



# Vocational Rehabilitation

Outcomes through Employment



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION  
fldoe.org



VOCATIONAL  
REHABILITATION

# Who We Are



*Nicholas Alvarado shows off his successful completion of a hands-on hospitality training program through VR.*

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a federal-state program that helps eligible individuals with disabilities find, get, keep or advance in employment.

Services provided are based on an individual's needs and employment goals.

<https://www.rehabworks.org/about/about-us.html>



# VR's Specialized Units

- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)
- General and Supported Employment Services
- Self-Employment and Supported Self-Employment
- Ticket to Work (Social Security Administration)
- Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Services
- Independent Living Program
- Business Relations Services

**More information available online at [Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation \(rehabworks.org\)](http://rehabworks.org).**



# Who We Help



## People with Disabilities

Anyone, regardless of disability type, may be referred to VR for services related to find, get, keep or advance in a job.



## Florida Businesses

VR provides services to businesses to assist with recruiting, hiring, promoting and retaining qualified individuals with disabilities.

# VR in the Community

In addition to funding dozens of career exploration camps and job placement programs, VR also funds the following initiatives:

- Project SEARCH
- High School High Tech (HSHT)
- Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE)
- Building Readiness in Construction Knowledge (BRICK)

More information available online at [Transition Student Programs - Florida VR \(rehabworks.org\)](https://www.rehabworks.org).



# Services for Youth

- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) offer students with disabilities an early start at career exploration and preparation for adult life.
- Beginning at age 14, students with disabilities can connect with VR for Pre-ETS. VR works with students, their families, their schools, and community partners to enrich transition planning.



# The Five Required Pre-Employment Transition Services



1. Job Exploration Counseling
2. Postsecondary Education Counseling
3. Work Readiness Training
4. Work-Based Learning Experiences (WBLE)
5. Self-Advocacy Training and Youth Peer Mentoring

# Pre-ETS Eligibility

Section 413.301, Florida Statute defines a Pre-ETS eligible “*Student With a Disability*” by the following criteria:

- 14-21 years of age,
- Enrolled in secondary or post-secondary education, and
- Has a documented disability (e.g. IEP, 504 plan or other documentation).

## Potentially Eligible

- Can only receive Pre-ETS.
- No eligibility determination required.

## Traditional VR Services

- Can receive Pre-ETS at application.
- Additional services provided at IPE.



