

EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

Analysis of statistics 2009

January 2010

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Overview of the Court's statistics for 2009

A. Number of new applications

In 2009 57,100 applications were allocated to a judicial formation, an overall increase of 15% compared with 2008 (49,850). 42,700 of these were identified as Single Judge or Committee cases likely to be declared inadmissible (an increase of 10% in relation to 2008). 14,400 were identified as Chamber cases (an increase of 30%).

B. Applications disposed of judicially and pending applications

35,460 applications were disposed of judicially, an increase of 11% in relation to 2008. It follows that the annual deficit, the difference between cases allocated and cases disposed of, was approximately 21,600 (i.e. a monthly deficit of more than 1,800).

As a result the number of applications pending before a judicial formation rose by 23% in 2009, from 97,300 to 119,300.

C. Processing of applications

1. Pre-allocation

Before a case is allocated to a judicial formation applicants are required to complete the application form and submit the necessary supporting documents on pain of administrative disposal. As at 31 December 2009 the number of applications pending at this pre-judicial stage stood at 20,000, a drop of 7% in relation to the same date the previous year. The number of applications disposed of administratively in 2009 was 11,650, a decrease of 21%. New rules requiring applicants to submit a completed file more rapidly were introduced in 2008 and this explains the drop in the number of applications disposed of administratively in 2009.

2. Inadmissibility or strike out decisions

In 2009 33,065 applications were declared inadmissible or struck out of the list of cases by a Single Judge, a Committee or a Chamber, a 10% increase compared with 2008 (30,163). The entry into force in the second half of the year, for some countries, of Protocol 14 bis or the Madrid agreement enabled the Court to have 2 230 cases decided by a single judge formation.

3. Communicated applications

Where an application is not on its face inadmissible, it is communicated to the respondent Government for observations. In 2009 6,197 applications were communicated (an increase of 40% in relation to 2008 when 4,416 applications were communicated). This figure reflects an increase in the number of Chamber cases processed in accordance with the Court's policy of concentrating more resources on potentially well-founded cases and grouping cases with similar issues.

4. Judgments

Judgments were delivered in respect of 2,395 applications (compared with 1,880 in 2008 – an increase of 27%). A number of these applications were joined with the result that the number of judgments actually delivered was 1,625, an increase of 5%. Two judgments against Germany were adopted by a three-judge formation under the new procedure introduced by Protocol 14 bis and the Madrid Agreement.

5. Requests for interim measures (Rule 39 of the Rules of Court)

The total number of requests for interim measures (2,399) decreased by 25 % compared with 2008 (3,184). The Court granted requests for interim measures in 654 cases (a decrease of 12% compared with 2008) and dismissed them in 1,406 cases (22% more than in 2008). Many requests fell outside the scope of Rule 39 of the Rules of Court but nonetheless required an urgent examination.

D. Time elapsed since date of allocation of cases

57% of cases allocated to a Chamber have been pending for less than two years and 17% for between two and three years. The remaining 26% of cases have been pending for over three years.

38% of cases allocated to a Committee/Single Judge have been pending for less than one year, 29% for more than one year and 33% for more than two years.

General information

Table 1 General statistical information

1. Applications allocated to a judicial formation

Committee/Chamber [round figures (50)]

	2009	2008	+/-
Applications allocated	57100	49850	15%

2. Interim procedural events

	2009	2008	+/-
Applications communicated to respondent Government	6197	4416	40%

3. Applications decided

	2009	2008	+/-
By decision or judgment	35460	32043	11%
- by judgment delivered	2395	1880	27%
- by decision (inadmissible or struck out)	33065	30163	10%

4. Pending applications [round figures (50)]

	31/12/2009	1/1/2009	+/-
Applications pending before a judicial formation	119300	97300	23%
- Chamber (7 judges)	44400	33850	31%
- Committee (3 judges) and Single Judge	74900	63450	18%

5. Pre-judicial applications [round figures (50)]

	31/12/2009	1/1/2009	+/-
Applications at a pre-judicial stage	20000	21450	-7%
	2009	2008	+/-
Applications disposed of administratively (applications not pursued)	11650	14800	-21%

Number of applications allocated to a judicial formation¹

Chart 1. Applications allocated to a judicial formation per year

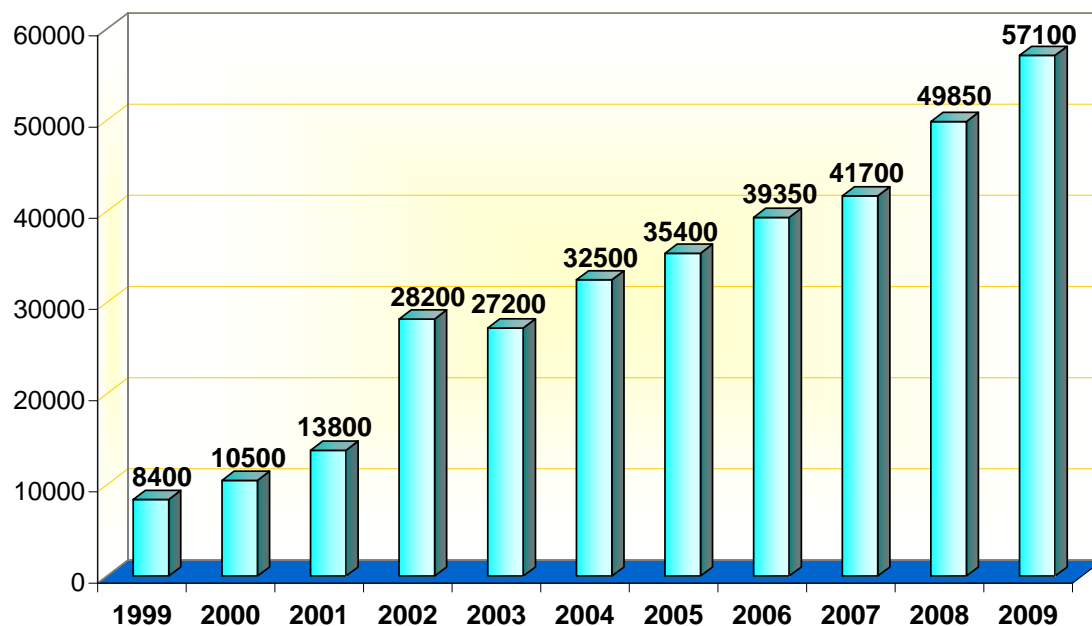
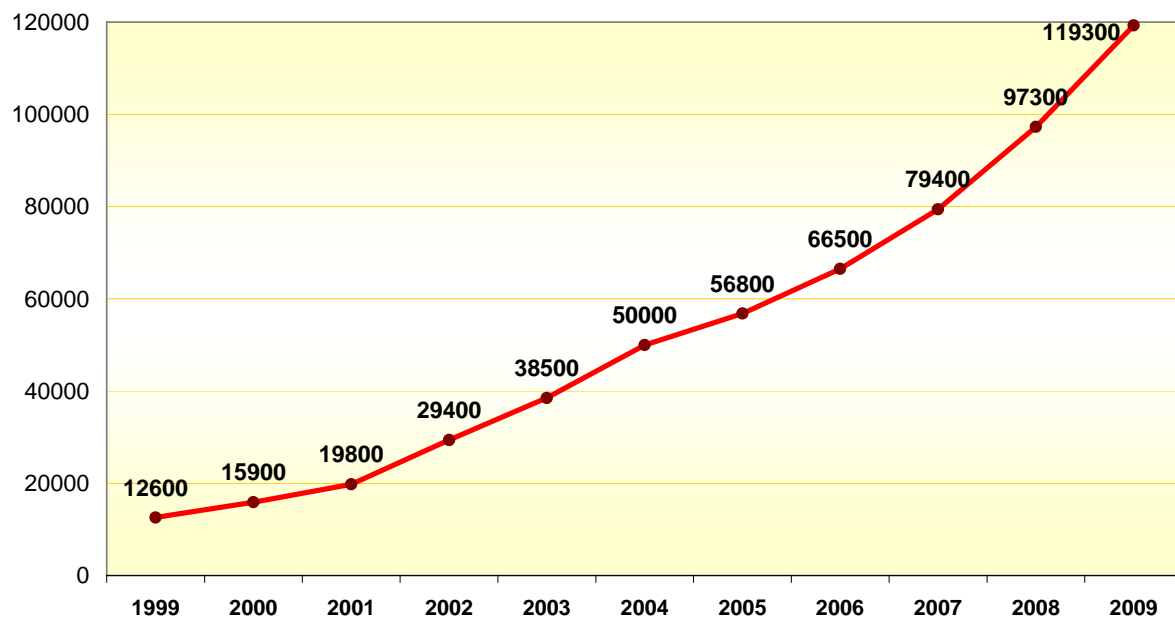


Chart 2. Applications pending before a judicial formation



¹ Figures represent the total number of applications, including joined applications. The document generally gives round figures. The upsurge in applications allocated in 2002 was due to a change in working methods, transferring much of the screening of inadmissible applications from the administrative, pre-judicial phase to the judicial stage.

Chart 3. High case-count States (more than 3,000 applications pending before a judicial formation on 31 December 2009)

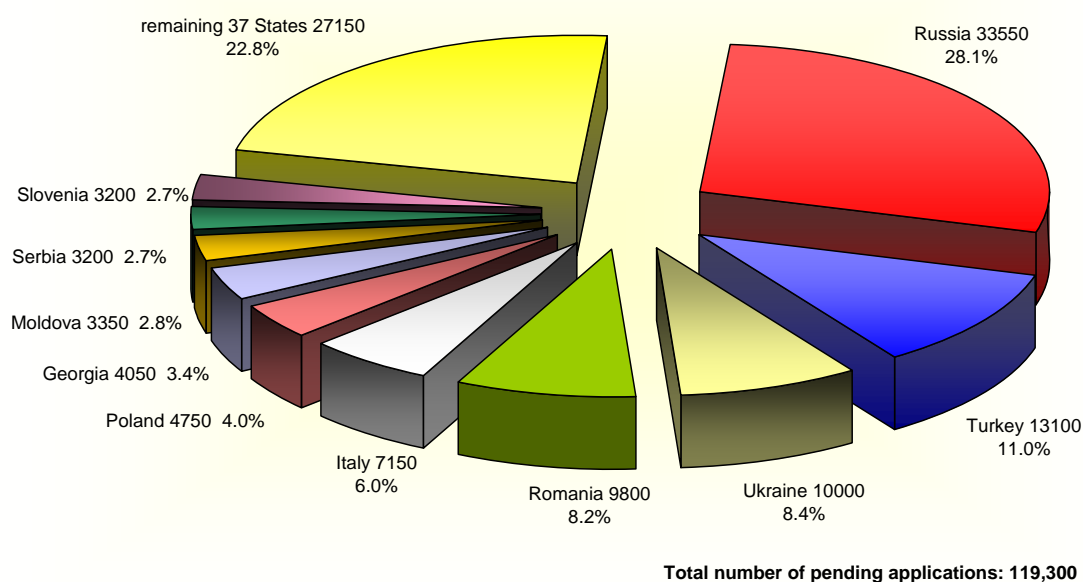
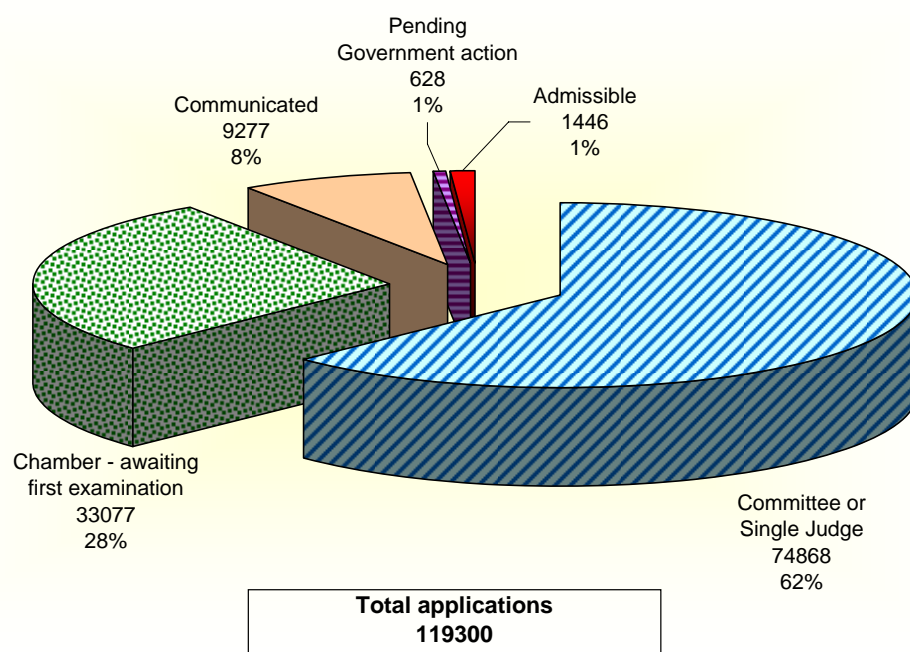


Chart 4. The Court's total caseload by stage of proceedings and judicial formation²



² The "Pending Government action" category was created to monitor applications following a judgment applying the pilot procedure.

Processing of applications

Chart 5. Major procedural steps in processing of applications

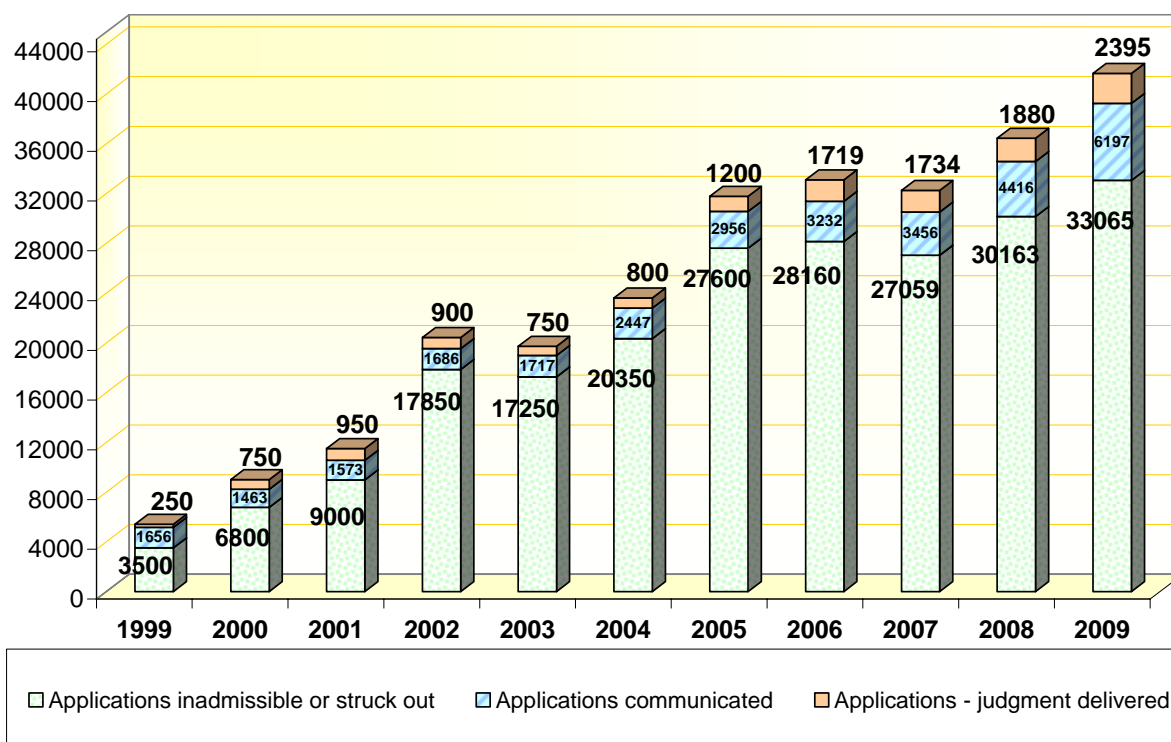
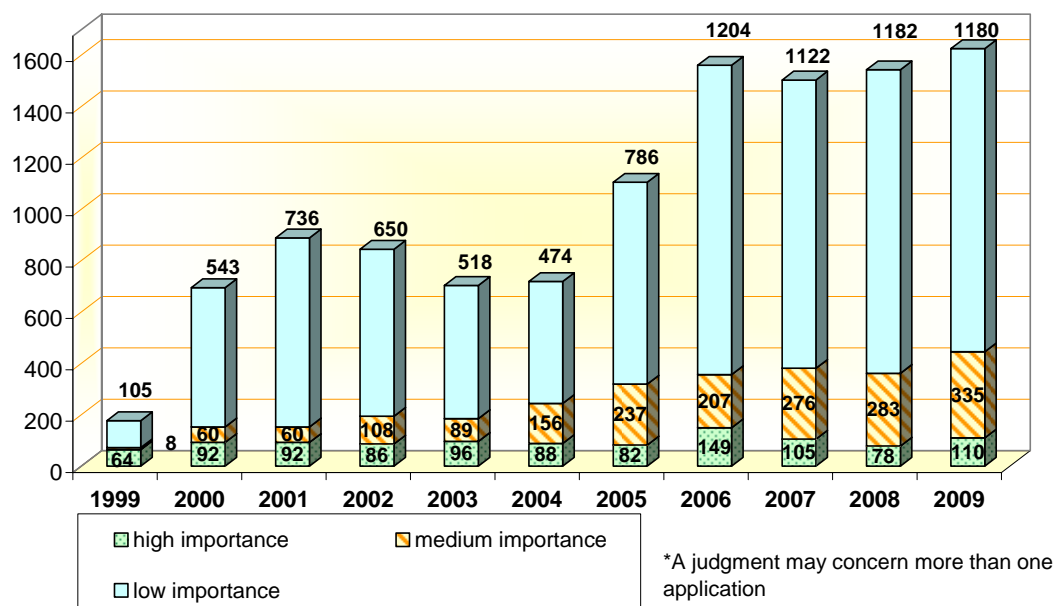


Chart 6. Judgments by level of importance³



³ Importance levels:

1. High importance, judgments which the Court considers make a significant contribution to the development, clarification or modification of its case-law, either generally or in relation to a particular State.
2. Medium importance, judgments which do not make a significant contribution to the case-law but nevertheless do not merely apply existing case-law.
3. Low importance, judgments with little legal interest - those applying existing case-law, friendly settlements and striking-out judgments (unless these have any particular point of interest).

Chart 7. Time elapsed since date of allocation to a judicial formation – pending Chamber cases

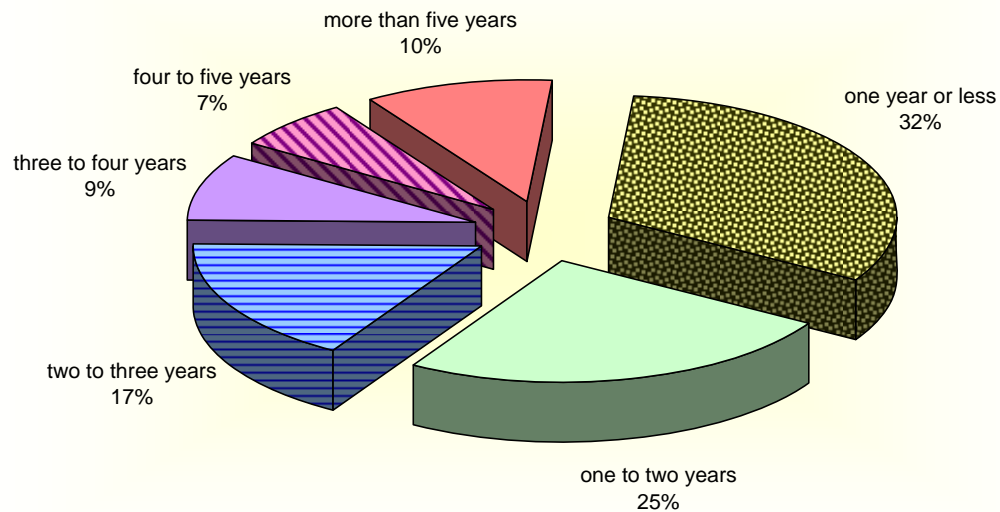


Chart 8. Time elapsed since date of allocation to a judicial formation– pending Committee/Single Judge cases

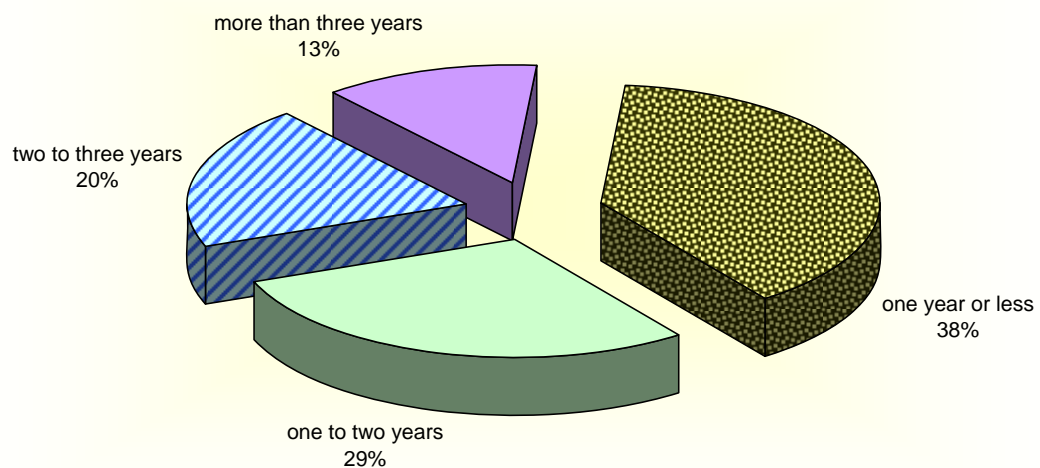


Table 2 Allocated applications by Defending State and population

State	Applications allocated to a judicial formation				Population (1000)				Allocated/population (10000)			
	2006	2007	2008	2009	1.1.2006	1.1.2007	1.1.2008	1.1.2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
Albania	52	55	75	99	3127	3153	3170	3169	0,17	0,17	0,24	0,31
Andorra	8	4	1	6	75	80	83	87	1,07	0,50	0,12	0,69
Armenia	98	614	106	125	3216	3226	3230	3090	0,30	1,90	0,33	0,40
Austria	344	329	373	410	8266	8299	8332	8357	0,42	0,40	0,45	0,49
Azerbaijan	221	708	334	361	8388	8533	8630	8934	0,26	0,83	0,39	0,40
Belgium	107	122	166	256	10511	10585	10670	10741	0,10	0,12	0,16	0,24
Bosnia and Herzegovina	243	705	971	621	3842	3884	3843	3760	0,63	1,82	2,53	1,65
Bulgaria	748	818	890	1194	7719	7679	7640	7602	0,97	1,07	1,16	1,57
Croatia	640	558	608	755	4443	4441	4435	4432	1,44	1,26	1,37	1,70
Cyprus	56	63	66	59	766	779	795	802	0,73	0,81	0,83	0,74
Czech Republic	2466	806	721	726	10251	10287	10381	10475	2,41	0,78	0,69	0,69
Denmark	68	45	73	63	5427	5447	5476	5519	0,13	0,08	0,13	0,11
Estonia	184	153	169	204	1345	1342	1341	1340	1,37	1,14	1,26	1,52
Finland	262	268	276	489	5256	5277	5301	5325	0,50	0,51	0,52	0,92
France	1831	1553	2724	1589	62886	63392	63753	64105	0,29	0,24	0,43	0,25
Georgia	105	162	1771	2122	4361	4400	4382	4219	0,24	0,37	4,04	5,03
Germany	1601	1483	1572	1515	82438	82315	82222	82062	0,19	0,18	0,19	0,18
Greece	371	384	416	518	11125	11172	11215	11263	0,33	0,34	0,37	0,46
Hungary	423	529	425	449	10077	10066	10045	10030	0,42	0,53	0,42	0,45
Iceland	12	9	7	10	300	308	314	321	0,40	0,29	0,22	0,31
Ireland	40	45	48	62	4209	4315	4420	4518	0,10	0,10	0,11	0,14
Italy	931	1353	1824	3624	58752	59131	59618	60090	0,16	0,23	0,31	0,60
Latvia	268	232	248	326	2295	2281	2271	2261	1,17	1,02	1,09	1,44
Liechtenstein	1	5	8	14	35	35	35	36	0,29	1,42	2,26	3,92
Lithuania	204	226	255	261	3403	3385	3366	3350	0,60	0,67	0,76	0,78
Luxemburg	32	34	35	29	460	476	484	492	0,70	0,71	0,72	0,59
Malta	16	18	12	14	404	408	411	413	0,40	0,44	0,29	0,34
Moldova	517	889	1147	1322	3604	3581	3573	3576	1,43	2,48	3,21	3,70
Monaco	4	10	5	9	32	32	32	33	1,25	3,13	1,56	2,73
Montenegro	13	95	156	269	-	651	628	626	-	1,46	2,49	4,30
Netherlands	397	366	385	500	16334	16358	16404	16481	0,24	0,22	0,23	0,30
Norway	70	63	79	79	4640	4681	4737	4801	0,15	0,13	0,17	0,16
Poland	3975	4202	4369	4986	38157	38126	38116	38130	1,04	1,10	1,15	1,31
Portugal	215	134	151	152	10570	10599	10618	10632	0,20	0,13	0,14	0,14
Romania	3310	3168	5242	5260	21610	21565	21529	21497	1,53	1,47	2,43	2,45
Russia	10132	9493	10146	13666	143821	142221	142009	140367	0,70	0,67	0,71	0,97
San Marino	2	1	4	2	29	32	31	32	0,69	0,32	1,30	0,63
Serbia	595	1056	1067	1576	8118	7398	7374	9856	0,75	1,43	1,45	1,60
Slovak Republic	487	349	488	569	5389	5394	5401	5411	0,90	0,65	0,90	1,05
Slovenia	1338	1012	1353	598	2003	2010	2026	2053	6,68	5,03	6,68	2,91
Spain	361	310	393	641	43758	44475	45283	45853	0,08	0,07	0,09	0,14
Sweden	371	361	317	367	9048	9113	9183	9259	0,41	0,40	0,35	0,40
Switzerland	282	237	261	471	7459	7509	7591	7668	0,38	0,32	0,34	0,61
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹	295	453	395	489	2032	2042	2045	2049	1,45	2,22	1,93	2,39
Turkey	2328	2828	3706	4474	72520	69689	70586	71517	0,32	0,41	0,53	0,63
Ukraine	2482	4499	4770	4693	47075	46466	46373	45433	0,53	0,97	1,03	1,03
United Kingdom	843	860	1253	1133	60393	60853	61186	61612	0,14	0,14	0,20	0,18

SOURCES 2009: Internet sites of the Eurostat service ("Population and social conditions") or from the United Nations Statistics Division.

The Council of Europe member States had a combined population of about 814 million inhabitants on 1 January 2009. The average number of applications allocated per 10,000 inhabitants was 0.7 in 2009.

