

Program Description Forms: Guidance and examples



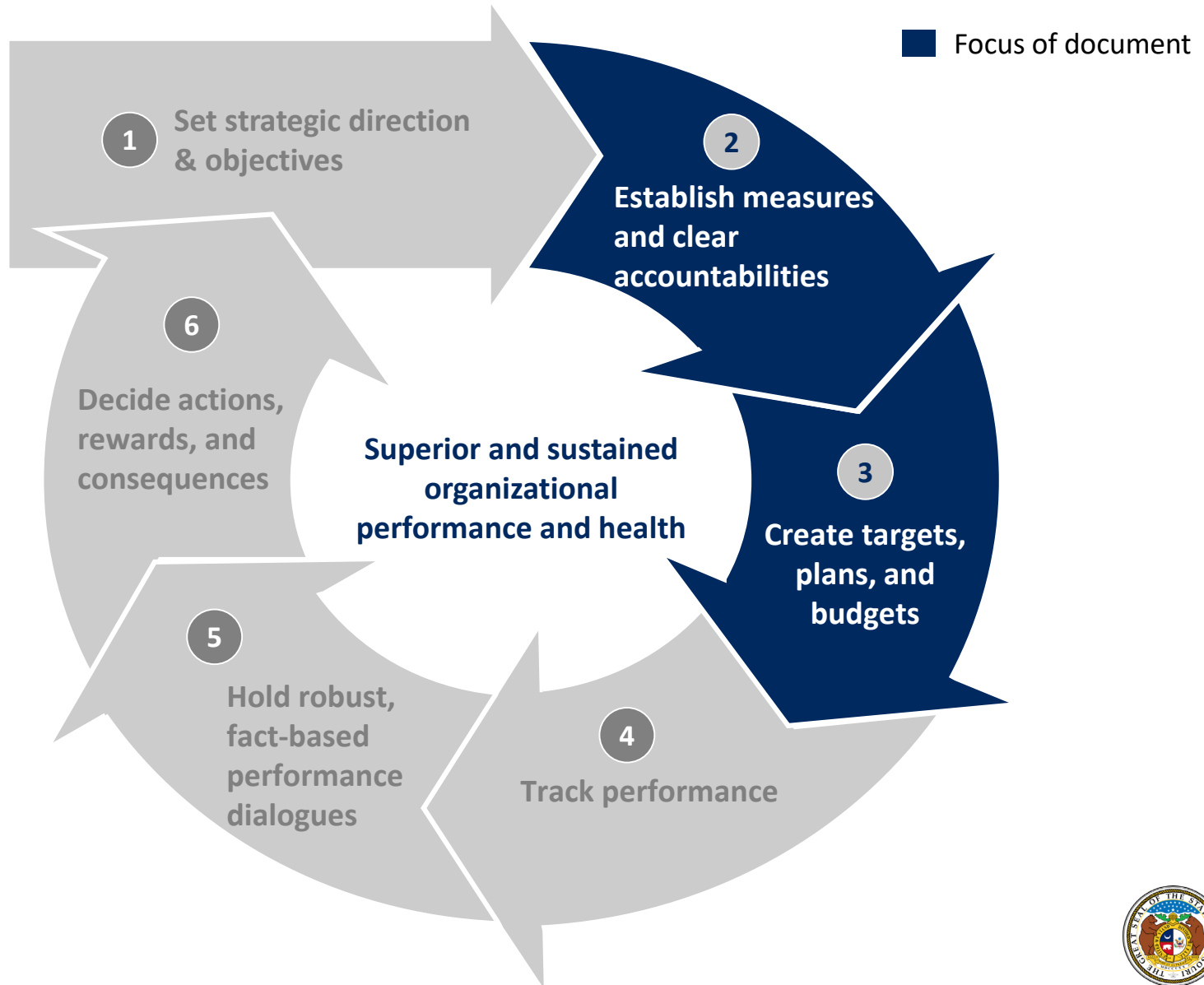
EXAMPLES OF WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE - FROM **FY 2021** AWARD WINNERS

Purpose of document

To provide guidance on completing the FY22 Program Description form and examples of past program description forms to help show “what good looks like”



Achieving superior and sustained organizational performance and health requires a disciplined, data-driven process





Good measures follow the “SMART” principle

Simple

- Does it have a clear definition?
 - Is it straightforward and easy to understand?
-

Measurable

- Is it easy to measure?
 - Do we have or can we collect the data required?
 - Can it be benchmarked against other organizations or outside data?
 - Can the measurement be defined in an unambiguous way?
-

Achievable

- Do we understand the drivers that are behind the measure?
 - Can the team responsible for the measure actually influence it?
 - Can we mitigate the impact of drivers beyond our control?
-

Relevant

- Is the measure aligned with the department’s strategy and objectives?
 - Is the measure relevant to a program’s specific goal?
 - Does it support other higher-level objectives (e.g., themes)?
-

Timely

- Can the measure be monitored at a frequency that enables the team to take action based upon the information and affect the measure?
- When will we monitor it? Can the measure move between periods?





Program Description Forms

| PROGRAM DESCRIPTION | |
|---|----------------------|
| Department _____ | HB Section(s): _____ |
| Program Name _____ | |
| Program is found in the following core budget(s): _____ | |
| 1a. What strategic priority does this program address? | |
| 1b. What does this program do? | |
| 2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program. | |
| 2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality . | |
| 2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact . | |

| PROGRAM DESCRIPTION | |
|---|----------------------|
| Department _____ | HB Section(s): _____ |
| Program Name _____ | |
| Program is found in the following core budget(s): _____ | |
| 2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency . | |
| 3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. <i>(Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)</i> | |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Program Expenditure History</p> </div> | |
| 4. What are the sources of the "Other" funds? | |
| 5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.) | |
| 6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain. | |
| 7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain. | |





1 a-b: Program Description Guidance

1 a. What strategic priority does the program address?

- Use the strategic theme in the department's strategic "placemat" that is supported by the program.

1 b. What does the program do?

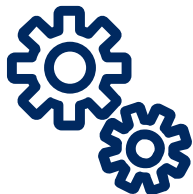
- Limit the first paragraph to no more than 3 sentences. Focus what is most important.
- Provide a succinct description that explains what a program is designed to do, how it works, and its goals. Therefore, a good description helps identify what the measures will be in Sections 2 a-d:
 - Activity: What does the program do?
 - Quality: Is it done well?
 - Impact: Did it achieve the expected outcome?
 - Efficiency: Were resources optimized?
- Write for a regular reader, not an expert. Avoid acronyms and jargon. Ask a colleague outside your program to review for clarity.
- Use formatting (e.g., bullets, underlining, etc.) as needed to make easier to read.
- If needed, include more technical or detailed information after the opening paragraph.





2 a-d: Program Description Forms will include four types of measures

Measures can tell you about:



Activity: Is the organization doing what it said it would do in the program description?

- Examples: Frequency, rates, numbers of actions completed, clients served, etc.
- *Select the activity measure or measures that best communicate the most important dimension of the program and department priorities to the General Assembly and Missouri citizens*



Quality: Is the activity done well?

- Examples: Satisfaction levels, assessment against benchmarks, etc.



Impact: Does the program deliver? Is the activity achieving the program's goals as presented in the Program Description?

- Examples: Outcomes, effectiveness; return on investment; reduction in risk factors, change in behavior; compliance with standards and regulations; proportion of clients or customers showing improved well-being; success in a targeted population



Efficiency: Is it worth it? How much effort is invested to achieve the impact?

