



NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH

Director Judge Marion R. Warren

Chief Justice Mark Martin

IMPORTANT STATISTICS AS OF JUNE 30, 2018

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
- 107 superior court judges
- 272 district court judges
- 100 clerks of superior court
- 44 district attorneys

6,373.25 total full-time equivalent positions from all funding sources, as of June 30, 2018 (does not include Indigent Defense Services)

BUDGET

\$530.2 million certified state appropriations for FY 2017 – 18

2.25% of total State General Fund Budget

About the FY 2017 – 18 Budget

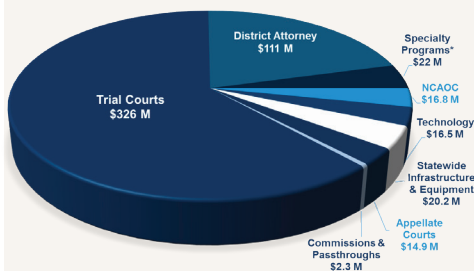
91.9% salaries and benefits

29.6% of funds (\$157 million) supports constitutionally mandated positions

FY 2017 – 18 State General Fund Appropriations

Certified Budget Total: \$23.5 billion

Judicial Certified: \$530.2 million



*Specialty services, courts, and alternative dispute resolution

Note: The certified budget is the budget enacted by the General Assembly.



Under the North Carolina 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: appellate, superior court, and district court.

The North Carolina 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. Services include providing administrative support to the nearly 6,400 employees of the Judicial Branch, which includes 545 independently elected judicial officials.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is head of the Judicial Branch and appoints a director to supervise the NCAOC. General Statute 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 statewide judicial system. Counties and cities, however, are responsible for providing courtrooms and related judicial physical facilities.

NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH STATISTICS—FISCAL YEAR 2017–18

Monies disbursed	\$711,140,179	total disbursements through Clerk of Superior Court Financial Management System
	\$257,204,606	remitted to State Treasurer for General Fund
	\$32,249,013	disbursed to other entities
	\$5,251,767	receipts collected and disbursed for special operations
	\$69,924,098	disbursed to local governments
	\$346,510,695	disbursed to citizens

	District Court <i>272 judges</i>	Superior Court <i>107 judges</i>	Court of Appeals <i>15 judges</i>	Supreme Court <i>7 justices</i>
Caseload	2,288,102	total cases filed	262,488	total cases filed
	2,599,630	total cases disposed	291,654	total cases disposed
	206,328	civil magistrate cases filed	17,044	civil superior cases filed*
	205,925	civil magistrate cases disposed	15,990	civil superior cases disposed
	188,088	civil district cases filed	105,303	felony cases filed
	189,630	civil district cases disposed	128,210	felony cases disposed
	1,387,735	criminal cases filed	25,798	misdemeanor cases filed**
	1,637,419	criminal cases disposed	28,544	misdemeanor cases disposed
	505,951	infraction cases filed	75,327	estate cases filed
	566,656	infraction cases disposed	78,516	estate cases disposed
		39,016	special proceedings filed***	
		40,394	special proceedings disposed	

*The number of civil cases filed and disposed in superior court includes business court cases.

**The number of misdemeanor cases filed and disposed in superior court includes cases that originated in superior court, were transferred to superior court, and were appealed from district court. Also includes DWI cases.

***The number of special proceedings cases filed and disposed reflects those cases that are non-confidential.

Time to disposition <i>(median time to disposition)</i>	13	days civil magistrate cases	211	days total civil superior court cases
	68	days civil district court cases	252	days superior court felony cases
	100	days district court felony cases	209	days superior court misdemeanor cases, other than traffic
	76	days infractions cases	104	days special proceeding cases
	172	days district court misdemeanor cases, other than traffic		

Personnel	6,373.25	total Judicial Branch personnel*	681.50	assistant district attorneys
	401.00	justices and judges	8.00	trial court administrators
	100.00	clerks of superior court	1,200.425	court support personnel
	2,623.10	clerk personnel	403.75	NCAOC staff
	671.60	magistrates	178.875	Guardian ad Litem personnel
	44.00	district attorneys	61.00	Other**

*The total figures include grant-funded FTEs but not Indigent Defense Services FTEs.

**“Other” includes Judicial Standards Commission, Conference of District Attorneys, Dispute Resolution Commission, Equal Access to Justice Commission, Conference of Clerks of Superior Court, Innocence Inquiry Commission, Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, North Carolina Commission on the Administration of Law and Justice, and Pro Bono Resource Center positions.

Miscellaneous	18,060	abused or neglected children served by the Guardian ad Litem program	25	districts with court arbitration programs
			14	districts with funded family court