

## FY2009-10 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update

Susan Mattson, Senior Legislative Research Analyst  
(615) 401-7884/ [Susan.Mattson@tn.gov](mailto:Susan.Mattson@tn.gov)

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### Introduction and Background

The 1997 appropriations bill<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> *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 2010.

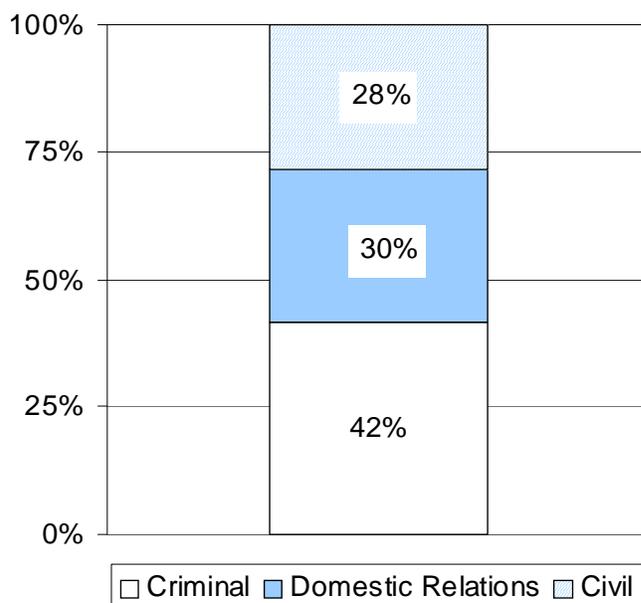
The 2007 model was adjusted in 2009 to better reflect the time required to handle complex appeals from administrative hearings in District 20 (Davidson County). A review by the Comptroller's Office of Research, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the National Center for State Courts, and the chancellors 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 FY2006 through FY 2010.

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.

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.

**Exhibit 1: Filings by Case Type, FY 2010**



Source: Chart produced by Office of Research staff with data provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

## Analysis and Conclusions

### Case Filings

In FY 2010, 202,859 cases were filed in Tennessee's state courts. Criminal cases accounted for 42 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 1,957 cases (one percent). Criminal cases increased about two percent, civil cases increased by one-tenth of a percent, and domestic relations cases increased

two-tenths of a percent. The number of DUI, probation violation, contract/debt, damages/tort, guardian/conservatorship, medical malpractice, protection of children, and other domestic relations cases decreased substantially (over 100 cases). The number of major felony, other felony, criminal appeals, probate/trust, other general civil, workers compensation, child support (outside of divorce) divorce with children, divorce without children, and orders of protection cases increased substantially (over 100 cases). Exhibit 2 shows the changes in case filings by type of case.

**Exhibit 2: Changes in Trial Court Case Filings by Case Type, FY 2008 – FY 2010**

Case Type	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	Change FY09 - FY10	Percent Change
<b>Criminal</b>	<b>83,904</b>	<b>82,451</b>	<b>84,272</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	8,649	8,365	8,862	497	5.9%
Other Felony (C, D, E)	33,539	33,654	35,455	1,801	5.4%
DUI	4,409	4,159	3,801	-358	-8.6%
Drug Court	841	841	849	8	1.0%
Criminal Appeals (including juvenile delinquency)	551	558	670	112	20.1%
Other Misdemeanor	10,702	10,002	9,980	-22	-0.2%
Probation Violation	25,213	24,872	24,655	-217	-0.9%
<b>Civil</b>	<b>57,405</b>	<b>57,720</b>	<b>57,758</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
Administrative Hearings Routine	273	345	344	-1	-0.3%
Administrative Hearings Complex (Davidson County Only)	60	68	67	-1	-1.5%
Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	8,193	9,353	8,862	-491	-5.2%
Damages/Tort	10,634	10,659	10,145	-514	-4.8%
Guardianship/Conservatorship	2,308	2,352	2,198	-154	-6.5%
Judicial Hospitalization	826	628	633	5	0.8%
Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	260	247	221	-26	-10.5%
Medical Malpractice	537	426	324	-102	-23.9%
Probate/Trust	10,836	10,795	11,322	527	4.9%
Other General Civil	14,001	13,532	14,189	657	4.9%
Real Estate	1,986	1,741	1,652	-89	-5.1%
Workers Compensation	7,491	7,574	7,801	227	3.0%
<b>Domestic Relations</b>	<b>58,407</b>	<b>60,731</b>	<b>60,829</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Child Support (outside of divorce)	12,026	13,885	13,987	102	0.7%
Divorce with Children	14,073	13,903	14,301	398	2.9%
Divorce without Children	17,003	17,055	17,401	346	2.0%
Protection of Children	4,073	4,005	3,849	-156	-3.9%
Orders of Protection	7,399	8,286	8,414	128	1.5%
Other Domestic Relations	3,833	3,597	2,877	-720	-20.0%
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>199,716</b>	<b>200,902</b>	<b>202,859</b>	<b>1,957</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

