

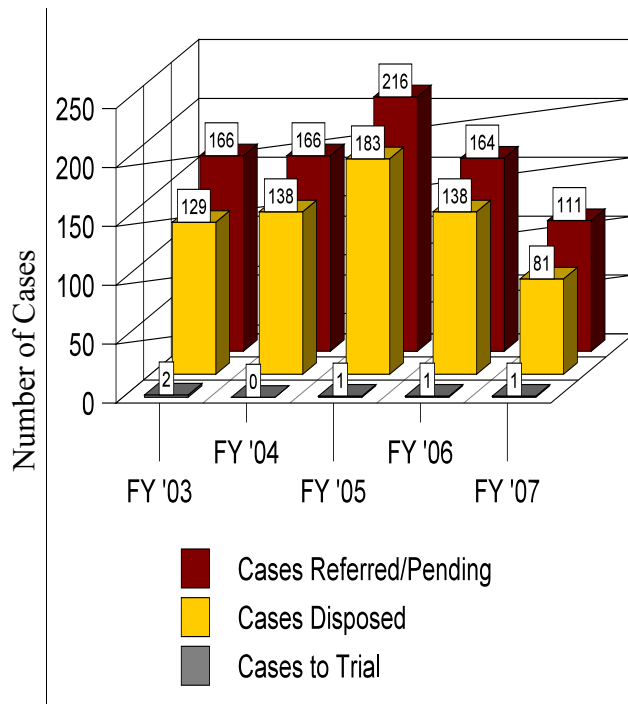
## Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

(Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties)

### Arbitration Program Information

The Fourteenth Judicial Circuit is comprised of Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties. In November 1999, the Supreme Court authorized the inception of the program and arbitration hearings began in October 2000. This circuit is the first to receive permanent authorization to hear cases with damage claims up to \$50,000. Hearings are conducted in the arbitration center located in Rock Island. A supervising judge oversees arbitration matters for all counties and is assisted by a trial court administrator and arbitration program assistant.

### Henry County Five - Year Disposition Trend



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 73% (81 of 111 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Henry County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is lower than the five year average and statewide averages of 81%.

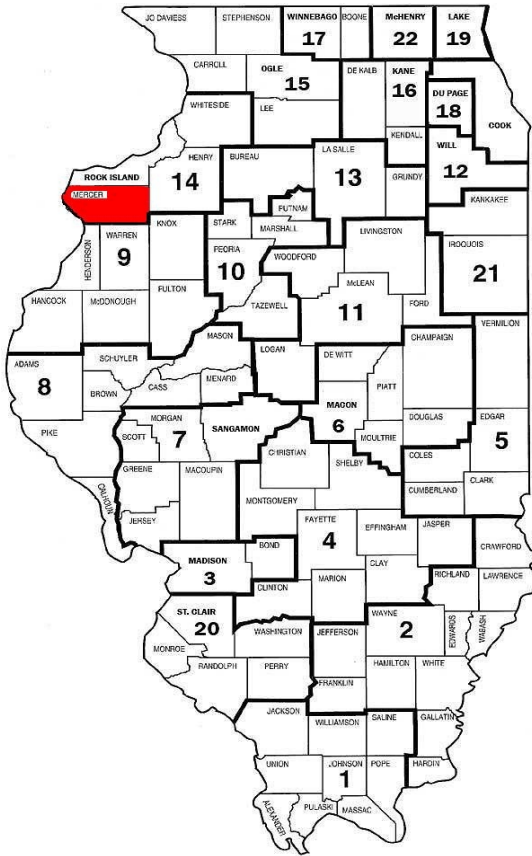
Henry County

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

Number of Cases Pending / Referred to Arbitration .....	111
Number of Cases Settled /Dismissed .....	81
Number of Arbitration Hearings .....	5
Number of Awards Accepted .....	3
Number of Awards Rejected .....	1
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration which Proceeded to Trial .....	1

While cases referred to Henry County's arbitration program increased annually from 2003 through 2005, the same cannot be said for the past two years. The decrease in cases referred to arbitration may be directly attributable to Supreme Court Rule 281 which raised the small claims jurisdiction to \$10,000 thereby reducing the number of cases eligible for mandatory arbitration. From 2003 through 2007, an annual average of 125 cases have been referred to arbitration.

