

## County courts (non family)

### Key findings for 2007

- The total number of civil (non-family) cases started in 2007 was 2,015,000, a decrease of 8% from 2006.
- The total number of mortgage repossession claims issued in 2007 was 138,000, an increase of 5% from 2006. The number of landlord possession claims decreased by 8% compared with 2006.
- The number of "money" claims with specified claim amounts in 2007 was 1,411,000, a decrease of 10% from 2006. 41% of these claims had a claim value of not more than £500, down from 49% in 2006.
- The number of defences was 16% greater and the number of allocations to track 12% more than in 2006.
- There were 18,400 trials, a 4% rise on 2006, and 53,200 small claim hearings, a 14% increase on 2006.
- Trials took place on average 49 weeks following issue, down from 50 weeks in 2006, while small claim hearings took place 28 weeks following issue, up from 27 weeks in 2006.
- The total number of properties repossessed by bailiffs was 54,000, a decrease of 7% from 2006. 21,000 properties related to mortgage repossession cases approximately equal to 2006.
- The number of charging orders to obtain security for a payment against a property owned by a debtor increased by 45% compared with 2006, 901% higher than in 2000.

## Chapter 4: County courts (non family)

The vast majority of civil (non family) proceedings take place in the county courts, all of which have jurisdiction to deal with contract and tort cases and recovery of land actions. In addition, some county courts deal with bankruptcy and insolvency matters, equity and contested probate actions (where the value of the trust, fund or estate does not exceed £30,000), matters under the Race Relations Act 1976, and actions which all parties agree to have heard in a County Court (e.g. defamation cases). Generally, only the most complex, substantial or important cases are dealt with by the High Court.

Most county courts are assigned at least one Circuit Judge and one District Judge. Circuit Judges generally hear cases worth over £15,000 or involving greater importance or complexity. They also hear many of the cases worth over £5,000 but not over £15,000. In addition to hearing other cases, District Judges generally case manage proceedings, deal with repossession matters, and make uncontested assessments of damages.

A new table has been added showing the number of repossessions of property by bailiffs, by type of case (Table 4.21)

### Commencing a case

Historically, the normal method of taking someone to court is for the person doing so (the claimant) to complete a claim form and take it in to a county court. However, the creation of electronic services has meant that claims for a specified amount of money or repossession of property can be completed via the internet. Money Claim Online ([www.moneyclaim.gov.uk](http://www.moneyclaim.gov.uk)) was launched in February 2002 and issues claims in the name of Northampton County Court. Possession Claim Online ([www.possessionclaim.gov.uk](http://www.possessionclaim.gov.uk)) was launched in October 2006 and issues claims in the name of the court relating to the postcode of the property. With both, the claimant can pay the court fee by credit or debit card. In addition, for Possession Claim Online large issuers can pay by Direct Debit.

These services remove time consuming and repetitive administrative work from the court, reducing the cost of litigation and freeing up resources to do other work.

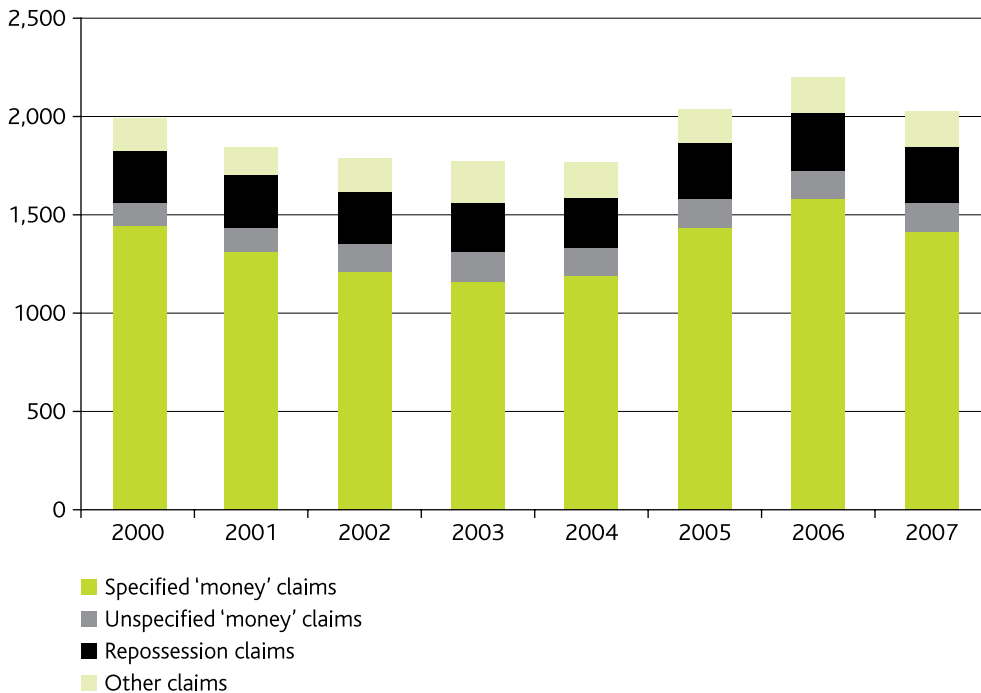
For those claimants that issue a large number of claims each year (e.g. banks, credit card and storecard issuers, utilities and solicitors specialising in debt recovery), this can be done through the Claim Production Centre (CPC). The CPC, set up in January 1990, guarantees issue and dispatch of claims within 24-48 hours. Most of the work of the CPC is done by the County Court Bulk Centre (CCBC), a central processing unit attached to Northampton County Court which was set up in March 1992.

In total, there were 2,015,000 civil (non family) proceedings started in 2007, a decrease of 8% from 2006. This comprised the following types of cases:

- 1,411,000 "money" claims with specified claim amounts, a decrease of 10% compared with 2006 and of 1% compared with 2005. In particular, this fall reflects a much lower number of claims issued on behalf of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency and HM Revenue and Customs which had large numbers issued in 2005 and 2006. Overall, 64% of these claims were issued through the County Court Bulk Centre or Money Claim Online with 41% having a value of up to £500 and just 15% a value over £5,000.
- 145,000 "money" claims with unspecified claim amounts, a decrease of 1% compared with 2006 although 26% higher than in 2000. 48% of these had a value of over £1,000 and up to £5,000, 30% a value over £5,000 and up to £15,000, and 15% a value of over £15,000.
- 138,000 mortgage repossession claims, an increase of 5% compared with 2006 and 118% compared with 2002.
- 103,000 social landlord repossession claims, a decrease of 11% compared with 2006 and 35% less than in 2002. The latest fall may in part have been due to the rent arrears pre-action protocol introduced on 2nd October 2006, the main aim of which was to encourage more contact between parties before the issuing of a claim.
- 44,000 private landlord repossession claims (including accelerated procedure claims), 4% more than in 2006 and 10-20% higher than in each year from 2000-2005.
- 67,000 insolvency petitions, similar to 2006 and 167% higher than in 2000 largely due to a 305% rise in the number of individual bankruptcy petitions made by debtors.
- 108,000 non-"money" claims excluding those for mortgage and landlord repossession, 2% lower than in 2006 and 38% less than in 2003. In June 2004 amendments were made to the Landlord and Tenant Act which resulted in a large reduction in the number of housing claims (excluding mortgage or landlord repossession) from 62,000 in 2003 to 6,000 in 2007.

