

## Magistrates' Court of Victoria

The Magistrates' Court is the first court in the Victorian court hierarchy. It is presided over by a judicial officer known as a Magistrate who sits without a jury. A new, civil federal jurisdiction is now operating in the Civil Division of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria. This jurisdiction will hear some applications previously heard by VCAT.

**Click on each title below for more detailed information.**

### [Criminal matters](#)

The criminal jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Court hears and determines all summary offences, some indictable offences and conducts committal hearings.

### [Civil matters](#)

The Magistrates' Court can hear civil disputes up to the value of \$100,000 arising from debts, claims for damages, other monetary disputes, or equitable relief.

### [Intervention orders](#)

There are two types of intervention orders that can be ordered in the Magistrates' Court. They are personal safety and family violence intervention orders.

### [Drug Court](#)

A post-sentence program focusing on the rehabilitation and treatment of offenders with a drug and/or alcohol dependency.

### [Koori Court](#)

A court for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who have pleaded guilty to a criminal offence.

### [Assessment and Referral Court \(ARC\)](#)

A court list for accused persons who have a mental illness and /or a cognitive impairment. A cognitive impairment can include an intellectual disability, acquired brain injury or autism spectrum disorder.