Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

The Regulatory Report – Issue 9

Road Vehicle Standards legislation

October 2026

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Table of contents

About the Regulatory Report 5

Register of Approved Vehicles 6

Application numbers 7

Application assessment timeframes overview 8

Application assessment timeframes in this quarter 10

Assessment timeframes for applications with 30-day legislated timeframe 10

Assessment timeframes for applications with 60-day legislated timeframe 14

Assessment timeframes for new applications 16

Assessment timeframes for applications to vary an approval 18

Compliance and enforcement matters 19

Recalls 21

Stakeholder engagement and management 22

Appendix A – Vehicle type approval applications processing days by vehicle category 23

Appendix B – Explanatory notes 25

Register of Approved Vehicles 25

Applications and assessment data source and reporting period 25

New and variation applications 25

Application assessment day and legislated timeframes 25

Application decision types 25

Compliance and enforcement 26

Compulsory and voluntary recalls 26

Published recalls 26

Recalls identified in performance reviews 26

Risk Assessment Reviews 26

Enquiries 27

Stakeholder engagement activities 27

List of figures and tables

Table 1: Vehicles entered on the Register of Approved Vehicles 6

Table 2: Total number of applications decided by application type in this quarter 7

Figure 1: Total number of applications decided by legislated timeframe in the past 12 months 8

Figure 2: Median processing days for application types with a 30-day legislated timeframe in the past 12 months.....8

Figure 3: Median processing days for application types with a 60-day legislated timeframe in the past 12 months.....9

Figure 4: Processing days for all application types with a 30-day legislated timeframe in this quarter 10
Figure 5: Processing days for concessional RAV entry approval applications in this quarter 10
Figure 6: Processing days for authorised vehicle verifier approval applications in this quarter 11
Figure 7: Processing days for registered automotive workshop approval applications in this quarter 11
Figure 8: Processing days for Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry applications in this quarter 12
Figure 9: Processing days for testing facility approval applications in this quarter 12
Figure 10: Processing days for non-RAV entry import approval applications in this quarter 13
Figure 11: Processing days for re-importation import approval applications in this quarter 13
Figure 12: Processing days for advisory notice (not a road vehicle) applications in this quarter 14
Figure 13: Processing days for all application types with a 60-day legislated timeframe in this quarter 14
Figure 14: Processing days for vehicle type approval applications in this quarter 15
Figure 15: Processing days for component type approval applications in this quarter 15
Figure 16: Processing days for Model Report approval applications in this quarter 16
Table 3: Processing days for new applications from final submission to decision in this quarter 16
Table 4: Processing days to decide new applications, including all previous submissions in this quarter 17
Table 5: Percentage of withdrawn and resubmitted new applications in this quarter by application type 17
Table 6: Processing days to decide variation applications in this quarter 18
Table 7: Non-compliance reports, investigation cases and field activities 19
Table 8: Compliance and enforcement outcomes 19
Table 9: Enforceable Undertakings received and accepted by approval type 19
Table 10: Enforced approval revocations and suspensions by approval type 20
Table 11: Voluntary approval revocations and suspensions by approval type 20
Table 12: Recall activities for road vehicles and vehicle components 21
Table 13: Enquiries managed by the ROVER Level 1 Support team 22
Table 14: List of stakeholder engagement activities in this quarter 22
Table 15: Processing days for new vehicle type approval applications from final submission to decision in this quarter 23
Table 16: Processing days to decide vehicle type approval variation applications from final submission to decision in this quarter 24

About the Regulatory Report

The Regulatory Report provides statistics on Road Vehicle Standards (RVS) regulatory activities conducted by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (the department).

This report provides information on regulatory activities that occurred between July and September 2026. It also provides data on some activities that occurred during the past 12 months. Regulatory activities include the number of vehicles on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV), application assessment timeframes, recalls, compliance and enforcement matters, and stakeholder engagement and enquiries.

We recommend you read our findings in conjunction with the explanatory notes provided at Appendix B.

Register of Approved Vehicles

Table 1: Vehicles entered on the Register of Approved Vehicles

Date	Vehicles on the RAV
1 July to 30 September 2026	447,086
Total number of vehicles	7,403,576

Source notes.

1. Number of vehicles entered on the RAV include active vehicles only.
2. Total number of vehicles on the RAV is from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2026.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Application numbers

Table 2: Total number of applications decided by application type in this quarter

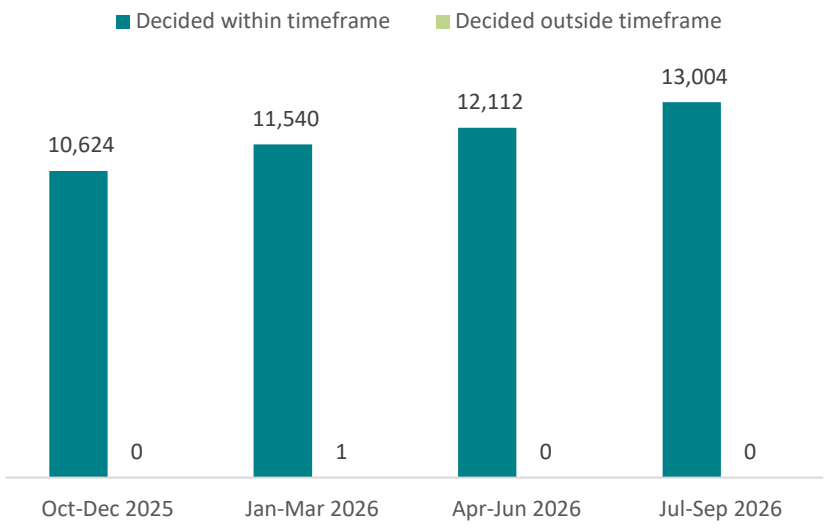
Application type	Applications decided
Vehicle type approval	1,480
Concessional RAV entry approval	10,232
Component type approval	106
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	11
Model Report approval	113
Registered automotive workshop approval	32
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry	35
Testing facility approval	39
Non-RAV entry import approval	427
Re-importation import approval	135
Advisory notice (not a road vehicle)	394
Total	**13,004**

Source notes.

