



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of the **Attorney General**

**Report on the
Fines Enforcement Registry
2010/11 to 2014/15**

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About this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the work carried out by the Fines Enforcement Registry. A number of different statistics have been included that illustrate different aspects of the fine enforcement process. Care must be taken in interpreting these statistics. It is NOT possible to compare one indicator with another as the methods of counting are not aligned.

Separate counting rules that best illustrate the work of the Registry are utilised for each statistic. Please read the counting rules on each page to help interpret the data.

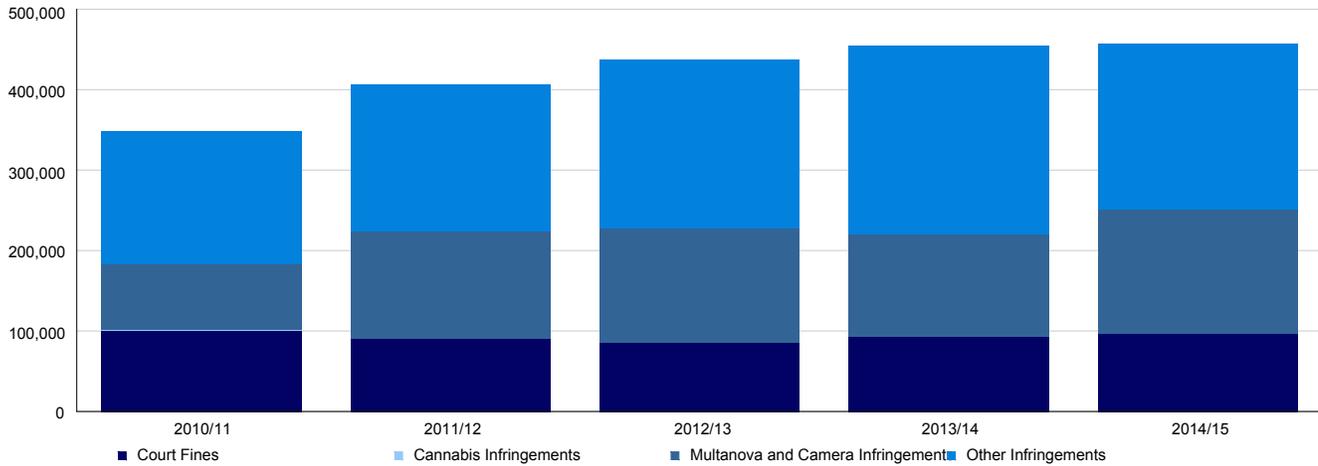
Fines Enforcement Registry:

The Fines Enforcement Registry was established in 1995 as the Western Australian Government agency responsible for administering the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994*. The Fines Enforcement Registry remains a Court of the Magistrates Court of Western Australia, so that while it is an administrative system, it remains part of the judicial process.

Fines are used as a penalty in the justice system of Western Australia. As well as fines resulting from charges brought before courts, infringement notices are issued by various authorities such as Police and Local Governments for a range of offences including traffic and parking.

The Fines Enforcement Registry enforces fines imposed in WA courts and those arising from unpaid infringement notices. The Registrar uses the suspension of driver's and motor vehicle licences to enforce the payment of court fines and infringement fines. The Registrar also issues enforcement warrants to the Sheriff for enforcement should a licence suspension prove ineffective. For court fines the Registrar also uses other enforcement options, namely community work and/or imprisonment in default of payments should an enforcement warrant prove ineffective.

