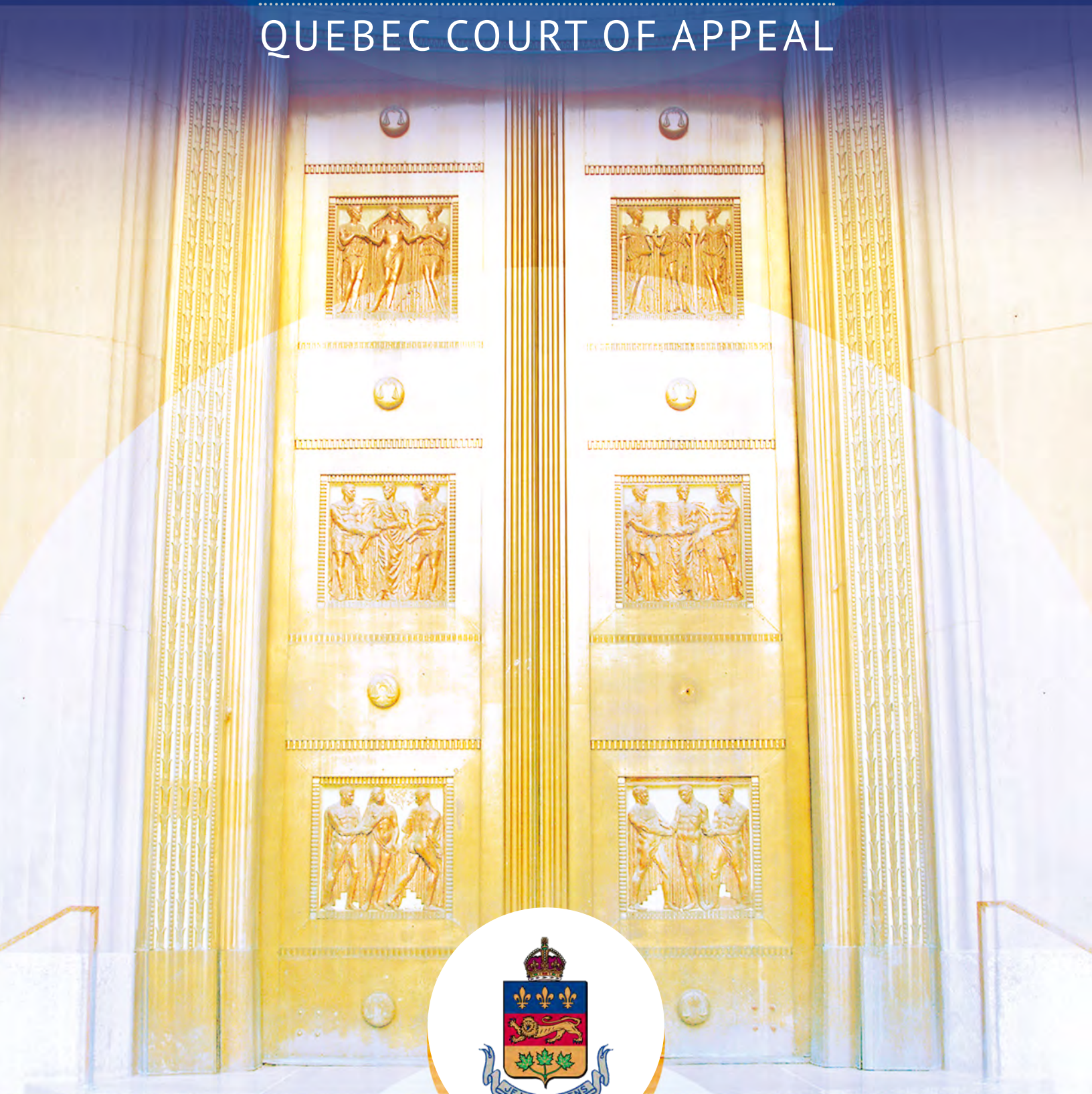


ACTIVITY REPORT 2025

QUEBEC COURT OF APPEAL



Activity Report 2025

QUEBEC COURT OF APPEAL





Court of Appeal of Quebec

May 2026

On the cover: The majestic bronze doors of the Ernest Cormier Building,
the Quebec Court of Appeal's seat in Montreal.

This report was prepared by the Quebec Court of Appeal.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE

I am delighted to present the 2025 activity report of the Quebec Court of Appeal. Drawing on the energy from the celebrations surrounding its 175th anniversary, which concluded in June, the Court did not slow its pace. Throughout the year, it continued to move forward with several major initiatives and introduced new ones, all with a view to ongoing improvement.



Photo credit: Cindy Boyce.

Among the year's achievements were the launch of a new website offering more accessible content and navigation, the introduction of a newsletter through which the public can keep abreast of the Court's activities, and the implementation of a pilot project with the Commission des services juridiques aimed at facilitating its ability to assist self-represented individuals who are detained and wish to file an appeal. The Court also continued its digital shift and began reviewing its rules to allow for the filing of certain documents solely in digital format. Moreover, development work on the new Lexius portal for the Court also progressed, with a launch planned for 2026. Thanks to the invaluable collaboration of the Court's judges and staff members — whom I thank for their dedication — the Court was able to carry out all of these projects while maintaining excellent turnaround times in processing cases.

I am immensely proud of the work accomplished, while remaining mindful of the challenges that lie ahead. At a time when confidence in our democratic institutions is being eroded, preserving that confidence in our courts must remain central to our concerns. In this context, and despite limited resources, the Court intends to maintain its efforts to better inform the public of the nature and scope of its work. This report forms part of that objective. In it, you will find an overview of this year's defining initiatives, a selection of key judgments rendered by the Court as well as detailed statistics on its judicial activities. I hope it will provide an insightful perspective on Quebec's highest court.

Enjoy your reading!

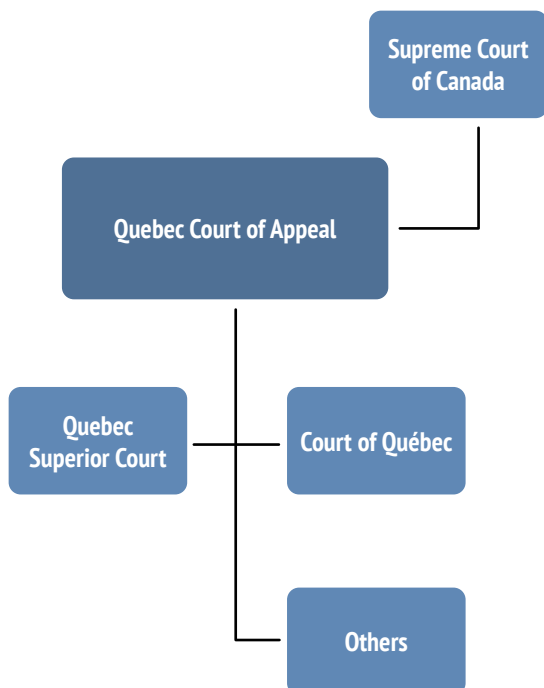
Manon Savard,
Chief Justice of Quebec

THE HIGHEST JUDICIAL AUTHORITY IN QUEBEC

The Quebec Court of Appeal is the province's general appellate court. It has broad jurisdiction, which covers most areas of law, such as civil law, criminal and penal law, constitutional law, administrative law and family law. It is called upon to review judgments rendered by the courts of first instance, notably the Superior Court and the Court of Québec. Its role is not limited to correcting errors in the judgments under appeal; it also establishes the law and ensures its consistent application by Quebec courts.



Origin of cases coming before the Court



The vast majority of appeals heard by the Court originate from the Superior Court (71% of files opened in 2025) and the Court of Québec (27% of files opened in 2025). In some instances, these courts themselves have intervened on appeal or on judicial review of decisions originating from other decision-making bodies.

Other situations are far less frequent (2% of files opened in 2025). They include, for example, appeals from decisions of the Human Rights Tribunal, the Administrative Tribunal of Québec (acting as a review board for mental disorders) or the municipal courts, in the specific cases provided for by law. The Court also hears applications for judicial review of decisions made by the Minister of Justice in extradition matters. Lastly, in what is known as a “reference”, the government may ask the Court to answer specific legal questions, generally of a constitutional nature.

Not every judgment can be appealed. For a party to bring a matter before the Court, a right of appeal must be expressly provided for by law. Depending on the nature of the case, an appeal may be as of right or may require leave (i.e., permission). This preliminary stage falls within the jurisdiction of a judge sitting alone, who may also rule on various applications related to case management.

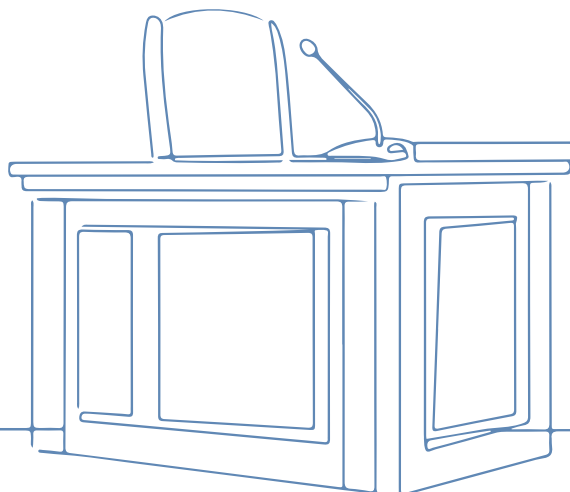
When deciding an appeal on the merits, the Court usually sits as a panel of three judges, although this number may be increased where the Chief Justice considers it necessary. Following the oral argument, the Court may render its decision immediately — which it does in nearly half of all cases — or it may take the matter under advisement, that is, further consider the case and render its decision at a later date.

The Court's decisions may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, but only some dozen appeals from Quebec are heard each year. In practice, the Court is therefore the final arbiter of almost all the cases submitted to it.

Thus, in addition to resolving disputes between parties, the Court plays an essential role in preserving the civil law and the province's distinctive legal tradition, while contributing to the development and coherence of Quebec law.

TWO SEATS, ONE COURT

Since its creation in 1849, the Court has had two seats: one in Quebec City, in the Marc-André Bédard Building, and the other in Montreal, in the Ernest Cormier Building. Along with the Alberta Court of Appeal, it is the only appellate court in Canada to operate from two cities. Nonetheless, the Court remains a single institution, as its judges have always travelled from one seat to the other to hear cases originating from all over the province.



THE STRENGTH OF COLLEGIALLY



At the beginning of the judicial year, a new feature was added to the gowns worn by the Court's judges. The sleeves were slightly modified to include three thin red lines adorned with a button, which is also red. Although subtle, the change is nonetheless highly symbolic — it highlights the collegiality that drives the Court's work. While the colour red evokes Quebec's judiciary, the three lines are a reminder that the Court usually sits as a panel of three judges.

This feature, a legacy of the Court's 175th anniversary celebrations, also underscores that the institution is greater than the sum of the individuals comprising it at any given time. Indeed, the Court's history is a vibrant one, nurtured not only by its current judges, but also by those who came before and those who will follow. Collegiality goes beyond the panel hearing a particular case; it is embodied in a true spirit of collaboration among all the judges.

The Court considers this value — one deeply rooted in its institutional DNA — to be among its greatest strengths, hence its decision to recognize it through the new adornment. This value has enabled the Court, since its creation in 1849, to evolve alongside a constantly changing society and to offer Quebec litigants the highest standards of quality.