- Examples: Productivity; return on investment; cost per unit; cycle times; accuracy rates
- *Typically measured in a ratio*





FY21 Program Description Form Examples – Introduction

Provided below are four examples of program description forms from the FY21 Budget. They come from the winners for Best Overall & Honorable Mention Program Description Form.

None of these program description forms are perfect. But together they help show what good can look like.

In considering these examples – and in developing your own program description form – consider these questions:

- Is the program description clear and concise? Does it point the way to the measures?
- Does the description avoid jargon?
- Is the measure relevant to the program objectives/description and appropriate to the measure type (i.e. activity, quality, impact, efficiency)?
- Do the measures
 - convey what the program does?
 - include targets – both baseline and stretch?
 - include appropriate benchmarks (clear what good looks like)?
 - follow SMART principles?
 - demonstrate good use of graphics and formatting?
 - use footnotes with brief definitions and explanations to ensure clear communication?

Please use these examples, not as definitive, but as guidance and a source for ideas to improve your program's description and measures.





FY 21 Program Description Form winners

BEST OVERALL

- DOLIR – Administration
https://oa.mo.gov/sites/default/files/dolir_administration.pdf
- MoDOT – Construction
https://oa.mo.gov/sites/default/files/modot_construction.pdf

HONORABLE MENTION

- DED – Regional Engagement
https://oa.mo.gov/sites/default/files/ded_regional_engagement_fy21_pd.pdf
- DOR – Collections and Tax Assistance
https://oa.mo.gov/sites/default/files/dor_taxation_cata_bureau_fy21_program_desc.pdf





FY21 Best Overall 1:

DOLIR – Administration

- See “Required and Potential Administrative Measures” here: <https://oa.mo.gov/budget-planning/budget-planning-and-performance-measure-resources>

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Department of Labor and Industrial Relations | | HB Section(s): 7.800 |
| Program Name: Administration | | |
| Program is found in the following core budget(s): Director & Staff | | |
| 1a. What strategic priority does this program address? | | Matches Dept’s strategic priority |
| Opportunity: Invest in our workforce for today and tomorrow. | | |
| 1b. What does this program do? | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides centralized support functions to the six divisions of the Department including: Communications, Procurement, Financial Management, Human Resources, Legal Services, Legislative Affairs, and General Services in order to ensure smooth day-to-day operations of the Department. Ensures compliance with State and Federal laws for expenditure requirements, documentation and reporting, security of data and records, and program management to promote good stewardship of taxpayer funds and accountability for the services delivered by the department. | | |

- Easy to understand
- A clear and concise program description leads to the appropriate measures and vice versa

| 2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program. | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | FY 2017 | | FY 2018 | | FY 2019 | | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| | Projected | Actual | Projected | Actual | Projected | Actual | Projected | Projected | Projected |
| Hours of Training Completed by Employees ¹ | These are new measures. FY 2018 data is the first available. | | | 8,767 | 8,986 | 7,185 | 10,976 | 14,056 | 18,136 |
| Staff Trained | | | | 708 | 708 | 665 | 725 | 735 | 750 |
| Training Sessions Conducted ¹ | | | | 4,610 | 4,610 | 1,166 | 4,610 | 4,610 | 4,610 |
| Number of Unduplicated Vendors Paid ² | | | | 11,289 | 11,500 | 6,232 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 |

¹ All types of training are counted (on-line, classroom, external, and specialized). Opportunities for training were limited between December 2018 and April 2019, when LinkedIn Learning went live. This accounts for the lower than normal number trained in FY 2019.

² Includes payments to individuals who participate in DOLIR programs (Second Injury Fund Payments, Tort Victims Compensation, Line of Duty Payments, etc.) as well as expense and equipment. This does not include unemployment insurance compensation payments. The number of payments fluctuates each year because of the variation in the number of claimants paid for Second Injury, Tort Victims, and Line of Duty Compensation.

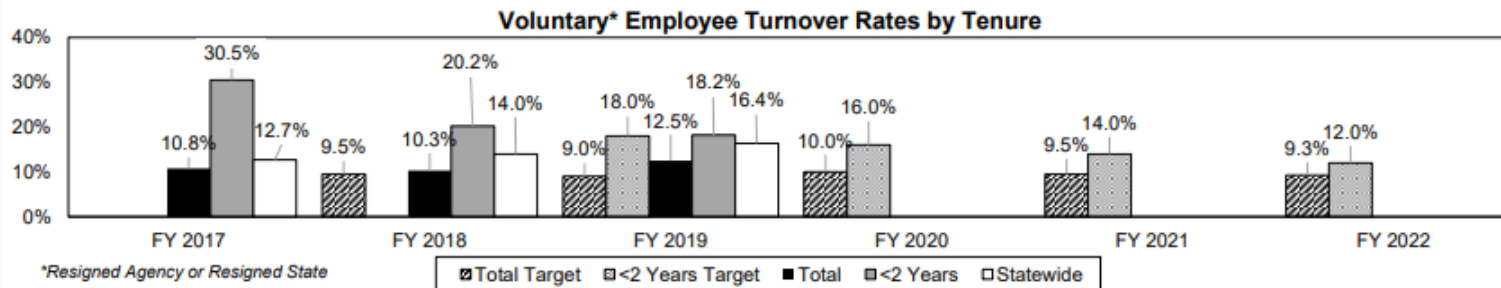
- Provides appropriate footnotes
- Are there other significant activities that can be documented? Perhaps review other Dept.'s. Admin for ideas





DOLIR – Administration

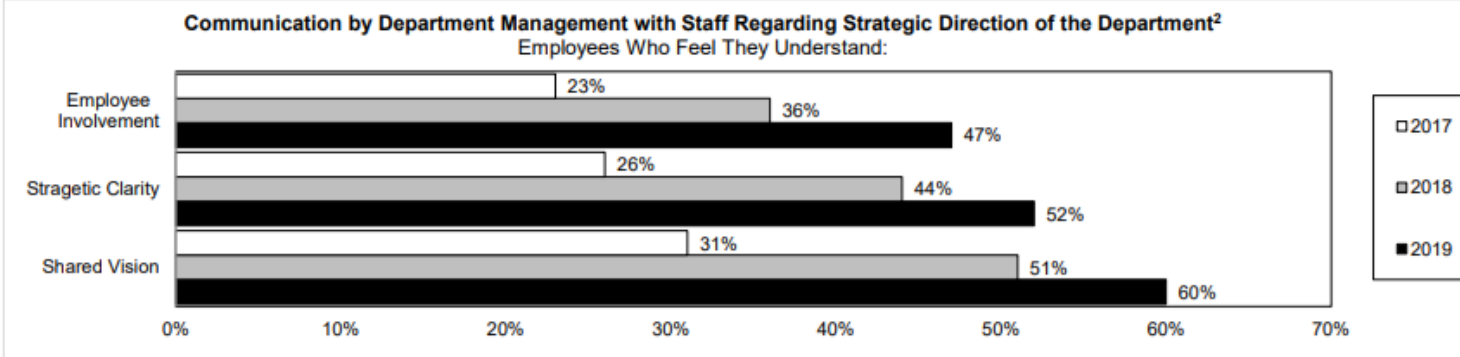
2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



- Good and appropriate Quality measure
- Easy to understand
- Targets ✓
- Benchmark ✓

- Appropriate Quality measure
- Easy to understand
- No target (see footnote)
- No Benchmark