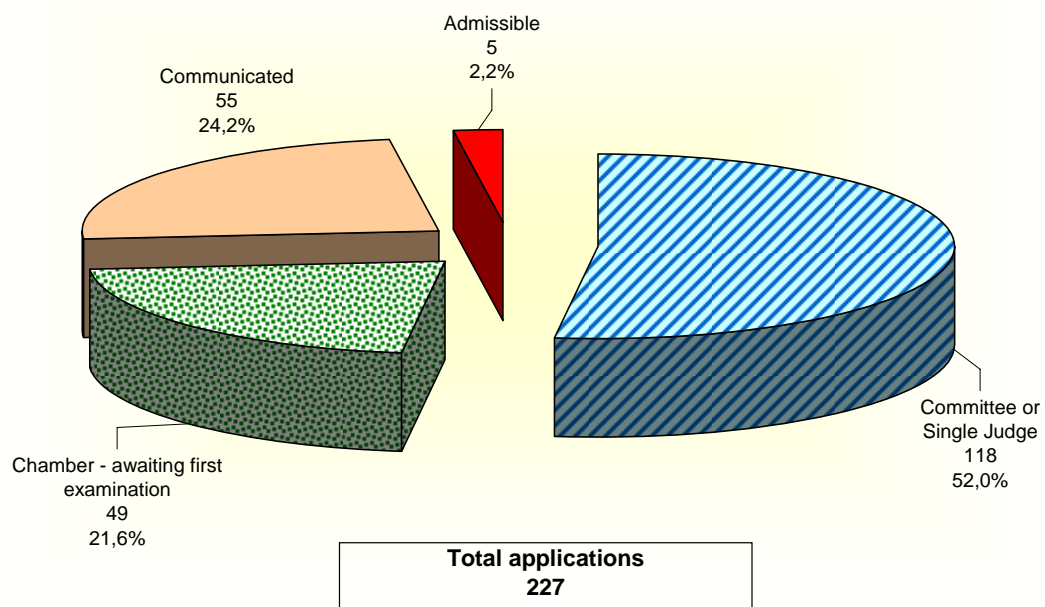
Table 3 The Court's total caseload by stage of proceedings and judicial formation

State	Committee or Single Judge	Chamber - awaiting first examination	Communicated	Pending Government action	Admissible	TOTAL
Albania	118	49	55		5	227
Andorra	4		2			6
Armenia	86	675	48		5	814
Austria	435	81	125		15	656
Azerbaijan	347	673	78		6	1104
Belgium	192	121	32		3	348
Bosnia and Herzegovina	499	1546	9		17	2071
Bulgaria	1643	716	324		45	2728
Croatia	698	196	77		8	979
Cyprus	15	30	36		3	84
Czech Republic	1811	202	54		7	2074
Denmark	49		10			59
Estonia	382	28	11		1	422
Finland	222	130	46		10	408
France	2047	203	187		27	2464
Georgia	325	3611	110		3	4049
Germany	2067	88	110		14	2279
Greece	324	206	105		26	661
Hungary	1122	219	52		13	1406
Iceland	10	2	1		1	14
Ireland	49	18	7			74
Italy	1954	3684	1422		98	7158
Latvia	312	184	76		7	579
Liechtenstein	12	2	1			15
Lithuania	207	107	44		4	362
Luxembourg	27	13	12		2	54
Malta	6	3	8		1	18
Moldova	2396	593	198	133	29	3349
Monaco	4	2				6
Montenegro	374	52	4			430
Netherlands	384	105	76		3	568
Norway	55	7	5		1	68
Poland	3752	525	393		57	4727
Portugal	86	52	91		33	262
Romania	4940	3645	1127		100	9812
Russia	29211	2225	1245	495	392	33568
San Marino		3				3
Serbia	1956	1105	97		39	3197
Slovakia	1056	220	60		24	1360
Slovenia	1016	1958	207		2	3183
Spain	627	82	27		18	754
Sweden	265	29	33		2	329
Switzerland	638	91	47		4	780
"the former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia"	691	319	55		12	1077
Turkey	4725	6207	1896		287	13115
Ukraine	6770	2522	571		112	9975
United Kingdom	959	548	103		10	1620
ALL STATES	74868	33077	9277	628	1446	119296

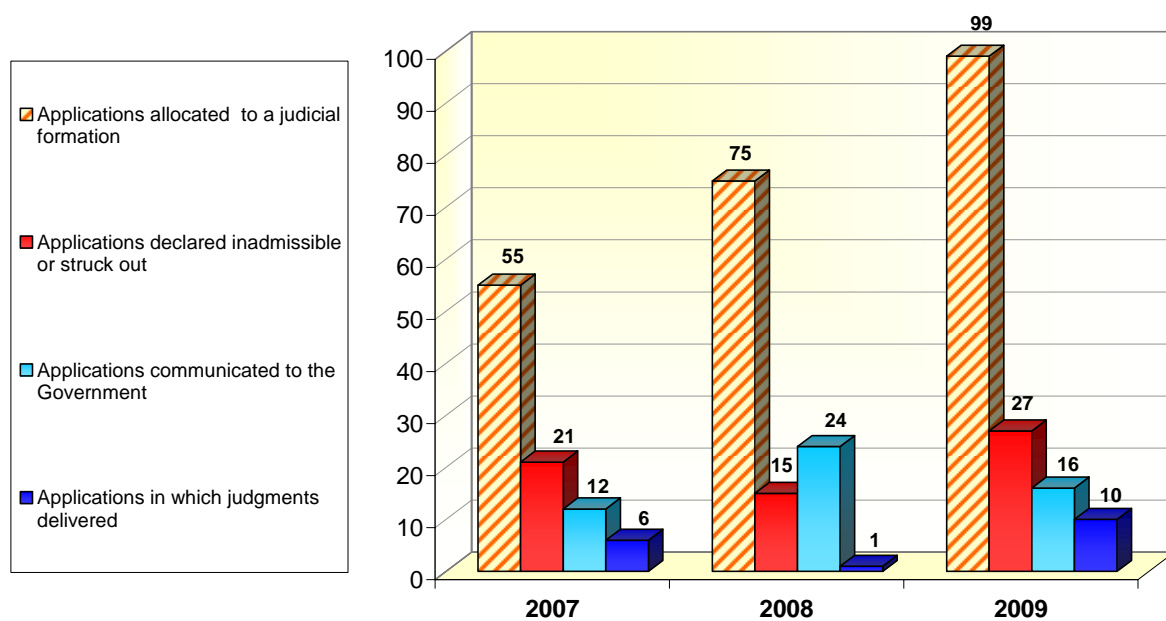
Country-specific information

Albania

Chart 9. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body



Graph 10. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Andorra

Chart 11. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

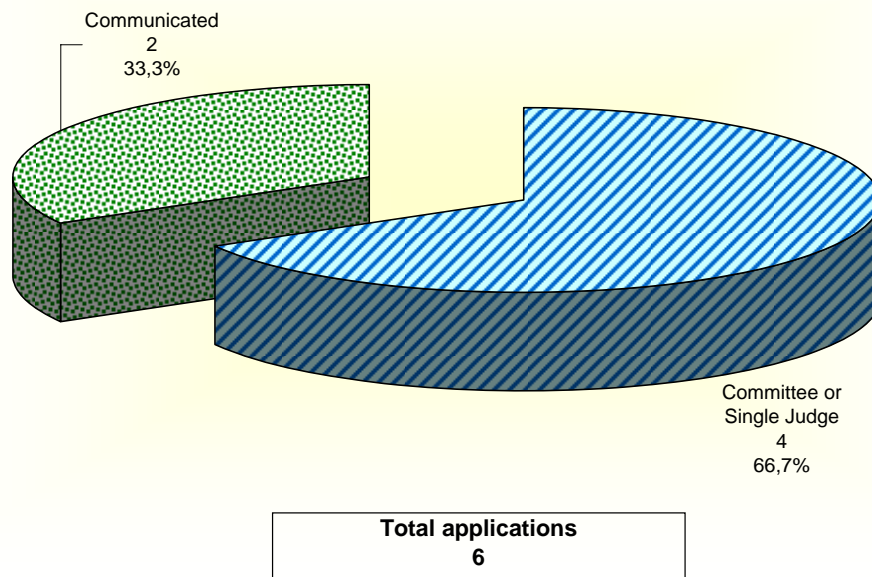
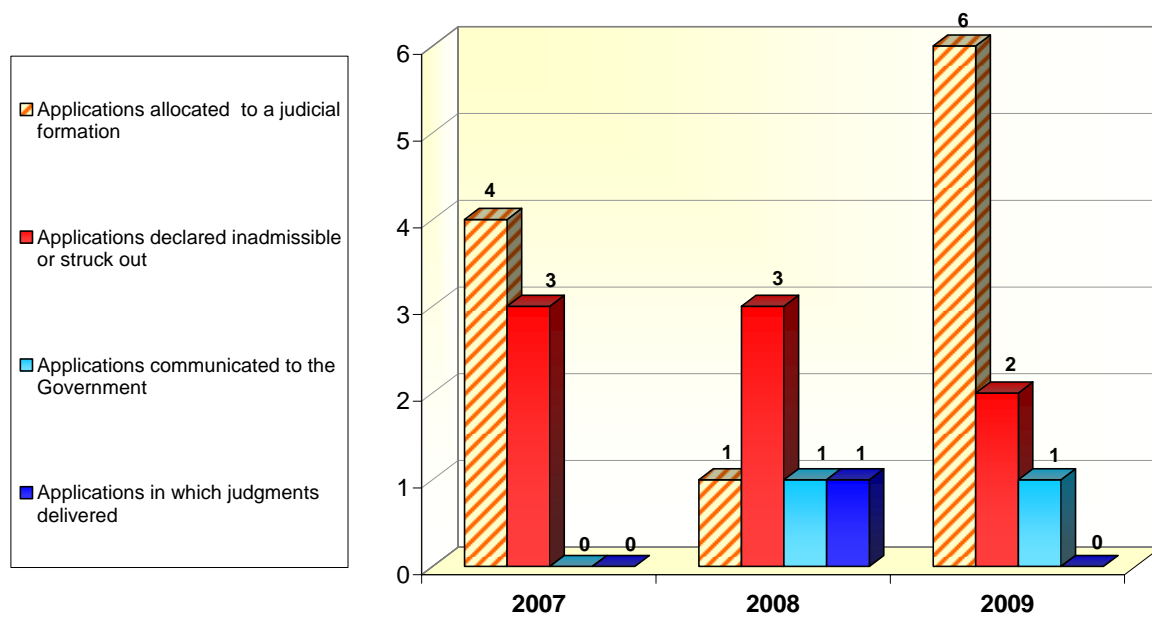


Chart 12. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Armenia

Chart 13. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

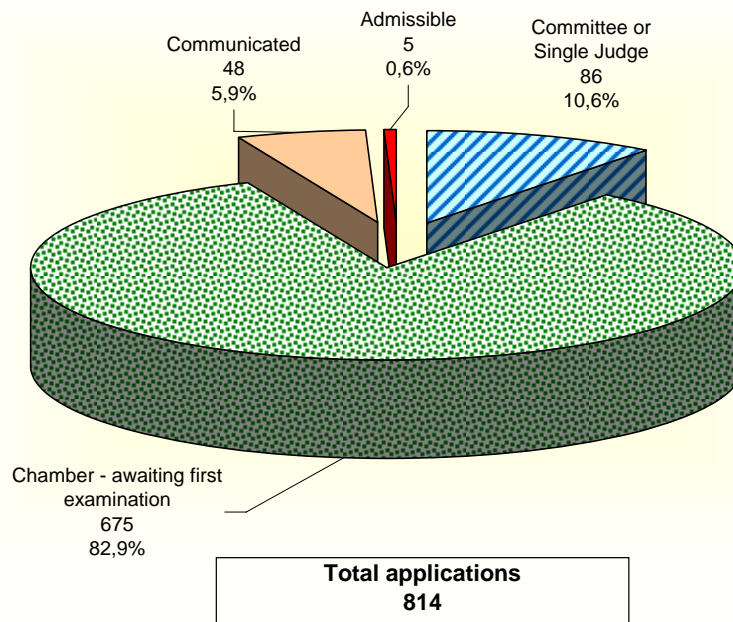
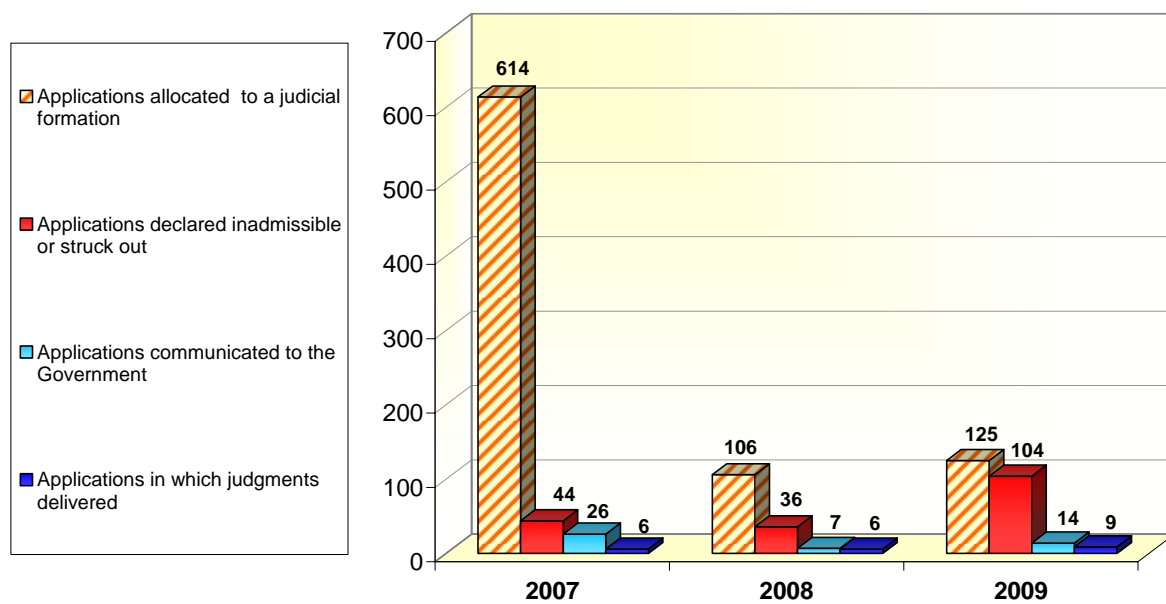


Chart 14. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Austria

Chart 15. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

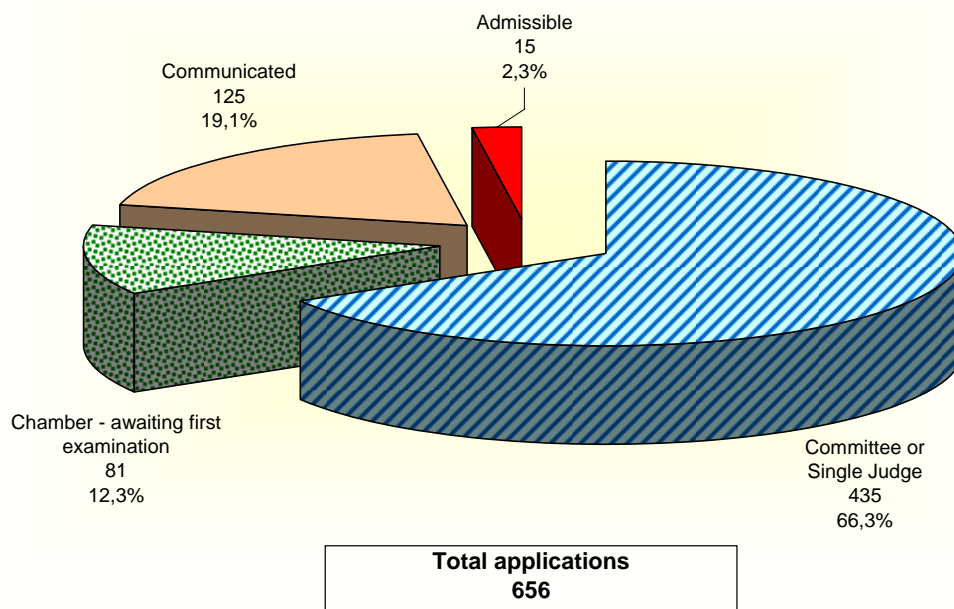
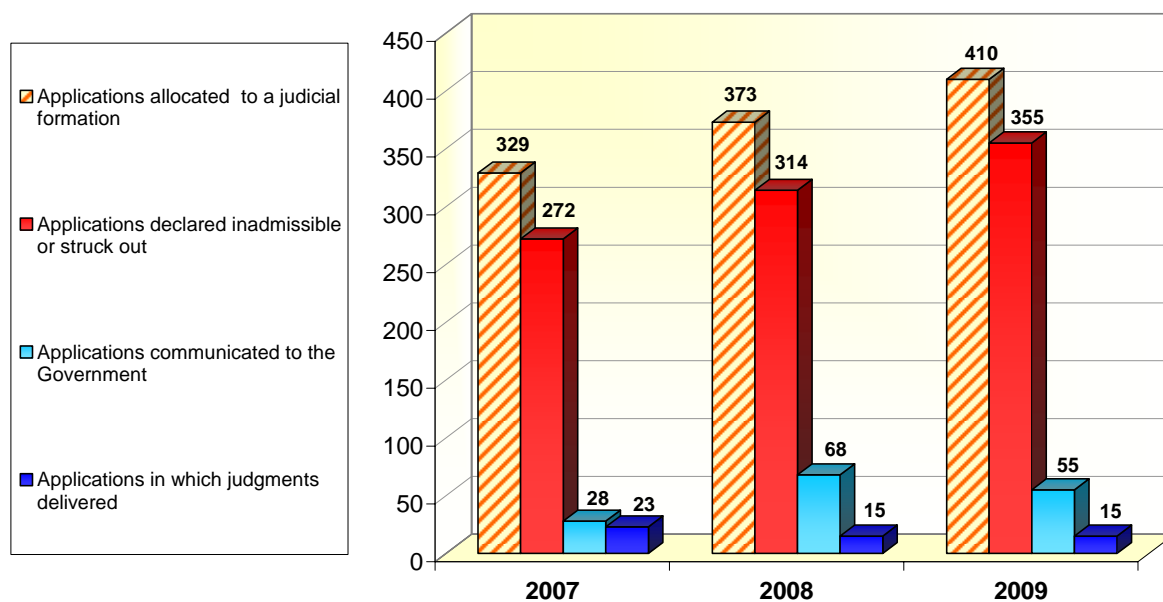


Chart 16. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Azerbaijan

Chart 17. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

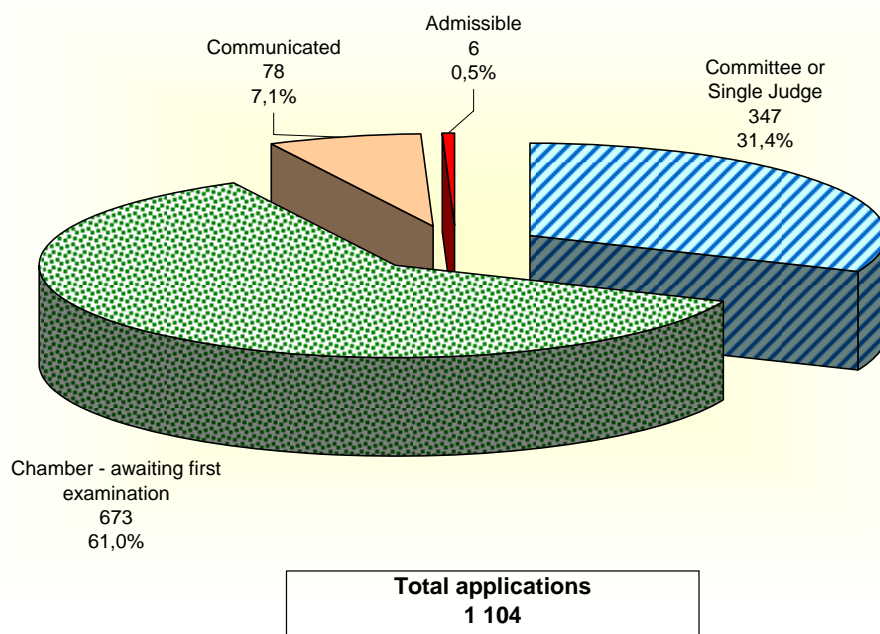
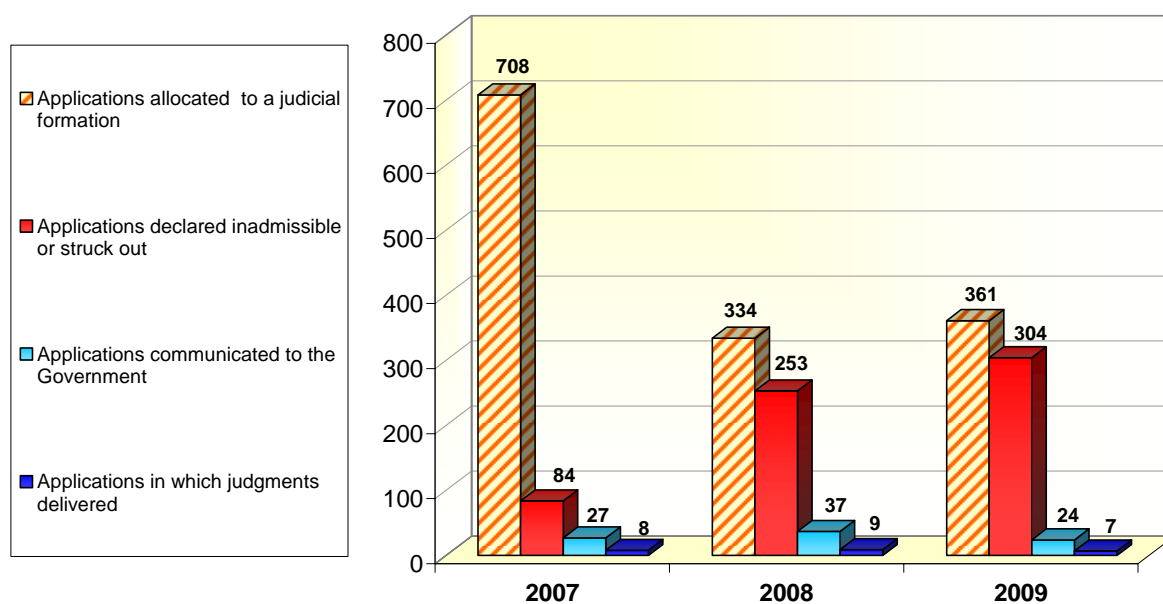


Chart 18. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Belgium

Chart 19. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

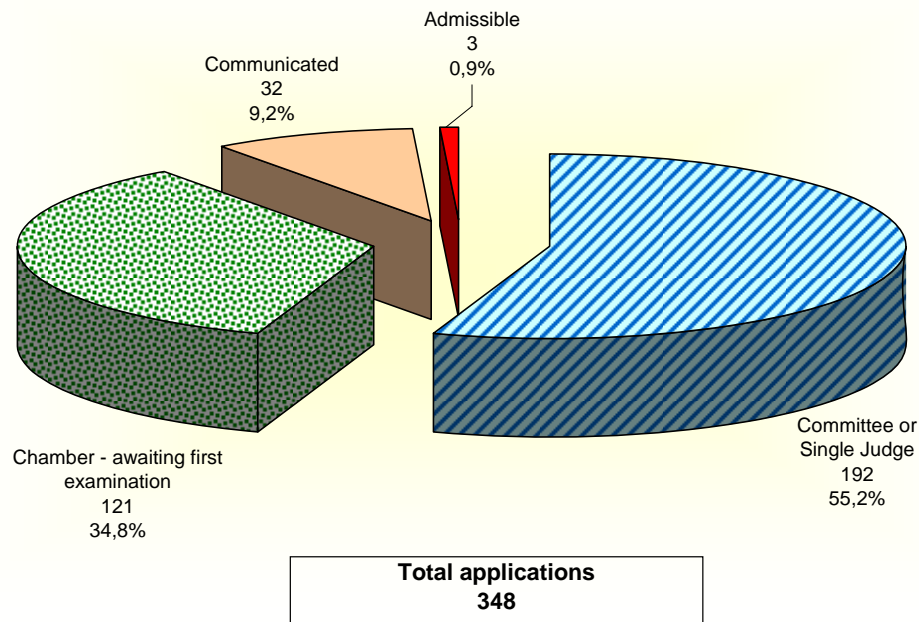
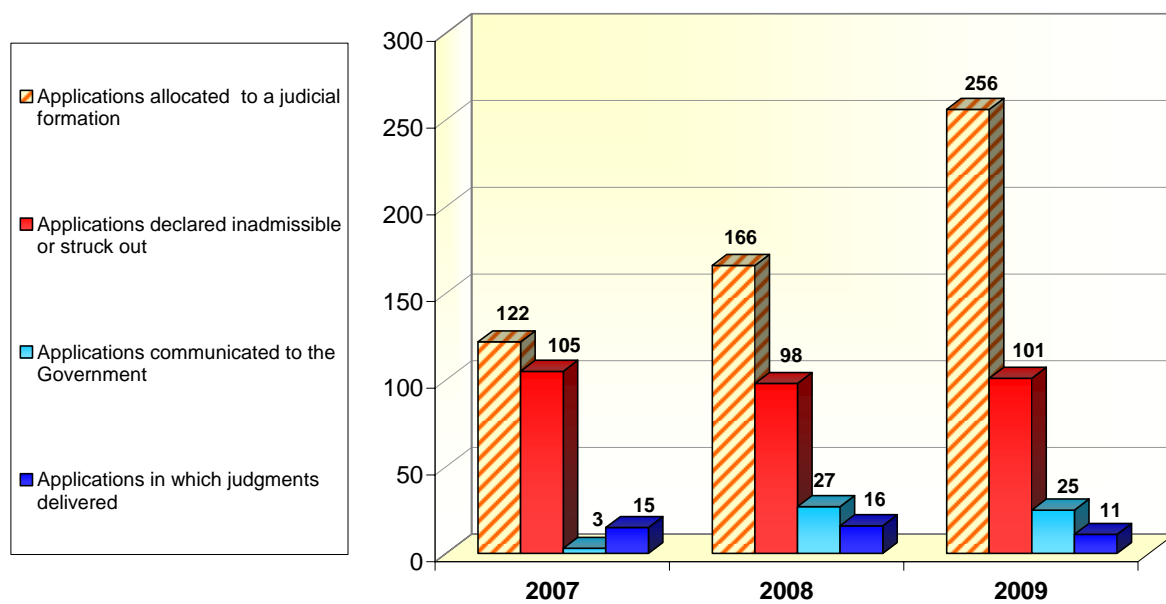


Chart 20. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Chart 21. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

