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Washington State Patrol

# Annual Report



WASHINGTON STATE PATROL  
**WSP**

# MISSION

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) makes a difference every day, enhancing the safety and security of all people and communities by providing the best in public safety services.

# VISION

To be the best public safety agency in the United States.

# MOTTO

"Service with  
Humility"

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



*Greetings!*

Thank you for your interest in the Washington State Patrol. As we review 2022, we see a year of changes, challenges and achievements. Like law enforcement agencies across the country, we are experiencing challenges in getting enough qualified new people into our profession. Thanks to the fine work of our recruitment and training teams, we were able to graduate 44 new troopers in May and another 44 in October with the 115th and 116th Trooper Basic Training Classes. Among the most diverse classes in our agency's history, these two graduating classes will add to the long tradition of highly qualified, highly motivated, and high performing professionals that make up the trooper corps of the Washington State Patrol for years to come.

We also graduated eight new Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers (CVEO) in February and another eight in October with the 16th and 17th CVEO classes. Those commissioned specialists respond to a host of emergencies and their patrolling for dangerous and illegal behaviors keep our roadways safer. They are one of many examples of how hiring the very best leads to the very best results. To all who serve this agency, be it in commissioned or civilian roles, I say thank you. Our state needs you and you answered the call in 2022.

There were many calls for service in 2022. Our state saw more highway fatalities than in the previous 30 years, as well as significant increases in road rage incidents and people choosing to flee from law enforcement when contacted. These trends necessitated innovations and changes in our deployment strategies.

In July, our Missing and Unidentified Persons Unit instituted the nation's first Missing Indigenous Persons Alert which was quickly and often put to use with success in finding a number of indigenous individuals reported missing by local law enforcement. We also saw great strides made by our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team and worked with diverse community members from across the state to develop our PEAR (Pro-Equity-Anti-Racism) Plan. Our long-standing commitment to treat everyone in our organization, and everyone with whom our organization interacts, with dignity, respect, fairness, and transparency continues.

Our investigators led or assisted in dozens of high profile cases in 2022. Our Crime Lab Division made huge strides in reducing and eliminating historical backlogs so that they can respond more quickly to the rising number of requests received each year for their critical services. Our Criminal Records and Firearms Background Divisions continued and further

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

developed their own important services. Our Homeland Security professionals protected our sports and gathering places, and our Fire Training and Fire Prevention Divisions helped keep Washingtonians, their homes, and their businesses safe and secure.

A year when responsibilities were met and duties were performed can certainly describe 2022, but it was also one where danger met courage. In September, Trooper Dean Atkinson was shot in the face and hand by a suspect on a Walla Walla roadside. Dean's injuries were severe. Relying on his training from WSP, his years in the military, and his own steadiness, determination and courage, he drove himself to a local hospital. From there, he was flown to Harborview so he could have the best care possible and given the best chance to survive and recover. I am so happy to report that Dean was able to return home a few weeks later and at this writing, is recovering and preparing for the day when he will join us in active service once more.

'Service once more' is a fitting way to refer to 2022, and the efforts of the Washington State Patrol.

Respectfully,

Chief John R. Batiste





# Meet our Executive Staff



**CHIEF JOHN R. BATISTE**



**Assistant Chief**  
Daniel J. Atchison  
Field Operations Bureau



**Assistant Chief**  
Scott A. McCoy  
Commercial Vehicle  
Enforcement Bureau



**State Fire Marshal**  
Chad L. Cross  
Fire Protection Bureau



**Director**  
Dr. Fiona J. Couper  
Forensic Laboratory  
Services Bureau



**Assistant Chief**  
Marc W. Lamoreaux  
Investigative Services Bureau



**Assistant Chief**  
Shannon I. Bendiksen  
Technical Services Bureau

# OUR VALUES

Values are the deeply ingrained guiding principles which shape the way the WSP goes about its critical missions. Every employee is a critical member of a team committed to earning the trust and confidence of the public through:



Strong Leadership



Respecting and Protecting the Rights of All



Effective Partnerships and Community Relationships



Fostering a Culture of Continuous Improvement



Professional Excellence



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Integrity and Accountability

"The Washington State Patrol motto is 'Service with Humility' and our agency values depict our commitment and pledge to the communities we serve each and every day."

Chief John R. Batiste



# Statistics at a Glance

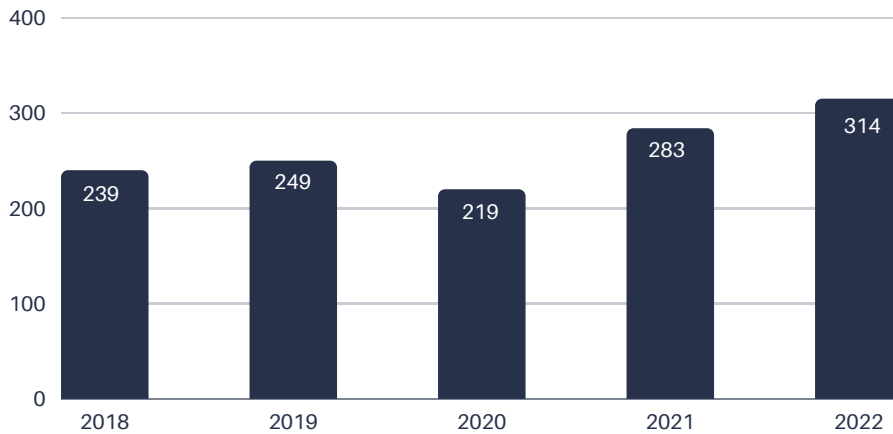
Personnel	
Commissioned	924
Civil Service	1,143
Aviation	
Hours Logged	1,426
Flights	436
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement	
CMV Violators Contacted	79,317
Communications	
Calls	375,595
Crime Lab	
Latent Fingerprint	1,722
Firearms & Toolmarks Cases	640
NIBIN Cases	2,115
Seized Drugs Cases	2,754
Material Analysis Cases	286
Criminal Investigations	
Felony Collisions	148
General Investigations	167
Criminal Investigations	1,523
Criminal Records	
Fingerprint Background - Employment/Licensing	322,550
Fingerprint Background - Criminal	138,272
Records Vacated	40,717
Homeland Security	
Bomb Responses	308

Investigative Assistance	
Illicit Cannabis Plants	21,211
SWAT Responses	61
Major Statewide Violations	
Chains	987
Child Restraints	1,273
Following too Close	14,617
HOV	14,798
Left Lane	5,208
Lights	21,886
Move Over/Slow Down	1,984
Motor Carrier Safety/CMV Inspections	
Inspections	199,198
School Bus Inspections	13,086
Other	
WSP Vehicles Hit on Side of the Road	113
Narcans Deployment	40
Public Disclosure	
Requests	15,939
Rapid Deployment Force	
Responses	9
VIN Inspections	
Inspections Completed	31,783
2021-23 Biennial Budget	
Transportation Fund	\$552,095,000
Omnibus Fund	\$233,212,326
Capital Fund	\$6,561,000

# Fatality Collisions

Fatality collisions continued to rise across the state. In 2022, the WSP investigated 314 fatality collisions. Of those, 49.68 percent occurred on state routes.

