



DMIRS APPROVALS PERFORMANCE REPORTING (Mining and Petroleum) – September Quarter 2021

The agency assessment timeliness for mining proposal and clearing permit applications have dropped below target timeframes for Quarter 3 2021. This is a result of increasing mining activity and the number of applications being received; as well as higher than normal levels of staff turnover. The Government has acknowledged the staffing and activity pressures with the announcement of the Fast Tracking Mining Approvals resourcing strategy, with \$27.4m over 4 years which includes funding for departmental staff positions. Recruitment surrounding this initiative has substantially progressed, with new staff to commence in the coming weeks (early 2022).

The DMIRS performance objective is to finalise eighty per cent of applications within the target timeline.

Departmental performance is measured against a range of administrative and statutory targets. For example, the DMIRS target for finalising a mineral exploration “Programme of Work” application is 15 business days. Key approval targets are listed in the appendix of this report. The “speedo” dashboard graphic represents our performance against each approval type for the quarter.

This report incorporates new information for 2021 and reflects industry feedback. There is more emphasis on total timeline information as this assists mineral and petroleum companies plan for exploration and development activities. The average total timeline is the time taken in the assessment process by DMIRS, the proponent and, where applicable, other government agencies. Other agency input may be required for complex applications, particularly if access is required to culturally important or environmentally sensitive areas. The segment titled “parallel processing” shows the number of overlap days where an application was on hold for both the proponent and another agency.

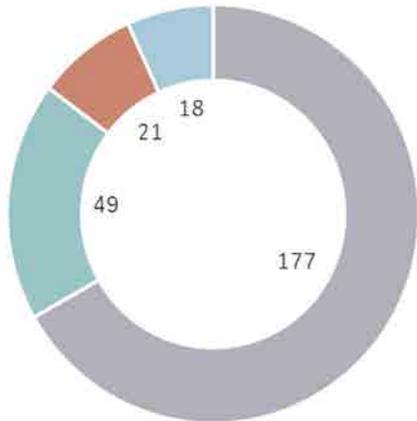
Most mineral and petroleum tenure applications are subject to the requirements of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. These applications include a four-month notification period (around 80 business days) prescribed under S29 of the *Native Title Act 1993*. This period is included as part of the “Other agencies” component for mineral and petroleum tenure applications.

The report provides detailed information about the number of received, finalised and open applications. This provides exploration and development activity trends over time and the number of open applications awaiting finalisation by the department.

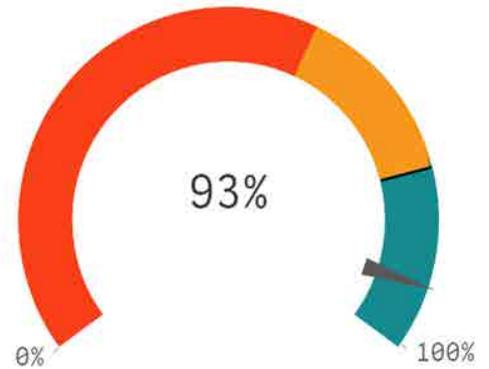
Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Prospecting Licence

Average **265** days total



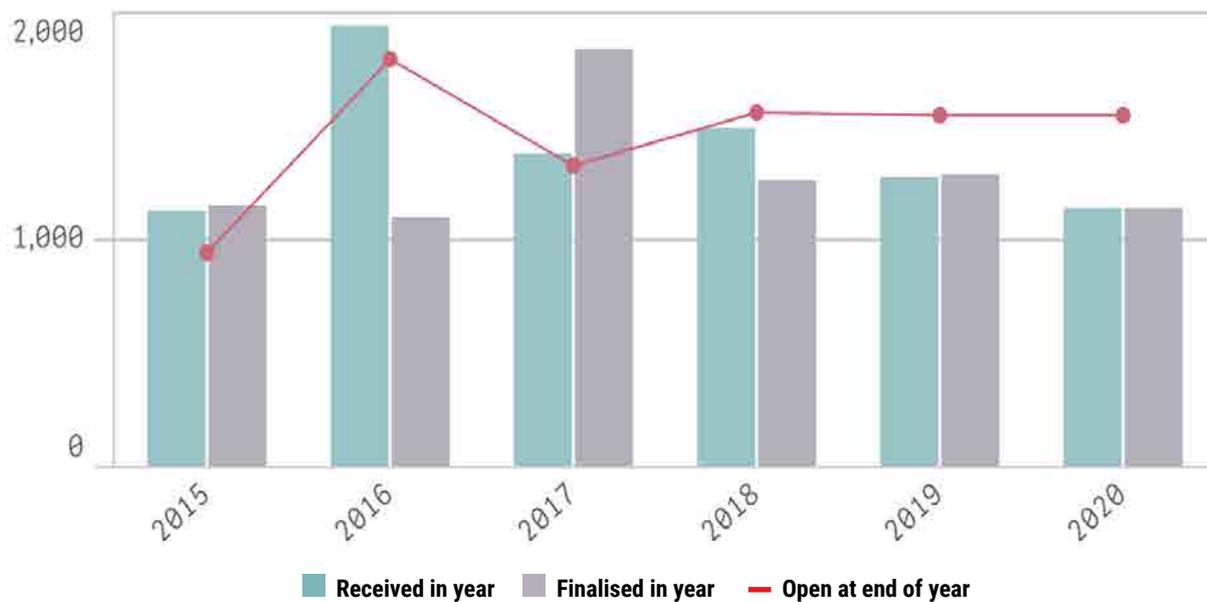
% Finalised within target timeline



■ DMIRS
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other Agencies
■ Parallel Processing

Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

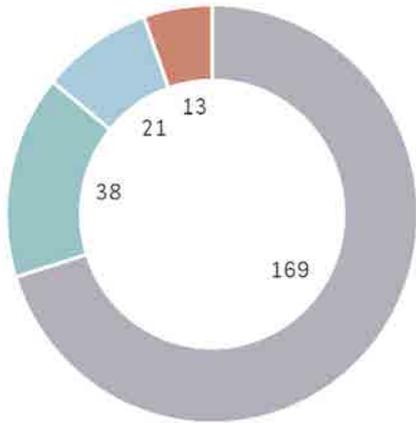
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	1,124	1,939	1,377	1,487	1,272	1,135
Finalised	1,145	1,093	1,836	1,258	1,282	1,136
Open	948	1,792	1,333	1,562	1,552	1,551



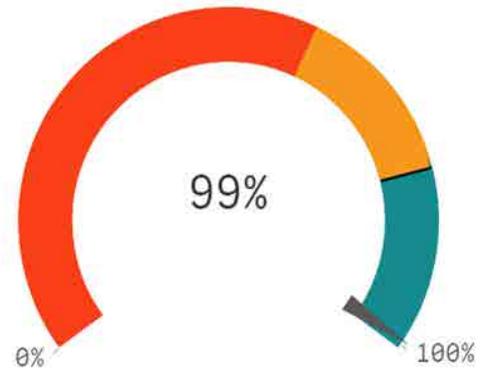
Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Exploration Licence

Average **241** days total



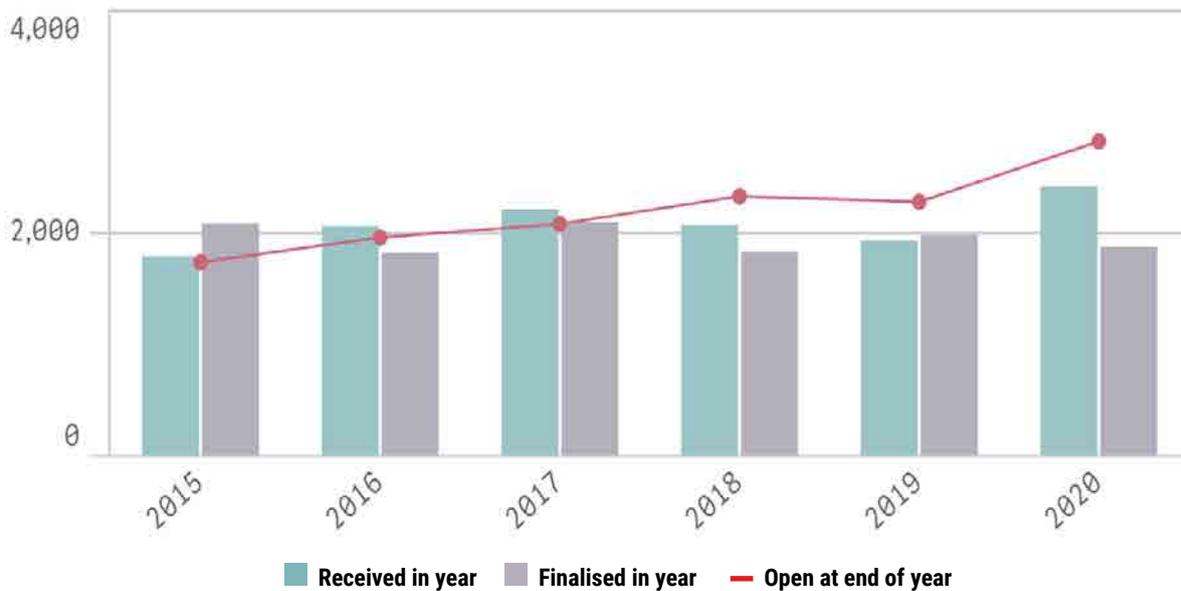
% Finalised within target timeline



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 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other Agencies
■ Parallel Processing

Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

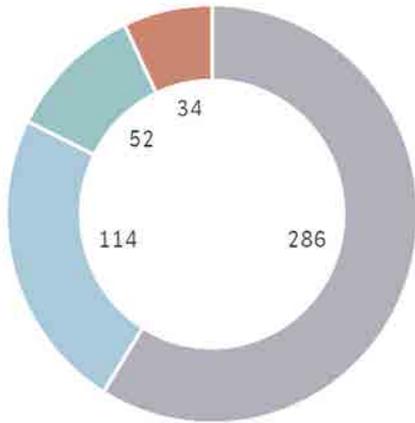
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	1,785	2,053	2,206	2,061	1,925	2,410
Finalised	2,079	1,815	2,089	1,824	1,970	1,865
Open	1,731	1,969	2,086	2,323	2,278	2,823



