

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

Analysis of statistics 2010

January 2011

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Overview of the Court's statistics for 2010

A. Number of new applications

In 2010 61,300 applications were allocated to a judicial formation, an overall increase of 7% compared with 2009 (57,100). 46,750 of these were identified as Single Judge cases likely to be declared inadmissible (an increase of 9% in relation to 2009). 14,550 were identified as Chamber cases (an increase of 1%).

B. Applications disposed of judicially and pending applications

41,183 applications were disposed of judicially, an increase of 16% in relation to 2009. However, the annual deficit, the difference between cases allocated and cases disposed of, was approximately 20,100 (i.e. a monthly deficit of more than 1,600).

As a result the number of applications pending before a judicial formation rose by 17% in 2010, from 119,300 to 139,650.

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 2010 the number of applications pending at this pre-judicial stage stood at 21,950, an increase of 10% in relation to the same date the previous year. The number of applications disposed of administratively in 2010 was 11,800, an increase of 1%.

2. Inadmissibility or strike out decisions

In 2010 38,576 applications were declared inadmissible or struck out of the list of cases by a Single Judge, a Committee or a Chamber, a 17% increase compared with 2009 (33,067). The single judge formation decided 22 260 cases in 2010.

3. Communicated applications

Where an application is not on its face inadmissible, it is communicated to the respondent Government for observations. In 2010 6,675 applications were communicated (an increase of 8% in relation to 2009 when 6,203 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 2,607 applications (compared with 2,393 in 2009 – an increase of 9%). A number of these applications were joined with the result that the number of judgments actually delivered was 1,499, a decrease of 8%. 116 judgments were adopted by a three-judge formation under the new procedure introduced by Protocol 14.

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

The total number of decisions on interim measures (3,680) increased by 53% compared with 2009 (2,402). The Court granted requests for interim measures in 1,440 cases (an increase of 120% compared with 2009) and dismissed them in 1,823 cases (29% more than in 2009). The remainder fell outside the scope of Rule 39 of the Rules of Court but nonetheless required an urgent examination.

D. Priority policy¹

In June 2009 the Court decided to adopt a new priority policy. To implement this policy the Court has established seven different categories having regard to the importance and urgency of the issues raised in the applications. In 2010 the Court concentrated its resources on cases falling within the three first categories, which tend to be more complex and time-consuming applications. The number of these applications dealt with in 2010 increased by 68% compared to 2009.

The majority of the category I “urgent” applications (79%) have been pending for less than two years.

65% of the category II applications (Pilot or Leading cases) have at least been communicated to the Government.

64% of the category III applications (complaints about Articles 2, 3 4 or 5 § 1 of the Convention) are still waiting for a first examination by the Court and 50% of all the applications in this category have been pending for more than two years.

¹ An explanation of the Court’s priority policy can be found on the Court’s internet site www.echr.coe.int. Category IV applications are potentially well-founded cases based on other Articles; category V are “repetitive applications”; category VI are applications identified as giving rise to a problem of admissibility and category VII are manifestly inadmissible applications.

General information

Table 1 General statistical information

1. Applications allocated to a judicial formation [round figures (50)]	2010	2009	+/-
Applications allocated	61300	57100	7%

2. Interim procedural events	2010	2009	+/-
Applications communicated to respondent Government	6675	6203	8%

3. Applications decided	2010	2009	+/-
By decision or judgment	41183	35459	16%
- by judgment delivered	2607	2393	9%
- by decision (inadmissible or struck out)	38576	33067	17%

4. Pending applications [round figures (50)]	31/12/2010	1/1/2010	+/-
Applications pending before a judicial formation	139650	119300	17%
- Chamber (7 judges)	47150	44400	6%
- Committee (3 judges)	4100	74900	23%
- Single-Judge formation	88400		

5. Pre-judicial applications [round figures (50)]	31/12/2010	1/1/2010	+/-
Applications at a pre-judicial stage	21950	20000	10%
	2010	2009	+/-
Applications disposed of administratively (applications not pursued)	11800	11650	1%

Number of applications allocated to a judicial formation²

Chart 1 Applications allocated to a judicial formation per year

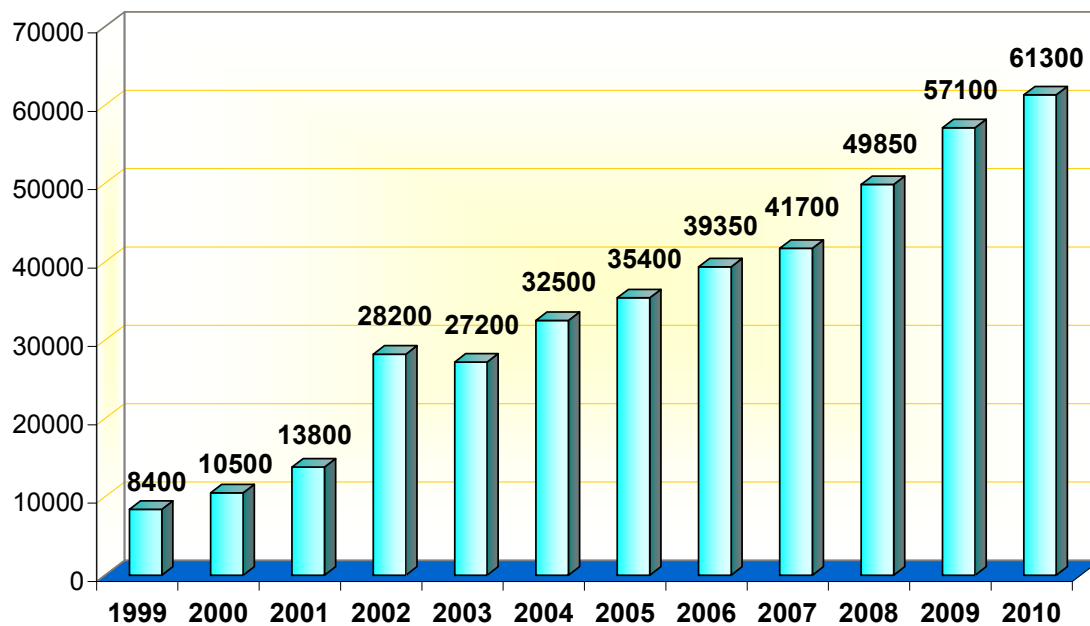
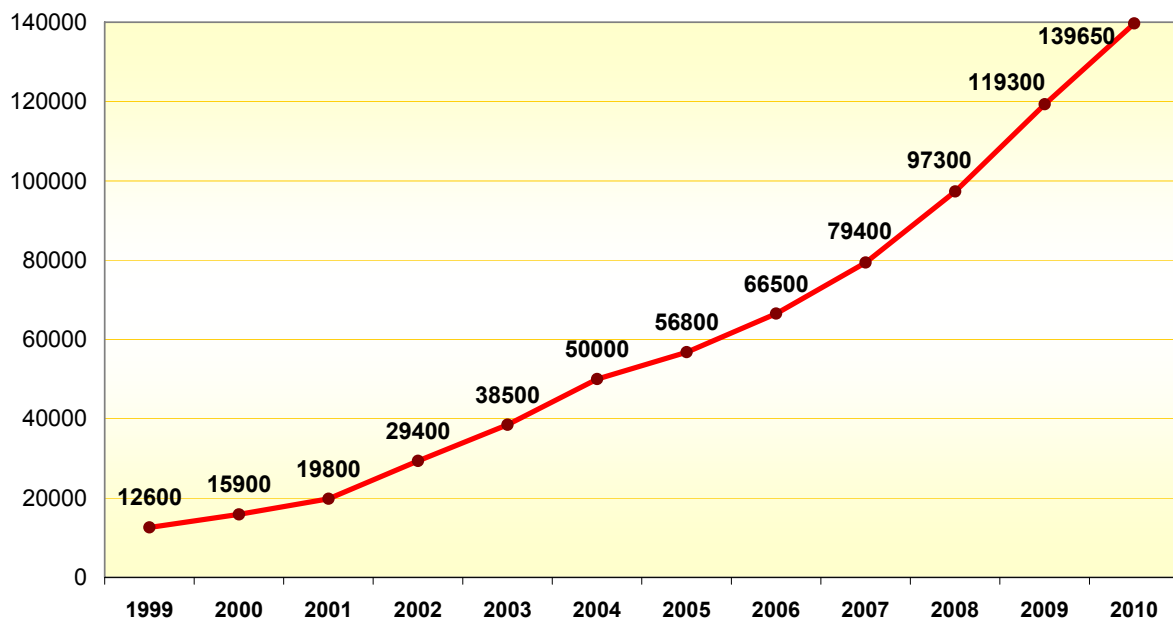


Chart 2 Applications pending before a judicial formation



² 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 2010)

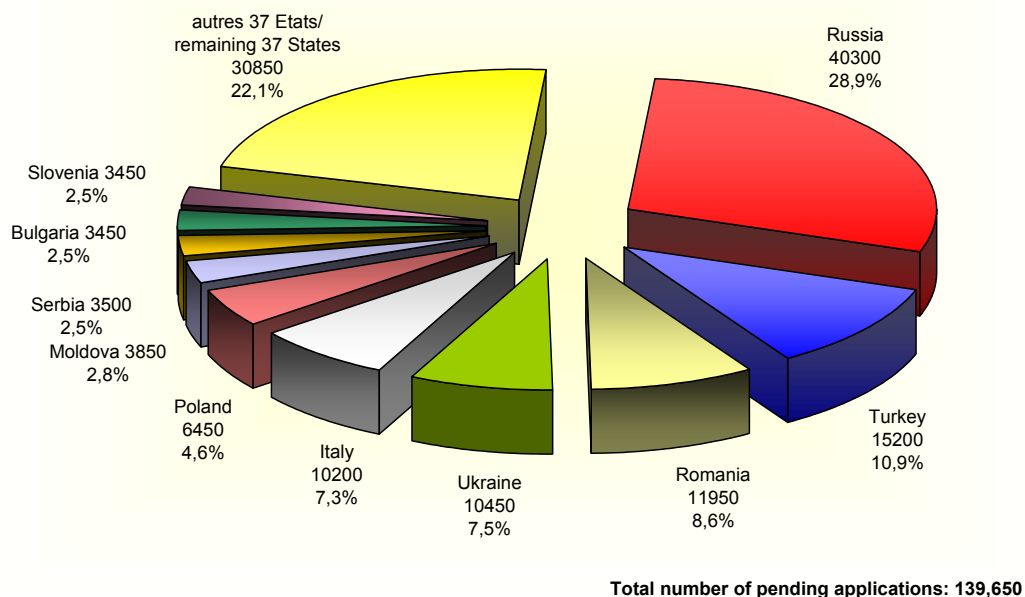
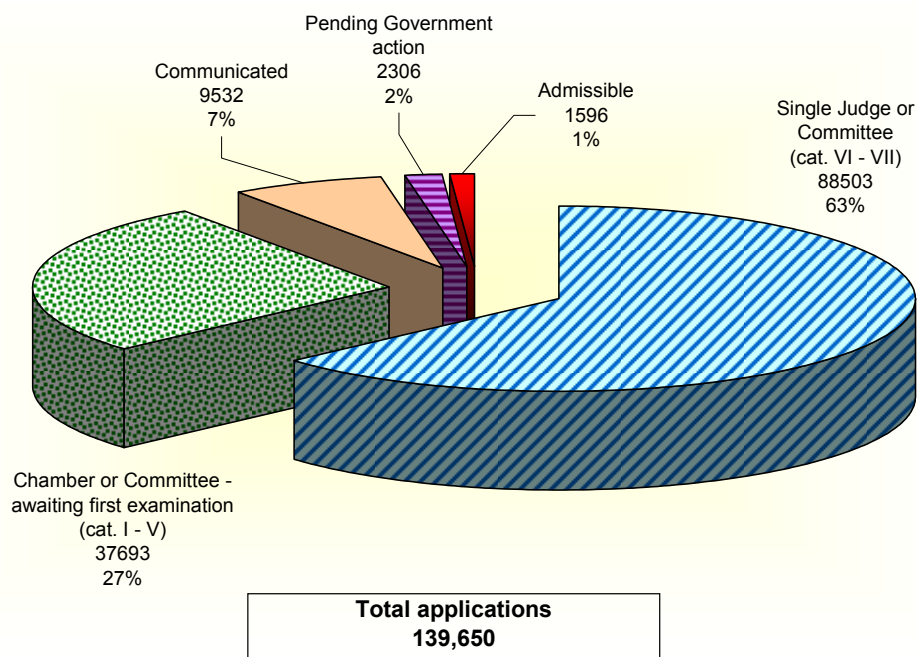


Chart 4 The Court's total caseload by stage of proceedings and judicial formation³



³ The "Pending Government action" stage of proceedings was created to monitor applications following a judgment applying the pilot procedure.

Processing of applications

Chart 5 Major procedural steps in processing of applications

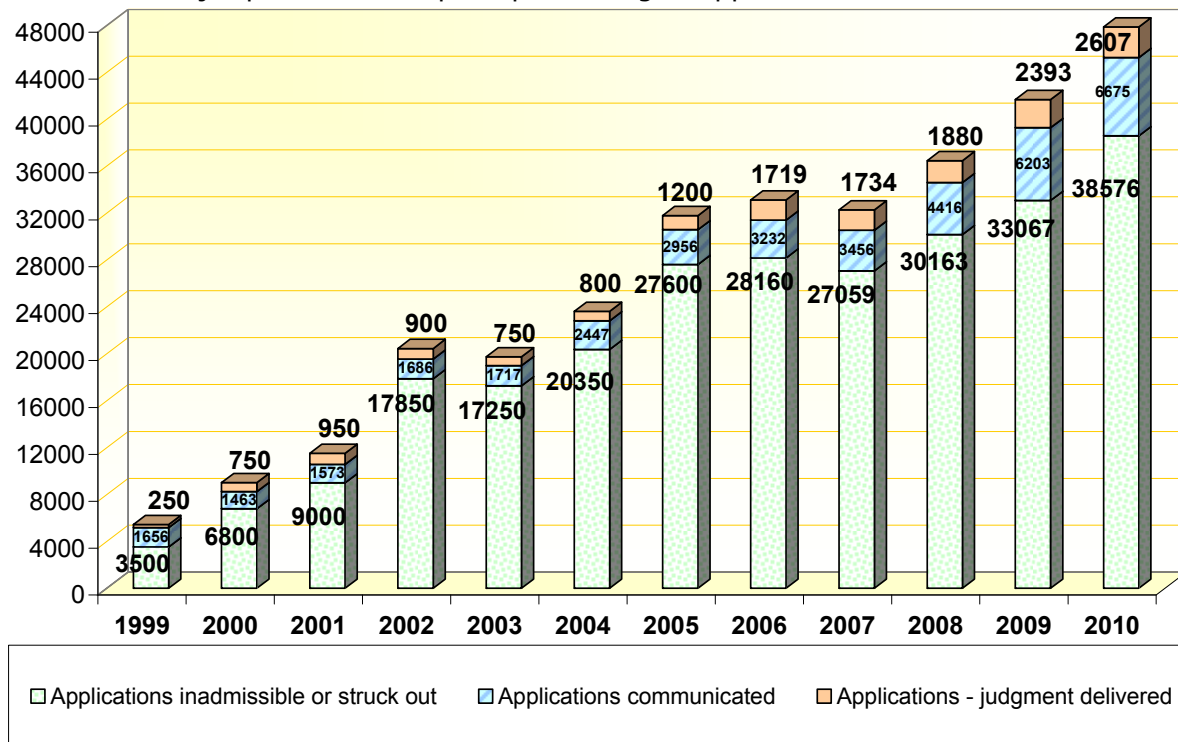
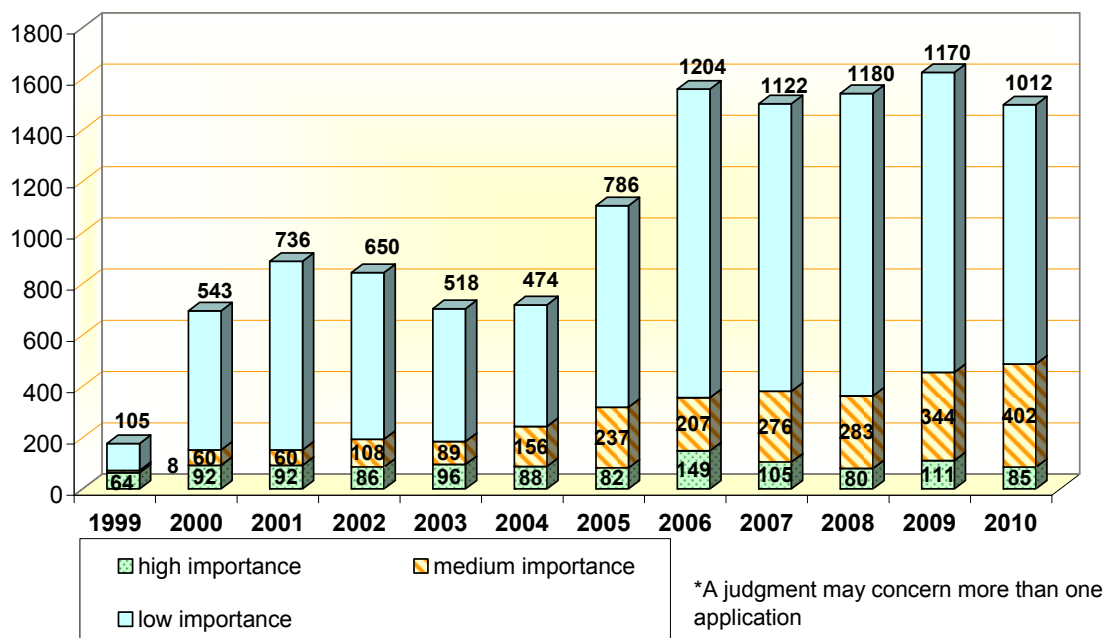


Chart 6 Judgments by level of importance⁴



⁴ 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 Applications in categories I, II and III processed in 2009 and 2010

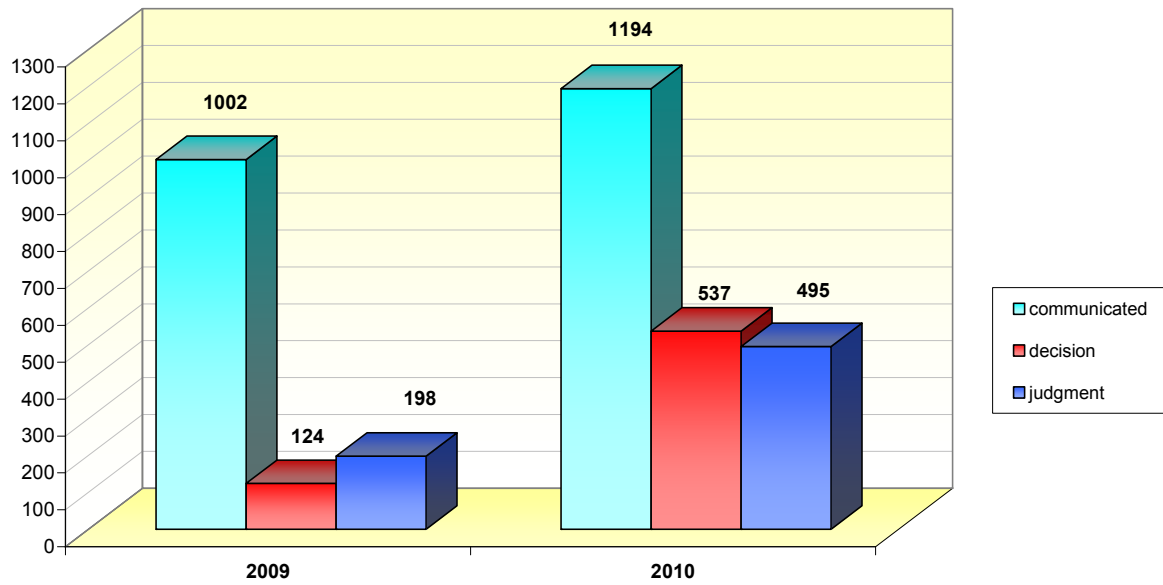


Chart 8 Time elapsed since date of allocation to a judicial formation – pending category I “Urgent” applications by stage of proceedings

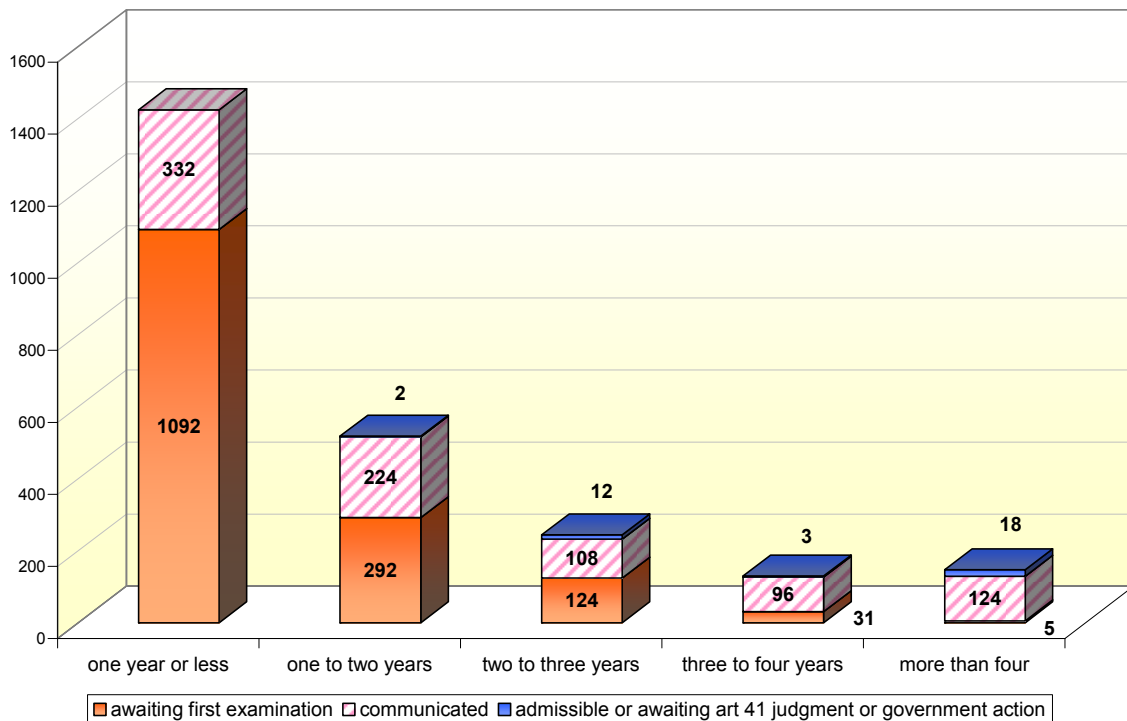


Chart 9 Time elapsed since date of allocation to a judicial formation – pending category II “Leading or Pilot” applications by stage of proceedings

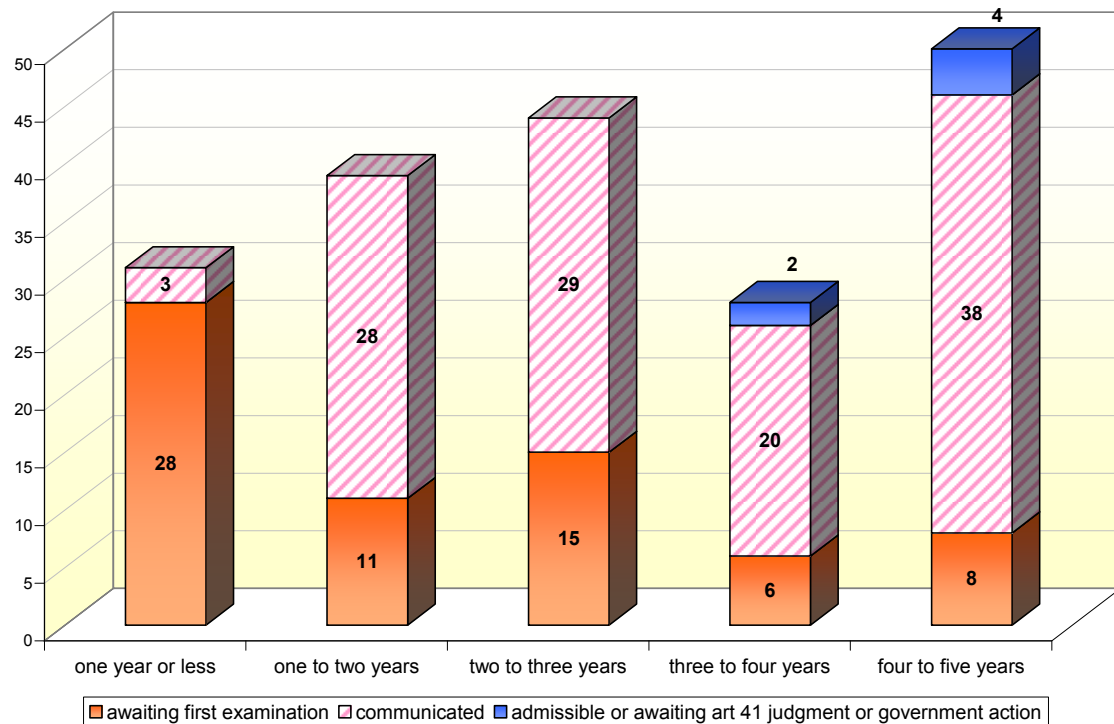


Chart 10 Time elapsed since date of allocation to a judicial formation – pending category III “Articles 2, 3, 4 or 5 § 1” applications by stage of proceedings

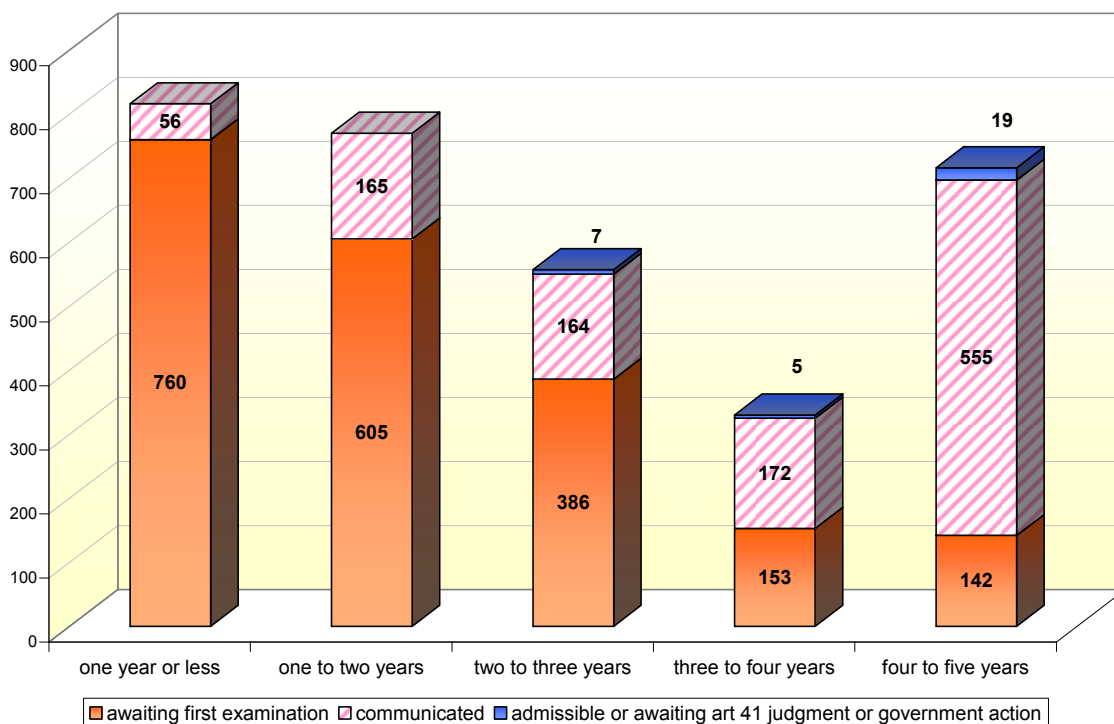


Table 2 Applications allocated per Contracting State and population

State	Applications allocated to a judicial formation				Population (1000)				Allocated/population (10000)			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	1.1.2007	1.1.2008	1.1.2009	1.1.2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
Albania	55	75	99	96	3153	3170	3169	3185	0,17	0,24	0,31	0,30
Andorra	4	1	6	8	80	83	87	85	0,50	0,12	0,69	0,94
Armenia	614	106	125	197	3226	3230	3238	3249	1,90	0,33	0,39	0,61
Austria	329	373	410	439	8299	8332	8357	8373	0,40	0,45	0,49	0,52
Azerbaijan	708	334	361	337	8533	8630	8934	8997	0,83	0,39	0,40	0,37
Belgium	122	166	256	304	10585	10670	10741	10827	0,12	0,16	0,24	0,28
Bosnia and Herzegovina	705	971	621	658	3884	3843	3760	3844	1,82	2,53	1,65	1,71
Bulgaria	818	890	1194	1348	7679	7640	7602	7577	1,07	1,16	1,57	1,78
Croatia	558	608	755	992	4441	4435	4432	4426	1,26	1,37	1,70	2,24
Cyprus	63	66	59	118	779	795	802	802	0,81	0,83	0,74	1,47
Czech Republic	806	721	726	606	10287	10381	10475	10512	0,78	0,69	0,69	0,58
Denmark	45	73	63	96	5447	5476	5519	5547	0,08	0,13	0,11	0,17
Estonia	153	169	204	265	1342	1341	1340	1340	1,14	1,26	1,52	1,98
Finland	268	276	489	377	5277	5301	5325	5351	0,51	0,52	0,92	0,70
France	1553	2724	1589	1619	63392	63753	64105	64710	0,24	0,43	0,25	0,25
Georgia	162	1771	2122	375	4400	4382	4219	4386	0,37	4,04	5,03	0,85
Germany	1483	1572	1515	1683	82315	82222	82062	81758	0,18	0,19	0,18	0,21
Greece	384	416	518	585	11172	11215	11263	11306	0,34	0,37	0,46	0,52
Hungary	529	425	449	436	10066	10045	10030	10014	0,53	0,42	0,45	0,44
Iceland	9	7	10	15	308	314	321	319	0,29	0,22	0,31	0,47
Ireland	45	48	62	62	4315	4420	4450	4451	0,10	0,11	0,14	0,14
Italy	1353	1824	3624	3852	59131	59618	60090	60397	0,23	0,31	0,60	0,64
Latvia	232	248	326	271	2281	2271	2261	2249	1,02	1,09	1,44	1,20
Liechtenstein	5	8	14	15	35	35	36	36	1,42	2,26	3,92	4,17
Lithuania	226	255	261	242	3385	3366	3350	3329	0,67	0,76	0,78	0,73
Luxemburg	34	35	29	44	476	484	492	502	0,71	0,72	0,59	0,88
Malta	18	12	14	23	408	411	413	416	0,44	0,29	0,34	0,55
Moldova	889	1147	1322	945	3581	3573	3576	3564	2,48	3,21	3,70	2,65
Monaco	10	5	9	13	32	32	33	33	3,13	1,56	2,73	3,94
Montenegro	95	156	269	305	651	628	626	633	-	2,49	4,30	4,82
Netherlands	366	385	500	727	16358	16404	16481	16577	0,22	0,23	0,30	0,44
Norway	63	79	79	86	4681	4737	4801	4855	0,13	0,17	0,16	0,18
Poland	4202	4369	4986	5777	38126	38116	38130	38164	1,10	1,15	1,31	1,51
Portugal	134	151	152	186	10599	10618	10632	10637	0,13	0,14	0,14	0,17
Romania	3168	5242	5260	5992	21565	21529	21497	21466	1,47	2,43	2,45	2,79
Russia	9493	10146	13666	14309	142221	142009	141904	141915	0,67	0,71	0,96	1,01
San Marino	1	4	2	4	32	31	32	31	0,32	1,30	0,63	1,29
Serbia	1056	1067	1576	1566	7398	7374	7335	7307	1,56	1,45	2,15	2,14
Slovak Republic	349	488	569	568	5394	5401	5411	5424	0,65	0,90	1,05	1,05
Slovenia	1012	1353	598	837	2010	2026	2053	2054	5,03	6,68	2,91	4,07
Spain	310	393	641	689	44475	45283	45853	46087	0,07	0,09	0,14	0,15
Sweden	361	317	367	901	9113	9183	9259	9348	0,40	0,35	0,40	0,96
Switzerland	237	261	471	368	7509	7591	7668	7761	0,32	0,34	0,61	0,47
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	453	395	489	422	2042	2045	2049	2053	2,22	1,93	2,39	2,06
Turkey	2828	3706	4474	5821	69689	70586	71517	72561	0,41	0,53	0,63	0,80
Ukraine	4499	4770	4693	3962	46466	46373	45964	45783	0,97	1,03	1,02	0,87
United Kingdom	860	1253	1133	2766	60853	61186	61612	62042	0,14	0,20	0,18	0,45
Total	41667	49861	57157	61307	807488	810587	813306	816283	0,52	0,62	0,70	0,75

SOURCES 2010: 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 816 million inhabitants on 1 January 2010. The average number of applications allocated per 10,000 inhabitants was 0.75 in 2010.

