

VIRGIN ISLANDS ANNUAL REPORT FY2006

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VIRGIN ISLANDS HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

I. Program Overview - Federal Fiscal Year 2006

The Virgin Islands Highway Safety program is a combination of traffic safety projects that are funded with federal safety funds with the overall goal of reducing the number and severity of traffic crash deaths and injuries. The program is driven each year by the Highway Safety Plan, published and administered by the Virgin Islands Office of Highway Safety, along with funding sources from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Title 23, Section 402 Highway Safety Program, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. The Office of Highway Safety received a total of \$1,653,752.88 in federal funds, of which \$267,231.32 was expended, and \$1,386,521.56 was carried forward into FY-2007. FY'06 ended with an 8.73% reduction in traffic crashes and a 4% increase in the seat belt usage rate, see chart below:

FISCAL YEAR	2003	2004	2006	2006
ALL CRASHES	5640	5794	6266	5719
INJURIES	1468	1456	1252	1088
FATALITIES	7	17	5	13
SAFETY RESTRAINT USAGE	89%	86%	89%	93%

During fiscal year 2006 (October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2006) VIOHS administered funds for the following:

- Planning and Administration

- Police Traffic Services
- Occupant Protection Enforcement
- Child Passenger Safety
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Programs
- Traffic Records Systems
- Alcohol Safety Programs
- Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

FISCAL REVIEW

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Planning and Administration PA-2006-00-00	\$ 40,000.00	-0-	\$ 24,476.67	\$ 15,523.33	\$ 24,476.67	-0-
Alcohol Involvement AL-2006-00-00	202,861.00	-0-	70,774.42	132,086.58	70,774.42	-0-
Youth Alcohol YA-2006-00-00	20,000.00	-0-	13,904.87	6,095.13	13,904.87	-0-
Occupant Protection OP-2006-00-00	142,668.74	-0-	89,681.20	52,987.54	89,681.20	-0-
Pedestrian Safety PS-2006-00-00	82,859.00	-0-	3,237.78	79,621.22	3,237.78	-0-
Police Traffic Services PT-2006-00-00	283,865.29	-0-	22,782.16	261,083.13	22,782.16	-0-
Traffic Records	63,051.26	-0-	-0-	63,051.76	-0-	-0-
TOTAL-NHTSA 402	835,305.29	-0-	224,857.10	610,448.59	224,857.10	-0-
TOTAL-J2&K2	237,674.59	-0-	42,374.22	195,300.37	42,374.22	-0-
TOTAL-406	280,773.00	-0-	-0-	280,773.00	-0-	-0-
TOTAL-408	300,000.00	-0-	-0-	300,000.00	-0-	-0-

GRAND TOTAL	\$1,653,752.88	\$ -0-	\$267,231.32	\$1,386,521.56	\$267,231.32	-0-
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II. 2006 STATEWIDE ANALYSIS

This section addresses statewide progress towards achieving 2006 Highway Safety Plan performance goals. The Virgin Islands met most performance goals as set forth in the 2006 HSP. The following is an overview of the program results:

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

Goals

To provide management, supervision and support services necessary to operate the highway safety program in the U. S. Virgin Islands. These activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- To develop and maintain a coordinated Highway Safety Plan (HSP).
- To improve on and continue to implant a Public Information and Education campaign during fiscal year 2006.
- To revise the Highway Safety Policies and Procedures Manual to ensure compliance and compatibility with local and federal policies and statues.

Accomplishments

- The Virgin Islands Office of Highway Safety provided funding for the management, supervision, support and operating services necessary to conduct the Virgin Islands Highway Safety program during fiscal year 2006.

During that fiscal year 6 onsite visits were conducted.

