



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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Executive Director

November 26, 2024

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Secretary of the Senate

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Subject: RCW 36.28A.230, Registered Sex Offender and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program—Annual Report

Chief Clerk Dean and Secretary Bannister:

Pursuant to Chapter 265, Laws of 2010, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) is submitting its annual report on the Registered Sex Offender and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program. This report is submitted in accordance with RCW 43.01.036.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven D. Strachan', written in a cursive style.

Steven D. Strachan
Executive Director

Washington State Registered Sex and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program—Annual Report (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)

In 2010, the Washington State Legislature established the Registered Sex Offender and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program ([RCW 36.28A.230](#)). When funded, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) administers a grant program to local governments for the purpose of verifying the address and residency of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders registered under [RCW 9A.44.130](#) who reside within the county sheriff's jurisdiction.

The Registered Sex Offender and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program continues to be a valuable resource for local law enforcement agencies. Agencies continue to report they would not be able to fund the resources needed for face-to-face address verifications without the grant money. Agencies also report the following concerns:

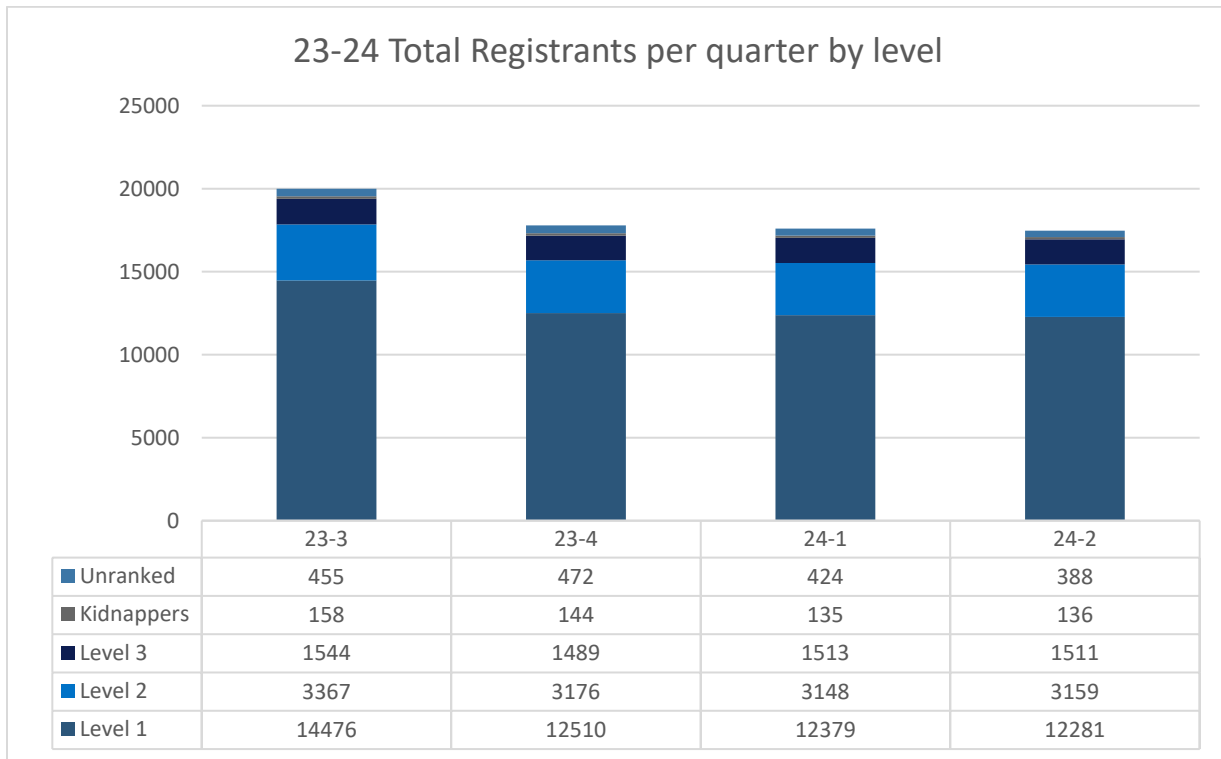
- Agencies continue to experience staffing shortages which has an impact on the priority of address verifications, leading to less verifications being completed.
- Multiple agencies reported that they have observed an increase in the number of registrants being arrested on new sex offenses.
- Agencies continue to report challenges conducting verification for offenders that have registered a shelter as their fixed address. Housing managers at shelters are often unwilling to confirm or deny that someone is staying in the shelter.
- Multiple agencies have expressed barriers for housing for registered sex offenders has increased cases of homelessness and calls for service relative to offenders' homelessness, diverting law enforcement resources from other calls for service.

