



S N A P S H O T

FY 2017-18 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update

April 2019

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State law requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to annually update the judicial weighted caseload study for state trial court judges. Weighted caseload studies compare the state’s existing judicial resources with an estimate of the judicial resources needed. This update provides estimates based on cases filed in FY 2018.

The state has an estimated net deficit of 6.51 judges based on FY 2018 data. Overall, FY 2018 filings increased from FY 2017 by 2,118 cases (1.05 percent).

Yearly Trend in Judicial Resources (Full-Time Equivalent Judges)

	2007 Model		2013 Model				
Fiscal Years	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17 ^(b)	FY 18 ^(c)
Total Judicial Resources	152	152	152	152	153	153	156
Estimated Judicial Resources Needed	145.35	157.13	154.73	151.22	157.22	159.31	162.51
Net Excess or Deficit in Judicial Resources^(a)	6.65	-5.13	-2.73	0.78	-4.22	-6.31	-6.51

Notes: (a) The weighted caseload update for FY 2017 was revised with data received after the report was published. (b) Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 were each assigned one more judge in September 2018. They were included in the model for FY 2018 when determining the net demand in judicial resources. Source: Calculations by the Office of Research and Education Accountability based on data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

At the district level, judicial districts 19, 22, and 23 showed the highest demand for judicial resources in FY 2018, with respective estimated net deficits of 1.23, 1.23, and 1.52 FTE judges.

In terms of categories of cases, criminal cases increased about 5.5 percent (46 percent of cases), civil cases decreased by less than 1 percent (30 percent of cases), and domestic relations cases decreased by over 3.5 percent (25 percent of cases). With an increase of 3,082 case filings compared to last year, probation violations saw the largest change in the number of case filings by a wide margin. The other case types that exhibited a change greater than 1,000 case filings when compared to FY 2017 are: Felony A and B cases (+1,237); Felony C, D, and E cases (-1,151); and Contempt cases (-1,737). The FY 2018 update includes revised figures for Shelby County for FY 2017, as criminal case data for FY 2017 was unavailable last year and a three-year growth average was used in lieu of actual data. The Office of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) received Shelby County’s criminal case data for FY 2017 in late 2018 and then recalculated judicial need for the county for FY 2017. Based on actual criminal case data, Shelby County shows a surplus of 1.54 FTE judges for FY 2017 as opposed to a deficit of 1.97.

The FY 2018 update also includes an analysis of how the passage of Public Chapter 1021 of 2018, which allows most appeals under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act to be filed and heard outside of Davidson County, may affect case weights for Administrative Hearing case types.

The FY 2018 judicial weighted caseload update and a map showing estimated demand for judicial resources by judicial district are available at www.comptroller.tn.gov/OREA/.





Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study: FY 2017-18 Update

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Key Points

State law requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to update the judicial weighted caseload study annually to compare the state’s existing judicial resources with an estimate of the judicial resources needed. This update provides estimates based on cases filed in fiscal year (FY) 2018.

The state has an estimated net deficit of 6.51 judges based on FY 2018 data. The weighted caseload update for FY 2017 – revised with data received after the report was published – shows a net deficit of 6.31 full-time equivalent (FTE) judges. Overall, FY 2018 filings increased from FY 2017 by 2,118 cases (1.05 percent).

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Notes: (a) Workers’ compensation cases are included in judge demand estimates for FY 2017 and FY 2018, but were excluded from demand estimates for fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. (b) *FY 2016-17 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update*, published in February 2018, used a three-year growth average to estimate Shelby County’s FY 2017 criminal case filings because criminal case data for the county was unavailable at that time. FY 2016 data was used to estimate recovery court figures for Judicial District 14 in FY 2017. The FY 2017 estimates were revised to reflect the actual capacity of the recovery court in Judicial District 14. In addition, Judicial District 15 became a prison district in January 2016, but it was not reflected in the weight assigned to its Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs case type for FY 2016 and FY 2017. The figures for FY 2017 have been revised to reflect updated data for these areas. (c) Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 were each assigned one more judge in September 2018. They were included in the model for FY 2018 when determining the net demand in judicial resources.

Source: Calculations by Office of Research and Education Accountability based on data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The FY 2018 update also includes yearly data for examining the trends in each of the state’s judicial districts. (See Exhibit 3 and Appendix C.) In addition, this update includes revised figures for FY 2017. The most significant revision was made for Shelby County, as criminal case data for the county was unavailable last year and OREA used a three-year growth average as a substitute. OREA received Shelby County’s criminal case data for FY 2017 in late 2018 and then recalculated judicial need for the county. Based on actual criminal case data, Shelby County now shows a surplus of 1.54 FTE judges for FY 2017 as opposed to a deficit of 1.97. (See Appendix E.) All FY 2017 figures referenced in this report will be drawn from the revised, up-to-date weighted caseload model for that year.

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 weighted caseload model can approximate judicial workload and the need for judicial resources, but it has limitations. Factors such as trial court clerks’ reporting processes, availability of judicial support staff, and local legal practices also affect judicial resources. Furthermore, the passage of new laws, technological changes, population shifts, and other factors that occur after case weight calculations may make weighted caseload studies less reliable with time unless the model is periodically revised.

Introduction and Background

The 1997 appropriations bill 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.¹ The Comptroller's Office contracted with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) in 1998 to conduct a time-series study to determine the case weights that are used to calculate judicial workload and the number of full-time equivalent judges (FTE judges) needed by each judicial district. To account for changing laws and practices, the Comptroller's Office contracted with the NCSC in 2007 and 2013 to develop a revised weighted caseload model for Tennessee's general jurisdiction trial judges based on a new time study and case filings.² Regular updates are designed to produce a more current and accurate gauge of the need for judicial resources throughout the state.³

Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 16-2-513 requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to update the judicial weighted caseload study annually to assess the need for judicial resources, or FTE judges. This update provides estimates of judicial resources needed based on cases filed in fiscal year (FY) 2018 using the 2013 weighted caseload model.

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.⁴

The weighted caseload model can approximate judicial workload and the need for judicial resources, but it has limitations. Factors such as trial court clerks' reporting processes, the availability of judicial support staff, and local legal practices also affect judicial resources. Furthermore, the passage of new laws, technological changes, population shifts, and other factors that occur after case weight calculations may make weighted caseload studies less reliable with time unless the model is periodically revised.

Analysis and Conclusions

Changes and Considerations for FY 2018 Update

Due to changes in state law, workers' compensation cases will no longer be filed in state courts for injuries incurred on or after July 1, 2014. Following the Tennessee Judicial Conference's June 2017 decision, however, workers' compensation cases are to be included in the filings count used to estimate judicial need beginning in FY 2017. According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the reason the Judicial Conference decided to again include workers' compensation cases is because the number of cases have not decreased at the rate that was predicted and the judges wished to receive credit for the time spent hearing the cases. Although workers' compensation cases are no longer being filed in state courts as of July 1, 2014, judges are still hearing backlogged cases, and the Judicial Conference's decision allows them to receive credit for the time spent on such cases.