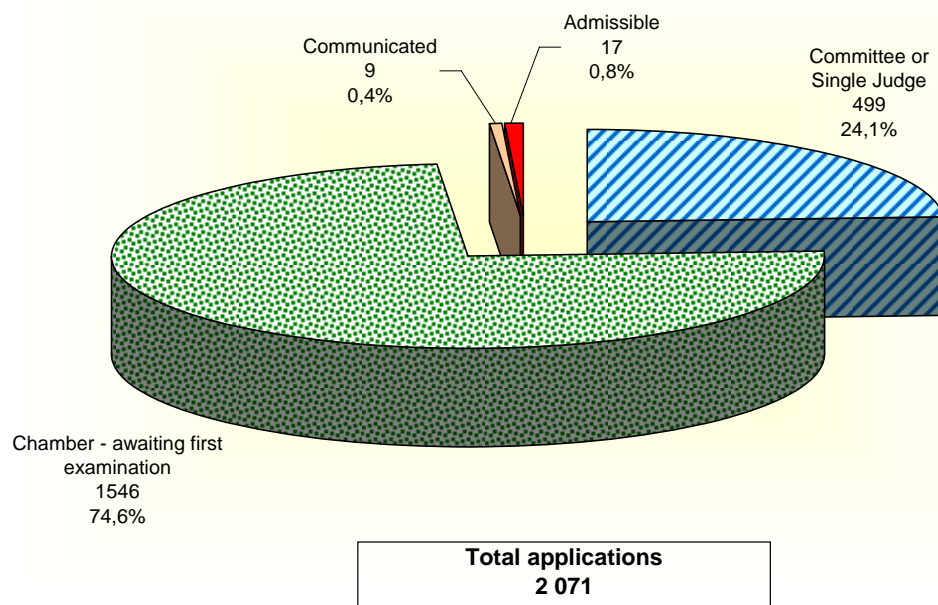
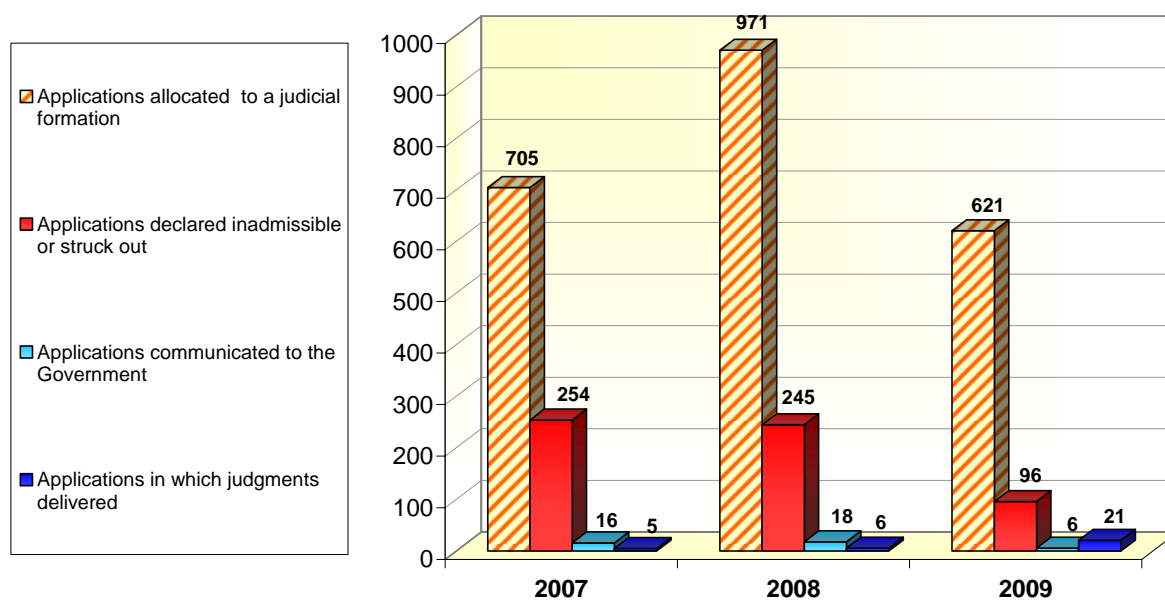


Chart 22. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Bulgaria

Chart 23. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

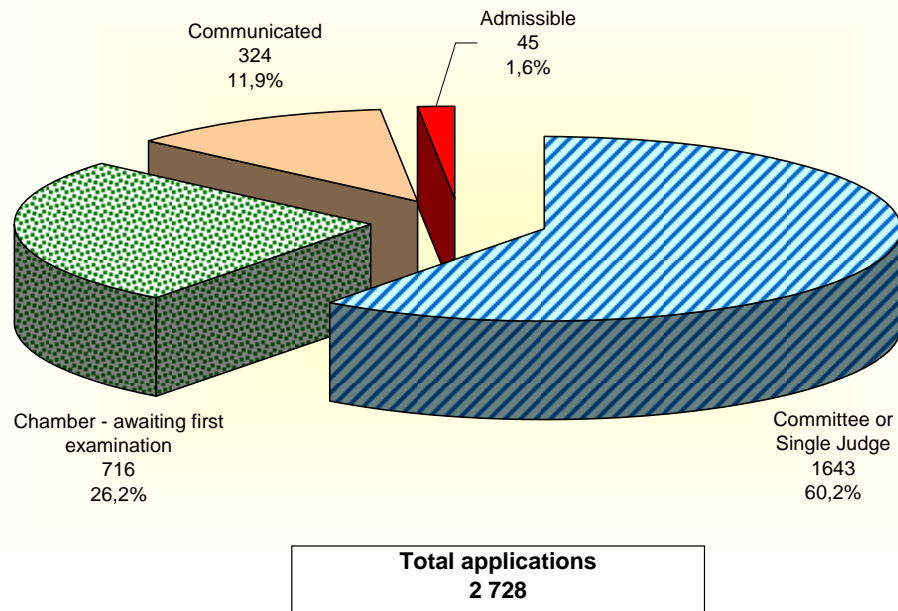
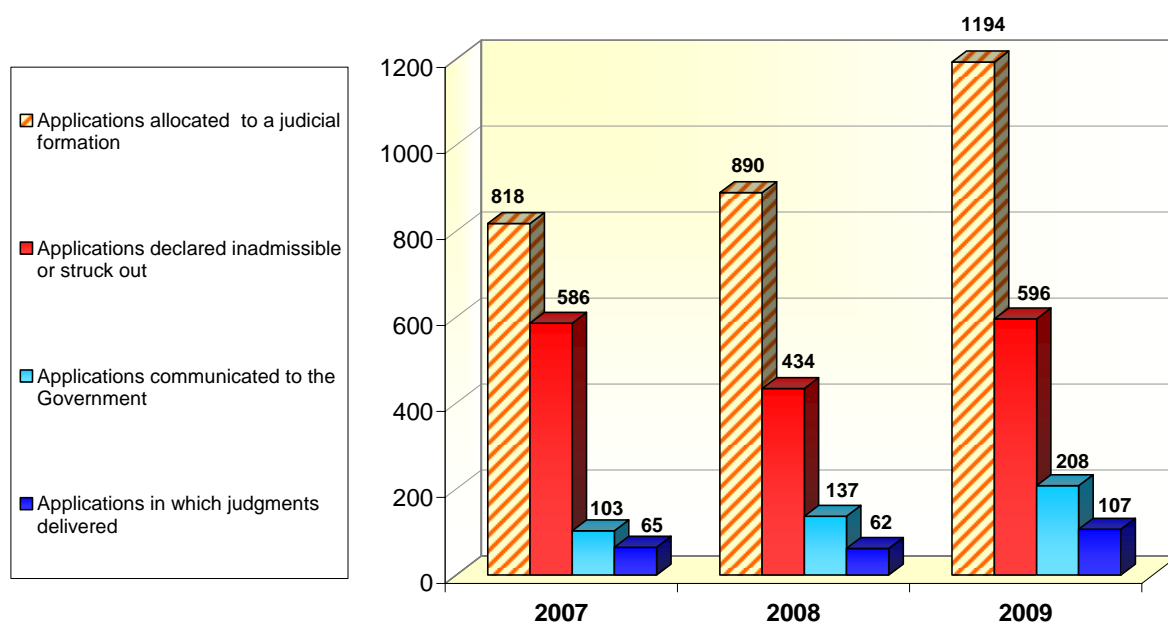


Chart 24. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Croatia

Chart 25. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

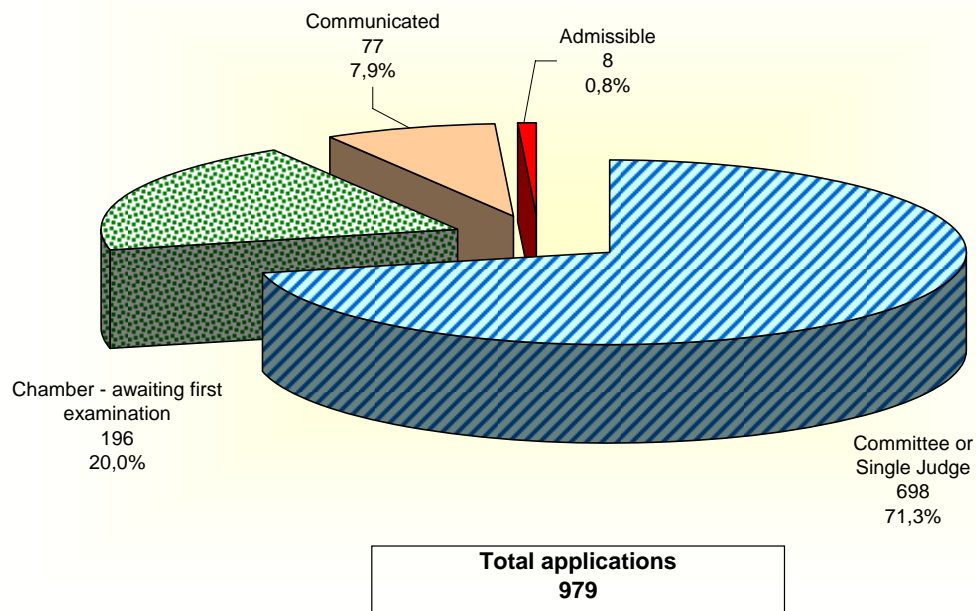
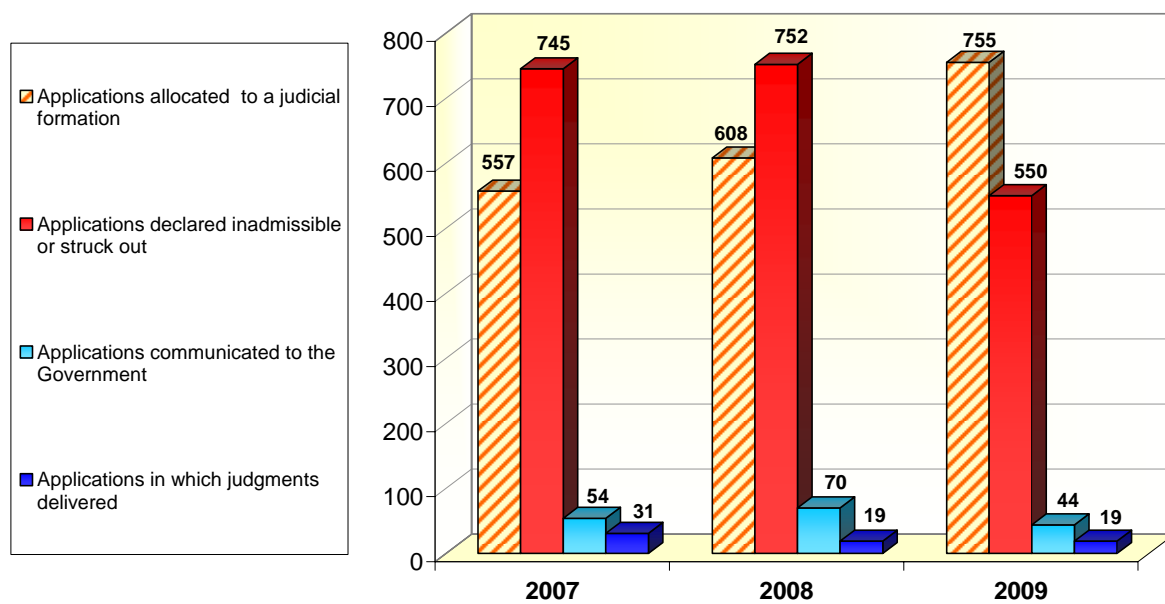


Chart 26. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Cyprus

Chart 27. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

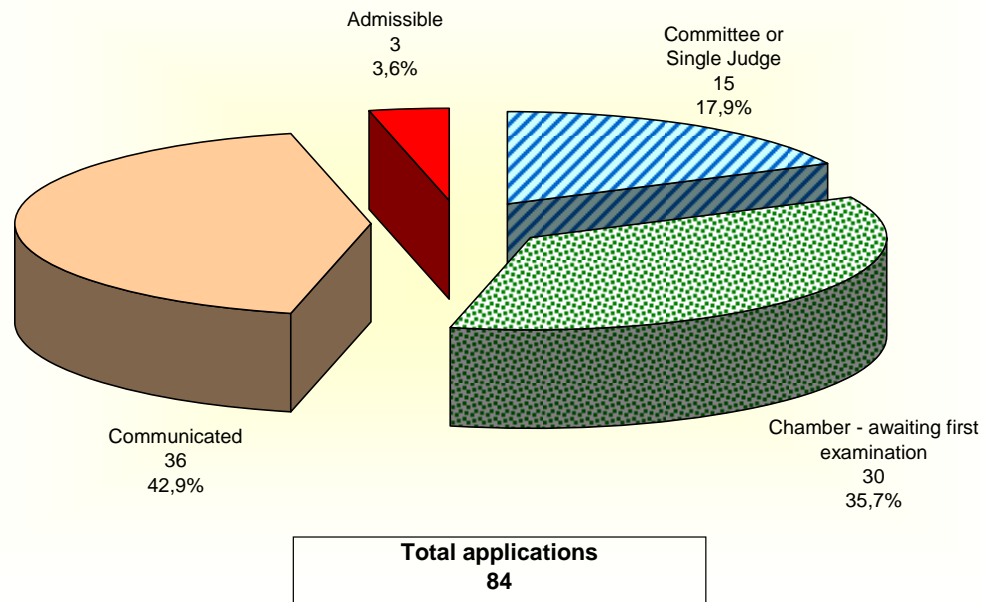
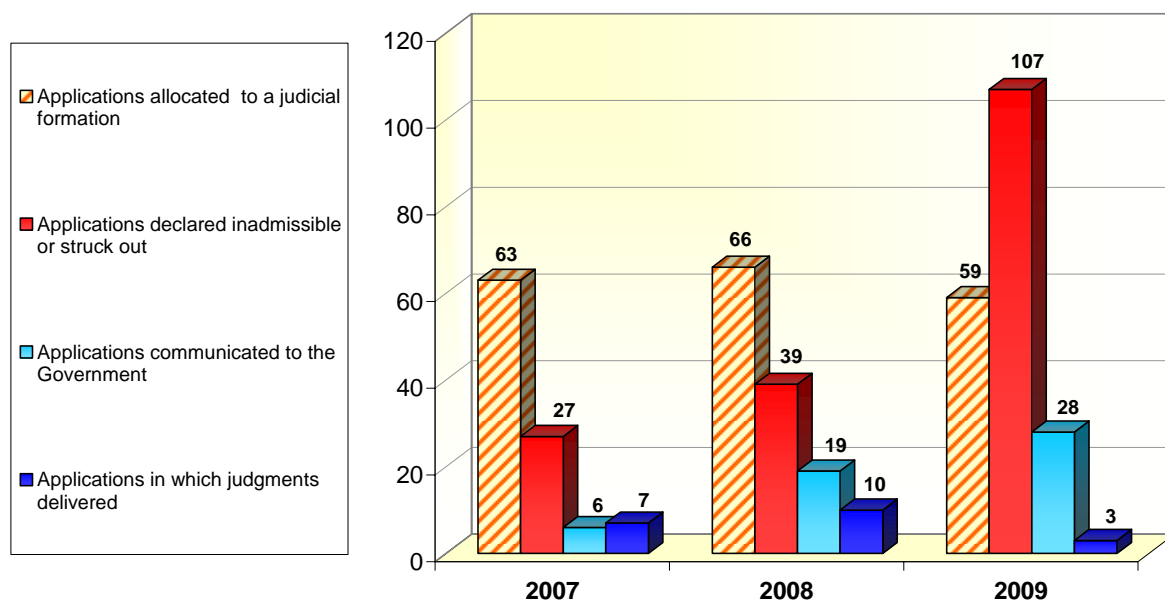


Chart 28. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Czech Republic

Chart 29. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

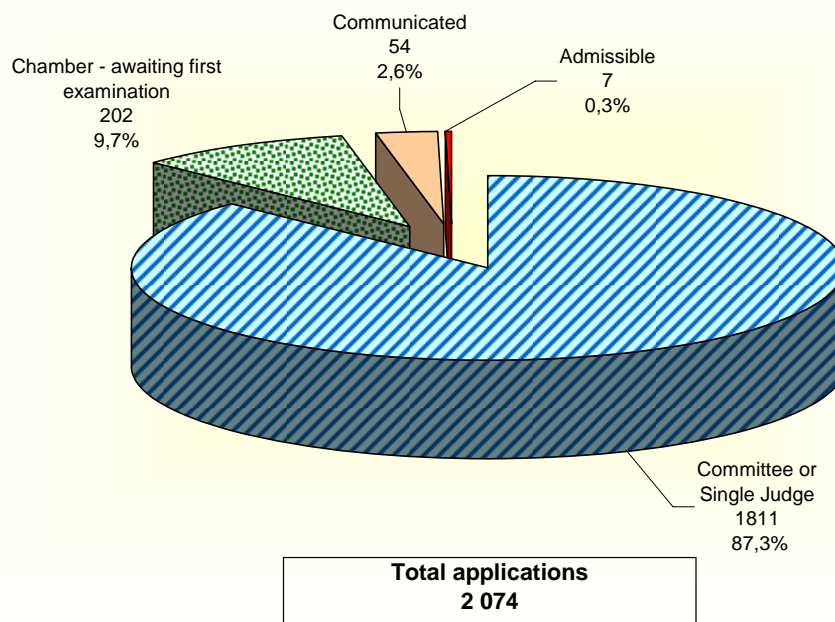
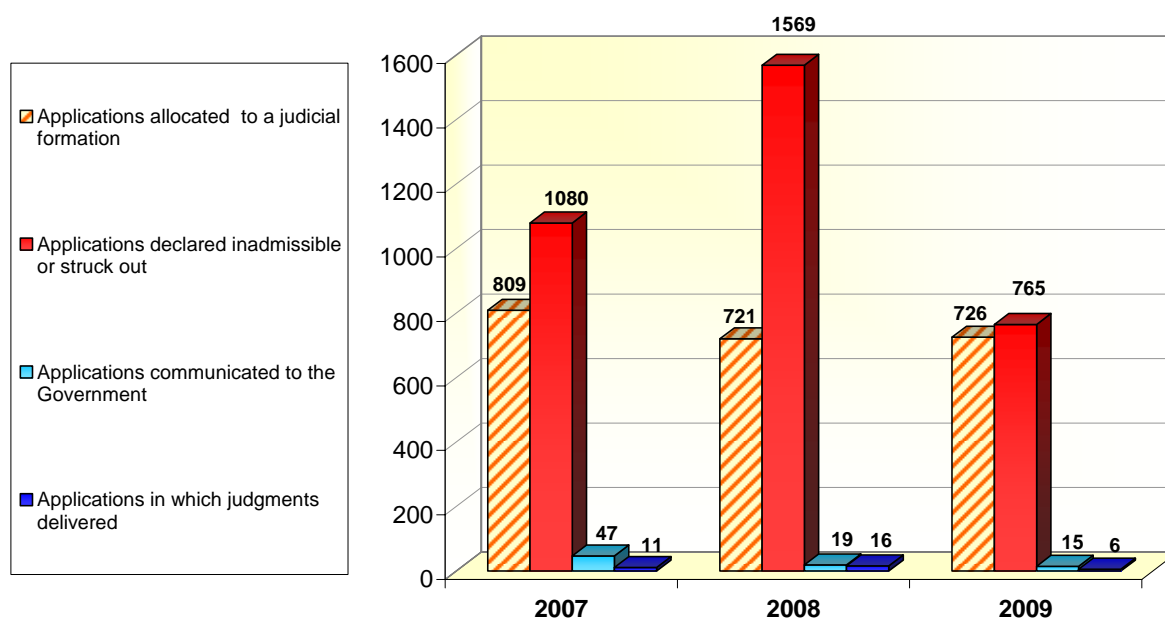


Chart 30. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Denmark

Chart 31. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

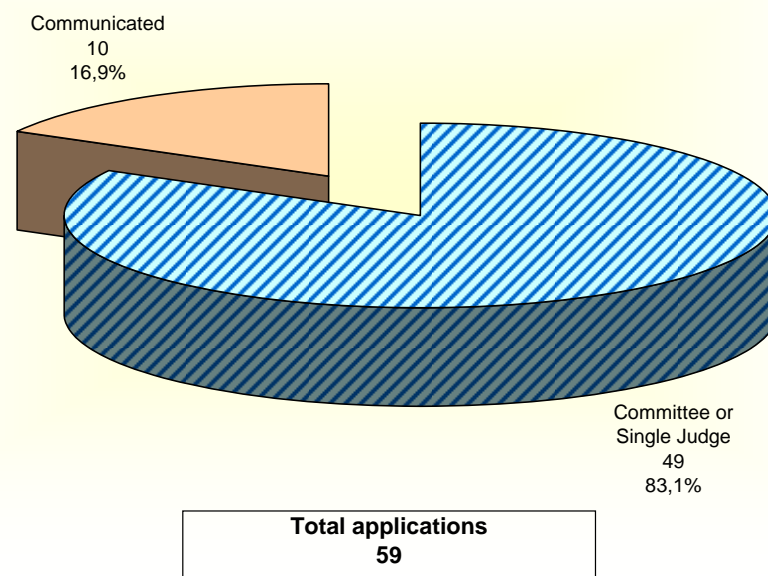
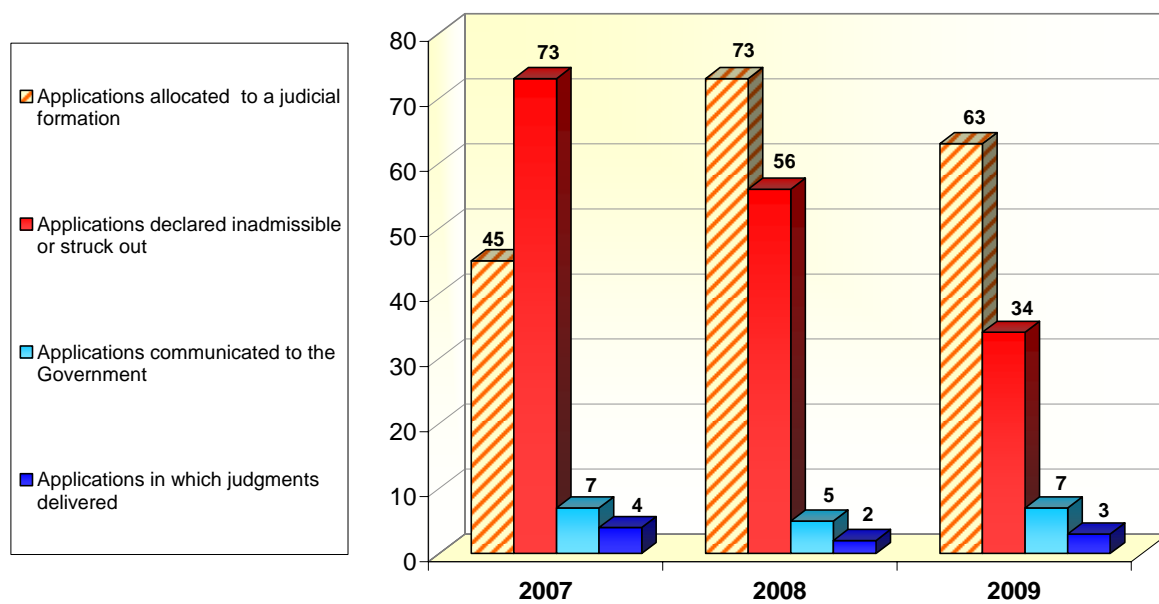


Chart 32. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Estonia

Chart 33. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

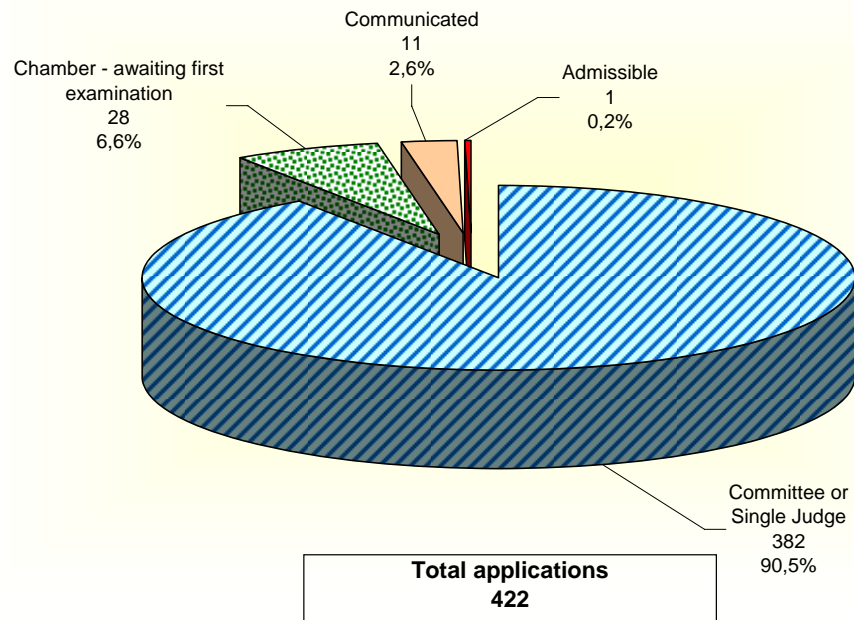
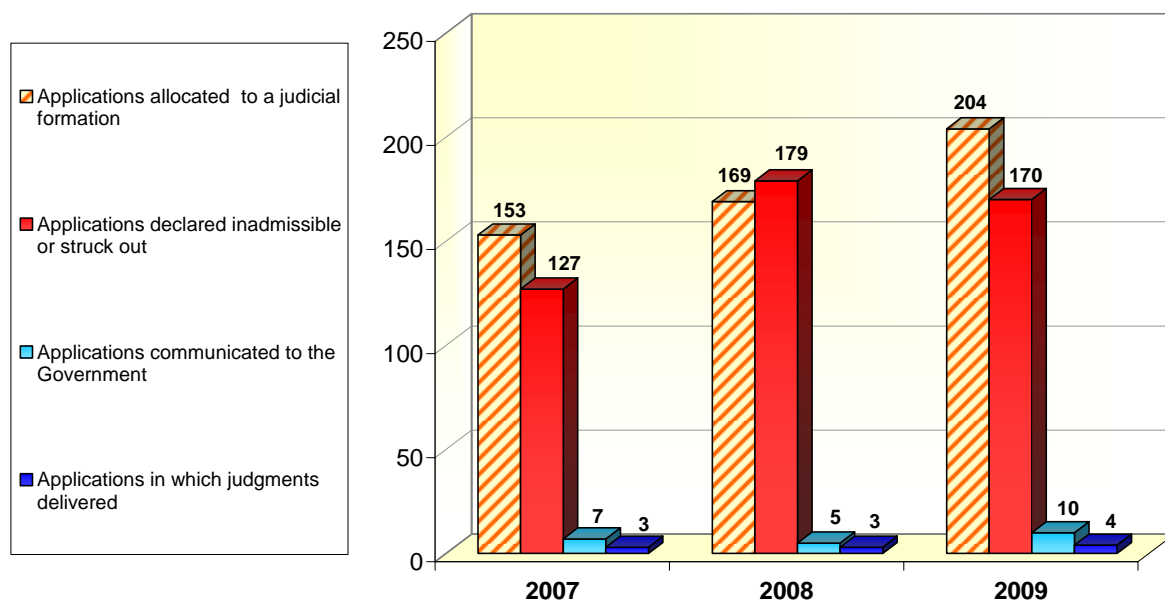


