



Background Briefing

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Robin R. Risko, Senior Fiscal Analyst

December 2012

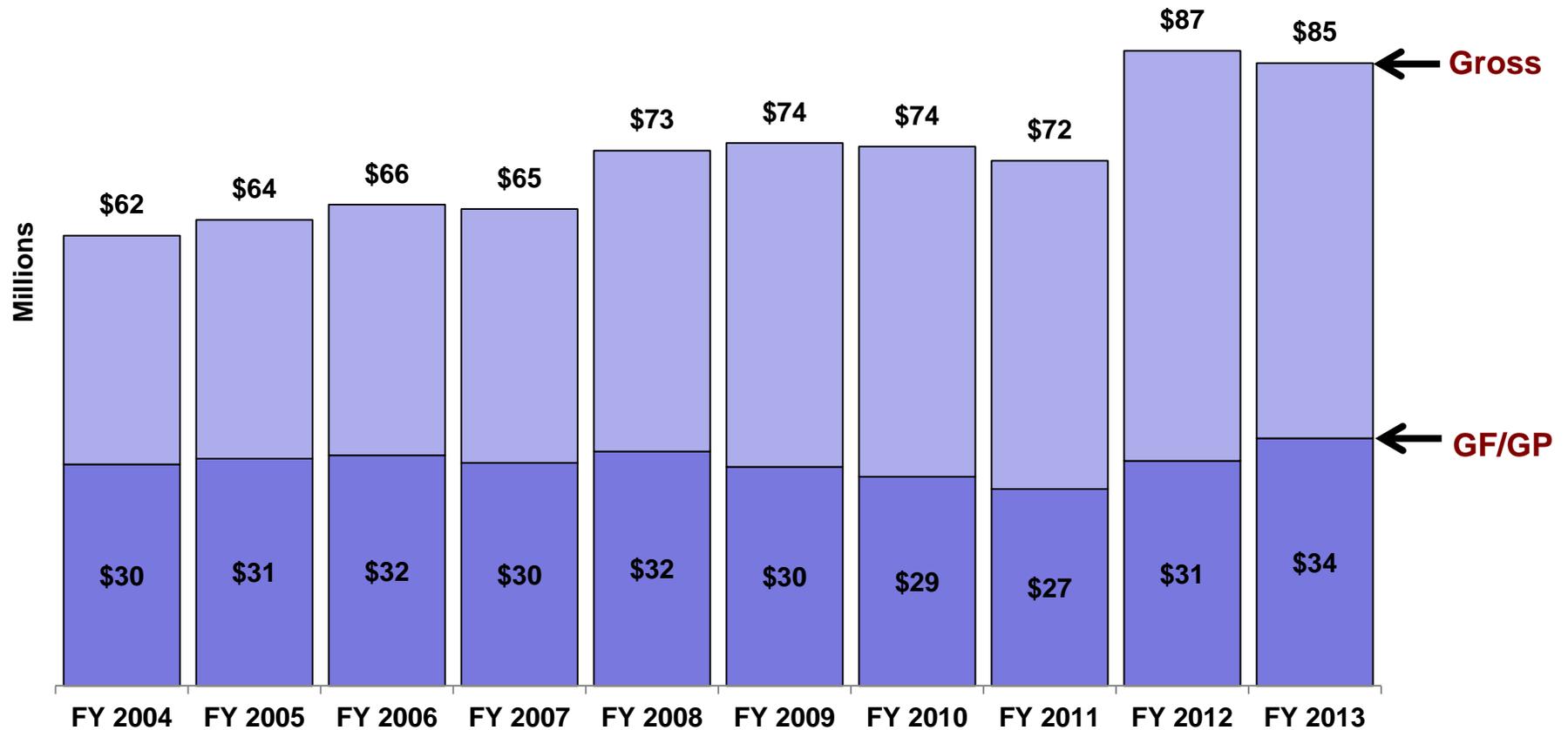
The fiscal information in this background briefing is based on data through December 31, 2012.

