



Massachusetts Trial Court



FY 2018 Disposed Cases Post-Arrest Defaults - “Failure to Appear”

Massachusetts Trial Court
Department of Research and Planning
May 7, 2019

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Massachusetts Trial Court



Failure to Appear Analysis

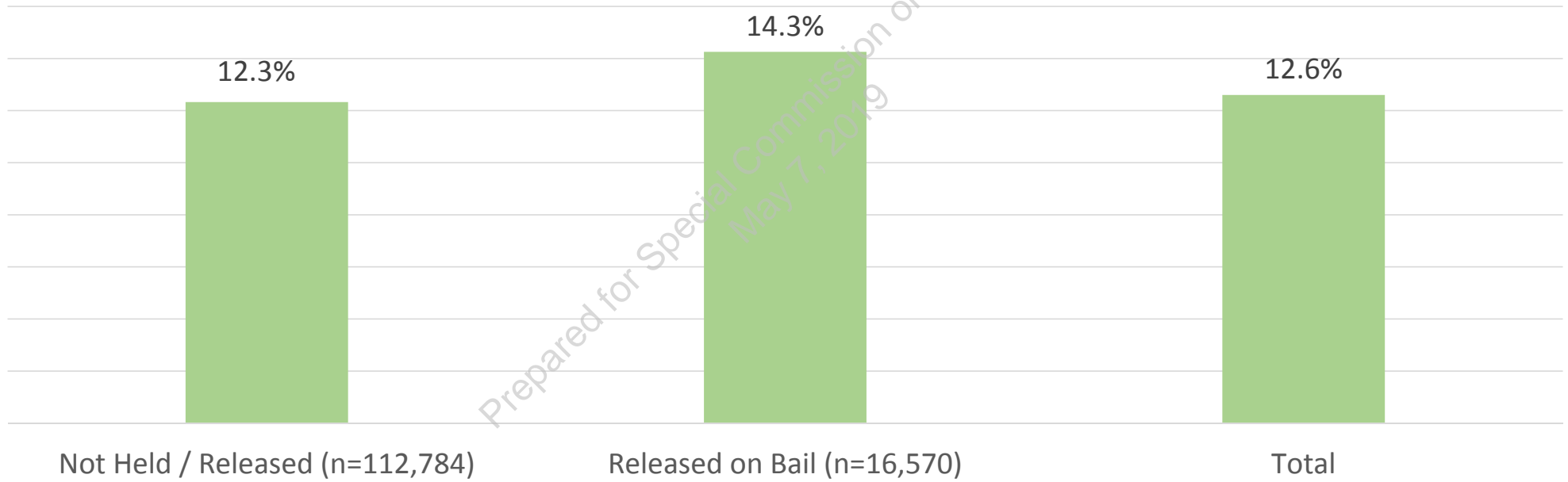
- Cases disposed in the Boston Municipal and District Courts.
- Disposition sample: includes all cases with a first charge-disposition in FY 2018. Only cases arraigned on or after January 1st, 2016 are included.
- Total cases: 129,354. Only cases in which the defendant was not held or was released on bail.
- Sample includes pre and post-Brangan cases. Insufficient time has elapsed since the Brangan decision to constrain the sample to post-Brangan cases only.
- This analysis does not include failure to appear at arraignment.
- Failure to appear was identified by a default warrant being issued between the date of the first held arraignment and the first charge disposition.



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Failure to Appear Rate: Initial Release Decision (n=129,354)

