



Australian Government

Department of Education

PRISMS Modernisation Project Inaugural Technical Working Group 30 November 2022

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Department of Education

Today's session

1. PRISMS Modernisation
 - Overview
 - Timeframes
 - Stakeholder feedback
2. Panel session – Q and A



PRISMS Modernisation Project: Overview

Background

- The PRISMS modernisation initiative announced by the Australian Government in December 2021 under their deregulation agenda.
- Over \$17m allocated over two years (2022-2024) to streamline enrolments for international students.
- The sector has long advocated to modernise PRISMS through direct representations and consultations.

Scope

- Implement a new Application Programming Interface (API) for PRISMS to directly connect with education enrolment systems.
- The project will focus on high use PRISMS functions. No change to PRISMS/Home Affairs interactions, legislation or reporting requirements.
- The project will expand the department's B2G (business to government) interactions.
- **The PRISMS website will remain functional and available.**

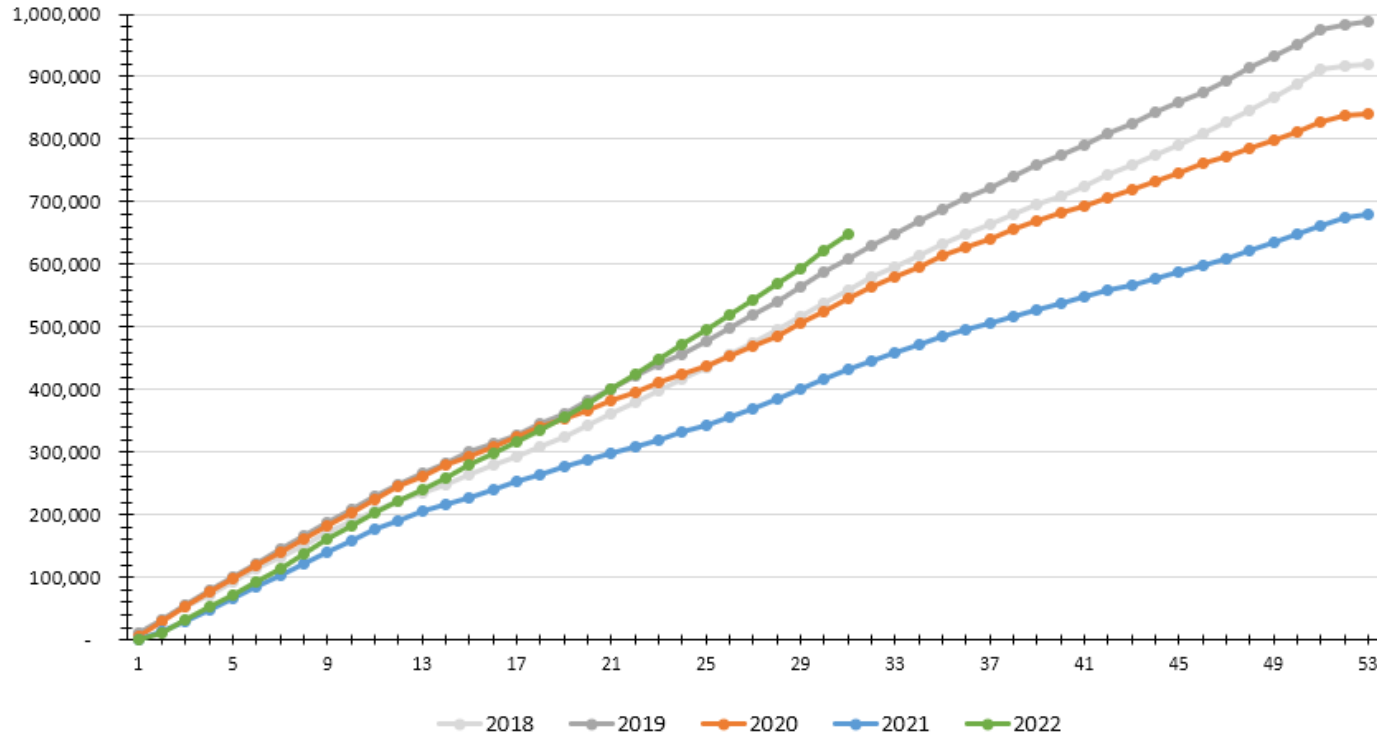
Stakeholders

- CRICOS providers and PRISMS users
- Software vendors
- Home Affairs and Regulators



