

Enforcement Statistics

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Q4

Patrick Lutfi
Enforcement Operations Branch
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Bureau of Automotive Repair

Disclaimer

The information presented in this handout is provided for informational purposes only. The Bureau of Automotive Repair makes every effort to gather accurate and reliable data. However, due to the dynamic nature of the reporting process, the data is subject to change and may vary depending on the specific time the report was generated. Therefore, it should be noted differences may exist between this reported data and other sources. Users are advised to exercise discernment when analyzing this report.

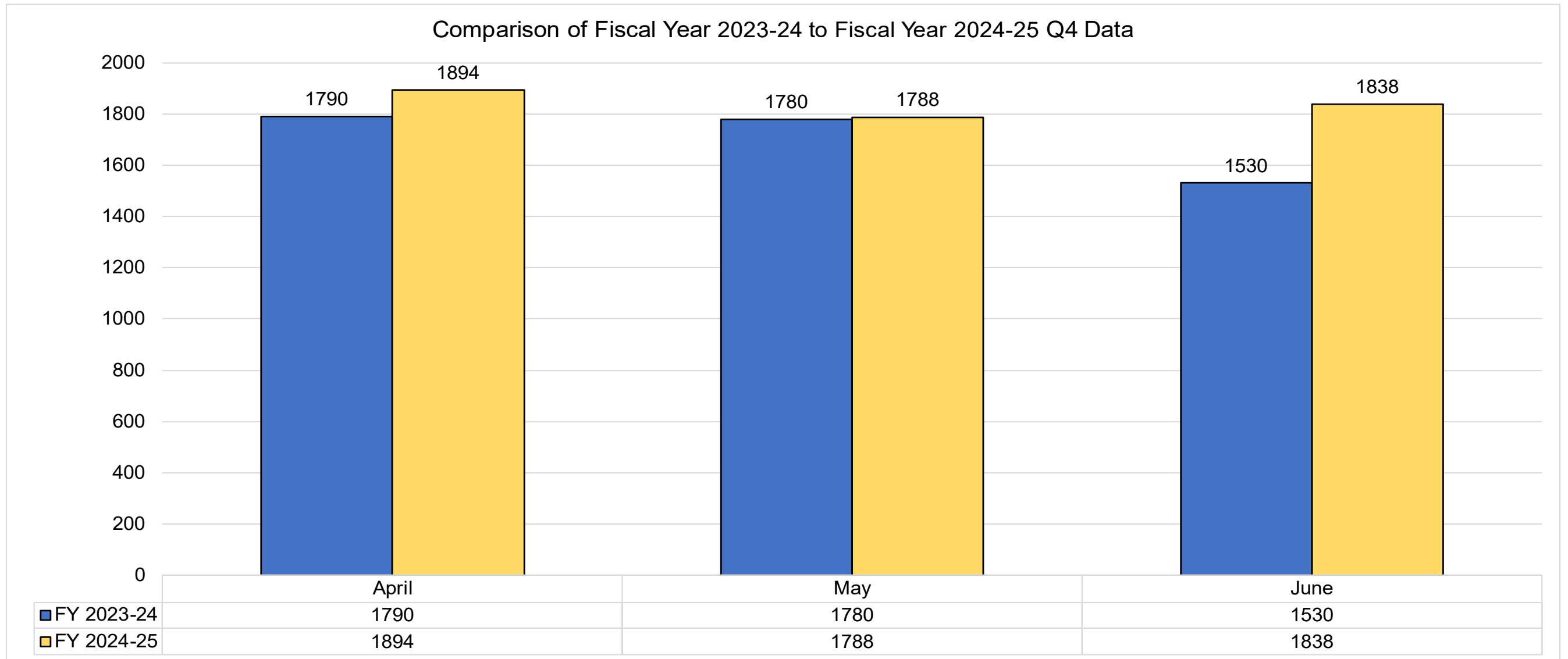
Enforcement Performance Measures

The California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) collects, analyzes, and reports various types of enforcement statistics to track the department's efficacy at managing the consumer complaint process. The [Enforcement Performance Measures](#) categories are:

- PM1 - Total number of complaints received during the reporting period including BAR investigations
- PM2 - Average number of days from receipt of a complaint to assignment to an investigator (BAR goal is 10 days)
- PM3 - Average number of days to investigate and close a case not resulting in formal discipline (goal is 60 days)
- PM4 - Average number of days from the opening of a formal investigation to the decision effective date (goal is 540 days)
- PM7 - Average number of days from probation monitor assignment to first contact with probationer (goal is 10 days)
- PM8 - Average number of days from a confirmed probation violation to taking the appropriate action (goal is 10 days)

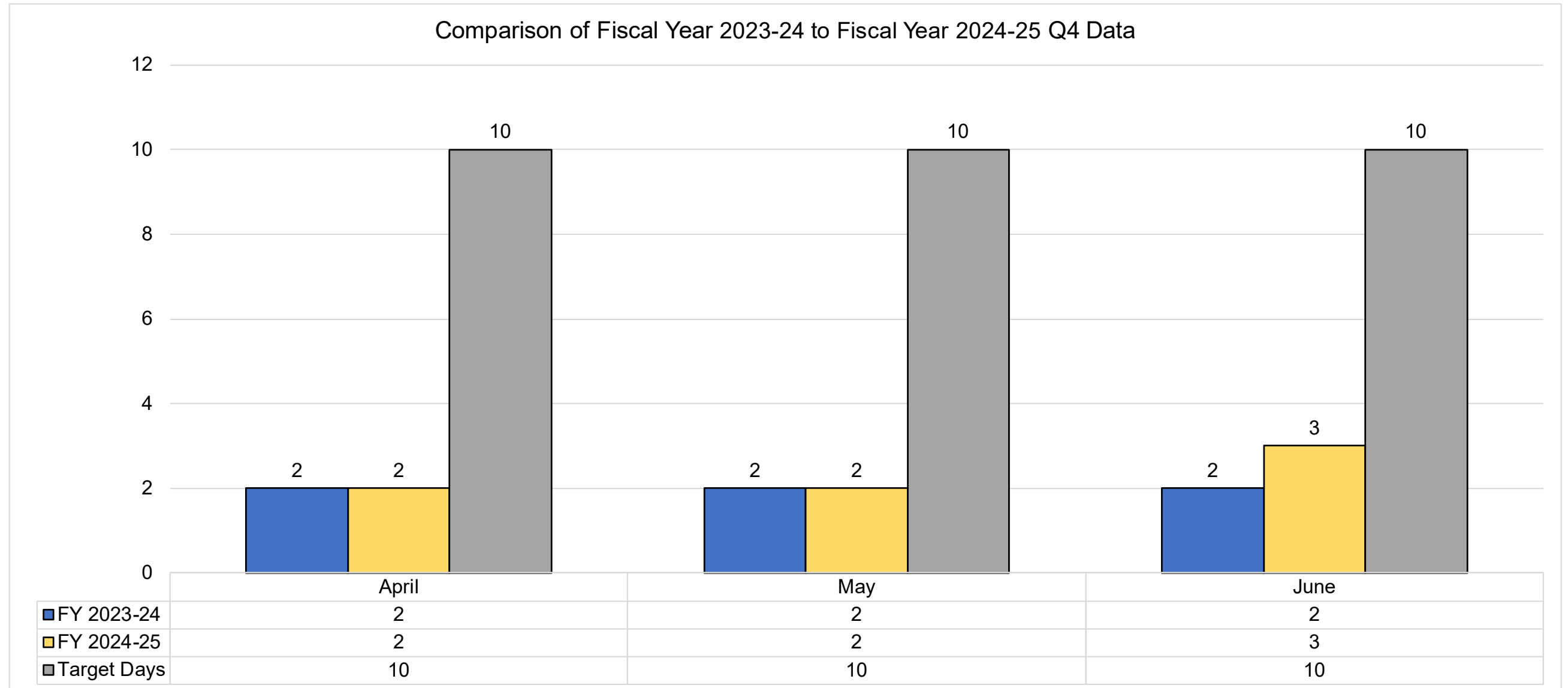
Performance Measure 1 - Complaint Volume

Total number of complaints received during the reporting period including BAR investigations



Performance Measure 2 - Complaint Assignment

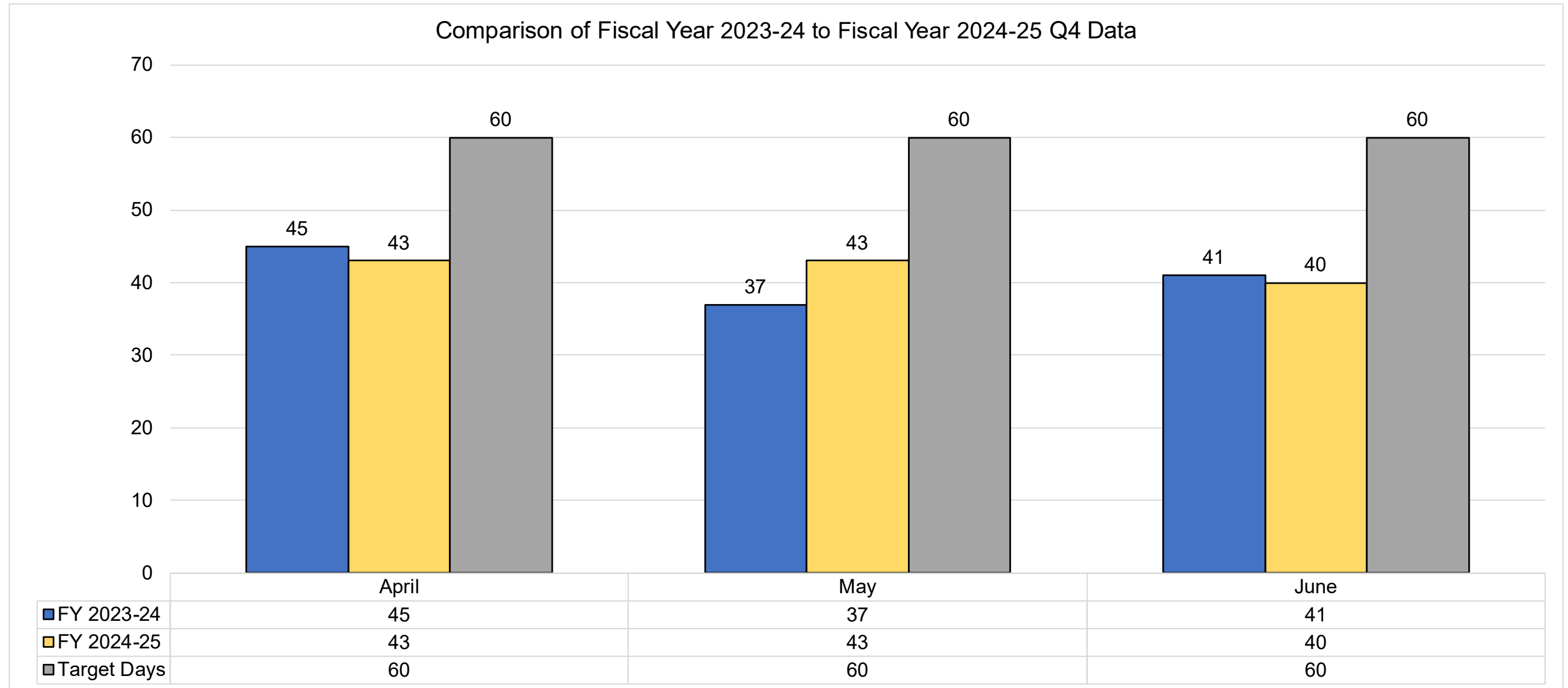
Average number of days from receipt of a complaint to assignment to an investigator*



*BAR goal is 10 days

Performance Measure 3 - Complaint Cycle Time

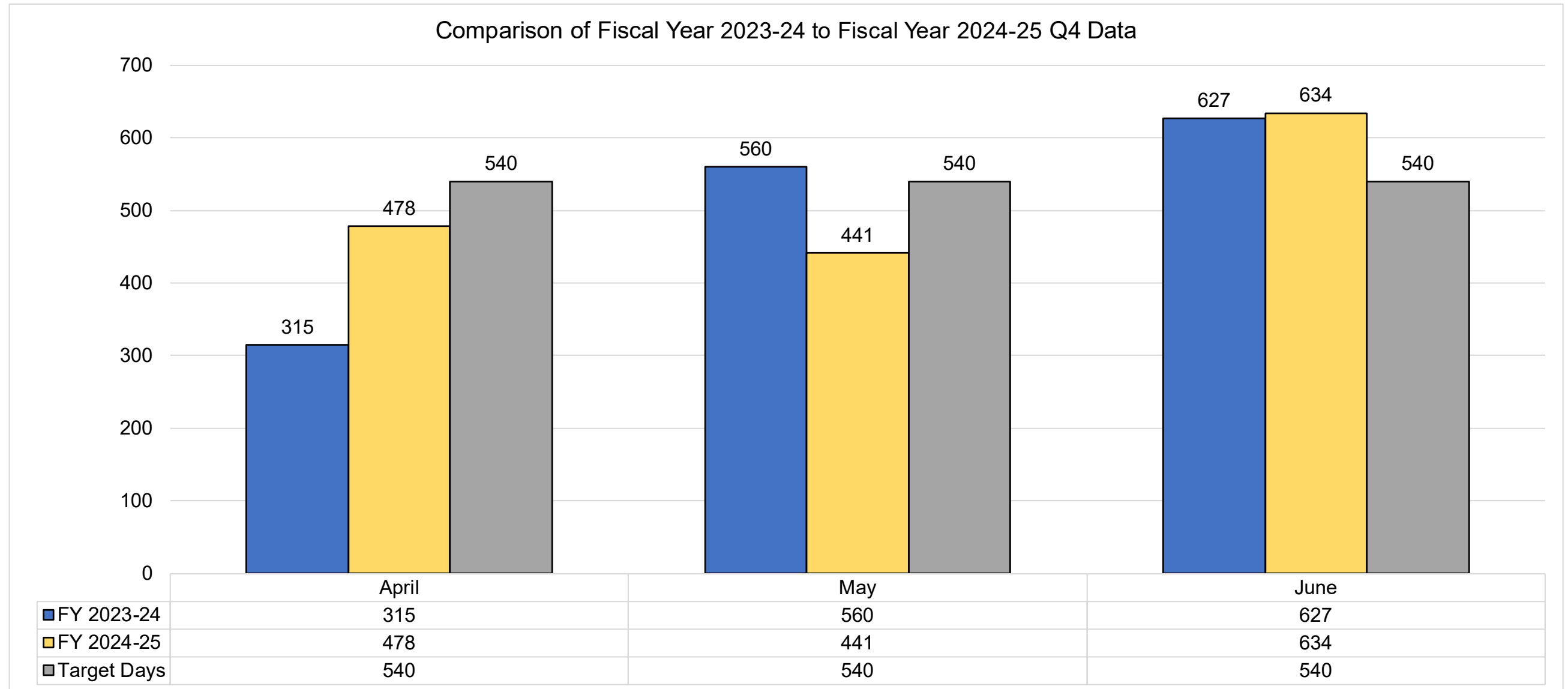
Average number of days to investigate and close a case not resulting in formal discipline*



