

State of Illinois
Bruce Rauner, Governor

Department of Agriculture
Raymond Poe, Director



BUREAU OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

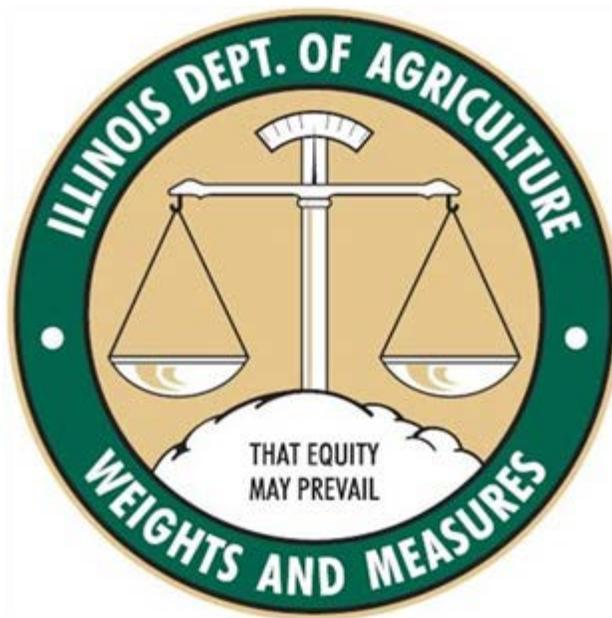


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I. BUREAU DESCRIPTION

The Bureau of Weights and Measures' primary responsibility is to protect the citizens and merchants of Illinois through numerous and varied enforcement activities. The delivery of full weight and measure and the elimination of fraud and misrepresentation in commercial transactions have been objectives of this program since its inception.

Weights and Measures inspectors protect both the buyer's and seller's interests by providing equity in the marketplace. Inspectors examine and test, with certified standards, every weighing and measuring device used commercially in the state of Illinois. In addition, inspectors check weigh various prepackaged commodities, review commodity labels for compliance, investigate consumer complaints about shortages or unfair practices and educate the buyer and seller generally as to their rights provided by the Weights and Measures Law.

Bureau staff performs device inspections, motor fuel quality testing and metrology calibrations. The Bureau licenses anyone who sells, installs or repairs commercially used weighing or measuring devices through the Registered Serviceperson Program.

The following sections describe the program areas within the Bureau of Weights and Measures.

Device Inspections of all commercially-used weighing and measuring devices within the state are performed by twenty-nine Products and Standards Inspectors from the Bureau.

A total of 131,358 devices were inspected in 2015. The basis and statutory authority for all inspection activities are found in the Illinois Weights and Measures Act.

Petroleum Products Quality Sampling is the method by which the Bureau annually collects samples of petroleum products for quality analysis by a contract laboratory. Sampling is conducted to determine octane rating, volatility and water content of petroleum products as well as to determine the presence of oxygenates such as ethanol. A significant percentage of the samples collected are gasoline. To enhance the motor fuel testing program, the Bureau has teamed up with the Illinois Soybean producers. The Illinois Soybean Producers have provided the Bureau with 'Wilks' branded biodiesel analyzers To analyze the percentage of soy oil in diesel fuel samples. Wilks Enterprise offers rugged, portable, easy-to-use analyzers for the Biofuels Industry. They can be operated by personnel having little or no technical knowledge and provide measurement data in less than one minute. The rugged design and portability are ideal for inspectors use in the field.

Stage II Vapor Recovery program is a cooperative agreement with the Illinois EPA in which inspections of Stage II Vapor Recovery Systems are performed in the Chicago-Metro area. Stage II Vapor Recovery inspections result in cleaner air quality with minimal use of government resources. Currently, the stage II vapor recovery systems are being de-commissioned. It is required that all stage II vapor recovery systems be decommissioned by December 31, 2016.

Prepackaged Commodity Inspections are conducted at regular, unannounced intervals by the Bureau. Prepackaged commodities such as store-packaged meats, delicatessen items, boxed cereals, specialty coffee, bulk candies, milk, fabric softener and motor oil are inspected to ensure the accuracy of the net quantity statement. A consumer only pays for the net weight of the product, not the wrapping and packaging material. Consumer complaints regarding product shortages or unfair sales practices are investigated.

