

Circuit Court of Cook County

Arbitration Caseload FY 10	
Cases Pending/Referred to Arbitration	12,720
Cases Settled/Dismissed	9,882
Arbitration Hearings	7,274
Awards Accepted	1,765
Awards Rejected	3,528
Cases Filed in Arbitration that Proceeded to Trial	320

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.

While the number of cases referred to Cook County's arbitration program vary annually, on average, 13,188 cases per year have been referred to, or are pending in, arbitration over the past five state fiscal years.

The table 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 indicate that either a settlement or dismissal was reached in 78 percent (9,882 of 12,720 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Cook County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2010. This disposition rate is less than the five-year average of 81 percent and higher than the statewide average of 75 percent.



The data for Cook County's 2010 arbitration operations are reflected in the graphs below. In Cook County, less than three percent of the cases (320 of 12,720) filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.

