



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **the Attorney General**

**Report on the  
Fines Enforcement Registry  
2007/08 to 2011/12**

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## About this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the work carried out by the Fines Enforcement Registry. A number of different statistics have been included that illustrate different aspects of the fine enforcement process. Care must be taken in interpreting these statistics. It is NOT possible to compare one indicator with another as the methods of counting are not aligned.

Separate counting rules that best illustrate the work of the Registry are utilised for each statistic. Please read the counting rules on each page to help interpret the data.

The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) was established in 1995 as the Government agency responsible for administering the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 (FPINE). FER remains a Court of the Magistrates Court of Western Australia, so that while it is an administrative system, it remains part of the judicial process.

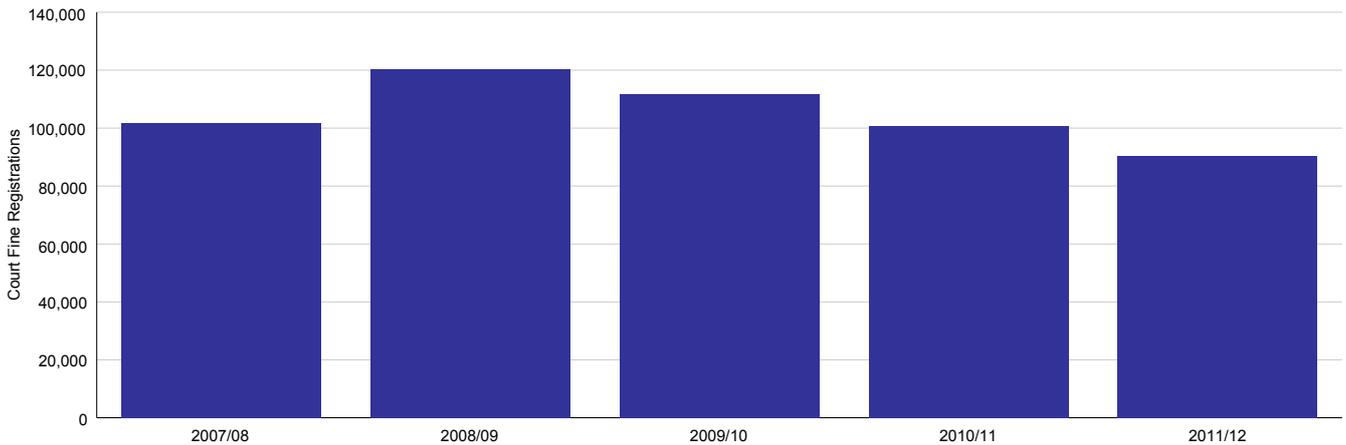
Fines are the most frequently used penalty in the Justice system of Western Australia. As well as fines resulting from charges brought before courts, infringement notices are issued by various authorities such as Police and Local Governments for a range of offences including traffic and parking.

### **Main objectives of the Fines Enforcement System are:**

- Reduce the rate of imprisonment of fine defaulters;
- Restore the integrity of the fine as a viable sentencing option;
- Release police officers from the collection of unpaid fines to enable them to concentrate on core police duties;
- Improve rate of collection of unpaid fines;
- Decrease the cost of fines enforcement to the state; and
- Inform Offenders on the need for action on their part.

## Court Fine Registrations

### Court Fine Registrations (Last 5 Years)

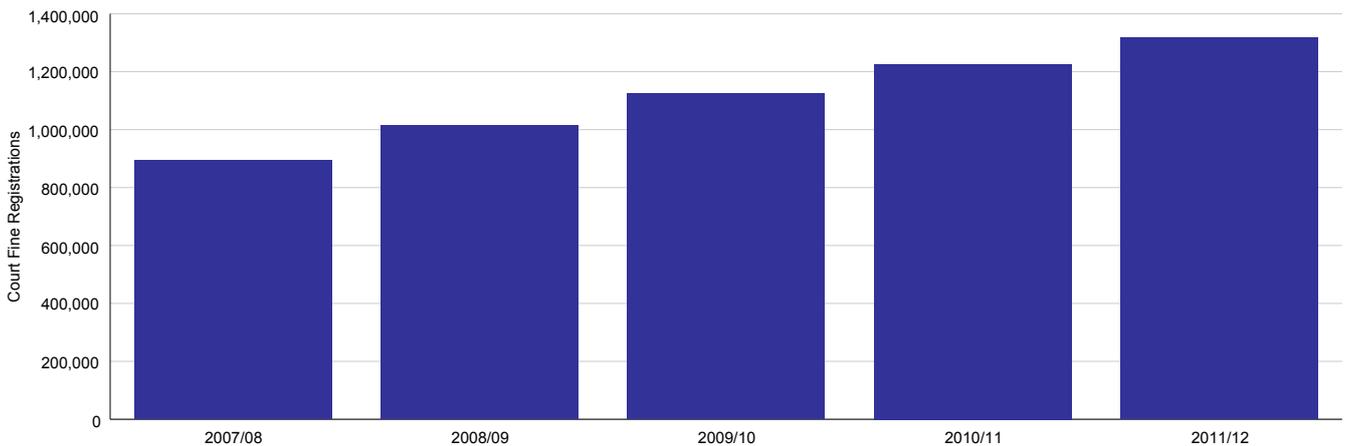


	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fine Registrations	101,883	120,362	111,596	100,794	90,352	-10.4%	-11.3%

**Counting Rules:**

- (a) A single count consists of one unpaid Court Fine lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry. This counts number of fines, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are lodgments per year.

