

Senate Judiciary Committee Informational Meeting

Industrial Hemp Regulations and Enforcement

September 27, 2023

Historical Reference

- 2019 we saw a massive influx of Hemp production (purported to be hemp).
- 2020 we saw a significant decrease in Hemp production from the previous year
- 2021 we saw a massive increase of black market marijuana production
 - Emergency Declaration by the County
 - Local and National Media attention
 - Legislative attention
 - HB 3000 – Illegal to cultivate any cannabis without a license (excludes personal use), OLCC regulatory authority to help ODA.
 - Additional funding – emergency session
 - HB 3000 Task Force
- 2022 significant decrease in large scale cultivation but market saturated with product
- 2023 smaller but as many cultivation locations, decrease in processed product, discreate vs open

Current funding and staffing levels

- Total Grant Funding allocated to Jackson County thus far over the last few years and moving through 2025
 - \$10,062, 985.00
- Funded through grant currently
 - 2 Sergeants (Filled)
 - 9 Detectives (6 spots filled)
 - 3 code enforcement officers
 - 1.5 Deputy DA's (.5 filled)
 - 2 patrol deputies (not filled)
 - 1 Crime Analyst (filled)
 - 1 Evidence Tech (filled)
 - 1 Administrative Assistant

2022 Stats

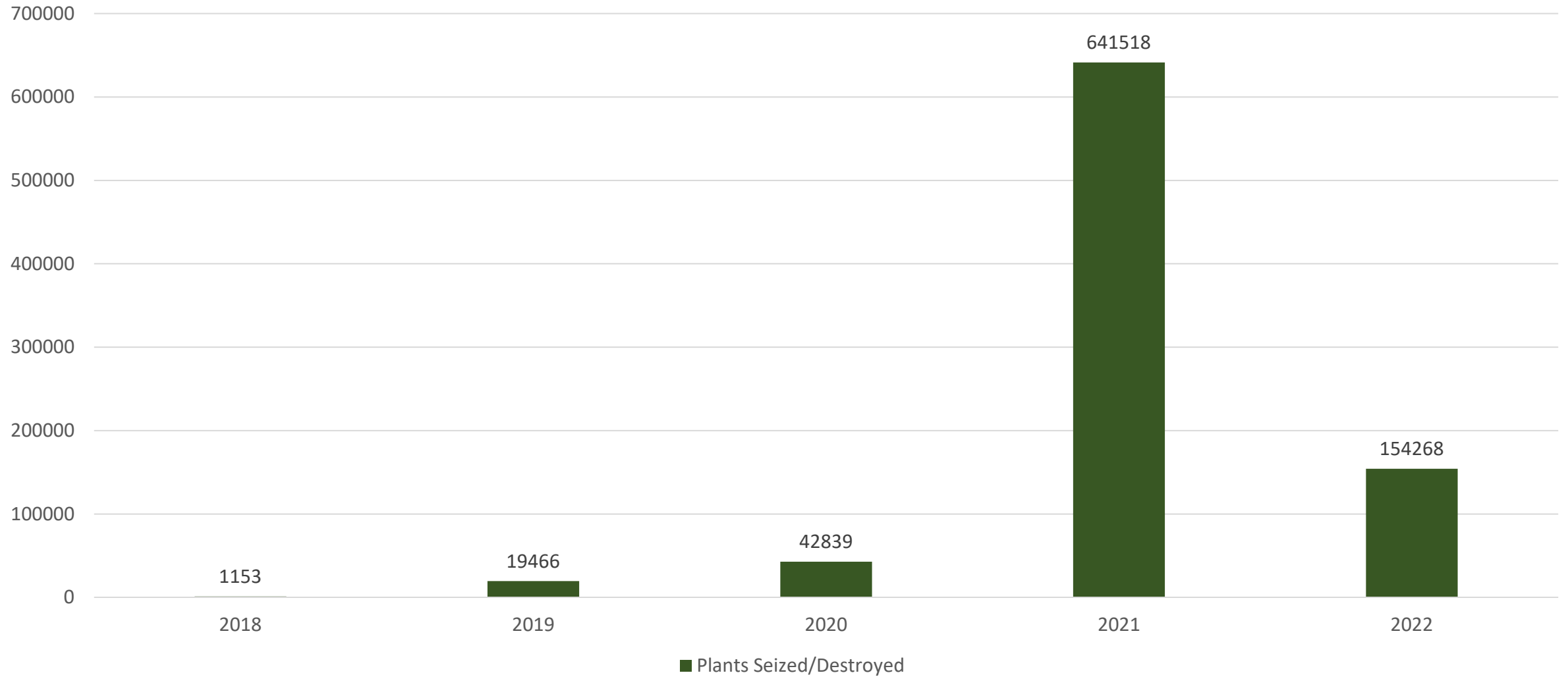
- Cases – 126
- Marijuana Plants – 154,268
- Processed Marijuana – 208,644 pounds
- Search Warrants – 40
- Firearms Seized – 107
- Currency Seized – 1.7 million
- Fentanyl Pills – 5,080

