

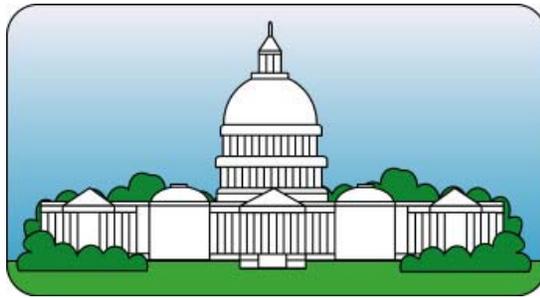


JUDICIAL BRANCH

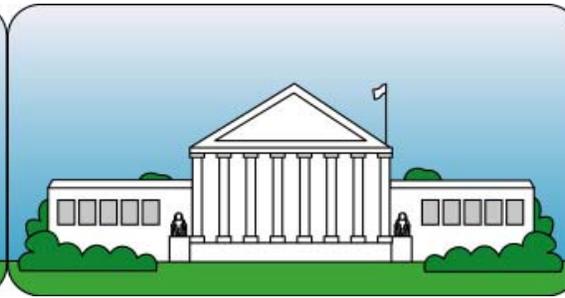
Oregon Judicial Department

Chief Justice's
Recommended Budget 2013-15

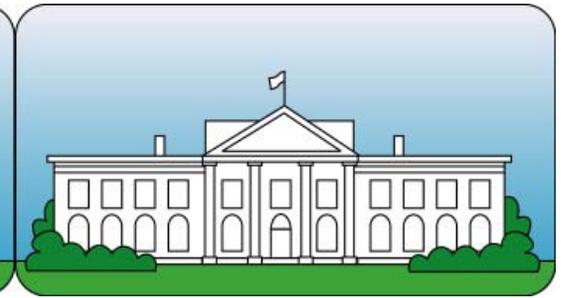
Oregon Branches of Government



Legislative Branch



Judicial Branch



Executive Branch



Oregon Judicial Department

Office of Public Defense Services

Commission on Judicial Fitness

OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

As a separate and independent branch of government, our mission is to provide fair and accessible justice services that protect the rights of individuals, preserve community welfare, and inspire public confidence.

Goals

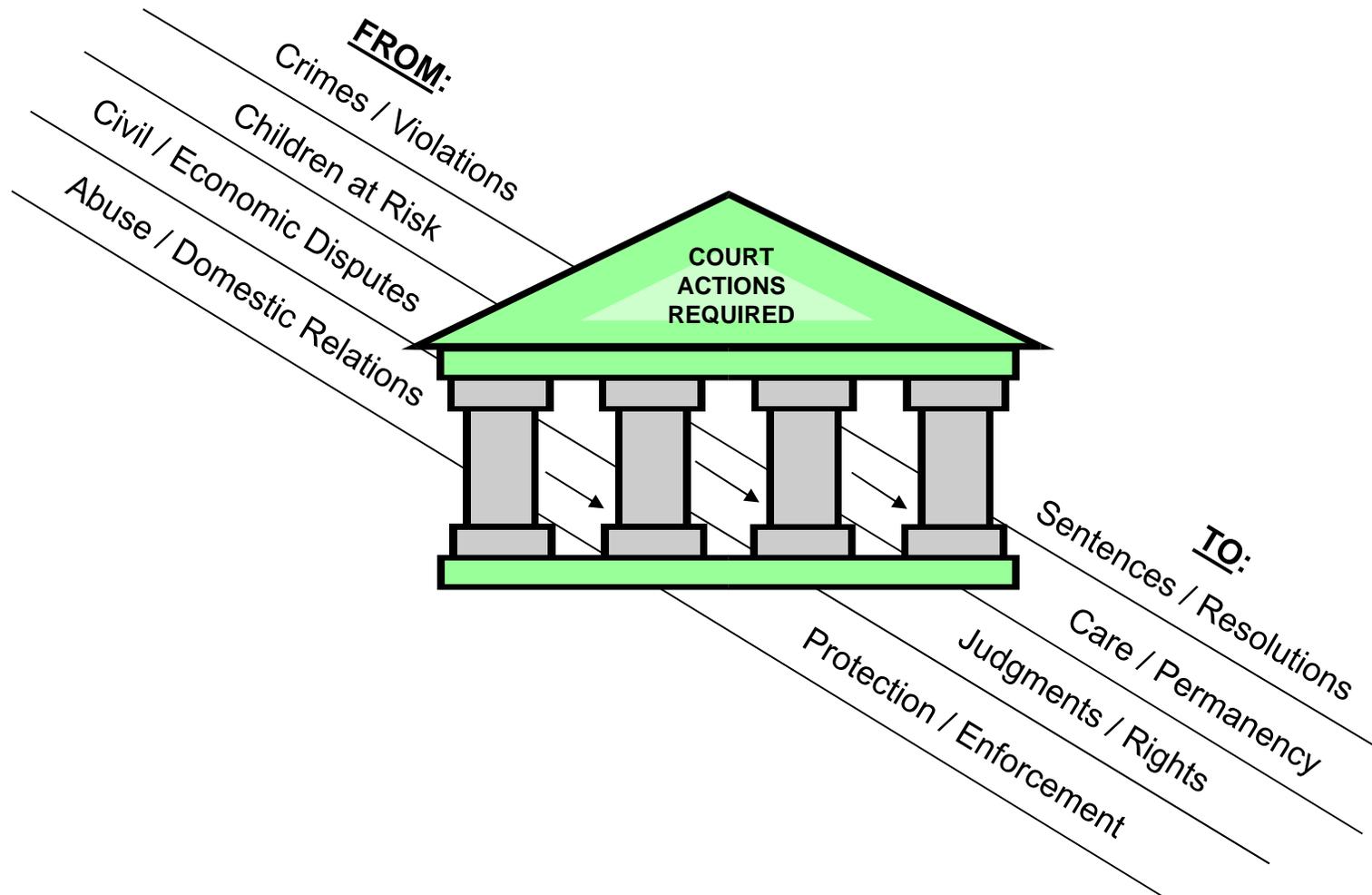
- **Access:** Ensure access to court services for all people.
- **Trust and Confidence:** Earn the public's enduring trust and confidence.
- **Dispute Resolution:** Help people choose the best way to resolve their disputes.
- **Partnerships:** Build strong partnerships with local communities to promote public safety and quality of life.
- **Administration:** Make courts work for people.

What we do

Oregon state courts strive every day to provide impartial justice completely and without delay, while being open and accessible to all Oregonians.

COURTS ARE AT THE CORE

of the Critical Path to Preservation of Public Safety, Protection of Families in Crisis, and Economic Stability of Oregon



On-going Challenges 2011-13 and 2013-15

- Delivery of core court services by fewer court staff has resulted in:
 - Reduced open days for courts – restricting access and capacity
 - Reduced daily public service counters and phone coverage hours
 - Longer public wait times and fewer court services to provide assistance
 - Delays in scheduling and entry of judgments and warrant recalls
- Increased numbers of self-represented litigants entering the court system with fewer resources to provide assistance
- Reductions in General Fund and future grant resources to help support successful Drug and Specialty Courts
- Continued implementation of the Oregon eCourt Program in reduced court environments
- Serious life/safety and security issues with court facilities not yet addressed

2011-13 Major System Accomplishments

Implemented first stage of Oregon's eCourt program

- Program is on time and on budget
- Circuit Courts in Yamhill, Crook, Jefferson, Linn and Jackson Counties have implemented the new case management system (OECI)
- ePayment and eCitation services implemented statewide; eFiling being deployed

Institutionalized and continued work of the OJD Court Reengineering and Efficiency Workgroup (CREW) resulting in:

- Expanded use of electronic transmittal of records to reduce printing, mailing costs
- Increased use of video and audio technology to reduce travel costs
- Centralized debt management and accounting services, payment of fines/fees
- Centralized hearings of statewide post-conviction matters by retired judges
- Centralized scheduling of interpreters and remote access to those services
- Greater standardization of forms development and use
- Support for individual court pilots of simplified or improved court docket programs

Revenue Management – implemented new legislative fine/fee structures, met revenue targets, increased collections

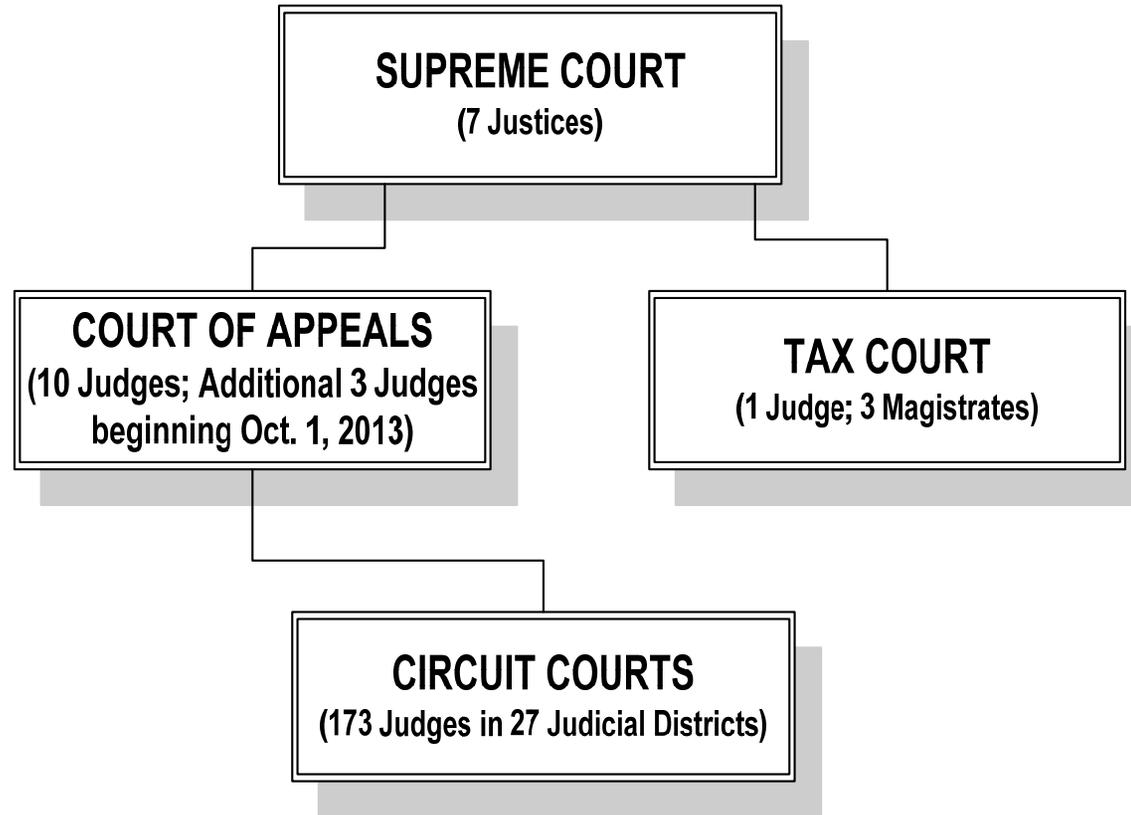
Chief Justice Budget Priorities

Improve access to the courts and timely justice by:

- Continuing the investment in Oregon eCourt technology
- Implementing the expansion of the Court of Appeals from ten to thirteen judgeships
- Securing adequate resources so Oregon courts can be open five days a week and meet critical service measures
- Addressing judicial compensation
- Restoring family law resources and statewide availability of pro se service centers
- Restoring and preserving statewide availability of treatment court docket programs
- Supporting a long-term state court facility and security improvement plan