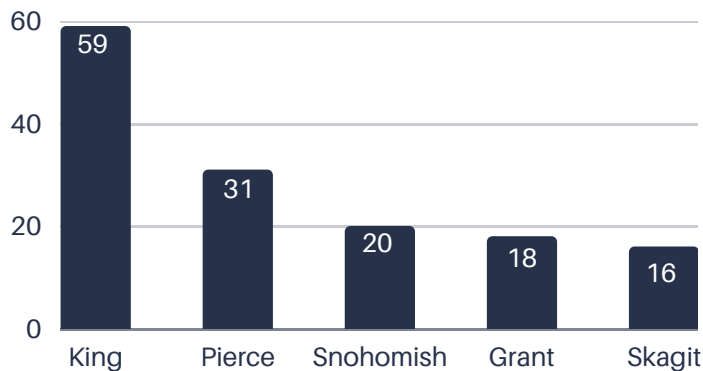
"Our state saw more highway fatalities than any year before. WSP identified where trends were occurring and used data to inform our deployment efforts."  
Chief John R. Batiste



## Contributing factors



## Counties with the most fatalities

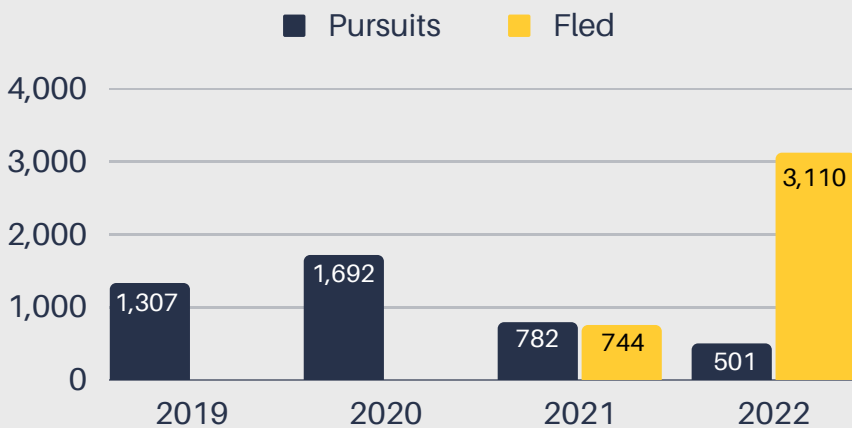
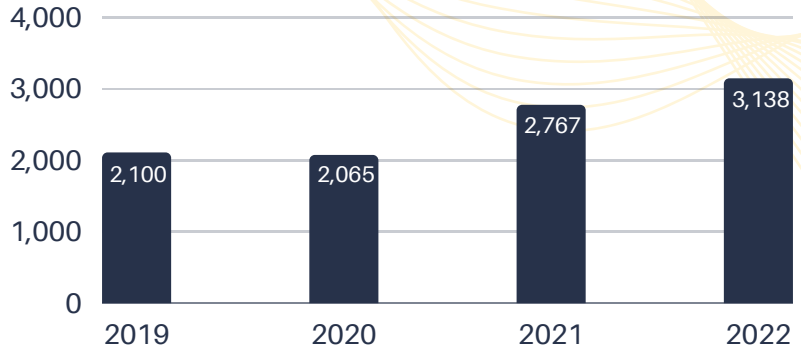




# Trends

## Hit and Run Incidents

There was a 49.4 percent increase in hit and run incidents since 2019. The pandemic, speeding, and impaired driving have been factors to this increase.



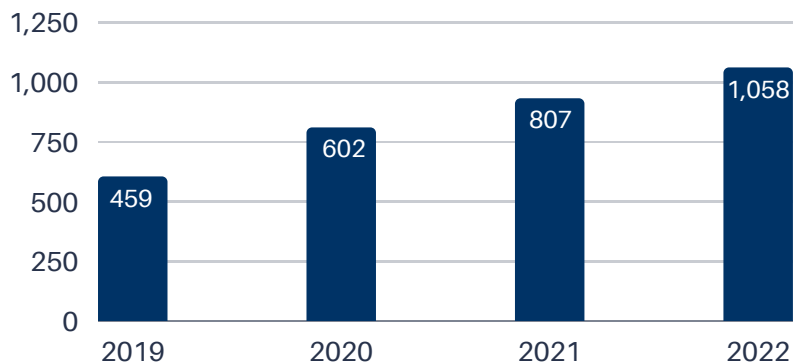
## Pursuits

The agency began to code all failing to yield and fleeing incidents in late July 2021. These incidents - known as FLED in our tracking system - were pursuits that were discontinued as judged unauthorized by statute.

It is estimated that WSP accounts for up to a third of all traffic stops in the state. Like the WSP, law enforcement agencies across the state are seeing an increase in drivers failing to yield.

## Shooting Incidents

Shootings on highways have more than doubled in the last three years, jumping from 459 in 2019, to 1,058 in 2022. The attributing trend to this increase has been gun violence, gang activity, and in some cases, road rage.



*Shooting incidents include 911 calls received for shots heard*



# Community Engagement

During a visit to the Pasco School District, Trooper Bryan Villanueva was challenged to a push up contest by a student.



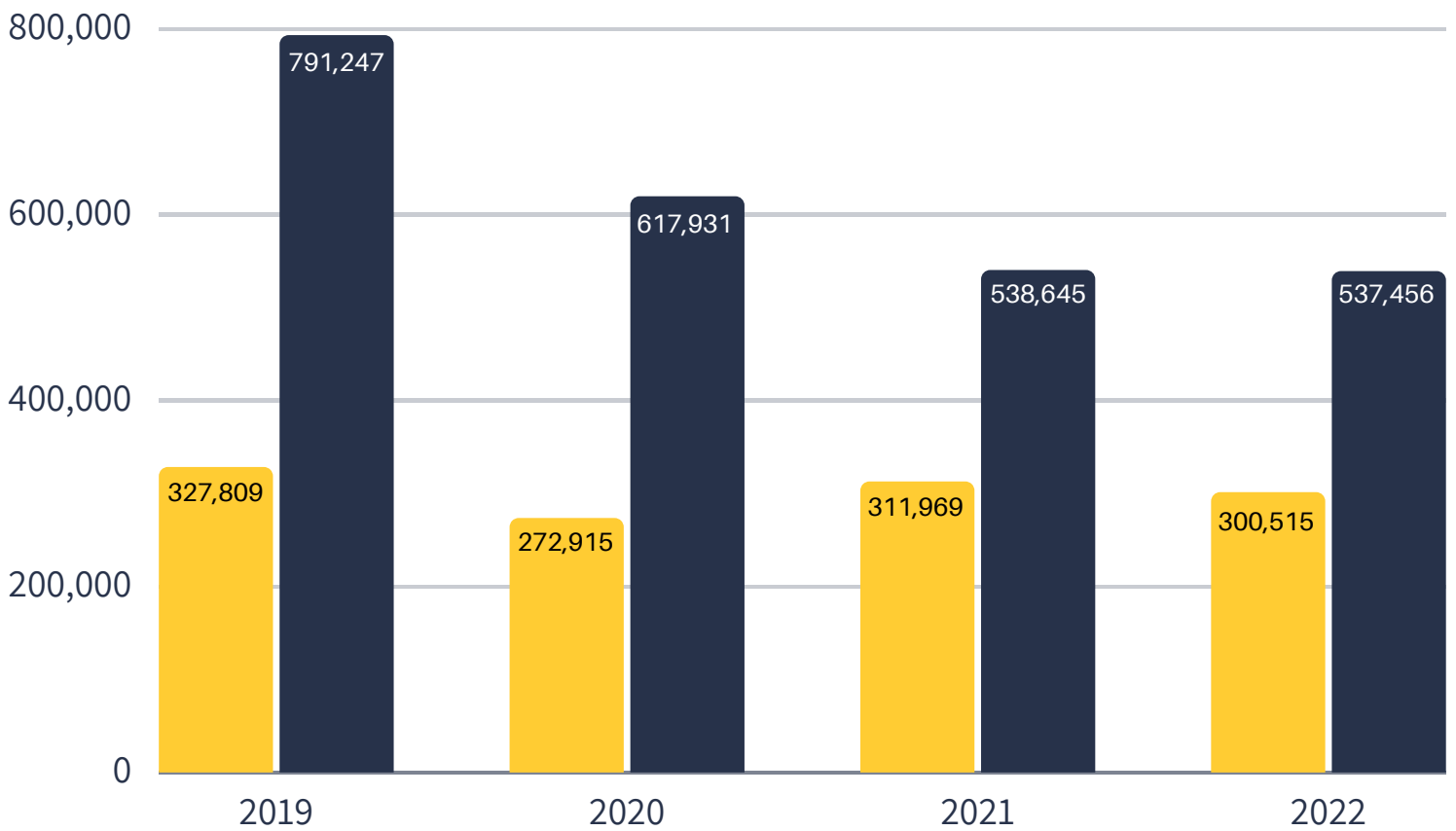
Troopers across the state participated in Shop with a Cop events, a program that pairs officers with kids to shop for the holidays. Each child is gifted money to buy presents for their loved ones and themselves.