The data for Henry County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Henry County, only one of the cases filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.



## Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

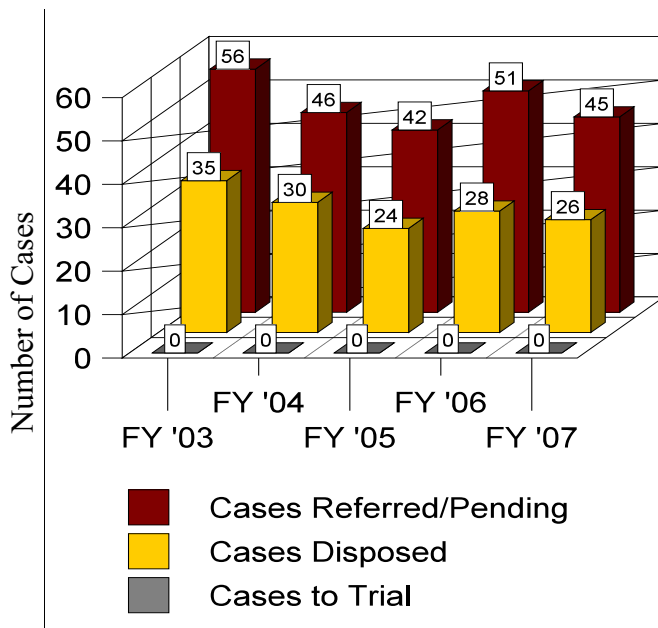
(Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties)

### Mercer County

While cases referred to Mercer County's arbitration program vary annually, an average of 29 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 58% (26 of 45 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Mercer County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is slightly lower than the five year average of 61% and is significantly less than the statewide average of 81%.

### Mercer County Five - Year Disposition Trend

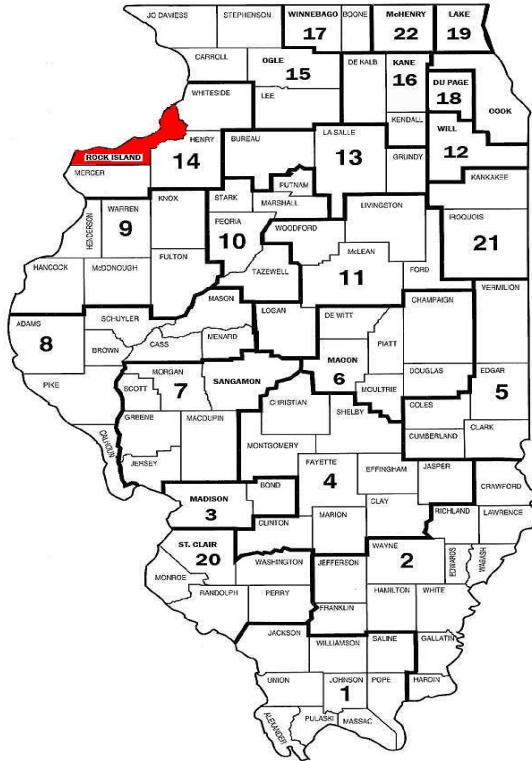


Mercer County

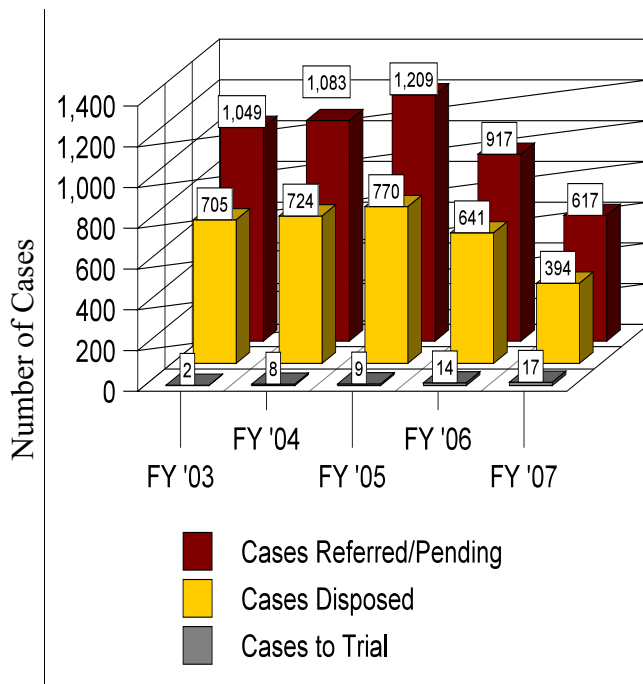
**State Fiscal Year 2007  
Mercer County  
At A Glance Arbitration  
Caseload Information**

