

FY2010-11 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update

December 2011

Introduction and Background

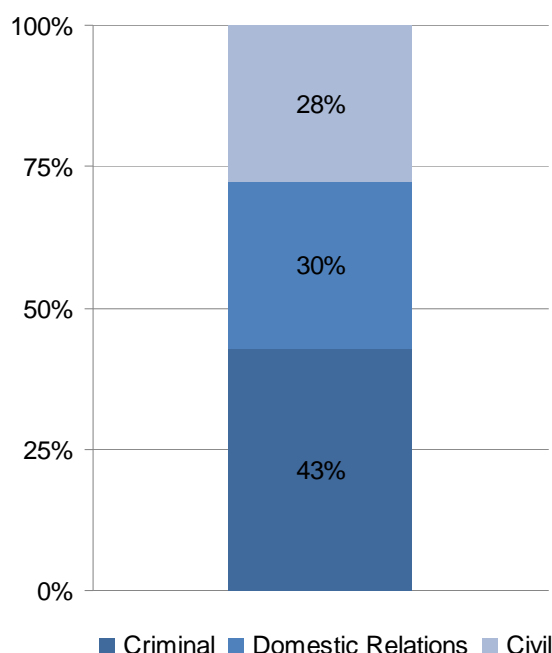
The 1997 appropriations bill¹ passed by the General Assembly required the Comptroller's Office to conduct a judicial weighted caseload study to provide policymakers an objective means to determine the need for judicial resources. The Comptroller's Office contracted with the National Center for State Courts in 1998 to conduct a time study to determine the case weights that are used to calculate workload and full time equivalent judges (FTE judges) needed by each judicial district. In 2007, the Comptroller's Office contracted with the National Center of State Courts to develop a revised weighted caseload model for Tennessee's general jurisdiction trial judges based on a new time study and case filings in FY 2006.² *Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.)* 16-2-513 requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to update the judicial weighted caseload study annually to assess the workload and need for judicial resources, or FTE judges. This update provides estimates based on cases filed in FY 2011.

The 2007 model was adjusted in 2009 to better reflect the time required to handle complex appeals from administrative hearings in District 20 (Davidson County). A review by the Comptroller's Office of Research, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the National Center for State Courts, and the chancellors in Davidson County concluded that the case weight developed in the 2007 time study was not representative of the time required for handling complex appeals. District 20 has primary jurisdiction in the state for these complex cases. Based on available

information and using a consensus approach, appeals from administrative hearing cases in Davidson County were divided between complex (35 percent) and routine (65 percent). Complex cases were estimated to average 30 hours per case and routine cases, four hours. Appeals from administrative hearings in other districts are included in the workload assessments as routine cases. Previously, these cases were accounted for only in non-case-related time. This update reflects these adjustments to the case weights from FY 2006 through FY 2011.

The estimated number of FTE judges that courts need is calculated by multiplying the total number of case filings by case weights (average minutes per case for each type of case) and dividing that number by the judges' annual availability for case-specific work.

Exhibit 1: Filings by Case Type, FY 2011



Note: Numbers do not add to 100 because of rounding.
Source: Chart produced by Office of Research staff with data provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

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The quantitative weighted caseload model can approximate judicial workload and the need for judicial resources, but it has limitations. Other factors, such as availability of judicial support staff and local legal practices, also affect judicial resources. State officials should always consider these and other court-specific factors when assessing the need for judicial resources.

Analysis and Conclusions

Case Filings

In FY 2011, 202,975 cases were filed in Tennessee's state courts. Criminal cases accounted for 43 percent of cases, followed by domestic relations cases at 30 percent and civil cases at 28 percent. (See Exhibit 1.)