*BAR goal is 60 days

Performance Measure 4 - Formal Discipline Time

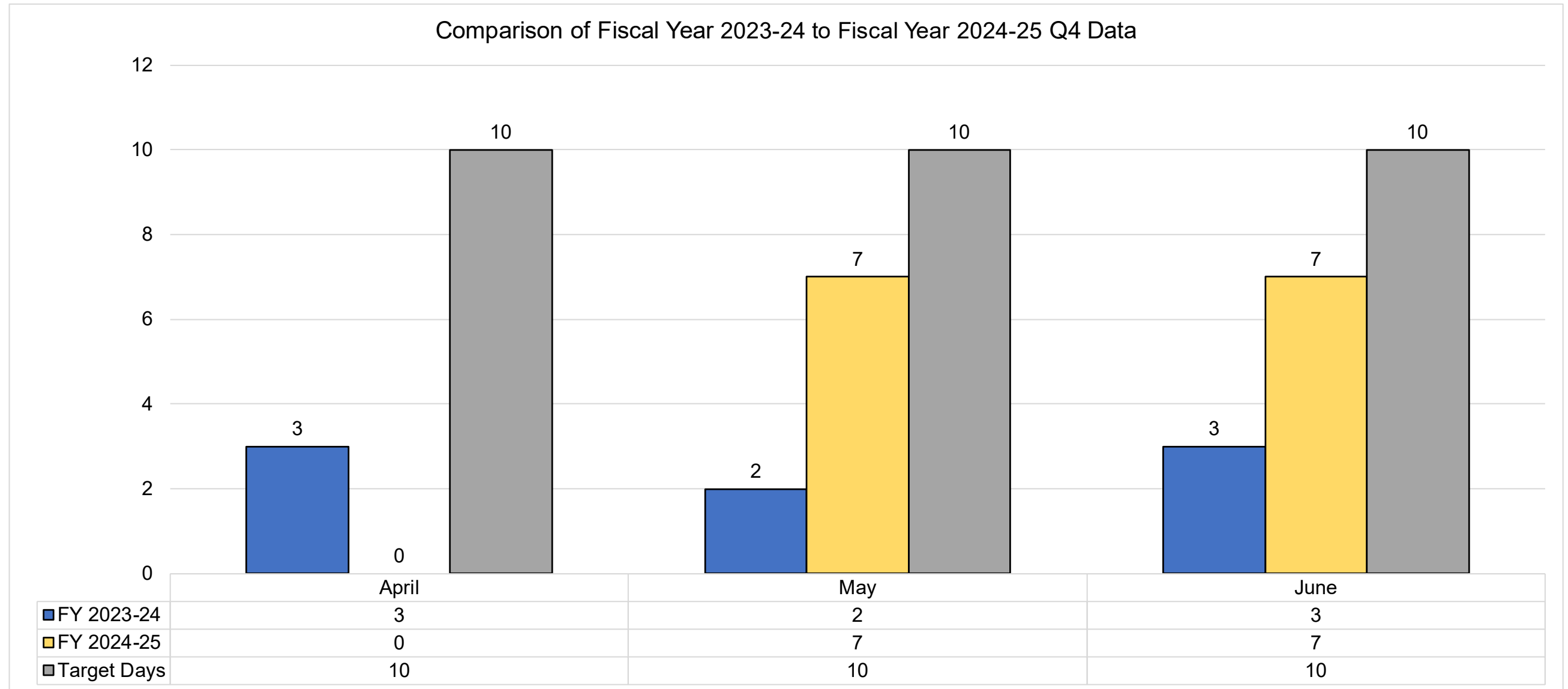
Average number of days from the opening of a formal investigation to the decision effective date*



*BAR goal is 540 days

Performance Measure 7 - Probation First Contact

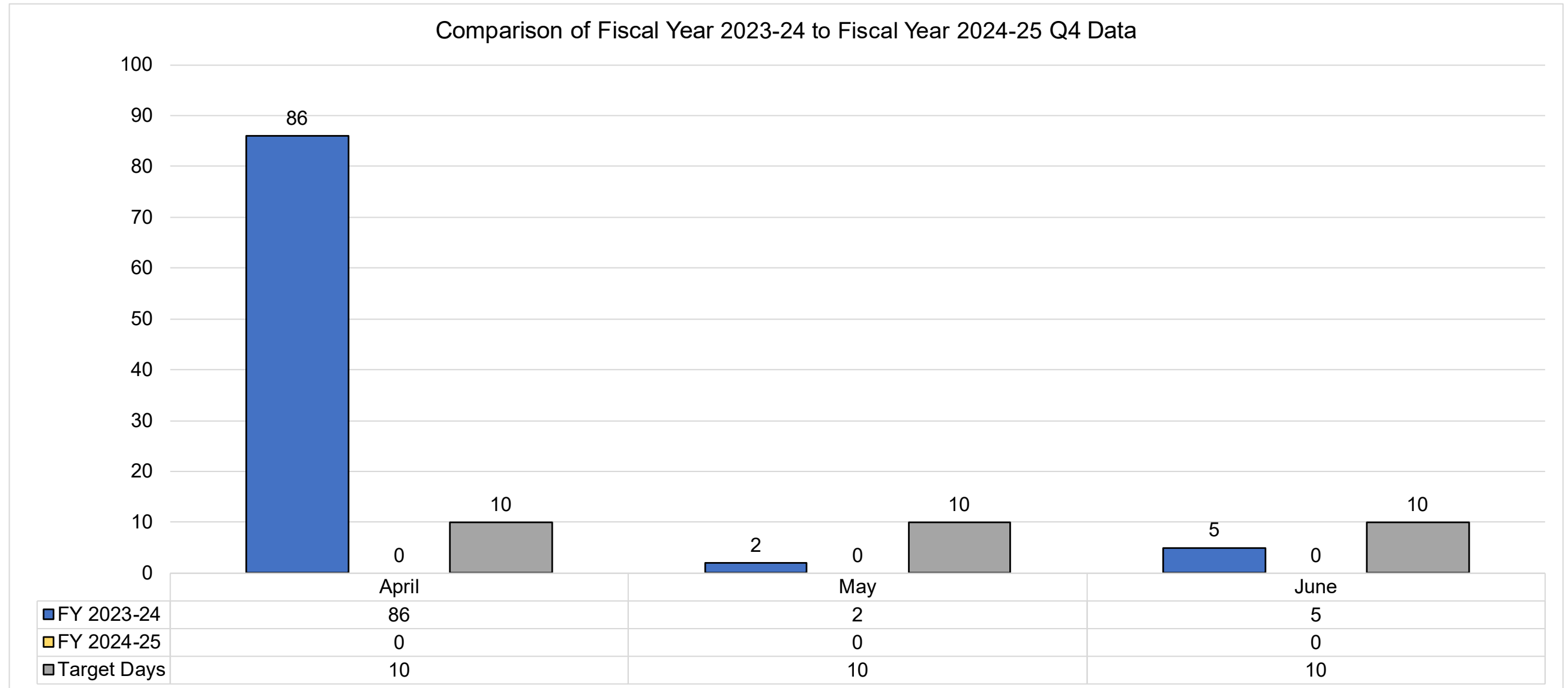
Average number of days from probation monitor assignment to first contact with probationer*



*BAR goal is 10 days

Performance Measure 8 - Probation Violation Response

Average number of days from a confirmed probation violation to taking the appropriate action*



*BAR goal is 10 days

Complaint Category And Allegations

- As part of every complaint investigation, the complaint category and up to three (3) consumer allegations are captured and recorded in order to monitor any trends or patterns of behavior by registrants and/or licensees with BAR.
- The complaint category is based on the specific area of repair in which the consumer was originally seeking services and these specific areas are then grouped into one (1) of ten (10) general categories.
- The complaint allegations are categorized by the consumer's experienced issues during the repair transaction and the specific area in which the issues relate to the laws and/or regulations within BAR's jurisdiction.
- The top five (5) allegations for each complaint category are displayed on some subsequent slides.
 - Please note that given the unique nature of each complaint there can and almost always will be more than five (5) types of allegations per complaint category and for that same reason can change from year to year, hence separate charts for fiscal year to fiscal year comparisons.

Complaint Category Totals

Auto Body	Number of Complaints
Auto Body	623
Auto Glass	43
Total	666

Engine Repair and Engine Performance	Number of Complaints
Computer Controls	40
Cooling System	104
Engine Diagnosis	243
Electrical	198
Engine Overhaul / Replacement	171
Engine Repair	604
Flushing	10
Fuel System	46
Machine Shop	2
Tune-Up	8
Total	1426

General Repair and Maintenance	Number of Complaints
Air Conditioning / Heat	34
Brakes	126
Drive Train	48
Exhaust	36
General Repair	5
Lube / Oil Change	139
Suspension / Steering	128
Tires / Wheels	124
Total	640

Smog	Number of Complaints
Clean Gassing	0
Clean Piping	1
Clean Tanking	0
Clean Plugging	0
Delinquent Citation	0
Exhaust System (Smog)	31
Emission Test Procedure	4
Emissions Warranty	8
Functional Test Procedure	1
Gorss Polluter	0
NOX Failures	0
Referee	0
Repair Only (Smog)	2
Sublet (Smog)	3
Smog Cost Limit	5
Station	5
Smog Repair	44
Illegal Smog / Car Sale	30
Smog Test Procedures	92
Test Only	8
Technician	3
Visual Smog Check Procedure	6
Zero Emission Vehicle	1
Total	244

Towing and Storage	Number of Complaints
Lien Sales / Storage Charges	8
Storage Fees	44
Towing	82
Total	134

Transmission	Number of Complaints
Automatic Transmission	245
Manual Transmission / Clutch	16
Total	261

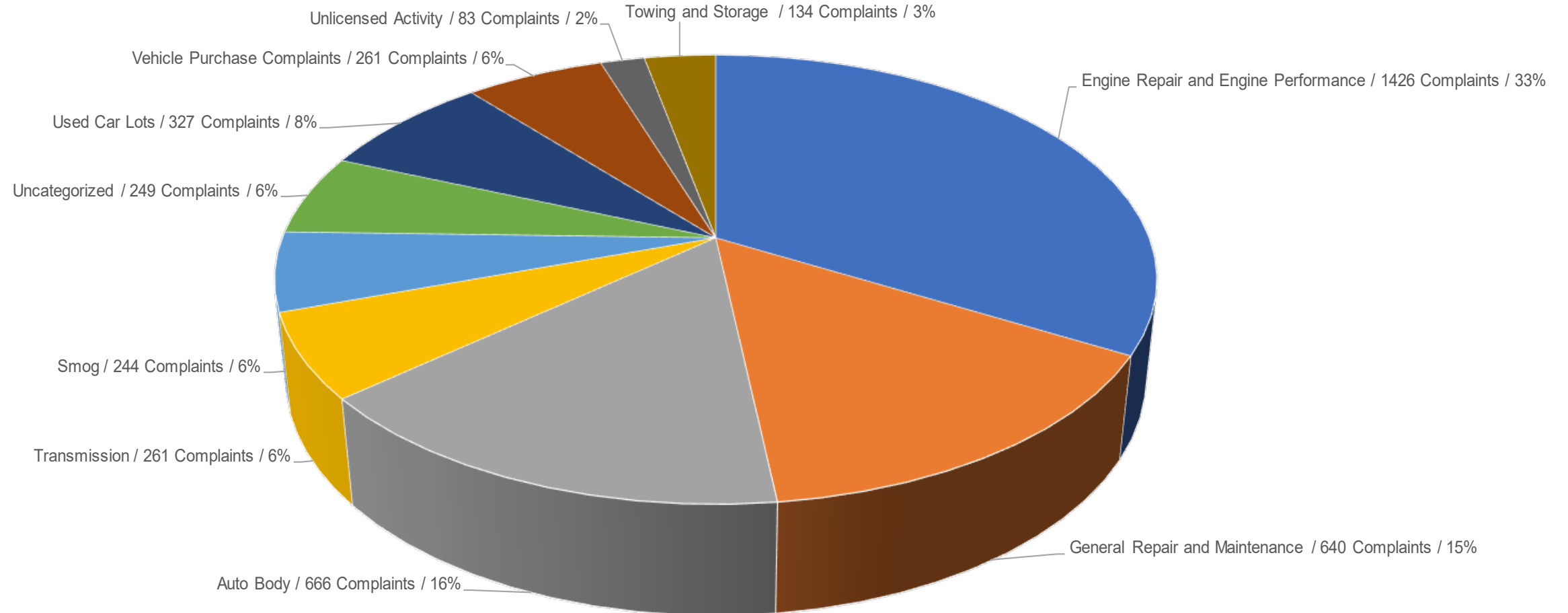
Uncategorized	Number of Complaints
Brake Certification	1
Boat Repair	5
Ignition Inerlock Device	1
Lamp Certification	0
Motorcycle Repair	32
Other	137
Part Sale	57
Upholstery	16
Total	249

