

## **JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS**

### **Narrative Summary**

Justice Courts experienced an increase in total filings (including transfers in) in FY 2002, from 862,924 to 876,940. This is an increase of 1.6%. Beginning in FY 1996, Justice Courts reported Non-Criminal Local Ordinances as a separate category. Many of these were reported as part of other categories in the previous years, but their numbers are not comparatively large.

Traffic filings (criminal and civil), which accounted for 62.6% of the workload in Justice Courts, went from 552,876 to 548,592, a 0.8% decrease from FY 2001 to FY 2002. Non-Traffic criminal filings (misdemeanors and felonies) increased 2.8%, from 156,223 last year to 160,540 in FY 2002. Civil filings rose significantly from 148,616 in FY 2001 to 163,722 this year, an increase of 10.2%.

Petitions for orders of protection relating to domestic violence increased this year by 13.3%, from 8,506 in FY 2001 to 9,638. In FY 2002 petitions for injunctions against harassment increased from 8,143 in FY 2001 to 9,034 in FY 2002, an increase of 10.9%.

Total dispositions (including transfers out) increased by 2.7%, from 801,557 last year to 823,155 in FY 2002. Criminal and civil traffic dispositions together increased by 1.1%, from 519,059 to 524,796. Criminal dispositions (misdemeanors and felonies) increased by 2.1%, from 138,818 in FY 2001 to 141,780 in FY 2002. Civil dispositions increased by 9.9%, from 138,540 to 152,310.

Total end of year pending cases increased from 594,401 in FY 2001 to 621,731 in FY 2002, an increase of 2.7%. Most of the increase was in civil cases, which increased from 50,961 in FY 2001 to 58,958 in FY 2002, an increase of 15.7%.

**ABBREVIATIONS**  
**(Justice of the Peace Courts)**

CR TRAF .....	Criminal Traffic
CV TRAF .....	Civil Traffic
DISP. ....	Dispositions
D.U.I. ....	Driving Under the Influence
Forcible Det. ....	Forcible Detainer
F.T.A. ....	Failure-to-Appear
Hear Offer .....	Hearing Officer
LOCAL ORD .....	Non-Criminal Local Ordinances
MISD/Misd .....	Misdemeanor
Ord. of Protect .....	Order of Protection
Small Clm .....	Small Claims
Stat. Corr .....	Statistical Correction
Trans. In .....	Transfers In
Trans. Out .....	Transfers Out

JUSTICE COURT CASE ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2002

STATEWIDE TOTAL

ALL CASES ON FILE

CASE TYPE	PENDING 7/1/2001	CASES FILED			FISCAL YEAR 2001		
		ORIGINAL FILINGS	TRANSFER IN	TOTAL FILED	TOTAL ON FILE	PENDING 7/1/2000	TOTAL FILED
DUI	24,966	22,643	117	22,760	47,726	23,633	19,759
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	3,767	3,723	14	3,737	7,504	3,242	3,423
OTHER TRAFFIC	101,161	71,827	283	72,110	173,271	96,260	69,450
TOTAL CR TRAF	129,894	98,193	414	98,607	228,501	123,135	92,632
TOTAL CV TRAF	146,650	424,211	25,774	449,985	596,635	135,119	460,244
MISDEMEANOR	106,618	71,538	157	71,695	178,313	100,187	71,709
MISDEMEANOR FTA	42,897	9,539	11	9,550	52,447	39,715	9,290
TRAFFIC FTA	81,825	40,133	50	40,183	122,008	79,485	35,372
TOTAL MISD	231,340	121,210	218	121,428	352,768	219,387	116,371
TOTAL FELONY	34,569	39,100	12	39,112	73,681	32,942	39,852
SMALL CLAIMS	22,047	29,927	160	30,087	52,134	19,859	28,882
FORCIBLE DETAINER	5,044	93,996	1,722	95,718	100,762	3,890	88,337
OTHER CIVIL	23,870	37,064	853	37,917	61,787	20,140	31,397
TOTAL CIVIL	50,961	160,987	2,735	163,722	214,683	43,889	148,616
NC PARKING	981	4,054		4,054	5,035	911	5,198
NC NON-PARKING	6	32		32	38	6	11
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	987	4,086		4,086	5,073	917	5,209
TOTAL	594,401	847,787	29,153	876,940	1,471,341	555,389	862,924
ORD PROTECTION				9,638			8,506
INJ HARASSMENT				9,034			8,143

