

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

ELECTRICAL WORKERS REGISTRATION BOARD

C O N T E N T S

Presiding Member's Report	1
Output Agreement	3
Registrar's Review	3
Board Financials	8
Board Statistics	
Complaints	9
Registrations (Totals)	10
Licencing	11
New Registrations	12
Certificates of Compliance	12
Examinations	13
Board Members	14

Presiding Member's Report

It is with pleasure that the Electrical Workers Registration Board submit this seventeenth annual report.

The Board welcomed the appointment of Mr Tony Ahern to the Board. The appointment of Tony has strengthened the wide range of skills and industry experience available to the current Board.

2011/2012 has been another interesting and challenging year for the Board. The introduction of electronic communication using I-Pads between the Department and Board Members has been a great success. This method has given the Department better efficiencies and the Board Members the ability to store and access important information for use at meetings and has almost eliminated the reams of paper which were used in the past.

The Board has completed the review of its Standing Orders, addressed issues with the introduction of the new Electricity Amendment Act 2006 and the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 which were highlighted during submissions. During the year the Board prepared and presented several discussion documents for consultation with stakeholders. This included completing the review of the 'Boards Fees Structure', 'Classes of Registration' and started preliminary discussions regarding a review of the 'Board Auditing' procedures. The Board is also represented at meetings with other Government Agencies established under the 'Memorandum of Understanding'.

A summary of the Board's Ministerial Output agreement and a detailed account of activities are included in the Registrar's Review section of this annual report.

This year there were a total of 40 disciplinary Hearings held and 35 people were found guilty of a range of disciplinary offences. The Board prosecuted 13 people who had carried out prescribed electrical work in contravention of the Act. The Board continues the publication of the results of disciplinary hearings and prosecutions along with a short summary of the offence, in 'ELECTRON' for the information and benefit of all practitioners. Lack of 'adequate testing' by practitioners is still an area of concern to the Board.

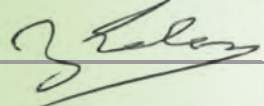
The Board was represented at industry conferences and field days including the ECANZ National Conference, Electrical Institute of NZ Conference, ESITO Field Day, and meetings with the ETITO, ESITO, to promote on-going trade training continue. The Board has meet with the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board and other related Building Industry partners during the year.



As Presiding Member I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Deputy Presiding Member Penny Mudford and other Board members for their support and valuable contribution during the year. The Board has a responsibility to the industry for the regulation, licensing and administration of 43,000 plus registered practitioners, issuing over 26,000 practising licenses, plus employer licenses, and the conducting and monitoring of registration examinations for almost 4,000 candidates each year. The commitment and dedication required to be a member of this Board must again be acknowledged.

In closing the Board wishes to express their appreciation for the assistance provided by the Board's Registrar Mr John Sickles, Secretary Mrs Trish Tchernegovski, and the staff of the Electrical Workers Licensing Group.



Eddie Eeles	
Presiding Member	



Output Agreement

The Minister of Building and Construction has an Output Agreement with the Board and that Agreement establishes Board performance and service delivery Measures.

The Agreement also enables the Minister to monitor the Board, and hold the Board responsible for its performance. The Agreement is split into two sections and those sections are governance and service delivery.

Governance

During the year the Board reviewed and reaffirmed its delegations to the Registrar. The delegations ensure the effective operations of the Board with the Registrar providing the Board with an operational report on a monthly basis. A Board self review was completed during the year and ongoing training and development was carried out at regular meetings from time to time as required. The Board's conflict of interest register was maintained and updated. The Board is developing a revised induction programme for new members.

Registrar's Review

Service delivery

Expectations	Performance Measure	Output
To register and licence electrical workers in the classes of registration under the Board Gazette Notice of 1 April 2010.	To register all eligible applicants within 12 days of receipt of correctly completed applications for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrician • Electrical inspector • Electrical engineer • Electrical installer • Electrical service Technician • Electrical appliance service person • Electrical appliance service person (endorsed) • Associated tradesperson • Line mechanic • Cable jointer 	A total of 1,577 new registrations were issued as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 925 electrician • 62 electrical inspector • 12 electrical engineer • 12 electrical installer • 271 electrical service technician • 127 electrical appliance serviceperson • 17 electrical appliance serviceperson (endorsed) • 2 associated tradesperson • 127 line mechanic • 22 cable jointer
To ensure that registered persons maintain an adequate level of competency.	Projected for 2011/2012 Complete 6,500 audits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,000 telephone audits • 50 provisional licence audits • 500 electrical audits • 22 training providers. 	A total of 6,587 audits were undertaken during the year and that number is made up of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,033 telephone audits • 50 provisional licence and limited certificate audits • 504 certificate of compliance audits • 23 training provider audits