## Number of claims issued, by type of case, 2000-2007

Number of claims  
(in thousands)



Claim issue statistics are shown in [Tables 4.1 to 4.9](#)

### Case Progression

On receipt of the claim, the claim form and a response pack is sent to (served on) the defendant who has a specific time limit to reply. The options given to the defendant are to pay up, dispute the claim, or admit the claim and ask for more time to pay up. In 2007, 342,000 defences were made, 16% higher than in 2006 and 37% more than in 2000. If the claim is defended, the usual procedure is for it to be allocated by a judge to one of three case management tracks. In total, there were 176,000 allocations to track in 2007, 12% more than in 2006 and 14% higher than in 2000. This was made up of, in ascending order of case complexity and degree of judicial involvement:

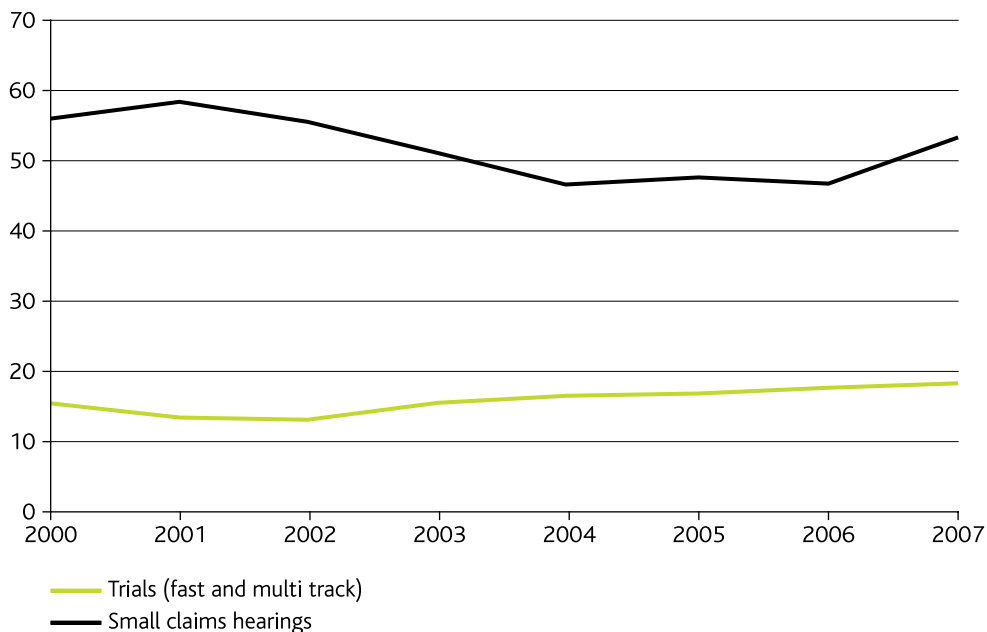
- 98,000 allocations to the small claims track (generally for cases with a value up to £5,000), up 26% from 2006 and 5% from 2000.
- 52,000 allocations to the fast track (generally for cases with a value over £5,000 and up to £15,000), 1% more than in each year from 2003 to 2006 and 56% higher than in 2000.
- 27,000 allocations to the multi track (generally for cases with a value over £15,000), down 4% from 2006.

Around 41% of cases allocated to track reached a trial or small claim hearing in 2007, with most settling or being withdrawn. In total, there were 72,000 trials and small claim hearings, 11% higher than in 2006 and approximately the same as in 2000. This comprised:

- 18,000 fast and multi track trials, 4% more than in 2006. More than two thirds (69%) of these related to unspecified “money” cases. On average, trials occurred 48 weeks following issue, a reduction from 49 weeks in 2006. They lasted 3 hours and 42 minutes on average, a decrease from 4 hours and 37 minutes in 2006.
- 53,000 small claim hearings, 14% higher than in 2006. The vast majority (95%) of these related to specified “money” cases. On average, small claim hearings occurred 28 weeks following issue, up from 27 weeks in 2006. They lasted 83 minutes on average, down from 84 minutes in 2006.

### Number of hearings, by type, 2000-2007

Number of hearings  
(in thousands)



Case progression statistics are shown in [Tables 4.10 to 4.14](#).

## Judgments

There are many types of County Court Judgments. In specified "money" cases the majority follow either no response from the defendant within the allotted time period (a default judgment) or the claimant accepting the defendant's offer to pay all or part of the amount owed (a judgment by acceptance or determination). These judgments are entered as an administrative function and generally don't involve a judge. Overall, 1,002,000 judgments by default, acceptance and determination were made in 2007, almost all relating to specified "money" claims. In total, they accounted for around 71% of specified "money" claims issued in 2007.

In possession cases, the usual procedure is for the claim being issued to be given a hearing date before a District Judge. Overall, 202,000 possession orders were made in 2007, 95,000 of which were mortgage related. 57% of all orders were not suspended (possession given immediately or by a given date), up from 52% in 2006 and 39% in 2000. 54% of mortgage possession orders were not suspended, up from 51% in 2006 and 39% in 2000.

Registry Trust Limited (a private non-profit making company limited by guarantee) administers the statutory public register of Judgments, Orders and Fines. Overall, 982,000 county court judgments were registered with Registry Trust (excluding those made for the non-payment of road tax) in 2007 with 81% relating to consumers, down from 83% in 2006. During the year, 128,000 entries were satisfied, the judgments having been paid in full after one month of the date of judgment. A further 85,000 entries were cancelled, the judgment having been made in error, set aside, reversed, or paid in full within one month of the date of judgment. All entries are automatically removed at the end of the sixth calendar year after the date of judgment. The Register is open for public inspection on payment of a statutory fee, and is used in particular by credit reference agencies to assist lenders in making responsible credit granting decisions, for the benefit of both consumers and businesses.

37,000 searches of the Registry were performed in 2007, mainly by individuals searching for themselves or others or by agents acting for law firms. This was 1% higher than in 2006 and 36% higher than in 2005, with internet search requests rising from 6,000 in 2005 to 22,000 in 2007.

Judgment statistics are shown in [Tables 4.15 to 4.18](#)

## Enforcement

There are various methods of enforcing judgments in the county courts. The most common method is the warrant of execution against a debtors goods, where unless the amount due under the warrant is paid, saleable items owned by a defendant can be recovered by the court and sold. During 2007, 310,000 warrants of execution were issued, 9% lower than in 2006 and 34% lower than in 2000. Overall 21 pence in the pound was recovered, with 90 pence in the pound being recovered from warrants of execution where the creditor had provided a correct address for the debtor.

