

Juvenile Justice Policy and Data Board

Data Subcommittee Meeting

February 20, 2026

2-3:30pm

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of December Meeting Minutes
3. FY25 Annual Report Data Presentation & Discussion

Data to date...

Diversion
Summons
Arrests
Overnight arrest
Application for complaint
Delinquency filing
Arraignment
Held/not held at arraignment
Pretrial supervision/monitoring
Pretrial detention
Dispositions
Sanctions
Probation Case Starts
First- time commitment to DYS
Youthful Offender cases
YES transitions
Dismissed delinquency cases (post- delinquency filing, pre-adjudication)
Other systems: CRA, DMH, DPH

Presentation Outline

Last meeting we discussed:

Overall juvenile justice system data trends

- Pretrial
- Post disposition

Today:

- Arrest and summons data trends
- Diversion & case dismissals
- Demographic & geographic breakdowns
 - Crossover, Racial & Ethnic Disparities, Gender, LGBTQ+, County

New data in this year's report:

- Updates on police diversion, arrest, summons data availability/quality
- Updates on school arrest data availability/quality

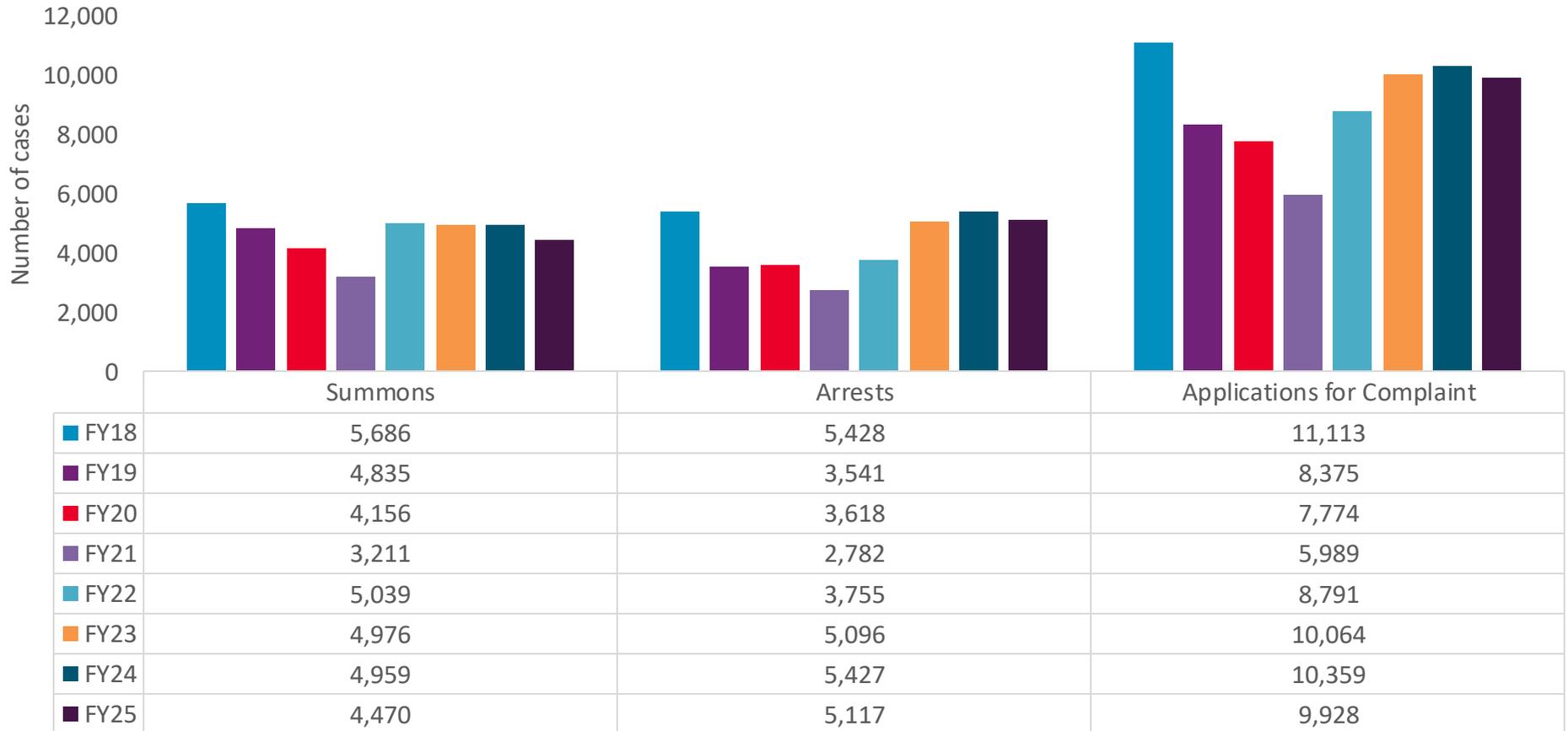
Data Notes



- This presentation looks at FY25 admissions data, and the changes in admissions since FY24 and FY18 (pre-CJRA).
- The data analysis presented here is preliminary and should be used for Data Subcommittee discussion purposes only.
- Data may change as the OCA does future QC checks. The final FY25 data analysis will be provided in the JPAD Board's FY25 Annual Report.

Trends at the “front door” of the juvenile justice system mimic other process points

Juvenile Court Front Door Data Trends (FY18-FY25)

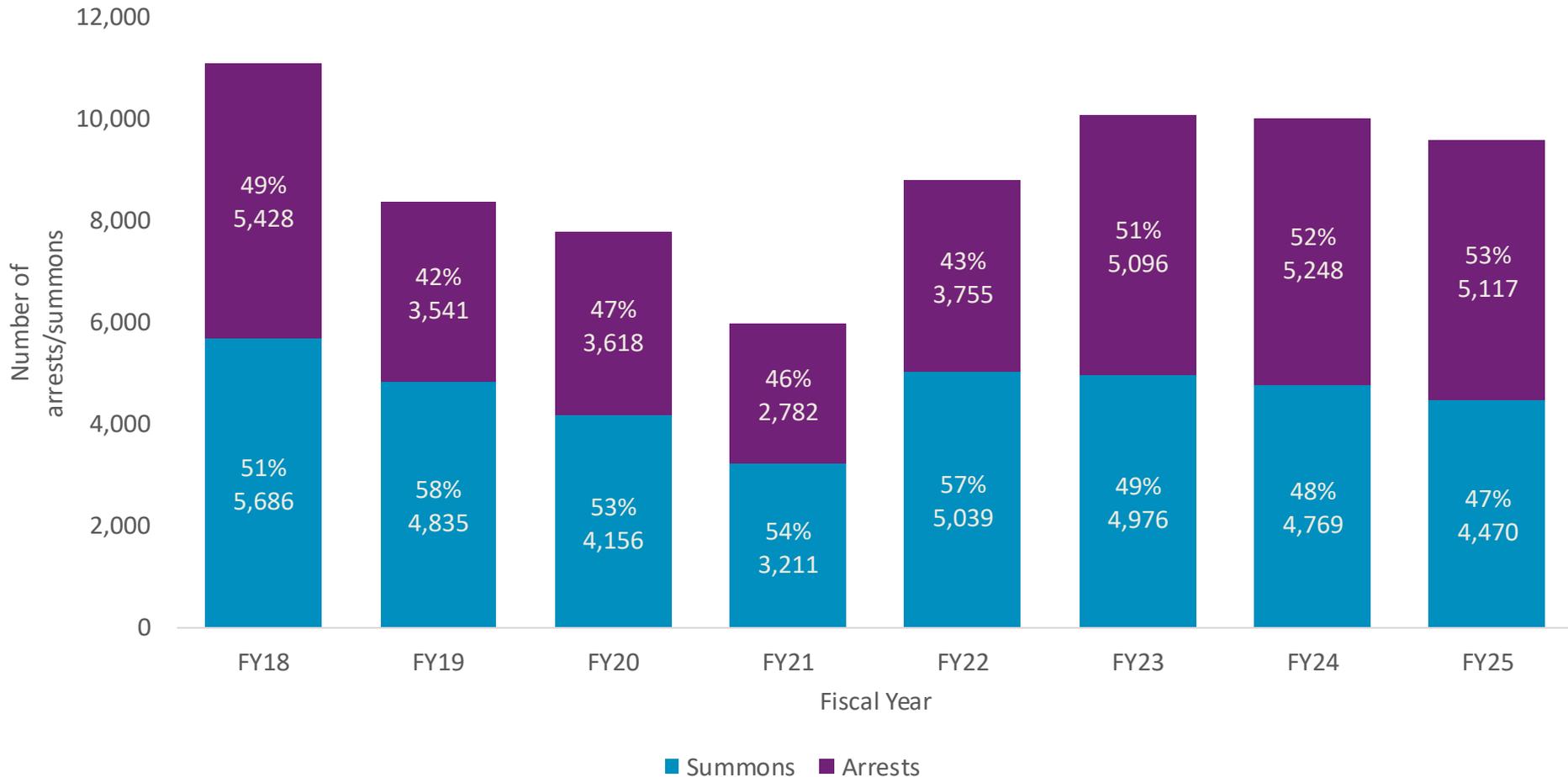


Process Point

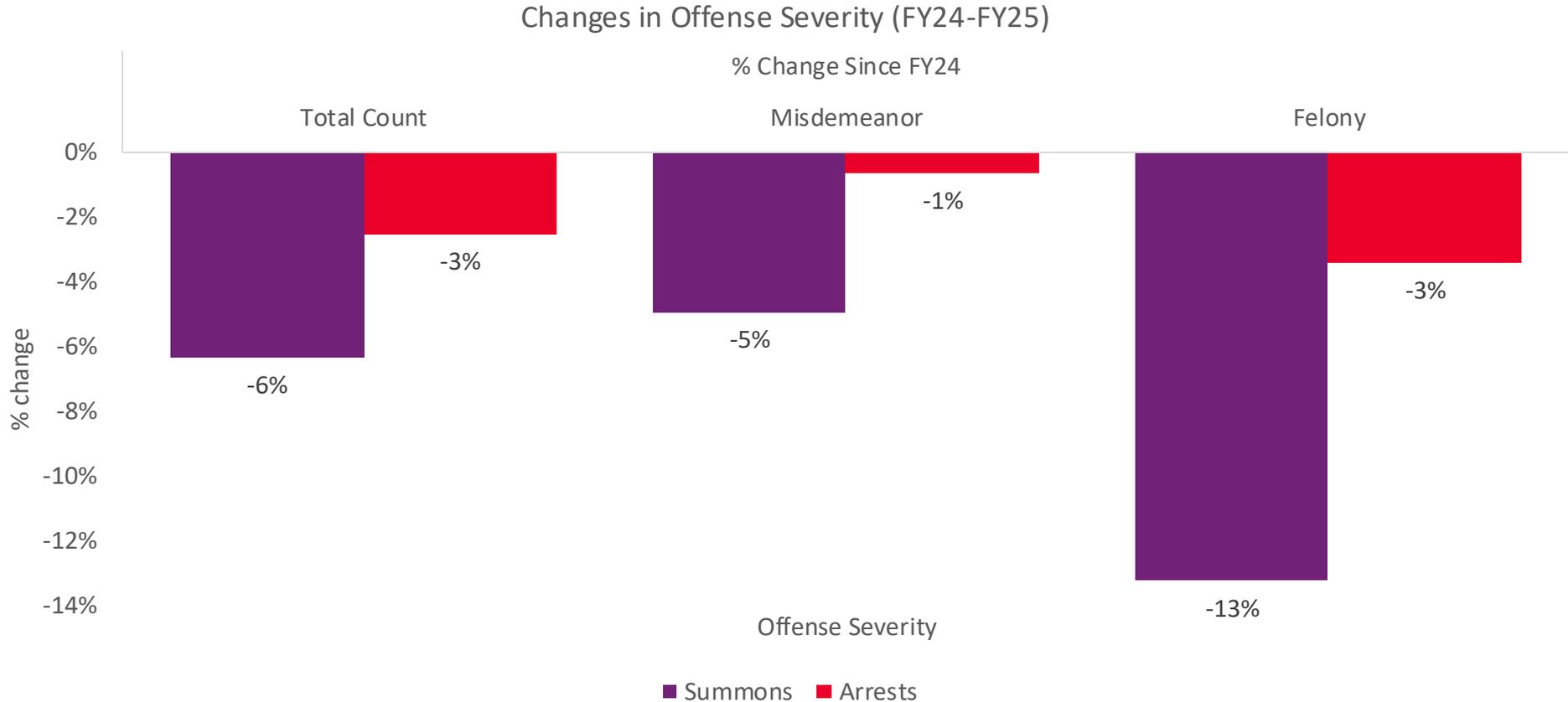


The use of summons declined 6% between FY24-FY25; arrests declined just 3%

Number of Arrests/Summons (FY18-FY25)

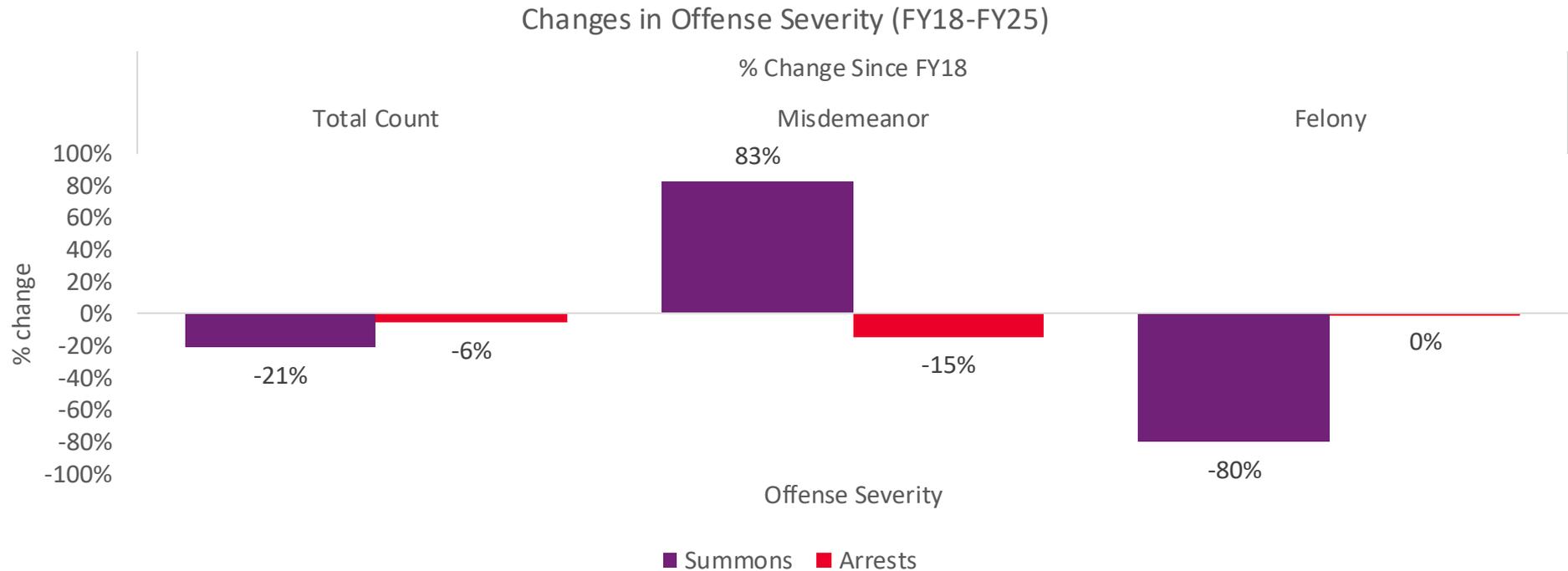


The decrease in summons was driven by a decrease in use of summons for alleged felony offenses



Fiscal Year	FY24			FY25		
	Total Count	Misdem.	Felony	Total Count	Misdem.	Felony
Summons	4,769	3,949	816	4,467	3,754	708
Arrests	5,246	1,815	3,423	5,113	1,803	3,306

