
7A Court administration attachment

Definitions for the descriptors and indicators in this attachment are in section 7A.4. Unsourced information was obtained from Commonwealth, State or Territory Governments.

7A.1 Descriptors

Table 7A.1 Lodgments, (number)

	Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT ^a	NT	Cwth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>											
Supreme court	1997-98	884	725	1 392	419	577	584	199	272	..	5 052
	1996-97	895	643	1 447	523	647	414	218	344	..	5 131
	1995-96	895	394	1 355	488	582	398	157	356	..	4 625
	1994-95	885	389	1 363	660	520	390	153	292	..	4 652
	1993-94	1 000	800	1 300	400	500	400	200	100	..	4 700
District/county court	1997-98	10 532	4 350	8 408	2 628	1 503	..	..	..	..	27 421
	1996-97	10 060	3 952	8 293	2 387	1 819	..	..	..	..	26 511
	1995-96	10 618	3 828	7 148	2 179	1 826	..	..	..	..	25 599
	1994-95	10 224	3 896	7 247	2 048	1 894	..	..	..	..	25 309
	1993-94	10 600	4 300	5 700	2 300	2 300	..	..	..	..	25 200
Magistrates' court (total)	1997-98	432 876	539 584	313 480	246 002	189 156	30 676	8 953	19 250	..	1 779 977
	1996-97	434 990	491 904	245 554	121 590	150 967	37 318	10 594	19 454	..	1 512 371
	1995-96	392 658	487 976	247 815	147 153	118 647	18 754	12 854	18 725	..	1 444 582
	1994-95	370 017	479 840	236 161	133 772	125 012	17 251	9 193	19 183	..	1 390 429
	1993-94	400 000	522 500	219 100	181 600	142 700	25 900	8 000	15 700	..	1 515 500
Magistrates' court (primary)	1997-98	188 344	90 308	145 616	91 206	61 325	12 312	8 953	9 703	..	607 767
	1996-97	181 828	94 835	164 533	64 488	64 162	13 790	10 594	10 137	..	604 367
	1995-96	166 510	101 015	170 208	91 851	64 547	18 754	12 854	11 616	..	637 355
	1994-95	155 970	89 834	175 677	80 641	67 563	17 251	9 193	12 573	..	608 702
	1993-94	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	..

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Table 7A.1 (Continued)

	Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
<i>Civil</i>											
Supreme/federal court (excl probate)	1997-98	8 911	5 131	4 724	2 162	1 722	2 955	1 319	627	7 015	34 566
	1996-97	10 443	4 505	4 243	2 864	1 643	3 772	1 354	417	17 266	46 507
	1995-96	9 980	4 982	4 235	2 125	2 900	3 470	1 067	305	23 815	52 879
	1994-95	10 231	5 154	3 395	1 948	2 655	3 458	1 011	318	20 165	48 335
	1993-94	14 100	6 500	6 500	1 700	2 700	3 800	1 200	300	..	36 800
District/county court (incl workers comp)	1997-98	14 047	10 313	7 559	5 908	2 483	..	..	..	..	40 310
	1996-97	10 866	9 178	6 748	5 805	2 808	..	..	..	..	35 405
	1995-96	14 218	11 841	6 622	4 365	1 586	..	..	..	..	38 632
	1994-95	16 402	10 496	5 732	4 766	1 599	..	..	..	..	38 995
	1993-94	13 400	12 700	6 200	9 400	2 600	..	..	..	..	44 300
Magistrates' court	1997-98	260 904	185 558	110 100	61 712	51 202	11 179	11 472	6 532	..	698 659
	1996-97	279 164	208 134	114 320	58 697	43 770	11 530	11 157	7 416	..	734 188
	1995-96	243 437	186 888	91 759	55 290	49 419	12 483	12 408	7 634	..	659 318
	1994-95	228 486	187 633	83 353	55 870	44 821	14 715	12 811	7 042	..	634 731
	1993-94	211 200	191 700	76 400	50 500	46 200	19 900	12 600	15 400	..	623 900
Family courts	1997-98	..	..	..	14 321	..	..	..	..	121 599	135 920
	1996-97	14 291	120 004	134 295
	1995-96	12 557	112 697	125 254
	1994-95	11 183	102 519	113 702
	1993-94	na	na	na

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Table 7A.1 (Continued)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Primary civil</i>											
Supreme court	1997-98	6 307	1 550	4 660	2 162	1 550	1 563	802	528	6 615	25 737
District/county court civil	1997-98	14 047	8 753	7 426	5 612	1 299	..	..	..	..	37 137
Magistrates' court civil	1997-98	31 705	8 777	21 404	2 706	4 318	142	3 125	135	..	72 312
Family courts	1997-98	..	..	..	8 977	..	..	..	..	74 003	82 980
<i>Coronial</i>											
Magistrates' court	1997-98	11 299	4 011	4 181	2 201	6 096	613	666	241	..	29 308
Deaths reported	1997-98	6 905	4 004	3 065	2 201	3 479	611	260	241	..	20 766
Fires reported	1997-98	4 394	7	1 116	0	2 617	2	406	0	..	8 542
Total deaths	1997	46 094	32 736	21 700	10 910	11 599	3 777	1 317	889	..	129 028
<i>Probate</i>											
Supreme court	1997-98	20 574	14 653	3 629	4 700	4 805	1 944	457	85	..	50 847

^a In the ACT the motor vehicle registry rather than the Magistrates' Court enforced unpaid infringement notices. Infringements did not become court lodgments until the defendant elected to have the matter heard by a Magistrate. **na** Not available. .. Not applicable.