In addition, Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 each were assigned one more judge as of September 1, 2018.⁵ Although the judges were added to these districts in a new fiscal year, they are included when calculating the figures for the FY 2018 update. The rationale for their inclusion is that the predominant purpose of the weighted caseload model is to estimate demand for judges at the district and state level. Given that the three districts in question have been granted a judge to address their needs, their estimates reflect that alleviation of demand for judges.

FY 2016-17 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update, published in February 2018, used a three-year growth average to estimate Shelby County's FY 2017 criminal case filings because actual criminal case filings for the county were unavailable at that time.⁶ OREA received Shelby County's actual criminal case filings for FY 2017 with the FY 2018 case filing data. The filings were then used

to recalculate the demand for full-time equivalent (FTE) judges in Shelby County for FY 2017 based on actual data. The result is that Shelby County now shows a 1.54 surplus of FTE judges for FY 2017 as opposed to a deficit of 1.97 FTE judges based on the three-year growth average. Shelby County continued to see a surplus of 0.51 FTE judges for FY 2018.

For the FY 2017 update, a carryover from FY 2016 was used as a proxy for the recovery court capacity in Judicial District 14. The FY 2017 estimates were revised to reflect the actual capacity of the recovery court in that district. Following the January 2016 opening of a new prison in Judicial District 15, the Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs case type for that district was reclassified to account for the greater complexity inherent in cases filed on behalf of inmates. These two changes were of minor consequence to judicial demand. (See Appendix E for the revised FY 2017 Weighted Caseload figures.)

Case Filings

In FY 2018, 202,898 cases were filed in Tennessee's state trial courts. Criminal cases accounted for approximately 46 percent of cases, followed by domestic relations cases at 30 percent, and civil cases at 25 percent.

Overall, filings increased from FY 2017 by 2,118 cases (1.05 percent). Criminal cases increased about 5.5 percent, civil cases decreased by less than 1 percent, and domestic relations cases decreased by over 3.5 percent. Looking at all case types, the largest change in the number of case filings from the prior year was seen for probation violations, which increased by 3,082 case filings. The other case types that exhibited a change greater than 1,000 case filings when compared to FY 2017 are:

- Felony A and B cases increased (+1,237)
- Felony C, D, and E cases decreased (-1,151)
- Contempt case filings decreased (-1,737)

As compared to FY 2017, other noticeable changes in filings by case type are:

- Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs filings increased (+750)
- Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs - Prison Districts filings increased (+770)
- Divorce without Children filings decreased (-557)
- Probate/Trust filings increased (+482)
- Workers' Compensation filings decreased (-452)

Exhibit I: Changes in Trial Court Case Filings by Case Type, FY 2014 to FY 2018

Case Type	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17 ^(d)	FY 18	Change from FY17	Percent Change from FY17
Criminal	90,096	85,847	90,121	87,549	92,430	4,881	5.58%
First Degree Murder	606	675	662	660	783	123	18.64%
Post Conviction Relief	482	486	481	513	452	-61	-11.89%
Felony A and B	7,058	6,913	7,470	8,132	9,369	1,237	15.21%
Felony C, D, and E	32,432	31,063	32,509	29,737	28,586	-1,151	-3.87%
DUI	3,301	3,321	3,483	3,002	2,933	-69	-2.30%
Recovery (Drug) Court (a)	1,012	1,103	1,275	1,334	1,335	1	0.07%
Criminal Appeals (including Juvenile Delinquency)	404	297	392	300	302	2	0.67%
Misdemeanor	10,062	9,367	9,939	9,943	10,140	197	1.98%
Other Petitions, Motions, Writs	2,076	1,806	2,236	2,467	3,217	750	30.40%
Other Petitions, Motions, Writs-Prison Districts	2,963	2,804	2,771	2,253	3,023	770	34.18%
Probation Violation	29,700	28,012	28,903	29,208	32,290	3,082	10.55%
Civil	54,806	53,271	51,641	50,687	50,242	-445	-0.88%
Administrative Hearings (b)	382	420	373	470	533	63	13.40%
Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	6,084	5,413	5,527	5,190	4,814	-376	-7.24%
Damages/Tort	9,856	9,777	10,342	11,071	11,081	10	0.09%
Guardianship/Conservatorship	2,239	2,263	2,500	2,845	2,958	113	3.97%
Judicial Hospitalization	643	659	717	816	785	-31	-3.80%
Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	223	195	239	233	184	-49	-21.03%
Medical Malpractice	376	356	391	432	417	-15	-3.47%
Probate/Trust	13,426	13,820	14,250	14,337	14,819	482	3.36%
Other General Civil	12,228	12,307	12,556	12,214	11,999	-215	-1.76%
Real Estate	1,479	1,487	1,634	1,870	1,895	25	1.34%
Workers Compensation (c)	7,870	6,574	3,112	1,209	757	-452	-37.39%
Domestic Relations	65,508	62,940	62,745	62,544	60,226	-2,318	-3.71%
Child Support	12,758	11,409	11,070	11,002	10,737	-265	-2.41%
Divorce with Children	12,014	11,997	12,160	11,709	11,400	-309	-2.64%
Divorce without Children	16,172	16,118	16,285	16,016	15,459	-557	-3.48%
Residential Parenting	2,276	2,046	2,123	2,058	2,380	322	15.65%
Protection of Children	4,010	3,923	4,020	4,247	4,214	-33	-0.78%
Orders of Protection	8,128	8,105	8,356	9,201	9,527	326	3.54%
Contempt	8,141	7,786	7,409	7,259	5,522	-1,737	-23.93%
Other Domestic Relations	2,009	1,556	1,322	1,052	987	-65	-6.18%
Total Filings	210,410	202,058	204,507	200,780	202,898	2,118	1.05%

Notes: (a) Workload is based on the FY 2018 capacity or average daily population of the recovery (drug) courts. (b) In the 2013 time study, a separate weight for Administrative Appeals was developed for Judicial District 20 (Davidson County), the statutorily mandated venue for most complex appeals of administrative hearings through FY 2018. Administrative Appeals in other counties are based on the total time reported for those cases in the 2013 time study. (c) Workers' compensation cases are included in judge demand estimates for FY 2017 and FY2018, but were excluded from demand estimates for fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. (d) The figures for FY 2017 were updated with new data on Shelby County criminal case filings, recovery court capacity figures for Judicial District 14, and the reclassification of Judicial District 15 as a prison district for Other Petition, Motions, and Writs case types. (See Appendix E for the revised FY 2017 Weighted Caseload figures.)

Source: Calculations by the Office of Research and Education Accountability based on data provided by the AOC.

Full-Time Equivalent Judges

Based on FY 2018 case filing and judicial workload data, the state has an estimated net deficit of 6.51 FTE judges. (See Exhibit 2.) The revised weighted caseload update for FY 2017 and the update for FY 2016 showed estimated net deficits of 6.31 FTE judges and 4.22 FTE judges, respectively.

