



House Bill 1004

Disease Control and Forensic Pathology Section

Kirby Kruger

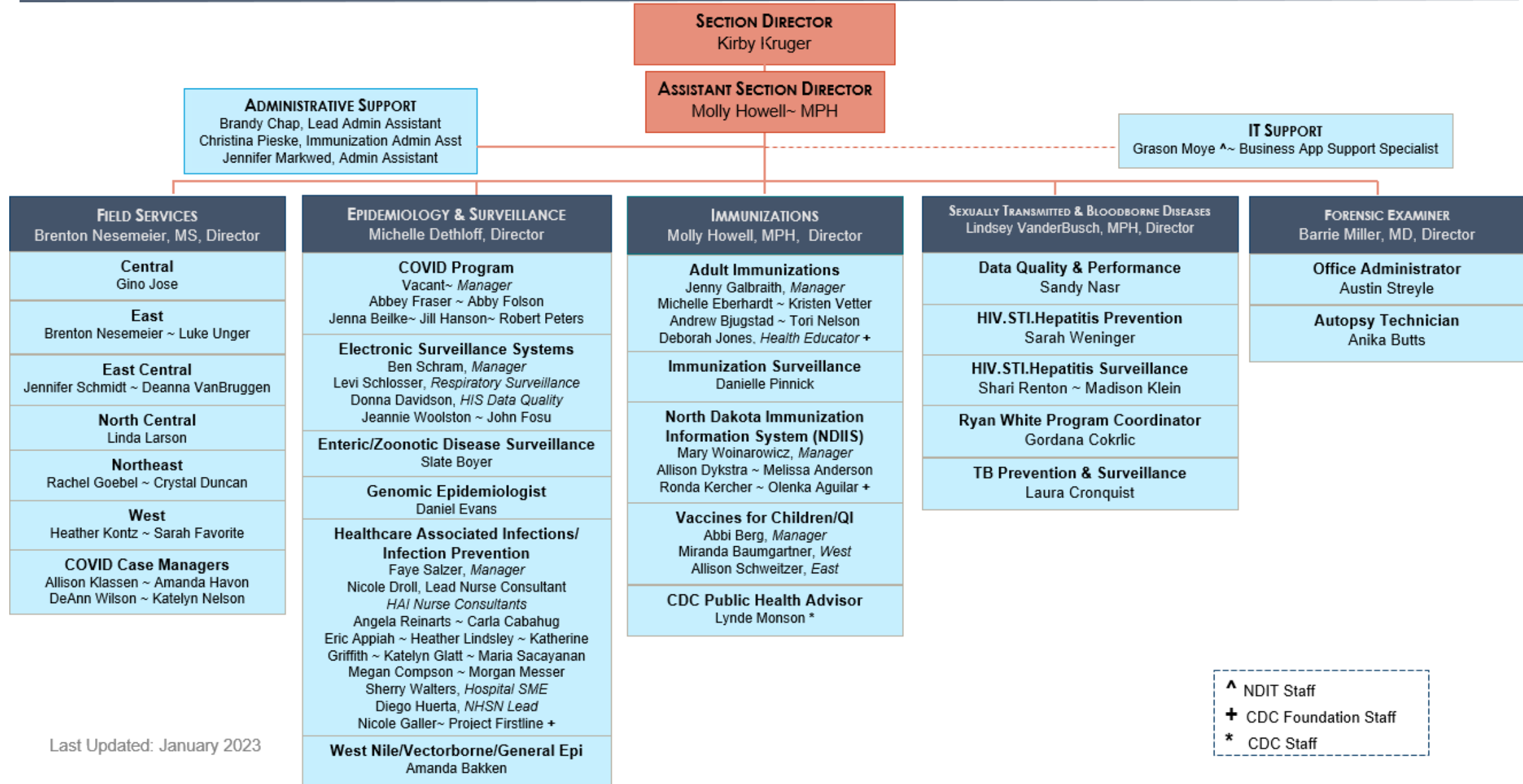
Department of Health and Human Services

Public Health Division | January 16, 2023

NORTH
Dakota
Be Legendary.

Health & Human Services

**DISEASE CONTROL & FORENSIC PATHOLOGY
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



Disease Control and Forensic Pathology

Assist local jurisdictions in death investigations, promote disease prevention activities, facilitate disease reporting and conduct disease investigations

Immunizations

Molly Howell

- Coordinate immunization activities
- Monitor immunization coverage rates
- Manage the Vaccines for Children Program
- Respond to vaccine preventable diseases

Forensic Examiner

Barrie Miller, MD

- Provide assistance to local coroners and law enforcement on death investigations through consultation and the performance of autopsies

Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Diseases

Lindsey VanderBusch

- Provide case and partner services to prevent complications from disease
- Facilitate access to care, testing and treatment, as needed
- Ryan White
- Tuberculosis

Infectious Disease and Epidemiology

Michelle Dethloff

- Facilitate and coordinate disease reporting
- Investigate zoonotic, respiratory, foodborne, waterborne, vectorborne and other diseases, as needed
- Healthcare Associated Infection Prevention

Field Services

Brenton Nesemeier

- “Shoe leather epidemiologists” – these are our front-line disease investigators
- Establish rapport with key partners

Disease Control is Disease Prevention



Vaccines for Children (VFC)

Free vaccines for uninsured, underinsured, Medicaid or Native American Children.



STI Program

Telehealth and at-home testing program.



Field Services/Disease Investigations

Facilitating the best possible outcomes for at risk people.



Syringe Services Program

Clean injection supplies, counseling and referral.



Zoonotic Disease Program

Possible rabies exposure follow-ups, West Nile, Tickborne and others.



HAI Prevention

Providing safer healthcare for patients and staff.

Programs and Services for North Dakotans



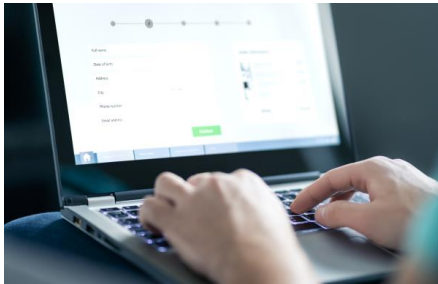
HAI Prevention

78 ICAR assessments in 2022.



Antibiotic Stewardship

Contract with NDSU School of Pharmacy (CAP Center).



Forensic Examiner

200 autopsies in 2021.



STI and Behavioral Health Collaborative

Increase services to citizens.



NDIIS

411,591 immunization records provided since July 2021.



HIV Prevention

Perinatal HIV Case.

Team Members Recognized for Excellence

Brenton Nesemeier – Field Services

Fargo Challenge Coin Award

Olenka Aguilar

AIRA Consider it Done Award

Mary Woinarowicz – NDIIS Manager

AIRA System Data Genius Award

Molly Howell, Immunization Director

Governor's Heritage Award

NDMA Friend of Medicine Award

AIM Natalie Smith Award (*excellence in immunization program management*)



