

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

Question No. 15

Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 18 November 2013:

Senator SINGH: How many applications have you received in the last financial year relating to family violence? How does that compare with the previous year?

Mr Foster: I would have to take the numbers on notice. I do not have those exact numbers for the total year. But I can say that notices of child abuse or risk of family violence filed between 2008-09 and 2012-13 were, for 2008-09, 441; for 2009-10, 440; for 2010-11, 335; for 2011-12, 334; and, since the changed definition of family violence in 2012-13, the numbers went up to 403. We are expecting that number to increase in this financial year. But I do not have those figures today. The past numbers I cited are contained on page 57 of the Family Court's annual report.

Senator SINGH: You will take the rest of that on notice?

Mr Foster: I will.

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

Please see the table below.

Jurisdiction: Family Court of Australia

Casetrack Process:Lodge Notice of Child Abuse or Risk of Family Violence

Filings - Family Violence Notices filed							
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13*	2013-14 Oct YTD**	2013-14 projected
Notice of Child Abuse or Risk of Family Violence	441	440	335	334	403	160	480
% of Cases (Final orders)	11.5%	11.9%	10.3%	10.2%	14.4%	15.8%	15.8%

Source: Discoverer filing report (or Intranet filings report)

*On 1 July 2012, new definitions and rules on Family Violence were enacted.

** - Figures as at 31 October 2013