### Cumulative Court Fine Registrations (Since 1995)



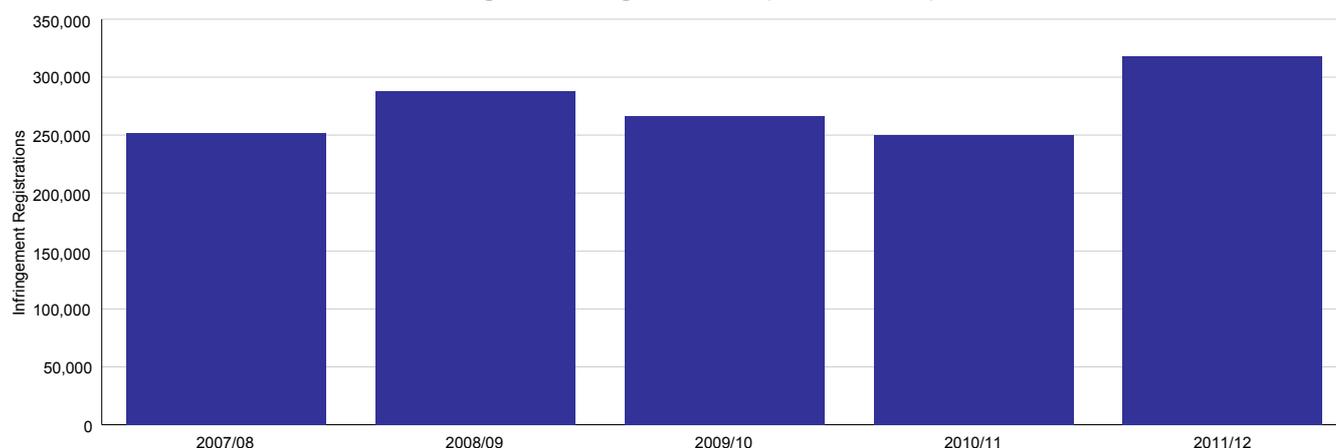
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fine Registrations	893,097	1,013,459	1,125,055	1,225,849	1,316,201	7.4%	47.4%

**Counting Rules:**

- (a) A single count consists of one unpaid Court Fine lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry. This counts number of fines, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are the cumulative lodgments from January 1995 to the end of each period. (e.g. For the 2008 calendar year, the cumulative lodgments are counted from January 1995 to December 2008).
- (c) The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) commenced operations on 1 January 1995 when the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 was proclaimed. FER is the Government agency responsible for administering the legislation.

## Infringement Registrations

### Infringement Registrations (Last 5 Years)

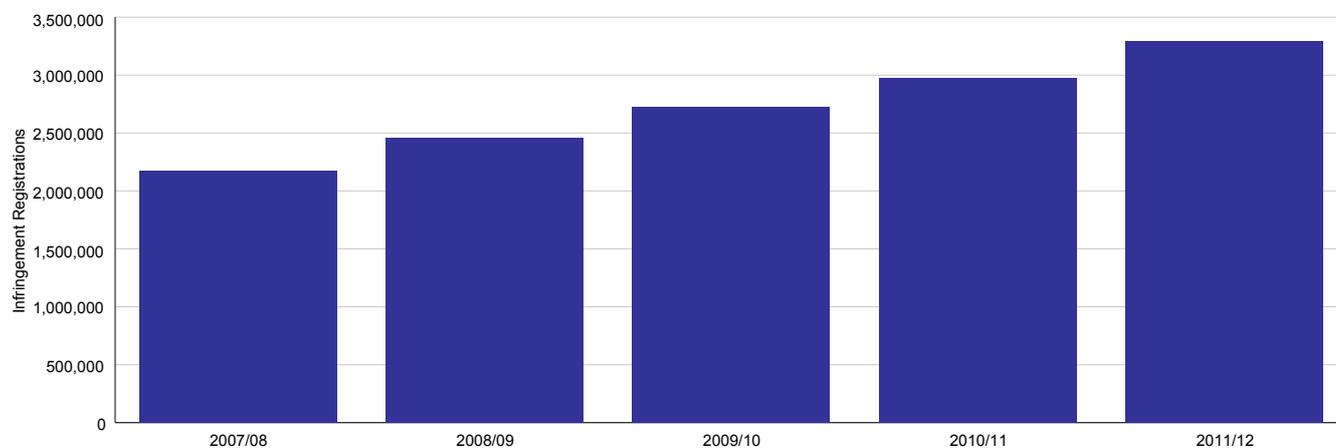


Infringement Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Cannabis Infringements	1,489	948	1,312	1,613	458	-71.6%	-69.2%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	72,470	66,096	55,107	80,984	131,636	62.5%	81.6%
Other Infringements	178,033	220,760	209,745	167,196	186,100	11.3%	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>251,992</b>	<b>287,804</b>	<b>266,164</b>	<b>249,793</b>	<b>318,194</b>	<b>27.4%</b>	<b>26.3%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one unpaid Infringement lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry. This counts number of Infringements, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are lodgments per year.

### Cumulative Infringement Registrations (Since 1995)



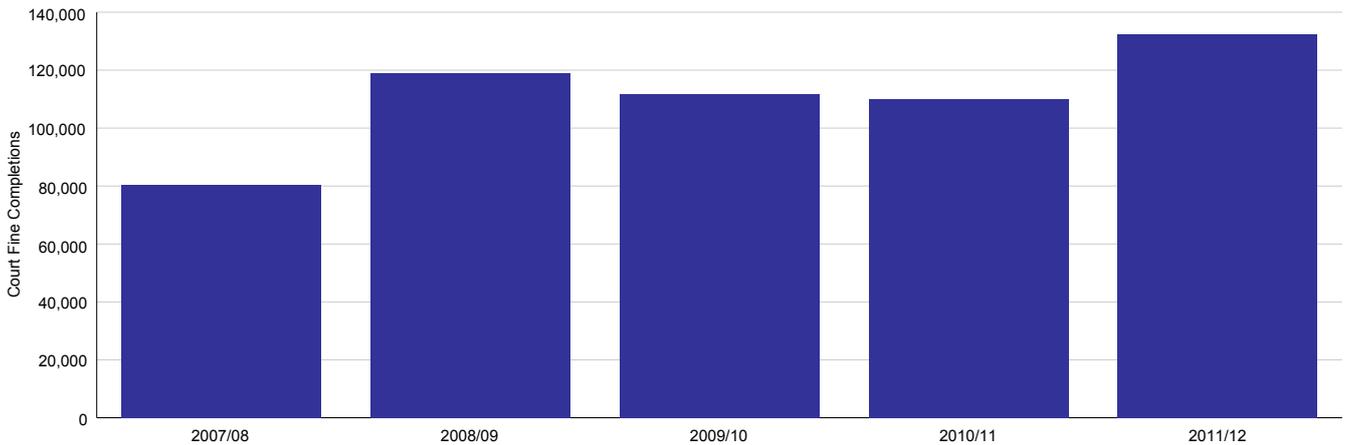
Infringement Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Cannabis Infringements	6,647	7,595	8,907	10,520	10,978	4.4%	65.2%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	671,597	737,693	792,800	873,784	1,005,420	15.1%	49.7%
Other Infringements	1,495,867	1,716,627	1,926,372	2,093,568	2,279,668	8.9%	52.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,174,111</b>	<b>2,461,915</b>	<b>2,728,079</b>	<b>2,977,872</b>	<b>3,296,066</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>51.6%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one unpaid Infringement lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry. This counts number of Infringements, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are the cumulative lodgments from January 1995 to the end of each period. (e.g. For the 2008 calendar year, the cumulative lodgments are counted from January 1995 to December 2008).
- (c) The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) commenced operations on 1 January 1995 when the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 was proclaimed. FER is the Government agency responsible for administering the legislation.

