Judge Mark R. Kravitz Inaugural Symposium
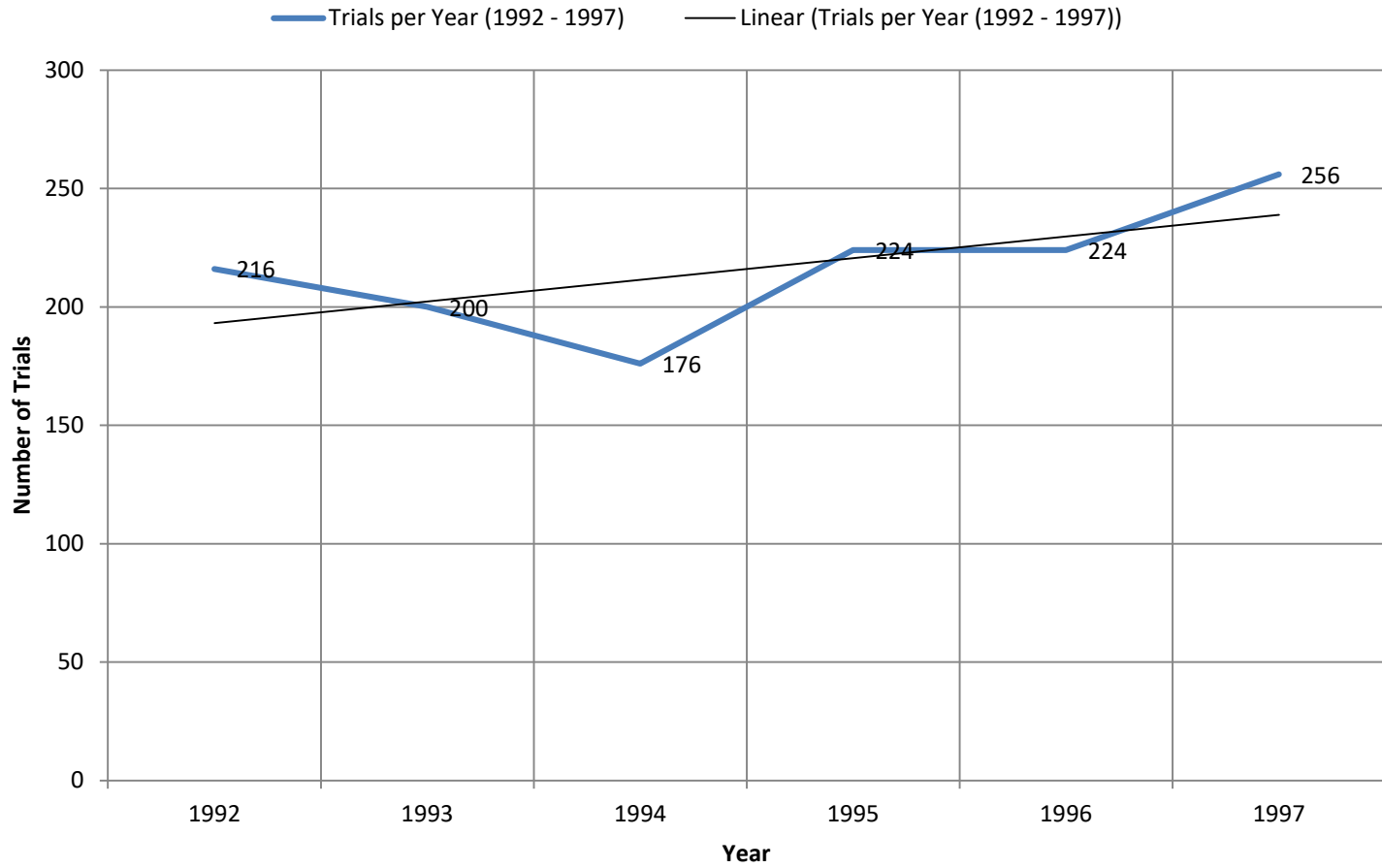