Unlicensed Activity	Number of Complaints
Unlicensed Activity	83
Total	83

Used Car Lots	Number of Complaints
Used Car Lots	327
Total	327







































Vehicle Purchase Complaints	Number of Complaints
New Car / Lemon Law	32
Vehicle Warranty	130
Repair Warranty	99
Total	261

Complaint Category Summary

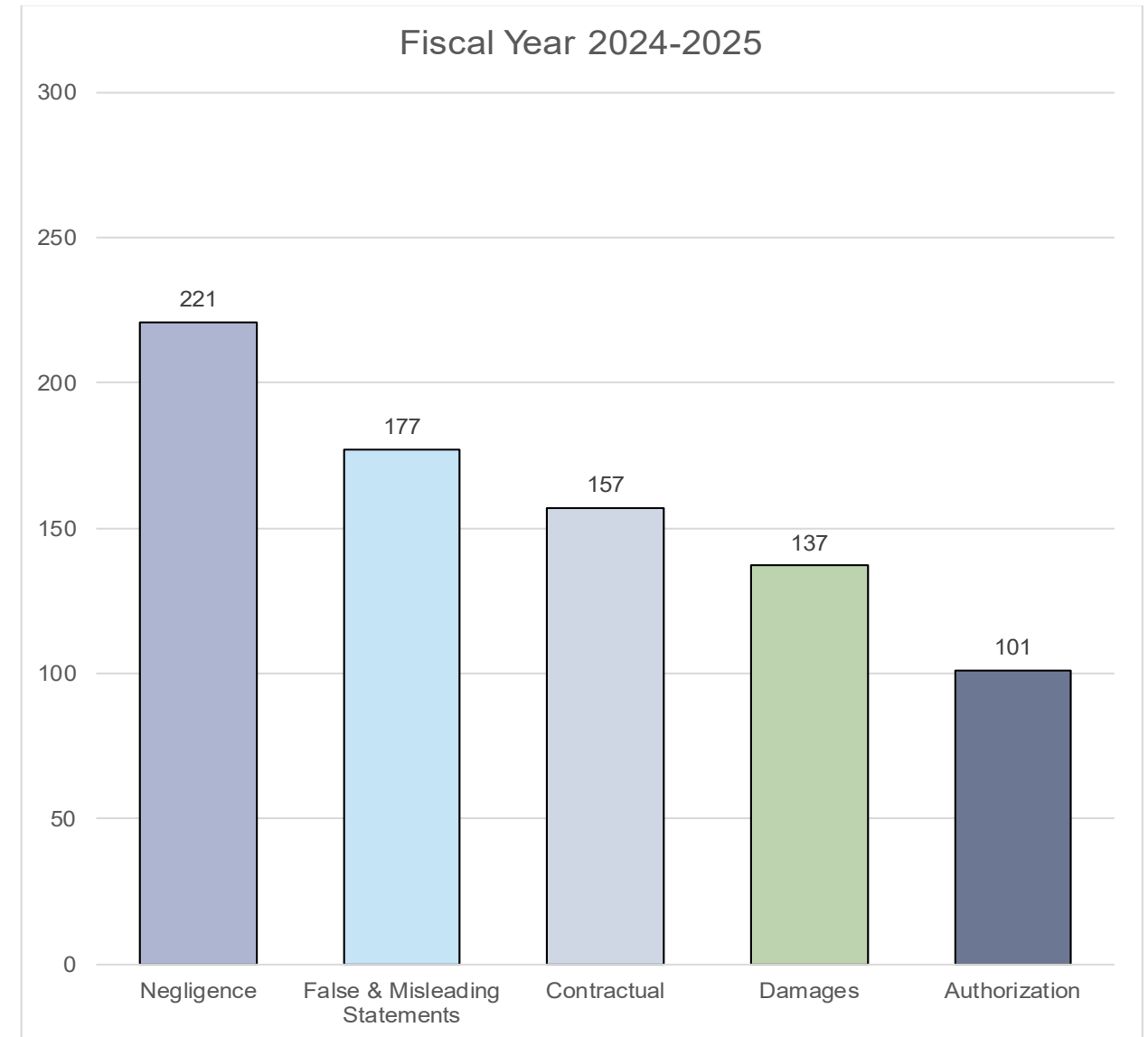
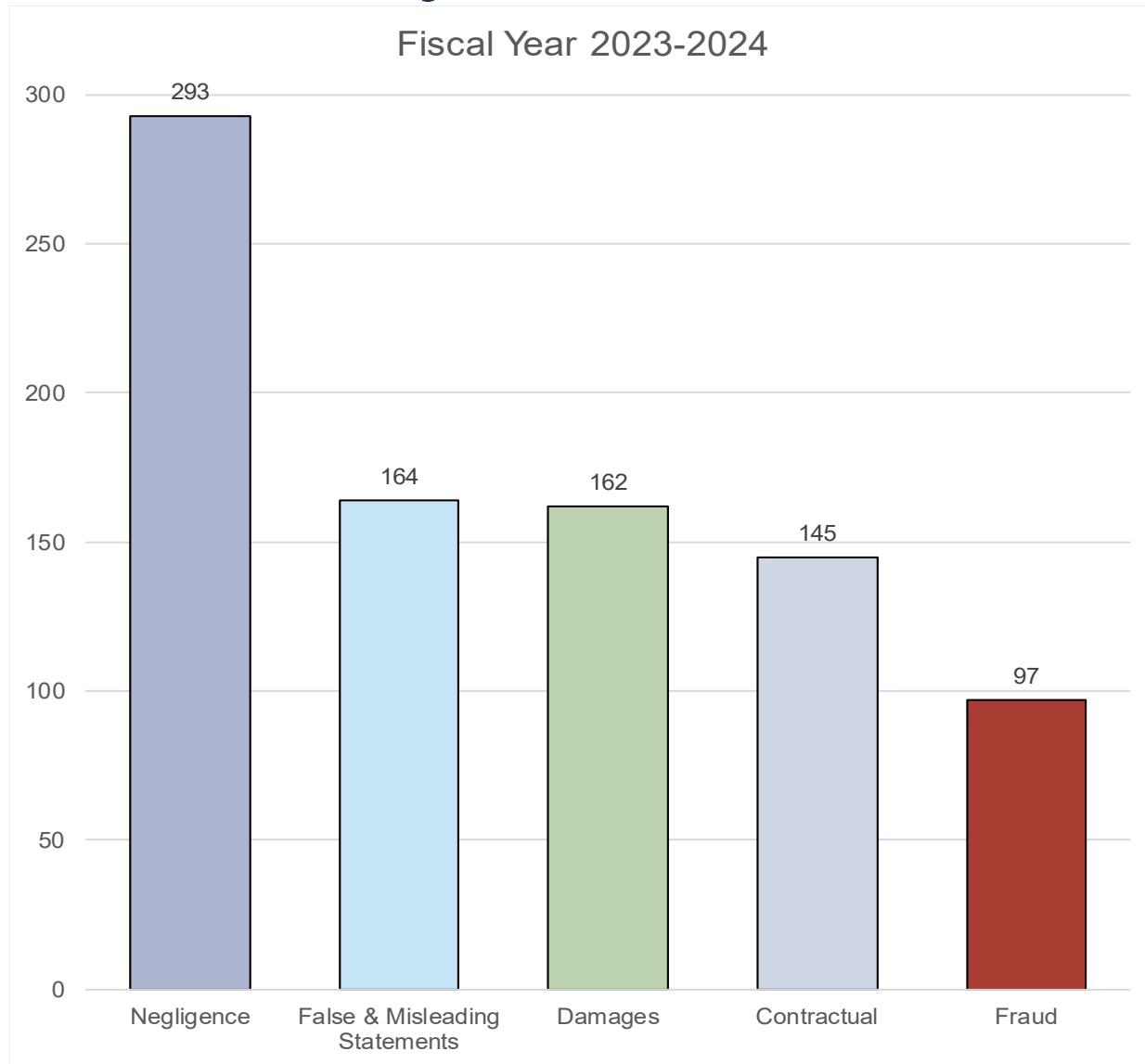


- Engine Repair and Engine Performance / 1426 Complaints / 33%
- Auto Body / 666 Complaints / 16%
- Smog / 244 Complaints / 6%
- Used Car Lots / 327 Complaints / 8%
- Unlicensed Activity / 83 Complaints / 2%
- General Repair and Maintenance / 640 Complaints / 15%
- Transmission / 261 Complaints / 6%
- Uncategorized / 249 Complaints / 6%
- Vehicle Purchase Complaints / 261 Complaints / 6%
- Towing and Storage / 134 Complaints / 3%