Where repossession of property or the return of particular goods or items is sought, the claimant can apply for a warrant of possession or warrant of delivery. In 2007, there were 135,000 warrants of possession issued, 7% lower than in 2006 and 3% more than in 2005. In total, bailiffs repossessed 53,700 properties, with 21,300 of these on behalf of mortgage lenders. There were 2,400 warrants of delivery issued, 11% higher than in 2006 although 70% less than in 2000.

To enforce an order for which the penalty for failure to comply is imprisonment, it is possible to apply for a warrant of committal which authorises the bailiff to arrest and deliver the person to prison or the Court. There were 1,600 warrants of committal issued in 2007, 6% lower than in 2006 and 75% lower than in 2000.

A judgment amount can also be enforced through the claimant applying for:

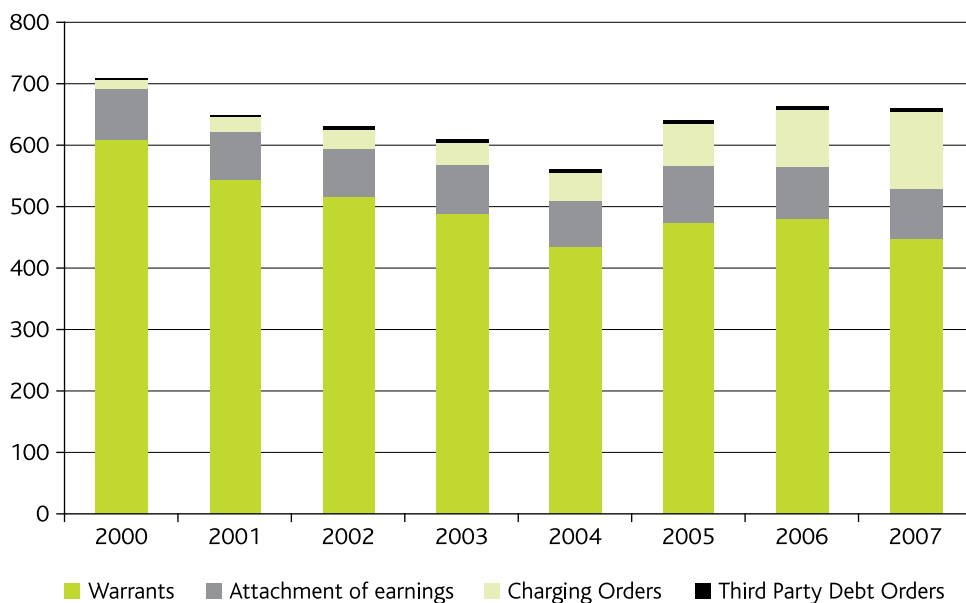
- An attachment of earnings order obliging the debtor's employer to deduct a set sum from the debtor's pay and forward it to the court. 82,000 applications were made for attachment of earnings orders in 2007, 4% less than in 2006 with around 76% of these resulting in orders being made.
- A charging order enabling the creditor to obtain security for the payment against a property owned by the debtor. 132,000 applications were made for charging orders in 2007, 42% higher than in 2006 and 722% more than in 2000 with around 74% resulting in orders being made.
- A third party debt order enabling the creditor to secure payment by freezing and then seizing money owed or payable by a third party to a debtor. 6,000 applications were made for third party debt orders in 2007, 1% lower than in 2006, although 124% more than in 2000 with around 28% resulting in orders being made.

In certain circumstances a debtor may apply to county court to combine debts into an administration order. The debtor must have a judgment debt and at least one other that he is unable to pay with the total indebtedness not exceeding £5,000. Once the debts have been examined and found to be correctly calculated a District Judge can make an order for the debtor to make regular payments to the court. The court will then distribute the money in the appropriate proportions to the creditors listed by the debtor. There were 4,000 administration orders made in 2007, 18% less than in 2006 and 51% less than in 2000. Provisions in Chapter 1 of Part 5 of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 significantly amend the administration order, amongst other matters, removing the need for a judgment. It is expected that these new provisions will be commenced in 2010.

To assist in determining the most appropriate method of enforcing a judgment, the claimant can apply for an order to obtain information from the judgment debtors. This involves debtors being ordered to attend court to provide details of their means. There were 27,000 orders made to obtain information from debtors, 5% lower than in 2006 and a 56% decline from in 2000.

### Number of enforcement applications, by type, 2000-2007

Number of enforcement applications (in thousands)



Enforcement statistics are shown in [Tables 4.19 to 4.22](#)

**Table 4.1**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Summary statistics on claims issued in England and Wales, 2000-2007

Year	Number of claims / petitions								
	Specified "money" claims <sup>1</sup>	Unspecified "money" claims <sup>2</sup>	Total "money" claims	Claims for recovery of land <sup>3</sup>	Claims for return of goods	Other non-"money" claims	Total non-"money" claims	Total insolvency petitions <sup>4</sup>	Total proceedings started
2000	1,443,494r	114,693	1,558,187r	263,213	14,305	116,099	393,617	25,076	1,976,880r
2001	1,307,071r	131,153	1,438,224r	259,281	14,806	103,402	377,489	26,477	1,842,190r
2002	1,207,497r	145,236	1,352,733r	258,676	11,734	131,760	402,170	29,556	1,784,459r
2003	1,160,221r	153,827	1,314,048r	243,962	9,929	164,375	418,266	30,733	1,763,047r
2004	1,188,385r	144,236	1,332,621r	251,865	8,880	135,591	396,336	38,279	1,767,236r
2005	1,431,486	147,674	1,579,160	280,478	9,127	103,419	393,024	51,875	2,024,059
2006	1,574,293r	146,004r	1,720,297r	289,278r	9,908r	100,777r	399,963r	66,966r	2,187,226r
2007	1,410,581	144,905	1,555,486	284,381	8,470	99,636	392,531	66,945	2,014,962

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre, Money Claim Online, Possession Claim Online and manual returns

**Notes:**

- 1 Claims issued for a specified amount of money, including those made through the Claim Production Centre, County Court Bulk Centre and Money Claim Online
- 2 Claims issued for an unspecified amount of money
- 3 Includes claims made via Possession Claim Online
- 4 Includes petitions heard in the District Registries of the High Court

**Table 4.2**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Summary statistics on claims issued<sup>1</sup> by HMCS area, 2007