1. Total number of all applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. See Explanatory notes for details.

Application assessment timeframes overview

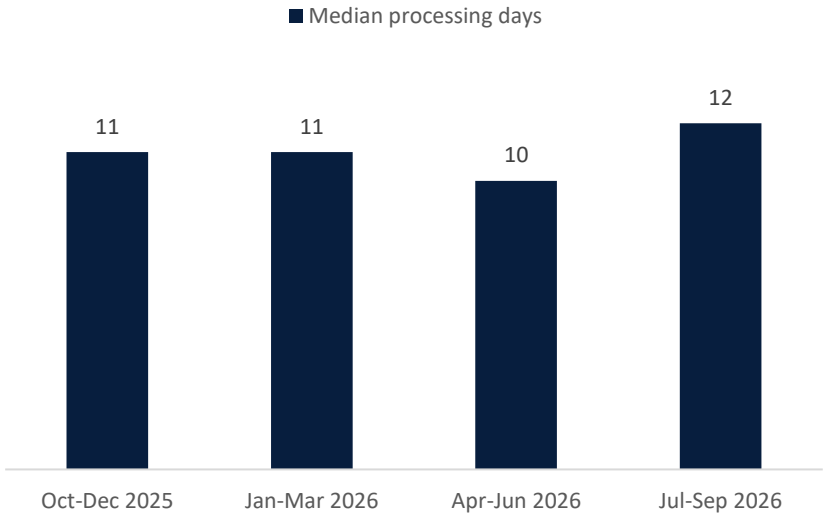
Figure 1: Total number of applications decided by legislated timeframe in the past 12 months



Source notes.

1. Total number of all applications decided from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

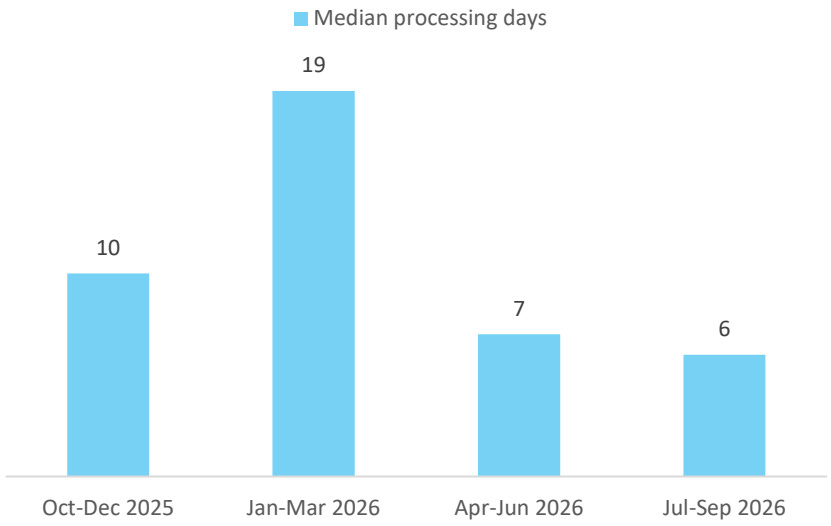
Figure 2: Median processing days for application types with a 30-day legislated timeframe in the past 12 months



Source notes.

1. Total number of all application types with a 30-day legislated decision timeframe and decided from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Figure 3: Median processing days for application types with a 60-day legislated timeframe in the past 12 months



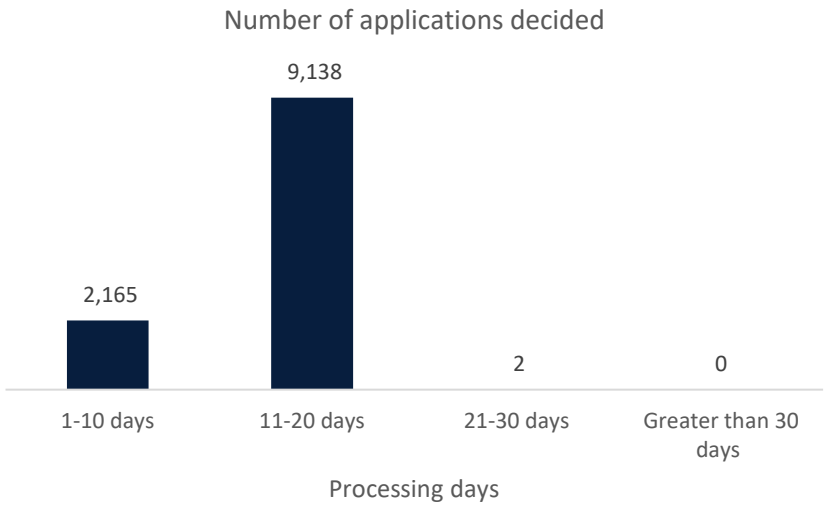
Source notes.

1. Total number of all application types with a 60-day legislated decision timeframe and decided from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Application assessment timeframes in this quarter

Assessment timeframes for applications with 30-day legislated timeframe

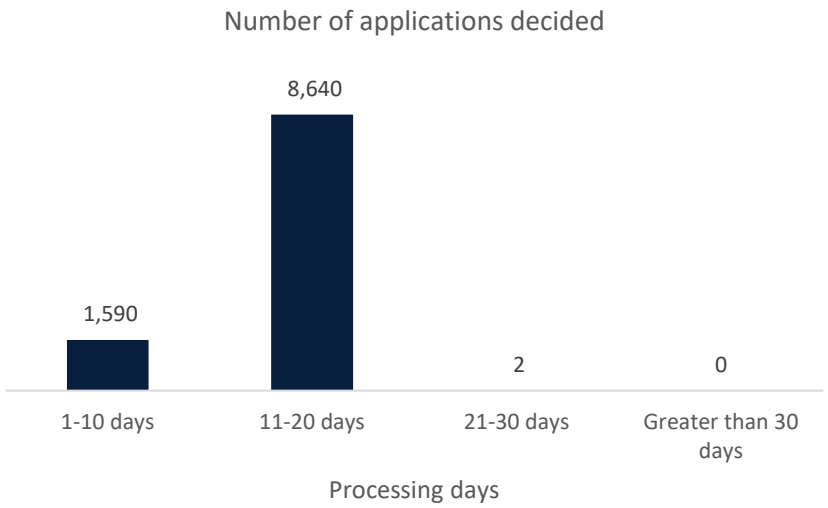
Figure 4: Processing days for all application types with a 30-day legislated timeframe in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of all application types with a 30-day legislated decision timeframe and decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

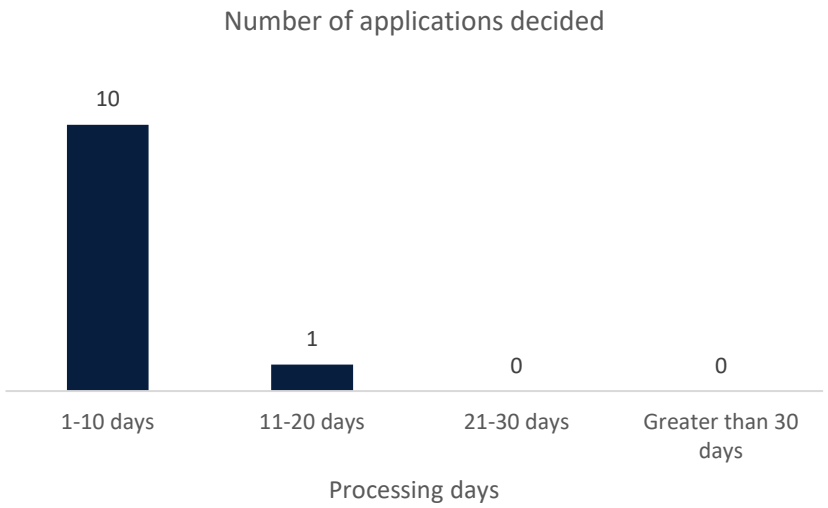
Figure 5: Processing days for concessional RAV entry approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of concessional RAV entry approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

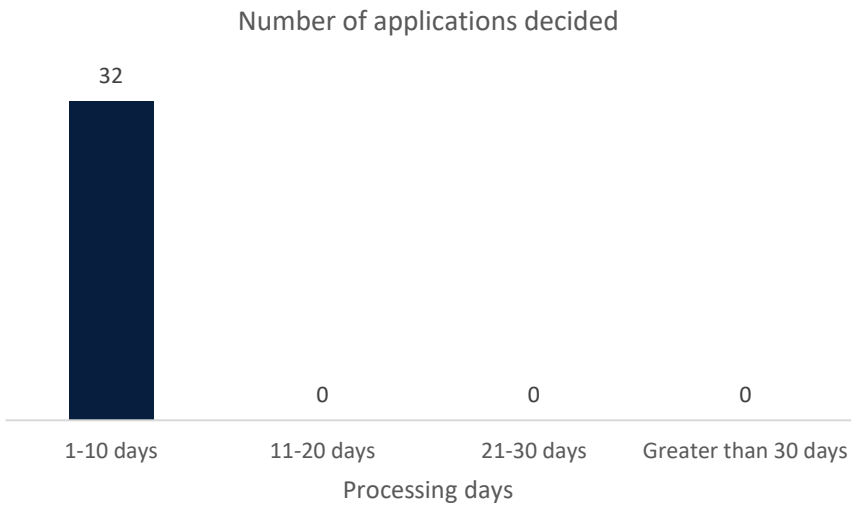
Figure 6: Processing days for authorised vehicle verifier approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of authorised vehicle verifier approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

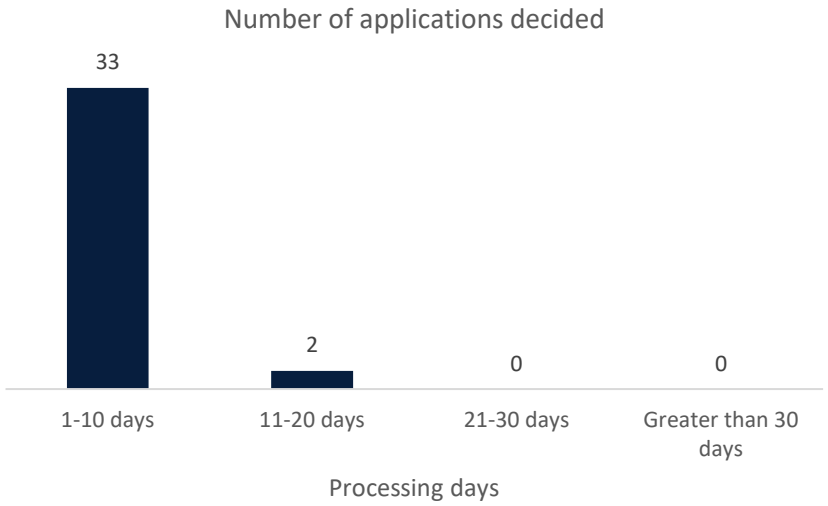
Figure 7: Processing days for registered automotive workshop approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of registered automotive workshop approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