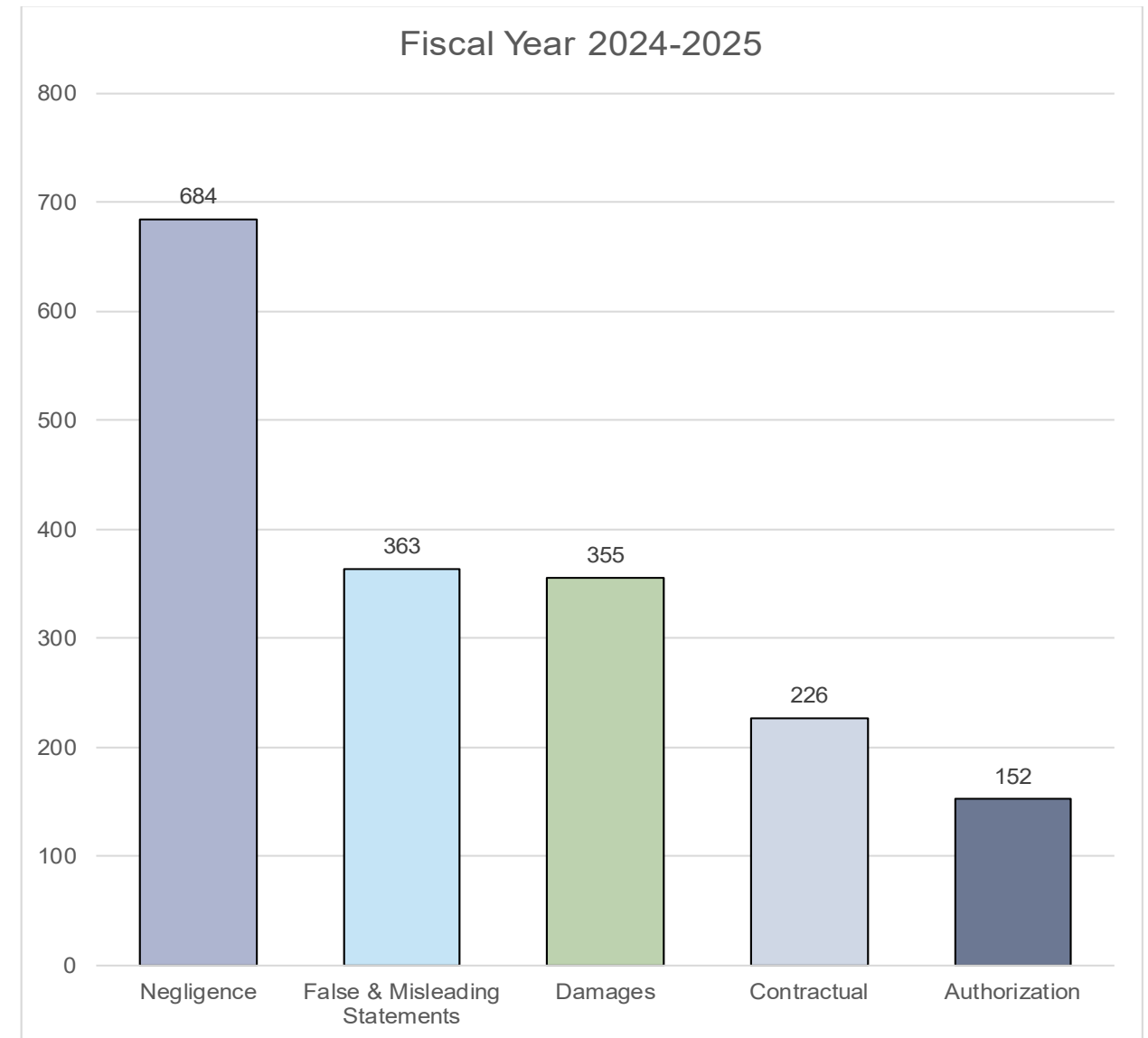
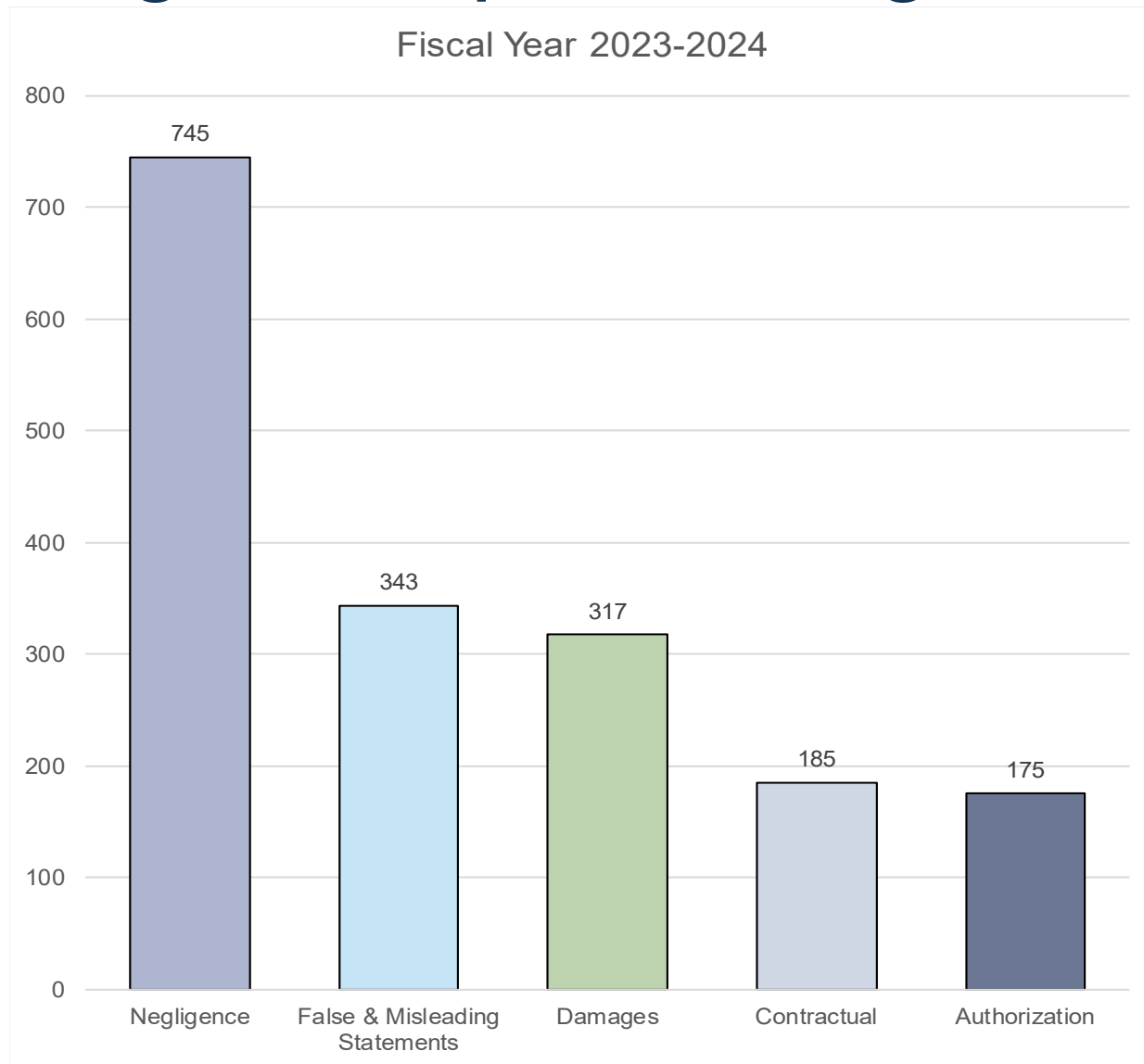
Complaint Allegations

	False Advertising		Fraud		Product Quality
	Authorization		Gross Negligence		Repair Waiver
	Bait and Switch		General Repair		Sexual Abuse
	Incompetence/Negligence		Health & Safety		Illegal Sublet
	Contractual		Improper Smog Inspection		Illegal Storage Fees
	Clean Piping		Invoice		Test/Repair Station Req
	Clean Plugging		Illegal Lien Sale		Theft/Personal Property
	Damages		Other Allegations		Unlicensed
	Delinquent Citation		New Car/Lemon Law		Unprofessional Conduct
	Engine Failure		Non-Qualified Test/Repair		Unlicensed Station/Technician
	Smog Equipment Maintenance/Calibration		Oversell		Warranty - New/Used Vehicles
	Estimates		Actual or Potential Harm		Warranty - Repairs
	Failure To Honor a Warranty				
	False & Misleading Statements				

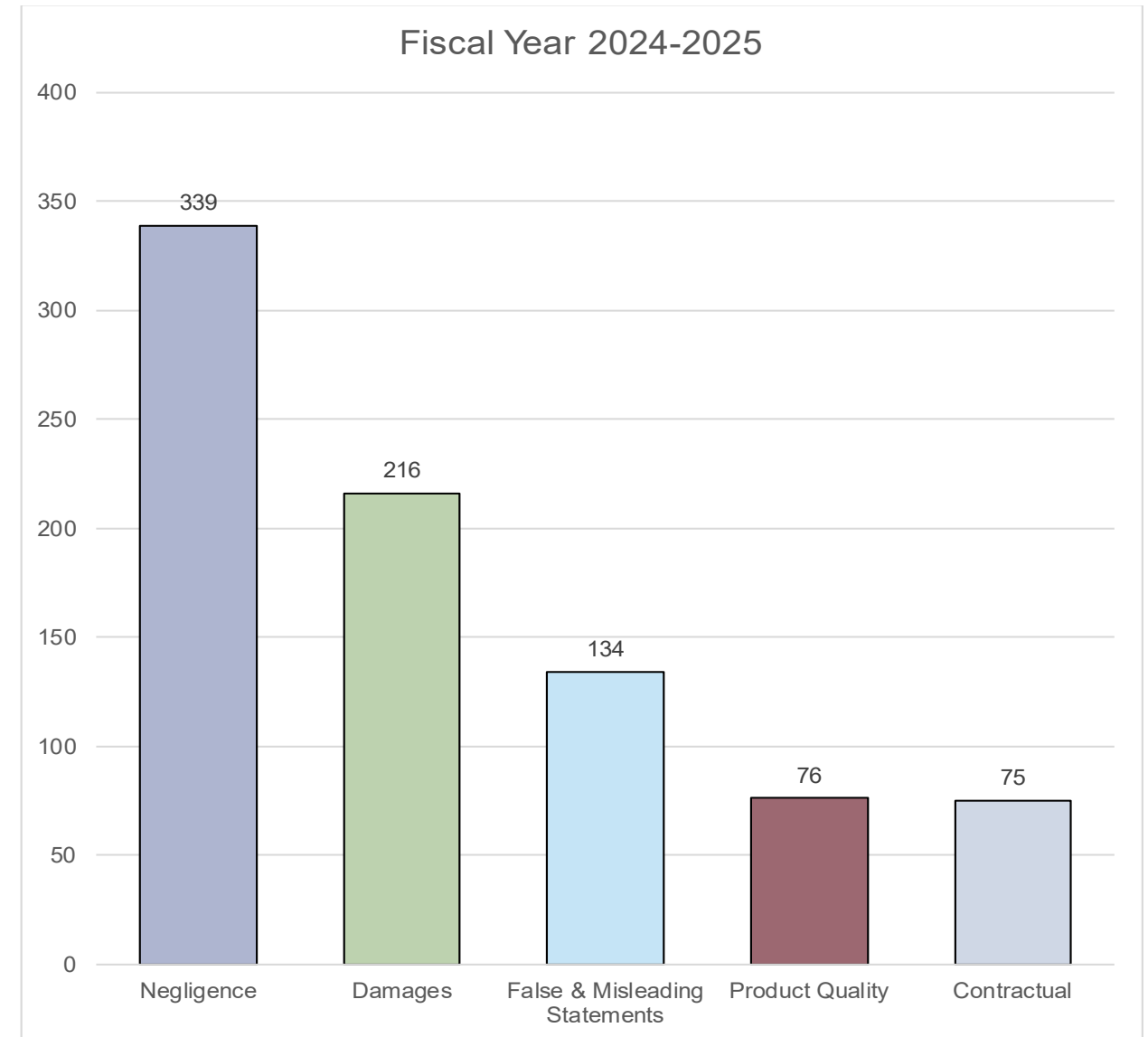
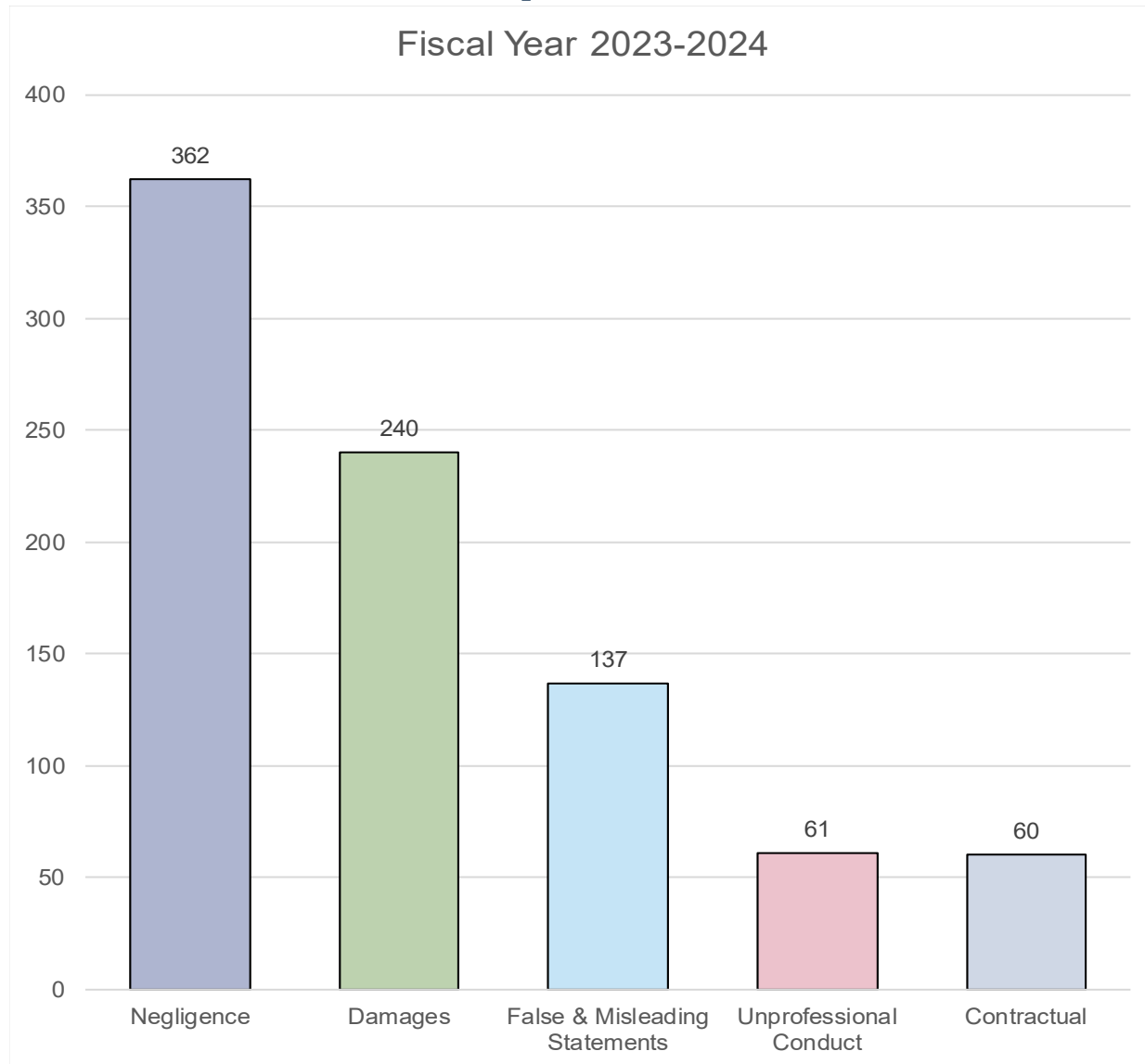
Top Five Complaint Allegations Auto Body