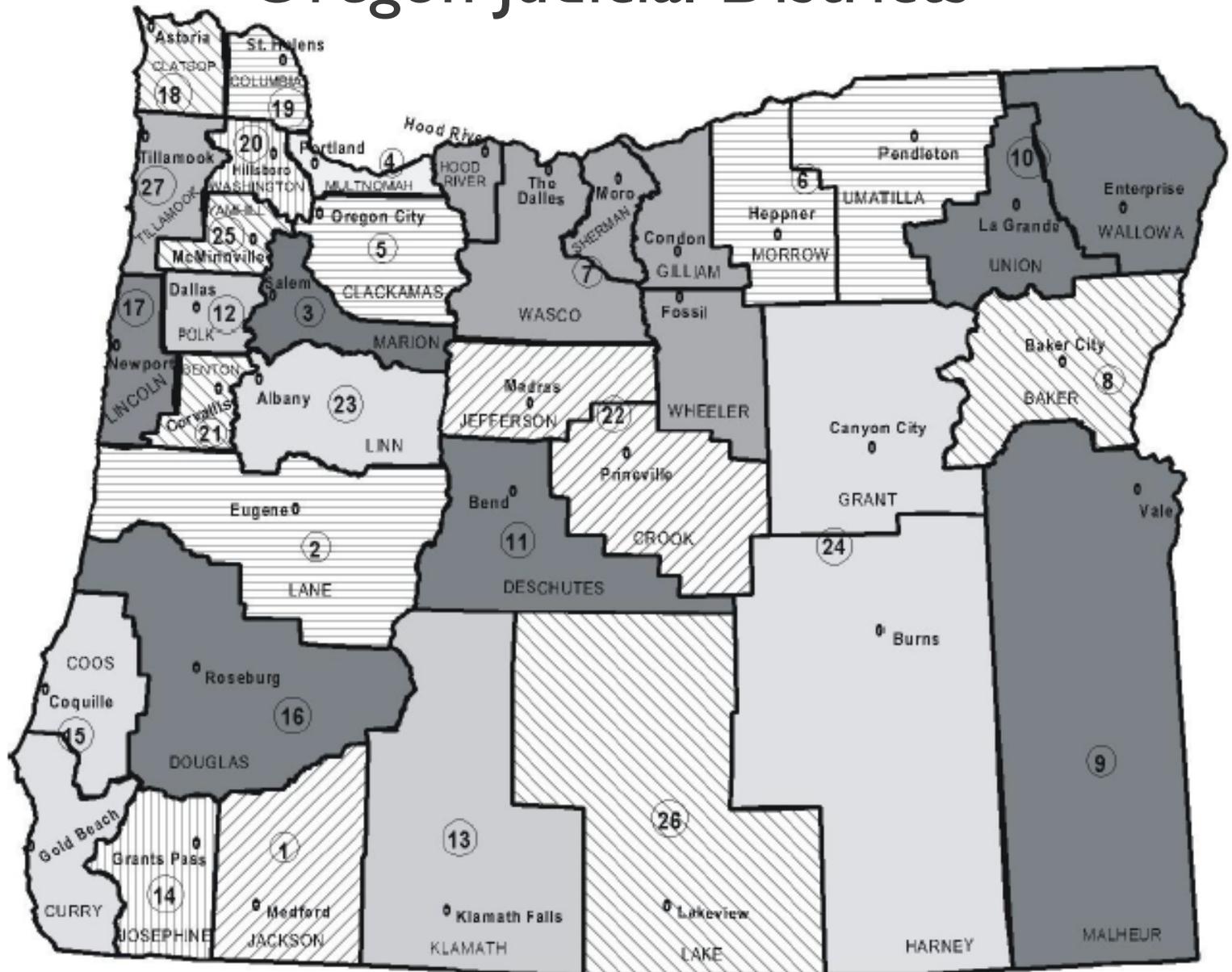
Court Structure and Administration

OJD Court Jurisdiction Structure



- Effective January 1, 1983 the Legislature consolidated Oregon's district, circuit, and appellate courts into a unified, state-funded court system known as the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD). Municipal, county, and justice courts continue outside of the state-funded court system and control.
- The judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Court and Circuit Courts are elected for six-year terms.
- There are 27 judicial districts composed of one or more counties.

Oregon Judicial Districts



There are 27 judicial districts, with a circuit court in each county.

OJD Court Administration

- **Chief Justice:** Supervises the state court system, appoints the Chief Judge of COA, Presiding Judges of the circuit courts, and the State Court Administrator
- **State Court Administrator:** Chief Operating Officer exercising administrative authority and supervision over the courts
- **Presiding Judges:** Appointed to two year terms, oversee the operations of circuit courts and hire their court's Trial Court Administrator
- **Trial Court Administrators:** Manage day-to-day operations of assigned circuit court
- **Judicial Conference and Committees:** Groups established by statute, Chief Justice Order, policy, or charter that serve to study the organization, jurisdiction, procedure, practice and methods of the administration and operation of the courts and make recommendations for improvement

Major Budget Drivers and Environmental Factors

The court system is a reactive institution by design. “Everything” can come through our doors. We resolve the disputes that parties bring to the courts.

Law Changes

- State and federal laws and constitutions (rights, remedies, crimes and mandates)
- Ballot measures and initiatives
- Case law decisions
- Jurisdiction and venue changes

Workload Drivers

- Volume and type of court filings
- Case complexity (i.e., seriousness or severity, number of claims, number of parties, procedural steps and hearings)
- Increases in self-represented parties (pro se)
- Availability and adequacy of technological management tools
- Increases in treatment court services
- Demand for data and information
- Statutory deadlines, timelines, and priorities

Economic and Demographic Factors

- Adult and juvenile crime rates
- State’s economic and employment health (poverty and unemployment levels)
- Demographic factors and changes (i.e., population growth, age, and diversity; number of children under age of 18)
- Percent of substance abuse, poverty, domestic violence, and other social stressors
- State/Federal revenue and funding stream changes

Criminal Justice Partner Activity

- State and local law enforcement levels (arrest rate and investigation)
- District attorney and public defender staffing levels
- District attorney charging decisions, including felony vs. misdemeanor vs. violation
- Availability of jail and prison space
- Availability of pretrial, probation, and post-prison supervision services and staffing levels
- State and local human services staffing and services levels
- State and local prevention, intervention, and treatment resources available including substance abuse and mental health services

Supreme Court

- **Discretionary review of Court of Appeals decisions**
- **Required review**
 - Direct appeals in death penalty cases
 - Appeals from Tax Court decisions
 - Review of attorney discipline and judge discipline
 - Review of ballot measure titles
 - Prison-siting disputes
 - Other Direct Review cases
- **Permissive review**
 - Habeas corpus
 - Mandamus
 - Quo warranto

Court of Appeals

- Appeals from circuit courts (criminal, civil, domestic relations, juvenile)
 - Appeals from state agency rules and actions
 - Appeals from local government decisions
-

Tax Court

- Exclusive court jurisdiction on matters arising under state tax laws
- Regular Division: Tax Court judge presides over trials without a jury
- Magistrate Division: Magistrates conduct proceedings by telephone or in person

Circuit Courts

- "General" jurisdiction
- "Courts of record"
- 27 judicial districts

Public Safety

- Felonies and misdemeanors
- Violations
- Juvenile delinquency
- Protective orders (stalking, domestic violence)

Economic Functioning

- Establish and collect debts
- Foreclosures
- Interpret contracts
- Personal injury
- Landlord / tenant
- Consumer protection

Families in Crisis

- Dependency (child abuse and neglect)
- Child support
- Domestic relations (divorce, child custody, adoption)
- Termination of parental rights

Other

- Civil commitment
- Post conviction
- Probate
- Guardianship / conservatorship

Office of State Court Administrator (Unified State Court System Infrastructure)

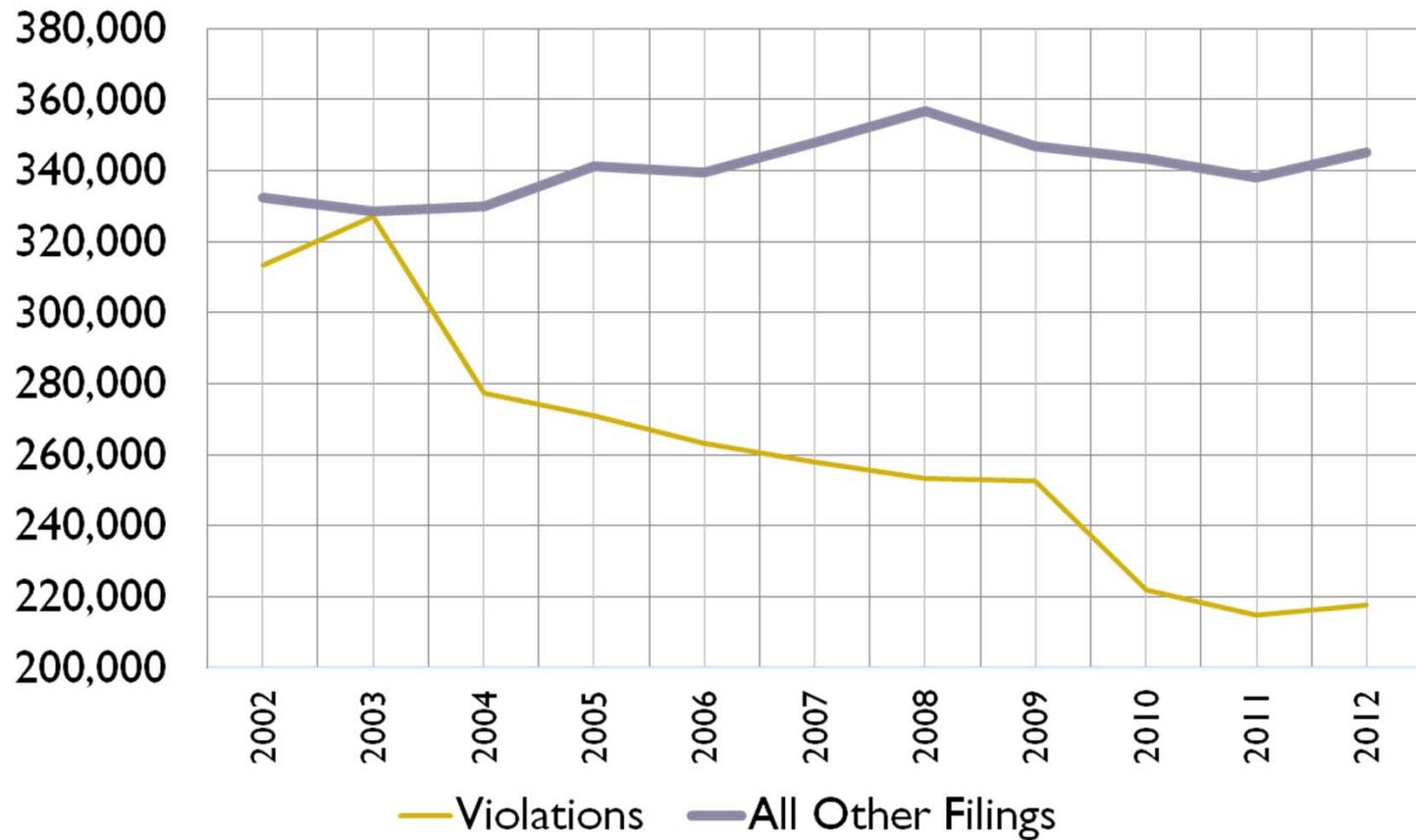
- Assist and support the Chief Justice in carrying out statutory statewide administrative duties
- Court administrator for the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and Tax Court
- Through division managers, deliver infrastructure services to the courts (budget, accounting, legal counsel, technology services, security, human resources, audit, education)
- Provide statewide personnel plan administration and enforcement
- Prepare and submit budget requests, legislative reports and fiscal impact statements for court system
- Implement budgets and legislative changes affecting OJD
- Survey court administrative methods, business and conditions
- Provide statewide public information services regarding the courts and statistics
- Provide education and technical assistance programs for judges and staff
- Grant management
- Set retention schedules, policies and standards for court records
- Administer Citizen Review Board (foster care review) program and Juvenile Court Improvement Program
- Administer Certified Shorthand Reporter Program
- Administer Court Interpreter Certification Program and services
- Ensure compliance with federal and state “entity” legal requirements for OJD