Improving the lives of North Dakotans

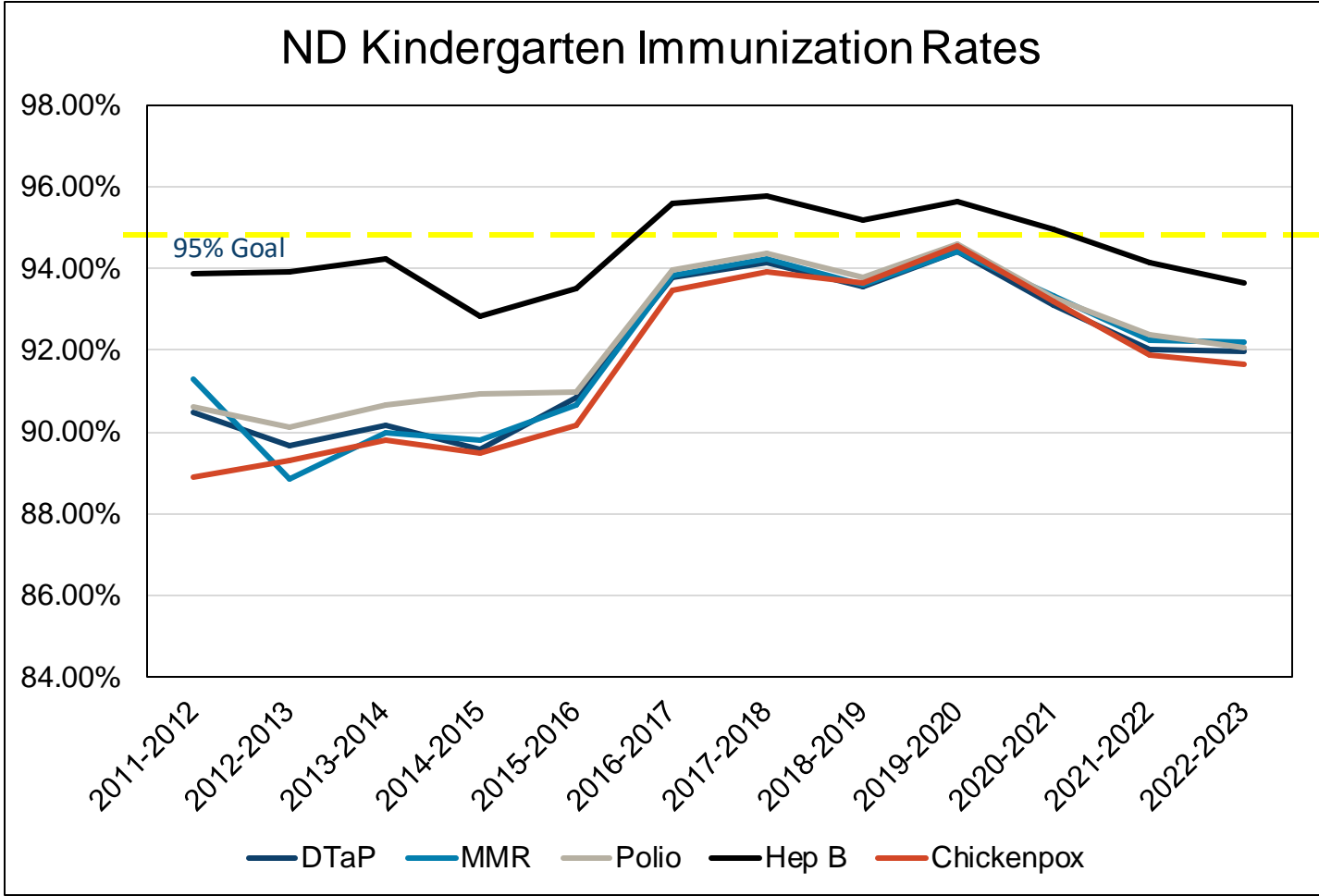
How legislative support and
appropriations made an impact in
the **2021-2023 biennium**



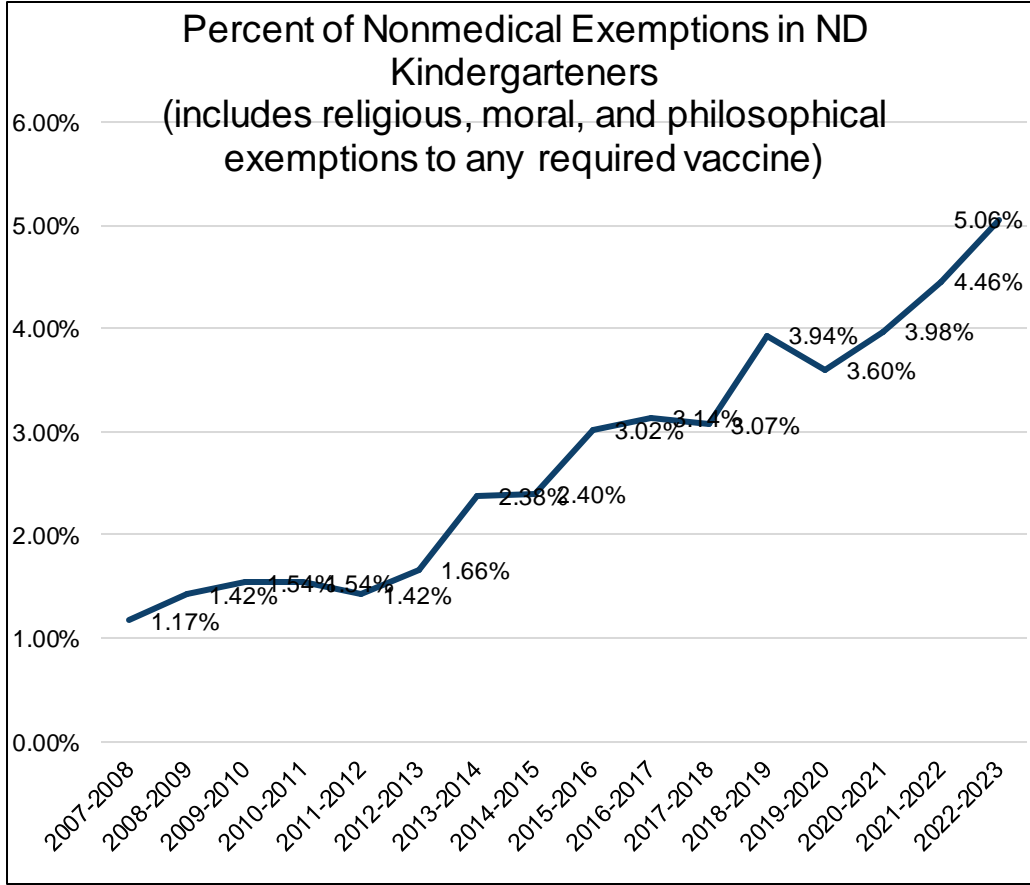
Disease Prevention Activities

- **Mpox**
 - Coordinated vaccine ordering and distribution
 - Over 700 doses of Mpox vaccine administered
 - Six cases of Mpox reported in North Dakota
 - Community Engagement
- **Ebola**
 - Monitoring of travelers arriving from Uganda
- **STI prevention and follow-up**
 - Congenital syphilis follow-up
- **Disease Surveillance Activities**
 - Electronic laboratory Reporting and syndromic surveillance
- **Routine Disease Follow-up**
 - Foodborne and enteric illness, STI's, bloodborne infections, HAIs
- **General Immunization Activities**
 - 52% of North Dakota children are VFC eligible

School Immunization Rates – North Dakota



MMR: 92.2% (Range by district 52% - 100%)



Why School Vaccines are Important

Measles

- Each case of measles can infect up to 18 susceptible people, making it one of the most contagious diseases.
- Measles is a very serious illness. In recent outbreaks, nearly half of the children have required hospitalization.
- For every 1000 measles cases, 1-2 will die.
- Over 100,000 people, mostly children, die from measles every year
- **The Herd Immunity Threshold for measles is 95%**



