



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development



## Workers' Compensation Advisory Council January 14, 2026 Statistical Report

Fiscal Year 2026 Update

Maura Healey, Governor

Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor

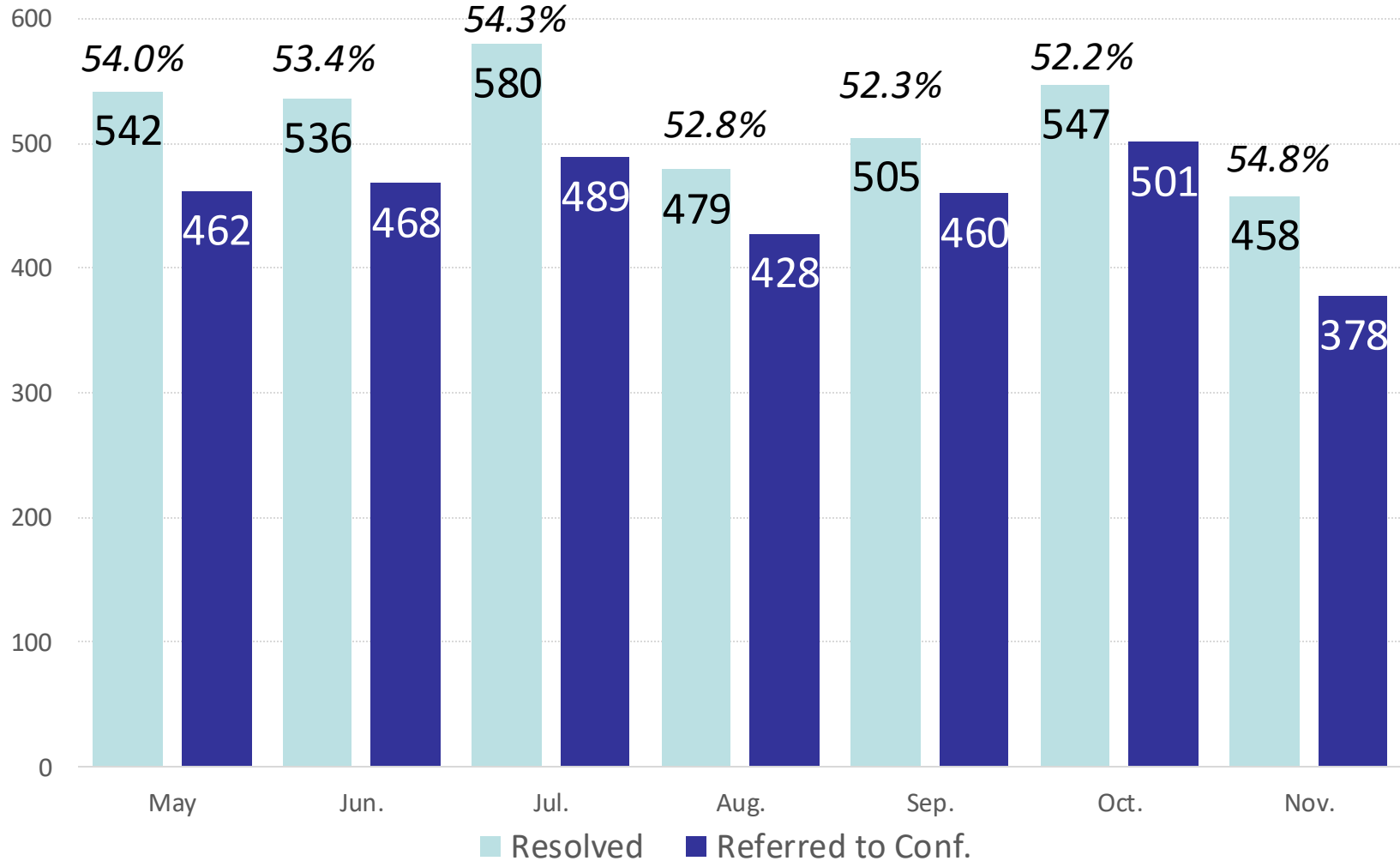
Lauren E. Jones, Secretary of Labor &  
Workforce Development

Sheri Bowles, Director - DIA



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Conciliations Resolved v. Referred to Conference



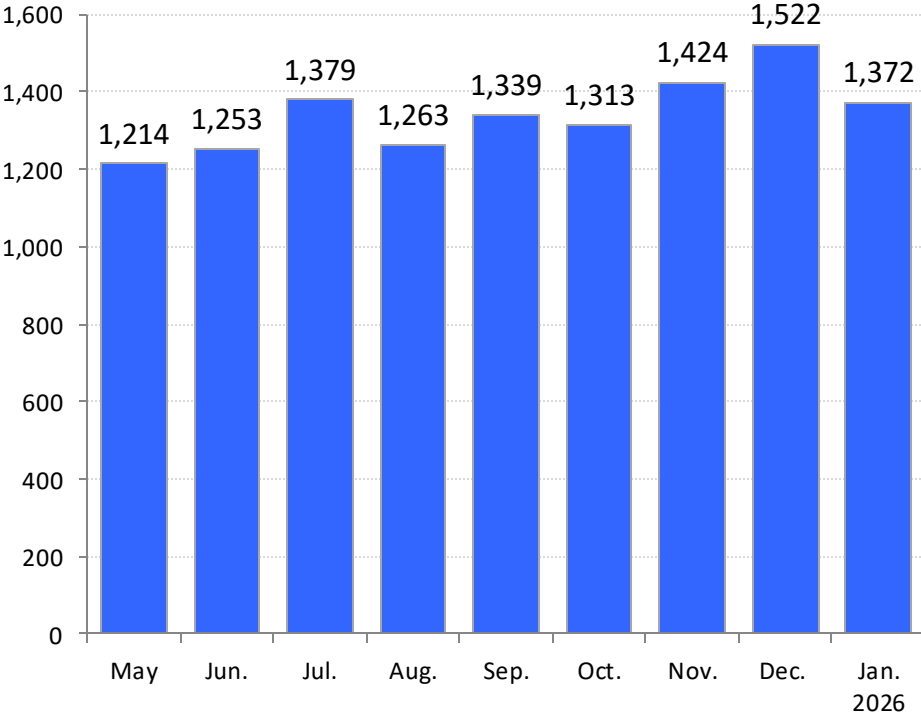
Percent resolved indicated.



