

Government of the District of Columbia  
Police Complaints Board  
Office of Police Complaints

# FY21 Mid-Year Report

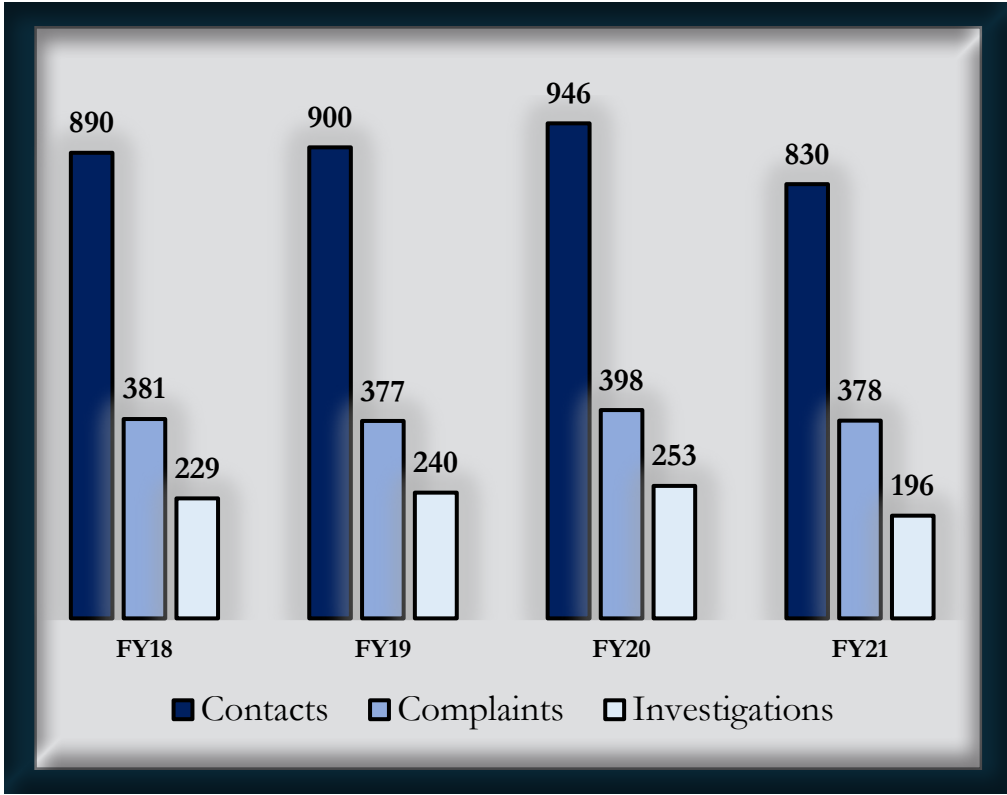


# COMPLAINT ACTIVITY




Between October 2020 and March 2021:

830 people contacted OPC	378 people filed formal complaints	OPC initiated 196 new investigations
OPC investigated 305 total complaints. <sup>1</sup> This is a 17% decrease from Mid-Year FY20.		