Sources: ABS (Australian Demographic Statistics 1998; Cat. No. 3101.0); State and Territory Governments unpublished.

Table 7A.2 Hearings 1997-98 (number)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>										
Magistrates' court	49 484	127 040	161 473	13 434	1 751	1901	3 020	7 214	..	365 317
District/county court	10 710	1 778	7 332	469	1 420	..	..	..	..	21 709
Supreme court	716	451	795	298	1 300	na	144	53	..	3 757
All courts	60 910	129 269	169 600	14 201	4 471	1901	3 164	7 267	..	390 783
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	3 146	100 411	15 648	2 139	3 159	na	1 009	2 037	..	127 549
District/county court	5 168	4 298	456	208	216	..	..	..	..	10 346
Supreme/federal court	2 575	1 453	240	245	188	883	796	1 182	1 588	9 150
Supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts	10 889	106 162	16 344	2 592	3 563	883	1 805	3 219	1 588	147 045
Family court	..	..	..	351	..	..	..	..	4 736	5 087
All courts	10 889	106 162	16 344	2 943	3 563	883	1 805	3 219	6 324	152 132
<i>Criminal and civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	52 630	227 451	177 121	15 573	4 910	1 901	4 029	9 251	..	492 866
District/county court	15 878	6 076	7 788	677	1 636	..	..	..	..	32 055
Supreme/federal court	3 291	1 904	1 035	543	1 488	883	940	1 235	1 588	12 907
All courts	71 799	235 431	185 944	17 144	8 034	2 784	4 969	10 486	6 324	542 915

na Not available. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.3 Proportion of lodgments which were minor for criminal and civil courts, 1997-98 (per cent)^{a,b}

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT ^c	NT	Cwth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>										
Magistrates' court	56	83	54	63	68	60	0	50	..	66
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	88	95	81	96	92	99	71	98	..	90
District/county court	0 ^d	6	2	5	48	..	..	..	..	5
Supreme/federal court	29	70	1	0	8	47	39	14	6	25
All courts	82	90	45	85	87	88	68	91	6	78
Family court	..	..	..	37	..	..	..	..	39	39

^a Minor lodgments include minor traffic lodgments and other infringement notices enforced through electronic courts and like processes in criminal, undefended general civil lodgments and applications of an administrative nature such as winding up applications, Criminal Injury Compensation Applications, Australian Registered Judgements, intervention orders (excluding the prosecution of a breach of an order), residential tenancy disputes, joint applications for divorce and applications for debt recovery. ^b Excluded probate ^c In the ACT the motor vehicle registry rather than the Magistrates' Court enforced unpaid infringement notices. Infringements did not become court lodgments until the defendant elected to have the matter heard by a Magistrate. ^d Minor lodgments were not provided for in the NSW case flow management system. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.4 Expenditure less in-house revenue (in 1997-98 dollars)^a

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court — criminal	1997-98	88 422	34 305	47 756	27 964	15 762	4 176	3 234	4 993	..	226 611
	1996-97	69 233	34 889	42 409	27 052	15 781	5 751	2 764	3 538	..	201 418
	1995-96	89 658	36 875	41 517	19 204	14 584	3 817	2 554	4 711	..	212 919
	1994-95	94 743	36 621	40 082	19 312	14 087	3 847	2 626	4 603	..	215 920
Magistrates' court — civil	1997-98	27 523	20 034	11 908	9 229	8 321	914	3 057	2 729	..	83 715
	1996-97	42 988	19 410	11 517	6 498	7 524	1 305	2 568	1 933	..	93 742
	1995-96	22 737	12 792	10 208	12 264	8 215	1 600	2 441	4 278	..	74 535
	1994-95	24 053	12 557	9 365	12 785	7 708	1 595	2 529	4 191	..	74 783
Magistrates' court — coronial ^b	1997-98	4 401	3 014	3 585	1 430	1 582	226	692	1 123	..	16 054
Magistrates' court — total Criminal and civil	1997-98	115 945	54 340	59 664	37 193	24 082	5 090	6 290	7 722	..	310 327
	1996-97	112 221	54 299	53 926	33 550	23 304	7 056	5 332	5 471	..	295 160
	1995-96	112 394	49 667	51 725	31 468	22 799	5 417	4 996	8 988	..	287 455
	1994-95	118 796	49 179	49 447	32 097	21 795	5 441	5 154	8 794	..	290 703
District/county court — criminal	1997-98	34 116	19 779	17 461	7 417	8 725	..	..	..	..	87 499
	1996-97	32 118	20 237	18 550	8 813	9 265	..	..	..	..	88 983
	1995-96	39 281	19 367	16 038	8 445	8 961	92 091
	1994-95	40 475	19 363	17 781	8 571	8 423	94 613

