



## Annual citation filings

This metric calculates the frequency of **criminal citations filed** with the Hawai'i Judiciary in a fiscal year. This metric includes District Criminal Citation (DCC) cases. These cases include misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor charges that stem from the issuance of a criminal citation, rather than an arrest and booking. The data is analyzed by the most serious offense level in a case, since many people are charged with more than one offense.

The statistics presented for this metric include only District Criminal Citation (DCC) cases statewide and by circuit. Statistics for other case types are reported separately.

**Note about misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors:** Charges filed in DCC cases involve misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor charges that stem from a criminal citation (also referred to as citation in lieu of arrest). DCC cases encompass many, but not all misdemeanor charges that are filed in court. District Complaint Written (DCW) cases also involve misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor charges, and result from an arrest and booking. The decision to cite or arrest someone for misdemeanor or petty misdemeanor charges is decided by law enforcement. *The frequency of criminal case filings provided here for misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors should not be used to generalize to all misdemeanor cases.*

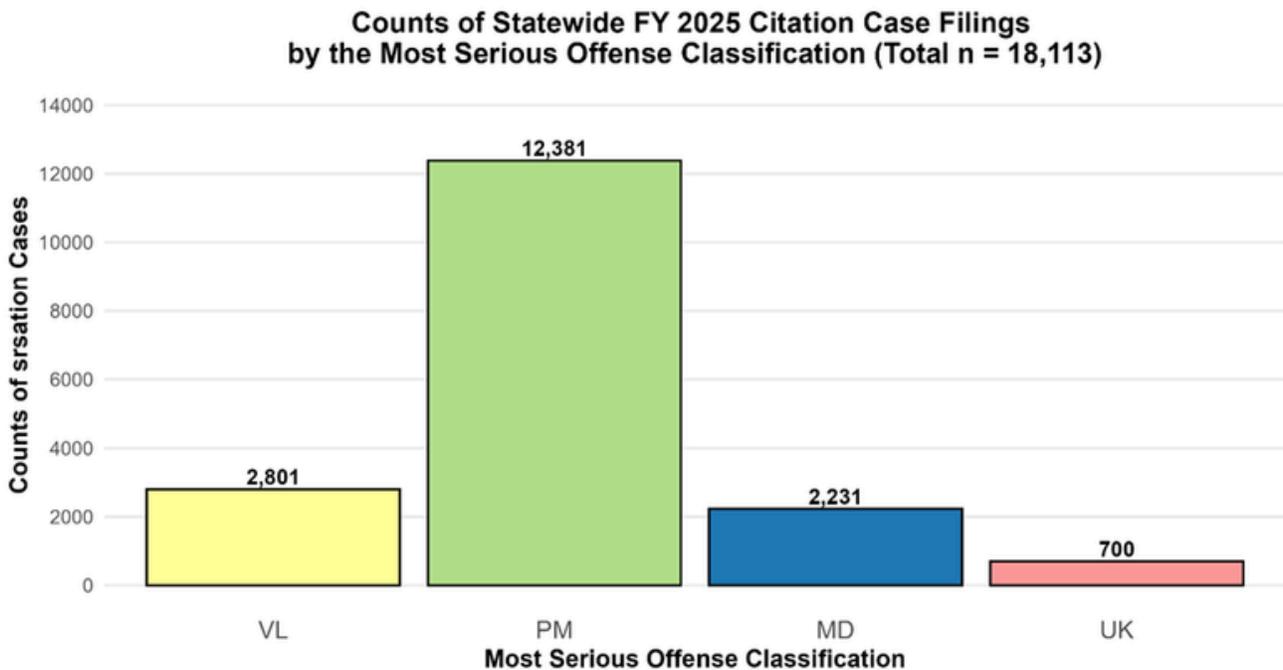


## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Statewide

There were 18,113 criminal citation filings statewide in FY 2025. There were an average of 1,509 criminal citation filings per month. The most serious offense in a criminal citation was most frequently petty misdemeanors (68%), followed by violations (16%), and misdemeanors (12%).

