



Department of Public Safety Division of Alaska State Troopers House Finance Subcommittee

Presentation by
Division Director/Colonel Maurice "Mo" Hughes
Deputy Commissioner Bryan Barlow
Administrative Operations Manager Pam Halloran

February 9, 2023



Alaska State Troopers Mission and Program Areas

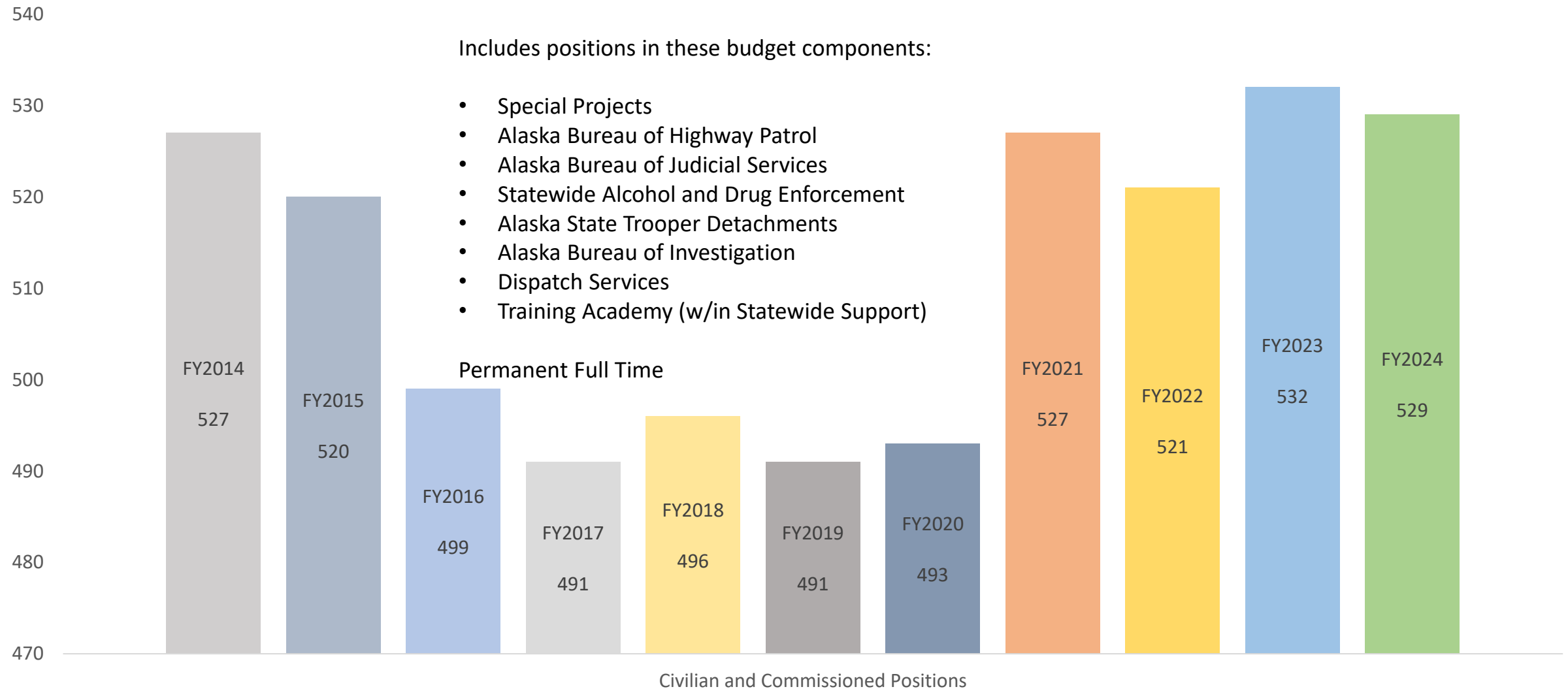
Preserve public peace; protect life and property.