Notes: (a) Beginning in FY 2008, the AOC added parental residential plans as original case filings under Child Support increasing these filings by 132 cases. (b) 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 by the AOC.

**Full Time Equivalent Judges**

**Based on FY 2010 case filing data and workload, the state has an estimated net excess of 1.06 FTE judges.** (See Exhibit 3.) The weighted caseload update for FY2010 showed an estimated excess of 1.06 FTE judges. For FY2009 the update showed an estimated excess of 1.71 FTE judges. The change is due primarily to an increase in more time-intensive cases, such as major and other felonies..

Exhibit 4 shows the estimated deficit or excess of FTE judges by district over time.<sup>3,4</sup> According to the weighted caseload model, four districts show an estimated need for judges in FY 2010 by 0.8 FTE judge or more:

- District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson counties) shows a need for 1.90 FTE judges in FY 2010, and has shown a need for over one judge for the last five years.
- District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson counties) shows a need for 1.63 FTE judges in FY 2010, and has shown a need for about one judge for the last three years.
- District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne counties) shows a need for 1.13 FTE judges in FY 2010, and has shown a need for about one additional judge for the last five years.
- District 20 (Davidson County) shows a need for 0.8 FTE judge for FY 2010, and has shown a need for about two additional judges for the prior four years.

According to the weighted caseload model, three districts show an estimated excess in FY 2010 by 0.8 FTE judge or more:

- District 30 (Shelby County) shows an excess of 2.32 FTE judges in FY 2010, compared to an excess of 2.47 judges in FY 2008, and 1.66 judges in FY 2007.
- District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane counties) shows an excess of 1.04 FTE judges in FY 2010, and has shown an excess of about one judge for the last five years.
- District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins counties) shows an excess of .82 FTE judge in FY 2010.

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

<b>State Net FTE Judges</b>	<b>FY 04</b>	<b>FY 05</b>	<b>Revised FY 06</b>	<b>FY 07</b>	<b>FY 08</b>	<b>FY 09</b>	<b>FY 10</b>
Total Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)	153.25	154.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	152.00
Total Judicial Resources Needed (FTE Judges)	157.21	157.28	157.13	152.10	150.64	150.29	150.94
<b>Net excess or deficit in Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)</b>	<b>-3.96</b>	<b>-3.28</b>	<b>-5.13</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>1.06</b>

*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 FY 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.*

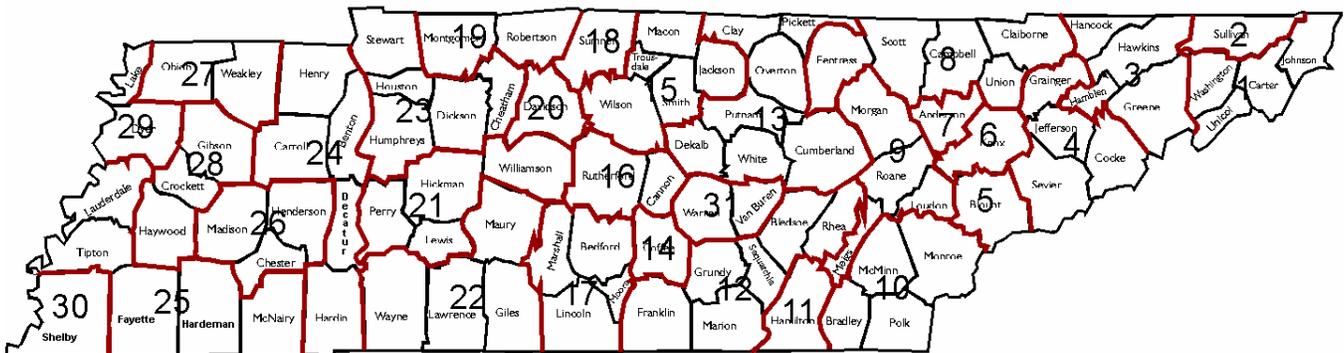
**Exhibit 4: Difference between Actual Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Judges and Need for FTE Judges by District, FY 2006 – FY 2010**

