

Vermont Department of Labor

FY 2027 Budget Presentation

House Committee on Commerce & Economic Development

February 12, 2026

Central Administration Office:

5 Green Mountain Dr., Montpelier

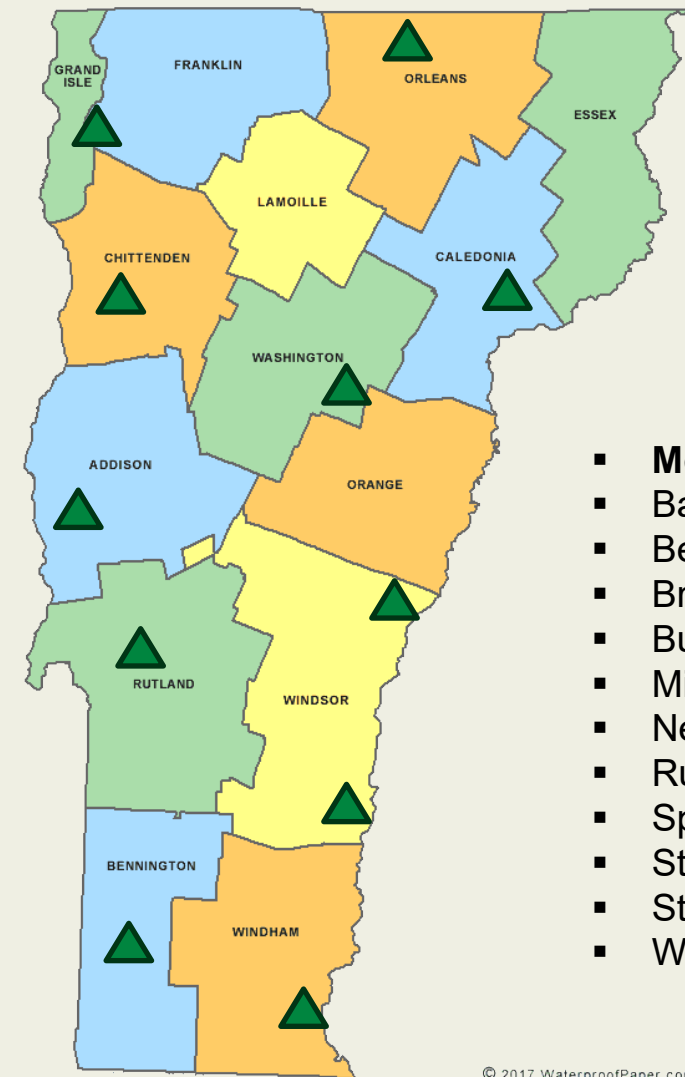
- Does not regularly serve walk-in clients
- Program administration & oversight

11 Regional American Job Centers

- Serve jobseekers & businesses
- Help build the bridge between training, jobseeker, and businesses
- Virtual and in-person service; as well as self-service
- Walk-ins welcome
- *Burlington Office - certified One-Stop American Job Center

Total Sq. Ft: 110,158

Total Space Costs: \$1,444,610



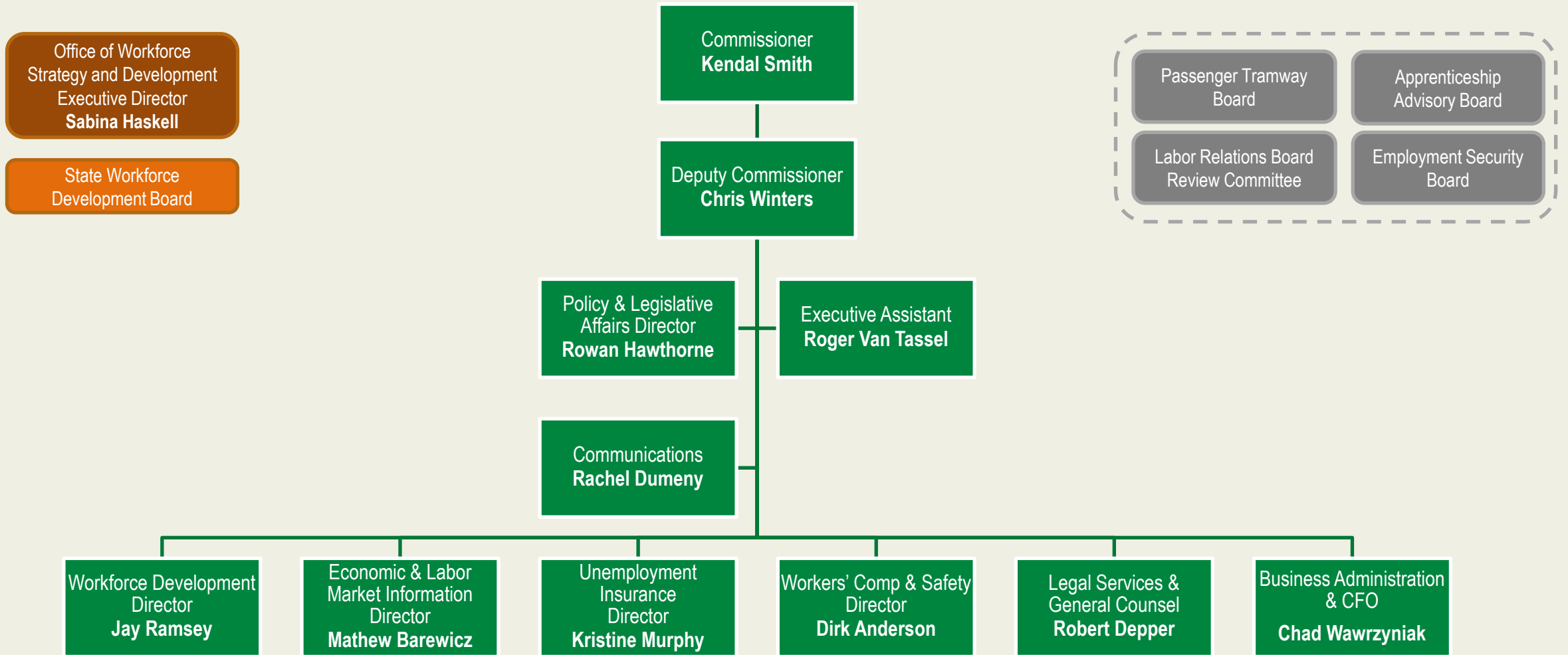
- **Montpelier**
- Barre
- Bennington
- Brattleboro
- Burlington*
- Middlebury
- Newport
- Rutland
- Springfield
- St. Albans
- St. Johnsbury
- White River Jct.

