

Priorities and Performance

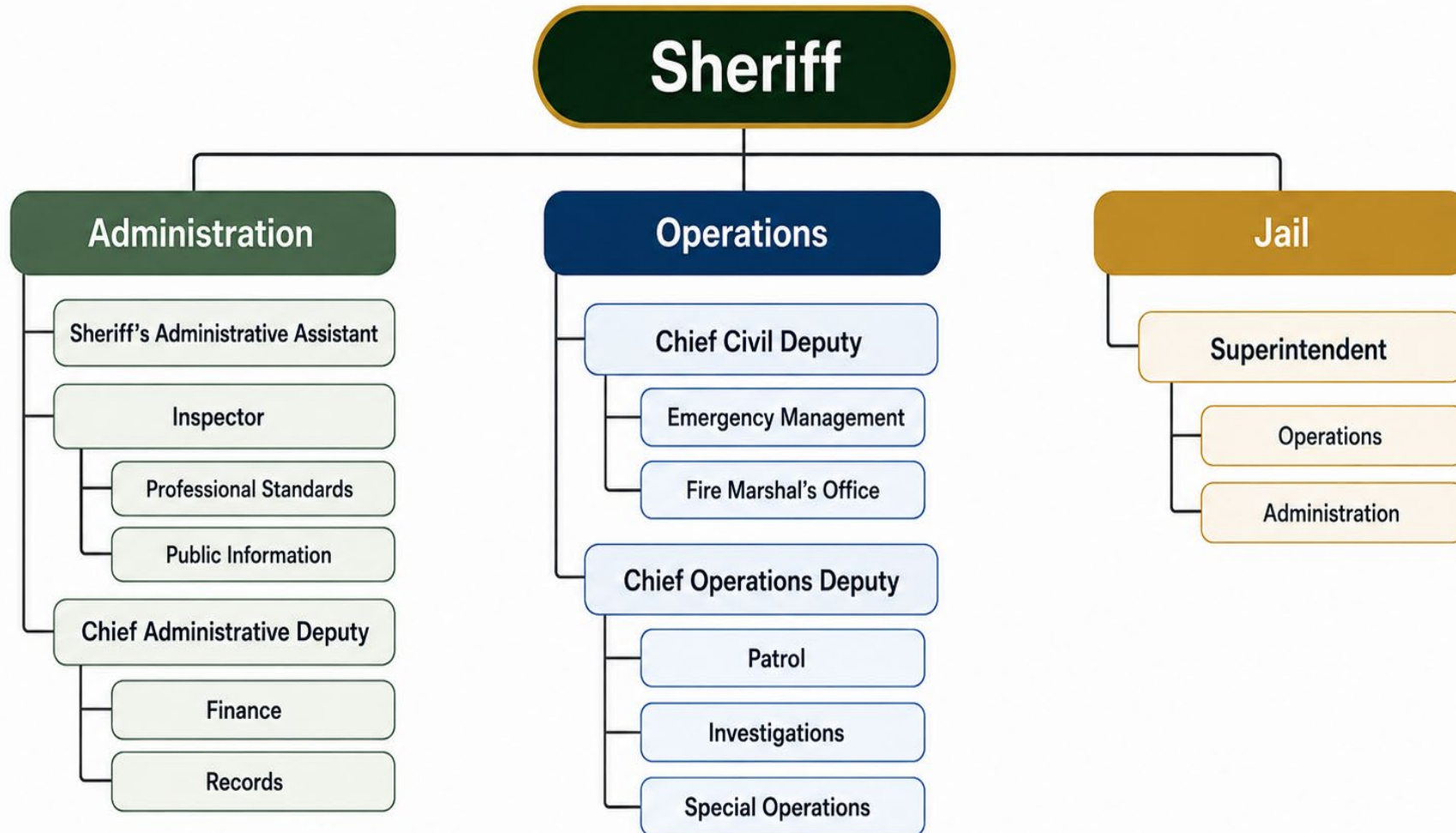
Operational Years 2021–22 through 2025–26

A data-informed briefing on workload, enforcement, service demand, staffing, and community impact.

Operational Years are calculated from July of each year through June of the next year to allow for impacts of calendar-year budget changes and adjusted operational stances.

KCSO Divisions and Elements

A snapshot of major divisions and functions



What to know

- The Sheriff's Office is a multi-division public-safety and law enforcement agency, not just patrol and jail.
- This report focuses on Sheriff's Office activity related to criminal justice and public safety.

Takeaway

The charts that follow are one window into a much broader organization.

KCSO's Operational Priorities

The ruler for the work measured in this report

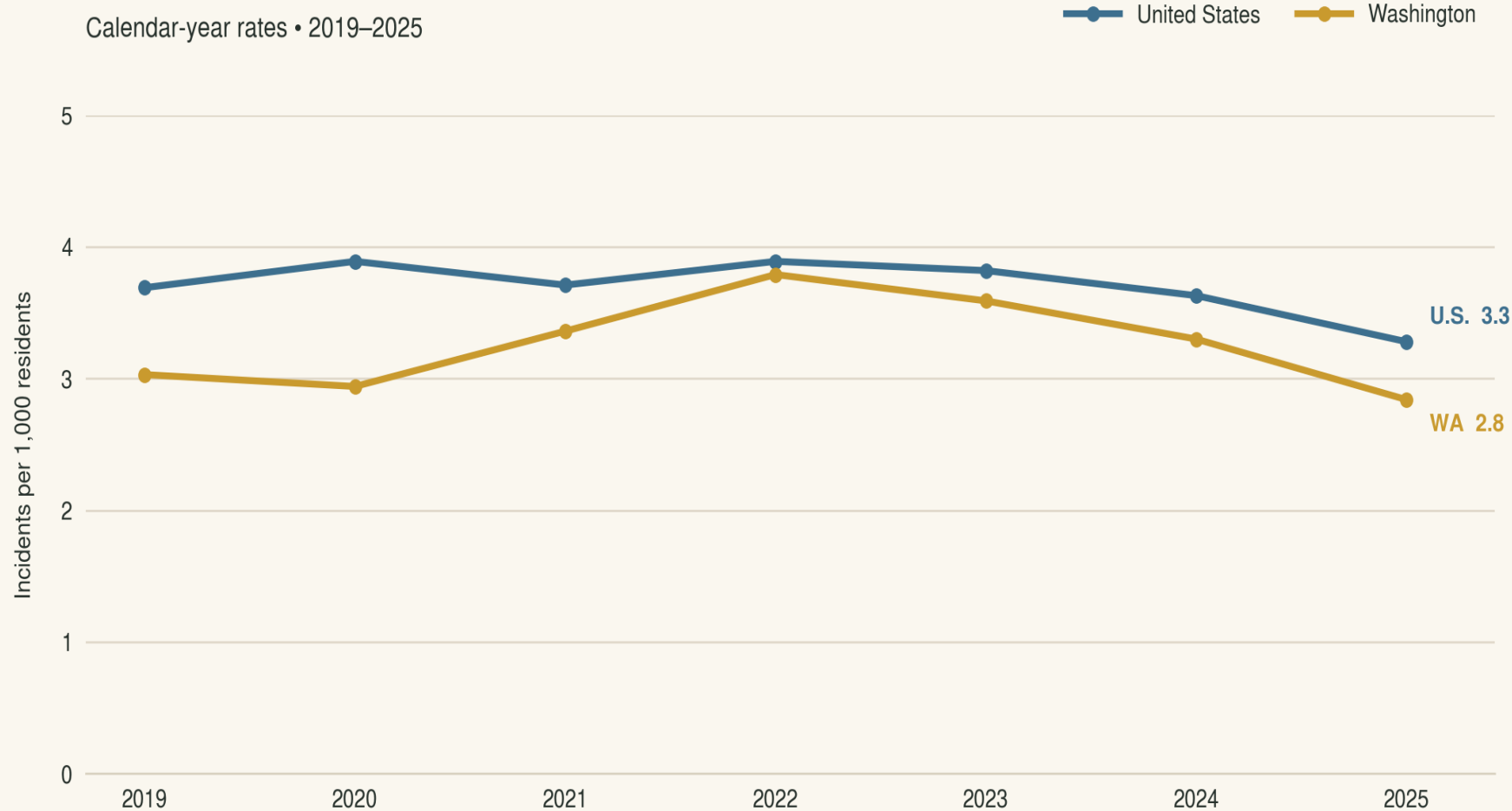
- 1 **Public Safety First**
- 2 **Justice for Victims & Accountability for Offenders**
- 3 **Protect the Quality of Life in Kittitas County**
- 4 **Professional, Personal Community Service**

Crime in the U.S., Washington, and Our Region

Public safety context for KCSO workload and performance

WA vs. U.S. Violent Crime Rates, 2019-2025

Calendar-year rates • 2019–2025



Washington remained below the U.S. violent-crime rate in every year shown.

Source: CrimeIndex.org; National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

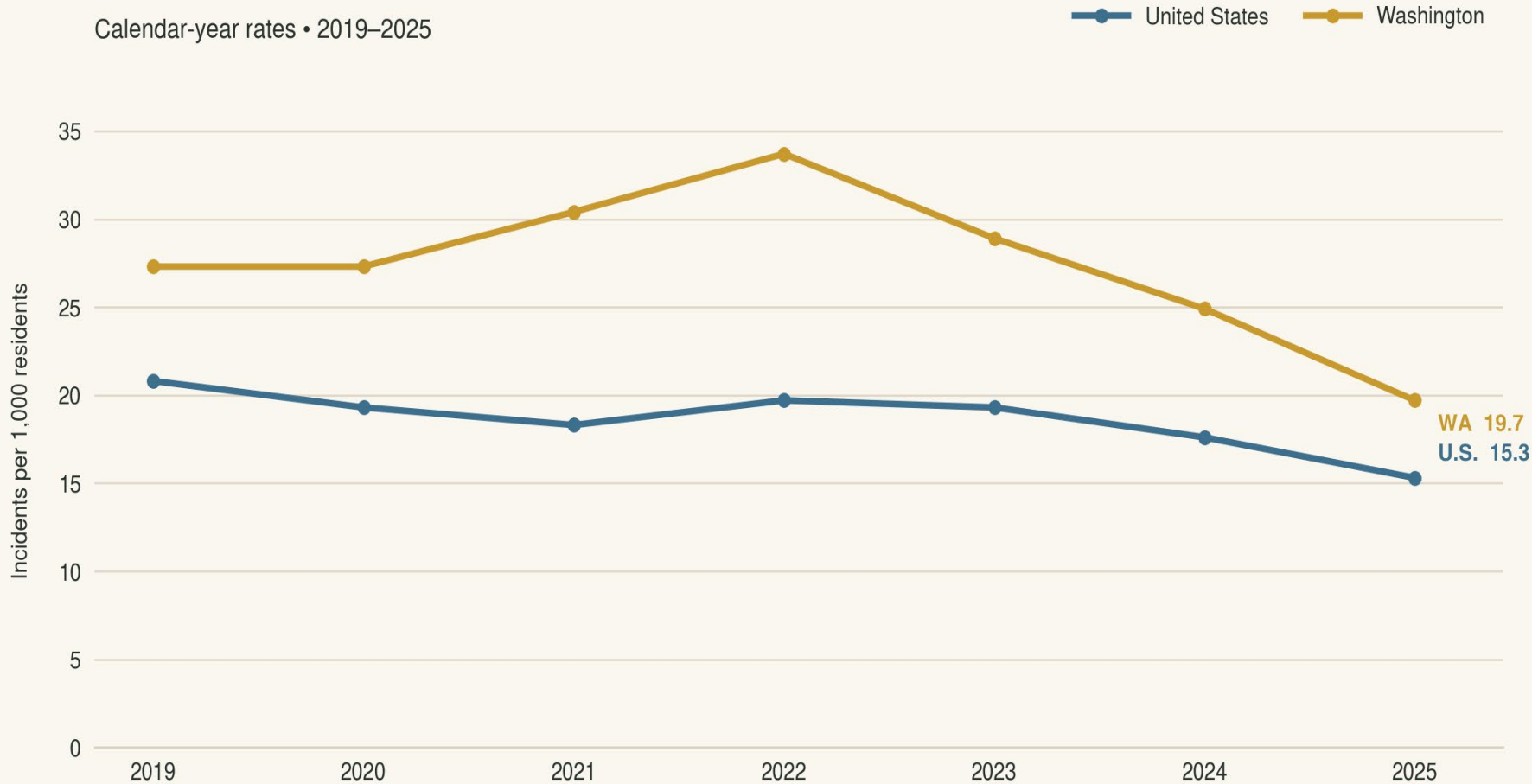
What to know

- NIBRS data is for calendar years, not operational years, and lags because of nationwide reporting timelines.
- Violent Crimes are narrowly defined in NIBRS data: Homicide, Robbery, Kidnapping, forcible sexual assaults, and other aggravated/felony assaults.

Takeaway

Violent Crime in Washington tracks close to national rates throughout these six years.

WA vs. U.S. Property Crime Rates, 2019-2025



Washington averaged 48% above the U.S. property-crime rate over this period.

Source: CrimeIndex.org; National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

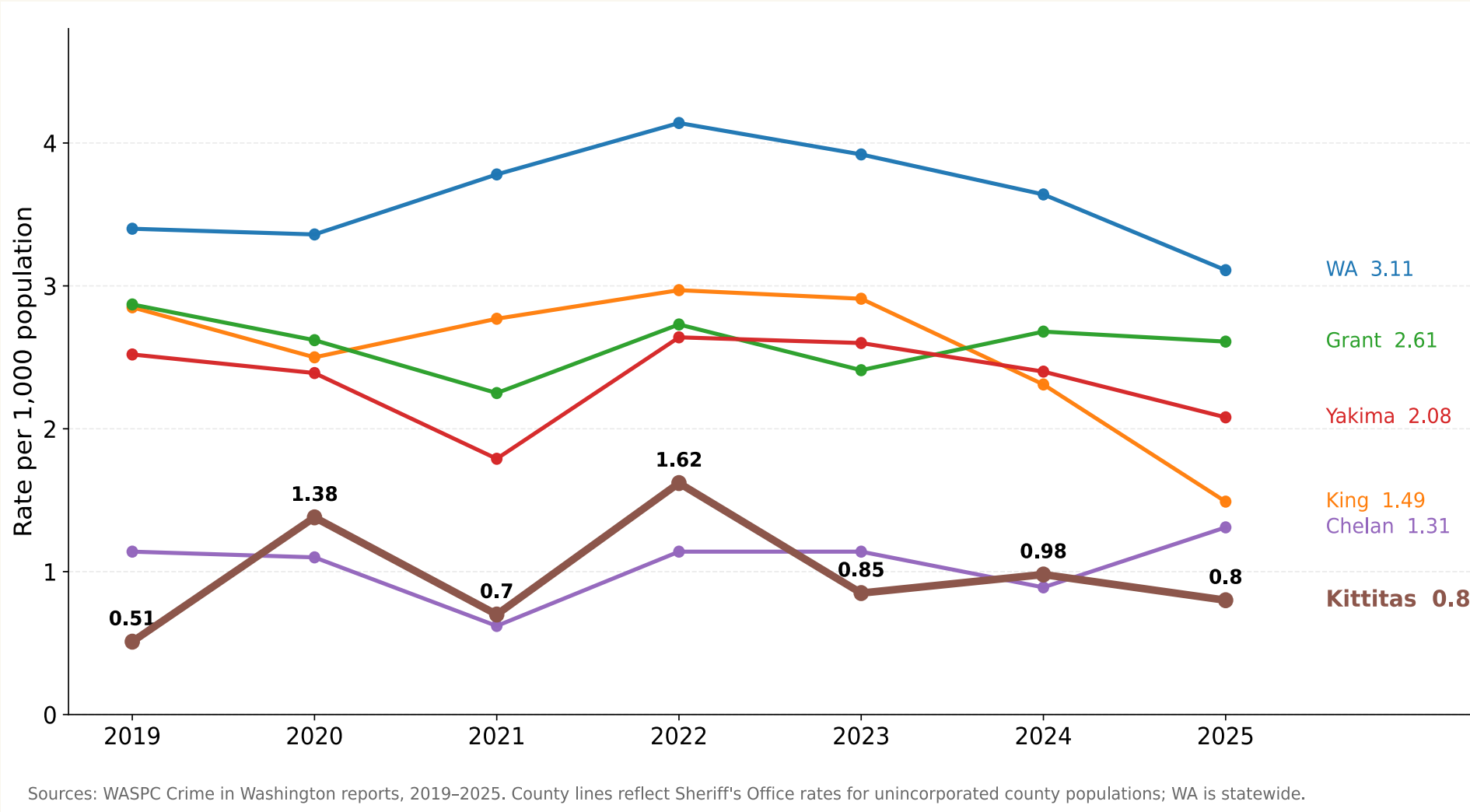
What to know

- Property crimes are much more common than violent crimes; numbers are larger and data is more stable and reliable.
- The ‘COVID surge’ and recovery from 2020 forward is the main criminological story of this period.