## Court Fine Completions

### Court Fine Completions (Last 5 Years)

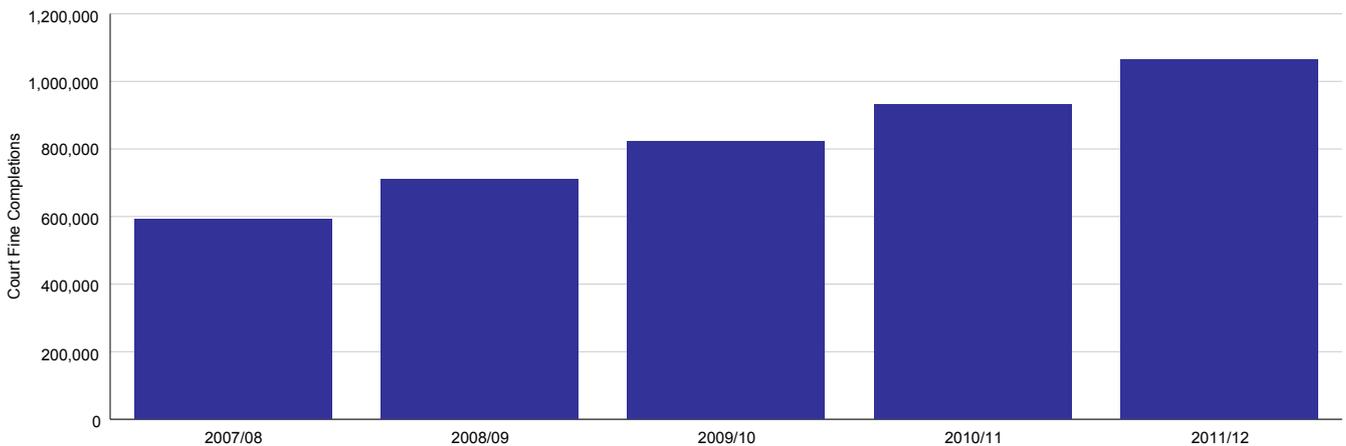


	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fine Completions	80,486	119,067	111,847	109,883	132,288	20.4%	64.4%

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one finalised Court Fine. This counts number of fines, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are finalisations per year.

### Cumulative Court Fine Completions (Since 1995)



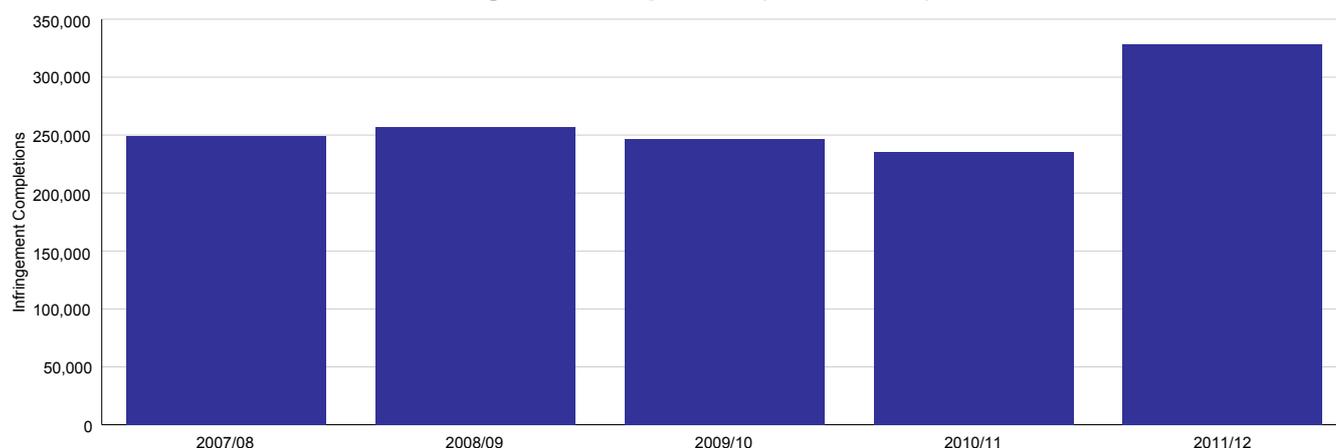
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Cumulative Court Fine Completions	591,159	710,226	822,073	931,956	1,064,244	14.2%	80.0%

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one finalised Court Fine. This counts number of fines, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are the cumulative finalisations from January 1995 to the end of each period. (e.g. For the 2008 calendar year, the cumulative finalisations are counted from January 1995 to December 2008).
- (c) The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) commenced operations on 1 January 1995 when the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 was proclaimed. FER is the Government agency responsible for administering the legislation.