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Table 7A.4 (Continued)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
District/county court — civil	1997-98	22 044	11 609	10 585	5 501	7 474	57 213
	1996-97	19 306	11 279	6 285	7 146	7 188	..	..	..	..	51 204
	1995-96	9 903	9 710	7 968	5 729	6 482	..	..	..	..	39 792
	1994-95	9 071	9 675	9 425	5 738	6 609	..	..	..	..	40 518
District/county court — total	1997-98	56 161	31 388	28 046	12 918	16 199	..	..	..	..	146 505
	1996-97	51 424	31 516	24 835	15 959	16 454	..	..	..	..	140 188
	1995-96	49 184	29 076	24 006	14 174	15 444	..	..	..	..	131 884
	1994-95	49 546	29 038	27 206	14 309	15 032	..	..	..	..	135 132
Supreme court — criminal	1997-98	8 282	8 081	7 121	3 537	5 083	2 542	2 421	4 479	..	41 546
	1996-97	8 829	6 898	6 314	4 244	5 735	2 409	1 752	4 269	..	40 451
	1995-96	6 796	7 220	5 966	5 087	5 676	2 687	1 811	6 493	..	41 736
	1994-95	9 423	6 270	6 621	4 810	5 175	2 664	1 523	6 325	..	42 812
Supreme & federal court — civil (excl. probate)	1997-98	39 743	12 328	10 259	10 900	8 512	2 381	3 465	2 375	51 862	141 825
	1996-97	36 563	15 027	9 637	12 663	8 090	2 841	3 088	2 259	47 173	137 339
	1995-96	32 434	12 904	9 543	11 055	7 570	1 597	3 099	3 888	43 853	125 943
	1994-95	33 914	11 184	10 834	10 127	7 330	1 622	2 863	4 317	42 596	124 787
Supreme & federal court — total (excl probate)	1997-98	48 024	20 410	17 380	14 437	13 595	4 923	5 886	6 854	51 862	183 371
	1996-97	45 392	21 925	15 951	16 907	13 824	5 250	4 840	6 528	47 173	177 790
	1995-96	39 230	20 124	15 509	16 142	13 245	4 284	4 910	10 381	43 853	167 679
	1994-95	43 337	17 454	17 455	14 938	12 505	4 286	4 386	10 643	42 596	167 599

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Table 7A.4 (Continued)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Family court — civil	1997-98	9 051	102 504	111 555
	1996-97	..	..	..	10 042	..	..	..	..	101 458	111 500
	1995-96	..	..	..	9 641	..	..	..	..	103 751	113 392
	1994-95	..	..	..	9 029	..	..	..	..	94 242	103 270
All courts — criminal	1997-98	130 820	62 166	72 338	38 918	29 570	6 718	5 655	9 472	..	355 656
	1996-97	110 180	62 024	67 273	40 109	30 781	8 161	4 516	7 808	..	330 852
	1995-96	135 734	63 462	63 521	32 736	29 221	6 504	4 366	11 204	..	346 747
	1994-95	144 641	62 255	64 484	32 693	27 684	6 511	4 149	10 928	..	353 345
Supreme, district/county and magistrates' court — civil (excl. probate)	1997-98	89 310	43 972	32 752	25 630	24 307	3 295	6 522	5 104	51 862	282 753
	1996-97	98 857	45 716	27 439	26 308	22 802	4 146	5 655	4 191	47 173	282 285
	1995-96	65 074	35 406	27 719	29 048	22 267	3 197	5 540	8 166	43 853	240 271
	1994-95	67 038	33 416	29 624	28 651	21 647	3 216	5 392	8 508	42 596	240 088
All courts — criminal & civil ^c (excl coroner, probate)	1997-98	220 130	106 138	105 090	73 599	53 876	10 013	12 176	14 576	154 366	749 964
	1996-97	209 037	107 740	94 712	76 459	53 582	12 306	10 172	11 999	148 630	724 637
	1995-96	200 808	98 867	91 240	71 425	51 488	9 701	9 906	19 370	147 605	700 410
	1994-95	211 679	95 671	94 108	70 373	49 331	9 727	9 541	19 437	136 837	696 704
Probate registries	1997-98	1 034	459	75	na ^d	381	60	0	71	0	2 080

^a In-house revenue included earned by in-house providers of library court reporting and civil bailiff services providing services to external purchasers. ^b Excluded the cost of conducting autopsies. ^c Included the Family Court of WA and the Family Court of Australia. ^d Included in civil court expenditure. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable.

Table 7A.5 Accommodation expenditure, 1997-98 (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>										
Magistrates' court	10 477	5 633	6 423	6 798	1 928	670	951	623	..	33 503
District/county court	1 452	1 859	1 223	291	1 530	..	..	..	..	6 355
Supreme court	1 121	759	811	697	1 167	296	177	625	..	5 653
All courts	13 051	8 251	8 457	7 786	4 624	966	1 128	1 248	..	45 511
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	936	2 767	1 571	1 417	1 159	117	978	322	..	9 267
District/county court	818	1 168	925	513	1 140	..	..	..	..	4 564
Supreme/federal court	5 405	1 335	1 373	1 516	639	296	353	372	7 806	19 094
Supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts	7 158	5 270	3 869	3 446	2 938	413	1 331	694	7 806	32 926
Family court	..	..	..	1 917	..	..	..	..	23 486	25 403
All courts	7 158	5 270	3 869	5 363	2 938	413	1 331	694	31 292	58 329
<i>Coronial</i>										
Magistrates' court	249	259	469	191	141	31	189	99	..	1 629

.. Not applicable.

