



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development



Workers' Compensation Advisory Council October 9, 2024 Statistical Report

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Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor

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Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – October 2024

Disclaimer:

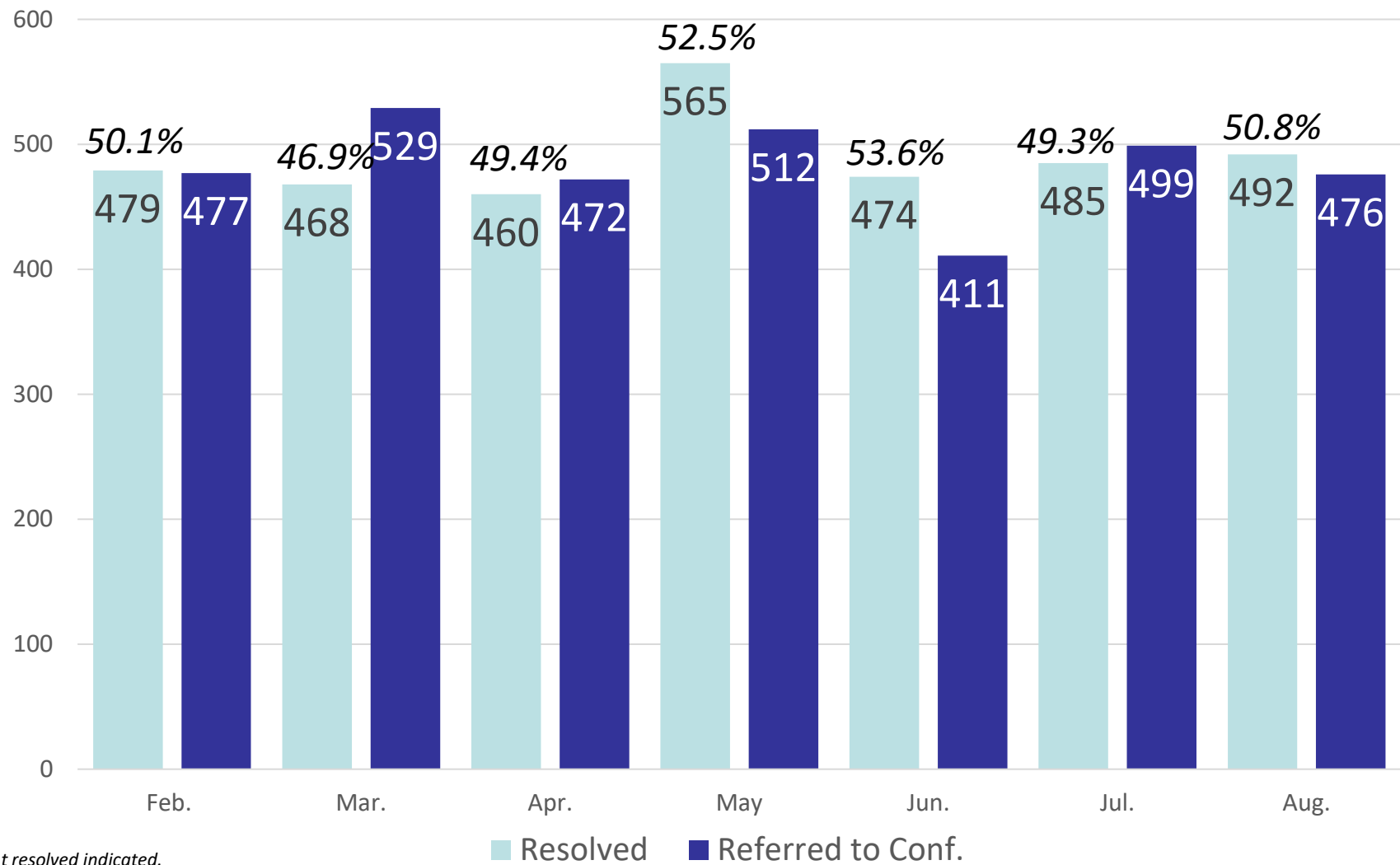
The Department of Industrial Accident (DIA) reports monthly vital statistics to the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council based on our fiscal year cycle (July 1 to June 30). The data presented in this report is gathered for the time-period from the start of the fiscal year up to the month prior to the report date. This information is based on available data from that period and is provided for informational purposes only.

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Conciliations Resolved v. Referred to Conference

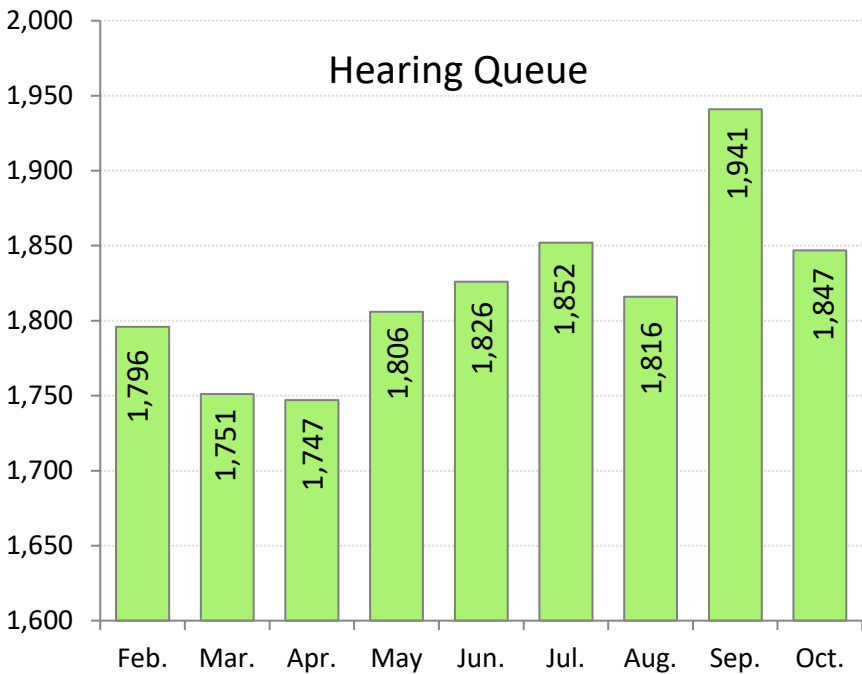
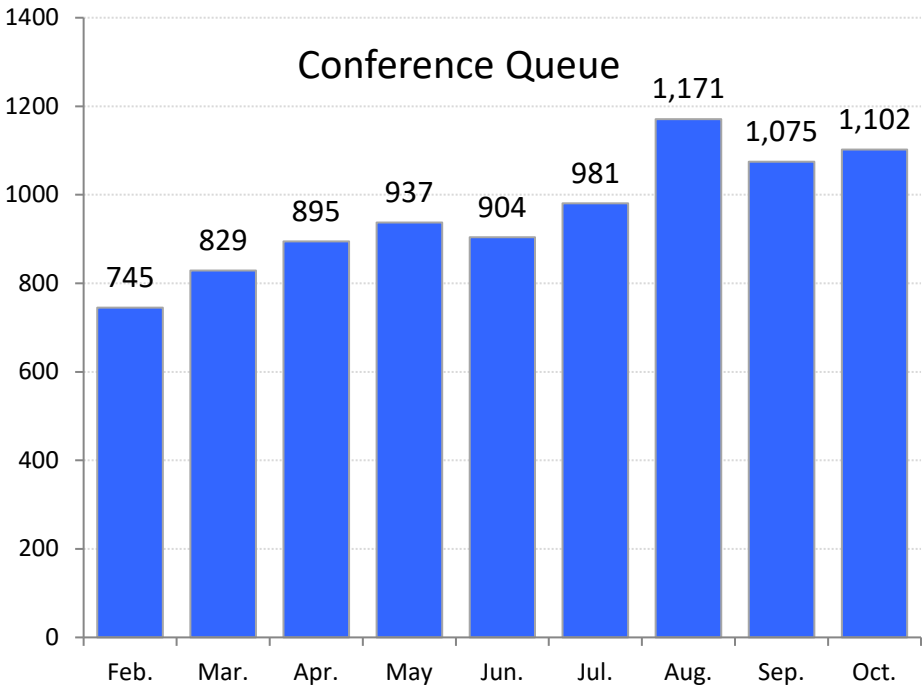