The Metrology Standards Laboratory maintains custody and safekeeping of the Illinois primary standards of mass and volume. These are standards to which all other standards and testing equipment are compared. The laboratory is recognized by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The laboratory provides measurement services for enforcement of weights and measures regulations in legal metrology by testing and calibrating all working standards used by the inspection staff. It also provides services for Illinois' business, industry, education, and government agencies in scientific metrology by testing and calibrating working standards used in trade, commerce and manufacturing. The calibration of the standards and testing equipment used by the inspection staff and city sealers is performed on an annual basis. The calibration of a Registered Service Company's standards and testing equipment is performed once every two years.

The laboratory has established a continuous process of quality maintenance and improvement that has enabled it to grow in professional stature and to offer improved services in responding to Illinois' industry calibration needs, as well as the support of trade and the maintenance of equity in the marketplace.

Strict environmental conditions are maintained in the laboratory to ensure accuracy and to comply with current requirements.

The Grain Moisture Meter Laboratory prepares field samples of corn, soybeans and soft red winter wheat to establish known moisture content by using the official USDA air-oven method. These samples are then utilized in field inspections to measure the accuracy of moisture measuring devices currently used by grain producers and elevator operators throughout the state of Illinois. Illinois farmers and other members of the grain trade depend on accurate measurement of moisture content of grain offered for sale at elevators and inland terminals.

Bulk Grain Processing is the method by which the Grain Moisture Meter Laboratory processes bulk grain samples collected from various farmers and elevators. By obtaining a variety of bulk samples, the laboratory is able to develop samples using a variety of grain types with varying moisture levels. Moisture content of prepared samples for field inspections typically ranges from 10-22%. The laboratory prepares a new set of samples every three weeks, which allows inspectors to receive a new set of samples on a timely basis.

Moisture meters used by grain producers and elevator operators are inspected on an annual basis prior to the fall harvest season. There are approximately 1,200 state inspected moisture meters used within the state of Illinois.

The Registered Service Person Program consists of Bureau-licensed companies and individuals who sell, install or repair commercially-used weighing and measuring devices. Before becoming licensed, service persons are examined on their proficiency and understanding of applicable regulations. Licenses must be renewed annually. Bureau personnel provide initial and on-going training to licensees. A registered serviceperson in good standing may place a commercially-used device into service, and the device may be used in trade or commerce. 297 service companies and 1,196 technicians were registered with the Bureau in 2015.

The City Sealers Program grants cities with a minimum population of 25,000 the authority to certify commercially-used weighing and measuring devices. To be recognized, a city sealer must participate in an annual training program sponsored by the Department and must submit an annual report to the Department. The Bureau provides technical training and support to city sealers.

Cicero

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City of Cicero
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Cicero, IL 60804

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618.452.6218
(small scales only)

Steve Willaredt
Inspection Department
City of Granite City
2301 Adams St.
Granite City, IL 62040

II. BUREAU STRUCTURE

The Bureau of Weights and Measures is strategically organized to make the most efficient use of staffing to manage the sizeable workload.

The Bureau Chief directs a team of two Program Managers, an Administrative Assistant, and Metrologist. The Bureau Chief administers and develops procedures for the statewide weights and measures and motor fuel quality programs. The Bureau Chief also administers various programs related to weights and measures such as the City Sealer Program, the Registered Serviceperson Program and the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). Additionally, the Bureau Chief serves as the state representative to the National Conference on Weights and Measures, the American Society of Testing and Materials and various regional and national technical committees.

The Program Managers supervise the field inspectors located throughout Illinois. In addition to their supervisory responsibilities, each Program Manager specializes in a specific program area, such as scales, liquid measuring devices, and motor fuel quality. These areas of specialization allow each Program Manager to focus on the technical issues within the Bureau, providing synergy among the management team. The Program Managers are centralized in Springfield, Illinois.

The Field Inspectors are responsible for performing the various inspections throughout the state of Illinois. There were a total of 31 inspectors in 2015 conducting a variety of inspections.

