



# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## House Finance Subcommittee Alaska Court System Overview

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February 10, 2025





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## Mission Statement:

The mission of the Alaska Court System is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## Distinguishing Characteristics of the Alaska Court System

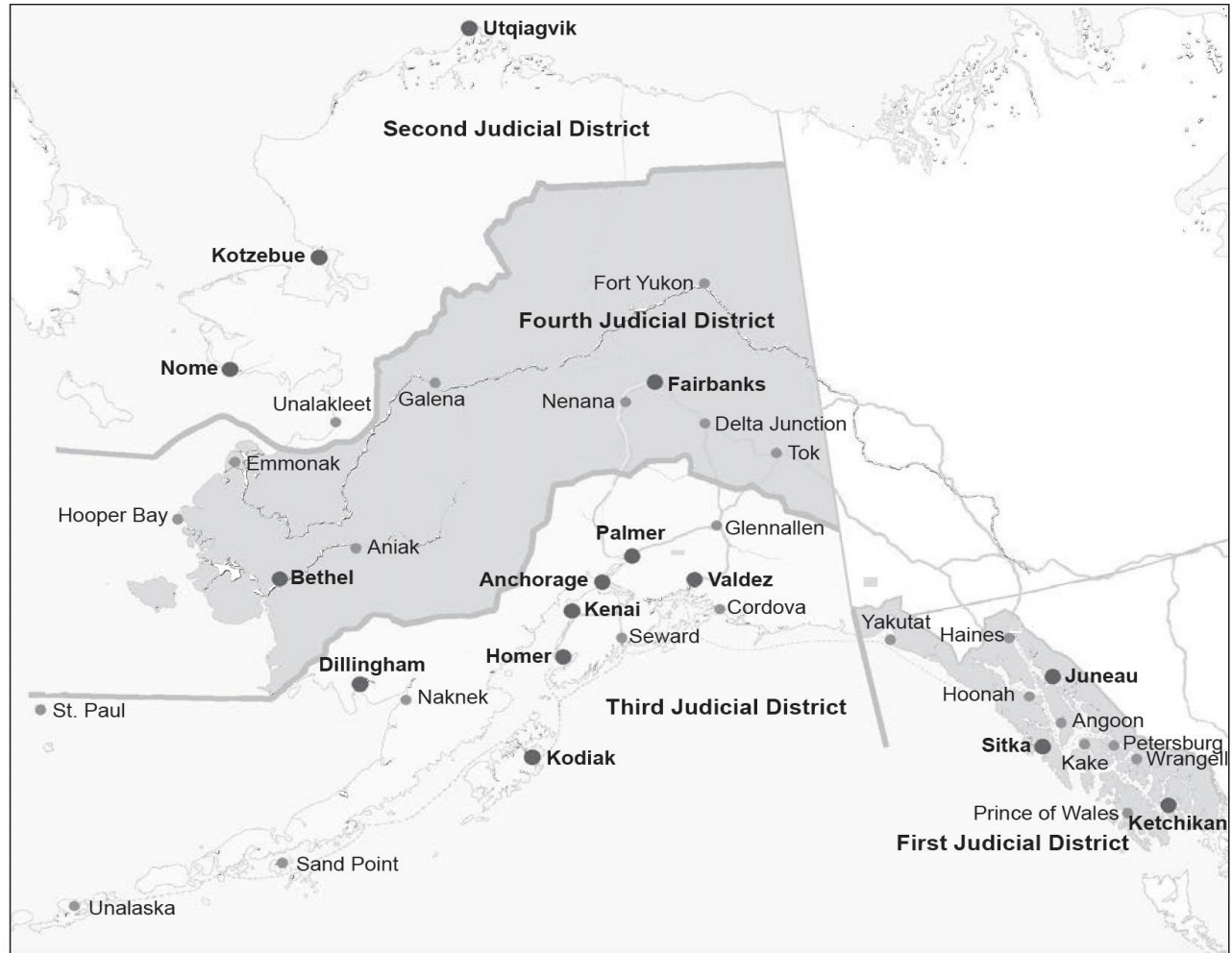
- State Funded – No County or Municipal Courts
- Unified Judiciary