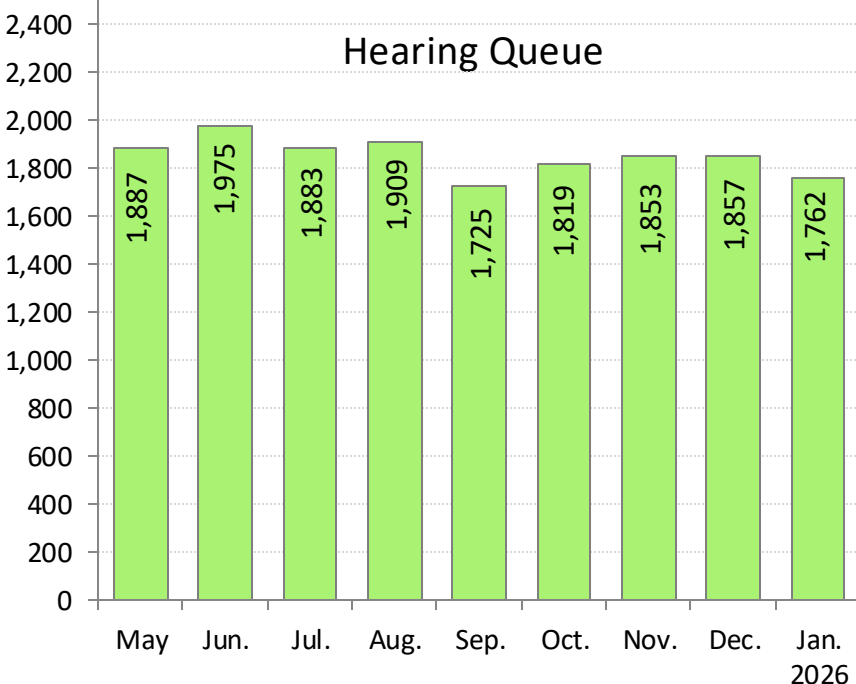
# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

Fluctuations in the conference and hearing queues may vary by region and depend on the number of cases being referred from conciliation, conference order appeals, judicial schedules, and continuance requests. For the current fiscal year, there have been 3,001 continuances as of December 31st. 6,806 continuance requests were received in FY25. These are a rolling total, not a cumulative total.

Conference Queue



Hearing Queue



Currently, the average waiting period for a conference is 16 to 36 weeks.

December 2025 *Estimated*

Conf. Sched.:	404	Hear. Held:	138
Orders issued:	222	Appeals to RB	2
	% Claimants recv. WC benefits– 110 filed	% Claimants recv. WC benefits– no 110 filed	
Conference	49%	82%	
Hearing	81%	83%	



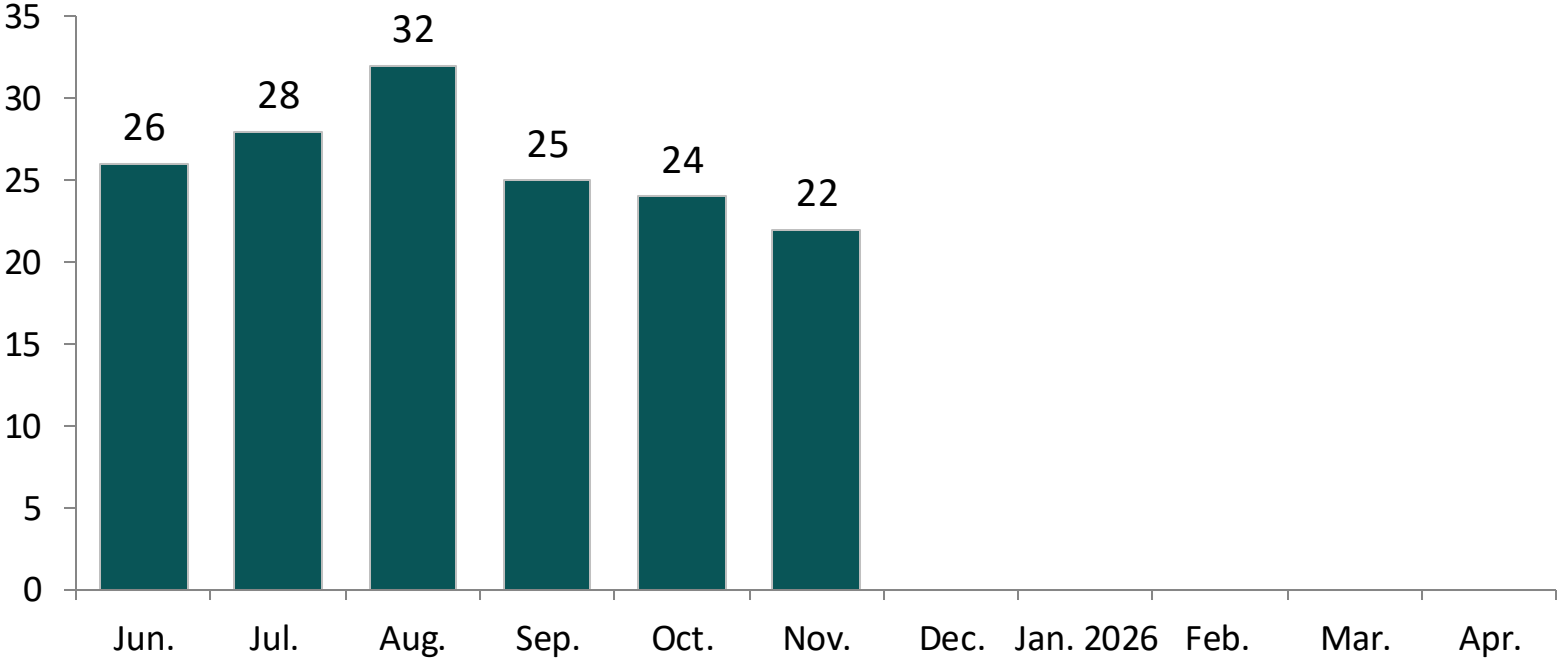
# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

Pending Hearing Decisions	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
6 to 9 months post hearing	1	1	4
9 to 12 months post hearing	0	0	1
1 year post hearing	5	5	5
2 years post hearing	0	0	0
3+ years post hearing	0	0	0
Total	6	6	10



