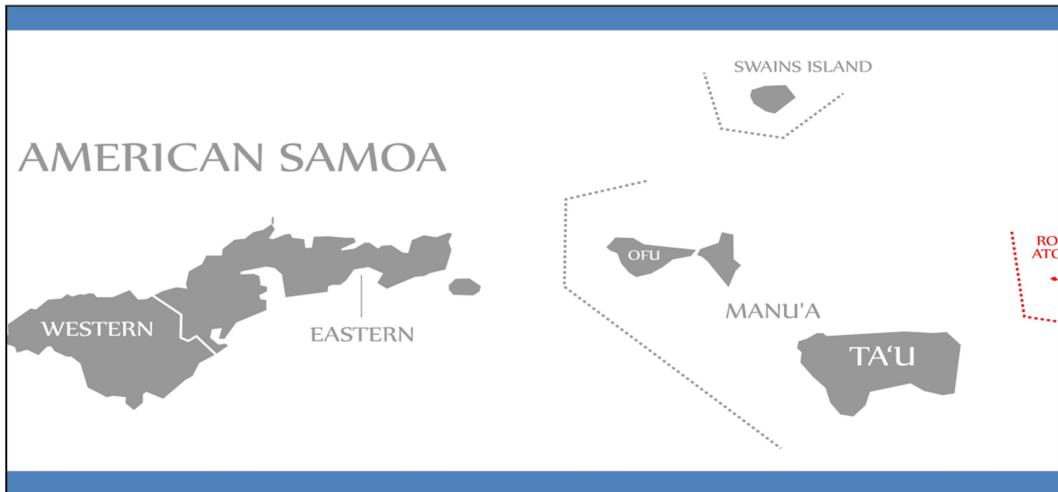


AMERICAN SAMOA

HIGHWAY SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2024



OCTOBER 1, 2023-SEPTEMBER 30, 2024





**American Samoa
Highway Safety Annual Report
Federal Fiscal Year 2024**

Prepared for:

**U. S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

Developed and Presented by:

**The American Samoa Government
Department of Public Safety
Office of Highway Safety
Pago Pago, AS 96799**





January 22, 2025

**Department of Public Safety
Office of Highway Safety**

HTC Taagai'afea'i S. Moliga

Commissioner / Governor's Representative for Traffic Safety,
Department of Public Safety

OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY STAFF

Duke Vele, Program Coordinator

Siau Lavea, Finance Manager

Ivanhoe Moli, Traffic Records Program Manager

Penikila Solomona, Police Traffic Services Program Manager

Tutasi Ripley, Occupant Protection Program Manager



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Overview

Mission

The mission of the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety is to actively reduce the incidence of traffic crashes, fatalities, and injuries on the roadways of American Samoa. We aim to foster a safer environment for all individuals, including motorists, passengers, and pedestrians.

Program Funding

The American Samoa Highway Safety Program plays a crucial role in enhancing road safety within our island territory by managing federal highway safety funds. These funds are specifically designated to support initiatives aimed at improving driving behavior and reducing traffic-related incidents.

Under the leadership of Commissioner of Public Safety PC Lefiti Atiulagi F. Pese, who serves as the Governor's representative for Highway Safety, the program is well-coordinated, with Mr. Duke Vele designated as the Highway Safety Coordinator.

To effectively address the challenges on our roads, the Department of Public Safety's Office of Highway Safety develops a comprehensive annual Highway Safety Plan (HSP). This plan identifies critical highway safety concerns and problem areas within our community. By strategically allocating the available funds, the HSP implements evidence-based traffic safety programs and projects designed to create a safer driving environment for all residents and visitors to American Samoa.

The goal of the program is to foster a culture of safety and encourage responsible driving practices throughout the territory. To achieve this, the annual Highway Safety Plan targets key highway safety issues and uses awarded funds to implement effective traffic safety programs and projects.

This report presents the results of the FFY 2024 Highway Safety Plan and serves as the Annual Report for the American Samoa Department of Public Safety Office of Highway Safety.

The funds awarded were specifically allocated to initiatives aimed at minimizing fatalities and severe injuries associated with motor vehicle crashes. These resources supported the development and execution of targeted programs and strategies designed to influence driver behavior in critical areas of concern, including:

****Impaired Driving:** Focused on combating the risks associated with driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

****Occupant Protection:** Aimed at enhancing safety measures for vehicle occupants, such as the use of seat belts and child safety seats.

****Traffic Records:** Concentrated on improving the accuracy and accessibility of traffic-related data to inform policy and practice.



****Police Traffic Services:** Designed to bolster law enforcement efforts in monitoring and managing traffic safety through effective policing strategies.

Core Performance Measures

The guidelines established by NHTSA empower states and territories to pinpoint critical issues and funding necessities within each of the nationally designated program priority areas. The projects chosen for funding in FFY 2024 effectively leverage strategies from the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety's four essential areas, showcasing their impressive outcomes in the following pages.



Performance Report Chart

FFY 2024 Annual Report

Performance Measure:	Target Period	Target Year(s)	Benchmark Value for FY 24 listed in 3HSP	Data Source/ FY 24 Progress Results	On Track to Meet FY 24 Benchmark: YES/NO/In-Progress
C-1) Total Traffic Fatalities	5 Year	2020-2024	0	2019-2023 Territory 2.8	No
C-2) Serious Injuries in Traffic Crashes	5 Year	2020-2024	2	2019-2023 Territory 5	No
**C-3) Fatalities/VMT	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C

**American Samoa does not collect VMT data and does not have to have common performance measures in the HSP or HSIP

C-4) Unrestrained Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities, All Seat Positions	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-5) Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-6) Speeding-Related Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-7) Motorcyclist Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-8) Unhelmeted Motorcyclist Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-9) Drivers Age 20 or Younger Involved in Fatal Crashes	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-10) Pedestrian Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
C-11) Bicyclist Fatalities	Annual	2024	0	2023 Territory 0	Yes
B-1) Observed Seat Belt Use for Passenger Vehicles, Front Seat Outboard Occupants (State Survey)	Annual	2023	84.4%	2024 NHTSA Certified State Survey 77.1%	No

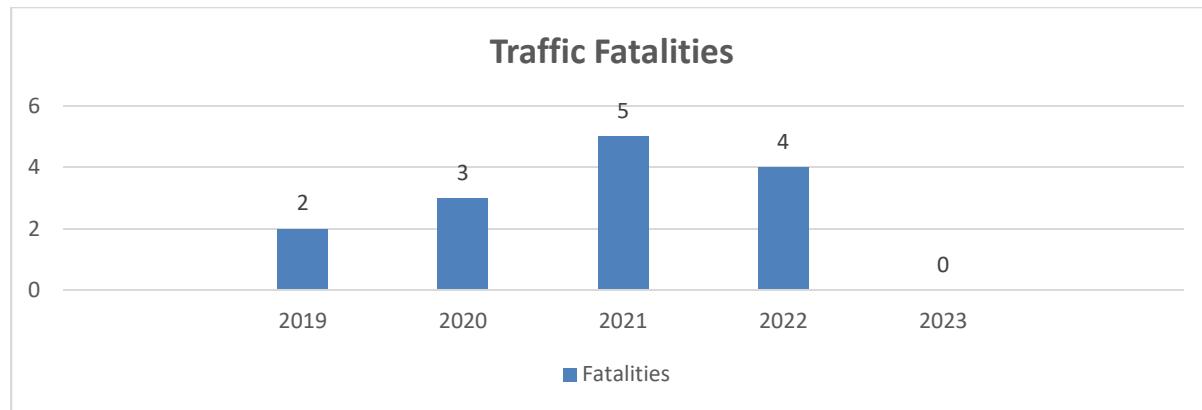
Traffic Safety Core Performance Measures

C-1 Traffic Fatalities:

American Samoa's goal is to decrease traffic fatalities from (2.8) using the 5-year average baseline (2019-2023) to (0) using the five-year target average (2020-2024).