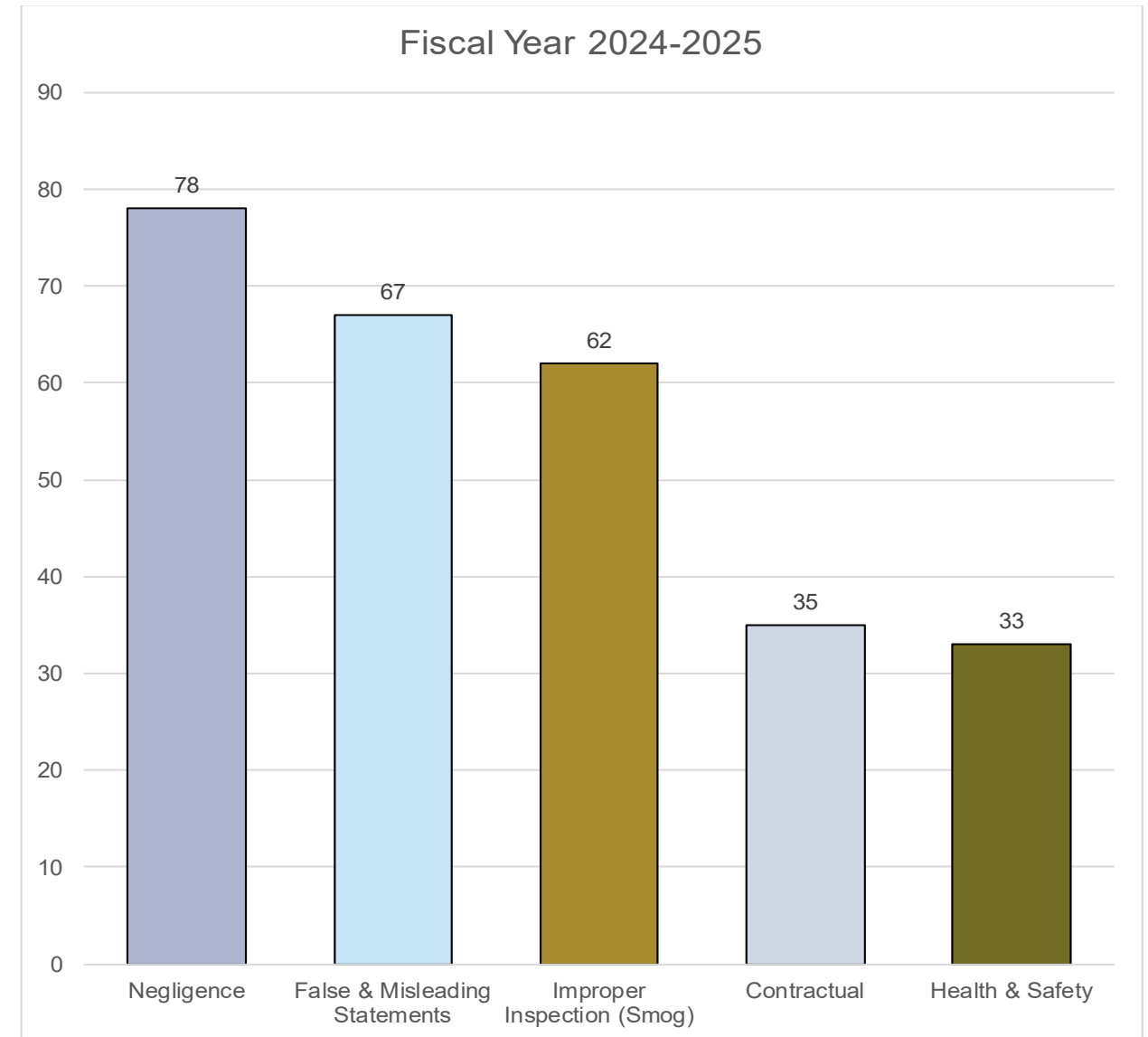
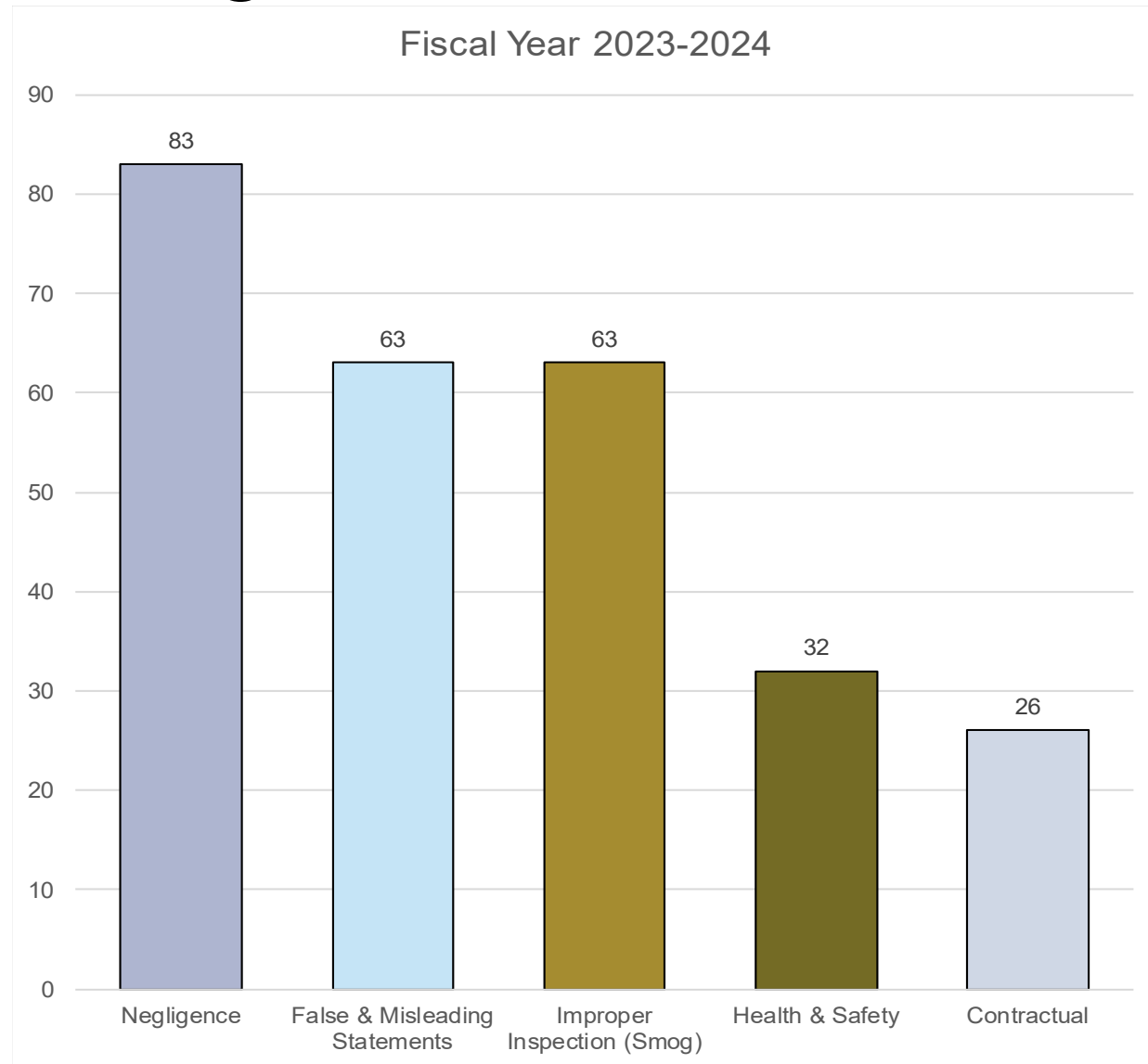
Top Five Complaint Allegations Engine Repair & Engine Performance



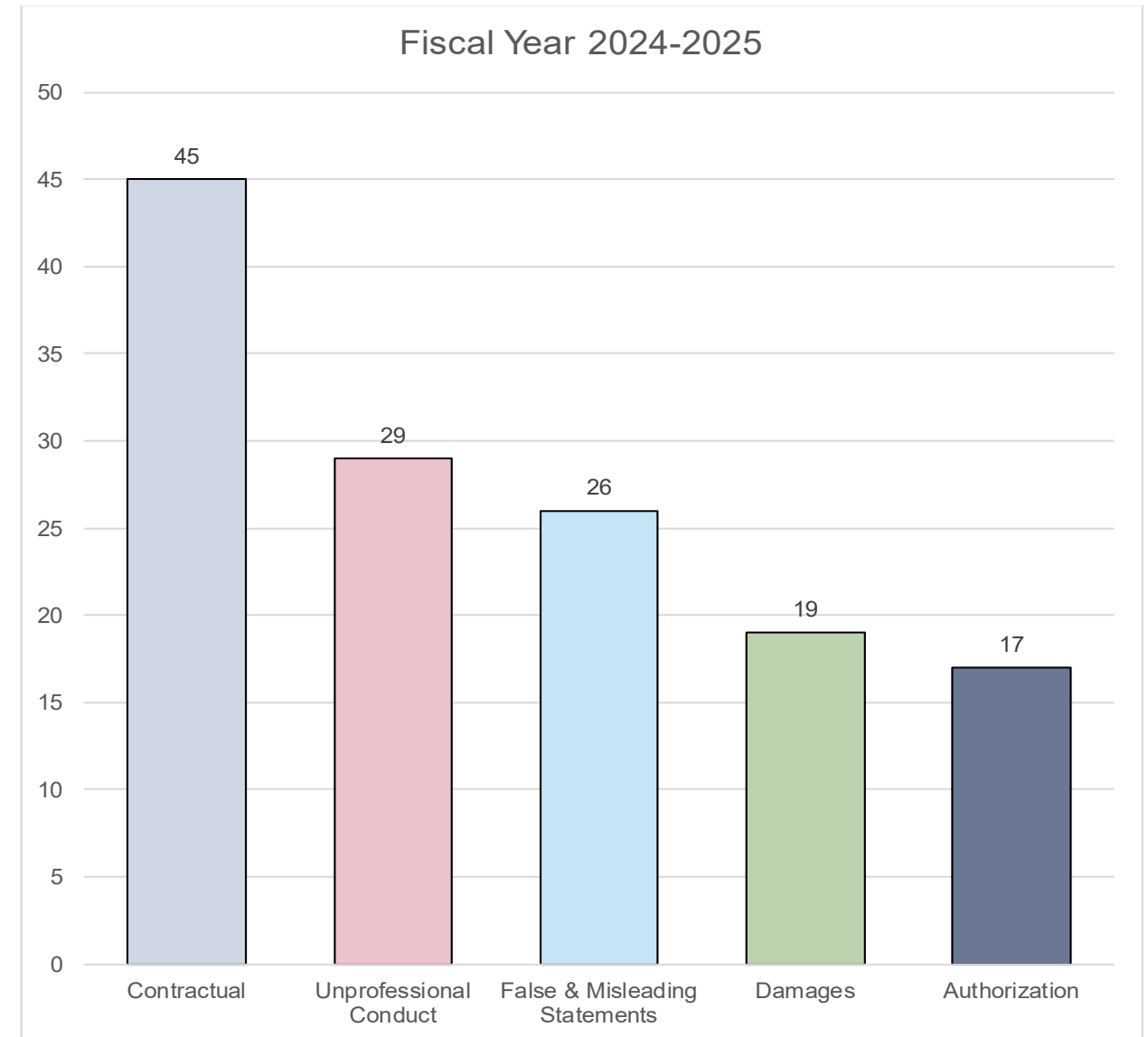
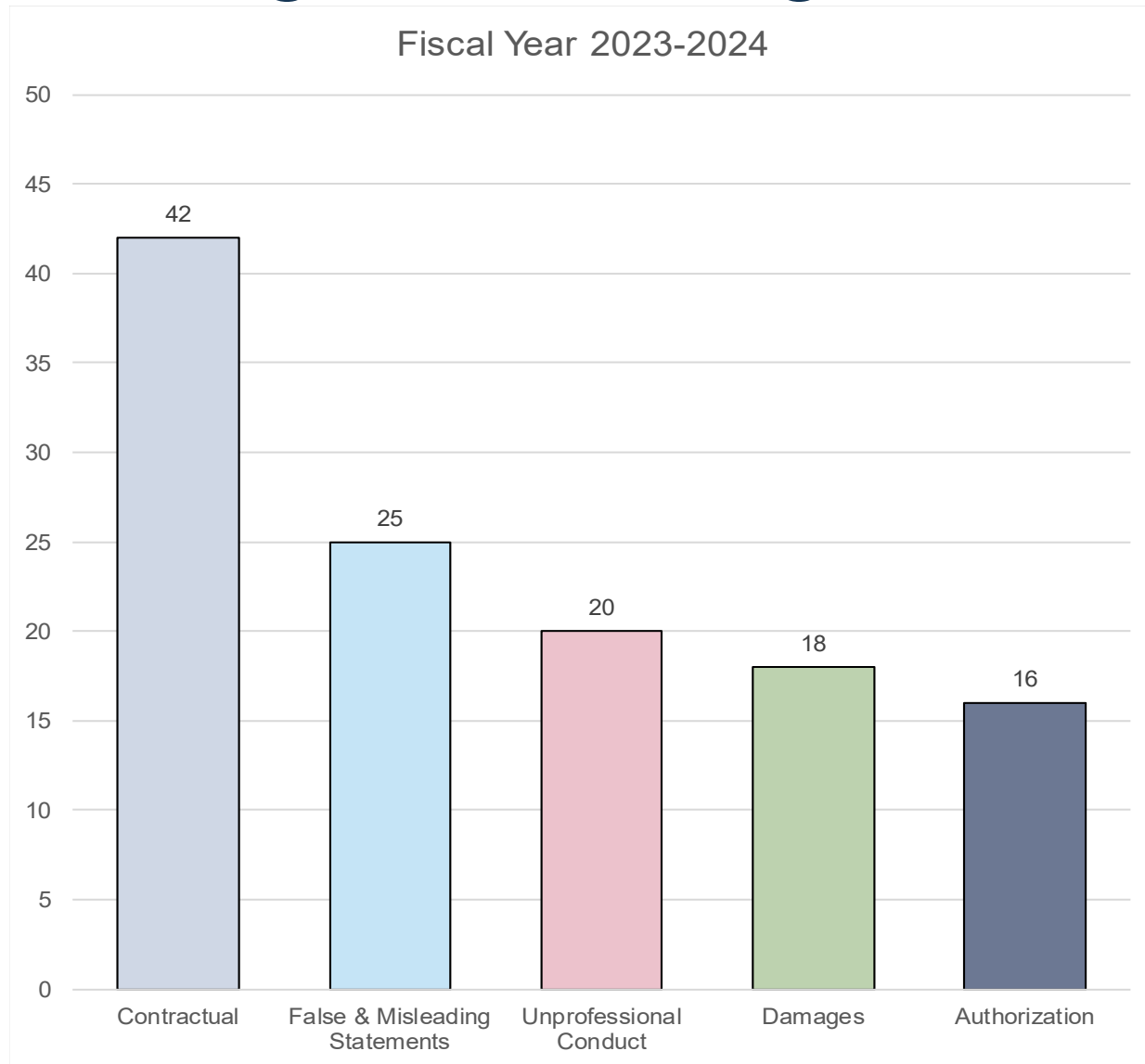
Top Five Complaint Allegations General Repair & Maintenance