JUDGES OF THE QUEBEC COURT OF APPEAL

Composition of the Court

As at December 31, 2025, the Court of Appeal was composed of one Chief Justice and 22 judges, as well as 7 supernumerary judges (identified below by an asterisk) — i.e., judges who are eligible for retirement but have decided to continue their judicial duties with a lighter workload.



The Honourable Manon Savard
Chief Justice of Quebec
since 2020
Appointed in 2013



The Honourable Yves-Marie Morissette*
Appointed in 2002



The Honourable François Doyon*
Appointed in 2004



The Honourable Julie Dutil*
Appointed in 2004



The Honourable Marie-France Bich*
Appointed in 2004



The Honourable Guy Gagnon*
Appointed in 2009



The Honourable Martin Vaclair
Appointed in 2013



The Honourable Geneviève Marcotte
Appointed in 2014



The Honourable Mark Schrager*
Appointed in 2014



The Honourable Marie-Josée Hogue
Appointed in 2015



The Honourable Patrick Healy
Appointed in 2016



**The Honourable
Simon Ruel**
Appointed in 2017



**The Honourable
Jocelyn F. Rancourt**
Appointed in 2017



**The Honourable
Suzanne Gagné**
Appointed in 2017



**The Honourable
Geneviève Cotnam**
Appointed in 2018



**The Honourable
Stephen W. Hamilton**
Appointed in 2018



**The Honourable
Stéphane Sansfaçon**
Appointed in 2019



**The Honourable
Michel Beaupré**
Appointed in 2019



**The Honourable
Benoît Moore**
Appointed in 2019



**The Honourable
Guy Cournoyer***
Appointed in 2019



**The Honourable
Sophie Lavallée**
Appointed in 2020



**The Honourable
Christine Baudouin**
Appointed in 2020



**The Honourable
Frédéric Bachand**
Appointed in 2020



**The Honourable
Peter Kalichman**
Appointed in 2021



**The Honourable
Lori Renée Weitzman**
Appointed in 2023



**The Honourable
Éric Hardy**
Appointed in 2023



**The Honourable
Judith Harvie**
Appointed in 2023



**The Honourable
Myriam Lachance**
Appointed in 2024



**The Honourable
Christian Immer**
Appointed in 2025



**The Honourable
Alexandre Boucher**
Appointed in 2025

Appointments during the year

Two new judges were appointed to the Court in 2025.

The Honourable Christian Immer

Justice Immer is a graduate of McGill University's Faculty of Law and also holds a Bachelor in Secondary Education in History and Geography from the Université du Québec à Montréal. He was called to the Quebec Bar in 1992.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, he practised law at Woods, at Heenan Blaikie, and at Sheahan LLP, of which he was a founding member. His practice focused on environmental law, employment law, as well as corporate and commercial litigation. He also taught high school history and geography and served as a law lecturer at the Polytechnique Montréal and at McGill University.

Justice Immer was appointed to the Superior Court in 2019 and elevated to the Quebec Court of Appeal on January 23, 2025.



Justice Christian Immer at his welcoming ceremony.

The Honourable Alexandre Boucher



Justice Boucher holds a Bachelor of Laws from the Université de Montréal and a Master of Laws from York University. He was called to the Quebec Bar in 1995.

He began his career as defence counsel. He was also a Crown prosecutor, serving as agent with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada, before joining the office of Quebec's Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions. In addition, Justice Boucher was a law lecturer at the Université de Sherbrooke and the Université de Montréal.

He was appointed to the Superior Court in 2015 and elevated to the Quebec Court of Appeal on December 12, 2025.

Justice Alexandre Boucher.

Departures and supernumerary status

On April 30, 2025, Justice Robert M. Mainville retired from the Quebec Court of Appeal, where he had sat since July 1, 2014.

On June 24, 2025, Justice Guy Cournoyer became a supernumerary judge. As noted above, supernumerary judges are judges who are eligible for retirement but decide to continue their judicial duties with a lighter workload.

Justice François Doyon's final week of hearings



Justice François Doyon.

Justice François Doyon presided over his final week of hearings on the merits in September 2025, after 35 years on the bench, including nearly 22 years at the Quebec Court of Appeal, where he had sat since 2004.

After his admission to the Quebec Bar in 1975, he began his career as a Crown prosecutor acting for the Attorney General of Quebec and, in 1985, he was appointed Associate Chief Crown Prosecutor. He also acted as Crown prosecutor for the Attorney General of Canada. Concurrently with his practice, Justice Doyon taught criminal procedure at the Quebec Police Institute and criminal law at the Université de Montréal, at the Université du Québec à Montréal and at the Quebec Bar School. For several years, he participated as an instructor in the annual Quebec Bar seminar on the fundamentals of trial techniques.

He was appointed to the Court of Québec in February 1991. From June 1995 to April 1997, he chaired the Commission of Inquiry on Hydro-Québec's Policy regarding the Purchasing of Electricity from Private Producers. In August 2002, he became Associate Chief Judge of the Court of Québec's Criminal and Penal Division.

In May 2004, he was the first judge of a provincial court to be appointed directly to an appellate court in Canada. He quickly became one of the country's most eminent specialists in criminal law, a subject on which he lectured extensively. Beyond his undeniable contribution in this field, Justice Doyon fully embraced the generalist aspect of the Quebec Court of Appeal, whose jurisprudence he enriched for over two decades.

In memoriam

Two former judges of the Court left us in 2025.

On November 18, 2025, the **Honourable Michel Robert**, former Chief Justice of Quebec, passed away. Appointed to the Court in 1995, he served as Chief Justice of Quebec from 2002 to 2011. He was an outstanding ambassador for the Court, helping to enhance its outreach. It was during his tenure that the Court's Montreal seat moved into the majestic Ernest Cormier Building. His remarkable personal qualities, including his civility and integrity, earned him the respect of all those who knew him. Drawing on his passion for architecture and history, in 2009 he set up the Fondation Lafontaine-Cormier to promote the preservation of our legal and judicial heritage.

On December 18, 2025, the **Honourable Gerald McCarthy** passed away. Appointed to the Court in 1980, he served until 1994. In addition to his contribution to the Court's jurisprudence, Justice McCarthy played a significant role in shaping its linguistic practices. At a time when judges wrote their reasons solely in their mother tongue, Justice McCarthy, who was fluently bilingual, was a pioneer in drafting reasons in English and in French, much to the benefit of litigants. Today, this practice is firmly entrenched in the Court.

JUDGMENTS THAT SHAPE THE LAW

The Court, as the highest judicial authority in the province, renders judgments that often have an impact beyond the parties directly involved or raise issues of public interest to Quebec society as a whole. As such, and in an ongoing dialogue with the courts of first instance, it contributes to the development of the law in the many areas within its jurisdiction.

Below is a selection of judgments rendered in 2025 that were of particular interest.

Public law

- ***A.P. c. Procureur général du Québec***:¹ The Court ruled that s. 10 para. 4 of the *Health Insurance Act*, which sets a cap on the reimbursement of medical services received outside Quebec, does not discriminate, within the meaning of s. 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, against Quebec women who require reproductive health care (contraception, pregnancy and voluntary termination of pregnancy, delivery, etc.).
- ***Procureur général du Québec c. Centrale des syndicats démocratiques (CSD)***:² The Court ruled on the validity of certain statutory provisions establishing the collective bargaining scheme applicable to persons acting as “intermediate resources” or “family type resources” within the meaning of the *Act respecting health services and social services*. The Court concluded that the scheme does not infringe the freedom of association of the resources and their associations and that it ensures a negotiation process that takes into account their specific characteristics, thereby respecting both the Canadian and Quebec charters.



¹ [2025 QCCA 24](#).

² [2025 QCCA 216](#), application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court dismissed, September 18, 2025, No. 41781.

- ***Procureur général du Québec c. Quebec English School Boards Association***:³ In this case, Quebec English language school boards challenged the constitutionality of various provisions of *An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance* and of the *Education Act*. The Court found that certain contested provisions failed to respect the management and control rights of the linguistic minority and unjustifiably infringed the rights guaranteed under s. 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
- ***Ville de Québec c. Ouellet***:⁴ This case concerned the interpretation of the preventive withdrawal mechanism for pregnant workers set out in the *Act respecting occupational health and safety*. The Court held that an employer must take reasonable measures to comply with a pregnant or breastfeeding worker's request for reassignment. Only where reassignment is not possible may the worker be placed on preventive withdrawal. In such a case, the employer is required to explain to the worker why reassignment to other duties during the pregnancy is not possible.



- ***Lambert c. Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse (Nkamba)***:⁵ The Court pointed out that, in proceedings based on s. 10 of the *Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*, the first two constituent elements of racial discrimination — differential treatment and the connection to a prohibited ground — must not be conflated; each must be established on a balance of probabilities. In this particular case, there was no evidence that the complainant's handcuffing by police following his refusal to identify himself after his arrest was connected to his race.

³ [2025 QCCA 383](#), application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court, No. 41838.

⁴ [2025 QCCA 825](#), application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court, No. 42006.

⁵ [2025 QCCA 955](#).

Private law

- ***Procureur général du Québec c. Compagnie de chemin de fer Canadien Pacifique***:⁶ This decision concerned the dismissal of proceedings brought against Canadian Pacific in relation to the derailment of a train transporting crude oil that occurred in July 2013 in the heart of the Town of Lac Mégantic. The Court found that the trial judge did not err in fact or in law when he determined that Canadian Pacific could not be held liable for the actions of Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Canada Company, which had had control over the train and over its own employee. The Court further held that, even if Canadian Pacific's conduct had been wrongful, it would not in and of itself have been the cause of the derailment.



- ***Union des consommateurs c. Air Canada***:⁷ The Court concluded that the class action brought against Air Canada should be allowed in part. The airline was alleged to have charged prices higher than those advertised for goods or services, contrary to s. 224 para. 1(c) of the *Consumer Protection Act* (the “CPA”). The Court ruled, in particular, that the doctrine of federal paramountcy relied upon by Air Canada to exclude itself from the application of the CPA did not apply to the matter at hand. Air Canada had indeed contravened the CPA, and charging a price higher than the advertised price was deemed to have had a fraudulent effect on the decision of class members to purchase an airline ticket.
- ***Santé Québec (Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale) c. E.A.***:⁸ The Court examined the interpretation of art. 2926.1 of the *Civil Code of Québec*, which provides for certain exceptions to the prescriptive period in the case of an action seeking damages for bodily injury resulting from an act which could constitute a criminal offence. The Court held, in particular, that this provision does not apply to claims for damages against third parties to the act whose liability may arise from their own fault based on a distinct delictual basis. Accordingly, any claim seeking damages for bodily injury from third parties unconnected to the act — including the Director of Youth Protection or a police force — who are sued for their own fault, remains subject to the three-year prescriptive period set out in art. 2925 C.C.Q.

6 [2025 QCCA 230](#), applications for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court dismissed, May 14, 2026, No. 41783.

7 [2025 QCCA 480](#), application for leave to appeal and application for leave to cross-appeal to the Supreme Court granted, February 5, 2026, No. 41866.

8 [2025 QCCA 1226](#).