The inclusion of workers’ compensation cases in the FY 2018 update is responsible for an estimated increase in demand for judicial resources of 0.4 FTE judges across the state. This means that the estimated FTE net deficit of judicial resources is higher than it would have been without the inclusion of the backlogged workers’ compensation cases, as was the case prior to FY 2017.

The General Assembly created three new state trial court judges – one each for Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 – who took office in September 2018. Without the addition of those judges, the estimated net deficit in judicial resources would have been 9.51 FTE judges.

Exhibit 2: Yearly Trend in Number of Judicial Resources (FTE Judges)

Fiscal Years	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17 ^(b)	FY 18 ^(c)
Total Judicial Resources	152	152	152	153	153	156
Estimated Judicial Resources Needed	157.13	154.73	151.22	157.22	159.31	162.51
Net Excess or Deficit in Judicial Resources^(a)	-5.13	-2.73	0.78	-4.22	-6.31	-6.51

Notes: (a) Workers’ compensation cases are included in judge demand estimates for FY 2017 and FY 2018, but were excluded from demand estimates for fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. (b) *FY 2016-17 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update*, published in February 2018, used a three-year growth average to estimate Shelby County’s FY 2017 criminal case filings because criminal case data for the county was unavailable at that time. FY 2016 data was used to estimate recovery court figures for Judicial District 14 in FY 2017. The FY 2017 estimates were revised to reflect the actual capacity of the recovery court in Judicial District 14. In addition, Judicial District 15 became a prison district in January 2016, but this was not reflected in the weight assigned to its Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs case type for FY 2016 and FY 2017. The figures for FY 2017 have been revised to reflect updated data for these areas. (See Appendix E for the revised FY 2017 Weighted Caseload figures.) (c) Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 were each assigned one additional judge in September 2018. They were included in the model for FY 2018 when determining the net demand in judicial resources. (See Appendix C for complete FY 2018 Weighted Caseload figures.)

Source: Calculations by the Office of Research and Education Accountability based on data provided by the AOC.

Exhibit 3 shows the estimated deficit or excess of FTE judges by district over time.^{7,8} According to the weighted caseload model for FY 2018, three districts show an estimated need of one or more FTE judges:

- District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson counties) shows a need for 1.23 FTE judges in FY 2018. In FY 2017 and FY 2016, the district showed a need for 2.32 FTE judges and 1.89 FTE judges, respectively. In FY 2015, the General Assembly created a new circuit court judgeship for Judicial District 19.⁹ In September of 2018, the General Assembly again added another judge to the circuit court. Since FY 2017, the district has shown a total increase of 258 cases. The case types that consume the most judicial resources in terms of annual case-specific hours are Divorce with Children (1,465), Felony A & B (934), and Damages/Tort (911).
- District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne Counties) shows a net deficit of 1.23 FTE judges for FY 2018. This is an increase from its judicial deficit of 0.92 in FY 2017. The district saw a total increase in cases of 376. The case types that consumed the most annual case-specific hours of judges’ time were Felony A & B (1,136), Felony C, D, & E (688), and Divorce with Children (601).
- District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart Counties) shows a net deficit of 1.52 FTE judges for FY 2018, the highest estimated need of any district. This deficit is larger by 0.79 FTE judges than the 0.73 estimate for FY 2017. The case types that consumed the most annual case-specific hours for judges were Felony A & B (733), Felony C, D, & E (593), and Divorce with Children (511). The case types that grew the most in terms of annual case-specific hours of judicial resources were Felony A & B (288), First Degree Murder (285), and Damages/Tort (221). District 23 also saw a sizeable decrease in the annual case-specific hours spent on Other General Civil cases (160), but that was more than offset by the time demands in other case types.

Other notable changes in judge demand in FY 2018 as compared to FY 2017:

- The judicial demands for District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford), District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson), and District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson) all decreased by over one FTE judge. The General Assembly created three new state trial court judges who took office in September 2018, and this is the main reason for the decrease in judicial demand. Although the three judges were added after the end of FY 2018, they are included in the model so that the estimates reflect that some of the need for judicial resources has been diminished.
- Judicial demand increased by 1.04 FTE judges for District 30 (Shelby). However, this still leaves District 30 with an excess of 0.51 FTE judges. As a reminder, these changes are in relation to the revised figures for Shelby County. OREA used a proxy for the missing data for Shelby County’s criminal case filings, but has revised its estimates for FY 2017 with the actual criminal case filings. (See Appendix E for the revised FY 2017 Weighted Caseload figures.)

Exhibit 3: Difference between Actual Number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Judges and Need for FTE Judges by District, FY 2013–FY 2018

Judicial District (Counties)	FY 2013 ^(a)	FY 2014 ^(a)	FY 2015 ^(a)	FY 2016 ^(a)	FY 2017 ^(b)	FY 2018 ^(c)
District 1 (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)	0.27	-0.32	0.23	0.19	-0.16	-0.36
District 2 (Sullivan)	0.10	0.37	0.31	0.16	0.26	0.20
District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)	0.44	0.28	0.25	-0.06	0.43	0.09
District 4 (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)	-1.01	-0.89	-0.54	-0.83	-0.93	-0.68
District 5 (Blount)	-0.26	0.01	0.06	-0.10	0.02	-0.04
District 6 (Knox)	-0.42	0.11	0.43	-0.27	-0.36	-0.24
District 7 (Anderson)	-0.11	-0.18	0.23	0.22	0.29	0.20
District 8 (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)	-0.34	-0.08	-0.11	-0.44	-0.32	-0.34
District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)	0.64	0.80	0.85	0.80	0.41	0.31
District 10 (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)	-0.29	-0.42	-0.13	-0.12	-0.31	-0.17
District 11 (Hamilton)	-0.47	0.32	0.08	0.23	-0.28	-0.03
District 12 (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)	-0.96	-0.73	-0.47	-0.44	-0.67	-0.77
District 13 (Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White)	-0.61	-0.58	-0.55	-1.63	-0.98	-0.93
District 14 (Coffee)	0.61	0.82	0.77	0.43	0.36	0.14
District 15 (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)	0.18	0.10	0.37	0.04	-0.30	-0.01
District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford)	-1.28	-1.17	-1.17	-1.42	-1.53	-0.25
District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)	0.52	0.52	0.43	0.22	0.40	0.27
District 18 (Sumner)	-0.59	-0.46	-0.63	-0.45	-0.35	-0.49
District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson)	-2.75	-2.89	-2.77	-1.89	-2.32	-1.23