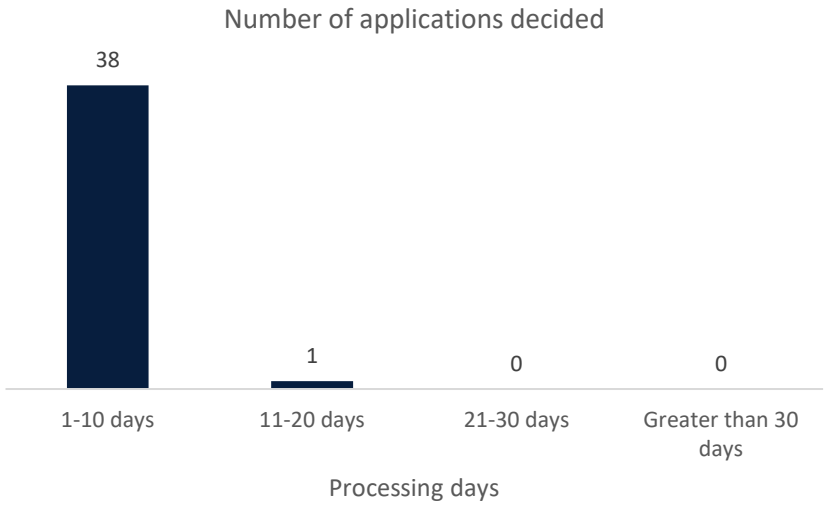
Figure 8: Processing days for Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

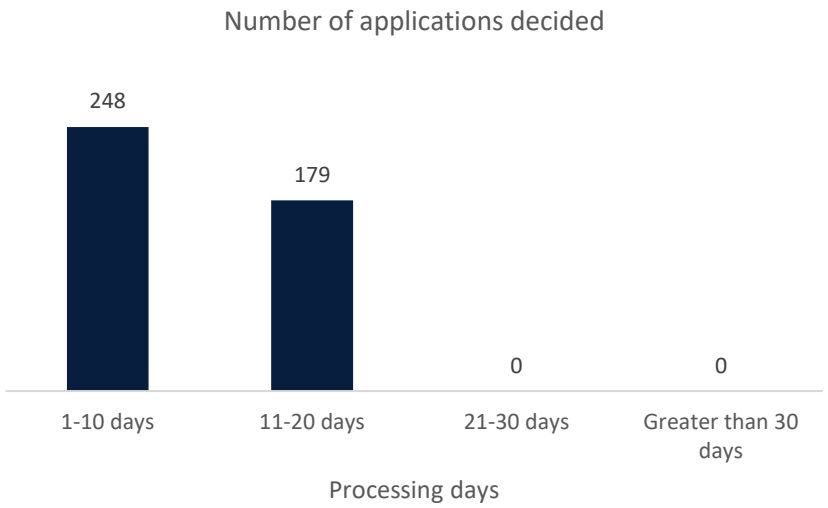
Figure 9: Processing days for testing facility approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of testing facility applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

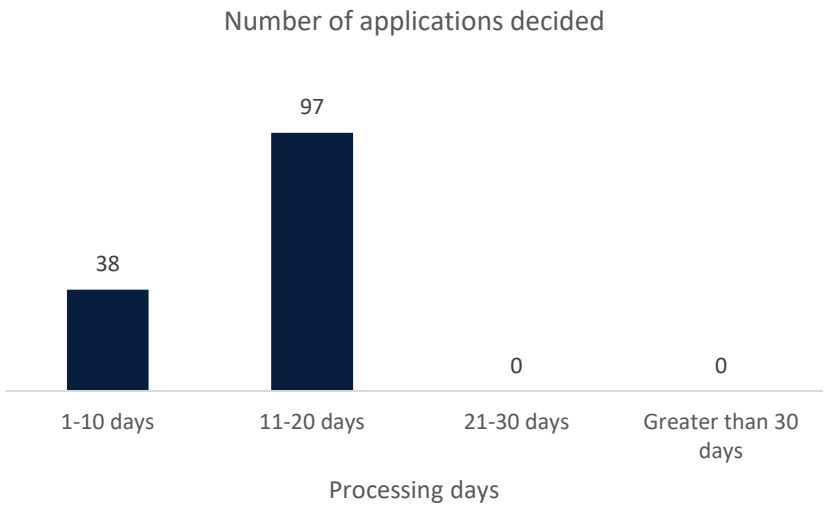
Figure 10: Processing days for non-RAV entry import approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of non-RAV entry import approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

