



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency  
**Stephanie Everett, Executive Director**

## **OPAT COMMISSION**

**June 15, 2023**

### **PUBLIC REPORT**

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

- a) OPAT presented its FY24 Recommended Budget to the City Councilors at a hearing on Monday, May 8, 2023. OPAT's FY24 Recommended 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 Recommended 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
  - ii) \$8,000 to fund stipends for OPAT's newly created Youth Advisory Council.
- b) The OPAT Youth Advisory Council (YAC) continues to hold meetings on a bi-monthly basis. YAC currently has 15 youth, representing 8 Boston neighborhoods. The youth have begun their work to build structure within themselves.

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 will once again participate in the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunities (OYEO) Summer SuccessLink Program. OPAT Staff attended the City of Boston's 2023 Youth Jobs and



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Resource Fair in April. We received 22 applications from youth around the City. We look forward to working with the youth who will be joining the office to learn more about OPAT's work in the City.

- d) Continuing with Mayor Wu's efforts to Get City Hall out of City Hall, Director Everett is attending the Mayor's 2023 Neighborhood Coffee Hour Series. The Coffee Hours provide a unique opportunity for the community to learn more about the work of OPAT and hear about upcoming OPAT meetings and programming. The Coffee Hours began in May and will continue to run through to the end of June.

## **2) BPD Policy Investigations and Policy Recommendations**

As part of OPAT's FY23 investments, we 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). OPAT Policy and Data Analyst Mariah Sabir is continuing to work with Conan Harris & Associates and Strategy Matters to develop clear pathways to increase the hiring, promotion and retention of both sworn and civilian BIPOC and women personnel at the Boston Police Department. We look forward to providing final recommendations to the Commissioner and the community at large in the months ahead.

## **3) OPAT Case Activities for FY23 Quarter 3 (January-March 2023\*):**

*\* Please note that case data is updated monthly and is available on OPAT's Website; data for April 2023 and May 2023 can be found on OPAT's website, and will be reported out in the OPAT Commission Public Report for FY23 Quarter 4 (April-June 2023)<sup>1</sup>*

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<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.



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- a) Disposition of cases referred by OPAT to the CRB:
  - i) There were no open cases in January. February and March there are 12 active cases with statuses pending. Due to quorum related issues no cases were voted on during this quarter.
  
- b) Disposition of cases referred by OPAT to IAOP:
  - i) On January 19, 2023 the IAOP voted 3-0 on three cases where they agreed with IAD's findings.
  
- c) Number of complaints received, type of misconduct alleged, and the investigatory status of those complaints:<sup>2</sup>
  - i) OPAT has received 12 complaints as of January-March 2023. The types of misconduct alleged in these cases for this quarter are: unprofessionalism and excessive force. The investigatory status of the 12 complaints are pending.
  
- d) 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 Latino, Afro-Latina, White, Black, Asian and White, Black/African-American, and Puerto Rican and Cape Verdean.