- VIOHS worked with the program coordinators in the implementation of their programs, assisting with public information and education campaigns, seat belts surveys, and necessary funding.
- There were no active PI&E campaigns in FY 2006; however the Office participated in Community Outreach activities, Child Seat Checks and media messages before the planned national mobilizations.
- The Highway Safety Policies and Procedures Manual was updated, and is currently awaiting final review by the Office of the Police Commissioner.
- The process of hiring an accountant was completed in FY 2006. The accountant Mrs. Calicia Howell is currently on staff, and received Program Management training. This training has provided her with a better understanding of the goals, policies and procedures for operating the Highway Safety Program. She is scheduled to attend TSI's Financial Management training in FY 2007.
- Draft legislations were submitted to the Police Department's Office of legal Counsel for review, and were sent on to the Legislature for consideration.
 - The legislations were for an amendment to Title 20 section 466, the child passenger safety law to include a provision for the mandatory use of Booster Seats and mandate that all rear seat passenger wear seatbelts;
 - Amendment to Title 20 chapter 43 section 493d, to prohibit the consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while operating a vehicle.
- The IACP Model Vehicular Pursuit Policy was used to revise the Police Department's existing policy. The final draft and full police implementation

is anticipated in 2007.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Planning and Administration Project No. PA-06-000	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 24,467.678	\$15,523.33	\$ 24,476.67	-0-
TOTAL	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 24,723.26	\$15,523.33	\$ 24,476.67	-0-

POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES

Goals

- To reduce traffic injuries by 20% in the year 2006
- To reduce traffic fatalities by 15% in FY 2006

Accomplishments

- Traffic Fatalities were increased by 62 percent.
- Traffic injuries increased by 20 percent
- The number of traffic crashes decreased by 14%
- Funding was provided to train officers in Basic and Advanced Traffic Investigation, to pay officers to work overtime to conduct initiatives and to purchase the necessary supplies to aid in the initiatives.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Police Traffic Services						
Project No. PT-06-000	\$283,865.29		\$22,782.16	\$261,083.13	\$22,782.16	-0-
TOTAL	\$283,865.29		\$22,782.16	\$261,083.13	\$22,782.16	-0-

OCCUPANT PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT

Goal

- To increase seatbelt compliance from 86 % to 92%, by September 30, 2006
- To increase usage of child car seats by September 30, 2006.

Accomplishments:

- The Virgin Islands achieved a 93% seat belt usage rate, as determined by observational surveys. However, the University of the Virgin Islands conducted a scientific based survey in December of 2006; the results will be available in March 2007.
- Virgin Islands Police Department conducted 14 occupant protection checkpoints.
- In FY 2006, 6397 seatbelt citations were issued.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
OP Enforcement						
Project No. J2-06-405 K2-06-405	\$237,674.59		\$ 42,374.22	\$195,300.37	\$ 42,374.22	-0-
TOTAL	\$237,674.59		\$ 42,374.22	\$ 195,300.37	\$ 42,473.22	-0-

OCCUPANT PROTECTION

Goal:

- To increase car seat compliance and usage rate in the territory.
- To provide certification training for additional technicians and to recertify existing technicians
- To provide instructor training for two certified technicians
- To utilize the "Operations Kids" curriculum to train nurses responsible for discharging newborns from the hospitals.

Accomplishments:

- 10 Child Safety Seat Clinics and outreach fairs were conducted in the Territory.
- Buckle Up presentations were given at 6 summer camps, 1 child care health class, 2 prenatal clinics and 13 day care centers in the territory
- Participated in other territorial activities such as the week of the young child, World Health Day celebration, National Night Out Against Crime and Drugs, Child Passenger Safety Week, and Buckle Up America Week
- Child safety seat compliance rate is undetermined, a mechanism for

determining compliance must be put in place

- 180 convertible seats and 12 booster seats were distributed through the donor program
- The "Using It Right", Kids in the Car, and Buckle Up Don't Mash Up brochures were distributed locally
- 15 additional technicians were certified through the National Safe Kids certification program
- Two instructor candidate was certified through the National Safe Kids instructor certification program
- 98 citations for nonuse of child restraint seats were issued during FY 2006

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Occupant Protection						
Project No. OP-06-000	\$142,668.74		\$89,681.20	\$52,987.54	\$89,681.20	-0-
TOTAL	\$142,668.74		\$89,681.20	\$52,987.54	\$89,681.20	-0-

PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE/SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Goal

- To reduce the number of pedestrian crashes involving pedestrians to 20, by the year 2006.
- Identify those geographic problem area/locations and develop public awareness countermeasures to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle safety knowledge and awareness for children and adults.