12%   
**Contacts Received**

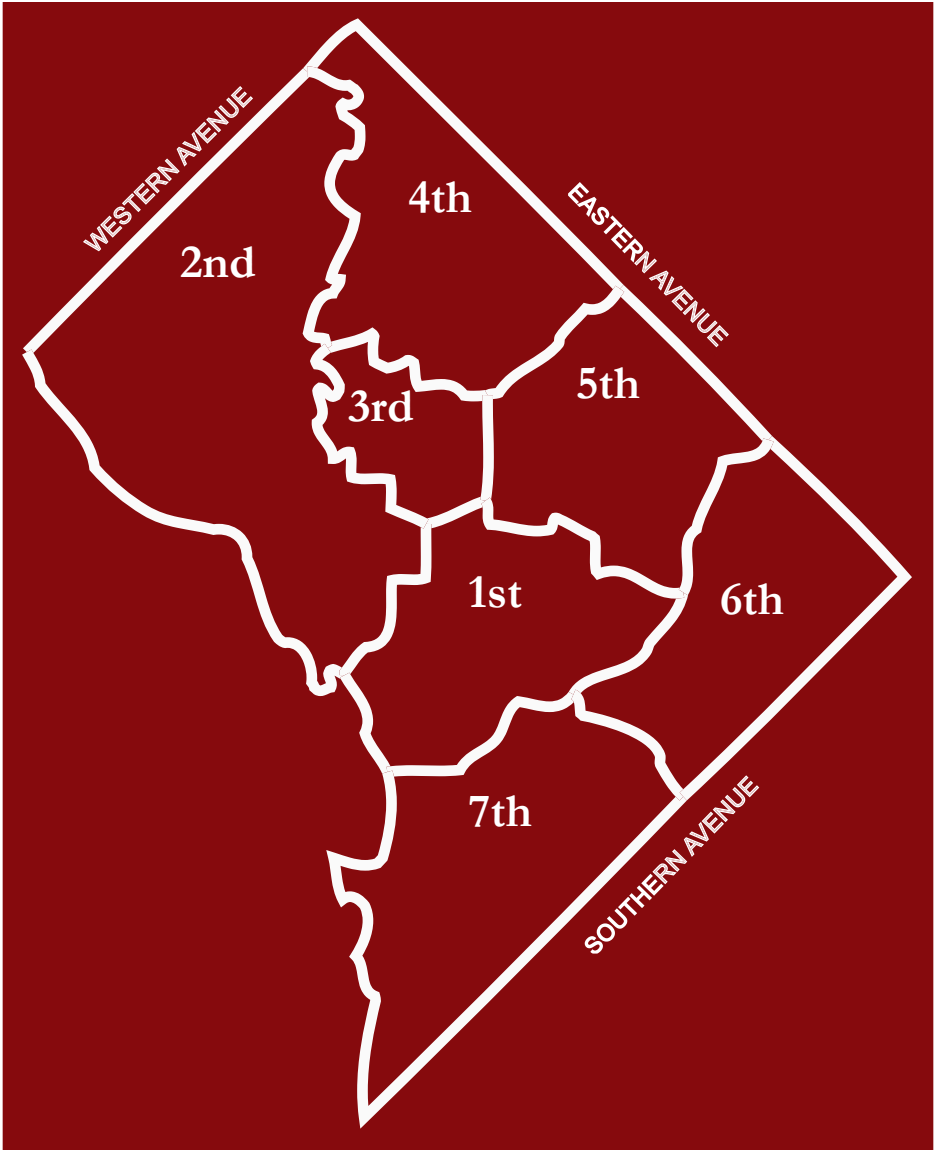
5%   
**Formal Complaints**

23%   
**New Investigations<sup>2</sup>**

1: New cases plus open cases from prior fiscal years

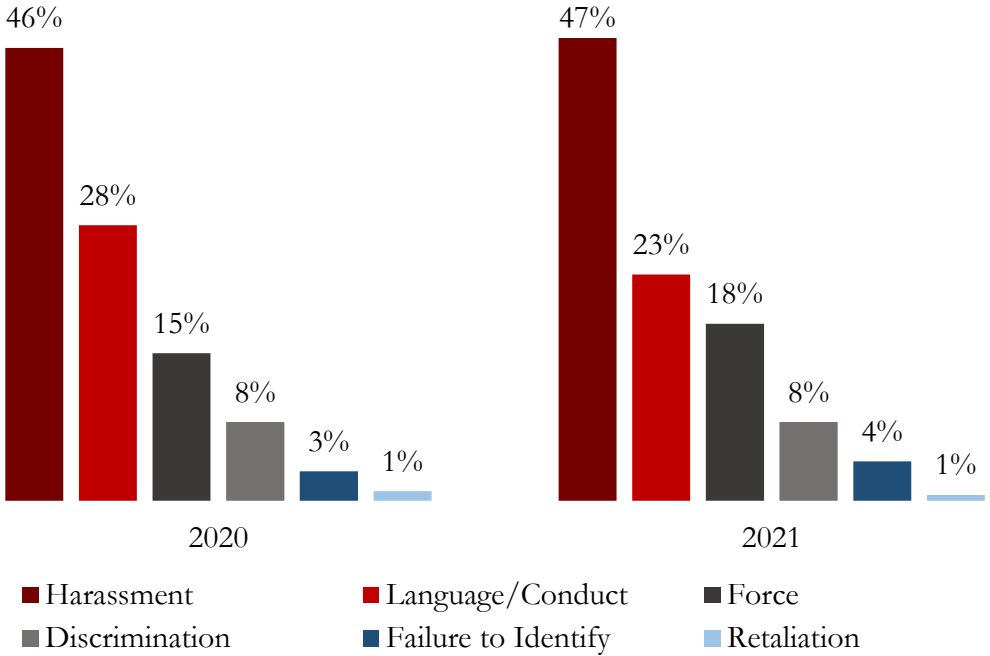
2: There was a 42% increase in cases out of OPC's jurisdiction which may account for this decrease in new investigations