## Infringement Completions

### Infringement Completions (Last 5 Years)

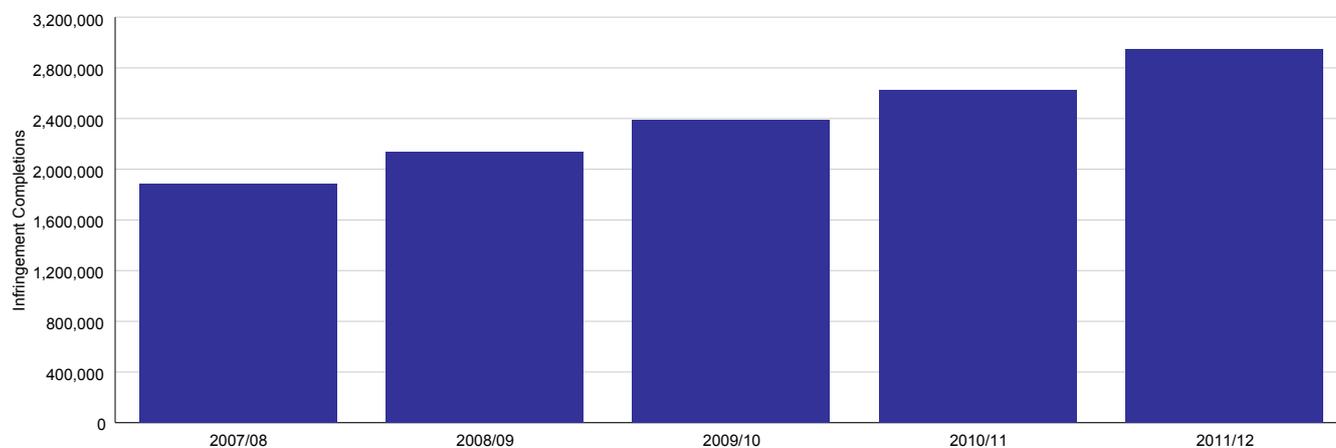


Infringement Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Cannabis Infringements	968	1,233	1,316	1,170	1,261	7.8%	30.3%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	65,589	64,414	58,640	67,570	107,999	59.8%	64.7%
Other Infringements	182,606	191,051	186,404	166,875	219,536	31.6%	20.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>249,163</b>	<b>256,698</b>	<b>246,360</b>	<b>235,615</b>	<b>328,796</b>	<b>39.5%</b>	<b>32.0%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one finalised Infringement. This counts number of Infringements, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are finalisations per year.

### Cumulative Infringement Completions (Since 1995)



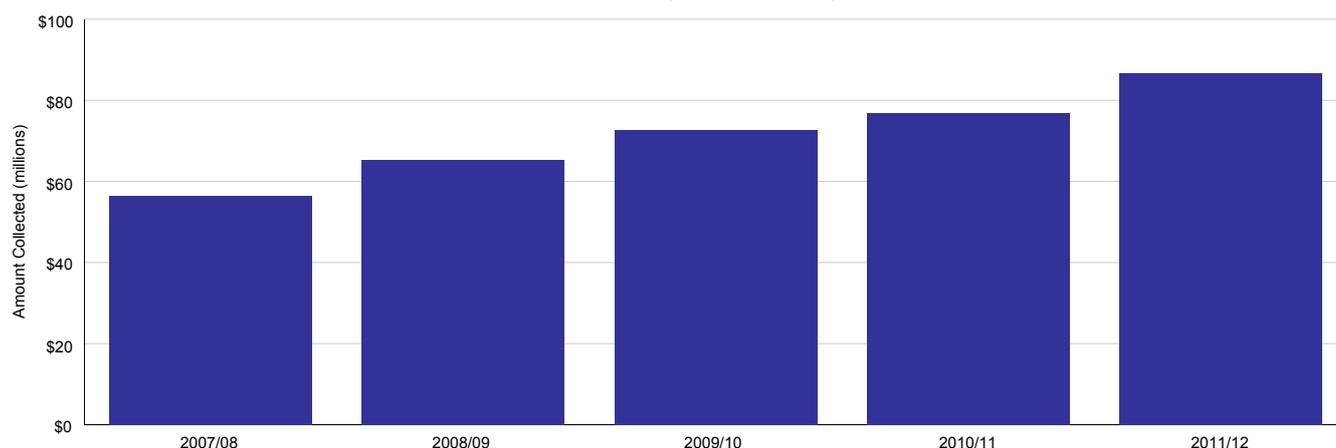
Infringement Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Cannabis Infringements	2,994	4,227	5,543	6,713	7,974	18.8%	166.3%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	608,572	672,986	731,626	799,196	907,195	13.5%	49.1%
Other Infringements	1,271,654	1,462,705	1,649,109	1,815,984	2,035,520	12.1%	60.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,883,220</b>	<b>2,139,918</b>	<b>2,386,278</b>	<b>2,621,893</b>	<b>2,950,689</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>56.7%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) A single count consists of one finalised Infringement. This counts number of Infringements, not people.
- (b) The figures shown are the cumulative finalisations from January 1995 to the end of each period. (e.g. For the 2008 calendar year, the cumulative finalisations are counted from January 1995 to December 2008).
- (c) The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) commenced operations on 1 January 1995 when the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 was proclaimed. FER is the Government agency responsible for administering the legislation.