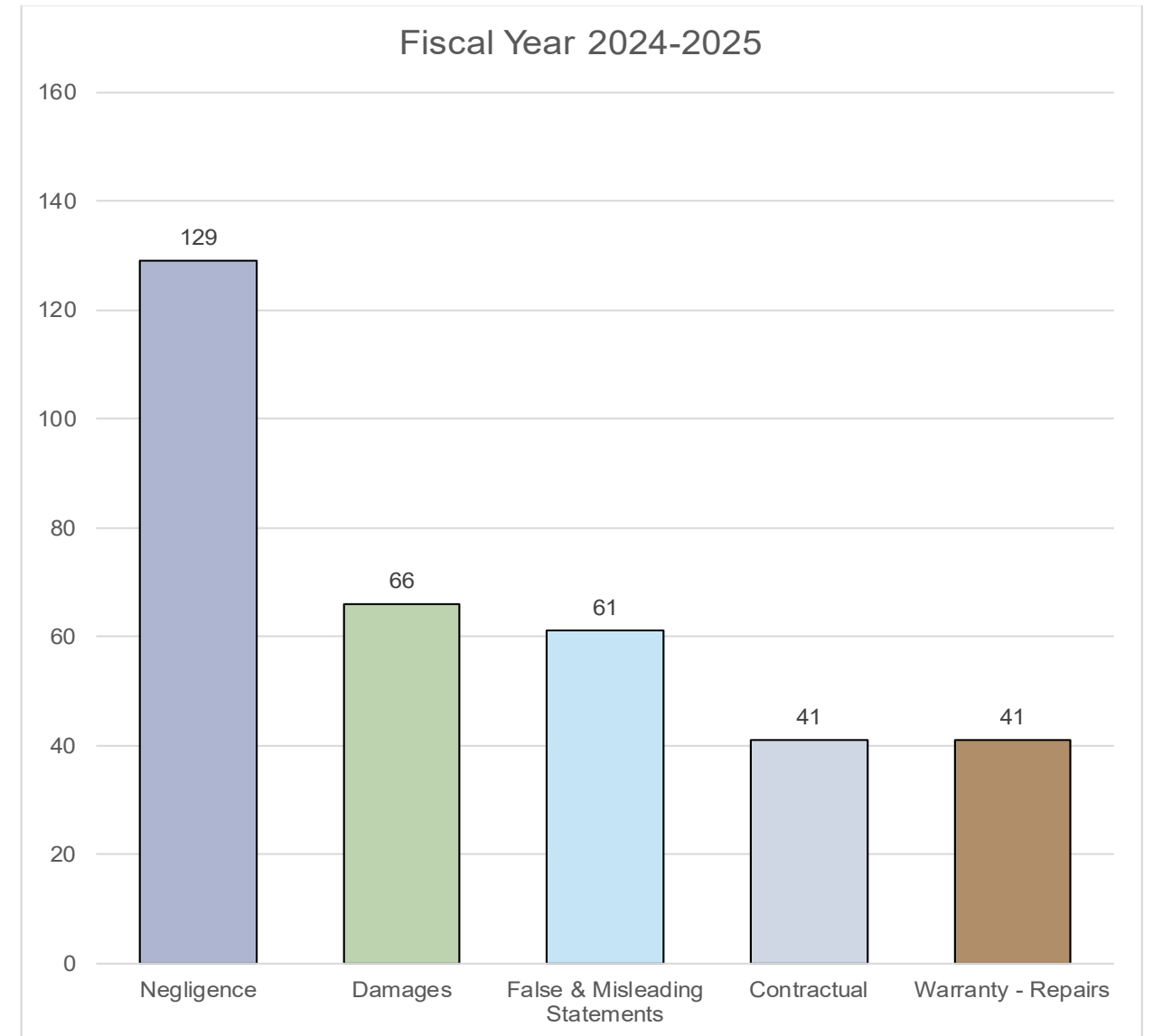
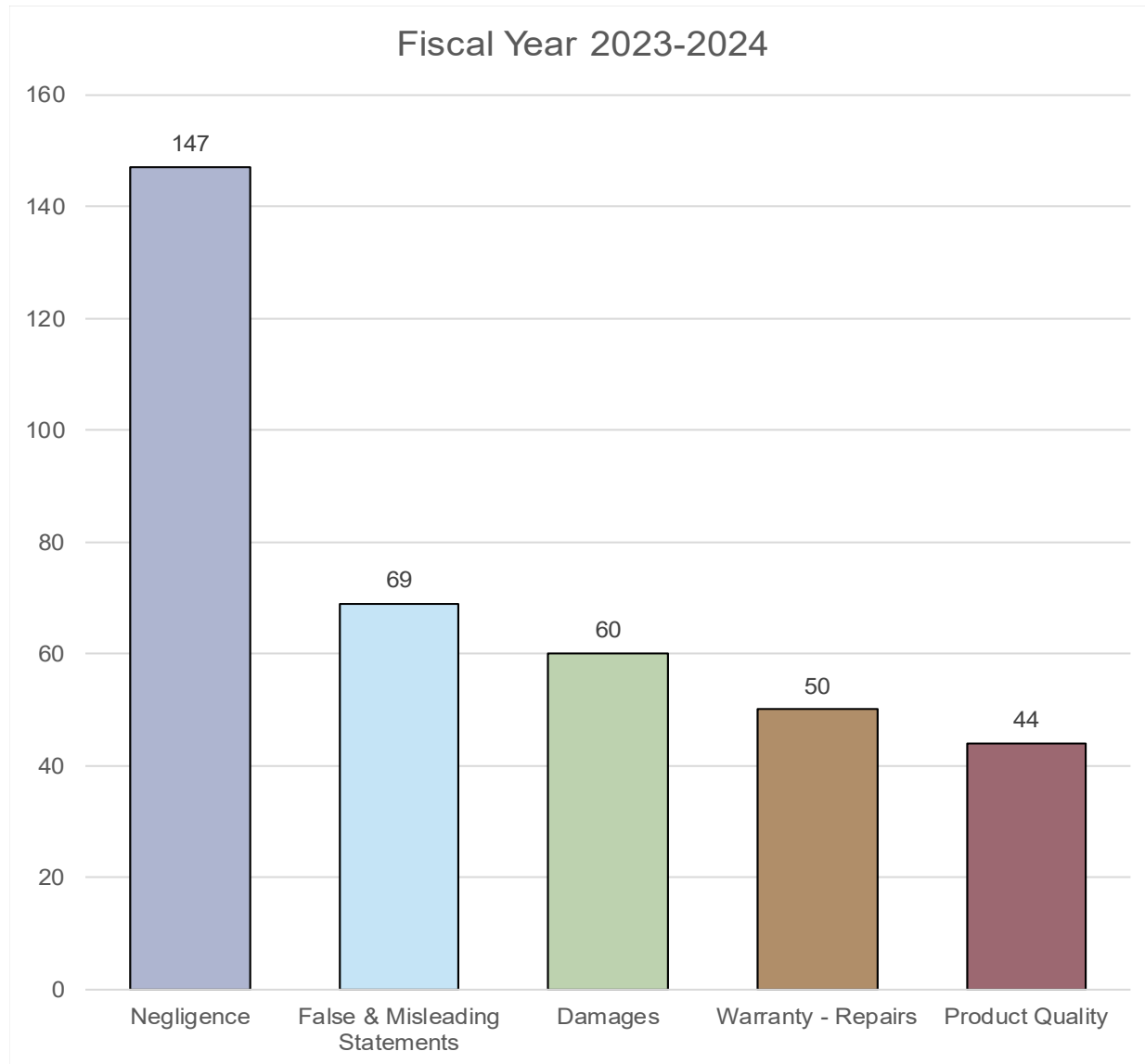
Top Five Complaint Allegations Smog



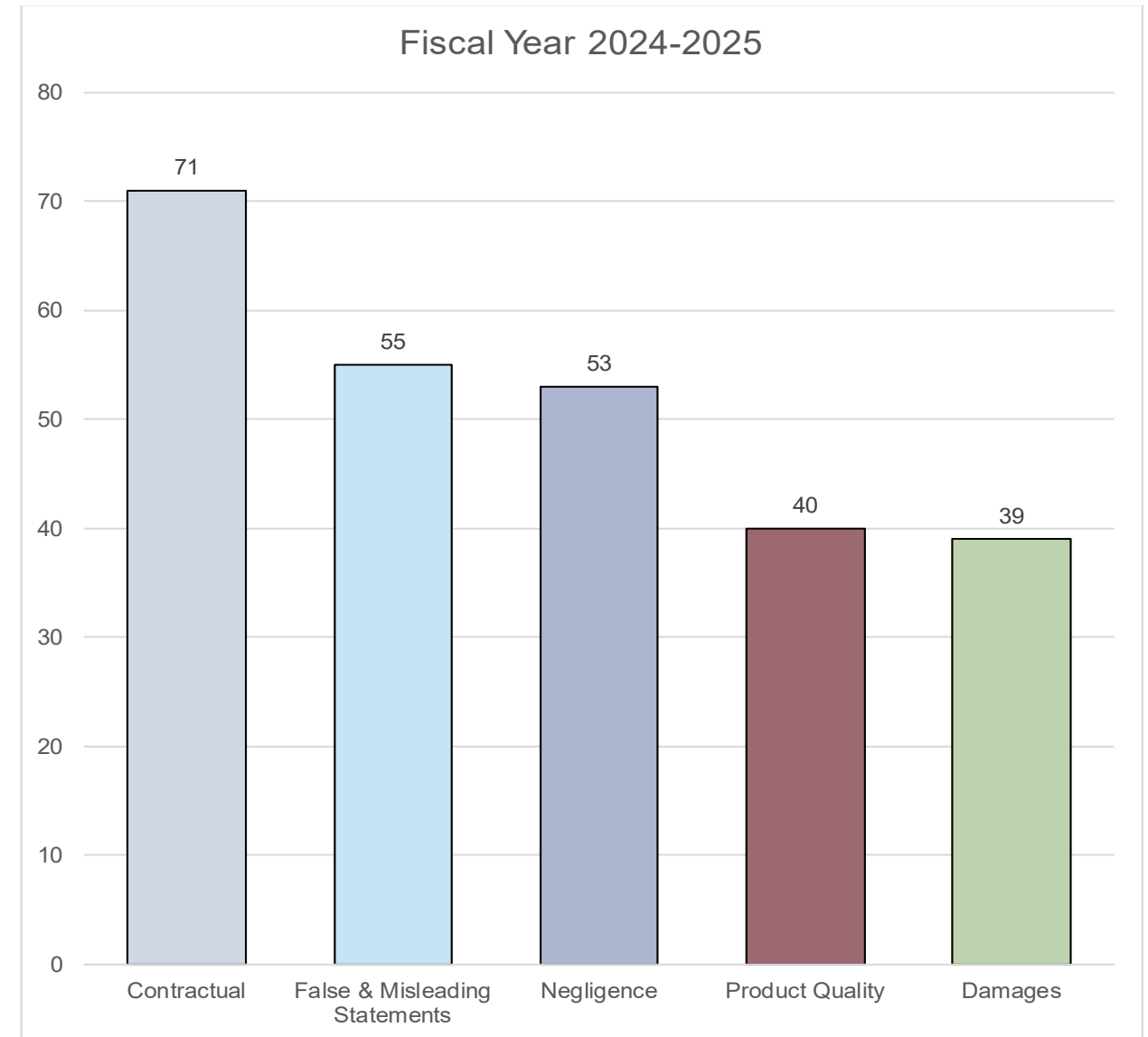
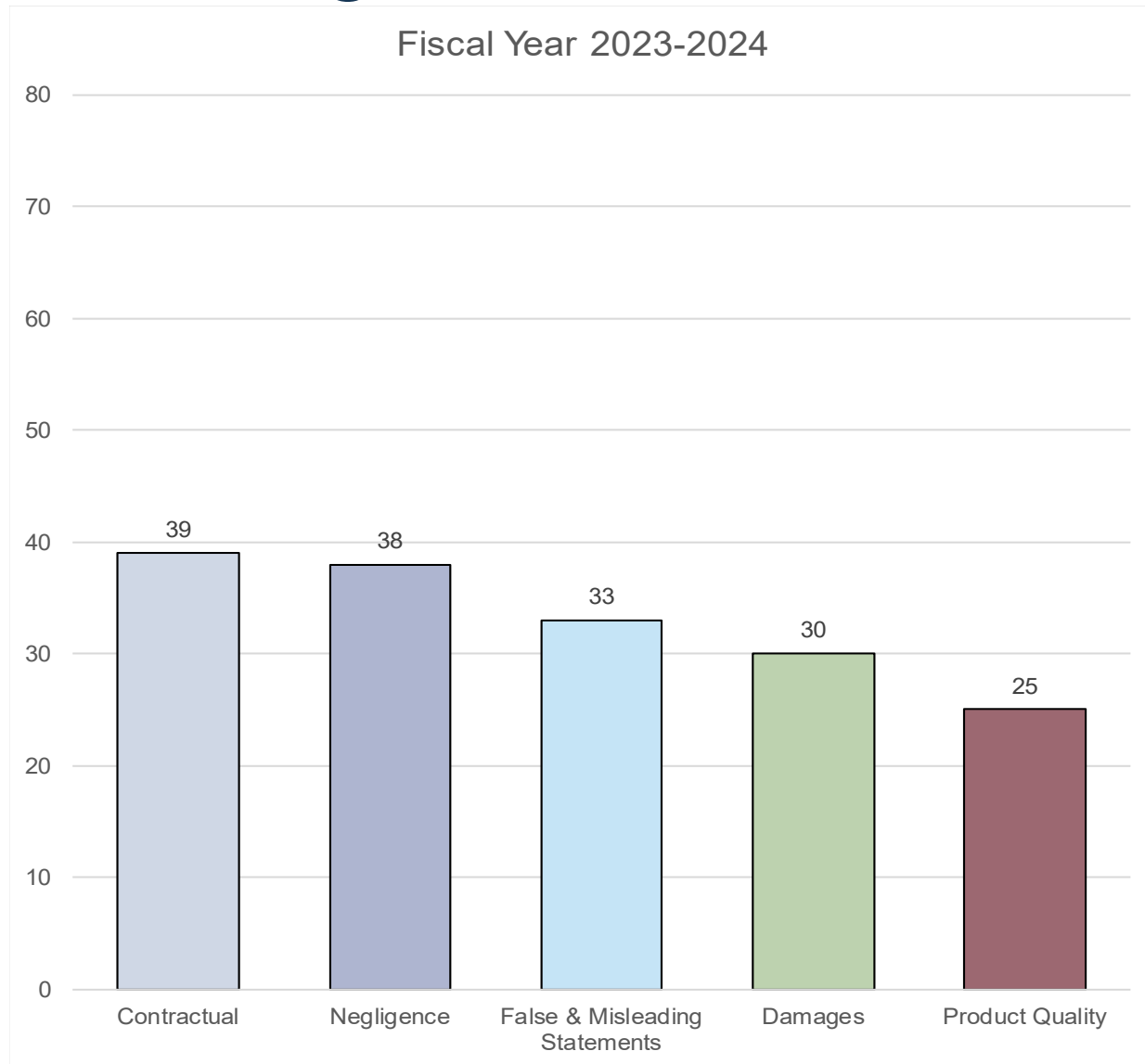
Top Five Complaint Allegations Towing and Storage