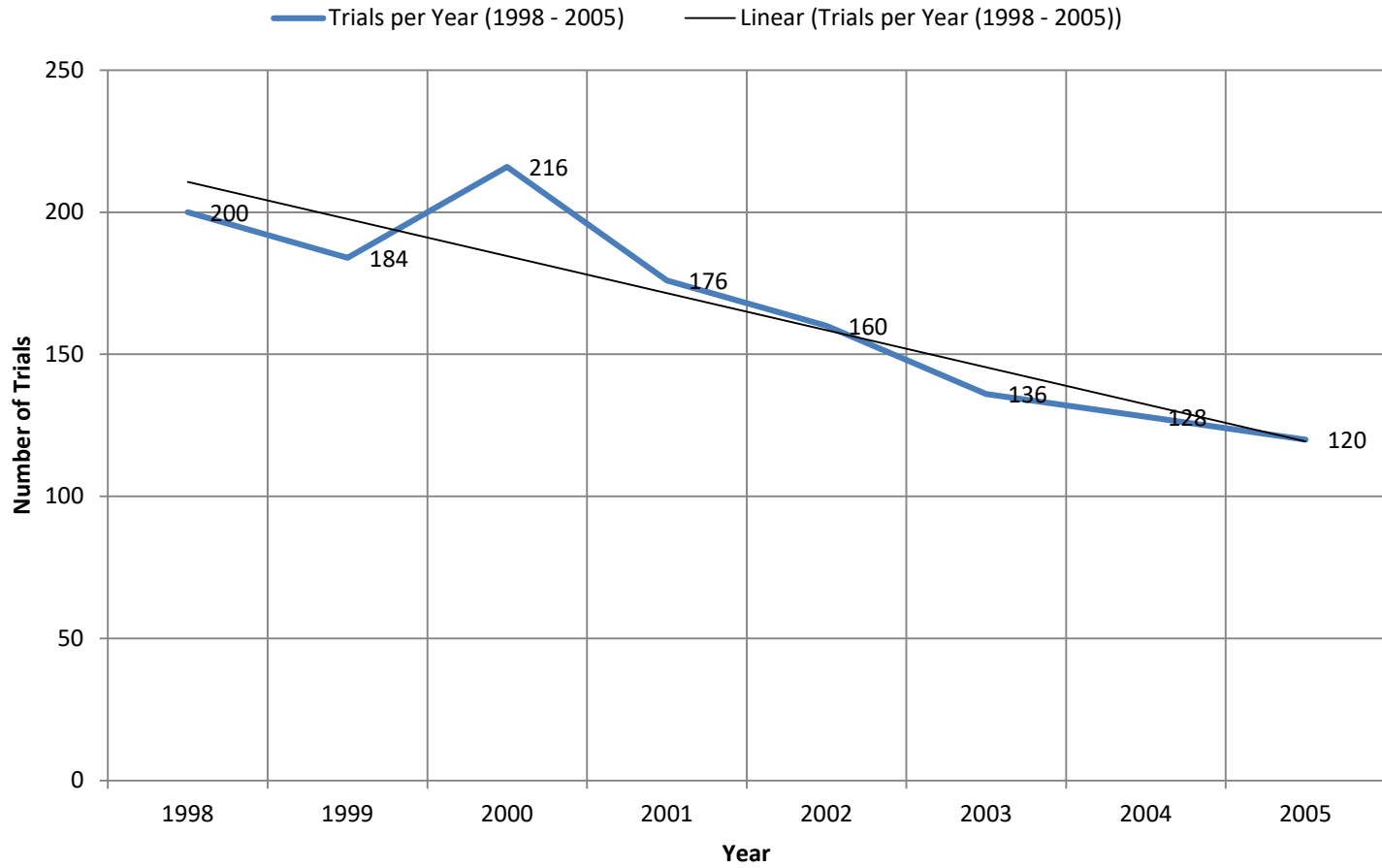
"Exploring the Vanishing Trial Phenomenon"

