

Oregon Youth Authority

HB5041 Budget Note Report to the
Public Safety Subcommittee
2026 Session



What we do



Professional Standards Office (PSO)

The mission of the Professional Standards Office (PSO) is to help eliminate organizational conditions which may foster, permit, or encourage inappropriate behavior by OYA employees. PSO ensures that the integrity of the agency is maintained through a system of fair, objective, and impartial administrative investigation and review.



Investigation & Documentation

- Investigate allegations of misconduct involving youth and any responsible party, including employees, volunteers, and contract providers.
- Log, track, and respond to complaints received through the Reporting Line, online forms, email, youth incident reports, and other channels.



Compliance

- Partner with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) coordinator and ensure compliance with PREA standards.



Reporting & Analysis

- Prepare reports summarizing youth safety complaints and their outcomes.
- Analyze trends to identify and address conditions that enable misconduct.



Training & Ethics

- Assist with staff training on ethics, professional boundaries, and related policies.



Legislative Accountability Update

- Aged cases (> 6 months)
- Unsigned cases (completed, not finalized)
- Status of reported cases and PREA investigations
- Time from report to investigation
- Impact of 2025 legislative investments

Professional Standards Office Improvement



Where we started (January 2025)

- Aged Cases: Investigations open more than six months
 - 733
- Unsigned cases: completed investigations awaiting Chief review and signature
 - 3237

Prioritization focused on youth safety, PREA, & case age

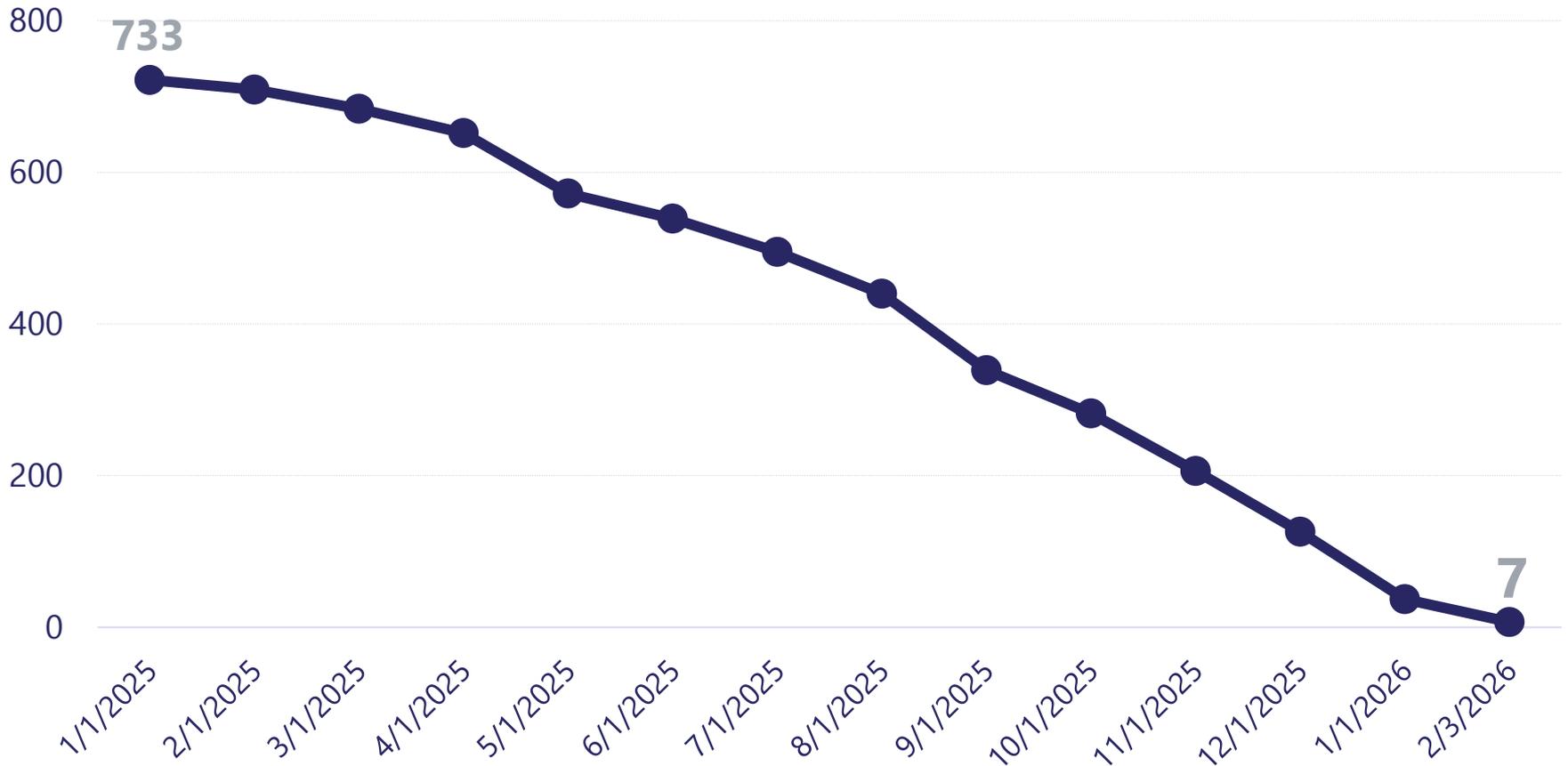
- Current cases
 - Includes the Chief's review and signature
- Aged cases
 - Includes the Chief's review and signature
- Unsigned cases