## Collections

### Collections (Last 5 Years)

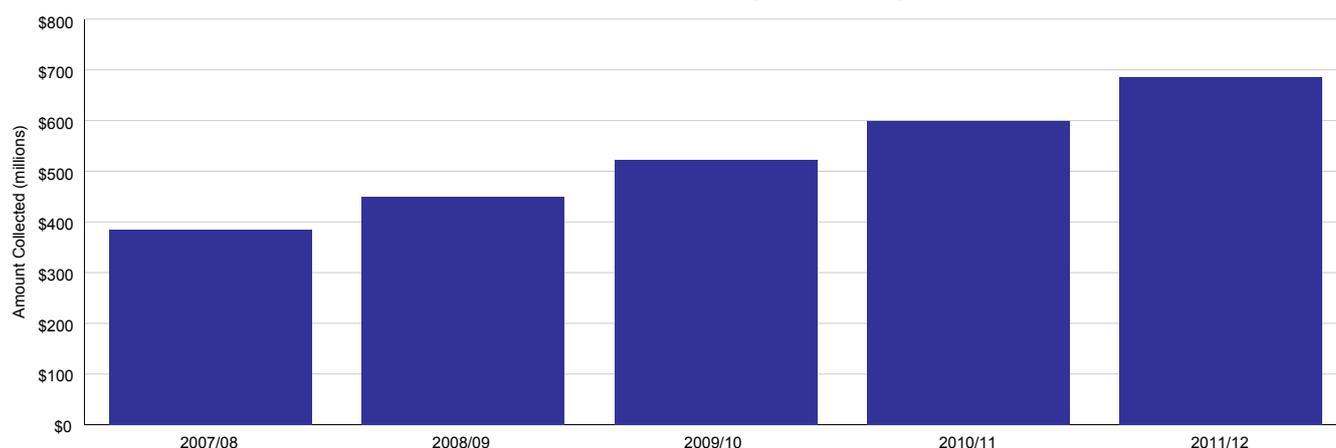


Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	\$19,807,159	\$23,718,581	\$28,386,192	\$31,279,499	\$32,040,203	2.4%	61.8%
Infringements	\$36,675,957	\$41,558,871	\$44,205,141	\$45,488,735	\$54,592,484	20.0%	48.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,483,116</b>	<b>\$65,277,452</b>	<b>\$72,591,333</b>	<b>\$76,768,234</b>	<b>\$86,632,687</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>53.4%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

(a) All payments, part or full, received on Court Fines and Infringements registered with the Fines Enforcement Registry.

### Cumulative Collections (Since 1995)



Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	\$138,228,098	\$161,946,679	\$190,332,871	\$221,612,370	\$253,652,573	14.5%	83.5%
Infringements	\$245,823,635	\$287,382,506	\$331,587,647	\$377,076,382	\$431,668,866	14.5%	75.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$384,051,733</b>	<b>\$449,329,185</b>	<b>\$521,920,518</b>	<b>\$598,688,752</b>	<b>\$685,321,439</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>78.4%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

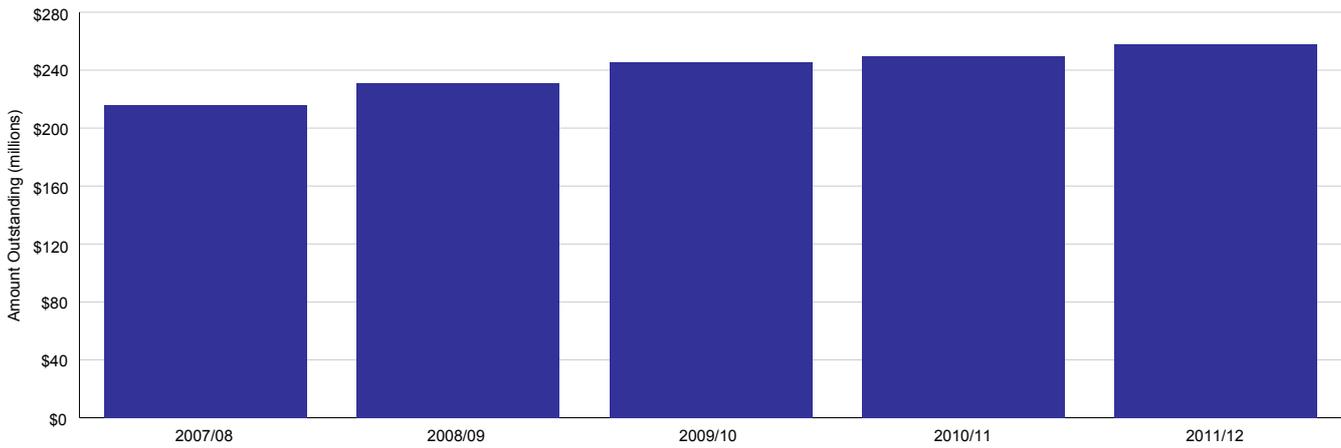
(a) All payments, part or full, received on Court Fines and Infringements registered with the Fines Enforcement Registry.

(b) The figures shown are the cumulative total collections from January 1995 to the end of each period. (e.g. For the 2008 calendar year, the cumulative collection amount is the total from January 1995 to December 2008).

(c) The Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) commenced operations on 1 January 1995 when the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 was proclaimed. FER is the Government agency responsible for administering the legislation.