Percent resolved indicated.



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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 1,754 continuances as of September 30, 2024. 6,730 continuance requests were received in FY24. These are a rolling total, not a cumulative total.



Currently, the average waiting period for a conference is 12 to 18 weeks.

Sep. 2024 <i>Estimated</i>			
Conf. Sched.:	571	Hear. Sched.:	335
Orders issued:	190	Appeals to RB:	2
	% Claimants recv. WC	% Claimants recv. WC.	
	<u>benefits– 110 filed</u>	<u>benefits– no 110 filed</u>	
Conference	50%		87%
Hearing	78%		87%



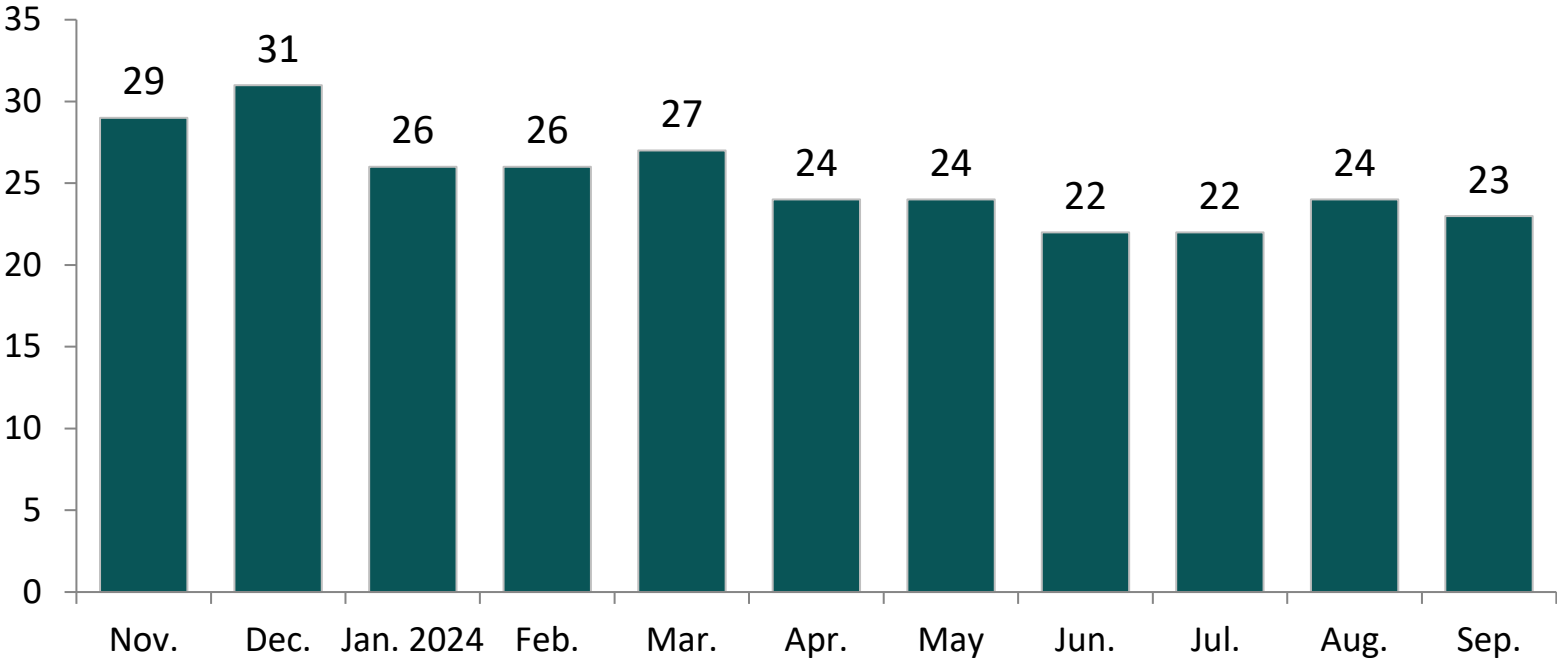
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Pending Hearing Decisions	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.
6 to 9 months post hearing	5	4	5
9 to 12 months post hearing	0	2	1
1 year post hearing	2	2	1
2 years post hearing	0	0	1
3+ years post hearing	0	0	0
Total	7	8	8



