



# Citizens Police Oversight Commission Agency Report

June 26, 2025




City of  
Philadelphia



# Citizens Police Oversight Commission

The mission of the Citizens Police Oversight Commission (CPOC) is to oversee and investigate the conduct, policies, and practices of the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD).

CPOC currently:

- Receives complaints of police misconduct
  - Audits and monitors Internal Affairs investigations and police disciplinary processes
  - Sits and votes on PBI panels at police discipline hearings
  - Conducts oversight of police shootings
  - Analyzes police data
  - Develops policy recommendations and reports
  - Engages in outreach and training
- 



## Why Civilian Oversight Is Necessary

- **Protects** human rights
  - **Promotes** constitutional policing
  - **Increases** public confidence and trust in the police
  - **Builds** bridges between law enforcement and the public
  - **Supports** effective policing
  - **Ensures** greater accountability
  - **Enhances** risk management
- 

# CPOC May Complaint Report

CPOC issues a monthly complaint report, summarizing the complaints received by CPOC and referred to the Internal Affairs Division (IAD) of PPD.

You can find the report on CPOC's website:  
<https://www.phila.gov/documents/citizens-police-oversight-commission-meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>



**Citizens Police  
Oversight Commission**  
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## CPOC May 2025 Complaint Referral Report

In May 2025, 33 complaints of police misconduct were received by CPOC and referred to the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) Internal Affairs Division (IAD).

Summaries of the 33 complaints from May 2025 are below. All demographic data is reported by complainants. These complaints only represent complaints submitted directly to CPOC and do not include complaints filed directly with PPD.

These summaries are allegations made by complainants, they do not represent any findings of fact or conclusions.

Date Received	Demographics	Division	Summary
5/02/2025	F – B/AA	North East	The complainant was attempting to leave their house when a neighbor's dog came into their yard and became aggressive. The complainant attempted to call for the dog's owner, but the owner was not around. When the dog became more aggressive, the complainant used their firearm in self-defense. The complainant called the police to make a report. The complainant was told by the detective that everything was okay and that they would not have charges pressed against them, but later the complainant's license to carry was revoked. Additionally, an officer laughed at the complainant during their interview and told them that they were "afraid of a little dog."
5/04/2025	M – B/AA	North East	The complainant alleged they are being over-ticketed for alleged parking violations. They are being harassed by several officers from the district, because officers knock on their door to issue tickets in late evening hours, creating a disturbance which wakes up their children. The complainant has received multiple citations for parking their vehicle in front of their home in a shared driveway.
5/05/2025	Unspecified	South West	The complainant reported being improperly arrested by police. The officer showed the complainant a warrant for their arrest, but the complainant reported they didn't have a warrant because they had an upcoming court date and had already been to court twice.
5/05/2025	F – A	South	The complainant alleged that they were improperly arrested by police and held for over 30 hours without food or water. The complainant reported they were also handcuffed too tightly while in custody, causing intense pain.
5/05/2025	F – N/A	South West	The complainant reported calling the district to inquire if they could file a police report about an incident that happened at a Philadelphia Hospital. The officer was rude and dismissive and did not help the complainant to file a police report.




# Summaries of some complaints filed in May

***These summaries are allegations made by complainants which have not been investigated. They do not represent any findings or conclusions.***

The complainant alleged that they were improperly arrested by police and held for over 30 hours without food or water. The complainant reported they were also handcuffed too tightly while in custody, causing intense pain.

The complainant reported calling the district to inquire if they could file a police report about an incident that happened at a Philadelphia Hospital. The officer was rude and dismissive and did not help the complainant to file a police report.

The complainant attempted to report illegal dumping happening in an abandoned lot near their house. One of the individuals doing the dumping claimed to be a police officer. The complainant called 911 and the district to report this issue. After 13.5 hours, no police had responded to their house regarding these calls for service.






# Summaries of some complaints filed in May

***These summaries are allegations made by complainants which have not been investigated. They do not represent any findings or conclusions.***

The complainant, who speaks Spanish, went to the district to file a police report. During this interaction, Spanish interpretation was not provided for the complainant. Additionally, police did not assist the complainant with filing a police report.

The police have come to the complainant's home 3 times looking for their grandchild, who does not live there. The complainant does not know where their grandchild is and feels police are not doing their due diligence.

The complainant called 911 to report a domestic dispute between two family members. Things escalated 40 minutes later and became physical, and police had still not responded. Another family member called 911 once the physical altercation began, the police finally arrived. The complainant feels police did not investigate properly, as the aggressor of the physical altercation is currently on bail for similar allegations.

