

LITHUANIAN COURTS

PERFORMANCE RESULTS

» 2024

A reliable, wise, efficient,
and authoritative court is
the guarantee of a strong
rule of law.



At the end of 2024 **714** judges worked in 21 Lithuanian courts.

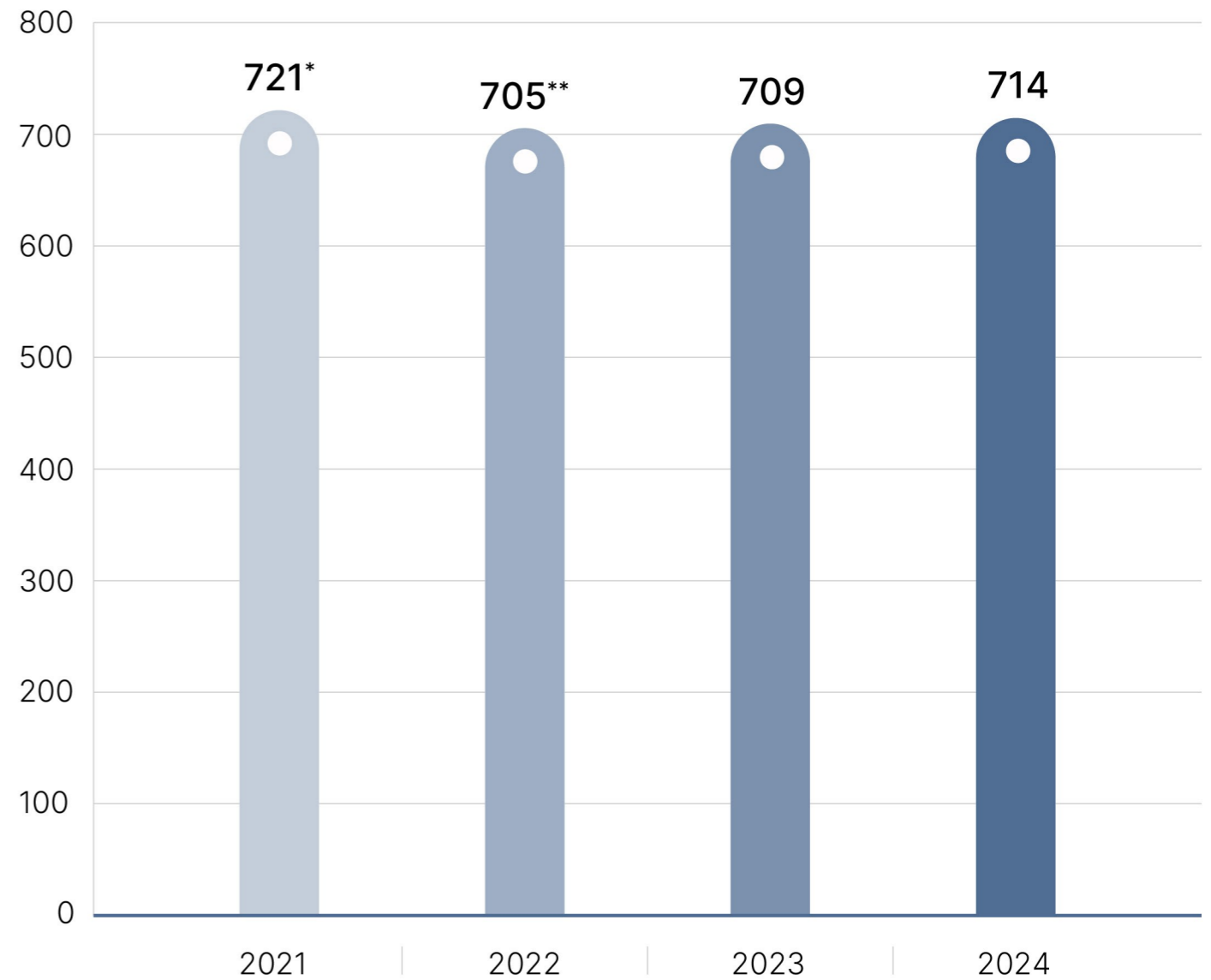
In 2024, **15** out of **28** newly appointed district court judges had previously worked as judicial assistants.



In 2024, **26** judges were dismissed from their judicial duties. 21 judges were dismissed upon the expiration of their term of office or upon reaching the statutory retirement age.

38 in 2021, 42 in 2022, and 28 in 2023.

Judicial Positions

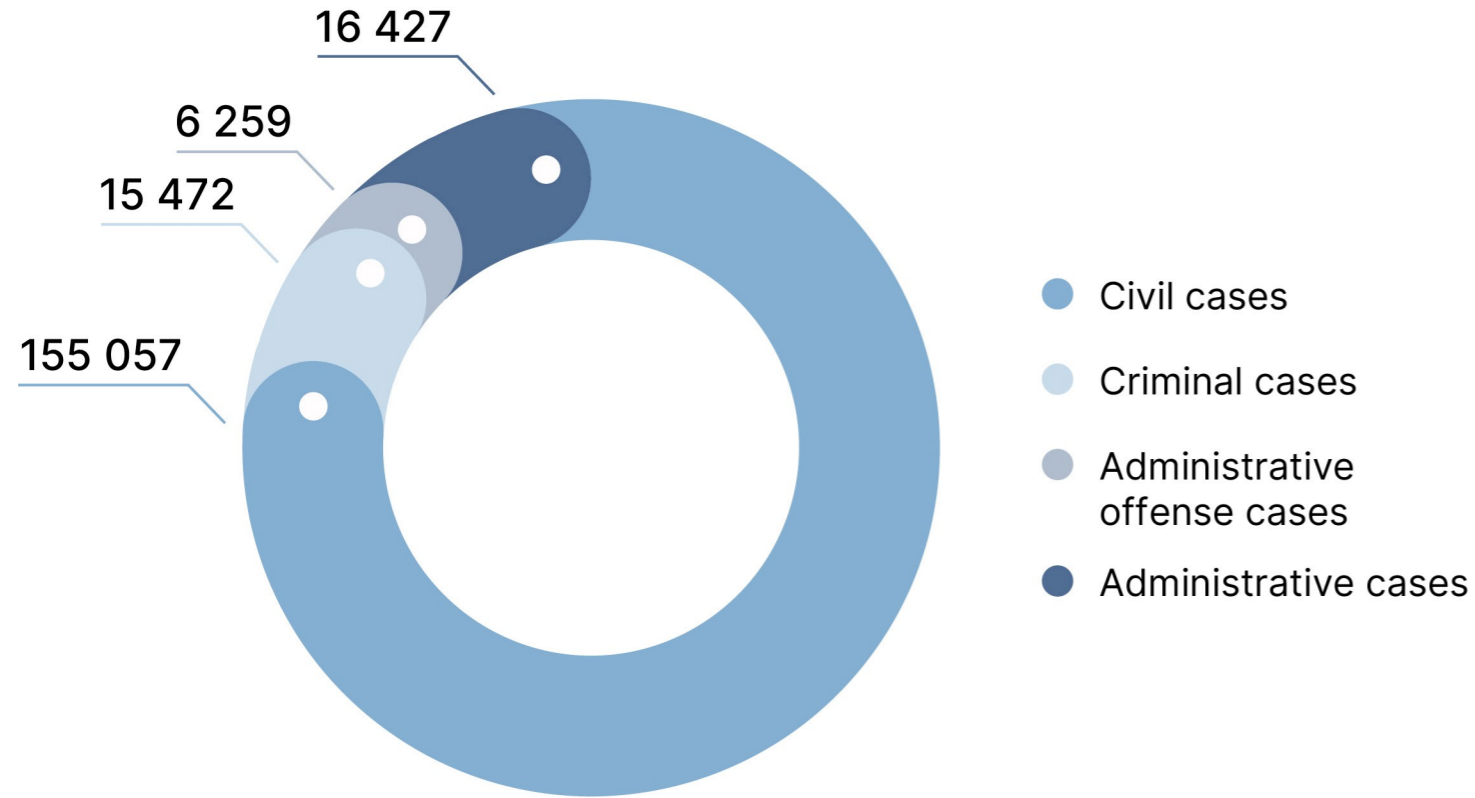


*One of them was appointed for 2 years.
**Two of them were appointed for 2 years.