## Amount Outstanding

### Amount Outstanding (Last 5 Years)

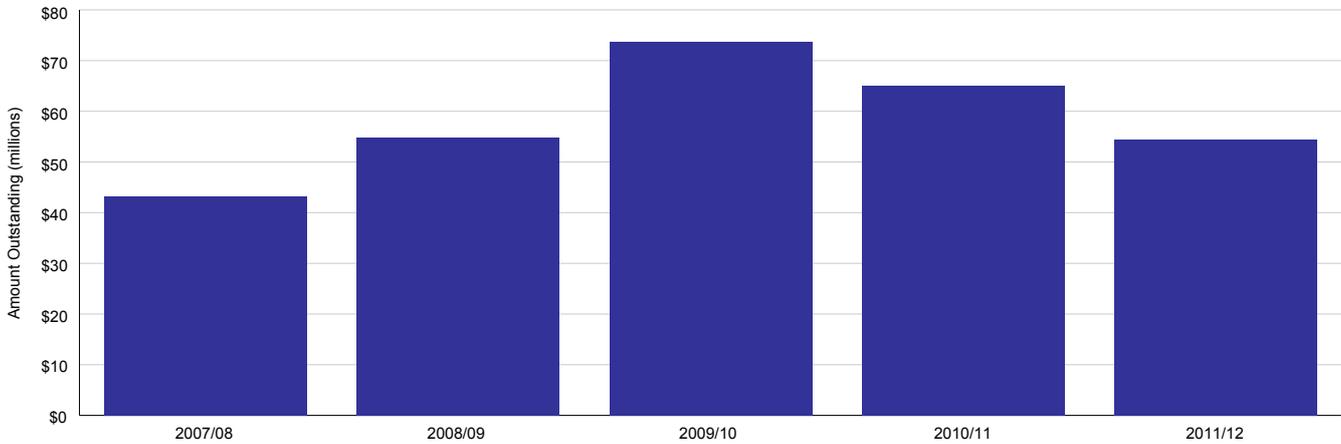


Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	\$138,761,022	\$148,239,546	\$155,739,905	\$154,447,783	\$154,017,991	-0.3%	11.0%
Cannabis Infringements	\$671,394	\$618,874	\$627,031	\$700,735	\$565,338	-19.3%	-15.8%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	\$14,891,117	\$15,695,787	\$15,565,145	\$18,728,365	\$24,975,942	33.4%	67.7%
Other Infringements	\$61,671,620	\$66,138,015	\$73,587,174	\$75,809,464	\$78,053,044	3.0%	26.6%
Interstate Request For Enforcement	\$3,610	\$2,790	\$2,126	\$2,126	\$0	-100.0%	-100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$215,998,763</b>	<b>\$230,695,012</b>	<b>\$245,521,380</b>	<b>\$249,688,473</b>	<b>\$257,612,314</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

(a) The amount outstanding is the total amount yet to be paid on incomplete cases, as at the end of the last month in each period shown.

### Amount Outstanding on Time to Pay (Last 5 Years)



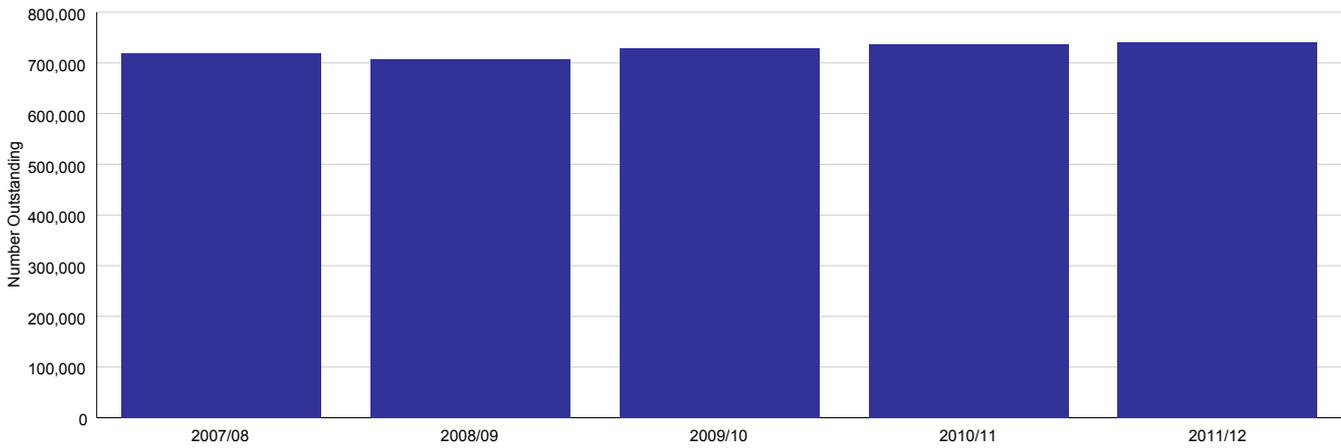
Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	\$27,866,756	\$35,019,833	\$48,981,118	\$42,056,368	\$31,020,443	-26.2%	11.3%
Cannabis Infringements	\$122,083	\$141,360	\$171,958	\$150,424	\$73,939	-50.8%	-39.4%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	\$3,247,811	\$4,011,044	\$4,825,105	\$4,909,699	\$6,688,625	36.2%	105.9%
Other Infringements	\$12,039,566	\$15,619,107	\$19,695,880	\$17,871,385	\$16,667,880	-6.7%	38.4%
Interstate Request For Enforcement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$43,276,216</b>	<b>\$54,791,343</b>	<b>\$73,674,061</b>	<b>\$64,987,876</b>	<b>\$54,450,886</b>	<b>-16.2%</b>	<b>25.8%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

(a) The amount outstanding on Time to Pay is the total amount yet to be paid on incomplete cases that were on Time to Pay Arrangements, as at the end of the last month in each period shown.

## Number of Cases Outstanding

### Number Outstanding (Last 5 Years)

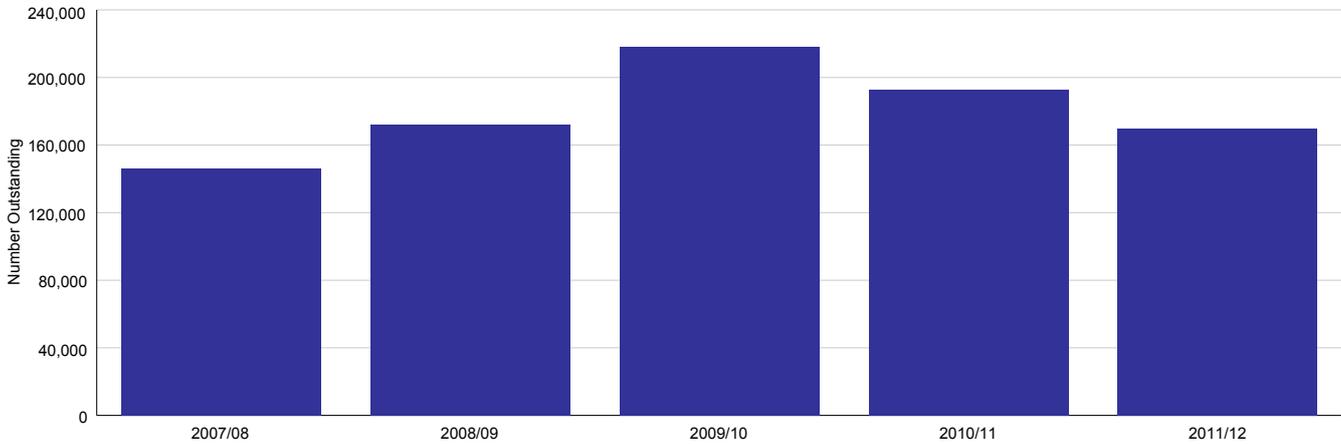


Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	276,840	268,660	267,929	258,950	251,204	-3.0%	-9.3%
Cannabis Infringements	3,636	3,342	3,339	3,793	3,003	-20.8%	-17.4%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	77,788	75,257	71,978	85,734	112,864	31.6%	45.1%
Other Infringements	360,610	360,622	385,620	388,384	374,368	-3.6%	3.8%
Interstate Request For Enforcement	105	91	75	75	1	-98.7%	-99.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>718,979</b>	<b>707,972</b>	<b>728,941</b>	<b>736,936</b>	<b>741,440</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

- (a) The number outstanding is the total number of incomplete cases, as at the end of the last month in each period shown.

