



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

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*Chair*

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### **2021 Superior Court Workload Assessment** **January 9, 2023**

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 fifty 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.

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 average for both case types.

Table 4 shows the 2021 population estimate and the 2026 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](mailto:casecount@georgiacourts.gov).

Superior Workload Assessment- Total Cases per Judge Distribution (Table 1)

Circuit	Number of Judges in 2021	Cases Per Judge Three Year Average	Judge Workload Value	Workload Value per Judge
Alapaha	2	2,155	2.5	1.3
Alcovy	5	1,899	5.5	1.1
Appalachian	3	1,297	3.0	1.0
Atlanta	20	1,416	20.4	1.0
Atlantic	4	1,571	5.1	1.3
Augusta	5	1,777	6.8	1.4
Bell-Forsyth	3	1,231	2.6	0.9
Blue Ridge	3	1,791	4.4	1.5
Brunswick	5	1,487	5.6	1.1
Chattahoochee	7	1,253	7.5	1.1
Cherokee	4	2,408	4.9	1.2
Clayton	5	1,885	7.2	1.4
Cobb	10	1,834	13.0	1.3
Columbia	3	1,546	2.7	0.9
Conasauga	4	1,533	3.4	0.9
Cordele	3	1,201	2.3	0.8
Coweta	7	1,638	9.3	1.3
Dougherty	3	1,351	5.3	1.8
Douglas	3	2,162	3.7	1.2
Dublin	3	1,125	2.2	0.7
Eastern	6	1,526	6.0	1.0
Enotah	3	1,770	3.7	1.2
Flint	3	1,845	3.6	1.2
Griffin	5	1,259	5.8	1.2
Gwinnett	11	1,911	14.3	1.3
Houston	3	1,359	3.6	1.2
Lookout Mountain	4	1,406	5.6	1.4
Macon	5	1,212	3.9	0.8
Middle	2	1,949	2.6	1.3
Mountain	2	1,689	2.6	1.3
Northeastern	5	1,271	5.0	1.0
Northern	3	2,019	3.9	1.3
Ocmulgee	5	1,501	5.3	1.1
Oconee	3	1,103	2.6	0.9
Ogeechee	3	1,893	4.7	1.6
Pataula	2	1,201	1.5	0.7
Paulding	3	1,930	3.4	1.1
Piedmont	4	1,879	4.0	1.0
Rockdale	2	1,385	1.9	0.9
Rome	4	1,894	4.8	1.2
South Georgia	2	1,261	3.0	1.5
Southern	5	1,406	6.3	1.3
Southwestern	3	986	3.2	1.1
Stone Mountain	10	1,605	13.7	1.4
Tallapoosa	2	1,966	2.3	1.2
Tifton	2	1,577	2.6	1.3
Toombs	2	1,081	1.3	0.7
Towaliga	2	1,740	2.3	1.1
Waycross	4	1,386	3.9	1.0
Western	4	1,367	3.1	0.8
<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>1,579</b>	<b>247.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Superior Workload Assessment- Criminal Cases Three-Year Average (Table 2)