Judicial District (Counties)	FY 2013 ^(a)	FY 2014 ^(a)	FY 2015 ^(a)	FY 2016 ^(a)	FY 2017 ^(b)	FY 2018 ^(c)
District 20 (Davidson)	0.06	0.79	1.07	1.11	-0.15	-0.78
District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)	-0.54	-0.41	-0.24	-0.58	-1.00	0.26
District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)	-1.26	-1.05	-0.76	-0.42	-0.92	-1.23
District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)	-1.01	-0.71	-0.64	-1.18	-0.73	-1.52
District 24 (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)	0.81	0.92	0.95	0.87	0.75	0.46
District 25 (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)	-0.19	-0.08	0.18	0.38	0.03	-0.14
District 26 (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)	-0.08	-0.01	0.14	0.52	0.33	0.35
District 27 (Obion and Weakley)	0.26	0.45	0.59	0.42	0.32	0.28
District 28 (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)	0.37	0.44	0.57	0.58	0.24	0.02
District 29 (Dyer and Lake)	0.31	0.36	0.24	0.18	0.12	0.10
District 30 (Shelby)	2.76	1.25	1.37	-0.21	1.54	0.51
District 31 (Van Buren and Warren)	-0.31	-0.27	-0.32	-0.52	-0.51	-0.51
Statewide Excess or Deficit FTE Judges	-5.13	-2.73	0.78	-4.22	-6.31	-6.51

Notes: (a) Workers' Compensation cases are included in judge demand estimates for FY 2017 and FY 2018, but were excluded from demand estimates for fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. (b) *FY 2016-17 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study Update*, published in February 2018, used a three-year growth average to estimate Shelby County's FY 2017 criminal case filings because criminal case data for the county was unavailable at that time. FY 2016 data was used to estimate recovery court figures for Judicial District 14 in FY 2017. The FY 2017 estimates were revised to reflect the actual capacity of the recovery court in Judicial District 14. In addition, Judicial District 15 became a prison district in January 2016, but this was not reflected in the weight assigned to its Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs case type for FY 2016 and FY 2017. The figures for FY 2017 have been revised to reflect updated data for these areas. (c) Judicial Districts 16, 19, and 21 were each assigned one more judge in September 2018. They were included in the model for FY 2018 when determining the net demand in judicial resources. (See Appendix C for complete FY 2018 Weighted Caseload figures.)

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

Change to Administrative Hearing Case Types

Pursuant to Public Chapter 1021 (2018), appeals of Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA) cases, a time-intensive subset of Administrative Hearing cases, may now be filed “in the chancery court nearest to the place of residence of the person contesting the agency action or alternatively, at the person’s discretion, in the chancery court nearest to the place where the cause of action arose, or in the chancery court of Davidson County.”¹⁰ Prior to the new law’s effective date of July 1, 2018, Judicial District 20 (Davidson County) was the statutorily mandated jurisdiction for hearing most UAPA cases, and administrative hearings for the district were assigned a case weight of 496 minutes while the case weight for all other districts was 204 minutes.

In response to Public Chapter 1021, the Tennessee Judicial Conference recommended making 318 minutes the case weight for Administrative Hearing case type filings for all of the state’s judicial districts beginning with the FY 2018 update.

The Comptroller’s Office has updated the FY 2018 judicial weighted caseload study under both scenarios: (1) a uniform case weight of 318 minutes for Administrative Hearing case type filings for all districts, as recommended by the Tennessee Judicial Conference, and (2) the split case weight of 496 minutes for Administrative Hearing case type filings for Judicial District 20 and 204 minutes for such case type filings in all other judicial districts, which coincides with the law in place for FY 2018.

For scenario 1, redistributing the estimated 35 percent of Davidson County’s Administrative Hearings that are UAPA appeals (derived in a 2009 Delphi meeting between Davidson County chancellors, AOC representatives, and NCSC consultants) proportional to district populations, a uniform weight of 318 minutes yields an excess of 0.11 FTE judges for Judicial District 20 in FY 2018 and a net deficit of 6.36 FTE judges for the entire state. Under scenario 2 (496 minutes for district 20 and 204 minutes for all other districts), Judicial District 20 shows a deficit of 0.78 FTE judges and a net deficit of 6.51 is present at the state level for FY 2018. (See Appendix D to see changes to FTE judge demand using a uniform weight for administrative hearing case types.)

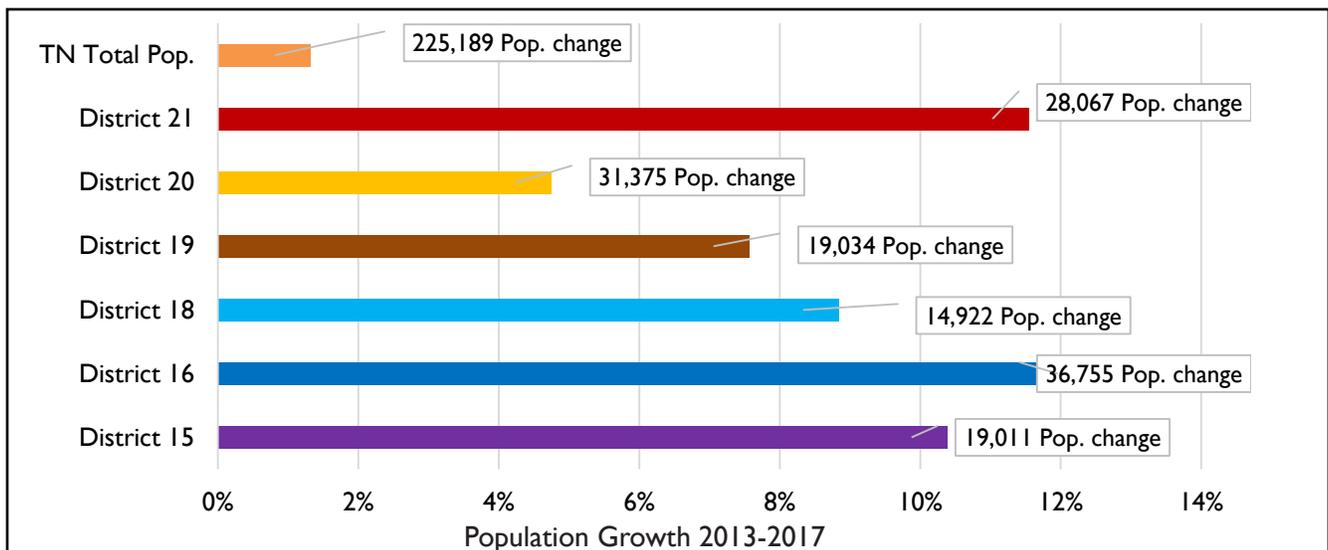
Although Judicial District 20 is no longer the statutorily mandated jurisdiction for hearing most UAPA cases following the passage of Public Chapter 1021 (2018), the district remains an option for filing UAPA appeals. The Comptroller’s Office will analyze the extent to which UAPA appeals are redistributed across the state in the FY 2019 update.

Future Considerations Regarding a New Time-Series Study

Time studies are based on surveys of selected court staff – judges, district attorneys, or public defenders – and determine the average time typically spent on each type of case. For example, a felony case typically requires significantly more time to process than a traffic case. Periodically updating the case weights assigned to different types of cases is necessary so that developments that affect the time needed to process cases – such as new laws, technological changes, population shifts, and other post-calculation factors – are taken into account. Because of this, the consultants with NCSC have suggested updating case weights with new time studies every five to seven years to improve the reliability of estimates.