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY25 Court Locations





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## Alaskans Served in 2024

- 93,315 new cases filed (trial and appellate courts)
- 5,691 contacts thru the Family Law Self-Help Center
- 3,573 Alaskans served on juries
- 7,738,378 visits to the court's website
- 2,664,760 CourtView searches
- 26,464 online payments made
- 429 therapeutic court participants
- Tens of thousands of on-line court forms accessed or downloaded





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## Trial Court Caseloads – FY23 vs. FY24

- FY24 Trial Court Case Filings Totaled 92,719
  - Up 0.8 % from FY23 Total Trial Court Filings
- FY24 Superior Court Cases Totaled 20,637
  - Down 3.4% from FY23 Superior Court Case Totals
- FY24 District Court Cases Totaled 72,082
  - Up 2.1% from FY23 District Court Case Totals





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## Factors Impacting Workloads

- Population
- Demographics
- Police
- Economy
- Statutory Changes
- Recovery from Pandemic Era
- Staff Vacancies





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## Vacancy Rates – 2021 - 2024

Fiscal Period	Vacancy Rate
CY2021	13.3%
CY2022	11.0%
CY2023	10.6%
CY2024*	10.0%

- FY26 Personal Services Budgeted Underfunding = 7.2%
- Excludes judges, temporary, and non-permanent positions
- On 1/30/2025, the Alaska Court System had 49 vacant non-judge positions and six of these will be filled in early February

\*CY2024 calculations did not include the 12/22/24 payroll





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY25 Court System Employees – 784 Authorized Positions

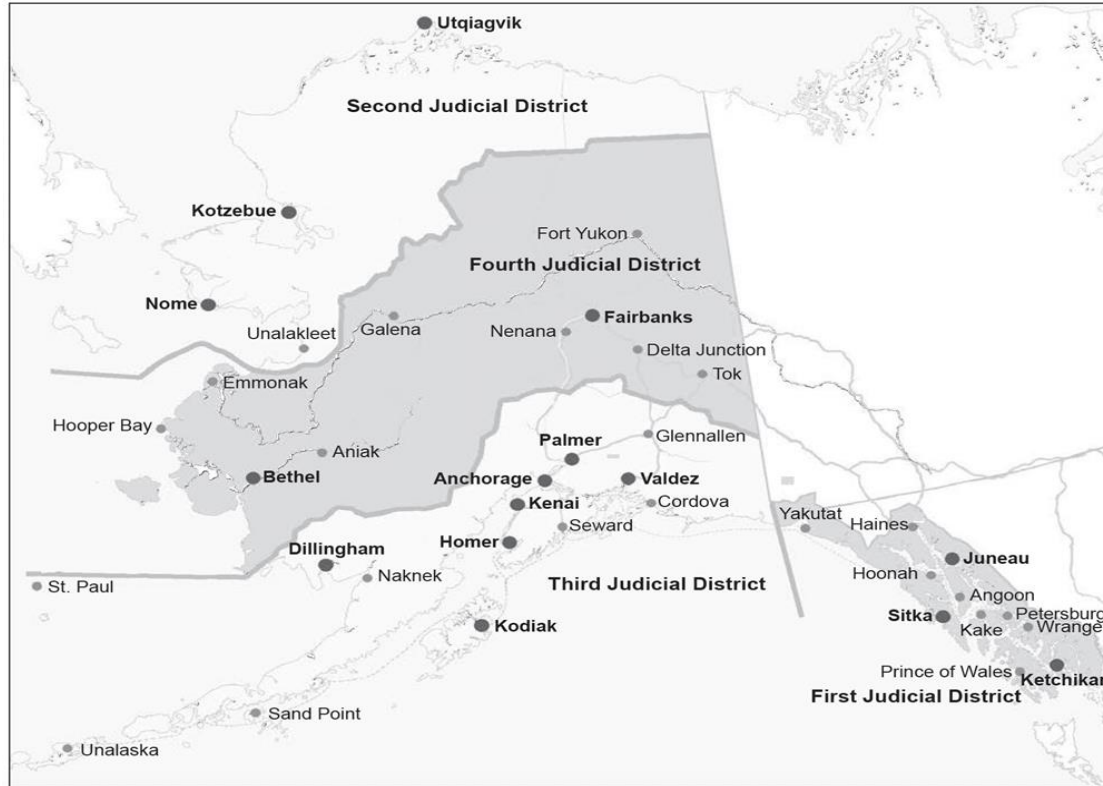
- Primarily Clerical Employees
- Five Supreme Court Justices
- Four Court of Appeal Judges
- 45 Superior Court Judges
- 20 District Court Judges
- 39 Magistrate Judges





# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY25 Court Locations & Authorized Positions by District

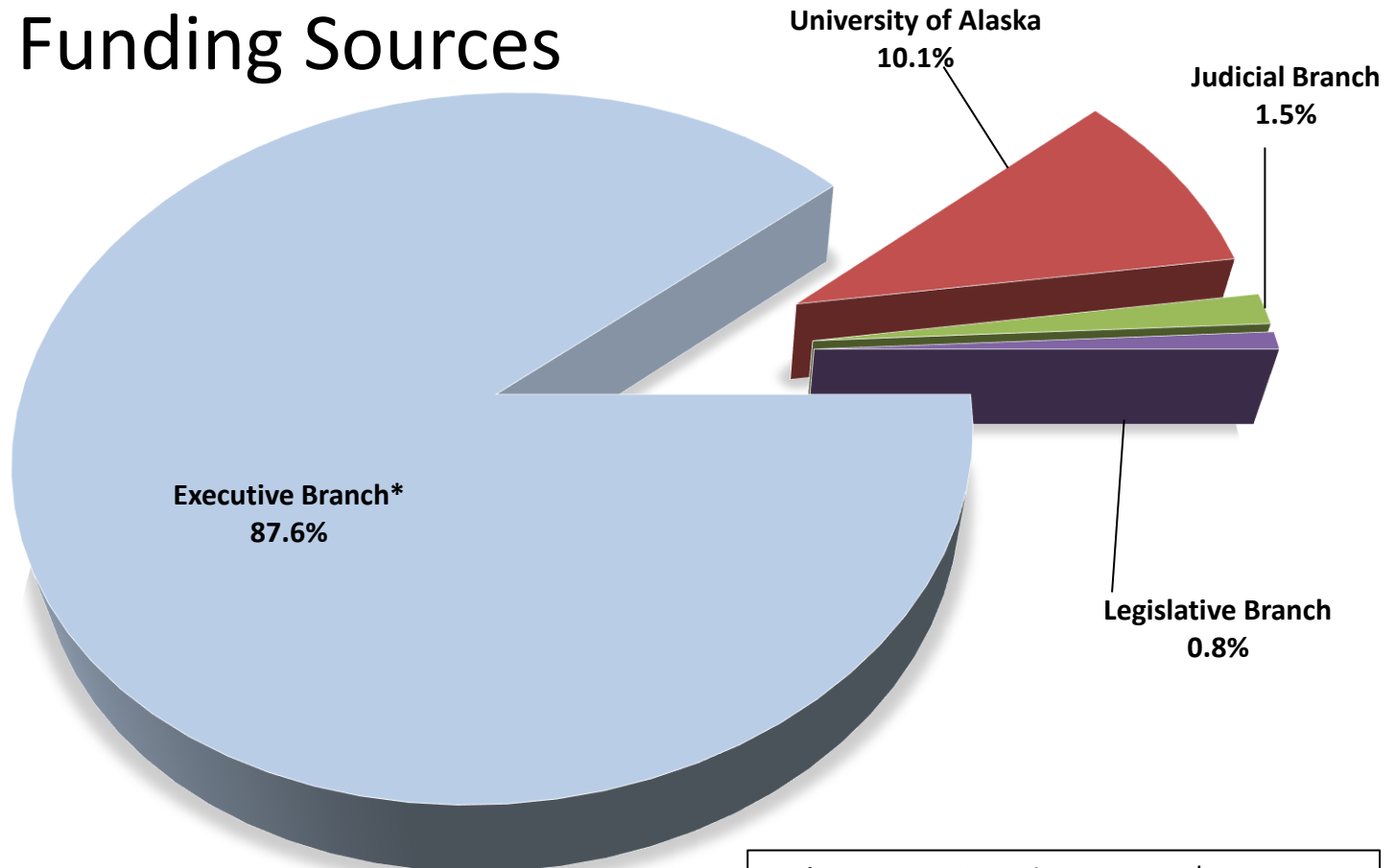


District	Appellate Court Judges	Trial Court Judges	Magistrate Judges	Non-Judicial Employees	Total
1	1	10	6	67	84
2		4	4	26	34
3	7	46	22	472	547
4	2	14	7	96	119
Total	10	74	39	661	784



# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY26 State of Alaska Operating Budget Request - All Funding Sources



\*Total excludes PFD, Debt Service, and Special Appropriations

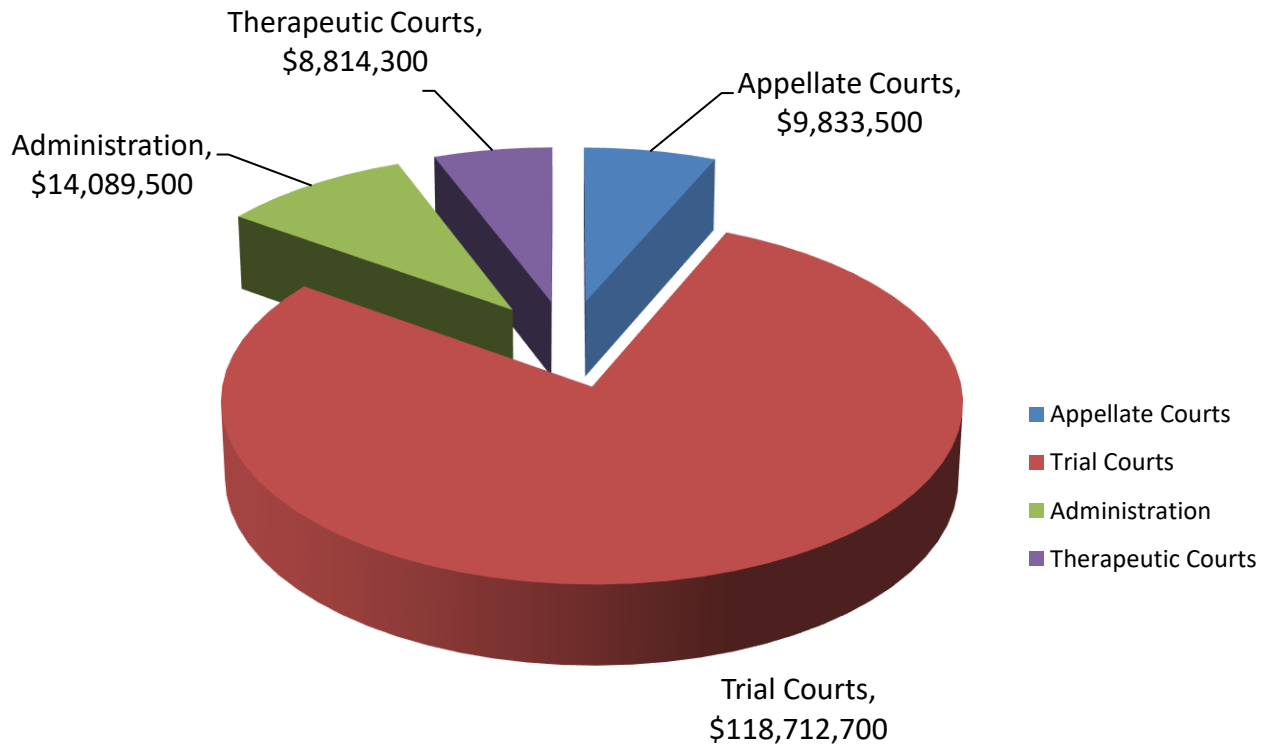
Source: Legislative Finance Division  
Agency Summary – Governor Structure All Funds  
Released January 27, 2025

**Total FY26 Agency Operating Requests = \$10,955,108,600**  
**Judiciary Budget = \$159,387,700**  
**(Includes Judicial Council & Judicial Conduct, but**  
**Excludes Court System O&M Increments of \$188,100)**



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## Alaska Court System FY25 Operating Budget Appropriation All Fund Types