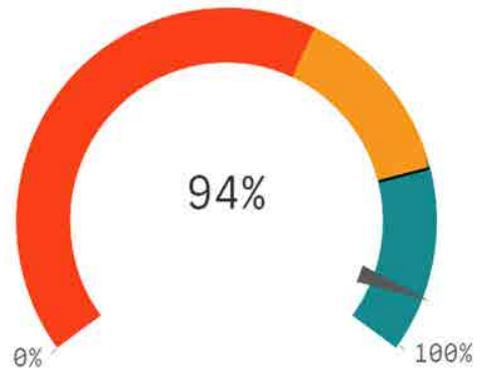
Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Mining Lease

Average **486** days total



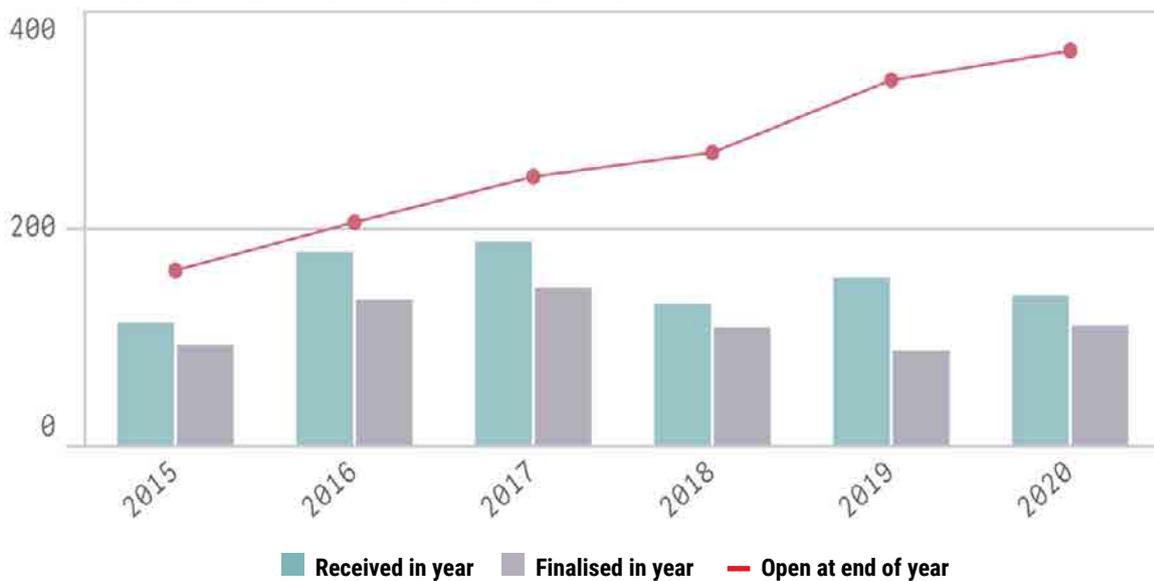
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

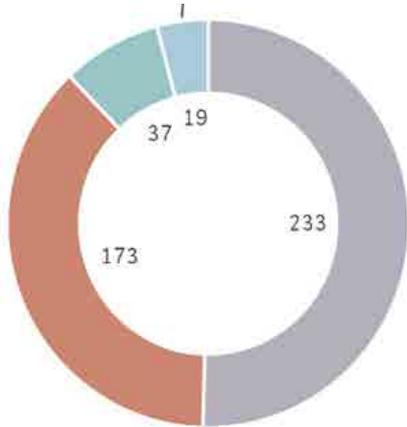
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	113	178	187	130	154	138
Finalised	92	134	145	108	87	110
Open	162	206	248	270	337	365



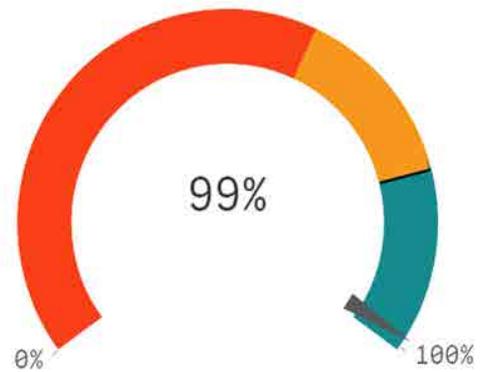
Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Miscellaneous Licence and other tenure