Registrations

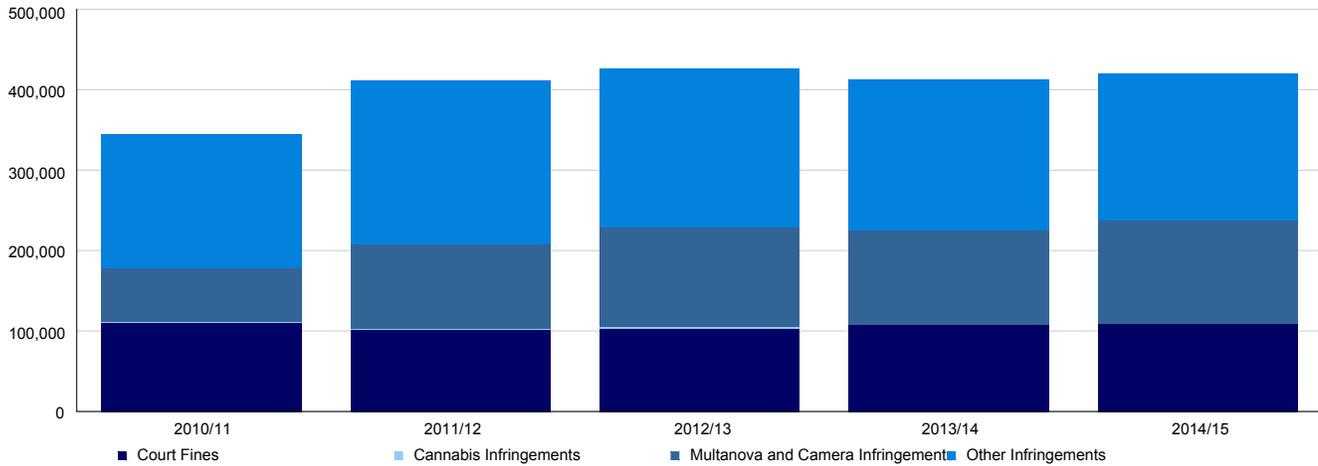


	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Court Fines	100,794	90,353	86,147	93,476	96,627	3.4%	-4.1%
Cannabis Infringements	1,613	458					
Multanova and Camera Infringements	80,984	133,278	142,163	126,850	154,878	22.1%	91.2%
Other Infringements	166,120	183,665	209,648	234,993	205,790	-12.4%	23.9%
Total	349,511	407,754	437,958	455,319	457,295	0.4%	30.8%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of court fines and infringements lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) The unit of measure is the number of court fines registered and the number of infringements lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry during the period.
- (c) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (d) See the appendix for further information and definitions of the various registration types.