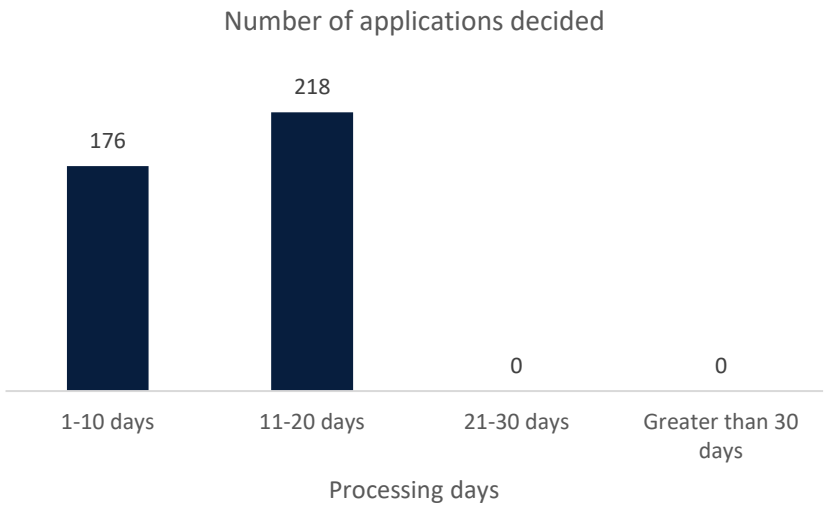
Figure 11: Processing days for re-importation import approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of re-importation import approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Figure 12: Processing days for advisory notice (not a road vehicle) applications in this quarter

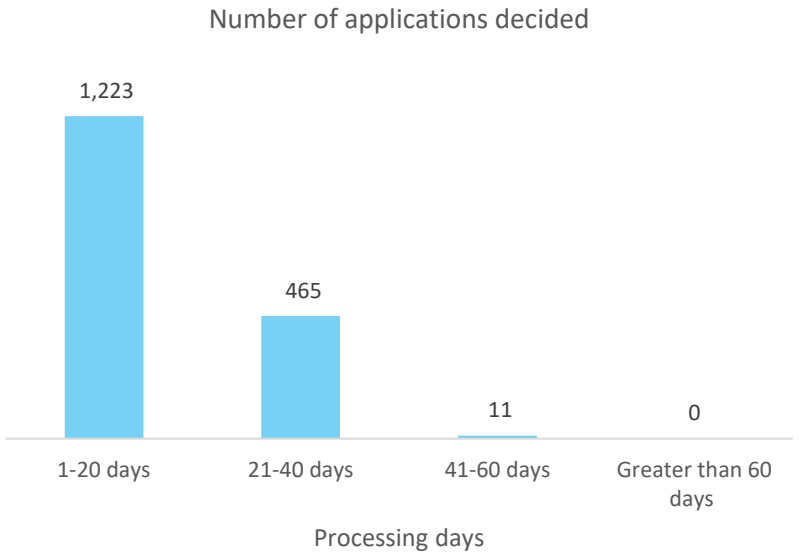


Source notes.

1. Total number of advisory notice applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Assessment timeframes for applications with 60-day legislated timeframe

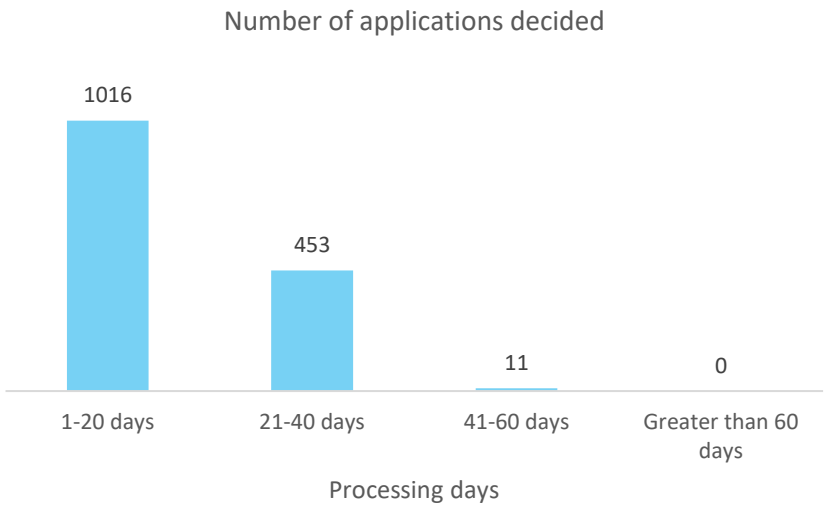
Figure 13: Processing days for all application types with a 60-day legislated timeframe in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of all application types with a 60-day legislated decision timeframe and decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

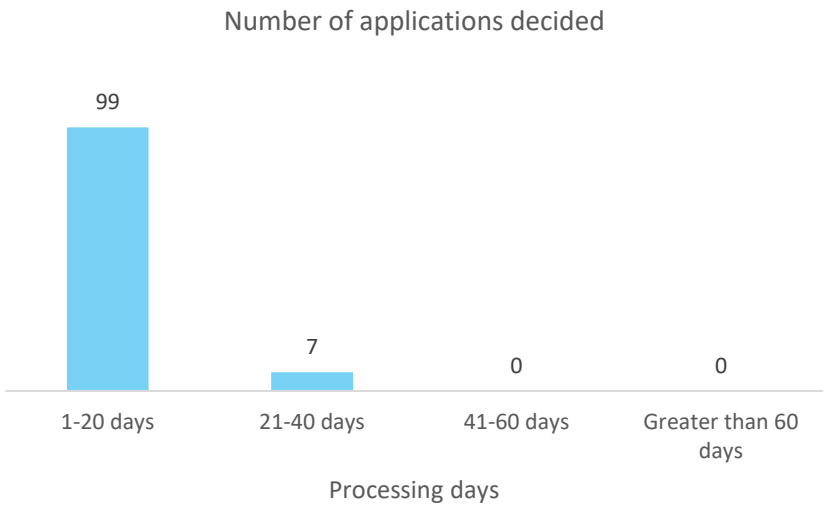
Figure 14: Processing days for vehicle type approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of vehicle type approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