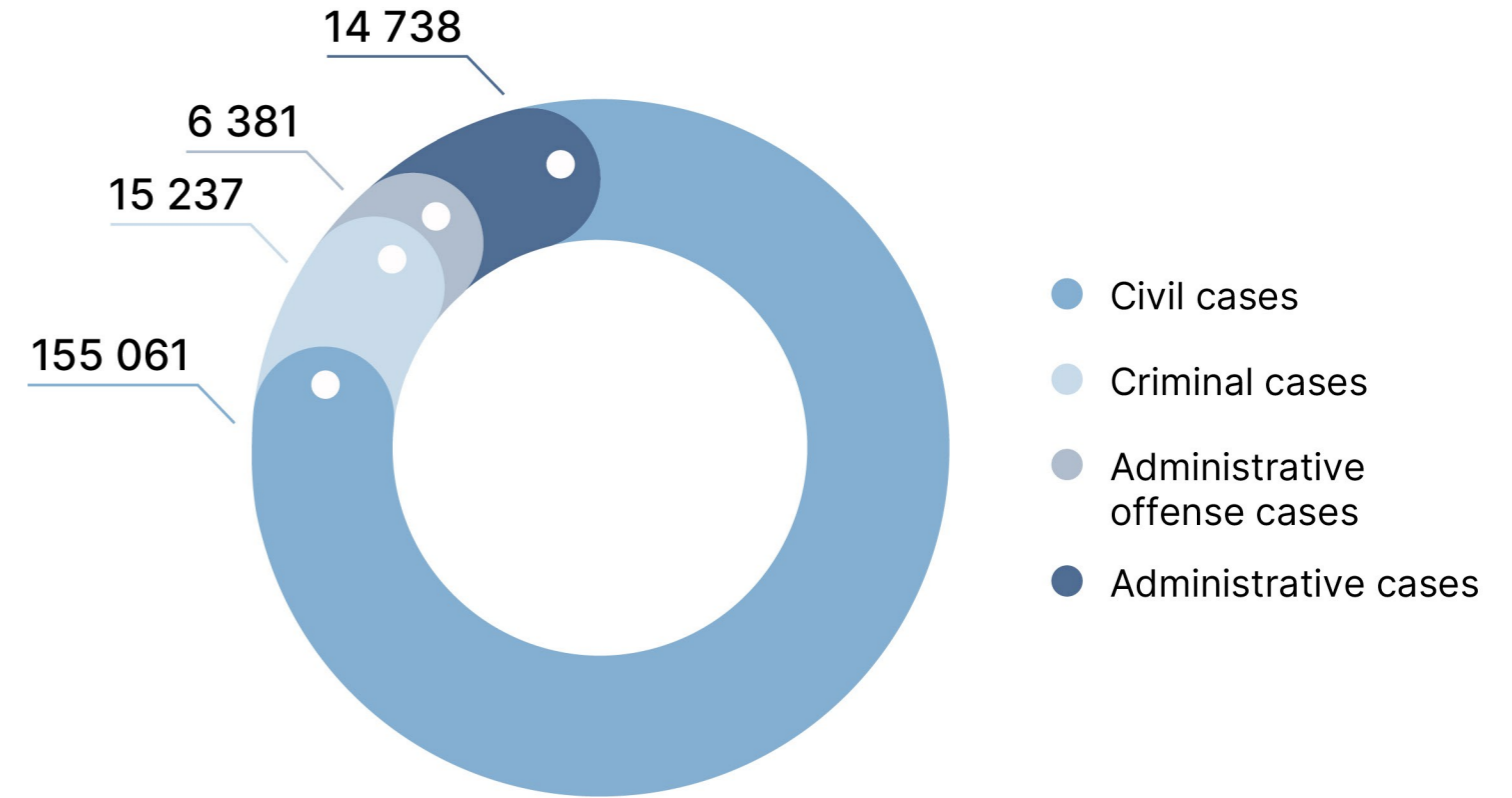
More details:
[OPEN COURTS](#)



In 2024, a total of 193 215 cases were received:



In 2024, a total of 191 417 cases were reviewed:



Compared to 2023, the number of civil cases resolved increased by

5% ▲

Compared to 2023, the number of criminal cases resolved decreased by

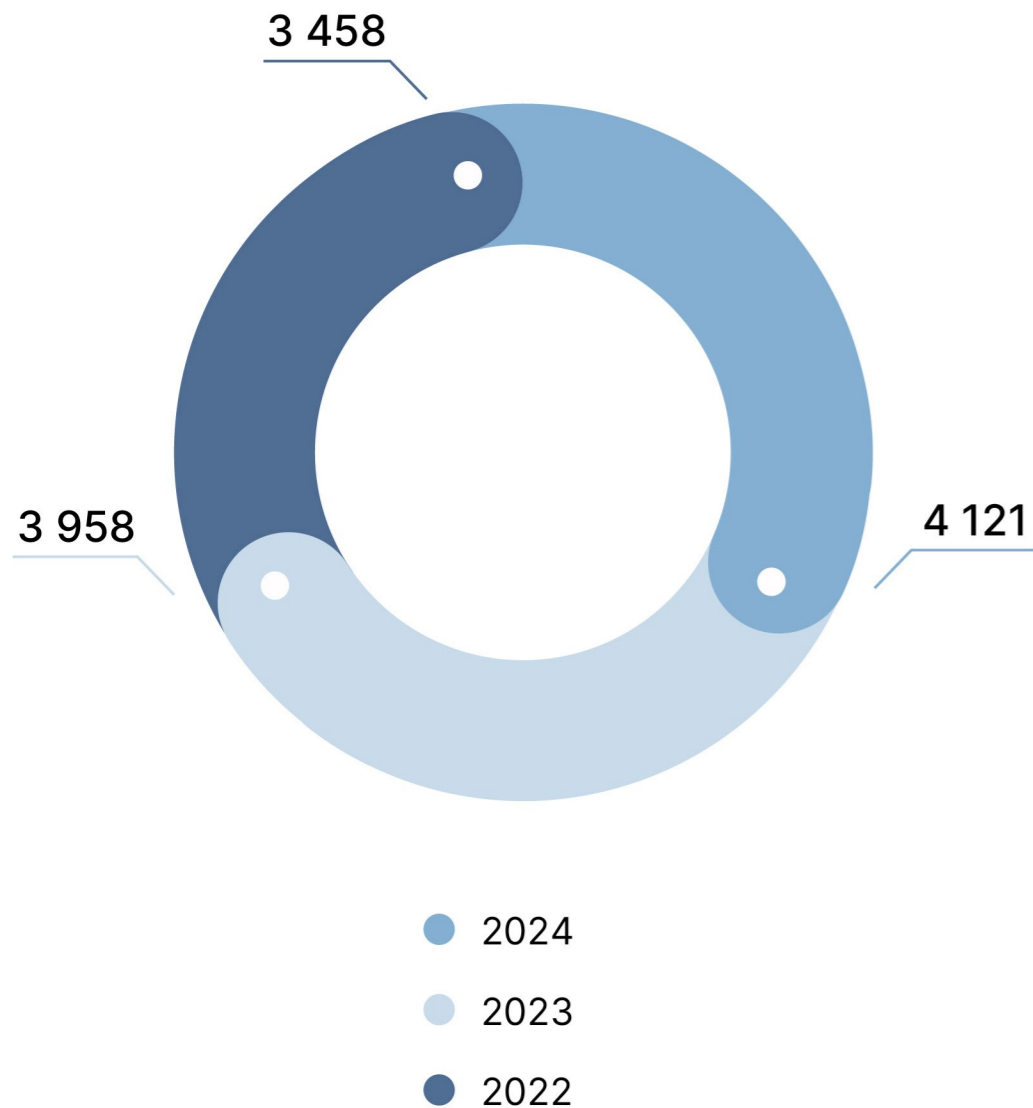
1% ▼

Compared to 2023, the number of administrative offense cases resolved in district courts increased by