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Review Board Inventory



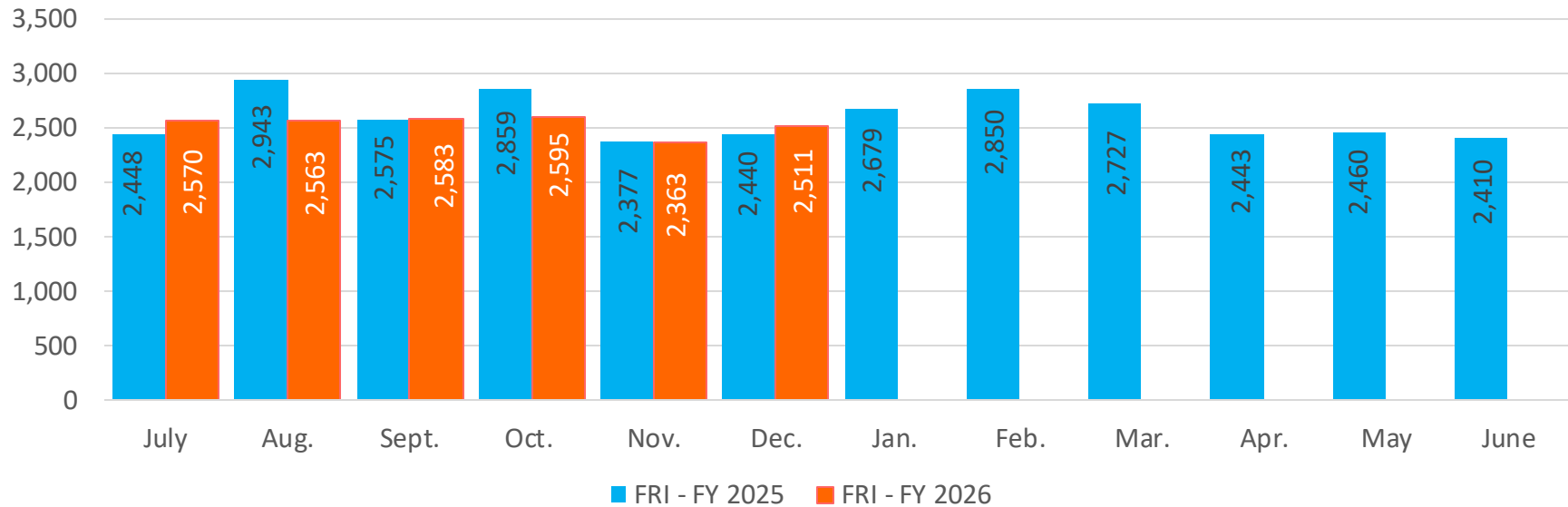
<i>Other Figures</i>	FY 2026	FY 2025	FY 2024
Fee Waivers Granted:	29	66	77
Exam Fees Collected:	\$ 637,875	\$ 1,579,064	\$ 1,776,947
Attorneys' Fees (all proceedings)	\$ 48,287,111	\$ 94,204,883	\$90,947,160
Referral Fees	\$ 1,721,109	\$ 3,840,216	\$ 4,416,932
Sec. 7 & 8 Penalties	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 200

*Note: Attorneys Fees are not paid by the DIA. These fees are paid by the insurer to the injured worker's counsel at certain stages of the dispute resolution process as outlined in c. 152.*



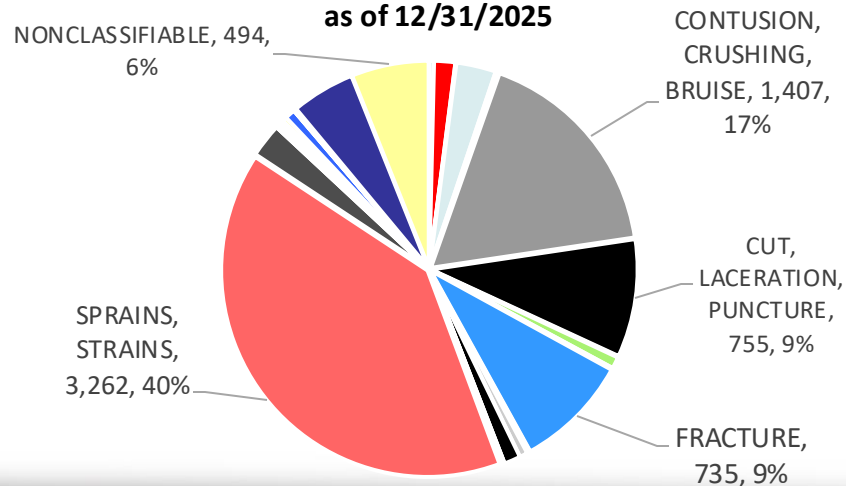
# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## First Reports Filed by Month



■ FRI - FY 2025 ■ FRI - FY 2026

## Injury Types as of 12/31/2025

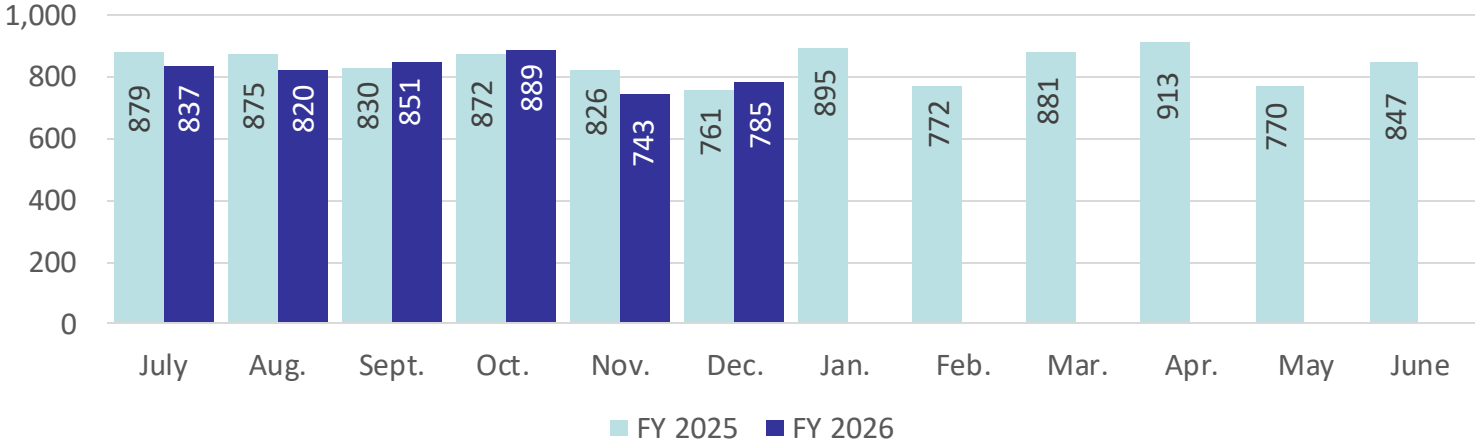


Total FROIs filed in FY 2026 are 15,185. The total FROIs filed in FY 2025 were 31,211. This represented 0.85% of the working population in MA.

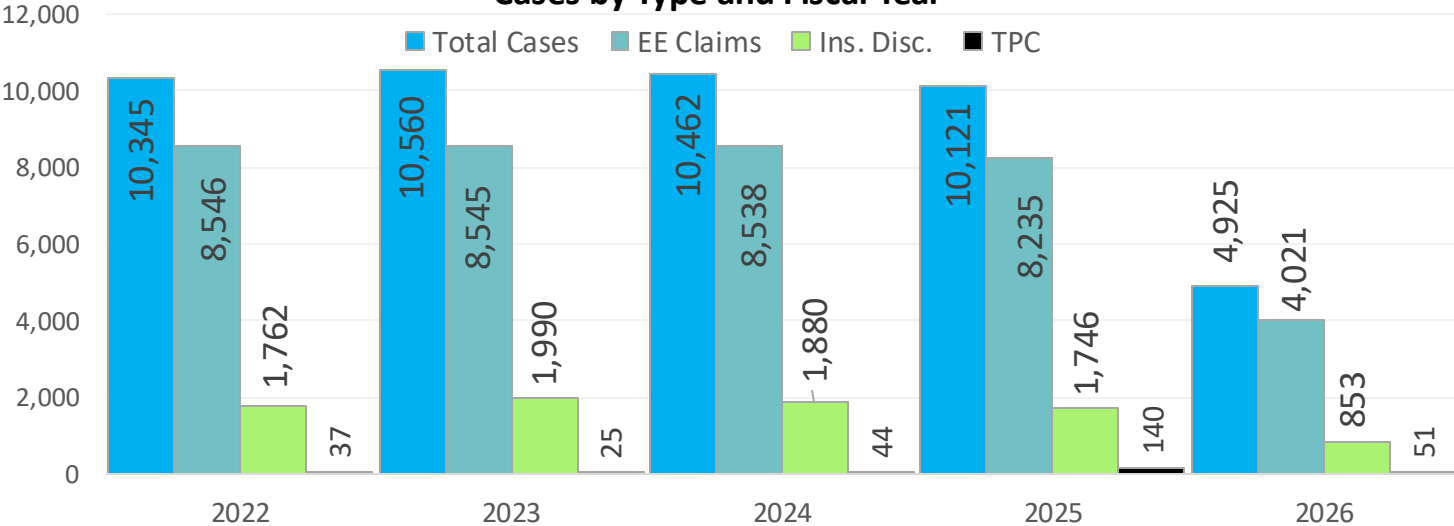


# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

**Cases Filed by Month**



**Cases by Type and Fiscal Year**



785 cases were filed in December.