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



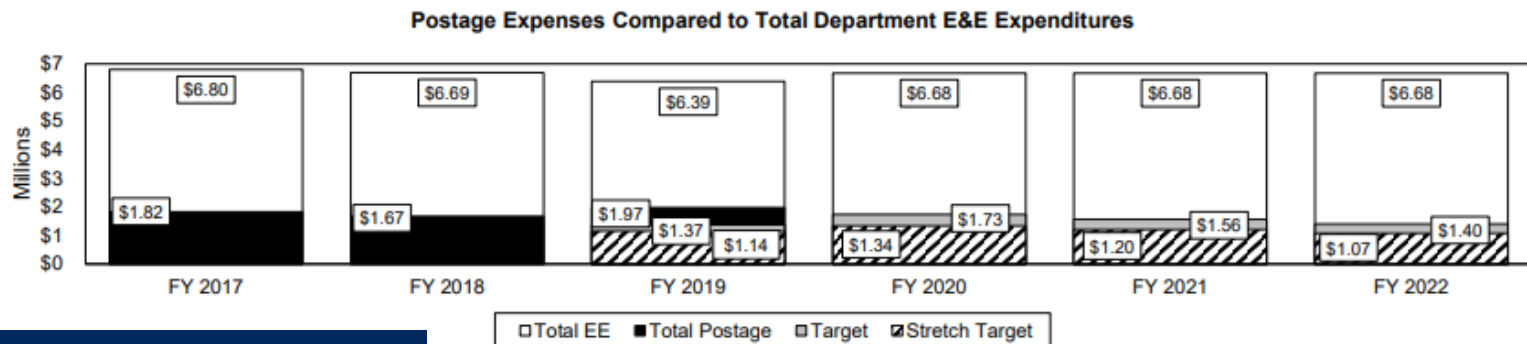
² The department is currently analyzing data in order to develop target goals for this measure.





DOLIR – Administration

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



- Footnote might state what is being done to reduce postage expense

- Good measure
- Comparison to total E&E doesn't seem to add much value, just complexity
- Base target ✓
- Stretch target ✓
- Benchmarks - probably N/A

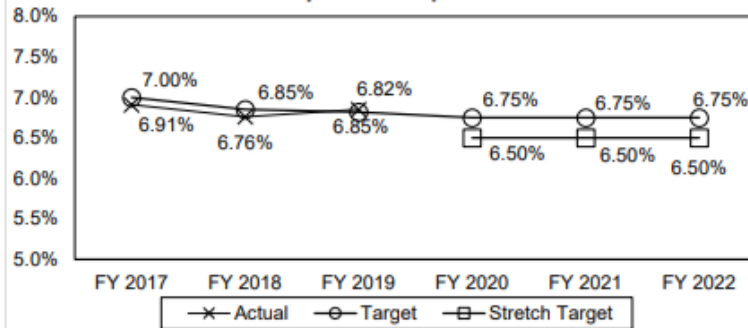




DOLIR – Administration

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

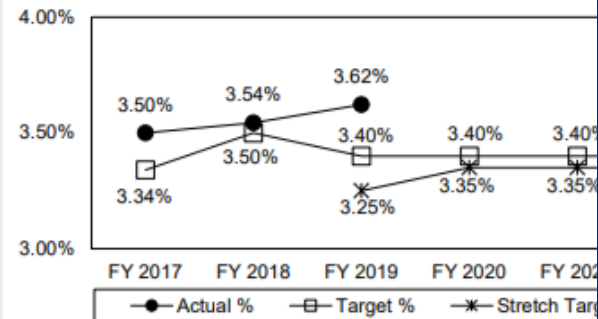
Department Administrative Expenditures as a Portion of Total Department Expenditures^{2,3}



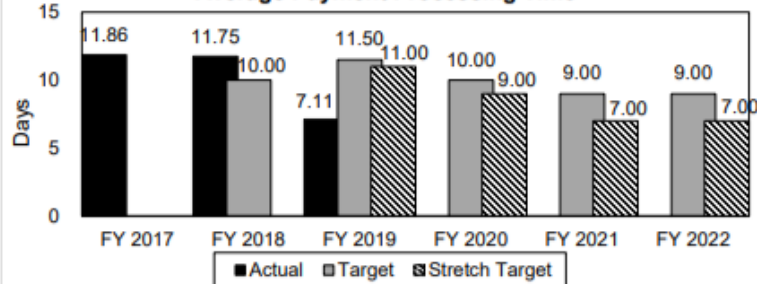
² As program costs and FTE decrease and administrative costs and FTE stay relatively the same, the percentages will increase. The stretch target is the minimum necessary for Department operations. Continued evolution of the Department's operations have caused a reset of targets for these measures.

³ The FY 2018 actual amount was corrected (previously reported as 6.02%). Some pass-through funding that should not have been included in the calculation was inadvertently target was corrected as well, based on an average of the prior 3-year period.

Department Administrative Hours as a Portion of Department Hours Worked³

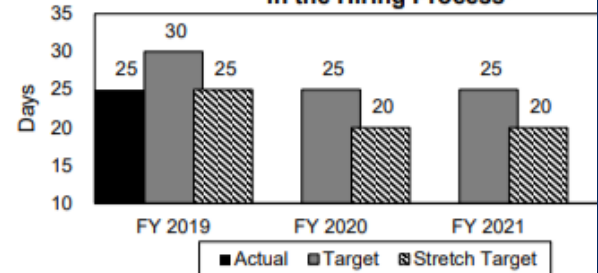


Average Payment Processing Time⁴



⁴ Minimum processing time is 7.00 days. Processing time decreased in FY 2019 because the unit was fully staffed.

Time to Complete HR Responsibilities in the Hiring Process⁵



⁵ The measure is defined to include only functions Human Resources can control. Functions include recruitment, eligibility review, background checks, and notification. The stretch target is the minimum number of days required.

- Good & relevant indicators of efficiency
- Graphs are clear and easy to understand
- Base Targets ✓
- Stretch Targets ✓
- Benchmarks needed as appropriate
- Appropriate footnotes included
- For ease of interpretation, recommend the 2 line graphs have the same legend





FY21 Best Overall 2:

MoDot – Construction

Department of Transportation

HB Section: 4.410, 4.413

Program Name: Construction

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Construction

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

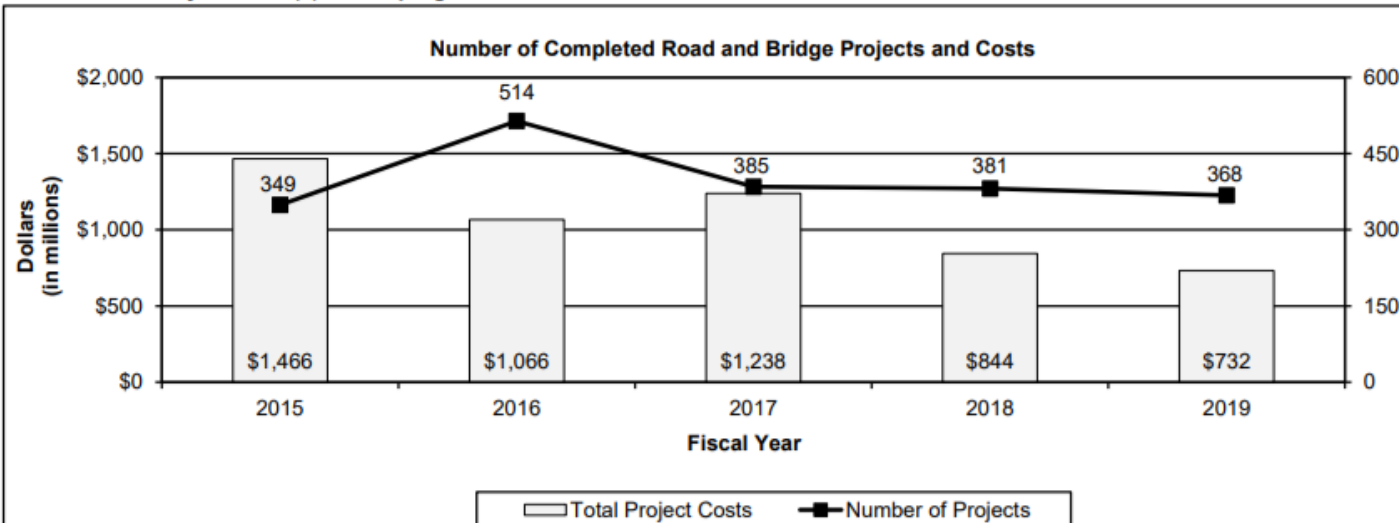
Service - deliver transportation solutions of great value and use resources wisely
Stability - preserve and operate a reliable transportation system with an engaged workforce

Matches Dept's strategic priority

1b. What does this program do?