68 Confirmed
measles cases

DAY 38
May 24, 2017

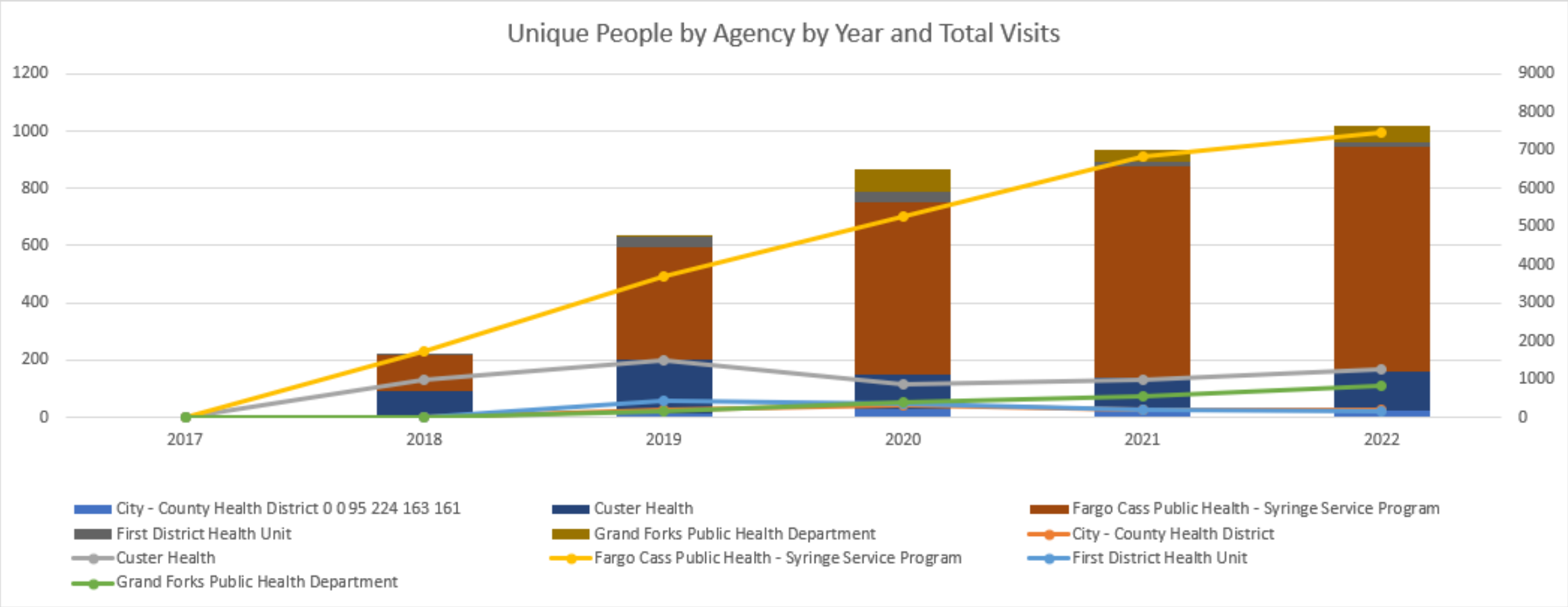
Source: Minnesota Department of Health

Measles in the United States

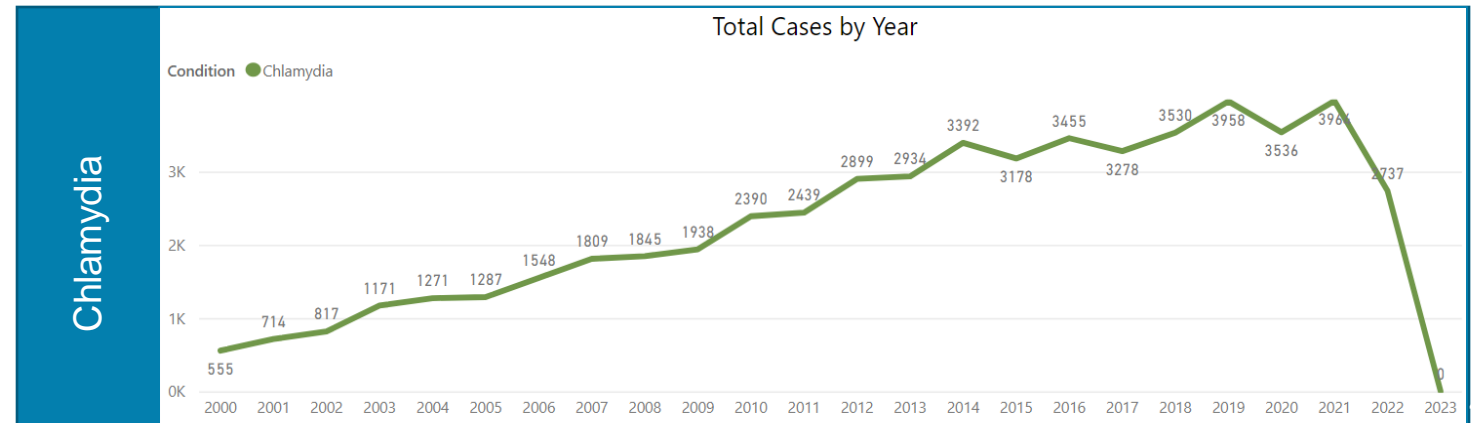
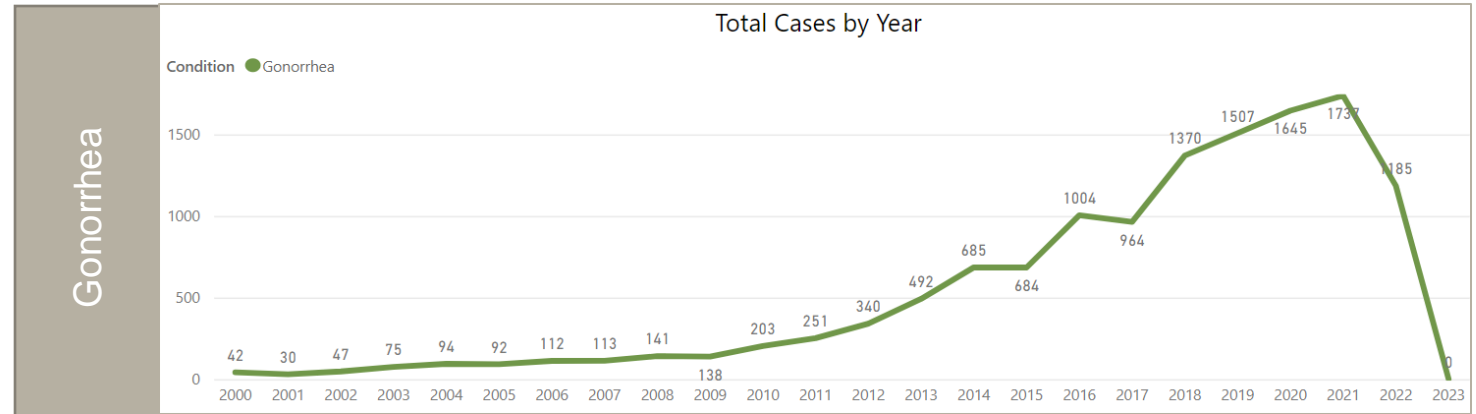
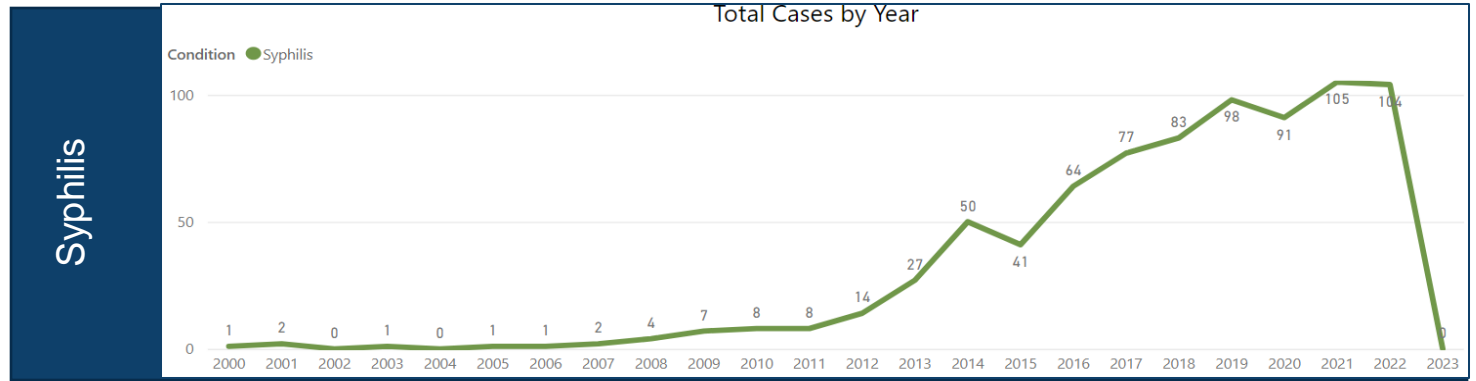
- Minnesota:
 - 22 cases in 2022
 - Mostly travel-related
- Ohio: (ongoing outbreak: data as of 01/12/2023)
 - 83 cases since November 2022
 - 33 hospitalized
 - 78 not vaccinated
 - 4 partially vaccinated (only one dose)
 - 1 unknown vaccination status
 - 23 cases younger than 12 months (too young to be vaccinated)
 - 66% of cases are ages 1-5
 - Over 17 childcares and schools impacted