Takeaway

Property Crime in Washington remained on average 48% above national average rates over these six years.

Violent Crime Rates in Unincorporated Counties: 2019-2025



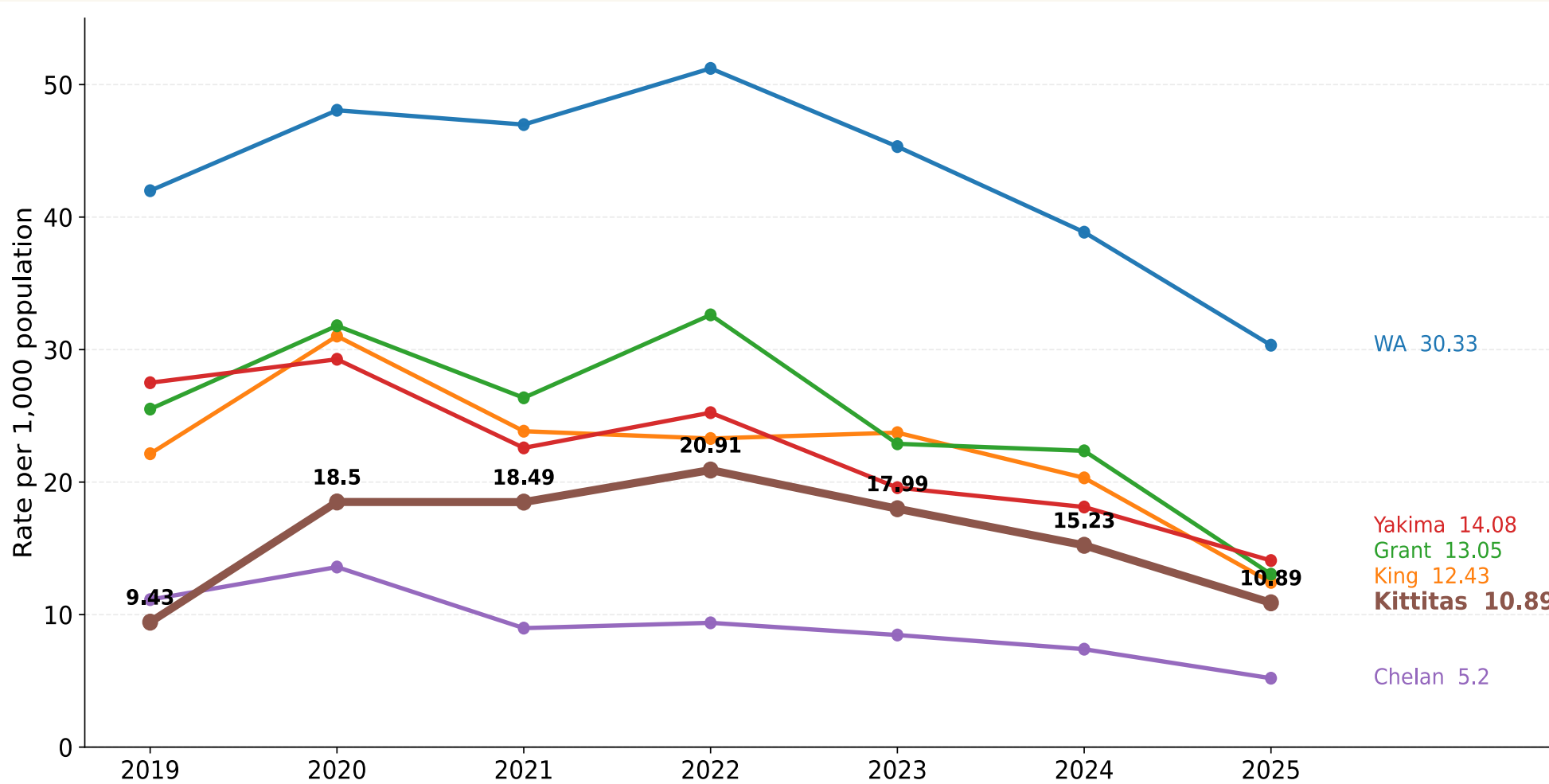
What to know

- Overall State Rate
- Unincorporated County Rates
 - King County has announced corrections for 24/25

Takeaway

Violent Crime in Kittitas County remains well below the statewide average and most neighboring counties.

Property Crime Rates in Unincorporated Counties: 2019-2025



Sources: WASPC Crime in Washington reports, 2019-2025. County lines reflect Sheriff's Office rates for unincorporated county populations; WA is statewide.

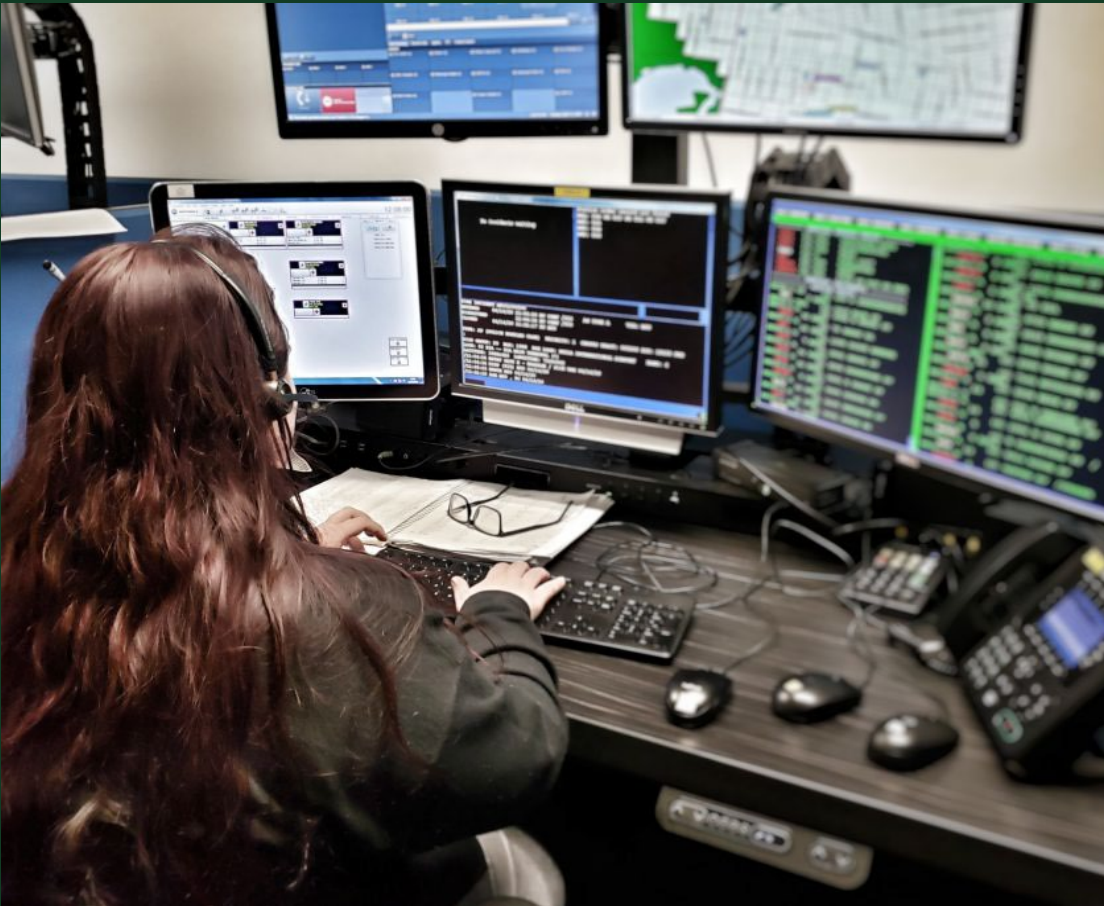
What to know
These are **REPORTED** crimes; reporting rates mean real differences between rural and urban areas are probably larger

King County rates have been adjusted upward since publication

Takeaway
Crime rates in Kittitas County are well below most comparison benchmarks and **trending down.**

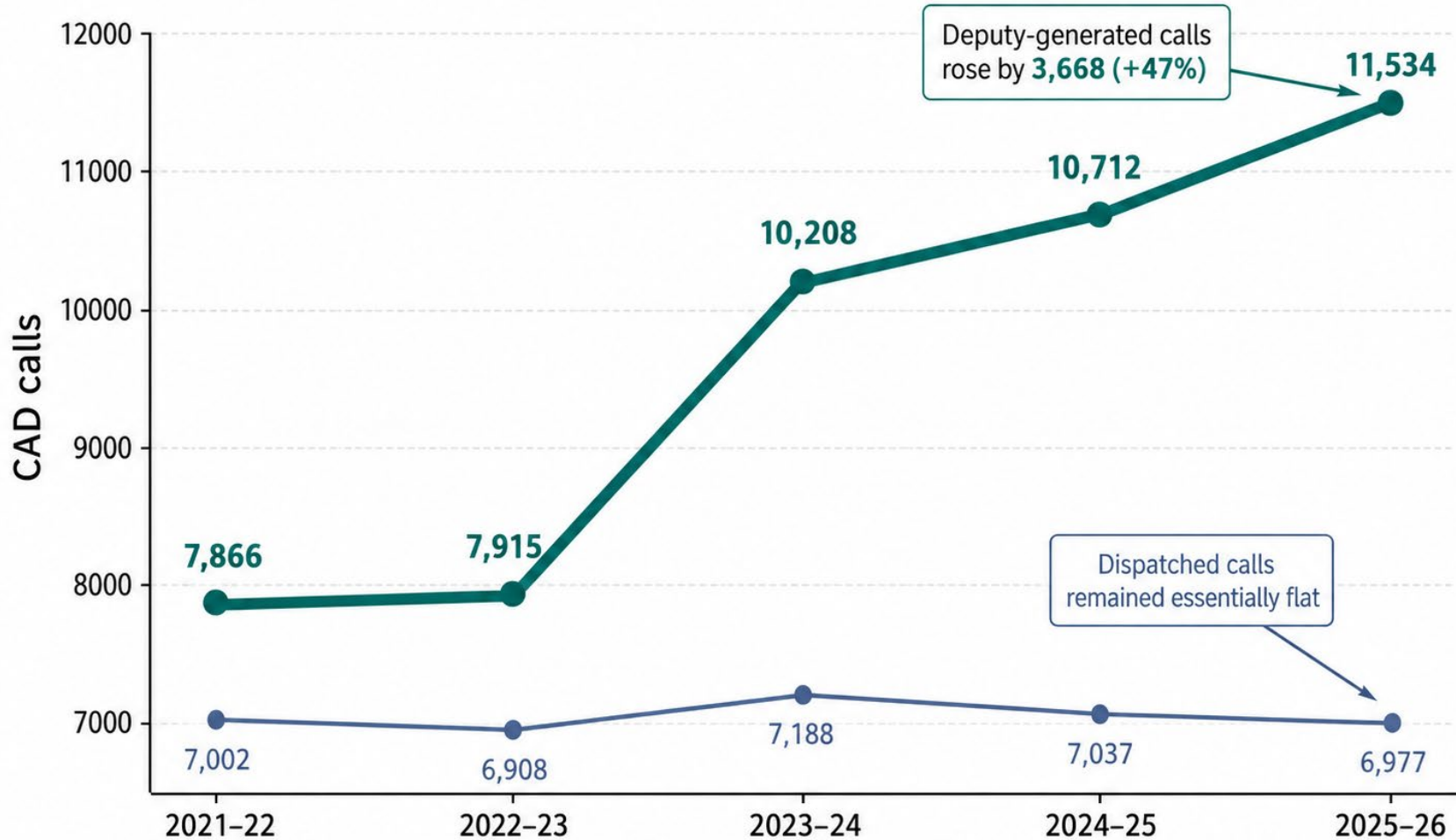
What do deputies do?

*Calls for service:
public-service demand and proactive activity*



CAD Calls: Dispatched and Deputy-Generated

Operational years 2021–22 through 2025–26



What to know

Total calls rose 25% from **14,868** to **18,511** over five operational years.

Population in unincorporated Kittitas County grew 9.3%, from 20,530 to 22,445 in this period.

Dispatched calls come through Kittcom by 911, a non-emergency line, or agency assist requests.

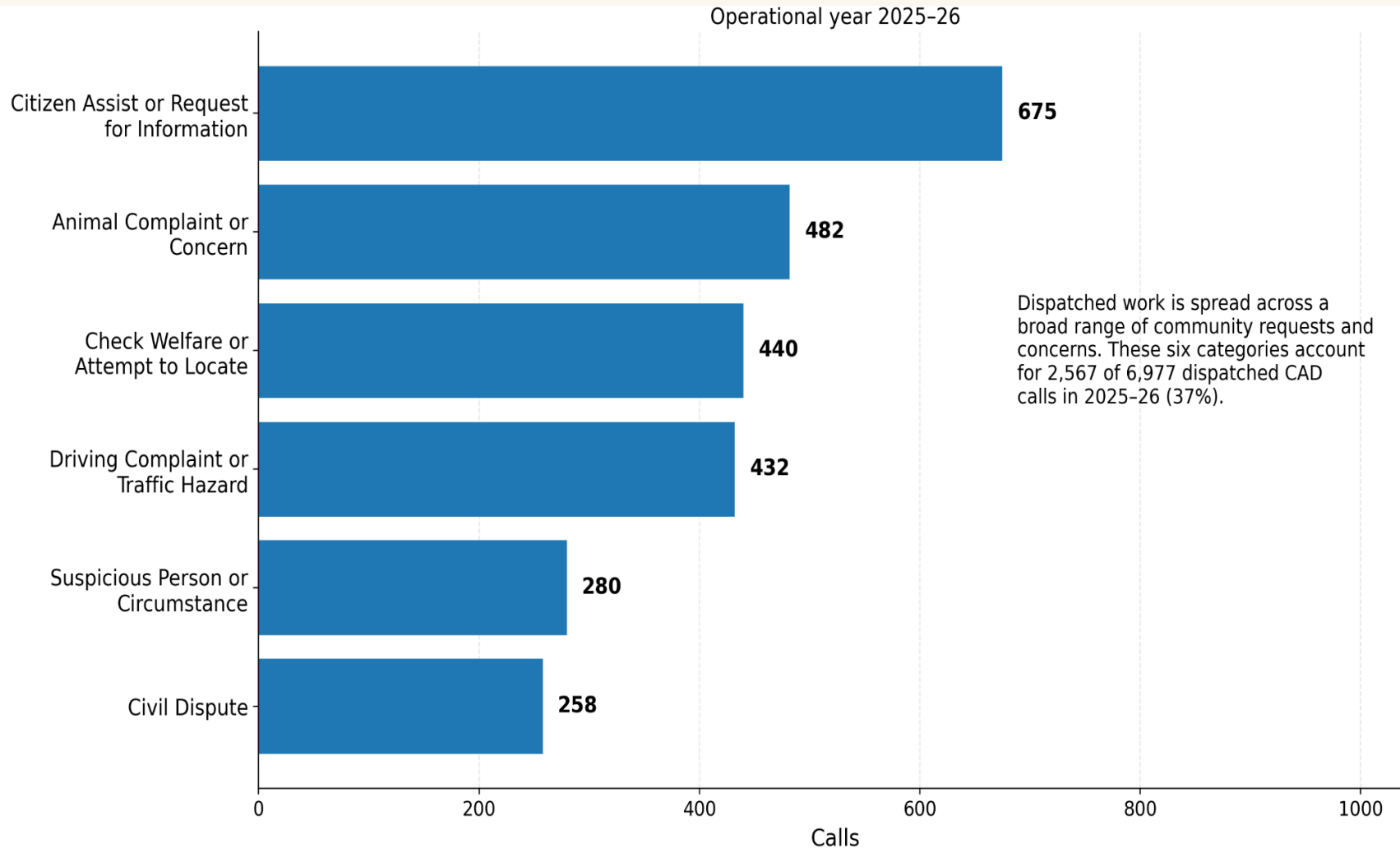
Deputy-generated calls are initiated by a deputy's observations and action, such as a traffic stop.