Chart 34. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Finland

Chart 35. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

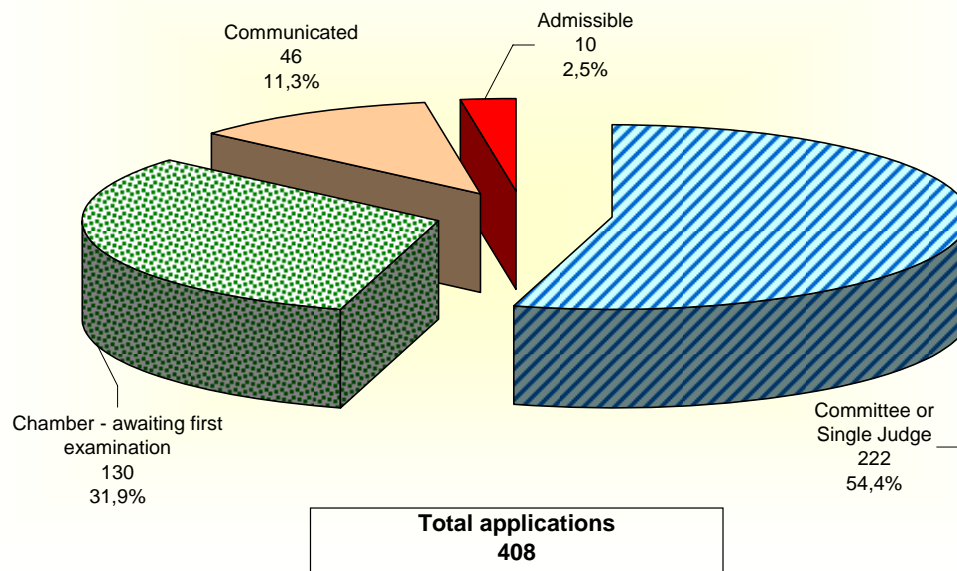
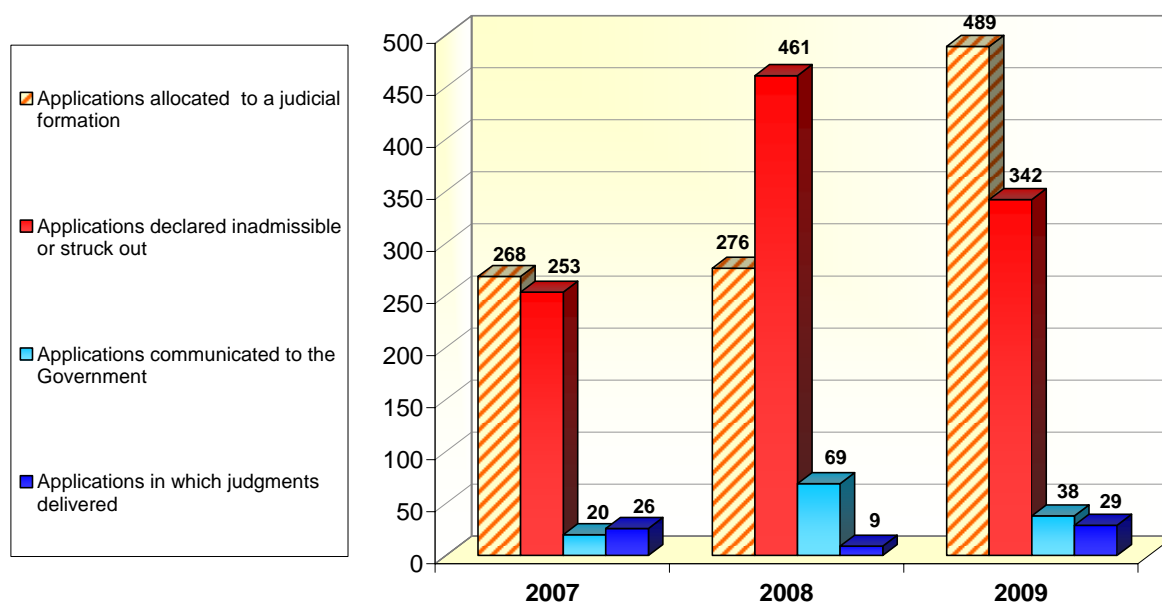


Chart 36. Major procedural steps in processing applications



France

Chart 37. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

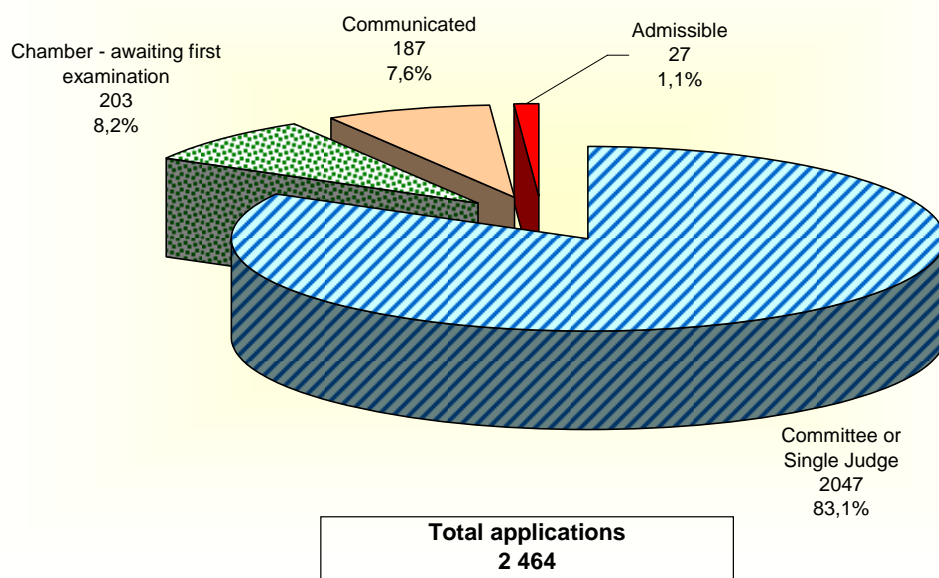
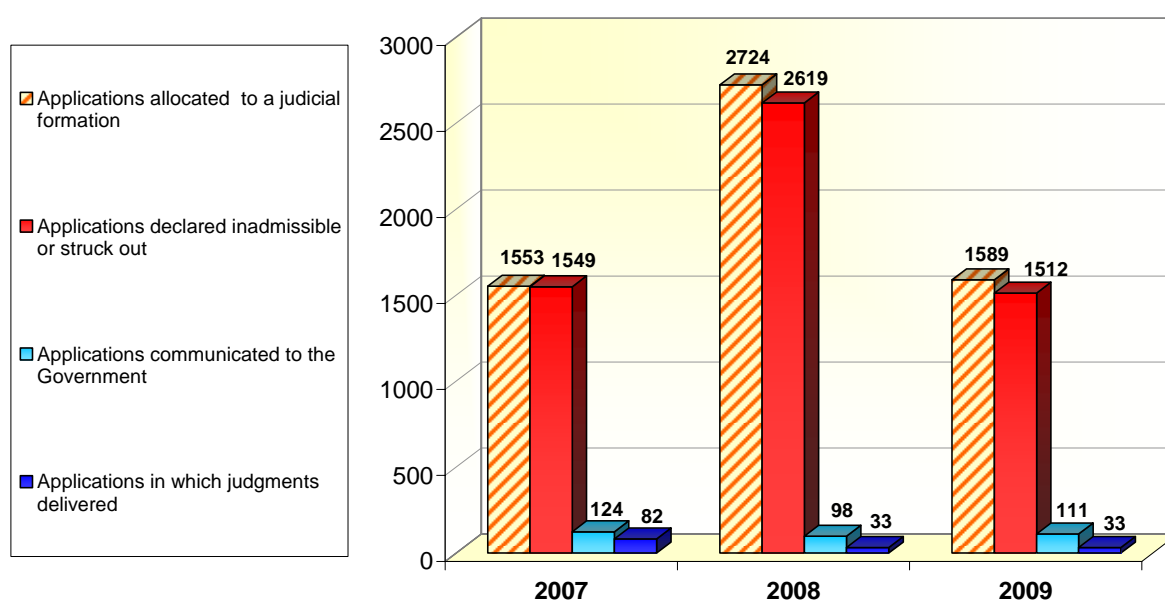


Chart 38. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Georgia

Chart 39. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

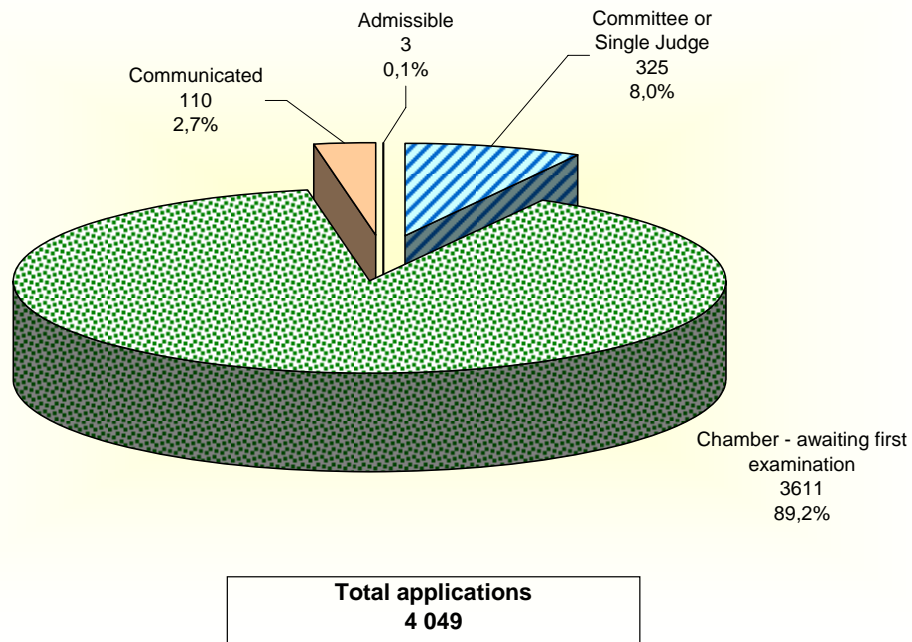
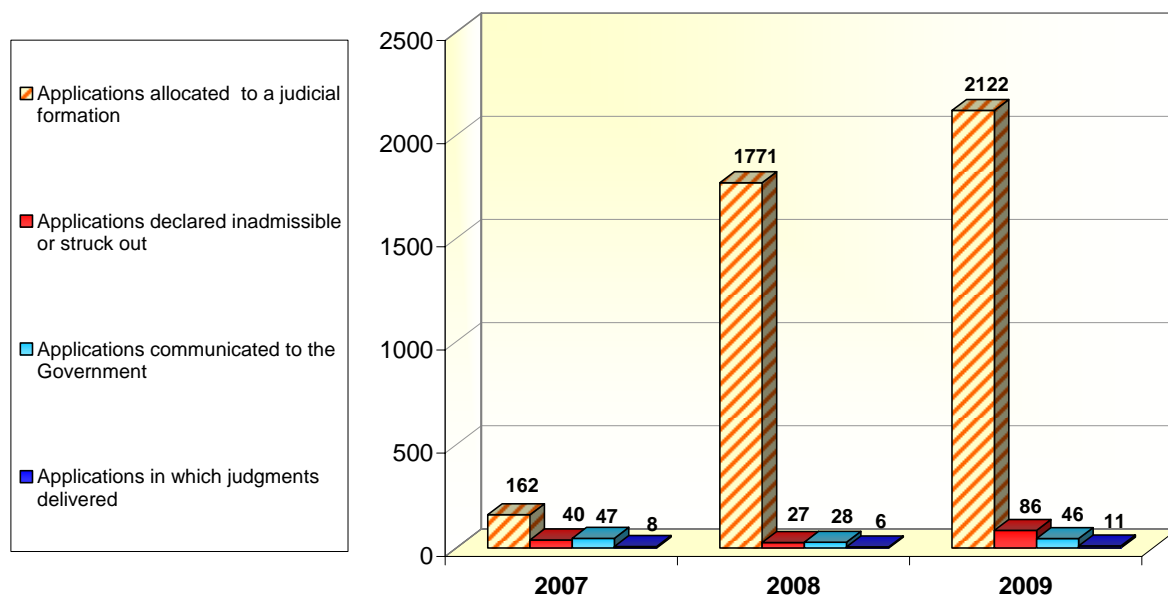


Chart 40. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Germany

Chart 41. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

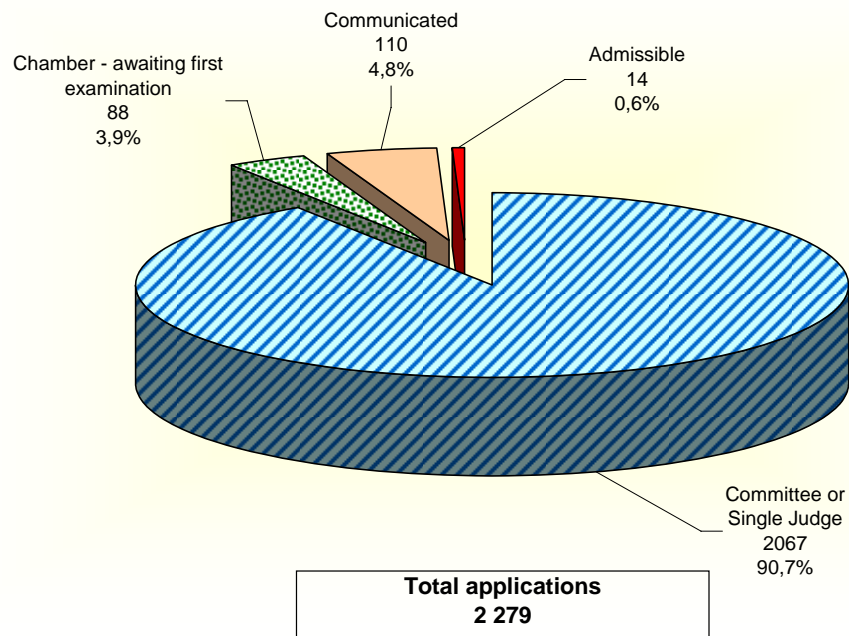
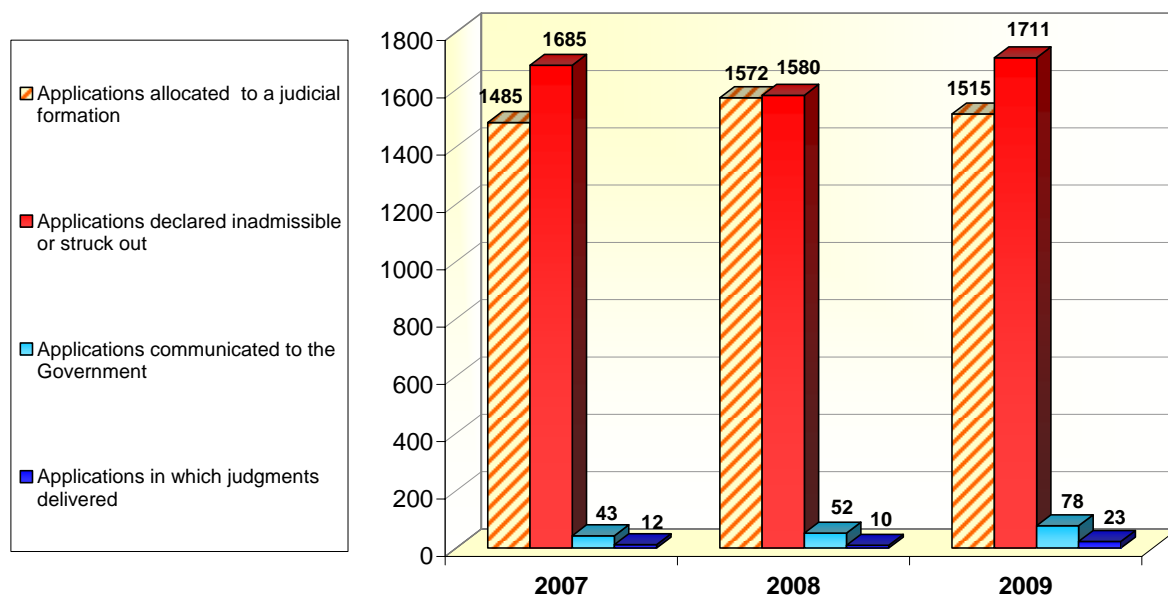


Chart 42. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Greece

Chart 43. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

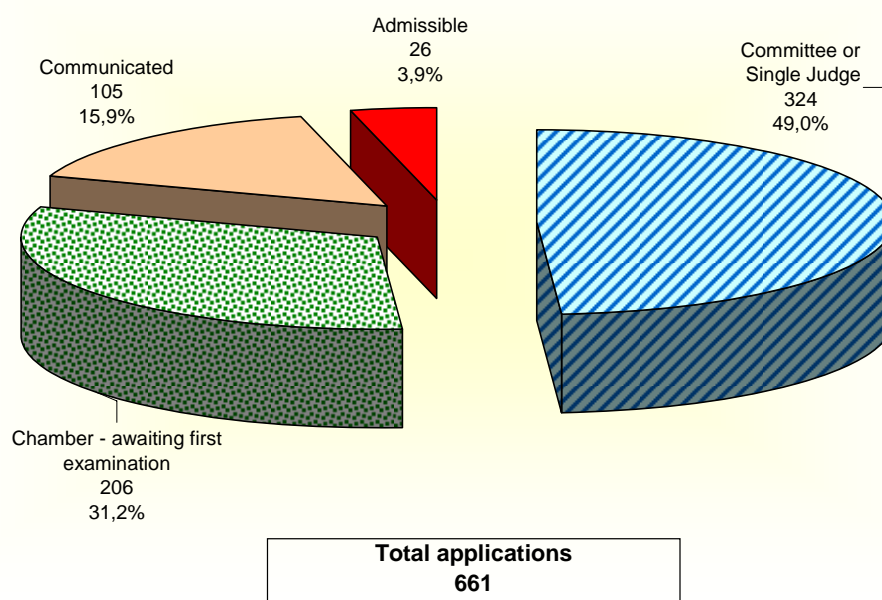
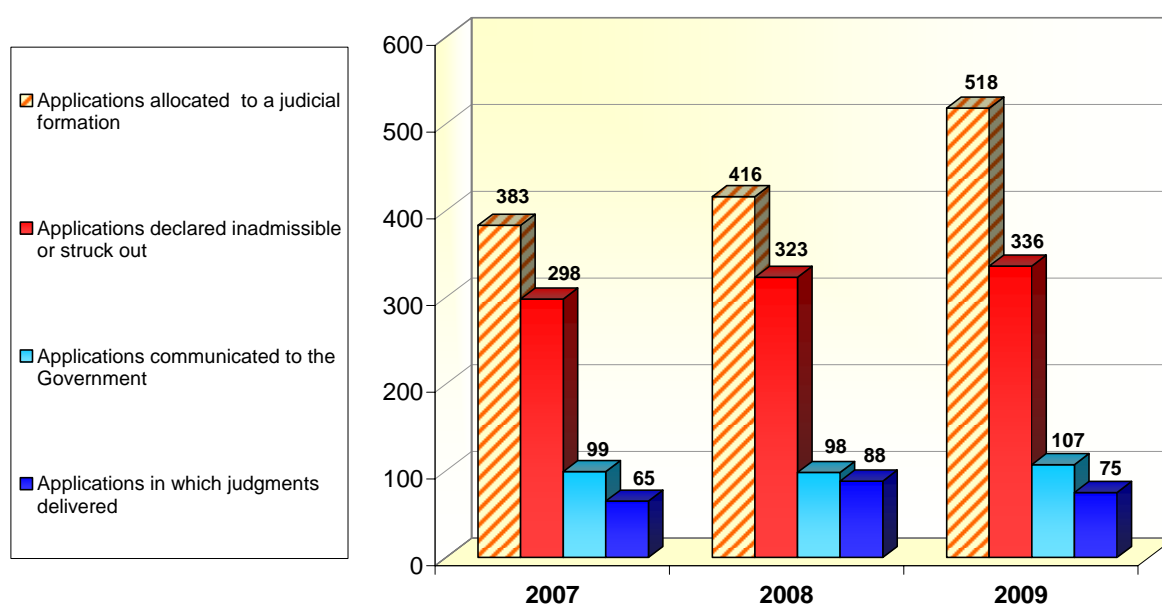


Chart 44. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Hungary

Chart 45. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

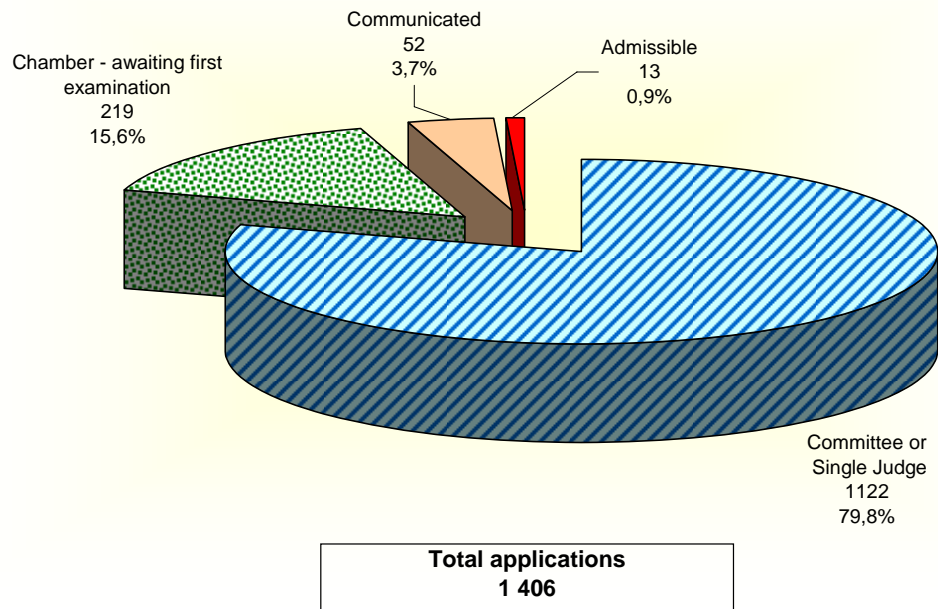
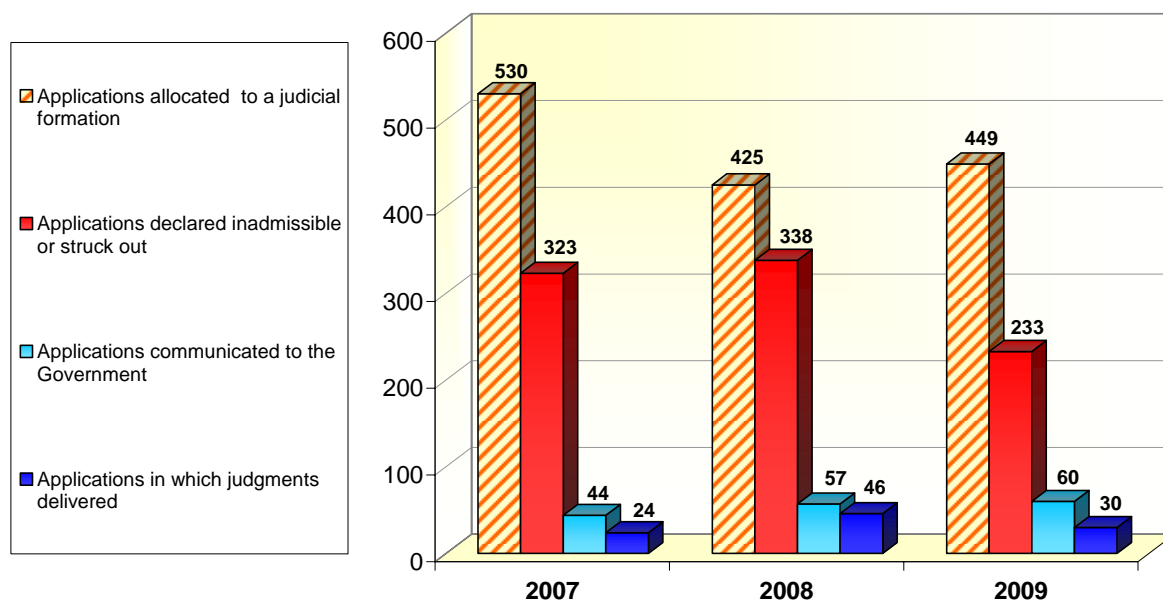


Chart 46. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Iceland

Chart 47. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

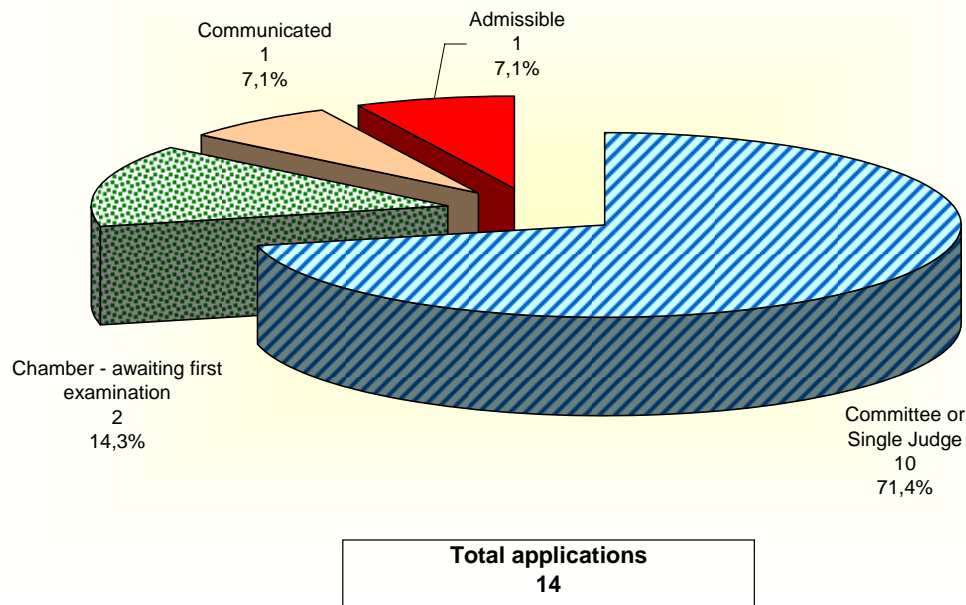
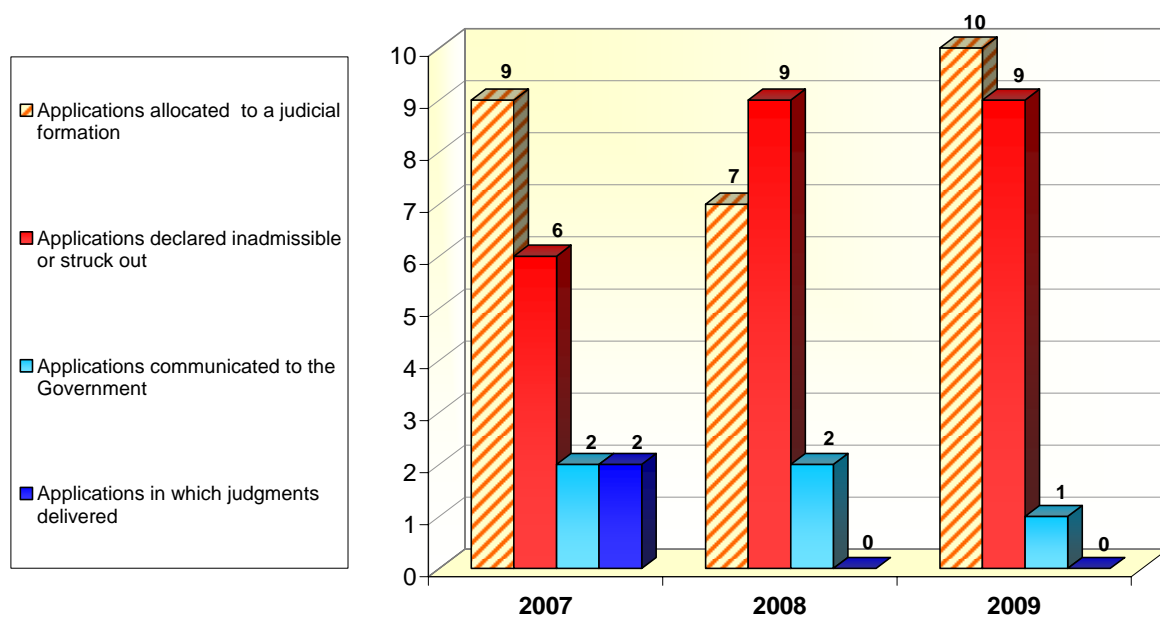


