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# 7 Court administration

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### **Attachment tables**

Attachment tables are identified in references throughout this chapter by an 'A' suffix (for example, table 7A.3). A full list of attachment tables is provided at the end of this chapter, and the attachment tables themselves are available on the CD-ROM enclosed with the Report or from the Review website at <[www.pc.gov.au/gsp](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp)>.

## **7.1 Profile of court administration services**

This chapter focuses on administrative support functions for the courts, not on the judicial decisions made in the courts. The primary support functions of court administration agencies are to:

- manage court facilities and staff, including buildings, security and ancillary services such as registries, libraries and transcription services
- provide case management services, including client information, scheduling and case flow management

- 
- enforce court orders through the sheriff's department or a similar mechanism.

The courts for which these services are covered in the chapter are State and Territory supreme, district/county and magistrates' (including children's) courts, electronic infringement and enforcement systems, coroners' courts and probate registries. The chapter also covers the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia, the Family Court of WA and the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia. The chapter does not include information on the High Court of Australia, and broadly excludes tribunals and specialist jurisdiction courts (for example, Indigenous and circle sentencing courts and drug courts are excluded).

## **Roles and responsibilities**

### *State and Territory court levels*

There is a hierarchy of courts within each State and Territory. Supreme courts hear disputes of greater seriousness than those heard in the other courts. Supreme courts also develop the law and operate as courts of judicial review or appeal. For the majority of states and territories, the hierarchy of courts is as outlined below (although Tasmania, the ACT and the NT do not have a district/county court):

- supreme courts
- district/county courts
- magistrates' courts.

Within certain court levels, a number of specialist jurisdiction courts (such as Indigenous and circle sentencing courts and drug courts) aim to improve the responsiveness of courts to the special needs of particular clients. Tribunals can also improve responsiveness and assist in alleviating the workload of courts — for example, small claims tribunals may assist in shifting work away from a magistrates' court. Specialist jurisdiction courts (other than the children's courts, family courts and coroners' courts) and tribunals are outside the scope of this Report and excluded from reported data where possible.

Differences in State and Territory court levels mean that the allocation of cases to courts varies across states and territories (boxes 7.1 to 7.3). As a result, the seriousness and complexity of cases heard in a court level can also vary across States or Territories. Therefore, any comparison of administrative performance needs to account for these factors.

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## Box 7.1 Supreme courts jurisdiction across states and territories

### Criminal

All State and Territory supreme courts have jurisdiction over serious criminal matters such as murder, treason and certain serious drug offences, but significant differences exist in this court level across the states and territories:

- given that district/county courts do not operate in Tasmania, the ACT or the NT, the supreme courts in these states and territories generally exercise a jurisdiction equal to that of both the supreme and district/county courts in other states
- the Queensland Supreme Court deals with a significant amount of minor drug matters, which supreme courts in other states and territories do not hear
- in the NSW Supreme Court, almost all indictments are for offences of murder and manslaughter, whereas the range of indictments routinely presented in other states and territories is broader.

All State and Territory supreme courts hear appeals, but the number and type of appeals vary because NSW, Victoria and Queensland also hear some appeals in their district/county courts.

### Civil

All supreme courts deal with appeals and probate applications.

**NSW:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims, but usually deals with complex cases, all claims over \$750 000 (except claims related to motor vehicle accidents or worker's compensation) and various other civil matters.

**Victoria:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims.

**Queensland:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims, but usually deals with claims over \$250 000 and administrative law matters.

**WA:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims, but usually deals with claims over \$500 000.

**SA:** Deals with unlimited claims for general and personal injury matters.

**Tasmania:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims, but usually deals with claims over \$20 000.

**ACT:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims.

**NT:** Has an unlimited jurisdiction on claims, and also deals with mental health, family law and *Coroners Act 1993* applications.

*Source:* State and Territory court administration authorities and departments.

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## Box 7.2 District/county courts jurisdiction across states and territories

A district/county court level does not operate in Tasmania, the ACT or the NT.

### Criminal

All State district/county courts have jurisdiction over indictable criminal matters (such as rape and armed robbery) except murder and treason, but differences exist across this court level in each State that has a district/county court. The following are examples of the jurisdiction of the criminal district/county courts:

**NSW:** The NSW District Court deals with most of the serious criminal cases that come before the courts in NSW. It has responsibility for indictable criminal offences that are normally heard by a judge and jury, but on occasions by a judge alone. It does not deal with treason or murder.

**Victoria:** The Victorian County Court deals with all indictable offences, except the following (which must be heard in the Supreme Court): murder; attempted murder; child destruction; certain conspiracy charges; treason; and concealing an offence of treason. Examples of criminal offences heard in the County Court include: drug trafficking; serious assaults; serious theft; rape; and obtaining financial advantage by deception.

**Queensland:** The Queensland District Court deals with more serious criminal offences than heard by the Magistrates' Court — for example, rape, armed robbery and fraud.

**WA:** The WA District Court deals with any indictable offence except those that carry a penalty of life imprisonment.

**SA:** The SA District Court is the principal trial court and has jurisdiction to try a charge of any offence except treason or murder or offences related to those charges. Almost all matters have been referred following a committal process in the Magistrates Court.

Appeals from magistrates' courts are heard in the district/county courts in NSW, Victoria and Queensland, but not in WA and SA.

### Civil

All district/county civil courts hear appeals.

**NSW:** Deals with claims up to \$750 000 and unlimited claims in motor accident cases.

**Victoria:** Has unlimited jurisdiction in both personal injury claims and other claims. Also deals with appeals under the *Crimes (Family Violence) Act 1987*, adoption matters and change-of-name applications.

**Queensland:** Deals with claims between \$50 000 and \$250 000.

**WA:** Deals with claims up to \$500 000 and unlimited claims for personal injuries.

**SA:** Deals with unlimited claims for general and personal injury matters.

*Source:* State and Territory court administration authorities and departments.

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### Box 7.3 Magistrates courts jurisdiction across states and territories

**Criminal:** All magistrates' courts deal with criminal matters.

**NSW:** Deals summarily with matters with a maximum penalty of up to two years imprisonment for a single offence, and up to five years imprisonment for multiple offences, including some indictable offences.

**Victoria:** Deals with summary offences and determines some indictable offences summarily.

**Queensland:** Deals with summary offences and determines summarily some indictable matters which have a maximum penalty of up to three years imprisonment imposed.

**WA:** Deals with summary offences and determines some indictable offences summarily.

**SA:** Deals with matters with a maximum penalty of up to two years imprisonment, juvenile prosecutions and intervention orders (including breaches).

**Tasmania:** Deals with matters with a maximum penalty of up to two years imprisonment for a single offence and up to five years imprisonment for multiple offences. Also deals with some indictable offences summarily.

**ACT:** Deals with matters with a maximum penalty of up to 14 years imprisonment if the offence relates to money or property, and up to 10 years imprisonment in other cases.

**NT:** Deals with some drug and fraud charges and matters with a maximum penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment (or 10–14 years imprisonment if the accused consents).

#### Civil

**NSW:** Deals with small claims up to \$10 000 and general division claims up to \$60 000, as well as family law matters.

**Victoria:** Deals with up to \$100 000 for monetary damages, as well as applications for equitable relief and applications under the *Crimes (Family Violence) Act 1987*.

**Queensland:** Deals with small claims (including residential tenancy disputes) up to \$7500, minor debt claims up to \$7500 and other claims up to \$50 000.

**WA:** Deals with claims for debt recovery and damages (not personal injury) up to \$50 000, minor cases up to \$7500, residential tenancy disputes and restraining orders.

**SA:** Deals with small claims up to \$6000, commercial cases up to \$40 000 and personal injury claims up to \$80 000.

**Tasmania:** Deals with claims up to \$20 000 (or more if both parties consent) for monetary damages and debt recovery, minor civil claims up to \$5000, residential tenancy disputes, restraint orders and family violence orders.

**ACT:** Deals with small claims up to \$10 000, other claims up to \$50 000, residential tenancy disputes over \$10 000 and matters under the *Domestic Relations Act 1994*.

**NT:** Deals with claims up to \$100 000 and workers' compensation claims.

*Source:* State and Territory court administration authorities and departments.

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### *State and Territory court levels — specific elements*

The data in this chapter are reported by each State and Territory court level. In addition, the chapter separates out certain data items from each court level to improve the comparability and understanding of the data presented. In certain instances, the data sets from the following areas are reported separately from their court level:

- probate registries (separate from the supreme courts level)
- children's courts (separate from the magistrates' courts level)
- electronic infringement and enforcement systems (separate from the magistrates' courts level)
- coroners' courts (separate from the magistrates' courts level).

The following section outlines the role of these areas and their coverage within each State and Territory.

#### *Probate*

In all states and territories, probate issues are heard in supreme courts and encompass applications for the appointment of an executor or administrator to the estate of a deceased person. The two most common types of application are:

- where the executor nominated by a will applies to have the will proved
- where the deceased died intestate (without a will) and a person entitled to administer the estate applies for letters of administration.

#### *Children's courts*

Children's courts are specialist jurisdiction courts that, depending on the State or Territory legislation, may hear both criminal and civil matters.

Children's courts deal with complaints of offences alleged to have been committed by young people. In all states and territories except Queensland, defendants under the age of 18 are considered as children or juveniles. In Queensland, defendants are considered adults if aged 17 or older at the time the offence was committed. In all states and territories, children under the age of 10 years cannot be charged with a criminal offence (ABS 2007).

Children's courts may also hear matters where a child has been seriously abused or neglected. In these instances, the court has jurisdiction to determine matters relating to the child's care and protection.

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### *Electronic infringement and enforcement systems*

Electronic infringement and enforcement systems operate to process infringements, on-the-spot fines and summary offences. They have the status of courts (despite minimal judicial involvement), because they have the capacity to produce enforceable orders against defendants. The orders impose penalties such as fines (which may be enforced by warrants or licence cancellation), asset seizure, garnishment, arrest, community correction orders and incarceration.

Electronic infringement and enforcement systems included in the scope of this chapter operate in Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA. In these states, the electronic infringement and enforcement system comes under the ambit of the magistrates' courts, but the workload and expenditure of the electronic infringement and enforcement system have been separately identified to allow for a more comparable interpretation of magistrates' courts data. In other states and territories, the magistrates' courts may enforce infringements and on-the-spot fines, or State/Territory debt recovery offices and/or fines enforcement units may operate outside the auspices of a court.

Data for electronic infringement and enforcement systems are presented with criminal jurisdiction data in this chapter.

### *Coroners' courts*

In all states and territories, coroners' courts (which generally operate under the auspices of State and Territory magistrates' courts) inquire into the cause of sudden and/or unexpected reported deaths. The definition of a reported death differs across states and territories, but generally includes deaths for which the cause is violent, suspicious or unknown. In some states and territories, the coroner has the power to commit for hearing, while in others the coroner is prohibited from making any finding of criminal or civil liability (but may refer the matter to the Director of Public Prosecutions). Suspicious fires are generally within the jurisdiction of the coroners' courts (except in Queensland, WA, SA and the NT). Coroners' courts are distinct from other courts not only because they have a role in inquiring into the cause of sudden and unexpected deaths (and suspicious fires), but also because they have other functions, including reporting inadequacies in regulatory systems.

Data for coroners' courts are presented with civil jurisdiction data in this chapter.

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### *Australian court levels — specific elements*

The following hierarchy of courts exists for the Australian courts:

- the High Court of Australia
- the Federal Court of Australia and the Family Court of Australia
- the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia.

Data for the High Court are not published in this Report.

The following sections highlight the relationship between the other three Australian courts.

#### *Federal Court of Australia*

This court is a superior court of record and a court of law and equity. It sits in all capital cities and elsewhere in Australia from time to time.

The Federal Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine any civil matter arising under laws made by the Federal Parliament, as well as any matter arising under the Constitution or involving its interpretation. The Federal Court also has original jurisdiction in respect of specific subject matter conferred by over 150 statutes of the Federal Parliament.

The Federal Court has a substantial and diverse appellate jurisdiction. It hears appeals from decisions of single judges of the Federal Court, decisions of the Federal Magistrates Court in non-family law matters, decisions of the Supreme Court of Norfolk Island and certain decisions of State and Territory supreme courts exercising federal jurisdiction.

The Federal Court does not have a criminal jurisdiction.

#### *Family Court of Australia and Family Court of Western Australia*

The Family Court of Australia has jurisdiction in all states and territories except WA (which has its own Family Court). It has jurisdiction to deal with matrimonial cases and associated responsibilities, including divorce proceedings, financial issues and children's matters such as who the children will live with, spend time with and communicate with, as well as other specific issues relating to parental responsibilities. It can also deal with ex-nuptial cases involving children's matters. A practice direction was issued by the Family Court of Australia with agreement from the Federal Magistrates Court, that from November 2003 all divorce



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applications are to be lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. However, registrars of the Family Court of Australia, under delegated powers from the Federal Magistrates Court, still determine about 10 per cent of divorce applications lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. A small number of divorce applications are initiated in the Family Court of Australia when these arise within other proceedings before the Family Court of Australia. This practice direction does not affect the Family Court of WA. The Family Court of WA, unlike the federal family law courts, has an additional jurisdiction (since 2004) to deal with financial matters between parties that were in a de facto relationship. On 21 November 2008, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the *Family Law Amendment (De Facto Financial Matters And Other Measures) Act 2008*. This act confers jurisdiction on the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Magistrates Court to deal with financial matters between parties that were in a same sex or opposite sex de facto relationship. This jurisdiction will commence upon proclamation, which is expected to occur in March 2009.

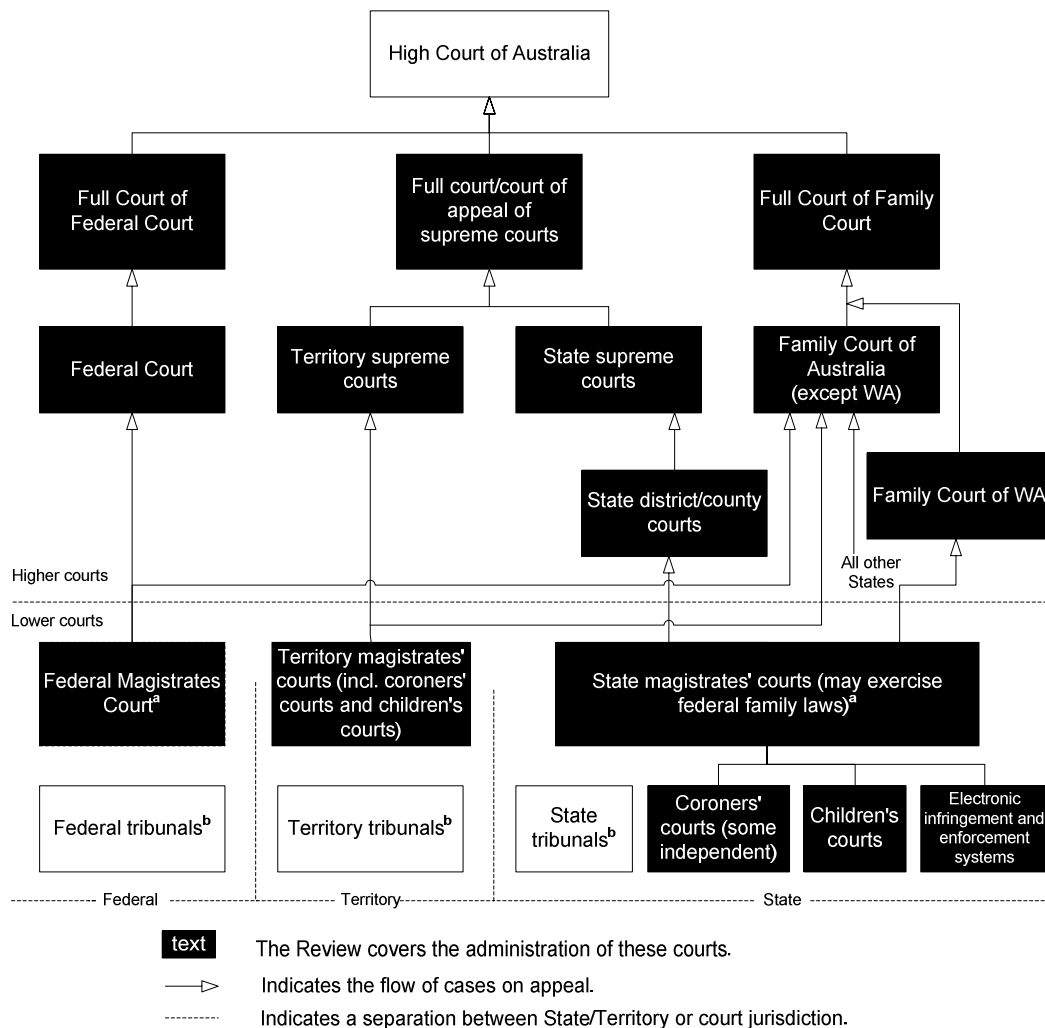
### *Federal Magistrates Court of Australia*

The first sittings of the Federal Magistrates Court were on 3 July 2000. The court was established to provide a simpler and more accessible service for litigants, and to ease the workloads of both the Federal Court and the Family Court of Australia. Its jurisdiction includes family law and child support, administrative law, admiralty, anti-terrorism, bankruptcy, copyright, human rights, migration, privacy and trade practices. State/Territory courts also continue to do some work in these areas.

The Federal Magistrates Court shares its jurisdiction with the Federal Court and the Family Court of Australia. The intention is for the latter two courts to focus on more complex legal matters. The Federal Magistrates Court hears most first instance judicial reviews of migration matters. In trade practices matters it can award damages up to \$750 000. In family law matters its jurisdiction is similar to that of the Family Court of Australia, except that only the Family Court of Australia can consider adoption disputes and applications concerning the nullity and validity of marriage. Otherwise, the Federal Magistrates Court has jurisdiction to hear any matter transferred to it by either the Federal Court or the Family Court of Australia.

The major relationships between, and hierarchy of, courts in Australia are summarised in figure 7.1.

Figure 7.1 Major relationships of courts in Australia<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup> In some jurisdictions, appeals from lower courts or district/county courts may go directly to the full court or court of appeal at the supreme/federal level; appeals from the Magistrates Court can also be heard by a single Judge exercising the Federal/Family Courts' appellate jurisdiction. <sup>b</sup> Appeals from federal, State and Territory tribunals may go to any higher court in their jurisdiction.

### Administrative structures

Most courts use similar infrastructure (such as court buildings and facilities) for the civil and criminal jurisdictions. However, separate information systems and case flow management practices have been established for civil and criminal case types. The Steering Committee has therefore sought to report the criminal and civil jurisdictions separately where possible.

The allocation of responsibilities between court administration and other elements of the system (including the judiciary) varies across the Australian, State and Territory legal systems.

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## Recurrent expenditure less income

A number of factors affect court-related expenditure and income, including the volume and type of work undertaken. In some jurisdictions, court fees (which are part of income) are set by government and not by court administrators, and some states and territories apportion, rather than allocate, expenditure (and income) between the criminal and civil jurisdictions of their courts.

Recurrent expenditure provides an estimate of annual service costs. Recurrent expenditure on court administration covers costs associated with the judiciary, court and probate registries, sheriff and bailiff's offices, court accommodation and other overheads. The components of the expenditure include salary and non-salary expenditure, court administration agency and umbrella department expenditure, and contract expenditure. Total recurrent expenditure by Australian, State and Territory court authorities (excluding the High Court and specialist jurisdiction courts — except for family courts, children's courts and coroners' courts) was \$1.44 billion in 2007-08 (table 7.1).

Court administration income is derived from court fees, library revenue, court reporting revenue, sheriff and bailiff revenue, probate revenue, mediation revenue, rental income and any other sources of revenue (excluding fines). Total income (excluding fines) for the Australian, State and Territory courts covered in this Report was \$363 million in 2007-08 (table 7.1).

Nationally, the civil jurisdiction of the courts reported the largest income, followed by the electronic infringement and enforcement systems (reported separately within the criminal jurisdiction). Income from electronic infringement and enforcement systems is reported for Victoria, Queensland, SA and WA. In other states and territories (NSW, the ACT, the NT and, from April 2008, Tasmania), unpaid traffic infringement notices may be dealt with by other bodies that do not have the status of a court (such as a State/Territory debt recovery office) and are therefore considered out of scope for this Report. This will have an impact on the income reported for these states and territories.

Total recurrent expenditure less income (excluding fines), for the Australian, State and Territory courts covered in this Report, was \$1.08 billion in 2007-08 (table 7.1). Expenditure exceeds income in all court jurisdictions except for electronic infringement and enforcement systems, and probate registries in the supreme courts. As reported in table 7.1, expenditure is relatively low on probate matters, as these are limited to uncontested matters that are dealt with by probate registrars (or other registry staff). Where a probate matter is contested, it is reported as part of supreme court data in the civil jurisdiction. Likewise, electronic infringement and enforcement system matters are dealt with by registry staff, unless contested, in which case the matter will generally be dealt with in the magistrates' courts.

**Table 7.1 Court administration recurrent expenditure less income (excluding fines), 2007-08 (\$ million)<sup>a, b</sup>**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts	Total
<i>Court administration recurrent expenditure</i>										
Civil courts <sup>c, d, e</sup>	154.3	95.1	53.1	59.6	29.3	5.1	9.9	9.3	105.5	521.3
Criminal courts <sup>f</sup>	188.5	134.4	105.6	97.2	49.8	14.1	9.6	17.3	..	616.5
Electronic systems	..	2.1	10.5	7.7	6.4	..	..	..	..	26.7
Family courts <sup>g</sup>	..	..	..	19.6	..	..	..	..	120.7	140.3
Federal Magistrates <sup>h</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77.8	77.8
Coroners' courts <sup>i</sup>	8.4	17.4	12.3	10.5	4.9	1.3	1.3	1.1	..	57.2
Probate — Supreme <sup>j</sup>	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.1	—	—	..	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>352.5</b>	<b>249.4</b>	<b>181.6</b>	<b>194.9</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>304.1</b>	<b>1442.9</b>
<i>Court administration income (excluding fines)</i>										
Civil courts <sup>c</sup>	66.0	29.9	14.4	12.8	9.4	1.5	2.2	0.5	11.5	148.2
Criminal courts <sup>f</sup>	13.2	0.1	1.4	4.5	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.1	..	21.1
Electronic systems	..	75.4	22.0	17.4	13.6	..	..	..	..	128.4
Family courts	..	..	..	3.6	..	..	..	..	6.6	10.1
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.6	19.6
Coroners' courts	0.2	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	..	0.3
Probate — Supreme	19.2	4.5	3.6	3.0	3.3	0.8	0.4	0.1	..	34.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>109.9</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>362.7</b>
<i>Court administration recurrent expenditure less income (excluding fines)</i>										
Civil courts <sup>c, d, e, k</sup>	88.3	65.2	38.7	46.8	19.9	3.6	7.7	8.8	94.0	373.1
Criminal courts <sup>f, k</sup>	175.3	134.3	104.2	92.8	48.8	13.7	9.0	17.3	..	595.4
Electronic systems	..	-73.2	-11.5	-9.7	-7.2	..	..	..	..	-101.7
Family courts <sup>g</sup>	..	..	..	16.0	..	..	..	..	114.2	130.2
Federal Magistrates <sup>h</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58.2	58.2
Coroners' courts <sup>i</sup>	8.2	17.4	12.2	10.5	4.9	1.3	1.3	1.1	..	56.9
Probate — Supreme <sup>j</sup>	-17.9	-4.2	-3.4	-2.8	-2.5	-0.7	-0.4	-0.1	..	-32.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>254.0</b>	<b>139.5</b>	<b>140.1</b>	<b>153.6</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>266.4</b>	<b>1080.1</b>

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not sum as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> Payroll tax is excluded from expenditure. <sup>c</sup> Includes data for the supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts (including children's courts), and the Federal Court. Excludes data for probate, family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and coroners' courts. <sup>d</sup> Data for the Federal Court do not include the cost of resources provided free of charge to the Federal Magistrates Court. <sup>e</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of expenditure from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>f</sup> Includes data for supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts (including children's courts). Excludes data for electronic infringement and enforcement systems. <sup>g</sup> The figures for the Family Court of Australia exclude, where possible, costs of resources provided free of charge to the Federal Magistrates Court, noting that some relevant resource costs cannot be reliably estimated for exclusion. <sup>h</sup> The Federal Magistrates Court expenditure data include resources received free of charge from the Federal Court and the Family Court. <sup>i</sup> The inclusion of expenditure for autopsy and chemical analysis work varies between states and territories. Queensland Coroners Court expenditure data includes the full costs of government assisted burials/cremations, autopsies performed by Government Medical Officers and legal fees incurred in briefing counsel assisting for inquests and costs of preparing matters of inquest, including the costs of obtaining independent expert reports. <sup>j</sup> The true net revenue may not be identified because rent or depreciation attributable to probate matters may be reported with data for supreme courts. <sup>k</sup> The increase in expenditure for WA civil and criminal courts in 2007-08 is primarily due to the increase in the actuarial assessment of the Judicial Pension scheme applicable to the Supreme Court and District Court. The methodology used to calculate expenses in relation to the Judicial Pension Scheme varies between states and therefore comparison should be made with caution. .. Not applicable. — Nil or rounded to zero.

(Continued on next page)

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**Table 7.1 (Continued)**

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.9–13.

Real recurrent expenditure less income (excluding fines) on court administration from 2003-04 to 2007-08, for each of the Australian, State and Territory court levels covered by this Report, is reported in tables 7A.12 and 7A.13.

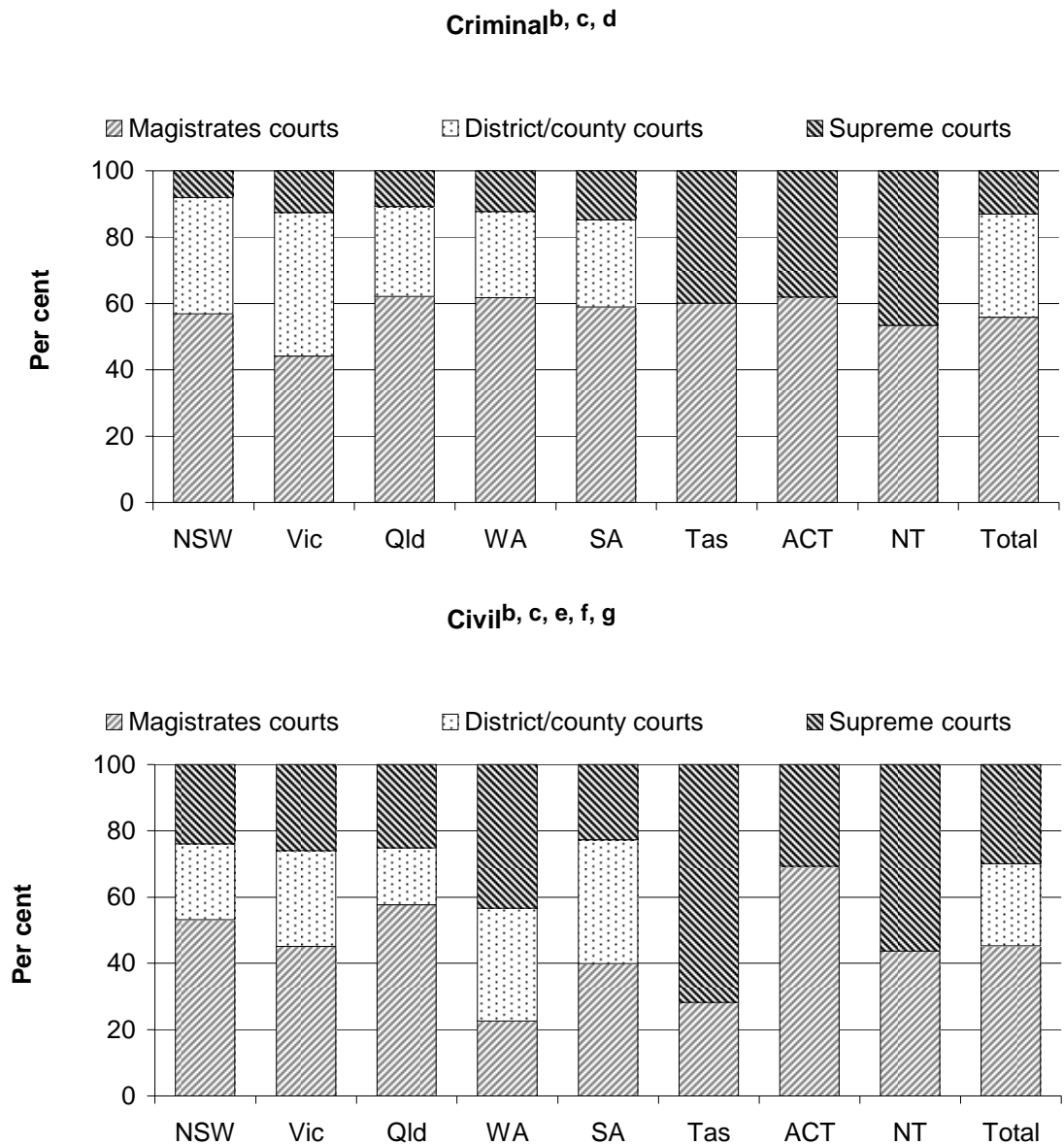
*Distribution of criminal and civil court administration expenditure*

The distribution of court administration expenditure (less income) on magistrates', district/county and supreme courts varied across states and territories in 2007-08. A greater proportion of funds were expended by the supreme courts of Tasmania, the ACT and the NT (under the two-tier court system), for example, than by the supreme courts of other states and territories (under the three-tier court system) (figure 7.2).

In 2007-08, magistrates' courts (excluding electronic infringement and enforcement systems) in the criminal jurisdiction accounted for the largest proportion nationally of recurrent expenditure (less income) across State and Territory criminal courts (55.9 per cent). In the civil jurisdiction, magistrates' courts accounted for a smaller proportion of recurrent expenditure (less income) nationally (45.3 per cent). The key difference between the civil and criminal jurisdictions comes from the proportionally greater recurrent expenditure (less income) in the supreme courts in the civil jurisdiction relative to the criminal jurisdiction (detail is contained in tables 7A.12 and 7A.13).

Comparison of court expenditure across states and territories should bear in mind the difficulty in apportioning income and expenditure between civil and criminal jurisdictions within court levels. The apportionments are determined within individual states and territories and different approaches to apportionment are used.

Figure 7.2 **Distribution of court administration recurrent expenditure (less income), by court level, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Payroll tax is excluded from expenditure. <sup>b</sup> There are no district/county courts in Tasmania, the ACT or the NT. <sup>c</sup> Magistrates' courts include expenditure on children's courts. <sup>d</sup> In the criminal jurisdiction, magistrates' courts data exclude expenditure on electronic infringement and enforcement systems (applicable to Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA). <sup>e</sup> In this figure, civil jurisdiction supreme courts expenditure is reduced by net proceeds from probate courts. <sup>f</sup> In the civil jurisdiction, magistrates' courts data exclude expenditure on coroners' courts (all states and territories). <sup>g</sup> The Australian courts are not included.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.12-13.

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## Size and scope of court activity

### *Lodgments*

Lodgments are matters initiated in the court system. Box 7.4 explains how lodgment data are collected for this chapter.

#### **Box 7.4 Explanation of lodgment data used in this chapter**

Lodgments reflect community demand for court services, such as dispute resolution and criminal justice. The different ways of counting a court's workload reflect the variety of work undertaken within the court system. The units of measurement of workload (or counting units) used within this chapter are:

- criminal courts — lodgment counts are based on the number of defendants
- civil and family courts — lodgment counts are based on the number of cases (except in children's courts where, if more than one child can be involved in an application, the counting unit is the number of children involved in the originating application)
- electronic infringement and enforcement systems — lodgment counts are based on the number of unpaid infringement notices
- coroners' courts — lodgment counts are based on the number of reported deaths (and, if relevant, reported fires).

Unless otherwise noted, the following types of lodgment are excluded from the criminal and/or civil lodgment data reported in this chapter:

- any lodgment that does not have a defendant element (such as applications for telephone taps etc.)
- extraordinary driver's licence applications
- bail procedures (including applications and review)
- directions
- warrants
- admissions matters (original applications to practise and mutual recognition matters)
- cross-claims
- secondary processes — for example, interlocutory matters, breaches of penalties (that is, bail, suspended sentences, probation)
- applications for default judgments (because the application is a secondary process).

*Source:* SCRGSP (2007), p. 6.2.

Table 7.2 (criminal) and table 7.3 (civil) outline the number of lodgments in 2007-08, by court level, for the Australian courts and for each State and Territory.

Nationally, in the criminal jurisdiction in 2007-08, there were 869 700 lodgments registered in the supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts, and approximately 2.1 million infringement notices processed in electronic infringement and enforcement systems (table 7.2).

**Table 7.2 Court lodgments — criminal, by court level, 2007-08 ('000)<sup>a</sup>**

	<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>Total</i>
Supreme <sup>b</sup>	0.5	0.7	1.9	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.4	5.6
District/county <sup>b, c</sup>	10.5	4.7	6.9	2.4	1.6	..	..	..	26.3
Magistrates' (total) <sup>c</sup>	195.7	170.7	201.8	115.2	75.4	59.5	6.5	13.0	837.8
<i>Magistrates' (only)</i>	183.4	154.7	190.9	104.4	68.0	57.5	5.9	12.0	776.8
<i>Children's</i>	12.3	16.0	10.9	10.8	7.4	2.0	0.6	1.0	61.0
<b>All criminal courts</b>	<b>206.7</b>	<b>176.1</b>	<b>210.7</b>	<b>118.2</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>869.7</b>
Elec. infringement and enforcement systems <sup>d, e</sup>	..	1 148.3	529.2	252.0	167.8	..	..	..	2 097.3

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> Queensland Supreme and District Court data for the number of originating criminal lodgments is based on a count of the number of defendants who had a Court Record entered on the computerised Case Management System in the financial year, it is not a count of the number of defendants committed to the Supreme/District Court for trial or sentencing. Data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 include some secondary processes in the count of defendants lodged, finalised and pending. <sup>c</sup> In Queensland, some Children's Court matters are heard in the District Court. As a result, the inclusion of all Children's Court matters in the Magistrates Court will lead to a slight overestimation of the Magistrates' Court total and an underestimation of the District Court total. <sup>d</sup> Only Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA have electronic infringement and enforcement systems. In other states and territories, unpaid traffic infringement notices may be dealt with by other bodies that do not have the status of a court (such as a State debt recovery office). <sup>e</sup> Excludes unpaid court fines. .. Not applicable.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.1.

Nationally, 628 800 cases were lodged in civil jurisdiction courts (excluding family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, coroners' and probate courts), comprising 619 300 cases in the State and Territory supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts, and 9500 cases in the Federal Court (table 7.3). In the states and territories, an additional 59 800 probate matters were lodged in the supreme courts.

In the Australian court jurisdiction, in addition to the 9500 cases lodged in the Federal Court, 84 200 matters were lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. Around 34 600 matters were filed in the family courts (nearly two thirds of these were filed in the Family Court of Australia and one third in the Family Court of WA).

In the coroners' courts, there were 21 200 reported deaths and fires. Reporting rates for deaths reported to a coroner varied across jurisdictions as a result of different reporting requirements. Deaths in institutions (such as nursing homes) of persons



suffering intellectual impairment of any kind, for example, must be reported in SA but not in other jurisdictions. Reporting requirements also vary for fires. Fires may be reported and investigated at the discretion of the coroner in NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT, but are excluded from the coroners' jurisdiction in Queensland, WA, SA and the NT. A disaggregation of coroners' courts data by reported deaths and fires is in table 7A.2.

**Table 7.3 Court lodgments — civil, by court level, 2007-08 ('000)<sup>a</sup>**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts	Total
Supreme (excl probate)/Federal	13.4	6.7	5.7	2.1	1.4	1.0	1.0	0.3	9.5	41.2
District/County	8.6	5.5	4.9	3.9	2.8	..	..	..	..	25.7
Magistrates' (total)	194.1	185.7	83.3	48.6	28.7	9.9	5.5	5.9	..	561.8
Magistrates' (only) <sup>b</sup>	185.7	180.4	79.5	47.0	27.6	9.6	5.4	5.8	..	540.9
Children's <sup>c, d, e</sup>	8.4	5.3	3.9	1.6	1.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	..	20.9
<b>All civil courts</b>	<b>216.2</b>	<b>197.9</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>628.8</b>
Family courts <sup>f</sup>	..	..	..	14.0	..	..	..	..	20.6	34.6
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84.2	84.2
Coroners' courts	6.5	5.4	3.5	1.8	1.9	0.5	1.3	0.3	..	21.2
Probate — Supreme	21.8	17.1	7.3	5.6	5.1	2.1	0.6	0.2	..	59.8

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of lodgments from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>c</sup> NSW lodgment data for children in the civil court are based on a count of each child listed in all new applications for care and protection, not just the originating application. <sup>d</sup> Queensland Children's Court data for civil cases is based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. <sup>e</sup> In the NT a perpetual file is held for each child, therefore additional applications are not lodged separately but as part of the original application. <sup>f</sup> Family Court of Australia data do not include instances where Family Court of Australia Registrars are given delegation to conduct Federal Magistrate Court divorce applications. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.2.

The number of lodgments per 100 000 people can be used to assist in understanding the comparative workload of a court in relation to the population size of the State or Territory. Tables 7A.3 and 7A.4 provide data on criminal and civil lodgments (per 100 000 people) respectively for each State and Territory.

### *Distribution of court lodgments*

The majority of both criminal and civil matters in Australia in 2007-08 were lodged in magistrates' courts (table 7.4). Although a greater proportion of criminal matters were lodged in district/county courts compared to supreme courts, the opposite was true for civil matters.

**Table 7.4 Distribution of court lodgments, by court level, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>**

	<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>Total</i>
<i>Criminal courts</i>										
Supreme	%	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.4	1.2	5.7	3.0	0.6
District/county <sup>b</sup>	%	5.1	2.7	3.3	2.0	2.1	..	..	..	3.0
Magistrates' (total) <sup>b</sup>	%	94.6	96.9	95.8	97.5	97.4	98.8	92.9	97.0	96.3
<b>All criminal courts<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>'000</b>	<b>206.7</b>	<b>176.1</b>	<b>210.7</b>	<b>118.1</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>869.6</b>
<i>Civil courts</i>										
Supreme <sup>d</sup>	%	6.2	3.4	6.1	4.0	4.3	9.1	15.4	4.8	5.1
District/county	%	4.0	2.8	5.2	7.1	8.5	..	..	..	4.1
Magistrates' (total) <sup>e</sup>	%	89.8	93.8	88.6	88.8	87.5	90.0	84.6	95.2	90.7
<b>All civil courts<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>'000</b>	<b>216.2</b>	<b>197.9</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>619.3</b>

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> In Queensland, some children's courts matters are heard in district courts. As a result, the inclusion of all children's courts matters in magistrates' courts data will lead to a slight overestimation of the magistrates' courts total and an underestimation of the district courts total. <sup>c</sup> Excludes electronic infringement and enforcement systems (Victoria, Queensland, WA, SA). <sup>d</sup> Excludes probate matters. <sup>e</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of lodgments from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>f</sup> Excludes data for the Federal Court, family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, and coroners' courts. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.1-2.

## Finalisations

Finalisations represent the completion of matters in the court system. Each lodgment can be finalised only once. Matters may be finalised by adjudication, transfer, or another non-adjudicated method (such as withdrawal of a matter by the prosecution, or settlement by the parties).

Tables 7.5 (criminal) and 7.6 (civil) outline the number of finalisations in 2007-08, by court level, for the Australian courts and each State and Territory. Lodgments need not equal finalisations in any given year, because not all matters lodged in one year will be finalised in the same year.

In 2007-08, there were: 883 300 criminal finalisations in the supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts; and approximately 1.8 million infringement notices finalised through electronic infringement and enforcements systems (table 7.5).

Nationally, in 2007-08, 615 400 cases were finalised in the civil jurisdiction (excluding family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, coroners' and probate courts), comprising 599 400 civil cases finalised in State and Territory supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts, and 9000 cases finalised in the Federal Court. In addition, the Federal Magistrates Court finalised 82 700 matters (mainly

family law forms plus some federal law cases) and the two family courts finalised 36 700 matters. The Family Court of WA processes a mixture of work that includes elements of the work dealt with by the different federal courts. There were around 19 900 finalisations (involving reported deaths and fires) in coroners' courts (table 7.6).

**Table 7.5 Court finalisations — criminal, 2007-08 ('000)<sup>a</sup>**

	<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>Total</i>
Supreme	0.5	0.7	1.9	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.4	5.1
District/County <sup>b</sup>	10.6	4.5	7.2	2.7	1.7	..	..	..	26.7
Magistrates' (total) <sup>b</sup>	190.6	173.8	198.4	126.6	82.4	60.9	6.3	12.6	851.5
Magistrates' (only)	178.5	156.3	187.4	114.7	74.8	59.3	5.7	11.7	788.4
Children's	12.1	17.4	10.9	11.9	7.6	1.6	0.6	0.9	63.1
<b>All criminal courts</b>	<b>201.7</b>	<b>179.0</b>	<b>207.5</b>	<b>129.9</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>883.5</b>
Elec. infringement and enforcement systems <sup>c, d</sup>	..	938.3	459.0	249.8	166.7	..	..	..	1 813.8

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> In Queensland, some children's courts matters are heard in district courts. As a result, the inclusion of all children's courts matters in the magistrates courts will lead to a slight overestimation of magistrates courts total and an underestimation of district courts total. District Court civil files are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of civil data for 2007-08. <sup>c</sup> Only Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA have electronic infringement and enforcement systems. In other jurisdictions, unpaid traffic infringement notices may be dealt with by other bodies that do not have the status of a court (such as a State debt recovery office). Lodgment data for electronic infringement and enforcement systems exclude unpaid court fines. <sup>d</sup> WA electronic infringement and enforcement system finalisation data include all adjudicated finalisations except those where a time to pay arrangement has been entered into, but is not yet complete. .. Not applicable.

*Source:* State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.5.

**Table 7.6 Court finalisations — civil, 2007-08 ('000)<sup>a</sup>**

	<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 courts</i>	<i>Total</i>
Supreme <sup>b</sup> /Federal	14.2	8.0	5.7	2.3	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.3	9.0	43.0
District/County <sup>b</sup>	8.5	5.5	4.8	3.8	3.1	..	..	..	..	25.6
Magistrates' (total)	181.0	180.8	85.2	47.6	31.2	10.5	5.1	5.6	..	546.9
Magistrates' (only) <sup>c</sup>	173.7	176.0	81.6	46.0	30.1	10.1	5.0	5.4	..	527.9
Children's <sup>d</sup>	7.3	4.8	3.6	1.6	1.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	..	19.0
<b>All civil courts</b>	<b>203.7</b>	<b>194.2</b>	<b>95.7</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>615.3</b>
Family courts <sup>e, f</sup>	..	..	..	12.8	..	..	..	..	24.1	36.9
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82.7	82.7
Coroners' courts	6.4	4.2	3.7	1.6	1.8	0.5	1.3	0.3	..	19.9

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> Supreme courts data exclude finalisations of uncontested probate cases. Supreme and District Court civil files are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of civil data for 2007-08. <sup>c</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of finalisations from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>d</sup> Queensland children's courts data for civil cases are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. <sup>e</sup> Family Court of Australia data do not include instances where its Registrars: are given delegation to conduct Federal Magistrates Court divorce applications; or accept settlement agreements while conducting conferences on Federal Magistrates Court matters. <sup>f</sup> The Family Court of Australia does not deem a matter finalised even if it has not had a court event for at least 12 months as this is not consistent with its case management practices. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities/departments (unpublished); table 7A.6.

The number of finalisations per 100 000 people is available in tables 7A.7 and 7A.8.

## 7.2 Framework of performance indicators

The framework of performance indicators is based on common objectives for court administration services across Australia (box 7.5). The emphasis placed on each objective may vary across states and territories and court level.

### Box 7.5 Objectives for court administration

Objectives for court administration are:

- to be open and accessible
- to process matters in an expeditious and timely manner
- to provide due process and equal protection before the law
- to be independent yet publicly accountable for performance.

In addition, all governments aim to provide court administration services in an efficient manner.

