



Personnel Today

Employment Tribunal waiting times reach eight months

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Employers are waiting an average of eight months for employment tribunal claims to reach a hearing, according to data analysis from [GQ|Littler](#).

The law firm said the number of claims rose 27% last year, and the average waiting time between the employment tribunal service receiving the claim and when it is heard is 237 days.

Waiting time is up 14% from 207 days last year, and this is the fourth year in a row that it has increased.

The Supreme Court abolished tribunal fees in July 2017, which has led to a steady rise in claims ever since. At the same time, restricted government funding has made it difficult to employ enough front-line judicial staff.

[GQ|Littler](#) found that the number of single claims received in 2018/9 was 35,430, up 27% on the previous year (27,920).

Yet according to a report from the Bar Council, between 2010 and 2018 expenditure on courts and tribunals fell 6% from £1.96 billion to £1.84 billion – a 17% decline in real terms.

[GQ|Littler](#) reports that in some tribunal courts, such as the Croydon Employment Tribunal, cases are now being listed for 2021.

You can read the full article [here](#).