

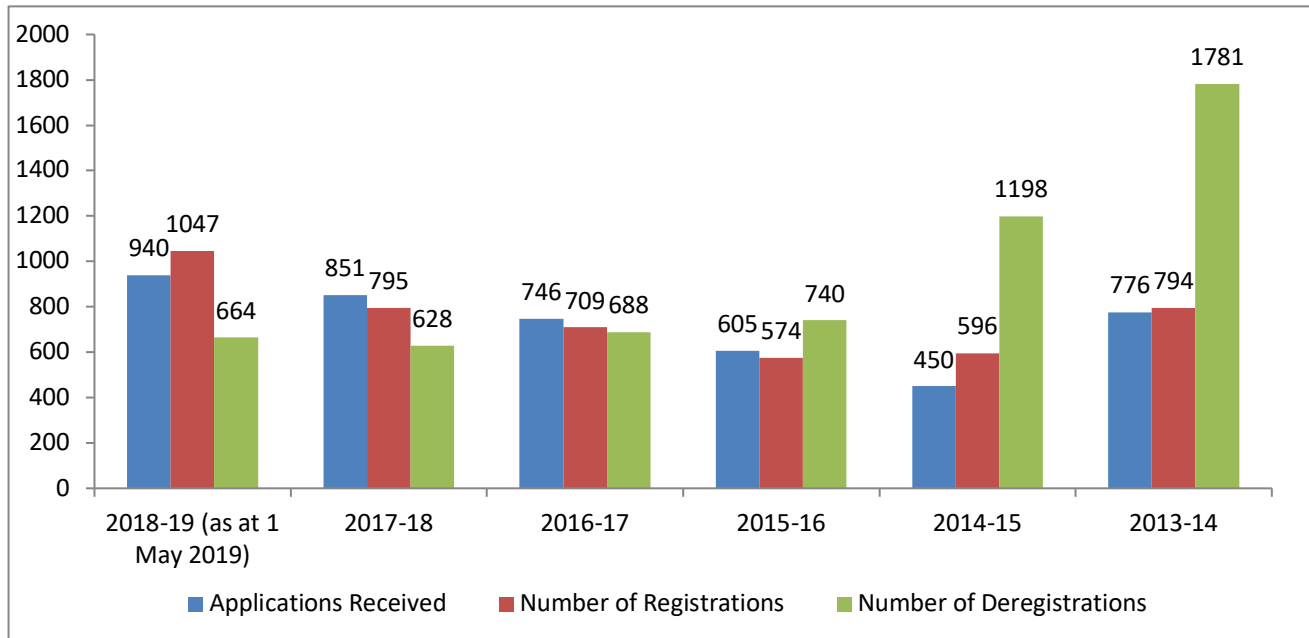


1 May 2019

# Marriage Celebrants Programme statistics

Statistics contained in the following tables are drawn from the MarCel database and are accurate as at 1 May 2019 unless otherwise indicated.

## Registrations and deregistrations



**COMMONWEALTH-REGISTERED MARRIAGE CELEBRANTS**

	As at 1 May 2019	1 July 2018	1 July 2017	1 July 2016	1 July 2015
Number of registered celebrants	9,194	8,808	8,641	8,620	8,786

**APPLICATIONS**

	1 May 2019 YTD	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Received	940	851	746	605	450	776
Assessed - Unsuccessful	0	1	6	1	4	27
Assessed - Successful	1047	795	709	574	596	794

**EXEMPTIONS FROM APPLICATION FEE**

	1 May 2019 YTD	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Applications Received	4	3	2	1	1
Exemption Granted	2	3	2	1	1

**EXEMPTIONS FROM ANNUAL REGISTRATION CHARGE**

	1 May 2019 YTD	2017	2016	2015	2014
Applications Received	39	51	60	58	93
Exemption Granted	35	49	56	47	74
Exemption Granted due to Application Fee Exemption	2	3	1	1	0

**GRANTED EXEMPTIONS FROM ANNUAL REGISTRATION CHARGE - CATEGORY**

	1 May 2019 YTD	2017	2016	2015	2014
Remoteness	19	21	23	20	23
Specified circumstances	16	28	33	27	51

**DEREGISTRATIONS**

	1 May 2019 YTD	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Resigned	279	412	488	499	622	926
Deceased	9	12	11	5	20	43
Joined RD	5	14	9	14	7	16
Non-payment of annual registration charge	371	189	176	208	542	0
Other (disciplinary measure/ complaint)	0	1	4	14	7	796
<b>Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>1781</b>

# Enquiries

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE						
	1 May 2019 YTD	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
<b>Emails</b>	13,386	15,470	13,971	16,857	23,687	19,565
<b>Letter &amp; Fax</b>	810	1,237	798	1,425	1,548	1,631
<b>Phone Calls</b>	4,421	3,145	5,141	6,430	6,506	425
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,617</b>	<b>18,743</b>	<b>19,910</b>	<b>24,712</b>	<b>31,741</b>	<b>21,621</b>

# Ongoing professional development

OPD COMPLIANCE				
OPD year (1 Jan – 31 Dec)	Number of OPD exemptions given	Number of celebrants required to complete OPD at 31 December	Actual number of celebrants who were OPD compliant	Compliance Rate
2013 OPD year	217	10,611*	8,251	78%
2014 OPD year	175	8,848	8,298	94%
2015 OPD year	249	8,654	8,155	94%
2016 OPD year	189	8,578	8,170	95%
2017 OPD year	200	8,699	8,212	97%
2018 OPD Year	267**	8,821	8,499	96%

\*The way of reporting the number of celebrants required to do OPD changed after 2013 to improve accuracy. Figures used for 2013 included celebrants who were deregistered during the year, who no longer had OPD obligations. Figures from 2014 include only celebrants who were registered at 31 December, and therefore still had an obligation to complete OPD.

\*\*28 exemptions from OPD due to exception circumstances were granted in 2018.

## Reasons for OPD Exemptions

The Registrar of Marriage Celebrants may grant an OPD exemption when:

- exceptional circumstances (eg due to illness or other personal reasons) means the celebrant is unable to complete OPD during the year, or
- a new celebrant's registration falls late in the OPD year such that it is not feasible to complete OPD that year.

A celebrant will automatically be exempted from OPD in the first calendar year of their registration if they were awarded a Certificate IV in Celebrancy qualification within 12 months of their registration date.

## Complaints

As at 1 May 2019, there were 5 complaints in progress. 1 complaint is on hold while under investigation of another agency.

COMPLAINTS						
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED (BY TYPE; BY DATE OF RECEIPT)	1 May 2019 YTD	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Statutory	24	25	22	9	9	15
Non-statutory	5	1	22	20	31	0
<b>Total received</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>COMPLAINTS FINALISED</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>

Statutory complaints are those that meet the criteria set out in the Marriage Regulations 2017. This includes that the complaint must relate to the solemnisation of the marriage. From 1 July 2015, the department has regarded a complaint as being about the solemnisation of marriage where the matter complained of concerns a legal obligation or requirement contained in Division 2, Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*. Before 1 July 2015, any conduct occurring during the marriage ceremony was considered to relate to the solemnisation of marriage.

Non-statutory complaints are complaints about marriage celebrants that do not meet the criteria in the Marriage Regulations. From 1 July 2015, these include complaints about possible conflicts of interest or benefits to business.