

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Public Safety

HB Section(s): 8.120

Program Name: Crime Laboratory

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

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Improve operational effectiveness

1b. What does this program do?

- The Crime Laboratory Division provides forensic science support to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as well as to other law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Missouri by analyzing evidence recovered through criminal investigations.
- The Crime Laboratory Division is responsible for the Offender DNA Profiling program in Missouri and serves as the State Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) Administrator.
- The services the laboratory provides are as follows:
 - Drug Chemistry - conducts analyses of evidence confiscated during investigations involving dangerous drugs and clandestine labs.
 - Toxicology - analyzes blood, urine, and other biological fluids for alcohol and drugs. The Toxicology section performs analyses for a variety of investigation types, including driving while intoxicated (DWI) cases.
 - DNA Casework/DNA Screening - works criminal cases involving homicide and sexual assault, as well as other types of crimes. The section locates and identifies biological fluids and obtains DNA profiles from crime scene evidence.
 - CODIS - develops DNA profiles of convicted offenders, arrestees, registered sex offenders, and other samples required by law and uploads the profiles to the CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) database where they are searched against crime scene DNA profiles.
 - Firearms/Tool mark - receives and examines evidence related to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, expended ammunition components as well as tool marks, footwear and tire tread impressions.
 - Latent Prints - locates, examines and compares friction ridge impressions that are imparted on items left at crime scenes. Latent prints are entered into AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) and searched against a database of individuals.

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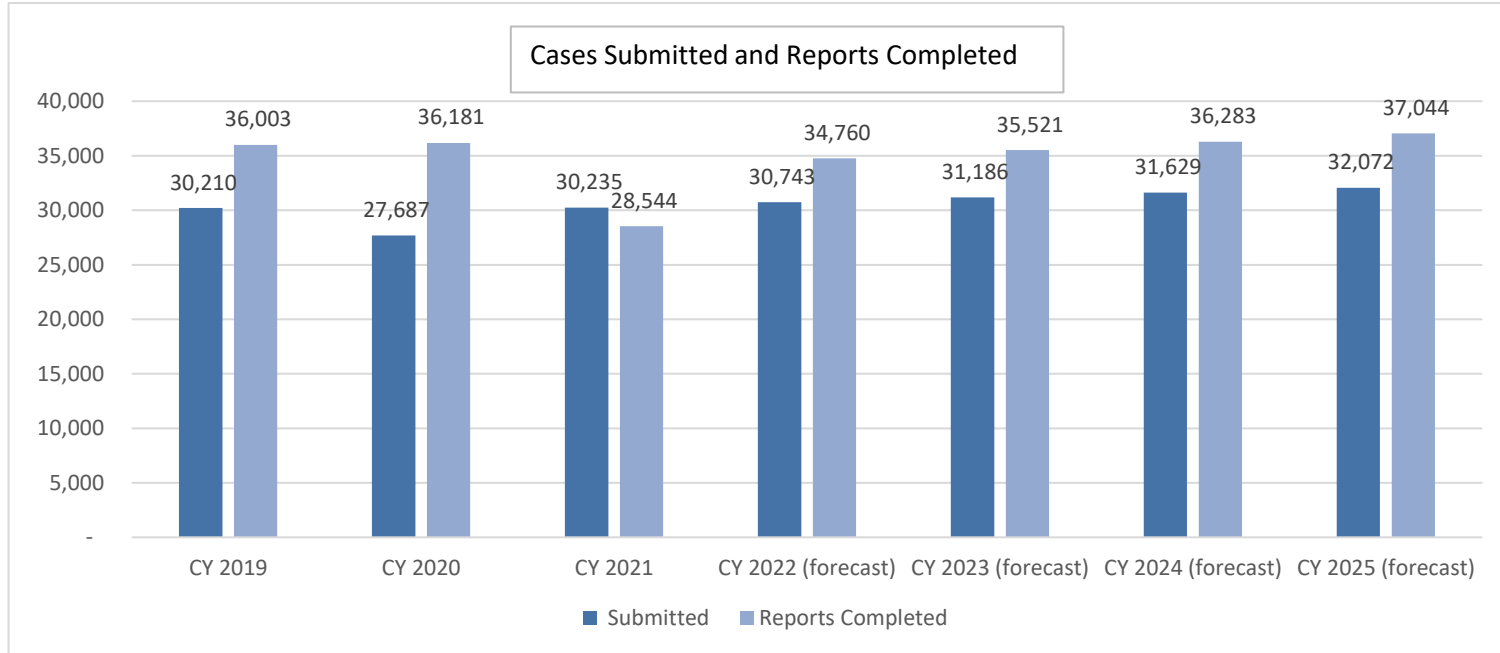
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2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program