Takeaway

Growth is primarily deputy-generated rather than dispatched demand.

Source: KCSO CAD data

Most Common Dispatched Call Types



What to know

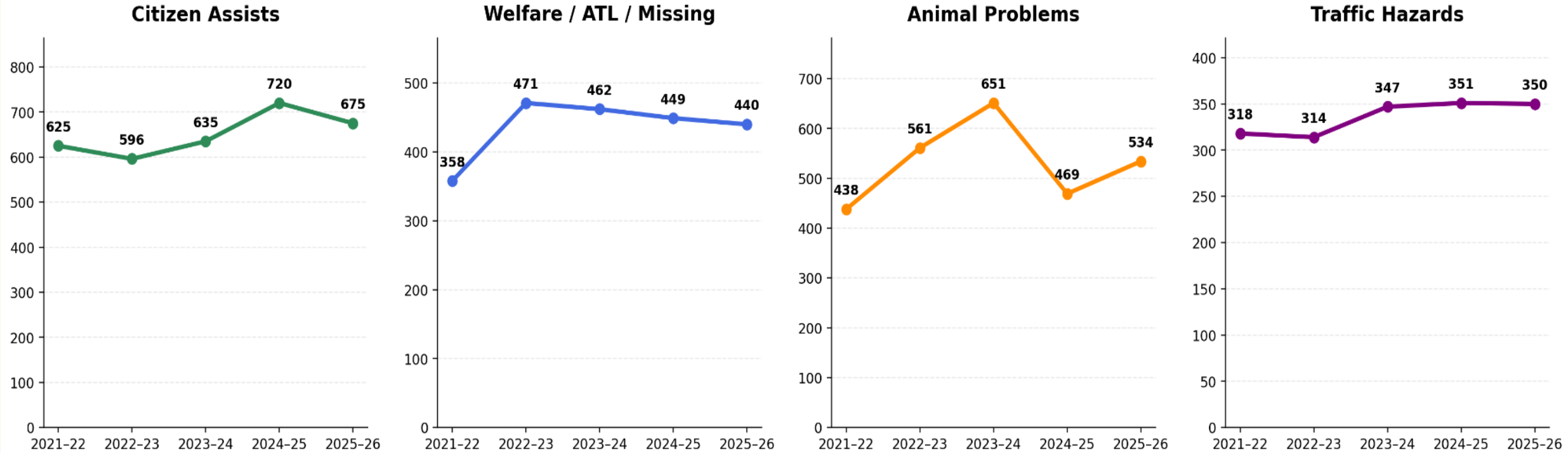
- Most dispatched calls are not clear reports of crimes.
- Dispatched work includes many diverse call types.
- They are often questions, safety concerns for people or animals, suspicious circumstances, and disputes.

Takeaway

Dispatched workload is broad public service, not simply reported crime.

Source: KCSO CAD data

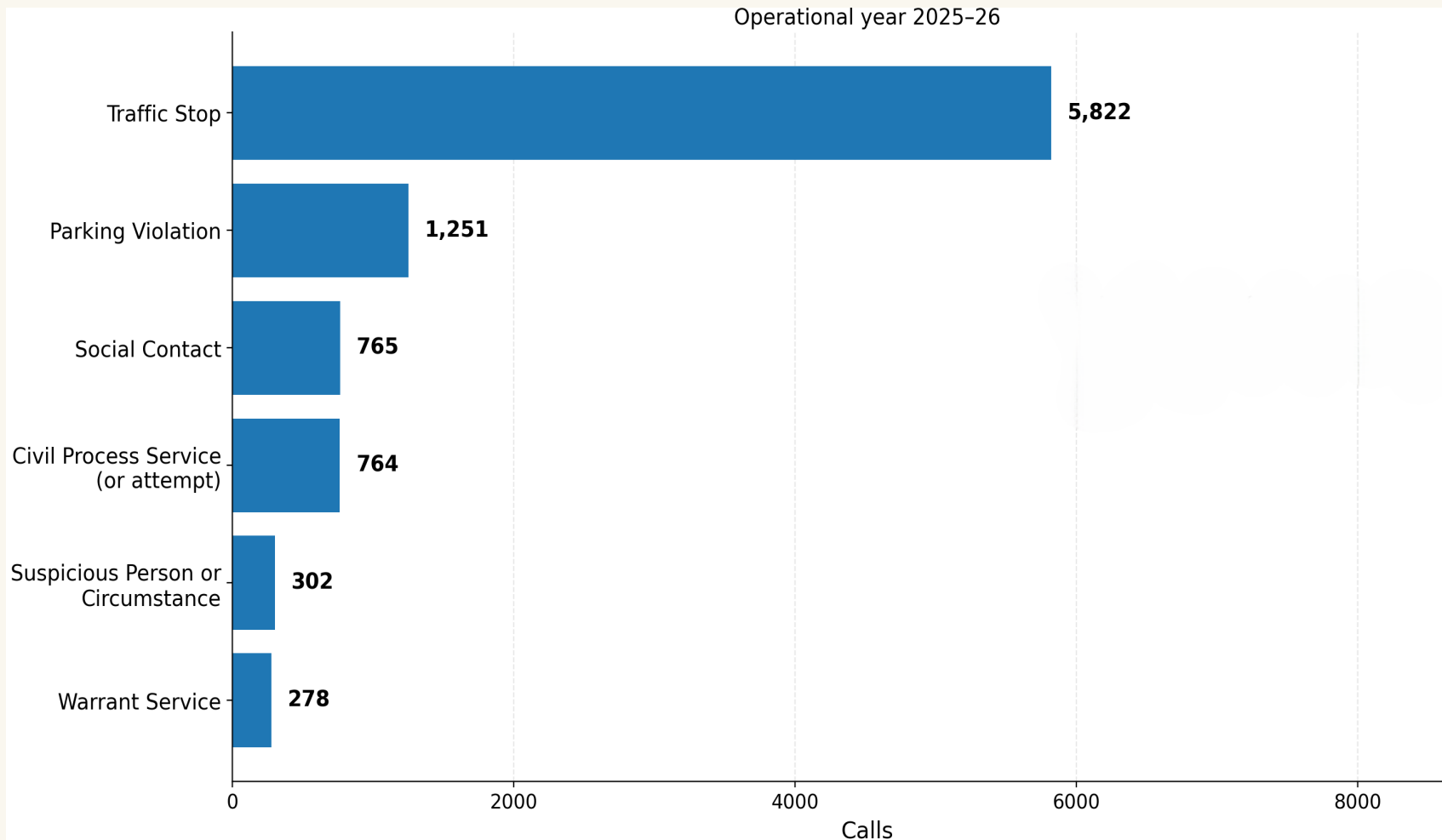
Stable Public-Service Demand



- The most common dispatched call types remain durable parts of the workload.
- Year-to-year changes exist, but the public-service mix is stable.
- The office must staff for steady service demand even when enforcement activity changes.

Source: KCSO CAD data

Most Common Deputy-Initiated Call Types



What to know

- Deputies contact people in many kinds of circumstances
- There are fewer types of deputy-initiated calls than dispatched calls. These six call types make up 80% of deputy-generated calls in 2025-26

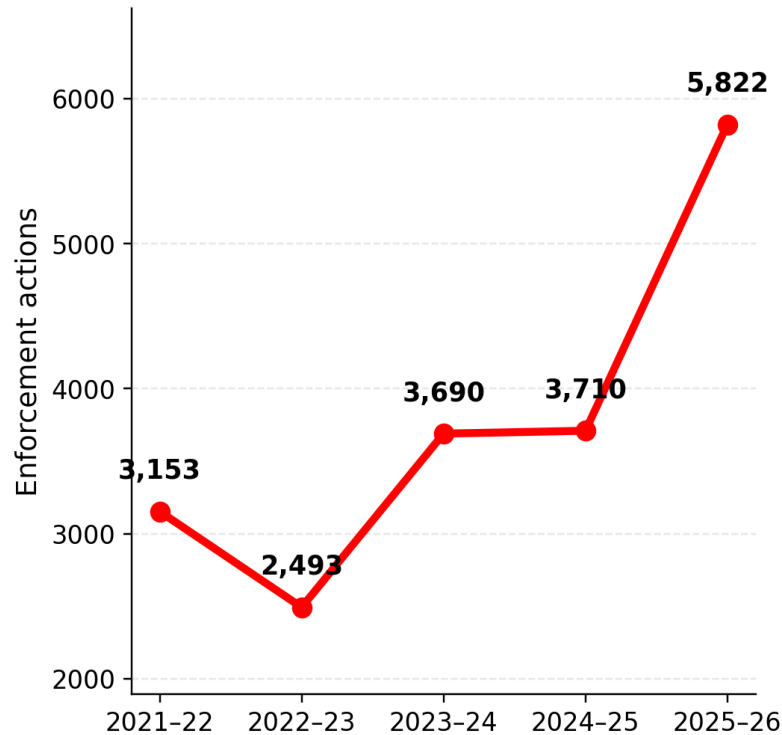
Takeaway

Proactive work is strongly concentrated in traffic safety.

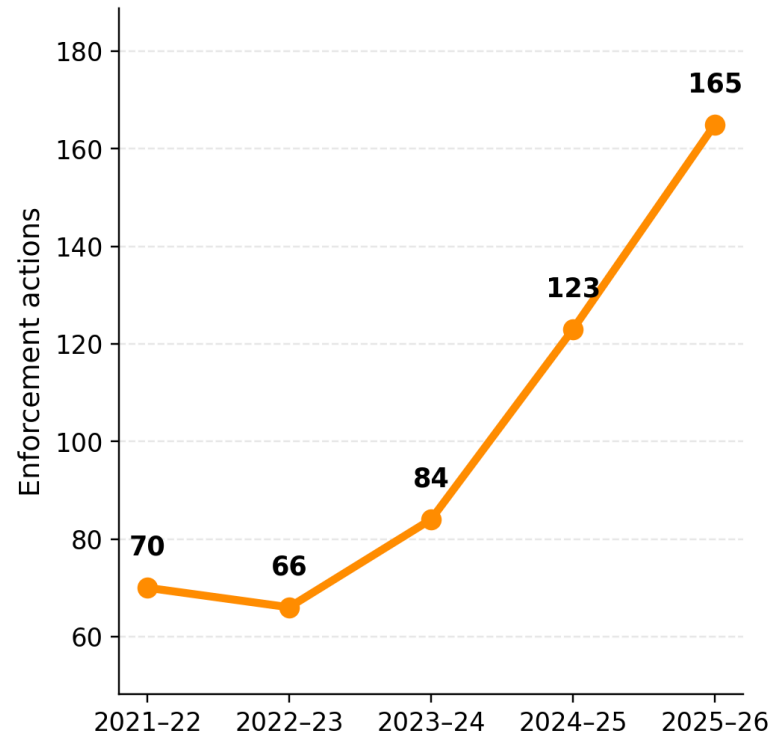
Source: KCSO CAD data

Traffic Safety Activity: 5 Operational Years

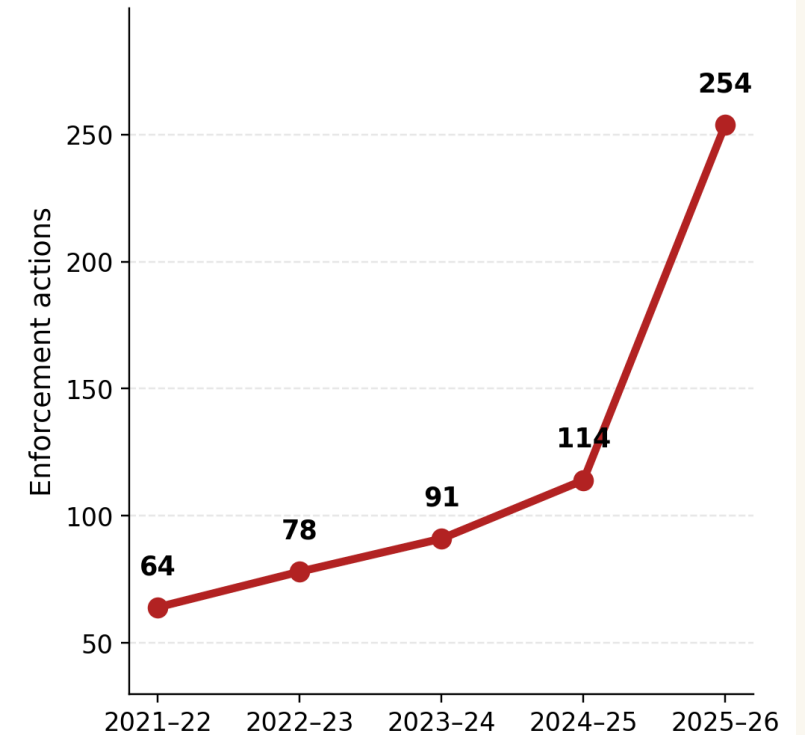
Noncriminal Traffic Stops



DUI



Criminal Traffic



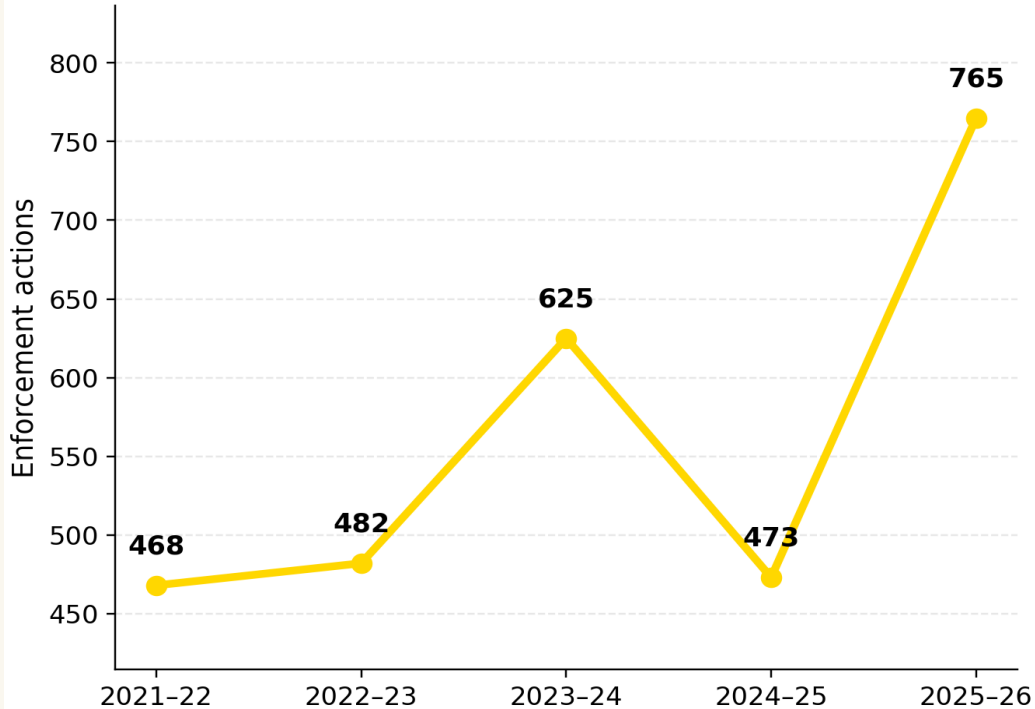
- Overall calls per-year / per-patrol-deputy went from 459-500.
- Workload growth reflects operational posture, not population or call-for-service growth.