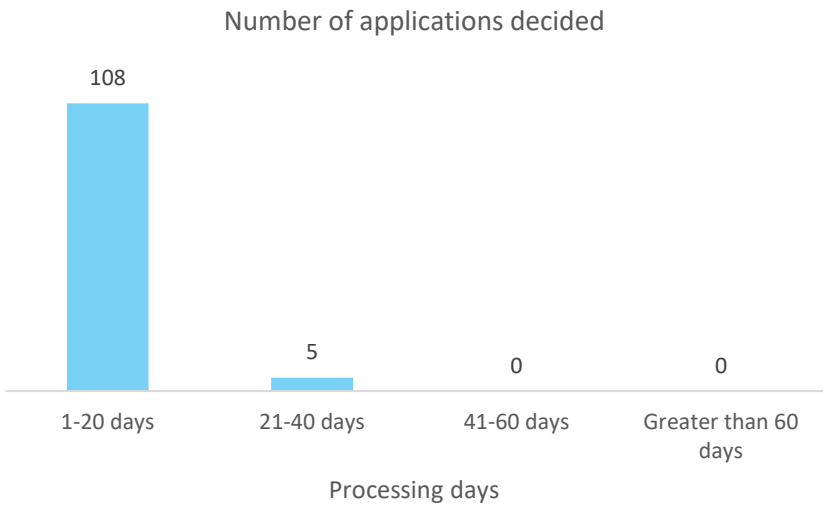
Figure 15: Processing days for component type approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of component type approval applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Figure 16: Processing days for Model Report approval applications in this quarter



Source notes.

1. Total number of Model Report applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Timeframe only includes processing days from the last submission to the decision date and excludes any previous submissions for the same application.
3. See Explanatory notes for details.

Assessment timeframes for new applications

Table 3: Processing days for new applications from final submission to decision in this quarter

Application type	Applications decided	Average processing days	Median processing days
Vehicle type approval	669	12.3	6
Concessional RAV entry approval	10,023	11.9	12
Component type approval	93	5.9	3
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	10	4.5	3
Model Report approval	44	5.4	2.5
Registered automotive workshop approval	18	3	2.5
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry	35	4.3	3
Testing facility approval	22	3.4	2
Non-RAV entry import approval	415	8.4	10
Re-importation import approval	135	10.9	11
Advisory notice (not a road vehicle)	394	9.2	11
Total	**11,858**	**11.6**	**12**

Source notes.

1. Total number of applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Processing days only include from the last submission to the decision date and exclude any previous submissions for the same application.

3. Median processing days is the mid-point or middle value of processing days for the application type.
4. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 4: Processing days to decide new applications, including all previous submissions in this quarter

Application type	Applications decided	Average processing days	Median processing days
Vehicle type approval	669	15.9	9
Concessional RAV entry approval	10,023	12.2	12
Component type approval	93	8	4
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	10	4.6	3
Model Report approval	44	21.6	19
Registered automotive workshop approval	18	3	2.5
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry	35	4.6	3
Testing facility approval	22	3.8	2.5
Non-RAV entry import approval	415	8.4	10
Re-importation import approval	135	10.9	11
Advisory notice (not a road vehicle)	394	9.4	11
Total	**11,858**	**12.1**	**12**

Source notes.

1. Total number of applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Processing days include from the first submission to a decision.
3. Median processing days is the mid-point or middle value of processing days for the application type.
4. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 5: Percentage of withdrawn and resubmitted new applications in this quarter by application type

Application type	Applications submitted only once	Applications withdrawn and resubmitted
Vehicle type approval	82.2%	17.8%
Concessional RAV entry approval	96.3%	3.7%
Component type approval	82.8%	17.2%
Authorised vehicle verifier	90%	10%
Model Report	20.5%	79.5%
Registered automotive workshop	94.4%	5.6%
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry	94.3%	5.7%
Testing facility approval	81.8%	18.2%
Non-RAV entry import approval	97.1%	2.9%
Re-importation import approval	99.3%	0.7%

Application type	Applications submitted only once	Applications withdrawn and resubmitted
Advisory notice (not a road vehicle)	95.7%	4.3%
Total	**95.1%**	**4.9%**

Source notes.

1. Total number of applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. See Explanatory notes for details.

Assessment timeframes for applications to vary an approval

Table 6: Processing days to decide variation applications in this quarter

Application type	Applications decided	Average processing days	Median processing days
Vehicle type approval	811	13.1	9
Concessional RAV entry approval	209	1.3	1
Component type approval	13	2.1	1
Authorised vehicle verifier	1	4	4
Model Report	69	5	2
Registered automotive workshop	14	1.9	1
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register entry	0	0	0
Testing facility approval	17	2.8	2
Non-RAV entry import approval	12	1.4	1
Re-importation import approval	0	0	0
Advisory notice (not a road vehicle)	0	0	0
Total	**1,146**	**9.9**	**3**

Source notes.

1. Total number of variation applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Processing days only include from the last submission to a decision and exclude any previous submissions for the same application.
3. Median processing days is the mid-point or middle value of processing days for the application type.
4. See Explanatory notes for details.