Figure 1



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).

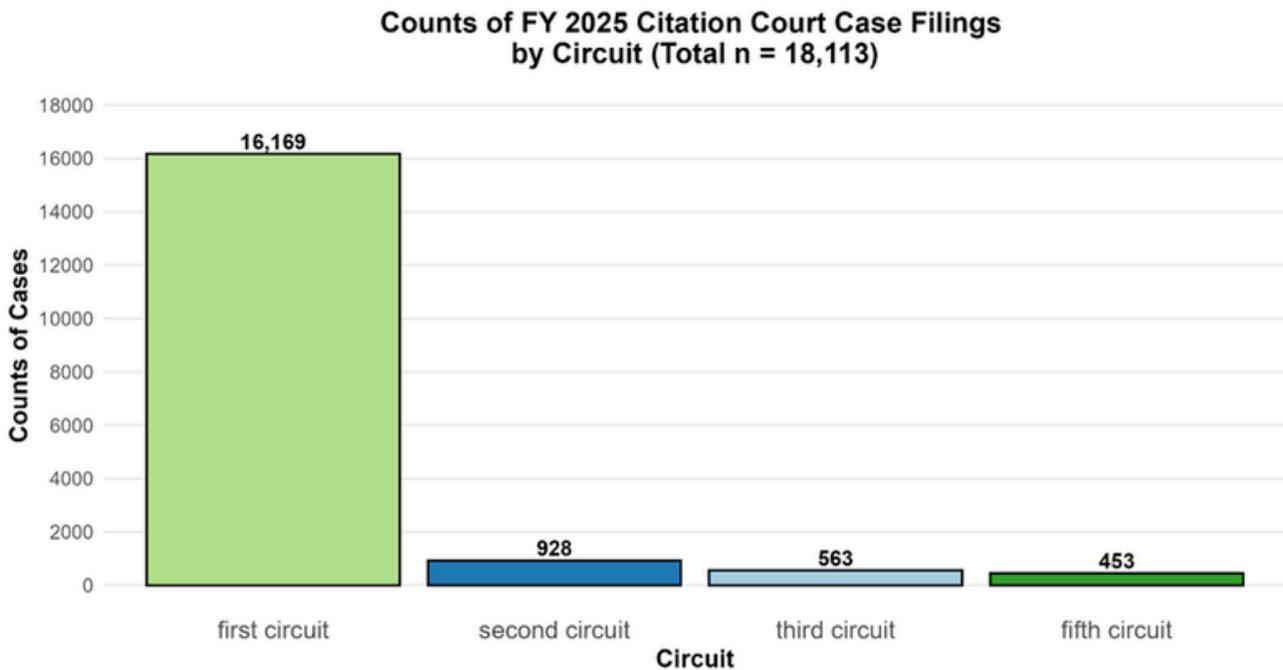


## Annual citation filings (cont).

### By Circuit

The First Circuit - City and County of Honolulu had the highest frequency of criminal citations statewide in FY 2025 (90%) followed by the Second Circuit - Maui County (5%), the Third Circuit - Hawai'i County (3%), and the Fifth Circuit - Kaua'i County (2%).

Figure 2



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).