# COMPLAINT ACTIVITY

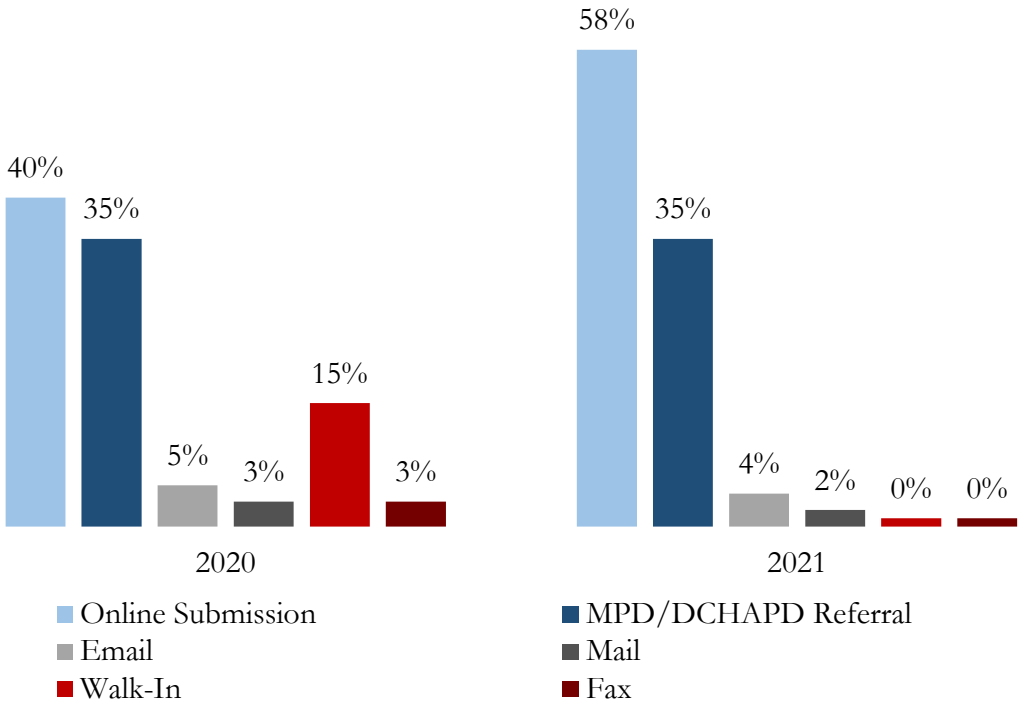


District	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
FY2021	16%	21%	12%	10%	11%	12%	18%
FY2020	17%	11%	14%	14%	17%	15%	12%