Criminal and penal law

- ***R. c. Giroux***:⁹ Nearly a decade after the ruling in *Jordan*, the Court reaffirmed certain principles governing an accused's right to be tried within a reasonable time. It pointed out that while the state bears responsibility for bringing an accused to trial within the timelines established in *Jordan*, the accused must not engage in conduct that illegitimately contributes to the time limits being exceeded.
- ***Blais c. R.***¹⁰ and ***Sylvestre c. R.***:¹¹ In these cases, the Court reiterated that judges must not conduct independent research to support their conclusions without giving the parties an opportunity to make submissions, failing which procedural fairness may be compromised.
- ***Toussaint c. R.***:¹² In this case involving aggravated assault, the Court elaborated on the analytical framework applicable to self-defence, stating that an accused cannot retroactively be required to have engaged in in-depth reflection before acting. When examining the proportionality of an accused's defensive response, a court must not second-guess a reaction that could not have been assessed precisely in the heat of the moment.
- ***Hardy c. R.***:¹³ The Court elaborated on the analytical framework that applies when evidence of a complainant's sexual activity is introduced for the first time on appeal. It concluded that, even though the scheme set out in ss. 276 and following of the *Criminal Code* does not, strictly speaking, apply to appeal proceedings, its purpose — protecting the dignity and privacy of complainants — is not limited to the trial process. A party who intends to present such evidence on appeal must comply with the spirit of the scheme.
- ***R.M. c. R.***:¹⁴ In this sentencing case involving sexual assault charges, while the Court did not conclude that the trial judge had been biased, it strongly denounced her decision to express her personal feelings, parallel to but outside of her reasons, during the sentencing hearing. Such remarks have no place in the courtroom and cast doubt on the judge's serenity. In the Court's view, reading a separate document (such as a letter or note) does not fulfill any of the critical functions of reasons for judgment — i.e., letting the parties know the reasons for conviction, providing public accountability and providing a basis for appeal.
- ***Gordon Gray c. R.***:¹⁵ In this homicide case, the Court ordered a new trial due to the harm caused by Crown counsel's closing address to the jury, which was punctuated by inappropriate comments and deviations. The Court noted that such an address must focus on the evidence and the inferences it supports, that the means of persuasion should be restricted to the facts found in the evidence and that the prosecution must not rely on passion, sympathy for the prosecution's witnesses or prejudice against the accused.

9 [2025 QCCA 848](#).

10 [2025 QCCA 877](#).

11 [2025 QCCA 1439](#).

12 [2025 QCCA 1155](#).

13 [2025 QCCA 1165](#), application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court dismissed, May 7, 2026, No. 42065.

14 [2025 QCCA 1354](#).

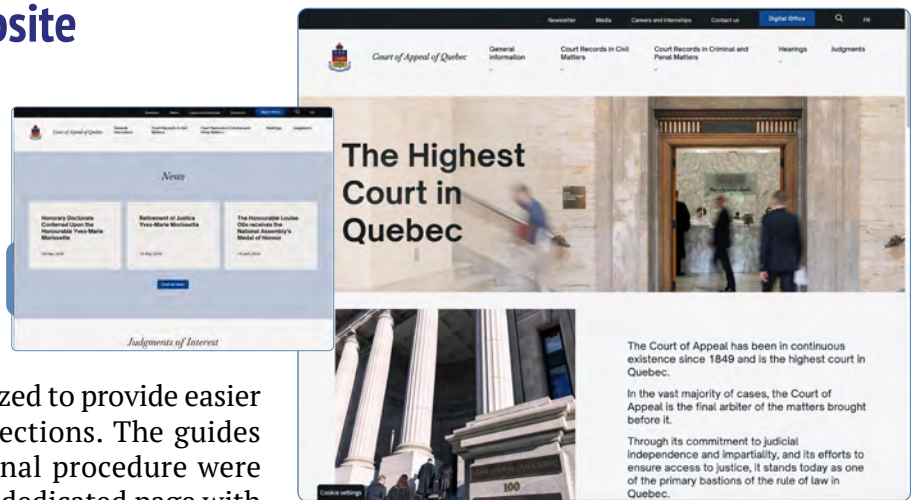
15 [2025 QCCA 1602](#).

NEW PROJECTS AND ONGOING INITIATIVES

In 2025, the Court maintained its commitment to placing the quality and accessibility of justice at the centre of its actions. To that end, new projects were implemented and several initiatives already underway were further developed.

Launch of a new website

In February, the Court announced the launch of its brand new website, featuring an updated design. With accessibility as a guiding principle, navigation was made more intuitive and was optimized for mobile devices. Information was also reorganized to provide easier access to the site's various sections. The guides on civil procedure and criminal procedure were simplified, and there is now a dedicated page with resources for self-represented litigants.



The Court's new website

Pilot project with the Commission des services juridiques

A pilot project bringing together the Court and the Commission des services juridiques (CSJ) was officially launched in June 2025. This partnership, in cases involving criminal matters, simplifies access to legal aid for self-represented individuals who are detained and wish to file an appeal.

The Court will be able to suggest to these litigants that they submit their case to the CSJ so that someone designated by the CSJ can contact them and determine their eligibility for legal aid, with a view to ultimately offering them legal representation. This representation may then be entrusted either to a permanent legal aid staff lawyer or to a lawyer in private practice who accepts legal aid mandates. In addition to improving access to justice for detained individuals, this initiative contributes to the efficiency and promptness of the appellate process.

Newsletter



In February, the Court launched its very first newsletter. Published at least once a week, it features Court news as well as a selection of recent judgments. Signing up for the newsletter can be done directly online via the Court's website.

Claire L'Heureux-Dubé Courtroom

In October 2024, the forthcoming construction of a new courtroom at the Court's Quebec City seat was announced. The name of the courtroom, which will be able to accommodate a panel of five judges, was chosen in tribute to the Honourable Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, the first woman appointed to the Quebec Court of Appeal. The call for tenders for the construction work concluded with the selection of a successful bidder in the fall of 2025. Work is scheduled to begin in 2026, with completion anticipated in April 2027.



Rendering of the Claire L'Heureux-Dubé Courtroom.

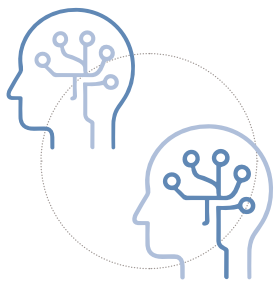
New regulation in penal matters

The new *Regulation of the Court of Appeal of Quebec in Penal Matters* came into force on February 20, 2025. The amendments were primarily intended to ensure consistency with the requirements applicable to other matters, particularly with regard to the filing and transmission of pleadings and documents via technological means. Some of the clerk's practice directions as well as one of the Chief Justice's directives respecting the filing of documents were also amended.

Ongoing digital shift and artificial intelligence

Development work on the new Lexius portal — the initiative to digitize the justice system — continued for the Court throughout 2025. The working committee, composed of judges and staff members, is collaborating closely with the programming team in charge of creating the portal to ensure that it reflects the Court's needs and specific characteristics. A first prototype is expected to be delivered in the spring of 2026.

Concurrently, the Court undertook a review of its directives so as to allow parties to file several types of documents solely in digital format, notably books of authorities. These changes, aimed at facilitating access to the Court, are scheduled to come into effect during the first quarter of 2026.



In addition, the Court's technology committee continues to assess certain tools that rely on artificial intelligence, not only with respect to their concrete potential for the Court, but also in terms of their compliance with the guidelines published by the Canadian Judicial Council. Given the issues at stake, this evaluation phase is being conducted with the utmost prudence. The committee is also tasked with raising awareness among judges and Court staff about the risks and challenges associated with these new technologies. However, the committee must contend with limited resources in carrying out its work, as no additional funding has been allocated to the Court for these activities.

OUTREACH

This year, the Court once again undertook numerous initiatives to strengthen its ties with the legal community and the general public. These efforts reflect the Court's desire to raise awareness about its role and operations, while maintaining ongoing dialogue with those within its ecosystem.

Note: Most of the Court's activities in connection with its 175th anniversary were included in the 2024 activity report, although some were held in 2025.

Engaging with the public



Chief Justice Manon Savard and Justice Suzanne Gagné at the Quebec City Courthouse open house.

On March 29, 2025, for the very first time in its history, the Court hosted an open house for the general public. The open house, held at its Montreal seat, took place in collaboration with the Barreau de Montréal as part of the AIM FOR JUSTICE Events. The second edition of this event is scheduled for March 28, 2026.

On September 20, 2025, the Court also took part in the open house hosted by the Quebec City Courthouse. On that occasion, Chief Justice Manon Savard and Justice Suzanne Gagné, Coordinating Judge at the Quebec City seat, participated in a public discussion forum moderated by journalist Isabelle Mathieu.

Joint meeting with the Ontario Court of Appeal

In May 2025, the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Ontario Court of Appeal held a joint meeting. Such meetings between the two courts take place from time to time, the last one dating back to October 2018. These meetings aim to allow judges from both courts to discuss their respective practices and the various contemporary challenges they face. They are also an opportunity to share ideas and best practices with a view to improving access to appellate justice.



Judges of the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Quebec Court of Appeal at a joint meeting.

Opening of the courts



As it does each year, throughout the month of September, the Court participated in activities for the opening of the courts in several regions of Quebec. These events provided an opportunity for judges of the Court to speak to members of the regional bars and to engage with the legal community on issues of both local and provincial importance.

Chief Justice Manon Savard at the opening of the courts in Montreal.

Training activities, assemblies and conferences

In an increasingly fast-changing world, the Court places great importance on continuing education. Each year, it holds two assemblies during which all of its judges attend lectures and presentations on topical issues. In 2025, the spring assembly was held jointly with the Ontario Court of Appeal (see above), while the fall assembly focused on the art of judging.

Additionally, each year, judges are encouraged to participate in other educational activities they consider relevant, whether as attendees or presenters. In 2025, judges of the Court took part in over 60 lectures, conferences, seminars, courses, workshops, panels and other training activities.

Education and awareness

In collaboration with Éducaloi, Chief Justice Manon Savard and Justices Geneviève Cotnam, Benoît Moore and Judith Harvie conducted legal workshops in three high schools in the Quebec City and Montreal regions (Polyvalente de l'Ancienne Lorette, École Père Marquette and École Honoré Mercier). Students from several classes were introduced to the role of law in their daily lives and learned more about the work of an appellate judge. In addition, members of the Court participated, at the national, provincial and intra-university levels, as guest judges in various moot court competitions held in 2025. These activities provide a particularly valuable opportunity for the Court to contribute to the professional advocacy skills of tomorrow's lawyers.



Visit by a Ukrainian delegation

On November 13, the Court had the honour of welcoming a delegation of 22 judges and accompanying personnel from Ukraine. The visitors toured the Ernest Cormier Building and attended a Court hearing. This was followed by a presentation by Justice Julie Dutil, who outlined the Court's role and operations, as well as the specific features of the Canadian legal system.



Members of the Ukrainian delegation in the Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine Courtroom of the Ernest Cormier Building.

Visits by students and interns



Justice Suzanne Gagné welcomes interns from the University of Ottawa's Parliamentary Internship Program.

Throughout the year, several groups of students and interns — including those from paralegal programs — visited the Court. Whether at the Quebec City seat or the Montreal seat, they had the opportunity to discover the inner workings of the province's highest court and to meet various participants in the judicial process.



