

# Judicial Branch

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LRC OFFICE OF BUDGET REVIEW

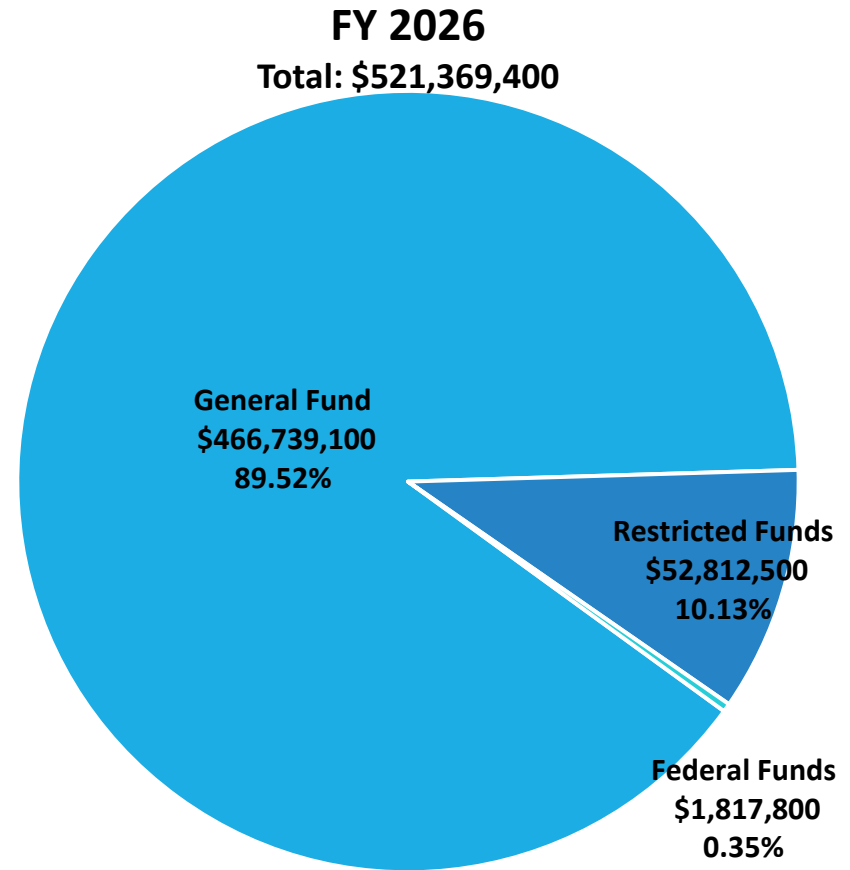
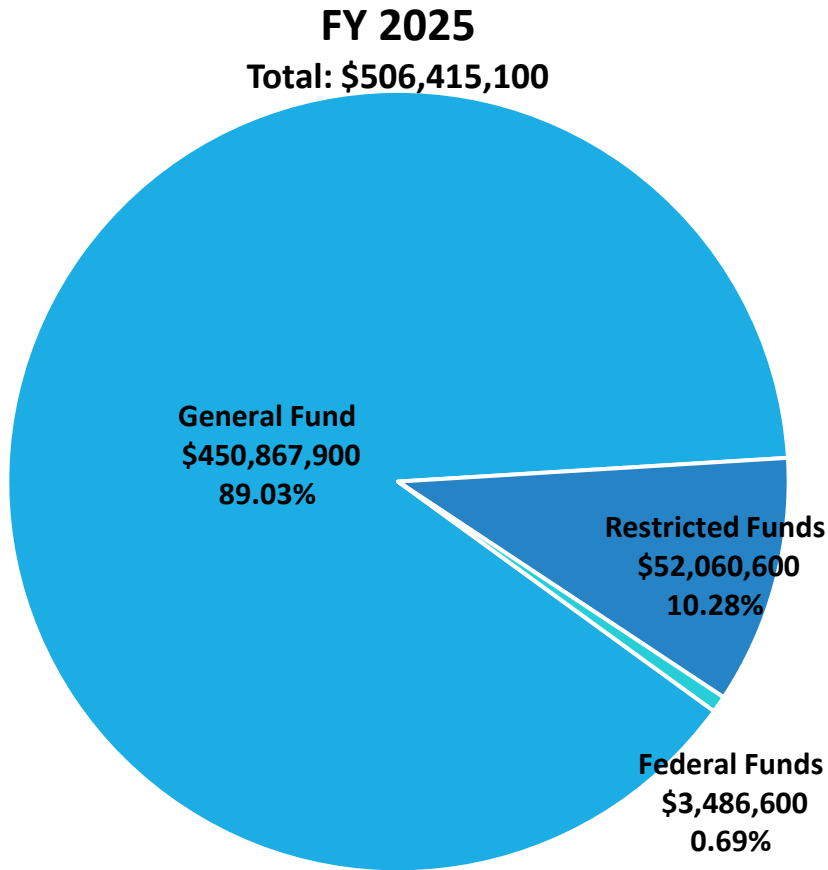
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# Judicial Branch