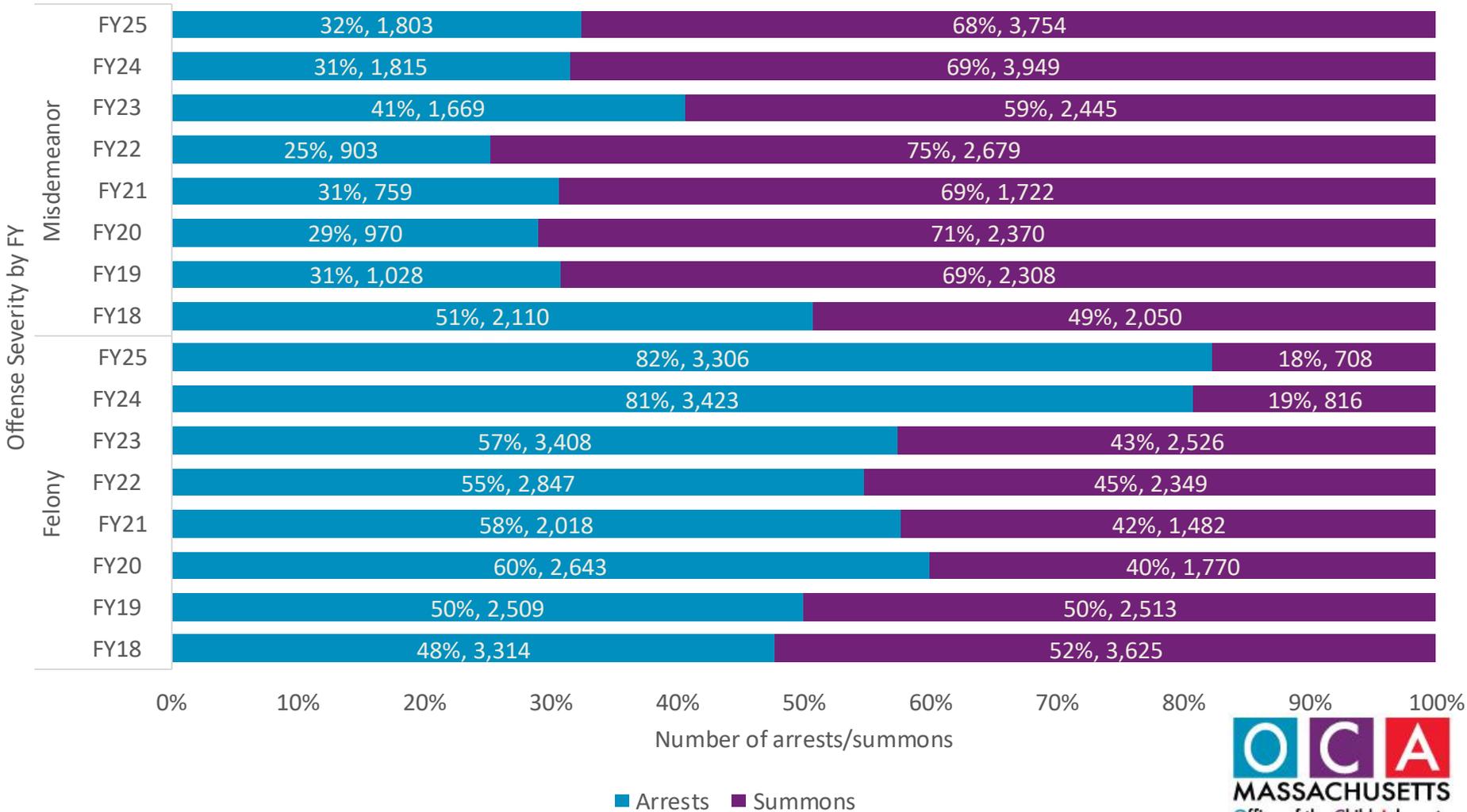
Compared to FY18, there has been an increase in the use of summons for alleged misdemeanor offenses



Fiscal Year	FY18			FY25		
	Total Count	Misdem.	Felony	Total Count	Misdem.	Felony
Summons	5,675	2,050	3,625	4,467	3,754	708
Arrests	5,424	2,110	3,314	5,113	1,803	3,306

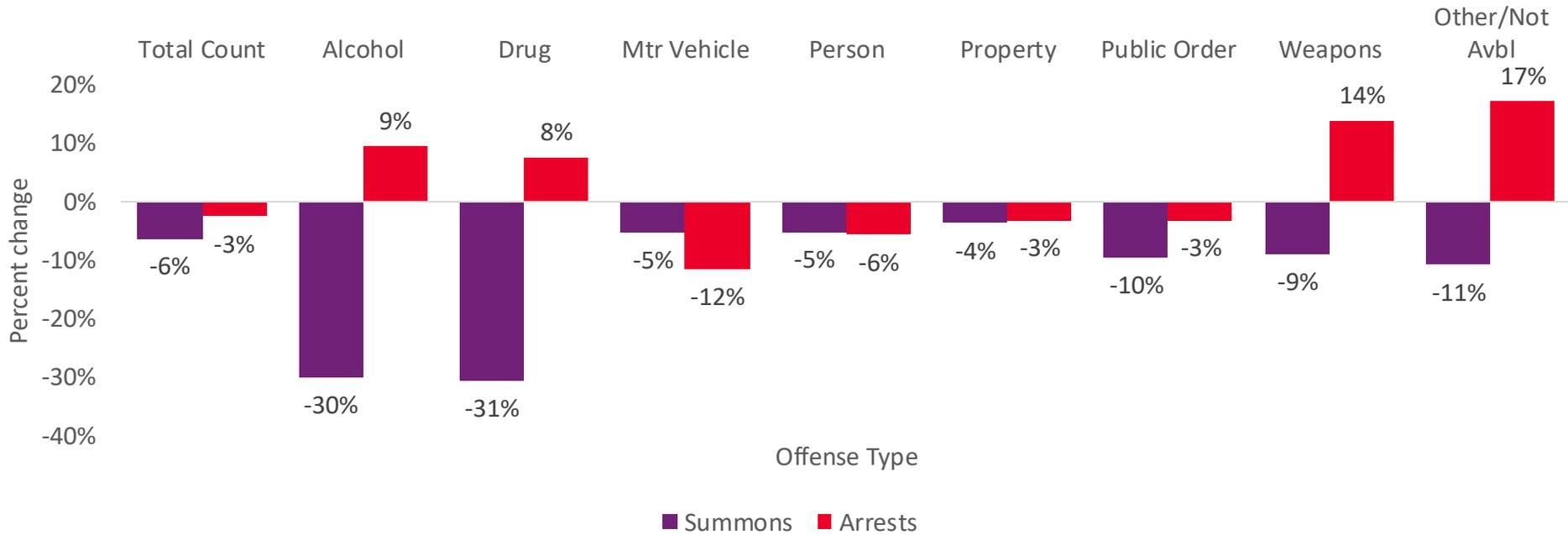
About a third of alleged misdemeanors are initiated by an arrest each year

Number of arrests/summons by Offense Severity and Case Initiation



There was an increase in arrests for alleged weapons offenses btwn. FY24-FY25

Change in Offense Types (FY24-FY25)

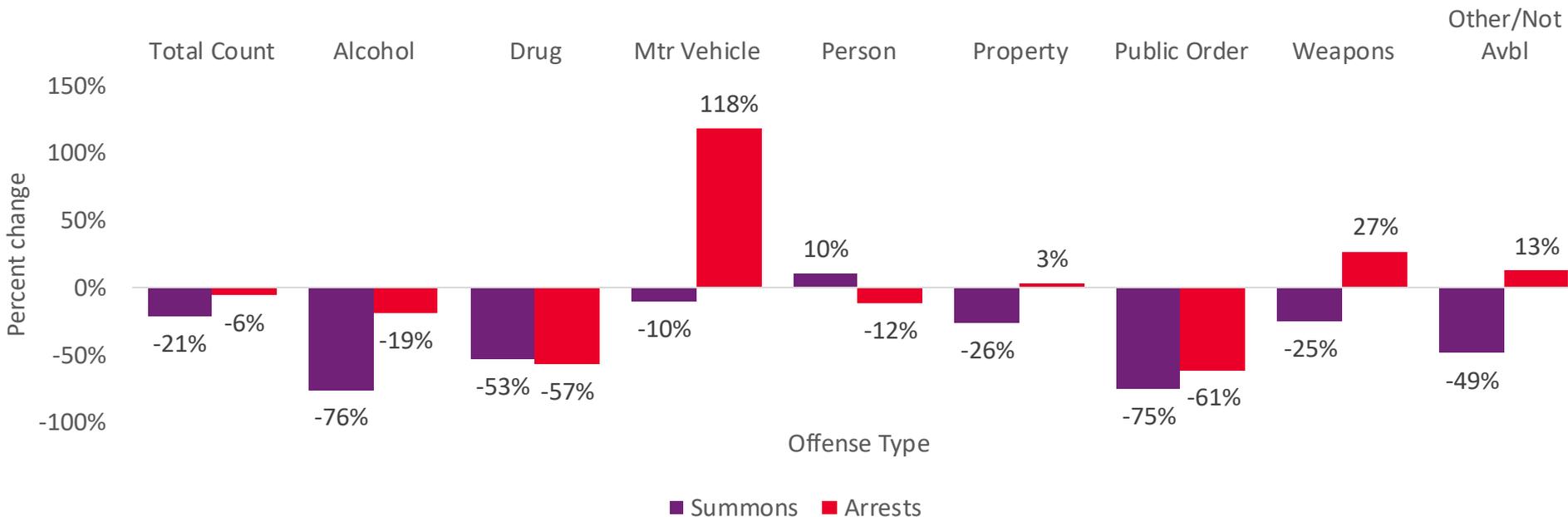


Fiscal Year	FY24										FY25								
	Total Count	Alcohol	Drug	Mtr Vehicle	Person	Property	Public Order	Weapons	Other/Not Avbl	Total Count	Alcohol	Drug	Mtr Vehicle	Person	Property	Public Order	Weapons	Other/Not Avbl	
Summons	4,769	110	62	901	2044	1072	126	157	297	4,467	77	43	853	1,939	1,033	114	143	265	
Arrests	5,246	74	78	526	2041	1711	223	302	291	5,113	81	84	465	1,925	1,657	216	344	344	

The large percentage increase in alcohol and drug arrests reflects the fact that there are very few alcohol and drug arrests overall compared to other offense types.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of arrests for alleged motor vehicle offenses compared to FY18

Change in Offense Types (FY18-FY25)



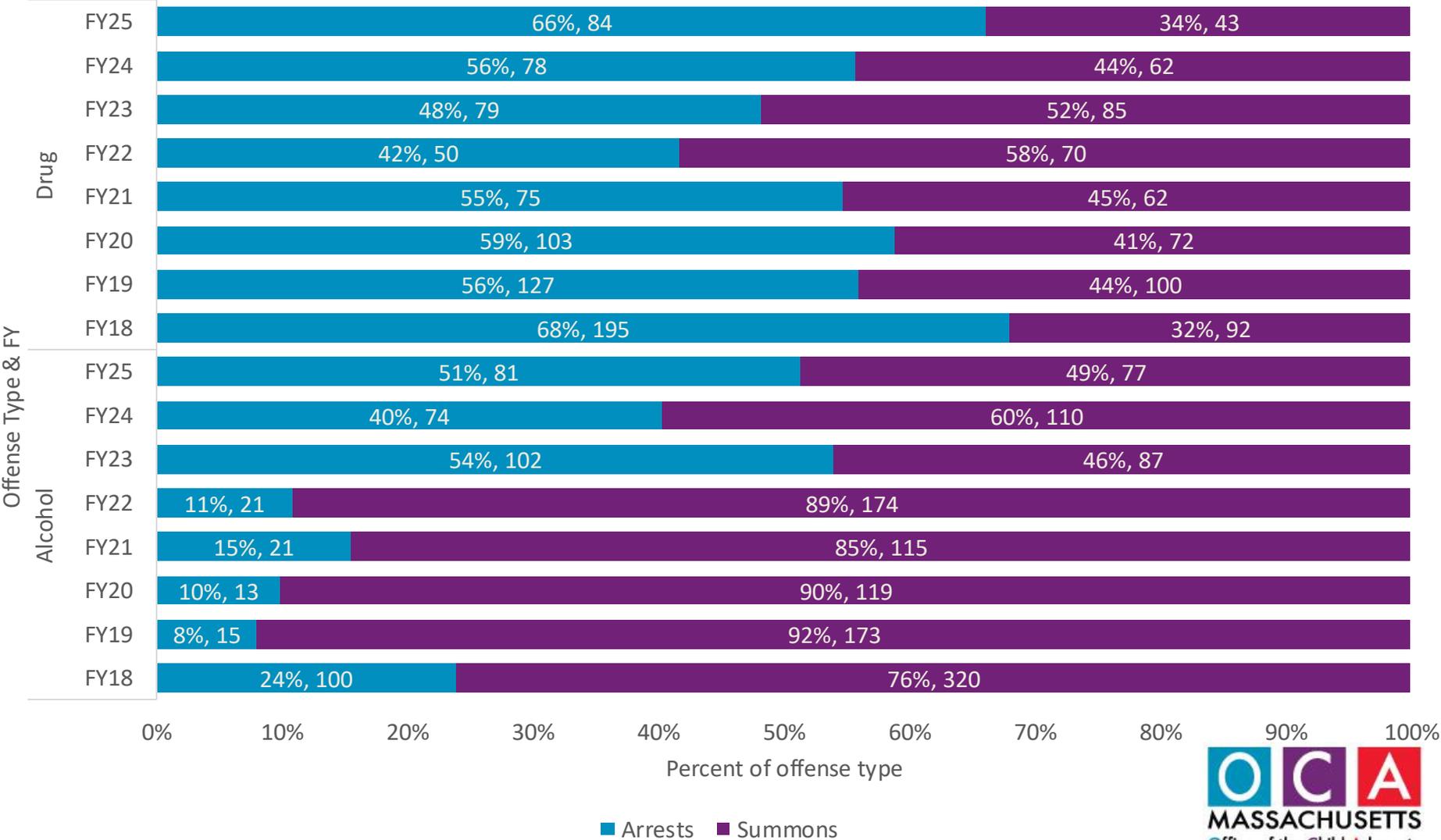
Fiscal Year	FY18									FY25								
Process Point	Total Count	Alcohol	Drug	Mtr Vehicle	Person	Property	Public Order	Weapons	Other/Not Avbl	Total Count	Alcohol	Drug	Mtr Vehicle	Person	Property	Public Order	Weapons	Other/Not Avbl
Summons	5,686	320	92	951	1758	1397	461	191	516	4,467	77	43	853	1939	1033	114	143	265
Arrests	5,427	100	195	213	2177	1610	558	271	303	5,113	81	84	465	1925	1657	216	344	341

Office of the Child Advocate

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

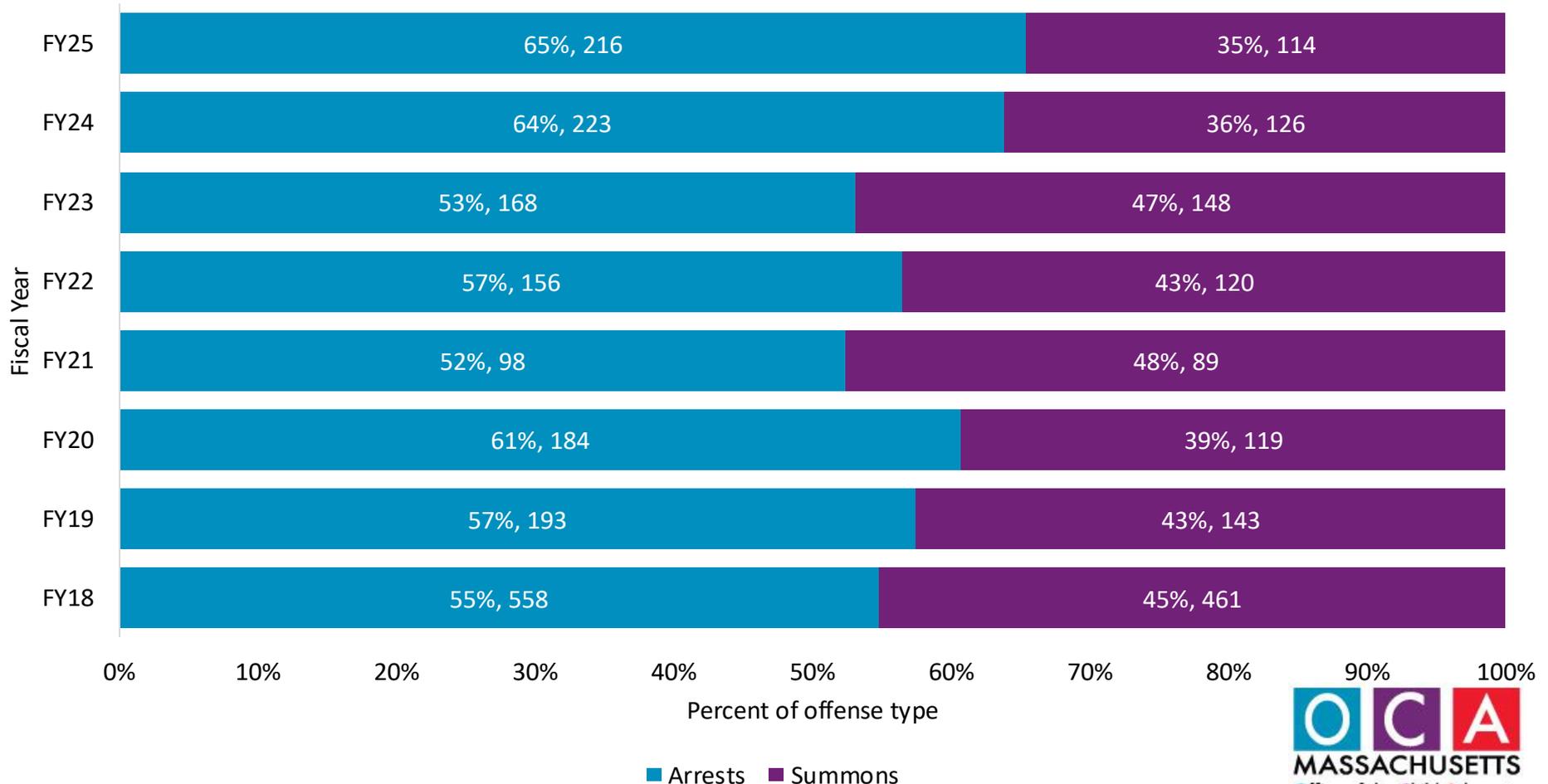
Arrests were used in about half of all alleged alcohol-based offenses, and two-thirds of all alleged drug-based offenses

Percent of Alleged Alcohol & Drug Offense Types Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)