This program includes personal services, expense and equipment and program disbursements for planning, design, right of way acquisitions, contract payments, federal pass-through funds to local entities and debt service on outstanding bonds associated with road and bridge construction. The program represents payments associated with awarded projects in the Commission approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The payments are for projects awarded in previous fiscal years, as well as the current fiscal year, because payments are made as contractors complete the work in the months projects are awarded.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



- Clear and concise program description
- Recommend moving comments about costs and projects awarded to footnotes of relevant measures

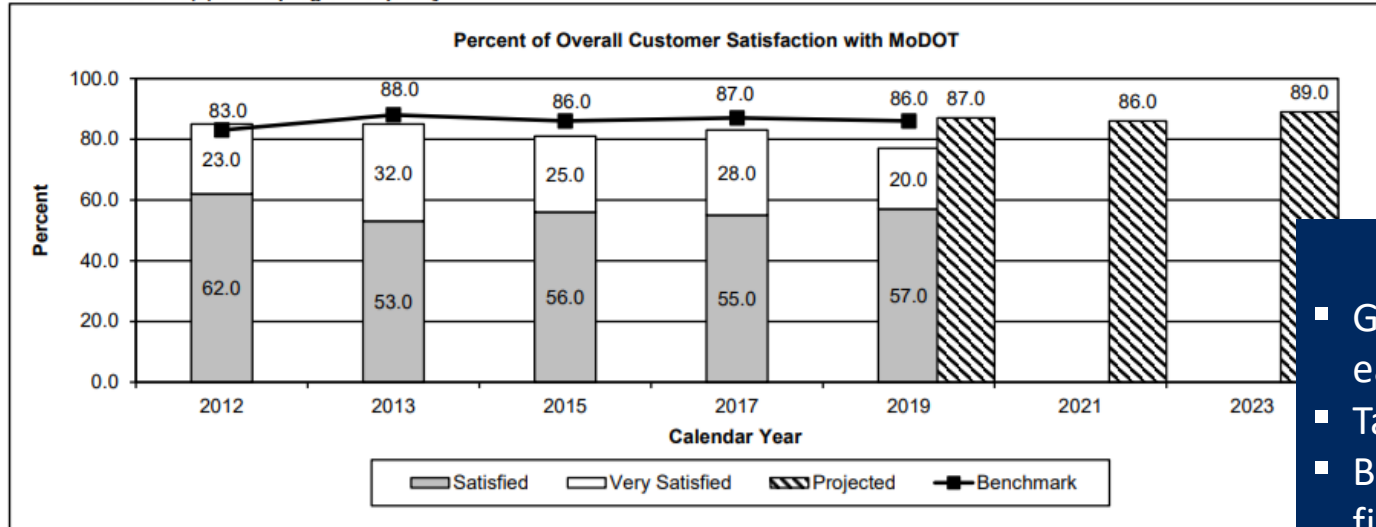
- Good indicator of activity
- Graph is clear and easy to understand





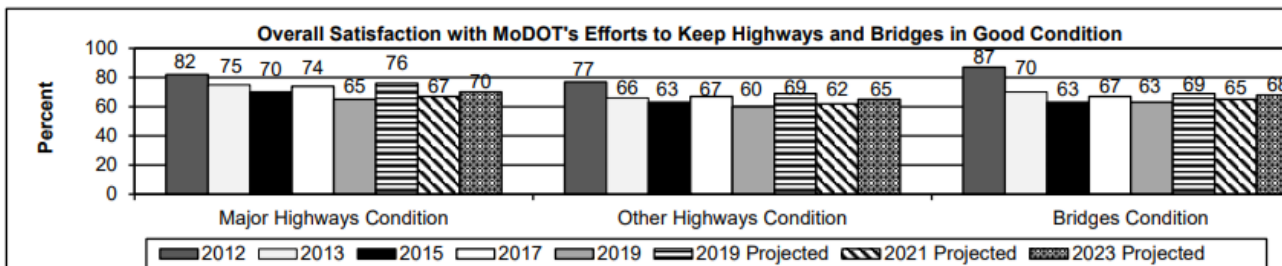
MoDot – Construction

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



Data is collected through a biennial telephone survey conducted by a consultant from interviews of approximately 3,500 randomly selected adult Missourians. The question surveyed was "How satisfied are you with the job the Missouri Department of Transportation is doing?" The benchmark data is from the Customer Satisfaction Index, a national cross-industry measure of customer satisfaction in the United States. The 2021 projection is equal to the 2019 benchmark score of 86 percent. The 2023 projection was established by projecting a three percent improvement from the benchmark. No survey was conducted in calendar years 2014, 2016 and 2018.

- Graphs are clear and easy to understand
- Targets ✓ (projections)
- Benchmark cited on first measure is too broad to be relevant to this survey
- Appropriate footnotes included, but could be more brief
- Including survey questions is helpful



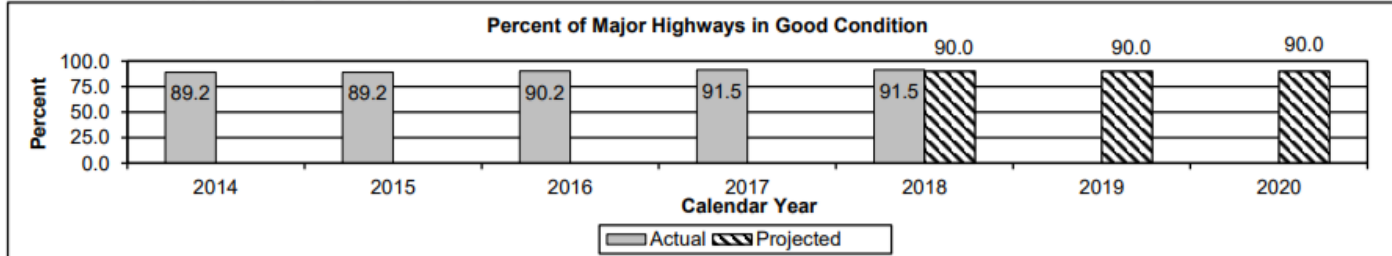
Data is collected through a biennial telephone survey conducted by a consultant from interviews of approximately 3,500 randomly selected adult Missourians. The questions surveyed were "How satisfied are you with: MoDOT's efforts to keep the surface of major highways in good condition (smooth and free of potholes); keep the surface of other state highways in good condition (smooth and free of potholes); and keep bridges in good condition?". Overall satisfaction for the years above was calculated by adding the very satisfied and the satisfied responses. The 2021 and 2023 projections were established by projecting a two and five percent increase from the 2019 survey, respectively. No survey was conducted in calendar years 2014, 2016 and 2018.