Expectations	Performance Measure	Output
To set licensed electrical worker competency standards which achieve maximum public and worker safety with least impediment to industry.	Conduct examinations in May, June, September and November and review the examination results after each examination round.	Examination rounds were conducted in each of the months cited in the Measure and the Board considered reports on each round. A total of 3,416 candidates attempted examinations and of that number 2,248 (66%) passed.
To encourage a positive behaviour change among non compliant electrical workers.	Raise profile of the registration and licensing regime through communications such as ELECTRON and publicity as well as appropriate disciplinary sanctions. To prosecute non registered persons who undertake prescribed electrical work in breach of the Electricity Act 1992.	Five issues of ELECTRON newsletter were issued to in excess of 44,000 people during the year and disciplinary sanctions taken by the Board were included in the newsletter. Reports on all examination rounds were sent to stakeholders. Stakeholders were also sent discussion papers on the Board's fee review, competency programmes, limited certificates and information of revised criteria for competence programmes.
Work with the Ministry of Economic Development and the Department of Building and Housing to amend rules and regulations to allow direct reporting of high risk electrical installations direct to the Ministry of Economic Development, and to assist with the implementation, if this approach is determined to be appropriate.	Rules and regulations amended by 31 June 2012.	The Board provided ongoing comment and advice on the development of amended rules and regulations relating to the certification review and the introduction of direct reporting of high risk electrical work. The Board has agreed that in the forthcoming year it will develop online certification forms which will be made free of charge to practitioners. New certification requirements will come into force on 1 July 2013 with the introduction of the Electricity (Safety) Amendment Regulations.
Undertake a fees review for registration and licensing under Schedule 6 and review the warrant of electrical fitness fee payable under Schedule 5 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010. The review will ensure that the fees are aligned with the Treasury and Office of the Auditor General's guidelines on fee setting.	Any fee changes implemented by March 2012.	In May the Board advised the Minister that it had completed the fee review and revised fees are due to come into force on 1 July 2013 with the introduction of the Electricity (Safety) Amendment Regulations.

Strategy and Capability

Expectations	Performance Measure	Output
Clear measurable strategic plan for 2009/2012.	Strategic plan updated by 30 December 2011 to include a detailed plan, progress measures and timetable for achievements.	The Board updated its strategic plan and introduced a business plan which set out measurable function methodologies.

The Board

The Board met thirteen times over thirty three days during the year. At the February meeting the Board re-elected Eddie Eeles and Penny Mudford to the respective positions of Presiding and Deputy Presiding Members.

In July the Minister for Building and Construction appointed Tony Ahern to the Board and reappointed Mike Macklin.

Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010

As referenced earlier in this report the Board fully participated in the Ministry of Economic Development led review of electrical certification and carried out its own review of fees.

The Board's fee review included considerable consultation on Board proposals and the outcomes received a high level of acceptance from the industry.

Memorandum of Understanding with other Government Agencies

The Board has continued with its participation in the partnership with the Department of Labour, Department of Building and Housing, Ministry of Economic Development and the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board for the facilitation of communication and information sharing among the partners.

Review of Standing Orders

During the year the Board completed the review of Standing Orders which had been commenced in 2010/2011. The Board will continue to review the Orders on an ongoing basis.

Industry Partners

The Board was represented at the Annual Conferences of the Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand and the Electrical Institute of New Zealand.

The Board was also represented at meetings of the Industry Training Organisations Advisory Committees and the Australasia Electricity Regulators Advisory Committee.

The Board continued with its contract with Standards New Zealand that enables the holders of practising licences and limited certificates to access the Standards New Zealand database via the internet to view, download and print the latest versions of electronic standards files.

Comments on Statistics

Complaints

A total of 68 complaints were lodged against registered/licensed electrical workers during the year and the Board held 40 disciplinary hearings. As a result of the disciplinary hearings 35 people were found guilty of disciplinary offences. During the year the Board prosecuted 13 people who carried out prescribed electrical work without authority..

