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STATISTICAL
AND
OPERATIONAL
REPORT
of the
NORTH
CAROLINA
APPELLATE
COURTS

— ★ ★ ★ —

JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019

2018–19

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SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA



2018–2019 CASELOAD

The first two tables in this subsection give 10-year trend data for appeals and petitions docketed and disposed. The third table presents the types of cases that the court hears. The fourth and fifth tables summarize case activity in those cases reaching the decision stage and the dispositions of petitions for review. The next table shows the various methods of disposition 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.

Appeals Docketed and Disposed

Fiscal Year	Appeals Docketed	Appeals Disposed
2018 – 19	140	92
2017 – 18	142	136
2016 – 17	137	92
2015 – 16	111	127
2014 – 15	97	93
2013 – 14	115	111
2012 – 13	139	143
2011 – 12	120	84
2010 – 11	121	105
2009 – 10	127	105

Petitions Docketed and Disposed

Fiscal Year	Petitions Docketed	Petitions Disposed
2018 – 19	588	494
2017 – 18	513	495
2016 – 17	509	515
2015 – 16	567	539
2014 – 15	579	583
2013 – 14	615	622
2012 – 13	632	636
2011 – 12	624	604
2010 – 11	641	622
2009 – 10	642	648

Caseload Inventory

Petitions for Review	Begin Pending (7/1/18)	Filed	Disposed	End Pending (6/30/19)
Civil domestic	3	16	12	7
Juvenile	1	13	8	6
Other civil	61	188	141	108
Criminal (including capital cases)	85	371	331	125
Administrative agency decision	2	0	2	2
Total petitions for review	152	588	494	246

Appeals	Begin Pending (7/1/18)	Filed	Disposed	End Pending (6/30/19)
Civil domestic	2	6	3	5
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	4	1	1	4
Juvenile	0	32	0	32
Petitions for review granted that became juvenile appeals	1	2	2	1
Other civil	23	24	19	28
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	0	14	11	3
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	2	5	2	5
Other criminal	28	36	28	36
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	26	20	26	20
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0
Total appeals	86	140	92	134

Other Proceedings	Filed	Disposed
Rule 16(b) additional issues	0	2
Motions	881	841
Total other proceedings	881	843

Submission of Cases Reaching Decision Stage

Cases Argued	Number of Cases
Civil domestic	2
Juvenile	1
Other civil	25
Criminal (capital)	0
Other criminal	37
Administrative agency decision	0
Total	65

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)]	2
Total	2

Dispositions of Petitions

Petitions For Review	Allowed	Denied	Dismissed / Withdrawn	Other	Total
Civil domestic	1	13	4	0	18
Juvenile	6	9	0	4	19
Other civil	15	85	7	16	123
Criminal (capital)	0	4	0	0	4
Other criminal	49	168	78	25	320
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0
Post conviction	1	0	0	0	1
Total	72	279	89	45	485

Processing Time from Docket to Opinion*

Type of Case	Number of Cases	Median (Days)	Mean (Days)
Civil domestic	2	200	200
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	0	0	0
Juvenile	1	219	219
Petitions for review granted that became civil juvenile appeals	0	0	0
Other civil	18	331	390
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	9	554	551
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	0	0	0
Other criminal	18	345	349
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	19	435	473
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0
Total	67	385	408

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

Dispositions of Appeals

Dispositions by Withdrawal or Dismissal	Number of Cases
Civil domestic	4
Juvenile	0
Other civil	37
Criminal (capital)	1
Other criminal	136
Administrative agency decision	1
Total	179

Dispositions of Appeals

Dispositions by Signed Opinion*	Affirmed	Affirmed in Part; Reversed in Part	Affirmed in Part; Reversed in Part; Remanded	Reversed	New Sentence Hearing	Reversed and Remanded	Other	Total Dispositions
Civil domestic	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Juvenile	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other civil	6	0	0	3	0	6	4	19
Criminal (capital)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal	4	1	3	5	0	5	4	22
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	11	1	3	11	0	0	9	43

*No activity was reported for new trial; no error.

Dispositions by Per Curiam Opinion**	Affirmed	Affirmed in Part; Reversed in Part	Reversed	Reversed and Remanded	Other	Total Dispositions
Civil domestic	0	0	0	0	0	1
Juvenile	2	0	0	0	0	0
Other civil	9	0	1	1	3	8
Criminal (capital)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal	10	0	3	1	4	15
Administrative agency decision	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	11	0	4	2	7	24

**No activity was reported for affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded; new sentencing hearing; new trial; no error.

COURT OF APPEALS



2018–2019 CASELOAD

In addition to trend data for the past 10 years, the following tables provide data about filings and dispositions for cases on appeal, petitions, and motions during FY 2018 – 19. “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 supersedeas. “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.

Filings and Dispositions of Appeals and Petitions*

Fiscal Year	Filings	Dispositions
2018 – 19	2,062	2,133
2017 – 18	2,214	2,178
2016 – 17	2,264	2,201
2015 – 16	2,183	2,229
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

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

Caseload Inventory

Type	Begin Pending Cases	Incoming	Disposed	End Pending Cases	Cases Disposed with Oral Argument	Cases Disposed Without Oral Argument	Published Cases	Unpublished Cases	Average Days Calendar to Opinion	Average Days Docket to Opinion
Agency	6	13	8	11	4	4	4	3	42	268
Domestic	103	118	120	101	3	117	49	56	98	290
Juvenile	141	169	183	127	0	183	34	135	31	209
Civil other	568	386	410	544	93	317	161	434	104	295
Criminal other	1,175	613	604	1,184	54	550	153	173	73	288
Total	1,993	1,299	1,325	1,967	154	1,171	401	801	77	274

Cases Filed	Number of Cases
Appeals	1,247
Motions	4,746
Petitions	815
Motions and petitions	5,561
Records, motions, and petitions	6,808
Appeals disposed by written opinion*	1,168
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was affirmed	668
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was reversed	188
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was affirmed in part and reversed in part	306
Appeals disposed by the Court of Appeals other than by written opinion	150
Appeals disposed by the Court of Appeals	1,318
Causes certified from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court after determination by the Court of Appeals	554
Causes after determination by the Court of Appeals in which certiorari to the Court of Appeals was disallowed by the Supreme Court	301

*One opinion may dispose of more than one appeal.

Cases Filed	Number of Cases
Cases on appeal	
Civil cases appealed from district courts	335
Civil cases appealed from superior courts	290
Civil cases appealed from administrative agencies	58
Criminal cases appealed from superior courts	560
Total cases on appeal	1,243

Disposition of Motions and Petitions

Type	Number of Cases
Disposition of Motions	
Allowed	3,991
Denied	248
Dismissed	219
Dismissed as moot	34
Other	38
Referred	88
Spec order	55
Withdrawn	0
Total	4,673
Disposition of Petitions	
Allowed	45
Denied	364
Dismissed	62
Dismissed as moot	11
Other	2
Referred	54
Spec order	217
Total	755
Petitions Filed	
Petition for Writ of Certiorari (PWC)	517
Petition for Writ of Mandamus (WR-MAN)	148
Petition for Writ of Supersedeas (PWS)	45
Petition for Writ of Prohibition (PET-PROHIB)	3
Other	105
Total	815

Manner of Case Dispositions (Opinions Only)

Affirmed*	Reversed*	Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part*	Other Cases Disposed	Total Cases Disposed
668	188	306	150	1,318

*Cases disposed by written opinion.



justice for all

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