Judge Stefan R. Underhill
United States District Judge
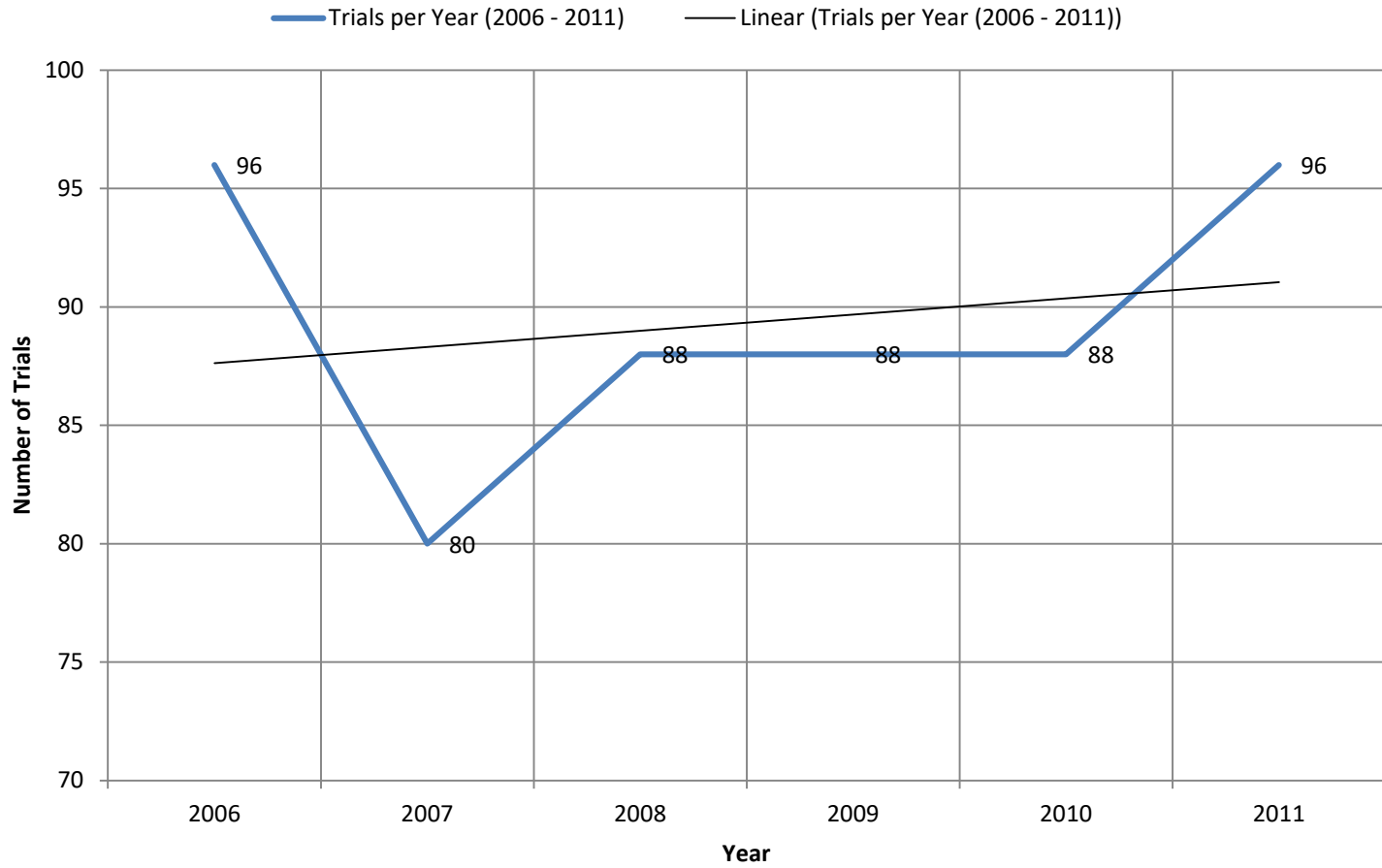## District of Connecticut