International student enrolments

Cumulative Enrolment Approvals - all Nationalities

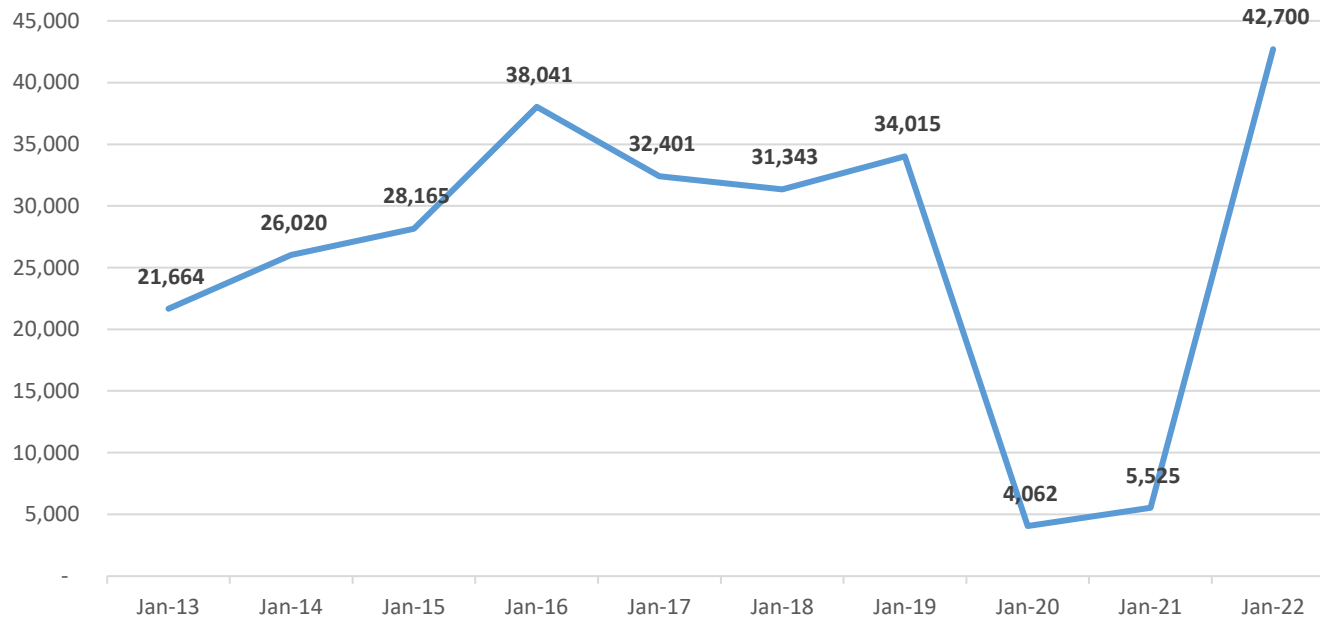


Source: PRISMS



Student visa lodgements

Offshore Student Visa lodgements:
Month of June: 2013 - 2022



Source: Department of Home Affairs

Why modernise PRISMS now?

2005

Last major PRISMS
upgrade in 2005



2015/2021

Sector consultations and
feedback.



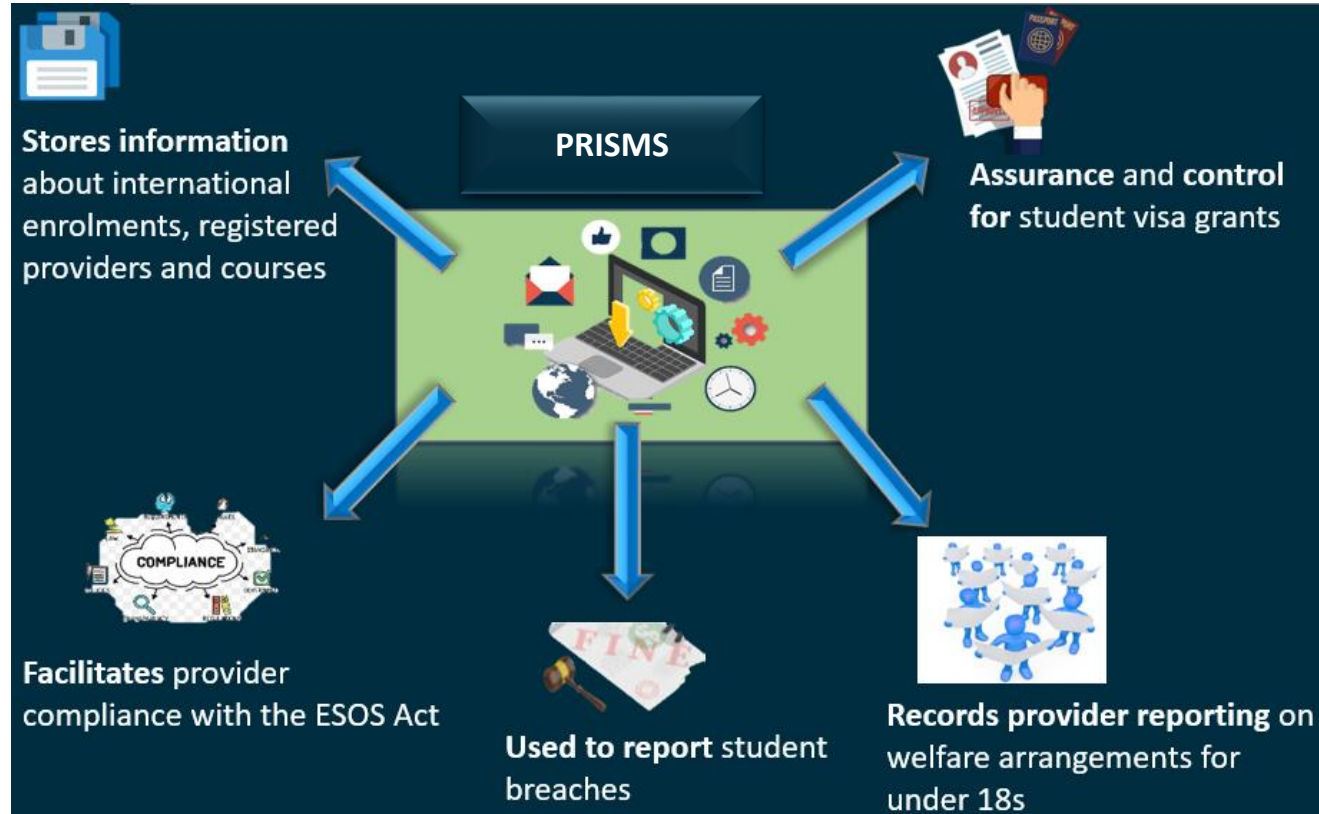
2020

Impact of COVID-19 on
enrolments and the
sector





PRISMS: Introduction



PRISMS Quick Stats

Currently, there are:

- **> 7,000** active users
- **> 1,300** registered providers

In **2019**, there were approximately:

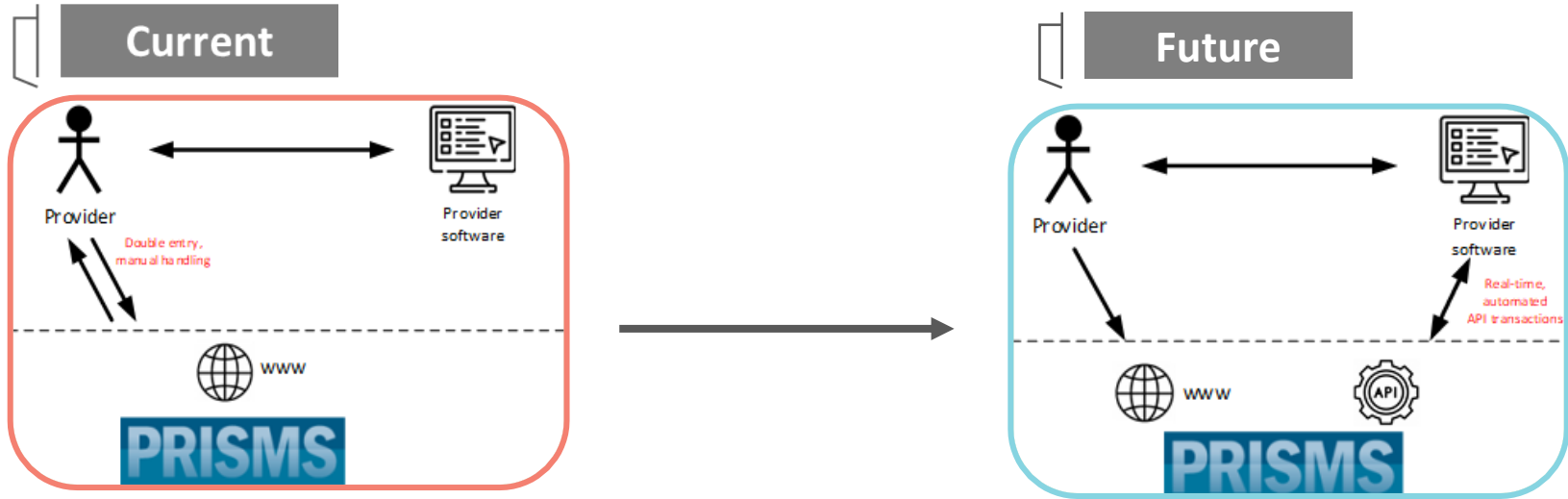
- **999,000** enrolments (CoEs) created
- **550,000** variations (SCVs) created
- **Approx. 755,000** students

In **2021**, there were approximately:

- **680,000** enrolments (CoEs) created
- **515,000** variations (SCVs) created
- **Approx. 570,000** students



PRISMS: Current & Future



Benefits

- The enhancement of the PRISMS application make it easier for providers to submit student enrolment data by using the Business to Government (B2G) Application Programming Interface (API) automation.
- The new integration capability is expected to:
 - ✓ save the sector an estimated \$10 million in regulatory compliance costs each year
 - ✓ improve the timeliness and accuracy of PRISMS reporting
 - ✓ aid in the sustainable sector recovery post COVID-19
 - ✓ reduce double data handling for providers to improve business efficiencies.



The vision – CoE creation



You are in your admissions system or student management system.



At the point where you would normally log in to PRISMS to create a CoE, you might instead click a 'Create CoE' button.



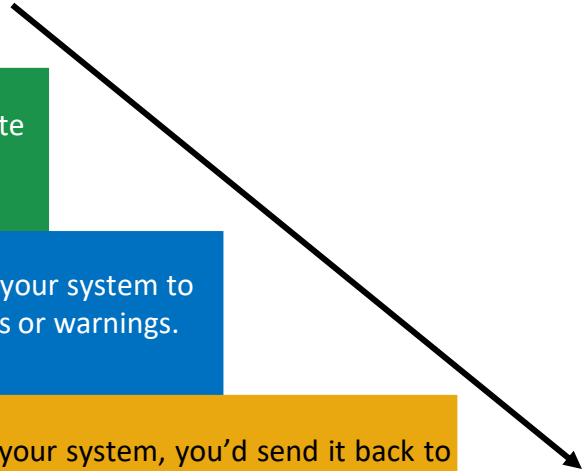
The system would then input relevant data from your system to PRISMS then PRISMS would return any validations or warnings.



Once the validations are cleared in your system, you'd send it back to PRISMS to 'Create CoE'.

