

Errata – Report on Government Services 2007

The following amendment was made to the 2007 Report since it was released in January 2007.

Chapter 6. Court administration

The pending caseload data, and backlog indicator results, for the civil jurisdiction of the WA magistrates' court and the Federal Court (non-appeal), have been corrected. The revision affects attachment table 6A.18 and table 6.10 in the 2007 Report. The revised tables are reproduced below.

Table 6.10 **Backlog indicator — all civil matters, as at 30 June 2006**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust cts</i>
Higher^a — appeal^b										
Pending caseload	no.	671	360	218	360	64	102	20	58	580
cases > 12 mths	%	14.9	16.9	12.8	21.9	4.7	18.6	5.0	10.3	13.3
cases > 24 mths	%	2.1	5.6	5.5	3.6	3.1	4.9	—	6.9	2.2
Higher^a — non-appeal^{b, c}										
Pending caseload	no.	14 785	12 159	10 820	5 278	3 824	1 554	1 401	233	3 240
cases > 12 mths	%	26.4	35.4	39.4	39.8	26.1	39.8	39.3	56.7	48.7
cases > 24 mths	%	10.7	17.4	22.0	19.2	11.1	26.6	19.6	39.5	34.9
Supreme/Federal — appeal										
Pending caseload	no.	638	271	105	248	50	102	20	58	580
cases > 12 mths	%	14.1	21.8	1.9	22.2	6.0	18.6	5.0	10.3	13.3
cases > 24 mths	%	2.0	7.4	—	2.4	4.0	4.9	—	6.9	2.2
Supreme/Federal — non-appeal^{b, c}										
Pending caseload	no.	7 437	5 991	5 140	2 565	558	1 554	1 401	233	3 240
cases > 12 mths	%	25.4	30.2	39.3	41.4	20.8	39.8	39.3	56.7	48.7
cases > 24 mths	%	11.2	10.9	21.8	21.5	6.8	26.6	19.6	39.5	34.9
District/county — appeal^b										
Pending caseload	no.	33	89	113	112	14	..	..	..	..
cases > 12 mths	%	30.3	2.2	23.0	21.4	—	..	..	..	..
cases > 24 mths	%	3.0	—	10.6	6.3	—	..	..	..	..
District/county — non-appeal^b										
Pending caseload	no.	7 348	6 168	5 680	2 713	3 266
cases > 12 mths	%	27.4	40.4	39.5	38.4	27.0
cases > 24 mths	%	10.2	23.8	22.1	17.0	11.9

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Table 6.10 (Continued)

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts
Family — appeal										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	56	..	..	..	..	302
<i>cases > 12 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	48.2	..	..	..	..	38.1
<i>cases > 24 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	33.9	..	..	..	..	16.2
Family — non-appeal										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	8 253	..	..	..	..	14 820
<i>cases > 12 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	42.6	..	..	..	..	35.3
<i>cases > 24 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	26.9	..	..	..	..	18.0
Magistrates^{d, e}										
Pending caseload	no.	na	13 710	37 898	29 037	16 129	5 357	2 332	922	..
<i>cases > 6 mths</i>	%	na	23.6	45.2	33.4	42.3	34.9	41.5	60.3	..
<i>cases > 12 mths</i>	%	na	11.1	6.7	8.8	12.5	4.7	11.1	32.6	..
Federal Magistrates										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 283
<i>cases > 6 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.6
<i>cases > 12 mths</i>	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.6
Coroners^f										
Pending caseload	no.	4 066	2 977	2 200	1 236	1 253	233	246	226	..
<i>cases > 12 mths</i>	%	40.3	28.2	26.3	26.9	29.3	20.6	25.6	17.7	..
<i>cases > 24 mths</i>	%	na	na	10.6	7.2	13.0	4.7	13.4	6.2	..

^a Higher refers to State and Territory supreme courts and district/county courts combined, and includes the Federal Court. ^b Queensland data have been extrapolated. ^c Non-appeal matters for the Federal Court include a significant number of Native Title matters which by nature are both long and complex. ^d Excludes children's courts. ^e The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of pending caseload from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. ^f Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court authorities and departments (unpublished); table 6A.18.

