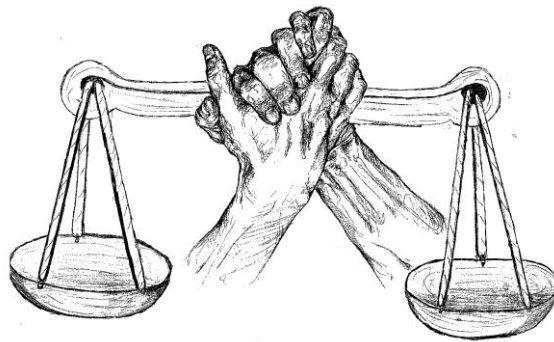


Arkansas Public Defender Commission

Annual Report Summary

Fiscal Year 2015-2016



Gregg E. Parrish, Executive Director

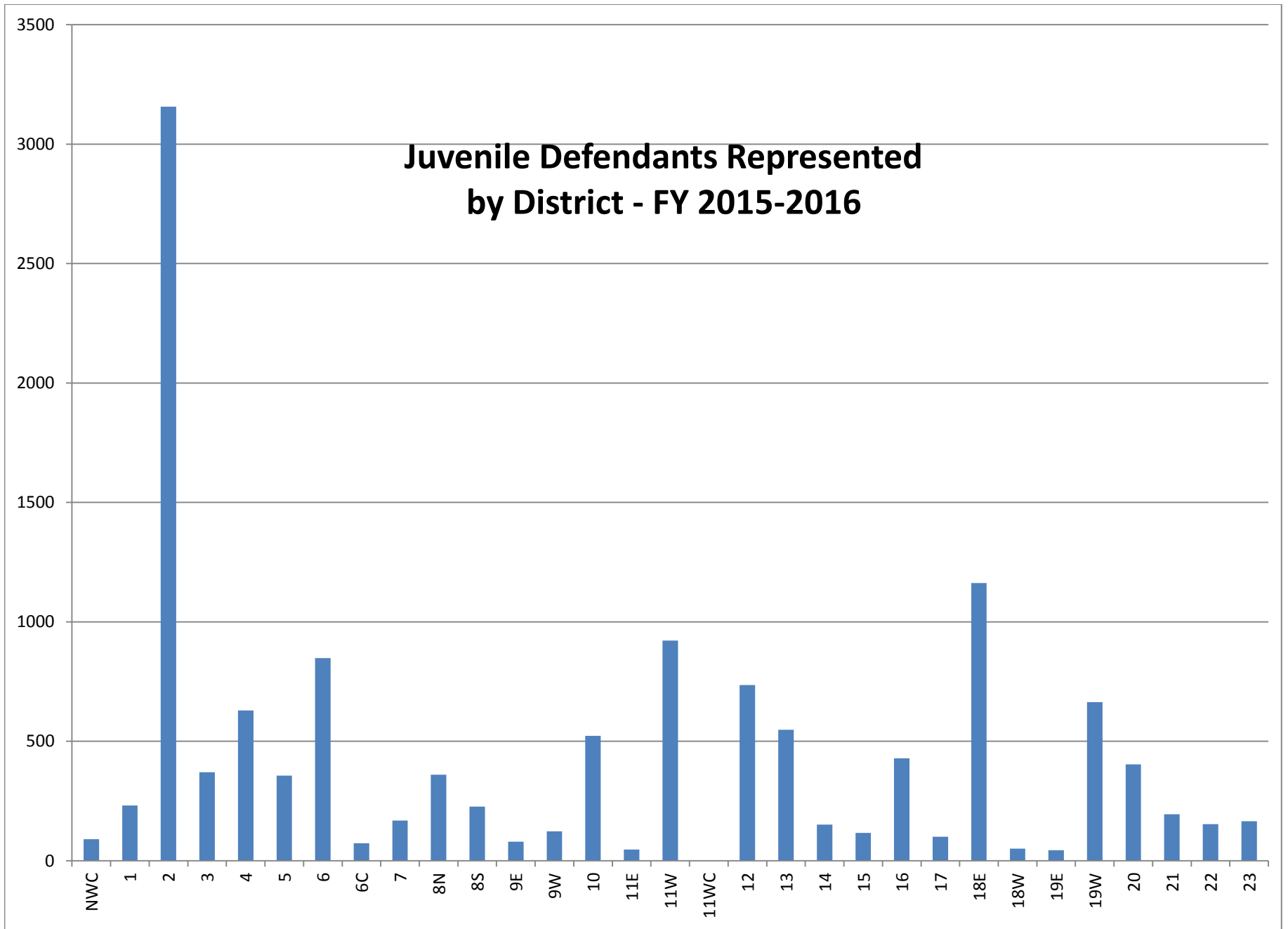
**Arkansas Public Defender Commission
101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 201
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
501-682-9070**