Syringe Services, People Served and Total Visits, by Site and Year, 2017 - 2022

Unique People by Agency by Year and Total Visits



STI Cases by Year, North Dakota



Forensic Examiner Upgrades

Legislative support and appropriations made an impact in the **2021-2023 biennium**



COVID-19 Response



Case Work

- Case investigation
- Contact tracing
- Documentation
- Questions and guidance
- Developing systems for case management



Infection Prevention

- LTC
- Congregate Settings
- Hospitals
- Outpatient Clinics



Disease Reporting

- Updating systems to handle reports
- Work with laboratories to establish electronic reports



Vaccination

- Providing up-to-date guidance to providers and public
- Providing guidance on storage and handling
- Monitoring Coverage rates



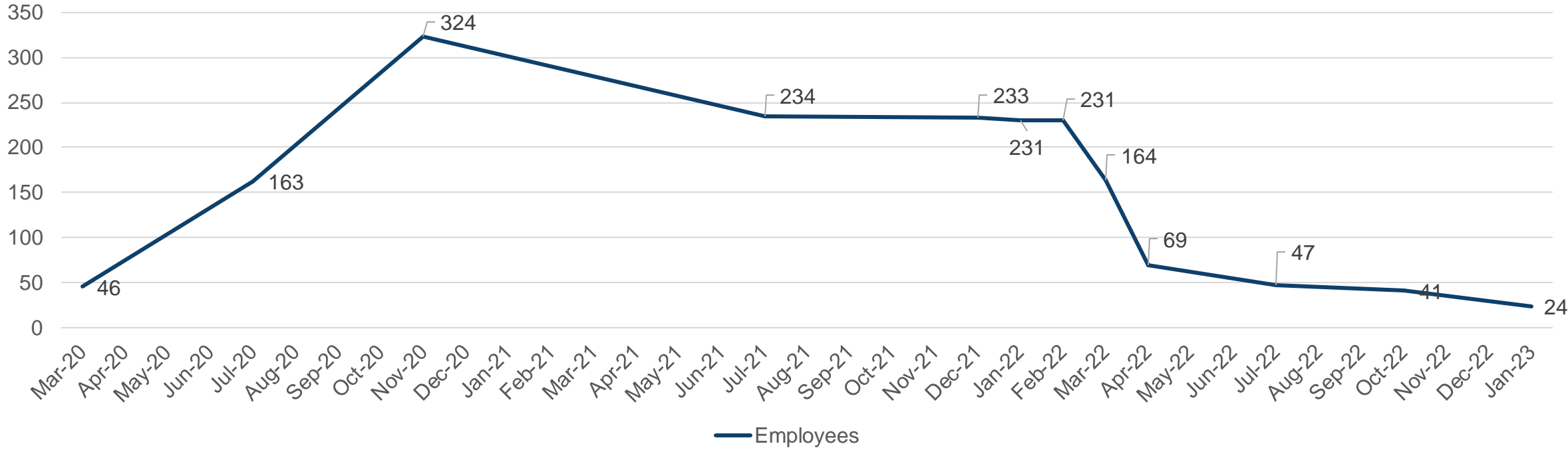
Subject Matter Assistance

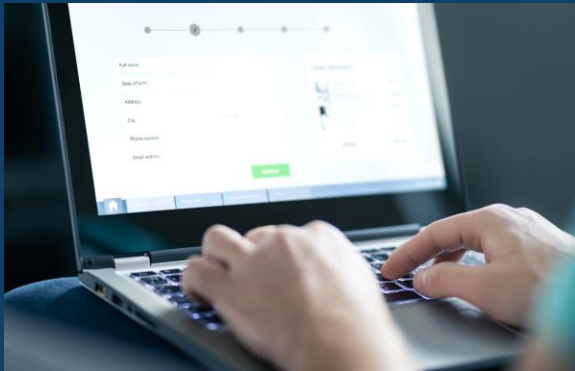
- Businesses
- Travelers
- Preschool, k-12 and higher ed
- Shelters and group homes

COVID Response Team from March 2020-January 2023

Disease Control and Forensic Pathology

Employees





COVID Vaccine Funding

- Upgrade vaccine storage and handling
- Upgrades to NDIIS
- Site visits
- Provider Education (NDSU)
- Pharmacist Training
- Support to local public health
- Support Vaccine Distribution