Overall, filings increased from the previous year by 116 cases (one-tenth of a percent). Criminal cases increased by three percent, civil cases decreased by about three percent, and domestic relations cases decreased by about one percent. The number of major felony, DUI, contract/debt/specific performance, other general civil, real estate, workers compensation, child support (outside of divorce), divorce with children, orders of protection, and other domestic relations cases decreased substantially (over 100 cases each). The number of other felony, probation violations, and probate/trust cases increased substantially (over 100 cases each). Exhibit 2 shows the changes in case filings by type of case.

Exhibit 2: Changes in Trial Court Case Filings by Case Type, FY 2009 to FY 2011

Case Type	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	Change FY10 - FY11	Percent Change
Criminal	82,451	84,272	86,779	2,507	3.0%
Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	8,365	8,862	8,549	-313	-3.5%
Other Felony (C, D, E)	33,654	35,455	36,337	882	2.5%
DUI	4,159	3,801	3,629	-172	-4.5%
Drug Court	841	849	866	17	2.0%
Criminal Appeals (including juvenile delinquency)	558	670	575	-95	-14.2%
Other Misdemeanor	10,002	9,980	10,049	69	0.7%
Probation Violation	24,872	24,655	26,774	2,119	8.6%
Civil	57,720	57,758	56,221	-1,537	-2.7%
Administrative Hearings Routine	345	344	417	73	21.2%
Administrative Hearings Complex (a) (Davidson County Only)	68	67	65	-2	-3.0%
Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	9,353	8,862	7,721	-1,141	-12.9%
Damages/Tort	10,659	10,145	10,233	88	0.9%
Guardianship/Conservatorship	2,352	2,198	2,208	10	0.5%
Judicial Hospitalization	628	633	618	-15	-2.4%
Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	247	221	244	23	10.4%
Medical Malpractice	426	324	343	19	5.9%
Probate/Trust	10,795	11,322	12,005	683	6.0%
Other General Civil	13,532	14,189	13,260	-929	-6.5%
Real Estate	1,741	1,652	1,528	-124	-7.5%
Workers Compensation	7,574	7,801	7,579	-222	-2.8%
Domestic Relations	60,731	60,829	59,975	-854	-1.4%
Child Support (outside of divorce)	13,885	13,987	13,450	-537	-3.8%
Divorce with Children	13,903	14,301	14,186	-115	-0.8%
Divorce without Children	17,055	17,401	17,401	0	0.0%
Protection of Children	4,005	3,849	3,941	92	2.4%
Orders of Protection	8,286	8,414	8,237	-177	-2.1%
Other Domestic Relations	3,597	2,877	2,760	-117	-4.1%
Total Filings	200,902	202,859	202,975	116	0.1%

Note: (a) Administrative hearings complex are estimated at 35% of total administrative hearings for Davidson County only.

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided the AOC.

Full Time Equivalent Judges

Based on FY 2011 case filing data and workload, the state has an estimated net excess of 3.45 FTE judges. (See Exhibit 3.) The weighted caseload update for FY 2010 showed an estimated excess of 1.06 FTE judges. The FY 2009 update showed an estimated excess of 1.71 FTE judges. The change in FY 2011 is due primarily to a decrease in civil cases, especially the more time-intensive real estate and contract/debt/specific performance cases.

Exhibit 4 shows the estimated deficit or excess of FTE judges by district over time.^{3,4} According to the weighted caseload model, four districts show an estimated need for judges in FY 2011 by 0.8 (rounded) FTE judge or more:

- District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson counties) shows a need for 1.58 FTE judges in FY 2011, and has shown a need for over one judge for the last six years.
- District 20 (Davidson County) shows a need for 1.2 FTE judges for FY 2011, and has shown a need for one to three additional judges for the last six years.
- District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne counties) shows a need for 1.04 FTE judges in FY 2011, and has shown a need for about one additional judge for the last six years.
- District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson counties) shows a need for 0.79 FTE judges in FY 2011, and has shown a need for about one judge for the last four years.