Source: KCSO CAD data

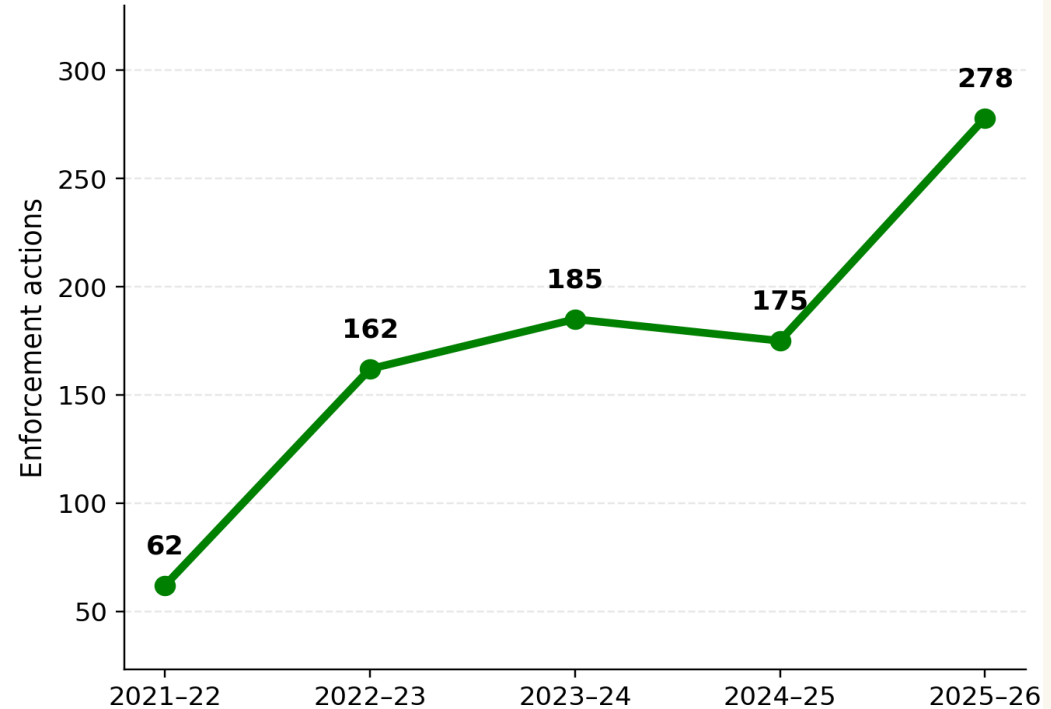
Other Proactive Call Types

Other proactive activity, operational years 2021-22 through 2025-26

Social Contacts



Warrant Service



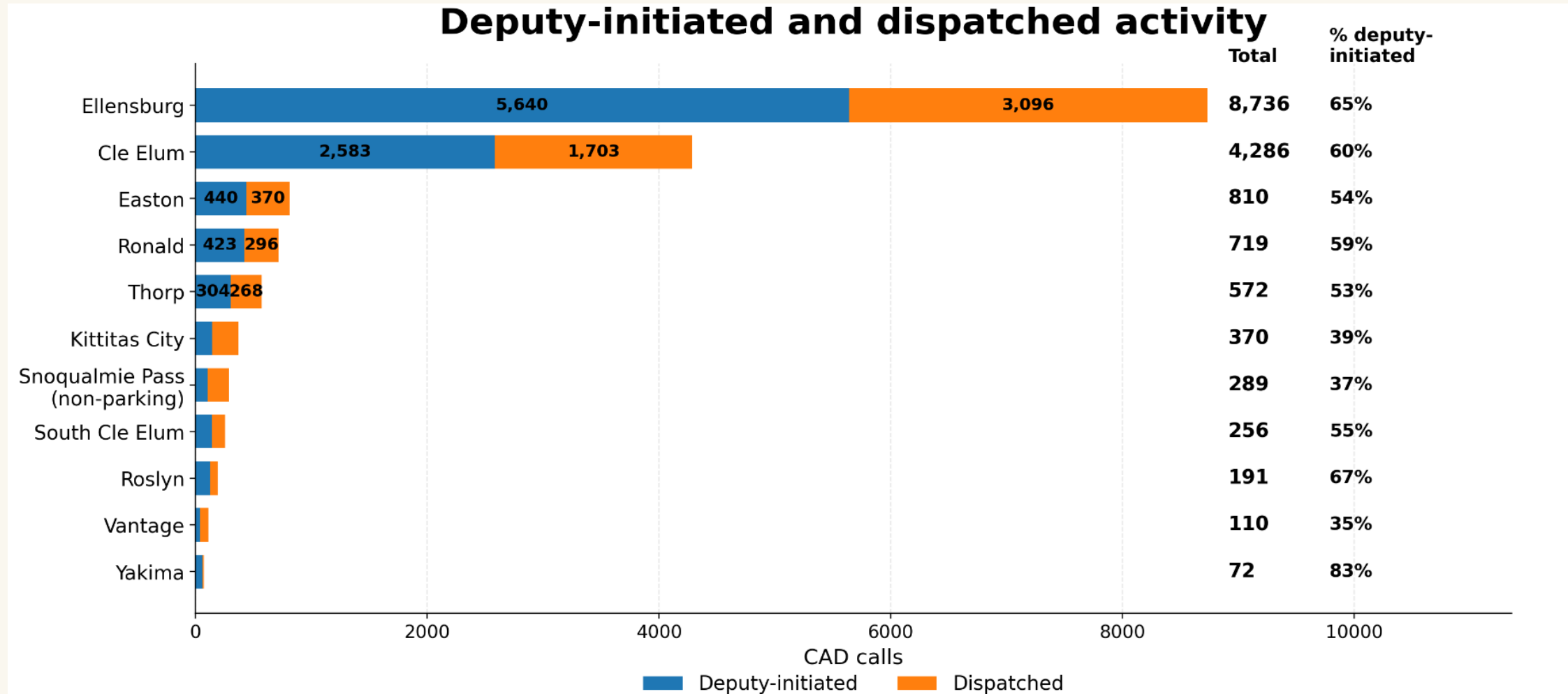
- Social Contacts include contacts that are investigative in nature but do not result in detention or arrest.
- Warrant Service calls include both warrant service attempts and those completed, resulting in 95 physical arrests.

Source: KCSO CAD data

Volume, area rates, and local variability

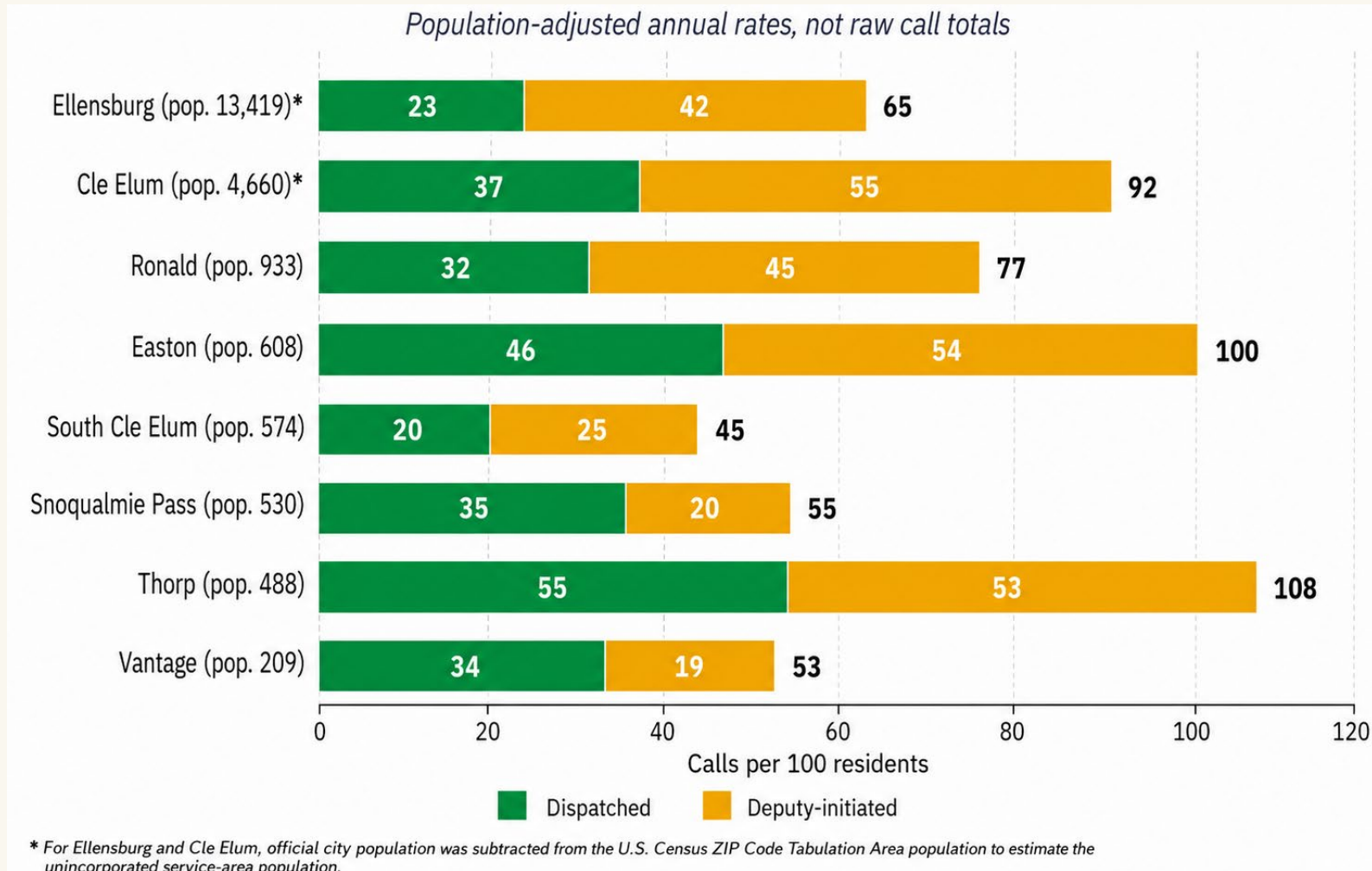


CAD Calls by Area, 2025-2026



- Dispatched and deputy-generated calls concentrate in populated areas.
- That doesn't mean deputies never go to lower-volume communities.

Calls per 100 Residents by Area, 2025-26



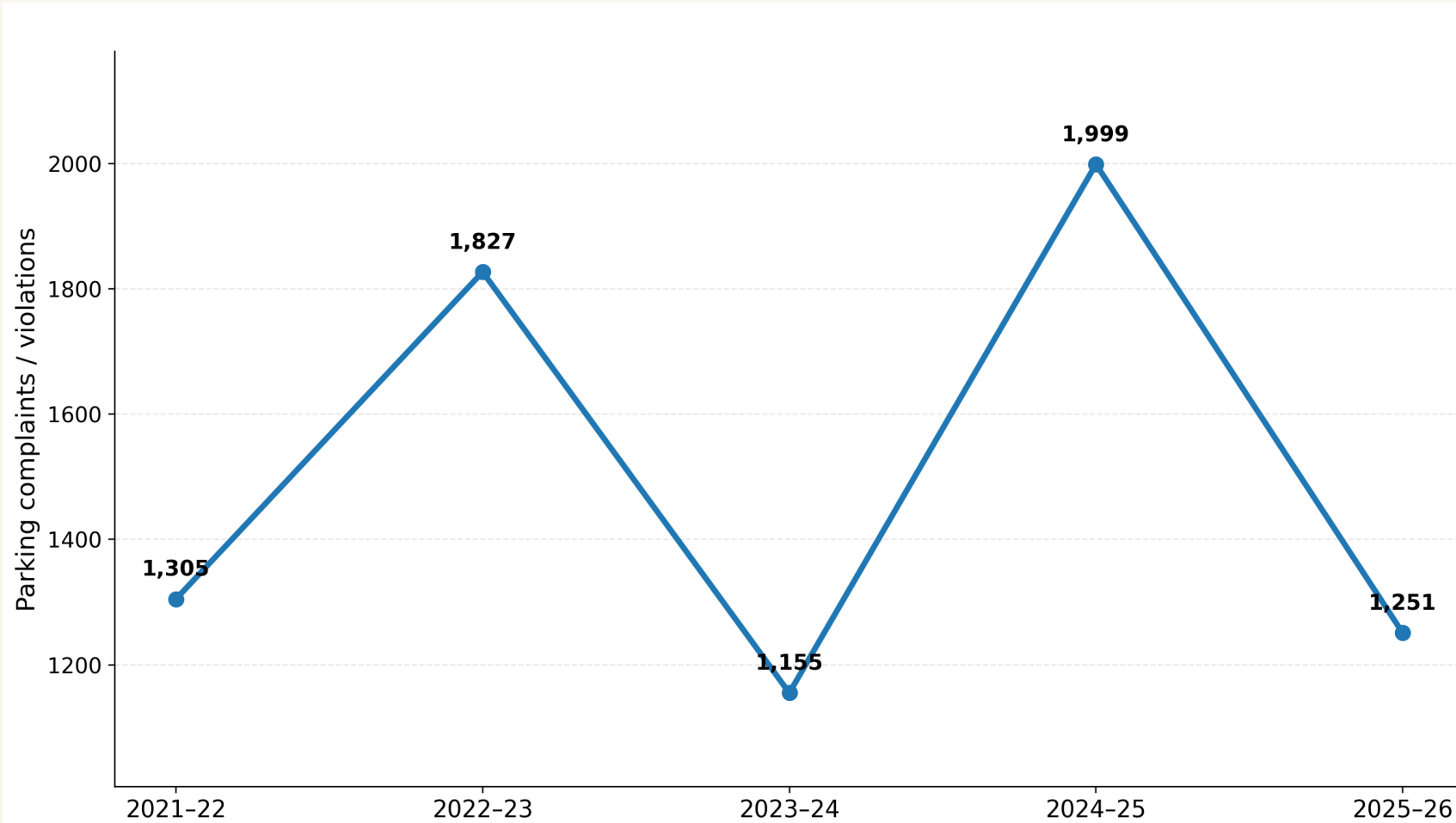
- Ellensburg's 60% of our unincorporated population generates 47% of total calls. Cle Elum's 21% generates 23% of calls.
- Small-population areas may show higher rates because impact population activity moves the numerator more easily.

Enforcement Activity

From proactive contact to infractions, citations, arrests, and beyond



Parking Enforcement: 5 Operational Years



Source: Kittitas County Sheriff's Office CAD calls by clearance code.

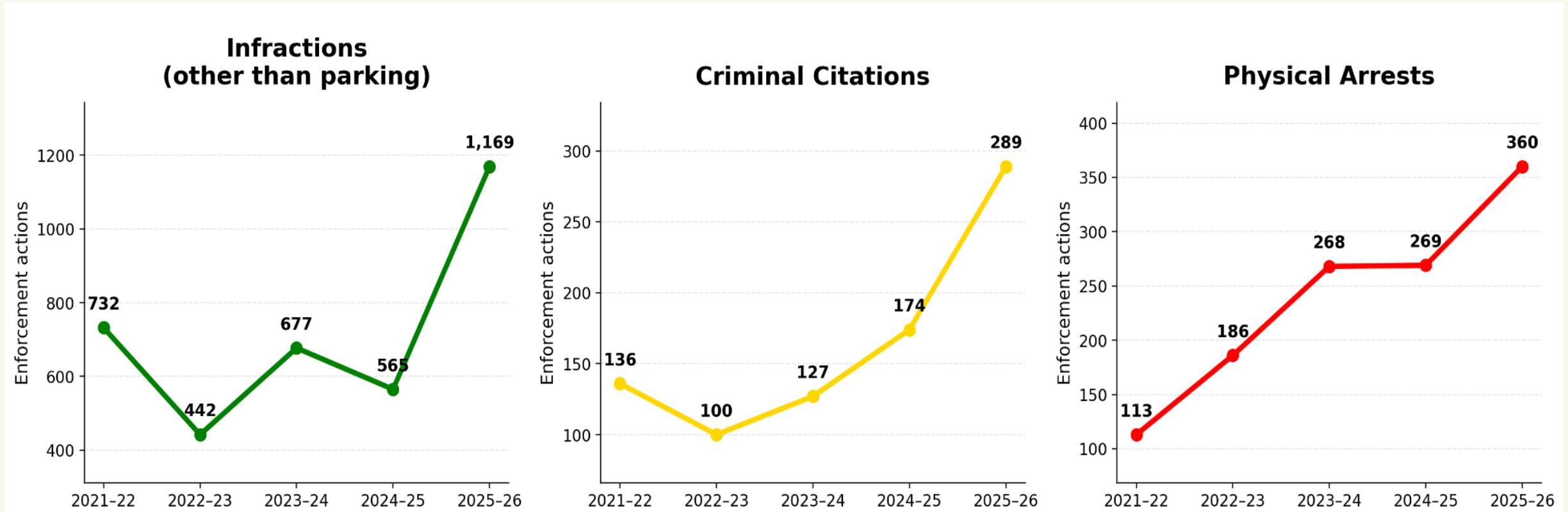
What to know

- Parking enforcement is a unique, seasonal, and local call group.
- It is excluded from most of the area and workload analysis that follows.

