Contents

Contents 2
Introduction 3
Key Findings 5
1: Civil (excluding family) cases 7
2: Judicial Reviews at the Administrative Court 15
3: Appellate Courts 22
4: Offices of the Supreme Court 28
5: The Judiciary 29
6: Assessment of litigation costs, and publicly funded legal services 31
Annex A: Planned upcoming changes to publication 32
Annex B: List of Accompanying Tables and CSV 33
Annex C: Explanatory notes 37
Further information 38
Contacts 39
Introduction

This statistical bulletin presents statistics on three key areas of civil and administrative justice:

- County court civil (non-family) cases that took place in England and Wales in January to March 2015;
- Judicial review cases processed by the administrative court in England and Wales up to March 2015;
- The appellate courts cases processed by the high court, court of appeal, supreme court and the judicial committee of the privy council, up to December 2014;

The figures give a summary overview of the volume of cases dealt with by these courts over time and are used to monitor court workloads, to assist in the development of policy and their subsequent monitoring and evaluation.

Civil cases are those that do not involve family matters or failure to pay council tax. These cases are mainly dealt with by county courts and typically relate to debt, the repossession of property, personal injury, the return of goods and insolvency. Particularly important, complex or substantial cases are instead dealt with in the High Court.

Additional to the usual revisions policy, the quarterly civil defence figures for 2014 reported on in this publication are classed as provisional. For more information see the Data Quality and Revisions section of Annex C.

Judicial reviews (JRs) are a process by which individuals, businesses and other affected parties can challenge the lawfulness of decisions or actions of the executive, including those of ministers, local authorities, other public bodies and those exercising public functions. It is a largely judge-developed procedure and can be characterised as the rule of law in action, providing a key mechanism for individuals to hold the executive to account. It is, however, intended to operate quickly and proportionately. Certain protections are in principle provided against spurious claims: only those with sufficient interest are able to bring a case and they must first obtain permission for their case to be heard.

The appellate courts chapter is published annually and covers figures up to 2014. It provides summary figures on the number cases in each of the appellate courts. It also provides information on the number of days sat by judges across all courts and court cost bills.

Every six months the Civil Justice Statistics Quarterly also includes a chapter on privacy injunctions. This will be available next in the April to June 2015 Civil Justice Statistics Quarterly, due to be published in early September 2015.
Information about the systems and data included in this publication can be found in ‘A Guide to Civil Court and Administrative Justice Statistics’ which is published alongside this report. 

There is also a separate Glossary published alongside this which provides brief definitions for the terms used in this report. Information regarding the symbols and conventions used in the bulletin are given in the explanatory notes section.

Previous editions of Civil Justice Statistics Quarterly can be found here: 
www.gov.uk/government/collections/civil-justice-statistics-quarterly

The next publication of Civil Justice Statistics is scheduled to be published on 3 September 2015, covering the period April to June 2015. This publication will also include a chapter and tables relating to privacy injunction cases.

Users of the statistics

The main users of these statistics are Ministers and officials in central government responsible for developing policy with regards to civil and administrative justice. Other users include lawyers and academics, other central government departments such as the Department for Communities and Local Government, and non-governmental bodies, including various voluntary organisations with an interest in civil and administrative justice.
Key Findings

This report presents statistics on three areas of justice: civil (excluding family cases) and judicial reviews in England and Wales up to the first quarter of 2015 (January to March); and figures from the appellate courts for the year 2014.

Civil (excluding family) cases

- In January to March 2015, courts dealt with 393,000 claims, 39,000 allocations and 241,000 judgments. The number of claims courts dealt with decreased 7% on the same quarter last year, whereas allocations and judgments have increased 1% and 17% respectively.

- Although the quarterly judgment figures are volatile; the long term trend is in line with the number of claims. Annually, both claims and judgments fell between 2009 and 2012 and have since shown increases in the last two years (figure 1.1).

- In 2014, both the claimant and defendant had legal representation in 62% of defences (compared to 65% in 2013) whilst neither the respondent nor the claimant had representation in 19% of defences (compared to 17% in 2013). This is driven by defences of unspecified money claims, which account for 45% of all defences and in almost all such defences (97%), both sides were legally represented.

- There was an average of 55.0 weeks between a fast or multi-track claim being issued and the claim going to trial in the first quarter this year, compared with 55.6 weeks in the same period last year.

Judicial Reviews at the Administrative Court

- In the first quarter (January to March) of this year there were 1,048 applications lodged at the Administrative Court, level with the same period last year.

- 83% of the applications lodged in 2014 have now closed. A higher proportion of cases became eligible for a final hearing, 18% compared with 10% of cases in 2013. Of the 748 cases in 2014 that were eligible for a final hearing to date, 222 have reached a decision. Of these, 90 (41%) were found in favour of the appellant.

- As a proportion of all cases lodged, 2% reached the final hearing stage and were awarded in favour of the claimant and 3% of all cases reached the final hearing stage and were in favour of the defendant.

- From the 1 October 2012 to 30 March 2015, around 24,000 cases were lodged and 14,000 (59%) had reached permission or oral renewal stage. Of those that had reached these stages, 27% were found to be totally without merit.
In 2014, 1,500 (36%) of cases were lodged against the Ministry of Justice. Of those lodged against the MoJ, 13% were granted permission to proceed to the final hearing stage, and 3% were found in favour of the appellant at final hearing.

The Appellate Courts

Last year the overall caseload of the appellate court was 18,000, with the majority of these cases (58%) related to the High Court, followed by the Court of Appeal (42%). The Supreme Court accounted for 25 cases in this same year.

The overall caseload had decreased 39% from 30,000 in 2013. This decline is due to a change implemented in November 2013, in which the Upper Tribunal for Immigration and Asylum Chamber (UTIAC) took over responsibility, from the High Court, for the majority of Civil Immigration and Asylum Judicial Review cases.

The judiciary

During 2014, around 273,000 days were sat in court or chambers by Judges (excluding magistrates), a 1% decrease from the number of days sat in 2013. The largest number of days sat were by circuit and deputy circuit judges, with around 112,000 days (41% of all days in 2014).

Last year, the county court judges sat largest number of around 146,000 days and the crown court judges sat around 105,000 days.

Assessment of litigation costs, and publicly funded legal services

Last year 15,000 cost bills were assessed in the senior costs office, an increase of 23% compared to 2013. 47% of which were receivers in the court of protection and 30% civil legal aid assessments.