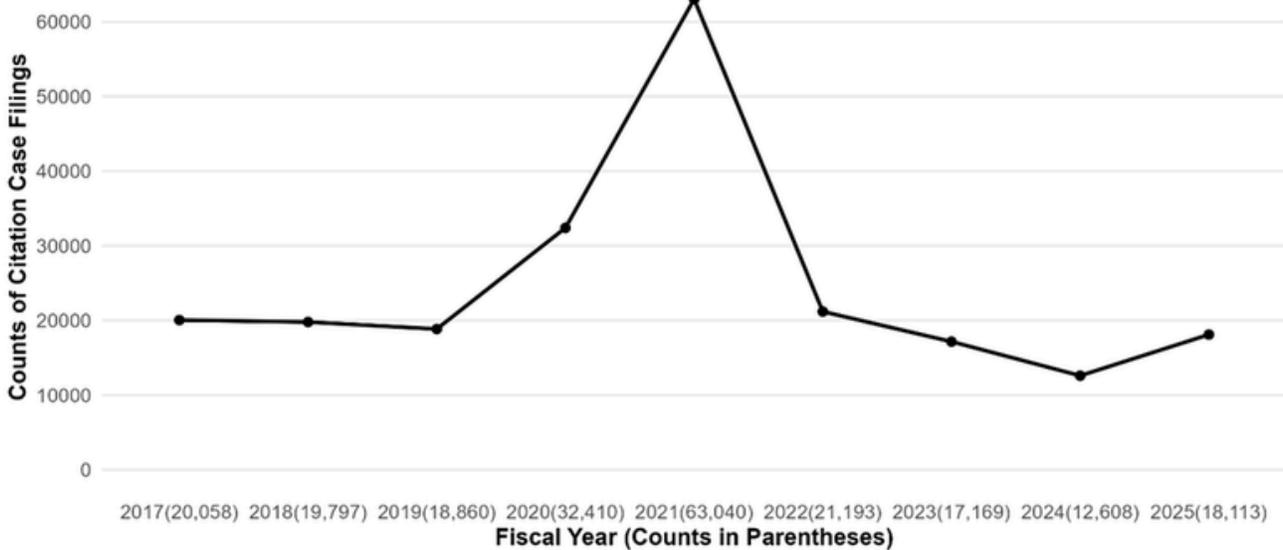
## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Year to Year, Statewide

In FYs 2017 through 2025, there were 223,248 criminal citations issued statewide. There were an average of 24,805 criminal citations issued per year. FY 2021 had the highest count of criminal citations issued during this timeframe (63,043), and FY 2024 had the lowest count of citations issued (12,608).

**Figure 3**

**Frequency of Statewide Citation Case Filings from FY 2017 to 2025 (Total n = 223,248)**



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).



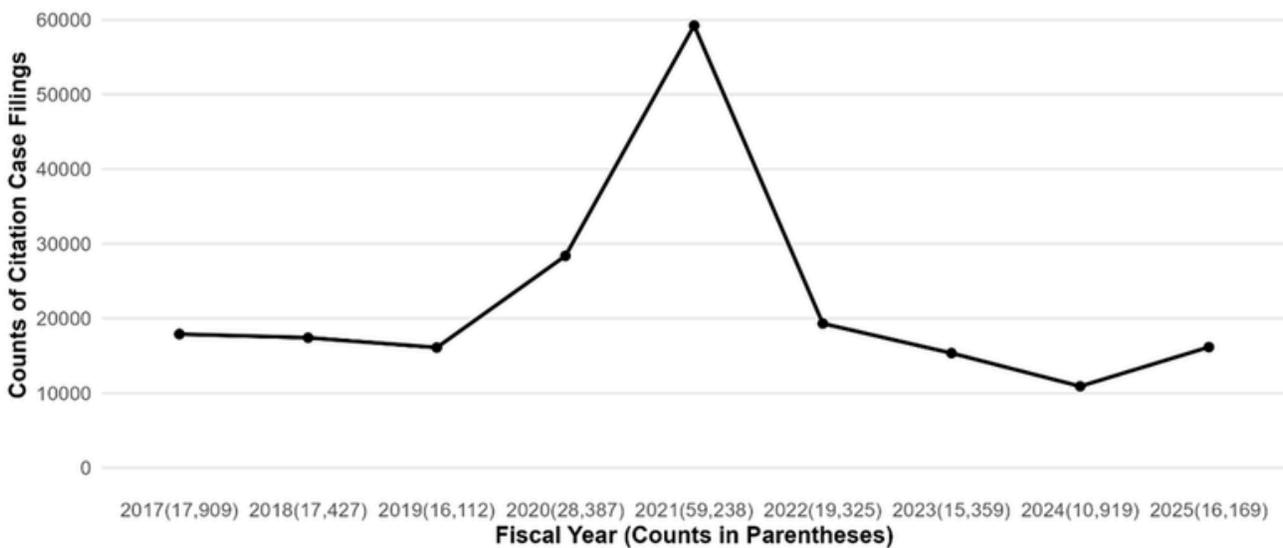
## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Year to Year, First Circuit - City and County of Honolulu