Workload / Trends

Case Filing in Circuit Courts

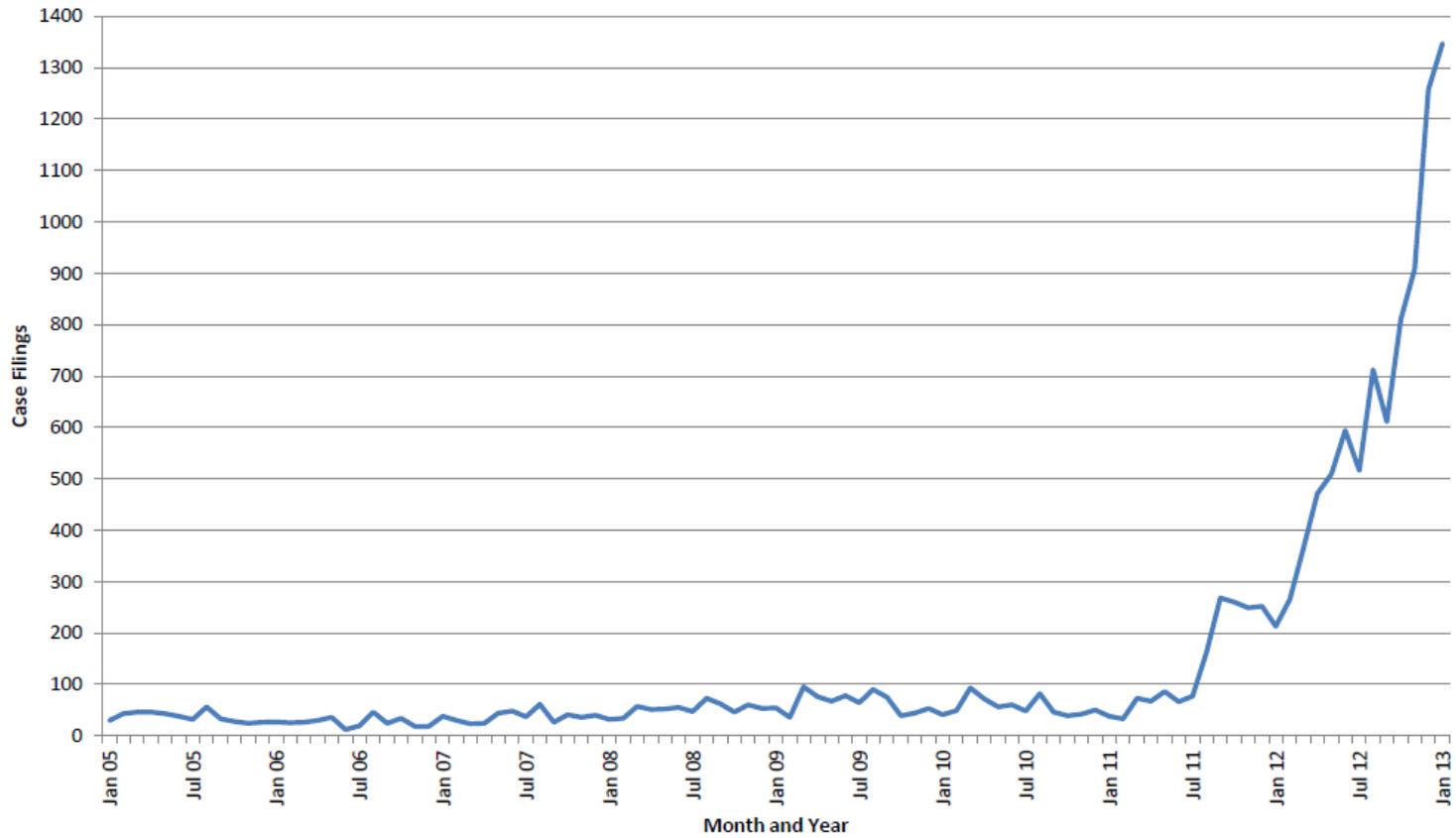
- Violations decreased significantly since 2003
- Other cases declined slightly since 2008
- Sharp increase in foreclosures in 2012

Oregon Circuit Courts Cases Filed: Violations vs. All Others



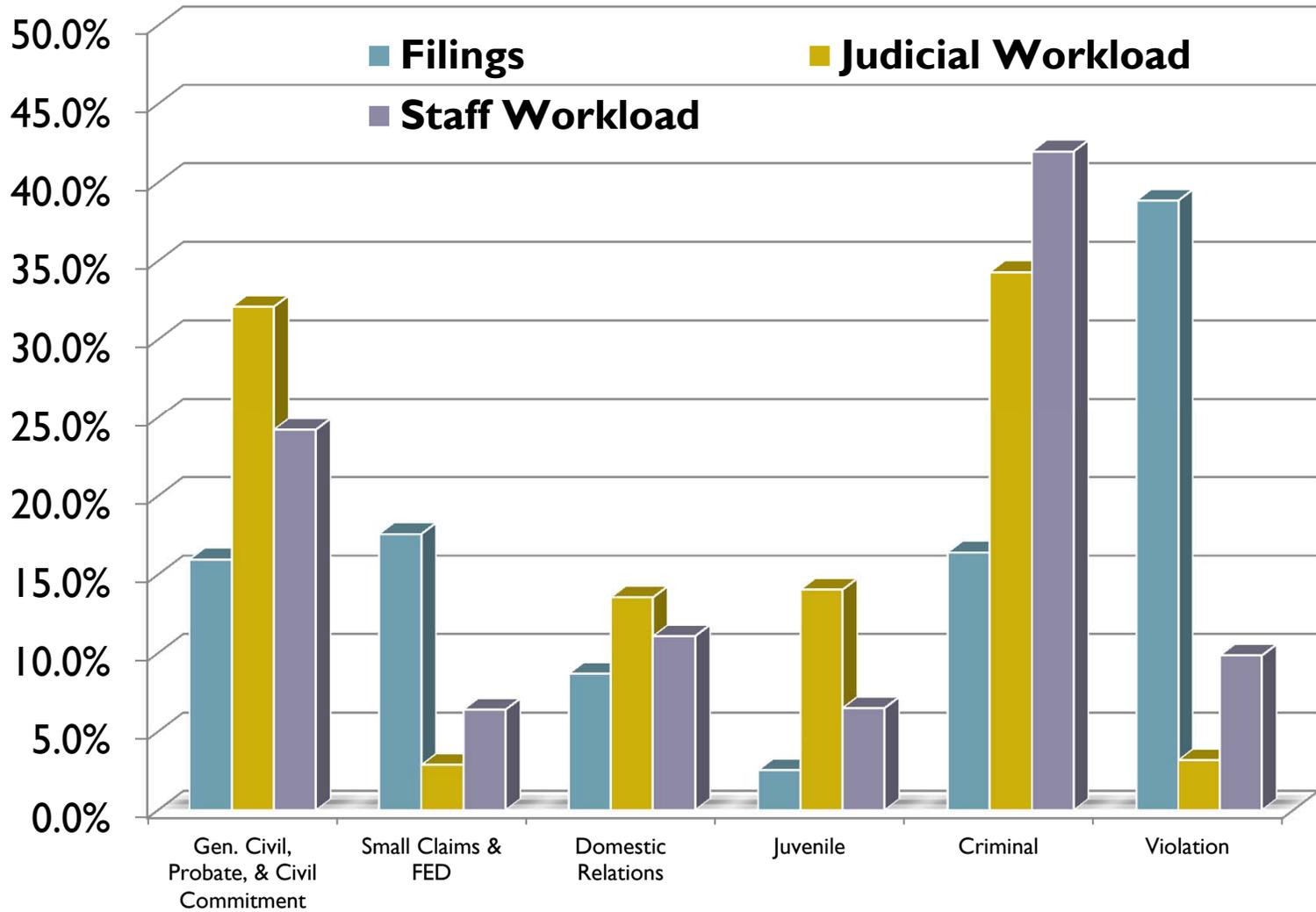
Foreclosure Cases Filed in Circuit Court

(Monthly Total January 2005 through January 2013)

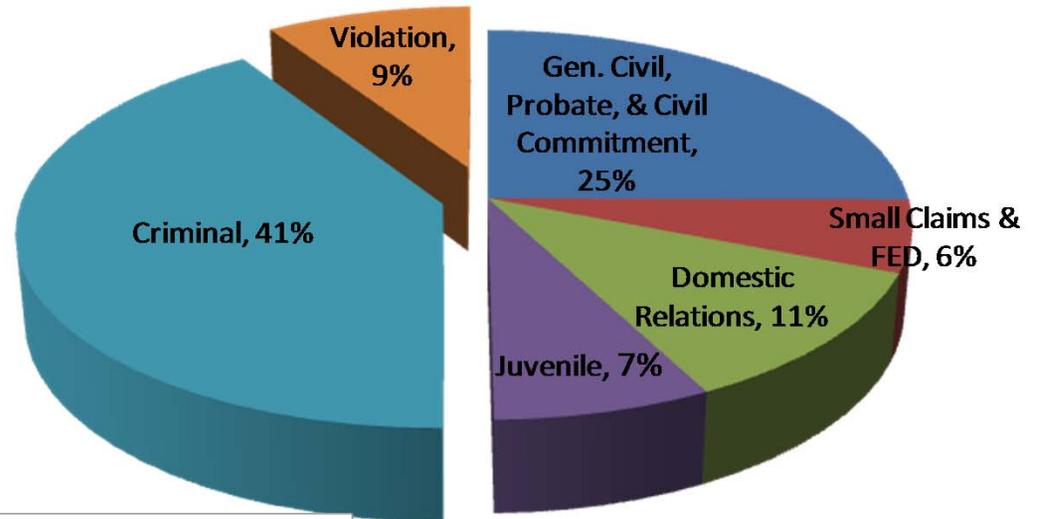


OJD publishes official statistics on a half-yearly basis. Official statistics may not precisely match monthly totals specially queried for reporting here.

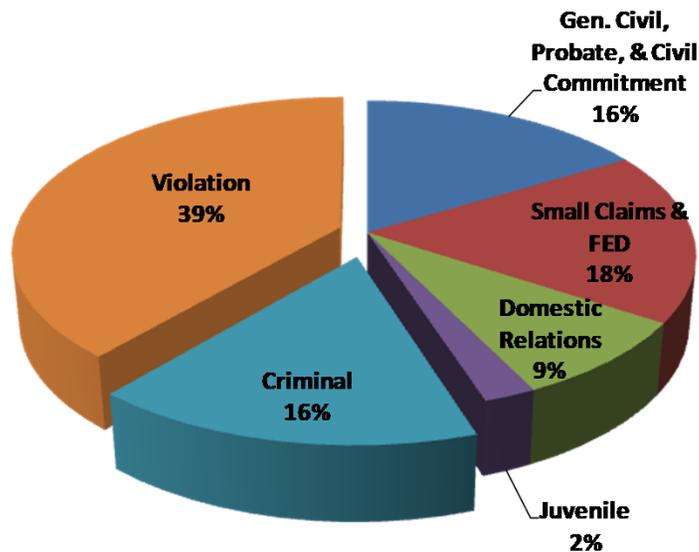
Translating Filings into Workload



Circuit Court Workload by Case Type



Percent of Case Filings



Audits and Legislative Reports During 2011-13 Biennium

Secretary of State Audits Division

- Annual State of Oregon Financial Audit
- Dept. of Human Services, Child Welfare Program (Report No. 2012-12)
- General Financial Operations Audit – Currently in progress

Oregon Judicial Department Internal Audit

- 15 audits were completed, 9 prior audits were followed up on, and several consultative reviews were performed
- A risk assessment was completed and an audit plan was approved by the OJD Internal Audit Committee