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VDOL Facilities

 **VERMONT**
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

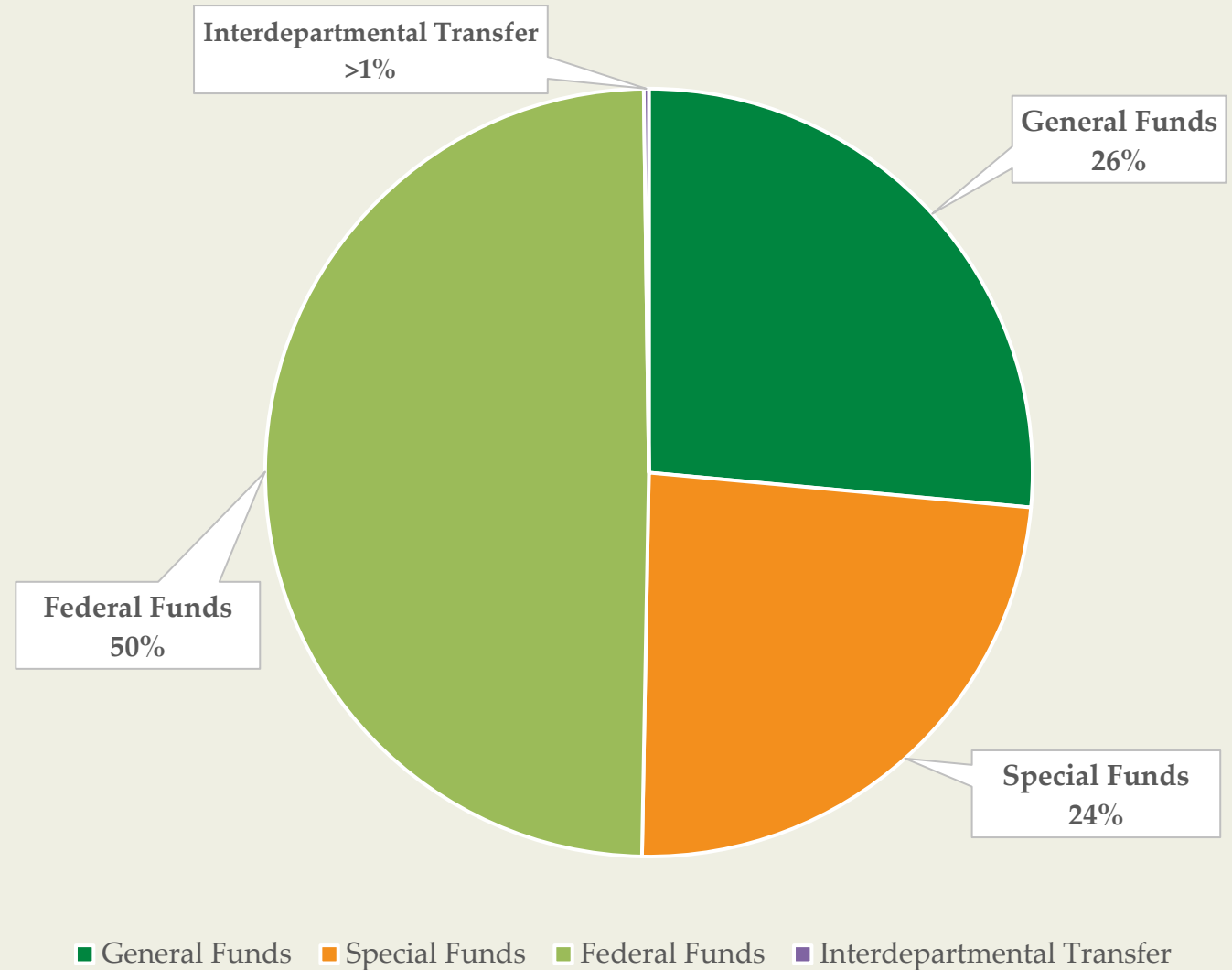
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Department Structure

- **Core Programs**
 - Workforce Development
 - Unemployment Insurance
 - Workers Compensation
 - VOSHA
 - Project WorkSafe
 - Economic and Labor Market Information
 - Wage and Hour
 - Business Operations
- **263 Employees (permanent and LTS)**
 - 5.6% current vacancy rate (13 positions)
- **50% Federally Funded**

General Funds	\$11,854,490
Special Funds	\$10,685,153
Federal Funds	\$22,188,227
Interdepartmental Transfers	\$94,863
Total Budget	\$44,822,733



Department FY27 Overview and Funding Snapshot

Workforce Services (FY)