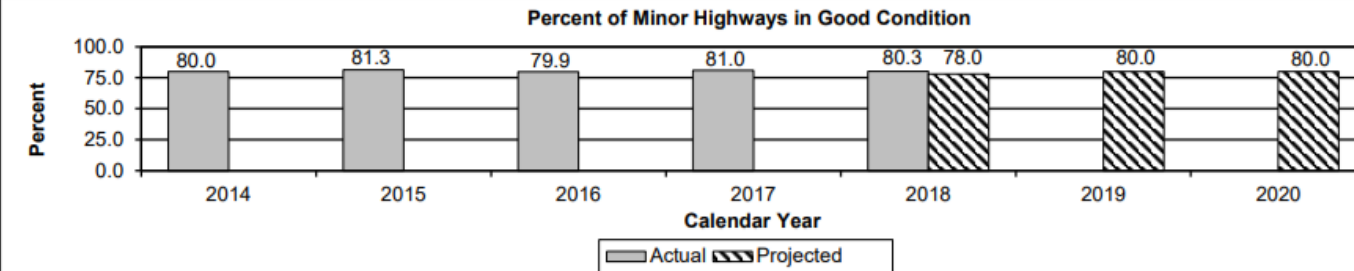


MoDot – Construction

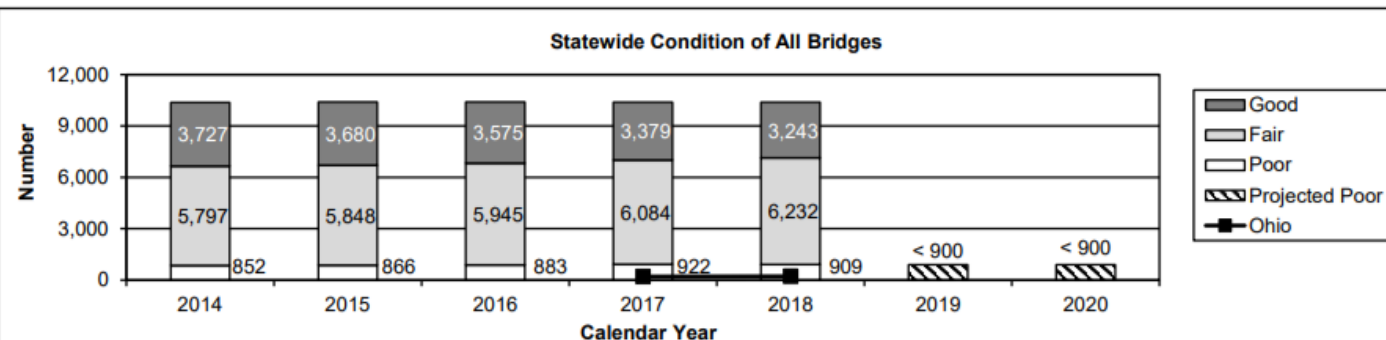
2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



The projections for this measure are based on the statewide asset management plan and reflects the department's goal of maintaining current conditions. Targets are set by the department and will not change unless policy changes, regardless of performance. Currently, good comparison data is not available because states measure the condition of major and minor highways using a variety of methods. Data for calendar year 2019 was not available at the time of publication.



The projections for this measure are based on the statewide asset management plan and reflects the department's goal of maintaining current conditions. Targets are set by the department and will not change unless policy changes, regardless of performance. Currently, good comparison data is not available because states measure the condition of major and minor highways using a variety of methods. Data for calendar year 2019 was not available at the time of publication.



MoDOT's goal is to reduce the number of bridges in poor condition. The projections reflect the department's goal of maintaining current conditions. Ohio has been selected for comparison due to its similar demographics, geography and weather conditions. Ohio's total number of state highway bridges is only 43 more than Missouri. In 2017 and 2018, Ohio had 208 and 223 bridges in poor condition, respectively. Data for calendar year 2019 was not available at the time of publication.

- Very relevant and appropriate Impact measures
- Targets ✓ (projections)
- Footnotes are helpful, but could be more brief.
- Consider adding brief information on the rating system - "good".

- Benchmark ✓

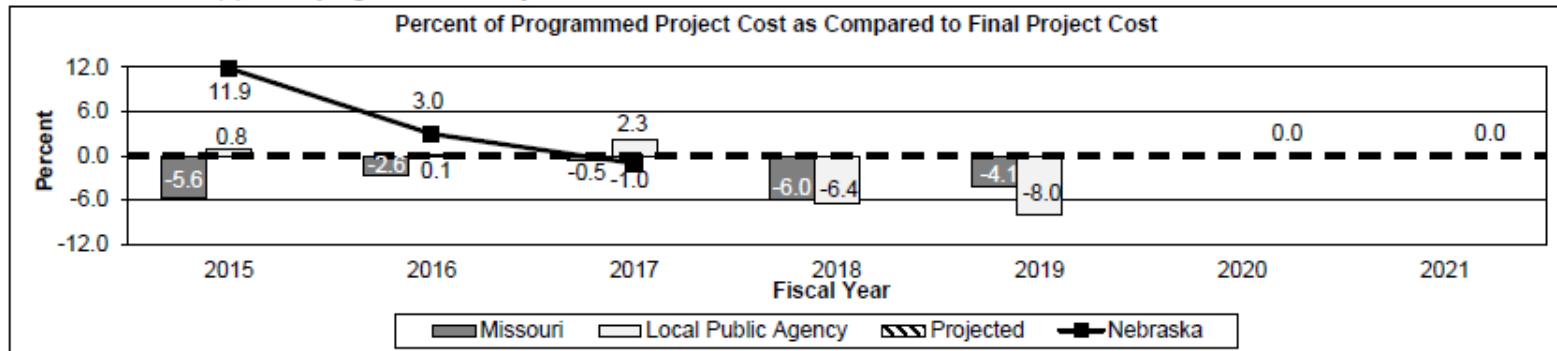




MoDot – Construction

- Good efficiency measure, relevant to program objectives
- Target ✓
- Benchmarks ✓
- The graphic is difficult to follow - perhaps increase the size/scale of the vertical axis
- Footnotes are helpful, but could be more clear

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

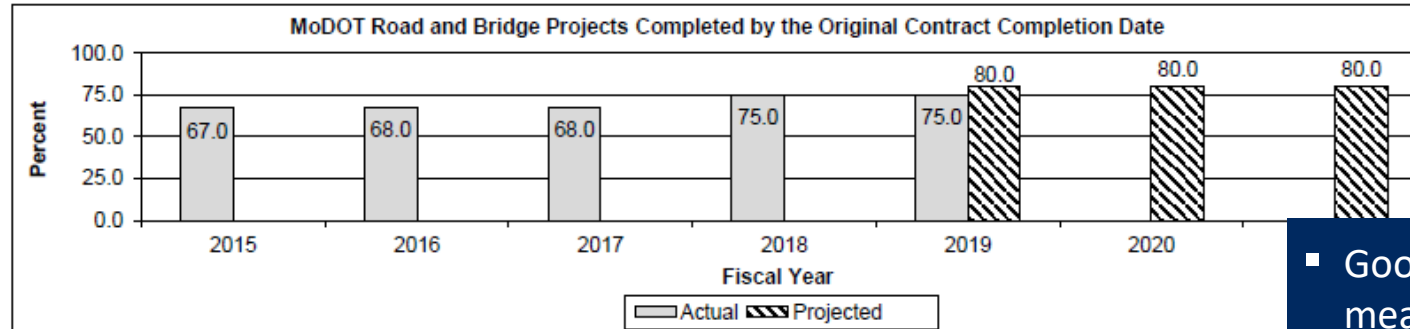


Construction projects are programmed, or budgeted, in the department's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Once a project is awarded and work begins, final project costs can change from the original programmed cost in the STIP. Construction project cost changes are usually caused by final quantity adjustments, weather, subgrade issues or other additional construction phase service costs. Nebraska has been selected for comparison because it is the only state with comparable data available. The target is zero percent difference, indicating MoDOT is making timely use of available funds.