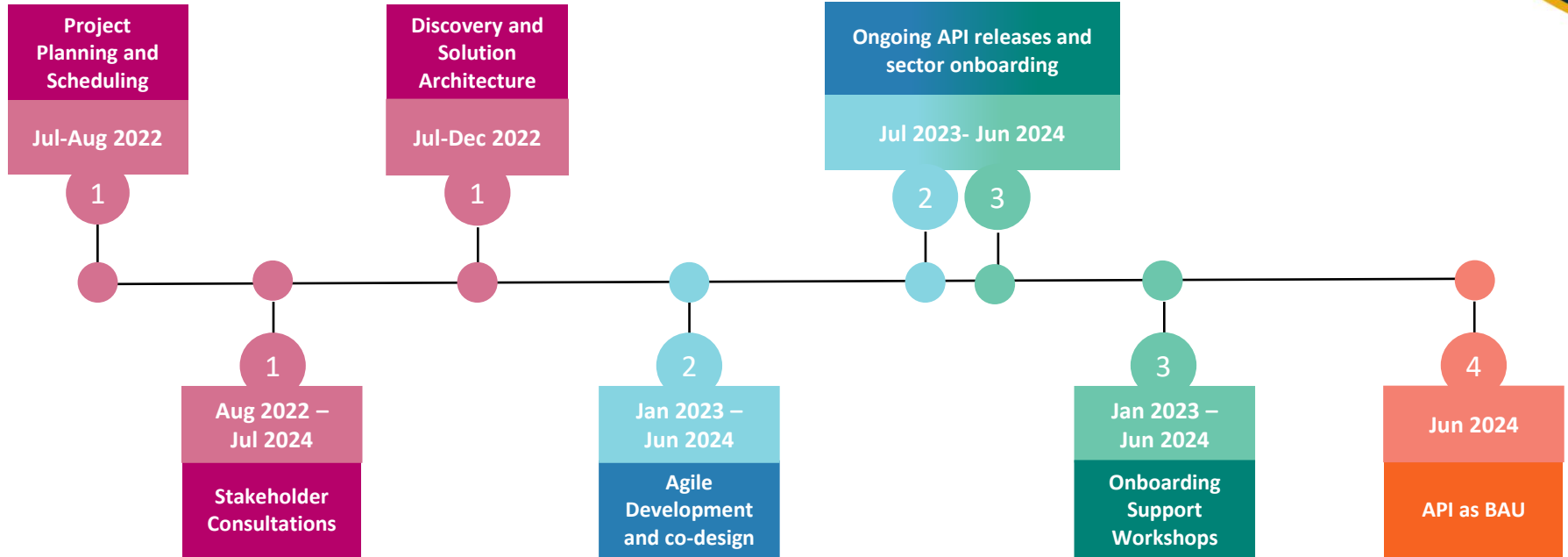


If successful, PRISMS will create an approved CoE, then send back the CoE code and certificate to your system.





PRISMS: Implementation Plan



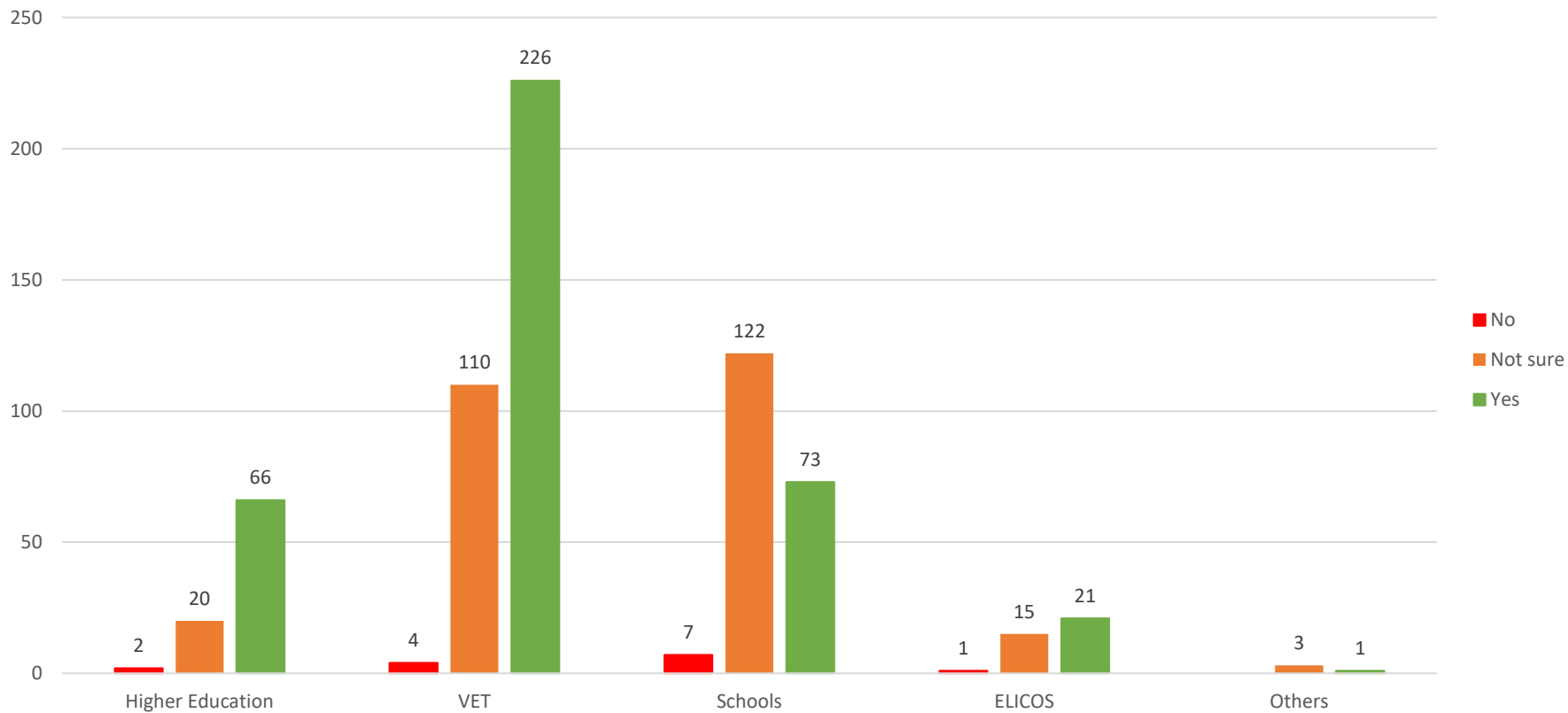
| Project Phase 1 | Project Phase 2 | Project Phase 3 | Project Phase 4 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Establishment | Implementation | Transition | BAU |