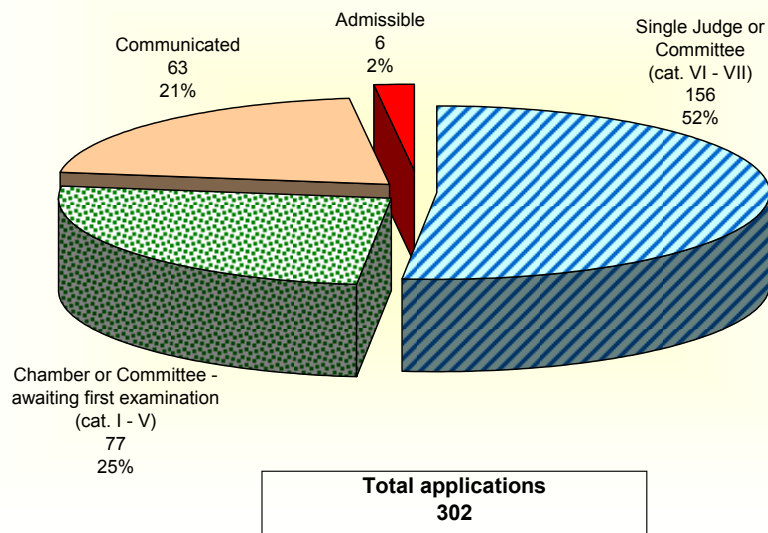
Table 3 The Court's total caseload by stage of proceedings and judicial formation

State	Single Judge or Committee (cat. VI - VII)	Chamber or Committee - awaiting first examination (cat. I - V)	Communicated	Pending Government action	Admissible	TOTAL
Albania	156	77	63		6	302
Andorra	5	4	3		0	12
Armenia	177	691	52		3	923
Austria	334	99	122		12	567
Azerbaijan	441	714	81		18	1254
Belgium	285	240	55		0	580
Bosnia and Herzegovina	998	173	144		0	1315
Bulgaria	2392	766	273		35	3466
Croatia	1219	282	87		6	1594
Cyprus	37	74	28		2	141
Czech Republic	1017	190	86		9	1302
Denmark	85	6	25		5	121
Estonia	461	26	13		2	502
Finland	298	218	30		5	551
France	2136	336	173		31	2676
Georgia	501	2174	134		3	2812
Germany	2149	133	75		24	2381
Greece	326	297	154		25	802
Hungary	1277	227	62		10	1576
Iceland	13	3	3		0	19
Ireland	32	20	7		0	59
Italy	2289	6316	991		612	10208
Latvia	321	147	95		9	572
Liechtenstein	11	3	0		0	14
Lithuania	250	142	44		7	443
Luxembourg	36	7	7		4	54
Malta	4	5	15		2	26
Moldova	2824	605	268	112	17	3826
Monaco	11	3	0		0	14
Montenegro	570	88	30		0	688
Netherlands	587	320	86		1	994
Norway	59	8	12		1	80
Poland	5614	383	428		27	6452
Portugal	127	49	69		26	271
Romania	5000	5544	708	644	54	11950
Russia	35867	2570	1456	229	173	40295
San Marino	0	3	3		0	6
Serbia	1946	1395	140		33	3514
Slovakia	937	208	62		28	1235
Slovenia	1086	1956	385		7	3434
Spain	793	145	26		16	980
Sweden	294	614	31		2	941
Switzerland	670	100	59		8	837
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	580	371	76		2	1029
Turkey	6243	6289	2372		302	15206
Ukraine	7000	1682	380	1321	51	10434
United Kingdom	1045	1990	119		18	3172
ALL STATES	88503	37693	9532	2306	1596	139630

