



FY24 Judicial Branch Budget Presentation

Bob Gast

State Court Administrator



Iowa Judicial Branch Overview



Judicial Branch People

Judges and Magistrates use their legal expertise and knowledge to impartially apply laws to serve the public.

Clerks of Court and Clerk Staff oversee the operations of the clerks' offices in each of Iowa's county courthouses. Across 99 counties, clerks' office staff perform a wide variety of tasks including: processing and maintaining all documents filed with the court; collecting and processing fines, fees, and restitution; assisting citizens with filing documents; and sharing court information with state agencies.

Juvenile Court Officers and their staff protect the public by working directly with delinquent youths and their families to develop skills needed to address negative behaviors.

Court Reporters keep the record of trials, hearings, and court proceedings and provide administrative support to judges.



Judicial Branch People

Court Administrators and their staff help schedule trials and manage the business side of the courts, such as human resources, accounting, purchasing, information technology, and training and education.

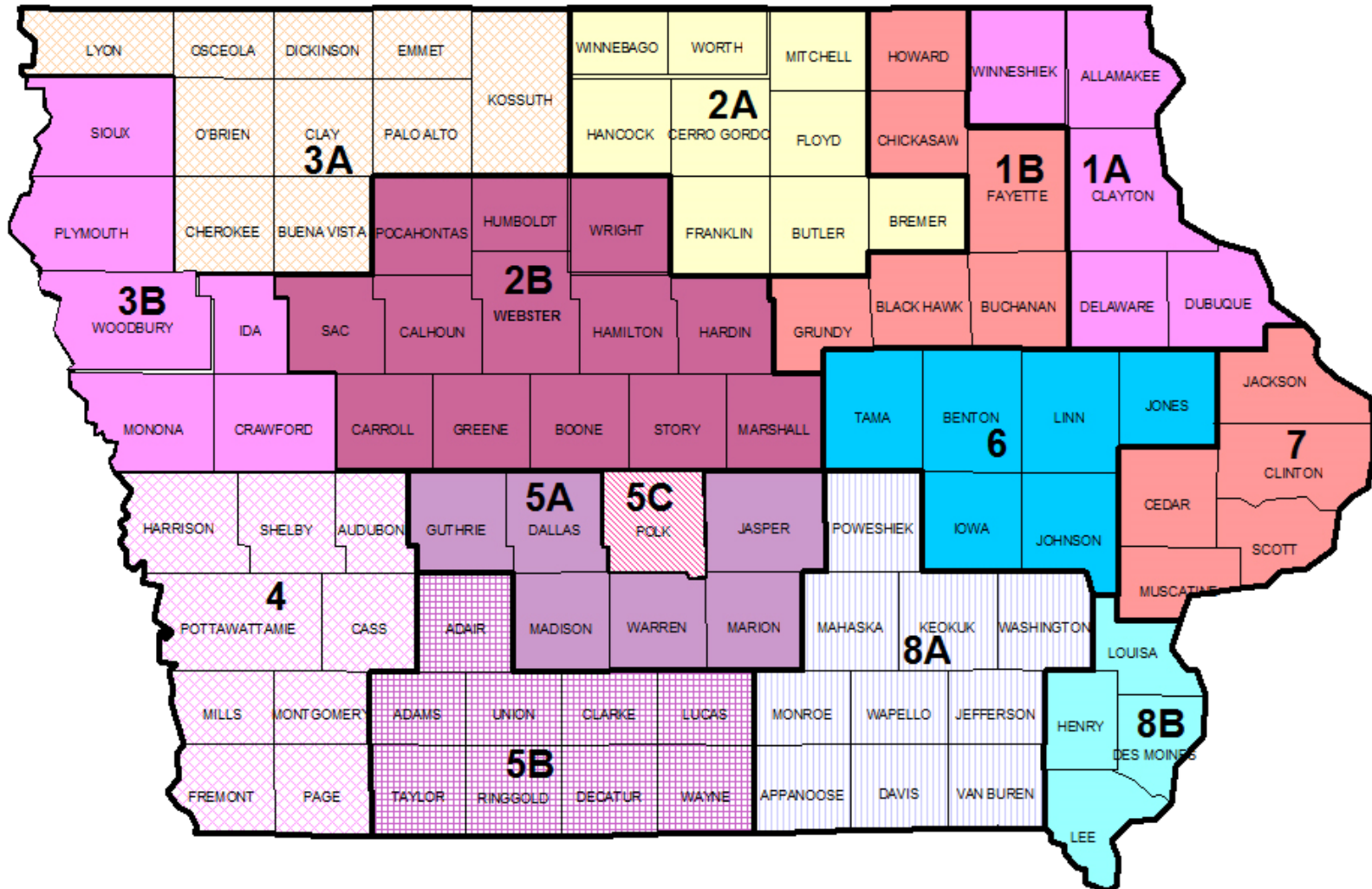
Judicial Specialists conduct scheduling conferences, prepare scheduling and other orders, and assist with jurors and jury trials and other court proceedings.

Information Technology Professionals provide ongoing maintenance, support, refinement, and improvement of the subsystems that comprise the Electronic Document Management System as well as other systems.

Law Clerks are attorneys who conduct legal research and analysis, draft routine court orders, and perform other law-related duties.



Judicial Election Districts





Workload Staffing Formulas



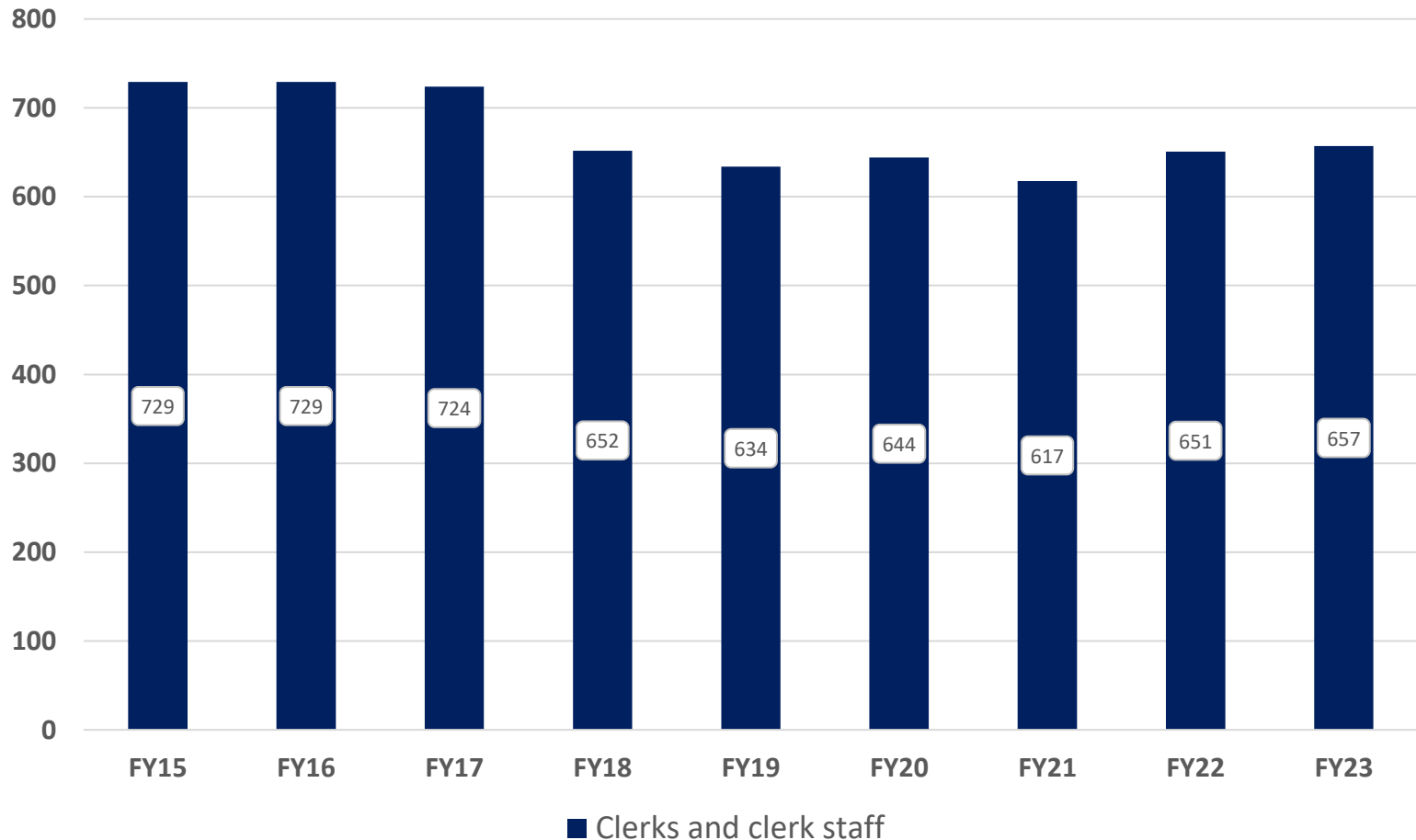
Judicial and Court Support Staff Formulas

- **“Weighted caseload” formulas** are used to determine the staffing needs for **judges, magistrates, juvenile court officers, and clerks’ offices.**
- Based on **work-time studies** – conducted by consultants from the National Center for State Courts – to determine the **average amount of time** judges and other staff spend on each of several different case types each year.
- The average time on each case type (**the case weight**) is **multiplied** by the number of filings of each of those case types to estimate the average annual amount of work-time (translated into **full-time equivalent judges or other staff**) needed to handle the workload.
- The filings for the weighted caseload calculations **are updated** each year.
- **A new work time study** is conducted about every eight years to determine the average time factors for the case weights.