Caseload Statistical Reporting

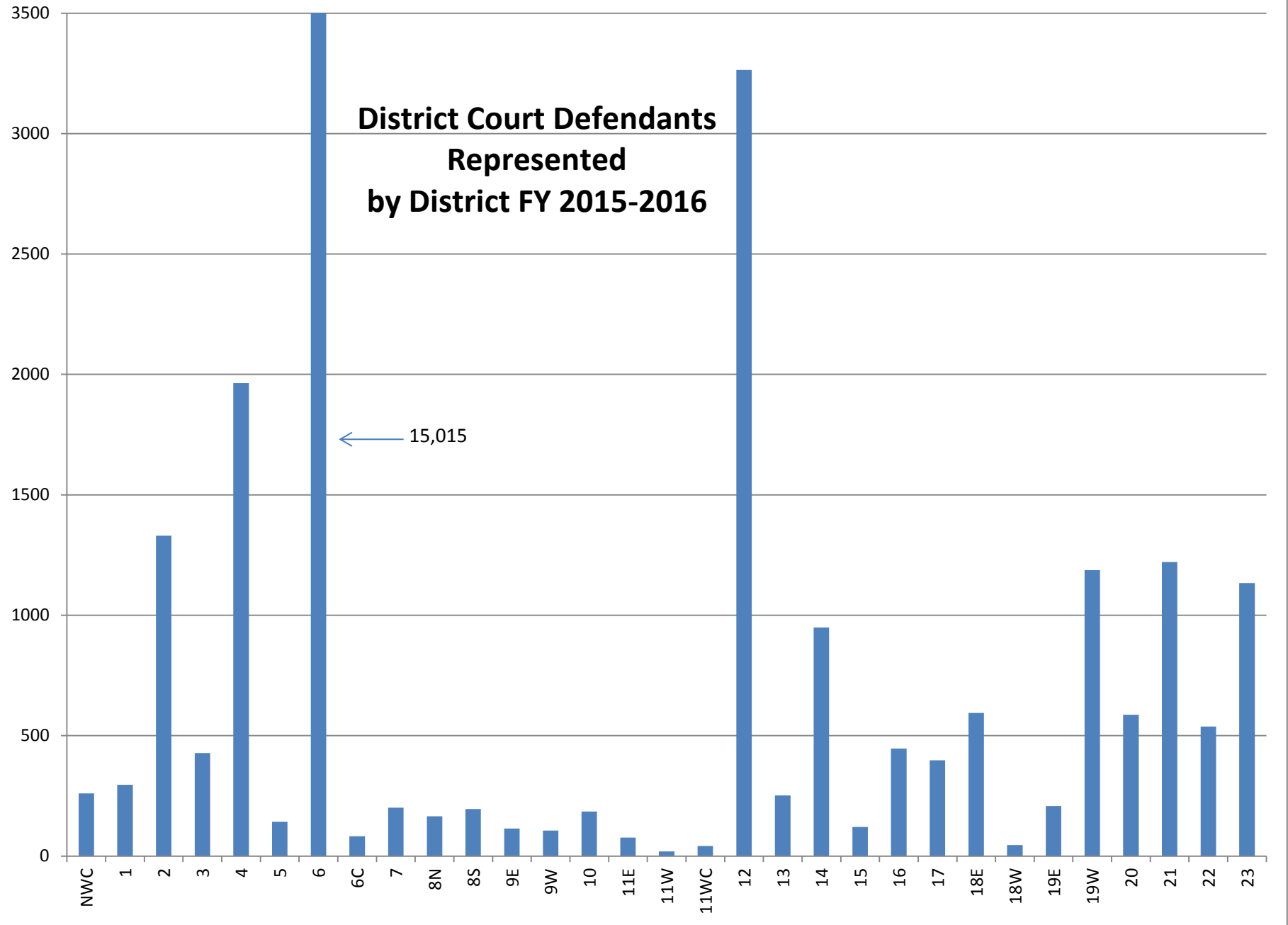
Monthly reports of cases filed and disposed are submitted by the Chief or Managing Public Defenders from each Judicial District. The detailed reports indicate the types of cases and the number of defendants represented by each public defender in all courts. Managing attorneys review and give final confirmation to the caseload reports prior to publication.

For the purposes of caseload assessment, the Commission considers *defendants* rather than *case filings*. This is due to the disparity in charging practices from one judicial district and county to another, and because multiple charges against a defendant are often addressed together. While counting *defendants* admittedly results in a more conservative figure than *filings*, it is believed to be a more accurate assessment of actual workload.