In FYs 2017 through 2025, there were 200,845 criminal citations issued in the First Circuit. There were an average of 22,316 criminal citations issued per year. FY 2021 had the highest count of criminal citations issued during this timeframe (59,238), and FY 2024 had the lowest count of citations issued (10,919).

**Figure 4**

**Frequency of First Circuit Citation Case Filings from FY 2017 to 2025 (Total n = 200,845)**



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).

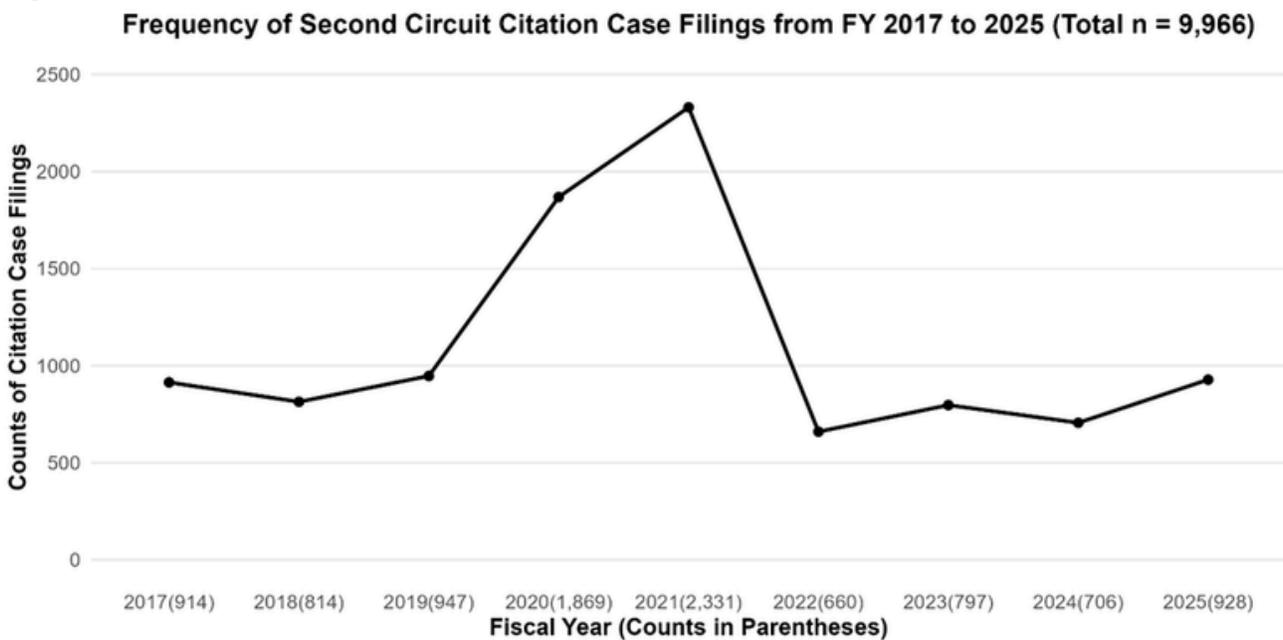


## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Year to Year, Second Circuit - Maui County

In FYs 2017 through 2025, there were 9,966 criminal citations issued in the Second Circuit. There were an average of 1,107 criminal citations issued per year. FY 2021 had the highest count of criminal citations issued during this timeframe (2,331), and FY 2022 had the lowest count of citations issued (660).

Figure 5



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).

