

## FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR CIVIL CASES

*Before 26 April 1999, under the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990*

COUNTY COURT	HIGH COURT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small claims up to £3,000</li><li>• Any action less than £25,000 unless transferred to the High Court</li><li>• Personal injury cases under £50,000</li><li>• Equity matters up to £30,000</li><li>• Probate proceedings less than £30,000</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any action over £50,000 unless transferred to the county court under the High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction Order 1991</li></ul>
<p>Cases in contract and tort between £25-50,000 could be heard in either court depending on the criteria in Article 7(5) of the 1991 Order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial value of the action</li><li>• Importance of the action</li><li>• Complexity of the case</li><li>• Whether transfer of the case will lead to a more speedy trial.</li></ul> <p>Note the Practice Direction of 1991 by the Court of Appeal: some cases not suitable for transfer to the CC: professional negligence; fatal accidents; fraud or undue influence; defamation; malicious prosecution or false imprisonment; and claims against the police</p>	

*Since 26 April 1999, after the Woolf reforms*

COUNTY COURT	HIGH COURT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small Claims Track cases up to £5,000</li><li>• Fast Track cases worth up to £15,000</li><li>• Multi-Track cases over £15,000</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Claims more than £15,000 (Multi-Track cases)</li><li>• Personal injury cases over £50,000</li></ul> <p><i>Note Practice Direction 29:</i> Cases less than £50,000 will be transferred to a CC unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• required by legislation to be tried in the HC;</li><li>• it falls within a specialist list (CPR Part 49 ie, admiralty proceedings, arbitration proceedings, commercial actions, Patents Court business, Technology and Construction Court business, proceedings under Companies Acts, and contentious probate proceedings);</li><li>• it falls within para 2.6 (see Practice Direction 1991, above) or Article 7(5)</li></ul> <p><i>Note Civil Procedure Rules Part 30:</i> HC may transfer a case over £50,000 to the CC</p>