<b>Judicial District (Counties)</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>
District 1 (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)	-0.49	-0.04	0.34	0.48	0.28
District 2 (Sullivan)	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.56	0.67
District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)	0.53	0.61	0.62	0.63	0.82
District 4 (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)	0.36	0.04	-0.15	-0.48	-0.16
District 5 (Blount)	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.21	0.21
District 6 (Knox)	-0.18	0.12	0.10	0.00	-0.66
District 7 (Anderson)	0.41	0.37	0.10	0.11	-0.16
District 8 (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)	-0.32	-0.29	-0.33	-0.19	-0.55
District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)	0.96	1.19	1.11	0.98	1.04
District 10 (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)	-0.49	-0.18	0.01	-0.16	-0.31
District 11 (Hamilton)	-0.61	0.16	0.66	1.13	0.41
District 12 (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)	-0.73	-0.47	-0.15	-0.23	-0.12
District 13 (Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White)	0.38	0.55	-0.09	0.03	0.19
District 14 (Coffee)	0.59	0.62	0.81	0.86	0.67
District 15 (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)	-0.35	0.08	0.00	0.15	0.53
District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford)	-0.58	-0.32	-0.18	-0.58	-0.34
District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)	0.14	0.06	0.48	0.55	0.58
District 18 (Sumner)	-0.91	-0.59	-0.52	-0.55	-0.71
District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson)	-1.46	-1.78	-1.81	-1.94	-1.90
District 20 (Davidson)	-2.73	-1.93	-1.87	-2.87	-0.78
District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)	-0.39	-0.49	-0.70	-0.87	-1.63
District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)	-1.04	-1.01	-1.03	-0.89	-1.13
District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)	-0.43	-0.27	-0.43	-0.33	-0.29
District 24 (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)	0.60	0.46	0.58	0.77	0.64
District 25 (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)	0.17	0.37	-0.09	-0.02	-0.07
District 26 (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)	0.18	0.39	0.37	0.23	0.14
District 27 (Obion and Weakley)	0.31	0.43	0.45	0.53	0.43
District 28 (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)	0.09	0.15	0.44	0.55	0.58
District 29 (Dyer and Lake)	0.41	0.44	0.33	0.62	0.60
District 30 (Shelby) (b)	-0.15	0.78	1.66	2.47	2.32
District 31 (Van Buren and Warren)	-0.18	-0.08	-0.02	-0.05	-0.25
<b>Statewide Excess or Deficit FTE Judges</b>	<b>-5.13</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>1.06</b>

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 2010, 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	180	142	157	148	39
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	1,137	951	1,155	1,498	545
	DUI	74	85	22	71	156	17
	Drug Court	140				8	30
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	120	6	16	16	7
	Other Misdemeanor	24	241	148	188	559	117
	Probation Violation	17	1,145	726	457	1,151	511
	General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	7	1	7	4
Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.		1800					
Contract/Debt/Specific Performance		115	213	184	167	415	149
Damages/Tort		82	242	200	249	368	186
Guardianship/Conservatorship		41	60	39	66	27	18
Judicial Hospitalization		17	7	21	3	1	14
Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)		35	4	3	15	14	3
Medical Malpractice		679	10	11	0	0	1
Probate/Trust		20	514	498	646	186	0
Other General Civil		42	522	356	331	370	176
Real Estate		180	62	36	43	83	28
Workers Compensation		41	59	51	112	86	48
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	406	401	1,074	869	300
	Divorce with Children	94	556	438	497	482	153
	Divorce without Children	32	671	493	693	627	203
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	136	82	252	133	103
	Orders of Protection	18	31	249	418	512	31
	Other Domestic Relations	6	189	17	331	215	8
	<b>Total Filings</b>			<b>6,597</b>	<b>5,075</b>	<b>6,948</b>	<b>7,928</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>			<b>314,434</b>	<b>241,942</b>	<b>295,873</b>	<b>360,182</b>	<b>130,487</b>
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
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>			<b>66,610</b>	<b>72,555</b>	<b>70,797</b>	<b>69,840</b>	<b>73,024</b>
# Judges			5	4	5	5	2
Total Jud. Off. Demand			4.72	3.33	4.18	5.16	1.79
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>			<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>-0.16</b>	<b>0.21</b>
Criminal Judges Needed			1.84	1.20	1.40	2.03	0.68
Civil Judges Needed			1.53	1.12	1.19	1.70	0.67
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			1.36	1.02	1.59	1.43	0.45
Child Support Magistrate			No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