Our Troopers in Bremerton assisted a local food bank by making Thanksgiving bundles for families in need.





■ Calls for Service      ■ Officer-Initiated Contacts



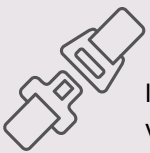
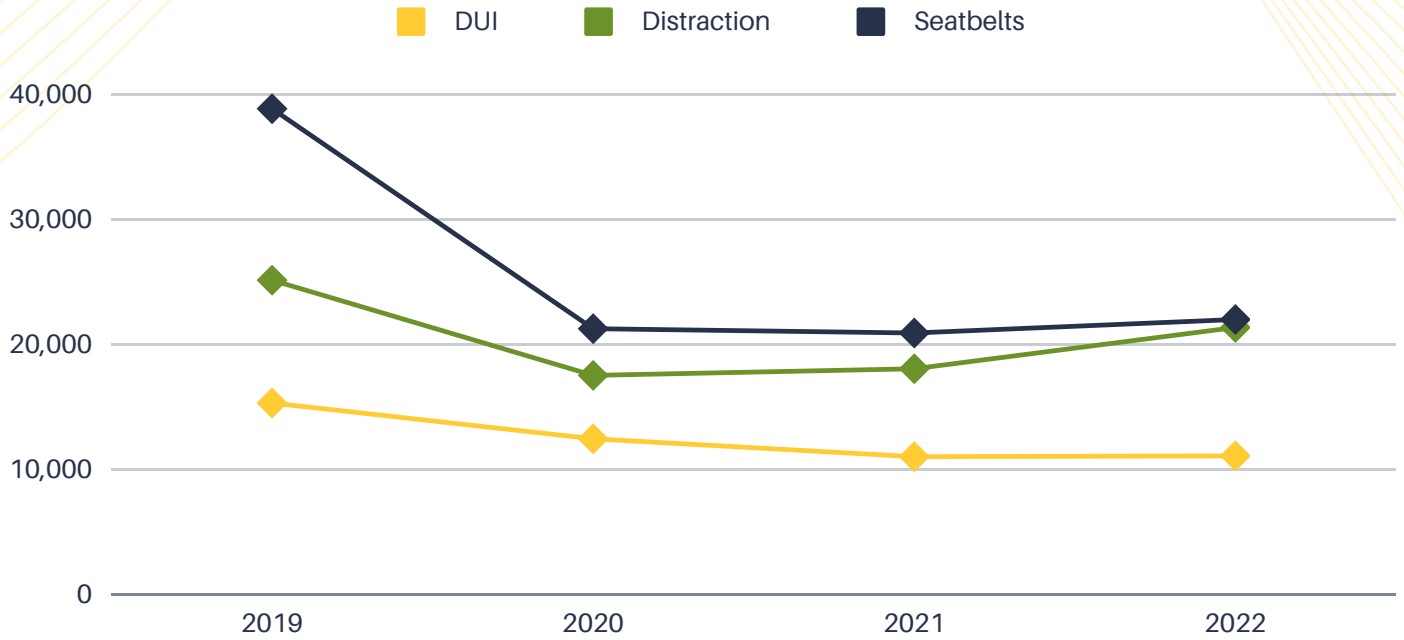
## 2022 Highlights

- Calls for service: 300,515
- Officer-initiated contacts: 537,456
- Citations: 225,414
- Verbal Warnings: 344,656
- Written Warnings: 7,038

"Service and Public Safety are the primary focus of all WSP functions and personnel."