Department of Attorney General

- **Attorney General's powers are prescribed in the State Constitution, in statute, in court decisions, and by tradition**
- **Attorney General serves as legal counsel for state departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and their officers; defends the state in court and brings actions and intervenes in cases on the state's behalf**
- **Department's mission is to protect the common legal rights of citizens, defend the Constitution and the laws of the state, and represent the legal interests of government**
- **Department's goals are to make the state a safe place for its citizens, offer justice to the victims of crime, defend common natural resources and monetary assets of the state, and deliver excellent legal services at a minimum cost to taxpayers**

Attorney General: Gross Appropriations

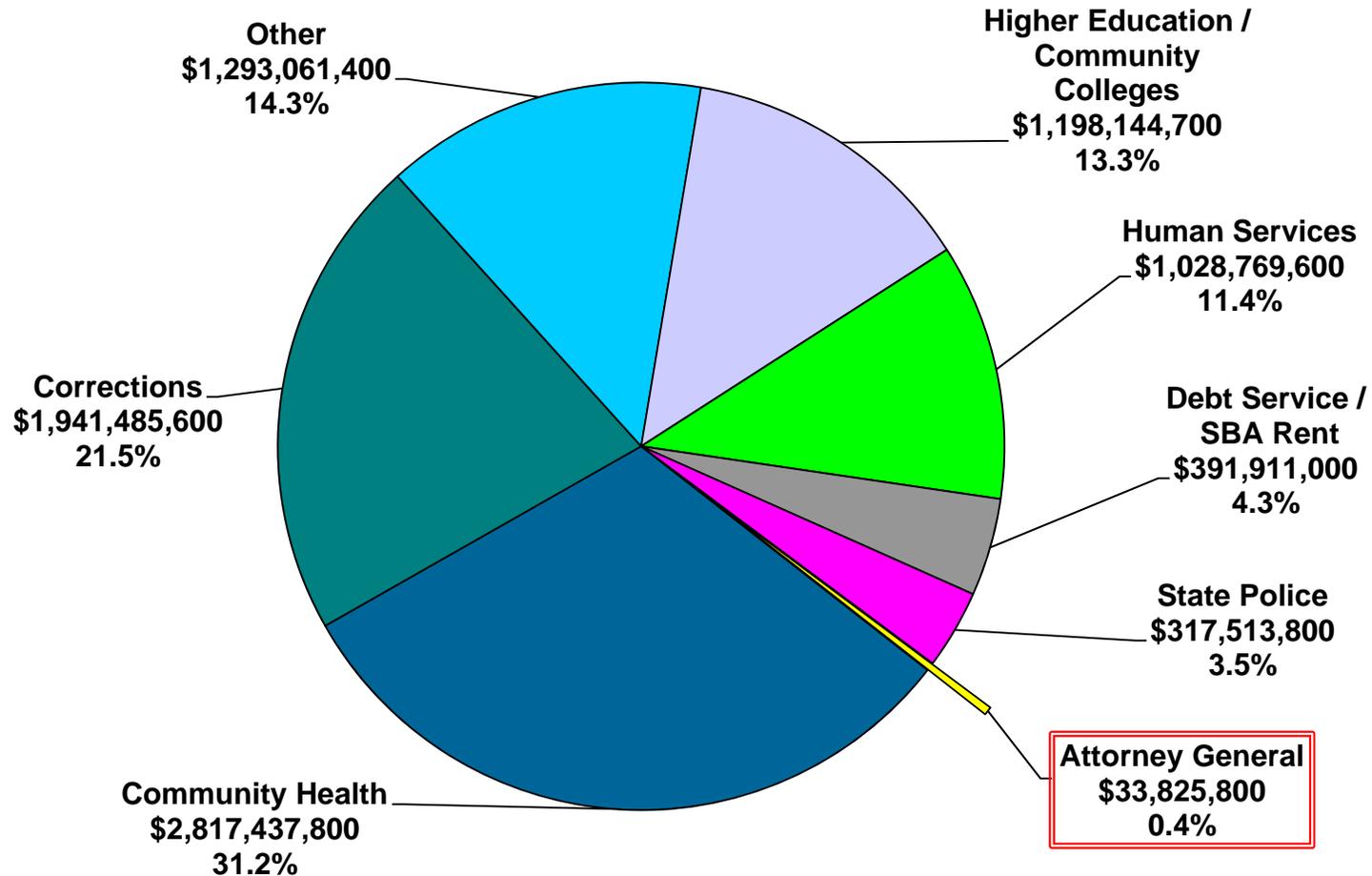
Spending increases are due primarily to inflation; decreases are due to budget reductions. Increase in FY 2008 is due partially to reflecting funding included in the budget which was previously provided by other departments. Increase in FY 2012 is due primarily to the pre-funding of retiree health care and the inclusion of funds awarded to the state under the joint state-federal foreclosure settlement. One-time appropriation of \$1.0 million is included in FY 2013.