Total FY25 Funding is Enacted Budget + SB259 Salary Increases = \$151,450,000

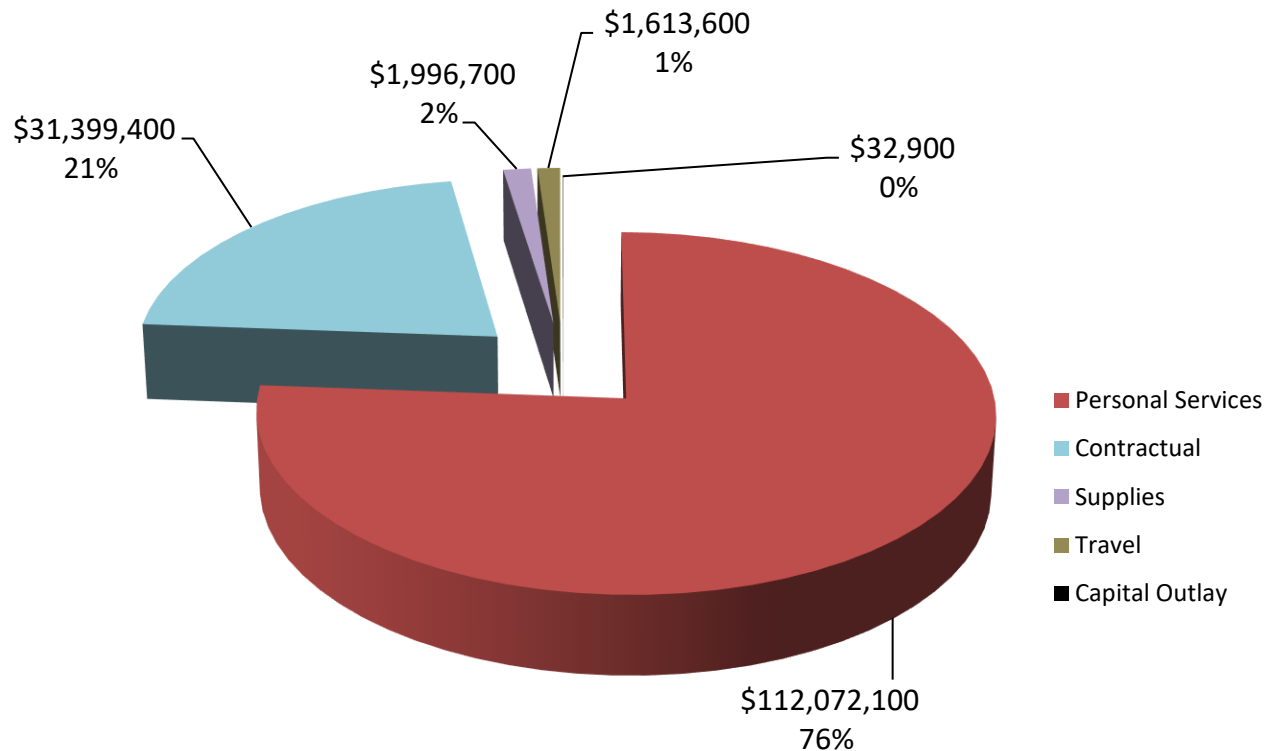


# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY25 Authorized Budget Overview

### All Budget Units

(Unrestricted General Funds, Designated General Funds, and ARPA Funds)




Total FY25 Funding = \$147,114,700  
(Excludes Interagency, Grants, and Mental Health Trust Authority Revenues)



# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

## FY26 Continuation Budget Request (UGF):

- 
- \$ 552,300\* Facility Maintenance & Operations
  - 365,300 Court Visitor Services
  - 170,100 Therapeutic Courts RSA'd Salaries
  - 92,400 Therapeutic Courts Competency  
Calendaring Staff (UGF Portion)
  - \$1,180,100 Total Increased FY26 UGF Requested

\*The court system requested \$552,300 in ongoing maintenance and operating expenses, but \$188,800 of this request was not included in the governor's budget. The projected FY26 cost increases for DOT-leased facilities are not finalized and the negotiated lease executed in January, 2025 for Utqiagvik is lower than initially projected.



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## FY26 Operating Budget Requests (Non-UGF)

\$ 158,300 Mental Health Trust Authority

200,000 Interagency Federal Receipts

\$ 358,300 Total FY26 Non-UGF Increase





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Thank you for your  
time.

Questions?