Chart 48. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Ireland

Chart 49. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

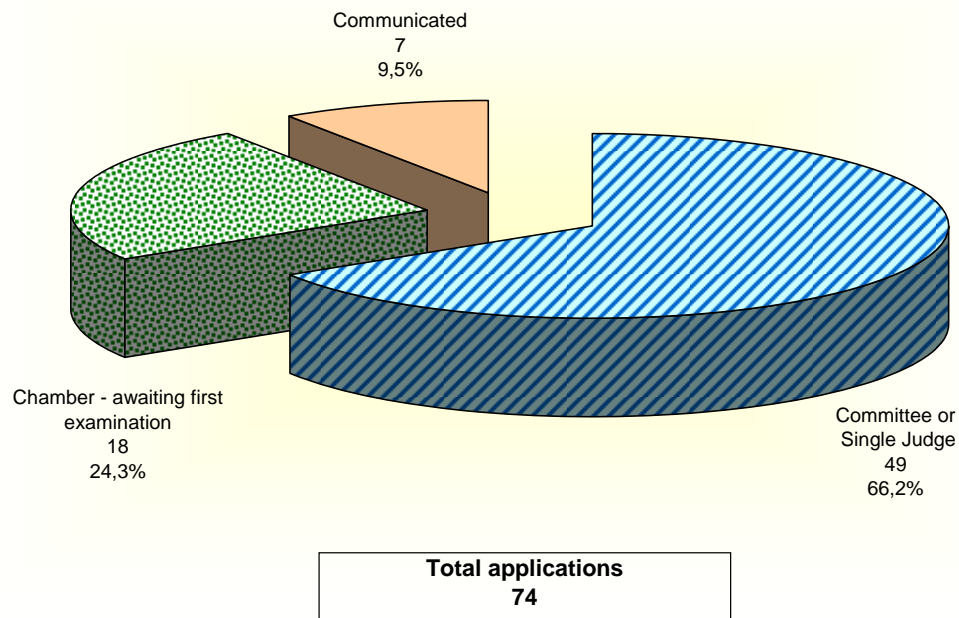
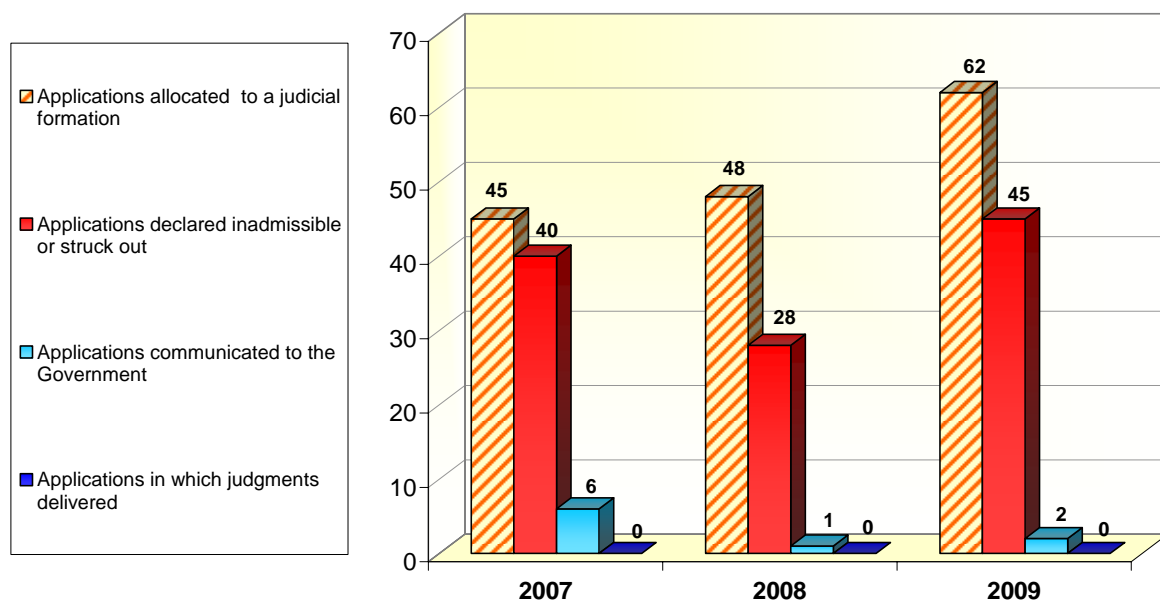


Chart 50. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Italy

Chart 51. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

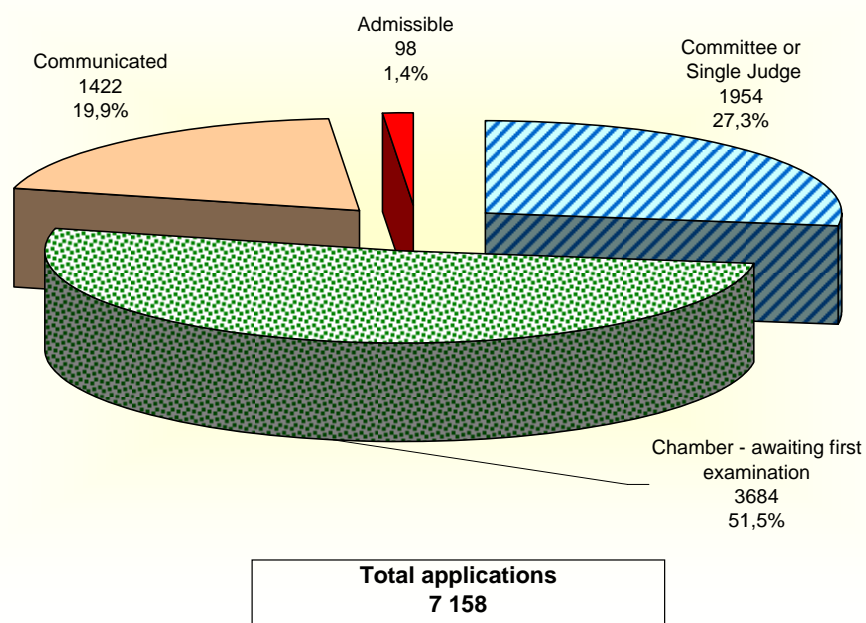
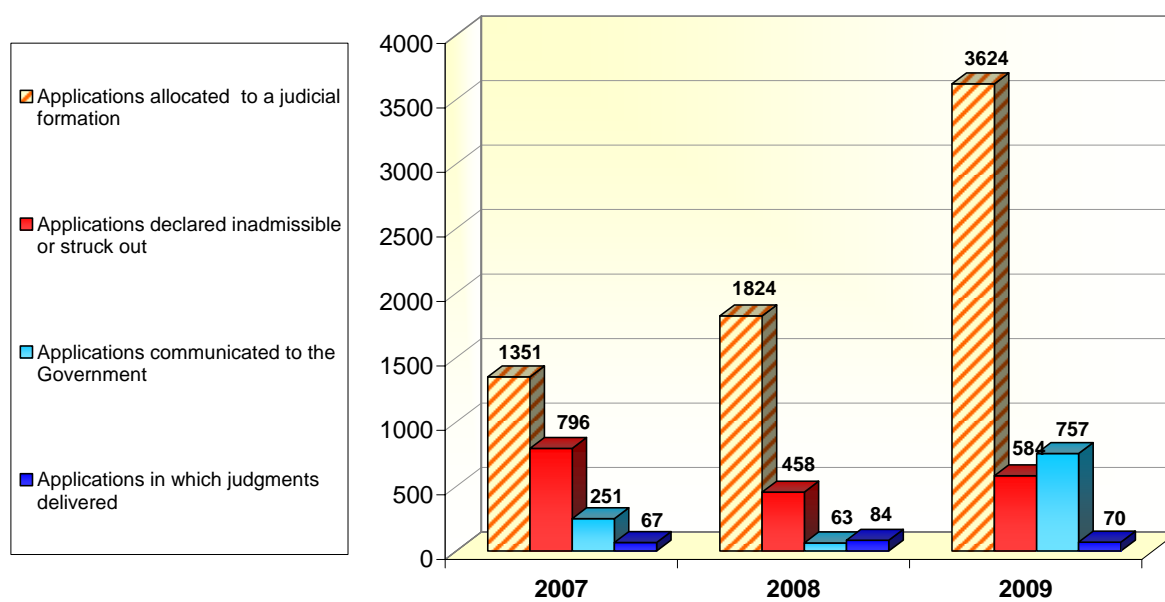


Chart 52. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Latvia

Chart 53. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

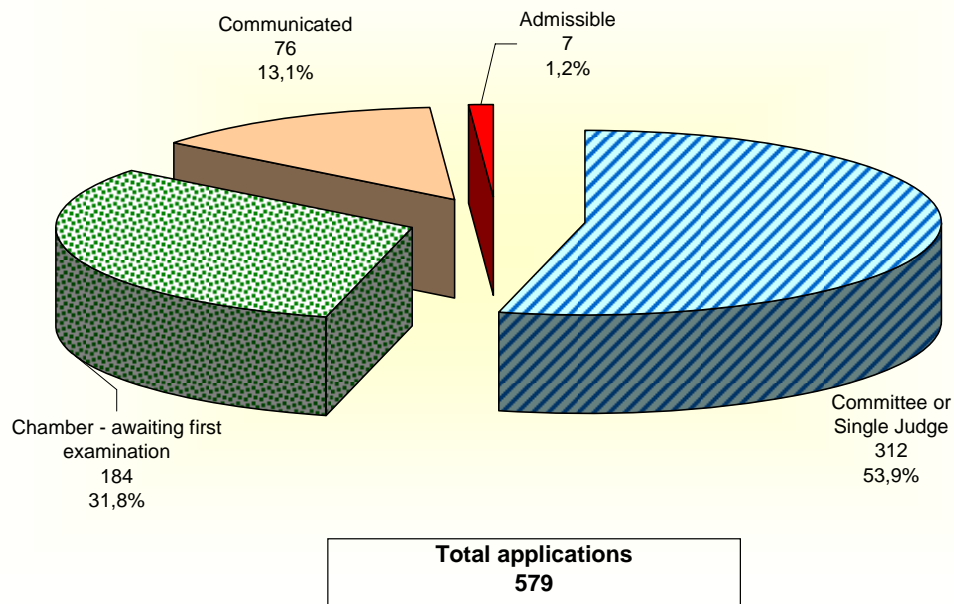
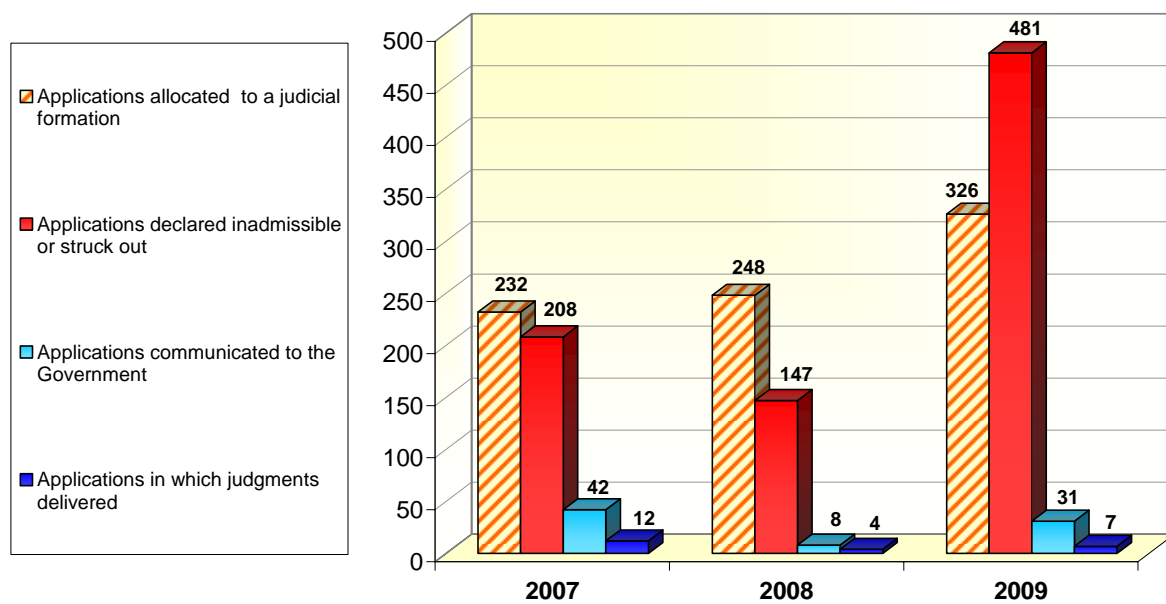


Chart 54. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Liechtenstein

Chart 55. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

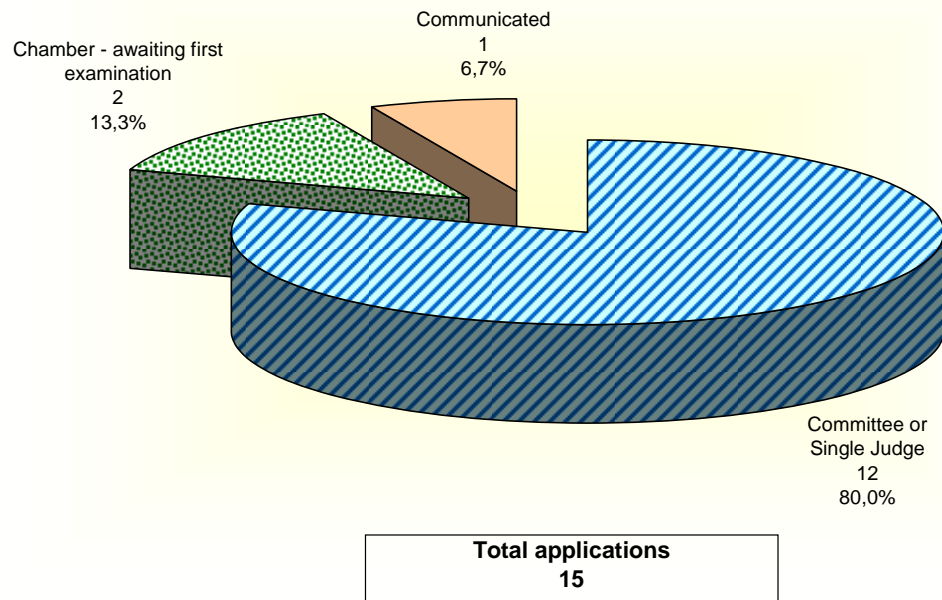
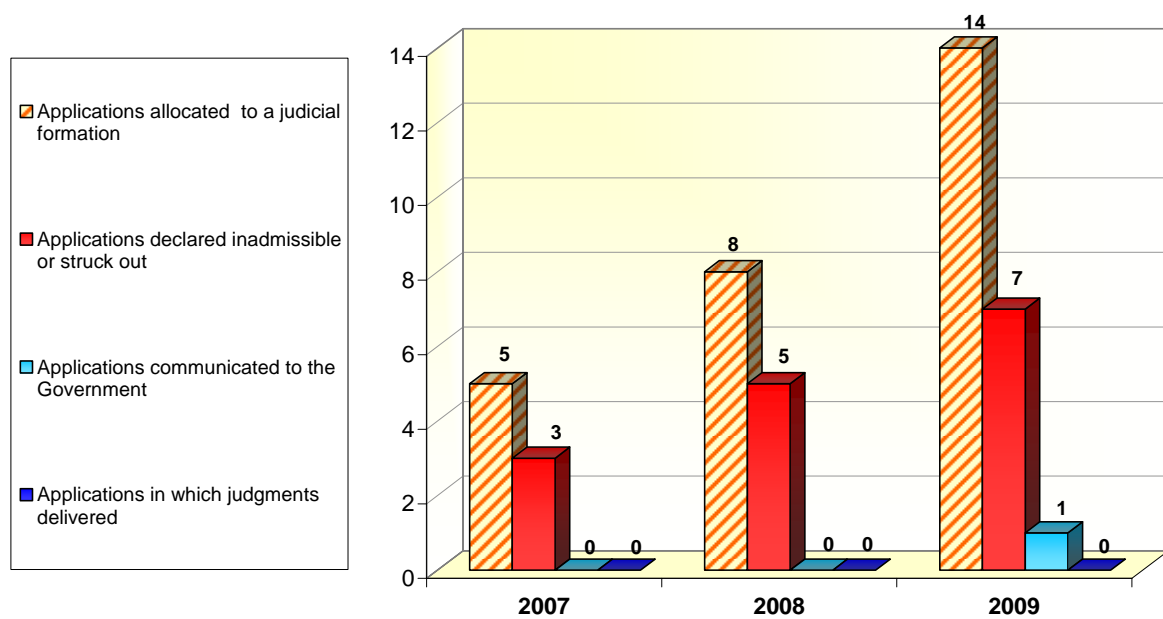


Chart 56. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Lithuania

Chart 57. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

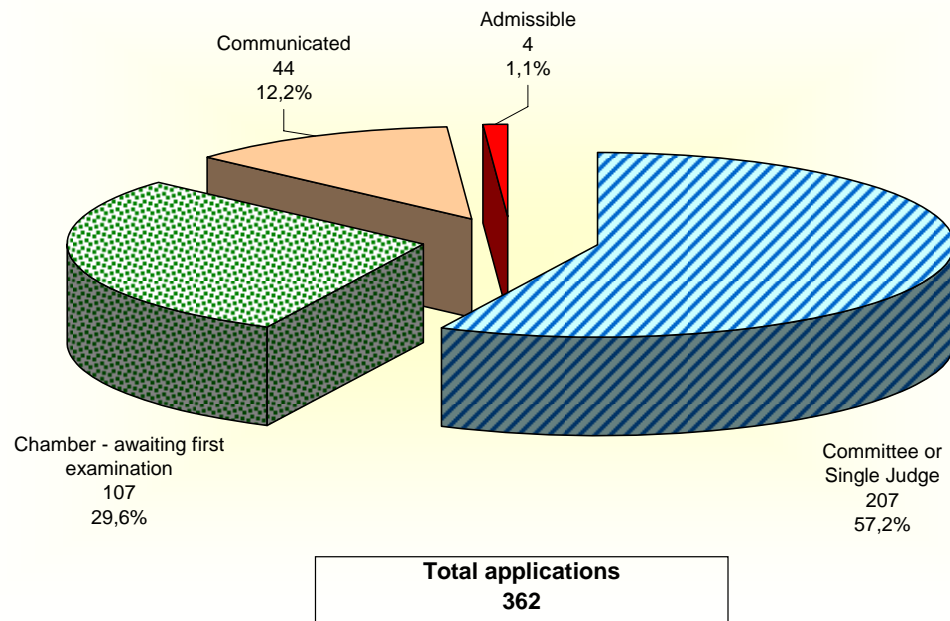
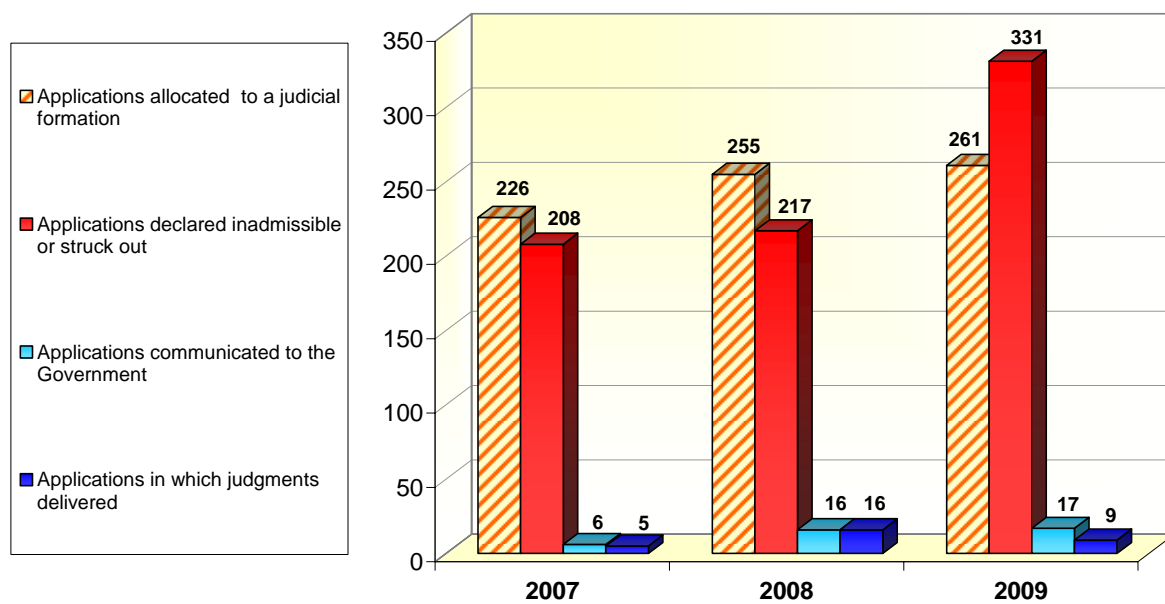


Chart 58. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Luxembourg

Chart 59. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

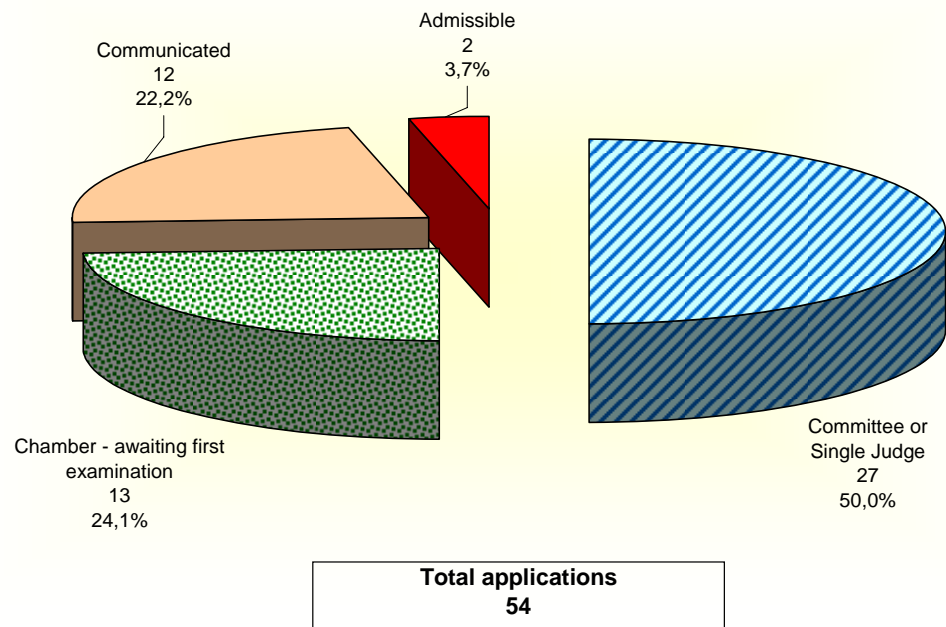
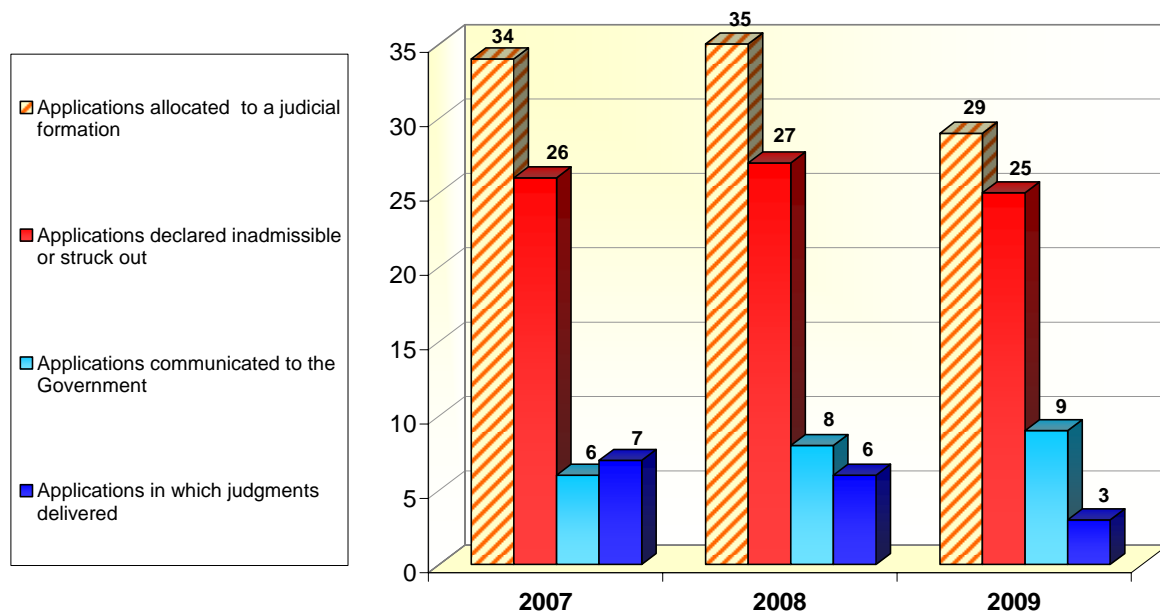