Attorney General Share of State GF/GP

Attorney General makes up 0.37% of the total state GF/GP budget

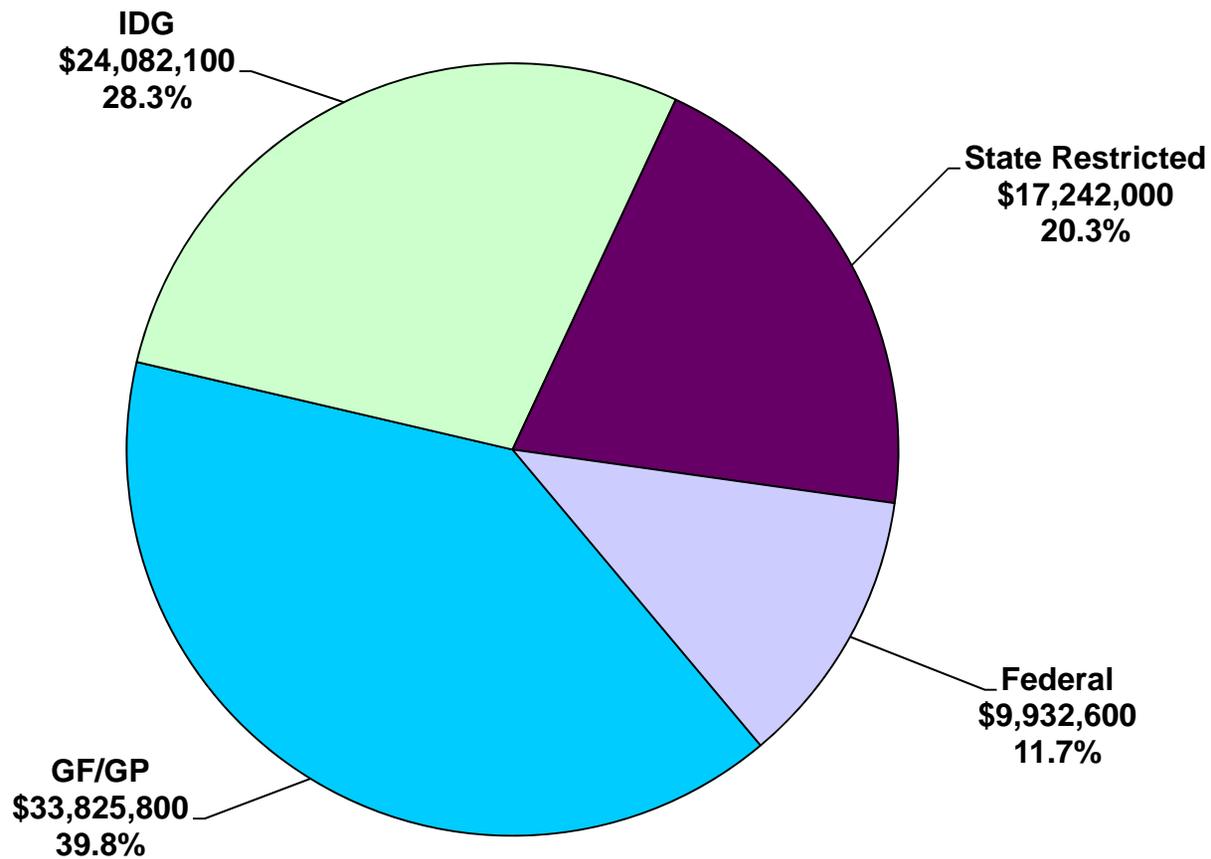
FY 2012-13 GF/GP Total = \$9,022,149,700