Area	Number of claims / petitions								
	Specified "money" claims <sup>2</sup>	Unspecified "money" claims <sup>3</sup>	Total "money" claims	Claims for recovery of land <sup>4</sup>	Claims for return of goods	Other non-"money" claims	Total non-"money" claims	Total insolvency petitions <sup>5</sup>	Total proceedings started
Avon and Somerset	12,710	3,465	16,175	5,299	192	2,413	7,904	5,156	29,235
Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts	27,550	4,613	32,163	7,667	588	4,413	12,668	4,165	48,996
Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire	16,648	6,006	22,654	9,552	373	4,005	13,930	3,601	40,185
Black Country, Staffordshire & West Mercia	34,310	4,394	38,704	2,841	488	4,739	8,068	4,013	50,785
Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk	19,123	2,293	21,416	9,584	324	2,214	12,122	3,251	36,789
Cheshire and Merseyside	25,583	28,724	54,307	12,469	455	9,320	22,244	3,109	79,660
Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria	25,585	6,091	31,676	8,676	476	5,040	14,192	3,814	49,682
Cumbria and Lancashire	13,942	4,631	18,573	18,408	218	2,850	21,476	2,207	42,256
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	19,548	5,158	24,706	9,048	209	3,569	12,826	1,955	39,487
Devon and Cornwall	10,574	2,535	13,109	15,684	195	2,167	18,046	3,062	34,217
Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire	17,634	1,973	19,607	57,999	199	2,336	60,534	2,381	82,522
Greater Manchester	30,824	22,434	53,258	14,624	435	10,837	25,896	3,682	82,836
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	19,572	4,704	24,276	16,364	281	3,591	20,236	1,681	46,193
Humber and South Yorkshire	26,899	6,205	33,104	6,491	326	4,803	11,620	3,231	47,955
Kent	16,785	1,729	18,514	8,774	342	1,694	10,810	2,176	31,500
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Rutland and Northamptonshire	16,052	2,575	18,627	9,652	309	2,713	12,674	2,672	33,973
London	68,661	16,951	85,612	5,330	1,390	16,792	23,512	3,104	112,228
Mid and West Wales	6,034	1,204	7,238	9,942	174	882	10,998	935	19,171
North and West Yorkshire	36,195	9,784	45,979	4,164	464	5,767	10,395	4,574	60,948
North Wales	4,966	1,173	6,139	14,618	91	1,201	15,910	782	22,831
South East Wales	14,151	3,442	17,593	8,220	263	3,050	11,533	1,625	30,751
Surrey and Sussex	23,963	2,617	26,580	12,903	346	3,068	16,317	2,977	45,874
Thames Valley	25,227	2,204	27,431	16,072	332	2,172	18,576	2,792	48,799
County Court Bulk Centre <sup>6</sup>	736,478	0	736,478	0	0	0	0	0	736,478
Money Claim Online <sup>6</sup>	161,567	0	161,567	0	0	0	0	0	161,567
<b>TOTAL<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,410,581</b>	<b>144,905</b>	<b>1,555,486</b>	<b>284,381</b>	<b>8,470</b>	<b>99,636</b>	<b>392,487</b>	<b>66,945</b>	<b>2,014,918</b>

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre, Money Claim Online, Possession Claim Online and manual returns

**Notes:**

- 1 From April 2007, HMCS underwent a restructuring from 42 to 25 geographic areas. This table uses the new structure that was in place during the period it covers.
- 2 Claims issued for a specified amount of money, including those made through the Claim Production Centre, County Court Bulk Centre and Money Claim Online
- 3 Claims issued for an unspecified amount of money
- 4 Includes claims made via Possession Claim Online
- 5 Includes petitions issued in the District Registries of the High Court
- 6 These claims are issued in the name of Northampton County Court



**Table 4.4**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Summary statistics on recovery of land actions by HMCS<sup>1</sup> area and region, 2007

Area / region	Number of claims / orders														
	Mortgage repossessions			Social landlord repossessions <sup>2</sup>			Private landlord repossessions <sup>3</sup>			Accelerated Possession <sup>4</sup>			Total		
	Claims Issued	Suspended orders <sup>5</sup>	Orders made <sup>6</sup>	Claims Issued	Suspended orders <sup>5</sup>	Orders made <sup>6</sup>	Claims Issued	Suspended orders <sup>5</sup>	Orders made <sup>6</sup>	Claims Issued	Orders Made <sup>6</sup>	Claims Issued	Suspended orders <sup>5</sup>	Orders made <sup>6</sup>	
London county court group	20,098	..	..	22,179	..	..	5,311	..	..	10,411	..	57,999	..	..	
<b>London</b>	<b>20,098</b>	<b>6,129</b>	<b>7,945</b>	<b>22,179</b>	<b>5,680</b>	<b>7,068</b>	<b>5,311</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>3,052</b>	<b>10,411</b>	<b>8,216</b>	<b>57,999</b>	<b>12,023</b>	<b>26,281</b>	
Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire	7,295	..	..	5,856	..	..	738	..	..	735	..	14,624	..	..	
Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia	8,874	..	..	5,971	..	..	719	..	..	800	..	16,364	..	..	
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	5,261	..	..	3,813	..	..	458	..	..	410	..	9,942	..	..	
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Rutland and Northamptonshire	5,473	..	..	3,000	..	..	627	..	..	552	..	9,652	..	..	
<b>Midlands</b>	<b>26,903</b>	<b>8,968</b>	<b>10,069</b>	<b>18,640</b>	<b>8,617</b>	<b>6,025</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>2,497</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>50,582</b>	<b>17,844</b>	<b>19,490</b>	
Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria	8,057	..	..	6,769	..	..	610	..	..	636	..	16,072	..	..	
Humber and South Yorkshire	6,299	..	..	4,709	..	..	792	..	..	669	..	12,469	..	..	
North and West Yorkshire	7,453	..	..	3,877	..	..	839	..	..	734	..	12,903	..	..	
<b>North East</b>	<b>21,809</b>	<b>7,009</b>	<b>8,043</b>	<b>15,355</b>	<b>7,232</b>	<b>5,194</b>	<b>2,241</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>2,039</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>41,444</b>	<b>14,460</b>	<b>16,194</b>	
Cheshire and Merseyside	7,607	..	..	5,679	..	..	672	..	..	660	..	14,618	..	..	
Cumbria and Lancashire	4,827	..	..	2,430	..	..	385	..	..	578	..	8,220	..	..	
Greater Manchester	9,218	..	..	6,816	..	..	1,384	..	..	990	..	18,408	..	..	
<b>North West</b>	<b>21,652</b>	<b>7,179</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>14,925</b>	<b>6,184</b>	<b>4,873</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>41,246</b>	<b>13,888</b>	<b>15,716</b>	
Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts	8,182	..	..	5,261	..	..	1,124	..	..	1,117	..	15,684	..	..	

