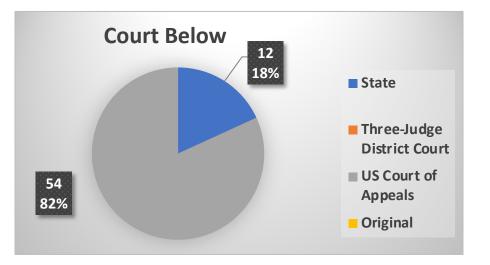
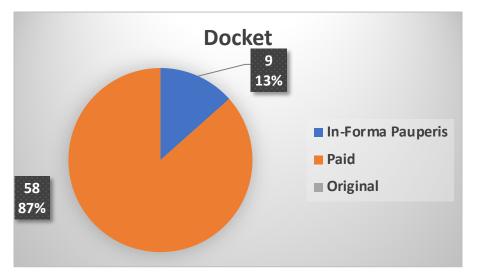
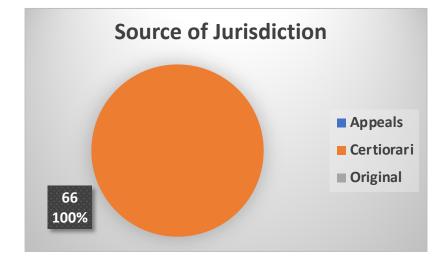
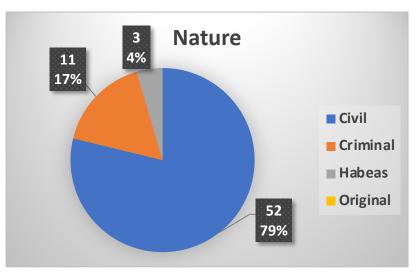
Makeup of the Merits Docket

The following charts depict different characteristics of the cases that were released with merits opinions. These charts include information about cases disposed of with signed opinions, summary reversals or affirmances by an equally divided court.









Technically, all paid and in forma pauperis cases have been on the same docket since 1971, with paid cases beginning each year with case number 1, and IFP cases beginning at number 5001. Original cases remain on a separate docket and follow a separate numbering convention. For more information on the dockets, see Eugene Gressman et al., "Supreme Court Practice" 55–56 (9th ed. 2007). The charts here do not include the court's decisions in *RNC* or *Lee*, which were never filed as petitions for certiorari at the court.