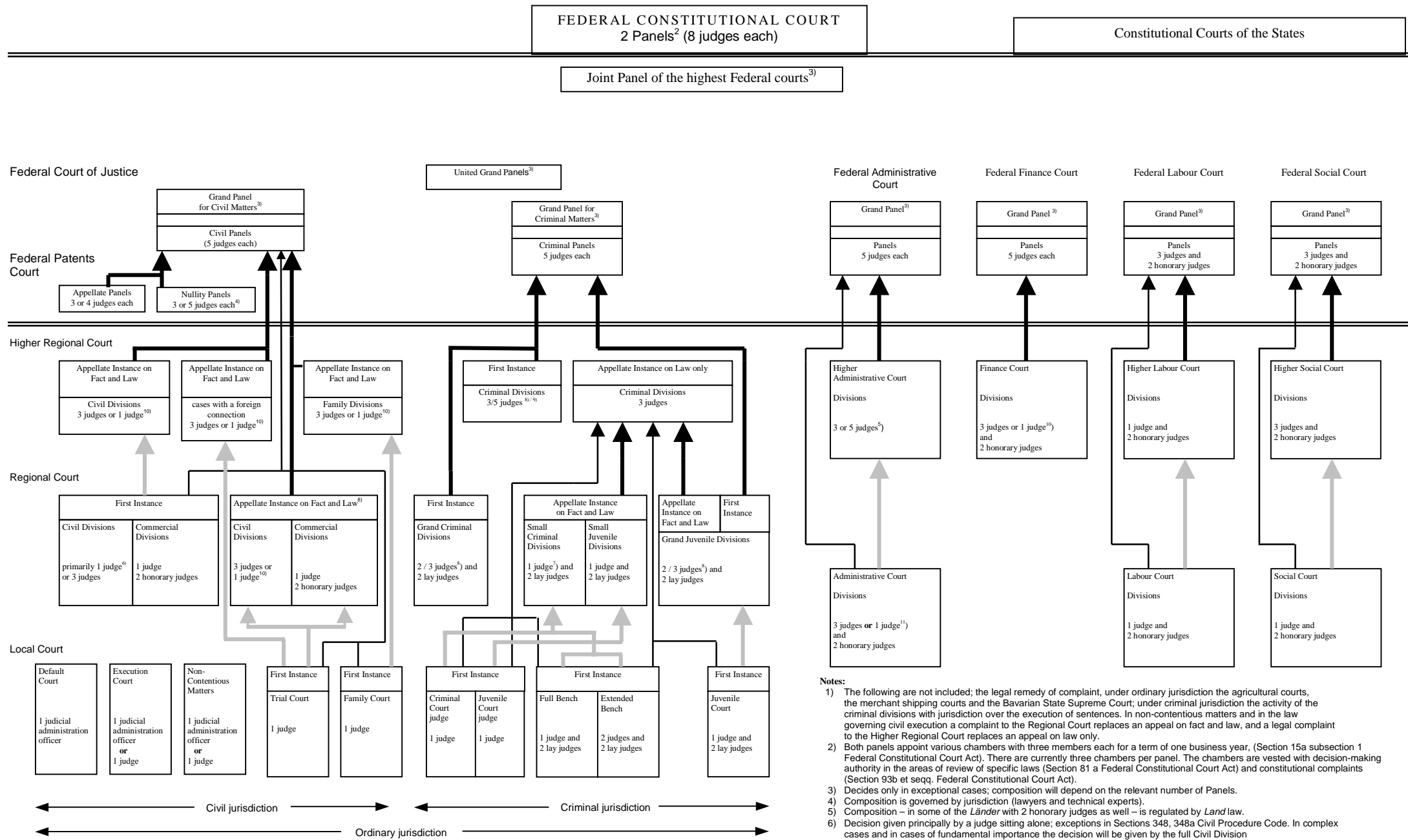


The Courts of Law in the Federal Republic of Germany¹⁾



Legend:
 The arrows indicate the following legal remedies:
 → appeal on fact and law
 → appeal or complaint on points of law only
 → immediate appeal on law only in lieu of an appeal on fact and law

The composition of the criminal courts as stated applies only to the main court hearing.

- Notes:**
- 1) The following are not included; the legal remedy of complaint, under ordinary jurisdiction the agricultural courts, the merchant shipping courts and the Bavarian State Supreme Court; under criminal jurisdiction the activity of the criminal divisions with jurisdiction over the execution of sentences. In non-contentious matters and in the law governing civil execution a complaint to the Regional Court replaces an appeal on fact and law, and a legal complaint to the Higher Regional Court replaces an appeal on law only.
 - 2) Both panels appoint various chambers with three members each for a term of one business year, (Section 15a subsection 1 Federal Constitutional Court Act). There are currently three chambers per panel. The chambers are vested with decision-making authority in the areas of review of specific laws (Section 81 a Federal Constitutional Court Act) and constitutional complaints (Section 93b et seqq. Federal Constitutional Court Act).
 - 3) Decides only in exceptional cases; composition will depend on the relevant number of Panels.
 - 4) Composition is governed by jurisdiction (lawyers and technical experts).
 - 5) Composition – in some of the *Länder* with 2 honorary judges as well – is regulated by *Land* law.
 - 6) Decision given principally by a judge sitting alone; exceptions in Sections 348, 348a Civil Procedure Code. In complex cases and in cases of fundamental importance the decision will be given by the full Civil Division.
 - 7) In cases of an appeal on fact and law against judgment by the extended bench a second professional judge must be brought in.
 - 8) Composition depends on the scale and complexity of the case.
 - 9) *Land* legislation may stipulate that the HRC shall have jurisdiction over all appeals on fact and law and over complaints filed in respect of Local Court decisions.
 - 10) Panels and Civil Divisions may transfer cases that are not particularly complex and not of fundamental importance to a judge sitting alone if the contested decision was given by a judge sitting alone and there has not already been a trial on the merits.
 - 11) The decision will be given by a judge sitting alone in cases that are not particularly complex or of fundamental