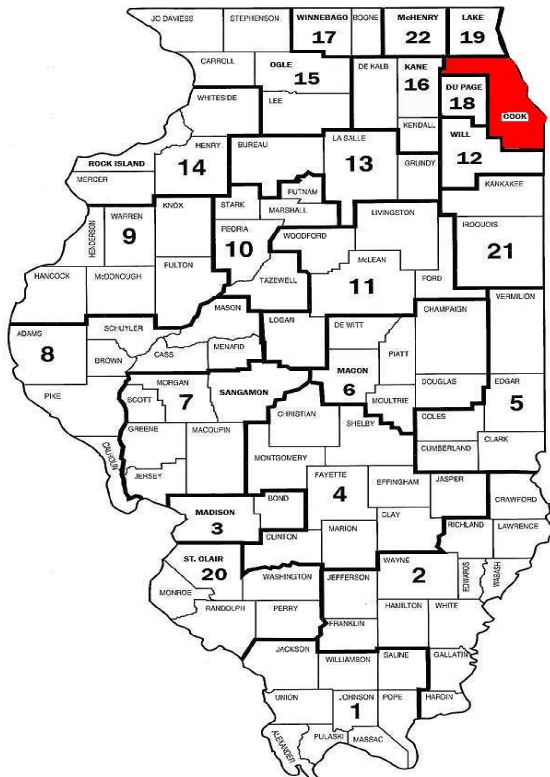


Circuit Court of Cook County

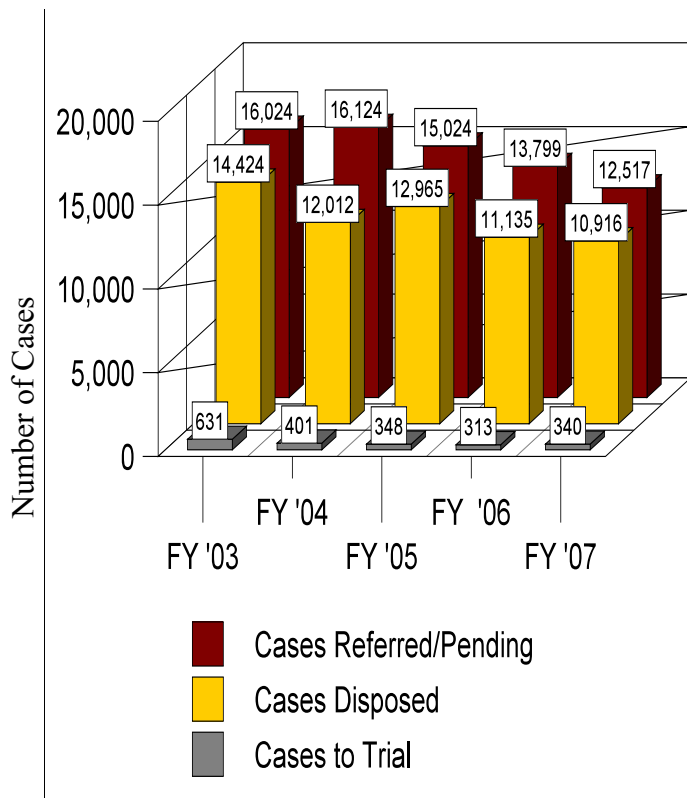
Arbitration Program Information



As a general jurisdiction trial court, the Circuit Court of Cook County is the largest unified court in the nation. The Supreme Court granted approval to implement an arbitration program in Cook County in January 1990. The arbitration center is located in downtown Chicago. A supervising judge oversees arbitration program matters and is assisted by an arbitration program administrator and deputy administrator.

Cook County

Five-Year Disposition Trend



While cases referred to Cook County's arbitration program vary annually, an average of 13,361 cases per year were referred to arbitration over the past five state fiscal years.

The chart to the left presents information regarding the total number of cases litigated in arbitration which were either resolved during the arbitration process or, ultimately went to trial. Program data indicates that either a settlement or dismissal was reached in 87% (10,916 of 12,517 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Cook County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is higher than the five year average of 83% and statewide average of 81%.

Cook County

**State Fiscal Year 2007
Cook County*
At A Glance Arbitration Caseload
Information**

Number of Cases Pending / Referred to Arbitration	12,517
Number of Cases Settled / Dismissed	10,916
Number of Arbitration Hearings	8,957
Number of Awards Accepted	2,102
Number of Awards Rejected ...	4,894
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration which Proceeded to Trial	340

*Only jurisdiction with a limit of \$30,000 for arbitration cases; others are \$50,000.

The data for Cook County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Cook County, less than 3% of the cases (340 of the 12,517) filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.