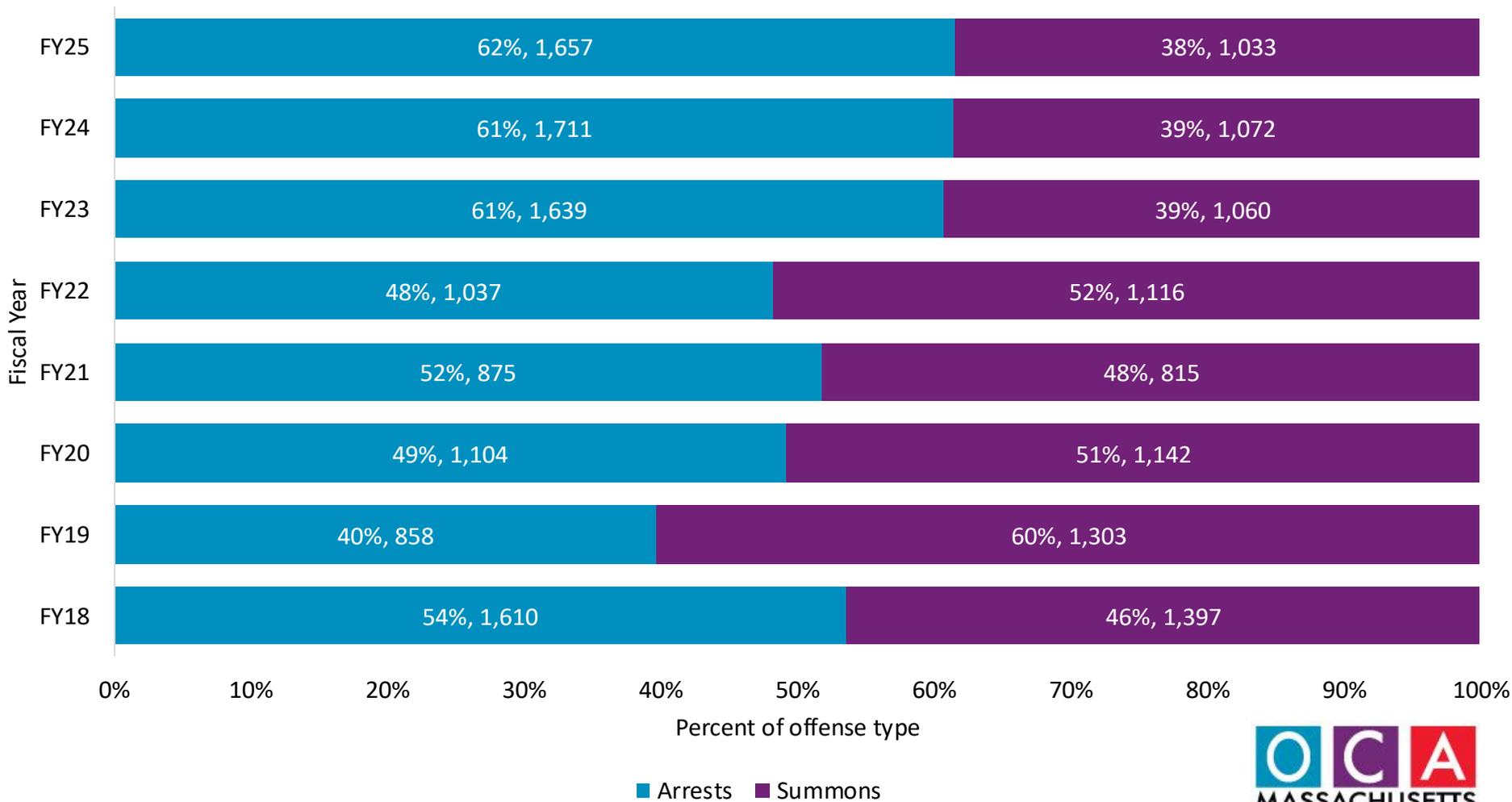
Arrests were used in about two-thirds of all alleged public order-based offenses

Percent of Alleged Public Order Offenses Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)



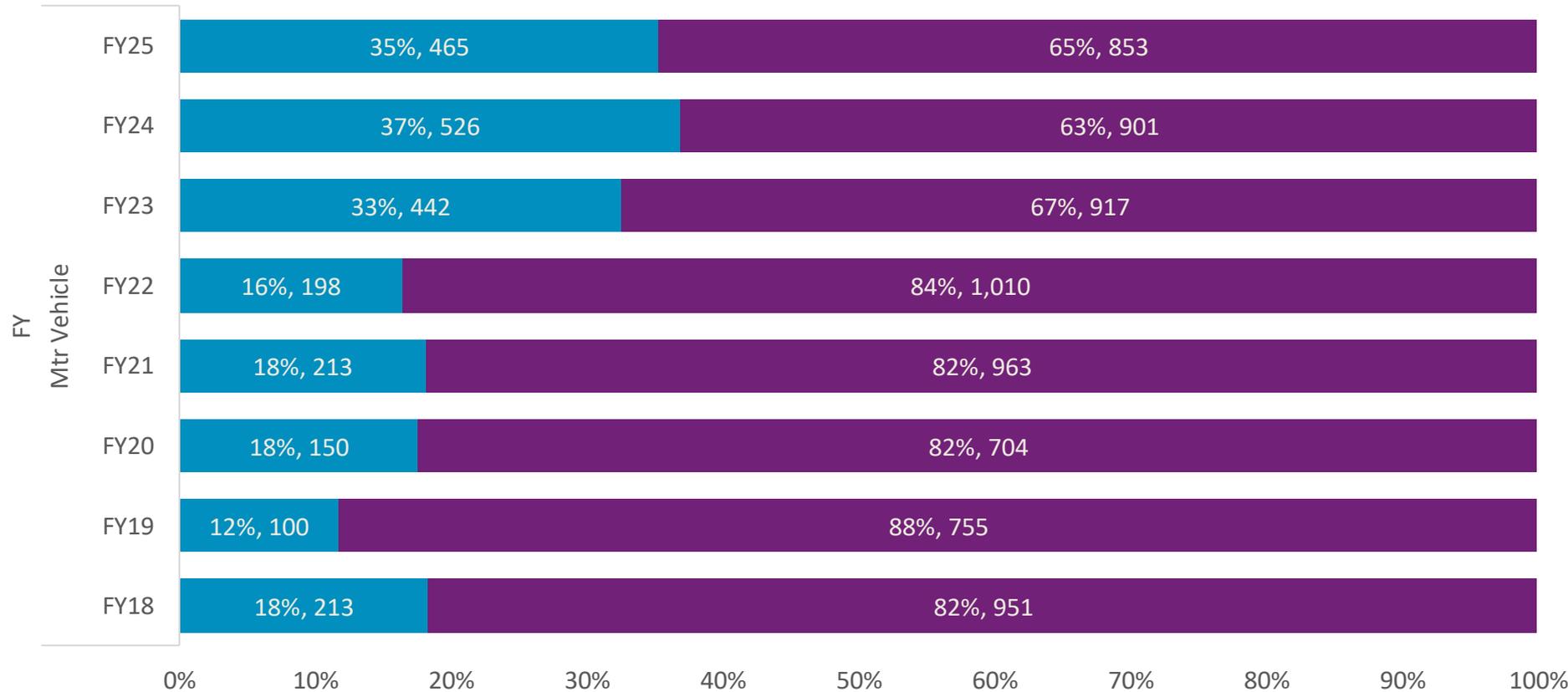
Arrests were used in 62% of all alleged property-related offenses

Percent of Alleged Property Offenses Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)



Arrests were used in 35% of all alleged motor vehicle related offenses

Percent of Alleged Motor Vehicle Offenses Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)

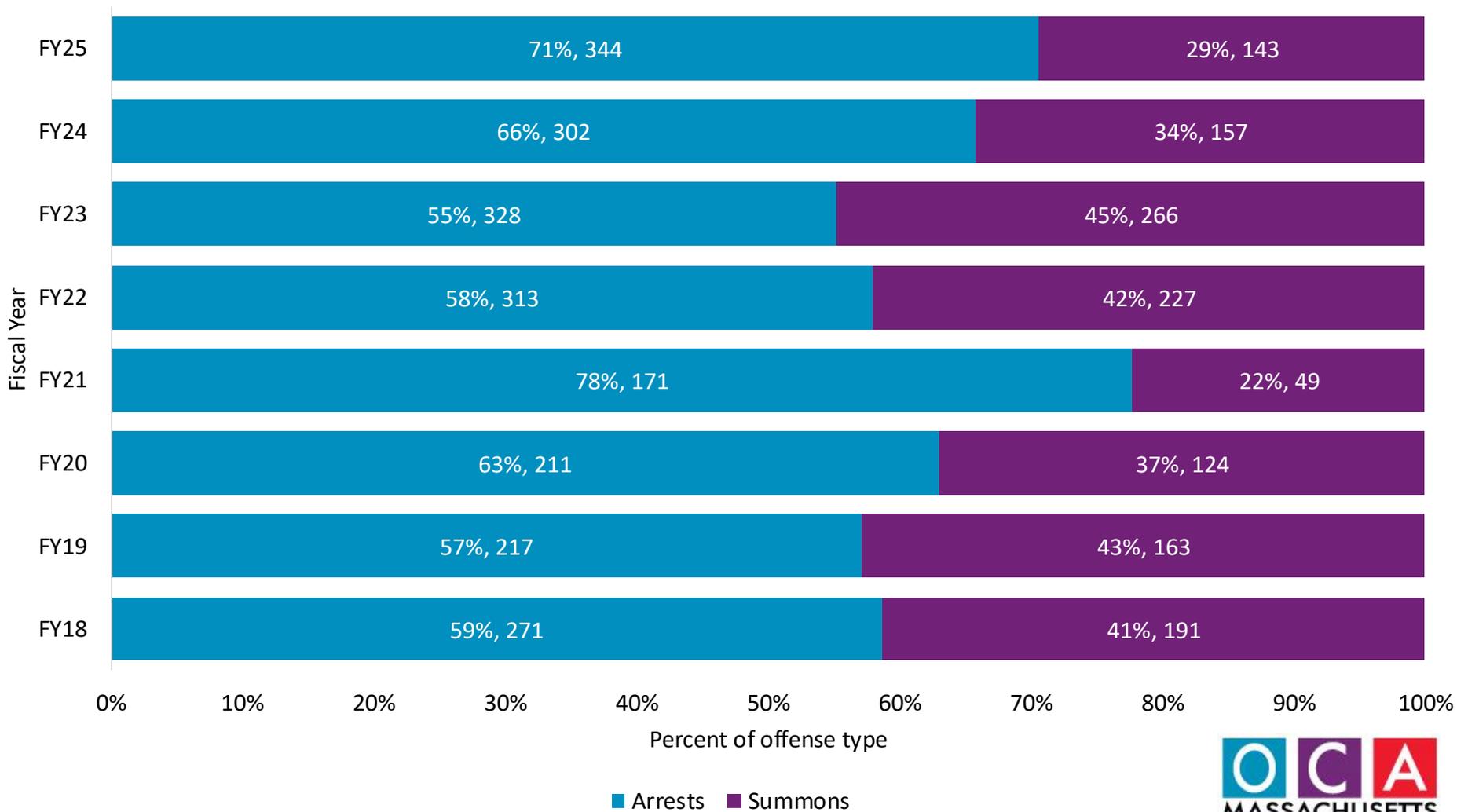


■ Arrests ■ Summons



Arrests were used in 71% of all alleged weapons-related offenses

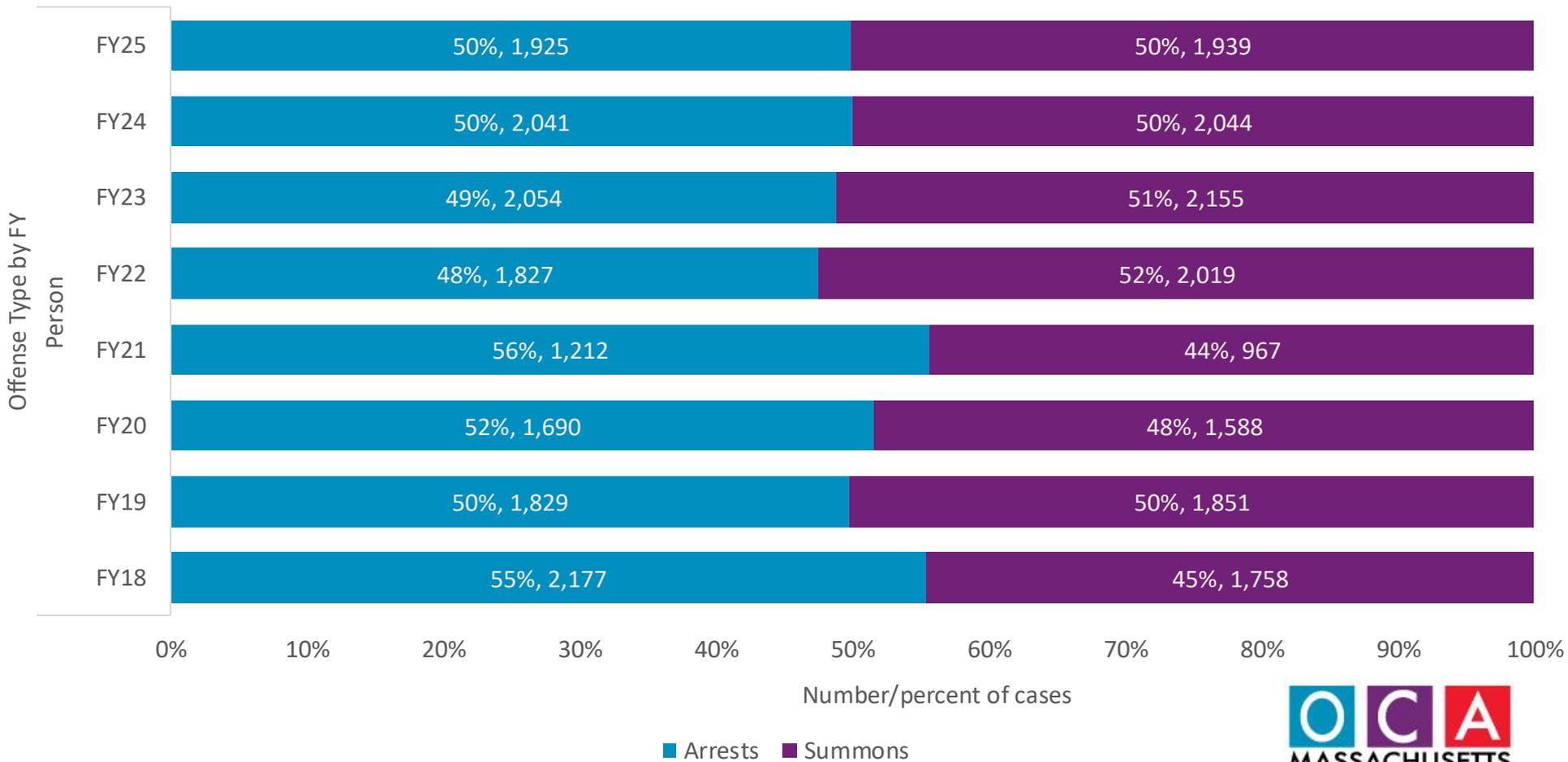
Percent of Alleged Weapons Offenses Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)



Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

Arrests were used in 50% of all alleged persons-related offenses

Percent of Alleged Persons Offenses Initiated by Arrests v. Summons (FY18-FY25)



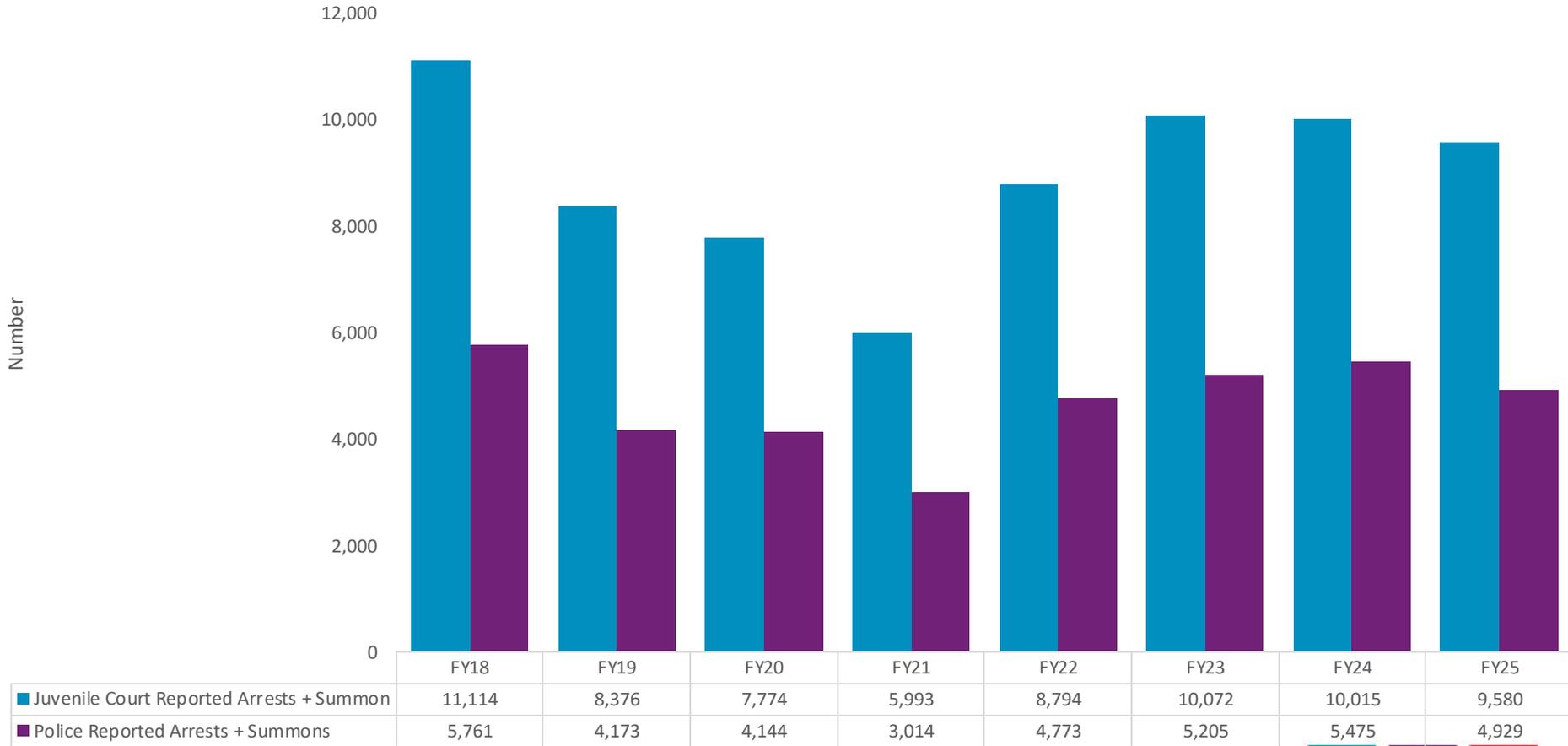
Questions & Discussion



- What takeaways did you have?
- What surprised you?
- What context is missing?
- What questions do you still have?

