
7 Court administration

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Attachment tables

There are no Court administration attachment tables throughout this Indigenous Compendium.

The Court administration chapter (chapter 7) in the *Report on Government Services 2012* (2012 Report) focuses on administrative support functions for the courts, not on the judicial decisions made in the courts. The primary support functions of court administration services 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.

This chapter covers the State and Territory supreme, district/county and magistrates' (including children's) courts, coroners' courts and probate registries. It 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 courts, circle sentencing courts and drug courts are excluded). The 2012 Report also excludes electronic infringement and enforcement systems which have been included in previous reports.

Major improvements in reporting on court administration this year include data quality information (DQI) for all performance indicators. Improvements in

consistency and integrity of data reported are ongoing by all jurisdictions and are footnoted where appropriate.

Roles and responsibilities

Within certain court levels, a number of specialist jurisdiction courts (such as Indigenous courts, circle sentencing courts and drug courts) aim to improve the responsiveness of courts to the special needs of particular service users. Tribunals can also improve responsiveness and assist in alleviating the workload of courts — for example, small claims tribunals can assist in diverting work from the 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.

Indigenous data in the Court administration chapter

The Court administration chapter in the 2012 Report contains no specific data items on Indigenous people.