				nber of endants		Contents of charging document		
State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
ALABAMA:								_
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				Χ	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/ warrant	Х				X	
ALASKA:								_
Superior Court	G	Indictment	X		multiple o	counts	Χ	
District Court	L	Complaint	Х		multiple (	counts	Χ	
ARIZONA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	X					X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint				Va	aries with jurisd	iction*
Municipal Court	L	Complaint				Va	aries with jurisd	iction*
ARKANSAS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х		X			X
District Court	L	Complaint	X					
City Court	L	Complaint	Х					
CALIFORNIA:								
Superior Court	G	Complaint/ indictment	Х				Χ	
COLORADO:								
District Court	G	Information/ advisement	Χ					Χ
County Court	L	Complaint/ summons	Χ					X
CONNECTICUT:								
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X	
DELAWARE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	X					Χ
Family Court	L	Complaint	X				Χ	
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint	Χ				X	
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	Х				X	
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:								
Superior Court	G	Complaint/ information/ indictment	Х				Х	
FLORIDA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictments	X			(	prosecutor dec	ides)
County Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ	
GEORGIA:			_					_
Superior Court	G	Indictment/ accusation		X			Χ	

				nber of ndants		Contents of charging document			
		Point of counting a	<u>ucic</u>	One or	Singlo	Single incident (set # of charges	Single incident (unlimited #	One or more	
State/court name:	Jurisdiction	criminal case	One	more	Single charge	per case)	of charges)	incidents	
GEORGIA (continued):			'						
State Court	L	Accusation/ citation		Х			X		
Magistrate Court	L	Accusation/ citation	Χ				Χ		
Probate Court	L	Accusation/ citation	Х				X		
Municipal Court	L	Accusation/ citation	X				Χ		
County Recorder's Court	L	Accusation/ citation	Х				Х		
City Court	L	Accusation/ citation	X				Х		
HAWAI'I:		Citation							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/ indictment/ information/ commitment	Vá	aries			Х	(most serious charge)	
District Court	L	Information/ complaint	Χ		X				
IDAHO:		Complaint							
District Court	G	Citation		X				Х	
Magistrates Division	L	Information/ complaint		X				X	
ILLINOIS:		, , , ,							
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment		Х			Х		
INDIANA:									
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	X				Χ	(may not be consistent)	
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/ indictment	X				Х	(may not be consistent)	
IOWA:								,	
District Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				Х		
KANSAS:									
District Court	G	First appearance	Χ				Χ		
Municipal Court	L	First appearance	Х				Х		
KENTUCKY:		Information/							
Circuit Court	G	indictment	Х				Χ		
District Court	L	Complaint/ citation	Χ				X		
LOUISIANA:									
District Court	G	Information/ Indictment/ Complaint	Vá	aries		Varies			
City and Parish Court	L	Information/ complaint	Χ			Varies			
MAINE:		- 1							
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X		
District Court	G	Information/ complaint	Х				Х		

				Number of defendants			Contents of charging document			
State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents		
MARYLAND:										
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment Citation/	Х				Χ			
District Court	L	information/ docket	X				Χ			
MASSACHUSETTS:										
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X			
Housing Court	L	Complaint	X				X			
District Court	L	Complaint	Χ				X			
Boston Municipal Ct.	L	Complaint	Χ				Χ			
Juvenile Court	L	Complaint	Χ				X			
MICHIGAN:										
Circuit Court	G	Information	Х				Х			
District Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			
MINNESOTA:		2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1								
District Court	G	Complaint*	X				X*			
MISSISSIPPI:		·								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	Х				Χ			
County Court	L	Indictment	Х				Χ			
Justice Court	L	Indictment	Х				X			
Municipal Court	L	Indictment	Х				Χ			
MISSOURI:										
Circuit Division of the Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х					Х		
Associate Circuit Division of the Circuit Court	G	Complaint/ information	Х					Χ		
MONTANA:										
District Court	G	Information/ indictment		Х			X			
Justice's Court	L	Complaint	Х				Х			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Χ				Χ			
City Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			
NEBRASKA:										
District Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X	(not consistently observed statewide)		
County Court	L	Information/ complaint	Х				Х			
NEVADA:										
District Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			

