

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 19

Senator Fielding asked the following question at the hearing on 23 February 2009:

Provide statistics on the number of complaints the Court receives pertaining to delays in Family Court cases.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Administrative complaints received by the Family Court in the 2007-08 financial year

Delay in reaching a trial or hearing	10
Other complaint	196
Total	206

(The total number of complaints represents less than .05% of filings)

Breakdown of complaints about delays in reaching a trial or hearing:

Judge availability and Court resources	6
Mishandling of a file in a Judge's Chambers	1
Delay involving other parties, solicitors, or courts of another jurisdiction	3
Total	10

Administrative complaints received in 2008-09 financial year (as at December 2008)

Delay in reaching a trial or hearing	6
Other complaint	85
Total	91

Breakdown of complaints about delays in reaching a trial or hearing:

Judge availability and Court resources	2
Complainant misunderstanding	4
Total	6