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Review Board Inventory

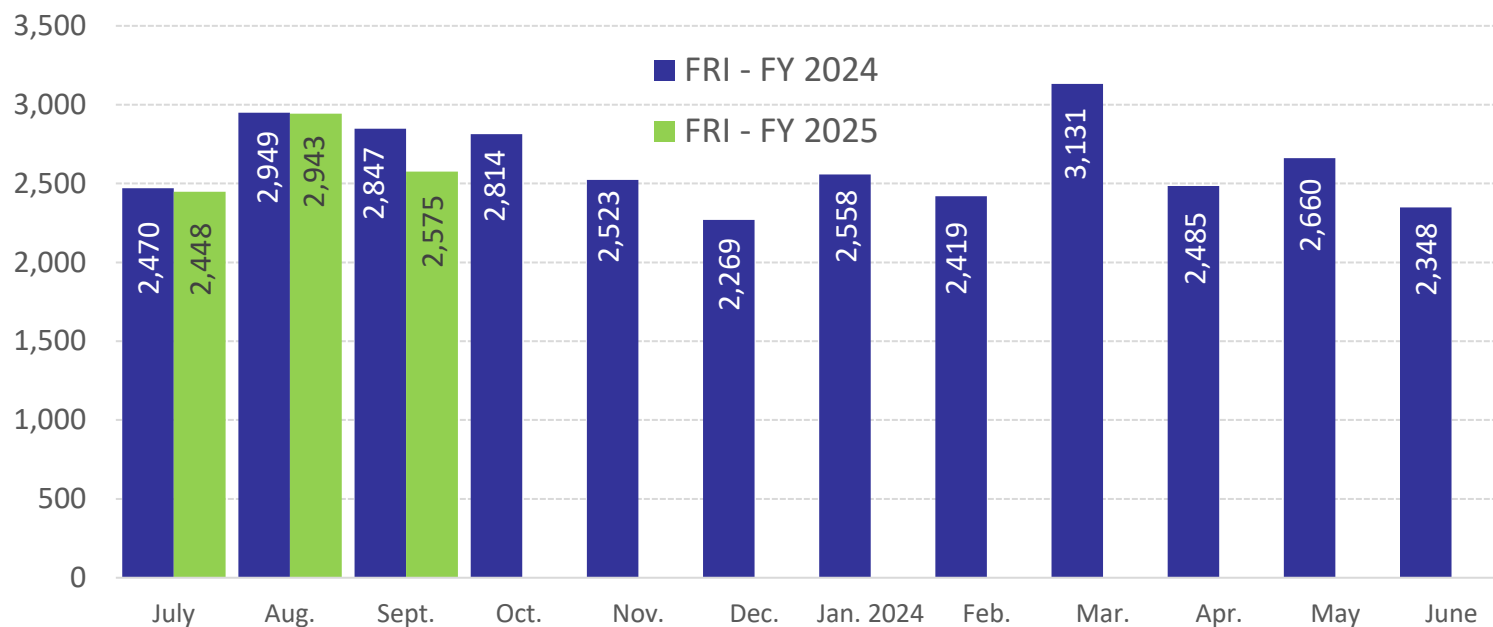


Other Figures	FY 2025	FY 2024	FY 2023
Fee Waivers Granted:	16	77	78
Exam Fees Collected:	\$ 208,450	\$ 1,776,947	\$ 1,504,226
Attorneys' Fees (all proceedings)	\$ 21,311,409	\$90,947,160	\$94,666,107
Referral Fees	\$ 758,482	\$ 4,416,932	\$ 3,964,110
Sec. 7 & 8 Penalties	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 0

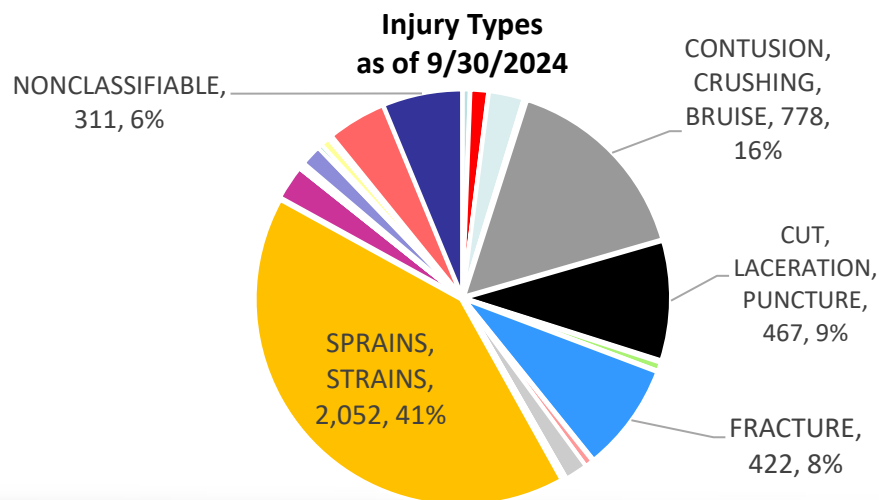
Note: Attorneys Fees are not paid by the DIA. These fees are paid by the insurer to the injured worker's counsel at certain stages of the dispute resolution process as outlined in c. 152.



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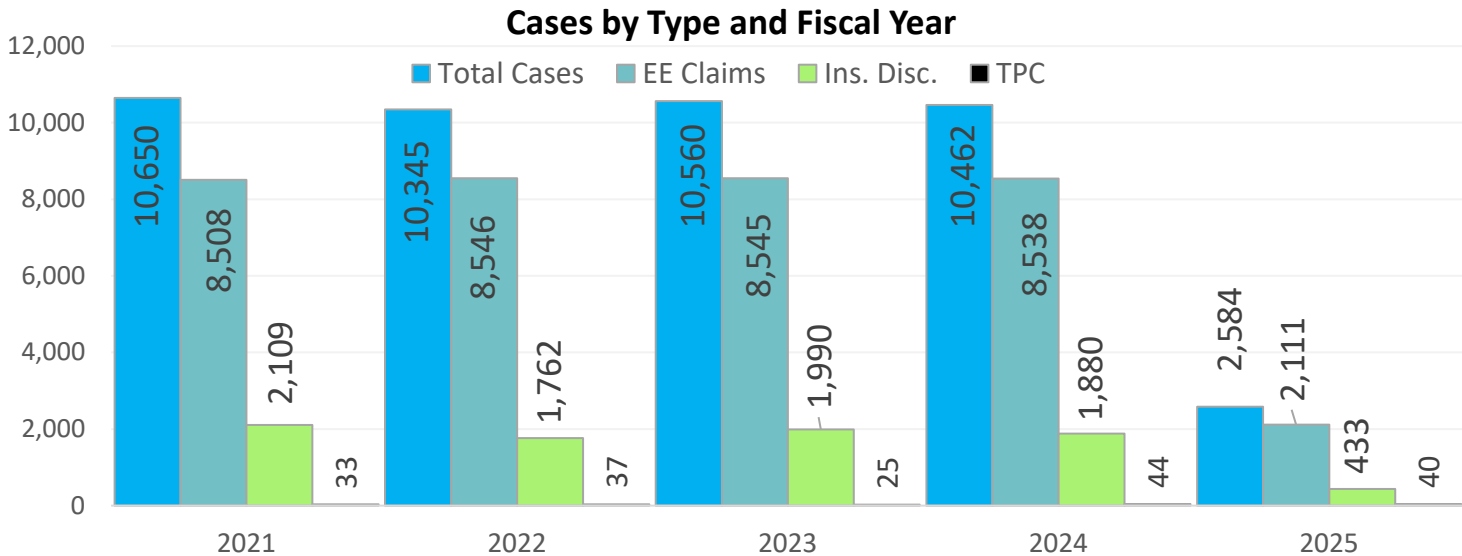
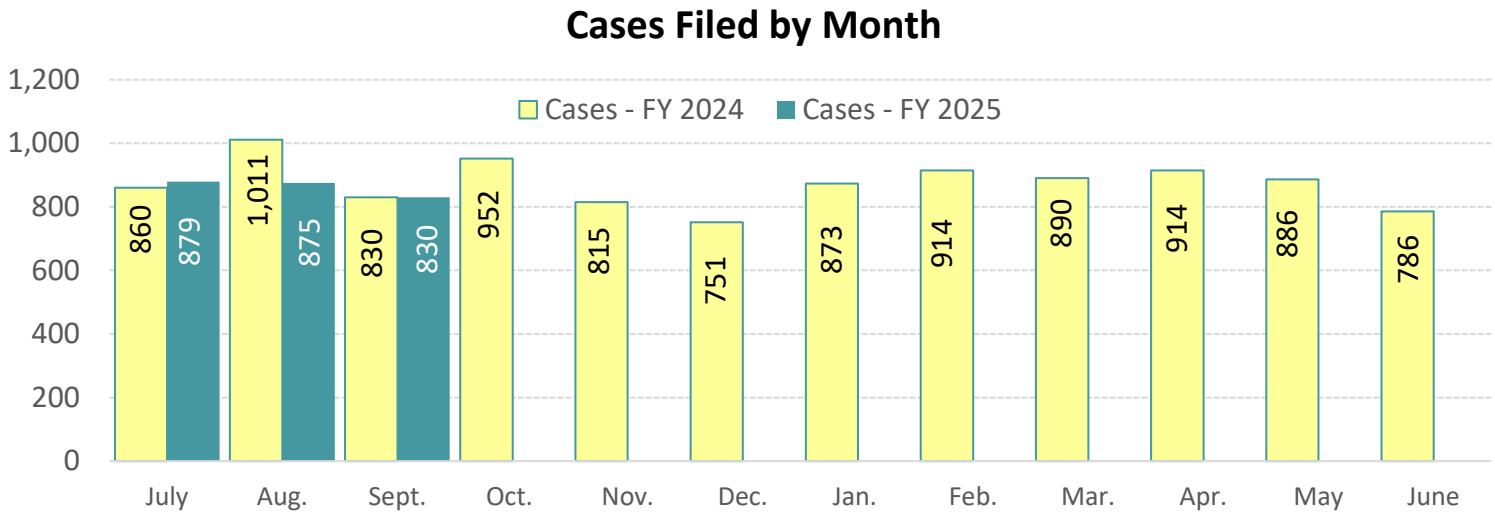