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1: Civil (excluding family) cases

A civil claim against a person or a company (the defendant) starts when a person or company (the claimant) completes and submits a claim form to the County Court. This can be done either in person or online. A copy of the claim form along with a response pack is sent to (served on) the defendant who has 14 days to respond to the claim. If the defendant disputes (defends) the claim (in full or part) and mediation fails, the case is allocated by a judge to one of three case-management tracks (small claims track, fast track or multi track). Allocated cases which are not settled or withdrawn generally result in a small claim hearing or trial. A judgment regarding the claim can be made at various stages of the process. There are various methods of enforcing a judgment through the county courts including warrants and orders.

**Estimating case progression:** In addition to providing results regarding the civil workload of the courts, this bulletin contains estimates of the percentage of claims issued in a specific quarter or year that will, in time, progress to a defence, allocation or hearing or trial in County Courts. These figures are different from the court workload figures which show the total number of defences, allocations or hearings or trials in that quarter, irrespective of when the claim was issued.

The case progression estimates include upper and lower estimates around them (a confidence interval) reflecting the uncertainty inherent in any estimation of the future. Claims from more recent periods will, by definition, have had less time for the case to be processed so there is more uncertainty around the final estimate, resulting in a wider confidence interval (Please see [A Guide to Civil and Administrative Justice Statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/guide-to-civil-and-administrative-justice-statistics) for more information on how this figure is calculated).

As supplementary information, we also provide the percentage of claims issued in a quarter or year that have already resulted in a defence, allocation or hearing or trial. Caution should be exercised when interpreting these figures for recent years. The information contained in the bulletin is based on the available data when the database was extracted; consequently a proportion of claims made in more recent quarters are still awaiting progression to the next stage of court action. Claims from earlier periods will have had longer for the case to be processed than those from more recent periods so a lower proportion of these earlier claims are likely to be still awaiting a defence, allocation or hearing or trial.

We have reviewed the case progression estimates that are used in this publication and have produced a paper exploring alternative measures to the case progression estimates. If you want to have your say on the proposed changes please email case.progression@justice.gsi.gov.uk. Please provide feedback on the proposed changes by 14 July 2015.

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Number of claims issued

In January to March 2015, a total of 393,021 claims were issued, 7% lower than in the same quarter in 2014 (Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1). The key drivers of this decrease have been specified money claims, with a decrease of 23,604 (8%) and mortgage and landlord possession claims, down 12,045 (20%). Annually, there was a general downward trend in the number of claims between 2006 and 2012 from 2.1 million to a low of 1.4 million – since then, the trend has reversed, with a slight increase in 2013 and a further increase to 1.6 million claims being made in 2014.

In the most recent quarter, 80% of all claims were money claims level with the same quarter in 2014. In the current quarter, 88% of money claims (278,658) related to claims for specified amounts of money (down 8% from the same time last year). The remaining money claims related to unspecified money claims, up 6% from last year (Table 1.2).

In January to March 2015, there were 77,442 non-money claims (down 12% on the same point in 2014). Annually, this figure dropped from an average of just under 400,000 between 2000 and 2008 to an average of just over 330,000 between 2009 and 2013. In 2014 the number of non-money claims has reduced further to 317,530. This decrease can be partially explained by the fall in mortgage possession claims. This coincided with lower interest rates, a proactive approach from mortgage lenders in managing consumers in financial difficulties, and various interventions, such as introduction of the Mortgage Pre-Action Protocol that encouraged more pre-action contact between lender and borrower (Table 1.2).

There were 5,562 insolvency petitions (excluding in the Royal Courts of Justice) in January to March 2015. This shows a 23% decrease on the same quarter last year and remains within the general downward trend seen since 2009 (Table 1.2). The large decrease since 2009 has been steepest amongst bankruptcy petitions made by debtors, then among bankruptcy petitions made by creditors, and least severe among petitions for company windings up.

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3 For more information on the Mortgage Pre-Action Protocol please see Annex B of the Mortgage and landlord possession statistics publication.

4 Insolvency petitions relate to bankruptcy or companies “winding up”

5 See the accompanying csv files for more information
In January to March 2015 provisional figures show 58,395 defences were made, 4% more than at the same quarter in the previous year. Looking over the longer term, there had been a general downward annual trend since the peak of just under 340,000 in 2007, with the 2013 figure being 227,942. Since 2013 the annual number of defences has increased to 232,049 (2% increase). It is estimated that 13% of claims issued in January to March 2015 will be defended, although this may fall within a range of 12.4% and 13.6% (Table 1.5 and Figure 1.2).

If the claim is defended, further information is usually provided by each of the parties, after which the case is allocated by a judge to one of three case-management tracks. In January to March 2015, a total of 38,848 allocations were made, a small 1% increase on the same period last year. (Table 1.3).

- In the last quarter almost half (18,634) were allocated to the small claim track, 3% more than in the first quarter of 2014. This track is generally for cases with a claim value of up to £10,000\(^6\) which require less preparation by the parties involved than the more complex cases allocated to the fast or multi track. The trials are designed to be accessible to people who do not have representation by a solicitor or counsel, and are dealt with in about an hour.

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\(^6\) On 1 April 2013 due to a policy change, the maximum claim value for cases allocated to the small claims track increased from £5,000 to £10,000.
• 41% (15,755) were allocated to the fast track, no change from the same quarter in 2014. This track is generally for cases with a claim value of between £10,000 and not more than £25,000, with issues not complex enough to merit more than a one day trial.

• 11% (4,459) were allocated to the multi track, 5% less than the first quarter of 2014. This track is generally for cases with a claim value exceeding £25,000 with more complex issues. They generally last more than one day at trial.

It is estimated that 9% of claims issued between January to March 2015 will be allocated (with a range between 8.3% and 9.9%).

Figure 1.2: Estimated case progression of civil claims by court action, Q1 (January to March) 2009 – Q1 (January to March) 2015

In the first of quarter of this year, a total of 240,701 judgments were made, 17% more than in the same period last year. Annually, the number of judgments fell between 2009 and 2012, but has begun to show an increase in the last two years. Last year there were 828,007 judgments made, an increase of 24% compared to 2013 (Table 1.4).

Defended cases which are not settled or withdrawn generally result in a small claim trial (Table 1.6). In total, there were 11,810 small claim trials in first quarter this year, which is level with the same quarter in last year. It is estimated that 3% of claims issued in the first quarter of this year will go to trial (with a range between 2.7% and 3.4%).

