



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Harold D. Melton
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

2017 Superior Court Workload Assessment

September 10, 2018

The purpose of the following tables is to provide Judicial Council members, chief judges, and court administrators with an understanding of the judicial resources needed to operate Georgia's superior courts. The Administrative Office of the Courts annually publishes data on the workloads, caseloads, population, and resources for Georgia's forty-nine judicial circuits.

This report includes five tables that are organized by circuit and aggregated to show statewide totals and averages. The tables have been updated this year to allow for better comparison among the circuits. These data are the basis for recommendations for new superior court judgeships made by the Judicial Council and approved by the legislature.

Table 1 shows the number of authorized superior court judgeships in the state by circuit, the average number of cases heard annually per superior court judge by circuit, the workload value for each circuit, and the necessary workload value required to qualify for a new judgeship (threshold to qualify). The judge workload value is calculated by dividing the time it takes to process the entire circuit caseload by the total work time of the superior court judges in a geographical circuit.

Table 2 shows the three-year average of serious felonies, felonies, misdemeanors, probation revocations, and death penalty (unified appeals) cases for each circuit. The table also includes the average number of criminal defendants per circuit along with statewide average for each case type.

Table 3 shows the three-year average of civil cases by circuit. The table provides values for general civil cases and domestic relations cases by circuit as well as the statewide averages for both case types.

Table 4 shows the 2017 population estimate and the 2021 projected population for each circuit and circuit ranks for each value.

Table 5 lists the number of counties and limited jurisdiction court judges for each circuit and the statewide totals for each class of court.

For more information about the workload analysis methodology and procedure, please contact the Administrative Office of the Courts at casecount@georgiacourts.gov.

Superior Workload Assessment- Total Cases per Judge Distribution

Circuit	Number of Judges in 2017	Cases Per Judge Three Year Average	Judge Workload Value	Threshold to Qualify
Alapaha	2	2,056	1.88	2.70
Alcovy	5	1,960	4.51	6.60
Appalachian	3	1,509	3.27	4.02
Atlanta	20	1,810	17.76	23.40
Atlantic	4	1,466	3.75	5.32
Augusta	8	1,413	7.94	10.32
Bell-Forsyth	3	1,235	2.17	4.02
Blue Ridge	3	1,744	3.16	4.02
Brunswick	5	1,728	4.47	6.60
Chattahoochee	7	1,148	4.56	9.10
Cherokee	4	2,470	4.66	5.32
Clayton	5	1,622	4.19	6.60
Cobb	10	1,918	11.63	12.70
Conasauga	4	1,689	3.57	5.32
Cordele	3	1,170	2.55	4.02
Coweta	7	1,842	8.40	9.10
Dougherty	3	1,334	3.85	4.02
Douglas	3	2,112	2.82	4.02
Dublin	3	1,344	1.98	4.02
Eastern	6	1,478	5.06	7.86
Enotah	3	1,648	2.78	4.02
Flint	3	1,915	2.87	4.02
Griffin	4	1,956	5.61	5.32
Gwinnett	10	2,388	12.75	12.70
Houston	3	1,241	2.01	4.02
Lookout Mountain	4	1,461	4.56	5.32
Macon	5	1,648	5.31	6.60
Middle	2	2,011	2.31	2.70
Mountain	2	1,506	1.91	2.70
Northeastern	5	1,510	5.54	6.60
Northern	3	2,195	4.29	4.02
Ocmulgee	5	1,657	4.45	6.60
Oconee	3	1,372	2.72	4.02
Ogeechee	3	1,937	3.79	4.02
Pataula	2	1,284	1.47	2.70
Paulding	3	2,062	2.40	4.02
Piedmont	4	2,044	4.81	5.32
Rockdale	2	1,517	1.45	2.70
Rome	4	1,727	3.20	5.32
South Georgia	2	1,250	1.63	2.70
Southern	5	1,762	6.16	6.60
Southwestern	3	1,064	2.46	4.02
Stone Mountain	10	1,764	8.79	12.70
Tallapoosa	2	1,748	1.79	2.70
Tifton	2	1,238	1.72	2.70
Toombs	2	1,091	1.17	2.70
Towaliga	2	1,524	1.98	2.70
Waycross	4	1,415	3.71	5.32
Western	4	1,751	4.27	5.32
Statewide Totals	214	1,648	210.10	N/A

