

SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA STATISTICS

I. Number of certiorari petitions¹ and original decisions² pending³ by Justice as of February 1, 2008, and for the preceding four years:

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Cobb, C.J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	10
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	18
See, J.					
Certiorari petitions	38	20	18	22	17
Original decisions	47	31	34	19	28
Lyons, J.					
Certiorari petitions	12	10	6	13	8
Original decisions	17	12	13	12	13
Woodall, J.					
Certiorari petitions	13	4	9	13	7
Original decisions	14	9	14	16	11

¹Petitions for certiorari to the Court of Civil Appeals and the Court of Criminal Appeals (proceedings seeking further review by this Court after disposition in a trial court and review by an intermediate appellate court).

²Original decisions consist of direct appeals (proceedings seeking review of a judgment of a trial court in this Court in civil cases where the amount in controversy exceeds \$50,000 or the relief sought is equitable), petitions for extraordinary writs (proceedings seeking review of orders entered during the pendency of a proceeding in a trial court or appellate court), petitions for permission to appeal (proceedings seeking review of a question of law arising during the pendency of a proceeding in a trial court), granted writs in petitions for certiorari (proceedings after this Court has determined further review is warranted of a decision by an intermediate appellate court), and certified questions from federal courts (proceedings where a federal court has referred a question of Alabama law arising in a case before the federal court to this Court for resolution).

³When each Justice assumes office, he or she assumes responsibility for cases previously assigned to other members of the Court. The initial number of cases pending as of February 1, 2005, for Justices Smith, Bolin, and Parker consists primarily of such cases. The initial number of cases pending as of February 1, 2007, for Chief Justice Cobb and Justice Murdock consists primarily of such cases.

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Stuart, J.					
Certiorari petitions	18	6	7	9	6
Original decisions	12	11	17	17	12
Smith, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	25	44	22	22
Original decisions	N/A	29	47	33	36
Bolin, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	25	8	20	25
Original decisions	N/A	36	51	54	42
Parker, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	25	53	52	42
Original decisions	N/A	33	66	71	84
Murdock, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	27
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	28	51

II. Average number of days between assignment and decision for decisions released by Justice as of February 1, 2008, and for the preceding four years:

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Cobb, C.J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	58
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	174
See, J.					
Certiorari petitions	115	101	79	96	94
Original decisions	231	180	184	151	137
Lyons, J.					
Certiorari petitions	44	37	37	36	36
Original decisions	76	80	86	86	77
Woodall, J.					
Certiorari petitions	54	43	38	37	36
Original decisions	95	73	65	78	85
Stuart, J.					
Certiorari petitions	42	42	34	33	36
Original decisions	78	103	81	94	86
Smith, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	122	111	86
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	238	297	296
Bolin, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	62	83	94
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	186	343	390
Parker, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	171	190	188
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	139	357	425
Murdock, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	84
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	257

III. Number of decisions⁴ released by Justice per year as of February 1, 2008, and for the preceding four years:

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Cobb, C.J. ⁵					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	32
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20
See, J.					
Certiorari petitions	107	109	92	87	78
Original decisions	76	65	59	66	49
Lyons, J.					
Certiorari petitions	107	88	94	84	81
Original decisions	63	65	49	54	53
Woodall, J.					
Certiorari petitions	114	100	88	87	80
Original decisions	72	58	50	42	57
Stuart, J.					
Certiorari petitions	127	99	86	83	76
Original decisions	65	49	47	52	54
Smith, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	63	111	72
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	31	53	39
Bolin, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	101	73	67
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	40	43	54

⁴These statistics do not reflect the following activities: (a) the Court often renders decisions on matters that are disposed of by a panel of the Court or the entire Court without assignment to a Justice; (b) a Justice may write a separate opinion in a case in which that Justice concurs specially, concurs in the result, or dissents; and (c) all Justices have administrative responsibilities.

⁵In its normal operation, the Court sits in two panels, each of which is composed of the Chief Justice and four Justices in alternating seniority. Thus, many cases can be disposed of by the vote of five Justices without requiring the participation of the other four Justices. Because the Chief Justice is required to participate in the case disposition in both panels, and because she has significant additional administrative duties, the Court's Internal Rule III.B.2. provides that she is assigned 1 of every 17 cases from each of the Court's assignment rosters, rather than 1 of every 9 cases. The Chief Justice's output for dispositions in the first year of her term is also skewed downward by the fact that, as a former Judge on the Court of Criminal Appeals, she was recused from most of the petitions for certiorari seeking review of the opinions of that court.

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Parker, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	57	88	83
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	2	29	32
Murdock, J.					
Certiorari petitions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	60
Original decisions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	26

IV. Filings⁶ and dispositions per year in the Supreme Court of Alabama as of February 1, 2008, and for the preceding four years:

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Filings	2163	1922	1919	1976	1776
Dispositions	2234	2011	1801	1899	1753

V. Average number of days that cases in which a decision⁷ has been released were pending⁸ in this Court as of February 1, 2008, and for the preceding four years:

	<u>2/1/04</u>	<u>2/1/05</u>	<u>2/1/06</u>	<u>2/1/07</u>	<u>2/1/08</u>
Certiorari Petitions	98	101	90	90	91
Original Decisions	275	279	281	331	356

⁶On November 17, 2003, the Supreme Court of Alabama adopted the Alabama Appellate Mediation Rules, which govern the procedure for referring appeals to appellate mediators. Those rules became effective on January 1, 2004, and the program has been successful in both the Supreme Court and the Court of Civil Appeals, having a substantial impact upon the number of cases assigned for decision.

⁷These statistics refer to the initial release of a decision in a case. The certificate of judgment indicating final disposition of a case is not issued until 14 days later, unless an application for rehearing is filed. In such event, additional time is necessary to issue a ruling on the application for rehearing.

⁸The number of days pending in this Court includes the time necessary for preparation of the record on appeal and the filing of briefs. These events occur before the assignment of the case to a Justice for preparation and circulation of a proposed opinion. The number of days pending also includes the time expended while awaiting special concurrences or dissents of other Justices after a majority of the Court has concurred in the release of a proposed opinion.