



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development



Workers' Compensation Advisory Council March 13, 2024 Statistical Report

Maura Healey, Governor

Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor

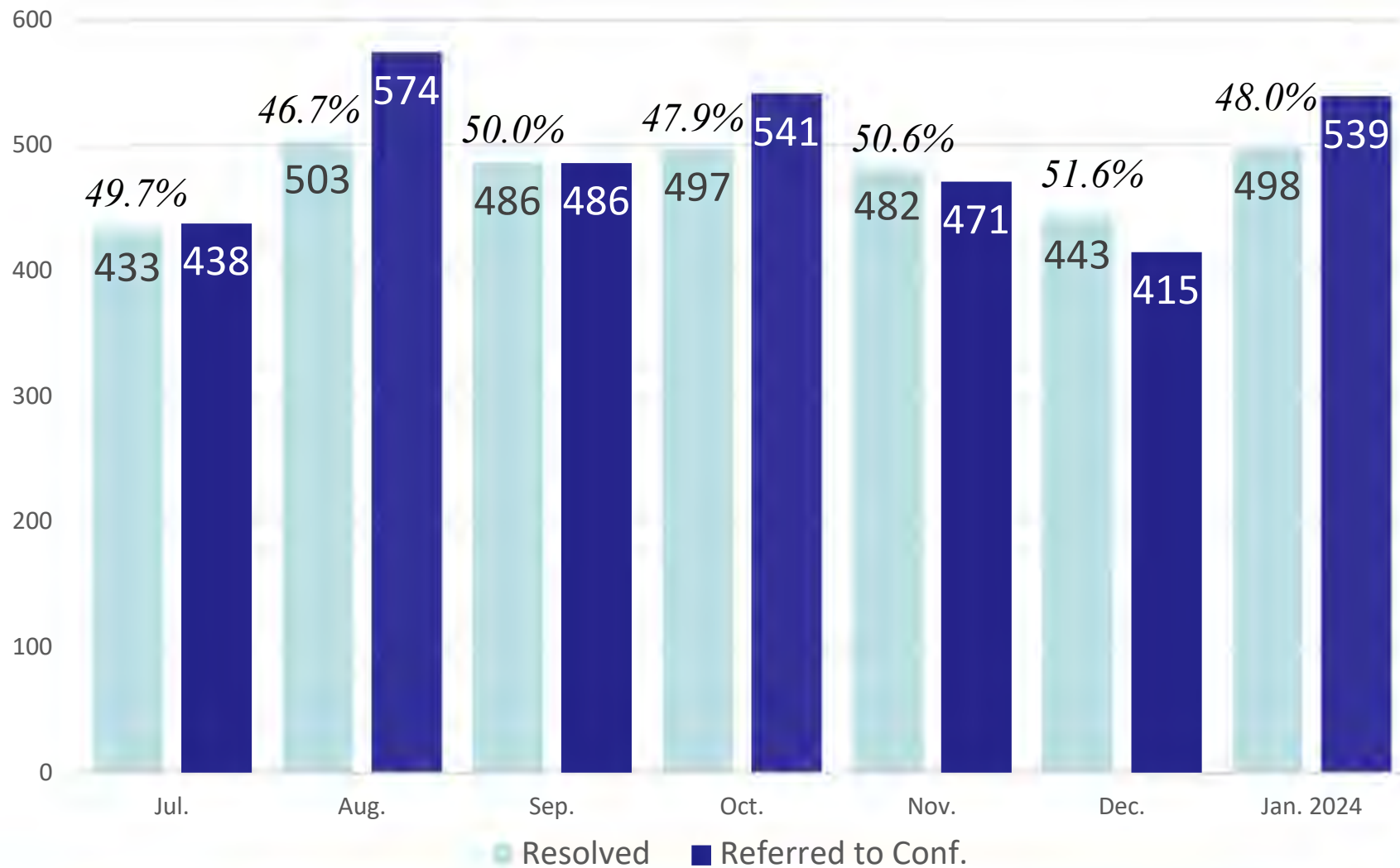
Lauren E. Jones, Secretary of Labor &
Workforce Development

Sheri Bowles, Director - DIA



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Conciliations Resolved v. Referred to Conference



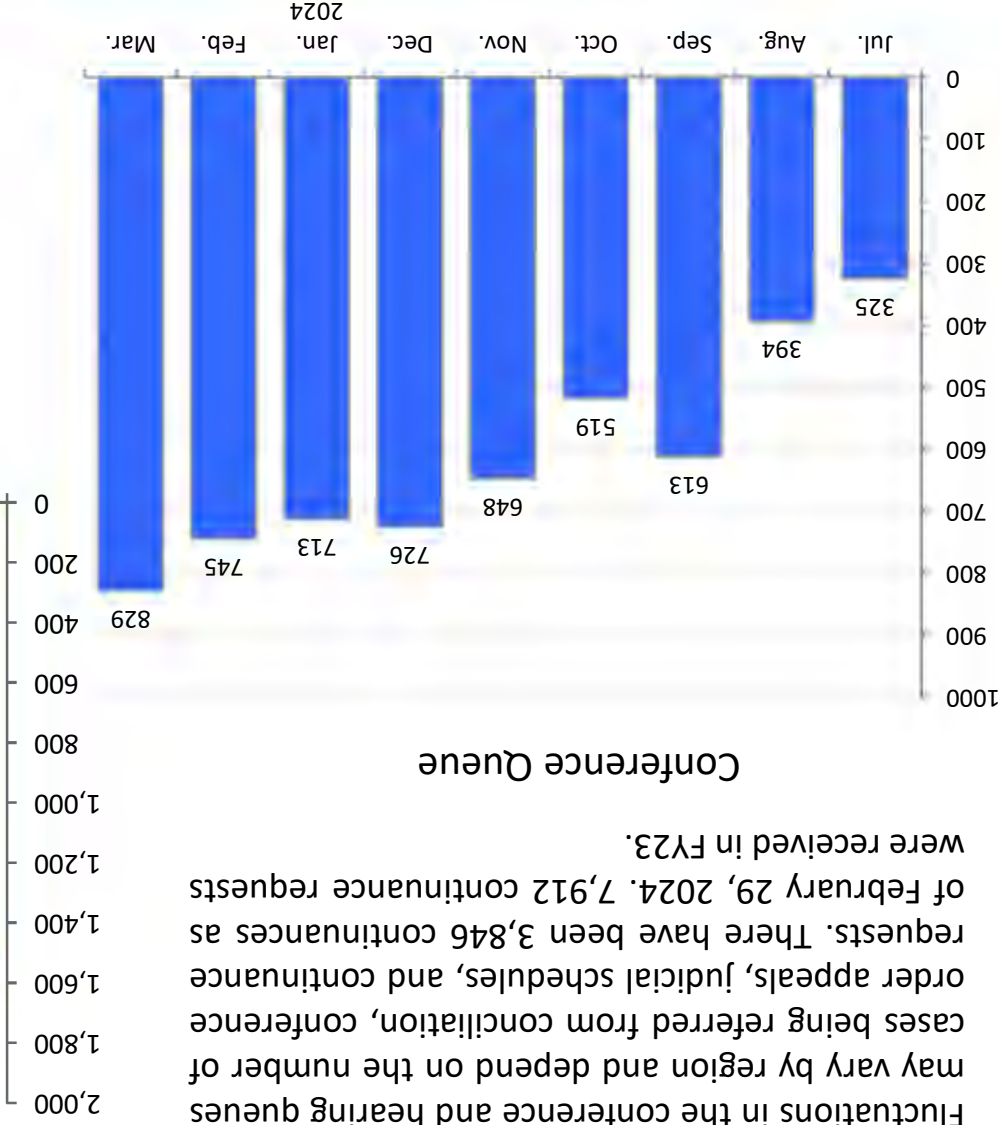
Percent resolved indicated.