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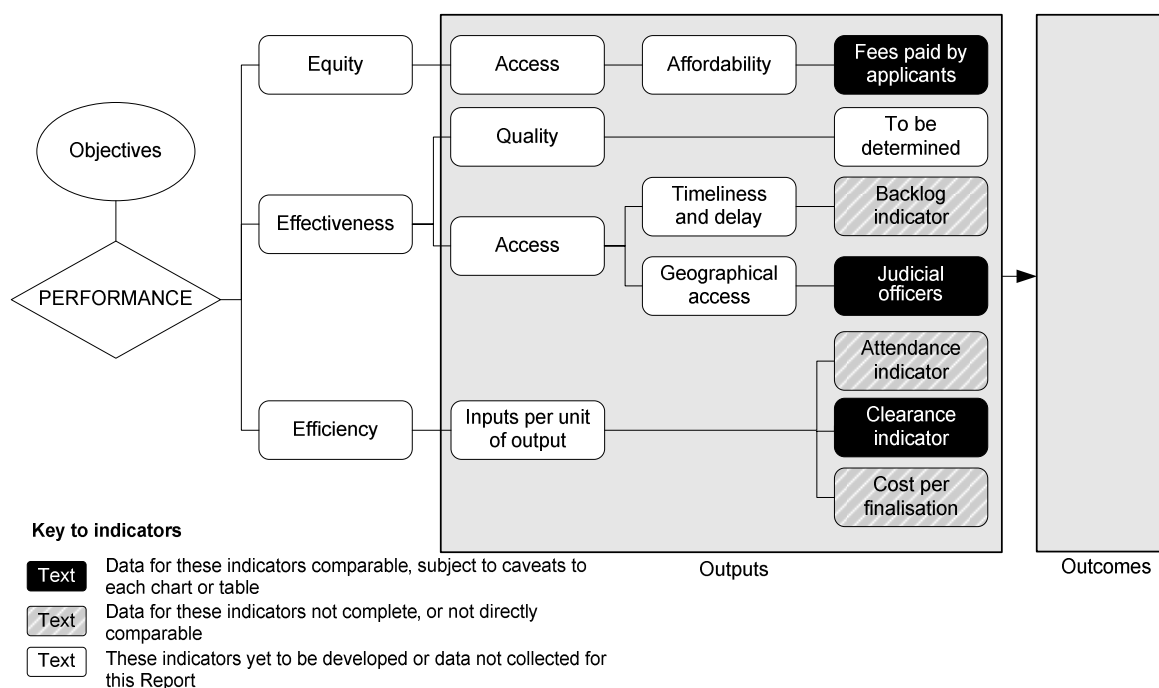
## The performance indicator framework

The performance indicator framework is shown in figure 7.3. For all data, the text includes relevant caveats and supporting commentary. Indicators that are considered comparable are only comparable subject to the caveats and footnotes accompanying the definition of the indicator, and tables of indicator results. Chapter 1 discusses data comparability from a Report-wide perspective (see section 1.6).

Each indicator in the framework is briefly described below, while more information about each indicator can be found in relevant text boxes that are provided with the performance indicator results in section 7.3:

- *fees paid by applicants* — an indicator of the average court fees paid per lodgment (box 7.6)
- *backlog indicator* — an indicator of case processing timeliness that relates the age (in elapsed time) of a court’s pending caseload against time standards (box 7.8)
- *judicial officers* — an indicator that represents the availability of resources (that is, the number of officers who can make enforceable orders of the court) (box 7.11)
- *attendance indicator* — an efficiency indicator derived from the average number of attendances required to reach finalisation for all cases finalised during the year (box 7.12)
- *clearance rate* — an indicator showing whether the volume of case finalisations has matched the volume of case lodgments during the reporting period. It indicates whether a court’s pending caseload has increased or decreased over that period (box 7.13)
- *cost per finalisation* — an efficiency indicator derived by dividing the total net recurrent expenditure within each court for the financial year by the total number of finalisations for the same period (box 7.14).

**Figure 7.3 Performance indicator framework for court administration**



As shown in figure 7.3, all of the indicators reported in this chapter are output indicators. Outputs are the actual services delivered, while outcomes are the impact of these services on the status of an individual or group (see chapter 1, section 1.5). To date, no specific outcome indicators have been identified for court administration. The activities of court administrators lead to broader outcomes within the overall justice system that are not readily addressed by this service specific chapter.

### 7.3 Key performance indicator results

Different delivery locations, caseloads, casemixes and government policies may affect the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of court administration services. The allocation of cases to different courts also differs across states and territories and Australian courts. Performance comparison needs to account for these factors. In addition to the material in boxes 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3, appendix A — the statistical appendix — contains detailed statistics and short profiles on each State and Territory, and other data which may assist in interpreting the performance indicators presented in this chapter.

The court administration data collection is based on national counting rules, so data presented in this chapter may differ from data published by individual jurisdictions

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in their annual reports. There also may be differences from the data reported in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Criminal Courts publication (ABS 2007).

The Steering Committee focuses on providing the best available data in a timely fashion. Jurisdictions, when signing off the data, acknowledge that the data have been supplied according to the nationally agreed counting rules. Where a jurisdiction advises that it has diverged from these counting rules, this divergence is appropriately footnoted in the table and surrounding text.

The Steering Committee recognises that this collection (unlike some other data collections) does not have an intermediary data collector or validator akin to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare or the ABS. The reporting process in this chapter is one of continual improvement and refinement, with the long term aim of developing a national data collection that covers court administration activities across the Australian, State and Territory jurisdictions in a timely and comparable way.

## Outputs

Outputs are the actual services delivered (while outcomes are the impact of these services on the status of an individual or group) (see chapter 1, section 1.5).

### *Equity — fees paid by applicants*

A description of this indicator is contained in box 7.6.

**Box 7.6 Fees paid by applicants**

'Fees paid by applicants' is an indicator of the average court fees paid per lodgment.

It is derived by dividing the total court fees collected by the number of lodgments in a year.

Court fees largely relate to civil cases. Providing court administration service quality is held constant, lower court fees help keep courts accessible.

It is important to note that court fees are only part of the costs faced by litigants (with legal fees being more significant).

In 2007-08, average court fees paid per lodgment were greater in supreme courts than in district/county and magistrates' courts (table 7.7). This was consistent across all jurisdictions.

**Table 7.7 Average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 (dollars)<sup>a</sup>**

	<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 courts</i>	<i>Total<sup>b</sup></i>
Supreme (excl probate)/Federal	1 722	1 175	509	1 564	1 399	493	988	658	1 031	1 230
District/county	1 109	1 010	495	771	625	..	..	..	..	867
Magistrates' (total) <sup>c</sup>	140	80	98	87	116	66	56	48	..	105
<i>Magistrates' (only)</i>	146	83	103	90	120	69	57	49	..	109
<i>Children's</i>	–	..	–	–	3	..	..	..	..	–
Family courts <sup>d</sup>	..	..	..	153	..	..	..	..	55	95
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	207	207
Probate — Supreme	881	264	485	545	642	359	645	923	..	584

<sup>a</sup> Some jurisdictions charge corporations twice the amount individuals are charged, therefore the average fees do not always represent the charge to individuals. <sup>b</sup> Totals are derived for each court level in the table by dividing the total fees for that court level by the lodgments for that court level. <sup>c</sup> The Victorian Magistrates Court fees include fees paid through the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal. <sup>d</sup> Many of the Family Court of Australia's applications do not attract a fee. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.16.

The average fees collected by the Australian, State and Territory courts vary for many reasons and caution should be used in making direct comparisons.

The level of cost recovery from the collection of court fees varied across court levels and across jurisdictions in 2007-08 (table 7.8). Nationally, for the states and territories in total, the proportion of costs recovered via court fees was greatest for magistrates' courts, followed by district/county courts and then supreme courts. Cost recovery was lowest in the children's courts and in the Family Court of Australia — where many applications do not attract a fee.



**Table 7.8 Civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil recurrent expenditure (cost recovery), 2007-08 (per cent)<sup>a, b</sup>**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts	Total
Supreme <sup>c</sup> /Federal	38.6	28.0	18.9	13.1	21.4	15.2	26.6	3.5	9.3	19.8
District/County	33.6	24.0	28.6	16.6	20.0	..	..	..	..	25.6
Magistrates' (total) <sup>d</sup>	41.2	33.9	27.9	26.5	28.1	38.0	5.1	7.0	..	33.0
<i>Magistrates' (only)</i> <sup>d</sup>	46.9	39.2	32.5	27.9	30.1	38.5	5.6	7.1	..	37.3
<i>Children's</i>	–	..	–	–	0.4	..	..	..	..	–
Family courts <sup>e</sup>	..	..	..	11.0	..	..	..	..	0.9	2.3
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.4	22.4

<sup>a</sup> Recurrent expenditure excludes payroll tax. <sup>b</sup> Some jurisdictions charge corporations twice the amount individuals are charged, therefore the average fees do not always represent the charge to individuals.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes probate costs. <sup>d</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court fees include civil and criminal court fees paid through the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal. <sup>e</sup> Many of the Family Court of Australia's applications do not attract a fee. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.15.

### *Effectiveness — quality*

The Steering Committee has identified quality as an important measure of court administration performance (box 7.7).

#### **Box 7.7 Indicators of quality**

Indicators of quality for court administration have not yet been identified. The perceptions of court users about the quality of the services delivered by courts may be strongly influenced by the outcomes of judicial decisions (which are not the subject of this chapter). Isolating perceptions of the quality of court administration may be difficult.

### *Effectiveness — backlog indicator*

The backlog indicator is an indicator of case processing timeliness, described in box 7.8. This indicator compares the age (in elapsed time) of a court's pending caseload against nominated time standards. Pending counts are taken at 30 June each year and, at the same time, an age analysis of the pending caseload is undertaken against the time standards.

Results can be affected by the complexity and distribution of cases, which may vary across court levels within each State and Territory and the Australian courts (boxes 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3). Additionally, Tasmania, the ACT and the NT have a two-tier court system (that is, they do not have a district/county court level),

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whereas the other states and territories have a three-tier court system. This difference needs to be taken into account when comparing the results of the backlog indicator.

Case processing timeliness, and the age of the pending workload, can also be affected by delays caused by factors outside the direct control of court administration.

**Box 7.8 Backlog indicator**

The 'backlog indicator' is an indicator of case processing timeliness.

It is derived by comparing the age (in elapsed time) of a court's pending caseload against time standards.

The following national standards have been set:

The Federal Magistrates Court, magistrates' and children's courts:

- no more than 10 per cent of lodgments pending completion are to be more than 6 months old
- no lodgments pending completion are to be more than 12 months old.

Supreme courts, the Federal Court, district/county, family and coroners' courts and all appeals:

- no more than 10 per cent of lodgments pending completion are to be more than 12 months old
- no lodgments pending completion are to be more than 24 months old.

Performance relative to the timeliness standards indicates effective management of caseloads, and court accessibility.

Time taken to process cases is not necessarily court administration delay. Some delays are caused by factors other than those related to the workload of the court (for example, a witness being unavailable).

Data on the backlog indicator for criminal matters are contained in table 7.9. In the criminal jurisdiction, those defendants who failed to appear when required and had warrants issued have been excluded from the pending caseload count.

Table 7.9 **Backlog indicator — all criminal matters, as at 30 June 2008**

	<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>
<b>Higher<sup>a, b</sup> — appeal</b>									
Pending caseload	no.	1 612	1 435	483	144	90	13	65	6
cases > 12 mths	%	2.8	12.8	22.6	5.6	2.2	—	3.1	—
cases > 24 mths	%	0.2	2.9	2.3	2.1	1.1	—	—	—
<b>Higher<sup>a, b</sup> — non-appeal<sup>c</sup></b>									
Pending caseload	no.	1 853	2 507	2 559	1 074	1 307	307	296	109
cases > 12 mths	%	9.5	27.8	18.8	19.3	25.9	7.8	24.0	4.6
cases > 24 mths	%	1.1	6.0	7.8	3.6	7.1	3.6	5.1	0.9
<b>Supreme<sup>b</sup> — appeal</b>									
Pending caseload	no.	210	489	172	144	90	13	65	6
cases > 12 mths	%	6.2	19.4	1.7	5.6	2.2	—	3.1	—
cases > 24 mths	%	1.0	2.7	0.6	2.1	1.1	—	—	—
<b>Supreme<sup>b</sup> — non-appeal<sup>c</sup></b>									
Pending caseload	no.	105	166	436	102	49	307	296	109
cases > 12 mths	%	29.5	33.7	14.4	8.8	26.5	7.8	24.0	4.6
cases > 24 mths	%	2.9	10.2	4.6	—	8.2	3.6	5.1	0.9
<b>District/County<sup>b</sup> — appeal<sup>d</sup></b>									
Pending caseload	no.	1 402	946	311	..	..	..	..	..
cases > 12 mths	%	2.3	9.4	34.1	..	..	..	..	..
cases > 24 mths	%	0.1	3.0	3.2	..	..	..	..	..
<b>District/County<sup>b</sup> — non-appeal</b>									
Pending caseload	no.	1 748	2 341	2 123	972	1 258	..	..	..
cases > 12 mths	%	8.3	27.4	19.6	20.4	25.9	..	..	..
cases > 24 mths	%	1.0	5.7	8.4	4.0	7.1	..	..	..
<b>Magistrates'</b>									
Pending caseload	no.	19 617	34 701	36 151	11 488	21 197	14 400	1 611	2 667
cases > 6 mths	%	11.2	24.4	29.5	22.8	29.1	28.1	17.8	36.9
cases > 12 mths	%	2.1	7.2	16.1	8.6	12.4	12.0	6.3	33.7
<b>Children's</b>									
Pending caseload	no.	1 766	5 591	2 374	1 789	1 918	940	194	243
cases > 6 mths	%	11.7	13.8	30.0	21.0	21.6	28.6	13.4	18.9
cases > 12 mths	%	1.4	2.9	14.6	7.3	7.5	9.1	2.6	16.5

<sup>a</sup> Higher refers to supreme and district/county courts combined. <sup>b</sup> In NSW, the criminal casemix of the Supreme Court is principally murder and manslaughter cases and therefore not directly comparable with supreme courts in other states and territories. <sup>c</sup> Queensland supreme and district courts data in respect to the age of pending non-appeal cases are calculated based on the date the Court Record was entered on the computerised Case Management System in the supreme or district court, not the committal order date in the magistrates' courts. <sup>d</sup> There is no criminal appellate jurisdiction in the district courts in WA or SA. All criminal appeals from magistrates' courts go directly to supreme courts in these states. .. Not applicable. — Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.17.

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The age of the pending workload and civil case processing timeliness can be affected by several factors (box 7.9).

**Box 7.9 Civil timeliness factors**

The following factors may affect the timeliness of case processing in the civil courts:

- where civil cases are contested, a single case may involve several related applications or issues that require judgments and decisions by the court
- the parties to a case can significantly affect the conduct and timeliness of a case — that is, matters often may be adjourned at the instigation of, and by the consent of, the parties — such consent arrangements are outside the control of the court
- the court may employ case management or other dispute resolution processes (for example, mediation) that are alternatives to formal adjudication
- an inactive case is regarded as finalised (or closed) one year after the last action on the case (as per the rules for this data collection).

The age of the pending caseload and case processing timeliness in criminal cases (and for some civil cases) can also be affected by orders or programs that are initiated following a court lodgment, but prior to a court finalisation. These programs or orders are commonly referred to as diversion programs and are outlined in more detail in box 7.10.

Different case completion times in the civil jurisdiction of the states and territories generally reflect different case flow management practices, the individual needs of cases, and the priority given to criminal matters.

Data for the backlog indicator for civil matters are contained in table 7.10. In the civil jurisdiction, those lodgments that have not been acted upon in the past 12 months are counted as finalised for the purpose of this Report, the aim being to focus on those matters that are part of an ‘active pending’ population. Some courts (for example, the Australian courts) proactively manage all their civil cases and apply this deeming rule to very few, if any, cases.

**Box 7.10 Diversion programs and the impact on timeliness**

Courts offer diversion programs to improve the quality of outcomes within the justice system and for the community generally. Diversion programs can involve processes that are outside the control of court administration. The period between lodgment and finalisation can be affected by those processes.

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**Box 7.10 (Continued)**

Within the criminal justice system, diversion programs are usually focussed on rehabilitation for the defendant and/or restoration for the victim. They are most often (but not exclusively) used in magistrates' courts, and usually are voluntary. Examples include:

- referral of defendants to drug programs (from counselling through to treatment programs) — available in all states and territories except Tasmania
- referral of defendants to a mental health court (Queensland and SA) or for various mental health assessments (NSW, WA and the ACT)
- referral of defendants to a family violence court (WA and SA) for participation in targeted programs
- referral of defendants to an Indigenous court or Circle Sentencing program (NSW, Victoria, Queensland, SA and the ACT). WA commenced piloting this program in November 2006. Evaluation of this program will commence in November 2008.

The processes listed above can range in completion times between one week and seven years. With some diversion programs, success will delay finalisation significantly. For example, some drug court programs can require compliance for 12 months or longer before the defendant is considered to have completed the program.

Within the civil justice system, diversion programs can be a quicker and cheaper form of dispute resolution. Examples include:

- mediation — referrals can be made at any time during the proceedings. A court may require parties to complete a mediation program within a specified time, or can consider the timeframe to be 'open-ended' (for example, referrals to the Native Title Tribunal). Completion time can also be affected by the complexity of the dispute and the number of parties involved, and can therefore vary significantly from case to case. Usually all parties consent to use mediation, but in some states parties can be ordered to mediate their dispute
- arbitration — referrals are usually made early in the proceedings and the court supervises the process. The hearing is shorter than a court hearing. Participation can be voluntary or by order
- reference to a referee — technical issues arising in proceedings may be referred to suitably qualified experts (referees) for inquiry and report. The court supervises the process and may adopt, vary or reject the report.

Success at mediation (settlement of the case) or at arbitration (acceptance of the arbitrator's award) generally finalises cases earlier than if finalised by trial and judgment. Where the mediation or arbitration is unsuccessful, the delaying effect on finalisation is highly variable.

Table 7.10 **Backlog indicator — all civil matters, as at 30 June 2008**

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts
<b>Higher<sup>a</sup> — appeal</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	638	405	186	193	55	67	51	27	407
cases > 12 mths	%	11.8	26.4	17.2	34.2	10.9	19.4	13.7	18.5	6.6
cases > 24 mths	%	1.7	7.7	2.2	6.7	—	—	3.9	7.4	2.2
<b>Higher (excl probate)<sup>a</sup> — non-appeal<sup>b</sup></b>										
Pending caseload	no.	14 120	9 612	9 420	4 706	3 728	1 042	1 541	184	4 000
cases > 12 mths	%	27.5	20.4	24.3	29.4	40.8	33.3	46.1	49.5	35.0
cases > 24 mths	%	10.0	7.0	6.2	14.8	20.0	9.5	23.4	29.9	20.6
<b>Supreme/Federal — appeal<sup>a</sup></b>										
Pending caseload	no.	613	348	76	131	46	67	51	27	407
cases > 12 mths	%	12.2	26.7	—	42.0	13.0	19.4	13.7	18.5	6.6
cases > 24 mths	%	1.8	8.6	—	6.1	—	—	3.9	7.4	2.2
<b>Supreme (excl probate)/Federal — non-appeal<sup>b</sup></b>										
Pending caseload	no.	7 083	3 914	5 042	1 972	682	1 042	1 541	184	4 000
cases > 12 mths	%	26.0	9.1	26.0	36.3	30.2	33.3	46.1	49.5	35.0
cases > 24 mths	%	12.2	3.9	7.3	20.2	15.0	9.5	23.4	29.9	20.6
<b>District/county — appeal</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	25	57	110	62	9	..	..	..	..
cases > 12 mths	%	—	7.0	29.1	17.7	—	..	..	..	..
cases > 24 mths	%	—	1.8	3.6	8.1	—	..	..	..	..
<b>District/county — non-appeal</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	7 037	5 698	4 378	2 734	3 046	..	..	..	..
cases > 12 mths	%	29.0	28.2	22.4	24.5	43.1	..	..	..	..
cases > 24 mths	%	7.9	9.2	4.9	10.9	21.1	..	..	..	..
<b>Magistrates<sup>c, d</sup></b>										
Pending caseload	no.	na	16 151	34 598	24 381	13 830	4 629	2 169	514	..
cases > 6 mths	%	na	23.4	42.4	34.9	42.4	32.0	37.2	54.3	..
cases > 12 mths	%	na	11.1	6.6	5.3	10.1	3.7	7.5	40.1	..
<b>Family courts — appeal</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	22	..	..	..	..	216
cases > 12 mths	%	..	..	..	40.9	..	..	..	..	24.54
cases > 24 mths	%	..	..	..	22.7	..	..	..	..	18.5
<b>Family courts — non-appeal<sup>e</sup></b>										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	12 239	..	..	..	..	6 160
cases > 12 mths	%	..	..	..	44.9	..	..	..	..	27.8
cases > 24 mths	%	..	..	..	18.9	..	..	..	..	9.9
<b>Federal Magistrates</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26 545
cases > 6 mths	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33.5
cases > 12 mths	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.2
<b>Coroners' courts</b>										
Pending caseload	no.	2 602	4 295	2 158	1 459	1 777	222	230	341	..
cases > 12 mths	%	20.5	28.0	25.5	29.5	24.6	24.8	35.7	21.7	..
cases > 24 mths	%	10.0	10.6	9.6	6.2	4.9	6.8	19.1	7.3	..

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**Table 7.10 (Continued)**

<sup>a</sup> Higher refers to State and Territory supreme and district/county courts combined, and includes the Federal Court. The percentage in backlog for the WA Court of Appeal is high because the numbers in backlog are measured as a percentage against significantly reduced numbers in the total civil appeal pending list. (see the clearance rate in table 7.16). <sup>b</sup> Non-appeal matters for the Federal Court include a significant number of Native Title matters which by nature are both long and complex. <sup>c</sup> Excludes children's courts. <sup>d</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of pending caseload from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>e</sup> The Family Court of Australia does not 'deem' a matter finalised even if it has not had a court event for at least 12 months because of its case management practices. Therefore some matters may be affected by proceedings in other courts and are counted as pending but are currently inactive. **na** Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.18.

### *Effectiveness — judicial officers*

This indicator relates access to the number of judicial officers available to deal with cases. It reports the number of judicial officers available to deal with cases, in relation to population size (box 7.11).

#### **Box 7.11 Judicial officers**

'Judicial officers' is an indicator that represents the availability of resources.

Judicial officers are officers who can make enforceable orders of the court. For the purposes of this chapter, the definition of a judicial officer includes:

- judges
- magistrates
- masters
- coroners
- judicial registrars
- all other officers who, following argument and giving of evidence, make enforceable orders of the court.

Numbers are expressed in full time equivalent terms and based on the proportion of time spent on judicial functions. They are also presented in comparison to the population of each jurisdiction.

A higher proportion of judicial officers in the population indicates potentially greater access to the judicial system. Factors such as geographical dispersion, judicial workload and population density are also important to consider when comparing figures concerning judicial officers.

The number of full time equivalent judicial officers for each court level is outlined in table 7.11. In all State and Territory jurisdictions with a three-tier system, there were more judicial officers in magistrates' courts than in district/county courts, and

(apart from WA) more officers in the district/county courts than in the supreme courts.

**Table 7.11 Judicial officers, full time equivalent, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts	Total
Supreme/Federal	63.4	44.0	25.7	31.1	14.0	6.8	6.3	7.9	65.0	264.1
District/County	67.0	51.8	32.9	28.5	20.3	..	..	..	..	200.5
Magistrates <sup>b</sup>	111.0	125.0	63.8	46.0	36.3	11.4	5.6	12.1	..	411.2
Children's	17.5	10.0	5.9	5.1	4.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	..	45.1
Family courts <sup>c</sup>	..	..	..	14.6	..	..	..	..	41.0	55.6
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52.0	52.0
Coroners' courts	5.0	7.0	7.8	2.0	2.1	0.4	0.3	1.5	..	26.1
<b>Total<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>263.9</b>	<b>237.8</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>127.3</b>	<b>76.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>158.0</b>	<b>1 054.6</b>

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding. <sup>b</sup> Data for Victoria include a proportion of judicial officers from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>c</sup> Family Court of Australia figures include FCoA judges assigned to the Full Court Appeals division. <sup>d</sup> Excludes electronic infringement and enforcement systems as they do not have open court sittings and therefore do not require judicial officers. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration departments (unpublished); table 7A.20.

Table 7.12 shows the number of judicial officers per 100 000 people.

**Table 7.12 Judicial officers, full time equivalent, per 100 000 people, 2007-08**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts <sup>a</sup>	Total <sup>b</sup>
<i>Population ('000)<sup>c, d</sup></i>	6 927	5 246	4 228	2 131	1 592	496	341	218	..	21 181
<i>Judicial officers per 100 000 people</i>										
Supreme/Federal	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.9	1.4	1.8	3.6	0.3	1.2
District/County	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.3	..	..	..	..	0.9
Magistrates <sup>e</sup>	1.6	2.4	1.5	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.6	5.6	..	1.9
Children's	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	..	0.2
Family courts <sup>f</sup>	..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.3
Federal Magistrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.2
Coroners' courts	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	..	0.1
<b>Total<sup>g</sup></b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> The Australian courts results have been derived using the total population figure for Australia. <sup>b</sup> Totals are derived by dividing the total number of judicial FTE at each court level by the Australian population (per 100 000). <sup>c</sup> Population total for Australia includes 'Other territories'. <sup>d</sup> Population data for the financial year is the midpoint (i.e. 31 December) estimate. <sup>e</sup> Data for the Victorian Magistrates' Court include a proportion of judicial officers from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>f</sup> Family Court of Australia figures include FCoA judges assigned to the Full Court Appeals division. <sup>g</sup> Excludes electronic infringement and enforcement systems as they do not have open court sittings and therefore do not require judicial officers. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration departments (unpublished); table 7A.20. Population figures from statistical appendix Table AA.2.



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## Efficiency — attendance indicator

The Steering Committee has identified the number of court attendances required to reach finalisation as an indicator of efficiency in the courts (box 7.12). Attendance data can be difficult to collect. Due to system limitations, some jurisdictions supply data on listed hearings rather than actual attendances in court.

### Box 7.12 Attendance indicator

The 'attendance indicator' is an indicator where court attendances act as a proxy for input costs. Alternative efficiency indicators are under development.

The number of attendances is the number of times that parties or their representatives are required to be present in court to be heard by a judicial officer or mediator/arbitrator where binding orders can be made. The number includes appointments that are adjourned or rescheduled.

The attendance indicator is presented simply as the average number of attendances required to reach finalisation for all cases finalised during the year (no matter when the attendance occurred).

Fewer attendances may suggest a more efficient process. However, this should be balanced against the argument that the number of attendances will increase if rehabilitation or diversionary programs are used, or if intensive case management is used. Both these aspects are believed to improve the quality of outcomes:

- rehabilitation and diversionary programs aim to provide therapeutic benefits for the offenders, and benefits of reduced recidivism for the community
- intensive case management is believed to maximise the prospects of settlement (and thereby reduce the litigant's costs, the number of cases queuing for hearing, and the flow of work on to appellate courts), or, alternatively, to narrow the issues for trial (thus shortening trial time and also reducing costs and the queuing time for other cases waiting for hearing).

Attendance indicator results for criminal proceedings are reported in table 7.13.

Table 7.13 Attendance indicator — criminal, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>

	NSW <sup>b</sup>	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
<i>Average attendances per finalisation</i>								
Supreme	na	2.4	2.8	2.3	4.6	5.9	5.5	6.9
District/County	na	5.1	4.0	4.7	6.9	..	..	..
Magistrates <sup>c</sup>	na	3.0	2.1	2.0	3.1	2.0	3.4	3.4
Children's	na	3.4	2.4	2.7	3.4	5.1	6.0	5.4

<sup>a</sup> Excludes data for the electronic infringement and enforcement systems. <sup>b</sup> NSW data are not available.

<sup>c</sup> The data for Victoria include a proportion of hearings from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.19.

Attendance indicator results for civil proceedings are reported in table 7.14.

**Table 7.14 Attendance indicator — civil, 2007-08**

	NSW <sup>a</sup>	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts
<i>Average attendances per finalisation</i>									
Supreme (excl probate) <sup>b</sup> /Federal	na	1.2	1.4	3.1	4.9	na	5.2	5.2	2.2
District/county <sup>b</sup>	na	2.1	0.8	2.9	4.7	..	..	..	..
Magistrates <sup>c</sup>	na	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	na	1.5	1.8	..
Children's <sup>d</sup>	na	1.5	2.5	4.7	2.8	..	6.9	1.6	..
Family courts <sup>e</sup>	..	..	..	1.4	..	..	..	..	3.1
Federal Magistrates <sup>f</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.1
Coroners' courts	na	1.0	2.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	2.8	1.0	..

<sup>a</sup> NSW attendance data are not available. <sup>b</sup> Queensland's supreme and district courts data for the count of attendances in the civil jurisdiction varies from the national counting rules. Multiple attendances are counted for a single court event, e.g. trials listed for multiple consecutive days. It also includes attendances for unfinalised cases. Attendances are not counted for case managed court events. <sup>c</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court data include a proportion of hearings from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. ACT data are based on all listings for a case, including return of subpoenas, settlement and case management conferences. Multiple attendances are counted for a single event. <sup>d</sup> Queensland Children's Court data for civil cases is based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. ACT data are based on all listings for a case, including return of subpoenas, settlement and case management conferences. Multiple attendances are counted for a single event. <sup>e</sup> Family Court of Australia data include all conference events that may have a binding order made. It also contains events that may not require attendance of parties, such as a divorce hearing, and are included as they form part of the lodgment and finalisation data. Attendances for appeal cases were not available, however the number of appeal hearings is relatively small and the effect on the attendance indicator is not significant. <sup>f</sup> Federal Magistrates Court attendance data exclude responses to applications. na Not available. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.19.

In the context of the attendance indicator, it is important to note that Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) can resolve certain matters out of court and thereby reduce the need for judicial hearings. Accordingly, differences between and within states and territories in the availability and use of ADR can affect the comparability of the attendance indicator.

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### *Efficiency — clearance rate*

The clearance rate shows whether the volume of finalisations matched the volume of lodgments in the same reporting period (box 7.13).

#### **Box 7.13 Clearance rate**

The 'clearance rate' shows whether the volume of case finalisations has matched the volume of case lodgments during the reporting period. It indicates whether a court's pending caseload would have increased or decreased over that period.

It is derived by dividing the number of finalisations in the reporting period by the number of lodgments in the same period. The result is multiplied by 100 to convert to a percentage. The following can assist in interpretation of this indicator:

- a figure of 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised as many cases as were lodged, and the pending caseload should be similar to the pending caseload 12 months earlier
- a figure greater than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised more cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have decreased
- a figure less than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised fewer cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have increased.

The clearance rate should be interpreted alongside lodgment and finalisation data, and the backlog indicator, reported earlier in this chapter. Trends over time should also be considered.

The clearance rate can be affected by external factors (such as those causing changes in lodgment rates), as well as by changes in a court's case management practices.

Lodgments are a reflection of demand for court services. As noted previously, lodgments need not equal finalisations in any given year because not all matters lodged in one year will be finalised in the same year. Consequently, results for this indicator need to be interpreted alongside changes in lodgment, finalisation and pending counts. Trends over time may also provide additional context when interpreting results for the clearance rate indicator.

Tables for clearance rate data in 2007-08 are presented separately for the criminal and civil jurisdictions in tables 7.15 and 7.16. Where relevant, the clearance rate data have been disaggregated between appeal and non-appeal matters.

**Table 7.15 Clearance indicator — all criminal matters, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>units</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>
<b>Supreme — appeal</b>									
Lodgments	'000	0.41	0.53	0.44	0.29	0.27	0.03	0.10	0.02
Finalisations	'000	0.40	0.47	0.40	0.34	0.28	0.02	0.07	0.03
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	97.8	88.4	90.7	115.7	100.7	80.0	72.3	136.4
<b>Supreme — non-appeal<sup>b</sup></b>									
Lodgments	'000	0.11	0.16	1.49	0.26	0.07	0.69	0.32	0.38
Finalisations	'000	0.13	0.20	1.54	0.23	0.06	0.55	0.22	0.32
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	114.2	125.2	103.0	91.1	85.1	79.5	70.2	84.5
<b>District/County — appeal<sup>c</sup></b>									
Lodgments	'000	7.11	2.22	0.34	..	..	..	..	..
Finalisations	'000	7.21	2.11	0.32	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	101.5	94.9	93.5	..	..	..	..	..
<b>District/County — non-appeal<sup>b</sup></b>									
Lodgments	'000	3.43	2.50	6.61	2.43	1.65	..	..	..
Finalisations	'000	3.42	2.41	6.84	2.71	1.66	..	..	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	99.6	96.5	103.5	111.6	101.1	..	..	..
<b>Magistrates'</b>									
Lodgments	'000	183.37	154.73	190.87	104.43	68.00	57.50	5.92	11.98
Finalisations	'000	178.48	156.34	187.45	114.69	74.82	59.29	5.65	11.69
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	97.3	101.0	98.2	109.8	110.0	103.1	95.6	97.6
<b>Children's</b>									
Lodgments	'000	12.31	15.96	10.93	10.84	7.42	1.95	0.62	0.98
Finalisations	'000	12.08	17.45	10.93	11.94	7.56	1.61	0.61	0.93
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	98.1	109.3	100.1	110.1	101.8	82.7	98.5	95.6
<b>Electronic infringement and enforcement systems<sup>d</sup></b>									
Lodgments	'000	..	1 148.29	529.21	251.99	167.83	..	..	..
Finalisations	'000	..	938.27	458.99	249.81	166.70	..	..	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	..	81.7	86.7	99.1	99.3	..	..	..

<sup>a</sup> Clearance rate results are derived from finalisation and lodgment data presented in tables 7A.1 and 7A.5.

<sup>b</sup> Queensland supreme and district courts data for the number of originating criminal lodgments are based on a count of the number of defendants who had an indictment presented in the financial year — it is not a count of the number of defendants committed to the supreme/district courts for trial or sentencing. <sup>c</sup> Appeals are not heard in the district courts in WA or SA, instead they are referred to the supreme courts in these states.

<sup>d</sup> Data for the electronic infringement and enforcement systems exclude unpaid court fines... Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.1, 7A.5, and 7A.21.

Table 7.16 Clearance indicator — all civil matters, 2007-08<sup>a</sup>

	<i>units</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 courts</i>
<b>Supreme/Federal — appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	0.89	0.42	0.24	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.06	0.11	1.50
Finalisations	'000	0.88	0.35	0.27	0.19	0.15	0.11	0.05	0.11	1.64
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	99.0	84.2	112.7	136.0	120.5	96.6	87.7	94.6	108.8
<b>Supreme (excl probate)/Federal — non-appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	12.55	6.24	5.46	2.00	1.23	0.93	0.99	0.17	8.04
Finalisations	'000	13.29	7.64	5.44	2.10	1.23	0.96	0.85	0.21	7.35
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	105.8	122.4	99.7	105.3	100.2	103.1	86.0	124.4	91.4
<b>District/County — appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	0.08	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.04	..	..	..	..
Finalisations	'000	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.12	0.04	..	..	..	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	106.2	95.8	78.4	137.6	108.6	..	..	..	..
<b>District/County — non-appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	8.53	5.39	4.85	3.83	2.72	..	..	..	..
Finalisations	'000	8.44	5.34	4.79	3.80	3.06	..	..	..	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	99.0	99.1	97.2	96.2	111.2	..	..	..	..
<b>Magistrates<sup>b</sup></b>										
Lodgments	'000	185.74	180.41	79.46	46.96	27.58	9.56	5.39	5.79	..
Finalisations	'000	173.66	176.04	81.58	46.02	30.10	10.12	4.97	5.41	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	93.5	97.6	102.7	98.0	109.1	105.9	92.3	93.4	..
<b>Children's<sup>c, d</sup></b>										
Lodgments	'000	8.40	5.33	3.89	1.59	1.15	0.37	0.10	0.12	..
Finalisations	'000	7.30	4.75	3.63	1.57	1.13	0.35	0.09	0.15	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	86.8	89.1	93.3	98.7	98.8	96.2	89.7	126.1	..
<b>Family — appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	..	..	..	0.02	..	..	..	..	0.35
Finalisations	'000	..	..	..	0.03	..	..	..	..	0.32
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	..	..	..	133.3	..	..	..	..	91.1
<b>Family — non-appeal</b>										
Lodgments	'000	..	..	..	13.99	..	..	..	..	20.28
Finalisations	'000	..	..	..	12.80	..	..	..	..	23.76
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	..	..	..	91.5	..	..	..	..	117.2
<b>Federal Magistrates</b>										
Lodgments	'000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84.17
Finalisations	'000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82.69
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98.2
<b>Coroners'</b>										
Lodgments	'000	6.54	5.36	3.51	1.77	1.90	0.53	1.30	0.34	..
Finalisations	'000	6.36	4.21	3.66	1.64	1.78	0.55	1.33	0.33	..
<i>Clearance rate</i>	%	97.3	78.7	104.0	92.8	93.5	103.2	102.6	96.5	..

<sup>a</sup> The clearance rate is derived from finalisation and lodgment data presented in tables 7A.2 and 7A.6. <sup>b</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of lodgments and finalisations from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>c</sup> NSW lodgment data for children in the civil court is based on a count of each child listed in all new applications for care and protection, not just the originating application. <sup>d</sup> Queensland children's courts data for civil cases are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.2, 7A.6 and 7A.22.

## All matters

Table 7.17 contains information on the clearance rates for all court matters (both criminal and civil) in 2007-08, and combines appeal and non-appeal matters.

Table 7.17 **Clearance indicator — all matters, 2007-08 (per cent) <sup>a</sup>**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust courts
<b>Supreme/Federal</b>									
Criminal	101.3	93.9	100.2	104.2	97.7	79.5	70.7	87.3	..
Civil <sup>b</sup>	105.4	119.9	100.3	107.3	102.1	102.4	86.1	112.5	94.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>105.2</i>	<i>117.4</i>	<i>100.2</i>	<i>106.6</i>	<i>101.2</i>	<i>93.1</i>	<i>81.7</i>	<i>97.7</i>	<i>94.2</i>
<b>District/county</b>									
Criminal	100.8	95.7	103.0	111.6	101.1	..	..	..	..
Civil	99.1	99.0	96.9	97.1	111.1	..	..	..	..
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.1</i>	<i>97.5</i>	<i>100.4</i>	<i>102.7</i>	<i>107.4</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
<b>Magistrates'</b>									
Criminal	97.3	101.0	98.2	109.8	110.0	103.1	95.6	97.6	..
Civil <sup>c</sup>	93.5	97.6	102.7	98.0	109.1	105.9	92.3	93.4	..
<i>Total</i>	<i>95.4</i>	<i>99.2</i>	<i>99.5</i>	<i>106.2</i>	<i>109.8</i>	<i>103.5</i>	<i>94.0</i>	<i>96.2</i>	<i>..</i>
<b>Children's</b>									
Criminal	98.1	109.3	100.1	110.1	101.8	82.7	98.5	95.6	..
Civil <sup>d, e</sup>	86.8	89.1	93.3	98.7	98.8	96.2	89.7	126.1	..
<i>Total</i>	<i>93.5</i>	<i>104.3</i>	<i>98.3</i>	<i>108.6</i>	<i>101.4</i>	<i>84.8</i>	<i>97.4</i>	<i>98.8</i>	<i>..</i>
<b>Elec. infringement and enforcement systems<sup>f</sup></b>	..	81.7	86.7	99.1	99.3	..	..	..	..
<b>Family courts</b>	..	..	..	91.6	..	..	..	..	116.7
<b>Federal Magistrates</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98.2
<b>Coroners' courts</b>	97.3	78.7	104.0	92.8	93.5	103.2	102.6	96.5	..

<sup>a</sup> Clearance rates are derived from finalisation and lodgment data presented in tables 7A.1–2 and 7A.5–6.

<sup>b</sup> Supreme courts data exclude probate matters. <sup>c</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of hearings from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>d</sup> NSW lodgment data for children in the civil court are based on a count of each child listed in all new applications for care and protection, not just the originating application. <sup>e</sup> Queensland children's courts data for civil cases are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. <sup>f</sup> The clearance rate relates to processing of unpaid infringement notices only (unpaid court fines are excluded). .. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.1–2, 7A.5–6, and 7A.21–22.

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### *Efficiency — cost per finalisation*

Cost per finalisation is an efficiency indicator (box 7.14). Cost is taken as the total net recurrent annual expenditure, excluding payroll tax. Net expenditure refers to expenditure minus income (where income is derived from court fees and other revenue but excludes revenue from fines).

#### **Box 7.14 Cost per finalisation**

'Cost per finalisation' is an indicator of efficiency. This indicator is not a measure of the actual cost per case.

It is derived by dividing the total net recurrent expenditure within each court for the financial year by the total number of finalisations for the same period. The following points need to be considered in interpreting the cost per finalisation indicator results:

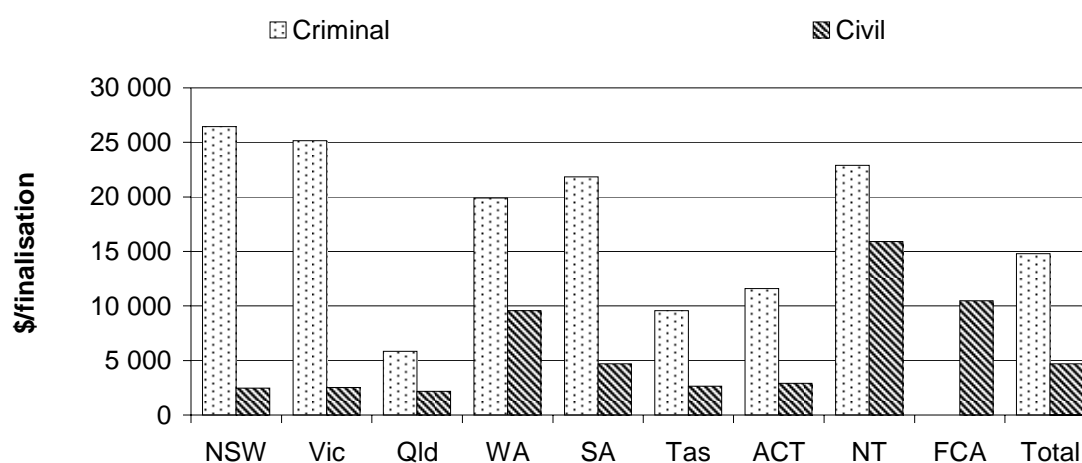
- some finalisations take only a short time and require few resources, whereas other finalisations may be resource intensive and involve complicated trials and interlocutory decisions
- cases in the civil jurisdiction that have not been acted upon in the last 12 months are counted (deemed) as finalised (although some jurisdictions are unable to comply with this deeming rule)
- expenditure data may include arbitrary allocation between criminal and civil jurisdictions
- net expenditure is calculated by deducting income (court fees) from total expenditure, noting that in some jurisdictions court fees are set by government rather than by court administrators
- a number of factors are beyond the control of jurisdictions, such as geographic dispersion, economies of scale and socioeconomic factors
- efficiency results need to be viewed in light of the performance indicator framework as a whole, because there can be trade-offs between efficiency on the one hand and equity, effectiveness and quality, on the other.

In general, the net recurrent expenditure per finalisation results for civil courts will be lower than criminal courts, because, with the exception of electronic infringement and enforcements systems, relatively little income is generated by the criminal court system (table 7A.11). Civil court fee structures may also impact on cost per finalisation results (table 7A.15).

*Net expenditure per finalisation for the supreme courts and the Federal Court of Australia*

Nationally, in 2007-08, total net expenditure per finalisation in the criminal jurisdiction of supreme courts was around three times greater than the total net expenditure per finalisation for the civil jurisdiction, including the Federal Court — the Federal Court has no criminal jurisdiction (figure 7.4).

