



Reopens: This chart shows the number of examiners having a particular number of re-openings (e.g., re-open after an appeal brief, re-open or allow after pre-appeal, re-open after final). The chart also shows the percentage of examiners falling between no re-openings and a given number of re-openings.

The Office uses this type of information to identify areas to investigate further through a root-cause analysis. Such an analysis will assess whether the instances of reopenings are warranted (such as due to a change in the law resulting from a new court decision) or whether the examiner needs additional training or resources to be more efficient.