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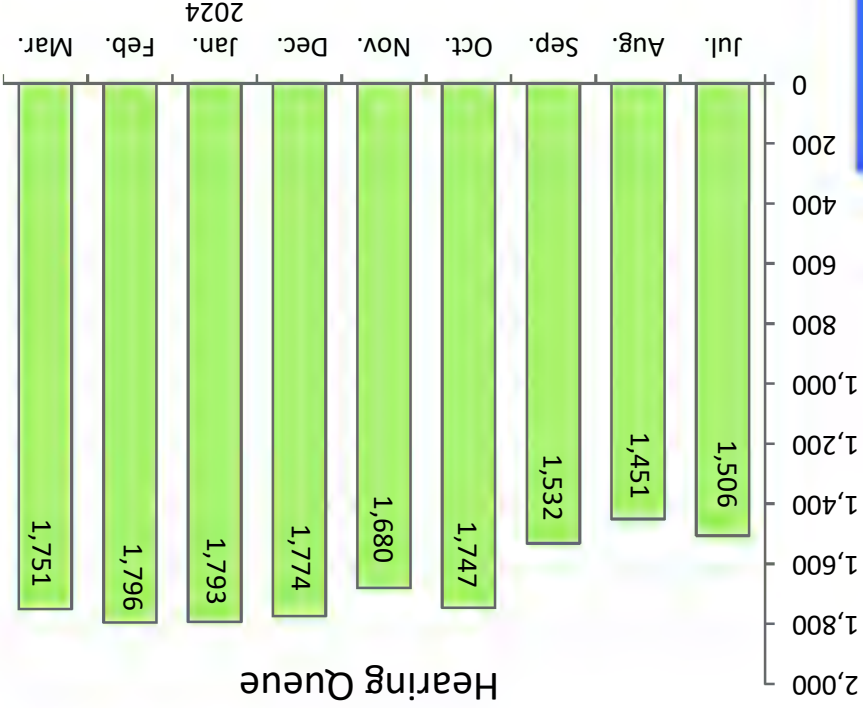


Fluctuations in the conference and hearing queues may vary by region and depend on the number of cases being referred from conciliation, conference order appeals, judicial schedules, and continuance requests. There have been 3,846 continuances as of February 29, 2024. 7,912 continuance requests were received in FY23.

Conference Queue



Hearing Queue



Currently, the average waiting period for a conference is 10 to 16 weeks.

February 2024 *Estimated*

Conf. Sched.:	Hear. Sched.:
702	147
Orders issued: 264	Appeals to RB: 2
% Claimants recv. WC:	% Claimants recv. WC:
– 110 filed	– no 110 filed
50%	92%
77%	86%

Conference Hearing



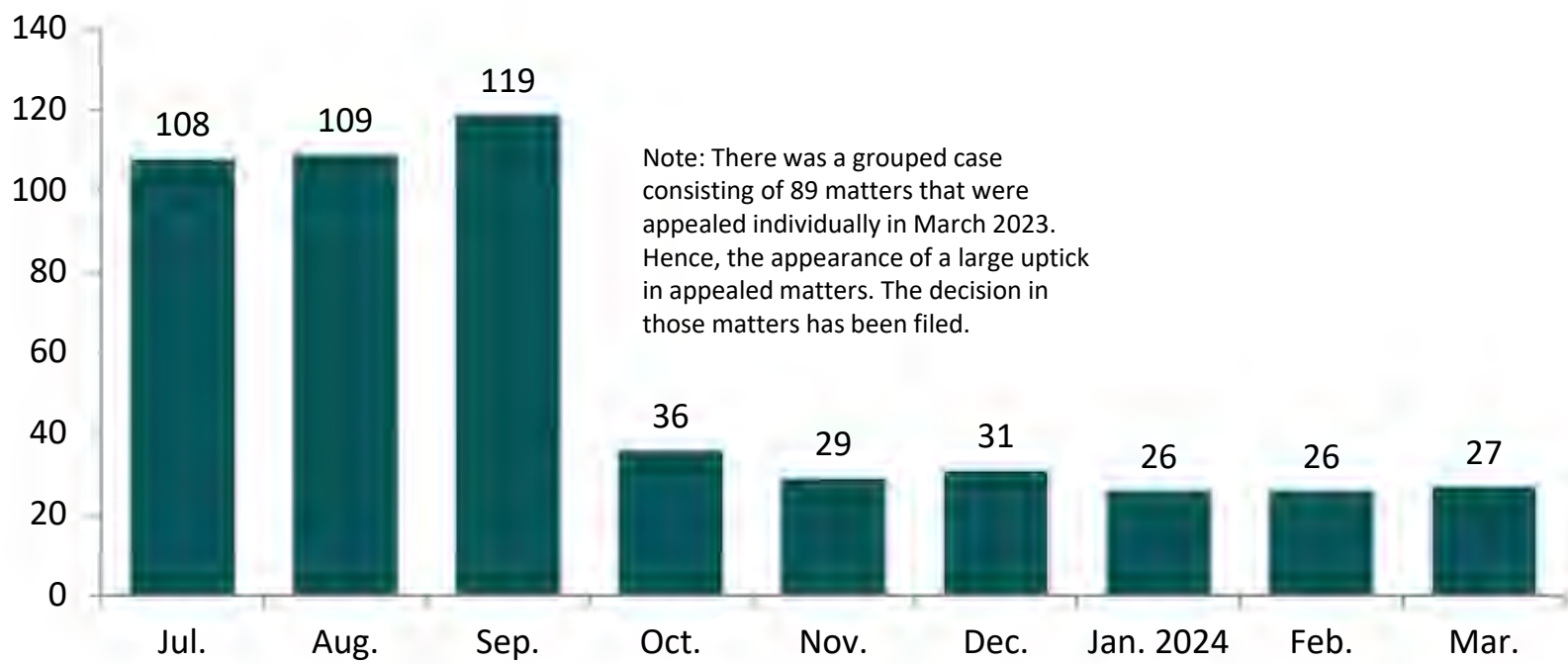
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Pending Hearing Decisions	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
6 to 9 months post hearing	5	4	1
9 to 12 months post hearing	1	0	1
12 to 36 months post hearing	4	5	4
36 + months post hearing	0	0	0
Total	10	9	6