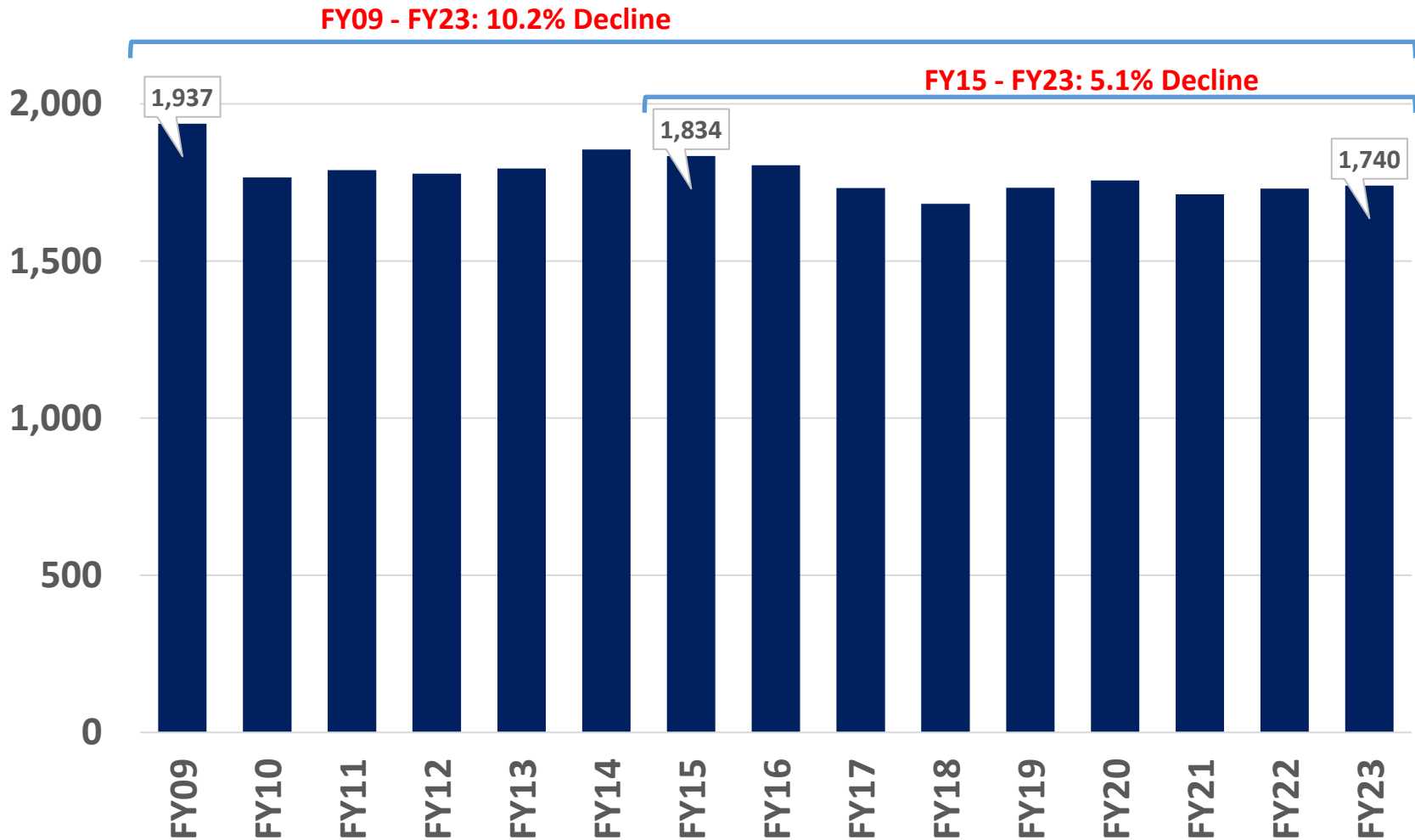
Budgeted clerks and clerk staff

Budgeted clerks and clerk staff





Judicial Branch Employees: FY09-FY23



Note: Data reflect all active permanent employees at the start of each fiscal year. This does not include board members, vacant positions, or temporary positions (if any exist)



Case Filing Trends



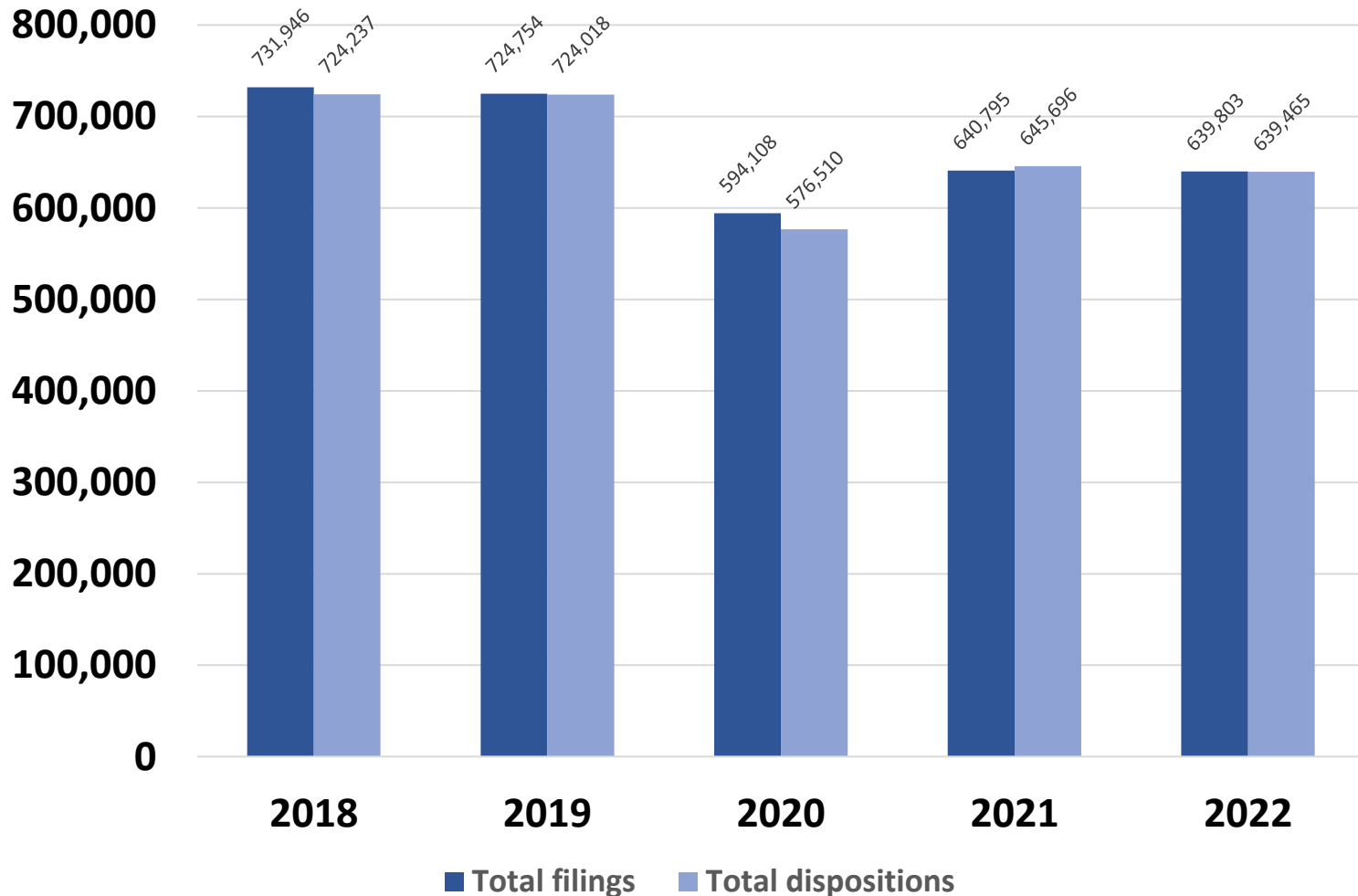
Filings, Contempts, & Probation Revocations by Case Type