Accomplishments

- The number of pedestrians fatalities in 2006 decreased by 94% .(see table below)

	2004	2005	2006
Pedestrian Fatalities	3	9	5
Pedestrian Crashes			

- The Department of Public Works and the Police Department collaborated to identify those areas of concern, which showed the greatest potential for pedestrian/bicycle incidents to occur. Full implementation of recommended countermeasures is anticipated in 2007.
- The Office participated in several community events and public health activities, to include World Health Day, the Association of Commissioner of Police Conference, the Week of the Young Child, Public Health Week, Child passenger Safety Week and 3D Month activities in December.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Pedestrian Safety						
Project No. PS-06-000	\$ 82,859.00		\$ 3,237.78	\$79,621.22	\$3,237.78	-0-
TOTAL	\$ 82,859.00		\$ 3,237.78	\$79,621.22	\$3,237.78	-0-

TRAFFIC RECORDS

Goal

- To fully automate traffic records in order to allow data sharing and linkage between systems used by various local agencies
- To expand the Territory's traffic records system to include the Bureau of Motor Vehicle, and patrol officers, so that the data will be entered at the crash scene.

Accomplishments:

- The Territory's Traffic Records Coordinating Committee is fully functional and has identified a new Traffic Accident Report form to be used electronically by Law Enforcement Officers. This will allow the data entered to be available real time. The form is 100% MMUCC compliant.
- The system between the islands is fully operational via DSL and the necessary linkages between the Courts, BMV, Police Department and the Office of Highway Safety is in place.
- The necessary hardware was identified to be used by Law Enforcement to complete traffic crash and other pertinent reports.
- The NHTSA Traffic Records Assessment is planned and will be completed by the first week of January 2007. All reasonable recommendations will be looked at and corrective measures will be implemented, when the report is finalized.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Section 406,408&402						
Project No. TR-06-000	\$643,824.26		\$643,824.26	\$-0-	\$ -0-	-0-
TOTAL	\$643,824.26		\$643,824.26	\$-0-	\$ -0-	-0-

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Alcohol and Other Drugs

- Goal: To increase the number of DUI arrest by 30% in 2006.
- To provide DUI offenders with behavior modification training aimed at assisting offenders to be more accountable for their actions; make them aware of the societal consequences of their actions, thereby reducing the number of incidents relating to driving under the influence of alcohol.
- To increase among youths the awareness of the effects of Alcohol, and to reduce the use of alcohol among youths in the territory.

Accomplishments:

During FY-2006 the Virgin Islands efforts regarding DUI increased however, the efforts were not as vigorous as anticipated. The following is a list of accomplishments:

- All Officers assigned to the Traffic Bureaus received SFST training.
- There were 81 DUI arrest in the territory. 49 in the St. Croix district and 32 in the St. Thomas/St. John District. See table below for a three (3) year comparison.

DUI CITATIONS AND ARREST IN THE TERRITORY

	CITATIONS	ARREST	FATALITIES
2004	110	69	0
2005	61	50	0
2006	11	81	0

- The point system instituted in the Virgin Islands that assign points to persons arrested for DUI, is still not being utilized. This matter is aggressively being pursued and will be implemented in 2007.
- There were gaps in the Justice System that was addressed, with the Attorney General and the JF Luis Hospital CEO on St. Croix. The final draft of the procedure for BAC testing using blood samples and also access to the autopsy reports of accident victims will be finalized in 2007. This will assist in correctly identifying the causes of traffic fatalities and also the handling and processing of samples.
- The Youth Alcohol initiatives undertaken included:
- The Office participated in the 35th Annual Agriculture and Food Fair, and was able to make contact with over 300 persons. Alcohol as well as Child Safety Restraint and Seat Belt information (pamphlets, brochures, questionnaire), was distributed.
- Five hundred and twenty students at two Junior High Schools participated in two forums, where they were engaged in the discussion on the harmful effects of drinking and driving.
- The Office also participated in a Town Hall Meeting sponsored by the

interagency Coordinating Committee for the Prevention of Underage Drinking. The meeting was well attended by community residents, Junior and High School students and their parents. The highlight of the meeting was the concerns and issues raised by the youths, and their proposed solution to the problem of underage drinking.