- Case Managed Career or Training Services
 - 165 Youth [14-24],
 - 513 Adults [18+],
 - 51 Dislocated Workers [18+]
- Staff-Assisted Career Guidance Services
 - 2,461 [any age]
- Self-Service
 - 10,500 used Vermont JobLink
 - 4,577 walk-ins (11/1/25-1/31/26)

Unemployment Insurance (CY)

- 25,342 claimants served

Wage & Hour Investigations (CY)

- Unpaid wages: 345
- Unpaid benefits: 23
- Unpaid overtime: 23
- Unpaid sick time: 18
- Unpaid tips: 15
- Unpaid prevailing wage: 2

VOSHA (CY)

- Compliance Assistance
 - Directly reached 3,418 employers & workers across 92 unique outreach activities
- Enforcement
 - Conducted 210 inspections total across both public and private sectors

The **Workforce Development Division** administers Federal and State workforce development programs for both jobseekers and employers to promote meaningful employment and engagement through training, education programs, registered apprenticeships, job placement, and supportive services.

Staff: ≈75 / 8% current vacancy rate (6 positions)

Locations: 11 Regional Teams

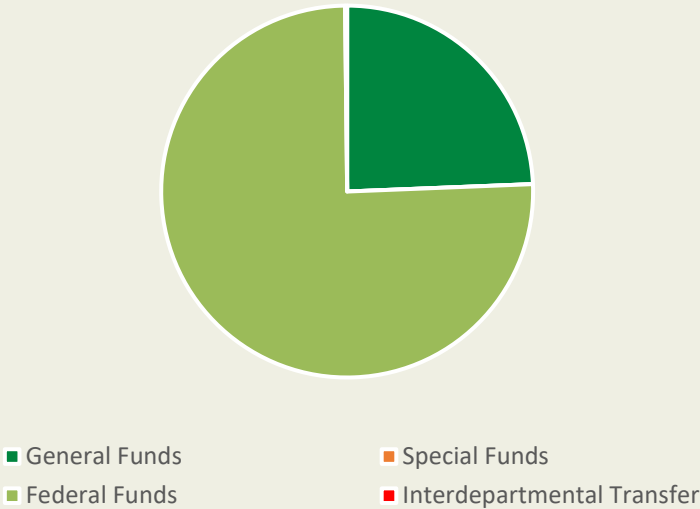
Federally-Funded Programs:

- Adult
- Youth Employment Services
- Dislocated Worker Grants
- Refugee and Immigrant Services
- Registered Apprenticeships
- Veteran’s Services and Programs
- Re-employment Services & Eligibility Assessment (RESEA)

State-Funded Programs & Projects:

- Work-Based Learning and On-the-Job Training
- Adult CTE
- Workforce Expansion Pilot
- Sector Work
- Job Fairs
- Vermont Job Link

Funding Sources



General Funds	\$3,199,138
Special Funds	\$0.00
Federal Funds	\$9,584,728
Interdepartmental Transfer	\$74,863
Total Division Budget	\$12,858,729

What We Know & What We Don't: FFY26 Federal Funding Levels for Workforce Activities

Labor Conference Report Highlights

- WIOA Adult Employment and Training is down \$10m
- National Activities (including WOTC) is down \$7.5m
- Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program is up \$79m
- Funding will be formulaic, but the distribution across states is undetermined
- VDOL does not have our final allocations for the current federal fiscal year that started Oct. 1

Registered Apprenticeship funding is flowing

- \$35.8m Manufacturing Apprentice Incentive direct to employers
- \$98m to support Pre-Apprenticeship program development in high-demand industries
- \$145m Pay-for-Performance Pilot for select industries, competitive grant
- *More to come*

Workforce Development, Cont.



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State Fund Reversions

Remaining Balances of the below one-time appropriations are being reverted to the General Fund:

Initiative/Description	Reversion Amount	Notes
VT Returnship Program	\$37,984.18	Spent \$33.7k of the initial appropriation. Original appropriation from FY18 Act 189 of 2018
Post Secondary & New Americans	\$70,000.00	Original appropriation from FY19 Act 80 of 2019
Workforce Development	\$275,000	Apprenticeships, training, and postsecondary CTE through the workforce education and training fund created in 10 V.S.A. § 543 Act 80 of 2019
DOL-New American Labor Force	\$189,720.49	This funding was a pass-through to the SWDB; no bids on RFP. Original appropriation was \$200,000 from FY24 Act 78 of 2023
DOL-Workforce Dev Work-Based Learning	\$997,032.27	Original appropriation was \$1m from FY24 Act 78 of 2023

Workforce Development, Cont.

The **Economic & Labor Market Information (E&LMI) Division's** purpose is to produce, disseminate, and explain economic data. Target audiences include elected officials, businesses, educational institutions, students, job-seekers, researchers, and the general public.

Staff: ≈ 11, no vacancies

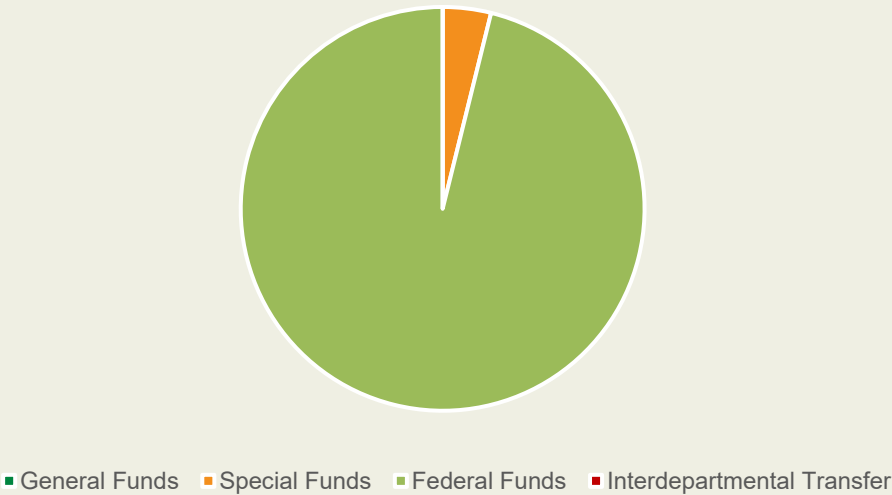
Programs:

- Current Employment Statistics
- Occupational Safety and Health Statistics
- Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics
- Short-term and Long-term Occupational Projections
- Local Area Unemployment Statistics
- Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Federal Impacts

- Workforce Information Grant is down \$9.7m; waiting to see how this is allocated across states, VDOL does not have final allocations for the current federal fiscal year that started Oct. 1

Funding Sources



General Funds	\$0
Special Funds	\$48,080
Federal Funds	\$1,179,526
Interdepartmental Transfer	\$0
Total Division Budget	\$1,227,606

The **Workers' Compensation and Safety Division** ensures that workers are protected while on the job and that if a workplace injury occurs, the worker is covered by workers' compensation insurance. The Division includes the Workers' Comp, VOSHA, Project WorkSAFE, and Passenger Tramway.

Staff: ≈ 40 / 2% current vacancy rate (1 position)

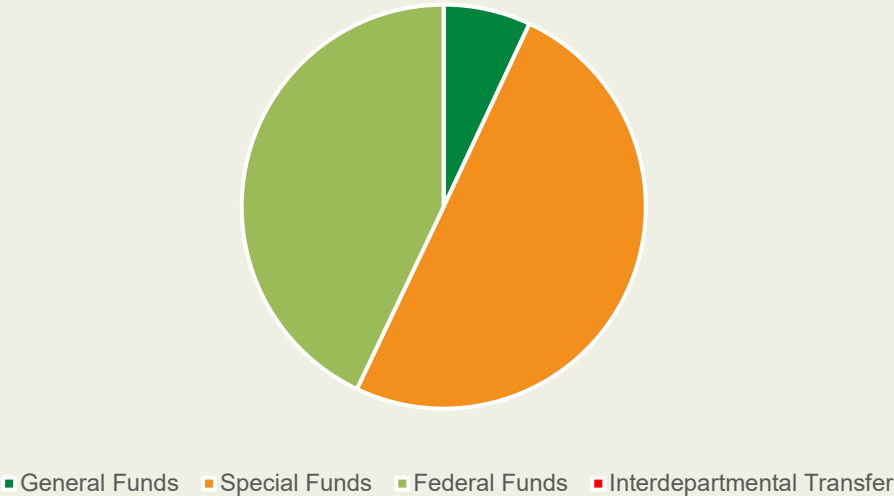
Programs

- Workers' Compensation
- Project WorkSAFE (Part. Fed)
- Passenger Tramway
- VOSHA (50% Fed)

Federal Impacts:

- TBD - \$13m reduction to "USDOL enforcement agencies... including OSHA..." We do not know yet how that will impact VOSHA and our FY26 allocation

Funding Sources



General Funds	\$1,235,721
Special Funds	\$9,067,073
Federal Funds	\$1,542,300
Interdepartmental Transfer	\$0
Total Division Budget	\$11,845,094

The **Unemployment Insurance Division** provides short-term benefits to those who lose their jobs through no fault of their own. The UI Trust Fund is 100% funded by contributions from employers.

Staff: ≈ 81 / 6.9% current vacancy rate (6 positions)

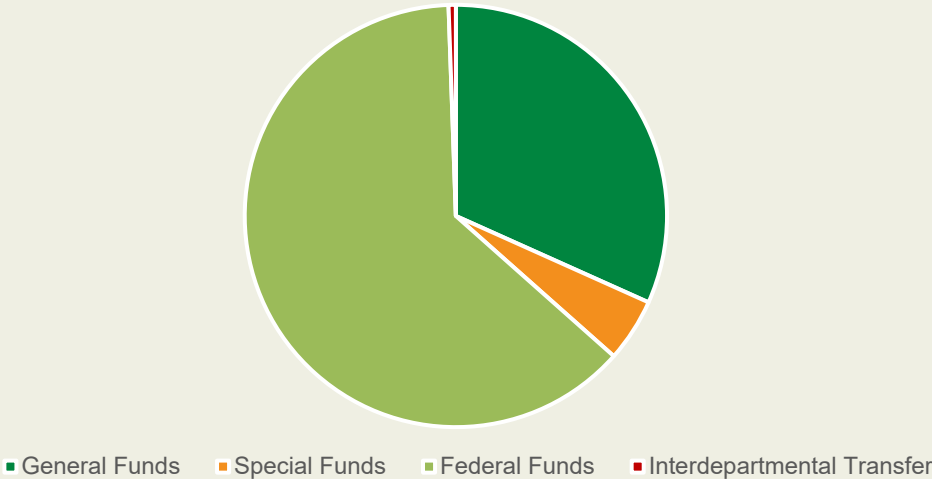
Programs

- Claims processing
- Employer Contributions
- Program Integrity
- Benefits Accuracy Management
- Fraud detection and prevention
- Adjudications
- Appeals
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance

Federal Funding Impacts:

- UI administration is level-funded for FFY26

Funding Sources



General Funds	\$5,863,019
Special Funds	\$1,570,000
Federal Funds	\$9,881,673
Interdepartmental Transfer	\$20,000
Total Division Budget	\$17,334,692