Average **462** days total



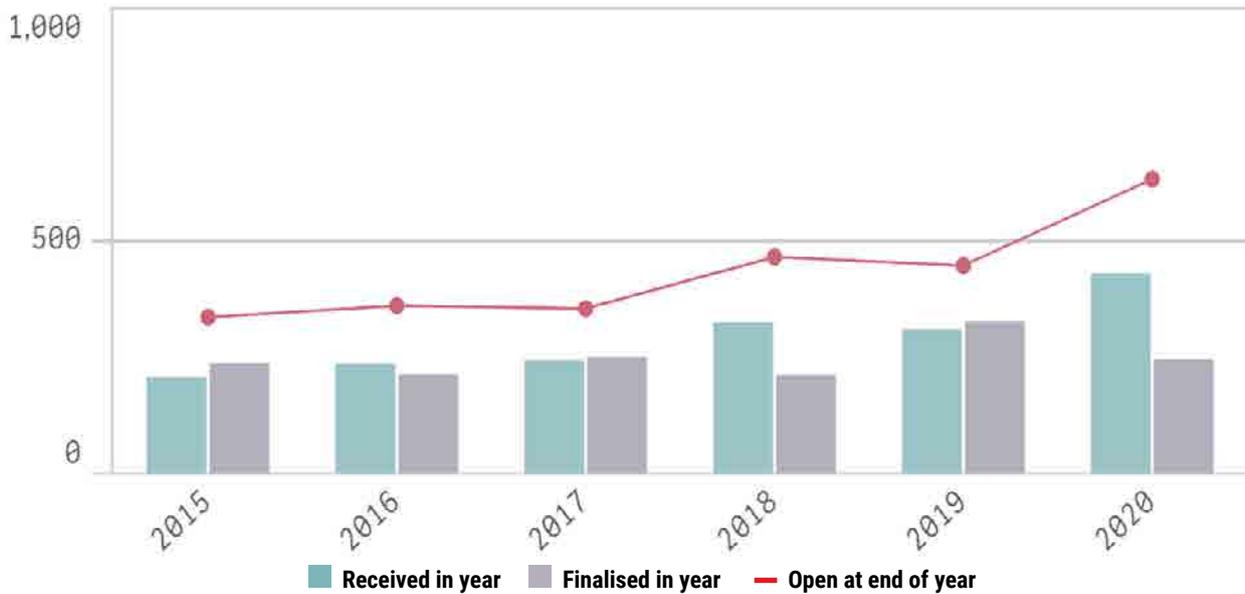
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

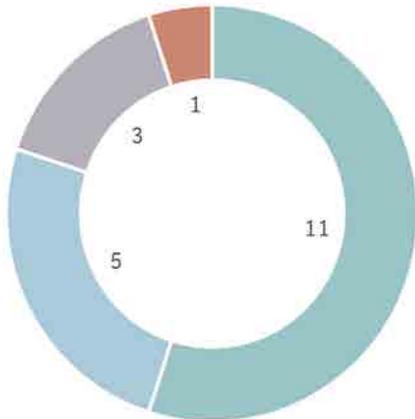
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	204	235	241	323	307	428
Finalised	236	211	248	210	325	243
Open	336	360	353	466	448	633



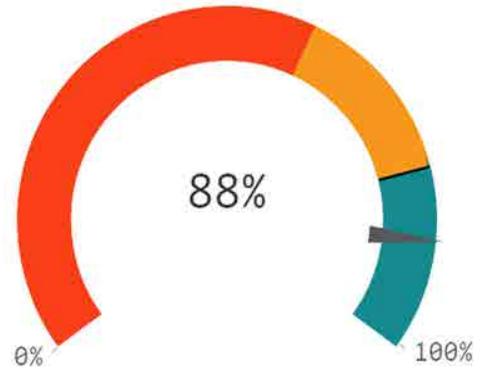
Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Programme of Work

Average 20 days total



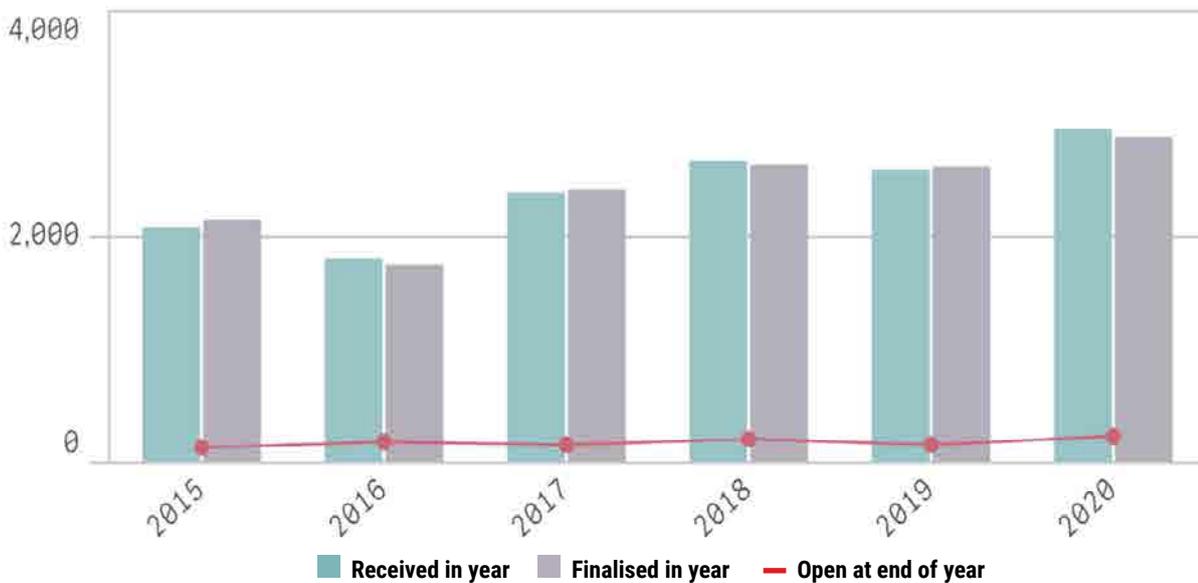
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

