

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Public Safety / Fire Safety

HB Section(s): 8.165

Program Name: **Blasting Safety & Explosives Enforcement Program**

Program is found in the following core budget(s): **Fire Safety Core**

### 1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Public safety from injury from explosives.

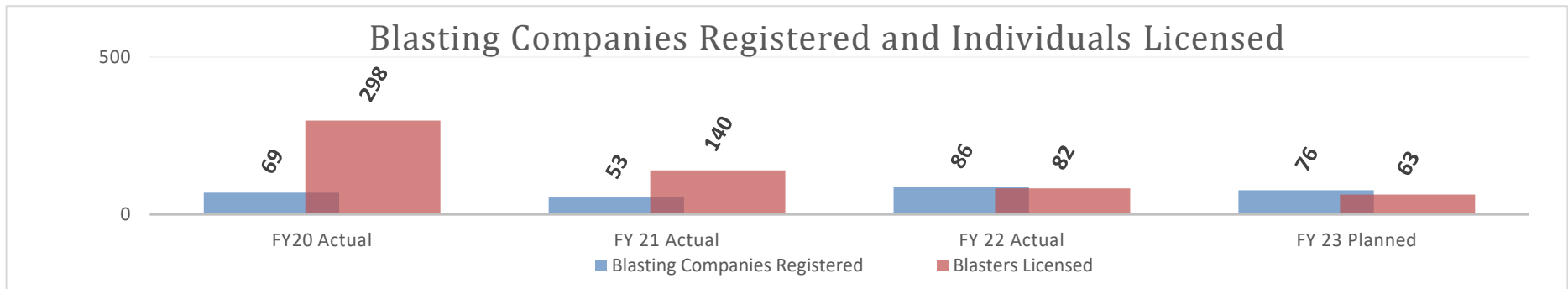
### 1b. What does this program do?

In 2007, the Blasting Safety Act was implemented regulating the training, testing, and licensing of individuals who conduct blasting and setting regulations for how blasting is conducted in our State.

The seven-member State Blasting Safety Board, appointed by the Governor, has the duty to advise the State Fire Marshal in the administration of the program. The Missouri Explosives Safety Act Administration Fund (0804) is appropriated to the Division and expended for the administration and enforcement of the program.

Explosives users (companies) are to register with the Division of Fire Safety, and file an annual report of the number of tons of explosives purchased and used. Fees are based on the amount of tons of explosives used. Blasting companies began registering with the Division of Fire Safety in the fall of 2007, and began submitting reports and paying fees for explosives used in January of 2008. The economic downturn in 2009-2011 impacted the blasting industry, resulting in lower than anticipated program revenues. In the 2018 session, the General Assembly passed HB1286, allowing for an increase in fees and thereby securing the future of the program. Revised rules and corresponding fees became effective in 2020.

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



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

The Blasting Safety and Explosives Enforcement Program helps to ensure the safety of the public living or working near blasting sites.

The Blast Safety Investigators are trained to investigate blasting complaints from citizens.

Licensed Blasters must meet RSMo 319.303 of the Missouri Blast Safety Act, including rules adopted by the board, the code of federal regulations, and blasting industry best practices. Blasters re-license every 3 years.

Upon request of Division staff, blasting companies must show verification that explosives used are within allowable limits.

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

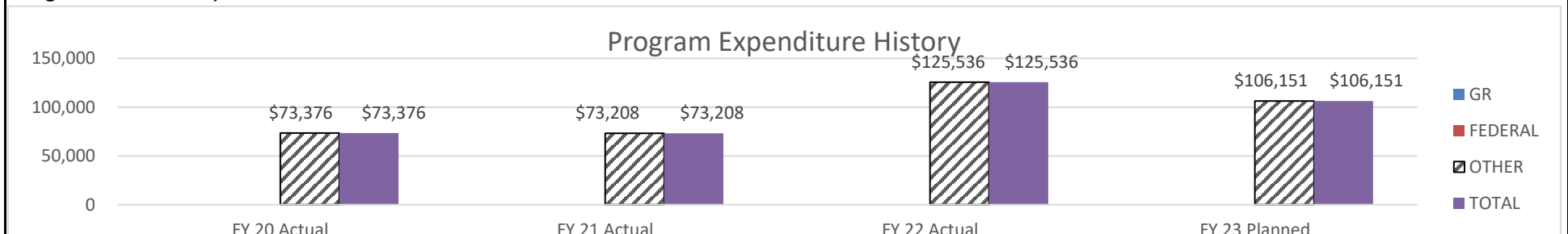
The licensing of blasting companies and individual users of explosives assure the safety of the public. More than 300,000 tons of explosives have been used since this program was implemented in 2008. The staff has responded to and investigated nearly 550 citizen complaints since the implementation of the program. Division of Fire Safety staff work closely with the blasting industry to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations.

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

The Division of Fire Safety staff registers 100% of all blasting companies in the State of Missouri.

In FY21, the Division reclassified a clerical position to a field Blast-Safety Investigator in order to better serve this program. In order to effectively and efficiently address blasting complaints from around the state in a more timely manner, the Division has also cross-trained field Fire Investigators.

### 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?**

Missouri Explosives Safety Act Administration Fund (0804)

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

RSMo 319.300

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

No

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

No