# State of the State: VR

# VR Participant Highlights PY 2022

## Primary Disability Category

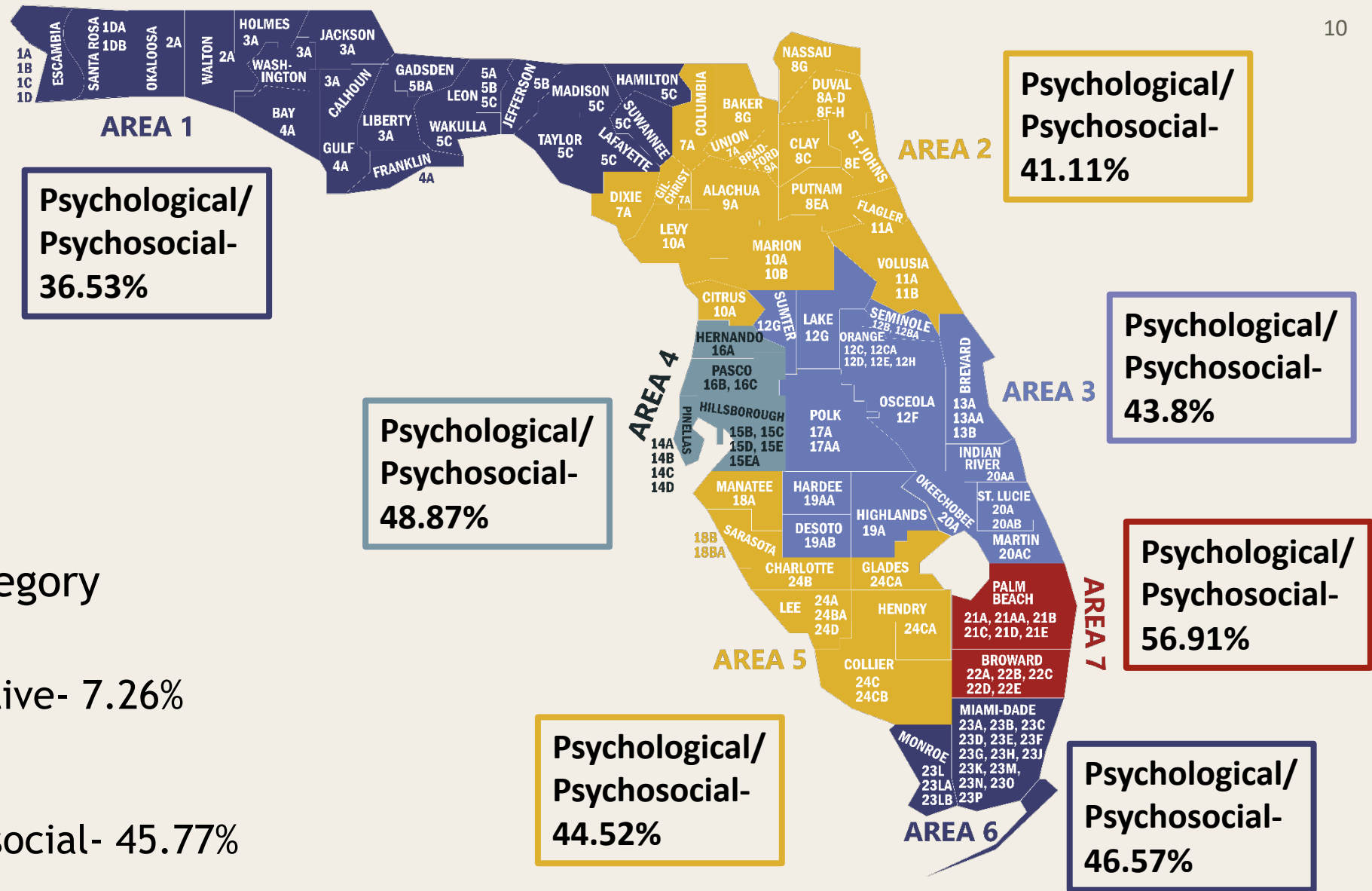
Visual- 1.13%

Auditory or Communicative- 7.26%

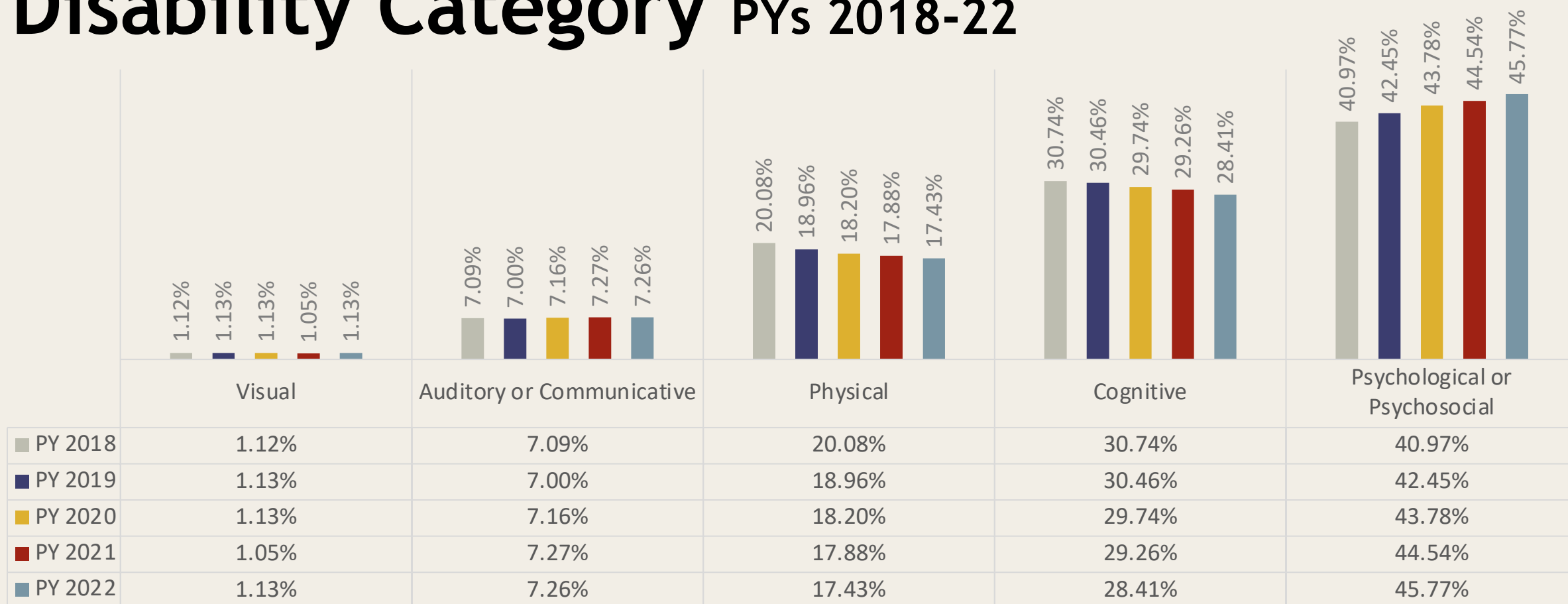