Number of Cases Pending / Referred to Arbitration .....	45
Number of Cases Settled / Dismissed .....	26
Number of Arbitration Hearings .	3
Number of Awards Accepted ....	1
Number of Awards Rejected ....	0
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration which Proceeded to Trial .....	0

The data for Mercer County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Mercer County, none of the cases litigated in arbitration proceeded to trial.



**Rock Island County**  
Five-Year Disposition Trend



## Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

(Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties)

### Rock Island County

While cases referred to Rock Island County's arbitration program increased annually from 2003 through 2005, the same cannot be said for the past two years. The decrease in cases referred to arbitration may be directly attributable to Supreme Court Rule 281 which raised the small claims jurisdiction to \$10,000 thereby reducing the number of cases eligible for mandatory arbitration. From 2003 through 2007, an annual average of 631 cases have been referred to arbitration.

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 64% (394 of 617 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Rock Island County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is lower than the five year average of 70% and significantly less than the statewide average of 81%.

**Rock Island County**

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

Number of Cases Pending / Referred  
to Arbitration ..... 617  
Number of Cases Settled /  
Dismissed ..... 394  
Number of Arbitration Hearings 74  
Number of Awards Accepted .... 9  
Number of Awards Rejected ... 38  
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration  
which Proceeded to Trial .... 17

The data for Rock Island County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Rock Island County, less than 3% of the cases (17 of the 617) filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.



## Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

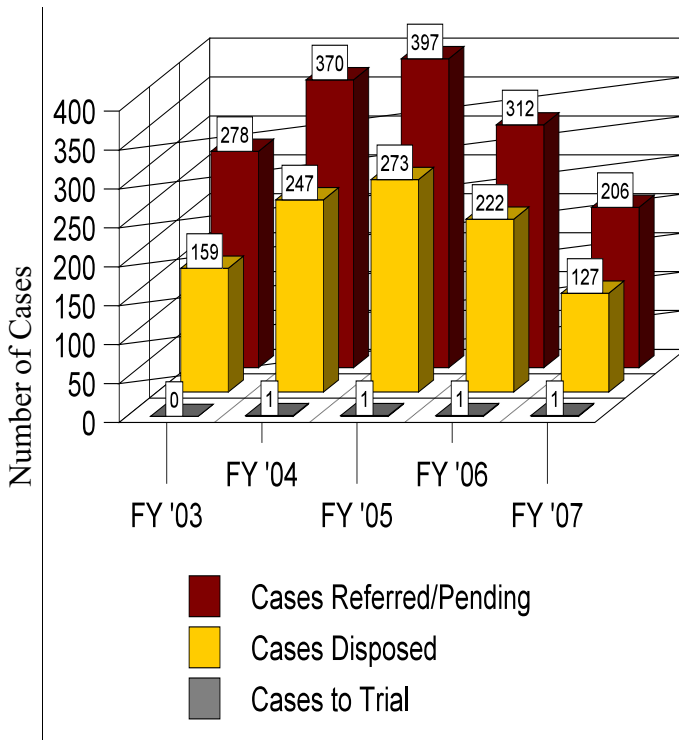
(Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties)

### Whiteside County

While cases referred to Whiteside County's arbitration program vary annually, an average of 205 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 62% (127 of 206 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Whiteside County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is slightly lower than the five year average of 65% and significantly less than the statewide average of 81%.

**Whiteside County  
Five-Year Disposition Trend**



**Whiteside County**



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

Number of Cases Pending /	
Referred to Arbitration .....	206
Number of Cases Settled	
/Dismissed .....	127
Number of Arbitration Hearings ...	14
Number of Awards Accepted .....	0
Number of Awards Rejected .....	6
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration	
which Proceeded to Trial .....	1

The data for Whiteside County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Whiteside County, only one case filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.