



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

**OPAT COMMISSION**  
**September 21, 2023**  
**PUBLIC REPORT**

*In accordance with the City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter 12-16.4, the OPAT Commission provides the following public report on OPAT activities for the quarter (FY23 Quarter 4 covering April 2023, May 2023, and June 2023), without disclosing personally identifiable information.*

**1) OPAT Promotion of Function, Availability, and Processes to the Public:**

- a) The FY24 Budget was passed by the Boston City Council and the Mayor. OPAT's FY24 budget is \$1,452,986, roughly a \$35,000 or 2.5% decrease from the FY23 Appropriation. This decrease is largely explained by reductions to board member compensation based on actual expenses observed the previous fiscal year. The FY24 passed budget continues the efforts from previous budgets and includes two key investments:
  - i) \$10,000 for continued work reviewing BPD's BIPOC officer hiring, retention, and promotion, as well as recommendations; and
- b) The OPAT Youth Advisory Council (YAC) held a meeting last month and formally adopted a charter to guide their body. Their nomination period for elected positions is currently open and they will be holding elections at the next meeting.

In order to ensure that all interested youth have a voice, OPAT is still accepting applications from interested Boston residents between the ages of 14 and 19. Youth can find more information and the application form on OPAT's website: [boston.gov/opat](https://boston.gov/opat).

- c) This summer, OPAT participated in the Office of Youth Employment



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

and Opportunity (OYEO) Summer SuccessLink Program. Crystal from the John D. O'Bryant School and Seniyah from the Natick High School joined our office this summer to learn more about OPAT's work, city government, police reform, and more.

- d) There have been several staffing updates to the office. First, Stephanie Everett has moved on from the OPAT office to serve as the new Register of Probate and Family Court. The Executive Director position remains vacant for now and John Steies is serving as Interim Director until the Mayor's Office appoints a permanent Director.

In addition, there are two new staff members. Joseph Scott joined the office in April 2023 as the OPAT Community Mediator. And Cheyenne Isaac-Dorsainvil joined the office in August 2023 and has filled the newly created role of Youth Coordinator.

## 2) BPD Policy Investigations and Policy Recommendations

- a) As part of FY23 investments, OPAT received funding to retain a consultant to look into the hiring, retention, and promotion of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) sworn and civilian employees at the Boston Police Department (BPD). Policy and Data Analyst, Mariah Sabir, worked with Conan Harris & Associates and Strategy Matters to develop recommendations to increase the hiring, promotion and retention of both sworn and civilian BIPOC and women personnel at the Boston Police Department. These recommendations have been posted on the OPAT website for the public to view. OPAT looks forward to continuing work on this issue and working with BPD to implement the recommendations.

## 3) OPAT Case Activities for FY23 Quarter 4 (April-June 2023\*):

*\* Please note that case data is updated monthly and is available on OPAT's*



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

*Website; data for July 2023 and August 2023 can be found on OPAT's website, and will be reported out in the OPAT Commission Public Report for FY24 Quarter 1 (July-September 2023)<sup>1</sup>*

a) Disposition of cases referred by OPAT to the CRB:

- i) On June 13, 2023, the CRB voted on 8 cases
- Not Sustained: 5
  - Sustained: 1
  - Unfounded: 1
  - Insufficient Evidence: 1

b) Disposition of CRB cases referred to the Police Commissioner, what discipline was recommended by the CRB, and what discipline was implemented by the Police Commissioner:

- i) On June 13, 2023, the CRB voted to sustain 1 case and referred the matter to the Police Commissioner.
- ii) The recommended discipline was as follows: "At the point that this determination was made, there is currently no discipline matrix from BPD in place. This should not stop or stall the work of the CRB. In this matter, the CRB recommends that all members of the Media Relations Bureau attend a mandatory (re)training on juvenile matters and a cultural awareness and sensitivity training. The CRB additionally recommends that the BPD leadership meet with the family should the family request it to discuss the impact that the social media post had."
- iii) The Police Commissioner chose to not implement the recommended finding and disciplinary action.

---

<sup>1</sup> The complaint data reported here does not include any appeals that may later be heard by the IAOP due to confidentiality requirements.



