

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)

Legislative Oversight – Crime Reduction and Violence Prevention

Violence Against Youth in Baltimore

Executive Director Shantay Jackson

Mayor Brandon M. Scott
City of Baltimore

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – 1 p.m.



Presentation Overview

1. Violence Against Youth – Trends
 - Over Time
 - Recent Uptick
2. Coordinated Response To Problem
 - School-Based Violence Intervention
 - Intensive Case Management
 - Youth Engagement
 - Support Services

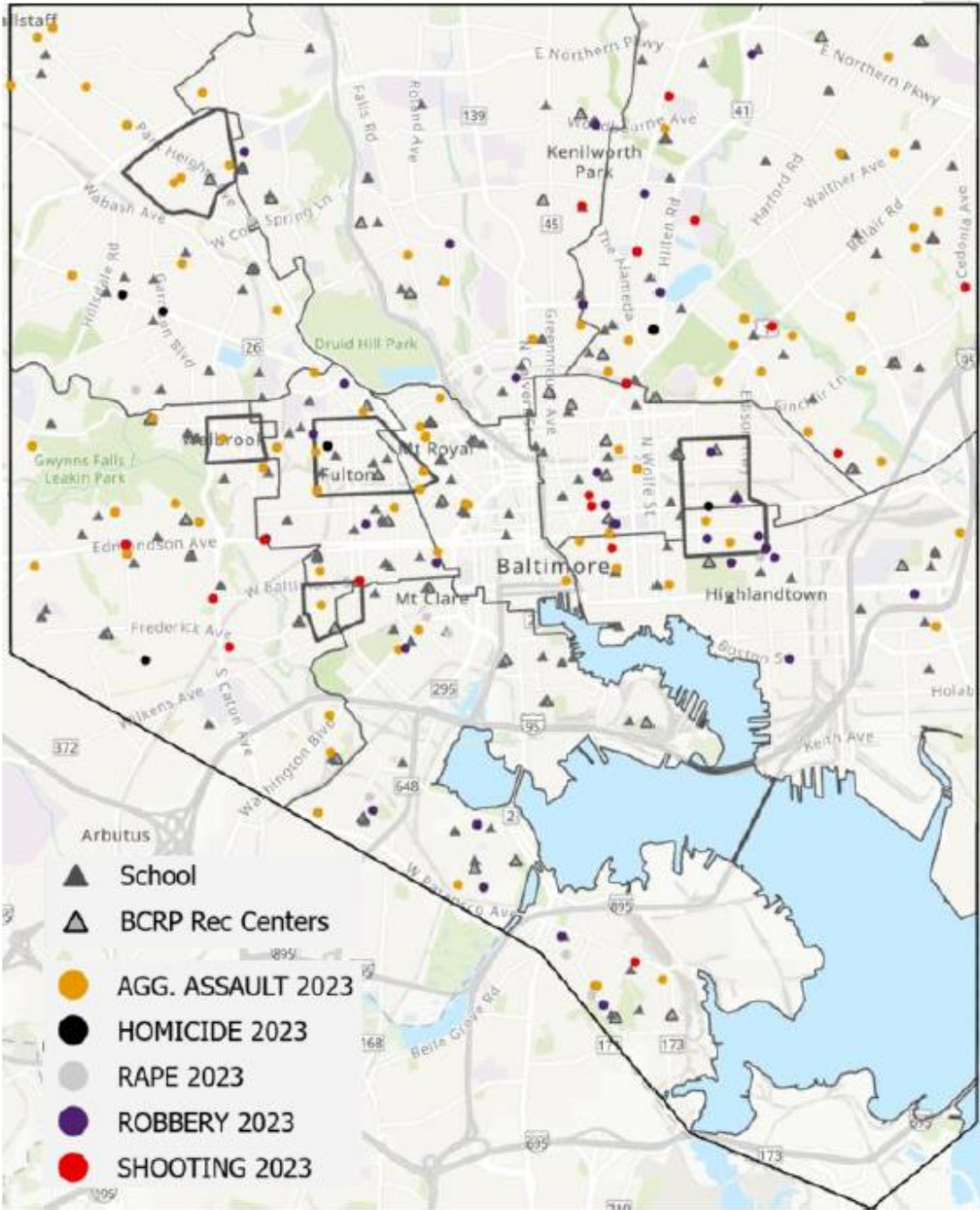
Trends

In 2023, there have been more homicide and shooting victims under the age of 18 compared to this point last year.