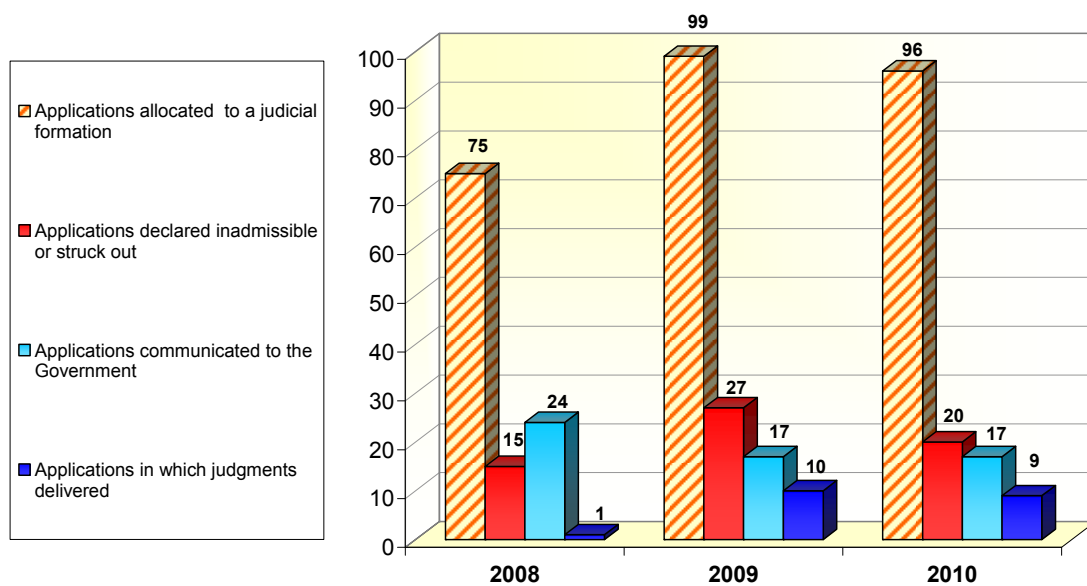
Country-specific information

Albania

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

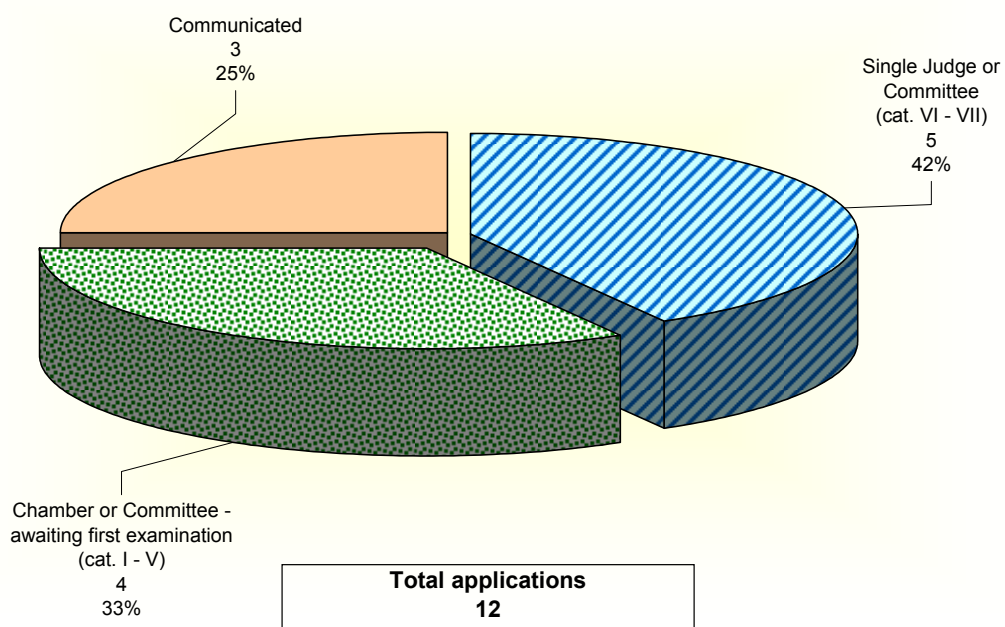


Graph 12 Major procedural steps in processing applications

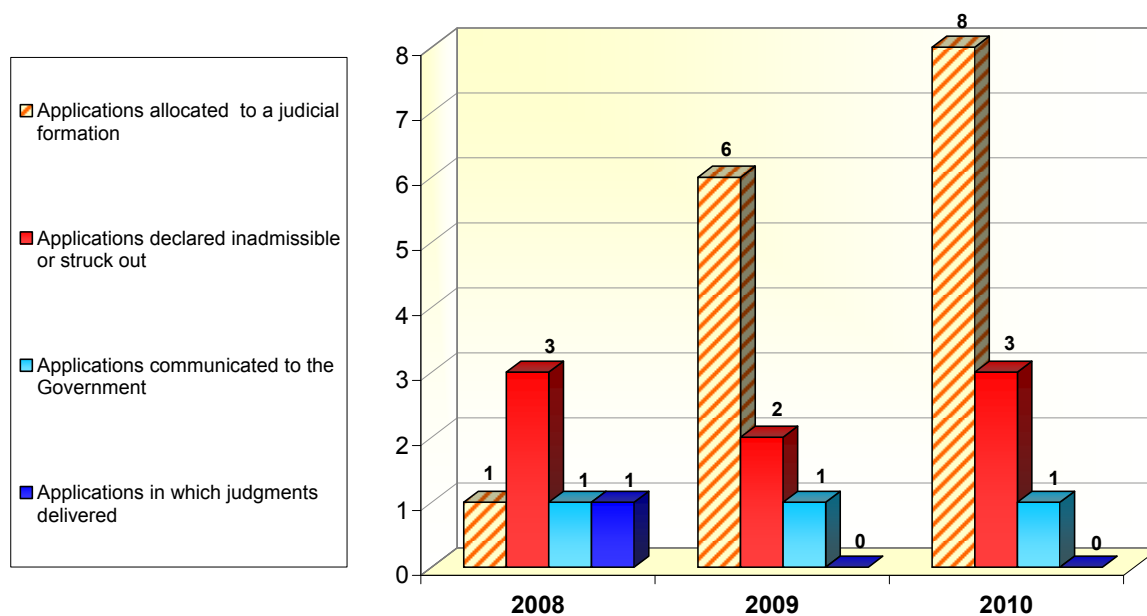


Andorra

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

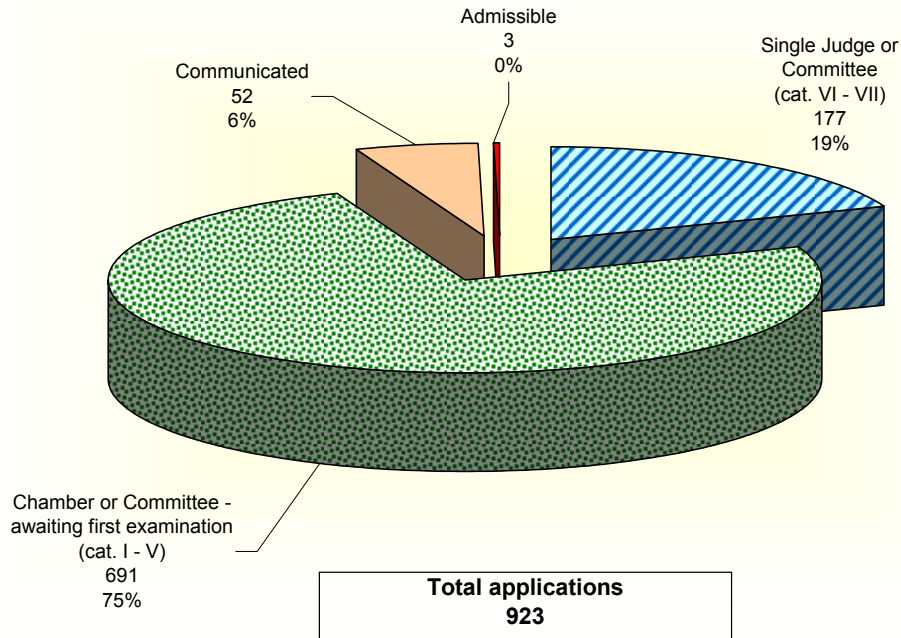


Graph 14 Major procedural steps in processing applications

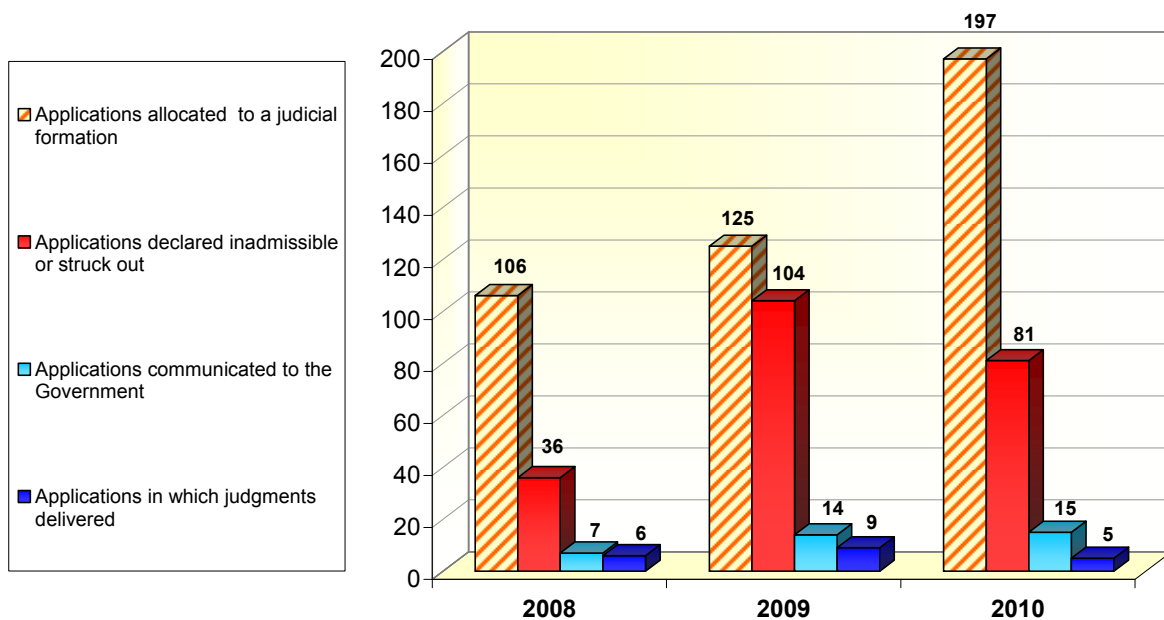


Armenia

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

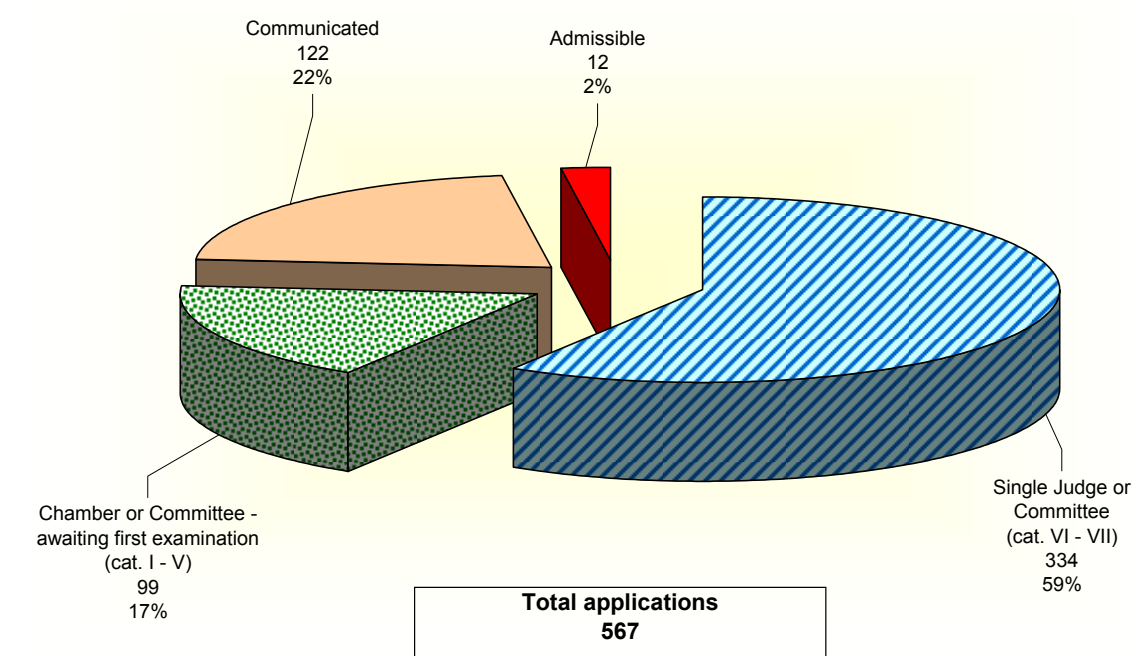


Graph 16 Major procedural steps in processing applications

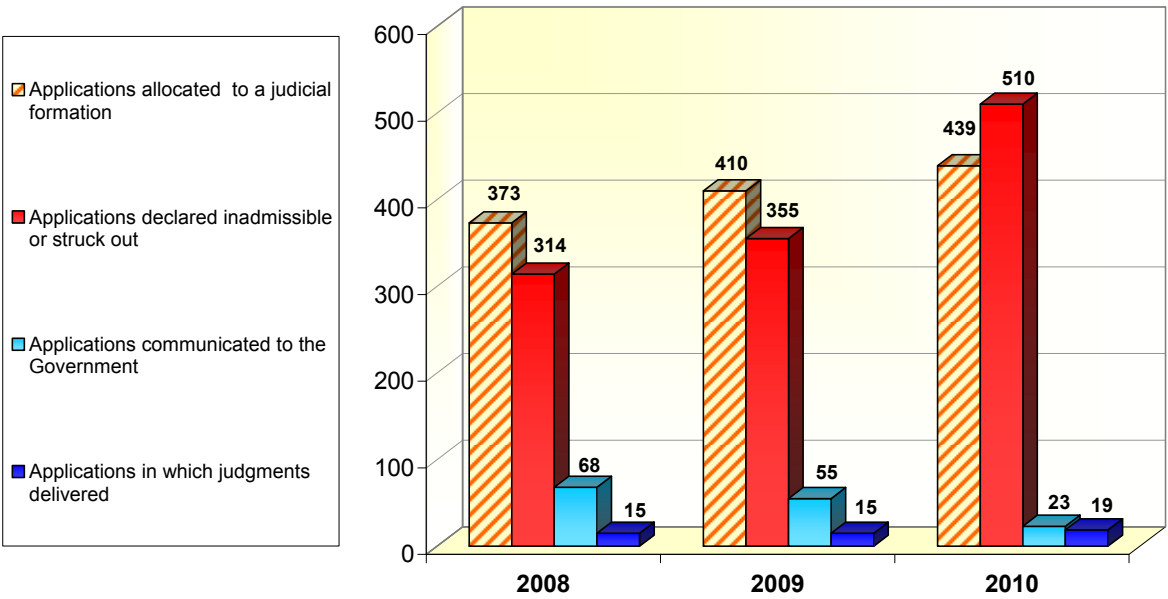


Austria

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

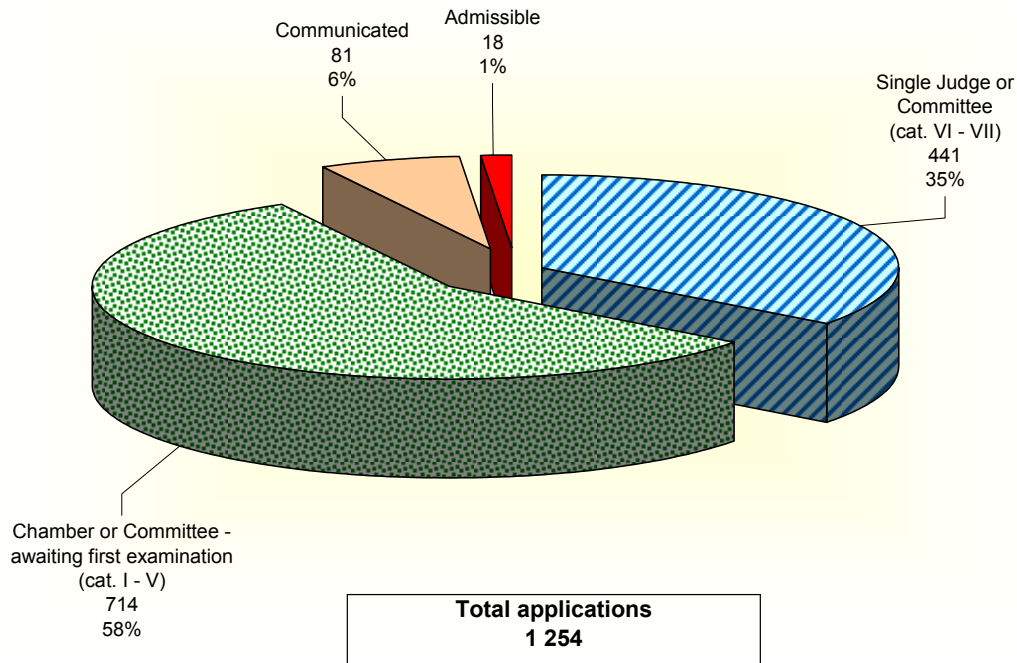


Graph 18 Major procedural steps in processing applications

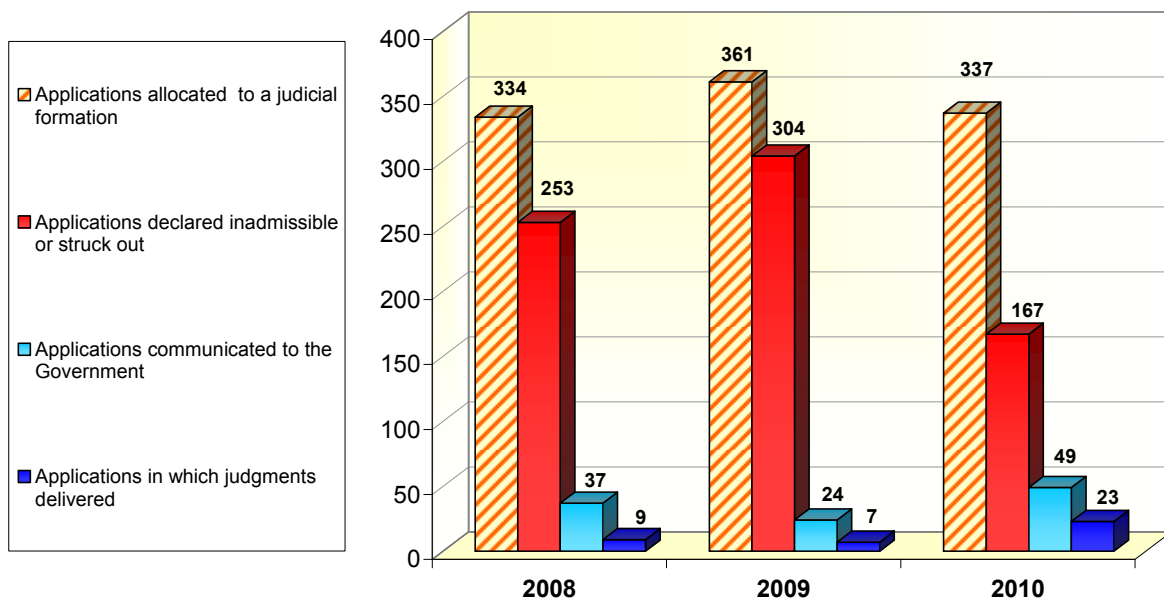


Azerbaijan

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

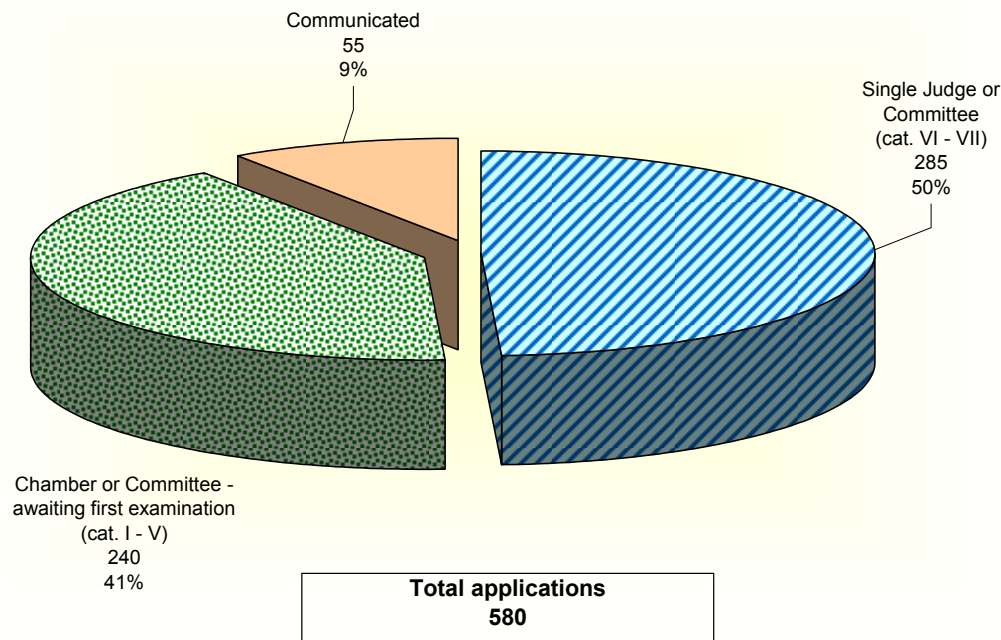


Graph 20 Major procedural steps in processing applications

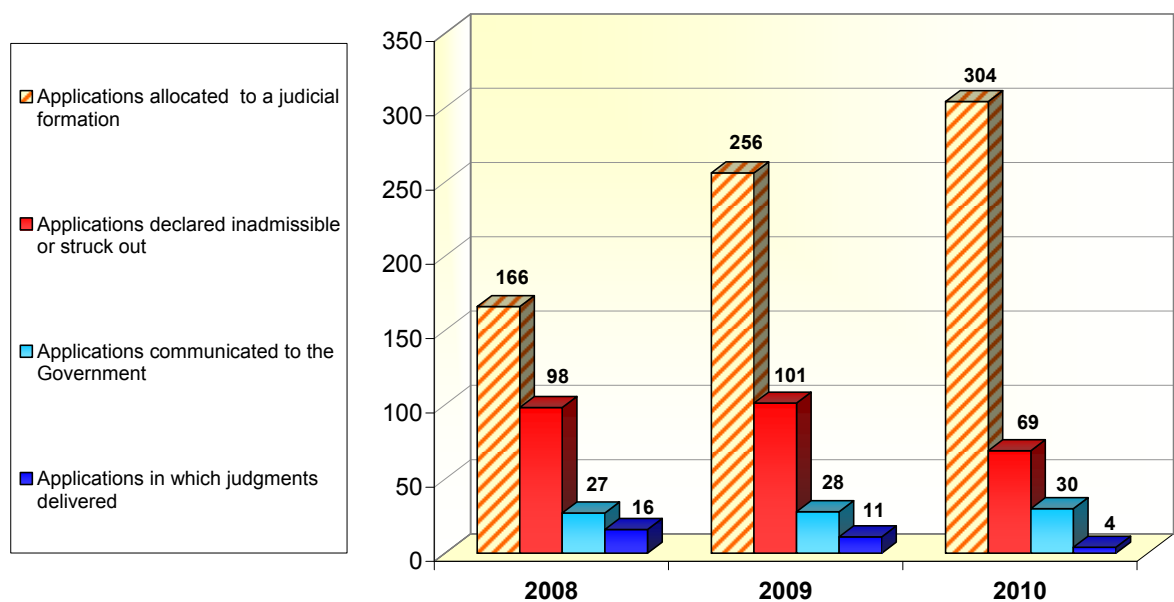


Belgium

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

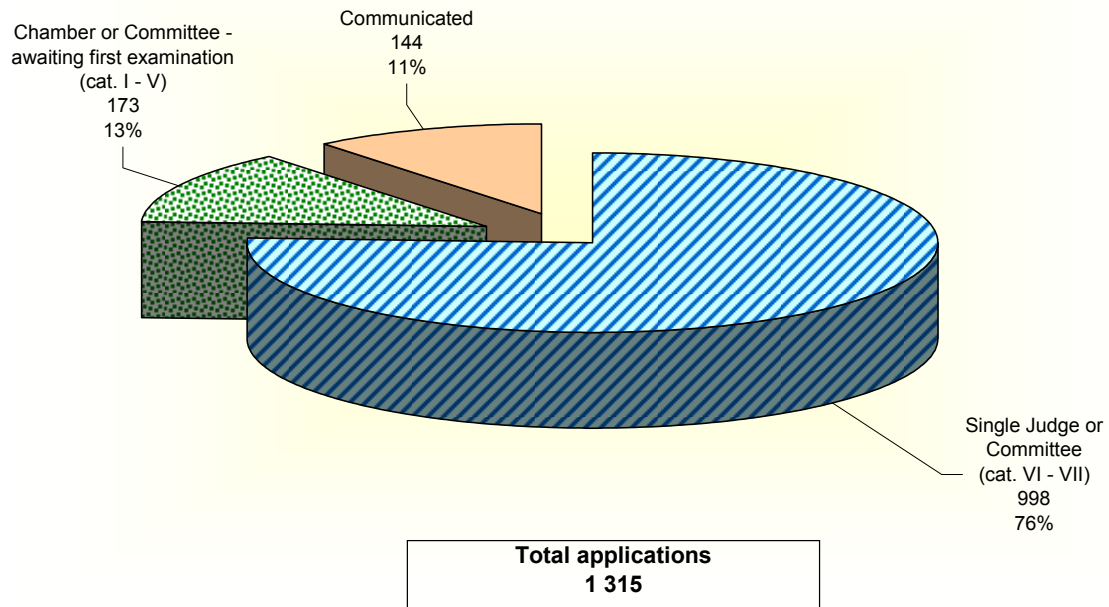


Graph 22 Major procedural steps in processing applications

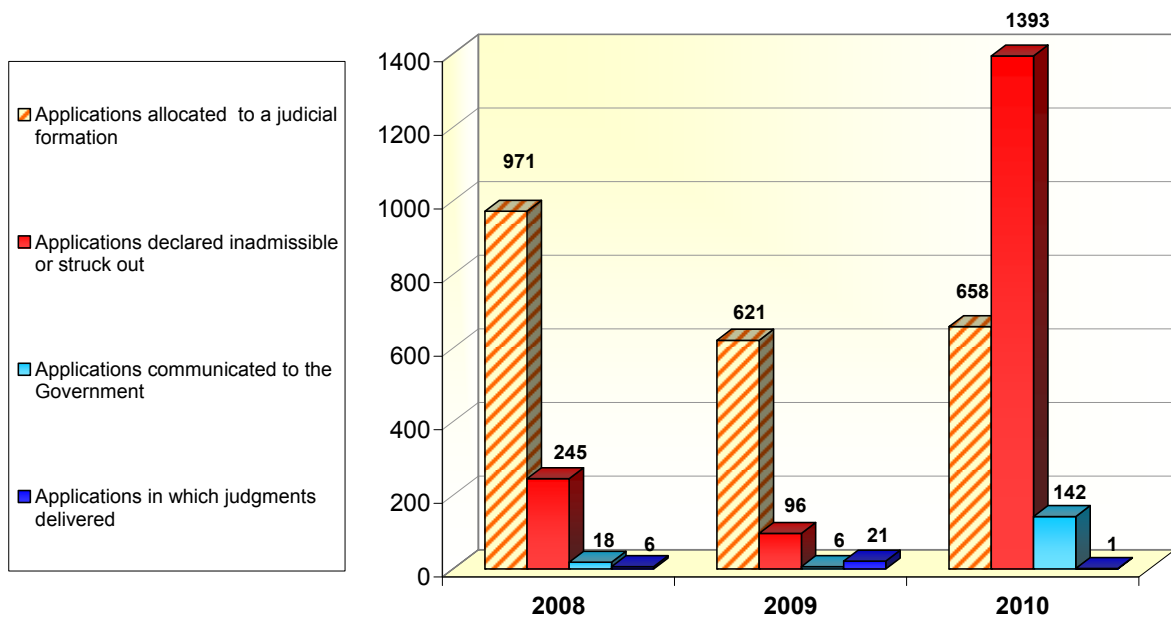


Bosnia and Herzegovina

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

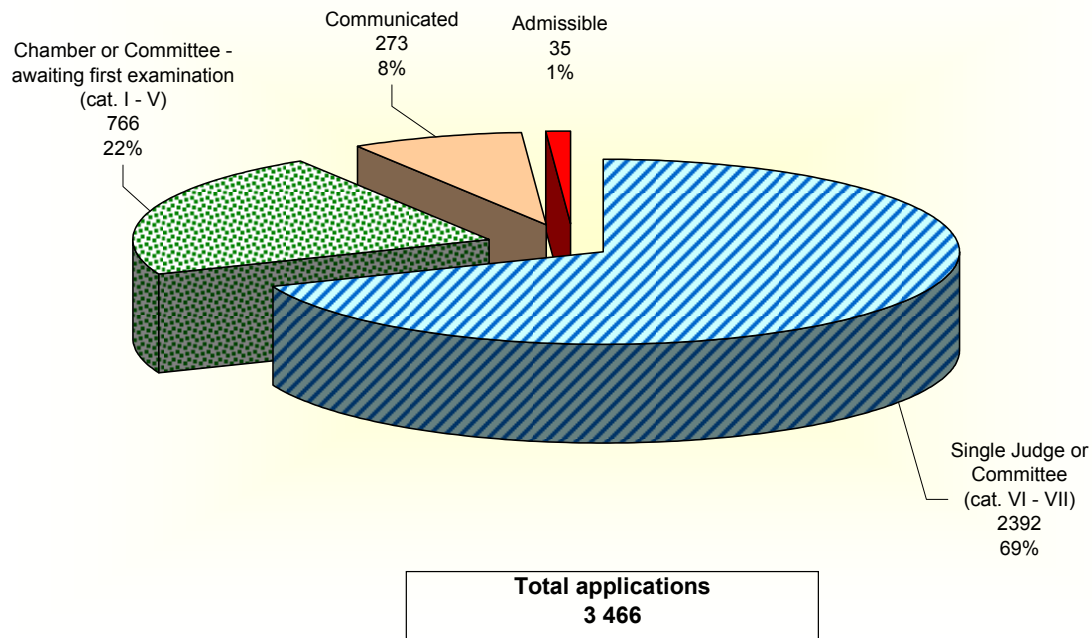


Graph 24 Major procedural steps in processing applications

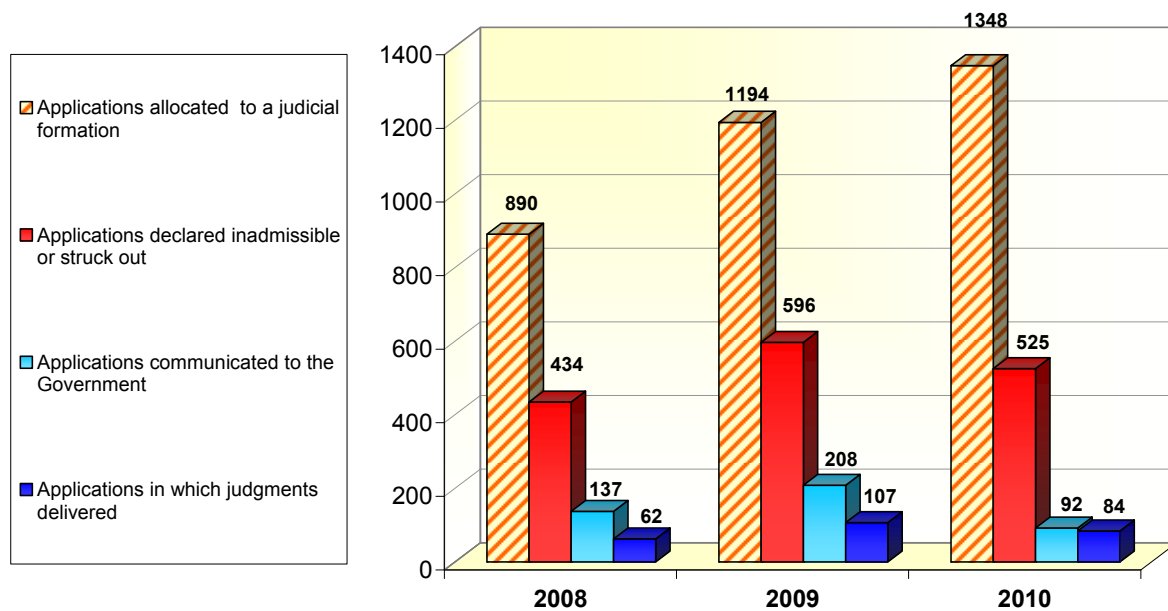


Bulgaria

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

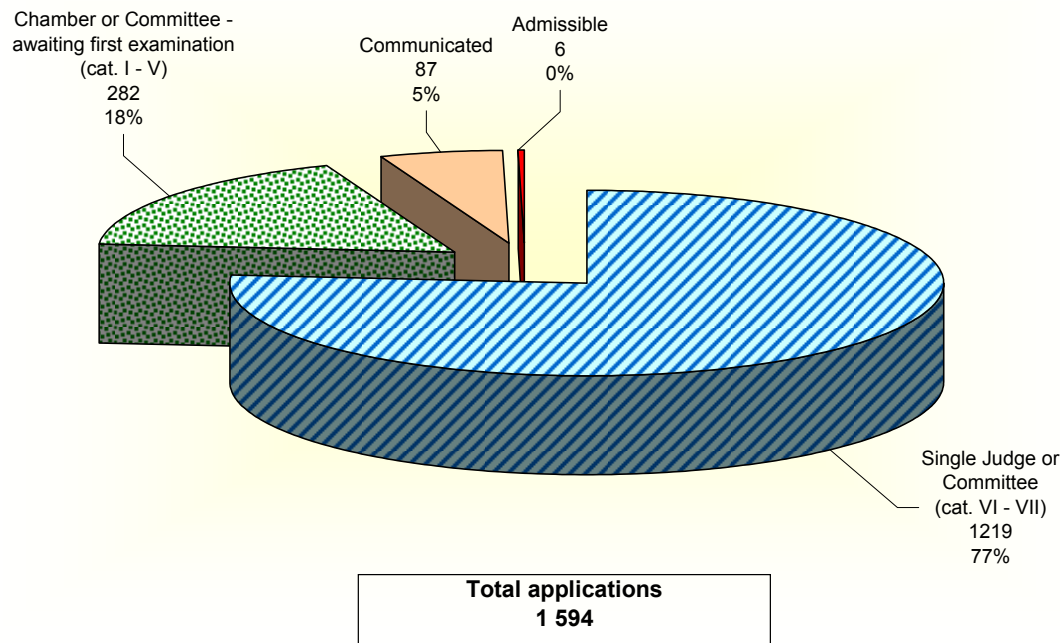