7A.2 Effectiveness

Table 7A.6 Civil court fees as a proportion of total expenditure (per cent)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court	1997-98	103	82	119	38	35	73	28	11	..	80
	1996-97	84	62	104	56	39	40	24	14	..	72
	1995-96	71	94	97	27	33	39	24	6	..	61
	1994-95	64	83	98	27	33	45	23	6	..	57
District/county court	1997-98	50	43	18	61	7	..	..	..	..	38
	1996-97	48	37	29	31	7	..	..	..	..	35
	1995-96	69	46	33	32	7	..	..	..	..	41
	1994-95	35	37	22	36	7	..	..	..	..	28
Supreme/federal court	1997-98	25	48	28	13	8	16	18	5	16	21
	1996-97	31	35	21	7	10	22	22	5	22	23
	1995-96	52	34	19	7	9	32	0	2	23	28
	1994-95	49	36	13	8	11	36	0	3	24	28
Family court	1997-98	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	..	14	15
	1996-97	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1995-96	..	..	..	14	..	..	..	..	9	10
	1994-95	..	..	..	14	..	..	..	..	10	10
All courts	1997-98	55	62	58	32	17	32	22	8	16	42
	1996-97	58	47	58	26	18	28	23	9	22	42
	1995-96	61	59	52	21	17	35	11	4	23	40
	1994-95	53	54	43	22	18	41	11	4	24	37

.. Not applicable.

Table 7A.7 Court fees per lodgement, 1997-98 (\$)

	<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>Cwth</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	109	77	121	57	54	48	49	101	..	92
District/county court	760	504	255	569	205	..	..	..	..	539
Supreme/federal court	1 009	1 116	612	660	389	114	456	55	1 151	832
Family court	..	..	..	122	..	..	..	..	120	120
All courts	169	124	148	119	71	61	93	97	176	144
Supreme court (probate)	462	205	0	157	445	107	490	0	..	311

.. Not applicable.

Table 7A.8 Non-appeal matters finalised, 1997-98

	<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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Criminal</i>											
Magistrates' court	No.	270 213	540 130	304 810	96 297	193 911	40 619	14 274	13 416	..	1 473 670
<6 months	%	97	98	97	92	94	88	70	87	..	96
6-12 months	%	2	1	1	6	4	11	20	8	..	3
12-18 months	%	0	0	1	1	1	1	5	2	..	1
>18 months	%	0	0	1	1	1	0	5	3	..	1
District/county court	No.	3 703	1 797	6 725	2 564	1 150	..	..	..	..	15 939
<6 months	%	40	70	83	67	67	..	..	..	..	68
6-12 months	%	33	20	11	17	23	..	..	..	..	19
12-18 months	%	13	7	4	13	5	..	..	..	..	8
>18 months	%	14	3	2	4	4	..	..	..	..	5
Supreme/federal court	No.	92	103	811	238	239	350	132	210	..	2 175
<6 months	%	9	44	83	74	62	79	50	57	..	69
6-12 months	%	15	46	12	17	24	17	27	25	..	19
12-18 months	%	26	6	3	6	5	4	17	13	..	7
>18 months	%	50	5	2	2	9	1	6	5	..	5

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Table 7A.8 (Continued)

	<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>Cwth</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Civil</i>											
Magistrates' court	No.	94 486	62 980	48 807	na	32 407	na	7 299	2 018	..	247 997
<6 months	%	87	98	83	na	83	na	80	82	..	88
6–12 months	%	9	1	10	na	10	na	11	8	..	7
12–18 months	%	2	0	3	na	4	na	4	3	..	2
>18 months	%	2	0	4	na	3	na	5	7	..	2
District/county court	No.	12 211	1 251	1 400	931	3 010	..	..	..	..	1 457
<6 months	%	8	19	25	30	38	..	..	..	..	18
6–12 months	%	31	22	15	19	24	..	..	..	..	24
12–18 months	%	17	37	15	12	14	..	..	..	..	20
>18 months	%	45	23	46	40	24	..	..	..	..	37
Supreme/federal court	No.	10 610	3 085	1 015	1 986	104	1 193	1 034	249	6 802	26 078
<6 months	%	34	71	35	63	10	55	23	41	69	50
6–12 months	%	9	13	7	18	20	15	17	12	17	13
12–18 months	%	7	6	8	9	24	8	15	16	5	7
>18 months	%	50	10	50	10	46	22	46	31	8	30
Family court		..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	na	na
<i>Coronial</i>											
Magistrates' court	No.	11 299	3 886	3 811	2 197	2 950	452	321	575	..	25 491
<6 months	%	95	81	65	76	97	67	87	34	..	85
6–12 months	%	3	12	19	20	3	19	8	25	..	9
12–18 months	%	1	3	10	3	0	5	2	22	..	3
>18 months	%	1	4	6	2	0	8	3	19	..	3

Table 7A.9 Non-appeal criminal matters finalised according to benchmark (per cent)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court	1997-98	92	94	94	79	85	68	48	72	..	90
Benchmark: <3 months	1996-97	81	74	91	84	74	71	51	72	..	81
	1995-96	83	75	95	88	75	na	71	82	..	85
	1994-95	83	74	95	86	78	na	56	73	..	84
District/county court	1997-98	40	70	83	67	67	..	..	..	..	68
Benchmark: <6 months	1996-97	43	60	86	67	66	..	..	..	..	70
	1995-96	50	56	82	66	66	..	..	..	..	70
	1994-95	51	62	75	58	67	..	..	..	..	64
Supreme/federal court	1997-98	24	89	95	92	86	95	77	81	..	88
Benchmark: <12 months	1996-97	28	76	96	88	80	94	76	84	..	86
	1995-96	17	93	94	96	91	100	74	89	..	92
	1994-95	34	93	94	95	85	100	89	74	..	91
All courts	1997-98	97	98	97	91	94	88	70	86	..	96
Benchmark: <6 months	1996-97	93	93	94	93	92	87	69	86	..	92
	1995-96	94	93	98	96	89	100	87	88	..	94
	1994-95	93	92	97	94	90	98	77	84	..	94

na Not available. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.10 **Defended non-appeal civil matters finalised according to benchmark (per cent)**