District of Connecticut
Trials per Year (1992 - 1997)

Trials per Year (1992 - 1997) ——— Linear (Trials per Year (1992 - 1997))

Number of Trials

216
200
176
224
224
256

Year

District of Connecticut
Trials per Year (1998 - 2005)

Trials per Year (1998 - 2005) ——— Linear (Trials per Year (1998 - 2005))

250

200 — 216
200

184

176

160

150 — 136

128

120

100

50

0

1998   1999   2000   2001   2002   2003   2004   2005

Number of Trials

Year

District of Connecticut
Trials per Year (2006 - 2011)

Trials per Year (2006 - 2011) —— Linear (Trials per Year (2006 - 2011))

District of Connecticut
Trials per Year (1992 - 2011)

Legend: Trials per Year (1992 - 2011) ——— Linear (Trials per Year (1992 - 2011))

Number of Trials (y-axis: 0, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300)

Year (x-axis: 1992–2011)

Data labels: 216, 200, 176, 224, 224, 256, 200, 184, 216, 176, 160, 136, 128, 120, 96, 80, 88, 88, 88, 96
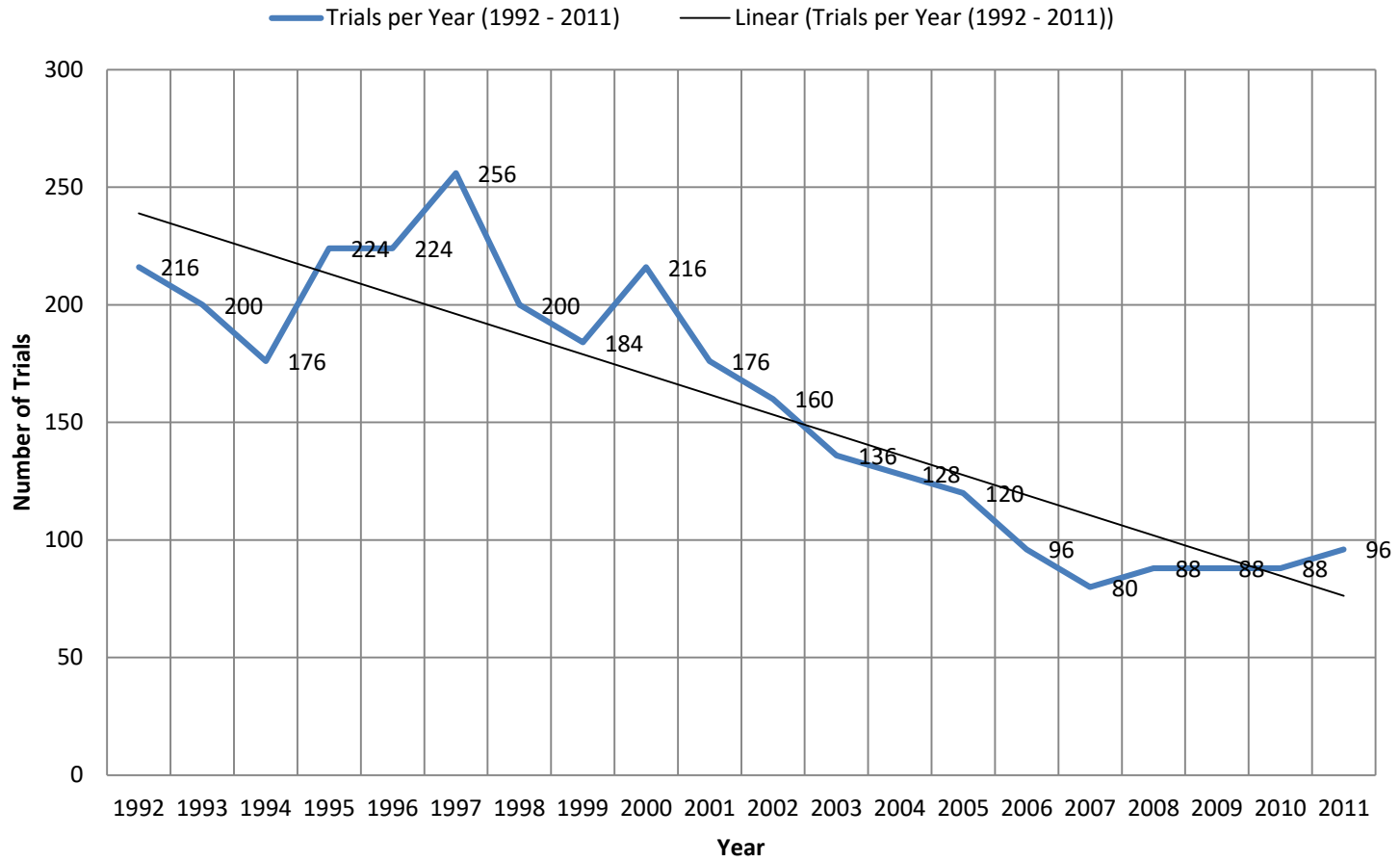
District of Connecticut
Pending Cases per Year (1992 - 1997)

