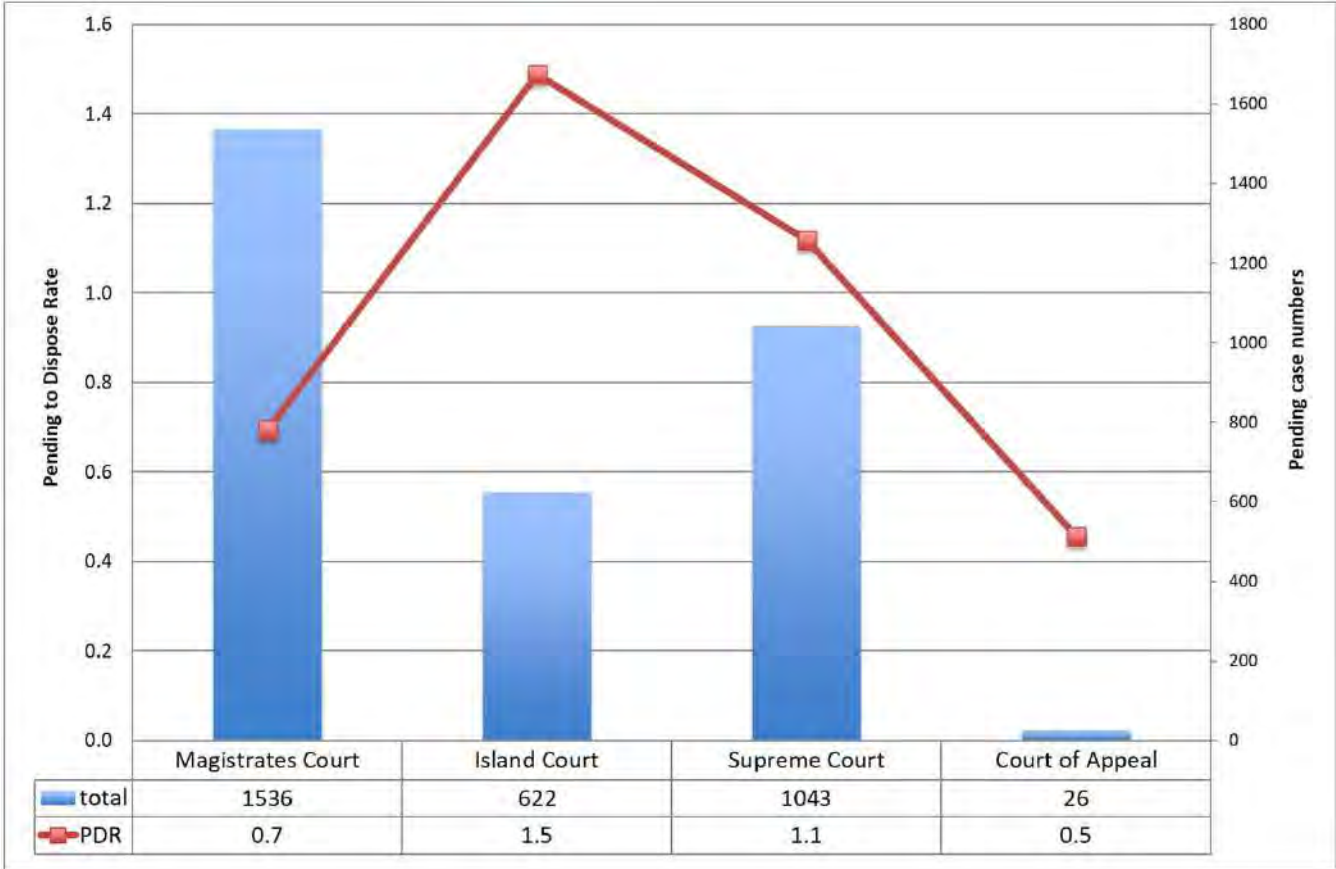


|                       | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tongoa & Shepherds    | 6    | 1    | 14   | 6    | 3    | 3    | 8    |
| Tanna & Outer Islands | 10   | 20   | 30   | 17   | 12   | 30   | 21   |
| Santo and Malo        | 77   | 27   | 92   | 47   | 67   | 32   | 37   |
| Pentecost             | 1    |      | 6    | 35   | 31   | 31   | 48   |
| Malekula              | 48   | 65   | 77   | 38   | 18   | 62   | 73   |
| Erromango             |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |
| Epi                   |      |      | 1    |      |      | 1    | 1    |
| Efate                 | 144  | 202  | 250  | 186  | 237  | 215  | 177  |
| Banks and Torres      |      | 47   | 58   | 8    | 11   | 6    | 20   |
| Ambrym & Paama        | 1    | 9    | 10   |      | 1    |      |      |
| Ambae & Maewo         | 1    | 16   | 21   | 10   | 27   | 8    | 14   |

In 2025, 6/11 island courts have seen an increase in cases being filed, i.e., Santo & Malo, Pentecost, Malekula, Banks & Torres, Ambae & Maewo, whereas seen a decrease for the other island courts compare to 2024 i.e., Tanna & Outer Islands and Efate.

## 2. PENDING CASES

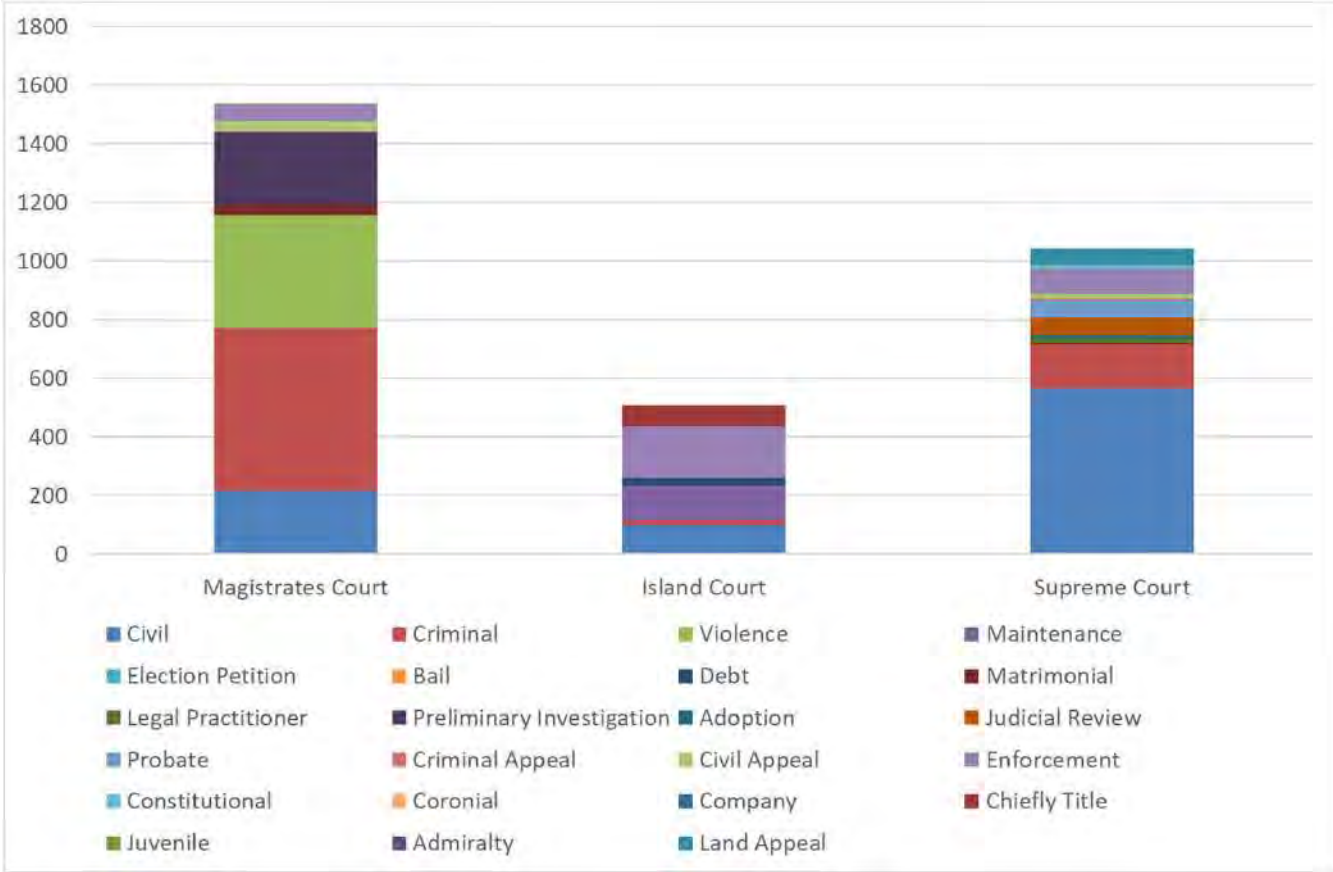
# PENDING CASES BY COURT



3,227 cases are now pending across the four jurisdictions, with 48% in the Magistrate Court. Of concern is the high Pending to Disposal Ratio (PDR) in the Supreme Court, Magistrates Court & Island Courts. The lower the PDR, the better - and ideally under 1.0 for the Supreme Court and 0.5 for the lower Courts.

Court of Appeal solid with PDR of 0.5

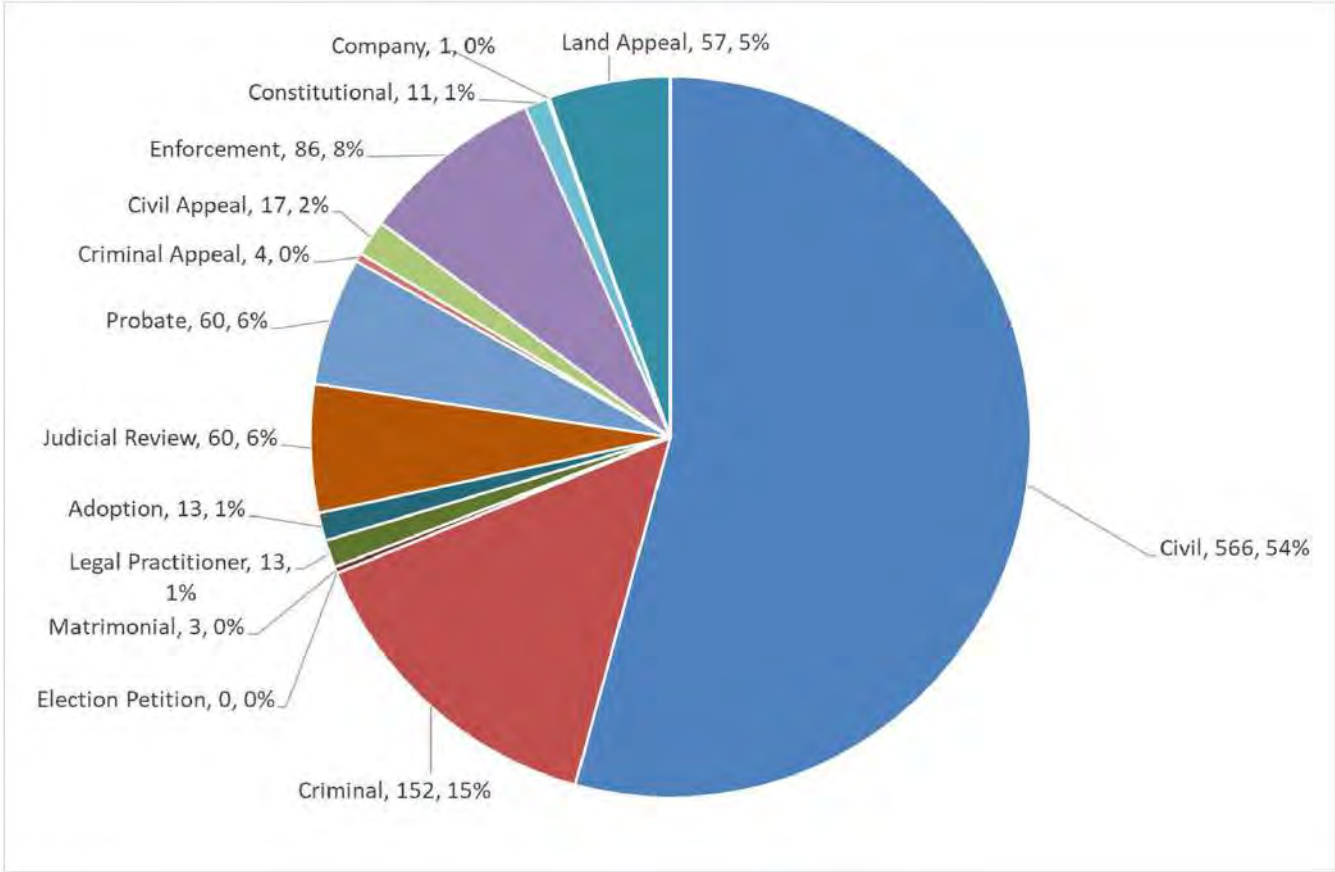
# PENDING BY COURT BY CASE TYPE



Each court has its own mix of case type pending ratios as shown in detail in the following charts.

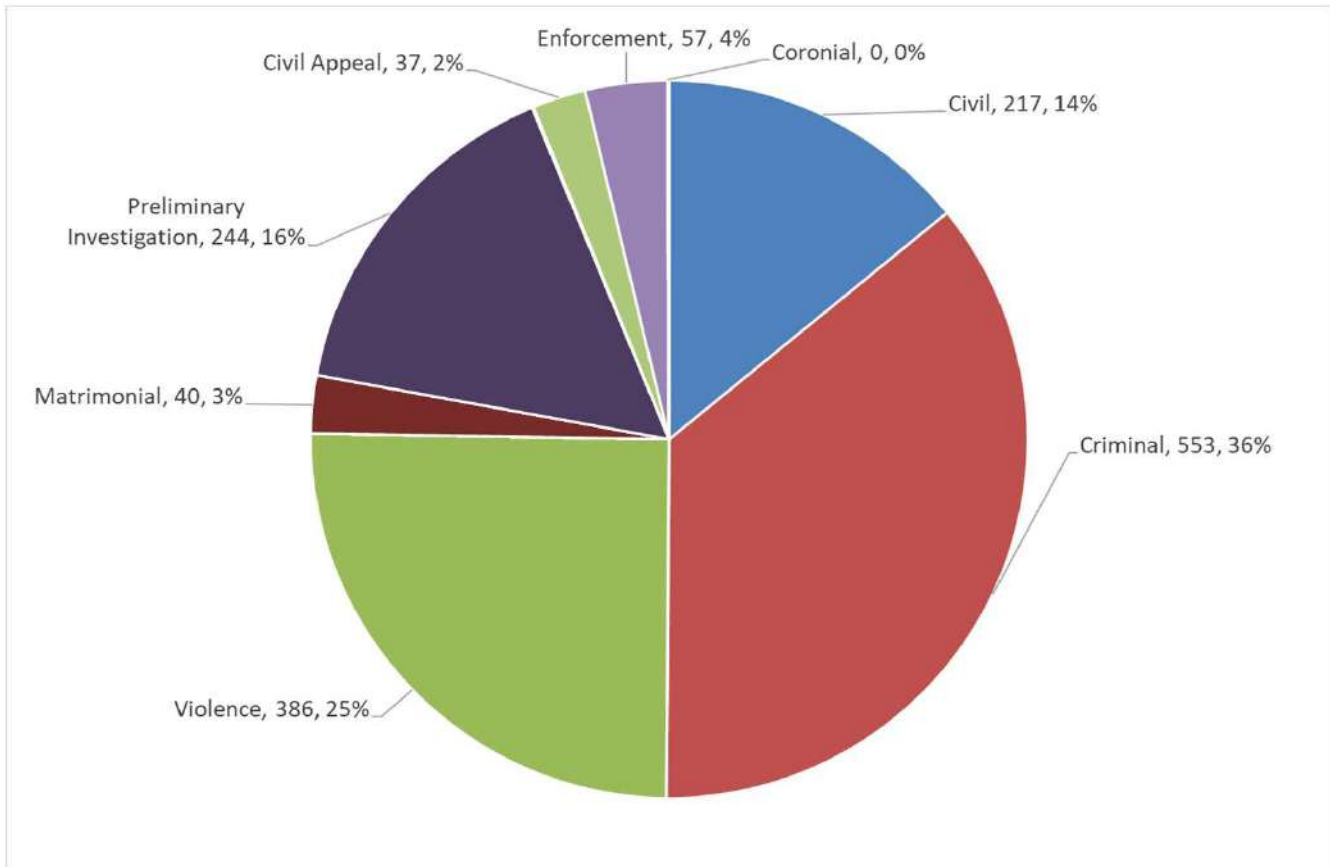


# PENDING SUPREME COURT BY CASE TYPE



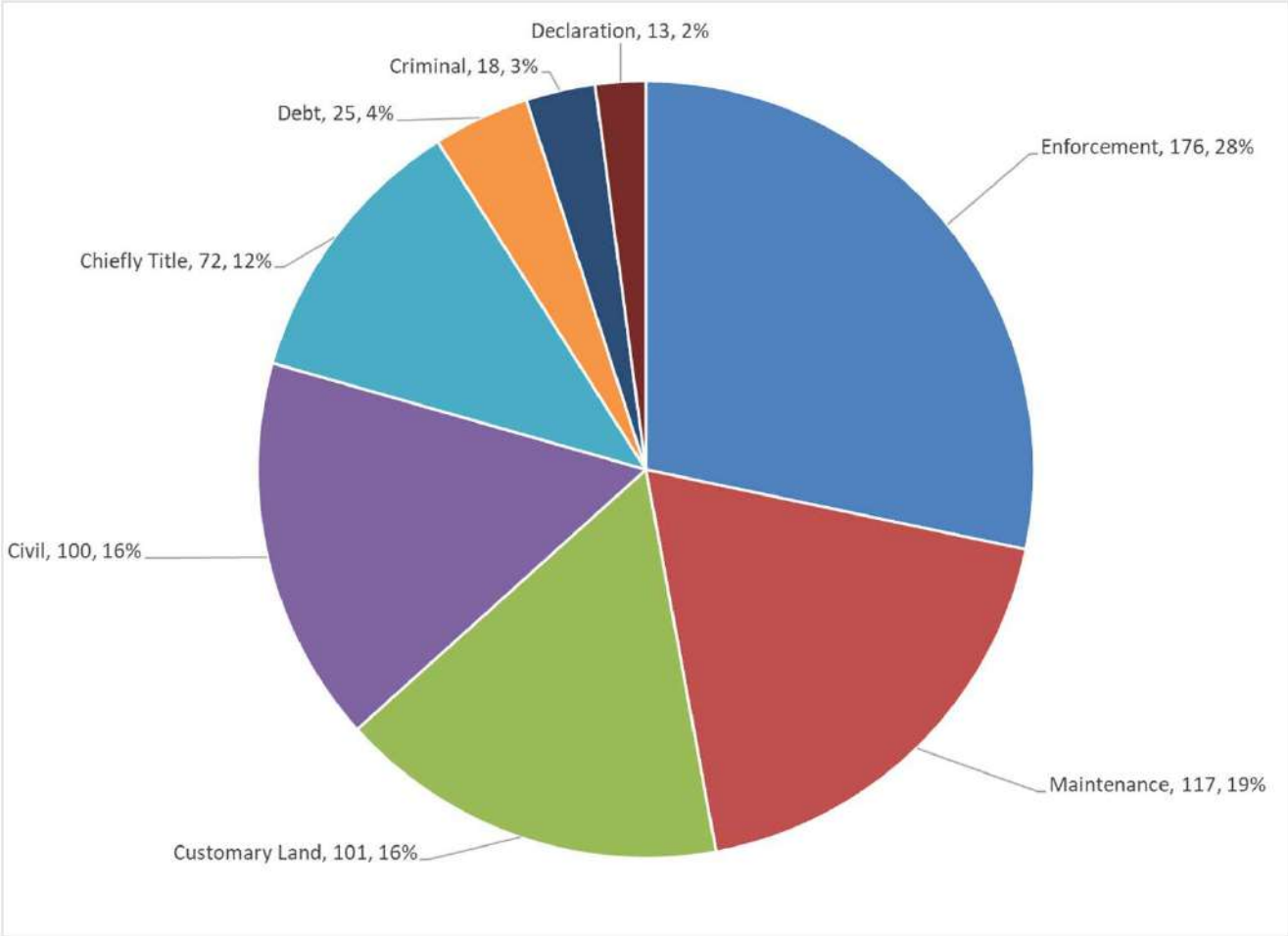
Clearly shows more than 50% are Civil cases that make-up the largest % of 54% of the Supreme Court pending workload, Criminal being the second largest with 15% .

