

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 147

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2007:

What number of appeals to the High Court result from Federal Court decisions?

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

The Federal Court does not keep a record of the number of appeals to the High Court which result from Federal Court decisions. It relies on the records of the High Court in this regard.

According to the annual report of the High Court of Australia for 2005-06:

- in 2004-05, 18 appeals from judgments of the Federal Court were filed in the High Court.
- in 2005-06, 15 appeals from judgments of the Federal Court were filed in the High Court.

It should be noted that appeals from most judgments of the Federal Court can not be filed in the High Court without a grant of special leave by the High Court (section 33 *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* (Cth)).