SOURCES OF FUNDING

Attorney General Funding Sources

FY 2012-13 Attorney General Budget = \$85,082,500
(Includes a one-time appropriation of \$1,025,900)



DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS

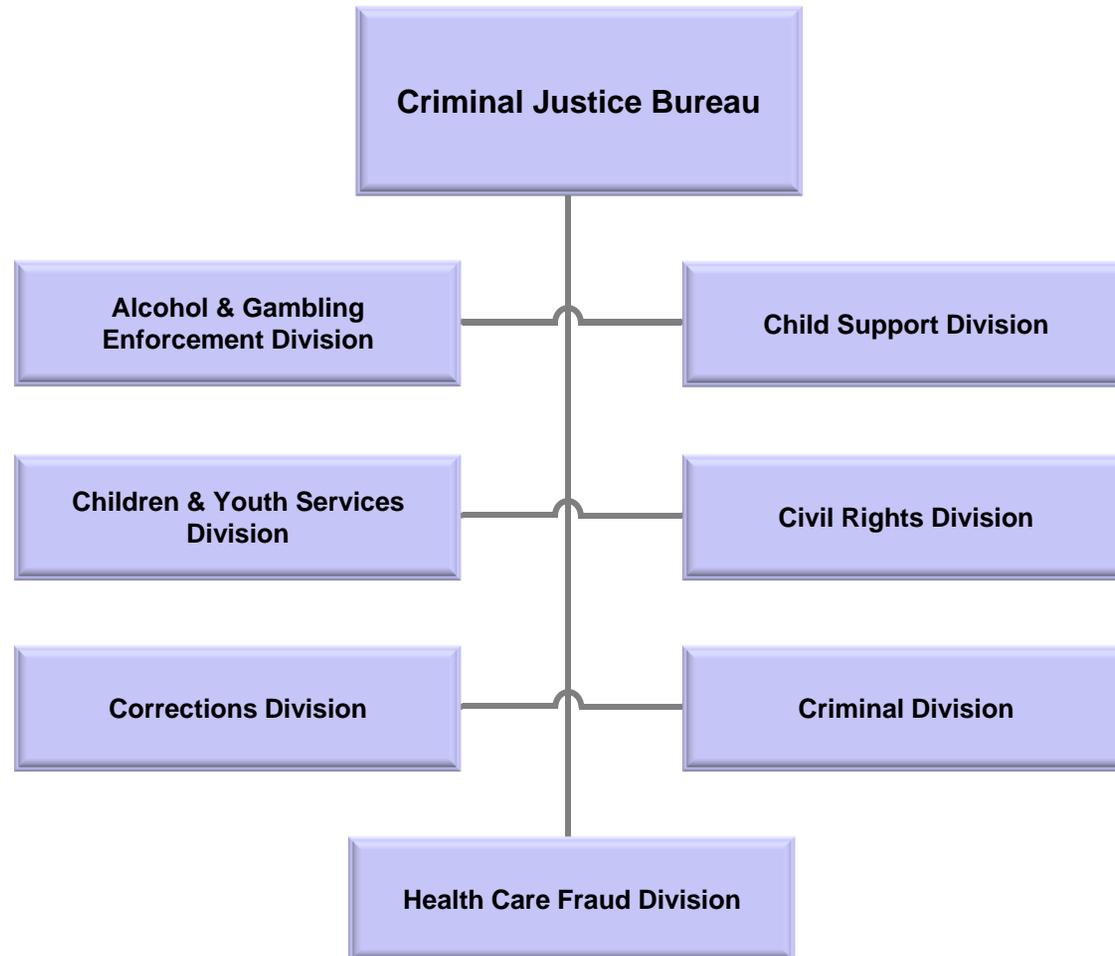
Attorney General Appropriations

- **Department operations**
 - **Attorney and staff salaries and benefits**
 - **Contractual services, supplies, and materials**
 - **Rent and building occupancy charges for offices in Lansing, Detroit and Grand Rapids**
 - **Expert witnesses**
 - **Travel**
 - **Equipment**