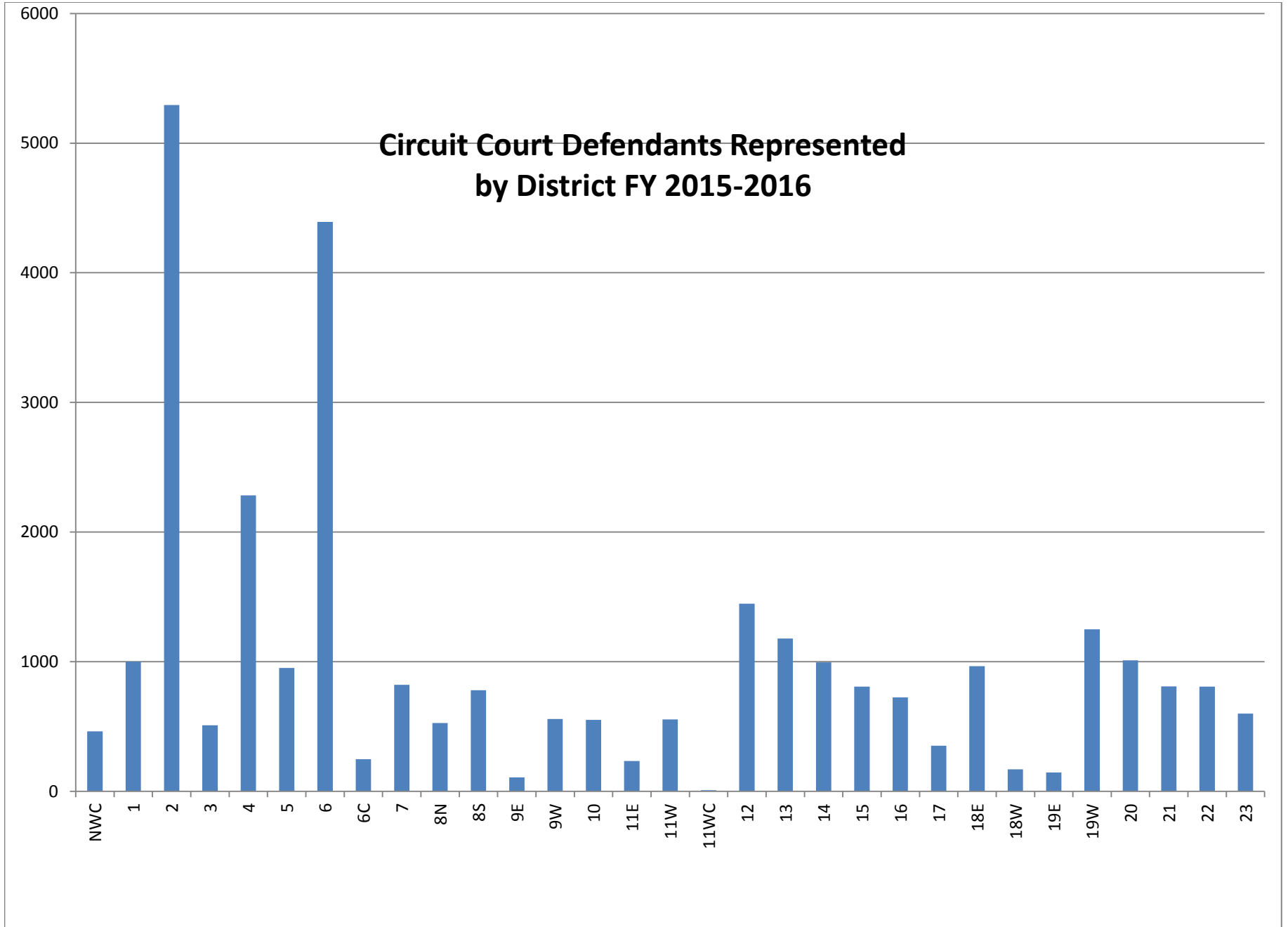
Juvenile Defendants Represented by District - FY 2015-2016



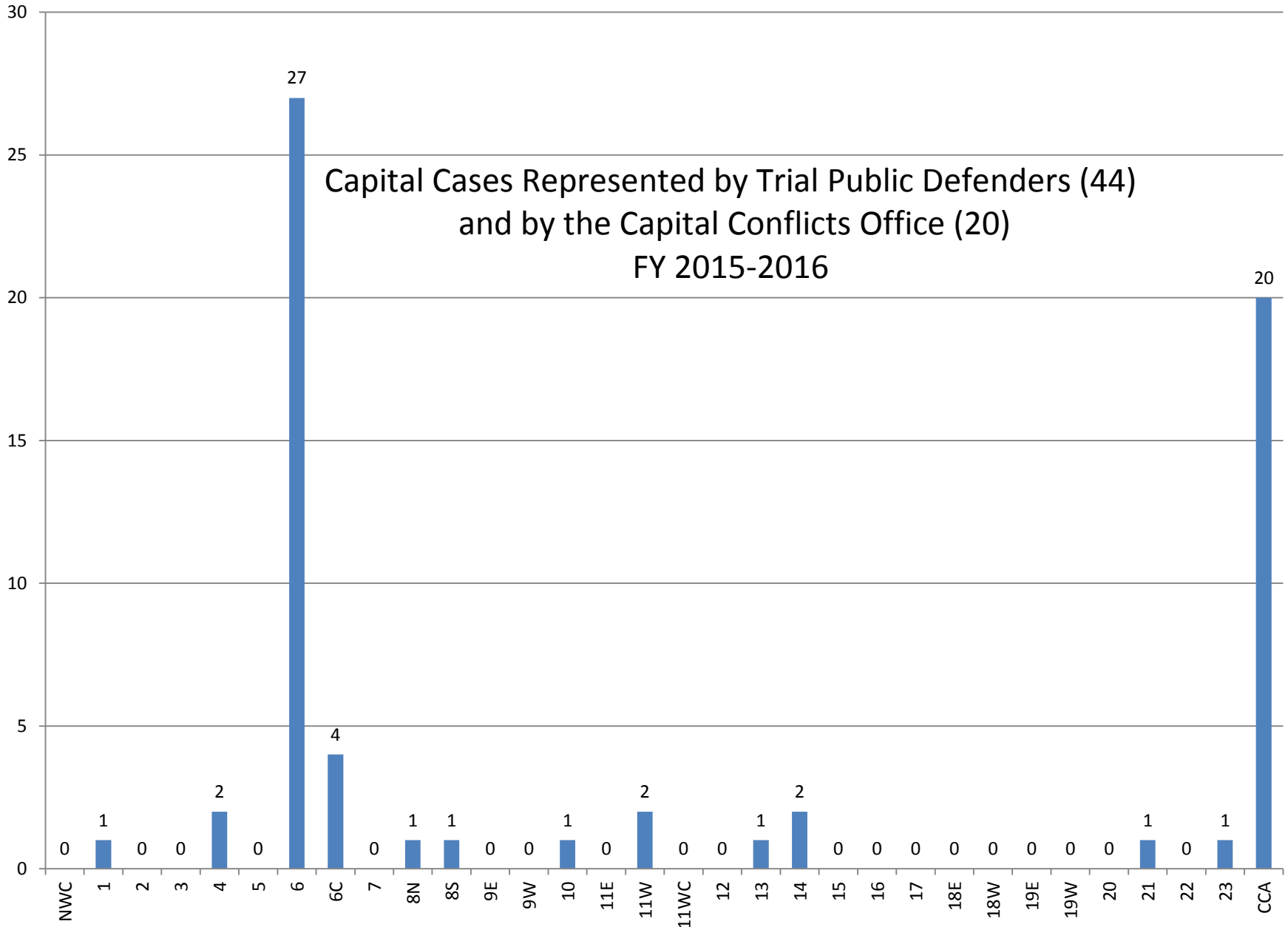
District Court Defendants Represented by District FY 2015-2016