In January to March 2015, 8,616 small claims trials took place. On average, these occurred 31.7 weeks after the claim was originally made. This is the same average time as the previous quarter and is the longest average time to trial since data were collected in 2000 - it steadily increased over time to a peak of 30.5 weeks in 2009 and then stabilised at 30 weeks between
2010 and 2013. In 2014, the annual average time increased to 31.5 weeks. Fast and multi-track trials (of which there were 3,194 in the most recent quarter) occurred on average 55.0 weeks after the claim was originally made. The time between issue and the claim going to trial rose between 2008 and 2013 but has fallen in 2014, to an annual average of 56.8 weeks (Table 1.6).

**Enforcement**

There are various methods of enforcing a judgment through the county courts. The most common method of enforcing a monetary judgment is the warrant of execution against a debtor's goods. This is where, unless the amount owed is paid, items owned by the debtor can be recovered by a bailiff acting on behalf of the court and sold.

The number of warrants issued has been steadily falling since 2000, until the July to September quarter of last year, where it increased by 11% compared to the same period the previous year. There was a decrease in the following quarter, with a total of 55,726 warrants issued, down 2% from the same period in 2013. The data is again showing a spike in the first quarter of this year, 60,178 warrants were issued, a 10% increase on the first quarter of last year.

Alternatively, various types of court orders can be obtained:

- attachment of earnings orders enable payment through the debtor's employer.
- third party debt orders enable payment by freezing and then seizing money owed by a third party to the debtor.
- charging orders obtain security for the payment against the debtor's assets. This may be followed by an order for sale which forces the sale of these assets.

In the first quarter of this year, 31,511 enforcement orders were made, a very slight increase compared to the same period last year. This figure has been generally falling since 2008.

**Legal representation**

Figures on the legal representation of parties in civil (non family) related court cases are shown in Table 1.7. This gives the number of claims defended during each quarter, for mortgage and landlord possession, other non money claims, specified money claims and unspecified money claims, according to whether the applicant(s), respondent(s), both or neither had legal representation during the case.

Figures on the legal representation of parties in civil (non family) related court cases are shown in Table 1.7. This gives the number of claims defended during each quarter in 2013 and provisional figures\(^7\) for 2014, for mortgage and landlord possession, other non money claims, specified

\(^7\) Defence figures for 2014 are currently provisional, see annex C for more information
money claims and unspecified money claims, according to whether the applicant(s), respondent(s), both or neither had legal representation during the case.

Figure 1.3 shows the number of defences broken down by representation status for 2013 and 2014 in England and Wales.

Figure 1.3: Number of civil defences by type of civil claim and legal representation status, 2013 and 2014

Although the total number of defences has gone up when comparing 2013 to last year, the spread of representation status has been consistent, with the majority of defences having legal representation for both the claimant and respondent.

Provisional figures for last year show both the claimant and defendant had legal representation in 62% of defences (compared to 65% in 2013) whilst neither the respondent nor the claimant had representation in 19% of defences (compared with 17% in 2013). Defences with either the claimant or defendant only represented were 15% and 4% of all defences respectively, compared with 13% and 4% in 2013.

Figure 1.4 shows the number of defences in 2014 broken down by representation status and case type in England and Wales.
The second most common type of claim with a defence, unspecified money claims, accounts for just under half of all defences (45%) and in almost all defences of this type (97%), both the respondent and claimant had legal representation. For the other types of claim, legal representation status was more evenly distributed, although mortgage and landlord possession defences were more likely to have no legal representation for either the respondent or the claimant. Provisional figures for Q1 this year are similar to previous quarters in 2014, with both parties legally represented in 63% of defended cases.

Changes to legal aid came into effect as of April 2013, and removed legal aid eligibility for some civil cases. Figures show that the proportion of defences with legal representation for both parties has decreased slightly.
between 2013 and 2014. We will be carrying out further work to look in more detail at the emerging trends within these data.

The Legal Aid Agency (LAA - formerly the Legal Services Commission) collects statistics on those applying for legal aid, and figures on the number applications received and certificates granted by various civil categories, including debt have been published in their annual statistical report which can be found here:


Civil proceedings in the Magistrates’ Courts

Magistrates’ courts deal with criminal and some civil cases, and cases are dealt with either by justices of the peace, who are unqualified and who are paid only expenses, or by District Judges who receive some payment. Magistrates can deal with a limited number of civil cases such as arrears of income tax, national insurance contributions, council tax or payments of child maintenance.

There were 15,018 completed civil proceedings in the Magistrates Court between in the first quarter of this year, down 5% on the same period in last year (Table 1.2). It should be noted that a proceeding can either relate to a single case or multiple cases, so the numbers of cases completed is greater than the number of completed proceedings.
2: Judicial Reviews at the Administrative Court

Judicial Reviews (JRs) are a process by which individuals, businesses and other affected parties can challenge the lawfulness of decisions or actions of the Executive, including those of Ministers, local authorities, other public bodies and those exercising public functions. It is a largely judge-developed procedure and can be characterised as the rule of law in action, providing a key mechanism for individuals to hold the Executive to account.

This chapter tracks the progress of JRs lodged at the Administrative Court between 1 January 2000 and 31 March 2015. The figures presented in this chapter exclude Judicial Reviews that are dealt with by the Upper Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber (UTIAC), unless otherwise stated; however they are publicly available in a separate publication.

As the information included in this chapter has been extracted from a live database, all figures are refreshed each quarter and therefore there are minor revisions between the information presented here and earlier data.

Information for all years is provided in the supporting tables and CSV that accompany this publication. Please note for later years cases may not have progressed to the end of the process, so the progression and timeliness figures for these cases should be treated with caution, in particular for applications lodged during the year 2014 and the 1st quarter of 2015, where a larger proportion of cases will not have been concluded.

For more information on the Judicial Review process, including how topics are allocated to Immigration/Asylum and Other, please see the A Guide to Civil and Administrative Justice Statistics.

Applications for permission to apply for Judicial Review

So far this year (January to March 2015), there have been 1,048 applications for Judicial Review, which indicates a similar trend to 2014 (where applications lodged totalled 4,062).

The overall annual trend in judicial review applications received had been steadily increasing, with the exception of a dip in 2004. In 2000, there were 4,238 applications for permission to apply for a JR and by 2013, this had risen to an annual intake of 15,594 (over a threefold increase) (Table 2.1). This has since decreased back to the levels seen at the beginning of the time series.

