

**CHAPTER III**  
**GENERAL DESCRIPTION WITH**  
**STATISTICS**

## Chapter III – General Description with Statistics

### 3.1 Number of Complaints Recorded

The Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) received 736 case reports through various channels, of which 500 involved criminal offences and 236 related to administrative complaints. The figures continue to indicate a declining trend, with a major decrease in criminal cases, and a slight drop in administrative complaints. The decline in the number of reports may be attributed on one hand to the changing nature of corrupt practices, which have become more subtle and difficult to detect; on the other hand, it is also related to the optimising of the complaint mechanism against administrative misdeeds and the increasing transparency of administrative procedures.

Table 1  
General trend of complaints recorded from 2000 to 2007

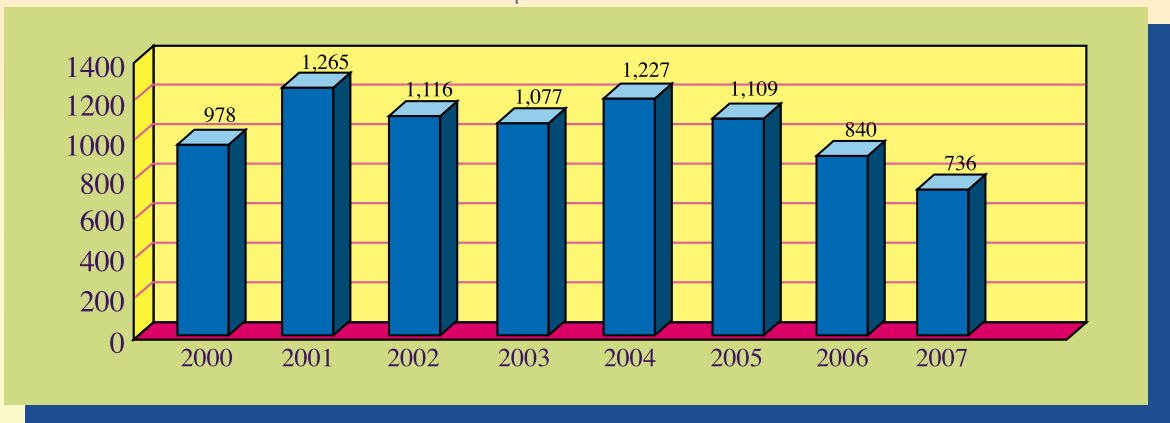
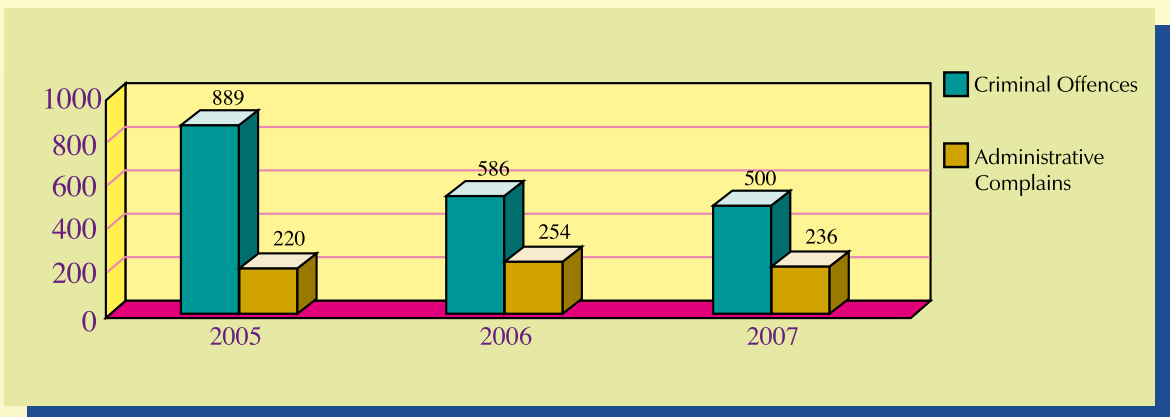