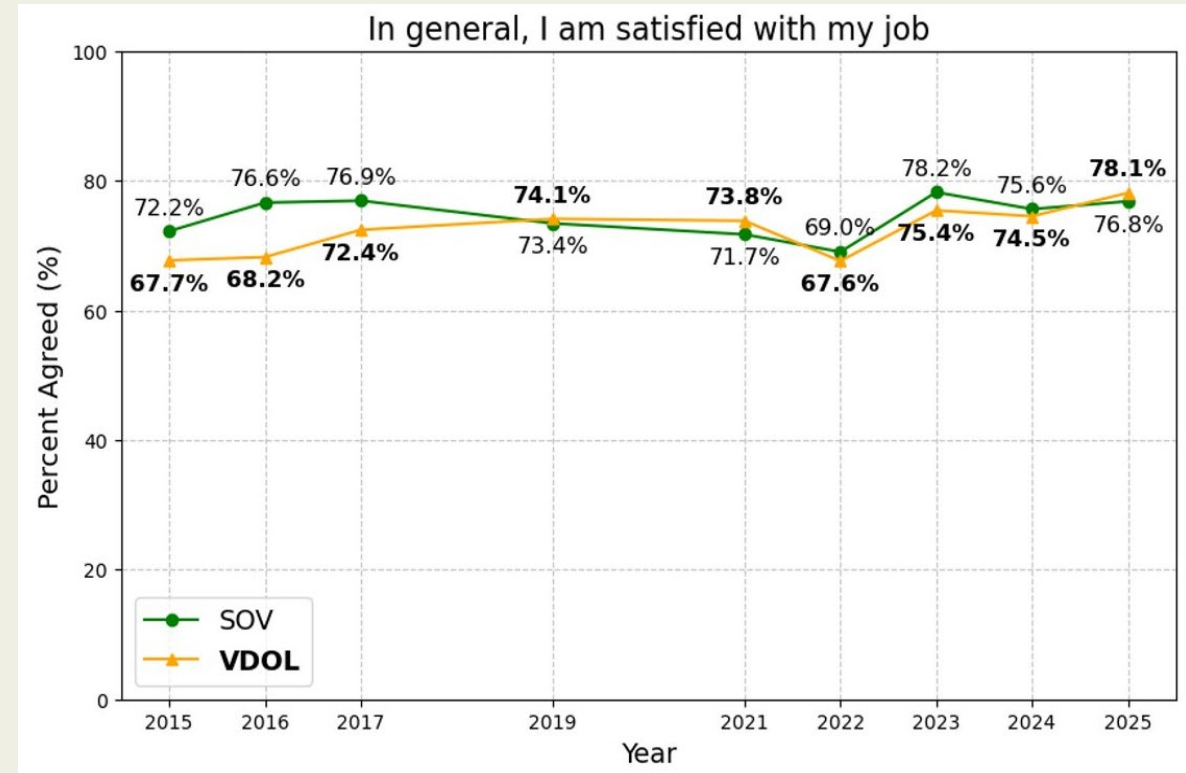
The **Business Office** oversees the internal functioning of the Department. The Business Office is not specifically allocated funding for its work.

Programs:

- Facilities
- Finance
- Contracts & Procurement
- Operations, Policies & Procedures
- Performance Management
- EO & Accessibility
- Employee Engagement and Retention
- Continuous Improvement

Internal Employee Engagement Goals for CY2026:

- **Growth:** Professional development or career advancement of any kind. How are we supporting employees with resources and opportunities? How can we improve?
- **Organizational Culture:** Planning and organizational practices—so that even when circumstances shift, our work remains clear, coordinated, and responsive. This also contributes to your work-life balance and overall job satisfaction. What can we do to positively impact organizational culture at the Department



Single Audit & Federal Audit Summary and Results

Due to the size of the UI Trust Fund, the Department is regularly part of the State's yearly single audit. This past year (FY24) we had three (3) findings. We are currently undergoing the FY25 single-audit and are on track to have zero findings. All three findings recommended a review and rewrite of process and procedure to ensure compliance and oversight. This was completed in June 2025. The findings from FY24 were:

Federal Program: Unemployment Insurance, COVID-19 – Unemployment Insurance

Award Number and Period: State UC, UCFE and UCX (7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023)

Compliance Requirement: Reporting

Finding: Some federal reports for special unemployment compensation were not filed timely and were without documentation of official review or sign-off

Federal Program: Unemployment Insurance

Award Number and Period: DUA 23A60UD000013 (7/14/2023 -7/14/2026)

Compliance Requirement: Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Finding: Some costs were processed without documentation of proper supervisory approval

Federal Program: Unemployment Insurance

Award Number and Period: UI393532355A50 (10/1/2022 – 12/31/2025)

Compliance Requirement: Period of Performance

Finding: Some expenses charged to this award occurred prior to the period of performance.

Business Operations



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Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Development Form: Department of Labor