PRISMS Modernisation Survey Responses

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1344 | 961,423 | 510,879 | 1,472,522 |
| Registered CRICOS Providers | CoEs Created in 2019 by registered CRICOS providers | SCVs Reported in 2019 by registered CRICOS providers | CoEs and SCVs Combined Reported in 2019 by registered CRICOS providers |

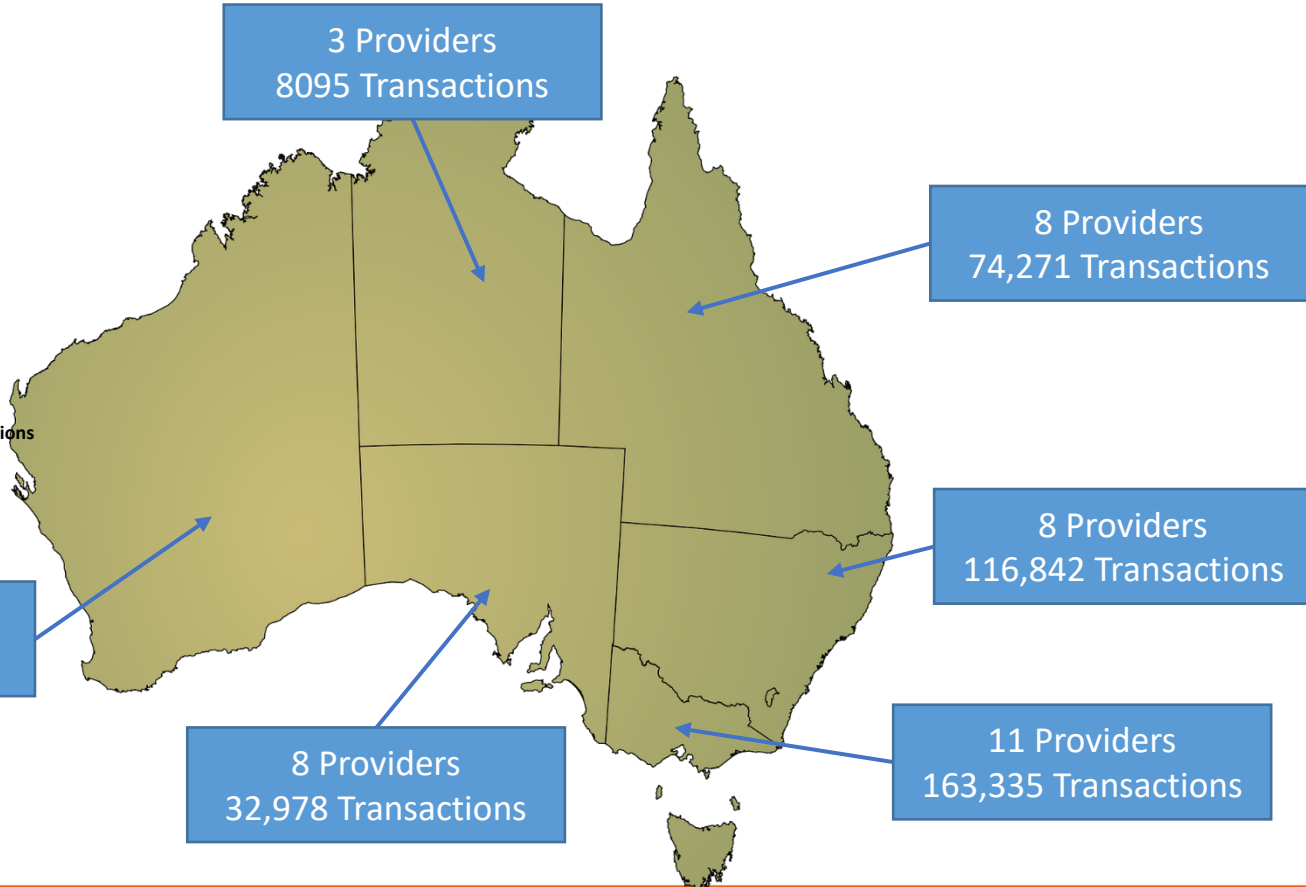
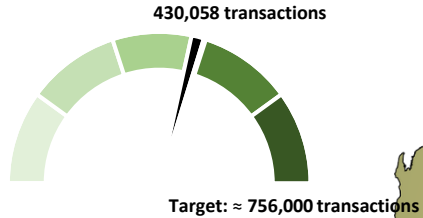
| | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| 49.93% | 67.88% | 68.55% | 68.10% |
| Survey Response Rate | % of CoEs Created in 2019* by respondent providers* | % Of SCVs Reported in 2019* by respondent providers* | % Of CoEs and SCVs Combined Reported in 2019* by respondent providers |