Significant underreporting by police departments compared to Juvenile Court data

Discrepancies in Data Reporting for Arrests/Summons (FY18-FY25)

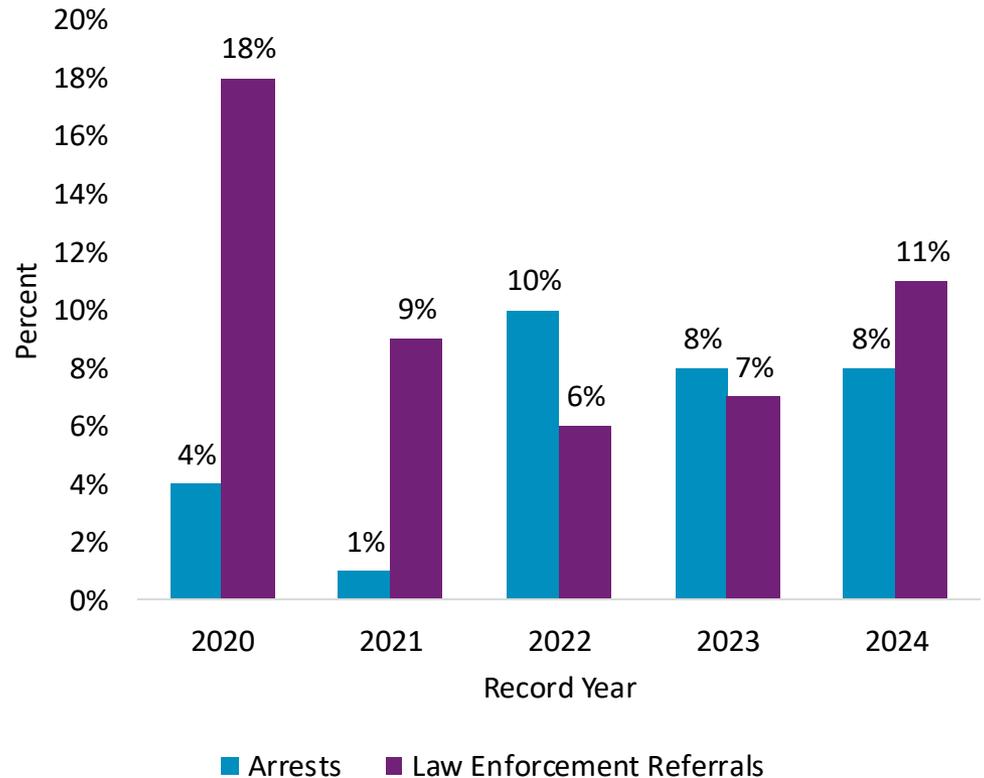


Many school districts are still not reporting/underreporting arrests & law enforcement referrals

Arrests and Law Enforcement Referrals for the 5 Largest Districts (SY23-24)

District Name	Student Population	School-based Arrests	Law Enforcement Referrals
Boston	49,185	1	44
Worcester	26,604	0	0
Springfield	25,598	10	1
Lynn	17,387	3	1
Brockton	16,427	0	3

Percent of Districts Reporting Incidents (2020-2024)



Data Summary:

The “front door” of the JJ system

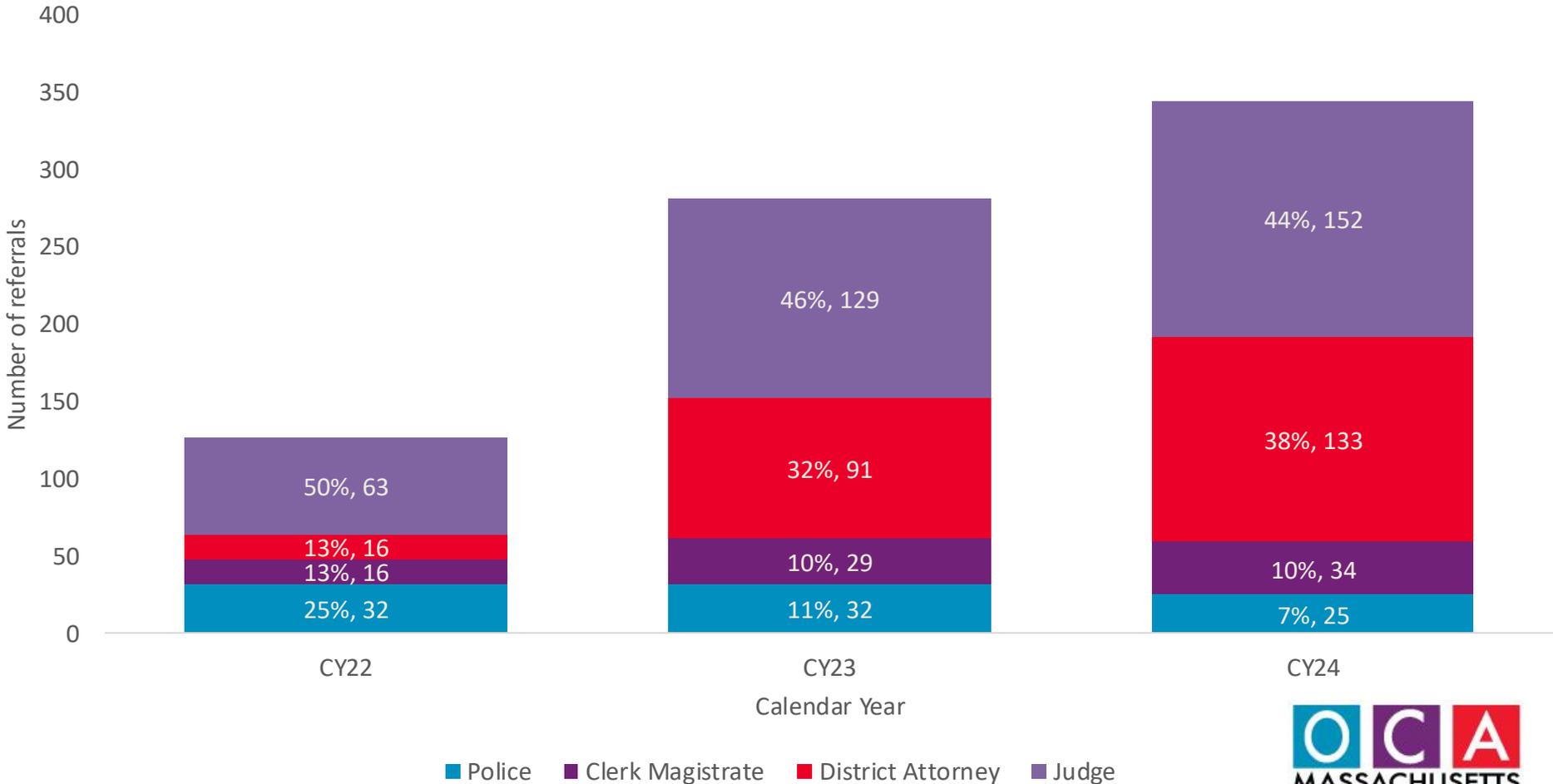
1. Overall “front door” trends mirror patterns elsewhere in the system. Between FY24-FY25, summons declined 6% and arrests declined 3%
2. In recent years, arrests are used more for felony cases, yet roughly one-third of misdemeanor cases continue to be initiated by arrests
3. Summons were used in only about:
 - Half of all alcohol-related offenses,
 - One-third of all drug-related offenses
 - One-third of all public order offenses
4. Arrests were the predominant response for:
 - Most property offenses
 - Most weapons offenses
 - About half of persons offenses
5. Data discrepancies and variation in reporting across police departments and schools persist.

Diversion Data

1. MYDP Data
2. Clerk Hearings (Summons-initiated complaints filed v. not filed)
3. DAO Diversion
4. Judicial Dismissals (not diversion)

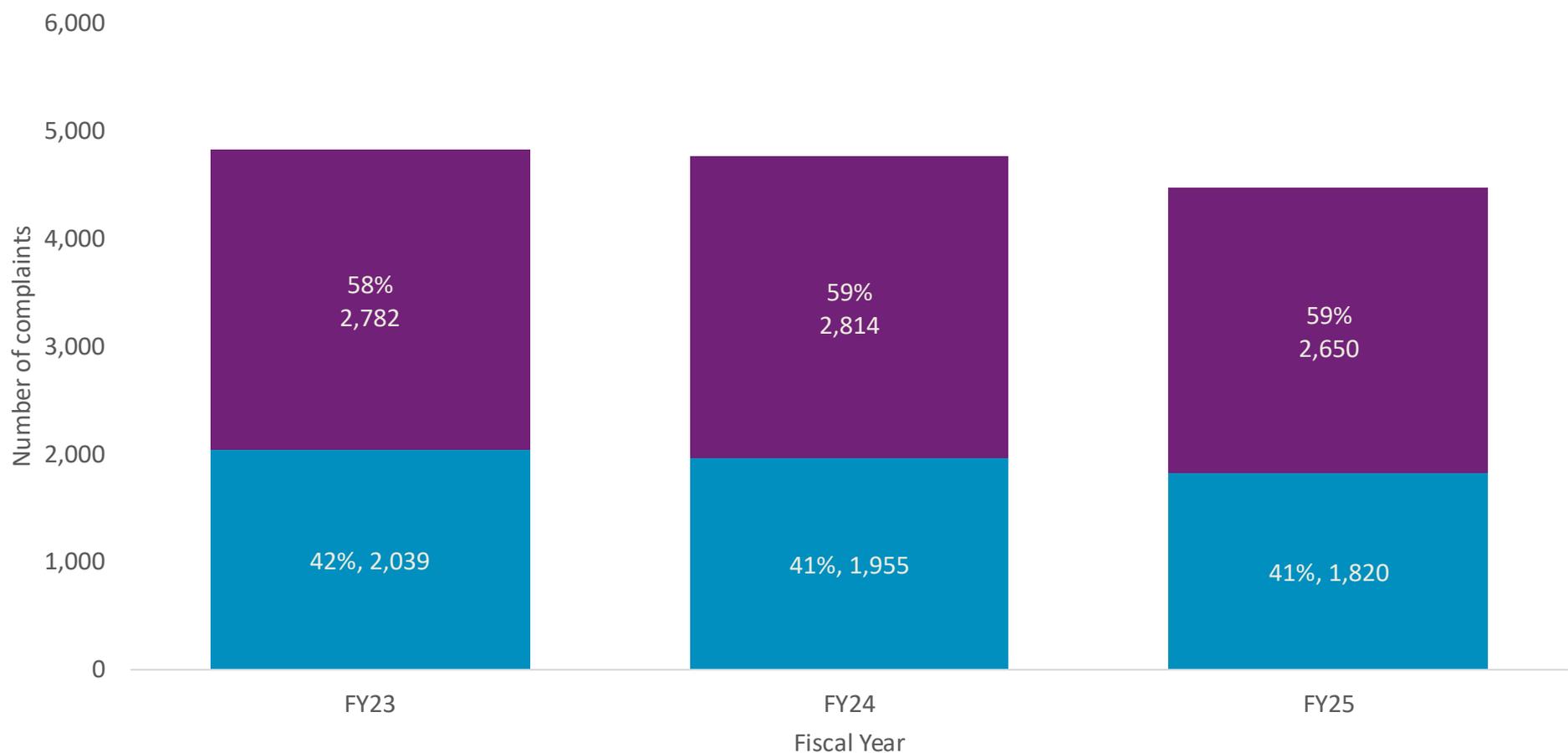
State Diversion (MYDP): There were 348 referrals made in CY24 to the MYDP

MYDP Referrals by Referring Source (CY22-CY25)



Clerk Hearings: The majority of summons-initiated complaints do not result in a filing

Clerk Decisions on Summons (FY23-FY25)

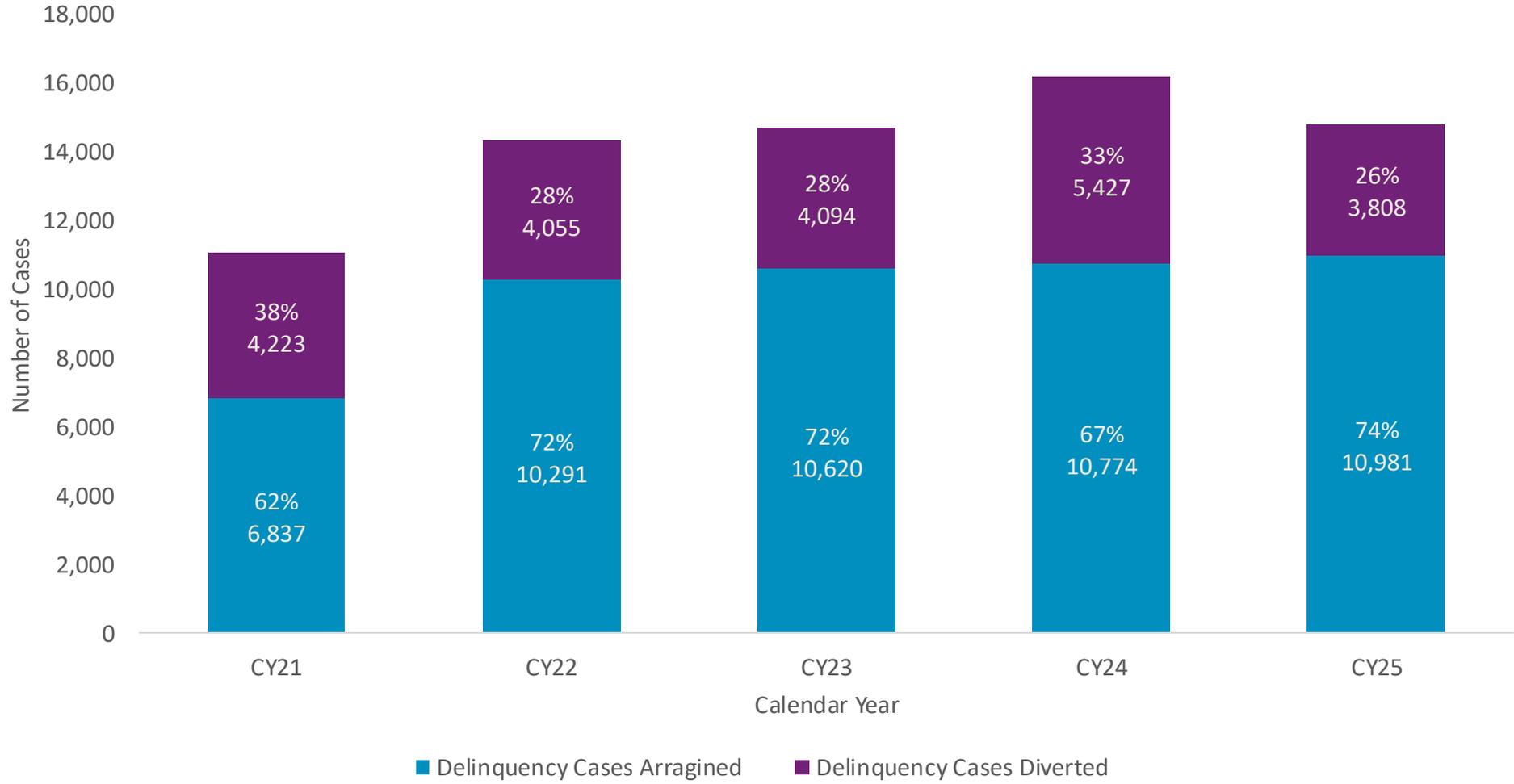


■ Complaint to Issue ■ Diversion/Complaint Not to Issue



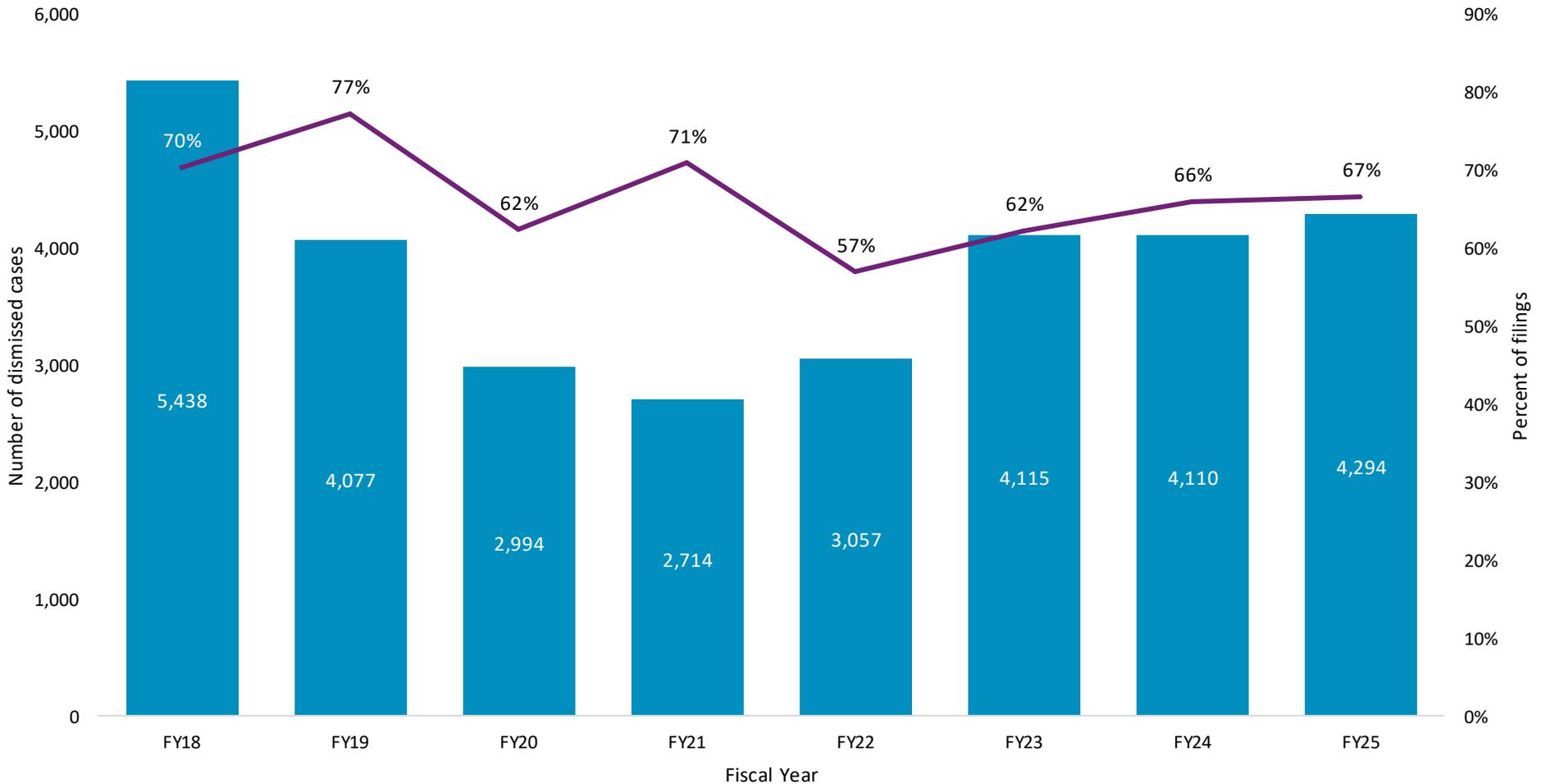
District Attorney Diversion: The percent of cases diverted went down in FY25 compared to FY24