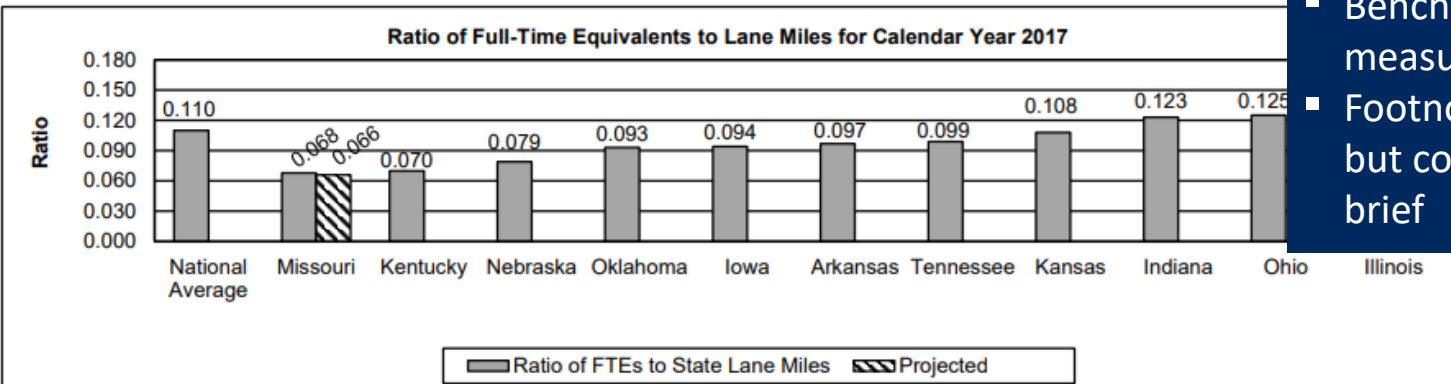


MoDOT – Construction



MoDOT works to meet the initial contract completion date by preparing accurate plans and quantities and setting aggressive but reasonable dates. Occasionally, an authorized extension of the completion date is required for things like weather or additional work. This measure tracks the percentage of road and bridge projects completed by the commitment date originally established in the contract. MoDOT's target is 80 percent.

- Good efficiency measures, relevant to program objectives
- Graphs are clear and easy to understand
- Targets ✓
- Benchmarks for the 2nd measure
- Footnotes are helpful, but could be more brief



Full-time equivalent (FTE) is the total number of hours worked or on paid leave divided by 2,080. The ratio in this measure was calculated by dividing the FTEs in the Census Bureau - 2017 Annual Survey of Public Employees and Payroll, by the estimated number of lane miles in the 2017 FHWA report of State Highway Agency-Owned Public Roads (HM-81). A low ratio means MoDOT is efficiently maintaining roadways with limited resources. The projection is based on the department's goal for FTEs. Data for 2018 was not available at the time of publication.





FY21 Honorable Mention 1:

DED – Regional Engagement

Department: Economic Development

HB Section(s): 7.005

Program Name: Regional Engagement

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Regional Engagement

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Laser Focused, Customer Centric, Regionally Targeted

▪ Matches Dept's strategic priority

1b. What does this program do?

- Perform proactive business and community outreach visits with customers to understand the needs, opportunities, and challenges for future growth across rural, urban, and suburban areas of the state.
- Provide customized program solutions and technical assistance to business and community customers with incentives and other resources available.
- Coordinate existing business expansion projects, and related infrastructure projects, in support of retained and increased employment and capital investment. Coordination is comprehensive, from identifying business needs and opportunities to proposing solutions and assisting with program enrollment.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

| | FY2017 Actual | FY2018 Actual | FY2019 Projected | FY2019 Actual | FY2020 Projected | FY2021 Projected | FY2022 Projected |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Technical Assistance | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 300 | 315 | 331 |
| Projects Opened | 180 | 144 | 163 | 122 | 134 | 148 | 162 |
| Accepted and Enrolled | 109 | 136 | 136 | 103 | 113 | 125 | 137 |

Note 1: Technical Assistance represents resource and solution connections made to support customers and partners. Technical Assistance frequently is independent of specific project activity or incentives support. This is a new measure.

Note 2: Projects Opened represents business growth and retention opportunities with a defined scope and timeline.

Note 3: Accepted and Enrolled includes businesses that have accepted a proposal or enrolled in a program. These may include projects that were opened in a prior fiscal year.

Note 4: FY2020-2022 Projected for Projects Opened and Accepted and Enrolled is based on ten percent growth of the previous year.

- Activities correlate with description in 1b
- Provides appropriate footnotes

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

| | FY2017 Actual | FY2018 Actual | FY2019 Actual | FY2020 Projected | FY2021 Projected | FY2022 Projected |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Customer Service Experience | N/A | N/A | 90% | 92% | 94% | |

Note 1: Percentage of customers who rated their experience as "very" or "somewhat" positive.

Note 2: Survey incorporated new methodology for FY2019. Data includes 42 respondents.

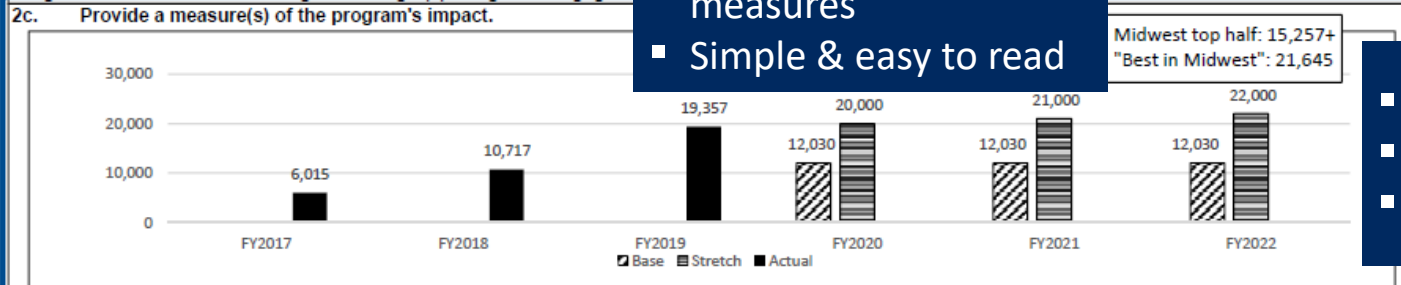
- Appropriate Quality measure
- What % completed the survey?
- Are there additional measures to demonstrate Quality?





DED – Regional Engagement

- Appropriate Impact measures
- Simple & easy to read



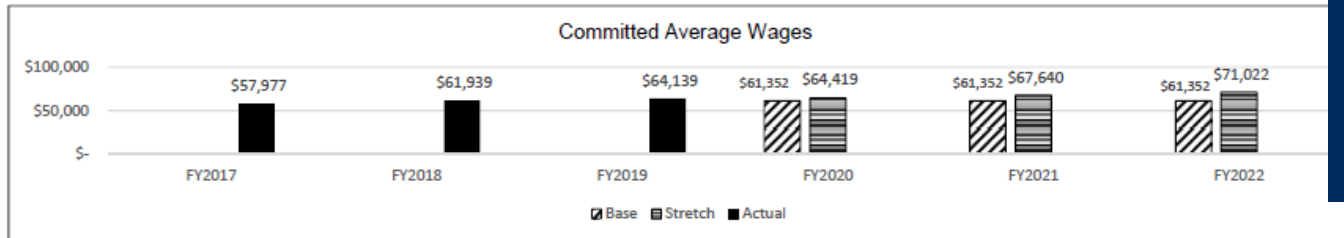
Note 1: Committed Jobs represents those jobs to be created or retained in growth opportunities facilitated.

Note 2: FY2020 base is an average of FY2017-2019 actuals and remains consistent.

Note 3: Benchmarks based on research compiled by DED in FY2019 and represent the portion of jobs coming from existing Missouri businesses.

Note 4: New and retained job commitments vary significantly with industry and economic conditions. FY2019 committed jobs includes significant retention commitments. FY2020-2022 projections adjust for these one time commitments and plan for future growth.

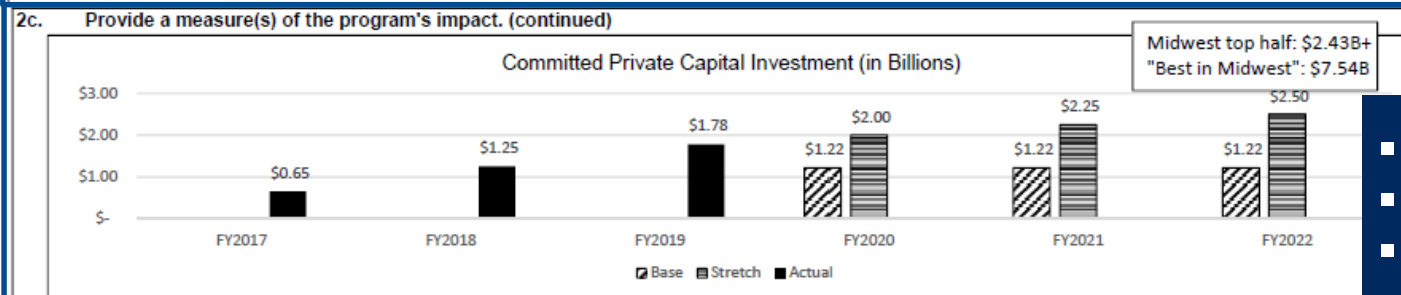
- Base target ✓
- Stretch target ✓
- Benchmark is unclear



Note 1: Committed Average Wages represents wage thresholds for created or retained jobs at the time of proposal acceptance or program enrollment.

Note 2: FY2020 base is an average of FY2017-2019 actuals and remains consistent. Stretch goals for payroll assumes a 5% increase annually.

- Base target ✓
- Stretch target ✓
- Benchmark - none



Note 1: Committed Private Capital Investment represents planned expenditures at the time of proposal acceptance or program enrollment.

Note 2: FY2020 base is an average of FY2017-2019 actuals and remains consistent. Stretch targets advance Missouri into the Midwest's top half by FY2022.

Note 3: Benchmarks based on research compiled by DED in FY2019 and represent the portion of investment coming from existing Missouri businesses.

- Base target ✓
- Stretch target ✓
- Benchmark is unclear



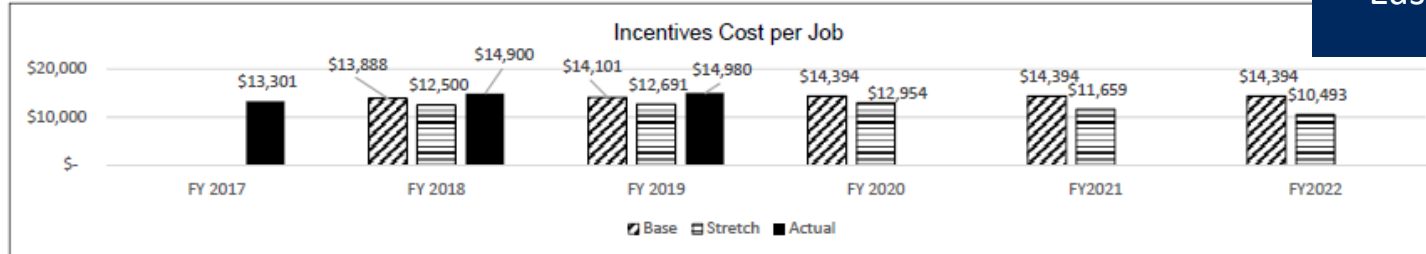


DED – Regional Engagement

- Appropriate Efficiency measure
- Simple & easy to read

- Base target ✓
- Stretch target ✓
- Benchmark - none
- Easy to read graphics

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



Note 1: This is a shared measure with Business and Community Solutions Finance team. Measure is calculated by dividing proposed economic incentives by the committed number of jobs to be created or retained.

Note 2: Base targets for FY2020-2022 are based on the averages of FY2017-2019 actuals. Stretch targets assume a 10% decrease in the state's incentives cost per job.





FY21 Honorable Mention 2:

DOR – Collections and Tax Assistance

Department of Revenue
 Program Name: Collections and Tax Assistance
 Program is found in the following core budget(s): Taxation

HB Section(s): 4.01

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

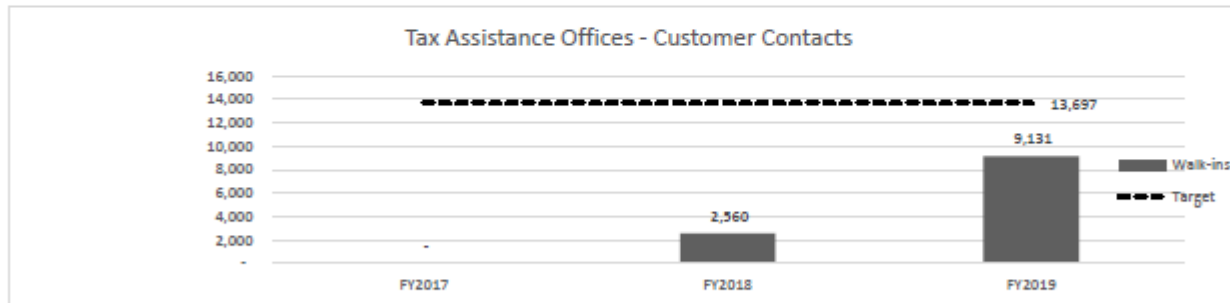
Embed Transformational Purpose; Focus on Service Culture; Partnerships; IT Roadmap

Matches Dept's strategic priority

1b. What does this program do?