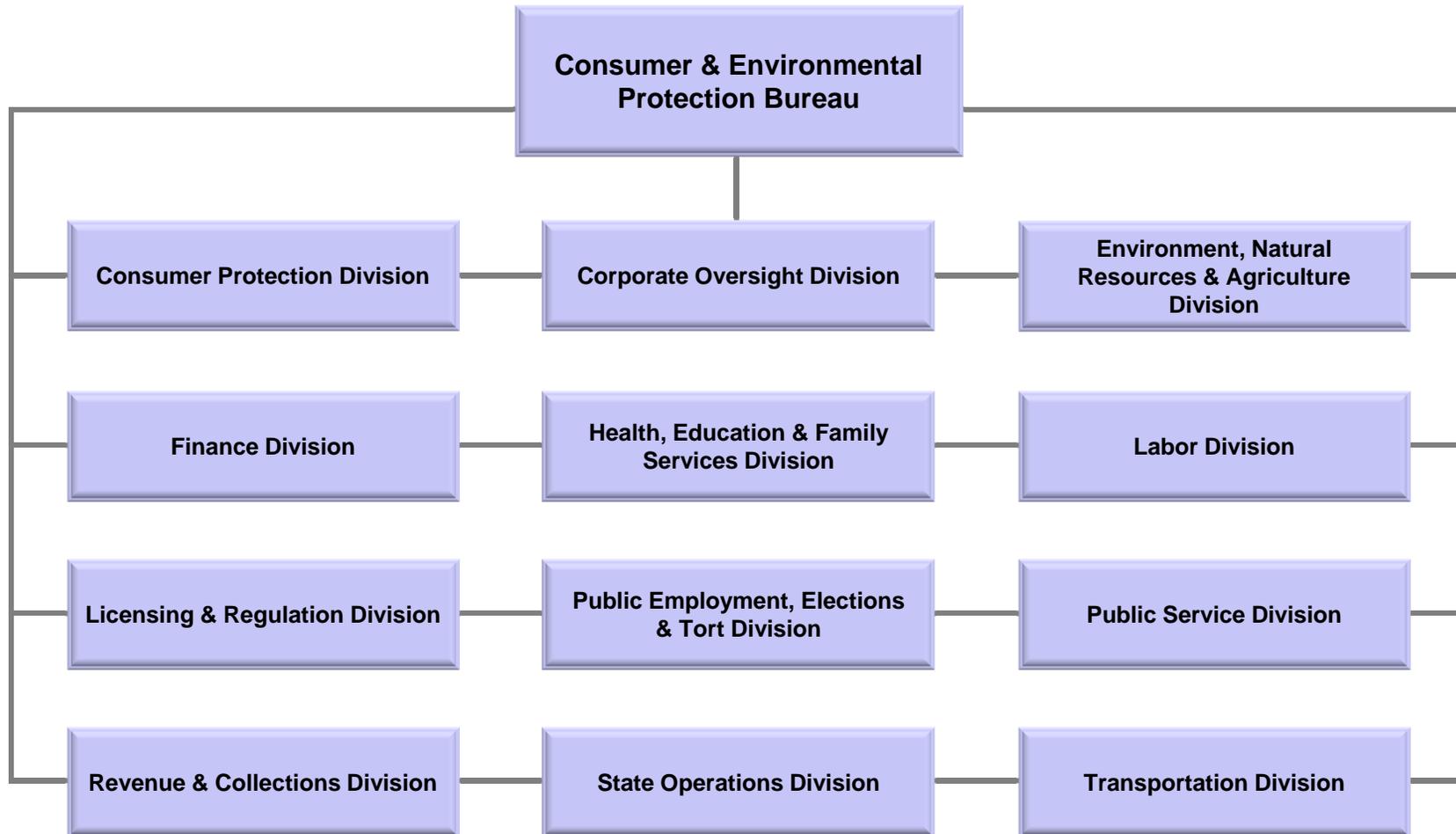
- **Staff in Child Support Division and costs associated with increased child support enforcement activities**

- **Information technology-related services and projects which support department activities; administered by the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget**

