Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) Liquor Licensing Performance Report

September Quarter 2026

This report presents information on liquor licensing application timeframes in Western Australia for the September 2026 quarter. It reports on the total time taken to finalise applications for nine of the 14 permanent liquor licence categories, together with Approved Manager applications (new and renewal) administered by the Director of Liquor Licensing.

During the September 2026 quarter, the following applications were determined:

- 47 permanent liquor licences; and
- 2,004 Approved Manager applications (new and renewals).

Approved Manager applications accounted for approximately 98 per cent of all applications determined during the quarter. Over the three reporting quarters in 2026, Approved Manager application volumes fluctuated from 1,573 applications in the March quarter to 1,429 in the June quarter, before increasing again to 2,004 in the September quarter.

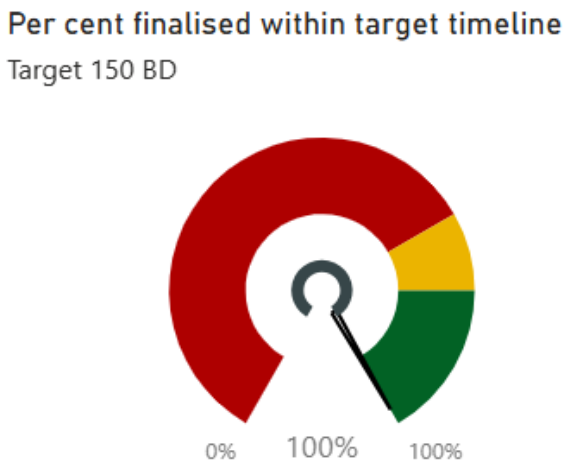
Despite these variations in demand, average determination times for new Approved Manager applications remained stable for six business days across all three quarters. Average determination times for Approved Manager renewal applications improved from eight business days in the June quarter to six business days in the September quarter.

Applications exceeding target timeframes were generally affected by case-specific factors, including outstanding documentation or application requirements, periods waiting for information from the applicant, contested matters requiring escalated determination processes, and applicant-requested pauses to the process. In some instances, targets were exceeded only marginally. These factors provide important context when interpreting performance, particularly for categories with relatively small application volumes.

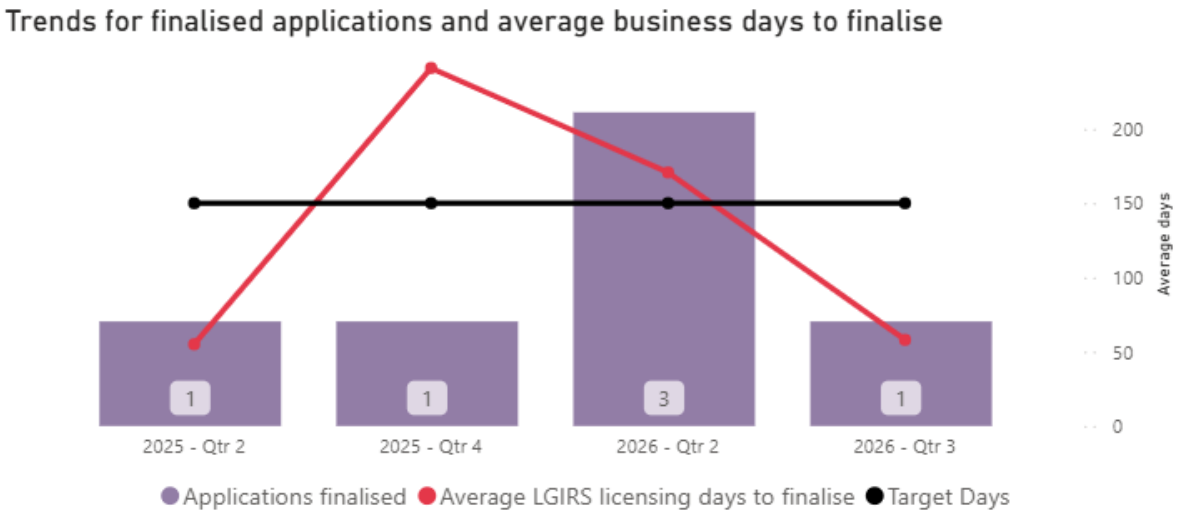
With three quarters of reporting for the year now available, the results indicate generally consistent processing performance for Approved Manager applications despite fluctuations in application volumes. Performance for permanent liquor licence categories reported on should be considered in context, for example for relatively low application volumes, where a small number of applications require additional processing, average timeframes can be materially affected.