Legislative Reports

- Quarterly Revenue and Third Party Collections Reports
- Oregon eCourt Program Co-Chairs / Chief Justice Deliverables Agreement (June 2011)
- OJD Liquidated and Delinquent Debt Report
- OJD Survey of County Law Library Services (ORS 9.825) Sec. 5, ch. 224, Or Laws 2011
- Report to the Legislature regarding the Department of Justice Restitution Collections Pilot Program (2011 HB 3066)
- Historical Funding for Programs Formerly Paid for Through Court Fees (2011 HB 4168)

Annual Reports

- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Report

2013 Session OJD Bills

- SB 49 – Court Security
- SB 50 – Addressing Jurisdiction for Premature Notices of Appeal
- SB 51 – Judicial Department “Housekeeping Bill”
- HB 2547 – OJD “Jury Housekeeping” Bill on Electronic Jury Records and Communications
- HB 2561 – OJIN and Oregon eCourt Applications and Services Fees
- HB 2562 – Electronic Applications in State Courts (eHousekeeping)
- HB 2563 – Judicial Compensation

Other 2013 Legislation

- 1,403 bills currently being tracked
- 119 Fiscal Impact Statements have been submitted (as of 3/11/2013)
- Approximately 39% report at least a minimal impact on the department
 - DUII
 - Foreclosure
 - Bail bonds
 - Court reporters
 - Public Safety Commission
 - Direct review to Oregon Supreme Court

Revenue and Collections

OJD Biennial Revenue and Collections

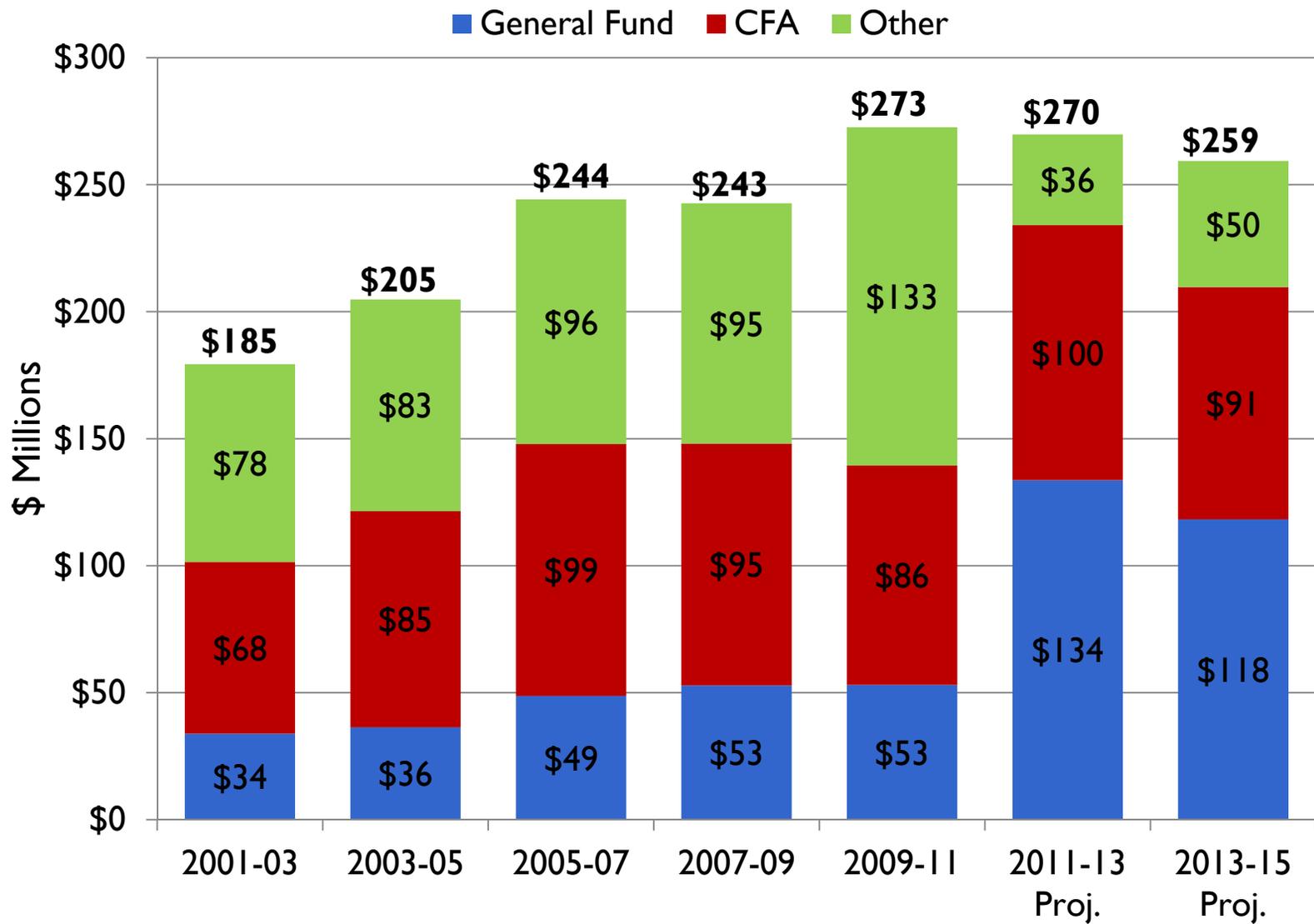
Revenues:

- Legislative changes from 2011 HB 2710 and 2712
 - Simplified fines and fees structures
 - Moved county surcharges to Pass Through and eliminated all other surcharges
 - Program change moving revenues and expenditures from Other Fund to General Fund

Collections:

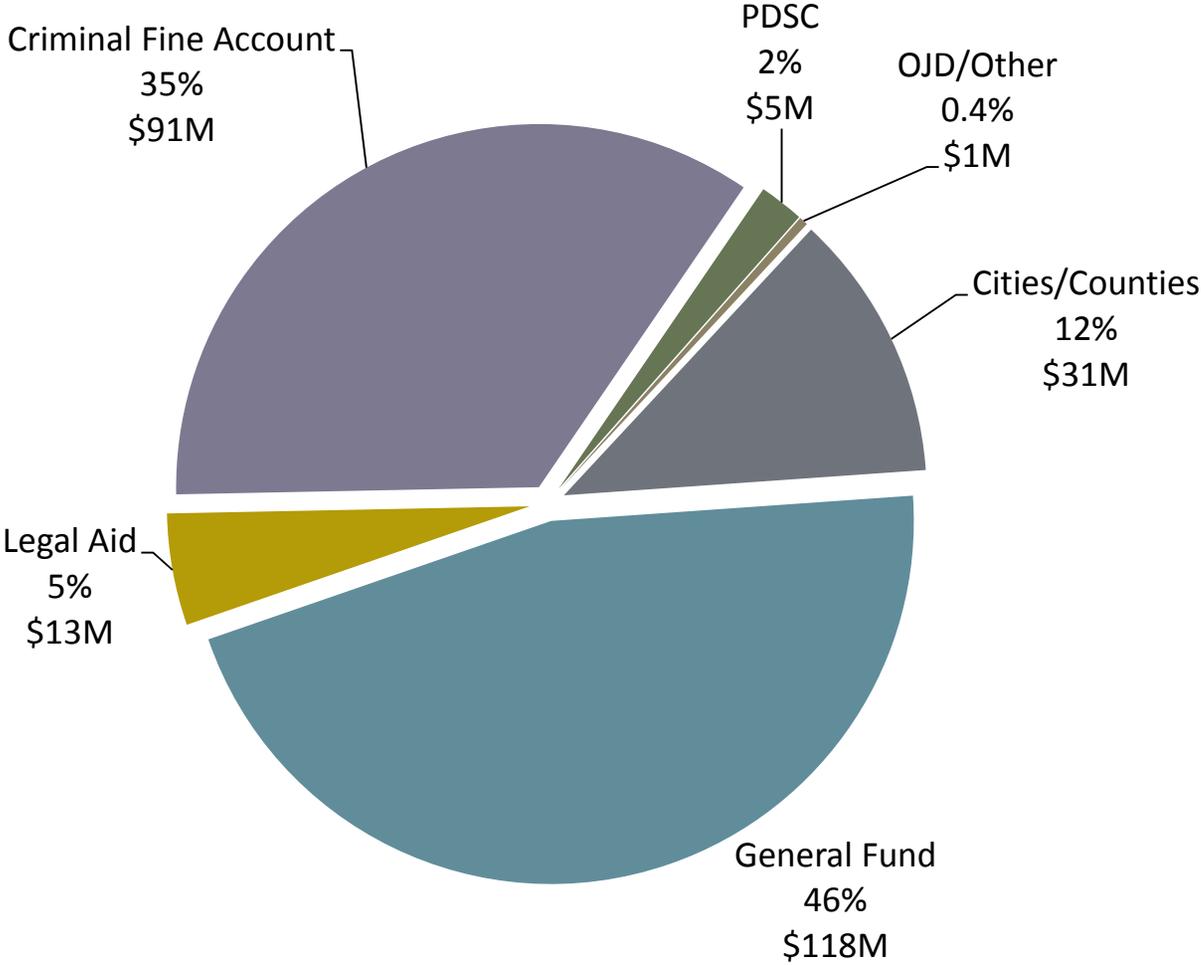
- Change in collection practices
 - Increased use of 3rd party collections
 - Created automated and continuous collections cycle
 - Increased use of tax refund intercept through Department of Revenue