2022 Calendar Year Filings

Simple Misdemeanors	• 418,758	Other Civil	• 16,609
Indictable Criminal	• 86,917	Probate	• 14,734
Small Claims & FEDs	• 71,907	Juvenile	• 9,934
Domestic	• 30,419	Tort	• 2,117
Adult Commitment	• 11,389	Total Filings	• 662,784



Five Year Case Filing & Disposition Trend

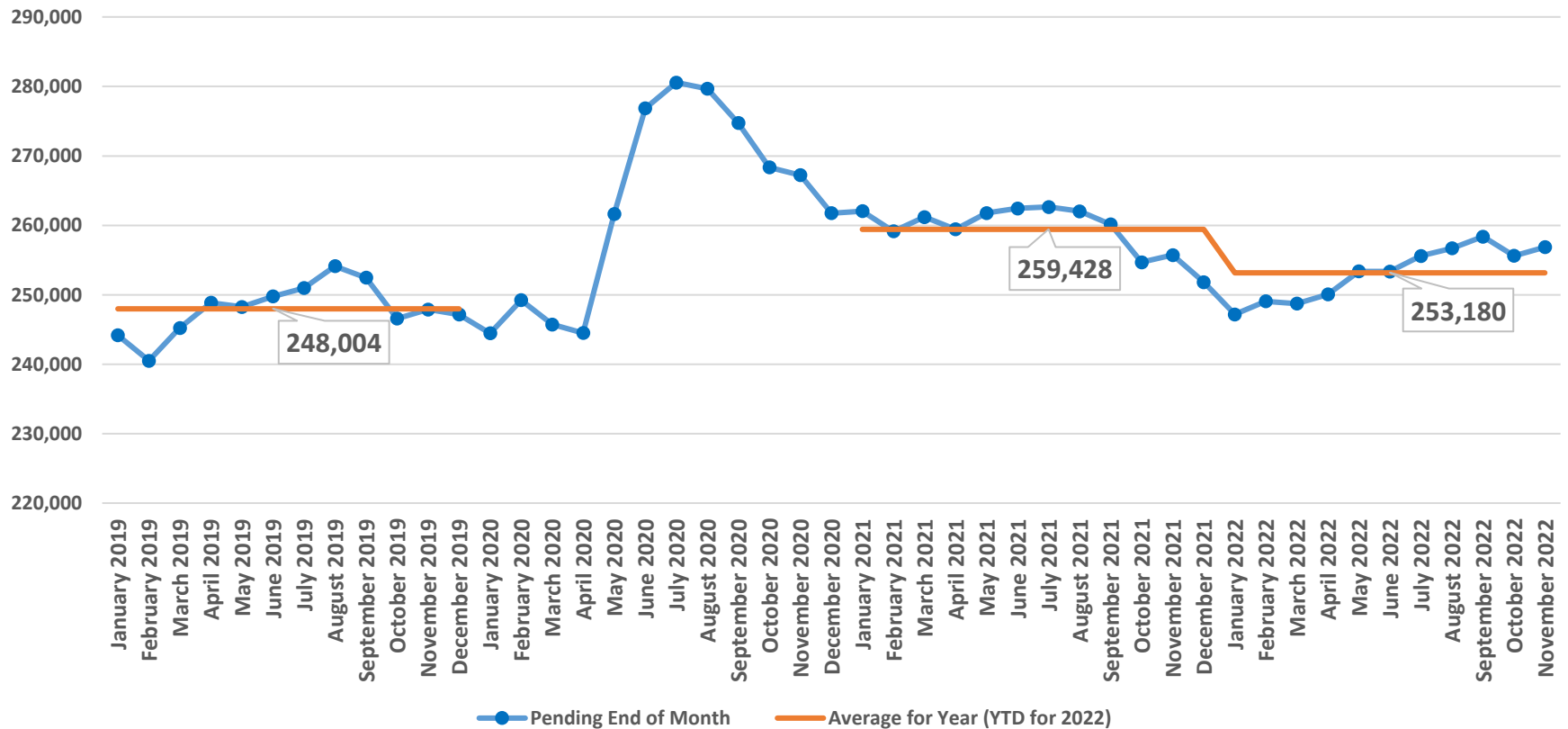


Note: This chart does not include contempt or probation revocations



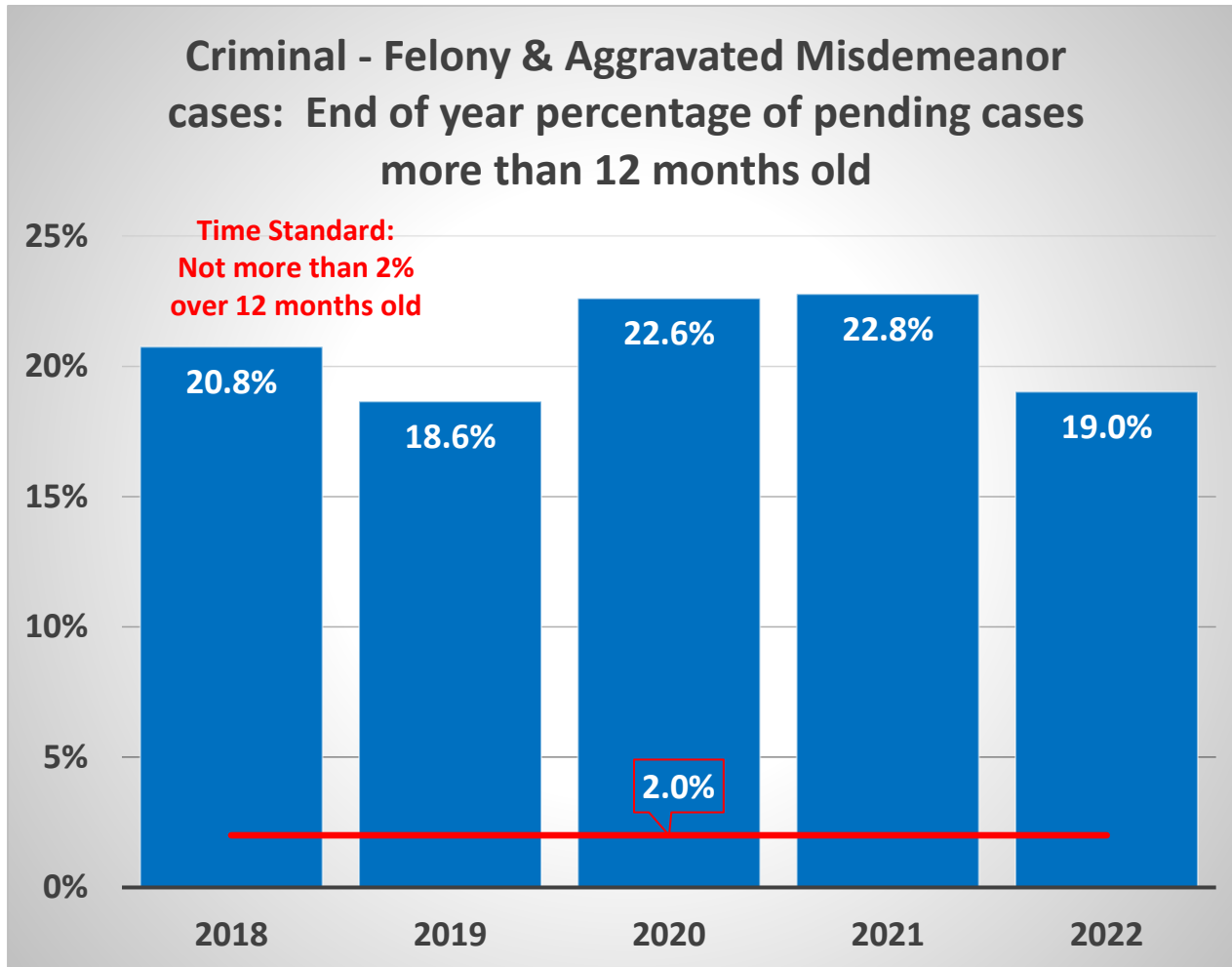
End of Month Pending Cases

End of Month Pending Cases



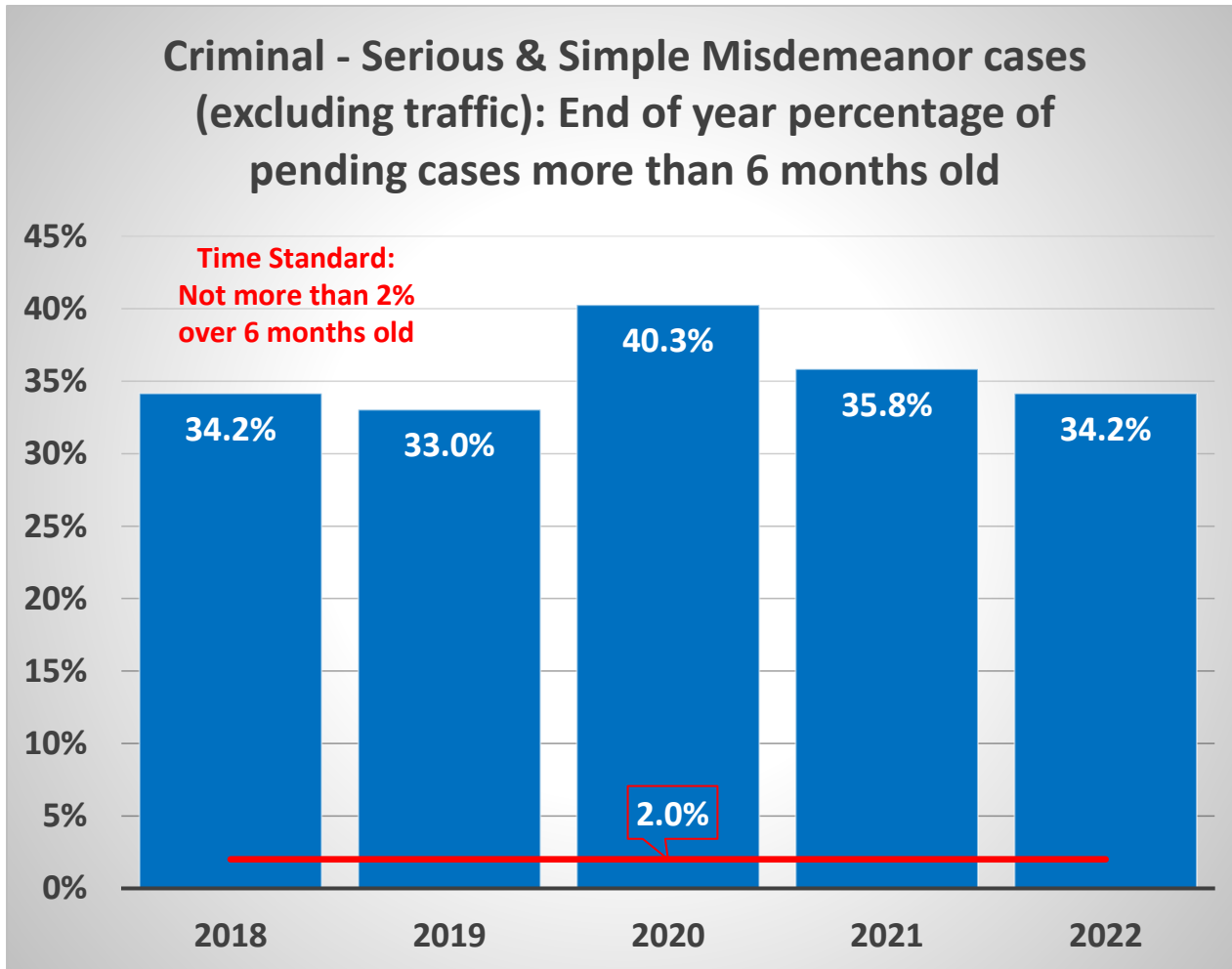


Age of Pending Cases



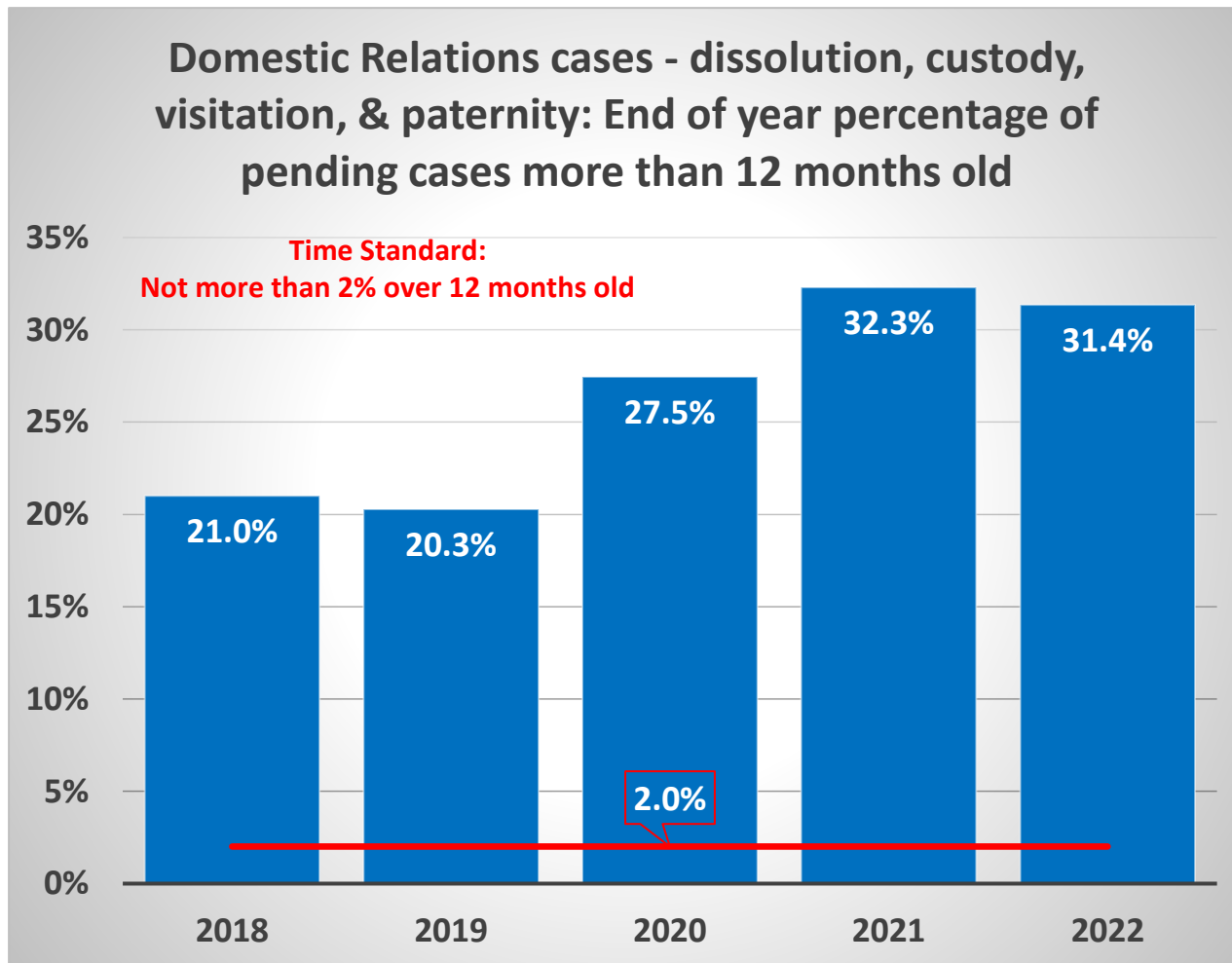