LGIRS was formed on 1 July 2025. Prior to this date, the activities reported on were undertaken by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Hotel and Hotel Restricted

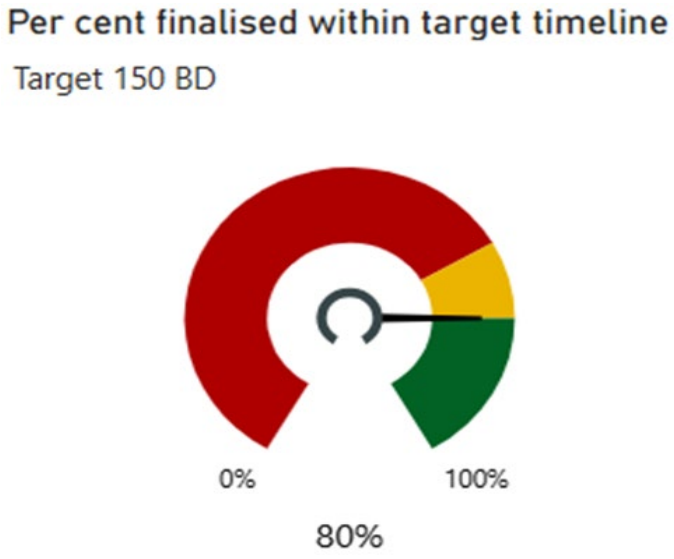


Average 58 business days total

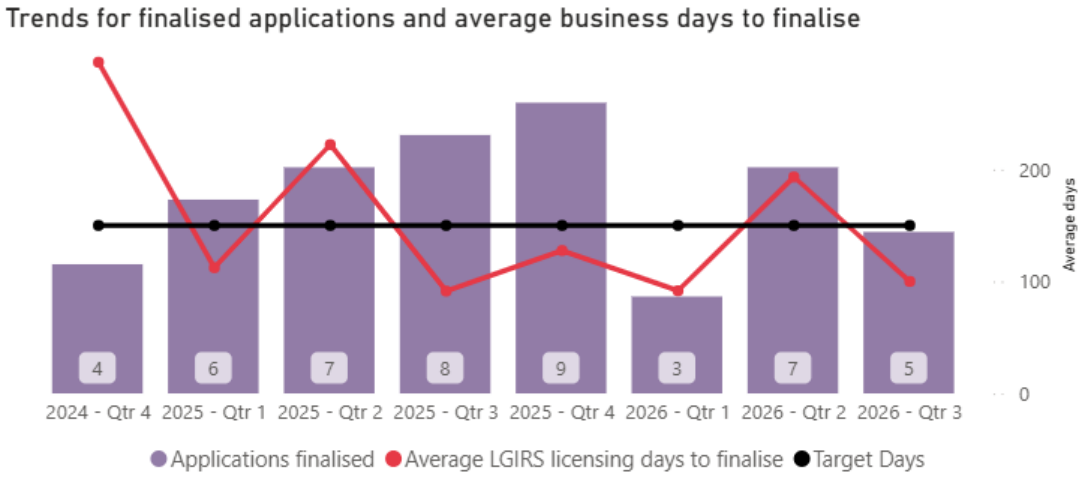


*These applications include public interest assessments and public advertising requirements. Any objections or submissions lodged during this process can affect the duration of assessment.