Takeaway

This workload matters, but it behaves differently from most other call categories.

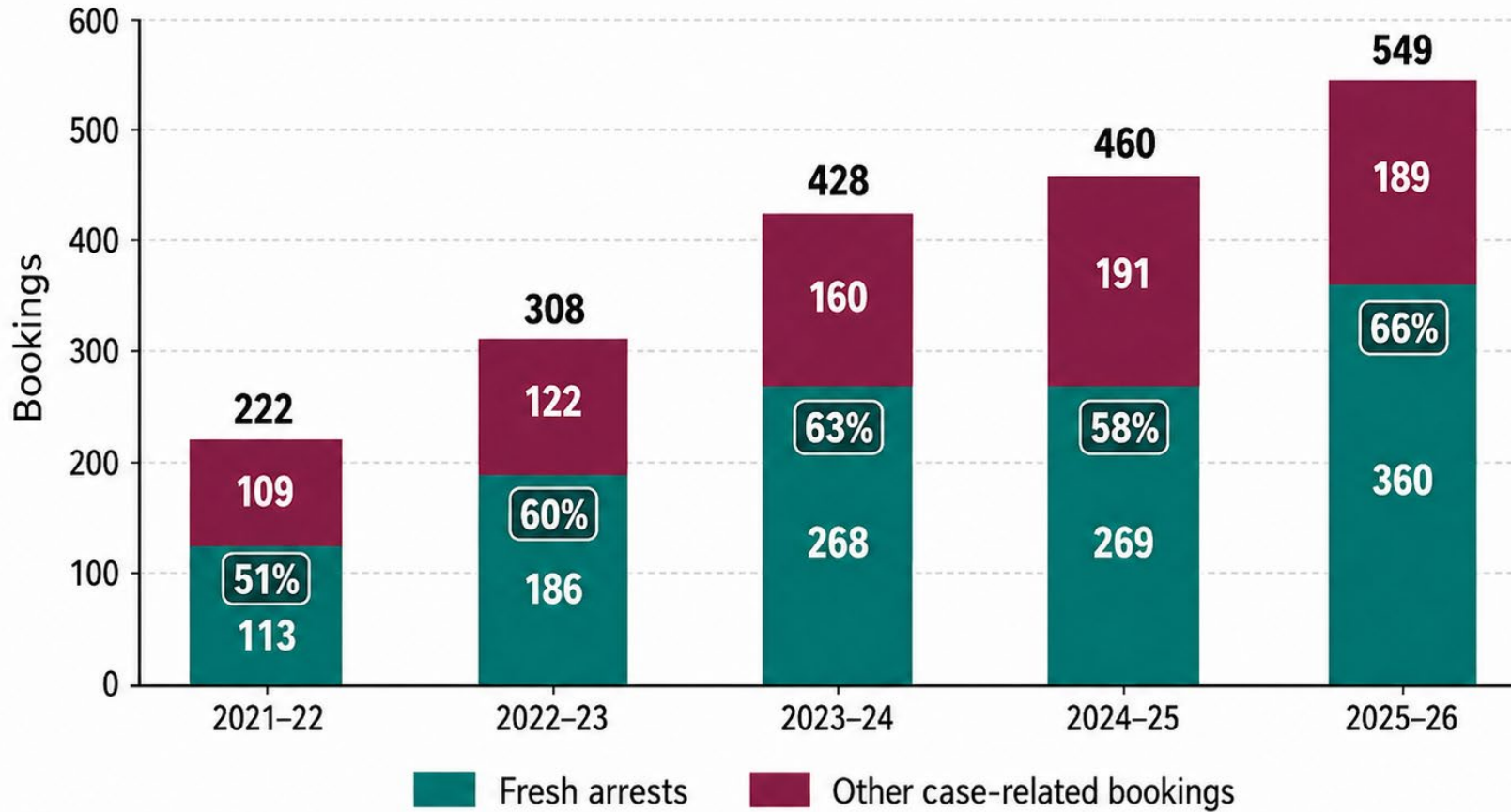
Enforcement Actions: 5 Operational Years



- Increased deputy proactivity produced increased enforcement at every level.
- Traffic stops are the main, but not the only, driver of growth across enforcement categories.

Source: KCSO CAD data

Not Just Fresh Arrests: Other Case-Related Bookings



Note: Other case-related bookings include court-ordered surrenders and other bookings resulting from earlier KCSO cases.

What to know

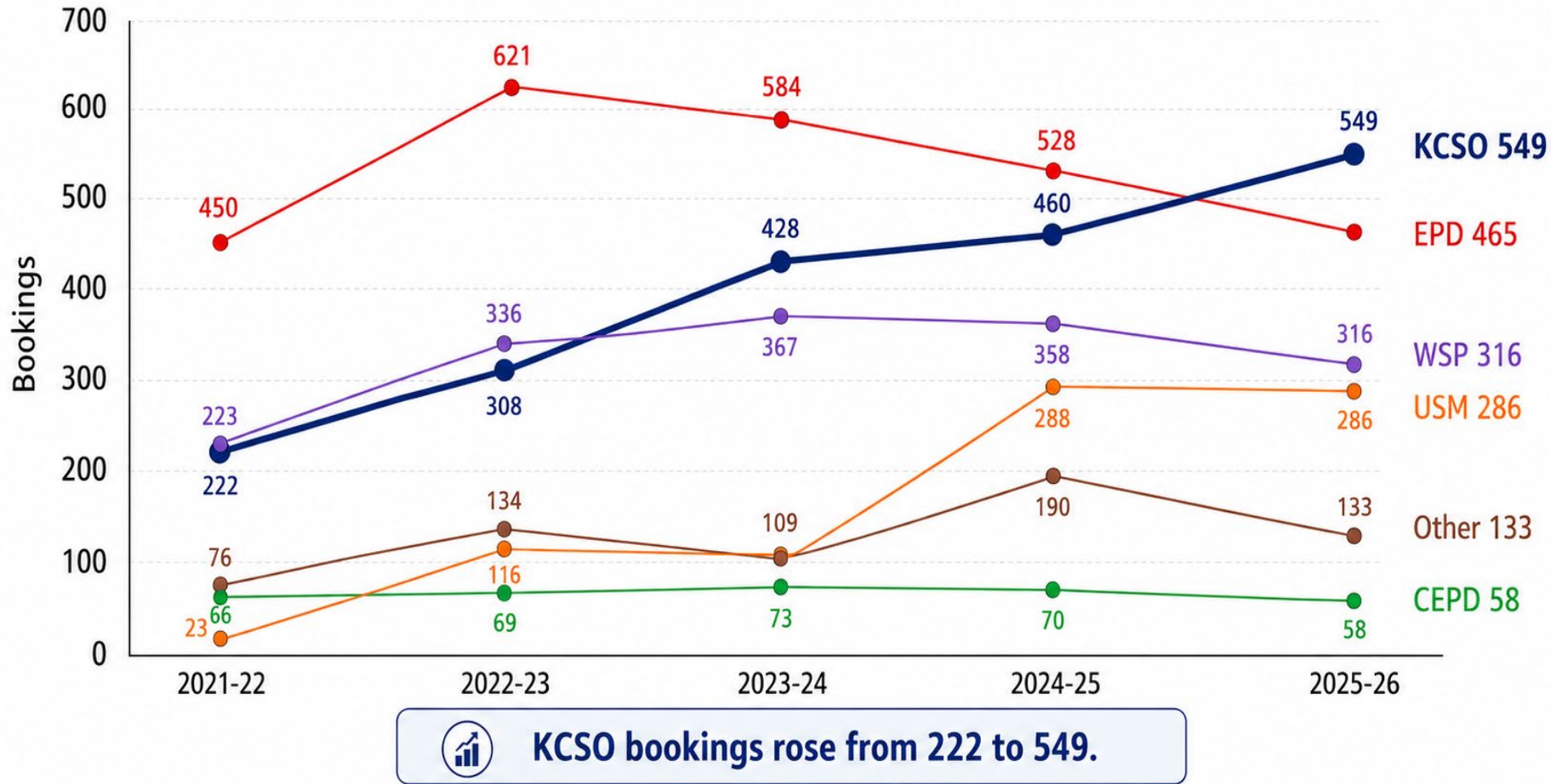
- Fresh arrests are only part of the puzzle.
- Warrants issued and cases litigated later produce additional case-related bookings.

Takeaway

The enforcement impact of Sheriff's Office work continues beyond the initial call handling.

Source: KCSO CAD data + KCJ booking data

Kittitas County Jail Bookings by Agency



Source: Kittitas County Sheriff's Office Spillman RMS booking module.

What to know

KCSO bookings rose 147%.

Other local agency bookings are comparatively flat over five years.

US Marshals bookings impact jail population more than booking numbers would suggest due to longer average sentences

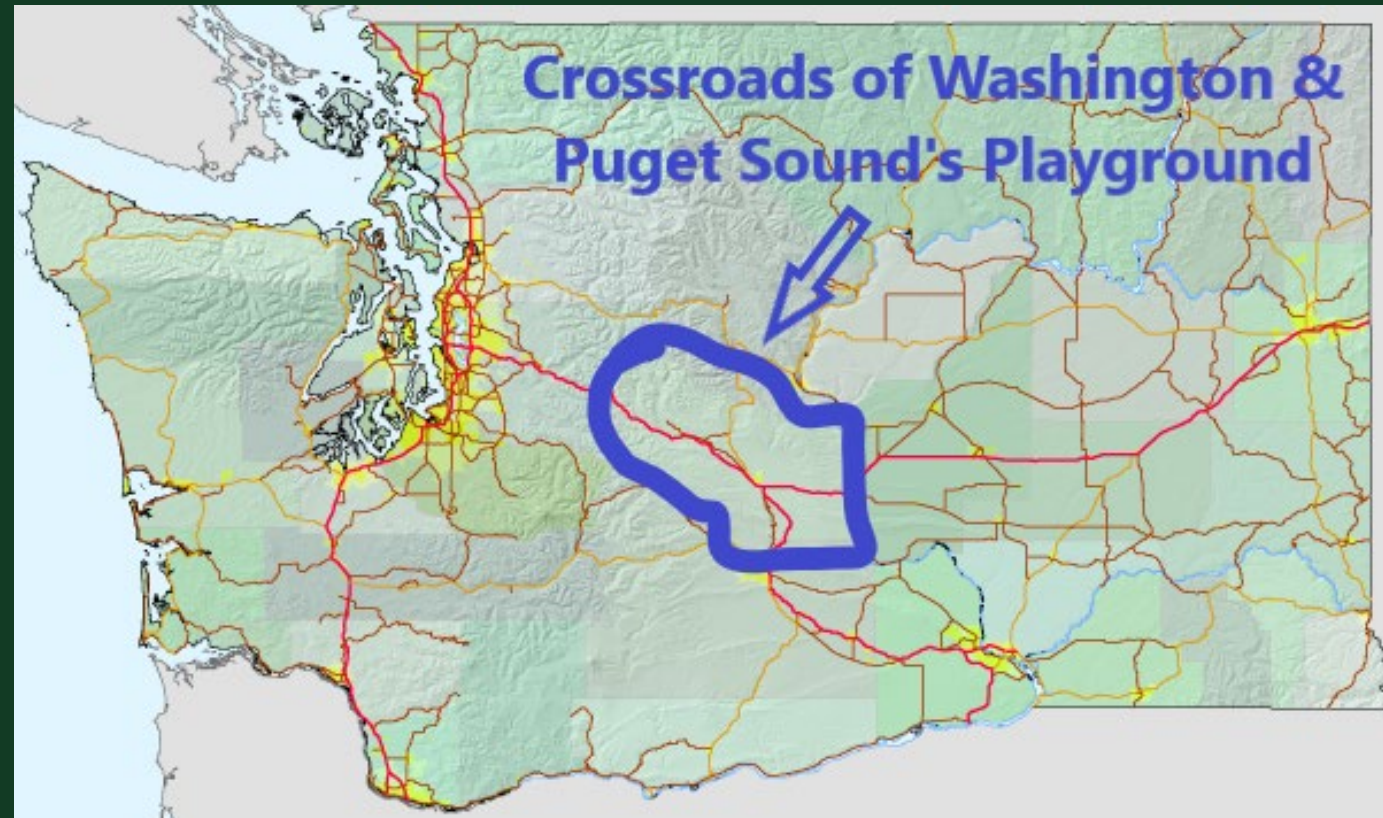
Takeaway

Annual KCJ bookings rose from 1,060 to over 1,800.

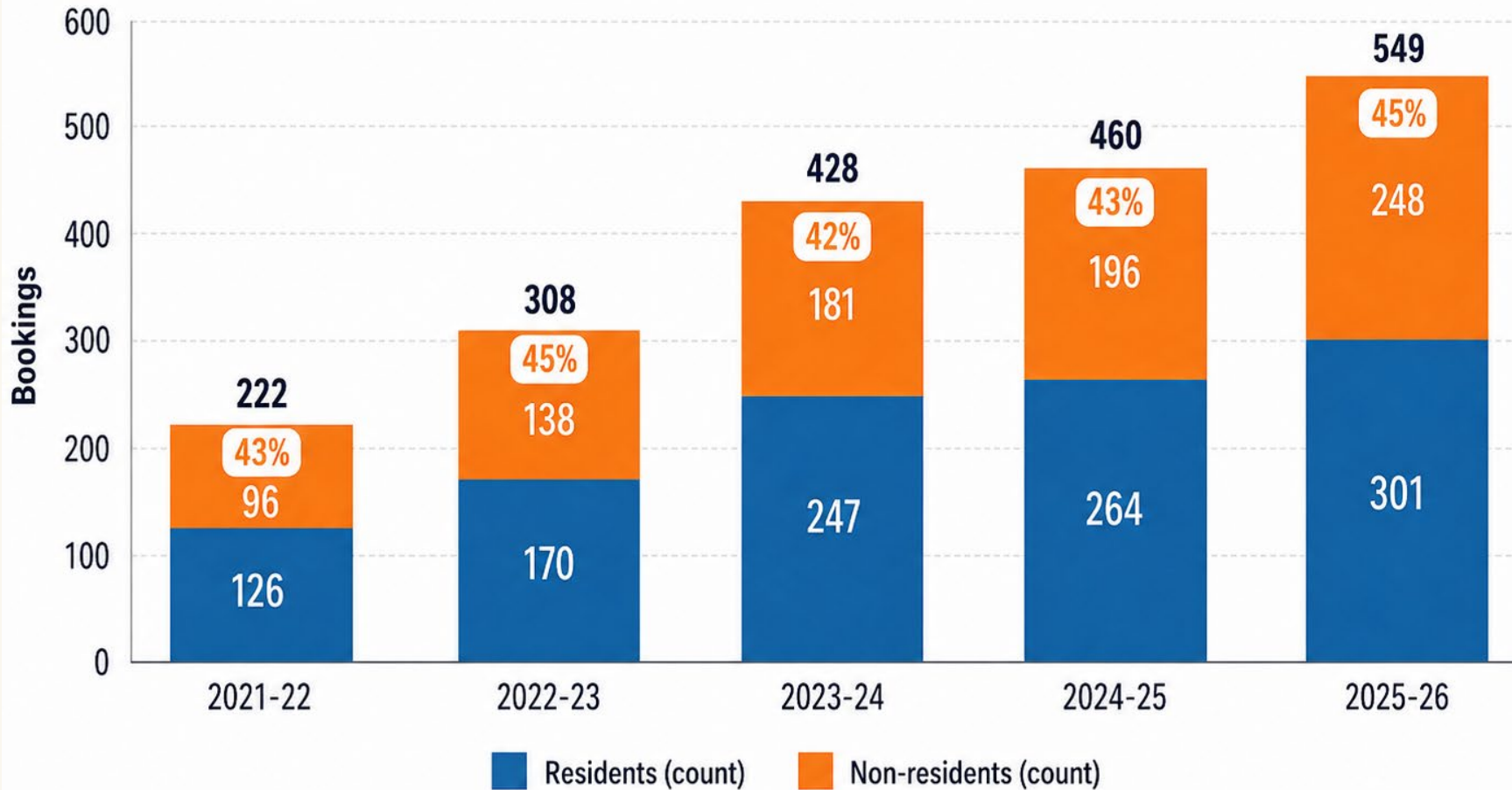
The strongest booking-growth signal is KCSO activity.