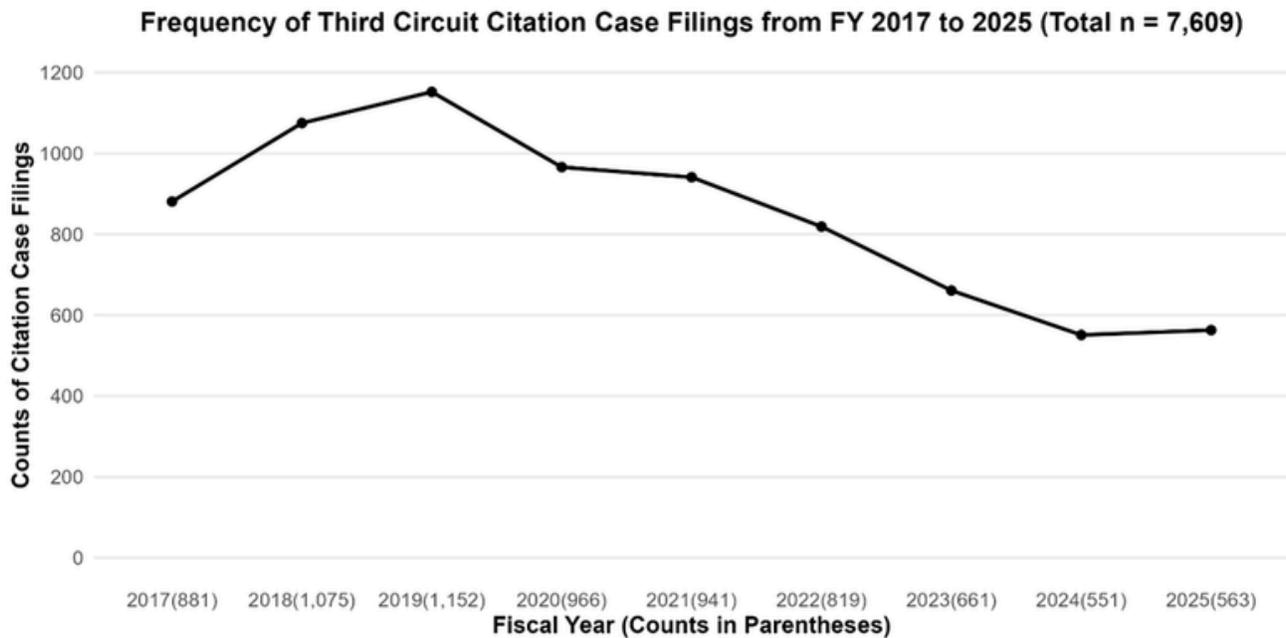


## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Year to Year, Third Circuit - Hawai'i County

In FYs 2017 through 2025, there were 7,609 criminal citations issued in the Third Circuit. There were an average of 845 criminal citations issued per year. FY 2019 had the highest count of criminal citations issued during this timeframe (1,152), and FY 2025 had the lowest count of citations issued (563).

Figure 6



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).