	General \$\$	Transp \$\$	Educate \$\$	Clean Water \$\$	Special \$\$	Glob Commit \$\$	Federal \$\$	Int. Service \$\$	Interdept1	All other \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 (4100050000) Labor - Programs FY 2026 Approp	11,313,657	0	0	0	9,710,673	0	29,640,603	0	122,841	0	50,787,774
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)											0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	11,313,657	0	0	0	9,710,673	0	29,640,603	0	122,841	0	50,787,774
CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL/CURRENT LAW	540,833	0	0	0	974,480	0	(7,452,376)	0	(27,978)	0	(5,965,041)
<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
											0
											0
											0
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>540,833</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>974,480</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(7,452,376)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(27,978)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(5,965,041)</i>
											0
Current Employment Statistics (CES)							1,050				
Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)							(22,653)				
Labor Market Information - ETA							860				
Occupational Employment and Wages (OEWS)							(3,827)				
Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)							7,831				
Child Support Reemployment									(35,000)		
Child Support Intercept									(45,000)		
Equity in UI							(1,500,000)				
Reed Act							1,000,000				
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment: RESEA							(39,940)				
Technology: Project Mgmt UI modernization	95,480										
Unemployment Insurance Administration	63,654				700,000		(109,387)				
Wage & Hour/Earned Sick Leave	11,633										
Misclassification/Coverage Compliance	7,993										
RETAIN Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network							(6,000,000)				
Tramways					18,019						
VT Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA)	3,000						3,000				
Workers Compensation					198,014						
WorkSafe					60,447		4,000				
Alternative Trade Wage							(150,000)				
Apprenticeship (State)	28,225										
Apprenticeship - (Federal - formula funding)							(301,821)				
ReachUp/ICAN (DCF) Administration	3,680								52,022		
Foreign Labor Certification							7,083				
JVSG (DVOP/LVER)							(6,721)				
Mine Safety Health Award (MSHA)							3,017				
Office of Workforce Strategy and Development	86,859										
Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)							(150,000)				
Trade Readjustment Benefits (TRAA)							(150,000)				
Wagner-Peyser							(18,885)				
WIOA - Youth							(17,438)				
WIOA - Adult							153				
WIOA - Dislocated Worker							(88,775)				
Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)							78,997				
Workforce Expansion (Former Next Gen)	48,293										
Labor Exchange System Maintenance and Operations	15,000										
Administrative Services	4,172										
Technology/Infrastructure/ADS	14,031										
Admin Allowances	160,833										
											0
											0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
											0
											0
											0
											0
											0
											0
Subtotal of Increases/Decreases	540,833	0	0	0	974,480	0	(7,452,376)	0	(27,978)	0	(5,965,041)
FY 2027 Governor Recommend	11,854,490	0	0	0	10,685,153	0	22,188,227	0	94,863	0	44,822,733
FY 2027 Governor's Recommend Target	11,653,067	0	0	0	9,710,673	0	29,640,603	0	122,841	0	51,127,184
FY 2027 Target vs. Recommend	(201,423)	0	0	0	(974,480)	0	7,452,376	0	27,978	0	6,304,451
Department of Labor FY 2026 Appropriation	11,313,657	0	0	0	9,710,673	0	29,640,603	0	122,841	0	50,787,774
TOTAL INCREASES/DECREASES	540,833	0	0	0	974,480	0	(7,452,376)	0	(27,978)	0	(5,965,041)
Department of Labor FY 2027 Governor Recommend	11,854,490	0	0	0	10,685,153	0	22,188,227	0	94,863	0	44,822,733
FY 2027 Governor Recommend Target	11,653,067	0	0	0	9,710,673	0	29,640,603	0	122,841	0	51,127,184
FY 2027 Target vs. Recommend	(201,423)	0	0	0	(974,480)	0	7,452,376	0	27,978	0	6,304,451

FY26 Spending Authority Ups and Downs



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VOL SFY27 Spending Authority Request