Circuit Court Defendants Represented by District FY 2015-2016



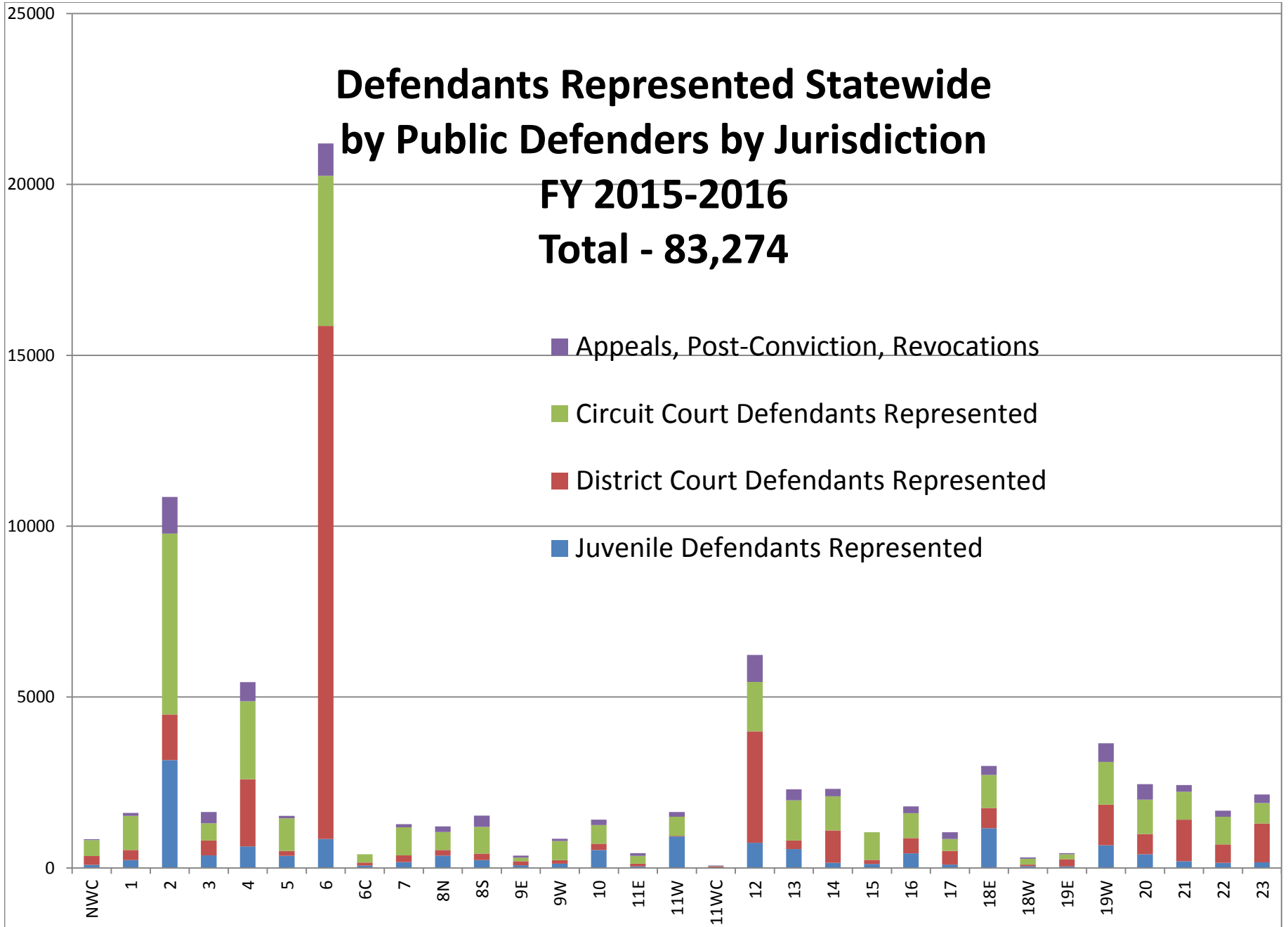
Capital Cases Represented by Trial Public Defenders (44)
and by the Capital Conflicts Office (20)
FY 2015-2016



