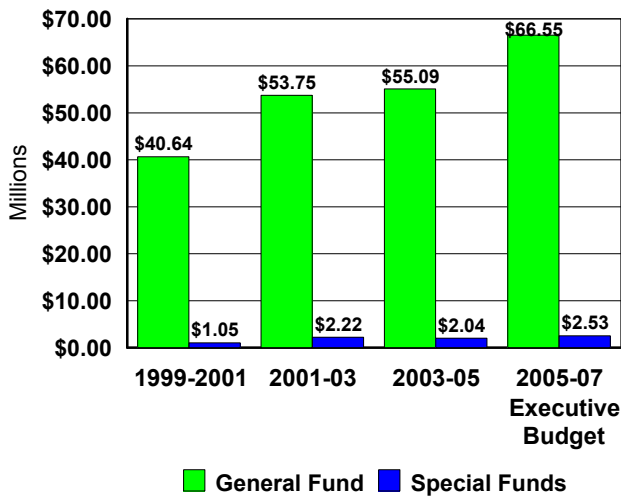


**Department 180 - Judicial Branch
 Senate Bill No. 2002**

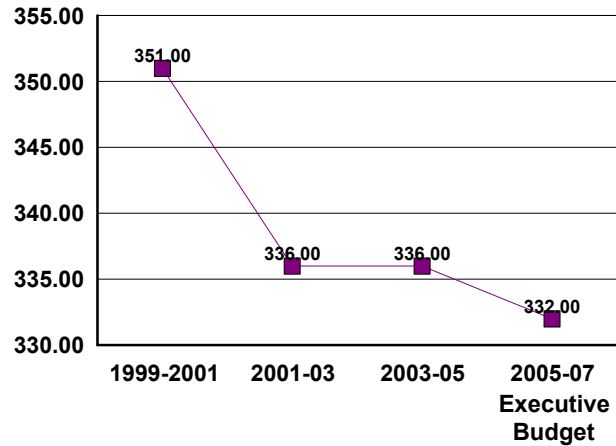
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2005-07 Executive Budget	332.00	\$66,546,349	\$2,526,808	\$69,073,157
2003-05 Legislative Appropriations	336.00	55,087,369	2,043,536	57,130,905 ¹
Increase (Decrease)	(4.00)	\$11,458,980	\$483,272	\$11,942,252

¹The 2003-05 appropriation amounts do not include \$752,500 of additional special funds authority resulting from the Supreme Court increasing the special funds appropriation during the 2003-05 biennium for continuing appropriations pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Sections 29-07-01.1 and 27-03-05.

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



Executive Budget Highlights

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides for the following Supreme Court changes:			
a. Provides funding for a 5.78 percent salary increase for Supreme Court justices for the first year of the biennium and a 4 percent increase for the second year	\$95,226		\$95,226
b. Provides funding to continue a new pay plan implemented in October 2004 to increase employee salaries to market levels	\$68,212		\$68,212
c. Provides funding to continue employee salary increases given during the 2003-05 biennium pursuant to the judicial branch salary schedule	\$146,288		\$146,288
d. Increases funding for operating expenses, primarily relating to an anticipated 10 percent increase in professional supplies and materials cost (\$176,420) and to provide funding for records management (\$60,000)	\$259,379		\$259,379
e. Provides funding for a new computer server	\$8,000		\$8,000
f. Increases funding for former judges' retirement	\$10,186		\$10,186
2. Provides for the following district court changes:			
a. Provides funding for a 5.78 percent salary increase for the district court judges for the first year of the biennium and a 4 percent increase for the second year	\$731,021		\$731,021
b. Provides funding for the continuation of a new pay plan implemented October 2004 to increase employee salaries to market levels	\$468,350		\$468,350

c. Removes 4 FTE positions pursuant to Senate Bill No. 2423 (2003)--the state employee salary increase bill. The salary savings was used to provide a 1 percent salary increase for remaining judicial branch employees as of January 1, 2004.	(\$394,000)		(\$394,000)
d. Provides funding to continue employee salary increases given during the 2003-05 biennium pursuant to the judicial branch salary schedule	\$773,990	(\$102,876)	\$671,114
e. Increases funding for indigent defense	\$5,746,901	\$205,000	\$5,951,901
f. Increases funding for operating expenses, primarily relating to an anticipated 10 percent increase in professional supplies and materials cost (\$75,026), increase for travel and professional development (\$183,688), increase for court improvements (\$105,873), increase for juvenile services (\$123,100), increase costs for contract clerks in the counties (\$103,789), an increase for information technology costs (\$321,133), and ConnectND costs (\$95,593)	\$1,494,565	(\$419,764)	\$1,074,801
g. Increases funding for equipment over \$5,000 (increases funding for copy machines from \$74,500 to \$107,500, provides funding for sound systems (\$50,000), and provides funding for workstations (\$18,500)) and provides funding for information technology equipment over \$5,000 for computer servers for digital audio recording (\$19,500)	\$121,000		\$121,000
h. Decreases funding for former judges' retirement	(\$66,979)		(\$66,979)
3. Provides for the following Judicial Conduct Commission and Disciplinary Board changes:			
a. Provides funding for an increase in salaries (\$27,519) and an increase in operating expenses (\$10,431)	\$37,950		\$37,950

Other Sections in Bill

Section 6 of this bill provides the statutory changes increasing Supreme Court justices and district court judges salaries. Supreme Court justices annual salaries are increased from the current level of \$99,122 to \$104,851 effective July 1, 2005, and up to \$109,045 effective July 1, 2006. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is entitled to receive an additional \$3,066 per annum effective July 1, 2005, and up to \$3,189 per annum effective July 1, 2006, an increase from the current additional amount for the Chief Justice of \$2,899 per annum. District court judges annual salaries are increased from the current level of \$90,671 to \$95,911 effective July 1, 2005, and up to \$99,748 effective July 1, 2006. A presiding judge of a judicial district is entitled to receive an additional \$2,826 per annum effective July 1, 2005, and up to \$2,939 per annum effective July 1, 2006, an increase from the current additional amount for presiding judges of \$2,672.

Major Related Legislation

Senate Bill No. 2027 - This bill establishes a commission on legal counsel for indigents for the purpose of providing indigent defense services, provides a general fund appropriation of \$1,135,285 to the commission for its establishment, and provides for a transition of indigent defense services from the Supreme Court to the commission by December 31, 2005.

Senate Bill No. 2103 - This bill allows the Supreme Court to participate in the income tax refund debt setoff for purposes of court-ordered fines, fees, or costs due to the state.

Senate Bill No. 2105 - This bill repeals the section of law providing for a state juvenile services coordinator position.