- Four detachments (regional geographical areas)
- Drug interdiction
- Criminal investigations
- Coordinate search and rescue
- Law enforcement
- Court services



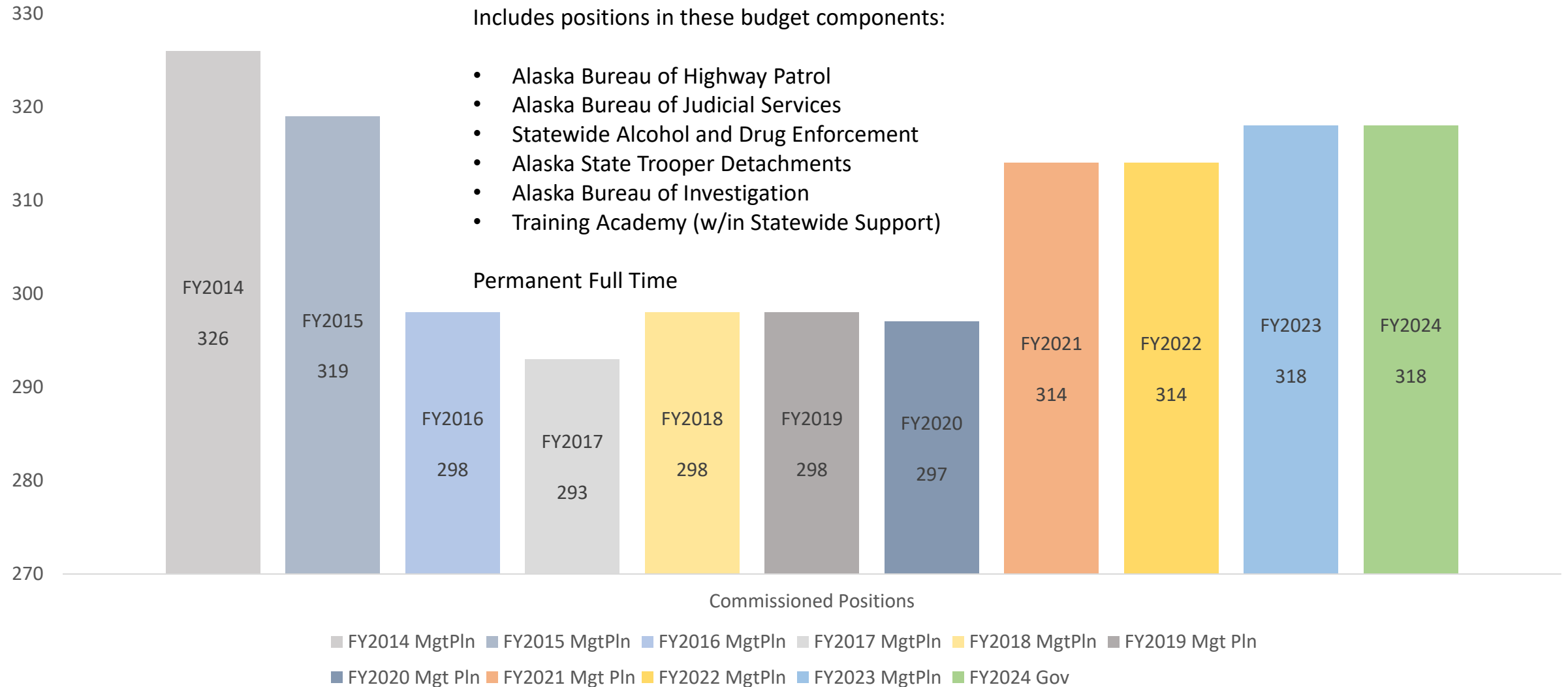
Alaska State Troopers Position History Civilian and Commissioned





Alaska State Troopers Position History

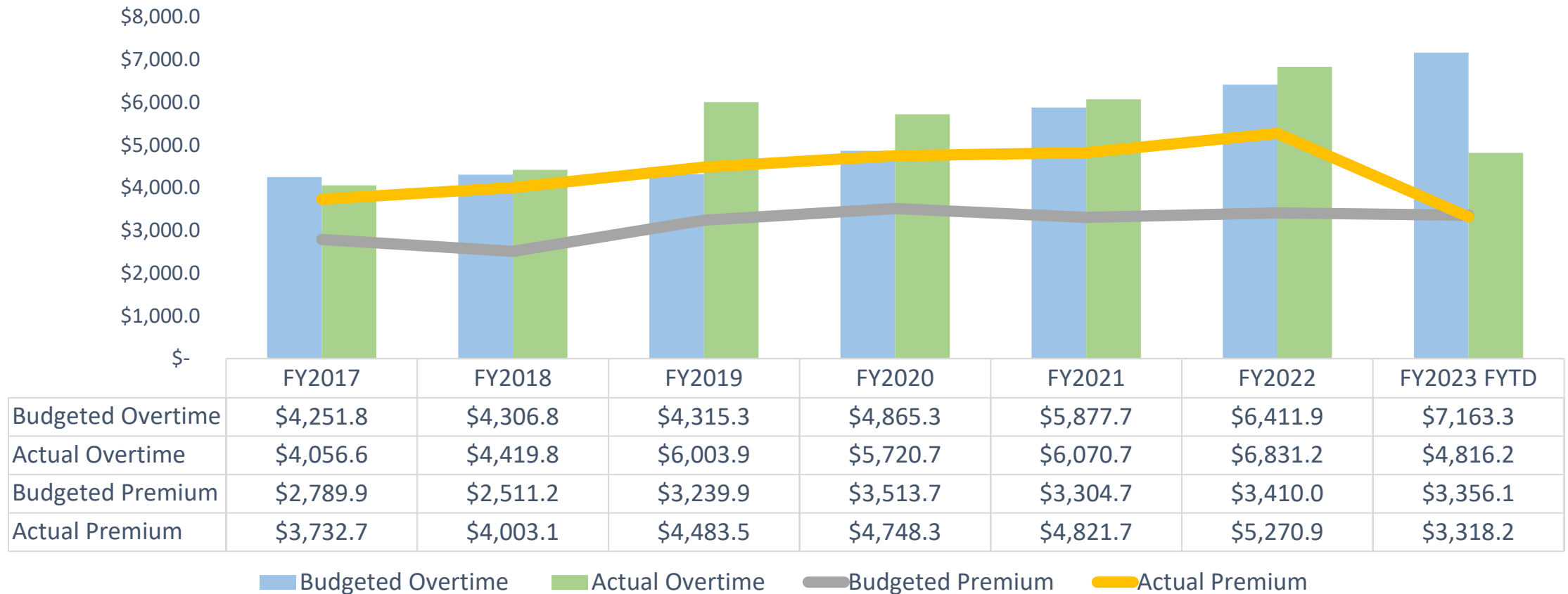
Commissioned Only





Budget Challenges – Overtime and Premium Pay

\$ in thousands



Examples of Premium Pay – Time and one half, standby, pilot flight differential, standby, recall, holiday hours worked, special emergency action team, instructor, assignment incentive



Recruitment

What we do to attract applicants

- Outreach and recruitment events
- Social media presence
- Recruitment videos and materials
- Employee referrals
- Partnerships with organizations

Budgeted Troopers	Actual Troopers	Vacant Troopers
320	278	42

As of December 2022

The hiring process



Eligibility requirements



The written test



Application process



Physical fitness test



Background Investigation and hiring board interview



Polygraph examination



Physical examination / drug test



Psychological written / interview



Academy



- FTO
- Probation
- 1 year Trooper



Retention

- Professional development
- Employee assistance programs
- Advanced training unit
- Rural housing
- Quality of equipment