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, WASPC granted \$4.81 million to local law enforcement agencies through the Registered Sex Offender and Kidnapping Offender Address and Residency Verification Grant Program. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, WASPC again granted \$4.81 million to local law enforcement agencies. The following information describes the efforts by local law enforcement agencies utilizing the Address and Residency Verification Grant Program.

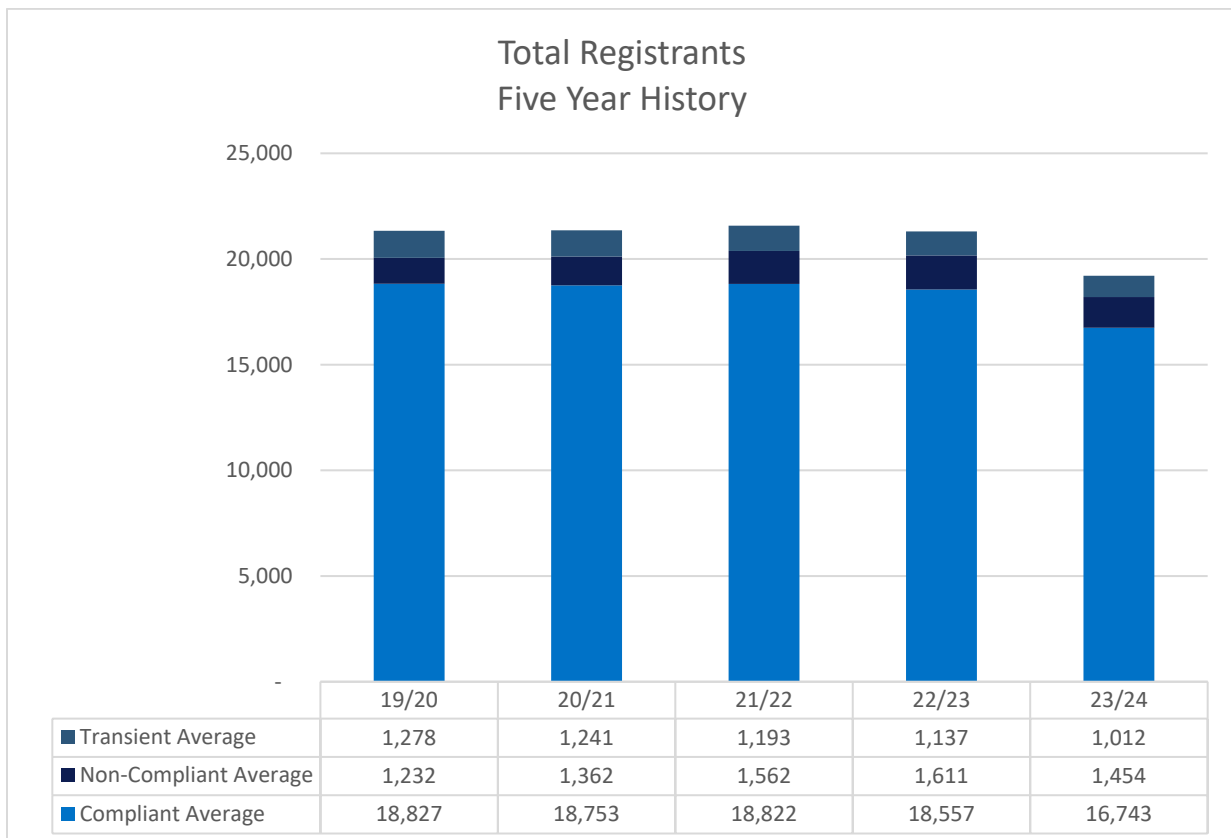
From July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024:

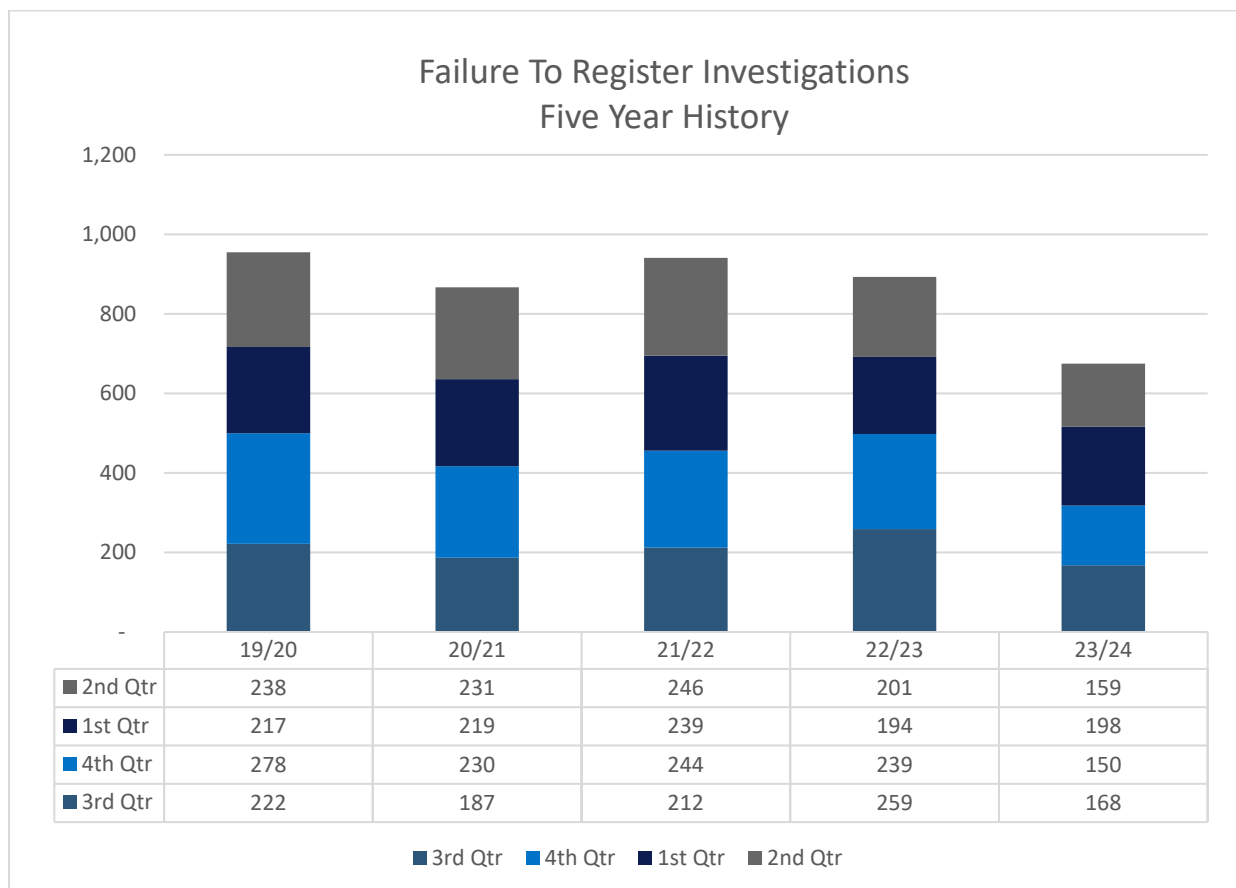
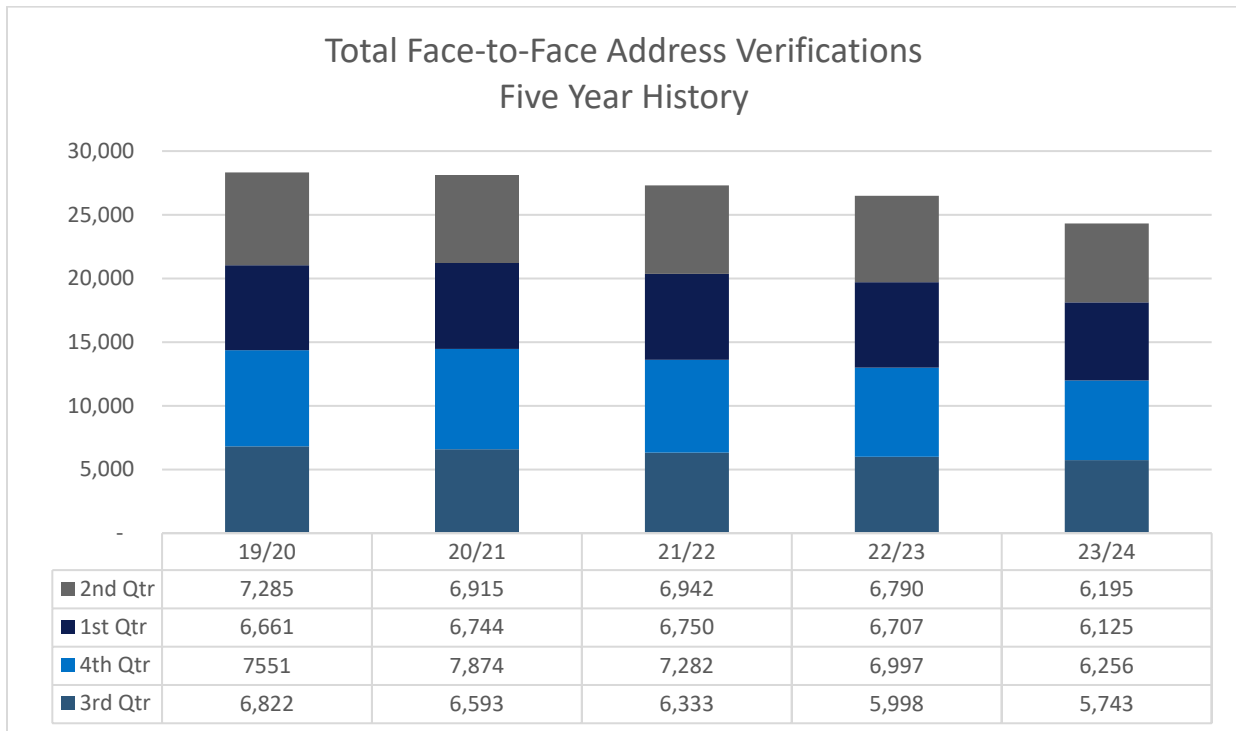
- Average number of statewide sex and kidnapping offenders: 18,197¹
- Average number of compliant sex and kidnapping offenders: 16,743
- Average number of non-compliant sex and kidnapping offenders: 1,454
- Average number of sex and kidnapping offender registered transient: 1,012
- Total face-to-face address verifications reported statewide: 24,319
- Total statewide investigations for failure to register investigations: 675