Chart 60. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Malta

Chart 61. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

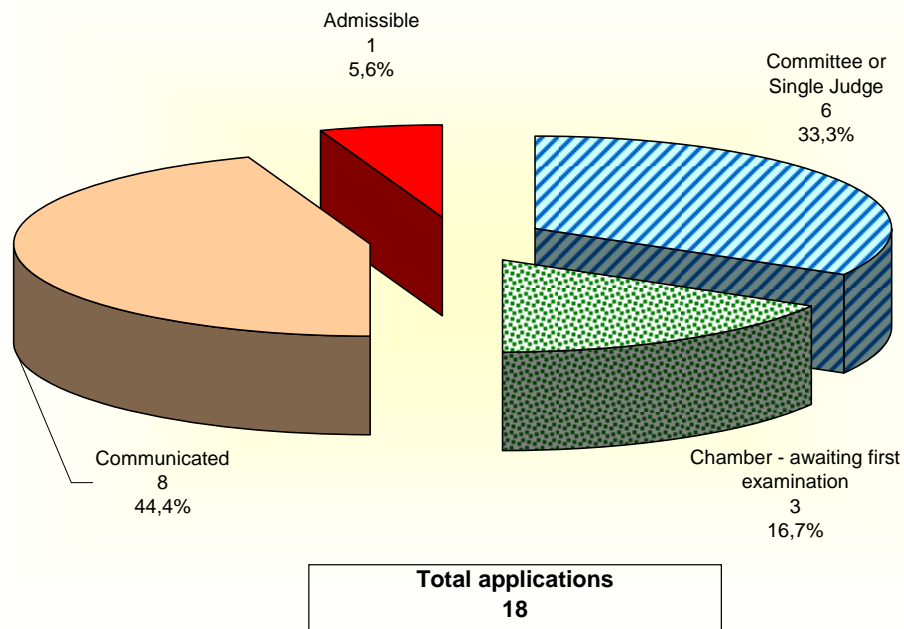
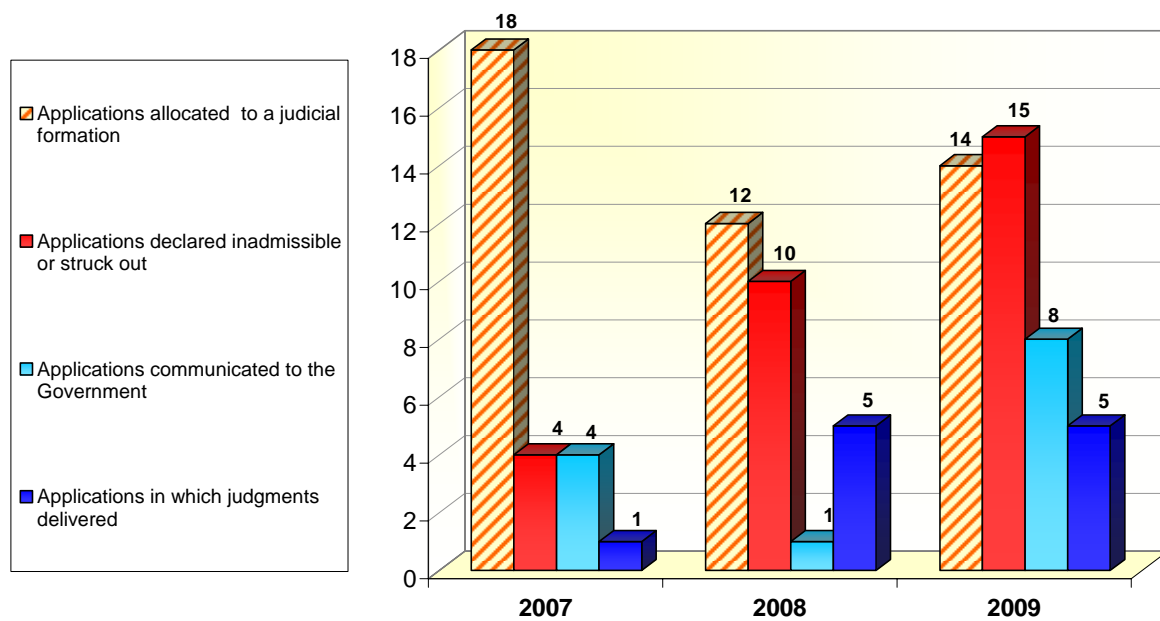


Chart 62. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Moldova

Chart 63. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

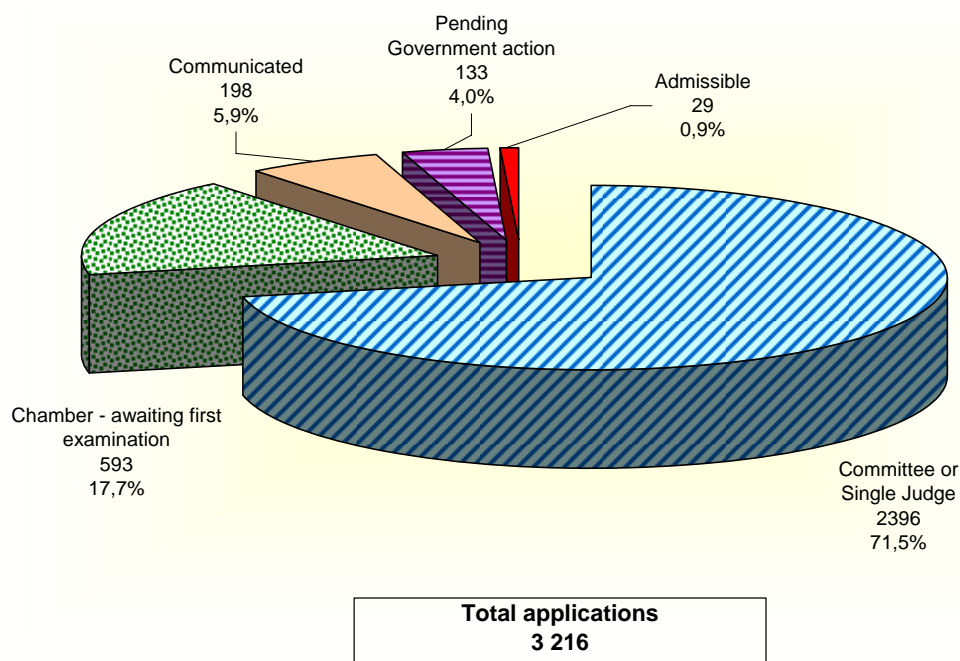
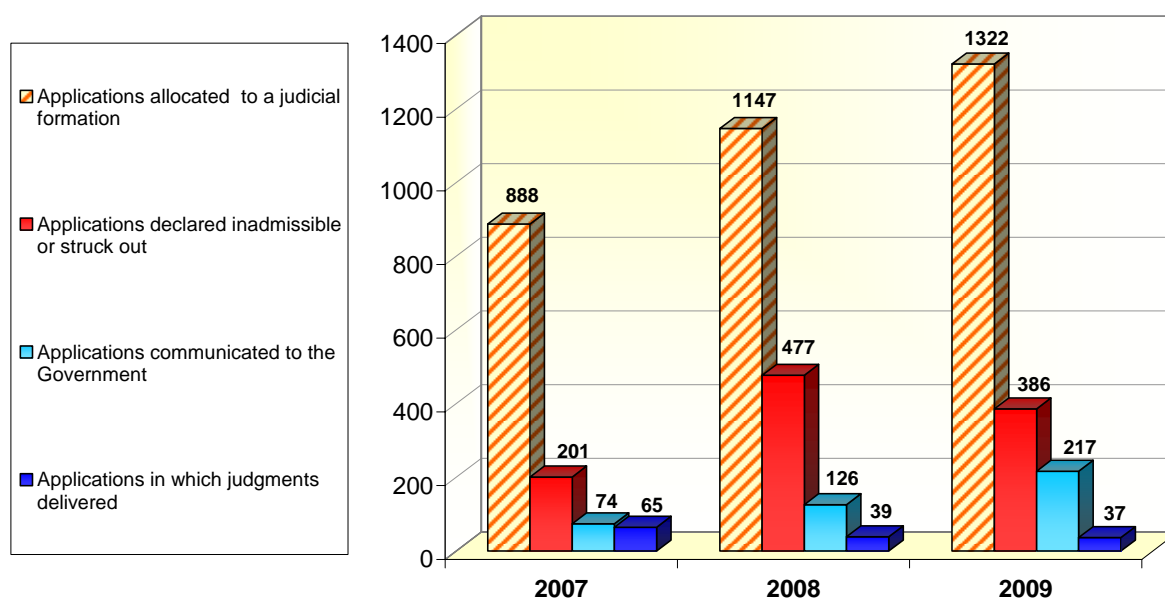


Chart 64. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Monaco

Chart 65. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

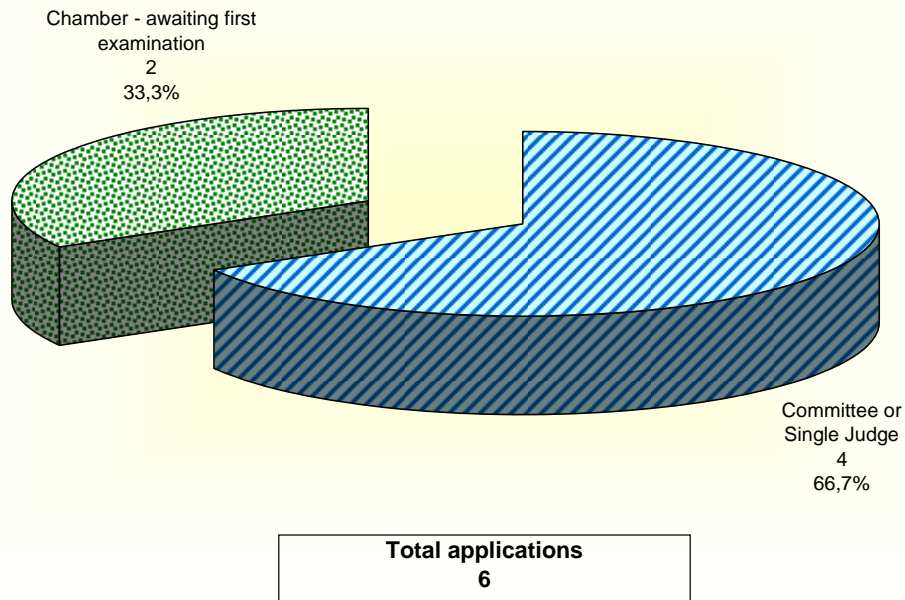
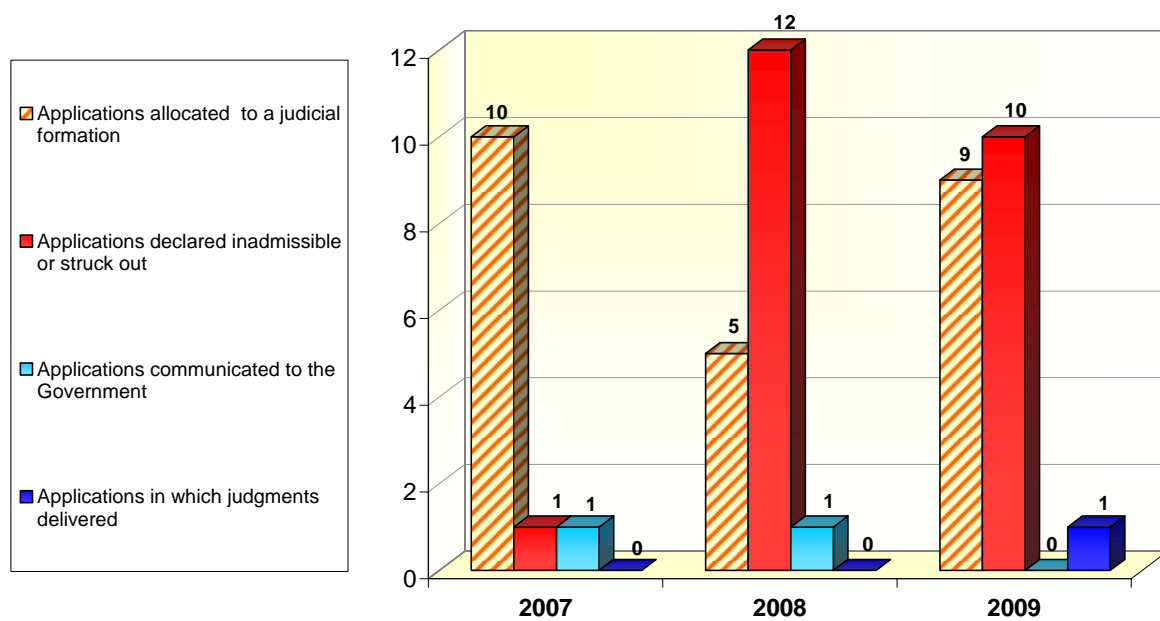


Chart 66. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Montenegro

Chart 67. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

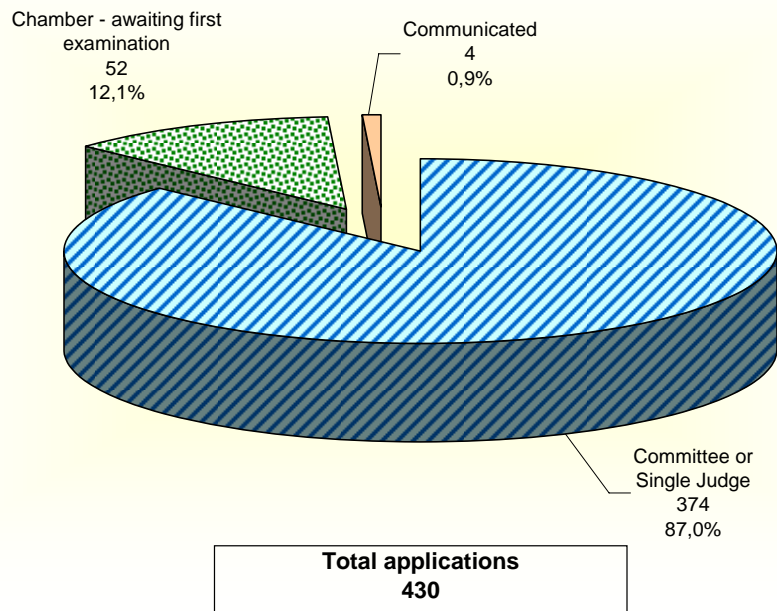
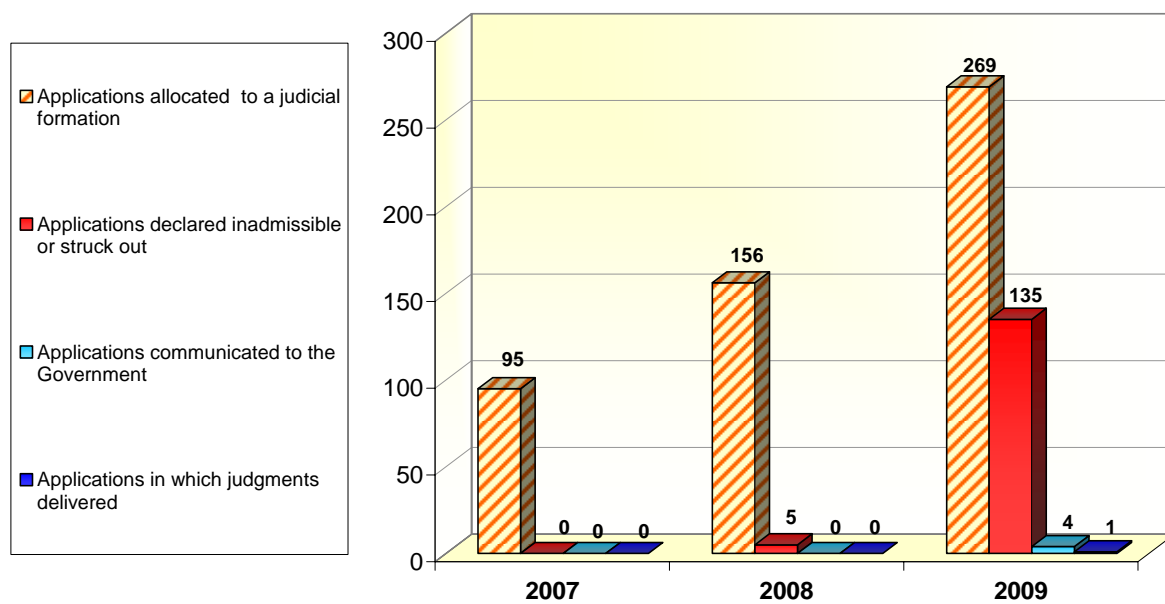


Chart 68. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Netherlands

Chart 69. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

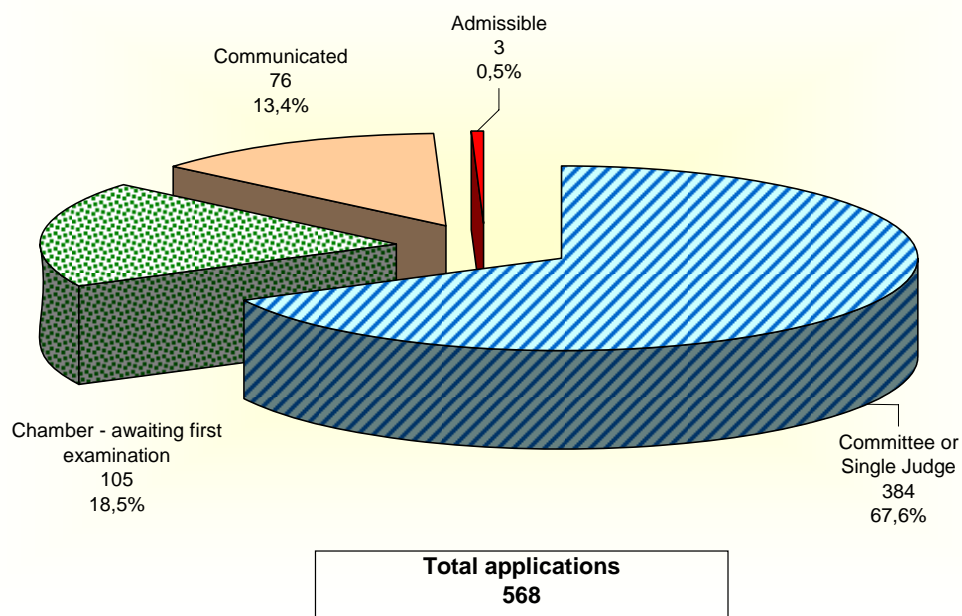
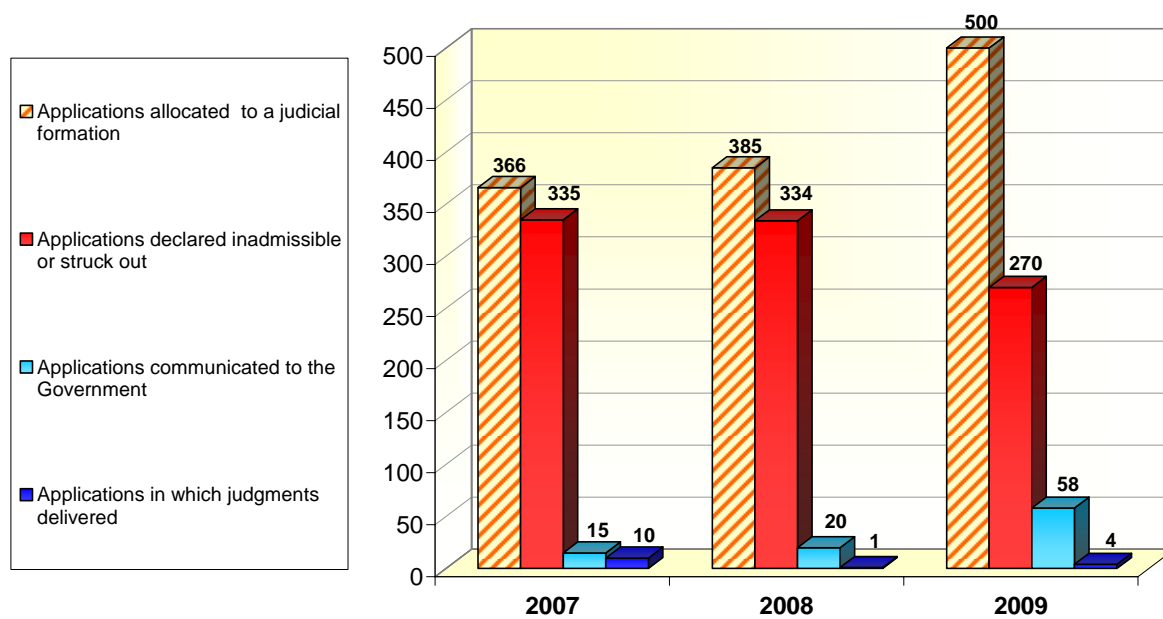


Chart 70. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Norway

Chart 71. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

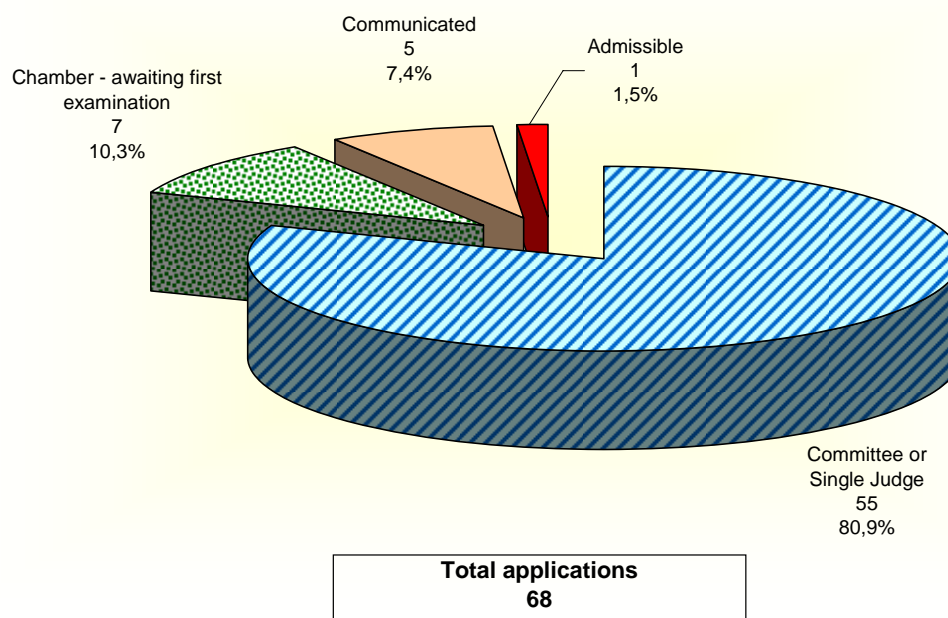
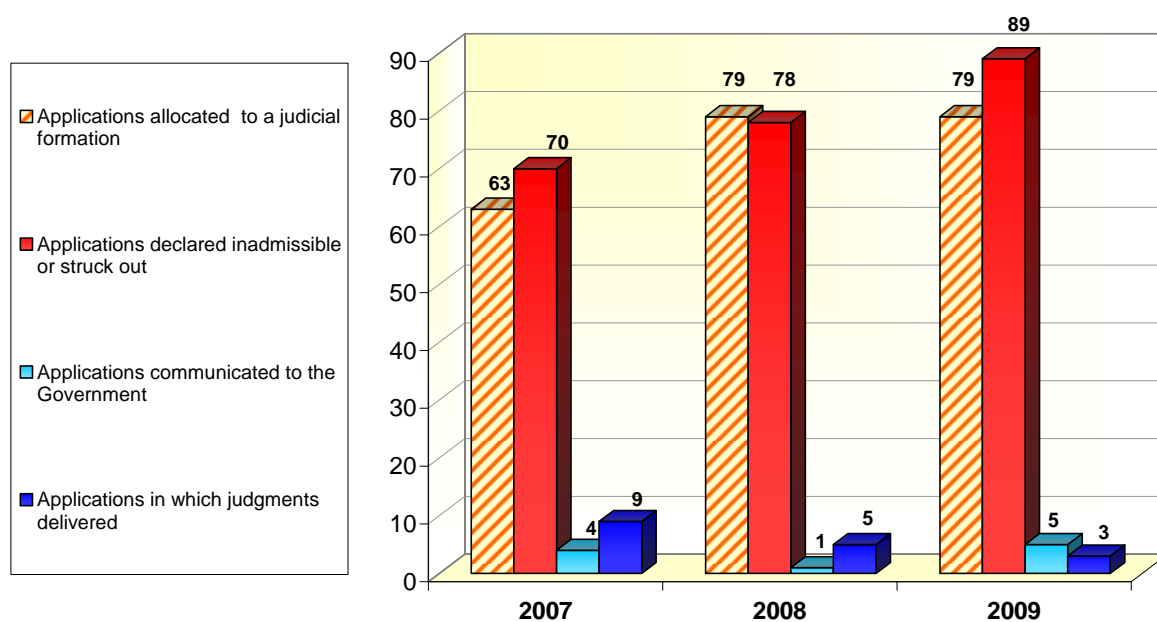


Chart 72. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Poland

Chart 73. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

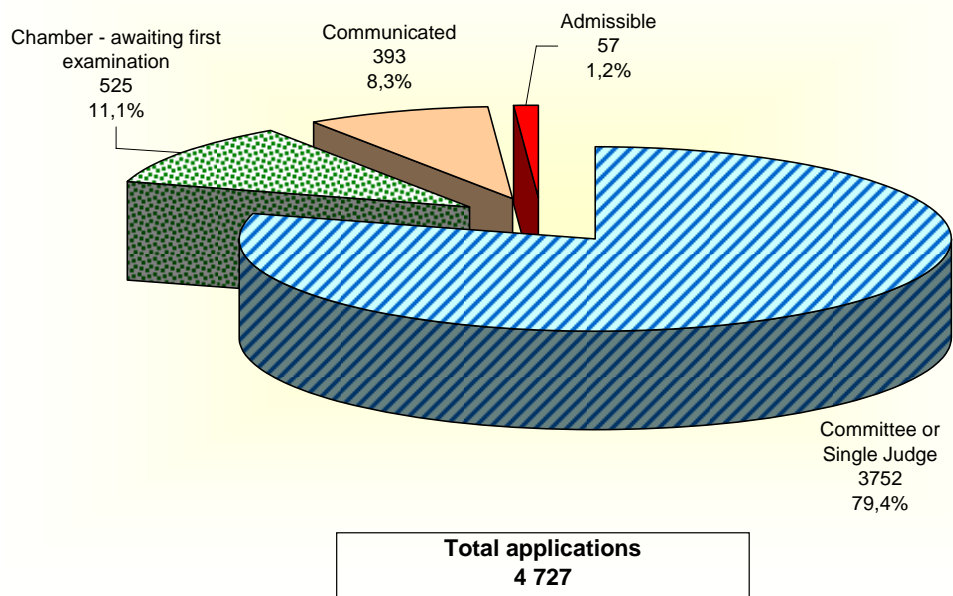
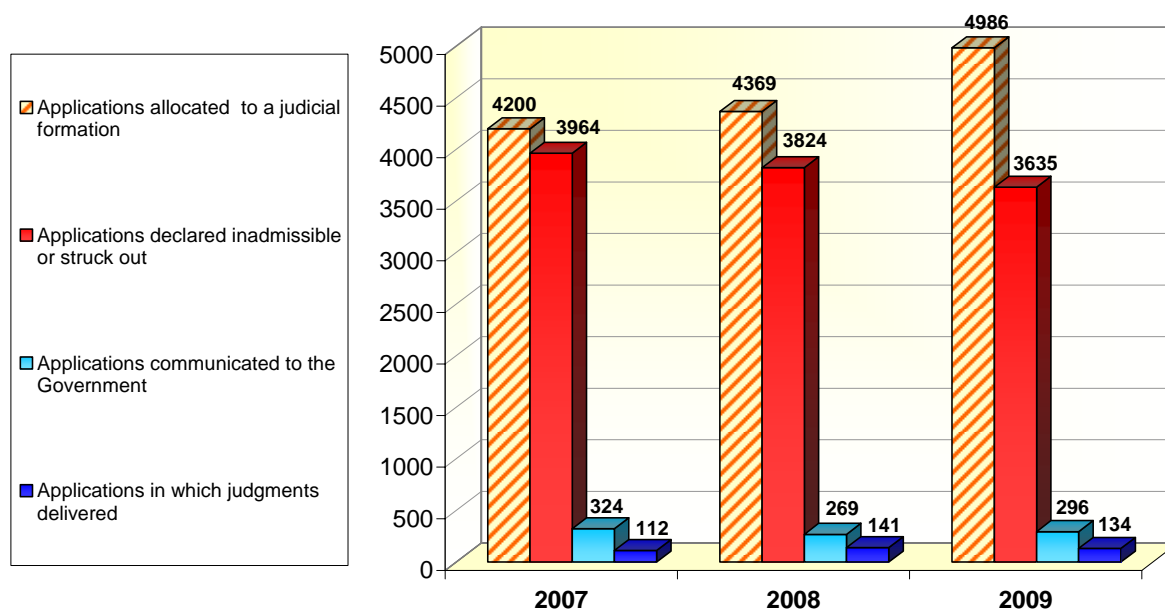


