

**SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL  
AFFAIRS LEGISLATION**

Tabled Document No 3

By: Doug Humphreys

Date: 8 February 2010.

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – FEBRUARY 2010**

**ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL  
WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

**Explanatory Note**

The following tables and charts provide information on the Tribunal's workload and performance for the six-month period from 1 July to 31 December 2009. Information is provided in relation to:

- the number of applications lodged;
- the number of applications finalised;
- the number of applications on hand at 31 December 2009;
- the proportion of applications finalised with and without a hearing; and
- the extent to which the Tribunal has met its timeliness targets.

Information has been provided in relation to the 2007–08 and 2008–09 reporting years for the purpose of identifying trends. Projections have been given for the number of applications that will be lodged and the number of applications that will be finalised in 2009–10. The projections are based on historical patterns of lodgements and finalisations in the Tribunal.

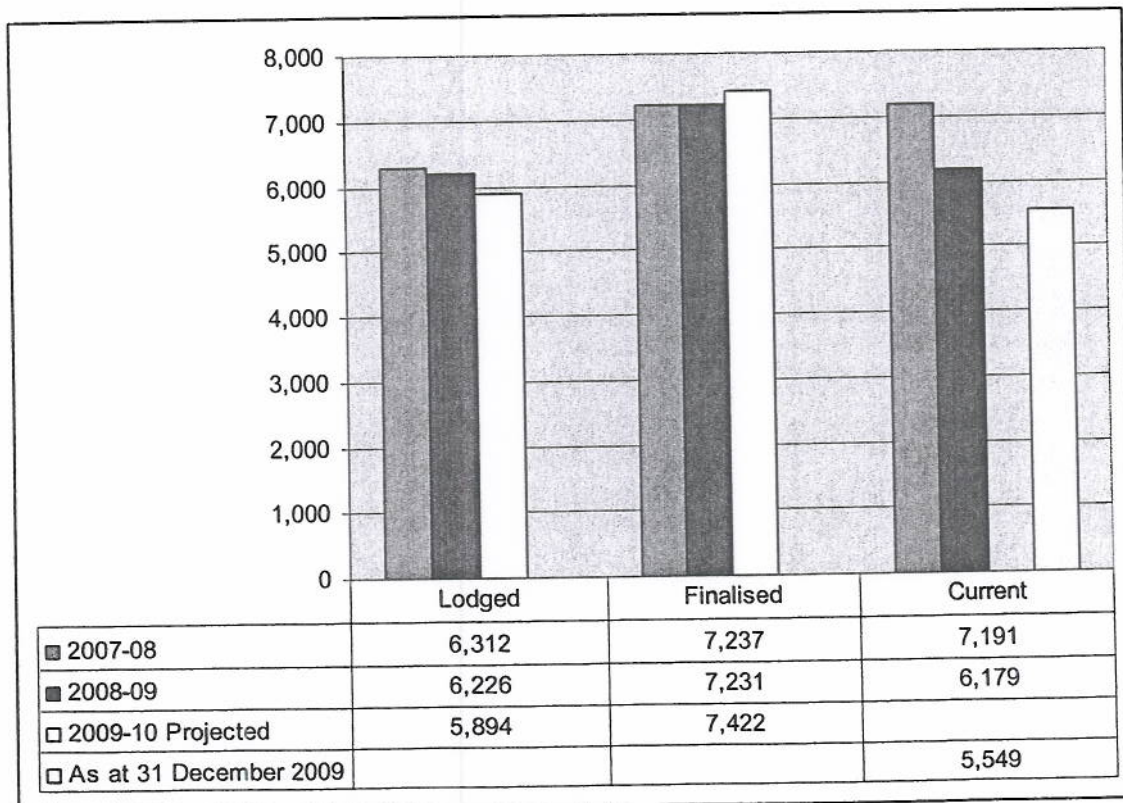
Sections 1 to 4 provide information on applications lodged, finalised and on hand at the Tribunal. Section 1 provides an overview. Sections 2, 3 and 4 provide more detailed information relating to lodgements, finalisations and current applications in each of the Tribunal's major jurisdictions.

Section 5 provides information as to the way in which applications have been finalised by the Tribunal. It sets out the proportion of applications finalised by way of a Tribunal decision after a hearing and the proportion of applications finalised in other ways, including those finalised by way of an agreed outcome following alternative dispute resolution.

Section 6 provides information on the proportion of applications that have been finalised within the Tribunal's time standards in each of the major jurisdictions.