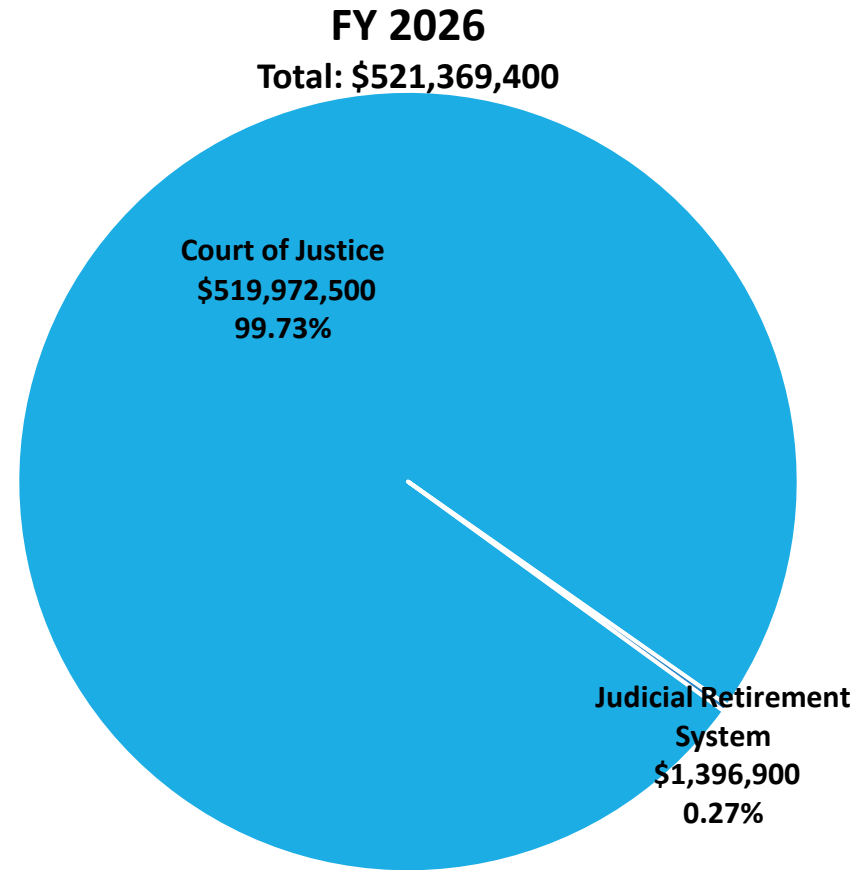
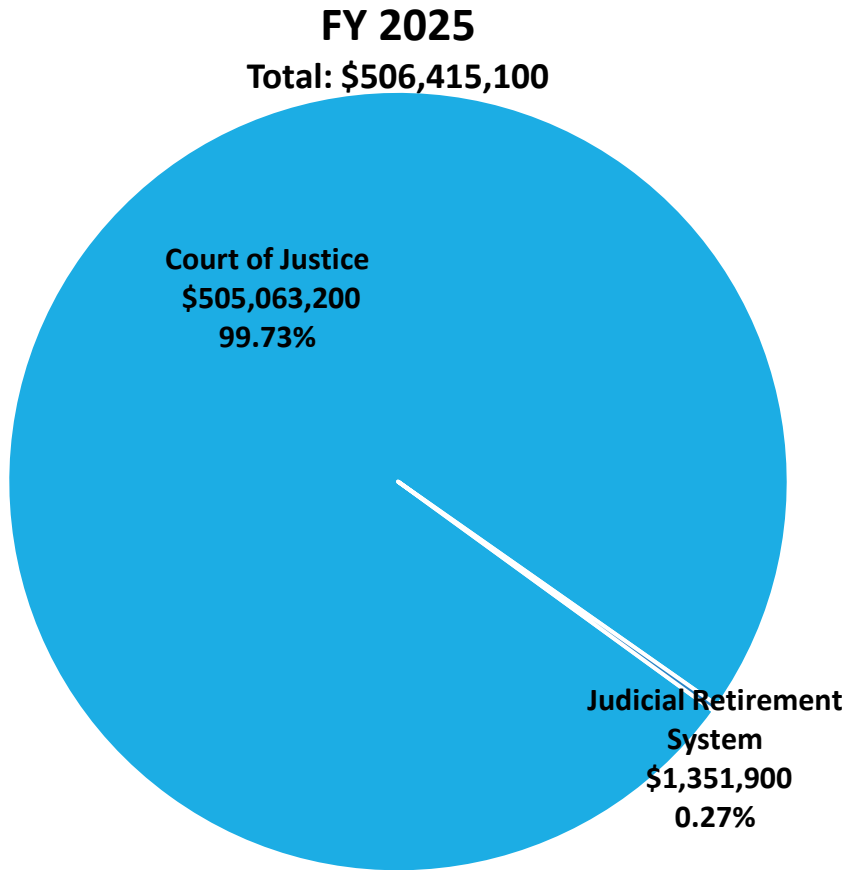
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- The Judicial Branch
  - Independent branch of state government separate from Executive and Legislative branches.
  - Comprised of a four-tier system of adjudication including the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit Court, and District Court.
  - Kentucky's unified court system is led by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
  - For budgeting purposes, the Judicial Branch is divided into the Court of Justice and the Judicial Form Retirement System.