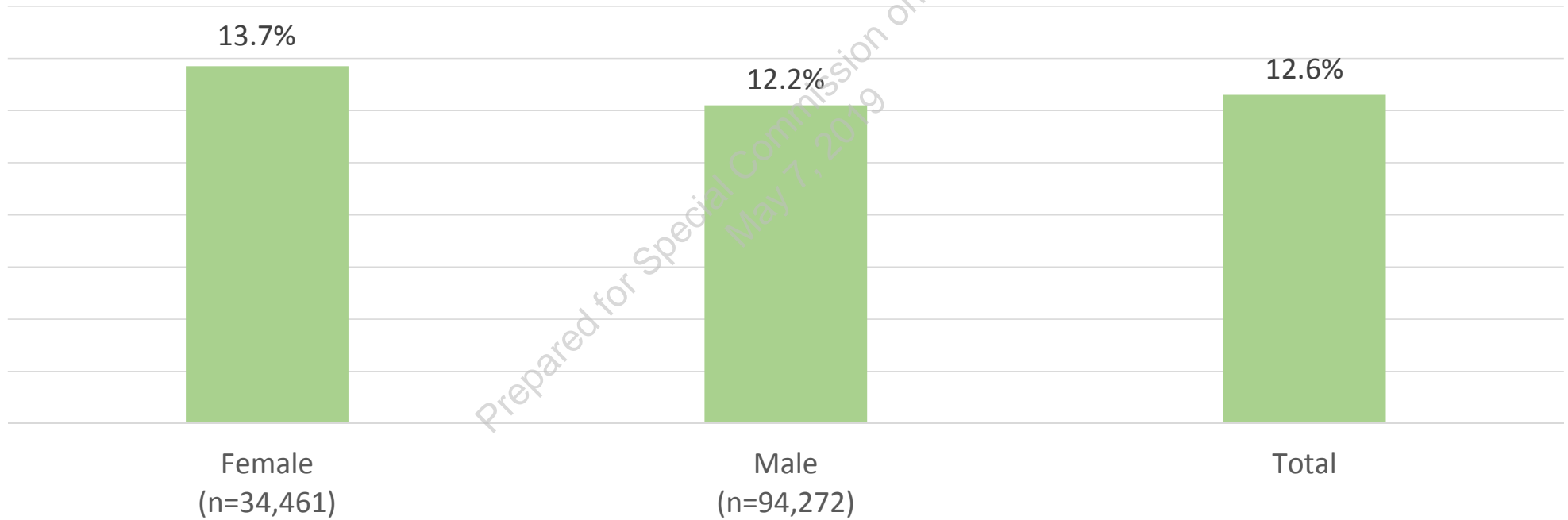




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Failure to Appear Rate: Gender (n=128,733)*



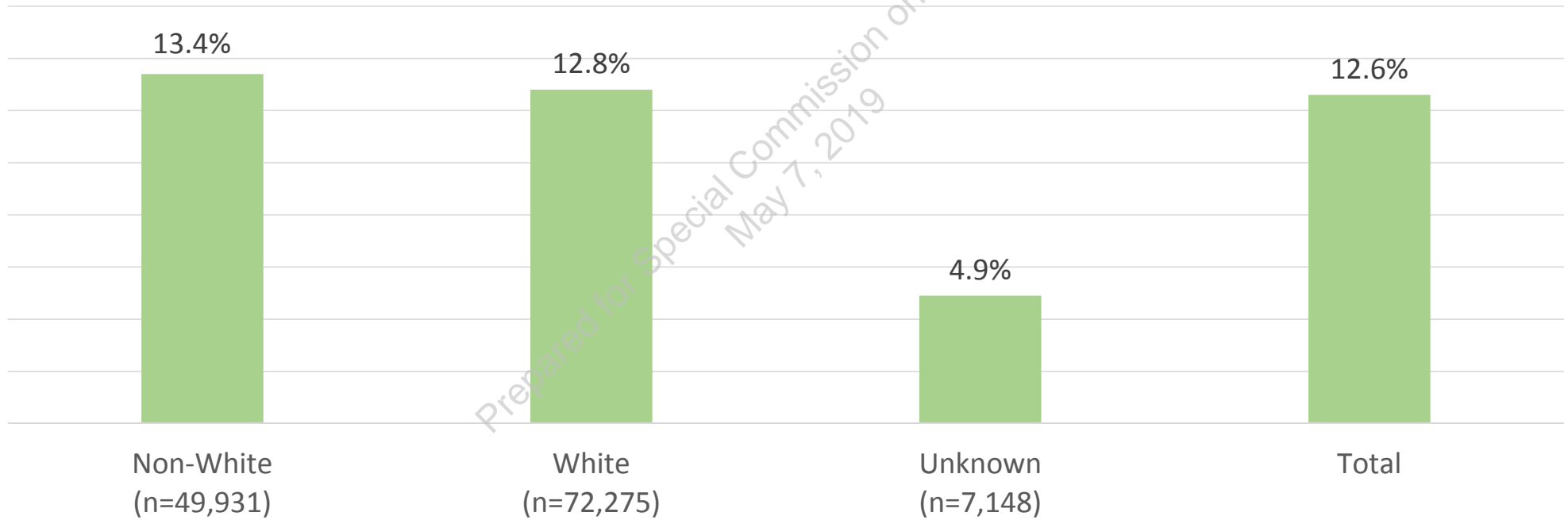
*Gender was unknown for 621 defendants.



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Failure to Appear Rate: Race (n=129,354)

