

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: **Public Safety**

HB Section(s): **8.100**

Program Name: **Highway Patrol Gaming Division**

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

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

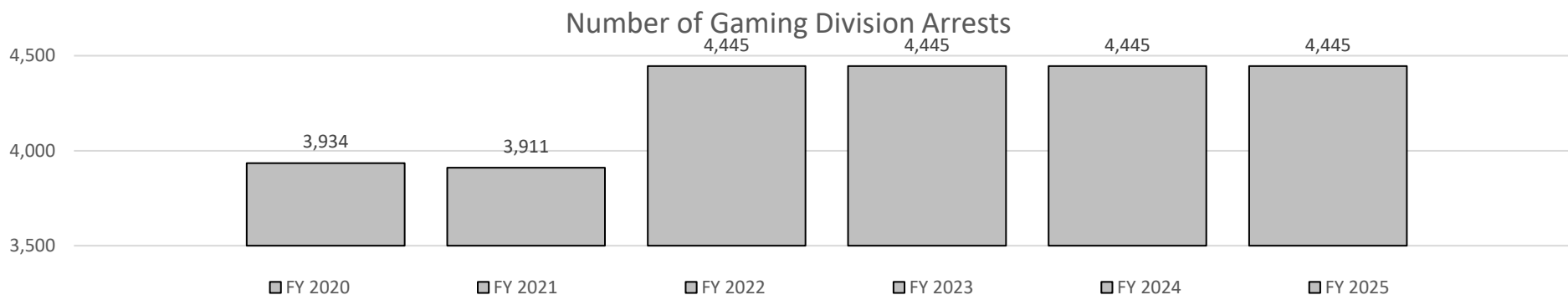
Improve operational effectiveness

1b. What does this program do?

The Gaming Division regulates the gaming industry by enforcing statutes, regulations, and internal controls. The division provides background investigations to determine suitability for gaming licenses for charitable gaming and for the casino gaming industry. The division also ensures public safety by providing police services at gaming facilities. Police services include the investigation of patron complaints, enforcement of state laws and regulations, and making arrests. Criminal investigation by the Gaming Division have resulted in arrests for offenses such as identity theft, counterfeiting, fraud, cheating at gambling games, and stealing by both patrons and casino employees.

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

There are 13 licensed casinos, 23 licensed gaming equipment suppliers, and 182 charitable gaming license holders. During fiscal year 2022, Gaming Division Troopers made a total of 4,445 arrests. As a result of those arrests, 678 containers of criminal evidence were added to the property control section. For fiscal year 2022, Gaming Division Troopers conducted 1,696 regulatory investigations, which resulted in 1,946 regulatory actions taken. During fiscal year 2022, the Investigative Unit provided oversight to the 182 licensed charitable gaming operations. Arrests during future years are difficult to estimate, given uncertainties surrounding crime trends and potential shortages of enforcement personnel.



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

Although no official awards or recognition exist for the Patrol's type of work, the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Gaming Division is routinely recognized as the leader in all categories of activity by its peers at annual conferences and other functions. These categories include criminal and regulatory work, background investigations, and intelligence gathering/dissemination.

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

Since its inception, the Highway Patrol's Gaming Division has been tasked with providing for the safety and security of the state's riverboat gaming operations, as well as ensuring the integrity of the industry is not compromised through strict enforcement of the regulations and thorough investigations of the licensees. To date, no known infiltration of gaming licenses by criminal organizations have occurred. Multiple instances of first responder intervention by the Gaming Division Troopers are documented yearly, most recently with multiple life saving techniques being applied to victims of opioid overdoses.

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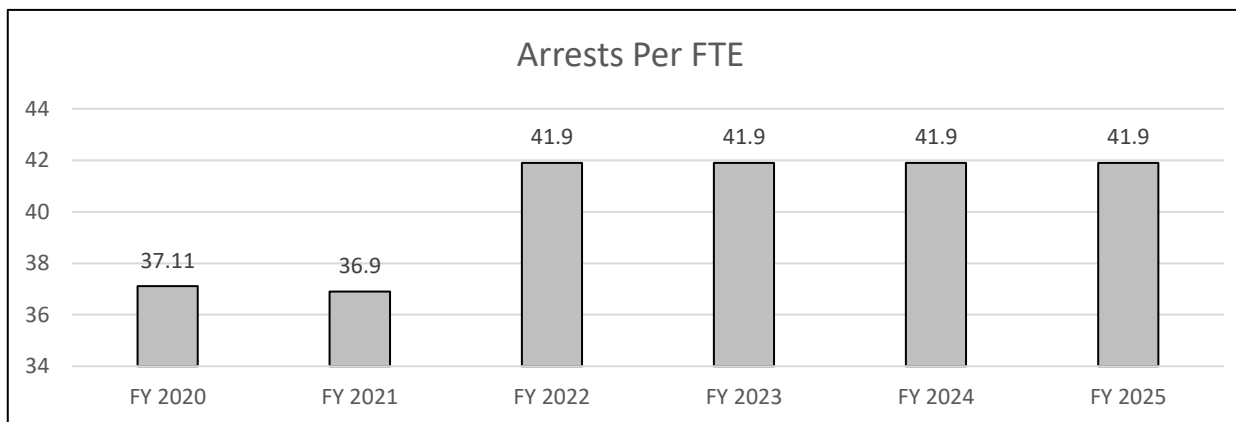
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2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

With the amount of work being produced within the Highway Patrol's Gaming Division with a smaller workforce compared with historical manpower, it is highly efficient. There are 122 FTE enforcement positions in the Gaming Division, of which 106 are filled. These officers made an average of 41.9 criminal arrests, and averaged 16 regulatory investigations for FY22. Future years are difficult to estimate, given uncertainties surrounding crime trends and potential shortages of enforcement personnel.



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.)

See Missouri Gaming Commission Program Description for Gaming Expenditures

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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.)

Section 314.824 RSMo. directs the Missouri Gaming Commission to provide such staff as necessary to protect the public on any gambling excursion boat.
Section 313.004 (9) RSMo. permits the Missouri Gaming Commission to enter into agreements with other state agencies to carry out the duties of the Commission.

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

No

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

No