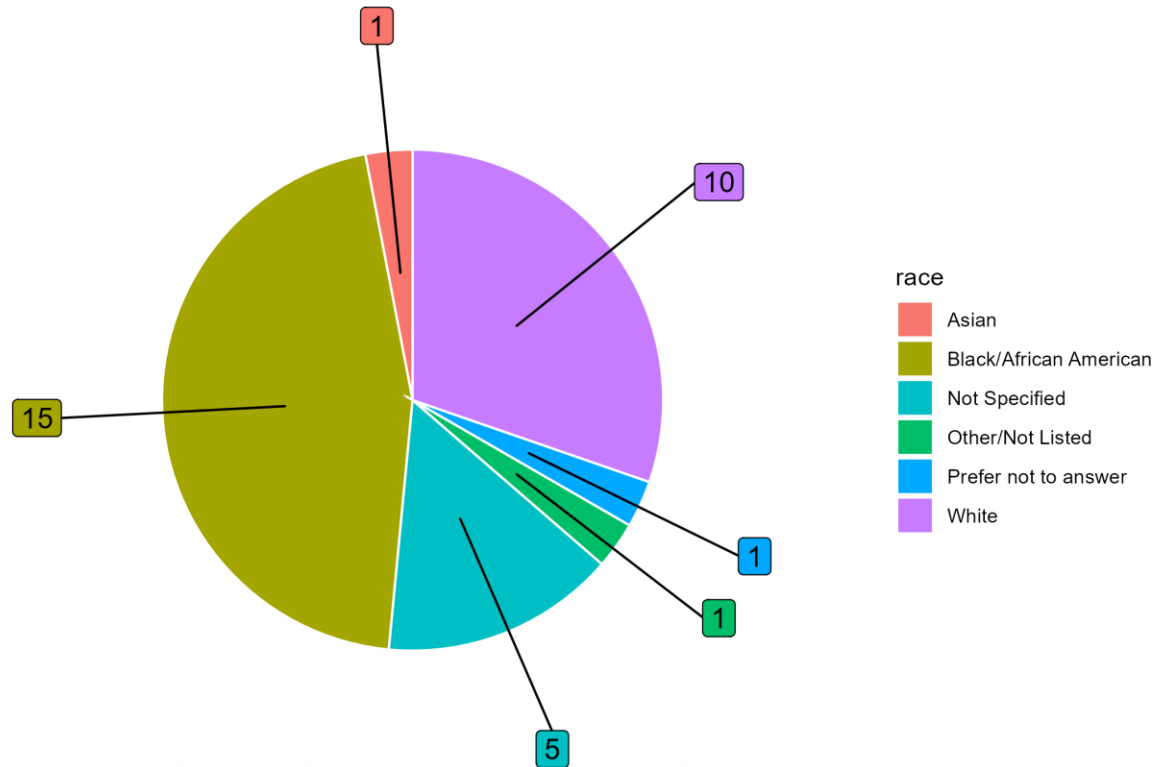


# Complaint Data: Demographics (May)

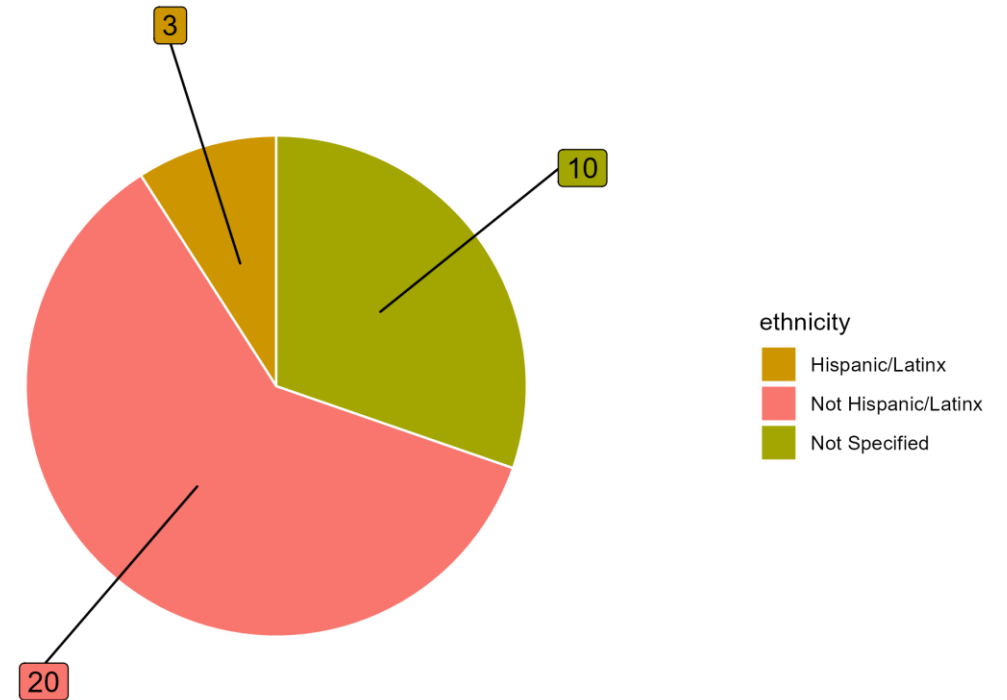
In May 2025, CPOC referred 33 complaints to PPD's Internal Affairs Division (IAD).

These charts show race and ethnicity demographic data from May complaints, as reported by complainants.

Race Distribution - April 2025



Ethnicity Distribution - May 2025



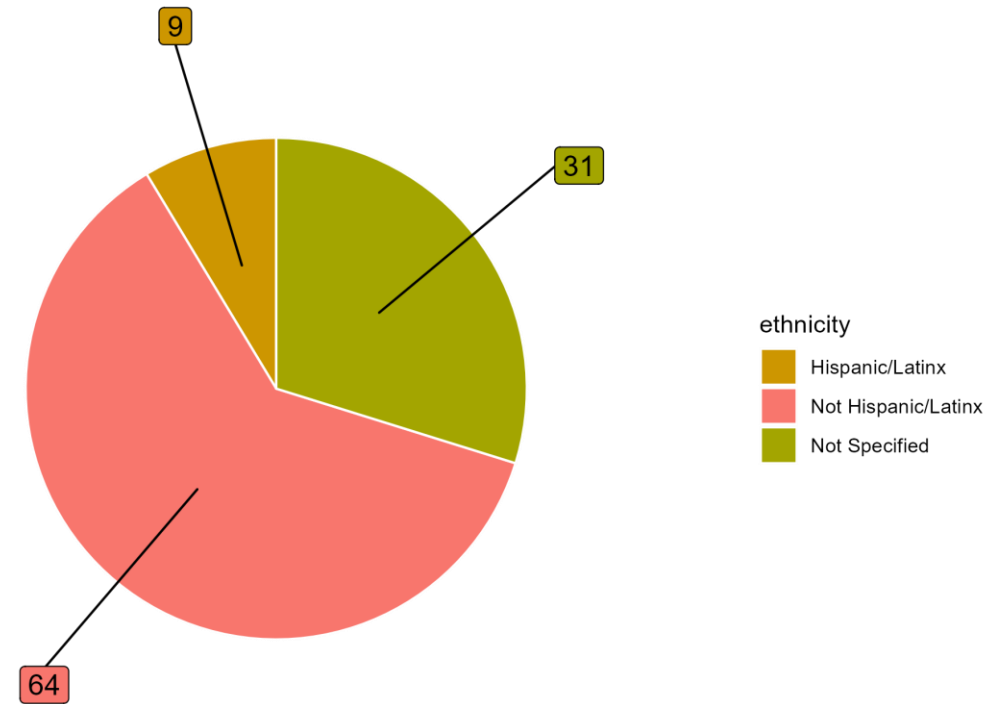
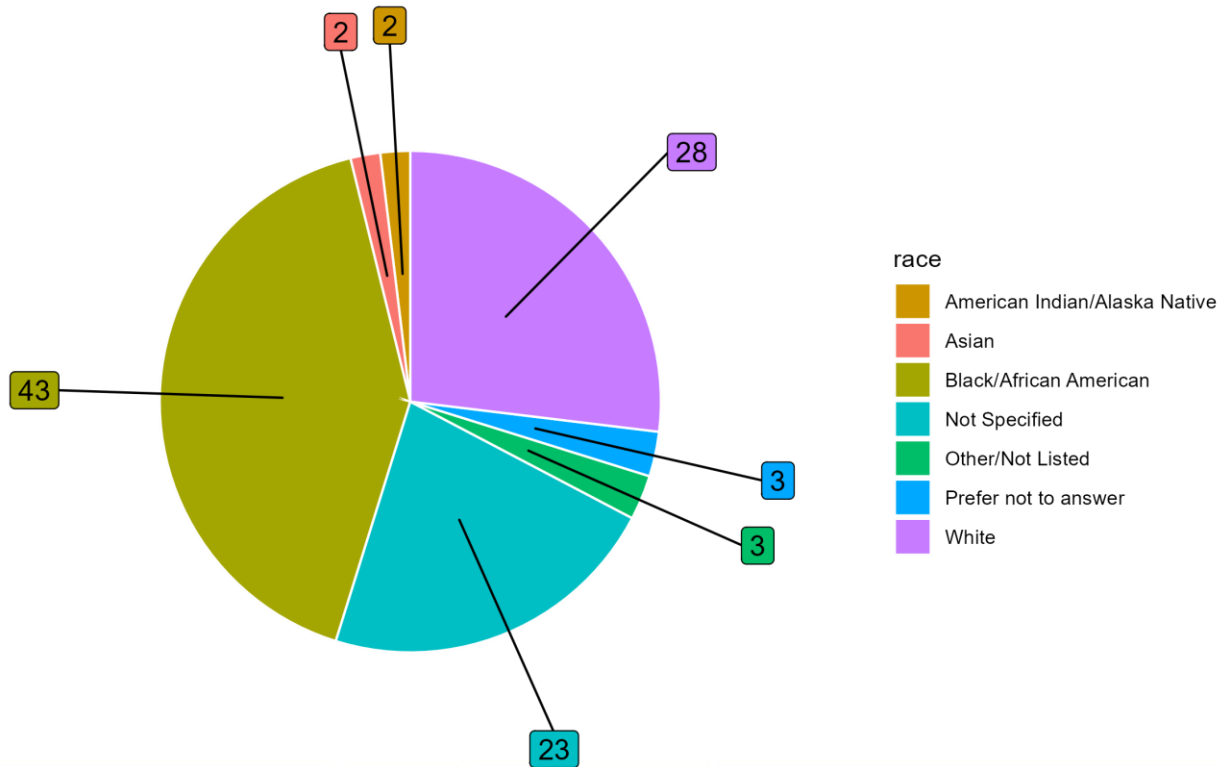
# Complaint Data: Demographics (YTD)