TRIALS COMMENCED

CASE TYPE	NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL	FISCAL YEAR 2001		
				NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC	2,400	204	2,604	2,099	129	2,228
MISDEMEANOR	2,750	40	2,790	3,369	19	3,388
CIVIL	37,723	11	37,734	34,608	18	34,626
TOTAL	42,873	255	43,128	40,076	166	40,242

OUTSTANDING WARRANTS - END-OF-YEAR

TRAFFIC	6/30/2002	6/30/2001	CRIMINAL	6/30/2002	6/30/2001
DUI	11,460	9,913	FELONY	21,163	22,772
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	1,329	1,322	MISDEMEANOR	58,003	56,250
OTHER TRAFFIC	57,542	54,687	SUBTOTAL	79,166	79,022
SUBTOTAL	70,331	65,922			
TOTAL ALL WARRANTS				149,497	144,944

JUSTICE COURT CASE ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2002

STATEWIDE TOTAL (CONTINUED)

CASE TYPE	ALL CASES TERMINATED					FISCAL YEAR 2001	
	CASES TERMINATED			STAT CORR	PENDING 6/30/2002	TOTAL TERM	PENDING 6/30/2001
	TERMIN- ATIONS	TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL TERM				
DUI	20,128	231	20,359	-1,552	25,815	17,515	24,966
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	3,298	40	3,338	-75	4,091	2,842	3,767
OTHER TRAFFIC	60,744	283	61,027	-6,487	105,757	61,654	101,161
TOTAL CR TRAF	84,170	554	84,724	-8,114	135,663	82,011	129,894
TOTAL CV TRAF[1]	439,286	786	440,072	-8,233	148,330	437,048	146,650
MISDEMEANOR	63,858	2,064	65,922	448	112,839	67,395	106,618
MISDEMEANOR FTA	6,730	5	6,735	-896	44,816	5,389	42,897
TRAFFIC FTA	30,460	110	30,570	-5,762	85,676	28,562	81,825
TOTAL MISD	101,048	2,179	103,227	-6,210	243,331	101,346	231,340
TOTAL FELONY	33,004	5,549	38,553	-481	34,647	37,472	34,569
SMALL CLAIMS	25,121	1,142	26,263	-1,136	24,735	25,737	22,047
FORCIBLE DETAINER	94,092	277	94,369	-1,437	4,956	85,822	5,044
OTHER CIVIL	31,096	582	31,678	-842	29,267	26,981	23,870
TOTAL CIVIL	150,309	2,001	152,310	-3,415	58,958	138,540	50,961
NC PARKING	4,250		4,250	0	785	5,129	981
NC NON-PARKING	19		19	-2	17	11	6
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	4,269		4,269	-2	802	5,140	987
TOTAL	812,086	11,069	823,155	-26,455	621,731	801,557	594,401
	ISSUED	DENIED					
ORD PROTECTION	8,224	854	9,078			7,957	
INJ HARASSMENT	7,283	1,168	8,451			7,606	

[1] TERMINATIONS INCLUDE DEFAULT JUDGMENTS.