OJD Biennial Revenue Distributions



2013-15 Estimated Revenue Distribution

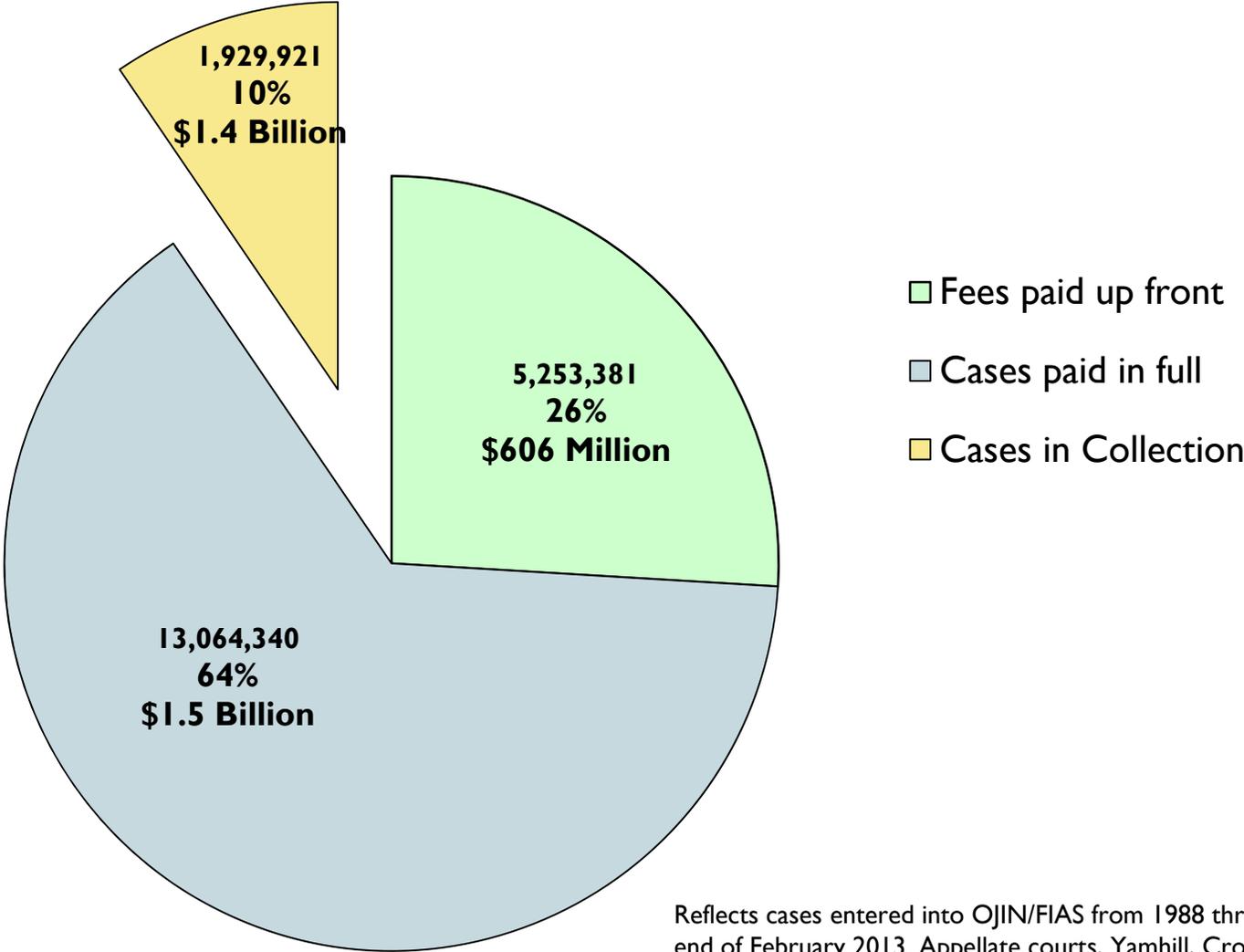
\$259 Million Total Funds



Collection Improvements

- **Court Staff**
 - **Implemented Training:** Collect debt as part of day to day court activities including cashiering, setting payment plans, sending initial letters, monitoring drivers license sanctions and reinstatements.
 - **Initiated Automation:** Once entered the cases begin an automated process of sending past due notices and queuing for referral to DOR or collection agency.
- **OSCA Staff**
 - **Centralized Debt Management:** Assign delinquent debt to DOR or Private Collection firms, monitor and manage receivables assigned for collections, maintain statewide debt management automation.
 - **Continuous Referral:** Assigned all delinquent and inactive debt, "stale debt", to outside collections. Increased outstanding receivables placed for collection (from 40% in 2009-11 to 85% in 2011-13).
 - **Provide Training:** Assist and train court staff with collections/accounting functions, manage relationships with DOR and Private Collection firms, support financial system, analyzed financial and collections data.
 - **Develop Efficiencies:** Develop and pilot innovations for implementation at a statewide level (i.e. Central Violations Bureau).
- **Outsourcing Collections – DOR and Private Collection Firms**
 - **Court Debt Specific Focus:** Signed contracts with four collection agencies in 2010.
 - **Automated Re-referral:** New automation allows for all debt to continuously circulate between collection agencies until collected.

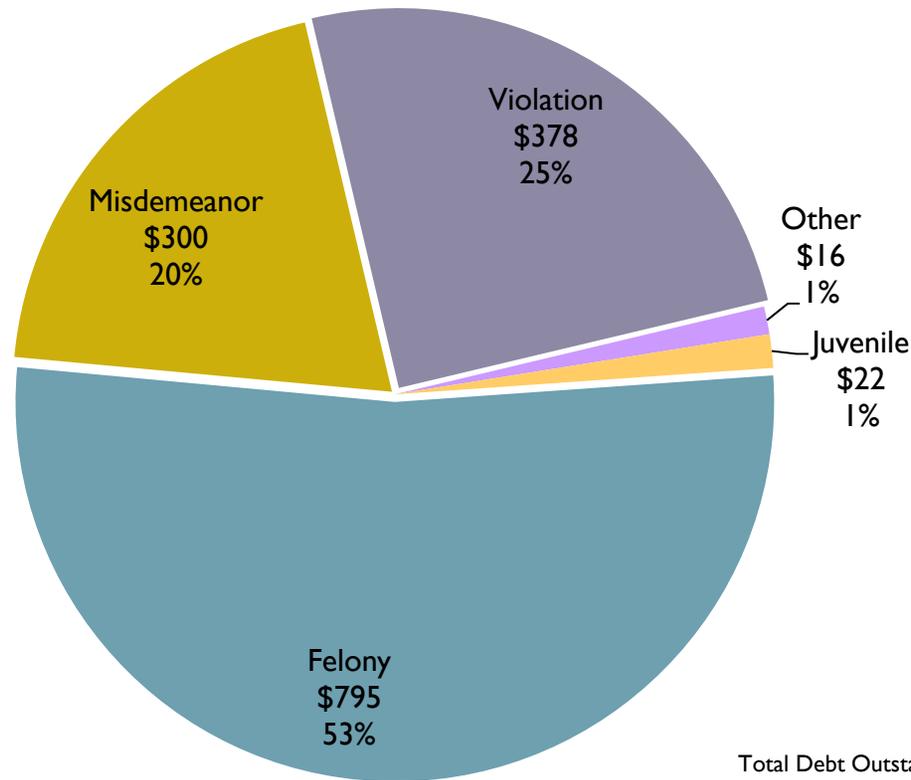
90% of Cases Paid in Full



Reflects cases entered into OJIN/FIAS from 1988 through end of February 2013. Appellate courts, Yamhill, Crook, Jefferson, and Linn circuit courts excluded since they no longer use OJIN/FIAS.

Outstanding Debt

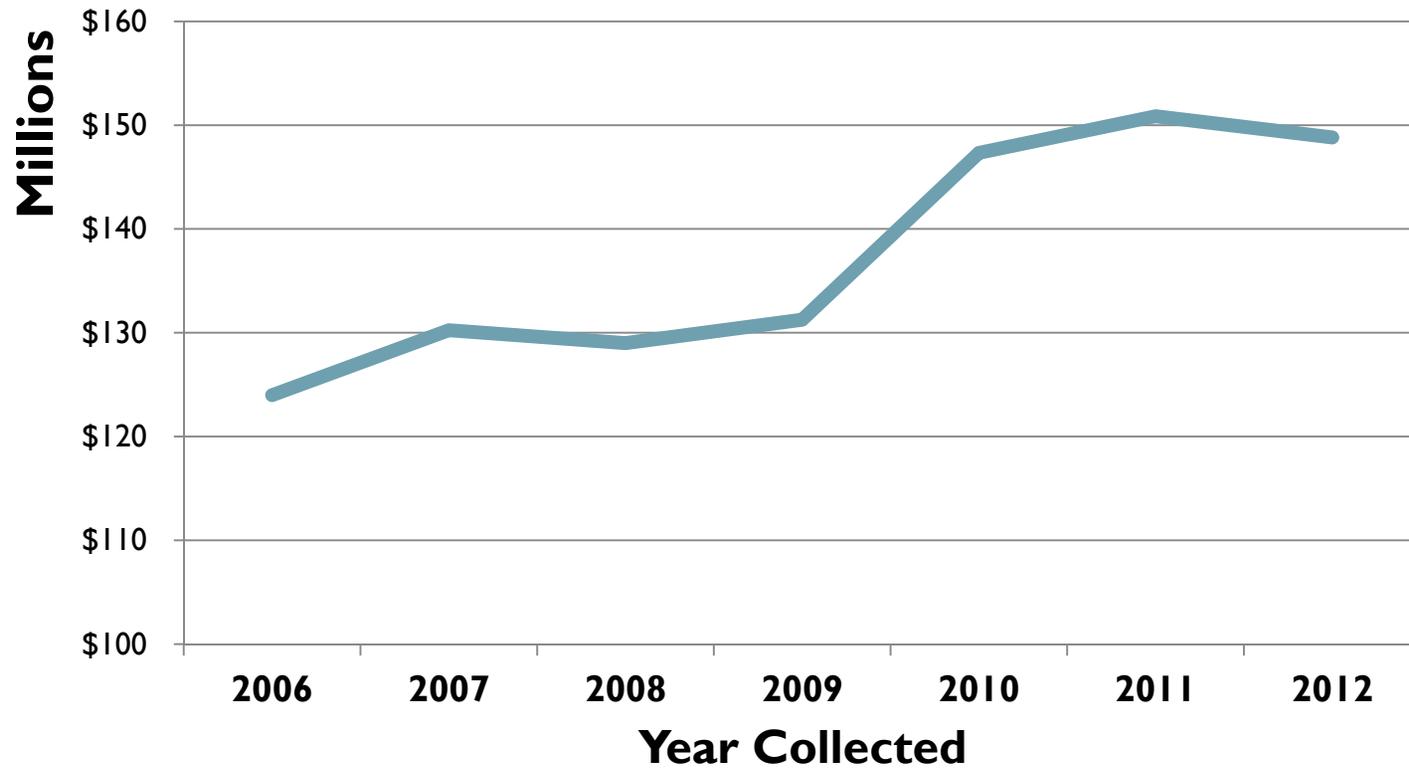
99% of OJD Debt is in Offense and Juvenile Cases
(\$ Millions)



Total Debt Outstanding as of March 1, 2013.
Includes all amounts imposed and not collected including those that have been administratively written off.
Excludes Appellate, YAM, CRO, JEF, and LIN court

*includes compensatory fines and restitution

Dollars Collected Per Year (from impositions since 2000)



Budget Structure and Changes

OJD Budget Components Operations

General Fund

- Judicial Compensation
- Operations
 - Trial Courts
 - Appellate – Supreme, Court of Appeals and Tax Court
 - Administration and Central Support
- Mandated Payments
 - Trial and Grand Jury compensation
 - Interpreters
- Oregon eCourt Maintenance

OJD Budget Components Non-Operations

General Fund

- Debt Service
- Third-Party Collections
- Pass-Throughs

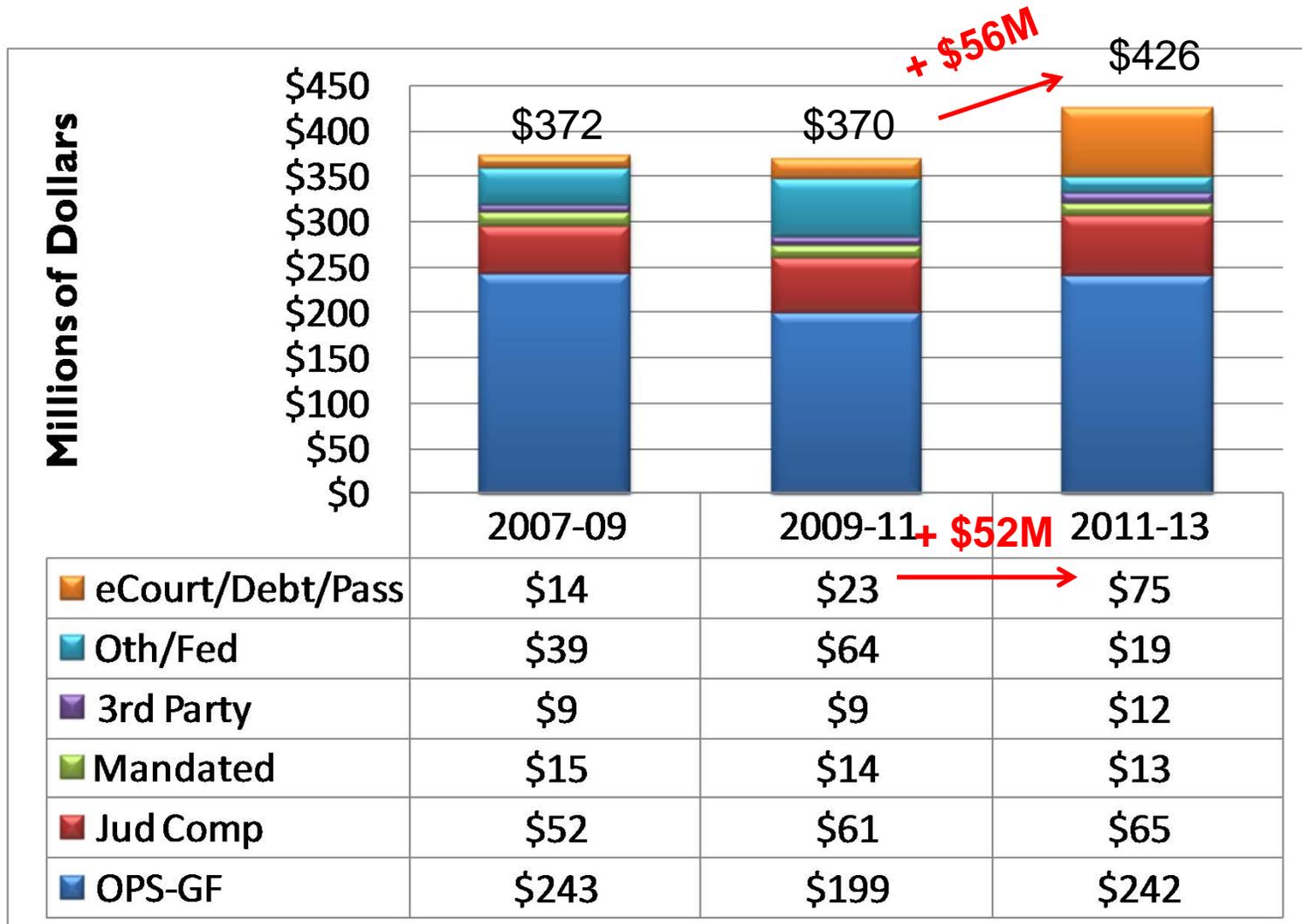
Other Funds / Federal Funds

- Security and Facility Funding (CFA)
- State of Oregon Law Library (OF)
- Publications (OF)
- Application Contribution Program (OF)
- OJIN (OF)
- Citizens Review Board / JCIP Grants (OF/FF)
- Other Grants (OF)