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court	1997-98	61	69	86	na	65	na	42	76	..	53
Benchmark: <6 months	1996-97	62	84	51	na	78	na	39	76	..	65
	1995-96	54	81	82	67	79	na	88	80	..	75
	1994-95	51	83	81	61	71	na	74	79	..	72
District/county court	1997-98	39	36	na	74	50	..	..	..	..	41
Benchmark: <12 months	1996-97	36	na	na	90	63	..	..	..	..	44
	1995-96	42	54	46	11	67	..	..	..	..	23
	1994-95	36	78	51	14	56	..	..	..	..	28
Supreme/federal court	1997-98	53	71	na	39	29	43	16	30	87	67
Benchmark: <12 months	1996-97	60	97	na	na	30	60	15	26	77	67
	1995-96	63	28	48	19	76	10	8	100	78	62
	1994-95	61	28	43	12	56	20	14	100	80	54
Family court	1997-98	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	na	na
Benchmark: <12 months	1996-97	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	60	60
	1995-96	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	52	52
	1994-95	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	56	56
All courts	1997-98	34	30	86	21 ^a	58	27	32	67	69	40
Benchmark: <6 months	1996-97	31	82	51	59	69	44	29	70	63	44
	1995-96	39	40	79	57	69	6	64	82	65	60
	1994-95	38	62	78	50	59	11	57	79	67	59

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Table 7A.10 (Continued)

	Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
All courts	1997-98	57	51	93	71 ^a	81	43	58	79	87	59
Benchmark: <12 months	1996-97	55	98	72	90	86	60	50	80	77	66
	1995-96	62	59	90	78	85	10	73	88	78	76
	1994-95	59	78	89	72	76	20	74	92	80	76

^a Does not include magistrates' court. **na** Not available. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.11 Appeal matters finalised, supreme/federal courts, 1997-98

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>	No.	538	374	448	170	153	95	29	25	..	1 832
<6 months	%	33	57	90	53	84	69	66	36	..	60
6-12 months	%	45	29	7	40	14	18	34	52	..	28
12-18 months	%	14	6	2	7	2	7	0	12	..	7
>18 months	%	9	8	1	0	0	5	0	0	..	5
<i>Civil</i>	No.	926	316	248	283	66	55	41	174	801	2 910
<6 months	%	39	60	36	46	38	22	61	82	37	44
6-12 months	%	24	21	41	34	42	40	37	16	11	23
12-18 months	%	13	14	16	10	5	27	2	2	7	10
>18 months	%	25	5	7	11	15	11	0	0	44	23

.. Not applicable.

Table 7A.12 Committal matters finalised, magistrates' courts criminal, 1997-98

	<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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court	No.	4 198	1 520	6 415	1 991	909	na	166	311	..	15 510
<3 months	%	65	29	63	62	59	na	42	34	..	59
3-6 months	%	21	34	29	19	35	na	25	31	..	26
6-12 months	%	9	29	6	18	5	na	27	25	..	11
>12 months	%	5	8	1	1	1	na	7	11	..	3

na Not available. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.13 Defendants finalised, method of finalisation, district/county courts and supreme criminal, 1996-97 (per cent)

	<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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mean	41	35	24	25	26	18	30	28	..	29
10th percentile	9	9	0	5	6	5	6	4	..	5
25th percentile	16	12	9	7	12	8	9	11	..	11
Median	31	23	17	13	21	14	17	21	..	20
75th percentile	57	45	30	40	34	23	54	39	..	37
90th percentile	85	82	48	60	47	30	71	61	..	64

.. Not applicable.

Source: (Australian Higher Criminal Courts 1996-97, Cat no. 4513.0).

Table 7A.14 **Adjournments on the first day of hearing of court as a proportion of total hearings, 1997-98 (per cent)^a**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
Requested by parties										
<i>Criminal</i>										
District/county court	7.4	42.0	4.2	13.9	4.9	..	..	..	..	9.1
Supreme court	14.0	4.4	2.4	7.7	0.3	na	16.0	158.5	..	7.3
<i>Civil</i>										
District/county court	na	37.3	32.5	8.7	23.1	..	..	..	..	17.6
Supreme/federal court	7.5	7.5	30.0	17.6	na	6.1	na	32.0	0.0	9.3
Family court	..	..	..	na	..	..	..	..	..	0.0
Requested by court										
<i>Criminal</i>										
District/county court	2.6	0.0	0.0	na	0.4	..	..	..	..	1.3
Supreme court	1.3	1.8	0.0	na	0.0	na	14.6	20.8	..	1.3
<i>Civil</i>										
District/county court	na	4.3	9.2	0.5	25.5	..	..	..	..	2.7
Supreme/federal court	4.0	2.5	11.7	na	na	10.8	na	1.6	na	3.1
Family court	..	..	..	0.2	..	..	..	..	0.2 ^b	0.2

^a Hearings can be adjourned more than once, so adjournment rates can be greater than 100 per cent. ^b Adjournments include those requested by parties and by the Court as they cannot be split. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable.