CPOC has referred a total of 104 complaints to PPD's Internal Affairs Division (IAD) in calendar year 2025.

These charts show race and ethnicity demographic data from 2025 complaints, as reported by complainants.

Race Distribution - YTD

Ethnicity Distribution - YTD

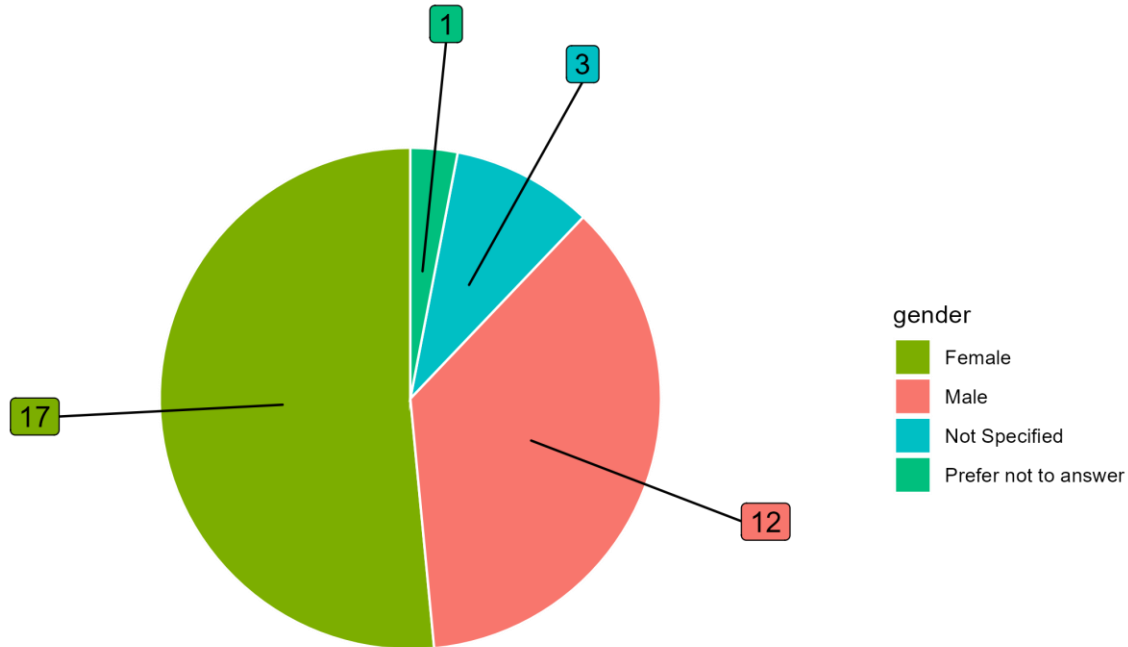




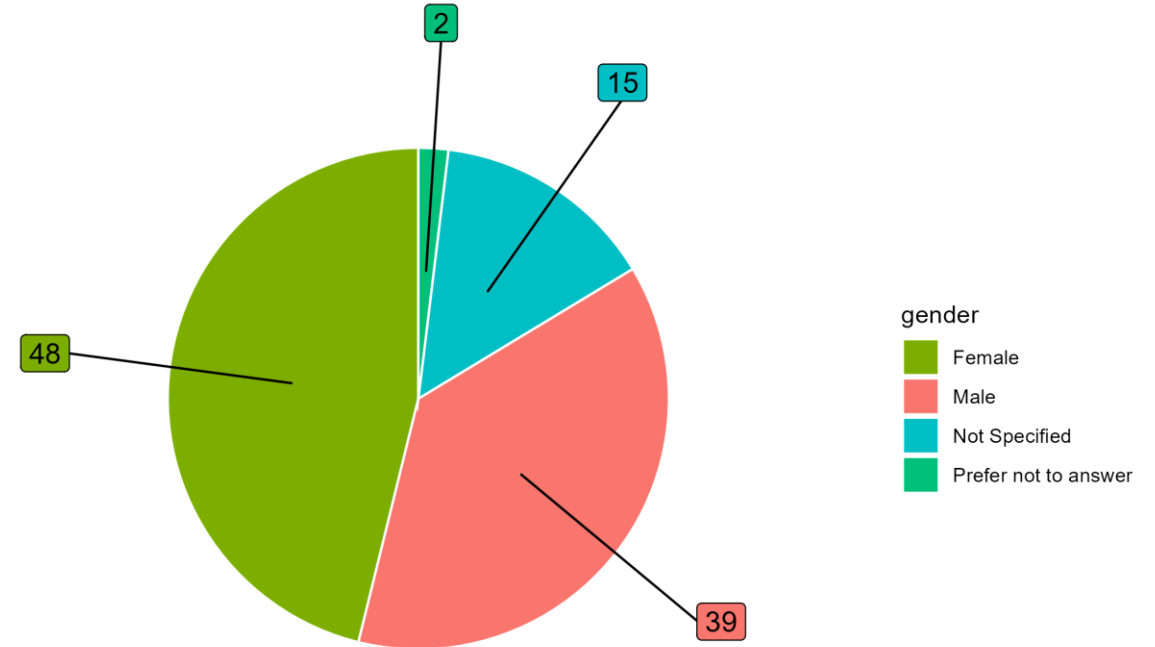
# Complaint Data: Gender Demographics

These charts show gender demographic data for the 33 complaints referred to IAD in the month of May 2025 (left) and all 104 complaints referred in calendar year 2025 (right), as reported by complainants.

