



JUDICIAL BRANCH PERSONNEL

The judicial branch has more elected officials than the executive and legislative branches combined, including:

- 7 Supreme Court justices
- 15 court of appeals judges
- 112 superior court judges
- 270 district court judges
- 100 clerks of clerk
- 44 district attorneys

6,570 total positions from all funding sources
(as of June 30, 2010)

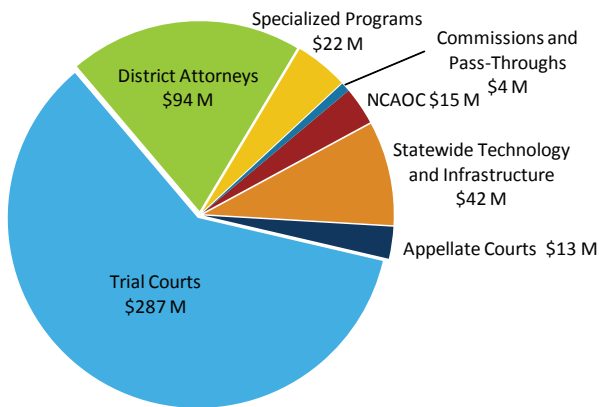
JUDICIAL BRANCH BUDGET

\$467 million certified state appropriations
in SFY 2009-2010

\$450 million certified state appropriations
in SFY 2010-2011

About the SFY 2011-2012 budget

90 percent salaries and benefits
28 percent of funds (\$132 million) supports
constitutionally mandated positions



Under the N.C. Constitution, the judicial branch is established as an equal branch of state government with the legislative and executive branches. North Carolina's court system, called the General Court of Justice, is a state-operated and state-funded unified court system. The General Court of Justice consists of three divisions: the appellate division, the superior court division and the district court division.

The N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is the administrative agency for the judicial branch. As such, it provides services and resources to help the unified court system to operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads and available resources. This includes providing administrative support to the more than 500 independently elected officials in the judicial branch.

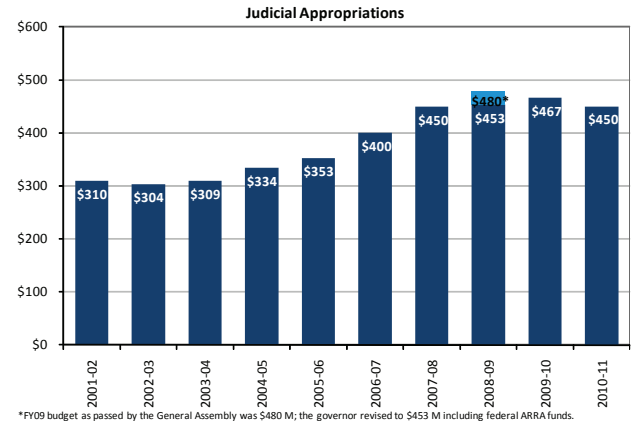
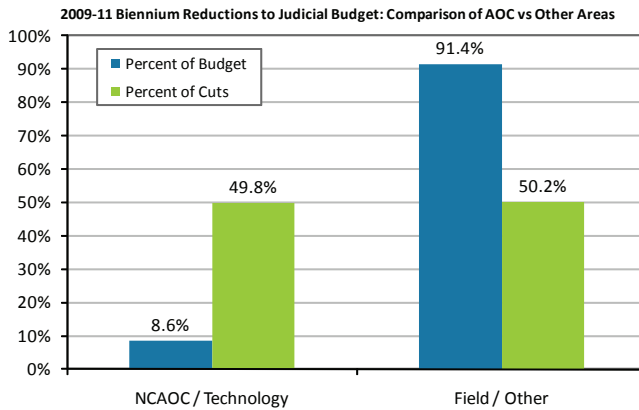
The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court appoints the NCAOC director, who supervises the NCAOC. N.C.G.S. 7A-343 sets forth the duties of the director, which include budgeting and authorizing expenditures from appropriated funds, identifying staffing needs statewide, procuring and distributing equipment and supplies and prescribing uniform practices for clerks. The director also makes recommendations for the overall improvement of the judicial branch.

All operating expenses of the judicial branch are paid by the state, including salaries and travel expenses of all court officials, juror and witness fees, and equipment and office supplies for the judicial system. Counties and cities, however, are responsible for providing courtrooms and related judicial physical facilities.

To protect and preserve the rights and liberties of all the people, as guaranteed by the Constitutions and laws of the United States and North Carolina by providing a fair, independent and accessible forum for the just, timely and economical resolution of their legal affairs.

BUDGET **\$466,928,250 certified state appropriations in SFY 2009–2010**

2.29% of total state General Fund budget (includes federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds)



MONIES DISBURSED **\$673,569,270 total disbursements** through Clerk of Superior Court Financial Management System*

- \$236,613,413 remitted to state treasurer for General Fund
- \$35,395,028 disbursed to other entities
- \$5,123,901 receipts collected and disbursed for special operations
- \$84,900,079 disbursed to local governments
- \$311,536,849 disbursed to citizens

	District Court 270 judges	Superior Court 111 judges*	Court of Appeals 15 judges	Supreme Court 7 justices
CASELOAD	3,007,998 total cases filed 2,943,438 total cases disposed 247,759 civil magistrate cases filed 247,048 civil magistrate cases disposed 239,347 civil district cases filed 242,128 civil district cases disposed 1,724,556 criminal cases filed 1,715,330 criminal cases disposed 747,593 infraction cases filed 738,932 infraction cases disposed 48,743 civil license revocations filed	386,276 total cases filed 353,293 total cases disposed 27,764 civil cases filed 28,305 civil cases disposed 100,854 felony cases filed 101,382 felony cases disposed 38,692 misdemeanor cases filed 38,028 misdemeanor cases disposed 66,117 estate cases filed 62,530 estate cases disposed 142,849 special proceedings filed 123,048 special proceeding disposed	2,493 appeals, petitions filed 2,126 appeals, petitions disposed	127 appeals docketed 105 appeals disposed 642 petitions docketed 648 petitions disposed

*The total figure does not include a superior court judge added Jan. 1, 2011.

TIME TO DISPOSITION	216 days total criminal Superior Court cases	186 days burglary / breaking and entering
	544 days murder	205 days larceny
	326 days rape / first degree sex offenses	91 days all criminal district non-motor vehicle
	225 days robbery	109 days general civil District Court cases

PERSONNEL	6,569.98 total judicial branch personnel*	642.00 assistant district attorneys	*The total figures include grant-funded FTEs but not Indigent Defense Services FTEs. The total figures do not include a superior court judge added Jan. 1, 2011 and a district attorney added Jan. 15, 2011.
	403.00 justices and judges*	13.00 trial court administrators	
	100.00 clerks of superior court	1,242.03 court support personnel	
	2,673.10 clerk personnel	486.30 NCAOC staff	**Other includes Judicial Standards Commission, Conference of District Attorneys, Dispute Resolution Commission, Conference of Clerks of Superior Court, Innocence Inquiry Commission, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, and Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission positions.
	762.55 magistrates	166.50 Guardian ad Litem personnel	
	43.00 district attorneys*	38.50 Other**	

MISCELLANEOUS	15,373 abused or neglected children served by the Guardian ad Litem program	41 districts with custody mediation programs
	13 funded family court districts	32 districts with court arbitration programs
		21 districts with drug treatment court programs