

## **Complexities in the Geographical Jurisdictions of District Courts As of December 2025**

To understand the complexities stemming from the piecemeal creation of District Courts in Texas, a taxonomy of jurisdictional boundary-overlap patterns was developed. Because most courts' boundaries overlap wholly or partially with some other court, the state's 510 District Courts cover its 254 counties in 103 distinct areas. Each area is defined by a lack of overlapping boundaries with other areas.

The taxonomy is useful because it allows us to understand a very complex geographical system by understanding a small number of patterns occurring within that system. Six patterns emerged from an analysis of geographical boundaries. The frequency of the six patterns is shown in the table below. Examples of each pattern and further details follow the table.

| <b>Jurisdictional Overlap Patterns</b>                             | <b>Number<br/>of Areas</b> | <b>Number of<br/>Counties</b> | <b>Number of<br/>Courts</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Single County / Multiple Courts / No Courts Serve Another County   | 31                         | 31                            | 323                         |
| Single County / Single Court / Court Does not Serve Another County | 15                         | 15                            | 15                          |
| Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / Identical Jurisdictions      | 6                          | 23                            | 13                          |
| Multiple Counties / Single Court                                   | 27                         | 77                            | 27                          |
| Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / One Separate Jurisdiction    | 13                         | 39                            | 57                          |
| Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / Many Separate Jurisdictions  | 11                         | 69                            | 75                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                       | <b>103</b>                 | <b>254</b>                    | <b>510</b>                  |

## Single County / Multiple Courts / No Courts Serve Another County

| <i>County</i>              | <i>Number of<br/>Courts</i> | <i>County</i>             | <i>Number of<br/>Courts</i> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Harris                     | 67                          | Midland                   | 5                           |
| Dallas                     | 39                          | Smith                     | 5                           |
| Tarrant                    | 28                          | Brazos                    | 4                           |
| Bexar                      | 27                          | Ellis                     | 4                           |
| Travis                     | 21                          | Grayson                   | 3                           |
| Collin                     | 15                          | Gregg                     | 3                           |
| Hidalgo                    | 13                          | Kaufman                   | 3                           |
| Denton                     | 12                          | Orange                    | 3                           |
|                            |                             | Rockwall                  | 3                           |
| Fort Bend                  | 10                          | Wichita                   | 3                           |
| Jefferson                  | 8                           | Angelina                  | 2                           |
| Montgomery                 | 8                           | Coryell                   | 2                           |
| Williamson                 | 7                           | Kendall                   | 2                           |
| Galveston                  | 6                           | Nacogdoches               | 2                           |
| McLennan                   | 6                           | Parker                    | 2                           |
| Brazoria                   | 5                           |                           |                             |
| Ector                      | 5                           |                           |                             |
| <b>TOTAL Counties = 31</b> |                             | <b>TOTAL Courts = 323</b> |                             |

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## Single County / Single Court / Court Does not Serve Another County

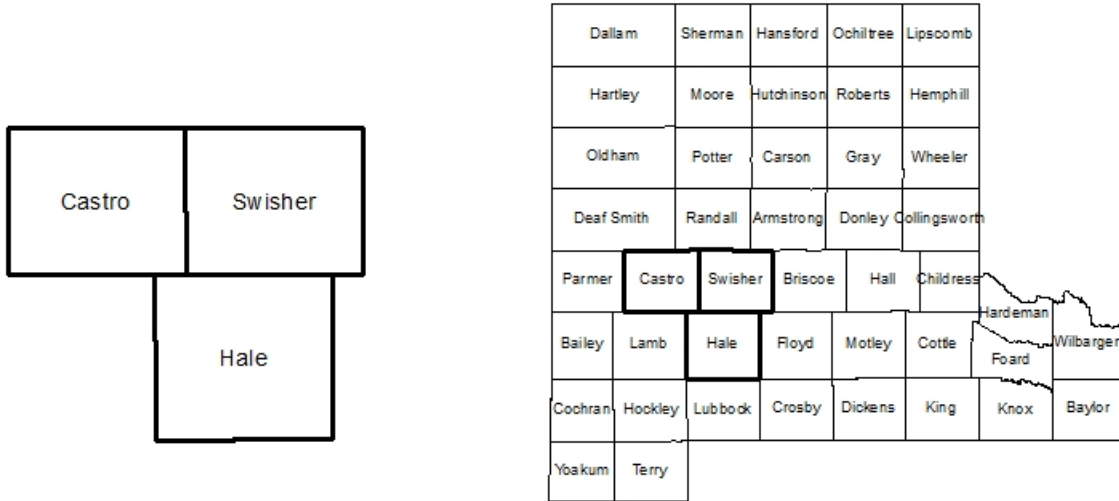
| <i>Counties with a Single District Court</i> |                          |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cooke                                        | Medina                   |
| Eastland                                     | Milam                    |
| Erath                                        | Navarro                  |
| Fannin                                       | Palo Pinto               |
| Harrison                                     | Rusk                     |
| Hill                                         | Van Zandt                |
| Hood                                         | Wood                     |
| Lamb                                         |                          |
| <b>TOTAL Counties = 15</b>                   | <b>TOTAL Courts = 15</b> |

## Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / Identical Jurisdictions

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### An Example from the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region

| <i>Court</i>                     | <i>Counties in Jurisdiction</i> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 64 <sup>th</sup> District Court  | Castro, Hale, & Swisher         |
| 242 <sup>nd</sup> District Court | Castro, Hale, & Swisher         |




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#### **Counties Sharing Multiple Courts**

##### **3 Counties:**

Castro, Hale & Swisher  
 Dimmit, Maverick & Zavala  
 Polk, San Jacinto & Trinity

##### **4 Counties:**

Blanco, Burnet, Llano, & San Saba

##### **5 Counties:**

Atascosa, Frio, Karnes, La Salle & Wilson  
 Aransas, Bee, Live Oak, McMullen & San Patricio

**TOTAL Counties = 23**

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#### **Courts**

**2 Courts:** 64 & 242

**2 Courts:** 293 & 365

**2 Courts:** 258 & 411

**2 Courts:** 33 & 424

**2 Courts:** 81 & 218

**3 Courts:** 36, 156 & 343

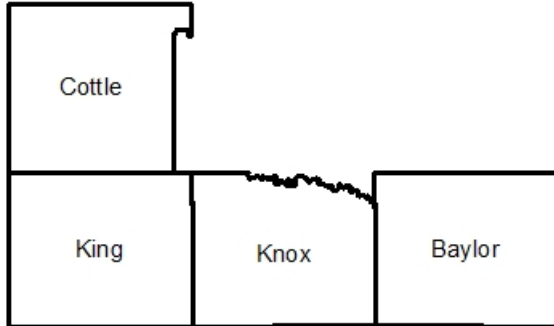
**TOTAL Courts = 13**

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## Multiple Counties / Single Court

### An Example from the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region

| <i>Court</i>                    | <i>Counties in Jurisdiction</i> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 50 <sup>th</sup> District Court | Baylor, Cottle, King & Knox     |



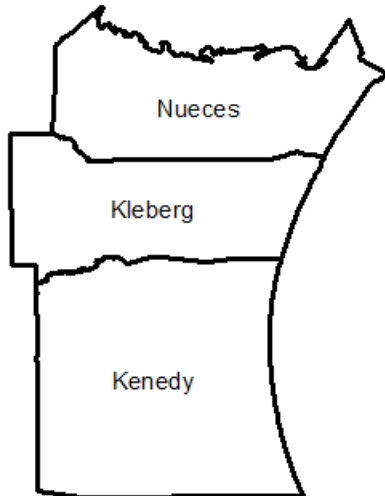
|            |          |            |           |               |
|------------|----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Dallam     | Sherman  | Hansford   | Ochiltree | Lipscomb      |
| Hartley    | Moore    | Hutchinson | Roberts   | Hemphill      |
| Oldham     | Potter   | Carson     | Gray      | Wheeler       |
| Deaf Smith | Randall  | Armstrong  | Donley    | Collingsworth |
| Parmer     | Castro   | Swisher    | Briscoe   | Hall          |
| Childress  | Hardeman | Wilbarger  | Foard     |               |
| Bailey     | Lamb     | Hale       | Floyd     | Motley        |
| Cochran    | Hockley  | Lubbock    | Crosby    | Dickens       |
| Yoakum     | Terry    |            |           |               |