Of the factors that influence the reliability of case weights, changes to district populations are perhaps the most quantifiable. Courts associated with more populated counties and/or urban regions may benefit from specialization and faster processing times – “economies of scale” in economist jargon. If present, the 2013 weighted caseload model captured some of these efficiencies. However, caseload growth, driven by population growth or other factors, in certain districts over the past six years may have led to increased processing efficiencies from specialization. By the same token, other districts may have grown so much that their capacity to process cases has become less efficient – “diseconomies of scale.” Exhibit 4 shows the districts that have displayed the most population growth, in percentage and/or absolute terms, from 2013 through 2017.

Exhibit 4: Population Growth in Tennessee and Select Districts, 2013-2017



Note: The annual estimates of county populations published by the Census Bureau are an estimate of county populations on July 1 of the year in question. Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: July 1, 2013, to July 1, 2017.

Endnotes

¹ Public Acts, 1997, Chapter No. 552, Section 12, Item 35.

² National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Trial Courts, Judicial Weighted Caseload Study*, 2013, https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/content/dam/cot/orea/documents/orea-reports-2013/2013_OREA_WCTNTrialCtsJudWtCase.pdf. See study for a complete explanation of methodology and qualitative issues to consider.

³ See Appendix A for a brief description of the design of the 2013 Tennessee Trial Courts Judicial Weighted Caseload Model.

⁴ National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Trial Courts, Judicial Weighted Caseload Study*, 2013, https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/content/dam/cot/orea/documents/orea-reports-2013/2013_OREA_WCTNTrialCtsJudWtCase.pdf. See the Preliminary Case Weights section on pages 5-6 of the study for a complete explanation for creating the measure.

⁵ Public Acts, 2018, Chapter No. 974.

⁶ Office of Research and Education Accountability, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study: FY 2016-17, Update*, Comptroller of the Treasury, Feb. 2018, https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/content/dam/cot/orea/documents/orea-reports-2018/2018_OREA_WeightedCaseloadReport.pdf.

⁷ See Appendix B for a map of Tennessee Judicial Districts.

⁸ See Appendix C for the detailed calculations of judicial resource need statewide and by judicial district.

⁹ Public Acts, 2015, Chapter No. 437.

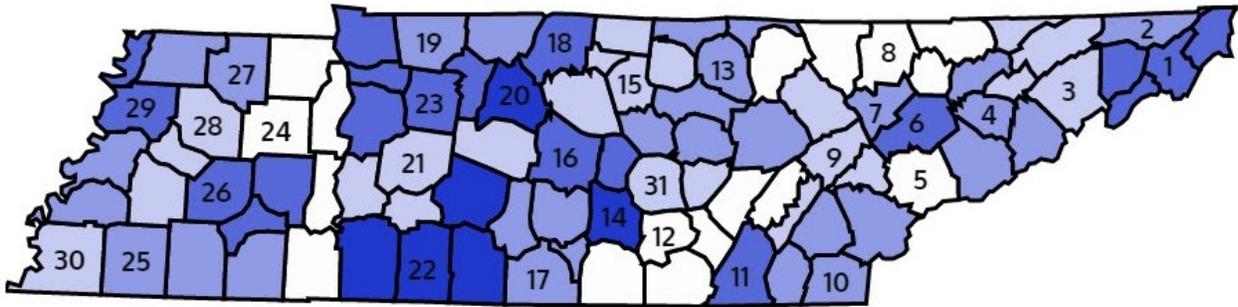
¹⁰ Public Acts, 2018, Chapter No. 1021.

Appendix A: Design Notes on the 2013 Tennessee Trial Courts Judicial Weighted Caseload Model

In 2013, the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) worked with selected Tennessee trial court judges and staff with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Comptroller's Office to develop a revised model to estimate the total judicial officer demand based on cases filed. Tennessee judges reported their time for six weeks out of an 11-week period in the summer of 2013, which was used to determine the average time spent on case-related and non-case-related activities statewide. Based on the 2013 time study, new case weights were assigned to each case type, including a few newly added case types, in order to more accurately estimate judicial need throughout the state.^A

^A A complete report describing the process and the 2013 revised model is available at https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/content/dam/cot/orea/documents/orea-reports-2013/2013_OREA_WCTNTrialCtsJudWtCase.pdf.

Appendix B: 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 C: Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Update, FY 2018, Case Filings by Judicial District

Case Filings per Judicial District												
	Case Type	Case Weight	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Criminal	First Degree Murder	776	16	9	6	6	2	33	5	5	16	9
	Post Conviction Relief	381	6	9	9	10	4	0	1	4	14	9
	Felony A and B	157	238	218	249	351	63	420	40	142	154	212
	Felony C, D, and E	45	1,333	922	753	1,300	450	1,398	279	720	537	791
	DUI	89	77	49	53	185	25	108	29	81	54	50
	Recovery (Drug) Court **	167		25		50	90		30	40		66
	Criminal Appeals (incl. Juvenile Delinquency)	11	13	6	2	6	2	0	0	7	4	1
	Misdemeanor	29	406	240	282	640	138	202	85	122	303	106
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs	28		194	70	135	51	268	27	65		128
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs-Prison Districts	57	23								61	
	Probation Violation	18	1,719	1,938	1,028	2,094	825	1,462	586	1,143	551	1,160
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings	204	7	4	18	6	0	9	8	20	3	19
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	104	495	84	82	234	60	345	42	128	69	108
	Damages/Tort	135	236	183	170	334	154	927	124	139	132	295
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	70	81	91	112	24	16	537	27	51	72	72
	Judicial Hospitalization	19	2	12	3	0	12	1	1	0	0	0
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	287	6	2	7	3	3	32	8	4	4	4
	Medical Malpractice	1,320	12	6	7	2	3	39	3	0	3	19
	Probate/Trust	24	740	626	784	197	1	1,450	331	417	242	479
	Other General Civil	58	264	301	330	419	180	630	115	133	120	430
	Real Estate	259	48	34	49	63	31	131	41	62	90	64
	Workers Compensation	41	3	0	0	0	1	70	34	1	5	1
Domestic Relations	Child Support	20	324	188	1,234	625	358	459	630	269	260	368
	Divorce with Children	106	433	290	404	378	188	806	157	271	57	467
	Divorce without Children	40	654	402	549	612	198	1,121	171	307	100	656
	Residential Parenting	108	91	85	99	52	19	162	39	12	18	76
	Protection of Children (Paternity, Adoption, Legitimation, Surrender, TPR)	65	189	94	193	146	168	391	62	105	76	210
	Orders of Protection	32	133	211	575	670	2	2,310	87	1	64	667
	Contempt	14	285	166	230	158	45	410	190	10	99	330
	Other Domestic Relations	73	17	3	30	16	10	71	3	12	31	21
Total Filings		7,851	6,392	7,328	8,716	3,099	13,792	3,155	4,271	3,139	6,818	
Workload (Weights x Filings)												
		426,879	307,809	355,898	445,138	171,911	840,231	151,975	230,247	192,987	394,024	
Judge Year (210 days per year, 8 hrs per day)		100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	
Average District Travel per Year		4,830	3,465	11,907	6,111	42	2,373	0	15,393	12,789	8,148	
Non-case Related Time (78 minutes/day)		16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	
Availability for Case-specific Work		79,590	80,955	72,513	78,309	84,378	82,047	84,420	69,027	71,631	76,272	
# Judges		5	4	5	5	2	10	2	3	3	5	
Total Judicial Officer Demand		5.36	3.80	4.91	5.68	2.04	10.24	1.80	3.34	2.69	5.17	
FTE Deficit or Excess		-0.36	0.20	0.09	-0.68	-0.04	-0.24	0.20	-0.34	0.31	-0.17	
Criminal Judges Needed		2.05	1.75	1.58	2.64	0.84	2.48	0.53	1.45	1.30	1.60	
Civil Judges Needed		1.93	1.12	1.45	1.55	0.61	4.50	0.68	1.08	1.01	1.83	
Domestic Relations Judges Needed		1.38	0.93	1.88	1.49	0.59	3.26	0.59	0.80	0.39	1.74	
Child Support Referee		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