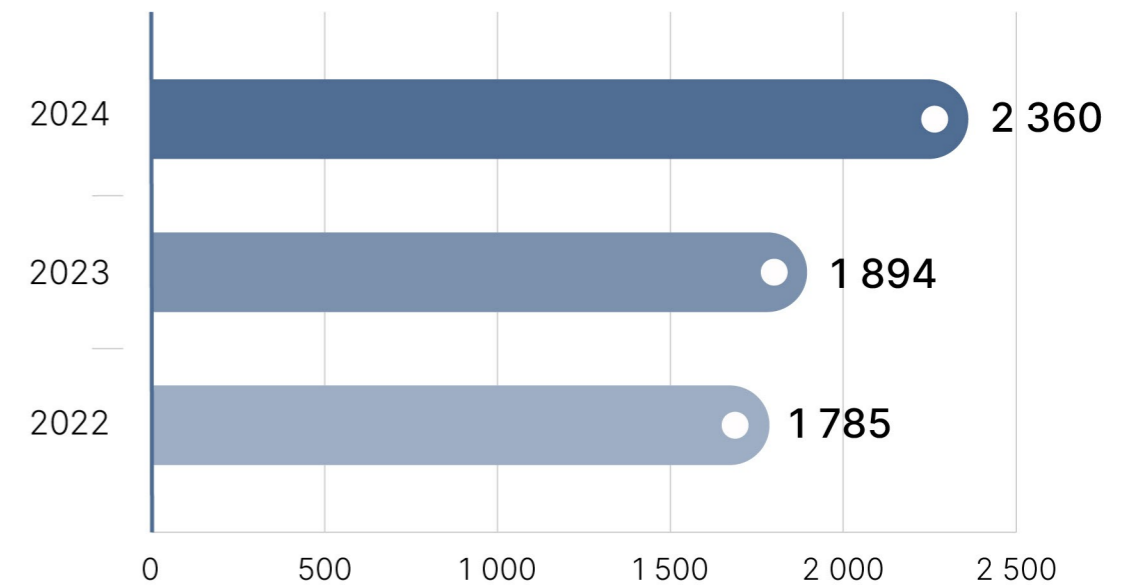
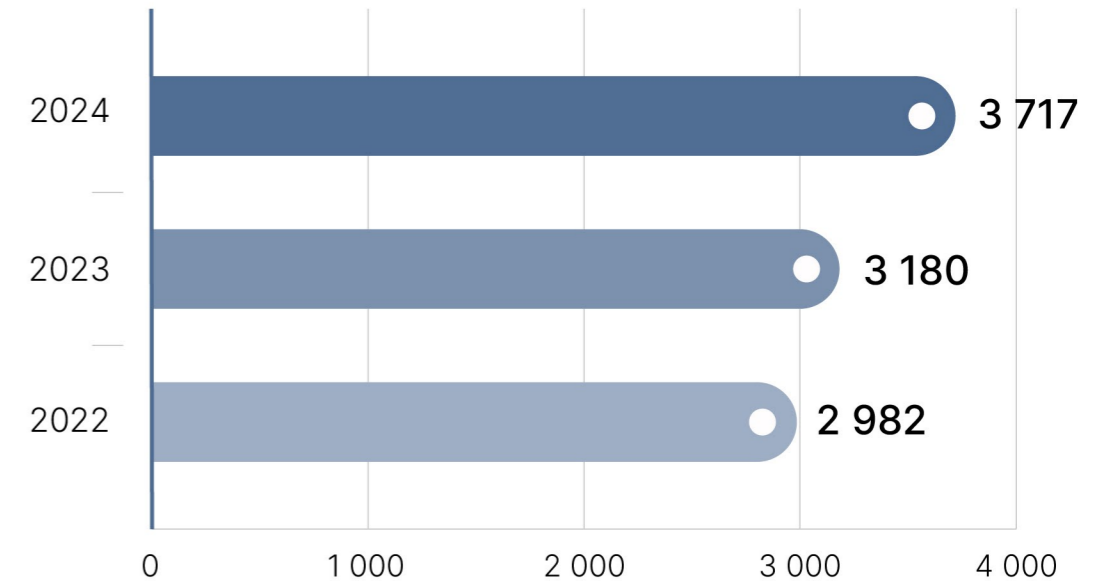
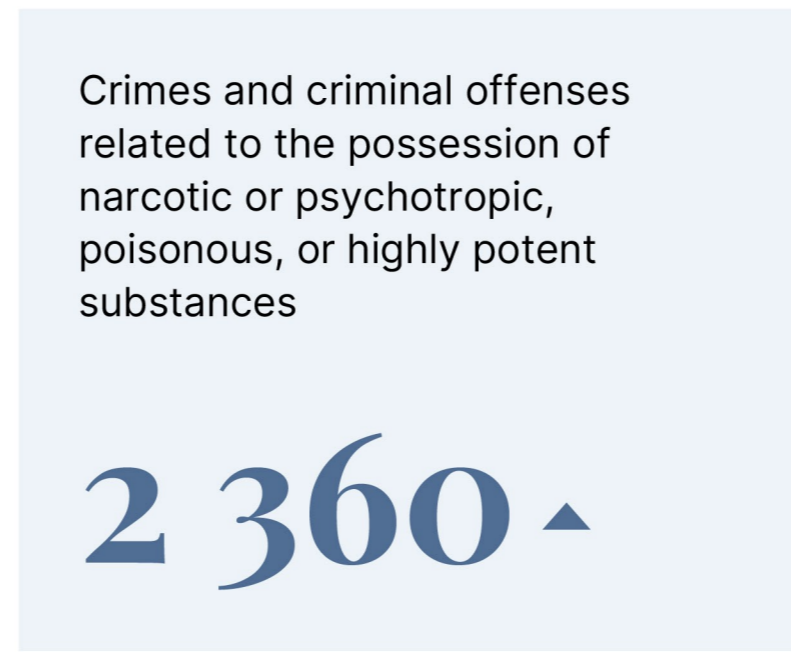
20% ▲

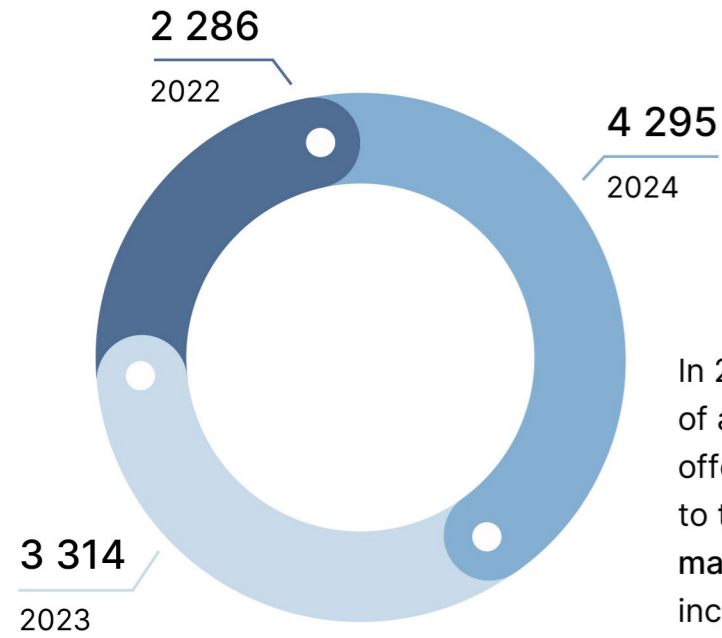


In 2024, there was a significant increase in the number of civil cases in district and regional courts that were terminated after the court approved a settlement agreement:

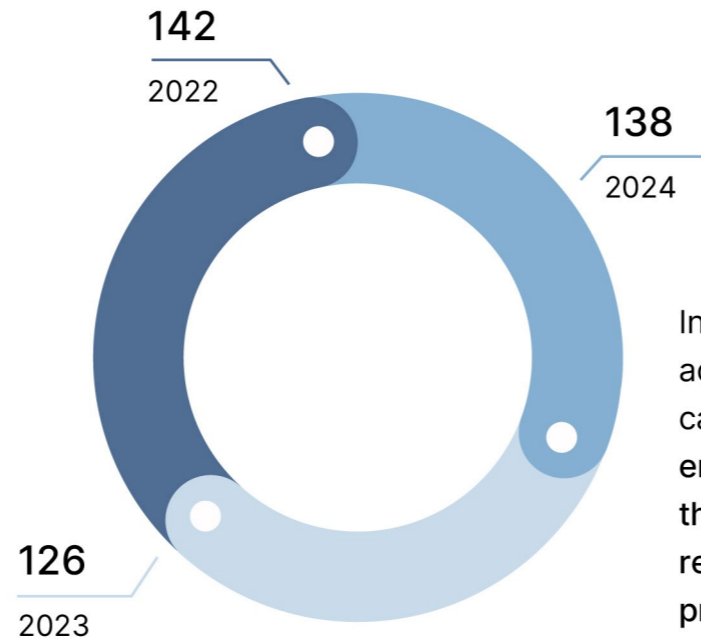


The number of criminal cases increased due to:

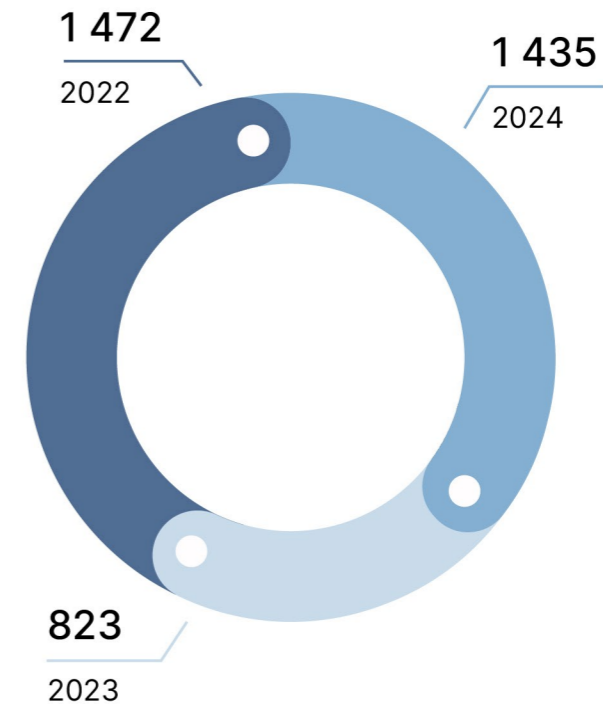




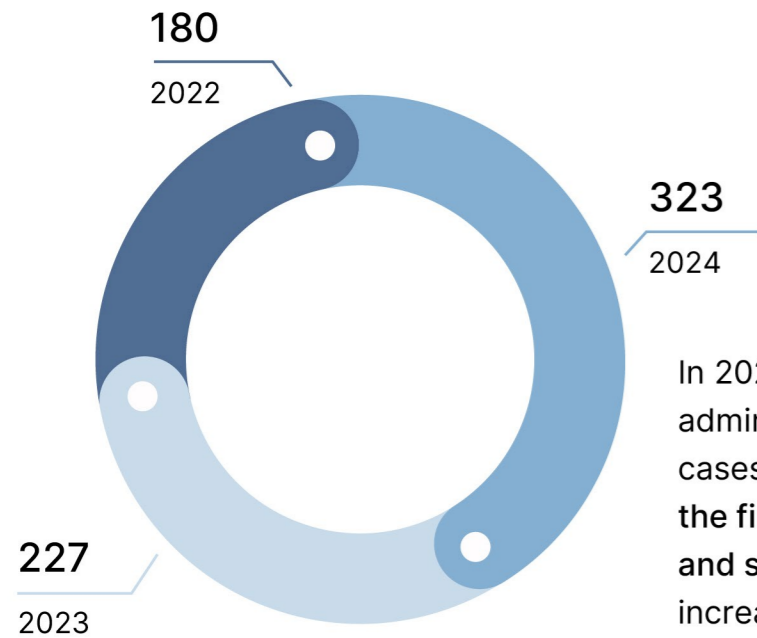
In 2024, the number of administrative offense cases related to transport and road management increased.



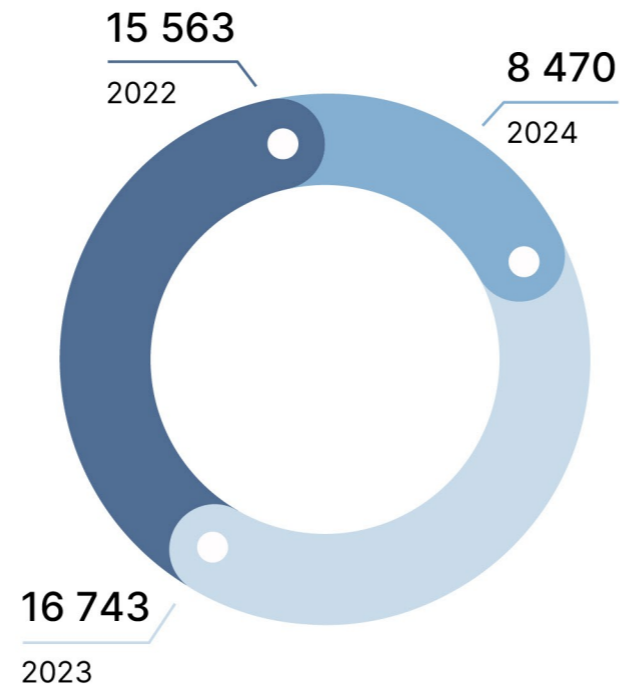
In 2024, the number of administrative offense cases related to environmental protection, the use of natural resources, and heritage protection increased.



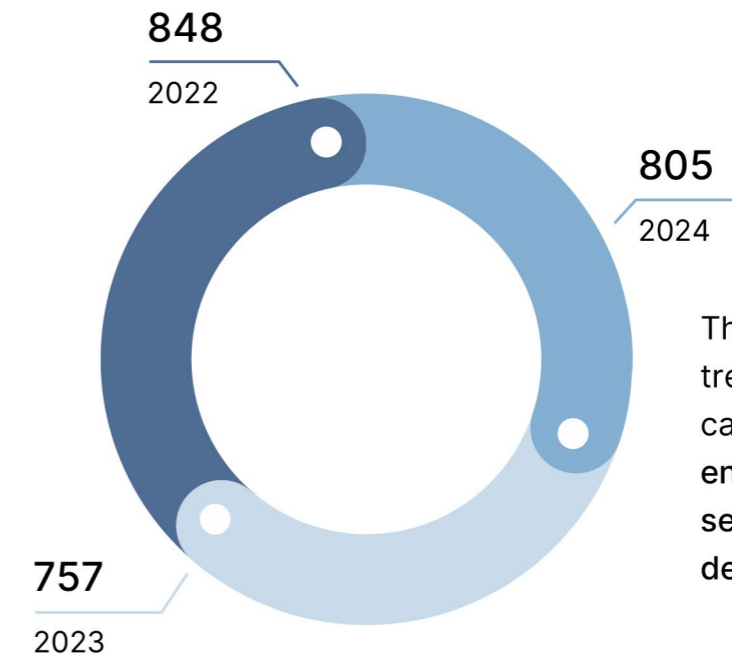
Due to cases received in previous years and shortened case processing times, the number of administrative cases related to the legal status of foreigners increased in 2024 compared to 2023.



In 2024, the number of administrative offense cases related to trade, the financial system, and statistics increased.



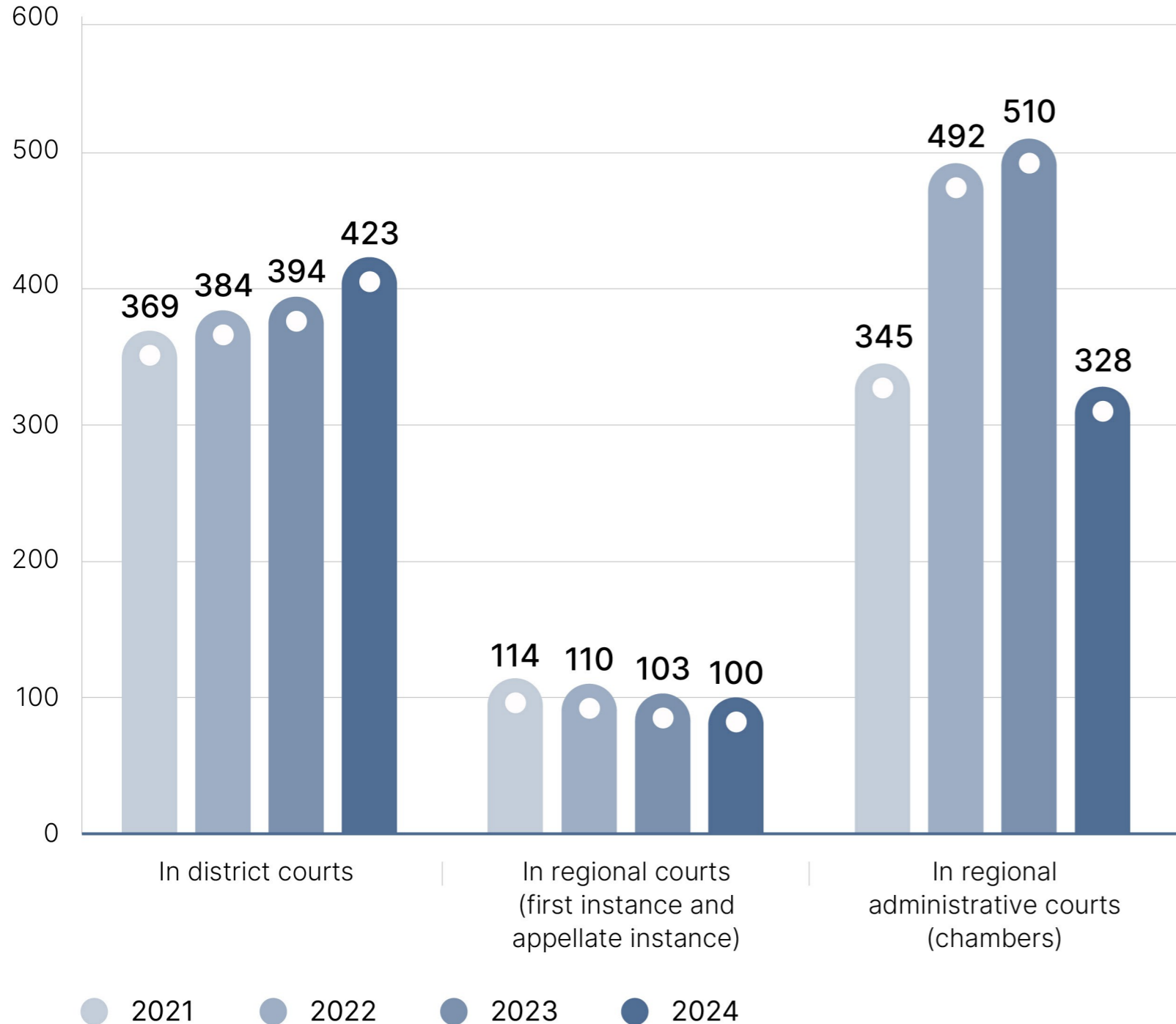
In 2024, the number of administrative cases related to tax legal relations decreased, particularly regarding the recovery of debts for local waste collection and management fees.