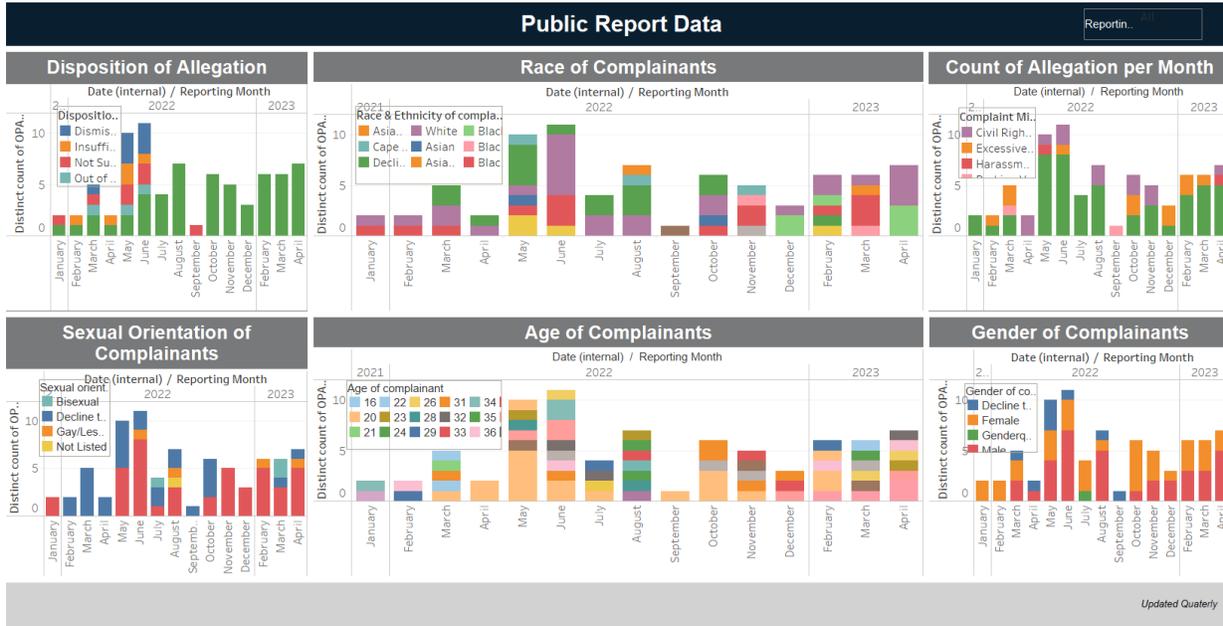
### **OPAT FY23 Q2 Complaints Data:**

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<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.



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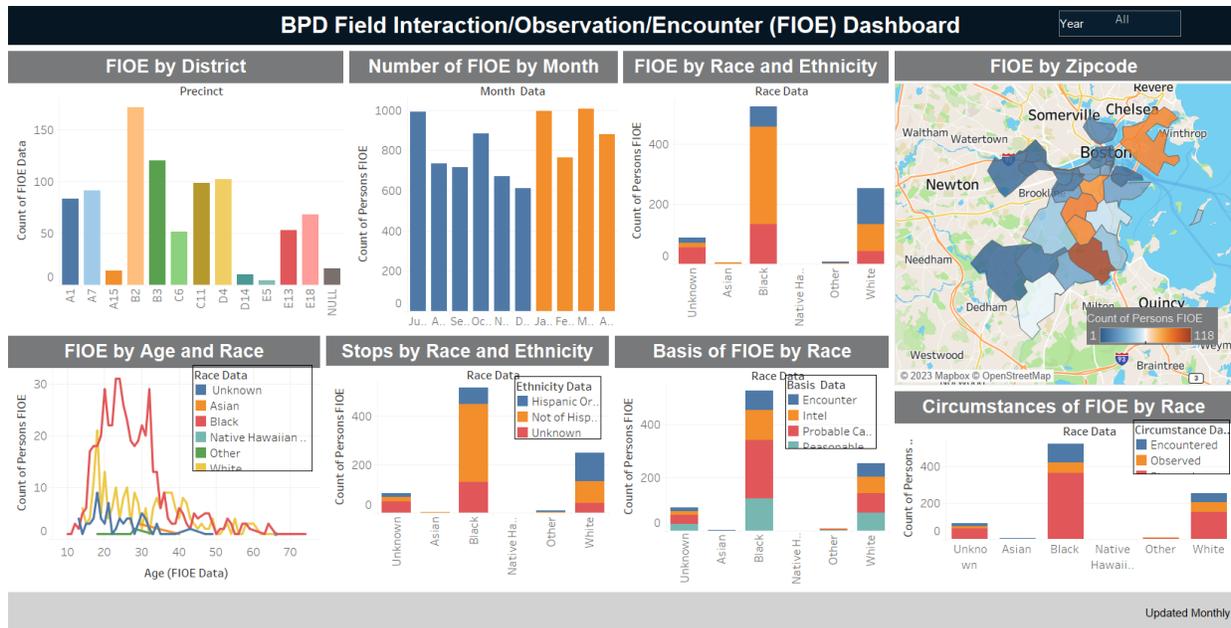
**OPAT FY23 Q2 Field Interaction / Observation / Encounter (“FIOE”) Data:**

- 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 to determine the individual’s identity and settle the officer’s suspicions.

