

JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022



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# 2021-2022

STATISTICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORT OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
APPELLATE COURTS

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# SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA



## 2021–2022 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
2021 – 22	139	135
2020 – 21	186	152
2019 – 20	196	141
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

### Petitions Docketed and Disposed

Fiscal Year	Petitions Docketed	Petitions Disposed
2021 – 22	441	753
2020 – 21	448	219
2019 – 20	475	419
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

## Caseload Inventory

Petitions for Review	Begin Pending (7/1/21)	Filed	Disposed	End Pending (6/30/22)
Civil domestic	15	11	19	7
Juvenile	14	6	13	7
Other civil	159	139	222	76
Criminal (death sentence)	2	0	2	0
Other criminal	340	283	496	127
Administrative agency decision	1	2	1	2
<b>Total petitions for review</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>219</b>

Appeals	Begin Pending (7/1/21)	Filed	Disposed	End Pending (6/30/22)
Civil domestic	4	0	4	0
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	4	1	4	1
Juvenile	100	26	105	21
Petitions for review granted that became juvenile appeals	3	3	0	6
Other civil	47	38	0	85
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	0	26	5	21
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	5	5	0	10
Other criminal	39	21	0	60
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	20	19	17	22
Administrative agency decision	1	0	0	1
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0
<b>Total appeals</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>227</b>

Other Proceedings	Filed	Disposed
Rule 16(b) additional issues	8	5
Motions	1,181	1,215
<b>Total other proceedings</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,220</b>

### Submission of Cases Reaching Decision Stage

Cases Argued	Number of Cases
Civil domestic	3
Juvenile	13
Other civil	35
Criminal (capital)	0
Other criminal	35
Administrative agency decision	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>

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)]	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>

### Dispositions of Petitions

Petitions For Review	Allowed	Denied	Dismissed / Withdrawn	Other	Total
Civil domestic	1	18	0	0	19
Juvenile	3	10	0	0	13
Other civil	26	196	0	0	222
Criminal (capital)	0	2	0	0	2
Other criminal	19	477	0	0	496
Administrative agency decision	0	1	0	0	1
Post conviction	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>753</b>

### 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	1	0	0	1	2
Juvenile	74	1	0	3	0	4	7	89
Other civil	12	0	3	3	0	6	6	30
Criminal (capital)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other criminal	9	1	3	8	0	7	4	32
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>154</b>

\*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	2	0	0	0	0	2
Juvenile	5	0	0	0	0	5
Other civil	2	0	1	0	1	4
Criminal (capital)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal	3	0	0	0	1	4
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>

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

## Dispositions of Appeals

Dispositions by Withdrawal or Dismissal	Number of Cases
Civil domestic	0
Juvenile	0
Other civil	0
Criminal (capital)	0
Other criminal	0
Administrative agency decision	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

## Processing Time from Docket to Opinion\*

Type of Case	Number of Cases	Median (Days)	Mean (Days)
Civil domestic	3	400	374
Petitions for review granted that became civil domestic appeals	1	403	403
Juvenile	91	311	313
Petitions for review granted that became civil juvenile appeals	3	372	366
Other civil	28	438	479
Petitions for review granted that became other civil appeals	6	710	677
Criminal, defendant sentenced to death	1	864	864
Other criminal	18	481	485
Petitions for review granted that became other criminal appeals	18	578	615
Administrative agency decision	0	0	0
Petitions for review granted that became appeals of administrative agency decision	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>558</b>

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

# COURT OF APPEALS



## 2021–2022 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 2021 – 22. “Cases on appeal” include cases appealed from district courts, superior courts, and administrative agencies. They are counted as appeals upon the filing of a record with the clerk’s office. The “petition” category includes petitions involving the four extraordinary writs set out in Article V of the Rules of Appellate Procedure: certiorari, mandamus, prohibition, and supersedeas; petitions for rehearing filed under Rule 31 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure, petitions for writ of habeas corpus, and a few miscellaneous filings. “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
2021 – 22	1,621	1,594
2020 – 21	1,530	1,484
2019 – 20	1,765	1,892
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

\*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	39	42	59	22	24	35	25	21	93	324
Domestic	109	101	122	88	19	103	44	59	116	356
Juvenile	59	185	115	129	8	107	25	89	54	208
Civil other	285	309	327	267	114	213	103	155	105	331
Criminal other	369	350	396	323	61	335	124	235	104	386
<b>Total</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>321</b>

\*Note: Errors in reporting prior fiscal year data for the Case Inventory of the Court of Appeals were discovered and corrected for FY 2020-21. Due to these errors, this data is not comparable to that in reports prior to FY 2020-21.

Cases Filed	Number of Cases
Appeals	1,000
Motions	3,806
Petitions	621
Motions and petitions	4,427
Records, motions, and petitions	5,427
Appeals disposed by written opinion*	880
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was affirmed	514
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was reversed	163
Appeals in which the judgment or order of a trial tribunal was affirmed in part and reversed in part	202
Appeals disposed by the Court of Appeals other than by written opinion	150
Appeals disposed by the Court of Appeals	1,030
Causes certified from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court after determination by the Court of Appeals	420
Causes after determination by the Court of Appeals in which certiorari to the Court of Appeals was disallowed by the Supreme Court	175

\*One opinion may dispose of more than one appeal.

Cases Filed	Number of Cases
<b>Cases on appeal</b>	
Civil cases appealed from district courts	320
Civil cases appealed from superior courts	282
Civil cases appealed from administrative agencies	44
Criminal cases appealed from superior courts	354
<b>Total cases on appeal</b>	<b>1,000</b>

## Disposition of Motions and Petitions

Type	Number of Cases
<b>Disposition of Motions</b>	
Allowed	3,276
Denied	221
Dismissed	166
Dismissed as moot	61
Other	30
Referred	33
Special order	12
Withdrawn	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,800</b>
<b>Disposition of Petitions</b>	
Allowed	94
Denied	272
Dismissed	167
Dismissed as moot	15
Other	6
Special order	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>564</b>
<b>Petitions Filed</b>	
Petition for Writ of Certiorari (PWC)	358
Petition for Writ of Mandamus (PWM)	105
Petition for Writ of Supersedeas (PWS)	80
Petition for Writ of Prohibition (PWP)	7
Other	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>621</b>

## Manner of Case Dispositions (Opinions Only)

Affirmed*	Reversed*	Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part*	Other Cases Disposed	Total Cases Disposed
514	163	202	151	1,030

\*Cases disposed by written opinion.

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