Compliance and enforcement matters

Table 7: Non-compliance reports, investigation cases and field activities

Activity	Jan 2025-Jun 2026	Jul-Sept 2026
Reports of non-compliance received	613	67
Non-compliance reports closed	604	74
New investigation cases opened	209	39
Investigation cases closed	179	45
Separate field activities undertaken	110	20

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 8: Compliance and enforcement outcomes

Activity	Jan 2025-Jun 2026	Jul-Sept 2026
Infringement notices issued	5	2
Enforceable Undertakings received and accepted	3	0
Approval revocations – enforced	24	2
Approval suspensions – enforced	1,410	217

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 9: Enforceable Undertakings received and accepted by approval type

Activity	Jan 2025-Jun 2026	Jul-Sept 2026
Vehicle type approval	2	0
Concessional RAV entry approval	0	0
Component type approval	0	0
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	0	0
Model Report approval	0	0
Registered automotive workshop approval	1	0
Testing facility approval	0	0
Non-RAV entry import approval	0	0
Re-importation import approval	0	0
Total	**3**	**0**

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 10: Enforced approval revocations and suspensions by approval type

	Jan 2025-Jun 2026		Jul-Sept 2026	
Approval type	**Enforced revocations**	**Enforced suspensions**	**Enforced revocations**	**Enforced suspensions**
Vehicle type approval	0	1409	0	192
Concessional RAV entry approval	1	0	1	0
Component type approval	1	0	0	0
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	2	0	0	1
Model Report approval	0	0	0	23
Registered automotive workshop approval	11	1	1	1
Testing facility approval	9	0	0	0
Non-RAV entry import approval	0	0	0	0
Re-importation import approval	0	0	0	0
Total	**24**	**1,410**	**2**	**217**

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 11: Voluntary approval revocations and suspensions by approval type

	Jan 2025-Jun 2026		Jul-Sept 2026	
Approval type	**Voluntary revocations**	**Voluntary suspensions**	**Voluntary revocations**	**Voluntary suspensions**
Vehicle type approval	155	22	39	1
Concessional RAV entry approval	311	1	47	0
Component type approval	11	4	0	0
Authorised vehicle verifier approval	8	1	0	0
Model Report approval	9	20	2	3
Registered automotive workshop approval	12	2	2	0
Testing facility approval	7	0	1	0
Non-RAV entry import approval	160	0	37	0
Re-importation import approval	1	0	0	0
Total	**673**	**55**	**128**	**4**

Source notes.

1. Voluntary revocations and suspensions are made by the approval holder and not by the department.
2. See Explanatory notes for details.

Recalls

Table 12: Recall activities for road vehicles and vehicle components

Activity	Jan 2025-Jun 2026	Jul-Sept 2026
Voluntary recalls published	341	72
Risk assessment reviews	2,530	106
Recalls performance review escalations	491	99
Vehicle Identification Number list updates	189	36

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Stakeholder engagement and management

Table 13: Enquiries managed by the ROVER Level 1 Support team

Enquiry type	Jan 2025-Jun 2026	Jul-Sept 2026
Emails	46,968	7,197
Phone calls	39,973	6,020
Total	**87,041**	**13,217**

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 14: List of stakeholder engagement activities in this quarter

Activity	Dates
Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries meetings	7 July, 1 September
RVSA Jurisdictions Webinars	7 July, 8 September
Australian Imported Motor Vehicle Industry Association meeting	7 July
NEVDIS/Austroads meetings	22 July, 12 August
Australian Automotive Dealer Association Chairman's Dinner	28 July
National Heavy Vehicle Regulator meeting	18 August
RVSA Industry Webinar	27 August
Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register Entry and Model Reports Webinar	4 September
Bus Industry Confederation meeting	16 September

Source notes.

1. See Explanatory notes for details.

Appendix A – Vehicle type approval applications processing days by vehicle category

Table 15: Processing days for new vehicle type approval applications from final submission to decision in this quarter

Vehicle category	Applications decided	Average processing days	Median processing days
LA - Moped - 2 Wheels	4	22.8	27
LB - Moped - 3 Wheels	0	0	0
LC - Motor Cycle	22	13	4
LD - Motor Cycle and Side-Car	1	28	28
LEG - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	0	0	0
LEM - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	1	3	3
LEP - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	0	0	0
MA - Passenger Vehicle	44	6.7	3
MB - Forward-Control Passenger Vehicle	0	0	0
MC - Off-Road Passenger Vehicle	6	2.5	2
MD1 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
MD2 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
MD3 - Light Omnibus	2	16.5	16.5
MD4 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
ME - Heavy Omnibus	15	18.9	24
NA - Light Goods Vehicle	6	16.7	16.5
NB1 - Medium Goods Vehicle	41	20.7	29
NB2 - Medium Goods Vehicle	14	20.9	30
NC - Heavy Goods Vehicle	39	18.9	24
TA - Very Light Trailer	24	7.8	6.5
TB - Light Trailer	114	12.4	6.5
TC - Medium Trailer	68	12.1	6
TD - Heavy Trailer	268	10.4	5.5
Total	**669**	**12.3**	**6**

Source notes.

1. Total number of applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Processing days only include from the last submission to the decision date and exclude any previous submissions for the same application.
3. Median processing days is the mid-point or middle value of processing days for the application type.