- The Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory receives an average of 29,078 forensic cases per year (calculated over 10 years). A criminal case, in common law jurisdictions, begins when a crime is committed. Any evidence of the perpetration of a crime, or linking of individuals to the crime, can be submitted to the crime lab as a case.
- The chart above demonstrates that the Patrol is completing more reports per year than it is receiving, this is primarily due to multiple reports being issued in many cases rather than a linear correlation of cases submitted to cases completed. Despite what is demonstrated above, backlogs and longer than average turnaround times still exist.

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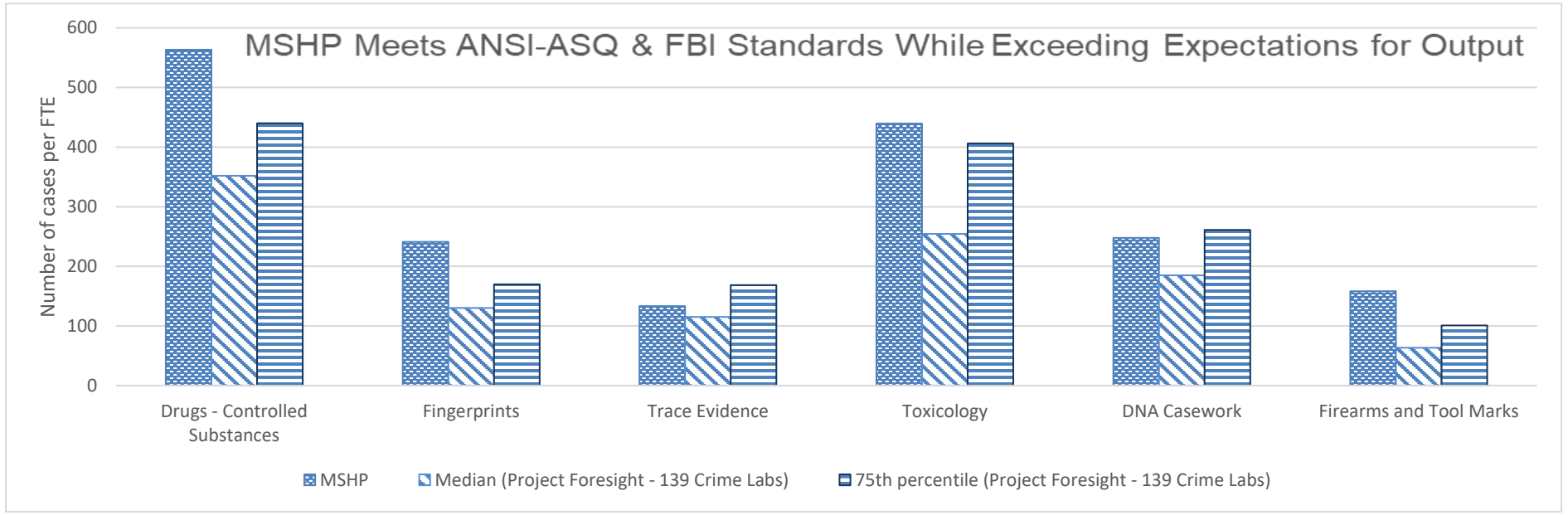
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2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality



- The Crime Laboratory Division is internationally accredited by the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB). Every year the laboratory is required to remain in compliance with not only the ANAB, but also the FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories and Data basing Laboratories. In 2021, the MSHP Crime Laboratory was in compliance with over 500 internationally recognized standards and regulations and remains above or near the 75th percentile in case output when compared to an external benchmark, 139 Crime Laboratories in the United States (Project FORESIGHT Annual Report, 2020-2021, the most recent annual report). The stretch goal for CY23-CY25 is to meet or exceed this output.