## PENDING MAGISTRATES COURT BY CASE TYPE



Criminal cases make up 36% of MC Pending workload, followed by Violence with 25% (Issuing protection orders).

# PENDING ISLAND COURT BY CASE TYPE



The overall # of pending cases in the Island Court are evenly spread across the major case types of the Court.

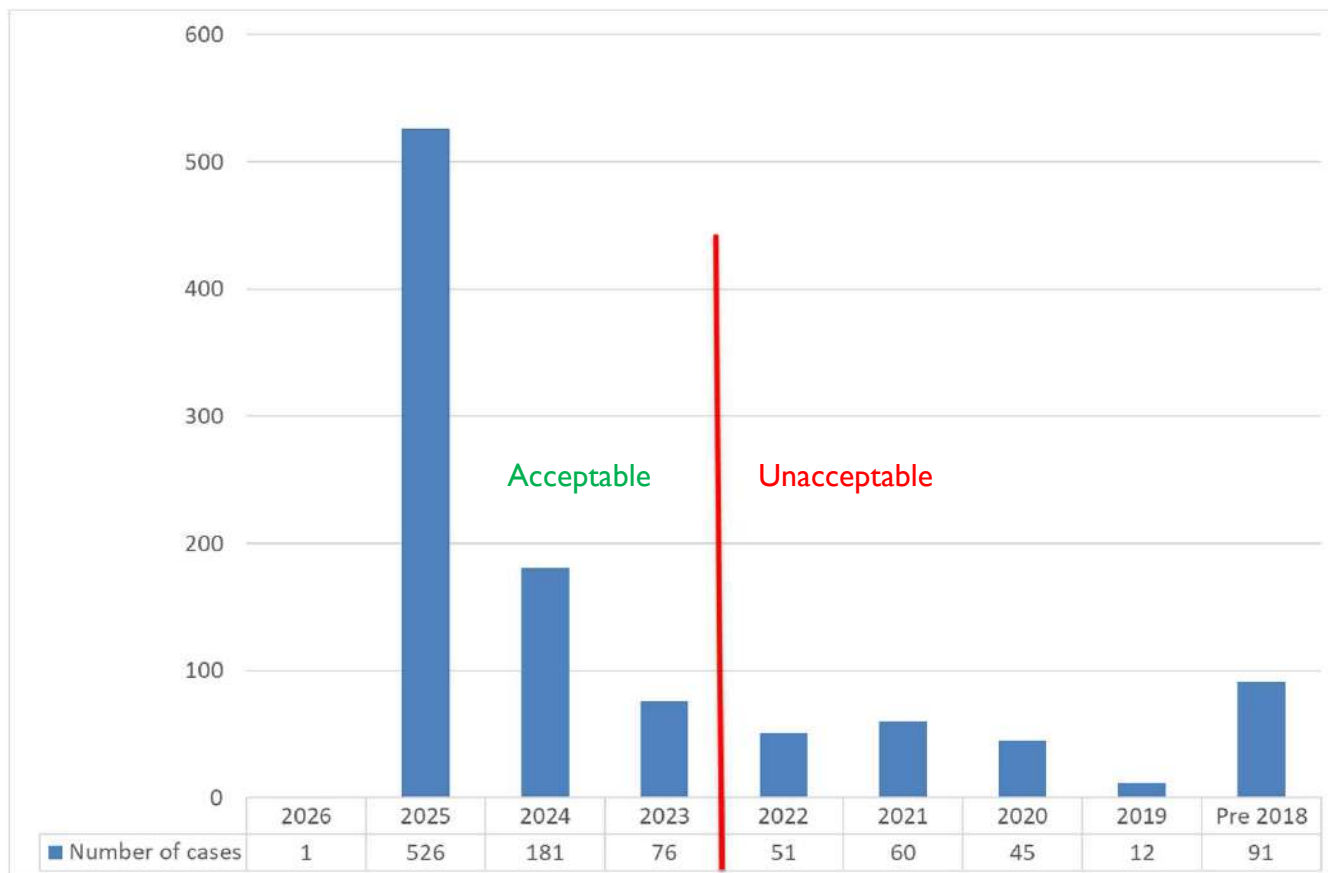
## PENDING TRENDS AND PDR SUPREME & MAGISTRATE



Supreme Court has a PDR of 1.12 - remains high, which equates to more than a year worth of outstanding cases. (Target is typically 1 or less for a superior court) .The lower the PDR (Pending to Disposal Ratio) – the better.

Magistrate Court has a PDR of 0.67 which equates to more than half a year’s work. (target is typically .5 or less for a lower court)

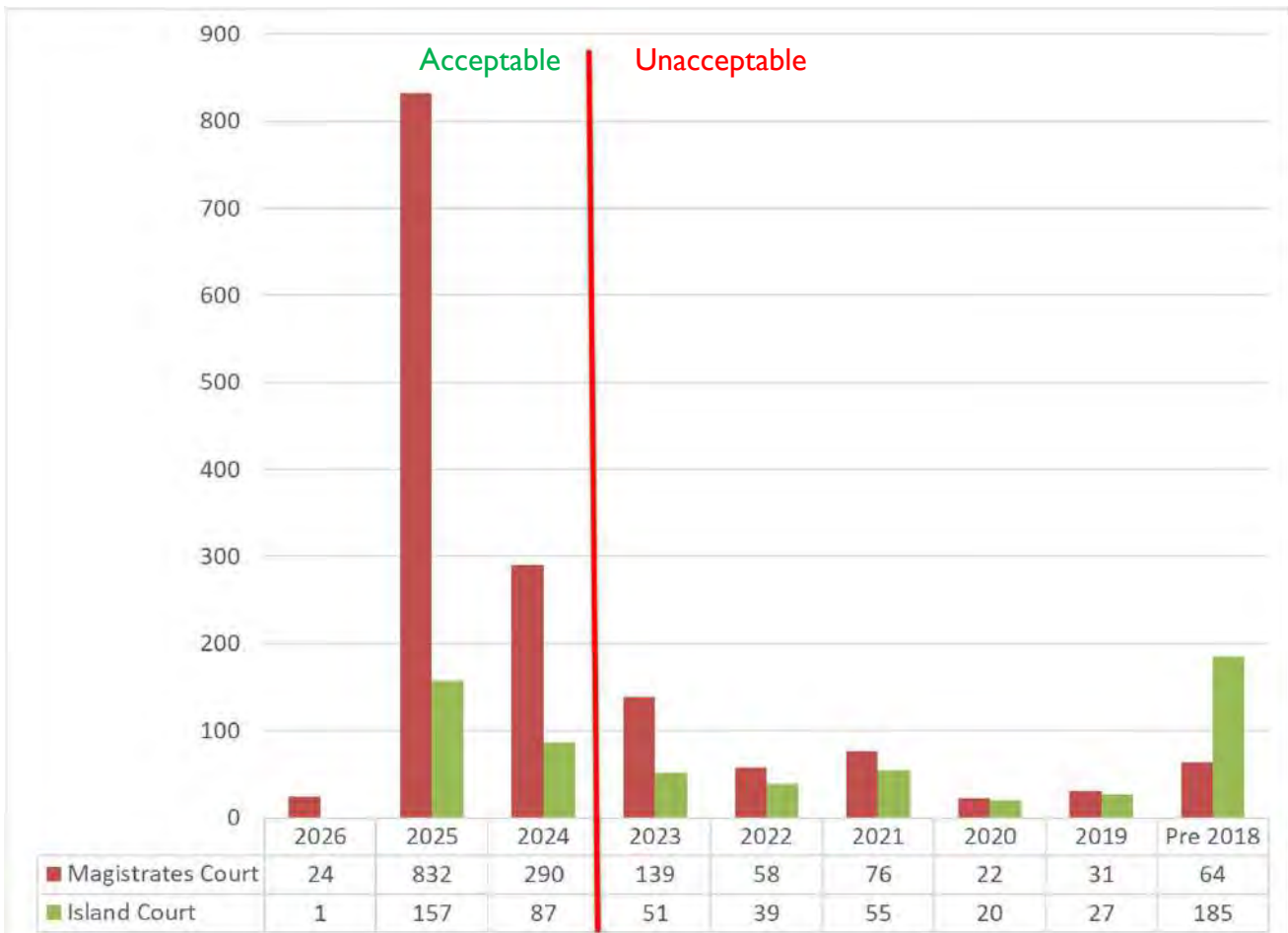
## PENDING AGE SUPREME COURT



Approximately 25 % of cases are older than 3 years (2022 and earlier), equating to 259 cases – Still a concern and will be a focus of attention in 2026.

Pending numbers from raw data exported on the 08<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 explaining the 1 case in 2026.

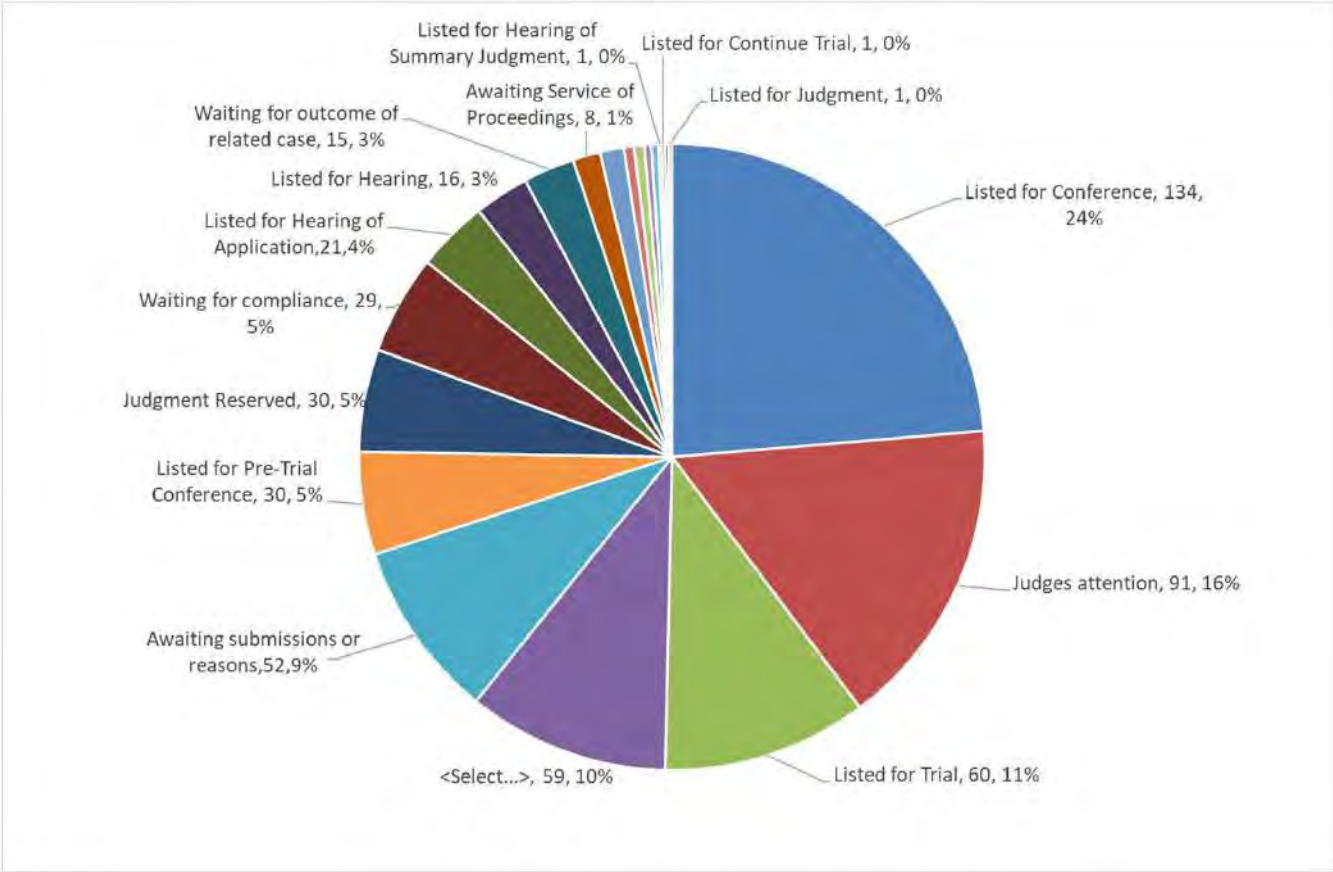
## PENDING AGE MAGISTRATES & ISLAND COURTS



Approximately 60% of cases are older than 2 years (2023 and earlier) for Island Court which equate to 377 cases. In the Magistrate Court 25% of cases are older than 2 years, work equating to 390 cases – a concern and will be a focus of attention in 2026 to reduce the % of aged cases.

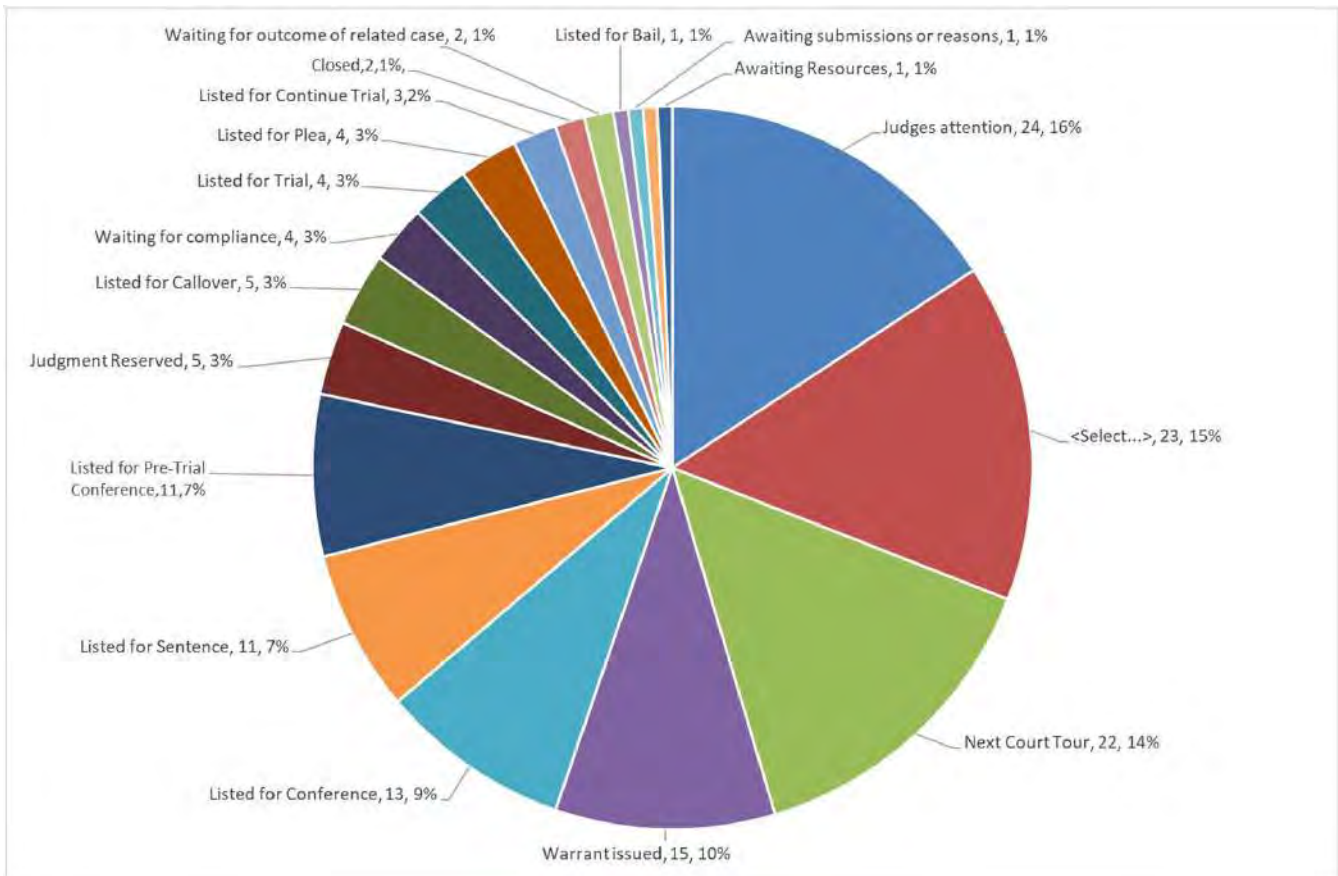
Pending numbers from raw data exported on the 08<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 explaining the 24 case in Magistrate Court and 1 in the Island Court, in 2026.

# PENDING STAGE SUPREME COURT CIVIL



47 % of civil pending matters are listed/ready for trial/hearing (benchmark is 80%) and 53% are not listed (16% with Judges attention and 37% with awaiting resources/submission & next court tour – Emphasis needed to ensure are listed and prepared quickly for trial.