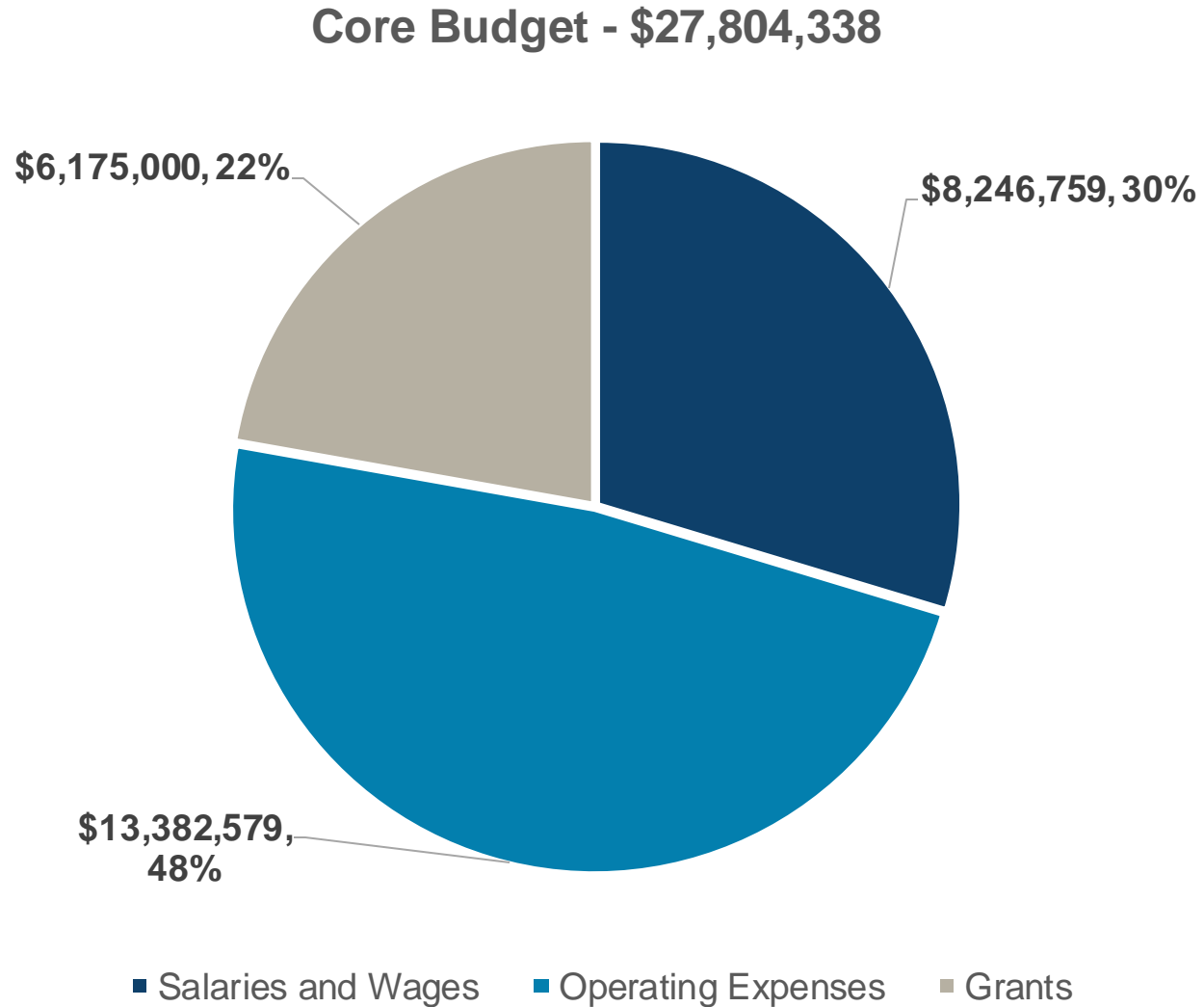


2023-2025 Budget request

**The program, systems and
workforce support
necessary to continue to
serve North Dakotans**

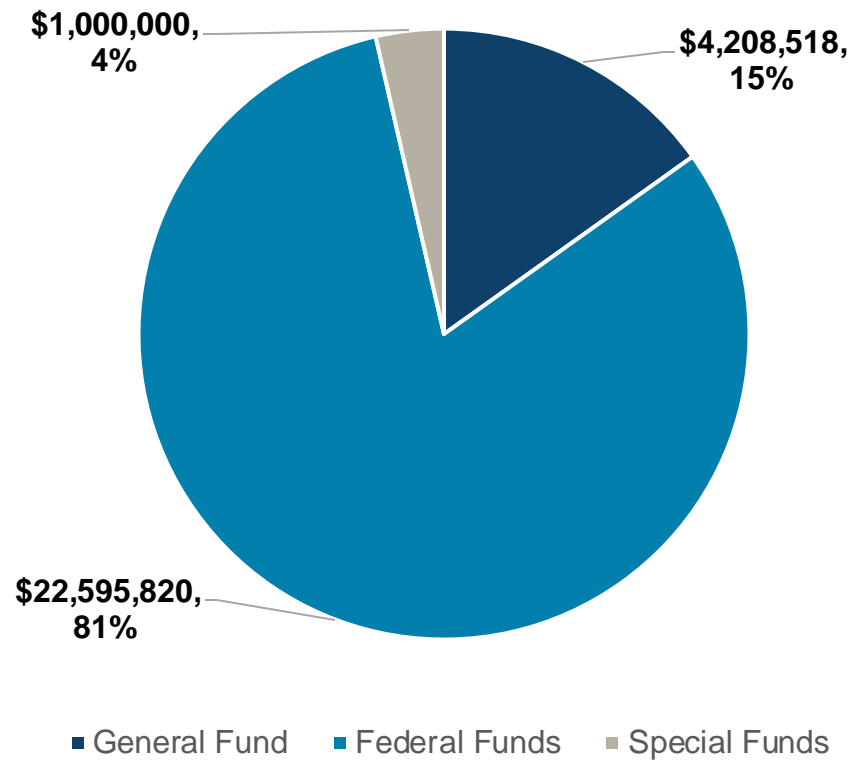
2023-25 Executive Recommendation

Core Budget By Line Item