| Counties Per Court                               | Counties Sharing a Single Court                                      | Administrative Judicial Region |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Two</b><br>(13 Courts in 26 Counties)         | Austin & Fayette (155 <sup>th</sup> )                                | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                |
|                                                  | Falls & Robertson (82 <sup>nd</sup> )                                | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                |
|                                                  | Brooks & Jim Wells (79 <sup>th</sup> )                               | 5 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Real & Uvalde (38 <sup>th</sup> )                                    | 6 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Borden & Scurry (132 <sup>nd</sup> )                                 | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Jones & Shackelford (259 <sup>th</sup> )                             | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Stephens & Young (90 <sup>th</sup> )                                 | 8 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Jack & Wise (271 <sup>st</sup> )                                     | 8 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Terry & Yoakum (121 <sup>st</sup> )                                  | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Deaf Smith & Oldham (222 <sup>nd</sup> )                             | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Cochran & Hockley (286 <sup>th</sup> )                               | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Bailey & Parmer (287 <sup>th</sup> )                                 | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Brown & Mills (35 <sup>th</sup> )                                    | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
| <b>Three</b><br>(7 Courts in 21 Counties)        | Bosque, Comanche & Hamilton (220 <sup>th</sup> )                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                |
|                                                  | Fisher, Mitchell & Nolan (32 <sup>nd</sup> )                         | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Andrews, Crane & Winkler (109 <sup>th</sup> )                        | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Glasscock, Howard & Martin (118 <sup>th</sup> )                      | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Loving, Reeves & Ward (143 <sup>rd</sup> )                           | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Archer, Clay & Montague (97 <sup>th</sup> )                          | 8 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Foard, Hardeman & Wilbarger (46 <sup>th</sup> )                      | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
| <b>Four to Five</b><br>(7 Courts in 30 Counties) | Edwards, Kimble, McCulloch, Mason & Menard (452 <sup>nd</sup> )      | 6 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Haskell, Kent, Stonewall & Throckmorton (39 <sup>th</sup> )          | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Dawson, Gaines, Garza & Lynn (106 <sup>th</sup> )                    | 7 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Dallam, Hartley, Moore & Sherman (69 <sup>th</sup> )                 | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Briscoe, Dickens, Floyd, & Motley (110 <sup>th</sup> )               | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Baylor, Cottle, King & Knox (50 <sup>th</sup> )                      | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
|                                                  | Carson, Childress, Collingsworth, Donley & Hall (100 <sup>th</sup> ) | 9 <sup>th</sup>                |
| <b>Total Counties = 77</b>                       |                                                                      | <b>Total Courts = 27</b>       |

## Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / One Separate Jurisdiction

### An Example from the Fifth Administrative Judicial Region

| <i>Court(s)</i>                  | <i>Counties in Jurisdiction</i> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 28, 94, 117, 148, 214, 319 & 347 | Nueces                          |
| 105                              | Kenedy, Kleburg, & Nueces       |



#### Counties Sharing Several Courts

Bell & Lampasas (3<sup>rd</sup> AJR)  
 Crosby & Lubbock (9<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Johnson & Somervell (8<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Webb & Zapata (4<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Chambers & Liberty (2<sup>nd</sup> AJR)  
 Cameron & Willacy (5<sup>th</sup> AJR)

Hansford, Hutchinson & Ochiltree (9<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Kenedy, Kleburg & Nueces (5<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Callahan, Coleman & Taylor (7<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Duval, Jim Hogg & Starr (5<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Bastrop, Burleson, Lee & Washington (2<sup>nd</sup> AJR)  
 Calhoun, De Witt, Goliad, Jackson, Refugio & Victoria (4<sup>th</sup> AJR)  
 Gray, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Roberts & Wheeler (9<sup>th</sup> AJR)

**TOTAL Counties = 39**

#### Primary County

Bell  
 Lubbock  
 Johnson  
 Webb  
 Liberty  
 Cameron  
 Hutchinson  
 Nueces  
 Taylor  
 Starr  
 Bastrop  
 Victoria  
 Gray