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8 Tribunal and Gender Recognition Certificate Statistics Quarterly: www.gov.uk/government/collections/tribunals-statistics

JR Civil (Immigration and Asylum) cases had been driving this increase, from 2,151 in 2000 to 13,130 in 2013. This type of judicial review accounted for half of all JRs in 2000 and 84% of all JRs in 2013. In 2014 this reduced back down to the proportions seen at the beginning of the time series, to 47%. The recent decline seen is due to a change implemented in November 2013, in which the Upper Tribunal for Immigration and Asylum Chamber (UTIAC) took over responsibility for the majority of Civil Immigration and Asylum Judicial Review cases. Therefore the reduction in Immigration and Asylum JR cases seen above means a subsequent increase has been seen in Immigration and Asylum tribunals. In 2014 there were 16,001 JR receipts at the UTIAC, giving a total number of JRs across the Administrative court and UTIAC of around 20,000. More detailed figures on the number of JRs taking place in the UTIAC are published in the Tribunal and Gender Recognition Statistics Quarterly Publication.

There were 588 Civil-Immigration and Asylum cases which were dealt with by the Administrative court in 2015 (January to March), of which 12 were subsequently transferred to the UTIAC.

Figure 2.1: Annual Judicial Review Applications, by type calendar year 2000-2015

10 www.justice.gov.uk/courts/rcj-rolls-building/administrative-court/applying-for-judicial-review

11 This chart excludes a small number of cases that could not be allocated to a type
The trends in JR Civil (other) and JR Criminal cases are less prominent than Civil (Immigration and Asylum). JR Civil (Other) cases steadily rose from 1,727 in 2000 to 2,191 in 2013. In 2014 the figure has fallen to 1,903, a 13% decrease on last year. JR Criminal cases have remained fairly stable from 2000 to 2011, fluctuating between 280-370 cases each year. In 2012 it reached a peak of 384 cases and has since fallen to 273 in 2013 and an all time low of 268 cases in 2014. The 2015 period to March shows 56 new cases for JR Criminal and 403 for JR (Civil) other.

Case progression (Table 2.2)

Once a judicial review has been lodged, it then progresses through the process until it is concluded; the time this process will take will be different for each case.\(^{12}\)

The three main stages of the Judicial Review process once a case has been lodged are:

- **Permission stage** - where the Court’s permission is required for a claim for JR to proceed. This can be in the form of an oral or paper hearing.
- **Oral renewal stage** - In cases where the Court refuses permission to proceed (either in full or in part), this is where the claimant requests that the decision be reconsidered at a hearing.
- **Final hearing** – Where permission is granted for a case to proceed at either the permission or oral renewal stage, this is the point where cases are heard and a judgment is made.

Please note, case progression figures can be affected by the proportion of case mix, which has changed over time and thus any previously observed trends should be viewed with caution. For example, Civil Judicial Reviews for Immigration and Asylum rose from 51% of all cases in 2000 to 84% of all cases in 2013, 47% in 2014 and stands at 56% in 2015 (January to March).

Also, the case progression figures will change as time allows for more cases to progress through the system.

**Permission stage**

- In 2000, 85% of judicial reviews lodged reached the permission stage and 29% were granted permission to proceed. These proportions

\(^{12}\) For more information see the following guide: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/guide-to-civil-and-administrative-justice-statistics
decreased gradually over time to an all time low in 2013 of 54% JR reaching permission stage and 9% being granted permission to proceed.

- In 2014 the number granted permission to proceed stood at 16%. This increase compared to 2013 is likely in part to be due to an increase in the number of cases reaching the permission stage; 76% of cases lodged in 2014 compared with 54% of all lodged cases in 2013.

- In 2015 (January to March) the number reaching the permission stage was 41%, with 7% so far being given permission to proceed.

**Oral renewals**

- In 2000, 18% of all cases lodged were granted an oral renewal. This rose to 26% in 2001 and steadily fell to 14% in 2009. There was a slight increase to 17% in 2012, before falling to 8% in 2013 and increasing to 11% in 2014.

- A fee to renew the claim to an oral renewal (where previously there was no fee) was introduced in April 2014 which may have reduced the numbers. There are also a number of JRs that are not eligible for renewal if refused or have a substantive hearing if granted – challenging decisions of the Upper Tribunal. These claims end in this court if refused or are remitted back to the Upper Tribunal if permission granted.

- In terms of those granted an oral renewal in 2000, 4% of all cases lodged received an oral renewal and were granted permission to proceed. This fell to 2% for 2013 and 3% in 2014. So far in 2015 only 7 cases have reached the oral renewal stage, of which one has been granted permission to proceed.

**Final hearing**

- The proportion of cases eligible for a final hearing (granted permission to proceed at permission or oral renewal stage) has steadily reduced over time, from 33% in 2000 to 10% in 2013. The rate has increased since then, to 18% in 2014.

- The proportion of all cases lodged found in favour of the claimant at a final hearing has reduced from 12% in 2000 to 1% in 2013 and 2% in 2014. None of the applications lodged in 2015 have yet to reach the final hearing stage.

**Timeliness (Figure 2.2 and Table 2.3)**

Timeliness figures are based on the date the Judicial Review is lodged to the date of various stages of the process. It is not a measure of the time the Administrative Court takes to deal with a judicial review as it also includes time taken for parties to the JR to provide evidence and any adjournments or postponements requested. Caution must be taken when interpreting the most recent data, particularly that for 2014 and 2015, as not enough time has passed for all cases to reach each stage and those that have will be the ones that are shorter in length so the average will be lower than the true
figure (83% of cases that were lodged in 2014 were classed as ‘Closed’, and only 30% of those lodged so far in 2015).

The mean time taken from lodging a case to the permission stage decision has remained relatively stable between 2006 and 2013 where the number was 118 and 123 days respectively; prior to this, the number was stable at approximately 65 days (from 2000-2005). For the 83% of the cases lodged in 2014 classed as closed, the figure is significantly lower at 69 days. This may be driven by the reduced caseload, due to the Immigration and Asylum cases moving to the UTIAC.

The mean time taken from lodging a case to the oral renewal stage decision has fluctuated over the years. From 2000-2004, the average time was 130 days. This increased rapidly to 209 days in 2005 and to a peak of 267 days in 2007. The figure then fell sharply to 180 days in 2008 before rising to an average of 226 days from 2009 to 2013. For the 83% of cases lodged in 2014 classed as closed, the number has fallen to 132 days.

The mean time taken from lodging a case to the final hearing decision showed a similar pattern; 205 days in 2000 peaking to 425 days in 2006 and fluctuating since then. The 2013 figure stood at 327. For 2014 to date, this figure has fallen considerably to 176 days, though this is subject to change as unclosed cases progress through the system and only 83% of cases in 2014 have so far closed.