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk	4,224	..	..	3,344	..	..	551	..	..	655	..	8,774	..	..
Kent	5,133	..	..	2,644	..	..	937	..	..	838	..	9,552	..	..
Surrey and Sussex	4,176	..	..	2,749	..	..	956	..	..	1,167	..	9,048	..	..
Thames Valley	3,963	..	..	3,447	..	..	641	..	..	625	..	8,676	..	..
<b>South East</b>	<b>25,678</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>9,824</b>	<b>17,445</b>	<b>7,210</b>	<b>5,589</b>	<b>4,209</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>2,554</b>	<b>4,402</b>	<b>3,366</b>	<b>51,734</b>	<b>15,476</b>	<b>21,333</b>
Avon and Somerset	2,576	..	..	2,007	..	..	267	..	..	449	..	5,299	..	..
Devon and Cornwall	2,691	..	..	1,592	..	..	408	..	..	639	..	5,330	..	..
Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire	3,328	..	..	2,062	..	..	508	..	..	593	..	6,491	..	..
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	3,669	..	..	2,835	..	..	584	..	..	579	..	7,667	..	..
<b>South West</b>	<b>12,264</b>	<b>3,757</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>8,496</b>	<b>3,718</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>24,787</b>	<b>7,566</b>	<b>9,672</b>
Mid and West Wales	2,230	..	..	1,627	..	..	157	..	..	150	..	4,164	..	..
North Wales	1,680	..	..	862	..	..	105	..	..	194	..	2,841	..	..
South East Wales	5,277	..	..	3,550	..	..	398	..	..	359	..	9,584	..	..
<b>Wales</b>	<b>9,187</b>	<b>2,991</b>	<b>3,208</b>	<b>6,039</b>	<b>2,448</b>	<b>2,345</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>16,589</b>	<b>5,464</b>	<b>6,485</b>
<b>TOTAL<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>137,591</b>	<b>44,033</b>	<b>51,400</b>	<b>103,079</b>	<b>41,089</b>	<b>33,476</b>	<b>19,171</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>11,336</b>	<b>24,540</b>	<b>18,959</b>	<b>284,381</b>	<b>86,721</b>	<b>115,171</b>

Source:  
HMCS CaseMan system and Possession Claim Online

Notes:

- 1 From April 2007, HMCS underwent a restructuring from 42 to 25 geographic areas while the number of regions remained at 7. This table uses the new structure
- 2 Actions by local authorities and housing associations
- 3 Actions by all landlords except local authorities and housing associations
- 4 Landlord actions via the accelerated procedure enabling orders to be made solely on the basis of written evidence for assured shorthold tenancies, when the fixed period of the tenancy has come to an end
- 5 Claims made via Possession Claim Online are issued in the name of the local court relating to the postcode of the property
- 6 The rollout of the Possession Claim On-Line (PCOL) system in late 2006 has affected the availability of mortgage and landlord possession orders data for courts which do not have on site access to the PCOL system. To account for this missing information, upward adjustments have been made at HMCS regional level. The overall effect of these adjustments has been to increase the recorded number of mortgage possession orders by an average of 7% and the recorded number of landlord possession orders (excluding accelerated procedure actions) by an average of 5% in 2007

**Table 4.5****County courts (non-family work)**

Summary statistics on other non-"money" claims issued in England &amp; Wales, 2000-2007

Number of claims						
Year	Housing (not Landlord or Mortgage possession) <sup>1</sup>	Injunctions <sup>2</sup>	Enforcement <sup>3</sup>	Pre action disclosure applications <sup>4</sup>	Other <sup>5</sup>	Total
2000	62,002	3,975	28,768	774	20,580	116,099
2001	51,294	4,248	17,253	2,023	28,584	103,402
2002	56,961	4,429	21,918	6,502	41,950	131,760
2003	62,180	5,117	25,897	15,349	55,832	164,375
2004	30,640	6,072	31,609	15,869	51,401	135,591
2005	6,921	7,605	30,141	14,991	43,761	103,419
2006	6,570r	8,466	29,433	14,142	42,166r	100,777r
2007	6,295	9,760	24,486	15,611	43,484	99,636

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

- 1 Includes landlord and tenancy applications generally for a new tenancy agreement, claims to evict trespassers and claims for interim possession orders
- 2 To make somebody do something or to stop them doing it
- 3 Enforcement of Tribunal awards and orders made in Magistrates' courts
- 4 To obtain an order for disclosure of information prior to issue of a claim
- 5 Includes orders for costs only

**Table 4.6**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Summary statistics on other non-“money” claims issued by HMCS area<sup>1</sup>, 2007

Area	Number of claims					Total
	Housing (not Landlord or Mortgage possession) <sup>2</sup>	Injunctions <sup>3</sup>	Enforcement <sup>4</sup>	Pre action disclosure applications <sup>5</sup>	Other <sup>6</sup>	
Avon and Somerset	206	168	307	442	1,290	2,413
Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts	185	256	1,803	392	1,777	4,413
Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire	240	334	942	884	1,605	4,005
Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia	285	196	2,034	580	1,644	4,739
Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk	263	174	642	228	907	2,214
Cheshire and Merseyside	238	914	1,077	2,403	4,688	9,320
Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria	121	341	1,904	716	1,958	5,040
Cumbria and Lancashire	123	241	483	453	1,550	2,850
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	140	200	1,912	422	895	3,569
Devon and Cornwall	131	166	367	543	960	2,167
Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire	143	139	951	140	963	2,336
Greater Manchester	228	1,820	1,409	2,913	4,467	10,837
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	221	251	970	397	1,752	3,591
Humber and South Yorkshire	141	575	987	1,195	1,905	4,803
Kent	116	186	582	33	777	1,694
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Rutland and Northamptonshire	100	135	880	462	1,136	2,713
London	2,404	2,249	3,054	931	8,154	16,792
Mid and West Wales	57	56	307	71	391	882
North and West Yorkshire	329	678	1,079	1,172	2,509	5,767
North Wales	69	20	252	321	539	1,201
South East Wales	66	220	744	697	1,323	3,050
Surrey and Sussex	242	303	941	180	1,402	3,068
Thames Valley	247	138	859	36	892	2,172
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>9,760</b>	<b>24,486</b>	<b>15,611</b>	<b>43,484</b>	<b>99,636</b>

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

- 1 From April 2007, HMCS underwent a restructuring from 42 to 25 geographic areas. This table uses the new structure
- 2 Includes landlord and tenancy applications generally for a new tenancy agreement, claims to evict trespassers and claims for interim possession orders
- 3 To make somebody do something or to stop them doing it
- 4 Enforcement of Tribunal awards and orders made in Magistrates' courts
- 5 To obtain an order for disclosure of information prior to issue of a claim
- 6 Includes orders for costs only

**Table 4.7****County courts (non-family work)**Summary statistics on insolvency petitions<sup>1</sup> issued in England and Wales, 2000-2007

Year	Number of petitions			
	Company windings-up <sup>2</sup>	Individual bankruptcy <sup>3</sup>		Total
		Creditor's petition	Debtor's petition	
2000	5,610	7,296	12,170	25,076
2001	5,245	6,947	14,285	26,477
2002	6,874	7,082	15,600	29,556
2003	5,002	7,579	18,152	30,733
2004	5,577	7,892	24,810	38,279
2005	7,350	10,438	34,087	51,875
2006	6,956r	11,045r	48,965r	66,966r
2007	6,296	11,327	49,322	66,945

**Source:**

HMCS manual returns

**Note:**

1 Includes petitions issued in the District Registries of the High Court

2 'Winding up' is the process by which a company's existence is terminated, whether due to insolvency or for another reason