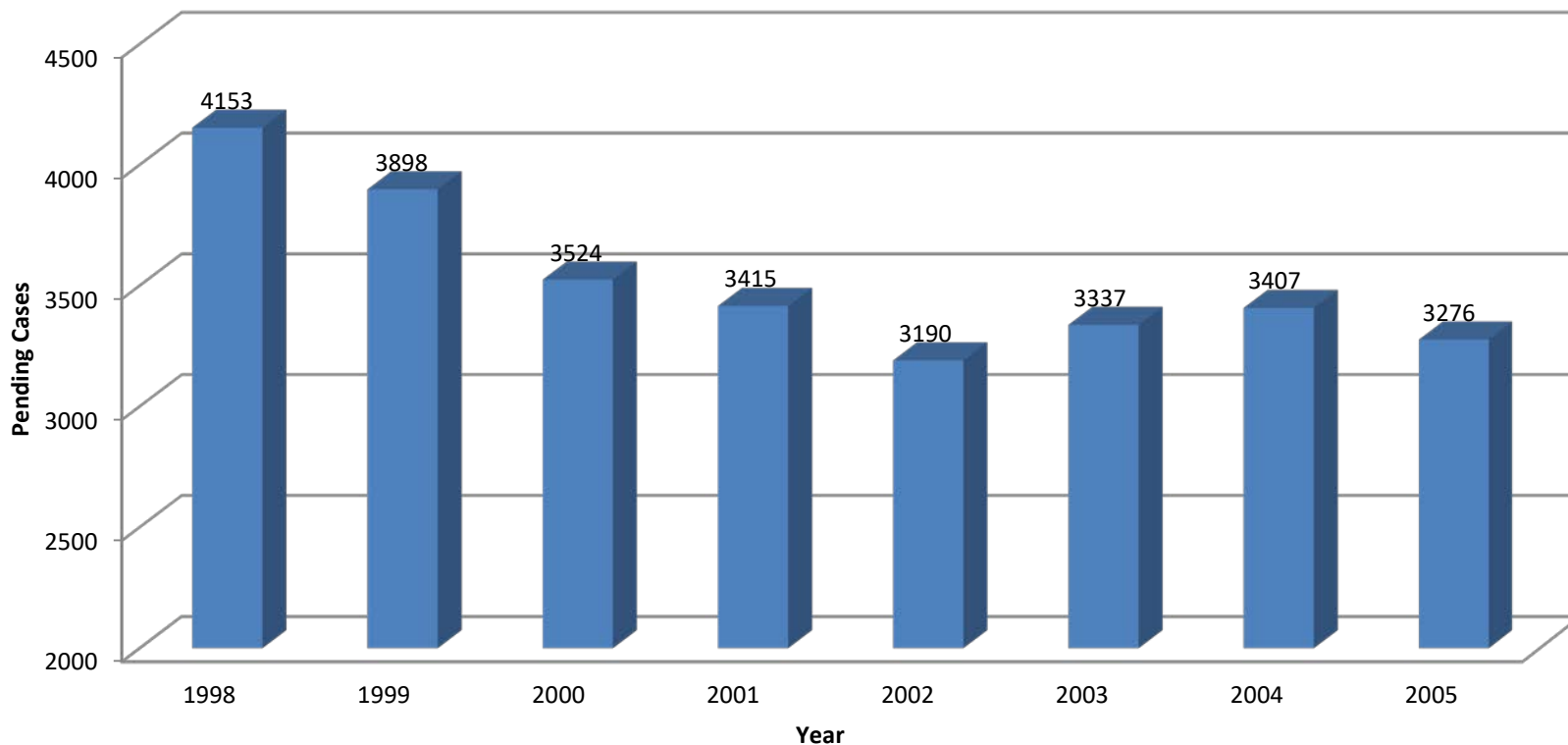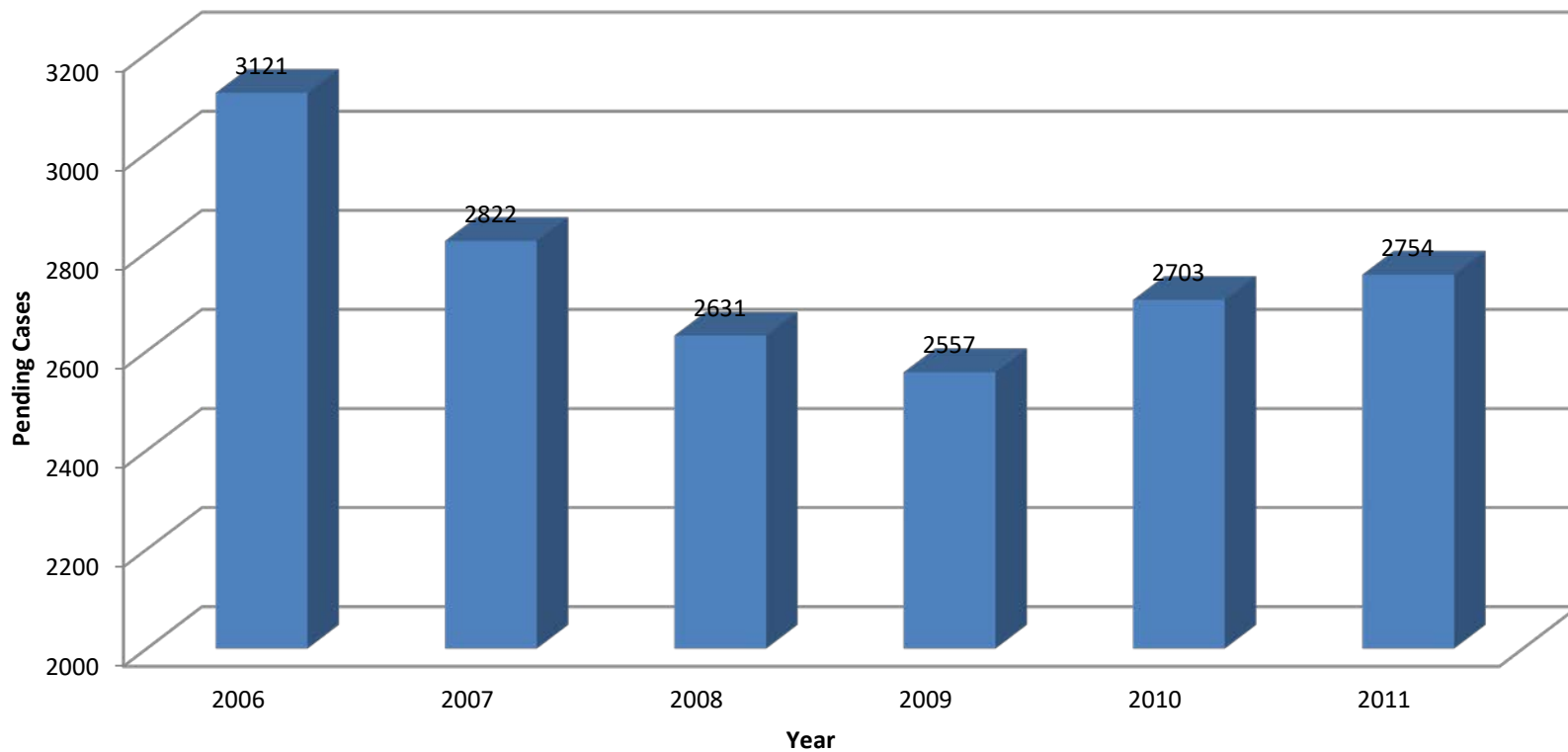■ Pending Cases per Year (1992 - 1997)