**Figure 2.2: Average time taken for each stage of the Judicial Review process, 2000 to 2014**

The average time taken to reach each stage is calculated using only those cases that have reached the stage in question. Figures for later years will change in future publications as cases progress through the system, especially for cases lodged in 2014.
Please note that the timeliness analysis includes cases that were transferred to the Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber. These cases were effectively closed on the COINS database in November 2013.

**Totally without merit**

In refusing permission for judicial review, a judge can certify a case to be totally without merit (TWM). As part of the Government’s reforms to judicial review procedures, for cases issued on or after 1st July 2013; a case refused permission and certified as totally without merit cannot be renewed at the oral renewal hearing stage. A claimant can however appeal against this decision, which would be dealt with at the Appeals Court (In Criminal JR’s there is no appeal route from a refusal of permission if TWM). The outcomes of such cases are not recorded in these figures.

From 1 October 2012 to 31 March 2015, there were 23,916 cases lodged. Of these 14,079 (59%) had reached permission or oral renewal stage at the time the data were extracted in April 2015. Of those that had reached these stages, 3,843 (27%) were found to be totally without merit.

**Judicial reviews by defendant**

This section explores the progress of JRs lodged at the Administrative Court by the defendant type (individual government department or public body). The defendant type information is derived from the free text field ‘defendant name’ in the Administrative Court COINS database System, which is then grouped by type of defendant. The defendant specified by the claimant on the claim form is inputted into the database; however as this is a manually typed field it is open to inputting errors and therefore the figures in this section should be used with caution. For more information see annex C.

This section is published annually and covers the period from 2007 to 2014.

Last year the Ministry of Justice was the department/public body with the largest number of JRs applications lodged against them, with 1,480 JR applications lodged against them, 36% of all applications lodged in that year. This was 4% less than the previous year (1,549 in 2013). Of those lodged against the MoJ, 196 applications (13% of total applications lodged against the MoJ) were granted permission to proceed to the final hearing stage, and of those 38 were found in favour of the appellant at final hearing (3% of the total applications lodged).

The second largest defendant department in 2014 was the Home Office, with 1,176 cases (29% of all applications lodged in 2014), a 91% decrease on 2013 (where 12,527 cases were lodged). The large reduction seen is due to the Upper Tribunal for Immigration and Asylum Chamber (UTIAC) taking over responsibility, from November 2013, for the majority of Civil Immigration and Asylum Judicial Review cases. Therefore the reduction in Home Office cases seen in the Administrative Court figures reported here is because the cases have moved to a different part of the justice system,
rather than being an actual decline in the number of applications lodged. More detailed figures on the number of JR s taking place in the UTIAC are published in the Tribunal and Gender Recognition Statistics Quarterly Publication.

Local authorities had 746 applications lodged against them in 2014 (down 11% on 2013) and of which, 235 (32%) were given permission to proceed to final hearing and 27 (4% of all applications lodged against LAs) were found in favour of the claimant at final hearing.

The number of applications lodged against the remaining defendant types is relatively low, with the Police as the fourth largest at 101 claims against them in 2014, followed by universities with only 48 applications lodged.

For the MoJ the figures are broken down further, into different areas of the department. This has shown that tribunals had the largest proportion of applications lodged against them, with 57% (839) of MoJ JRs in 2014 being against a tribunal. This was 106 (14%) more tribunal applications when compared to 2013.
3: Appellate Courts

There are various appeal courts that are administered by HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS):

- The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council - the final Court of Appeal for 23 Commonwealth territories and four independent Republics within the Commonwealth.

- The Supreme Court - the Supreme Court of Appeal in the United Kingdom, replacing the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords in October 2009.

- The Court of Appeal - divided into the Criminal Division, which hears appeals from the Crown Court and Courts Martial, and the Civil Division, which hears appeals mainly against decisions in the High Court and county courts.

- The High Court - has three Divisions, Chancery Division, Queen’s Bench Division and Family Division, each of which handles different types of civil work.

For more information on the roles of these specialised courts please see the A Guide to Civil and Administrative Justice Statistics that was published alongside this publication. Please note the High Court also covers the Judicial Reviews which are explored in more detail in Chapter 2.

Last year, the overall caseload of the appellate courts was 18,279 cases; this is a decrease of 39% on the 30,069 cases in 2013. This decline is due to a change implemented in November 2013, in which responsibility for the majority of Civil Immigration and Asylum judicial review cases were transferred from the Administrative Court (within the High Court) to the Upper Tribunal for Immigration and Asylum Chamber (UTIAC). The majority of these cases (58%) related to the High Court.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has both a Commonwealth and a domestic jurisdiction. In its Commonwealth jurisdiction, which is by far the largest part of its work, it hears appeals from those independent Commonwealth countries which have retained the appeal to Her Majesty in Council or, in the case of Republics, to the Judicial Committee itself. It also hears appeals from the United Kingdom overseas territories\textsuperscript{14}. There were 55 appeals made to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in 2014 and 56 cases were disposed of during the same period. Of the appeals entered Mauritius entered the most, with 15 appeals.

The Supreme Court

The UK Supreme Court (UKSC) is the final court of appeal in the United Kingdom. In the UKSC in 2014, 247 petitions for permission to appeal were presented, and 233 were disposed of, of which 156 (67\%) were refused outright and the remainder (77) were allowed to proceed. (Tables 3.4 to 3.5). In the same year, 25 appeals were presented to the UKSC and 9 were disposed of, of which 2 were allowed. Of the civil appeals presented from the Court of Appeal disposed of, 18 related to Judicial Reviews, 7 to crime, and a further 6 related to Practice and Procedure.

\textsuperscript{14} By agreement with the Sultan of Brunei, the Committee can hear appeals from the Brunei Court of Appeal, but in civil cases only, and gives its advice to the Sultan.
The Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal is divided into two Divisions, Criminal and Civil (Tables 3.7 to 3.11). The Criminal Division hears appeals in criminal cases from the Crown Court. The Civil Division hears appeals mainly against decisions of the High Court and county courts, and also of tribunals and certain other courts, such as the Patents Court.

- Criminal Division

  During 2014, a total of 6,371 applications for leave to appeal were received, a 7% reduction on 2013, a continuing trend since 2008. Of these, 1,419 (22%) were against conviction in the Crown Court and 4,660 (73%) against the sentence imposed. There were 4,469 applications considered by a single judge in 2014 and of these 1,060 (24%) were granted.

- Civil Division

  In 2014, there were 1,269 appeals were filed in the Court of Appeal on civil cases, a 11% increase on the 1,142 in 2013. Of these, 224 (18%) related to the Queen's Bench Administrative Court, 187 (15%) related to the Chancery; and 179 (14%) to the County Court.