Practising licences

A total of 26,281 practising licences were issued during the year and this is an increase of 1,357 over the previous year's figures.

Registrations

There are a total of 43,627 registered electrical workers and of that number 1,577 were registered for the first time during the year. The number of new registrations increased by 121 over the previous year's figure.

Certificates of compliance

The sales of certificates of compliance rose by 4,132 over the previous year to a total of 299,809.

Examinations

As stated earlier in this report a total of 3,416 candidates attempted examinations and of that number 2,248 (66%) passed. The pass rate is 5% higher than the previous year's figure.

Financials

In previous years practising licence monies received during May and June have been treated as revenue in advance and credited to the forthcoming year.

During the year, in conjunction with AuditNZ, revised accounting techniques were introduced whereby the abovementioned monies were receipted in the year they were received as the practising licence fees are non refundable.

The overall result of the revised techniques is that the Board's Memorandum Account has been credited with a total of \$1,724,000 as opposed to the budgeted amount of \$338,000 giving a total Memorandum Account balance of \$5,586,000.

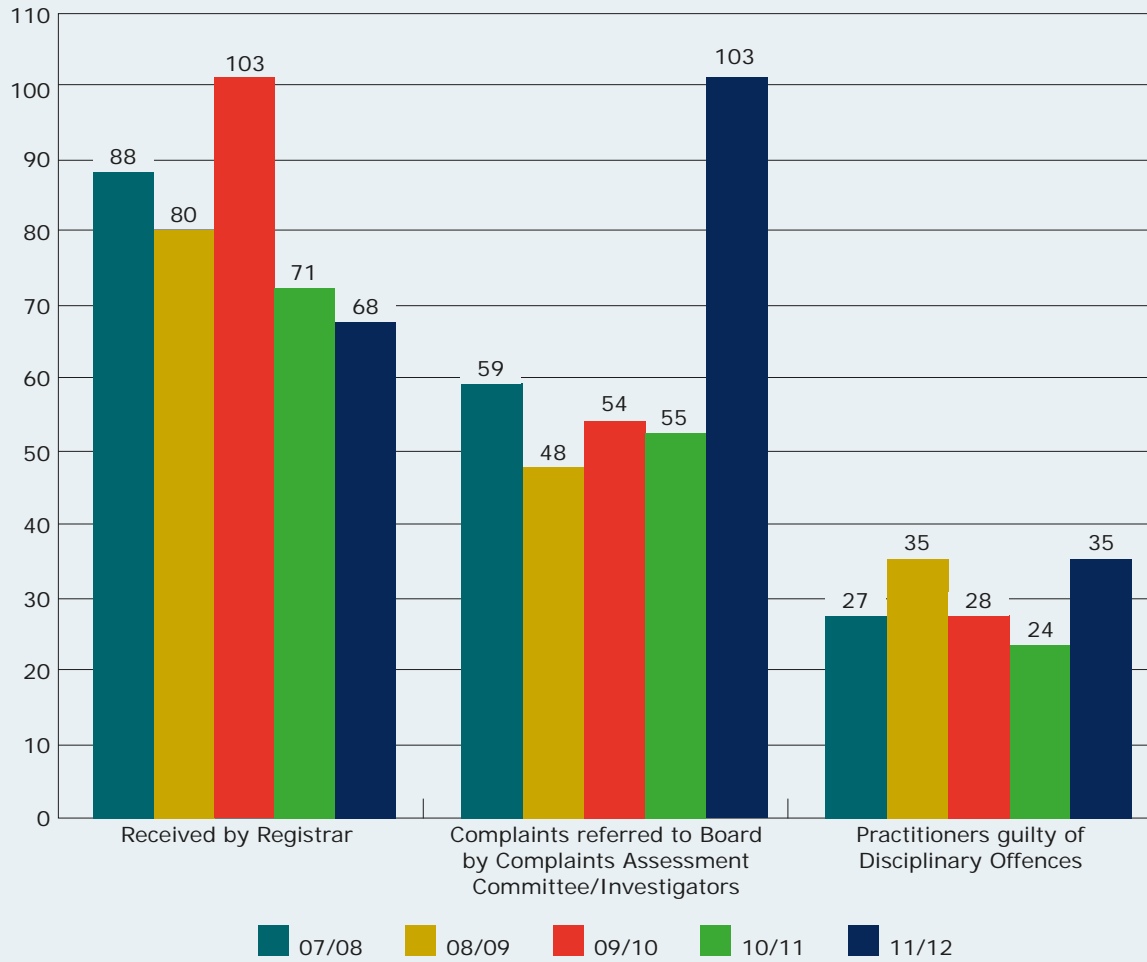


Board Financials

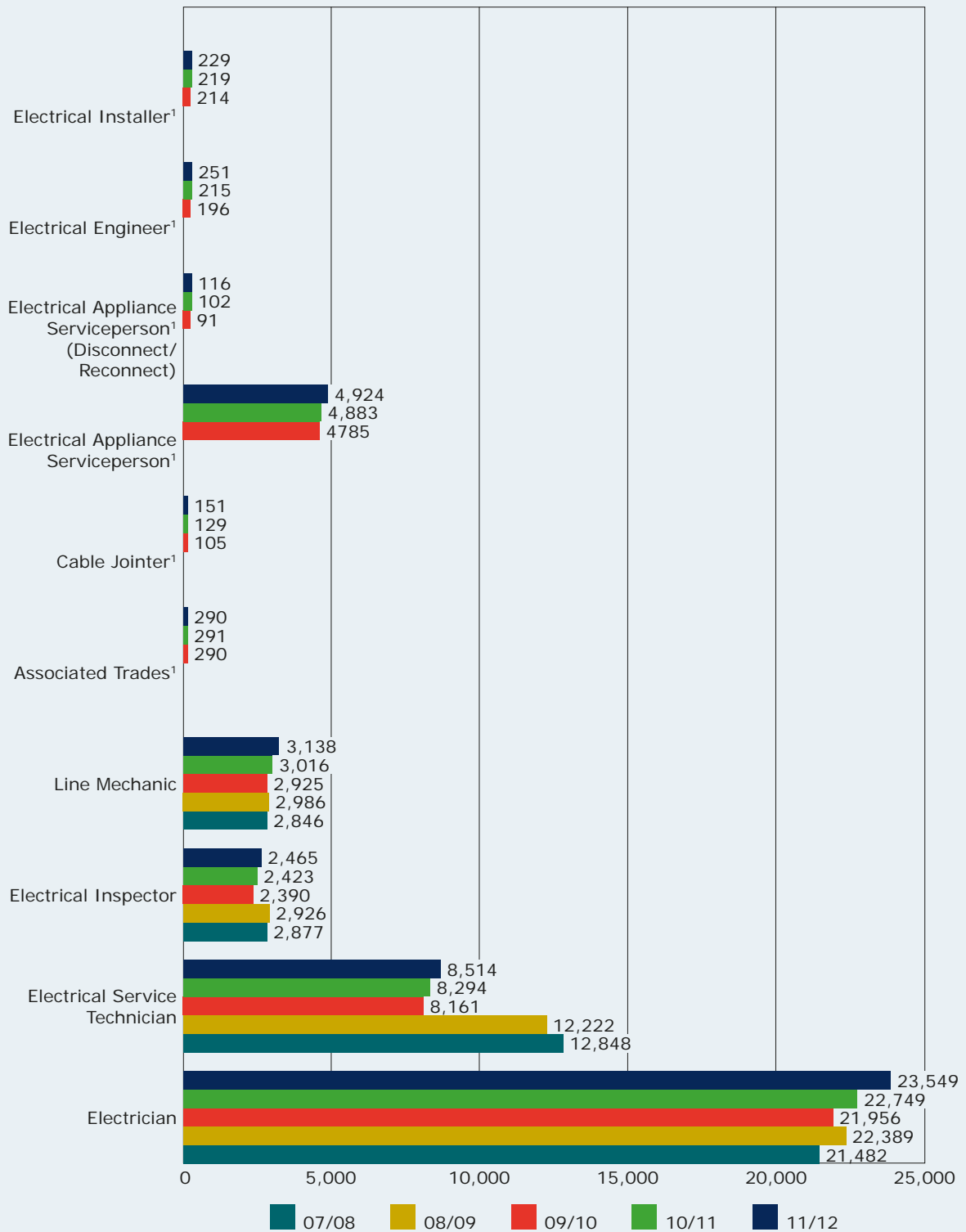
	Actual 2010/2011 \$000s	Budget 2011/2012 \$000s	Actual 2011/2012 \$000s	Budget 2012/2013 \$000s
INCOME				
Practising Licences	1,867	1,945	3,185	1,945
Examination and registration Fees	489	422	515	472
Sale of Publications	29	32	25	21
Certificates of Compliance	1,574	1,950	1,605	1,951
Miscellaneous Revenue	33	22	5	32
Total	3,992	4,371	5,335	4,421
EXPENDITURE				
Personnel	645	589	603	588
Operating	2,157	2,582	1,941	2,582
Depreciation and Capital Charge	208	171	224	192
Support Services	782	678	863	880
Total	3,792	4,020	3,631	4,242
MEMORANDUM ACCOUNT				
Opening Balance	3,645	3,862	3,862	5,566
Add surplus/deficit	217	338	1,704	179
Closing Balance	3,862	4,200	5,566	5,745

