

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

HB Section(s): 7.880

Program Name: Unemployment Insurance Programs (Benefits)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Employment Security Administration

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Growth: Foster a business environment to support economic development.
 Pay unemployment benefits to eligible claimants allowing them to maintain economic security while they seek employment.

1b. What does this program do?

- Processes Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims which provide temporary financial assistance for eligible workers allowing them to maintain financial security during economic changes and natural disasters.
- Audits claims for potential fraud to preserve the integrity of the UI program.
- Establishes and collects overpaid UI benefits to help maintain the solvency of the UI Trust Fund.
- Reviews, identifies, and resolves issues to determine eligibility, verify information, and prevent fraud.

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

	FY2018		FY2019		FY2020		FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Projected	Projected
Total unemployment insurance (UI) benefits paid ^{1,4}	\$280M	\$286M	\$280M	\$248M	\$250M	\$867M	\$900M	\$300M	\$280M
Initial, renewed & reopened claims filed ^{1,2,4}	250,000	217,332	210,000	183,823	190,000	828,289	300,000	200,000	200,000
Individuals receiving regular UI benefits ^{3,4}	95,000	89,586	90,000	73,347	75,000	328,758	200,000	90,000	90,000
Fraud overpayments assessed against individuals ⁵	7,000	7,023	7,000	5,872	6,000	4,113	15,000	12,000	12,000
Amount of fraud overpayments recovered ⁶	\$8.0M	\$5.83M	\$6.5M	\$4.93M	\$5.0M	\$5.98M	\$8.0M	\$10.0M	\$10.0M

¹ Projected figures for the number of initial, renewed and reopened claims filed are based upon the most recent USDOL UI Data Summary Publication.

² Actual figures are from the USDOL UI Data Summary Publication, which includes only state Regular UI claims.

³ Projected figures represent Regular UI only and are based on the most recent information available in the USDOL UI Data Summary Publication.

⁴ The increase in claims filed and benefits paid is attributed to the unprecedented number of unemployment claims received as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

⁵ The increase in the projections for FYs 2022 and 2023 fraud overpayments assessed is attributed to the unprecedented number of unemployment claims received as a result of COVID-19 pandemic.

⁶ The increase in the projections for FYs 2022 and 2023 fraud overpayments recovered is attributed to the Treasury Offset Program (TOP). Fraud overpayments have to be at least a year old in order to be certified for TOP.

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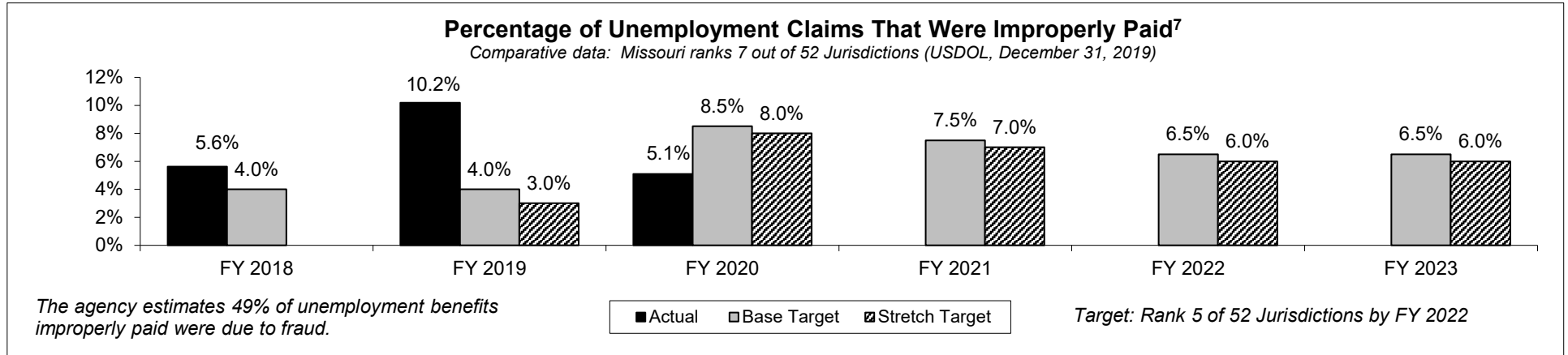
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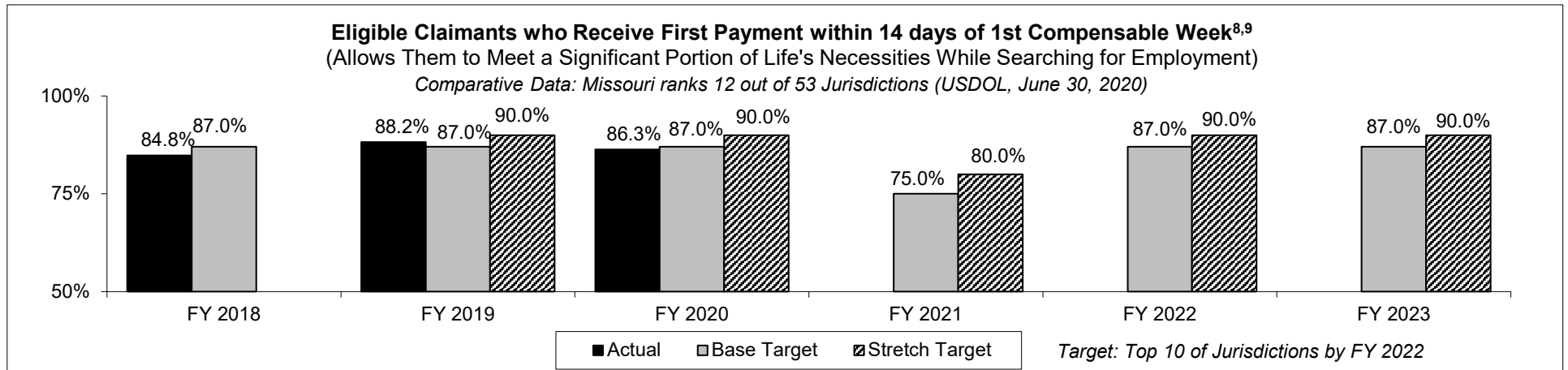
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2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