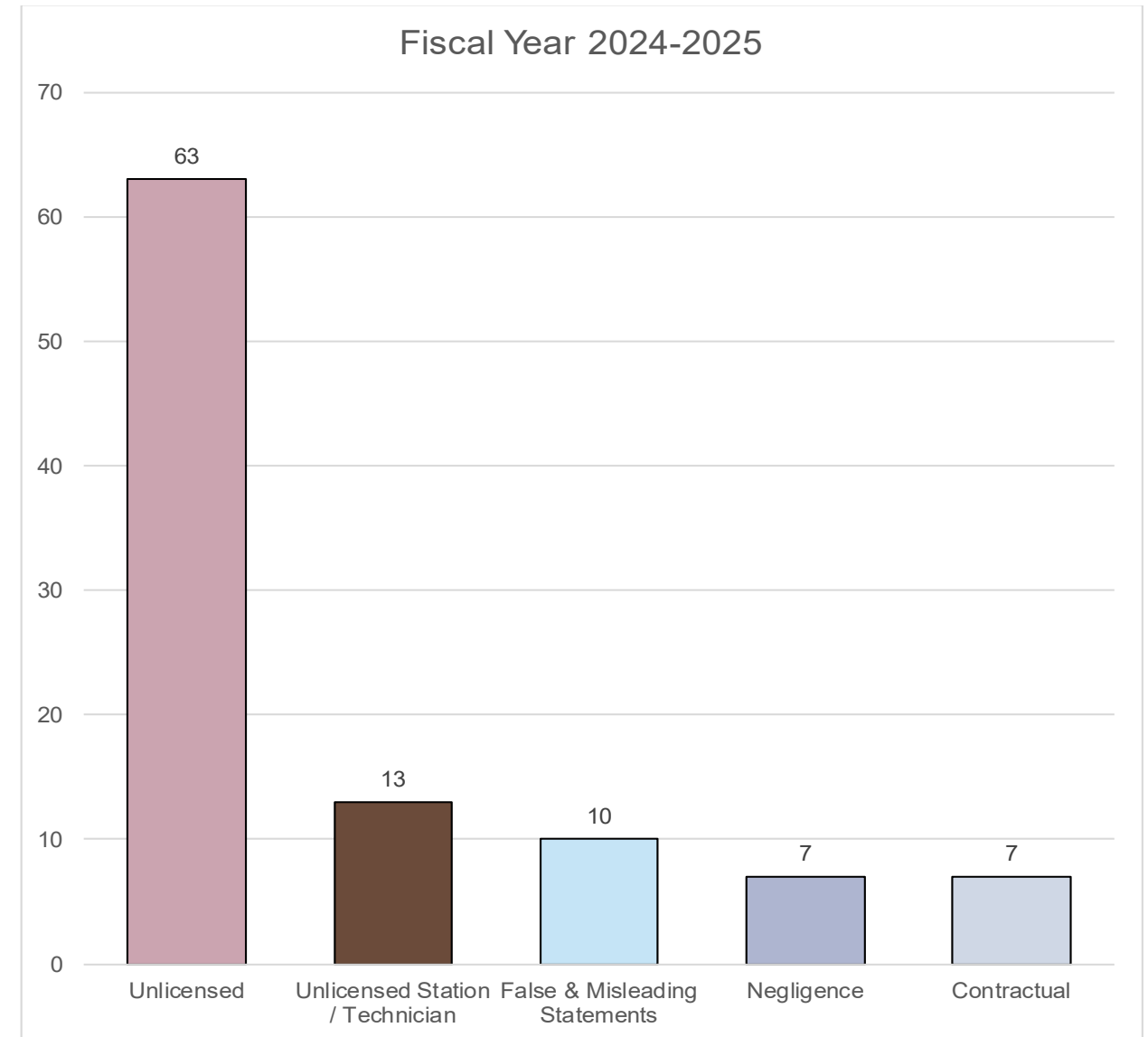
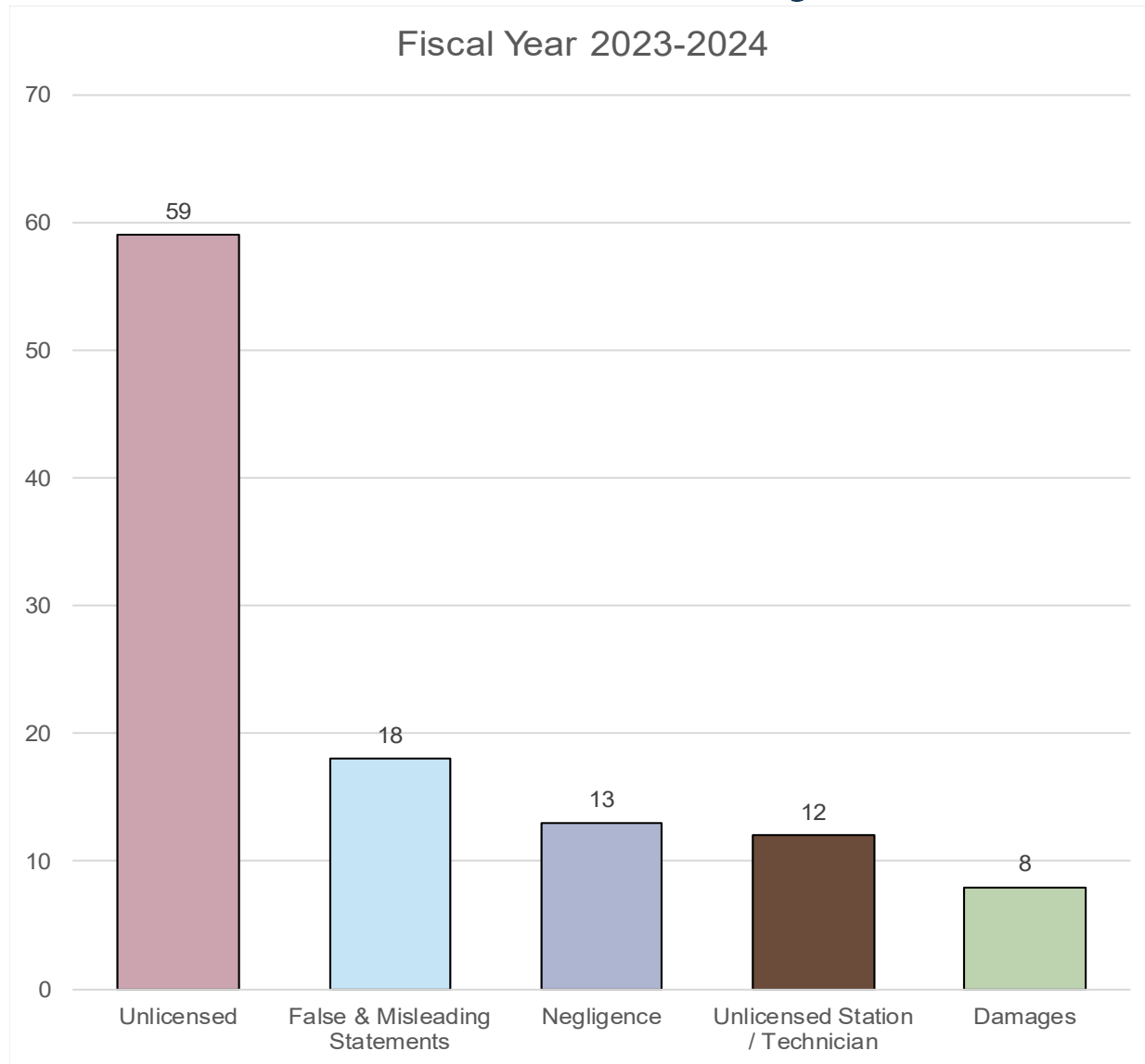
Top Five Complaint Allegations Transmission



