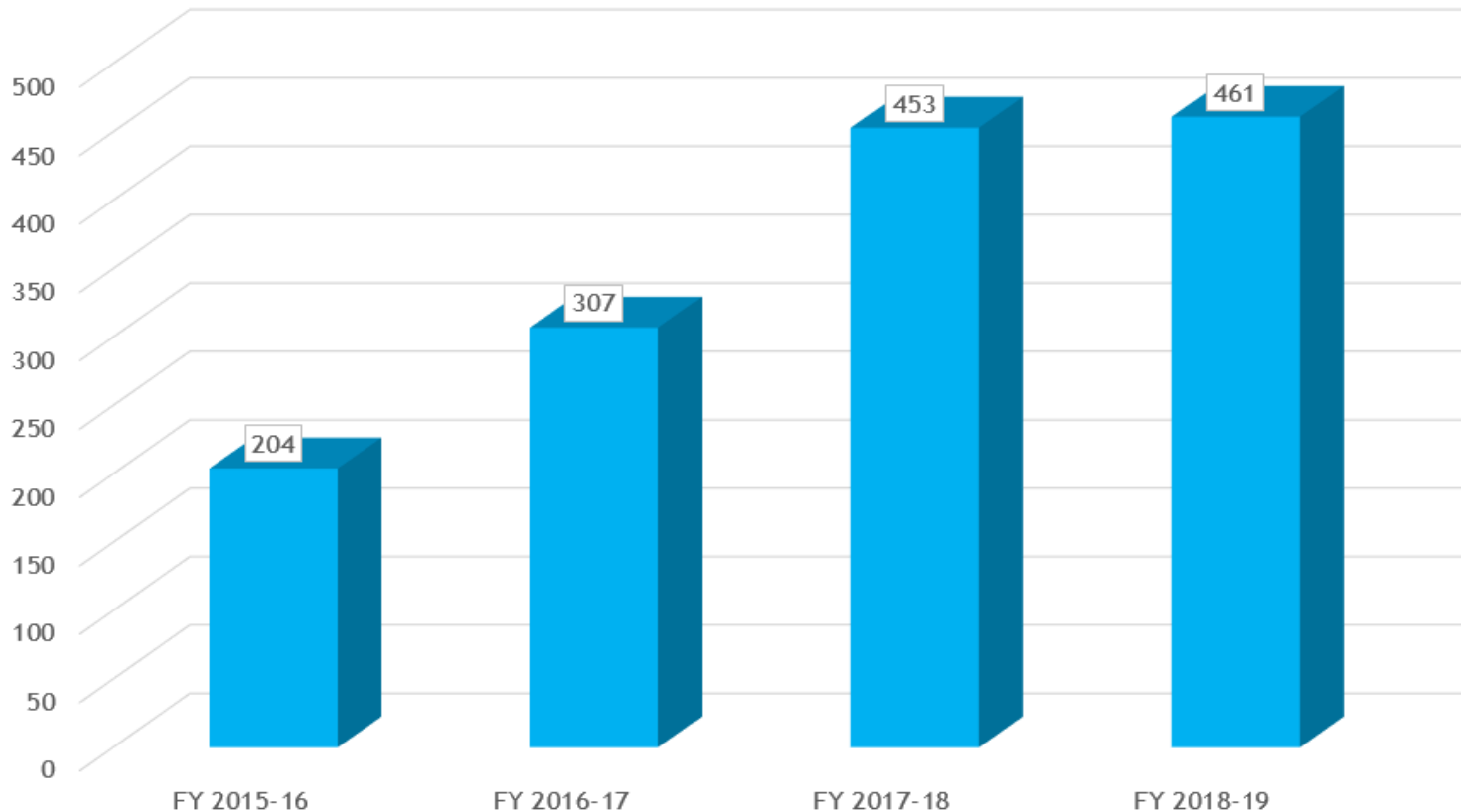


## Number of Rejected Authentication and Apostille Requests (FY 2015-16 – FY 2018-19)<sup>47</sup>

Under Section 26-1-230, the Secretary of State must reject a request for an Authentication or Apostille in certain circumstances. For example: ∪ The Secretary of State cannot authenticate documents that are not signed by a South Carolina public official. ∪ The Secretary of State cannot authenticate documents if the Secretary has cause to believe that the authentication is sought for an unlawful or improper purpose (e.g. Sovereign Citizen documents). ∪ The Secretary of State cannot authenticate photocopies or documents that do not contain notarial certificate wording.

Number of Rejected Authentication and Apostille Requests



<sup>47</sup> S.C. House of Representatives, House Legislative Oversight Committee, “Agency Presentation – Notaries, boards and commissions, authentications, and apostilles (December 5, 2019),” under “Committee Postings and Reports,” under “House Legislative Oversight Committee,” under “Secretary of State, Office of the,” and under “Meetings,” <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee/AgencyWebpages/SecretaryofState/SoS%20Presentation%20-%20Notaries,%20Boards%20and%20Commissions.pdf> (accessed January 21, 2020), slide 27 and 28. Hereinafter “Notaries Presentation.”