Graph 26 Major procedural steps in processing applications

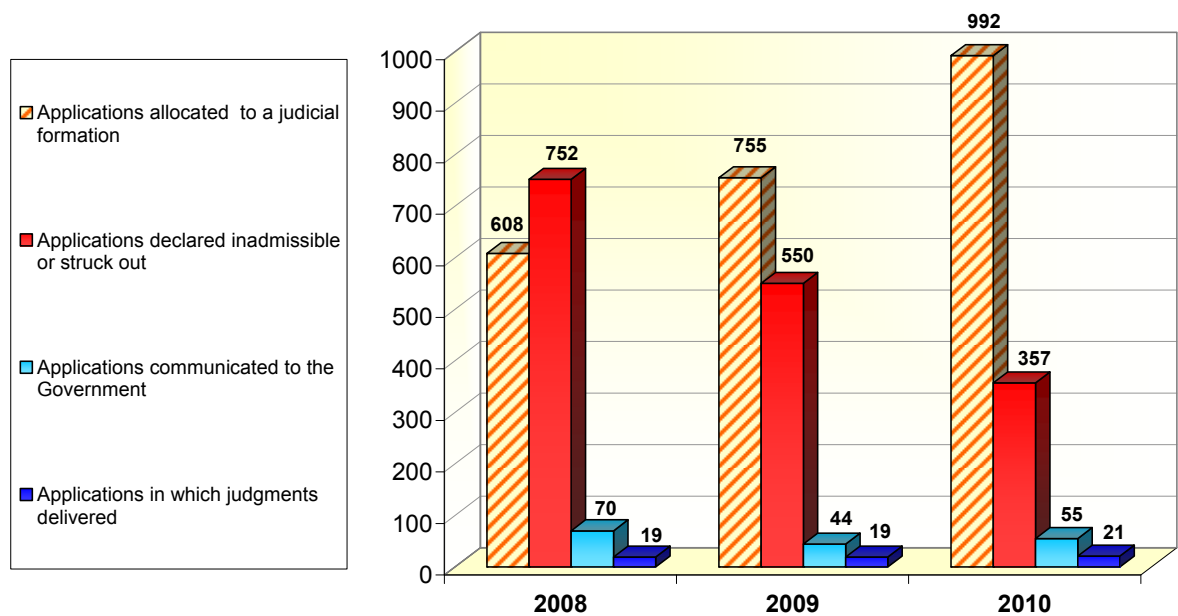


Croatia

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

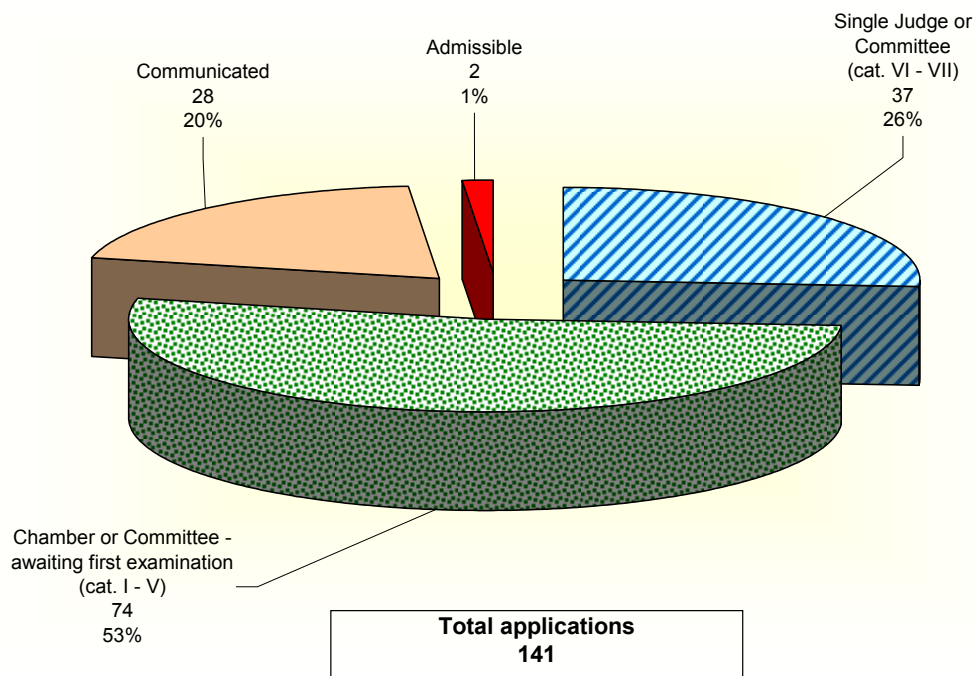


Graph 28 Major procedural steps in processing applications

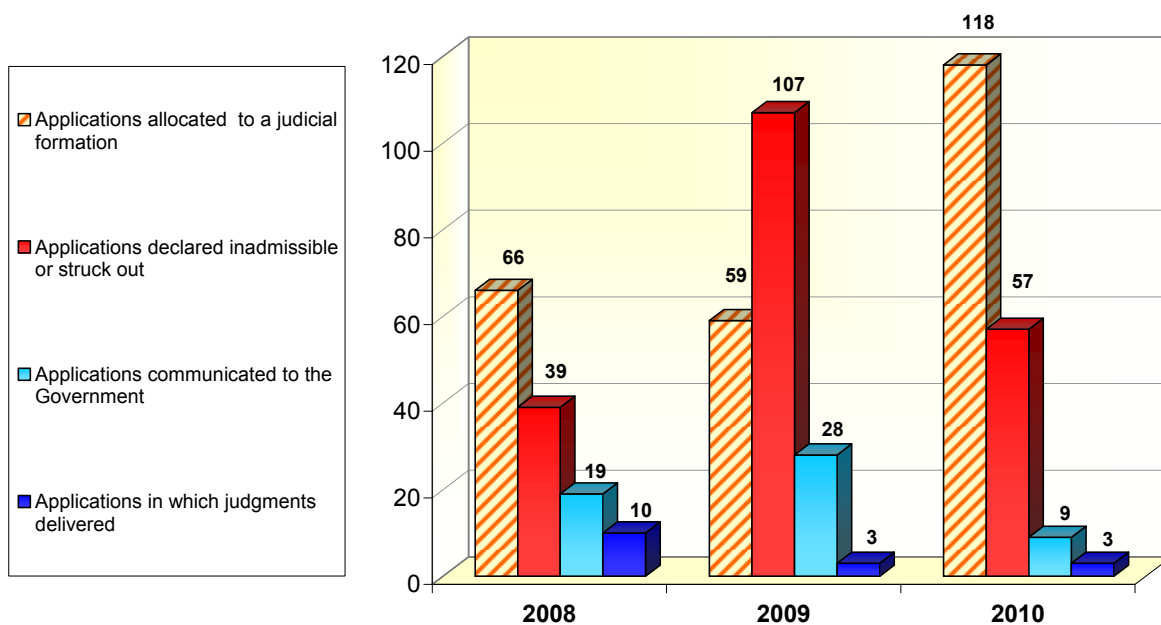


Cyprus

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

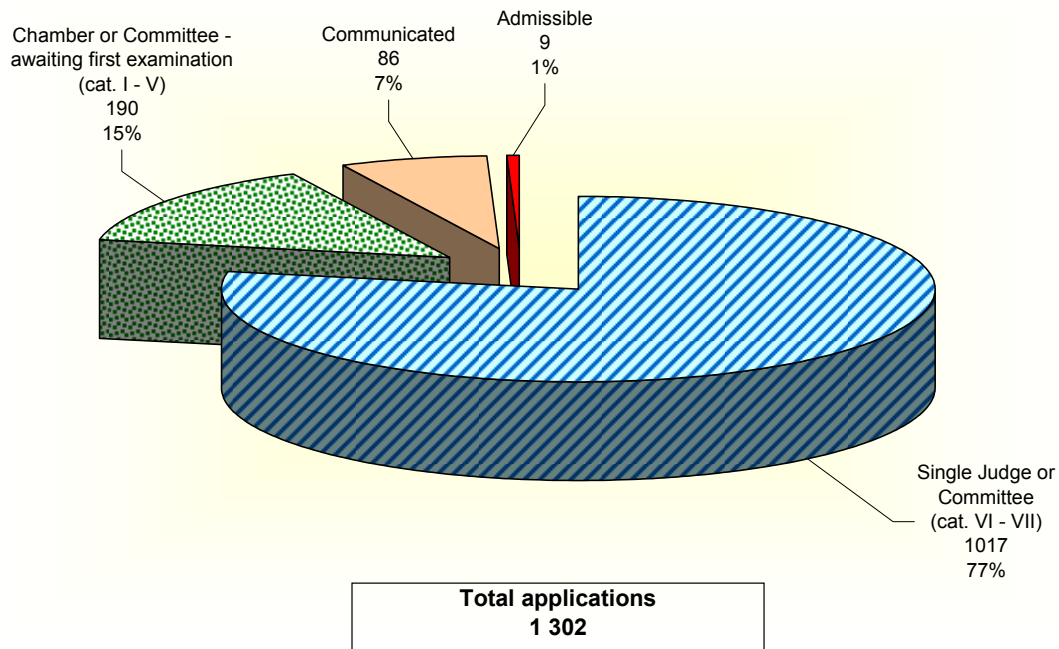


Graph 30 Major procedural steps in processing applications

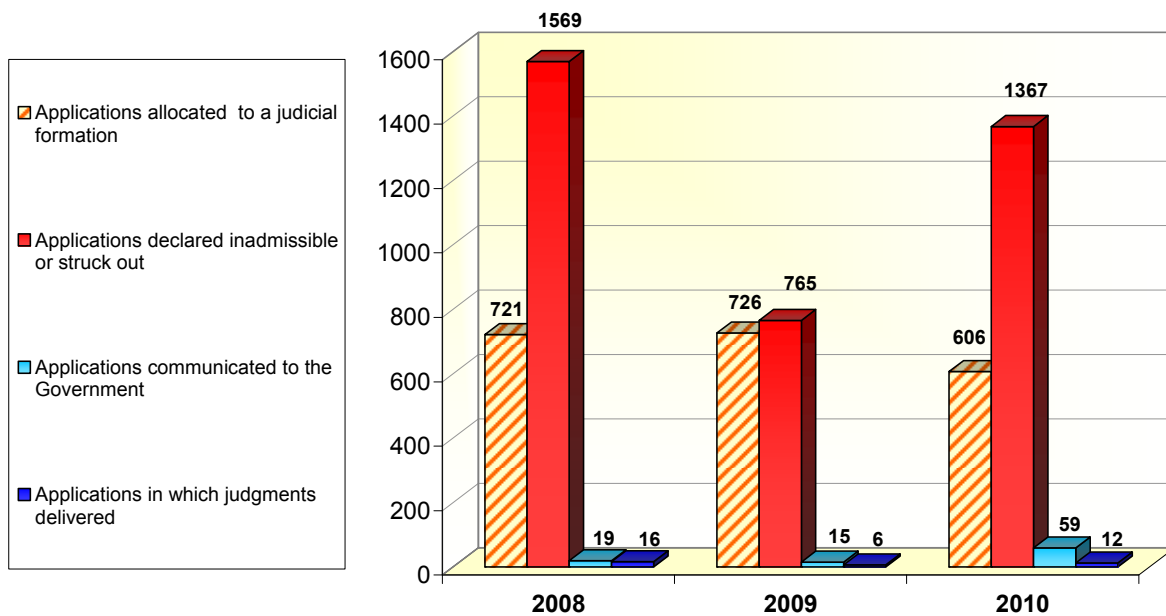


Czech Republic

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

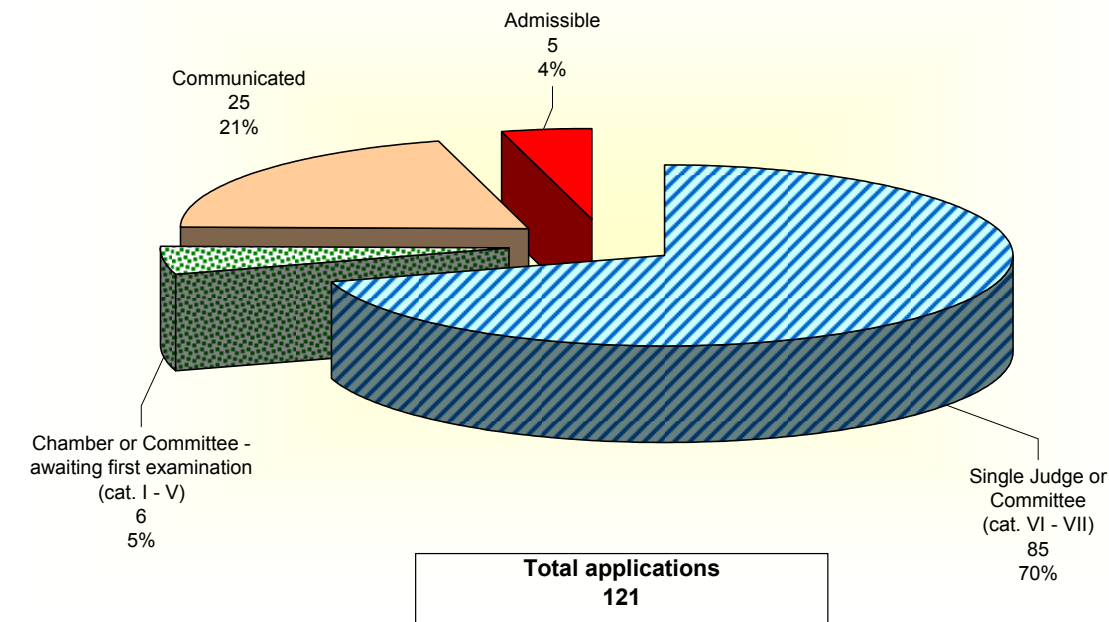


Graph 32 Major procedural steps in processing applications

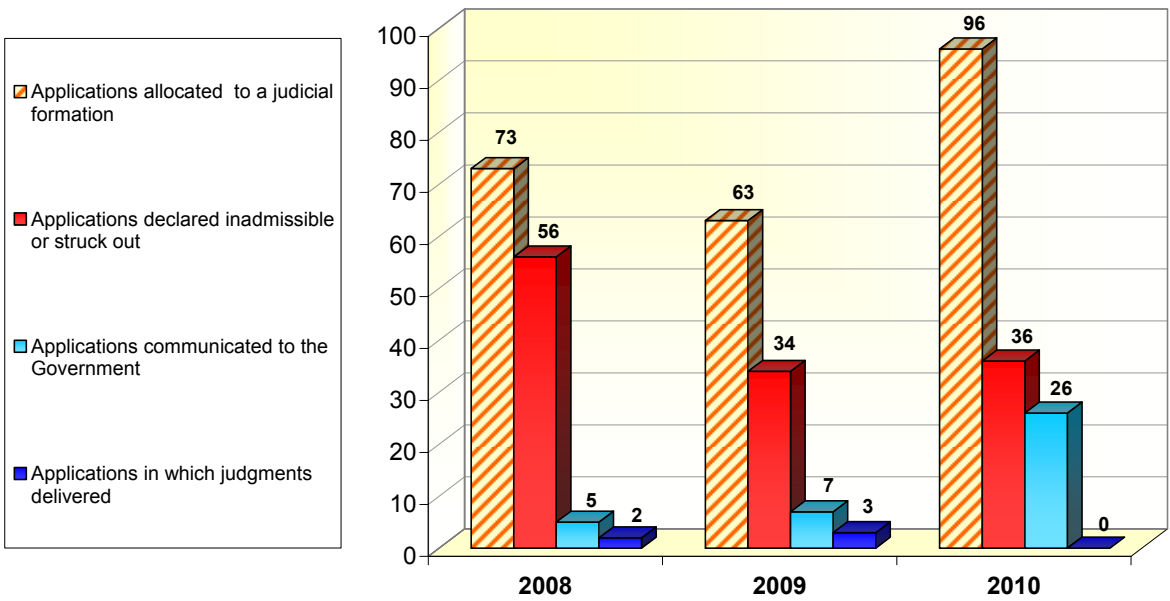


Denmark

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

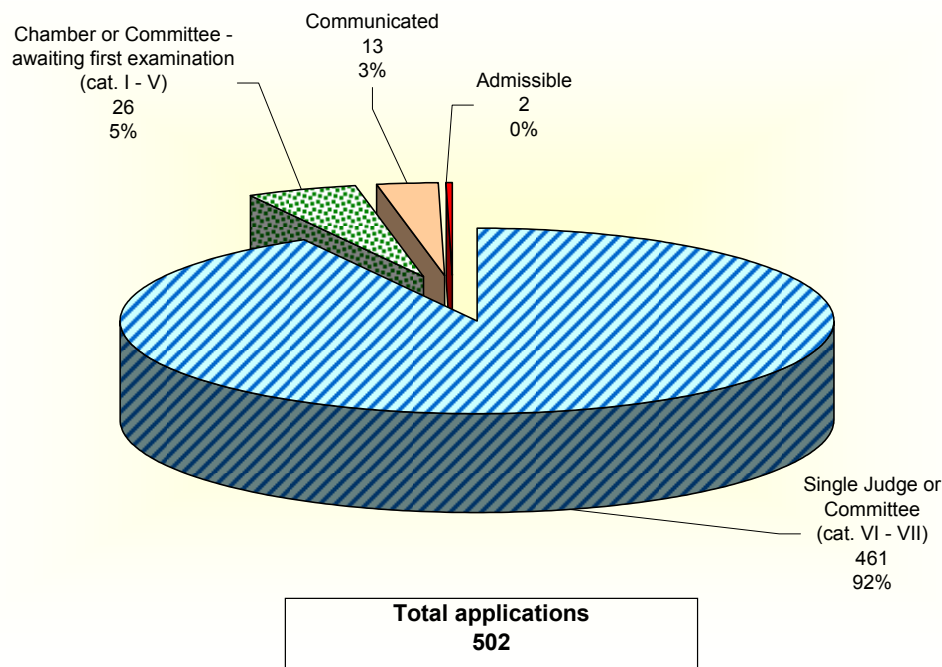


Graph 34 Major procedural steps in processing applications

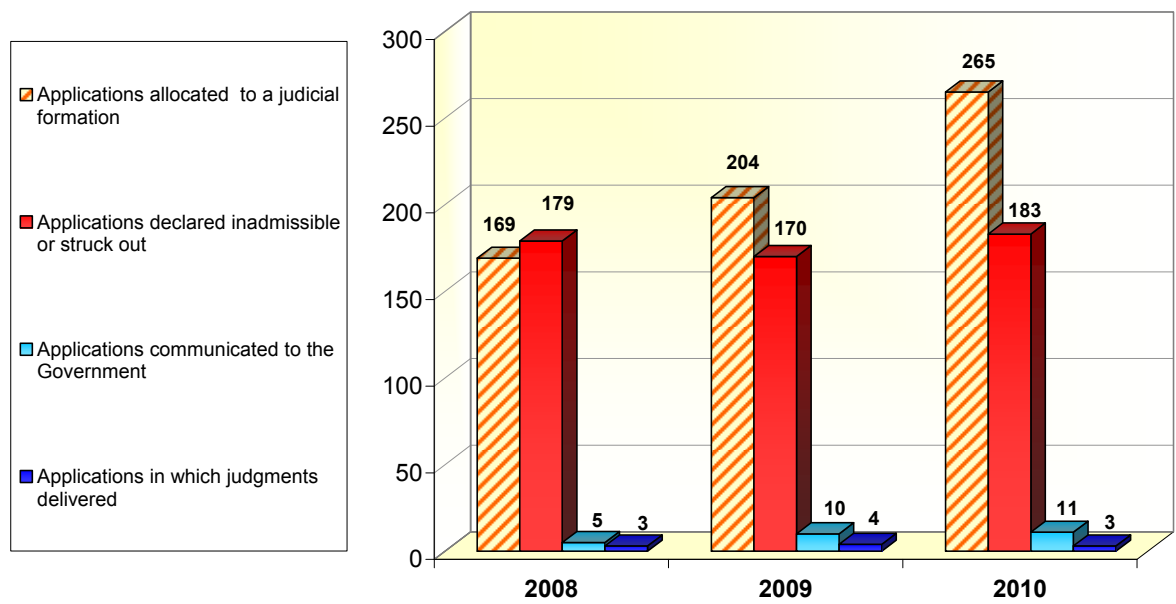


Estonia

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

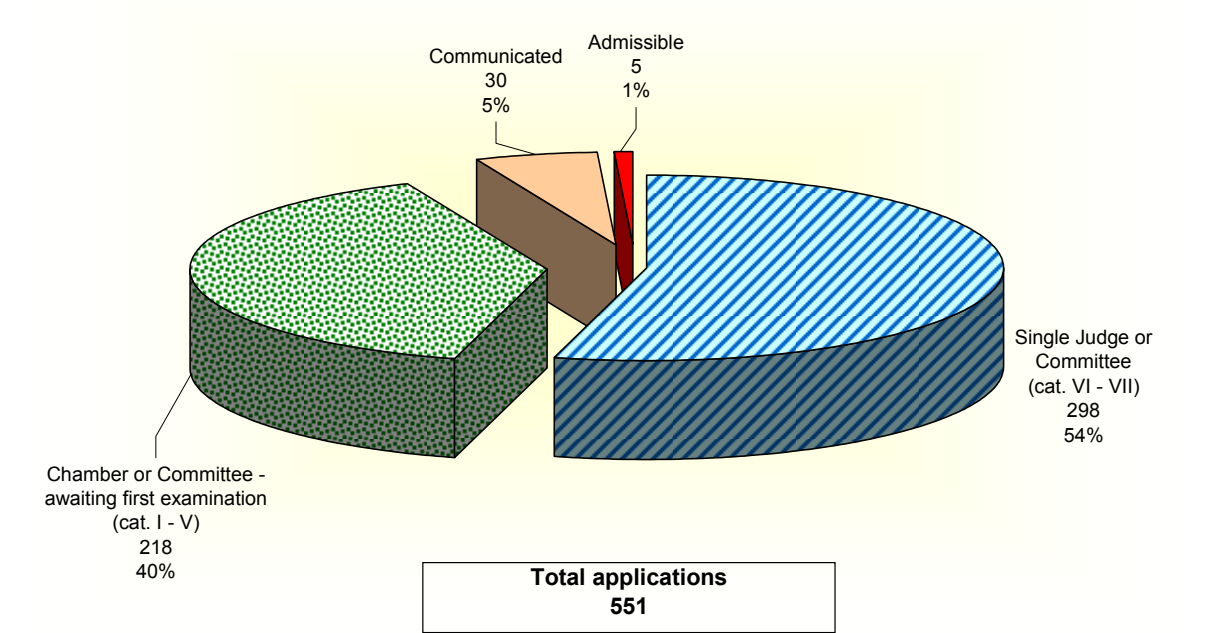


Graph 36 Major procedural steps in processing applications

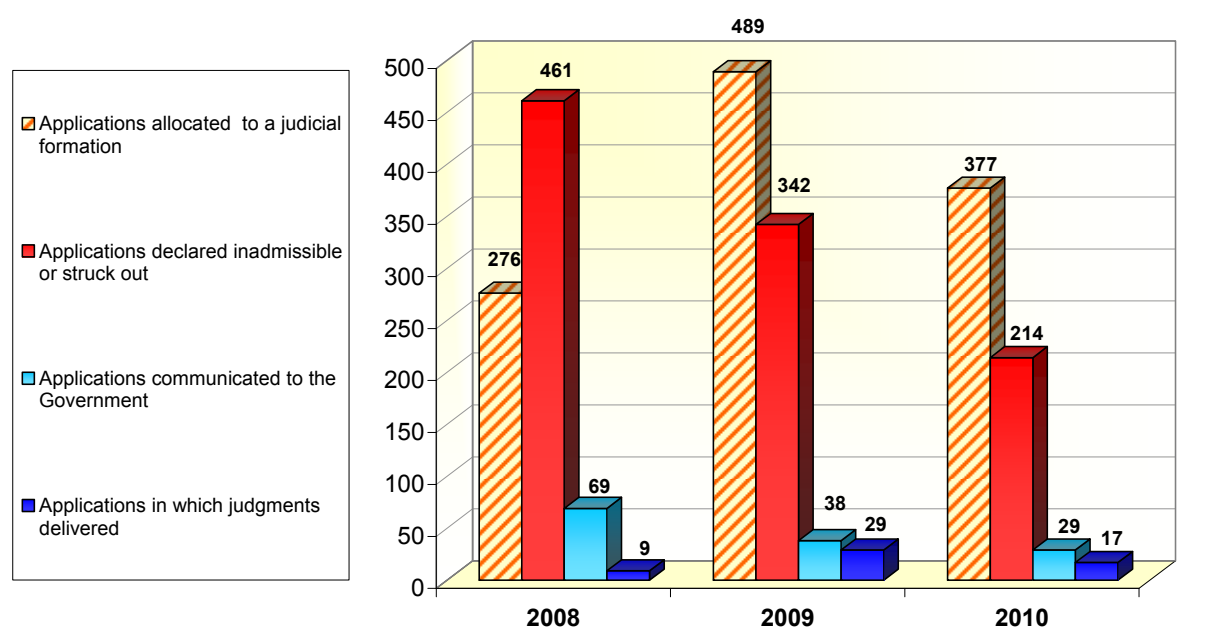


Finland

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

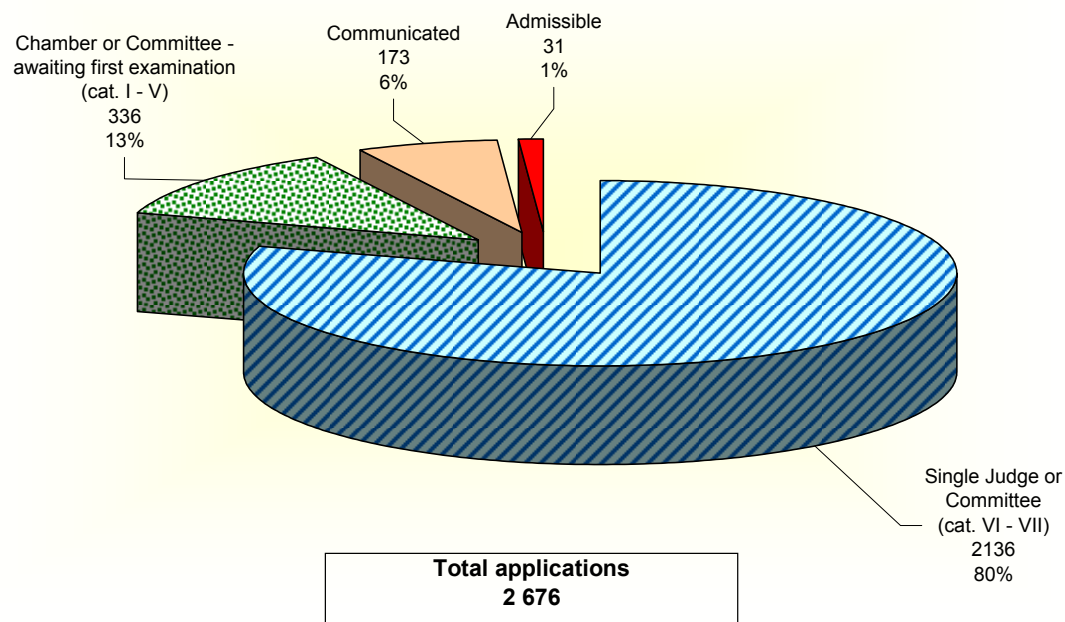


Graph 38 Major procedural steps in processing applications

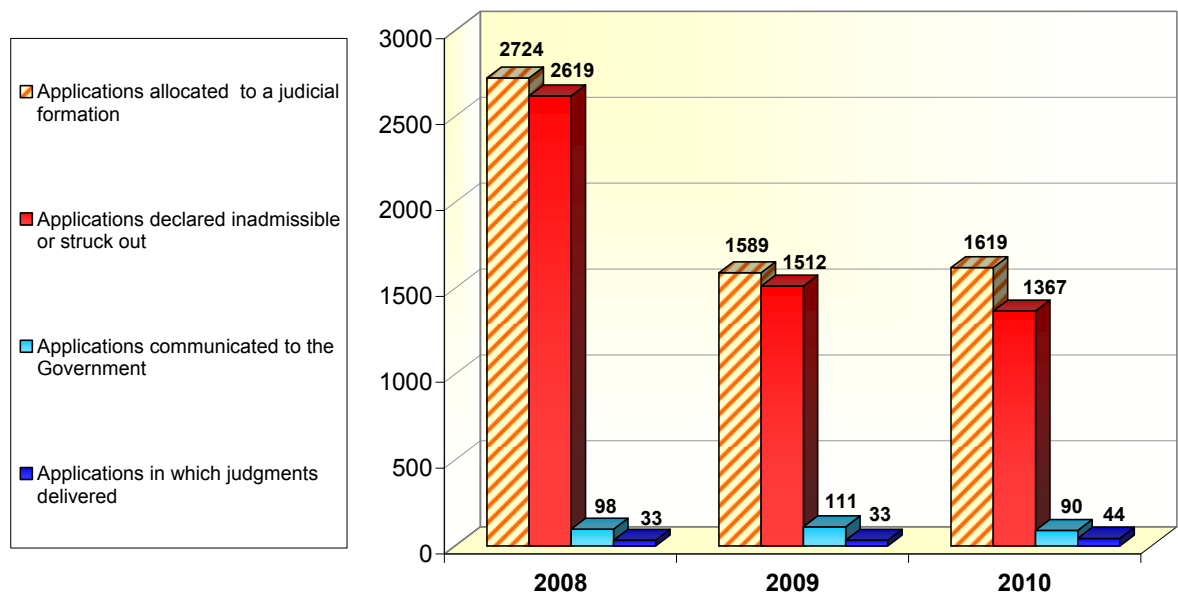


France

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

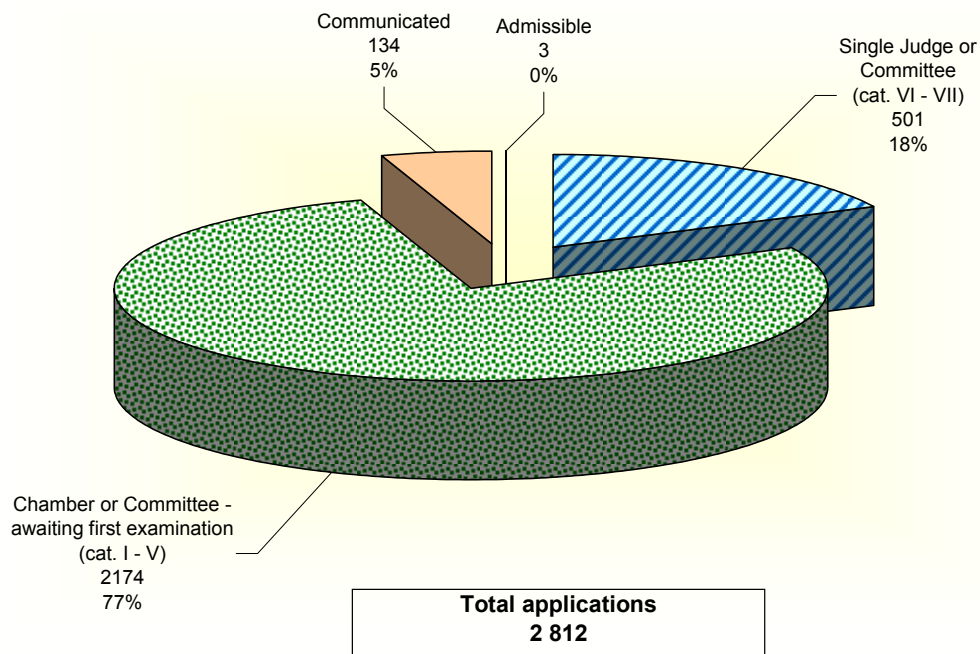


Graph 40 Major procedural steps in processing applications

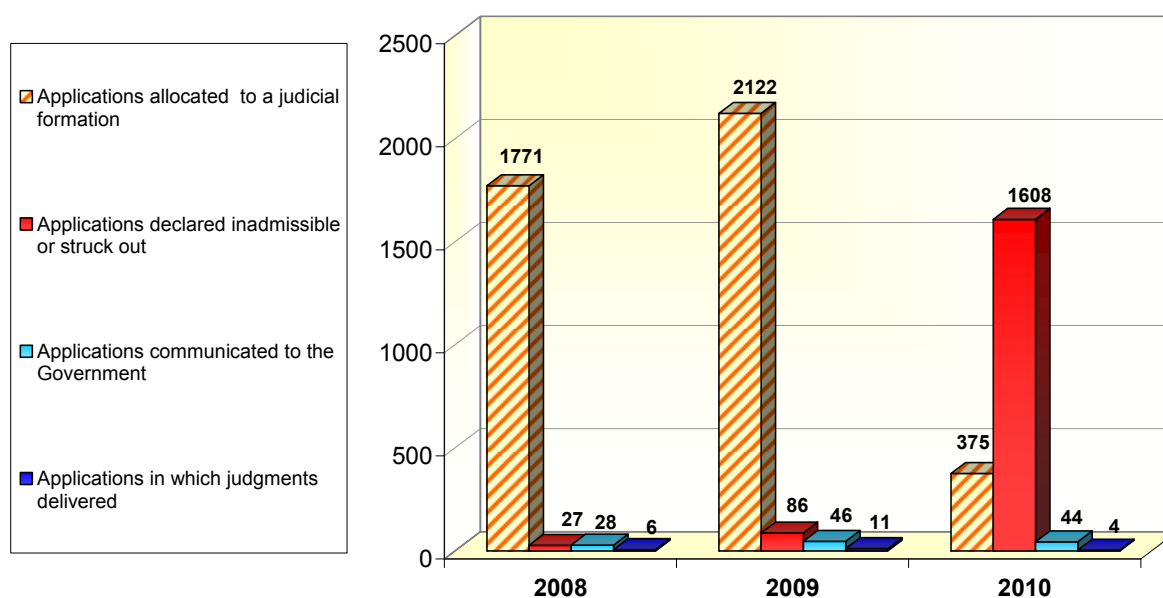


Georgia

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