  In the same year 4,873 of the civil appeal applications were filed or set down, the highest number recorded since 1994. This was an increase of 14% on 2013. Of those cases filed or set down last year, 4,252 were disposed of, an increase of 10% on 2013.

The High Court

In England and Wales civil justice is administered mainly by the High Court and county courts (Chapter 1), the former handling the more substantial and complex cases. The High Court is divided into three main Divisions: the Chancery Division, the Queen’s Bench Division and the Family Division (Tables 3.12 to 3.24).

The core business of the Chancery Division is the resolution of disputes involving property in all its forms including commercial, business and intellectual property, competition disputes, taxation, and its traditional work relating to companies, partnerships, mortgages, insolvency, land and trusts.

The Queen’s Bench Division of the High Court deals mainly with civil actions in contract and tort (civil wrongs) and also hears more specialist matters, such as applications for judicial review. It contains within it the Commercial Court and the Admiralty Court, which deals with shipping matters such as damage to cargo. It also administers the Technology and Construction Court which hears cases involving prolonged examination of technical issues, such as construction disputes.

High court statistics relating to the family court are now published in the Family Court statistics bulletin. This can be found here: www.gov.uk/government/collections/family-court-statistics-quarterly
Bankruptcy Court

Bankruptcy is where an individual is unable to pay his or her debts. Proceedings are started with a petition for bankruptcy. There were 7,014 bankruptcy petitions applications files in the High Court in London last year, an decrease of 18% since 2013 (Table 3.16).

Companies Court

The Companies Court in London primarily deals with the compulsory liquidation of companies and other cases under the Insolvency Act 1986 and the Companies Acts. Unlike an individual, a company cannot be made bankrupt, but may, because of insolvenalty or if there is some other reason it should cease to exist, be wound up instead (Table 3.17).

There were 14,989 applications made in the Companies Court last year, a 4% increase on 2013, the first year on year increase following a two year downward trend, but still 31% below the 2009 peak. Of the applications made last year a total of 5,503 were filed for winding-up petitions in. There were also 2,942 winding-up orders made and a further 2,613 winding-up orders dismissed or withdrawn.

Queen’s Bench Division

Last year saw 13,142 proceedings started in the Queen’s Bench Division (Tables 3.19 to 3.24). This represents a small 1% increase from 2013. Of these 5,417 (41%) were issued at the Royal Courts of Justice in London and the remainder at the various High Court District Registries around the country.

The 5,417 proceedings issued at the Royal Courts of Justice included 1,449 relating to personal injury, which represents 27% of claims and is a 53% increase on 2013; 1,326 related to clinical negligence (24% of claims and a 17% increase on 2013) and 743 related to debt (14% of proceedings in 2014, a 28% decrease on 2013). Of the 5,417 proceedings issued at the Royal Courts of Justice, 60% had a claim value of over £50,000. This varied by type of proceeding, from 37% for other negligence to 72% for breach of contract.

Actions are normally started by way of a claim or an originating summons. A claim is the most common method and is used, for example, when a claim is based on an allegation of fraud or a civil wrong; it informs defendants what is claimed against them. An originating summons is used in certain cases, such as applications under specific Acts; it outlines the nature of the case.

If a defendant fails to respond to a claim, a claimant may be entitled to a judgment by default; there were 750 such judgments by default last year.

If a defendant responds any of the following may result:

- the claimant may discontinue the action;
the parties may reach agreement between themselves;

- the court may decide that the defendant has no real defence to the action and gives summary judgment; or,

- a trial takes place, in some circumstances with a jury.

Judgments of the Queen’s Bench Division may be enforced in many ways. By far the most common is the issuing of a writ of *fieri facias* (fi-fa). This directs the sheriff (the equivalent of the bailiff in the county courts) to seize, and if necessary, to sell the debtor’s goods to raise money to pay off the debt. There were 41,267 writs of fi-fa issued last year, a decrease of 9% on 2013.

**Admiralty Court**

The Admiralty Court is part of the Queen’s Bench Division and deals with a range of naval cases such as ship collisions and damage to cargo (Tables 3.25 to 3.27). There is one Admiralty Judge who hears all admiralty cases and a number of interlocutory cases. The Admiralty Marshal is responsible for the detention and sale of ships which are the subject of proceedings in the Admiralty Court. Last year 200 claims were issued in the Admiralty Court at the Royal Courts of Justice in London, a increase of 10% on 2013.

**Commercial Court**

The Commercial Court is part of the Queen’s Bench Division and is largely concerned with disputes around contracts, insurance, carriage of cargo and the construction of ships (table 3.28). Other cases dealt with at the Commercial Court include banking, international credit, contracts relating to aircraft, the purchase and sale of commodities and the practice of arbitration and questions arising from arbitrations. Some 1,085 claims were issued last year, a decrease of 19% on 2013. Of these, 21% related to arbitration applications and appeals, a further 20% related to general commercial contracts and arrangements, including agency agreements.

**Technology and construction court**

Cases dealt with at the Technology and Construction Court include building and engineering disputes, computer litigation, professional negligence, sale of goods, valuation disputes, and questions arising from arbitrations and adjudications in building and engineering disputes. The court also deals with any cases from the Chancery Division or elsewhere within the Queen’s Bench Division which involve issues or questions which are technically complex, or for which trial by judges at the court is for any reason desirable (table 3.29).

Last year a total of 478 claims were received in the Technology and Construction Court, an increase of only 3 cases on 2013. In addition, 307 claims were disposed of, a slight increase of 5 claims on the previous year.

**Administrative Court**

The Administrative Court is part of the High Court and has a supervisory and appellate jurisdiction, overseeing the legality of decisions and actions of
inferior courts, tribunals, local authorities, Ministers of the Crown and other public bodies and officials (Tables 3.30 and 3.31.) The role of the Administrative court includes the processing of Judicial Reviews, which is covered in more detail in chapter 2. Therefore the following summary of the administrative court workload is excluding the JR cases

Last year there were a total of 45 appeals received through the magistrates and crown courts (38 and 7 respectively), a 32% decrease on 2013 and the lowest number received since 2003. Of those received in 2014, 37 were disposed of, and in 41% of these cases of the appeals were allowed.