Result: Not Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there has been an average of 2.8 fatalities since December of 2023

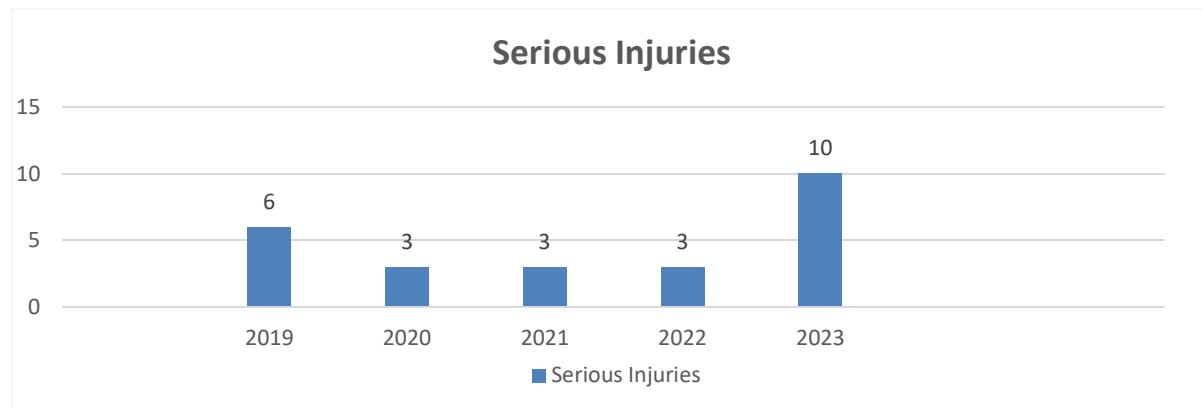


C-2 Serious Injuries:

American Samoa's goal is to decrease serious injuries from (5) using the 5-year average baseline (2019-2023) to (2) using the five-year target average (2019-2023).

Result: Not Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there has been an average of (5) Traffic-related serious injury as of December 2023.

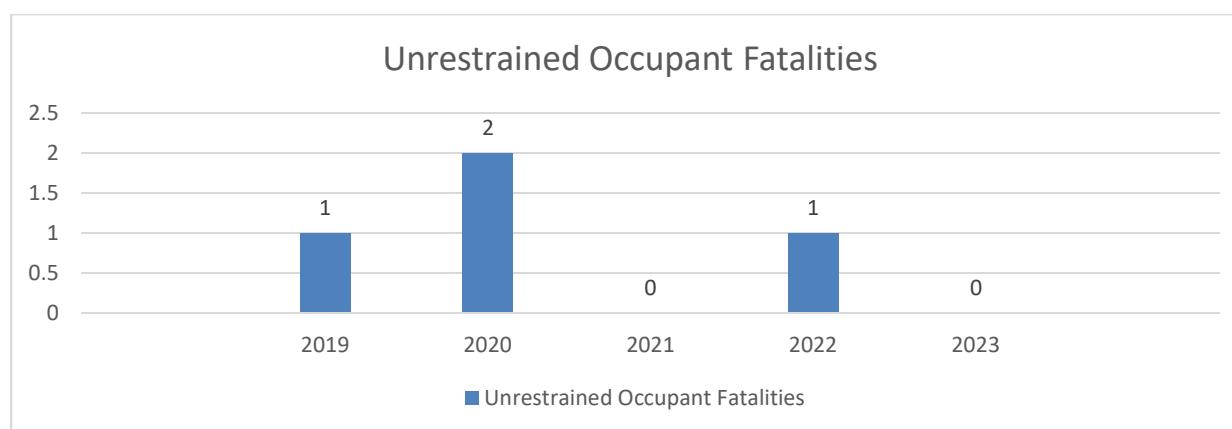


**C-3 Fatalities / Vehicle Mile Travel (VMT):** *VMT data is not collected in the Territories.***C-4 Unrestrained Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities, all Seat Positions.**

American Samoa's goal is to decrease Unrestrained Passenger Vehicle Occupant fatalities in all seating positions to continue from (0) using the 5-year average baseline (2019-2023) to (0) using the five-year target average (2020-2024).

Result: Met

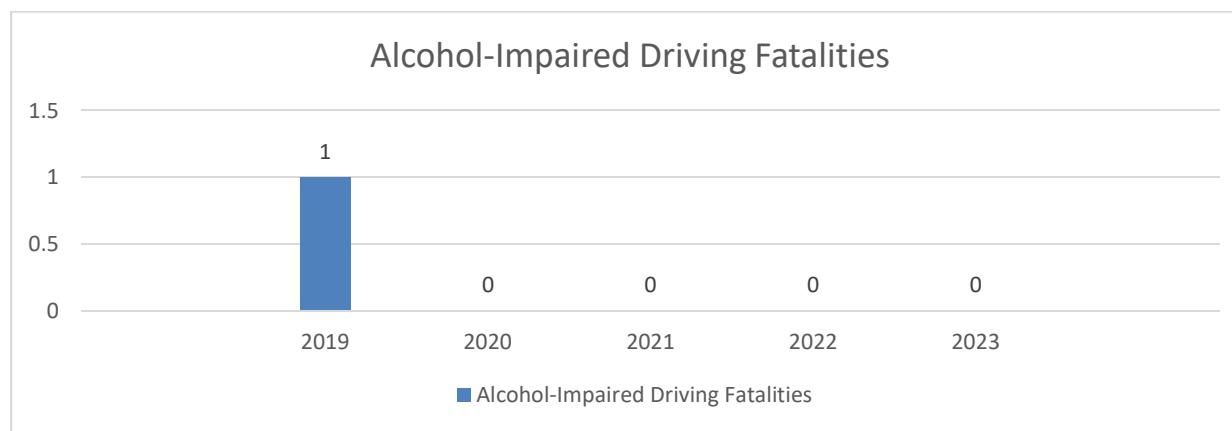
Based on preliminary state data, there has been an average of 0 unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities as of December 2023.

**C-5 Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities:**

American Samoa's goal is to decrease Alcohol-Impaired Driving fatalities from (0) using the 5-year average baseline (2019-2023) to (0) using the five-year target average (2020-2024).

Result: Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2018-2022) state data, there has been an average of (0) Alcohol-Impaired Driving fatalities as of December 2023.