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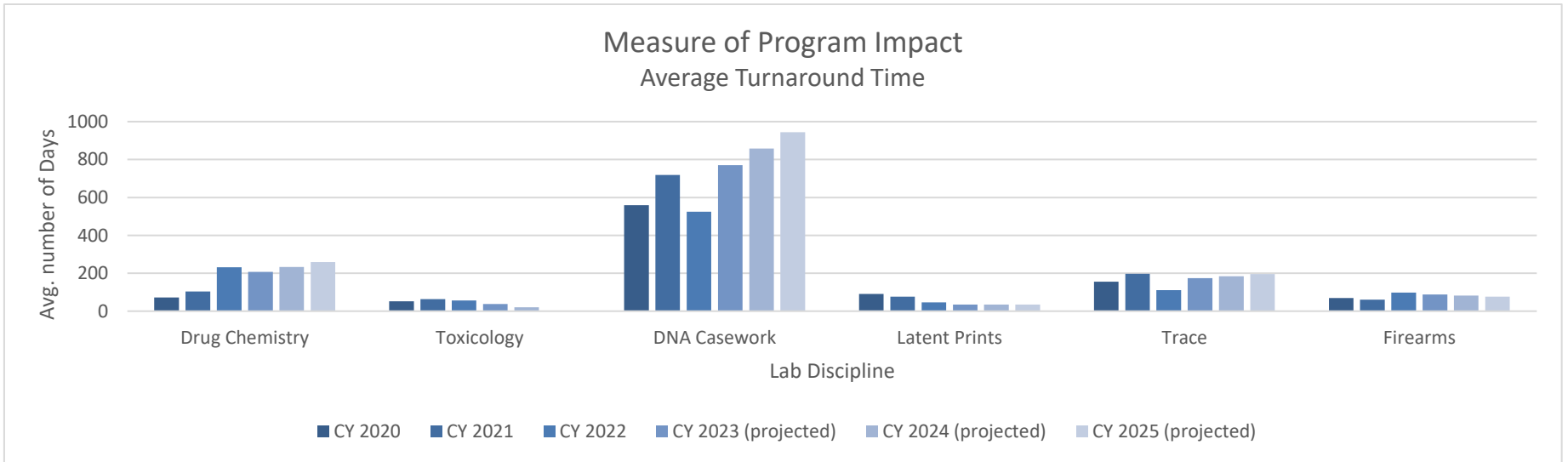
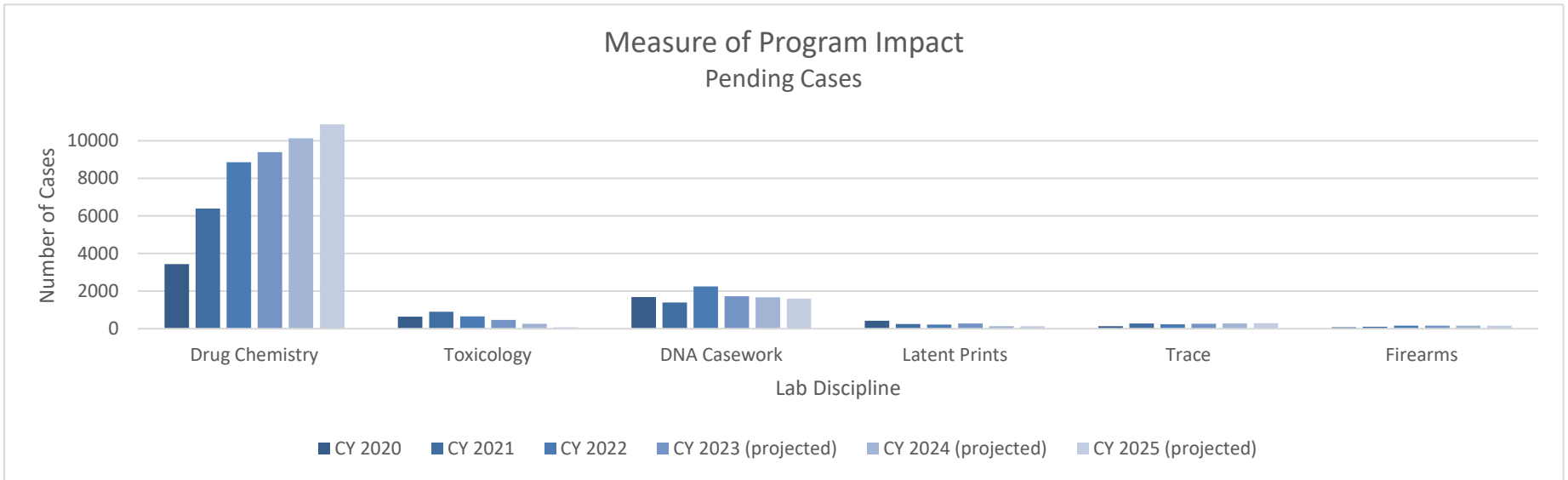
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2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