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Review Board Inventory

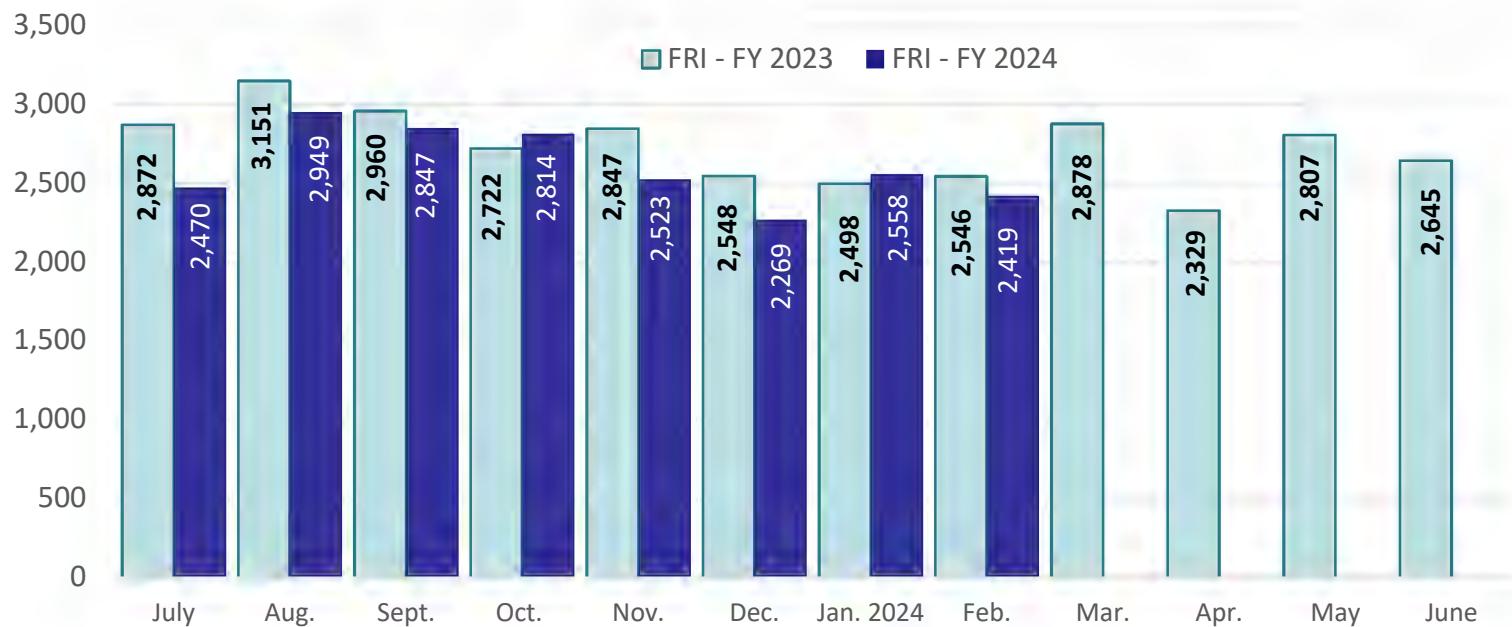


Other Figures	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2022
Fee Waivers Granted:	46	78	52
Exam Fees Collected:	\$ 788,500	\$ 1,504,226	\$ 1,493,843
Attorneys' Fees (all proceedings)	\$59,362,812	\$94,666,107	\$89,590,462
Referral Fees	\$ 2,044,933	\$ 3,964,110	\$ 4,143,382
Sec. 7 & 8 Penalties	\$0	\$0	\$ 3,274

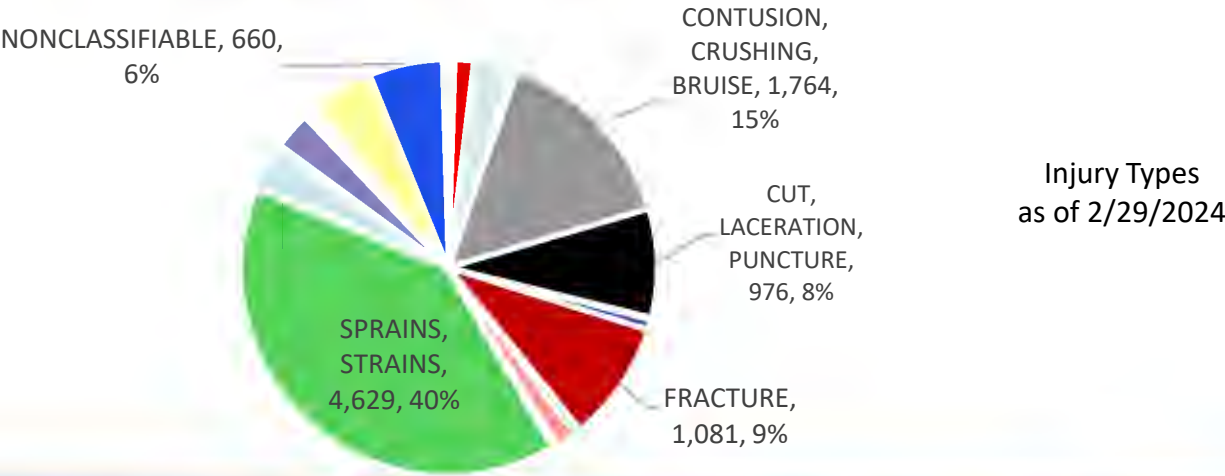
Note: Attorneys Fees are not paid by the DIA. These fees are paid by the insurer to the injured worker's counsel at certain stages of the dispute resolution process as outlined in c. 152.



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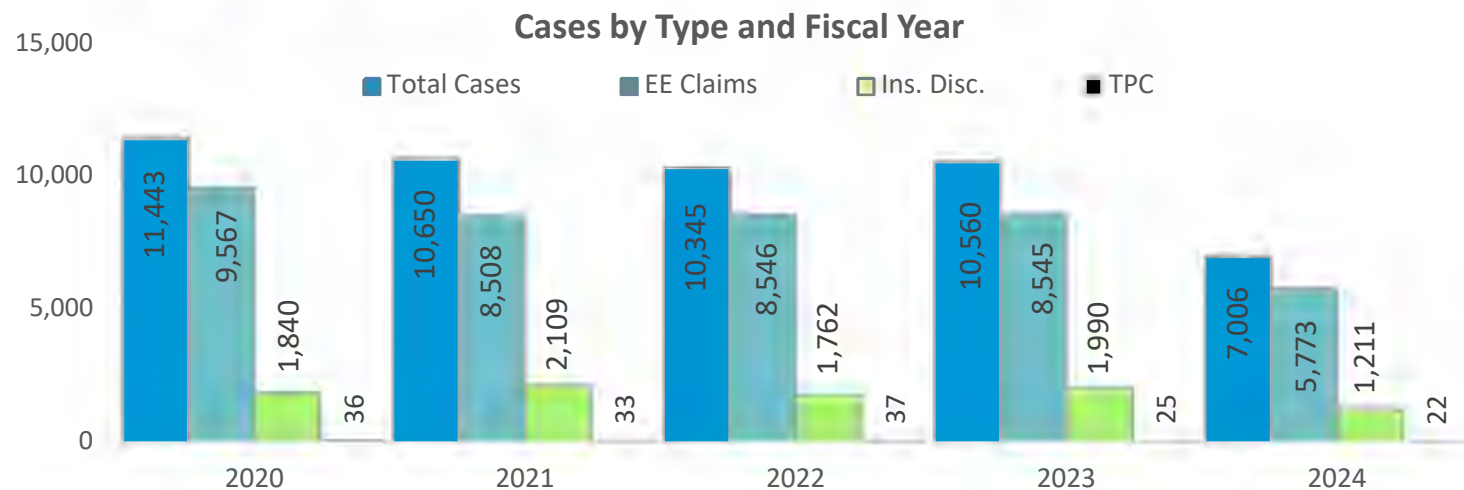
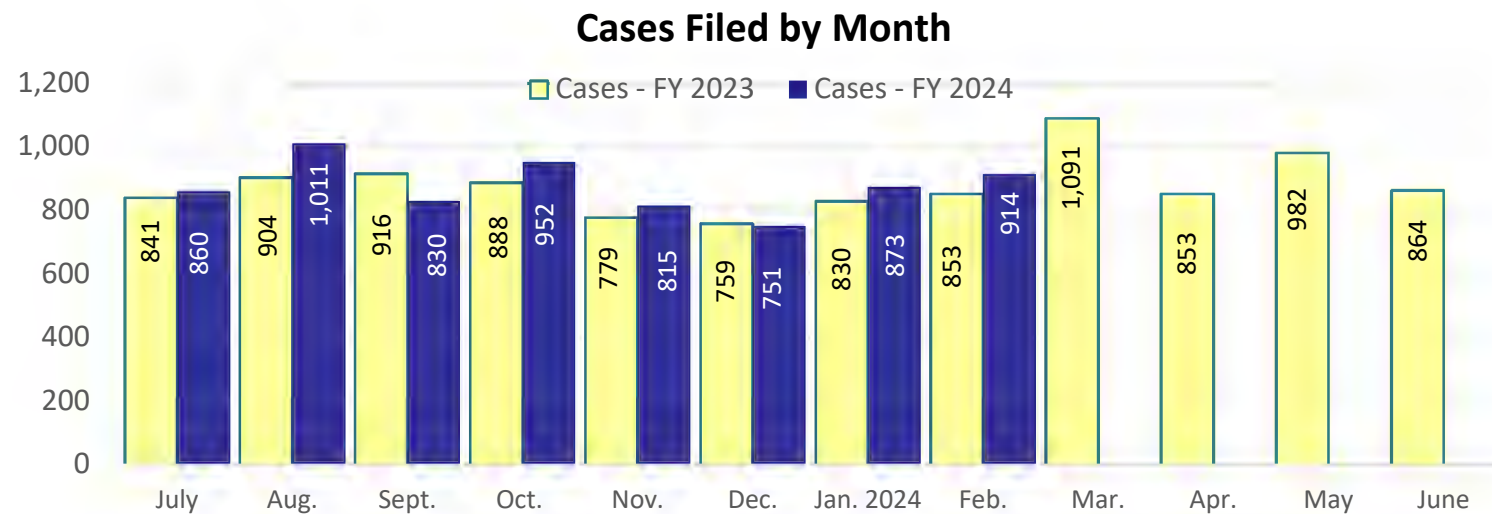


Total FROIs filed in FY 2024 are 20,849. The total FROIs filed in FY 2023 were 32,803.





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914 cases were filed in February.

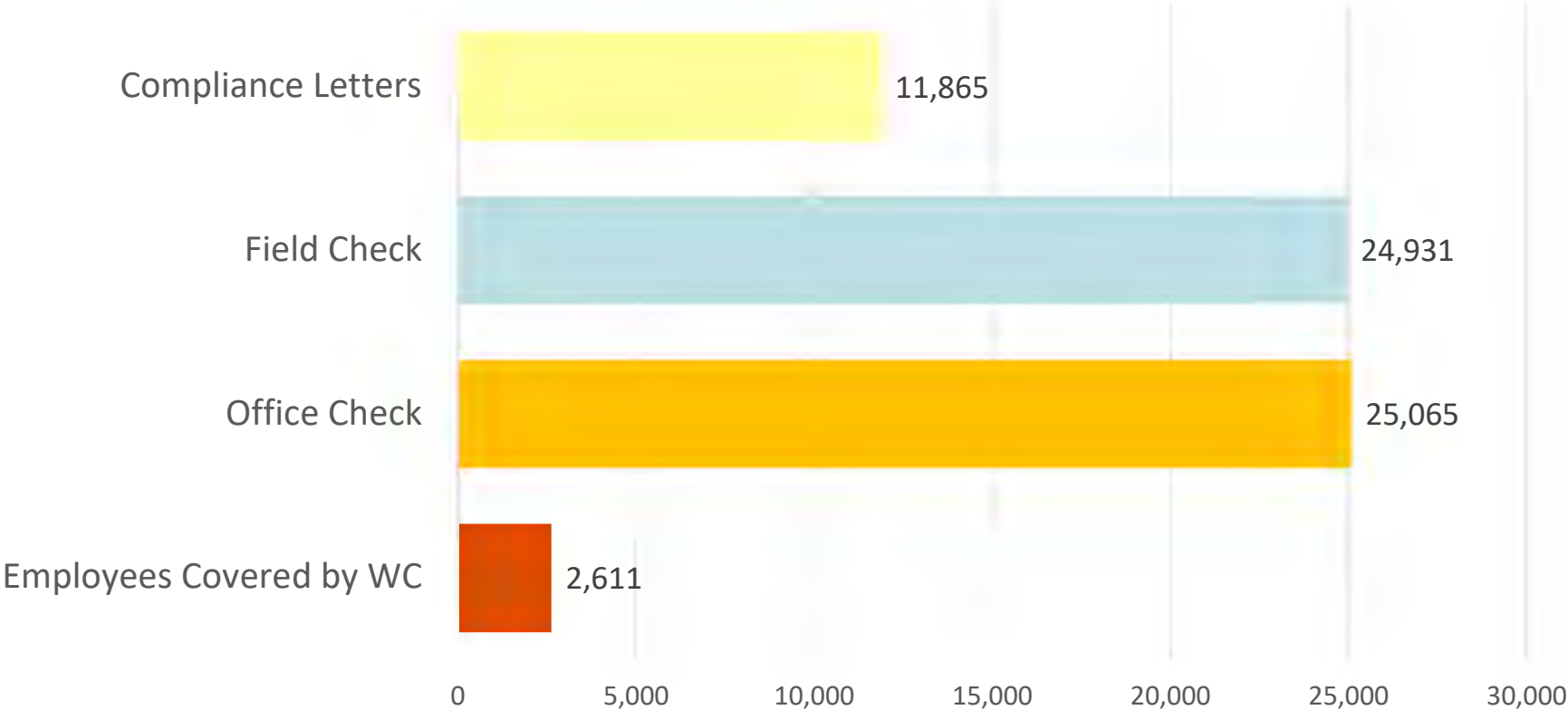


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Office of Investigations

Compliance & Enforcement

Total Figures FY 2024 as of 2/29/2024

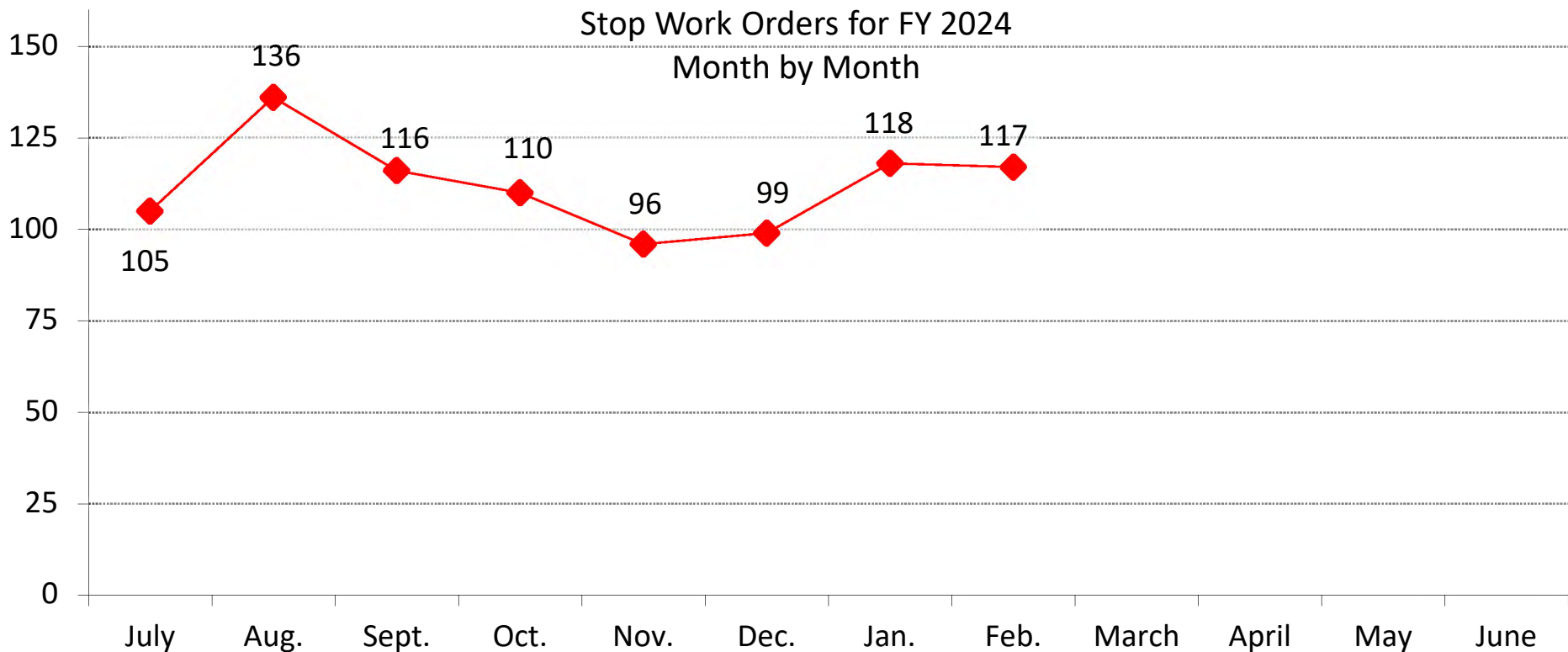


7,817 compliance checks, 266 field investigations were conducted and 1,817 compliance letters were sent in February. FY 2023, yielded 64,506 compliance checks with 4,356 employees covered by WC insurance.



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Office of Investigations



112 Stop Work Orders (SWO) were issued and 5 were in default. 897 SWOs have been issued year-to-date with total fine collections to date is \$783,239. FY 2023 yielded a total of 1,375 SWOs issued, with a total fine collection of \$936,757.



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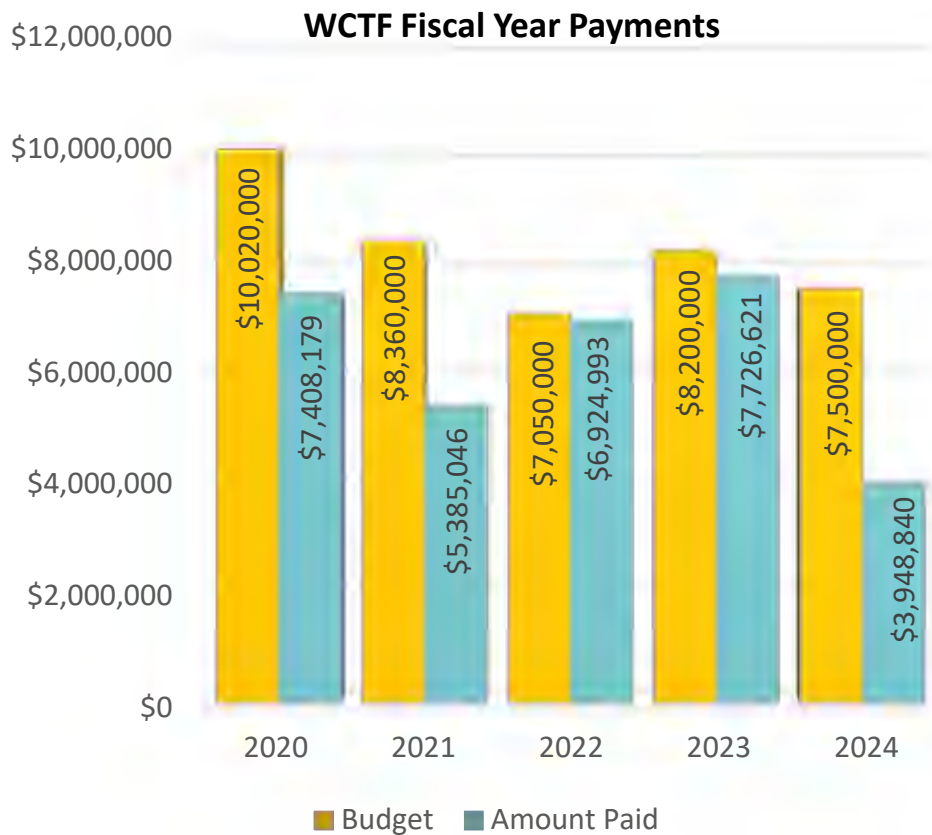
Workers' Compensation Trust Fund (WCTF) Uninsured Claims



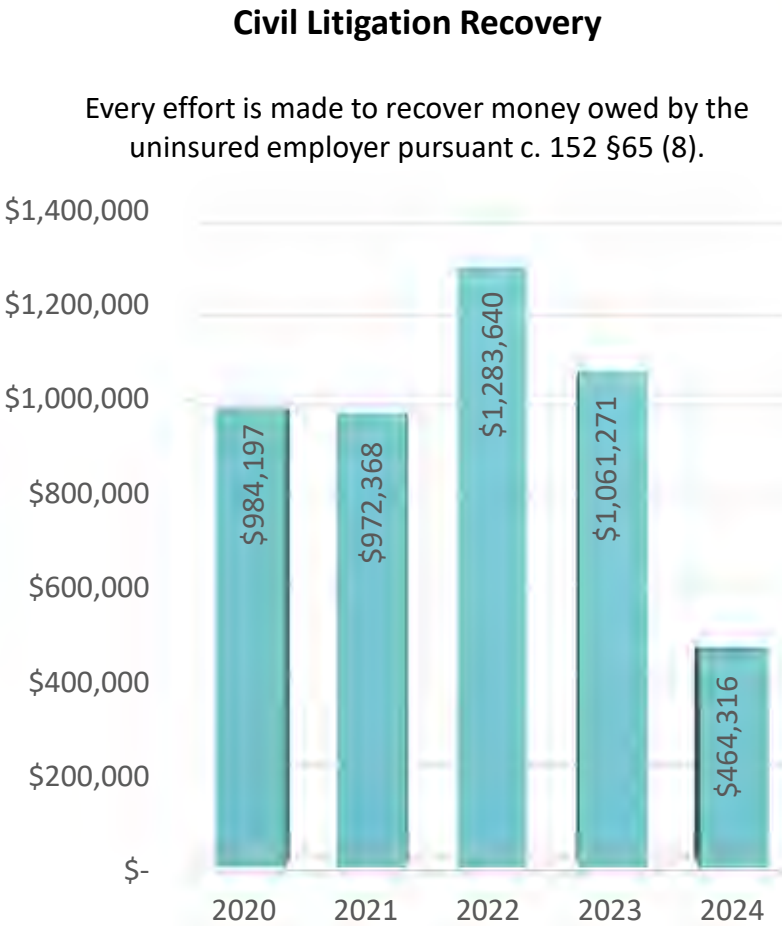
As of February 29th, 77 uninsured injuries have been reported to the WCTF. Please note, claims may be determined to be insured or uninsured after filing. The WCTF received 95 newly reported claims in FY23.



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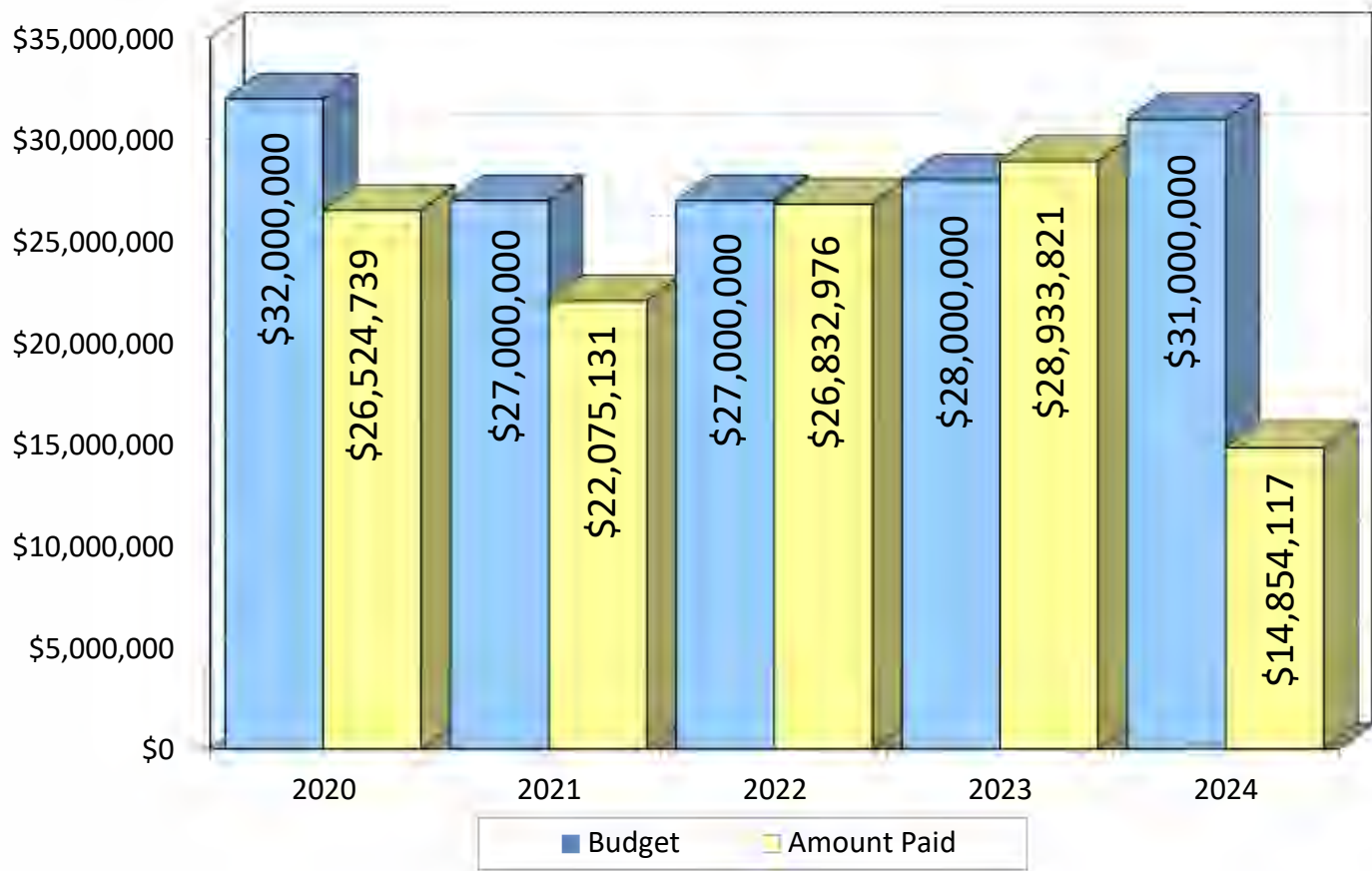
Represents payments on all open claims to include those made in prior years.





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Second Injury Fund Budget & Payments

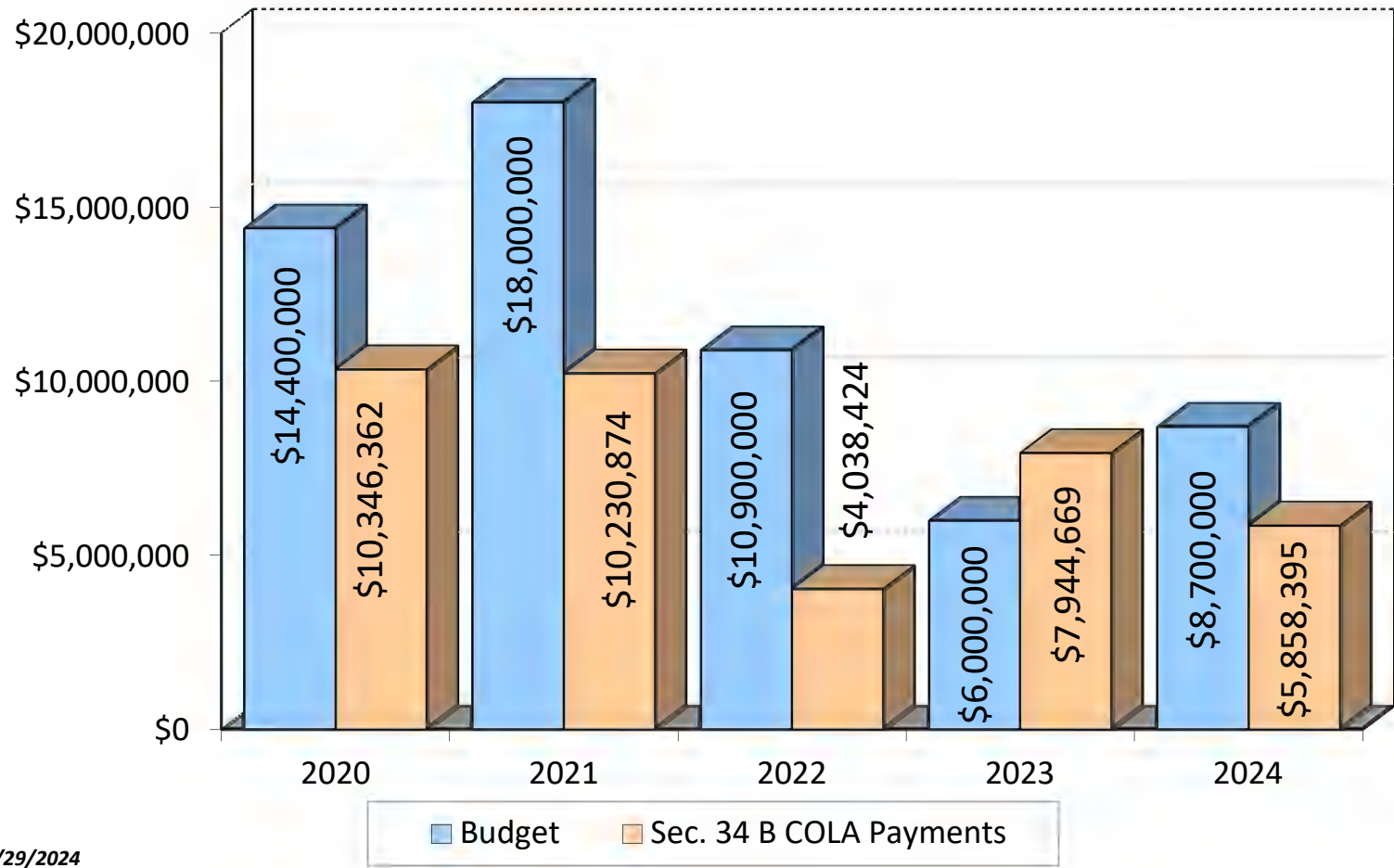


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 37/37A to include quarterly payments and interest. Additional payments may be in process but have not been registered in MMARS, the state accounting system as the time of this report.