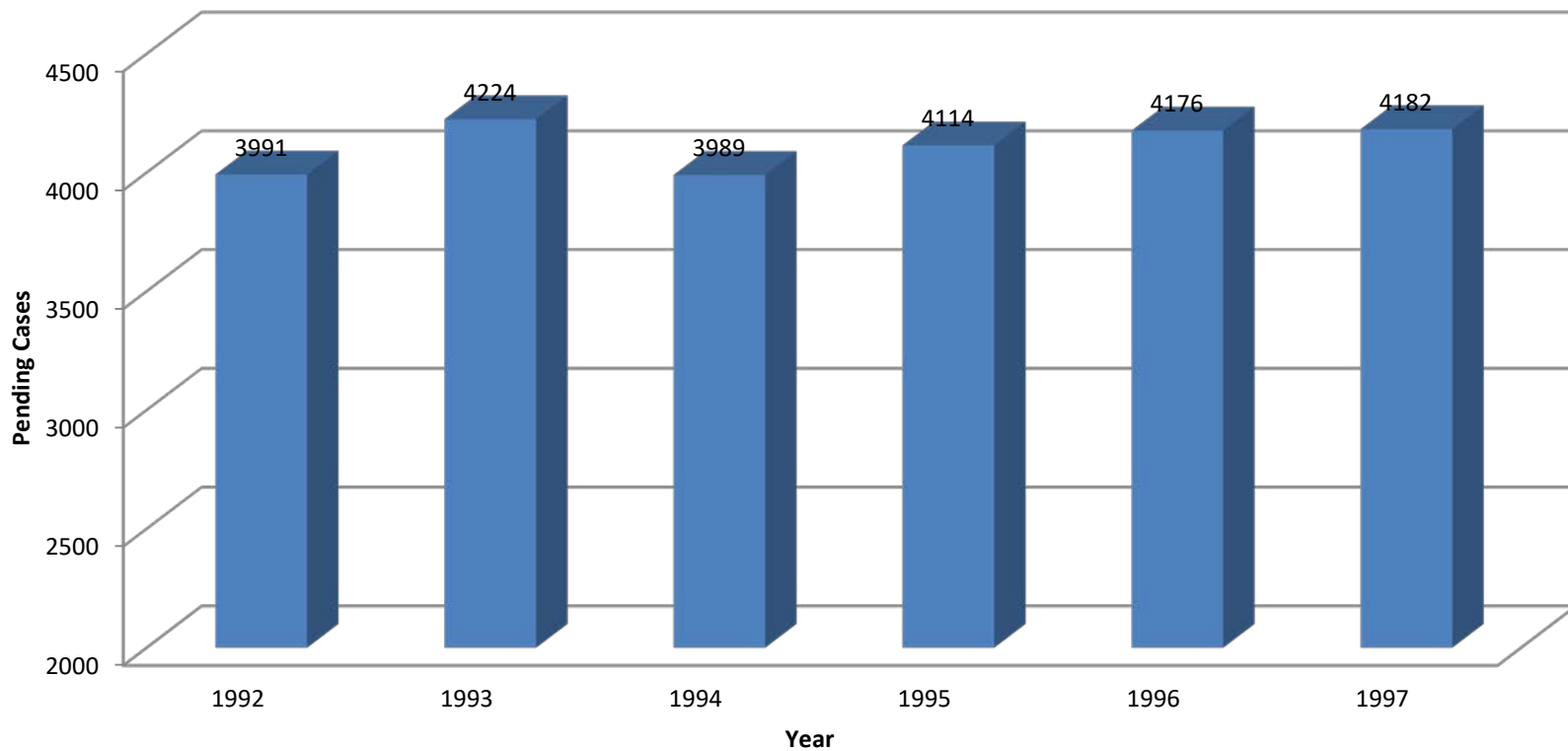
District of Connecticut
Pending Cases per Year (1998 - 2005)