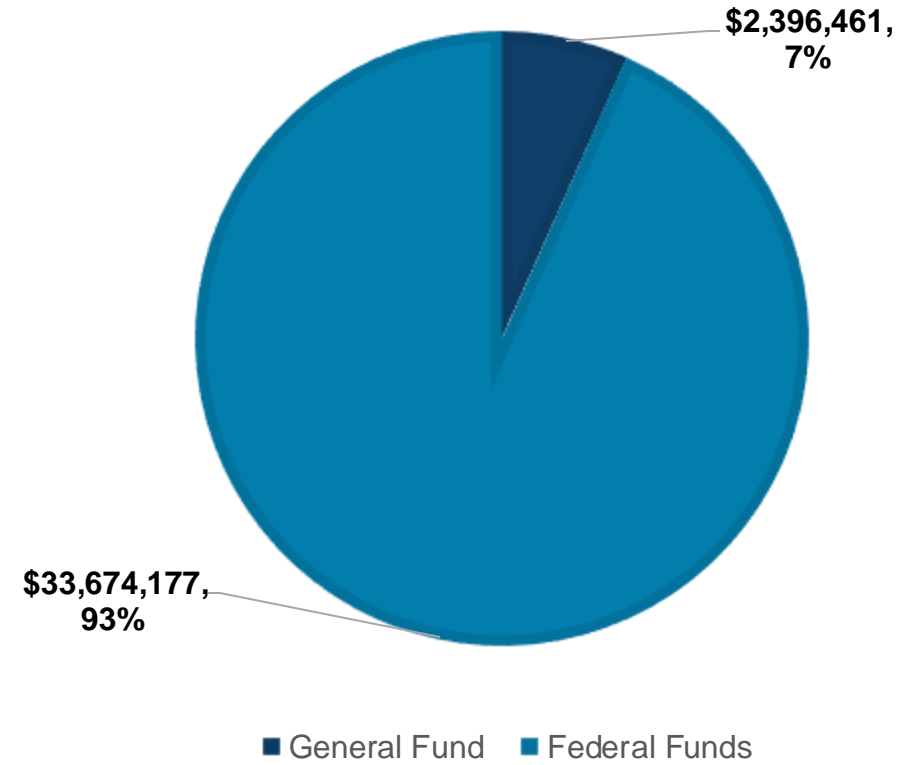


2023-25 Executive Recommendation By Funding Source

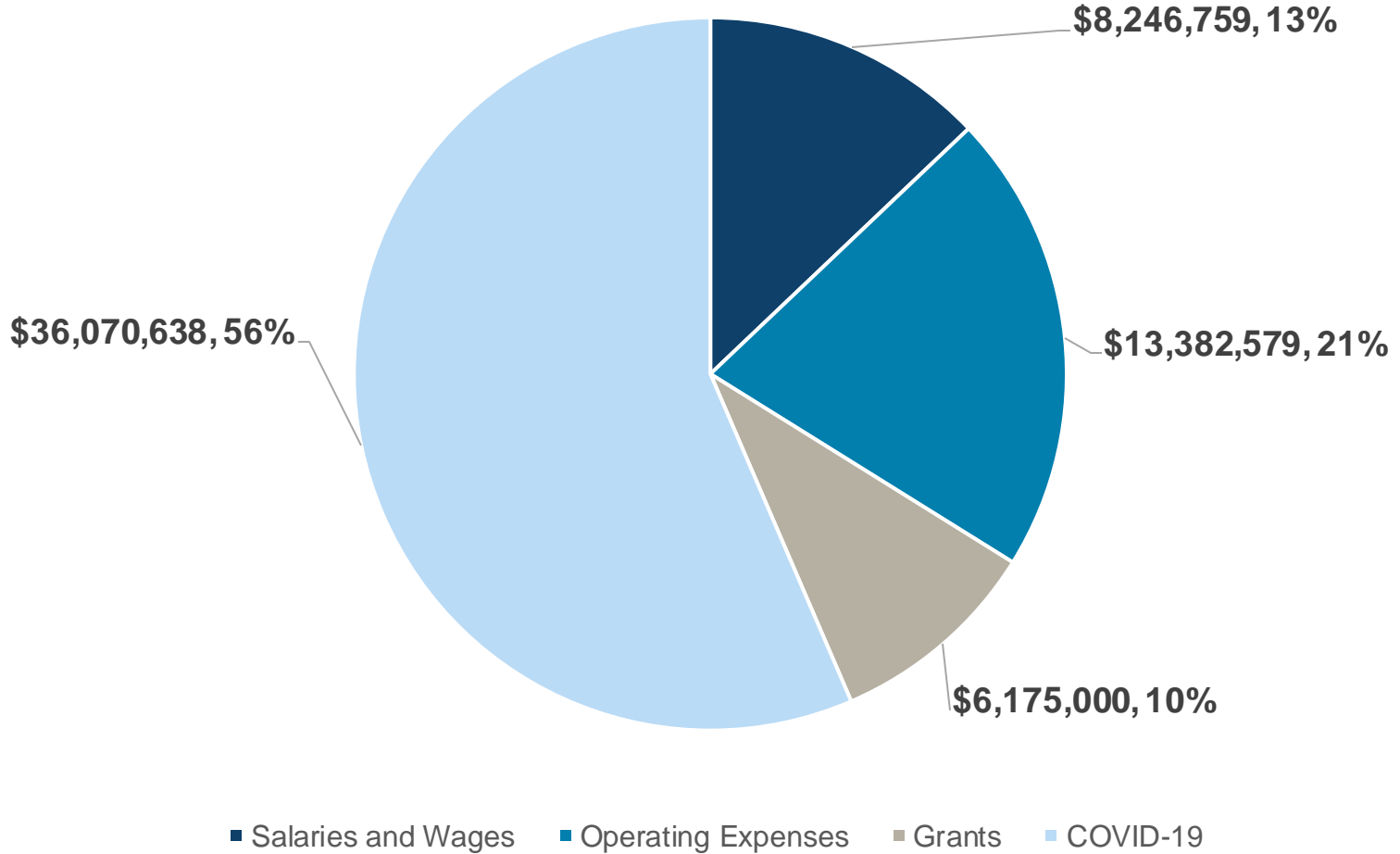
Core Budget- \$27,804,338



COVID-19 Budget - \$36,070,638



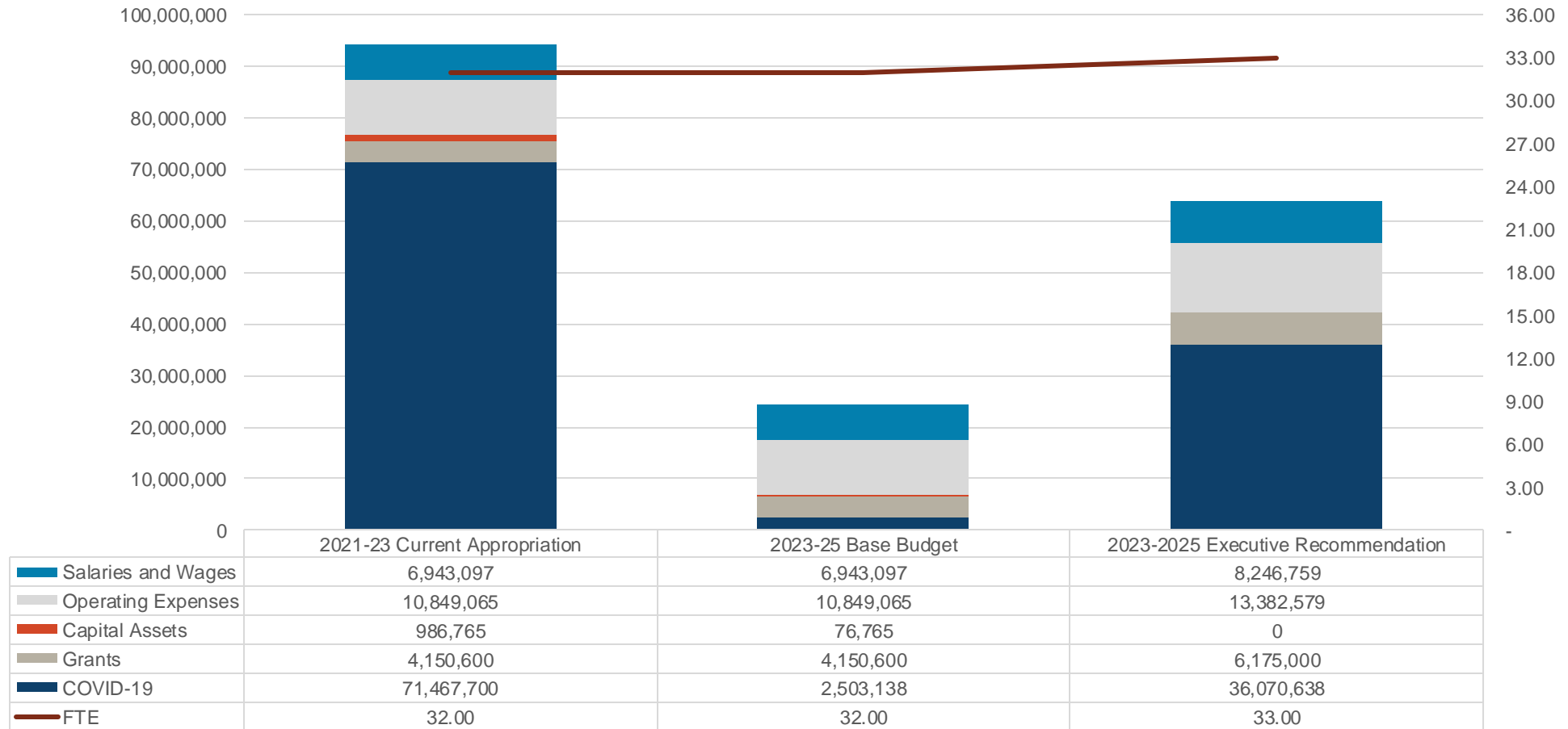
2023-25 Executive Recommendation By Line Item