# ALLEGATIONS<sup>3</sup>

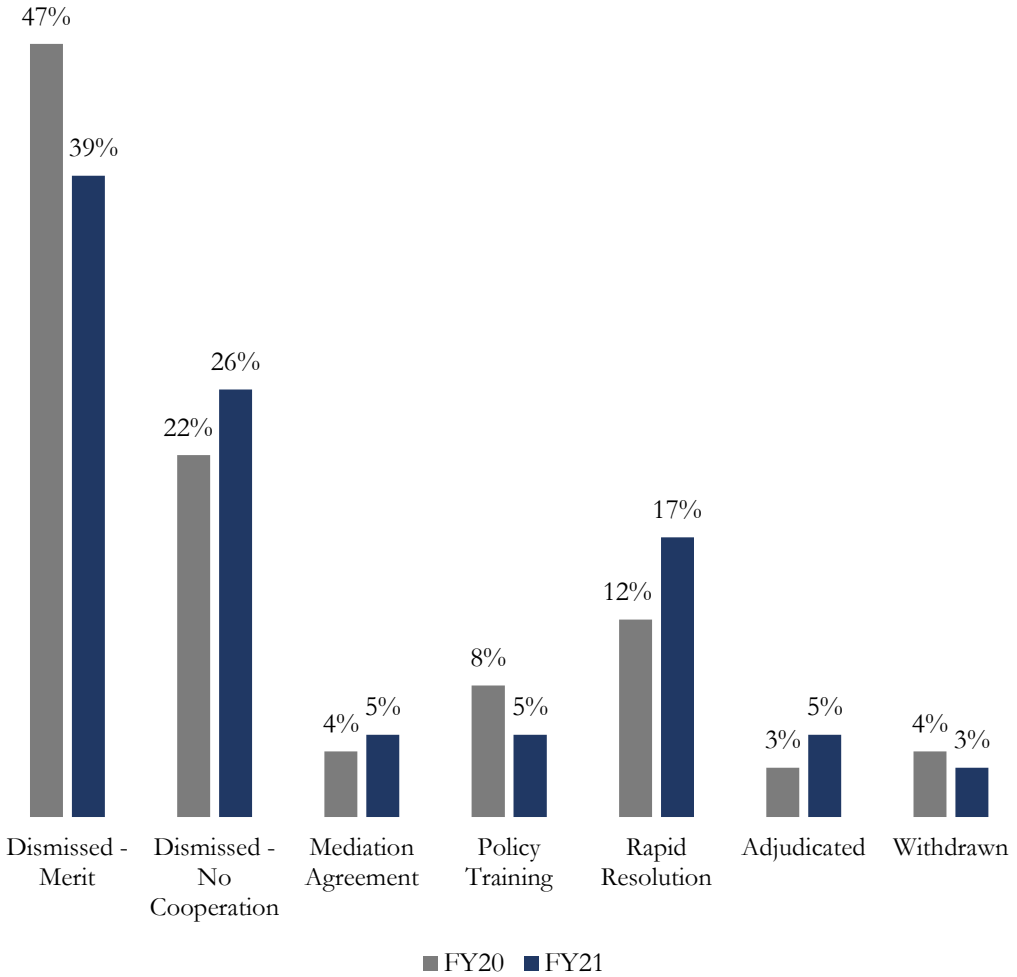


# SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS



<sup>3</sup>: Due to rounding not all percentages will add to exactly 100%

# CASE DISPOSITIONS



Increase in



- Dismissed - No Cooperation
- Mediation Agreement
- Rapid Resolution
- Adjudicated