Major Changes in OJD Budget

- Pass-Through funding for counties added to GF and OF
- Revenue management costs shifted to GF
- One-time OF 2009-11 fee revenue (HB 2287) shifted to GF, including staff positions
- Ongoing implementation and debt service for Oregon eCourt (GF/OF)

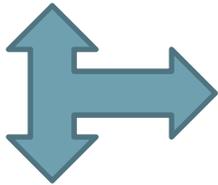
OJD Budget Changes



Staff FTE Reductions for Operations

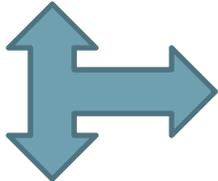
- Permanent FTE in Approved Budgets

- 2007-09 – 1,717 FTE



Loss of 84 FTE

- 2009-11 – 1,633 FTE



Loss of 117 FTE

- 2011-13 – 1,516 FTE

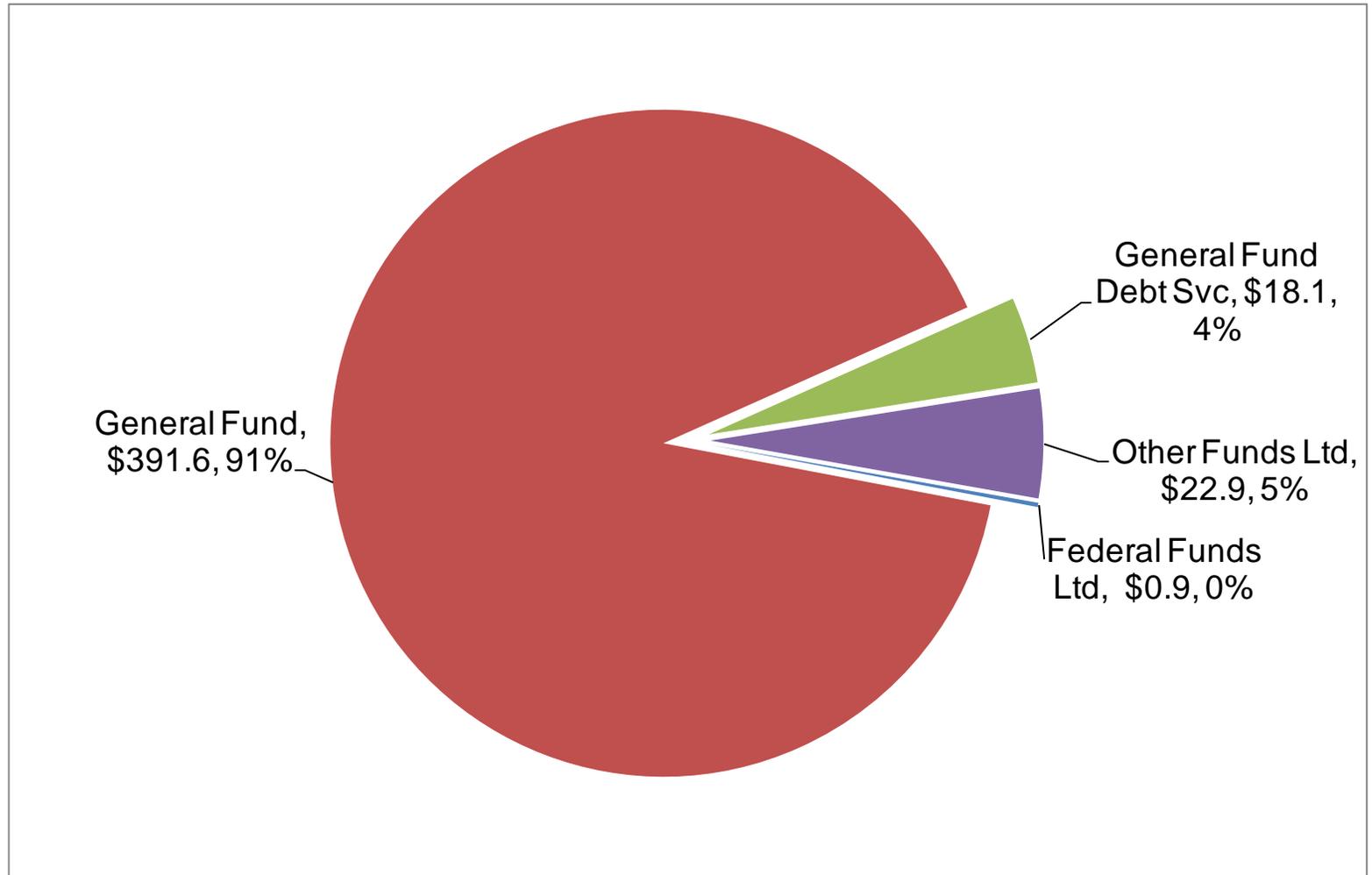
OJD has lost 201 permanent FTE since 2007-09 biennium (12% reduction)

Budget Overview

Current Service Level

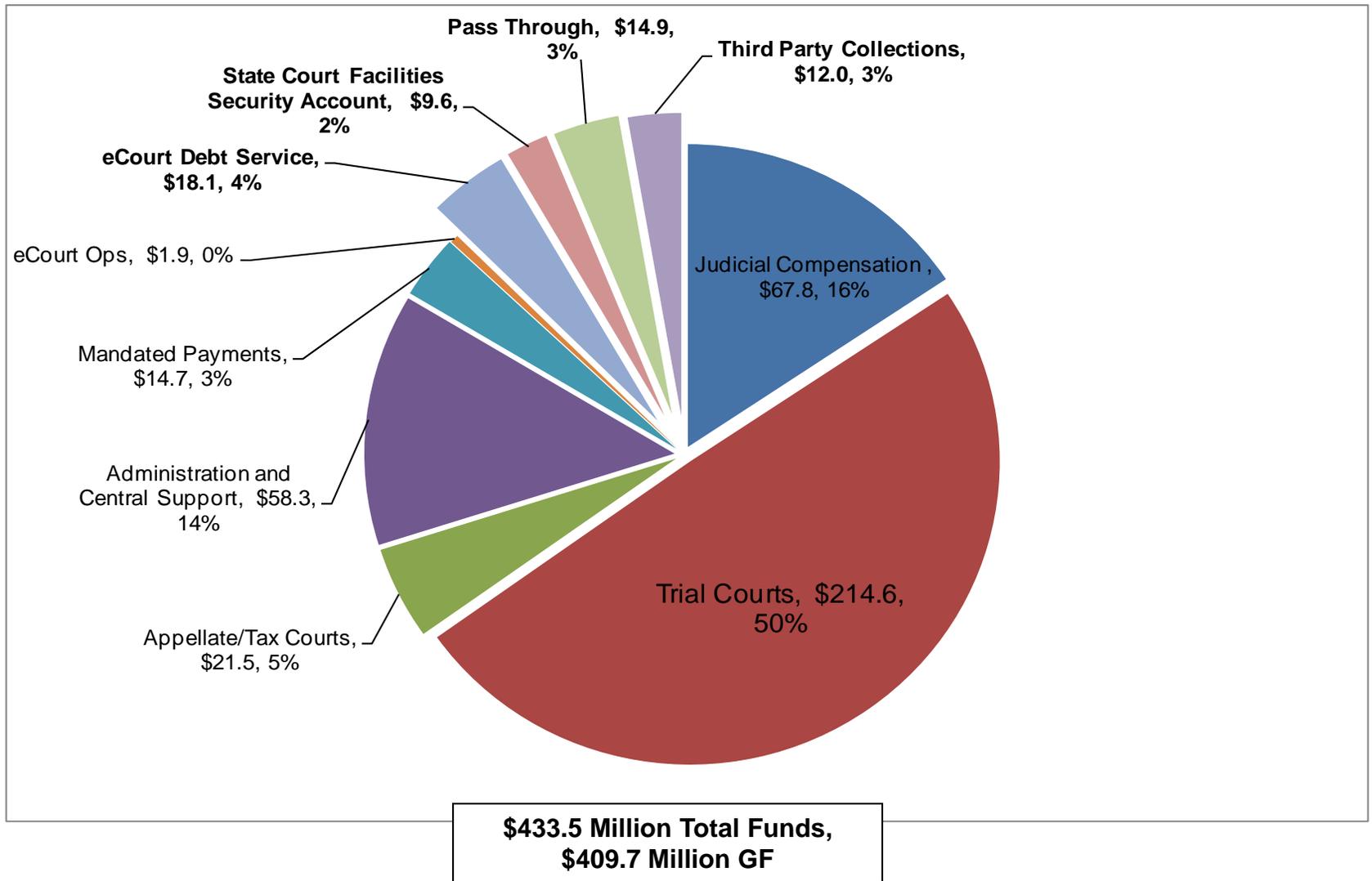
2013-15 Chief Justice's Current Service Level

(By Funding Source in Millions)