### Number Outstanding on Time to Pay (Last 5 Years)



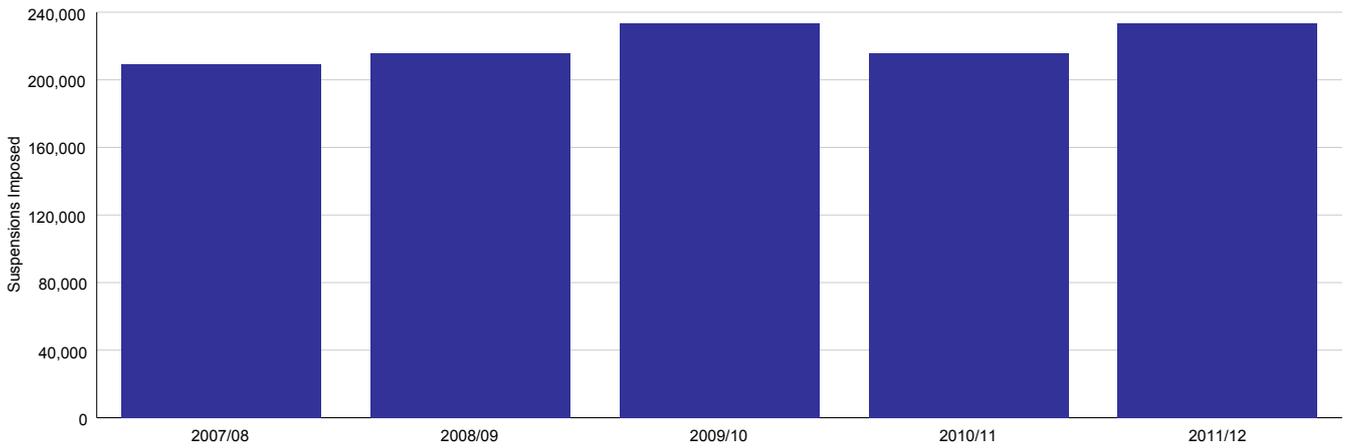
Fine Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Court Fines	57,135	68,500	90,974	76,720	55,683	-27.4%	-2.5%
Cannabis Infringements	700	808	971	878	423	-51.8%	-39.6%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	18,126	20,674	23,550	24,262	32,781	35.1%	80.9%
Other Infringements	70,055	82,361	102,795	90,846	80,984	-10.9%	15.6%
Interstate Request For Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>146,016</b>	<b>172,343</b>	<b>218,290</b>	<b>192,706</b>	<b>169,871</b>	<b>-11.8%</b>	<b>16.3%</b>

#### Counting Rules:

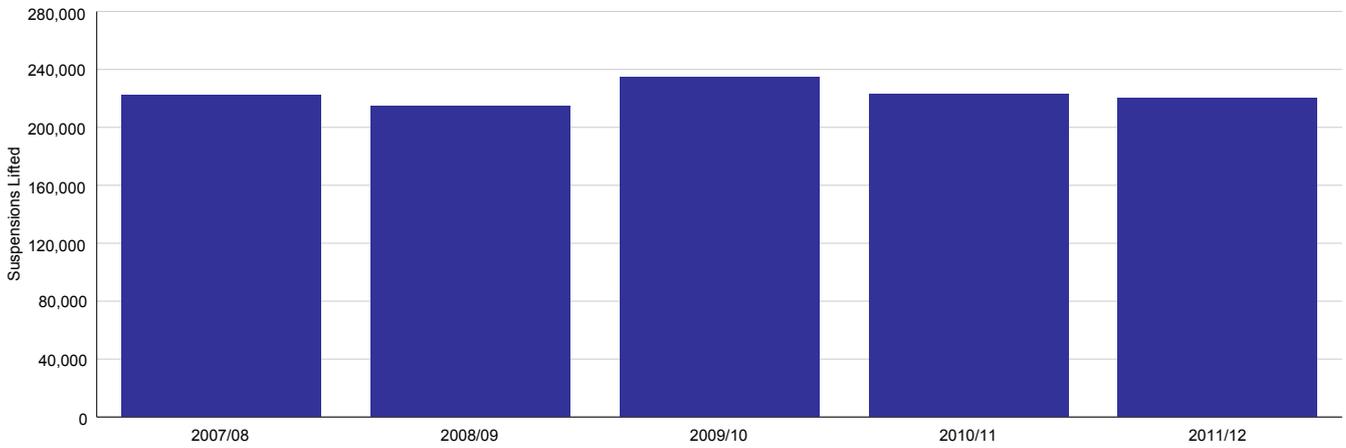
- (a) The number outstanding on Time to Pay is the total number of incomplete cases that were on Time to Pay Arrangements, as at the end of the last month in each period shown.