According to the weighted caseload model, five districts show an estimated excess in FY 2011 by 0.8 (rounded) FTE judge or more:

- District 30 (Shelby County) shows an excess of 2.73 FTE judges in FY 2011, compared to an excess of 2.32 judges in FY 2010, and 2.47 judges in FY 2009.
- District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane counties) shows an excess of 0.87 FTE judges in FY 2011, and has shown an excess of about one judge for the last six years.
- District 11 (Hamilton County) shows an excess of 0.94 FTE judges in FY 2011.
- District 2 (Sullivan County) shows an excess of 0.78 FTE judges in FY 2011.
- District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore) shows an excess of 0.75 FTE judges in FY 2011.

Exhibit 3: Yearly Trend in Number of Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)

State Net FTE Judges	FY 05	Revised FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11
Total Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)	154.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	152.00
Total Judicial Resources Needed (FTE Judges)	157.28	157.13	152.10	150.64	150.29	150.94	148.55
Net excess or deficit in Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)	-3.28	-5.13	-0.10	1.36	1.71	1.06	3.45

Note: The estimates for FY 2006 through FY 2010 are based on the 2007 weighted caseload model revised to reflect a change in the case weights for Appeals from Administrative Hearings. Beginning in 2006, total judicial resources no longer include two locally-funded probate judges or their cases in District 30.

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided by the AOC.

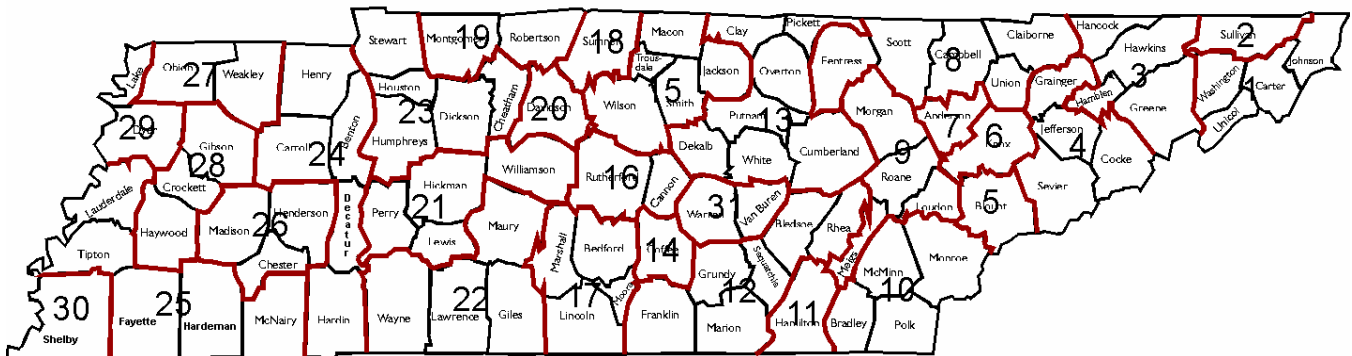
Exhibit 4: Difference between Actual Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Judges and Need for FTE Judges by District, FY 2007 – FY 2011