OTHER PROCEEDINGS

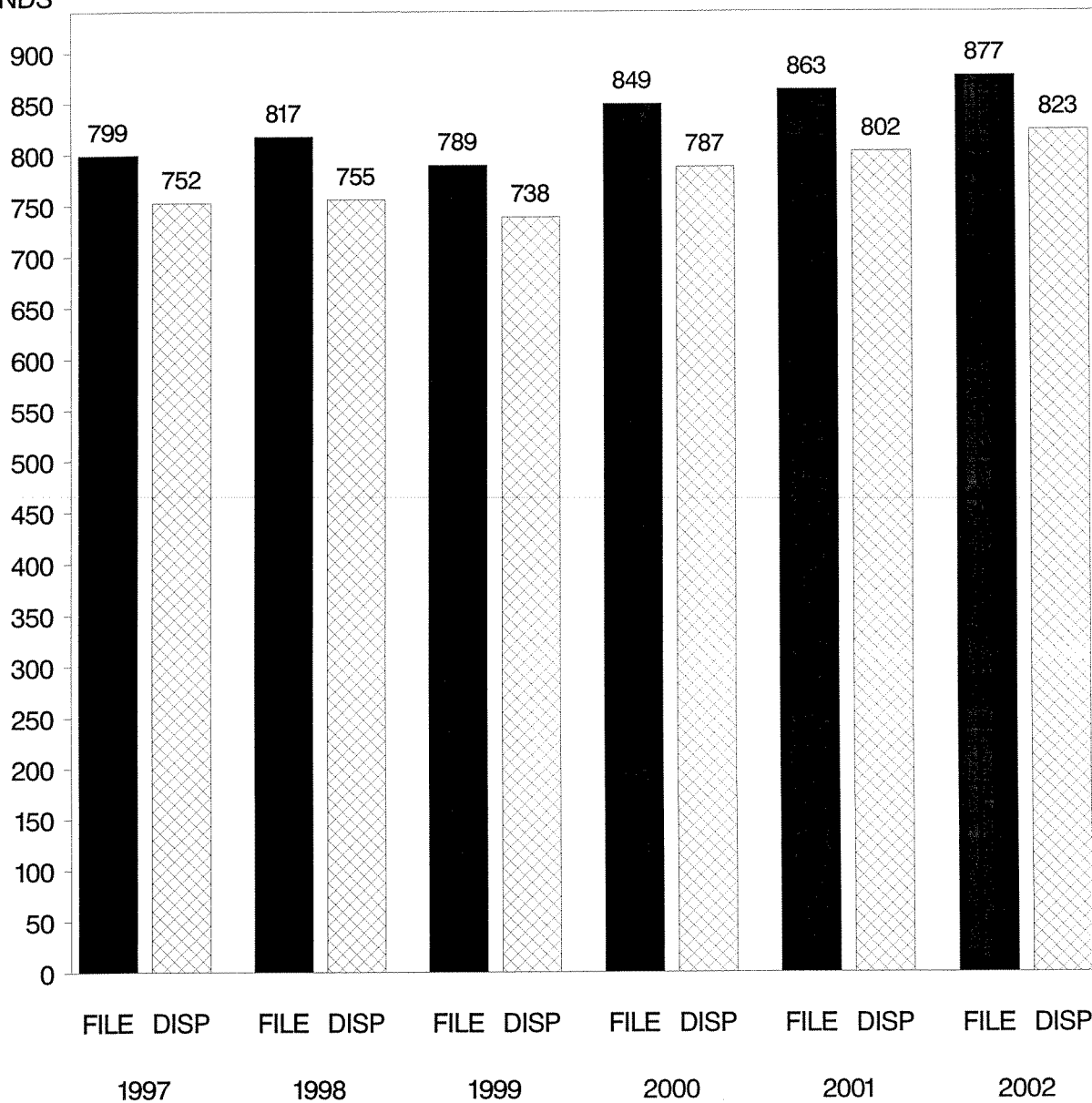
	FY 2002	FY 2001
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS/DEFAULTS	8,649	8,999
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS (W/HEARING OFFICER)	5,098	4,886
CIVIL TRAFFIC HEARINGS	8,904	8,924
FELONY PRELIMINARY HEARINGS	2,880	2,108
INITIAL APPEARANCES	56,278	52,633
ORDER OF PROTECTION REVIEW HEARINGS	1,643	1,446
INJUNCTION AGAINST HARASSMENT REVIEW HEARINGS	1,712	1,493
PEACE BOND COMPLAINTS	1	7
FUGITIVE COMPLAINTS	359	330
JUVENILE HEARINGS	76	119
SEARCH WARRANTS ISSUED	4,918	4,207