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

- c) Disposition of cases referred by OPAT to IAOP:
- i) On April 6, 2023 the IAOP voted 3-0 on two cases where they agreed with IAD's findings.
- d) Number of complaints received, type of misconduct alleged, and the investigatory status of those complaints:<sup>2</sup>
- i) OPAT received 16 cases from April 2023 to June 2023. The types of misconduct alleged in these cases are: disrespectful treatment, abuse of power, racial profiling, harassment, neglect of duty, and assault. The investigatory status of the complaints are as follows: 5 complaints were dismissed, 8 complaints are pending, 1 complaint was withdrawn, 1 complaint is not sustained, and 1 complaint is sustained.
- e) Race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and age of complainants:
- i) Gender: cis male and female.
  - ii) Ages of the complaints are 29-50.
  - iii) Sexual orientation of the complaints are Bisexual, Straight/heterosexual, and Gay/Lesbian/Same Gender Loving.
  - iv) Race of the complainants are White, Black, Asian and White, French and White, and Puerto Rican and Cape Verdean.
  - v) Out of the 16 complainants, 7 identified as Female, and 9 identified as Male.

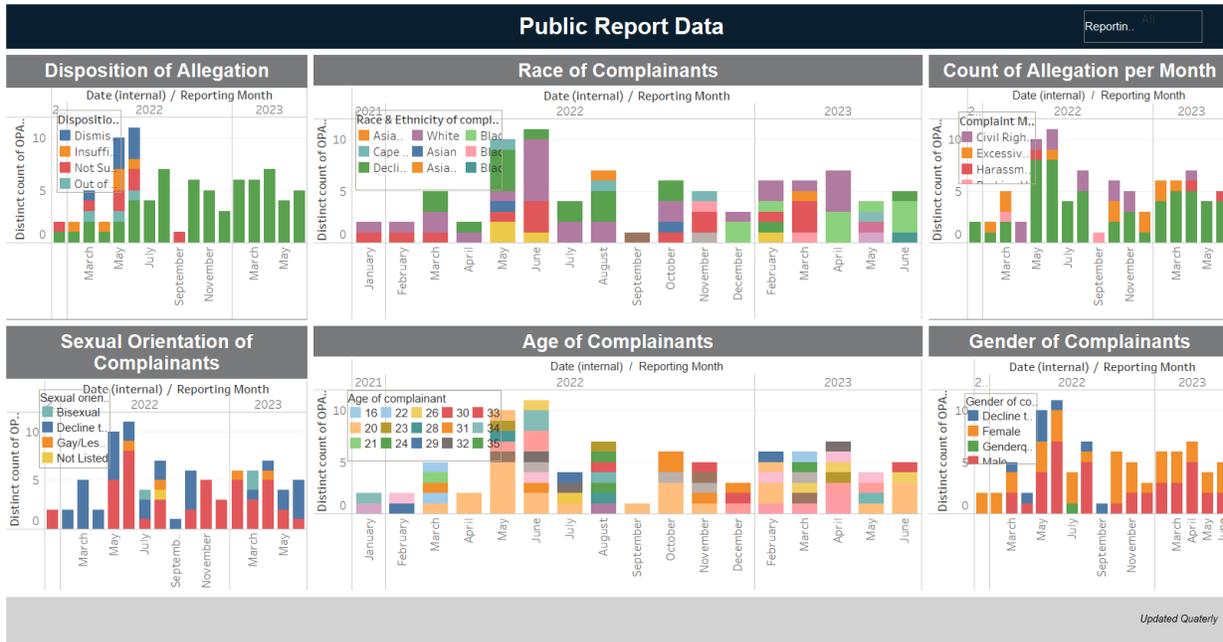
---

<sup>2</sup> Per Section 12-16.7 b. in the ordinance establishing OPAT, OPAT Staff review and may classify certain complaints as dismissed at intake prior to reaching the investigative step in our office. Cases that receive this designation include those whose allegations are out of scope of what our office investigates (such as allegations regarding other police departments), as well as those that have insufficient evidence to establish an allegation of police misconduct.



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

4) OPAT Complaints Data FY23 Quarter 4 (April-June 2023\*):