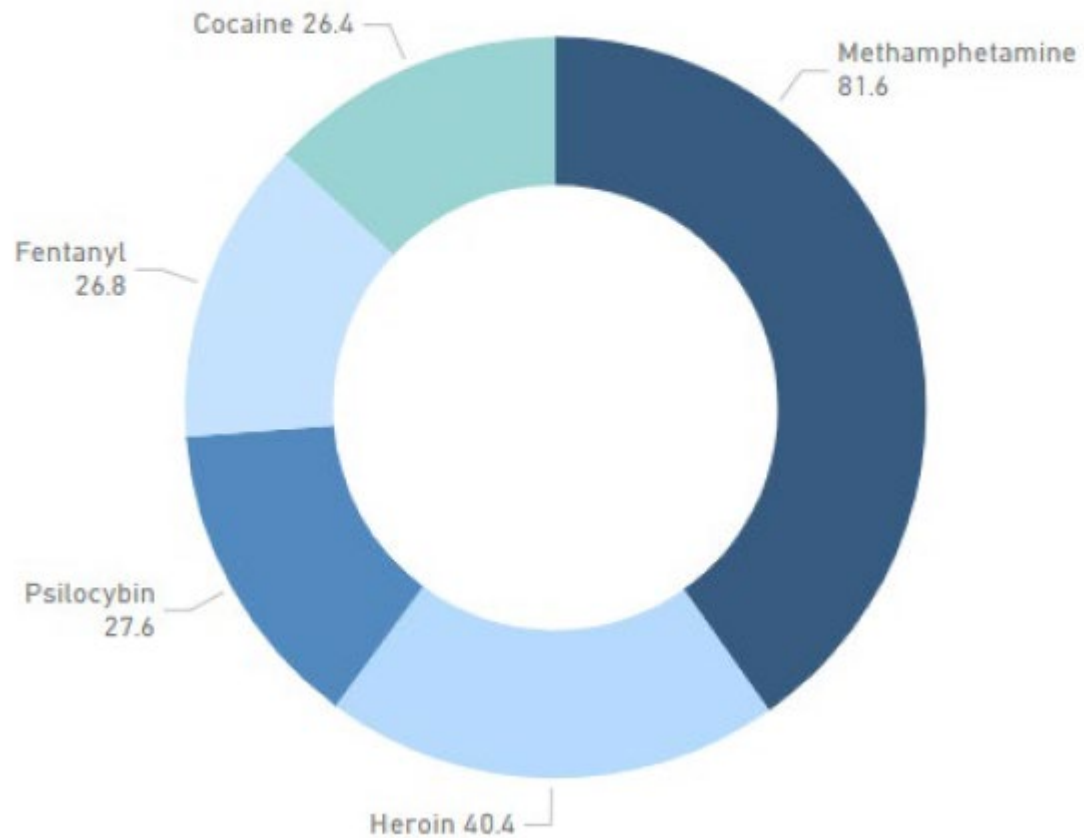


Thompson pass, Valdez



Statewide Drug and Alcohol Enforcement Unit

2022 Top Drug Seizures in Kilograms



K9 Kenny



Statewide Drug and Alcohol Enforcement Unit

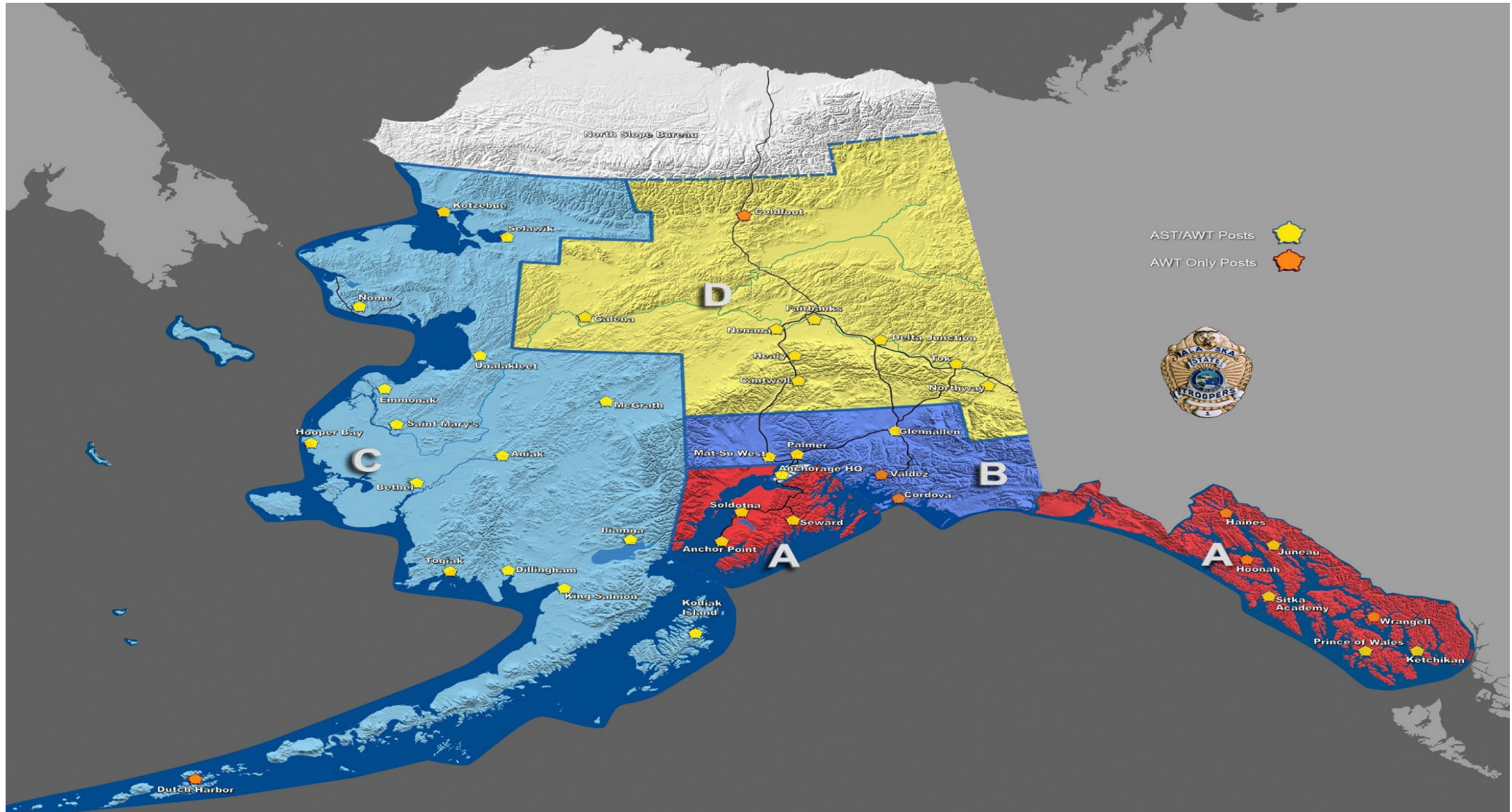
Core Services	Key Challenges	FY2024 Governor's Budget	Position Count
Investigate trafficking of controlled substances and illegal alcohol; solve sophisticated criminal cases involving drugs and alcohol; coordinate illegal drug and alcohol Investigations to facilitate prosecution; High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program member	As HIDTA lead member, logistical preparation and plan execution involves significant high-level resources and expense; decline of federal funding limits municipal partnerships; Alaska's vastness; fentanyl and other illicit synthetic opioids	\$9,947.6	31 PFT

FY2024 Operating Budget Changes	Amount	Fund Source	Impact
Criminal Justice Technician 1/2, Anchorage (personal services, travel, services, commodities)	\$112.6	UGF	Statewide Drug and Alcohol Drug Enforcement Unit for airport interdiction of drugs and alcohol

\$ in thousands



Alaska State Trooper Detachments





Alaska State Trooper Detachments

Core Services	Key Challenges	FY2024 Governor's Budget	Position Count
Preserve public peace, provide rural law enforcement training; highway safety, respond to motor collisions; respond to an average of 670 search and rescue incidents per year, respond to emergency beacon alerts and reported aircraft crashes; investigate homicides within the DPS jurisdiction and within boroughs, cities, and municipalities when assistance is requested; conduct crime scene investigations for rural law enforcement	The downstream effects of drug crimes such as property crimes, thefts, robbery, person-on-person crimes that directly impact proactive enforcement	\$79,865.7	355 PFT 6 NP

FY2024 Operating Budget Changes	Amount	Fund Source	Impact
Address Rising Costs of Equipment and Supplies	\$452.1	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; Tasers, safety gear, uniforms
Digital Evidence Management Software for Online Evidence Management	\$300.0	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; To eliminate manual methods of collecting and sharing of evidence with a central repository

\$ in thousands



Alaska State Trooper Detachments (continued)

FY2024 Operating Budget Changes	Amount	Fund Source	Impact
Training Specialist 2, Anchorage (personal services, travel, services, commodities)	\$153.8	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; Advanced Training Unit
Public Safety Technician 2, Fairbanks (personal services, services, commodities)	\$102.2	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; Asset management
Criminal Justice Technician 1/2, Anchorage (personal services, services, commodities)	\$112.6	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; Evidence entry
Mental Health Clinician 2, Anchorage (personal services, travel, services, commodities)	\$162.0	UGF	Alaska State Trooper Detachments; Wellness program expansion

\$ in thousands



Alaska Bureau of Investigation



Units:

- Statewide Drug Enforcement
- Major Crimes Unit
- Technical Crimes Unit
 - Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children TF
- Digital Forensics Lab
- Financial Crimes Unit
- Child Abuse Investigation Units
- Cold Case Investigation Units
- Missing Persons Clearinghouse



Much needed and anticipated Western Alaska Investigations started and within months stopped a 13year old from being trafficked to Washington.

Digital Forensics backlog. The number of devices requiring complex examinations continues to increase.



Alaska Bureau of Investigation

Core Services	Key Challenges	FY2024 Governor's Budget	Position Count
Solve homicides; reduce the incidence of victimization of women and children by sexual offenders; improve alcohol and drug investigations and interdictions;	Digital evidence backlog, inability to recruit and retain digital forensic examiners and aging lab equipment.	\$14,260.1	71 PFT 4 NP

FY2024 Operating Budget Changes	Amount	Fund Source	Impact
Two Forensic Technician 2, Wasilla and Kenai (personal services, travel, services, commodities)	\$261.5	UGF	Alaska Bureau of Investigation; Crime scene responses

\$ in thousands



Program Areas with No Significant Budget Changes

Program	Core Services	Key Challenges	FY2024 Governor's Budget	Position Count
Special Projects	Taskforce investigations of smuggling and distribution of controlled substances, asset seizures from criminal drug investigations, domestic violence and sexual assault investigation training, Alaska High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program	Fentanyl, importation of alcohol and drugs into rural Alaskan communities	\$7,615.0	6 PFT 5 NP
Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol	Targeted traffic enforcement, investigation of fatal or serious injury collisions, respond to requests for assistance, safety education messages, special patrol activities such as Alaska State Fair, Mount Marathon race, Iditarod, Arctic Man event, and more	Ability to proactively enforce, substance abuse / impaired drivers	\$2,975.8	3 PFT
Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services	Transport prisoners – 34,257 in FY2022, service of legal process, court security, located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, Anchor Point, Dillingham, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Nome, and Palmer	Recruitment and Retention of the Court Services Officer job class	\$4,707.1	34 PFT
Prisoner Transportation	Transport prisoners needing pre-arraignment, post-arraignment escort, and convicted prisoners between in-state facilities and out-of-state facilities	Notice to transport by the Alaska Court System, coordination for public safety	\$1,704.3	0



Program Areas with No Significant Budget Changes (continued)

Program	Core Services	Key Challenges	FY2024 Governor's Budget	Position Count
Search and Rescue	Coordination of search and rescue operations for injured persons and recovery for deceased persons with various agencies; reimburse public and private organizations; provide aircraft support, logistical support, technical expertise; track portable Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) for DPS personnel	Environmental factors in Alaska	\$317.0	0
Rural Trooper Housing	Leased and state-owned housing for state troopers and their families in rural communities, which is essential for recruitment and retention in Alaska	Staffing capacity to locate habitable housing throughout rural Alaska, costly trooper moves due to short tenure in rural locations associated with substandard housing; aging facilities; maintenance issues	\$2,521.0	0
Dispatch Services	Professional public safety dispatch services to include centers staffed by department personnel as well as two contracted dispatch centers in Soldotna and the Mat-Su Valley	Recruitment and hiring challenges for dispatch employees; significant overtime	\$6,066.7	29 PFT



Thank You

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