■ Pending Cases per Year (1998 - 2005)

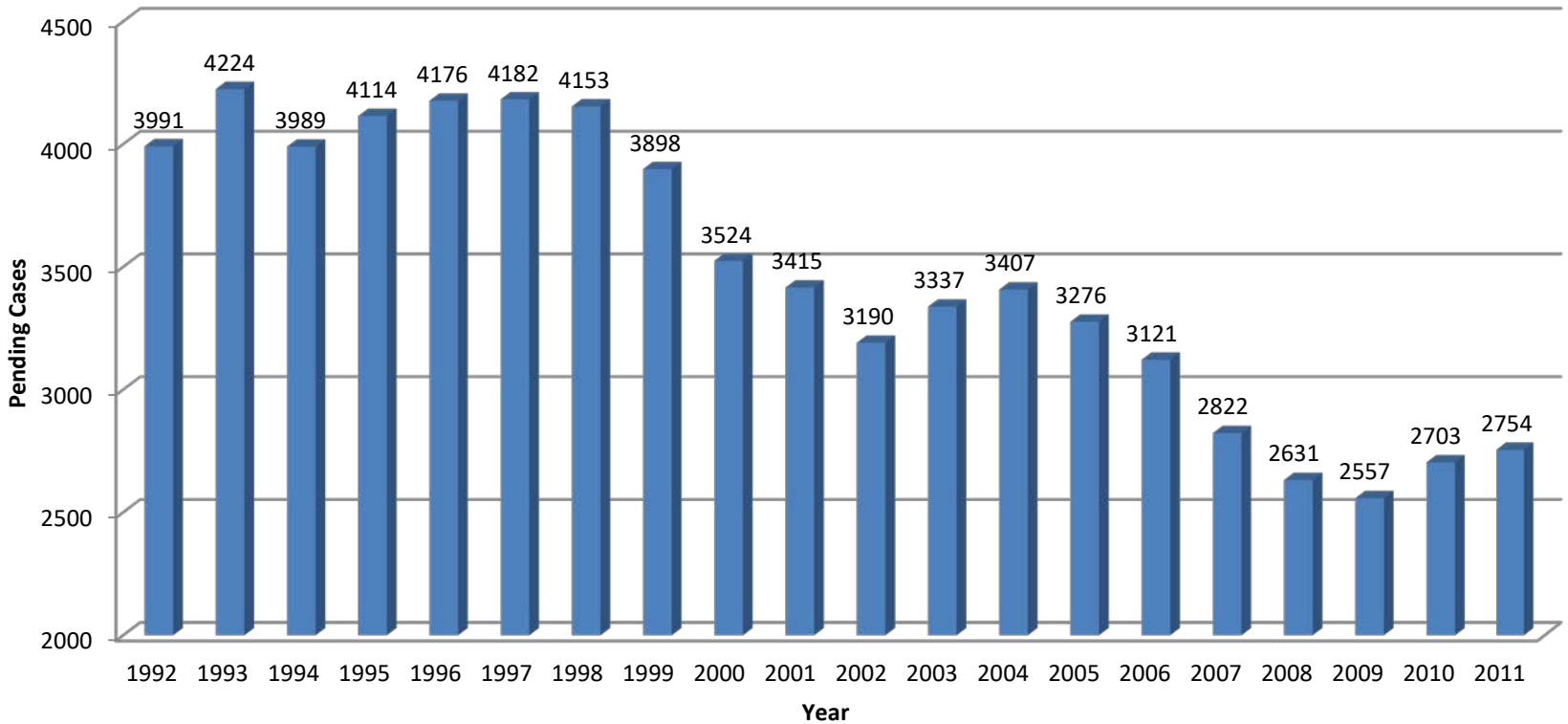# District of Connecticut
Pending Cases per Year (2006 - 2011)

■ Pending Cases per Year (2006 - 2011)

Bar chart — Pending Cases (y-axis) by Year (x-axis):

Year	Pending Cases
2006	3121
2007	2822
2008	2631
2009	2557
2010	2703
2011	2754

District of Connecticut
Pending Cases per Year (1992 - 2011)

■ Pending Cases per Year (1992 - 2011)

Year	Pending Cases
1992	3991
1993	4224
1994	3989
1995	4114
1996	4176
1997	4182
1998	4153
1999	3898
2000	3524
2001	3415
2002	3190
2003	3337
2004	3407
2005	3276
2006	3121
2007	2822
2008	2631
2009	2557
2010	2703
2011	2754

District of Connecticut
Percentage of Pending Cases with a Trial

Legend: Percentage of Pending Cases with a Trial — Linear (Percentage of Pending Cases with a Trial)

Data points:
- 1992: 5.4%
- 1993: 4.7%
- 1994: 4.4%
- 1995: 5.4%
- 1996: 5.4%
- 1997: 6.1%
- 1998: 4.8%
- 1999: 4.7%
- 2000: 6.1%
- 2001: 5.2%
- 2002: 5.0%
- 2003: 4.1%
- 2004: 3.8%
- 2005: 3.7%
- 2006: 3.1%
- 2007: 2.8%
- 2008: 3.3%
- 2009: 3.4%
- 2010: 3.3%
- 2011: 3.5%