Professional Standards Office Improvement



Aged Cases

Aged cases are declining and no longer accumulating

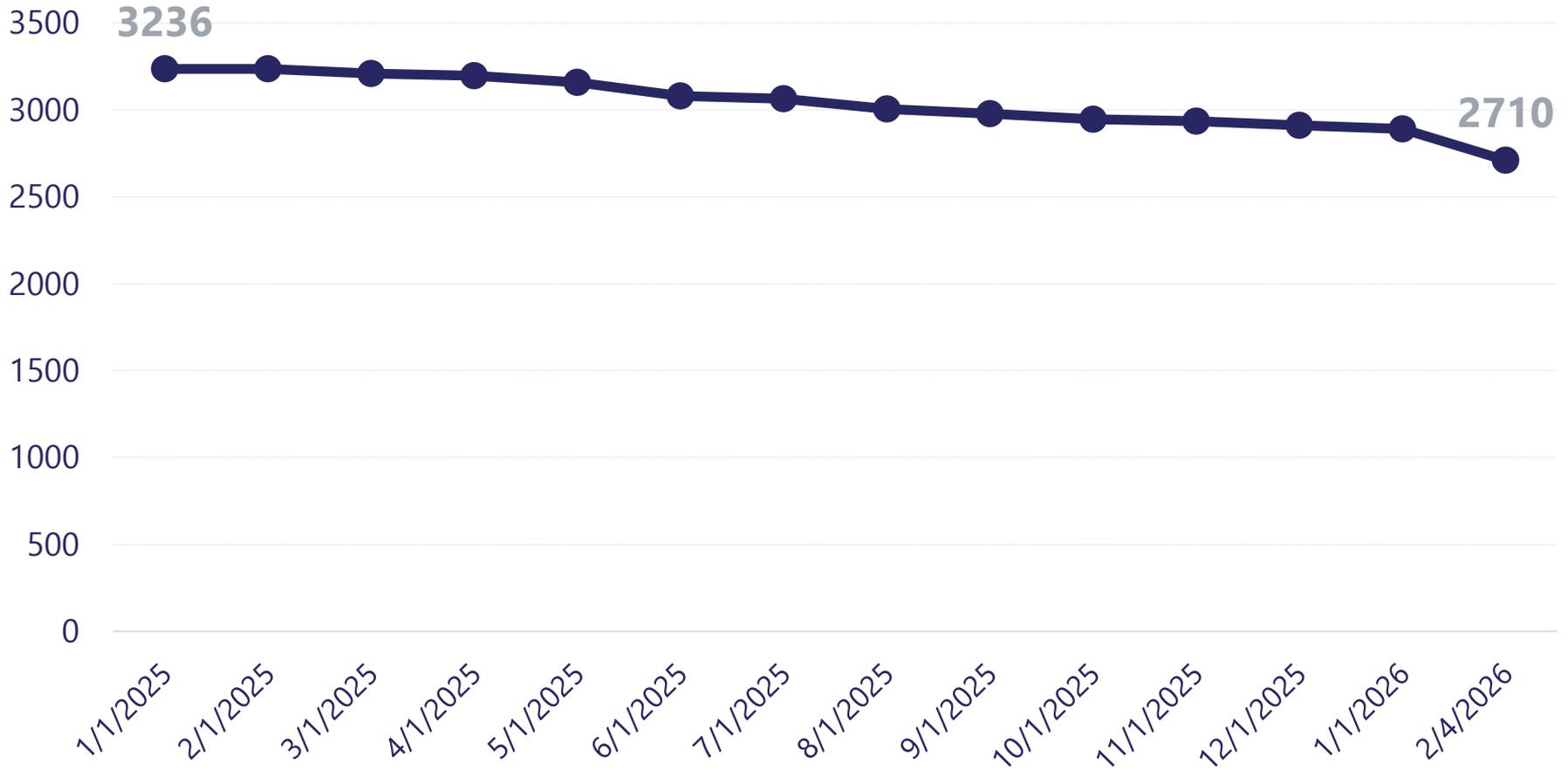


Professional Standards Office Improvement



Unsigned Cases

With aged cases resolving, focus has shifted to unsigned cases





Current open PSO cases – status snapshot

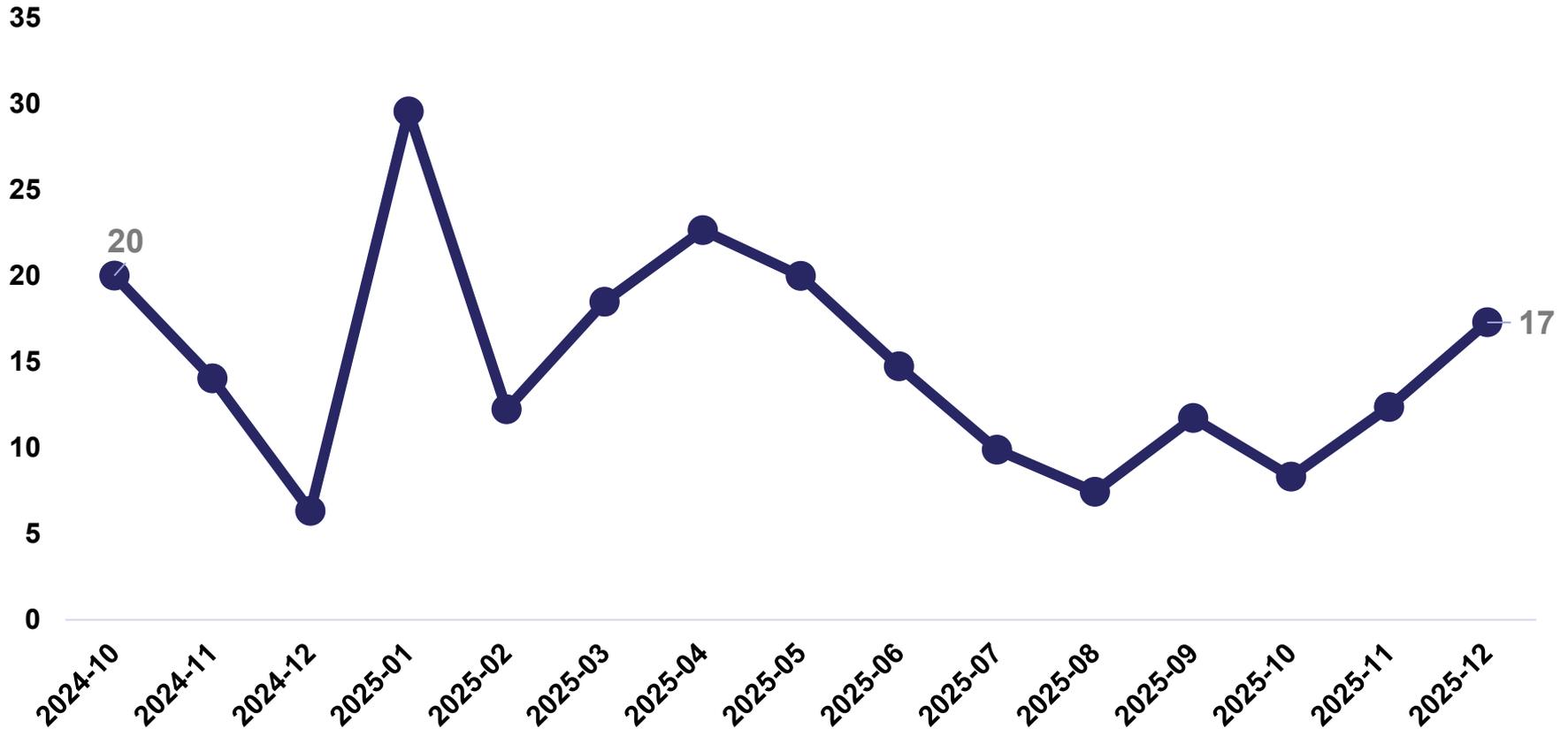
- Recent cases (reported within the previous 6 months)
 - **99**
- Aged cases (reported more than 6 months ago)
 - 2024: **7**
 - 2025: **8**
- Suspended PSO Cases
 - OTIS: **5**
 - OSP: **11**
- PREA-related PSO Cases
 - Recent (reported within the previous 6 months): **14**
 - Aged (reported more than 6 months ago): **7**