2023 Stats – (August 31)

- Cases - 130
- Marijuana Plants – 43,705
- Processed Marijuana – 33,984
- Search Warrants – 51
- Firearms Seized – 88
- Currency Seized – 229,241
- Fentanyl Pills - 126

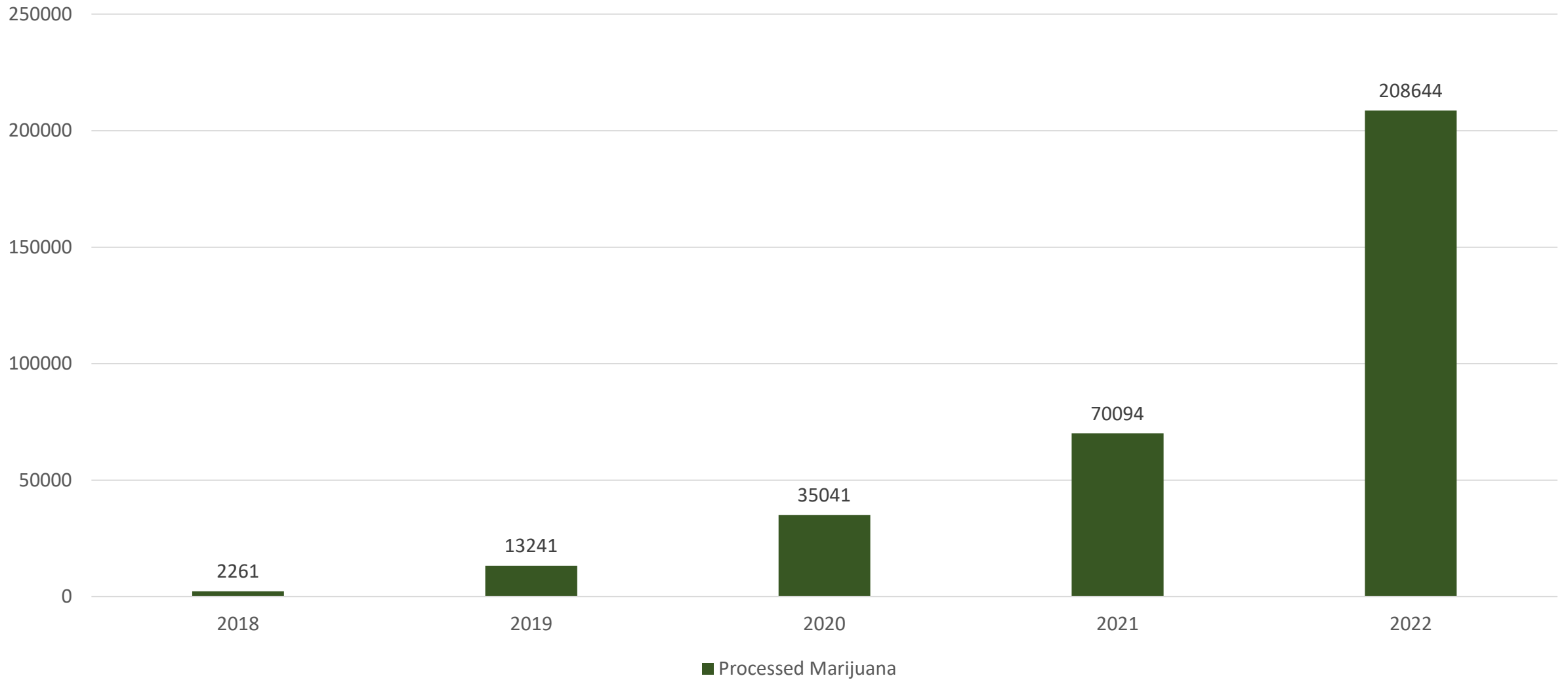
5 Year Stats

Plants Seized/Destroyed



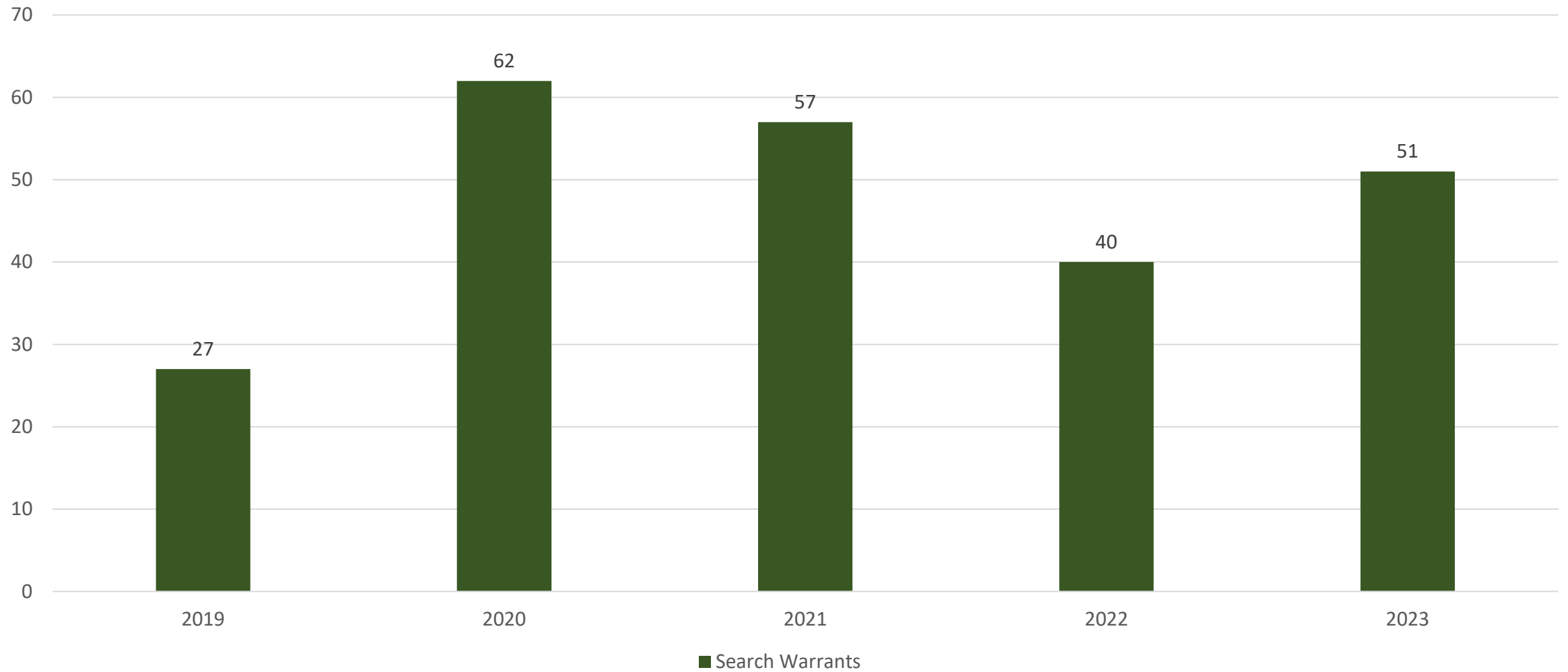
5 Year Stats

Processed Marijuana



5 Year Stats

Search Warrants Served



2021 vs. 2022 vs. 2023

- In 2022 sites had a large amount of processed marijuana than previous years
- Less evidence of labor trafficking in 2022 and 2023 – but still present in smaller numbers
- Indoor grows are more common and illicit growers are adapting to enforcement and laws
- In 2021 we had about 500 locations that we had complaints on that we couldn't investigate. In 2022 we had about 100 or so locations we want to follow up on.
- Complaints were followed up on 2023, however we still believe we won't get to everything.
- Marijuana prices are reportedly going up again, meaning the market is less saturated at this point.

Successes/Trends

- Reduction in large scale operations
 - Human Trafficking
 - Water theft/waste not as prevalent
 - Livability improved
 - More responsive to resident complaints
 - Fewer reports of violent crime at marijuana locations
 - Better environment for the those within the legal marijuana industry
- Partnerships
 - OLCC/UNETE/Watermaster/Law Enforcement Agencies (OSP, Municipal, Federal)
- Legislative efforts
 - HB 3000, Criminal law changes
- Enforcement – Perceived belief there are resources to
- Market adjustments

Continued challenges

- Not enough teeth in the criminal justice system – might get better.
- Dangerous environment – Chemicals, Cartels, Weapons, other drugs, other crime
 - Injury from laborious work
- Pre – Cursors for marijuana related production readily available due to legal aspect
- World Wide Interest in Jackson and Josephine Counties
 - Mexico, Argentina, Asia (Hmong, Louse, Chinese), Bulgaria, Russia, Peru, USA
- Operational challenges due to locations and resources needed
 - Some locations are massive undertakings

Continued Challenges

- Licenses issued by regulatory agencies to those involved in black market marijuana
 - Jackson County several examples
- Inspections being delayed or not conducted in a timely manner
 - Klamath County (two week notifications)
- Loop holes in the regulations for OLCC
 - Plants reported as loss and destroyed but no confirmation
 - Lane County