**OPAT FY23 Q4 Field Interaction / Observation / Encounter (“FIOE”) Data:**

a) FIOE Definitions:<sup>3</sup>

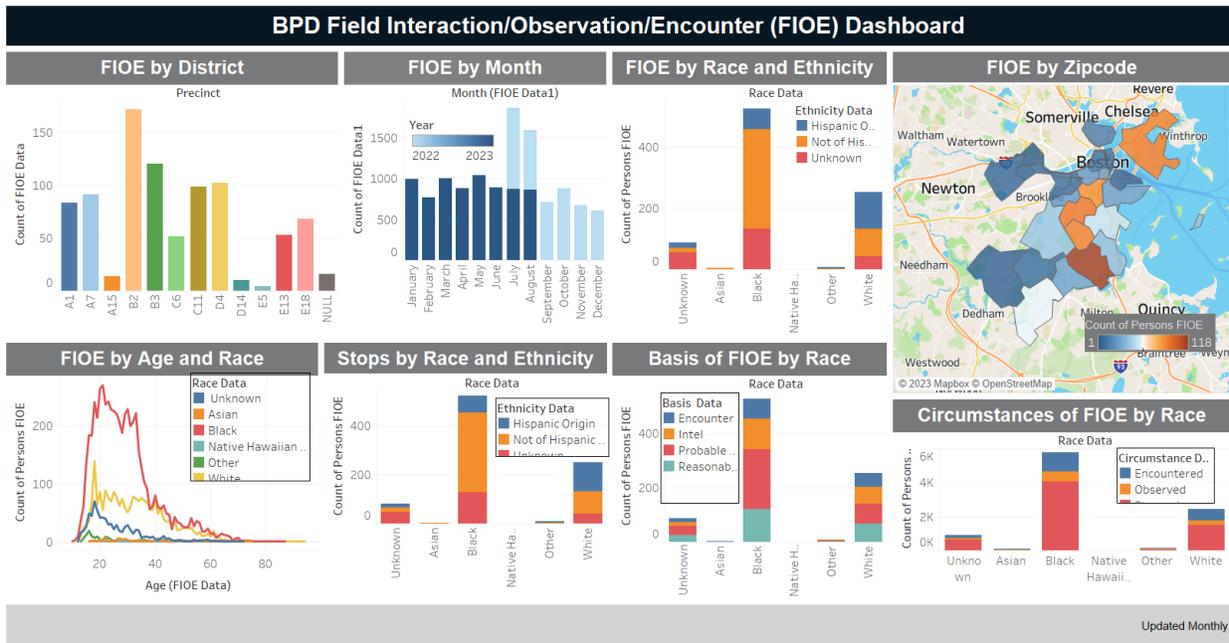
- i) Sec. 3.1 Encounter: Is an agreed upon interaction with an individual that is not an official stop and/or frisk. If a police officer talks to a person to gather information they must record the interaction.
- ii) Sec. 3.5 Observation: Is direct viewing of a person by an officer that does not include physical contact with the person. The officer must have a good reason when watching a person and they have to explain why they are watching that person through a report.
- iii) Sec. 3.2 Field Interaction/Stop: Is keeping a person in custody, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion. This is

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.boston.gov/departments/police-accountability-and-transparency#dashboards>



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

to determine the individual's identity and settle the officer's suspicions.

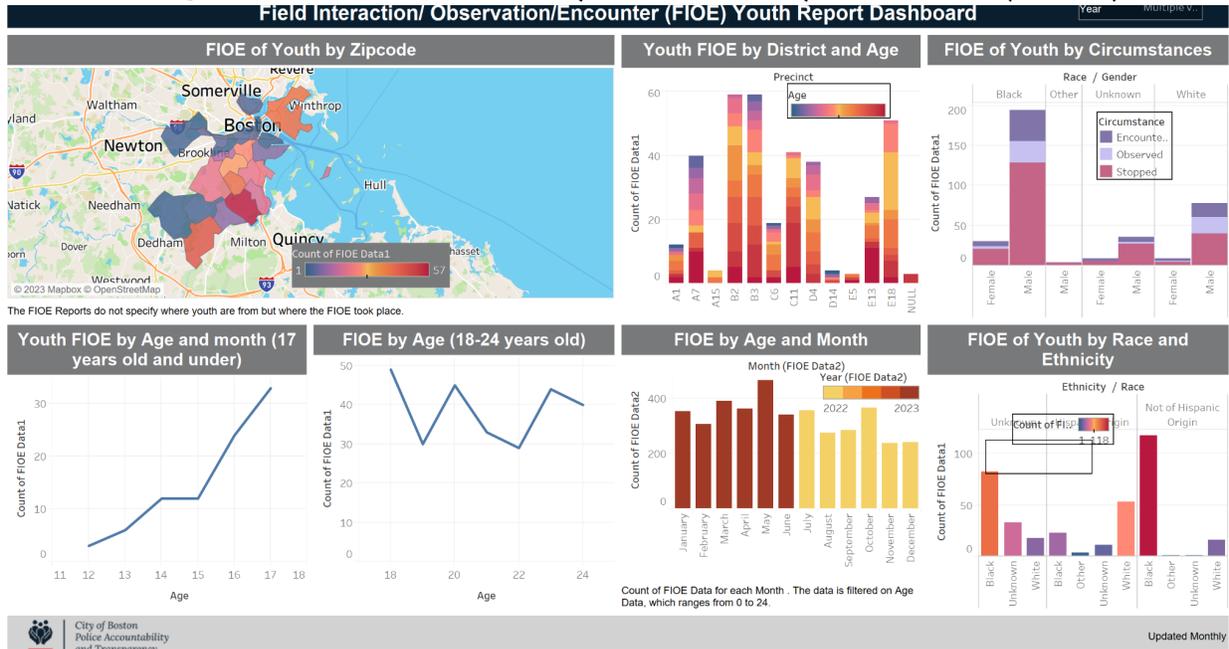


1. In the FY23 Quarter 4 (April - June 2023), there were 2,815 FIOE cases. With 20% of the total cases, Roxbury (District B2) had the most FIOEs, followed by Dorchester (District B3) and South End (District B4). Black males were stopped more than any other demographic, followed by White males, and Black females. Within Black individuals, the classification of the circumstance was a stop in 73% of the cases. Black non-Hispanic individuals were four (4) times more likely to be stopped than their White counterparts at 4 to 1.