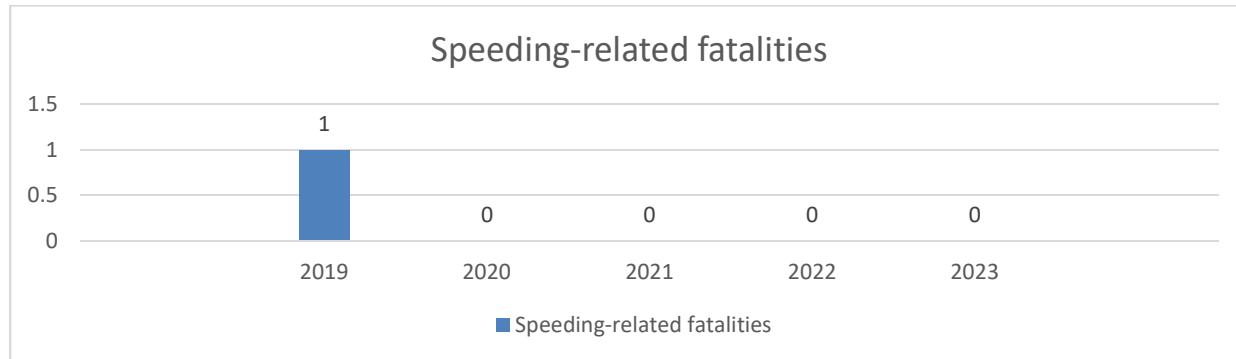


C-6 Speeding-related fatalities:

American Samoa's goal is to decrease Speed-related fatalities from (0) using the 5-year average baseline (2019-2023) to (0) using the five-year target average (2020-2024).

Result: In Progress

Based on preliminary state data, there was an average of (0) speed-related fatality as of December 2023.



C-7 Motorcycle Fatalities:

To maintain the number of motorcycle fatalities at (0) using the (2019-2023) calendar base year average by December 31, 2023.

Result: Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there have been (0) Motorcycle fatalities as of December 2023.

C-8 Un-helmeted Motorcycle Fatalities:

To maintain the number of Un-helmeted motorcycle fatalities at (0) using the five-year average baseline (2019-2023).

Result: Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there have been (0) Un-helmeted motorcycle fatalities as of December 2023.

C-9 Drivers Aged 20 or Younger Involved in Fatal Crashes:

To maintain the number of drivers, age 20 or younger involved in fatal crashes at (0) using the five-year average baseline (2019-2023).

Result: Met

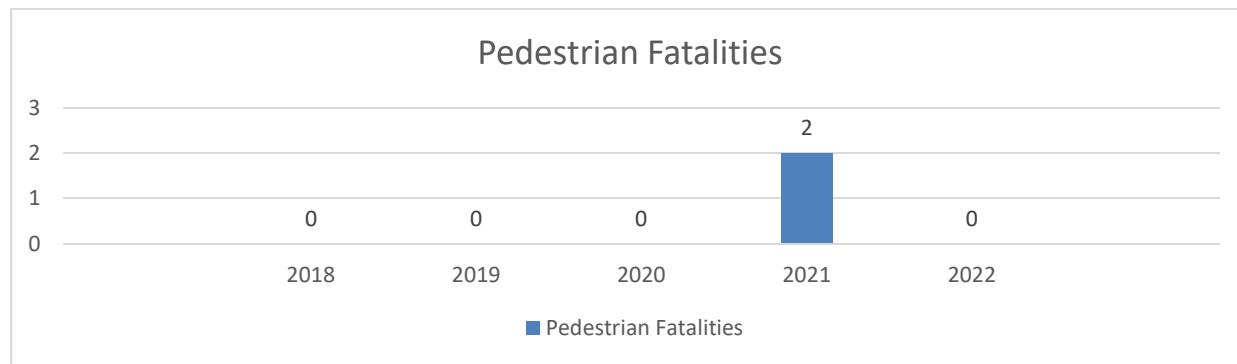
Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there has been (0) driver aged 20 or younger involved in fatal crashes as of December 2023.

**C-10 Pedestrian Fatalities:**

To decrease the number of Pedestrian Fatalities by (0) using the five-year average (2019-2023) (1) to (0) using the five-year average baseline (2019-2023).

Result: In Progress

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there has been an average of 2 Pedestrian Fatality as of December 2023.

**C-11 Bicyclist Fatalities:**

To maintain the number of Bicyclist Fatalities at (0) using the five-year average baseline (2019-2023).

Result: Met

Based on preliminary five-year average (2019-2023) state data, there have been (0) Bicyclist Fatalities as of December 2023.

Core Behavior Measure:**B-1 Seat Belt Use Rate (Observed Seat Belt Use Survey):**

Goal: To increase observed Seat Belt use for passenger vehicles' front seats or occupant's 6 percent from 84.4 percent in 2023 to 90 percent of seat belt use by December 31, 2024.

Results: Not Met

In 2024, an observed seat belt use survey indicated a decrease in percentage from 84.4 percent in 2023 to 77.1 percent in 2024.

**Core Activity Measure:****A-1 Seat Belt Citation Issued During Mobilization/Enforcement***May 2024 – Mobilization CIOT*

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Occupant Protection	165	402	317	154	152
Child Restraint	77	34	403	16	24

A-2 Impaired Driving Arrests made during Crackdown/Enforcement.*December 2023 to January 2024 – Mobilization/Enforcement*

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
DWI Arrests	18	24	16	10	19

A-3 August 2024 – Mobilization/Enforcement

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
DWI Arrests	N/C	7	2	9	18

A-3 Speed Citations Issued during Enforcement.*(2020-2023 January, May, August) (July 2024 – Speed Month)*

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Speeding	868	956	940	295	406

Project Implementation

All project proposals for FY 2024 were implemented and completed.



Public Participation & Engagement

In May 2023, we launched our Public Participation and Engagement (PP&E) strategy, strategically aligning it with the annual observance of National Police Week. This initiative is designed to encourage community involvement and ensure that everyone's voice is heard. To achieve this goal, we organized a series of informative town hall meetings, specifically targeting the island's two most populated districts. These two districts are primarily home to a vibrant Samoan community, complemented by a diverse mix of other ethnic groups that have chosen this island territory as their permanent residence.

The Western District, home to approximately 64% of the island's residents, stands as a vibrant hub brimming with rich cultures and diverse perspectives. Its distinctiveness is not just notable; it is a defining feature of our community. Meanwhile, the Eastern District, though smaller, represents about 34% of the population and brings its own unique perspectives to the table. Recognizing the importance of cultural engagement, we focused our initial outreach efforts on the Samoan population, honoring their significant presence on the island before expanding our reach to include other ethnic groups.

Additionally, a small yet important segment of the population, consisting of 840 individuals, resides on the island of Manu'a. These town hall meetings serve as a platform for fostering an inclusive environment, where community members can engage in open dialogue, share their insights, and collaboratively work towards a better future for all. Through this initiative, we aspire to build stronger connections within the community and ensure that every voice contributes to the conversation.

The agenda for the town hall meetings is designed to address key issues concerning education, law enforcement, and the condition of roadways, mirroring the priorities discussed in the Western District. During the presentations, we shared compelling data that highlighted a troubling trend: in 2020, two out of the three fatal crashes that occurred on the Island happened within the Eastern District. The situation was similarly concerning in 2021, with three out of five fatal crashes taking place in this area.