Age of Pending Cases



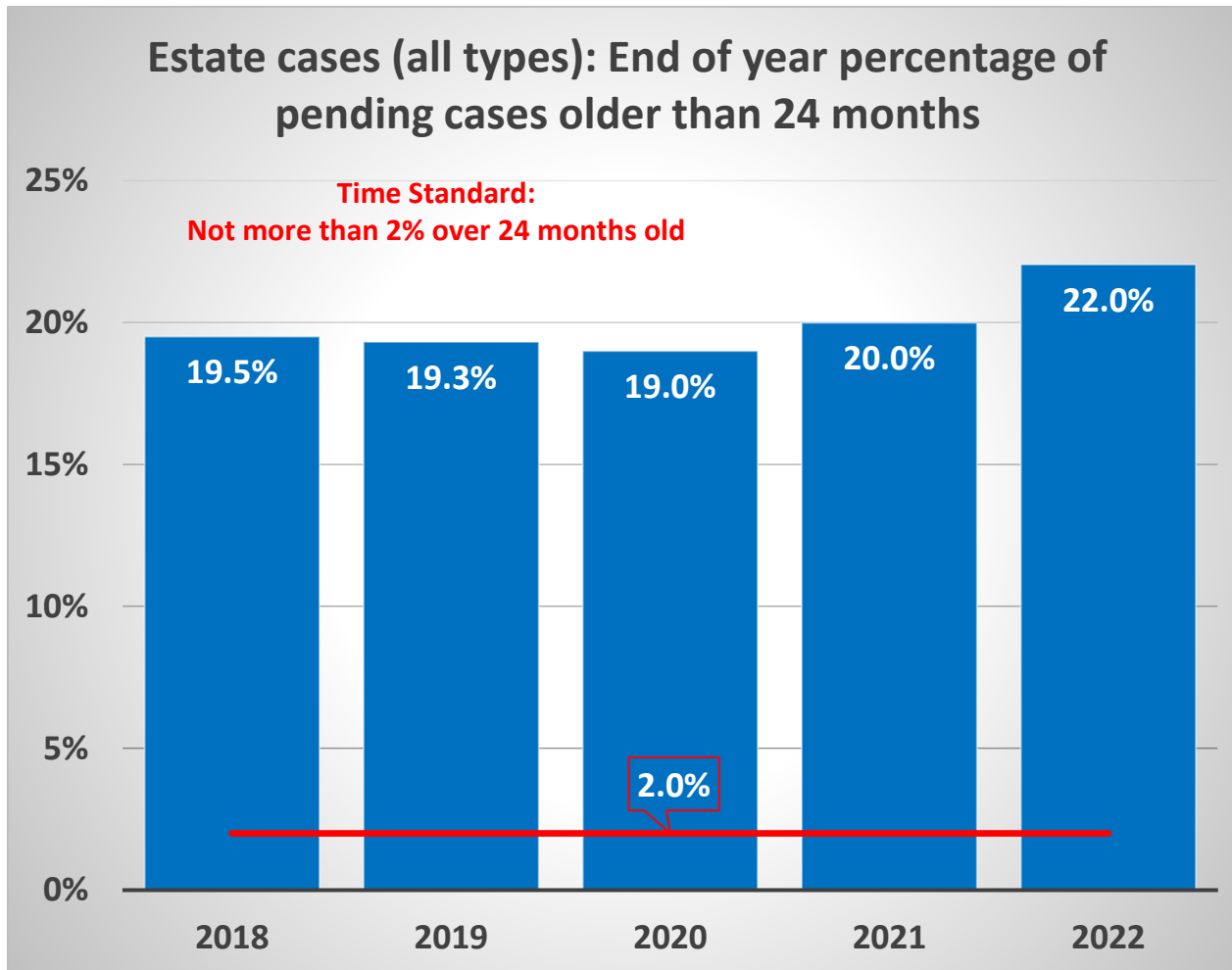


Age of Pending Cases



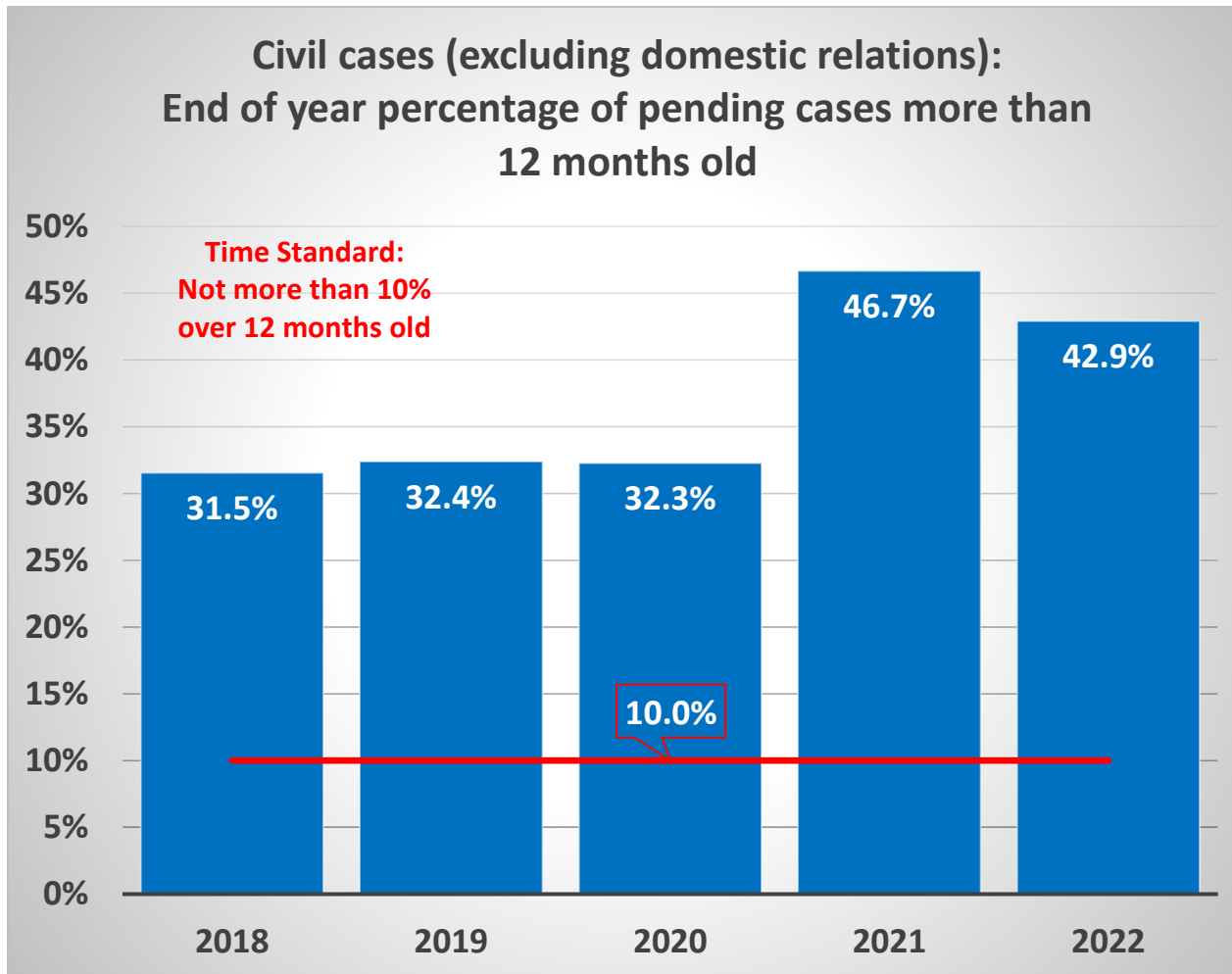


Age of Pending Cases





Age of Pending Cases





Iowa Judicial Branch Finances



Division of Funding

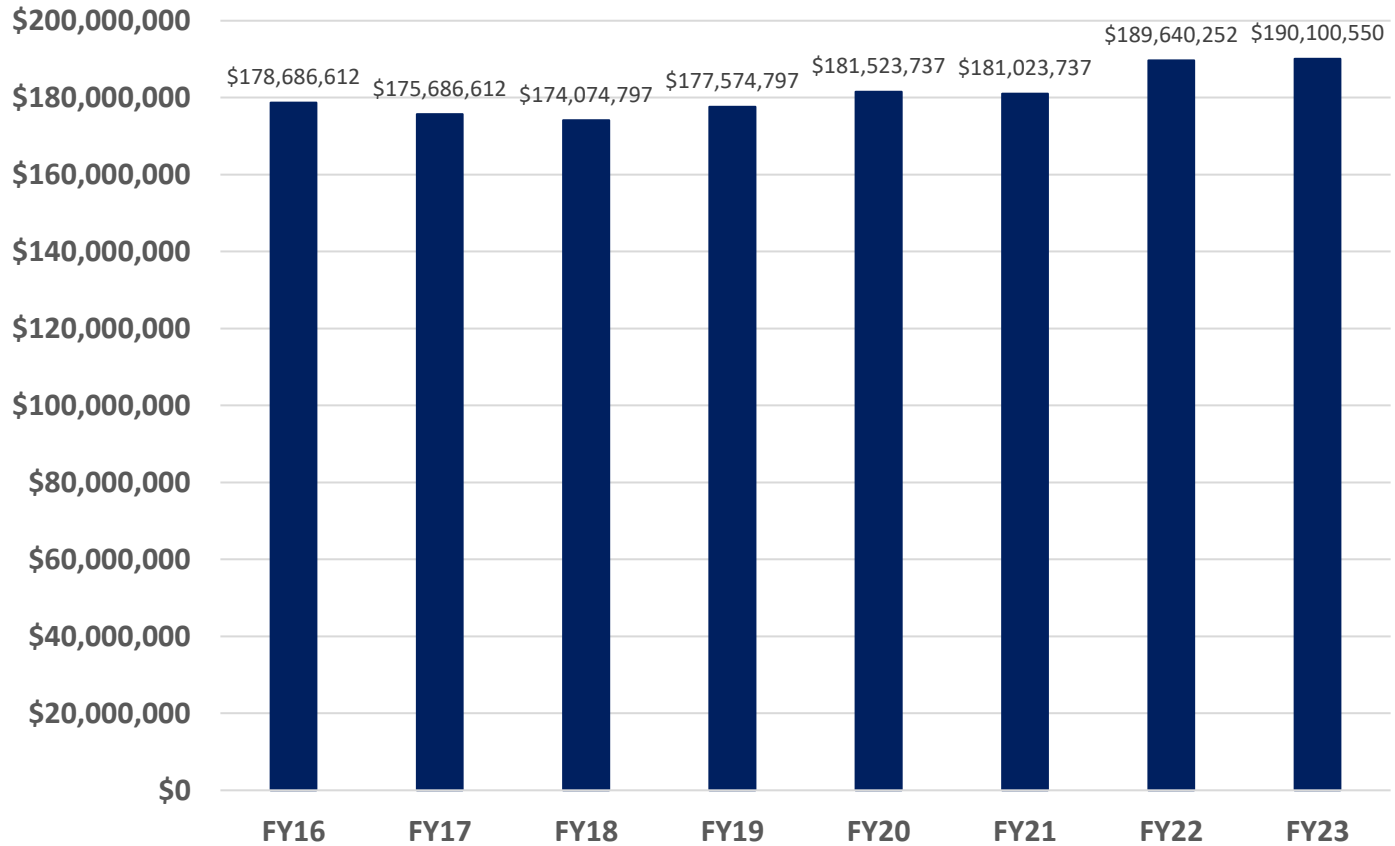
State funding:

- Judges and court staff
- Information technology
- Continuing education
- Furniture and equipment

County funding:

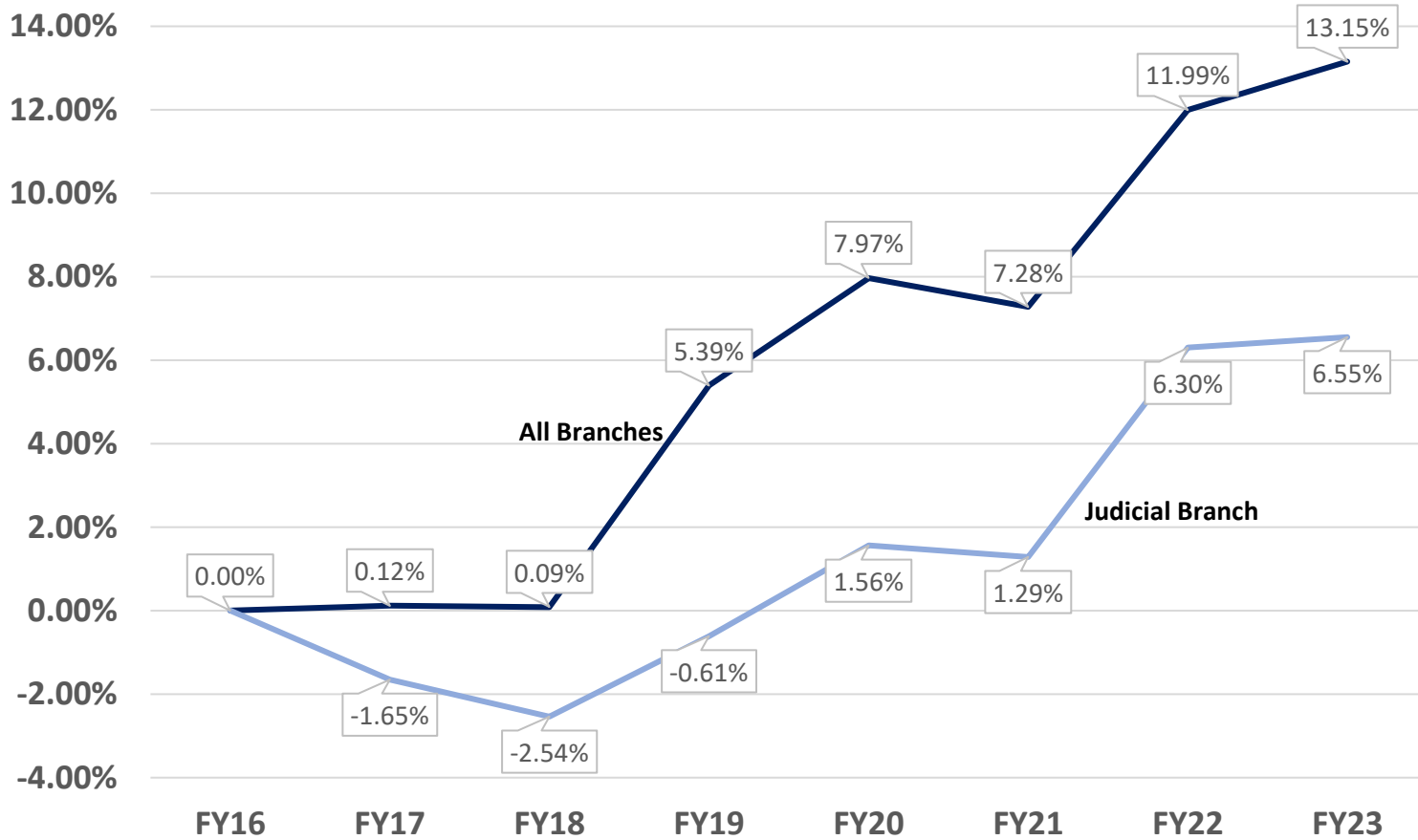
- Courthouses
- Court security
- 25% of Furniture and Equipment for county initiated renovation or new build

General Fund Appropriation History (excluding jury and witness fund)





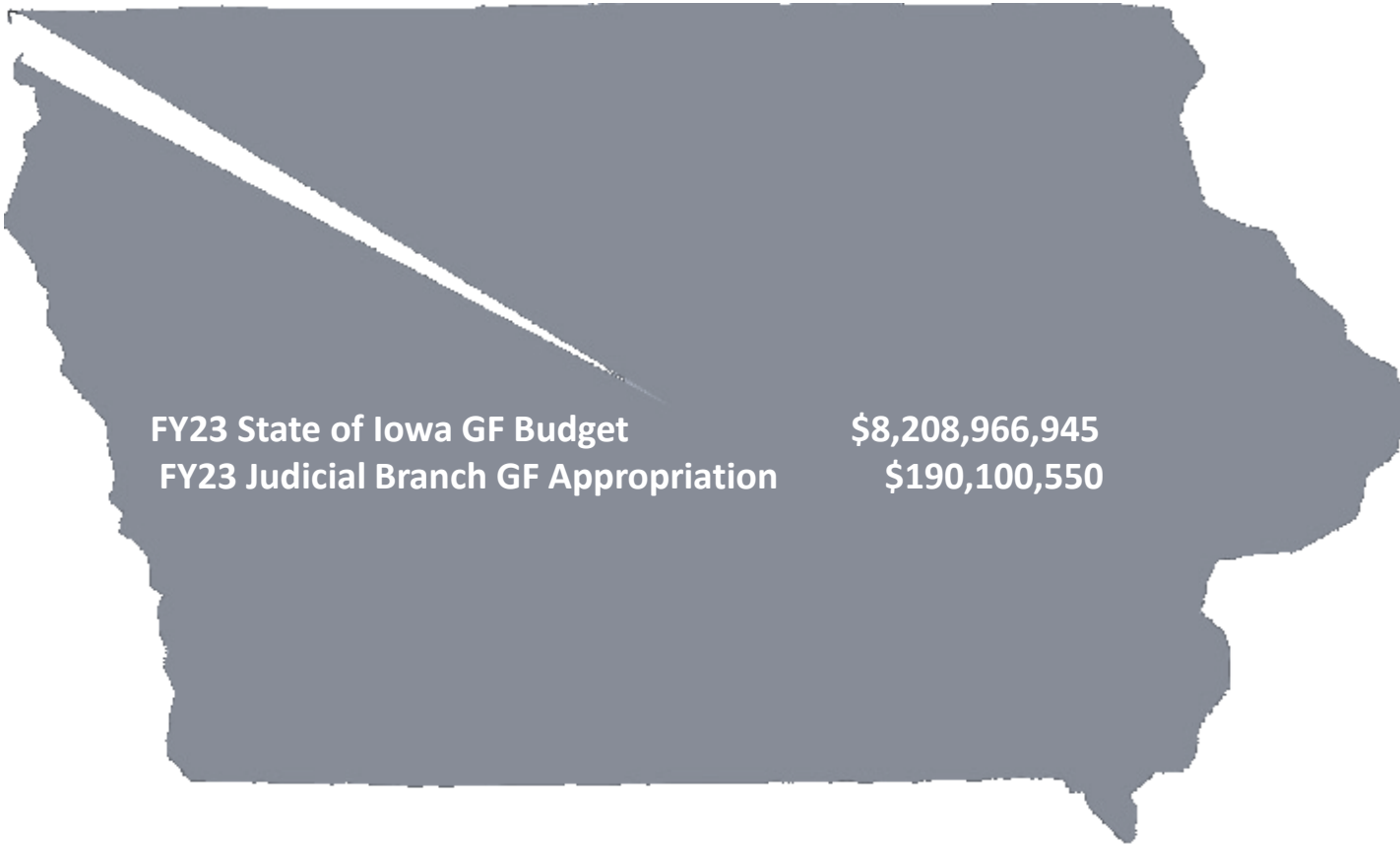
Judicial Branch and State Budget Change Since FY 2016





Judicial Branch Funding as Percent of State Budget

2.3%



FY23 State of Iowa GF Budget	\$8,208,966,945
FY23 Judicial Branch GF Appropriation	\$190,100,550



