The Kansas Supreme Court is the highest court in Kansas. Its decisions set binding legal precedent that lower courts must follow. The Supreme Court also has general administrative authority over all courts in Kansas, approves rules of procedure and practice used in state courts, and regulates the practice of law in Kansas.

**District and District Magistrate Judges**
District judges have general jurisdiction over court cases in Kansas. They can preside over all issues in criminal, civil, domestic, juvenile, and other types of cases.

District magistrate judges have limited jurisdiction over court cases in Kansas. They can preside over certain, statutorily specified types of issues and cases.

**Municipal Courts**
Cities operate and pay for their own courts to enforce ordinances. Decisions can be appealed to district court.

**District Courts**
These are trial courts, with general original jurisdiction over all criminal and civil cases heard by a judge or jury.

**Court of Appeals**
This intermediate appellate court hears all appeals except those that may be appealed directly to the Supreme Court.

**Supreme Court**
The court hears specific direct appeals from district courts. It can review Court of Appeals decisions and transfer cases from that court.

The appellate court can:
- **Affirm**
  - uphold the decision or order of the lower court.
- **Reverse**
  - set aside the decision or order of the lower court.
- **Remand**
  - return to the trial court with instructions, such as ordering a new trial.
District Court Caseloads
District courts handle all criminal and civil cases.
Some filings from fiscal year 2019:

- 2,342 adoptions
- 5,230 real property disputes
- 7,230 child-in-need-of-care cases
- 9,705 probate cases
- 11,530 divorces
- 13,545 restraining orders
- 14,398 misdemeanor cases
- 22,672 felony cases
- 108,360 contract disputes

Fiscal Year 2019 Caseloads

- 403,470 district court cases
- 1,717 Court of Appeals cases
- 1,100 Supreme Court cases

eCourt Project
The judicial branch’s new centralized case management system will centralize all district and appellate court case data, transforming the way state courts serve the people of Kansas.
The Legislature earmarked docket fees to fund the project.

Project schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Estimated Rollout Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Track 1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track 2</td>
<td>September 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track 3</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Track 4</td>
<td>November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track 5</td>
<td>February 2021</td>
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<td>Track 6</td>
<td>August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appellate courts</td>
<td>August 2021</td>
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revised February 2020