# JUSTICE COURT

## ANNUAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 1997 – 2002

### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

THOUSANDS



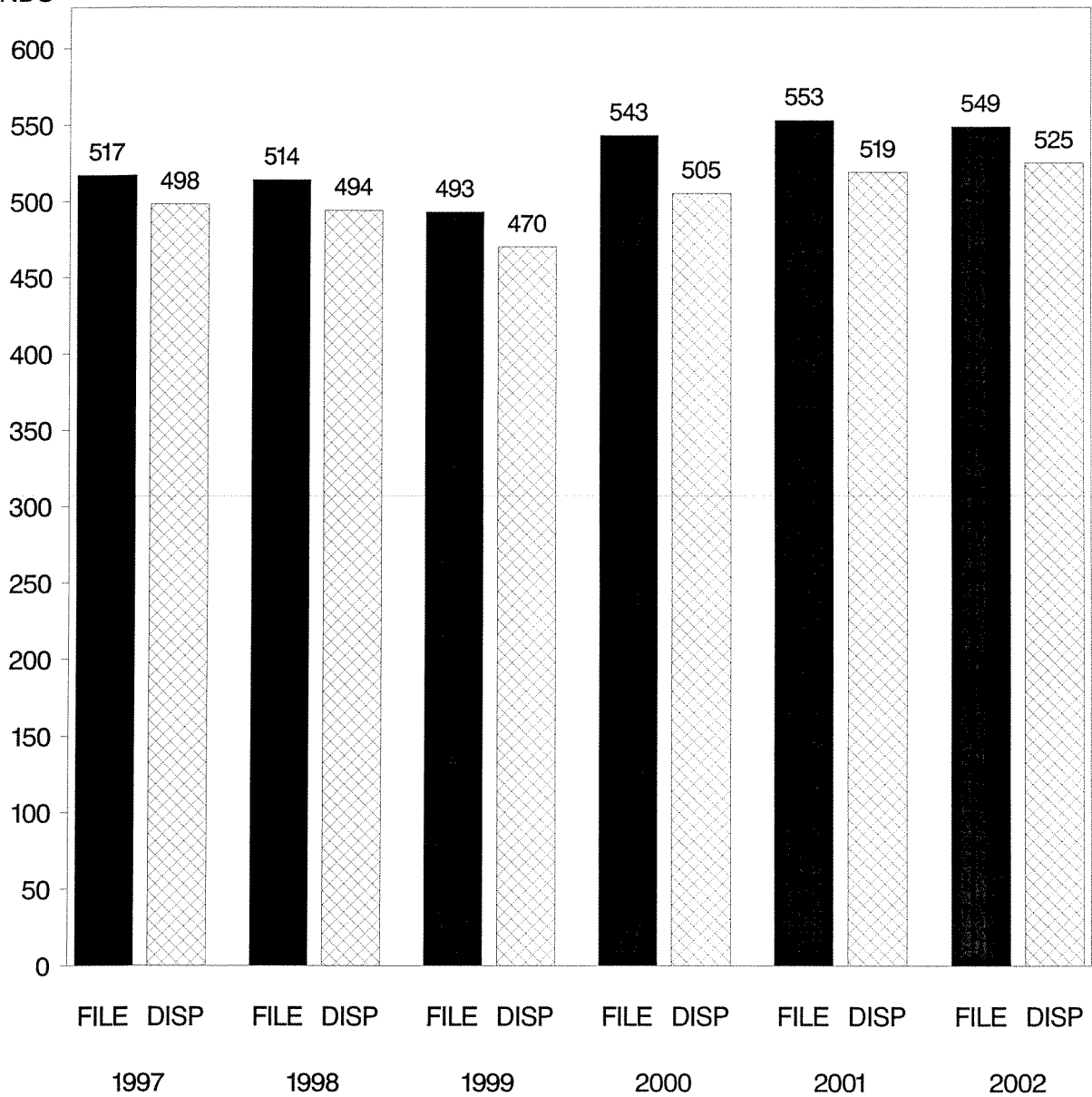
CASES FILED INCLUDE ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDE TERMINATIONS AND TRANSFERS OUT.