Iowa Court Clerk Revenue Collections – FY 2022

Fines, infractions, civil penalties, LE surcharge	\$59,759,524
Miscellaneous court fees and items	\$20,820,774
Court costs	\$15,357,260
County and city fines, fees, surcharges, etc.	\$20,111,141
Filing fees	\$14,737,188
Criminal surcharges	\$11,911,901
Indigent defense reimbursement	\$3,659,994
Total	\$146,357,782



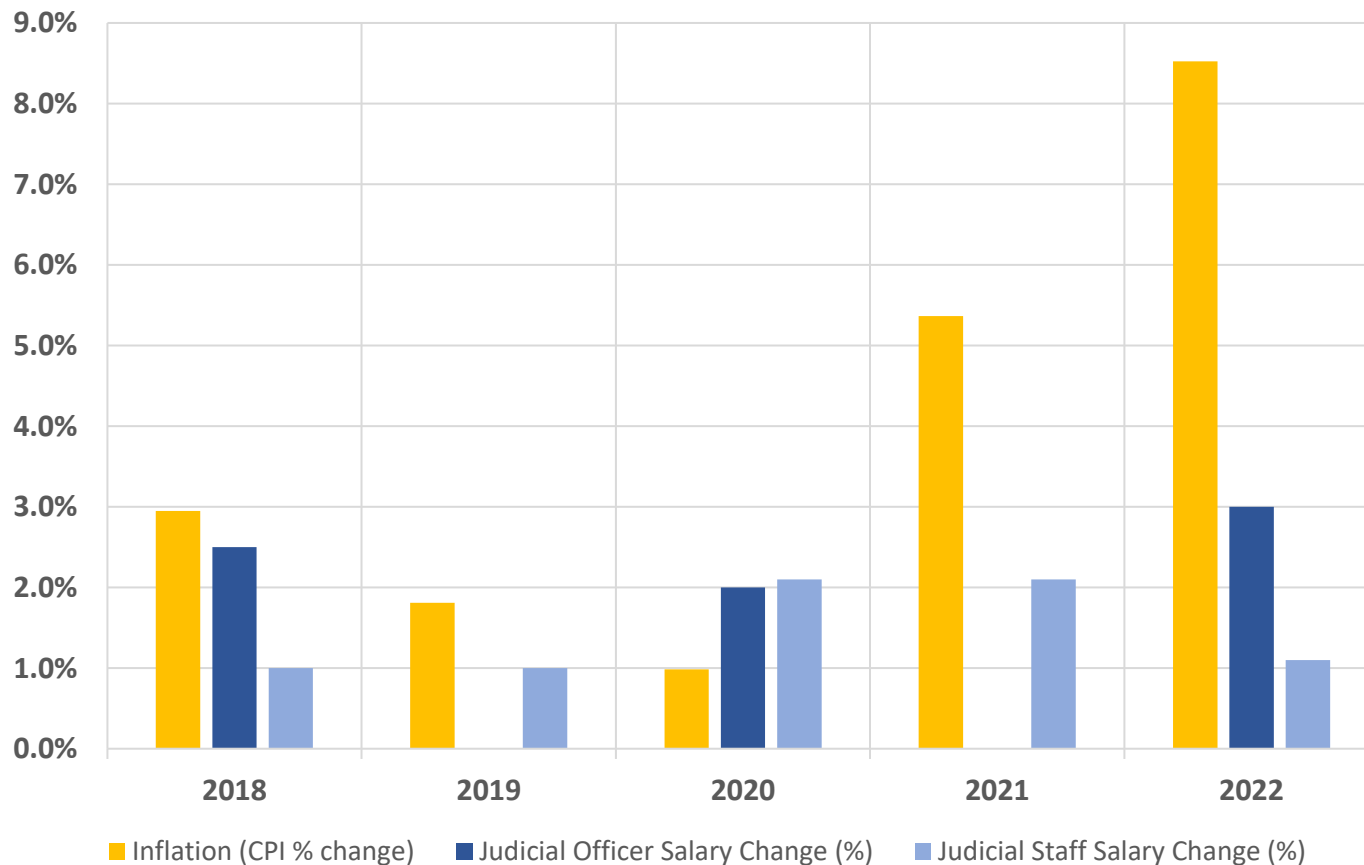
FY24 Judicial Branch Budget Request

Description	Amount
FY23 judicial branch appropriation	\$190,100,550
FY24 new funding request details:	
• Judicial Officer Salary Increase	\$4,047,162
• Increase to Employer Contribution for Judicial Retirement	\$290,000
• Year 3 of plan to add 4 district associate judges and staff	\$1,364,118
• Five additional Judicial Specialists	\$260,747
• Additional Capacity in State Court Administration	\$847,726
• Additional Staff Attorneys for SC and COA	\$779,616
• NOT INCLUDED Due to Collective Bargaining – Salary Increases for Staff	
TOTAL	\$7,589,369



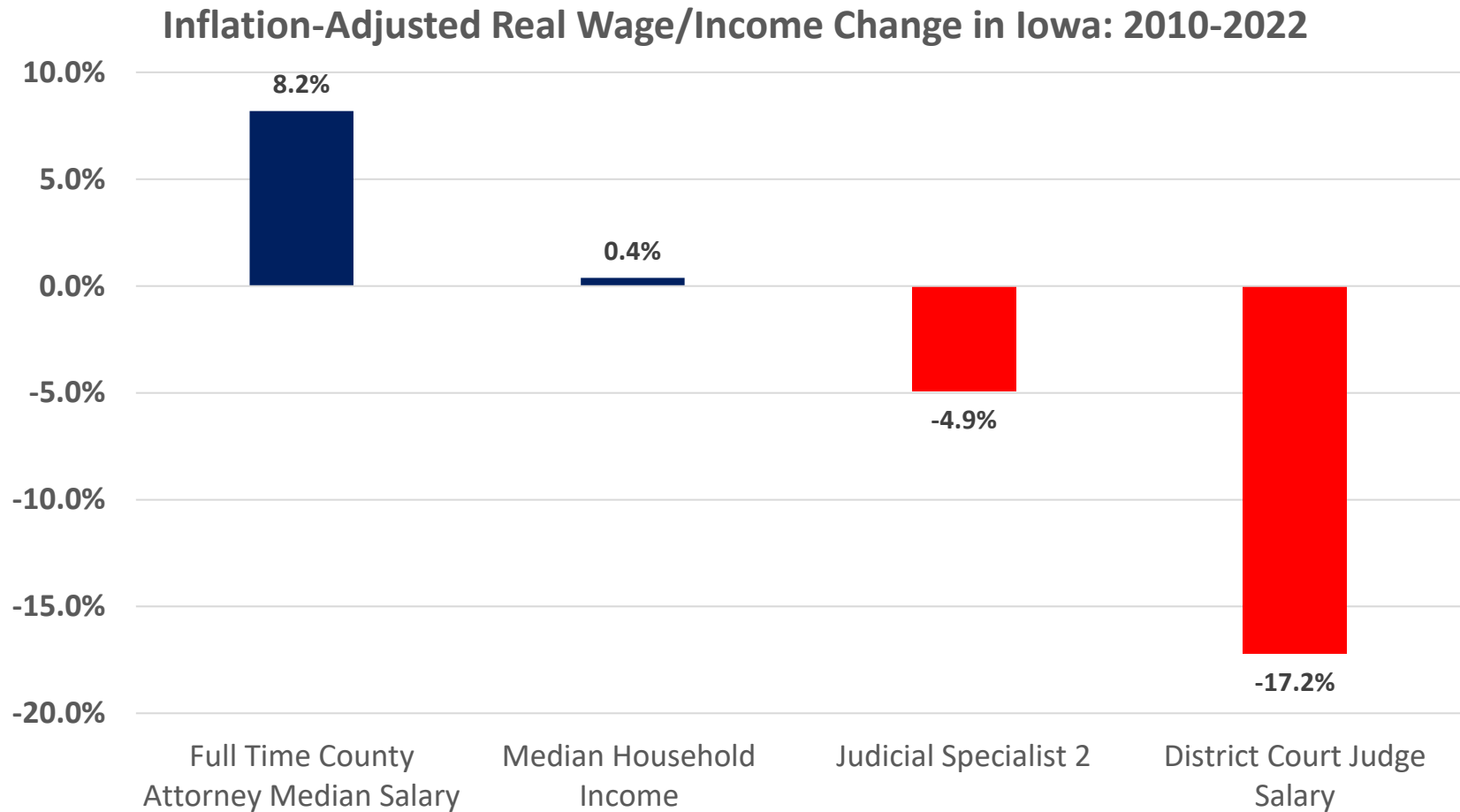
FY24 Judicial Branch Budget Request: Human Capital Initiatives