## Licence Suspensions

### Driver's Licence Suspensions Imposed (Last 5 Years)



### Driver's Licence Suspensions Lifted (Last 5 Years)



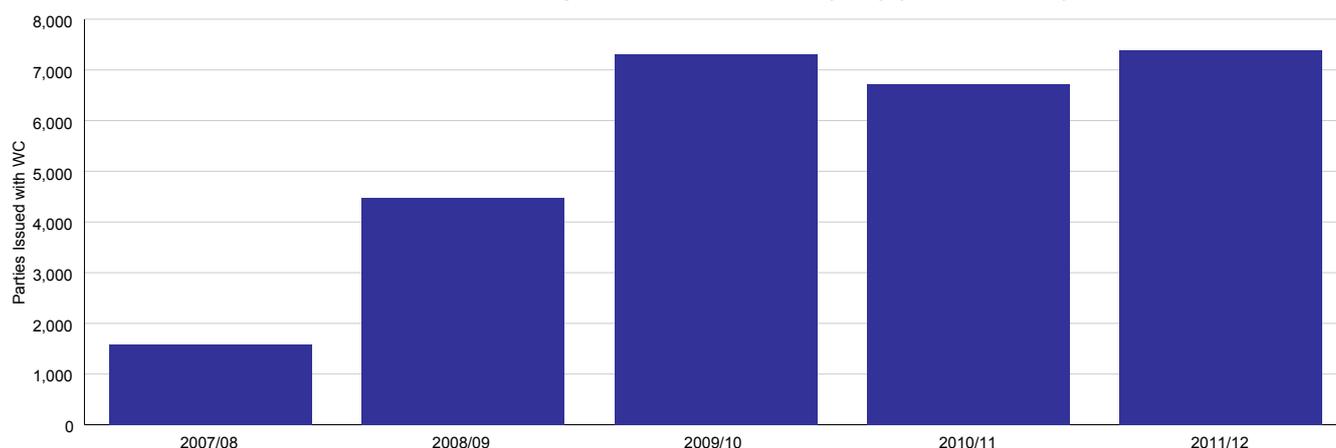
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Driver's Licence Suspensions Imposed	209,513	215,673	233,251	215,822	233,575	8.2%	11.5%
Driver's Licence Suspensions Lifted	222,369	214,717	234,634	223,061	220,267	-1.3%	-0.9%

**Counting Rules:**

(a) Driver's Licence suspensions are counted on a case basis, meaning a Driver's Licence can be suspended multiple times if a Party has multiple cases that reach a suspended status.

## Warrants of Commitment

### Parties Issued with Imprisonment Warrant (WC) (Last 5 Years)



	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Parties Issued with WC	1,591	4,473	7,303	6,717	7,391	10.0%	364.6%

#### Counting Rules:

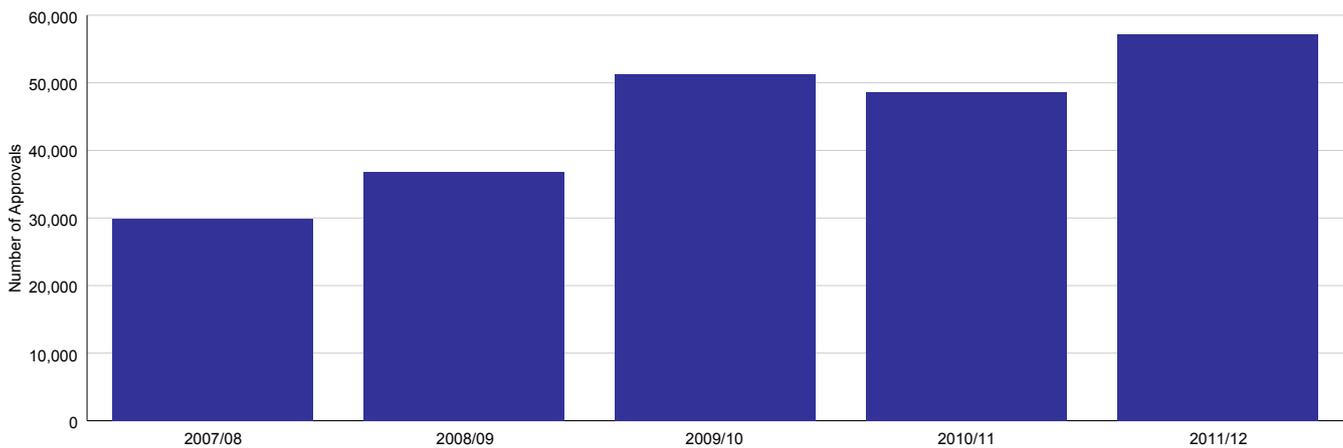
- (a) Counted as the number of entities that have had imprisonment warrants issued during each period shown.
- (b) Warrants are issued for Court Fines only.
- (c) A Warrant of Commitment is the final sanction and is the absolute last resort employed by FER. It is issued to offenders who do not respond to any of the less punitive fines enforcement sanctions. Upon being arrested on a warrant of commitment the offender must either pay in full, or serve the prescribed number of days in default (currently \$250 per day).
- (d) Data on actual imprisonment for fine default should be obtained from the Department of Corrective Services.

#### Footnotes:

- During 2005, the Minister required a review of all outstanding warrants, as the overall imprisonment rate was increasing rapidly;
- In 2005-2008, a dedicated Case Management Team (CMT) within the Fines Enforcement Registry reviewed all warrants and offenders associated, with a view to make a final attempt at engaging the offenders into time to pay or work and development rather than imprisonment; and
- In 2008 & 2009, those offenders where the CMT attempts had failed, had their warrants reissued. Additionally, the legislation was amended to allow concurrent default rather than cumulative, and as a consequence a number of offenders sought to expiate their outstanding fines whilst serving sentences.

## Time to Pay Approvals

**Time to Pay Approvals (Last 5 Years)**



	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Years
Time to Pay Approvals	29,916	36,798	51,346	48,557	57,219	17.8%	91.3%

**Counting Rules:**

- (a) Counted as the number of "Time to Pay" applications approved and activated during each period shown.
- (b) A "Time To Pay" is an arrangement with the Fines Enforcement Registry that allows fine defaulters to pay off fines in instalments. Instalment amounts are set by the Fines Enforcement Registry in consultation with the fine defaulter and designed to enable regular payments without the penalty of a driver's licence suspension.

***As well as our FOI and annual reporting responsibilities, the Department has now committed to regularly publishing a wide range of statistics relating to the operation of its various business areas.***

***The Department receives requests from media outlets on a daily basis for customised statistics, which may be beyond the scope of this statistics package.***

***All media requests for customised figures are considered individually and the Department will generally supply such information only where the***

- information is stored in a way that it is easily retrievable; and***
- amount of work required to compile and supply customised information is not unreasonable.***