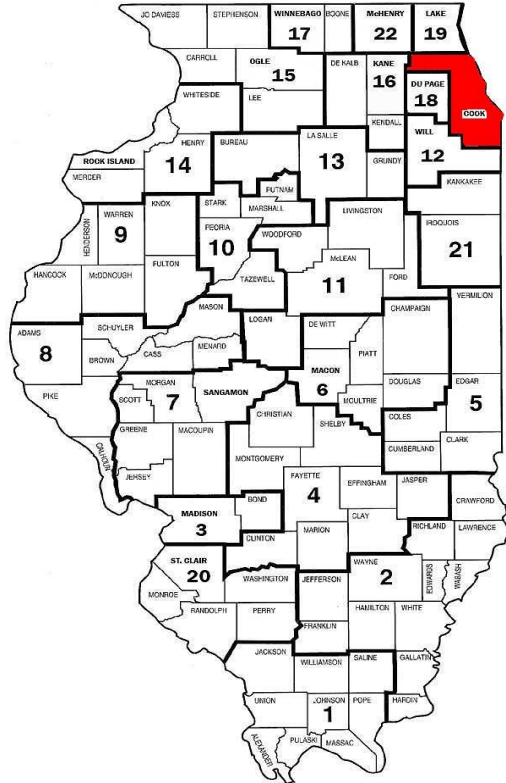


Circuit Court of Cook County Arbitration Program Information

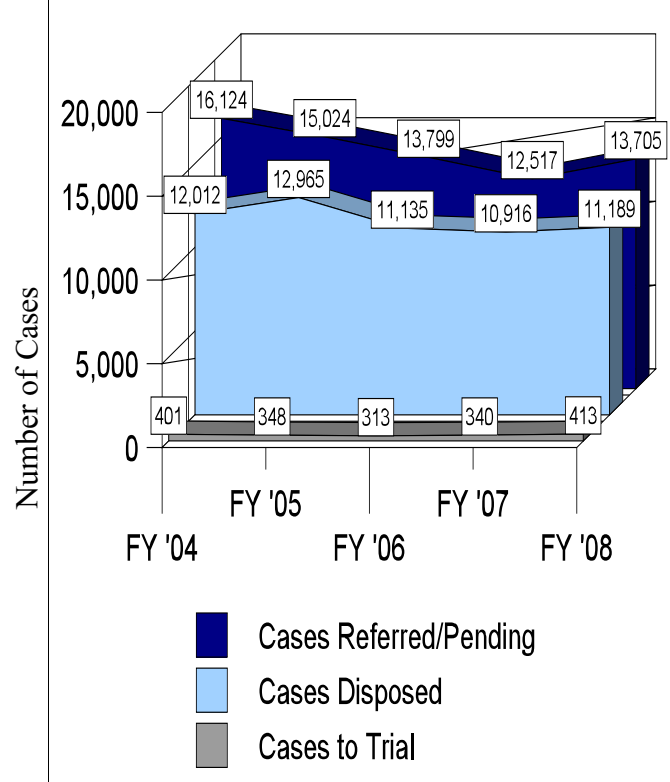
As a general jurisdiction trial court, the Circuit Court of Cook County is the largest unified court in the nation. The Supreme Court granted approval to implement an arbitration program in Cook County in January 1990. The arbitration center is located in downtown Chicago. A supervising judge oversees arbitration program matters and is assisted by an arbitration program administrator and deputy administrator.

While cases referred to Cook County's arbitration program vary annually, an average of 14,234 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 resolved during the arbitration process or ultimately went to trial. Program data indicates that 82% (11,189 of 13,705) of the cases filed in the Cook County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2008 were disposed. This disposition rate is consistent with the five year average of 82% but higher than the statewide average of 78%.



Cook County Five-Year Disposition Trend



Cook County

**State Fiscal Year 2008
Cook County*
At A Glance Arbitration Caseload
Information**

Number of Cases Pending / Referred to Arbitration	13,705
Number of Cases Disposed	11,189
Number of Arbitration Hearings	9,316
Number of Awards Accepted	2,061
Number of Awards Rejected	4,756
Number of Cases Filed in Arbitration which Proceeded to Trial	413

*Only jurisdiction with a limit of \$30,000 for arbitration cases; others are \$50,000.

The data for Cook County's 2008 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Cook County, only 3% of the cases (413 of the 13,705) filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.