Tavern and Tavern Restricted

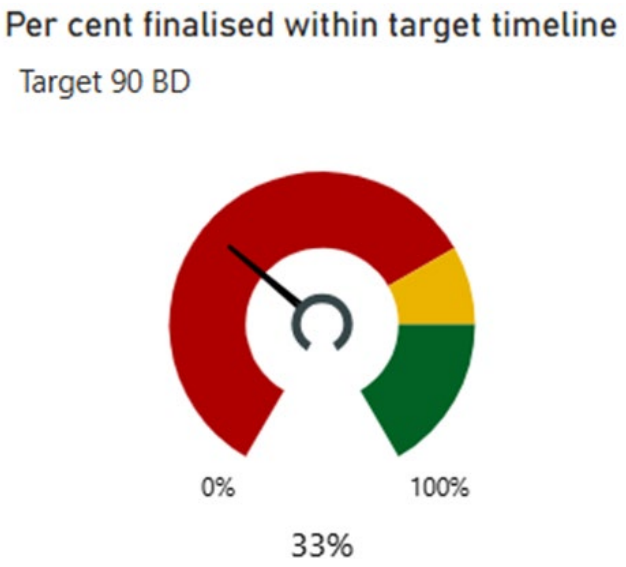


Average 73 days total

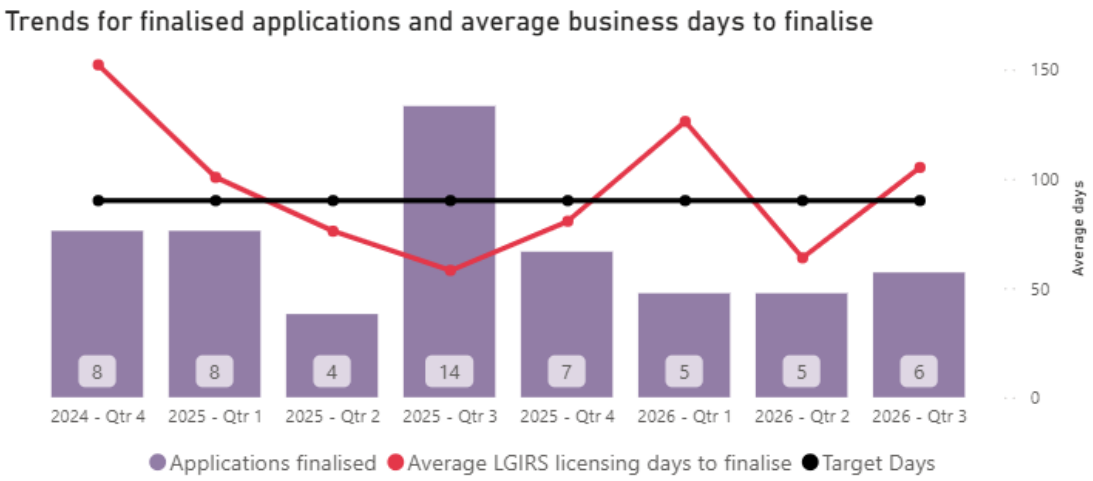


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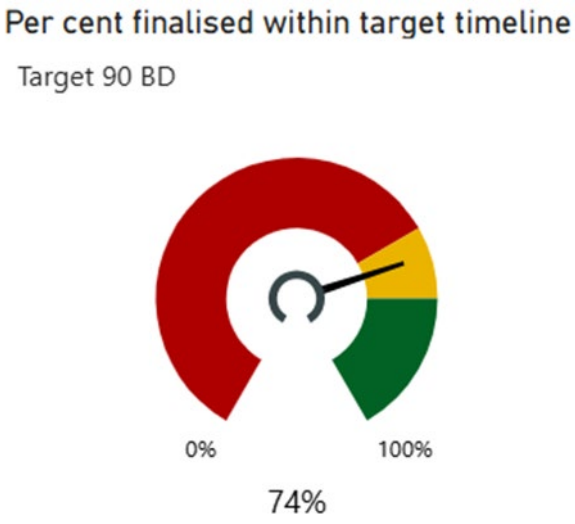
Small Bar