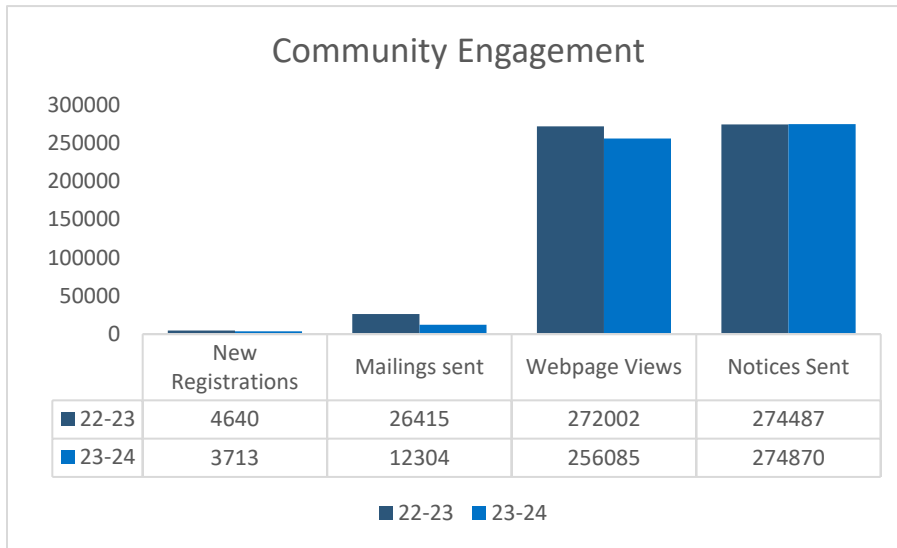
¹ The implementation of [HB 1394](#) (2023) reduced the overall numbers in the fourth quarter of 2023, see chart on next page.



