

## Legal services expenditure – Attorney-General’s Department 2018–19

This is a statement of legal services expenditure by the Attorney-General’s Department for the financial year ended 30 June 2019, published in compliance with paragraph 11.1 (ba) of the *Legal Services Directions 2017*. All figures in this report are exclusive of GST.

### Total legal services expenditure

Total legal services expenditure	\$43,079,865
Total external legal services expenditure	\$38,415,685
Total internal legal services expenditure	\$4,664,180

### External legal services expenditure

Professional fees	\$23,910,743
Counsel	\$9,144,947
Disbursements (excluding counsel)	\$5,359,995
Total external legal expenditure	\$38,415,685

### Counsel

In the 2018-19 financial year, 38.8% of all briefs were to female counsel, with 37.5% of junior and 40.2% of senior briefs were to female counsel. By value, 38.8% of all briefs went to female counsel.

Total number of counsel briefs, whether direct or indirect	178
Male counsel (junior and senior) all briefs	109
Female counsel (junior and senior) all briefs	69
Of all briefs, those that were direct briefs	75
Male counsel (junior and senior) that were direct briefed	54
Female counsel (junior and senior) that were direct briefed	21

Gender equitable briefing	Female counsel		Male counsel	
	junior	senior	junior	senior
Number of briefs (per cent by gender)	36 (37.5%)	33 (40.2%)	60 (62.5%)	49 (59.8%)
Value of female and male briefs	\$3,544,522 (38.8%)		\$5,600,425 (61.2%)	
Value all briefs	\$9,144,947			

\*For the purposes gender-equitable briefing targets, the Law Council of Australia definition is adopted. This defines a ‘senior barrister’ as a:

- barrister of 10 or more years standing at the independent bar or
- barrister who is a Senior Counsel or Queen’s Counsel.