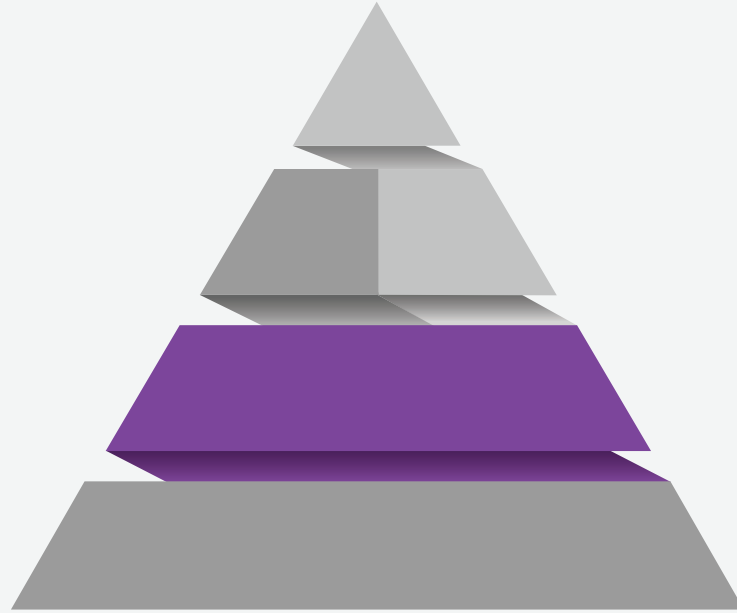


How Pennsylvania's Common Pleas Courts Operate



Trial courts of Pennsylvania

- These courts hear major civil and criminal cases as well as cases involving children and their families.
- Hear appeals originating in the magisterial district courts as well as from some state and most local government agencies.



Each court is led by a **president judge**, who is responsible for supervising all of the judges in his/her county as well as the local magisterial district judges. The president judge is also responsible for overseeing administrative tasks.

458
judges

who are elected for

10 year
terms

Organized into

60 judicial districts

The number of judges in each judicial district varies – ranging from **one to 93 judges.**

Average 700,000 cases per year