Gender Distribution - April 2025



Gender Distribution - YTD



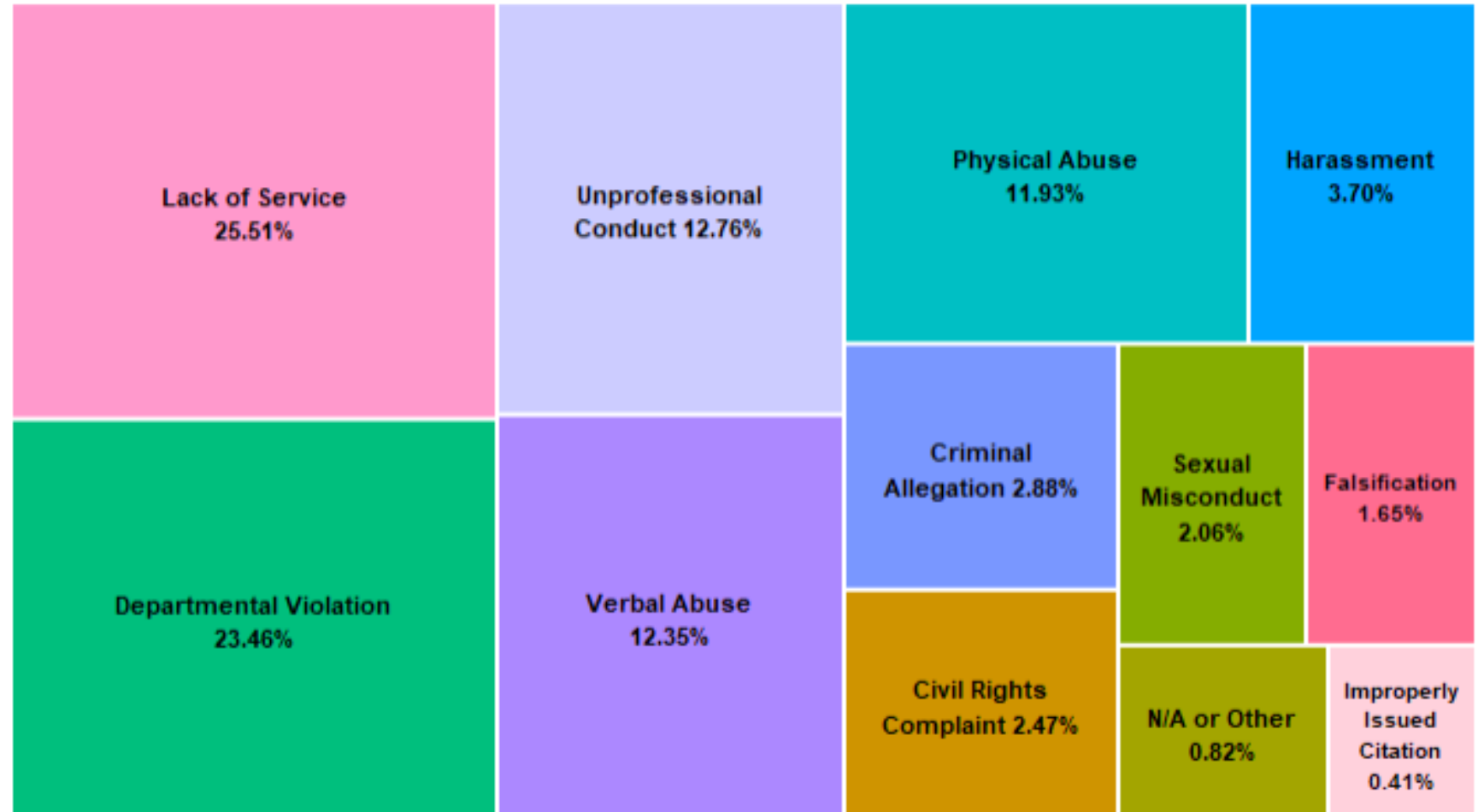
# Complaint Data: Allegations (May 2025)

Percentage of Allegation Types

The most common allegations reported by complainants are related to Lack of Service.

A single complaint can have multiple allegations.

“Departmental violations” which are explained further on the next slide.