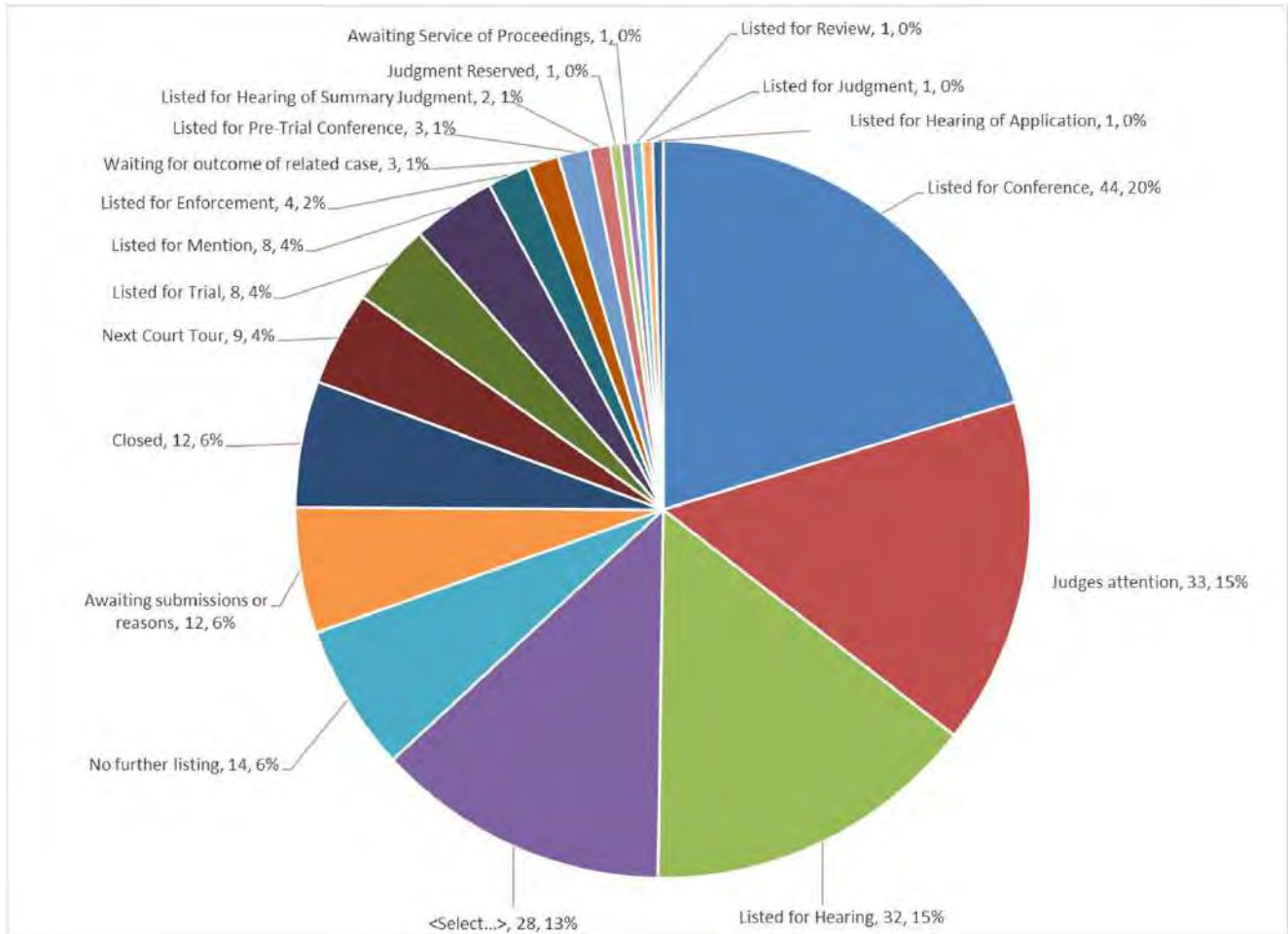
# PENDING STAGE SUPREME COURT CRIMINAL



Only 35 % of criminal pending matters are listed and remaining 65% of the criminal pending matters are not listed (16% with Judges attention, 10% warrant issued, 39% with awaiting resources/submission & next court tour – needs investigation.

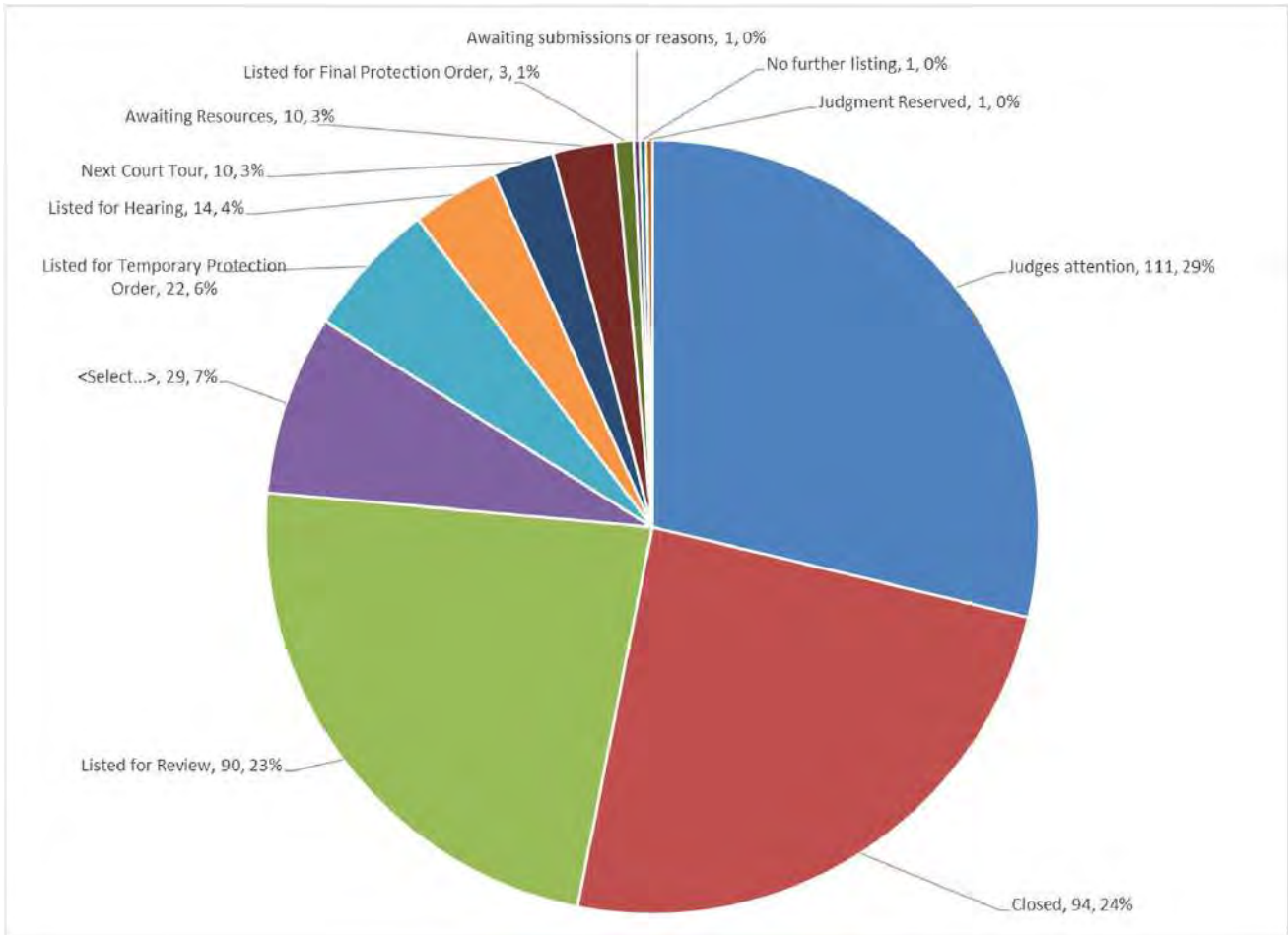


## PENDING STAGE MAGISTRATE COURT CIVIL



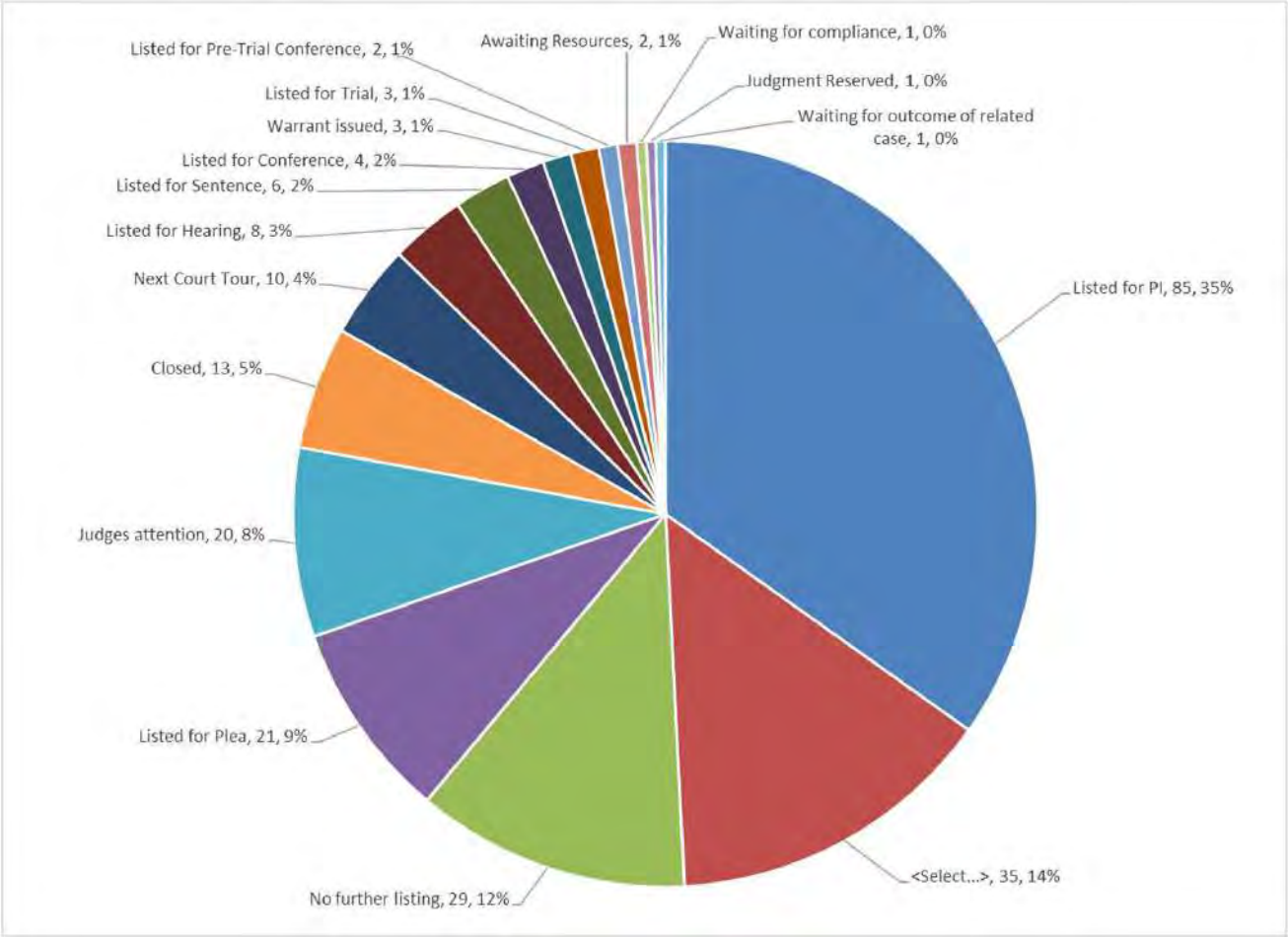
In the Magistrate Court - 27% of civil pending matters are listed and remaining 73% of the civil pending matters are not listed (15% with Judges attention and 58% with awaiting resources/submission & next court tour – needs investigation).

## PENDING STAGE MAGISTRATE COURT VIOLENCE



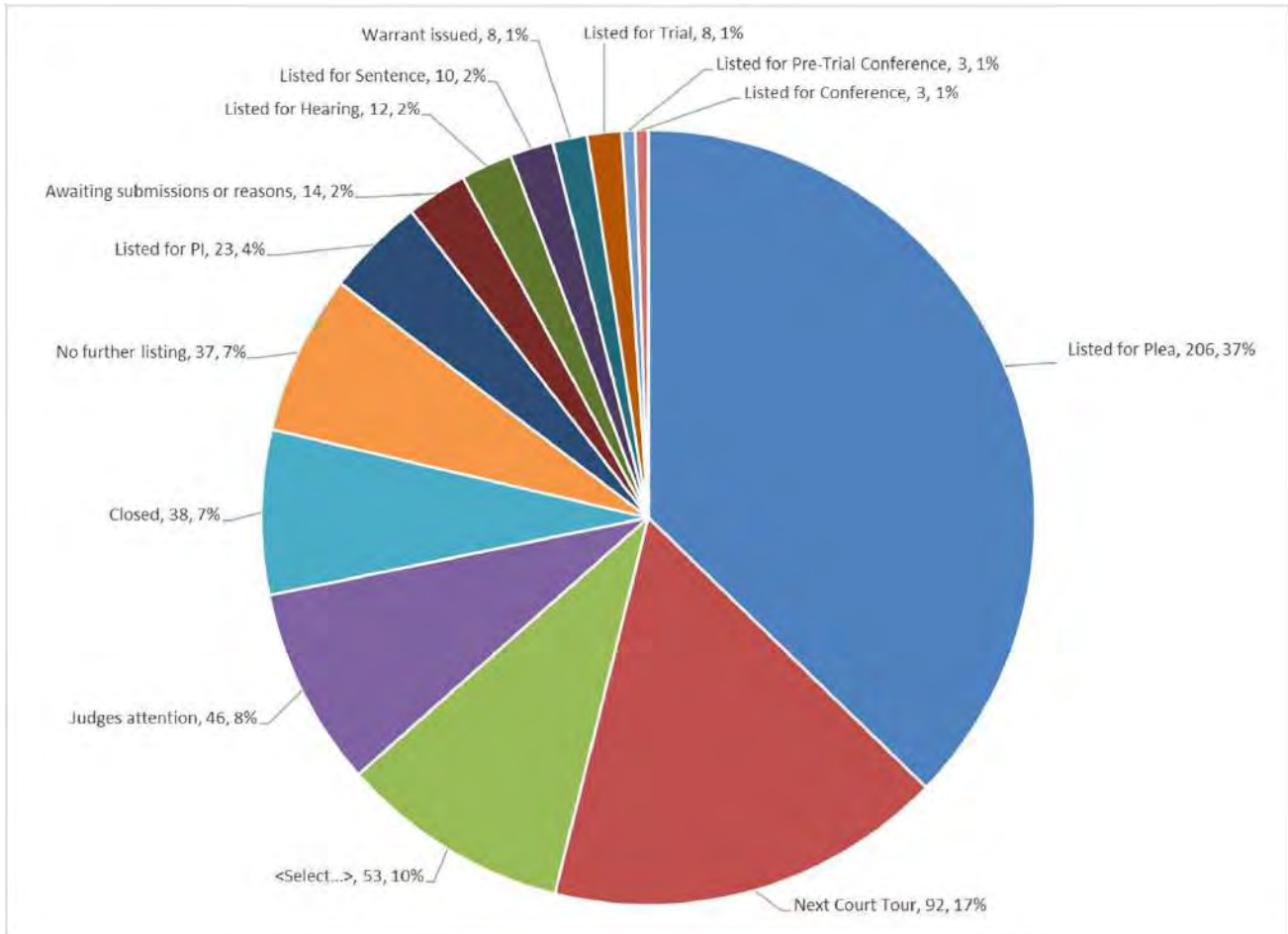
34% of Violence (issuing of protective order) pending matters are listed and remaining 66% of the violence pending matters are not listed (29% with Judges attention, 6% with awaiting resources/compliance, & next court tour. Of great concern the 31% with select & closed (with no finalized date) – needs investigation.

# PENDING STAGE MAGISTRATE COURT PI



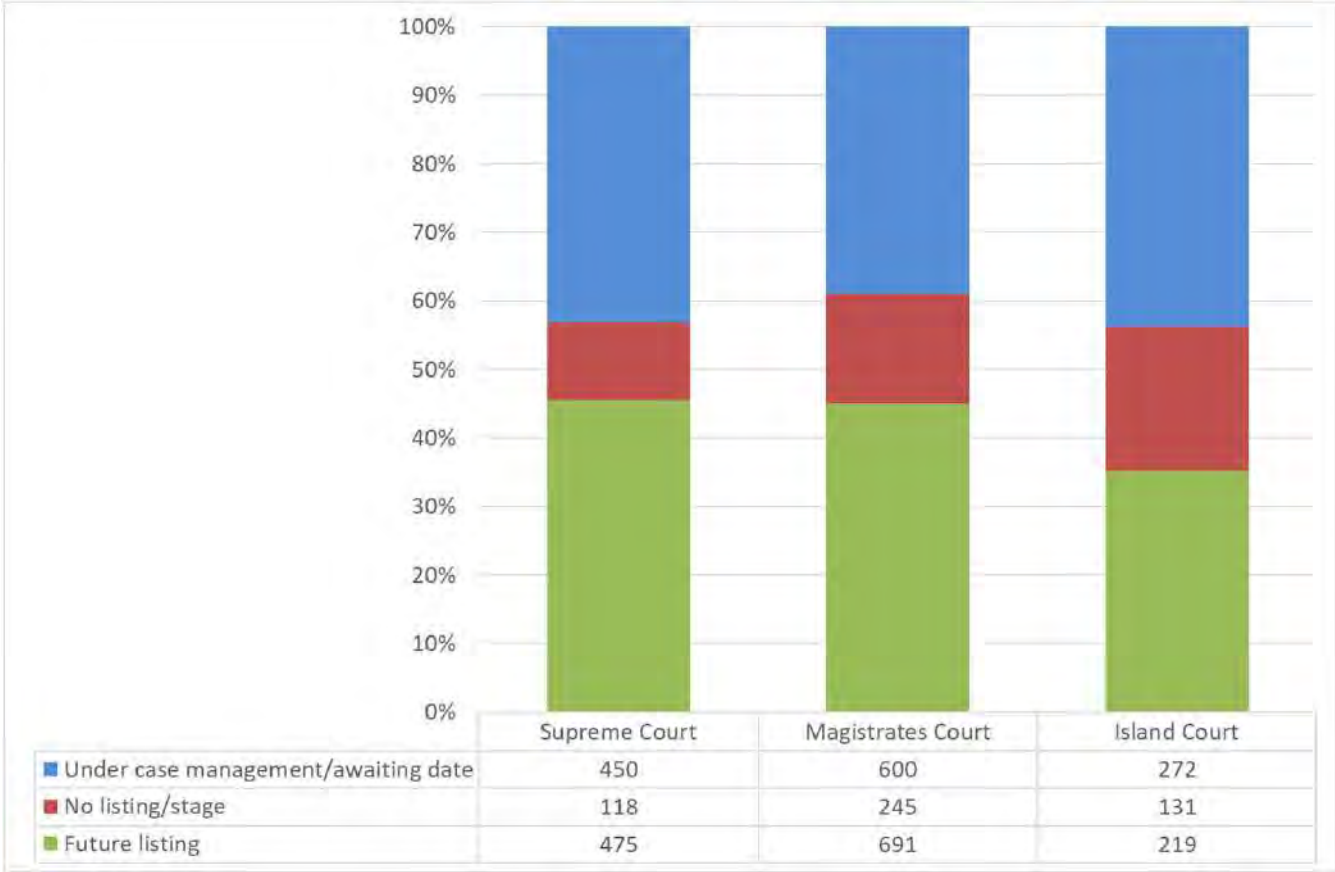
51% of PI matters are listed and remaining 49% of the PI matters are not listed (8% with Judges attention, 1% warrant issued, 5% with awaiting resources/submission & next court tour. Of most concern the 17% with no future date & closed ( with no finalized date) – needs investigation.