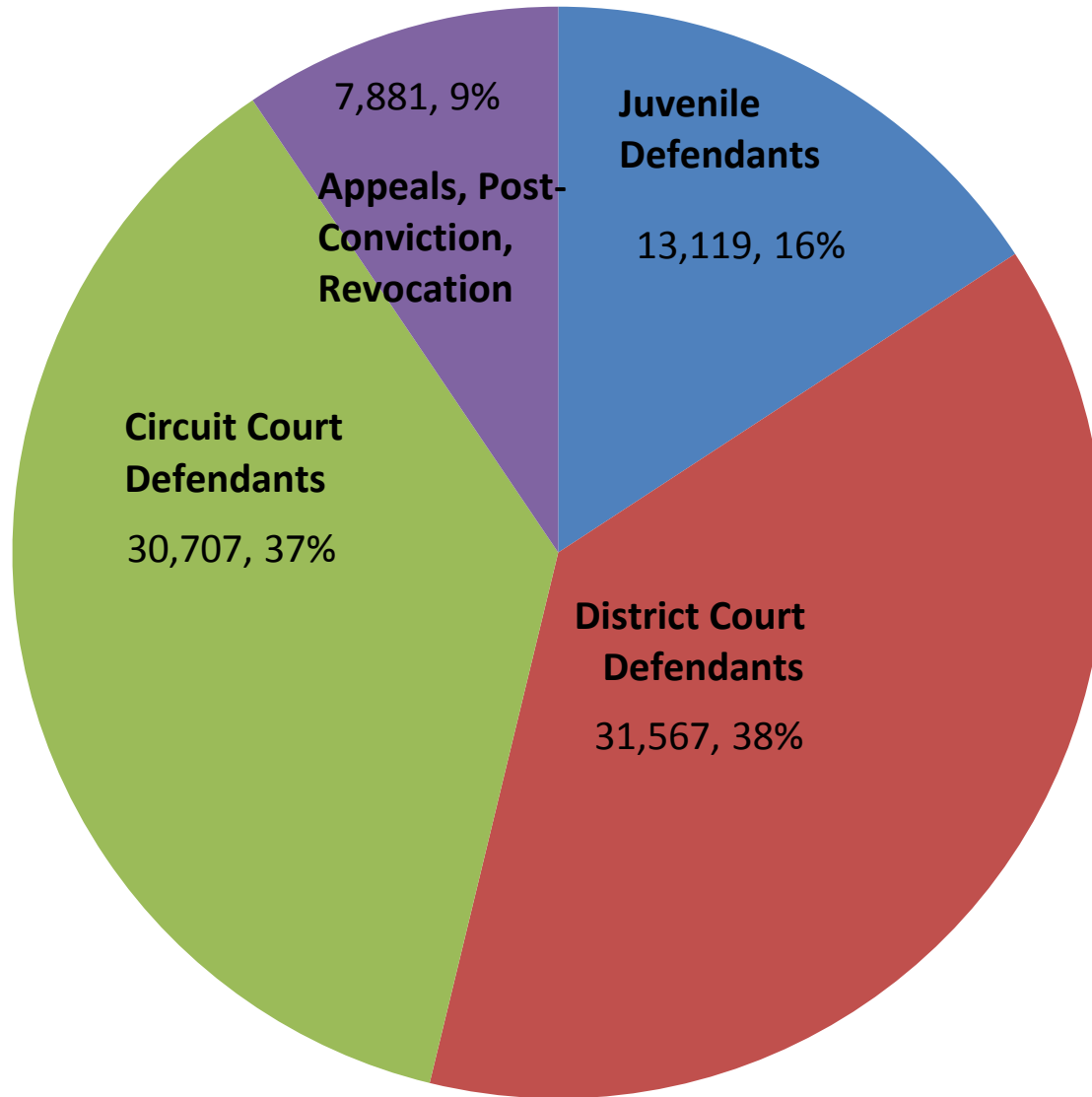
Defendants Represented Statewide by Public Defenders by Jurisdiction

FY 2015-2016

Total - 83,274



Defendants Represented by Public Defenders Statewide
FY 2015-2016 - 83,274



Fee Revenue

Act 1564 of 1999, Act 1778 of 2003 and Act 961 of 2013 provide fees that are to be assessed to offset a portion of the cost of the statewide Public Defender system.

User Fees are to be assessed against every defendant represented by a Public Defender unless waived by the Court. The fee range is \$10 to \$400 per case. Assessment and collection should occur at the time a public defender is appointed. Collecting officers in each County are required to forward the fees to the Public Defender Commission on a monthly basis.