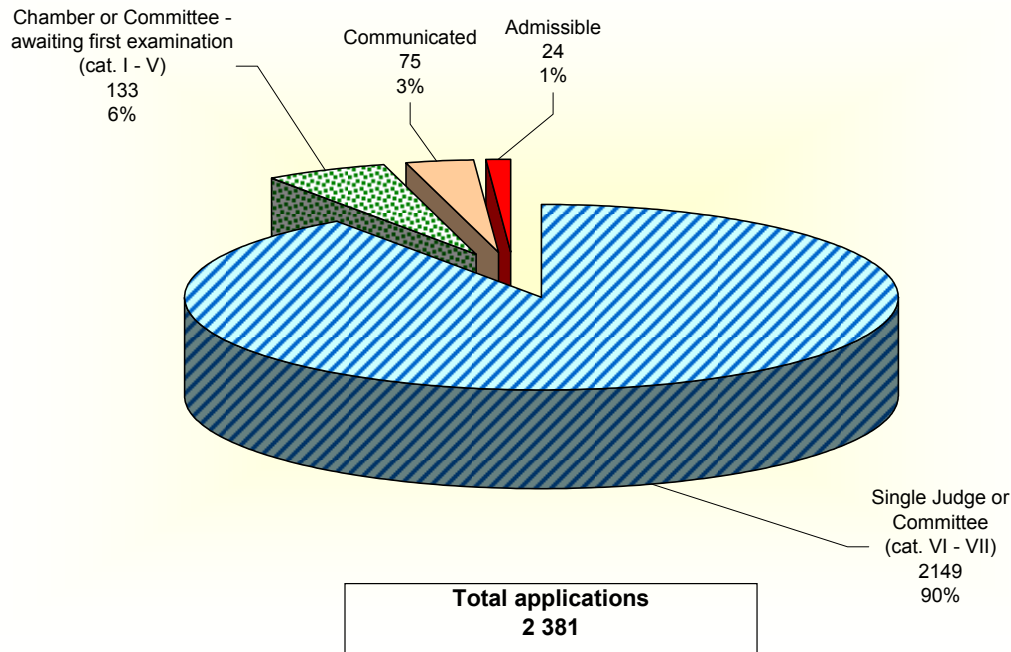


Graph 42 Major procedural steps in processing applications

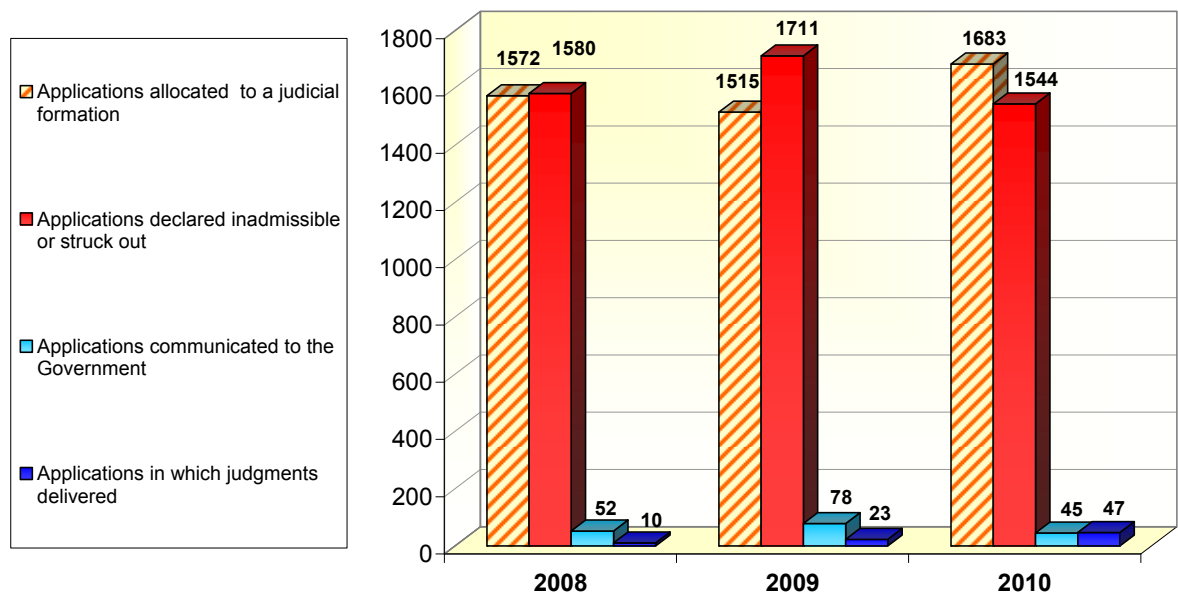


Germany

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

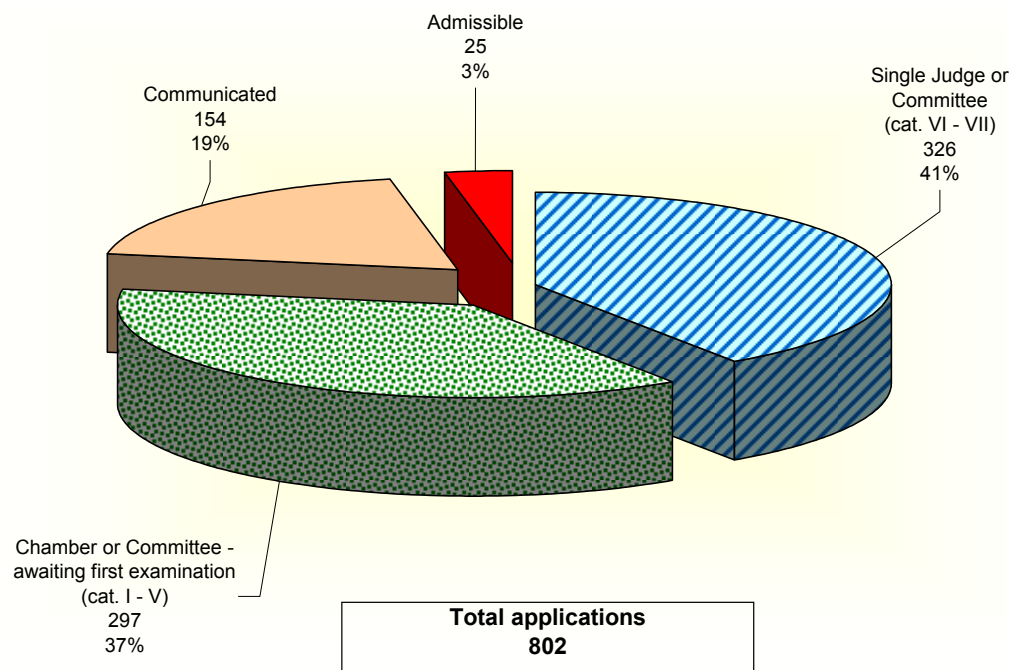


Graph 44 Major procedural steps in processing applications

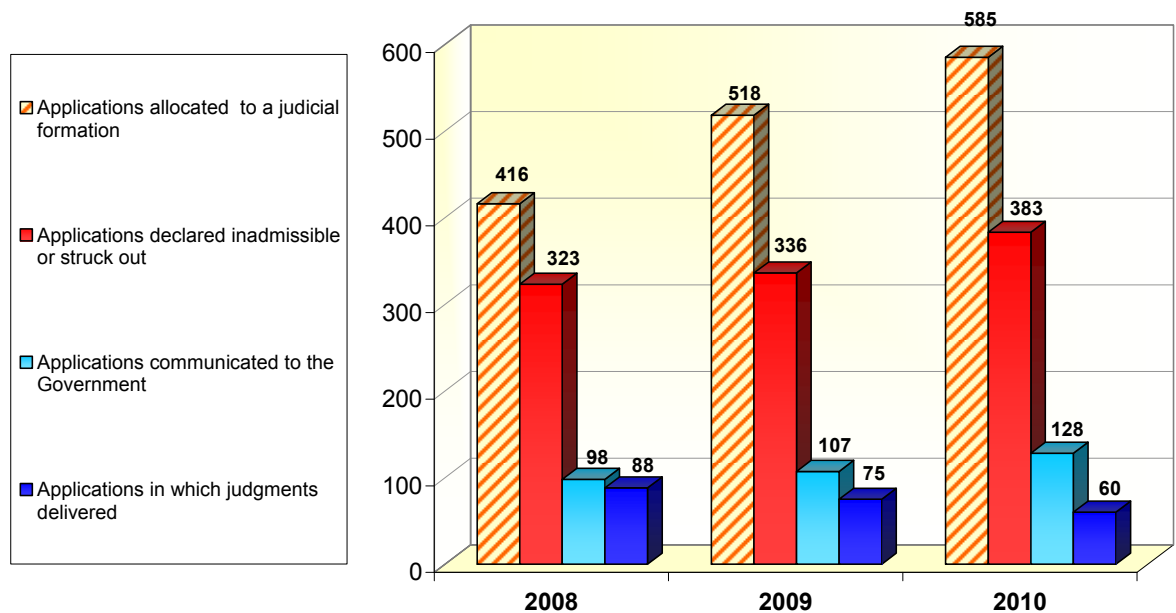


Greece

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

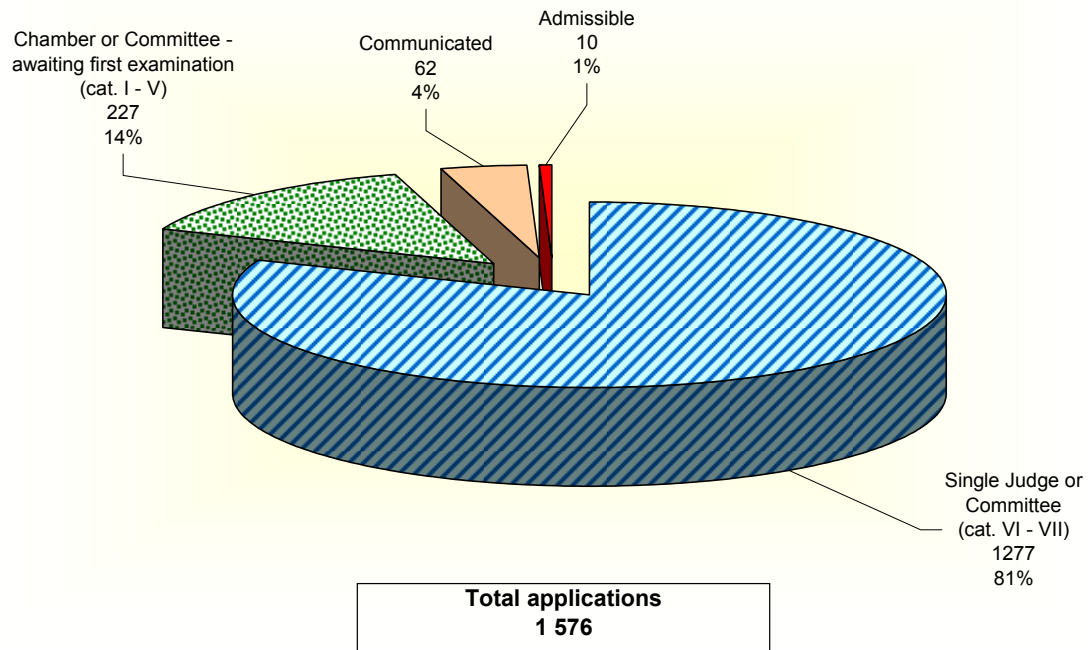


Graph 46 Major procedural steps in processing applications

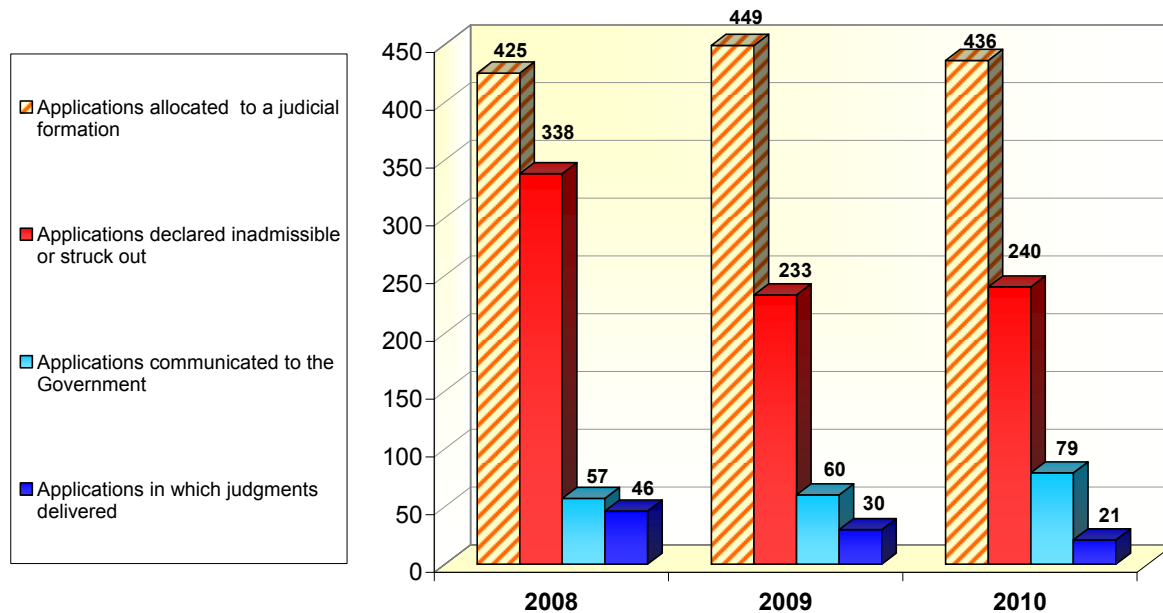


Hungary

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

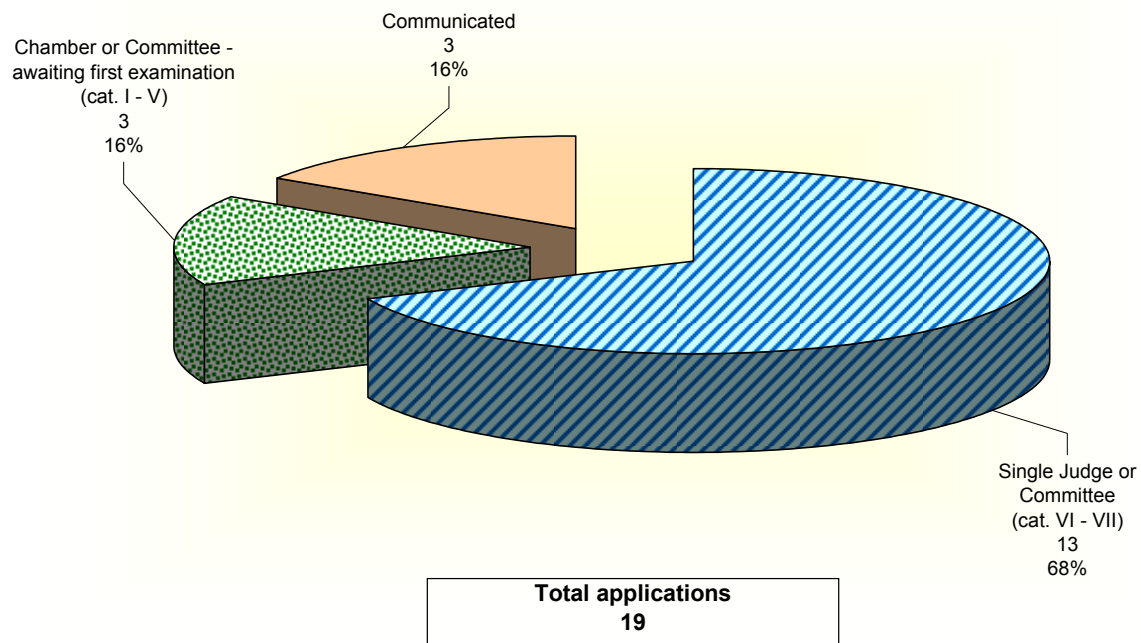


Graph 48 Major procedural steps in processing applications

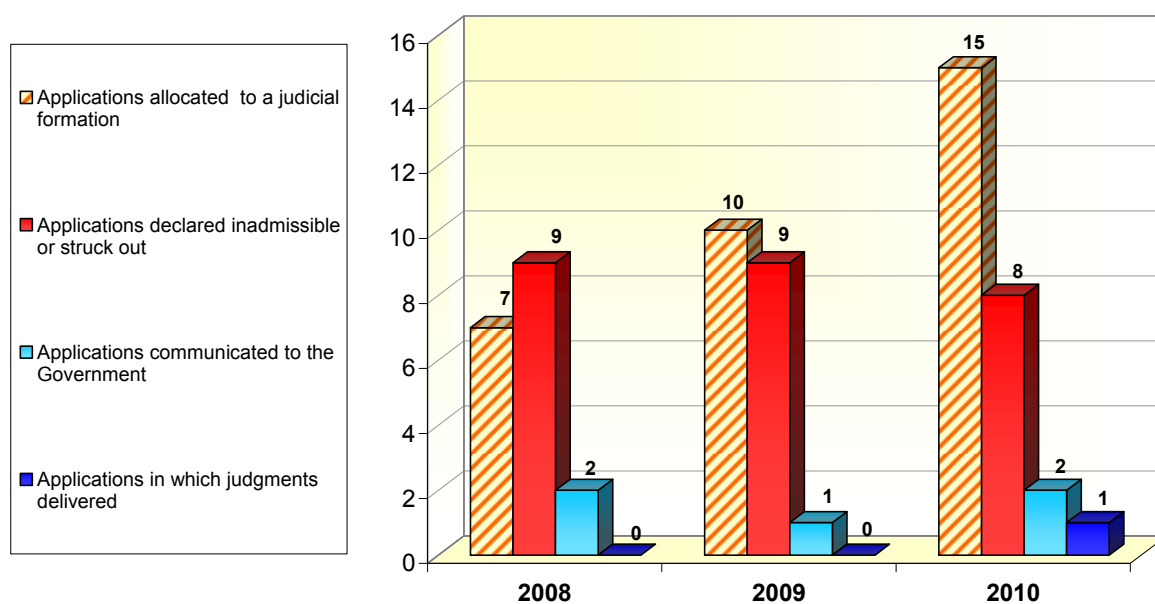


Iceland

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

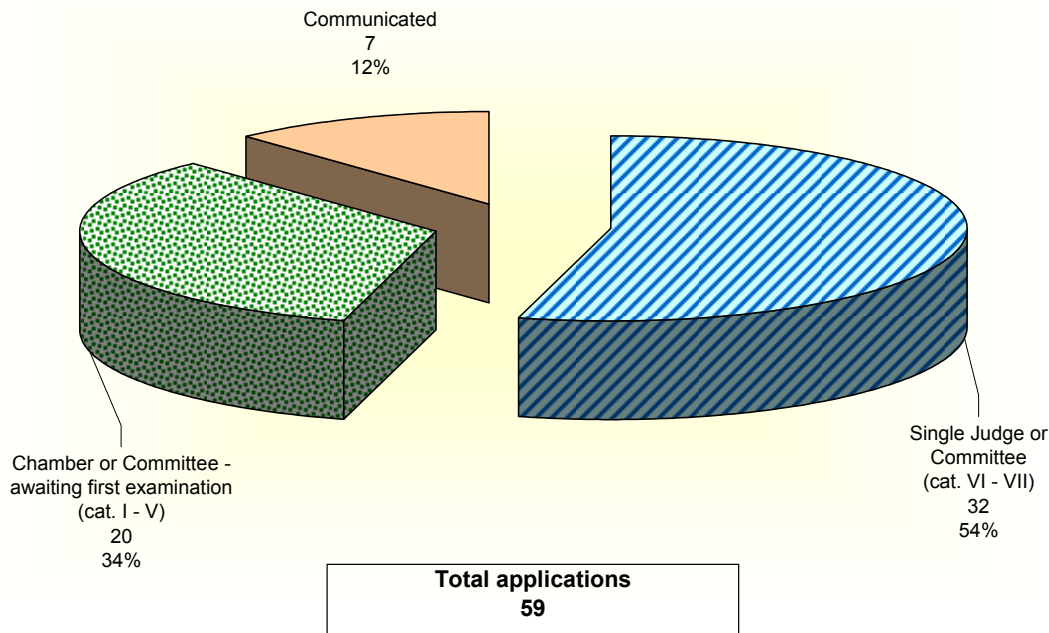


Graph 50 Major procedural steps in processing applications

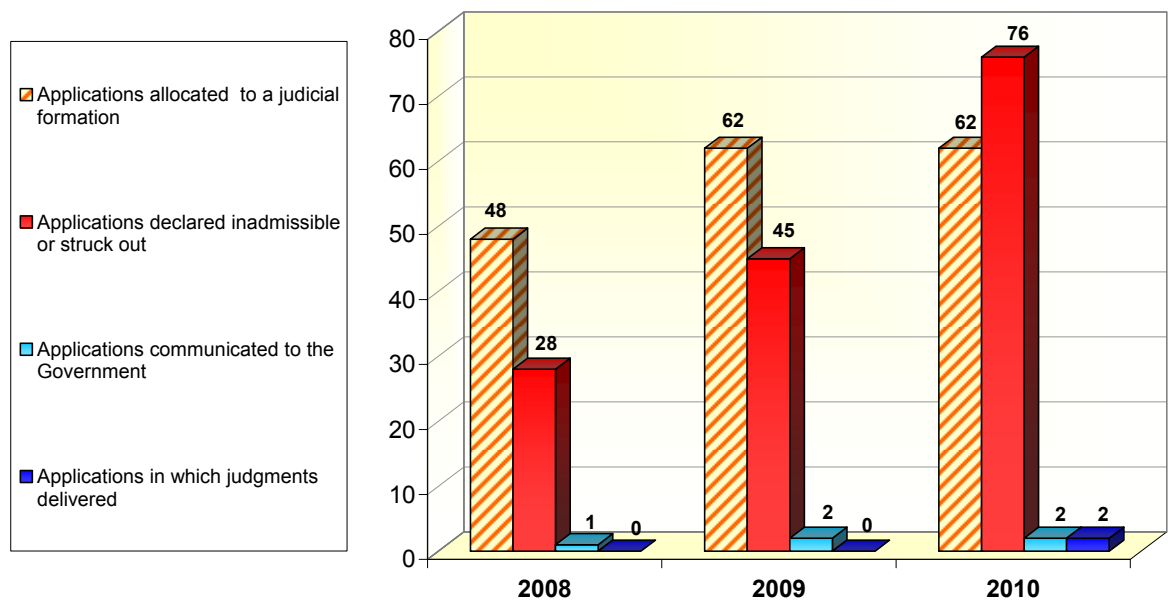


Ireland

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

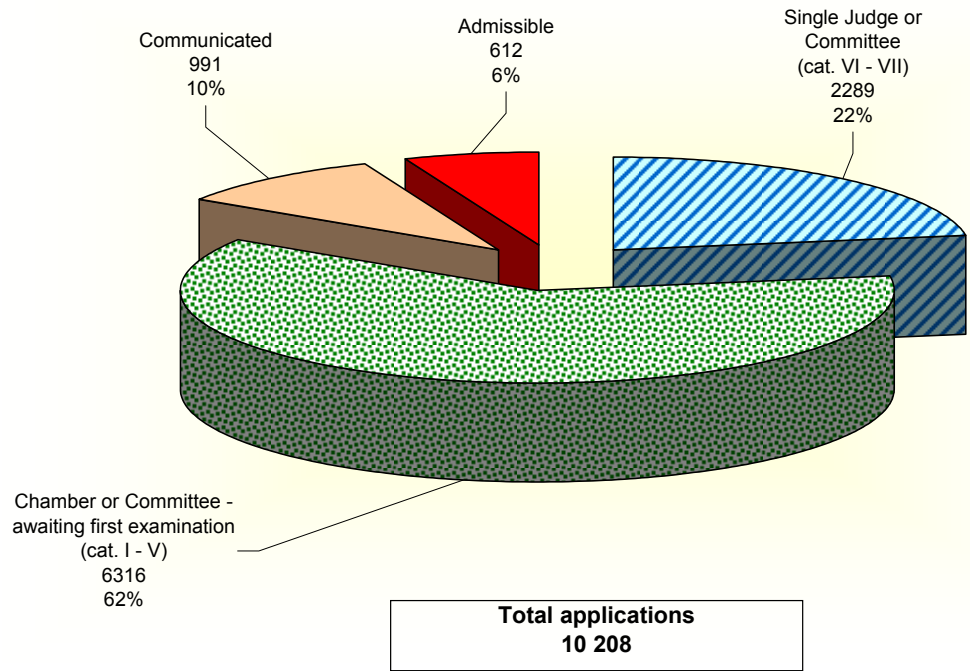


Graph 52 Major procedural steps in processing applications

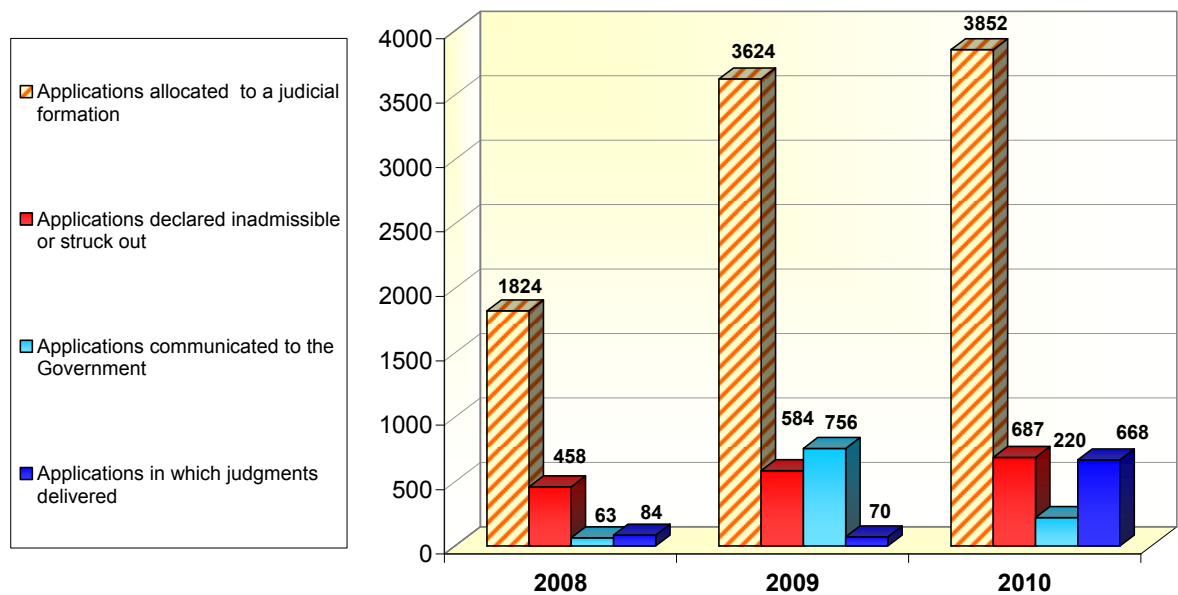


Italy

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

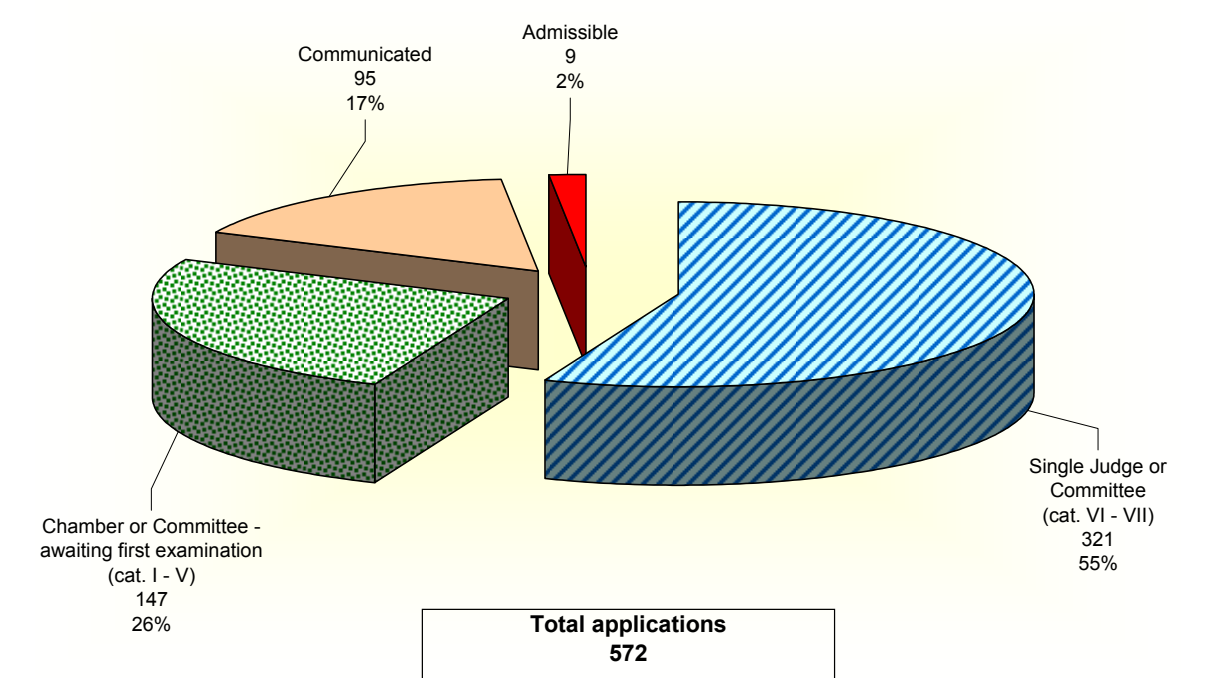


Graph 54 Major procedural steps in processing applications

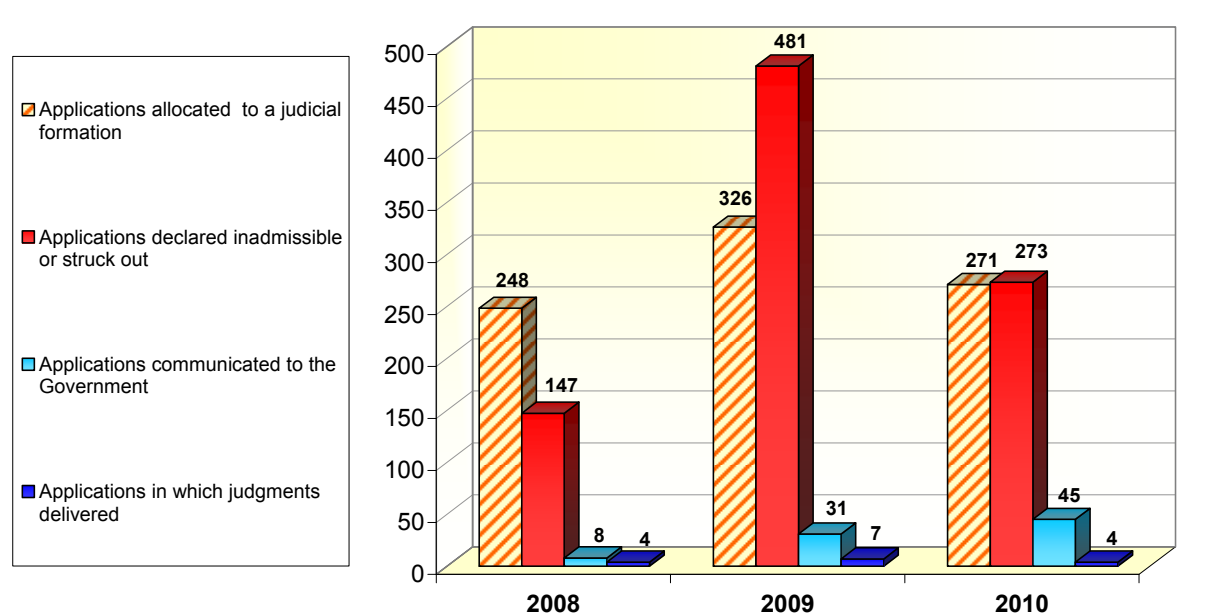


Latvia

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

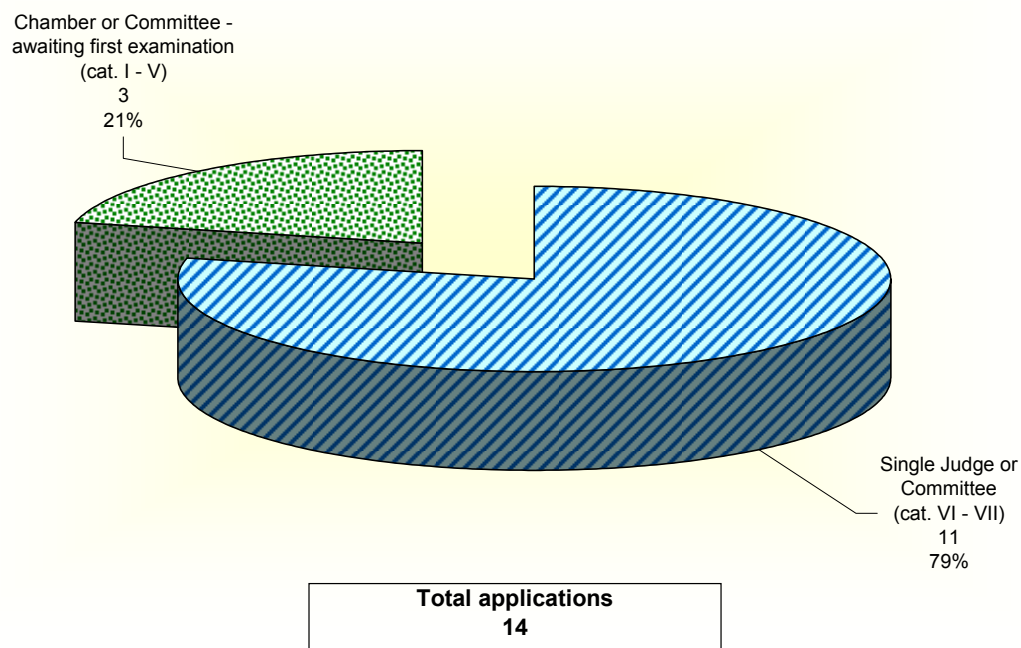


Graph 56 Major procedural steps in processing applications

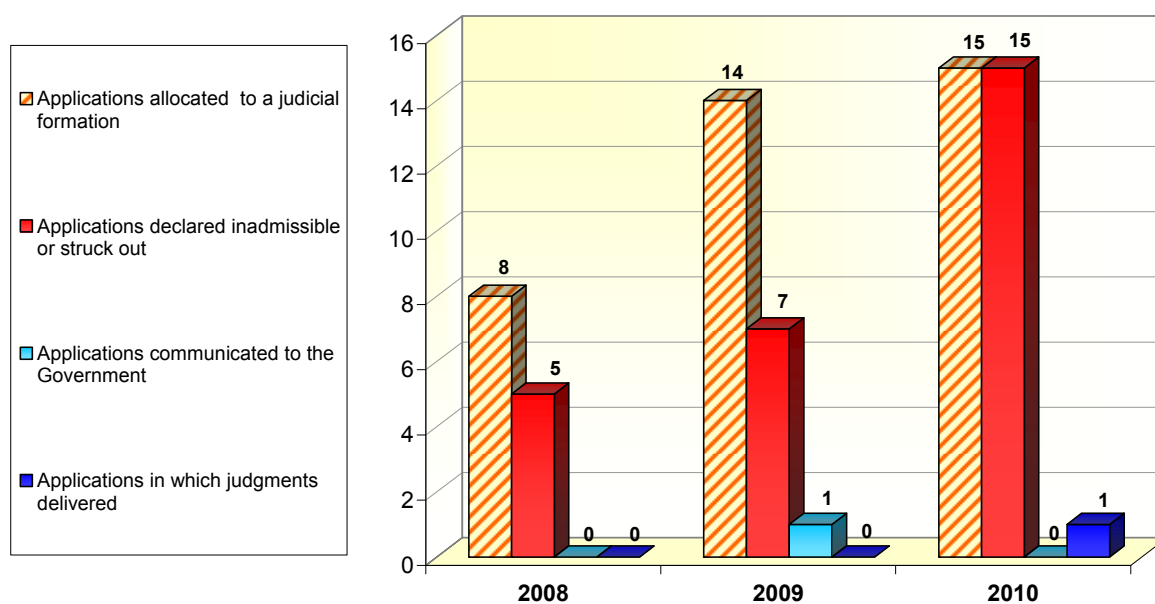


Liechtenstein

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