Five-year Comparison of Inflation, Judicial Officer Salary Change, and
Judicial Staff Salary Change - 2018-2022





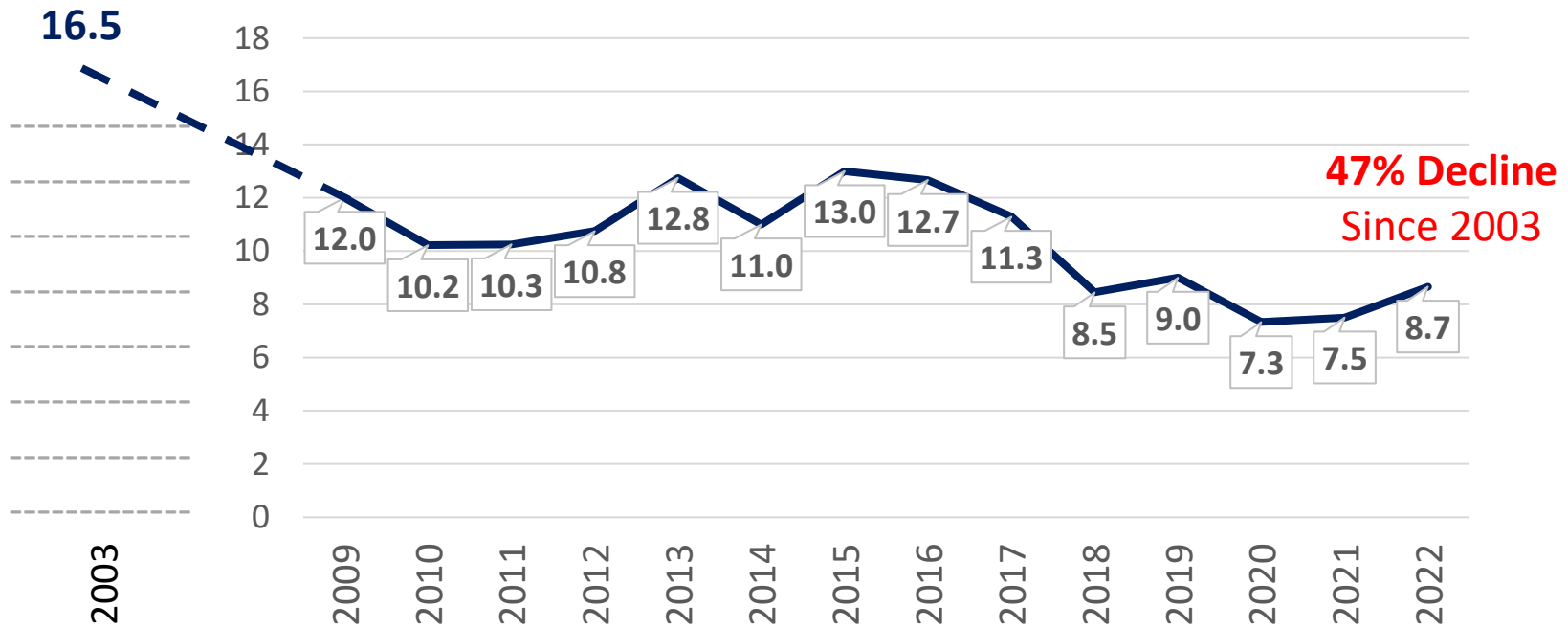
FY24 Judicial Branch Budget Request: Human Capital Initiatives





FY24 Judicial Branch Budget Request: Investing in Human Capital

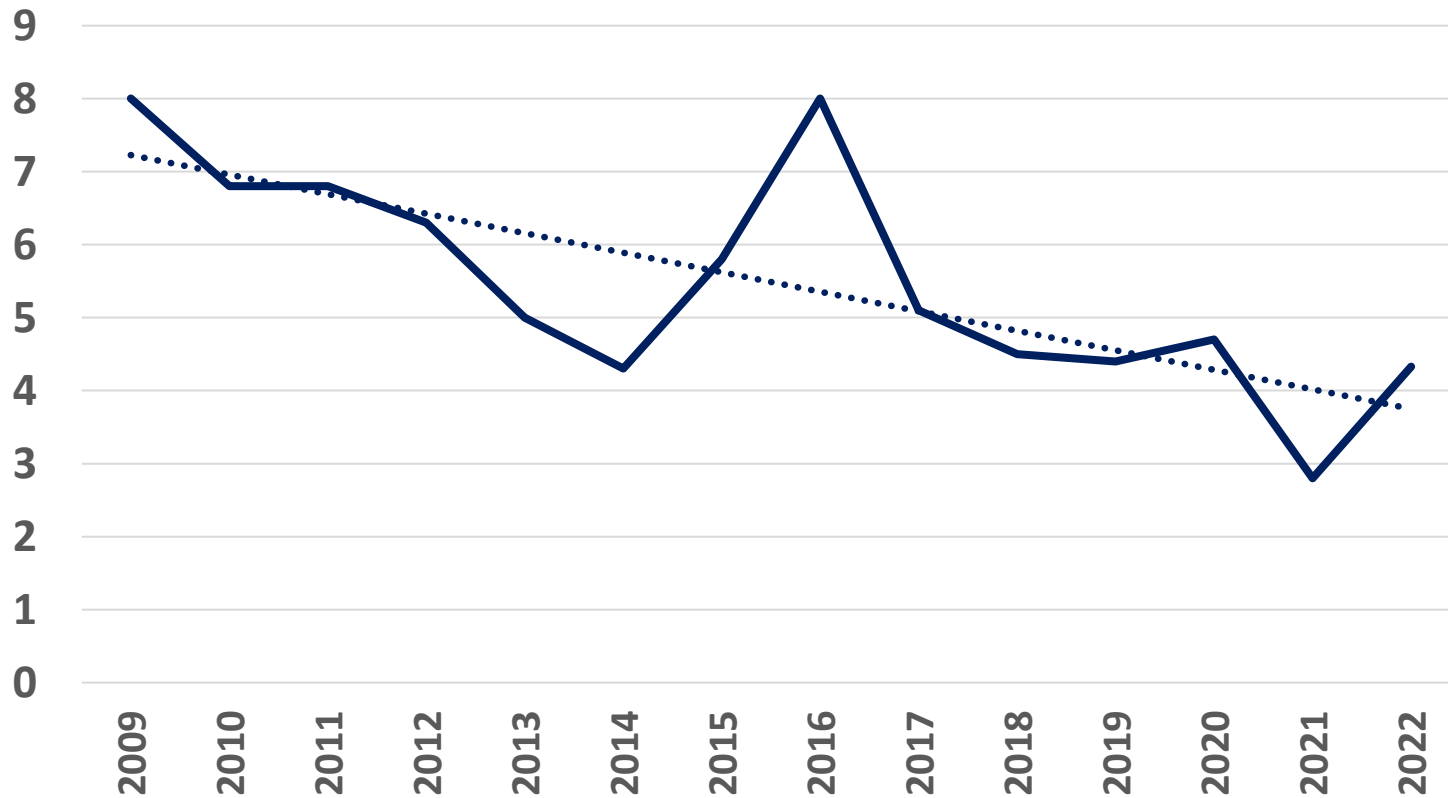
Average number of applicants per district court judge vacancy from 2003 to 2022





FY23 Judicial Branch Budget Request: Investing in Human Capital

Average number of private practice
applicants per district court judge vacancy
2009 to 2022





FY24 Budget Request

Investing in Human Capital- Existing Personnel

- Judges and magistrates cost of living increase to match the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment of 8.7% - \$4,047,162
- Increase in state's contribution to the Judicial Retirement System - \$290,000
- Judicial Staff Contract salary increases and health insurance rates – UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME

Investing in Human Capital- Existing Personnel Total - \$4,337,162



FY24 Budget Request

Investing in Human Capital – New Personnel

- Year 3 of a five year plan to add 4 district associate judges and 10 staff (e.g. court reporters, judicial specialists, law clerks) (\$1,371,720)
- Judicial specialists (5) (\$260,747)
- Staff support for state court administration finance, human resources, cybersecurity and physical security (9.8) (\$847,726)
- Staff Attorneys for Court of Appeals (2), Supreme Court (6) (\$779,616)

Investing in Human Capital- New Personnel Total - \$3,259,809



Graduated Sanctions/Court Ordered Services Transition

- Pursuant to HF 2507, Juvenile Court Services (JCS) will assume oversight from DHHS of \$15.543M, annually, effective July 1, 2023.
- These funds are utilized to ensure community safety by providing direct services to juvenile delinquent youth, and those youth at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system. Some examples of services provided using these funds include, individual and group therapy, in-home functional family therapy, electronic monitoring, mentoring, school-based liaisons, and after-school programming.
- In preparation for this transition, Court Rules were drafted, and approved by the Supreme Court in December 2022. These rules will replace IAC 441-151, to govern the funds allocated for juvenile court service directed programs.