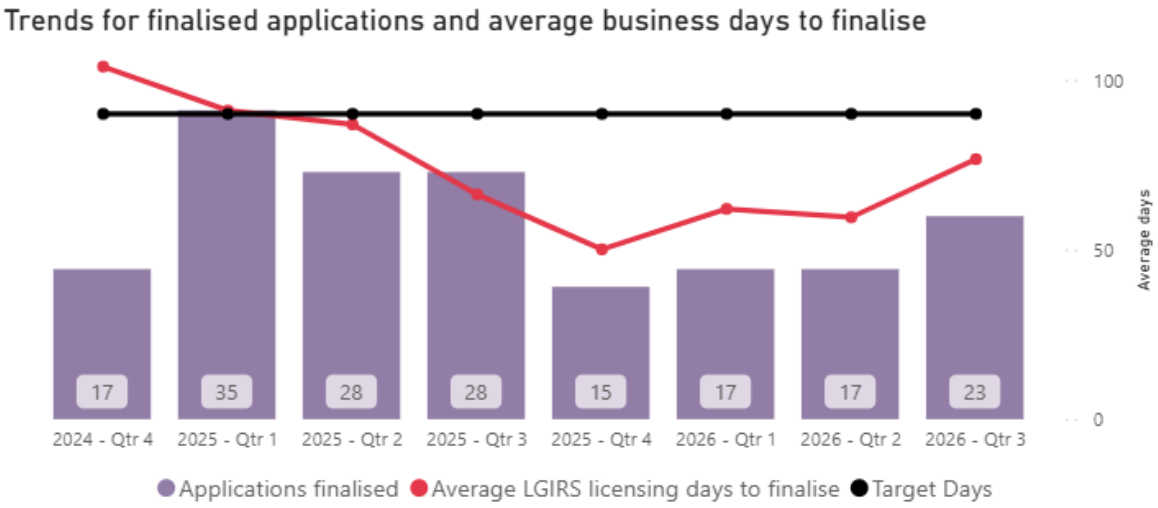
Average 91 business days total



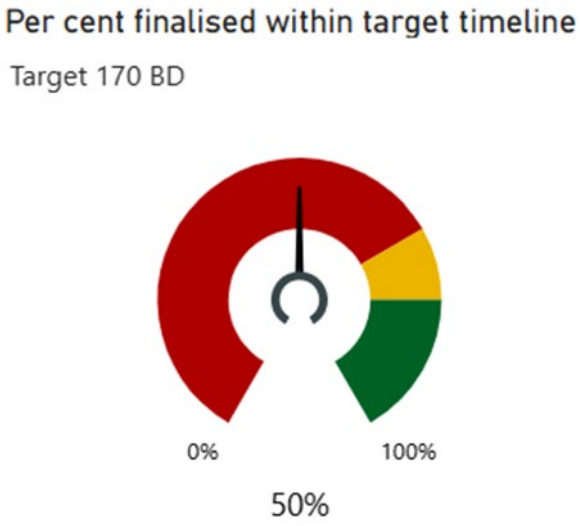
Restaurant



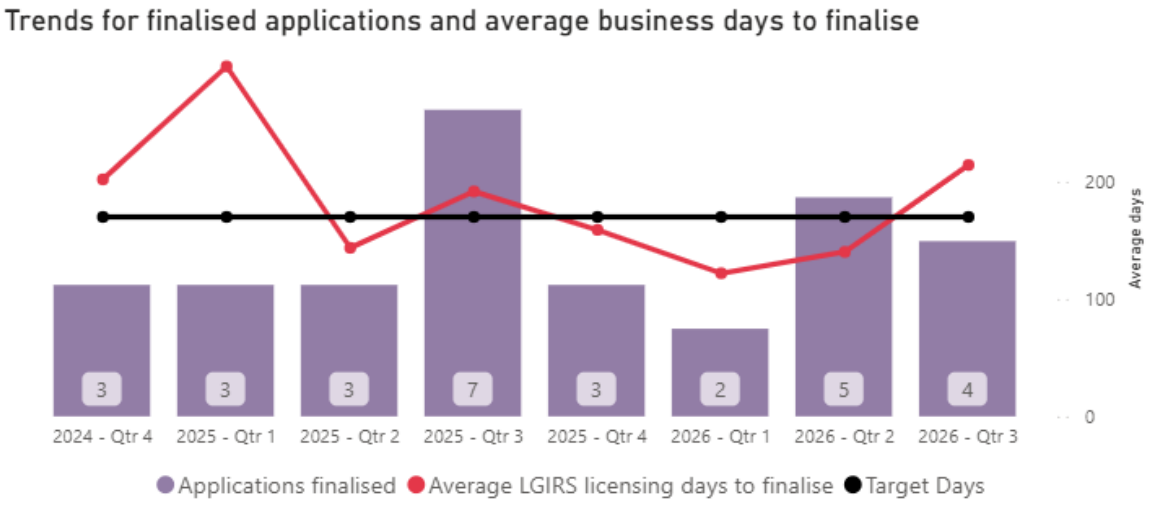
Average 57 business days total



Liquor Store

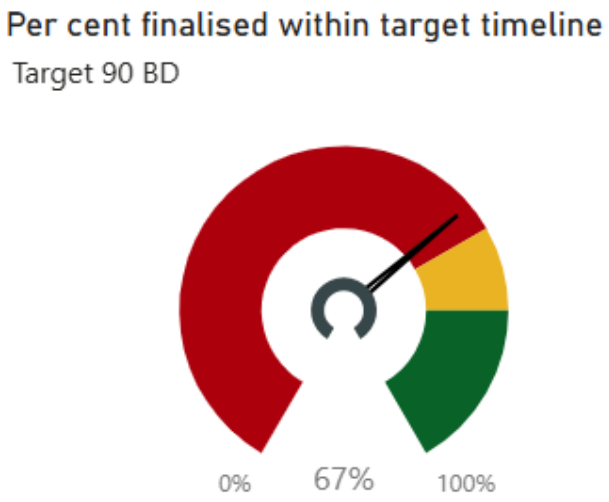


Average 188 business days total