*Judicial District 20 was the statutorily mandated jurisdiction in most appeals of UAPA Administrative Hearing cases for FY18. A case weight of 496 minutes is used in this district.

**Workload is based on the FY2018 capacity of the drug courts.

Source: National Center for State Courts, 2013. Data on filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

Case Filings per Judicial District												
	Case Type	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20*	21
Criminal	First Degree Murder	44	15	7	6	15	34	5	10	27	131	2
	Post Conviction Relief	17	8	18	2	6	8	20	4	26	65	12
	Felony A and B	497	259	354	113	198	385	157	206	357	829	231
	Felony C, D, and E	1,405	1,065	1,006	417	730	897	363	601	1,008	1,994	711
	DUI	165	58	302	25	110	100	3	47	184	188	72
	Recovery (Drug) Court **	60	80	58	121	25	101		50		197	52
	Criminal Appeals (incl. Juvenile Delinquency)	37	10	7	1	6	11	3	9	32	62	17
	Misdemeanor	691	272	890	166	774	385	36	149	558	694	260
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs	29		40	54		38	305	435	659		
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs-Prison Districts		22				84				523	150
	Probation Violation	1,634	1,104	1,413	417	851	1,397	153	532	899	3,237	753
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings	21	8	6	2	2	3	11	0	8	267	28
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	238	54	127	43	102	125	47	103	118	651	218
	Damages/Tort	756	184	234	103	264	182	91	237	405	2,186	334
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	546	55	84	17	73	33	37	81	91	330	117
	Judicial Hospitalization	258	2	8	0	2	133	0	1	0	273	1
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	9	21	2	1	3	3	2	1	4	10	10
	Medical Malpractice	26	1	5	1	2	25	2	5	4	79	0
	Probate/Trust	941	448	486	212	609	48	436	754	600	1,814	729
	Other General Civil	658	236	235	124	247	1,065	251	302	683	1,299	457
	Real Estate	110	43	140	12	59	45	38	27	65	317	70
	Workers Compensation	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	250	1
Domestic Relations	Child Support	265	626	285	122	144	562	521	389	714	448	294
	Divorce with Children	597	267	308	121	284	649	248	371	829	767	536
	Divorce without Children	871	347	439	173	376	778	309	413	1,126	1,235	435
	Residential Parenting	116	28	81	143	55	165	100	91	180	139	89
	Protection of Children (Paternity, Adoption, Legitimation, Surrender, TPR)	304	98	174	18	155	222	96	117	231	128	135
	Orders of Protection	1,457	141	0	1	41	914	36	106	16	1,287	18
	Contempt	519	333	61	14	42	247	286	75	270	170	380
	Other Domestic Relations	181	147	17	17	29	34	13	33	27	125	25
Total Filings	12,487	5,933	6,787	2,446	5,288	8,589	3,569	5,149	9,122	19,695	6,137	
Workload (Weights x Filings)												
	761,857	313,864	400,986	155,438	302,029	523,554	197,420	293,178	539,990	1,562,417	372,239	
Judge Year (210 days per year, 8 hrs per day)	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	
Average District Travel per Year	42	18,564	16,758	987	9,030	630	11,991	462	9,744	1,218	5,817	
Non-case Related Time (78 minutes/day)	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	
Availability for Case-specific Work	84,378	65,856	67,662	83,433	75,390	83,790	72,429	83,958	74,676	83,202	78,603	
# Judges	9	4	5	2	4	6	3	3	6	18	5	
Total Judicial Officer Demand	9.03	4.77	5.93	1.86	4.01	6.25	2.73	3.49	7.23	18.78	4.74	
FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.03	-0.77	-0.93	0.14	-0.01	-0.25	0.27	-0.49	-1.23	-0.78	0.26	
Criminal Judges Needed	3.05	2.29	2.99	0.94	1.78	2.31	0.90	1.28	2.68	6.07	1.52	
Civil Judges Needed	3.58	1.20	1.79	0.44	1.32	1.81	0.83	1.17	2.04	10.12	1.87	
Domestic Relations Judges Needed	2.40	1.28	1.15	0.48	0.90	2.13	1.00	1.05	2.52	2.59	1.35	
Child Support Referee	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	

* Judicial District 20 was the statutorily mandated jurisdiction in most appeals of UAPA Administrative Hearing cases for FY18. A case weight of 496 minutes is used in this district.

** Workload is based on the FY2018 capacity of the drug courts.

Source: National Center for State Courts, 2013. Data on filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