**Figure 7.4 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, supreme courts and the Federal Court of Australia, 2007-08<sup>a, b, c, d</sup>**



FCA=Federal Court of Australia

<sup>a</sup> Expenditure excludes payroll tax. <sup>b</sup> Supreme courts data for the civil jurisdiction exclude uncontested probate matters. <sup>c</sup> The Federal Court does not operate in the criminal jurisdiction. <sup>d</sup> For the WA Supreme court, net expenditure increased significantly in 2007-08 due to the increase in the actuarial assessment of the liability for currently serving Judges under the Judicial Pension Scheme. The methodology used to calculate expenses in relation to the Judicial Pension Scheme varies between the states and therefore comparison should be made with caution.

*Source:* State and Territory court administration authorities and departments and the Federal Court of Australia (unpublished); tables 7A.23–24.

Tasmania, the ACT, and the NT have a broader range of matters that are heard in their supreme courts as none of these jurisdictions have district/county courts. The difference in scope of supreme court work (box 7.1) should be considered when making comparisons between states and territories.



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### Net expenditure per finalisation for district/county courts

In 2007-08, total net expenditure per finalisation in the criminal jurisdiction of district/county courts was more than twice that in the civil jurisdiction (figure 7.5). This trend was similar across all states and territories, and is consistent over time (tables 7A.23–24).

Tasmania, the ACT, the NT and the Australian Government do not operate district/county courts.

Figure 7.5 **Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, district/county courts, 2007-08<sup>a, b, c</sup>**

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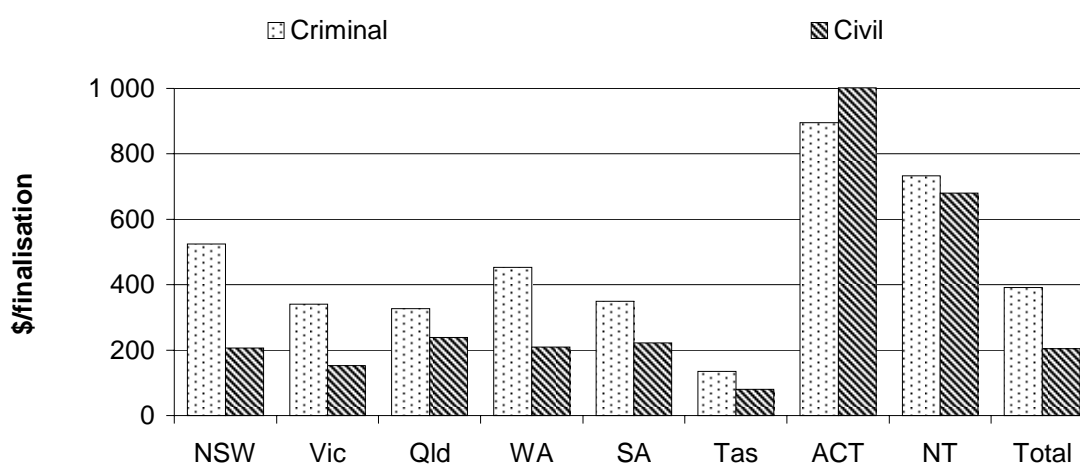
**a** Expenditure excludes payroll tax. **b** In Queensland some children's courts criminal matters are heard in district courts, but for this Report, these matters have been included with children's court data. **c** For the WA District court, net expenditure increased significantly in 2007-08 due to the increase in the actuarial assessment of the liability for currently serving Judges under the Judicial Pension Scheme. The methodology used to calculate expenses in relation to the Judicial Pension Scheme varies between the states and therefore comparison should be made with caution.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.23–24.

*Net expenditure per finalisation for magistrates' courts (including children's courts)*

Nationally for magistrates' courts, net expenditure per criminal finalisation was greater than net expenditure per civil finalisation. This was also the case across most of the states and territories (figure 7.6).

**Figure 7.6 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, total magistrates' courts (including magistrates' and children's courts), 2007-08<sup>a, b, c, d, e</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Expenditure excludes payroll tax. <sup>b</sup> The Victorian Magistrates Court civil data include a proportion of expenditure and finalisations from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>c</sup> In Queensland some children's courts criminal matters are heard in district courts, but for this Report, these matters have been included with children's courts data. <sup>d</sup> Queensland children's courts data for civil cases are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in each care and protection case. <sup>e</sup> In Tasmania, unpaid minor traffic infringements are dealt with in the magistrates' courts.

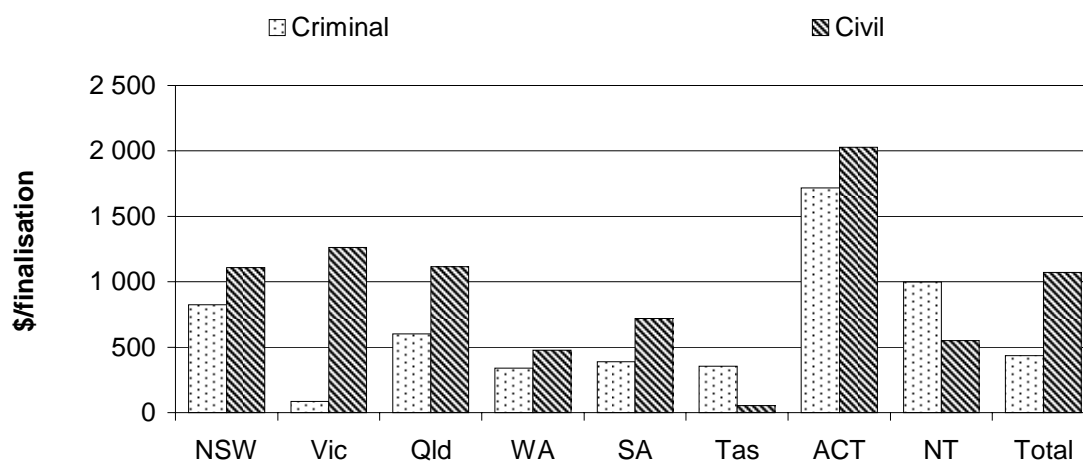
Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.23–24.

### Net expenditure per finalisation for children's courts

Net expenditure per finalisation for children's courts varies across states and territories, particularly for civil matters, but also for criminal matters (figure 7.7). The bulk of matters dealt with in the civil jurisdiction of children's courts are care and protection orders. However, some jurisdictions will also hear matters such as applications for intervention orders. In Tasmania, child protection matters are lodged in the criminal registry as urgent.

Unlike all other court levels where there are both criminal and civil jurisdictions, nationally, net expenditure per finalisation for the children's courts level was, in most jurisdictions, higher in the civil jurisdiction.

Figure 7.7 **Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, children's courts, 2007-08** a, b, c, d, e



**a** Expenditure excludes payroll tax. **b** In Victoria, children's criminal matters not heard in the Melbourne Children's Court are heard in magistrates' courts in regional areas. It is not possible to apportion the expenditure on these matters to children's courts as such this expenditure is reported with expenditure data for the magistrates' courts. However, the matters heard are separately identifiable and are reported against children's courts (including where a children's courts matter is dealt with in a regional magistrate's court). **c** In Queensland some children's courts criminal matters are heard in district courts — but for reporting purposes have been included with the children's courts. **d** Queensland children's courts data for civil cases are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. **e** In Tasmania child protection matters are lodged in the criminal registry as urgent. Expenditure in the civil jurisdiction of the Tasmanian Children's Court in 2007-08 relates to counselling and mediation services only.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.23–24.

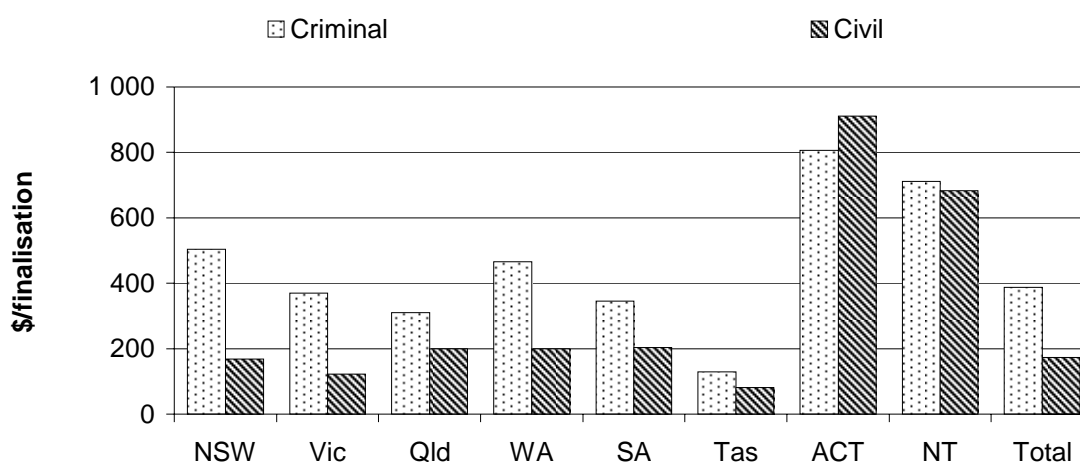
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*Net expenditure per finalisation for magistrates' courts only*

Net expenditure per criminal and civil finalisation for magistrates' courts only, excluding children's courts and electronic infringement and enforcement systems, is presented in figure 7.8. Nationally, and in all states and territories except for the ACT, net recurrent expenditure per finalisation is higher in the criminal jurisdiction.

**Figure 7.8 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, magistrates' courts only (excluding children's courts), 2007-08<sup>a, b, c, d</sup>**

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<sup>a</sup> Expenditure excludes payroll tax. <sup>b</sup> In Victoria, children's criminal matters not heard in the Melbourne Children's Court are heard in magistrates' Courts in regional areas. It is not possible to apportion the expenditure on these matters to children's courts as such this expenditure is reported with expenditure data for the magistrates' courts. However, the matters heard are separately identifiable and are reported against children's courts (including where a children's courts matter is dealt with in a regional magistrate's court). <sup>c</sup> The Victorian Magistrates' Court civil data include a proportion of expenditure and finalisations from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. <sup>d</sup> In Tasmania, unpaid minor traffic infringements are dealt with in the magistrates' courts.

Source: State and Territory court administration departments (unpublished); tables 7A.23–24.

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*Net expenditure per finalisation for electronic infringement and enforcement systems*

All electronic infringement and enforcement systems in 2007-08 had income that outweighed any associated expenditure (figure 7.9).

**Figure 7.9 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, electronic infringement and enforcement systems, 2007-08<sup>a, b</sup>**



**a** Expenditure excludes payroll tax. **b** Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (infringement and expiated offence processing systems that have the status of a court) operate only in Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA. Other states and territories may operate similar bodies that do not operate under the auspices of a court.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.23.

The analysis of magistrates' courts efficiency in figures 7.6 and 7.8 excluded electronic infringement and enforcement system expenditure and finalisations. Box 7.15 shows the impact of including electronic infringement and enforcement systems within the efficiency results of the magistrates' courts.

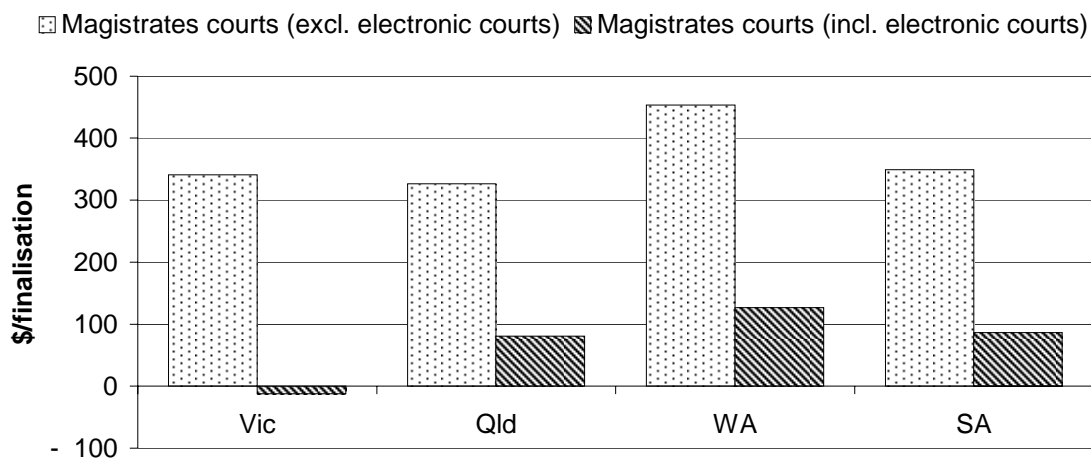
**Box 7.15 The impact of the electronic infringement and enforcement systems on the cost per criminal finalisation for magistrates' courts**

All State, Territory and Australian governments operate tribunals and specialist jurisdiction courts, partly to reduce the workload on courts such as magistrates' courts.

Electronic infringement and enforcement systems — which are infringement and offence processing systems that have the status of a court and deal with matters such as unpaid infringement notices for minor traffic offences — can also reduce the workload on magistrates' courts.

Electronic infringement and enforcement systems, as defined above, currently operate only in Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA. The figure in this box shows the impact that including electronic infringement and enforcement systems data for these jurisdictions would have on the magistrates' courts (including children's courts) efficiency results reported in figure 7.6.

The impact is a reduction in net recurrent expenditure per criminal finalisation for magistrates' courts in all four jurisdictions (assuming all of the matters dealt with by the electronic infringement and enforcement systems would otherwise have been dealt with by magistrates' courts). The magnitude of the reductions under this assumption is shown in the figure below and table 7A.23. In Victoria the result is net income of \$13 per finalisation.



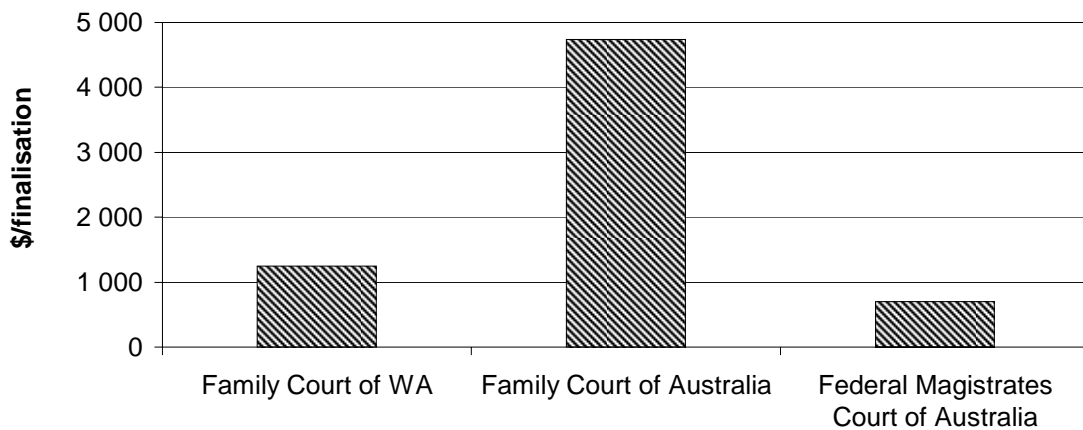
Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.23.

Although NSW, Tasmania, the ACT and the NT do not operate electronic infringement and enforcement systems that fall under the jurisdiction of magistrates' courts, they have bodies (such as the NSW State Debt Recovery Office, the Motor Vehicle Registry in the ACT, and the Fines Recovery Unit in the NT) that deal with unpaid infringement notices and may have a similar impact in reducing the workload of their magistrates' courts. In Tasmania, unpaid minor traffic infringements are dealt with by way of complaint and summons in the magistrates' courts, and this has the effect of reducing net expenditure per finalisation in the criminal jurisdiction of their magistrate's courts.

*Net expenditure per finalisation for family courts and the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia*

The Family Court of Australia, Family Court of WA and the Federal Magistrates Court are responsible for determining matters related to family law and child support, but each court has a different focus, breadth and complexity of work, which contribute to the differences in net recurrent expenditure per finalisation results presented in figure 7.10. For example, the Family Court of WA differs from the Family Court of Australia in that it has jurisdiction to deal with financial matters between parties that were in a de facto relationship.

**Figure 7.10 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, family courts and the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia, 2007-08<sup>a, b, c</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Expenditure per finalisation for the Federal Magistrates Court is based on the total net expenditure and all finalisations for that court; it does not isolate family law work from general federal law work and is therefore not strictly comparable with the results for either the Family Court of Australia or the Family Court of WA. <sup>b</sup> The Family Court of Australia expenditure figures have been discounted (estimated) for resources and services (work of Court staff and accommodation) provided free of charge to the Federal Magistrates Court in accordance with the *Federal Magistrates Act 1999*. In addition, the Family Court of Australia provides further shared services, including IT services, accommodation, work of Court staff and depreciation and amortisation that are currently not quantified and as such no additional discount could be applied. This will cause an overestimate for the Family Court of Australia figure (and an underestimate for Federal Magistrates Court). <sup>c</sup> For the WA Family Court, a revision of the cost allocation methodology applied to Department's corporate overheads has reduced overall expenditure attributed to the FCWA in 2007-08. This revised methodology was aligned with the model developed as part of the current Commonwealth funding review.

Source: Australian court administration authorities (unpublished); table 7A.24.

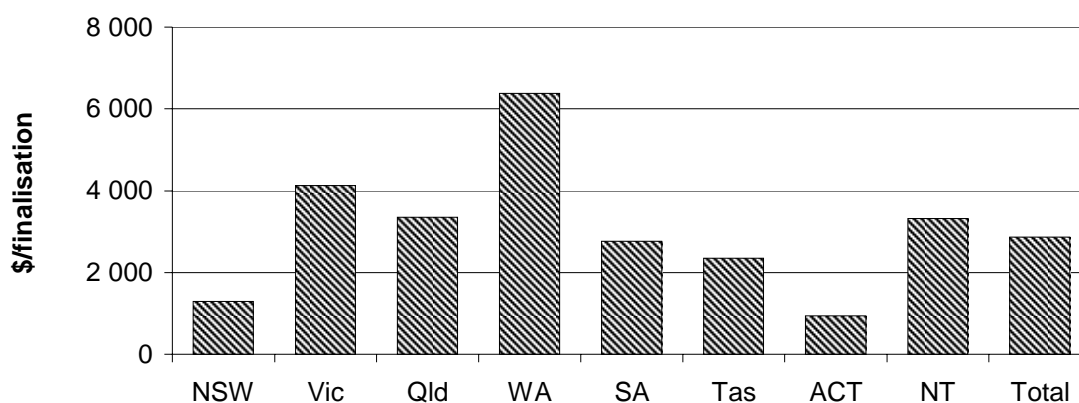
The establishment of the Federal Magistrates Court in 2000 has had implications for the finalisations and expenditure reported for the Family Court of Australia, because the Federal Magistrates Court now deals with some of the matters previously managed by the Family Court of Australia. For example, before the establishment of the Federal Magistrates Court, all divorce applications (other than those lodged in

the Family Court of WA) were lodged in the Family Court of Australia; now (aside from those lodged in the Family Court of WA) almost all divorce applications are lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. In general federal law, the Federal Magistrates Court also deals with the less complex administrative law, bankruptcy law, discrimination, workplace relations and consumer protection law matters that were previously dealt with in the Federal Court of Australia.

*Net expenditure per reported death and fire for coroners' courts*

Nationally, expenditure per reported death and fire in coroners' courts was approximately \$2865 in 2007-08 (figure 7.11).

**Figure 7.11 Net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, coroners' courts, 2007-08<sup>a, b, c</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Expenditure excludes payroll tax. <sup>b</sup> Data for NSW, Victoria and the ACT include reported fires. <sup>c</sup> The inclusion of expenditure for autopsy and chemical analysis work varies between states and territories and can affect the comparability of this expenditure series. For example, the WA Coroner's court data includes costs for pathology, toxicology and body removals totalling the relatively large amount of \$5.17m in its cost per finalisation. Similarly, recurrent expenditure for the Coroners' Court in Victoria has been adjusted to include for the first time the costs of autopsy and forensic science services provided to the Coroners' Court by the Victorian Institute of Forensic medicine. This adjustment has been made to the 2007-08 (and previous) year(s), and accounts for the most significant proportion of Victoria's Coroners' Court expenditure.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); table 7A.24.

Some states and territories include autopsy and chemical analysis costs in their expenditure data, but others exclude these costs because they refer to services administered and funded outside the court administration agency's umbrella department. This can lead to large variations in the net expenditure per finalisation.



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Data for NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT in 2007-08 include fires reported to the coroner. Fires are not reported to the coroner in other jurisdictions. Care needs to be taken when making comparisons across the states and territories.

## **Outcomes**

Outcomes are the impact of services on the status of an individual or group (while outputs are the actual services delivered) (see chapter 1, section 1.5).

No outcome indicators for court administration are currently reported. It is noted, however, that the activities of court administrators lead to broader outcomes within the overall justice system that are not readily addressed in this service-specific chapter. The Steering Committee has identified outcome indicators as an important element of the performance indicator framework to develop for future reports.

## **7.4 Future directions in performance reporting**

### **Improving data quality**

Differences across states and territories in the jurisdiction of courts, and in the allocation of cases between courts, affect the comparability of equity, efficiency and effectiveness data. The different methods undertaken to collect the data can also have an impact on data consistency and quality.

The Review, through the Court Administration Working Group (CAWG) and the Courts Practitioner Group (CPG), seeks to continuously improve data quality. Some of the activities and processes by which this is done include:

- assessing and implementing recommendations associated with the *ABS Courts Administration Data Collection National Report* on lodgments and finalisations
- clearly defining issues pertaining to the scope of the data collection and reporting within the chapter
- assessing the most appropriate way in which to collect and publish data
- amending data definitions
- improving data verification and data quality.

At a broader level, the CAWG is monitoring studies by the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA) of the quality and performance of courts systems worldwide. The AIJA is a research and educational institute funded by the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General and also from subscription income from its

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membership. It recently held a Court Quality Forum at which an *International Framework of Court Excellence* (AIJA 2008) was discussed. The Framework identified a set of values, concepts and tools with which court systems worldwide can assess the quality of justice and court administration they deliver. In discussing the International Framework, the Forum identified cost and timeliness measures of the kind already published in this chapter, plus a number of presently unreported quality measures that could be evaluated by the CAWG for possible inclusion in the this Report.

## **7.5 Jurisdictions' comments**

This section provides comments from the Australian courts and each State and Territory on the services covered in this chapter.

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## **New South Wales Government comments**

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NSW continues to improve its level of performance. The NSW District Court reduced its criminal backlog for the third year in a row. The Coroner's Court has also significantly improved its backlog performance, almost halving the 12-month backlog in just two years. NSW courts continue to improve their efficiency, with the real net cost per finalisation falling for all courts. This measure has been falling for the past three years in the NSW Supreme, District and Coroner's Courts.

A Strategic Plan has been developed for the Attorney General's Department to guide court administration in NSW from 2008 to 2011. This plan focuses on three major areas to further improve the court system.

The first area is promotion of alternative dispute resolution, non-adversarial justice and fair play. The NSW Supreme Court has led in this, its officers conducting a record 266 mediations between January and June 2008 with a 59 per cent same-day settlement rate. NSW Community Justice Centres also continue to provide mediations as an alternative for the NSW Local (Magistrate's) Court. An alternative dispute resolution strategy is currently being developed to increase the use of mediation in all NSW courts.

The second area of focus is courts modernisation. NSW continues to innovate in this area, harnessing technology to provide clients with superior services in more convenient ways. Use of JusticeLink, the online system for conducting court business, will continue to grow in 2009. It has already been successfully implemented in the criminal jurisdictions of the NSW Supreme and District Courts, with thousands of documents now being filed electronically. Court security systems have been updated and the use of audio-visual links extended to enable vulnerable and remote witnesses to give evidence from outside the courtroom. Analogue court recording equipment is being replaced by digital systems to produce a faster and more accurate court transcript service. NSW is making its legal library – one of Australia's largest – available online for the judiciary, the legal profession and the wider community.

The third area of focus is early intervention and diversionary strategies. A number of outreach services have been trialled, including court staff visiting remote communities and homeless shelters in 2007-08. The successful Domestic Violence Intervention Court Model is being expanded. A new research centre has been set up in partnership with University of Technology, Sydney, to develop technological innovation and environmental design to reduce crime. Defendants in NSW courts can be referred to programs such as MERIT for specialist help with problems such as drug, alcohol and gambling addiction, mental illness, unemployment and homelessness. Circle Sentencing – a community-based and more targeted approach to the sentencing process – continues to succeed. NSW is exploring a range of similar initiatives to strengthen the role of courts in addressing the underlying problems that contribute to re-offending, particularly in Aboriginal communities.

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### Victorian Government comments

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- The Supreme Court figures published this year demonstrate that the efficiency and productivity improvements implemented in previous years are reducing the backlog numbers, reducing the volume of matters pending, increasing clearances and reducing the volume of years of work on hand. These results arise from a number of factors, including improved management of each jurisdiction by the Civil and Criminal Divisions, the use of Practice Notes to effect change, together with the use of court-wide audits to increase the timeliness of disposals (finalisations). The Court continues to meet growth in demand and complexity by introducing new initiatives such as docketing, continued use of mediations by Master, growth of the role and jurisdiction of Masters (now to be called Associate Judges), and expansion of the Supreme Court's specialist list system of managing litigation.
  - The increase in delays in criminal appeals principally arises from the increased listing of criminal trials in the County Court followed by appeals. The hearing of civil appeals has been affected by the increased volume of criminal appeals. A number of reforms are being introduced to reduce delays.
  - In 2007-08 the County Court continued to focus on addressing delays in the Criminal List, with a number of initiatives implemented that have improved the productivity of the County Court, including changes to listing procedures. The sexual assault legislative reforms in Victoria have been highly successful in providing a more positive court-based response to witnesses in sex offence cases. Sex offences proceeding to trial now constitute almost 50 per cent of all trials – with 50 per cent of these involving child and cognitively impaired witnesses, which require a special hearing, and the trial commenced, before the same Judge within three months of the accused person being committed for trial. These generally more complex and lengthy cases are taking priority and pushing non-sex cases down the list. Consequently, whilst clearance rates are increasing for sex offence cases, they are decreasing for non-sex cases.
  - The Magistrates' Court of Victoria has continued to develop its highly innovative therapeutic justice initiatives including the Courts Integrated Services Program, specialist Family Violence Courts, Diversion, Drug Court and Koori Court programs. The Court's clearance rates in both criminal and civil matters have improved significantly since the last Report which reflects an increased focus on the efficient disposal of matters. The criminal clearance rate is now in excess of 100 per cent. Further improvements in this area are expected as the Court progressively reviews and enhances its case management and listing practices but this will be affected by the growing workload the Court is experiencing.”

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## Queensland Government comments

“ Queensland Courts have continued to implement processes that will deliver an open and accessible justice system.

- The Torres Strait Region Court Circuit commenced in January 2008, allowing Magistrates Courts to be conducted on the outer islands of the Torres Strait. Each island represents cluster groups of between three and five island groups. Court has now been held in eight new Island communities, as well as the continuation of court being held at Badu Island.
- The Judicial Registrar pilot program commenced in January 2008 with the appointment of five Judicial Registrars. The Judicial Registrars finalise less complicated criminal and civil matters. The pilot program was set up to reduce backlog of workloads and improve clearance rates, and a review will be conducted in early 2009.
- Office of the State Coroner - Two full time coroners and dedicated coronial support teams were appointed in response to increasing demand for coronial services in South East Queensland and Far North Queensland. Work also commenced on the development of a custom designed coronial case management system, scheduled for implementation during 2008-09. This system will deliver significantly improved system functionality, more efficient use of registry resources and assist in improving the quality of Queensland's coronial service.
- The State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) undertook a review of its instalment payment plan processes for paying fines. Client feedback was sought about ways to improve payment methods to assist low income earners better pay their fines. The automation of the instalment plan process will free up valuable resources for other compliance options and enforcement investigations.
- The Future Courts Program has added a modern web-base interface to the existing Civil Information Management System (CIMS) to create CIMSlite. This upgrade will provide the community, litigants and the legal profession with benefits including improved registry practices and procedures, access to files on-line, increased efficiency and better client service.
- Video-conferencing systems continue to be upgraded with new facilities installed at the Arthur Gorrie and Brisbane Correctional Centres. Video-court systems were also installed or upgraded in 27 courtrooms. This combination of facilities will allow for increased use of video-conferencing and reduce physical transfer of prisoners for court appearances.
- accessCourts is an initiative that incorporates three separate programs into a service that provides support for self-represented litigants in the Supreme and District Courts at Brisbane. This initiative will ensure that self-represented litigants are not disadvantaged in their dealings with the processes of the Supreme and District Courts.

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## Western Australian Government comments

“ The Department of the Attorney General continued its focus on improving court performance. Significant initiatives and achievements in 2007-08 included:

- An Indigenous Justice Taskforce was set up by the Chief Justice in response to the increased number of sexual offence charges in the Kimberley region. This brought together the judiciary and the relevant agencies to hasten adult and juvenile cases so that the communities concerned can start the healing process.
- The establishment of an early case management process and improved listing protocols by the Supreme Court has guaranteed criminal indictable matters are efficiently managed at the earliest stage of the committal process. The introduction of the criminal listings project to the District Court contributed to better case management of criminal trials. These initiatives have reduced the time to trial in each jurisdiction.
- Family Violence Courts have continued to break the cycle of family violence and improve the level of safety for victims. After a pilot in Joondalup in 2000, similar courts were opened in Fremantle, Rockingham and Midland in 2007-08 with additional courts planned for Armadale and central Perth in 2008-09. In 2007-08, 2789 new victims of family violence were assisted in the metropolitan area and 137 offenders were referred for assessment with 77 of these accepted into a program. An Aboriginal specific program known as the Barndimalgu Court has also commenced in Geraldton.
- A new, state of the art District Court building was opened in central Perth in June 2008. This fulfilled an urgent need for more jury courtrooms, video courts, remote witness facilities and dedicated zones for jurors. It also allows more witnesses and victims of crime to present their evidence remotely through the use of video conferencing.

WA courts continue to provide effective state-wide services. Of note in 2007-08:

- The appointment of additional judicial officers in the District Court and Magistrates Courts has improved access to justice and expedited the efficiency and effectiveness of court performance across jurisdictions.
  - The Supreme Court, Court of Appeal has a significant reduction in criminal and civil appeals matters pending completion which was a direct result of a heavy judicial workload.
  - The Family Court continued to improve support and intervention mechanisms for the community through case management of applications that involve children.
  - The Coroner made recommendations relating to issues affecting the aboriginal community as a result of inquests into 22 Aboriginal people who died in the Kimberley region. The Coroner has taken a proactive approach in identifying issues or trends which affect specific ethnic, cultural, gender or age groups, or geographical areas.
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### South Australian Government comments

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The SA Courts Administration Authority (CAA) continued its focus on data quality and developing internal key performance indicators across all jurisdictions.

Improvements implemented have increased the quality of information for national and internal management reporting.

In 2007-08, the Courts have performed consistently with the previous year. There has been a slight decrease in civil lodgments across jurisdictions with criminal lodgements and finalisations remaining constant.

In the District Court, there have been concerns regarding the length of the criminal trial delay and as a result the State Government has given approval for two extra courtrooms to be recommissioned to address this issue. It will provide two fully functional criminal courtrooms with the appointment of two additional Judges. This initiative is due to be completed in 2009. Part of this process also includes a review of current listings practices and refining of methods for statistical collection and analysis. It is expected that this will reduce backlogs in the Higher Courts and should be evident in the 2010 Report on Government Services.

The CAA has commenced a project to increase the use of Audio Visual Links in the courtroom, providing up-to-date equipment, operational guidelines and technical support. Vulnerable witnesses and victims will use this technology to conduct 'remote' appearances in court. It is also an efficient way of dealing with some court appearances when defendants are in custody.

The Magistrates Court has increased the use of Special Justices during the reporting period. Special Justices assist the Magistracy in dealing with matters in petty sessions. They also assist on an ad hoc basis in some country locations for the purpose of bail applications under the *Bail Act* 1985 where a Magistrate is not available.

The Magistrates Court has also instituted Aboriginal Conferencing at Port Lincoln, and continues to operate Aboriginal Courts in Port Augusta, Port Adelaide, Murray Bridge and Berri.

In 2008 the CAA undertook a partial asset replacement of obsolete analogue in-court recording equipment with Digital Audio technology. Digital Audio technology will be installed in courtrooms in all jurisdictions. The solutions are a mixture of software and stand-alone 'plug and play' options. Procurement of further Digital Audio technology will occur in 2009.

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### **Tasmanian Government comments**

“ In 2007-08 a number of significant reforms commenced in the Tasmanian Criminal Courts.

In February 2008 changes were made to the process for dealing with defendants charged with indictable offences. The changes are designed to reduce the time taken from the first appearance in the Court of Petty Sessions to eventual disposition of the matter in the Supreme Court, and in particular shorten the committal process. The impact is already apparent with a reduction in the time required for the committal process to complete in the Magistrates Court and a consequential increase in lodgements in the Criminal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

The number of pending cases in the Criminal Jurisdiction of the Magistrates Court at 30 June 2008 has reduced by over 40 per cent when compared with 30 June 2007. This is a result of the commencement of Monetary Penalties legislation which redirects unpaid infringement notices from the courts to the Monetary Penalties Enforcement Service. In 2008-09 the Magistrates Court expects to report a related decrease in the number of lodgements and finalisations of criminal matters. This will have a consequential impact on the cost per finalisation in this court.

The Magistrates Court implemented a Court Mandated Drug Diversion Program for the diversion of eligible offenders to drug treatment programs together with a trial of a Mental Health list in the Hobart Magistrates Court. Both initiatives reflect an increased focus by the courts on therapeutic options for dealing with offenders. It is anticipated that the additional judicial supervision of these offenders will increase the time taken to finalise these cases, thereby affecting backlog and clearance rates.

The Supreme Court completed the implementation of a new Civil Registry Case Management System during the year. The system provides the court with the tools required to more closely monitor pending cases to support the speedy resolution of civil cases. The same software will be implemented in the Civil Jurisdiction of the Magistrates Court in 2008-09.

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### **Australian Capital Territory Government comments**

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The ACT Courts initiatives of recent years to address case management and operation of the Courts have met with mixed success. While criminal finalisations have improved (by 11 per cent for Supreme Court appeals and 21 per cent for non-appeals, and 5 per cent in the Magistrates Court), the report reflects that lodgements have increased further (by 60 per cent, 47 per cent and 15 per cent respectively), resulting in an increased backlog. Several factors appear to have influenced this outcome. Following appointment of two new judges to the four person bench of the Supreme Court in January 2008, the lead time for their appropriate induction and training, and initial exclusion of one judge from matters relating to his previous employment, slowed backlog management. Limited jury facilities have also continued to allow for only two concurrent jury trials at any one time. An increase in the threshold for matters to be dealt with summarily in the Magistrates Court (due to commence in 2009) is likely to reduce criminal lodgements in the Supreme Court and is expected to speed finalisation times overall.

In the civil arena overall lodgements have increased in the reporting period (from 891 to 1049 in the Supreme Court and from 6025 to 6532 in the Magistrates Court), but both areas are about average in 5-year trend terms (1093 and 6473 respectively). While there is some evidence that civil cases in the Supreme Court are increasingly complex and therefore difficult to finalise quickly, the reported statistics indicate that further improvements to case management techniques are still required. In this regard examination of the Magistrates Court listing arrangement introduced last year has begun with a view to improvements in outcomes in the Magistrates Court being a focus in 2009.

Costs per finalisation decreased in relation to Supreme Court matters in the year, and increased in the Magistrates court. Delays in completion of capital works during the year and accurate rental expenditure reporting for the Magistrates Court was included in the calculations for the first time, having the effect of increasing the costs overall. Some of the work of the registries is not measured by the ROGS data. A growing area of work for the ACT Courts has been bail applications, especially in the Supreme Court, which are not captured by any of the measures. Initiatives for the coming year include:

- Finalisation of a strategic plan for the years 2008 – 2011;
- Upgrade of courts technology to enable both courts to deal with more matters where a victim of sexual assault, child, or vulnerable witness is required to give evidence;
- Continuing upgrade of the court case management system especially to improve supreme Court case management efficiency; and
- Implementation and commencement of a consolidated ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

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### Northern Territory Government comments

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- The Alcohol Court, which commenced in July 2006, was expanded into Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek as part of the NT Government's 'Closing the Gap' Generational Plan of Action. The Alcohol Court provides for diversion of certain alcohol-dependent offenders into treatment programs and for Prohibition Orders, in line with the Department of Justice's strategies to address re-offending and develop alternative sentencing practices.
  - The first phase of expansion of Community Courts as part of 'Closing the Gap' commenced. Community Courts are part of the Department's strategies to address re-offending and develop alternative sentencing practices. They apply principles of restorative justice by allowing communities and victims to play a role in the sentencing process. Magistrates and court support staff held initial discussions with a number of communities to lay the groundwork for Community Courts. Community Courts were held in Darwin, Nguiu, Pirlingimpi, Nhulunbuy, Galiwinku and Yuendumu.
  - The Court Referral and Evaluation for Drug Intervention and Treatment Program (CREDIT NT) expanded into the Tennant Creek region.
  - Videoconferencing facilities at the Alice Springs Supreme Court were upgraded. The new system allows for greater ease of use for operators and greater protection for vulnerable witnesses by incorporating touch pad technology with the latest state of the art equipment.
  - The first Indigenous Court Liaison Officer was appointed at Katherine. The officer's main responsibilities are to explain the process and orders of the court to indigenous clients, particularly those involved in domestic violence applications. The officer also has a community education role.
  - Supreme Court Judges commenced mediating civil actions to reduce the time and expense involved in conducting civil trials.
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## 7.6 Definitions of key terms and indicators

<b>Active pending population</b>	A lodgment that is yet to be finalised but is part of the active case management of court administrators.
<b>Average expenditure per civil case</b>	The total cost of the administrative services provided to civil matters, divided by the total number of civil files handled. Includes salaries, sheriff expenses, juror costs, accommodation costs, library services, information technology, departmental overheads and court operating expenses.
<b>Attendance indicator</b>	The average number of attendances for each finalisation in the reporting period. An attendance is defined as the number of times that parties or their representatives are required to be present in court (including any appointment which is adjourned or rescheduled) for all finalised matters during the year. The actual attendance is one that is heard by a judicial officer or mediator/arbitrator.
<b>Backlog indicator</b>	A measure of case processing timeliness. It is the number of pending cases older than the applicable reporting standards, divided by the total pending caseload (multiplied by 100 to convert to a percentage).
<b>Bench warrant</b>	A warrant issued by a court for the arrest of a person who has been indicted.
<b>Case</b>	The measurement of workload in the civil jurisdiction. It is the issues, grievances or complaints that constitute a single and related series of disputes brought by an entity (or group of entities) against another entity (or group).
<b>Clearance rate</b>	An indicator that shows whether the volume of case finalisations has matched the volume of case lodgments during the reporting period. It indicates whether a court's pending caseload has increased or decreased over that period.
<b>Cost recovery</b>	The level of court fees divided by the level of court expenditure.
<b>Court fees collected</b>	Total court income from fees charged in the civil jurisdiction. Includes filing, sitting hearing and deposition fees, and excludes transcript fees.
<b>Electronic infringement and enforcement system</b>	A court with the capacity to produce enforceable orders against defendants (such as fines, licence cancellation and incarceration) and to process infringements, on-the-spot fines and summary offences.
<b>Excluded courts and tribunals</b>	This includes such bodies as guardianship boards, environment resources and development courts, and administrative appeals tribunals. The types of excluded courts and tribunals vary among the states and territories.
<b>Extraordinary driver's licence</b>	An extraordinary licence is a licence granted at the discretion of the court. It authorises the holder to drive in certain circumstances even though the holder's normal driver's licence has been suspended.
<b>Finalisation</b>	The completion of a matter so it ceases to be an item of work to be dealt with by the court. Finalisations are derived from timeliness data that may not reflect the total matters disposed by the courts in the reporting period.
<b>Forms</b>	The counting unit used in the family courts and family law matters pertaining to the Federal Magistrates Court. Forms are applications or notices lodged with the court.

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<b>Income</b>	Income derived from court fees, library revenue, court reporting revenue, sheriff and bailiff revenue, probate revenue, mediation revenue, rental income and any other sources of revenue (excluding fines).
<b>Information technology expenditure</b>	Non-salary and salary expenditure on information technology. Excludes capital expenditure on information technology infrastructure and includes licensing costs, computer leasing costs, the cost of consumables (such as data lines, paper and disks), training fees, access fees (for example, catalogue search and Internet access) and maintenance charges for software and hardware.
<b>Inquests and inquiries held</b>	Court hearings to determine the cause and circumstances of deaths reported to the coroner. Includes all coronial inquests and inquiries in full court hearings.
<b>Judicial officer</b>	Judges, magistrates, masters, coroners, judicial registrars and all other officers who, following argument and giving of evidence, make enforceable orders of the court. The data are provided on the basis of the proportion of time spent on the judicial activity.
<b>Judicial and judicial support salaries</b>	All salary expenditure and payments in the nature of salary that are paid to employees of court administration. Includes base salaries, the employer contributed component of superannuation, workers compensation (full cost, inclusive of any levies, bills and legal fees), higher duty allowances, overtime, actual and accruing terminal and long service leave, fringe benefits tax and untaxed fringe benefits.  (Judicial officers include judges, magistrates, masters, judicial registrars and other judicial officers who fulfil a primarily judicial function. Judicial support staff include judicial secretaries, tipstaff and associates.)
<b>Library expenditure</b>	Non-salary and salary expenditure on court operated libraries. Non-salary expenditure includes book purchases, journal subscriptions, fees for interlibrary loans, copyright charges, news clippings service fees and photocopying.  Expenditure also includes recurrent information technology costs and court administration contributions towards the running costs of non-government operated libraries. Any costs recovered through borrowing and photocopy fees by court operated libraries are subtracted from expenditure.
<b>Lodgment</b>	The initiation or commencement of a matter before the court. The date of commencement is counted as the date of registration of a court matter.
<b>Matters</b>	<i>Coronial matters:</i> Deaths and fires reported to the coroner in each jurisdiction, including all reported deaths and fires regardless of whether the coroner held an inquest or inquiry. Coronial jurisdictions can extend to the manner of the death of a person who was killed; was found drowned; died a sudden death of which the cause is unknown; died under suspicious or unusual circumstances; died during or following the administration of an operation of a medical, surgical, dental, diagnostic or like nature; died in a prison remand centre or lockup; or died under circumstances that (in the opinion of the Attorney-General) require that the cause of death be more clearly ascertained.  <i>Criminal matters:</i> Matters brought to the court by a government prosecuting agency, which is generally the Director of Public Prosecutions but could also be the Attorney-General, the police, local councils or traffic camera branches.

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	<p><i>Civil matters:</i> Matters brought before the court by individuals or organisations against another party, such as small claims and residential tenancies, as well as matters dealt with by the appeal court jurisdiction.</p> <p><i>Excluded matters:</i> Extraordinary driver's licence applications; any application on a pending dispute; applications for bail directions or judgment; secondary processes (for example, applications for default judgments); interlocutory matters; investigation/examination summonses; firearms appeals; escort agents' licensing appeals; pastoral lands appeals; local government tribunals; police promotions appeals; applications appealing the decisions of workers compensation review officers.</p> <p><i>Probate matters:</i> Matters such as applications for the appointment of an executor or administrator to the estate of a deceased person.</p>
<b>Method of finalisation</b>	The process that leads to the completion of a criminal charge within a higher court so it ceases to be an item of work in that court.
<b>Method of initiation</b>	How a criminal charge is introduced to a court level.
<b>Non-adjudicated finalisation</b>	A non-adjudicated finalisation is where a charge is considered completed and ceases to be active in a court even though there has not been a determination on whether the defendant is guilty, that is, the charge(s) have not been adjudicated. The methods of non-adjudicated finalisation include but are not limited to defendant deceased; unfit to plead; withdrawn by the prosecution; diplomatic immunity and statute of limitation applies.
<b>Probate registry expenditure</b>	Salary expenditure of the probate registrar and probate clerks, along with non-salary expenditure directly attributable to probate registries.
<b>Real expenditure</b>	Actual expenditure adjusted for changes in prices using the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) price deflator and expressed in terms of final year prices (i.e. for the court administration chapter with 2007-08 as the base year). Additional information about the GDP index can be found in the statistical appendix and in table AA.26.
<b>Recurrent expenditure</b>	Expenditure that does not result in the creation or acquisition of fixed assets (new or second hand). It consists mainly of expenditure on wages, salaries and supplements, purchases of goods and services, and the consumption of fixed capital (depreciation).
<b>Sheriff and bailiff expenditure</b>	Expenditure on court orderlies, court security, jury management and witness payment administration. For the civil jurisdiction, it includes expenditure (by or on behalf of the court) on bailiffs to enforce court orders. In the coronial jurisdiction, it includes expenditure on police officers permanently attached to the coroner for the purpose of assisting in coronial investigations. Excludes witness payments, fines enforcement (criminal jurisdiction) and prisoner security.
<b>Specialist jurisdiction court</b>	A court which has exclusive jurisdiction in a field of law presided over by a judicial officer with expertise in that area. Examples of these types of courts which are within the scope of this Report are the family courts, the Children's Courts and the Coroners' Courts. Examples of specialist jurisdiction courts which are excluded from this Report include Indigenous and circle sentencing courts and drug courts.
<b>Withdrawn</b>	The formal withdrawal of charges by the prosecution (that is, by police, the Director of Public Prosecutions or the Attorney-General).