Chart 74. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Portugal

Chart 75. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

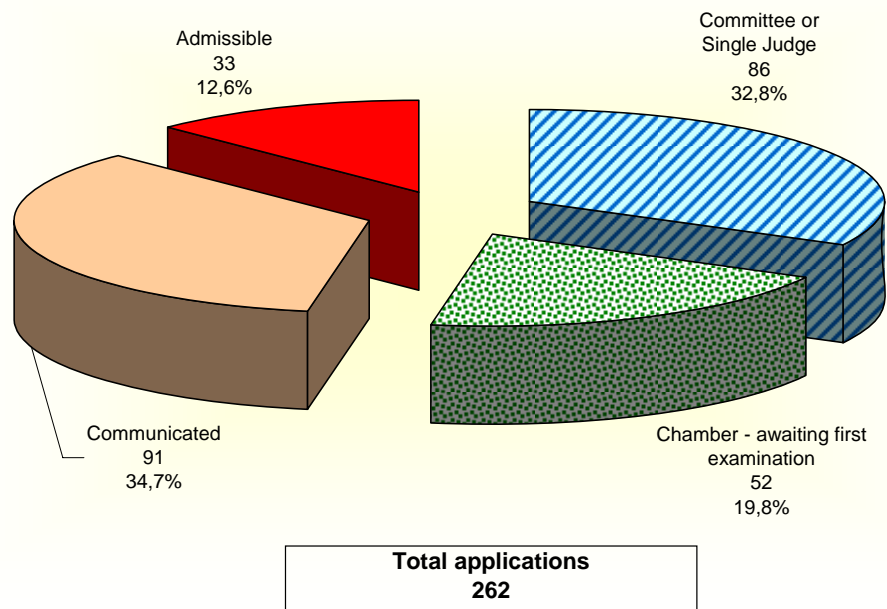
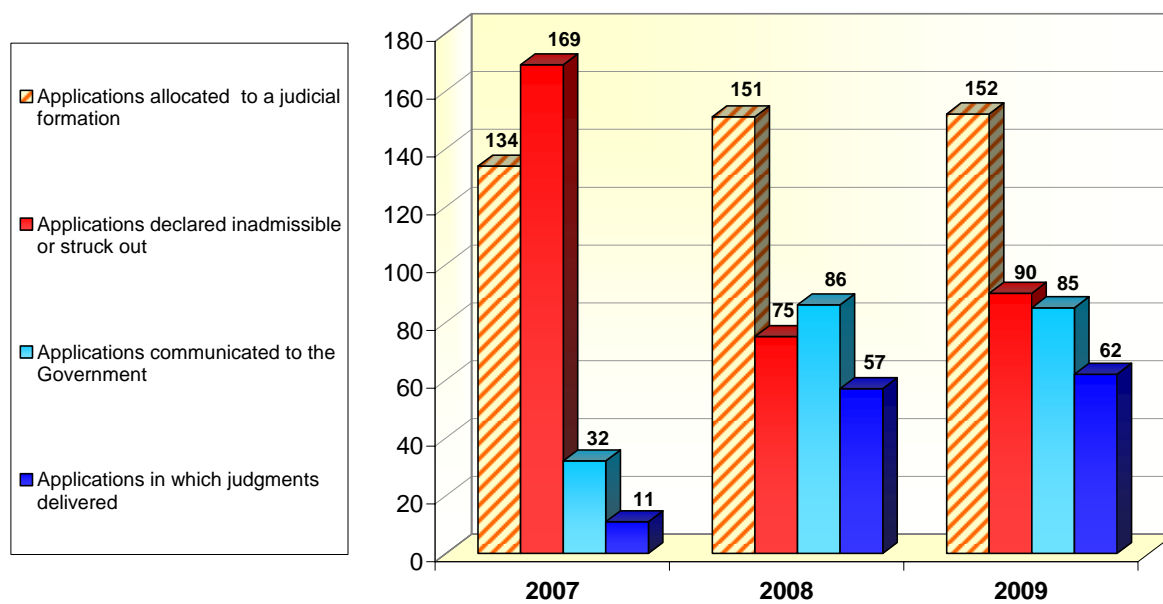


Chart 76. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Romania

Chart 77. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

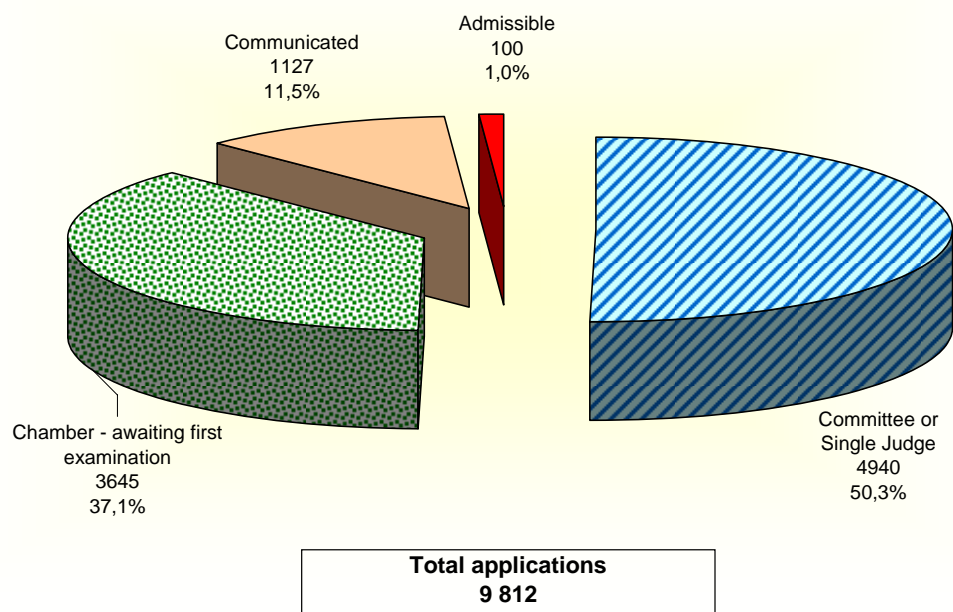
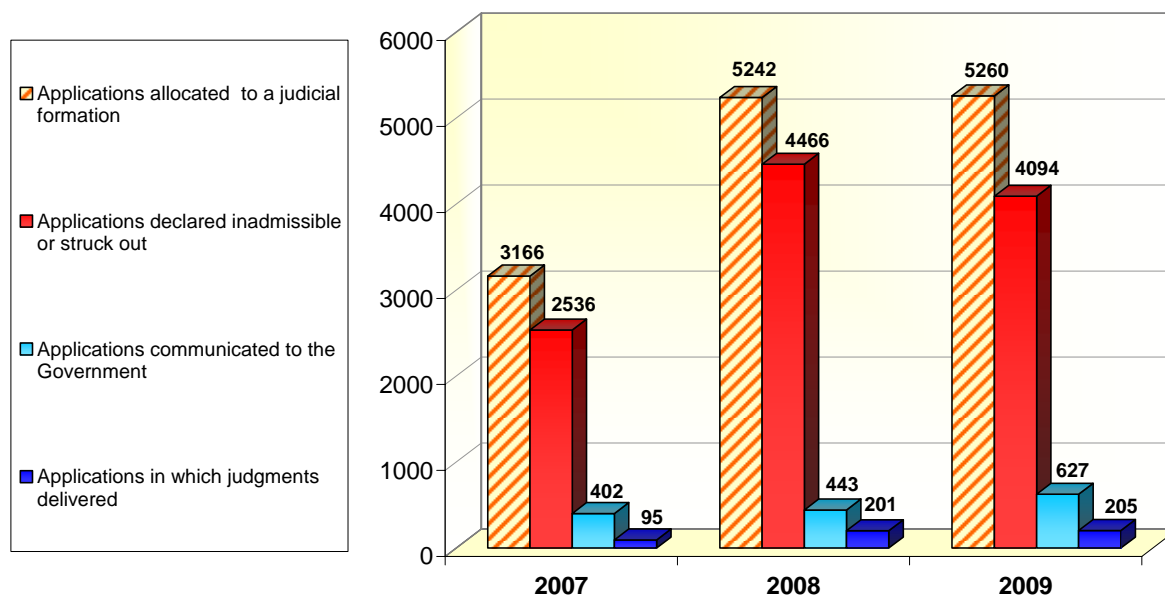


Chart 78. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Russia

Chart 79. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

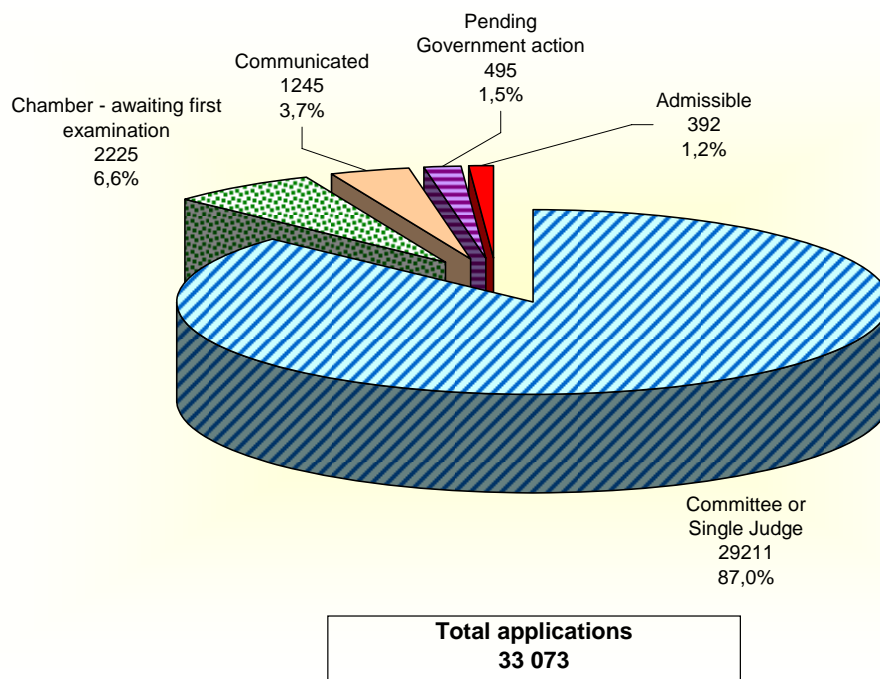
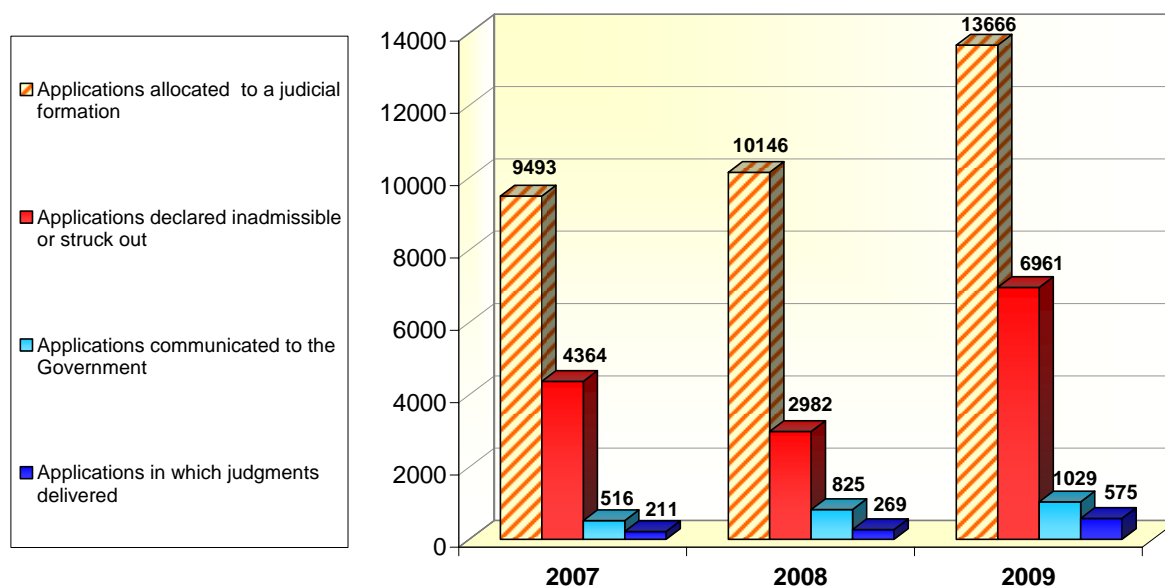


Chart 80. Major procedural steps in processing applications



San Marino

Chart 81. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

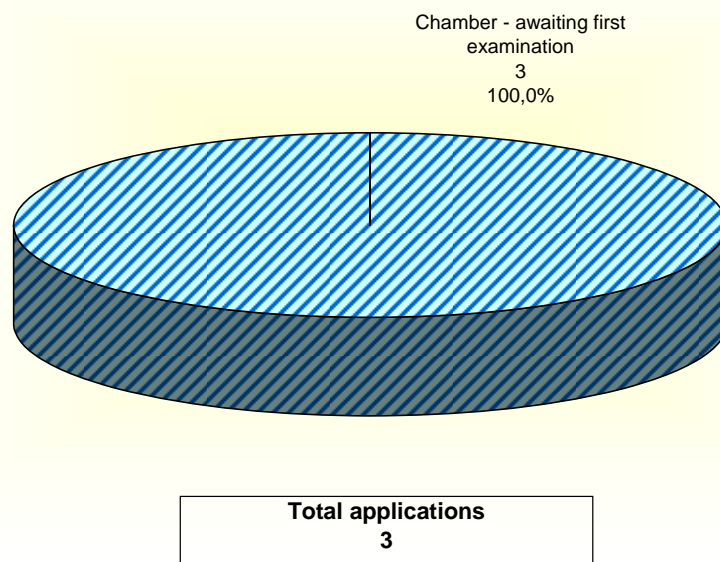
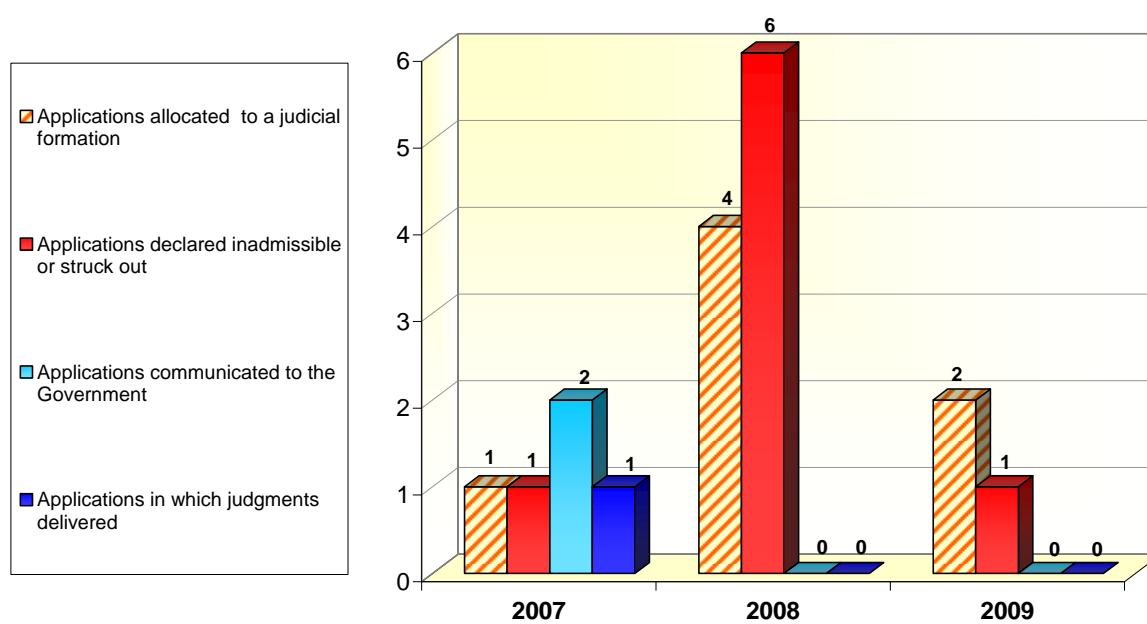


Chart 82. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Serbia

Chart 83. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

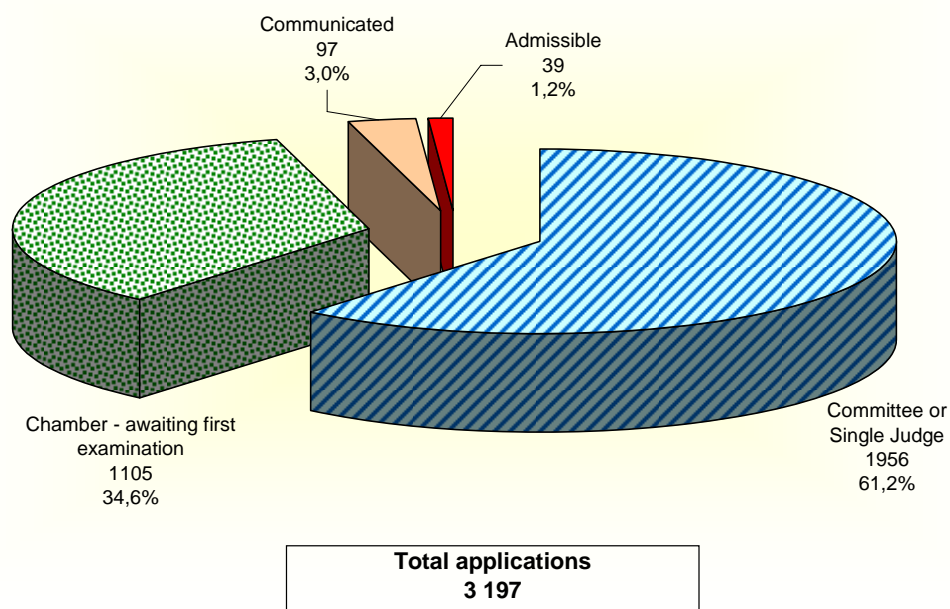
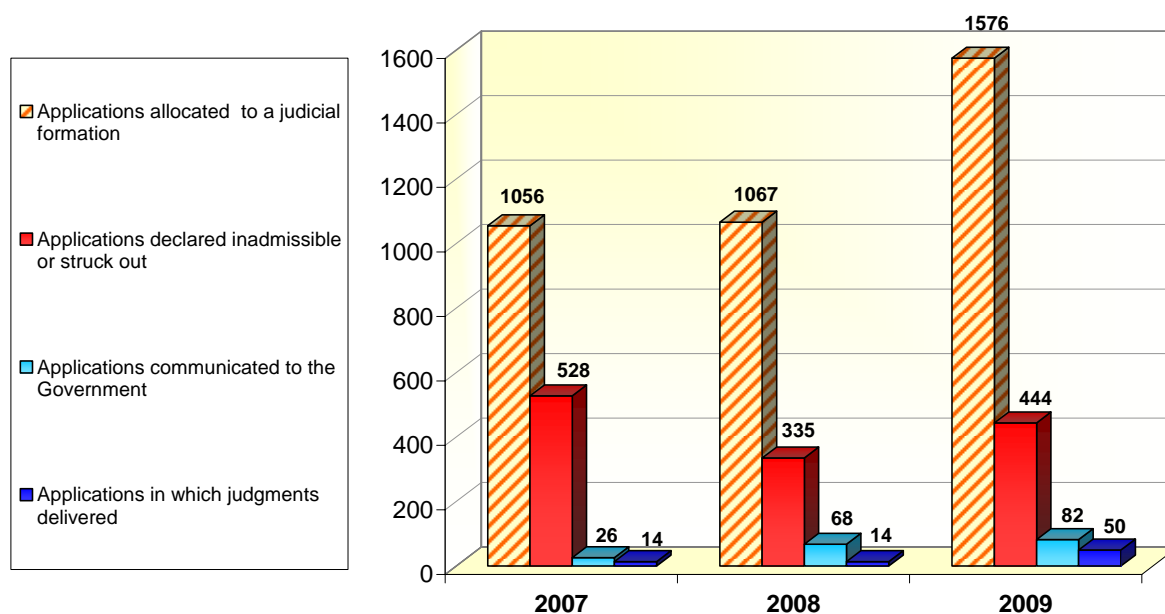


Chart 84. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Slovakia

Chart 85. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

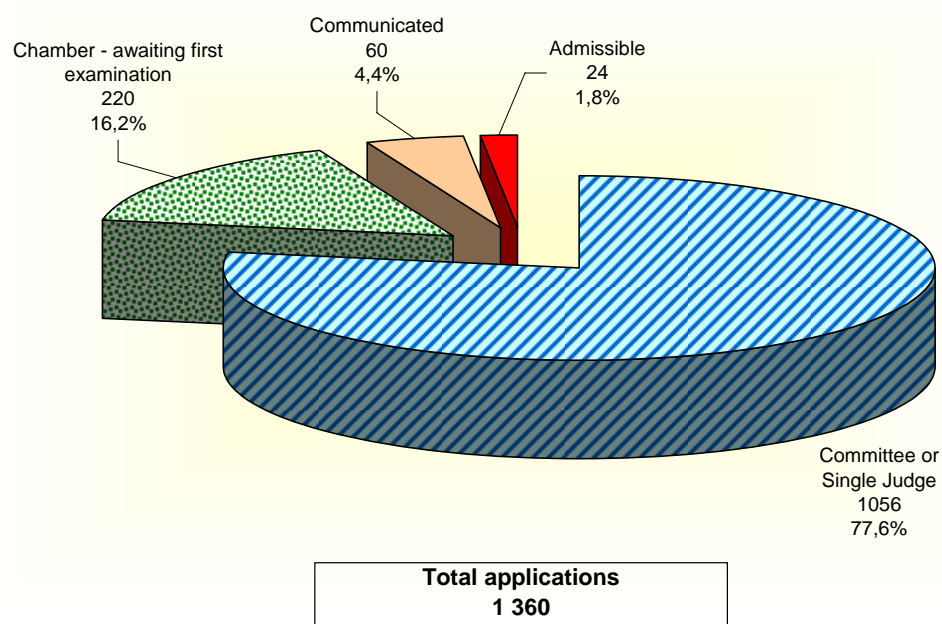
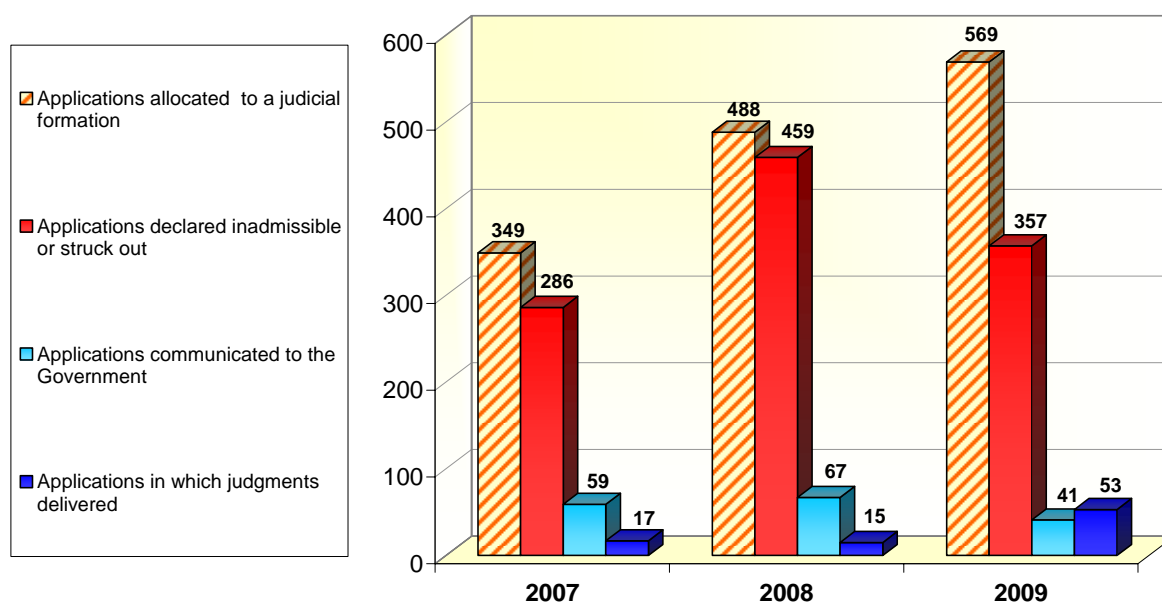


Chart 86. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Slovenia

Chart 87. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

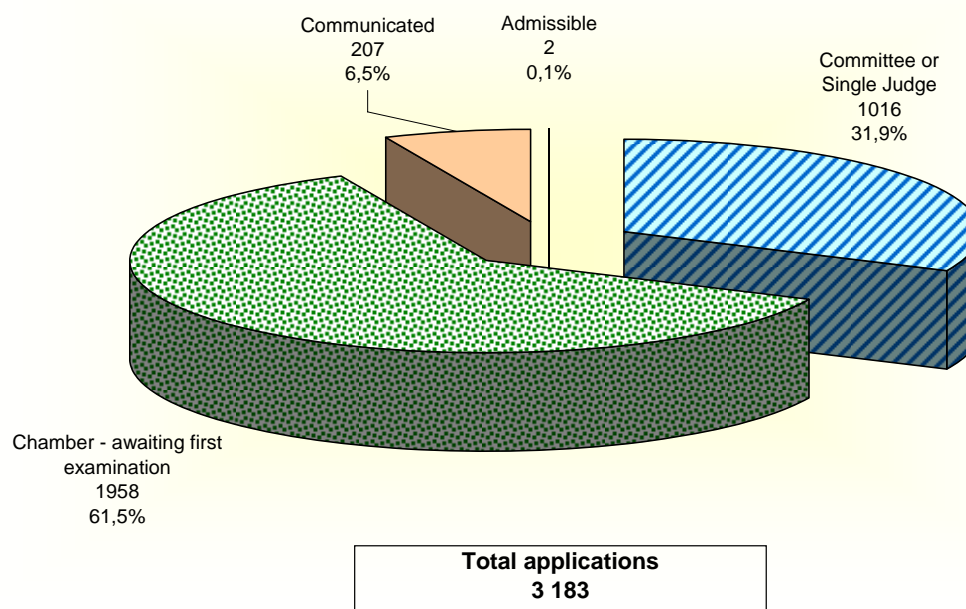
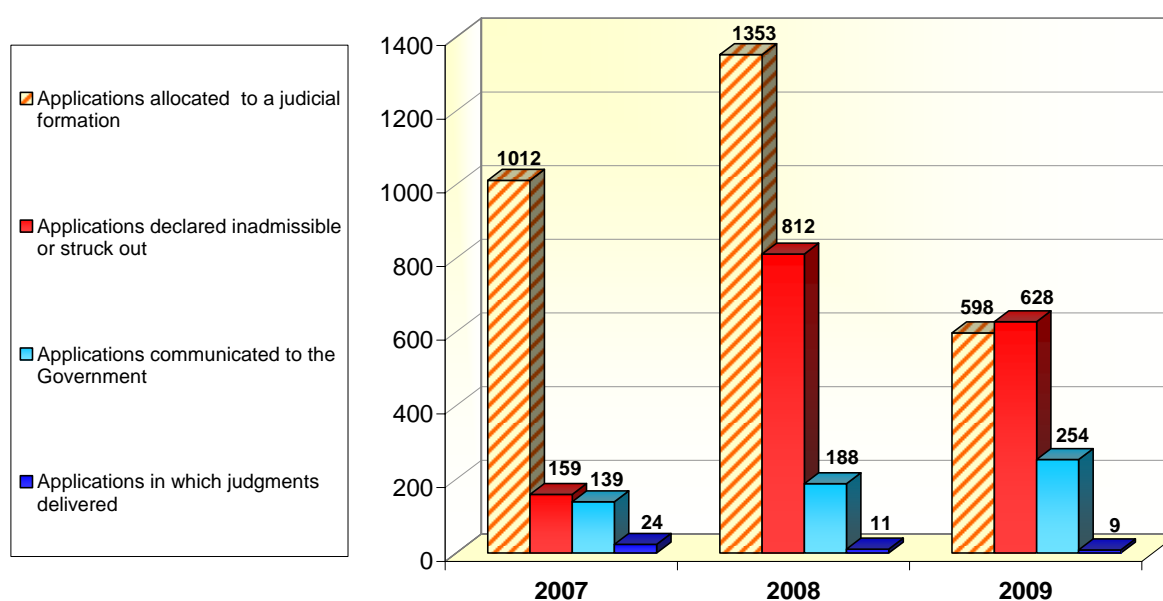