**Case Filings per Judicial District**

		<b>Case Weight</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Case Type</b>								
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	463	68	169	61	361	606
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	1,711	672	1,198	547	1,170	1,974
	DUI	74	297	56	49	35	56	320
	Drug Court	140	80	30	30		30	30
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	1	42	3	3	0	108
	Other Misdemeanor	24	507	225	139	73	130	1,232
	Probation Violation	17	1,125	241	1,055	174	813	1,345
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	9	0	20	2	1	11
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800						
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	833	88	208	163	217	509
	Damages/Tort	82	1,031	174	205	165	284	639
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	563	27	40	19	46	281
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	64	0	1	1	2	116
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	28	21	2	5	3	0
	Medical Malpractice	679	33	8	4	6	1	14
	Probate/Trust	20	1,259	293	339	68	405	747
	Other General Civil	42	1,289	237	184	142	327	921
	Real Estate	180	91	21	77	76	68	66
Workers Compensation	41	587	253	118	97	157	523	
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	628	262	458	498	1,041	205
	Divorce with Children	94	1,049	149	229	65	614	764
	Divorce without Children	32	1,389	200	242	96	749	944
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	265	121	87	108	154	258
	Orders of Protection	18	2,694	109	1	1	657	603
	Other Domestic Relations	6	78	443	30	100	15	114
<b>Total Filings</b>			<b>16,074</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>2,505</b>	<b>7,301</b>	<b>12,330</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>			<b>794,266</b>	<b>160,717</b>	<b>241,168</b>	<b>131,378</b>	<b>358,508</b>	<b>639,905</b>
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
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>			<b>74,485</b>	<b>74,485</b>	<b>67,998</b>	<b>66,900</b>	<b>67,530</b>	<b>74,485</b>
# Judges			10	2	3	3	5	9
Total Jud. Off. Demand			10.66	2.16	3.55	1.96	5.31	8.59
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>			<b>-0.66</b>	<b>-0.16</b>	<b>-0.55</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>-0.31</b>	<b>0.41</b>
Criminal Judges Needed			3.04	0.84	1.69	0.65	2.14	3.84
Civil Judges Needed			4.71	0.83	1.23	0.94	1.36	3.01
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			2.91	0.49	0.63	0.38	1.81	1.75
Child Support Magistrate			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

**Case Filings per Judicial District**

		<b>Case Weight</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
Criminal	<b>Case Type</b>						
	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	170	278	101	124	245
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	878	1,118	301	708	987
	DUI	74	122	250	34	89	122
	Drug Court	140	25			25	50
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	7	10	1	17	11
	Other Misdemeanor	24	242	755	55	313	439
	Probation Violation	17	658	1,241	191	529	987
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	1	5	0	5	5
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	148	204	46	227	310
	Damages/Tort	82	206	316	131	185	405
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	40	61	14	56	24
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	4	1	0	7	3
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	20	8	0	3	12
	Medical Malpractice	679	1	4	0	4	8
	Probate/Trust	20	235	330	146	479	21
	Other General Civil	42	239	218	193	238	748
	Real Estate	180	68	112	8	44	44
	Workers Compensation	41	117	214	64	147	232
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	847	310	331	189	607
	Divorce with Children	94	363	409	150	404	829
	Divorce without Children	32	453	512	170	524	787
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	152	144	30	94	142
	Orders of Protection	18	183	1	4	35	705
	Other Domestic Relations	6	461	20	10	29	45
<b>Total Filings</b>			<b>5,640</b>	<b>6,521</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>4,475</b>	<b>7,768</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>			<b>249,310</b>	<b>329,040</b>	<b>98,961</b>	<b>227,770</b>	<b>395,285</b>
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
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>			<b>60,531</b>	<b>68,395</b>	<b>74,485</b>	<b>65,599</b>	<b>73,982</b>
# Judges			4	5	2	4	5
Total Jud. Off. Demand			4.12	4.81	1.33	3.47	5.34
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>			<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>-0.34</b>
Criminal Judges Needed			1.67	2.34	0.53	1.25	1.81
Civil Judges Needed			1.14	1.48	0.43	1.24	1.71
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			1.31	1.00	0.37	0.98	1.83
Child Support Magistrate			Yes	No	No	No	Yes