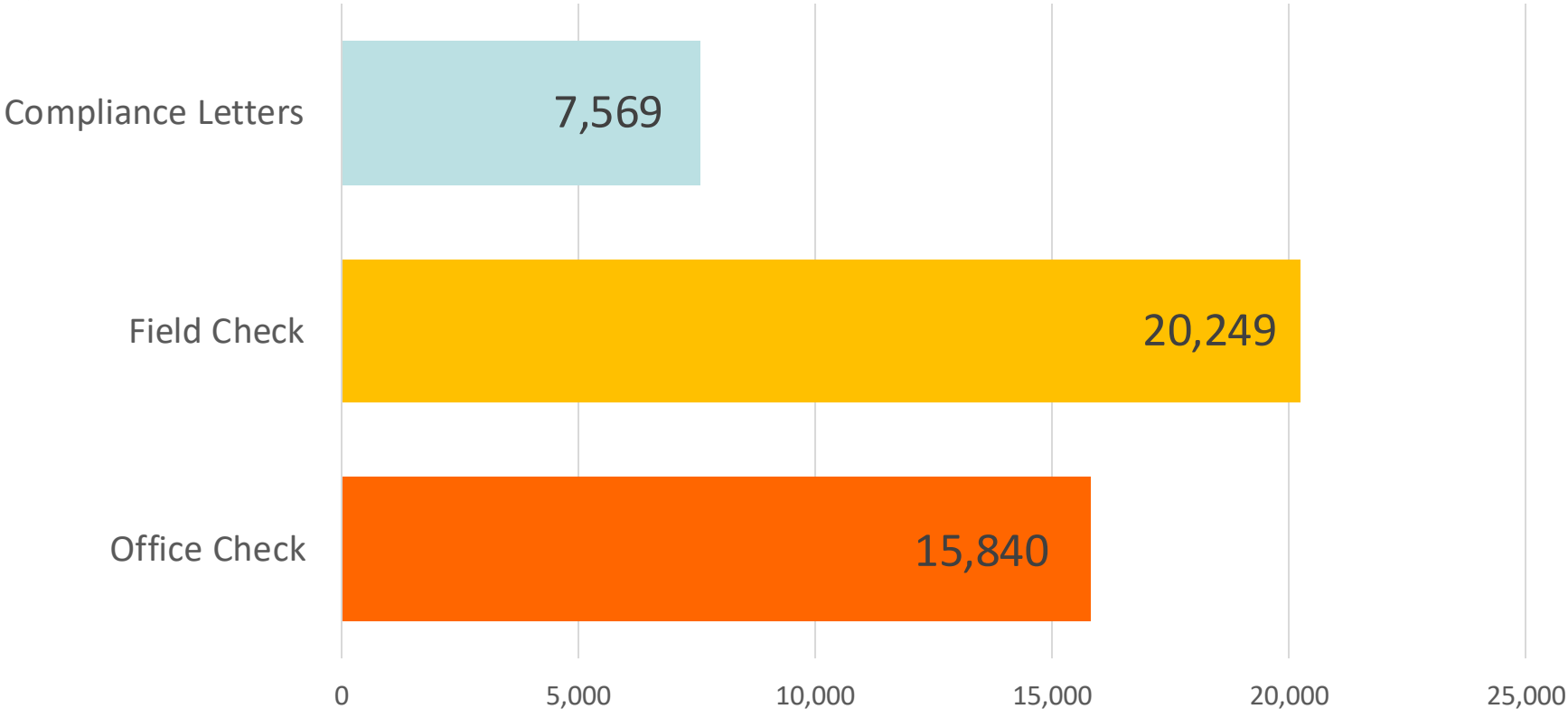


# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Office of Investigations

### Compliance & Enforcement

Total Figures FY 2026 as of 12/31/2025

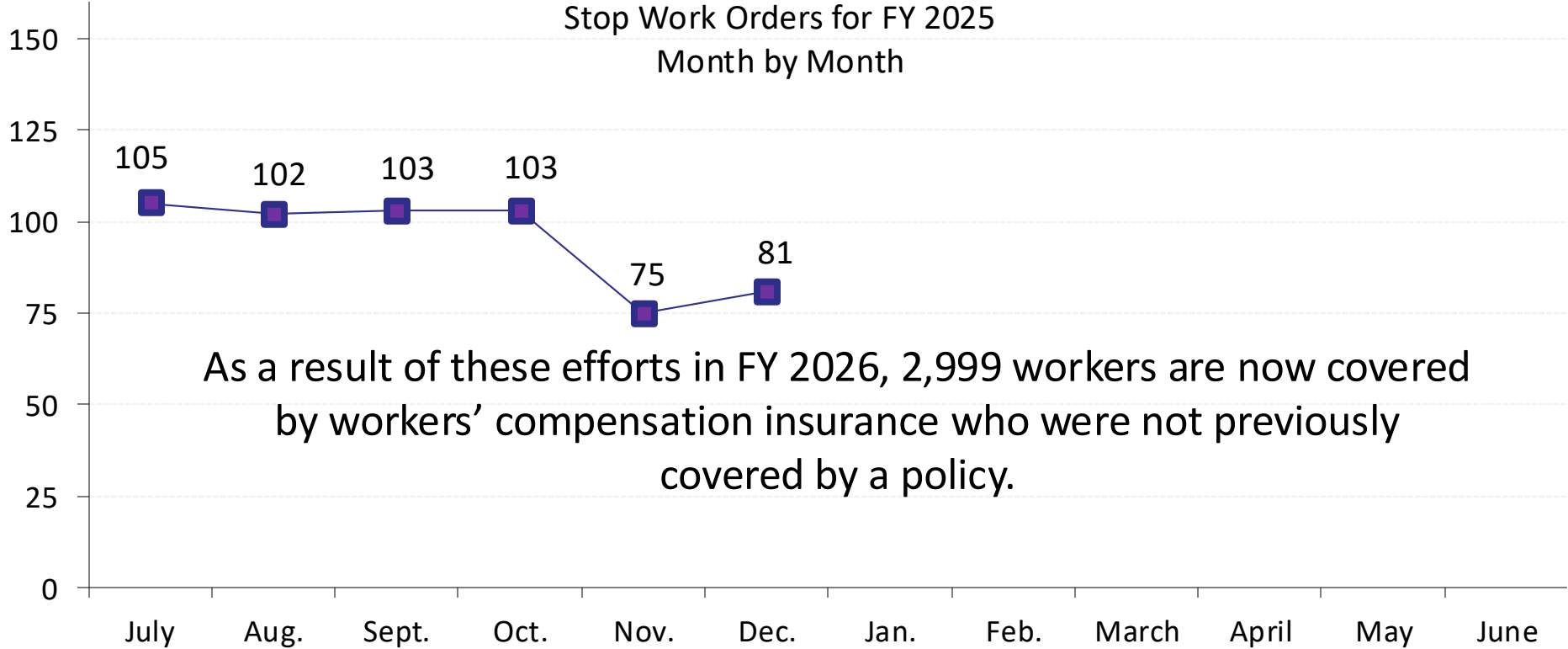


5,406 compliance checks, 269 field investigations were conducted, 258 more employees are newly covered by WC insurance, and 1,274 compliance letters were sent in December. FY 2025, yielded 81,165 compliance checks with 7,082 employees covered by WC insurance.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Office of Investigations

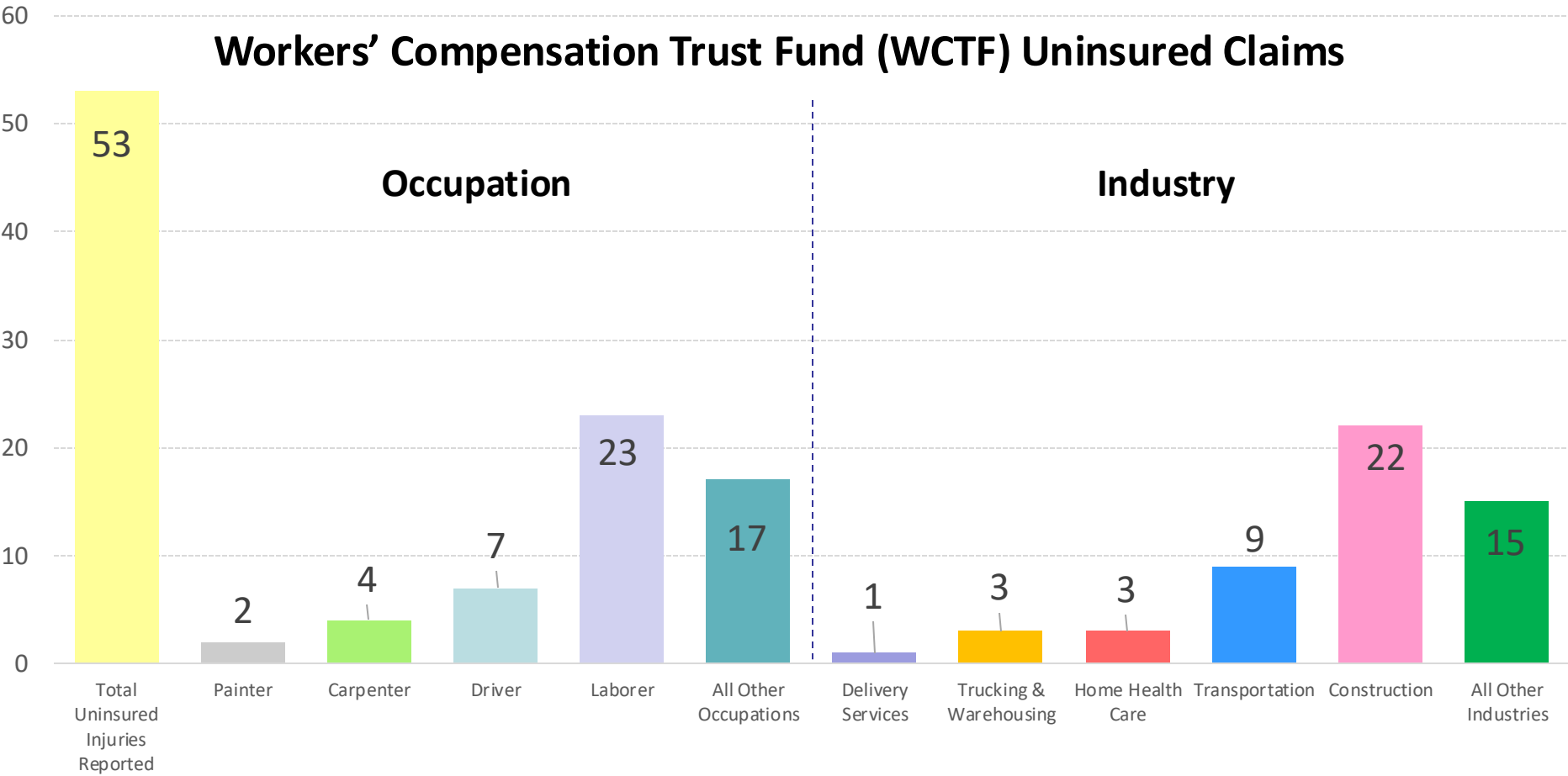


Last month 81 Stop Work Orders (SWO) were issued and 3 employers defaulted on an SWOs that were previously issued. 569 SWOs have been issued year-to-date with total fine collections to date of \$290,693. FY 2025 yielded a total of 1,299 SWOs issued, with a total fine collection of \$821,049.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Workers' Compensation Trust Fund (WCTF) Uninsured Claims