Case Filings per Judicial District												
	Case Type	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Totals
Criminal	First Degree Murder	18	34	20	27	21	2	35	5	215	3	783
	Post Conviction Relief	17	7	5	7	25	1	3	12	120	3	452
	Felony A and B	434	280	266	280	195	163	151	93	1,707	127	9,369
	Felony C, D, and E	917	790	458	829	689	197	439	399	4,955	233	28,586
	DUI	237	77	25	69	64	1	45	7	413	30	2,933
	Recovery (Drug) Court **		54		30	35	40		16		115	1,335
	Criminal Appeals (incl. Juvenile Delinquency)	21	2	8	7	4	0	10	4	4	6	302
	Misdemeanor	617	354	58	184	215	23	87	72	898	233	10,140
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs		293	40		153	10	220			3	3,217
	Other Petitions, Motions, Writs-Prison Districts	251			29				19	1,861		3,023
	Probation Violation	1,572	1,023	787	1,112	681	424	113	307	932	443	32,290
General Civil/Other	Administrative Hearings	8	10	3	12	3	2	1	7	32	5	533
	Contract/Debt/Specific Performance	81	62	38	80	68	28	37	17	912	18	4,814
	Damages/Tort	244	163	117	163	243	39	71	47	2,279	45	11,081
	Guardianship/Conservatorship	58	33	38	101	16	32	36	71	0	26	2,958
	Judicial Hospitalization	0	0	0	68	5	0	3	0	0	0	785
	Juvenile Court Appeal (Civil)	11	2	2	8	3	0	1	2	15	1	184
	Medical Malpractice	8	4	2	1	8	2	1	6	141	0	417
	Probate/Trust	612	220	380	385	117	219	253	117	0	172	14,819
	Other General Civil	300	139	128	235	239	96	117	671	1,416	179	11,999
	Real Estate	42	34	31	32	24	9	11	11	141	21	1,895
	Workers Compensation	8	0	0	1	7	304	2	0	32	0	757
Domestic Relations	Child Support	342	348	49	100	143	273	192	33	92	80	10,737
	Divorce with Children	340	289	142	288	418	110	93	103	1,123	66	11,400
	Divorce without Children	442	390	188	631	702	126	131	117	1,392	68	15,459
	Residential Parenting	67	70	72	42	117	36	79	22	34	1	2,380
	Protection of Children (Paternity, Adoption, Legitimation, Surrender, TPR)	137	128	63	81	105	38	28	31	239	52	4,214
	Orders of Protection	218	91	1	50	27	1	1	97	0	304	9,527
	Contempt	109	452	92	174	108	91	35	2	123	16	5,522
	Other Domestic Relations	50	11	5	4	9	15	2	1	27	1	987
Total Filings	7,161	5,360	3,018	5,030	4,444	2,282	2,197	2,289	19,103	2,251	202,898	
Workload (Weights x Filings)												
	404,588	301,260	186,992	290,964	295,843	121,740	150,165	144,478	1,808,113	126,503	12,770,717	
Judge Year (210 days per year; 8 hrs per day)	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800	
Average District Travel per Year	6,993	17,766	10,731	14,217	3,339	13,545	8,526	8,358	294	672	5,376	
Non-case Related Time (78 minutes/day)	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380	
Availability for Case-specific Work	77,427	66,654	73,689	70,203	81,081	70,875	75,894	76,062	84,126	83,748	79,044	
# Judges	4	3	3	4	4	2	2	2	22	1	156	
Total Judicial Officer Demand	5.23	4.52	2.54	4.14	3.65	1.72	1.98	1.90	21.49	1.51	162.51	
FTE Deficit or Excess	-1.23	-1.52	0.46	-0.14	0.35	0.28	0.02	0.10	0.51	-0.51	-6.51	
Criminal Judges Needed	2.73	2.42	1.34	2.04	1.50	0.73	1.14	0.70	10.57	0.84	66.04	
Civil Judges Needed	1.34	0.91	0.69	1.08	0.94	0.55	0.44	0.89	8.55	0.37	57.68	
Domestic Relations Judges Needed	1.15	1.19	0.50	1.02	1.21	0.44	0.39	0.31	2.37	0.30	38.79	
Child Support Referee	No	Yes	No									

* Judicial District 20 was the statutorily mandated jurisdiction in most appeals of UAPA Administrative Hearing cases for FY18. A case weight of 496 minutes is used in this district.

**Workload is based on the FY2018 capacity of the drug courts.

Source: National Center for State Courts, 2013. Data on filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

Appendix D: Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Update, FY 2018, Administrative Hearings (Case Type with a Uniform Weight of 318)

Judicial District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Filings for Administrative Hearings	10	6	21	9	2	15	9	22	5	22
Total Filings	7,854	6,394	7,331	8,719	3,101	13,798	3,156	4,273	3,141	6,821
FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.39	0.18	0.05	-0.70	-0.04	-0.28	0.18	-0.38	0.29	-0.21
<i>Change in FTE vs. Split Weight Model</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.04</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.04</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.04</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.04</i>
Judicial District										
Judicial District	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Filings for Administrative Hearings	26	10	9	3	5	8	13	3	12	183
Total Filings	12,492	5,935	6,790	2,447	5,291	8,594	3,571	5,152	9,126	19,611
FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.08	-0.79	-0.95	0.13	-0.02	-0.27	0.25	-0.50	-1.26	0.11
<i>Change in FTE vs. Split Weight Model</i>	<i>-0.05</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.03</i>	<i>0.89</i>
Judicial District										
Judicial District	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Filings for Administrative Hearings	32	11	12	5	14	5	3	2	8	45
Total Filings	6,141	7,164	5,362	3,020	5,032	4,446	2,283	2,198	2,290	19,116
FTE Deficit or Excess	0.21	-1.25	-1.55	0.45	-0.18	0.34	0.28	0.02	0.09	0.41
<i>Change in FTE vs. Split Weight Model</i>	<i>-0.06</i>	<i>-0.02</i>	<i>-0.03</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.03</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>-0.09</i>
Judicial District										
Judicial District	31	Totals								
Filings for Administrative Hearings	6	533								
Total Filings	2,252	202,898								
FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.52	-6.36								
<i>Change in FTE vs. Split Weight Model</i>	<i>-0.01</i>	<i>0.15</i>								

Notes:

- See Appendix C for figures on case types other than Administrative Hearings for FY 2018.
- Judicial District 20 was the statutorily mandated jurisdiction in most appeals of UAPA Administrative Hearing cases for FY 2018. Pursuant to Public Chapter 1021 (2018) and effective as of July 1, 2018, appeals of Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA) cases may be filed "in the chancery court nearest to the place of residence of the person contesting the agency action or alternatively, at the person's discretion, in the chancery court nearest to the place where the cause of action arose, or in the chancery court of Davidson County."
- Using the results of a 2009 Delphi meeting between Davidson County chancellors, AOC personnel, and NCSC consultants, the model assumes that 35 percent of Davidson County's Administrative Hearings are UAPA appeals. It then assumes a proportional redistribution of UAPA appeals according to estimated district populations on July 1, 2017.
- County population estimates sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Estimates of the Resident Population. District population estimates compiled by OREA.

Source: National Center for State Courts, 2013. Data on filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

Appendix E: Revised Estimates for FY 2017 Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Update

*** Revised figures in orange. Originally reported figures in parentheses ***

Case Type (Criminal Cases Only)	Case Weight	Case Filings per Judicial District			
		14	15	30	Totals
First Degree Murder	776	2	14	181 (252)	660 (731)
Post Conviction Relief	381	4	0	154 (150)	513 (509)
Felony A and B	157	134	205	1,554 (1,949)	8,132 (8,527)
Felony (C, D, and E)	45	472	958	4,723 (6,915)	29,737 (31,929)
DUI	89	31	117	397 (428)	3,002 (3,033)
Recovery (Drug) Court	167	62 (46)	25		1,334 (1,318)
Criminal Appeals (incl. Juvenile Delinquency)	11	0	6	7 (13)	300 (306)
Misdemeanor	29	145	888	787 (1,216)	9,943 (10,372)
Other Petitions, Motions, Writs	28	95	0 (87)		2,467 (2,554)
Other Petitions, Motions, Writs-Prison Districts	57		87 (0)	1,206 (2,113)	2,253 (3,073)
Probation Violation	18	343	857	1,204 (2,012)	29,208 (30,016)
Total Filings (All Case Types)		2,397 (2,381)	5,647	18,316 (23,152)	200,780 (205,600)
Workload (Weights x Filings)		137,183	324,072	1,720,810	12,527,142
Judge Year (210 days per year, 8 hrs per day)		100,800	100,800	100,800	100,800
Average District Travel per year		987	9,030	294	5,376
Non-case related Time (78 minutes/day)		16,380	16,380	16,380	16,380
Availability for Case-specific Work		83,433	75,390	84,126	79,044
# Judges		2	4	22	153
Total Judicial Officer Demand		1.64	4.30	20.46	159.31
FTE Deficit or Excess		0.36 (0.39)	-0.30 (-0.27)	1.54 (-1.97)	-6.31 (-9.76)

Notes: See original *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study: FY 2016-17 Update* for figures unaffected by data updates: https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/content/dam/cot/orea/documents/orea-reports-2018/2018_OREA_WeightedCaseloadReport.pdf.