**Case Filings per Judicial District**

		<b>Case Weight</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Criminal</b>	<b>Case Type</b>							
	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	107	151	317	1,441	129	393
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	339	831	1,126	2,984	872	1,266
	DUI	74	7	62	186	395	166	188
	Drug Court	140		100		150	75	
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	3	18	75	53	6	48
	Other Misdemeanor	24	37	166	562	576	256	531
	Probation Violation	17	149	686	837	3,017	526	1,163
<b>General Civil/Other</b>	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	3	1	8	123	26	15
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800				67		
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	126	228	162	1,192	551	145
	Damages/Tort	82	127	212	353	1,305	284	221
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	33	74	47	277	70	54
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	1	1	0	243	1	0
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	1	4	8	3	7	8
	Medical Malpractice	679	2	3	6	67	4	6
	Probate/Trust	20	388	371	438	1,548	459	504
	Other General Civil	42	209	523	410	1,511	1,379	332
	Real Estate	180	34	39	48	96	75	43
Workers Compensation	41	153	96	110	3,064	88	240	
<b>Domestic Relations</b>	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	364	412	776	772	501	694
	Divorce with Children	94	332	493	864	955	572	453
	Divorce without Children	32	378	502	1,075	1,423	479	473
	Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)	47	75	152	169	146	146	93
	Orders of Protection	18	91	448	6	983	5	219
	Other Domestic Relations	6	42	20	6	316	53	75
<b>Total Filings</b>			<b>3,001</b>	<b>5,593</b>	<b>7,589</b>	<b>22,707</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>7,164</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>			<b>152,768</b>	<b>276,487</b>	<b>389,391</b>	<b>1,387,556</b>	<b>371,913</b>	<b>345,752</b>
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
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>			<b>63,238</b>	<b>74,485</b>	<b>66,008</b>	<b>73,873</b>	<b>66,074</b>	<b>67,436</b>
# Judges			3	3	4	18	4	4
Total Jud. Off. Demand			2.42	3.71	5.90	18.78	5.63	5.13
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>			<b>0.58</b>	<b>-0.71</b>	<b>-1.90</b>	<b>-0.78</b>	<b>-1.63</b>	<b>-1.13</b>
Criminal Judges Needed			0.62	1.35	2.34	7.00	1.53	2.64
Civil Judges Needed			0.91	1.21	1.44	9.38	2.78	1.29
Domestic Relations Judges Needed			0.89	1.16	2.12	2.41	1.31	1.20
Child Support Magistrate			No	No	Yes	No	No	No