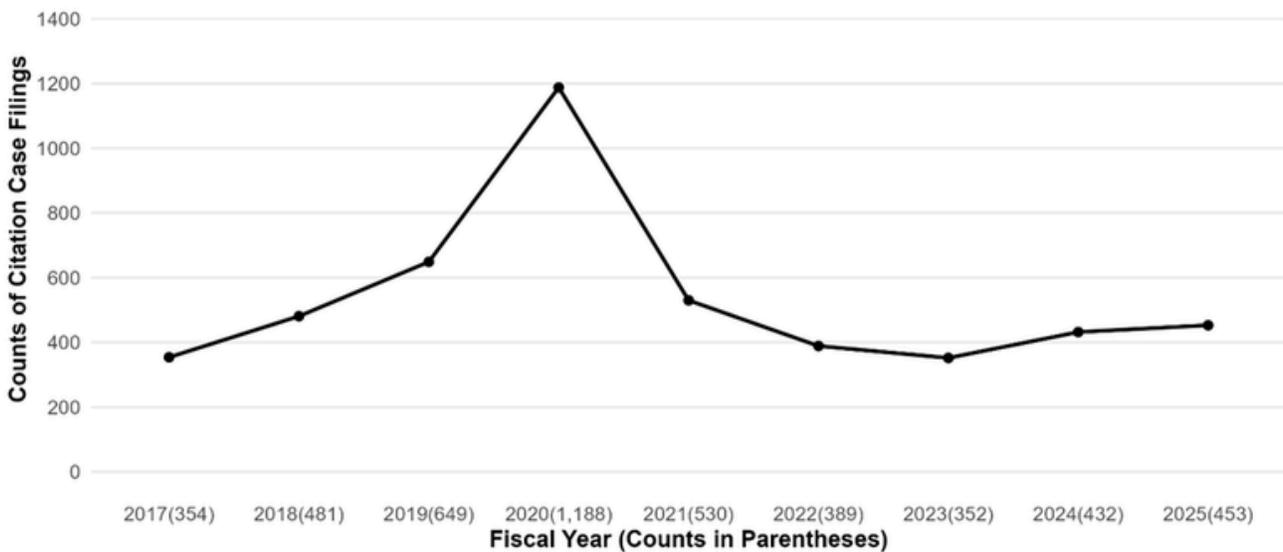
## Annual citation filings (cont).

### Year to Year, Fifth Circuit - Kaua'i County

In FYs 2017 through 2025, there were 4,828 criminal citations issued in the Fifth Circuit. There were an average of 536 criminal citations issued per year. FY 2020 had the highest count of criminal citations issued during this timeframe (1,188), and FY 2023 had the lowest count of citations issued (352).

**Figure 7**

**Frequency of Fifth Circuit Citation Case Filings from FY 2017 to 2025 (Total n = 4,828)**



For notes regarding how this metric was calculated, please see [page 10](#).



## Annual citation filings (cont.)

### Takeaways

- There were 18,113 criminal citation filings statewide in FY 2025, averaging 1,509 citation filings a month.
- The First Circuit had the highest count of criminal citation cases, followed by the Second Circuit, Third Circuit, and Fifth Circuit.
- Petty misdemeanors were the most frequent most serious offense charge in criminal citation cases statewide, followed by violations, and misdemeanors.
- Statewide and in the First Circuit, FY 2021 had the highest count of criminal citation cases and was unique due to the emergency orders in place during 2020, which could be enforced with citations. FY 2024 had the lowest count of citation cases for statewide and First Circuit. Generally, year-to-year trends statewide and in the First Circuit mirrored one another.
  - In the Second Circuit, criminal citation cases peaked in FY 2021 and fell to their lowest filing rate the following year in FY 2022.
  - In the Third Circuit, criminal citation cases were the most frequent in FY 2019 and steadily declined in the following FYs.
  - In the Fifth Circuit, FY 2020 had the highest count of criminal citation cases and the lowest count of citations in FY 2023.



## Annual citation filings (cont.)

### Notes

- The chart on page 2 focuses on analyzing criminal citation filings by most serious offense. Citation cases can include multiple charges, and each charge can be a different offense level (one charge is a misdemeanor and another charge is a petty misdemeanor).
- These analyses do not include Traffic Crime (DTC) cases because of data limitations. DTC cases involve offenses like operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant (OVUII), driving without a license, and driving without insurance.
- Citation filings do not equate to people. Individuals may be counted in this measure more than once if they had more than one citation filed in FY 2025.
- Table abbreviations:
  - HAR: Hawai'i Administrative Rules
  - HRS: Hawai'i Revised Statutes
  - ROH: Revised Ordinances of City and County of Honolulu
  - MD: Misdemeanor
  - PM: Petty Misdemeanor
  - VL: Violation
  - UK: Unknown
    - The offense severity for the charges in these cases is unknown.



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