Table 7A.15 Court locations and proportion of population living in a metropolitan area, 1997-98^{a,b}

	<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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Proportion of population living in a metropolitan area	%	73	73	57	72	72	40	98	44	69	67
Court locations											
<i>Criminal</i>											
Magistrates' court	No.	153	57	144	138	31	18	2	27	..	570
Metropolitan	%	20	26	8	7	23	39	50	4	..	15
Nonmetropolitan	%	80	74	92	93	77	61	50	96	..	85
<i>Civil</i>											
Magistrates' court	No.	151	57	81	37	31	4	2	6	..	369
Metropolitan	%	21	26	15	16	23	100	50	17	..	21
Nonmetropolitan	%	79	74	85	84	77	0	50	83	..	79

^a Court locations included permanent, temporary and registries without hearings. ^b Metropolitan areas included State and Territory capital city statistical divisions, and other metropolitan areas which were defined as other statistical subdivisions which included urban centres of 100 000 or more. Nonmetropolitan areas included remote areas which were defined in terms of low population density and long distances to large population centres, and rural areas included the remainder of nonmetropolitan statistical local areas. .. Not applicable.

Sources: ABS (Australian Demographic Statistics 1998, Cat. No. 3101.0); DPIE and DSHS (1994); State and Territory Governments unpublished.

7A.3 Efficiency

Table 7A.16 Expenditure less in-house revenue per lodgment (in 1997-98 dollars)^a

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Magistrates' court — criminal	1997-98	204	64	152	114	83	136	361	255	..	127
	1996-97	159	71	173	222	105	154	261	182	..	133
	1995-96	228	76	168	131	123	204	199	252	..	147
	1994-95	256	76	170	144	113	223	286	240	..	155
Magistrates' court — civil	1997-98	105	108	108	150	163	82	266	418	..	120
	1996-97	154	93	101	111	172	113	230	261	..	128
	1995-96	93	68	111	222	166	128	197	560	..	113
	1994-95	105	67	112	229	172	108	197	595	..	118
Magistrates' court — coronial	1997-98	389	752	857	650	260	369	1 040	4 660	..	548
Magistrates' court —total (excl coronial)	1997-98	169	76	143	122	101	123	312	300	..	127
	1996-97	157	78	150	186	120	144	245	204	..	131
	1995-96	177	74	152	155	136	173	198	341	..	137
	1994-95	198	74	155	169	128	170	234	335	..	144

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Table 7A.16 (Continued)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
District/county court — criminal	1997-98	3 239	4 547	2 077	2 822	5 805	3 191
	1996-97	3 193	5 121	2 237	3 692	5 094	..	..	..	..	3 356
	1995-96	3 699	5 059	2 244	3 876	4 908	..	..	..	..	3 597
	1994-95	3 959	4 970	2 454	4 185	4 447	..	..	..	..	3 738
District/county court — civil	1997-98	1 569	1 126	1 400	931	3 010	..	..	..	..	1 419
	1996-97	1 777	1 229	931	1 231	2 560	..	..	..	..	1 446
	1995-96	697	820	1 203	1 312	4 087	..	..	..	..	1 030
	1994-95	553	922	1 644	1 204	4 133	..	..	..	..	1 039
District/county court — total	1997-98	2 313	2 167	1 778	1 532	4 114	..	..	..	..	2 163
	1996-97	2 457	2 400	1 651	1 948	3 556	..	..	..	..	2 264
	1995-96	1 980	1 856	1 743	2 166	4 526	..	..	..	..	2 053
	1994-95	1 861	2 018	2 096	2 100	4 304	..	..	..	..	2 101
Supreme court — criminal	1997-98	9 368	11 147	5 116	8 442	8 810	4 353	12 166	16 467	..	8 224
	1996-97	9 865	10 729	4 364	8 114	8 863	5 820	8 037	12 411	..	7 884
	1995-96	7 593	18 326	4 403	10 424	9 752	6 751	11 537	18 239	..	9 024
	1994-95	10 648	16 119	4 858	7 288	9 951	6 830	9 954	21 662	..	9 203
Supreme & federal court — civil (excl probate)	1997-98	4 460	2 403	2 172	5 041	5 031	806	2 627	3 868	7 393	4 108
	1996-97	1 158	761	1 274	1 680	1 303	489	1 717	4 394	2 732	1 401
	1995-96	3 250	2 590	2 253	5 202	2 610	460	2 905	12 749	1 841	2 382
	1994-95	3 315	2 170	3 191	5 199	2 761	469	2 832	13 577	2 112	2 582

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Table 7A.16 (Continued)

	<i>Year</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>Cwlth</i>	<i>Total</i>
Supreme & federal court — total (excl probate)	1997-98	4 964	3 528	2 877	5 663	6 066	1 408	3 926	7 832	7 485	4 691
	1996-97	3 959	4 163	2 790	4 948	5 879	1 231	3 069	8 488	2 732	3 409
	1995-96	3 607	3 743	2 774	6 178	3 804	1 108	4 012	15 706	1 841	2 916
	1994-95	3 899	3 149	3 669	5 728	3 938	1 114	3 768	17 447	2 112	3 163
Family court — civil	1997-98	..	..	..	632	..	..	..	..	843	821
	1996-97	..	..	..	703	..	..	..	..	845	830
	1995-96	..	..	..	768	..	..	..	..	921	905
	1994-95	..	..	..	807	..	..	..	..	919	908
All courts — criminal	1997-98	294	114	224	156	155	215	618	478	..	196
	1996-97	247	125	264	322	201	216	418	394	..	214
	1995-96	336	129	248	219	241	340	336	587	..	235
	1994-95	380	129	263	240	217	369	444	561	..	249
All courts — civil (excl Family court Probate)	1997-98	315	219	268	367	439	233	510	713	7 393	366
	1996-97	307	193	213	365	432	239	437	529	2 732	325
	1995-96	243	174	270	470	413	200	411	1 029	1 841	320
	1994-95	263	164	320	458	441	177	390	1 156	2 112	333