Table 2  
A comparison of the number of complaints by type from 2005-2007



Of the 645 reports filed by citizens, 333 were anonymous or requested anonymity; 312 were signed or indicated that the complainants were prepared to provide data on identity. In recent years, signed complaints or complaints lodged with complainants willing to provide personal information have increased, almost equaling the number of anonymous complains filed or those intending to remain anonymous. This indicates that citizens are more determined to report corruption and that the CCAC is gaining the confidence of the public. In addition, the CCAC has received 26 case reports referred to it or filed by other public agencies, plus 18 case reports from overseas law enforcement departments requesting help or assistance, 4 cases were initiated for investigation by judicial institution, while 43 cases have been actively followed up by the CCAC.

Table 3  
Comparison of cases recorded from 2005 to 2007 by source

Sources		2005		2006		2007	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Reports from citizens	Anonymous or requested anonymity	650	58.6%	437	52.0%	333	45.3%
	Signed or willing to provide personal data	403	36.3%	335	39.9%	312	42.4%
Referred/ reported by public entities		25	2.3%	12	1.4%	26	3.5%
Cases requiring assistance		20	1.8%	30	3.6%	18	2.5%
Referred/ reported by media		0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Initiated by judicial institutions		0	0%	6	0.7%	4	0.5%
Initiated by CCAC		11	1.0%	20	2.4%	43	5.8%
Total recorded cases		1,109	100.0%	840	100.0%	736	100.0%

The CCAC actively encourages citizens to lodge complaints or file reports through various channels, and is prepared to provide means that are convenient to public. Mail is the most popular method of reporting by citizens and public institutions. While telephone or personal tip-off are the next popular. Complaints received via email have slightly increased in recent years. The CCAC undertakes to keep citizens' report data and content strictly confidential. The CCAC encourages citizens to lodge their complaints in person or make signed reports as far as possible in order to expedite investigation.

Table 4  
Different components of cases recorded in 2007 by source of reporting method

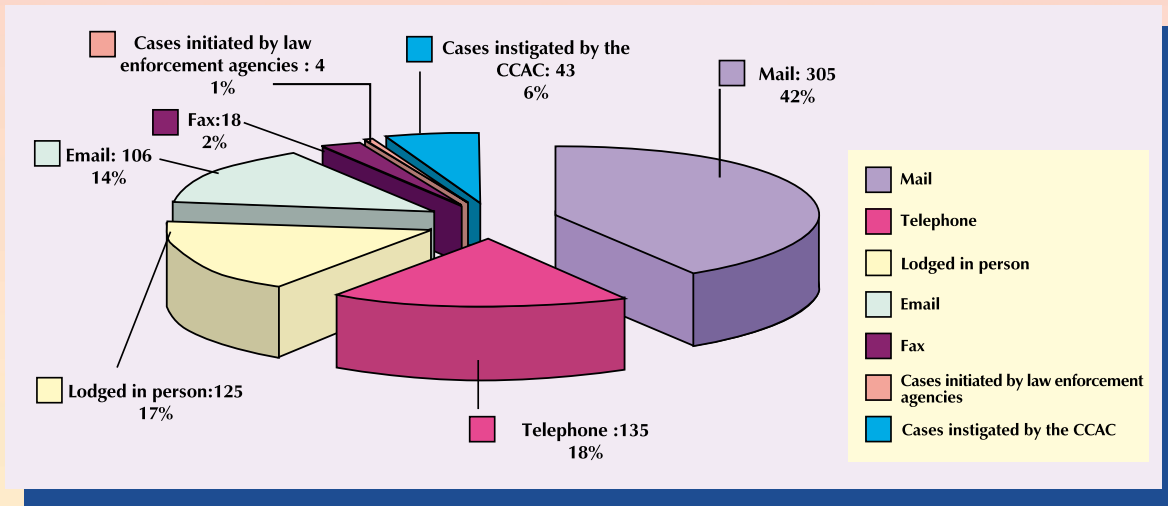


Table 5  
Comparison of cases received from 2005 to 2007 by source of reporting method