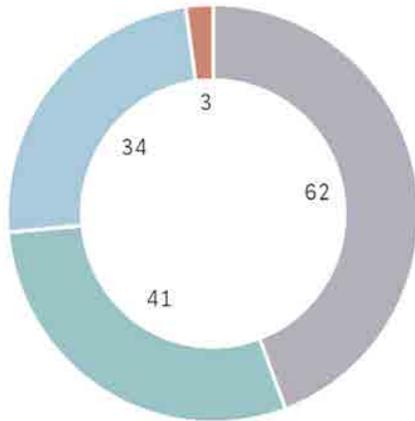
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	2,068	1,799	2,384	2,667	2,581	2,942
Finalised	2,135	1,745	2,406	2,626	2,613	2,871
Open	126	180	158	199	167	238



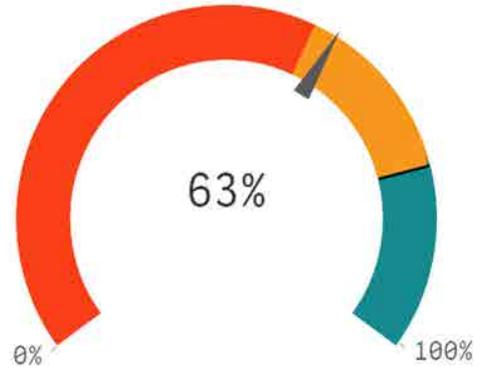
Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Mining Proposal

Average **140** days total



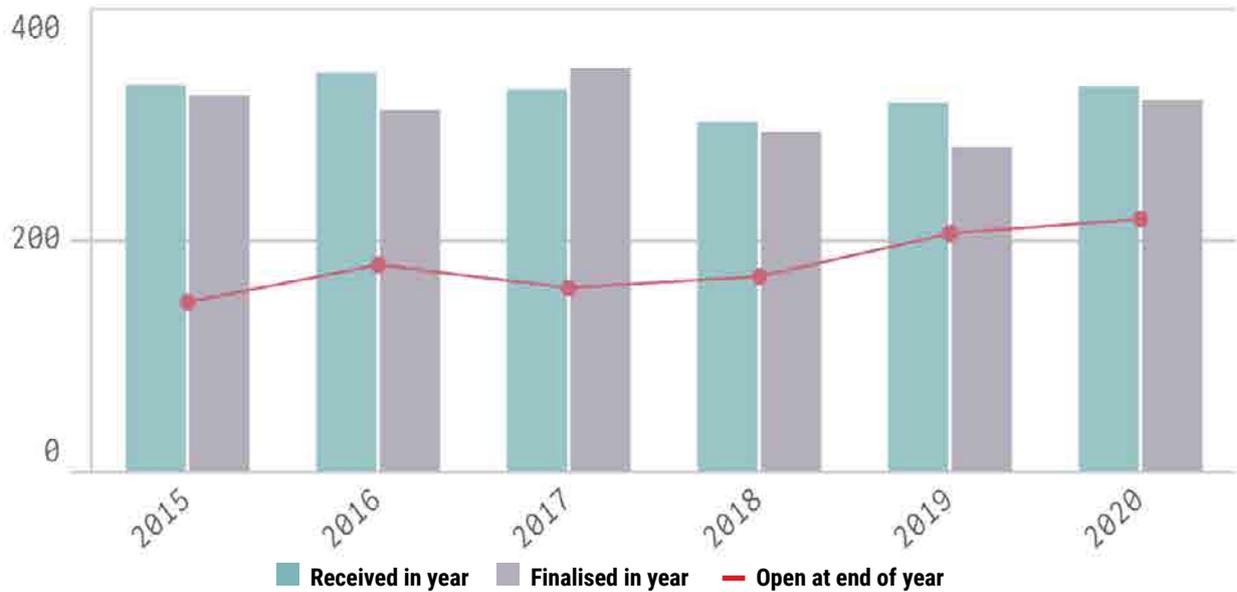
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

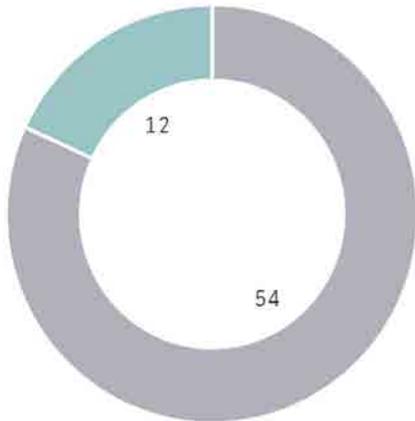
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	333	344	329	301	318	332
Finalised	324	312	348	293	280	320
Open	147	179	160	168	206	218