# Complaint Data: Departmental Violation subcategories

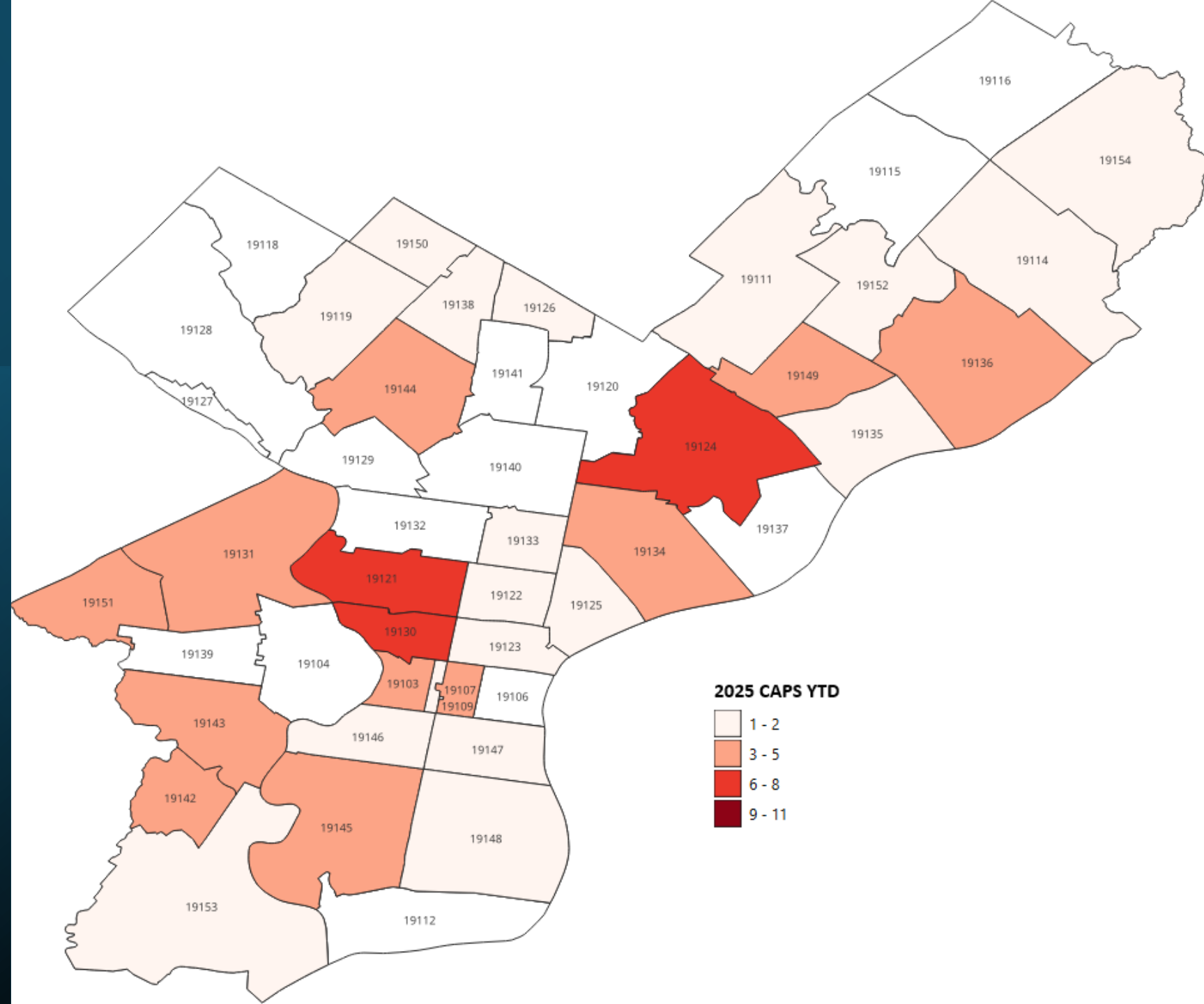
Top 10 Sub Allegation Types

This data shows the breakdown of each sub-category within the Departmental Violation Allegation type.

A single complaint can have multiple misconduct allegations.