During the meeting, residents of the Eastern District voiced significant concerns regarding traffic safety. They collectively underscored the urgent need for measures to calm traffic, as well as increased enforcement against distractions—such as mobile phone usage while driving—and speed violations. The district experiences a notably high volume of traffic throughout the weekdays, and a striking pattern has emerged: the majority of traffic fatalities in 2022 occurred during the hours of 8 AM to 5 PM. This data suggests that more robust enforcement measures during these peak times are essential to improving safety on our roads.

In addition to these issues, other topics were also raised during the meeting. The outcomes and discussions surrounding each area of the agenda are as follows:



Education: Residence of Eastern District would like to collaborate with Highway Safety office in developing education materials in more languages than English. Majority of the citizens in attendance were about 70% Samoans, 30 % Asians decent and other Pacific Islanders.

- Multi-language Highway Safety Materials
- Safe Walking Education and Messages
- Make Crash Data available to the public to improve awareness.

Enforcement: Observation shows a lot of drivers are engaged in Distracted Driving. Public Bus Drivers don't stop at crosswalk for pedestrians.

- Distracted Driving
- Speeding

Ongoing Engagement Planning

As we look to the future, the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety is committed to actively engaging the diverse populations of both the Western and Eastern Districts in all facets of traffic safety. This comprehensive approach includes crucial areas such as occupant protection, police traffic services, and the prevention of alcohol-related and impaired driving incidents. By fostering meaningful dialogue with these communities, we aim to uncover effective countermeasures that resonate with their unique circumstances and cultural contexts.

Our engagement efforts will extend beyond mere conversation; we seek to recruit potential grantees that can help implement targeted initiatives in occupant protection and impaired driving awareness within these specific areas. Their insights will play a vital role in shaping our strategies, allowing us to tailor our approach to meet the distinct needs of each district effectively.

In addition, we will leverage our partnerships with various stakeholders in these districts to refine and enhance our countermeasures across all program areas. By soliciting input from community members as we design safety countermeasure strategies and launch projects, we aim to gain a deep understanding of the underlying risk factors contributing to traffic incidents. This collaborative effort will not only help us identify trends but also enable us to develop proactive solutions that enhance the safety and well-being of everyone on our roads.

- ASOHS will actively engage with professional translators to create translated versions of our traffic safety brochures, commercials, and advertisements. This initiative aims to effectively reach and communicate vital safety information to underserved communities in their native languages, ensuring inclusivity and understanding.

- In our pursuit of community engagement, ASOHS will enhance our collaboration with a diverse array of stakeholders, including government organizations, agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), during various community events. We will set up interactive displays, informative booths, and captivating demonstrations designed to spark interest and promote public participation. Furthermore, we will conduct in-person interviews



throughout these events to gather valuable feedback and insights from attendees to better understand their perspectives.

- ASOHS is committed to partnering with village councils, coalitions, and private sector organizations to provide education on the critical importance of enforcing road safety regulations. This includes a strong focus on occupant safety, proper use of child car seats, the dangers of impaired driving, and the risks associated with speeding. Our outreach efforts will aim to foster safer driving habits within villages and communities.
- Our ongoing collaboration with local media is essential in our mission to educate and engage the community regarding roadway safety. By working hand in hand with these media outlets, we can effectively disseminate important information, raise awareness about road safety issues, and explore innovative strategies for improvement. We will highlight the effectiveness of our initiatives by presenting compelling before-and-after data that illustrates the positive changes in road safety.

ASOHS is dedicated to supporting a roadway project that is eligible under the Section 405(c) Grant Program. This initiative will specifically target various ethnic groups and demographic populations within our island community. To enhance accessibility and participation, we will provide language translation services at our community events. Our ongoing presence within the community will clearly demonstrate our commitment to supporting highway safety projects. We are not only focused on the duration of specific initiatives but are also committed to fostering enduring relationships by actively participating in and supporting community activities over the long term. Importantly, we will integrate the feedback we receive from these engagements into our decision-making processes to ensure that our future programs resonate with community needs and priorities.

Law Enforcement Community Collaboration

American Samoa has been an essential and vibrant part of the United States since the signing of the Deed of Cession on April 17, 1900. As the southernmost U.S. territory, it encompasses a breathtaking archipelago comprised of five remarkable islands located in the South Pacific Ocean, approximately 2,500 miles southwest of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Covering an area of approximately 76 square miles, American Samoa features a diverse and captivating landscape characterized by impressive mountains and inviting beaches. This territory is rich in cultural heritage, deeply rooted in its indigenous Polynesian traditions, distinguishing it as a unique asset in the Pacific. According to the 2020 United States Census, the population of American Samoa is approximately 49,680 residents, who are often referred to as part of "villages," reflecting a profound sense of tradition and communal unity among the population.

The American Samoa Office of Highway Safety, operating under the Department of Public Safety, is instrumental in promoting road safety. The Police Department is made up of 126 friendly sworn officers and 39 helpful non-sworn personnel, all working together to keep our



community safe. Their dedication ensures that residents and visitors alike can enjoy the beauty of our island community with peace of mind.

As the saying goes, "It takes a village." With that in mind, law enforcement leadership must rely on a committed ideology of community policing. Law enforcement is not capable of solving all the problems within a community alone; however, if partnerships between public safety and their communities are effective, the outcome can be monumental in reducing crime and improving relations. The relationships between law enforcement entities and individual communities are uniquely complicated. Law enforcement, community members, stakeholders and other resource groups must be willing to make changes together and trust one another to create successful partnerships for the safety of our communities.

Our Police Department took a proactive step towards enhancing community safety by forging collaborations with stakeholders and resource groups shortly after COVID-19 impacted our island territory.

To foster connections with our youth, police officers participated in community basketball and baseball games as part of our wellness program. This effort not only allowed officers to engage directly with young people but also showcased our commitment to being a supportive presence dedicated to the safety and well-being of our community.

The results, though gradual, are encouraging. We can see a shift in the attitude of the younger generation, who are now more open to conversations with our police officers. By continuing these efforts, we can strengthen trust and cooperation in our community.

Our community is small yet vibrant, with a rich cultural heritage that significantly contributes to our collective identity. The High Chiefs, along with the established councils of chiefs, are responsible for setting penalties for individuals who violate the laws enacted by each village council. Furthermore, we encourage villages to collaborate with our Police Officers in addressing specific cases involving residents from their respective communities. This collaborative approach helps ensure the safety and well-being of all individuals within our community.

Evidence-Based Enforcement Plan (EBE)

In 2024, the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety (ASOHS) reaffirmed its dedication to enhancing road safety by actively working to reduce fatalities, injuries, and the number of fatal crashes on the territory's roads. To craft a comprehensive enforcement plan, ASOHS meticulously analyzed data collected from previous years up to the present. This thorough examination allowed them to identify specific locations where traffic incidents frequently occurred, thereby highlighting critical problem areas in need of attention.

In its mission to mitigate the dangers associated with road travel, ASOHS concentrates its efforts on several key programs:



****Impaired Driving:** This initiative targets drivers under the influence of alcohol or drugs, aiming to prevent dangerous behaviors that lead to accidents.