3 Where an individual has debts that he/she is unable to pay

**Table 4.8****County courts (non-family work)**"Money" claims issued for a specified amount in England and Wales, with percentage breakdown by claim value, 2002-2007<sup>1</sup>

Year	Total number of claims issued	Value of claim							Percentage
		Lower bound (>)	£0	£500	£1,000	£5,000	£15,000	£50,000	Other <sup>2</sup>
		Upper bound (<=)	£500	£1,000	£5,000	£15,000	£50,000	n/a	
2002	1,207,497r	51.4%r	15.3%	23.3%	7.0%	2.1%	0.4%	0.4%	
2003	1,160,221r	48.9%	16.4%	24.3%	7.4%	2.2%	0.4%	0.4%	
2004	1,188,385r	50.4%	15.3%	23.5%r	7.7%	2.4%	0.4%	0.4%	
2005	1,431,486	53.2%	14.3%	21.6%	7.7%	2.5%	0.4%	0.4%	
2006	1,574,293r	48.6%r	15.6%	23.7%r	8.6%	2.9%	0.4%	0.3%	
2007	1,410,581	40.7%	15.4%	28.3%	10.9%	3.9%	0.5%	0.3%	

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre, Money Claim Online

**Notes:**

1 Figures for 2000 and 2001 have been excluded due to incomplete claim value breakdown data for these years

2 Includes claims with no recorded claim values

**Table 4.9****County courts (non-family work)**

“Money” claims issued for an unspecified amount in England and Wales, with percentage breakdown by claim value, 2000-2007<sup>1</sup>

Year	Total number of claims issued	Value of claim							Percentage
		Lower bound (>)	£0	£500	£1,000	£5,000	£15,000	£50,000	Other <sup>2</sup>
		Upper bound (<=)	£500	£1,000	£5,000	£15,000	£50,000	n/a	
2000	114,693	3.1% <sub>r</sub>	4.3%	33.3%	33.3%	15.4%	6.9%	3.8% <sub>r</sub>	
2001	131,153	2.3% <sub>r</sub>	3.1%	35.4%	34.7%	14.9%	6.6%	3.0% <sub>r</sub>	
2002	145,236	1.7% <sub>r</sub>	2.0%	38.6%	35.5%	13.6%	6.1%	2.5% <sub>r</sub>	
2003	153,827	1.8% <sub>r</sub>	1.8%	40.3%	34.0%	12.7%	5.3%	4.2% <sub>r</sub>	
2004	144,236	1.6% <sub>r</sub>	1.6%	42.9%	32.3%	11.9%	5.6%	4.1% <sub>r</sub>	
2005	147,674	1.4% <sub>r</sub>	1.2%	46.5%	30.9%	11.2%	4.3%	4.6% <sub>r</sub>	
2006	146,004 <sub>r</sub>	1.2% <sub>r</sub>	1.0%	47.9%	30.3%	10.8%	4.5%	4.5% <sub>r</sub>	
2007	144,905	1.3%	1.1%	48.0%	30.2%	10.9%	4.3%	4.3%	

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

1 The claim value breakdown is derived from the claim issue fee paid

2 Includes claims with either no recorded issue fee paid or with a recorded issue fee paid that doesn't correspond to one of the claim value ranges shown

**Table 4.10****County courts (non-family work)**

Summary statistics on claims defended and allocated to track in England and Wales, 2000-2007

Year	Number of defences <sup>2</sup>	Number of defences / allocations			
		Number of allocations to track <sup>3</sup>			Total
		Small claims	Fast track	Multi track	
2000	250,442r	92,863	33,163	29,182	<b>155,208</b>
2001	255,035r	92,199	31,038	22,544	<b>145,781</b>
2002	266,625r	80,707	38,249	24,075	<b>143,031</b>
2003	268,042r	77,288	51,176	28,711	<b>157,175</b>
2004	261,666r	73,497	51,215	29,201	<b>153,913</b>
2005	278,019r	75,740	51,405	28,396r	<b>155,541r</b>
2006	295,372r	77,933r	51,351r	27,908r	<b>157,192r</b>
2007	341,956	97,832	51,666	26,712	<b>176,210</b>

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

- 1 Where a claim is defended, further information is gathered before it is allocated to one of the three case management "tracks" shown depending on the value, complexity and importance of the case and the consequential level of judicial involvement required. There may be more than one defence or allocation to track in a case
- 2 The number of defences excludes those recorded on the grounds of the defendant having already paid the amount claimed. Despite some cases involving more than one defendant, it is much lower than the number of claims issued (see Table 4.1) because the vast majority of claims are not disputed
- 3 The number of allocations to track is lower than the number of defences primarily because defended cases are often settled/withdrawn before they are allocated to track

**Table 4.11**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Number of trials and small claim hearings<sup>1</sup> in England and Wales, as a percentage of allocations made to the relevant track, 2000-2007<sup>2</sup>

Year	Trials (fast and multi track)		Small claim hearings		Total hearings	
	Number	as % of allocations made to these "tracks" <sup>3</sup>	Number	as % of allocations made to this "track" <sup>3</sup>	Number	as % of total allocations
2000	15,397	25%	55,836	60%	71,233	46%
2001	13,430	25%	58,333	63%	71,763	49%
2002	13,182	21%	55,719	69%	68,901	48%
2003	15,643r	20%	51,044	66%	66,687r	42%
2004	16,668r	21%	46,617	63%	63,285r	41%
2005	16,766r	21%	47,680	63%	64,446r	41%
2006	17,675r	22%	46,872r	60%	64,547r	41%
2007	18,353	23%	53,232	54%	71,585	41%

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system and manual returns

**Notes:**

- 1 There may be more than one trial or small claim hearing in a case
- 2 All figures prior to 2003 are derived from manual returns
- 3 The numbers of trials and small claim hearings are much lower than the respective numbers of allocations to track in each year (see Table 4.10) because a large proportion of cases are settled/withdrawn between allocation to track and a small claim hearing or trial

**Table 4.12****County courts (non-family work)**Small claim hearings in England and Wales, by claim type, 2003-2007<sup>1</sup>

Year	Number of hearings			
	Type of case			Total
	Specified "money" <sup>2</sup>	Unspecified "money" <sup>3</sup>	Other	
2003	46,835	3,739	470	51,044
2004	42,962	3,267	388	46,617
2005	44,594	2,718	368	47,680
2006	44,202r	2,328r	342r	46,872r
2007	50,725	2,179	328	53,232

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

- 1 Figures for 2000-2002 have been excluded due to the unreliability of the casetype breakdown data for these years
- 2 Cases which were issued for a specified amount of money
- 3 Cases which were issued for an unspecified amount of money

**Table 4.13****County courts (non-family work)**Fast and Multi-Track trials in England and Wales, by claim type, 2003-2007<sup>1</sup>

