

Senator Carr – Questions received on 16 November 2020

	Question	Senator	Response
1.	<p>How many Federal Circuit Court and Family Court registries do not currently have a judge (e.g. Albury)? Please provide a list of those registries.</p>	Carr	<p>The Federal Circuit Court of Australia services 43 locations around Australia. Locations are either a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • filing registry with a resident judge; • filing registry with a judge circuiting to that location a number of times per year; or • judicial circuit location with a judge circuiting to that location a number of times per year. <p>At present, all of the filing registries that usually have a resident judge have a judge sitting in that location, including Townsville. Albury, Dubbo and Lismore are filing registries that are serviced by a judicial circuit.</p> <p>For further information regarding Court service locations, please refer to page 21 of the Federal Circuit Court’s 2019-20 Annual Report.</p> <p>The Family Court of Australia sits in all capital cities (excluding Perth), as well as Cairns, Townsville, Newcastle, Parramatta and Dubbo. Of these, Darwin, Cairns and Dubbo are serviced by judicial circuits.</p>
2	<p>In respect of each of those registries (other than Townsville), when was the last time a judge was appointed to the registry?</p>	Carr	<p>We expect that the detail provided in the response to Question 1 answers this question. However, we are happy to provide additional information if required.</p>
3	<p>In respect of the Federal Circuit Court's responses to questions on notice received 13 November 2020, please explain the following discrepancies between answers provided and information on the Court's website (see below).</p>		<p>In relation to the Brisbane Registry, whilst the website lists 13 Judges, one of those Judges sits in the Rockhampton Registry.</p> <p>In relation to the Sydney Registry, whilst the website lists 14 Judges, one of those Judges sits in the Wollongong Registry on a near full-time basis.</p> <p>In relation to the Adelaide registry, the Court confirms that there are 5 Judges currently assigned to the Adelaide Registry.</p> <p>In relation to the Parramatta registry, the Court confirms that there are 6 Judges currently assigned to the Parramatta Registry.</p>

However, there is one correction that needs to be made. A Parramatta Judge was inadvertently counted in the Adelaide Registry total in error. An amended table is set out below with the changes in red.

	Docket sizes as at 6 November 2020 – corrected 17 November 2020					
Registry	0 to 300 cases	300 to 400 cases	400 to 500 cases	500 to 600 cases	600+ cases	Total Judges in each Registry
Adelaide		2	2	1		5
Brisbane	2	2	6	1	1	12
Cairns	1					1
Canberra		2				2
Darwin	1					1
Hobart	1					1
Launceston			1			1
Melbourne	6	4	5	1		16
Newcastle			3			3
Parramatta	2	1	3			6
Perth	2					2
Rockhampton		1				1
Sydney	7	5	1			13
Wollongong					1	1
Total Judges in each docket size bracket	22	17	21	3	2	65