Total FROIs filed in FY 2025 are 7,966. The total FROIs filed in FY 2024 were 31,473.





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830 cases were filed in September.

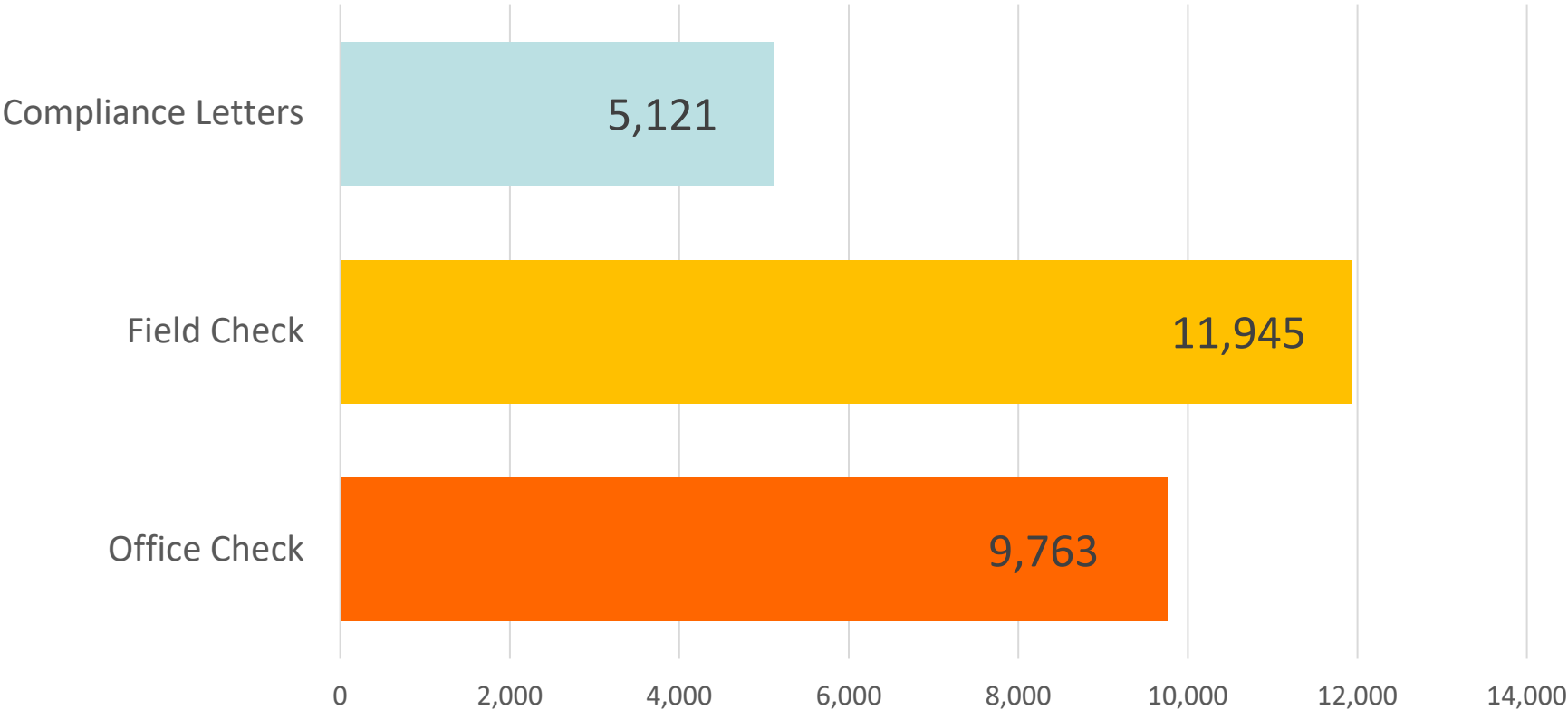


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Office of Investigations

Compliance & Enforcement

Total Figures FY 2025 as of 9/30/2024

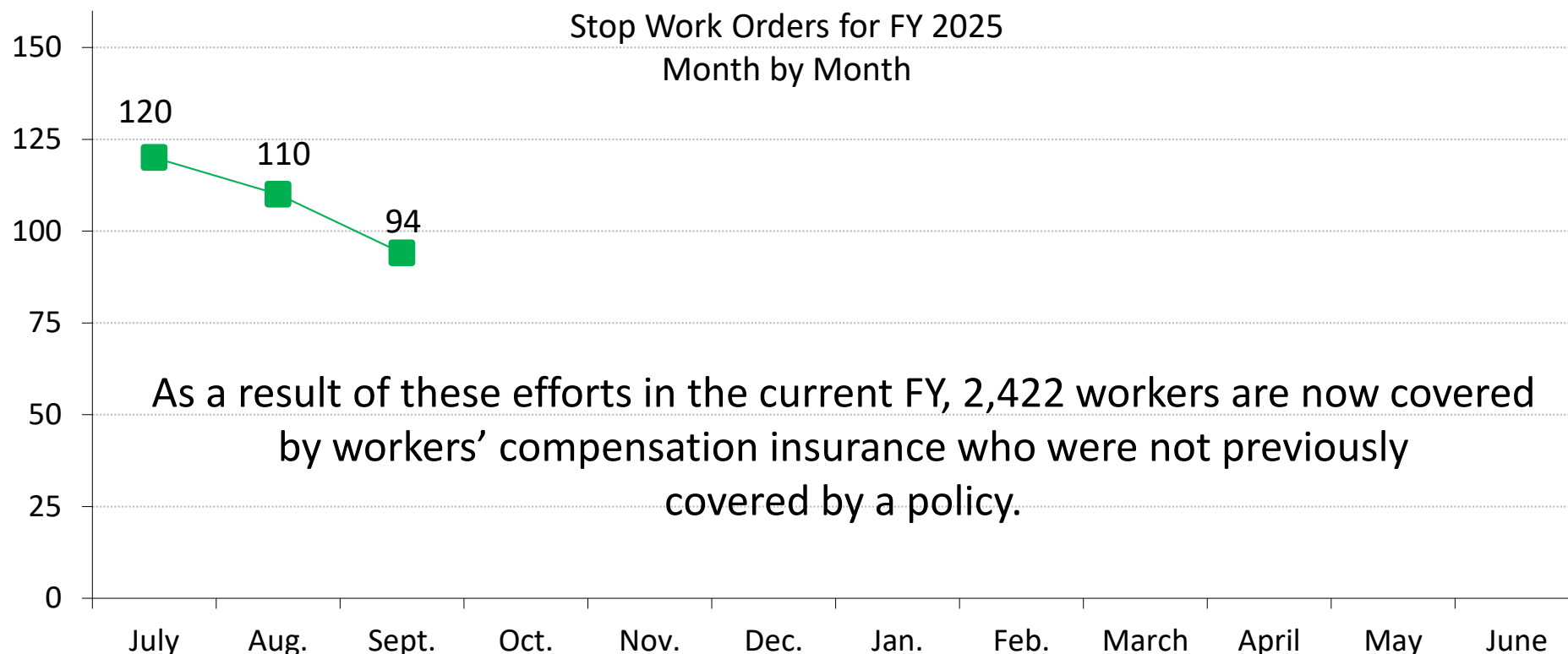


6,852 compliance checks, 254 field investigations were conducted, 216 more employees are newly covered by WC insurance and 1,521 compliance letters were sent in September. FY 2024, yielded 79,550 compliance checks with 4,124 employees covered by WC insurance.



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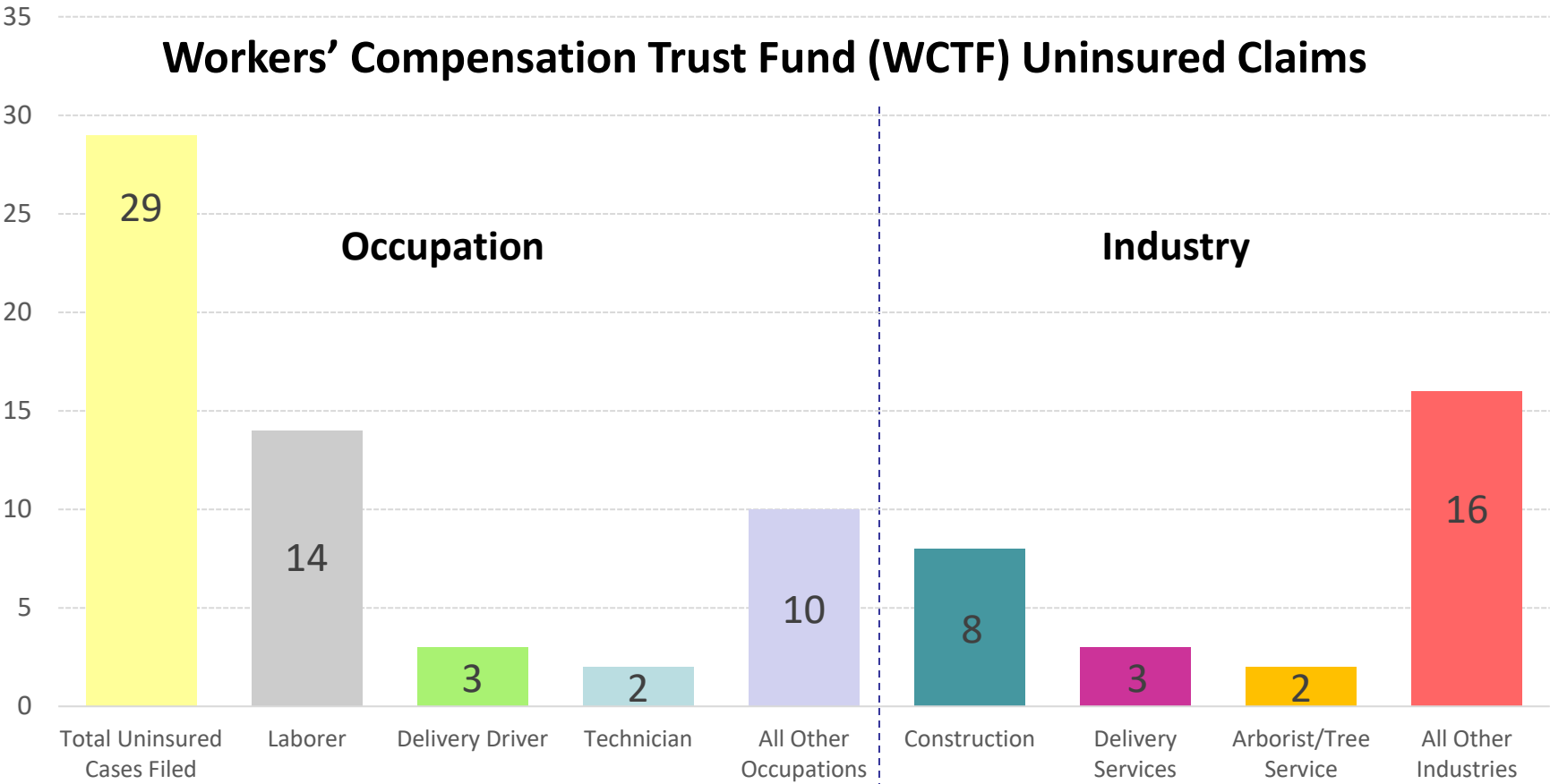
Office of Investigations



Last month 94 Stop Work Orders (SWO) were issued and 3 employers defaulted on SWOs that were previously issued. 324 SWOs have been issued year-to-date with total fine collections to date of \$18,605. FY 2024 yielded a total of 1,342 SWOs issued, with a total fine collection of \$1,158,659.



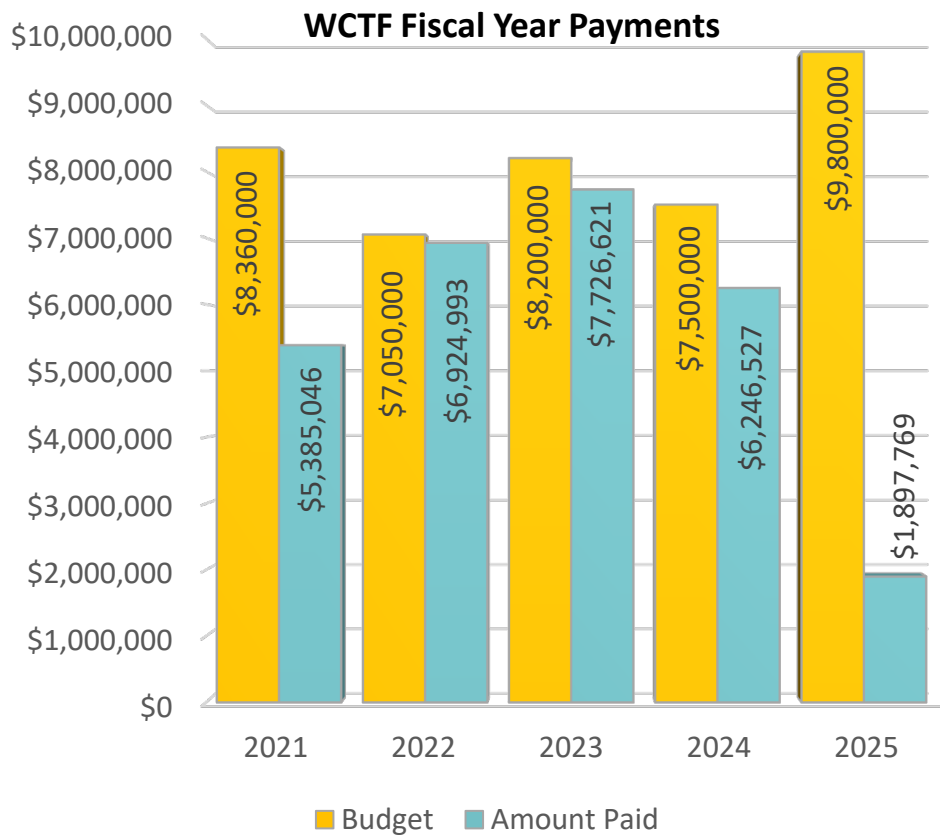
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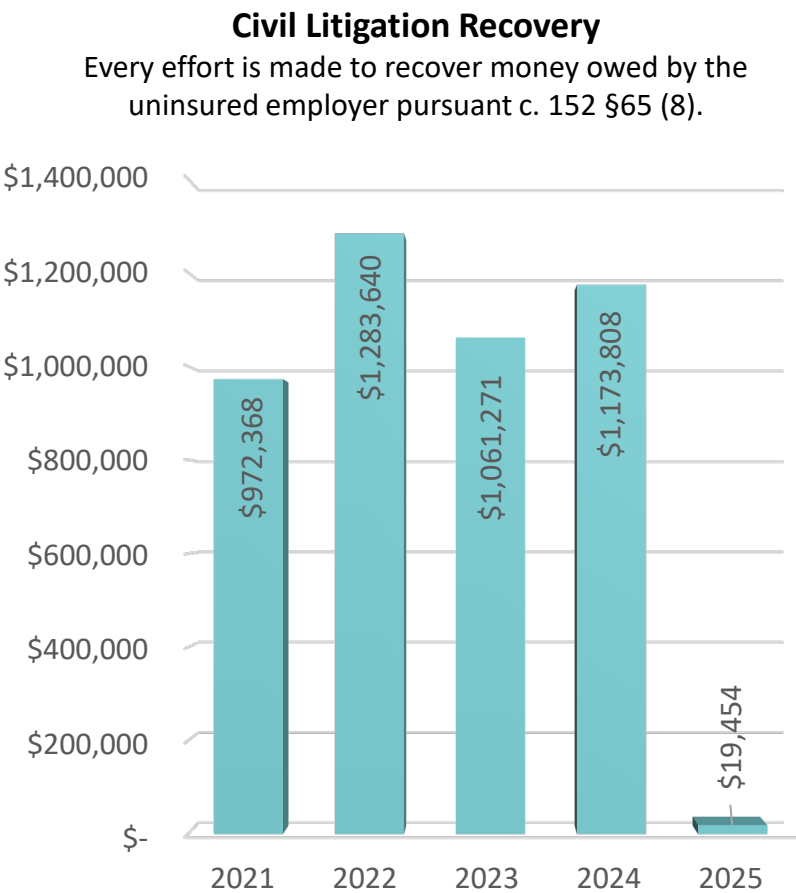
As of September 30th, 29 uninsured injuries have been reported to the WCTF for FY25. Please note, claims may be determined to be insured or uninsured after filing. The WCTF received 104 newly reported claims in FY24.



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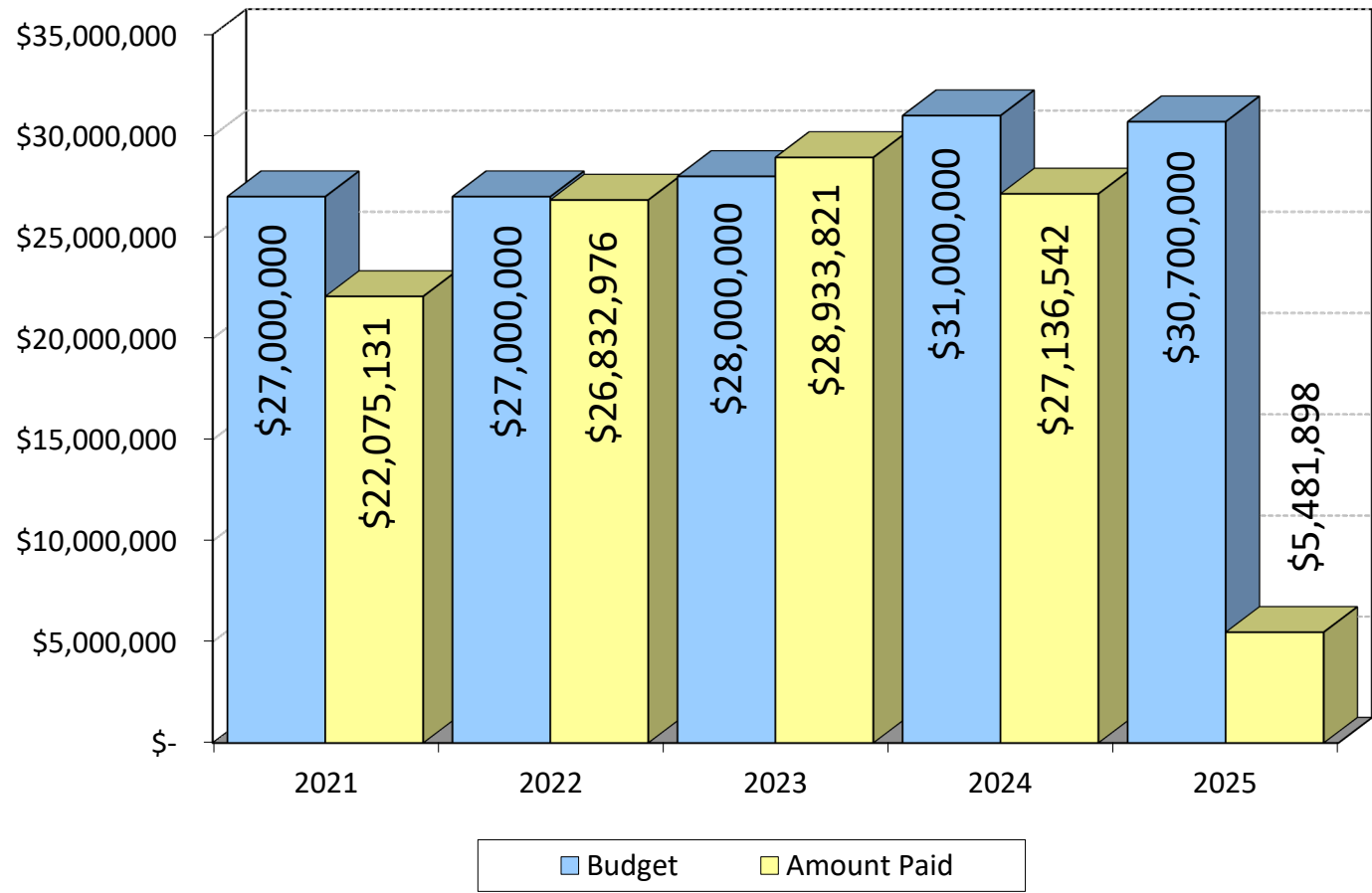
Represents payments on all open claims to include those made in prior years.





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Second Injury Fund Budget & Payments

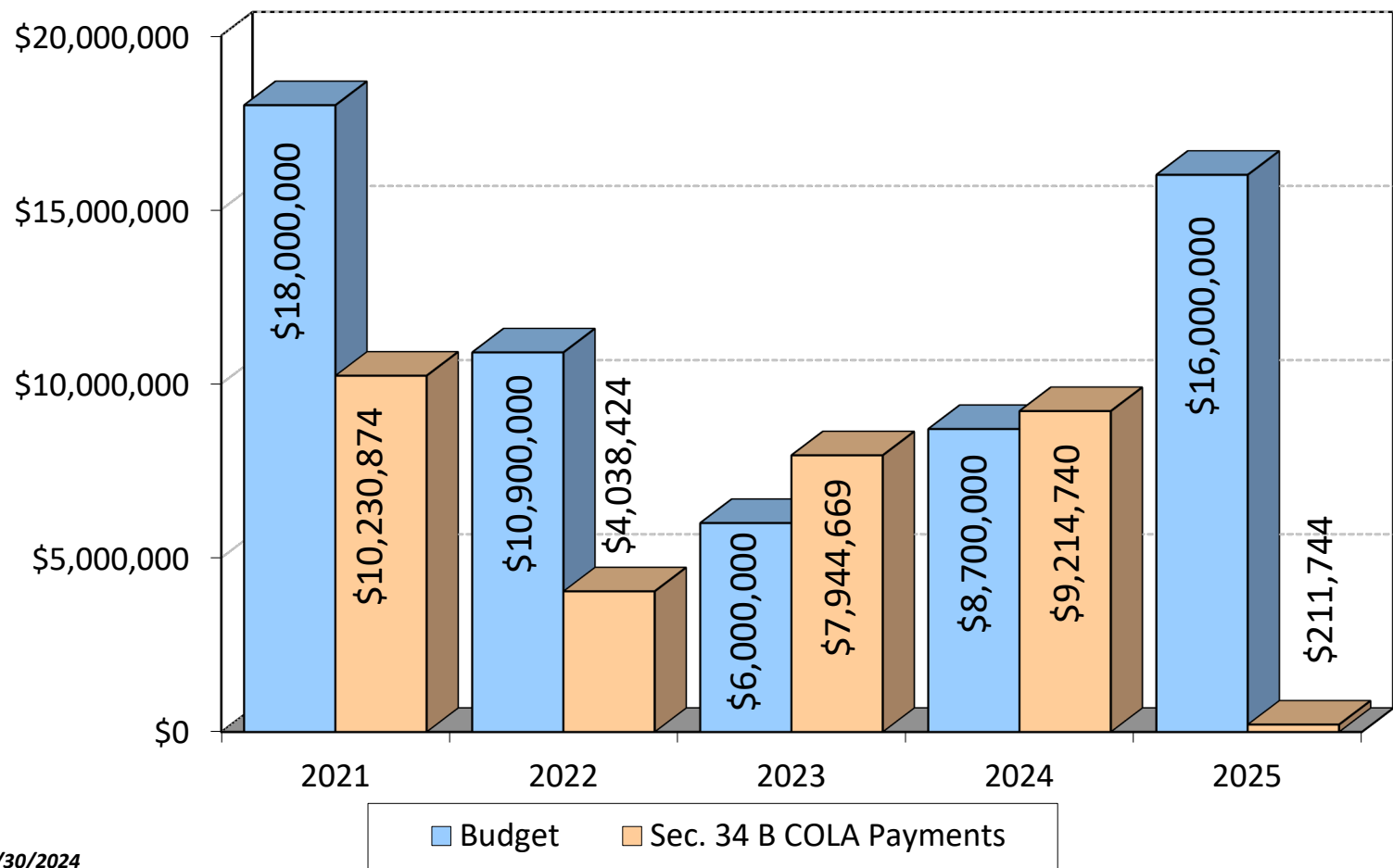


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 37/37A to include quarterly payments and interest. Additional payments may be in process but have not been registered in MMARS, the state accounting system as the time of this report.