- The FIESTA program was not conducted this year as planned, because of time constraints within the Schools Curriculum. The program will be revisited in 2007.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

	OBLIGATED				
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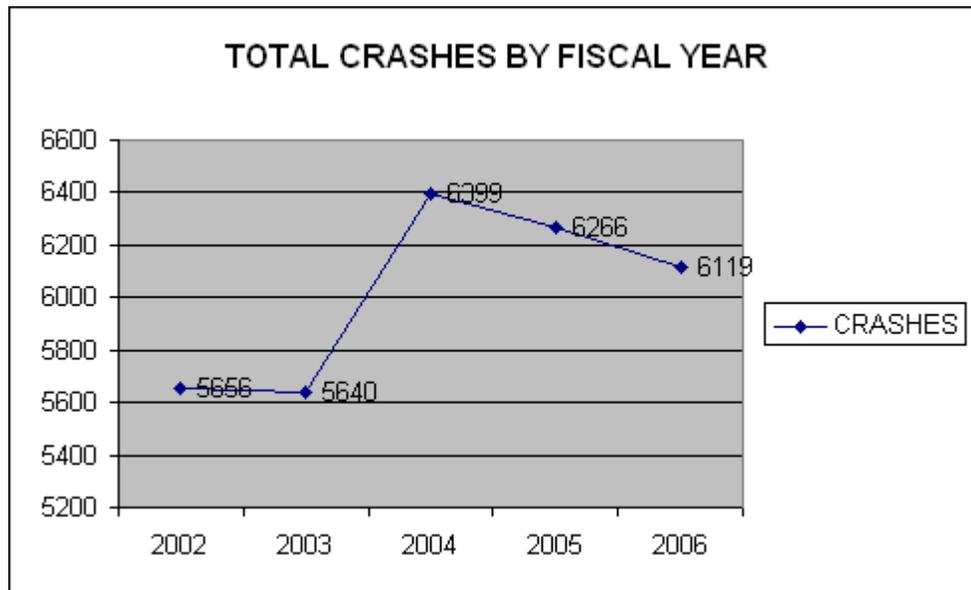
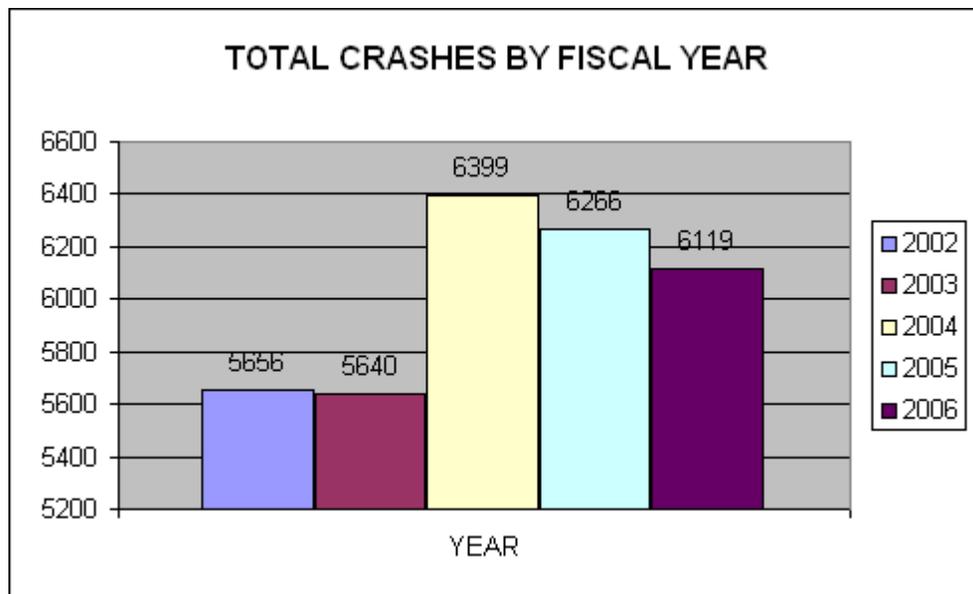
Project	402	Local	402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
Alcohol Involvement						
Project No. AL-06-000	\$202,861.00		\$70,774.42	\$132,086.58	\$70,774.42	-0-
TOTAL	\$202,861.00		\$70,774.42	\$132,086.58	\$70,774.42	-0-

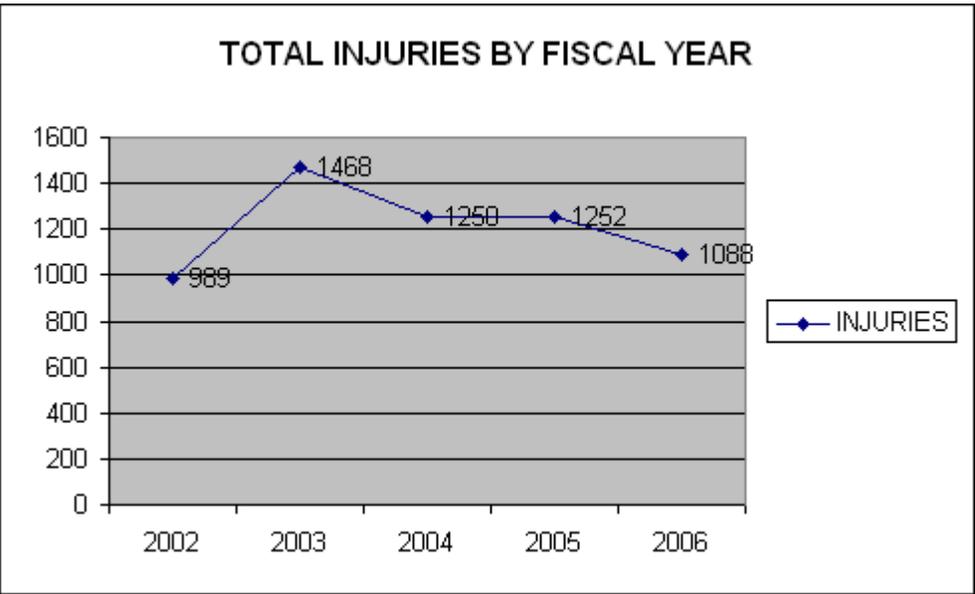
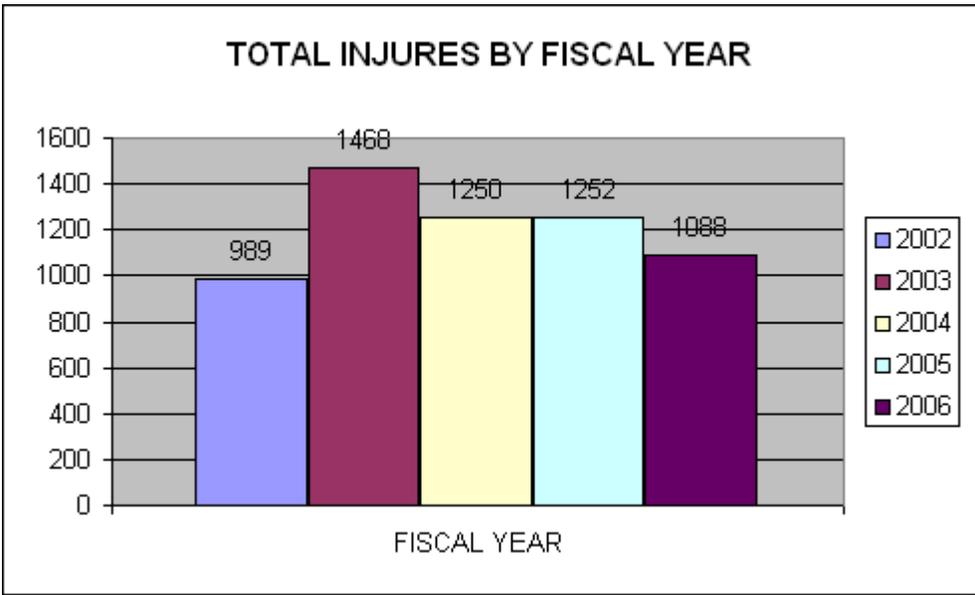
By Projects