# 2024-2026 Judicial Branch Appropriation by Fund Source



# 2024-2026 Judicial Branch Appropriation by Unit



# Judicial Branch: Court of Justice

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- The Court of Justice is comprised of three organizational units:
  - Court Operations and Administration
  - Local Facilities Fund
  - Local Facilities Use Allowance Contingency Fund
- The Court of Justice is budgeted for ~ 3,305 full-time employees.

# Court Operations and Administration

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- Includes the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit/Family Court, District Court, Circuit Clerks, and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).
  - The AOC is the operational arm of the Branch and includes the following:
    - Director's Office
    - Office of Finance & Administration
    - Office of Programs & Personnel
    - Office of Information and Technology Services
    - Office of Statewide Programs

# Local Facilities Fund

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- LFF Provides for operating costs and use allowance to local governments for Court of Justice occupied facilities.
  - For projects authorized by the General Assembly, a use allowance equal to the debt service on the bonds is provided to the county that constructed the project on an annual basis as long as the debt is outstanding. Funding for furniture is provided for each project and is not a portion of the debt.
  - Operating costs are also provided annually to cover utilities, janitorial services, maintenance, and insurance for the facility.

# Courthouses Authorized - HB 264 (2024 Regular Session)

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- Owsley County
- Greenup County
- Knox County
- Clark County
- Caldwell County



# Local Facilities Use Allowance Contingency Fund

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- The 2000 General Assembly established the Use Allowance Contingency Fund to provide for cost overruns in authorized court facilities.
- No funds are currently appropriated to this fund.

# Judicial Form Retirement System

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- The Judicial Branch budget appropriates funds to the Judicial Form Retirement System (JFRS) as pass-through funding.
- These funds provide for the actuarial cost of the Judicial Retirement System.
- The Judicial Form Retirement System has two employees.