Physical- 17.43%

Cognitive- 28.41%

Psychological or Psychosocial- 45.77%



# Participants Served by Primary Disability Category PYs 2018-22

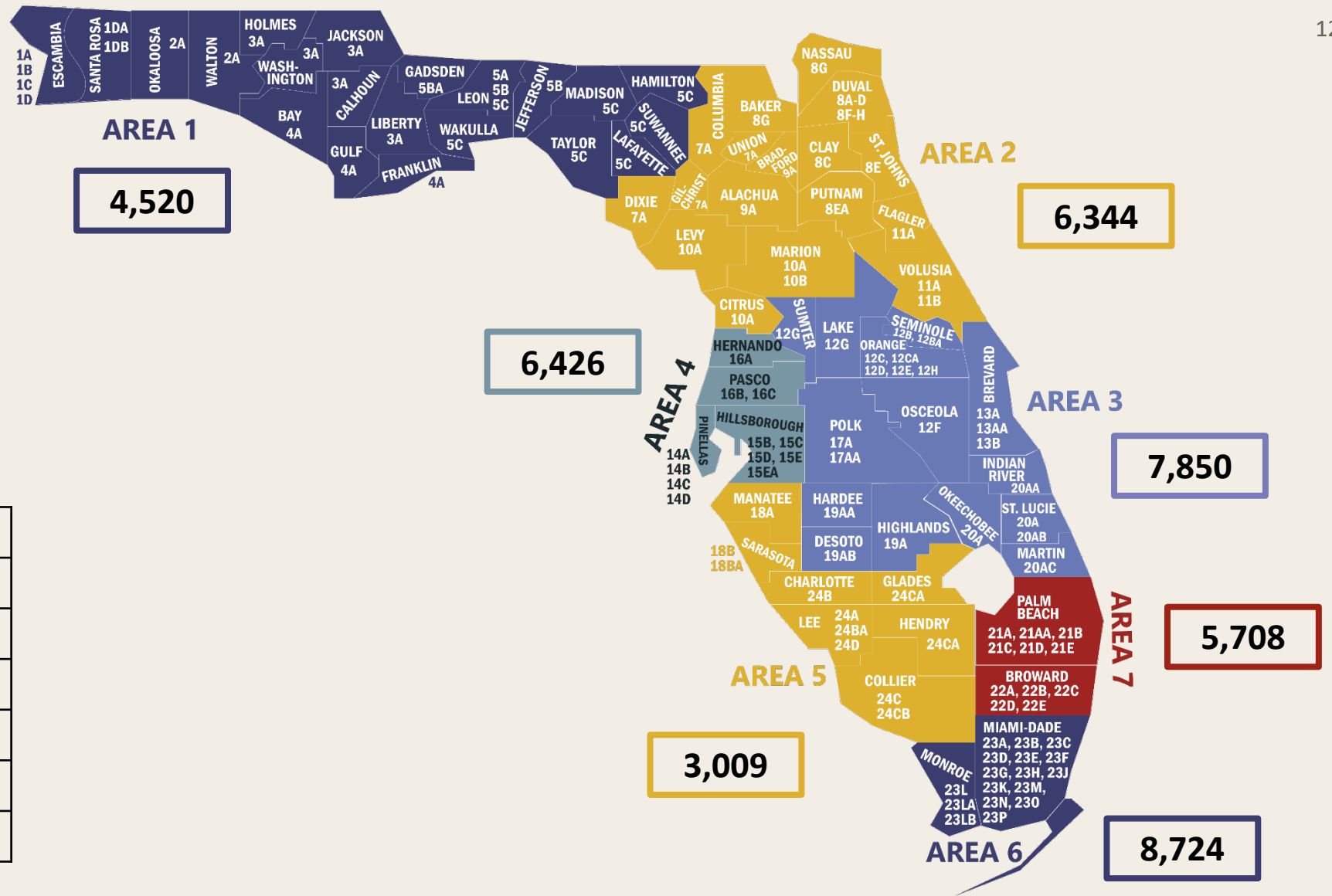