Judicial District (Counties)	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
District 1 (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)	-0.04	0.34	0.48	0.28	0.36
District 2 (Sullivan)	0.26	0.40	0.56	0.67	0.78
District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)	0.61	0.62	0.63	0.82	0.60
District 4 (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)	0.04	-0.15	-0.48	-0.16	-0.33
District 5 (Blount)	0.26	0.28	0.21	0.21	0.20
District 6 (Knox)	0.12	0.10	0.00	-0.66	0.21
District 7 (Anderson)	0.37	0.10	0.11	-0.16	-0.17
District 8 (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)	-0.29	-0.33	-0.19	-0.55	-0.44
District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)	1.19	1.11	0.98	1.04	0.87
District 10 (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)	-0.18	0.01	-0.16	-0.31	0.04
District 11 (Hamilton)	0.16	0.66	1.13	0.41	0.94
District 12 (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)	-0.47	-0.15	-0.23	-0.12	-0.39
District 13 (Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White)	0.55	-0.09	0.03	0.19	-0.04
District 14 (Coffee)	0.62	0.81	0.86	0.67	0.54
District 15 (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)	0.08	0.00	0.15	0.53	0.46
District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford)	-0.32	-0.18	-0.58	-0.34	-0.59
District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)	0.06	0.48	0.55	0.58	0.75
District 18 (Sumner)	-0.59	-0.52	-0.55	-0.71	-0.49
District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson)	-1.78	-1.81	-1.94	-1.90	-1.58
District 20 (Davidson)	-1.93	-1.87	-2.87	-0.78	-1.20
District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)	-0.49	-0.70	-0.87	-1.63	-0.79
District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)	-1.01	-1.03	-0.89	-1.13	-1.04
District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)	-0.27	-0.43	-0.33	-0.29	-0.24
District 24 (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)	0.46	0.58	0.77	0.64	0.61
District 25 (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)	0.37	-0.09	-0.02	-0.07	0.14
District 26 (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)	0.39	0.37	0.23	0.14	0.10
District 27 (Obion and Weakley)	0.43	0.45	0.53	0.43	0.64
District 28 (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)	0.15	0.44	0.55	0.58	0.53
District 29 (Dyer and Lake)	0.44	0.33	0.62	0.60	0.53
District 30 (Shelby) (b)	0.78	1.66	2.47	2.32	2.73
District 31 (Van Buren and Warren)	-0.08	-0.02	-0.05	-0.25	-0.30
Statewide Excess or Deficit FTE Judges	-0.10	1.36	1.71	1.06	3.45

Note: The estimates for FY 2006 through FY 2010 are based on the 2007 weighted caseload model revised to reflect a change in the case weights for Appeals from Administrative Hearings. Beginning in 2006, total judicial resources no longer include two locally-funded probate judges or their cases in District 30.

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided by the AOC.

Appendix A: Tennessee Judicial Districts



- District 1 - Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington Counties
- District 2 - Sullivan County
- District 3 - Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins Counties
- District 4 - Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier Counties
- District 5 - Blount County
- District 6 - Knox County
- District 7 - Anderson County
- District 8 - Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union Counties
- District 9 - Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane Counties
- District 10 - Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk Counties
- District 11 - Hamilton County
- District 12 - Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie Counties
- District 13 - Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White Counties
- District 14 - Coffee County
- District 15 - Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson Counties
- District 16 - Cannon and Rutherford Counties
- District 17 - Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore Counties
- District 18 - Sumner County
- District 19 - Montgomery and Robertson Counties
- District 20 - Davidson County
- District 21 - Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson Counties
- District 22 - Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne Counties
- District 23 - Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart Counties
- District 24 - Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry Counties
- District 25 - Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton Counties
- District 26 - Chester, Henderson, and Madison Counties
- District 27 - Obion and Weakley Counties
- District 28 - Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood Counties
- District 29 - Dyer and Lake Counties
- District 30 - Shelby County
- District 31 - Van Buren and Warren Counties

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts, 2006.

Appendix B: Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Update, FY 2011, Case Filings per Judicial District