## PENDING STAGE MAGISTRATE COURT CRIMINAL



48% of criminal pending matters are listed and remaining 52% of the criminal pending matters are not listed (8% with Judges attention, 1% warrant issued, 19% with awaiting resources/submission & next court tour. And about 24% with no future date, select & closed ( with no finalized date) – needs investigation.

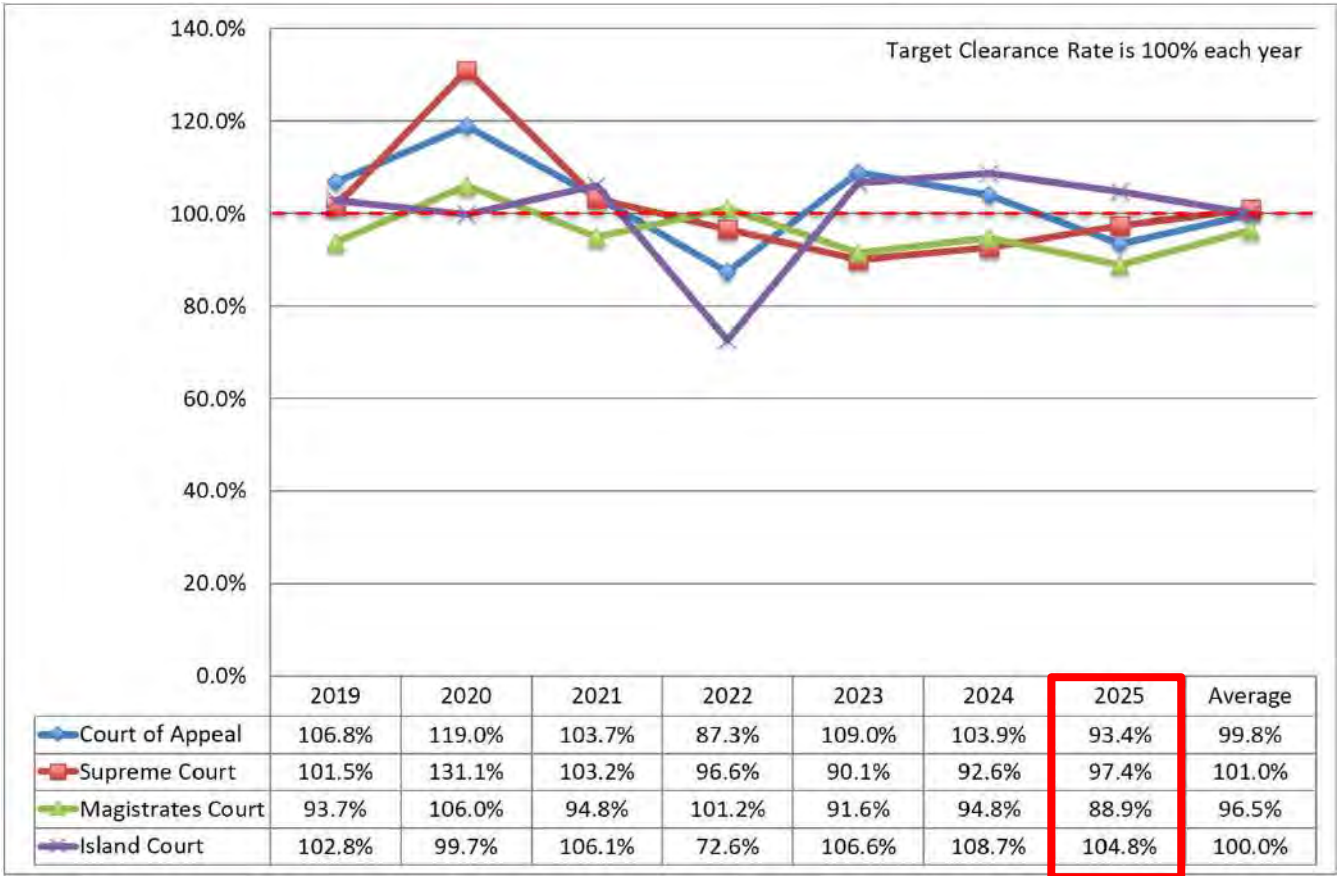
# PENDING BY COURT BY LISTED OR NOT LISTED



Percentage of cases with future listing in the Supreme Court with 46% of 1,043 of pending cases, Magistrate Court with 45% of 1,536 and Island Court with 35% of 622 – an improvement but international benchmark be approximately 80% of the pending case load. The impact on the parties cannot be under-estimated by this low % of listed matters i.e. not aware of what may be happening next.

## 3. CLEARANCE RATES

# CLEARANCE RATE TRENDS



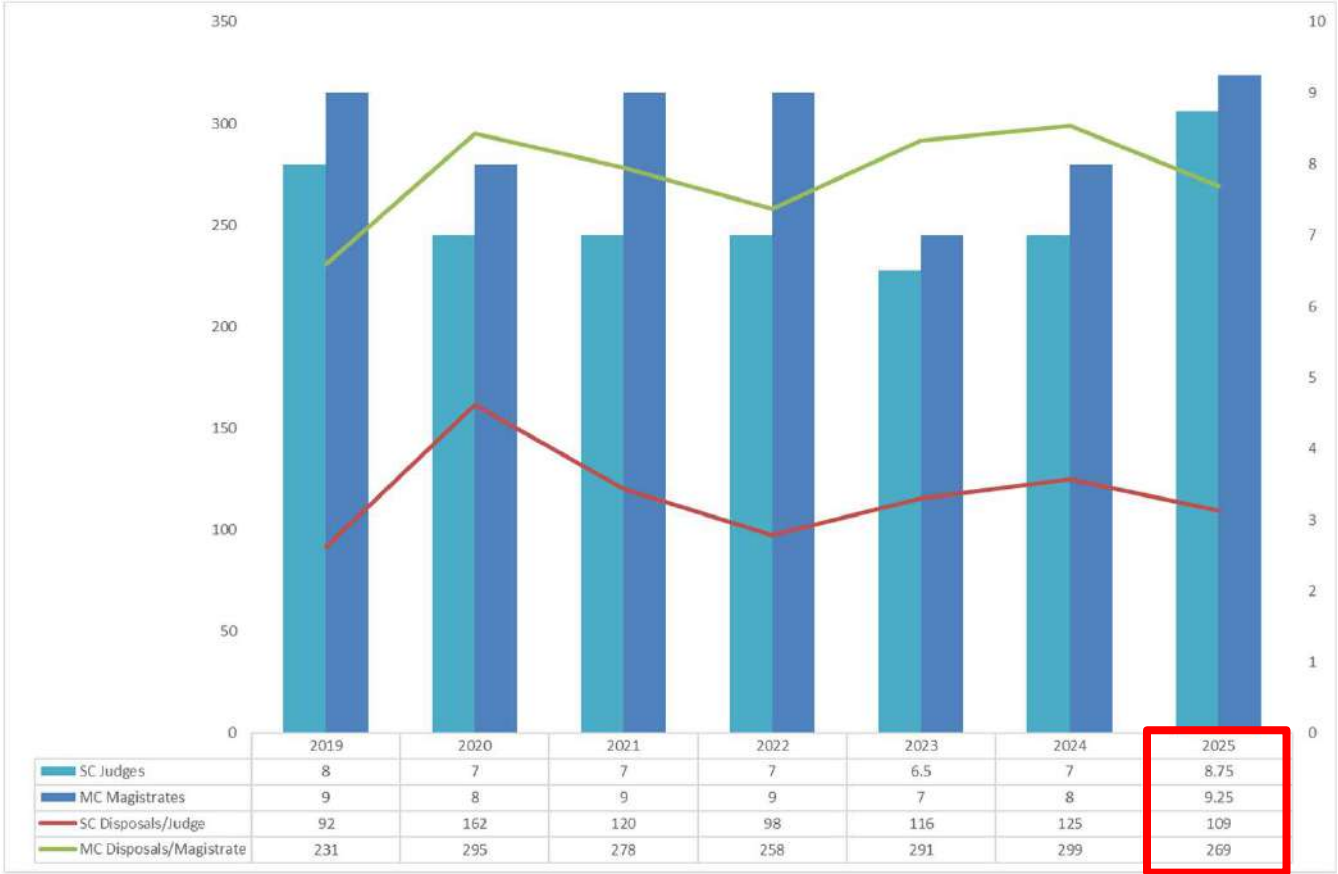
Clearance Rate 3/4 jurisdictions are sitting below 100% if less than 100% - a court's pending workload naturally increases. Island Court at 104.8%, in 2025 reducing pending numbers.

Supreme Court and Island Court have been able to achieve an average Clearance Rate of just over 100% over the last 7 years – by any standard, across 4 jurisdictions – very solid.

## 4. JUDICIAL PRODUCTIVITY



# DISPOSAL RATES PER JUDGE & MAGISTRATE

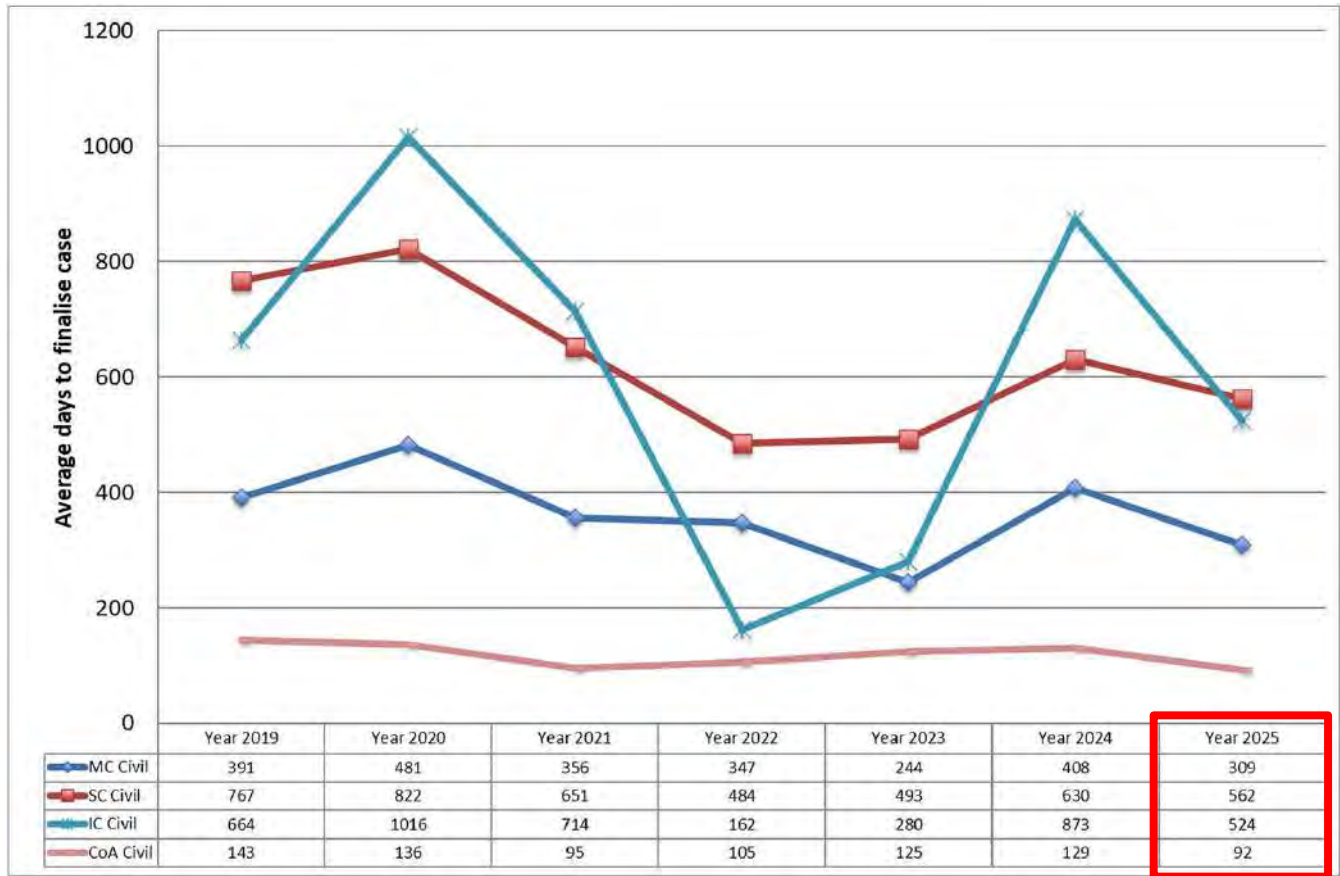


A slight decrease in judicial productivity, Supreme Court is 109 cases disposed per Judge and in the Magistrate Court 269 cases per Magistrate. This is slightly down against 2024 numbers, potentially caused by more case complexity as measured by the higher attendance rates. However consistent for both SC & MC has been consistent since 2019 is very good.

Some other factors that potentially can cause a low productivity are the length of trial ( But the courts currently don't measure that), disposition speed and long absence i.e., Long leaves, natural disaster causing severe damages to buildings.

## 5. TIMELINESS

## TIMELINESS DISPOSED CIVIL CASES



A significant decrease in the days to dispose of Civil cases across all jurisdiction in 2025 compared to 2024 – an excellent result.

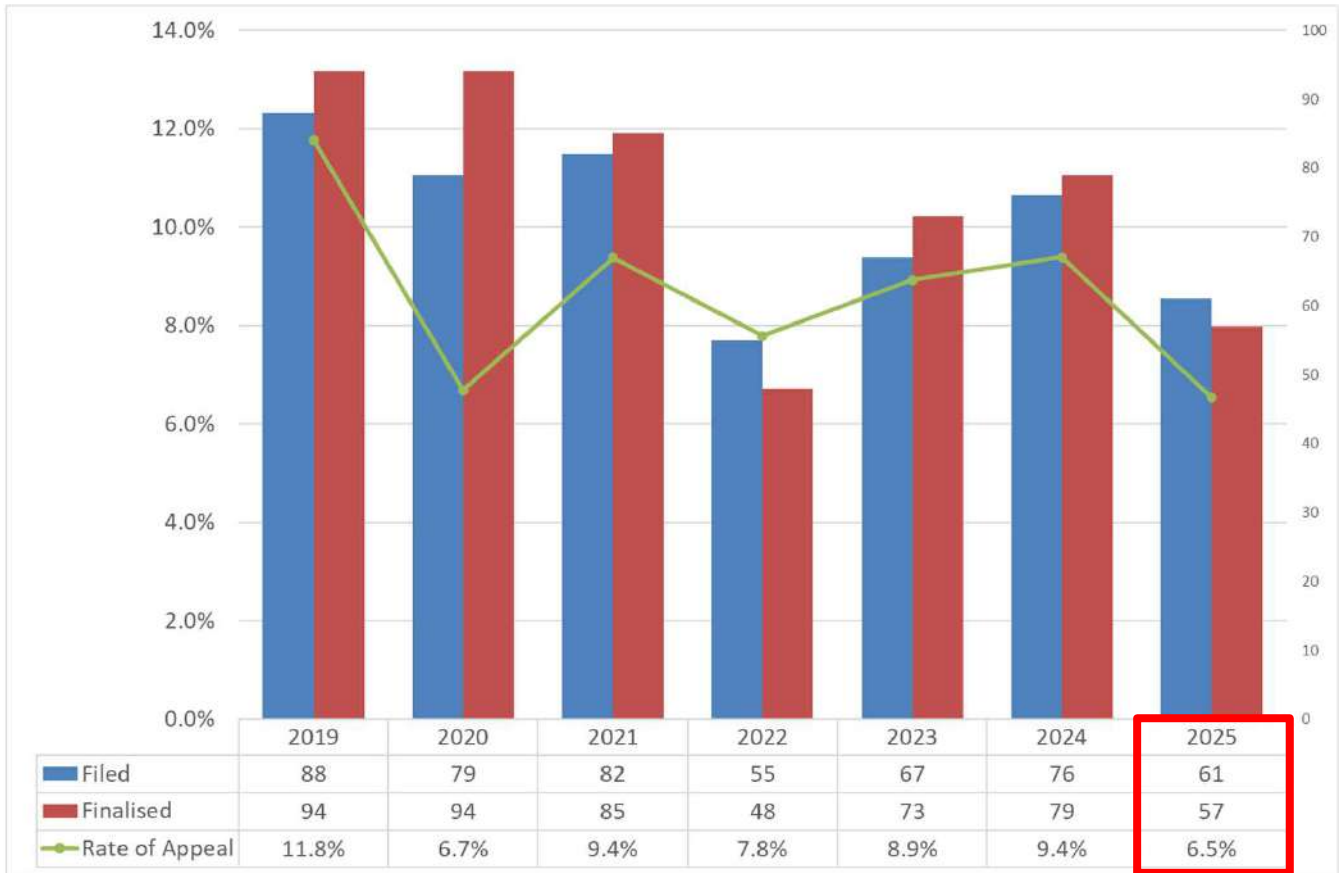
# TIMELINESS DISPOSED CRIMINAL CASES



A significant decrease in the days to dispose of Criminal cases across all jurisdiction in 2025 compared to 2024 – an excellent result.