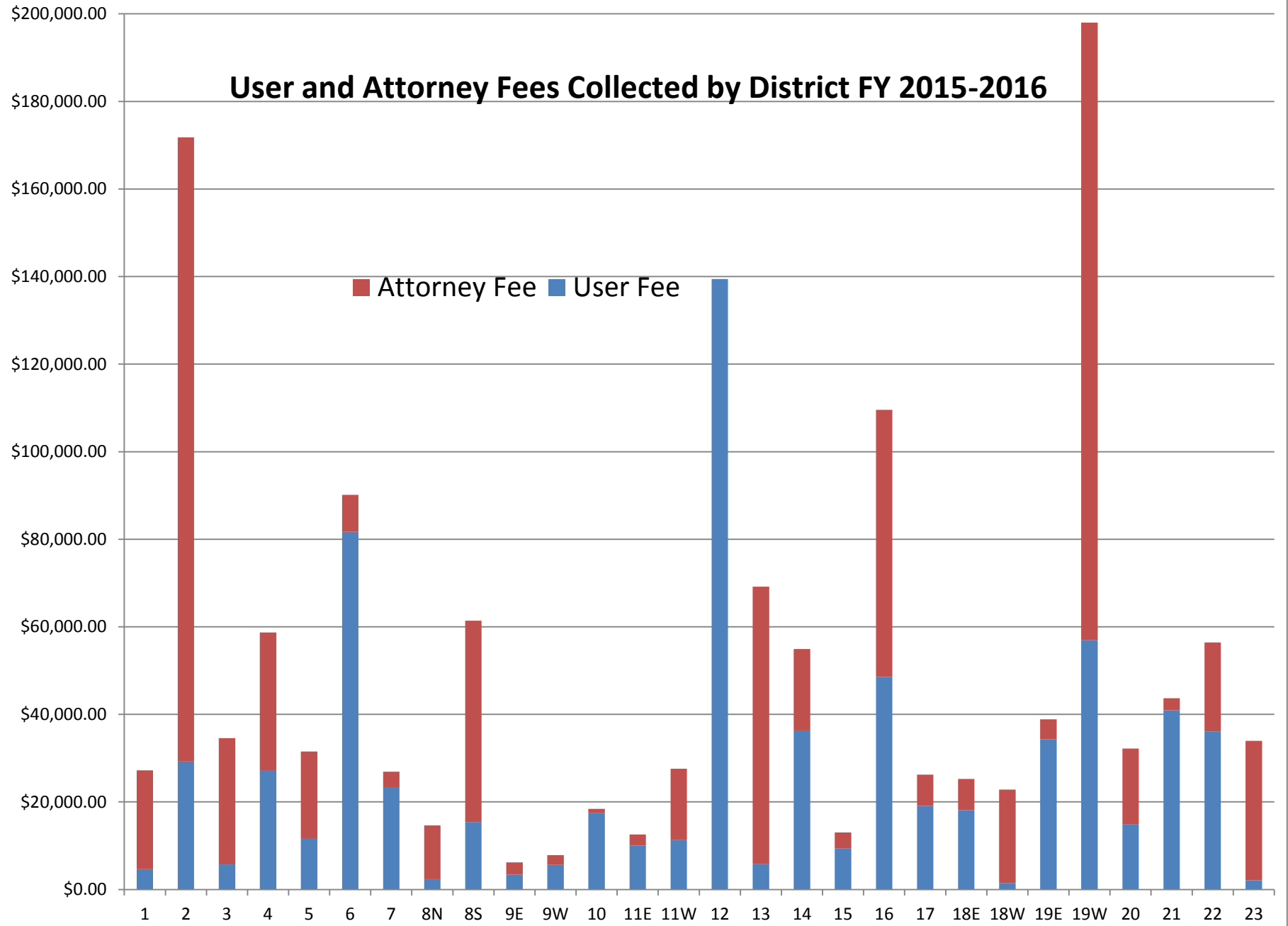
User fees collected for FY 15-16 were \$712,158.77.

Attorneys Fees may be assessed by the Court as an additional court cost at the disposition of a case. There is no minimum or maximum for this fee. Collections are also forwarded to the Commission monthly. The total for Attorneys' Fees statewide was \$740,860.87.

Bail Bond Fees are comprised of a twenty dollar surcharge added to each surety bond written in the state. This revenue is sent to the Public Defender Commission by the bonding companies. Three dollars of each fee is rebated to the Counties based on a formula provided by law. A chart of payments to the Counties follows

Bail Bond fees retained by the State totaled \$1,189,340. These funds are used to partially fund the Commission's budget.