****Occupant Protection:** Focused on the importance of seat belts and child restraints, this program seeks to increase the proper use of safety devices for all vehicle occupants.

****Speed Enforcement:** This program addresses the risks associated with excessive speed, working to ensure drivers adhere to safe speed limits.

To effectively allocate resources, Section 402 funding is channeled into areas with the highest occurrences of traffic-related issues, particularly those linked to alcohol use. As highlighted in the problem identification section of the 2024-2026 Triennial Highway Safety Plan (HSP), ASOHS collaborates with strategic partners who utilize data to shape targeted enforcement strategies, identify necessary equipment upgrades, and request educational materials for the community.

In 2025, ASOHS is committed to conducting robust enforcement activities that intertwine the efforts against speeding and impaired driving. These initiatives will be strategically focused on areas identified as having elevated rates of crashes, ensuring a proactive approach to improving road safety across American Samoa.

Deployment of Resources

To optimize the effectiveness of enforcement resources, the Traffic Division within the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the primary grant recipient, shall implement a comprehensive range of evidence-based strategies informed by the available data. These strategies will include precision-targeted enforcement efforts aimed at addressing critical violations such as impaired driving and speeding. Furthermore, these initiatives will be concentrated during specific periods in which violations are most prevalent, particularly during late-night hours associated with impaired driving incidents and times when seat belt usage is frequently overlooked.

In addition to focused strategies, high-visibility enforcement initiatives will be prioritized. This will involve active participation in national campaigns designed to encourage seat belt usage and mitigate impaired driving, ensuring that law enforcement maintains a visible and engaged presence within the community. To further strengthen these efforts, several mandatory holiday enforcement saturation patrols will be scheduled to deter violations during periods characterized by higher traffic-related incidents.

Through the implementation of these comprehensive approaches, the goal is to enhance public safety and promote responsible driving behavior. The Traffic Division, in conjunction with the primary grant recipient, is directed to ensure that enforcement resources are deployed effectively by utilizing evidence-based strategies derived from the provided data. Proven strategies will comprise targeted enforcement focusing on specific violations, such as impaired driving and speeding, as well as high-visibility measures during peak violation periods. Collectively, these initiatives aim to foster safer roadways and cultivate a culture of responsible driving.



Effectiveness Monitoring

We are steadfast in our commitment to ensuring safety on our highways, as it is a paramount concern affecting all community members. Continuous monitoring of our enforcement programs is essential to achieving this objective. The Traffic Division is dedicated to regularly reviewing and refining our enforcement strategies to address the evolving challenges on our roadways effectively. We emphasize high-visibility enforcement initiatives and recognize that data facilitates informed decision-making.

The American Samoa Office of Highway Safety (ASOHS) employs reports from the Online State Crash Analysis Reporting System (OSCAR) to obtain critical insights into fatality and serious injury statistics. These reports are instrumental in enhancing our enforcement plans as we continuously seek improvements for the benefit of all road users.

Our program managers are committed to collaborating with local agencies. Together, we will assess our productivity and evaluate our progress toward our shared objectives, always prioritizing the community's safety. Ensuring the well-being of our citizens remains our highest priority, and we are resolute in our mission to make our roads safer for everyone.



Program Areas

Planning & Administration

PA-OHS-2024: Highway Safety Program Management

Funding Source: 402

Budget: \$294,613

Expended: \$171,100.62

Description:

The funding allocated for this initiative played a crucial role in supporting five key positions within the Office of Highway Safety (OHS). This funding allowed for enhanced collaboration with the Police Traffic Unit, which focused on implementing community outreach programs and delivering informative presentations to the public. Additionally, it covered essential office supplies for both the OHS and the Police Traffic Unit, ensuring that both teams had the necessary resources to operate effectively. Significant funds were set aside for the production of brochures and training manuals aimed at enhancing outreach efforts and training programs. These materials were instrumental in educating the community on traffic safety and the services offered by the OHS. Furthermore, a portion of the budget was dedicated to travel expenses, enabling all OHS staff members and the Governor's Representative (GR) to attend vital meetings and conferences throughout the year.

The year 2024 proved to be a remarkable and successful chapter for the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety. The Traffic Division, under the umbrella of the OHS and the Department of Public Safety, executed a series of community outreach initiatives that occurred regularly across various locations. These events were fundamental in meeting the Public Participation and Engagement requirements established in the Triennial Plan for FY 2024-2026.

In addition to community outreach, the ASOHS staff engaged in comprehensive professional development through various conferences and training sessions, all of which received approval from our Regional 9 office. Notable events included the Lifesavers Conference, Partners Meeting; the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) annual meeting, and the American Traffic Safety Information Providers (ATSIP) Traffic Forum. These events provided valuable learning opportunities and insights into best practices in traffic safety.

Furthermore, a group comprised of OHS staff, several police officers, and a representative from the Treasury Department attended the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Grants Management training. This training, coordinated by the Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) office, was specifically tailored for all U.S. territories and took place in Guam in August 2024. This experience equipped attendees with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively manage and maximize the impact of federal grants in supporting traffic safety initiatives within their communities.



****Result:****

- Completed and submitted the FY 2025 Annual Grant Application to NHTSA Headquarters.
- Completed the NHTSA Grants Management Training in Guam.
- Conducted the (PP&E) assessment across the island to fulfill the requirements for the Triennial Highway Safety Plan.
- Staff members attended the LifeSavers Conference and Partners Meeting in April 2024, held in Denver, CO, and Sacramento, CA, as well as the GHSA Conference in September 2024 in Indianapolis, IN.
- Procured two law enforcement vehicles using funding allocated through the PTS Program.
- Utilized grant funds to conduct community outreach and presentations, primarily delivering these through social media, billboard ads, and radio ads.



Occupant Protection

OP-PM-EETIS-2024: Occupant Protection, Enforcement and Seatbelt Survey

Funding Source: 402

Budget: \$441,072.00

Expended: \$ 511,176.25

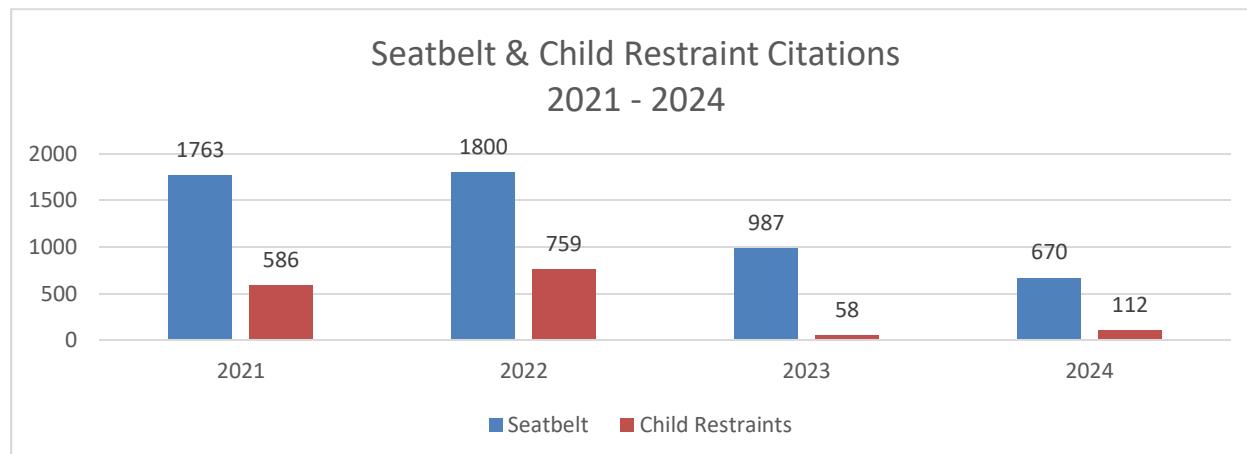
Description:

The funding allocated for this initiative is intended to support educational programs focused on the correct installation of child safety seats, emphasize the significance of seat belts and child safety seats, enforce seat belt and child safety seat regulations, engage in the Click It or Ticket campaign, and distribute child safety seats to new parents and families in need within American Samoa.