## 6. COURT OF APPEAL

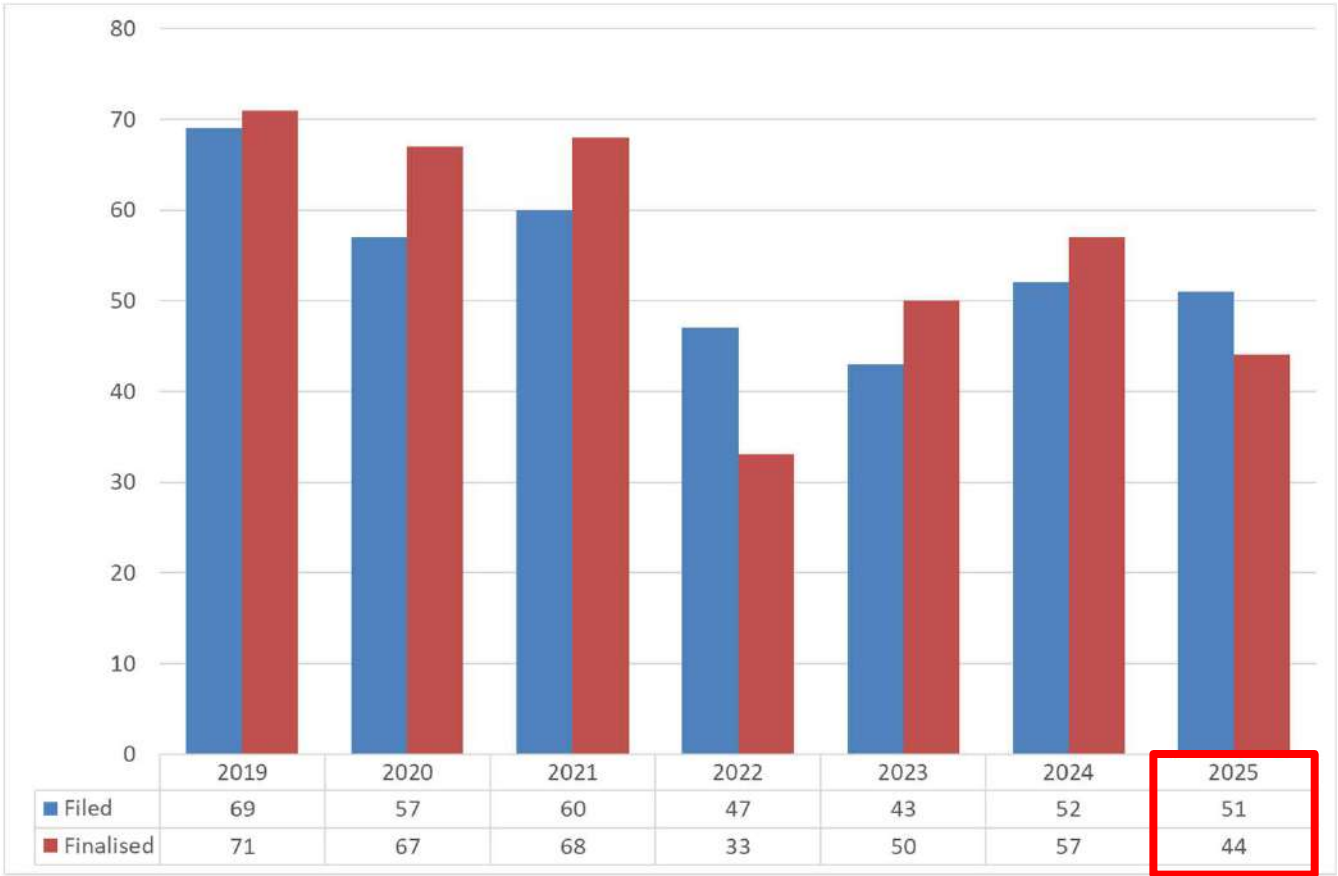
# COURT OF APPEAL WORKLOAD TRENDS



CoA filing has been decreased by 20% from 76 in 2024 to 61 in 2025. Finalized cases also decreased by 28% from 79 in 2024 to 57 in 2025.

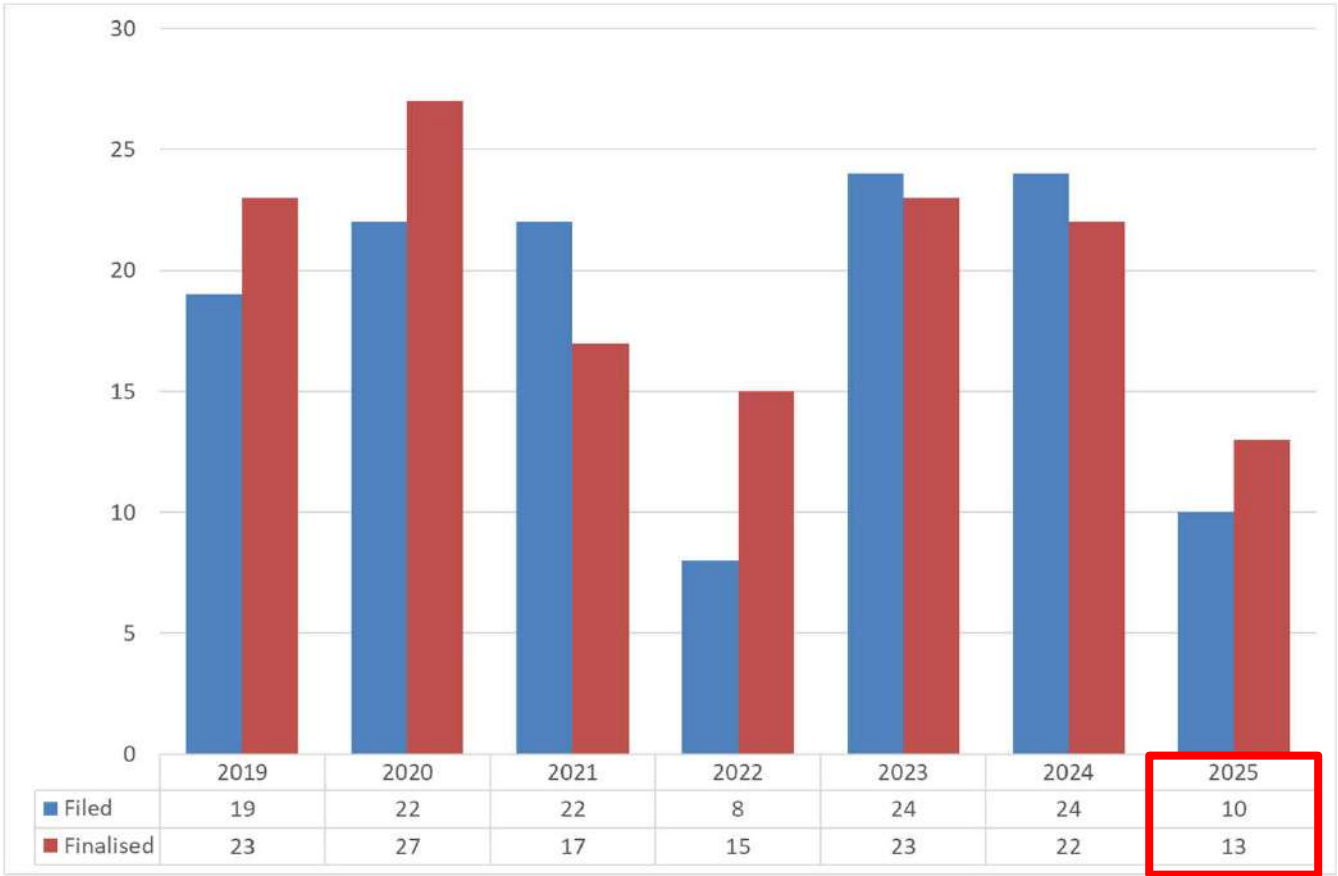
Of note is the decreasing % of the appealed rate since 2021 and now running at 6.5%.

# COURT OF APPEAL CIVIL



Civil Appeals workload in 2025 remains consistent over the past year.

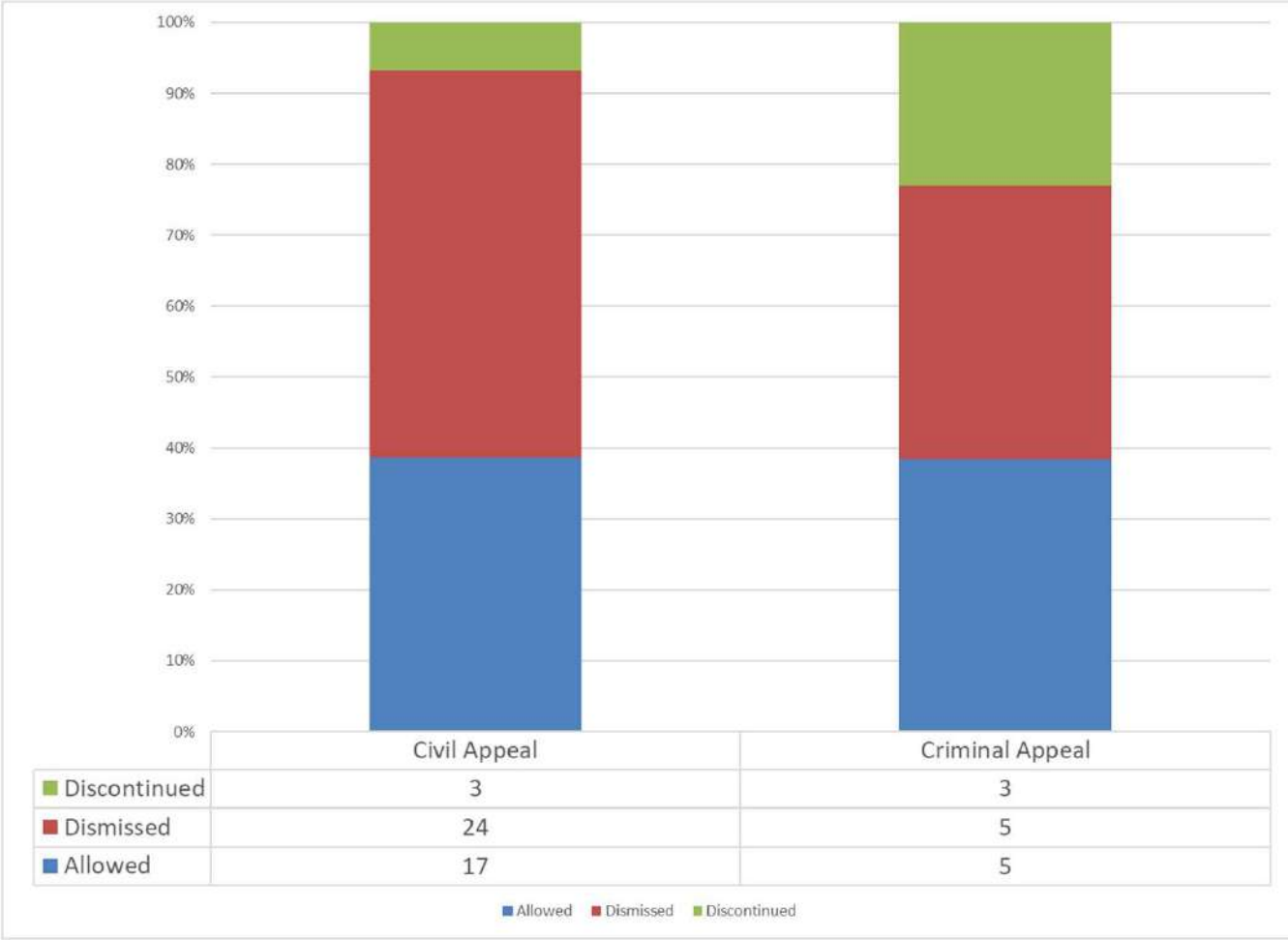
# COURT OF APPEAL CRIMINAL



Criminal CoA workload in 2025 has significantly decreased by 58% - a positive result indicating a confidence in the judgements delivered by the Supreme Court.



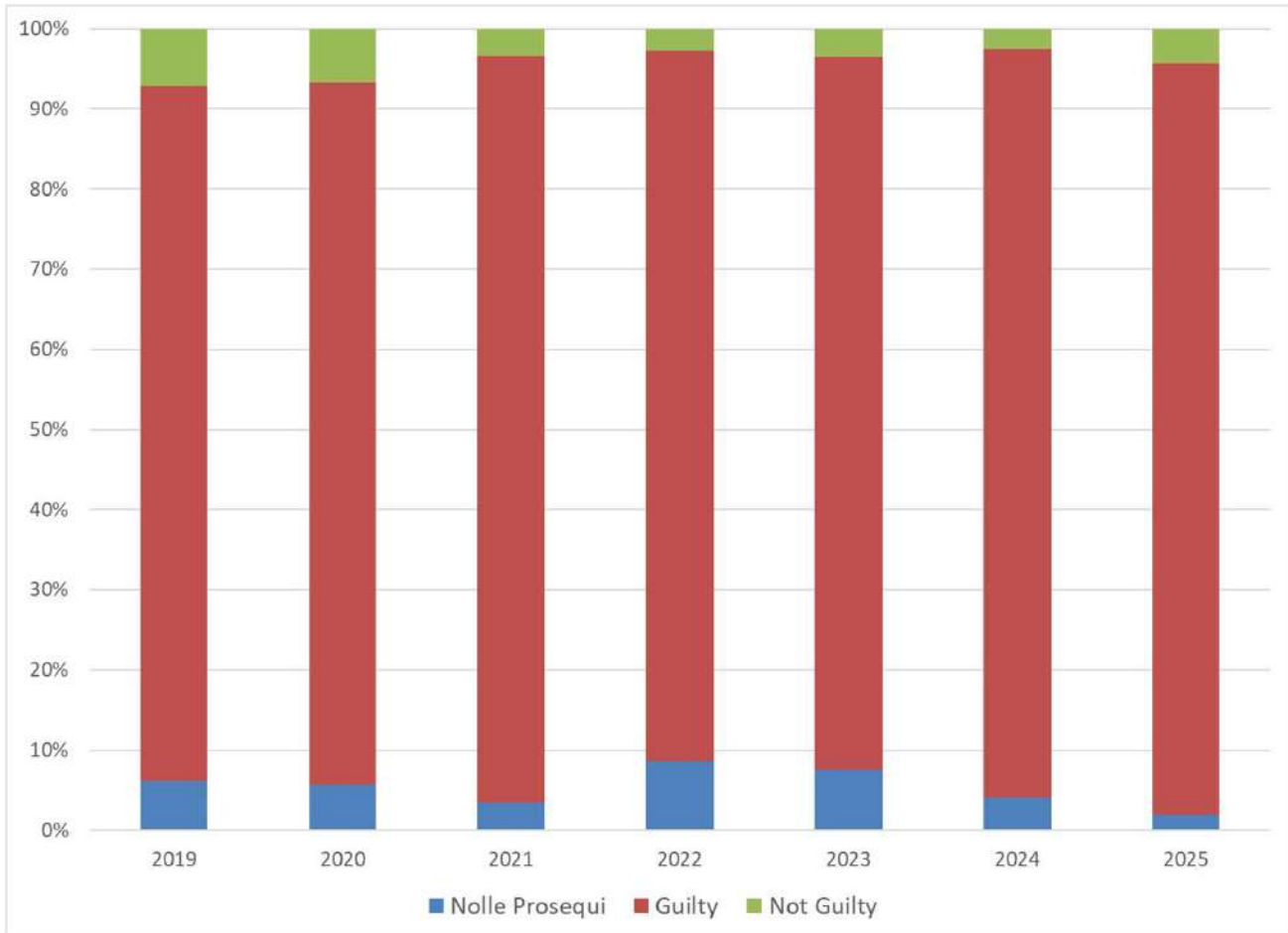
# COURT OF APPEAL OUTCOMES



Criminal & Civil CoA workload in 2025, seen majority of civil appeals dismissed.

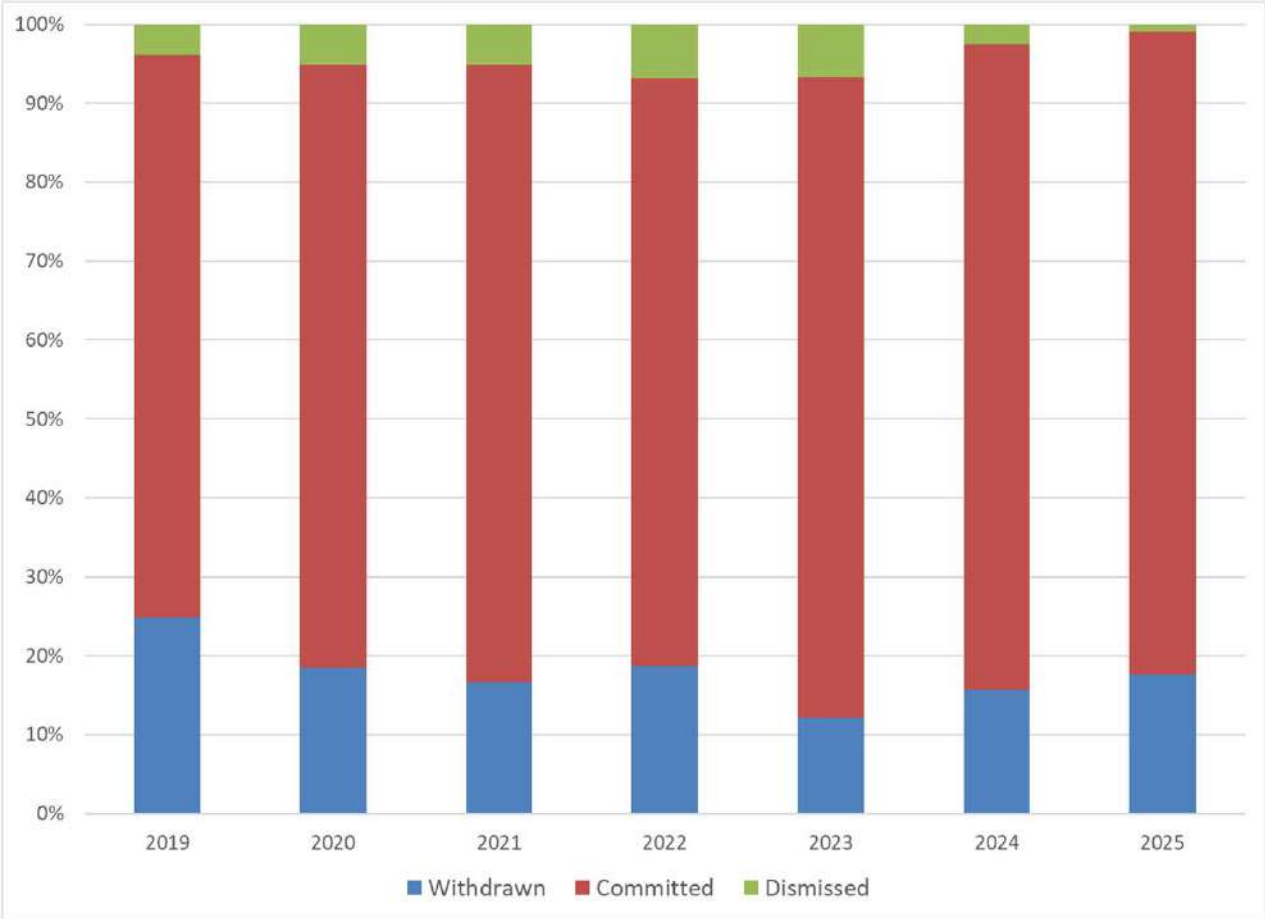
## 7. CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOMES

## SUPREME COURT CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOMES



A consistent result with SC Criminal matters with 90% of cases finalized received an order, more found guilty as outcome - # being Nolle Prosequi slightly decreased and Not Guilty slightly increased. Reflects positive prosecution from the OPP.