In other areas of the administrative court (excluding judicial reviews) there were a total of 1,908 appeals and applications received, a small 2% decrease on 2013. Of these cases 1,032 were disposed of and 43% of these cases were allowed by the court. 'Other statutory’ accounted for the highest number of appeals/application types, of which there were 1,651, down 6% from 2013. Statutory planning appeals/applications increased 24% to 206 in 2014, and 93 of these applications (45%) were disposed of at the time of publishing. Of those disposed, 84% were dismissed by the court and only 16% were allowed.
4: Offices of the Supreme Court

Offices of the official solicitor and public trustee

The Official Solicitor is a statutory office holder appointed by the Lord Chancellor section 90 of the Senior Courts Act 1981.

The Public Trustee (appointed under section 8 of the Public Trustee Act 1906) acts as executor or administrator of estates and as the appointed trustee of settlements. The Public Trustee's aim is to provide an effective executor and trustee service of last resort on a non-profit-making basis. (Table 4.1)

During 2014 there were 7,599 new referrals to the offices of the official solicitor and public trustee, 2,852 were cases of litigation, a 19% increase on 2013, the biggest drivers of this increase have been the court of protection, healthcare and welfare cases (286 cases). The remaining new referrals (4,747) were for administrative, trusts and estates cases, a 10% decrease on 2013. The largest reduction seen in these types of cases were for child trust funds, with 827 less new referrals in 2014 (a decrease of 66%). There was, however an increase of 31% in child abduction referral cases, to 1,206 referrals in 2014.

Tipstaff

The duties of the Tipstaff are many and varied but, in broad practical terms, the Tipstaff is the enforcement officer for the High Court. The principal areas of specific duties emanate from the Queen's Bench, Chancery and Family Divisions and involve issues of bankruptcy, insolvency, wardship, child abduction, contempt of court and many other miscellaneous orders which involve taking action to enforce, or prevent breach of, orders of the court.

The single biggest area of work for the Tipstaff relates to Family Division cases involving missing or abducted children. The Tipstaff is responsible for executing warrants on a range of possible Orders in these circumstances, including a Collection Order (for the return of a child), a Location Order (for the whereabouts of a child to be discovered), a Passport Order (for the seizure of passports or other travel documents) and Port Alerts (to prevent a child being wrongfully removed from the UK). (Table 4.2)

There were 566 new warrants of arrest issued in 2014, a slight increase on 2013. Child abduction alerts accounted for 504 (89%) of these new warrants.
5: The Judiciary

The divisional head of the judiciary is the Lord Chief who is also Head of
Criminal Justice. The Judiciary of England and Wales also includes Lord
Justices, high court judges, circuit judges, recorders, district judges and the
magistracy (justices of the peace). (Table 5.1 to 5.3)

During last year, there was a slight 1% increase on 2013 to a total of
272,615 days sat in courts or chambers by judges (excluding magistrates).
The number of days sat by high court and deputy high court judges
increased by 17% to 18,248 days, and the number of days sat by recorders
increased by 16% to 30,194 days. The total number of days sat by circuit
and deputy circuit judges decreased 3% to 112,762 days.

Figure 5.1: Judges sitting days by type of judge 2004 to 2014

In 2014, the Queens Bench and Chancery divisions saw the greatest
increases in days sat by judges, up 40% (6,051 days) and 38% (5,236 days)
when compared to 2013 respectively. The private division of the family court
had a 10% decrease in days sat – with a total number of days of 28,444.

Magistrates (Justices of the peace)

At the end of 2014/15 there were 19,351 Justices of the Peace (JPs), a fall
of 11% on 2013/14 (Tables 5.4 to 5.5). This may have been due to courts’
closures, bench mergers and a reduced workload going through the
magistrates’ courts. The proportion of men and women JPs was equal up to
2008 but since 2009 there have been slightly more women JPs than men.
At the end of 2014/15 53% of JPs were women.
Figure 5.2: Justices of the Peace workforce, by gender, 2004 to 2015

There were 458 new Justices of the Peace appointed in 2014/15, up 51% from the 2013/14 level. This is the first year on year rise since 2006/07. In 2006/07 the number of JPs appointed was broadly even across gender with 51% being men and 49% women. By 2014/15 these proportions had changed and men accounted for 40% of appointments and women for 60%.

Figure 8.3: Justices of the Peace appointed, by gender, 2004/05 to 2014/15

For information on judicial appointments please see: http://jac.judiciary.gov.uk/about-jac/diversity-data.htm
6: Assessment of litigation costs, and publicly funded legal services

Senior court costs office

The senior court costs office deals with the detailed assessment of costs. This is the process of examining and if, necessary, reducing the bill of costs of a solicitor or litigant in person. The purpose of detailed assessment is to either determine how much costs a successful party in litigation is entitled to recover from his unsuccessful opponent, or in publicly funded cases to determine the amount which a solicitor or barrister is to be paid out of public funds, and finally under the Solicitors’ Act to determine how much a client should have to pay his solicitor. (Table 6.1)

Last year a total number of 15,230 assessments were received in the senior court costs office, an increase of 23% compared to 2013. Of these assessments 47% were receivers in the court of protection and 30% were civil legal aid assessments.
Annex A: Planned upcoming changes to publication

We have reviewed the case progression estimates that are used in this publication and have produced a paper exploring alternative measures to the case progression estimates.

If you want to have your say on the proposed changes please email case.progression@justice.gsi.gov.uk. Please provide feedback on the proposed changes by 14 July 2015.

We are currently reviewing the data methodology undertaken to produce the civil country court figures for this publication, with the view to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the figures we produced. More information will be given in future publications on the progress of this work.
Annex B: List of Accompanying Tables and CSV

Accompanying this publication are the following tables:

**Chapter 1 - Civil Courts:**

1.1 County court activity, England and Wales, annually 2000 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.2 Number of claims issued in the county and magistrates' courts, by type of claim, England and Wales, annually 2000 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.3 Claims defended and allocations to track, England and Wales, annually 2000 – 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.4 Case progression in the county courts, England and Wales, annually 2009 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.5 Trials/small claim hearings, England and Wales, annually 2000 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.6 Number of trials and small claim hearings and the average time to reach trial/hearing, England and Wales, annually 2000 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2009 – Q1 2015

1.7 Number of defended claims by case type and details of legal representation, England and Wales, annually 2013 - 2014, quarterly Q1 2013 – Q1 2015

**Chapter 2 - Judicial Reviews in the Administrative Court:**

2.1 Number of case applications for permission to apply for Judicial Review by topic, at the Administrative Court, 2000 - Q1 2015

2.2 Case Progression: number of Judicial Review cases that reach permission stage, oral renewal stage and final hearing by cases lodged, at the Administrative Court, 2000 - Q1 2015