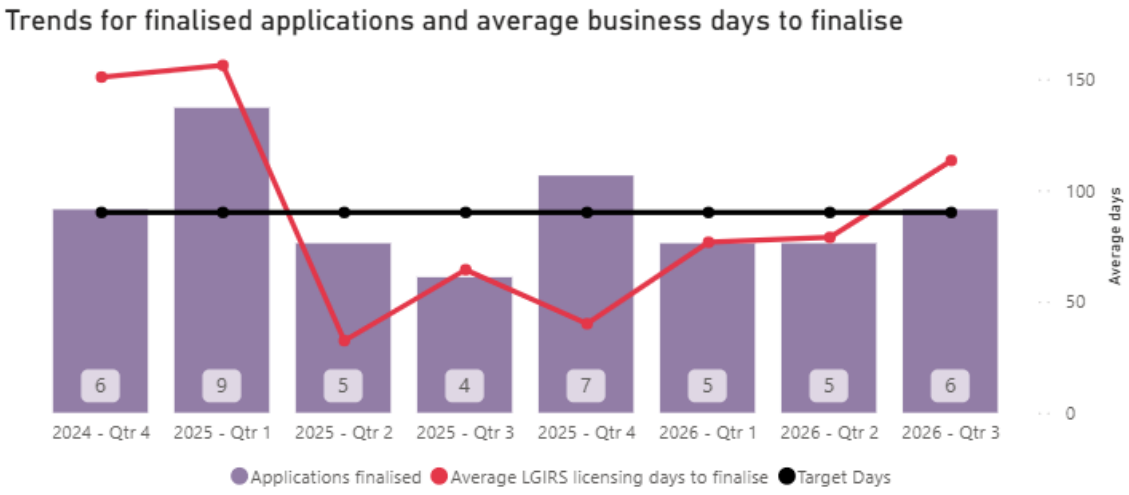


* These applications include public interest assessments and public advertising requirements. Any objections or submissions lodged during this process can affect the timeframe for making a determination. Liquor Store applications have been known to attract significant public interest.