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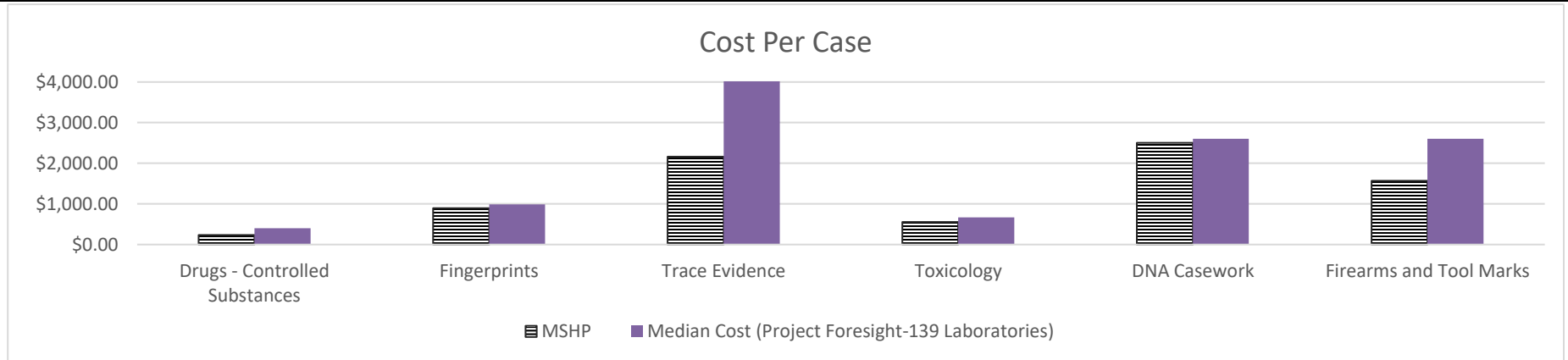
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The program exists to perform timely forensic science services for the Criminal Justice system; however, the program has had backlogs and lengthy turnaround times in some laboratory disciplines. Looking at a stretch to 2025, it appears as though this trend will continue or in some instances plateau. The submission of sexual assault cases have negatively impacted DNA. Adding programs in DNA such as outsourcing of sexual assault kits (SAK) and Rapid DNA, have increased backlogs and turnaround times. Turnover of personnel continues to negatively impact backlog and turnaround time in both DNA and Drug Chemistry.

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



- By comparing the costs of analyses at the MSHP Crime Laboratory to that of the Project Foresight data (Project FORESIGHT Annual Report, 2020-2021) the Patrol demonstrates that it is efficiently using its resources as the costs are at, or below, the median cost of 139 surveyed crime laboratories in all disciplines. The Patrol is meeting expectations and has demonstrated responsible resource management. The Stretch goal for CY23-CY25 is to keep costs down and continue fiscal responsibility.