Statistics

FIVE-YEAR TREND OF COMPLAINTS

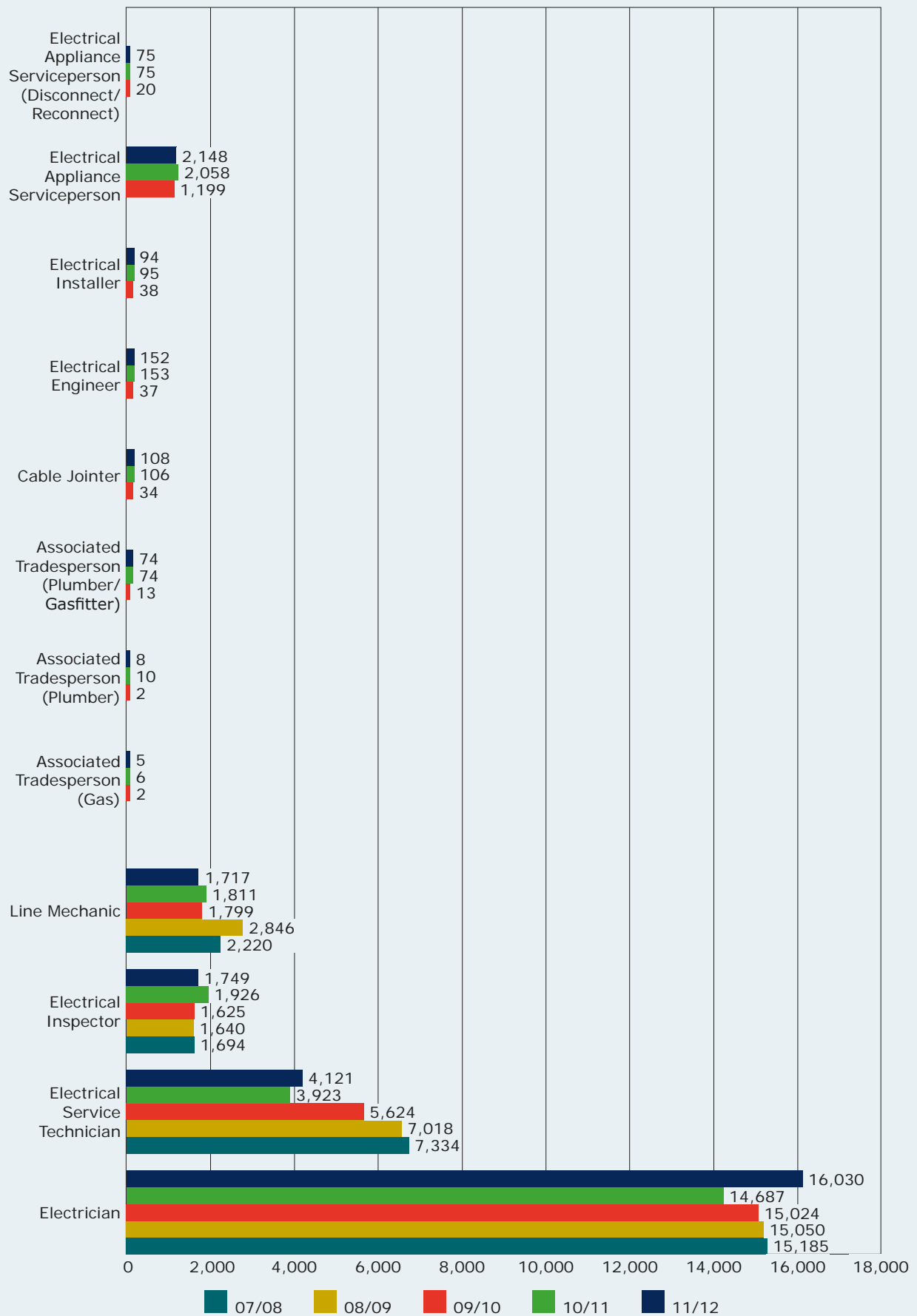


FIVE-YEAR REGISTRATION TRENDS



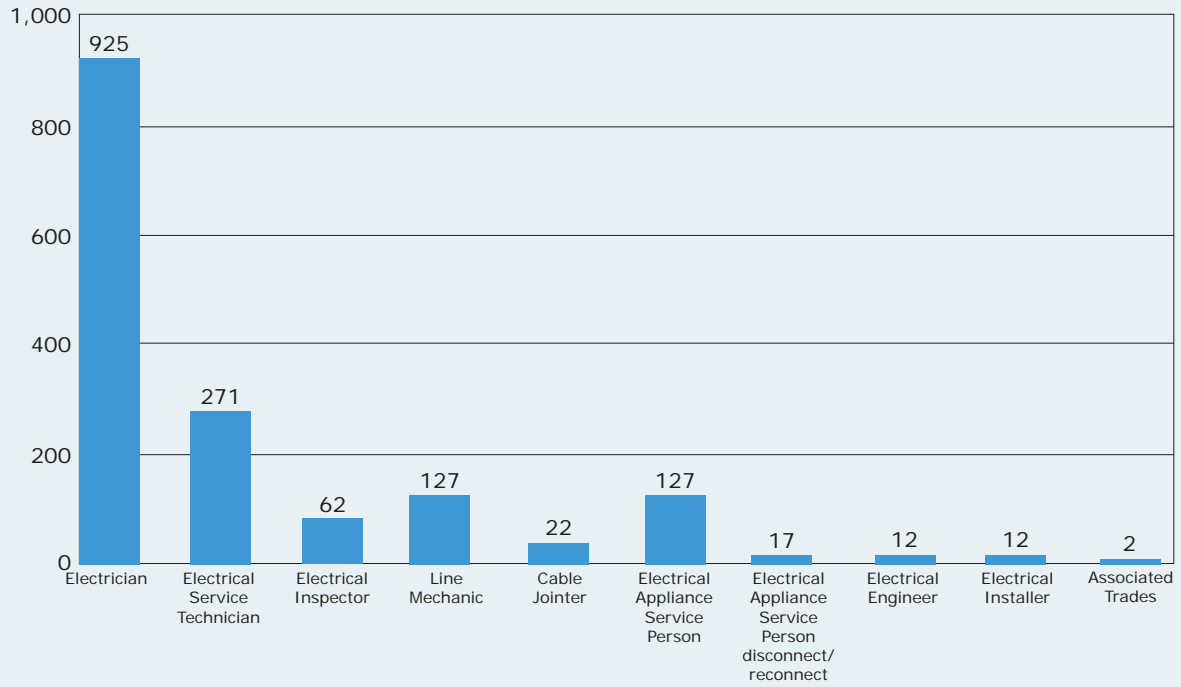
1. New classes of registration were introduced by the Board on 1 April 2010. Electrical workers who did not meet the criteria of existing registration classes were transitioned into new classes.