# VR Participant Highlights PY 2022

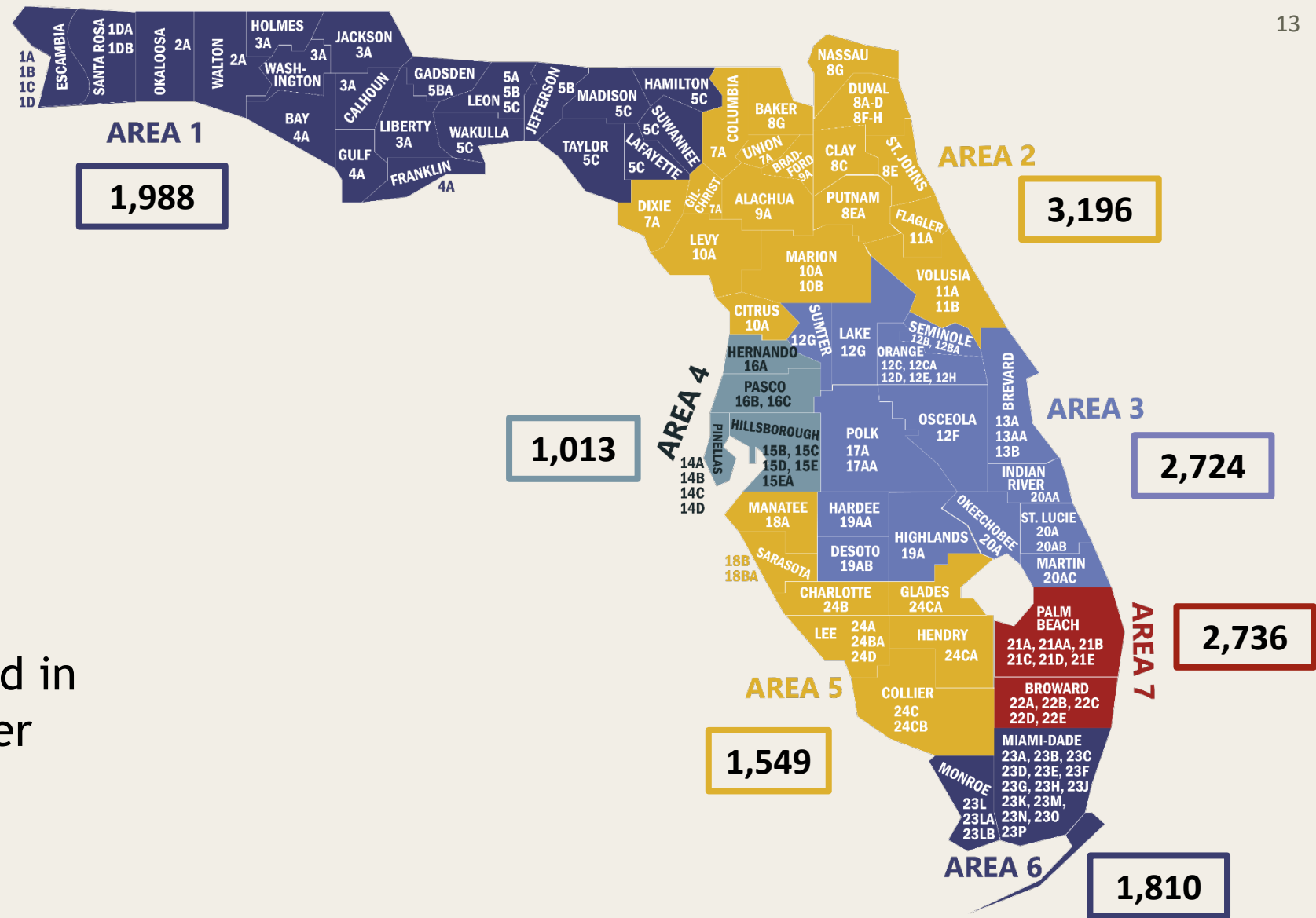
## State Distribution

Under Age 16-	54
Age 16 to 18-	2,154
Age 19 to 24-	17,271
Age 25 to 44-	13,243
Age 45 to 54-	4,120
Age 55 to 59-	2,303
Age Over 60-	3,436