Chief John R. Batiste

# Traffic Stop Statistics



**5%**  
Increase of seatbelt  
violators from 2021

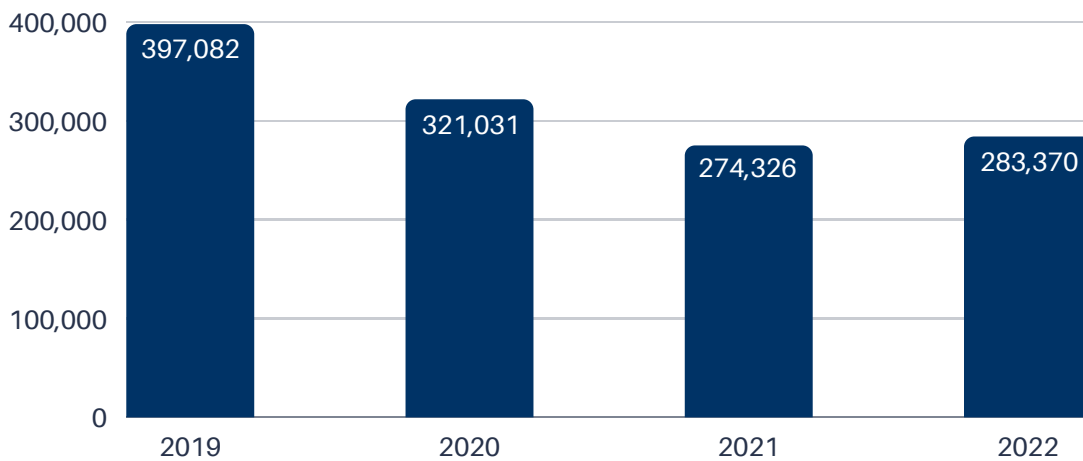


**18%**  
Increase of distracted  
driving from 2021

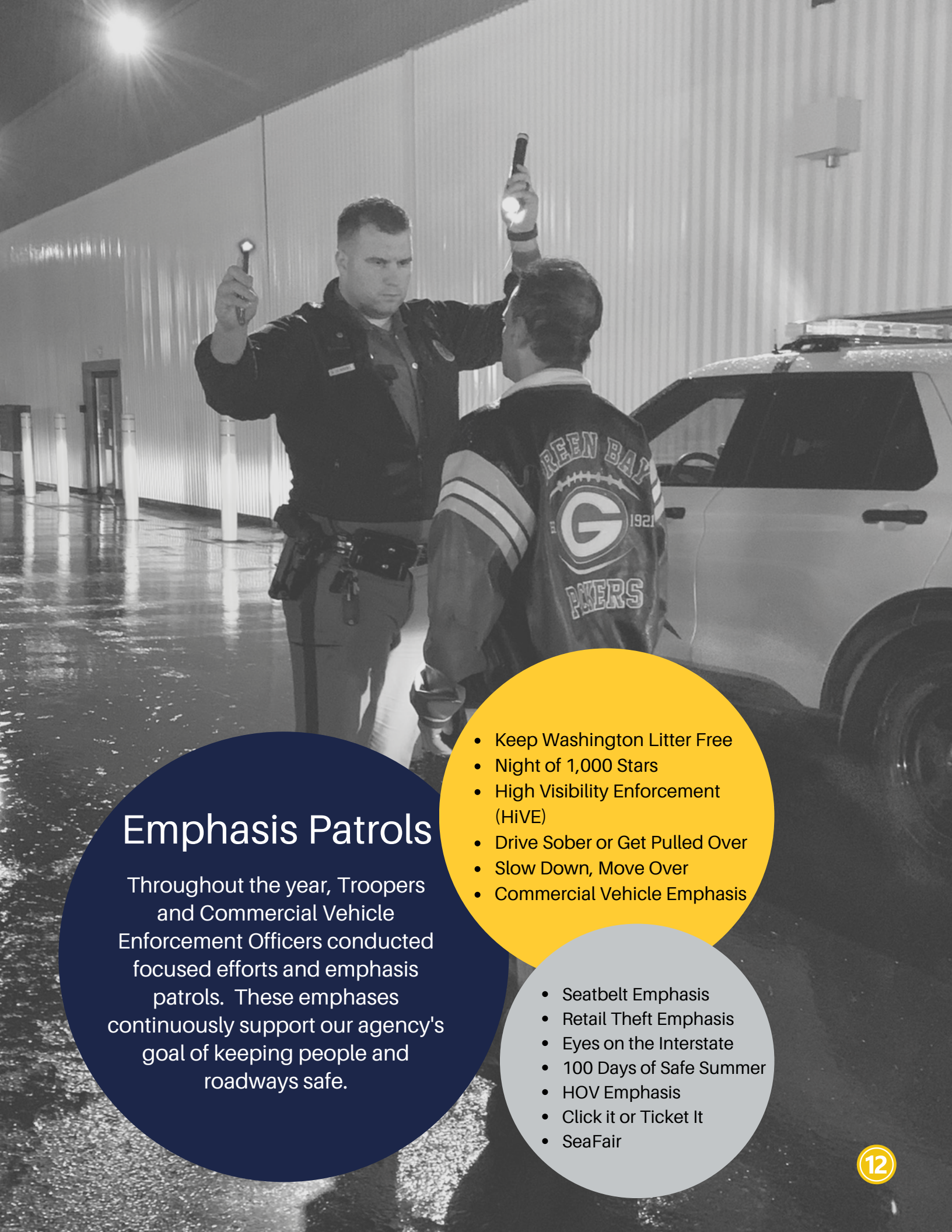


**0.57%**  
Increase of impairment  
from 2021

## Speed Violations







## Emphasis Patrols

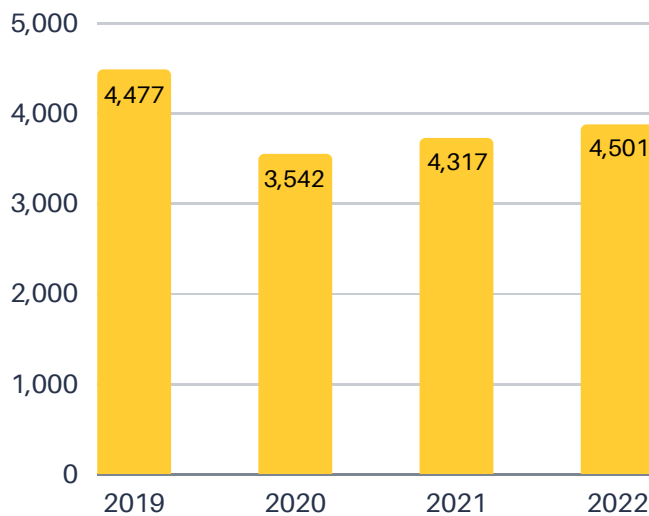
Throughout the year, Troopers and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers conducted focused efforts and emphasis patrols. These emphases continuously support our agency's goal of keeping people and roadways safe.

- Keep Washington Litter Free
- Night of 1,000 Stars
- High Visibility Enforcement (HiVE)
- Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over
- Slow Down, Move Over
- Commercial Vehicle Emphasis

- Seatbelt Emphasis
- Retail Theft Emphasis
- Eyes on the Interstate
- 100 Days of Safe Summer
- HOV Emphasis
- Click it or Ticket It
- SeaFair

# Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau

The bureau is responsible for protecting state infrastructure by enforcing size, weight and load laws and ensuring compliance of commercial motor vehicle (CMV) regulations. It also oversees the department fleet, facilities, and all equipment throughout the agency. Along with CMV enforcement, the bureau is also responsible for ensuring all public school buses are inspected annually, which allows our school children to arrive safely to their place of learning.



## CMV Collisions by Year


The reduction of collisions in 2020 compared to 2019 was due to the pandemic and the associated restrictions with less vehicles on our roads.

As the pandemic restrictions eased, and traffic increased on our roads, we saw an increase in collisions.

Speed was a factor in **15%** of CMV collisions



**37%** of collisions involving CMV occurred on interstates



CMV collisions resulted in **75** fatalities





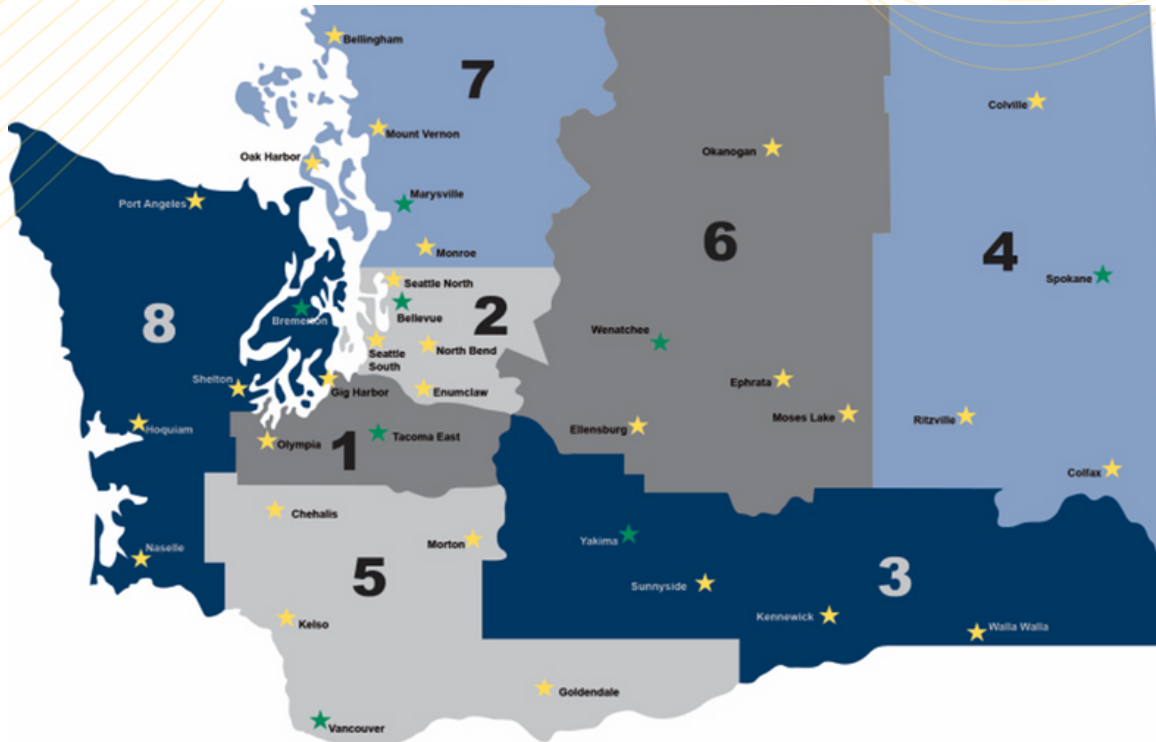


WE ARE  
**HIRING**

BE A PART OF OUR STORY

[APPLY NOW](#)