Timeliness



Youth Incident Reports

Average days between the youth incident report logged and PSO review for potential assignment

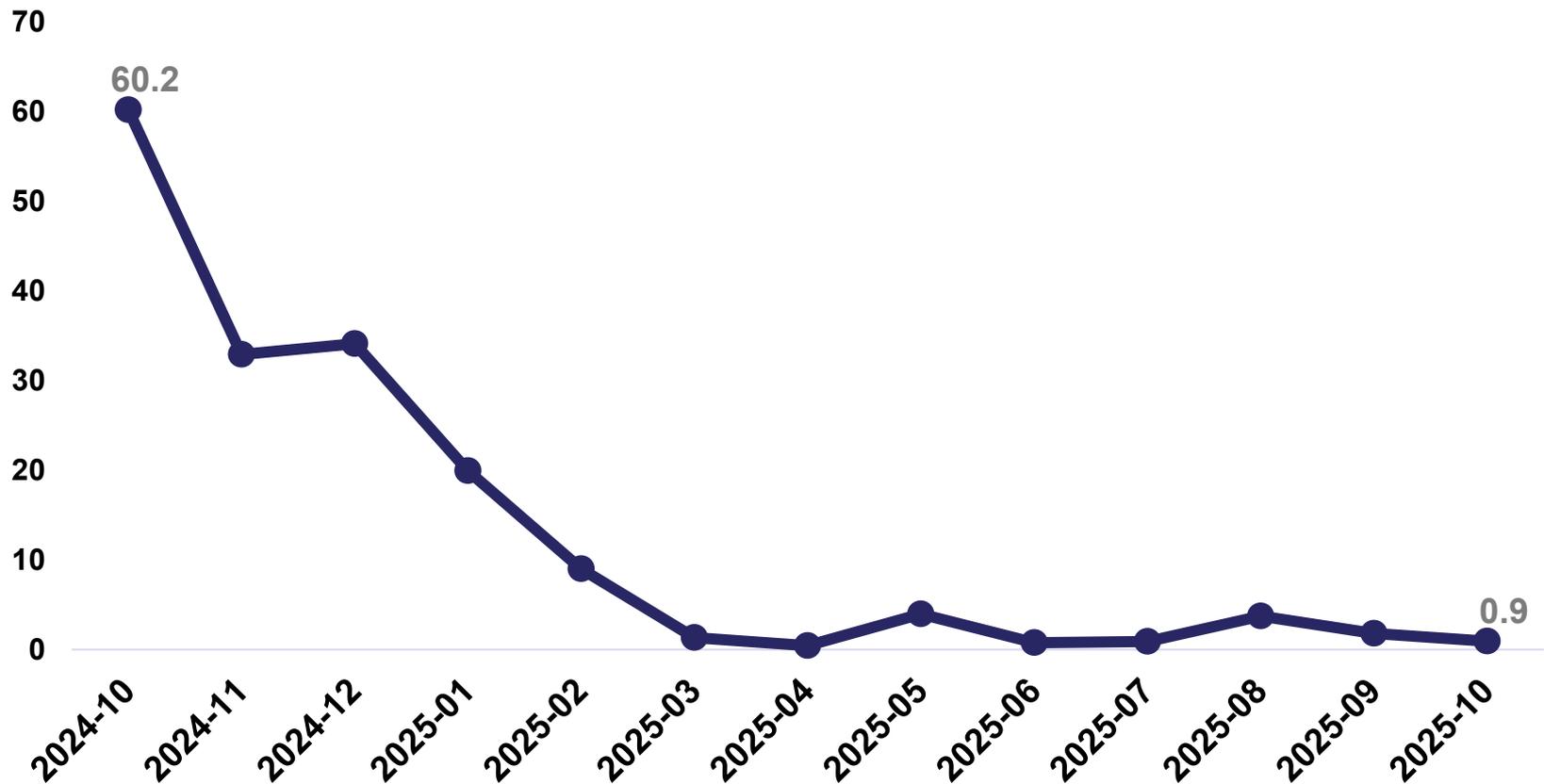


Timeliness



Reporting Line

Average business days between a reporting line call and PSO returning the call and opening the case