In the media

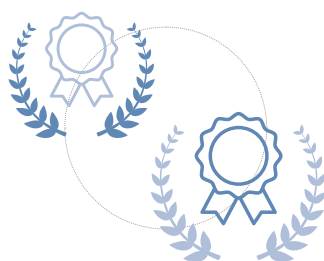
With the ongoing objective of enhancing the Court of Appeal's visibility among the general public, Chief Justice Manon Savard gave several media interviews in 2025.

- On January 7, she discussed the Court's 175-year history with Alec Castonguay on the program *Midi Info* broadcast on ICI Première.
- On January 9, she spoke about the evolution and functioning of the Court with the host of the program *Isabelle Richer* on the airwaves of ICI RDI.
- She also gave an interview to journalist Isabelle Mathieu on the topic of artificial intelligence in Quebec's judicial system for the May 2025 issue of *L'actualité* magazine.
- On September 9, during the program *Tout un matin* broadcast on ICI Première, she discussed the importance of judicial independence with host Patrick Masbourian.

Awards and honours

In 2025, many of the Court's judges contributed to its outreach through the awards they received and the honours conferred upon them.

- On September 5, in connection with the opening of the courts held at the Sherbrooke courthouse, **Justice Myriam Lachance** received the Pierre-Basile Mignault Medal, the highest distinction conferred by the Barreau de Saint François.
- On September 20, during the convocation ceremonies, **Justice Marie Josée Hogue** was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Université de Sherbrooke, her alma mater.
- On October 7, the law faculty of the Université de Montréal held its alumni dinner. The event honoured three women with distinguished careers: Chief Justice **Manon Savard**, Mtre Marie-Philippe Bouchard, President and CEO of CBC/Radio-Canada, and Mtre Valérie Assouline, Bâtonnière of Montreal.



A DEDICATED TEAM

Message from management

The year 2025 once again highlighted what lies at the core of the Court's strength: a dedicated and skilled team committed to the cause of justice. Behind every hearing held, every judgment rendered and every case handled lies the meticulous work of individuals who, day after day, ensure the quality and integrity of the public justice system by embodying our fundamental values: rigour, impartiality and respect for litigants.

Over the course of the year, the Court undertook several structuring initiatives, including harmonizing practices, optimizing internal processes and modernizing administrative tools. These efforts, which reflect an ongoing drive for efficiency and consistency, require a high degree of adaptability and collaboration. Their success hinges entirely on the commitment of staff, whose professionalism and sense of duty remain central to the Court's operations.

We also wish to highlight the spirit of solidarity within the teams at the Montreal and Quebec City seats. Despite a demanding work environment, they have maintained high standards of quality and have provided clear, reliable and accessible information to litigants, counsel and institutional partners. Their availability, attention to detail and ability to anticipate operational needs contribute directly to the Court's effectiveness.

The diversity of expertise within the Court is a major asset. Be it those providing Court office services, support to the judiciary, jurilinguistic services, docket scheduling, court usher services or administrative support, each person plays an essential role in ensuring that the appellate process flows smoothly. This complementarity is one of the team's greatest strengths.

As the Court continues its efforts to modernize and constantly adapt, its staff members remain the cornerstone of this process. Through their commitment, professionalism and humanity, the teams sustain an institution that is efficient, accessible and able to meet the public's expectations.

Pascal Pommier
Director General

Vickie Légaré
Director of Administrative Services



A wide range of expertise

The Court's staff is composed of nearly one hundred employees with diverse fields of expertise and varying profiles. Approximately half are professionals, while the others include paralegals, judicial assistants and court services officers. The following is an overview of their roles.

Court office

In the Court office, paralegals and court services officers perform a variety of tasks essential to the proper management of appeal files. Among other things, they provide general information to litigants and see to it that pleadings comply with the applicable rules. They also send out judgments and handle the consultation, distribution and archiving of Court records in accordance with current legislative requirements.

Courtroom clerks are responsible for recording the proceedings and drafting the minutes of hearings. Court ushers ensure the orderly conduct of proceedings and compliance with the rules of decorum.

The masters of the rolls are responsible for preparing the hearing rolls, under the supervision of the Chief Justice and the coordinating judge.

A team of jurists provides legal support to the judges and Court staff. They also manage and monitor certain files. They hear and rule on applications that fall under the jurisdiction of the appellate clerk.

Support for the judiciary

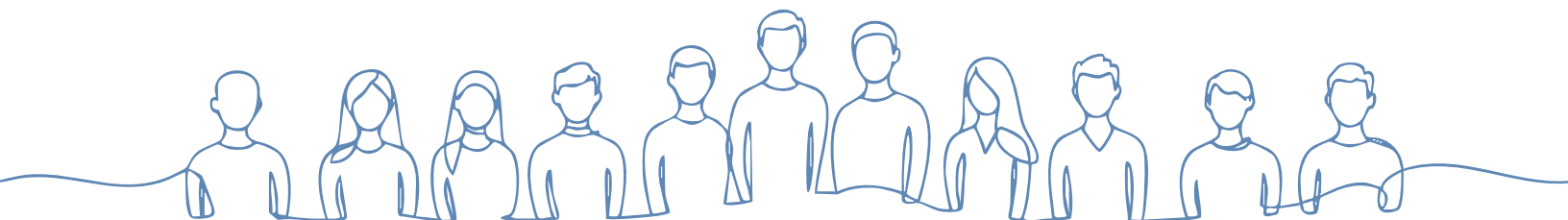
Judicial assistants provide administrative support to the judges in preparing Court files and reviewing draft judgments.

Each judge also has an assigned law clerk to assist in the performance of judicial duties. Clerkships last two years, including a six month articling period recognized by the Barreau du Québec.

Jurilinguists are responsible for translating judgments, as required. They also ensure the linguistic quality and terminological consistency of judgments.

Management

The Court's administration is overseen by Mtre Pascal Pommier, its Director General, and Vickie Légaré, its Director of Administrative Services. They are supported by a team of administrative technicians and a coordinator.



STAYING CONNECTED WITH THE COURT

Contacting the Court office

The Court office is the point of entry to the Court for parties. Court office staff can guide parties, but they cannot provide legal advice or answer questions of a legal nature.

Montreal seat

Quebec Court of Appeal
Ernest Cormier Building
100 Notre Dame Street East
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 4B6

Telephone: 514-393-2022, then dial 0
Fax: 514-864-7270

courdappelmtl@judex.qc.ca

Quebec City seat

Quebec Court of Appeal
Quebec City Courthouse
300 Jean Lesage Boulevard, Suite 4.27
Quebec City, Quebec G1K 8K6

Telephone: 418-649-3401
Fax: 418-646-6961

courdappelqc@judex.qc.ca

Consulting a judgment or file

The Court publishes summaries of certain judgments on its website. The full text of every judgment is available free of charge on the following websites: <https://jugements.qc.ca> and <https://www.canlii.org/>.

Files can also be accessed in person at the Court office counter.

Attending a hearing

Unless a hearing is held *in camera*, members of the public may attend Court hearings in person. In addition, upon request submitted by email to the Court office, it is possible to attend a hearing online, in audio format.

The schedule of upcoming hearings is published in the “Rolls” section of the Court’s website: <https://courdappelduquebec.ca/en/hearings/rolls>.

Signing up for the newsletter

The Court publishes a newsletter at least once a week, in which it features Court news as well as a selection of judgments posted on its website. Signing up for the newsletter can be done directly online at the following address: <https://courdappelduquebec.ca/en/general-information/newsletter>.



2025 STATISTICS

Each year, the Court publishes data on its judicial activities. For most categories, the data presented covers a 10 year period. For some categories, however, the available data does not extend that far back. In those cases, the period covered is specified in parentheses in the table's heading.

Files opened

Number of appeal files opened by subject matter



The table below shows the number of appeal files opened by subject matter, broken down as follows:

- **Civil matters (jurisdictional code: 09)**
This category includes appeals in civil matters as well as appeals in all matters other than criminal and penal cases, regardless of the jurisdiction from which the judgment under appeal originates (e.g., family law, class actions, bankruptcy and insolvency, applications for judicial review, etc.).
- **Criminal and penal matters (jurisdictional code: 10)**
This category includes appeals in criminal and penal matters, regardless of the jurisdiction from which the judgment under appeal originates (e.g., appeals against verdicts, sentences or dangerous offender designations, appeals on *certiorari* or *habeas corpus* applications, etc.).
- **Youth matters (jurisdictional code: 08)**
This category includes appeals from judgments of the Court of Québec, Youth Division, in adoption and protection matters as well as in youth criminal justice matters prosecuted by indictment. It also includes appeals from Superior Court judgments in matters under jurisdictional code 24.

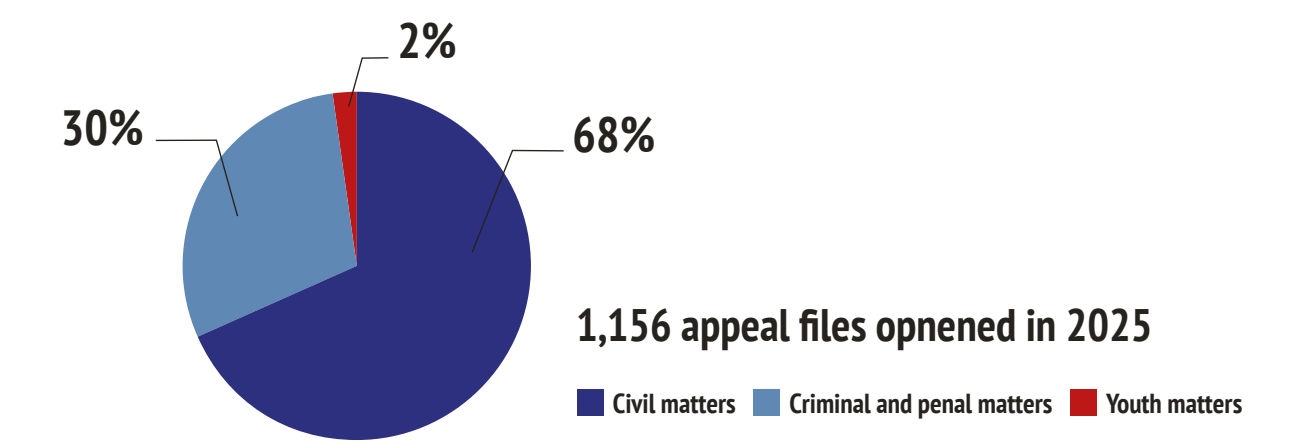
Under the heading “Files opened”, data regarding youth matters has been compiled separately, whereas under the other headings, such data has been included in civil matters (09) or in criminal and penal (10) matters.



In 2025, a total of 1,156 appeal files were opened, of which 791 were in civil matters, 342 in criminal and penal matters and 23 in youth matters. Compared with 2024, this represents an increase in civil matters and a slight decrease in criminal and penal matters and in youth matters.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	967	945	1,006	951	661	810	701	745	750	791
Criminal and penal matters	390	410	479	422	315	379	389	343	381	342
Youth matters	19	15	26	22	17	34	24	21	27	23
Total*	1,376	1,370	1,511	1,395	993	1,223	1,114	1,109	1,158	1,156

*In the 2024 activity report, the “Total” row in this table included youth matters, which had also been incorporated in civil matters and in criminal and penal matters. This has now been corrected, which explains the discrepancy between the data presented in the 2024 and 2025 reports.