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## 7.7 Attachment tables

Attachment tables are identified in references throughout this appendix by an 'A' suffix (for example, table 7A.3 is table 3 in the attachment). Attachment tables are provided on the CD-ROM enclosed with the Report and on the Review website ([www.pc.gov.au/gsp](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp)). Users without access to the CD-ROM or the website can contact the Secretariat to obtain the attachment tables (see contact details on the inside front cover of the Report).

<b>Preamble</b>	Court administration — attachment tables
<b>Table 7A.1</b>	Lodgments, criminal
<b>Table 7A.2</b>	Lodgments, civil
<b>Table 7A.3</b>	Lodgments, criminal, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.4</b>	Lodgments, civil, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.5</b>	Finalisations, criminal
<b>Table 7A.6</b>	Finalisations, civil
<b>Table 7A.7</b>	Finalisations, criminal , per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.8</b>	Finalisations, civil, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.9</b>	Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.10</b>	Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.11</b>	Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.12</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.13</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.14</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.15</b>	Cost recovery – civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil expenditure excluding payroll tax (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.16</b>	Real average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.17</b>	Backlog indicator, criminal (as at 30 June)
<b>Table 7A.18</b>	Backlog indicator, civil (as at 30 June)
<b>Table 7A.19</b>	Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation)
<b>Table 7A.20</b>	Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people)
<b>Table 7A.21</b>	Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.22</b>	Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.23</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.24</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.25</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.26</b>	Treatment of assets by court administration agencies

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## 7.8 References

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2007, *Criminal Courts 2005-06, Australia*, Cat. no. 4513.0, Canberra.

Australian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA) 2008, Proceedings of Court Quality Forum, 21-23 September 2008, Sydney Australia.

SCRGSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision) 2007, *2007 Data Collection Manual*, Court Administration Working Group, (unpublished), Melbourne.





## 7A Court administration — attachment

Definitions for the indicators and descriptors in this attachment are in section 7.6 of the chapter. Data in this Report are examined by the Court Administration Working Group, but have not been formally audited by the Secretariat. Data for past years have been revised for some jurisdictions, where this has occurred, totals and any derived data have been recalculated. For this reason data for past years presented in this Report may vary from figures published in earlier editions of this Report. Disaggregated figures may not add to the total figure because of rounding. Further, because of rounding of numbers and the application of national counting rules, figures presented in the Report may differ from counts published elsewhere, such as in jurisdictions' annual reports and the ABS criminal courts publication.

This file is available in Adobe PDF format on the Review web page ([www.pc.gov.au/gsp](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp)). Users without Internet access can contact the Secretariat to obtain these tables (see details on the inside front cover of the Report).

## Court administration — attachment

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<b>Table 7A.1</b>	Lodgments, criminal
<b>Table 7A.2</b>	Lodgments, civil
<b>Table 7A.3</b>	Lodgments, criminal, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.4</b>	Lodgments, civil, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.5</b>	Finalisations, criminal
<b>Table 7A.6</b>	Finalisations, civil
<b>Table 7A.7</b>	Finalisations, criminal , per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.8</b>	Finalisations, civil, per 100 000 people
<b>Table 7A.9</b>	Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.10</b>	Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.11</b>	Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.12</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.13</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.14</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)
<b>Table 7A.15</b>	Cost recovery – civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil expenditure excluding payroll tax (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.16</b>	Real average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.17</b>	Backlog indicator, criminal (as at 30 June)
<b>Table 7A.18</b>	Backlog indicator, civil (as at 30 June)
<b>Table 7A.19</b>	Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation)
<b>Table 7A.20</b>	Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people)
<b>Table 7A.21</b>	Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.22</b>	Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent)
<b>Table 7A.23</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.24</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.25</b>	Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$)
<b>Table 7A.26</b>	Treatment of assets by court administration agencies

Table 7A.1

Table 7A.1 Lodgments, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Supreme courts										
Appeal (b)										
2007-08	411	545	440	293	274	25	101	22	..	2 111
2006-07	463	477	338	156	271	38	63	27	..	1 833
2005-06	509	416	378	238	268	35	81	30	..	1 955
2004-05	512	451	434	246	317	25	62	30	..	2 077
2003-04	573	421	401	212	317	26	62	34	..	2 046
Non-appeal (c), (d)										
2007-08	113	163	1 493	257	67	693	319	380	..	3 485
2006-07	135	189	1 330	205	49	513	217	391	..	3 029
2005-06	81	211	1 372	195	97	521	214	349	..	3 040
2004-05	111	213	1 194	263	110	535	203	339	..	2 968
2003-04	127	123	1 053	259	109	572	165	369	..	2 777
Total										
2007-08	524	708	1 933	550	341	718	420	402	..	5 596
2006-07	598	666	1 668	361	320	551	280	418	..	4 862
2005-06	590	627	1 750	433	365	556	295	379	..	4 995
2004-05	623	664	1 628	509	427	560	265	369	..	5 045
2003-04	700	544	1 454	471	426	598	227	403	..	4 823
District/county courts (e), (f)										
Appeal (g)										
2007-08	7 111	2 224	338	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 673
2006-07	6 938	2 294	392	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 624
2005-06	6 701	2 477	320	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 498
2004-05	6 609	2 355	363	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 327
2003-04	5 604	2 260	285	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 149

Table 7A.1

Table 7A.1 Lodgments, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Non-appeal (c), (d)										
2007-08	3 433	2 498	6 606	2 428	1 645	..	..	..	..	16 610
2006-07	3 457	2 729	6 577	2 376	1 576	..	..	..	..	16 715
2005-06	3 414	2 609	6 705	2 380	1 475	..	..	..	..	16 583
2004-05	3 801	2 570	6 726	2 501	1 341	..	..	..	..	16 939
2003-04	4 065	2 552	8 058	2 678	1 584	..	..	..	..	18 937
Total										
2007-08	10 544	4 722	6 944	2 428	1 645	..	..	..	..	26 283
2006-07	10 395	5 023	6 969	2 376	1 576	..	..	..	..	26 339
2005-06	10 115	5 086	7 025	2 380	1 475	..	..	..	..	26 081
2004-05	10 410	4 925	7 089	2 501	1 341	..	..	..	..	26 266
2003-04	9 669	4 812	8 343	2 678	1 584	..	..	..	..	27 086
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (b), (g), (h), (h)										
2007-08	183 368	154 732	190 871	104 426	68 004	57 500	5 915	11 978	..	776 794
2006-07	175 618	138 545	176 685	89 292	68 101	62 290	5 154	11 507	..	727 192
2005-06	176 886	129 942	177 040	80 182	69 936	62 827	5 959	11 342	..	714 114
2004-05	181 788	134 000	166 230	71 106	67 917	58 766	4 977	10 883	..	695 667
2003-04	174 994	138 280	160 348	66 577	64 499	60 504	5 945	10 599	..	681 746
Children's courts (h), (i)										
2007-08	12 313	15 961	10 925	10 841	7 422	1 951	620	975	..	61 008
2006-07	10 831	18 980	10 878	9 864	7 269	1 696	545	1 029	..	61 092
2005-06	10 805	11 150	10 360	8 595	6 465	1 654	577	963	..	50 569
2004-05	11 319	8 327	10 811	7 532	6 767	1 633	465	1 030	..	47 884
2003-04	12 208	10 779	12 176	7 441	6 622	1 562	655	1 077	..	52 520

Table 7A.1

Table 7A.1 Lodgments, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (b), (h), (i)										
2007-08	195 681	170 693	201 796	115 267	75 426	59 451	6 535	12 953	..	837 802
2006-07	186 449	157 525	187 563	99 156	75 370	63 986	5 699	12 536	..	788 284
2005-06	187 691	141 092	187 400	88 777	76 401	64 481	6 536	12 305	..	764 683
2004-05	193 107	142 327	177 041	78 638	74 684	60 399	5 442	11 913	..	743 551
2003-04	187 202	149 059	172 524	74 018	71 121	62 066	6 600	11 676	..	734 266
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	206 749	176 123	210 673	118 245	77 412	60 169	6 955	13 355	..	869 681
2006-07	197 442	163 214	196 200	101 893	77 266	64 537	5 979	12 954	..	819 485
2005-06	198 396	146 805	196 175	91 590	78 241	65 037	6 831	12 684	..	795 759
2004-05	204 140	147 916	185 758	81 648	76 452	60 959	5 707	12 282	..	774 862
2003-04	197 571	154 415	182 321	77 167	73 131	62 664	6 827	12 079	..	766 175
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (j)										
2007-08	..	1 148 292	529 209	251 992	167 828	..	..	..	..	2 097 321
2006-07	..	837 735	498 143	175 979	151 145	..	..	..	..	1 663 002
2005-06	..	741 347	453 040	243 072	142 568	..	..	..	..	1 580 027
2004-05	..	697 991	422 421	194 532	126 112	..	..	..	..	1 441 056
2003-04	..	768 192	388 404	201 095	123 053	..	..	..	..	1 480 744

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Counting units for the criminal court lodgment data are based on: the number of defendants for State and Territory criminal courts; and the number of unpaid infringement notices for electronic infringement and enforcement systems. Unless otherwise noted, matters excluded from the criminal court lodgment data in this collection are: any lodgment that does not have a defendant element; extraordinary driver's licence applications; bail procedures (including applications and review); directions; warrants; and secondary processes — for example, interlocutory matters, breaches of penalties (that is, bail, suspended sentences, probation).

(b) From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. Therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution. From 2005-06, SA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes Justices Act Appeals, which are normally heard in the civil jurisdiction.

Table 7A.1

Table 7A.1 Lodgments, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(c)	Queensland Supreme and District Court data for the number of originating criminal lodgements is based on a count of the number of defendants who had a Court Record entered on the computerised Case Management System in the financial year, it is not a count of the number of defendants committed to the Supreme Court and District Court for trial or sentencing.									
(d)	Queensland Supreme and District Court data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 includes some secondary processes in the count of defendants lodged, finalised and pending.									
(e)	In NSW, Victoria and Queensland, the criminal jurisdiction of the district/county courts can hear appeals. Appeals are not heard in this jurisdiction in WA or SA, instead they are heard in the Supreme courts in SA and WA. The District court does not operate in Tasmania, ACT or the NT.									
(f)	In Queensland, some Children's court matters are heard in the District court. As a result, the inclusion of all Children's court matters in the Magistrates' court will lead to a slight overestimation of the workload for the Magistrates' court total and an underestimation in the District court.									
(g)	Queensland District Court criminal appeal lodgment data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(h)	In Tasmania, the proportionately higher figure of lodgments in the magistrates court reflects a significant component minor traffic regulatory offences, which are dealt with by electronic infringement and enforcement systems in other states.									
(i)	In 2006-07 there has been a significant increase in the number of Victorian children's court lodgments due to: changes to the Children's Court jurisdiction to include 17 year olds (which did not come into full effect until the 2006-07 year); the transfer of infringement notices for 17 year olds from PERIN (Electronic) to the Children's Court; and processing of a backlog of charges from the Public Transport Corporation (PTC).									
(j)	Fines enforcement registries have the status of a court (so are counted as electronic infringement and enforcement systems) in Victoria, Queensland, WA and SA. Lodgments reported in this table include unpaid infringement notices but exclude unpaid court fines.									
	.. Not applicable.									

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

Table 7A.2

## Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b)										
Appeal (c)										
2007-08	893	418	236	136	127	118	57	112	1 503	3 600
2006-07	864	384	266	291	115	104	71	102	1 520	3 717
2005-06	905	321	262	304	104	116	59	165	1 334	3 570
2004-05	1 119	344	284	378	94	158	87	156	1 365	3 985
2003-04	923	355	212	302	167	149	97	200	867	3 272
Non-appeal (d),(e)										
2007-08	12 555	6 247	5 455	1 995	1 229	926	992	168	8 037	37 604
2006-07	12 547	6 335	5 322	1 904	1 236	1 022	820	182	3 543	32 911
2005-06	12 277	6 351	5 201	2 214	1 099	1 089	1 096	165	4 824	34 316
2004-05	11 784	6 153	4 920	2 574	1 379	1 108	1 026	176	3 152	32 272
2003-04	10 375	5 970	5 016	2 628	1 777	1 368	1 161	202	5 149	33 646
Total										
2007-08	13 448	6 665	5 691	2 131	1 356	1 044	1 049	280	9 540	41 204
2006-07	13 411	6 719	5 588	2 195	1 351	1 126	891	284	5 063	36 628
2005-06	13 182	6 672	5 463	2 518	1 203	1 205	1 155	330	6 158	37 886
2004-05	12 903	6 497	5 204	2 952	1 473	1 266	1 113	332	4 517	36 257
2003-04	11 298	6 325	5 228	2 930	1 944	1 517	1 258	402	6 016	36 918
District/county courts (f)										
Appeal (e)										
2007-08	81	119	97	85	35	..	..	..	..	417
2006-07	72	153	98	80	47	..	..	..	..	450
2005-06	61	189	100	102	57	..	..	..	..	509
2004-05	62	190	122	112	57	..	..	..	..	543
2003-04	64	99	717	166	93	..	..	..	..	1 139

Table 7A.2

## Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Non-appeal (e)										
2007-08	8 527	5 388	4 849	3 830	2 720	..	..	..	..	25 314
2006-07	7 761	4 909	4 890	3 238	2 767	..	..	..	..	23 565
2005-06	7 598	4 800	5 686	3 015	2 943	..	..	..	..	24 042
2004-05	7 140	5 298	6 409	3 417	2 902	..	..	..	..	25 166
2003-04	8 354	8 712	6 565	3 250	2 781	..	..	..	..	29 662
Total										
2007-08	8 608	5 507	4 946	3 915	2 755	..	..	..	..	25 731
2006-07	7 833	5 062	4 988	3 318	2 814	..	..	..	..	24 015
2005-06	7 659	4 989	5 786	3 117	3 000	..	..	..	..	24 551
2004-05	7 202	5 488	6 531	3 529	2 959	..	..	..	..	25 709
2003-04	8 418	8 811	7 282	3 416	2 874	..	..	..	..	30 801
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (g), (h)										
2007-08	185 741	180 406	79 459	46 963	27 583	9 555	5 386	5 794	..	540 887
2006-07	191 858	179 974	81 320	46 411	30 180	10 447	5 031	6 232	..	551 453
2005-06	202 793	181 161	86 621	48 344	32 526	10 860	6 546	6 262	..	575 113
2004-05	207 605	182 154	85 392	51 379	31 441	11 654	6 890	6 069	..	582 584
2003-04	196 482	169 677	86 403	54 033	32 823	11 465	7 481	5 756	..	564 120
Children's courts (i), (j), (k), (l)										
2007-08	8 404	5 333	3 888	1 591	1 148	368	97	115	..	20 944
2006-07	7 326	4 897	3 405	1 452	1 206	314	103	131	..	18 834
2005-06	6 761	4 547	3 587	738	1 169	357	300	93	..	17 552
2004-05	6 059	3 707	4 066	688	852	203	305	105	..	15 985
2003-04	5 527	3 428	4 468	729	731	153	228	139	..	15 403



Table 7A.2

## Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (d), (j)										
2007-08	194 145	185 739	83 347	48 554	28 731	9 923	5 483	5 909	..	561 831
2006-07	199 184	184 871	84 725	47 863	31 386	10 761	5 134	6 363	..	570 287
2005-06	209 554	185 708	90 208	49 082	33 695	11 217	6 846	6 355	..	592 665
2004-05	213 664	185 861	89 458	52 067	32 293	11 857	7 195	6 174	..	598 569
2003-04	202 009	173 105	90 871	54 762	33 554	11 618	7 709	5 895	..	579 523
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	216 201	197 911	93 984	54 600	32 842	10 967	6 532	6 189	9 540	628 766
2006-07	220 428	196 652	95 301	53 376	35 551	11 887	6 025	6 647	5 063	630 930
2005-06	230 395	197 369	101 457	54 717	37 898	12 422	8 001	6 685	6 158	655 102
2004-05	233 769	197 846	101 193	58 548	36 725	13 123	8 308	6 506	4 517	660 535
2003-04	221 725	188 241	103 381	61 108	38 372	13 135	8 967	6 297	6 016	647 242
Family courts (b), (m)										
Appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	349	370
2006-07	..	..	..	17	..	..	..	..	328	345
2005-06	..	..	..	54	..	..	..	..	370	424
2004-05	..	..	..	70	..	..	..	..	419	489
2003-04	..	..	..	71	..	..	..	..	409	480
Non-appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	13 990	..	..	..	..	20 276	34 266
2006-07	..	..	..	14 899	..	..	..	..	27 335	42 234
2005-06	..	..	..	15 651	..	..	..	..	35 137	50 788
2004-05	..	..	..	15 390	..	..	..	..	37 384	52 774
2003-04	..	..	..	15 038	..	..	..	..	46 335	61 373

Table 7A.2

## Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
<b>Total</b>										
2007-08	..	..	..	14 011	..	..	..	..	20 625	34 636
2006-07	..	..	..	14 916	..	..	..	..	27 663	42 579
2005-06	..	..	..	15 705	..	..	..	..	35 507	51 212
2004-05	..	..	..	15 460	..	..	..	..	37 803	53 263
2003-04	..	..	..	15 109	..	..	..	..	46 744	61 853
<b>Federal Magistrates Court (b), (m)</b>										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84 173	84 173
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84 510	84 510
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81 145	81 145
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 392	80 392
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76 842	76 842
<b>Coronial</b>										
<b>Deaths reported (n), (o)</b>										
2007-08	6 114	5 353	3 514	1 769	1 900	531	318	339	..	19 838
2006-07	5 673	5 070	3 219	1 622	1 880	562	347	299	..	18 672
2005-06	5 909	4 866	3 144	1 581	2 070	636	347	295	..	18 848
2004-05	5 533	4 616	3 043	1 445	4 024	612	315	319	..	19 907
2003-04	5 916	4 496	2 965	1 287	3 962	617	313	288	..	19 844
<b>Fires reported (p)</b>										
2007-08	424	2	..	..	..	1	978	..	..	1 405
2006-07	344	2	..	..	..	-	1 499	..	..	1 845
2005-06	317	1	..	..	..	-	941	..	..	1 259
2004-05	236	4	..	..	..	-	1 089	..	..	1 329
2003-04	180	2	705	..	..	-	751	..	..	1 638

Table 7A.2

Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total coroners' courts (incl. deaths and fires reported)										
2007-08	6 538	5 355	3 514	1 769	1 900	532	1 296	339	..	21 243
2006-07	6 017	5 072	3 219	1 622	1 880	562	1 846	299	..	20 517
2005-06	6 226	4 867	3 144	1 581	2 070	636	1 288	295	..	20 107
2004-05	5 769	4 620	3 043	1 445	4 024	612	1 404	319	..	21 236
2003-04	6 096	4 498	3 670	1 287	3 962	617	1 064	288	..	21 482
<i>Probate</i>										
Supreme courts (q)										
2007-08	21 799	17 056	7 322	5 581	5 146	2 095	635	162	..	59 796
2006-07	21 135	16 166	6 412	5 231	5 159	2 070	587	131	..	56 891
2005-06	20 868	15 644	6 089	5 072	4 937	2 101	589	146	..	55 446
2004-05	21 990	15 410	6 231	4 883	4 579	2 068	567	131	..	55 859
2003-04	22 408	15 717	5 387	5 057	4 997	2 078	554	111	..	56 309

Aust cts = Australian courts.

- (a) Counting units for civil court lodgment data are based on: the number of cases (except in children's courts where, if more than one child can be involved in an application, the counting unit is the number of children involved); and the number of reported deaths (and, if relevant, reported fires) for coroners' courts. Unless otherwise noted, the following types of matters are excluded from the civil lodgment data reported in this collection: admissions matters (original applications to practice and mutual recognition matters); extraordinary driver's licence applications; cross-claims; directions; secondary processes — for example, interlocutory matters, breaches of penalties (that is, bail, suspended sentences, probation); and *applications* for default judgments (because the application is a secondary process).
- (b) In the WA Family Court, the rules associated with filing documents changed on 1 July 2007 following the introduction of Child Related Proceedings Model. Mediation is required for applicants prior to filing child related applications which have led to a reduction in lodgments of Final Orders. The introduction on, 1 July 2006, of the Federal Magistrates Court has implications for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Court lodgment time series. The Family Court of WA does elements of Family Court of Australia and Federal Magistrates Court work, so direct comparisons need to be made with caution. In November 2003, a practice direction was issued by the Family Court of Australia requiring all divorce applications to be lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. However, a small number of divorce applications were still lodged and processed in the Family Court of Australia. Tasmanian Supreme Court civil lodgment (finalisation and pending matters) data for 2003-04 to 2006-07 have been revised following a review of the data extraction processes undertaken as part of the introduction of a new computer system.

Table 7A.2

## Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(c)	From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. In SA, from 2005-06, SA Supreme court data for civil appeals excludes Justices Act Appeals. These matters have been included in the SA Supreme court data for criminal appeals. In Victoria, these figures are made up of both Trial Division and Court of Appeal lodgments.									
(d)	SA Supreme court lodgment and finalisation data prior to 2006-07 included some admissions matters which are out of scope for this collection and ACT included such admissions in data up to 2004-05.									
(e)	Queensland Supreme Court data (non-appeal), and District court data (appeal and non-appeal) for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADDC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(f)	The decrease in the number of cases lodged in 2004-05 compared with 2003-04, is in part due to the introduction of changes to the Wrongs Act (Wrongs and Limitations Of Actions Acts (Insurance Reform) Act 2003) which generated an influx of writs filed before the cut off date of 30th September 2003.									
(g)	Victorian data for the Magistrates' court, civil, include a proportion of lodgments from the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal.									
(h)	Prior to 2006-07, criminal injury compensation applications have been incorrectly included in lodgment and finalisation data for the WA magistrates court. Data relating to earlier reference periods have not been revised, and comparisons with prior years should be made with caution.									
(i)	NSW lodgment data for children in the civil court is based on a count of each child listed in all new applications for care and protection, not just the originating application.									
(j)	Queensland, Children's court, civil, lodgments: Queensland Children's Court data for civil cases is based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 includes some secondary processes in the count of care and protection cases lodged, finalised, and pending.									
(k)	WA children's court lodgments increased during 2006-07 following the introduction of the Department of Child Protection.									
(l)	Prior to 2006-07 the ACT Children's Civil Court counted all applications lodged for care and protection of a child not just the originating application on the child's file.									
(m)	Family Court of Australia data do not include instances where its Registrars: are given delegation to conduct Federal Magistrate Court divorce applications; or accept settlement agreements while conducting conferences on Federal Magistrate Court matters. As well, the Family Court of Australia and Federal Magistrate Court exclude responses to final order applications, where this data was included prior to 2002-03.									

Table 7A.2

Table 7A.2 Lodgments, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(n)	Queensland Coroners Court data for 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed that some coronial cases had not been included in the count of lodgements, finalisations or pending cases. Data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 may not include data for all coronial cases in Queensland Coroners Courts.									
(o)	In SA a new Coroners Act 2003 came into effect on 1 July 2005 which has resulted in a decrease in the number of coronial lodgements in 2005-06 compared with earlier reference periods.									
(p)	NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT report fires to the coroner in these jurisdictions. As of 1 December 2003 fires are no longer reported to the Coroner in Queensland.									
(q)	For 2006-07 and onwards, caveat matters and cases relating to accounts and commission have been excluded from the count of probate lodgements in NSW. These excluded matters would increase the total by 1 per cent, if included. This should be noted if making a comparison to any years before 2006-07.									
	.. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.									

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

Table 7A.3

Table 7A.3 Lodgments, criminal, per 100 000 people

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Supreme courts										
2007-08	8	13	46	26	21	145	123	185	..	26
2006-07	9	13	40	17	20	112	83	197	..	23
2005-06	9	12	43	21	23	114	89	182	..	24
2004-05	9	13	41	25	28	116	81	181	..	25
2003-04	10	11	38	24	28	124	70	201	..	24
District/county courts										
2007-08	152	90	164	114	103	..	..	..	..	124
2006-07	152	97	169	114	100	..	..	..	..	126
2005-06	149	100	174	117	95	..	..	..	..	127
2004-05	155	98	180	125	87	..	..	..	..	130
2003-04	145	97	216	136	103	..	..	..	..	135
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 647	2 949	4 514	4 901	4 272	11 598	1 736	5 506	..	3 667
2006-07	2 562	2 682	4 276	4 291	4 322	12 669	1 532	5 414	..	3 487
2005-06	2 606	2 555	4 378	3 936	4 485	12 861	1 793	5 442	..	3 476
2004-05	2 702	2 673	4 213	3 558	4 394	12 126	1 517	5 340	..	3 435
2003-04	2 616	2 792	4 157	3 383	4 198	12 585	1 823	5 284	..	3 407
Children's courts										
2007-08	178	304	258	509	466	394	182	448	..	288
2006-07	158	367	263	474	461	345	162	484	..	293
2005-06	159	219	256	422	415	339	174	462	..	246
2004-05	168	166	274	377	438	337	142	505	..	236
2003-04	183	218	316	378	431	325	201	537	..	262

Table 7A.3

Table 7A.3 Lodgments, criminal, per 100 000 people

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 825	3 254	4 773	5 410	4 738	11 992	1 917	5 954	..	3 956
2006-07	2 720	3 050	4 539	4 765	4 783	13 014	1 694	5 898	..	3 780
2005-06	2 766	2 774	4 634	4 358	4 899	13 200	1 966	5 904	..	3 722
2004-05	2 870	2 839	4 487	3 934	4 832	12 463	1 658	5 846	..	3 671
2003-04	2 799	3 010	4 473	3 761	4 629	12 910	2 024	5 821	..	3 669
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	2 985	3 357	4 982	5 549	4 863	12 136	2 041	6 139	..	4 106
2006-07	2 880	3 160	4 748	4 896	4 904	13 126	1 777	6 095	..	3 930
2005-06	2 923	2 887	4 851	4 496	5 017	13 314	2 055	6 086	..	3 873
2004-05	3 034	2 950	4 708	4 085	4 947	12 578	1 739	6 027	..	3 826
2003-04	2 954	3 118	4 727	3 921	4 760	13 034	2 094	6 022	..	3 829

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Lodgments per 100 000 persons are derived from lodgment data presented in table 7A.1, and population data\* presented in table AA.2. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.1 and AA.2.

\*The financial year population estimate is based on the midpoint population estimate of the relevant financial year.

(b) The total number of lodgments for all states and territories in the financial year, divided by the Australian population (per 100 000 people).

.. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); Table 7A.1.

Population figures from Statistical Appendix Table AA.2. Historical rates in this table / figure may differ from those in previous Reports, as historical population data have been revised using Final Rebased Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data following the 2006 Census of Population and Housing (for 30 June 2002 to 2006, or 31 December 2001 to 2005).

Table 7A.4

Table 7A.4 Lodgments, civil, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	194	127	135	100	85	211	308	129	..	195
2006-07	196	130	135	105	86	229	265	134	..	176
2005-06	194	131	135	124	77	247	347	158	..	184
2004-05	192	130	132	148	95	261	339	163	..	179
2003-04	169	128	136	149	127	316	386	200	..	184
District/county courts										
2007-08	124	105	117	184	173	..	..	..	..	121
2006-07	114	98	121	159	179	..	..	..	..	115
2005-06	113	98	143	153	192	..	..	..	..	120
2004-05	107	109	166	177	191	..	..	..	..	127
2003-04	126	178	189	174	187	..	..	..	..	154
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 681	3 439	1 879	2 204	1 733	1 927	1 580	2 663	..	2 554
2006-07	2 799	3 484	1 968	2 230	1 915	2 125	1 495	2 932	..	2 645
2005-06	2 988	3 562	2 142	2 373	2 086	2 223	1 969	3 005	..	2 799
2004-05	3 085	3 633	2 164	2 571	2 034	2 405	2 100	2 978	..	2 877
2003-04	2 938	3 426	2 240	2 746	2 137	2 385	2 295	2 870	..	2 819
Children's courts										
2007-08	121	102	92	75	72	74	28	53	..	99
2006-07	107	95	82	70	77	64	31	62	..	90
2005-06	100	89	89	36	75	73	90	45	..	85
2004-05	90	74	103	34	55	42	93	52	..	79
2003-04	83	69	116	37	48	32	70	69	..	77



Table 7A.4

Table 7A.4 Lodgments, civil, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 803	3 541	1 971	2 279	1 805	2 002	1 609	2 716	..	2 653
2006-07	2 906	3 579	2 050	2 300	1 992	2 189	1 526	2 994	..	2 735
2005-06	3 088	3 652	2 231	2 409	2 161	2 296	2 060	3 049	..	2 885
2004-05	3 175	3 707	2 267	2 605	2 089	2 447	2 193	3 030	..	2 956
2003-04	3 020	3 496	2 356	2 783	2 184	2 417	2 365	2 939	..	2 896
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	3 121	3 773	2 223	2 562	2 063	2 212	1 917	2 845	..	2 969
2006-07	3 216	3 807	2 306	2 565	2 256	2 418	1 791	3 127	..	3 026
2005-06	3 395	3 881	2 509	2 686	2 430	2 543	2 407	3 208	..	3 189
2004-05	3 474	3 946	2 564	2 929	2 376	2 708	2 532	3 193	..	3 262
2003-04	3 315	3 801	2 680	3 105	2 498	2 732	2 750	3 139	..	3 234

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Lodgments per 100 000 persons are derived from lodgment data presented in table 7A.2, and population data\* presented in table AA.2. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table, and/or its interpretation, is provided in tables 7A.2 and AA.2. Tasmanian Supreme Court civil lodgment (finalisation and pending matters) data for 2003-04 to 2006-07 have been revised following a review of the data extraction processes undertaken as part of the introduction of a new computer system.

\*The financial year population estimate is based on the midpoint population estimate of the relevant financial year.

(b) The total number of lodgments for all states and territories in the financial year, divided by the Australian population (per 100 000 people). For the 'Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court' level, the total of all civil state and territory supreme court and Federal Court (not shown separately in the Aust cts column) lodgments in a financial year is divided by the Australian population (per 100 000 people).

.. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); Table 7A.2.

Population figures from Statistical Appendix Table AA.2. Historical rates in this table / figure may differ from those in previous Reports, as historical population data have been revised using Final Rebased Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data following the 2006 Census of Population and Housing (for 30 June 2002 to 2006, or 31 December 2001 to 2005).

Table 7A.5

## Table 7A.5 Finalisations, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Supreme courts										
Appeal (b)										
2007-08	402	465	399	339	276	20	73	30	..	2 004
2006-07	476	443	352	235	270	41	66	33	..	1 916
2005-06	507	426	370	210	335	16	61	35	..	1 960
2004-05	578	459	455	230	333	24	50	30	..	2 159
2003-04	562	449	433	263	270	21	67	21	..	2 086
Non-appeal (c)										
2007-08	129	200	1 538	234	57	551	224	321	..	3 254
2006-07	108	245	1 354	198	97	565	185	388	..	3 140
2005-06	100	182	1 203	202	102	542	193	383	..	2 907
2004-05	128	166	973	220	88	525	152	371	..	2 623
2003-04	125	129	940	232	94	546	133	305	..	2 504
Total										
2007-08	531	665	1 937	573	333	571	297	351	..	5 258
2006-07	584	688	1 706	433	367	606	251	421	..	5 056
2005-06	607	608	1 573	412	437	558	254	418	..	4 867
2004-05	706	625	1 428	450	421	549	202	401	..	4 782
2003-04	687	578	1 373	495	364	567	200	326	..	4 590
District/county courts (d), (e)										
Appeal (f), (g)										
2007-08	7 214	2 111	316	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 641
2006-07	6 656	2 169	294	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 119
2005-06	6 305	2 039	346	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 690
2004-05	6 509	2 238	346	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 093
2003-04	5 769	2 408	206	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 383

Table 7A.5

Table 7A.5 Finalisations, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Non-appeal (h)										
2007-08	3 419	2 410	6 836	2 710	1 663	..	..	..	..	17 038
2006-07	3 081	2 262	6 393	2 685	1 466	..	..	..	..	15 887
2005-06	3 356	2 284	6 656	2 630	1 306	..	..	..	..	16 232
2004-05	3 426	2 323	5 833	2 690	1 286	..	..	..	..	15 558
2003-04	3 435	2 634	7 959	2 685	1 222	..	..	..	..	17 935
Total										
2007-08	10 633	4 521	7 152	2 710	1 663	..	..	..	..	26 679
2006-07	9 737	4 431	6 687	2 685	1 466	..	..	..	..	25 006
2005-06	9 661	4 323	7 002	2 630	1 306	..	..	..	..	24 922
2004-05	9 935	4 561	6 179	2 690	1 286	..	..	..	..	24 651
2003-04	9 204	5 042	8 165	2 685	1 222	..	..	..	..	26 318
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (i), (j)										
2007-08	178 481	156 337	187 445	114 687	74 824	59 293	5 654	11 685	..	788 406
2006-07	175 039	130 230	175 722	97 675	70 945	52 123	5 465	11 363	..	718 562
2005-06	178 655	125 432	169 980	86 563	69 412	45 156	6 776	11 343	..	693 317
2004-05	178 055	130 672	158 027	78 124	57 326	49 763	5 497	11 308	..	668 772
2003-04	171 123	130 890	149 666	72 303	49 960	49 839	5 997	9 535	..	639 313
Children's courts (d)										
2007-08	12 080	17 448	10 934	11 935	7 559	1 613	611	932	..	63 112
2006-07	10 623	17 308	11 045	10 781	7 034	1 312	524	1 195	..	59 822
2005-06	10 740	9 355	10 326	8 581	6 628	1 318	546	1 131	..	48 625
2004-05	11 473	8 014	10 466	8 223	5 765	1 330	479	1 189	..	46 939
2003-04	12 333	9 571	11 691	8 147	4 694	1 545	733	945	..	49 659

Table 7A.5

Table 7A.5 Finalisations, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (b), (i), (j)										
2007-08	190 561	173 785	198 379	126 622	82 383	60 906	6 265	12 617	..	851 518
2006-07	185 662	147 538	186 767	108 456	77 979	53 435	5 989	12 558	..	778 384
2005-06	189 395	134 787	180 306	95 144	76 040	46 474	7 322	12 474	..	741 942
2004-05	189 528	138 686	168 493	86 347	63 091	51 093	5 976	12 497	..	715 711
2003-04	183 456	140 461	161 357	80 450	54 654	51 384	6 730	10 480	..	688 972
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	201 725	178 971	207 468	129 905	84 379	61 477	6 562	12 968	..	883 455
2006-07	195 983	152 657	195 160	111 574	79 812	54 041	6 240	12 979	..	808 446
2005-06	199 663	139 718	188 881	98 186	77 783	47 032	7 576	12 892	..	771 731
2004-05	200 169	143 872	176 100	89 487	64 798	51 642	6 178	12 898	..	745 144
2003-04	193 347	146 081	170 895	83 630	56 240	51 951	6 930	10 806	..	719 880
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (k), (l), (m)										
2007-08	..	938 269	458 985	249 814	166 699	..	..	..	..	1 813 767
2006-07	..	683 972	427 481	164 989	145 787	..	..	..	..	1 422 229
2005-06	..	614 367	398 583	208 276	124 301	..	..	..	..	1 345 527
2004-05	..	589 512	366 367	184 612	92 844	..	..	..	..	1 233 335
2003-04	..	637 311	352 532	192 605	89 679	..	..	..	..	1 272 127

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) The counting unit for finalisations is the same as for lodgments (Table 7A.1). A criminal matter is considered finalised at the date on which all charges laid against a defendant are regarded as formally completed by the court and the matter ceases to be an active unit of work to be dealt with by the court.

(b) From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. Therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution. From 2005-06, SA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes Justices Act Appeals, which are normally heard in the civil jurisdiction. In Victoria, compared with previous years, the appeal finalisations have increased due to a change in case management systems.

Table 7A.5

Table 7A.5 Finalisations, criminal (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(c)	Supreme Court civil files in Queensland are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of civil data for 2007-08. The volume and turnover of criminal trial matters in Victoria has increased the number of matters pending because of the complexity of some trial matters.									
(d)	In Queensland, some children's court matters are heard in the district court. As a result, the inclusion of all children's court matters in the magistrates' court will lead to a slight over-estimation of the magistrates' court total and an under-estimation in the district court total.									
(e)	In NSW, Victoria and Queensland the criminal jurisdiction of the district/county courts can hear appeals. Appeals are not heard in this jurisdiction in WA or SA, instead they are heard in the Supreme courts in SA and WA. There is no district court in Tasmania, the ACT, the NT or the Australian courts.									
(f)	Queensland District Court criminal appeal files are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of data for 2007-08.									
(g)	Queensland District Court criminal appeal data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADDC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(h)	Data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 includes some secondary processes in the count of defendants lodged, finalised and pending.									
(i)	In Tasmania, the proportionately higher figure of lodgments in the magistrates court reflects the fact that a significant component of lodgments are minor traffic regulatory offences which are dealt with by electronic infringement and enforcement systems in other states.									
(j)	Excludes finalisations data for committals heard in the children's court (except Queensland and the NT which include cases finalised by committal).									
(k)	Finalisations include unpaid infringement notices but exclude unpaid court fines.									
(l)	The increase in Victorian electronic infringement and enforcement system (EIES) finalisations in 2006-07 is largely due to the transfer of infringement notices for 17 year olds from PERIN (EIES) to the Children's court.									
(m)	WA Electronic infringement and enforcement system finalisation data include all adjudicated finalisations except those where a time to pay arrangement has been entered into, but is not yet complete.									

.. Not applicable.

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

Table 7A.6

## Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b), (c), (d)										
Appeal (e)										
2007-08	884	352	266	185	153	114	50	106	1 635	3 745
2006-07	935	423	267	313	107	111	47	127	1 530	3 860
2005-06	1 018	362	247	296	164	139	67	140	1 345	3 778
2004-05	1 058	314	282	264	77	165	93	177	1 177	3 607
2003-04	893	536	284	223	121	191	69	184	848	3 349
Non-appeal (f), (g), (h)										
2007-08	13 289	7 642	5 440	2 101	1 232	955	853	209	7 347	39 068
2006-07	13 383	7 367	5 167	2 546	1 153	1 104	1 003	181	3 808	35 712
2005-06	12 620	5 296	5 106	2 175	1 334	1 172	986	193	5 171	34 053
2004-05	11 384	5 856	5 919	2 234	855	1 334	1 302	206	3 112	32 202
2003-04	10 198	4 648	5 895	3 151	1 096	1 568	1 089	196	5 215	33 056
Total										
2007-08	14 173	7 994	5 706	2 286	1 385	1 069	903	315	8 982	42 813
2006-07	14 318	7 790	5 434	2 859	1 260	1 215	1 050	308	5 338	39 572
2005-06	13 638	5 658	5 353	2 471	1 498	1 311	1 053	333	6 516	37 831
2004-05	12 442	6 170	6 201	2 498	932	1 499	1 395	383	4 289	35 809
2003-04	11 091	5 184	6 179	3 374	1 217	1 759	1 158	380	6 063	36 405
District/county courts (i), (j), (k)										
Appeal										
2007-08	86	114	76	117	38	..	..	..	..	431
2006-07	71	159	84	114	58	..	..	..	..	486
2005-06	72	159	128	117	79	..	..	..	..	555
2004-05	45	183	130	149	64	..	..	..	..	571
2003-04	71	104	820	103	86	..	..	..	..	1 184

Table 7A.6

Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Non-appeal										
2007-08	8 444	5 340	4 715	3 685	3 024	..	..	..	..	25 208
2006-07	8 569	4 814	6 034	3 583	3 098	..	..	..	..	26 098
2005-06	8 380	5 901	6 779	3 959	3 125	..	..	..	..	28 144
2004-05	8 254	8 181	7 796	3 770	2 963	..	..	..	..	30 964
2003-04	10 359	7 169	6 709	3 151	2 670	..	..	..	..	30 058
Total										
2007-08	8 530	5 454	4 791	3 802	3 062	..	..	..	..	25 639
2006-07	8 640	4 973	6 118	3 697	3 156	..	..	..	..	26 584
2005-06	8 452	6 060	6 907	4 076	3 204	..	..	..	..	28 699
2004-05	8 299	8 364	7 926	3 919	3 027	..	..	..	..	31 535
2003-04	10 430	7 273	7 529	3 254	2 756	..	..	..	..	31 242
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (l), (m)										
2007-08	173 657	176 037	81 584	46 023	30 103	10 120	4 969	5 410	..	527 903
2006-07	181 521	183 556	86 930	50 277	29 636	10 978	5 633	5 355	..	553 886
2005-06	189 038	183 801	85 946	47 221	31 907	11 195	6 950	5 628	..	561 686
2004-05	183 473	181 195	86 568	50 508	24 818	11 735	7 059	4 098	..	549 454
2003-04	188 278	173 366	91 060	35 367	22 544	11 931	8 016	3 483	..	534 045
Children's courts (n), (o)										
2007-08	7 296	4 752	3 627	1 571	1 134	354	87	145	..	18 966
2006-07	6 858	4 280	3 417	1 228	1 228	315	144	138	..	17 608
2005-06	6 621	3 746	3 545	800	1 160	327	283	116	..	16 598
2004-05	5 810	4 777	3 876	671	888	184	269	138	..	16 613
2003-04	5 105	4 327	4 109	885	na	172	190	182	..	na

Table 7A.6

## Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (l), (o)										
2007-08	180 953	180 789	85 211	47 594	31 237	10 474	5 056	5 555	..	546 869
2006-07	188 379	187 836	90 347	51 505	30 864	11 293	5 777	5 493	..	571 494
2005-06	195 659	187 547	89 491	48 021	33 067	11 522	7 233	5 744	..	578 284
2004-05	189 283	185 972	90 444	51 179	25 706	11 919	7 328	4 236	..	566 067
2003-04	193 383	177 693	95 169	36 252	na	12 103	8 206	3 665	..	na
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	203 656	194 237	95 708	53 682	35 684	11 543	5 959	5 870	8 982	615 321
2006-07	211 337	200 599	101 899	58 061	35 280	12 508	6 827	5 801	5 338	637 650
2005-06	217 749	199 265	101 751	54 568	37 769	12 833	8 286	6 077	6 516	644 814
2004-05	210 024	200 506	104 571	57 596	29 665	13 418	8 723	4 619	4 289	633 411
2003-04	214 904	190 150	108 877	42 880	na	13 862	9 364	4 045	6 063	na
Family courts (b), (p)										
Appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	28	..	..	..	..	318	346
2006-07	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	379	394
2005-06	..	..	..	33	..	..	..	..	292	325
2004-05	..	..	..	35	..	..	..	..	371	406
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	430	na
Non-appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	12 804	..	..	..	..	23 759	36 563
2006-07	..	..	..	10 702	..	..	..	..	30 918	41 620
2005-06	..	..	..	13 537	..	..	..	..	37 664	51 201
2004-05	..	..	..	12 597	..	..	..	..	41 455	54 052
2003-04	..	..	..	13 256	..	..	..	..	50 573	63 829



Table 7A.6

Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total										
2007-08	..	..	..	12 832	..	..	..	..	24 077	36 909
2006-07	..	..	..	10 717	..	..	..	..	31 297	42 014
2005-06	..	..	..	13 570	..	..	..	..	37 956	51 526
2004-05	..	..	..	12 632	..	..	..	..	41 826	54 458
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	51 003	na
Federal Magistrates Court (b)										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82 689	82 689
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 000	80 000
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 665	80 665
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77 348	77 348
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62 815	62 815
Coroners' courts (q), (r)										
2007-08	6 359	4 212	3 656	1 641	1 776	549	1 330	327	..	19 850
2006-07	5 500	4 843	3 149	1 302	1 901	532	1 814	261	..	19 302
2005-06	5 127	4 556	2 823	1 259	2 239	669	1 237	311	..	18 221
2004-05	4 705	4 321	2 970	1 051	3 400	610	1 398	335	..	18 790
2003-04	5 916	4 112	3 122	1 265	3 793	713	1 046	241	..	20 208

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) The counting unit for finalisations is the same as for lodgments (Table 7A.2). In general a civil case is considered finalised at the date on which all matters pertaining to a file are regarded as formally completed by the court and the file ceases to be an active unit of work to be dealt with by the court. In the civil jurisdiction, (with the exception of appeals heard in the Supreme and District courts, the Federal Court of Australia, and all matters finalised in the Family court of Australia), cases may be deemed finalised if there is no action on a file for more than 12 months. From 2007-08, Family Court of WA has deemed rule applied for cases deemed to have been finalised if it has not had a court event for at least 12 months. Tasmanian Supreme Court civil lodgment (finalisation and pending matters) data for 2003-04 to 2006-07 have been revised following a review of the data extraction processes undertaken as part of the introduction of a new computer system.