There is also a growing trend in administrative cases related to the enforcement of sentences and detention conditions.



In 2024, on average, a single judge handled the following number of cases per year:



Changes in average workload indicators in 2024:

The workload in district courts increased by

3,2 % ▲

One of the reasons for these changes is unfilled judicial positions in district courts.

The workload in regional courts (first and appellate instances) has decreased

3 % ▼

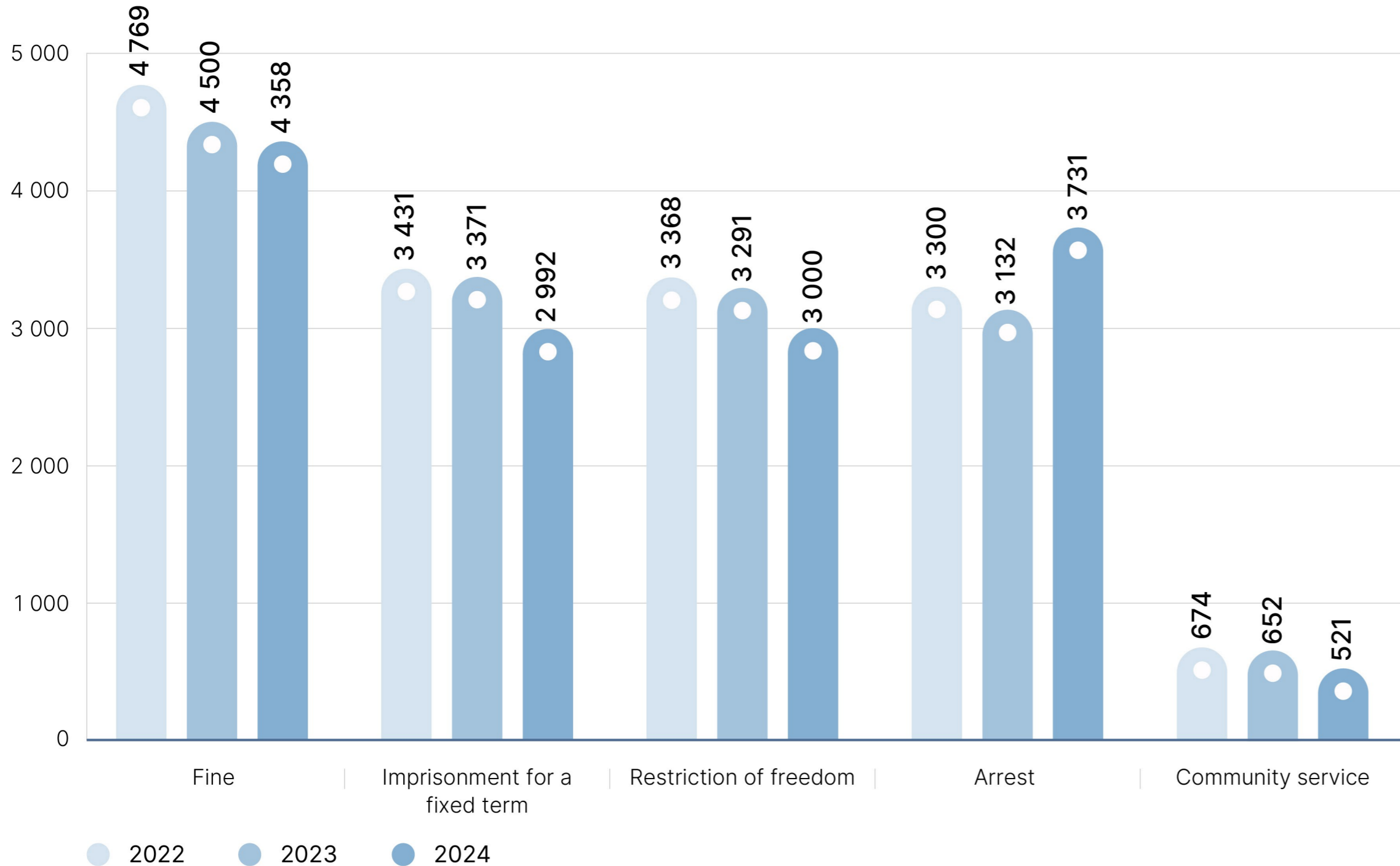
The workload in administrative courts increased by

3 % ▲

Several reasons for the increase in workload include unfilled judicial positions and the administrative court reform that took effect on January 1, 2024.



The most common court-imposed penalties in 2024:



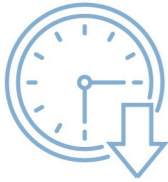
Courts, taking into account the circumstances of the case, primarily try to impose penalties unrelated to imprisonment, meaning that, where possible, they aim to achieve the goal of the sentence through other means.

According to data¹ from the "World Prison Brief," Lithuania ranks 15th in Europe in terms of the number of incarcerated individuals per 100,000 population (in previous years, Lithuania ranked 13th in Europe).

¹ https://www.prisonstudies.org/highest-to-lowest/prison_population_rate?field_region_taxonomy_tid=14



Case Processing Duration in 2024



The processing time has decreased:

18 ▾

days – administrative offense cases in district courts (first instance);

16 ▾

days – civil cases in the Lithuanian Court of Appeal;

20 ▾

days – civil cases in the Supreme Court of Lithuania;

30 ▾

days – criminal cases in the Supreme Court of Lithuania;

31 ▾

days – administrative offense cases in the Supreme Court of Lithuania;

38 ▾

days – administrative cases in the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania (appellate instance).



The processing time has increased:

25 ▲

days – administrative cases in the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania (appellate instance for rulings);

39 ▲

days – criminal cases in regional courts (first instance);

40 ▲

days – administrative cases in the Regional Administrative Court;

43 ▲

days – criminal cases in the Lithuanian Court of Appeal.

More details:

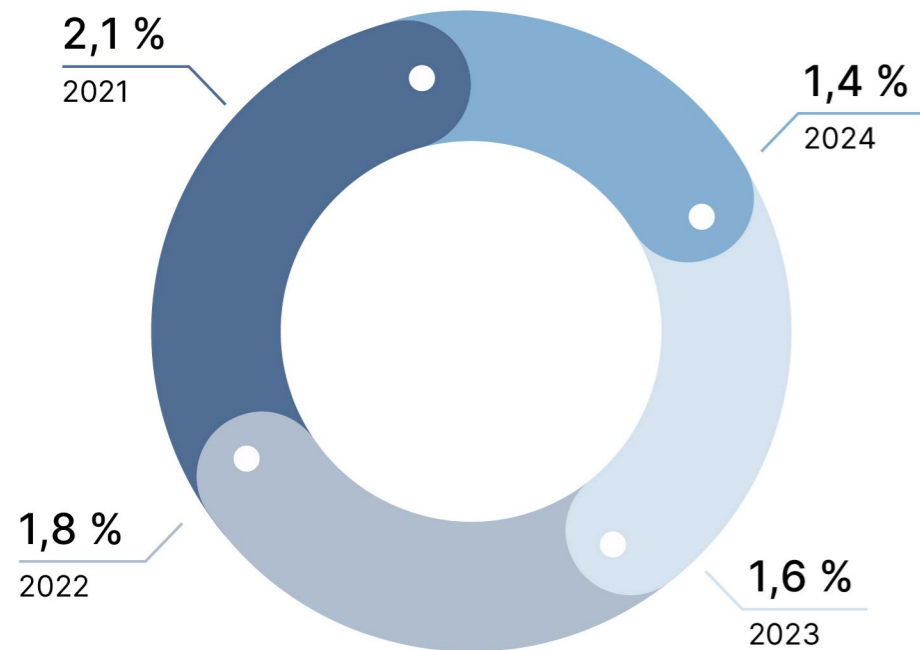
[OPEN COURTS](#)



On average, in 2024, appellate complaints were filed and reviewed for **4,4 %** of all decisions made by Lithuanian courts