			Number of defendants			Contents of charging document			
				ndanto		Single incident (set # of	Single incident	dodamont	
0		Point of counting a	0	One or	Single	charges	(unlimited #	One or more	
State/court name: NEW HAMPSHIRE:	Jurisdiction	criminal case	One	more	charge	per case)	of charges)	incidents	
	0	Information/	V				V		
Superior Court	G	indictment	Х				Х		
District Court	L	Complaint	Х				Х		
NEW JERSEY:		1 8 4 4							
Superior Court (Law Division)	G	Indictment/ accusation	X				Χ		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Х		X				
NEW MEXICO:	_								
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X		
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				Χ		
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	Χ				Χ		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				Χ		
NEW YORK:									
Supreme Court	G	Indictment	Χ			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
County Court	G	Indictment	Χ			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
Criminal Court of the	L	Docket	Х			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
City of New York District Court and City Court	L	Docket	Х			Varies depending on prosecutor			
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Docket	Х			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
NORTH CAROLINA:									
Superior Court	G	Indictment/ transfer	Х			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
District Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х			Varies	depending on	prosecutor	
NORTH DAKOTA:									
District Court	G	Information	Х				Χ		
Municipal Court	L	Information	Х				X		
OHIO:									
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	Χ				Χ		
County Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х				Χ		
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х				X		
Mayor's Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х				X		
OKLAHOMA:									
District Court	G	Information/ indictment		Х				X	
OREGON:									
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/ indictment	Х				X		
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		(numb	per of charge	s not consistent	t statewide)	
Municipal Court	1	Complaint	Χ		X				

				Number of defendants			Contents of charging document			
State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents		
PENNSYLVANIA:										
Court of Common Pleas	G	Information	Х				X			
Magisterial District Judge	L	Complaint	Х				Х			
Philadelphia Municipal	L	Complaint	Х				Χ			
PUERTO RICO:										
Court of First Instance	G	Accusation	X		Χ					
RHODE ISLAND:								_		
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	X					X		
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X			
SOUTH CAROLINA:										
Circuit Court	G	Warrant/ summons/ direct indictment	Х				Х			
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant/ summons	X				X			
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х				Х			
SOUTH DAKOTA:										
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	Х					X		
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	Х					X		
TENNESSEE:										
Circuit and Criminal Court	G	Information/ indictment	X		х					
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported								
Municipal Court	L	No data reported								
TEXAS:										
District Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				X			
County-level Courts	L	Complaint/ information	X				X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		Χ					
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Χ		Χ					
UTAH:										
District Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х					X		
Justice Court	L	Citation/ information	Х				X			
VERMONT:										
District Court	G	Arraignment	Х					Χ		
Superior Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х				Х			
VIRGINIA:										
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х		Х					
District Court	L	Warrant/ summons	Х		Х					

				nber of				
			defe	ndants			nts of charging	document
State/court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
WASHINGTON:								
Superior Court	G	Information	X				X (Typically no more than 2 charges)	
District Court	L	Complaint/ citation	Х			Χ		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/ citation	Х			Х		
WEST VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/ indictment	Х					X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X		Χ			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Χ		Χ			
WISCONSIN:								
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	Χ					X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/ citation*	Х			Х		
WYOMING:								
District Court	G	indictment/ bindover	Χ				Х	
Circuit Court	L	Citation/ complaint	Х		Χ			
Municipal Court	L	Citation/ complaint	Х		Χ			

Number of

#### JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.

L = Limited jurisdiction court.

#### FOOTNOTES\*

Arizona-Varies in limited jurisdiction courts. Prosecutor can file long form. Long form can involve one or more defendants and/or charges. Misdemeanors can also be included on citations.

Minnesota-District Court-During the transition to a new case management system (CMS), criminal cases are counted both at first appearance in those courts using the previous CMS and at the filing of the complaint in those courts using the new CMS. The unit of count for all gross misdemeanor and felony cases is single defendant-single charge, but for misdemeanor cases the unit of count is single defendant-one/more charges.

Wisconsin-Municipal Court-The disposition of the complaint/citation is the point at which a criminal case is counted.

Source: State administrative offices of the courts.