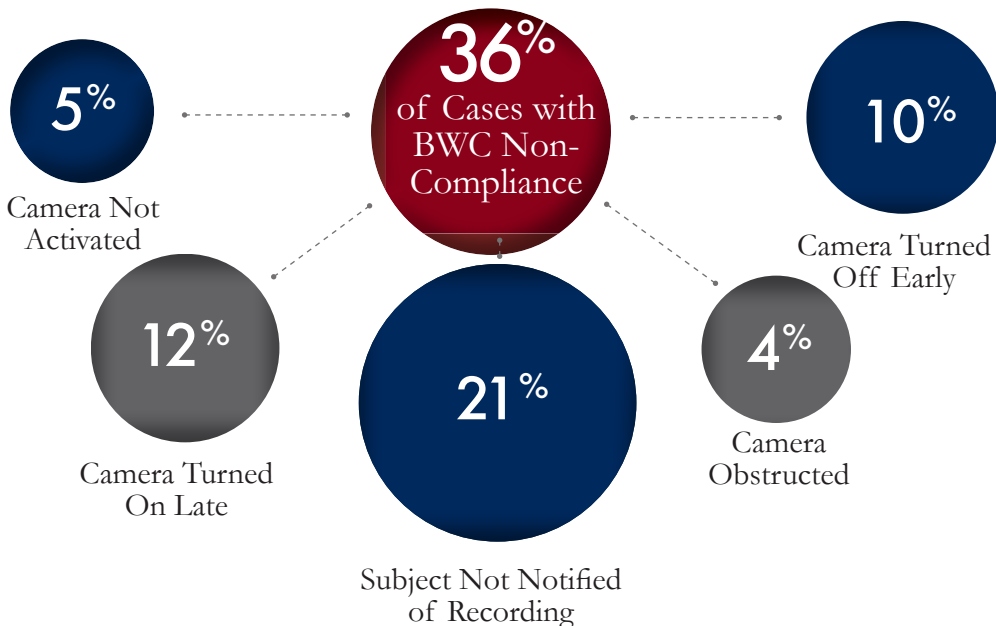
Decrease in



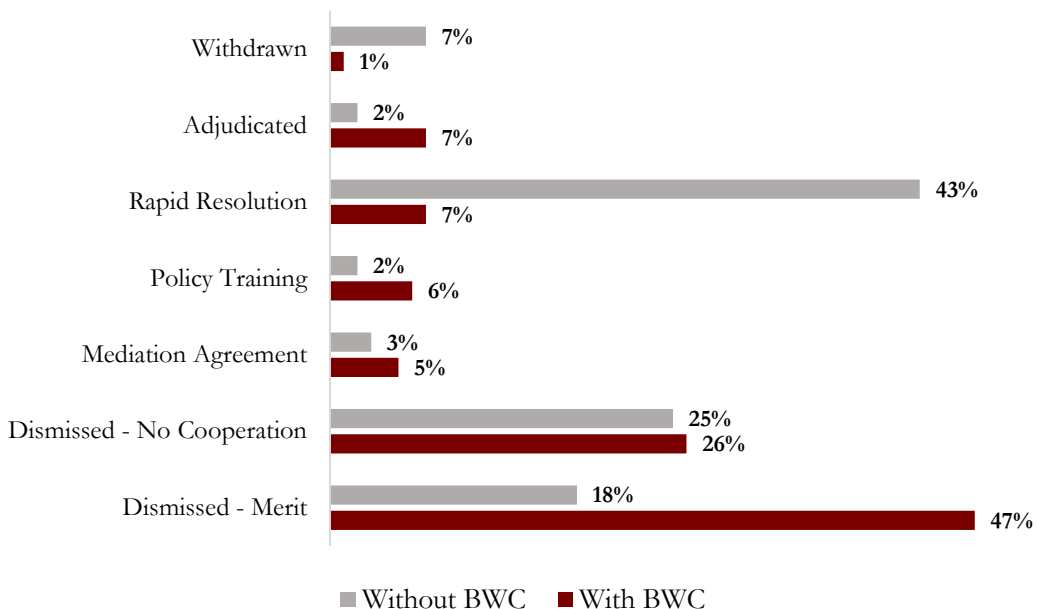
- Dismissed - Merit
- Policy Training
- Withdrawn

# BODY WORN CAMERAS

72% of Cases With BWC Footage



## Dispositions and BWC



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

OPC published three recommendations in the first half of FY21 to help update policies and improve police and community relationships.

## 1. Stop and Frisk Data Review

On October 5, 2020, the PCB released the Stop and Frisk Data Review policy report, which focused on racial disparities found in MPD's 2019 Stop Data Report. In the report, the PCB noted that MPD provided data for approximately 11,600 stops and that 70% of the stops were of Black people, despite Black people constituting 46% of the overall D.C. population. The PCB also recognized the importance of transparency as fundamental to ensuring community trust and urged MPD to expedite its examination into the root causes of the appearance of racial bias in the stop data. The PCB further noted that MPD officers will likely continue to effect stops in the same ways unless MPD addresses the causes of the racial disparities in its stop data and that these stops will continue to erode community trust in MPD while potentially leaving MPD and the District Open to lawsuits. The PCB recommended that MPD:

- Immediately make public any steps already taken to initiate a comprehensive analysis of the stop data; including entities that MPD has consulted with about their plan, and what issues, if any, have caused the delay in starting the analysis.
- MPD must continue to keep the public apprised of the progress of this comprehensive analysis through regular updates to the Stop Data Report page on the MPD website and by being as transparent as possible about the status of these updates.