**Case Filings per Judicial District**

		<b>Case Weight</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Case Type</b>							
Criminal	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	164	151	255	239	96
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	895	492	899	722	230
	DUI	74	161	24	72	62	8
	Drug Court	140	35			60	40
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	42	9	9	4	3
	Other Misdemeanor	24	345	30	70	152	22
	Probation Violation	17	692	457	757	676	195
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	0	3	4	6	8
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	139	105	323	275	47
	Damages/Tort	82	98	154	200	239	64
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	24	20	85	16	22
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	0	0	141	0	0
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	4	0	8	4	0
	Medical Malpractice	679	1	12	3	6	3
	Probate/Trust	20	170	236	330	95	174
	Other General Civil	42	272	192	237	400	130
	Real Estate	180	31	46	50	46	36
	Workers Compensation	41	48	131	60	162	307
Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	370	147	181	166	124
	Divorce with Children	94	389	214	352	538	173
	Divorce without Children	32	437	182	807	862	193
	Protection of Children (paternity,adoption,legitimation,surrender,TPR)	47	231	49	78	72	27
	Orders of Protection	18	54	4	41	8	0
	Other Domestic Relations	6	15	5	40	12	36
	<b>Total Filings</b>		<b>4,617</b>	<b>2,663</b>	<b>5,002</b>	<b>4,822</b>	<b>1,938</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>		<b>228,149</b>	<b>153,076</b>	<b>266,448</b>	<b>281,660</b>	<b>108,202</b>	
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	
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>		<b>69,342</b>	<b>64,943</b>	<b>65,490</b>	<b>73,049</b>	<b>69,083</b>	
# Judges		3	3	4	4	2	
Total Jud. Off. Demand		3.29	2.36	4.07	3.86	1.57	
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>		<b>-0.29</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>-0.07</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.43</b>	
Criminal Judges Needed		1.58	0.94	1.65	1.44	0.55	
Civil Judges Needed		0.70	0.94	1.39	1.25	0.63	
Domestic Relations Judges Needed		1.01	0.48	1.03	1.17	0.38	
Child Support Magistrate		Yes	No	No	No	No	

**Case Filings per Judicial District**

		<b>Case Weight</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Criminal	<b>Case Type</b>						
	Major Felony (A, B, capital cases)	182	71	128	1,784	124	8,862
	Other Felony (C, D, E)	45	307	484	7,177	281	35,455
	DUI	74	33	6	609	41	3,801
	Drug Court	140		26		25	849
	Criminal Appeals (incl. juvenile delinquency)	50	3	2	13	14	670
	Other Misdemeanor	24	65	61	1,594	150	9,980
	Probation Violation	17	224	242	2,369	316	24,655
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings Routine	240	3	0	65	1	344
	Administrative Hearings-Complex-Davidson Co.	1800					67
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	115	71	41	1,334	42	8,862
	Damages/Tort	82	84	81	1,688	49	10,145
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	41	59	22	0	14	2,198
	Judicial Hospitalization	17	1	0	0	0	633
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	35	2	1	30	0	221
	Medical Malpractice	679	1	4	100	1	324
	Probate/Trust	20	247	64	1	131	11,322
	Other General Civil	42	125	99	1,797	82	14,189
	Real Estate	180	26	17	117	21	1,652
	Workers Compensation	41	66	56	325	30	7,801
	Domestic Relations	Child Support (outside of divorce)	20	410	245	252	147
Divorce with Children		94	142	129	1,460	84	14,301
Divorce without Children		32	146	130	1,484	77	17,401
Protection of Children (paternity, adoption, legitimation, surrender, TPR)		47	30	11	269	40	3,849
Orders of Protection		18	0	67	0	254	8,414
Other Domestic Relations		6	9	1	106	36	2,877
<b>Total Filings</b>			<b>2,125</b>	<b>1,917</b>	<b>22,574</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>202,859</b>
<b>Workload (Weights x Filings)</b>		<b>99,467</b>	<b>104,003</b>	<b>1,466,102</b>	<b>93,073</b>	<b>10,693,276</b>	
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	
<b>Availability for Case-Specific Work</b>		<b>70,196</b>	<b>74,078</b>	<b>74,489</b>	<b>74,342</b>	<b>70,868</b>	
# Judges		2	2	22	1	152	
Total Jud. Off. Demand		1.42	1.40	19.68	1.25	150.94	
<b>FTE Deficit or Excess</b>		<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>-0.25</b>	<b>1.06</b>	
Criminal Judges Needed		0.50	0.74	10.41	0.69	60.91	
Civil Judges Needed		0.52	0.35	6.54	0.29	53.88	
Domestic Relations Judges Needed		0.40	0.31	2.73	0.27	36.16	
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**

- Public Chapter 552 (1997), Section 12, Item 35
- 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.
- See Appendix A for a map of Tennessee Judicial Districts.
- See Appendix B for the detailed calculations of judicial resource need statewide and by judicial district.



OFFICES OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY  
Phillip Doss, Director  
Suite 1700, James K. Polk Building ▪ 505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243 ▪ (615) 401-7911  
[www.tn.gov/comptroller/orea](http://www.tn.gov/comptroller/orea)