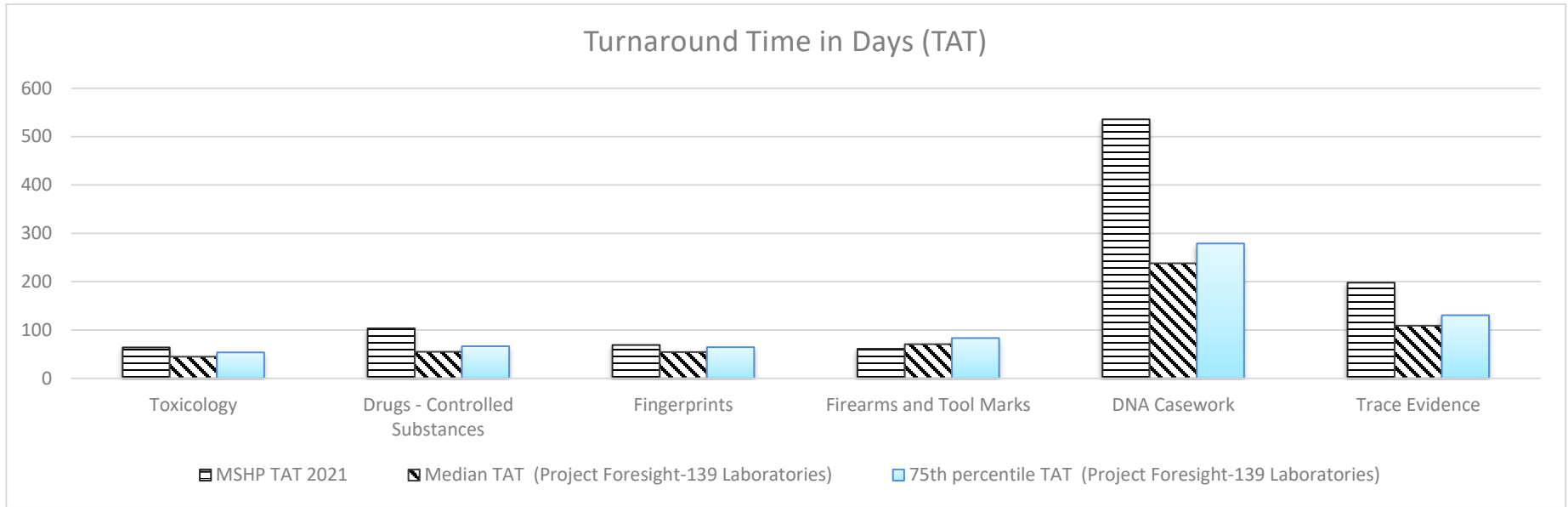
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Despite high output per FTE as demonstrated above in chart 2b, case turnaround time, in most disciplines, is high when compared to Project Foresight. These data illustrate saturation of the Patrol's labor capacity and perhaps a need to increase FTE, particularly in DNA. The Stretch goal for CY23-CY25 is to reduce turnaround time particularly in DNA to be more closely correlated with other labs in the country.

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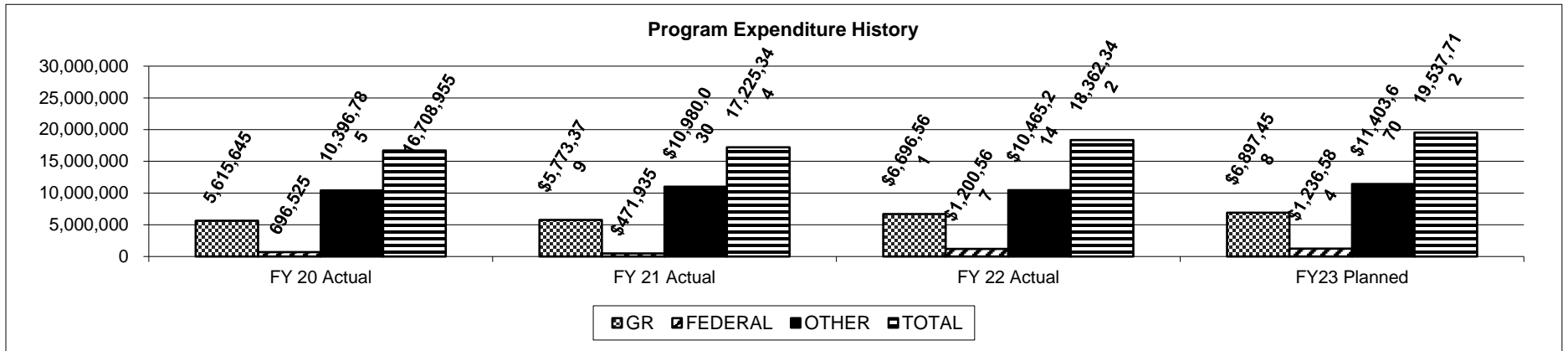
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



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

Forensic Lab (0591), Hwy (0644), Crim Rec Sys (0671), OASDHI (0702), DNA Profiling (0772), Budget Stabilization Fund (0522)

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

The Crime Laboratory Division provides support to the Patrol in fulfilling its responsibilities outlined in RSMo., Chapter 43.025 and 43.380. In addition, RSMo., Chapter 650.050-650.100 establishes a felon and sexual offender DNA Profiling program within the Highway Patrol. The Crime Laboratory is designated the State Repository for the DNA samples and the corresponding CODIS database.

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

No

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

No