Department Divisions



Department Divisions

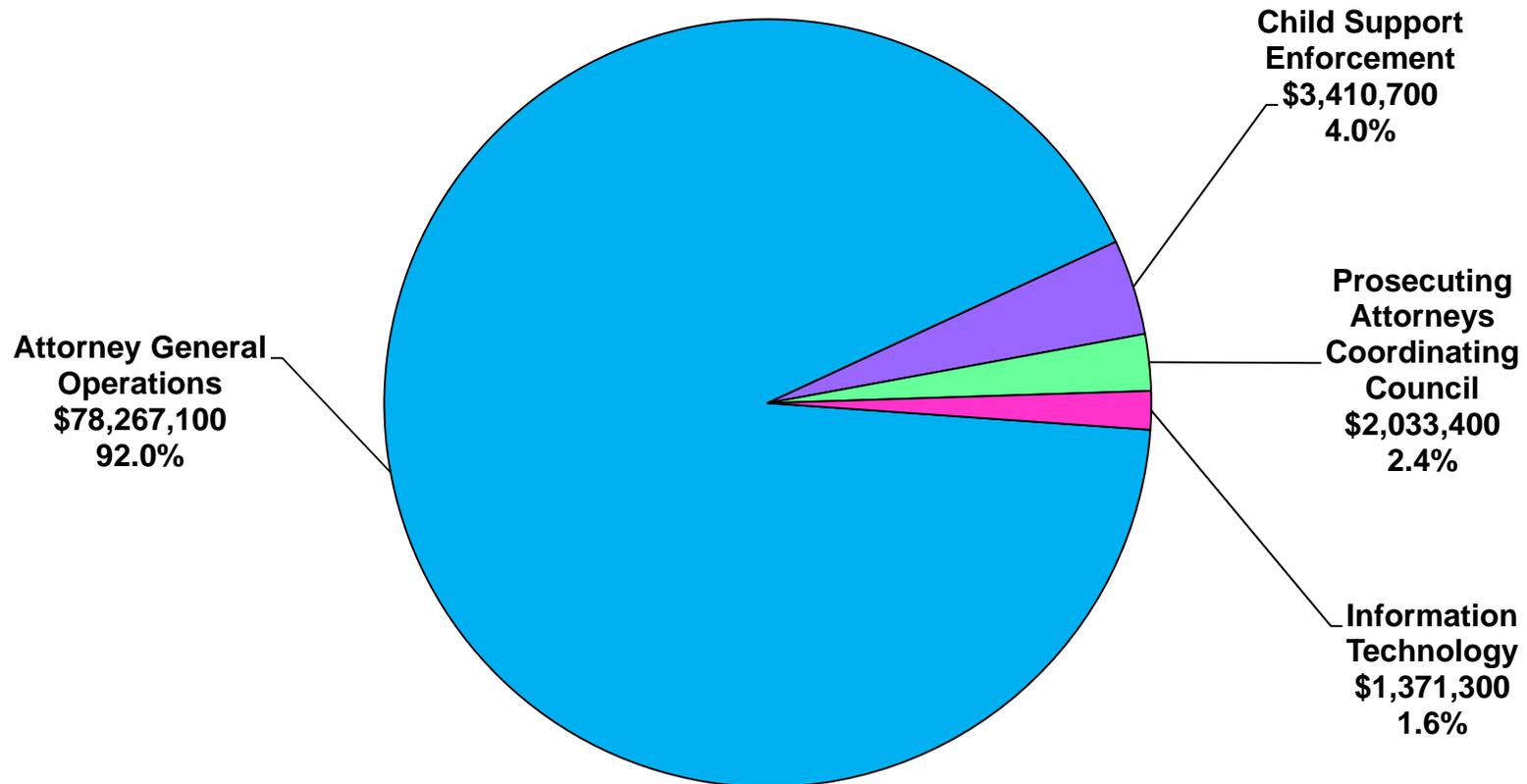


Attorney General Appropriations

- **Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council is an autonomous agency responsible for ensuring that a uniform system of conduct, duty, and procedure exists amongst prosecutors throughout the state**
 - **Publishes legal documents**
 - **Provides manuals and other materials on criminal prosecution and practices**
 - **Provides updates on legislation and court procedure changes**
 - **Provides research assistance**
 - **Administers grant-funded services**
 - **Coordinates statewide prosecution activities and office automation**
 - **Provides continuing professional education**

Attorney General Appropriations

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(Includes a one-time appropriation of \$1,025,900)



**For more information about the
Attorney General budget, contact:**

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