

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development



## Workers' Compensation Advisory Council September 11, 2024 Statistical Report

Maura Healey, Governor

Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor

Lauren E. Jones, Secretary of Labor &  
Workforce Development

Sheri Bowles, Director - DIA



## Disclaimer:

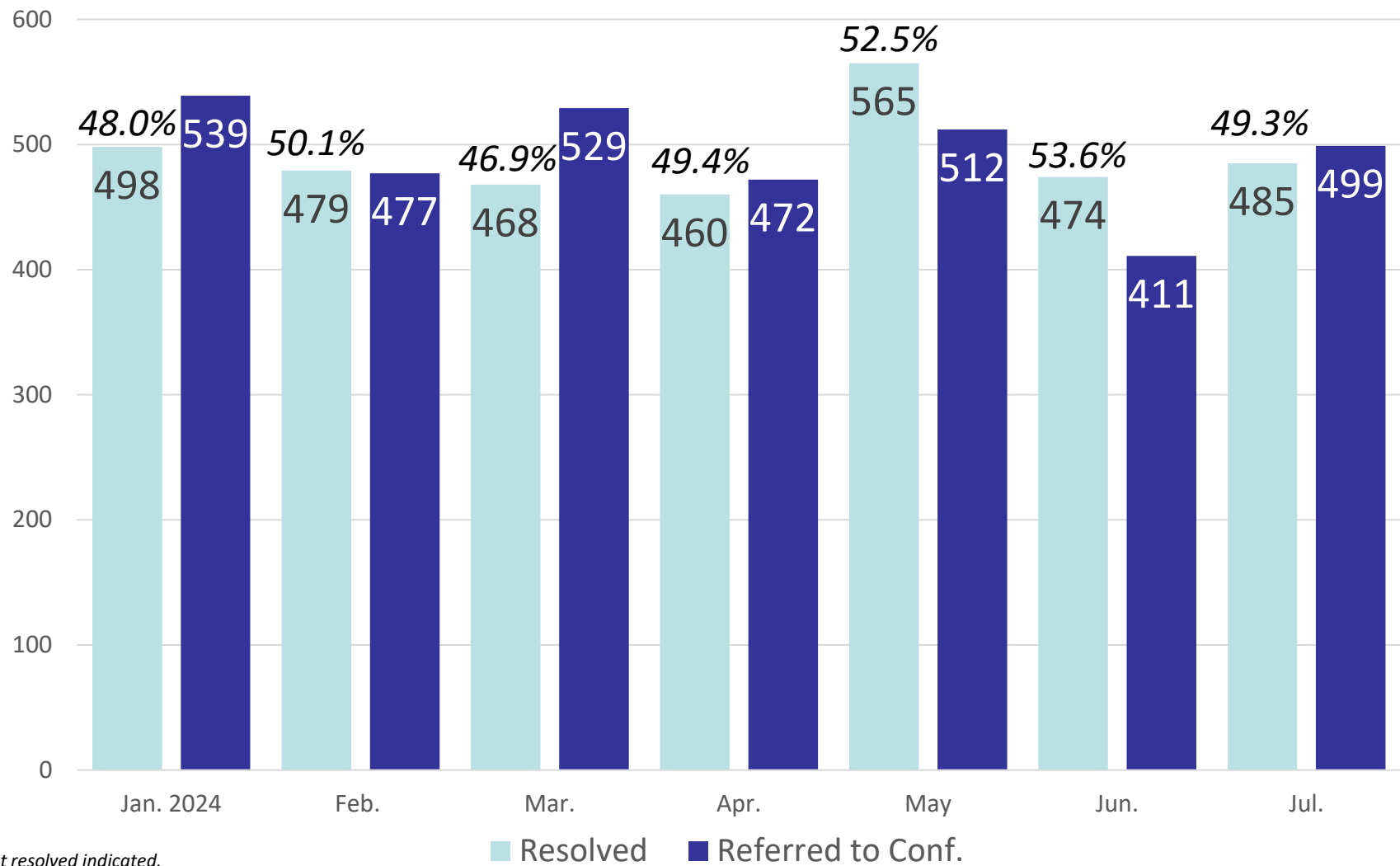
The Department of Industrial Accident (DIA) reports monthly vital statistics to the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council based on our fiscal year cycle (July 1 to June 30). The data presented in this report is gathered for the time-period from the start of the fiscal year up to the month prior to the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

The DIA makes no warranties, guarantees or representations that the materials contained within this report/presentation are free from copyright claims, or other restrictions or limitations on free use or display. The Commonwealth disclaims any liability for any loss or damage resulting from reliance on or misuse of any such information.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

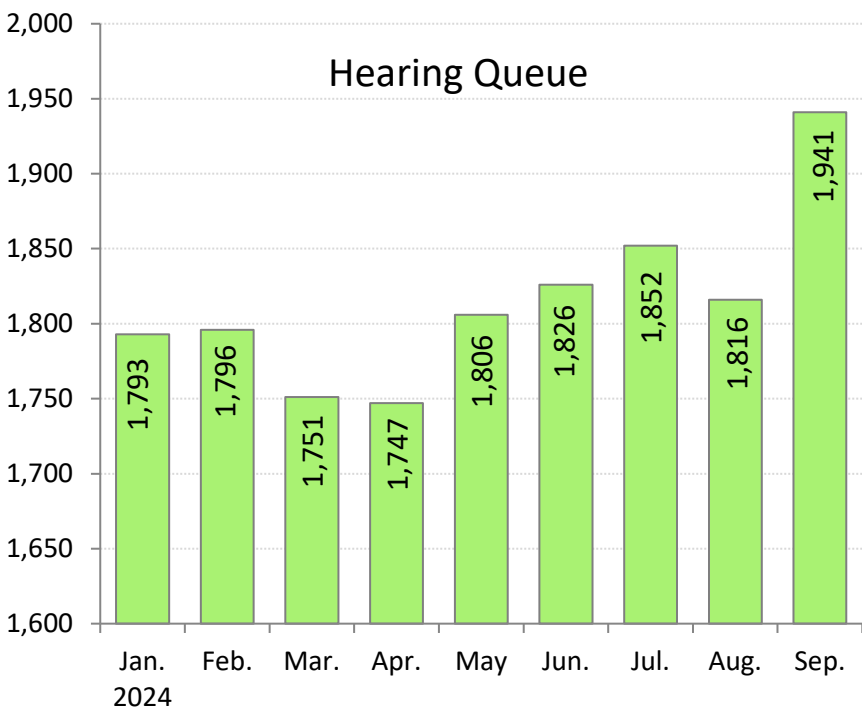
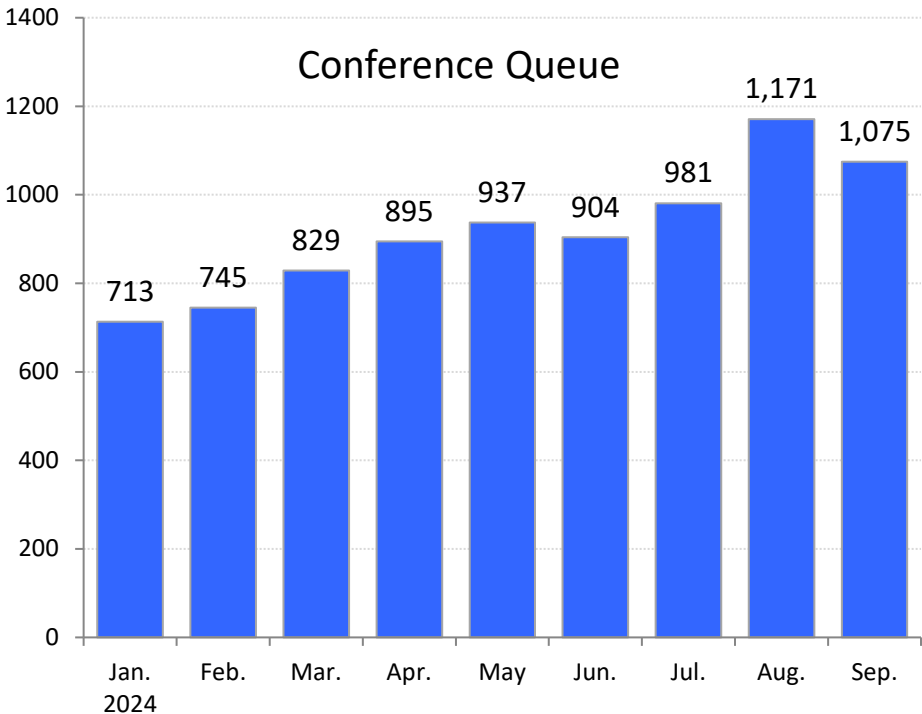
Conciliations Resolved v. Referred to Conference





# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

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 1,280 continuances as of August 31, 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 22 weeks.

Aug. 2024 <i>Estimated</i>			
Conf. Sched.:	715	Hear. Sched.:	445
Orders issued:	289	Appeals to RB:	2
	% Claimants recv. WC		% Claimants recv. WC.
	<u>benefits– 110 filed</u>		<u>benefits– no 110 filed</u>
Conference	47%		85%
Hearing	78%		86%



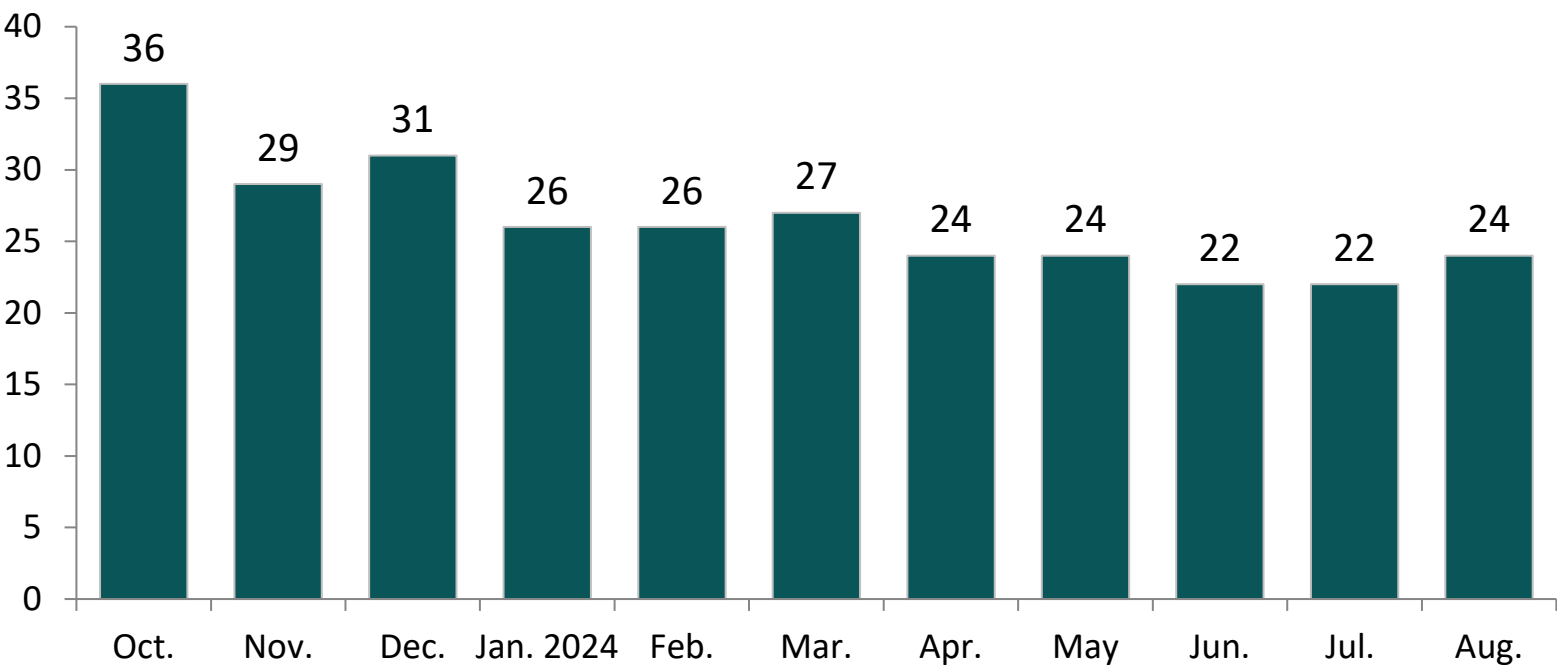
## Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

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



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

## Review Board Inventory

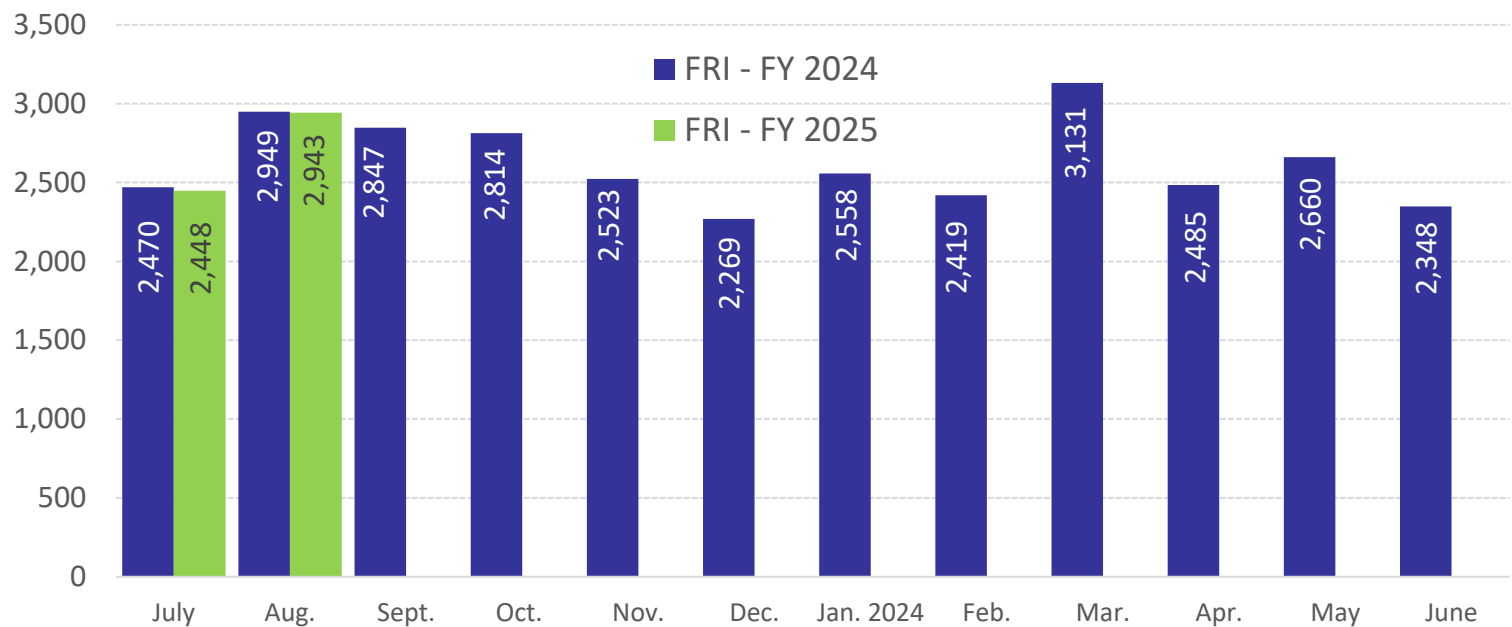


Other Figures	FY 2025	FY 2024	FY 2023
Fee Waivers Granted:	11	77	78
Exam Fees Collected:	\$ 179,578	\$ 1,776,947	\$ 1,504,226
Attorneys' Fees (all proceedings)	\$ 14,364,064	\$90,947,160	\$94,666,107
Referral Fees	\$ 413,689	\$ 4,416,932	\$ 3,964,110
Sec. 7 & 8 Penalties	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 0

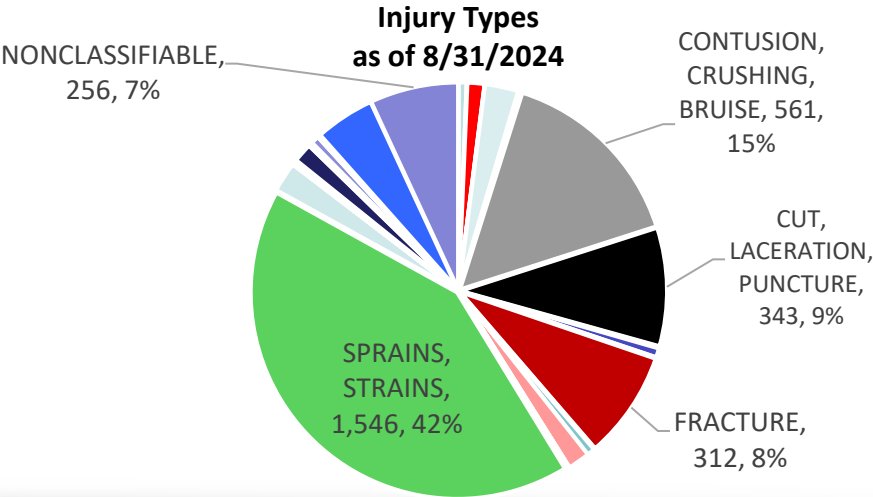
*Note: Attorneys Fees are not paid by the DIA. These fees are paid by the insurer to the injured worker's counsel at certain stages of the dispute resolution process as outlined in c. 152.*



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

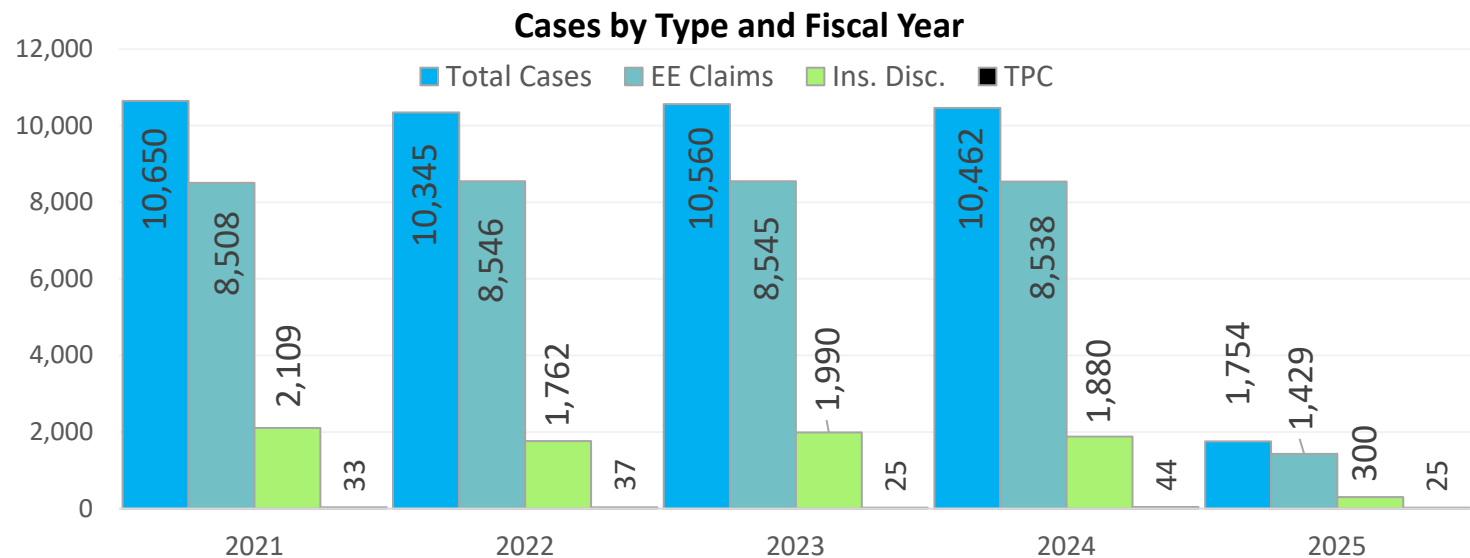
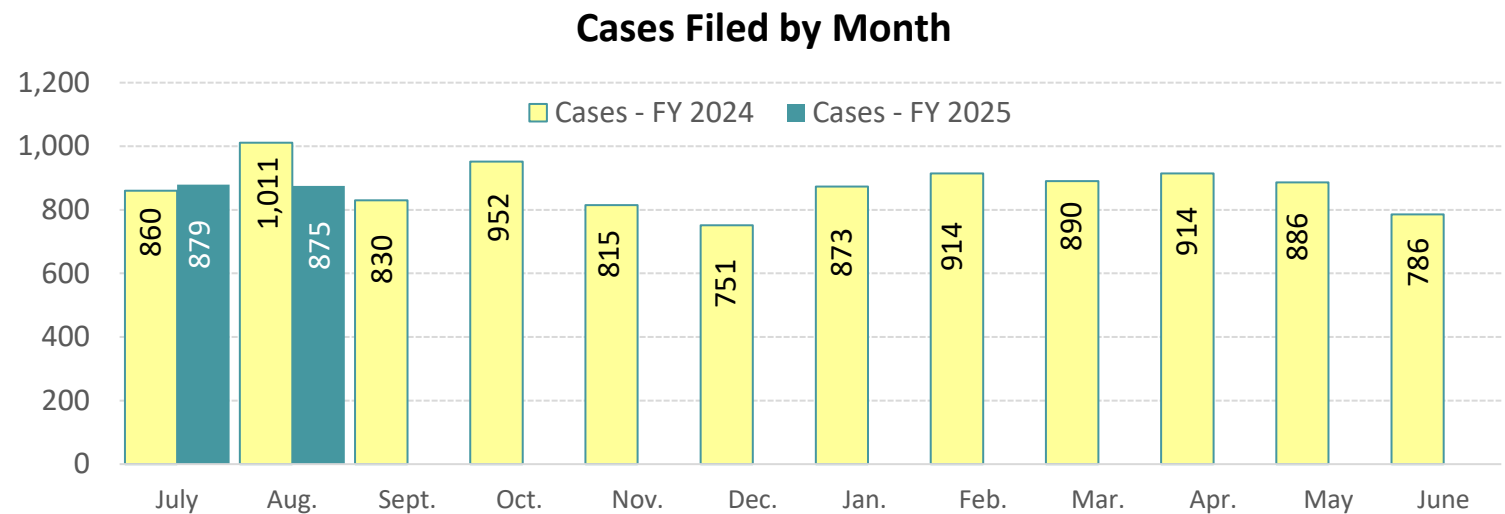


Total FROIs filed in FY 2025 are 5,391. The total FROIs filed in FY 2024 were 31,473.





# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024



875 cases were filed in August.



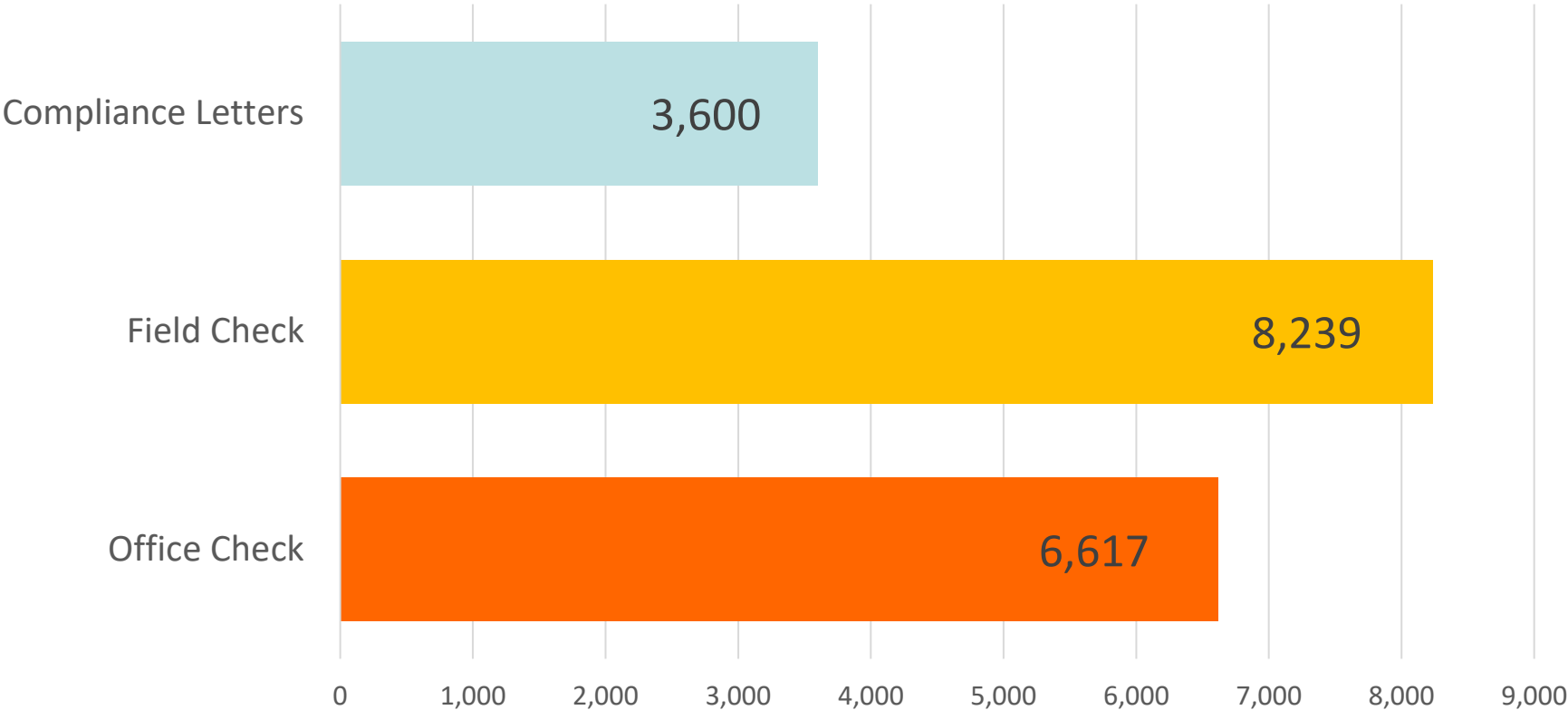


# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

## Office of Investigations

### Compliance & Enforcement

Total Figures FY 2025 as of 8/31/2024

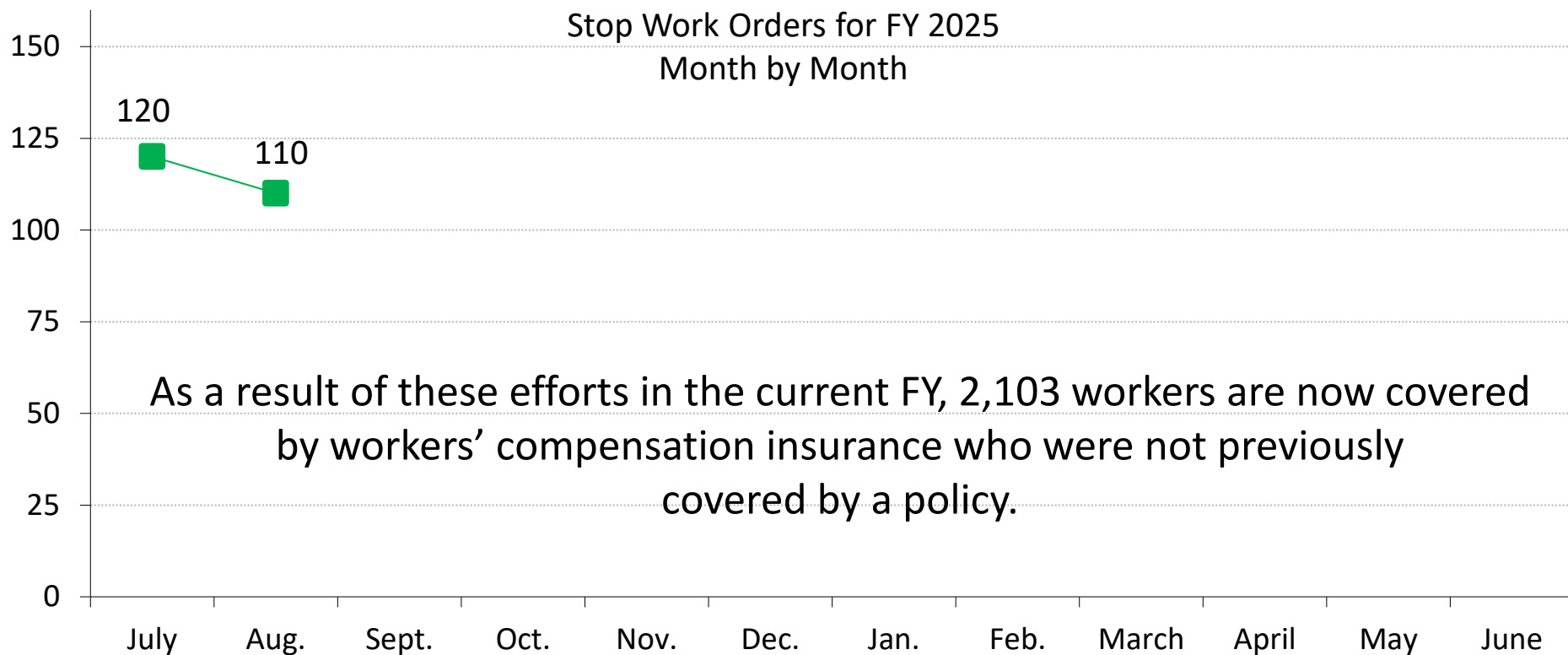


1,742 compliance checks, 502 field investigations were conducted, 1,788 more employees are newly covered by WC insurance and 