As of 1/02/2026

VDOL SFY27 Spending Authority Request				FY27 Budget	FY27 Budget	FY27 Budget	FY27 Budget	FY27 Budget			
As of 1/02/2026				FY 26 As passed	General Funds	Special Funds	Federal Funds	InterDept Trans	Total	Change	Source of Change
1	LMI	Fed/Special	BLS OSHA/Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)	\$96,160		\$48,080	\$48,080		\$96,160	\$0	Fed/Special
2	LMI	Fed	Current Employment Statistics (CES)	\$115,212			\$116,262		\$116,262	\$1,050	Federal
3	LMI	Fed	Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)	\$240,000			\$217,347		\$217,347	-\$22,653	Federal
4	LMI	Fed	Labor Market Information - ETA	\$283,941			\$284,801		\$284,801	\$860	Federal
5	LMI	Fed	Occupational Employment and Wages (OEWS)	\$195,558			\$191,731		\$191,731	-\$3,827	Federal
6	LMI	Fed	Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)	\$313,474			\$321,305		\$321,305	\$7,831	Federal
7	UI	Fed	Child Support Reemployment	\$45,000				\$10,000	\$10,000	-\$35,000	
8	UI	Fed	Child Support Intercept	\$55,000				\$10,000	\$10,000	-\$45,000	
9	UI	Fed	Domestic Abuse	\$30,000		\$30,000			\$30,000	\$0	
10	UI	Fed	Employee Leasing	\$40,000		\$40,000			\$40,000	\$0	
10	UI	Fed	Equity in UI	\$1,500,000			\$0		\$0	-\$1,500,000	Federal
11	UI	Fed	Reed Act	\$500,000			\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	
12	UI	Fed	Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment: RESEA	\$798,796			\$758,856		\$758,856	-\$39,940	Federal
13	UI	State	Technology: Project Mgmt UI modernization	\$3,182,700	3,278,181				\$3,278,181	\$95,481	Gen Fund
14	UI	State/Fed	Unemployment Insurance Administration	\$11,412,840	2,185,454	\$1,500,000	\$8,381,673		\$12,067,127	\$654,287	Gen/Federal
15	UI	State	Wage & Hour/Earned Sick Leave	\$387,752	399,384				\$399,384	\$11,633	Gen Fund
16	WC	State/Special	Misclassification/Coverage Compliance	\$347,085	274,421	\$80,657			\$355,078	\$7,993	Gen Fund
17	WC	Fed	RETAIN:Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network	\$6,000,000			\$0		\$0	-\$6,000,000	Federal
18	WC	Special	Tramways	\$590,356		\$608,375			\$608,375	\$18,019	Special
19	WC	Special	Technology: Project Mgmt WC modernization	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000			\$3,000,000	\$0	
20	WC	State/Fed	VT Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA)	\$1,916,600	961,300		\$961,300		\$1,922,600	\$6,000	Gen/Federal
21	WC	Special	Workers Compensation	\$4,900,359		\$5,096,373			\$5,096,373	\$196,014	Special
22	WC	Fed/Special	WorkSafe	\$798,221		\$281,668	\$581,000		\$862,668	\$64,447	Federal/Special
23	WD	Fed	Alternative Trade Wage	\$150,000			\$0		\$0	-\$150,000	Federal
24	WD	State	Apprenticeship (State)	\$874,182	900,407				\$900,407	\$26,225	Gen Fund
25	WD	Fed	Apprenticeship - (Federal - formula funding)	\$697,629			\$395,708		\$395,708	-\$301,921	Federal
26	WD	State	ReachUp/ICAN (DCF) Administration	\$144,845	125,664			\$74,863	\$200,527	\$55,682	Gen Fund/IntraDept
27	WD	Fed	Foreign Labor Certification	\$176,804			\$183,887		\$183,887	\$7,083	
28	WD	Fed	JVSG (DVOP/LVER)	\$500,363			\$493,642		\$493,642	-\$6,721	
29	WD	Fed	Mine Safety Health Award (MSHA)	\$114,616			\$117,633		\$117,633	\$3,017	
30	WD	State	Office of Workforce Strategy and Development	\$337,000	423,859				\$423,859	\$86,859	Gen Fund
31	WD	Fed	Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)	\$150,000			\$0		\$0	-\$150,000	Federal
32	WD	Fed	Trade Readjustment Benefits (TRAA)	\$150,000			\$0		\$0	-\$150,000	Federal
33	WD	Fed	Wagner-Peyser	\$2,195,778			\$2,179,113		\$2,179,113	-\$16,665	Federal
34	WD	Fed	WIOA - Youth	\$2,318,970			\$2,301,532		\$2,301,532	-\$17,438	Federal
35	WD	Fed	WIOA - Adult	\$2,202,724			\$2,202,857		\$2,202,857	\$133	Federal
36	WD	Fed	WIOA - Dislocated Worker	\$896,318			\$806,543		\$806,543	-\$89,775	Federal
37	WD	Fed	Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)	\$66,000			\$144,957		\$144,957	\$78,957	
38	WD	State	Workforce Expansion (Former Next Gen)	\$1,459,774	1,508,067				\$1,508,067	\$48,293	Gen Fund
39	WD	State	VT Youth Employment Funds	\$150,000	150,000				\$150,000	\$0	Gen Fund
40	WD	State	Labor Exchange System Maintenance and Operations	\$500,000	515,000				\$515,000	\$15,000	Gen Fund
41	X-SOV	State	Administrative Services	\$139,050	143,222				\$143,222	\$4,172	Gen Fund
42	X-SOV	State	Technology/Infrastructure/ADS	\$467,687	481,718				\$481,718	\$14,031	Gen Fund
43	X-SOV	State	Admin subsidies/Budget Allowances (ADS, DHR, FFS, VISION,Etc)	\$346,980	507,813				\$507,813	\$160,833	Gen Fund
44			Total All	50,787,774	\$11,854,490	\$10,685,153	\$22,188,227	\$94,863	\$44,822,733	-\$5,965,041	
45			Funding by Percent of Total		26.45%	23.84%	49.50%	0.21%			
			Percent change from FY26 as passed		4.78%	10.04%	-25.14%	-22.78%	-11.75%		
			Dollar change from FY26		\$540,833	\$974,480	-\$7,452,376	-\$27,978	-\$5,965,041		

This chart is specific to the Department's request to the Legislature for **Spending Authority** to spend the identified amounts in the identified programs. Included in this chart are both existing funds and requested funds.

FY26 Budget Federal Funds column indicates funds that are projected to be appropriated to the Department by the federal government. For these funds, the Department is seeking *spending authority* of already appropriated or anticipated funds, not an appropriation.

Change column highlights indicate changes to general fund dollars only.

FY26 Spending Authority Overview



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2026 Legislative Session

- Support in Legislative Conversations on Education Transformation – specifically CTE governance, Adult CTE/Adult Ed, and afterschool & summer programming
- Registered Apprenticeship Statute Technical Corrections

Job Seeker & Employer Service Transformation

- Service-to-career-pathways
- Adult CTE grants
- Apprenticeship expansion
- Sector-focused 'sprints' and job fairs
- State Job Board Replacement

Federal Funding and Programmatic Changes

- WIOA State Plan Modification
- Support Work Requirements for SNAP/TANF/Medicaid (HR1)
- Support Workforce Components of Rural Health Transformation Project
- Support fingerprint-supported background check system updates
- Connecting Employers with Federal Funding for Apprenticeship
- Workforce Pell