		Case Filings per Judicial District					
	Case Type	Case Weight	1	2	3	4	5
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	184	131	157	149	49
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	1063	894	1459	1373	628
	DUI	74	83	40	73	126	32
	Drug Court	140				25	30
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	70	12	5	13	15
	Other Misdemeanor	24	229	126	268	525	181
	Probation Violation	17	1325	950	564	1176	649
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	2	0	4	11	1
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	225	163	151	463	93
	Damages/Tort	82	261	180	260	302	159
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	71	50	64	36	10
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	1	23	1	0	5
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	4	11	12	7	1
	Medical Malpractice	679	8	10	2	0	1
	Probate/Trust	20	727	540	659	190	1
	Other General Civil	42	371	360	360	430	249
	Real Estate	180	48	25	38	59	36
Workers Compensation	41	74	48	99	83	39	
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	326	261	1115	1287	246
	Divorce with Children	94	536	416	514	533	128
	Divorce without Children	32	751	539	669	696	152
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	153	86	221	176	100
	Orders of Protection	18	30	232	347	542	11
	Other Domestic Relations	6	258	27	330	180	8
Total Filings			6,800	5,124	7,372	8,382	2,824
Workload (Weights x Filings)			309,032	233,588	311,519	372,363	131,111
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			8,094.26	2,149.00	3,906.50	4,863.64	1,680.00
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			66,610	72,555	70,797	69,840	73,024
# Judges			5	4	5	5	2
Total Jud. Off. Demand			4.64	3.22	4.40	5.33	1.80
FTE Deficit or Excess			0.36	0.78	0.60	-0.33	0.20
Criminal Judges Needed			1.80	1.21	1.65	1.95	0.83
Civil Judges Needed			1.48	1.05	1.18	1.70	0.60
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			1.36	0.97	1.57	1.69	0.37
Child Support Magistrate			No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Case Filings per Judicial District

		Case Weight	6	7	8	9	10	11
Criminal	Case Type							
	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	322	73	161	72	307	507
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	1606	644	1226	527	1027	1770
	DUI	74	200	95	64	64	62	256
	Drug Court	140	80	30	30		30	30
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	3	49	1	3	4	83
	Other Misdemeanor	24	375	284	132	83	152	1165
	Probation Violation	17	1343	363	1146	226	1000	1263
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	11	0	21	8	7	12
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800						
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	757	63	191	114	191	468
	Damages/Tort	82	976	164	212	177	287	645
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	526	20	36	25	41	308
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	74	2	0	0	0	104
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	36	9	3	7	3	3
	Medical Malpractice	679	22	3	1	2	3	22
	Probate/Trust	20	1276	299	324	160	362	721
	Other General Civil	42	1313	299	104	133	313	825
	Real Estate	180	55	20	59	120	52	61
Workers Compensation	41	668	154	101	123	149	467	
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	524	252	523	654	689	172
	Divorce with Children	94	1055	185	228	66	586	750
	Divorce without Children	32	1277	188	258	98	791	1003
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	275	152	78	87	189	277
	Orders of Protection	18	2667	103	3	3	640	632
	Other Domestic Relations	6	60	391	12	39	15	194
Total Filings			15,501	3,842	4,914	2,791	6,900	11,738
Workload (Weights x Filings)			729,007	161,718	233,720	142,586	334,625	600,096
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			218.46	218.46	6,705.85	7,804.27	7,173.87	218.46
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			74,485	74,485	67,998	66,900	67,530	74,485
# Judges			10	2	3	3	5	9
Total Jud. Off. Demand			9.79	2.17	3.44	2.13	4.96	8.06
FTE Deficit or Excess			0.21	-0.17	-0.44	0.87	0.04	0.94
Criminal Judges Needed			2.55	0.93	1.72	0.71	1.96	3.35
Civil Judges Needed			4.40	0.71	1.06	1.01	1.29	2.94
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			2.84	0.54	0.65	0.41	1.70	1.77
Child Support Magistrate			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Case Filings per Judicial District