Number of appeals as of right or with leave

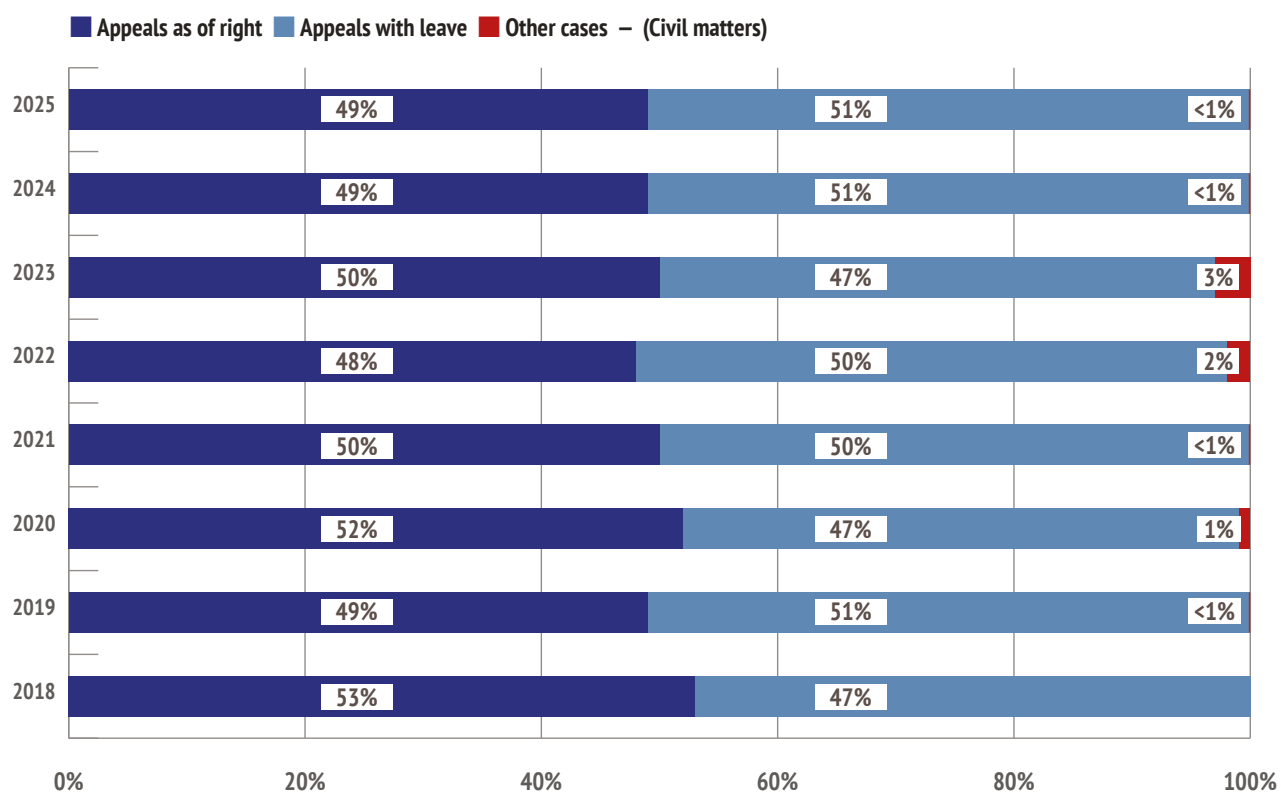
The tables below show, by subject matter, the number of appeals as of right, appeals with leave and other cases.

- Appeal as of right:** initiated by filing a notice of appeal.
- Appeal with leave:** certain legislative provisions require permission from a judge or panel of judges to appeal a judgment.
- Other cases:** certain other pleadings can initiate an appeal, such as an application to extend the time limit for an appeal in a divorce matter or an application for judicial review of the Minister’s decision in an extradition matter.

(a) Civil matters (2018-2025)

In 2025, in civil matters, the proportion of appeals as of right to appeals with leave remained stable.

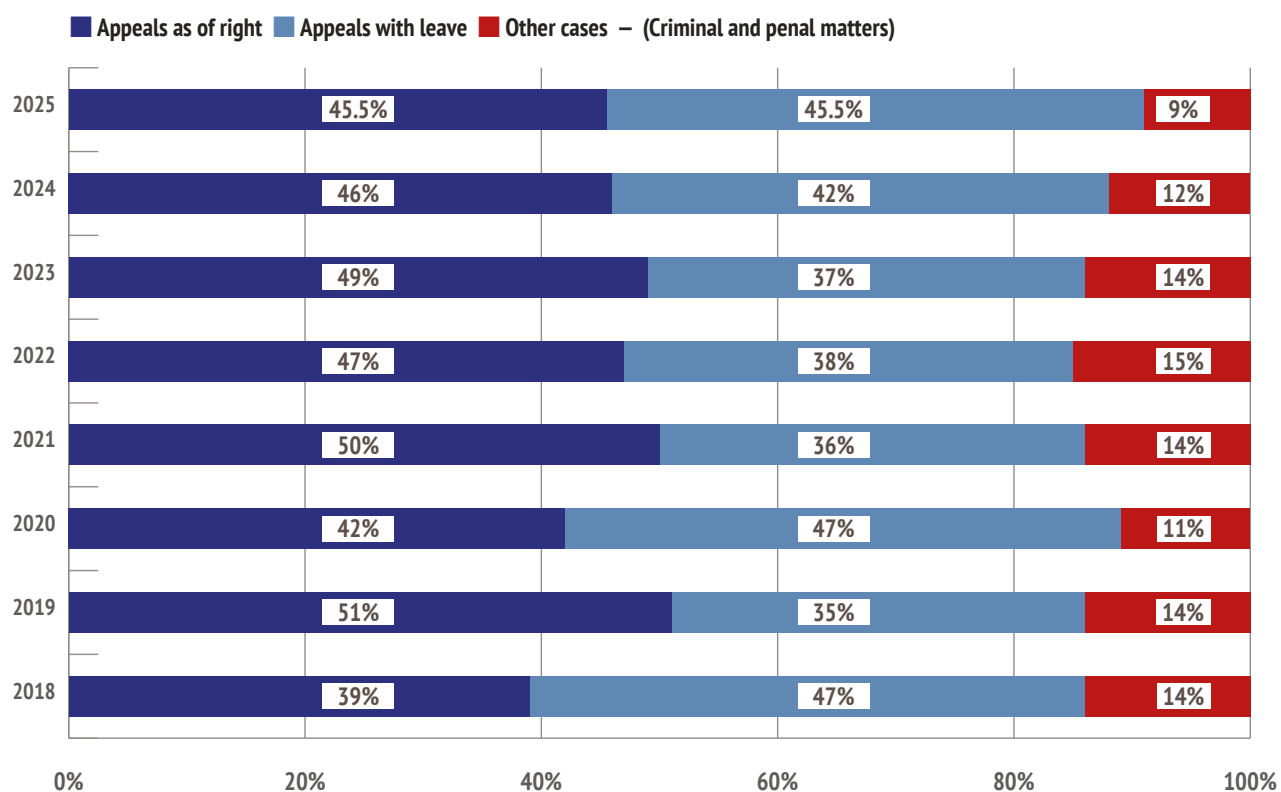
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appeals as of right	538	475	349	413	345	377	376	397
Appeals with leave	485	487	319	415	358	357	392	408
Other cases	0	2	4	4	15	24	2	1
Total	1,023	964	672	832	718	758	770	806



(b) Criminal and penal matters (2018-2025)

In 2025, in criminal and penal matters, there was a slight increase in the percentage of appeals with leave.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appeals as of right	192	222	134	194	185	173	180	159
Appeals with leave	228	149	150	142	150	129	163	159
Other cases	68	60	37	55	61	49	45	32
Total	488	431	321	391	396	351	388	350



Judgments rendered on the merits

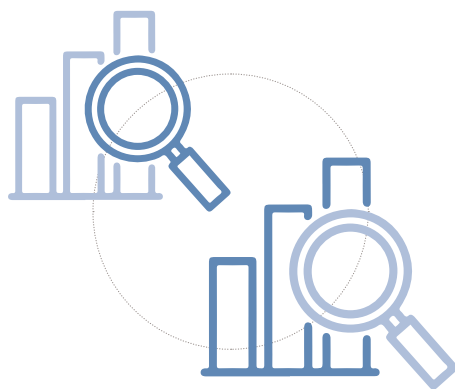
The table below shows data on judgments that were rendered by a panel of the Court and terminated the appeal proceedings, which includes judgments granting an application to dismiss an appeal. Since more than one judgment may be rendered in a given file, the data reflects the number of files in which a judgment terminated the appeal proceedings.

Number of judgments rendered on the merits

In 2024 and 2025, the number of judgments rendered on the merits by a panel of judges decreased slightly, dropping from 629 in 2024 to 609 in 2025. Overall, this change reflects the downward trend observed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	475	497	499	554	1162	578	408	449	411	374
Criminal and penal matters	244	217	237	249	223	247	237	190	218	235
Total	719	714	736	803	1385	825	645	639	629	609

*In 2020, of the judgments in civil matters, 769 were part of the Pyrrhotite appeal.



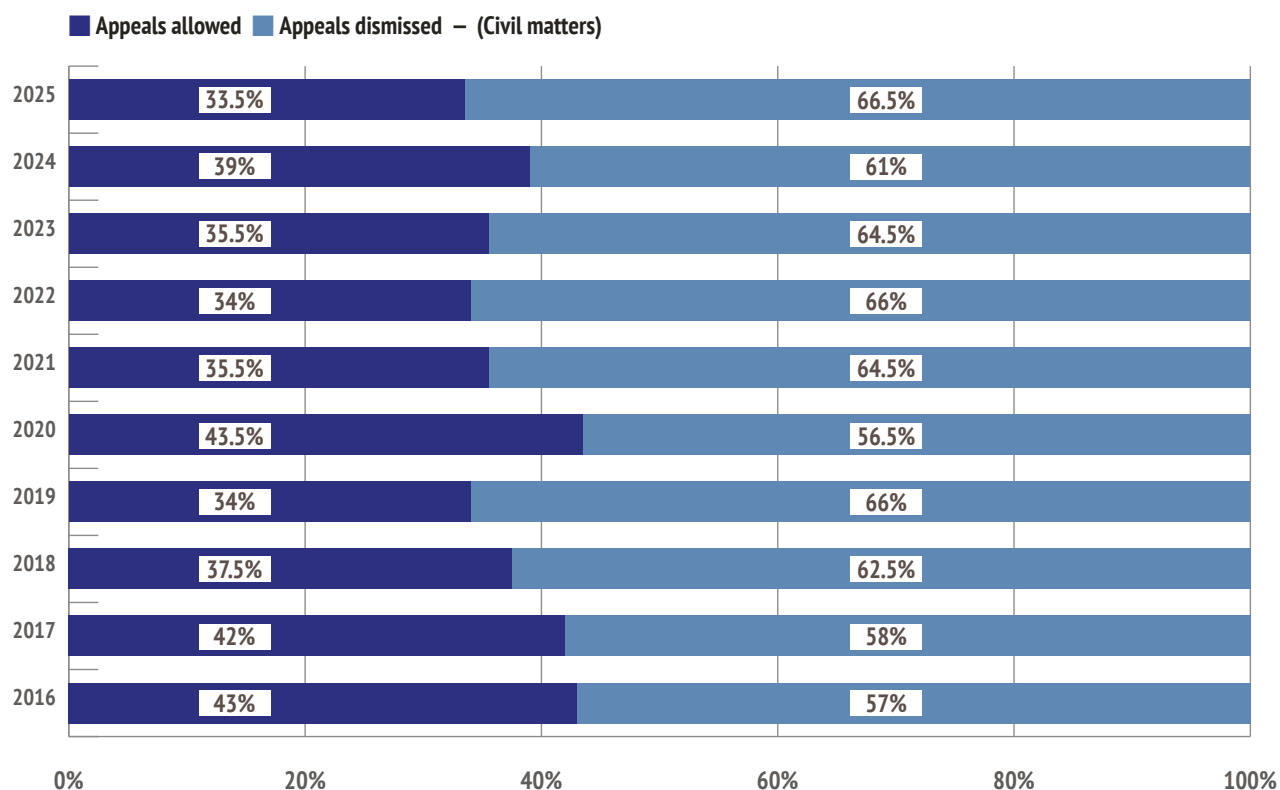
Percentage of appeals allowed or dismissed

The tables below show, by subject matter, the percentage of appeals allowed in relation to the percentage of appeals dismissed. For purposes of this section, appeals allowed include appeals allowed in part.