As part of this funding, three Child Passenger Safety technicians were certified: two from our subgrantee, the Department of Human and Social Services, and one from the Department of Public Safety's Traffic Division. Additionally, the funding facilitated the recertification of eight technicians and the submission of applications for three instructors, as well as support for one proxy technician.

The primary goal of the Office of Highway Safety Occupant Protection program with the Department of Public Safety Traffic Division is to reduce traffic-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities while educating our island and community about the importance of Seat Belt Usage, as well as the importance of child safety seats and always keeping the vehicle occupants safe.

Within the 4 quarters, there have been **670 Seatbelt citations, and 112 Child Restraint Citations issued**. There are **0 fatalities** involving unrestrained occupants for this year. From the data comparison from the 3 previous years, Seatbelt & Child Passenger Restraint Citations has decreased while maintaining a 0 fatality rate.



The Traffic Division has worked with the Office of Highway Safety in attending community outreaches educating students and our communities about the risks of driving and occupying a



vehicle unbelted. We have worked with the public and other agencies as well as to assist in reaching out to our communities and parents about the importance of seatbelts and child restraints.

****Results:****

- Funded National Click It or Ticket Mobilization overtime.
- Conducted 2 saturation patrols during the mobilization.
- Conducted 2 Occupant Protection/Child Passenger Safety presentations at Community Public Events
- Funded Travel Cost for CPS Technician to attend Lifesaver's Conference
- Funded Travel Cost for CPS Technicians to attend Kidz in Motion
- Funded Travel Cost for (1) CPS Technician for certification
- Funded Travel Cost for (3) Instructor Candidates to monitor and observe classroom
- Funded media advertisements (Radio, Newspaper, Commercials, Billboards, Mobile Displays for heatstroke awareness)
- Funding cost for CPS week and CPS Technicians installation hours
- Displayed grant funded vehicles at 2 Community Events, also during CPS week installations
- Purchased car seats for Child Passenger Safety Program
- Forwarded press releases and news articles related to grant activities to the Department of Public Safety and NHTSA
- Provided quarterly reports to update the progress of goals and objectives





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OP-DHSS-2024

Funding Source: 402

Budget: \$68,998.00

Expended: \$44,382.28

Funding under this program was planned to purchase car seats to educate and distribute to children enrolled in childcare facilities who are in need of assistance and are transported to and from day cares by caregivers in private vehicles.

Funding also under this program was planned to fund travel and certification for (2) staff to become certified technicians. To participate during Child Passenger Safety week and to also hold child fitting stations.

Funding was also planned to fund educational materials and media during outreaches and community awareness classes in and out of the day care facilities.

Result:

- Purchased for child passenger safety program and also for fitting stations and car seat checkups.
- Funded educational materials for outreaches during day care training and also site visits
- Funded travel cost for technician certifications
- Funded travel costs for technicians to attend Kidz in Motion
- Funded media adverts during fitting stations
- Funded brochures, signage that will assist in the identification and locate fitting stations.
- Provided quarterly reports that include the progress of goals and objectives, accomplishments, and challenges or delays to the Department of Public Safety by January





Police Traffic Services

PT HVE-2024: Impaired Driving and Speed Enforcement and Education

Funding Source: 402

Budget: \$610,535

Expended: \$912,189.39

Description:

Funding under this program was planned to conduct Impaired Driving and Speed enforcements as well as educational outreach programs in both urban and rural communities throughout the island. Enforcements related to Impaired Driving/DUI and Speeding included saturation patrols and High Visibility Enforcements. Enforcements included other traffic safety related areas such as occupant protection, pedestrian safety and distracted driving especially in school zones, villages, and areas associated with high numbers of pedestrians, collisions and injuries. Enforcement also increased during NHTSA's designated major holidays DSOGPO mobilizations.

The primary goal Office of Highway Safety Patrol Traffic Services program with the Department of Public Safety Traffic Division is to reduce impaired driving and speeding related crashes, injuries, and fatalities to zero (0) every year by educating our island community and conducting enforcements.

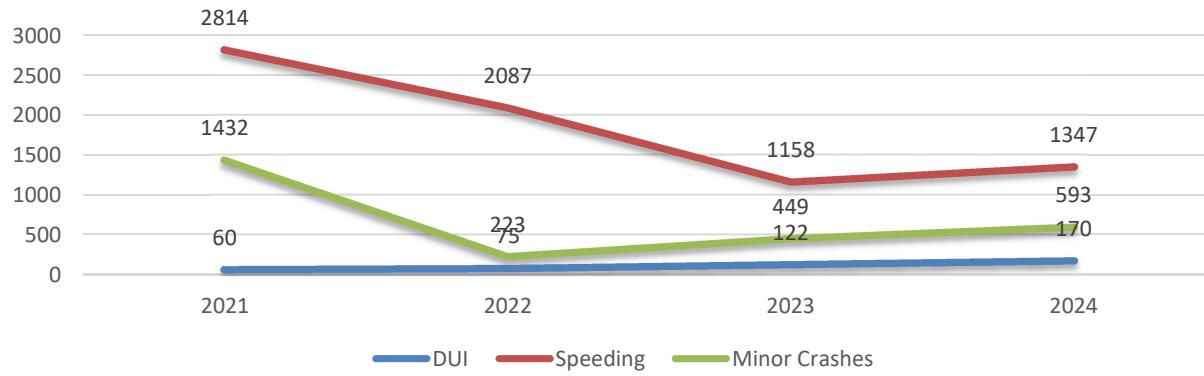
In addition to enforcements, the Office of Highway Safety and Traffic Division officers have partnered to conduct educational presentations and outreach in the community at schools, field trips, villages, churches and governmental events and other local events and venues. The partnership also collaborated to produce traffic safety videos, commercials, newspaper radio and billboard ads used to educate and raise awareness by reminding the public of the consequences and dangers of Drunk Driving, Speeding and reckless driving throughout the year.

A partnership with the Department of Health's Behavioral Health Services Division was reestablished this year to help combat the public health issue of impaired driving to not only support their national campaign of Drunk Drugged Driving (3-D) in December but also the Department of Public Safety's Office of Highway Safety and the NHTSA Holidays Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Mobilization Campaign. The partnership raised awareness through collaboration efforts from both departments at a roadside wave, and dialogue on television and radio talk shows.