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COLA Reimbursement



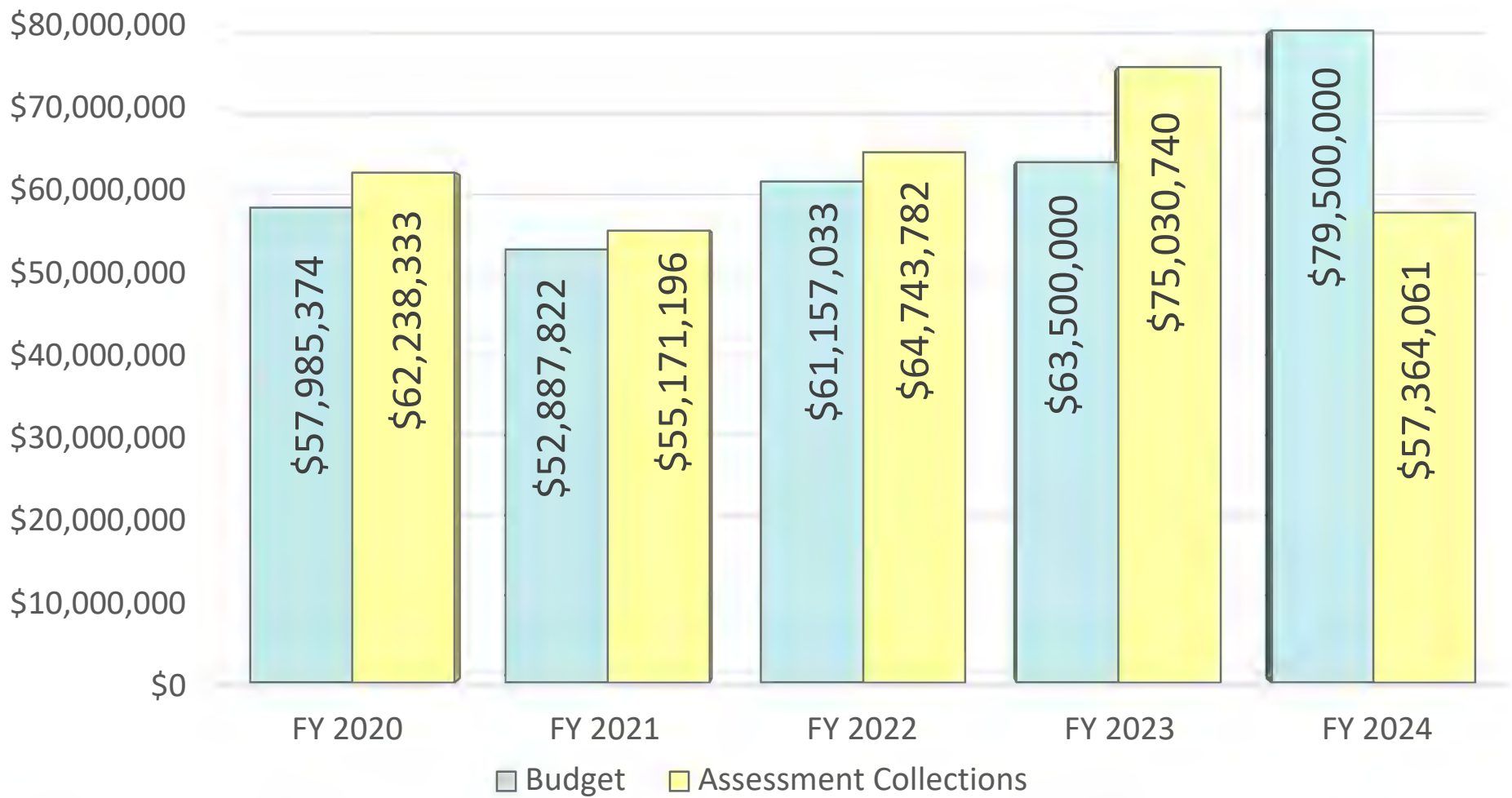
FY 2024 as of 2/29/2024

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.



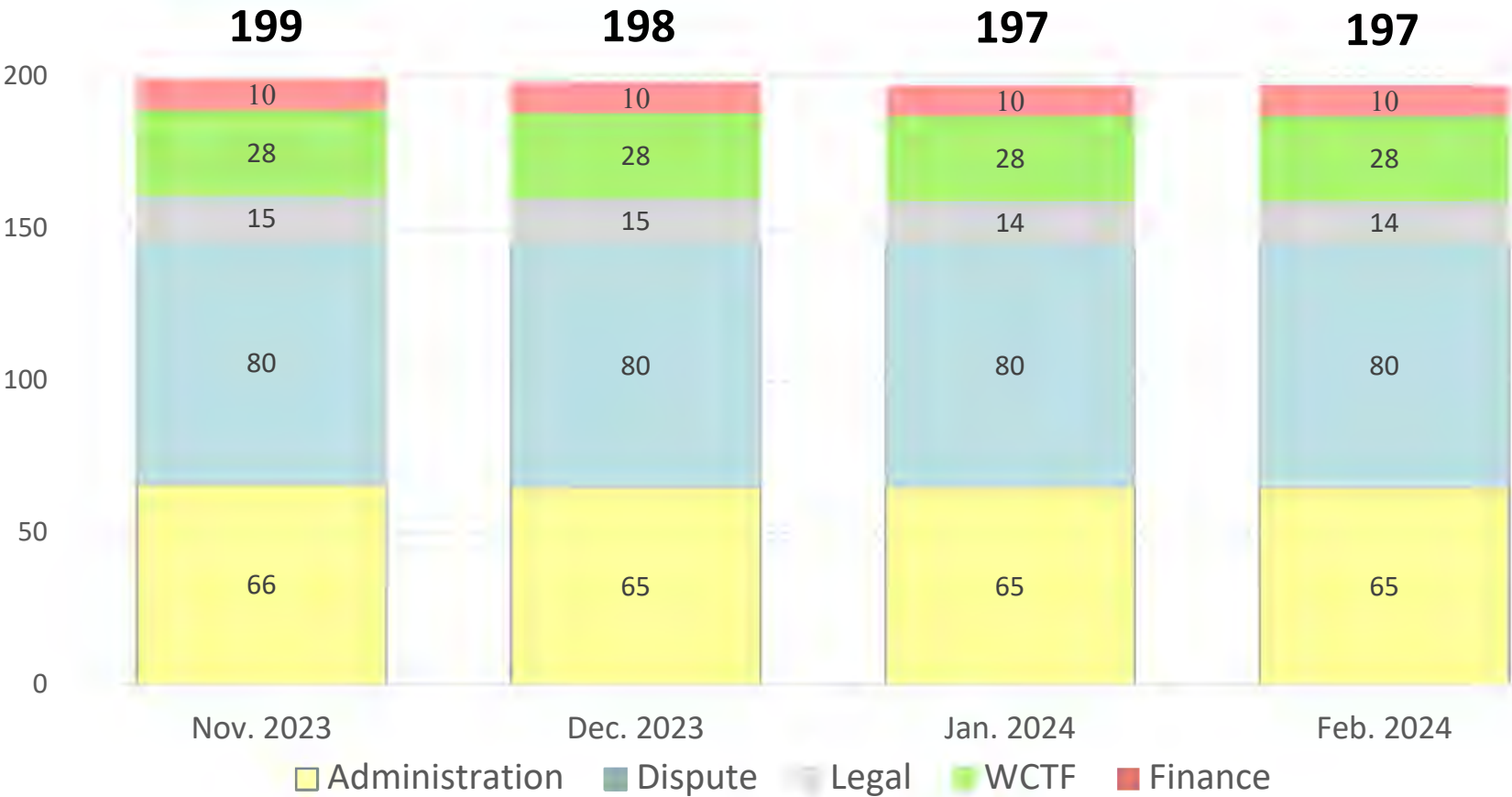
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Assessment Collections





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Staff are paid from either the General Appropriation Account or the WCTF depending upon their job. These number while the Administrative Services Unit brought a new staff member on board. Count as of 2/29/2024 reflect full-time and part-time employees as of the close of the month.