(a) Civil matters

In 2025, in civil matters, there was a slight increase in the percentage of appeals dismissed when compared with 2024, but the percentage has remained relatively stable since 2021. Over the entire period covered, the percentage of appeals dismissed ranged from 56.5% to 66.5%.

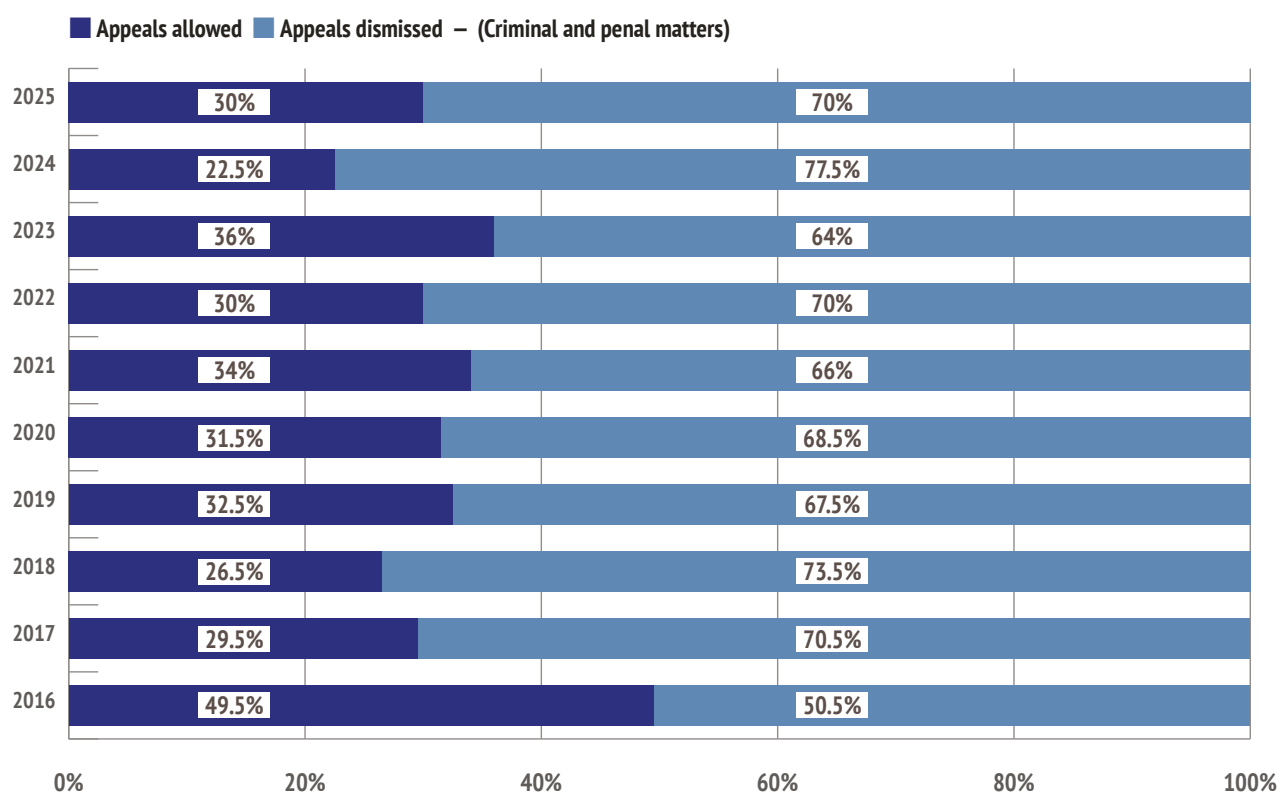
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appeals allowed	43%	42%	37.5%	34%	43.5%	35.5%	34%	35.5%	39%	33.5%
Appeals dismissed	57%	58%	62.5%	66%	56.5%	64.5%	66%	64.5%	61%	66.5%



(b) Criminal and penal matters

In 2025, in criminal and penal matters, there was an increase in the percentage of appeals allowed when compared with 2024. With the exception of 2016, throughout the period covered, the percentage of appeals dismissed remained markedly higher than that of appeals allowed.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appeals allowed	49.5%	29.5%	26.5%	32.5%	31.5%	34%	30%	36%	22.5%	30%
Appeals dismissed	50.5%	70.5%	73.5%	67.5%	68.5%	66%	70%	64%	77.5%	70%



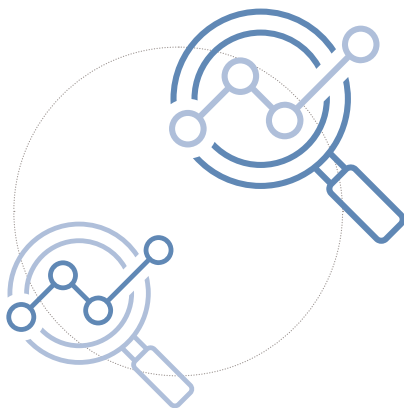
Hearings on the merits

Although a large number of appeal files are opened each year, not all are heard on the merits. Appeal proceedings may be ended by an out-of-court settlement between the parties, by a settlement resulting from a settlement conference, or by the summary dismissal of the appeal (granting of an application to dismiss the appeal).

Number of hearings on the merits

In 2025, there were a total of 524 hearings on the merits, an increase when compared with 2024.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	453	405	385	429	335	499	343	355	279	306
Criminal and penal matters	243	216	221	263	205	239	216	193	205	218
Total	696	621	606	692	540	738	559	548	484	524



Judgments rendered at the hearing or after the matter was taken under advisement

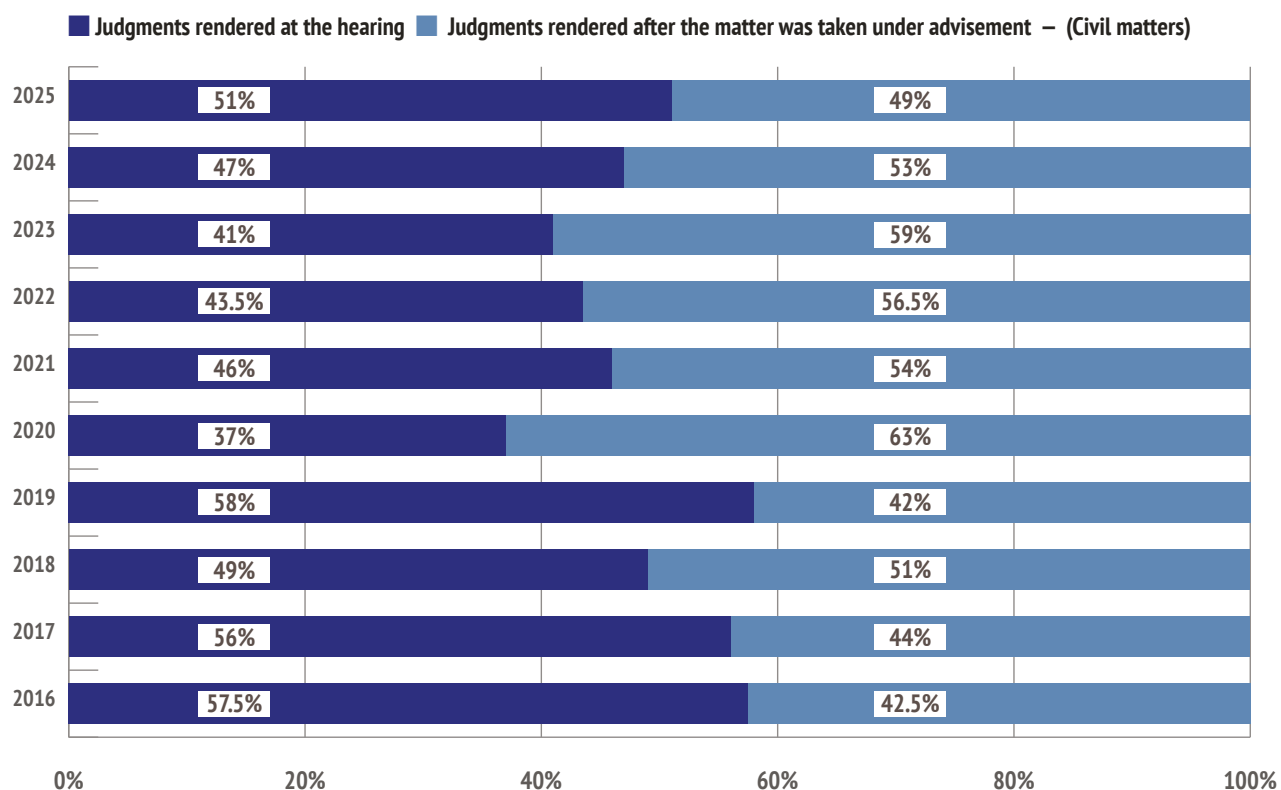
After a hearing on the merits, the Court may render its judgment at the hearing (on the minutes of the hearing) or take the matter under advisement. The tables below show, by subject matter, the number of judgments rendered at the hearing in relation to those rendered after the matter was taken under advisement.