^a In-house revenue included earned by in-house providers of library court reporting and civil bailiff services providing services to external purchasers. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.17 Expenditure less in-house revenue per primary lodgment, 1997-98 (\$) ^a

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>										
Magistrates' court	469	380	328	307	257	339	361	515	..	373
District/county court	3 239	4 547	2 077	2 822	5 805	..	..	..	..	3 191
Supreme court	9 368	17 998	5 116	8 442	8 810	4 353	12 166	16 467	..	8 699
All courts	655	654	465	413	466	521	618	950	..	556
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	868	2 283	556	3 411	1 927	6 437	978	20 215	..	1 158
District/county court	1 569	1 326	1 425	980	5 754	..	..	..	..	1 541
Supreme/federal court	6 301	7 954	2 202	5 041	5 492	1 523	4 320	4 498	7 840	5 511
Family court	..	..	..	1 008	..	..	..	..	1 385	1 344
All courts	1 735	2 329	491	2 446	3 445	1 968	1 661	7 805	7 840	2 107
<i>Criminal and civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	527	548	298	396	367	409	521	785	..	456
District/county court	2 285	2 396	1 771	1 568	5 781	..	..	..	..	2 242
Supreme court	6 678	10 210	2 872	5 593	6 392	2 293	5 880	8 568	7 840	6 010

^a In-house revenue included earned by in-house providers of library court reporting and civil bailiff services providing services to external purchasers. .. Not applicable.

Table 7A.18 Total expenditure per lodgment, 1997-98 (\$)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Cwlth	Total
<i>Criminal</i>										
Magistrates' court	204	64	152	114	83	136	361	255	..	127
District/county court	3 239	4 547	2 077	2 822	5 805	..	..	..	..	3 185
Supreme court	9 368	11 147	5 116	8 442	8 810	4 353	12 166	16 467	..	46 998
<i>Civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	105	108	108	150	163	82	266	418	..	120
District/county court	1 569	1 126	1 400	931	3 010	..	..	..	..	1 419
Supreme/federal court	4 460	2 403	2 172	5 041	5 031	806	2 627	3 868	7 393	4 108
Family court	..	..	..	632	..	..	..	..	843	821
<i>Criminal and civil</i>										
Magistrates' court	167	75	141	121	100	122	308	296	..	125
District/county court	2 285	2 141	1 756	1 513	4 064	..	..	..	..	2 135
Supreme court	4 903	3 485	2 842	5 593	5 992	1 391	3 877	7 736	7 393	4 634
<i>Coronial</i>										
Magistrates' court	389	752	857	650	260	369	1 040	4 660	..	548

.. Not applicable.

7A.4 Definitions

Table 7A.19 Descriptors

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Accommodation expenditure	Depreciation actual rent or imputed rent on court owned or occupied land and buildings as well as expenditure on electricity gas water telecommunications (telephone fax telex) cleaning gardening and maintenance Imputed rent where used was calculated using the current market lease value of the floor area of all properties occupied by the court. Imputed rent equalled the square metres multiplied by the market price per square metre of similar grade office space in a similar location.
Court locations	Each location occupied a single street address. Where a location or facility provides services for both criminal and civil cases or where superior courts sit in lower court facilities on circuit these locations are counted separately for each jurisdiction. Include locations that provided registry services on a permanent basis at which a court hearing was listed for determination before a judicial officer; locations where hearings are listed for determination before a judicial officer in a facility which does not provide full time or part time registry services; all permanent court locations providing full time or part time registry services at which there were no matters listed before a judicial officer.
Metropolitan area	State and Territory capital city statistical divisions and other metropolitan areas (which were urban centres of 100 000 or more).
Nonmetropolitan area	Remote areas (which were defined in terms of low population density and long distances to large population centres) and rural areas (which included the remainder of nonmetropolitan statistical local areas).
Court reporting expenditure	The salary expenditure on in-house court reporters nonsalary expenditure of in-house court reporting agencies and contract fees paid to court reporting agencies less any revenue recovered from transcript fees by the in-house court reporting agency
Court requested adjournments	Matters initiated but adjourned for more than one working day (such as those resulting from the unexpected unavailability of a judge court room or other case related court resource). Included matters adjourned as not reached; excluded matters adjourned as part heard
Excluded courts and tribunals	Matters dealt with by guardianship boards; environment resources and development courts; and administrative appeals tribunals
Hearings	Any matter listed for a hearing before a judicial officer for determination or adjudication with the aim of finalising the matter before the court. Excluded hearings that constitute pre-trial conferences arraignment and mention hearings status conferences mediation and counselling sessions
Information technology expenditure	Nonsalary and salary expenditure on information technology. Excluded capital expenditure on information technology infrastructure; included licensing costs computer leasing costs consumables such as data lines paper disks training and access fees (for example catalogue search and Internet access) and maintenance charges for software and hardware
Inquests and inquiries held	Court hearings to determine the cause and circumstances of deaths reported to the coroner. Included all coronial inquests and inquiries in full court hearings

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Table 7A.19 (Continued)