4. See Explanatory notes for details.

Table 16: Processing days to decide vehicle type approval variation applications from final submission to decision in this quarter

Vehicle category	Applications decided	Average processing days	Median processing days
LA - Moped - 2 Wheels	2	33.5	33.5
LB - Moped - 3 Wheels	1	26	26
LC - Motor Cycle	17	14.3	9
LD - Motor Cycle and Side-Car	0	0	0
LEG - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	0	0	0
LEM - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	1	1	1
LEP - 3 Wheeled L-group Vehicles	0	0	0
MA - Passenger Vehicle	137	7.5	4
MB - Forward-Control Passenger Vehicle	0	0	0
MC - Off-Road Passenger Vehicle	19	6.3	3
MD1 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
MD2 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
MD3 - Light Omnibus	2	2	2
MD4 - Light Omnibus	0	0	0
ME - Heavy Omnibus	17	23.1	29
NA - Light Goods Vehicle	47	15.8	16
NB1 - Medium Goods Vehicle	104	17.3	24.5
NB2 - Medium Goods Vehicle	25	13.1	6
NC - Heavy Goods Vehicle	79	16.6	11
TA - Very Light Trailer	8	1	1
TB - Light Trailer	78	1.1	1
TC - Medium Trailer	44	8.5	1
TD - Heavy Trailer	230	17.8	19
Total	**811**	**13.1**	**9**

Source notes.

1. Total number of variation applications decided from 1 July to 30 September 2026.
2. Processing days only include from the last submission to the decision date and exclude any previous submissions for the same application.
3. Median processing days is the mid-point or middle value of processing days for the application type.
4. See Explanatory notes for details.

Appendix B – Explanatory notes

Register of Approved Vehicles

Data on the RAV was sourced from ROVER on 1 October 2026.

The number of vehicles entered on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV) includes active vehicles only. The term 'active vehicles' refer to vehicles on the RAV at the time the data is sourced from ROVER.

Occasionally, vehicles are requested to be removed from the RAV and when this happens, they are made inactive. Therefore, this report includes data on active vehicles only to provide a more accurate representation of the number of vehicles on the RAV.

Applications and assessment data source and reporting period

Data on applications and their assessment was sourced from ROVER via the department's Ready Access to Data Analytics and Reporting (RADAR) data management system on 6 October 2026. It includes data on decided applications (new, varied and resubmitted) and excludes data on applications still under assessment.

New and variation applications

A new application is an application that has been submitted for the first time.

A variation application is when an approval holder applies to make a change to an existing approval.

Application assessment day and legislated timeframes

An assessment day is counted as a business day in the Australian Capital Territory. A business day under section 5 of the Road Vehicle Standard Rules 2019 means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the Australian Capital Territory.

The processing time starts the day after the date the application is submitted and paid. However, if an application was submitted, assessed and decided on the same day, it is counted as one processing day.

The assessment clock pauses when the department makes a request for information (RFI) and then resumes after the applicant responds to the RFI.

The RVS legislation does not apply a formal timeframe for the department to assess variation applications. However, the department assesses variation applications in line with the legislated timeframe for each applications type.

The legislated timeframe for processing vehicle type approval, component type approval and Model Report approval applications is 60 business days. All other application types are 30 business days, including advisory notices, which are subject to a service charter timeframe of 30 business days.

Application decision types

The types of decisions that can be made on an application include the following:

- grant an approval
- refuse to grant an approval
- enter a vehicle on the Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register
- refuse to enter a vehicle on the Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles Register

- issue an advisory notice that a thing is not a road vehicle
- refuse to issue an advisory notice that a thing is not a road vehicle
- refuse to consider an application.

Compliance and enforcement

Data on compliance and enforcement activities was sourced from ROVER on 6 October 2026.

An approval revocation or suspension can be enforced or voluntary.

An enforced revocation or suspension occurs when the department decides, in certain circumstances, that an approval should be revoked or suspended.

An approval holder may voluntarily request to have their approval suspended or revoked for several reasons. An approval holder may decide to suspend or revoke their approval after having discussions with the department, if they are making substantial changes to their business operations or decide not to continue with the purchase or import of a vehicle.

Compulsory and voluntary recalls

Data on compulsory and voluntary recalls was sourced from ROVER on 1 October 2026.

A compulsory recall occurs (rarely) when the Minister exercises the power to issue a compulsory notice for road vehicles or approved road vehicle components of a particular kind where it appears such vehicles or components:

- will or may cause injury to any person through use (or misuse), or
- do not or it is likely that they do not comply with relevant standards, and
- one or more suppliers of such vehicles or such components have not taken satisfactory action to prevent injury or resolve non-compliance.

A voluntary recall is usually undertaken by the entity, whether an individual in business or a company, responsible for the supply of a vehicle or component for the first time to the Australian market through trade or commerce. However, it may also be appropriate for another entity in the supply chain to undertake the recall action.

Published recalls

Data on published recalls was sourced from ROVER on 1 October 2026.

Recalls are notified to the department, the hazard and defect wording is negotiated with (and agreed to by) suppliers, and the recall is prioritised based on a risk assessment to establish performance benchmarks that inform performance monitoring until closed.

Recalls identified in performance reviews

Sections of the industry are audited to establish recall underperformance and conduct performance discussions. The data has been drawn from the audit findings.

Risk Assessment Reviews

Risk assessments for open recalls are periodically reviewed to maintain their current priority, which informs performance review action.

Enquiries

Enquiries include those received by the ROVER Level 1 Support team. Enquiry data was sourced from ROVER, the department's telephony system and emails on 2 October 2026.

Stakeholder engagement activities

Stakeholder engagement activities include events that were either hosted by the Vehicle Safety Operations Branch or Vehicle Safety Policy and Partnerships Branch or organised by an external RVS stakeholder. This report does not include stakeholder consultation activities relating to specific activities, for example, vehicle standards being made or amended or framework reviews.