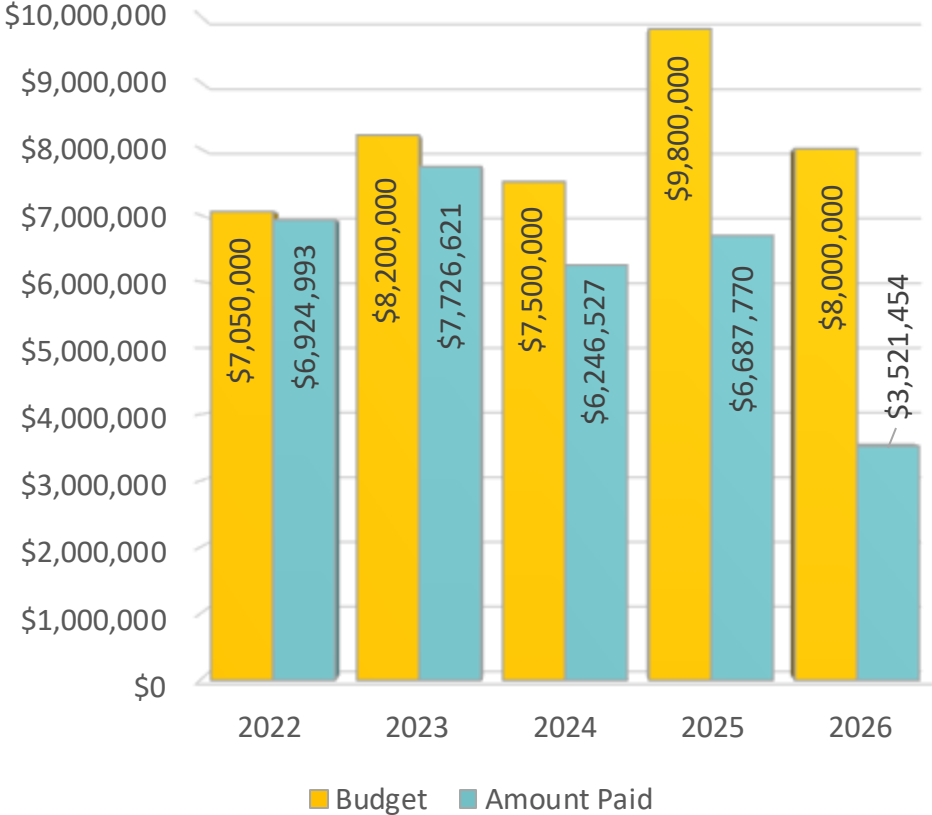


As of December 31st, 53 uninsured injuries have been reported to the WCTF for FY26. Note that one additional claim was refiled from a previous fiscal year and is not counted as a new claim. Please note, claims may be determined to be insured or uninsured after filing. The WCTF received 110 newly reported claims in FY25.



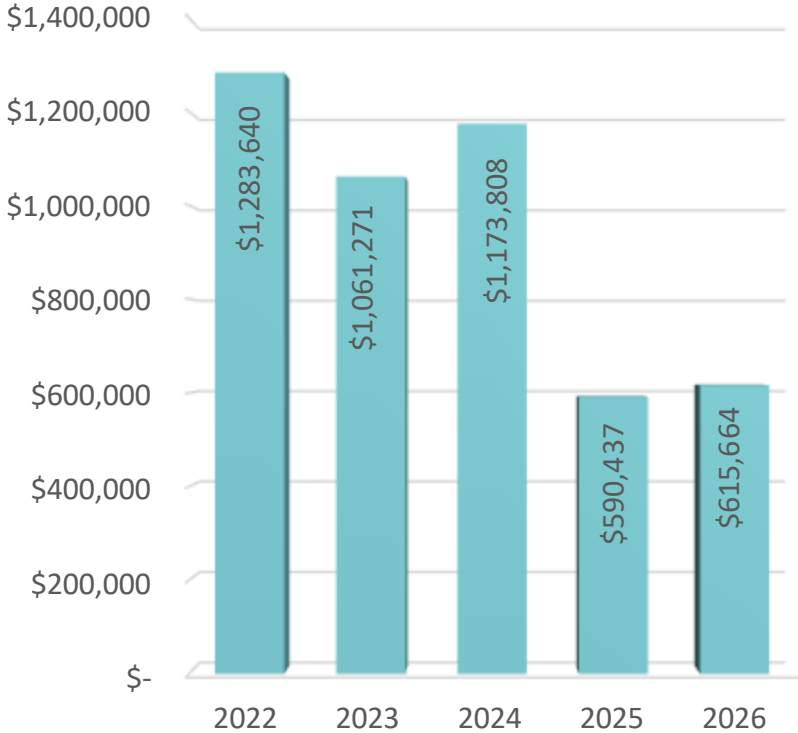
# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

### WCTF Fiscal Year Payments



Represents payments on all open claims to include those made in prior years.