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Judicial and judicial support salaries	All salary expenditure and payments in the nature of salary paid to employees of court administration. Included base salary 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 and payroll tax (Judicial officers included judges magistrates' masters judicial registrars and other judicial officers where they primarily fulfilled a judicial function. Judicial support staff includes judicial secretaries tipstaff and associates
Library expenditure	Nonsalary and salary expenditure on court operated libraries. Nonsalary expenditure included book purchases journal subscriptions fees for interlibrary loans copyright charges news clippings service fees and photocopying. Expenditure also included current information technology costs and courts administration contributions towards the running costs of non-government operated libraries. Any costs recovered through borrowing and photocopy fees by court operated libraries were subtracted from expenditure.
Lodgments	<i>Primary criminal</i> Those criminal lodgments which are not minor
Matters	<i>Criminal</i> Matters handled by originating courts (for example, committals) youth courts, courts of appeal and courts that hear minor traffic matters <i>Civil</i> Small claims and residential tenancies as well as matters dealt with by the appeal court jurisdiction <i>Minor criminal</i> Minor traffic lodgments and other infringement notices enforced through electronic courts and like processes <i>Minor civil</i> Undefended general civil lodgments and applications of an administrative nature such as winding up applications, criminal injury compensation applications, Australian registered judgements, residential tenancy disputes, joint applications for divorce and applications for debt recovery <i>Primary civil</i> Defended matters appeals from tribunals justices' appeals Full Court appeals magistrates' appeals assessment of damages requiring interlocutory applications defended or not injunctions and declarations. <i>Probate applications</i> Applications for grants of probate where there is a will grants of letters of administration and reseals <i>Coronial lodgments</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 could extend to manners of 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 lock up; died under circumstances that (in the opinion of the Attorney General) require that the cause of death be more clearly ascertained.

Table 7A.19 (Continued)

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
	<i>Excluded lodgments</i> Extraordinary Drivers Licences 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.
Other expenditure	Expenditure on consultants expert witnesses mediators interpreters, motor vehicles court registries first line support staff and overheads where incurred by the court administration agency
Party requested adjournments	Matters adjourned on first day of hearing for more than one day on application by either the prosecution/plaintiff or the defendant for reasons such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unavailability of witness; • failure of accused to appear; • granting of an application for more time; or • pleading on the day.
Probate registry expenditure	Salary expenditure of (the probate registrar and probate clerks) and nonsalary expenditure directly attributable to probate registries
Real expenditure	Actual expenditure adjusted for changes in prices using the GDP(E) price deflator and expressed in terms of final year prices
Sheriff and bailiff expenditure	Expenditure on court orderlies court security jury management and witness payment administration. For the civil jurisdiction included expenditure (by or on behalf of the court) on bailiffs to enforce court orders. In the coronial jurisdiction included expenditure on police officers permanently attached to the coroner for the purpose of assisting in coronial investigations. Excluded witness payments fines enforcement (criminal jurisdiction) and prisoner security
Umbrella department expenditure	Expenditure incurred by the umbrella department (the Ministry or Department of Justice or Attorney General's). Included expenditure on accounting human resources functions training media liaison research policy property management and administration.

Table 7A.20 Indicators

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Adjournment rate	The ratio between the number of court requested adjournments to the court hearings or trials initiated. Hearings could be adjourned more than once so adjournment rates can be greater than 100 per cent.
Adjudicated finalisation	Where a charge is considered complete and ceases to be active in any court even though that charge has not been adjudicated. For example, a bench warrant was issued or withdrawn by prosecution.
Average expenditure per case — excluding revenue for in house services	Average expenditure per criminal or civil case (see below) excluding revenue for jurisdictions providing library court reporting and civil bailiff services.
Average expenditure per civil case	The total costs of the administration services provided to civil matters divided by the total number of civil files handled. Total costs included salaries sheriff expenses juror costs accommodation costs library services information technology departmental overheads and court operating expenses.
Average expenditure per primary criminal case	The total costs of the administration services divided by the total number of primary criminal matters handled. Total costs included are salaries sheriff expenses juror costs net court reporting costs accommodation costs net cost of library services information technology departmental overheads and court operating expenses.
Cost recovery	The level of court fees divided by the level of court expenditure.
Estimated average total court fees	Total court income from fees charged in the civil jurisdiction divided by the number of civil lodgments handled by the court. Included filing sitting hearing and deposition fees; excluded transcript fees.
Geographic accessibility	The number of metropolitan locations divided by the total number of court locations expressed as a percentage.
Method of finalisation	The process which leads to the completion of a criminal charge within a higher court so that it ceases to be an item of work in that court.
Method of initiation	Describes how a criminal charge was introduced to a court level.
Nonadjudicated finalisation	Based on a judgement or decision by the court as to whether or not the defendant is guilty of the charge laid against them. For example, the defendant pleaded guilty or was found guilty by the court or was acquitted.
Timeliness	<p>The percentage of <i>total criminal cases</i> completed that were completed within 6; 6–12; 12–18; and greater than 18 months of lodgment. Cases were sorted according to the time taken to finalise after lodgment.</p> <p>The percentage of <i>total civil cases</i> completed that were completed within 6; 6–12; 12–18; and greater than 18 months of lodgment. Cases were sorted according to the time taken to finalise after lodgment.</p> <p>The percentage of <i>defended civil cases</i> completed that were completed within 6; 6–12; 12–18; and greater than 18 months of lodgment. Cases were sorted according to the time taken to finalise the defended cases after initial lodgment.</p> <p>The percentage of <i>civil trial cases</i> finalised through the initiation of a trial that were completed within 6; 6–2; 12–18; and greater than 18 months of lodgement. Cases were sorted according to the time taken to finalise the cases after initial lodgment.</p>