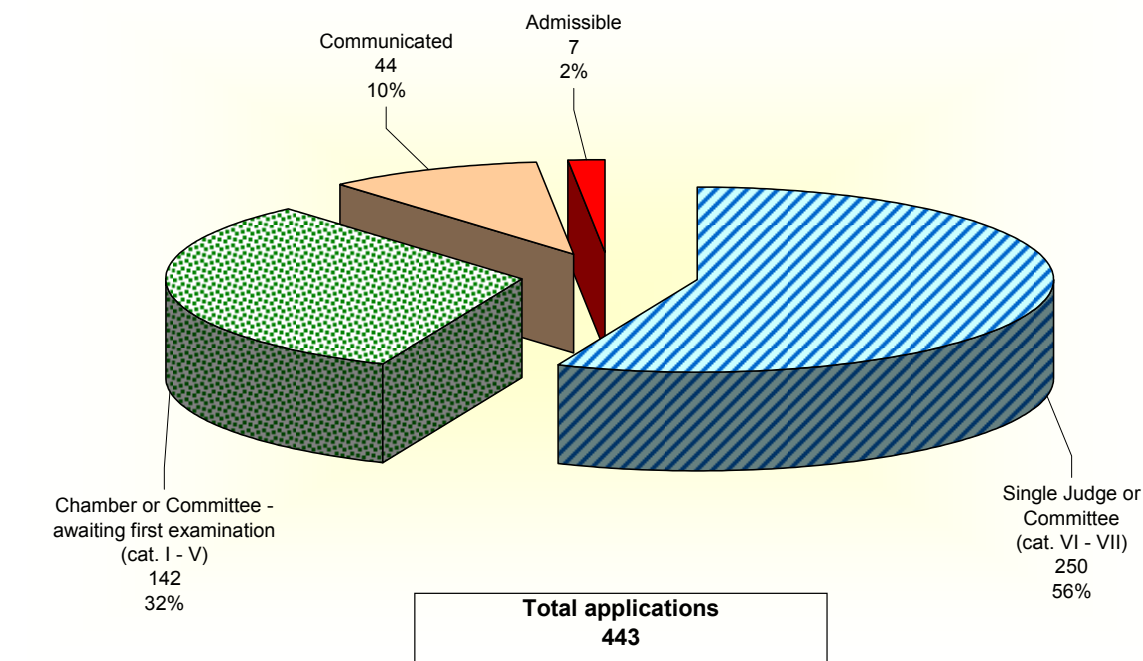


Graph 58 Major procedural steps in processing applications

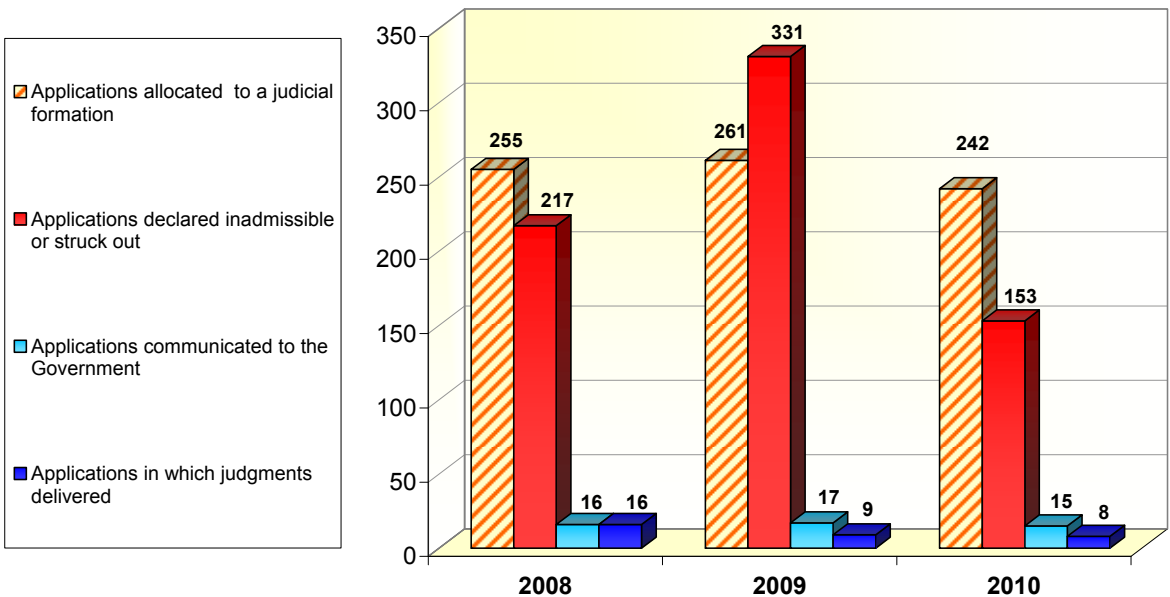


Lithuania

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

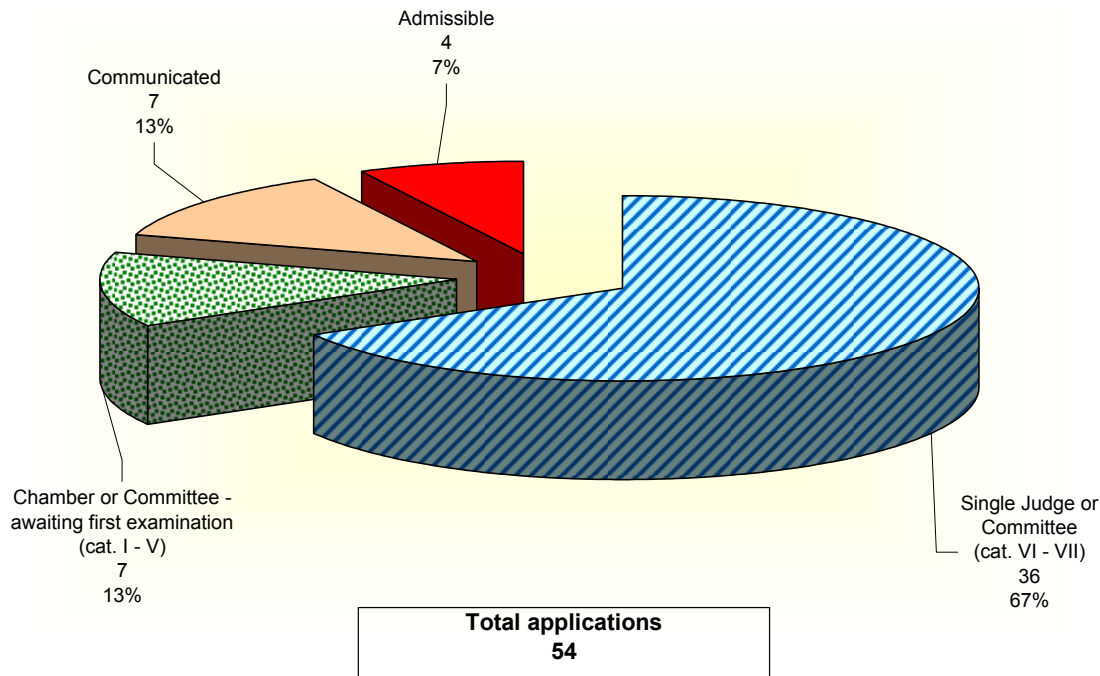


Graph 60 Major procedural steps in processing applications

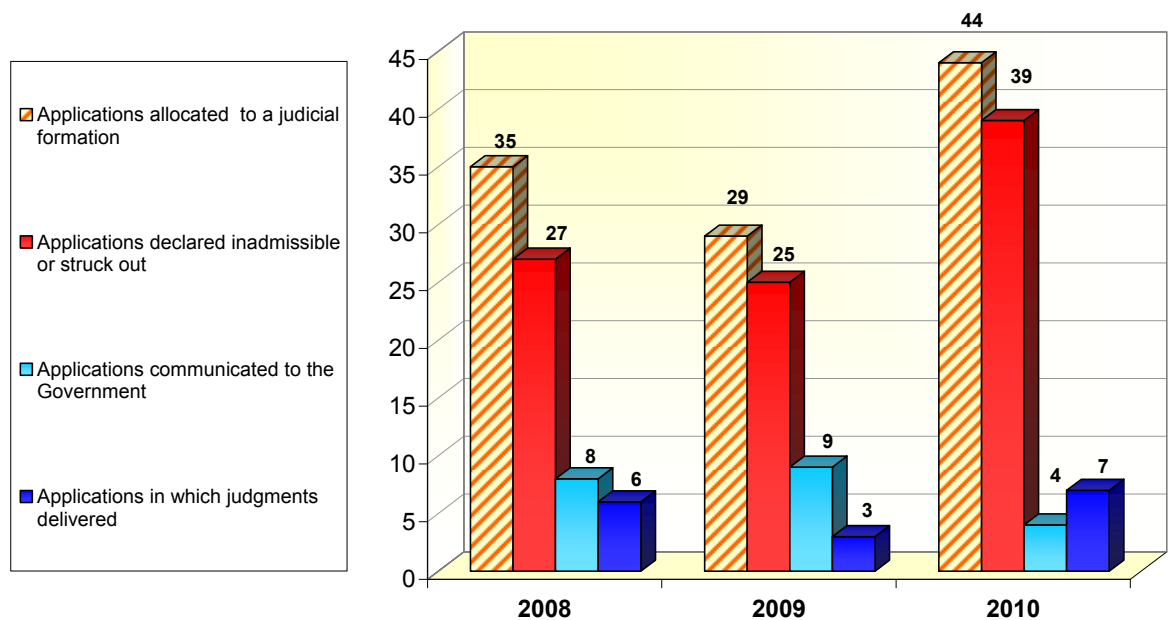


Luxembourg

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

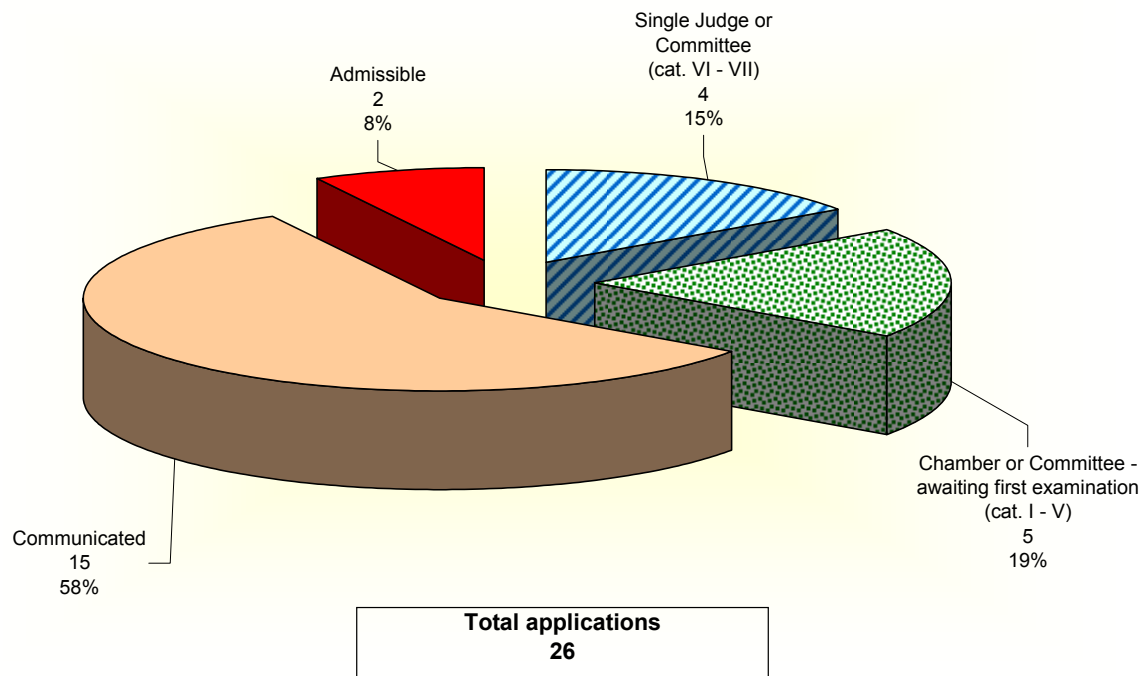


Graph 62 Major procedural steps in processing applications

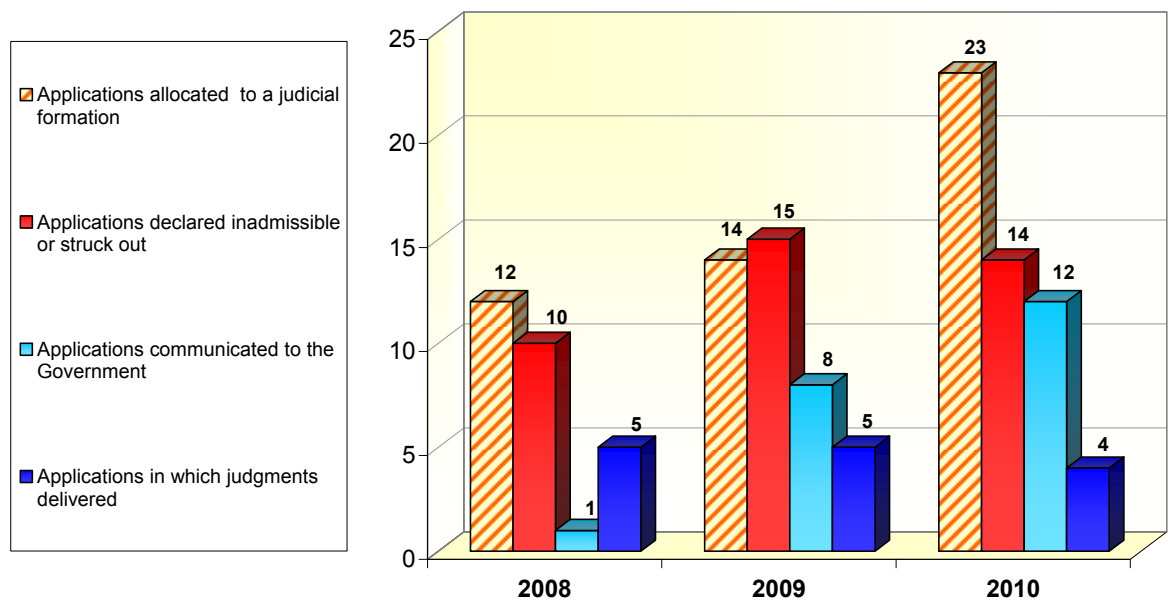


Malta

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

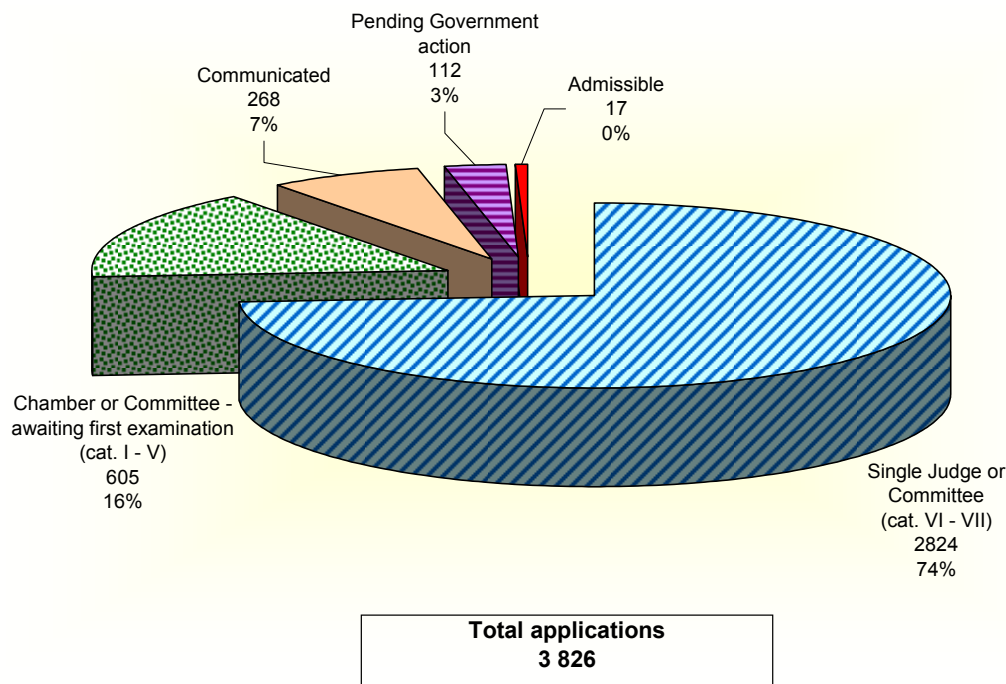


Graph 64 Major procedural steps in processing applications

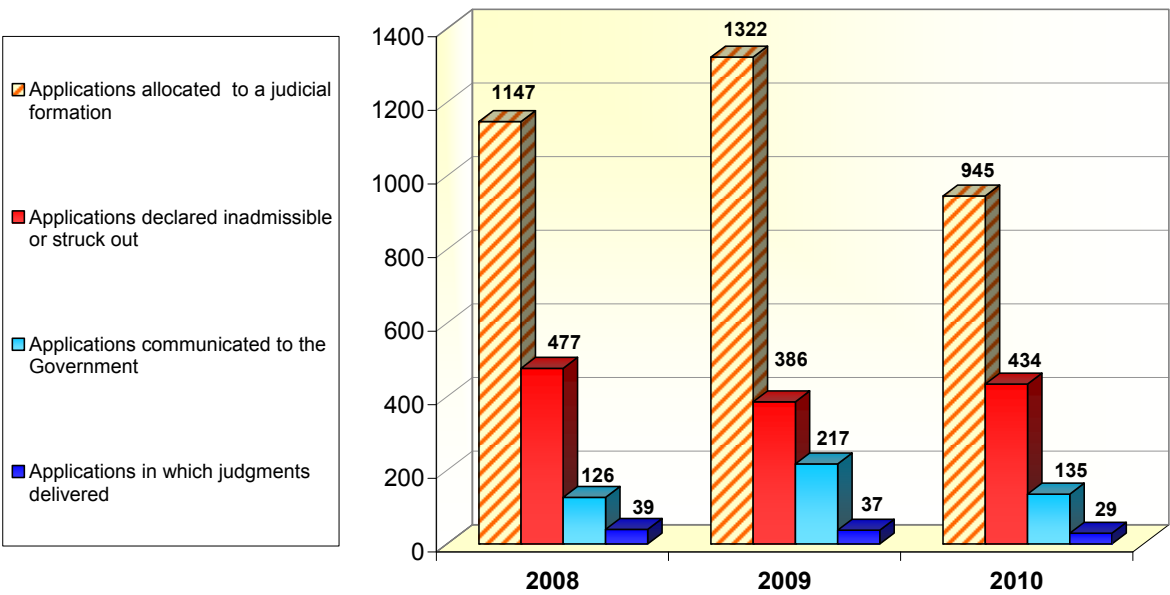


Moldova

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

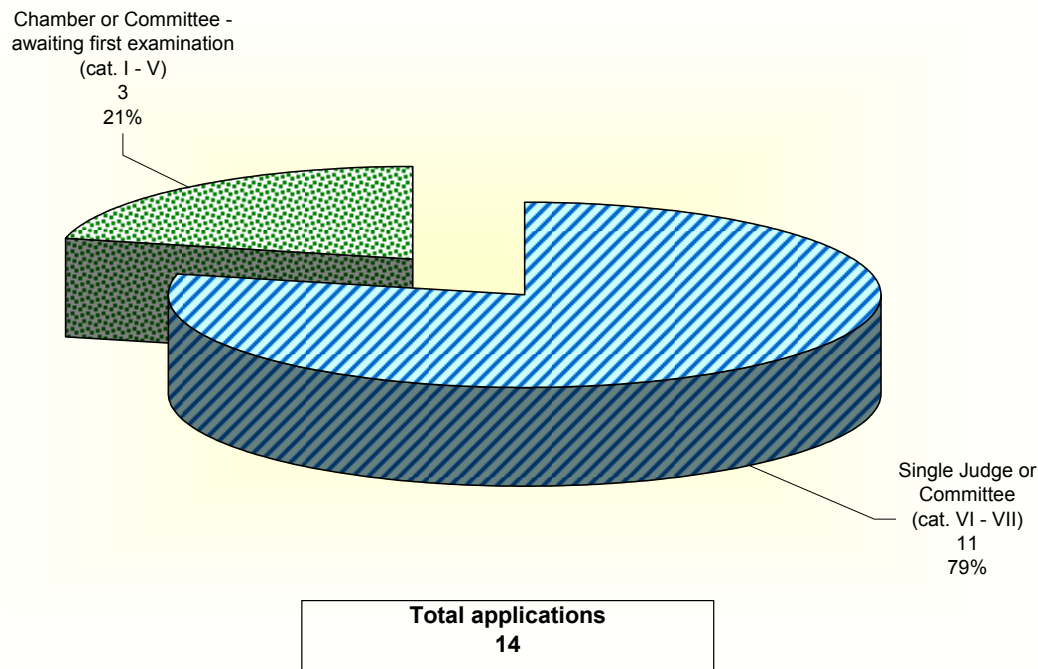


Graph 66 Major procedural steps in processing applications

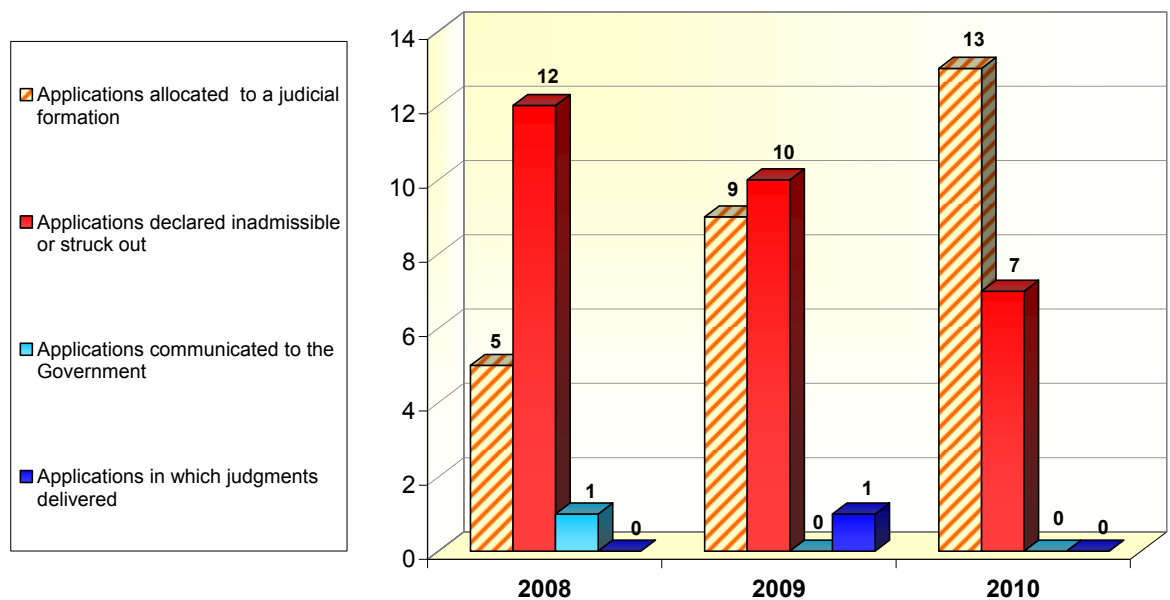


Monaco

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

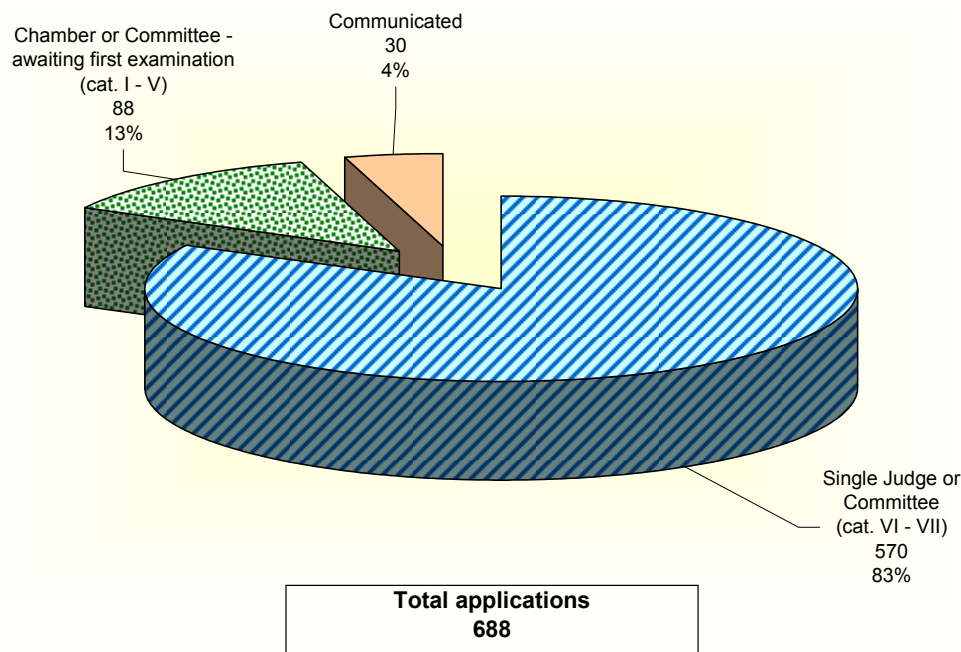


Graph 68 Major procedural steps in processing applications

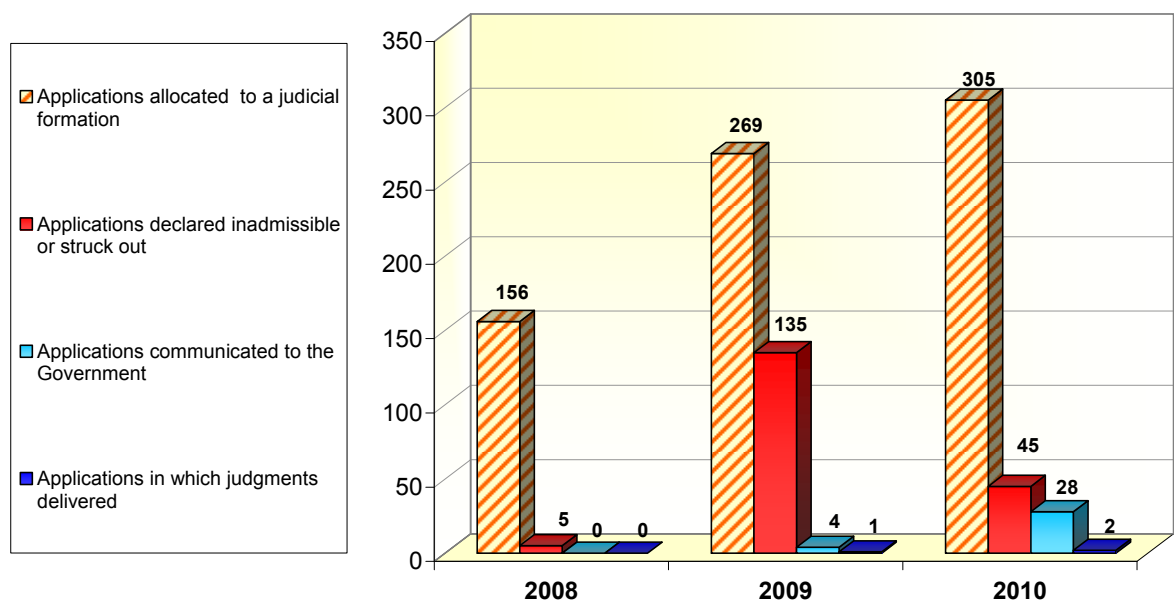


Montenegro

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

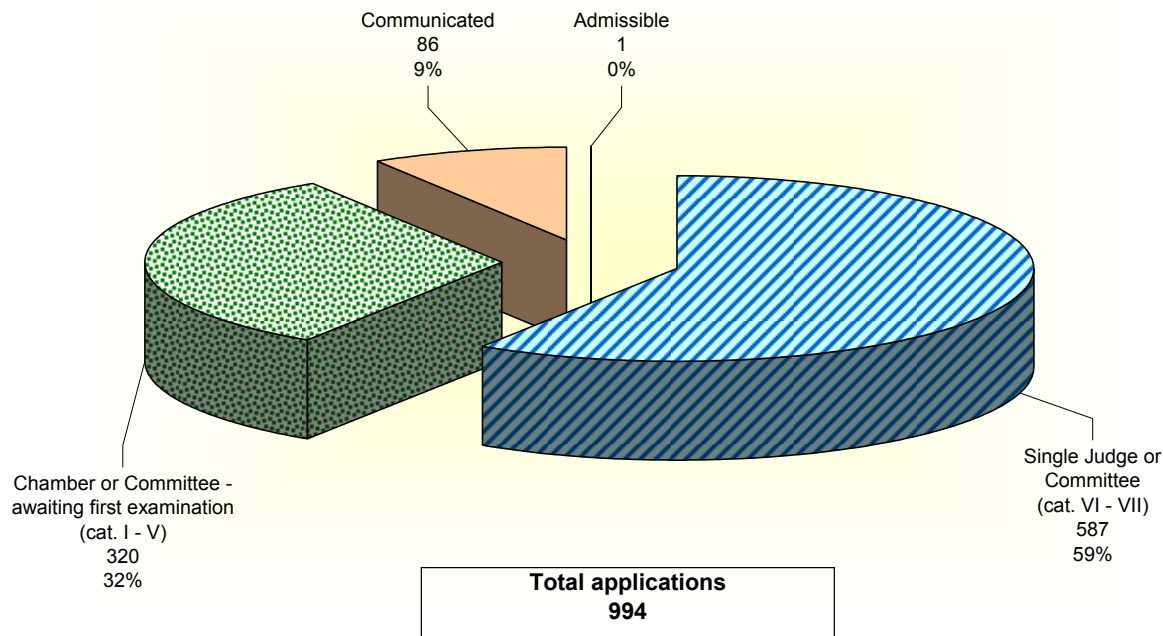


Graph 70 Major procedural steps in processing applications

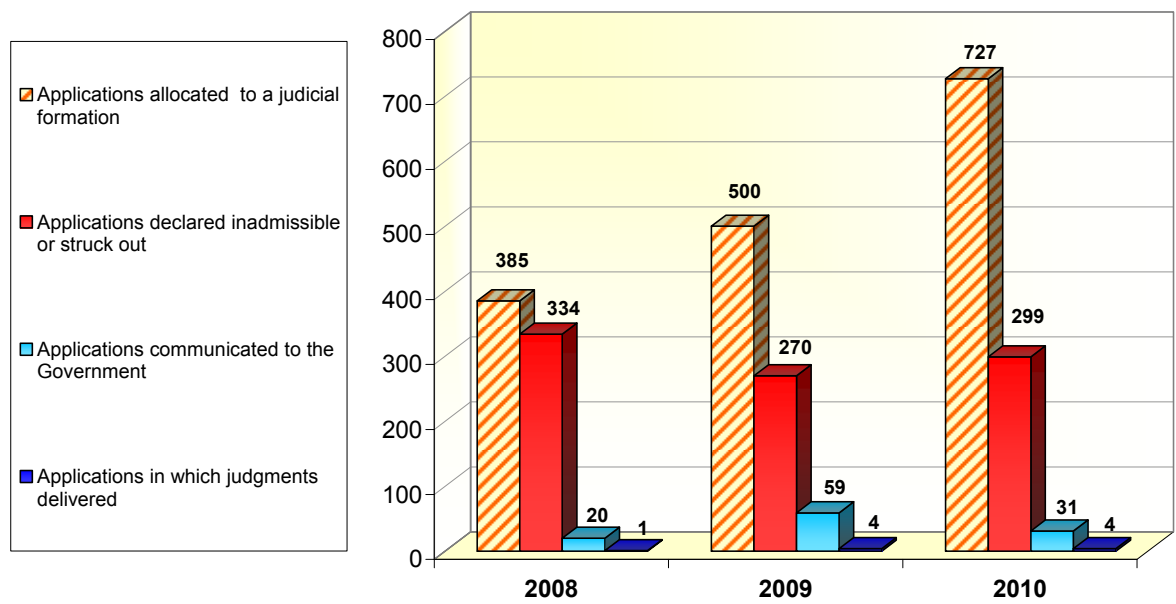


Netherlands

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

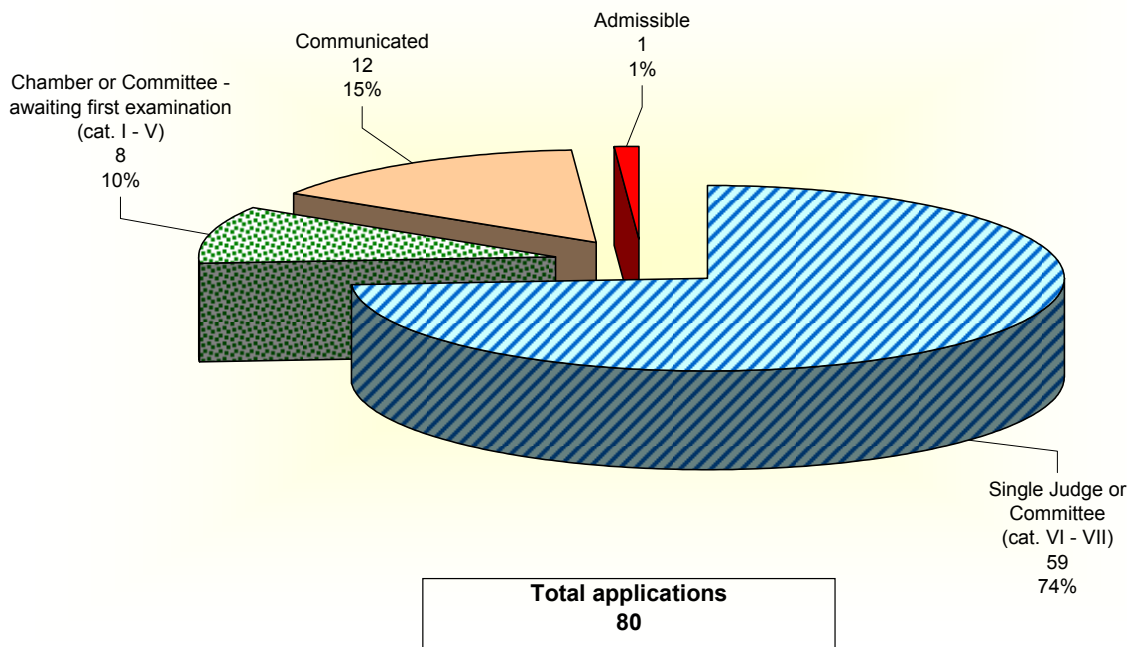


Graph 72 Major procedural steps in processing applications

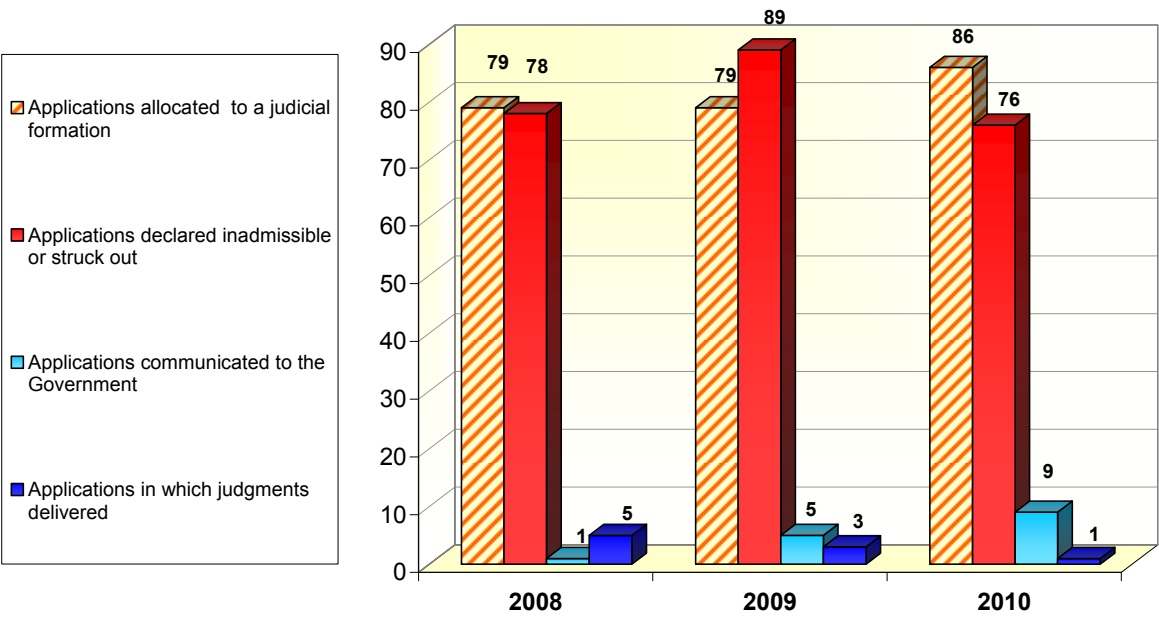


Norway