Year-to-Date Youth Victim Totals: 1/1/23 – 3/26/23

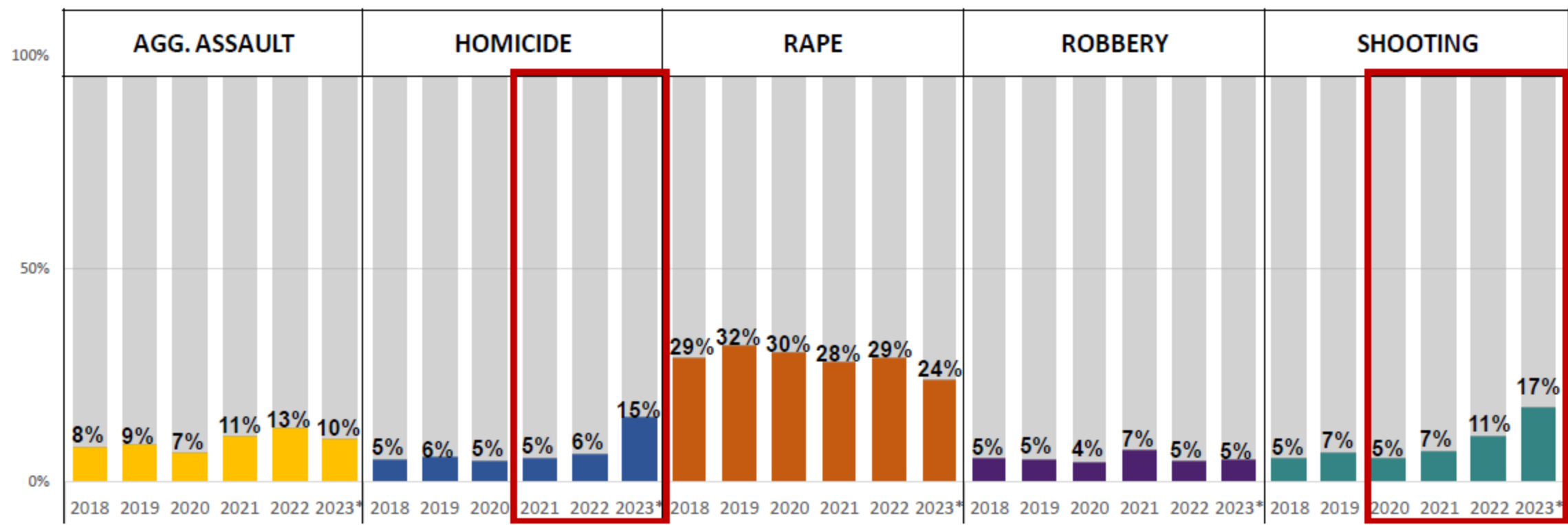
	Agg. Assault	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Shootings
2022	145	5	13	51	16
2023	103	9	12	42	21
Change	-29.0%	80.0%	-7.7%	-17.6%	31.3%

2023 YTD Part 1 Crime Victims - Youth



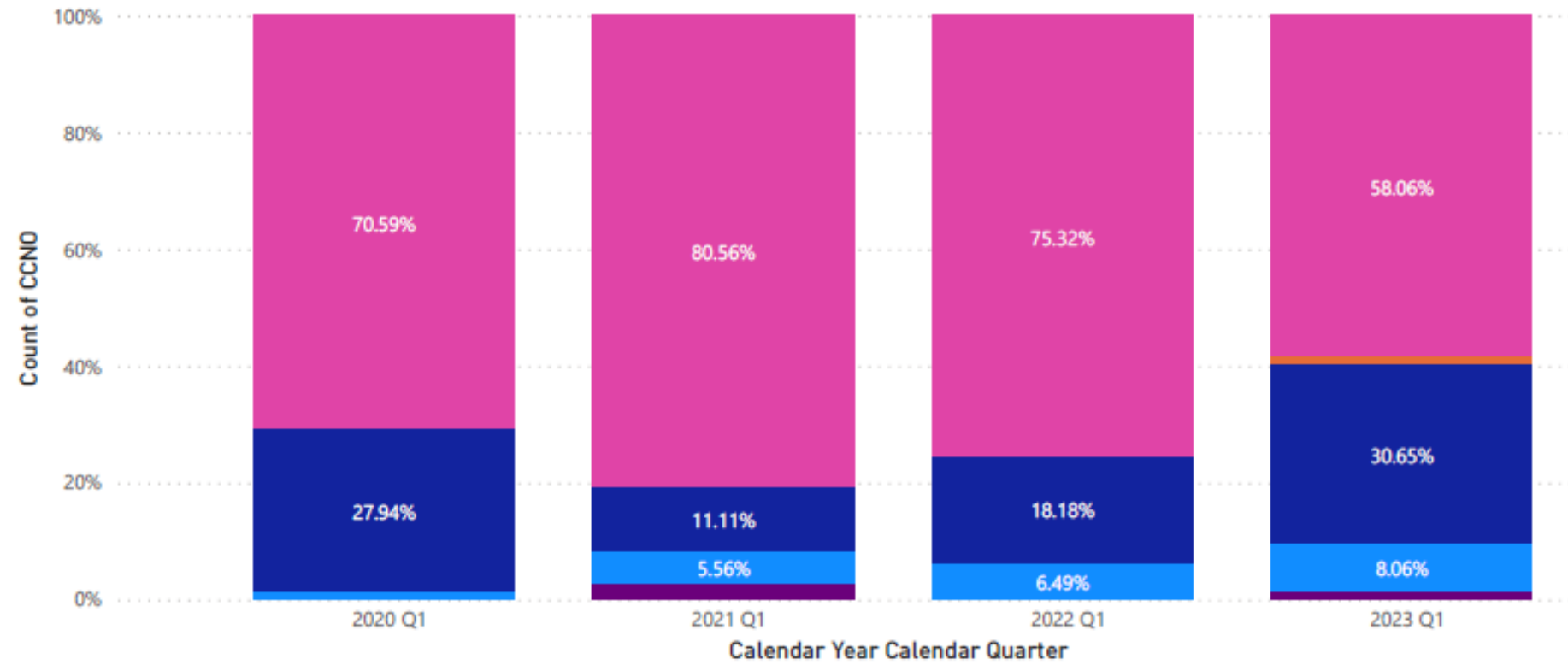
For **homicides** and **shootings**, the percentage of victims that are under 18 years of age has been increasing in recent years.