Impact Population

A steady influence on our community and our work



KCSO Bookings: Residents and Non-residents



Source: Kittitas County Sheriff's Office Spillman RMS Booking Module; residency based on the address reported by the inmate upon booking.

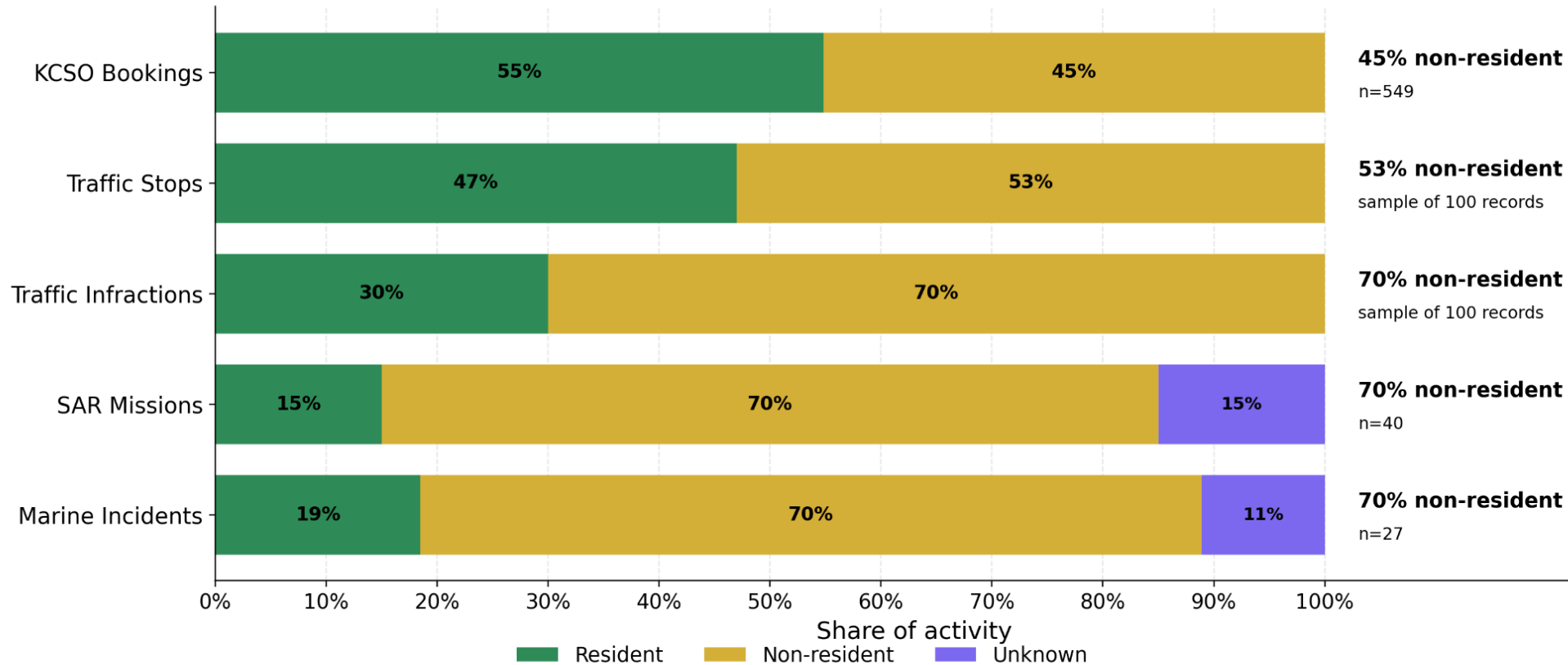
What to know

- A large non-resident impact population is a long-term, identified operational factor.
- Over 5 years, non-residents accounted for an average of 44% of bookings in Sheriff's Office criminal cases.

Takeaway

The Sheriff's Office serves both our resident community and a large and steady impact population.

Non-resident Impact Beyond Arrests: Select call types, 2025-26



These are selected activity types where non-resident impact is especially noteworthy; they do not represent the total non-resident impact on KCSO workload. Traffic-stop and traffic-infraction figures are based on samples of 100 records each.

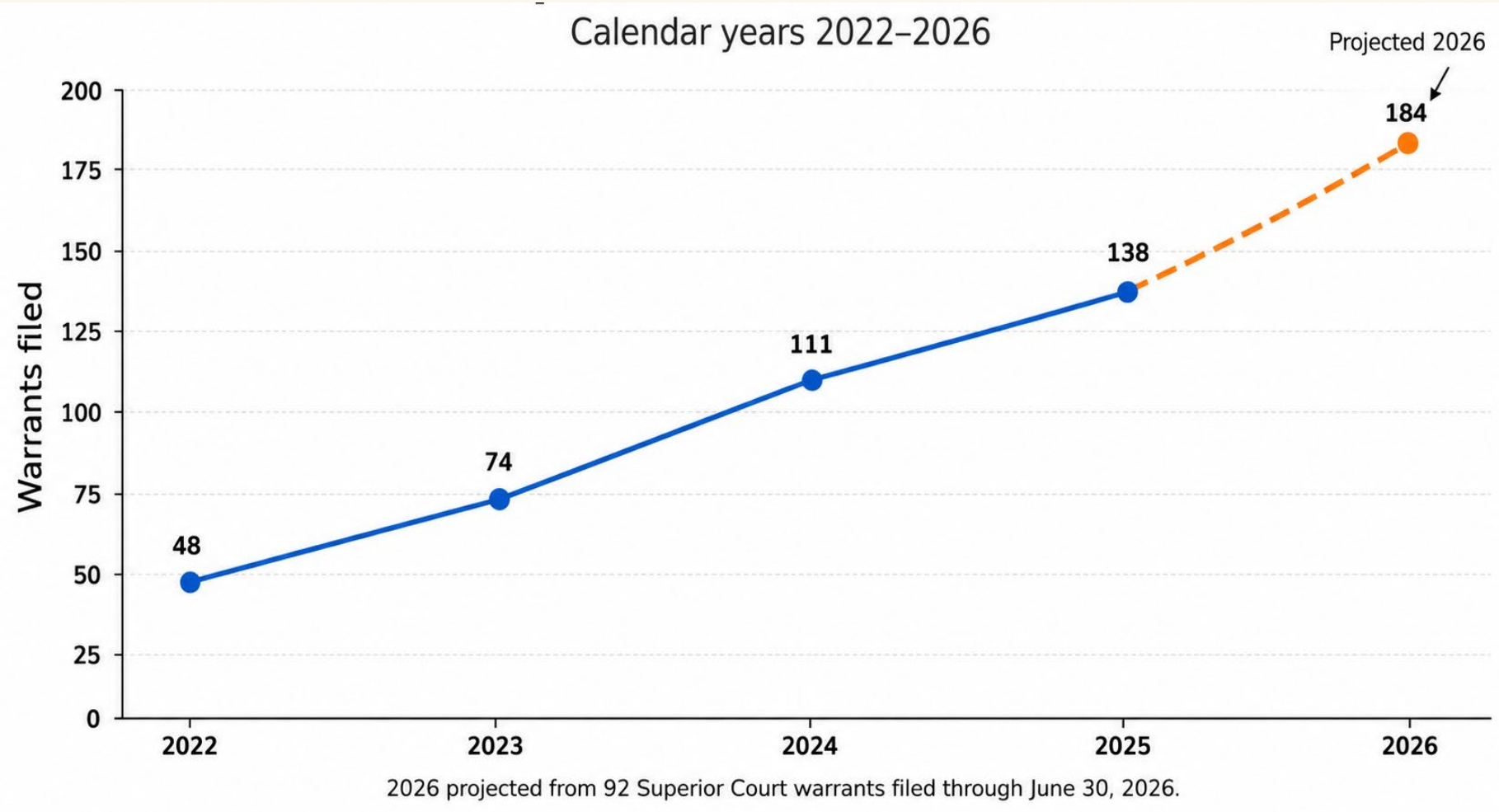
- Non-resident impact is not limited to jail bookings.
- Some operational areas are mostly about non-resident activity, especially traffic infractions and selected rescue/incident types.
- The county's geography, recreational opportunities, and travel corridors shape Sheriff's Office workload.

Complex Investigations

Advances in Technological Capability and Investigative Scope



Superior Court Warrants Filed



What to know

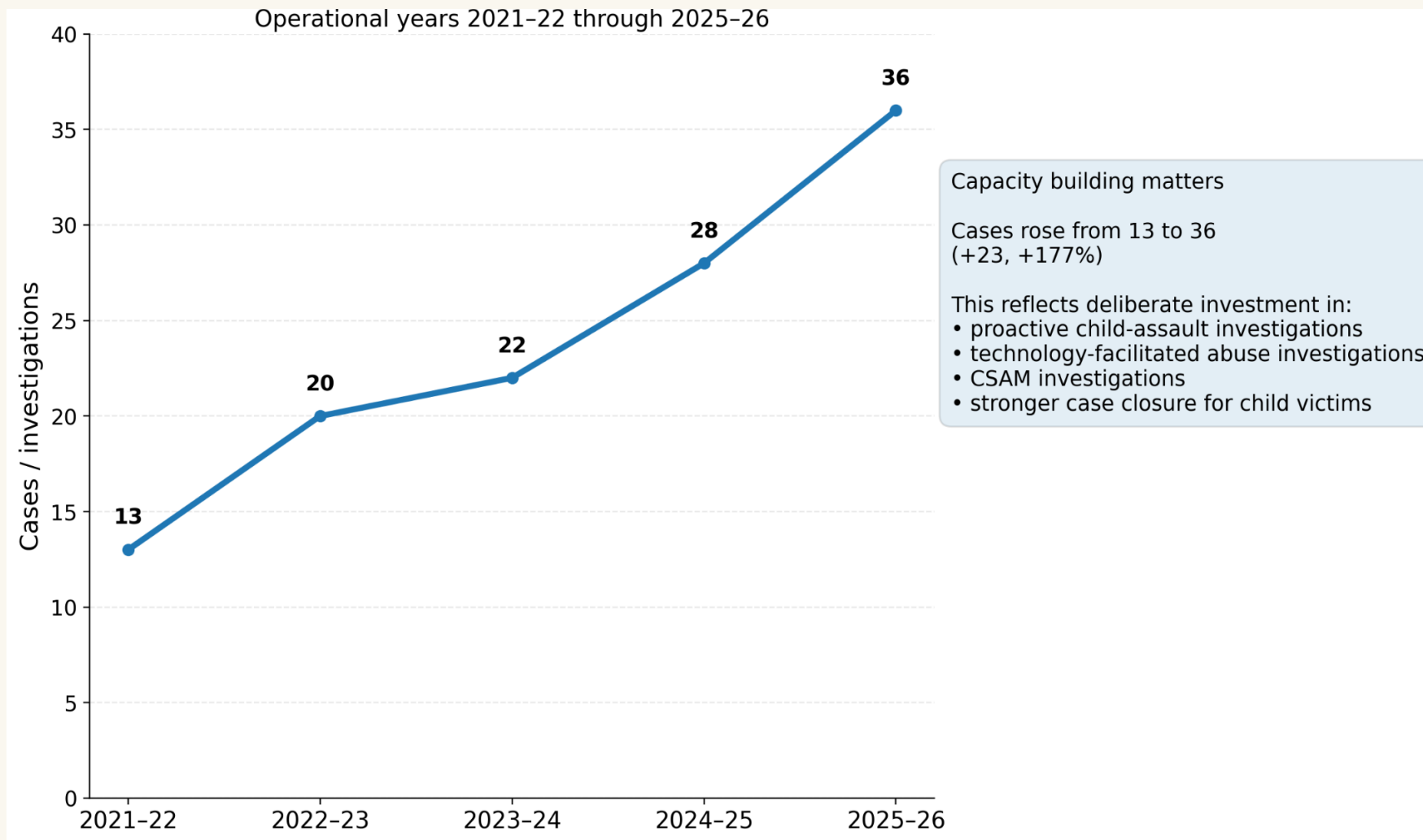
- There are not just more arrests; cases are more complex.
- More search warrants reflect more evidence, more devices, and deeper investigations.

Takeaway

Warrants grew faster than cases: Law Enforcement has grown more technical across the board

Calendar year data provided by Kittitas County Clerk's Office

Child Assaults



What to know

- Child-assault investigations are a primary example of growth in complex cases.
- Training, technology, and creation of a new civilian investigator position increased capacity to proactively investigate and prosecute cases protecting children.

Takeaway

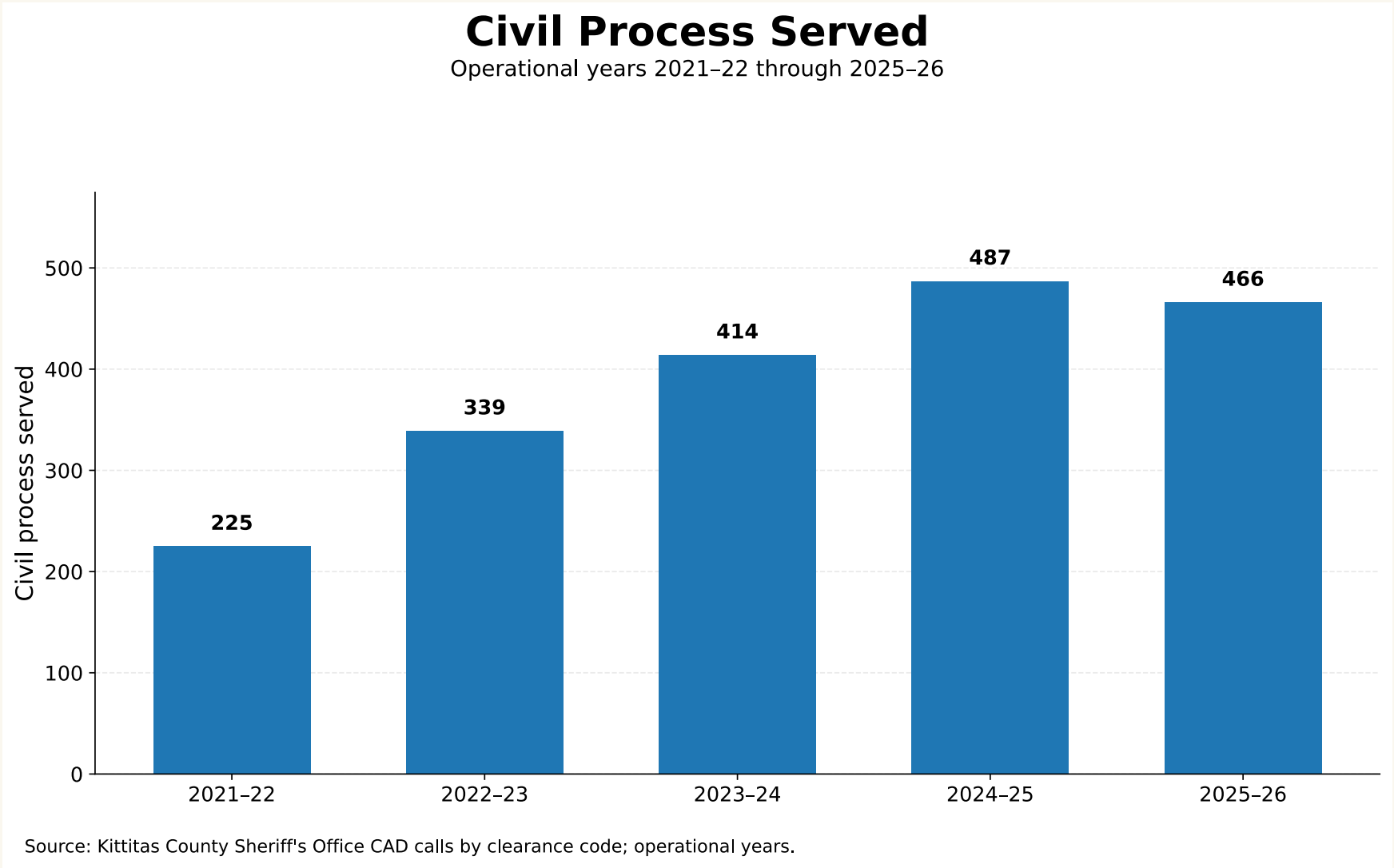
The increase reflects capacity to detect, investigate, and prosecute difficult cases—not simply more reported incidents.