Table 7A.6

Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(b)	For the WA Family Court, the introduction of a management review process for cases inactive for more than 12 months and an increase in Consent Orders being made has resulted in the overall increase in finalisations of family law cases for 2007-08. The introduction of the Federal Magistrates Court has implications for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Court lodgment time series. The Family Court of WA does elements of Family Court of Australia and Federal Magistrates Court work, so direct comparisons need to be made with caution. In November 2003, a practice direction was issued by the Family Court of Australia requiring all divorce applications to be lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court. However, a small number of divorce applications were still lodged and processed in the Family Court of Australia.									
(c)	The Federal Court of Australia has not applied the rule where a case is deemed to have been finalised if there is no action on a file in the last 12 months.									
(d)	SA Supreme court: 2005-06 was the first year that a deeming rule for finalisations was applied.									
(e)	From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. Therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution. While the number of civil finalisations has decreased for WA in 2007-08, the number of finalisations in 2006-07 was significantly higher than usual due to a data integrity project conducted that year. SA Supreme court 2005-06 civil appeal finalisations exclude Justices Act Appeals.									
(f)	Queensland Supreme Court non-appeal civil data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 have been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(g)	SA Supreme court lodgment and finalisation data prior to 2006-07 included some admissions matters which are out of scope for this collection and ACT included such admissions in data up to 2004-05.									
(h)	Queensland Supreme Court civil files are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of civil data for 2007-08.									
(i)	Queensland District Court civil files are now managed by a computerised case management system. There has been no extrapolation of civil data for 2007-08.									
(j)	Queensland District Court civil data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(k)	The increase in WA District Court lodgements compared to previous years is due to re-evaluation of the matters that are defined as "Personal Injuries" Namely, 'Damages General (Personal Inj)', 'Damages Medical Negligence', 'Damages Occupiers Accident', 'Damages Pers Inj - Ward State', 'Damages Pers Inj - No Category', 'Damages Worker Injury', 'Damages, Industrial Accident' and 'Damages, MV Accident'. Therefore comparisons with previous years should be made with caution.									

Table 7A.6

Table 7A.6 Finalisations, civil (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(l)	Victorian data for the Magistrates' court, civil, include a proportion of finalisations from the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal. (Victorian data for the Magistrates' court in 2006-07 included 72 615 finalisations in the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal.) In Victoria, applications for an intervention order in the children's court have been reported under magistrates' court finalisations.									
(m)	WA, Magistrates, civil, finalisations: prior to 2006-07 criminal injury compensation applications have been incorrectly included in lodgment and finalisation data. Data for prior years have not been revised, therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution.									
(n)	Queensland Children's Court data for civil cases is based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 includes some secondary processes in the count of care and protection cases lodged, finalised, and pending.									
(o)	ACT Children's court: care and protection finalisations - since 2006-07 the ACT has counted only the initial application on the case and the finalisation of that application in accordance with counting rules. In earlier years all applications were counted and care should be taken with comparisons.									
(p)	Family Court of Australia does not include instances where its Registrars; are given delegation to conduct Federal Magistrates Court divorce applications; or accept settlement agreements while conducting conferences on Federal Magistrates Court matters. The Family Court of Australia does not deem a matter finalised even if it has not had a court event for at least 12 months as this is not consistent with its case management practices.									
(q)	NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT include data on the finalisation of reported fires. Queensland included this data until 1 December 2003.									
(r)	Data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 may not include data for all coronial cases in Queensland Coroners Courts.									

na Not available. .. Not applicable.

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

Table 7A.7

Table 7A.7 Finalisations, criminal, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
<b>Supreme courts</b>										
2007-08	8	13	46	27	21	115	87	161	..	25
2006-07	9	13	41	21	23	123	75	198	..	24
2005-06	9	12	39	20	28	114	76	201	..	24
2004-05	10	12	36	23	27	113	62	197	..	24
2003-04	10	12	36	25	24	118	61	163	..	23
<b>District/county courts</b>										
2007-08	154	86	169	127	104	..	..	..	..	126
2006-07	142	86	162	129	93	..	..	..	..	120
2005-06	142	85	173	129	84	..	..	..	..	121
2004-05	148	91	157	135	83	..	..	..	..	122
2003-04	138	102	212	136	80	..	..	..	..	132
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>										
<b>Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)</b>										
2007-08	2 577	2 980	4 433	5 382	4 700	11 960	1 659	5 371	..	3 722
2006-07	2 554	2 521	4 253	4 694	4 502	10 601	1 624	5 346	..	3 446
2005-06	2 633	2 466	4 203	4 249	4 451	9 244	2 039	5 443	..	3 375
2004-05	2 646	2 606	4 005	3 909	3 709	10 268	1 675	5 549	..	3 302
2003-04	2 558	2 643	3 880	3 674	3 252	10 366	1 839	4 754	..	3 195
<b>Children's courts</b>										
2007-08	174	333	259	560	475	325	179	428	..	298
2006-07	155	335	267	518	446	267	156	562	..	287
2005-06	158	184	255	421	425	270	164	543	..	237
2004-05	171	160	265	411	373	274	146	583	..	232
2003-04	184	193	303	414	306	321	225	471	..	248

Table 7A.7

Table 7A.7 Finalisations, criminal, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 751	3 313	4 692	5 942	5 175	12 285	1 838	5 799	..	4 020
2006-07	2 708	2 856	4 520	5 212	4 949	10 868	1 780	5 908	..	3 733
2005-06	2 791	2 650	4 459	4 670	4 876	9 514	2 203	5 985	..	3 611
2004-05	2 817	2 766	4 270	4 320	4 082	10 542	1 821	6 132	..	3 534
2003-04	2 743	2 836	4 183	4 088	3 558	10 688	2 064	5 225	..	3 443
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	2 912	3 412	4 907	6 097	5 300	12 400	1 925	5 961	..	4 171
2006-07	2 859	2 955	4 723	5 362	5 065	10 991	1 855	6 106	..	3 877
2005-06	2 942	2 747	4 671	4 819	4 988	9 628	2 279	6 186	..	3 756
2004-05	2 975	2 869	4 463	4 477	4 193	10 656	1 883	6 329	..	3 679
2003-04	2 891	2 950	4 431	4 250	3 661	10 806	2 126	5 387	..	3 597
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	17 885	10 855	11 724	10 472	..	..	..	..	8 563
2006-07	..	13 241	10 346	7 928	9 252	..	..	..	..	6 821
2005-06	..	12 081	9 857	10 223	7 971	..	..	..	..	6 549
2004-05	..	11 757	9 285	9 236	6 007	..	..	..	..	6 090
2003-04	..	12 869	9 140	9 788	5 837	..	..	..	..	6 357
Aust cts = Australian courts.										

(a) Finalisations per 100 000 persons are derived from finalisation data presented in table 7A.5, and population data\* presented in table AA.2. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table, and/or its interpretation, is provided in tables 7A.5 and AA.2.

\*The financial year population estimate is based on the midpoint population estimate of the relevant financial year.

(b) The total number of lodgments for all states and territories in the financial year, divided by the Australian population (per 100 000 people).

.. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); Table 7A.5.

Population figures from Statistical Appendix Table AA.2. Historical rates in this table / figure may differ from those in previous Reports, as historical population data have been revised using Final Rebased Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data following the 2006 Census of Population and Housing (for 30 June 2002 to 2006, or 31 December 2001 to 2005).

Table 7A.8

Table 7A.8 Finalisations, civil, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	205	152	135	107	87	216	265	145	..	202
2006-07	209	151	132	137	80	247	312	145	..	190
2005-06	201	111	132	121	96	268	317	160	..	184
2004-05	185	123	157	125	60	309	425	188	..	177
2003-04	166	105	160	171	79	366	355	189	..	182
District/county courts										
2007-08	123	104	113	178	192	..	..	..	..	121
2006-07	126	96	148	178	200	..	..	..	..	127
2005-06	125	119	171	200	205	..	..	..	..	140
2004-05	123	167	201	196	196	..	..	..	..	156
2003-04	156	147	195	165	179	..	..	..	..	156
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 507	3 356	1 929	2 160	1 891	2 041	1 458	2 487	..	2 492
2006-07	2 648	3 554	2 104	2 416	1 881	2 233	1 674	2 519	..	2 656
2005-06	2 786	3 614	2 125	2 318	2 046	2 292	2 091	2 700	..	2 734
2004-05	2 727	3 614	2 194	2 527	1 606	2 421	2 151	2 011	..	2 713
2003-04	2 815	3 501	2 361	1 797	1 467	2 482	2 459	1 736	..	2 669
Children's courts										
2007-08	105	91	86	74	71	71	26	67	..	90
2006-07	100	83	83	59	78	64	43	65	..	84
2005-06	98	74	88	39	74	67	85	56	..	81
2004-05	86	95	98	34	57	38	82	68	..	82
2003-04	76	87	107	45	na	36	58	91	..	na

Table 7A.8

Table 7A.8 Finalisations, civil, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	2 612	3 446	2 015	2 234	1 962	2 113	1 483	2 553	..	2 582
2006-07	2 748	3 636	2 187	2 475	1 959	2 297	1 717	2 584	..	2 741
2005-06	2 883	3 688	2 213	2 357	2 121	2 359	2 176	2 756	..	2 815
2004-05	2 813	3 709	2 292	2 561	1 663	2 459	2 233	2 079	..	2 795
2003-04	2 891	3 588	2 467	1 842	na	2 517	2 517	1 827	..	na
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	2 940	3 703	2 264	2 519	2 242	2 328	1 748	2 698	..	2 905
2006-07	3 083	3 884	2 466	2 790	2 239	2 544	2 029	2 729	..	3 058
2005-06	3 209	3 918	2 516	2 678	2 422	2 627	2 493	2 916	..	3 139
2004-05	3 121	3 999	2 650	2 882	1 919	2 769	2 658	2 267	..	3 128
2003-04	3 213	3 840	2 823	2 179	na	2 883	2 872	2 017	..	na
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	806	..	..	..	..	114	174
2006-07	..	..	..	680	..	..	..	..	150	201
2005-06	..	..	..	870	..	..	..	..	185	251
2004-05	..	..	..	817	..	..	..	..	207	269
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	255	na
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	390	390
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	384	384
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	393	393
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	382	382
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	314	314

Table 7A.8

Table 7A.8 Finalisations, civil, per 100 000 people (a)

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	92	80	86	77	112	111	390	150	..	94
2006-07	80	94	76	63	121	108	539	123	..	93
2005-06	76	90	70	62	144	137	372	149	..	89
2004-05	70	86	75	53	220	126	426	164	..	93
2003-04	88	83	81	64	247	148	321	120	..	101

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Finalisations per 100 000 people are derived from finalisation data presented in table 7A.6, and population data\* presented in table AA.2. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table, and/or its interpretation, is provided in tables 7A.6 and AA.2. Tasmanian Supreme Court civil lodgment (finalisation and pending matters) data for 2003-04 to 2006-07 have been revised following a review of the data extraction processes undertaken as part of the introduction of a new computer system.

\*The financial year population estimate is based on the midpoint population estimate of the relevant financial year.

(b) The total number of lodgments for all states and territories in the financial year, divided by the Australian population (per 100 000 people). Totals for the 'Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court' level are derived by dividing the total of all civil state and territory supreme court, and Federal Court (not shown separately in the Aust cts column) lodgments in a financial year, by the Australian population (per 100 000 people).

na Not available. ... Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); Table 7A.6.

Population figures from Statistical Appendix Table AA.2. Historical rates in this table / figure may differ from those in previous Reports, as historical population data have been revised using Final Rebased Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data following the 2006 Census of Population and Housing (for 30 June 2002 to 2006, or 31 December 2001 to 2005).



Table 7A.9

Table 7A.9 Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Excluding payroll tax (a)										
Supreme courts (b), (c), (d), (e)										
2007-08	14 276	17 017	11 429	11 437	7 572	5 461	3 548	8 066	..	78 806
2006-07	13 519	18 888	10 334	9 194	6 752	5 719	3 206	7 903	..	75 515
2005-06	14 761	15 170	8 287	10 612	6 095	6 106	3 288	7 906	..	72 225
2004-05	16 710	14 514	9 128	8 094	6 531	5 304	3 635	7 838	..	71 753
2003-04	21 411	13 507	8 553	8 071	7 074	4 873	3 389	4 217	..	71 093
District/county courts (c), (d), (f), (g)										
2007-08	65 606	58 111	28 407	24 106	13 294	..	..	..	..	189 524
2006-07	62 717	53 243	27 660	22 017	12 457	..	..	..	..	178 094
2005-06	61 109	46 124	27 893	22 162	13 600	..	..	..	..	170 889
2004-05	58 669	48 893	29 602	18 007	12 589	..	..	..	..	167 760
2003-04	51 989	45 833	23 208	17 375	12 911	..	..	..	..	151 316
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	98 672	57 743	59 043	57 474	25 992	8 054	5 011	8 347	..	320 336
2006-07	104 303	50 795	57 074	52 999	26 239	8 366	4 474	7 766	..	312 016
2005-06	106 262	48 421	54 763	50 067	25 370	7 914	4 274	7 059	..	304 130
2004-05	108 799	46 324	53 902	37 162	26 205	7 930	4 434	7 990	..	292 746
2003-04	104 857	46 574	50 810	39 346	26 107	7 828	4 122	6 000	..	285 643
Children's courts (f)										
2007-08	9 954	1 496	6 673	4 232	2 949	570	1 055	934	..	27 863
2006-07	10 286	1 231	6 760	3 743	2 981	601	851	1 177	..	27 632
2005-06	8 859	1 294	6 680	3 501	3 054	493	888	513	..	25 283
2004-05	9 148	1 135	6 070	5 829	2 840	484	926	582	..	27 013
2003-04	10 766	1 211	7 604	6 058	2 387	511	884	581	..	30 002

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Table 7A.9

Table 7A.9 Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (f)										
2007-08	108 626	59 239	65 716	61 706	28 940	8 624	6 067	9 281	..	348 199
2006-07	114 589	52 026	63 834	56 741	29 221	8 967	5 326	8 944	..	339 648
2005-06	115 122	49 715	61 444	53 568	28 423	8 407	5 162	7 572	..	329 413
2004-05	117 947	47 459	59 971	42 991	29 045	8 414	5 360	8 571	..	319 759
2003-04	115 622	47 785	58 414	45 403	28 494	8 340	5 006	6 581	..	315 645
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	188 509	134 367	105 552	97 249	49 806	14 085	9 615	17 346	..	616 529
2006-07	190 825	124 157	101 829	87 953	48 429	14 685	8 531	16 847	..	593 257
2005-06	190 992	111 010	97 624	86 342	48 118	14 513	8 450	15 478	..	572 526
2004-05	193 326	110 865	98 701	69 091	48 166	13 719	8 994	16 409	..	559 272
2003-04	189 022	107 124	90 175	70 848	48 479	13 213	8 395	10 798	..	538 054
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (c)										
2007-08	..	2 139	10 524	7 665	6 395	..	..	..	..	26 724
2006-07	..	1 913	10 980	6 693	4 840	..	..	..	..	24 425
2005-06	..	2 108	10 167	6 037	4 264	..	..	..	..	22 576
2004-05	..	2 594	10 610	4 175	4 241	..	..	..	..	21 619
2003-04	..	1 862	10 173	4 323	4 364	..	..	..	..	20 721
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme courts (b), (c), (d), (e)										
2007-08	14 738	17 561	11 786	11 437	7 847	5 564	3 548	8 239	..	80 720
2006-07	13 960	19 346	10 630	9 194	7 019	5 825	3 206	8 077	..	77 257
2005-06	15 210	15 330	8 519	10 612	6 334	6 209	3 288	8 087	..	73 589
2004-05	17 216	14 857	9 400	8 094	6 773	5 377	3 635	7 974	..	73 325
2003-04	22 072	13 804	8 888	8 071	7 334	4 947	3 389	4 320	..	72 824

Table 7A.9

Table 7A.9 Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
District/county courts (c), (d), (f), (g)										
2007-08	67 108	59 050	29 097	24 106	13 762	..	..	..	..	193 124
2006-07	64 388	54 121	28 395	22 017	12 932	..	..	..	..	181 854
2005-06	62 784	46 932	28 617	22 162	14 149	..	..	..	..	174 644
2004-05	60 350	49 697	30 398	18 007	13 088	..	..	..	..	171 541
2003-04	53 554	46 745	24 022	17 375	13 418	..	..	..	..	155 113
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	102 144	59 421	60 754	57 474	26 951	8 209	5 011	8 597	..	328 561
2006-07	107 719	52 367	58 779	52 999	27 262	8 527	4 474	8 007	..	320 134
2005-06	109 719	49 940	56 364	50 067	26 401	8 077	4 274	7 285	..	312 127
2004-05	112 425	47 784	55 441	37 162	27 163	8 070	4 434	8 231	..	300 709
2003-04	107 536	47 944	52 638	39 346	27 109	7 973	4 122	6 224	..	292 891
Children's courts (f)										
2007-08	10 308	1 538	6 898	4 232	3 063	584	1 055	962	..	28 641
2006-07	10 640	1 270	6 935	3 743	3 118	616	851	1 214	..	28 387
2005-06	9 197	1 338	6 852	3 501	3 180	506	888	529	..	25 991
2004-05	9 455	1 178	6 234	5 829	2 958	493	926	599	..	27 672
2003-04	11 051	1 247	7 785	6 058	2 492	522	884	604	..	30 642
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (f)										
2007-08	112 452	60 959	67 652	61 706	30 015	8 793	6 067	9 558	..	357 202
2006-07	118 359	53 636	65 715	56 741	30 379	9 143	5 326	9 222	..	348 521
2005-06	118 916	51 278	63 216	53 568	29 580	8 583	5 162	7 814	..	338 118
2004-05	121 880	48 962	61 675	42 991	30 121	8 563	5 360	8 829	..	328 381
2003-04	118 587	49 192	60 422	45 403	29 601	8 495	5 006	6 827	..	323 534

Table 7A.9

Table 7A.9 Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	194 298	137 570	108 535	97 249	51 624	14 357	9 615	17 798	..	631 046
2006-07	196 707	127 104	104 740	87 953	50 331	14 968	8 531	17 298	..	607 632
2005-06	196 910	113 541	100 352	86 342	50 063	14 793	8 450	15 901	..	586 351
2004-05	199 446	113 517	101 473	69 091	49 983	13 940	8 994	16 803	..	573 248
2003-04	194 213	109 740	93 332	70 848	50 353	13 441	8 395	11 147	..	551 470
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (c)										
2007-08	..	2 223	10 832	7 665	6 592	..	..	..	..	27 312
2006-07	..	1 999	11 213	6 693	4 996	..	..	..	..	24 900
2005-06	..	2 205	10 377	6 037	4 406	..	..	..	..	23 026
2004-05	..	2 691	10 815	4 175	4 369	..	..	..	..	22 050
2003-04	..	1 949	10 423	4 323	4 496	..	..	..	..	21 191

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) To improve comparability across jurisdictions, payroll tax is excluded.

(b) Queensland Supreme Court Judicial staff FTE and expenditure data for 2006-07 has been calculated using a revised methodology to address an issue associated with the allocation of the FTE and expenditure data between the criminal and civil jurisdictions of the Supreme Court. Data for the reference periods prior to 2006-07 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.

(c) WA, The increase in expenditure in 2007-08 is primarily due to the increase in the actuarial assessment of the Judicial Pension scheme applicable to the Supreme Court and District Court. The methodology used to calculate expenses in relation to the Judicial Pension scheme varies between states and therefore comparisons should be made with caution. Prior to 2005-06, Supreme Court expenditure relating to judicial pension schemes, counselling services in the form of child witness and victim support services, and some court security costs were excluded. Increased expenditure in 2007-08 for the WA Electronic Court is due to additional costs incurred relating to the increase in infringement recovery.

(d) SA Supreme and District court FTE and expenditure data for 2006-07 has been calculated using a revised methodology, based on work effort, to determine the allocation between Criminal and Civil Jurisdictions. The impact is a more accurate allocation compared to previous years. It is reasonable that movements from last year's results can be partly attributed to this new methodology, noting that any such movements should be considered a correction of previous year's allocations.

(e) Tasmanian Supreme court, criminal, expenditure: In 2005-06 apportioning of resources to Criminal/Civil changed from 60/40% to 65/35% which reflects actual shift in sitting times.

Table 7A.9

**Table 7A.9 Real recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
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(f) In WA, expenditure has increased due to significantly higher land and buildings valuation for the Children's Court which has increased depreciation. Additional costs in the Court Security and Custodial Services contract resultant from increased hours attributed to Children's Court have increased the net cost per finalisation. Finalisations have increased by 10.7 per cent in comparison to the 2006-07 result. In Queensland, some children's court matters are heard in the district court. As a result, the inclusion of all children's court expenditure in the magistrates' court will lead to a slight overestimation of the magistrates' court total and an underestimation in the district court total.

(g) In NSW, Victoria and Queensland the criminal jurisdiction of the district/county courts can hear appeals. Appeals are not heard in this jurisdiction in WA or SA, instead they are heard in the Supreme courts in SA and WA.

**na** Not available .. Not applicable.

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

ABS Australian National Accounts: *National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0*. Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.

Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Excluding payroll tax (a)										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)										
2007-08	59 981	27 977	15 344	25 405	8 862	3 392	3 888	5 214	105 548	255 611
2006-07	64 490	27 195	16 772	22 843	10 002	3 461	4 032	5 097	94 649	248 542
2005-06	64 492	28 740	15 768	23 520	11 069	3 607	4 104	5 051	87 937	244 288
2004-05	65 226	28 847	15 248	19 473	11 651	3 772	4 530	5 187	91 469	245 403
2003-04	58 618	25 445	13 152	19 677	11 855	3 473	4 888	8 662	88 146	233 914
District/county courts (c), (f)										
2007-08	28 435	23 184	8 556	18 240	8 620	..	..	..	..	87 035
2006-07	28 420	23 075	8 756	15 368	8 824	..	..	..	..	84 444
2005-06	28 947	26 573	8 847	15 283	8 263	..	..	..	..	87 914
2004-05	35 553	27 727	8 228	15 498	8 428	..	..	..	..	95 434
2003-04	35 890	26 832	11 922	13 414	9 179	..	..	..	..	97 237
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (g), (h)										
2007-08	57 744	37 982	25 089	15 195	11 020	1 703	5 472	3 993	..	158 199
2006-07	62 251	34 244	26 245	15 994	12 480	1 781	4 769	4 084	..	161 848
2005-06	65 183	33 197	25 624	16 522	12 300	1 682	4 366	5 134	..	164 007
2004-05	68 290	31 610	25 421	17 814	12 993	1 677	4 518	5 811	..	168 134
2003-04	66 559	31 454	21 569	16 691	14 151	1 512	4 715	3 272	..	159 923
Children's courts (i)										
2007-08	8 095	5 987	4 108	800	820	19	550	80	..	20 458
2006-07	7 498	4 918	4 182	562	697	13	356	127	..	18 352
2005-06	6 610	5 308	4 195	429	703	-	358	128	..	17 732
2004-05	5 051	4 548	3 890	645	655	-	371	148	..	15 309
2003-04	4 067	5 086	5 595	415	747	-	503	92	..	16 506

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Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (g), (h), (i)										
2007-08	65 839	43 969	29 197	15 995	11 840	1 722	6 022	4 074	..	178 657
2006-07	69 748	39 161	30 427	16 557	13 177	1 794	5 125	4 211	..	180 200
2005-06	71 793	38 505	29 819	16 951	13 003	1 682	4 724	5 262	..	181 739
2004-05	73 341	36 158	29 312	18 459	13 649	1 677	4 889	5 958	..	183 442
2003-04	70 626	36 541	27 164	17 106	14 898	1 512	5 218	3 364	..	176 429
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	154 256	95 130	53 097	59 639	29 321	5 114	9 910	9 288	105 548	521 303
2006-07	162 659	89 431	55 955	54 768	32 003	5 255	9 156	9 308	94 649	513 185
2005-06	165 233	93 818	54 434	55 754	32 336	5 289	8 828	10 313	87 937	513 942
2004-05	174 120	92 732	52 788	53 429	33 728	5 449	9 419	11 145	91 469	524 279
2003-04	165 134	88 818	52 237	50 197	35 932	4 986	10 105	12 026	88 146	507 581
Family courts (j)										
2007-08	..	..	..	19 607	..	..	..	..	120 741	140 348
2006-07	..	..	..	21 578	..	..	..	..	128 971	150 549
2005-06	..	..	..	19 631	..	..	..	..	137 603	157 234
2004-05	..	..	..	19 129	..	..	..	..	132 565	151 694
2003-04	..	..	..	18 085	..	..	..	..	128 136	146 221
Federal Magistrates Court (k)										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77 840	77 840
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64 440	64 440
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53 845	53 845
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48 167	48 167
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38 186	38 186

Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Coroners' courts (l), (m), (n), (o)										
2007-08	8 394	17 394	12 328	10 482	4 916	1 290	1 275	1 085	..	57 164
2006-07	8 173	15 415	11 591	9 683	5 584	628	1 640	1 069	..	53 783
2005-06	8 464	12 969	10 422	9 900	5 590	584	1 058	1 179	..	50 166
2004-05	8 137	13 766	8 664	5 297	4 589	547	1 305	1 145	..	43 450
2003-04	9 239	13 962	8 040	5 068	4 763	683	2 892	977	..	45 625
<i>Probate (p)</i>										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	1 338	350	109	265	770	101	23	22	..	2 979
2006-07	1 339	627	116	279	625	124	15	21	..	3 146
2005-06	1 392	471	104	259	572	107	7	20	..	2 931
2004-05	1 444	638	106	299	567	102	7	38	..	3 201
2003-04	1 833	557	105	291	485	98	7	-	..	3 377
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)										
2007-08	62 025	28 916	15 820	25 405	9 219	3 448	3 888	5 330	105 548	259 599
2006-07	66 635	27 945	17 280	22 843	10 441	3 519	4 032	5 213	94 649	252 557
2005-06	66 460	29 115	16 244	23 520	11 570	3 663	4 104	5 171	87 937	247 783
2004-05	67 417	29 648	15 725	19 473	12 157	3 851	4 530	5 279	91 469	249 548
2003-04	60 550	26 138	13 671	19 677	12 354	3 554	4 888	8 902	88 146	237 879
District/county courts (c), (f)										
2007-08	29 121	23 592	8 806	18 240	8 957	..	..	..	..	88 716
2006-07	29 230	23 495	9 000	15 368	9 217	..	..	..	..	86 310
2005-06	29 870	27 102	9 086	15 283	8 586	..	..	..	..	89 927
2004-05	36 737	28 256	8 460	15 498	8 802	..	..	..	..	97 752
2003-04	36 941	27 328	12 231	13 414	9 557	..	..	..	..	99 471

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Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (g), (h)										
2007-08	59 499	39 216	25 780	15 195	11 379	1 734	5 472	4 113	..	162 388
2006-07	64 098	35 417	26 948	15 994	12 903	1 814	4 769	4 211	..	166 153
2005-06	67 101	34 363	26 312	16 522	12 727	1 714	4 366	5 298	..	168 403
2004-05	70 427	32 685	26 104	17 814	13 395	1 715	4 518	5 986	..	172 643
2003-04	69 580	32 464	22 242	16 691	14 570	1 551	4 715	3 395	..	165 209
Children's courts (i)										
2007-08	8 343	6 157	4 231	800	849	19	550	83	..	21 032
2006-07	7 728	5 073	4 293	562	728	13	356	131	..	18 883
2005-06	6 822	5 481	4 305	429	731	-	358	132	..	18 259
2004-05	5 223	4 689	3 995	645	683	-	371	152	..	15 759
2003-04	4 253	5 234	5 728	415	779	-	503	96	..	17 008
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (g), (h), (i)										
2007-08	67 842	45 373	30 011	15 995	12 228	1 753	6 022	4 196	..	183 419
2006-07	71 826	40 490	31 241	16 557	13 631	1 826	5 125	4 342	..	185 036
2005-06	73 922	39 844	30 617	16 951	13 458	1 714	4 724	5 430	..	186 661
2004-05	75 650	37 374	30 099	18 459	14 078	1 715	4 889	6 138	..	188 403
2003-04	73 833	37 698	27 970	17 106	15 349	1 551	5 218	3 491	..	182 216
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	158 988	97 882	54 637	59 639	30 404	5 201	9 910	9 525	105 548	531 735
2006-07	167 691	91 930	57 521	54 768	33 289	5 345	9 156	9 555	94 649	523 903
2005-06	170 252	96 060	55 948	55 754	33 614	5 377	8 828	10 601	87 937	524 371
2004-05	179 804	95 279	54 284	53 429	35 037	5 565	9 419	11 417	91 469	535 703
2003-04	171 324	91 165	53 872	50 197	37 259	5 105	10 105	12 393	88 146	519 566

Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Family courts (j)										
2007-08	..	..	..	19 607	..	..	..	..	120 741	140 348
2006-07	..	..	..	21 578	..	..	..	..	128 971	150 549
2005-06	..	..	..	19 631	..	..	..	..	137 603	157 234
2004-05	..	..	..	19 129	..	..	..	..	132 565	151 694
2003-04	..	..	..	18 085	..	..	..	..	128 136	146 221
Federal Magistrates Court (k)										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77 840	77 840
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64 440	64 440
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53 845	53 845
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48 167	48 167
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38 186	38 186
Coroners' courts (l), (m), (n), (o)										
2007-08	8 579	17 639	12 643	10 482	4 998	1 297	1 275	1 117	..	58 030
2006-07	8 345	15 591	11 830	9 683	5 691	635	1 640	1 100	..	54 515
2005-06	8 639	13 128	10 641	9 900	5 695	593	1 058	1 211	..	50 864
2004-05	8 295	13 906	8 853	5 297	4 652	556	1 305	1 173	..	44 036
2003-04	9 430	14 099	8 230	5 068	4 831	692	2 892	1 002	..	46 244
Probate (p)										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	1 338	350	109	265	770	101	23	22	..	2 979
2006-07	1 339	627	116	279	625	124	15	21	..	3 146
2005-06	1 392	471	104	259	572	107	7	20	..	2 931
2004-05	1 444	638	106	299	567	102	7	38	..	3 201
2003-04	1 833	557	105	291	485	98	7	-	..	3 377

Aust cts = Australian courts.

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Table 7A.10

**Table 7A.10 Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(a)	To improve comparability across jurisdictions, payroll tax is excluded.									
(b)	Data for the Federal Court of Australia exclude the costs of resources provided free of charge to the Federal Magistrates Court.									
(c)	Queensland Supreme Court Judicial staff FTE and expenditure data for 2006-07 has been calculated using a revised methodology to address an issue associated with the allocation of the FTE and expenditure data between the criminal and civil jurisdictions of the Supreme Court. Data for the reference periods prior to 2006-07 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(d)	WA: the increase in expenditure in 2007-08 is primarily due to the increase in the actuarial assessment of the Judicial Pension scheme applicable to the Supreme Court and District Court. The methodology used to calculate expenses in relation to the Judicial Pension scheme varies between states and therefore comparisons should be made with caution. Supreme court, civil, expenditure: Prior to 2005-06 expenditure relating to judicial pension schemes, civil enforcement activities provided by sheriff and bailiff services and some court security costs were excluded.									
(e)	Tasmanian Supreme court, civil, expenditure: In 2005-06 apportioning of resources to Criminal/Civil changed from 60/40% to 65/35% which reflects actual shift in sitting times.									
(f)	SA Supreme and District court FTE and expenditure data for 2006-07 has been calculated using a revised methodology, based on work effort, to determine the allocation between Criminal and Civil Jurisdictions. The impact is a more accurate allocation compared to previous years. It is reasonable that movements from last year's results can be partly attributed to this new methodology, noting that any such movements should be considered a correction of previous year's allocations.									
(g)	Victoria's data for the Magistrates' court, civil, includes a proportion of expenditure from the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal.									
(h)	WA, Magistrates, civil, expenditure: prior to 2006-07 resources associated with criminal injury compensation applications have been incorrectly included in civil data. Revised data for prior years is not available therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution.									
(i)	In Tasmania, civil matters in the children's court (care and protection orders) are dealt with by the criminal registry and therefore the civil expenditure from the children's court has been included in the criminal expenditure figures from 2003-04.									
(j)	The Family Court of Australia expenditure figures have been discounted (estimated) for resources and services (work of Court staff and accommodation) provided free of charge to the Federal Magistrates Court in accordance with the Federal Magistrates Act 1999. In addition the Family Court of Australia provide further shared services, including IT services, accommodation, work of Court staff and depreciation and amortisation that is currently not quantified and as such no additional discount could be applied. For the WA Family court, a revision of the cost allocation methodology applied to Department's corporate overheads has reduced overall expenditure attributed to the FCWA. This revised methodology was aligned with the model developed as part of the current Commonwealth funding review of the Family Court of WA. The closure of the building and maintenance provision account has also increased the revenue base by \$1.4 million in 2007-08. These two factors have reduced net expenditure attributed by 13.7 per cent in 2007-08 compared with 2006-07. Finalisations have increased by 19.6 per cent in 2007-08 which has also reduced the net cost per finalisation.									

Table 7A.10

Table 7A.10 **Real recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
(k) The Federal Magistrates Court expenditure data include resources received free of charge from the Federal Court of Australia and the Family Court of Australia.										
(l) The inclusion of expenditure for autopsy and chemical analysis work is inconsistent between states and territories. In some states and territories autopsy expenses are shared with health departments and are not recognised in the court's expenditure. In the 2009 Report, the recurrent expenditure for the Coroners' Court in Victoria has been adjusted to include for the first time the costs of autopsy and forensic science services provided to the Coroners' Court by the Victorian Institute of Forensic medicine. This adjustment has been made to the 2007-08 and previous years, and accounts for the most significant proportion of Victoria's Coroners' Court expenditure.										
(m) Queensland Coroners' Court expenditure data includes the full costs of government assisted burials/cremations, autopsies performed by Government Medical Officers and legal fees incurred in briefing counsel assisting for inquests and costs of preparing matters of inquest, including the costs of obtaining independent expert reports.										
(n) The inclusion of expenditure for autopsy and chemical analysis work varies between states and territories and can affect the comparability of this expenditure series. For example, the WA Coroner's court data includes costs for pathology, toxicology and body removals totalling the relatively large amount of \$5.17m in its cost per finalisation. Similarly, recurrent expenditure for the Coroners' Court in Victoria has been adjusted to include for the first time the costs of autopsy and forensic science services provided to the Coroners' Court by the Victorian Institute of Forensic medicine. This adjustment has been made to the 2007-08 (and previous) year(s), and accounts for the most significant proportion of Victoria's Coroners' Court expenditure.										
(o) Expenditure in the ACT coroners' court in 2006-07 include expenditure relating to finalising the Coronial Bushfire Inquiry, and autopsy and forensic costs from previous years paid in 2006-07.										
(p) Payroll tax could not be estimated and deducted for probate registries.										
.. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.										
Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished). ABS Australian National Accounts: <i>National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0</i> . Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.										

Table 7A.11

## Table 7A.11 Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
<b>Criminal income</b>										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	239	55	105	30	302	-	108	30	..	869
2006-07	276	-	140	20	380	-	6	44	..	865
2005-06	241	-	185	54	336	-	26	51	..	892
2004-05	339	-	134	106	423	-	18	64	..	1 084
2003-04	568	-	64	29	523	-	4	56	..	1 243
District/county courts										
2007-08	4 103	-	305	89	515	..	..	..	..	5 012
2006-07	3 220	-	614	50	692	..	..	..	..	4 576
2005-06	2 843	-	808	58	660	..	..	..	..	4 369
2004-05	1 943	-	148	80	704	..	..	..	..	2 875
2003-04	1 831	-	145	90	753	..	..	..	..	2 818
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (b)										
2007-08	8 820	-	874	4 158	151	400	455	38	..	14 895
2006-07	8 873	-	1 222	3 774	143	510	647	44	..	15 214
2005-06	10 697	-	1 329	3 169	412	446	745	44	..	16 843
2004-05	7 153	-	946	3 975	417	640	597	48	..	13 777
2003-04	3 730	-	702	3 524	431	479	564	40	..	9 471
Children's courts										
2007-08	10	-	99	186	22	-	7	4	..	327
2006-07	89	-	122	47	21	-	13	5	..	298
2005-06	88	-	121	21	58	-	19	3	..	309
2004-05	14	-	90	21	41	-	16	3	..	184
2003-04	5	-	111	64	40	-	19	6	..	245

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Table 7A.11

Table 7A.11 **Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (b)										
2007-08	8 829	-	973	4 344	173	400	461	41	..	15 222
2006-07	8 962	-	1 344	3 822	165	510	660	50	..	15 512
2005-06	10 785	-	1 450	3 191	470	446	764	46	..	17 152
2004-05	7 167	-	1 037	3 995	458	640	613	51	..	13 961
2003-04	3 735	-	813	3 588	471	479	584	46	..	9 716
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	13 171	55	1 383	4 463	990	400	569	71	..	21 102
2006-07	12 458	-	2 097	3 892	1 237	510	666	93	..	20 953
2005-06	13 869	-	2 444	3 302	1 466	446	790	97	..	22 413
2004-05	9 449	-	1 318	4 182	1 584	640	631	115	..	17 920
2003-04	6 134	-	1 021	3 707	1 747	479	588	102	..	13 778
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems (c)										
2007-08	..	75 366	22 043	17 376	13 592	..	..	..	..	128 377
2006-07	..	56 527	24 392	14 975	14 031	..	..	..	..	109 925
2005-06	..	25 314	24 487	15 758	13 290	..	..	..	..	78 849
2004-05	..	30 761	24 944	11 324	12 192	..	..	..	..	79 221
2003-04	..	31 801	23 357	12 373	11 559	..	..	..	..	79 090
<b>Civil income</b>										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (d)										
2007-08	25 267	7 923	3 028	3 540	2 366	613	1 259	212	11 525	55 734
2006-07	26 469	9 118	3 622	3 630	2 153	685	972	218	9 043	55 910
2005-06	24 309	8 979	3 766	3 609	2 079	713	1 270	193	10 118	55 036
2004-05	25 155	8 997	3 049	3 968	2 159	761	1 063	222	9 376	54 749
2003-04	22 673	8 554	4 487	3 775	2 308	280	1 089	164	8 363	51 694

Table 7A.11

## Table 7A.11 Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

District/county courts	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
2007-08	12 263	5 562	2 519	3 222	2 124	..	..	..	..	25 689
2006-07	12 012	4 908	2 799	2 895	1 832	..	..	..	..	24 446
2005-06	11 815	5 585	3 398	3 059	1 948	..	..	..	..	25 805
2004-05	14 412	6 639	4 483	3 213	2 082	..	..	..	..	30 830
2003-04	17 078	7 779	6 134	3 095	2 171	..	..	..	..	36 257
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (b)										
2007-08	28 449	16 436	8 798	5 983	4 887	885	951	297	..	66 686
2006-07	27 899	17 190	9 736	6 402	4 863	924	1 217	408	..	68 640
2005-06	32 117	18 156	10 409	6 410	5 282	967	1 372	419	..	75 132
2004-05	33 768	18 322	11 014	5 517	4 727	968	1 660	438	..	76 415
2003-04	36 477	18 520	10 522	5 693	4 497	1 140	1 768	523	..	79 140
Children's courts										
2007-08	8	-	66	49	3	-	3	0	..	129
2006-07	67	-	81	51	5	-	13	1	..	217
2005-06	89	-	82	2	5	-	12	1	..	190
2004-05	11	-	66	9	5	-	7	1	..	99
2003-04	5	-	28	6	6	-	8	1	..	53
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (b)										
2007-08	28 457	16 436	8 864	6 032	4 890	885	954	297	..	66 815
2006-07	27 966	17 190	9 818	6 453	4 868	924	1 230	409	..	68 857
2005-06	32 207	18 156	10 491	6 412	5 287	967	1 383	419	..	75 322
2004-05	33 780	18 322	11 080	5 526	4 732	968	1 667	439	..	76 514
2003-04	36 482	18 520	10 550	5 699	4 503	1 140	1 776	524	..	79 193

Table 7A.11

Table 7A.11 Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	65 986	29 921	14 411	12 794	9 381	1 498	2 212	509	11 525	148 238
2006-07	66 447	31 216	16 239	12 978	8 853	1 609	2 202	627	9 043	149 213
2005-06	68 331	32 720	17 654	13 080	9 314	1 680	2 653	612	10 118	156 163
2004-05	73 347	33 958	18 612	12 708	8 972	1 729	2 729	662	9 376	162 093
2003-04	76 233	34 852	21 171	12 569	8 982	1 420	2 865	688	8 363	167 144
Family courts (d)										
2007-08	..	..	..	3 567	..	..	..	..	6 582	10 148
2006-07	..	..	..	2 207	..	..	..	..	5 208	7 415
2005-06	..	..	..	2 061	..	..	..	..	7 496	9 557
2004-05	..	..	..	1 897	..	..	..	..	5 861	7 758
2003-04	..	..	..	1 884	..	..	..	..	6 082	7 966
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 607	19 607
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 684	16 684
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 731	14 731
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 251	14 251
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 366	13 366
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	160	-	85	19	6	-	20	-	..	290
2006-07	167	-	120	54	12	4	38	-	..	395
2005-06	146	-	132	99	36	2	45	-	..	460
2004-05	180	11	155	110	25	2	25	-	..	508
2003-04	178	17	244	133	28	5	27	-	..	631



Table 7A.11

Table 7A.11 **Real income (excluding fines), criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
<i>Probate</i>										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	19 210	4 510	3 551	3 042	3 305	752	409	149	..	34 929
2006-07	18 516	4 815	2 972	2 770	3 345	761	383	85	..	33 647
2005-06	17 992	4 200	2 623	2 707	3 148	752	382	48	..	31 852
2004-05	17 993	4 143	2 928	2 571	3 130	668	379	45	..	31 857
2003-04	17 770	4 298	–	2 664	3 206	266	375	39	..	28 619

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Income is derived from court fees, library revenue, court reporting revenue, sheriff and bailiff revenue, probate revenue, mediation revenue, rental income and any other sources of revenue (excluding fines).

(b) The Victorian Magistrates Court is currently unable to differentiate criminal fees from the total civil income. Therefore, the civil income for the Magistrates court in Victoria is slightly over-estimated. Victoria's income data also includes a proportion of fees paid through the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

(c) The 2007-08 result for WA has been driven by an increase in the number of infringements lodged and finalised in comparison to 2006-07. A large proportion of matters which were referred by the Western Australia Police in 200-08. These matters have a good rate of recovery and contributed significantly to increasing revenue by 20 per cent. These factors have led to a decrease in the net cost per finalisation for WA. Victorian electronic infringement and enforcement system income comes from government and non-government filing fees and statutory agency costs.