Youth Victims as a Percentage of Total Victims: 2018 - Mar 26, 2023



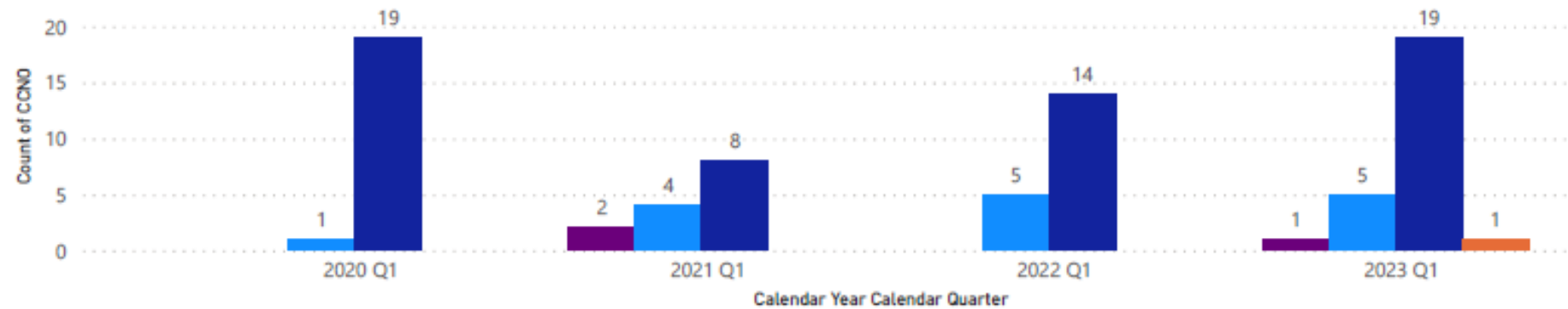
Count of homicides by Calendar Year, Calendar Quarter and Victim Age (groups)