# District Offices



★ District Office

★ Detachment Office

**District 1:** Pierce & Thurston Counties

**District 2:** King County

**District 3:** Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Walla Walla & Yakima Counties

**District 4:** Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens & Whitman Counties

**District 5:** Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Lewis & Skamania Counties

**District 6:** Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Kittitas & Okanogan Counties

**District 7:** Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish & Whatcom Counties

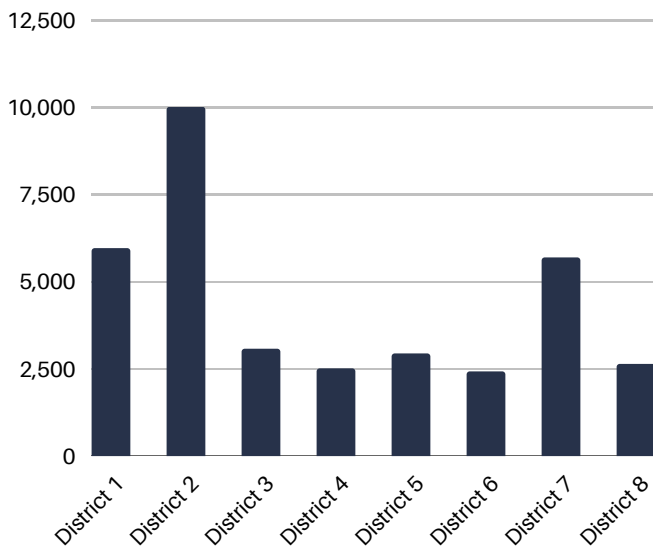
**District 8:** Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific & Wahkiakum Counties



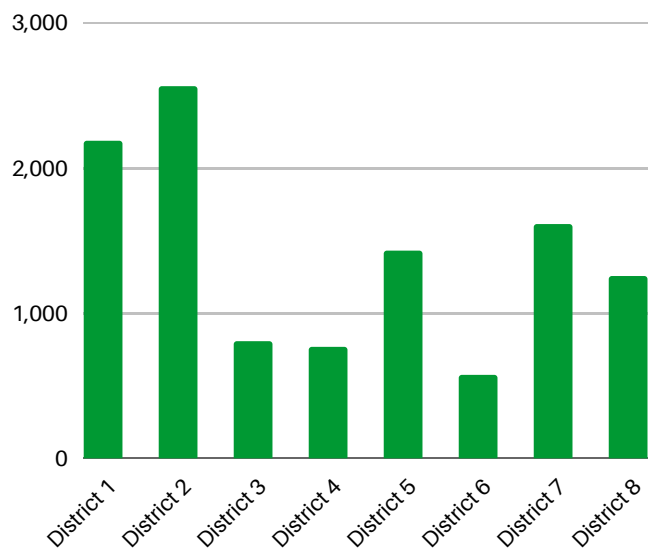
# Field Operations Bureau

The bureau is primarily responsible for traffic law enforcement, collision investigations, and assisting motorists on over 18,000 miles of state and interstate highways. The bureau oversees eight geographical districts statewide, where commissioned troopers carry out the department's primary goal of providing a safe motoring environment for the public.

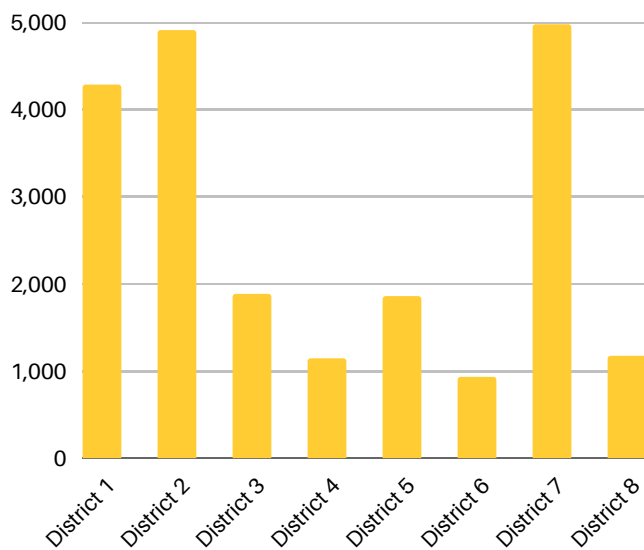
### Total Collisions



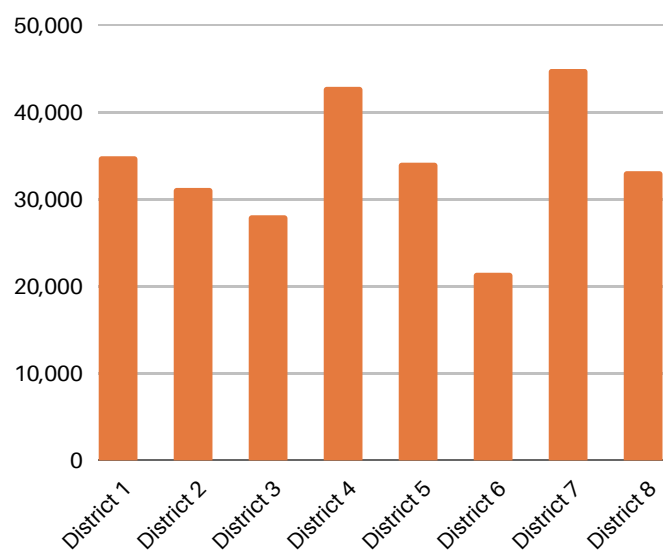
### DUIs



### Distracted Driving



### Speed Violations





# What fuels YOUR fire?

State Fire  
Marshal's Office  
wants to know.

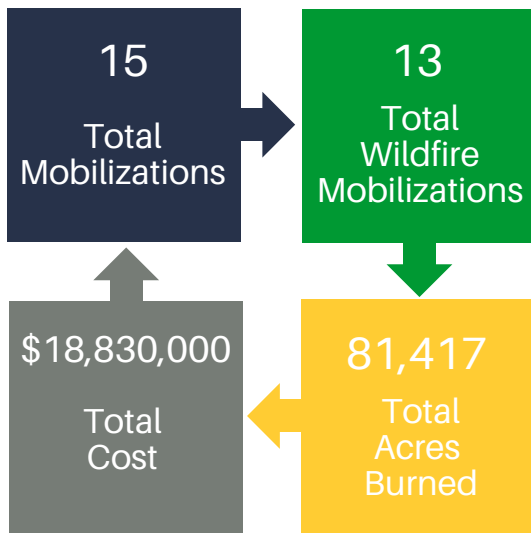
**APPLY NOW!**

[www.wsp.wa.gov](http://www.wsp.wa.gov)

# Fire Protection Bureau

The bureau and the State Fire Marshal have a broad responsibility to ensure fire and life safety for the people of Washington State. The bureau consists of Emergency Mobilization, Fire Code and Information Services, Fire Services Training, and Regional Fire Protection Services.

## Mobilizations



## Licensing & Certification



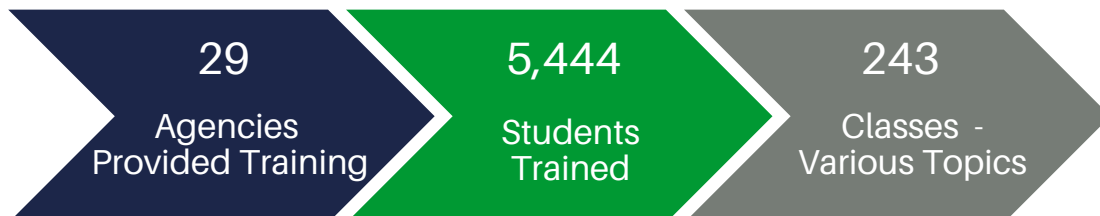
## Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement



## Regional Direct Delivery



## Fire Training Academy Delivery





# Supporting our Community

Having the ability to connect with and engage the community is essential to its health and harmony. Community engagement and building relationships with the community members we serve are top priorities for our agency and staff. We have highlighted our engagement throughout this report and below are just a few more.