# JUSTICE COURT

## TRAFFIC CASE ACTIVITY, FY 1997 – 2002

### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

THOUSANDS



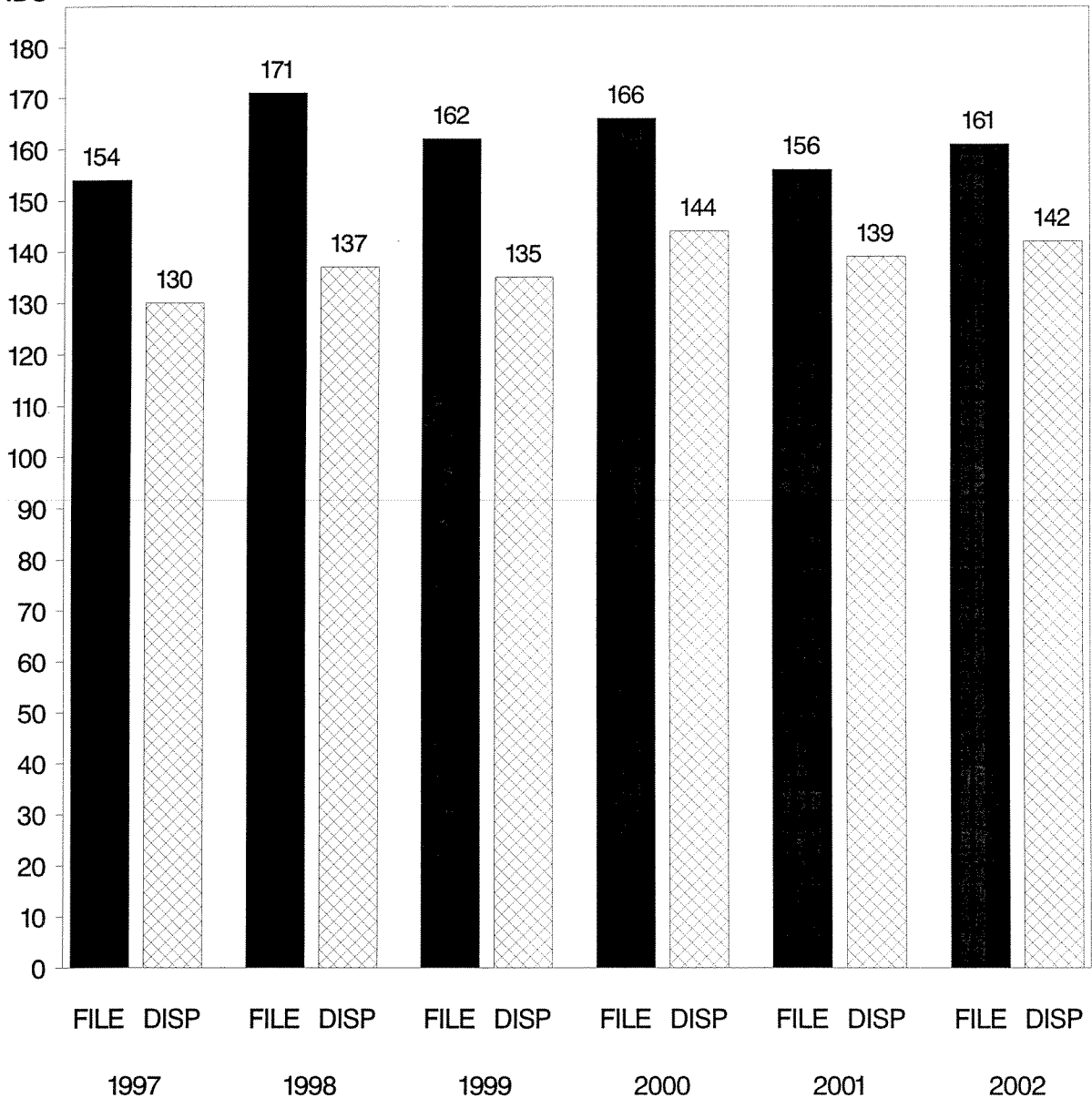
CASES FILED INCLUDE ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDE TERMINATIONS AND TRANSFERS OUT.