Y-axis: Percentage of Pending Cases with a Trial
X-axis: Year
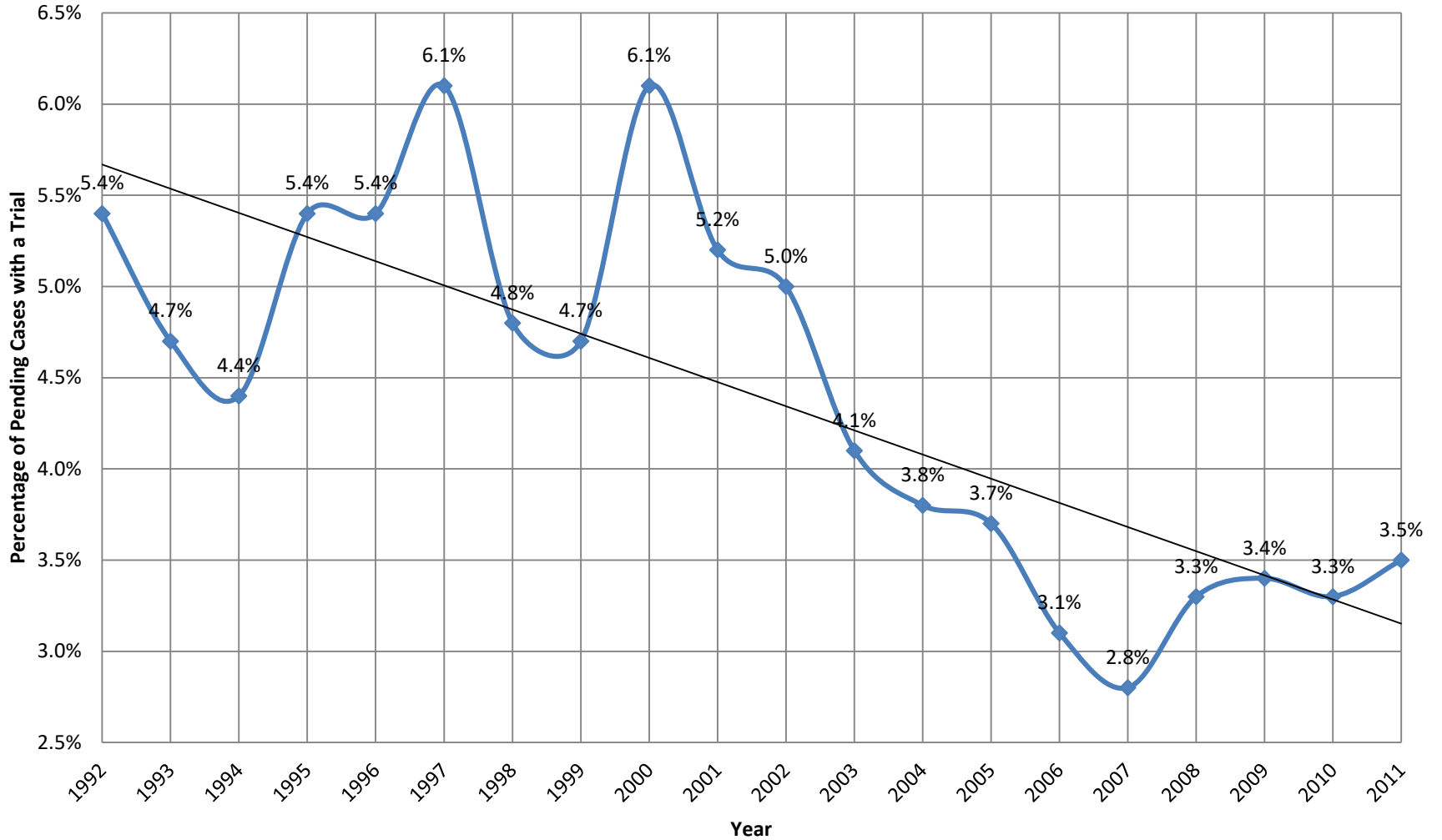
Summary of District Court Data

- Absolute number of trials is down significantly over past 20 years:
  - 1992 – 1997 the District held annual average of 216   trials
  - 1998 – 2005 the District held annual average of 165 trials
  - 2006 – 2011 the District held annual average of 89 trials

Summary of District Court Data (cont.)

- Absolute number of pending cases is down significantly over past 20 years:
  - 1992 – 1997 the District had an average of 4,113 pending cases
  - 1998 – 2005 the District had an average of 3,525 pending cases
  - 2006 – 2011 the District had an average of 2,765 pending cases

Summary of District Court Data (cont.)

- Percentage of pending cases in which a trial is held has declined significantly over the past 20 years:
  - 1992 – 1997 trials were held in 5.2 percent of pending cases
  - 1998 – 2005 trials were held in 4.7 percent of pending cases
  - 2006 – 2011 trials were held in 3.2 percent of pending cases

Summary of District Court Data (cont.)

- In sum, trials were held in a decreasing percentage of the decreasing number of total cases pending in the District, resulting in a significant decrease in the total number of federal court trials over the past twenty years.