-Figures in parentheses correspond to originally reported case filings for FY 2017.

-The original weighted caseload update for FY 2017 utilized a three-year growth average to estimate Shelby County's (Judicial District 30) criminal case filings because actual criminal case filings for the county were unavailable at that time. The revised figures for Shelby County in this chart were derived using the actual criminal case filings for FY 2017.

-Judicial District 14 did not respond to OREA's FY 2017 recovery court survey. Therefore, a carryover from FY 2016 was used as a proxy for its recovery court capacity in the weighted caseload update for FY 2017. That figure was retrieved as part of the FY 2018 recovery court survey and was used to revise FY 2017 judicial need for Judicial District 14 in this chart.

-A prison was opened in Judicial District 15 in January 2016, but this was not reflected in the weighted caseload update in FY 2017. The Other Petitions, Motions, and Writs case type for Judicial District 15 was reclassified to account for the greater complexity inherent in cases filed on behalf of inmates for this revision of FY 2017 weighted caseload figures.

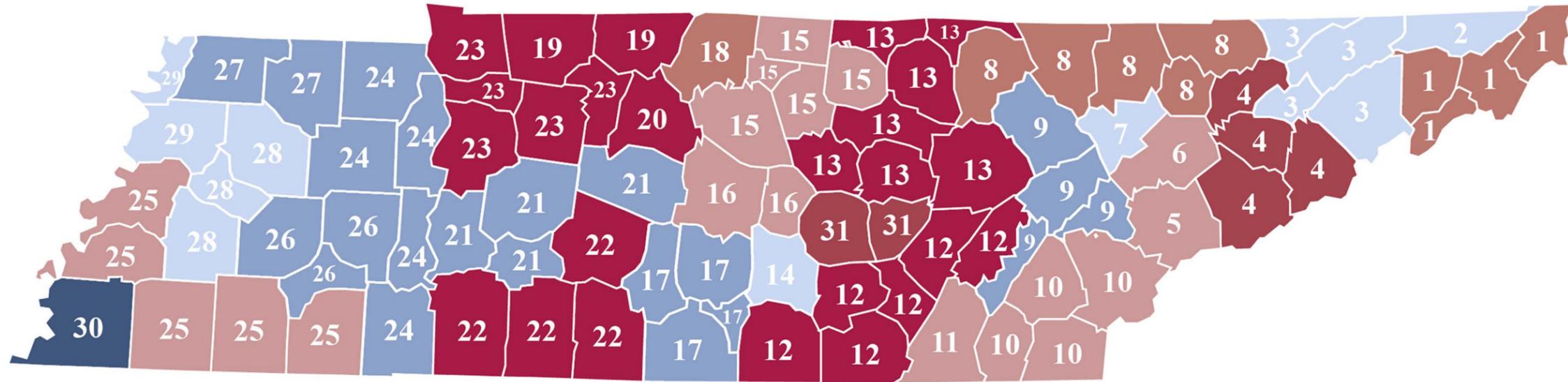
Source: National Center for State Courts, 2013. Data on filings provided by the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.



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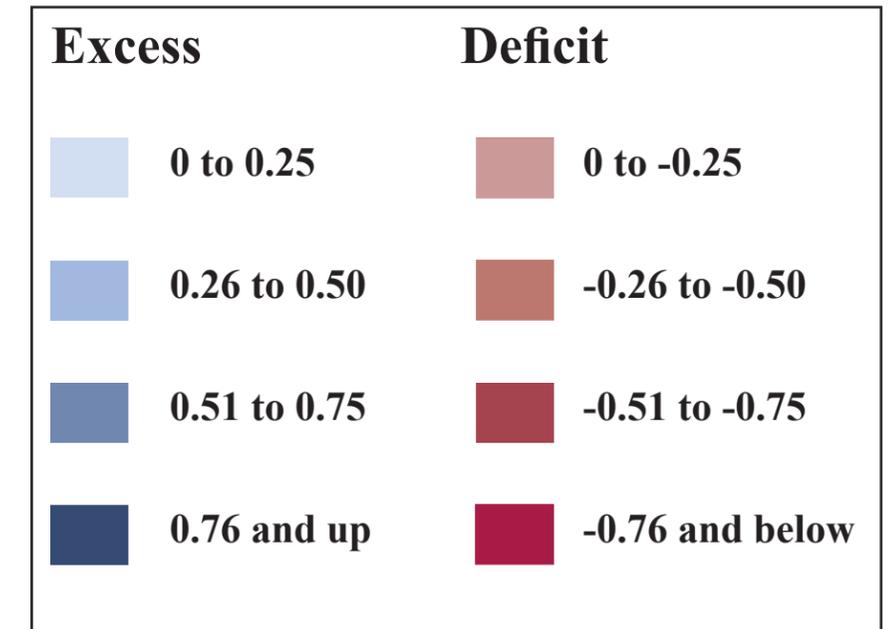
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Difference between Actual Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Judges and Estimated Need for FTE Judges by District, FY18



Judicial District (Counties) for Fiscal Year 2018

District 1 (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)	-0.36	District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)	0.27
District 2 (Sullivan)	0.20	District 18 (Sumner)	-0.49
District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)	0.09	District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson)	-1.23
District 4 (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)	-0.68	District 20 (Davidson)	-0.78
District 5 (Blount)	-0.04	District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)	0.26
District 6 (Knox)	-0.24	District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)	-1.23
District 7 (Anderson)	0.20	District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)	-1.52
District 8 (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)	-0.34	District 24 (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)	0.46
District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)	0.31	District 25 (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)	-0.14
District 10 (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)	-0.17	District 26 (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)	0.35
District 11 (Hamilton)	-0.03	District 27 (Obion and Weakley)	0.28
District 12 (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)	-0.77	District 28 (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)	0.02
District 13 (Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White)	-0.93	District 29 (Dyer and Lake)	0.10
District 14 (Coffee)	0.14	District 30 (Shelby)	0.51
District 15 (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)	-0.01	District 31 (Van Buren and Warren)	-0.51
District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford)	-0.25	Statewide Excess or Deficit FTE Judges	-6.51



To read the Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study: FY 2017-18 Update, visit the Office of Research and Education Accountability's website at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/OREA/.