The following charts display the above information over a five-year span. The charts are based on fiscal years with quarter one being January 1 to March 31, quarter two being April 1 to June 30, quarter three being July 1 to September 30 and quarter four being October 1 to December 31.







New registrations are the number of people that signed up for email notifications on the website.

Mailings sent are the number of flyers that were sent out in the US Mail.

Webpage views are the number of times the website was viewed.

Notices sent are the number of email notifications sent out to those who are registered for email notifications.

In the News:

Local law enforcement agencies shared the following news articles with WASPC over the course of the last year. These articles are shared for informational purposes.

- **June 20, 2024** Article from [Chronicle](#) and [Fox 13](#) – The individual in this case was registered as a level II and on supervision and electronic monitoring with the DOC. While on supervision for his first sex offense, he was arrested for similar offenses as the original conviction with 3 new victims where he used social media platforms to find his victims.
- **June 13, 2024** Article from [Fox 13](#) and [US Attorney Press Release](#) – The individual in this case was a registered level II on lifetime supervision when he was arrested for violations and later child sexual abuse images were found on his unapproved electronic device.
- **June 4, 2024** Article from [King5](#) – The individual in this case had prior juvenile adjudications and had been relieved in 2023 by court order and then his case was sealed by the court.
- **May 14, 2024** Article from [Fox 13](#) – The individual in this case was registered level III, and was re-arrested for similar offenses as his previous. Victims in these cases were strangers or acquaintances that he sexually assaulted. This individual had previously been reviewed for Civil Commitment under RCW 71.09.
- **April 18, 2024** Article from [Chronicle](#) – The individual in this case had prior adult Class B conviction, received and completed a Sex Offender Sentencing Alternative (SSOSA) and then was later relieved of his duty to register by the court.
- **April 11, 2024** Article from [Fox 13](#) – The individual in this case was registered as a level III when he was arrested for hiding in a local high school girls bathroom taking pictures.
- **August 16, 2023** Article from [Fox 13](#) – The individual in this case was registering as a level I when he was arrested for human trafficking, promoting commercial sex abuse of a minor, rape of a child and promoting prostitution.
- **August 15, 2023** Article from [Chronicle](#) – The individual in this case was registering for an offense where he received and completed a Special Sex Offender Sentencing Alternative (SSOSA) and was arrested and sentenced in federal court for directing the real-time recording of sexual abuse of a child out of the country with additional offenses and behaviors going back to 2017.