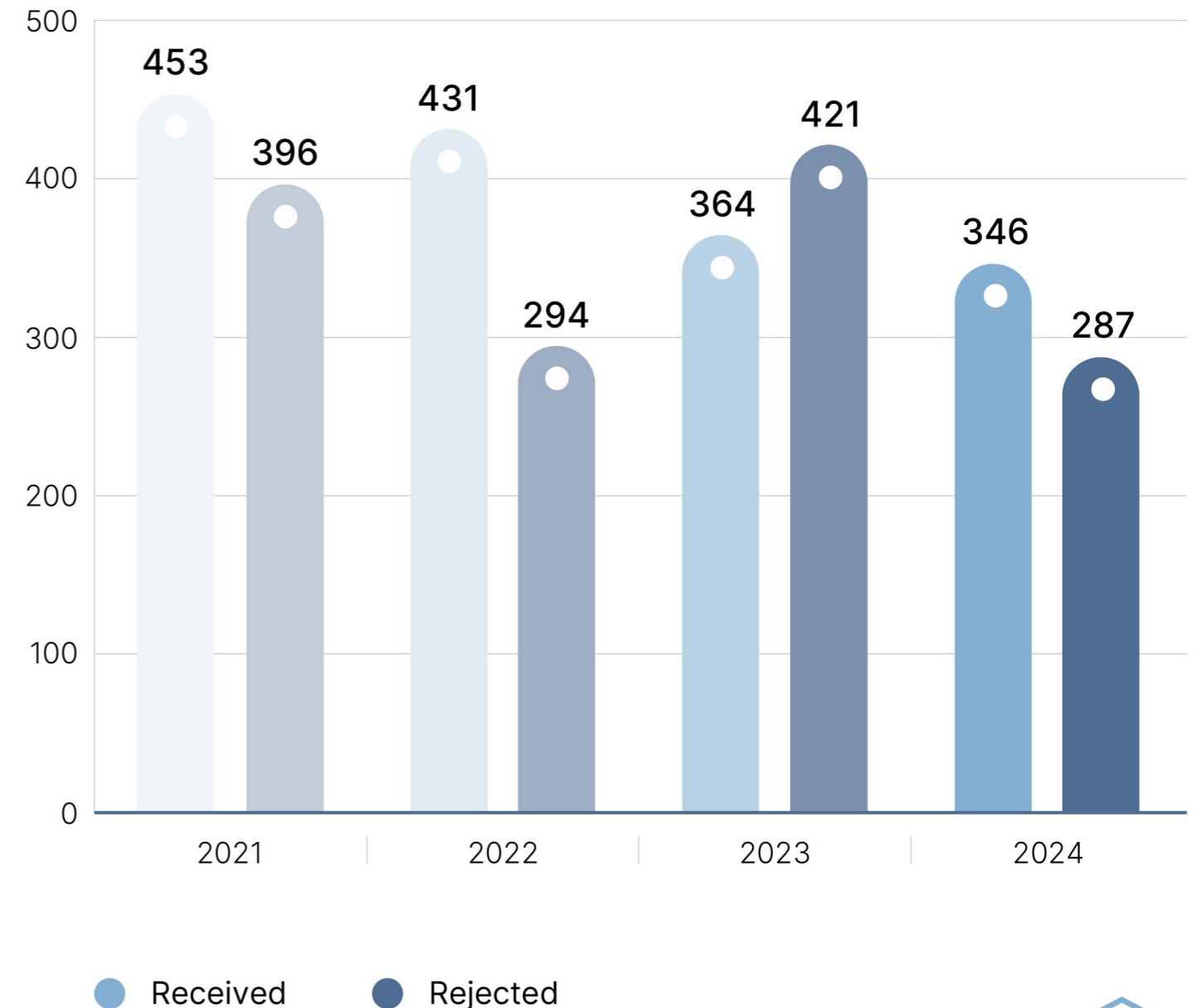
Only **1,4 %** of court decisions were modified or annulled

The number of court decisions that are modified or annulled has decreased every year:



More details: [OPEN COURTS](#)

In 2024, petitions submitted to and rejected by the European Court of Human Rights against Lithuania:



The purpose of judicial mediation is to help the parties in civil and administrative cases resolve their disputes peacefully, with the assistance of one or more mediators (intermediaries).

A total of **819** judicial mediation processes were completed, with **48 %** of them resulting in the signing of settlement agreements.



Mediation processes initiated:

in civil cases	945
in administrative cases	24



Mediation proceedings completed:

in civil cases	805
in administrative cases	14



Conciliation agreements concluded in mediation proceedings:

in civil cases	385
in administrative cases	7

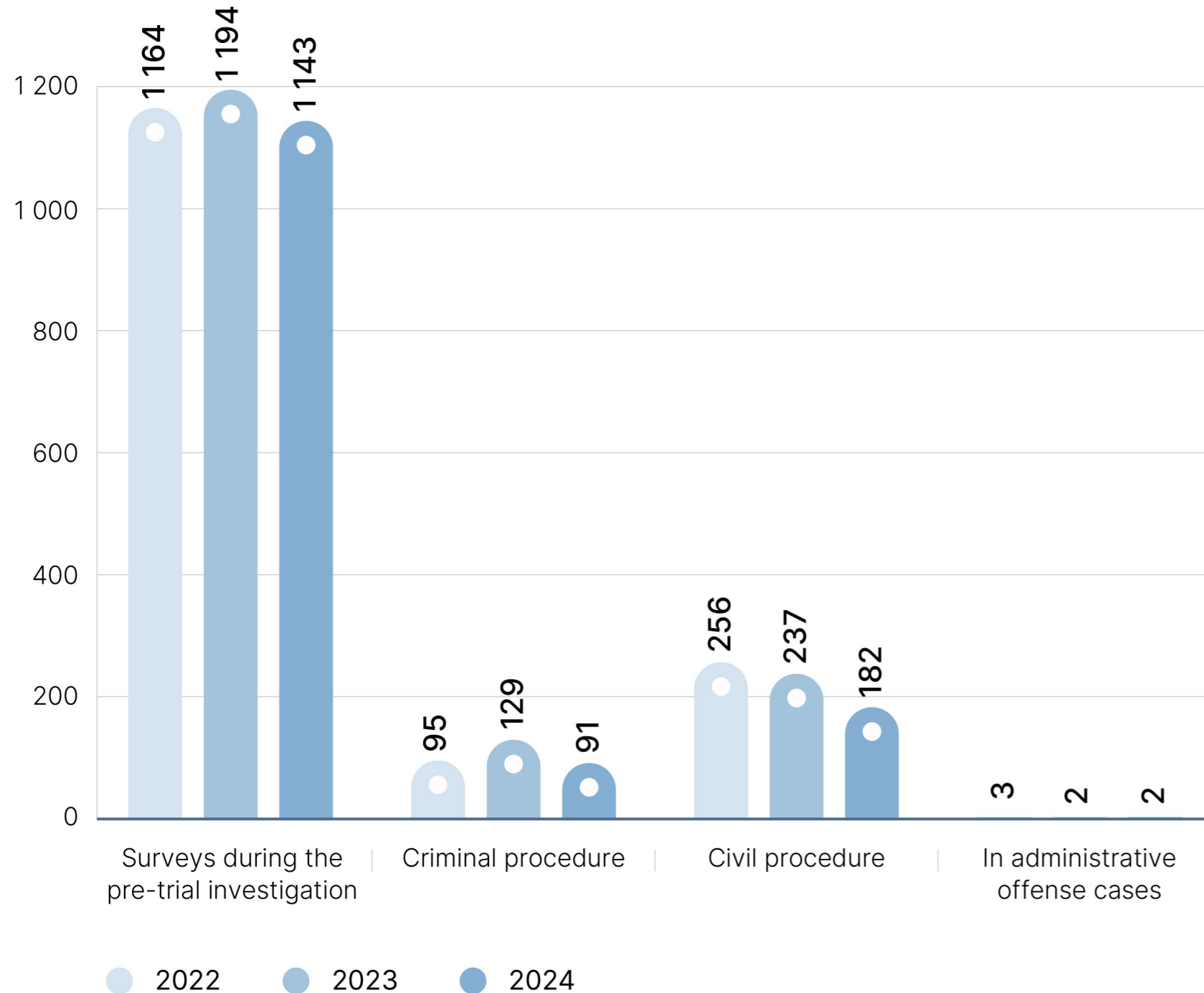
The majority of cases referred for judicial mediation were related to family law matters –

414 cases.

At the end of the year, **134** judges held the status of court mediator.



Psychologists' conducted surveys



In 2024, with the addition of one specialist, the number of court psychologists in Lithuanian courts reached 14 (compared to 13 in 2023 and 14 in 2022).



In 2024, court psychologists assisted

1432

participants in legal proceedings.