Completions

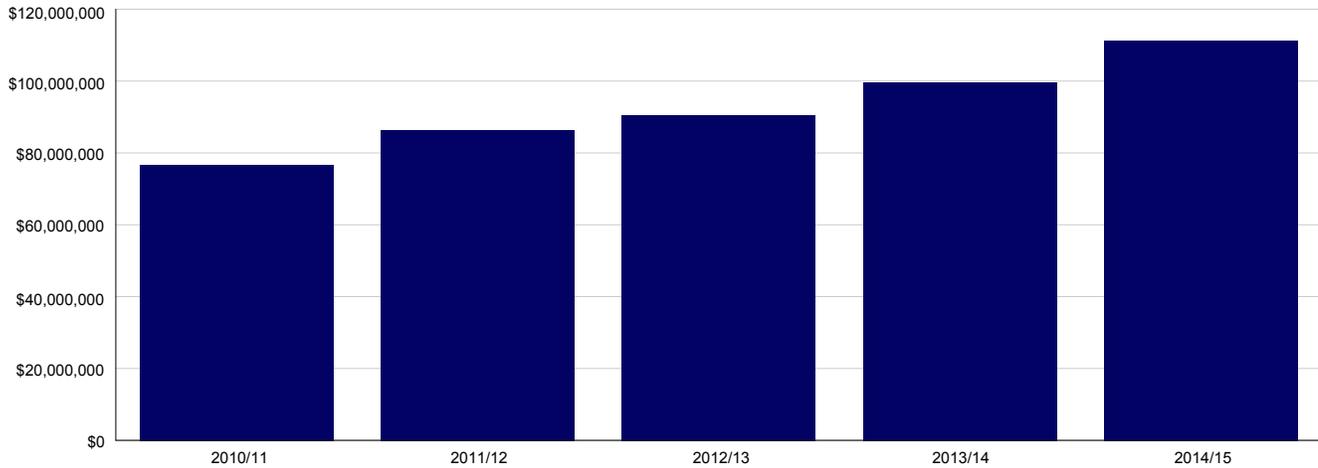


	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Court Fines	110,159	102,083	103,164	108,383	109,066	0.6%	-1.0%
Cannabis Infringements	1,172	1,257	2,195	206	105	-49.0%	-91.0%
Multanova and Camera Infringements	67,664	105,136	123,684	116,671	128,297	10.0%	89.6%
Other Infringements	166,404	203,616	198,028	188,695	183,444	-2.8%	10.2%
Total	345,399	412,092	427,071	413,955	420,912	1.7%	21.9%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of court fines and infringements finalised with the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) The unit of measure is the number of court fines and infringements finalised with the Fines Enforcement Registry during the period.
- (c) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (d) See the appendix for further information and definitions of the various registration types.

Collections



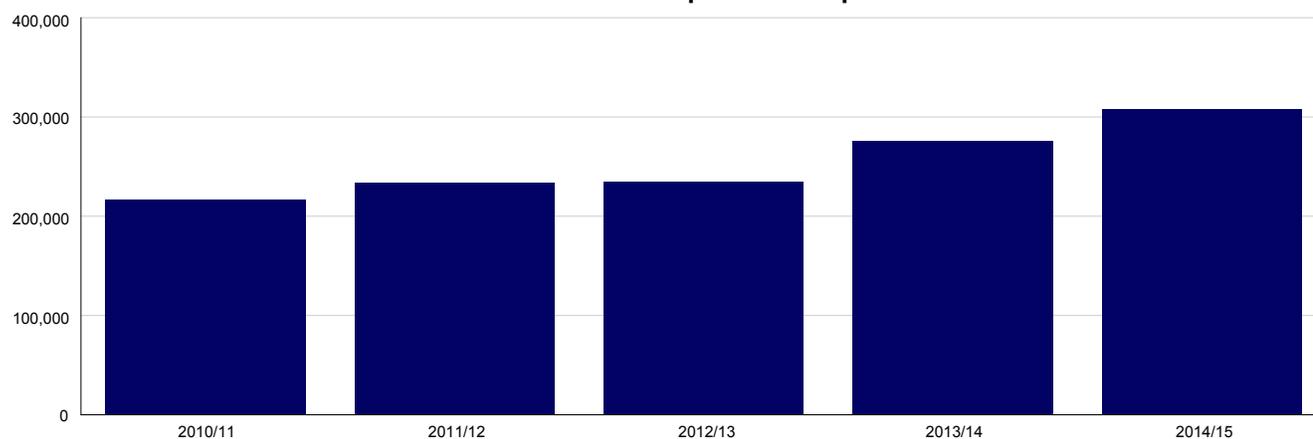
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Court Fines	\$31,279,635	\$32,040,355	\$32,011,534	\$40,384,735	\$47,723,597	18.2%	52.6%
Infringements	\$45,489,719	\$54,593,374	\$58,685,917	\$59,305,207	\$63,577,202	7.2%	39.8%
Total	\$76,769,354	\$86,633,729	\$90,697,451	\$99,689,942	\$111,300,799	11.6%	45.0%

Counting Rules:

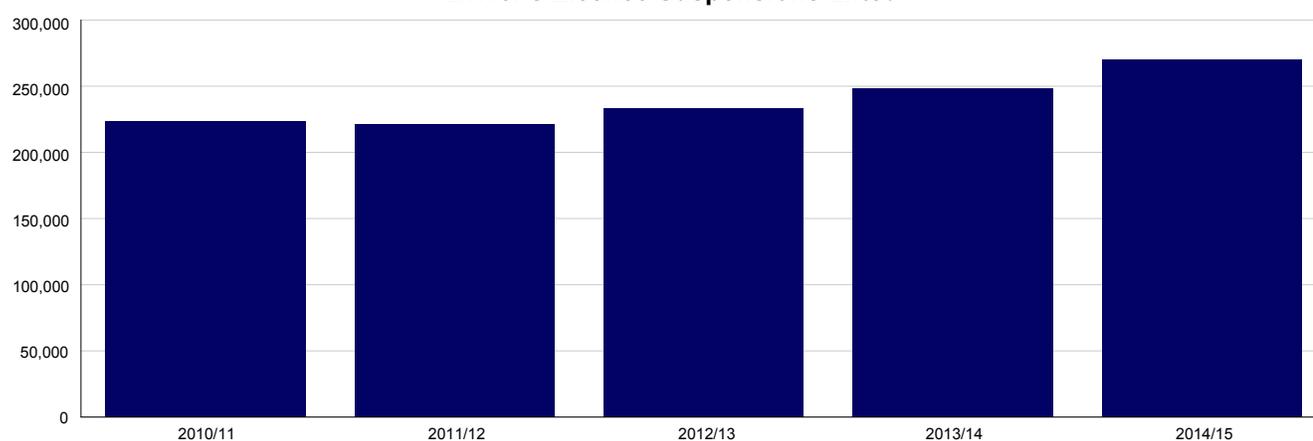
- (a) This is the amount of all payments received in part or in full, for court fines and infringements registered with the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (c) See the appendix for further information and definitions of the various registration types.

Licence Suspensions

Driver's Licence Suspensions Imposed



Driver's Licence Suspensions Lifted

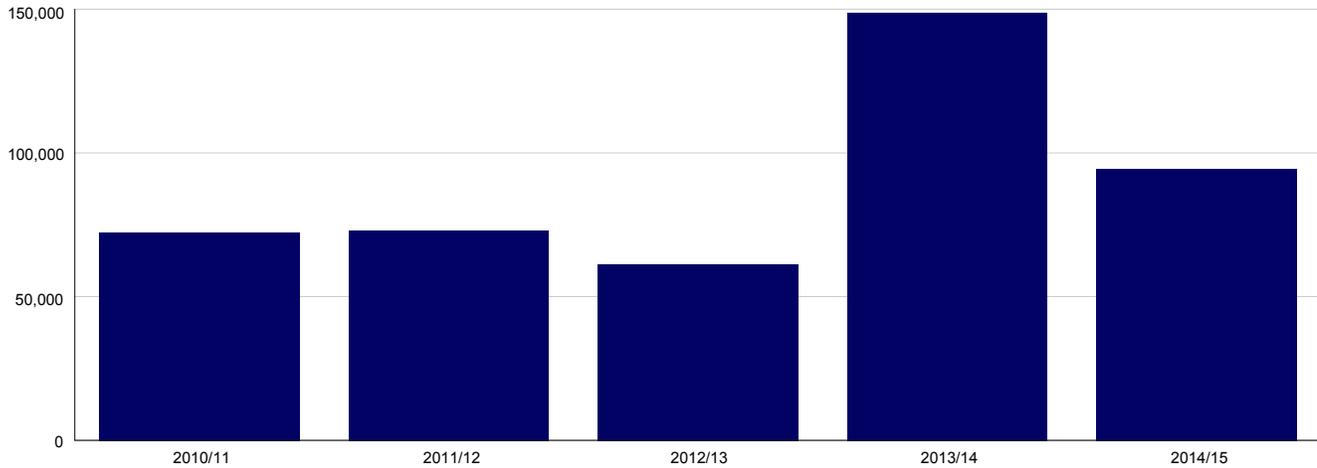


	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Driver's Licence Suspensions Imposed	216,872	234,730	235,456	276,778	308,400	11.4%	42.2%
Driver's Licence Suspensions Lifted	223,911	221,668	233,537	248,763	270,843	8.9%	21.0%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of driver's licences suspensions issued or imposed by the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) Driver's licence suspensions are counted on a case basis, meaning a driver's licence can be suspended multiple times if a party has multiple cases that reach a suspended status.
- (c) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (d) See the appendix for further information and definitions.