"In order to have a positive **impact** in our communities and build trust, we must have **contact** with those we are serving." Chief John R. Batiste



Chief Jordy was sworn in as "Chief for a Day" in Wenatchee. The Wenatchee Chief for a Day program celebrates children who have a disability or chronic illness by letting them serve as honorary chiefs for local public safety agencies in their communities. Students are nominated by teachers, neighbors, and friends, and participate in a swearing-in ceremony and parade through their town.

The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer raises awareness of the effectiveness of residential fire sprinkler systems through public education. Operators illustrate how residential fire sprinklers save lives and property and clarify many of the misconceptions surrounding residential fire sprinklers. The SFMO conducted 201 sprinkler demonstrations at 10 events throughout the year and had over 4,800 attendees combined.



Trooper Villanueva, in partnership with the Kennewick Police Department, secured free fair tickets to the Benton/Franklin County Fair for kids at the Benton/Franklin County Boys and Girls Club.



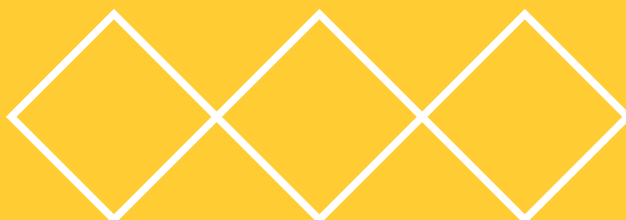




WE ARE HIRING

# Forensic Scientists

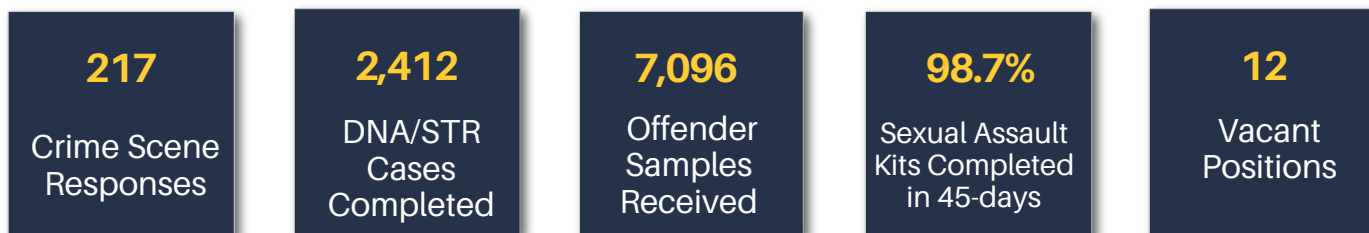
BE PART OF OUR TEAM



# Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau

The bureau provides a wide range of forensic services to the criminal justice system, medical examiners and coroners. The bureau also oversees and coordinates the efforts of the State's Breath Alcohol Test Program, Drug Evaluation and Classification Program, and the Ignition Interlock Program.

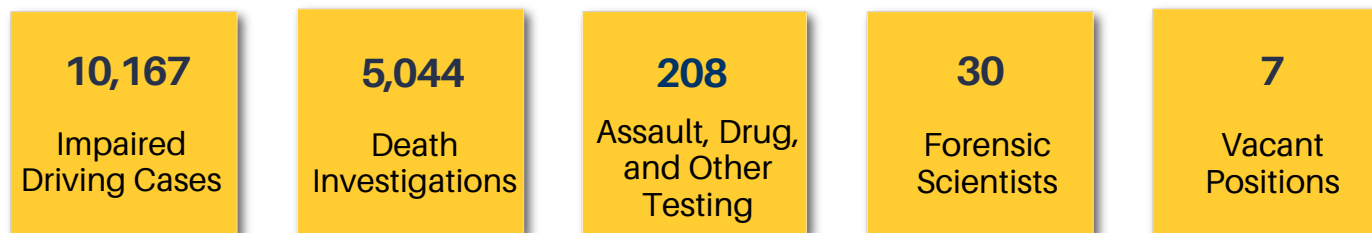
## Crime Laboratory



Crime Scene responses increased in calls by 20 percent from 2021 to 2022. Of the 217 calls received, 42 of them were Independent Investigations Team requests.

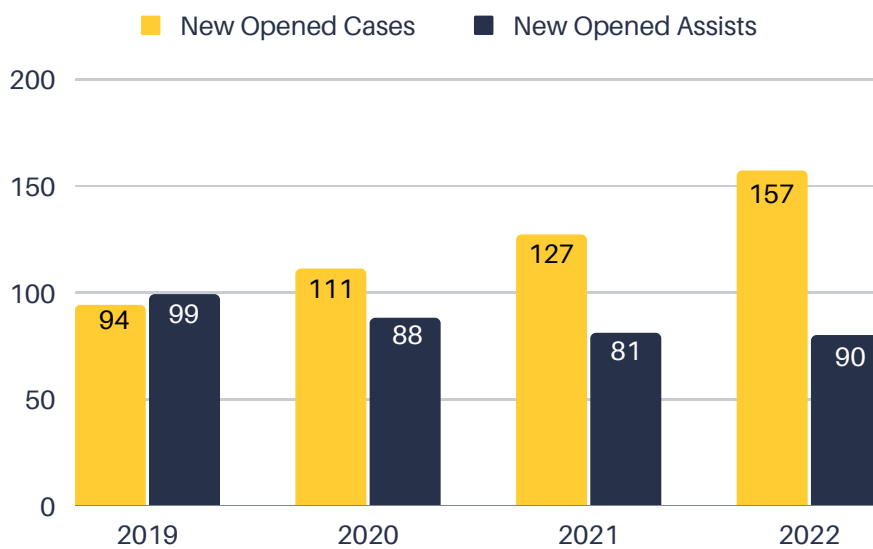
Due to staffing shortages, we had to turn down 11 calls, including one officer involved shooting.

## Toxicology Laboratory



# Investigative Services Bureau

The bureau consists of seven divisions that provide various public services, to include: criminal records, centralized firearms background checks, vessel and terminal safety, SWAT, explosive unit (Bomb Team), K9 program, executive protection, aviation, dismantling of clandestine labs, felony criminal investigations, missing children investigations, human trafficking investigations, narcotics investigations, internal affairs investigations, high tech crime forensics, organized crime intelligence, and contracted law enforcement services on the Capitol Campus.

