

LISTING DELAYS

Delays are measured by the time between the establishment of readiness for hearing and the first group of available hearing dates that the Court offers for criminal and civil trial cases, criminal and civil appeals and Bails List cases. These delays do not apply if the Court orders an expedited hearing or for matters in the Commercial List of the Equity Division.

Allocation of work to acting judges assists the Court to manage and balance listing delays across all areas of work. Without the availability of acting judges, it is likely that there would be an increase in listing delays. The table of listing delays below shows the listing delays that applied at the start of the new law term following the close of the reporting year. At the start of the 2024 law term, delays improved within the Court of Appeal and Court of Criminal Appeal. There was a significant increase in delays for listings in the Equity Division and the Common Law Civil Division, as compared to the start of the 2023 law term.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
COURT OF APPEAL ³²	1.8 months	2.0 months	1.9 months	2.2 months	1.0 months
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL ³³	3.4 months	5.4 months	6.3 months	4.0 months	1.6 months
COMMON LAW DIVISION					
Criminal List ³⁴	5.0 months	4.2 months	4.6 months	4.0 months	4.2 months
Civil lists ³⁵	12.5 months	10.3 months	6.9 months	4.0 months	8.1 months
Bails List ³⁶	2 weeks	3 weeks	3 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks
EQUITY DIVISION ³⁷	6.7 months	6.3 months	3.0 months	1.3 months	4.5 months
MEDIATIONS	6 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks

³² Delay for substantive appeals (including those heard concurrently with a leave application). The listing delay is usually shorter for a hearing of a leave application alone.

³³ Delay for appeals against conviction. The listing delay is usually shorter for interlocutory appeals and appeals against sentence only.

³⁴ Delay for matters requiring at least 4 weeks of trial time

³⁵ Delay for matters requiring up to 5 days of hearing time

³⁶ The delay refers to the time between lodgment of an application and the first group of available hearing dates.

³⁷ This refers only to General List and Probate (Contentious Matters) List cases requiring 2 or more days of hearing time before a judge