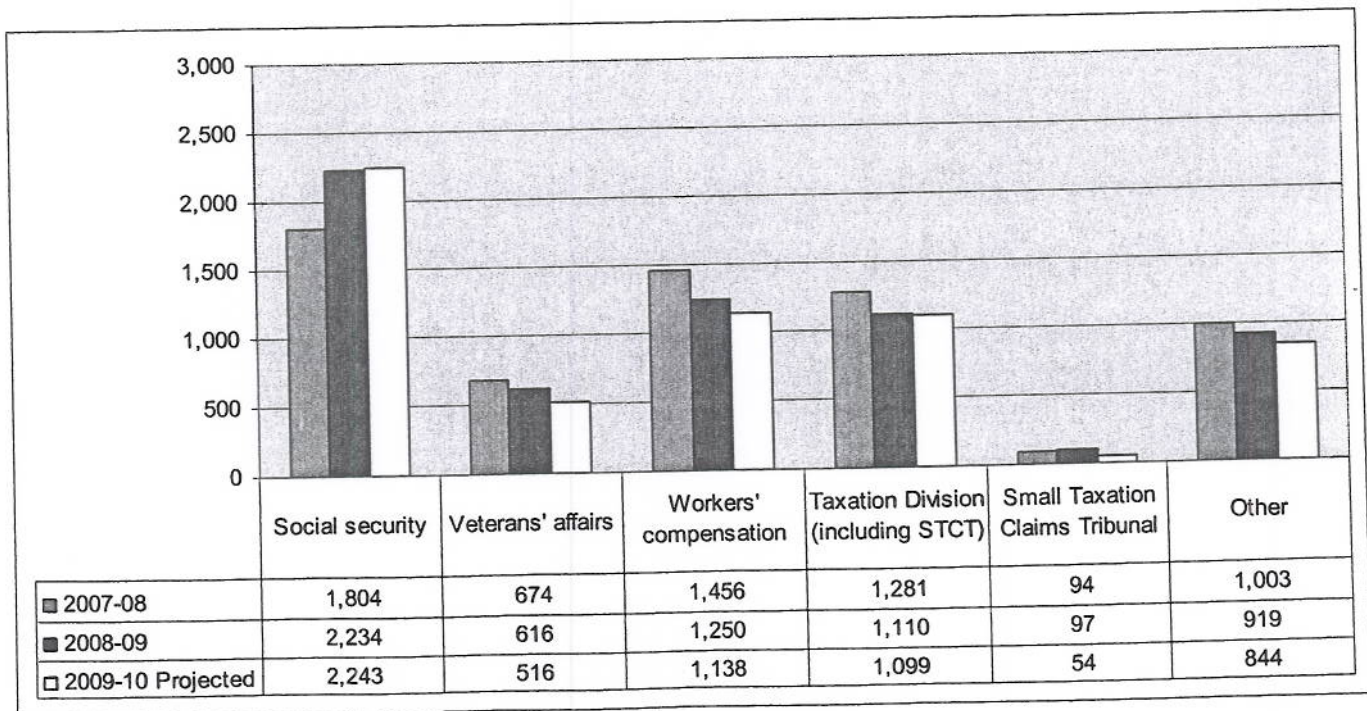
### 1. APPLICATIONS LODGED, FINALISED AND CURRENT

	2007-08	2008-09	% change from 2007-08 (No.)	6 months ending 31/12/09	Projection for 2009-10	% change from 2008-09 (No.)
<b>Lodged</b>	6,312	6,226	- 1.4% (- 86)	3,143	5,894	- 5.3% (- 332)
<b>Finalised</b>	7,237	7,231	- 0% (- 6)	3,818	7,422	+ 2.6% (+ 191)
<b>Current</b>	7,191	6,179	- 14.1% (- 1,012)	5,549	-	- 10.2% (- 630)