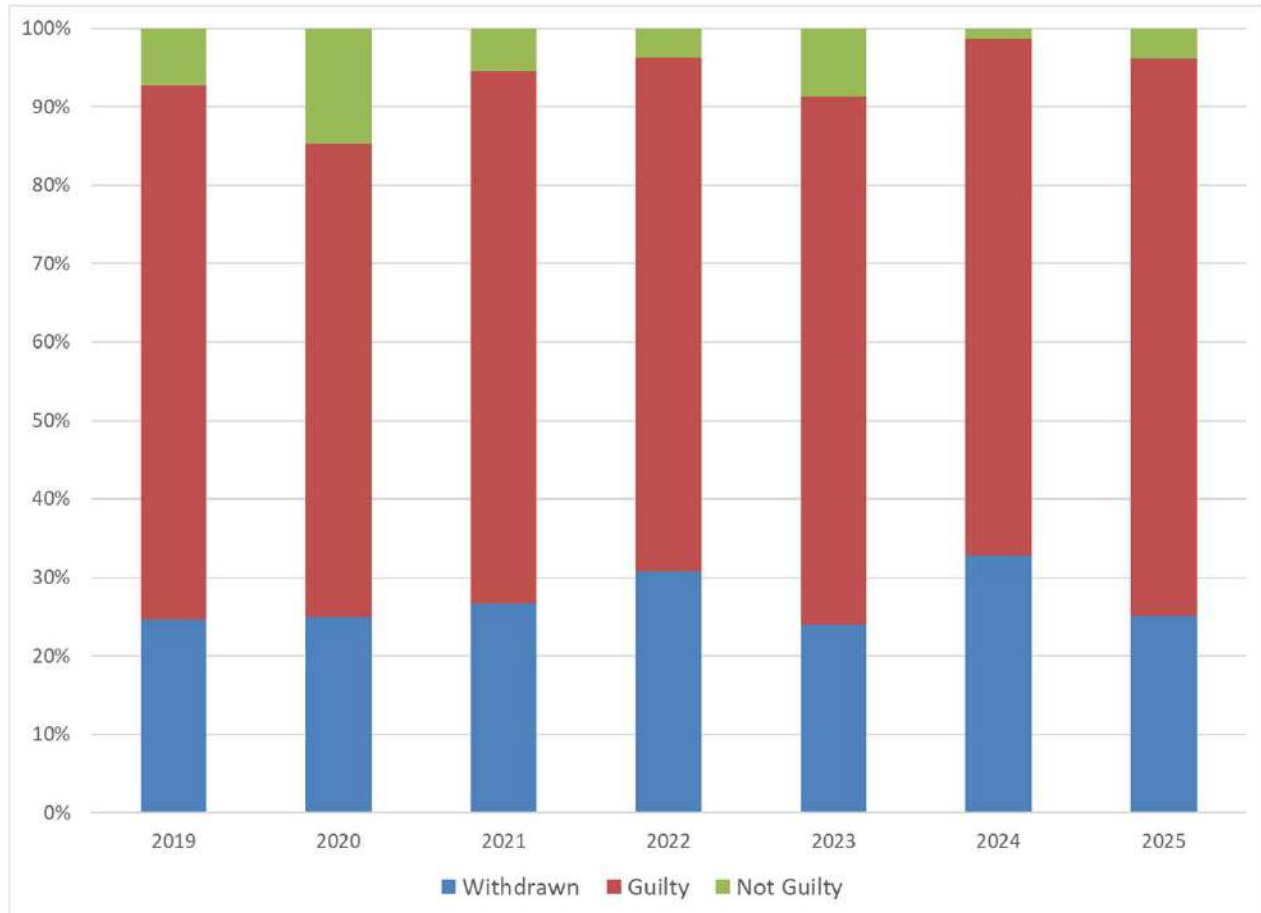
# MAGISTRATES COURT PI CASE OUTCOMES



In PI matters, approximately 1% dismissed and 18% withdrawn, and the remaining 81% committed. This is a reflection of the quality of the cases presented by the OPP.

# Dismissed continues to drop and # Withdrawn went up.

## MAGISTRATES COURT CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOMES



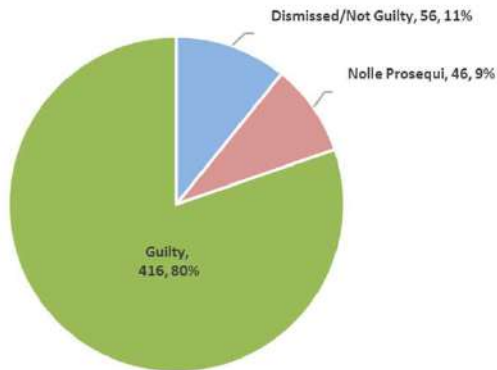
In MC Criminal matters approximately 25% cases are withdrawn (a decrease) while approximately 4% not guilty (an increase) and the remaining 71% guilty. Overtime the red has been consistent – a solid outcome for the cases presented by VPF Prosecution.

Ref: MCOutcomesC

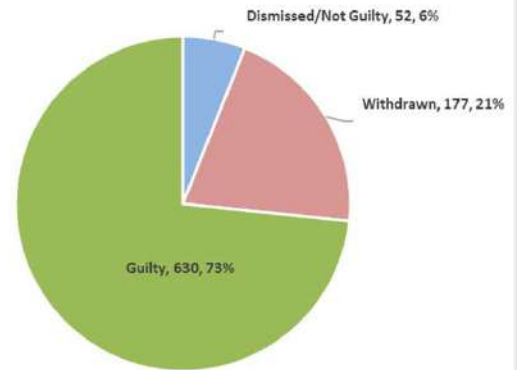
## 8. CRIMINAL CHARGE RESULTS

# CHARGE RESULTS

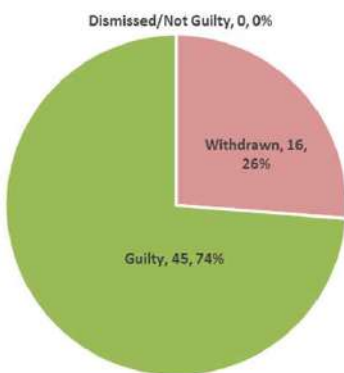
SC Criminal - Charge Results



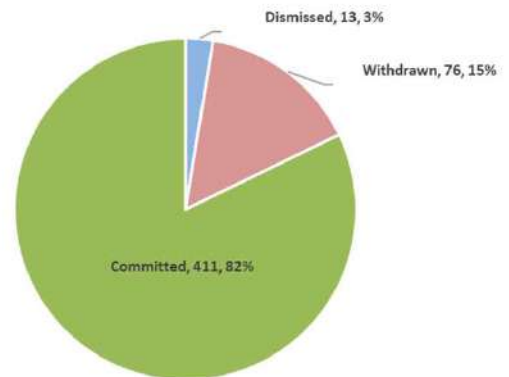
MC Criminal - Charge Results



IC Criminal - Charge Results

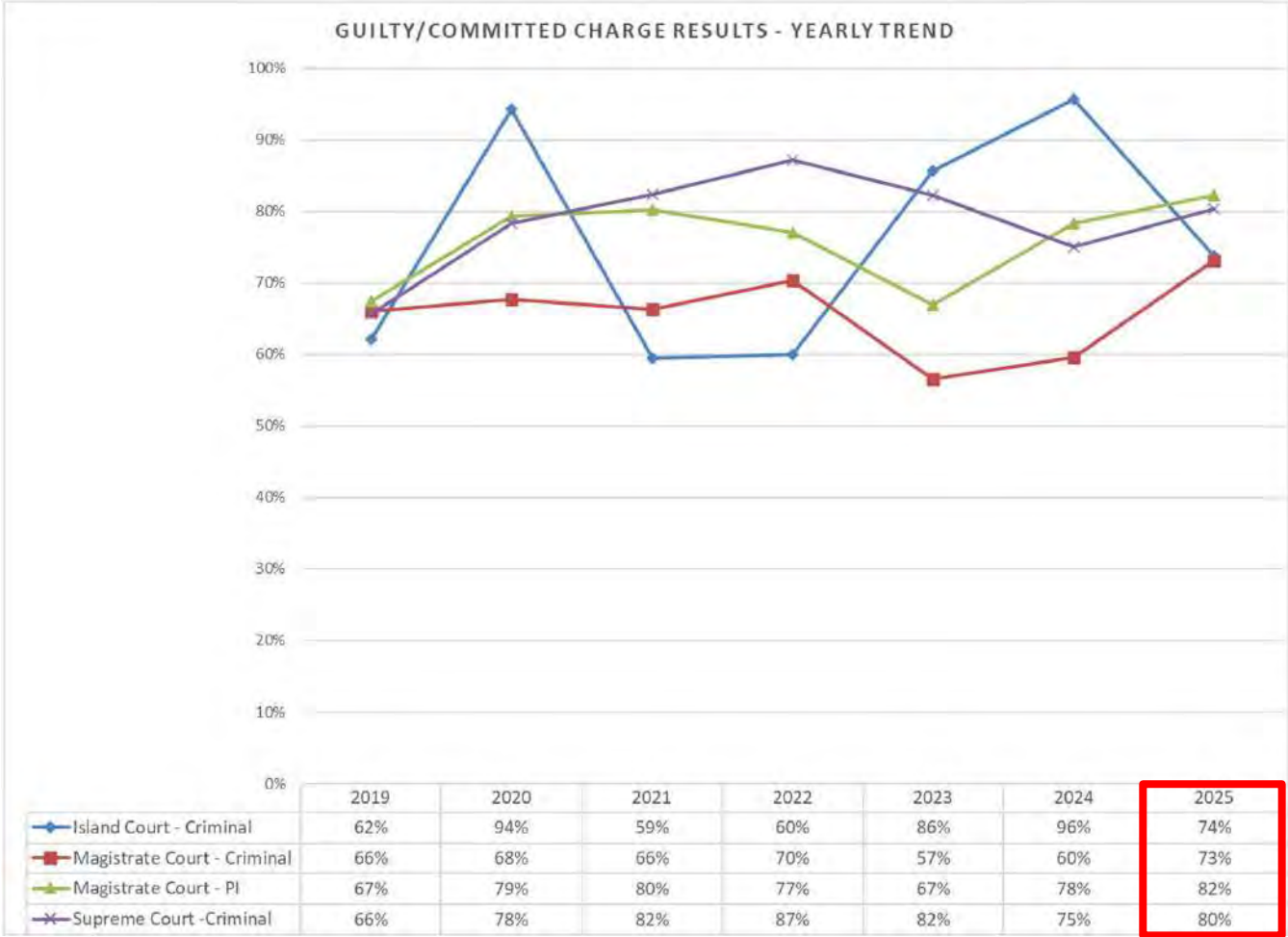


MC PI - Charge Results



Criminal Charge showing high percentage of having a Guilty result, Supreme Court with 80%, Magistrate Court with 73% and Island Court with 74%. This outcomes do not reflect PI (Preliminary Investigation) numbers. PI results showing 82% were committed to the Supreme Court, 15% were withdrawn & 3% dismissed.

# CHARGE RESULTS



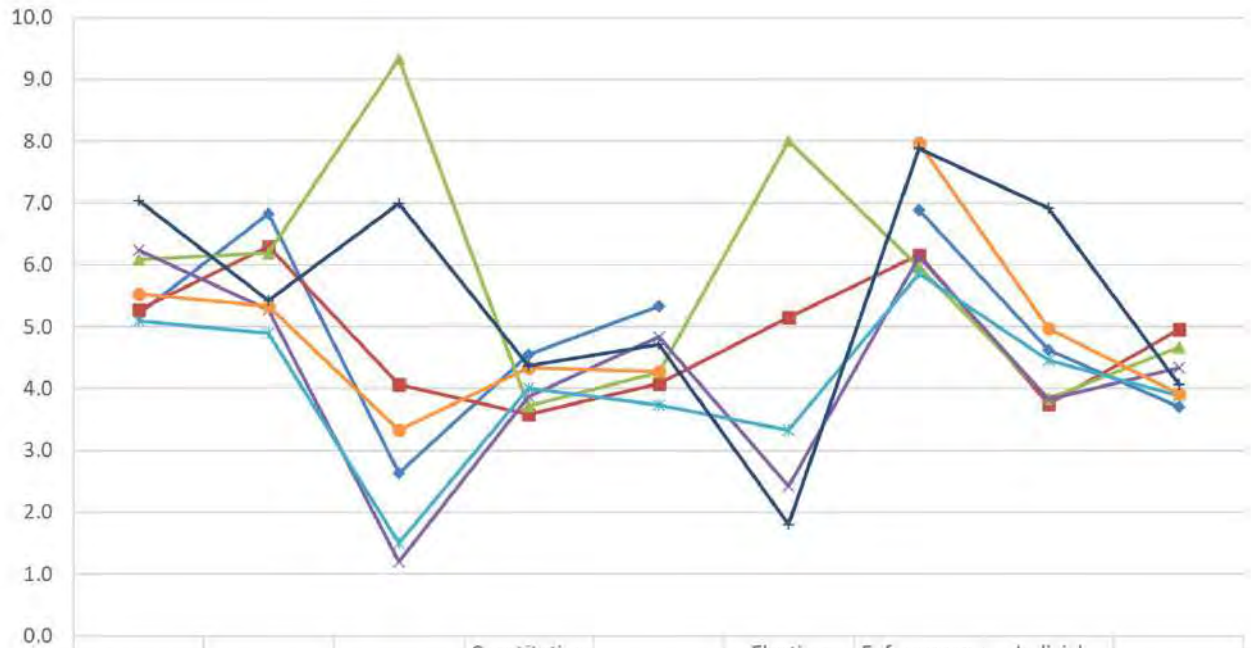
Trend showing an increase in percentage with Guilty and Committed results in Magistrate Criminal cases over the previous years. Supreme Court showing an increase with Guilty result in 2025 compared to 2024. Island Court showing decrease in Guilty results.



## 9. ATTENDANCE RATES

Attendance rates, as measured by the number of visits/appearances at court to dispose a matter is now being tracked.

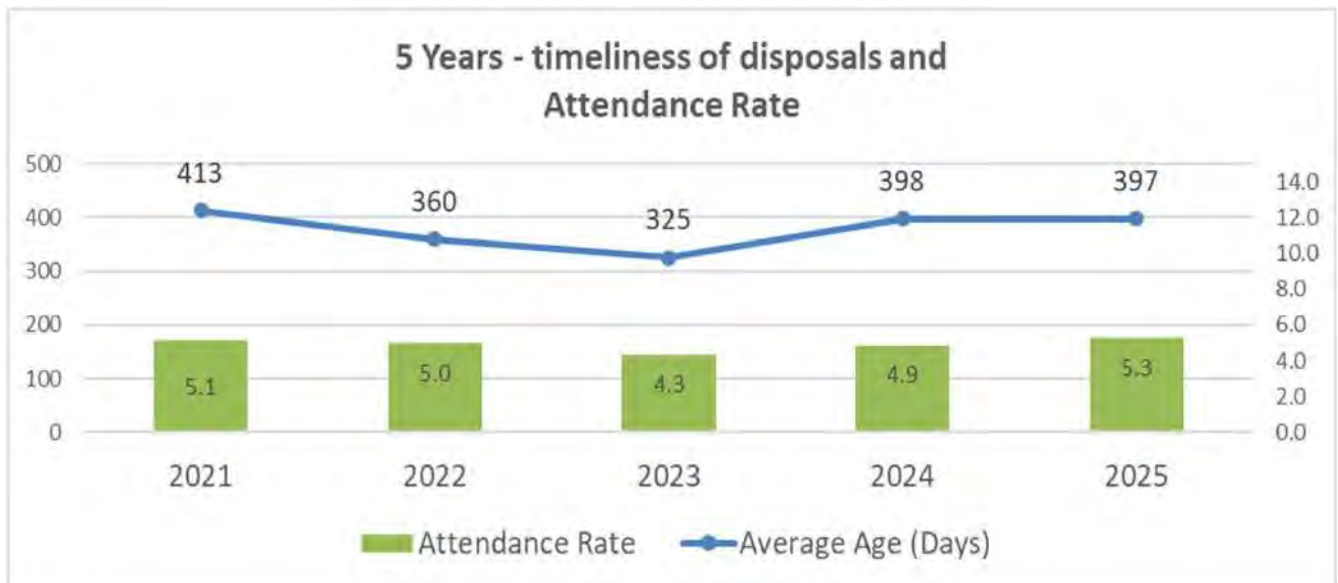
## SUPREME COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



|      | Adoption | Civil | Company | Constitutional | Criminal | Election Petition | Enforcement | Judicial Review | Probate |
|------|----------|-------|---------|----------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|
| 2019 | 5.2      | 6.8   | 2.6     | 4.5            | 5.3      |                   | 6.9         | 4.6             | 3.7     |
| 2020 | 5.3      | 6.3   | 4.1     | 3.6            | 4.1      | 5.2               | 6.2         | 3.8             | 5.0     |
| 2021 | 6.1      | 6.2   | 9.3     | 3.7            | 4.3      | 8.0               | 6.0         | 3.8             | 4.7     |
| 2022 | 6.2      | 5.3   | 1.2     | 3.9            | 4.8      | 2.4               | 6.1         | 3.8             | 4.3     |
| 2023 | 5.1      | 4.9   | 1.5     | 4.0            | 3.7      | 3.3               | 5.9         | 4.5             | 3.9     |
| 2024 | 5.5      | 5.3   | 3.3     | 4.3            | 4.3      |                   | 8.0         | 5.0             | 3.9     |
| 2025 | 7.0      | 5.4   | 7.0     | 4.4            | 4.7      | 1.8               | 7.9         | 6.9             | 4.1     |

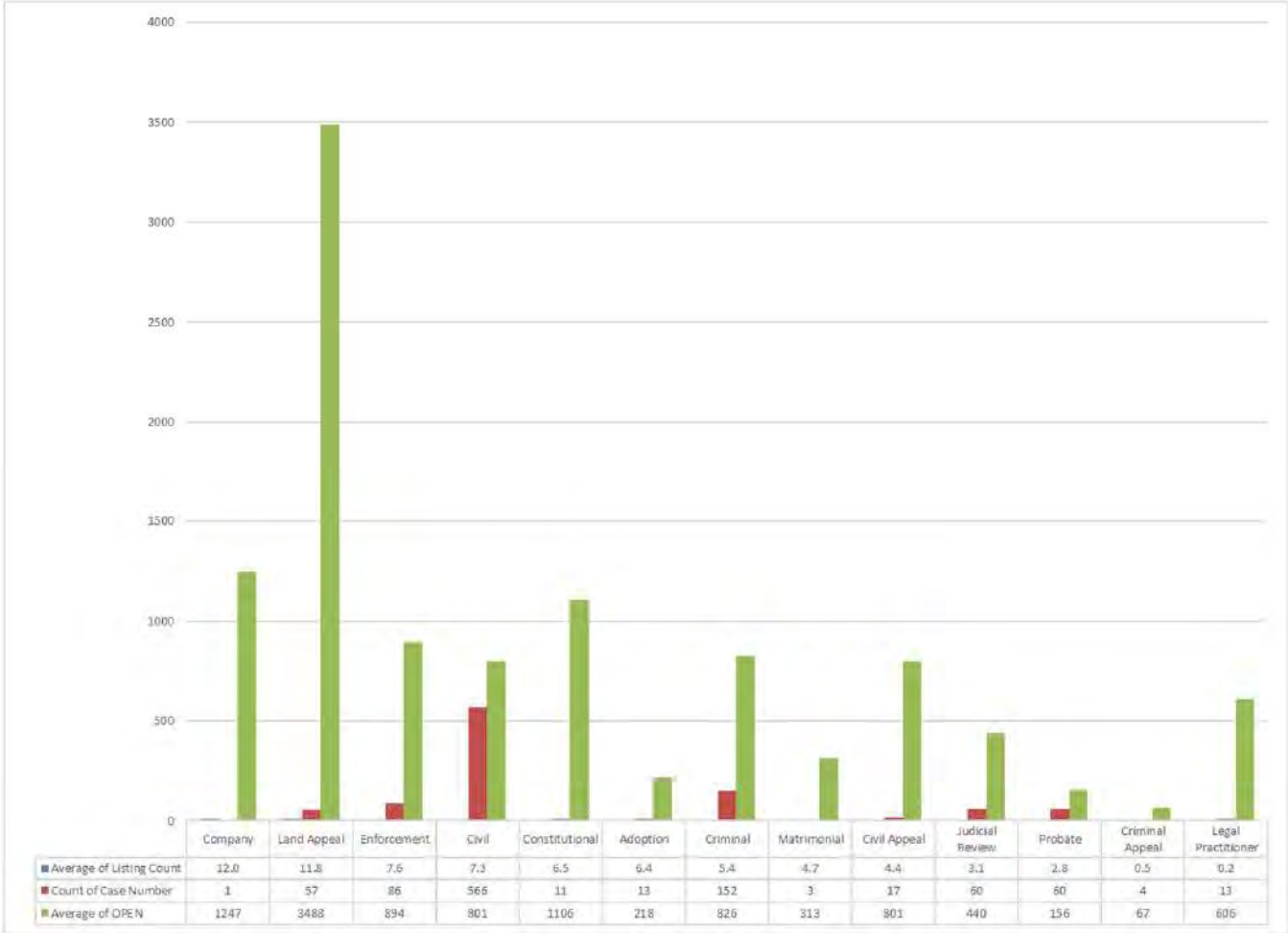
Seen an increase in Attendance rates with majority of case types.