(a) Civil matters

In 2025, the percentage of judgments rendered at the hearing in civil matters increased to 51%. From 2016 to 2020, there was a downward trend in these figures, but the percentages have been increasing since then, despite occasional fluctuations.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Judgments rendered at the hearing	57.5%	56%	49%	58%	37%	46%	43.5%	41%	47%	51%
Judgments rendered after the matter was taken under advisement	42.5%	44%	51%	42%	63%	54%	56.5%	59%	53%	49%

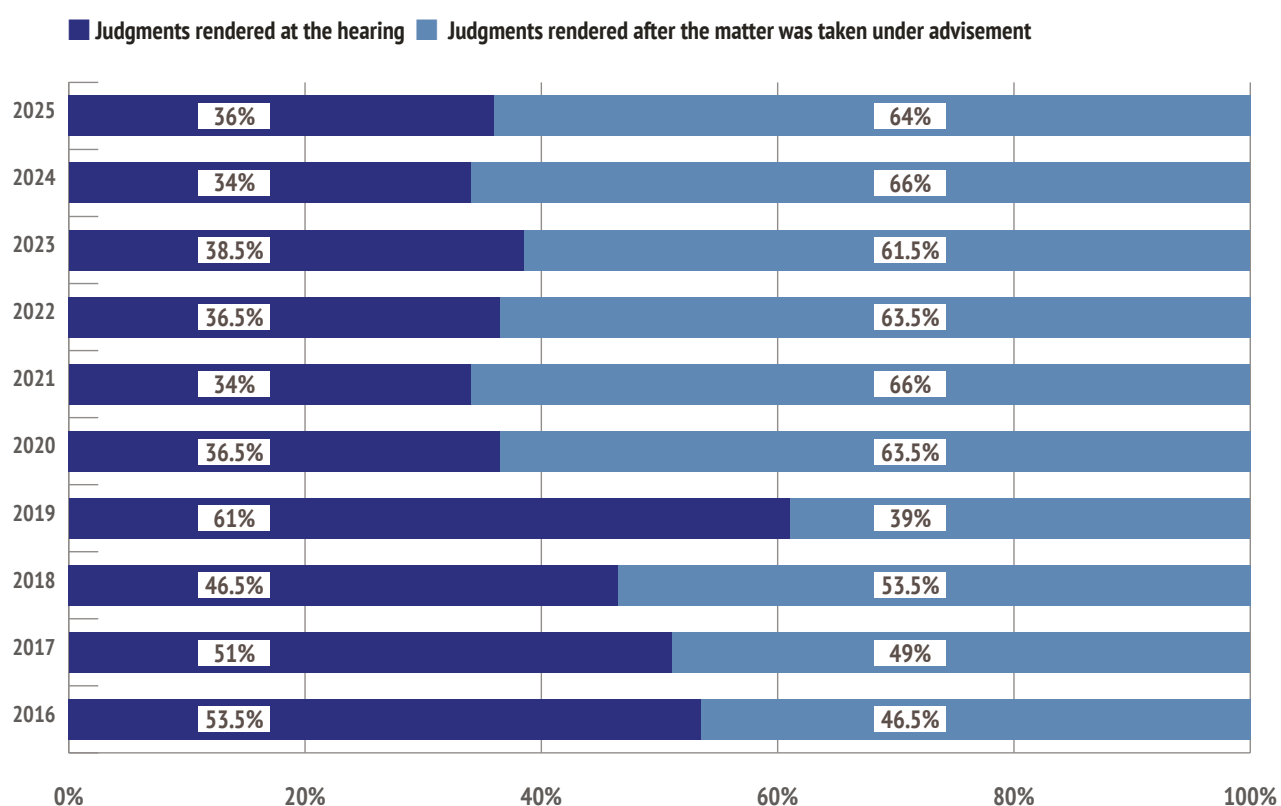
*The 769 judgments rendered in civil matters in 2020 in the Pyrrhotite appeal were excluded from the calculation so as not to skew the data.



(b) Criminal and penal matters

In 2025, in criminal and penal matters, the percentage of judgments rendered at the hearing increased to 36%, slightly higher than in 2024. This percentage has been relatively stable since 2020.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Judgments rendered at the hearing	53.5%	51%	46.5%	61%	36.5%	34%	36.5%	38.5%	34%	36%
Judgments rendered after the matter was taken under advisement	46.5%	49%	53.5%	39%	63.5%	66%	63.5%	61.5%	66%	64%



Judgments rendered by a panel of judges on an application or motion

Some applications or motions must be presented before a panel of three judges, such as an application to dismiss the appeal or an application for leave to appeal after the expiry of the time limit. The data below was calculated based on the number of applications (or motions), not the number of files.

Number of judgments rendered by a panel of judges after the hearing of an application or a motion

The number of judgments rendered in 2025 decreased when compared with 2024. This decrease is part of a general downward trend observed since 2019, despite some occasional fluctuations.

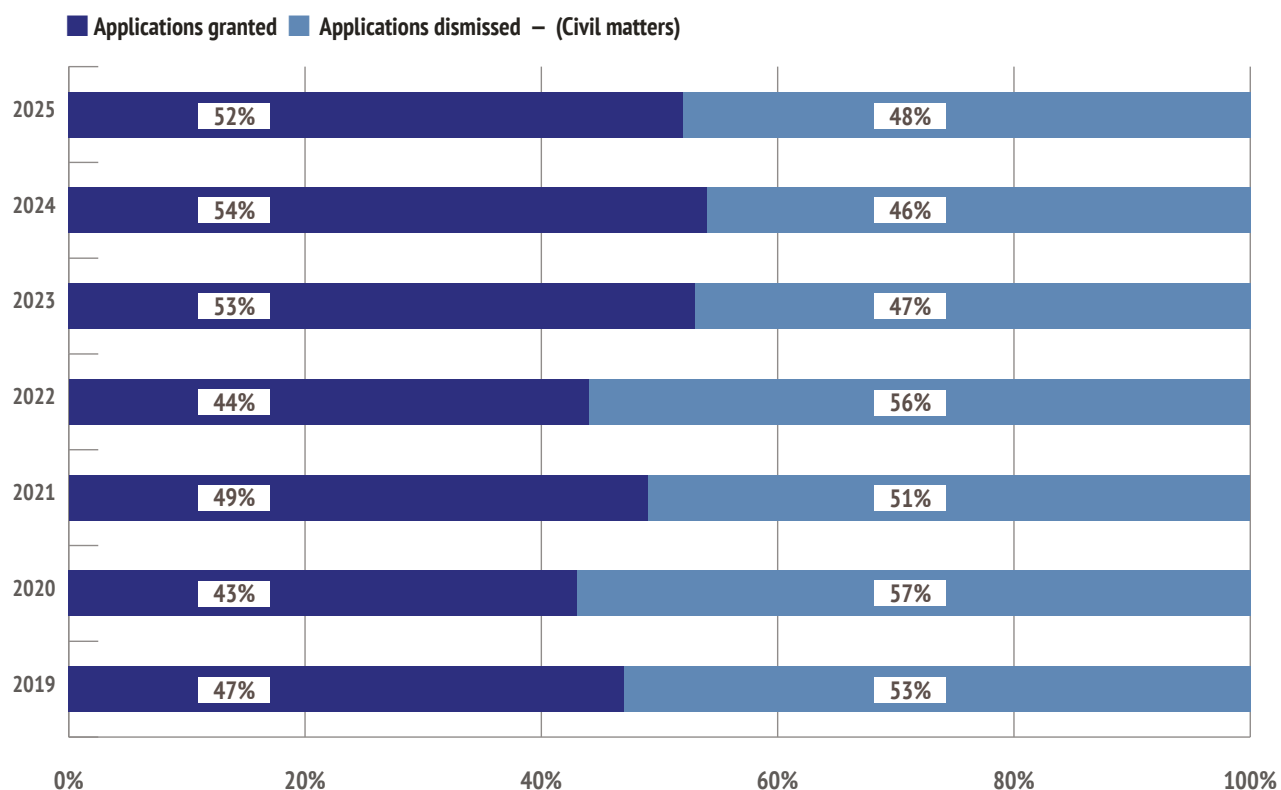
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	570	571	584	619	416	512	430	440	531	421
Criminal and penal matters	91	163	258	271	252	247	170	141	184	181
Total	661	734	842	890	668	759	600	581	715	602



Number of applications to dismiss an appeal in civil matters (2019-2025)

In 2025, the total number of applications to dismiss an appeal in civil matters decreased when compared with 2024. This decrease is part of a fluctuating trend, which has nevertheless been stable overall since 2020. Over the period covered, the proportion of applications granted to those dismissed remained relatively stable.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications granted	130	79	107	85	103	121	100
Applications dismissed	144	106	112	108	93	105	91
Total	274	185	219	193	196	226	191



Judgments rendered by a judge sitting alone

A judge sitting alone (sometimes referred to as the “judge in chambers” or “motions judge”) hears several types of applications, such as applications for leave to appeal, applications for provisional execution or applications for interim release from custody in criminal matters.

The data below was calculated based on the number of applications (or motions), not the number of judgments rendered. Given that a single judgment may dispose of more than one application (or motion), this approach makes it possible to measure more accurately the actual volume of applications (or motions) handled by a judge sitting alone.

Total number of judgments rendered by a judge sitting alone

In 2025, a total of 820 applications (or motions) were decided, a significant increase when compared with 691 in 2024. This break in the downward trend that had been observed since 2018 brings the number of applications (or motions) back to a level comparable to that in 2021.

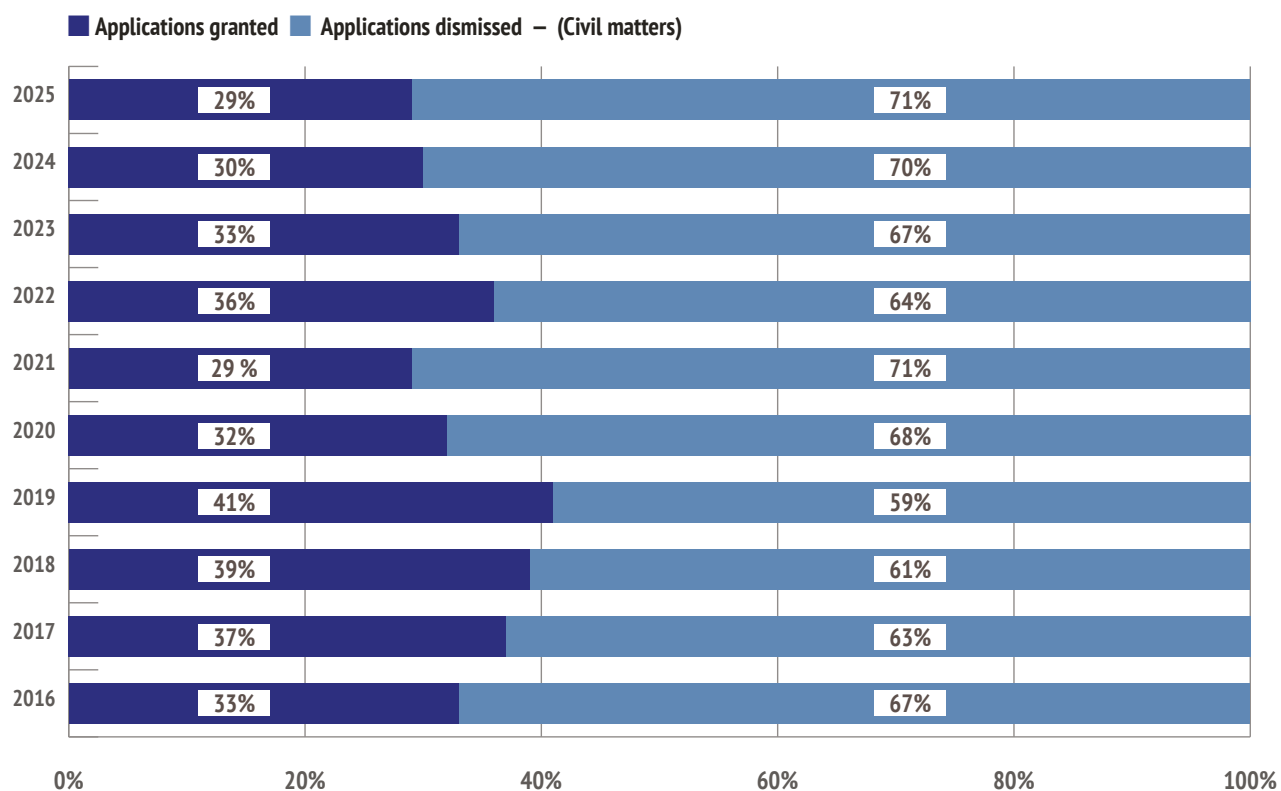
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	469	530	585	581	390	477	369	344	393	451
Criminal and penal matters	374	404	544	454	381	364	356	320	298	369
Total	843	934	1,129	1,035	771	841	725	664	691	820