Victim Age (groups) ● 0-6 ● 14-17 ● 18-24 ● 7-13 ● Other



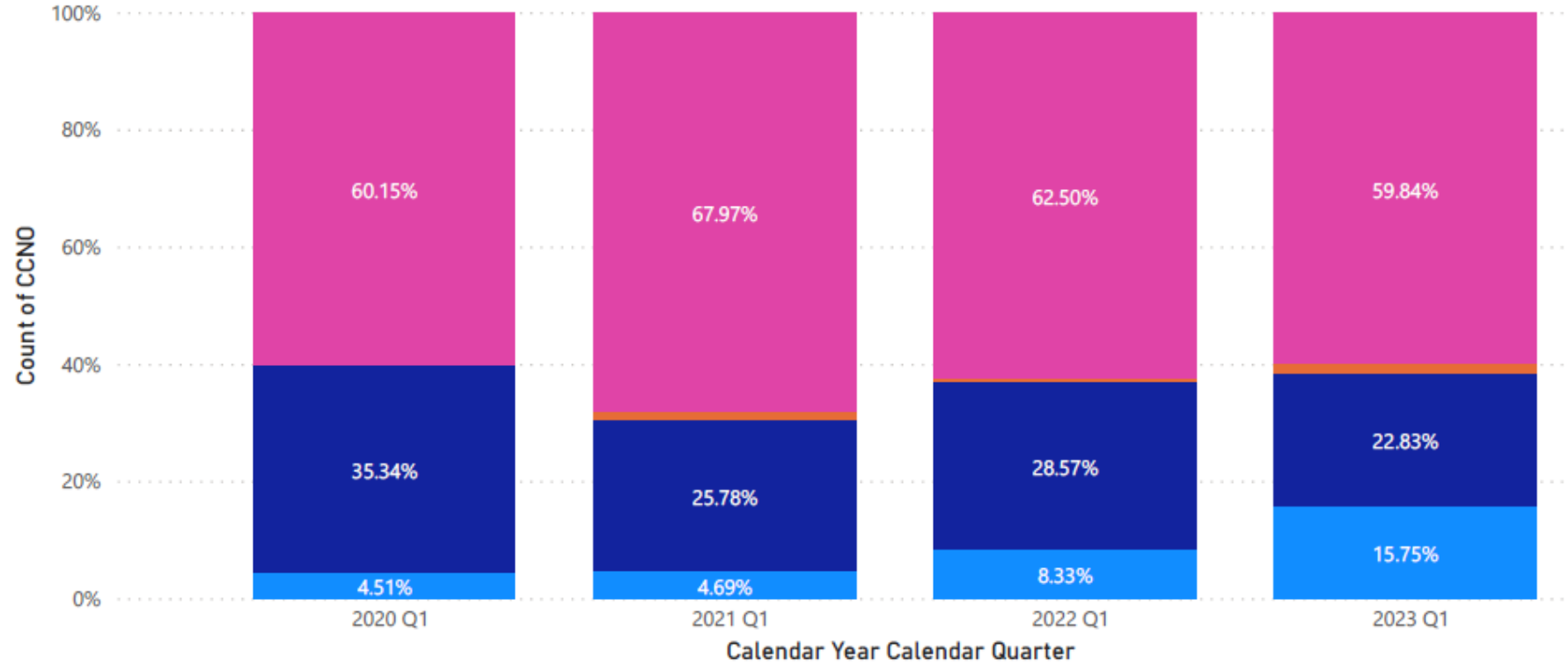
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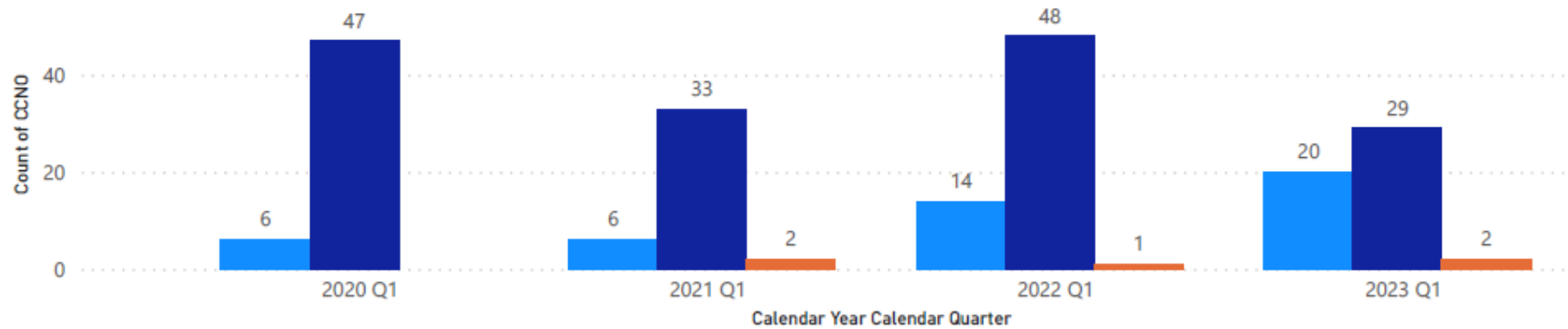
Count of shootings by Calendar Year, Calendar Quarter and Victim Age (groups)

Victim Age (groups) ● 14-17 ● 18-24 ● 7-13 ● Other

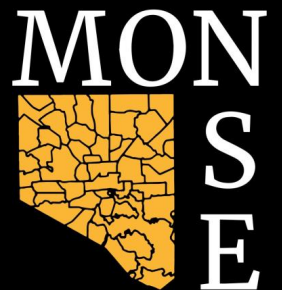


Count of shootings by Calendar Year, Calendar Quarter and Victim Age (groups)

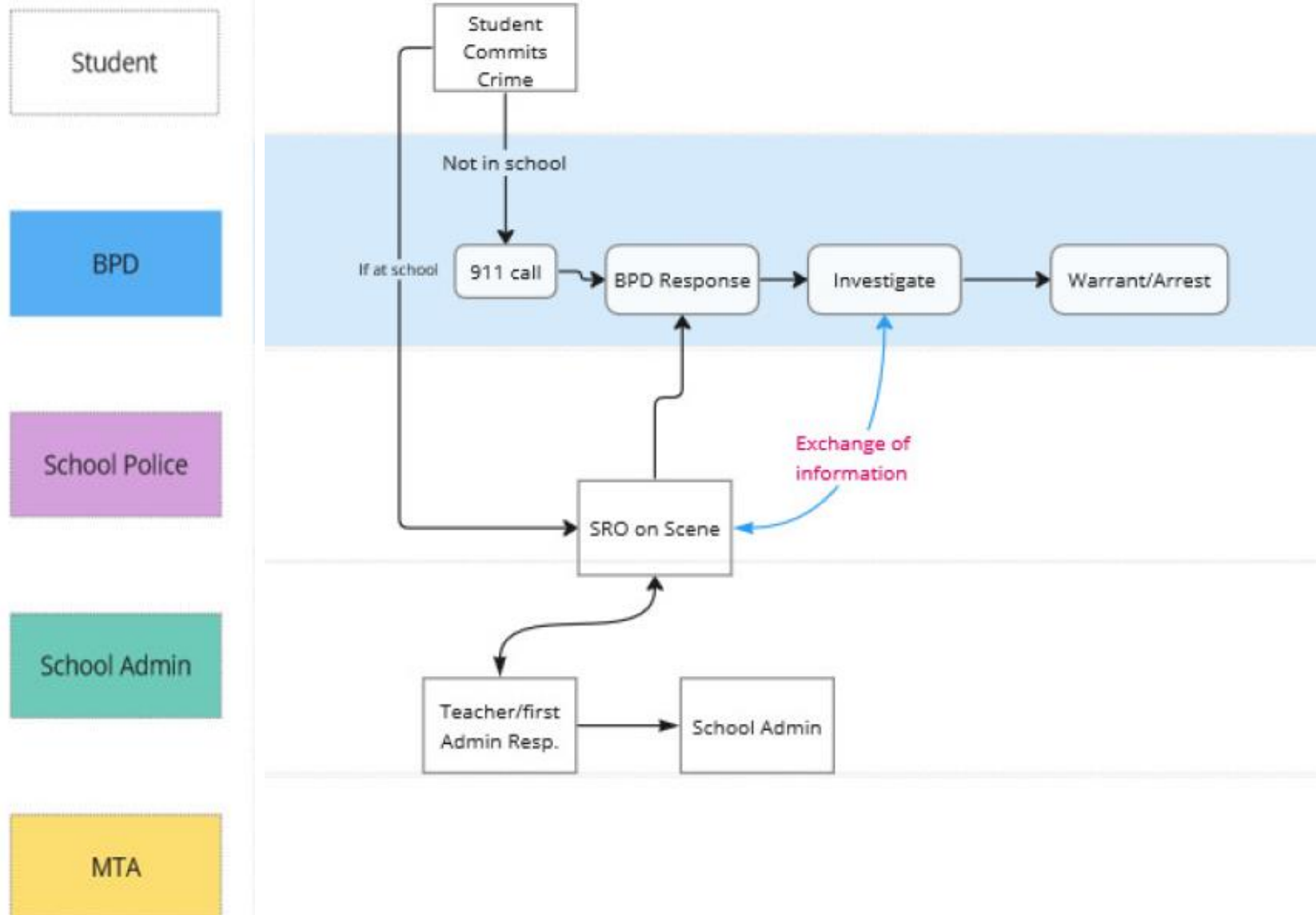
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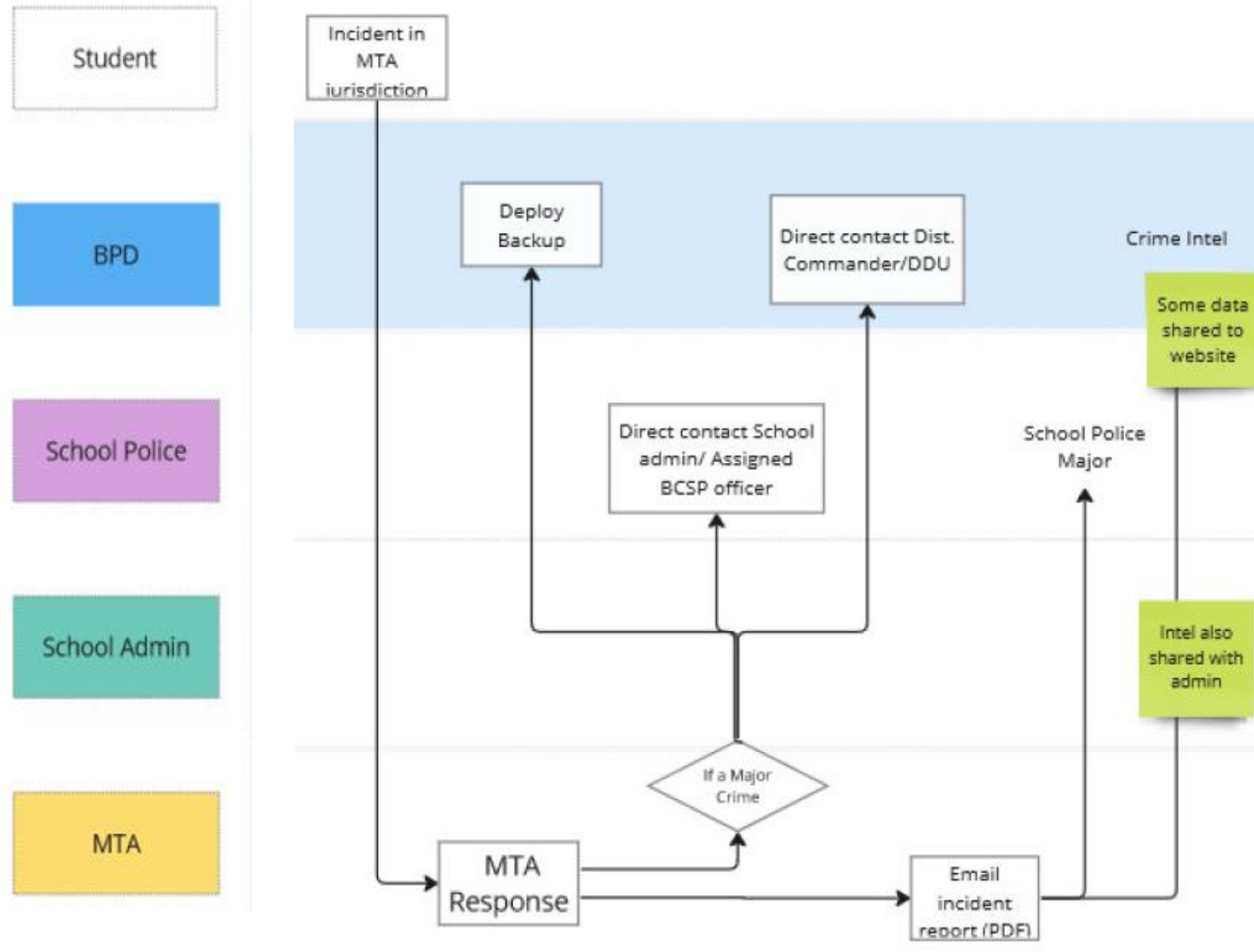
Coordinated Response