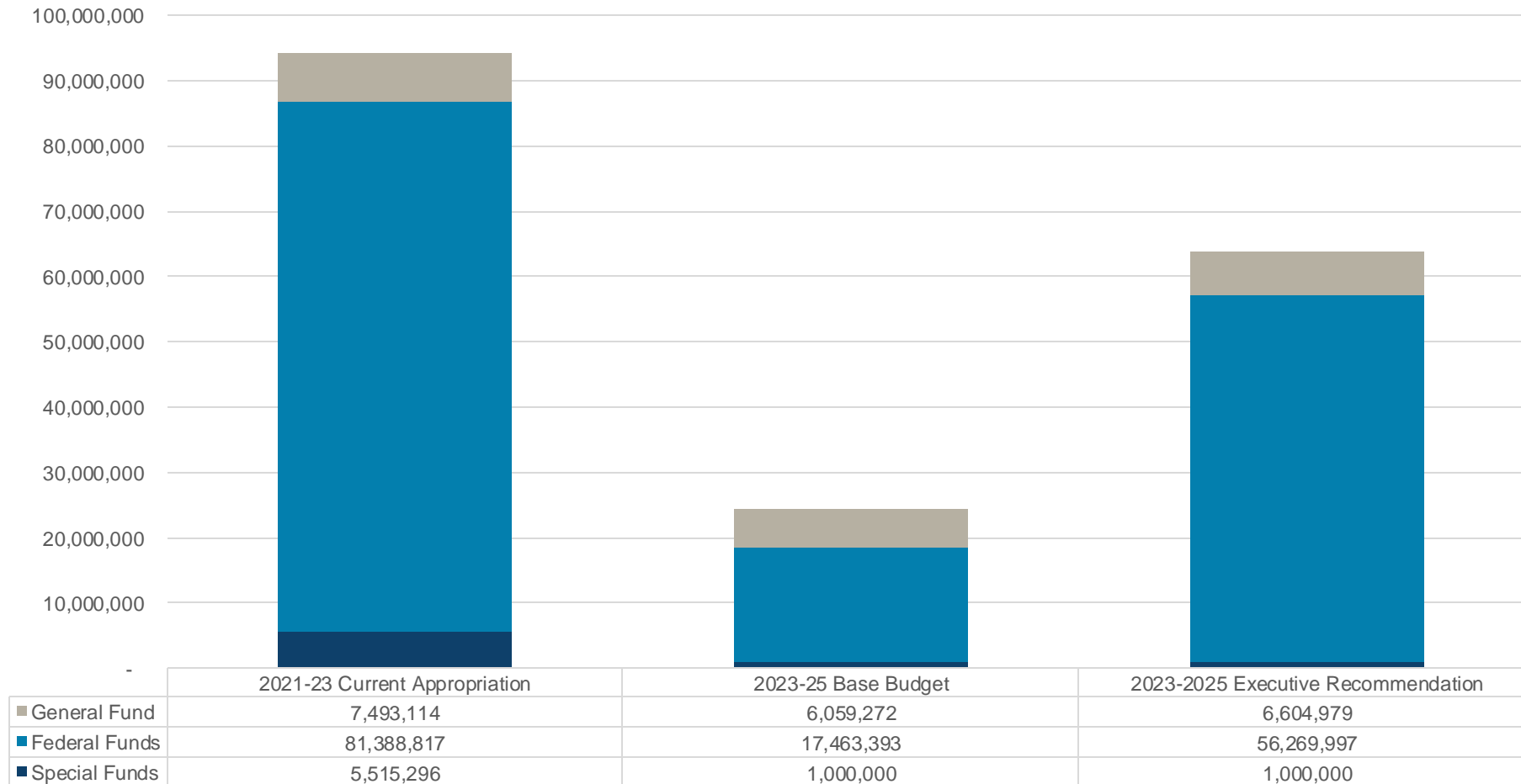
Comparison

Description	2021-23 Current Appropriation	2023-25 Base Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	2023-25 Executive Rec.
Salaries and Wages	6,943,097	6,943,097	1,303,662	8,246,759
Operating Expenses	10,849,065	10,849,065	2,533,514	13,382,579
Capital Assets	986,765	76,765	(76,765)	0
Grants	4,150,600	4,150,600	2,024,400	6,175,000
COVID-19	71,467,700	2,503,138	33,567,500	36,070,638
FTE	32.0	32.0	1.0	33.0