Reporting method	2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
By mail	358	32.3%	288	34.3%	305	41.4%
By telephone	377	34.0%	247	29.4%	135	18.4%
By person	230	20.7%	138	16.4%	125	17.0%
By email	116	10.5%	119	14.2%	106	14.4%
By fax	17	1.5%	22	2.6%	18	2.5%
Initiated by judicial institution	0	0%	6	0.7%	4	0.5%
Initiated by the CCAC	11	1.0%	20	2.4%	43	5.8%
<b>Total cases</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

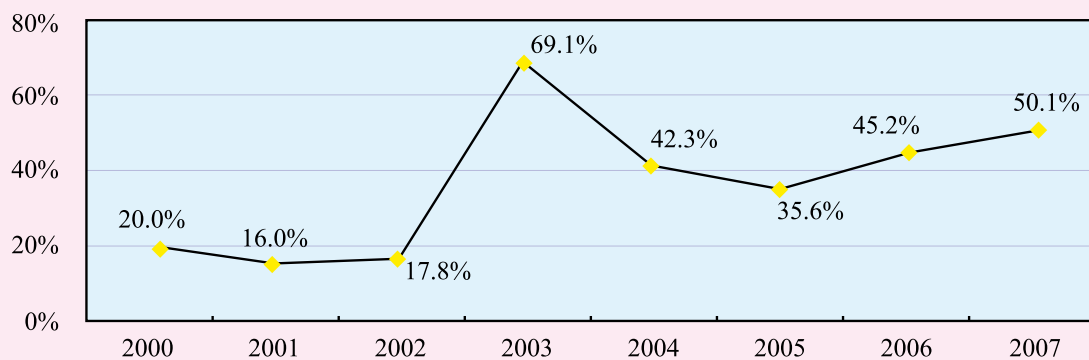
### 3.2 Complaint Handling Methods

Of the complaints and reports received by the CCAC in 2007, some 367 were either unrelated to corruption or did not fall within the jurisdiction of the CCAC, or were inadequate in terms of data for further investigation. 369 cases were qualified to be followed up, which were handled by case commencement, referred to other departments or unofficial channels. The proportion of reports qualifying for investigation exceeded that of the year before, suggesting that the quality of data provided by citizens' reports was improving.

Table 6  
Complaint handling methods recorded in 2007

Handling methods		Number	Percentage
Qualified	Commencement	75	50.1%
	Referred to other departments	43	
	Unofficial channels	251	
Non-qualifying cases requiring no further investigation		367	49.9%
<b>Total</b>		<b>736</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 7  
Comparison of cases qualified for handling from 2000 to 2007



The cases that qualified for investigation by the CCAC in 2007 comprised those carried over from 2006 and those newly initiated, which together amounted to 500, of which 125 were commenced cases, while 375 of them were handled by unofficial channels.

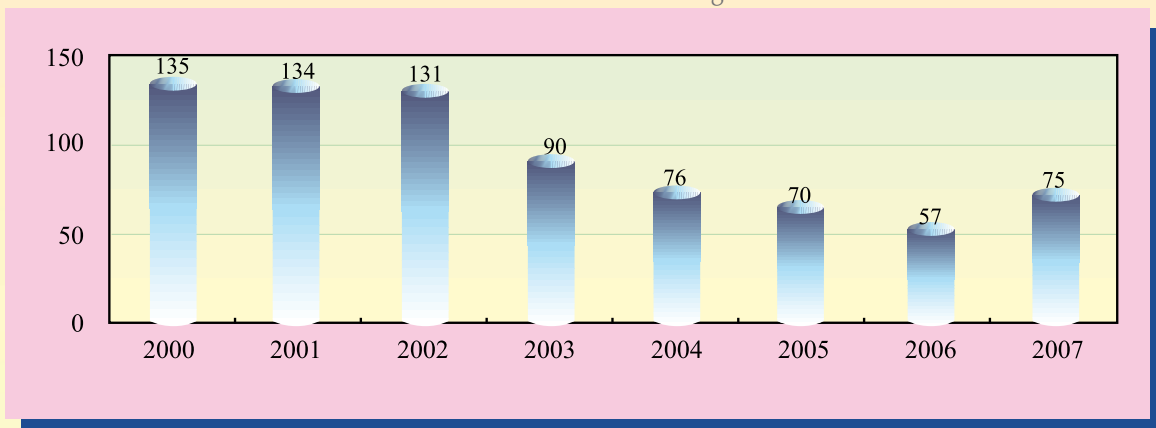
Among the commenced cases, 66 were criminal offences while 9 were administrative complaints, plus two re-opened cases and 48 cases that were carried over from 2006. Cases handled by unofficial channels included 294 cases newly filed in 2007 and 81 cases carried over from 2006. Most of the administrative complaints were handled by unofficial channels and quickly resolved in the interests of the complainants, avoiding time-consuming case proceedings. As a result, administrative complaints comprised the bulk of cases that were not commenced for investigation. In addition, the CCAC had received 647 requests for help and consultation.