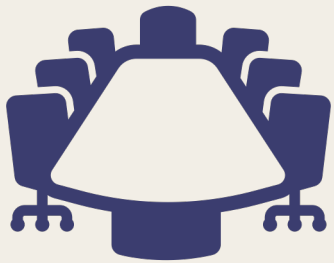


# VR Pre-ETS Highlights PY 2022

Over 15,000 individuals received Pre-ETS services during PY 2022. This total includes individuals who received services delivered in house and during VR Career Camps. Area totals are indicated on the map.



# Collaboration with Florida's Colleges and Universities - VR PY 2022



11

Advisory  
Committees  
and Boards



40

Career and  
Resource  
Fairs



6

IPSE  
Programs



8

Disability  
Resource  
Centers



6

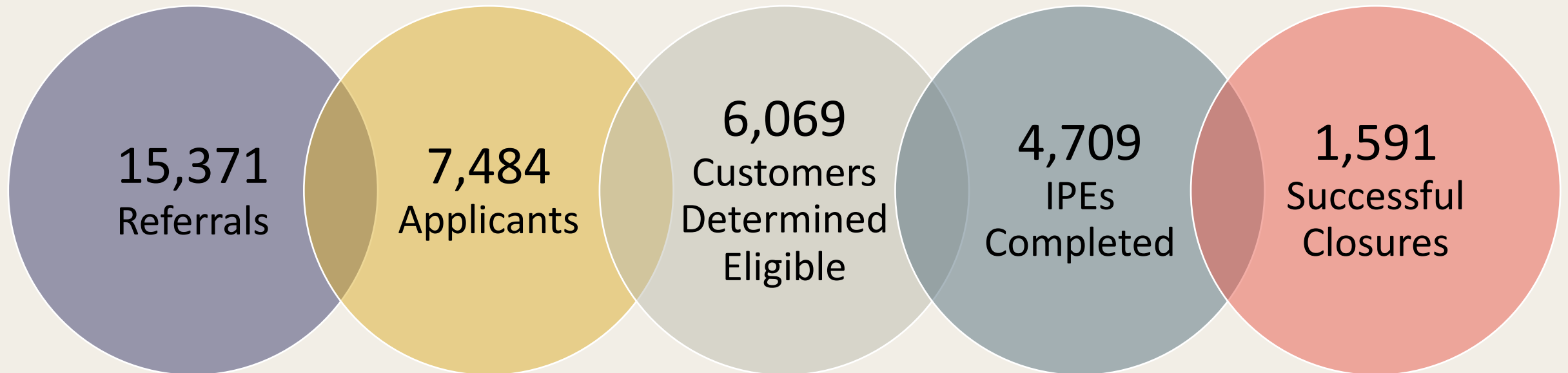
Events for  
Future Rehab  
Professionals