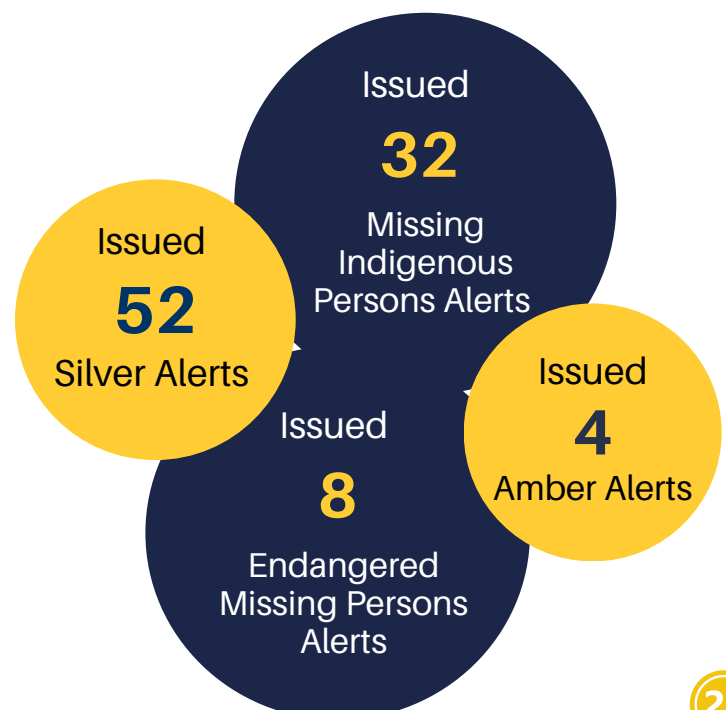


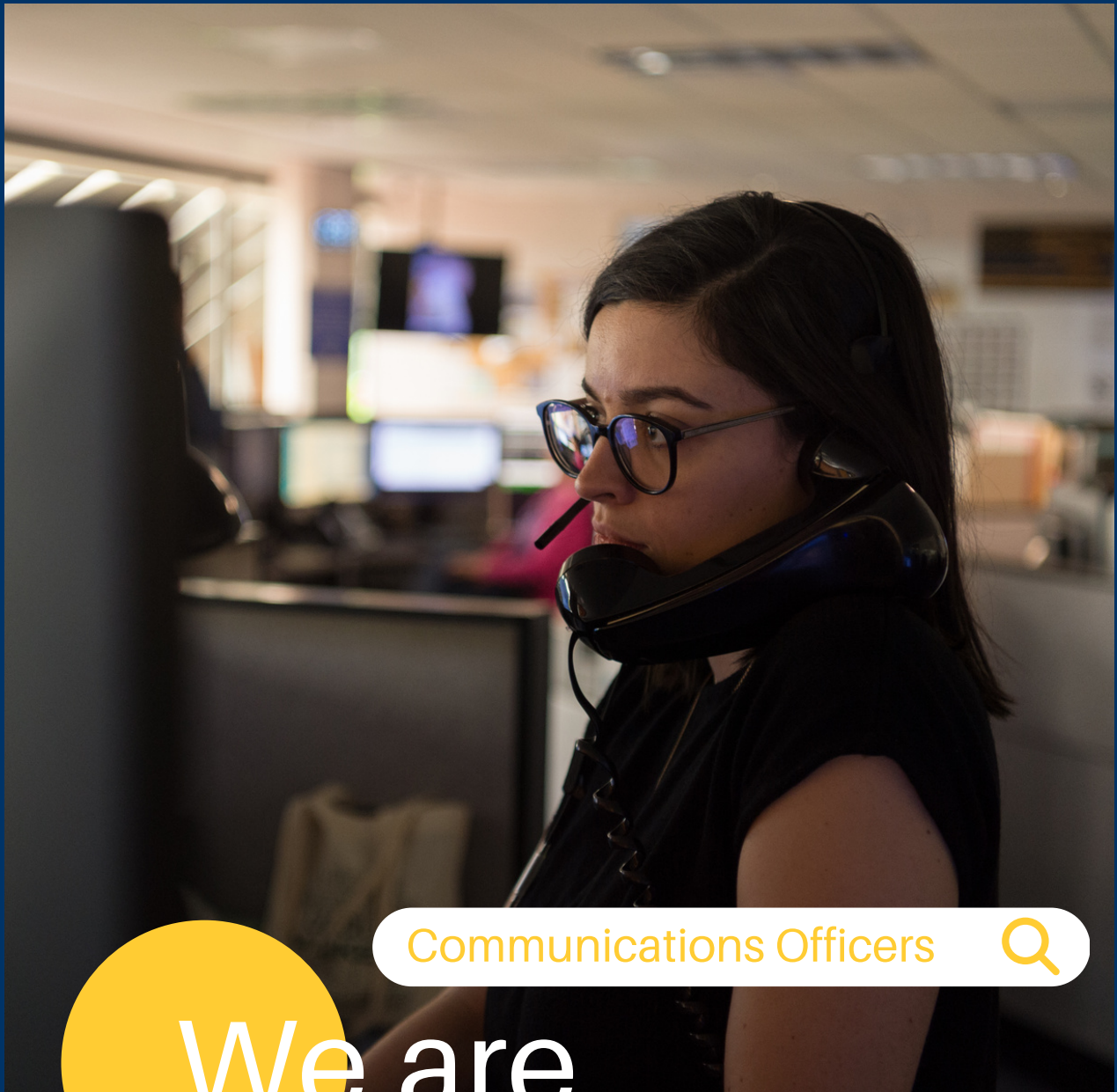
## Criminal Investigation Unit: Criminal Cases

This graph shows the growth and the need to respond reactively to criminal cases both as a primary and assisting entity. These cases include felony injury collisions, homicides, assaults, drive by shootings, sex cases, and others.

**2** Child sexual exploitation operations were conducted

**19** Arrests in Grant and Lewis County





Communications Officers



We are  
**Hiring!**

**Openings In**  
**Bellevue • Bremerton • Marysville • Spokane •**  
**Tacoma • Vancouver • Yakima**



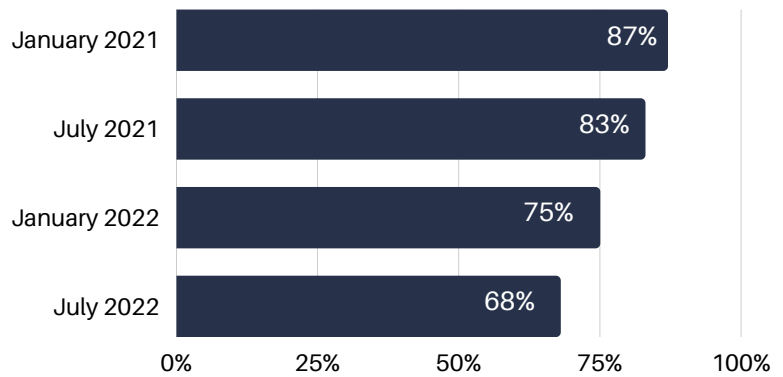
# Technical Services Bureau

The bureau provides many diverse support services to the agency, as well as other law enforcement and government agencies throughout the state, and members of the general public. The bureau provides various services, including training, information technology applications, electronic and microwave system services, voice and data communications, officer and public safety communications, recruiting and hiring, psychologist, and records management.

## Communications

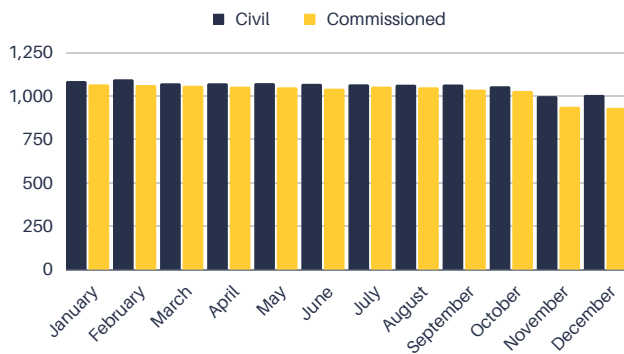
Staffing in our Communications Division dropped to a historic low in 2022. As a result, the District 6 (Wenatchee) communications center closed in June.

However, with an increase in recruiting campaigns, including paid advertisements, the division was able to hire 180 percent more employees in 2022 than in 2021. In the last quarter of 2022, 40 percent of the employees were hired.