A Brief Glance Beyond Operations

Clerical and Fire Marshal exemplify expansion and growth in other divisions



Expanding Civil Division Workload



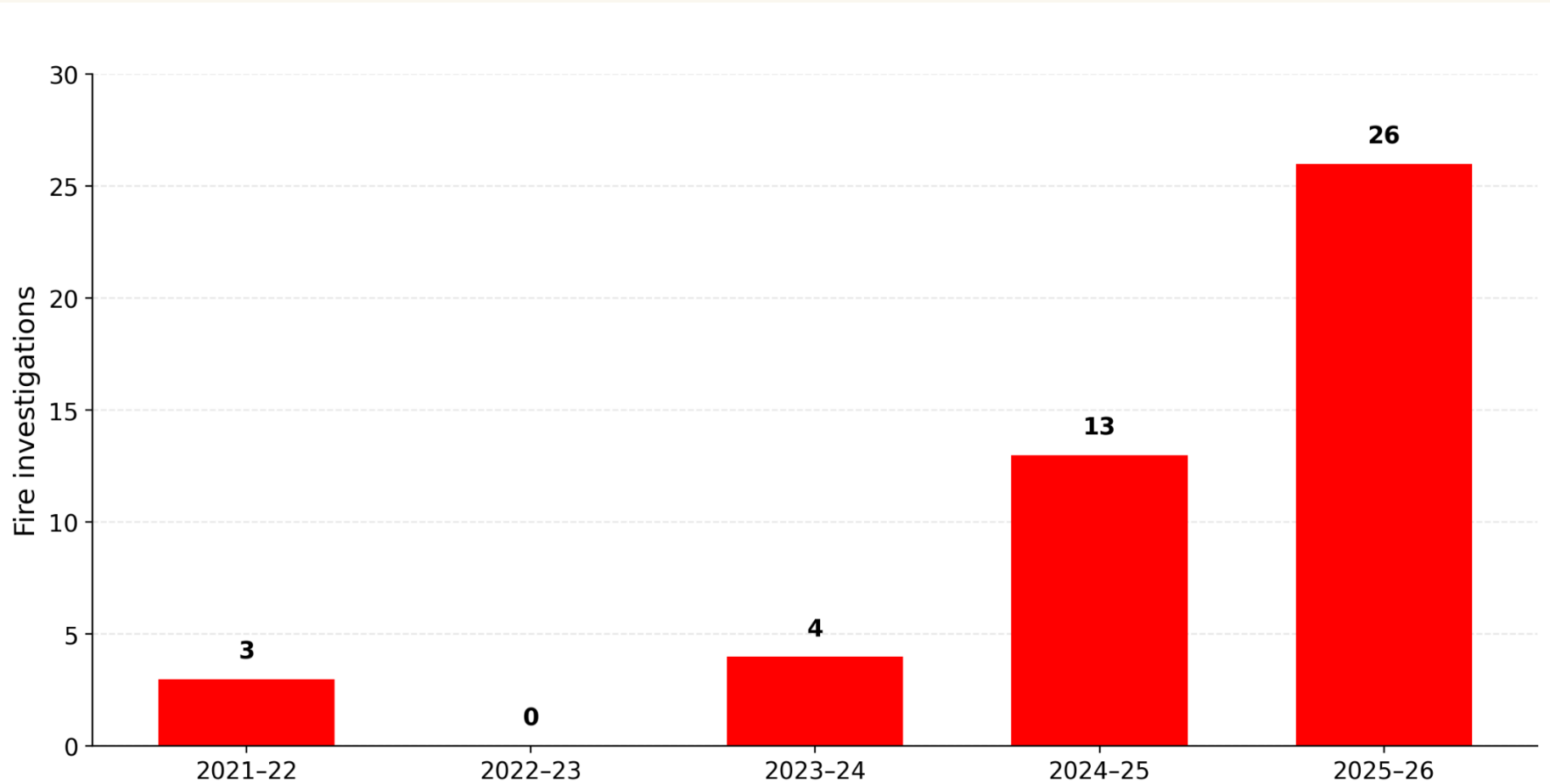
What to know

- Civil Process Service rose 107% over five years.
- The type of process matters: the growth in protection orders makes the work of this division more complex and labor-intensive.

Takeaway

Civil workload is both higher-volume and more demanding.

Fire Investigations: 5 Operational Years



Illustrates the increase in fire investigations following incorporation of the Fire Marshal's Office into KCSO.
Source: Kittitas County Sheriff's Office fire investigation records.

What to know

- Incorporating the Fire Marshal's Office into the Sheriff's Office increased effective response and investigation in fire-related incidents.
- The chart reflects an expansion of operational responsibility and capacity.

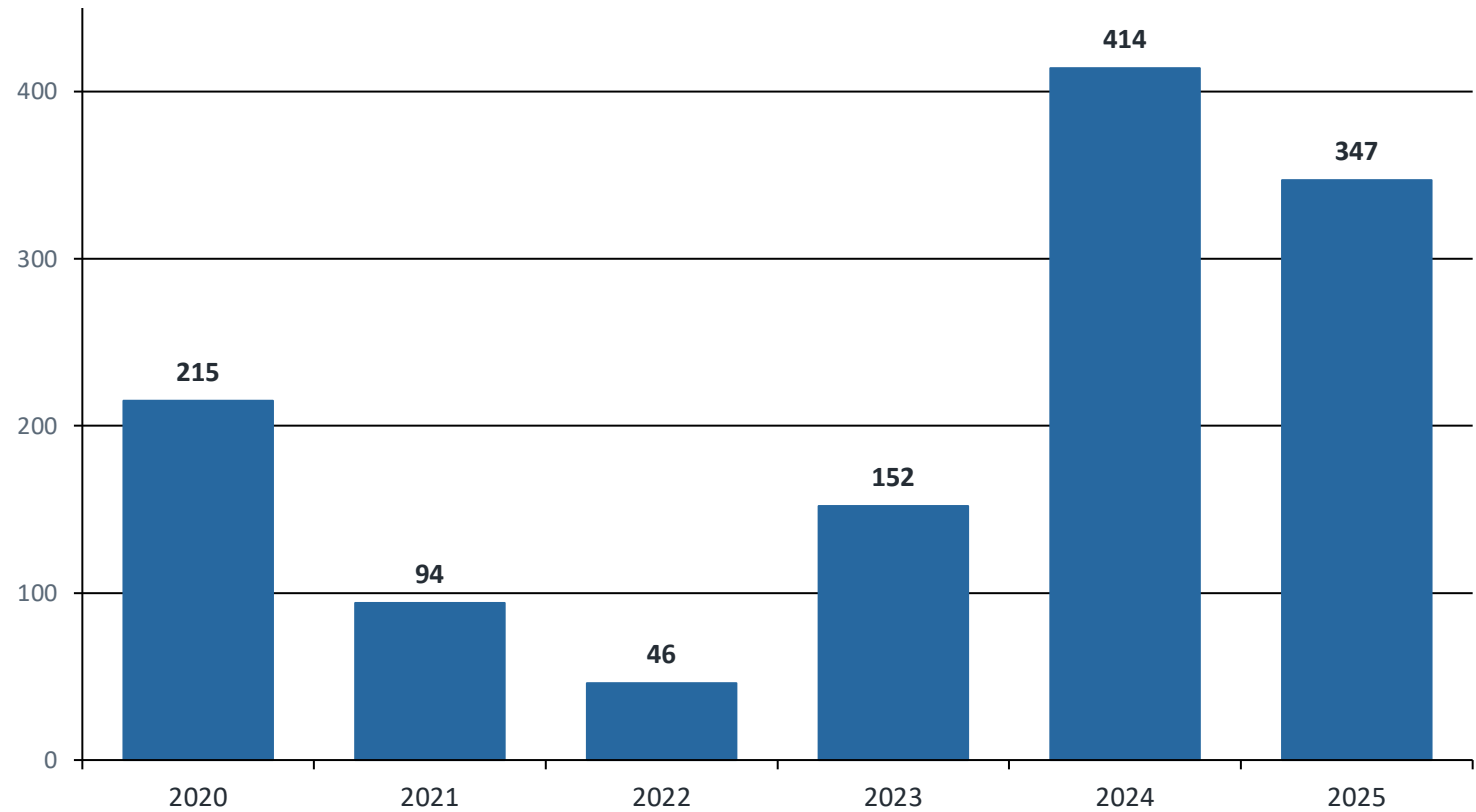
Takeaway

Added capability changed what the office can take on.

Fire Marshal: Completed Fire Life Safety Inspections

Kittitas County | 2020–2025

Completed inspections



2024 MILESTONE

First year in County history that all commercial properties in unincorporated Kittitas County were inspected.

2024 PEAK

414

Completed inspections

2025 TOTAL

347

Completed inspections

6-YEAR TOTAL

1,268

Completed inspections

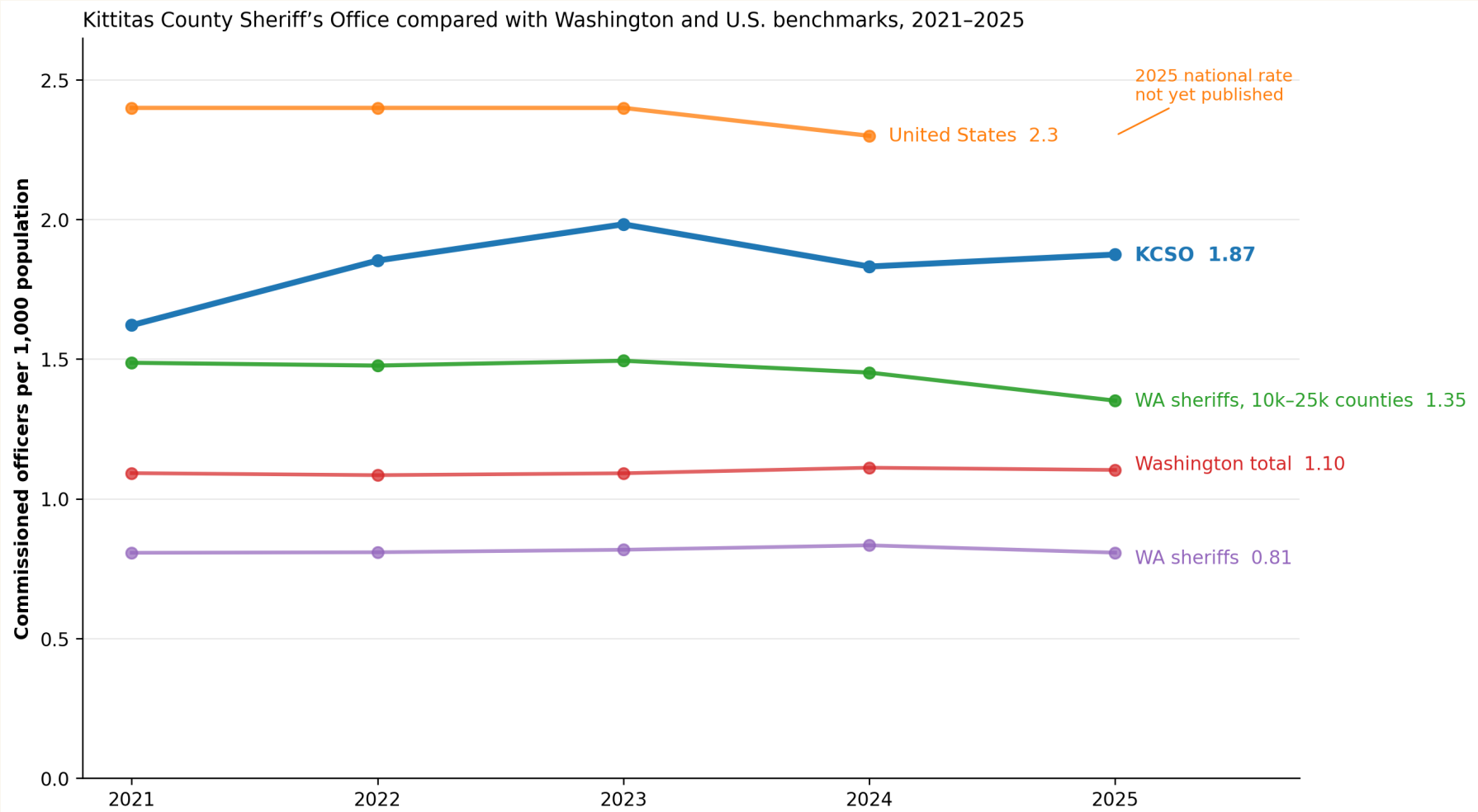
Source: Provided inspection counts. Values represent completed fire life safety inspections.

Sheriff's Office staffing

Capacity, staffing mix, and law-enforcement investment



Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Population



Sources: WASPC, Crime in Washington 2021-2025, full-time law-enforcement employee tables. KCSO rates use corrected KCSO commissioned counts with published Kittitas SO populations. Washington benchmark rates are calculated from WASPC agency tables. U.S. benchmark: FBI Crime Data Explorer / UCR national summaries. FBI reports 2.3 officers per 1,000 inhabitants for 2024; the 2025 national employee count has been released, but a nationwide 2025 rate has not yet been published.

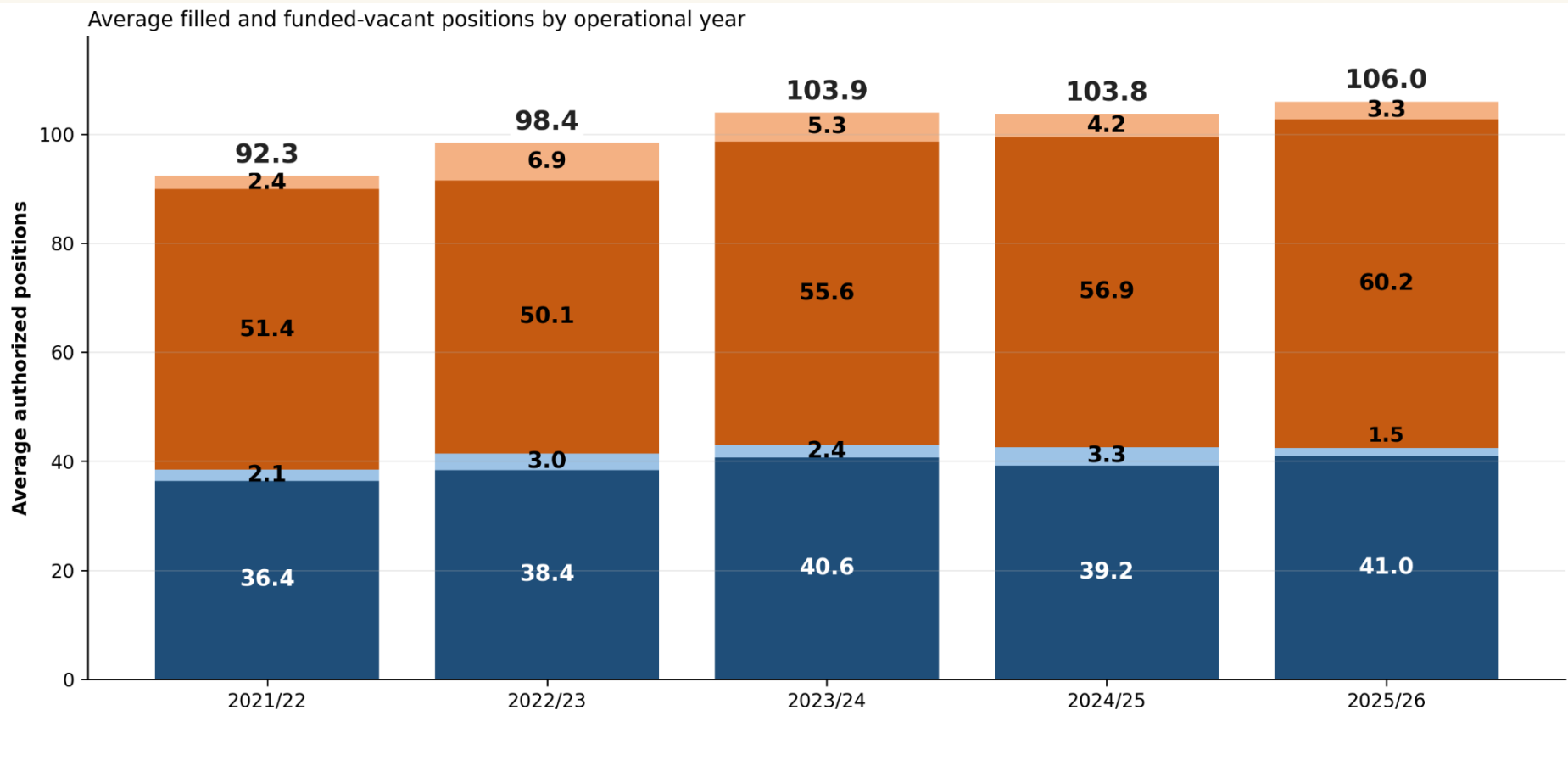
What to know

- An increase in commissioned deputies over 5 years has kept close pace with population growth.
- The ratio to population remains below the national average but above Washington sheriff's-office and overall averages.