Table 6A.18 Backlog indicator, civil, as at 30 June 2006 (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus cts (e)
Supreme / Federal - non-appeal (b), (c)									
Pending case load (no.)	7 437	5 991	5 140	2 565	558	1 554	1 401	233	3 240
Cases >12 mths (no.)	1 887	1 809	2 018	1 061	116	619	551	132	1 578
per cent (%)	25.4	30.2	39.3	41.4	20.8	39.8	39.3	56.7	48.7
Cases >24 mths (no.)	836	652	1 123	552	38	414	274	92	1 130
per cent (%)	11.2	10.9	21.8	21.5	6.8	26.6	19.6	39.5	34.9
Supreme / Federal - appeal									
Pending case load (no.)	638	271	105	248	50	102	20	58	580
Cases >12 mths (no.)	90	59	2	55	3	19	1	6	77
per cent (%)	14.1	21.8	1.9	22.2	6.0	18.6	5.0	10.3	13.3
Cases >24 mths (no.)	13	20	-	6	2	5	-	4	13
per cent (%)	2.0	7.4	-	2.4	4.0	4.9	-	6.9	2.2
District/County - non-appeal (c), (d)									
Pending case load (no.)	7 348	6 168	5 680	2 713	3 266	..	..	..	..
Cases >12 mths (no.)	2 010	2 492	2 245	1 041	882	..	..	..	..
per cent (%)	27.4	40.4	39.5	38.4	27.0	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths (no.)	752	1 467	1 256	462	388	..	..	..	..
per cent (%)	10.2	23.8	22.1	17.0	11.9	..	..	..	..
District/County - appeal (c), (d)									
Pending case load (no.)	33	89	113	112	14	..	..	..	..
Cases >12 mths (no.)	10	2	26	24	-
per cent (%)	30.3	2.2	23.0	21.4	-
Cases >24 mths (no.)	1	-	12	7	-
per cent (%)	3.0	-	10.6	6.3	-

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Table 6A.18 (Continued)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus cts (e)
Magistrates' courts (e), (f), (g)									
Pending case load (no.)	na	13 710	37 898	29 037	16 129	5 357	2 332	922	..
Cases >6 mths per cent (%)	na	3 232	17 111	9 707	6 816	1 868	968	556	..
Cases >12 mths (no.)	na	23.6	45.2	33.4	42.3	34.9	41.5	60.3	..
per cent (%)	na	1 515	2 530	2 541	2 021	252	259	301	..
	na	11.1	6.7	8.8	12.5	4.7	11.1	32.6	..
Family courts - non-appeal									
Pending case load (no.)	..	..	..	8 253	..	..	..	..	14 820
Cases >12 mths (no.)	..	..	..	3 515	..	..	..	..	5 237
per cent (%)	..	..	..	42.6	..	..	..	..	35.3
Cases >24 mths (no.)	..	..	..	2 217	..	..	..	..	2 673
per cent (%)	..	..	..	26.9	..	..	..	..	18.0
Family courts - appeal									
Pending case load (no.)	..	..	..	56	..	..	..	..	302
Cases >12 mths (no.)	..	..	..	27	..	..	..	..	115
per cent (%)	..	..	..	48.2	..	..	..	..	38.1
Cases >24 mths (no.)	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	..	49
per cent (%)	..	..	..	33.9	..	..	..	..	16.2
Federal Magistrates Court									
Pending case load (no.)	25 283
Cases >6 mths (no.)	6 982
per cent (%)	27.6
Cases >12 mths (no.)	4 192
per cent (%)	16.6

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Table 6A.18 (Continued)

Coroners' courts									
Pending case load (no.)	4 066	2 977	2 200	1 236	1 253	233	246	226	..
Cases >12 mths (no.)	1 638	839	578	332	367	48	63	40	..
per cent (%)	40.3	28.2	26.3	26.9	29.3	20.6	25.6	17.7	..
Cases >24 mths (no.)	na	na	233	89	163	11	33	14	..
per cent (%)	na	na	10.6	7.2	13.0	4.7	13.4	6.2	..

Aus cts = Australian courts.

- (a) Backlog is a measure of case processing timeliness. This indicator compares the age (in elapsed time) of a court's pending caseload against agreed time standards. Pending counts are taken at 30 June each year.
- (b) Non appeal matters for the Federal Court include a significant number of Native Title matters which by nature are both long and complex.
- (c) Queensland pending data for the Supreme and District courts have been extrapolated based on data for the Courts that were connected to a computerised case management system. In 2005-06, these courts accounted for approximately 98 per cent and 91 per cent of the total number of civil non-appeal lodgments respectively.
- (d) NSW pending data for the district court (civil jurisdiction) is extrapolated from Sydney data to derive a state total.
- (e) In the civil jurisdiction those lodgments that have not been acted upon in the last 12 months are deemed finalised and excluded from the pending population counts. The aim has been to focus on those matters that are part of an 'active pending' population. The jurisdictions who have not applied this rule are the Australian courts and the Victorian Magistrates Courts.
- (f) Excludes children's courts.
- (g) Victoria's Magistrates' court data includes a proportion of pending caseload from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- na Not available. .. Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished).