



Beacon Hill Compliance Tracker

Measuring Massachusetts Legislative Transparency

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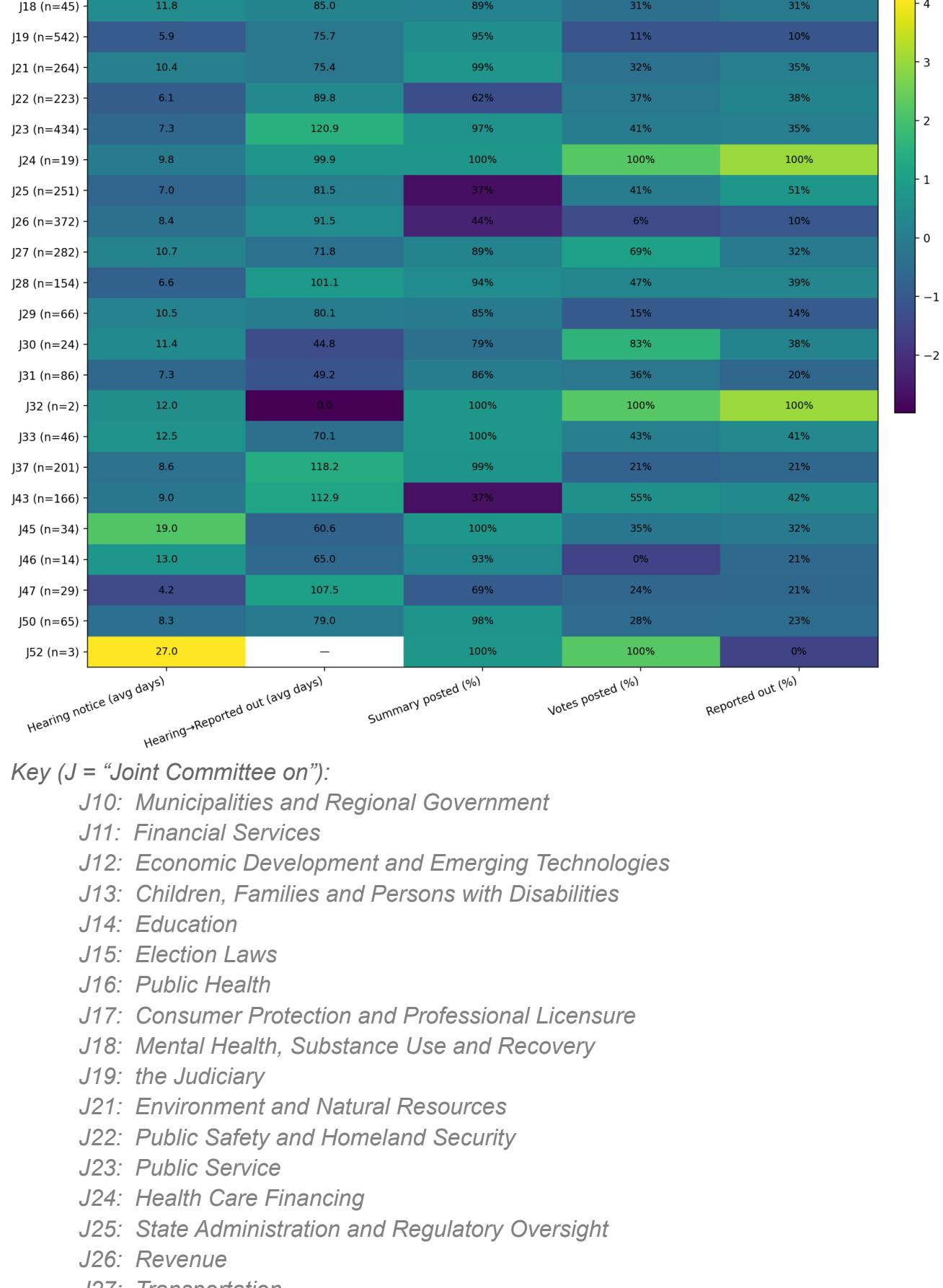
This brief examines how legislative committees differ in their day-to-day workflows during the 194th General Court (2025–26). Rather than focusing on individual rule outcomes, it compares measurable operational characteristics (such as hearing notice timing, time from hearing to report, and documentation posting) to highlight distinct patterns in how committees process bills. The goal is to provide a structured view of committee workflows that helps explain why transparency and compliance outcomes vary across the Legislature.

Key findings:

1. Committees exhibit distinct, stable “workflow profiles” that persist across multiple dimensions of process and transparency.
2. Advance hearing notice varies meaningfully by committee workflow, even before applying formal compliance rules.
3. Documentation gaps are often systematic, not incidental.

These results reflect structural patterns in committee workflows rather than judgments about intent, legislative content, or quality of work.

Figure 1: A workflow analysis of each Legislative committee. Coloring is encoded relative to other committees, not based on absolute thresholds.



Key (J = “Joint Committee on”):

- J10: Municipalities and Regional Government
- J11: Financial Services
- J12: Economic Development and Emerging Technologies
- J13: Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities
- J14: Education
- J15: Election Laws
- J16: Public Health
- J17: Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure
- J18: Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery
- J19: the Judiciary
- J21: Environment and Natural Resources
- J22: Public Safety and Homeland Security
- J23: Public Service
- J24: Health Care Financing
- J25: State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
- J26: Revenue
- J27: Transportation
- J28: Housing
- J29: Higher Education
- J30: Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development
- J31: Veterans and Federal Affairs
- J32: Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets
- J33: Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity
- J34: Racial Equity, Civil Rights, and Inclusion
- J37: Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
- J39: Ways and Means
- J40: Rules
- J43: Labor and Workforce Development
- J45: Agriculture and Fisheries
- J46: Aging and Independence
- J47: Community Development and Small Businesses
- J50: Cannabis Policy
- J52: Emergency Preparedness and Management

Analysis based on bill-level metadata scraped from official public legislative sources as of December 21, 2025 using version 1.2.2 of the Tracker.

Matrix only references bills with determined states across the full session; bills classified as “Provisional” by the Tracker were excluded.

Deadline compliance is computed using a chronology-based algorithm applied consistently across all cases; irregularities in the underlying data make the resulting values standardized estimates rather than exact measures.

For further information collected by the Beacon Hill Compliance Tracker, please visit <https://beaconhilltracker.org/>.

For further questions, please contact info@beaconhilltracker.org.