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

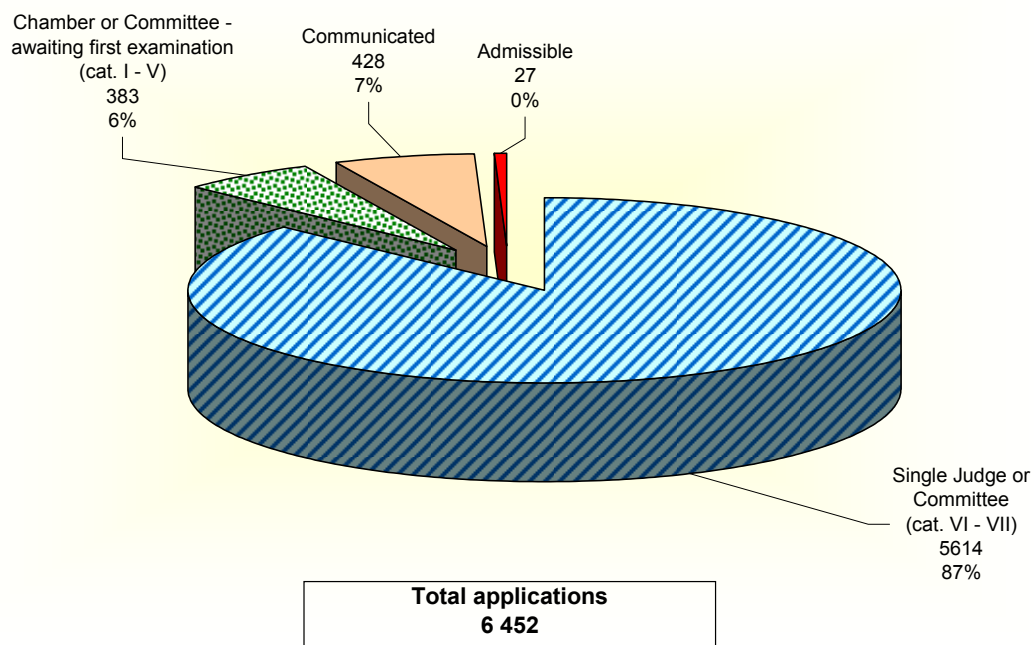


Graph 74 Major procedural steps in processing applications

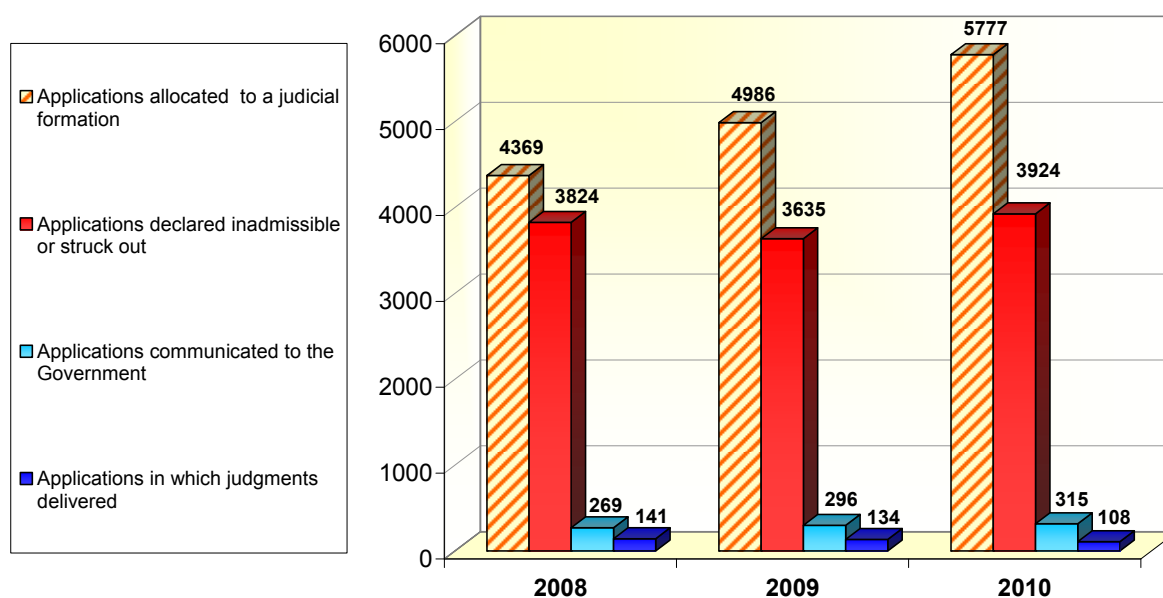


Poland

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

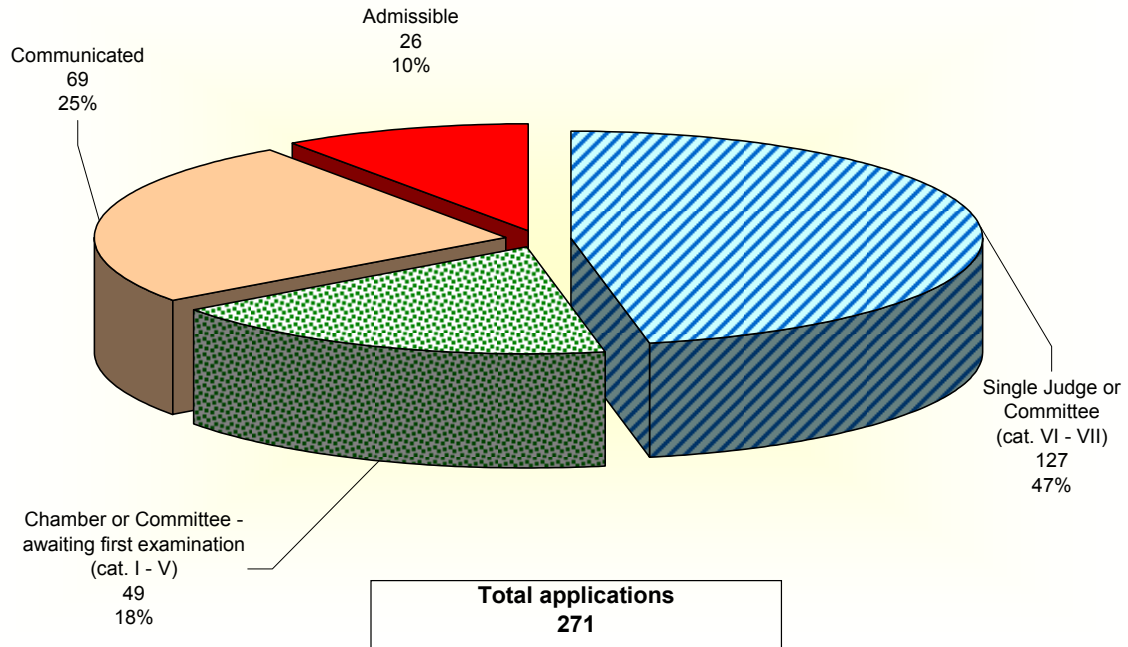


Graph 76 Major procedural steps in processing applications

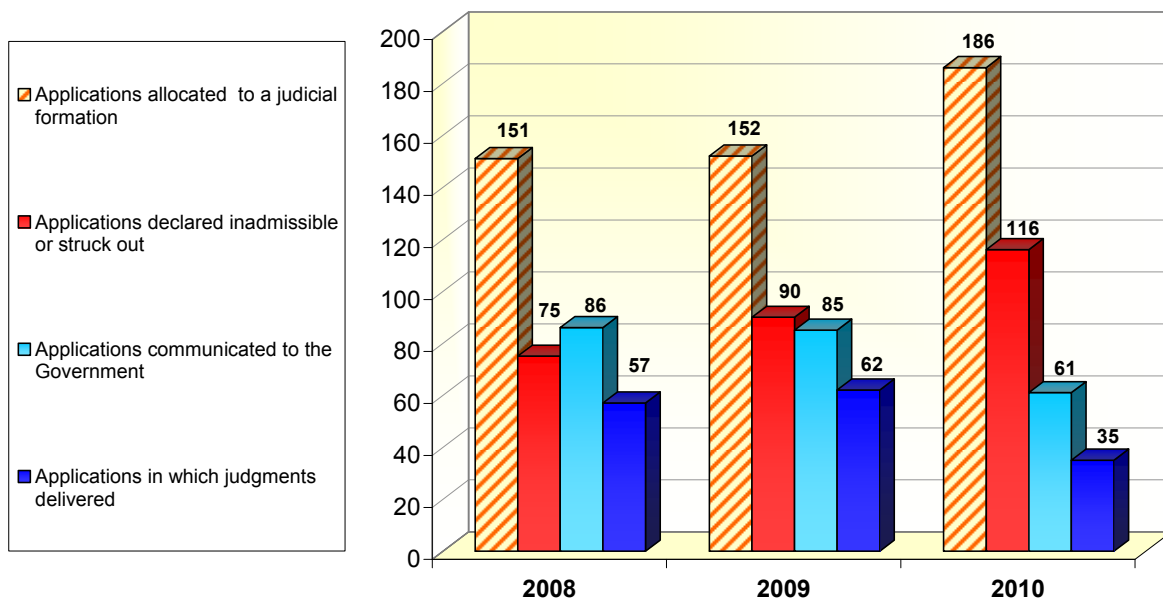


Portugal

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

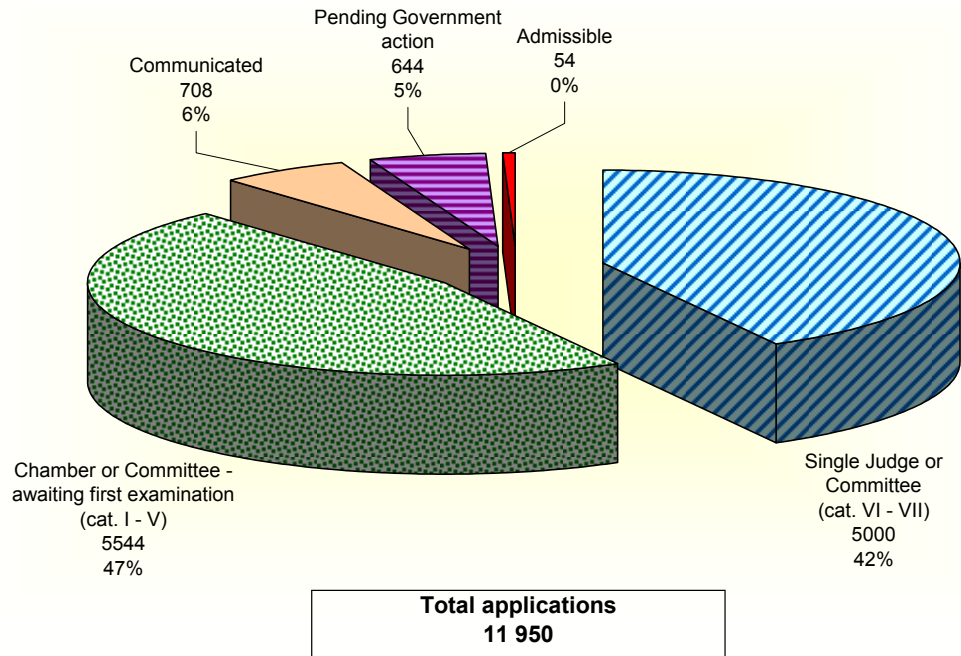


Graph 78 Major procedural steps in processing applications

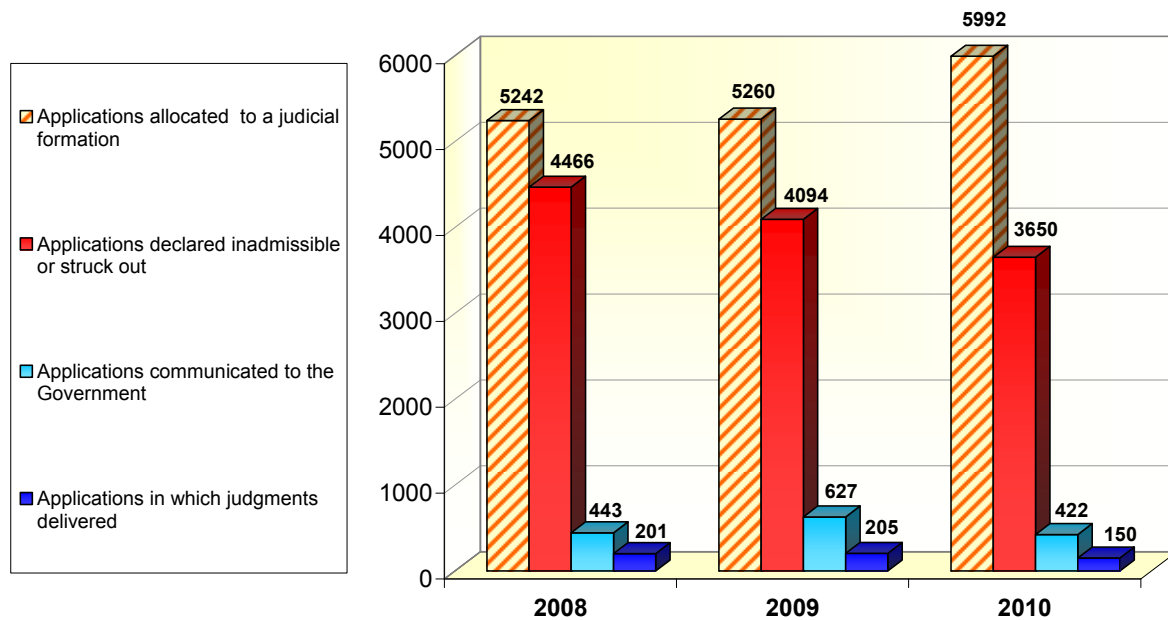


Romania

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

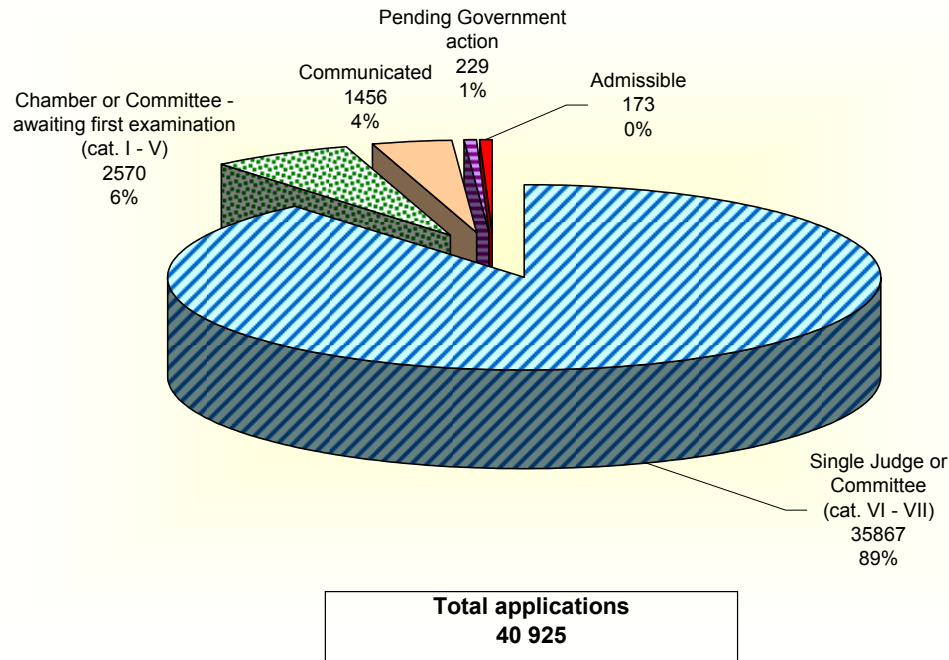


Graph 80 Major procedural steps in processing applications

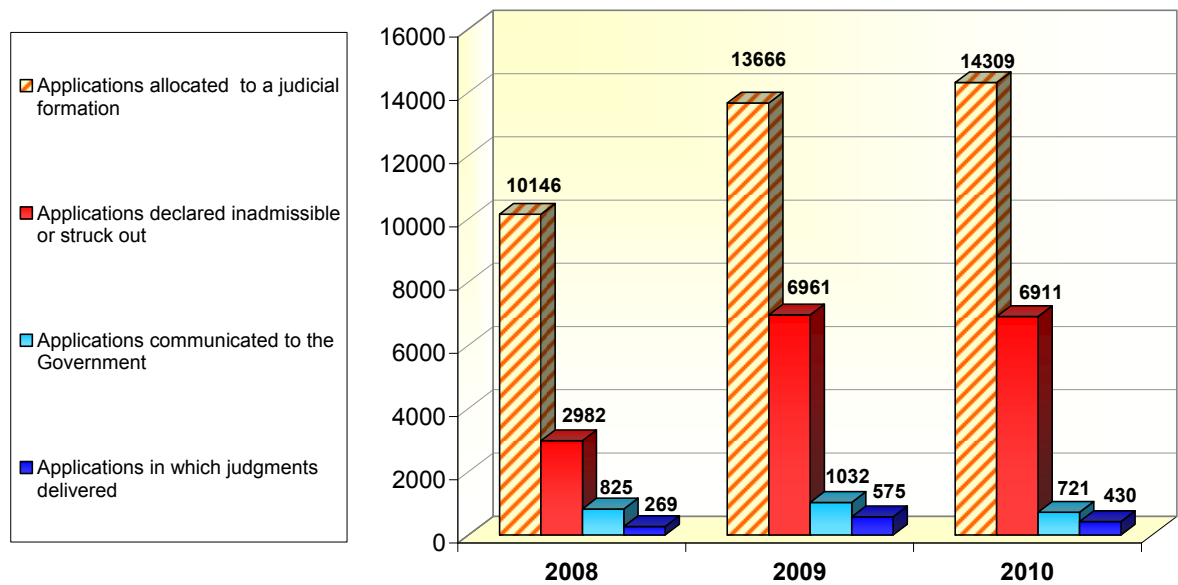


Russia

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

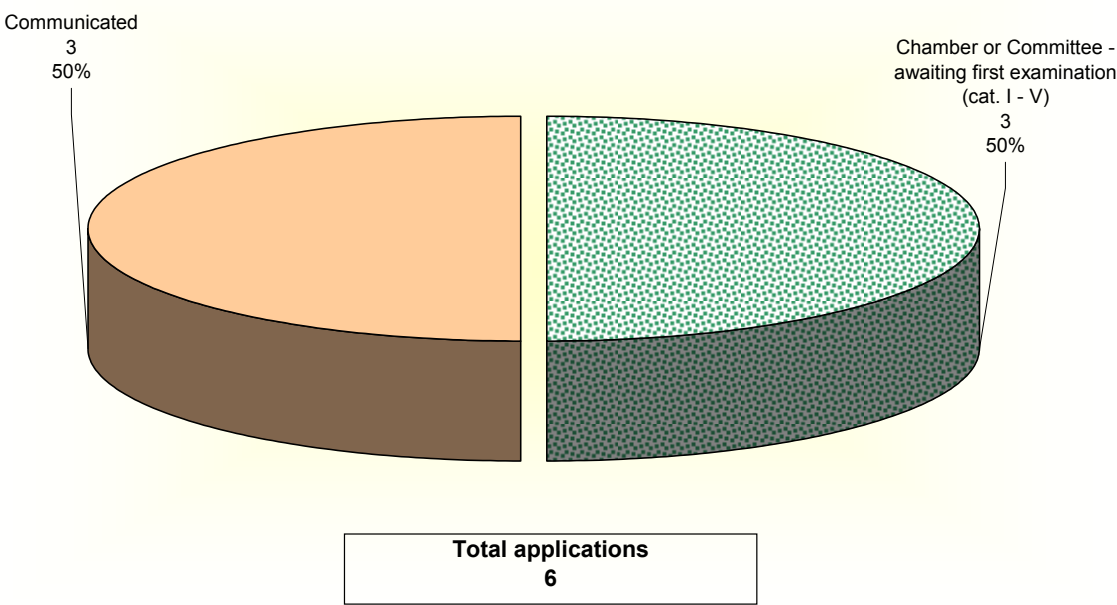


Graph 82 Major procedural steps in processing applications

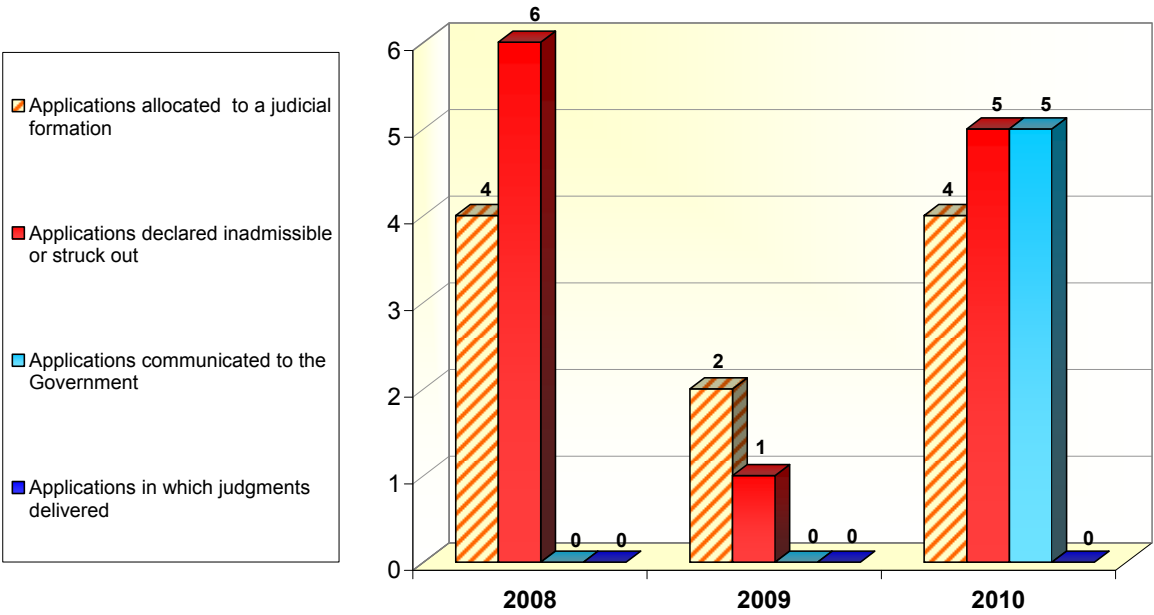


San Marino

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

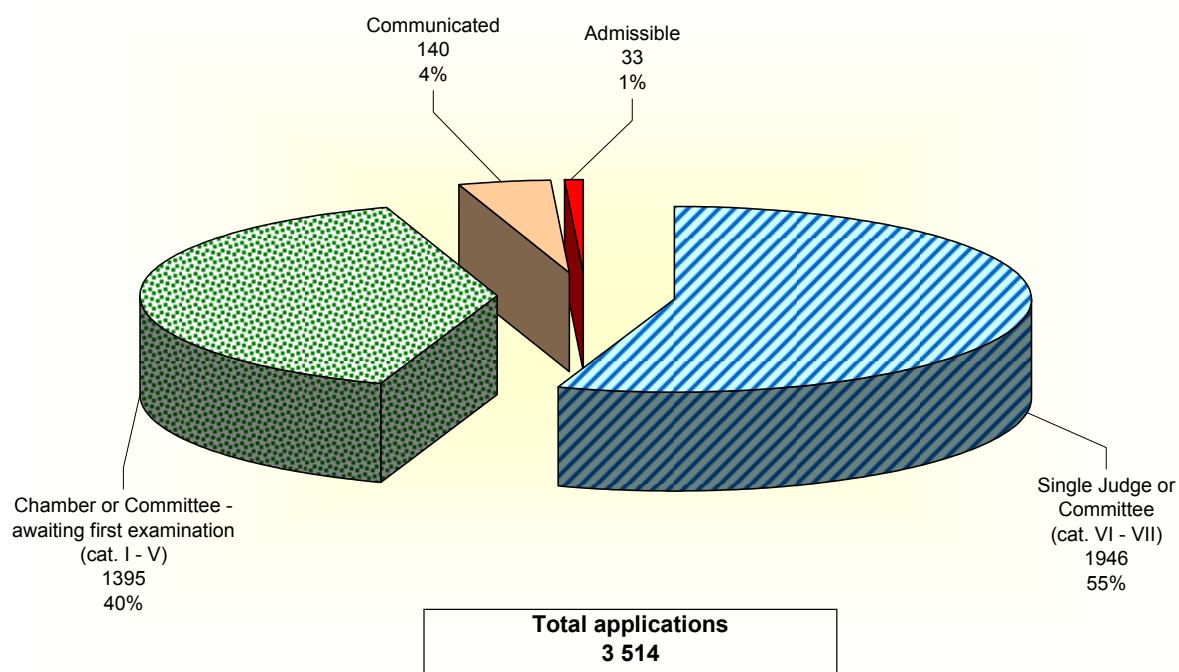


Graph 84 Major procedural steps in processing applications

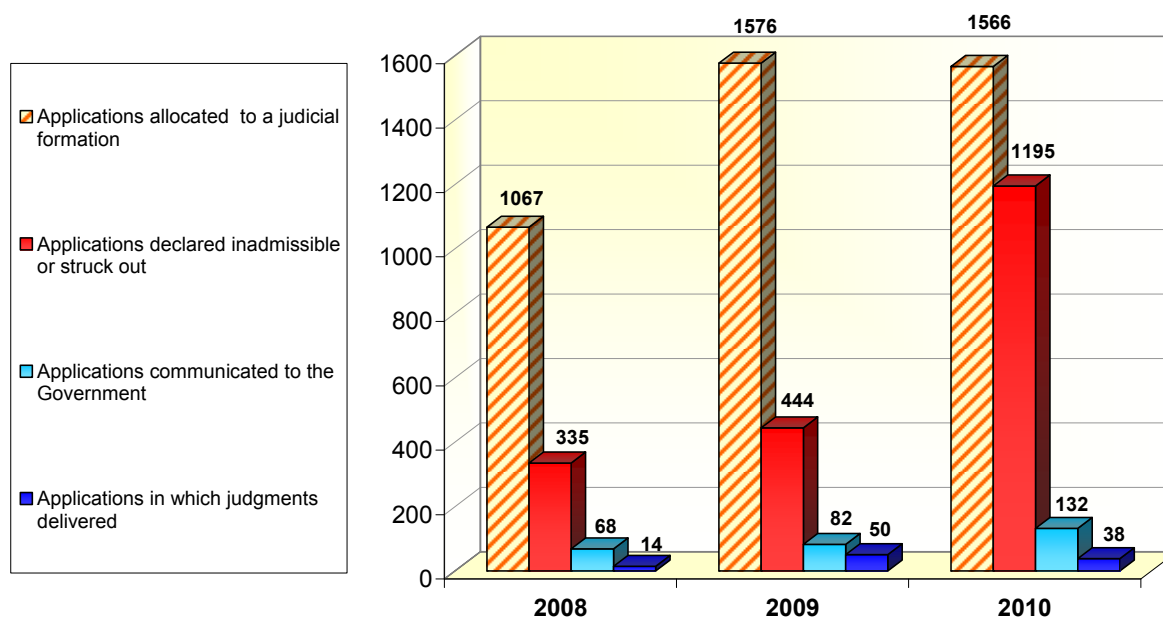


Serbia

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

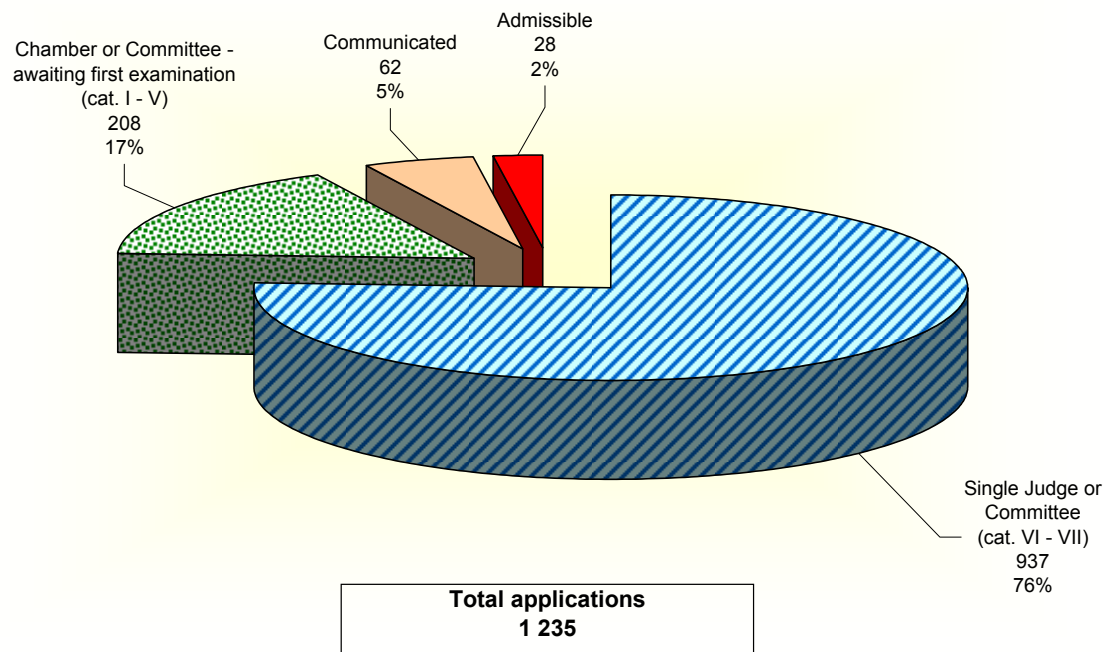


Graph 86 Major procedural steps in processing applications

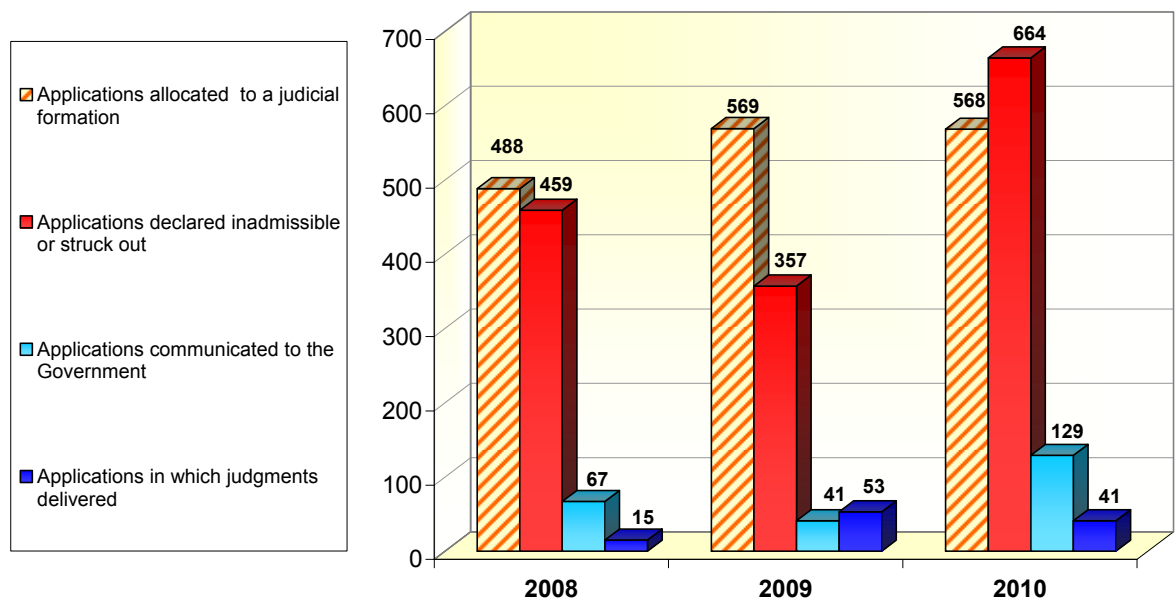


Slovakia

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

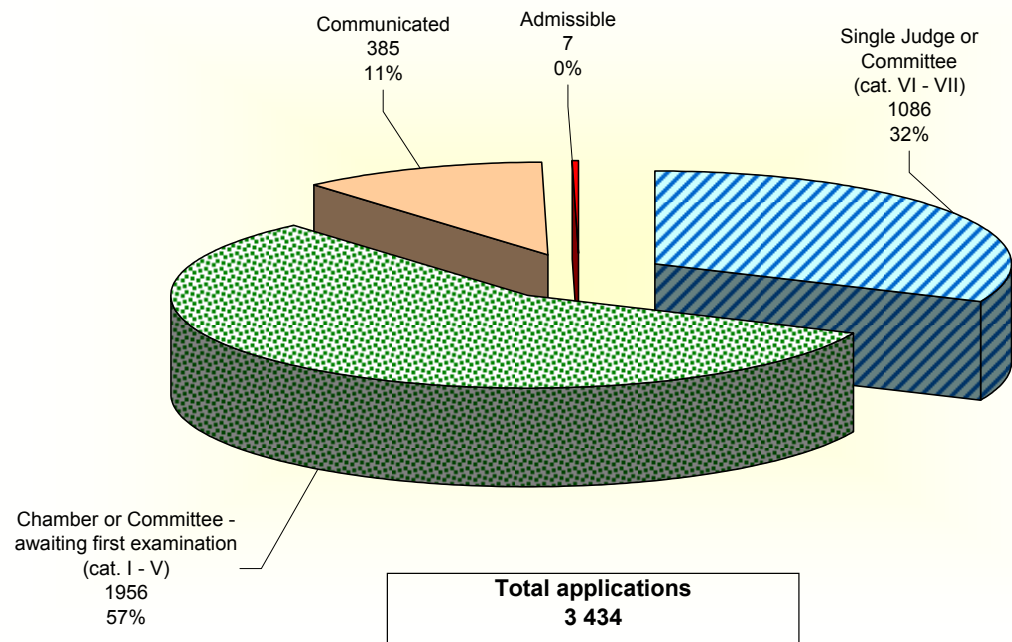


Graph 88 Major procedural steps in processing applications

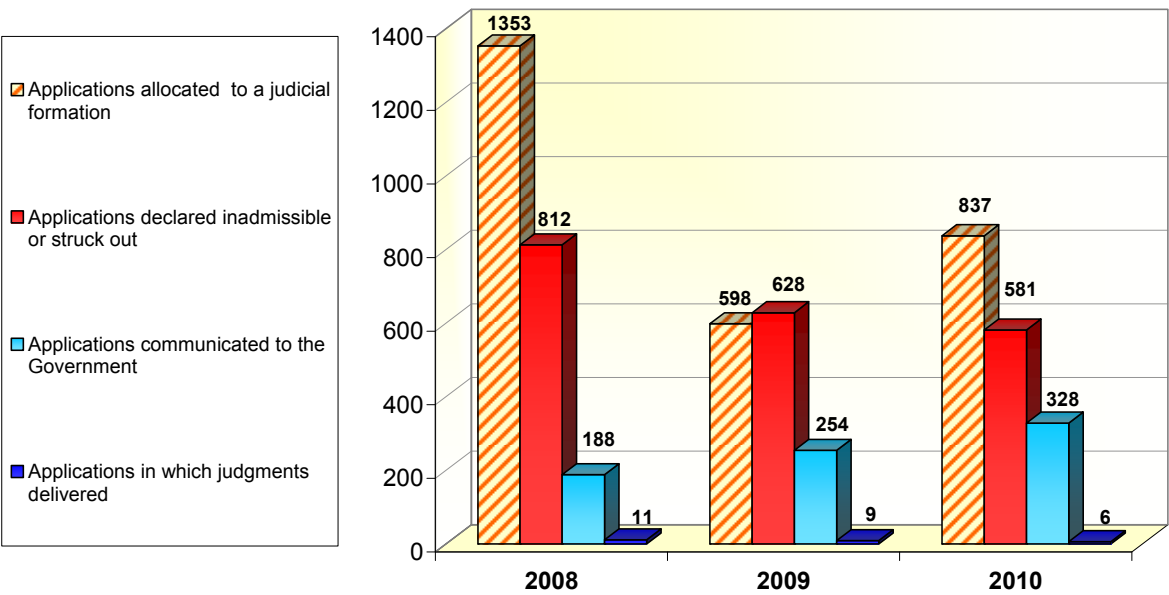


