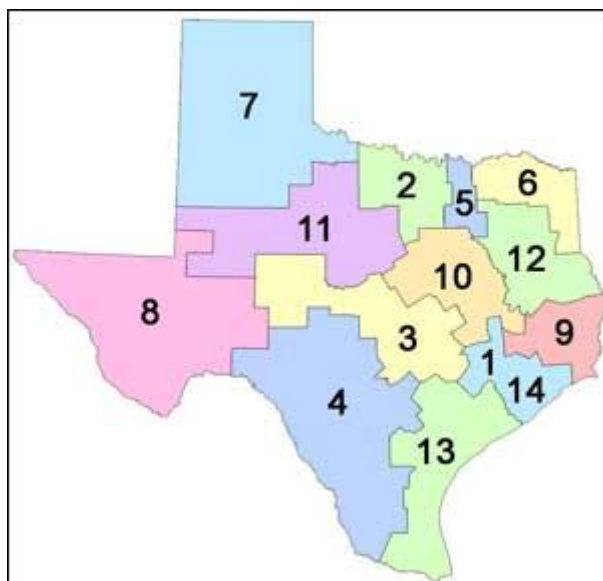


Texas' 14 appellate courts have the following geographical jurisdictions:



1. [Houston](#)
2. [Fort Worth](#)
3. [Austin](#)
4. [San Antonio](#)
5. [Dallas](#)
6. [Texarkana](#)
7. [Amarillo](#)
8. [El Paso](#)
9. [Beaumont](#)
10. [Waco](#)
11. [Eastland](#)
12. [Tyler](#)
13. [Corpus Christi & Edinburg](#)
14. [Houston](#)

Only the 1st and 14th have the same geographical jurisdiction, the result is that instead of the combined 1st and 14th (Houston) having 18 combined (9 each) thereby being the largest court of appeals, the 5th (13 justices); Dallas has the smallest geographical area yet the largest case load and largest number of justices.

The 5th Court of Appeals has such a large case load that every year periodically the clerk of the Supreme Court sends an order to the clerk of the 5th Court of Appeals instructing that the next X number (like 300) newly filed appeals are to be sent to a different court of appeals such as the 11th (Eastland) or 7th (Amarillo), 6th (Texarkana) and 10th (Waco).

This situation of Dallas cases being transferred to other appellate courts that do not have as many cases has gone on since at least the 1930's and possibly earlier. Essentially, that is the Supreme Court's way of efficiently using available resources.