

**SUPREME COURT  
CASELOAD INFORMATION**

## Supreme Court Caseload

The caseload information shown in Table 1 on page 6 is also presented graphically in Chart 1. The categories shown are those most commonly used in Supreme Court cases.

“Intermediate Appeals” are appeals made during the progress of a case in circuit court. Intermediate appeals are accepted at the discretion of the Supreme Court.

“Notice of Review” is filed by an appellee (party against whom an appeal is taken) seeking review of a judgment or order entered in the same action from which an appeal has been taken. A notice of review is a separate filing but not a separate disposition since it is disposed as part of the original appeal.

“Certificates of Probable Cause” are required before an appeal can be brought in a habeas corpus case.

“Summary Dispositions” are appeals that have been summarily affirmed or reversed on established grounds set forth in SDCL 15-26A-87.1. In these proceedings the Court, on its own mo-

tion, may affirm or reverse the judgment or order from which the appeal is taken. The Court must be unanimous in its decision to render a summary disposition, and the decision is set out in an order or memorandum opinion. The term “expedited appeal” is sometimes used because it usually takes less time to process appeals under this rule.

“Pending Cases” are cases which have been filed with the Court but in which no decision has been entered. Pending cases are divided into:

- “Submitted and pending” -- cases which have been completely briefed, orally argued, or submitted to the Court on briefs and await only final disposition by the Court
- “Ready for submission” -- cases which have been completely briefed and are awaiting placement on the Court calendar
- “Not ready for calendar” -- cases which have been filed but are still in the transcript or briefing stages.

**Table 1. SUPREME COURT CASELOAD COMPARED BY FISCAL YEAR**

<b>Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>FY2000</b>	<b>FY2001</b>	<b>FY2002</b>	<b>FY2003</b>	<b>FY2004</b>
<b>FILINGS:</b>					
Appeals	386	380	342	354	333
Intermediate Appeals	44	35	53	29	37
Original Proceedings	21	22	23	22	32
Notice of Review	31	31	16	21	22
Certificates of Probable Cause	22	23	21	20	15
Reinstatements	2	2	1	0	0
Rehearings Granted	2	1	1	1	0
<b>COMBINED FILINGS</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>439</b>
<b>DISPOSITIONS:</b>					
Appeals / Original Proceedings	167/203	158/184	140/164	167/177	184/196
Orders of Dismissal/Dispositional Remands	118/126	120/128	62/64	70/74	70/74
Denial of Intermediate Appeals	26	29	32	22	25
Original Proceedings (by Order)	42	22	31	23	32
Dispositive Remand	3	0	1	1	2
Summary Dispositions	114	117	136	120	123
<b>COMBINED DISPOSITIONS</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>452</b>
<b>PENDING CASES:</b>					
Submitted and Pending	68	64	62	64	58
Ready for Submission	72	70	70	72	70
Not Ready for Calendar	148	152	143	141	139
Other (in Suspense)	2	2	3	2	3
<b>TOTAL PENDING CASES (6/30/2003)</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>270</b>

**Chart 1. Supreme Court Caseload Comparison**