Delinquency Cases by DAO Diversion (CY21-CY25)



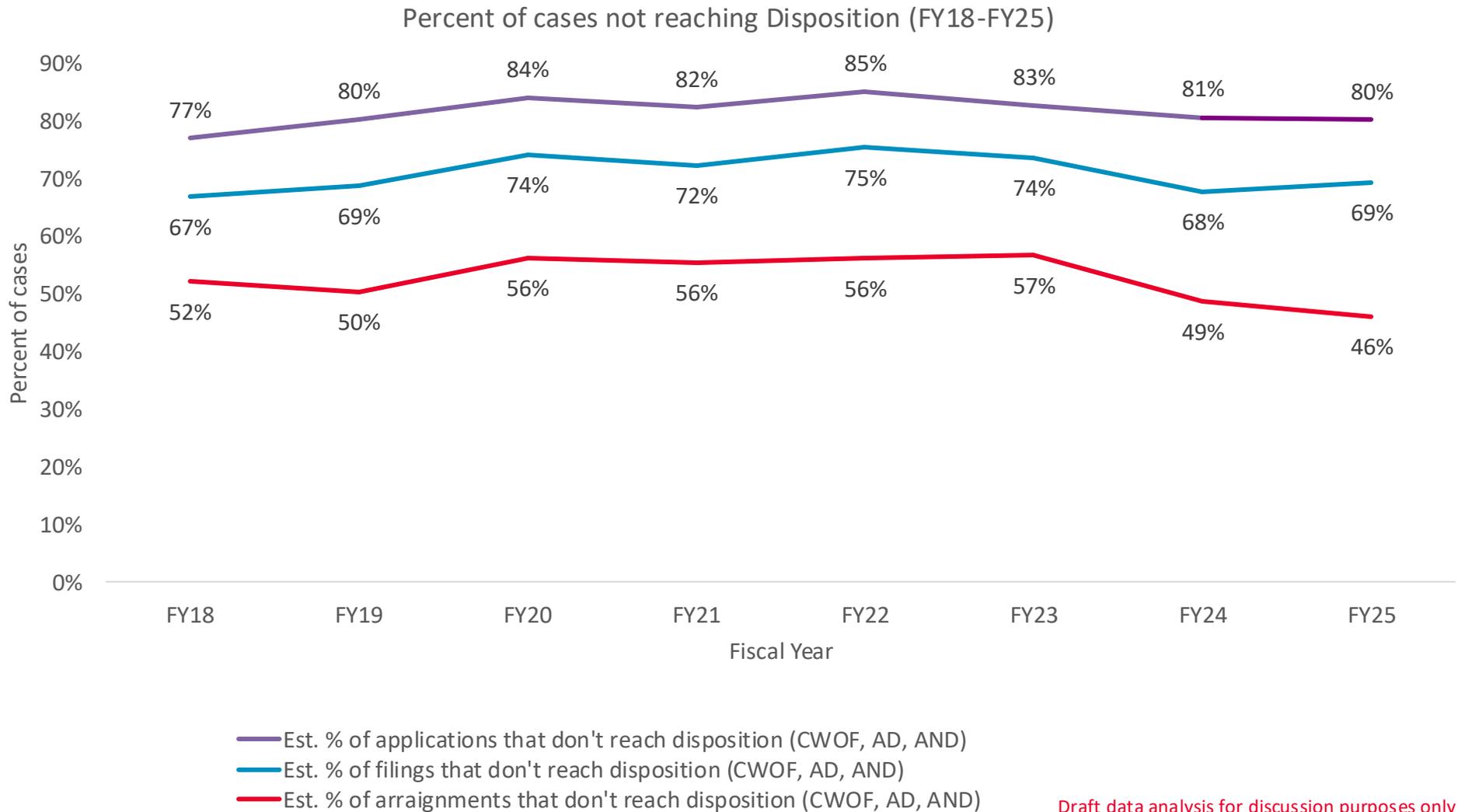
Judicial Dismissals: Most cases are dismissed*

Dismissed Cases (FY18-FY25)



*Dismissals refer to cases post-filing, pre-disposition and therefore do not include any case initially resolved by a CWOV, adjudicated delinquent, or adjudicated not delinquent.

Consistent with prior years, most applications and filings don't reach a disposition; about half of all arraignments reach a disposition



Questions & Discussion



- What takeaways did you have?
- What surprised you?
- What context is missing?
- What questions do you still have?

Data Summary: Diversion

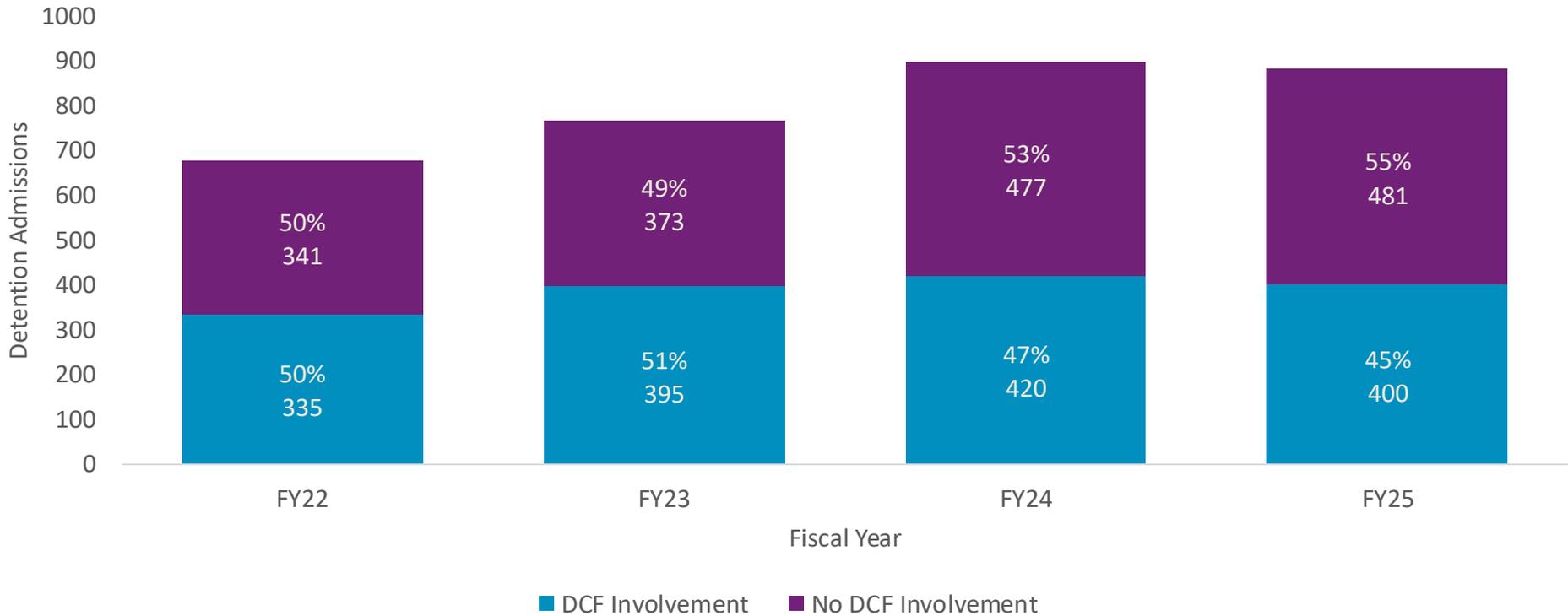
1. Significant diversion—both informal/formal—occurs at each court decision point (filing, and arraignment).
2. However, most applications and filings still do not reach disposition within the year, and roughly half of arraignments don't reach disposition—indicating substantial additional opportunity for diversion.

Demographics & Cohorts of Youth

- DCF involvement
- Race/ethnicity
- Gender
- LGBTQ+
- County

45% of detention admissions included youth with DCF involvement at the time of their detention admission

Pretrial Detention Admissions by DCF Status at Time of Admission (FY22-FY25)

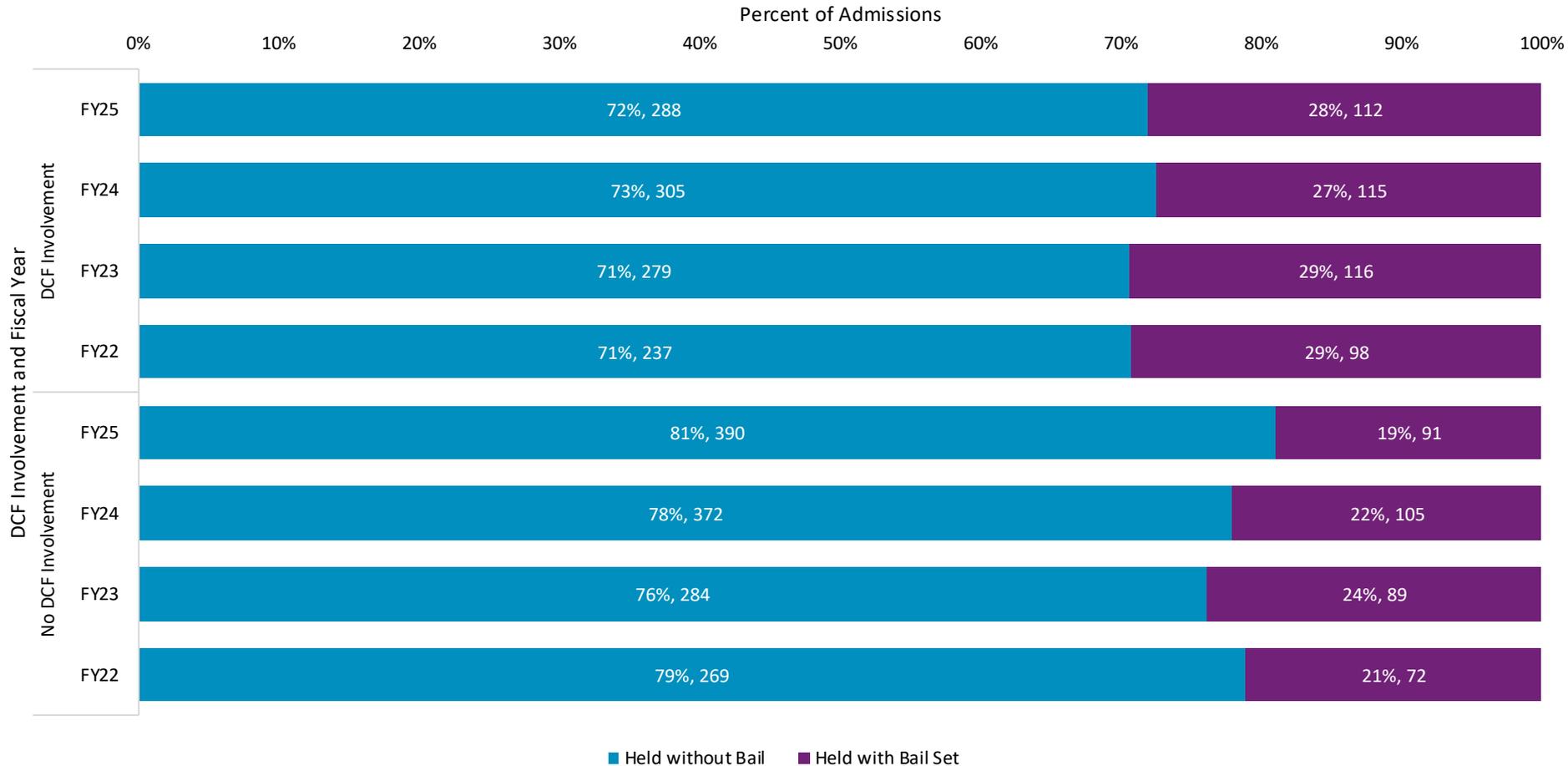


DYS defines DCF involvement as a youth who enters DYS care/custody and either has a pending response, open case with DCF, or is in the care/custody of DCF. Due to multiple factors including but not limited to the definition of open case, the definition of dually involved youth, the quality of the youth matching process, and the data quality and timeliness of data entry, these counts and rates will vary. Numbers in this report should not be compared to other reports.
Data is unavailable for youth with DCF involvement at other points of the juvenile justice system (e.g., arraigned, placed on probation).

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

Youth with DCF involvement are detained as a result of cash bail at higher rates than youth without DCF involvement

Pretrial Detention Admissions by DCF Involvement and Bail Status at Time of Admission (FY22-FY25)

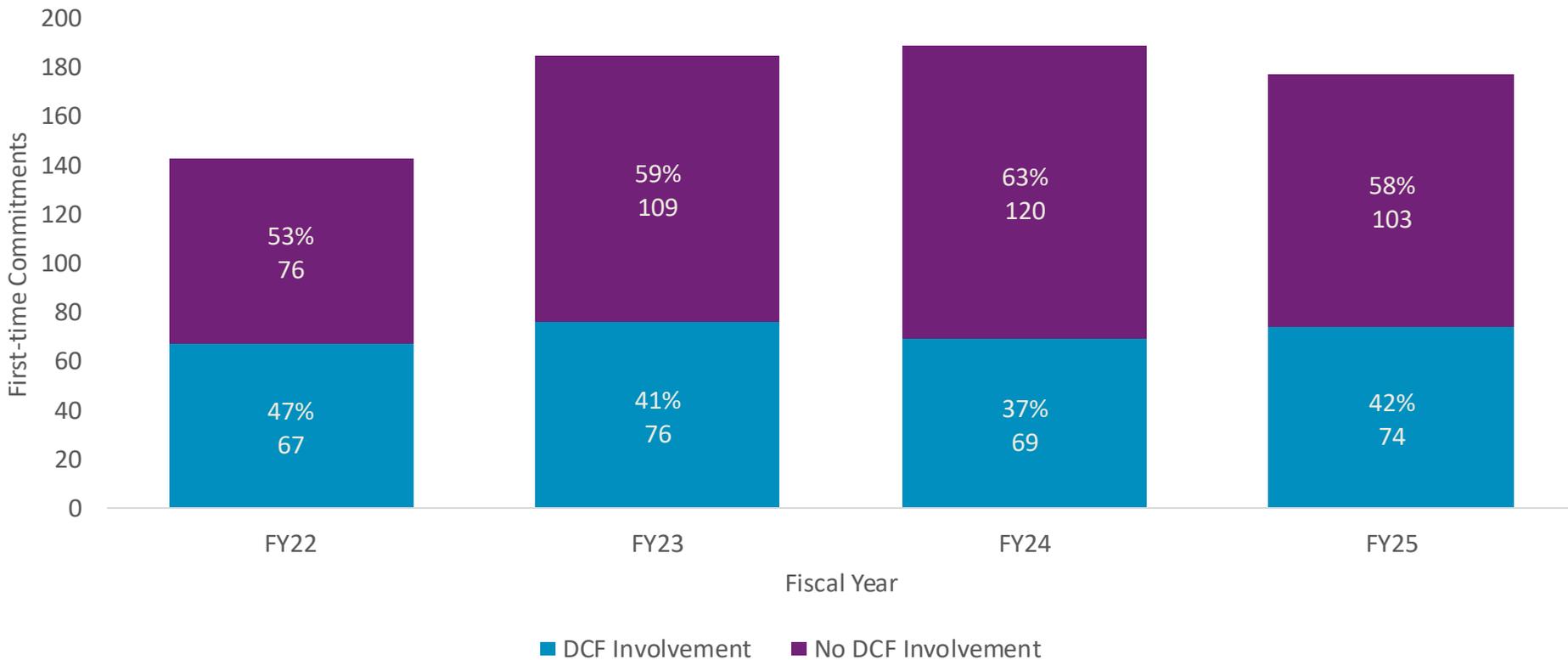


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Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