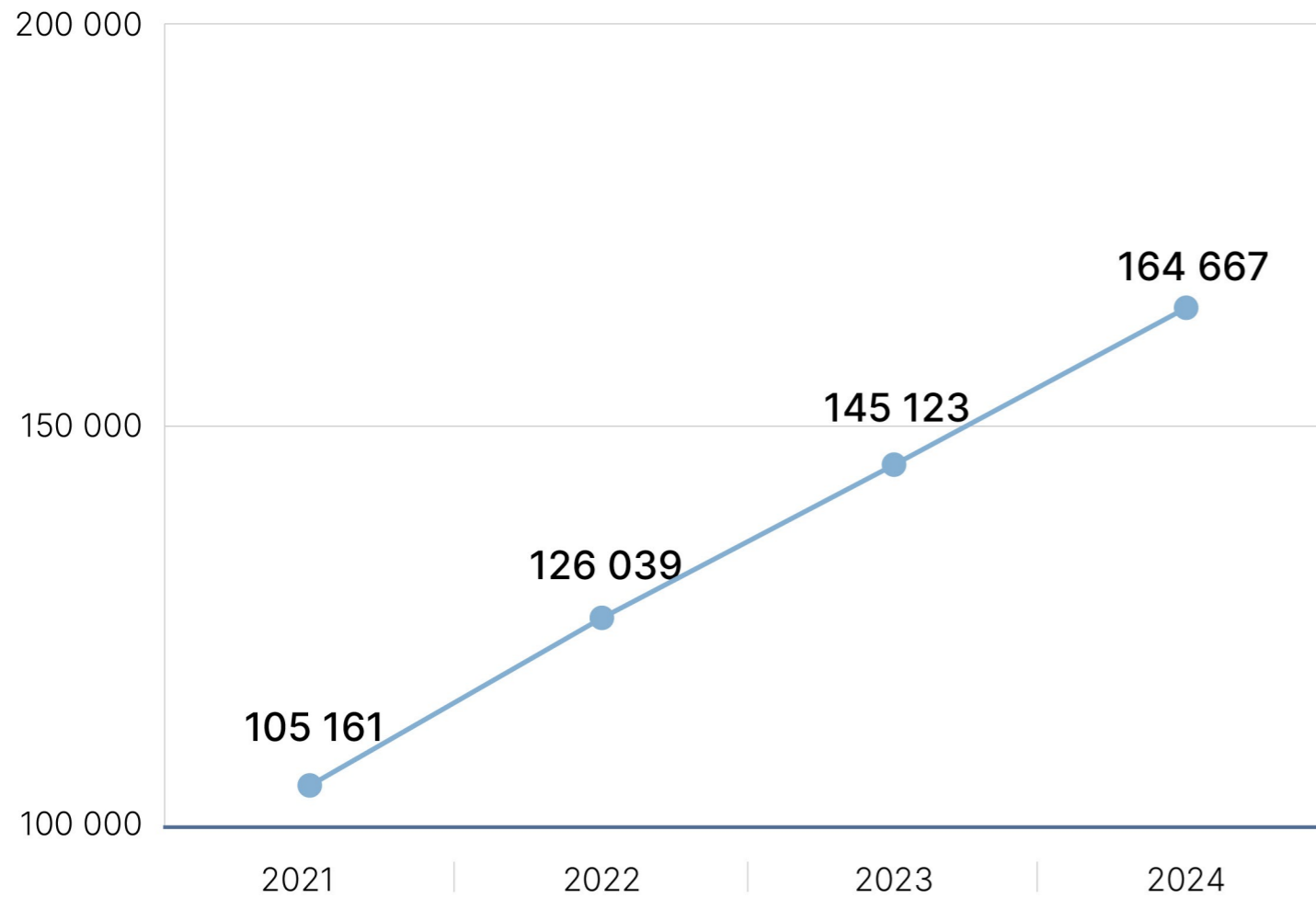
Considering the workload of court psychologists, on June 19, 2024, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania adopted a resolution granting extended annual leave to some court psychologists—30 or 36 working days, depending on the length of their workweek. If the number of working days per week varies, psychologists are now granted 6 weeks of leave.

More details:
[OPEN COURTS](#)

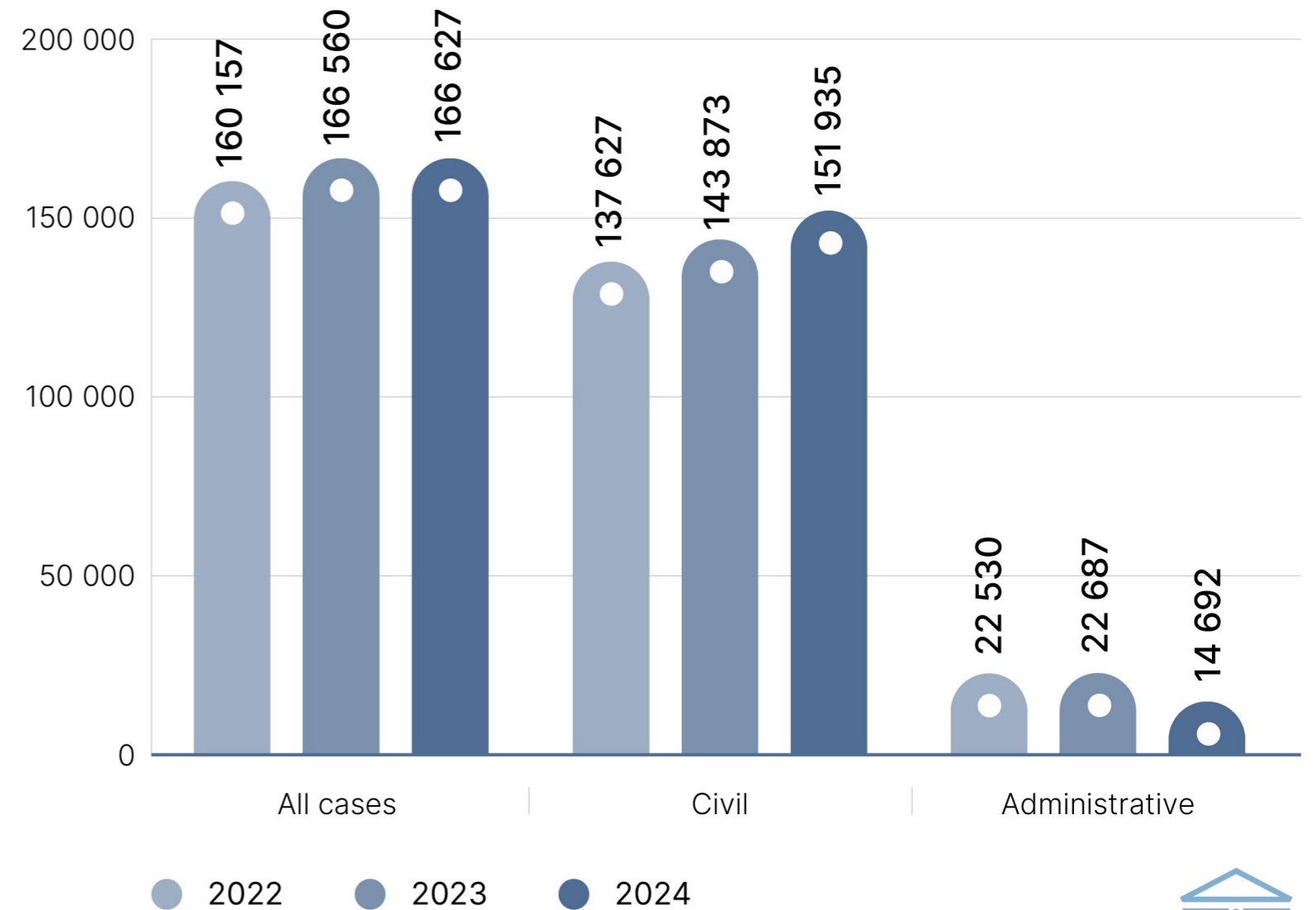


Over the past year, the number of users on e.teismas.lt has continued to grow, with **19 705** new users registering on the e.teismas portal in 2024.