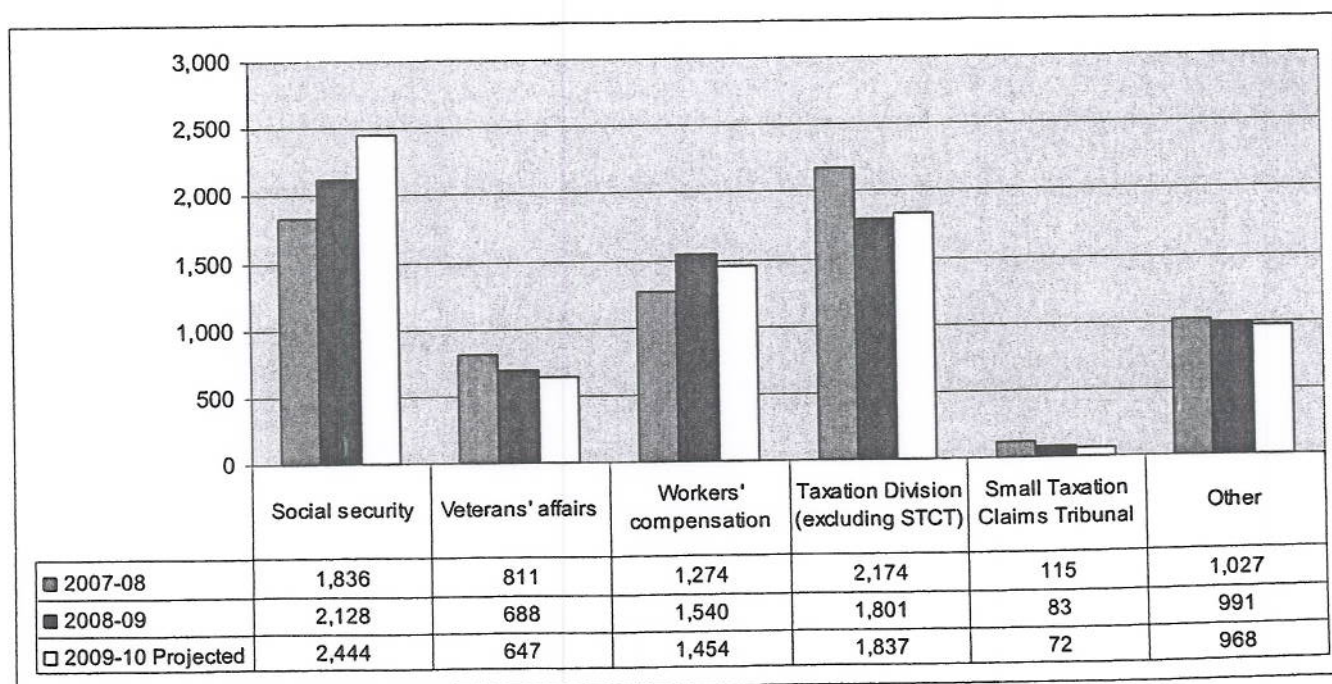
## 2. LODGEMENTS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	2007–08	2008–09	% change from 2007–08 (No.)	6 months ending 31/12/09	Projection for 2009–10	% change from 2008–09 (No.)
Social security	1,804	2,234	+ 23.8% (+ 430)	1,196	2,243	+ 0.4% (+ 9)
Veterans' affairs	674	616	- 8.6% (- 58)	275	516	- 16.2% (- 100)
Workers' compensation	1,456	1,250	- 14.1% (- 206)	607	1,138	- 9.0% (- 112)
Taxation Division (excluding STCT)	1,281	1,110	- 13.3% (- 171)	586	1,099	- 1.0% (- 11)
Small Taxation Claims Tribunal	94	97	+ 3.2% (+ 3)	29	54	- 44.3% (- 43)
Other	1,003	919	- 8.4% (- 84)	450	844	- 8.2% (- 75)