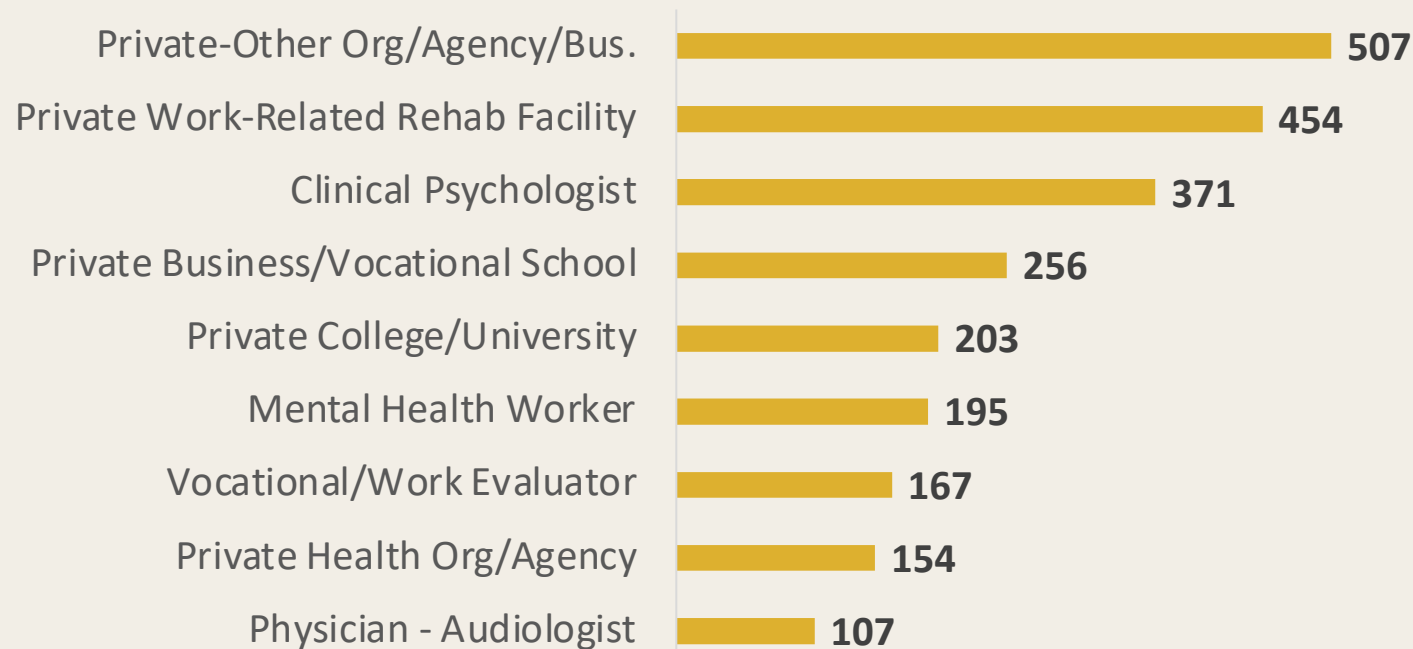
# VR Caseload Highlights

PY 2023, Qs 1-2



# VR Vendor/Provider Highlights as of PY 2023, Q2

## Vendor Counts by Type



## Registered Providers per Area

- Area 1- 40
- Area 2- 57
- Area 3- 74
- Area 4- 46
- Area 5- 24
- Area 6- 51
- Area 7- 45

101 Vocational Evaluators

# WIOA Performance Goals (VR)

- **Unsubsidized Employment**
  - Percent of participants second quarter after exit; and
  - Percent of participants fourth quarter after exit.
- **Median earnings** of participants during second quarter after exit
- Percent of participants who obtain a **postsecondary credential** or secondary school diploma within one year after exit
- Achievement of **measurable skill gains** (MSG) toward credential or employment

[WIOA Performance Indicators and Measures | U.S. Department of Labor \(dol.gov\)](#)





# WIOA Performance Measures: VR PY 2022



For every \$1 spent rehabilitating a customer, an estimated **\$10.48** was returned to Florida's economy in PY 2022.

Employment 2nd Quarter after Exit

49.3%

55.2%

Employment 4th Quarter after Exit

49.3%

53.8%

Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit

\$3,780

\$4,708

Measurable Skill Gains (MSG)

28.7%

38.7%

Credential Attainment

20%

24.8%

Actual Target

Source: FL-G FY24 Monitoring Session - Performance Overview

# WIOA Negotiated Targets

Indicator	PY22 Actual	PY23 Targets (Negotiated Levels)	PY24 Targets (Negotiated Levels)	PY25 Targets (Negotiated Levels)
Employment 2nd quarter after exit	55.2%	50.30%	56.0%	57.0%
Employment 4th quarter after exit	53.8%	51.70%	54.0%	55.0%
Median earnings 2nd quarter after exit	\$4,708.00	\$3,902	\$4,800.00	\$4,900.00
Measurable Skill Gaines (MSG)	38.7%	31.00%	39.0%	43.0%
Credential Attainment	24.8%	21.00%	25.0%	26.0%

# VR's Priorities:

- Increasing positive participant **outcomes**
  - Training (secondary, postsecondary, MSGs, etc.)
  - Employment
    - Numbers in unsubsidized employment
    - Median earnings
- Increasing **Quality, Aligned & Efficient Systems**
  - Embedded and Aligned Accountability measures
  - Partnerships and Outreach (Public, School Districts, Other Agencies & WIOA Partners, Employers, etc.)



# Becoming a VR Customer

# VR Referral Form

Referrals for VR services can be made by anyone.

Once a referral for services has been completed, VR contacts the referred individual to discuss orientation and the next steps in the process.