⁷ The increase in the percentage of Unemployment Claims that were improperly paid can be attributed to the historic lows in unemployment. As the overall number of unemployment claims declines and the number of improperly paid claims generally remains unchanged, it results in an increase in the percentage of improperly paid claims. The Division continues efforts to educate claimants on unemployment eligibility requirements and to make IT system changes that will reduce the number of improperly paid claims.

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



⁸ The Division attempts to make timely payments and determinations while striving to hold the number of improper payments to a minimum. However, payments can sometimes be delayed since there may be barriers to collecting information needed to make proper determinations.

⁹ The increase in unemployment claims received as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a decrease in the percentage of claimants receiving payments within 14 days of the first compensable week.

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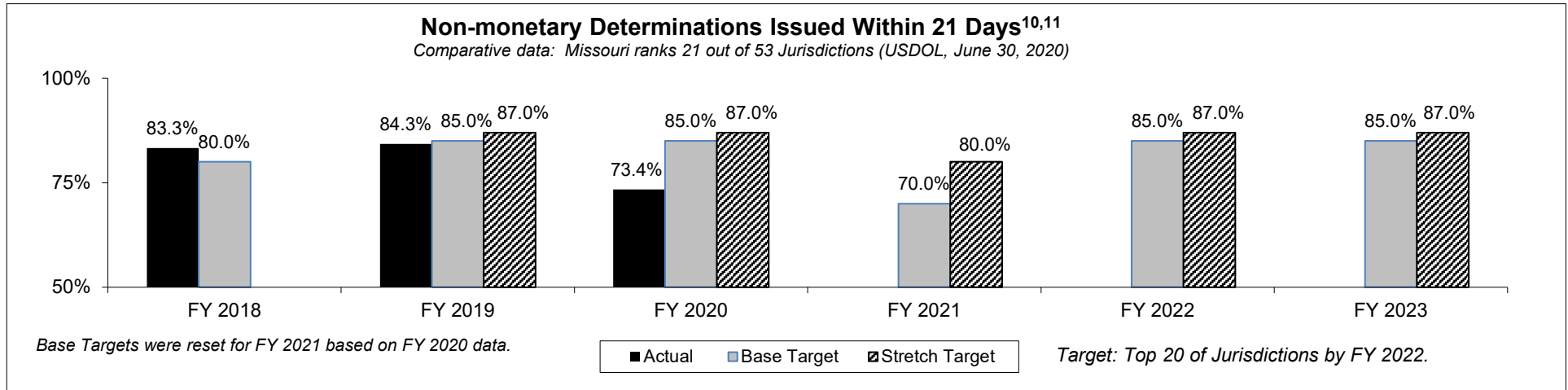
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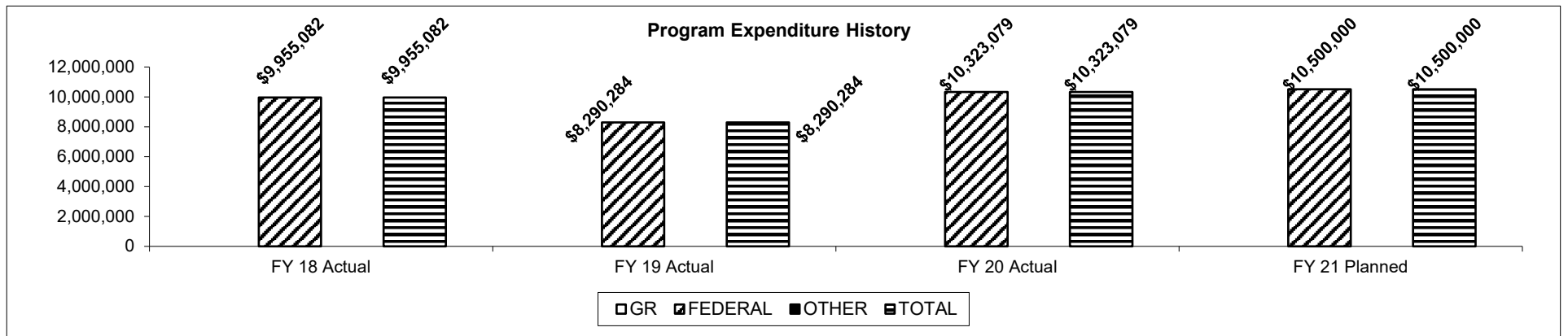
2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



¹⁰ The division attempts to make timely payments and determinations while striving to hold the number of improper payments to a minimum. However, payments can sometimes be delayed since there may be barriers to collecting information needed to make proper determinations.

¹¹ The increase in unemployment claims received as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a decrease in the percentage of non-monetary determinations issued within 21 days.

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



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

N/A.

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

Title III of the Social Security Act and Chapter 288, RSMo.

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

No.

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

Yes. This program is mandated under Title III of the Social Security Act and chapter 288, RSMo., and is 100% federally funded.