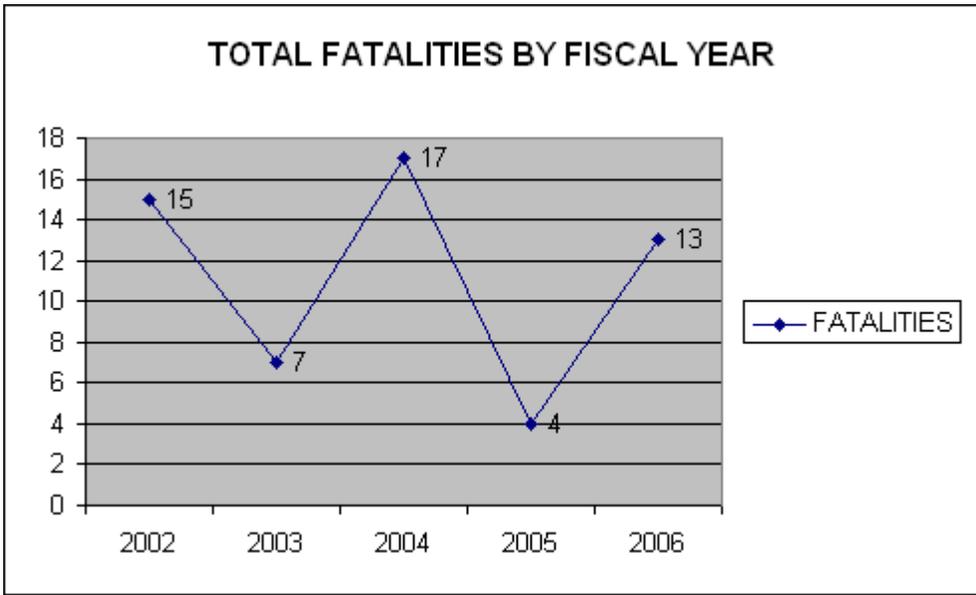
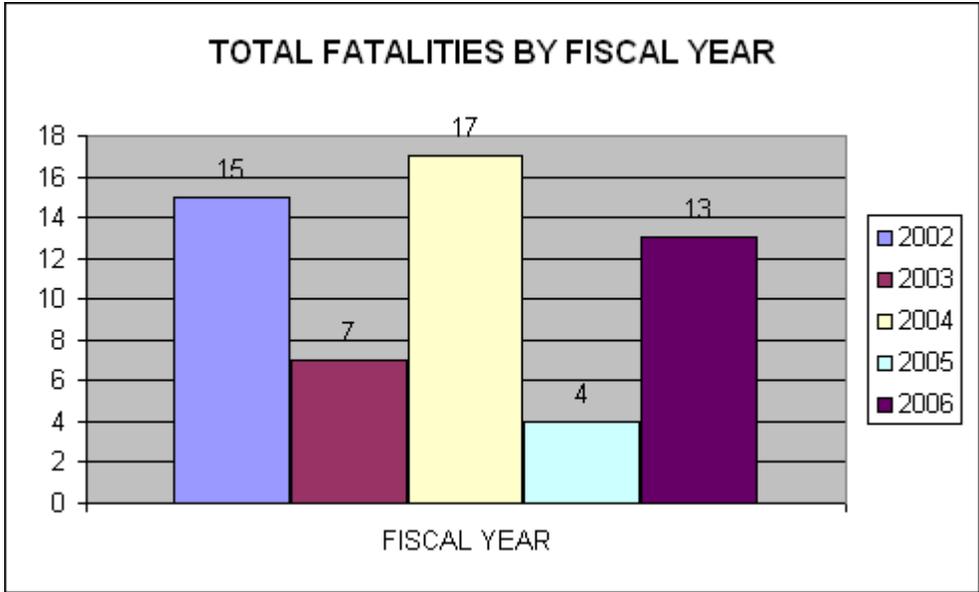
Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Youth Alcohol Project No. YA-06-000	\$20,000.00		\$13,904.87	\$6,095.13	\$13,904.87	-0-
TOTAL	\$20,000.00		\$13,904.87	\$6,095.13	\$13,904.87	-0-