Overview of Budget Changes



Overview of Funding Changes

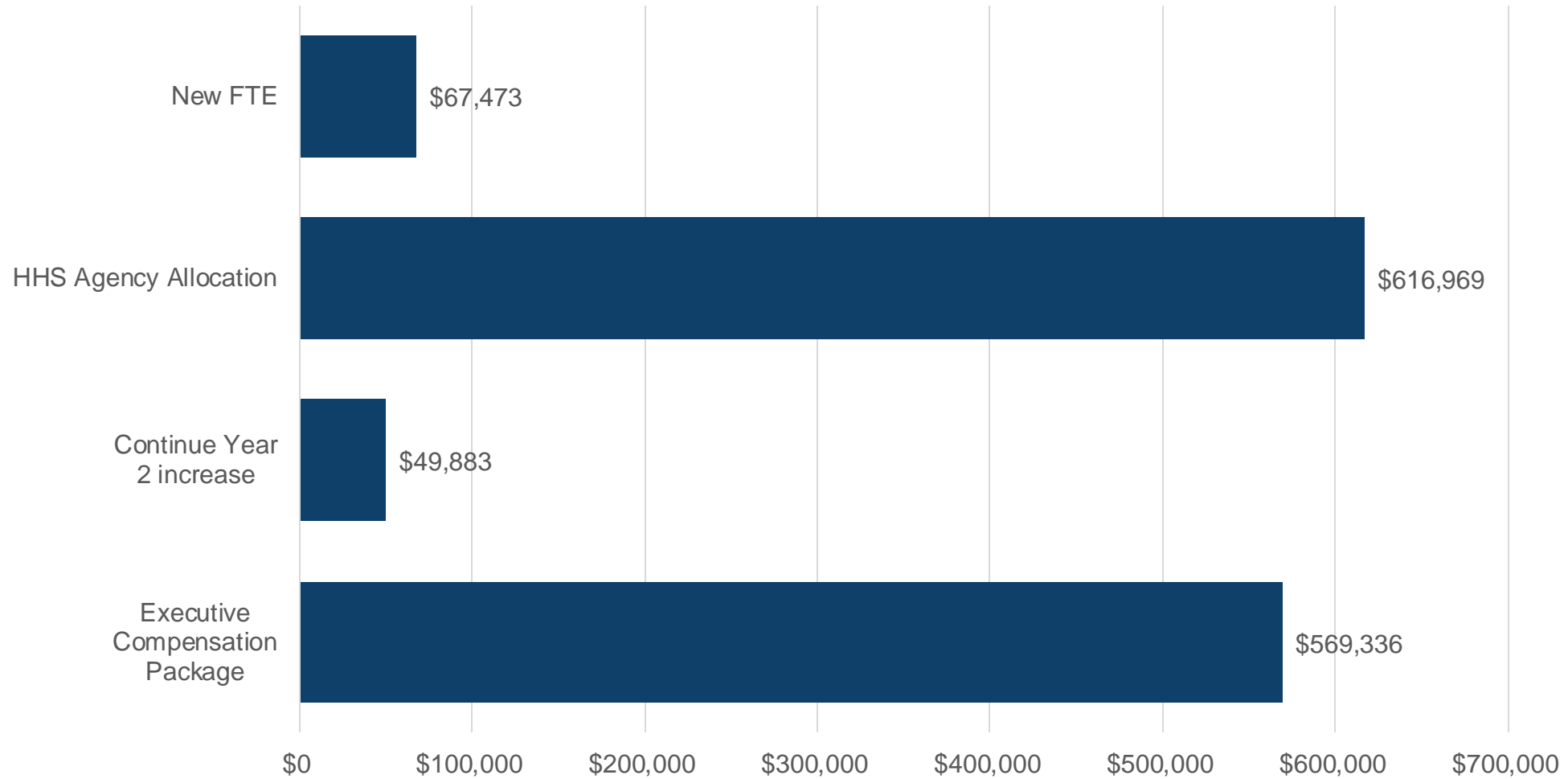


COVID Funding - Moving Forward

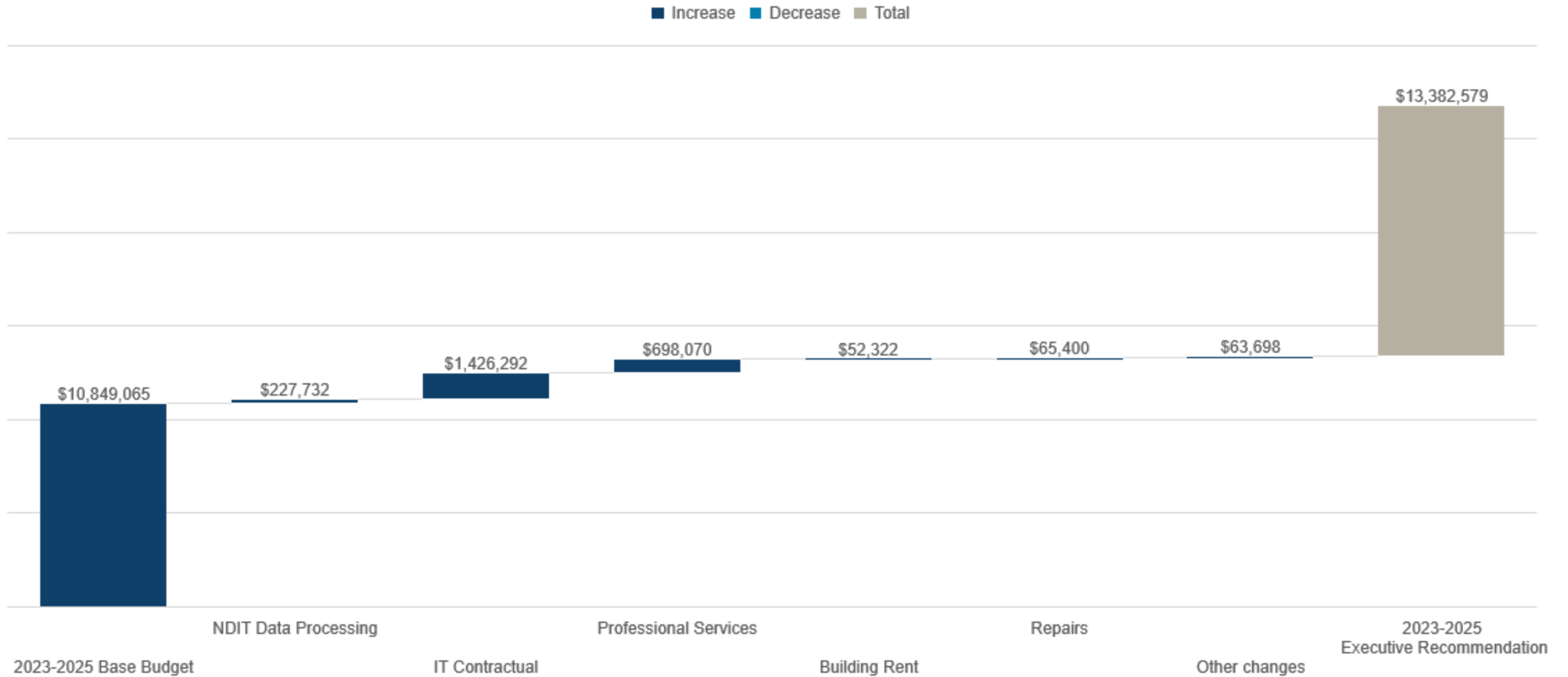
Federal grants will allow for disease prevention infrastructure and cross-cutting activities.

- Public health response data demands.
- NDIIS and Maven modernization.
- HAI prevention activities.
- Advanced molecular detection.
- Antimicrobial surveillance and stewardship.
- Increasing immunization rates for all immunizations.
- Transitioning COVID vaccine from a federal asset to the private market.

Major Salary & Wage Differences

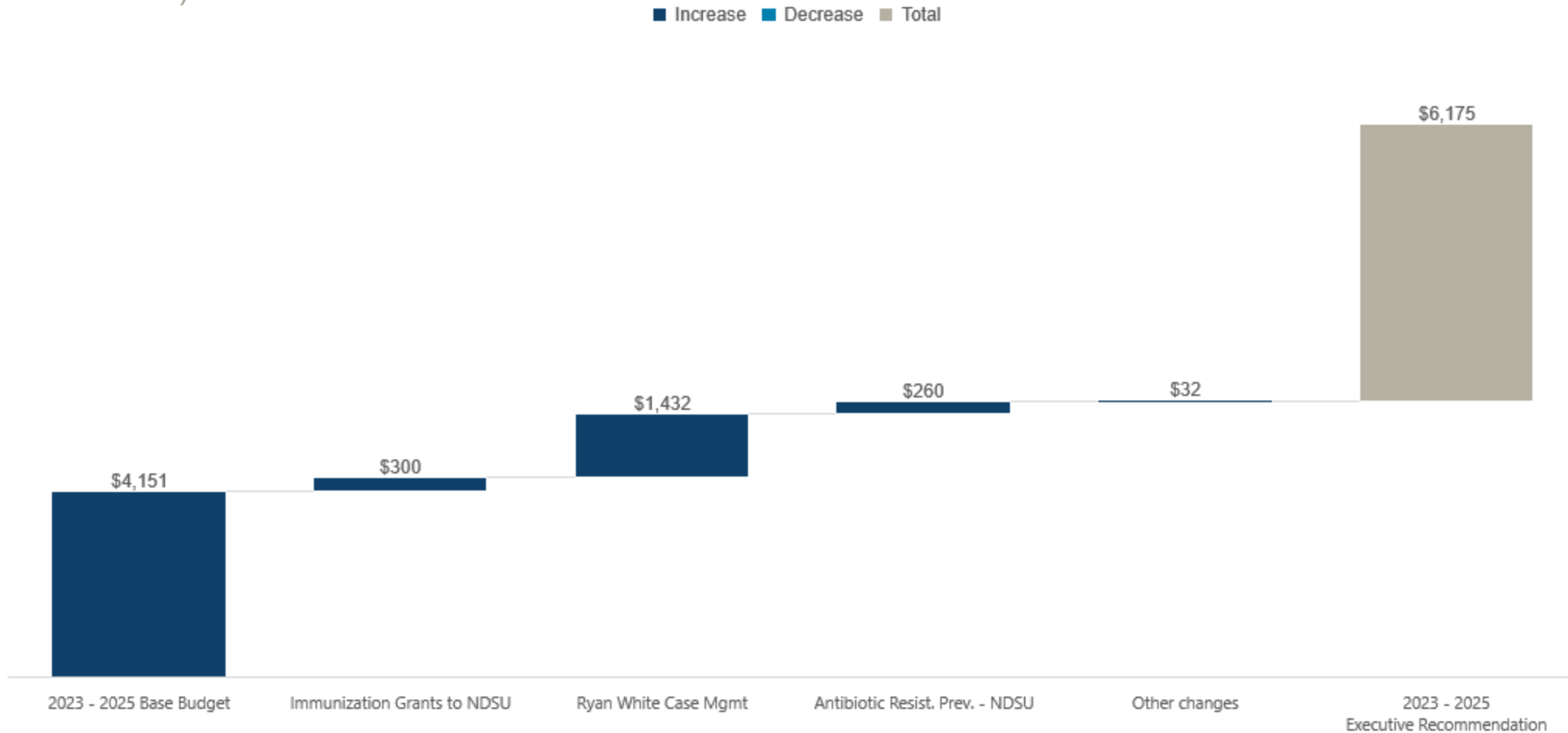


Major Operating Differences



Major Grant Differences

(in thousands)



Summary and Key Takeaways

1

Reduce illness and preventable deaths by understanding causes and increasing prevention.

2

Reducing infectious disease and preventable deaths contributes to a healthier state.

3

North Dakotans living healthier lives are happier and more productive.

4

Legislative support for key programs and staffing further enhances our ability to better understand and prevent deaths and infectious diseases.





THANK YOU

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