Circuit	Serious Felony	Felony	Misdemeanor	Death Penalty	Probation Revocation	Total Criminal Defendants
Alapaha	55	994	1,169	0.7	570	2,788
Alcovy	101	1,407	1,158	0.3	1,862	4,528
Appalachian	92	883	740	0.0	533	2,248
Atlanta	540	6,381	223	0.0	2,425	9,569
Atlantic	119	2,178	434	0.0	235	2,966
Augusta	259	2,045	117	0.0	956	3,377
Bell-Forsyth	33	934	7	0.0	502	1,477
Blue Ridge	133	1,534	137	0.0	1,016	2,820
Brunswick	112	1,762	499	0.0	1,274	3,646
Chattahoochee	229	3,065	550	0.0	735	4,579
Cherokee	51	2,098	2,049	0.0	2,128	6,326
Clayton	282	2,879	335	1.0	1,017	4,514
Cobb	253	5,480	184	0.0	2,604	8,520
Columbia	23	897	878	0.0	223	2,021
Conasauga	46	1,542	1,633	0.0	510	3,730
Cordele	53	846	473	0.3	1,046	2,419
Coweta	248	3,585	508	0.0	1,146	5,487
Dougherty	434	1,562	241	0.7	480	2,718
Douglas	60	1,454	325	0.7	1,789	3,628
Dublin	54	600	408	0.0	502	1,564
Eastern	164	2,866	79	0.0	1,720	4,830
Enotah	97	1,212	1,411	0.0	867	3,587
Flint	64	1,158	58	0.7	648	1,930
Griffin	260	1,488	293	0.0	961	3,003
Gwinnett	284	3,599	170	1.0	2,485	6,539
Houston	201	885	71	0.0	838	1,995
Lookout Mountain	339	1,565	63	0.0	892	2,859
Macon	80	1,280	104	0.0	749	2,213
Middle	62	1,094	38	0.0	559	1,753
Mountain	82	778	316	0.0	572	1,748
Northeastern	116	1,910	545	0.3	687	3,258
Northern	88	1,596	878	0.0	1,144	3,706
Ocmulgee	141	1,744	908	1.0	1,689	4,482
Oconee	89	932	499	0.3	319	1,839
Ogeechee	167	1,939	271	0.7	487	2,865
Pataula	35	572	395	0.0	411	1,413
Paulding	28	821	983	0.0	524	2,356
Piedmont	39	1,616	1,080	0.0	1,497	4,232
Rockdale	35	593	5	0.0	401	1,035
Rome	158	1,931	1,378	0.0	1,590	5,057
South Georgia	179	564	56	0.0	268	1,067
Southern	197	2,529	276	0.7	377	3,379
Southwestern	183	415	346	0.0	294	1,238
Stone Mountain	652	2,941	39	0.0	951	4,583
Tallapoosa	32	1,131	1,083	0.0	279	2,524
Tifton	101	924	376	0.7	355	1,757
Toombs	23	437	345	0.0	258	1,063
Towaliga	38	985	516	0.0	224	1,763
Waycross	47	1,490	106	0.3	1,087	2,731
Western	58	1,207	442	0.0	1,373	3,080
Statewide Average	144	1,687	504	0.2	921	3,256

Superior Workload Assessment- Civil Cases Three-Year Average (Table 3)

Circuit	General Civil	Domestic Relations	Total Civil Cases
Alapaha	491	1,020	1,511
Alcovy	2,050	2,868	4,917
Appalachian	580	978	1,558
Atlanta	7,281	11,378	18,659
Atlantic	670	2,611	3,281
Augusta	1,932	3,493	5,426
Bell-Forsyth	523	1,650	2,173
Blue Ridge	603	1,885	2,487
Brunswick	995	2,702	3,697
Chattahoochee	1,077	3,048	4,124
Cherokee	1,079	2,182	3,261
Clayton	923	3,963	4,886
Cobb	3,050	6,652	9,702
Columbia	875	1,728	2,603
Conasauga	1,094	1,273	2,367
Cordele	473	694	1,167
Coweta	1,285	4,594	5,879
Dougherty	301	1,021	1,322
Douglas	796	2,007	2,803
Dublin	562	1,236	1,798
Eastern	1,281	3,005	4,286
Enotah	620	1,056	1,676
Flint	784	2,795	3,579
Griffin	873	2,374	3,247
Gwinnett	4,060	10,354	14,414
Houston	306	1,755	2,061
Lookout Mountain	752	1,982	2,734
Macon	1,031	2,758	3,789
Middle	369	1,771	2,139
Mountain	402	1,175	1,577
Northeastern	658	2,329	2,987
Northern	645	1,692	2,337
Ocmulgee	1,118	1,853	2,971
Oconee	582	876	1,458
Ogeechee	668	2,105	2,773
Pataula	318	653	972
Paulding	1,557	1,852	3,409
Piedmont	1,064	2,182	3,245
Rockdale	305	1,398	1,703
Rome	952	1,543	2,496
South Georgia	393	1,031	1,425
Southern	1,223	2,391	3,614
Southwestern	745	957	1,701
Stone Mountain	1,846	9,596	11,442
Tallapoosa	568	817	1,385
Tifton	471	907	1,378
Toombs	340	749	1,088
Towaliga	702	994	1,696
Waycross	664	2,099	2,763
Western	909	1,449	2,358
<b>Statewide Averages</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>2,470</b>	<b>3,526</b>