Year	Number of hearings			
	Type of case			Total
	Specified "money" <sup>2</sup>	Unspecified "money" <sup>3</sup>	Other	
2003	2,666r	11,011r	1,966r	15,643r
2004	2,754r	11,609r	2,305r	16,668r
2005	2,922r	11,337r	2,507r	16,766r
2006	3,164r	12,203r	2,308r	17,675r
2007	3,353	12,750	2,250	18,353

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Notes:**

- 1 Figures for 2000-2002 have been excluded due to the unreliability of the casetype breakdown data for these years
- 2 Cases which were issued for a specified amount of money
- 3 Cases which were issued for an unspecified amount of money

**Table 4.14**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Average time taken to reach trials / small claim hearings, and estimates of their duration, England and Wales, 2000-2007<sup>1,2</sup>

Year	Small Claim cases			Fast and Multi Track cases				
	Time between issue & start of small claim (weeks) <sup>3</sup>	Duration of Small claim hearings	Sample size	Time between issue & allocation to track (weeks) <sup>3</sup>	Time between allocation to track & trial (weeks) <sup>3</sup>	Time between issue & trial (weeks) <sup>3,4</sup>	Duration of Trials	Sample size
2000	29	66 Mins	1,390	48	26	74	3 Hours 58 Mins	890
2001	28	71 Mins	1,460	39	35	73	4 Hours 06 Mins	1,500
2002	31	76 Mins	1,380	28	31	58	3 Hours 59 Mins	1,450
2003	27r	83 Mins	1,060	22r	32r	52r	3 hours 30 Mins	730
2004	27r	76 Mins	940	21r	33r	52r	3 Hours 52 Mins	1,030
2005	27r	76 Mins	960	22r	32r	52r	3 Hours 40 Mins	880
2006	27r	84 Mins	840	21r	32r	50r	4 Hours 37 Mins	980
2007	28	83 Mins	592	21	32	49	3 Hours 42 Mins	492

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system and case "samplers" for small claims hearings and trials

**Notes:**

- 1 All figures for hearing durations, and figures for times between major case milestones prior to 2003, are derived from case samplers
- 2 Figures for time intervals between major case milestones (issue, allocation and hearing) from 2003 onwards are taken from full population data
- 3 Figures only for cases that reach trials / small claim hearings in the relevant year
- 4 These figures are different to the sums of the average times between issue and allocation to track and between allocation to track and trial as not all allocation to track details are known

**Table 4.15****County courts (non-family work)**

Number of judgments by default<sup>1</sup>, acceptance and determination<sup>2,3</sup> in England and Wales by case type, 2000-2007

Year	Type of case			Number of judgments
	Specified "money" <sup>4</sup>	Unspecified "money" <sup>5</sup>	Other	Total
2000	1,024,255r	1,137r	1,431r	1,026,823r
2001	912,654r	1,055r	908r	914,617r
2002	802,610r	886r	935r	804,431r
2003	796,777r	1,163r	810r	798,750r
2004	760,175r	964r	682r	761,821r
2005	1,022,402r	973r	574r	1,023,949r
2006	1,105,974r	890r	659r	1,107,523r
2007	1,000,434	914	599	1,001,947

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre and Money Claim Online

**Notes:**

- 1 Following no response from the defendant within the allotted time period
- 2 Judgments by acceptance and determination which follow the claimant accepting the defendant's offer to pay all or part of the amount owed
- 3 Includes judgments by default, acceptance and determination made in the County Court Bulk Centre and via Money Claim Online
- 4 Cases which were issued for a specified amount of money
- 5 Cases which were issued for an unspecified amount of money

**Table 4.16**  
**County courts (non-family work)**  
 Number of judgments by default<sup>1</sup>, acceptance and determination<sup>2</sup> by HMCS area<sup>3</sup>, 2007

Number of judgments

Area	Type of case			Total
	Specified "money" <sup>4</sup>	Unspecified "money" <sup>5</sup>	Other	
Avon and Somerset	7,650	28	11	7,689
Bedfordshire, Essex & Herts	18,743	80	69	18,892
Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire	11,126	27	8	11,161
Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia	24,512	35	21	24,568
Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk	11,089	14	13	11,116
Cheshire and Merseyside	14,863	111	17	14,991
Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria	20,205	29	23	20,257
Cumbria and Lancashire	8,688	34	18	8,740
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	12,526	24	11	12,561
Devon and Cornwall	6,758	18	10	6,786
Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire	11,617	19	15	11,651
Greater Manchester	19,501	107	59	19,667
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	12,716	20	24	12,760
Humber and South Yorkshire	15,912	41	8	15,961
Kent	10,398	11	62	10,471
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Rutland and Northamptonshire	10,897	13	15	10,925
London	42,670	144	132	42,946
Mid and West Wales	3,796	15	2	3,813
North and West Yorkshire	22,790	42	12	22,844
North Wales	3,663	9	4	3,676
South East Wales	10,803	27	19	10,849
Surrey and Sussex	15,255	16	14	15,285
Thames Valley	17,283	50	32	17,365
County Court Bulk Centre <sup>6</sup>	617,467	0	0	617,467
Money Claim Online <sup>6</sup>	49,506	0	0	49,506
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,000,434</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>1,001,947</b>

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre and Money Claim Online

**Note:**

- 1 Following no response from the defendant within the allotted time period
- 2 Judgments by acceptance and determination which follow the claimant accepting the defendant's offer to pay all or part of the amount owed
- 3 From April 2007, HMCS underwent a restructuring from 42 to 25 geographic areas. This table uses the new structure
- 4 Cases which were issued for a specified amount of money
- 5 Cases which were issued for an unspecified amount of money
- 6 These judgments by default, acceptance and determination are made in the name of Northampton County Court

**Table 4.17**  
**Registry of County Court Judgments in England and Wales**  
 Number of judgments registered, satisfied and cancelled, by type, 2000-2007<sup>1</sup>

Year	Number of judgments								
	Consumer judgments (i.e. individuals)			Commercial judgments (i.e. businesses)			Total		
	Registered	Satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Cancelled <sup>3</sup>	Registered	Satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Cancelled <sup>3</sup>	Registered	Satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Cancelled <sup>3</sup>
2000							1,013,044	104,534	69,777
2001	697,038	120,485	41,071	190,011	12,429	30,197	887,049	132,914	71,268
2002	632,568	131,429	43,177	182,256	14,869	32,035	814,824	146,298	75,212
2003	631,368	96,581	43,379	170,689	14,554	30,751	802,057	111,135	74,130
2004	538,383	98,967	44,538	161,882	14,287	31,102	700,265	113,254	75,640
2005	635,222	93,443	54,277	167,664	15,476	32,011	802,886	108,919	86,288
2006	843,853	108,079	55,626	178,313	20,586	33,994	1,022,166	128,665	89,620
2007	796,528	106,151	49,905	185,395	22,195	35,523	981,923	128,346	85,428

**Source:**

Registry Trust Ltd

**Notes:**

- 1 Excludes judgments made for the non-payment of road tax from September 2004 onwards (these amounting to 72k in 2004, 216k in 2005, 83k in 2006 and 6k in 2007)
- 2 The judgment debt has been paid in full
- 3 A judgment registration can be cancelled when it is made in error, set aside, reversed, paid before the court date in full within one month