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COLA Reimbursement



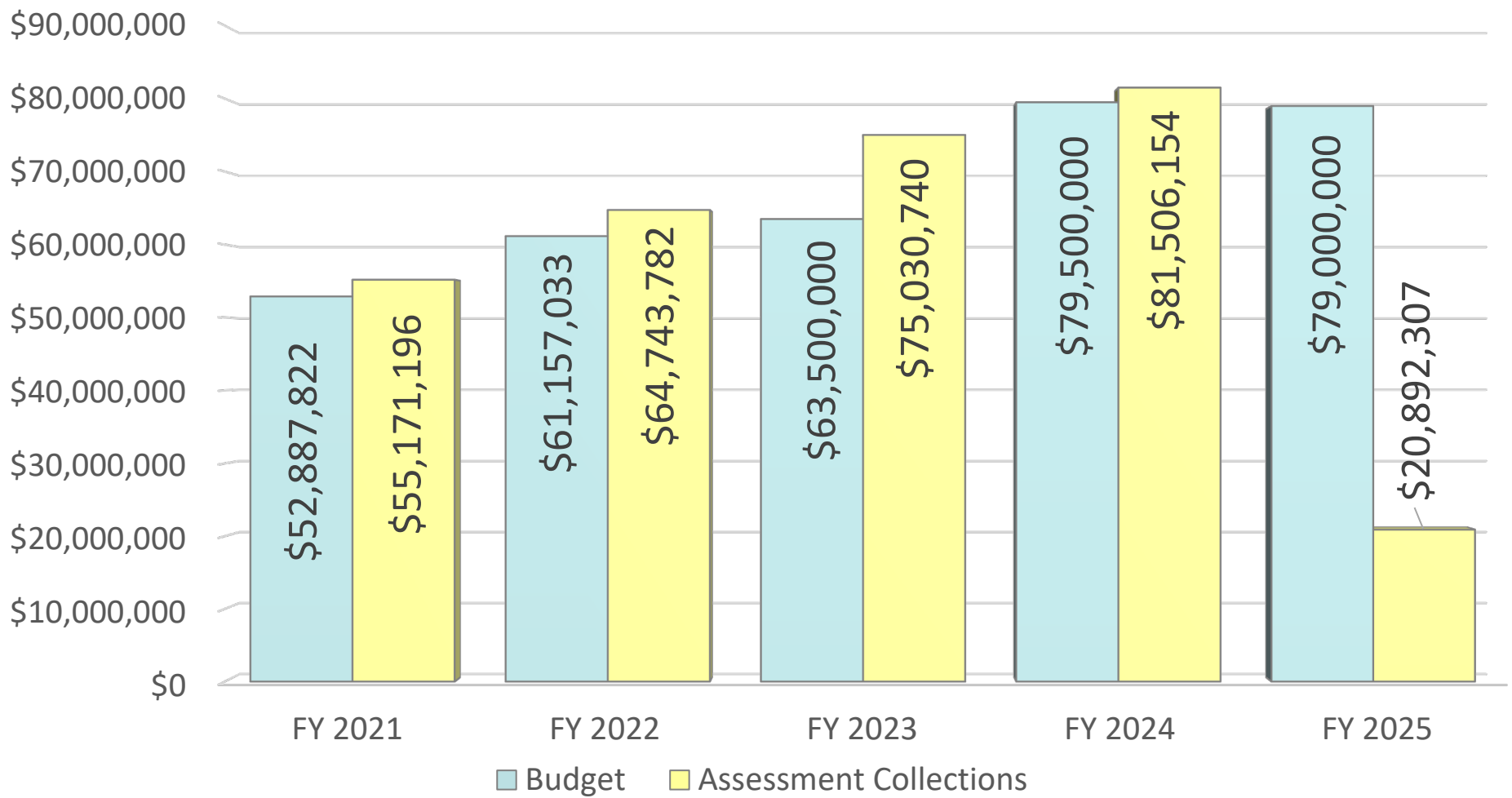
FY 2025 as of 9/30/2024

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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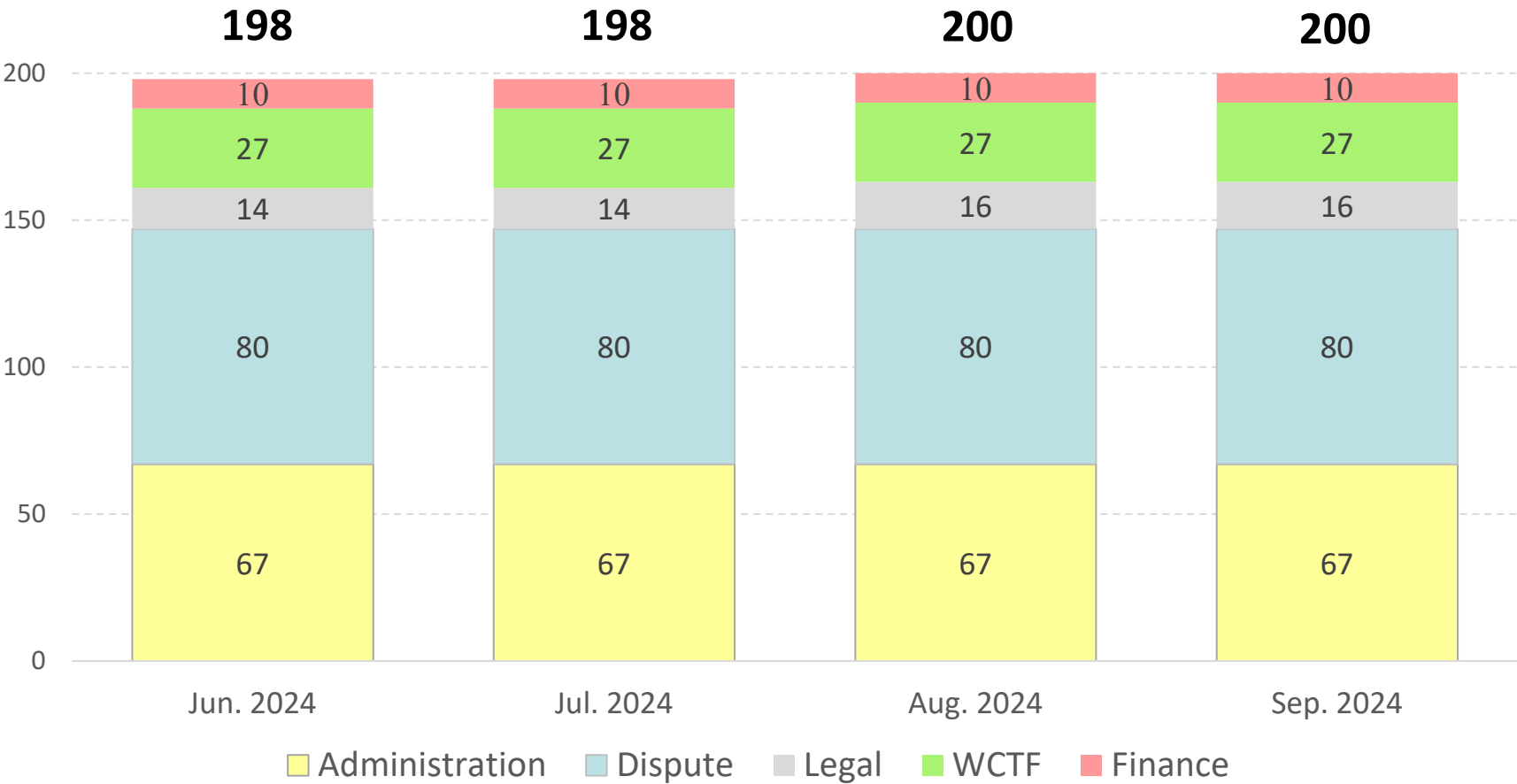
Assessment Collections



FY 2025 as of 9/30/2024



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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.