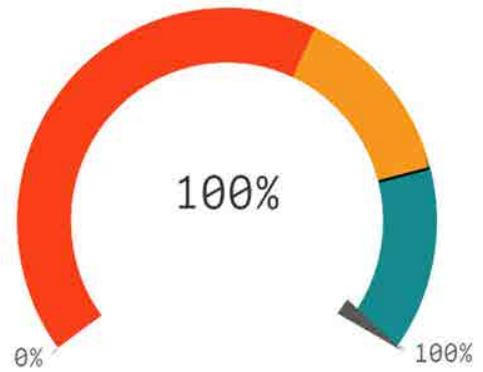
Mines Safety Inspection Act 1994 – Mine safety management plans

Project Management Plans and Radiation Management Plans

Average 66 days total



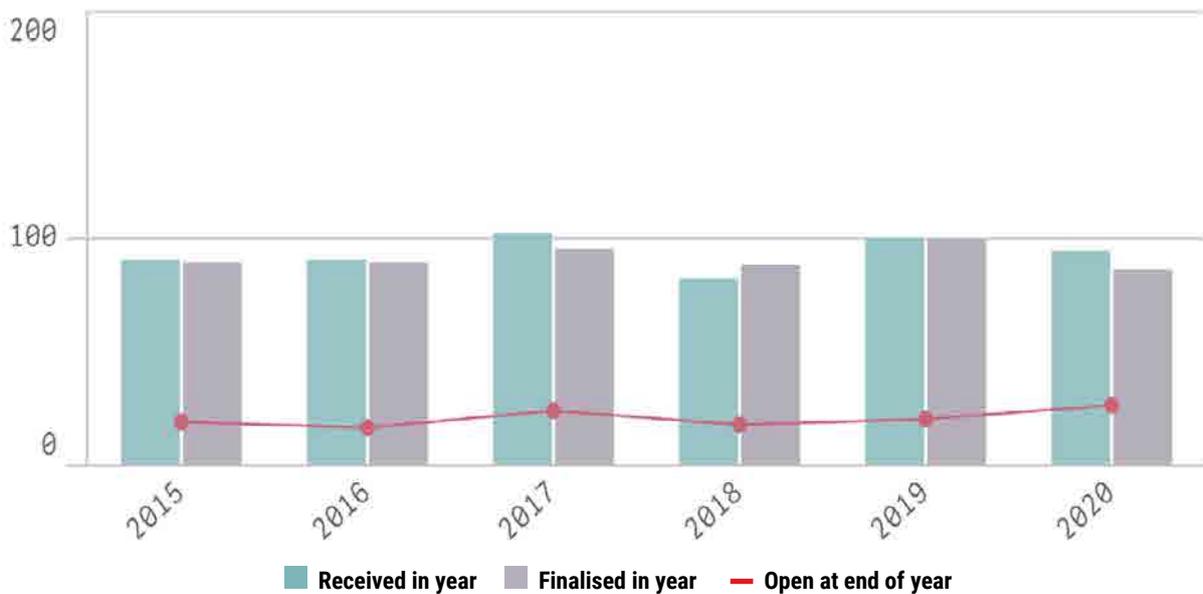
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

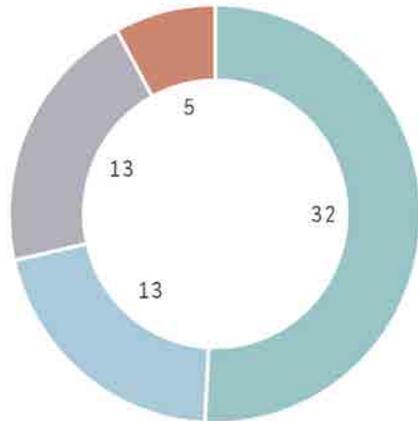
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	90	90	102	82	100	94
Finalised	89	89	95	88	99	86
Open	19	17	24	18	20	27



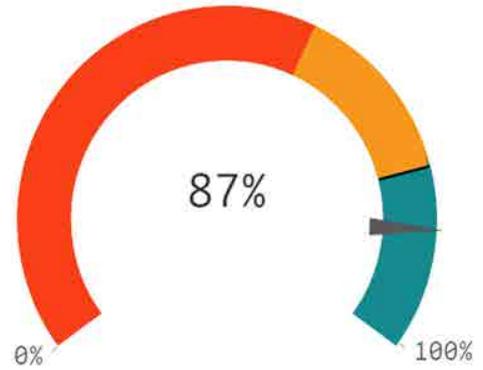
WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum tenure and activity