Intention to use API by Provider Main Sector



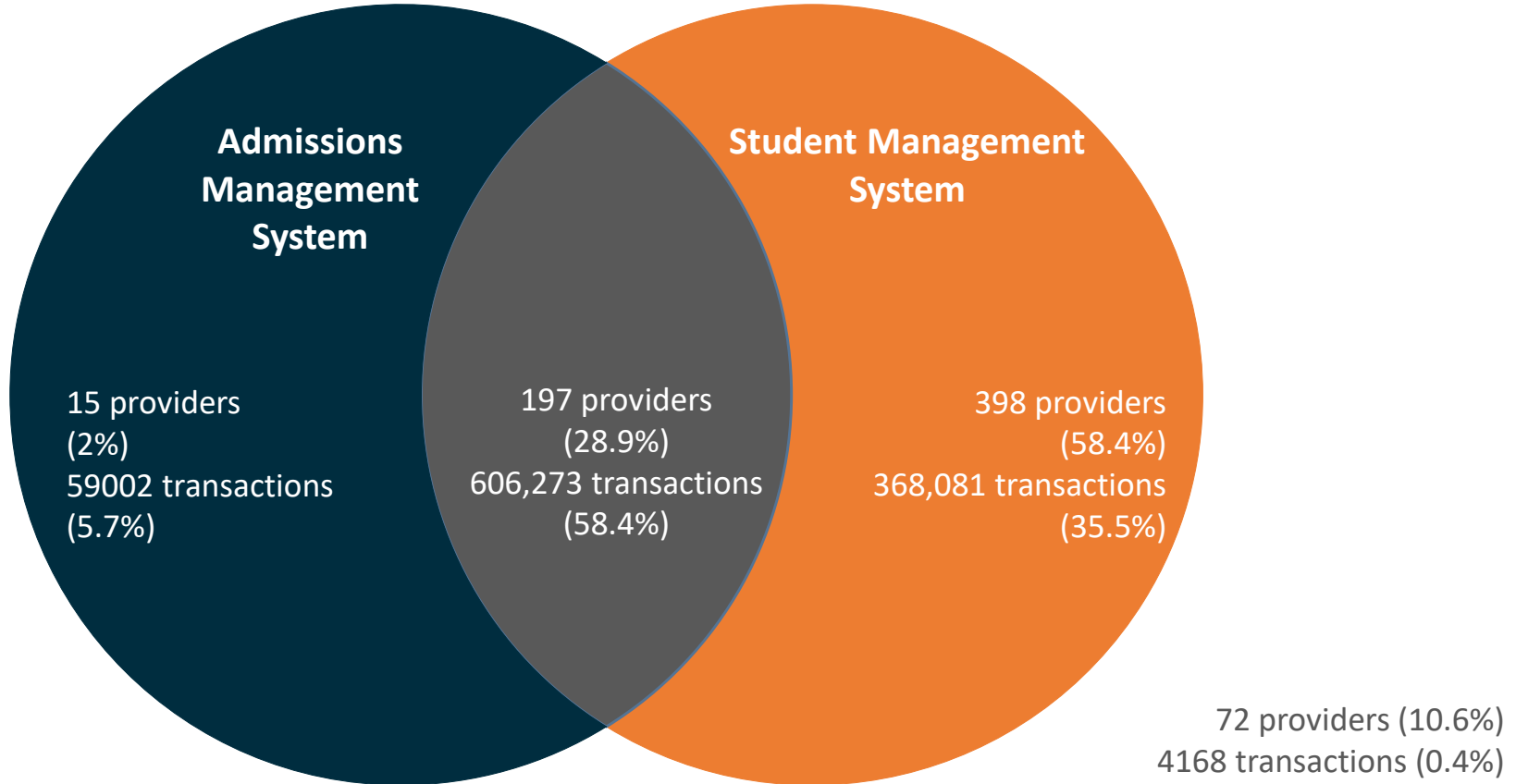
Provider Visits – Penetration by State:

49 Providers visited
430,058 Transactions
(56.9% of target)

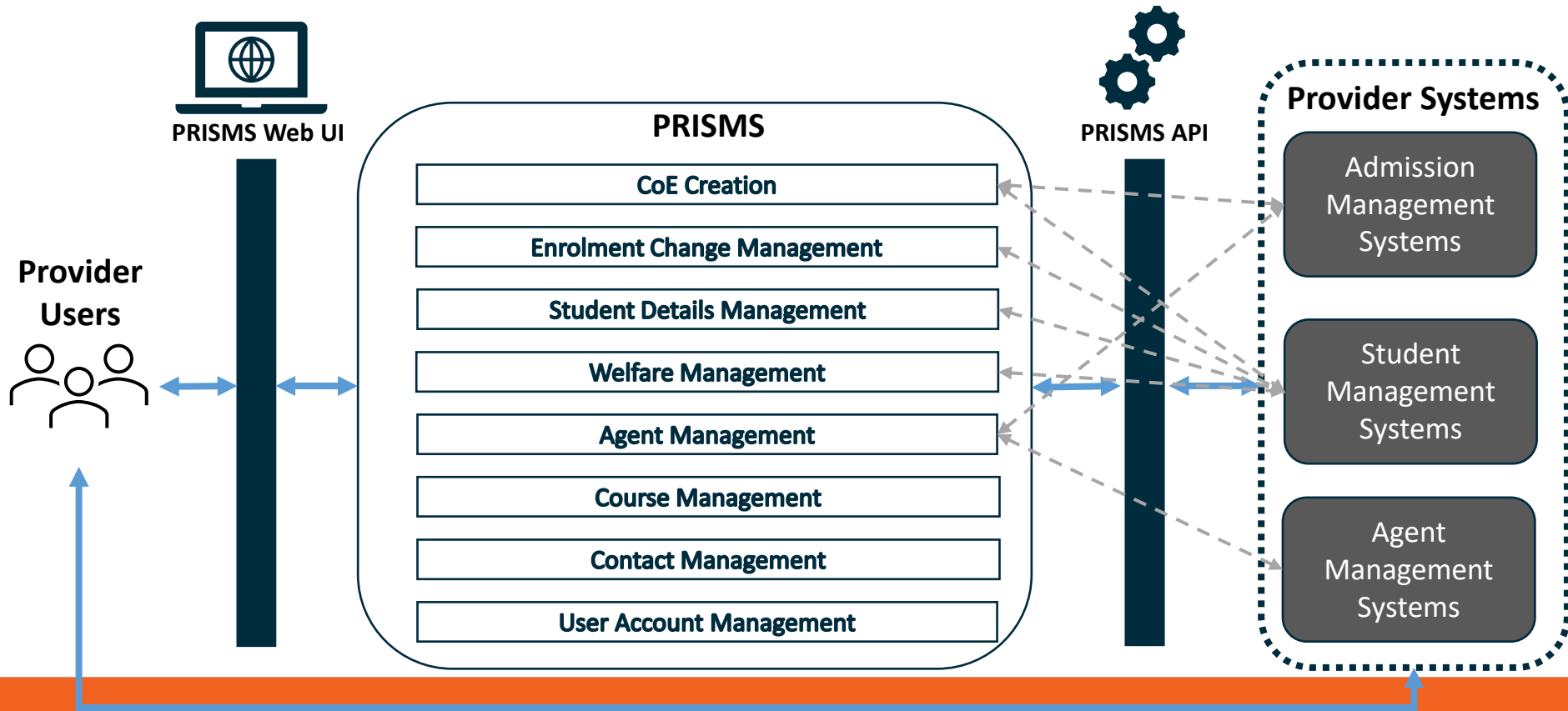


Provider System Usage

Sample Size: 682 Providers



ESOS Reporting Future State



SLIDO questionnaire results from 2022 AIEC presentation

Live polls



- How long does it take you to create a CoE? 105
- When you heard about the PRISMS Modernisation project - what's the first thing that came to mind? 103 >
- Which of these would you like to see automated from your systems to PRISMS? (select your top 5) 93

When you heard about the PRISMS Modernisation project - what's the first thing that came to mind?



**Which of these would you like to see automated from your systems to PRISMS?
(select your top 5)**

Create new agent



Update student contact details



SCV - Non-commencement of studies



SCV - Student completed course early



SCV - Student notified of cessation of study



SCV - Student transferred to another course



Record student release (Standard 7)



SCV - Change in course - new study duration



Report student default



Update U18 welfare arrangements



Terminate U18 welfare arrangements



Confirm study commencement



Key messages from CRICOS providers:

- Majority in favour of an API for data entry. Providers can see the benefit
- Providers will look to us to approach their vendors
- Providers want us to understand the impact on their business processes
- Some providers are concerned that using the API will be mandatory –
FACT: the PRISMS website will remain operational
- Providers stressed the importance of a good test strategy and a test environment before implementation

Next steps:

- Technical working group continuation –
 - January will be Technical Working Group 2
 - Technical Working Group will be held monthly thereafter
- Look out on the PRISMS news page – or subscribe if you haven't already.

Key dates:

- March – April 2023 - test environment and documentation for CoE creation by API available.
- August 2023 - live release of CoE create by API.
- September 2023 - June 2024 - regular releases of additional API functionality, ongoing technical support with API transition phase

Thank you!

Questions?

Contact prismsAPI@education.gov.au



Australian Government
**Department of Employment
and Workplace Relations**

PRISMS Modernisation Project

Technical update – 30 November 2022

- Introduction
- Delivery approach
- Framing the problem
- Current state interactions
- Assumptions
- Authentication and Authorisation
- Next steps

Introduction to the Delivery team

- We sit within Digital Services Division in Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)
- Manage IT solutions on behalf of the Department of Education
- Multi-disciplinary delivery team to deliver this project
- Provider and vendor engagement and consultation managed out of the business team in Department of Education

Delivery approach



DISCOVERY

Start mapping the broader service landscape, researching the real needs and problems faced by your users, and understanding the policy intent and technology constraints.



ALPHA

Test out your hypotheses by building prototypes in code to explore different ways you might be able to meet your users' needs. Explore multiple ideas. Do user research to learn which approach works best and iterate your solution as you learn more.



BETA

Define a minimum viable product from the successful prototype in Alpha. Build this as an accessible and secure service. Allow the public to trial the beta alongside the existing service. Use their feedback to improve the service.