FIVE-YEAR PRACTISING LICENCE TRENDS

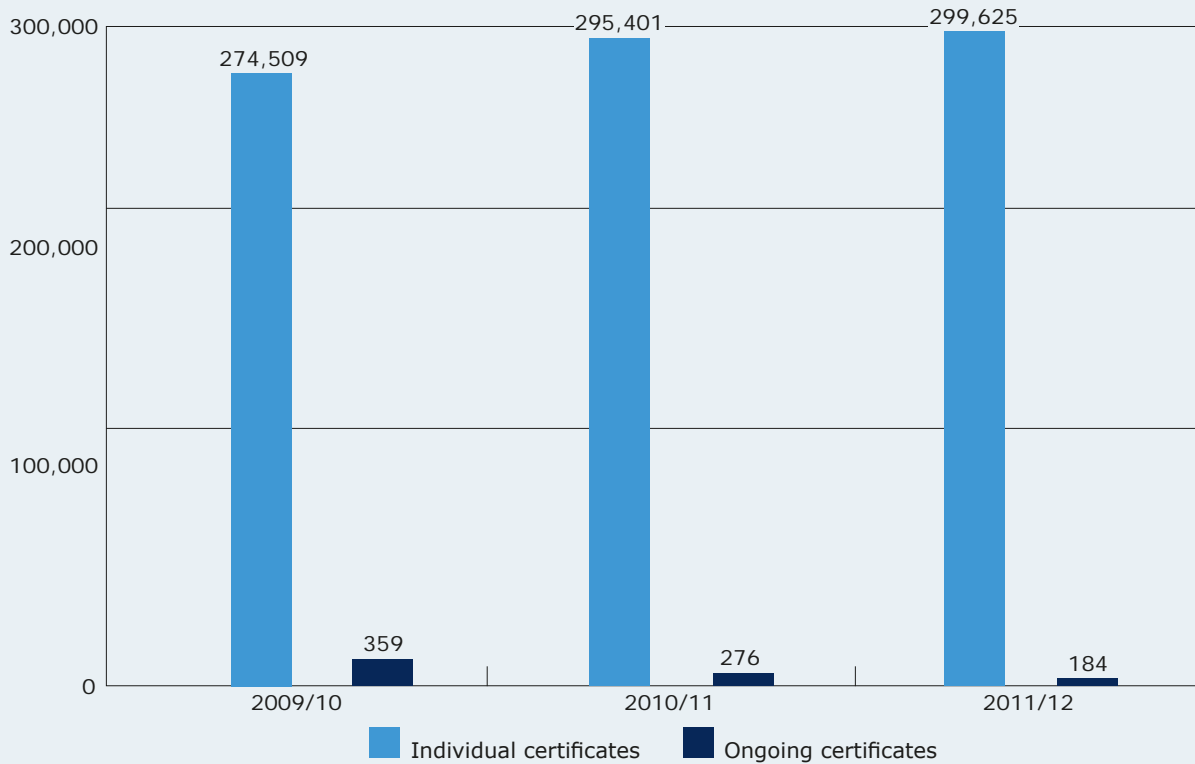


Licences completed issued, 2011/2012.