Table 8  
Total number of cases handled in 2007

Classification of handled cases		Number	
Cases commenced for investigation	Commenced in 2007	75	125
	Re-opened in 2007	2	
	Transferred from 2006	48*	
Cases not commenced for investigation	Recorded in 2007	294	375
	Transferred from 2006	81	
<b>Total</b>		<b>500</b>	

\*After amendment

Table 9  
General trend of cases commenced for investigation in 2000 to 2007



In terms of sources of complaints recorded, the number of cases which were initiated by the CCAC had risen steeply in 2007, constituting the majority of the cases; this year saw the greatest number of cases initiated by the CCAC when compared to the past. This was resulted from the CCAC policy of proactively combating corruption. While a considerable number of reports were filed anonymously or requested anonymity, the ratio of signed reports and those whose filers were prepared to provide data on their identity was also rather high. There was also a noticeable increase in the number of cases referred or transferred by other public institutions among the commenced cases, indicating that those institutions and the CCAC are enhancing co-operation on anti-corruption.

Table 10  
Comparison of cases commenced for investigation from 2005 to 2007 by source

Sources of complaints recorded		2005		2006		2007	
		Total	Percentage	Total	Percentage	Total	Percentage
Reported by Citizens	Anonymous or requesting anonymity	40	57.1%	26	45.6%	19	25.3%
	Signed or willing to provide personal data	24	34.3%	16	28.1%	11	14.7%
Referred/reported by public entities		2	2.9%	2	3.5%	7	9.3%
Referred/reported by media		0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Cases initiated by judicial institutions		0	0%	6	10.5%	4	5.3%
Cases initiated by the CCAC		4	5.7%	7	12.3%	34	45.4%
<b>Total</b>		70%		57%		75%	

### 3.3 Progress analysis of cases

In 2007, the CCAC concluded 40 commenced cases and 297 non-commenced cases - some 337 cases in all - with 11 referred to the Public Prosecutions Office. 163 cases would be forwarded to the following year – including 85 commenced cases and 78 non-commenced cases.

Table 11  
Analysis of handling progress of cases in 2007

classification	Cases handled in 2007	Cases concluded in 2007	Cases carried over into 2008
Commenced cases	125	40	85
Non- Commenced cases	375	297	78
<b>Total</b>	500	337	163

### 3.4 Cases handled by the Monitoring Committee for the Discipline of the CCAC personnel

The Monitoring Committee for the Discipline of the CCAC personnel received 4 complaints in 2007, primarily concerning the legality of inspection procedures and information released in press conferences, as well as resentment against staff member's attitude.

The Committee analysed and discussed the cases after receiving the complaints and investigative reports, and made the necessary suggestions to the parties concerned. No CCAC staff member was found to have breached disciplinary regulations.



Members of the Monitoring Committee for the Discipline of the CCAC personnel with leadership of Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau of Singapore during visit to Singapore in early 2008