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

**OPAT FY23 Q4 Youth Field Interaction / Observation / Encounter (“FIOE”) Data<sup>4</sup>**



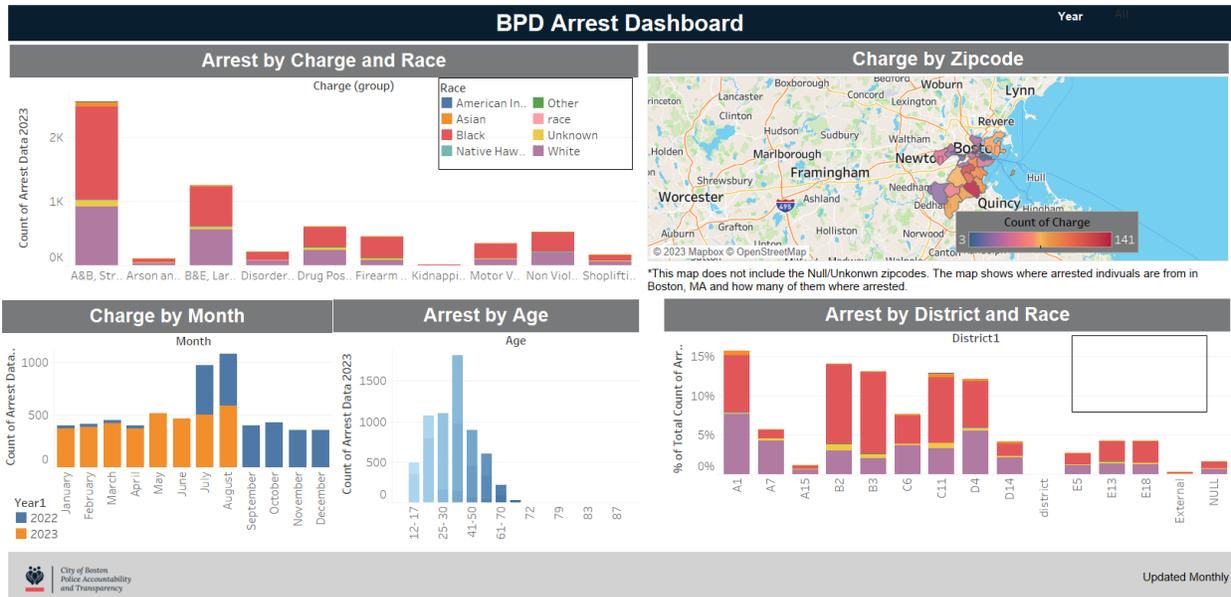
1. In the FY23 Quarter 4 (April - June 2023), there were 1,168 FIOE’s of youth between ages 12-24. Black youth were stopped more than any other race, and Black non-Hispanic males were FIOE’d more than any other race/ethnicity, or gender. Within this demographic, the most prominent circumstance is a stop with probable cause. District C11 (Dorchester) reported the highest number of FIOE’s, followed by District B2 (Roxbury), and District B3 (Dorchester). The age with the highest FIOE reported was 18 years old and the youngest FIOE was 12 years old.

<sup>4</sup> The entire Youth FIOE Dashboard is provided on our OPAT website at [Police Accountability and Transparency | Boston.gov](https://www.boston.gov/police-accountability-and-transparency)



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency

**OPAT FY23 Q4 Arrest Data<sup>5</sup>**



1. In the FY23 Quarter 4 (April - June 2023) there were 2,814 arrest cases. A majority of the arrested individuals fell between the ages of 31 and 40. With 42% of the total arrested individuals falling in the following three (3) districts: District A1 (Charlestown), District B2 (Roxbury), and District B3 (Dorchester). Within these districts, Black individuals were 28% more likely to be arrested than their White counterparts. 44% of the total arrests fell under the violent crime category, making this the most common case of arrest in Boston.

<sup>5</sup> The entire Youth FIOE Dashboard is provided on our OPAT website at [Police Accountability and Transparency | Boston.gov](https://www.boston.gov/police-accountability-and-transparency)