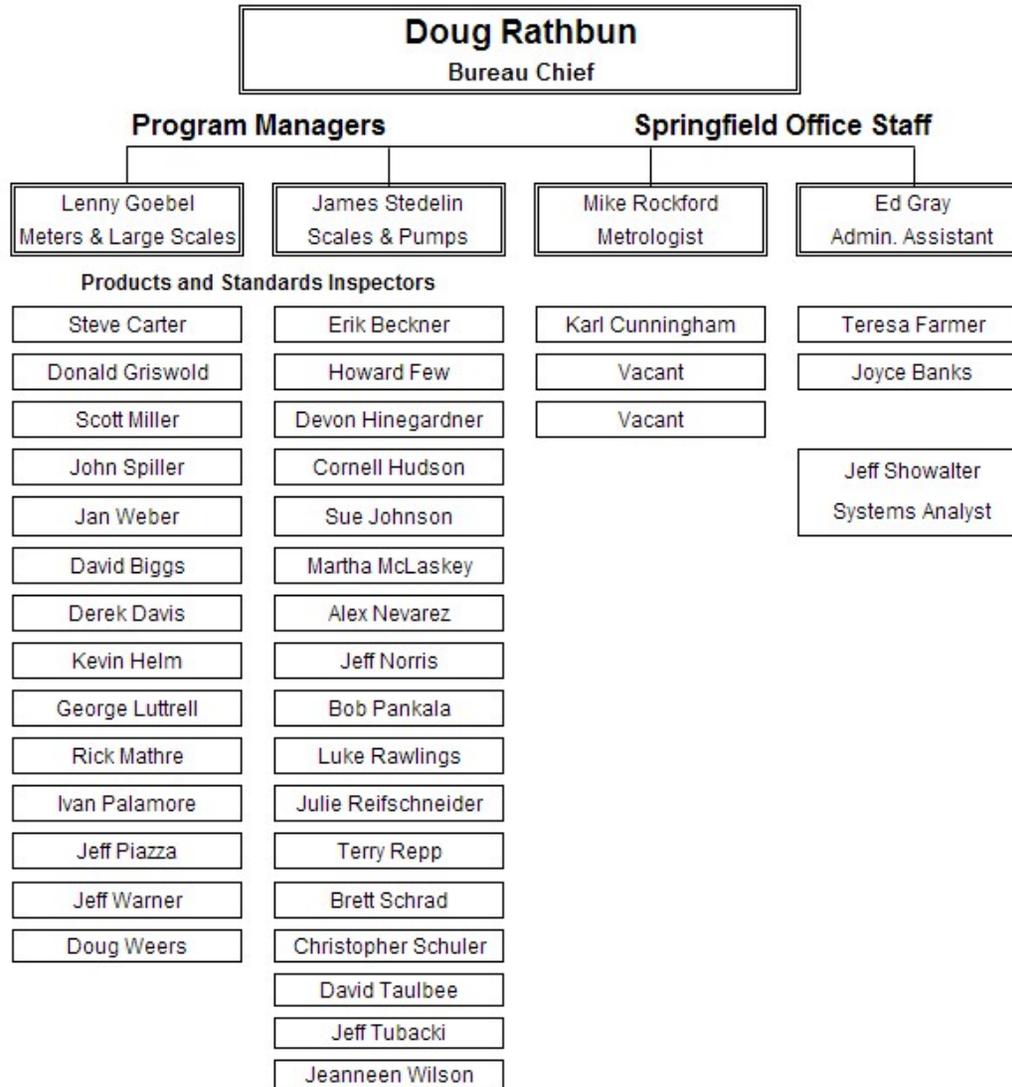
The Administrative Assistant is responsible for overseeing the Bureau budget, personnel issues, supplies, inventory, purchasing and performing general support functions for the Bureau Chief. The support staff manages the paperwork generated from keeping records of the more than 130,000 device inspections conducted on an annual basis. The support staff is also responsible for maintaining records of motor fuel quality sampling, registered repair companies, registered servicepersons, consumer complaints and equipment calibrations. The support staff provides clerical support to the Moisture Meter and Metrology Laboratories.

The Metrologist coordinates and supervises the operations and activities of the Metrology Standards Laboratory and its staff of two inspectors. The Metrologist and inspectors work as a team to achieve the objectives of the Laboratory, which include the maintenance of the state standards and the provision of metrological measurement services suited to the needs of the inspectors, registered servicepersons and Illinois industry. The Metrologist is responsible for the administrative and technical operations of the Laboratory.

The Metrologist and inspectors are responsible for internal audits, maintaining and analyzing statistical data and control charts, participating in proficiency tests and maintaining the Laboratory's quality manual. The Metrologist and the inspectors participate in national and regional measurement assurance programs sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The Moisture Meter Laboratory is responsible for acquiring, cleaning, storing and establishing moisture contents of grain samples used in testing commercial moisture meters and for providing grain samples to the grain inspectors and GIPSA for federal evaluation of new moisture meters and near infrared equipment.