Average **63** days total



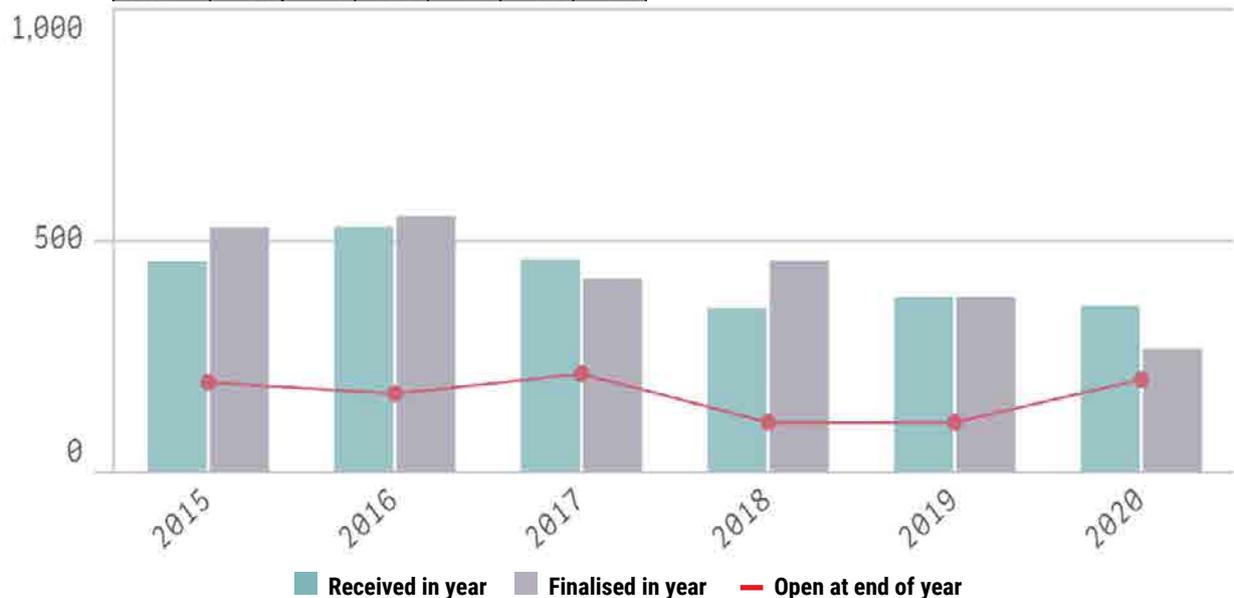
% Finalised within target timeline



- DMIRS
- Proponent
- Other Agencies
- Parallel Processing

Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

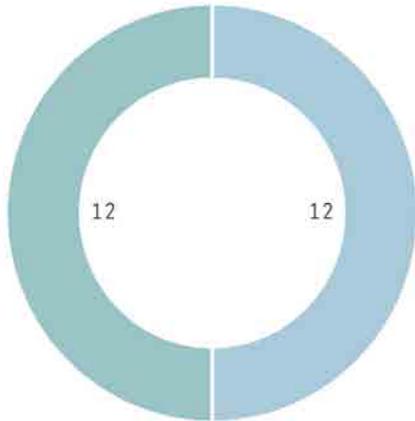
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	453	527	457	352	376	356
Finalised	526	550	415	455	376	265
Open	192	169	211	108	108	199



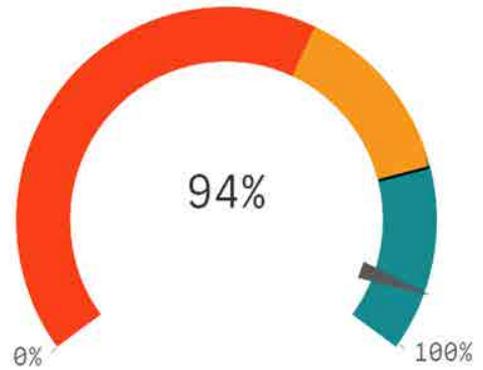
WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum Environment Plans

Average 24 days total



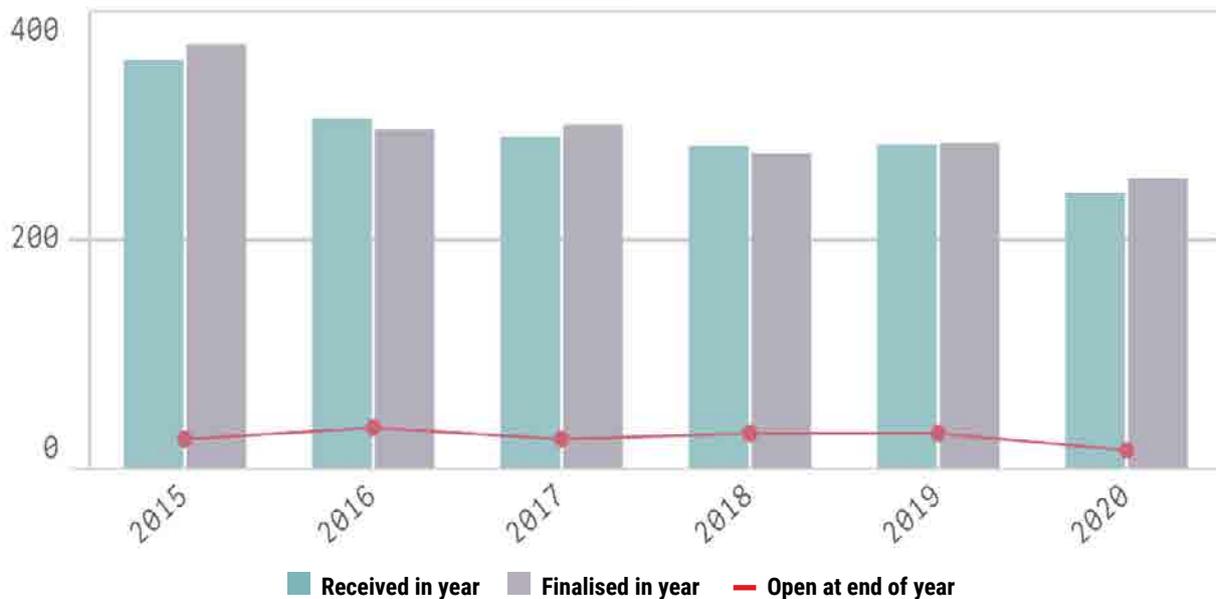
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

