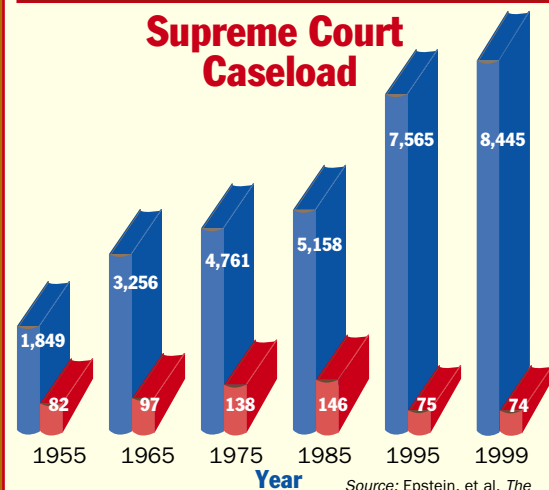


### Supreme Court Caseload



Source: Epstein, et al. *The Supreme Court Compendium*, 2d ed. (Washington, D.C.: CQ Inc., 1996). U.S. Census Bureau, *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, 2000.

#### Critical Thinking

While the number of cases on the Supreme Court docket, or list of cases to be heard, has increased over the years, the number of signed opinions has declined. **Why do you think the number of signed opinions has declined?**