3,600 compliance letters were sent in August. FY 2024, yielded 79,550 compliance checks with 4,124 employees covered by WC insurance.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

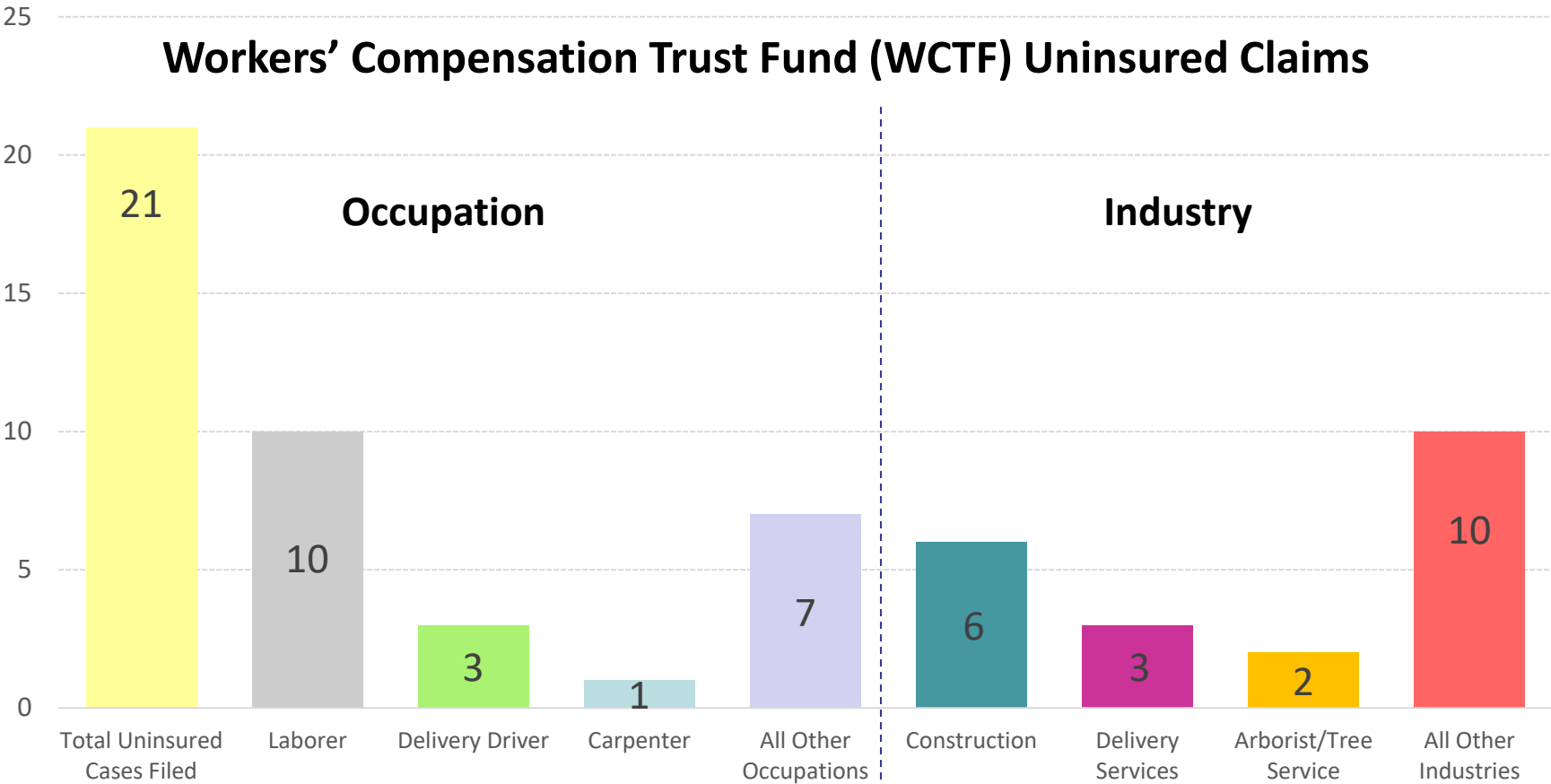
## Office of Investigations



Last month 110 Stop Work Orders (SWO) were issued and 6 employers defaulted on SWOs that were previously issued. 230 SWOs have been issued year-to-date with total fine collections to date of \$6,848. FY 2024 yielded a total of 1,342 SWOs issued, with a total fine collection of \$1,158,659.