### Civil Litigation Recovery

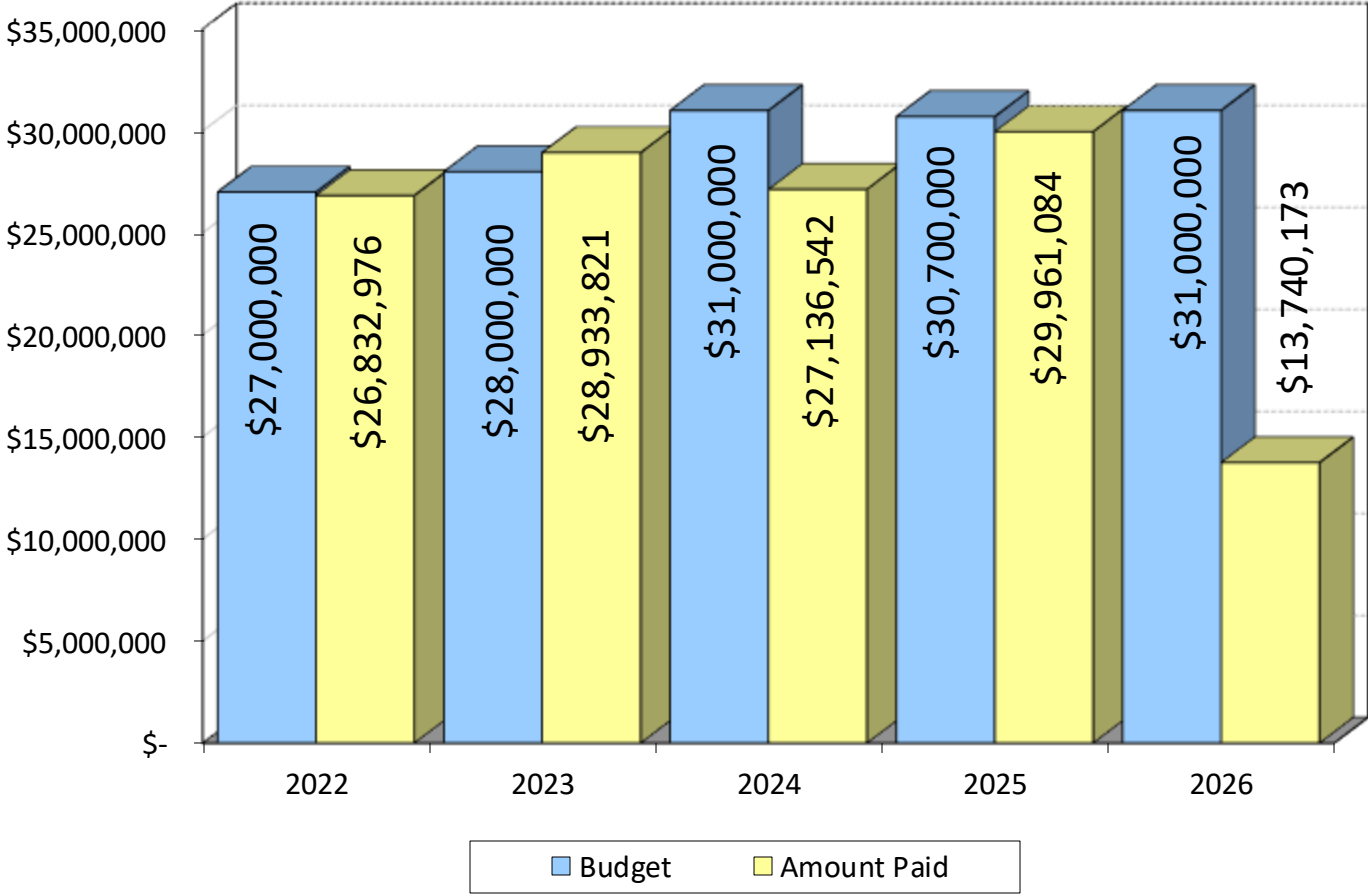


Every effort is made to recover money owed by the uninsured employer pursuant c. 152 § 65 (8).



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Second Injury Fund Budget & Payments

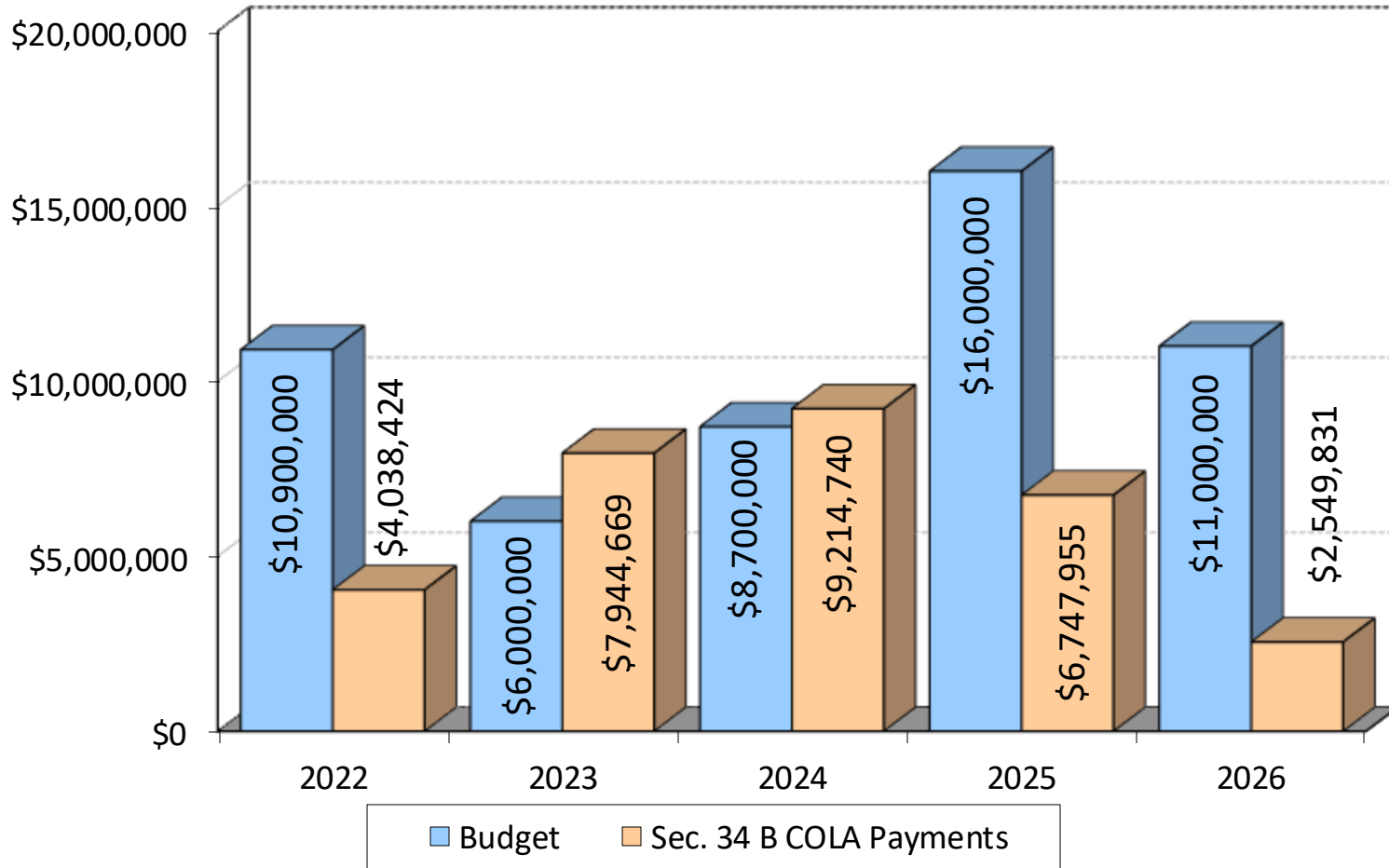


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 37/37A to include quarterly payments and interest. Additional payments may be in process but have not been registered in MMARS, the state accounting system as the time of this report.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## COLA Reimbursement