		Case Weight	12	13	14	15	16
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	213	359	124	137	253
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	946	1238	458	911	1100
	DUI	74	127	227	27	75	120
	Drug Court	140	25			25	50
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	13	3	0	14	3
	Other Misdemeanor	24	234	676	104	388	495
	Probation Violation	17	788	1386	251	587	981
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	3	10	2	18	14
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	117	193	53	161	230
	Damages/Tort	82	221	283	119	224	476
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	27	71	11	60	33
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	8	0	0	7	6
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	19	19	0	3	11
	Medical Malpractice	679	3	8	2	6	11
	Probate/Trust	20	220	323	167	483	43
	Other General Civil	42	247	214	122	206	956
	Real Estate	180	61	88	7	47	58
	Workers Compensation	41	98	194	57	133	220
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	1088	272	177	188	571
	Divorce with Children	94	406	433	147	349	794
	Divorce without Children	32	456	509	203	428	763
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	115	146	39	104	184
	Orders of Protection	18	147	5	2	45	730
	Other Domestic Relations	6	299	7	12	29	141
	Total Filings			5,881	6,664	2,084	4,628
Workload (Weights x Filings)			265,690	344,584	108,439	232,217	413,196
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			14,172.68	6,309.21	218.46	9,104.51	721.71
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			60,531	68,395	74,485	65,599	73,982
# Judges			4	5	2	4	5
Total Jud. Off. Demand			4.39	5.04	1.46	3.54	5.59
FTE Deficit or Excess			-0.39	-0.04	0.54	0.46	-0.59
Criminal Judges Needed			1.89	2.61	0.70	1.46	1.90
Civil Judges Needed			1.09	1.41	0.41	1.23	1.88
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			1.40	1.02	0.35	0.86	1.80
Child Support Magistrate			Yes	No	No	No	Yes

Case Filings per Judicial District

		Case Weight	17	18	19	20	21	22
Criminal	Case Type							
	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	103	110	317	1446	163	316
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	342	673	1001	3492	865	1333
	DUI	74	9	45	138	484	128	215
	Drug Court	140		100		150	75	
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	3	20	76	41	11	25
	Other Misdemeanor	24	37	103	601	779	258	578
	Probation Violation	17	129	727	942	3025	622	1,246
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	4	1	7	121	38	10
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800				65		
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	87	195	116	1091	379	146
	Damages/Tort	82	118	223	330	1408	276	220
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	30	67	51	244	96	48
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	0	3	1	236	0	0
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	1	1	6	15	2	14
	Medical Malpractice	679	4	10	5	63	2	9
	Probate/Trust	20	386	416	467	1529	490	522
	Other General Civil	42	218	563	423	1500	527	316
	Real Estate	180	15	29	36	116	53	43
	Workers Compensation	41	124	110	112	3178	87	230
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	448	354	511	916	384	728
	Divorce with Children	94	328	494	882	911	578	443
	Divorce without Children	32	333	511	964	1430	458	474
	Protection of Children (paternity,adoption,legitimation,surrender,TPR)	47	63	107	202	148	133	133
	Orders of Protection	18	64	434	5	994	14	222
	Other Domestic Relations	6	9	27	1	413	32	85
Total Filings			2,855	5,323	7,194	23,795	5,671	7,356
Workload (Weights x Filings)			142,592	259,681	368,219	1,418,669	316,247	340,079
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			11,465.78	218.46	8,695.76	831.35	8,629.71	7,268.07
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			63,238	74,485	66,008	73,873	66,074	67,436
# Judges			3	3	4	18	4	4
Total Jud. Off. Demand			2.25	3.49	5.58	19.20	4.79	5.04
FTE Deficit or Excess			0.75	-0.49	-1.58	-1.20	-0.79	-1.04
Criminal Judges Needed			0.60	1.13	2.24	7.47	1.61	2.53
Civil Judges Needed			0.78	1.24	1.31	9.33	1.91	1.29
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			0.87	1.12	2.03	2.40	1.27	1.22
Child Support Magistrate			No	No	Yes	No	No	No