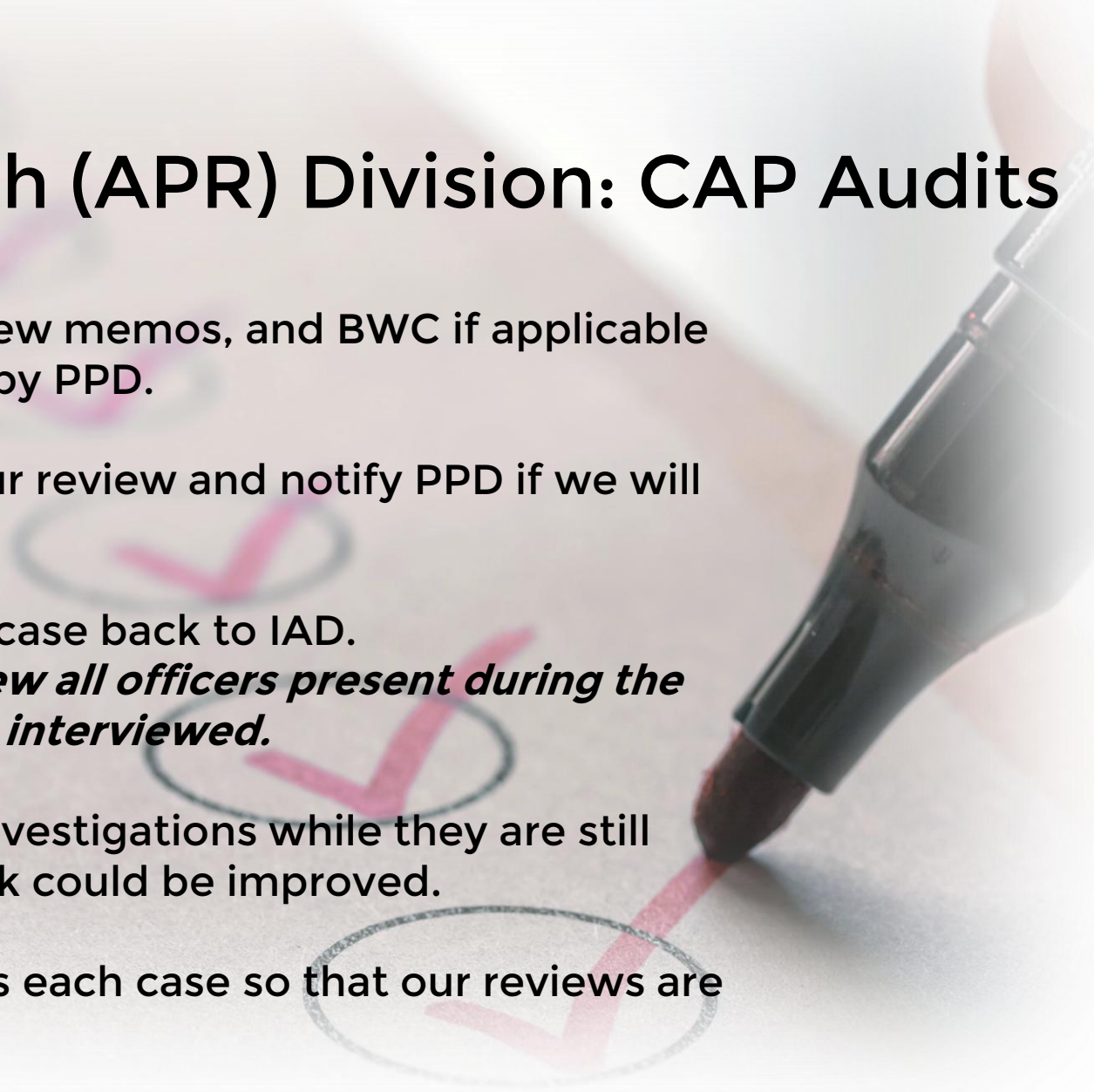


# Complaint data (YTD) by zip code






# Auditing, Policy, and Research (APR) Division: CAP Audits

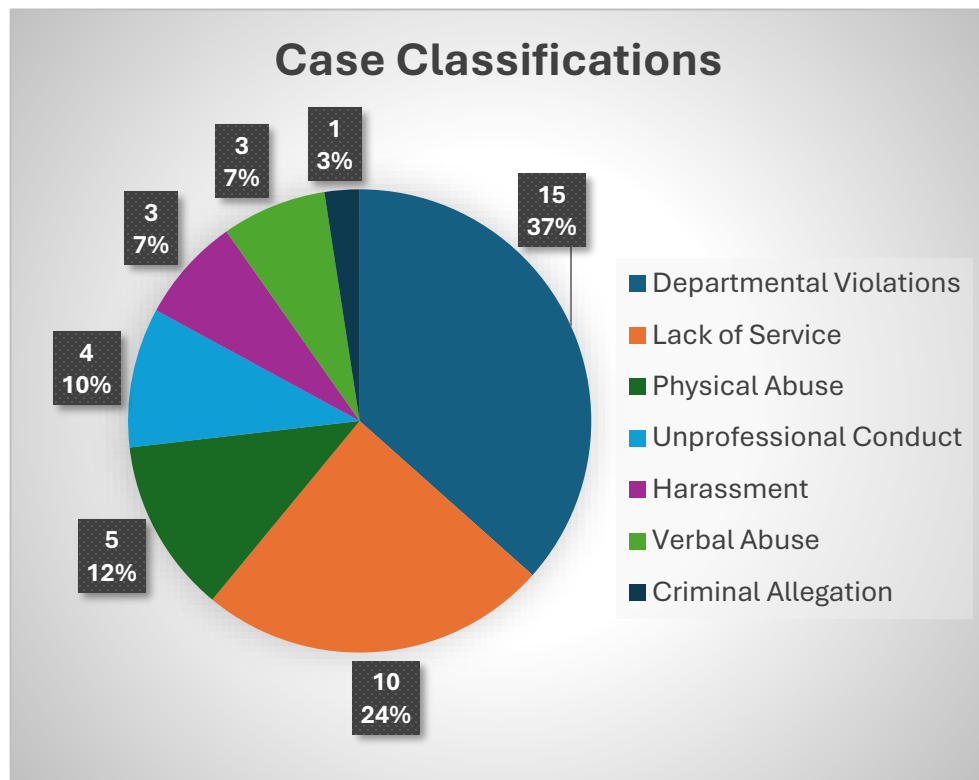
- Reviews include all case file materials, interview memos, and BWC if applicable
    - Note: we only review materials provided by PPD.
  - Our team has 11 business days to complete our review and notify PPD if we will provide feedback.
  - We send specific recommendations for each case back to IAD.
    - Example: ***The investigator should interview all officers present during the incident or explain why officers were not interviewed.***
  - This allows civilian oversight staff to review investigations while they are still open and give feedback about things we think could be improved.
  - We use the same series of questions to assess each case so that our reviews are consistent.
- 



## APR Division: May Audits

- This report will cover the 41 cases we reviewed by their due dates during the month of May.
  - CPOC received 60 cases and reviewed 41 – 68%.
  - Of the cases reviewed, 4 were divisional cases and 37 were IAD investigations
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# APR Division: May Audits – Case Classification



Departmental Violations cases were the most common in May, followed by Lack of service and verbal abuse. These three categories typically are the most common.

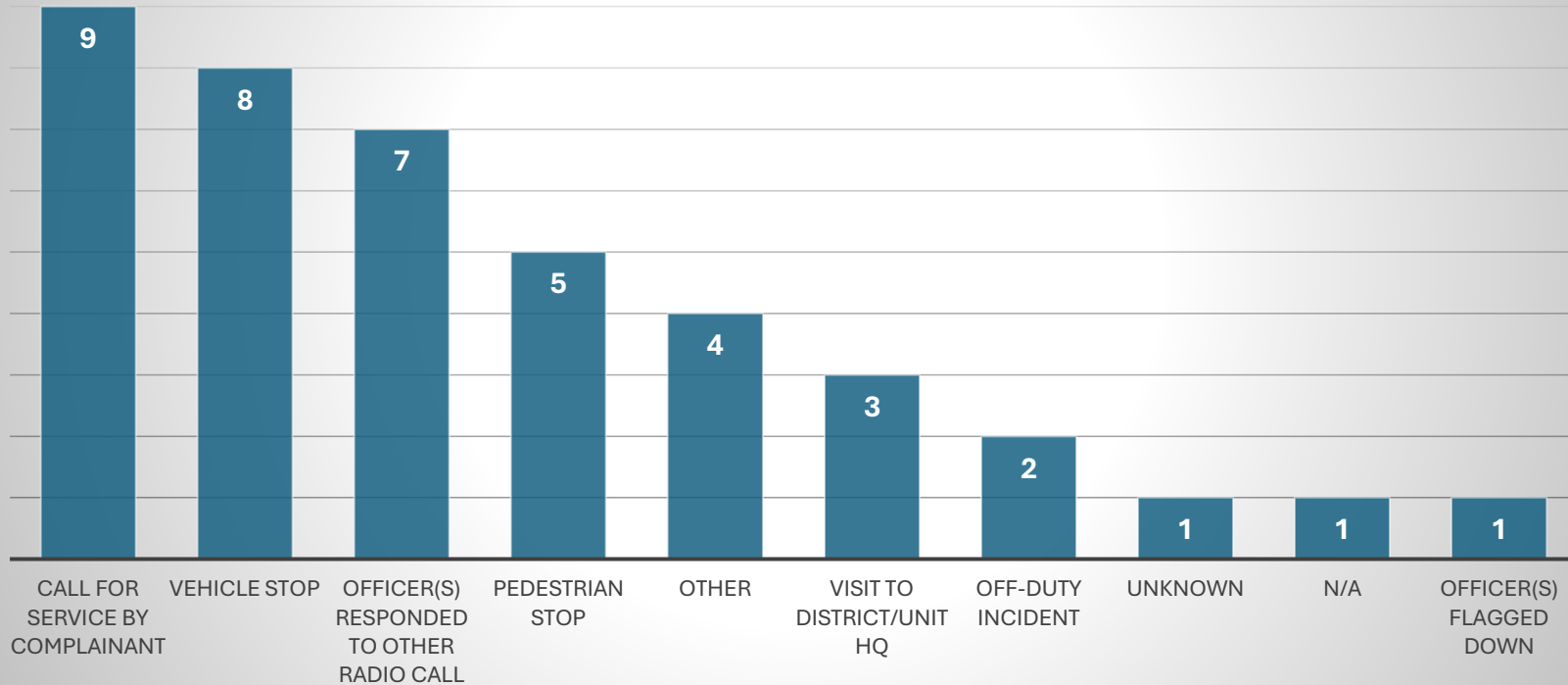
Departmental Violations was slightly more common this month than usual.

Subclassifications shed light on the case details:

Failure to Follow Departmental Policy (for directives violations)	5
Improper Stop/Detention	3
Improper Search/Seizure	3
Residency Violation	1
Missing Property Private (Not Theft)	1
Alcohol/Intoxication On Duty	1
Improper Arrest	1

# APR Division: May Audits – Incident Type

Encounter Type



The graph shows the types of encounters that ultimately led to the complaints being filed

Call for service by complainant was the highest.