User and Attorney Fees Collected by District FY 2015-2016



User and Attorney Fees Collected				
FY 2015-2016				
District	User Fee	Attorney Fee	FY16 Total	Bail Bond Revenue
1	\$4,626.31	\$22,584.10	\$27,210.41	
2	\$29,261.72	\$142,564.20	\$171,825.92	
3	\$5,704.39	\$28,882.76	\$34,587.15	
4	\$27,137.18	\$31,547.50	\$58,684.68	
5	\$11,560.73	\$19,935.24	\$31,495.97	
6	\$81,704.94	\$8,452.50	\$90,157.44	
7	\$23,225.00	\$3,693.00	\$26,918.00	
8N	\$2,340.00	\$12,278.71	\$14,618.71	
8S	\$15,427.06	\$45,953.61	\$61,380.67	
9E	\$3,379.33	\$2,819.79	\$6,199.12	
9W	\$5,621.00	\$2,235.00	\$7,856.00	
10	\$17,405.00	\$1,030.00	\$18,435.00	
11E	\$10,045.66	\$2,520.00	\$12,565.66	
11W	\$11,353.45	\$16,206.84	\$27,560.29	
12	\$139,460.33	\$0.00	\$139,460.33	
13	\$5,770.71	\$63,405.38	\$69,176.09	
14	\$36,319.67	\$18,578.81	\$54,898.48	
15	\$9,334.10	\$3,679.00	\$13,013.10	
16	\$48,546.17	\$60,989.78	\$109,535.95	
17	\$19,078.00	\$7,159.00	\$26,237.00	
18E	\$18,114.00	\$7,142.00	\$25,256.00	
18W	\$1,463.50	\$21,370.81	\$22,834.31	
19E	\$34,300.52	\$4,585.25	\$38,885.77	
19W	\$56,979.92	\$141,043.10	\$198,023.02	
20	\$14,817.72	\$17,364.00	\$32,181.72	
21	\$40,935.11	\$2,740.00	\$43,675.11	
22	\$36,145.00	\$20,257.00	\$56,402.00	
23	\$2,102.25	\$31,842.87	\$33,945.12	
Total FY16	\$712,158.77	\$740,860.25	\$1,453,019.02	\$1,189,340.00

Fiscal Management

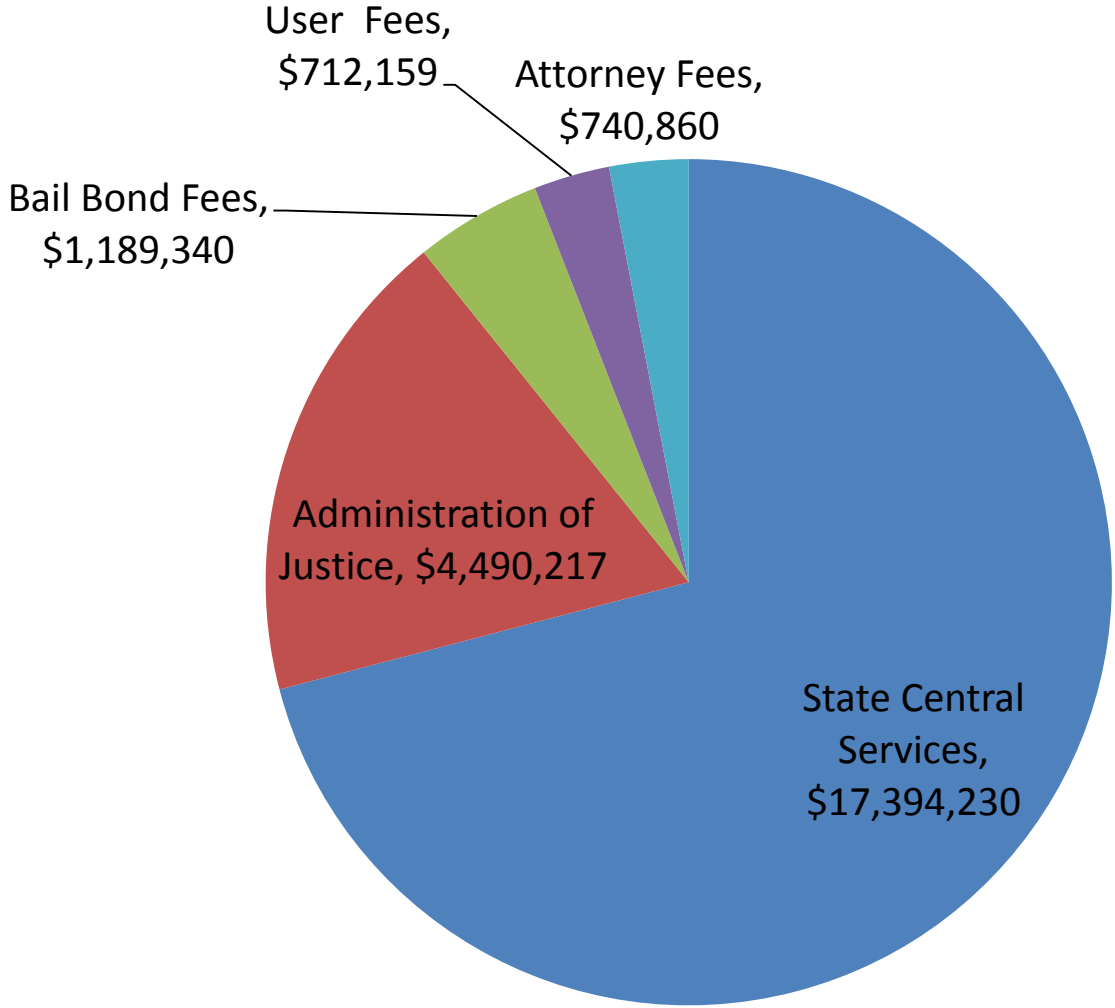
The work of the Arkansas Public Defender Commission is funded by both State and County funds. The State of Arkansas passes a biennial budget for the agency which covers employee salaries and operation for the main Commission office, the Capital, Conflicts Division and the Northwest Arkansas conflicts office.