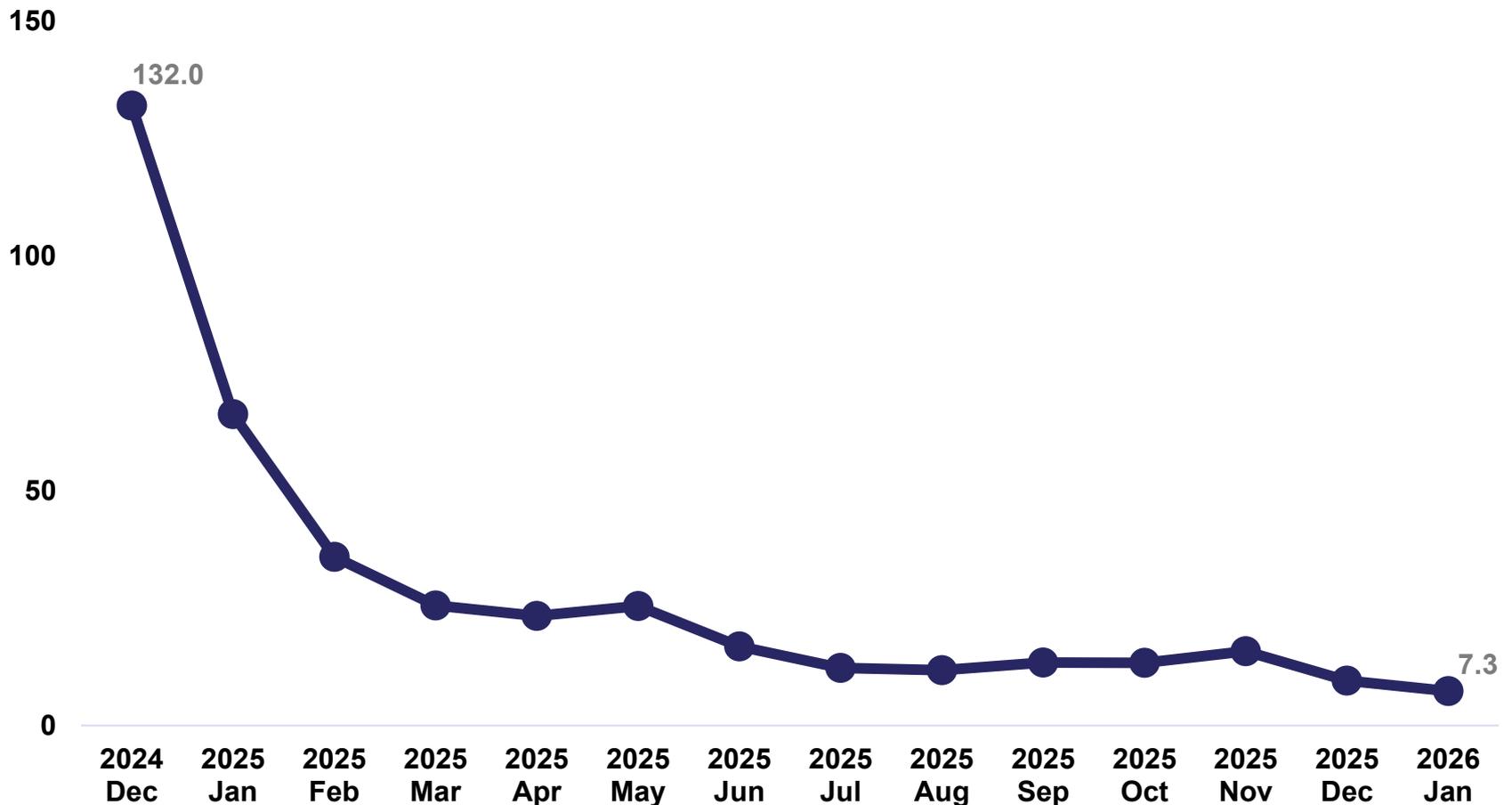


Timeliness



Complaints

Average days between a report filed and complaint resolution

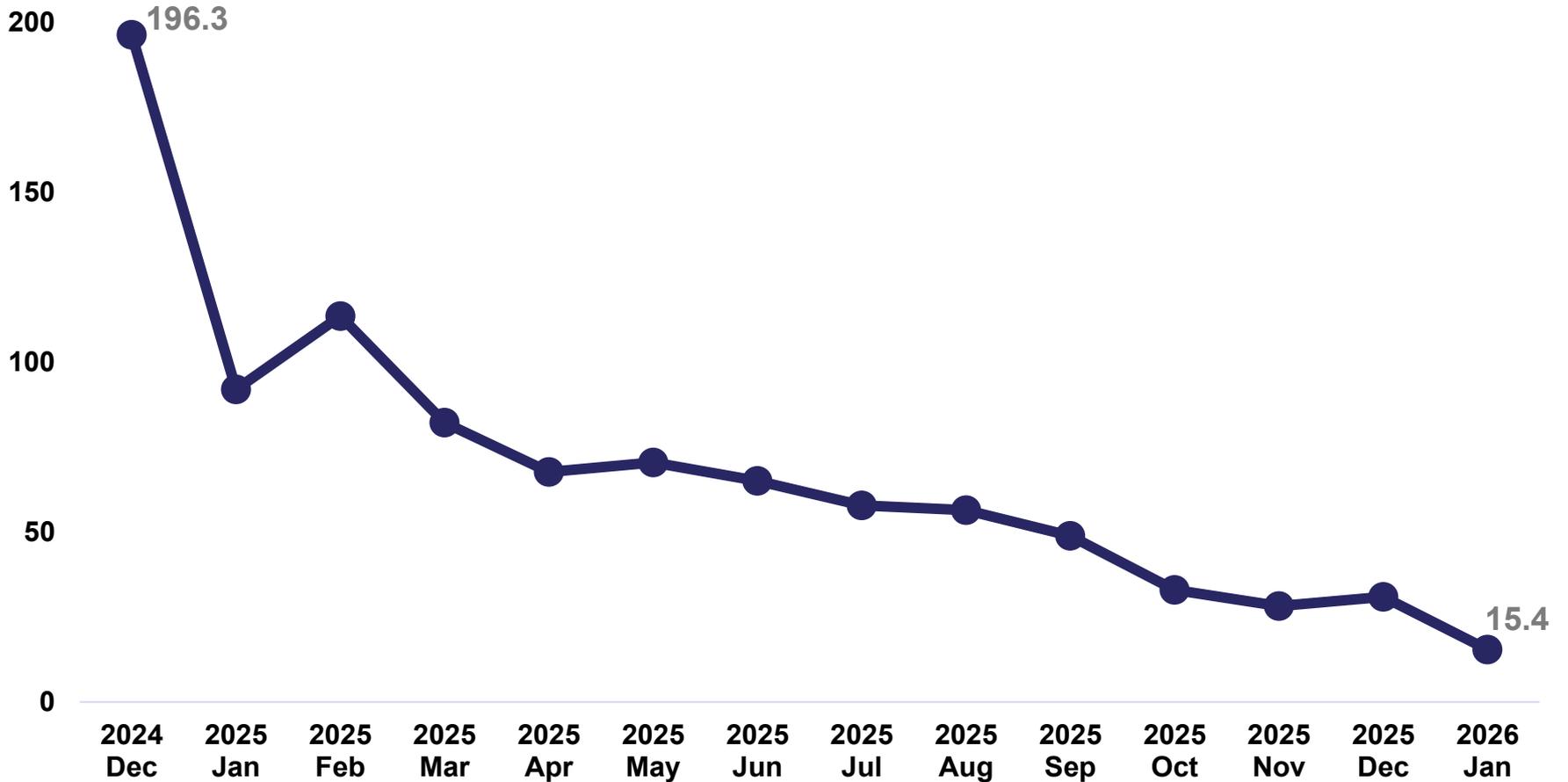


Timeliness



Investigations

Average days between the report filed and investigation resolution





Legislatively funded positions

- **Two investigators**
 - 9/22/2025 & 8/1/2025
- **Human resources analyst**
 - 10/20/2025
- **Deputy chief investigator**
 - 10/8/2025
- **Youth and family advocate**
 - 5/1/2025
- **Screeners (rehiring)**



What is fundamentally different today

- Investigations are managed on defined timelines
- Aged cases are not accumulating
- Unsigned cases are actively tracked and finalized
- PREA and high-severity cases move first by design
- Oversight, staffing, and data practices are sustainable