2.3 Timeliness (in days) of Judicial Review cases started at the Administrative Court, by staged reached, 2000 - Q1 2015

2.4 Number of Judicial Reviews at the Administrative Court classed as ‘Totally Without Merit’ between 1 October 2012 to 31 March 2015

2.5 Number of Judicial Review applications lodged, granted permission to proceed to final hearing and found in favour of the claimant at final hearing, by defendant department or public body, 2007 to 2014
Chapter 3 – The appellate courts:

3.1 Summary statistics on overall caseload, 1938 – 2014

Judicial Committee of the Privy Council

3.2 Appeals entered and disposed of, 2003 – 2014

3.3 Petitions for special leave to appeal heard, granted and refused, 2003 – 2014

Supreme Court

3.4 Applications for permission to appeal presented and disposed of, 2009 – 2014

3.5 Appeals presented and disposed of, 2009 – 2014

House of Lords and Supreme Court

3.6 Civil appeals presented from the Court of Appeal, disposed of by judgment, by subject matter, 2003 – 2014

Court of Appeal

3.7 Applications for leave to appeal, by type and result, 1995 – 2014

3.8 Results of appeals heard by full court, 1995 – 2014

3.9 Final appeals filed and disposed of, showing court appealed from and results, 2003 -2014

3.10 Interlocutory appeals filed and disposed of, showing court appealed from and results, 2003 – 2014

3.11 Applications set down and disposed of, 1994 – 2014

The High Court – Chancery Division

3.12 Summary of proceedings started, 2003 – 2014


3.15 Cases listed in London disposed of, by listing type, 2003 – 2014

3.16 Originating proceedings in Bankruptcy court, 2003 – 2014


3.18 Appeals and special cases from inferior courts and tribunals set down and determined, showing subject matter and results, 2003 – 2014

High Court – Queens Bench Division

3.19 Summary statistics on proceedings started, 2003 – 2014

3.20 Proceedings started, by nature and value of claim, 2003 – 2014

3.21 Judgment without trial, by type and value of judgment, 2003 -2014

3.22 Originating receipts and trials concluded in the year, 2005 – 2014

3.23 Interlocutory applications for masters in London, 2006 -2014

Admiralty Court
3.27 Admiralty actions for trial in the High Court set down, tried or otherwise disposed of, 2003 -2014

Commercial Court
3.28 Claims issued showing nature and value of claim, 2009 -2014

Technology and construction court

High Court – Administrative Court
3.30 Summary statistics on appeals by way of case stated, 2014
3.31 Summary statistics on applications and appeals other than for Judicial Review or by way of case stated, 2014

Chapter 4 - Offices of the Supreme Court
4.1 Summary casework statistics, 2006 – 2014
4.2 Casework statistics, 2010 – 2014

Chapter 5 - The Judiciary and Magistracy
5.1 Days sat by judge type, 2003 – 2014
5.2 Days sat by judge type showing type of work dealt with, 2003 – 2014
5.3 Days sat by HMCTS region, 2003 – 2014
5.4 Justices of the Peace, by sex, 1978 – 2014
5.5 Justices of the Peace appointed, by sex, 1990 – 2014/15

Chapter 6- Assessment of litigation costs, and publicly funded legal services

Senior Court Cost Office
6.1 Number of costs bills assessed, by type of case giving rise to the bill, 2003 – 2014

Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and Supreme Court of the United Kingdom
6.2 Number of costs bills assessed and their total and average allowed values, 2003 - 2014
There are also a number of csv files that support this publication, these include:

- Civil Courts national and court level workload activity data
- Civil Courts national and court level case progression data
- National Administrative Court Judicial review data (anonymised case level dataset).
Annex C: Explanatory notes

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics (excluding the Privacy Injunctions) as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics, it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

Breakdowns of many of the summary figures presented in this bulletin, such as split by case type or by HMCTS area, are available in the comma separated value (csv) files that accompany this publication.

In the civil section of the publication the terminology ‘hearings or trials’ had previously been used to describe civil claims reaching this stage. From this publication onwards we will be using the term ‘trials’, as this is a more accurate reflection of what the figures are representing. This does not change the historical or current figures reported.

Data Quality and Revisions

An initial revision to the statistics for the latest quarter may be made when the next edition of this bulletin is published. Further revisions may be made when the figures are reconciled at the end of the year. If revisions are needed in the subsequent year, these will be clearly annotated in the tables.

Additional revisions have been made in this publication to the quarterly claims and defences figures for 2014. The claims figures have been revised to omit a small number of family cases, recently collected via the Civil Court Case Management system. These figures will be incorporated into the Family Justice Statistics Quarterly publication. The defence figures have also been revised to reflect changes to the format of the case number used by the County Court Bulk Centre that came into effect from Q1 2014. For this release these figures remain as provisional. Further analysis is being carried out on the impact of the change which may lead to a further revision to this series in the next release in September.

As the non-representation figures (table 1.7) are based on the defence stage of a claim, the 2014 figures for this section have also been revised and are currently provisional.

The Judicial Review figures are taken from the Administrative Court Office COINS database As the Judicial Review figures are extracted from this live
database, all figures are refreshed each quarter and therefore there are minor revisions between the information presented here and earlier data. The ‘defendant type’ variable is derived from the free text field ‘defendant name’ and is therefore open to inputting/human error and subject to correction by a Judge when determining the claim. The defendant name was then grouped into department/public body where possible to identify and this was down to the interpretation of the analysts. Although we have checked and cleansed the data for publication, the quality of the information in this section is limited and should be used with caution.

**Symbols and conventions**

The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

- .. = Not applicable
- - = Between zero and two. Low numbers are suppressed to stop individuals being identified
- (r) = Revised data
- (p) = Provisional data

**Further information**

Earlier editions of this publication can be found at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/civil-justice-statistics-quarterly

Statistics on Tribunals (including Judicial Reviews dealt with by the UTIAC) can be found at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/tribunals-statistics

Information on Civil County Court Mortgage and Landlord Possession Statistics can be found at:

Information on publicly funding legal services is now published by the Legal Aid Agency and can be found here:
Contacts

Press enquiries on the contents of this bulletin should be directed to the MoJ or HMCTS press offices:

**Hugo Biggs**  
Tel: 020 3334 3514  
Email: hugo.biggs@justice.gsi.gov.uk

**Zoe Campbell**  
Tel: 020 3334 6698  
Email: zoe.campbell@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to the Justice Statistics Analytical Services division of the MoJ:

**Bridgette Miles**  
Ministry of Justice  
102 Petty France  
London  
SW1H 9AJ  
Email: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries about the statistics work of the MoJ can be emailed to statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

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