Slovenia

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

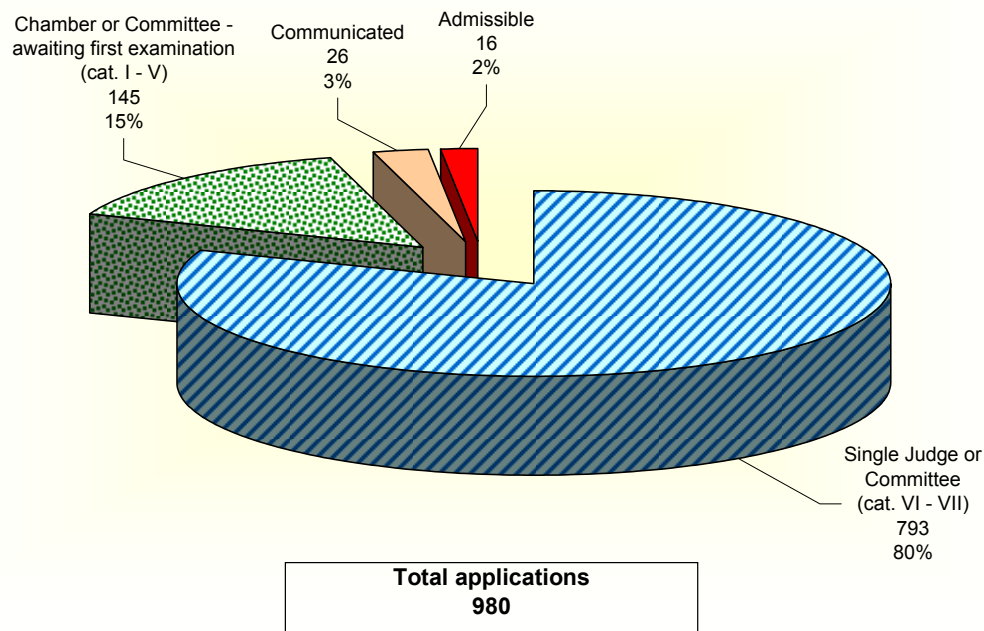


Graph 90 Major procedural steps in processing applications

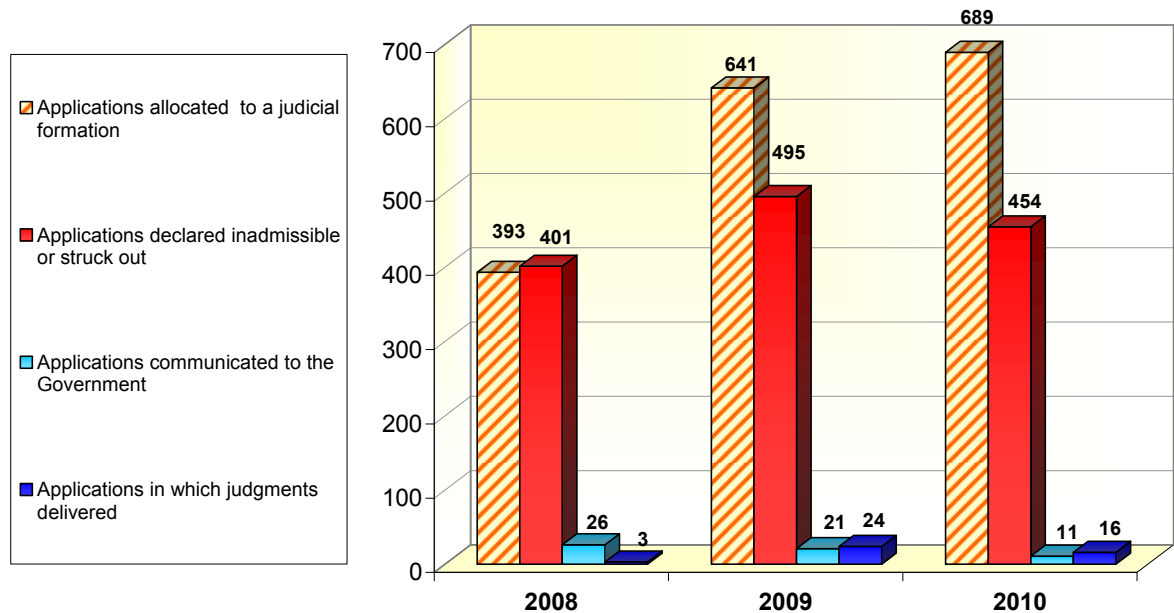


Spain

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

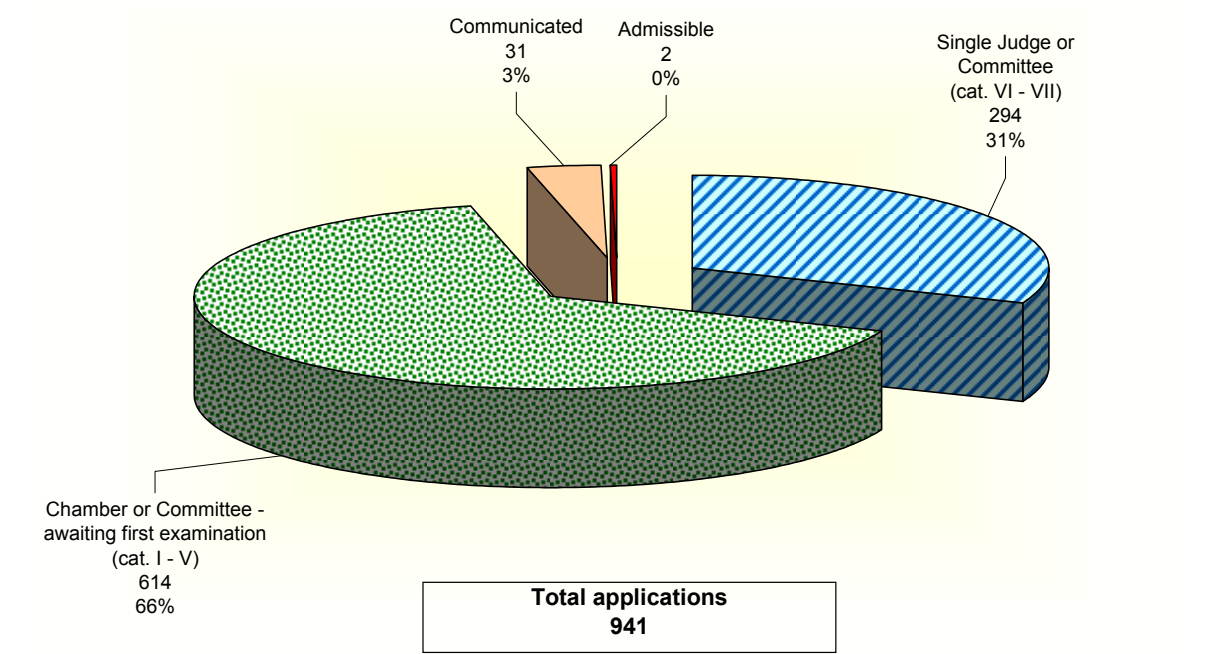


Graph 92 Major procedural steps in processing applications

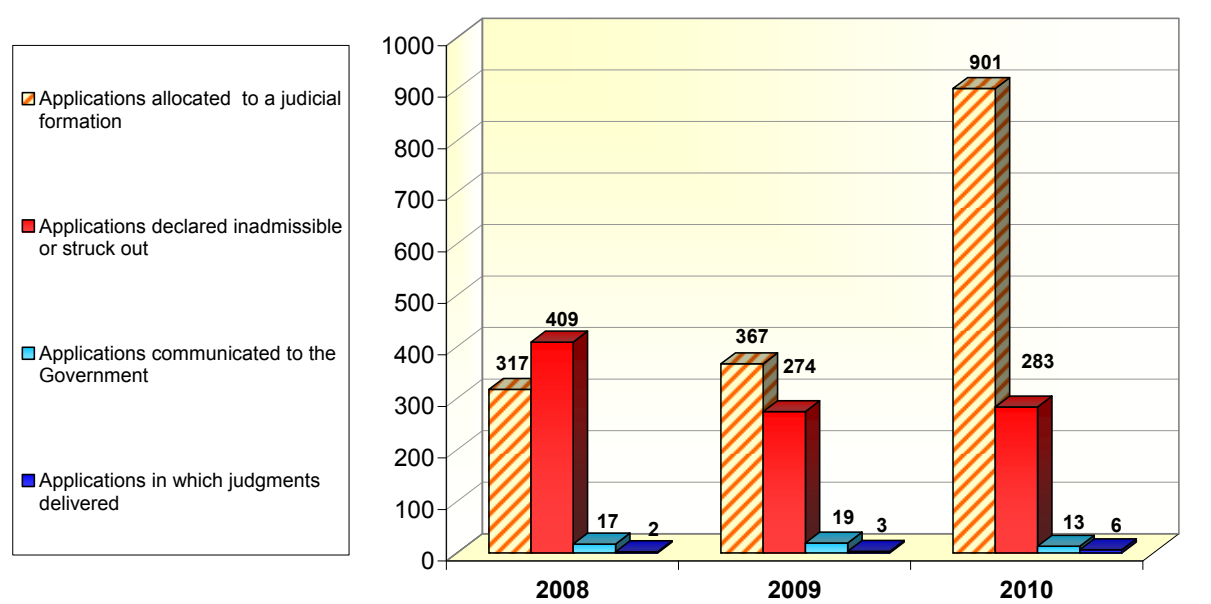


Sweden

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

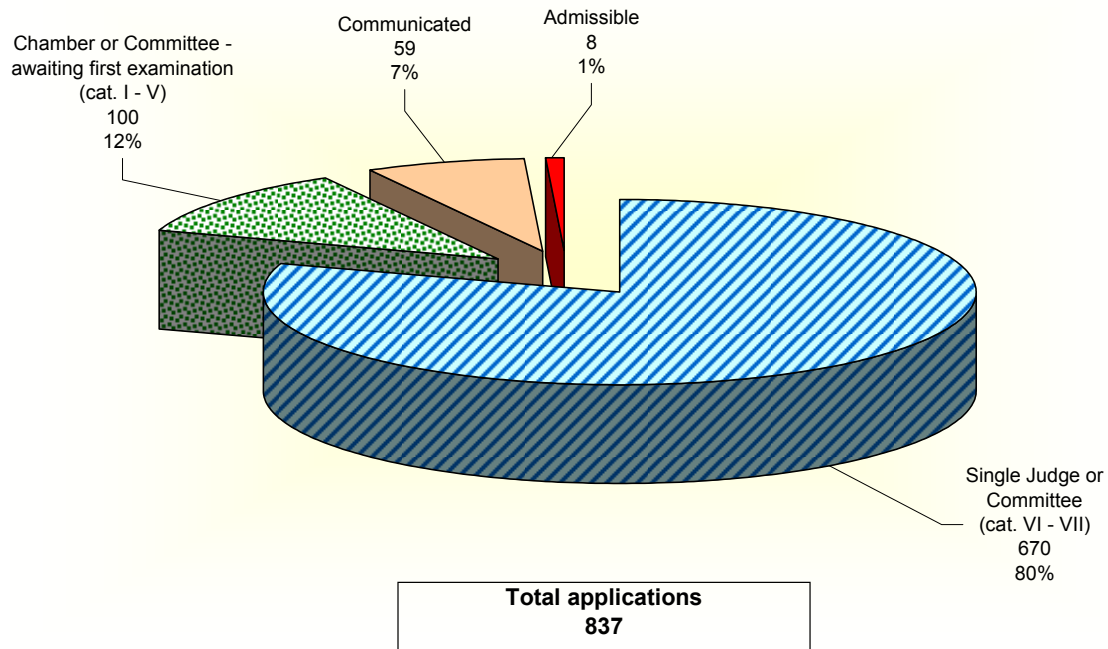


Graph 94 Major procedural steps in processing applications

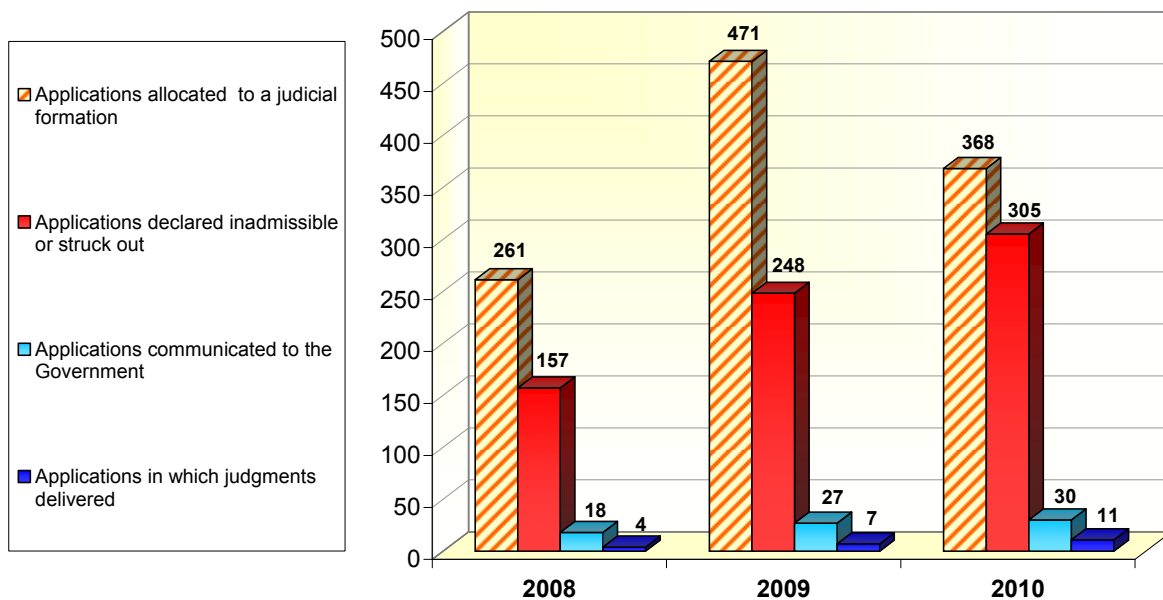


Switzerland

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

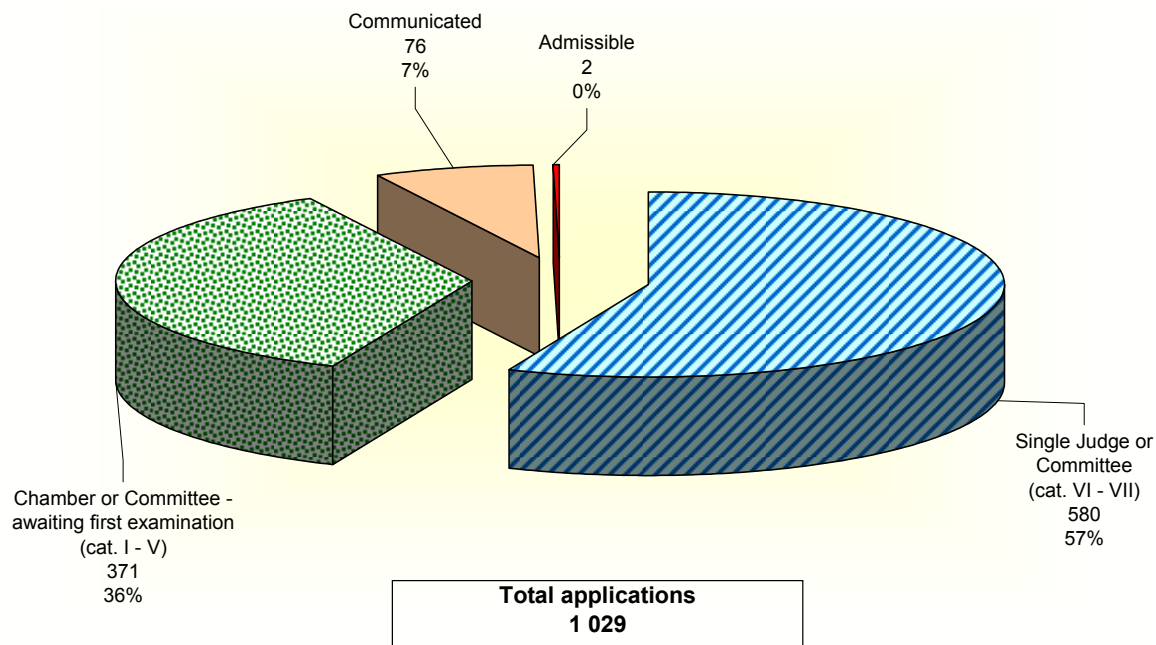


Graph 96 Major procedural steps in processing applications

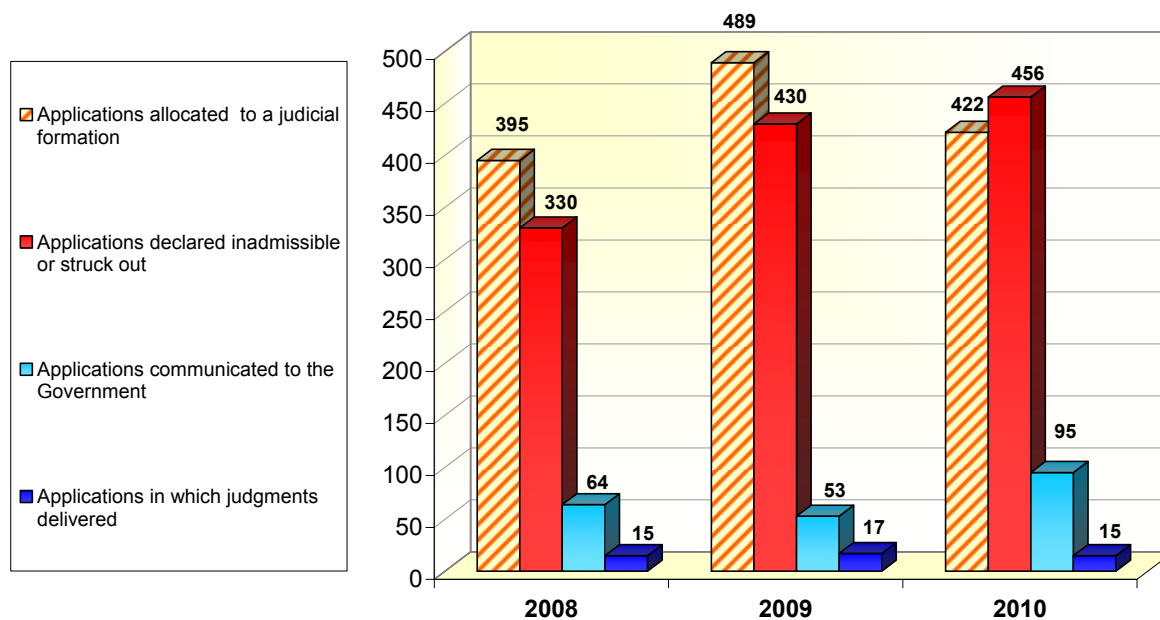


“The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”

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

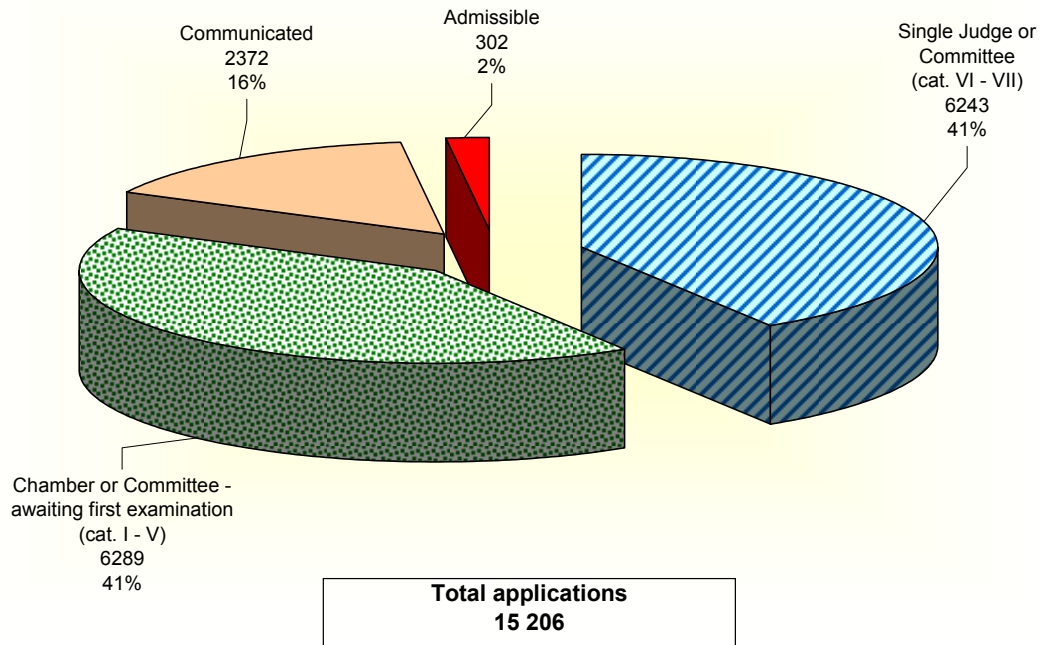


Graph 98 Major procedural steps in processing applications

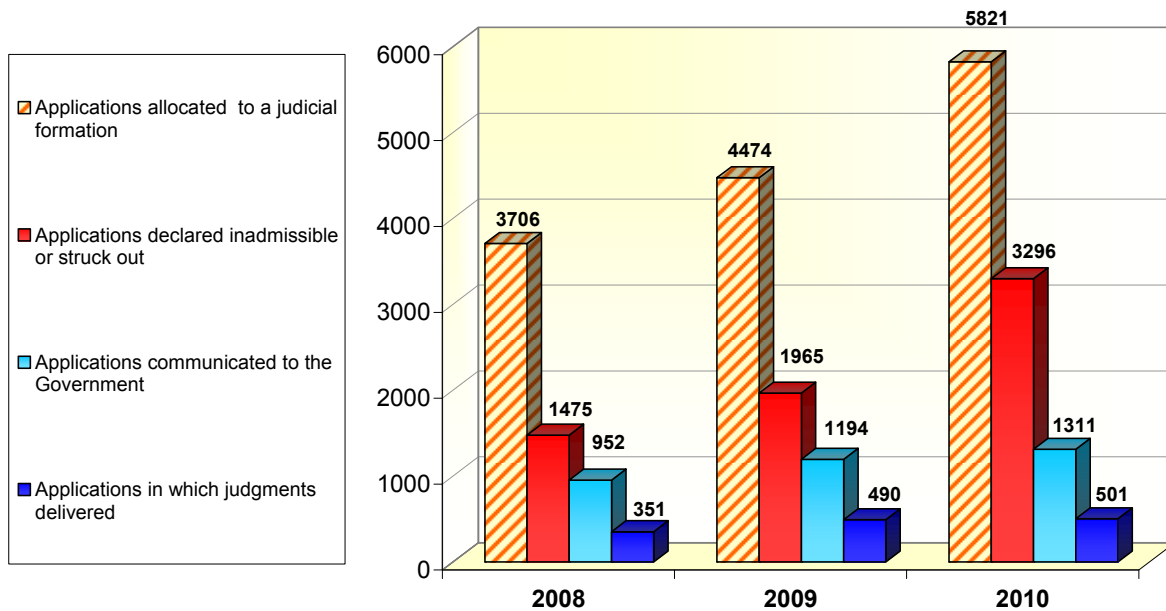


Turkey

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

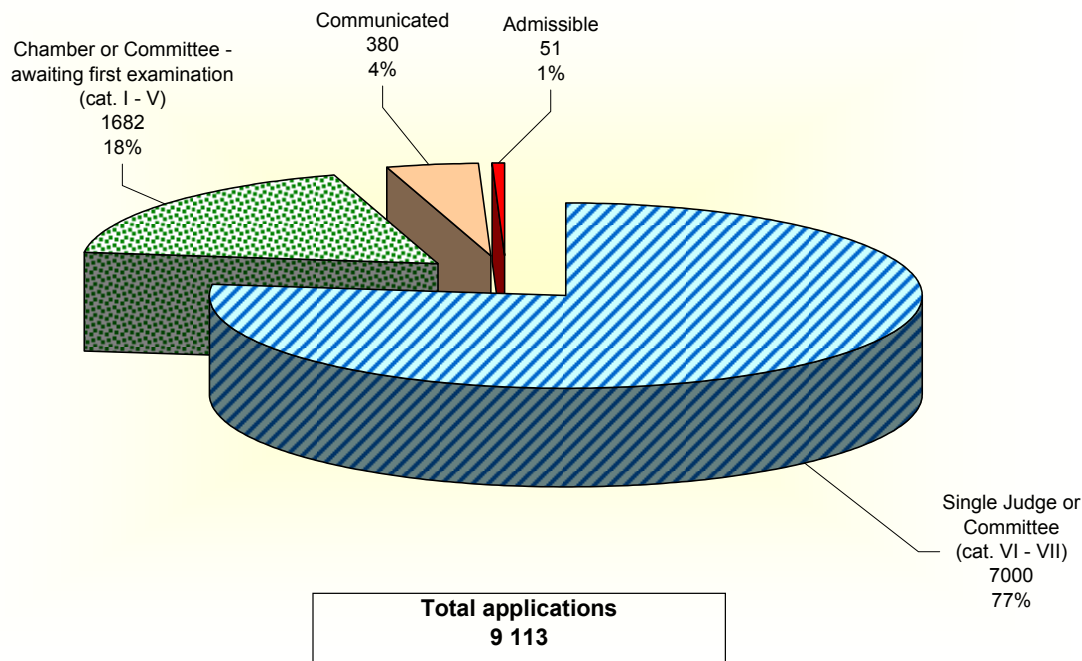


Graph 100 Major procedural steps in processing applications

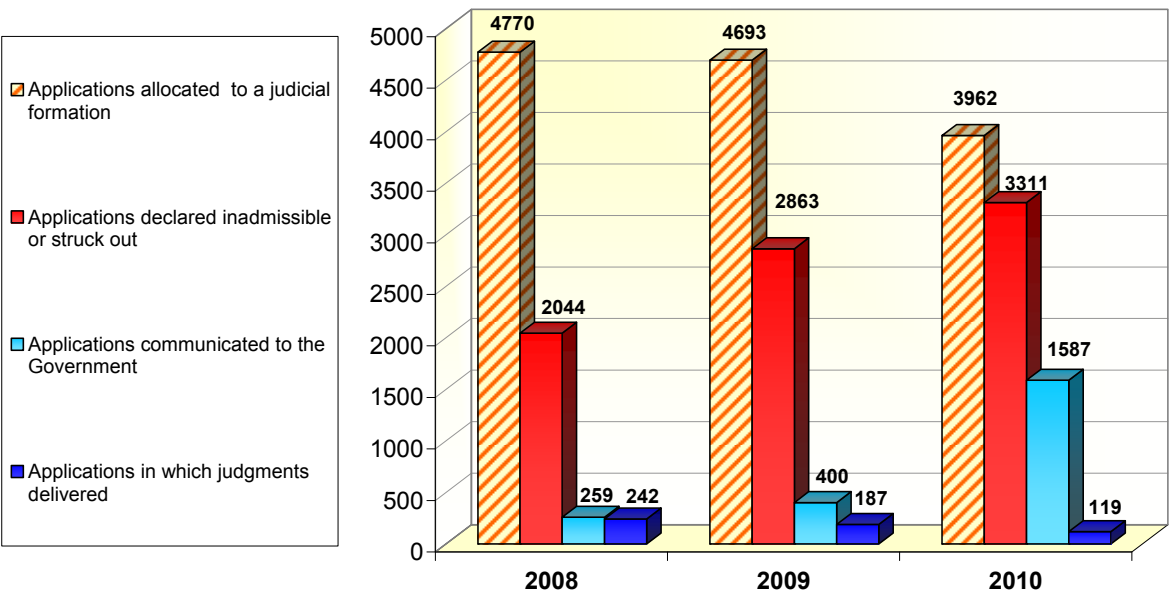


Ukraine

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

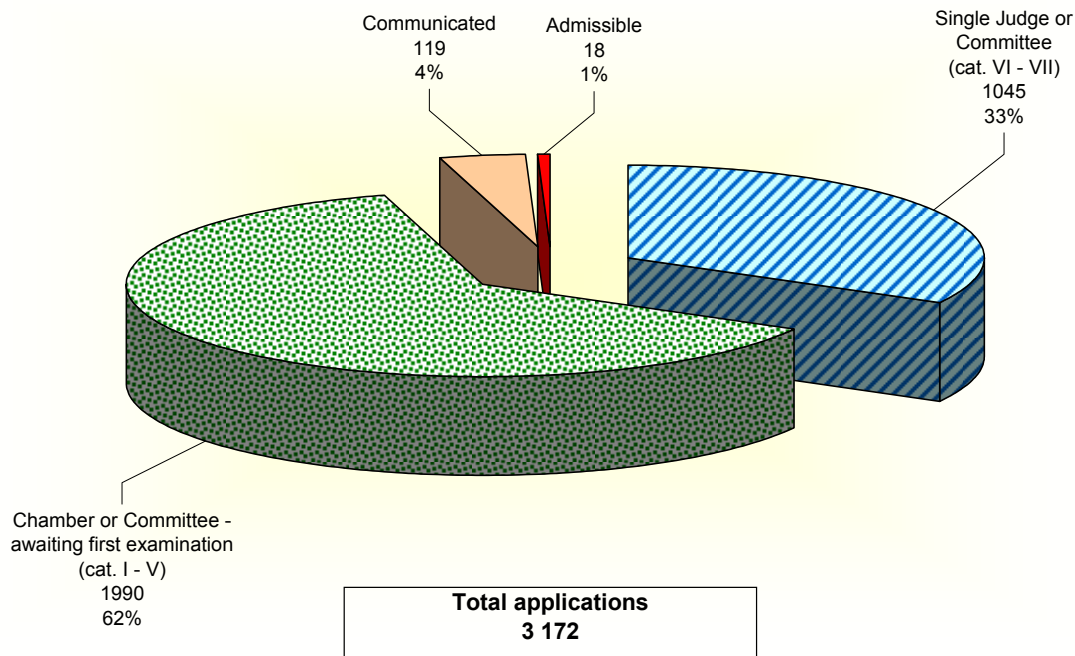


Graph 102 Major procedural steps in processing applications



United Kingdom

Chart 103 The Court’s caseload by stage of proceedings and decision body



Graph 104 Major procedural steps in processing applications