## SUPREME COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



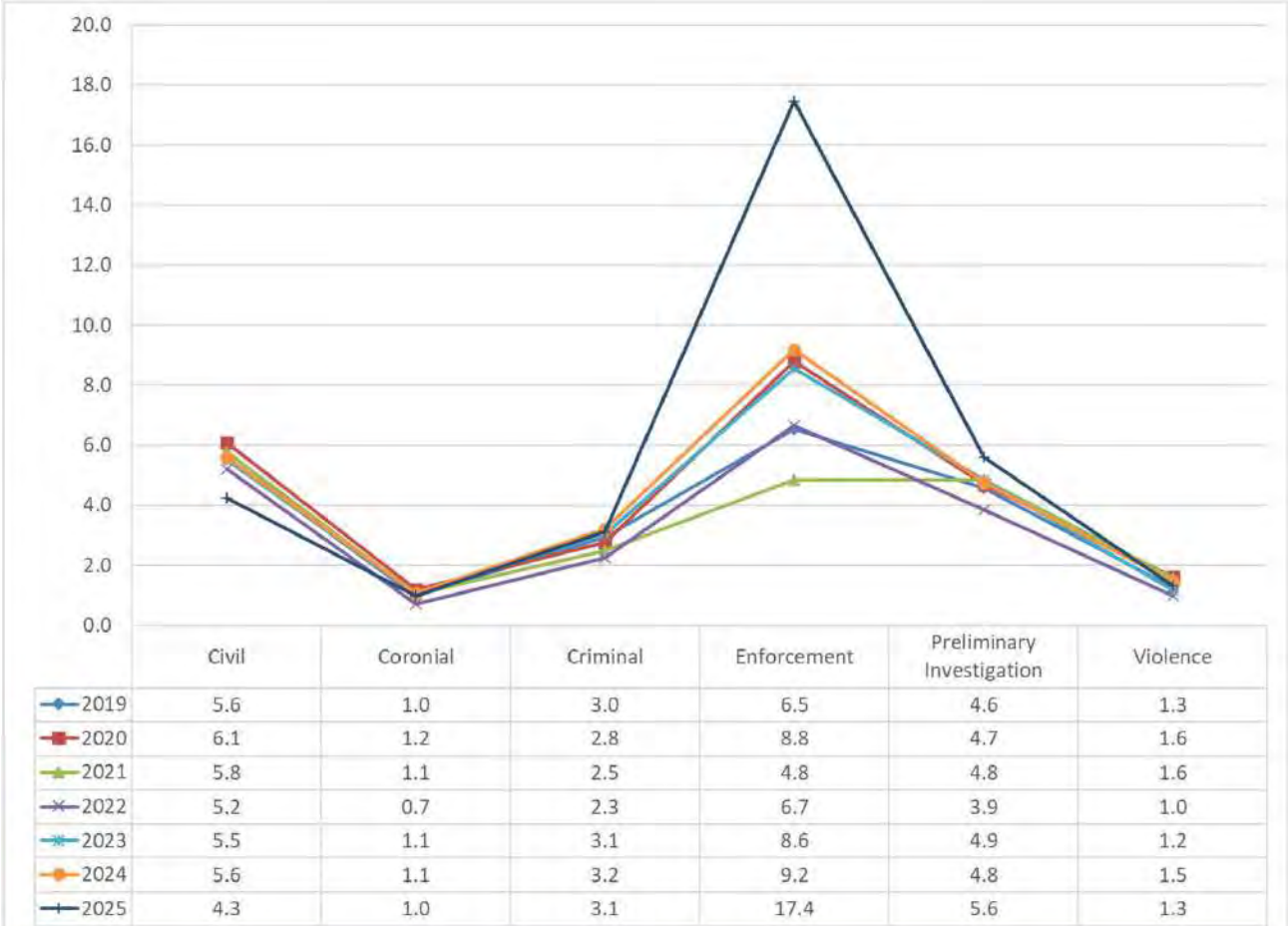
Overall attendance rate has increase by 10% from 4.9 appearance in 2024 to 5.3 appearance in 2025 in the last year which is concern.

# SUPREME COURT PENDING CASES ATTENDANCE RATES



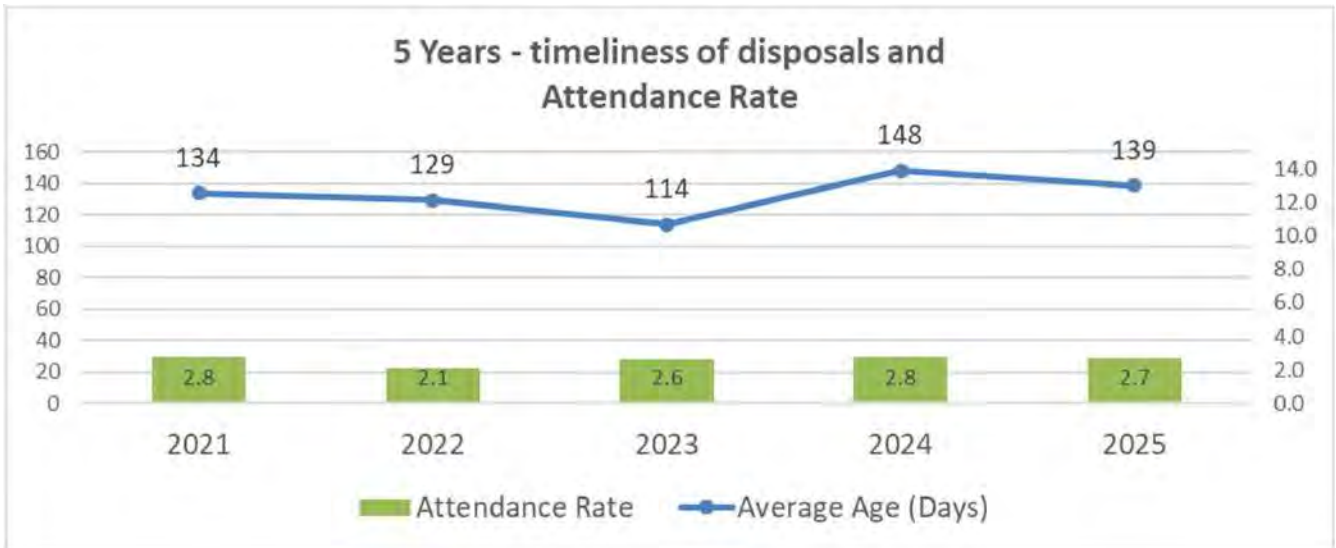
For the currently open/pending cases showing high attendances are company, land appeal, enforcement and civil matters. With Land Appeal showing average of open 3,488 days.

# MAGISTRATE COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



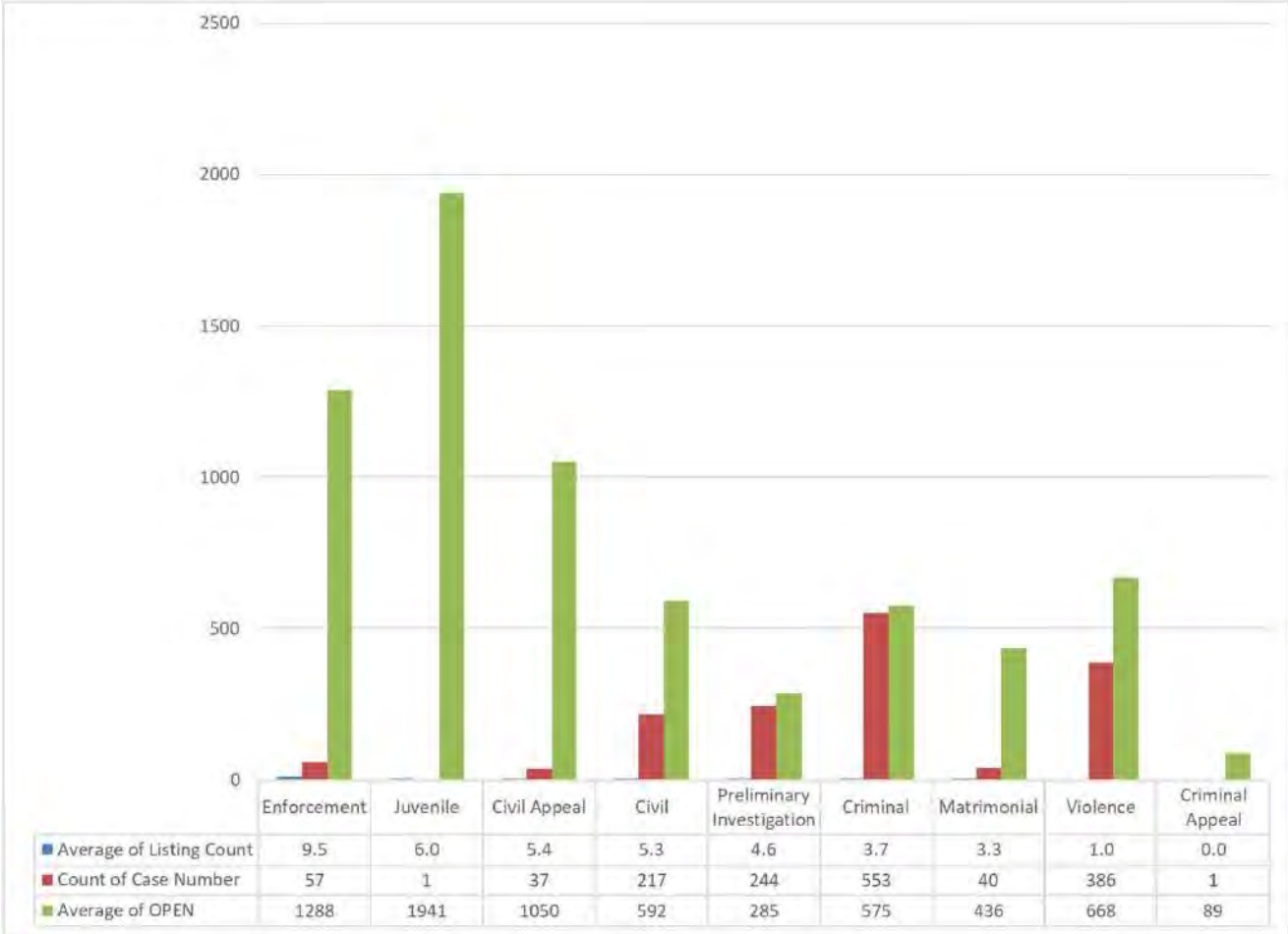
Enforcement showing a large increase in attendance rate ever seen in the Magistrate Court, followed by PI case type. Whist other case types have dropped slightly but overall consistent over the years.

# MAGISTRATE COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



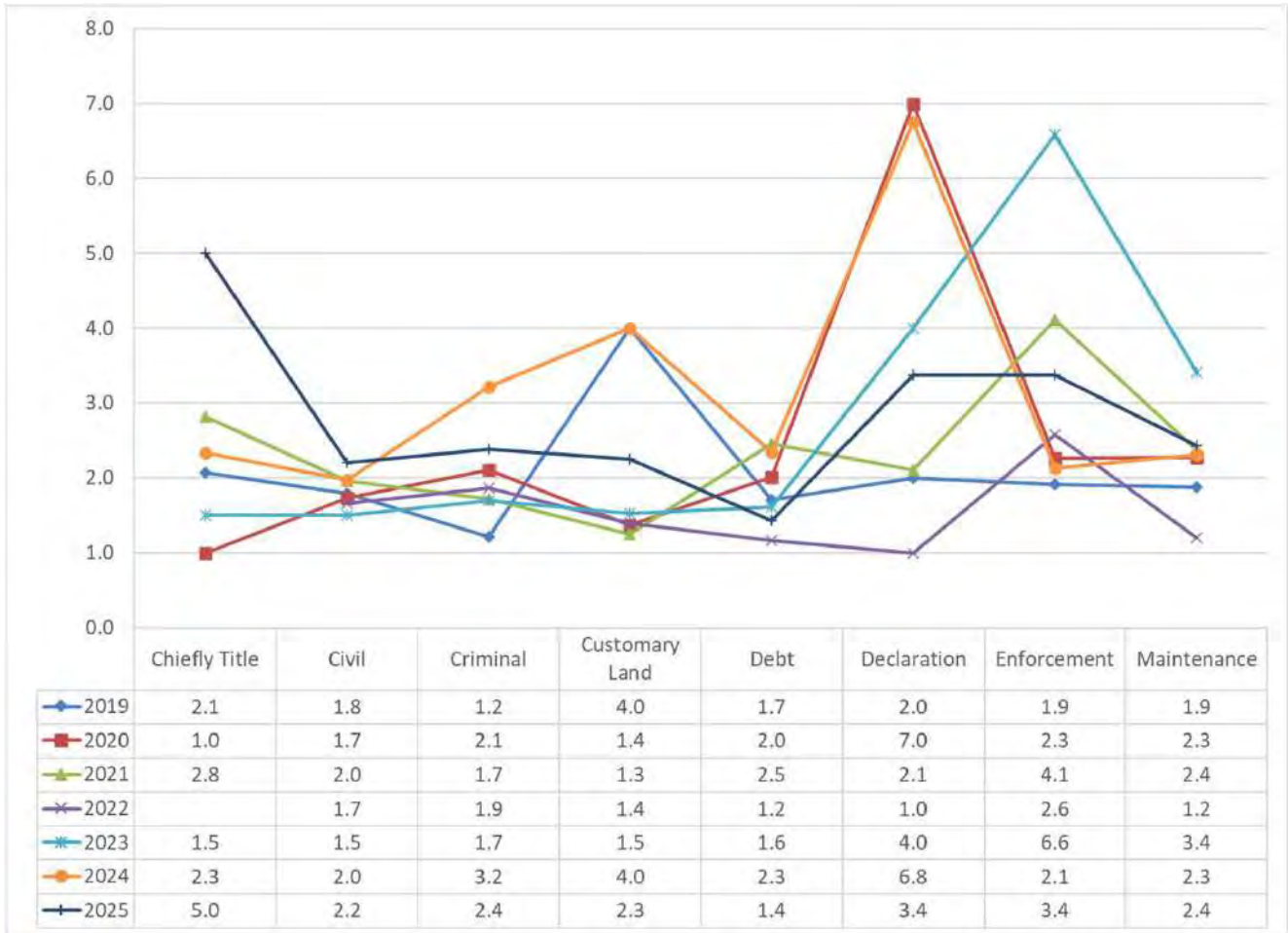
Overall attendance rate has decrease from 2.8 appearance in 2024 to 2.7 appearance in 2025.

# MAGISTRATE COURT PENDING CASES ATTENDANCE RATES



For the currently open/pending cases showing high attendances Enforcement matters with an average of open 1,288 days.

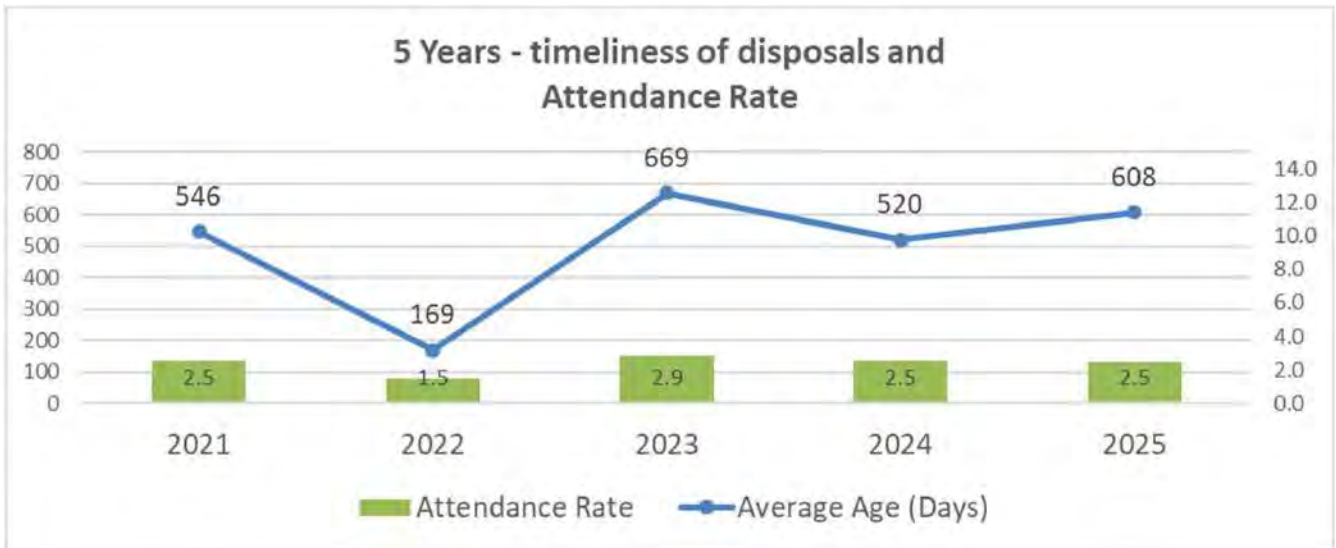
# ISLAND COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



An increase in attendance rate for Chiefly Title & Enforcement compared to 2024. Whist Civil and Maintenance attendance rate remain consistent over the years. For the case types, Criminal, Customary Land, Debt & Declaration attendance rates decreased.