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



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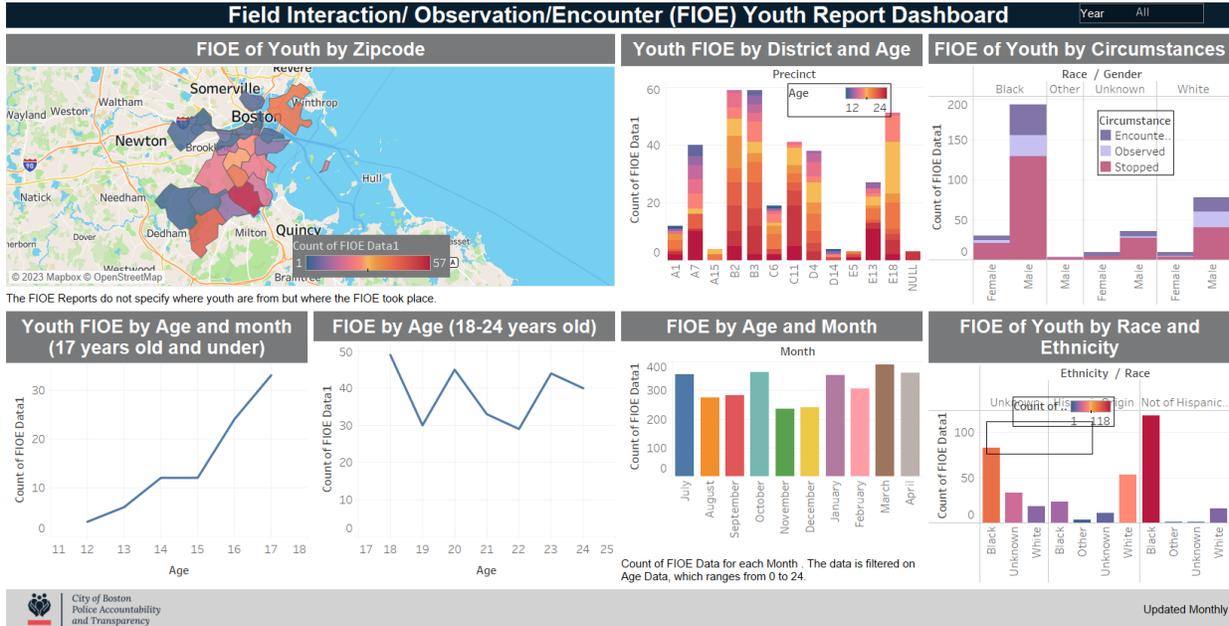
b) In the FY23 Quarter 3 (Jan-March 2023), there were 2,767 FIOE cases. With 60% of the total cases, Black males were stopped the most than other demographics, followed by White males, and Black females. Black non-Hispanic people were more likely to be stopped than their white counterparts at 1,367 to 357. Black people are likely to be stopped due to probable cause. Zip code 02124 (Dorchester) reported the highest FIOE's in the area, followed by zip code 02121 (Roxbury). Districts B2, B3, C11, and D4 reported the highest FIOE's. The age group with the highest FIOE's was 18 years old.

**OPAT FY23 Q2 Youth Field Interaction / Observation / Encounter (“FIOE”) Data<sup>4</sup>**

<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)



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c) In FY23 Quarter 3 (Jan–March 2023), there were 1,049 FIOE of youth between ages 12–24. District C11 (Dorchester) reported the highest number of FIOE’s followed by B2 (Roxbury), and B3 (Dorchester). Zip Code 02124 (Dorchester) was recorded to have the highest FIOE’s in the area. Black males were stopped more than their white counterparts. Black non-Hispanic males were FIOE’d more than any other race/ethnicity, or gender. The age with the highest FIOE reported were 18 and the youngest FIOE’s being 12 years old.