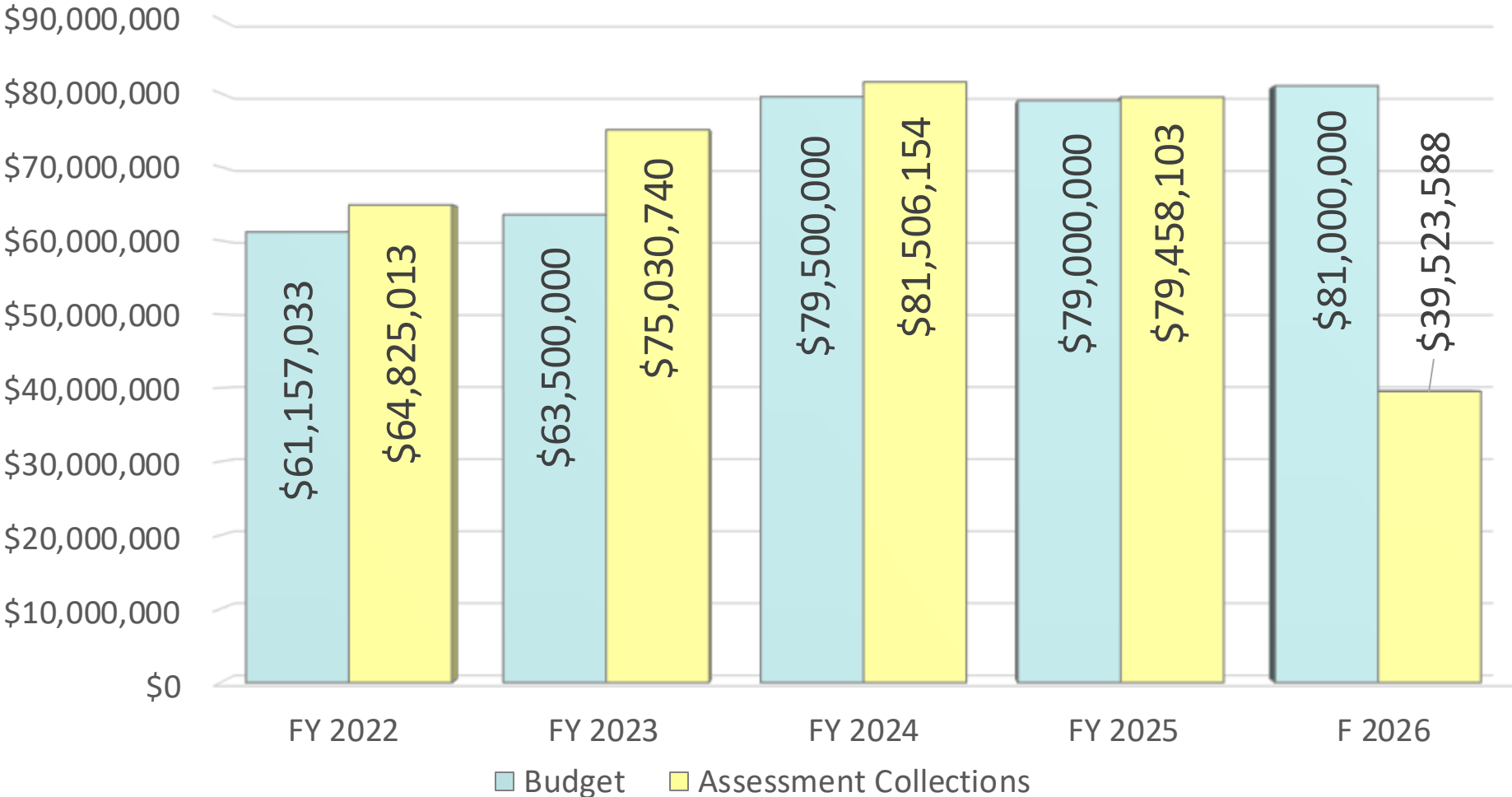


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 34B, Cost of Living Adjustment benefits. Additional payments may be in process that have not yet registered in MMARS at the time of this publication.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026

## Assessment Collections

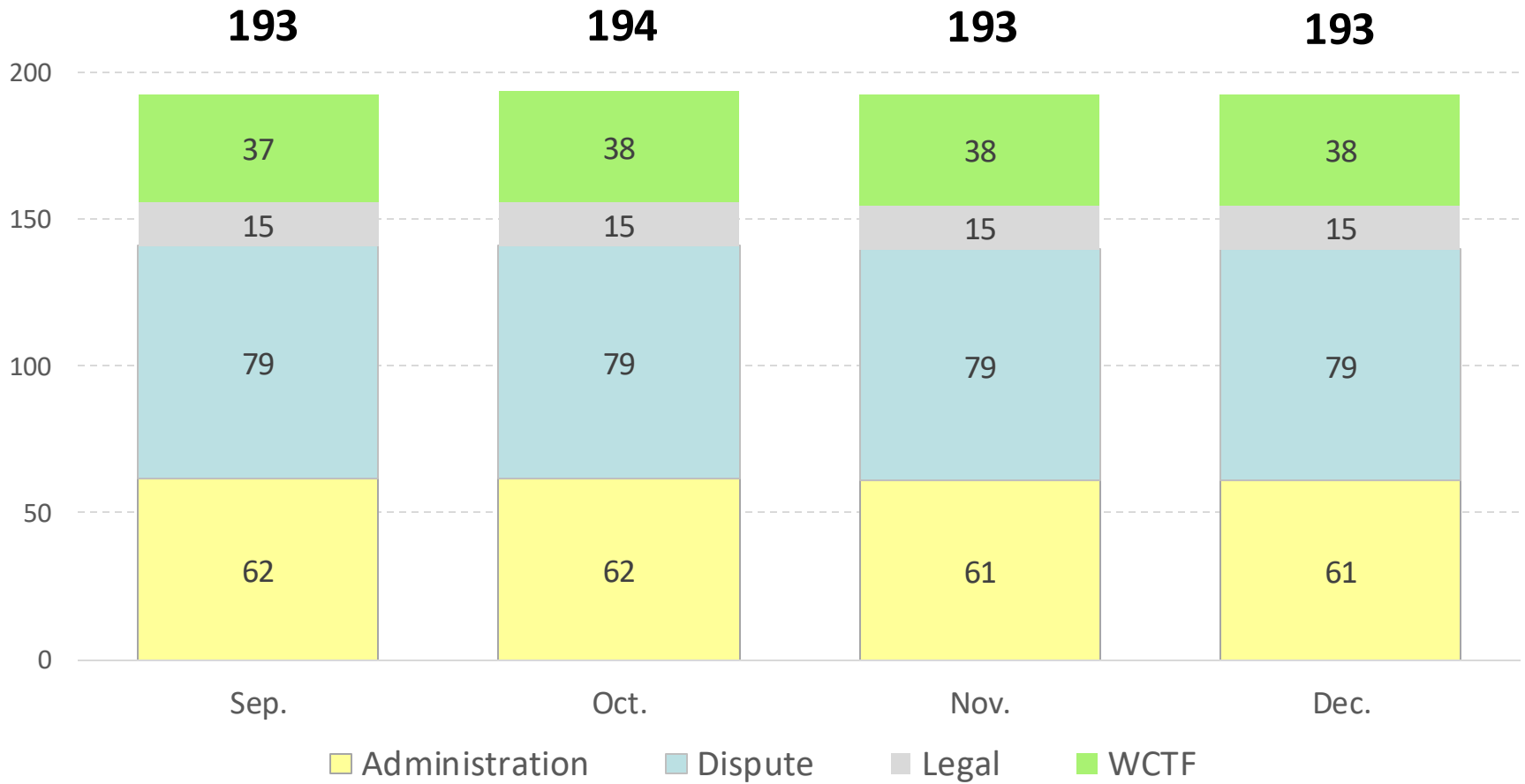


FY 2026 as of 12/31/2025

Assessments represent 90%-92% of all DIA Revenue Annually



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – January 2026



Staff are paid from either the General Appropriation Account or the WCTF depending upon their job. These numbers reflect full-time and part-time employees as of the close of the month.