Occurrence of Violent Incidents, e.g. active shooting



Incident at MTA/Bus stop



VPTF Expansion - MONSE and BCHD

- Co-chaired by MONSE Director Jackson & BCHD Director Dzirasa
- Legislatively mandated
 - To sustainably reduce gun violence and address its root causes, the Biennial Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan Ordinance mandated the BCHD to develop a comprehensive violence prevention plan that employs a public health approach and strategies that are trauma-informed, reduce harm, and heal individuals and communities.
 - The VPTF developed a Violence Prevention Framework which helped inform the Baltimore City Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan.
 - VPTF goals include implementing violence reduction strategies in collaboration with partners, providing ongoing training and technical assistance to programs and services, and collecting data and reviewing results from performance measures and indicators.
- VPTF expansion includes establishment of Workgroups: Intensive Case Management for School-Aged Youth, School-Based Violence Intervention, and Equity Task Force
- ROI - results, outcomes, and impacts

Intensive Case Management for School-Aged Youth

- MOCFS and BCHD co-chairs
- Data Sharing
- Focus on high-risk and at-risk youth
 - High Risk: Those who are at imminent risk of either being a perpetrator or victim of violence with a weapon (not limited to firearms). Looking at what's going on from present to 6 months ago.
 - At Risk: Includes a 1-2 year look-back. Looking at disconnection from school, cutting classes, chronic absenteeism.
- \$250,000 from ARPA dollars to frontload this work. Also submitted a \$500k grant to the DOJ for this work.
- Operation Safe Kids ran for 6 years with a budget of \$400K to \$1.4M.

Equity Task Force Workgroup

- OECR and BCHD co-chairs
- Transportation of students to/from schools; access to jobs

School-Based Violence Intervention

- MONSE and BCHD co-chairs
- School-based violence intervention pilot programs at Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School, Carver Vocational Technical High School, and Digital Harbor High School. The three schools were selected by looking at baseline data for violence-related suspensions and incidents of violent crime.
- School-based intervention specialists and program supervisors will work with youth, school administrators, and families.
- \$700K over 2 years from NLC, in addition to money from Governor's Office
- This isn't work that is taking place elsewhere
- Focused-deterrence expansion includes the introduction of community moral voice partners, service providers (e.g. Roca) and – as a last resort – law enforcement, to identify at-risk youth and offer them the support they need to turn away from violence

School Based Intervention Program

Winter 2023

- Program Launch
- Confirm Program CBO - Draft Contract
- Identify Space in Schools
- Finalize Program Budget

Spring 2023

- Hire Supervisor positions
- Finalize CBO Contract
- Launch first round of Community Engagement activities
- Begin Build out program space in schools
- Begin Hiring Process for additional program staff
- Set Youth Ambassador criteria and application process
- Focused deterrence school activities
- Tour schools, meet in school resources, introduce program to school police, etc.

Summer 2023

- Community engagement events in areas students commute from
- Community engagement events in the school
- Community engagement events in school community
- Engage School and Community Affinity Groups
- Train Staff
- Canvas and partner with CVI programs to learn communities and incidents that may impact students
- Integrate staff into schools

