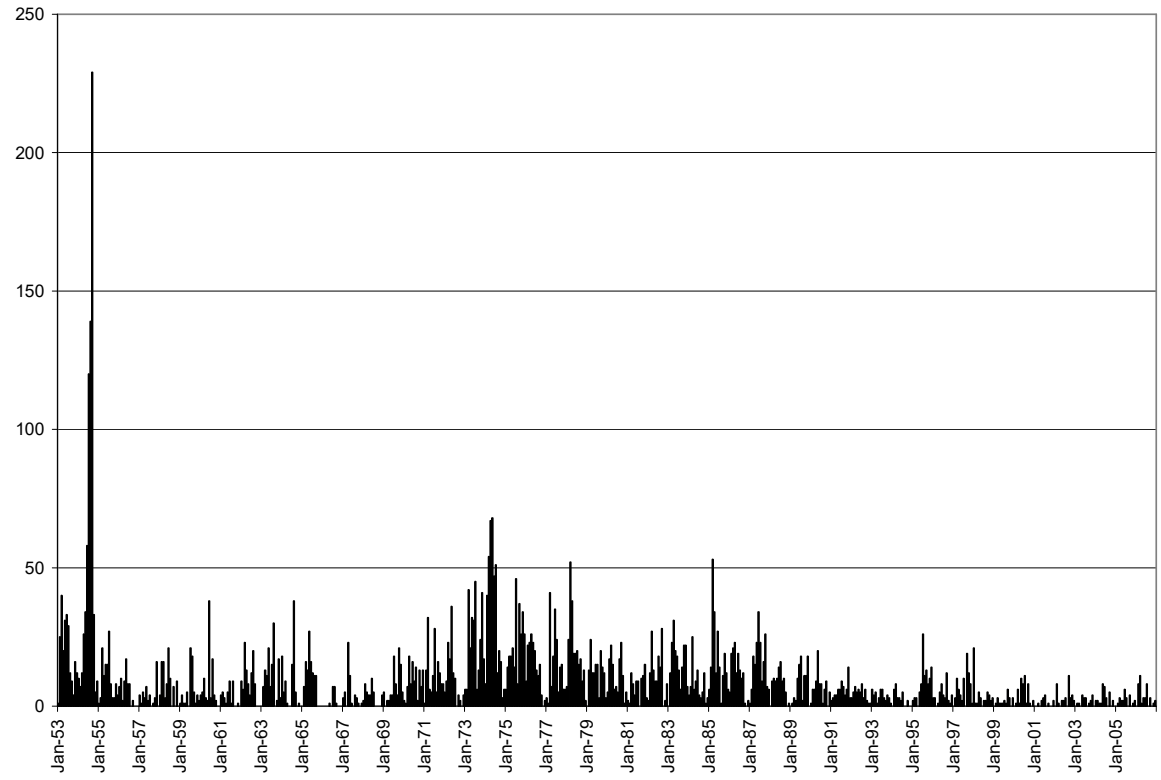
Note on the 1954 investigation of alleged abuse by Federal Housing Authority (FHA)

In our data set there were 474 hits for this investigation with the vast majority being in July, August, and September of 1954. For some reason, CIS seems to have made each individual witness a separate hit, so there are repeatedly multiple "hearings"/hits on the same day. As a result of this accounting scheme, a single investigation produced 199 "days" of hearings in a single month (September, 1954). This is the only case we were able to find of CIS recording information in this way, and it is the only clear outlier.

This creates three distinct outlying months in the data as shown in the figure below:



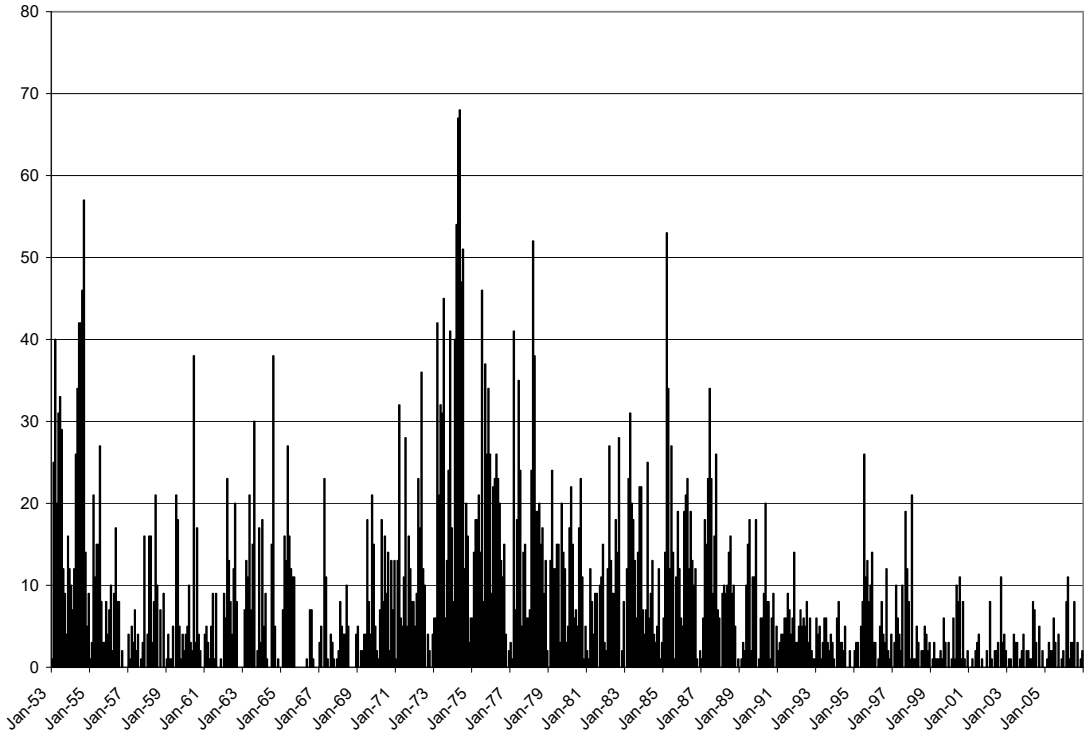
To address the issue, we identified all CIS hits relating to this investigation and we identified the days in which one or more CIS hits were held. This yielded the following counts for April-November, 1954:

April: 1
June: 11
July: 24
August: 26
September: 27
October: 6
November: 1

By contrast, if one took each CIS item from this investigation and treated them as separate hearings, the totals from this investigation would be:

April: 1
June: 27
July: 102
August: 119
September: 199
October: 25
November: 1

To make the correction, we corrected our monthly tallies for 1954 by subtracting from the hearings and days total (each CIS item was for a single day, except 1):

April: 0
June: 16
July: 78
August: 93
September: 172
October: 19
November: 0

This correction eliminates the significantly outlying values as shown in the figure below: