

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.220

Vocational Rehabilitation

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

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Success Ready Students and Workforce Development

1b. What does this program do?

A strong Missouri workforce is one inclusive of people with disabilities who want to work and can work. The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program provides access to the services and supports for individuals with disabilities to be successful in their job goals.

- **Competitive Integrated Employment:** VR assists individuals with physical and/or mental disabilities achieve competitive integrated employment.
 - Helps individuals with disabilities to maximize their employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence, and community integration by providing individualized guidance and counseling, and vocational rehabilitation services. Vocational rehabilitation services can include training, medical diagnosis, physical restoration, placement services, assistive technology, or other services as needed.
 - Provides hope, inspiration, and pathways to individuals whose disabilities are a substantial barrier to employment so they may prepare for, secure, retain, advance in, or regain employment.
- **High School Transition Services:** VR assists high school students with disabilities transition from school to the workforce.
 - Provides pre-employment transition services for students in: 1) Job exploration counseling, 2) Work based learning experiences, 3) Counseling for postsecondary education, 4) Work place readiness training, and 5) Instruction in self advocacy.
 - Provides summer work experiences for students with disabilities by coordinating with community rehabilitation providers (CRP) and businesses.
- **Services to Missouri Employers:** VR works to help educate businesses about accessibility and develops workplace opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
 - Assists businesses in meeting their workforce needs and establishing a more diverse workplace culture.
 - VR provides the following services to Missouri Employers: Employer Information and Support Services, Workforce Recruitment Assistance, Support in Strategic Planning and Economic Development, Access to Untapped Labor Pools and Training Services.

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

Number of Individuals Served:	FY2020		FY2021		FY2022		FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of Clients Served	28,000	24,434	28,000	21,228	23,000	21,815	23,000	24,000	25,000
Number of Potentially Eligible Students Served	5,100	5,817	5,200	7,201	8,000	9,683	9,700	9,700	9,700
Total Number Served	33,100	30,251	33,200	28,429	31,000	31,498	32,700	33,700	34,700

Source: VR Case Management System

Services to Missouri Employers:	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of Missouri Employers Served	NA	3,064	3,180	3,500	3,800	4,000
Number of Services to Employers	NA	15,726	16,767	17,500	19,000	20,000

VR Services to Employers include, but are not limited to, outreach to individuals with disabilities, providing information on workforce investment incentives and labor market conditions, providing referrals to community resources to support workforce needs, supporting employers' search for qualified candidates, conducting recruitment efforts, participating in job fairs, partnering in collaborative efforts to identify workforce challenges and developing strategies to address those challenges, and training services including customized training and on-the-job training.

Note: Data for FY 2020 not available.

Source: VR Case Management System

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

2022 Customer Satisfaction Survey Results

98% of clients indicated they were treated with courtesy and respect.

96% of clients indicated VR staff were available and ready to assist.

95% of clients had VR counselors explain choices to them.

94% of clients had VR counselors help plan appropriate service for them.

Source: VR Agency consumer satisfaction surveys.

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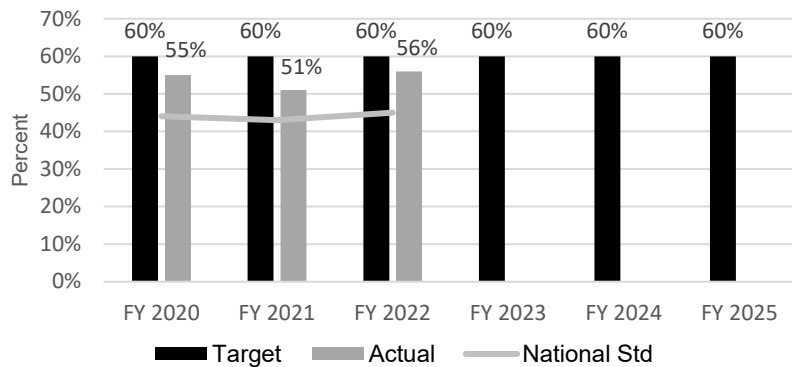
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2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

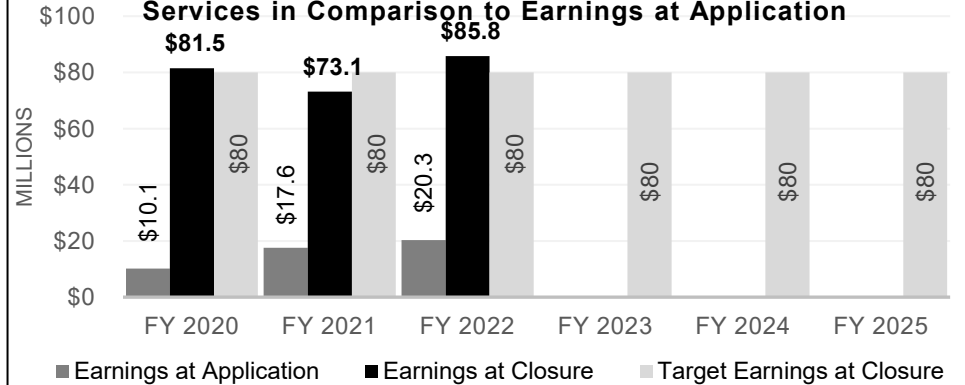
Clients Achieving Employment After Services



Missouri VR is exceeding the national average of successful employment outcomes. The national average for FY 20, FY 21, and FY 22 was 43.8%, 43.1%, and 44.5% respectively.

Source: VR Case Management System

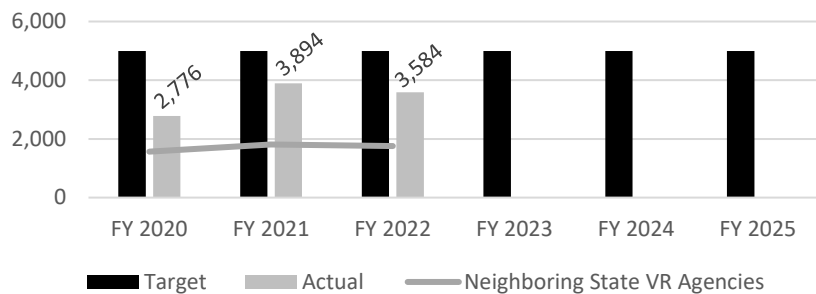
Annual Earnings By All Participants Who Exited VR Services in Comparison to Earnings at Application



Note: Annual earnings is calculated by reported earnings multiplied the number of hours worked per week multiplied by 50.5 average working weeks within a year.

Source: VR Case Management System

Measureable Skills Gains Achieved by VR Consumers



Measureable Skills Gains are when a VR Client achieved documented academic, technical, occupational or other progress towards a credential or employment in the year. These skills gains can include Successful Completion of Secondary or Postsecondary Grade Level, On-The-Job Training Program, one year of Registered Apprenticeship Program, Employer Provided Training Program Milestone, Technical or Occupational Exam, and Secondary or Postsecondary diploma or certificate.

Note: Neighboring states include Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa. Neighboring states Skills Gains average per state for FY 20, FY 21, and FY 22 was 1,566, 1,810, and 1,753 respectively.

Source: Rehabilitation Services Administration Case Service Report 911.

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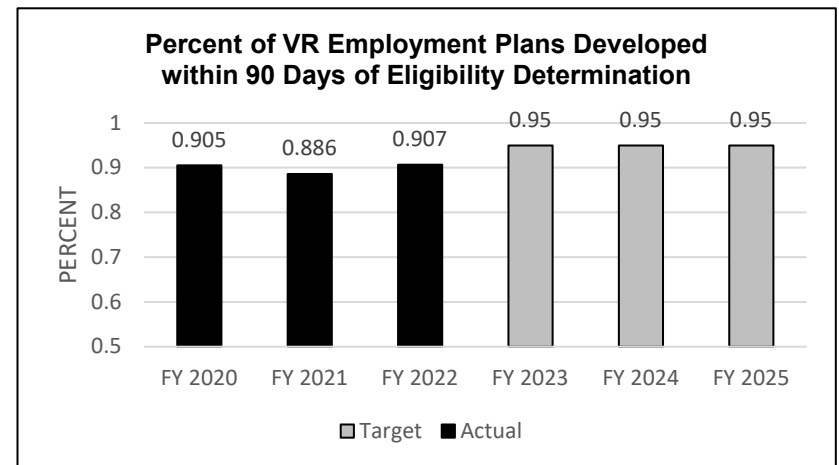
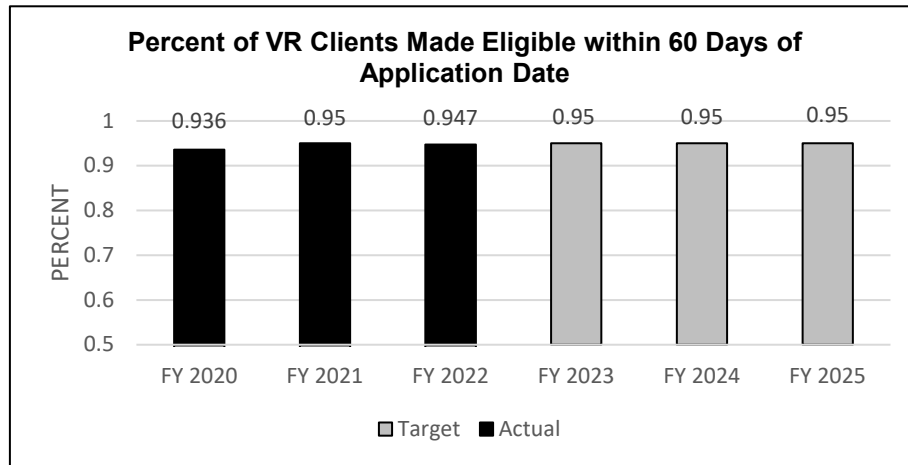
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2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

Missouri VR is committed to processing applications for VR services and making eligibility determinations in a timely and efficient manner. When eligible, Missouri VR is committed to starting services and working with clients to create job goals and employment plans in a timely and productive manner to most successfully support Missourians with disabilities with obtaining and retaining employment.



Source: Rehabilitation Services Administration Case Service Report 911

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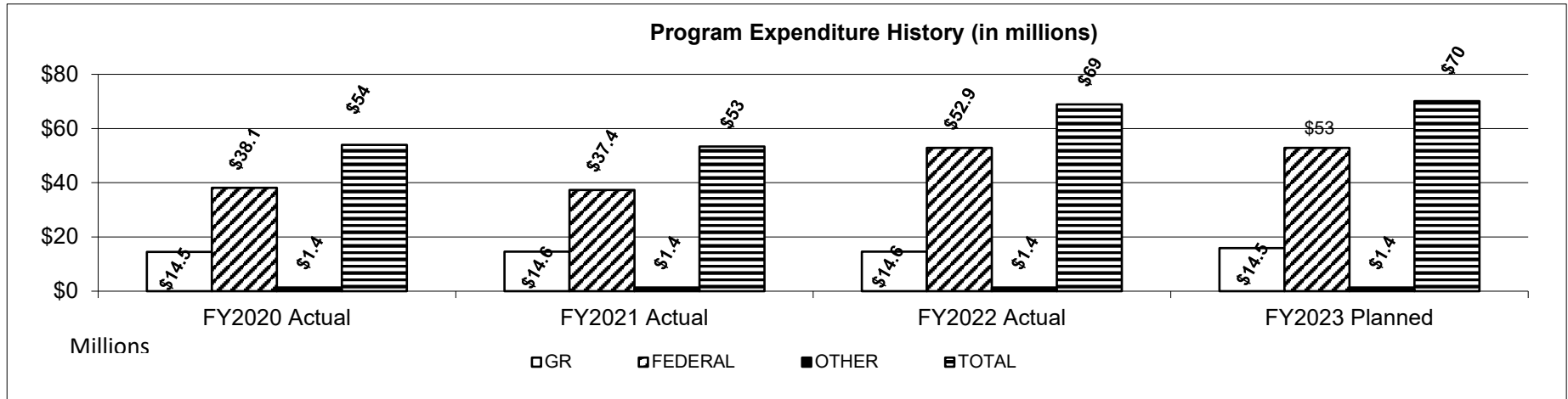
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year.



4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

Fund 291- Lottery Funds (0291)

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

The statutory authority for the Vocational Rehabilitation program is from the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 701-744) and Section 178.590, RSMo.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

The match rate for this program is 78.7% federal and 21.3% state sources.

There are Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements related to the VR Federal Grant. Maintenance of Effort requires the state to appropriate and expend the same amount of state funds for the State VR Program as it did two years prior. The threshold must be maintained or the state will forfeit federal funding for each year the state does not meet the prior year threshold.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

Yes, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, establishes the requirement for a designated state unit to carry out the provision of the Act.