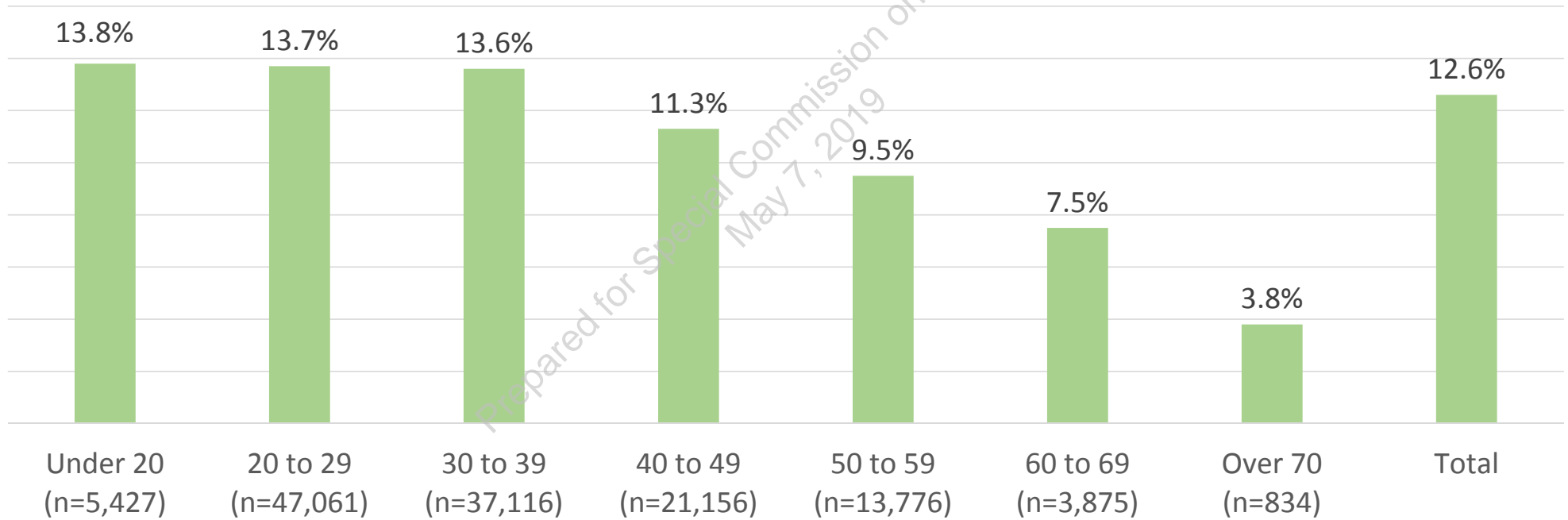




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Failure to Appear Rate: Age (n=129,245)*



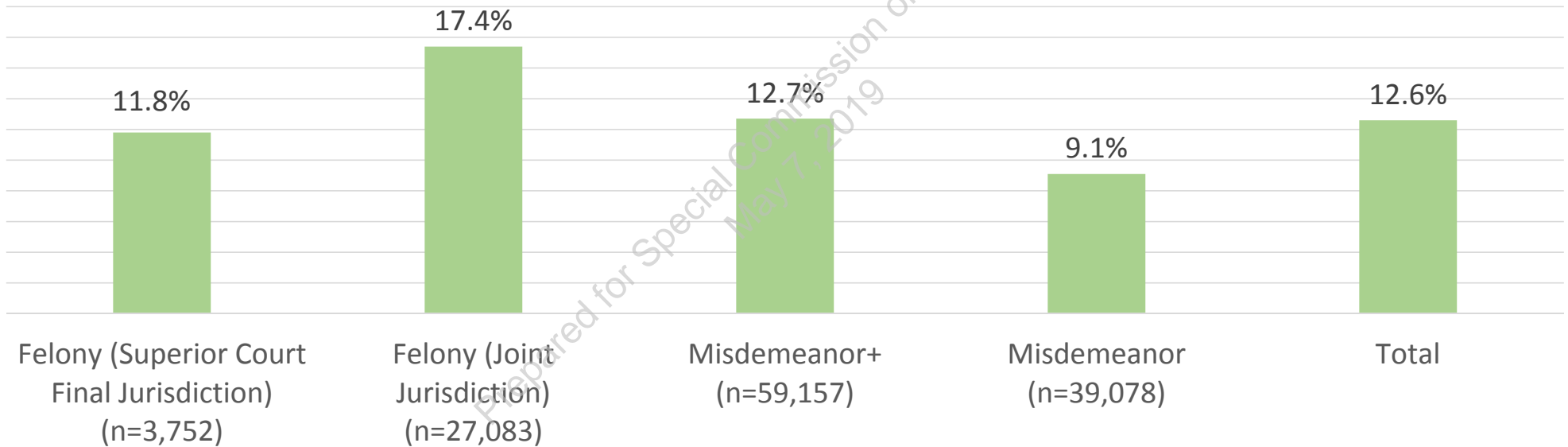
*Age was unknown for 109 defendants.



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Failure to Appear Rate: Severity of Most Serious Charge (n=129,070)*



*Severity of most serious charge was of an unidentifiable level for 284 cases. The largest group of these cases had conspiracy to violate drug law (c94C S40) as the most serious charge on the case, for which the severity of the charge is dependent on the alleged conduct.

Misdemeanor+ = misdemeanor punishable by more than 100 days incarceration. Misdemeanor = punishable by no incarceration or up to 100 days.



Failure to Appear Rate: Type of Most Serious Charge (n=129,354)