Case Filings per Judicial District

	Case Type	Case Weight	23	24	25	26	27
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	181	229	210	206	77
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	891	425	954	726	200
	DUI	74	149	21	49	45	3
	Drug Court	140	35			60	40
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	41	10	12	0	4
	Other Misdemeanor	24	318	32	55	181	14
	Probation Violation	17	694	460	884	679	251
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	1	3	4	7	3
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	109	78	234	282	36
	Damages/Tort	82	120	140	213	226	52
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	23	37	92	13	26
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	0	0	147	0	0
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	3	6	13	5	0
	Medical Malpractice	679	3	7	2	8	4
	Probate/Trust	20	168	439	309	98	207
	Other General Civil	42	263	163	285	404	127
Real Estate	180	36	41	40	49	9	
Workers Compensation	41	54	78	80	143	271	
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	341	80	146	135	130
	Divorce with Children	94	371	197	354	599	154
	Divorce without Children	32	417	210	825	969	186
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	181	47	84	77	34
	Orders of Protection	18	48	3	40	7	0
	Other Domestic Relations	6	4	6	19	19	32
Total Filings			4,451	2,712	5,051	4,938	1,860
Workload (Weights x Filings)			224,651	155,083	252,564	285,195	93,889
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			5,362.22	9,760.73	9,213.92	1,655.21	5,620.91
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			69,342	64,943	65,490	73,049	69,083
# Judges			3	3	4	4	2
Total Jud. Off. Demand			3.24	2.39	3.86	3.90	1.36
FTE Deficit or Excess			-0.24	0.61	0.14	0.10	0.64
Criminal Judges Needed			1.60	1.11	1.56	1.35	0.49
Civil Judges Needed			0.71	0.83	1.26	1.27	0.51
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			0.93	0.45	1.03	1.29	0.36
Child Support Magistrate			Yes	No	No	No	No

Case Filings per Judicial District

		Case Weight	28	29	30	31	Totals
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	101	130	1619	143	8,549
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	387	421	7456	301	36,337
	DUI	74	32	8	599	33	3,629
	Drug Court	140		26		25	866
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	15	4	11	11	575
	Other Misdemeanor	24	79	61	1355	181	10,049
	Probation Violation	17	168	272	2360	317	26,774
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	1	7	86	0	417
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					65
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	63	21	1218	33	7,721
	Damages/Tort	82	74	64	1770	53	10,233
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	47	17	3	25	2,208
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	0	0	0	0	618
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	1	1	28	0	244
	Medical Malpractice	679	0	5	116	1	343
	Probate/Trust	20	229	88	6	156	12,005
	Other General Civil	42	131	99	1668	71	13,260
	Real Estate	180	28	56	126	17	1,528
Workers Compensation	41	46	43	282	34	7,579	
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	340	289	195	108	13,450
	Divorce with Children	94	137	124	1382	106	14,186
	Divorce without Children	32	176	157	1432	78	17,401
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	26	18	266	40	3,941
	Orders of Protection	18	1	49	0	217	8,237
	Other Domestic Relations	6	3	3	87	18	2,760
Total Filings			2,085	1,963	22,065	1,968	202,975
Workload (Weights x Filings)			103,291	109,027	1,435,406	96,974	10,525,059
Judge Year (210 days per year, 7.5 hrs per day)			94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500	94,500
Average District Travel per year			4,508.05	625.94	215.19	362.25	3,836
Non-case related Time (1.57 hrs/day)			19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796	19,796
Availability for Case-Specific Work			70,196	74,078	74,489	74,342	70,868
# Judges			2	2	22	1	152
Total Jud. Off. Demand			1.47	1.47	19.27	1.30	148.55
FTE Deficit or Excess			0.53	0.53	2.73	-0.30	3.45
Criminal Judges Needed			0.62	0.72	10.08	0.75	61.09
Civil Judges Needed			0.46	0.42	6.59	0.28	51.61
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			0.38	0.33	2.59	0.28	35.86
Child Support Magistrate			No	No	No	No	

Source: Model developed by National Center of State Courts in 2007 with a revision to case weights for Administrative Hearings in 2009. Data for FY 2010 filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

Endnotes

- 1 Public Chapter 552 (1997), Section 12, Item 35
- 2 National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Trial Courts, Judicial Weighted Caseload Study*, 2007, <http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/Repository/RE/judicial07.pdf>. See study for a complete explanation of methodology and qualitative issues to consider.
- 3 See Appendix A for a map of Tennessee Judicial Districts.
- 4 See Appendix B for the detailed calculations of judicial resource need statewide and by judicial district.



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