Superior Workload Assessment- Criminal Cases Three-Year Average

Circuit	Serious Felony	Felony	Misdemeanor	Death Penalty	Probation Revocation	Total Criminal Defendants
Alapaha	59	704	1,007	0.0	438	2,208
Alcovy	131	1,281	1,244	0.0	2,163	4,819
Appalachian	289	608	757	0.0	723	2,377
Atlanta	766	8,252	3,755	2.7	3,031	15,807
Atlantic	135	1,722	217	0.0	354	2,428
Augusta	566	2,320	791	0.3	437	4,114
Bell-Forsyth	82	677	38	0.0	511	1,308
Blue Ridge	176	1,053	137	0.0	1,147	2,513
Brunswick	125	1,947	490	0.0	1,142	3,704
Chattahoochee	111	2,260	586	0.0	1,167	4,124
Cherokee	156	1,754	1,924	0.0	2,407	6,241
Clayton	197	2,158	319	0.0	286	2,960
Cobb	958	4,134	133	0.3	2,252	7,477
Conasauga	118	1,373	1,763	0.0	826	4,080
Cordele	265	692	687	0.0	493	2,137
Coweta	552	3,274	557	0.0	944	5,328
Dougherty	521	974	138	1.3	634	2,268
Douglas	78	1,553	60	0.0	1,739	3,430
Dublin	71	600	566	0.0	625	1,862
Eastern	345	2,208	56	1.3	1,517	4,127
Enotah	135	1,057	1,335	0.0	617	3,144
Flint	74	962	70	0.3	693	1,799
Griffin	470	1,197	271	0.3	1,420	3,358
Gwinnett	464	3,598	119	0.3	3,619	7,800
Houston	148	708	79	0.7	905	1,840
Lookout Mountain	364	1,279	248	0.0	933	2,824
Macon	435	1,713	325	0.3	787	3,261
Middle	163	549	22	0.3	399	1,133
Mountain	100	530	195	0.0	589	1,414
Northeastern	317	1,623	473	0.0	1,741	4,154
Northern	371	1,257	840	0.7	1,293	3,762
Ocmulgee	191	1,663	1,222	0.7	1,570	4,647
Oconee	224	874	776	0.7	391	2,266
Ogeechee	206	2,148	257	0.0	392	3,003
Pataula	105	467	378	0.0	388	1,338
Paulding	32	720	1,101	0.0	1,004	2,858
Piedmont	351	1,100	1,189	0.0	2,013	4,653
Rockdale	46	673	1	0.0	478	1,198
Rome	248	1,281	1,541	0.0	1,000	4,070
South Georgia	66	692	92	0.0	121	970
Southern	454	2,024	275	0.3	1,427	4,182
Southwestern	160	682	222	0.0	335	1,399
Stone Mountain	604	2,896	137	0.0	1,261	4,899
Tallapoosa	43	757	976	0.0	139	1,914
Tifton	141	406	88	0.0	167	803
Toombs	70	308	279	0.0	161	818
Towaliga	104	520	414	0.7	183	1,221
Waycross	153	1,613	453	0.0	572	2,791
Western	291	1,779	599	0.0	1,577	4,245
Statewide Average	250	1,523	596	0.2	1,000	3,369

Superior Workload Assessment- Civil Cases Three-Year Average

Circuit	General Civil	Domestic Relations	Total Civil Cases
Alapaha	339	1,539	1,879
Alcovy	1,931	3,005	4,936
Appalachian	704	1,338	2,042
Atlanta	6,520	13,682	20,202
Atlantic	653	2,731	3,383
Augusta	1,824	5,314	7,138
Bell-Forsyth	452	1,884	2,336
Blue Ridge	558	2,120	2,678
Brunswick	790	4,027	4,816
Chattahoochee	1,135	2,697	3,832
Cherokee	1,017	2,571	3,588
Clayton	1,115	4,004	5,119
Cobb	2,458	9,126	11,584
Conasauga	892	1,735	2,627
Cordele	491	878	1,369
Coweta	1,221	6,250	7,472
Dougherty	354	1,371	1,725
Douglas	732	2,144	2,877
Dublin	453	1,712	2,165
Eastern	1,290	3,384	4,674
Enotah	551	1,178	1,728
Flint	851	3,059	3,910
Griffin	1,120	3,313	4,433
Gwinnett	5,431	10,550	15,981
Houston	270	1,591	1,861
Lookout Mountain	636	2,379	3,015
Macon	780	4,126	4,906
Middle	476	2,410	2,885
Mountain	398	1,147	1,545
Northeastern	715	2,389	3,104
Northern	666	2,143	2,809
Ocmulgee	1,028	2,552	3,581
Oconee	447	1,403	1,849
Ogeechee	557	2,241	2,798
Pataula	287	927	1,214
Paulding	1,212	2,096	3,308
Piedmont	1,147	2,334	3,481
Rockdale	270	1,510	1,780
Rome	661	2,161	2,822
South Georgia	384	1,122	1,507
Southern	1,090	3,498	4,587
Southwestern	717	1,055	1,771
Stone Mountain	2,450	10,246	12,696
Tallapoosa	481	1,084	1,565
Tifton	443	1,216	1,659
Toombs	315	1,039	1,355
Towaliga	578	1,223	1,802
Waycross	679	2,141	2,820
Western	866	1,838	2,704
Statewide Averages	1,029	2,969	3,998