For more information regarding this recommendation, please visit <https://policecomplaints.dc.gov/node/1500186>.

## 2. Discipline

On October 14, 2020, the PCB released the Discipline policy report. In the report, the PCB noted that the sanctions imposed by MPD in response to sustained community complaints suggest that the Department is reluctant to impose serious sanctions based on community complaints, and that the discipline imposed on officers often goes outside of MPD's Table of Penalties Guide. These minor disciplinary sanctions allow officers to believe that complaints from community members are unimportant and that MPD tolerates, or endorses, behaviors likely to produce complaints. The PCB recommended:

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- The DC Council consider reviewing the process by which discipline is determined for OPC sustained complaints.
- Amending DC Code §5-1112 to include a revised procedure for determining the level of discipline for sustained allegations of misconduct based on complaints made to OPC.
- Both OPC and the PCB should be involved in the discipline process and the PCB should ultimately approve the discipline.

For more information regarding this recommendation, please visit <https://policecomplaints.dc.gov/node/1501796>.

### **3. FY19 Implementation Update and Reexamination of FY15-18 Implementation Updates**

On February 8, 2021, the PCB released an implementation update on the policy recommendations made to MPD from FY15 to FY19 in order to report on the status of their implementation.

- Of the 4 policy recommendations made in FY15, one has been fully implemented, two have been partially implemented, and one has not been implemented.
- Of the 8 policy recommendations made in FY 16, two have been fully implemented, four have been partially implemented, and two have not been implemented.
- Of the 4 policy recommendations made in FY17, three have been partially implemented and one has not been implemented.
- Of the 9 policy recommendations made in FY18, three have been fully implemented, one has been partially implemented, and five have not been implemented.
- Of the 11 policy recommendations made in FY19, four have been partially implemented and seven have not been implemented.

For more information regarding this report, please visit <https://policecomplaints.dc.gov/node/1521271>.



# ABOUT OPC

The Office of Police Complaints (OPC) is an independent District of Columbia Government agency that provides a fair and impartial forum for the review and resolution of police misconduct complaints filed against Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and D.C. Housing Authority Police Department officers.

## Our Mission

OPC's mission is to increase community trust in the District of Columbia police forces by providing a fair, thorough, and independent system of civilian oversight of law enforcement.



## Office of Police Complaints

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Washington, DC 20005

(202) 727-3838 (Tel)

(202) 727-9182 (Fax)

24-hour toll-free hotline:

1(866) 588-0569

[www.policecomplaints.dc.gov](http://www.policecomplaints.dc.gov)

[dcpolice.complaintsoffice@dc.gov](mailto:dcpolice.complaintsoffice@dc.gov)

[facebook.com/OfficeofPoliceComplaints](https://facebook.com/OfficeofPoliceComplaints)

<https://twitter.com/DistrictOPC>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-EUf-dAX-4iBVotOKqfpZA>

# HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Complaint forms and informational brochures can be obtained by:

- Visiting our website at <https://policecomplaints.dc.gov/page/of-fice-police-complaints-online-complaint-form>
- Calling OPC's office at (202) 727-3838
- Calling OPC's 24-hour, toll-free Hotline at 1(866) 588-0569
- Visiting any OPC community partner (community partners are listed on OPC's website under "File a Complaint")
- Visiting OPC Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
- Visiting any MPD district station

Complaint forms can be submitted:

- Online
- In person
- By email
- By fax
- By mail
- By dropping forms off at any MPD district station



## DIRECTIONS TO OPC BY MASS TRANSIT

### metrobus

Nearby Metrobus routes include: 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42, 52, 54, 80, D4, G8, G9, A9, P19, S2, S4, X2

### metrorail

McPherson Sq



OPC is in the building directly above the 14th Street exit of the McPherson Square Metro Station. McPherson Square is served by Metro's Blue, Orange, and Silver lines.