FISCAL YEAR STATISTICAL TABLE

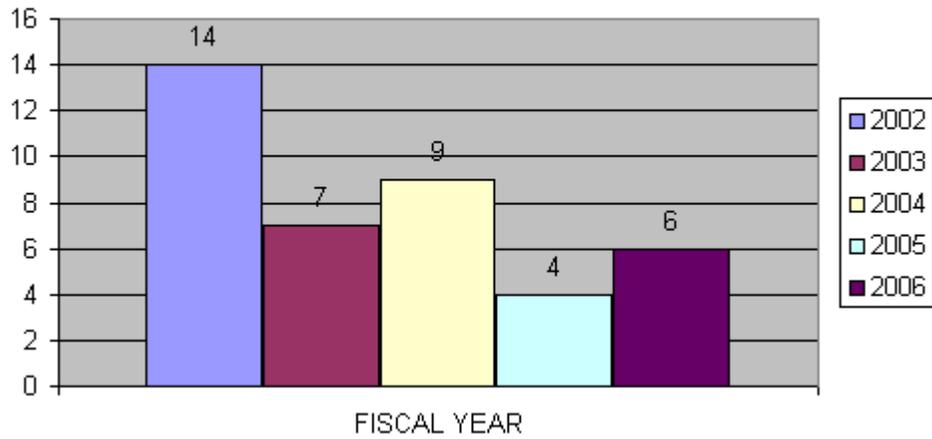
YEAR	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006		
TOTAL CRASHES	5656	5640	6399	6266	6119		
TOTAL INJURIES	989	1468	1250	1252	1088		
TOTAL FATALITIES	15	7	17	4	13		
TOTAL FATAL CRASHES	14	7	9	4	6		
PEDESTRIAN FATATALITES	3	3	7	3	5		
BICYCLE FATALITIES	0	1	1	0	0		
MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES	2	0	0	1	1		
SAFETY BELT USAGE RATE	89%	89%	86%	89%	93%		



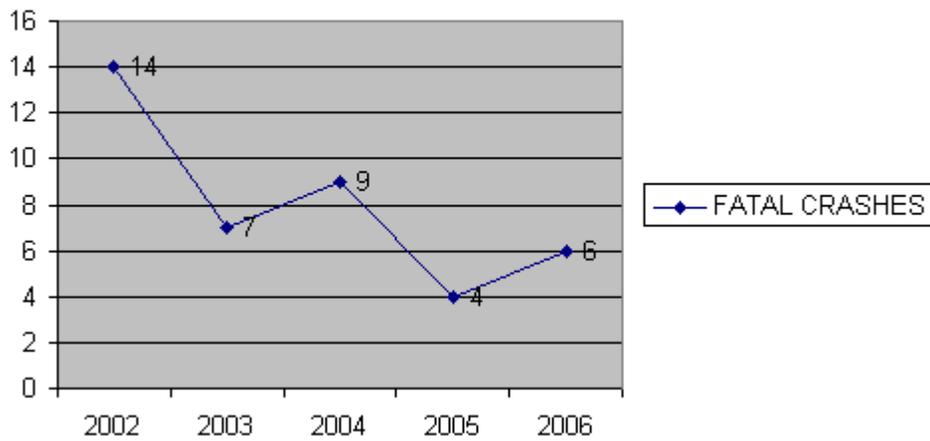




TOTAL FATAL CRASHES BY FISCAL YEAR



TOTAL FATAL CRASHES BY FISCAL YEAR



PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES BY FISCAL YEAR