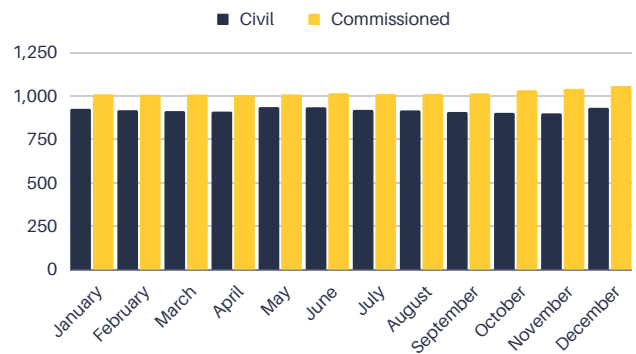


## Human Resources

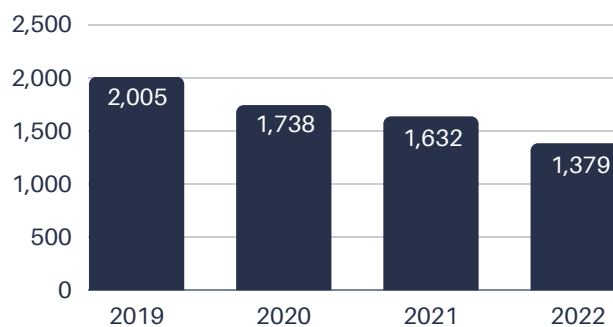
Full-Time Equivalent Overall - 2021



Full-Time Equivalent Overall - 2022



Number of Trooper Applicants



# Recruiting Efforts

With multiple full-time troopers dedicated to recruiting efforts, we were able to visit with students in K-12 schools, attend career fairs, local community events, and small business meetings and events. Additionally, we were able to focus advertisement and recruitment efforts on increasing diversity within the patrol.

Although not a comprehensive list, these events included:

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Boys and Girls Club and Scouts
- Tri-Cities Youth and Justice Forum
- Criminal Justice Advisory Board for Technical/Skills Center
- League of United Latin American Citizens
- NAACP Events
- BUILD Events
- D.A.R.E.
- Walla Walla Penitentiary Career Fair
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Lummi Nation Tribal Event
- National Black Troopers Coalition
- Black Lives Matter
- Women's Leadership Committee
- Filipino American Community of Yakima Valley



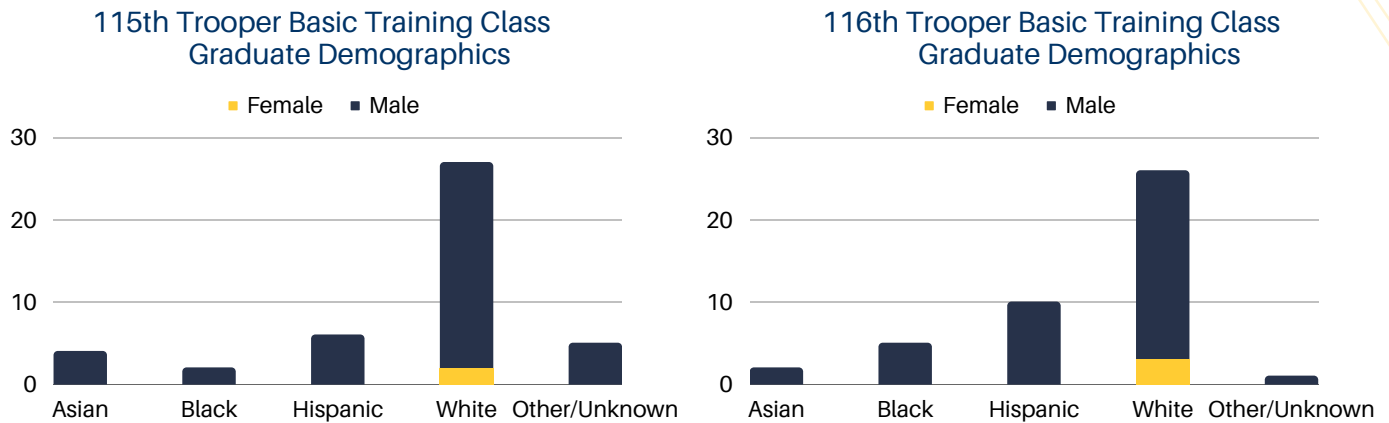
## MAJOR EVENTS

- Various County and State Fairs
- National Night Out
- Hoopfest
- Military Recruiting Events
- Nashville Recruiting Event
- Fort Campbell, KY Recruiting Event
- Las Vegas Recruiting Event
- Various Air Shows
- Seahawks Military Community Fair
- Women's Trades Fair (Seattle)
- Mock Scenarios and Presentations at Multiple Schools



# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The agency is committed to creating a qualified workforce reflective of the population of our diverse state and to shape and sustain a culture of trust, collaboration, equity, inclusion, and continuous performance improvement. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Office was created in 2020 to lead the agency in meeting these commitments and providing both the public and WSP personnel a place for transparent discussion, action, and progress.



Our 2022 graduates from the WSP Academy were the most diverse in the agency's history.

In September, the agency, with the support of the Washington State Office of Equity, rolled out the Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) plan, as required by [Executive Order 22-04](#). The plan focuses on:

- Learning Organization - Environment of inclusion and belonging
- Community Engagement - Expanding our partnerships with diverse communities
- Workforce Equity - Supporting all of our diverse employees and enhance psychological safety

In October, the office launched monthly "Lunch and Learn" sessions for employees to engage in meaningful conversations around DEI topics. Led by our DEI Office, employees were able to join and engage in sessions about:

- Difficult Conversations - How We Talk About How We Talk
- Equity Circles - How to Hear Each Other's Stories and Understanding Frames of Reference
- Microaggressions in the Workplace



"We will always be a forward looking agency, creating a sense of belonging as we purposefully improve and adapt our processes."

Chief John R. Batiste



# Community Engagement



Troopers, in partnership with other agencies, visited Central Kitsap High School where students participated in a mock DUI crash. Students were able to see the negative effects of drinking and driving.

WSP El Protector, Trooper Daniel Mosqueda, celebrated Cinco de Mayo with community members at a Pasco festival and parade.



WSP employees interacted with fairgoers at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup.





# Construction Updates

## Fire Training Academy Burn Building

Construction of two new burn buildings is well underway at the Washington State Fire Training Academy (FTA) in North Bend, and the progress is impressive. The layout of the FTA is quickly transforming, and the opportunity for training is greatly increasing. One of the new buildings will be a three-story apartment structure, and the other will be residential building with a daylight basement. These two buildings will provide additional training experiences and enhance the facilities that have been in place for the past 30 years.

After completion of the new burn buildings, the current burn building will be taken out of commission for live-fire training. The building will be used for a myriad of other types of training that will enhance firefighter proficiency, safety, and survival. The expected completion date for the two new burn buildings is spring of 2023.



## Toxicology Laboratory - Federal Way

The 2021-23 Operating Budget provided funding to construct a second toxicology laboratory facility in Federal Way to help reduce the increasing toxicology case backlogs and improve testing turnaround times.

Construction was expected to be completed at the end of January 2023. Due to supply chain challenges, the expected completion date is now April 2023. The laboratory personnel will relocate to the new laboratory by May/June 2023. It is anticipated that this location will begin receiving evidence in July 2023, allowing forensic testing of casework to begin.





# **WE ARE HIRING**

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers are trained and certified commercial motor vehicle subject matter experts that strive to make Washington roadways the safest in the nation.

## **COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

### **JOIN OUR TEAM**



# Graduations

## Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers

In 2022, 16 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers graduated from Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Basic Training. Our officers completed a 24-week training which afforded each new officer the knowledge, skills, and hands-on learning opportunities needed to become well versed in the laws and regulations safeguarding commercial motor vehicle operations in our state.

## Fire Training Academy

The Fire Training Academy successfully graduated three recruit academies in 2022, which included 99 new firefighters. The instructors taught an additional 240 courses throughout the year to more than 5,300 students including fire service, marine, regional direct delivery, and national fire academy training.

## Training Academy

The Training Academy graduated 88 cadets from the Trooper Basic Training Classes in 2022. Trooper cadets attended a 37-week basic training. This training required the cadets learn state laws, WSP procedures, and tested their ability to apply this knowledge to practical law enforcement exercises.



*"Service with Humility"*



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[www.wsp.wa.gov](http://www.wsp.wa.gov)