Structure of the Ohio Judicial System

SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice and Six Justices

Court of last resort on state constitutional questions of public or great general interest; appeals from the Board of Tax Appeals and Public Utilities Commission; all death sentences; original jurisdiction in select cases

COURTS OF APPEAL

12 Courts, 68 Judges, Three Panel Judges

Appellate review of judgments of common pleas, municipal and county courts; appeals from Board of Tax Appeals; original jurisdiction in select cases

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS

88 Courts, 387 Judges

General Division

Civil and criminal cases; appeals from most administrative agencies

Domestic Relations Division

Divorces and dissolutions; support and custody of children

Juvenile Division

Offenses involving minors; most paternity actions

Probate Division

Decedents' estates; mental illness; adoptions; marriage licenses

MUNICIPAL COURTS

125 Courts, 208 Judges

Misdemeanor offenses; traffic cases; civil actions up to $15,000

COUNTY COURTS

41 Courts, 47 Judges

Misdemeanor offenses; traffic cases; civil actions up to $15,000

COURT OF CLAIMS

Judges assigned by the Chief Justice

All suits against the state for personal injury, property damage, contract and wrongful death; compensation for victims of crime.
Three-judge panels upon request

MAYOR'S COURTS

APPROXIMATELY 329 MAYORS

Violations of local ordinances and state traffic laws
Not courts of record