Organizational Chart



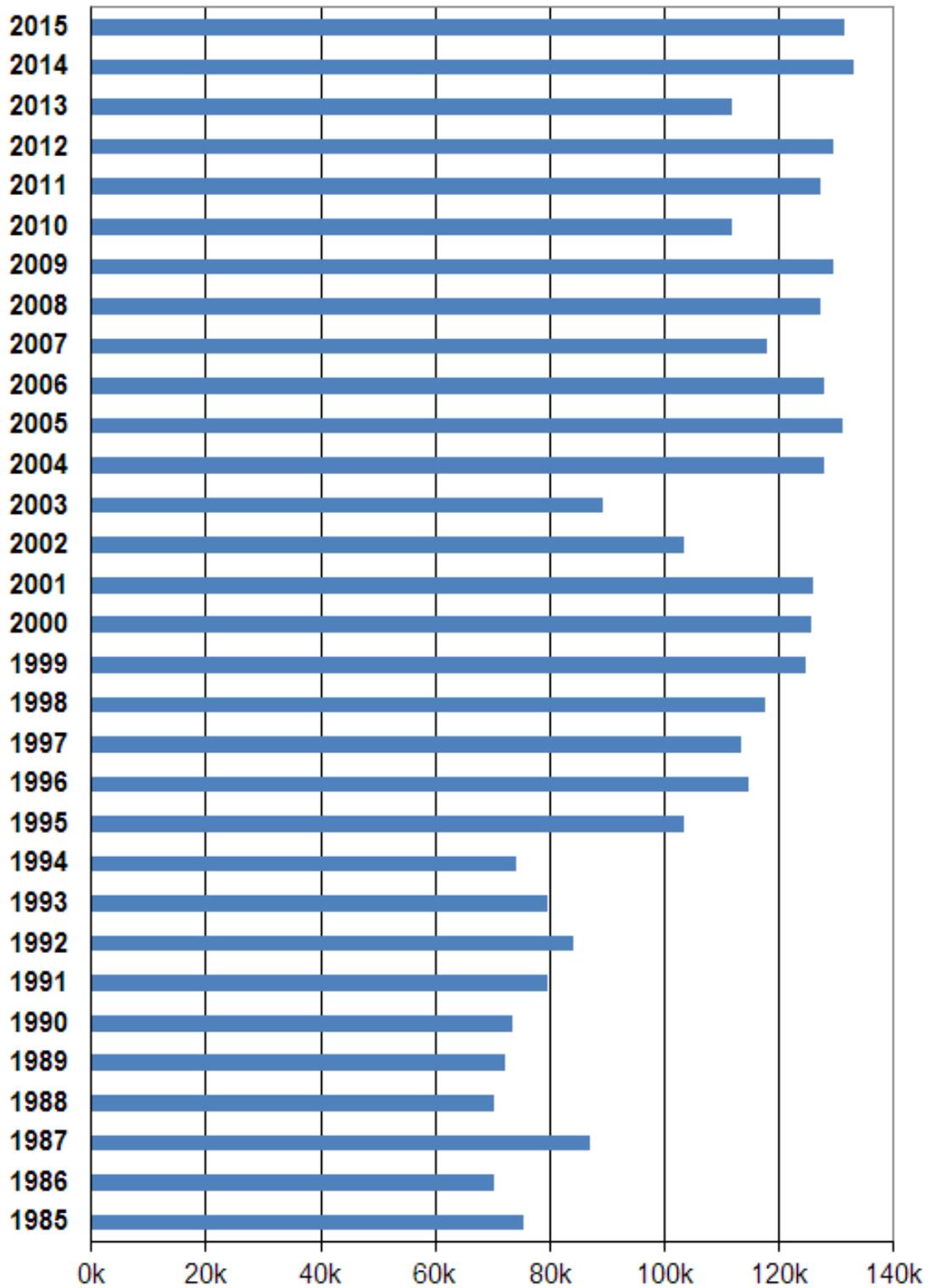
VI. BUREAU STATISTICS

DEVICE INSPECTION SUMMARY

Weights and Measures Products and Standards Inspectors performed 131,358 weighing and measuring device inspections in calendar year 2015.