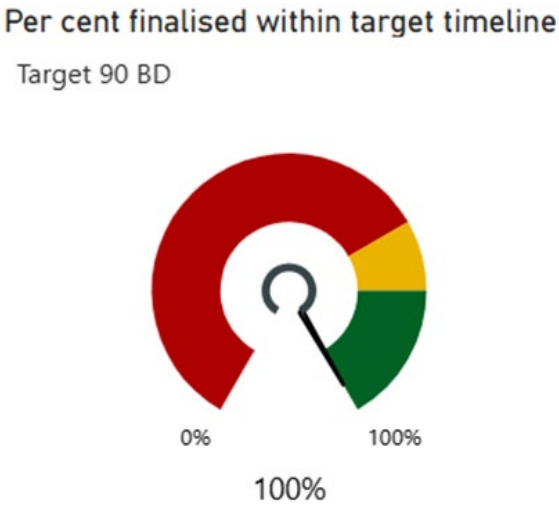
Producers



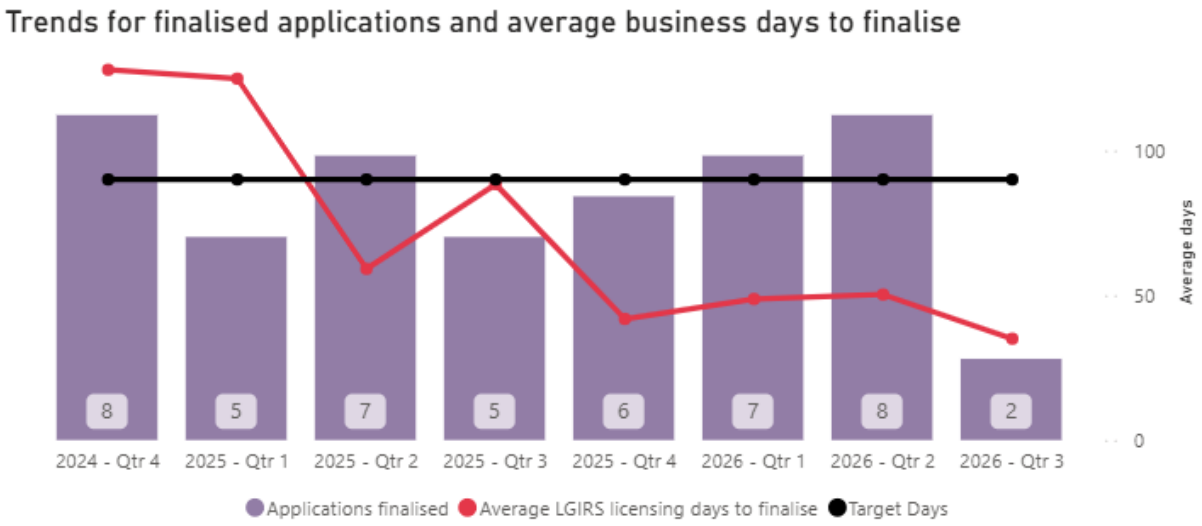
Average 72 business days total



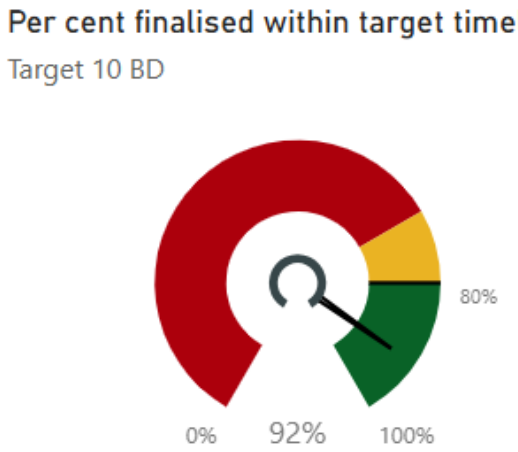
Wholesalers



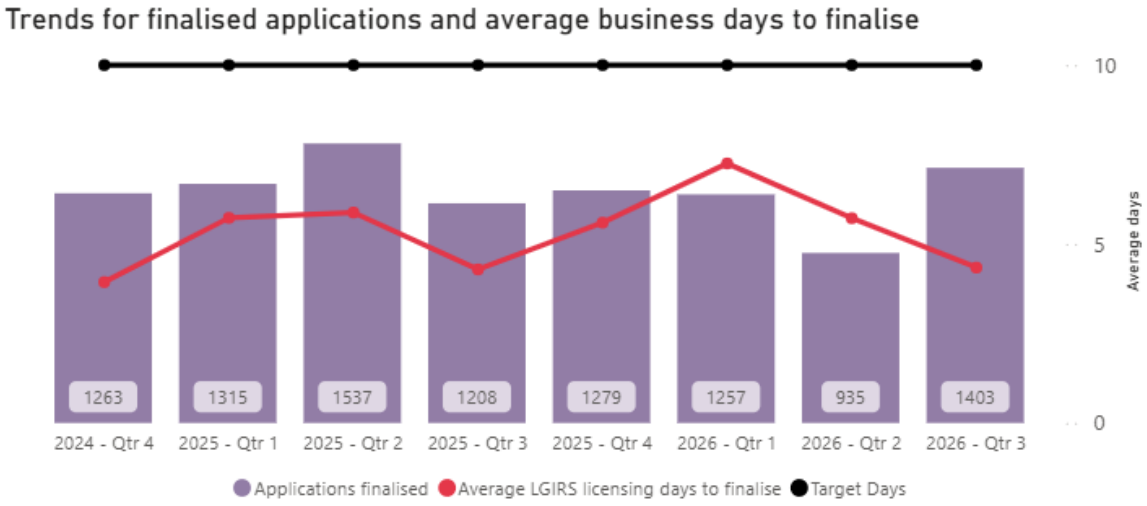
Average 16 business days total



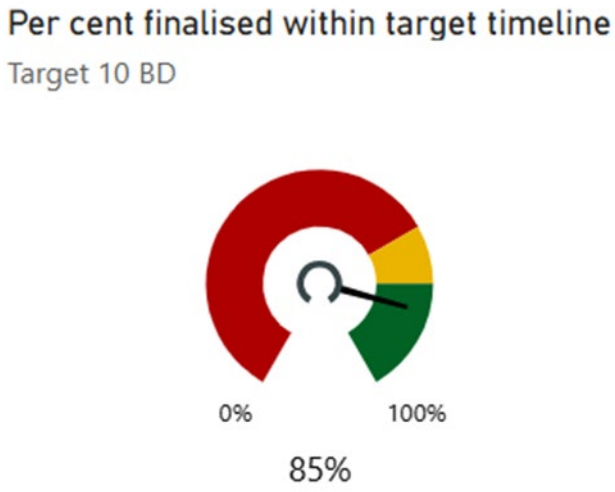
New Approved Managers



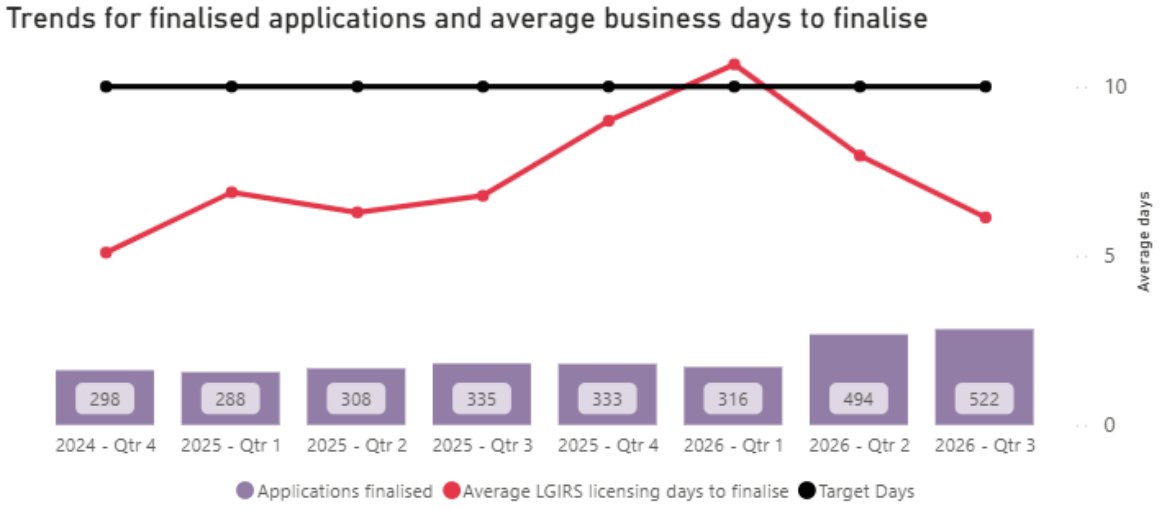
Average 4 business days total



Approved Manager Renewals



Average 6 business days total



Licence Holders as of 30 September 2026