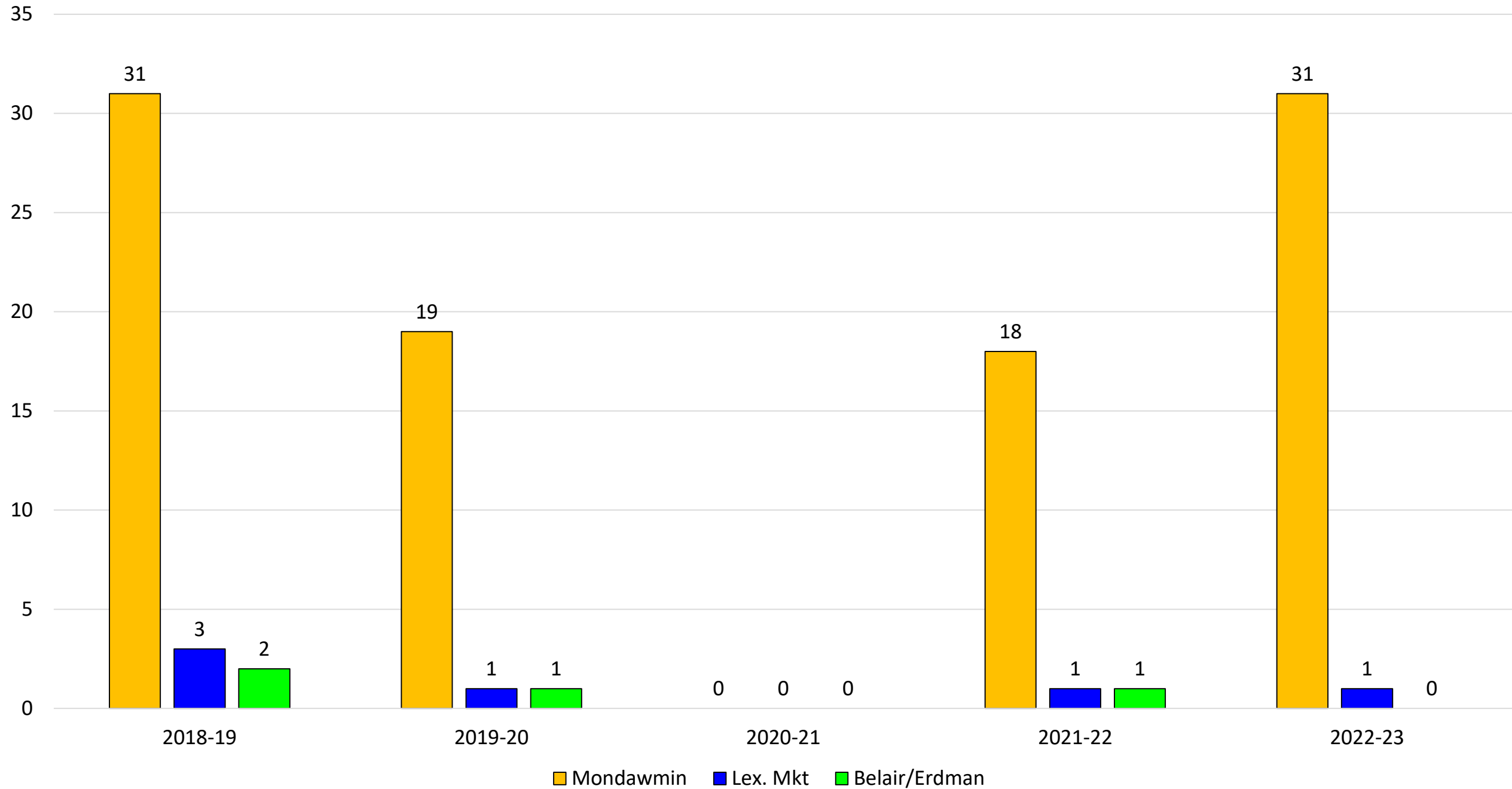
Fall 2023

- Prepare for 2023/2024 school year
- Program fully launches in schools with student population
- Planning for MRCS Focus Groups
- Select Youth Ambassadors