\$433.5 Million Total Funds

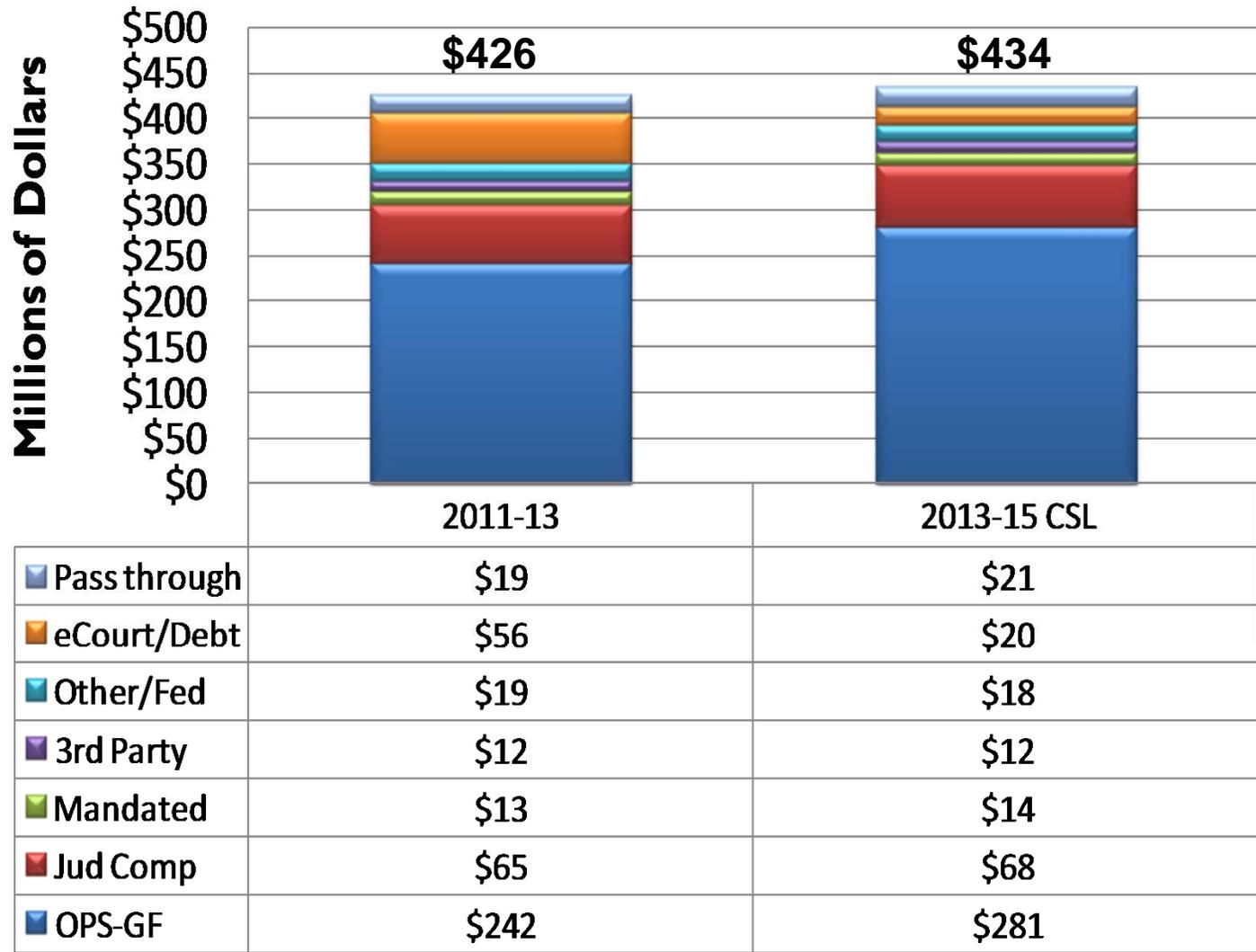
2013-15 Chief Justice's Current Service Level All Funds



2013-15 CSL Changes from 2011-13 LAB

- General Fund PERS/Pension Obligation Bond increase – \$11.2 Million
- General Fund Health Benefit increases – \$5.2 Million
- 3.5% holdback positions funding – \$6 million
- 2013-15 Staff Personnel Plan Adjustments – \$5.1 million
- 5.5% PS Budget reduction for 2011-13 – \$10 million impact

2011-13 LAB vs. 2013-15 CSL



Program Changes Impacting 2013-15 Budget

- Oregon eCourt – Continuation of program implementation
- State Court Facility and Security Account – Modifications made in 2011 and 2012 Legislative Sessions

Continued Implementation of the Oregon eCourt Program

- Program is on time, on budget
- Initial system development and configuration for core components completed
- Circuits courts in five counties converted to Odyssey in 2011-13 biennium
- 14 circuit court implementations planned for 2013-15, including Multnomah County
- Final implementations will occur in 2016
- Funding for continued implementations are located in Policy Option Packages (#201-202)

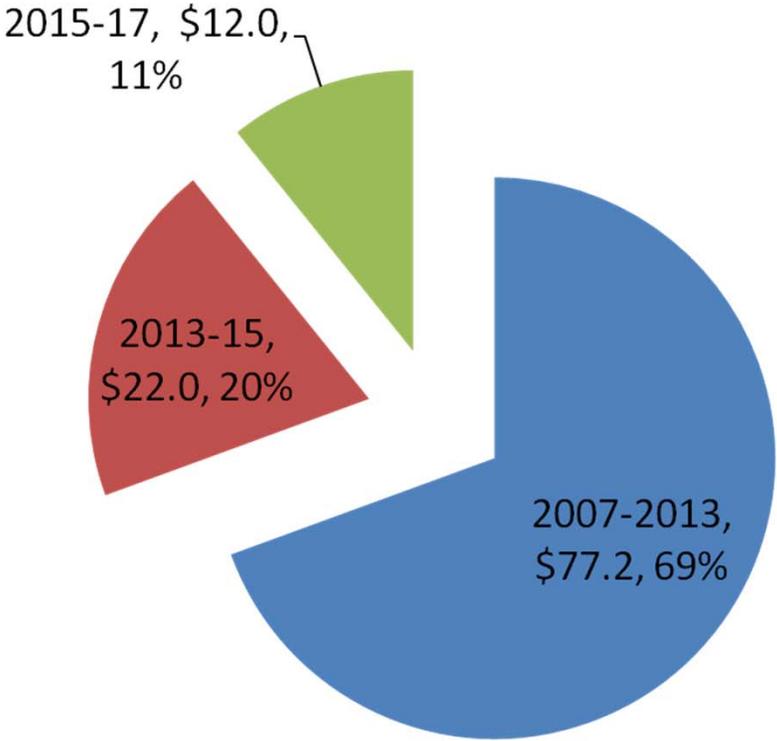
Oregon eCourt Program Court Roll-Out Schedule

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Quarter	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
1st	Yamhill (June)	Jackson (March)	Benton Polk	Lane Lincoln	Washington Tax Court	
2nd			Multnomah	Deschutes Klamath Lake	Morrow Umatilla Wallowa Union	Grant Harney Baker Malheur
3rd		Clatsop Columbia Tillamook		Coos Curry Wheeler	Wasco Sherman Gilliam	
				Hood River		
4th	Crook Jefferson Linn (December)		Douglas Josephine Marion	Clackamas		

Oregon eCourt Program Implementation Costs

(\$ in millions)



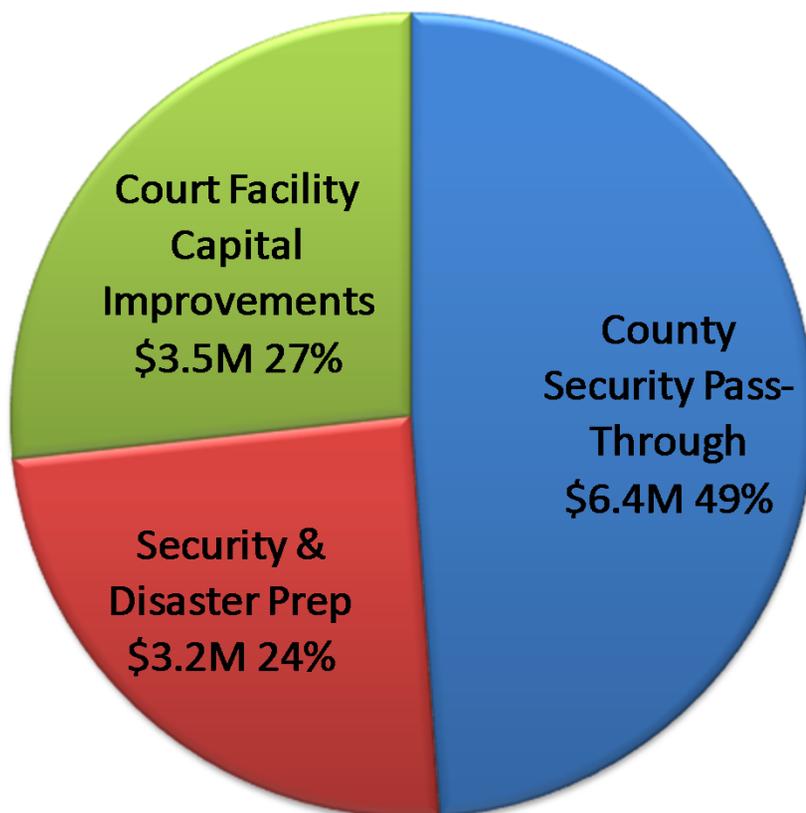
State Court Facilities and Security Account

2011-13 Legislative Changes

- Fines revenue deposited in Criminal Fine Account
- Legislature allocated from CFA instead of dedicated revenue stream
- Allocation for OJD authorized for
 - Statewide court facility security and training
 - Emergency preparedness and business continuity planning
 - Capital improvements to county court facilities
 - Pass-through funding to counties to supplement courthouse security spending on approved plans

Funding Split from 2013-15 CFA Allocation

CFA Allocation = \$13.1 million



Court Facility Capital Improvement Plan

- Union County Courthouse Replacement \$2 million
 - State/County partnership
 - Replace former repurposed hospital from the 1930s
 - Worst rated circuit courthouse in 2008 Facility Study

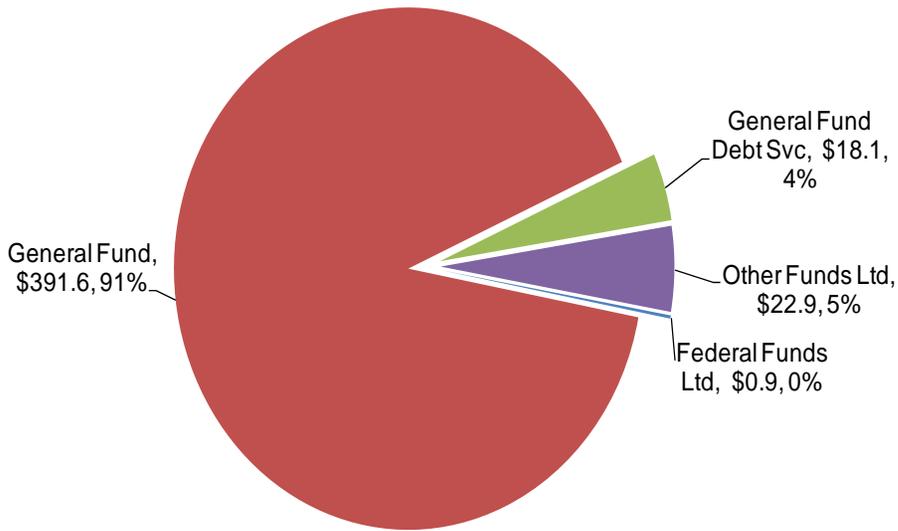


- Curry County Courthouse Roof Replacement \$150,000
- Highest Priority life/safety projects from 2008 Study \$1.4 million
 - Curry, Gilliam, Malheur and Wallowa County Courthouses

Budget Overview

Chief Justice's Recommended Budget Policy Option Packages

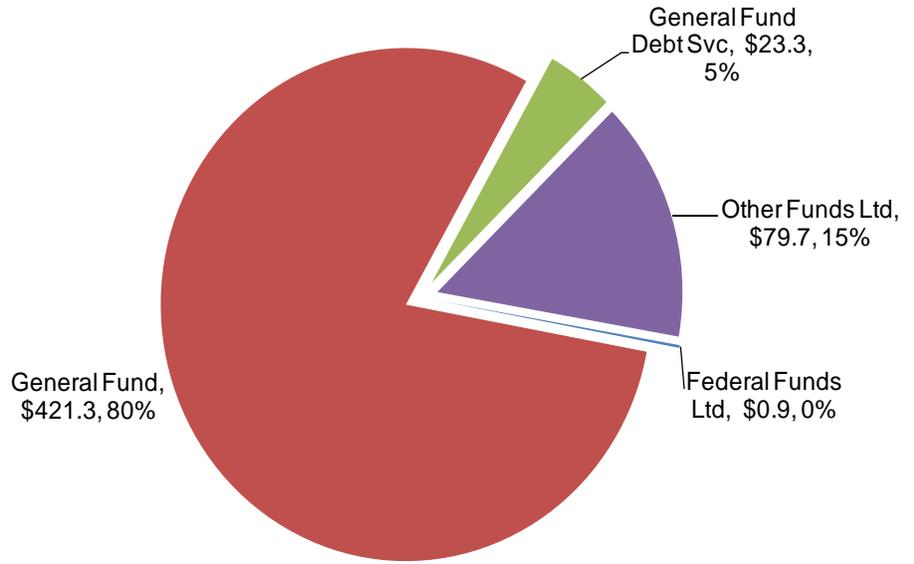
2013-15 Chief Justice's Recommended Budget