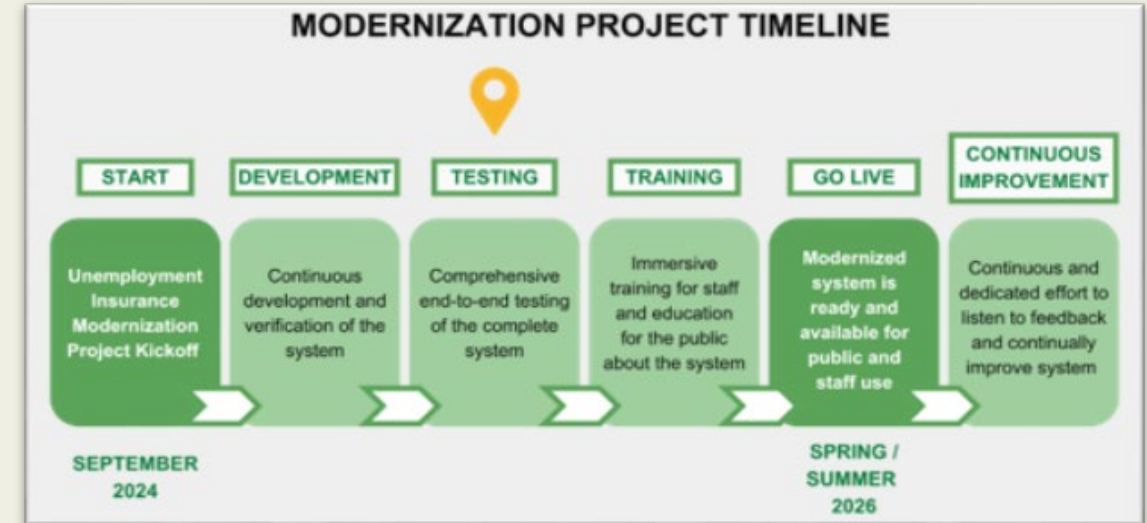
State Education & Outreach

- Quarterly VOSHA education seminars
- Continue successful wage & hour seminars

At a Glance: Ongoing Department Work & Priorities

Unemployment Insurance System Modernization

- Top priority for VDOL – creating simplified, efficient online services for employers and claimants
- Project remains on schedule
- Development - 90% completed
- Business Testing - 60% completed
- Converted Data Testing - 45% completed
- Training – starts now and ramps up in January
- Ongoing communication and collaboration with claimants, employers, TPAs and other key partners
- Usability study under way (NASWA)
- Project info: [UI Modernization](#)



At a Glance: Ongoing Department Work & Priorities, Cont.

The **Office of Workforce Strategy and Development** (OWSD) oversees the collaboration of workforce efforts across the state (both State and private) and advises the Governor on strategies to strengthen Vermont’s workforce. The Office was established by Act 146 of 2024.

Staff: 2

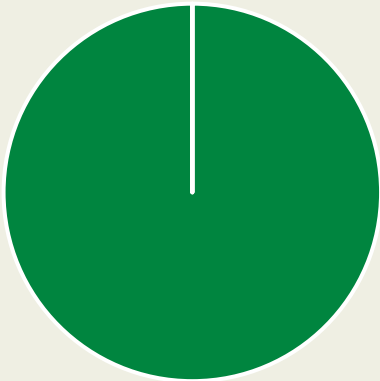
The Office includes the State Workforce Development Board with its 27 members. They advise the Governor, Commissioner of Labor, and Executive Director of the Office on the implementation of a workforce education and training system, as required under federal law (WIOA).

In addition, the OWSD works closely with the One-Stop Operator at the American Job Center (AJC) located in Burlington. A One-Stop Operator is responsible for:

- Coordinating service delivery at the AJC
- Ensuring that services from various partner programs (e.g., training, career services, employment support) are streamlined for job seekers and employers
- Managing daily operations of the AJC
- Overseeing partner services and occasionally providing direct services themselves
- Assist in implementing federal workforce programs at the local level under WIOA
- Collaborate closely with the Workforce Development Board

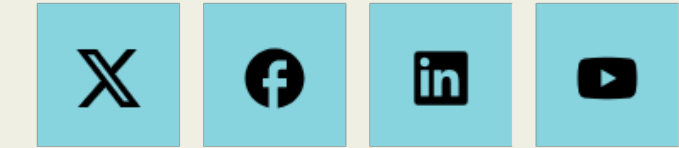
The Operator is fully federally funded.

Funding Sources



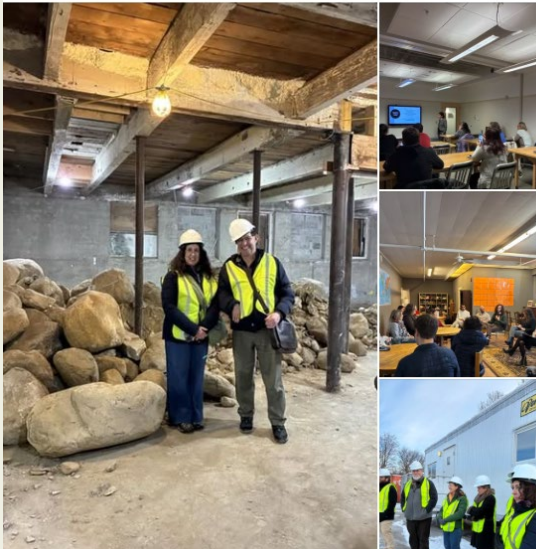
- General Funds
- Special Funds
- Federal Funds
- Interdepartmental Transfer

General Funds	\$423,859
Special Funds	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0
Interdepartmental Transfer	\$0
Total Office Budget	\$423,859



Vermont Department of Labor December 23, 2025

It was great to connect with the Bennington County community and employers during the most recent Capital for a Day with Governor Phil Scott. ... See more



A screenshot of a Microsoft Teams meeting slide. The slide has a dark blue background. At the top right, it says "Microsoft Teams". The main title is "SWDB Executive Committee meeting" in large white font. Below the title, it says "2025-11-03 18:03 UTC". At the bottom, it lists "Recorded by: Turner, Drake (she/her)" and "Organized by: Haskell, Sabina". At the very bottom of the slide, there is a small white bar with a green "V" icon, the text "VT Office of Workforce Strategy and Development", a "Subscribe" button, and social sharing icons for Like, Share, Ask, Save, and a menu icon.



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