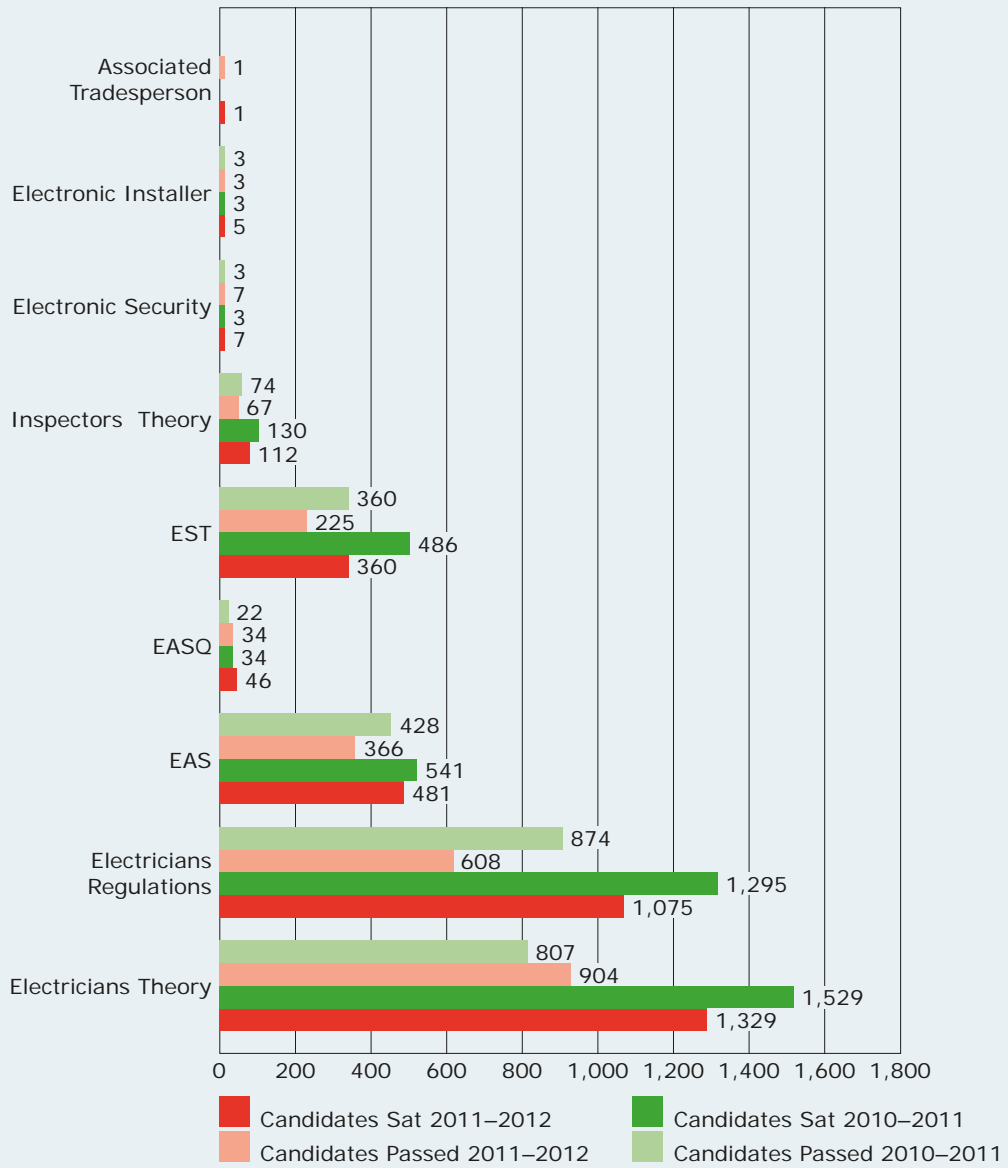
NUMBER OF NEW REGISTRATIONS JULY 2011 – June 2012



CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE SALES THREE-YEAR TREND



EXAMINATIONS



Board Members



Eddie Eeles
Presiding Member

Mr Eeles is a registered electrical inspector who has worked in the electrical industry for over forty years. He has been a company director, a past national president of the Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand and a founding director of the Electrical Training Company. Mr Eeles was appointed to the Board in 2006.



Penny Mudford
Deputy Presiding Member

Penny is a qualified arbitrator and runs a business specialising in conflict and dispute resolution. She is a Fellow of the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of NZ and an accredited director of the Institute of Directors in NZ. Her current appointments include council member on the Veterinary Council of NZ, chairman of the Liquor Promotions Complaints Board, and independent chairman of a digital printing company. She has a background in agriculture and has sat on various agricultural industry committees. Penny was appointed to the Board in 2007.



Tony Ahern

Tony Ahern is a registered electrician and is currently General Manager Customer Services for Arc Innovations (a business unit of Meridian Energy). Tony has had significant experience in the electricity industry through work with Christchurch MED, SouthPower, Orion and Meridian and over 15 years in management and strategy development. Tony is a member of the Institute of Directors (IoD) and holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) and a Master of Commerce (MCom) degree.



Neil McLeod

Mr McLeod is a self employed registered electrical contractor with a current knowledge of the electrical sector. He was a councillor on the Whangarei District Council from 1998 until 2005 serving on a number of committees including the judicial committee.



David Bradshaw

Mr Bradshaw was previously the director of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) from 1997 to 2007. Prior to this he was the Office Solicitor for the State Services Commission. Mr Bradshaw will bring a high level of understanding governance principles through his work with regulatory boards at the SFO along with strong disciplinary knowledge and expertise.



Michael Macklin

Mr Macklin is a registered electrician and is currently a Director for Bremca Industries, a company specializing in the design, engineering, manufacture and sales of electrical switchgear, automation systems and heating solutions. Mr Macklin has been previously employed as a Commercial Manager for a major Oil Company and prior to that as a Prosecutor for the New Zealand Police. He comes to the Board with broad experience in Electrical, Commercial and Disciplinary proceedings.



Shane Dolan

Shane runs a business that provides geographical information systems services to utility companies. He is a registered line mechanic with 23 years of experience in the electricity industry and holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree. Shane comes to the Board with expertise in establishing quality and safety systems and processes.







ELECTRICAL WORKERS
REGISTRATION BOARD

Safety • Competency

REGISTRAR: JOHN SICKELS

86-90 Customhouse Quay, PO Box 10-156, Wellington 6014

Facsimile: 04 473 2395, Freephone: 0800 66 1000

Website: www.ewrb.govt.nz Email: info@ewr.govt.nz