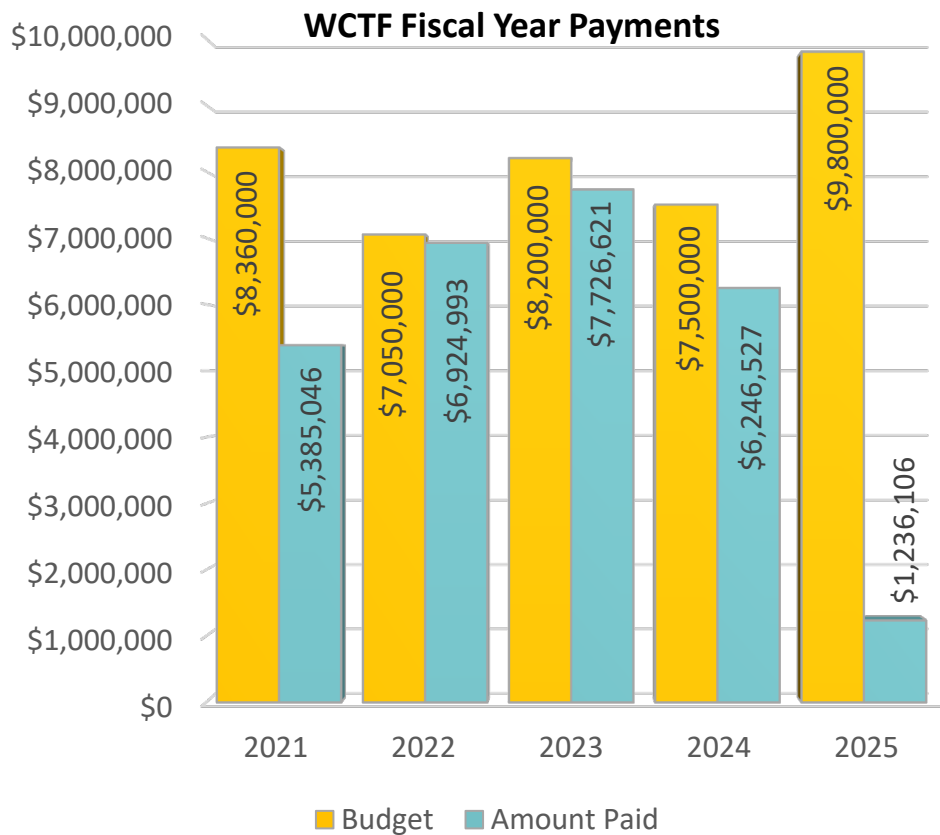
# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024



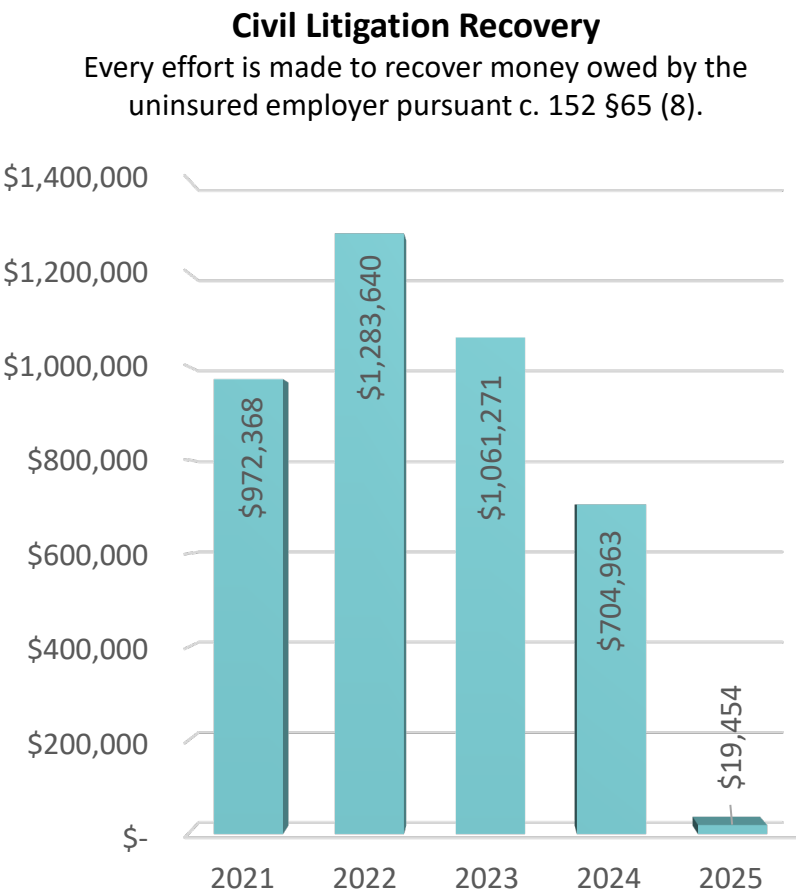
As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 21 uninsured injuries have been reported to the WCTF for FY25. Please note, claims may be determined to be insured or uninsured after filing. The WCTF received 104 newly reported claims in FY24.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024



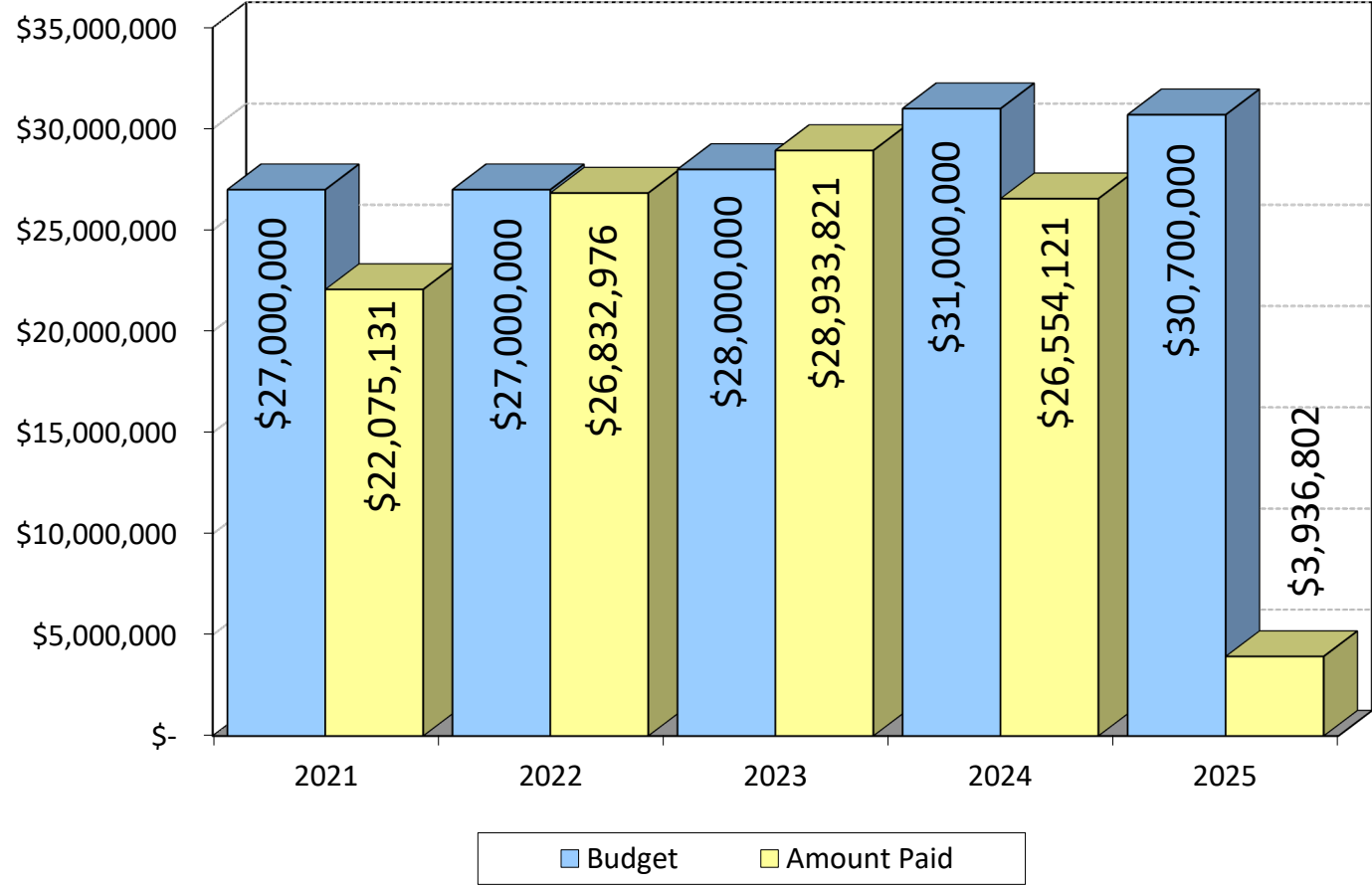
Represents payments on all open claims to include those made in prior years.





# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

## Second Injury Fund Budget & Payments

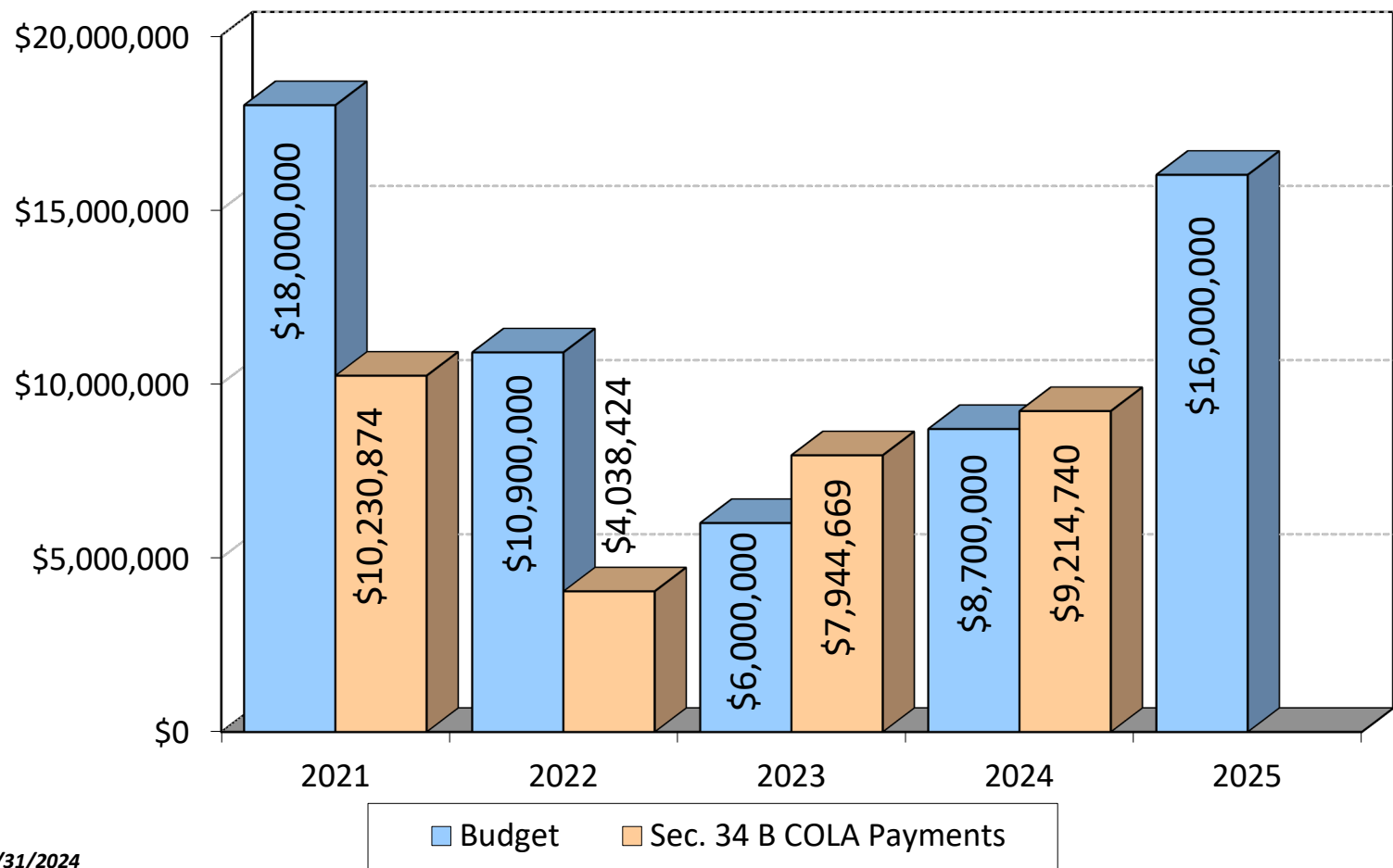


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 37/37A to include quarterly payments and interest. Additional payments may be in process but have not been registered in MMARS, the state accounting system as the time of this report.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

## COLA Reimbursement

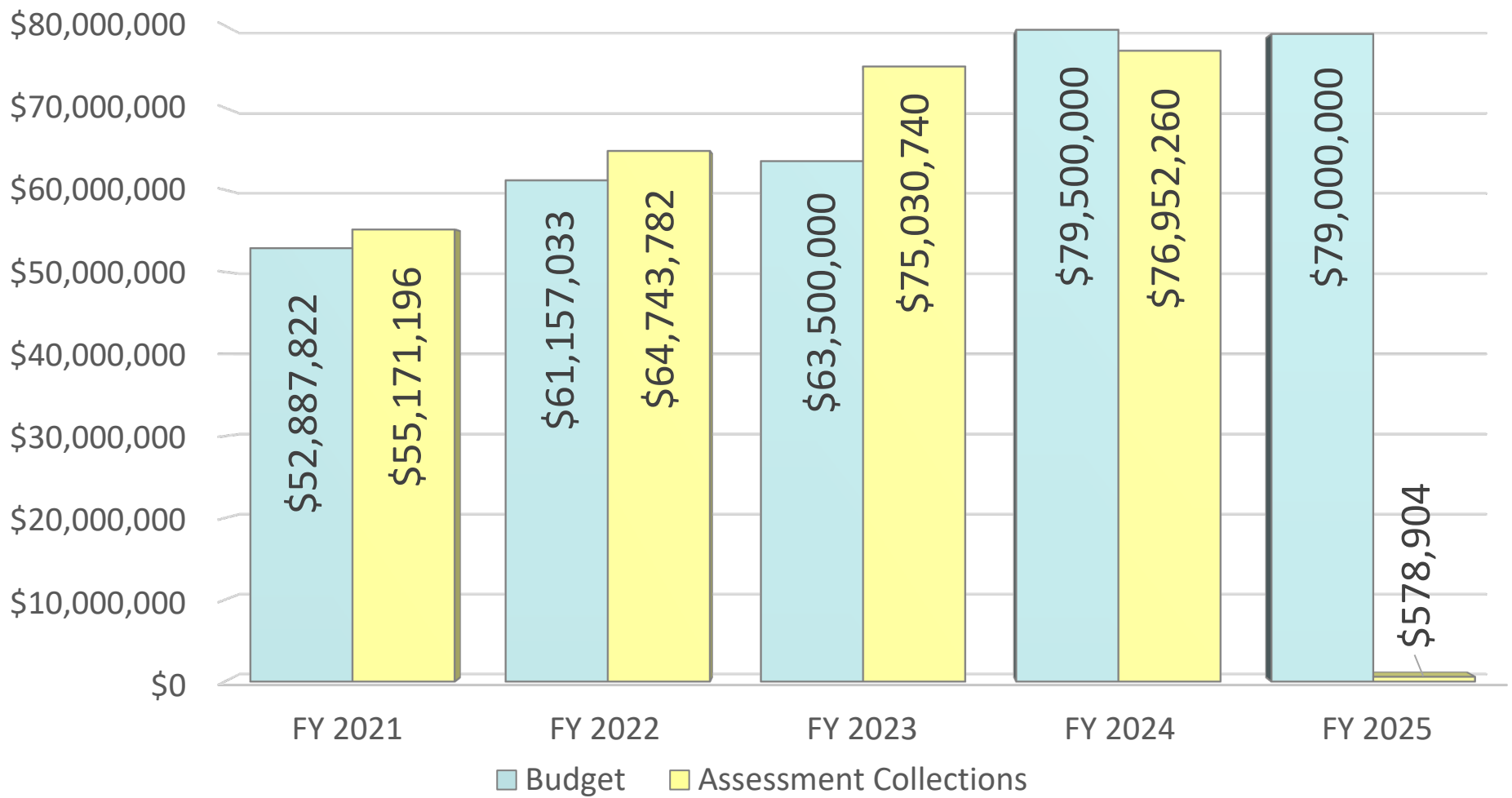


Represents payments made by the WCTF to insurers seeking reimbursement for § 34B, Cost of Living Adjustment benefits. Additional payments may be in process that have not yet registered in MMARS at the time of this publication.



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024

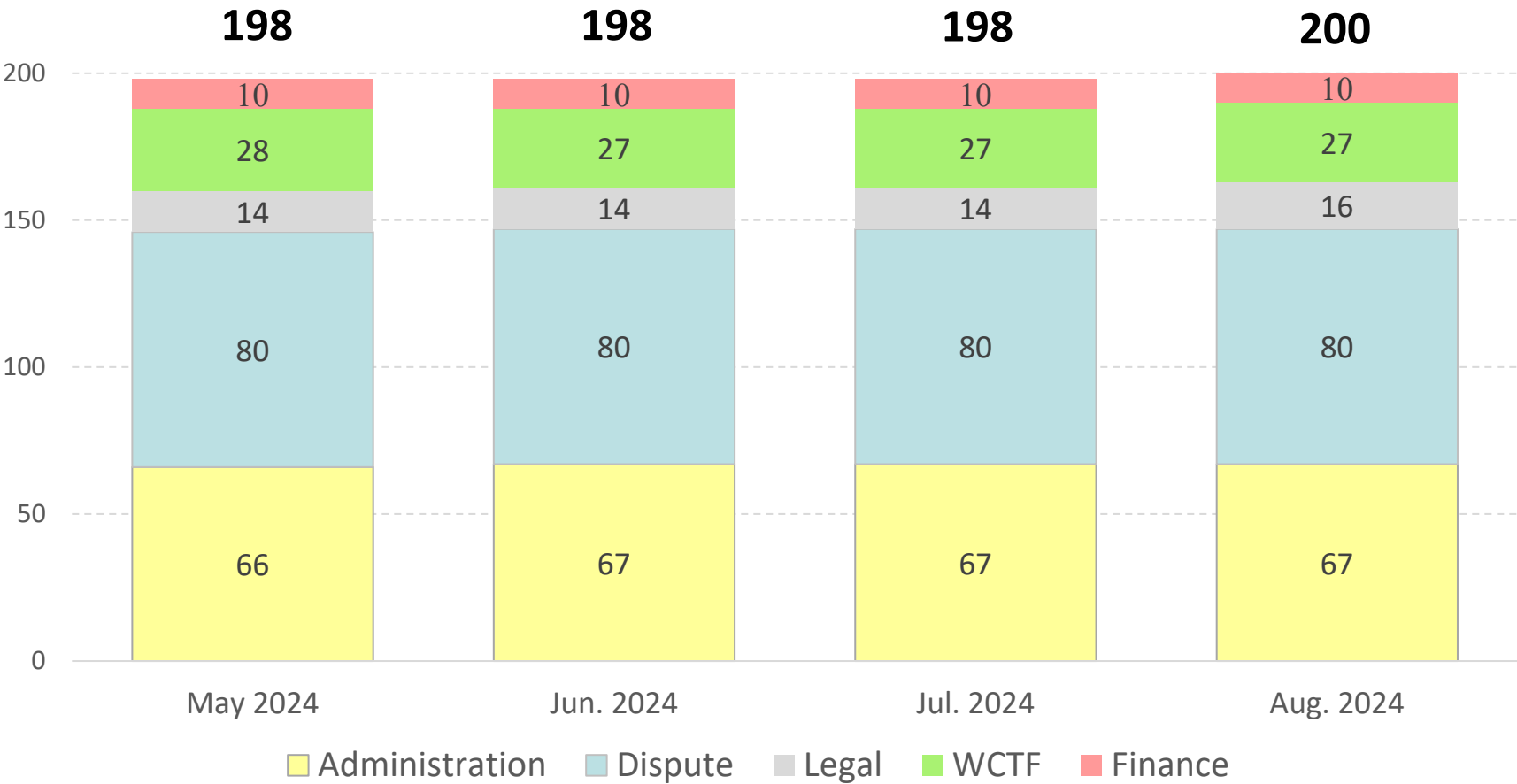
## Assessment Collections



FY 2025 as of 8/31/2024



# Workers' Compensation Advisory Council – September 2024



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.