<https://www.rehabworks.org/resources/docs/customers/vocational-rehabilitation-referral-form.docx>

**More information available online at** [Steps to Using Vocational Rehabilitation - Florida VR \(rehabworks.org\)](#).

# Eligibility for VR Services



*Pictured: VR Client Douglas Cordova.*

To be considered eligible for VR services, an individual must:

- Meet the requirements for Preemployment transition services (Pre-ETS); OR
- Have a physical and/or mental disability that results in a significant barrier to employment, and need VR services to find, get, keep, or advance in a job.

# Presumptive Eligibility for Social Security Recipients

- If an individual receives either Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for their disability, they are presumed eligible for VR services.
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) services are available to advise customers on how working will affect their SSI and/or SSDI, and how to work and keep their benefits.
- More Information is available at <https://www.rehabworks.org/adult-programs/ttw.html>.

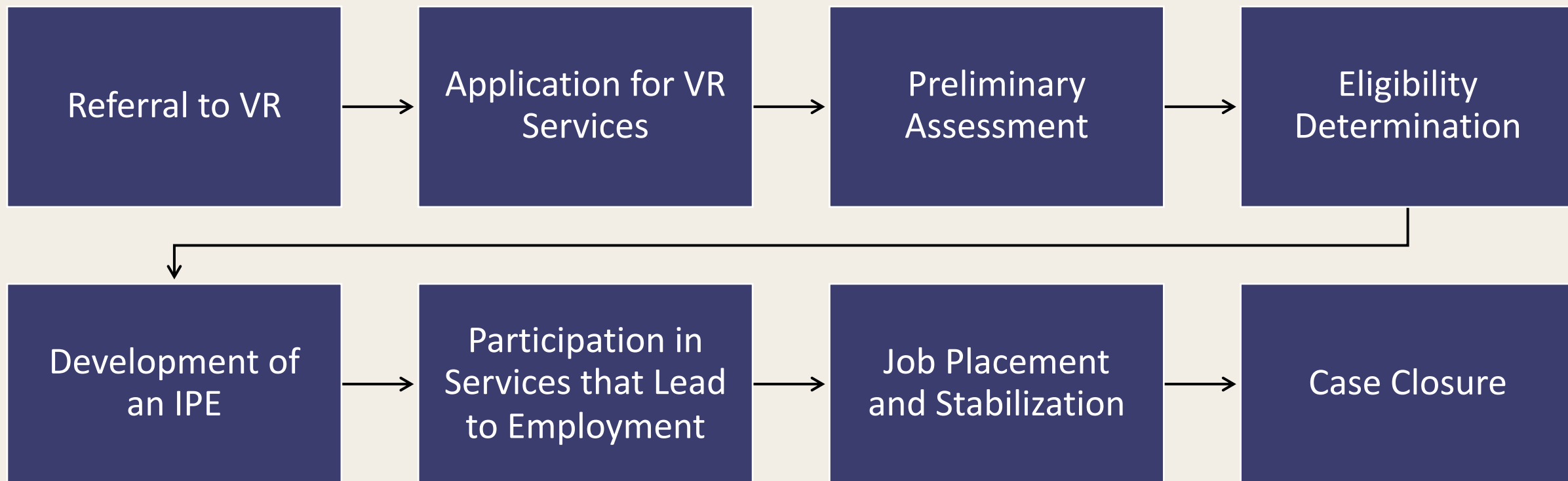
# Other Available VR Services

- Career Counseling and Guidance
- Training and Education after High School
- Vocational Evaluation and Planning
- Assistive Technology and Devices
- Job Coaching
- Job Placement
- On-the-Job Training
- Job Site Assessment and Accommodations
- Supported and Customized Employment
- Medical and Psychological Assessment
- Time-limited Medical and/or Psychological Treatment
- Personal Identification/Documentation
- Travel Training – Adult/Youth

<https://www.rehabworks.org/customers/job-services.html>



# The VR Process



# Success Story

Uriel was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and referred to Vocational Rehabilitation to help him determine a career goal and the services that would be necessary to reach his goal.

He completed his 80-hour WBLE with Hands-On-Hyatt and was offered a permanent position.

<https://winknews.com/2023/03/07/hands-on-at-hyatt-provides-opportunities-for-adults-with-disabilities/> .





# Questions

# Thank You

To learn more, call 800-451-4327 or  
find an office near you by visiting [RehabWorks.org](https://RehabWorks.org).

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2021 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$176,521,122. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$47,775,094) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2022.