Chart 88. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Spain

Chart 89. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

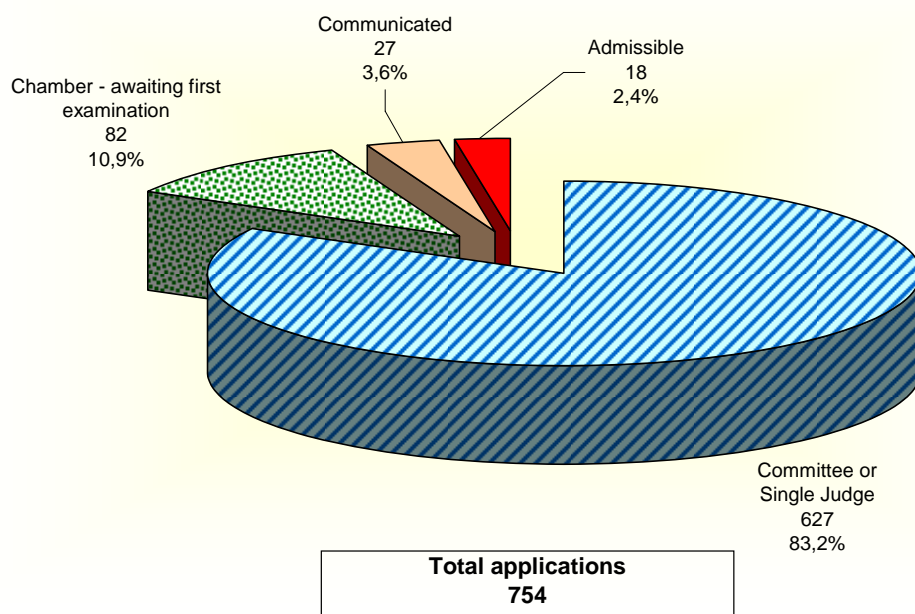
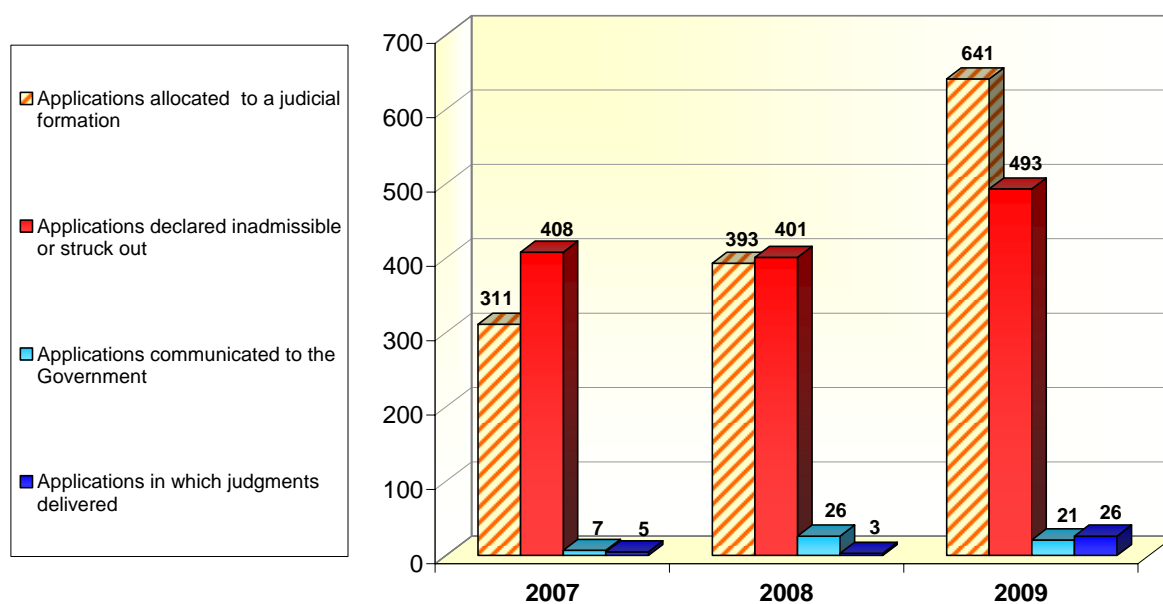


Chart 90. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Sweden

Chart 91. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

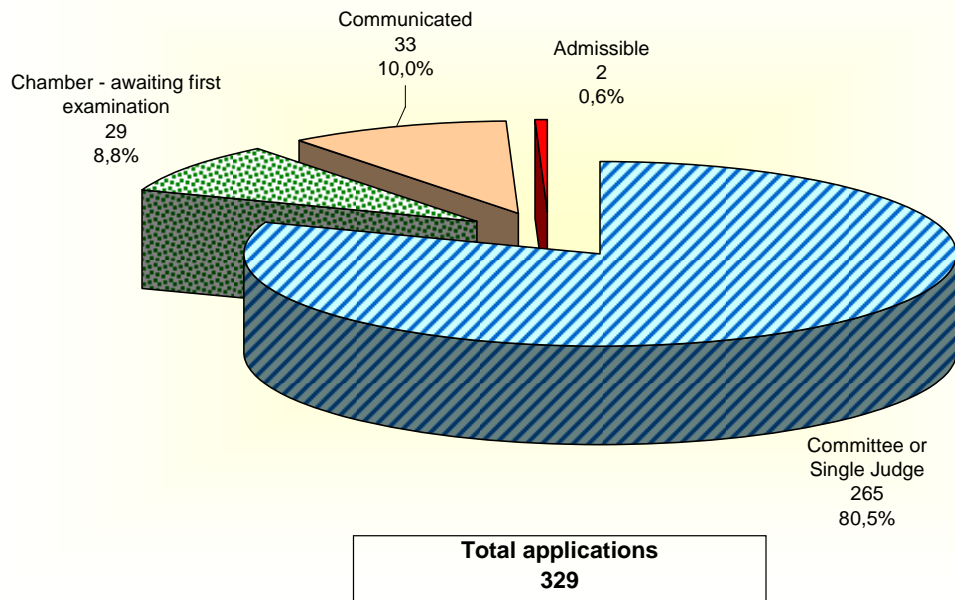
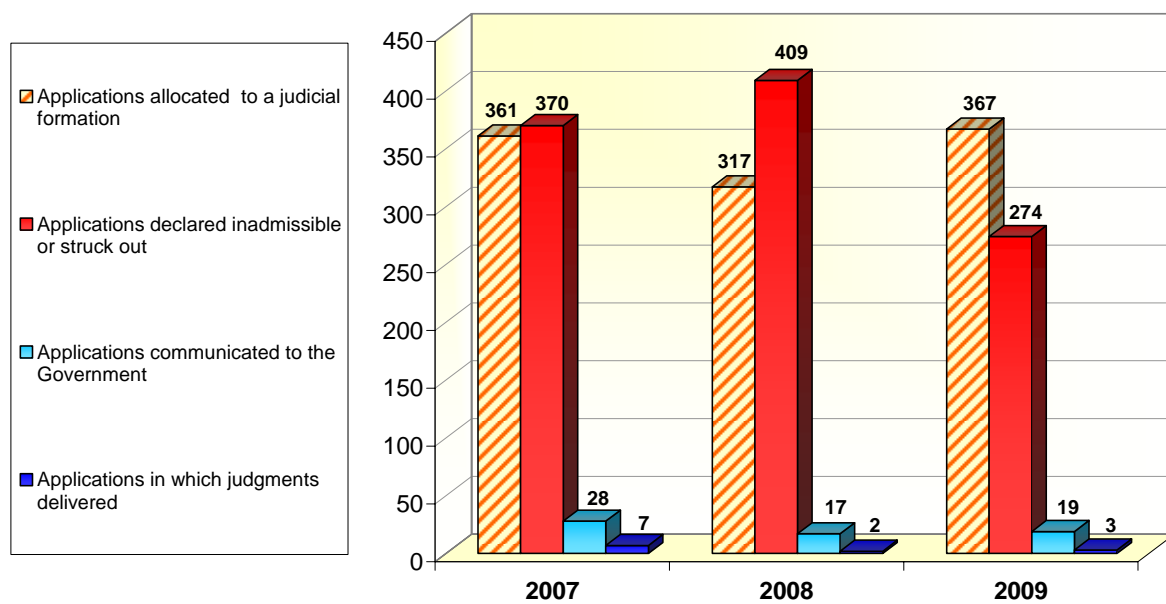


Chart 92. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Switzerland

Chart 93. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

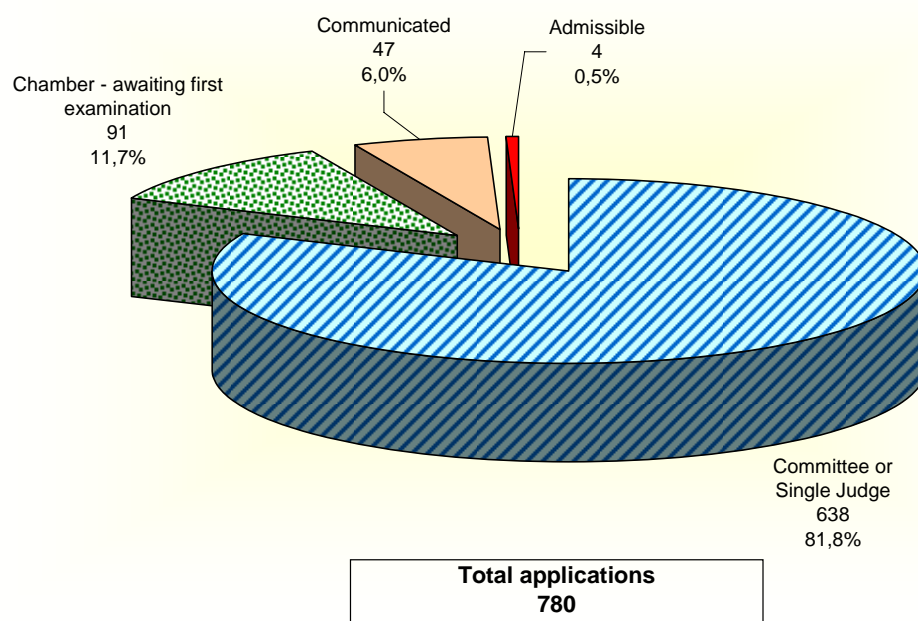
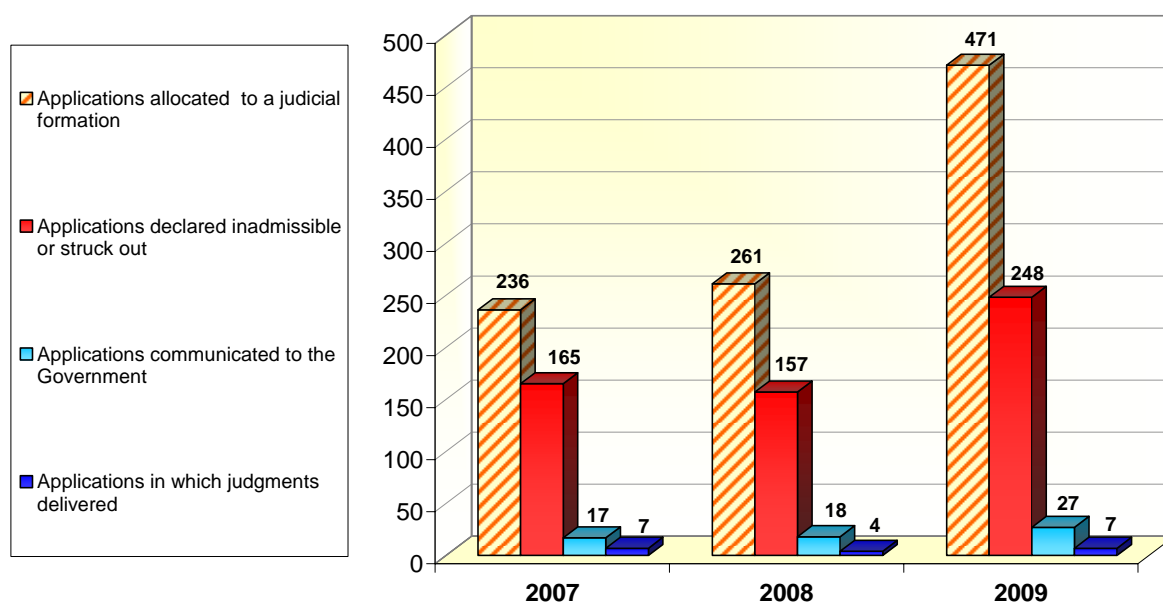


Chart 94. Major procedural steps in processing applications



The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Chart 95. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

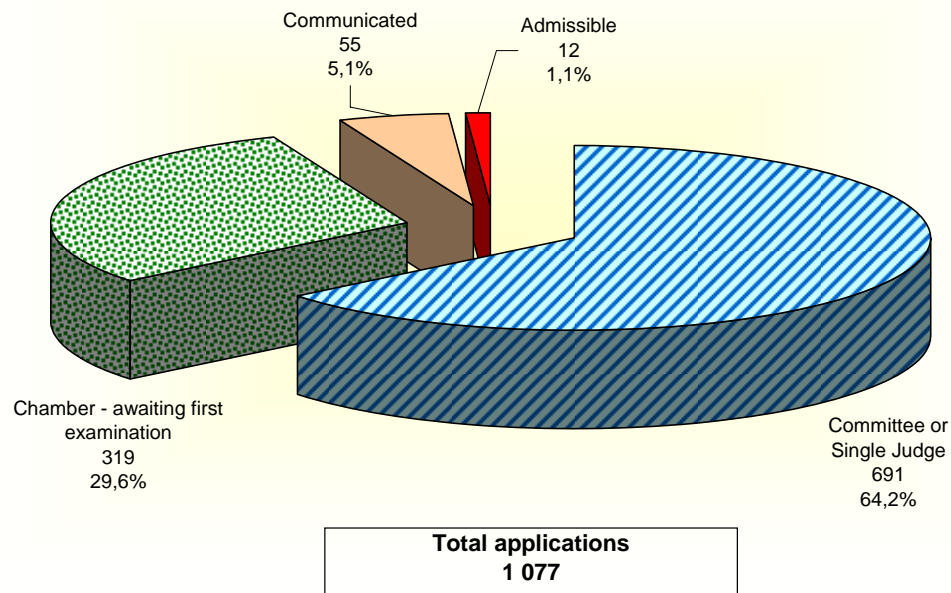
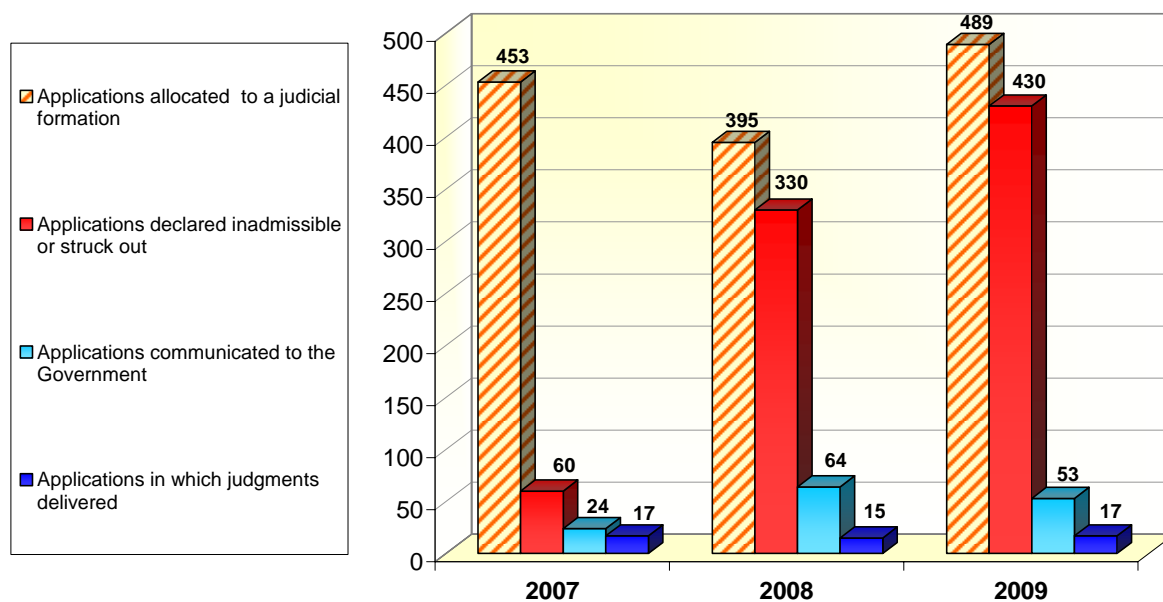


Chart 96. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Turkey

Chart 97. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

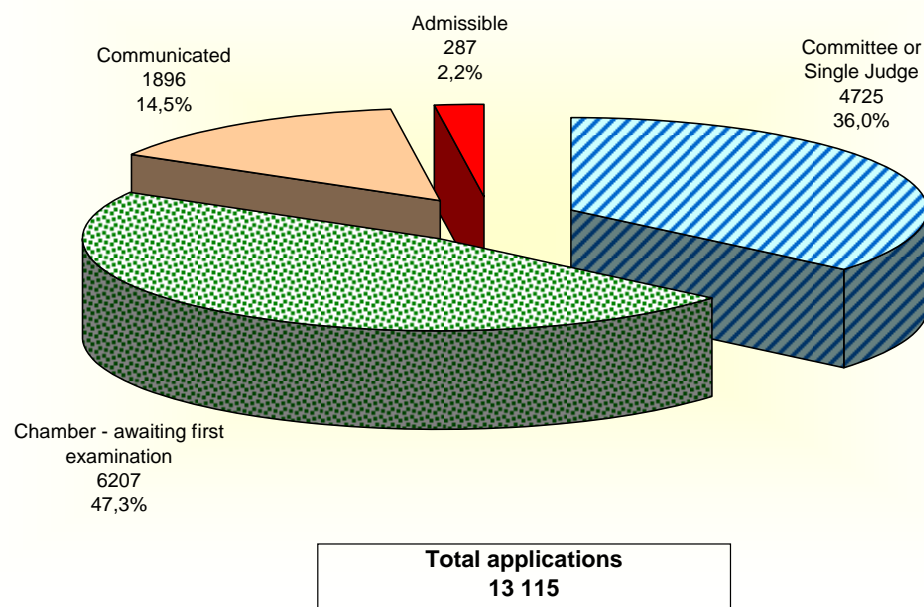
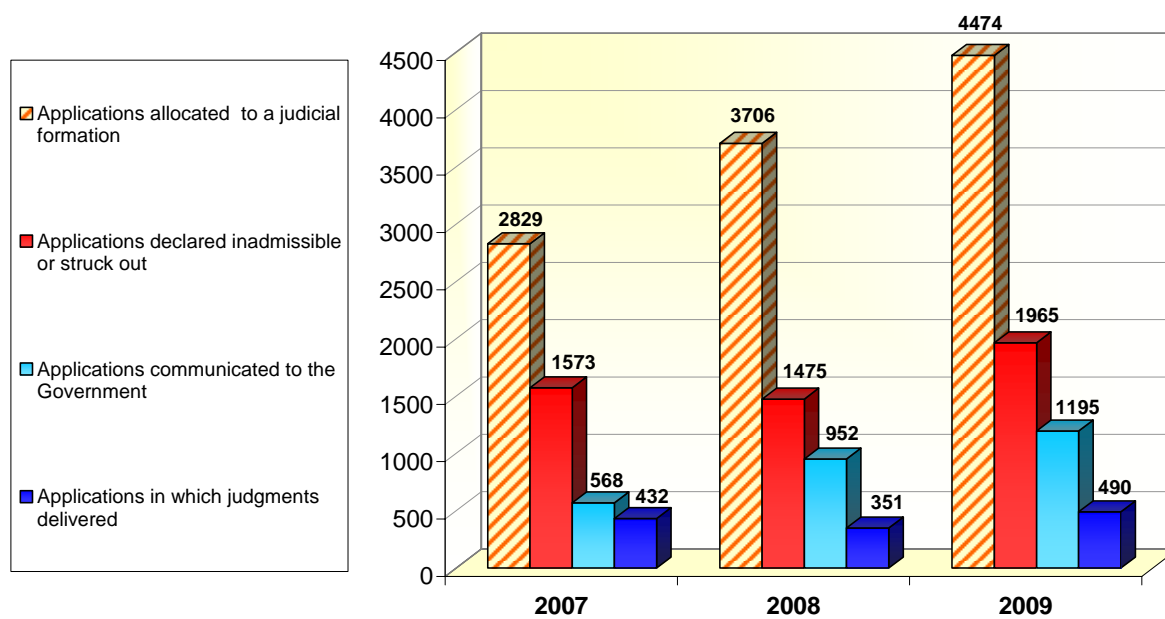


Chart 98. Major procedural steps in processing applications



Ukraine

Chart 99. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

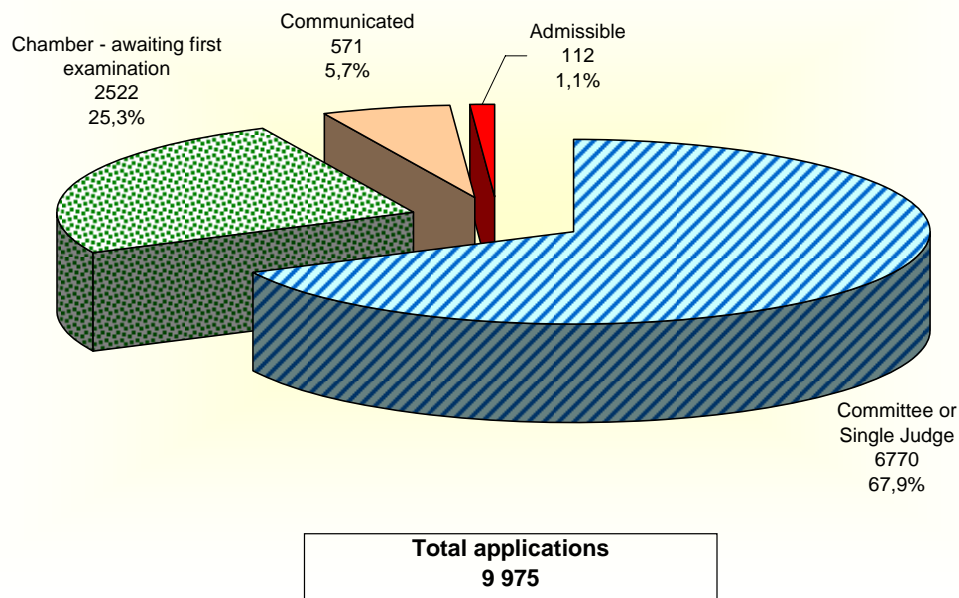
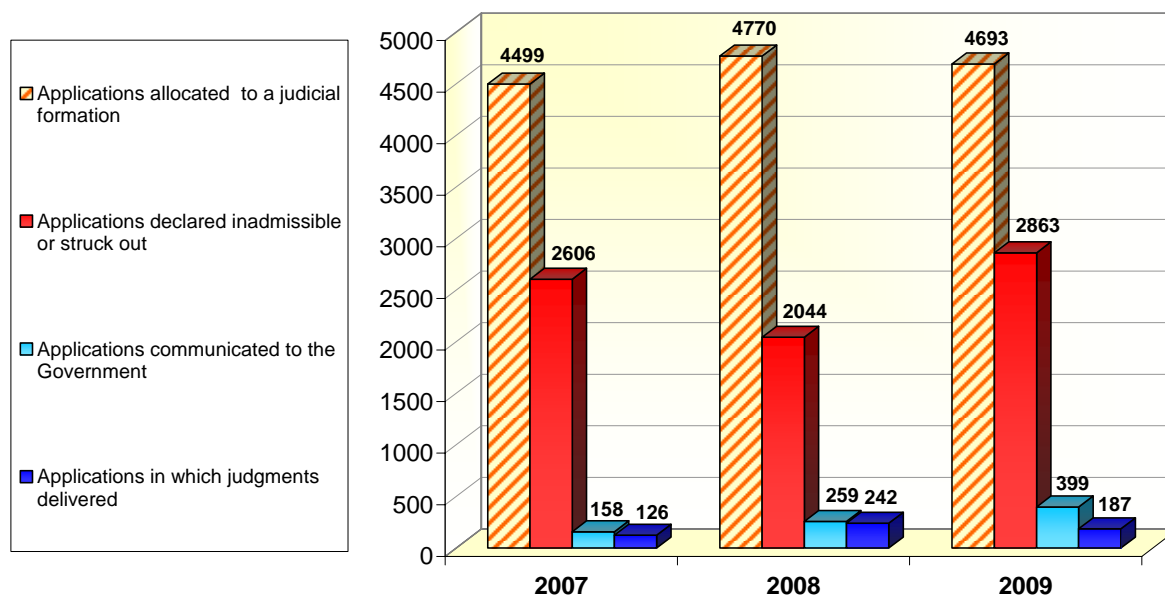


Chart 100. Major procedural steps in processing applications



United Kingdom

Chart 101. The Court's caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body

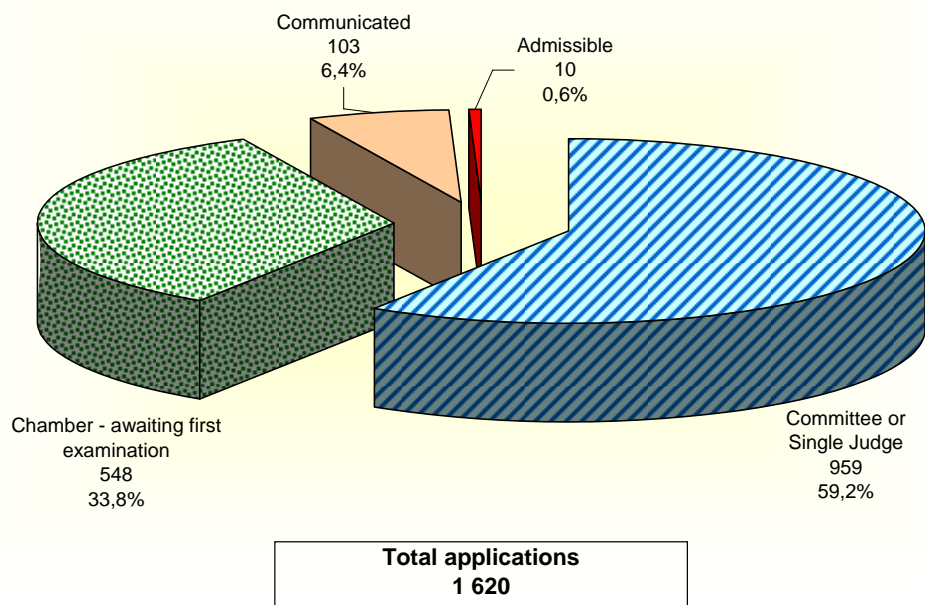


Chart 102. Major procedural steps in processing applications