Number of judgments rendered by a judge sitting alone after the hearing of an application for leave to appeal in civil matters

In 2025, in civil matters, a total of 347 judgments were rendered after the hearing of an application for leave to appeal, representing an increase when compared with 2024. Since 2020, the proportion of applications granted to those dismissed has remained relatively stable.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications granted	120	143	171	178	93	95	108	92	97	99
Applications dismissed	249	240	265	260	197	238	195	186	223	248
Total	369	383	436	438	290	333	303	278	320	347

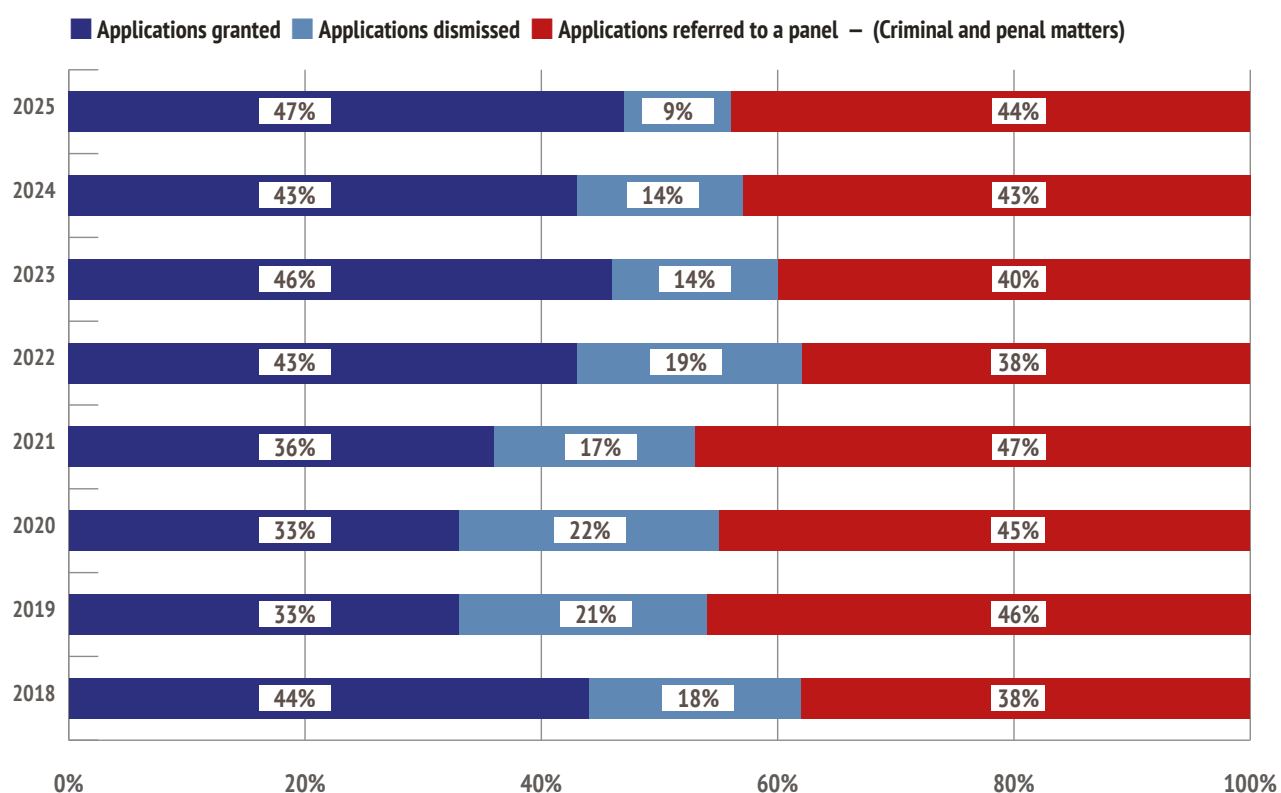


Number of judgments rendered by a judge sitting alone after the hearing of an application for leave to appeal in criminal and penal matters (2018-2025)

In criminal and penal matters, there was a slight increase in the number of judgments rendered in 2025 when compared with 2024. The proportion of applications granted to those dismissed or referred to a panel rose slightly.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications granted	109	64	50	64	54	53	44	54
Applications dismissed	44	41	33	31	24	16	14	10
Applications referred to a panel*	95	90	69	84	47	46	44	50
Total	248	195	152	179	125	115	102	114

*A judge sitting alone hearing an application for leave to appeal can decide to refer the application to a panel of judges.



Judgments rendered by the clerk

The clerk has jurisdiction to rule on certain types of applications, such as an application to extend the time limit for filing a brief or an application presented by a lawyer who wishes to cease representing a client.

Number of judgments rendered by the clerk on an application (2018-2025)

If 2025, a total of 857 judgments were rendered by the clerk. This slight increase when compared with 2024 (845) is in keeping with the increases observed since 2022.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	279	362	213	399	271	292	306	295
Criminal and penal matters	315	280	444	489	396	426	539	562
Total	594	642	657	888	667	718	845	857

Self-represented parties

The tables below show the percentage of hearings on the merits or hearings of applications held before a panel of judges or a judge sitting alone where at least one of the parties was not represented by counsel.

Note: The 2024 activity report provided a general overview of this data. The data is now broken down by subject matter. Moreover, an inconsistency in the calculation of the total percentage in the 2024 activity report has been corrected in this year's report, which explains the small discrepancy between the data presented in the two documents.

Percentage of hearings on the merits where at least one party was not represented by counsel (2022-2025)

The available data indicates a gradual increase in the percentage of hearings on the merits where at least one party was not represented by counsel. In 2025, 9.1% of such hearings involved at least one self-represented party, all subject matters combined, continuing the upward trend observed since 2022.

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	Not available	Not available	10.8%	11.8%
Criminal and penal matters	Not available	Not available	6.3%	5.5%
Total	3.9%	7.8%	8.9%	9.1%

Percentage of hearings of applications before a panel where at least one party was not represented by counsel (2022-2025)

The available data indicates an upward trend in the percentage of applications before a panel where at least one party was not represented by counsel. In 2025, 28.1% of such hearings involved at least one self-represented party, an increase when compared with 2024.

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	28.4%	24.8%	23.5%	30.9%
Criminal and penal matters	11.2%	20.6%	15.8%	21.5%
Total	23.5%	23.8%	21.5%	28.1%

Percentage of hearings of applications before a judge sitting alone where at least one party was not represented by counsel (2022-2025)

In 2025, 19.1% of hearings of applications before a judge sitting alone involved at least one self-represented party, an increase over the levels in 2022 and 2023, but a decrease when compared with 2024.

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	13.8%	15.4%	26.5%	23.1%
Criminal and penal matters	14.6%	11.3%	18.1%	11.7%
Total	14.2%	13.4%	22.9%	19.1%



Wait times for hearings on the merits

Appeals proceed on the standard track or the fast track, depending on the nature of the file or as decided by a judge or a panel of judges of the Court.

Civil matters

When a file proceeds on the fast track (e.g., in family matters or for appeals of judgments rendered in the course of a proceeding), the parties file memoranda rather than briefs, and they do so within shorter time limits. The date of the hearing on the merits is usually determined at the start of the appeal process, during case management.

Percentage of appeals in civil matters proceeding on the fast track

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	41%	41%	32%	40%	32%	34%	37%	35%	35%	36%

The other types of files in civil matters proceed on the standard track — i.e., the usual time limits for filing briefs apply. Wait times for the hearing of appeals depend on the number of files waiting to be placed on the roll. The table below shows the wait time for hearings proceeding on the standard track. The wait time is the time elapsed between the date the clerk sets the case down for a hearing (when all the briefs have been filed) and the date on which the hearing is actually held, which includes situations where the case is postponed.

Wait times for the hearing of appeals in civil matters proceeding on the standard track (2017-2025)*

In 2025, the average wait time was 7.8 months, slightly longer than in 2024 but consistent with the overall downward trend observed in recent years, despite some occasional fluctuations.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Wait times (in months)	10.8	14	13.7	14	11.7	9.2	9.5	7.1	7.8

*The average wait time for a given year is calculated on the basis of all files in which a judgment on the merits was rendered that year.

Criminal and penal matters

In criminal and penal matters, a file is placed on the next available roll as soon as it is ready to proceed — i.e., when all the briefs or memoranda have been filed. Due to particular circumstances specific to each case, however, there may be a delay before the file is placed on the roll.

Hearings held in virtual mode

Data on hearing modes has been compiled since 2025. It excludes hearings where the parties were excused from appearing in Court as well as applications to dismiss the appeal where the applications were decided without a hearing. Data relating to the hearing of applications — whether before a panel of judges or before a judge sitting alone — was calculated based on a representative sample of files, rather than all of them.

It should be noted that, in accordance with the Court’s directives, hearings on the merits are held in person, unless a party otherwise requests in writing. This explains why all parties attended in person in nearly 90% of hearings on the merits.

With respect to applications, parties may choose to attend the hearing in person or remotely, by informing the Court of their choice. For applications heard before a panel of judges, at least one party appeared remotely in slightly over half the hearings. The percentage was even greater for applications heard before a judge sitting alone, with at least one party appearing remotely in 65% of hearings.

Hearing mode	All the parties in person	Hybrid (at least one party remotely and one in person)	All parties remotely
Hearings on the merits	88%	10%	2%
Applications – panel	45%	33%	22%
Applications – judge sitting alone	35%	18%	47%



Appeals settled out of court or discontinued

An appeal proceeding can be terminated at any time for a variety of reasons, including an out-of-court settlement between the parties or the discontinuance of the appeal by the appellant.

Appeals settled out of court or discontinued

In 2025, compared with 2024, the number of appeals in which there was a discontinuance or an out-of-court settlement increased.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Civil matters	132	102	133	143	72	87	66	64	70	74
Criminal and penal matters	47	35	59	68	47	63	85	57	63	69
Total	179	137	192	211	119	150	151	121	133	143

Settlement conferences and facilitation conferences in criminal or penal matters

The Quebec Court of Appeal offers judicial mediation in civil matters, referred to as a settlement conference. It offers a similar program for criminal and penal matters, referred to as a facilitation conference.

These programs provide parties with an opportunity to reach a settlement with the assistance of a judge acting as mediator or facilitator.

Number of settlement conferences

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of files submitted to a settlement conference	39	36	53	20	21	15	14	25	24*	16**
Number of files settled	24	18	34	9	10	11	8	16	14	9
Number of files withdrawn	3	6	7	5	1	1	2	5	4	2

*One file submitted in 2024 was still pending at the time of writing.

**One file submitted in 2025 was still pending at the time of writing.

Number of facilitation conferences in criminal and penal matters

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of files submitted to a facilitation conference in criminal and penal matters	26	17	32	24	21	19	17	14	15	13
Number of files settled	23	13	24	24	17	21	14	12	9	9



Atrium of the Marc-André Bédard Building, which houses the Court's seat in Quebec City.



Court of Appeal of Quebec

<https://courdappelduquebec.ca/en/>