Current Service Level
\$433.5 Million Total Funds

Chief Justice Recommended Budget
\$525.5 Million Total Funds

16 Policy Option Packages



Improve access to courts and timely justice by:

- Continuing the investment in Oregon eCourt technology
- Implementing the expansion of the Court of Appeals from ten to thirteen judgeships
- Securing adequate resources so Oregon courts can be open 5 days and meet critical service measures
- Addressing judicial compensation
- Restoring family law resources and statewide availability of pro se service centers
- Restoring and preserving statewide availability of treatment court docket programs
- Supporting a long-term state court facility and security improvement plan

Policy Option Packages

(in Millions)

PKG	TITLE	GF COST	OF COST	FTE	DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE
201	Oregon eCourt Debt Service	\$ 5.7			Provide new debt service requirements for new bond sales to support continued Oregon eCourt development and implementation.
202	Oregon eCourt Program		\$ 24.3	37.96	Continues the implementation of Oregon eCourt, provided funding through the sale of XI-Q bonds.
203	Circuit Courts Service Level Staff Resource Needs	\$ 6.7		51.14	Restores Circuit Court staffing to meet minimum service requirements concerning access hours and timely data entry.
204	Circuit Courts Treatment Court Staff Resource Needs	\$ 1.6		9.21	Provides support for drug court coordinators and related positions in ten counties.
205	Circuit Courts Pro Se Facilitation	\$ 2.0		14.29	Provides support for positions in trial courts needed to ensure access to justice by self-represented litigants and enhance case administration
206	Statewide Improvement, Education and Standardization	\$ 0.6		2.64	Provides for resources to ensure the necessary post implementation training for court staff in the Oregon eCourt environment.
207	Oregon eCourt Technical Operations and Training	\$ 1.1		5.28	Provides for ongoing technical, infrastructure and technical training support for after the Oregon eCourt system has been implemented.
208	Centralization and Analysis Staff Resources	\$ 0.9		7.14	Administrative package for centralized accounting functions to support Oregon eCourt processes, for central violations bureau staffing, and to support Key Performance Measure analysis.
209	Family Law Program	\$ 0.5		2.64	Restores funding for central support for the Family Law program

Policy Option Packages

(in Millions)

PKG	TITLE	GF COST	OF COST	FTE	DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE
210	Specialty Courts Grants		\$ 0.9	4.90	Continues current limited duration positions authority for grant funded positions that extend into the 2013-15 biennium.
211	2012 Legislative Session Court of Appeals Panel	\$ 3.0		11.28	Provides operational implementation of new Court of Appeals Panel and staff from 2012 Legislative action (HB 4026, ch 87 OR law).
212	Judicial Compensation	\$12.2			Provides funding for implementation of 2008 POCC recommendations concerning judicial salaries.
213	Contract Interpreter Rate Increase	\$ 1.5			Funds an increase in contract interpreter rates consistent with DAS contracted rates.
214	Local Court Facilities Infrastructure		\$ 3.5		Limitation to support court facilities capital improvement and capital construction from allocation from Criminal Fine Account.
215	Local Court Security Systems Standardization		\$ 0.8		Limitation to support court facilities security improvements to meet minimum standards – funding will come from the allocation from Criminal Fine Account.
216	Supreme Court Building Preservation		\$ 26.8		Provides Capital Construction funding for renovation of the Oregon Supreme Court Building, the oldest building on the capital mall.

Legislatively Approved Services

Policy Option Package 211 – 2012 Legislative Session Court of Appeals Panel (\$3.0 million GF, 11.28 FTE): HB 4026, passed in the 2012 Legislative Session, increased the number of Court of Appeals judges from 10 to 13. Whether measured against the number of appeals taken by population or the number of appeals taken by judge, the Oregon Court of Appeals consistently ranks as one of the busiest appellate courts in the nation.

Expected Outcomes of Package: The requested funding will result in increased capacity to handle docket and reduce case backlogs at the Court of Appeals.

Legislatively Approved Services

Policy Option Package 202 – Oregon eCourt Program (\$24.3 million OF, 37.96 FTE): Funds continuation of the program through the 2013-15 biennium. The Oregon eCourt Program is a comprehensive business transformation and service delivery initiative, launched in 2008.

Policy Option Package 201 – Oregon eCourt Debt Service (\$5.7 million GF): Required debt service for additional bond funding for program continuation funded during the 2013-15 biennium.

Expected Outcomes of Packages: The requested funding will facilitate continued development and rollout to 14 circuit courts during 2013-15 (including Multnomah). New functionality, services and access for Oregonians.

Timely Trial Court Services

Policy Option Package 203 – Circuit Courts Service Level Staff

Resource Needs (\$6.7 million GF, 51.14 FTE): Restores trial court staffing to the levels needed to meet minimum service requirements, increase circuit court access for the public, and reduce wait times.

Expected Outcomes of Package: Increased funding will allow for a 72-hour maximum timely entry of court documentation for enforcement of legal rights and judgments, 24-hour maximum for timely entry of recall of arrest notifications, and a minimum of 7 hours of daily public counter and telephone access to court services.

Judicial Compensation

Policy Option Package 212 – Judicial Compensation (\$12.2 million GF): Enacts Public Officials Compensation Commission recommendations with a cost-of-living adjustment for Oregon’s 191 elected judges, who remain among the lowest-paid state judges in the country.

Expected Outcomes of Package: The requested funding will move judicial salaries closer to the national median and help ensure that the State of Oregon can continue to attract qualified candidates, and promote a diversity of expertise among Oregon’s trial and appellate judges.

Critical Oregon eCourt Operational Support

Policy Option Package 206 – Statewide Improvement, Education and Standardization (\$0.6 million GF, 2.64 FTE): Provides resources to ensure the necessary post-implementation training for court staff in the Oregon eCourt environment. Increases capabilities to provide resources to circuit courts as operational process changes are made to leverage the full capabilities of the new Oregon eCourt Odyssey system.

Policy Option Package 207 – Oregon eCourt Technical Operations and Training (\$1.1 million GF, 5.28 FTE): Provides ongoing technical, infrastructure and technical training support after the Oregon eCourt system has been implemented. Provides support for the operations of courts that have transitioned to the Oregon eCourt system.

Expected Outcomes of Packages: The requested funding provides needed resources to maintain the new Odyssey system and leverage the technology and new functionality to provide greater access to Oregonians and improved efficiencies for courts.

Court Security and Facilities

Policy Option Package 215 – Local Court Security Systems

Standardization (\$0.8 million OF): Partially restores OF swept in 2012 to equip county courthouses to meet statewide security standards. Funds are needed to mitigate identified security deficiencies and risks for judges, court staff, and the public. Work was completed in the eastern Oregon region in 2011-13. Additional funding will allow projects to be completed in other areas of the state.

Policy Option Package 214 – Local Court Facilities Infrastructure (\$3.5 million OF): Utilizes funding in the State Court Facilities and Security Account established for the purpose of capital improvements for courthouses and other state court facilities. Specifically, funding is requested to support replacement of the Union County Courthouse, Curry Courthouse roof repairs, and life/safety system upgrades for Curry, Gilliam, Malheur, and Wallowa County courthouses.

Expected Outcomes of Packages: The funding will help replace the lowest rated courthouse in the state, address priority life/safety issues in four courts and upgrade safety systems in Central Oregon courts.

Court Security and Facilities

Policy Option Package 216 – Supreme Court Building Preservation (\$26.8 million) [*Companion bill: DAS Policy Option Package 116*]: Provides Capital Construction funding for major renovation and system replacement for the Supreme Court Building, opened in 1914. Major issues have been identified involving the exterior façade of the building, requiring emergency repairs and patching. The facility has not been seismically retrofitted for employee and public safety. Major renovation would include exterior, interior, seismic retrofit, HVAC/power/lighting system replacement, and temporary space and moving expenses.

A reduced-scope project targeted to the exterior of the Supreme Court Building is estimated to be \$4.4 million and would proportionately reduce the remaining scope of the larger project.

Expected Outcomes of Package: Funding will result in upgraded and modernized building facilities that can continue to house the Supreme Court and handle the required case traffic into the future.

Administrative Operations

Policy Option Package 208 – Centralization and Analysis Staff

Resources (\$0.9 million GF, 7.14 FTE): Provides resources for centralized accounting functions to support Oregon eCourt processes and for central violations bureau. These services generally become the new standard of operations as courts go live on the new Oregon eCourt system, creating efficiencies across the department, allowing circuit courts to support their increased workload associated with added functionality and public access abilities. Supports key performance measures and analysis.

Expected Outcomes of Package: This funding will allow the Department to consolidate work, thereby gaining greater efficiencies, control and oversight in accounting and revenue collection activities.

Central Family Law Facilitation Support

Policy Option Package 209 – Family Law Program (\$0.5 million GF, 2.64 FTE): Restores funding for central support for the Family Law Program. Centralized support was eliminated in the 2009-11 biennium due to budget cuts. The restored program will work with other state agencies as a liaison in the area of family law and interaction with the courts, update currently outdated forms and improve processes to support the transition to Oregon eCourt, develop new policies and procedures to improve timely processing of family law cases, and support circuit courts on child support, family law, and pro se issues.

Expected Outcomes of Package: Family Law impacts the most vulnerable Oregonians. This funding will improve the consistency of services and responsiveness of the courts, internally and externally.

Treatment and Specialty Courts

Policy Option Package 204 – Circuit Courts Treatment Court Staff Resource Needs (\$1.6 million GF, 9.21 FTE): Provides support for drug court coordinators and related positions in ten counties. Treatment court programs provide an effective alternative to incarceration and reduces recidivism rates.

Policy Option Package 210 – Specialty Court Grants (\$0.9 million OF, 4.90 FTE): Establishes limited duration positions for grants that extend into the 2013-15 biennium. OJD receives a variety of grants to fund activities of importance to local communities including, but not limited to, family court, pretrial release programs, and the Citizen Review Board. This package accounts for those grants that have signed agreement terms that extend into the 2013-15 biennium.

Expected Outcomes of Packages: Due to the complex, multifaceted nature of specialty courts, stabilized ofunding for coordinator positions will ensure effective programs are maintained and consistent reporting performed so that best practices can be measured and replicated.

Circuit Courts Pro Se Facilitation

Policy Option Package 205 – Circuit Courts Pro Se Facilitation (\$2.0 million GF, 14.29 FTE): Provides support for positions in trial courts needed to ensure access to justice for self-represented litigants and enhance case administration, especially in Family Law matters. Over the past several years, the courts have experienced an increase in the number of self-represented litigants entering the legal system. In many cases, these litigants are ill-prepared to successfully access the courts, and mistakes made by self-represented litigants are impacting court operations and delaying the processing of urgent court orders and judgments.

Expected Outcomes of Packages: Funding will provide resources in circuit courts to assist an increasing number of Oregonians who are self-represented and expedites court processes.

Court Interpreters

Policy Option Package 213 – Contract Interpreter Rate Increase (\$1.5 million GF): Funds an increase in contract interpreter rates consistent with DAS contracted rates. Increases the lagging hourly rate for freelance certified interpreters from the present rate of \$32.50 per hour, established in 1998, to \$45 per hour. OJD is presently experiencing difficulty in obtaining certified interpreters due to the lower hourly compensation levels.

Expected Outcomes of Package: The requested funding will provide greater access to qualified contract interpreters and ensure the courts can continue to meet the needs of those individuals requiring language or hearing impaired assistance.

COURTS ARE AT THE CORE

of the Critical Path to Preservation of Public Safety, Protection of Families in Crisis, and Economic Stability of Oregon