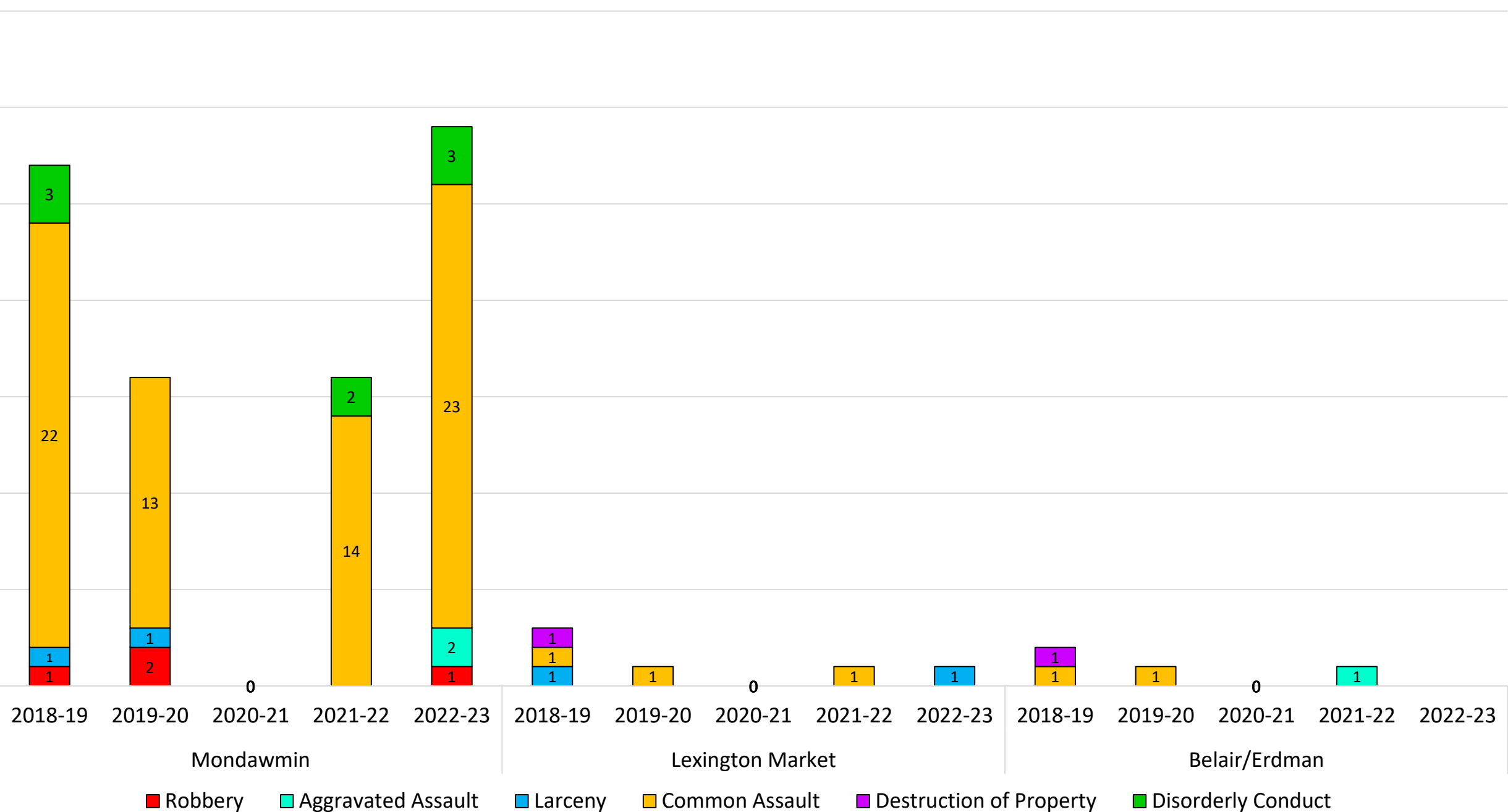
Safe Passage

- Meant to address School District, MTA Police, and City of Baltimore safety concerns, focusing on student's arrival and departure to and from school.
- Student victimization has increased year-over-year, as has the number of incidents that have occurred during what should be considered a safe passageway period.

2018-2023 Student Related Incidents

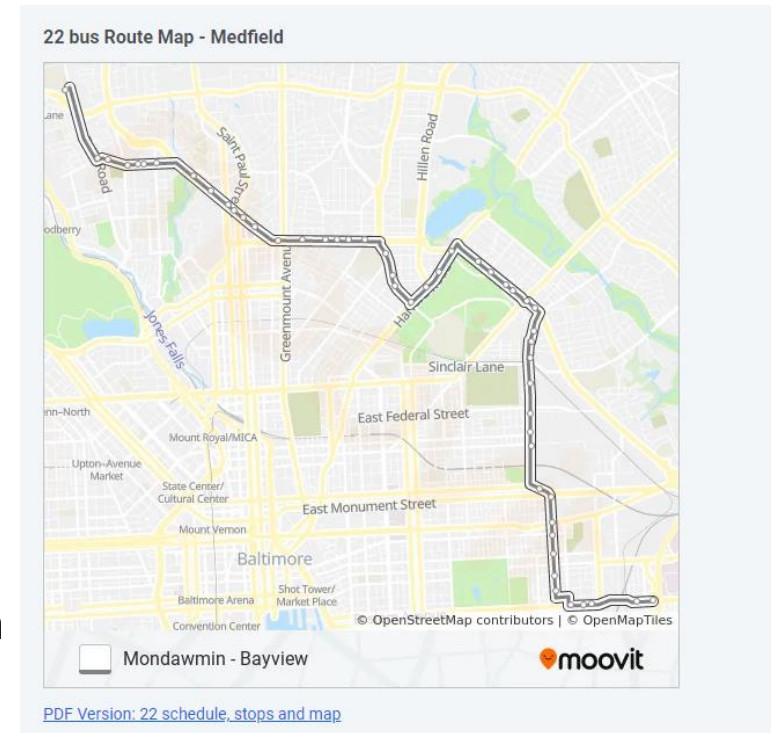


Top Student Related Incident Types for School Years 2018/19 to 2022/23



Additional Findings

- While these statistics account for areas discussed in initial meeting, transportation hubs are the largest challenge for MTA Police as it relates to Safe Passage
 - Mondawmin
 - State Center
 - Charles Street
- Second to transportation hubs, violent incidents are occurring along routes.
- MTA bus route 22 is of significant concern
- Designated busses for school riders also known as “school-trippers” were discontinued by federal direction



Recommendations

- Designate Mondawmin as a Safe Passage Priority Area.
 - Engage CBOs, BCPSS employees, City Employees, others to support
- Form Safe Passage Working Group to collectively use data associated with number of student-involved incidents to focus on specific areas of the city to improve student safety as they travel to and from school.
 - Within 30 days, identify top 5 schools and stand them up as Safe Passage Priority Areas.
 - Continue to evaluate the safety in each of the initial priority areas to determine if additional support in the area is necessary. In addition, the School Safety and Safe Passage Working Group will consider expanding the existing group of safe passage areas based on student safety concerns.
 - Develop webpage, map, and publicly-accessible information for community