

Department of Public Safety

FY2026 Budget Overview

Senate Finance Committee

James Cockrell, Commissioner

Dianna Thornton, Administrative Services Director

March 6, 2025



Return on Investment: A Safer Alaska

No community can prosper unless its residents feel safe.

Crime Rate (Calendar Year) (Number of Reported Offenses/Population)

	TOTAL CRIME	VIOLENT CRIME	PROPERTY CRIME
2018	4,215.2	886.9	3,328.3
2023	2,635.2	732.1	1,903.1
Percent of Change	-37%	-17%	-42.8%

- 29 State Troopers dedicated to drug Interdiction
- Six Regional law Enforcement narcotic task forces
- In 2024, Troopers seized 1,262 pounds of illegal narcotics, including 42 million potentially fatal doses of Fentanyl

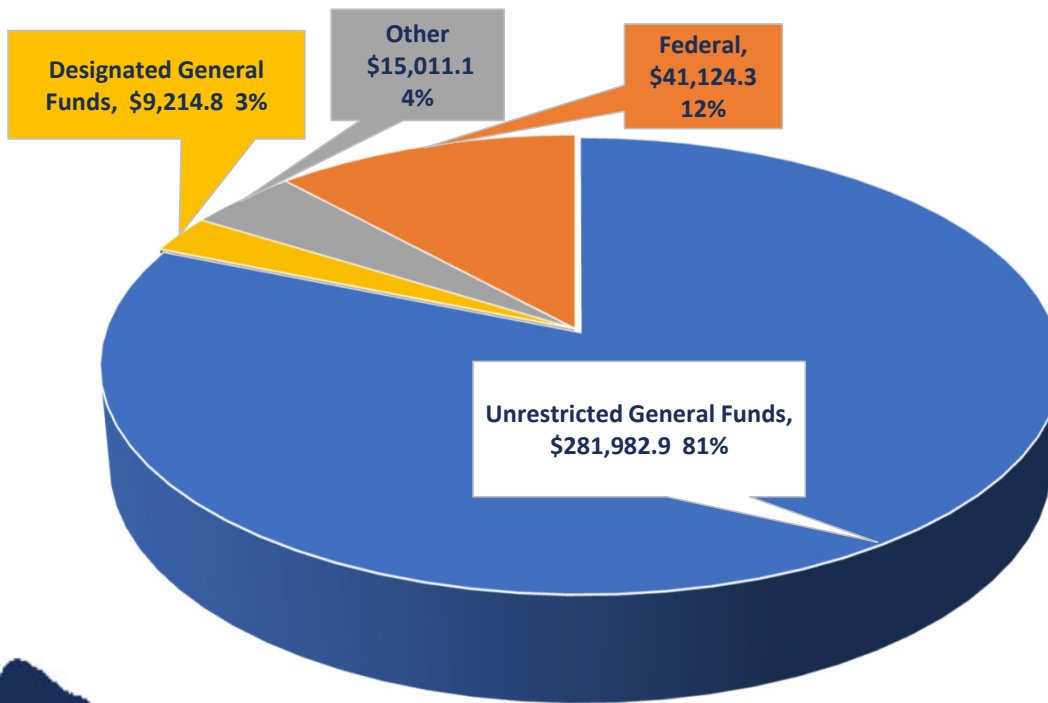
2023 Crime in Alaska Report <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/e172226d-cf30-45c7-a8d3-63560d635b8f/Crime-in-Alaska-2023>

2024 Drug Report: <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/b8e3a715-fbf7-4b2a-9629-7252246bf184/2024-Annual-Drug-Report.pdf>



Department of Public Safety

FY2026 Budget by Funding Source, \$347,333.1 (\$ in thousands)



Federal

- **US Department of Justice**
 - Office for Victims of Crime
 - Bureau of Justice Assistance
 - Community Oriented Policing Services
 - Bureau of Justice Statistics
- **Department of Homeland Security**
 - Federal Emergency Management Agency

Other

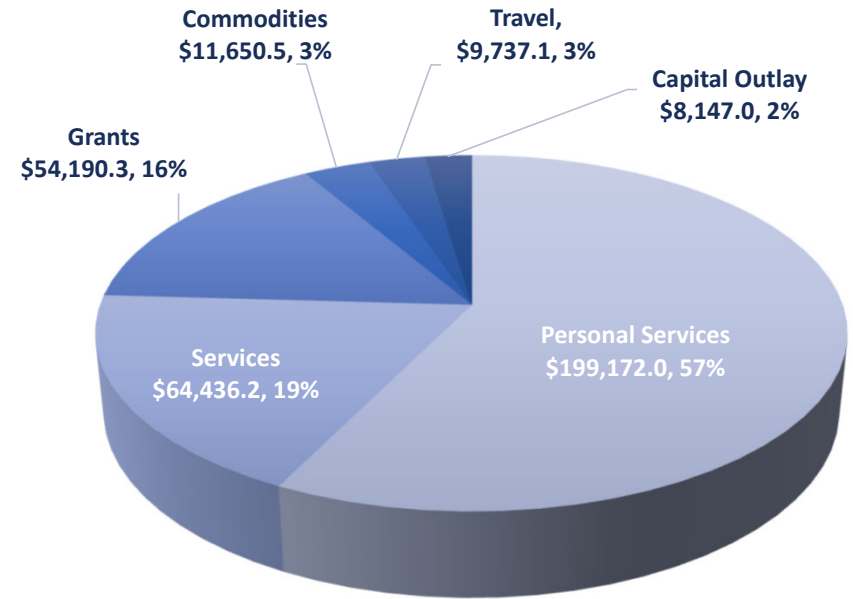
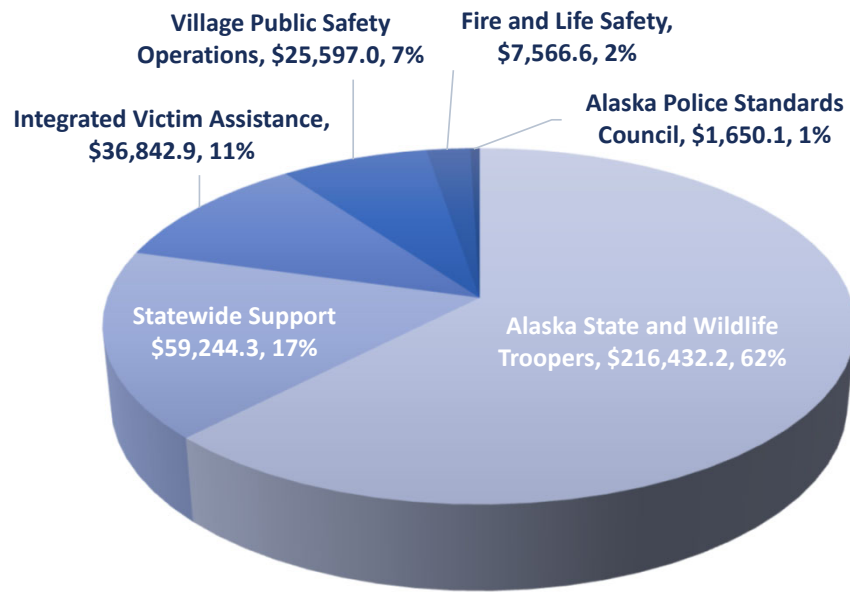
- Interagency Receipts
- Capital Improvement Project
- Mental Health Trust Authority
- Crime Victim Compensation Fund

Designated General Funds

- General Fund Program Receipts
- Recidivism Reduction Fund



FY2026 Budget by Appropriation and Line Item (\$ in thousands)



Investing in Alaska's Future

- \$2,404.0 Re-establish Talkeetna Post
- \$1,345.5 Northwest Alaska Child Abuse Investigative Unit
- \$1,215.2 Five additional Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO)
- \$1,660.5 VPSO funding for Northwest Arctic Borough



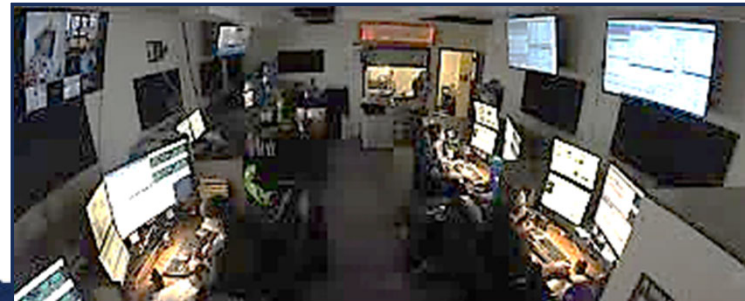
FY2026 Budget Priorities
(\$ in Thousands)



Department of Public Safety

Investing in Public Safety

- \$800.0 Law Enforcement Duty Gear
- \$123.0 Dispatch Contract Increase
- \$2,348.0 State Trooper Overtime
- \$65.0 Crime Scene Van
- \$50.0 Genealogy Testing of Unidentified Human Remains
- \$400.0 Aircraft Fuel



FY2026 Budget Priorities
(*\$ in Thousands*)



Department of Public Safety



VPSO Growth Through Legislative Intent

Six Regional Public Safety Officers in Three Regions

- Southeast
- Northwest
- Southcentral

2024: "It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Public Safety continue to support improvements to the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program that include supporting VPSO Program Grantee organizational structures that require, or will require as programs grow, layers of needed support, supervision, and ongoing training. The Legislature encourages the Department to consider the Regional Public Safety Officer (RPSO) positions (AS 18.65.680) no longer used by the Department for State employment and repurpose the position to fulfill VPSO regional and supervisory roles needed for larger programs, and appropriate to fund using VPSO program grants."



Department of Public Safety





Thank You

James Cockrell, Commissioner
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