Vehicle stop was the second highest this month – last month it was just 3 (12% of April's audits)



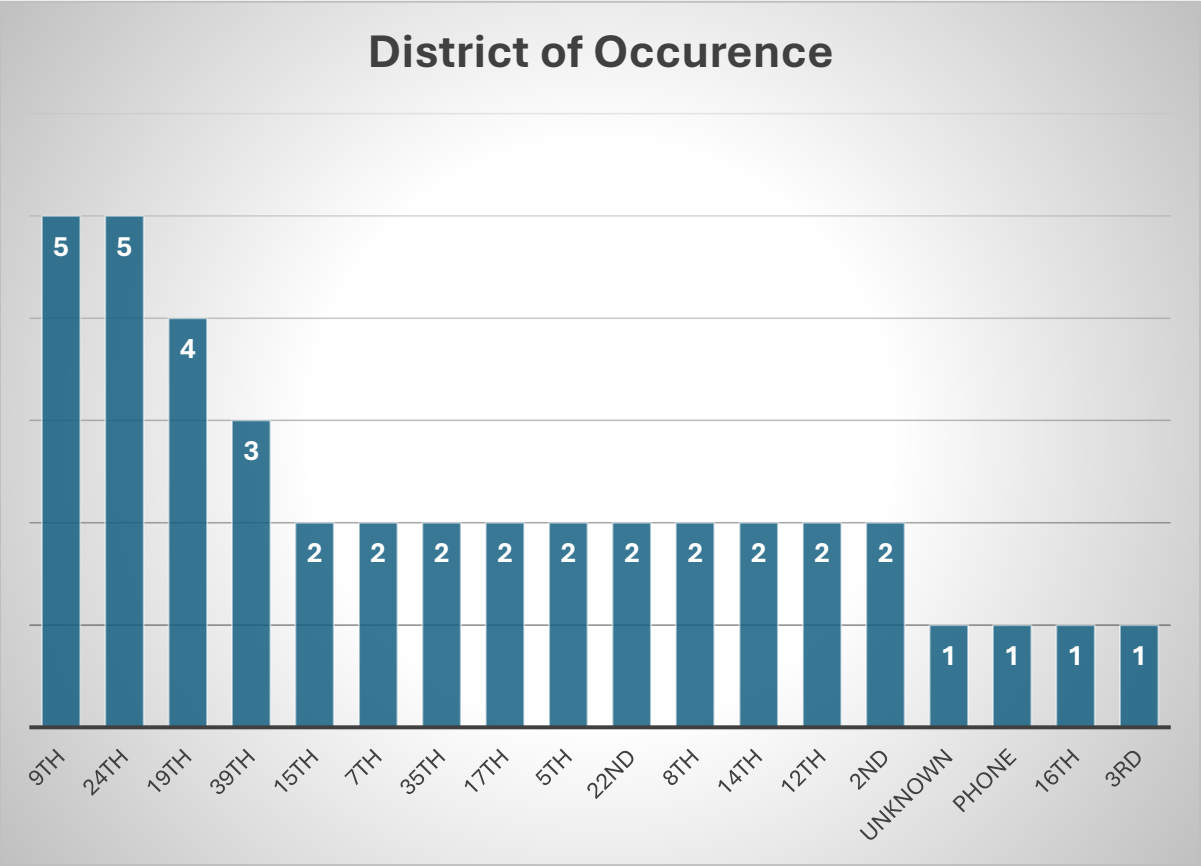
# APR Division: May Audits - District

This graph shows the geographic location of the incidents that gave rise to the complaints that we reviewed in May.

The 15<sup>th</sup> District was the highest last month in April (6).

For additional context, the classification and subclassifications for the 9<sup>th</sup> District cases in May are below:

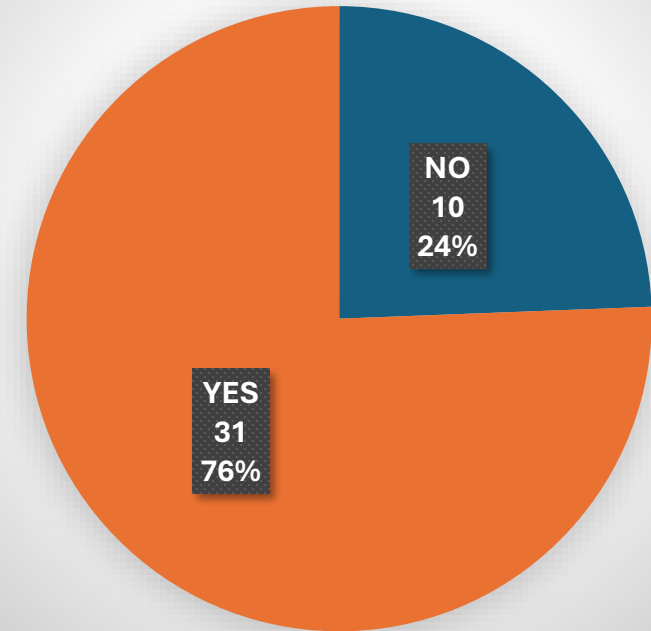
Unprofessional Conduct	- Rude/Dismissive Behavior
Lack of Service	- Failure to Provide Service/Take Police Action
Departmental Violations	- Failure to Follow Departmental Policy/Directive
Lack of Service	- Failure to Arrest
Harassment	- Verbal



# APR Division: May Audits

- Just over 75% of cases were completed within 90 business days
- This is generally consistent with prior months
- Complaints are up and manpower is down, so maintaining this statistic is great

Was the investigation completed in 90 business days?

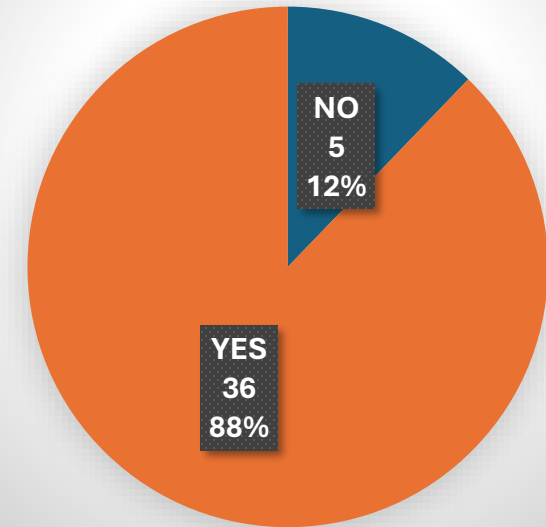


# APR Division: May Audits

Nearly all cases reviewed in May showed the investigator made contact attempts to all civilians or explained why contacts were not needed.

- Nature of the incident, BWC available, etc.
- No set minimum standard for contact attempts for each involved person, but this is something we are researching and will advocate for.

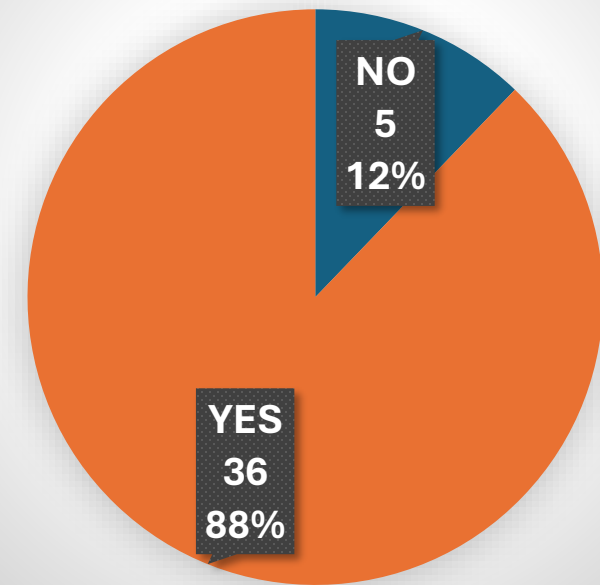
Did the investigator make attempts to contact all civilians?