#### Courts

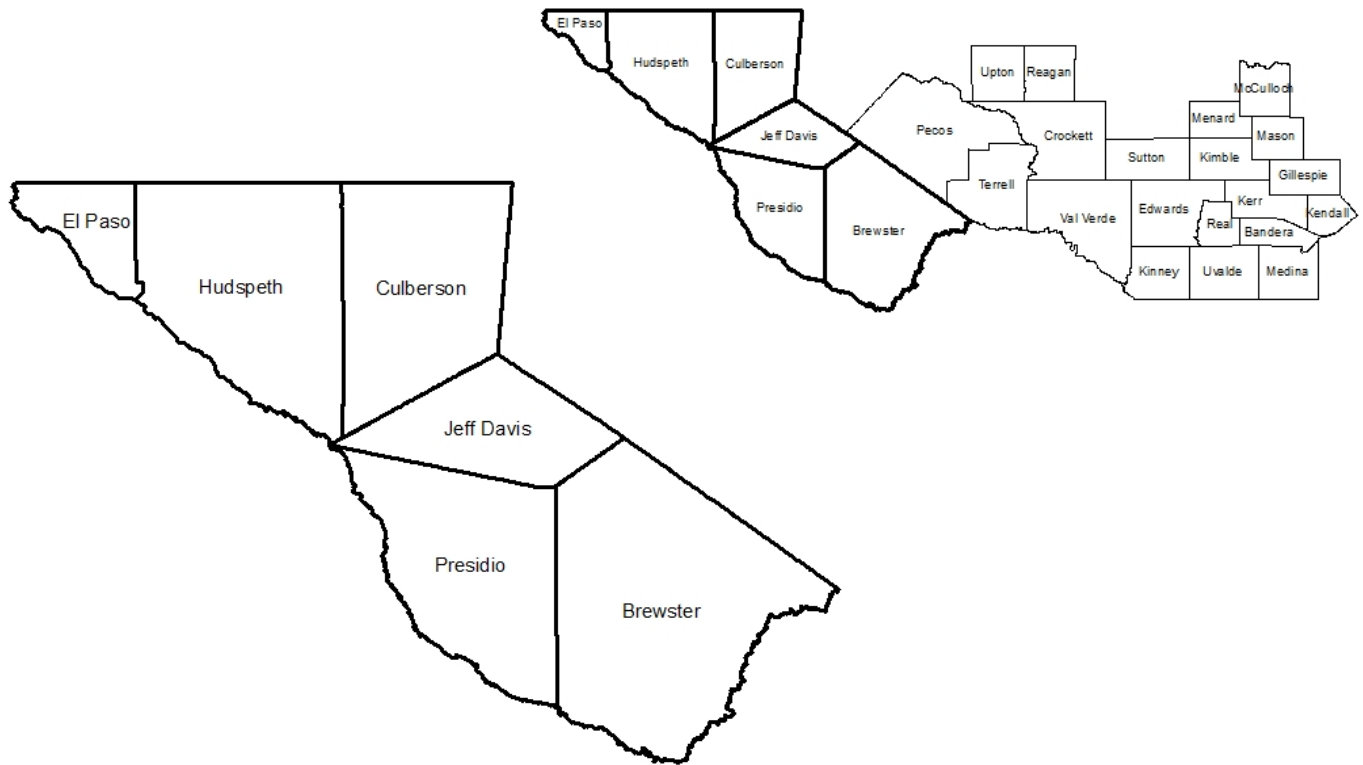
27, 146, 169, 264, 426 & 478  
 72, 99, 137, 140, 237 & 364  
 18, 249 & 413  
 49, 111, 341 & 406  
 75, 253 & 344  
 103, 107, 138, 197, 357, 404, 444, 445 & 484  
 84 & 316  
 28, 94, 105, 117, 148, 214, 319 & 347  
 42, 104, 326 & 350  
 229 & 381  
 21, 335, 423 & 465  
 24, 135, 267 & 377  
 31 & 223

**TOTAL Courts = 57**

## Multiple Counties / Multiple Courts / Many Separate Jurisdictions

### An Example from the Sixth Administrative Judicial Region

| <i>Court</i>                                                                                                              | <i>Counties in Jurisdiction</i>                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 34, 41, 65, 120, 168, 171,<br>210, 243, 327, 346, 383,<br>384, 388, 409, 448, Crim.<br>District Court No. 1<br>205<br>394 | El Paso<br><br>Culberson, El Paso, & Hudspeth<br>Brewster, Culberson, Hudspeth,<br>Jeff Davis, & Presidio |



#### Counties Sharing Several Courts

**2 Counties:** Matagorda & Wharton  
**3 Counties:** Armstrong, Potter & Randall  
**3 Counties:** Bandera, Gillespie & Kerr  
**5 Counties:** Camp, Marion, Morris, Titus & Upshur  
**6 Counties:** Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis & Presidio  
  
**7 Counties:** Coke, Concho, Irion, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling & Tom Green  
**7 Counties:** Caldwell, Colorado, Comal, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays & Lavaca  
  
**8 Counties:** Hardin, Jasper, Newton, Panola, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby & Tyler  
**8 Counties:** Crockett, Kinney, Pecos, Reagan, Sutton, Terrell, Upton & Val Verde  
**9 Counties:** Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Hunt, Lamar, Rains, & Red River  
  
**11 Counties:** Anderson, Cherokee, Freestone, Grimes, Henderson, Houston, Leon, Limestone, Madison, Walker & Waller  
**TOTAL Counties = 69**

#### Courts

**3 Courts:** 23, 130 & 329  
**5 Courts:** 47, 108, 181, 251 & 320  
**2 Courts:** 198 & 216  
**3 Courts:** 76, 115 & 276  
**18 Courts:** 34, 41, 65, 120, 168, 171, 205, 210, 243, 327, 346, 383, 384, 388, 394, 409, 448 & Crim. District Court No. 1  
**4 Courts:** 51, 119, 340 & 391  
**12 Courts:** 22, 25, 2<sup>nd</sup> 25, 207, 274, 421, 428, 433, 453, 456, 466 & 483  
**6 Courts:** 1, 1A, 88, 123, 273 & 356  
**3 Courts:** 63, 83 & 112  
**8 Courts:** 5, 6, 8, 62, 102, 196, 202, & 354  
**11 Courts:** 2, 3, 12, 77, 87, 173, 278, 349, 369, 392 & 506  
**TOTAL Courts = 75**