

JUDICIAL CERTIFICATION TABLE

District Court of Appeal

Session Year	Requested	Certified	Authorized	% Authorized (of those certified)	Total
2007	2	2	0	0%	62
2008	-1	-1	-1	n/a	61
2009	0	0	0	n/a	61
2010	1	0	0	n/a	61
2011	0	0	0	n/a	61
2012	2	1	0	0%	61
2013	2	1	0	0%	61
2014	3	3	3	100%	64
2015	0	0	0	n/a	64
2016	0	0	0	n/a	64

Circuit

Session Year	Requested	Certified	Authorized	% Authorized (of those certified)	Total
2007	24	22	0	0%	599
2008	44	19	0	0%	599
2009	35	29	0	0%	599
2010	40	37	0	0%	599
2011	40	26	0	0%	599
2012	31	23	0	0%	599
2013	27	16	0	0%	599
2014	24	7	0	0%	599
2015	15	3	0	0%	599
2016	13	1	0	0%	599

County

Session Year	Requested	Certified	Authorized	% Authorized (of those certified)	Total
2007	15	13	0	0%	322
2008	46	42	0	0%	322
2009	61	39	0	0%	322
2010	54	53	0	0%	322
2011	55	54	0	0%	322
2012	49	48	0	0%	322
2013	49	47	0	0%	322
2014	42	39	0	0%	322
2015	36	32	0	0%	322
2016	26	23	0	0%	322

Judicial Certification

The supreme court has used a weighted caseload system to evaluate the need for new trial court judgeships since 1999, and, for DCA judges, since 2006. The weighted caseload system analyzes Florida's caseload statistics according to complexity. Cases that are typically complex, such as capital murder cases, receive a higher weight, while cases that are generally less complex, such as civil traffic cases, receive a lower weight. These weights are then applied to case filing statistics to determine the need for additional judgeships.

The need for additional judgeships remains high for several reasons: an absence of funding for previously certified judgeships, overall increases in judicial workload, and fewer support staff. If judicial workload continues to exceed capacity and the judicial need deficit is not addressed, likely consequences may be case processing delays, less time devoted to dispositions, and potentially diminished access to the courts.

In a November 2015 opinion, the Florida Supreme Court certified the need for 24 additional judges: one circuit judge and 23 county court judges. However, the Florida Legislature did not approve funding for any new judgeships this year ([take this link to the opinion](#)).