Enforcement Warrants

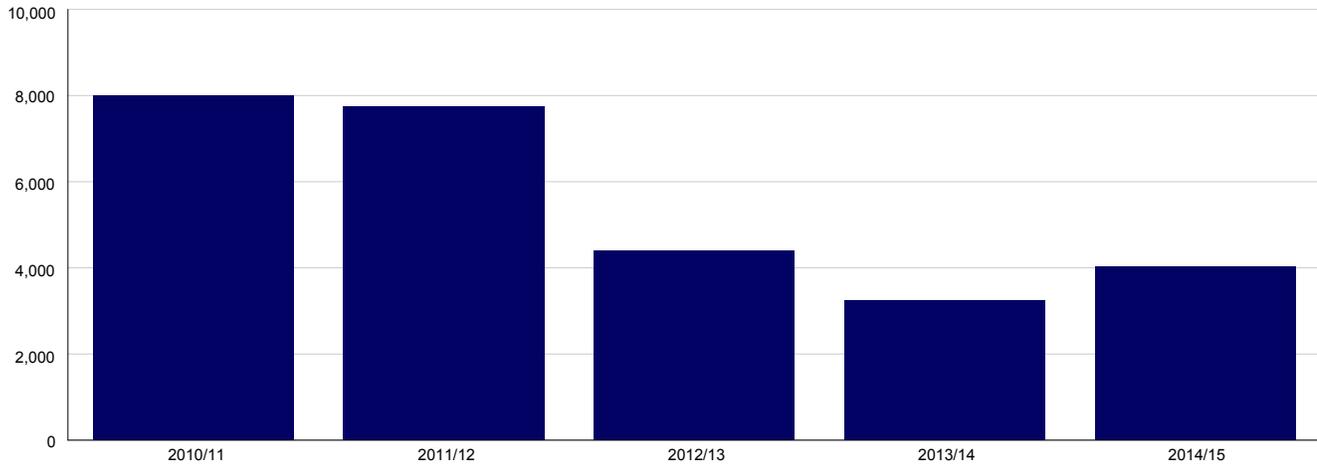


	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Enforcement Warrants Issued	72,518	73,316	61,381	148,970	94,809	-36.4%	30.7%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of Warrants of Execution or Enforcement Warrants issued by the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) Warrants of Executions were replaced by Enforcement Warrants in August 2013. Warrants of Execution only applied to court fines and had limited enforcement options. Enforcement Warrants also include infringements where they total more than \$2000.
- (c) Enforcement Warrants can have the following penalties applied: seizure and sale of property, orders for payment from third parties (i.e employers), wheel clamping, plate removal and licence suspension/cancellation.
- (d) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (e) See the appendix for further information and definitions.