The Collections and Tax Assistance Bureau issues tax clearances and no tax dues to taxpayers, operates a call center, provides remote field office customer assistance, and collects delinquent tax liabilities to help citizens meet their tax obligations by focusing on customer oriented account resolution. Collection activities include account management, lien filing, garnishments, and working with collection agencies and prosecuting attorneys to collect delinquent taxes.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



Office Locations/Opening Date

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Jefferson City | December 1, 2017 | Springfield | May 7, 2018 |
| St. Louis | March 7, 2018 | Kansas City | May 7, 2018 |
| Joplin | March 7, 2018 | Cape Girardeau | June 17, 2019 |

- Clear and concise program description
- Leads to the very appropriate measures that follow

- Good indication of Activity
- Simple
- Easy to read graphics
- Base target ✓
- Benchmarks – N/A

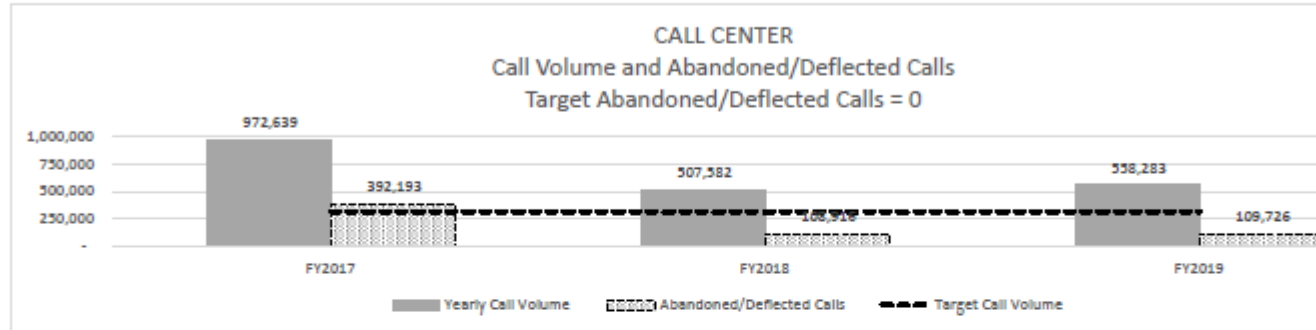




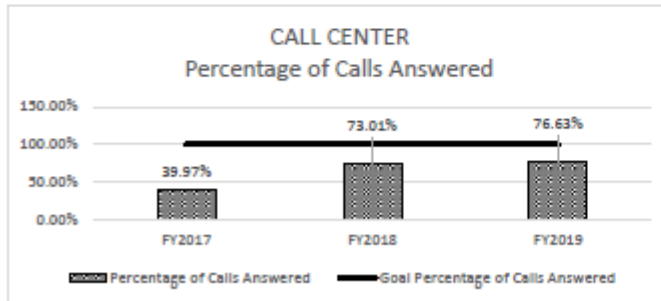
DOR – Collections and Tax Assistance

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

The Department is currently testing a call center customer survey application. Survey results will be reported in the Governor's recommended budget.

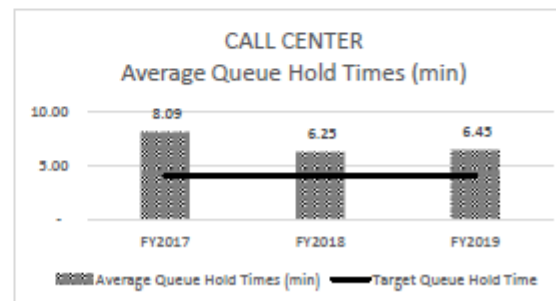


Comment: Due to system modernization, we experienced an influx of calls during income tax refund season and we increased business tax notices volumes. We also added business registration calls to the call center.



Goal: Ensure 100%

- Base target ✓ 100%



- Base target ✓
- Stretch target - none
- Benchmark would be helpful to know what good looks like

- Targets ✓
- The targets are a bit confusing. The important target for abandoned calls is in the title, not on the graph

- Good and relevant indicators of Quality
- Simple
- Easy to read graphics





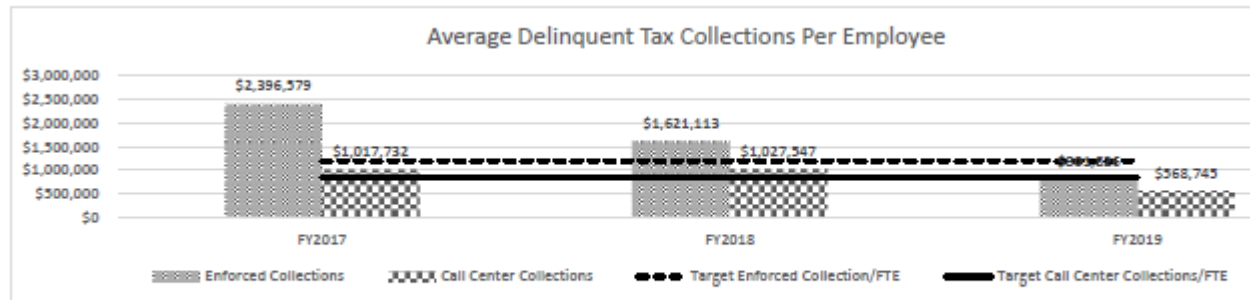
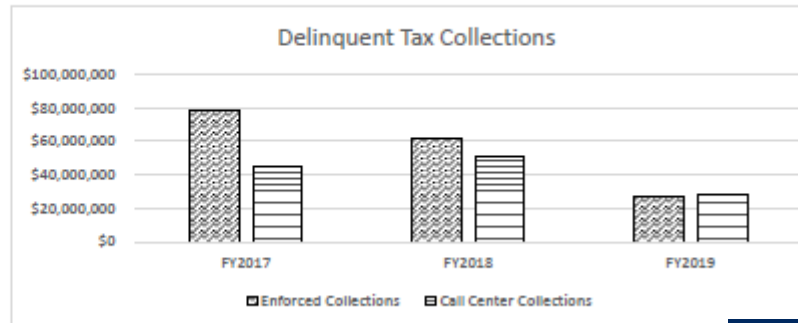
DOR – Collections and Tax Assistance

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

Enforced Collections include filing liens, revocation of licenses, garnishments, and offers in compromise

FY2019 collections do not include lien specific collections

Call Center Collections include resolutions from incoming and outgoing phone calls. Call center personnel were cross-educated to handle non-delinquent calls to improve customer service.



Integrated system focus on current year returns and refunds reduced billing and enforced collection noticing.

- Targets ✓
- Stretch target - none
- Benchmarks – none
- Perhaps a footnote could explain why collections/FTE are projected to decrease

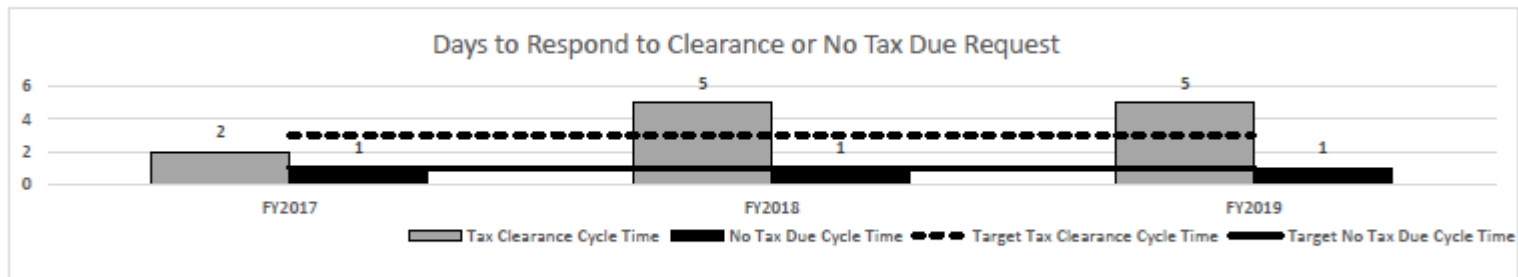




DOR – Collections and Tax Assistance

- Good and relevant indicator of Efficiency
- Simple
- Easy to read graphics

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



Tax Clearances require a more extensive review than a No Tax Due.

- Targets ✓
- Stretch target - none
- Benchmarks – none



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Questions for OA Budget and Planning:
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