Hotel and Hotel Restricted

- Hotel 258
- Hotel Restricted 79

Tavern and Tavern Restricted

- Tavern 474
- Tavern Restricted 214

Small Bar

- Small Bar 305

Restaurant

- Restaurant 1,194

Liquor Store

- Liquor Store 709

Producers

- Producers 557

Wholesalers

- Wholesalers 309

Approved Managers

- Restricted Approved Managers 2,205
- Unrestricted Approved Managers 33,173

Licence types outside of this report

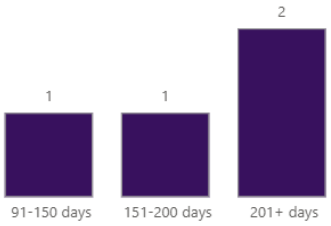
- Casino 1
- Nightclub 35
- Club 390
- Club Restricted 615
- Special Facility Licences (all) 661

Distribution of business days to finalise applications – Q3 2026

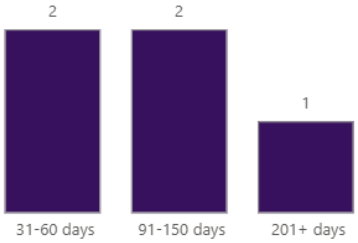
Hotel and Hotel Restricted



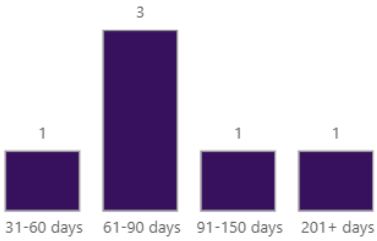
Liquor Store



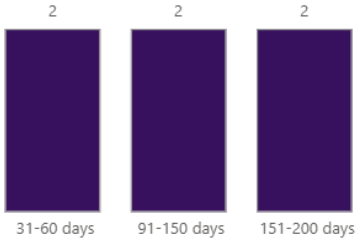
Tavern and Tavern Restricted



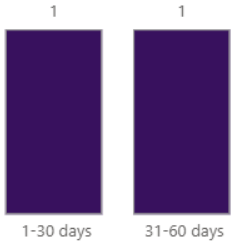
Producers



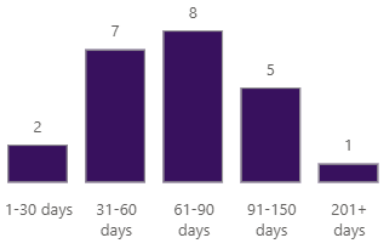
Small Bar



Wholesalers



Restaurant



Approved Managers