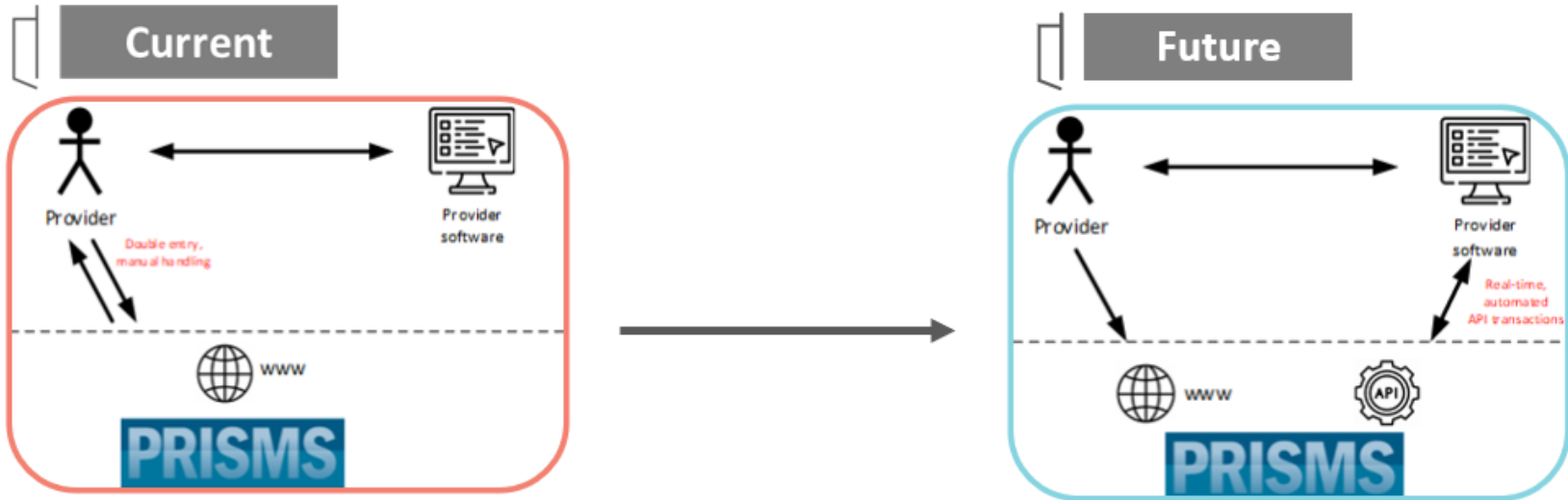


LIVE

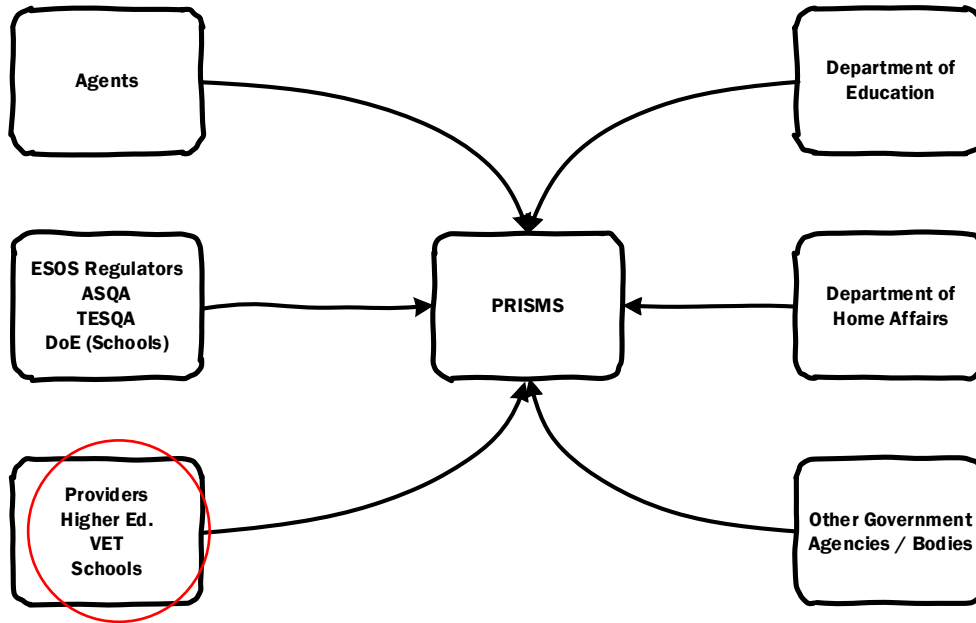
Put the team and processes in place to continue operating and improving the service. Phasing out the old services, and consolidating existing non-digital channels.



What's the problem we're trying to solve?



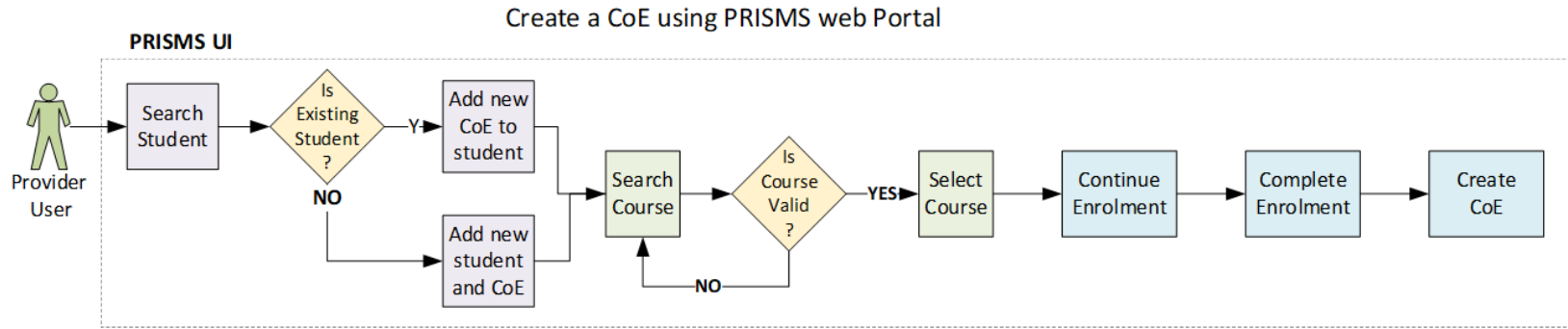
PRISMS Stakeholders



Assumptions and challenges

- The existing PRISMS UI would remain in place after API implementation
- Redevelopment of the existing PRISMS platform and capabilities was not in scope for the initial phase of discovery and development
- No change to existing legislative requirements or reporting
- Aligning with whole of government guidance as part of design and development
- Initial focus will be on API capabilities to support CoE creation

Initial focus – CoE Create



Initial focus – Approved CoE Create


Focus of current work

- Defining the data flows and validations that underpin the UI process
- Defining the data entities
- Developing API specifications based on the CoE Create service flow



Authentication and Authorisation

Authentication and authorisation approach based around some key concepts

- Alignment with Whole of Government approach and guidance
 - Analysis of existing authentication models in place in the department with a focus on opportunities for alignment and re-use
 - Leverage modern OpenID/Connect and OAuth2.0 flows.
- 

Questions?

Contact prismsAPI@education.gov.au