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New ORI Annual Report Has Data—But No Details

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In fiscal year (FY) 2023, the HHS Office of Research Integrity (ORI) received 353 allegations of research misconduct, defined as fabrication, falsification or plagiarism—an increase of 73% from FY 2020—the first year ORI resumed issuing an annual report after an eight-year break.^[1]

Given that in calendar year 2012 ORI received 423 allegations, it is difficult to assess whether the increase last year was truly reflective of a jump or whether the number ORI logged in 2020—204—was an aberration. Analysis is also challenging because ORI itself offers none for any information in the graphics-heavy report that spans 12 pages, of which just six include data (see chart below).

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