Work and Development Orders

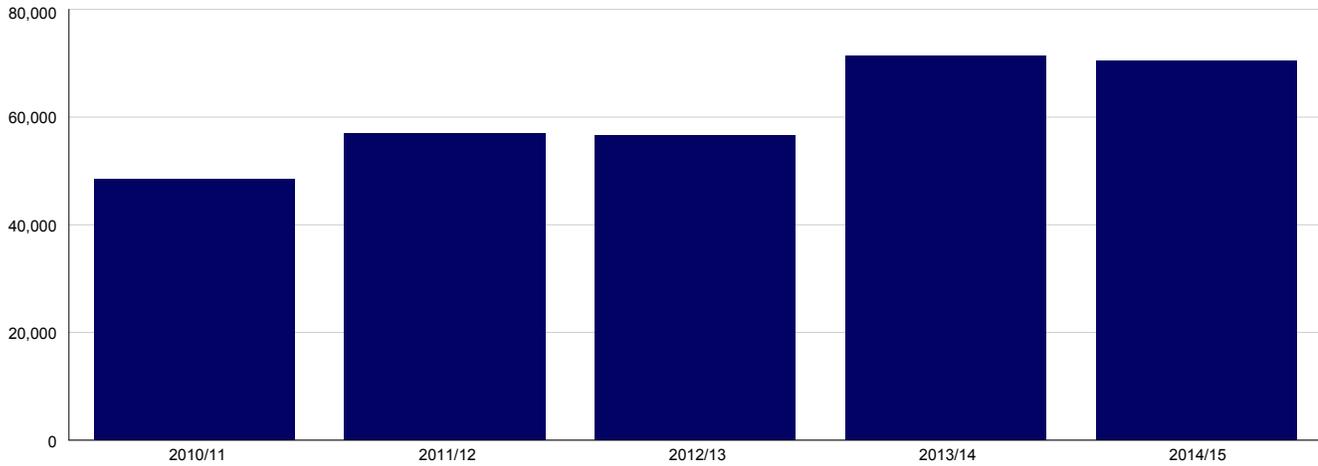


	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Work and Development Orders Issued	8,013	7,755	4,410	3,274	4,057	23.9%	-49.4%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of Orders to Report for Work and Development issued by the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) Work and Development Orders are counted on a case basis, meaning a party can be ordered multiple times if a party has multiple cases that have a Work and Development Order issued.
- (c) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (d) See the appendix for further information and definitions.

Payment Arrangements



	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% Change 1 Year	% Change 5 Year
Time to Pay Approvals	48,557	57,219	56,815	71,596	70,571	-1.4%	45.3%

Counting Rules:

- (a) These are the number of "Time to Pay" payment arrangements approved and activated by the Fines Enforcement Registry.
- (b) "Time To Pay" is an arrangement with the Fines Enforcement Registry that allows fine defaulters to pay off fines in instalments. Instalment amounts are set by the Fines Enforcement Registry in consultation with the fine defaulter and designed to enable regular payments without the penalty of a driver's licence suspension.
- (c) If 'n/a' is present in the % Change column, this indicates that the calculation is 'not appropriate' given that the values of the columns in the table being compared are less than or equal to 10. Comparing values this low is statistically meaningless.
- (c) See the appendix for further information and definitions.

Appendix--Definitions

The following are descriptions of registration and reporting types within the Sheriff's Office of Western Australia.

Registration Types

Cannabis Infringements

Financial penalty issued by a Police Officer relating to a small quantity of cannabis referred to FER.

Court Fines

Financial penalties applied by the lower or higher courts that are registered for enforcement after a referral to FER.

Interstate Request for Enforcement

A request from a non Western Australian jurisdiction to enforce a financial penalty.

Reporting Definitions

Collections

Payments made by debtors towards any outstanding court fines or infringements.

Completions

Completions are court fines and infringements that have been finalised by means of payment, work & development orders, imprisonment, have been withdrawn or are written off.

Enforcement Warrants

Enforcement Warrants may be issued which directs the Sheriff to seize and sell property, immobilise a vehicle and/or remove vehicle number plates to recover the outstanding debt.

Licence Suspensions

Licence suspensions are requests made by FER to the Department of Transport for the suspension of a driving licence when fines or infringements qualify for this action.

Multanova and Camera Infringements

Automated financial penalties from red light camera or speed camera operations that are referred to FER.

Other Infringements

Financial penalties issued by state government or local council authorities.

Payment Arrangements

Payment arrangements are agreements made between the Sheriff's Office or FER and the Debtor to make ongoing periodical payments towards their registered outstanding debt.

Registrations

Registrations relate to the fines and infringements that agencies request FER to enforce. For court fines, this enforcement process begins 28 days after referral from court. Therefore, some court fines can be completed or undertake a time to pay arrangement before the enforcement process begins.

Work and Development Orders

An order to attend for work and development may be issued requiring the offender to either pay the amount owed or report to the Department of Corrective Services to be assessed for the purposes of deciding whether a Work and Development Order should be made in respect of the offender. A work and development order requires the offender to perform community corrections activities for a number of hours calculated under the regulations by reference to the amount owed.

As well as our Freedom of Information and annual reporting responsibilities, the Department of the Attorney General has now committed to regularly publishing a wide range of statistics relating to the operation of its various business areas.

The Department receives requests from media outlets on a daily basis for customised statistics, which may be beyond the scope of this statistics package.

All media requests for customised figures are considered individually and the Department will generally supply such information only where the

- information is stored in a way that it is easily retrievable; and***
- the amount of work required to compile and supply customised information is reasonable.***