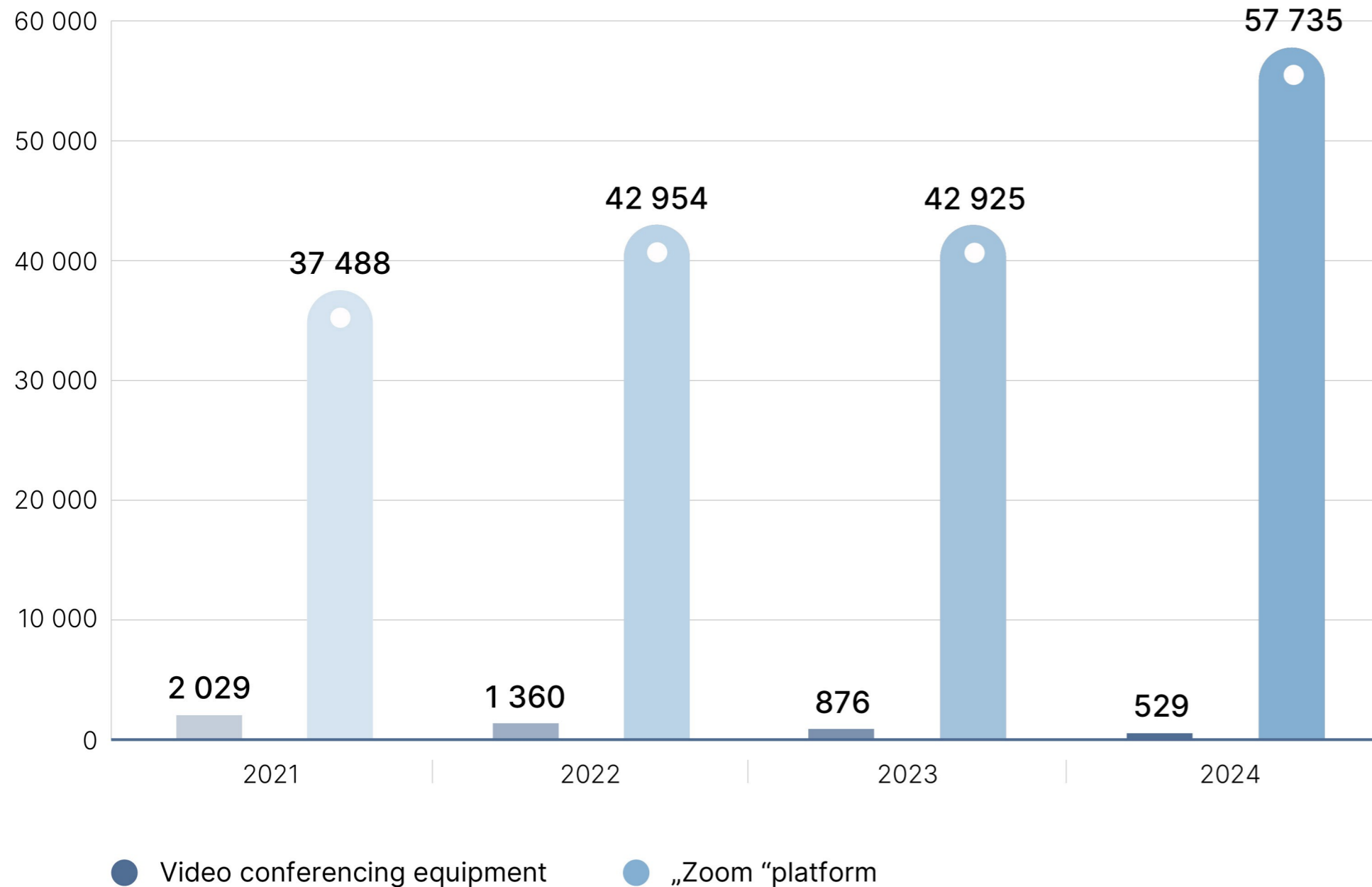
The number of users of the e.teismas.lt portal services



In 2024, **92 %** of civil and administrative cases were processed in electronic form
 (2023 – 91 %, 2022 – 86 %)



Remote court hearings and work meetings in Lithuanian courts were conducted using:



In 2020, after acquiring Zoom platform licenses for court operations, court hearings and work meetings began to be organized using this platform. As a result, the number of remote court hearings conducted using stationary video conferencing equipment installed in courts decreased.



Key activities of the Judicial Council in 2024

Preparing for Change

January 12

A meeting was held at the Marijampolė District Court with representatives of the Judicial Council, the National Courts Administration, district court presidents, and court chancellors. The discussion focused on the implementation of amendments to Article 62 of the Code of Civil Procedure and the district court reform.

June 30

Following the adoption of legislative amendments by the Seimas regarding the district court reform, the Judicial Council appealed to the President, requesting the reconsideration of these amendments due to the lack of prior consultation with the judicial community.

December 20

A resolution was adopted recommending that the President of the Republic of Lithuania determine the number of judges in district courts based on the new court structures, effective January 1, 2025. Additionally, the resolution proposed reducing the number of judicial positions at the Klaipėda District Court, Klaipėda Division, by one position starting January 1, 2025.

Coordination of Activities

June 20

The Judicial Council adopted a resolution to amend the description of judges' specialization, aiming to improve the criteria and procedures for judges' specialization.

November 15

the members of the Permanent Commission for the Assessment of Activities of Judges were approved, and on November 29, the Judicial System Awards Commission was approved.

Court Financing

October 10

The Judicial Council approved the draft amendment of the projected maximum allocation of the Republic of Lithuania's state budget for 2025–2027 for courts. The draft proposed by the Ministry of Finance allocated an additional 1 million euros for the salaries of judicial assistants.



Key activities of the Judicial Council in 2024

Strengthening Cooperation

March 1

A meeting was held between the Judicial Council and representatives of the Judicial Assistants' Association. The discussion focused on changes to the judicial examination procedures, including modifications to question formation and administration. Additionally, the Judicial Council's initiatives aimed at balancing court workloads and improving workload calculation methods were discussed. Significant attention was given to the role, status, and potential future developments of judicial assistants, as well as the implementation of joint activities.

April 16-17

A delegation of representatives from Ukraine's judicial institutions visited Vilnius. During the visit, the delegation was introduced to Lithuania's judicial self-governance. Discussions covered judicial selection, career development, training, the use of information technology in the Lithuanian judiciary, and potential areas of cooperation with Ukraine.

June 21

A meeting took place with leaders from the public and non-governmental sectors of European, Asian, and African countries, representatives of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), and the Lithuanian branch of Transparency International. The discussion centered on anti-corruption policies in the judiciary and the "Open Courts" project.

December 16

The Judicial Council met with President Gitanas Nausėda. The meeting addressed the needs of the judicial community, strategic directions, legislative changes, and challenges within the judicial system. Key topics included collaboration with constitutional partners, priority issues such as the court financing model, salaries of judicial assistants, and the renovation of court buildings.



Court transparency in 2024



The scoreboard for the online project "OPEN COURTS" was updated. Additionally, 7 new scoreboards for the online project were introduced. The list of 14 previously provided scoreboards was expanded to include information on electronic cases, court fees, judicial mediation, court hearings, court provision of computers, court psychologists, and expenses for forensic psychiatry and psychology examination.



Participation took place in the "Open House" and "Culture Night" projects. During these events, more than 1,000 people visited the Supreme Court of Lithuania, the Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Administrative Court.



A total of 272 tours took place in the courts, with over 4,200 participants, including students, pupils, and foreigners who came as part of judge exchange programs and other international projects.



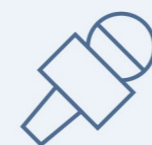
The courts participated in the "A Day with a Judge" project and received 85 registrations, mostly from law students at Vilnius, Mykolas Romeris, Vytautas Magnus universities, Šiauliai State College, and Panevėžys College.



Participation took place in Lithuania's largest practical conference, "Security Code" A representative of the judiciary community discussed the topic "The Price of Uploaded Photos and Comments. Does the Student and Supervisor Know It?".



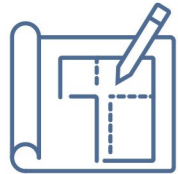
For 9 consecutive years, on the occasion of Constitution Day and European Law Day, free legal consultations were offered in Lithuanian courts under the initiative "You Ask – We Answer!" The courts provided consultations to more than 100 individuals.



Judges provided 1,481 comments to the media, while court spokespersons prepared 778 articles and press releases.



In 2024, a disability reform was initiated in Lithuania's courts, aiming to improve the daily and public life of individuals with disabilities and their families.



The Judicial Council prepared recommendations for the courts regarding:

- employment and information provision for individuals with disabilities;
- adaptation of websites and court environments;
- ensuring accessibility to courts.

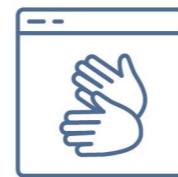


Physical environment: Court buildings are being adapted for individuals with disabilities. In 2024, adaptation work was completed at the Šiauliai Regional Court, Kaunas District Court, and Vilnius City District Court.



Adapted measures:

- created templates and principles for providing information to individuals with disabilities (e.g., letters and emails);
- installed accessibility plugins on court websites to make them more suitable for individuals with visual impairments;
- adapted court electronic services for screen reader programs used by blind and visually impaired individuals.



Video technologies: Courts use video technologies adapted for individuals with visual, hearing, and speech impairments, and sign language interpreter assistance is also being integrated.