(d) WA and Australian Family Courts. The introduction of the Federal Magistrates Court has implications for the Federal Court and Family Court of Australia income time series. The increase in expenditure in 2007-08 for the WA Family Court is attributed to the closure of the building maintenance trust account. This once off funding source was used to offset an operational deficit in 2007-08.

.. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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

ABS Australian National Accounts: *National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0, Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP)*, Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.

Table 7A.12

Table 7A.12 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	14 038	16 962	11 324	11 407	7 269	5 461	3 440	8 036	..	77 937
2006-07	13 243	18 888	10 195	9 174	6 372	5 719	3 200	7 859	..	74 650
2005-06	14 520	15 170	8 101	10 558	5 759	6 106	3 263	7 855	..	71 333
2004-05	16 371	14 514	8 994	7 987	6 108	5 304	3 616	7 774	..	70 669
2003-04	20 843	13 507	8 489	8 042	6 551	4 873	3 385	4 161	..	69 850
District/county courts										
2007-08	61 503	58 111	28 102	24 017	12 779	..	..	..	..	184 512
2006-07	59 497	53 243	27 047	21 967	11 764	..	..	..	..	173 519
2005-06	58 266	46 124	27 085	22 104	12 940	..	..	..	..	166 520
2004-05	56 726	48 893	29 453	17 927	11 885	..	..	..	..	164 884
2003-04	50 159	45 833	23 063	17 285	12 158	..	..	..	..	148 497
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	89 852	57 743	58 169	53 316	25 841	7 654	4 557	8 309	..	305 441
2006-07	95 429	50 795	55 852	49 224	26 096	7 855	3 828	7 722	..	296 802
2005-06	95 565	48 421	53 434	46 898	24 957	7 468	3 529	7 015	..	287 287
2004-05	101 646	46 324	52 955	33 187	25 788	7 290	3 837	7 942	..	278 969
2003-04	101 127	46 574	50 108	35 821	25 675	7 349	3 557	5 960	..	276 172
Children's courts										
2007-08	9 945	1 496	6 574	4 046	2 927	570	1 049	930	..	27 537
2006-07	10 198	1 231	6 639	3 695	2 960	601	838	1 172	..	27 334
2005-06	8 772	1 294	6 559	3 479	2 996	493	869	510	..	24 973
2004-05	9 135	1 135	5 979	5 808	2 800	484	910	578	..	26 829
2003-04	10 761	1 211	7 493	5 994	2 347	511	865	575	..	29 757

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Table 7A.12

Table 7A.12 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	99 797	59 239	64 743	57 362	28 768	8 224	5 605	9 239	..	332 977
2006-07	105 627	52 026	62 491	52 920	29 056	8 456	4 666	8 894	..	324 135
2005-06	104 337	49 715	59 993	50 377	27 953	7 961	4 398	7 525	..	312 261
2004-05	110 781	47 459	58 935	38 995	28 587	7 774	4 747	8 520	..	305 798
2003-04	111 888	47 785	57 602	41 815	28 023	7 860	4 422	6 535	..	305 929
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	175 338	134 312	104 169	92 786	48 816	13 685	9 046	17 275	..	595 427
2006-07	178 367	124 157	99 732	84 061	47 193	14 175	7 865	16 754	..	572 304
2005-06	177 123	111 010	95 180	83 039	46 652	14 067	7 661	15 381	..	550 113
2004-05	183 878	110 865	97 382	64 910	46 581	13 078	8 363	16 294	..	541 352
2003-04	182 889	107 124	89 154	67 141	46 732	12 734	7 807	10 696	..	524 276
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 73 227	- 11 519	- 9 711	- 7 197	..	..	..	..	- 101 653
2006-07	..	- 54 615	- 13 411	- 8 282	- 9 191	..	..	..	..	- 85 499
2005-06	..	- 23 206	- 14 321	- 9 720	- 9 025	..	..	..	..	- 56 272
2004-05	..	- 28 168	- 14 334	- 7 150	- 7 950	..	..	..	..	- 57 602
2003-04	..	- 29 940	- 13 184	- 8 050	- 7 195	..	..	..	..	- 58 369
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	14 499	17 506	11 681	11 407	7 545	5 564	3 440	8 210	..	79 852
2006-07	13 684	19 346	10 491	9 174	6 640	5 825	3 200	8 033	..	76 392
2005-06	14 969	15 330	8 334	10 558	5 999	6 209	3 263	8 036	..	72 698
2004-05	16 877	14 857	9 266	7 987	6 351	5 377	3 616	7 910	..	72 242
2003-04	21 504	13 804	8 824	8 042	6 811	4 947	3 385	4 264	..	71 580

Table 7A.12

Table 7A.12 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

District/county courts	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
2007-08	63 006	59 050	28 792	24 017	13 247	..	..	..	..	188 112
2006-07	61 169	54 121	27 781	21 967	12 240	..	..	..	..	177 278
2005-06	59 941	46 932	27 809	22 104	13 489	..	..	..	..	170 275
2004-05	58 408	49 697	30 250	17 927	12 384	..	..	..	..	168 666
2003-04	51 723	46 745	23 877	17 285	12 665	..	..	..	..	152 295
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	93 324	59 421	59 880	53 316	26 800	7 809	4 557	8 559	..	313 666
2006-07	98 845	52 367	57 557	49 224	27 118	8 017	3 828	7 963	..	304 920
2005-06	99 022	49 940	55 035	46 898	25 989	7 631	3 529	7 241	..	295 284
2004-05	105 272	47 784	54 494	33 187	26 746	7 429	3 837	8 183	..	286 932
2003-04	103 806	47 944	51 936	35 821	26 678	7 493	3 557	6 183	..	283 420
Children's courts										
2007-08	10 299	1 538	6 799	4 046	3 042	584	1 049	958	..	28 314
2006-07	10 552	1 270	6 814	3 695	3 096	616	838	1 209	..	28 089
2005-06	9 109	1 338	6 731	3 479	3 122	506	869	527	..	25 681
2004-05	9 442	1 178	6 144	5 808	2 918	493	910	595	..	27 488
2003-04	11 046	1 247	7 674	5 994	2 452	522	865	598	..	30 397
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	103 623	60 959	66 679	57 362	29 842	8 393	5 605	9 517	..	341 980
2006-07	109 397	53 636	64 371	52 920	30 215	8 632	4 666	9 172	..	333 009
2005-06	108 131	51 278	61 766	50 377	29 110	8 137	4 398	7 767	..	320 965
2004-05	114 713	48 962	60 638	38 995	29 663	7 922	4 747	8 778	..	314 420
2003-04	114 852	49 192	59 610	41 815	29 130	8 015	4 422	6 781	..	313 817

Table 7A.12

Table 7A.12 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	181 128	137 515	107 152	92 786	50 634	13 957	9 046	17 727	..	609 944
2006-07	184 249	127 104	102 643	84 061	49 094	14 457	7 865	17 205	..	586 679
2005-06	183 041	113 541	97 908	83 039	48 598	14 347	7 661	15 803	..	563 938
2004-05	189 998	113 517	100 154	64 910	48 398	13 300	8 363	16 688	..	555 327
2003-04	188 079	109 740	92 311	67 141	48 607	12 962	7 807	11 045	..	537 692
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 73 143	- 11 211	- 9 711	- 7 000	..	..	..	..	- 101 064
2006-07	..	- 54 528	- 13 179	- 8 282	- 9 035	..	..	..	..	- 85 025
2005-06	..	- 23 109	- 14 110	- 9 720	- 8 883	..	..	..	..	- 55 823
2004-05	..	- 28 071	- 14 129	- 7 150	- 7 822	..	..	..	..	- 57 171
2003-04	..	- 29 852	- 12 934	- 8 050	- 7 063	..	..	..	..	- 57 899

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in table 7A.9 and income data presented in table 7A.11. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in these tables.

.. Not applicable.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.9 and 7A.11.

Table 7A.13

Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	34 714	20 053	12 316	21 864	6 495	2 779	2 630	5 002	94 023	199 877
2006-07	38 021	18 077	13 150	19 213	7 849	2 776	3 060	4 880	85 606	192 632
2005-06	40 183	19 761	12 002	19 911	8 990	2 894	2 835	4 858	77 819	189 253
2004-05	40 071	19 850	12 199	15 505	9 493	3 011	3 467	4 965	82 094	190 653
2003-04	35 944	16 891	8 664	15 902	9 547	3 193	3 799	8 497	79 782	182 220
District/county courts										
2007-08	16 173	17 622	6 037	15 018	6 496	..	..	..	..	61 346
2006-07	16 408	18 167	5 957	12 473	6 992	..	..	..	..	59 997
2005-06	17 133	20 988	5 449	12 224	6 316	..	..	..	..	62 109
2004-05	21 140	21 088	3 745	12 284	6 346	..	..	..	..	64 604
2003-04	18 812	19 053	5 788	10 320	7 008	..	..	..	..	60 980
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	29 296	21 546	16 291	9 212	6 133	818	4 521	3 696	..	91 513
2006-07	34 351	17 054	16 508	9 592	7 617	857	3 551	3 676	..	93 208
2005-06	33 065	15 041	15 215	10 112	7 017	714	2 994	4 715	..	88 875
2004-05	34 522	13 288	14 408	12 297	8 266	709	2 858	5 372	..	91 719
2003-04	30 082	12 935	11 046	10 998	9 654	373	2 947	2 749	..	80 783
Children's courts										
2007-08	8 087	5 987	4 042	751	817	19	547	80	..	20 329
2006-07	7 431	4 918	4 101	512	692	13	343	126	..	18 135
2005-06	6 521	5 308	4 113	427	699	-	347	128	..	17 543
2004-05	5 040	4 548	3 824	636	651	-	364	146	..	15 209
2003-04	4 063	5 086	5 568	409	741	-	495	91	..	16 453
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Table 7A.13

Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	37 383	27 533	20 333	9 963	6 949	837	5 068	3 776	..	111 842
2006-07	41 782	21 972	20 609	10 104	8 309	870	3 895	3 802	..	111 343
2005-06	39 587	20 349	19 328	10 540	7 716	714	3 341	4 843	..	106 417
2004-05	39 562	17 836	18 232	12 933	8 917	709	3 223	5 519	..	106 928
2003-04	34 144	18 021	16 614	11 407	10 395	373	3 442	2 840	..	97 236
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	88 269	65 209	38 686	46 845	19 941	3 616	7 698	8 778	94 023	373 065
2006-07	96 212	58 216	39 717	41 790	23 150	3 646	6 955	8 682	85 606	363 972
2005-06	96 902	61 098	36 780	42 674	23 022	3 609	6 175	9 700	77 819	357 779
2004-05	100 773	58 774	34 176	40 721	24 756	3 720	6 689	10 484	82 094	362 186
2003-04	88 901	53 966	31 066	37 628	26 950	3 566	7 240	11 338	79 782	340 436
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	16 040	..	..	..	..	114 159	130 200
2006-07	..	..	..	19 371	..	..	..	..	123 763	143 134
2005-06	..	..	..	17 570	..	..	..	..	130 107	147 677
2004-05	..	..	..	17 232	..	..	..	..	126 704	143 936
2003-04	..	..	..	16 201	..	..	..	..	122 053	138 254
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58 233	58 233
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 755	47 755
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39 115	39 115
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 916	33 916
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 820	24 820

Table 7A.13

## Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	8 234	17 394	12 243	10 463	4 910	1 290	1 255	1 085	..	56 874
2006-07	8 006	15 415	11 471	9 629	5 572	624	1 602	1 069	..	53 388
2005-06	8 318	12 969	10 290	9 801	5 554	582	1 013	1 179	..	49 706
2004-05	7 957	13 755	8 509	5 187	4 564	545	1 280	1 145	..	42 942
2003-04	9 062	13 946	7 796	4 935	4 735	678	2 865	977	..	44 994
<i>Probate</i>										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	- 17 871	- 4 160	- 3 442	- 2 777	- 2 535	- 651	- 386	- 128	..	- 31 950
2006-07	- 17 177	- 4 188	- 2 856	- 2 491	- 2 720	- 638	- 369	- 63	..	- 30 501
2005-06	- 16 600	- 3 728	- 2 519	- 2 448	- 2 576	- 646	- 376	- 28	..	- 28 921
2004-05	- 16 549	- 3 505	- 2 822	- 2 272	- 2 563	- 566	- 372	- 7	..	- 28 656
2003-04	- 15 937	- 3 741	105	- 2 373	- 2 721	- 168	- 368	- 39	..	- 25 242
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	36 758	20 993	12 792	21 864	6 853	2 835	2 630	5 118	94 023	203 865
2006-07	40 166	18 827	13 658	19 213	8 288	2 833	3 060	4 995	85 606	196 647
2005-06	42 151	20 135	12 479	19 911	9 491	2 950	2 835	4 978	77 819	192 747
2004-05	42 261	20 652	12 676	15 505	9 999	3 089	3 467	5 056	82 094	194 798
2003-04	37 877	17 585	9 184	15 902	10 045	3 273	3 799	8 738	79 782	186 185
District/county courts										
2007-08	16 858	18 031	6 287	15 018	6 833	..	..	..	..	63 027
2006-07	17 218	18 587	6 201	12 473	7 384	..	..	..	..	61 864
2005-06	18 055	21 517	5 688	12 224	6 639	..	..	..	..	64 122
2004-05	22 325	21 616	3 977	12 284	6 720	..	..	..	..	66 923
2003-04	19 863	19 549	6 097	10 320	7 385	..	..	..	..	63 214

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Table 7A.13

Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	31 050	22 780	16 982	9 212	6 492	849	4 521	3 816	..	95 702
2006-07	36 199	18 227	17 211	9 592	8 040	890	3 551	3 803	..	97 513
2005-06	34 984	16 207	15 903	10 112	7 444	747	2 994	4 879	..	93 270
2004-05	36 659	14 363	15 090	12 297	8 667	747	2 858	5 548	..	96 229
2003-04	33 103	13 944	11 719	10 998	10 073	412	2 947	2 872	..	86 069
Children's courts										
2007-08	8 335	6 157	4 165	751	846	19	547	82	..	20 903
2006-07	7 662	5 073	4 211	512	723	13	343	130	..	18 666
2005-06	6 732	5 481	4 224	427	726	-	347	132	..	18 069
2004-05	5 211	4 689	3 929	636	679	-	364	151	..	15 660
2003-04	4 249	5 234	5 700	409	773	-	495	95	..	16 954
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	39 386	28 937	21 147	9 963	7 338	868	5 068	3 898	..	116 605
2006-07	43 860	23 300	21 423	10 104	8 763	902	3 895	3 933	..	116 180
2005-06	41 716	21 688	20 126	10 540	8 171	747	3 341	5 011	..	111 339
2004-05	41 870	19 053	19 019	12 933	9 346	747	3 223	5 699	..	111 889
2003-04	37 351	19 179	17 420	11 407	10 846	412	3 442	2 967	..	103 023
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	93 002	67 961	40 226	46 845	21 023	3 703	7 698	9 016	94 023	383 497
2006-07	101 244	60 714	41 282	41 790	24 436	3 735	6 955	8 928	85 606	374 690
2005-06	101 922	63 340	38 293	42 674	24 300	3 697	6 175	9 989	77 819	368 209
2004-05	106 457	61 321	35 672	40 721	26 064	3 836	6 689	10 755	82 094	373 610
2003-04	95 091	56 313	32 701	37 628	28 277	3 685	7 240	11 704	79 782	352 422

Table 7A.13

Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
<b>Family courts</b>										
2007-08	..	..	..	16 040	..	..	..	..	114 159	130 200
2006-07	..	..	..	19 371	..	..	..	..	123 763	143 134
2005-06	..	..	..	17 570	..	..	..	..	130 107	147 677
2004-05	..	..	..	17 232	..	..	..	..	126 704	143 936
2003-04	..	..	..	16 201	..	..	..	..	122 053	138 254
<b>Federal Magistrates Court</b>										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58 233	58 233
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 755	47 755
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39 115	39 115
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 916	33 916
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 820	24 820
<b>Coroners' courts</b>										
2007-08	8 419	17 639	12 558	10 463	4 992	1 297	1 255	1 117	..	57 740
2006-07	8 178	15 591	11 710	9 629	5 679	632	1 602	1 100	..	54 120
2005-06	8 493	13 128	10 509	9 801	5 660	591	1 013	1 211	..	50 405
2004-05	8 115	13 895	8 697	5 187	4 627	554	1 280	1 173	..	43 528
2003-04	9 252	14 083	7 986	4 935	4 803	688	2 865	1 002	..	45 613
<b>Probate</b>										
<b>Supreme courts</b>										
2007-08	- 17 871	- 4 160	- 3 442	- 2 777	- 2 535	- 651	- 386	- 128	..	- 31 950
2006-07	- 17 177	- 4 188	- 2 856	- 2 491	- 2 720	- 638	- 369	- 63	..	- 30 501
2005-06	- 16 600	- 3 728	- 2 519	- 2 448	- 2 576	- 646	- 376	- 28	..	- 28 921
2004-05	- 16 549	- 3 505	- 2 822	- 2 272	- 2 563	- 566	- 372	- 7	..	- 28 656
2003-04	- 15 937	- 3 741	105	- 2 373	- 2 721	- 168	- 368	- 39	..	- 25 242

Aust cts = Australian courts.

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Table 7A.13

**Table 7A.13 Real net recurrent expenditure, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
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(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in table 7A.10 and income data presented in table 7A.11. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in these tables.

.. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.10 and 7A.11.

Table 7A.14

Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b)										
2007-08	48 752	37 016	23 640	33 271	13 765	8 240	6 070	13 038	94 023	277 814
2006-07	51 264	36 965	23 345	28 387	14 222	8 495	6 260	12 739	85 606	267 282
2005-06	54 703	34 931	20 104	30 469	14 749	9 000	6 097	12 713	77 819	260 585
2004-05	56 442	34 364	21 193	23 492	15 601	8 315	7 083	12 739	82 094	261 323
2003-04	56 787	30 398	17 153	23 944	16 098	8 066	7 184	12 658	79 782	252 070
District/county courts										
2007-08	77 676	75 733	34 139	39 035	19 274	..	..	..	..	245 858
2006-07	75 905	71 410	33 004	34 441	18 756	..	..	..	..	233 516
2005-06	75 399	67 112	32 534	34 328	19 256	..	..	..	..	228 629
2004-05	77 866	69 981	33 199	30 211	18 232	..	..	..	..	229 489
2003-04	68 970	64 886	28 851	27 604	19 166	..	..	..	..	209 478
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	119 148	79 289	74 460	62 528	31 973	8 472	9 078	12 006	..	396 954
2006-07	129 781	67 849	72 360	58 817	33 713	8 713	7 379	11 398	..	390 009
2005-06	128 631	63 462	68 649	57 010	31 975	8 182	6 523	11 730	..	376 162
2004-05	136 168	59 612	67 363	45 484	34 054	7 999	6 695	13 314	..	370 689
2003-04	131 208	59 509	61 155	46 819	35 329	7 722	6 504	8 709	..	356 955
Children's courts										
2007-08	18 032	7 483	10 616	4 797	3 744	589	1 596	1 010	..	47 866
2006-07	17 629	6 149	10 740	4 207	3 652	614	1 181	1 298	..	45 469
2005-06	15 293	6 602	10 673	3 907	3 694	493	1 216	638	..	42 516
2004-05	14 175	5 683	9 804	6 444	3 450	484	1 274	725	..	42 038
2003-04	14 824	6 297	13 061	6 403	3 089	511	1 359	666	..	46 210

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Table 7A.14

## Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	137 180	86 772	85 076	67 325	35 717	9 061	10 674	13 016	..	444 820
2006-07	147 410	73 998	83 100	63 024	37 365	9 326	8 560	12 696	..	435 478
2005-06	143 924	70 064	79 322	60 917	35 669	8 675	7 739	12 368	..	418 678
2004-05	150 342	65 295	77 167	51 928	37 504	8 483	7 969	14 039	..	412 726
2003-04	146 032	65 806	74 215	53 222	38 418	8 233	7 864	9 375	..	403 165
All courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems, the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, and coroners' courts)										
2007-08	263 607	199 521	142 855	139 631	68 756	17 301	16 743	26 054	94 023	968 492
2006-07	274 579	182 373	139 449	125 851	70 342	17 821	14 820	25 435	85 606	936 276
2005-06	274 025	172 108	131 960	125 713	69 674	17 675	13 836	25 081	77 819	907 892
2004-05	284 651	169 639	131 558	105 631	71 337	16 798	15 053	26 777	82 094	903 538
2003-04	271 789	161 090	120 220	104 769	73 682	16 299	15 047	22 033	79 782	864 713
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 73 227	- 11 519	- 9 711	- 7 197	..	..	..	..	- 101 653
2006-07	..	- 54 615	- 13 411	- 8 282	- 9 191	..	..	..	..	- 85 499
2005-06	..	- 23 206	- 14 321	- 9 720	- 9 025	..	..	..	..	- 56 272
2004-05	..	- 28 168	- 14 334	- 7 150	- 7 950	..	..	..	..	- 57 602
2003-04	..	- 29 940	- 13 184	- 8 050	- 7 195	..	..	..	..	- 58 369
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	16 040	..	..	..	..	114 159	130 200
2006-07	..	..	..	19 371	..	..	..	..	123 763	143 134
2005-06	..	..	..	17 570	..	..	..	..	130 107	147 677
2004-05	..	..	..	17 232	..	..	..	..	126 704	143 936
2003-04	..	..	..	16 201	..	..	..	..	122 053	138 254

Table 7A.14

Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58 233	58 233
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 755	47 755
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39 115	39 115
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 916	33 916
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 820	24 820
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	8 234	17 394	12 243	10 463	4 910	1 290	1 255	1 085	..	56 874
2006-07	8 006	15 415	11 471	9 629	5 572	624	1 602	1 069	..	53 388
2005-06	8 318	12 969	10 290	9 801	5 554	582	1 013	1 179	..	49 706
2004-05	7 957	13 755	8 509	5 187	4 564	545	1 280	1 145	..	42 942
2003-04	9 062	13 946	7 796	4 935	4 735	678	2 865	977	..	44 994
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court (b)										
2007-08	51 257	38 499	24 473	33 271	14 397	8 399	6 070	13 327	94 023	283 717
2006-07	53 850	38 173	24 149	28 387	14 928	8 658	6 260	13 028	85 606	273 039
2005-06	57 120	35 466	20 812	30 469	15 489	9 159	6 097	13 014	77 819	265 445
2004-05	59 138	35 509	21 942	23 492	16 349	8 467	7 083	12 966	82 094	267 040
2003-04	59 381	31 388	18 008	23 944	16 857	8 220	7 184	13 002	79 782	257 765
District/county courts										
2007-08	79 864	77 081	35 079	39 035	20 080	..	..	..	..	251 139
2006-07	78 386	72 708	33 982	34 441	19 624	..	..	..	..	239 142
2005-06	77 996	68 449	33 497	34 328	20 128	..	..	..	..	234 397
2004-05	80 733	71 314	34 227	30 211	19 104	..	..	..	..	235 589
2003-04	71 586	66 294	29 974	27 604	20 051	..	..	..	..	215 509

Table 7A.14

Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	124 375	82 201	76 862	62 528	33 292	8 658	9 078	12 375	..	409 368
2006-07	135 044	70 594	74 769	58 817	35 159	8 906	7 379	11 766	..	402 433
2005-06	134 005	66 147	70 938	57 010	33 433	8 378	6 523	12 120	..	388 554
2004-05	141 930	62 147	69 584	45 484	35 413	8 176	6 695	13 731	..	383 161
2003-04	136 909	61 889	63 655	46 819	36 752	7 905	6 504	9 056	..	369 489
Children's courts										
2007-08	18 634	7 695	10 964	4 797	3 888	603	1 596	1 040	..	49 217
2006-07	18 213	6 343	11 025	4 207	3 819	628	1 181	1 339	..	46 755
2005-06	15 841	6 819	10 954	3 907	3 848	506	1 216	658	..	43 750
2004-05	14 653	5 868	10 073	6 444	3 596	493	1 274	746	..	43 148
2003-04	15 295	6 482	13 374	6 403	3 225	522	1 359	692	..	47 352
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (e)										
2007-08	143 009	89 896	87 826	67 325	37 180	9 261	10 674	13 415	..	458 585
2006-07	153 257	76 936	85 794	63 024	38 978	9 534	8 560	13 105	..	449 188
2005-06	149 847	72 966	81 892	60 917	37 281	8 884	7 739	12 778	..	432 304
2004-05	156 583	68 015	79 658	51 928	39 009	8 669	7 969	14 477	..	426 308
2003-04	152 204	68 370	77 030	53 222	39 976	8 427	7 864	9 748	..	416 840
All courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems, the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, and coroners' courts)										
2007-08	274 130	205 476	147 378	139 631	71 657	17 660	16 743	26 743	94 023	993 441
2006-07	285 493	187 818	143 925	125 851	73 530	18 193	14 820	26 133	85 606	961 369
2005-06	284 963	176 881	136 202	125 713	72 898	18 044	13 836	25 792	77 819	932 147
2004-05	296 454	174 838	135 826	105 631	74 463	17 136	15 053	27 443	82 094	928 937
2003-04	283 170	166 053	125 012	104 769	76 884	16 647	15 047	22 749	79 782	890 114

Table 7A.14

Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 73 143	- 11 211	- 9 711	- 7 000	..	..	..	..	- 101 064
2006-07	..	- 54 528	- 13 179	- 8 282	- 9 035	..	..	..	..	- 85 025
2005-06	..	- 23 109	- 14 110	- 9 720	- 8 883	..	..	..	..	- 55 823
2004-05	..	- 28 071	- 14 129	- 7 150	- 7 822	..	..	..	..	- 57 171
2003-04	..	- 29 852	- 12 934	- 8 050	- 7 063	..	..	..	..	- 57 899
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	16 040	..	..	..	..	114 159	130 200
2006-07	..	..	..	19 371	..	..	..	..	123 763	143 134
2005-06	..	..	..	17 570	..	..	..	..	130 107	147 677
2004-05	..	..	..	17 232	..	..	..	..	126 704	143 936
2003-04	..	..	..	16 201	..	..	..	..	122 053	138 254
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58 233	58 233
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 755	47 755
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39 115	39 115
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 916	33 916
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 820	24 820
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	8 419	17 639	12 558	10 463	4 992	1 297	1 255	1 117	..	57 740
2006-07	8 178	15 591	11 710	9 629	5 679	632	1 602	1 100	..	54 120
2005-06	8 493	13 128	10 509	9 801	5 660	591	1 013	1 211	..	50 405
2004-05	8 115	13 895	8 697	5 187	4 627	554	1 280	1 173	..	43 528
2003-04	9 252	14 083	7 986	4 935	4 803	688	2 865	1 002	..	45 613

Aust cts = Australian courts.



Table 7A.14

**Table 7A.14 Real net recurrent expenditure, criminal and civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$'000) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total
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(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in tables 7A.9 (criminal) and 7A.10 (civil), and income data presented in table 7A.11. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in these tables.

(b) Probate expenditure is not included in the Supreme court net recurrent expenditure in this table. Net probate expenditure is shown separately in table 7A.13.

.. Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.9, 7A.10 and 7A.11

Table 7A.15

**Table 7A.15 Cost recovery – civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil expenditure excluding payroll tax (per cent)**  
**(a) (b) (c)**

	NSW	Vic (d)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (e)
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	38.6	28.0	18.9	13.1	21.4	15.2	26.6	3.5	9.3	19.8
2006-07	36.7	33.5	20.5	14.3	16.6	16.0	23.6	3.6	7.1	19.9
2005-06	34.1	30.8	22.4	14.4	14.3	15.3	29.7	2.2	7.7	19.6
2004-05	32.8	30.7	18.2	18.3	13.4	14.9	22.6	2.7	6.2	18.6
2003-04	37.7	33.7	31.6	18.2	13.5	6.6	21.8	1.4	6.3	20.1
District/county courts										
2007-08	33.6	24.0	28.6	16.6	20.0	..	..	..	..	25.6
2006-07	35.6	21.3	30.5	17.3	15.5	..	..	..	..	25.7
2005-06	35.9	21.0	36.5	18.9	17.7	..	..	..	..	26.8
2004-05	32.0	23.9	45.6	17.1	17.9	..	..	..	..	27.2
2003-04	35.8	29.0	45.6	20.2	16.8	..	..	..	..	31.2
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (f)										
2007-08	46.9	39.2	32.5	27.9	30.1	38.5	5.6	7.1	..	37.3
2006-07	42.6	45.4	33.9	26.9	26.6	42.0	6.1	9.5	..	37.1
2005-06	47.6	49.2	37.8	28.6	28.2	44.1	9.2	7.6	..	40.7
2004-05	45.3	52.2	38.9	19.5	26.5	43.6	10.5	7.0	..	39.2
2003-04	53.0	52.3	44.3	21.1	23.4	62.6	11.2	15.0	..	43.8
Children's courts (g)										
2007-08	0.0	..	-	0.0	0.4	..	..	..	..	0.0
2006-07	0.1	..	-	0.5	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.1
2005-06	0.6	..	-	-	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.2
2004-05	0.1	..	-	1.2	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.1
2003-04	0.1	..	-	0.9	0.8	..	..	..	..	0.1

Table 7A.15

**Table 7A.15 Cost recovery – civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil expenditure excluding payroll tax (per cent)**  
**(a) (b) (c)**

	NSW	Vic (d)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (e)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (f), (g)										
2007-08	41.2	33.9	27.9	26.5	28.1	38.0	5.1	7.0	..	33.0
2006-07	38.0	39.7	29.3	26.0	25.2	41.8	5.7	9.3	..	33.3
2005-06	43.3	42.4	32.5	27.8	26.7	44.1	8.5	7.5	..	36.8
2004-05	42.2	45.6	33.7	18.8	25.2	43.6	9.7	6.8	..	35.9
2003-04	49.9	45.0	35.1	20.6	22.3	62.6	10.2	14.6	..	39.7
Family courts (h)										
2007-08	..	..	..	11.0	..	..	..	..	0.9	2.3
2006-07	..	..	..	9.9	..	..	..	..	1.5	2.8
2005-06	..	..	..	10.5	..	..	..	..	1.8	2.9
2004-05	..	..	..	9.3	..	..	..	..	2.0	2.9
2003-04	..	..	..	9.7	..	..	..	..	2.6	3.5
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.4	22.4
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25.4	25.4
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.2	27.2
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28.9	28.9
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34.8	34.8

Aust cts = Australian courts.

- (a) Expenditure is real recurrent expenditure with no income or revenue deducted (table 7A.10). Further information relating specifically to expenditure, and which is pertinent to the interpretation of data in this table, is provided in table 7A.10.
- (b) To improve comparability across jurisdictions, payroll tax is excluded.
- (c) Some jurisdictions charge corporations twice the amount individuals are charged. Therefore, the average fees do not always represent the charge to individuals.
- (d) The Victorian supreme court fees include photocopying fees derived from the administration of probate matters.

Table 7A.15

**Table 7A.15 Cost recovery – civil court fees collected as a proportion of civil expenditure excluding payroll tax (per cent)**  
**(a) (b) (c)**

	NSW	Vic (d)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (e)
--	-----	---------	-----	----	----	-----	-----	----	----------	-----------

(e) The total amount of civil court fees collected, divided by the total real recurrent expenditure (table 7A.10).

(f) The Victorian magistrates' court fees figure incorporates both the criminal and civil jurisdictions (though the criminal component is relatively small), and fees paid through the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

(g) Victoria, Tasmania, the ACT and the NT do not collect court fees in the civil jurisdiction of the children's courts.

(h) The Family Court of WA does elements of work of both the Federal Magistrates Court and the Family Court of Australia, so direct comparisons with each are not possible. Many of the Family Court of Australia's applications do not attract a fee.

**na** Not available... Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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

Table 7A.16

Table 7A.16 Real average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a) (b)

	NSW	Vic (c)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (d)
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	1 722	1 175	509	1 564	1 399	493	988	658	1 031	1 230
2006-07	1 766	1 357	615	1 485	1 232	492	1 069	644	1 324	1 353
2005-06	1 669	1 326	645	1 343	1 313	458	1 055	332	1 099	1 267
2004-05	1 657	1 365	533	1 210	1 059	444	918	418	1 265	1 257
2003-04	1 954	1 354	796	1 221	823	151	845	311	926	1 272
District/county courts										
2007-08	1 109	1 010	495	771	625	..	..	..	..	867
2006-07	1 290	970	535	803	487	..	..	..	..	904
2005-06	1 357	1 120	559	928	487	..	..	..	..	960
2004-05	1 581	1 210	574	753	510	..	..	..	..	1 009
2003-04	1 525	883	747	793	538	..	..	..	..	984
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (e)										
2007-08	146	83	103	90	120	69	57	49	..	109
2006-07	138	86	109	93	110	72	58	63	..	109
2005-06	153	90	112	98	107	68	61	63	..	116
2004-05	149	91	116	68	109	63	69	67	..	113
2003-04	179	97	110	65	101	83	71	85	..	124
Children's courts										
2007-08	0	..	-	0	3	..	..	..	..	0
2006-07	1	..	-	2	4	..	..	..	..	1
2005-06	5	..	-	-	4	..	..	..	..	2
2004-05	1	..	-	12	5	..	..	..	..	1
2003-04	1	..	-	5	8	..	..	..	..	1

Table 7A.16

Table 7A.16 Real average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a) (b)

	NSW	Vic (c)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (d)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts) (e)										
2007-08	140	80	98	87	116	66	56	48	..	105
2006-07	133	84	105	90	106	70	56	61	..	105
2005-06	148	88	107	96	103	66	59	62	..	113
2004-05	145	89	111	67	107	62	66	66	..	110
2003-04	175	95	105	64	99	81	69	83	..	121
Family courts (f)										
2007-08	..	..	..	153	..	..	..	..	55	95
2006-07	..	..	..	144	..	..	..	..	72	97
2005-06	..	..	..	131	..	..	..	..	71	90
2004-05	..	..	..	115	..	..	..	..	69	83
2003-04	..	..	..	116	..	..	..	..	73	83
Federal Magistrates Court (f)										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	207	207
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	194	194
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	180	180
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173	173
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173	173
Probate										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	881	264	485	545	642	359	645	923	..	584
2006-07	876	298	463	530	648	368	653	645	..	591
2005-06	862	268	431	534	638	358	649	327	..	574
2004-05	818	269	470	526	684	323	668	342	..	570
2003-04	793	273	na	527	642	128	677	355	..	508

Aust cts = Australian courts.

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Table 7A.16

**Table 7A.16 Real average civil court fees collected per lodgment, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a) (b)**

	NSW	Vic (c)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (d)
(a)	Further information relating specifically to lodgment data, and which is pertinent to the interpretation of data in this table, is provided in table 7A.2.									
(b)	Some jurisdictions charge corporations twice the amount individuals are charged. Therefore the average fees do not always represent the charge to individuals.									
(c)	The Victorian supreme court fees include photocopying fees derived from the administration of probate matters.									
(d)	The total court fees collected, divided by the total number of lodgments.									
(e)	The Victorian magistrates' court fees figure incorporates both the criminal and civil jurisdictions, but the civil court fees are likely to encompass a significant proportion. As well, the data includes applications lodged in the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal.									
(f)	The introduction of the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia has reduced fees received by the Family Court of Australia. Under the regulations relevant to the federal family law courts and the Family Court of WA, filing and hearing fees may be waived or exempted in certain circumstances. The Family Court of WA does elements of work of both the Federal Magistrates Court and the Family Court of Australia, so direct comparisons with each are not possible.									

**na** Not available. ... Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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

ABS Australian National Accounts: *National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0*, Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Supreme courts — appeal (b), (c)									
Pending case load									
2007-08 (no.)	210	489	172	144	90	13	65	6	..
2006-07 (no.)	194	432	111	135	90	11	38	12	..
2005-06 (no.)	207	306	124	206	77	27	37	15	..
2004-05 (no.)	205	325	104	171	97	8	31	19	..
2003-04 (no.)	273	338	126	163	77	9	21	na	..
Cases >12 mths									
2007-08 (no.)	13	95	3	8	2	—	2	—	..
2006-07 (no.)	2	99	4	19	5	—	10	2	..
2005-06 (no.)	12	53	1	34	2	1	5	4	..
2004-05 (no.)	23	91	1	19	4	—	2	—	..
2003-04 (no.)	23	68	1	28	—	—	1	na	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)									
2007-08 (%)	6.2	19.4	1.7	5.6	2.2	—	3.1	—	..
2006-07 (%)	1.0	22.9	3.6	14.1	5.6	—	26.3	16.7	..
2005-06 (%)	5.8	17.3	0.8	16.5	2.6	3.7	13.5	26.7	..
2004-05 (%)	11.2	28.0	1.0	11.1	4.1	—	6.5	—	..
2003-04 (%)	8.4	20.1	0.8	17.2	—	—	4.8	na	..
Cases >24 mths									
2007-08 (no.)	2	13	1	3	1	—	—	—	..
2006-07 (no.)	2	12	1	3	—	—	5	2	..
2005-06 (no.)	4	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	..
2004-05 (no.)	11	15	—	6	—	—	—	—	..
2003-04 (no.)	17	2	—	5	—	—	—	na	..



Table 7A.17

## Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	1.0	2.7	0.6	2.1	1.1	-	-	-	..
2006-07	(%)	1.0	2.8	0.9	2.2	-	-	13.2	16.7	..
2005-06	(%)	1.9	1.3	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	..
2004-05	(%)	5.4	4.6	-	3.5	-	-	-	-	..
2003-04	(%)	6.2	0.6	-	3.1	-	-	-	na	..
Supreme courts — non-appeal (b), (d), (e)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	(no.)	105	166	436	102	49	307	296	109	..
2006-07	(no.)	121	171	474	66	40	180	202	75	..
2005-06	(no.)	94	226	540	80	82	185	166	114	..
2004-05	(no.)	113	110	364	178	97	235	150	122	..
2003-04	(no.)	144	74	316	160	44	233	112	na	..
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	31	56	63	9	13	24	71	5	..
2006-07	(no.)	16	58	91	3	10	24	48	11	..
2005-06	(no.)	37	45	92	18	23	30	32	25	..
2004-05	(no.)	26	15	50	50	24	28	19	34	..
2003-04	(no.)	39	18	44	35	12	50	12	na	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	29.5	33.7	14.4	8.8	26.5	7.8	24.0	4.6	..
2006-07	(%)	13.2	33.9	19.2	4.5	25.0	13.3	23.8	14.7	..
2005-06	(%)	39.4	19.9	17.0	22.5	28.0	16.2	19.3	21.9	..
2004-05	(%)	23.0	13.6	13.7	28.1	24.7	11.9	12.7	27.9	..
2003-04	(%)	27.1	24.3	13.9	21.9	27.3	21.5	10.7	na	..

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	3	17	20	—	4	11	15	1	..
2006-07	(no.)	5	18	22	—	1	4	8	10	..
2005-06	(no.)	5	19	21	3	5	8	4	16	..
2004-05	(no.)	11	9	18	26	9	3	2	16	..
2003-04	(no.)	4	4	7	11	5	2	6	na	..
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	2.9	10.2	4.6	—	8.2	3.6	5.1	0.9	..
2006-07	(%)	4.1	10.5	4.6	—	2.5	2.2	4.0	13.3	..
2005-06	(%)	5.3	8.4	3.9	3.8	6.1	4.3	2.4	14.0	..
2004-05	(%)	9.7	8.2	4.9	14.6	9.3	1.3	1.3	13.1	..
2003-04	(%)	2.8	5.4	2.2	6.9	11.4	0.9	5.4	na	..
District/county courts — appeal (f), (g), (h)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	(no.)	1 402	946	311	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	1 422	1 094	359	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	1 223	1 064	262	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	1 140	753	319	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	1 040	605	367	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	32	89	106	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	39	152	73	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	27	92	60	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	39	56	72	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	30	53	93	..	..	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	2.3	9.4	34.1	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(%)	2.7	13.9	20.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(%)	2.2	8.6	22.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(%)	3.4	7.4	22.6	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(%)	2.9	8.8	25.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	2	28	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	2	24	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	3	39	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	4	24	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	8	9	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	0.1	3.0	3.2	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(%)	0.1	2.2	1.4	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(%)	0.2	3.7	3.8	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(%)	0.4	3.2	1.6	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(%)	0.8	1.5	2.7	..	..	..	..	..	..
District/county courts — non-appeal (f), (i), (j)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	(no.)	1 748	2 341	2 123	972	1 258	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	1 647	2 467	2 303	1 093	1 275	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	1 498	2 042	2 317	1 309	1 141	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	2 420	1 809	2 342	2 016	1 030	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	2 313	1 600	2 625	2 037	768	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.17

## Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	145	641	417	198	326	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	156	581	426	318	357	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	186	354	509	419	319	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	379	255	450	594	260	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	280	244	741	602	163	..	..	..	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	8.3	27.4	19.6	20.4	25.9	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(%)	9.5	23.6	18.5	29.1	28.0	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(%)	12.4	17.3	22.0	32.0	28.0	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(%)	15.7	14.1	19.2	29.5	25.2	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(%)	12.1	15.3	28.2	29.6	21.2	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	18	133	179	39	89	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(no.)	21	105	158	59	75	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(no.)	32	47	219	92	86	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(no.)	59	50	142	144	81	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(no.)	50	45	185	116	30	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	1.0	5.7	8.4	4.0	7.1	..	..	..	..
2006-07	(%)	1.3	4.3	6.9	5.4	5.9	..	..	..	..
2005-06	(%)	2.1	2.3	9.5	7.0	7.5	..	..	..	..
2004-05	(%)	2.4	2.8	6.1	7.1	7.9	..	..	..	..
2003-04	(%)	2.2	2.8	7.0	5.7	3.9	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Magistrates' courts only (excluding children's) (k)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	(no.)	19 617	34 701	36 151	11 488	21 197	14 400	1 611	2 667	..
2006-07	(no.)	17 900	34 119	34 022	11 029	24 590	24 931	1 219	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	17 492	27 259	34 626	10 133	22 526	24 956	1 347	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	17 994	26 471	31 356	9 348	26 891	18 292	1 594	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	17 224	27 518	33 138	7 748	13 310	19 651	2 168	na	..
Cases >6 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	2 206	8 466	10 681	2 624	6 172	4 047	287	983	..
2006-07	(no.)	1 685	6 913	11 098	2 865	8 203	8 473	200	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	1 730	5 482	10 706	2 869	7 341	7 018	339	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	1 858	4 669	8 294	2 917	7 479	3 060	291	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	1 982	4 792	10 826	2 068	3 853	3 728	470	na	..
Cases >6 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	11.2	24.4	29.5	22.8	29.1	28.1	17.8	36.9	..
2006-07	(%)	9.4	20.3	32.6	26.0	33.4	34.0	16.4	na	..
2005-06	(%)	9.9	20.1	30.9	28.3	32.6	28.1	25.2	na	..
2004-05	(%)	10.3	17.6	26.5	31.2	27.8	16.7	18.3	na	..
2003-04	(%)	11.5	17.4	32.7	26.7	28.9	19.0	21.7	na	..
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	409	2 500	5 825	989	2 623	1 726	102	899	..
2006-07	(no.)	265	1 890	5 748	1 028	3 738	1 964	87	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	364	1 477	5 377	1 094	3 384	1 202	139	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	447	1 254	3 616	1 097	4 087	1 189	98	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	478	1 248	5 215	756	1 200	1 649	208	na	..

Table 7A.17

## Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	2.1	7.2	16.1	8.6	12.4	12.0	6.3	33.7	..
2006-07	(%)	1.5	5.5	16.9	9.3	15.2	7.9	7.1	na	..
2005-06	(%)	2.1	5.4	15.5	10.8	15.0	4.8	10.3	na	..
2004-05	(%)	2.5	4.7	11.5	11.7	15.2	6.5	6.1	na	..
2003-04	(%)	2.8	4.5	15.7	9.8	9.0	8.4	9.6	na	..
Children's courts (k)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	(no.)	1 766	5 591	2 374	1 789	1 918	940	194	243	..
2006-07	(no.)	1 591	4 398	2 243	1 354	1 779	834	205	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	1 603	2 613	2 385	1 338	1 359	670	188	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	1 540	1 562	2 322	1 144	1 483	632	148	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	1 746	2 029	2 130	992	958	526	158	na	..
Cases >6 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	207	771	713	376	414	269	26	46	..
2006-07	(no.)	165	513	671	238	381	243	42	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	201	426	592	316	302	210	43	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	166	128	617	261	346	155	24	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	200	133	479	218	193	136	38	na	..
Cases >6 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	11.7	13.8	30.0	21.0	21.6	28.6	13.4	18.9	..
2006-07	(%)	10.4	11.7	29.9	17.6	21.4	29.1	20.5	na	..
2005-06	(%)	12.5	16.3	24.8	23.6	22.2	31.3	22.9	na	..
2004-05	(%)	10.8	8.2	26.6	22.8	23.3	24.5	16.2	na	..
2003-04	(%)	11.5	6.6	22.5	22.0	20.1	25.9	24.1	na	..