Takeaway

Kittitas county has made a sustained investment in public safety capacity.

All KCSO Staffing



Dark Blue = filled patrol deputy positions;
light blue = vacancies

Orange = all other positions; light orange = vacancies

Commissioned deputy positions increased 10% over five years; total staff grew almost 15%.

Added support and auxiliary positions accommodate more enforcement actions, more complex work, non-enforcement work, and added areas of operation.

Annual figures are averages drawn from monthly civil service commission reports

What drove the increase in Law Enforcement Activity?

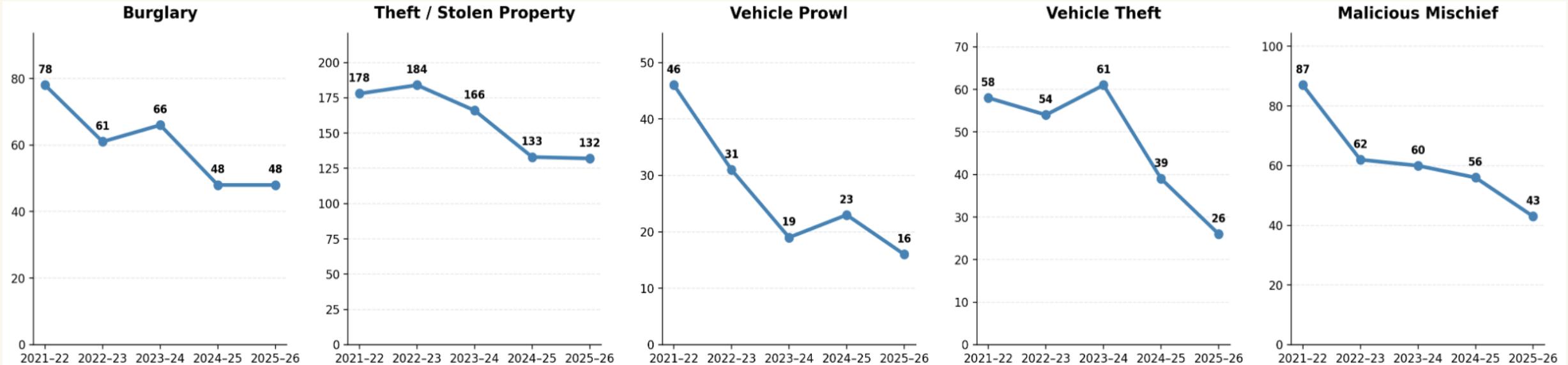
Our basic priorities haven't changed, and personnel growth doesn't explain it. What does?

- 1 **The right people: the right number of them, with the right training, equipment, and support**
- 2 **The right supervision—ref. 2023 reorganization**
- 3 **Not quotas, and not ‘goon squads’ (*use of force down 2023-26*)**
- 4 **Constant reference to our Mission, Vision, and Values**

Results

Causation is complicated--but good things are happening

Reduced Property-Crime Activity

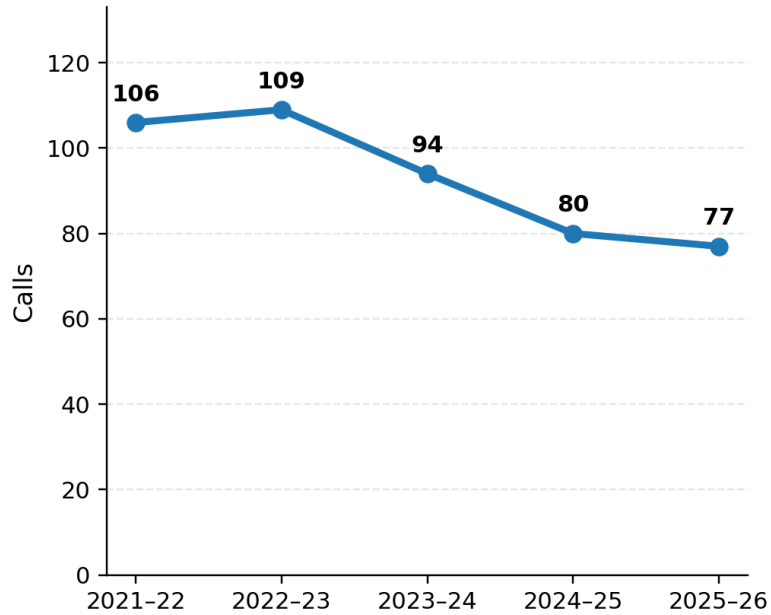


Source: KCSO CAD calls by clearance code; operational years.

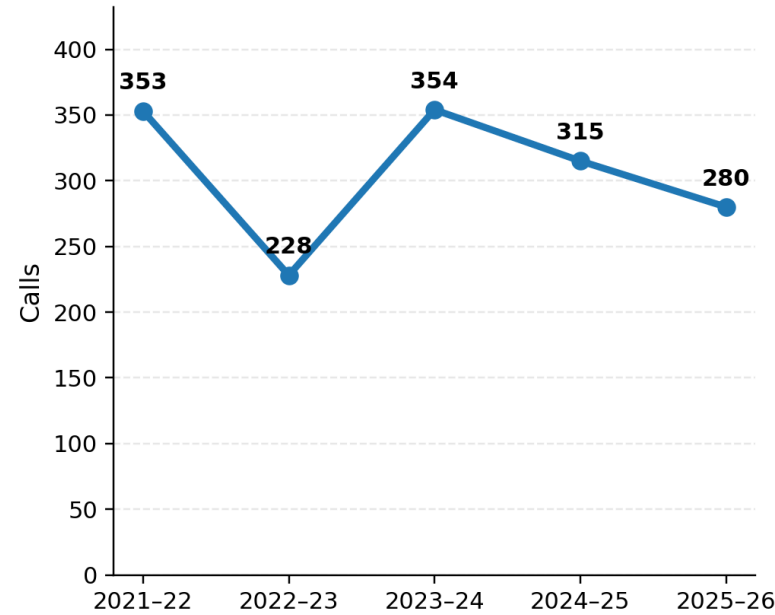
- Internal records support reduced conventional property-crime-related activity.
- These categories are common signals of property crime pressure.
- KCSO data aligns with the broad decline shown earlier in reported property crime.

Select Disorder-related Call Types: 5 Operational Years

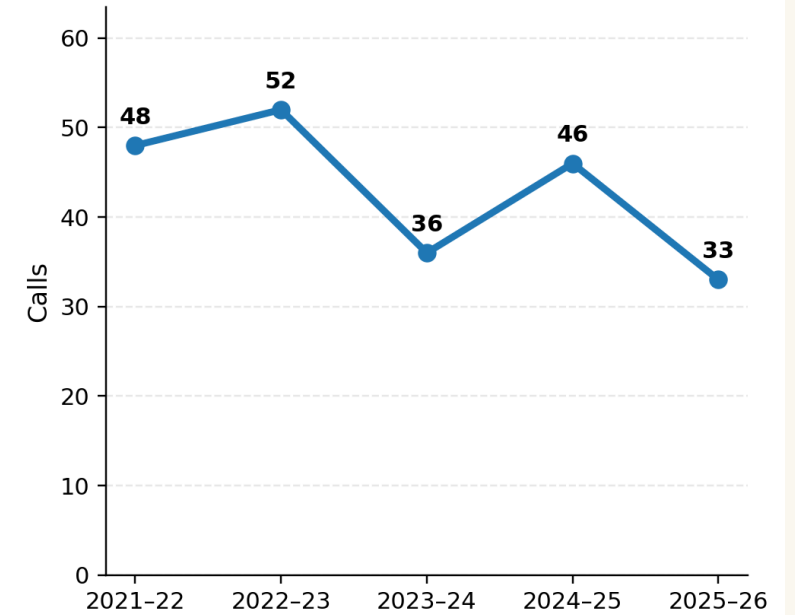
Family Disturbance / Dispute



Civil Issues and Disputes



Hit & Run Collision



Selected community-generated disorder categories generally declined over the five-year period.
Source: Kittitas County Sheriff's Office CAD calls by clearance code.

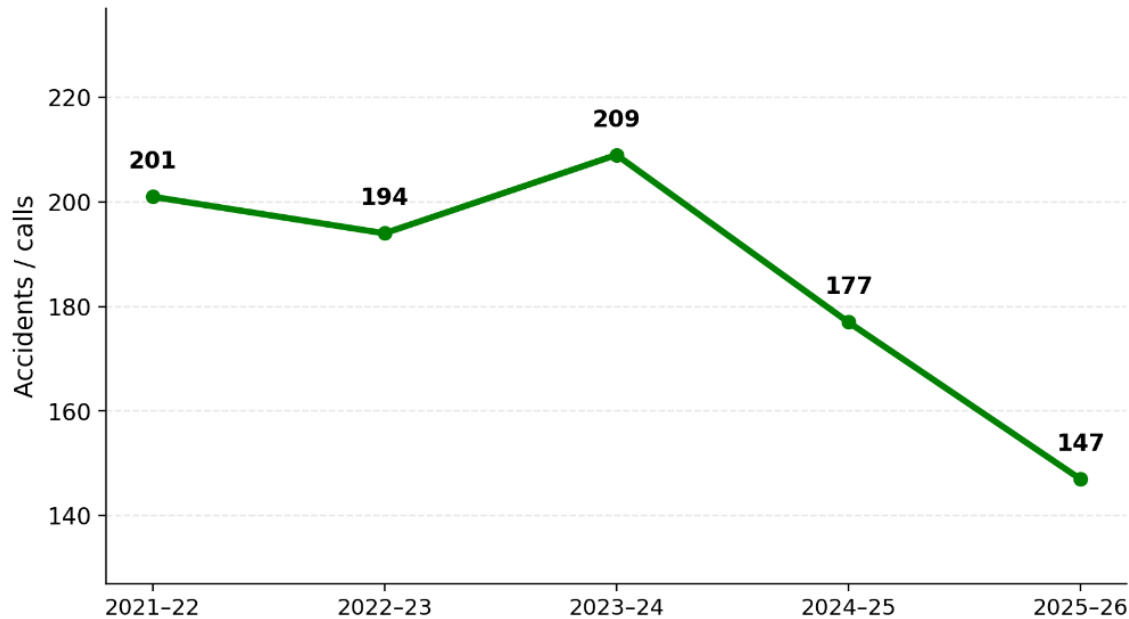
- Several dispatched call types reflecting conflict and disorder are down.
- Law Enforcement can hardly claim credit for reduced family fights—but something noteworthy is happening.

Reduced Traffic Collisions

Traffic Accidents Cleared by KCSO

Operational years 2021-22 through 2025-26

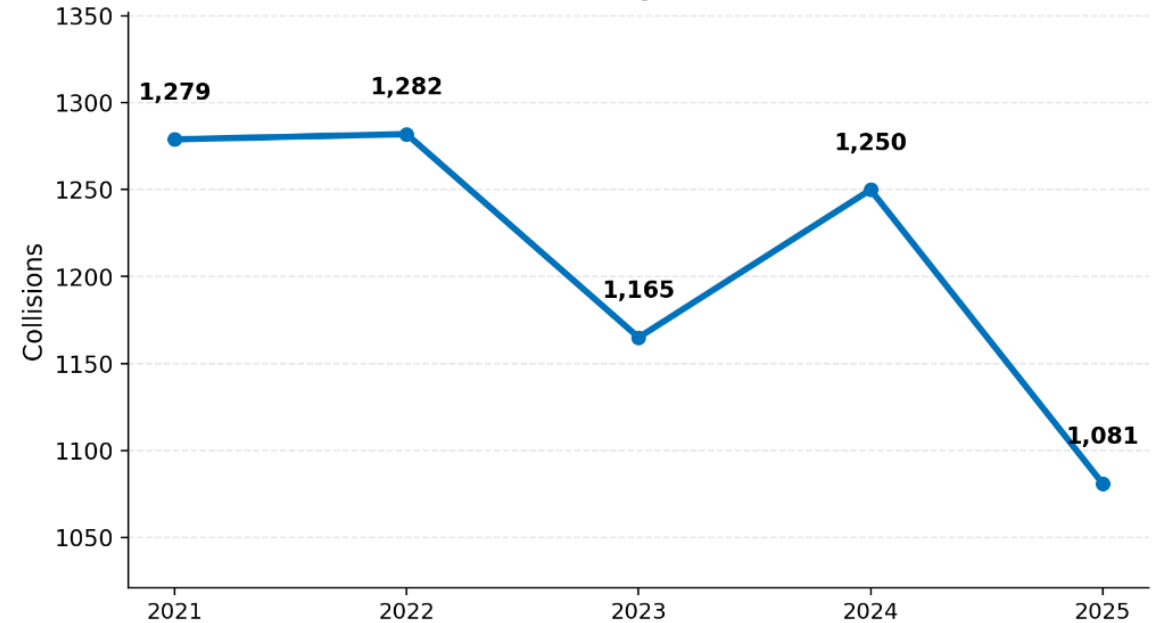
Source: KCSO CAD clearance-code data



Countywide Traffic Collisions

Calendar years 2021 through 2025

Source: Washington State DOT



These measures track different things, but the state totals generally confirm the direction seen in the KCSO clearance-code data.

The KCSO series reflects agency-cleared traffic-accident calls by operational year; the WSDOT series reflects total countywide collisions on all roads by calendar year.

- Both internal records and state-collected data show significant drops in traffic-collision reports.
- We can't claim we're the only cause—but deputies did a lot of planned and sustained work to make traffic safer, and traffic got safer.

KCSO's Operational Priorities

Returning to the 'ruler' for the work measured in this report:

What's most important can't always be quantified

- 1 **Public Safety First**
- 2 **Justice for Victims & Accountability for Offenders**
- 3 **Protect the Quality of Life in Kittitas County**
- 4 **Professional, Personal Community Service**

Personal, professional service: the Human Factor



Not all impacts can be measured

“Deputy Jen,” our county’s School Resource Deputy, is the clearest example of results that rarely show up in charts—early intervention and positive influence through relationship.

This kind of community connection and influence is the aim of every division of the Sheriff’s Office.

Making it happen depends on having the right people and imparting the right vision of service.

Known interventions matter.
Unknown influence may matter more.

Conclusion

The five-year picture and Sheriff's Office operations today:

- Deputies are measurably more proactive.
- Enforcement actions and investigative complexity have increased.
- Commissioned and auxiliary staffing growth facilitated this increased volume and complexity and supports a new, broader operating profile.
- Public-service demand remains diverse and durable.
- Non-resident impacts are significant and consistent.
- Several outcome measures point in positive directions.

Kittitas County chooses to invest in people, capacity, and a culture that supports public safety.

Questions?

Protect all people • Keep the peace • Uphold the Constitution