Within this year, an estimated 170 DUI arrests, 1347 Speeding citations issued, 593 minor crashes with minor injuries, and one (1) fatality relating to Speeding have been reported. There are zero (0) fatalities related to Impaired Driving. Despite the one fatality, increase in DUI arrests, minor crashes and speeding citations, ASOHS and the Traffic Division continue to aggressively enforce our Traffic Safety laws by maintaining a strong presence on the road consistently by conducting more frequent short saturation Speed patrols and DUI night enforcements.

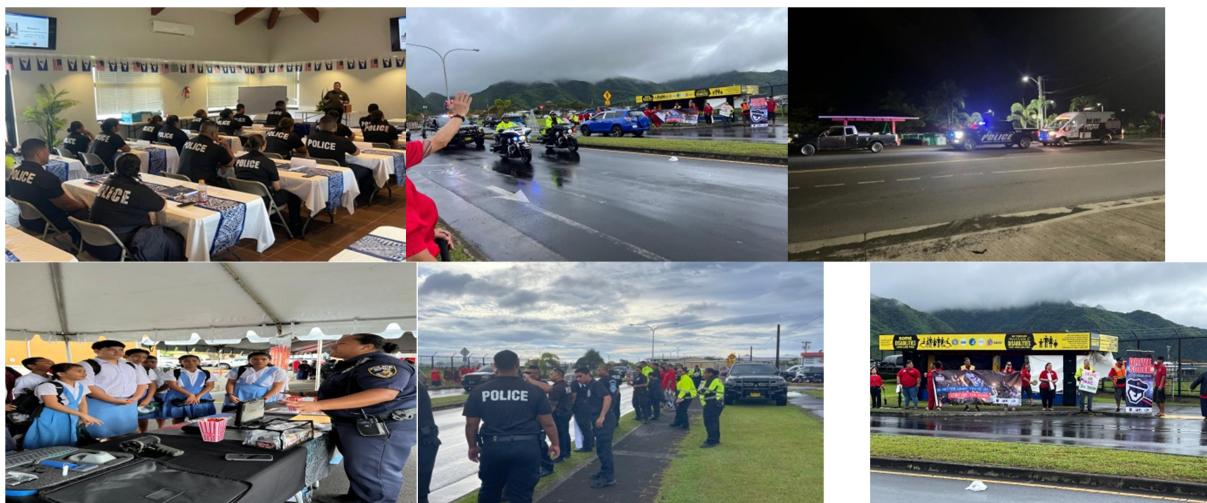


DUI & Speeding Citations, Minor crashes with no injuries



Result:

- Funded SFST and ARIDE Training in American Samoa instructed by Arizona State Troopers
- Partnered with Department of Health's Behavioral Health Services supporting their Drunk, Drugged, Driving(3-D) month in December
- Funded purchase of two (2) new Police Harley Motorcycles for Traffic Enforcement
- Funded Vehicle Mileage Reimbursements for Speed, CIOT and DSOGPO
- Purchased outreach material such as coloring books for children, flyers, and brochures
- Funded Media Ads, commercials, and newspaper ads, billboard ads
- Funded Overtime for October, November and December-January Holiday DSOGPO Mobilization, & February DUI and Speed Enforcement, June & July Speed and DUI Enforcement, August-Labor Day DSOGPO Enforcement
- Funded Travel of Traffic Officers to attend the Lifesavers Conference and Training





Traffic Records

TR-23-01: Program Management

Funding Source: 402

Budget: \$121,617.72

Expended: \$253,962.98

Description:

The funding allocated for this initiative will enable our contractor/consultant to continue providing essential support and maintenance for the ITISIS. Additionally, it will facilitate the implementation of necessary enhancements and modifications aimed at improving the system's usability and functionality.

The contractor will collaborate closely with the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety to address the findings and recommendations put forth by the NHTSA Traffic Records Assessment Team. Furthermore, the contractor will revise the Traffic Records Strategic Plan to ensure it accurately reflects the solutions and strategies endorsed by the TRCC, thereby establishing a robust framework for ongoing improvement and effectiveness.

****Result:****

- Weekly system utilization report for the program.
- Crash and ECitation Installation on new equipment
- Connections to the Cloud Centralized ITISIS Database
- Maintain User Domain Accounts

M3DA TR 405(c) Data Improvement Program

Funding Source: 405c

Budget: \$135,887.00

Expended: \$129,774.00 (Expended Carry Forward funds first)

Description:

The allocated funding for this initiative is designated for the engagement of a contractor responsible for the design and development of a Driver and Vehicle Data Lookup system for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Traffic. This system will leverage the capabilities of the Crash and E-Citation System. The Driver and Vehicle Lookup Module will encompass critical data required for accurately assessing the driver's license status and vehicle registration information. An auto-populate feature will be incorporated to streamline the completion of crash reports and the issuance of electronic citations.

Furthermore, Contractor will focus on integrating the recently finalized RIMS roadway inventory data with the Island roadmap to enhance the identification and location of crash events. A dedicated crash data layer will be added to the roadmap to improve both location accuracy and crash analysis. This mapping tool will serve as a resource in the ITISIS Reporting dashboard and will be accessible to DPS Traffic for strategic enforcement planning. Comprehensive training on ArcGIS and the associated dashboard will also be provided.



Result:

- Driver License Lookup Module
- Vehicle Registration Lookup Module
- Synchronization Program





2024 Mobilization

1. Halloween Weekend Enforcement

During the Halloween Weekend enforcement initiative, traffic officers were actively involved in the "Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving" campaign. Throughout this period, officers issued 64 speeding citations and conducted 4 DUI arrests. This effort underscores our commitment to promoting road safety and mitigating impaired driving incidents in our community.

2. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign (December 2023 – January 2024)

In December 2023, the Traffic Division actively participated in the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled" mobilization campaign. During this initiative, six checkpoints were established within the village of Nu'uuli. Over the course of the two-week mobilization, a total of 10 driving under the influence (DUI) arrests and 272 speeding citations were issued during nighttime enforcement operations.

3. February Super Bowl Speed and DUI Weekend Enforcement (February 9-11, 2024)

In February, traffic officers actively participated in the "Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk" campaign, which focused on reducing impaired driving. This initiative included both daytime speed monitoring and nighttime DUI enforcement efforts. During the nighttime enforcement activities, officers issued 15 DUI citations and a total of 130 citations for speeding violations.

4. May Click It Or Ticket Campaign

The May Click It or Ticket Campaign was initiated with a proclamation from the Governor, accompanied by a press release to raise awareness. Law enforcement officers conducted both stationary and roving patrols throughout the duration of the campaign. As a result, a total of 154 seatbelt citations and 16 citations for child passenger restraints were issued, underscoring the commitment to enhancing public safety on the roads.

5. June Graduation Speed/Impaired Driving and Seatbelt Enforcement

During June's graduation week, traffic officers conducted enforcement activities focused on speeding, impaired driving, and seatbelt compliance. Their efforts coincided with the graduation ceremonies at local colleges and high schools. As a result of this initiative, officers issued 15 speeding citations and made 13 DUI arrests. This proactive approach aims to enhance road safety during this celebratory time.

