

District Court Filings in Iowa (2011-2025)

Calendar Year	Civil	Serious Criminal	Simple Misdemeanors	Juvenile	MH/SA Commitment	Probate	Small Claims & Infractions	Total
2011	81,535	86,891	635,034	12,668	11,904	14,297	83,112	925,441
2012	73,621	88,462	626,791	12,668	12,470	14,051	80,307	908,370
2013	68,221	87,691	580,533	12,407	12,706	14,051	73,022	848,631
2014	64,127	83,868	542,344	11,303	13,087	14,292	70,463	799,484
2015	60,436	83,156	490,655	10,883	13,501	14,446	66,896	739,973
2016	59,511	85,829	491,309	11,172	14,133	13,943	69,968	745,865
2017	65,603	87,731	491,165	12,128	14,197	14,394	79,727	764,945
2018	61,744	93,105	475,723	12,088	13,709	14,325	87,380	758,074
2019	61,520	90,789	469,812	11,304	13,421	13,446	86,808	747,100
2020	50,292	79,129	380,582	8,813	12,764	13,216	68,117	612,913
2021	51,284	85,493	416,008	8,972	13,796	13,839	71,834	661,226
2022	51,548	84,041	417,528	9,811	12,632	13,647	72,662	661,869
2023	53,296	85,865	441,232	10,080	12,670	13,094	83,167	699,404
2024	55,362	82,990	459,604	9,485	12,261	12,804	90,021	722,527
2025	58,665	82,694	451,840	8,641	11,758	12,571	97,339	723,508

Percent Change in Court Filings, 2011-2025

Civil	Serious Criminal	Simple Misdemeanors	Juvenile	MH/SA Commitment	Probate	Small Claims & Infractions	Total
-28.0%	-4.8%	-28.8%	-31.8%	-1.2%	-12.1%	17.1%	-21.8%
<i>Excluding Simple Misdemeanors</i>							-6.5%

Percent Change in Court Filings, 2024-2025

Civil	Serious Criminal	Simple Misdemeanors	Juvenile	MH/SA Commitment	Probate	Small Claims & Infractions	Total
6.0%	-0.4%	-1.7%	-8.9%	-4.1%	-1.8%	8.1%	0.1%
<i>Excluding Simple Misdemeanors</i>							3.3%

Notes:

- 1) Table data updated for the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) by State Court Administration on August 14, 2026.
- 2) Civil filings include civil contract and personal injury cases over \$5,000, domestic relations, real property, mortgage foreclosures, small claims appeals, and contempt actions. They do not include filings for distress warrants, foreign judgments, liens, seized property hearings, and transcripts of judgment.
- 3) Serious criminal filings include felonies, serious and aggravated misdemeanors, and probation revocations.
- 4) Simple misdemeanor filings include mostly State traffic violations plus other simple misdemeanors.
- 5) Juvenile filings include juvenile delinquency, child in need of assistance (CINA), family in need of assistance (FINA), and parental notification cases. They do not include juvenile commitment cases.
- 6) MH/SA commitment filings refer to juvenile and adult mental health (MH) or substance abuse (SA) hospitalization/commitment cases filed.