

Table 42

## Michigan

2006 Overall Ranking: 22

Ratings on Key Elements of State Liability Systems (n=125)

		"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"	"F"	Mean Grade	Ranking Within Element
Having and Enforcing Meaningful Venue Requirements	%	8	46	25	4	1	3.7	19
Overall Treatment of Tort and Contract Litigation	%	9	42	31	9	1	3.5	20
Treatment of Class Action Suits and Mass Consolidation Suits	%	4	30	30	8	1	3.4	19
Punitive Damages	%	12	25	36	6	2	3.5	10
Timeliness of Summary Judgment or Dismissal	%	6	38	36	9	2	3.4	20
Discovery	%	5	46	34	3	1	3.6	22
Scientific and Technical Evidence	%	6	38	32	4	2	3.5	21
Non-economic Damages	%	6	34	37	8	-	3.4	20
Judges' Impartiality	%	6	48	30	6	-	3.6	27
Judges' Competence	%	6	50	31	2	1	3.6	28
Juries' Predictability	%	-	33	38	6	2	3.3	26
Juries' Fairness	%	1	35	38	6	1	3.4	26
<b>OVERALL STATE GRADE</b>	%	5	49	38	2	-	3.6	

ADDITIONAL ISSUES STATE SHOULD ADDRESS TOTAL  
N=23

	%
Use of mediation	4
Tort reform legislation	3
Supreme court decisions	2

Table 8

## Summary of Top/Bottom 5 States By Key Elements

## Having and Enforcing Meaningful Venue Requirements

BEST	WORST
Virginia	West Virginia
Delaware	Louisiana
Nebraska	Mississippi
North Carolina	Alabama
Indiana	Illinois

## Treatment of Tort and Contract Litigation

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Mississippi
Nebraska	Louisiana
Iowa	Alabama
Indiana	Hawaii

## Treatment of Class Action Suits and Mass Consolidation Suits

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Louisiana
Nebraska	Alabama
Iowa	Mississippi
Connecticut	California

## Punitive Damages

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Mississippi
Iowa	Alabama
Indiana	California
North Dakota	Illinois

## Timeliness of Summary Judgment or Dismissal

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Louisiana
South Dakota	Mississippi
Nebraska	Hawaii
Maine	Alabama

Table 8 (Cont'd)

## Summary of Top/Bottom 5 States By Key Elements

## Discovery

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Louisiana
Nebraska	Mississippi
Iowa	Alabama
New Hampshire	Hawaii

## Scientific and Technical Evidence

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Mississippi
Colorado	Louisiana
New York	Alabama
Nebraska	Hawaii

## Non-economic Damages

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Nebraska	Louisiana
Virginia	Mississippi
North Dakota	Alabama
Iowa	California

## Judges' Impartiality

BEST	WORST
Delaware	Louisiana
Virginia	West Virginia
Nebraska	Mississippi
Iowa	Alabama
Connecticut	Hawaii

## Judge's Competence

BEST	WORST
Delaware	West Virginia
Virginia	Louisiana
Nebraska	Mississippi
Connecticut	Alabama
Iowa	Hawaii

Table 8 (Cont'd)

## Summary of Top/Bottom 5 States By Key Elements

## Juries' Predictability

BEST	WORST
Nebraska	Mississippi
Connecticut	Louisiana
Iowa	California
Delaware	Hawaii
Wisconsin	Alabama

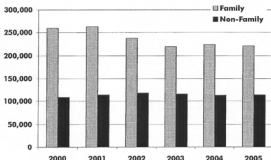
## Juries' Fairness

BEST	WORST
Nebraska	Mississippi
Iowa	Louisiana
Connecticut	West Virginia
Delaware	Alabama
Indiana	Hawaii

## JUDICIAL ACTIVITY &amp; CASELOAD CIRCUIT COURT

## CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS BY DIVISION

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Family	259,821	262,628	237,651	219,330	223,499	221,274
Nonfamily	109,291	114,193	117,941	116,241	113,024	113,690
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>369,112</b>	<b>376,821</b>	<b>355,592</b>	<b>335,571</b>	<b>336,523</b>	<b>334,964</b>



In 2005, 334,964 cases were filed in the circuit court. Of that total, 221,274 cases, or 66.1 percent, were family division filings and 113,690 cases, or 33.9 percent, were non-family filings.

Family division filings have decreased since a peak of 262,628 cases in 2001. Family division filings include domestic relations, proceedings under the juvenile code, proceedings under the adoption code, personal protection, other family proceedings, and ancillary proceedings.

Non-family division filings include civil cases, criminal cases, appeals, administrative cases, extraordinary writs, and court of claims cases.

## CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL CASE FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

Filings	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
General Civil	21,460	25,194	28,628	28,287	26,064	26,050
Auto Negligence	9,381	9,886	9,998	10,185	9,435	9,162
Non-Auto Damage	11,703	11,311	10,118	9,439	8,789	7,436
Other Civil	3,572	4,054	2,191	2,222	2,292	2,092
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>46,116</b>	<b>50,445</b>	<b>50,935</b>	<b>50,133</b>	<b>46,580</b>	<b>44,740</b>

Dispositions	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
General Civil	23,141	25,545	27,581	28,789	28,084	28,162
Auto Negligence	10,057	10,594	10,101	10,136	10,313	10,141
Non-Auto Damage	12,851	12,831	10,699	10,112	11,059	9,184
Other Civil	3,724	3,804	2,046	2,130	2,204	2,045
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>49,773</b>	<b>52,774</b>	<b>50,427</b>	<b>51,167</b>	<b>51,660</b>	<b>49,532</b>

Beginning in 2002, cases removed as inactive were excluded from the dispositions.

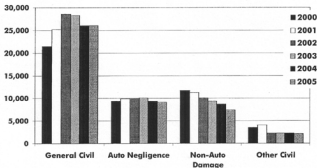
## MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2005, 40 percent of the non-family division filings in circuit court were general civil, auto negligence, non-auto damage, and other civil cases. General civil filings decreased by a nominal amount between 2004 and 2005. Fewer auto negligence, non-auto damage, and other civil cases were filed in 2005 than in any year between 1999 and 2005.

The number of civil cases disposed of or made inactive exceeded the number of civil cases filed or reopened. The statewide clearance rate for civil cases was 106.4 percent.

Over 42 percent of civil cases were disposed by default, consent judgment, settlement, or summary disposition. Almost 40 percent of civil cases were dismissed by the plaintiff. Slightly more than 2 percent were disposed of by a jury verdict or a bench verdict. SCAO does not collect the findings of these verdicts.

## CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL CASE FILINGS



## CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL CASE DISPOSITIONS