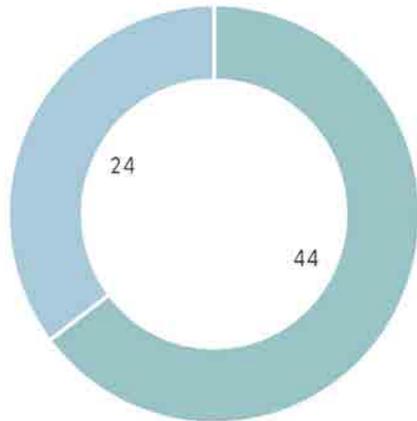
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	356	305	289	281	282	240
Finalised	370	295	299	274	284	253
Open	25	35	25	32	30	17



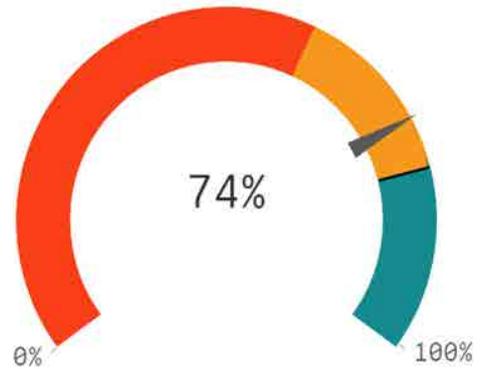
Environmental Protection Act 1986 – Native vegetation clearing permits (Resource Sector)

By delegation from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Average **68** days total



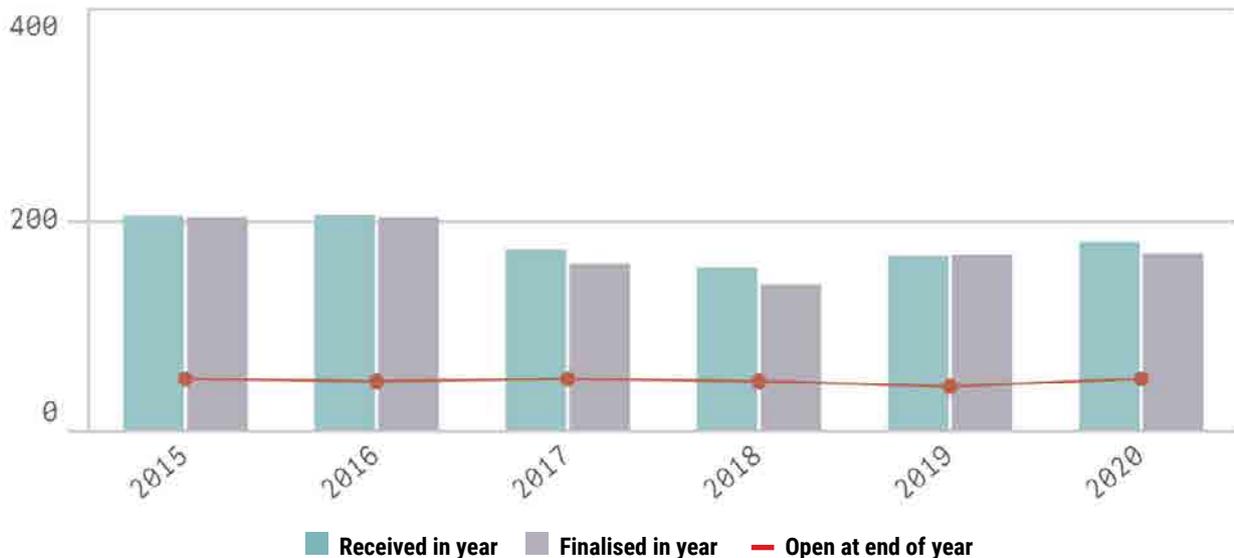
% Finalised within target timeline



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Trends for Received, Finalised and Open Applications

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Received	203	204	171	154	165	179
Finalised	202	202	158	138	166	168
Open	49	47	49	47	42	50



Appendix – DMIRS target timeline information

Key approval processes	Target timeline (business days)
Mining Tenure	65
Petroleum Tenure	120
Petroleum Environment Plan	21
Mining Proposal	30
Programme of Works	15
Project Management Plan	30
Radiation Management Plan	30
Native Vegetation Clearing Permit	43

Note: Petroleum Environment Plans have a statutory target of 30 calendar days (21 business days).

The DMIRS native vegetation clearing permit target is to finalise 80 per cent of applications within 60 calendar days (43 business days).