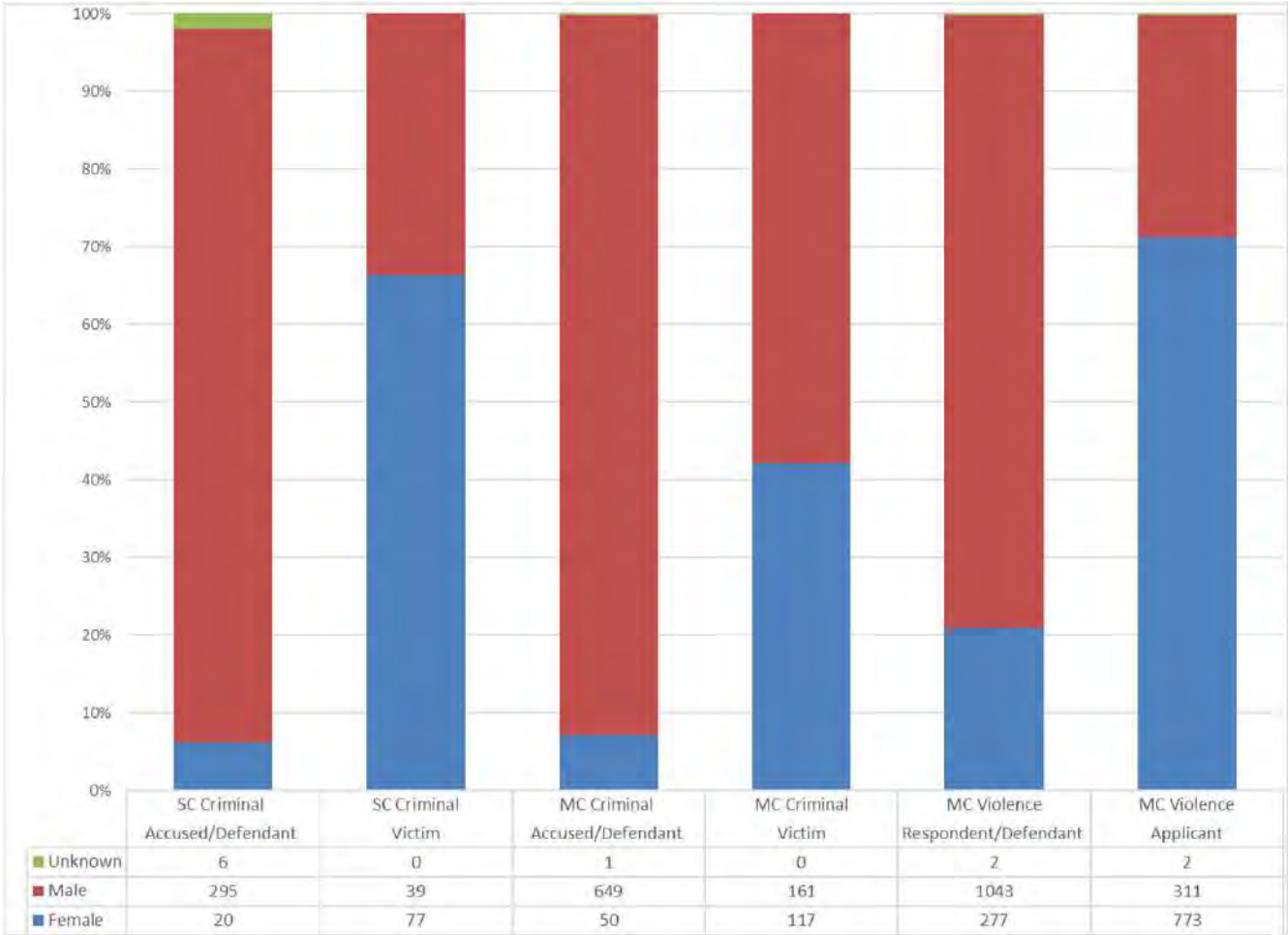
# ISLAND COURT COMPLETED ATTENDANCE RATES



Overall attendance rate consistent remaining at 2.5 appearance rate despite average days increase from 520 in 2014 to 608 in 2015.

## 10. PARTY DETAILS

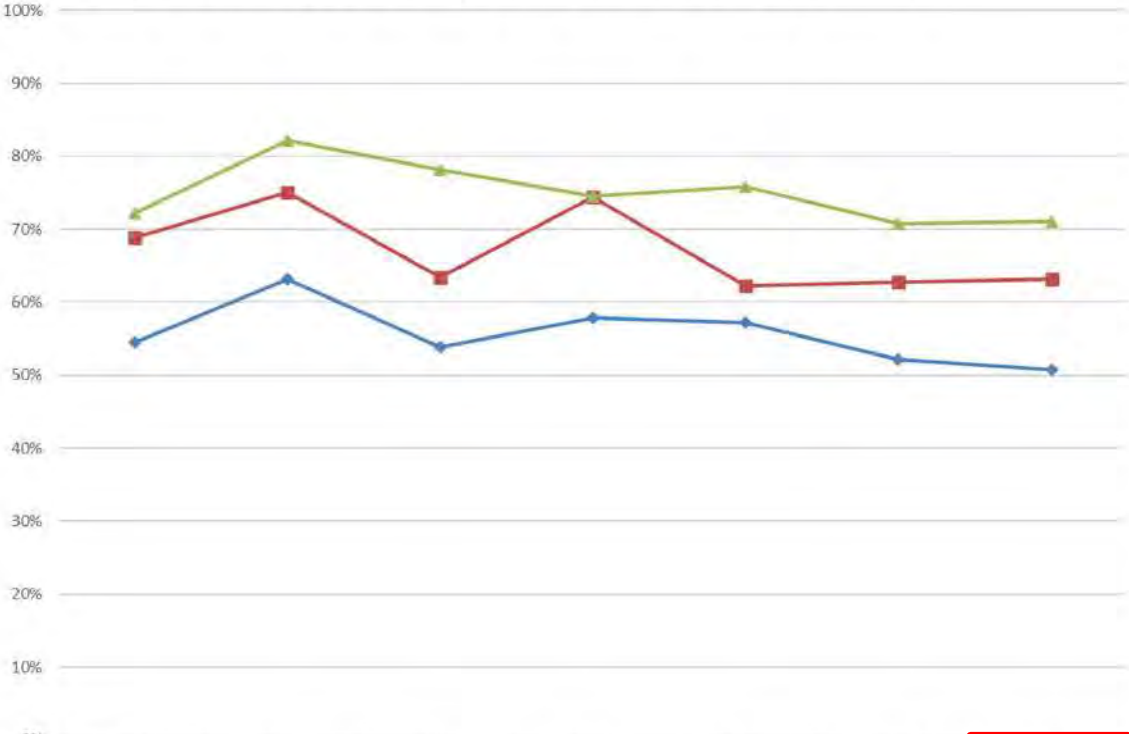
# GENDER ANALYSIS



2025 gender analysis for Criminal cases in Supreme and Magistrate Court, and Violence (protection matters) – filed showing key roles such as the accused/defendant, victim in criminal matters and respondent/defendant, applicant in violence matters.

# GENDER ANALYSIS

**YEARLY TREND BY PERCENTAGE OF VICTIMS BEING FEMALE**



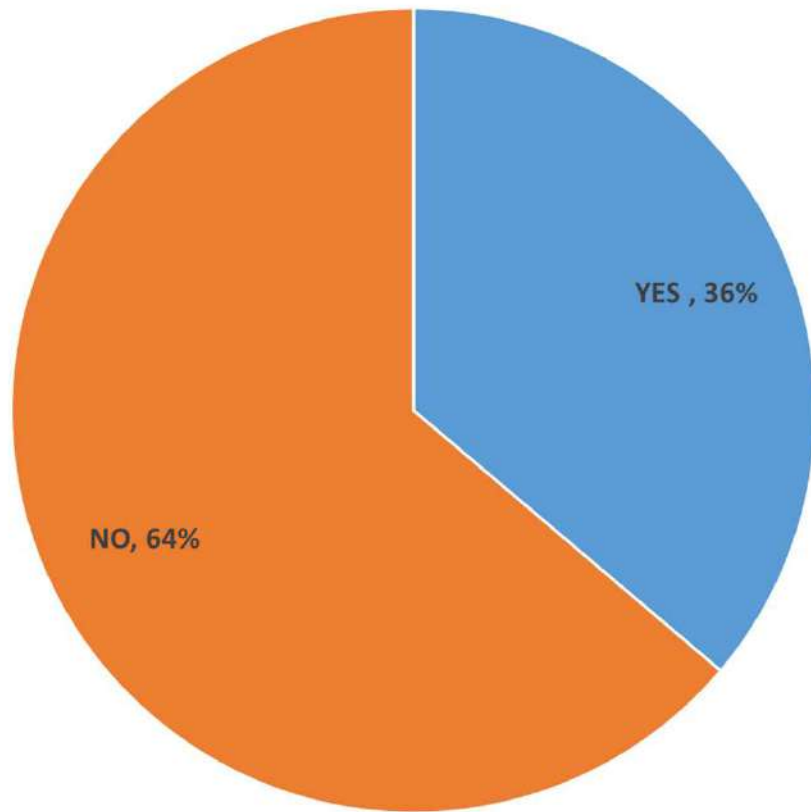
|                       | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| MC Criminal Victim    | 54%  | 63%  | 54%  | 58%  | 57%  | 52%  | 51%  |
| SC Criminal Victim    | 69%  | 75%  | 63%  | 74%  | 62%  | 63%  | 63%  |
| MC Violence Applicant | 72%  | 82%  | 78%  | 75%  | 76%  | 71%  | 71%  |

51% of victims in Supreme Court Criminal matters are female and 63% in the Magistrate Court. 71% of applicants for Violence (issuing of protection order) matters in the Magistrate Court are females.

Overall consistent over the past years.

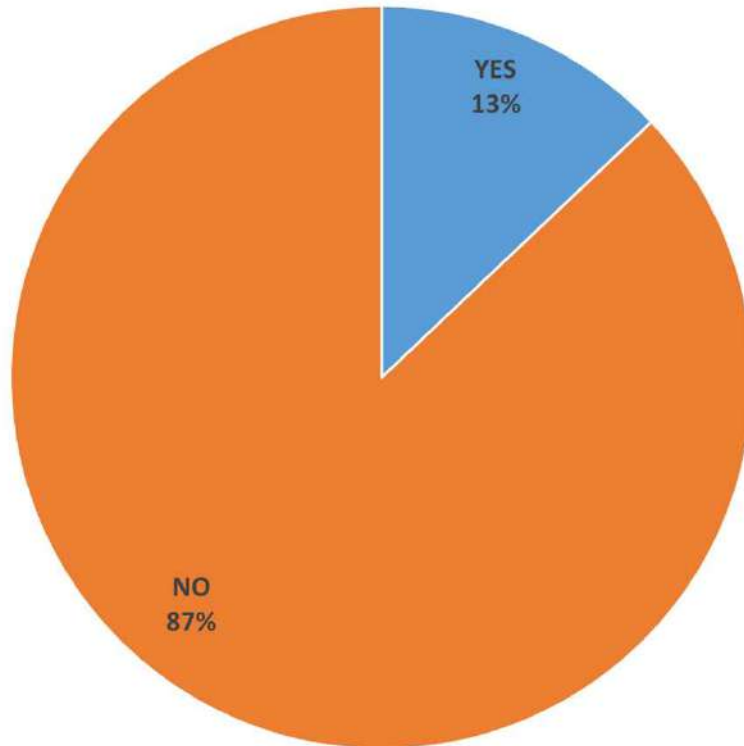
## II. CRIMINAL CASE - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) AS AN INFLUENCING FACTOR

CRIMINAL CASES WITH DV AS AN  
INFLUENCING FACTOR  
OVERALL  
SUPREME & MAGISTRATE



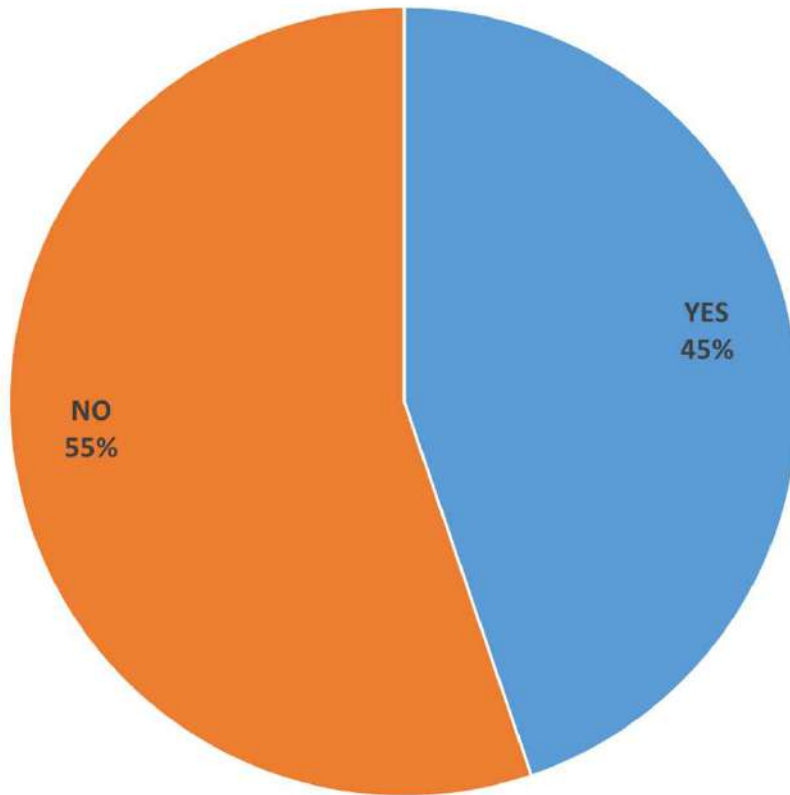
Overall, 36% of criminal cases dealt by the Magistrate and Supreme Court are Domestic Violence related in 2025.

CRIMINAL CASES WITH DV AS AN  
INFLUENCING FACTOR  
SUPREME COURT



For Criminal cases in Supreme Court, 13% are domestic violence related.

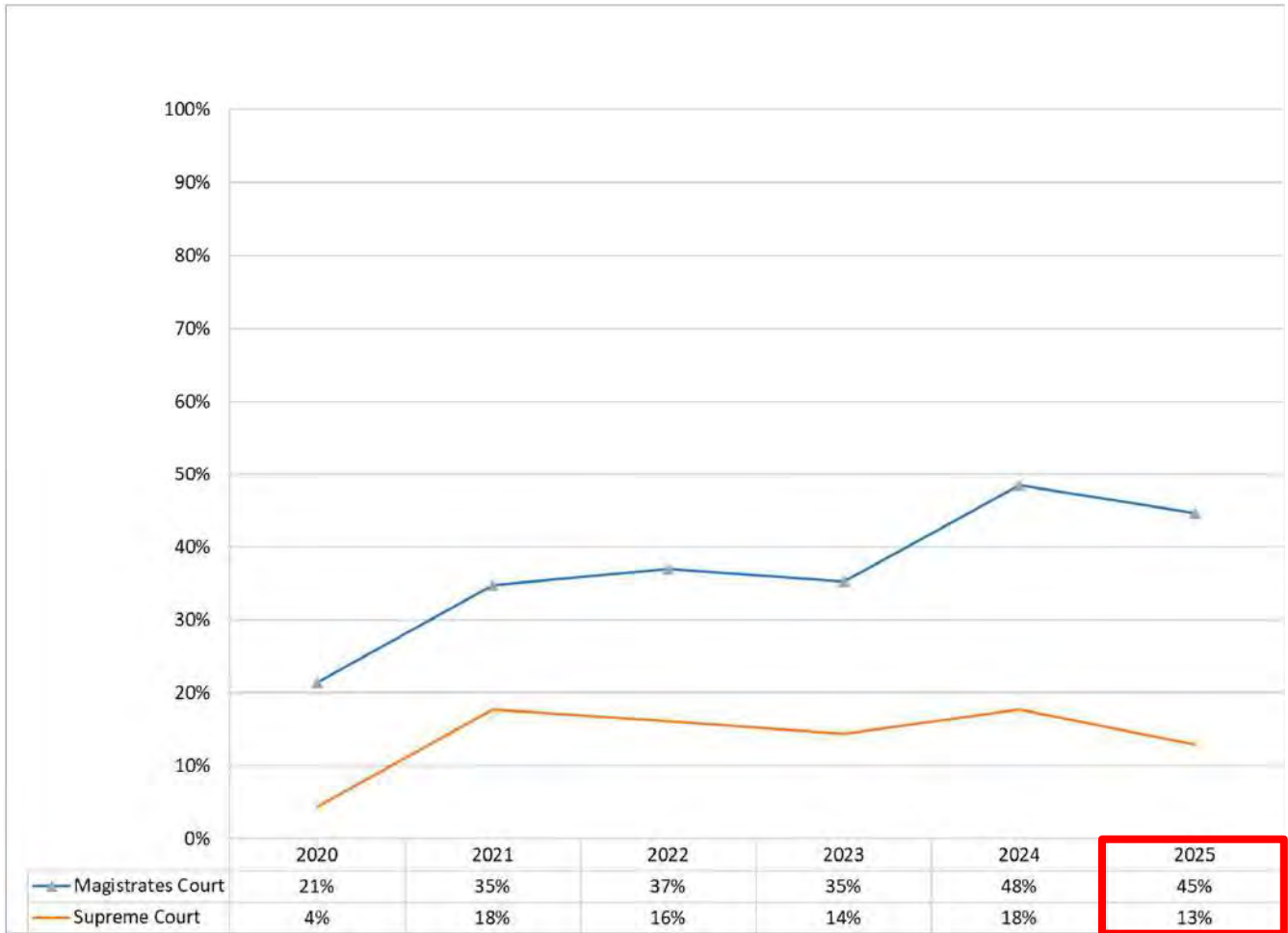
CRIMINAL CASES WITH DV AS AN  
INFLUENCING FACTOR  
MAGISTRATE COURT



For Criminal cases in Magistrate Court, 45% are domestic violence related.



## CRIMINAL CASES WITH DV AS AN INFLUENCING FACTOR BY PERCENTAGE - YEARLY TREND SUPREME & MAGISTRATE



Yearly trend showing a consistent percentage of Criminal matters with DV related in both Supreme and Magistrate Court.