Device Type	Total Inspected
Small Scale	19,669
Small Scale Dual	2,176
Small Scale Triple	72
Small Scale Quad	1
MF Dispenser	96,314
Large Meter	687
Motor Fuel Meter	1,826
LPG Meter	928
LPG Scale	30
Grain MM	1,221
Grain MMS	904
Large Scale	6,544
Livestock Scale	91
Law Enforcement Scale	651
Railroad Scale	106
Mass Flow Meter	97
Belt Conveyor Scale	3
ADM Hopper	38
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	131,358

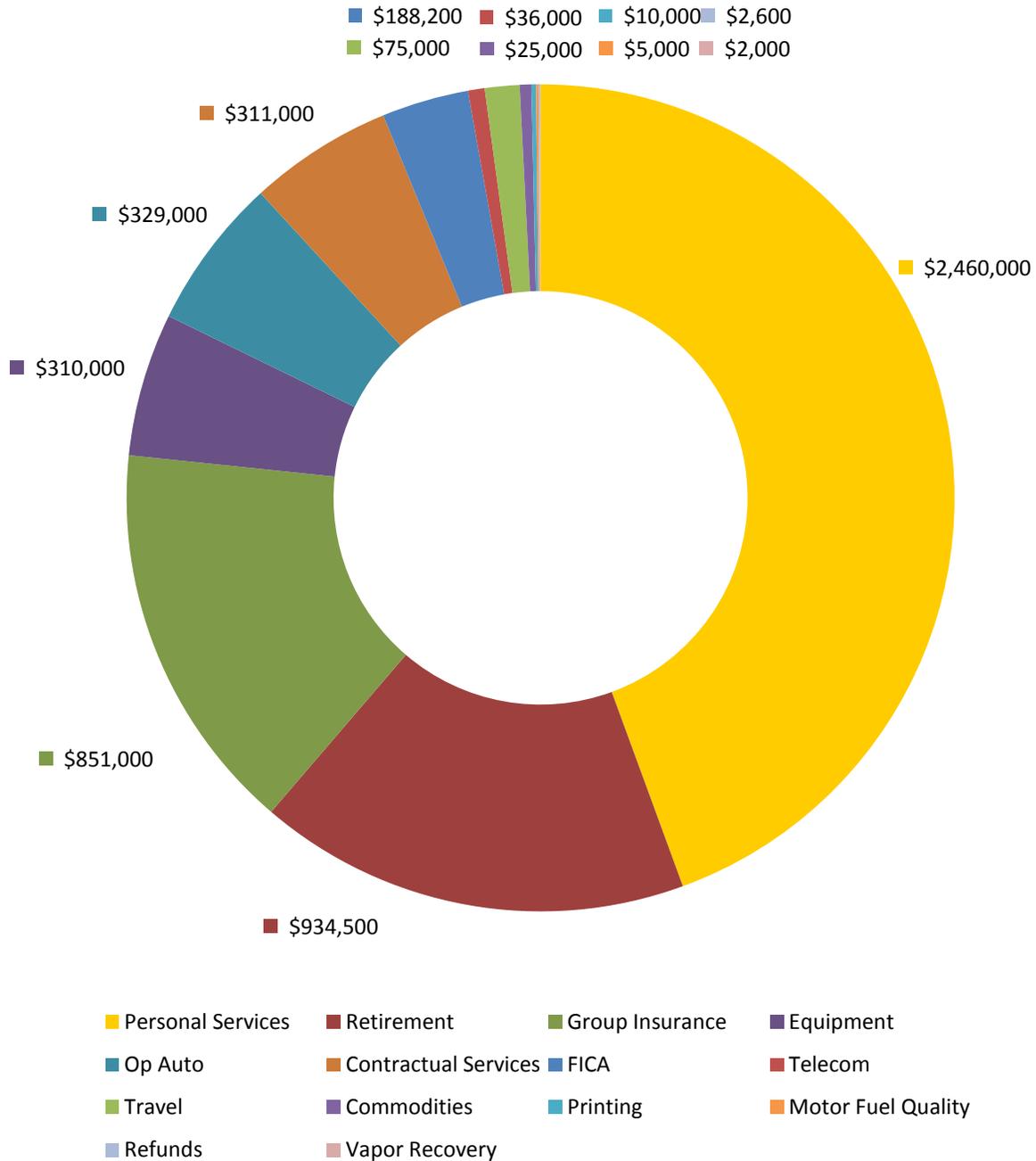
Device Inspections Performed 20 Year History



Appropriations and Funding

The weights & Measures Bureau uses No GRF funding as part of its appropriated budget. All operations are primarily funded through inspection fees. Any funding in excess of appropriated amounts is returned to the Weights & Measures fund. Currently the Bureau is in a negative cash flow situation.

\$5,539,300



Bureau Fees Collected

2014 Calendar Year Revenues - \$4,802,244

Inspection fees of \$4,596,518 accounted for 96% of Bureau Fees Collected in 2014.