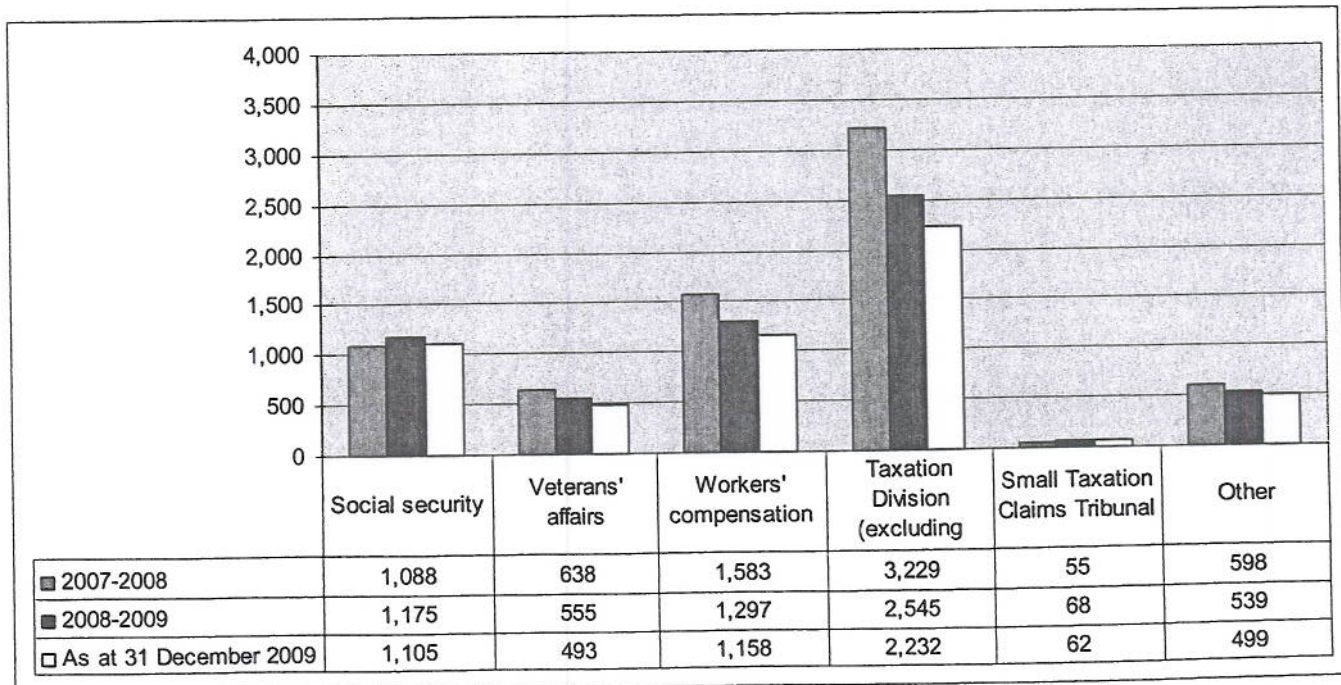
### 3. FINALISATIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	2007–08	2008–09	% change from 2007–08 (No.)	6 months ending 31/12/09	Projection for 2009–10	% change from 2008–09 (No.)
Social security	1,836	2,128	+ 15.9% (+ 292)	1,257	2,444	+ 14.8% (+ 316)
Veterans' affairs	811	688	- 15.2% (- 123)	333	647	- 6.0% (- 41)
Workers' compensation	1,274	1,540	+ 20.9% (+ 266)	748	1,454	- 5.6% (- 86)
Taxation Division (excluding STCT)	2,174	1,801	- 17.2% (- 373)	945	1,837	+ 2.0% (+ 36)
Small Taxation Claims Tribunal	115	83	- 27.8% (- 32)	37	72	- 13.3% (- 11)
Other	1,027	991	- 3.5% (- 36)	498	968	- 2.3% (- 23)



#### 4. CURRENT APPLICATIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	2007–08	2008–09	% change from 2007–08 (No.)	6 months ending 31/12/09	% change from 2008–09 (No.)
Social security	1,088	1,175	+ 8.0% (+ 87)	1,105	- 6.0% (- 70)
Veterans' affairs	638	555	- 13.0% (- 83)	493	- 11.2% (- 62)
Workers' compensation	1,583	1,297	- 18.1% (- 286)	1,158	- 10.7% (- 139)
Taxation Division (excluding STCT)	3,229	2,545	- 21.2% (- 684)	2,232	- 12.3% (- 313)
Small Taxation Claims Tribunal	55	68	+ 23.6% (+ 13)	62	- 8.8% (- 6)
Other	598	539	- 9.9% (- 59)	499	- 7.4% (- 40)



**5. FINALISATIONS – PERCENTAGES OF APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW FINALISED WITH AND WITHOUT HEARING<sup>1</sup>**

Type of finalisation	2007–08	2008–09	6 months ending 31/12/09	% change from 2008–09
Finalisation without a hearing	79%	81%	83%	+ 2%
By Tribunal decision after a hearing	21%	19%	17%	- 2%

**6. TIME STANDARDS**

**Time standards – percentage finalised within 12 months**

Jurisdiction (Target % rate for finalisation within 12 months)	2007–08	2008–09	6 months ending 31/12/09	% change from 2008–09
Social security (90% target)	84%	88%	91%	+ 3%
Veterans' affairs (80% target)	62%	65%	62%	- 3%
Workers' compensation (75% target)	60%	53%	56%	+ 3%
Taxation Division (excluding STCT) (75% target)	31%	29%	25%	- 4%

**Time standards – Small Taxation Claims Tribunal – percentage finalised within 84 days**

	2007–08	2008–09	6 months ending 31/12/09	% change from 2008–09
Small Taxation Claims Tribunal	17%	18%	30%	+ 12%

<sup>1</sup> Applications finalised without a hearing include all applications finalised otherwise than by the Tribunal giving a decision on the merits under section 43 of the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975*. This includes applications finalised in accordance with terms of agreement lodged by the parties (sections 34D and 42C), applications withdrawn by the applicant (subsection 42A(1A)) and applications dismissed by the Tribunal (sections 42A and 42B).