42% of first-time commitments included youth with DCF involvement at the time of their commitment

First-time Commitments by DCF Status at Time of Admission (FY22-FY25)



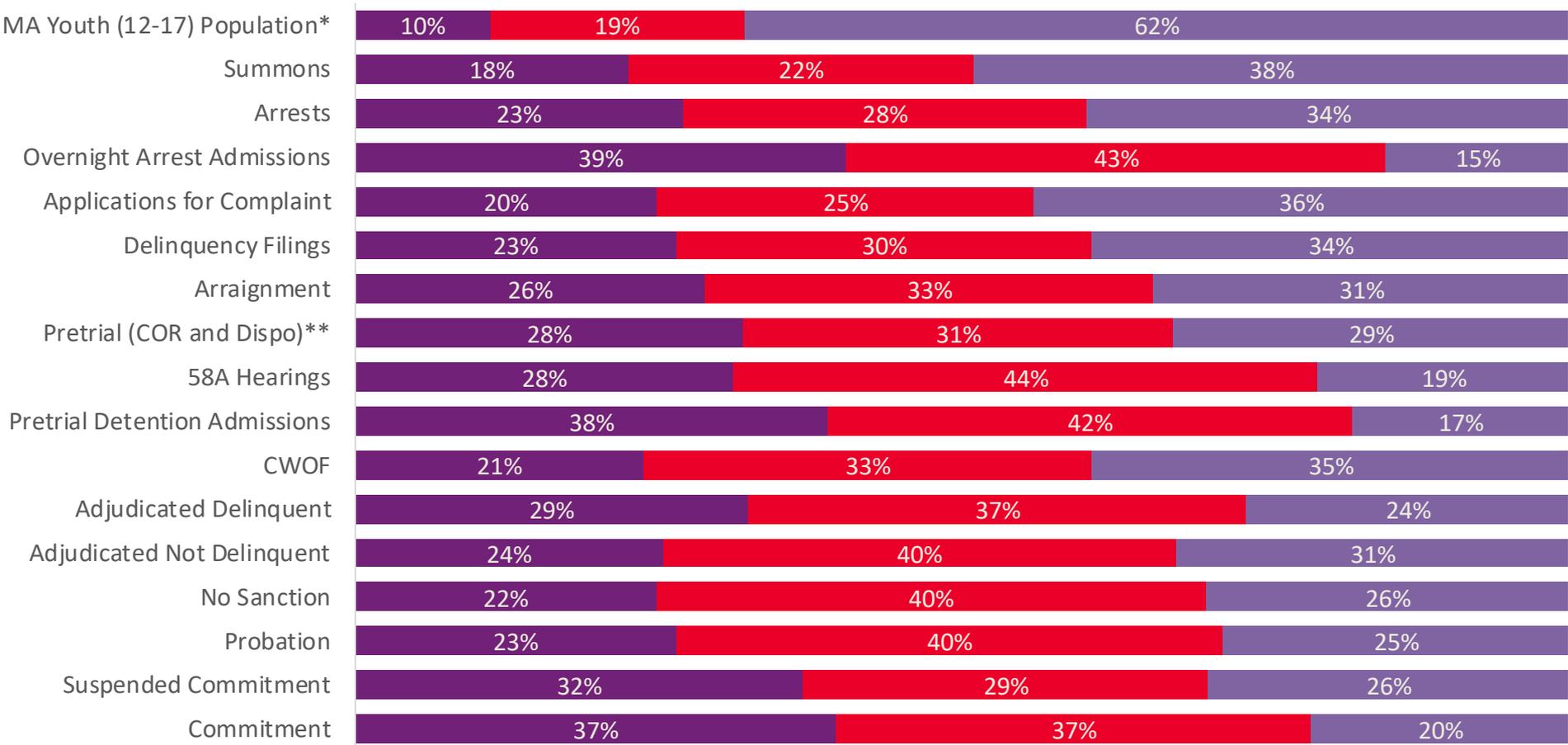
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Data is unavailable for youth with DCF involvement at other points of the juvenile justice system (e.g., arraigned, placed on probation).

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

Black & Latino youth continue to be overrepresented at each phase of the system

Race/ethnicity breakdowns by process points (FY25)

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100



■ FY25 Black/African American ■ FY25 Hispanic/Latino ■ FY25 White

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In FY25, Black youth were 3.5X more likely and Latino youth were 2x more likely than white youth to enter the Juvenile Court system

Relative Rate Index for Youth of Color by Process Point (FY25)

Process Point	Base Pop.	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	Another Race
Summons	MA Pop.	2.81	1.88	0.63
Arrests	MA Pop.	4.16	2.73	0.82
Overnight Arrest Admissions	MA Pop.	16.41	9.58	0.71
Applications for Complaint	MA Pop.	3.45	2.28	0.71
Delinquency Filings	AC	1.19	1.25	1.27
Arraignment	DF	1.25	1.24	1.20
Pretrial (COR and Dispo)	Arraign.	1.16	1.00	0.95
58A Hearings	Arraign.	1.79	2.15	2.06
Pretrial Detention Admissions	Arraign.	2.58	2.23	0.54
CWOF	Arraign.	0.72	0.87	0.99
Adjudicated Delinquent	Arraign.	1.45	1.43	1.64
Adjudicated Not Delinquent	Arraign.	0.93	1.21	0.30
No Sanction	Adj.Del.	0.68	0.98	0.84
Probation	Adj.Del.	0.76	1.02	1.07
Suspended Commitment	Adj.Del.	1.02	0.72	0.76
Commitment	Adj.Del.	1.53	1.19	1.21

Compared to white youth:

Initial stages:

- Black youth 4x more likely to be arrested; 3x more likely to be summoned
- Latino youth 3x more likely to be arrested; 2x more likely to be summoned

Pretrial, Black & Latino youth are:

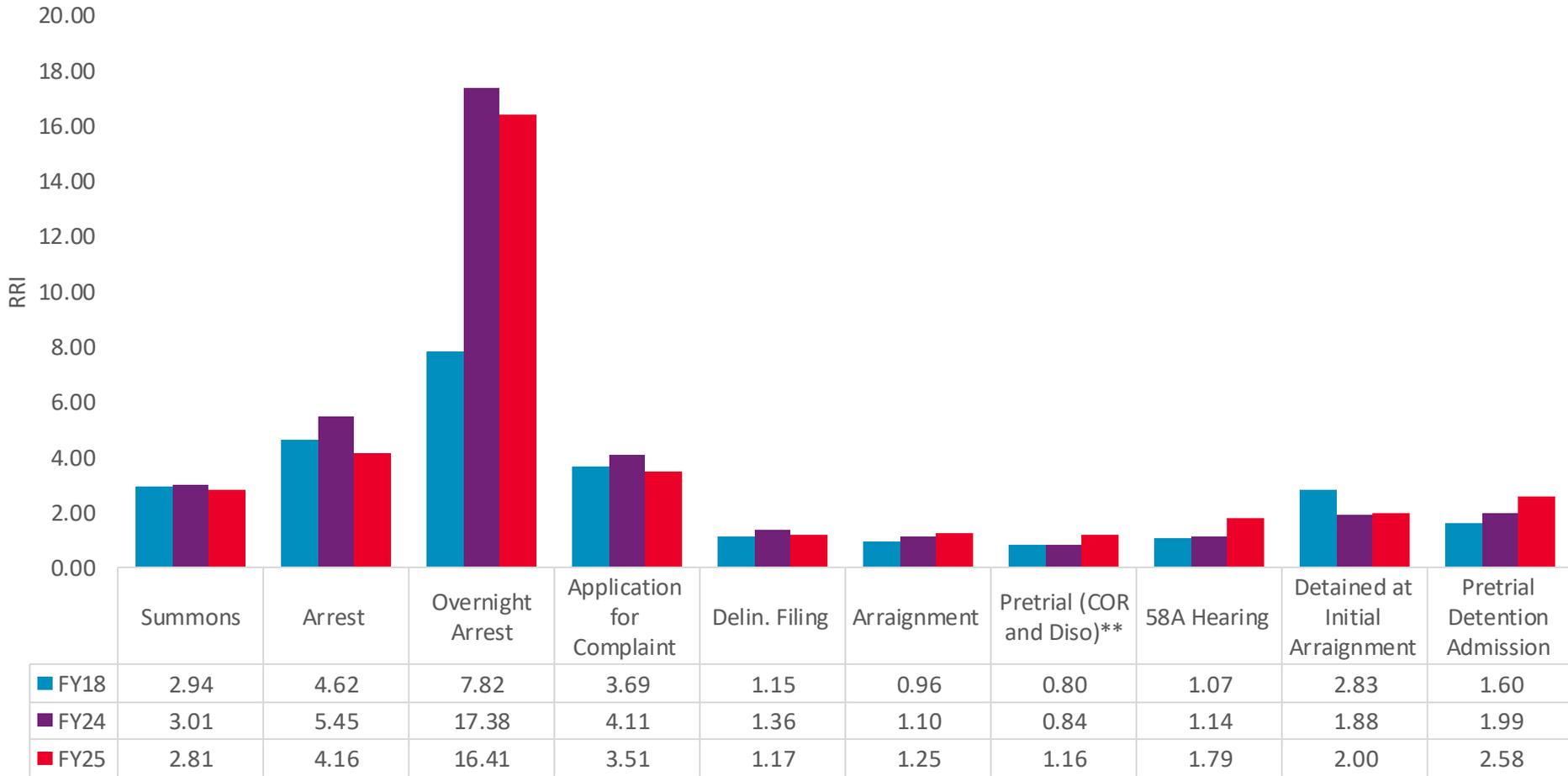
- More likely to be subjects of a 58A
- More likely to be detained
- About as likely to be placed on COR/PTP as a Dispo.

Dispositions, Black & Latino youth are:

- Less likely to get a CWOF and more likely to be adjudicated delinquent
- Less likely to get no sanction, more likely to get a commitment

Disparities for Black youth remain high at the front door, and are largely getting worse across the pretrial phase compared to FY18

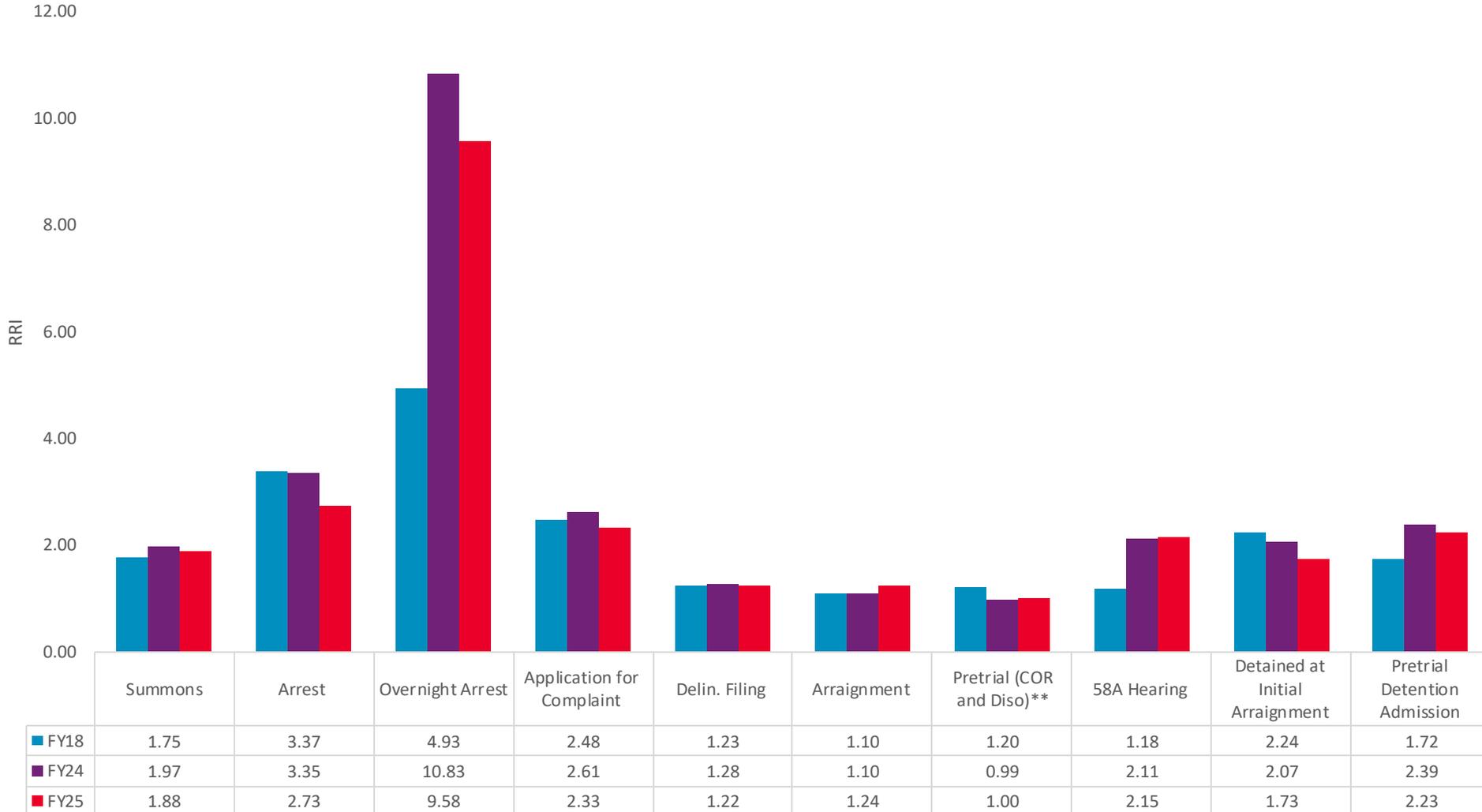
Disparities for Black Youth (FY18, FY24, FY25)



** MPS reported FY25 race/ethnicity data for pretrial conditions of release and pretrial as a disposition combined in order to avoid suppressing data.

Disparities for Latino youth remain high at the front door, as well as the 58A point and detention

Disparities for Latino Youth (F18, FY24, FY24)

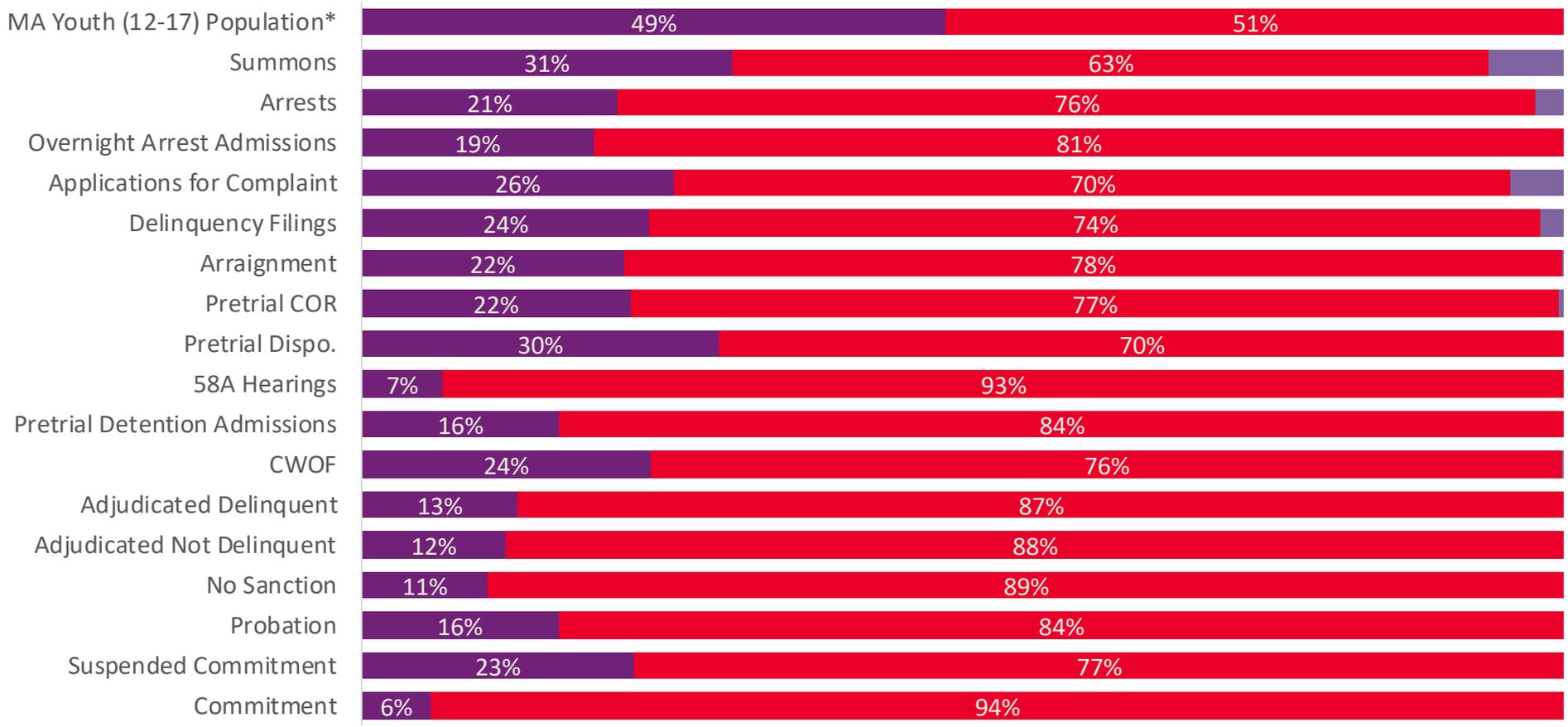


** MPS reported FY25 race/ethnicity data for pretrial conditions of release and pretrial as a disposition combined in order to avoid suppressing data.

