

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT

**Question No. 136**

**Senator Kirk asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2006:**

What percentage of cases were resolved before trial?

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

Family Law

22,898 family law matters (excluding divorces) have been finalised in the period 1 July 2005 to 30 May 2006.

Of these 22,898 matters, 19,588 (85.5%) matters were resolved without going to a defended hearing or consent orders were presented to the Court for ratification.

3,310 matters went to trial.

General Federal Law

7,154 general federal law matters were finalised in the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

Of these 7,154 matters, 551 (7.7%) were resolved before going to trial. This figure does not include matters withdrawn or discontinued, but these constituted a relatively small number.

6,603 matters proceeded to trial.