
CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TRIALS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA STUDENT PRE-VISIT RESOURCE

SUPREME COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

General Division Workload 2016

General Division – Civil	Number
Civil trials	40
Civil cases finalised	2933
Civil cases lodged	3198

1

General Division - Criminal	Number
Criminal trials	83
Criminal cases finalised	238
Criminal cases lodged	404

2

DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Go to the [District Court of Western Australia website](#) and follow these directions: Click on the *About the District Court* tab → Click on the *Publications* tab → Click on *District Court Annual Review 2016*.

Scan the *District Court Annual Review 2016* and complete the numbers in the following charts.

Criminal Division Workload 2016	Number
Criminal trials	
People committed for trial	

3

Civil Division Workload 2015	Number
Civil trials	
New writs lodged	

4

¹ <http://www.supremecourt.wa.gov.au/files/Supreme%20Court%20AR2016.pdf>, p3

² Ibid 3.

³ http://www.districtcourt.wa.gov.au/_files/2016_WADC_AnnualReview.pdf, p3.

1. Are you surprised by the number of civil and criminal trials heard by the Supreme Court and District Court in 2016 when compared to the number of new civil cases and new criminal matters? Explain your response with reasons.

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2. What are some explanations for the majority of civil and criminal matters not proceeding to trial?

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THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Go to the [Department of Justice website](#) and follow these directions: Click on the *About THE Department* tab → Click on the *Reports and Publications* tab → Click on the *Department of Attorney-General Annual Report 2015/16 PDF Full Report*.

Under the Disclosures and Legal Compliance, scan the Key Performance Indicators (p116-118) of the *DotAG Annual Report 2015/16* and complete the numbers in the following chart.

Court Cost Per Case	2015/16
Supreme Court - Criminal – Cost per case	
Supreme Court Civil – Cost per case	
District Court – Criminal – Cost per case	
District Court – Civil – Cost per case	
Magistrates Court – Criminal – Cost per case	
Magistrates Court – Civil – Cost per case	

*The cost per case is calculated by dividing the total cost of the jurisdiction by the number of cases finalised.*⁶

⁴ Ibid.3.

⁵ Department of the Attorney General, *Annual Report 2015/16*, http://www.department.dotag.wa.gov.au/_files/DotAG_AR_2016.pdf, p116-118.