**Table 4.18**  
**Registry of County Court Judgments in England and Wales**  
 Number of register searches made<sup>1</sup>, by search method, 2000-2007

Year	Number of searches			
	Postal	Personal	Internet <sup>2</sup>	Total
2000	24,807	2,529		27,336
2001	21,662	2,794		24,456
2002	21,609	2,950		24,559
2003	19,976	3,135		23,111
2004	18,710	3,613		22,323
2005	17,368	3,570	6,252	27,190
2006	16,228	4,376	16,205	36,809
2007	11,097	3,784	22,220	37,101

**Source:**

Registry Trust Ltd

**Notes:**

- 1 These searches were mainly carried out by individuals searching for themselves or others or by agents acting for law firms
- 2 Internet searches were not available until 2005

**Table 4.19****County Court (enforcement work)**Number of warrants issued<sup>1</sup> in England and Wales, by type, 2000-2007

Year	Number of warrants			
	Execution <sup>2</sup>	Delivery <sup>3</sup>	Possession <sup>4</sup>	Committal <sup>5</sup>
2000	467,995r	7,860	133,648	6,621
2001	400,055r	7,667	132,874	5,917
2002	374,440r	6,511	131,635	4,448
2003	362,641r	4,224	121,339r	2,431
2004	311,151r	3,384	118,788	2,198
2005	341,097	2,382	131,510r	1,844
2006	340,078r	2,121	144,990r	1,757
2007	310,178	2,359	135,243	1,647

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system, Claim Production Centre, Money Claim Online and Possession Claim Online

**Note:**

- 1 Includes warrants issued in the County Court Bulk Centre and via Money Claim Online and Possession Claim Online
- 2 Allows saleable items owned by the debtor to be sold unless the amount due under the warrant is paid
- 3 For the return of goods or items
- 4 For the repossession of property
- 5 For enforcing an order where the penalty for failing to comply is imprisonment. It authorises the bailiff to arrest and deliver the person to prison or the court

**Table 4.20****County Court (enforcement work)**Amounts issued and recovered from warrants of execution<sup>1</sup> in England and Wales, 2000-2007

Year	Amount issued in correctly directed <sup>2</sup> warrants (£)	Amount received in correctly directed <sup>2</sup> warrants (£)	Amount issued in all warrants (£)	Amount received in all warrants (£)	Pence-per-pound recovered on correctly directed <sup>2</sup> warrants	Pence-per-pound recovered on all warrants
2000	65,861,665	46,633,595	181,682,532	49,549,112	70.8	27.3
2001	59,410,408	44,994,886	168,291,967	47,832,846	75.7	28.4
2002	53,643,552	45,556,724	170,676,955	48,491,376	84.9	28.4
2003	52,121,413	46,740,391	186,294,217	49,819,049	89.7	26.7
2004	50,145,502	45,237,677	195,831,506	48,550,116	90.2	24.8
2005	47,730,253	44,301,929	200,347,628	47,417,447	92.8	23.7
2006	47,151,671	42,905,286	211,262,049	46,173,497	91.0	21.9
2007	44,191,558	39,570,109	204,649,725	42,592,414	89.5	20.8

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system

**Note:**

- 1 Allows saleable items owned by the debtor to be sold unless the amount due under the warrant is paid
- 2 Warrants for which the creditor has specified the correct address

**Table 4.21****County Court (enforcement work)**

Number of repossessions of property by bailiffs in England and Wales, by type of case, 2000-2007

Year	Type of case					Number of repossessions	
	Mortgage repossession	Social landlord repossession	Private landlord repossession	Accelerated repossession	Other	Total	
	2000	15,020	24,476	3,682	4,961	2,899	51,038
2001	12,891	26,338	4,300	5,719	2,433	51,681	
2002	9,175	28,917	4,295	5,953	2,169	50,509	
2003	6,848	27,078	4,012	5,487	2,134	45,559	
2004	7,172	26,089	3,681	5,205	2,035	44,182	
2005	13,032	24,575	3,984	5,980	2,303	49,874	
2006	21,321	23,374	4,127	6,827	2,247	57,896	
2007	21,315	18,975	3,879	7,523	2,057	53,749	

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system and Possession Claim Online

**Note:**

- 1 Includes warrants issued in the County Court Bulk Centre and via Money Claim Online and Possession Claim Online
- 2 The vast majority of warrant of repossession outcomes are repossession, the warrant being suspended by an order made by the court and the warrant being withdrawn

**Table 4.22**  
**County Court (enforcement work)**  
 Enforcement-related orders applied for and made in England and Wales, 2000-2007

Year	Attachment of earnings orders <sup>1,2</sup>						Number of applications / orders					
	Orders made <sup>2</sup>		Third party debt orders <sup>3</sup>		Charging orders <sup>4</sup>		Administration orders <sup>5</sup>		Orders to obtain information from judgment debtors <sup>7</sup>			
	Applications	Orders made <sup>2</sup>	Applications	Orders made	Applications	Orders made	Applications	Orders made <sup>6</sup>	Applications	Orders made <sup>6</sup>		
2000	80,276	62,451	2,885	1,033	16,014	9,689	6,508	7,472	61,247			
2001	77,991	71,228	4,065	1,396	21,870	15,487	6,148	7,578	68,148			
2002	79,602	68,484	5,362	1,540	30,781	21,408	5,517	6,347	58,173			
2003	79,942	68,721r	6,073	1,754	35,052r	25,217r	3,725	4,421	43,323			
2004	76,051	70,106r	6,385	1,836	45,516r	33,235	2,952	3,925	34,758r			
2005	92,559r	71,089r	6,597	1,826	65,780r	49,218	3,177	3,700	31,512r			
2006	85,328	66,477r	6,554r	1,828	92,933	67,090r	3,181r	4,480r	28,462			
2007	82,019	62,125	6,474	1,813	131,637	97,026	2,385	3,658	27,148			

**Source:**

HMCS CaseMan system and manual returns

**Note:**

- 1 Attachment of earnings' orders oblige the debtor's employer to deduct a set sum from the debtor's pay and forward it to the court.
- 2 Includes the making of varied orders and suspended orders enabling the debtor to make payments into court directly but upon failure to do so will result in the debtor's employer being contacted
- 3 Third party debt orders secure payment by freezing and then seizing money owed or payable by a third party to a debtor
- 4 Charging orders obtain security for the payment against a property owned by the debtor
- 5 Administration orders enable a debtor to combine a judgement debt and at least one other debt (with total indebtedness not exceeding £5,000) into a single order for the making of regular payments into court to be distributed to the creditors in the appropriate proportions listed by the debtor
- 6 Multiple orders may be made following an application e.g. where an original order is revoked and then re-instated
- 7 Formerly known as the oral examination procedure which was changed on 26 March 2002, the process being streamlined and standardised to enable information to be obtained faster