Boys make up the majority of youth involved in the JJ system

Gender breakdowns by process points (FY25)

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

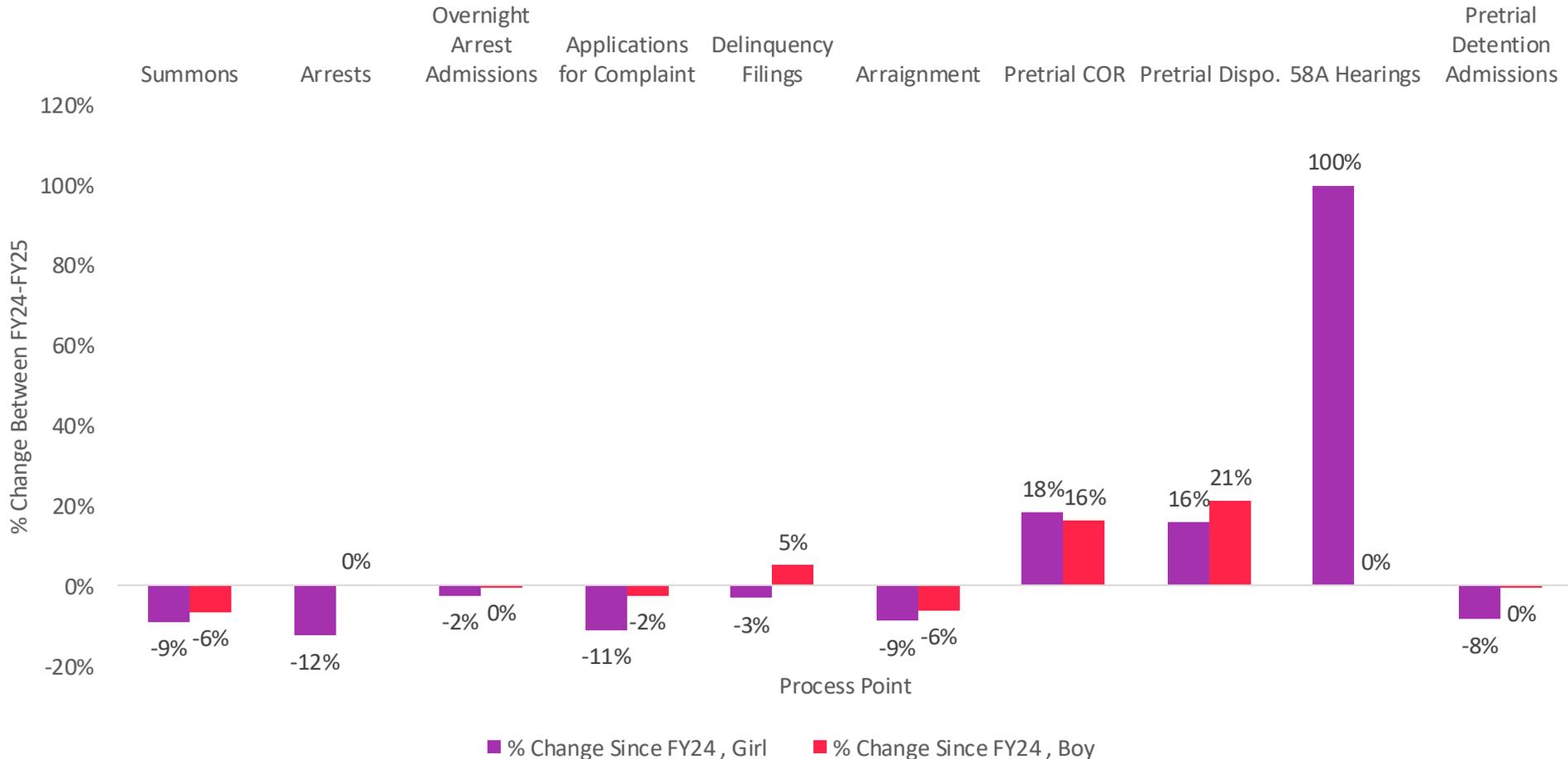


■ FY25 Girl
 ■ FY25 Boy
 ■ FY25 Not known/Not reported

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

The increase in system use for girls in FY24 was reversed in FY25

Change in Use of the System by Gender (FY24-FY25)



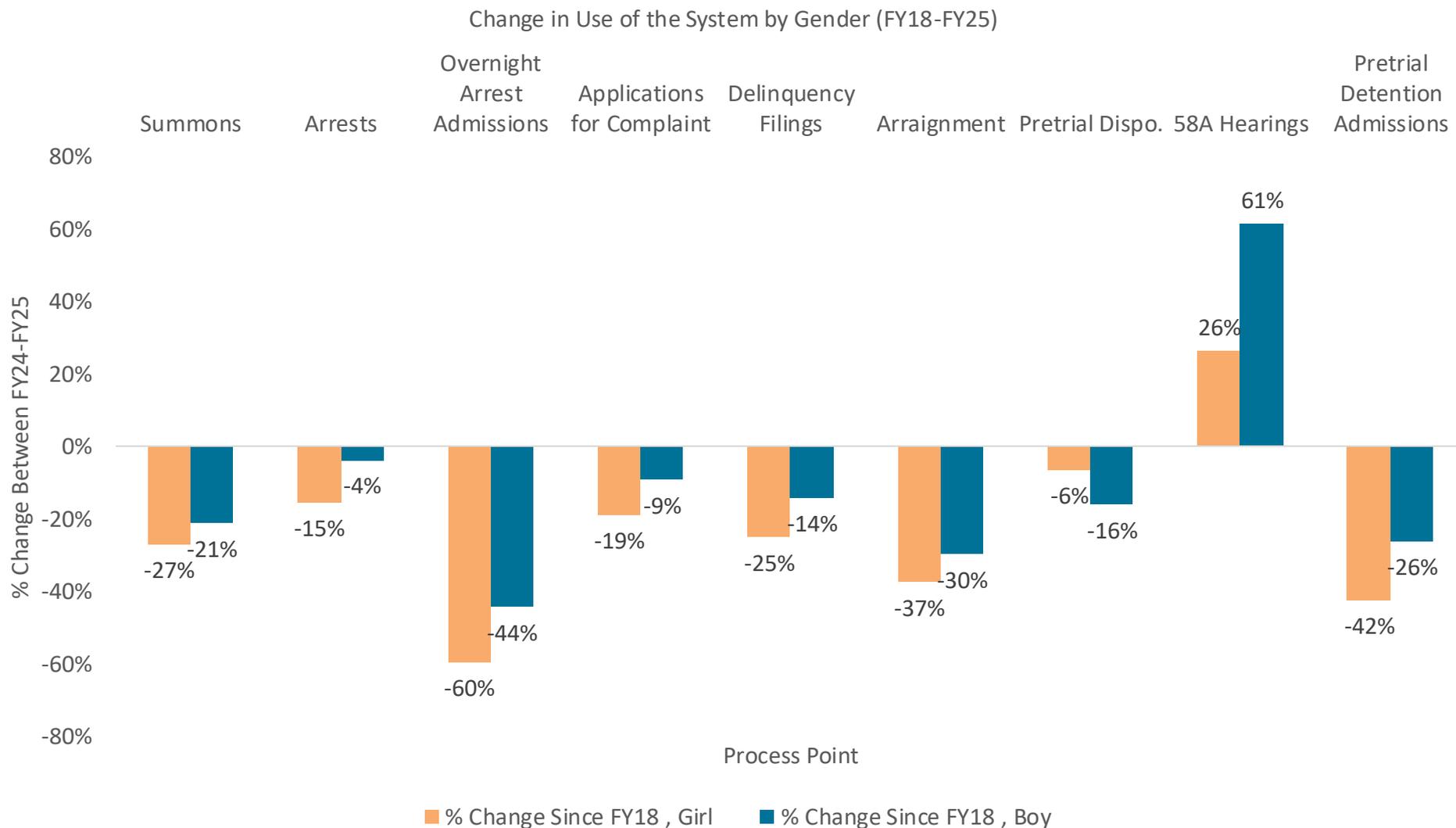
The large percentage increase in 58As for girls reflects the fact that there are very girls who are subjects of 58As compared to boys (FY24=12, FY25=24). For the underlying counts here, see the next slide.

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

The increase in system use for girls in FY24 was reversed in FY25

Fiscal Year	FY18				FY24				FY25			
Process Point	Total Count	Girl	Boy	Not known/ Not reported	Total Count	Girl	Boy	Not known / Not reported	Total Count	Girl	Boy	Not known/ Not reported
MA Youth (12-17) Population*	481,975	236,383	245,592	0	482,832	234,764	248,068	0	482,832	234,764	248,068	0
Summons	5,686	1,887	3,574	225	4,769	1,511	3,009	249	4,470	1,377	2,816	277
Arrests	5,428	1,288	4,063	77	5,247	1,243	3,889	115	5,114	1,089	3,906	119
Overnight Arrest Admissions	1,241	307	934	0	647	127	520	0	643	124	519	0
Applications for Complaint	11,114	3,175	7,637	302	10,361	2,891	7,089	381	9,932	2,576	6,924	432
Delinquency Filings	7,721	2,060	5,564	97	6,218	1,592	4,528	98	6,437	1,543	4,767	127
Arraignment	5,348	1,273	4,068	7	3,910	873	3,035	2	3,653	796	2,852	5
Pretrial COR	106	18	88	0	1,490	330	1,159	1	1,748	391	1,349	8
Pretrial Dispo.	280	77	203	0	202	62	140	0	242	72	170	0
58A Hearings	224	19	205	0	342	12	330	0	355	24	331	0
Pretrial Detention Admissions	1,250	252	998	0	897	158	739	0	881	145	736	0

There has been a greater decline in system use for girls since FY18 compared to boys

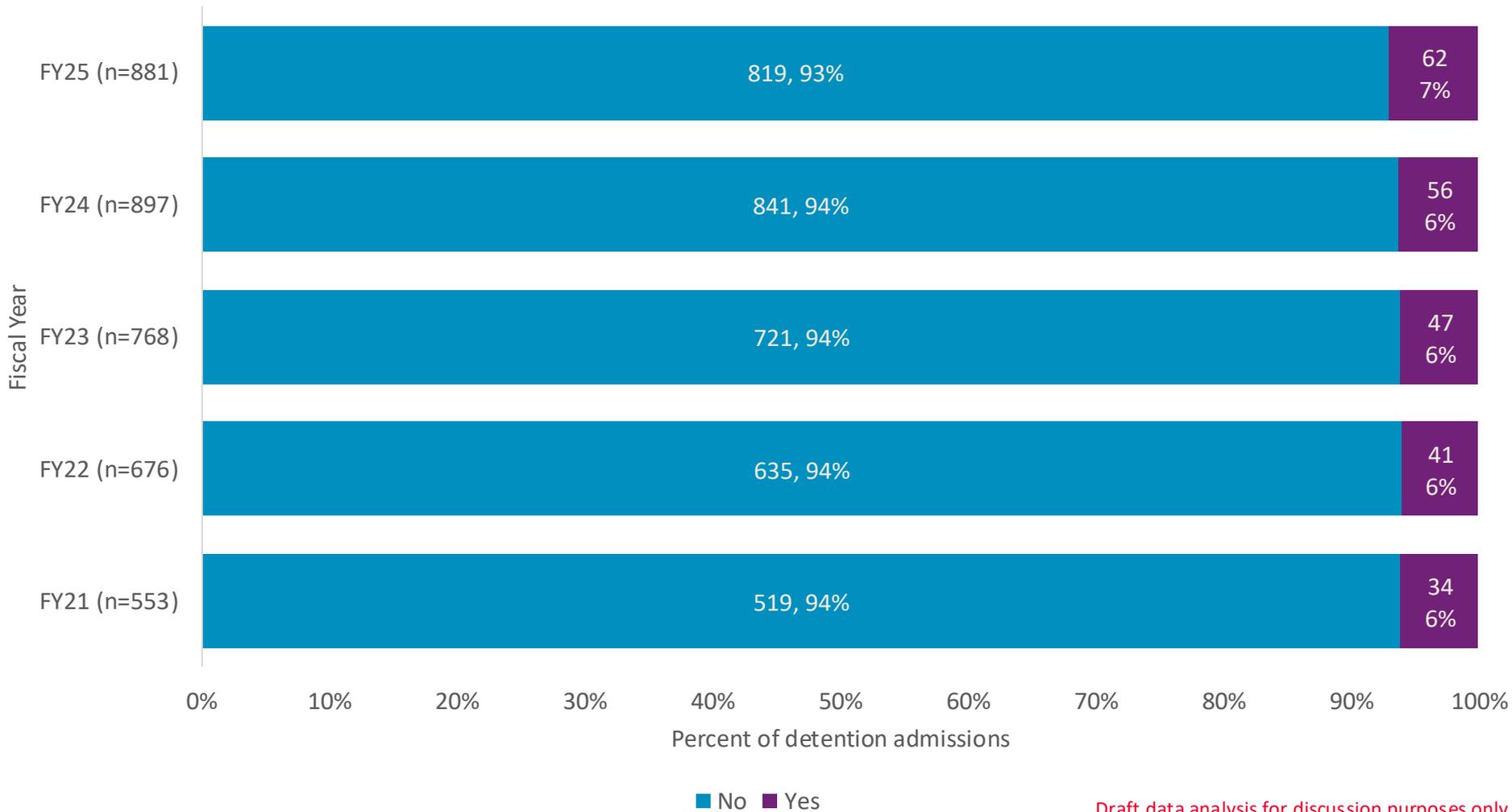


For the underlying counts here, see the prior slide.

Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

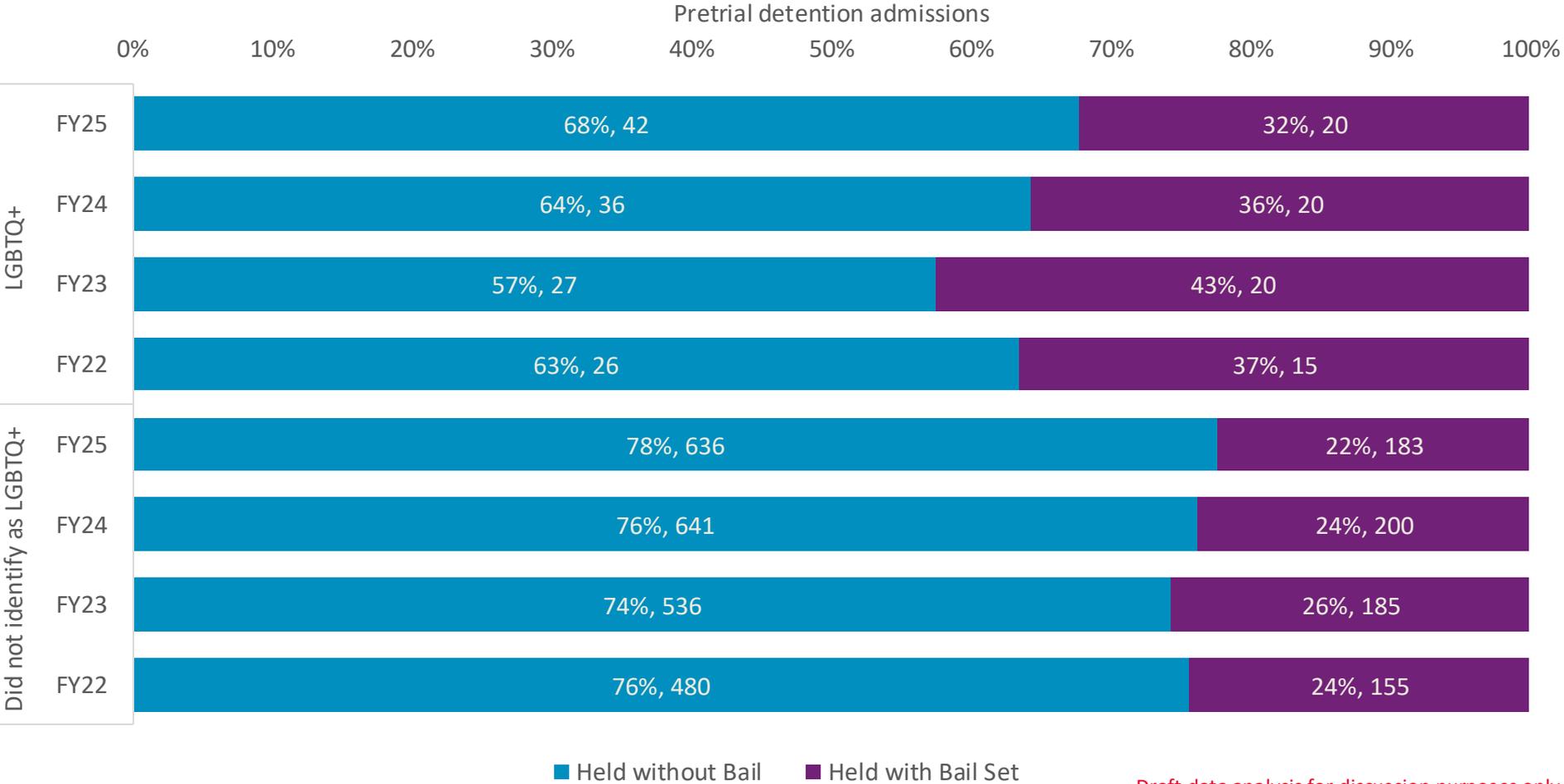
Detention admissions for youth who identify as LGBTQ+ has remained relatively stable since FY21

Pretrial Detention by LGBTQ+ Status (FY21-FY25)



Youth who identify as LGBTQ+ are detained as a result of cash bail at higher rates than youth who do not identify as LGBTQ+