# APR Division: May Audits

- Most but not all cases had allegations ultimately listed against the correct officers
- This often looks like someone alleging that “officers” took an action, but the investigation shows that only one officer was responsible
- Accuracy is important here, as officers have stressed to us that allegations on their record matter.

Were allegations listed against the correct officers?



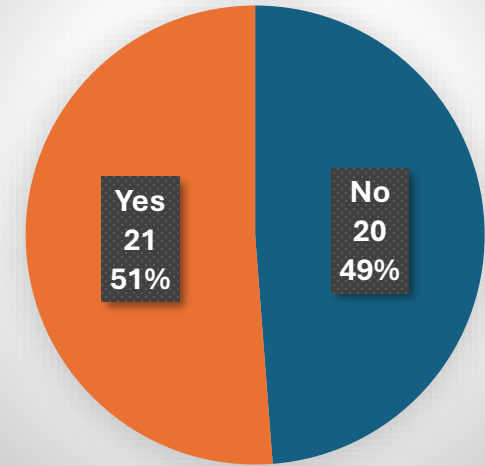
# APR Division: May Audits

About half of the cases reviewed in May had 1 or more sustained findings, but many of the sustained allegations were related to administrative violations

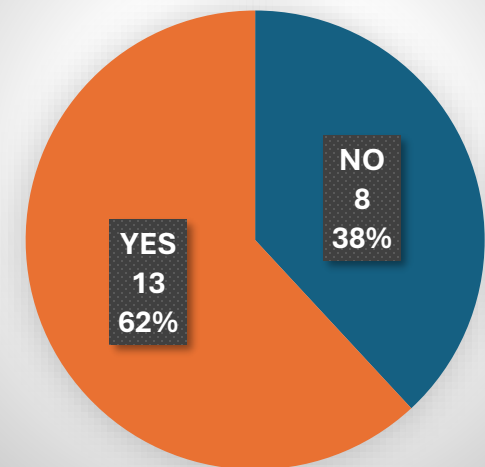
Admin violations are related to things like paperwork or other admin procedures, and do not relate to allegations made by a complainant.

Most of the cases with sustained allegations did not sustain the conduct alleged by the complainant.

Did the case have sustained findings?



Did the case sustain ONLY admin violations?

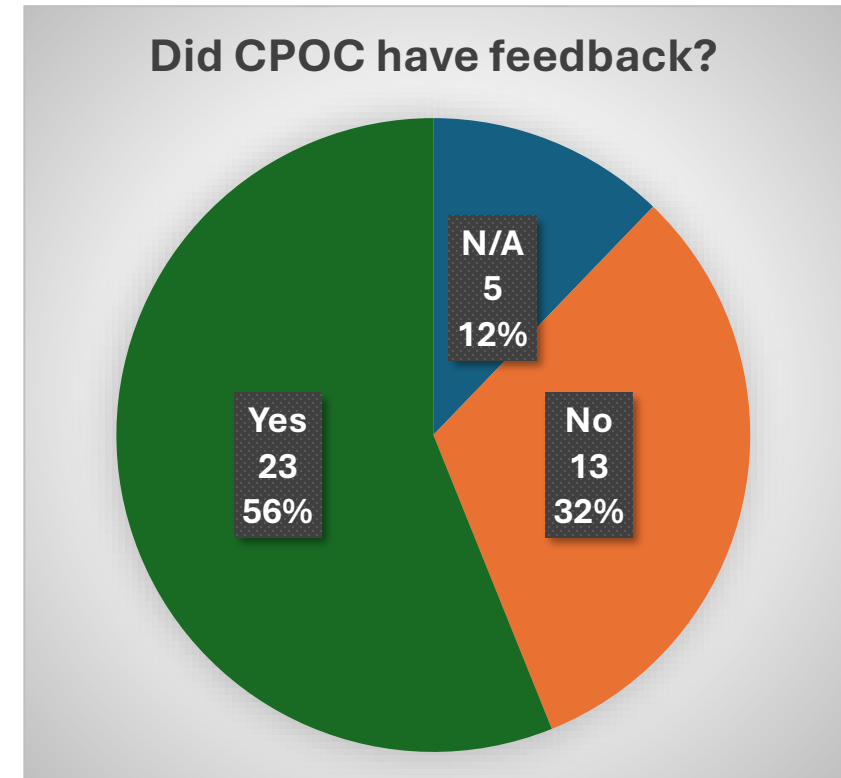


# APR Division: May Audits - Feedback

- Of the 41 full investigations we audited, we sent feedback memos for 23.
  - 5 N/A: 4 divisional cases and 1 case we reviewed but did not send memo due to arb hearing

Last month we had feedback for 50% of the cases we reviewed

In 2024 we had feedback for about 70% of cases, so this is a positive change!





# APR Division: May Audits - Feedback

- In the 23 feedback memos we sent, we made a total of 49 recommendations
  - 8 cases had just 1 recommendations
  - 15 cases had more than 1 recommendation


“Add missing admin violation(s)” was the most common recommendation.

We continue to recommend that all violations present be addressed so that behavior can be corrected.

Recommendations	Count
Add missing admin violation(s)	11
Adjust analysis/findings to match evidence	8
Interview all officers	4
List allegations against correct officers	4
Add missing CAP allegation(s)	4
Adjust allegation	4
Other recommendation	3
Contact all witnesses/make all attempts	3
Formatting error/typo/missing text	2
Inaccurate summary of BWC	2
Summarize all videos	1
Inaccurate summary of PPD interview	1
Add explanation - 90 day guideline	1
Check for BWC/note existence of BWC	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>49</b>




# APR Division: Why do these things matter?

- These data points are in the weeds, highlight why these specific aspects of investigations are important to assess
  - Consistency across investigations is critical for the accountability process.
  - The only way to ensure all cases are properly addressed is to make thorough investigations a part of institutional muscle memory.
  - We remain interested in standardizing investigations wherever possible to ensure consistency
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# APR Division: Other Recent Work

- BWC audit project
    - Team is squeezing this work in between audit work - very time consuming because videos can be very long
    - Results from our first district audited should be available soon!
  - Complaint intake, PBI hearings
  - Reviewing candidate applications
  - NACOLE proposal accepted!
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Citizens Police Oversight Commission

# Thank you for coming

Questions or comments?

Please raise your hand, type your question in  
the chat, or contact us:

[cpoc@phila.gov](mailto:cpoc@phila.gov) or (215) 685-0891



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