Counties continue to pay for the operating expenses for the local public defender offices. They may also choose to fund additional personnel.

The revenue sources for the State's portion vary and are outlined in the following pages to include state general funds, State Administration of Justice funds and special fees (details in preceeding pages).

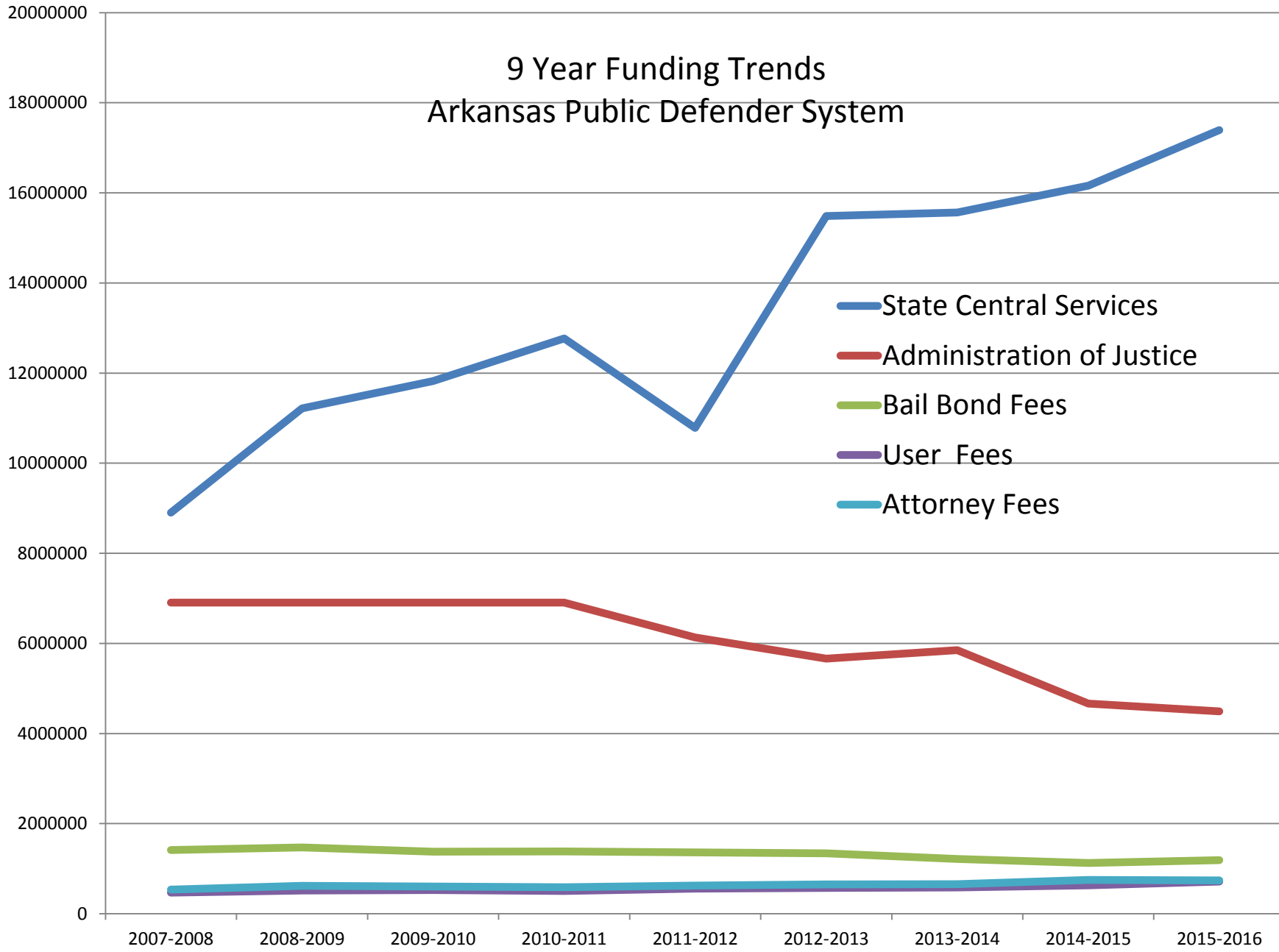
Expenditures for professional services are borne by the Public Defender Commission's budget and include payment of attorney fees, expert witnesses, interpreters, investigators and mitigation specialists. These costs are outlined as well.

Revenue Sources - Arkansas Public Defenders
FY 2015-2016



9 Year Funding Trends

Arkansas Public Defender System



Professional Services

The Public Defender Commission incurs Professional Services Fees for appointed attorneys, expert witnesses, investigators, interpreters and other expenses ordered by the Courts for indigent clients. In Fiscal Year 2015-2016, \$1,775,224.98 in expenditures were for the appointment of private attorneys. These expenditures are necessary when multiple defendant cases present a conflict for the staff attorneys and outside counsel must be hired to represent one or more of the defendants. Private attorneys may also be utilized when a district's caseload exceeds manageable levels. Appointed attorneys are required to meet specific levels of training and experience and are paid based on the level of offense charged.

A court order is required prior to payment affirming that the service has been rendered.

All professional services must be authorized in advance.

Public Defender Commission Expenditures for Professional Services - FY 2015-2016

