

JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015



STATISTICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORT

of the

NORTH CAROLINA
APPELLATE COURTS



Appellate Courts Report

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More information about the Judicial Branch is available in the Data and Information section of www.NCcourts.org.

SUPREME COURT

2014–15 Caseload

The first two tables in the Supreme Court subsection give 10-year trend data for appeals docketed and disposed and also petitions docketed and disposed. The table following presents the court's caseload inventory for fiscal year (FY) 2014–15, broken down by the types of cases the court hears. The following two tables summarize case activity in those cases reaching the decision stage and the

disposition of petitions for review. The next table shows the various methods of dispositions of appeals—signed opinion, per curiam opinion (unsigned), and dismissal or withdrawal—as well as the types of disposition (e.g., affirmed, reversed). The final table gives Supreme Court processing times for appeals disposed by signed or per curiam opinion.

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Appeals Docketed and Disposed

Fiscal Year	Appeals docketed	Appeals disposed
2014–15	97	93
2013–14	115	111
2012–13	139	143
2011–12	120	84
2010–11	121	105
2009–10	127	105
2008–09	147	118
2007–08	204	204
2006–07	246	214
2005–06	204	196

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Petitions Docketed and Disposed

Fiscal Year	Petitions docketed	Petitions disposed
2014–15	579	583
2013–14	615	622
2012–13	632	636
2011–12	624	604
2010–11	641	622
2009–10	642	648
2008–09	589	618
2007–08	569	590
2006–07	539	530
2005–06	672	687

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Caseload Inventory

Cases filed	Begin pending (7/1/14)	Filed	Disposed	End pending (6/30/15)
PETITIONS FOR REVIEW*				
Civil domestic	7	16	13	10
Juvenile	5	17	18	4
Other civil	62	174	187	49
Criminal (including death sentences)	76	371	364	83
Administrative agency decision	0	1	1	0
Total petitions for review	150	579	583	146
APPEALS**				
Civil domestic	2	1	3	0
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	1	1	2	0
Juvenile	0	1	0	1
Petitions for review granted that became juvenile appeals	1	0	1	0
Other civil	12	26	22	16
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	5	14	19	0
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	1	2	1	2
Other criminal	16	32	28	20
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	0	20	17	3
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0
Total appeals	38	97	93	42
OTHER PROCEEDINGS				
Rule 16(b) additional issues		3	4	
Motions		695	708	
Total other proceedings		698	712	

*Petitions for review are cases in which the court is asked to accept discretionary review of decisions of the Court of Appeals as well as other tribunals.

**The Appeals category comprises cases within the court's appellate jurisdiction.

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Submission of Cases Reaching Decision Stage

Cases argued	Number of cases
Civil domestic	0
Juvenile	2
Other civil	28
Criminal (death sentence)	1
Other criminal	22
Administrative agency decision	0
Total	53

Submission without arguments	Number of cases
By motion of the parties [Appellate Rule 30(d)]	0
By order of the court [Appellate Rule 30(f)]	1
Total	1

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Dispositions of Petitions

Petitions for review	Granted	Denied	Dismissed / withdrawn	Other	Total
Civil domestic	1	11	0	1	13
Juvenile	0	16	0	2	18
Other civil	19	132	6	30	187
Criminal (death sentence)	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal	36	249	111	8	404
Administrative agency decision	0	1	0	0	1
Post conviction	0	0	0	0	0
Total	56	409	117	41	623

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Processing Time from Docket to Opinion*

Type of Case	Number of Cases	Median (Days)	Mean (Days)
Civil domestic	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	0	0	0
Juvenile	1	310	310
Petitions for review granted that became juvenile appeals	0	0	0
Other civil	14	355	355
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	14	409	422
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	1	1,136	1,136
Other criminal	10	322	339
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	13	466	497
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0
Total	53	432	424

*Only cases disposed by signed opinion or per curiam opinion are included.

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT Dispositions of Appeals

Dispositions by withdrawal or dismissal	Number of cases
Civil domestic	2
Juvenile	1
Other civil	38
Criminal (death sentence)	0
Other criminal	155
Administrative agency decision	0
Total	196

NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT

Dispositions of Appeals

Dispositions by signed opinion*	Affirmed	Affirmed in part; reversed in part	Affirmed in part; reversed in part; remanded	Reversed	Reversed and remanded	Other	Total dispositions
Civil domestic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other civil	6	0	3	2	1	2	14
Criminal (death sentence)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other criminal	1	1	0	7	3	1	13
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	1	3	10	4	3	29

*No activity was reported for New sentencing hearing, No error. There was one New trial (criminal – death sentence).

Dispositions by Per Curiam opinion**	Affirmed	Reversed	Reversed and remanded	Other	Total dispositions
Civil domestic	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0
Other civil	6	0	3	5	14
Criminal (death sentence)	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal	3	1	3	3	10
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	1	6	8	24

**No activity was reported for Affirmed in part, reversed in part; Affirmed in part, reversed in part, remanded; New sentencing hearing; New trial; No error.

COURT OF APPEALS

2014–15 Caseload

In addition to trend data for the past 10 years, the following tables provide filings and dispositions for cases on appeal, petitions, and motions during FY 2014–15. “Cases on appeal” include cases appealed from district courts, superior courts, and administrative agencies. They are counted as appeals only after a record is filed with the clerk’s office and a docket number is assigned. The “petition” category includes petitions involving only the four extraordinary writs set out in Article V of the Rules of Appellate Procedure: certiorari, mandamus, prohibition, and superse-deas. “Motions” encompass any type of relief sought from the Court of Appeals, either in a case already filed with the Court of Appeals or one on its way to the Court of Appeals but not yet filed.

Cases on appeal represent the largest portion of the Court of Appeals’ workload since most are disposed by written opinion. The other methods of disposition, represented by the “Other Cases Disposed” category in the table at the bottom of the data page, include the court’s dismissal of the appeal and the appealing party’s withdrawal of the appeal.

NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS Filings and Dispositions of Appeals and Petitions*

Fiscal Year	Filings	Dispositions
2014–15	2,377	2,312
2013–14	2,389	2,435
2012–13	2,564	2,490
2011–12	2,594	2,775
2010–11	2,549	2,671
2009–10	2,493	2,126
2008–09	2,502	2,307
2007–08	2,424	2,567
2006–07	2,484	2,634
2005–06	2,707	2,973

**Filings and dispositions shown here include appealed cases and petitions, but not motions.*

NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS

Petitions and Motions Filed

Cases filed	Number of cases
CASES ON APPEAL	
Civil cases appealed from district courts	341
Civil cases appealed from superior courts	419
Civil cases appealed from administrative agencies	93
Criminal cases appealed from superior courts	625
Total cases on appeal	1,478
PETITIONS	
Allowed	166
Denied	733
Total petitions	899
MOTIONS	
Allowed	3,021
Denied	506
Total motions	3,527

NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS

Manner of Case Dispositions (Opinions Only)

Affirmed*	Reversed*	Affirmed in part, reversed in part*	Other cases disposed	Total cases disposed
831	170	258	152	1,413

*Cases Disposed by Written Opinion

PREPARED BY



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