6. August DSOGPO Campaign & Speed Enforcement

In August, traffic enforcement officers participated in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over mobilization. Throughout this initiative, nighttime DUI enforcement efforts resulted in 18 arrests for driving under the influence, while daytime speed enforcement efforts led to the issuance of 125 speeding citations.



MOVING FORWARD – FY 2025

The following are planned activities for FY2025:

- The ASOHS is committed to enhancing its public participation and engagement initiatives, aiming to foster greater community involvement as we move towards the development of our next Triennial Plan, scheduled for 2026. This proactive approach will ensure that community voices are heard and incorporated into our planning process.
- In our efforts to build a more comprehensive network of support, ASOHS will actively engage a diverse array of stakeholders, including the Army Reserve and the LBJ Medical Center OBGYN clinic. This collaboration is in line with the recommendations provided by NHTSA officials during our recent Management Review, emphasizing the importance of multidisciplinary partnerships.
- ASOHS is dedicated to partnering with Law Enforcement and Traffic departments to enhance outreach activities in schools and surrounding communities across the territory. Through these efforts, we aim to heighten awareness of roadway safety and encourage students and residents to diligently practice safe behaviors as pedestrians, drivers, and vehicle occupants.
- ASOHS will prioritize gathering valuable feedback from students during our school visit program. While recent data does not indicate an increase in teen fatalities, these students represent the next generation of drivers. Their perspectives will be instrumental in shaping educational strategies that promote safe driving behaviors and help to prevent future accidents within our communities.
- We will collaborate closely with the Traffic Unit to underscore the critical importance of activities funded by grants. This partnership will ensure that all initiatives align with our strategic objectives and enhance community safety.
- ASOHS is committed to securing and maintaining funding dedicated to ongoing enforcement efforts beyond the scope of national mobilization events, ensuring a sustained focus on traffic safety throughout the year.
- We look forward to participating in the NHTSA Region 9 Partners Meeting, where we will share insights, strategies, and experiences with other stakeholders to collectively improve traffic safety initiatives.
- Our team will systematically assess and address personnel needs to strengthen our operations and enhance our effectiveness in traffic safety management.
- ASOHS will closely monitor and oversee the implementation of traffic safety grants and related operations to ensure accountability and maximize the positive impacts of our programs.



- We are focused on improving the accuracy and efficiency of traffic collision data collection and reestablishing a robust Traffic Records Program. This initiative is vital for informed decision-making and the development of targeted traffic safety interventions.

FY 2024 ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACHES:

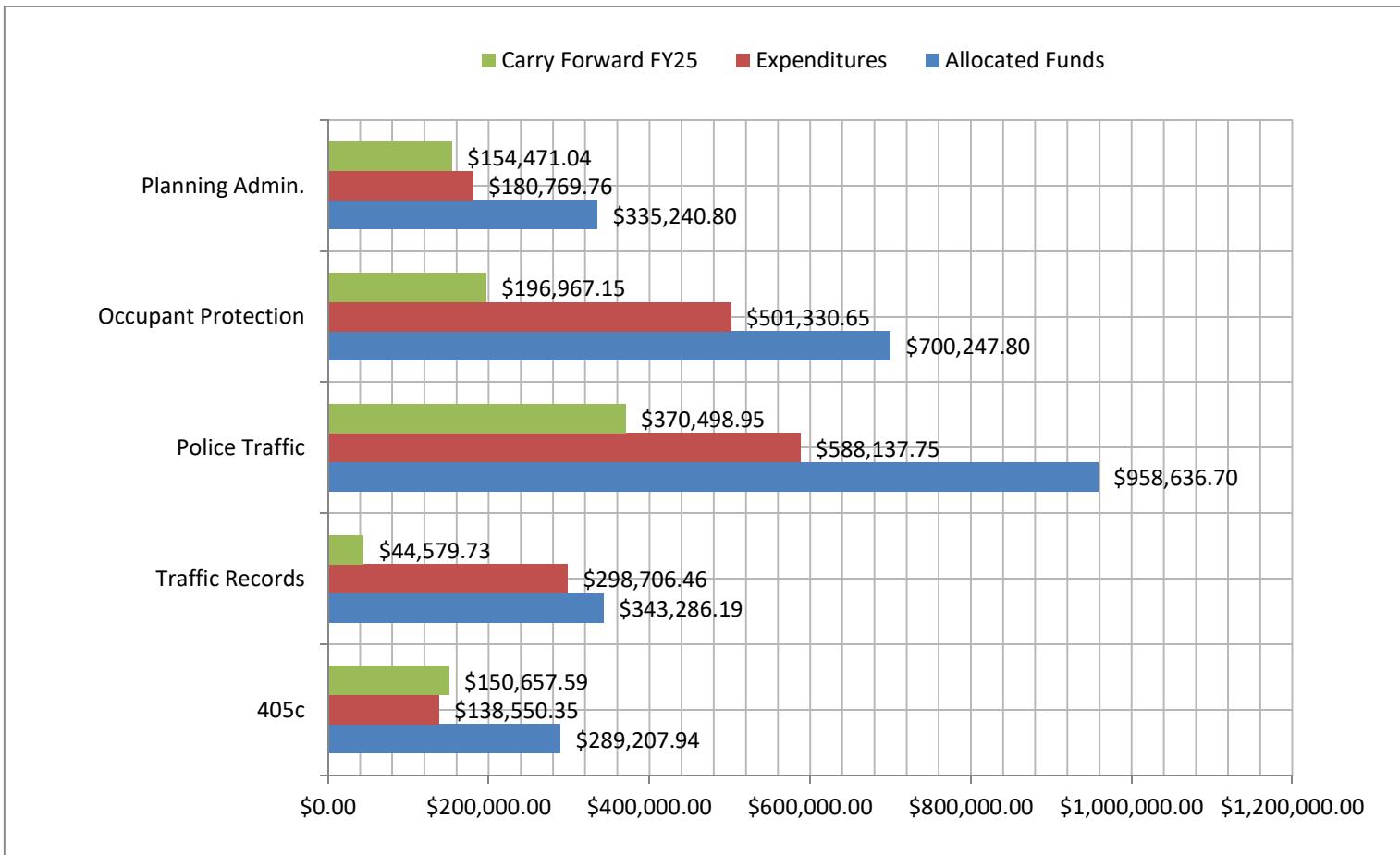




**NHTSA FAST ACT 402 & 405c
HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM FUNDING**

NHTSA Financial Report as of January 22, 2025

Program Area:	FY Appropriated	Expended:	Carry-
			Forward to FY25
PA-OHS-2024 PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION	\$335,240.80	\$180,769.76	\$154,471.04
OP-PM-EETIS-2024 OCCUPANT PROTECTION	\$700,247.80	\$501,330.65	\$196,967.15
PTS-HVE-2024 POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES	\$958,636.70	\$588,137.75	\$370,498.95
TR-PM-2024 TRAFFIC RECORDS	\$343,286.19	\$298,706.46	\$44,579.73
MEDA-TR-2024 DATA IMPROVEMENT (405C)	\$289,207.94	\$138,550.35	\$150,657.59
Total:	\$2,626,619.43	\$1,707,494.97	\$919,124.46





The following graphs represent FY24 Total Funding, Expenditure, and Carry Forward to Fiscal Year 2025.