Superior Workload Assessment- Population Projections

Circuit	2016 Population Estimate*	Rank	2021 Projected Population**	Rank	Percent change over 5 years
Alapaha	62,481	47	63,760	47	2%
Alcovy	199,252	17	218,652	16	10%
Appalachian	83,643	40	86,317	40	3%
Atlanta	1,035,754	1	1,122,150	1	8%
Atlantic	170,775	20	181,292	20	6%
Augusta	373,378	5	395,312	5	6%
Bell-Forsyth	215,831	15	253,419	11	17%
Blue Ridge	241,762	10	271,098	10	12%
Brunswick	202,293	16	211,595	17	5%
Chattahoochee	277,894	8	287,223	8	3%
Cherokee	161,940	22	169,829	23	5%
Clayton	272,364	9	284,835	9	5%
Cobb	745,143	3	790,078	3	6%
Conasauga	144,968	28	149,158	29	3%
Cordele	64,297	46	64,520	46	<1%
Coweta	362,728	6	388,664	6	7%
Dougherty	93,228	35	93,376	36	<1%
Douglas	144,686	29	158,826	28	10%
Dublin	73,554	43	74,408	43	1%
Eastern	289,721	7	308,100	7	6%
Enotah	93,627	34	98,002	34	5%
Flint	223,916	12	246,130	12	10%
Griffin	221,137	14	228,604	15	3%
Gwinnett	912,741	2	1,003,912	2	10%
Houston	154,491	27	165,644	27	7%
Lookout Mountain	177,870	19	181,985	19	2%
Macon	196,047	18	198,326	18	1%
Middle	99,431	32	101,492	32	2%
Mountain	86,851	38	89,570	38	3%
Northeastern	221,340	13	239,999	14	8%
Northern	110,959	31	112,867	31	2%
Ocmulgee	164,075	21	167,223	26	2%
Oconee	79,150	42	79,177	42	<1%
Ogeechee	155,937	26	167,673	25	8%
Pataula	46,575	49	45,612	49	-2%
Paulding	157,007	25	174,496	22	11%
Piedmont	161,465	23	179,912	21	11%
Rockdale	90,489	36	96,494	35	7%
Rome	97,048	33	98,885	33	2%
South Georgia	86,351	39	87,532	39	1%
Southern	230,679	11	242,032	13	5%
Southwestern	89,014	37	90,452	37	2%
Stone Mountain	732,586	4	761,499	4	4%
Tallapoosa	71,135	44	73,371	44	3%
Tifton	79,806	41	80,730	41	1%
Toombs	49,601	48	49,334	48	-1%
Towaliga	70,048	45	72,989	45	4%
Waycross	143,536	30	148,289	30	3%
Western	160,481	24	169,459	24	6%
Population Totals	10,379,084		11,024,305		
Circuit Population Average	211,818		224,986		6%

*Source: Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Superior Workload Assessment- Number of Judges per Class of Court

Circuit	Number of Counties	State Court Judges	Juvenile Court Judges	Probate Court Judges	Magistrate Court Judges
Alapaha	5	0	2	5	11
Alcovy	2	0	3	2	7
Appalachian	3	0	2	4	10
Atlanta	1	10	7	1	24
Atlantic	6	6	3	8	17
Augusta	3	5	4	4	14
Bell-Forsyth	1	2	2	1	6
Blue Ridge	1	3	2	2	9
Brunswick	5	4	6	6	14
Chattahoochee	6	2	3	6	10
Cherokee	2	0	3	2	11
Clayton	1	5	3	1	4
Cobb	1	12	4	1	15
Conasauga	2	0	1	2	6
Cordele	4	0	1	5	8
Coweta	5	4	4	5	12
Dougherty	1	1	2	1	4
Douglas	1	2	2	1	3
Dublin	4	1	1	4	6
Eastern	1	3	3	1	4
Enotah	4	0	1	4	11
Flint	1	4	1	1	6
Griffin	4	2	2	4	12
Gwinnett	1	6	3	2	19
Houston	1	1	1	1	4
Lookout Mountain	4	3	3	4	11
Macon	3	2	2	3	7
Middle	5	5	1	5	13
Mountain	3	2	2	3	9
Northeastern	2	3	3	2	7
Northern	5	1	1	5	12
Ocmulgee	8	2	1	8	25
Oconee	6	0	1	6	9
Ogeechee	4	4	3	4	6
Pataula	7	2	2	7	12
Paulding	1	0	1	1	3
Piedmont	3	1	2	3	6
Rockdale	1	1	1	1	3
Rome	1	0	2	1	3
South Georgia	5	3	2	5	9
Southern	5	5	4	5	11
Southwestern	6	1	2	6	14
Stone Mountain	1	11	4	1	20
Talapoosa	2	0	2	2	5
Tifton	4	3	1	4	8
Toombs	6	0	1	6	12
Towaliga	3	0	1	3	7
Waycross	6	5	3	6	15
Western	2	2	3	2	4
Statewide Totals	159	129	114	167	478