Superior Workload Assessment- Population Projections (Table 4)

Circuit	2021 Population Estimate*	Rank	2026 Projected Population**	Rank	Percent change over 5 years
Alapaha	62,647	47	63,866	47	2%
Alcovy	213,463	16	229,945	16	8%
Appalachian	91,853	36	93,074	37	1%
Atlanta	1,091,486	1	1,160,441	1	6%
Atlantic	175,594	22	182,038	22	4%
Augusta	225,745	15	230,986	15	2%
Bell-Forsyth	257,891	10	293,594	8	14%
Blue Ridge	269,056	8	288,579	9	7%
Brunswick	205,296	17	209,360	17	2%
Chattahoochee	267,487	9	275,357	10	3%
Cherokee	169,497	25	176,220	25	4%
Clayton	296,028	6	312,513	6	6%
Cobb	771,165	3	810,688	3	5%
Columbia	162,487	28	172,855	27	6%
Conasauga	144,347	30	146,685	30	2%
Cordele	60,362	48	60,499	48	<1%
Coweta	379,633	5	398,506	5	5%
Dougherty	86,022	40	83,787	40	<1%
Douglas	149,457	29	156,648	29	5%
Dublin	72,301	46	73,170	46	1%
Eastern	292,612	7	307,963	7	5%
Enotah	103,412	33	106,348	33	3%
Flint	243,713	11	266,218	11	9%
Griffin	230,981	13	241,393	13	5%
Gwinnett	954,345	2	1,011,901	2	6%
Houston	161,396	28	168,109	28	4%
Lookout Mountain	179,747	20	183,450	21	2%
Macon	193,475	18	195,949	20	1%
Middle	96,048	35	96,925	35	1%
Mountain	89,829	38	91,848	38	2%
Northeastern	237,035	12	254,083	12	7%
Northern	115,891	32	119,949	32	4%
Ocmulgee	167,067	26	169,027	27	1%
Oconee	77,111	43	76,902	43	-0.3%
Ogeechee	171,204	23	180,976	23	6%
Pataula	44,002	50	43,689	50	-1%
Paulding	177,316	21	196,905	19	11%
Piedmont	184,575	19	201,465	18	9%
Rockdale	91,446	37	93,979	36	3%
Rome	98,958	34	100,722	34	2%
South Georgia	81,852	41	82,242	41	0%
Southern	228,958	14	235,826	14	3%
Southwestern	86,634	39	86,337	39	0%
Stone Mountain	769,405	4	804,766	4	5%
Tallapoosa	73,673	44	75,860	44	3%
Tifton	78,205	42	79,405	42	2%
Toombs	48,675	49	48,683	49	0%
Towaliga	73,144	45	75,252	45	3%
Waycross	142,970	31	146,512	31	2%
Western	170,820	24	180,703	24	6%
<b>Population Totals</b>	<b>10,816,316</b>		<b>11,342,198</b>		
<b>Circuit Population Average</b>	<b>216,326</b>		<b>226,844</b>		<b>5%</b>

\*Source: Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Superior Workload Assessment- Number of Judges per Class of Court (Table 5)

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	2	5	5	2	4
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
Columbia	1	0	1	1	6
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
Tallapoosa	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
<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>474</b>