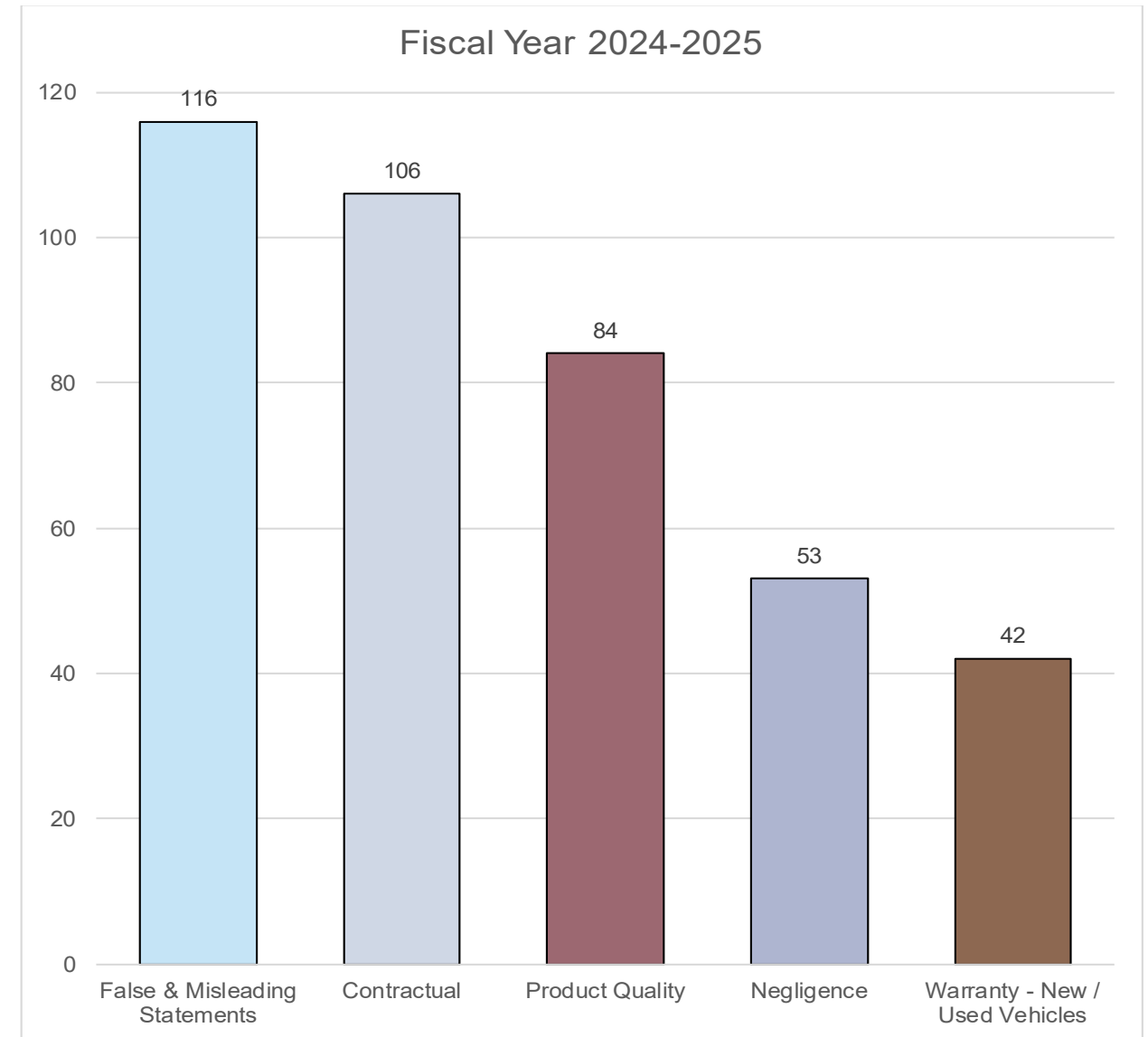
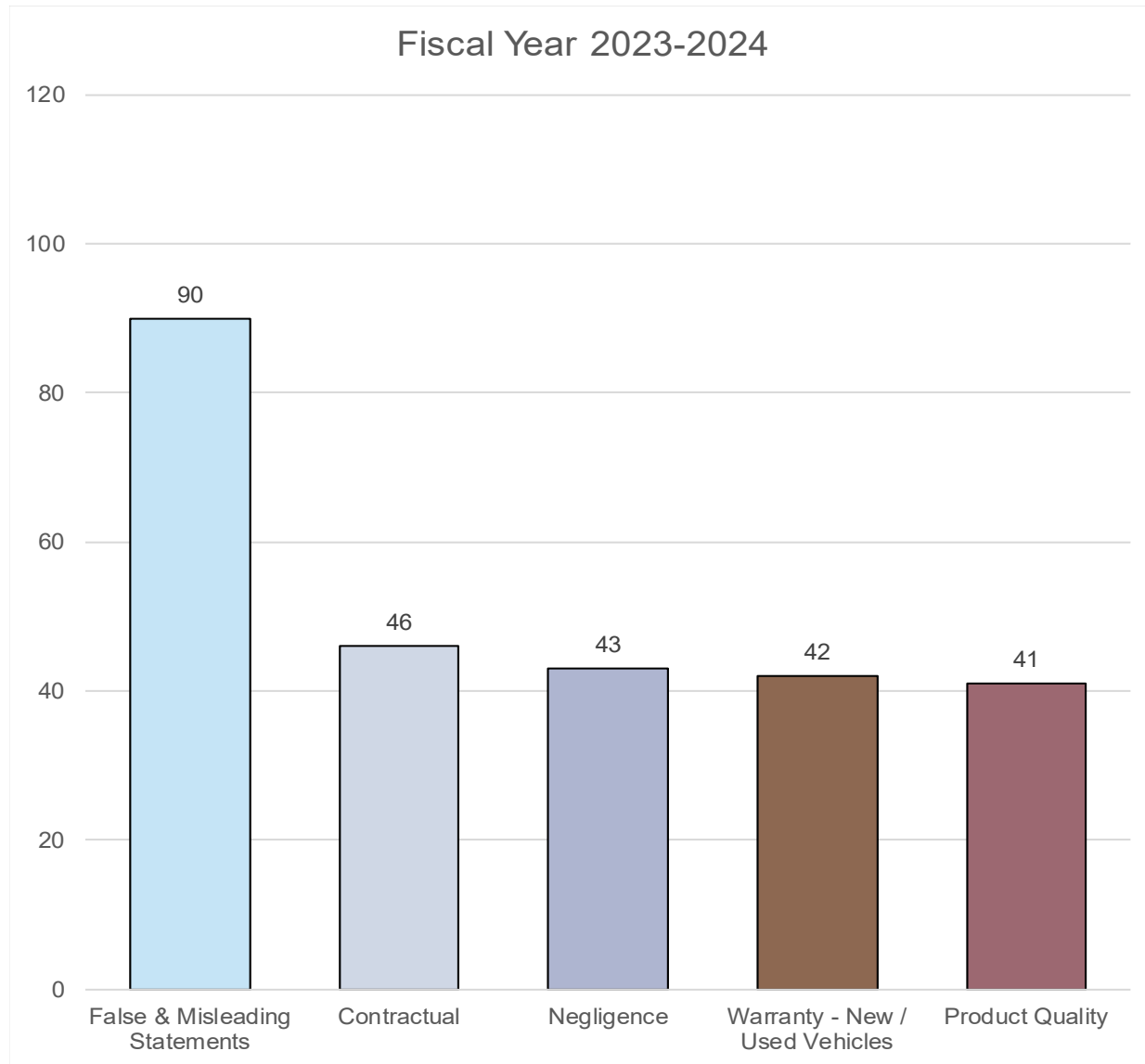
Top Five Complaint Allegations Uncategorized



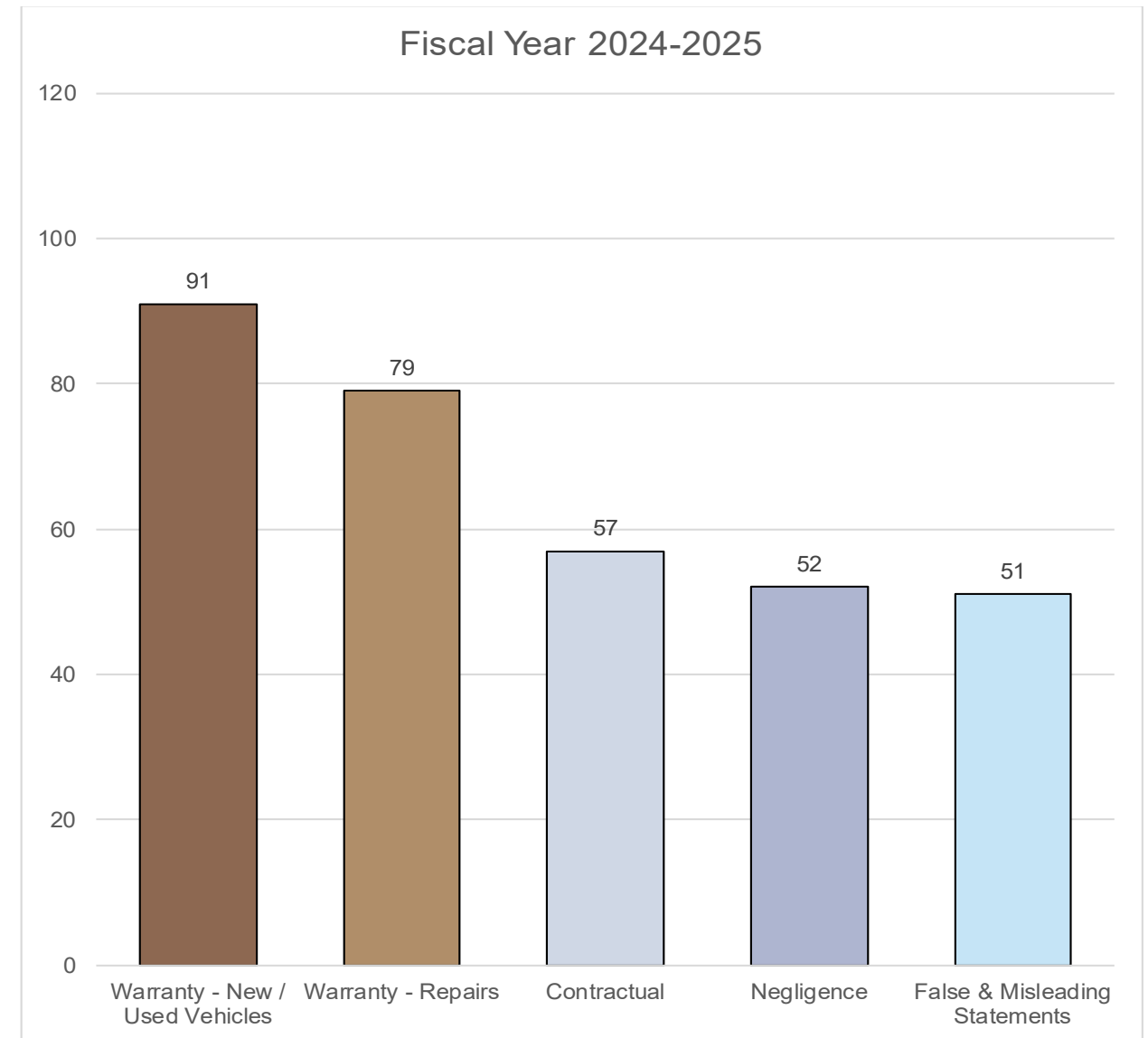
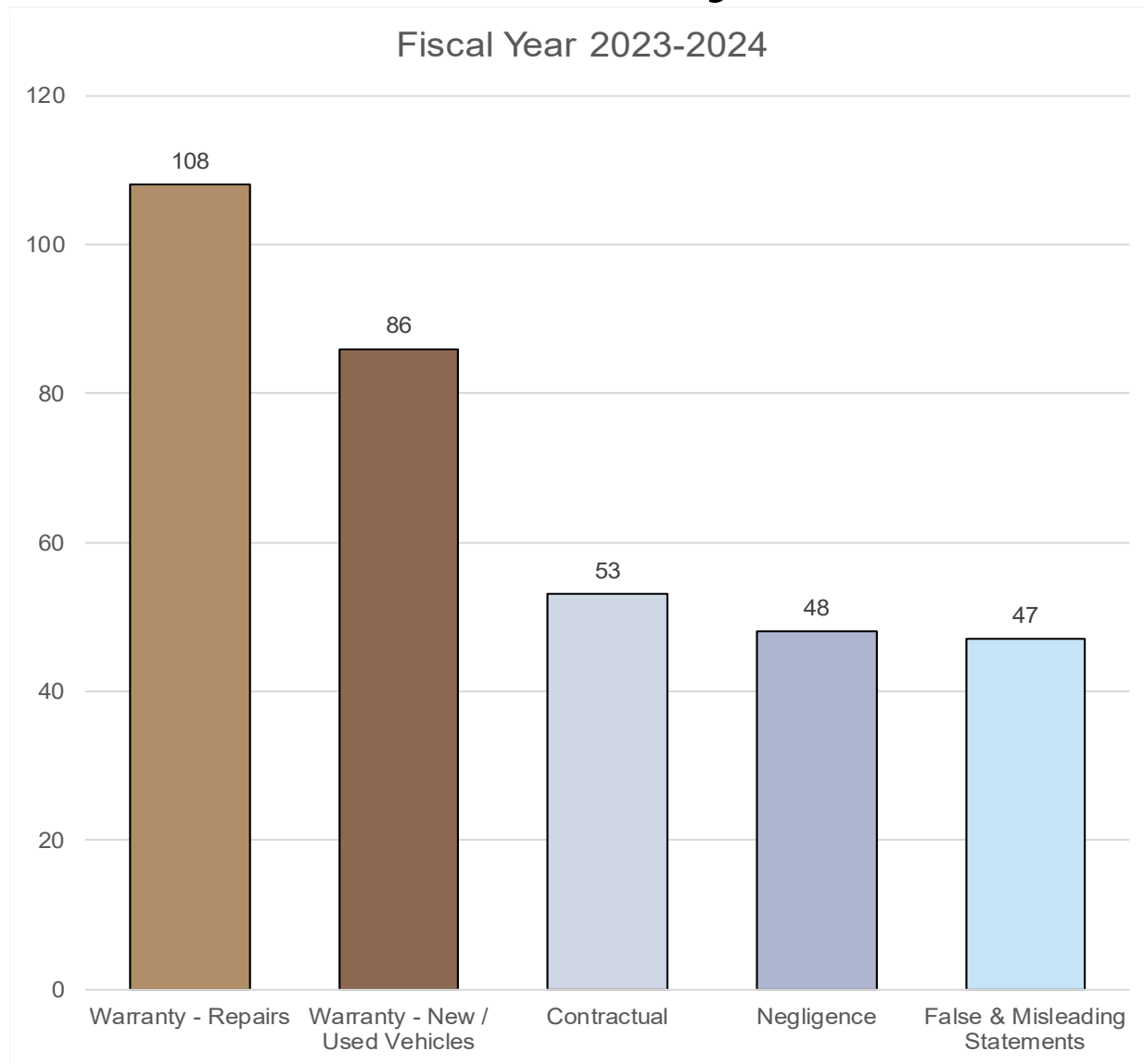
Top Five Complaint Allegations Unlicensed Activity



Top Five Complaint Allegations Used Car Transactions



Top Five Complaint Allegations Vehicle Warranty



Auto Body Inspection Program Statistics

Inspections and Complaints	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2024-2025
Total Inspections Requested	372	69
Total Inspections Conducted	110	16
Total Complaints Filed After Inspection	35	7

The Bureau of Automotive Repair's (BAR) Auto Body Inspection Program offers no-cost inspections of collision-related repairs to help ensure the safety of California Motorists and their vehicles. As part of the inspection a BAR representative will examine the vehicle, address any questions or concerns that the consumer may have, and if the repair invoice is available will verify that all repairs listed on the invoice were performed correctly. If any issues are identified during the inspection, the representative will advise the consumer as well as ask if they would like to file a complaint to be investigated further by BAR.

Contact Information

Patrick Lutfi

patrick.lutfi@dca.ca.gov

(916) 403-8060

www.bar.ca.gov



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