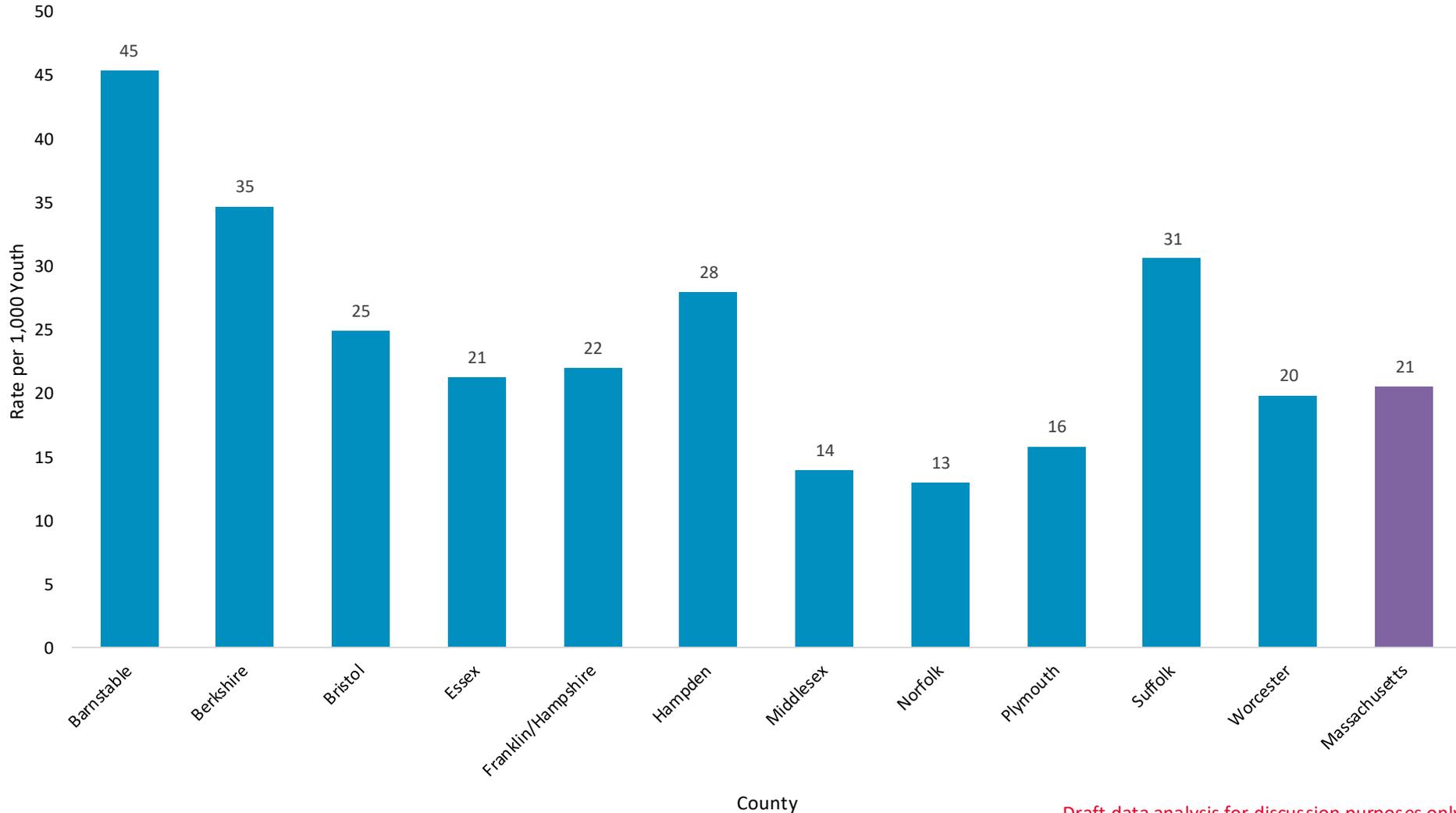
Figure X: Detention Admissions by Bail Status and LGBTQ+ Status (FY22-FY25)



Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

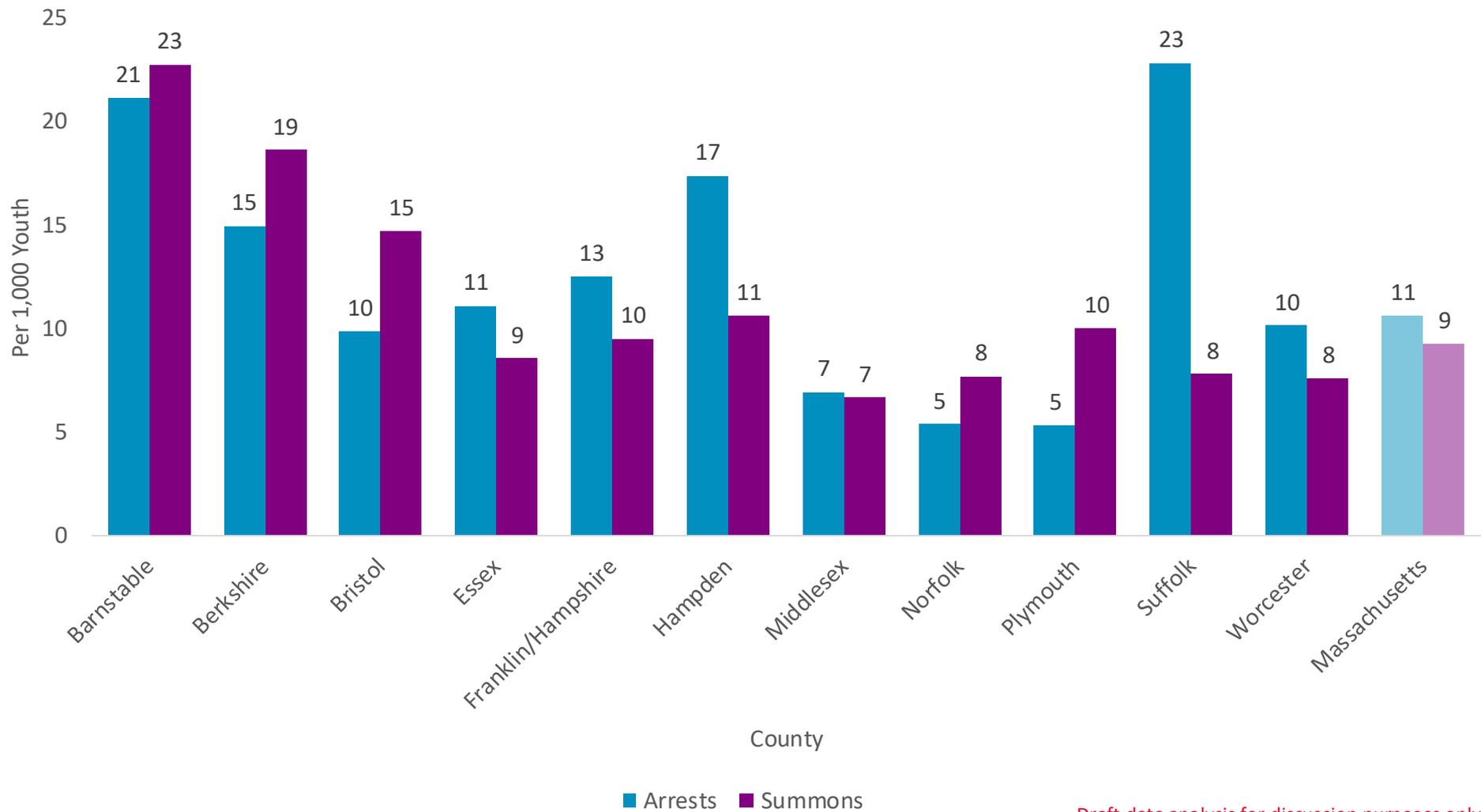
Application for complaint rates range from 13 per 1,000 youth (Norfolk) to 45 per 1,000 youth (Barnstable)—more than a threefold difference

FY25 Applications for Complaint Rate per 1,000 Youth (12-17) by County



Some counties rely more heavily on summons (e.g., Berkshire, Bristol, Norfolk, Plymouth), while others rely more on arrests (e.g., Suffolk, Hampden, Franklin/Hampshire)

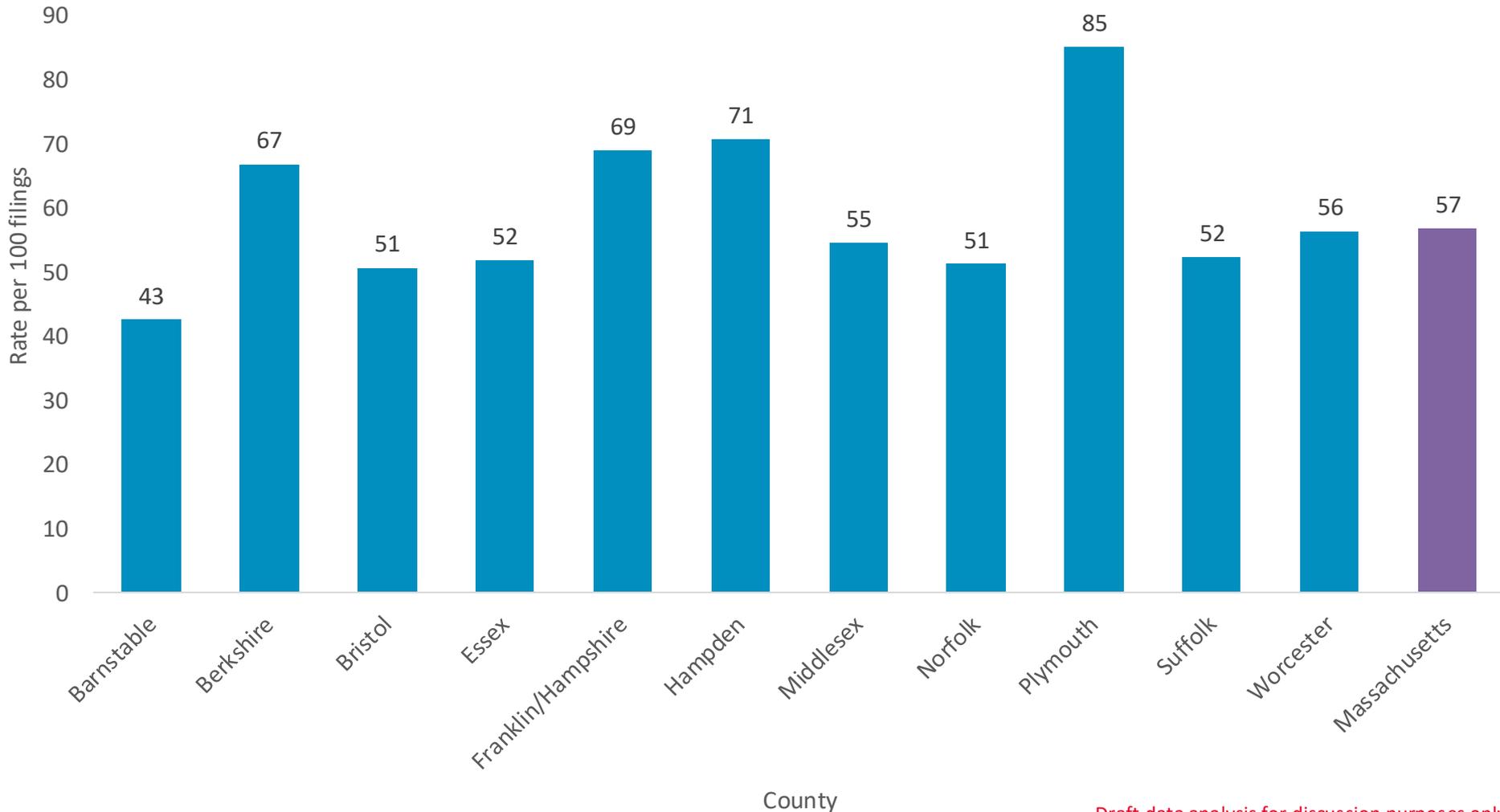
Arrests versus Summons Rates per 1,000 Youth by County



Draft data analysis for discussion purposes only

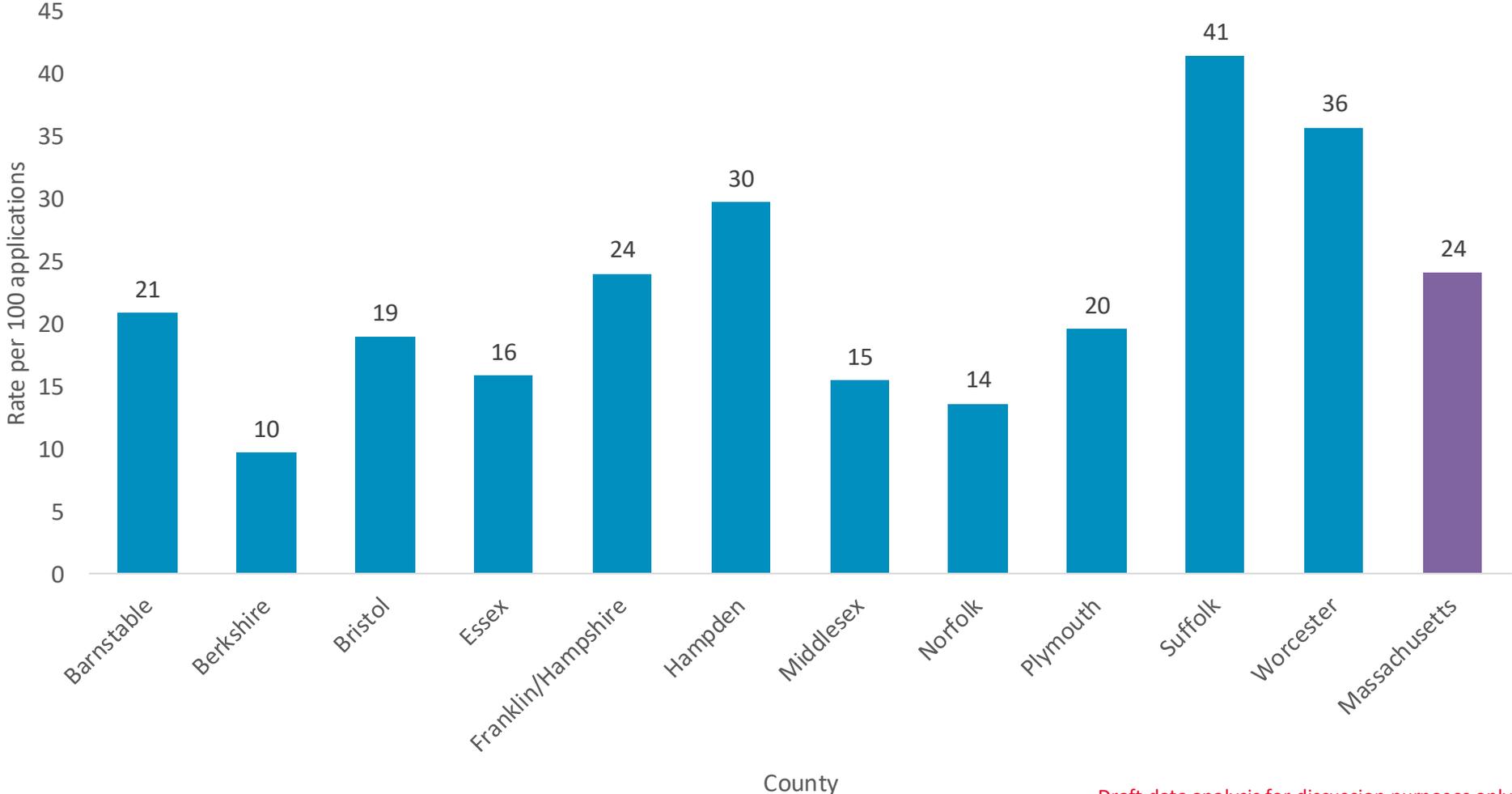
County arraignment rates range from ~42 per 100 filings in Barnstable to ~85 per 100 filings in Plymouth—a twofold difference

FY25 Arraignment Rate per 100 Delinquency Filings by County



Pretrial detention rates range from ~10 per 100 in Berkshire to ~41 per 100 in Suffolk— a fourfold difference

Pretrial Detention Rate per 100 Arraignments by County (FY25)



Data Summary:

Demographics & Cohorts of Youth

1. Youth involved with the state's juvenile justice system are disproportionately involved in the child welfare system
2. Racial/ethnic disparities persist—and begin at the front door. In FY25, compared to white youth:
 - Black youth were 3× more likely and Latino youth 2× more likely to enter the Juvenile Court system
 - Black youth were 4× more likely and Latino youth 3× more likely to be arrested, and 3× and 2× more likely, respectively, to be summoned
3. Disparities for Black youth remain highest at the front door and have worsened across much of the pretrial phase since FY18. Disparities for Latino youth remain elevated at the front door, at 58A hearings, and in detention

Data Summary:

Demographics & Cohorts of Youth

4. System use is declining overall, but gender patterns differ. Boys continue to make up the majority of youth in the juvenile justice system. Since FY18, system involvement has declined more for girls than for boys, indicating faster overall reductions for girls, reversing the FY24 increases
5. LGBTQ+ youth face distinct detention pathways. The share of detention admissions involving LGBTQ+ youth has remained relatively stable since FY22. Compared to non-LGBTQ+ youth, LGBTQ+ youth are more likely to be detained because cash bail is set (rather than being held without bail)

Data Summary:

Demographics & Cohorts of Youth

6. MA youth juvenile justice system involvement varies widely by county across major process points- from initial police contact through arraignment and pretrial detention:
 - Barnstable, Berkshire, Hampden, & Suffolk show disproportionately high youth system involvement relative to youth population & Hampden and Suffolk’s high involvement appears closely tied to heavier use of arrests
 - Berkshire, Franklin/Hampshire, Hampden, & Plymouth move a larger share of filings to arraignment
 - Statewide, about 24% of arraignments result in pretrial detention; Suffolk and Worcester exceed this rate

Questions & Discussion



- What takeaways did you have?
- What surprised you?
- What context is missing?
- What questions do you still have?

Next Meeting:

March 17th 1-2:30pm



(All meetings are virtual; Zoom information is in each calendar invitation)

Contact

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