# JUSTICE COURT

## CRIMINAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 1997 – 2002

### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

THOUSANDS

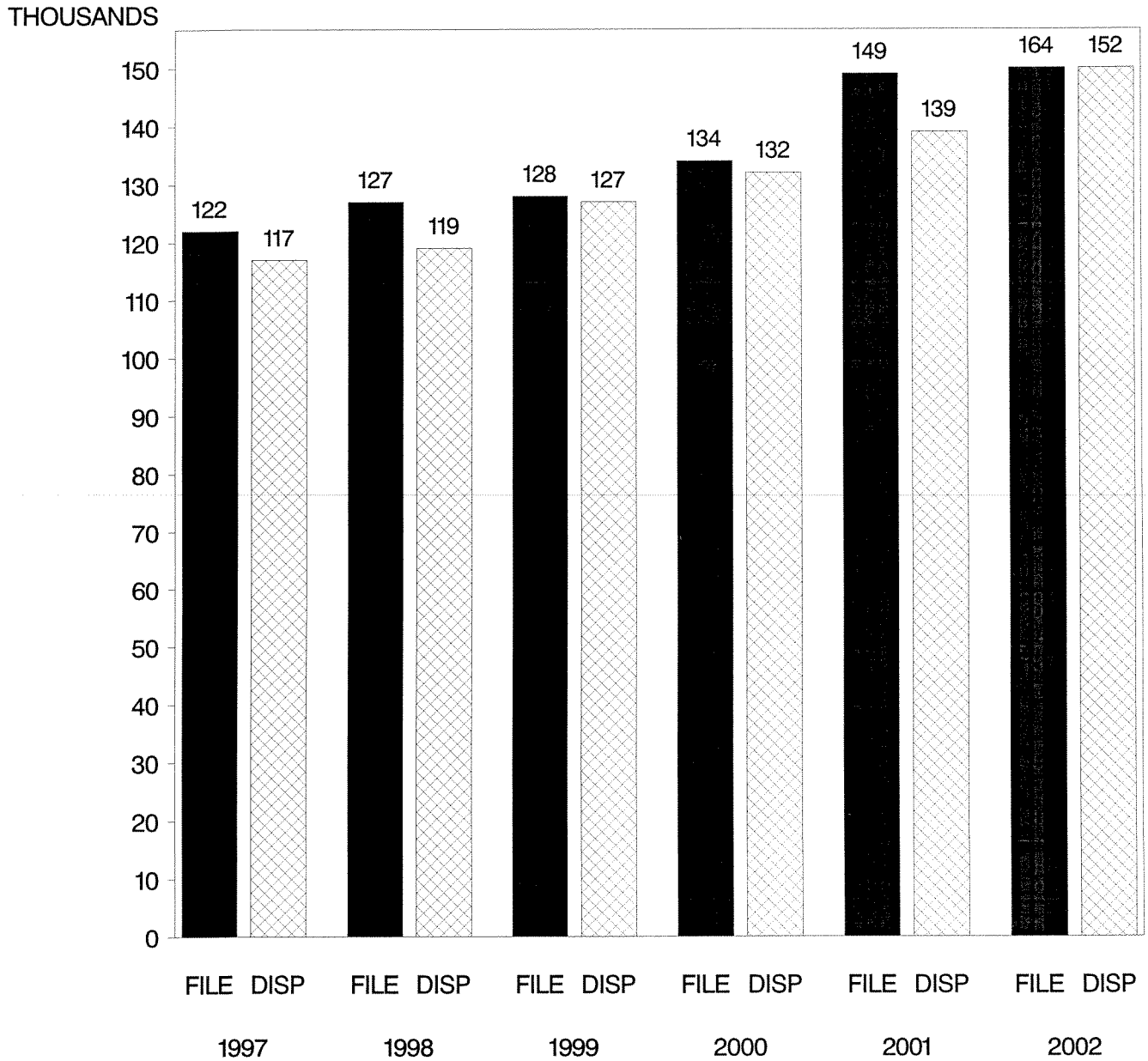


CASES FILED INCLUDE ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDE TERMINATIONS AND TRANSFERS OUT.

# JUSTICE COURT

## CIVIL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 1997 – 2002

### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



CASES FILED INCLUDE ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
 CASES DISPOSED INCLUDE TERMINATIONS AND TRANSFERS OUT.



# JUSTICE COURT

## ORDER OF PROTECTION – HARASSMENT, FY 1997 – 2002 PETITIONS FILED