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	(no.)	24	164	347	130	144	86	5	40	..
2006-07	(no.)	21	87	297	79	144	110	12	na	..
2005-06	(no.)	25	27	249	88	139	66	7	na	..
2004-05	(no.)	24	24	249	86	191	42	9	na	..
2003-04	(no.)	44	24	198	71	63	55	18	na	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	(%)	1.4	2.9	14.6	7.3	7.5	9.1	2.6	16.5	..
2006-07	(%)	1.3	2.0	13.2	5.8	8.1	13.2	5.9	na	..
2005-06	(%)	1.6	1.0	10.4	6.6	10.2	9.9	3.7	na	..
2004-05	(%)	1.6	1.5	10.7	7.5	12.9	6.6	6.1	na	..
2003-04	(%)	2.5	1.2	9.3	7.2	6.6	10.5	11.4	na	..

Aust cts = Australian courts.

- (a) 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. In the criminal jurisdiction, those lodgments that have bench warrants associated with them have been excluded from the count. The aim has been to focus on those matters that are part of an active pending population. Jurisdictions diverting from this national counting rule are footnoted.
- (b) The criminal casemix of the NSW Supreme Court is principally murder and manslaughter cases and therefore not directly comparable with supreme courts in other states and territories.
- (c) From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. Therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution. In SA, from 2005-06, SA Supreme court data for civil appeals excludes Justices Act Appeals. These matters have been included in the SA Supreme court data for criminal appeals. From 2005-06, pending data for the SA Supreme Court appeals includes Justices Act Appeals normally heard in the civil jurisdiction.
- (d) Queensland Supreme Court data in respect to the age of pending non-appeal cases is calculated based on the date the Court Record was entered on the computerised Case Management System in the Supreme Court, not the committal order date in the Magistrates Courts.
- (e) Queensland Supreme Court data for 2005-06 has been revised to exclude all secondary processes (i.e. breaches of penalties), data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 includes some secondary processes in the count of defendants lodged, finalised and pending.

Table 7A.17

Table 7A.17 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), criminal (a)**

units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts
(f)	The criminal jurisdiction of the District Courts in SA and WA do not have appellate jurisdiction. All appeals from the magistrates (criminal) court go directly to the supreme (criminal) courts in these two states.								
(g)	Queensland District Court data for criminal appeal cases prior to 2007-08 have been extrapolated on data for the Courts that were connected to a computerised case management system. In 2006-07 these District Courts accounted for approximately 76 per cent of the total number of criminal appeal cases lodged.								
(h)	Queensland District Court criminal appeal data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADIC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.								
(i)	Queensland District Court data for 2005-06 has been revised to exclude all secondary processes (i.e. breaches of penalties), data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 includes some secondary processes in the count of defendants lodged, finalised and pending.								
(j)	Queensland District Court data in respect to the age of pending non-appeal cases is calculated based on the date the Indictment is presented in the District Court, not the committal order date in the Magistrates Courts.								
(k)	The criminal pending caseload figure for the NSW Magistrates Courts and NSW Children's Courts is extrapolated from 56 computerised Local Courts. These courts represent 83% coverage of the state.								

**na** Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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



Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
Supreme / Federal Court — appeal (b)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	613	348	76	131	46	67	51	27	407
2006-07	no.	600	265	102	232	64	63	44	36	534
2005-06	no.	638	271	105	248	50	70	20	58	580
2004-05	no.	739	319	90	333	9	95	40	59	662
2003-04	no.	630	317	412	382	10	100	67	na	450
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	no.	75	93	—	55	6	13	7	5	27
2006-07	no.	88	74	2	46	7	18	4	5	45
2005-06	no.	105	59	2	55	3	13	1	6	77
2004-05	no.	77	108	1	93	—	15	5	10	90
2003-04	no.	78	98	200	91	—	33	6	na	49
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	12.2	26.7	—	42.0	13.0	19.4	13.7	18.5	6.6
2006-07	%	14.7	27.9	2.0	19.8	10.9	28.6	9.1	13.9	8.4
2005-06	%	16.5	21.8	1.9	22.2	6.0	18.6	5.0	10.3	13.3
2004-05	%	10.4	33.9	1.1	27.9	—	15.8	12.5	16.9	13.6
2003-04	%	12.4	30.9	48.5	23.8	—	33.0	9.0	na	10.9
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	no.	11	30	—	8	—	—	2	2	9
2006-07	no.	18	11	—	8	2	—	—	2	32
2005-06	no.	13	20	—	6	2	1	—	4	13
2004-05	no.	13	14	—	13	—	3	2	5	21
2003-04	no.	22	18	52	11	—	6	2	na	19

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	1.8	8.6	-	6.1	-	-	3.9	7.4	2.2
2006-07	%	3.0	4.2	-	3.4	3.1	-	-	5.6	6.0
2005-06	%	2.0	7.4	-	2.4	4.0	1.4	-	6.9	2.2
2004-05	%	1.8	4.4	-	3.9	-	3.2	5.0	8.5	3.2
2003-04	%	3.5	5.7	12.6	2.9	-	6.0	3.0	na	4.2
Supreme (excl probate) / Federal Court — non-appeal (c), (d), (e), (f), (g)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	7 083	3 914	5 042	1 972	682	1 042	1 541	184	4 000
2006-07	no.	7 397	4 128	5 319	1 971	675	1 071	1 348	228	2 678
2005-06	no.	7 437	5 991	5 077	2 565	558	1 153	1 401	233	3 240
2004-05	no.	7 086	4 432	5 074	2 627	1 014	1 237	1 193	262	3 354
2003-04	no.	6 900	4 705	6 171	2 494	2 556	1 465	1 353	na	3 273
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	no.	1 843	355	1 309	716	206	347	710	91	1 399
2006-07	no.	1 986	1 085	1 496	855	231	342	646	135	1 346
2005-06	no.	1 887	1 809	1 317	1 061	116	352	551	132	1 578
2004-05	no.	2 030	1 274	1 486	1 008	272	470	570	158	1 840
2003-04	no.	2 780	1 673	2 850	961	604	486	615	na	1 616
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	26.0	9.1	26.0	36.3	30.2	33.3	46.1	49.5	35.0
2006-07	%	26.8	26.3	28.1	43.4	34.2	31.9	47.9	59.2	50.3
2005-06	%	25.4	30.2	25.9	41.4	20.8	30.5	39.3	56.7	48.7
2004-05	%	28.6	28.7	29.3	38.4	26.8	38.0	47.8	60.3	54.9
2003-04	%	40.3	35.6	46.2	38.5	23.6	33.2	45.5	na	49.4

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	no.	862	151	368	399	102	99	360	55	824
2006-07	no.	906	213	445	480	116	116	265	81	929
2005-06	no.	836	652	404	552	38	144	274	92	1 130
2004-05	no.	1 108	400	459	527	99	130	259	81	1 101
2003-04	no.	1 636	498	1 639	527	120	160	298	na	1 039
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	12.2	3.9	7.3	20.2	15.0	9.5	23.4	29.9	20.6
2006-07	%	12.2	5.2	8.4	24.4	17.2	10.8	19.7	35.5	34.7
2005-06	%	11.2	10.9	8.0	21.5	6.8	12.5	19.6	39.5	34.9
2004-05	%	15.6	9.0	9.0	20.1	9.8	10.5	21.7	30.9	32.8
2003-04	%	23.7	10.6	26.6	21.1	4.7	10.9	22.0	na	31.7
District/county courts — appeal (h), (i), (j)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	25	57	110	62	9	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	34	81	93	94	6	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	33	89	78	112	14	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	44	47	108	127	7	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	43	na	811	154	7	..	..	..	..
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	no.	—	4	32	11	—	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	—	17	20	42	—	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	10	2	15	24	—	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	11	—	30	40	—	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	3	na	305	24	—	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	-	7.0	29.1	17.7	-	..	..	..	..
2006-07	%	-	21.0	21.5	44.7	-	..	..	..	..
2005-06	%	30.3	2.2	19.2	21.4	-	..	..	..	..
2004-05	%	25.0	-	27.8	31.5	-	..	..	..	..
2003-04	%	7.0	na	37.6	15.6	-	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	no.	-	1	4	5	-	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	-	-	-	7	-	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	1	-	5	7	-	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	3	-	10	4	-	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	-	na	141	5	-	..	..	..	..
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	-	1.8	3.6	8.1	-	..	..	..	..
2006-07	%	-	-	-	7.4	-	..	..	..	..
2005-06	%	3.0	-	6.4	6.3	-	..	..	..	..
2004-05	%	6.8	-	9.3	3.1	-	..	..	..	..
2003-04	%	-	na	17.4	3.2	-	..	..	..	..
District/county courts — non-appeal (h), (i), (j)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	7 037	5 698	4 378	2 734	3 046	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	6 871	5 996	4 526	2 610	3 087	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	7 348	6 168	5 502	2 713	3 266	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	7 995	7 430	6 767	3 476	2 727	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	10 315	10 970	8 178	3 640	3 157	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	2 043	1 604	980	669	1 314	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	1 803	2 133	1 197	751	1 332	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	2 010	2 492	1 555	1 041	882	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	2 354	3 598	2 016	1 196	844	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	4 126	3 833	3 573	1 495	1 355	..	..	..	..
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	29.0	28.2	22.4	24.5	43.1	..	..	..	..
2006-07	%	26.2	35.6	26.4	28.8	43.1	..	..	..	..
2005-06	%	27.4	40.4	28.3	38.4	27.0	..	..	..	..
2004-05	%	29.4	48.4	29.8	34.4	30.9	..	..	..	..
2003-04	%	40.0	34.9	43.7	41.1	42.9	..	..	..	..
<b>Cases &gt;24 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	554	526	213	299	642	..	..	..	..
2006-07	no.	627	1 031	328	429	626	..	..	..	..
2005-06	no.	752	1 467	485	462	388	..	..	..	..
2004-05	no.	871	1 130	616	591	356	..	..	..	..
2003-04	no.	2 269	941	1 969	701	484	..	..	..	..
<b>Cases &gt;24 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	7.9	9.2	4.9	10.9	21.1	..	..	..	..
2006-07	%	9.1	17.2	7.2	16.4	20.3	..	..	..	..
2005-06	%	10.2	23.8	8.8	17.0	11.9	..	..	..	..
2004-05	%	10.9	15.2	9.1	17.0	13.1	..	..	..	..
2003-04	%	22.0	8.6	24.1	19.3	15.3	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
<b>Magistrates' courts (excluding children's courts) (k)</b>										
<b>Pending case load</b>										
2007-08	no.	na	16 151	34 598	24 381	13 830	4 629	2 169	514	..
2006-07	no.	na	14 496	35 597	24 718	15 326	4 908	1 772	936	..
2005-06	no.	na	13 911	37 898	29 037	16 129	5 357	2 332	922	..
2004-05	no.	na	13 704	39 522	956	19 235	5 529	2 992	na	..
2003-04	no.	na	14 803	37 251	1 990	17 809	5 610	3 203	na	..
<b>Cases &gt;6 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	na	3 775	14 609	8 501	5 861	1 480	807	279	..
2006-07	no.	na	3 387	15 551	7 595	6 267	1 719	772	403	..
2005-06	no.	na	3 258	17 111	9 707	6 816	1 868	968	556	..
2004-05	no.	na	2 872	16 381	424	8 181	2 000	1 415	na	..
2003-04	no.	na	3 675	14 510	1 169	7 924	2 348	1 478	na	..
<b>Cases &gt;6 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	na	23.4	42.2	34.9	42.4	32.0	37.2	54.3	..
2006-07	%	na	23.4	43.7	30.7	40.9	35.0	43.6	43.1	..
2005-06	%	na	23.4	45.2	33.4	42.3	34.9	41.5	60.3	..
2004-05	%	na	21.0	41.4	44.4	42.5	36.2	47.3	na	..
2003-04	%	na	24.8	39.0	58.7	44.5	41.9	46.1	na	..
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	na	1 785	2 295	1 292	1 390	170	162	206	..
2006-07	no.	na	1 516	2 503	1 245	1 458	232	211	271	..
2005-06	no.	na	1 526	2 530	2 541	2 021	252	259	301	..
2004-05	no.	na	1 435	3 545	250	3 362	242	431	na	..
2003-04	no.	na	2 326	3 118	526	2 714	338	487	na	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	na	11.1	6.6	5.3	10.1	3.7	7.5	40.1	..
2006-07	%	na	10.5	7.0	5.0	9.5	4.7	11.9	29.0	..
2005-06	%	na	11.0	6.7	8.8	12.5	4.7	11.1	32.6	..
2004-05	%	na	10.5	9.0	26.2	17.5	4.4	14.4	na	..
2003-04	%	na	15.7	8.4	26.4	15.2	6.0	15.2	na	..
<b>Children's courts (p)</b>										
<b>Pending case load</b>										
2007-08	no.	na	1 450	866	681	108	140	47	17	..
2006-07	no.	na	1 496	600	604	86	118	35	13	..
2005-06	no.	na	1 399	617	445	108	123	118	16	..
2004-05	no.	na	870	582	412	na	80	110	na	..
2003-04	no.	na	814	607	201	na	61	101	na	..
<b>Cases &gt;6 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	na	374	194	362	5	88	17	5	..
2006-07	no.	na	419	129	253	6	40	16	3	..
2005-06	no.	na	358	134	172	12	46	39	4	..
2004-05	no.	na	155	179	224	na	37	39	na	..
2003-04	no.	na	134	87	115	na	40	63	na	..
<b>Cases &gt;6 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	na	25.8	22.4	53.2	4.6	62.9	36.2	29.4	..
2006-07	%	na	28.0	21.5	41.9	7.0	33.9	45.7	23.1	..
2005-06	%	na	25.6	21.7	38.7	11.1	37.4	33.1	25.0	..
2004-05	%	na	17.8	30.8	54.4	na	46.3	35.5	na	..
2003-04	%	na	16.5	14.3	57.2	na	65.6	62.4	na	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
Cases >12 mths									
2007-08	na	161	44	212	1	41	—	—	..
2006-07	na	205	28	142	2	23	6	1	..
2005-06	na	143	28	104	8	35	8	1	..
2004-05	na	53	42	150	na	28	5	na	..
2003-04	na	33	18	57	na	33	45	na	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)									
2007-08	na	11.1	5.1	31.1	0.9	29.3	—	—	..
2006-07	na	13.7	4.7	23.5	2.3	19.5	17.1	7.7	..
2005-06	na	10.2	4.5	23.4	7.4	28.5	6.8	6.3	..
2004-05	na	6.1	7.2	36.4	na	35.0	4.5	na	..
2003-04	na	4.1	3.0	28.4	na	54.1	44.6	na	..
Family courts — appeal									
Pending case load									
2007-08	..	..	..	22	..	..	..	..	216
2006-07	..	..	..	52	..	..	..	..	223
2005-06	..	..	..	56	..	..	..	..	302
2004-05	..	..	..	70	..	..	..	..	256
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	222
Cases >12 mths									
2007-08	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	53
2006-07	..	..	..	43	..	..	..	..	70
2005-06	..	..	..	27	..	..	..	..	115
2004-05	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	61
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	65



Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	40.9	..	..	..	..	24.5
2006-07	%	..	..	..	82.7	..	..	..	..	31.4
2005-06	%	..	..	..	48.2	..	..	..	..	38.1
2004-05	%	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	23.8
2003-04	%	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	29.3
Cases >24 mths										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	40
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	30	..	..	..	..	32
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	..	49
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	30
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	30
Cases >24 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	22.7	..	..	..	..	18.5
2006-07	%	..	..	..	57.7	..	..	..	..	14.3
2005-06	%	..	..	..	33.9	..	..	..	..	16.2
2004-05	%	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	11.7
2003-04	%	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	13.5
Family courts — non-appeal (l), (c)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	12 239	..	..	..	..	6 160
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	11 167	..	..	..	..	11 002
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	8 253	..	..	..	..	14 323
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	10 904	..	..	..	..	17 076
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	384	..	..	..	..	21 158

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	5 490	..	..	..	..	1 712
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	4 621	..	..	..	..	4 172
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	3 515	..	..	..	..	4 755
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	7 895	..	..	..	..	6 121
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	247	..	..	..	..	7 258
<b>Cases &gt;12 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	44.9	..	..	..	..	27.8
2006-07	%	..	..	..	41.4	..	..	..	..	37.9
2005-06	%	..	..	..	42.6	..	..	..	..	33.2
2004-05	%	..	..	..	72.4	..	..	..	..	35.8
2003-04	%	..	..	..	64.3	..	..	..	..	34.3
<b>Cases &gt;24 mths</b>										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	2 311	..	..	..	..	610
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	2 834	..	..	..	..	2 227
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	2 217	..	..	..	..	2 179
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	2 168	..	..	..	..	2 607
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	67	..	..	..	..	2 127
<b>Cases &gt;24 mths (per cent)</b>										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	18.9	..	..	..	..	9.9
2006-07	%	..	..	..	25.4	..	..	..	..	20.2
2005-06	%	..	..	..	26.9	..	..	..	..	15.2
2004-05	%	..	..	..	19.9	..	..	..	..	15.3
2003-04	%	..	..	..	17.4	..	..	..	..	10.1

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
<b>Federal Magistrates Court (c)</b>										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26 545
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28 041
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 283
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28 356
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23 341
Cases >6 mths										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 894
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 494
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 982
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 224
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 801
Cases >6 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33.5
2006-07	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30.3
2005-06	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.6
2004-05	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.4
2003-04	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29.1
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 564
2006-07	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 477
2005-06	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 192
2004-05	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 463
2003-04	no.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 723

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.2
2006-07	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.0
2005-06	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.6
2004-05	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.2
2003-04	%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.0
Coroners' courts (m), (n), (o)										
Pending case load										
2007-08	no.	2 602	4 295	2 158	1 459	1 777	222	230	341	..
2006-07	no.	3 588	3 194	2 311	1 452	1 310	267	229	287	..
2005-06	no.	4 066	2 977	2 224	1 236	1 253	233	246	226	..
2004-05	no.	4 248	2 931	2 043	864	803	246	195	229	..
2003-04	no.	3 391	2 753	1 955	723	na	244	194	na	..
Cases >12 mths										
2007-08	no.	534	1 201	551	431	437	55	82	74	..
2006-07	no.	986	759	586	440	228	71	73	55	..
2005-06	no.	1 638	839	553	332	367	48	63	40	..
2004-05	no.	1 680	901	517	248	231	43	59	41	..
2003-04	no.	880	711	580	232	na	48	43	na	..
Cases >12 mths (per cent)										
2007-08	%	20.5	28.0	25.5	29.5	24.6	24.8	35.7	21.7	..
2006-07	%	27.5	23.8	25.4	30.3	17.4	26.6	31.9	19.2	..
2005-06	%	40.3	28.2	24.9	26.9	29.3	20.6	25.6	17.7	..
2004-05	%	39.5	30.7	25.3	28.7	28.8	17.5	30.3	17.9	..
2003-04	%	26.0	25.8	29.7	32.1	na	19.7	22.2	na	..

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)

units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
Cases >24 mths									
2007-08	no.	260	455	207	87	15	44	25	..
2006-07	no.	505	na	223	103	31	35	21	..
2005-06	no.	na	na	216	163	11	33	14	..
2004-05	no.	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	..
2003-04	no.	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	..
Cases >24 mths (per cent)									
2007-08	%	10.0	10.6	9.6	4.9	6.8	19.1	7.3	..
2006-07	%	14.1	na	9.6	7.9	11.6	15.3	7.3	..
2005-06	%	na	na	9.7	13.0	4.7	13.4	6.2	..
2004-05	%	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	..
2003-04	%	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	..

Aust cts = Australian courts.

- (a) Care should be taken when interpreting data in this table as the states and territories are not identical in their allocation of civil business between their court levels. This indicator compares the age (in elapsed time) of a court's pending caseload against agreed time standards. Unless otherwise specified, pending counts are taken at 30 June each year. 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 deeming rule does not apply to appeal cases. The aim has been to focus on those matters that are part of an 'active pending' population. Jurisdictions diverting from this national counting rule are footnoted.
- (b) From 2007-08 WA Supreme court data for criminal appeals includes single judge appeals from the Magistrates Court criminal jurisdiction. Prior to 2007-08, these appeals were included in the WA Supreme Court data for civil appeals. Therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution. The percentage in backlog for the WA Court of Appeal is high because the numbers in backlog are measured as a percentage against significantly reduced numbers in the total civil appeal pending list. (see the clearance rate in table 7.16). SA Supreme court 2005-06 civil pending data - excludes Justices Act Appeals heard in the civil jurisdiction (these have been counted in the criminal jurisdiction).
- (c) The Australian Courts do not apply the "deeming" rule (see note (a)). The Family Court of Australia does not deem a matter finalised even if it has not had a court event for at least 12 months as this is not consistent with its case management practices. The Federal Court and the Federal Magistrates Court do not apply the deeming rule.

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)
(d)	Queensland Supreme Court data for civil non-appeal cases prior to 2007-08 have been extrapolated based on data for the Courts that were connected to a computerised case management system. In 2006-07 these Supreme Courts accounted for approximately 96 per cent of the total number of civil non-appeal cases lodged.									
(e)	Queensland Supreme Court non-appeal civil data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADDC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(f)	Non-appeal matters for the Federal Court include a significant number of Native Title matters which by nature are both long and complex.									
(g)	NSW Supreme Court civil non-appeal matters - the age of cases is estimated for approximately 2-3 per cent of pending cases.									
(h)	NSW pending data for the district court (civil jurisdiction) is extrapolated from Sydney data to derive a state total.									
(i)	Queensland District Court data for civil cases pending (both appeal and non-appeal) prior to 2007-08 have been extrapolated based on data for the Courts that were connected to a computerised case management system. In 2006-07 these District Courts accounted for approximately 90 per cent of the total number of civil non-appeal cases lodged.									
(j)	Queensland District Court civil data for 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed some discrepancies in the counting rules used to extract the data, these issues have been addressed to bring the data extraction process into line with the CADDC counting rules. Data for the reference periods prior to 2004-05 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.									
(k)	Victoria's Magistrates' court data includes a proportion of pending caseload from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal.									
(l)	As the Federal Magistrates Court undertakes a higher proportion of simpler Family Law matters, the more complex and entrenched disputes remain with the Family Court and therefore a higher proportion of its cases now require more lengthy and intensive case management.									
(m)	Reporting against the 24 month standard for the Coroners courts commenced in 2005-06. Data on the number and age of the pending workload greater than 24 months old were not collected for this Report for the years 2004-05 and earlier and are therefore not published in this table.									

Table 7A.18

Table 7A.18 **Backlog indicator (as at 30 June), civil (a)**

	units	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs (c)
(n)	Queensland Coroners Court data for 2005-06 has been revised following a review of the data extraction processes which revealed that some coronial cases had not been included in the count of lodgements, finalisations or pending cases. Data for the reference periods prior to 2005-06 may not include data for all coronial cases in Queensland Coroners Courts.									
(o)	Tasmanian coroners' courts: backlog (% > 12 months) — a number of hospital deaths (adverse medical) have resulted in some delay waiting on results from Hospital inquiries; backlog (% >24 months) — a number of mining inquests have been delayed due to criminal proceedings and detailed report preparation.									
(p)	For WA the increase in values for 2007-08 can be attributed to a large number of Protection and Care time limited orders expiring in March 2008. Applicants then required extending orders under the Children and Community Services Act 2004.									
	<b>na</b> Not available... Not applicable. — Nil or rounded to zero. <b>np</b> Not published.									

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

Table 7A.19

Table 7A.19 Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (b)	NT	Aust cts
Criminal — attendances per finalisation (c)									
Supreme courts (d)									
2007-08	na	2.4	2.8	2.3	4.6	5.9	5.5	6.9	..
2006-07	na	2.5	3.2	2.8	4.6	6.2	6.1	5.8	..
2005-06	na	3.5	3.4	3.9	3.8	5.7	5.4	7.1	..
2004-05	na	2.3	3.7	4.1	4.8	6.2	5.0	7.6	..
2003-04	na	2.3	2.6	3.4	5.1	5.8	6.3	6.1	..
District/county courts (e)									
2007-08	na	5.1	4.0	4.7	6.9	..	..	..	..
2006-07	na	4.7	4.1	4.9	6.9	..	..	..	..
2005-06	na	4.2	4.2	5.1	6.3	..	..	..	..
2004-05	na	5.0	5.5	4.8	5.5	..	..	..	..
2003-04	na	4.8	4.0	4.0	6.3	..	..	..	..
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (b)									
2007-08	na	3.0	2.1	2.0	3.1	2.0	3.4	3.4	..
2006-07	na	3.3	2.1	2.1	3.0	2.0	3.8	3.1	..
2005-06	na	3.4	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.1	3.4	3.1	..
2004-05	na	3.3	1.9	2.2	2.9	2.0	4.1	3.2	..
2003-04	na	2.9	1.9	2.1	3.3	1.9	4.3	3.4	..
Children's courts (b)									
2007-08	na	3.4	2.4	2.7	3.4	5.1	6.0	5.4	..
2006-07	na	2.7	2.3	2.7	3.5	5.1	6.0	4.2	..
2005-06	na	4.2	2.3	2.8	3.7	5.1	5.2	5.8	..
2004-05	na	3.4	2.4	2.8	3.3	4.5	5.0	5.1	..
2003-04	na	2.9	2.0	2.9	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.4	..



Table 7A.19

Table 7A.19 Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (b)	NT	Aust cts
Civil — attendances per finalisation (f)									
Supreme (excl probate)/Federal Court (d), (g)									
2007-08	na	1.2	1.4	3.1	4.9	na	5.2	5.2	2.2
2006-07	na	1.4	1.6	3.0	4.4	na	4.9	3.9	3.3
2005-06	na	1.5	1.5	3.5	3.0	na	4.5	3.7	3.0
2004-05	na	1.4	1.1	4.0	4.5	na	4.2	3.5	3.5
2003-04	na	1.8	0.5	3.0	4.6	na	4.5	3.3	3.7
District/county courts (g)									
2007-08	na	2.1	0.8	2.9	4.7	..	..	..	..
2006-07	na	2.6	0.8	3.2	4.4	..	..	..	..
2005-06	na	2.3	0.8	3.5	4.3	..	..	..	..
2004-05	na	1.6	0.7	3.4	4.8	..	..	..	..
2003-04	na	2.5	0.3	4.6	5.0	..	..	..	..
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (h), (i)									
2007-08	na	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	na	1.5	1.8	..
2006-07	na	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	na	1.5	1.7	..
2005-06	na	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.8	na	1.3	1.9	..
2004-05	na	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.2	na	1.4	2.1	..
2003-04	na	0.9	0.8	0.0	1.3	na	1.5	2.5	..
Children's courts (b), (j)									
2007-08	na	1.5	2.5	4.7	2.8	..	6.9	1.6	..
2006-07	na	1.5	2.4	4.6	2.5	..	7.9	1.8	..
2005-06	na	1.5	2.3	5.0	2.8	..	6.0	1.9	..
2004-05	na	1.3	2.0	5.2	1.9	..	5.4	2.6	..
2003-04	na	na	2.2	4.2	..	na	3.9	2.4	..

Table 7A.19

Table 7A.19 Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (b)	NT	Aust cts
Family courts (k)									
2007-08	..	..	..	1.4	..	..	..	..	3.1
2006-07	..	..	..	1.7	..	..	..	..	3.2
2005-06	..	..	..	1.8	..	..	..	..	3.5
2004-05	..	..	..	1.7	..	..	..	..	3.0
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	2.7
Federal Magistrates Court (l)									
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.1
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.0
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.9
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.0
Coroners' courts (m), (n)									
2007-08	na	1.0	2.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	2.8	1.0	..
2006-07	na	1.0	3.1	1.0	1.3	1.8	5.1	1.0	..
2005-06	na	1.0	2.6	1.0	2.0	1.3	1.8	1.0	..
2004-05	na	1.2	na	2.1	2.3	1.8	2.5	1.0	..
2003-04	na	1.4	1.7	2.0	na	3.7	3.1	1.0	..

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Table 7A.19

## Table 7A.19 Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (b)	NT	Aust cts
(a)	The attendance index is based on a count of the number of times each case actually comes before the court before it is finalised. An attendance is defined as the number of times that parties or their representatives were required to be present in court (including any appointment which is adjourned or rescheduled) for all finalised matters during the year. Unless otherwise noted, a court appearance extending over more than one day is counted as one attendance. Attendances are heard by a judicial officer or mediator/arbitrator.								
(b)	For the civil jurisdiction of the ACT Children's court, data are based on all listings for a case, including return of subpoenas, settlement and case management conferences and multiple attendances are counted for a single event. For the criminal jurisdiction of the ACT Magistrates and Children's court, data are based on all listings for a case and multiple attendances are counted for a single event.								
(c)	Further information relating specifically to criminal finalisation data, and which is pertinent to the interpretation of data in this table, is provided in table 7A.5.								
(d)	From 2005-06 attendance data for criminal appeals in the SA Supreme court include Justices Act Appeals normally heard in the civil jurisdiction; attendance data for civil appeal in the SA Supreme court exclude Justices Act Appeals.								
(e)	WA data for the criminal component of the district court are experimental. The criminal case management computer system does not record the number of hearings, which occurred per defendant. The data extracted is based on the number of hearings listed (may include those which have been cancelled or rescheduled) for those matters finalised during the period.								
(f)	Further information relating specifically to civil finalisation data, and which is pertinent to the interpretation of data in this table, is provided in table 7A.6.								
(g)	Queensland Supreme and District Court data for the count of attendances in the civil jurisdiction prior to 2007-08 are extrapolated. Queensland Supreme and District Court data for the count of attendances vary with the national counting rules. Multiple attendances are counted for a single Court event, e.g. trials listed for multiple consecutive days. It also includes attendances for unfinalised cases. Attendances are not counted for case managed Court events.								
(h)	Victoria's Magistrates' court civil data includes a proportion of hearings from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.								
(i)	For the civil jurisdiction of the ACT Magistrates court, data are based on all listings for a case, including return of subpoenas, settlement and case management conferences and multiple attendances are counted for a single event.								
(j)	Queensland Children's Court finalisation data are based on a count of cases, not the number of children involved in the care and protection case.								
(k)	Family Court of Australia data include all conference events that may have a binding order made. It also contains events that may not require attendance of parties, such as a divorce hearing, and are included as they form part of the lodgment and finalisation data. Attendances for appeal cases were not available, however the number of appeal hearings is relatively small and the effect on the attendance index is not significant.								
(l)	Excludes responses to applications.								
(m)	Since 2005-06 the coroners' courts attendance index has been derived from the number of attendances per finalised inquest only, this change has been applied retrospectively.								

Table 7A.19

**Table 7A.19 Attendance indicator (average number of attendances per finalisation) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (b)	NT	Aust cts
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(n) For the ACT Coroner's court, data are based on all listings for a case. Prior to 2006-07 inquest hearing days only were counted  
**na** Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

<b>Unit (b)</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Aust cts (c)</b>	<b>Total (d)</b>
<b>Criminal (e)</b>										
Number of FTE judicial officers										
Supreme courts (f), (g)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	14.3	16.1	11.5	9.3	6.9	3.8	2.9	3.6	..	68.3
2006-07 (no. FTE)	12.1	13.4	9.9	7.9	5.8	3.9	2.7	3.6	..	59.3
2005-06 (no. FTE)	13.1	12.3	6.5	7.6	4.6	4.2	2.4	3.6	..	54.2
2004-05 (no. FTE)	13.0	12.0	8.4	8.0	4.5	3.5	2.4	3.6	..	55.3
2003-04 (no. FTE)	17.7	12.0	9.0	8.0	4.6	3.6	2.1	2.4	..	59.4
District/county courts (h)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	47.9	35.7	26.7	17.8	11.2	..	..	..	..	139.2
2006-07 (no. FTE)	47.2	35.0	25.1	17.2	11.1	..	..	..	..	135.6
2005-06 (no. FTE)	45.4	30.9	24.6	16.4	12.8	..	..	..	..	130.0
2004-05 (no. FTE)	45.3	32.7	24.8	16.6	11.0	..	..	..	..	130.5
2003-04 (no. FTE)	45.6	32.0	23.8	16.0	11.0	..	..	..	..	128.4
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	104.8	68.0	51.3	39.1	27.2	9.5	3.2	7.2	..	310.4
2006-07 (no. FTE)	106.6	76.0	47.5	35.7	27.8	9.0	3.4	6.8	..	312.9
2005-06 (no. FTE)	104.9	67.0	51.1	33.2	26.7	9.0	3.8	7.2	..	302.8
2004-05 (no. FTE)	104.6	64.0	48.9	32.4	25.2	9.6	3.8	6.7	..	295.2
2003-04 (no. FTE)	107.3	60.0	57.1	33.0	25.5	9.0	3.8	6.9	..	302.6
Children's courts (i)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	10.1	2.0	3.7	3.6	3.2	0.8	0.8	0.8	..	25.0
2006-07 (no. FTE)	7.4	2.0	3.8	4.1	3.4	0.7	0.9	1.0	..	23.3
2005-06 (no. FTE)	7.3	2.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	0.6	1.0	0.7	..	23.1
2004-05 (no. FTE)	7.7	2.0	3.8	3.8	3.2	0.6	1.0	0.7	..	22.7
2003-04 (no. FTE)	7.5	2.0	2.9	4.0	3.0	0.6	1.1	0.5	..	21.6

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

<i>Unit (b)</i>	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
<b>Total number FTE judicial officers for criminal courts</b>										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	177.1	121.8	93.1	69.8	48.5	14.1	6.9	11.6	..	542.8
2006-07 (no. FTE)	173.4	126.4	86.4	64.9	48.0	13.6	7.0	11.5	..	531.0
2005-06 (no. FTE)	170.7	112.2	86.1	60.9	47.8	13.8	7.2	11.5	..	510.1
2004-05 (no. FTE)	170.6	110.7	85.8	60.8	43.9	13.7	7.2	11.0	..	503.6
2003-04 (no. FTE)	178.2	106.0	92.8	61.0	44.1	13.2	7.0	9.8	..	512.0
<b>Civil</b>										
Number of FTE judicial officers										
Supreme/Federal Court (f), (g)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	49.1	27.9	14.2	21.7	7.1	3.0	3.4	4.3	65.0	195.8
2006-07 (no. FTE)	46.5	30.6	14.7	22.4	9.3	3.1	3.6	4.3	55.0	189.6
2005-06 (no. FTE)	49.4	28.7	13.9	21.5	10.4	3.3	3.3	4.3	53.0	187.7
2004-05 (no. FTE)	48.9	27.0	13.9	20.7	11.2	3.3	3.3	4.3	53.0	185.6
2003-04 (no. FTE)	43.1	28.0	14.1	20.7	11.1	3.4	3.5	5.5	45.0	174.4
District/county courts (h)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	19.1	16.1	6.2	10.7	9.1	..	..	..	..	61.2
2006-07 (no. FTE)	22.2	17.3	5.6	10.0	9.1	..	..	..	..	64.1
2005-06 (no. FTE)	24.7	21.1	5.5	9.3	7.6	..	..	..	..	68.3
2004-05 (no. FTE)	31.7	22.2	4.7	10.3	7.7	..	..	..	..	76.5
2003-04 (no. FTE)	29.4	22.0	7.0	10.0	9.3	..	..	..	..	77.7
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (i), (k)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	6.2	57.0	12.6	6.9	9.1	1.9	2.4	4.9	..	100.9
2006-07 (no. FTE)	6.4	59.0	13.9	7.3	9.3	1.8	2.6	5.0	..	105.2
2005-06 (no. FTE)	7.1	56.0	16.0	9.8	8.9	1.8	2.6	5.2	..	107.4
2004-05 (no. FTE)	9.4	53.0	16.3	10.3	8.4	2.1	2.6	5.1	..	107.2
2003-04 (no. FTE)	9.7	53.0	11.1	11.1	8.5	2.0	2.7	5.3	..	103.4

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

<i>Unit (b)</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 (c)</i>	<i>Total (d)</i>
Children's courts (i)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	7.4	8.0	2.2	1.5	0.8	..	0.1	0.1	..	20.2
2006-07 (no. FTE)	10.6	6.0	2.3	1.2	0.8	..	0.1	0.1	..	21.2
2005-06 (no. FTE)	10.7	6.0	2.6	0.7	1.0	..	0.1	0.4	..	21.5
2004-05 (no. FTE)	4.3	6.0	2.5	0.8	0.8	..	0.1	0.5	..	15.0
2003-04 (no. FTE)	4.5	6.0	2.1	1.0	1.0	-	0.2	0.1	..	14.9
Family courts (i)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	14.6	..	..	..	..	41.0	55.6
2006-07 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	13.9	..	..	..	..	44.6	58.5
2005-06 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	13.6	..	..	..	..	50.0	63.6
2004-05 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	13.2	..	..	..	..	54.9	68.1
2003-04 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	13.6	..	..	..	..	57.0	70.6
Federal Magistrates Court (i)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52.0	52.0
2006-07 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52.0	52.0
2005-06 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35.0	35.0
2004-05 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32.0	32.0
2003-04 (no. FTE)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23.0	23.0
Coroners' courts										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	5.0	7.0	7.8	2.0	2.1	0.4	0.3	1.5	..	26.1
2006-07 (no. FTE)	5.0	7.0	6.2	2.0	2.0	0.4	1.0	1.5	..	25.1
2005-06 (no. FTE)	5.0	5.0	6.0	2.0	1.7	0.2	0.4	1.5	..	21.8
2004-05 (no. FTE)	5.0	5.0	5.6	2.0	1.0	0.2	0.4	1.5	..	20.7
2003-04 (no. FTE)	5.0	5.0	3.7	2.0	1.0	0.5	0.7	1.5	..	19.4

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

<i>Unit (b)</i>	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
<b>Total number FTE judicial officers for civil courts</b>										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	86.8	116.0	42.9	57.5	28.2	5.3	6.3	10.8	158.0	511.8
2006-07 (no. FTE)	90.7	119.9	42.7	56.8	30.5	5.3	7.2	10.9	151.6	515.6
2005-06 (no. FTE)	96.9	116.8	44.0	56.9	29.6	5.3	6.4	11.5	138.0	505.3
2004-05 (no. FTE)	99.3	113.2	42.9	57.3	29.1	..	6.4	11.4	139.9	499.5
2003-04 (no. FTE)	91.7	114.0	37.9	58.4	30.9	5.9	6.9	12.4	125.0	483.1
<b>Criminal and civil</b>										
Number of FTE judicial officers										
Supreme/ Federal Court										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	63.4	44.0	25.7	31.1	14.0	6.8	6.3	7.9	65.0	264.1
2006-07 (no. FTE)	58.6	44.0	24.7	30.3	15.1	7.0	6.3	7.9	55.0	248.9
2005-06 (no. FTE)	62.5	41.0	20.4	29.1	14.9	7.5	5.6	7.9	53.0	241.9
2004-05 (no. FTE)	61.9	39.0	22.3	28.7	15.7	6.8	5.6	7.9	53.0	240.9
2003-04 (no. FTE)	60.9	40.0	23.0	28.7	15.7	7.0	5.6	7.9	45.0	233.8
District/county courts (h)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	67.0	51.8	32.9	28.5	20.3	..	..	..	..	200.5
2006-07 (no. FTE)	69.4	52.3	30.7	27.2	20.2	..	..	..	..	199.7
2005-06 (no. FTE)	70.1	52.0	30.1	25.7	20.4	..	..	..	..	198.3
2004-05 (no. FTE)	77.0	54.9	29.4	26.9	18.7	..	..	..	..	207.0
2003-04 (no. FTE)	75.0	54.0	30.8	26.0	20.3	..	..	..	..	206.1
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (i)										
2007-08 (no. FTE)	111.0	125.0	63.8	46.0	36.3	11.4	5.6	12.1	..	411.2
2006-07 (no. FTE)	113.0	135.0	61.4	43.0	37.0	10.8	6.0	11.9	..	418.1
2005-06 (no. FTE)	112.0	123.0	67.0	43.0	35.6	10.8	6.4	12.4	..	410.2
2004-05 (no. FTE)	114.0	117.0	65.2	42.7	33.6	11.7	6.4	11.8	..	402.5
2003-04 (no. FTE)	117.0	113.0	68.2	44.1	34.0	11.0	6.5	12.2	..	406.0



Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	Unit (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
Children's courts (i)											
	2007-08 (no. FTE)	17.5	10.0	5.9	5.1	4.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	..	45.1
	2006-07 (no. FTE)	18.0	8.0	6.1	5.3	4.2	0.7	1.0	1.1	..	44.4
	2005-06 (no. FTE)	18.0	8.0	6.6	4.4	4.8	0.6	1.1	1.2	..	44.6
	2004-05 (no. FTE)	12.0	8.0	6.2	4.5	4.0	0.6	1.1	1.2	..	37.6
	2003-04 (no. FTE)	12.0	8.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	0.6	1.1	0.6	..	36.3
<b>Total number FTE judicial officers for criminal and civil courts</b>											
	<b>2007-08 (no. FTE)</b>	<b>263.9</b>	<b>237.8</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>127.3</b>	<b>76.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>158.0</b>	<b>1 054.6</b>
	<b>2006-07 (no. FTE)</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>246.3</b>	<b>129.1</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>151.6</b>	<b>1 046.6</b>
	<b>2005-06 (no. FTE)</b>	<b>267.6</b>	<b>229.0</b>	<b>130.1</b>	<b>117.8</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>138.0</b>	<b>1 015.4</b>
	<b>2004-05 (no. FTE)</b>	<b>269.9</b>	<b>223.9</b>	<b>128.8</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>139.9</b>	<b>1 003.1</b>
	<b>2003-04 (no. FTE)</b>	<b>269.9</b>	<b>220.0</b>	<b>130.7</b>	<b>119.4</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>125.0</b>	<b>995.1</b>
Criminal (e)											
Number of FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people (l)											
Supreme courts											
	2007-08 (no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.7	..	0.3
	2006-07	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.7	..	0.3
	2005-06	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.7	1.7	..	0.3
	2004-05	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7	1.8	..	0.3
	2003-04	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7	1.2	..	0.3
District/county courts (h)											
	2007-08 (no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.7
	2006-07	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.7
	2005-06	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	..	..	..	..	0.6
	2004-05	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.6
	2003-04	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.6

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	Unit (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.9	0.9	3.3	..	1.5
2006-07		1.6	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.0	3.2	..	1.5
2005-06		1.5	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.1	3.4	..	1.5
2004-05		1.6	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.6	2.0	1.2	3.3	..	1.5
2003-04		1.6	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.2	3.4	..	1.5
Children's courts											
2007-08		0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	..	0.1
2006-07		0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	..	0.1
2005-06		0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	..	0.1
2004-05		0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	..	0.1
2003-04		0.1	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	..	0.1
<b>Total for criminal courts</b>											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	2.6	2.3	2.2	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.0	5.3	..	2.6
2006-07		2.5	2.4	2.1	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.1	5.4	..	2.5
2005-06		2.5	2.2	2.1	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.2	5.5	..	2.5
2004-05		2.5	2.2	2.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.2	5.4	..	2.5
2003-04		2.7	2.1	2.4	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.2	4.9	..	2.6
Civil											
Number of FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people (l)											
Supreme/Federal Court											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.7	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.6	1.0	2.0	0.3	0.9
2006-07		0.7	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.6	0.6	1.1	2.0	0.3	0.9
2005-06		0.7	0.6	0.3	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.0	2.1	0.3	0.9
2004-05		0.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.7	1.0	2.1	0.3	0.9
2003-04		0.6	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.1	2.7	0.2	0.9
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Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	Unit (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
District/county courts (h)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.6	..	..	..	..	0.3
2006-07		0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.6	..	..	..	..	0.3
2005-06		0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.5	..	..	..	..	0.3
2004-05		0.5	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.5	..	..	..	..	0.4
2003-04		0.4	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	..	..	..	..	0.4
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (i)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.1	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.7	2.2	..	0.5
2006-07		0.1	1.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.8	2.4	..	0.5
2005-06		0.1	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	2.5	..	0.5
2004-05		0.1	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	2.5	..	0.5
2003-04		0.1	1.1	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.8	2.6	..	0.5
Children's courts (i)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	..	-	-	..	0.1
2006-07		0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	..	-	-	..	0.1
2005-06		0.2	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	..	-	0.2	..	0.1
2004-05		0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	..	-	0.2	..	0.1
2003-04		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	-	..	0.1
Family courts (l)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.3
2006-07		..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.3
2005-06		..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.3
2004-05		..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.3	0.3
2003-04		..	..	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.3	0.4

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	Unit (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
Federal Magistrates Court (f)											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.2
2006-07		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.2
2005-06		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.2
2004-05		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.2
2003-04		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.1	0.1
Coroner's court											
2007-08		0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	..	0.1
2006-07		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7	..	0.1
2005-06		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.7	..	0.1
2004-05		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.7	..	0.1
2003-04		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	..	0.1
<b>Total for civil courts</b>											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	1.3	2.2	1.0	2.7	1.8	1.1	1.8	5.0	0.7	2.4
2006-07		1.3	2.3	1.0	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.1	5.1	0.7	2.5
2005-06		1.4	2.3	1.1	2.8	1.9	1.1	1.9	5.5	0.7	2.5
2004-05		1.5	2.3	1.1	2.9	1.9	..	1.9	5.6	0.7	2.5
2003-04		1.4	2.3	1.0	3.0	2.0	1.2	2.1	6.2	0.6	2.4
Criminal and civil											
Number of FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people (f)											
Supreme/Federal Court											
2007-08	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.9	1.4	1.8	3.6	0.3	1.2
2006-07		0.9	0.9	0.6	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.9	3.7	0.3	1.2
2005-06		0.9	0.8	0.5	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.7	3.8	0.3	1.2
2004-05		0.9	0.8	0.6	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.7	3.9	0.3	1.2
2003-04		0.9	0.8	0.6	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.7	3.9	0.2	1.2

Table 7A.20

Table 7A.20 **Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	Unit (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
District/county courts (h)											
2007-08		1.0	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.3	..	..	..	..	0.9
2006-07	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.3	1.3	..	..	..	..	1.0
2005-06		1.0	1.0	0.7	1.3	1.3	..	..	..	..	1.0
2004-05		1.1	1.1	0.7	1.3	1.2	..	..	..	..	1.0
2003-04		1.1	1.1	0.8	1.3	1.3	..	..	..	..	1.0
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts) (i)											
2007-08		1.6	2.4	1.5	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.6	5.6	..	1.9
2006-07	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	1.6	2.6	1.5	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.8	5.6	..	2.0
2005-06		1.7	2.4	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.9	5.9	..	2.0
2004-05		1.7	2.3	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.0	5.8	..	2.0
2003-04		1.7	2.3	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.0	6.1	..	2.0
Children's courts											
2007-08		0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	..	0.2
2006-07	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	..	0.2
2005-06		0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	..	0.2
2004-05		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	..	0.2
2003-04		0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	..	0.2
<b>Total for criminal and civil courts</b>											
2007-08		3.8	4.5	3.2	6.0	4.8	3.9	3.9	10.3	0.7	5.0
2006-07	(no. FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people)	3.9	4.8	3.1	5.8	5.0	3.8	4.2	10.5	0.7	5.0
2005-06		3.9	4.5	3.2	5.8	5.0	3.9	4.1	11.0	0.7	4.9
2004-05		4.0	4.5	3.3	5.9	4.7	2.8	4.1	11.0	0.7	5.0
2003-04		4.0	4.4	3.4	6.1	4.9	4.0	4.3	11.1	0.6	5.0

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Table 7A.20

**Table 7A.20 Judicial officers (FTE and number per 100 000 people) (a)**

	<i>Unit (b)</i>	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts (c)	Total (d)
(a)	Judicial officers are defined as: judges; magistrates; masters; coroners; judicial registrars; and all other officers who, following argument and giving of evidence, make enforceable orders of the court. The data are provided on the basis of the proportion of time spent on the judicial activity.										
(b)	no. FTE = number of full time equivalent judicial officers.										
(c)	For the Australian courts, the number of FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people is derived by dividing the number of FTE officers for each court by the Australian population.										
(d)	FTE totals in this column are the sum of all states and territories, and the Australian courts, as applicable. Totals for the number of FTE judicial officers per 100 000 people are derived by dividing the total number of judicial FTE in the financial year by the Australian population (per 100,000 people) for the relevant reference period.										
(e)	Electronic infringement and enforcement systems are not included as they do not have open court sittings.										
(f)	Queensland Supreme Court Judicial staff FTE and expenditure data for 2006-07 and 2007-08 have been calculated using a revised methodology to address an issue associated with the allocation of the FTE and expenditure data between the criminal and civil jurisdictions of the Supreme Court. Data for the reference periods prior to 2006-07 should not be used to undertake comparative analysis.										
(g)	In the NSW Supreme Court the FTE counts for permanent judges are based on the appointments in place at 30 June; for acting judges the FTE counts are based on actual days paid for during the reporting period.										
(h)	Appeals are not heard in the criminal jurisdiction of the district courts in WA or SA, instead they are heard in the supreme courts in WA and SA.										
(i)	In Tasmania, all children's court judicial resources are included in the criminal jurisdiction. Child protection matters are lodged in the Criminal Registry as urgent.										
(j)	Victoria's Magistrate's court civil data include a proportion of judicial officers from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.										
(k)	WA Magistrates court: prior to 2006-07 resources associated with criminal injury compensation applications have been incorrectly included in civil data. Revised data for prior years are not available therefore comparisons with prior years should be made with caution.										
(l)	Population is estimated by taking the midpoint population estimate of the relevant financial year.										

.. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

*Source:*

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

Population figures from Statistical Appendix Table AA.2. Historical rates in this table / figure may differ from those in previous Reports, as historical population data have been revised using Final Rebased Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data following the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

Table 7A.21

## Table 7A.21 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Supreme courts										
Appeal										
2007-08	97.8	85.3	90.7	115.7	100.7	80.0	72.3	136.4	..	94.9
2006-07	102.8	92.9	104.1	150.6	99.6	107.9	104.8	122.2	..	104.5
2005-06	99.6	102.4	97.9	88.2	125.0	45.7	75.3	116.7	..	100.3
2004-05	112.9	101.8	104.8	93.5	105.0	96.0	80.6	100.0	..	103.9
2003-04	98.1	106.7	108.0	124.1	85.2	80.8	108.1	61.8	..	102.0
Non-appeal										
2007-08	114.2	122.7	103.0	91.1	85.1	79.5	70.2	84.5	..	93.4
2006-07	80.0	129.6	101.8	96.6	198.0	110.1	85.3	99.2	..	103.7
2005-06	123.5	86.3	87.7	103.6	105.2	104.0	90.2	109.7	..	95.6
2004-05	115.3	77.9	81.5	83.7	80.0	98.1	74.9	109.4	..	88.4
2003-04	98.4	104.9	89.3	89.6	86.2	95.5	80.6	82.7	..	90.2
All matters										
2007-08	101.3	93.9	100.2	104.2	97.7	79.5	70.7	87.3	..	94.0
2006-07	97.7	103.3	102.3	119.9	114.7	110.0	89.6	100.7	..	104.0
2005-06	102.9	97.0	89.9	95.2	119.7	100.4	86.1	110.3	..	97.4
2004-05	113.3	94.1	87.7	88.4	98.6	98.0	76.2	108.7	..	94.8
2003-04	98.1	106.3	94.4	105.1	85.4	94.8	88.1	80.9	..	95.2
District/county courts										
Appeal										
2007-08	101.4	94.9	93.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	99.7
2006-07	95.9	94.6	75.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	94.8
2005-06	94.1	82.3	108.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	91.5
2004-05	98.5	95.0	95.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	97.5
2003-04	102.9	106.5	72.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	102.9

Table 7A.21

## Table 7A.21 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Non-appeal										
2007-08	99.6	96.5	103.5	111.6	101.1	..	..	..	..	102.6
2006-07	89.1	82.9	97.2	113.0	93.0	..	..	..	..	95.0
2005-06	98.3	87.5	99.3	110.5	88.5	..	..	..	..	97.9
2004-05	90.1	90.4	86.7	107.6	95.9	..	..	..	..	91.8
2003-04	84.5	103.2	98.8	100.3	77.1	..	..	..	..	94.7
All matters										
2007-08	100.8	95.7	103.0	111.6	101.1	..	..	..	..	101.5
2006-07	93.7	88.2	96.0	113.0	93.0	..	..	..	..	94.9
2005-06	95.5	85.0	99.7	110.5	88.5	..	..	..	..	95.6
2004-05	95.4	92.6	87.2	107.6	95.9	..	..	..	..	93.9
2003-04	95.2	104.8	97.9	100.3	77.1	..	..	..	..	97.2
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	97.3	101.0	98.2	109.8	110.0	103.1	95.6	97.6	..	101.5
2006-07	99.7	94.0	99.5	109.4	104.2	83.7	106.0	98.7	..	98.8
2005-06	101.0	96.5	96.0	108.0	99.3	71.9	113.7	100.0	..	97.1
2004-05	97.9	97.5	95.1	109.9	84.4	84.7	110.4	103.9	..	96.1
2003-04	97.8	94.7	93.3	108.6	77.5	82.4	100.9	90.0	..	93.8
Children's courts										
2007-08	98.1	109.3	100.1	110.1	101.8	82.7	98.5	95.6	..	103.4
2006-07	98.1	91.2	101.5	109.3	96.8	77.4	96.1	116.1	..	97.9
2005-06	99.4	83.9	99.7	99.8	102.5	79.7	94.6	117.4	..	96.2
2004-05	101.4	96.2	96.8	109.2	85.2	81.4	103.0	115.4	..	98.0
2003-04	101.0	88.8	96.0	109.5	70.9	98.9	111.9	87.7	..	94.6



Table 7A.21

## Table 7A.21 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	97.4	101.8	98.3	109.9	109.2	102.4	95.9	97.4	..	101.6
2006-07	99.6	93.7	99.6	109.4	103.5	83.5	105.1	100.2	..	98.7
2005-06	100.9	95.5	96.2	107.2	99.5	72.1	112.0	101.4	..	97.0
2004-05	98.1	97.4	95.2	109.8	84.5	84.6	109.8	104.9	..	96.3
2003-04	98.0	94.2	93.5	108.7	76.8	82.8	102.0	89.8	..	93.8
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	97.6	101.6	98.5	109.9	109.0	102.2	94.3	97.1	..	101.6
2006-07	99.3	93.5	99.5	109.5	103.3	83.7	104.4	100.2	..	98.7
2005-06	100.6	95.2	96.3	107.2	99.4	72.3	110.9	101.6	..	97.0
2004-05	98.1	97.3	94.8	109.6	84.8	84.7	108.3	105.0	..	96.2
2003-04	97.9	94.6	93.7	108.4	76.9	82.9	101.5	89.5	..	94.0
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	81.7	86.7	99.1	99.3	..	..	..	..	86.5
2006-07	..	81.6	85.8	93.8	96.5	..	..	..	..	85.5
2005-06	..	82.9	88.0	85.7	87.2	..	..	..	..	85.2
2004-05	..	84.5	86.7	94.9	73.6	..	..	..	..	85.6
2003-04	..	83.0	90.8	95.8	72.9	..	..	..	..	85.9

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Note: &lt; 100: There were more lodgments than finalisations in the reported year.

100: There were the same number of lodgments as finalisations in the reported year.

&gt;100: There were more finalisations than lodgments in the reported year.

Table 7A.21

**Table 7A.21 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, criminal (per cent) (a), (b)**

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
(a)	<p>The clearance rate is derived by dividing the number of finalisations in the reporting period, by the number of lodgments in the same period. The result is multiplied by 100 to convert to a percentage. The clearance rate should be interpreted alongside lodgment and finalisation data (tables 7A.1 and 7A.5), and the backlog indicator (table 7A.17). Trends over time should also be considered. The clearance rate can be affected by external factors (such as those causing changes in lodgment rates), as well as by changes in a court's case management practices. The following can assist in interpretation of this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a figure of 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised as many cases as were lodged, and the pending caseload should be similar to the pending caseload 12 months earlier, • a figure greater than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised more cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have decreased, • a figure less than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised fewer cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have increased.</li> </ul> <p>(b) Clearance rates are derived from finalisation data presented in table 7A.5 and lodgment data presented in table 7A.1. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.5 and 7A.1.</p> <p>(c) The total number of finalisations (table 7A.1), divided by the total number of lodgments (table 7A.5) expressed as a percentage.</p>									

.. Not applicable.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.1 and 7A.5.

Table 7A.22

## Table 7A.22 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
Appeal										
2007-08	99.0	84.2	112.7	136.0	120.5	96.6	87.7	94.6	108.8	104.0
2006-07	108.2	110.2	100.4	107.6	93.0	106.7	66.2	124.5	100.7	103.8
2005-06	112.5	112.8	94.3	97.4	157.7	119.8	113.6	84.8	100.8	105.8
2004-05	94.5	91.3	99.3	69.8	81.9	104.4	106.9	113.5	86.2	90.5
2003-04	96.7	151.0	134.0	73.8	72.5	128.2	71.1	92.0	97.8	102.4
Non-appeal										
2007-08	105.8	122.3	99.7	105.3	100.2	103.1	86.0	124.4	91.4	103.9
2006-07	106.7	116.3	97.1	133.7	93.3	108.0	122.3	99.5	107.5	108.5
2005-06	102.8	83.4	98.2	98.2	121.4	107.6	90.0	117.0	107.2	99.2
2004-05	96.6	95.2	120.3	86.8	62.0	120.4	126.9	117.0	98.7	99.8
2003-04	98.3	77.9	117.5	119.9	61.7	114.6	93.8	97.0	101.3	98.2
All matters										
2007-08	105.4	119.9	100.3	107.3	102.1	102.4	86.1	112.5	94.2	103.9
2006-07	106.8	115.9	97.2	130.3	93.3	107.9	117.8	108.5	105.4	108.0
2005-06	103.5	84.8	98.0	98.1	124.5	108.8	91.2	100.9	105.8	99.9
2004-05	96.4	95.0	119.2	84.6	63.3	118.4	125.3	115.4	95.0	98.8
2003-04	98.2	82.0	118.2	115.2	62.6	116.0	92.1	94.5	100.8	98.6
District/county courts										
Appeal										
2007-08	106.2	95.8	78.4	137.6	108.6	..	..	..	..	103.4
2006-07	98.6	103.9	85.7	142.5	123.4	..	..	..	..	108.0
2005-06	118.0	84.1	128.0	114.7	138.6	..	..	..	..	109.0
2004-05	72.6	96.3	106.6	133.0	112.3	..	..	..	..	105.2
2003-04	110.9	105.1	114.4	62.0	92.5	..	..	..	..	104.0

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Table 7A.22

Table 7A.22 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Non-appeal										
2007-08	99.0	99.1	97.2	96.2	111.2	..	..	..	..	99.6
2006-07	110.4	98.1	123.4	110.7	112.0	..	..	..	..	110.7
2005-06	110.3	122.9	119.2	131.3	106.2	..	..	..	..	117.1
2004-05	115.6	154.4	121.6	110.3	102.1	..	..	..	..	123.0
2003-04	124.0	82.3	102.2	97.0	96.0	..	..	..	..	101.3
All matters										
2007-08	99.1	99.0	96.9	97.1	111.1	..	..	..	..	99.6
2006-07	110.3	98.2	122.7	111.4	112.2	..	..	..	..	110.7
2005-06	110.4	121.5	119.4	130.8	106.8	..	..	..	..	116.9
2004-05	115.2	152.4	121.4	111.1	102.3	..	..	..	..	122.7
2003-04	123.9	82.5	103.4	95.3	95.9	..	..	..	..	101.4
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	93.5	97.6	102.7	98.0	109.1	105.9	92.3	93.4	..	97.6
2006-07	94.6	102.0	106.9	108.3	98.2	105.1	112.0	85.9	..	100.4
2005-06	93.2	101.5	99.2	97.7	98.1	103.1	106.2	89.9	..	97.7
2004-05	88.4	99.5	101.4	98.3	78.9	100.7	102.5	67.5	..	94.3
2003-04	95.8	102.2	105.4	65.5	68.7	104.1	107.2	60.5	..	94.7
Children's courts										
2007-08	86.8	89.1	93.3	98.7	98.8	96.2	89.7	126.1	..	90.6
2006-07	93.6	87.4	100.4	84.6	101.8	100.3	139.8	105.3	..	93.5
2005-06	97.9	82.4	98.8	108.4	99.2	91.6	94.3	124.7	..	94.6
2004-05	95.9	128.9	95.3	97.5	104.2	90.6	88.2	131.4	..	103.9
2003-04	92.4	126.2	92.0	121.4	na	112.4	83.3	130.9	..	na

Table 7A.22

Table 7A.22 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	93.2	97.3	102.2	98.0	108.7	105.6	92.2	94.0	..	97.3
2006-07	94.6	101.6	106.6	107.6	98.3	104.9	112.5	86.3	..	100.2
2005-06	93.4	101.0	99.2	97.8	98.1	102.7	105.7	90.4	..	97.6
2004-05	88.6	100.1	101.1	98.3	79.6	100.5	101.8	68.6	..	94.6
2003-04	95.7	102.7	104.7	66.2	na	104.2	106.4	62.2	..	na
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	94.2	98.1	101.8	98.3	108.7	105.3	91.2	94.8	94.2	97.9
2006-07	95.9	102.0	106.9	108.8	99.2	105.2	113.3	87.3	105.4	101.1
2005-06	94.5	101.0	100.3	99.7	99.7	103.3	103.6	90.9	105.8	98.4
2004-05	89.8	101.3	103.3	98.4	80.8	102.2	105.0	71.0	95.0	95.9
2003-04	96.9	101.0	105.3	70.2	na	105.5	104.4	64.2	100.8	na
Family courts										
Appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	133.3	..	..	..	..	91.1	93.5
2006-07	..	..	..	88.2	..	..	..	..	115.5	114.2
2005-06	..	..	..	61.1	..	..	..	..	78.9	76.7
2004-05	..	..	..	50.0	..	..	..	..	88.5	83.0
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	105.1	na
Non-appeal										
2007-08	..	..	..	91.5	..	..	..	..	117.2	106.7
2006-07	..	..	..	71.8	..	..	..	..	113.1	98.5
2005-06	..	..	..	86.5	..	..	..	..	107.2	100.8
2004-05	..	..	..	81.9	..	..	..	..	110.9	102.4
2003-04	..	..	..	88.2	..	..	..	..	109.1	104.0

Table 7A.22

Table 7A.22 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
All matters										
2007-08	..	..	..	91.6	..	..	..	..	116.7	106.6
2006-07	..	..	..	71.8	..	..	..	..	113.1	98.7
2005-06	..	..	..	86.4	..	..	..	..	106.9	100.6
2004-05	..	..	..	81.7	..	..	..	..	110.6	102.2
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	109.1	na
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98.2	98.2
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94.7	94.7
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99.4	99.4
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96.2	96.2
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81.7	81.7
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	97.3	78.7	104.0	92.8	93.5	103.2	102.6	96.5	..	93.4
2006-07	91.4	95.5	97.8	80.3	101.1	94.7	98.3	87.3	..	94.1
2005-06	82.3	93.6	89.8	79.6	108.2	105.2	96.0	105.4	..	90.6
2004-05	81.6	93.5	97.6	72.7	84.5	99.7	99.6	105.0	..	88.5
2003-04	97.0	91.4	85.1	98.3	95.7	115.6	98.3	83.7	..	94.1

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Note: &lt; 100: There were more lodgments than finalisations in the reported year.

100: There were the same number of lodgments as finalisations in the reported year.

&gt;100: There were more finalisations than lodgments in the reported year.

Table 7A.22

**Table 7A.22 Clearance rate – finalisations/lodgments, civil (per cent) (a), (b)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (c)
(a)	<p>The clearance rate is derived by dividing the number of finalisations in the reporting period, by the number of lodgments in the same period. The result is multiplied by 100 to convert to a percentage. The clearance rate should be interpreted alongside lodgment and finalisation data (tables 7A.2 and 7A.6), and the backlog indicator (table 7A.18). Trends over time should also be considered. The clearance rate can be affected by external factors (such as those causing changes in lodgment rates), as well as by changes in a court's case management practices. The following can assist in interpretation of this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a figure of 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised as many cases as were lodged, and the pending caseload should be similar to the pending caseload 12 months earlier, • a figure greater than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised more cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have decreased, • a figure less than 100 per cent indicates that, during the reporting period, the court finalised fewer cases than were lodged, and the pending caseload should have increased.</li> </ul> <p>(b) Clearance rates are derived from finalisation data presented in table 7A.6 and lodgment data presented in table 7A.2. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.6 and 7A.2.</p> <p>(c) The total number of finalisations (table 7A.2), divided by the total number of lodgments (table 7A.6) expressed as a percentage.</p>									

**na** Not available .. Not applicable.

*Source:* Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.2 and 7A.6.

Table 7A.23

Table 7A.23 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	26 436	25 507	5 846	19 907	21 829	9 564	11 583	22 895	..	14 823
2006-07	22 676	27 454	5 976	21 187	17 363	9 437	12 748	18 669	..	14 765
2005-06	23 921	24 951	5 150	25 626	13 179	10 942	12 845	18 793	..	14 656
2004-05	23 188	23 222	6 299	17 750	14 509	9 662	17 903	19 386	..	14 778
2003-04	30 339	23 368	6 183	16 246	17 997	8 595	16 925	12 764	..	15 218
District/county courts										
2007-08	5 784	12 854	3 929	8 862	7 684	..	..	..	..	6 916
2006-07	6 110	12 016	4 045	8 182	8 025	..	..	..	..	6 939
2005-06	6 031	10 670	3 868	8 405	9 908	..	..	..	..	6 682
2004-05	5 710	10 720	4 767	6 664	9 242	..	..	..	..	6 689
2003-04	5 450	9 090	2 825	6 437	9 949	..	..	..	..	5 642
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	503	369	310	465	345	129	806	711	..	387
2006-07	545	390	318	504	368	151	700	680	..	413
2005-06	535	386	314	542	360	165	521	618	..	414
2004-05	571	355	335	425	450	146	698	702	..	417
2003-04	591	356	335	495	514	147	593	625	..	432
Children's courts										
2007-08	823	86	601	339	387	353	1 717	998	..	436
2006-07	960	71	601	343	421	458	1 599	981	..	457
2005-06	817	138	635	405	452	374	1 592	451	..	514
2004-05	796	142	571	706	486	364	1 899	486	..	572
2003-04	873	126	641	736	500	331	1 180	609	..	599



Table 7A.23

Table 7A.23 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	524	341	326	453	349	135	895	732	..	391
2006-07	569	353	335	488	373	158	779	708	..	416
2005-06	551	369	333	529	368	171	601	603	..	421
2004-05	585	342	350	452	453	152	794	682	..	427
2003-04	610	340	357	520	513	153	657	624	..	444
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	869	750	502	714	579	223	1 378	1 332	..	674
2006-07	910	813	511	753	591	262	1 260	1 291	..	708
2005-06	887	795	504	846	600	299	1 011	1 193	..	713
2004-05	919	771	553	725	719	253	1 354	1 263	..	727
2003-04	946	733	522	803	831	245	1 127	990	..	728
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 78	- 25	- 39	- 43	..	..	..	..	- 56
2006-07	..	- 80	- 31	- 50	- 63	..	..	..	..	- 60
2005-06	..	- 38	- 36	- 47	- 73	..	..	..	..	- 42
2004-05	..	- 48	- 39	- 39	- 86	..	..	..	..	- 47
2003-04	..	- 47	- 37	- 42	- 80	..	..	..	..	- 46
Total electronic infringement and enforcement systems and magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	..	- 13	81	127	87	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	..	- 3	80	163	89	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	..	35	79	134	94	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	..	26	83	118	132	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	..	23	86	124	144	..	..	..	..	..

Table 7A.23

Table 7A.23 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs	Total (b)
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme courts										
2007-08	27 305	26 325	6 030	19 907	22 657	9 744	11 583	23 389	..	15 187
2006-07	23 431	28 120	6 149	21 187	18 091	9 612	12 748	19 081	..	15 109
2005-06	24 660	25 215	5 298	25 626	13 727	11 128	12 845	19 224	..	14 937
2004-05	23 905	23 772	6 489	17 750	15 085	9 795	17 903	19 725	..	15 107
2003-04	31 302	23 882	6 427	16 246	18 712	8 724	16 925	13 079	..	15 595
District/county courts										
2007-08	5 925	13 061	4 026	8 862	7 966	..	..	..	..	7 051
2006-07	6 282	12 214	4 155	8 182	8 349	..	..	..	..	7 089
2005-06	6 204	10 856	3 972	8 405	10 328	..	..	..	..	6 832
2004-05	5 879	10 896	4 896	6 664	9 630	..	..	..	..	6 842
2003-04	5 620	9 271	2 924	6 437	10 365	..	..	..	..	5 787
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	523	380	319	465	358	132	806	732	..	398
2006-07	565	402	328	504	382	154	700	701	..	424
2005-06	554	398	324	542	374	169	521	638	..	426
2004-05	591	366	345	425	467	149	698	724	..	429
2003-04	607	366	347	495	534	150	593	648	..	443
Children's courts										
2007-08	853	88	622	339	402	362	1 717	1 028	..	449
2006-07	993	73	617	343	440	469	1 599	1 012	..	470
2005-06	848	143	652	405	471	384	1 592	466	..	528
2004-05	823	147	587	706	506	371	1 899	501	..	586
2003-04	896	130	656	736	522	338	1 180	632	..	612

Table 7A.23

Table 7A.23 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	544	351	336	453	362	138	895	754	..	402
2006-07	589	364	345	488	387	162	779	730	..	428
2005-06	571	380	343	529	383	175	601	623	..	433
2004-05	605	353	360	452	470	155	794	702	..	439
2003-04	626	350	369	520	533	156	657	647	..	455
All criminal courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems)										
2007-08	898	768	516	714	600	227	1 378	1 367	..	690
2006-07	940	833	526	753	615	268	1 260	1 326	..	726
2005-06	917	813	518	846	625	305	1 011	1 226	..	731
2005-06	949	789	569	725	747	258	1 354	1 294	..	745
2003-04	973	751	540	803	864	250	1 127	1 022	..	747
Electronic infringement and enforcement systems										
2007-08	..	- 78	- 24	- 39	- 42	..	..	..	..	- 56
2006-07	..	- 80	- 31	- 50	- 62	..	..	..	..	- 60
2005-06	..	- 38	- 35	- 47	- 71	..	..	..	..	- 41
2004-05	..	- 48	- 39	- 39	- 84	..	..	..	..	- 46
2003-04	..	- 47	- 37	- 42	- 79	..	..	..	..	- 46
Total electronic infringement and enforcement systems and magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	..	- 11	84	127	92	..	..	..	..	..
2006-07	..	- 1	83	163	95	..	..	..	..	..
2005-06	..	38	82	134	101	..	..	..	..	..
2004-05	..	29	87	118	140	..	..	..	..	..
2003-04	..	25	91	124	153	..	..	..	..	..

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Table 7A.23

**Table 7A.23 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cfs	Total (b)
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(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in tables 7A.9, income data presented in table 7A.11 and finalisation data presented in tables 7A.5. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.9, 7A.11 and 7A.5.

(b) The total (i.e. for all states and territories) expenditure in the financial year, divided by the total (i.e. for all states and territories) number of finalisations for the same reference period.

.. Not applicable.

Source: State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.5, 7A.9 and 7A.11.

ABS Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0. Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.

Table 7A.24

Table 7A.24 **Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	2 449	2 509	2 158	9 564	4 690	2 600	2 912	15 879	10 468	4 669
2006-07	2 655	2 321	2 420	6 720	6 230	2 285	2 914	15 843	16 037	4 868
2005-06	2 946	3 493	2 242	8 058	6 002	2 208	2 692	14 587	11 943	5 003
2004-05	3 221	3 217	1 967	6 207	10 186	2 008	2 485	12 963	19 141	5 324
2003-04	3 241	3 258	1 402	4 713	7 844	1 815	3 281	22 362	13 159	5 005
District/county courts										
2007-08	1 896	3 231	1 260	3 950	2 121	..	..	..	..	2 393
2006-07	1 899	3 653	974	3 374	2 215	..	..	..	..	2 257
2005-06	2 027	3 463	789	2 999	1 971	..	..	..	..	2 164
2004-05	2 547	2 521	473	3 135	2 097	..	..	..	..	2 049
2003-04	1 804	2 620	769	3 171	2 543	..	..	..	..	1 952
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	169	122	200	200	204	81	910	683	..	173
2006-07	189	93	190	191	257	78	630	686	..	168
2005-06	175	82	177	214	220	64	431	838	..	158
2004-05	188	73	166	243	333	60	405	1 311	..	167
2003-04	160	75	121	311	428	31	368	789	..	151
Children's courts (c)										
2007-08	1 108	1 260	1 114	478	720	54	6 286	552	..	1 072
2006-07	1 084	1 149	1 200	417	563	40	2 384	913	..	1 030
2005-06	985	1 417	1 160	534	602	-	1 226	1 099	..	1 057
2004-05	867	952	987	948	733	-	1 354	1 062	..	916
2003-04	796	1 176	1 355	462	na	-	2 604	501	..	na

Table 7A.24

Table 7A.24 **Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	207	152	239	209	222	80	1 002	680	..	205
2006-07	222	117	228	196	269	77	674	692	..	195
2005-06	202	109	216	219	233	62	462	843	..	184
2004-05	209	96	202	253	347	59	440	1 303	..	189
2003-04	177	101	175	315	na	31	419	775	..	na
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	433	336	404	873	559	313	1 292	1 495	10 468	606
2006-07	455	290	390	720	656	291	1 019	1 497	16 037	571
2005-06	445	307	361	782	610	281	745	1 596	11 943	555
2004-05	480	293	327	707	835	277	767	2 270	19 141	572
2003-04	414	284	285	878	na	257	773	2 803	13 159	na
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	1 250	..	..	..	..	4 741	3 528
2006-07	..	..	..	1 807	..	..	..	..	3 954	3 407
2005-06	..	..	..	1 295	..	..	..	..	3 428	2 866
2004-05	..	..	..	1 364	..	..	..	..	3 029	2 643
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	2 393	na
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	704	704
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	597	597
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	485	485
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	438	438
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	395	395

Table 7A.24

Table 7A.24 **Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	1 295	4 130	3 349	6 376	2 764	2 350	944	3 319	..	2 865
2006-07	1 456	3 183	3 643	7 395	2 931	1 174	883	4 096	..	2 766
2005-06	1 622	2 847	3 645	7 785	2 481	870	819	3 790	..	2 728
2004-05	1 691	3 183	2 865	4 936	1 342	893	915	3 419	..	2 285
2003-04	1 532	3 391	2 497	3 901	1 248	951	2 739	4 054	..	2 227
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	2 594	2 626	2 242	9 564	4 948	2 652	2 912	16 247	10 468	4 762
2006-07	2 805	2 417	2 513	6 720	6 578	2 332	2 914	16 218	16 037	4 969
2005-06	3 091	3 559	2 331	8 058	6 336	2 250	2 692	14 948	11 943	5 095
2004-05	3 397	3 347	2 044	6 207	10 728	2 061	2 485	13 202	19 141	5 440
2003-04	3 415	3 392	1 486	4 713	8 254	1 861	3 281	22 994	13 159	5 114
District/county courts										
2007-08	1 976	3 306	1 312	3 950	2 231	..	..	..	..	2 458
2006-07	1 993	3 738	1 014	3 374	2 340	..	..	..	..	2 327
2005-06	2 136	3 551	824	2 999	2 072	..	..	..	..	2 234
2004-05	2 690	2 584	502	3 135	2 220	..	..	..	..	2 122
2003-04	1 904	2 688	810	3 171	2 680	..	..	..	..	2 023
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	179	129	208	200	216	84	910	705	..	181
2006-07	199	99	198	191	271	81	630	710	..	176
2005-06	185	88	185	214	233	67	431	867	..	166
2004-05	200	79	174	243	349	64	405	1 354	..	175
2003-04	176	80	129	311	447	35	368	825	..	161

Table 7A.24

Table 7A.24 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007-08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Children's courts (c)										
2007-08	1 142	1 296	1 148	478	746	54	6 286	569	..	1 102
2006-07	1 117	1 185	1 233	417	589	40	2 384	942	..	1 060
2005-06	1 017	1 463	1 191	534	626	-	1 226	1 134	..	1 089
2004-05	897	982	1 014	948	765	-	1 354	1 095	..	943
2003-04	832	1 210	1 387	462	na	-	2 604	520	..	na
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	218	160	248	209	235	83	1 002	702	..	213
2006-07	233	124	237	196	284	80	674	716	..	203
2005-06	213	116	225	219	247	65	462	872	..	193
2004-05	221	102	210	253	364	63	440	1 345	..	198
2003-04	193	108	183	315	na	34	419	810	..	na
All civil courts (excl. the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court and the coroners' courts)										
2007-08	457	350	420	873	589	321	1 292	1 536	10 468	623
2006-07	479	303	405	720	693	299	1 019	1 539	16 037	588
2005-06	468	318	376	782	643	288	745	1 644	11 943	571
2004-05	507	306	341	707	879	286	767	2 328	19 141	590
2003-04	442	296	300	878	na	266	773	2 894	13 159	na
Family courts										
2007-08	..	..	..	1 250	..	..	..	..	4 741	3 528
2006-07	..	..	..	1 807	..	..	..	..	3 954	3 407
2005-06	..	..	..	1 295	..	..	..	..	3 428	2 866
2004-05	..	..	..	1 364	..	..	..	..	3 029	2 643
2003-04	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	2 393	na



Table 7A.24

Table 7A.24 **Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Federal Magistrates Court										
2007-08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	704	704
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	597	597
2005-06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	485	485
2004-05	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	438	438
2003-04	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	395	395
Coroners' courts										
2007-08	1 324	4 188	3 435	6 376	2 811	2 362	944	3 414	..	2 909
2006-07	1 487	3 219	3 719	7 395	2 987	1 188	883	4 213	..	2 804
2005-06	1 656	2 881	3 723	7 785	2 528	883	819	3 892	..	2 766
2004-05	1 725	3 216	2 928	4 936	1 361	908	915	3 500	..	2 317
2003-04	1 564	3 425	2 558	3 901	1 266	964	2 739	4 158	..	2 257

Aust cts = Australian courts.

(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in table 7A.10, income data presented in table 7A.11 and finalisation data presented in tables 7A.6. Further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.10, 7A.11 and 7A.6.

(b) The total (i.e. for all states and territories, and the Australian courts where applicable) expenditure in the financial year, divided by the total (i.e. for all states and territories, and the Australian courts where applicable) number of finalisations for the same reference period.

(c) For the ACT, the increase in real net recurrent expenditure is due to the inclusion of rent and other costs not previously attributed.

na Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.6, 7A.10 and 7A.11.

Table 7A.25

Table 7A.25 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Excluding payroll tax										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	3 316	4 275	3 093	11 637	8 012	5 024	5 058	19 577	10 468	5 779
2006-07	3 440	4 360	3 270	8 623	8 741	4 665	4 812	17 475	16 037	5 989
2005-06	3 840	5 575	2 903	10 568	7 622	4 815	4 665	16 928	11 943	6 103
2004-05	4 293	5 057	2 778	7 969	11 531	4 060	4 435	16 249	19 141	6 438
2003-04	4 821	5 276	2 271	6 189	10 182	3 468	5 290	17 930	13 159	6 149
District/county courts										
2007-08	4 053	7 592	2 858	5 994	4 079	..	..	..	..	4 699
2006-07	4 130	7 594	2 577	5 397	4 058	..	..	..	..	4 526
2005-06	4 163	6 464	2 339	5 119	4 270	..	..	..	..	4 264
2004-05	4 270	5 414	2 354	4 571	4 227	..	..	..	..	4 084
2003-04	3 513	5 269	1 838	4 648	4 818	..	..	..	..	3 639
Magistrates' courts										
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	338	239	277	389	305	122	855	702	..	302
2006-07	364	216	275	398	335	138	665	682	..	307
2005-06	350	205	268	426	316	145	475	691	..	300
2004-05	377	191	275	354	415	130	533	864	..	304
2003-04	365	196	254	435	487	125	464	669	..	304
Children's courts										
2007-08	931	337	729	355	431	299	2 286	938	..	583
2006-07	1 008	285	743	350	442	377	1 769	974	..	587
2005-06	881	504	769	416	474	300	1 467	512	..	652
2004-05	820	444	684	725	519	320	1 703	546	..	661
2003-04	850	453	827	709	na	298	1 473	591	..	na

Table 7A.25

**Table 7A.25 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	369	245	300	386	314	127	943	716	..	318
2006-07	394	221	300	394	343	144	728	703	..	323
2005-06	374	217	294	426	327	150	532	679	..	317
2004-05	397	201	298	378	422	135	599	839	..	322
2003-04	388	207	289	456	na	130	526	663	..	na
All courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems, the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, and coroners' courts)										
2007-08	650	535	471	761	573	237	1 337	1 383	10 468	646
2006-07	674	516	469	742	611	268	1 134	1 354	16 037	647
2005-06	656	508	454	823	603	295	872	1 322	11 943	641
2004-05	694	493	469	718	755	258	1 010	1 529	19 141	655
2003-04	666	479	430	828	na	248	923	1 484	13 159	na
Including payroll tax where applicable										
Supreme (excl. probate)/Federal Court										
2007-08	3 486	4 446	3 202	11 637	8 380	5 121	5 058	20 011	10 468	5 902
2006-07	3 614	4 503	3 382	8 623	9 175	4 755	4 812	17 872	16 037	6 118
2005-06	4 010	5 660	3 005	10 568	8 005	4 901	4 665	17 328	11 943	6 217
2004-05	4 498	5 226	2 876	7 969	12 084	4 134	4 435	16 538	19 141	6 579
2003-04	5 042	5 447	2 384	6 189	10 662	3 534	5 290	18 416	13 159	6 288
District/county courts										
2007-08	4 168	7 727	2 937	5 994	4 250	..	..	..	..	4 800
2006-07	4 265	7 732	2 654	5 397	4 246	..	..	..	..	4 635
2005-06	4 306	6 592	2 408	5 119	4 463	..	..	..	..	4 371
2004-05	4 428	5 518	2 427	4 571	4 429	..	..	..	..	4 193
2003-04	3 646	5 383	1 910	4 648	5 040	..	..	..	..	3 744

Table 7A.25

Table 7A.25 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
Magistrates' courts										
Total magistrates' courts (incl. children's courts)										
2007-08	385	254	310	386	327	130	943	738	..	328
2006-07	410	229	310	394	358	147	728	726	..	333
2005-06	389	226	304	426	342	153	532	701	..	327
2004-05	413	209	308	378	439	138	599	865	..	333
2003-04	404	215	300	456	na	133	526	689	..	na
Magistrates' courts only (excl. children's courts)										
2007-08	353	247	286	389	317	125	855	724	..	311
2006-07	379	225	285	398	350	141	665	704	..	316
2005-06	364	214	277	426	330	149	475	714	..	310
2004-05	393	199	284	354	431	133	533	891	..	315
2003-04	381	203	264	435	507	128	464	696	..	315
Children's courts										
2007-08	962	347	753	355	447	307	2 286	966	..	600
2006-07	1 042	294	762	350	462	386	1 769	1 004	..	604
2005-06	912	520	790	416	494	308	1 467	528	..	671
2004-05	848	459	702	725	541	326	1 703	562	..	679
2003-04	877	466	846	709	na	304	1 473	614	..	na
All courts (excl. electronic infringement and enforcement systems, the family courts, the Federal Magistrates Court, and coroners' courts)										
2007-08	676	551	486	761	597	242	1 337	1 420	10 468	663
2006-07	701	532	484	742	639	273	1 134	1 392	16 037	665
2005-06	683	522	469	823	631	301	872	1 360	11 943	658
2004-05	723	508	484	718	788	263	1 010	1 567	19 141	674
2003-04	694	494	447	828	na	253	923	1 532	13 159	na

Aust cts = Australian courts.

Table 7A.25

**Table 7A.25 Real net recurrent expenditure per finalisation, criminal and civil, 2007–08 dollars (\$) (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Q/d	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust cts	Total (b)
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(a) Real net recurrent expenditure results are derived from expenditure data presented in tables 7A.9 (criminal) and 7A.10 (civil), income data presented in table 7A.11 and finalisation data presented in tables 7A.5 (criminal) and 7A.6 (civil) and further information pertinent to the data included in this table and/or its interpretation is provided in tables 7A.9, 7A.10, 7A.11, 7A.5 and 7A.6.

(b) The total (i.e. for all states and territories, and the Australian courts where applicable) expenditure in the financial year, divided by the total (i.e. for all states and territories, and the Australian courts where applicable) number of finalisations for the same reference period.

na Not available. ... Not applicable.

Source: Australian, State and Territory court administration authorities and departments (unpublished); tables 7A.5-6, 7A.9-10 and 7A.11.

ABS Australian National Accounts: *National Income, Expenditure and Product, June Quarter 2007, Cat. no. 5206.0*. Table 32. Expenditure on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Chain volume measures and Current prices, Annual (Series ID. A2304682C); Table AA.26.

Table 7A.26

Table 7A.26 Treatment of assets by court administration agencies

Revaluation method (d)	Federal										ACT	NT
	Court of Australia	Family Court of Australia	NSW (a)	Vic	Q/d (b)	WA	SA	Tas	SA	Tas		
Land	na	Fair value	Fair value	na	..	Market	Deprivation	Fair value	na	5yrs	5yrs	Fair value
Buildings	Fair value	Fair value	Fair value	na	..	Market	Deprivation	Fair value	na	5yrs	5yrs	Fair value
Other assets	Fair value	Fair value	Fair value	na	..	..	Deprivation	Fair value	na	5yrs	5yrs	Fair value
Frequency of revaluations	3yrs	sufficient regularity to avoid material misstatement	5yrs	5yrs	5yrs	na	3yrs	5yrs	5yrs	5yrs	5yrs	sufficient regularity to avoid material misstatement
Useful asset lives (c)	na	na	various	40yrs	50yrs	40–50yrs	30–60yrs	50yrs	na	50yrs	50yrs	50yrs
Buildings	4–10yrs	1–10yrs	4–10yrs	5–10yrs	3–7yrs	5–10yrs	3–10yrs	5–20yrs	na	5–20yrs	na	5–10yrs
General equipment	4yrs	5yrs	3–4yrs	3–5yrs	3–4yrs	3–10yrs	3–10yrs	na	na	na	na	3–6yrs
IT equipment	8yrs	1–10yrs	4–10yrs	10yrs	3–5yrs	5–10yrs	5–10yrs	na	na	na	na	5–10yrs
Office equipment	na	na	na	5yrs	na	2–8yrs	na	na	na	na	na	na
Vehicles	10–40yrs	80yrs	na	na	Infinite	na	5–25 years	20yrs	na	na	na	na
Library material	2 000	2 000	3 000	na	10 000	1 000	5 000	5 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	5 000
Buildings	1 500	1 500	3 000	na	5 000	1 000	5 000	5 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	5 000
IT equipment	2 000	2 000	3 000	3 000	5 000	1 000	5 000	5 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	5 000
Other assets												

(a) NSW: Land and buildings are revalued at least every five years. Property, plant and equipment are measured on an existing use basis, where there are no feasible alternative uses in the existing natural, legal, financial and socio-political environment. The straight line method of depreciation is used.

(b) In Queensland non-current physical assets measured at Fair value are comprehensively revalued at least every five years with interim valuations, using appropriate indices, being otherwise performed on an annual basis where there has been a material variation in the index.

(c) Asset lives for some assets have been grouped with other classifications. For some jurisdictions, IT equipment includes software.  
na Not available. .. Not applicable.

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