

Antitrust Division (ATR)

FY 2025 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2024 Continuing Resolution: \$225.0 million (910 positions; 444 attorneys)

Current Services Adjustments: +\$10.5 million

Program Changes: +\$52.5 million

FY 2025 Budget Request: \$288.0 million (993 positions; 476 attorneys)

Change From FY 2024 Continuing

Resolution:

+\$63.0 million (+28.0%) (+83 positions; +32 attorneys)

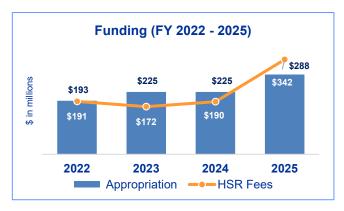
Mission:

The mission of the Antitrust Division (ATR) is to promote economic competition through enforcing and providing guidance on antitrust laws and principles. It enforces laws to ensure a marketplace that supports the preservation of the democratic political and social systems. This allows companies to compete fairly in open markets based on price. quality, innovation, and wages, free from anticompetitive constraints. Federal antitrust laws apply to industries like technology and healthcare, business, manufacturing, transportation, distribution, labor and marketing. It protects against price-fixing schemes and corporate mergers that can reduce competition in specific markets. This includes united boards or executives, which pose collusion risk, and strategies designed to gain monopoly power.

Resources:

The FY 2025 budget request for ATR totals \$288.0 million, which is a 28 percent increase over the FY 2024 Continuing Resolution.

Approximately two-thirds of the ATR's funding is derived from the Hart-Scott-Rodino (HSR) premerger filing fees paid by companies planning to merge. For FY 2025, the ATR expects HSR fee collections of \$341.9 million. The filing fee revenue of approximately \$683.8 million is divided evenly between the ATR and the Federal Trade Commission.

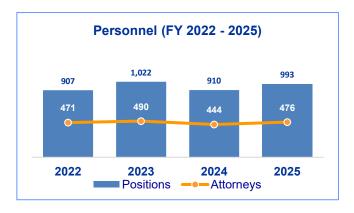


Organization:

The ATR is headed by an Assistant Attorney General (AAG), who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The AAG is assisted by six Deputy Assistant Attorneys General and a Chief Economist, including career and non-career employees. In addition to its Washington, DC, offices and sections, the ATR has three offices strategically located across the United States in Chicago, IL, New York, NY, and San Francisco, CA, that primarily handle criminal matters and serve as liaisons to the U.S. Attorneys, State attorneys general, and other law enforcement agencies.

Personnel:

The ATR's direct authorized positions for FY 2025 total 993 positions, including a decrease of 83 positions from the FY 2024 Continuing Resolution of 910 direct authorized positions.



FY 2025 Strategy:

The ATR will continue its efforts to respond to fundamental changes in the economy and promote competition across the American economy to ensure that American consumers, workers, and businesses are able to benefit from vibrant and appropriately competitive marketplaces, which lead to lower prices, improved quality, greater choice of products and services, innovation, and higher salaries and better working conditions.

The Division seeks to reinvigorate antitrust enforcement, combat fraud, and protect consumers and workers by reviewing and blocking potentially anticompetitive mergers; investigating and litigating civil conduct that violates the antitrust laws; investigating and prosecuting criminal antitrust violations; and expanding antitrust cooperation across the Federal government pursuant to President Biden's Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy, while also changing the language of antitrust law to make enforcement more timely, accessible and responsive.

The Division's Civil Merger program will continue to sharply focus on review of premerger notifications and to challenge problematic transactions as and when necessary. The Civil Non-Merger program will maintain a vigilant watch for anticompetitive conduct. Industries and markets that the ATR will continue to focus on are wide-ranging and include telecommunications, agriculture, health care, banking, and consumer finance. In addition, the Division will continue with its major investigations of the conduct of market-leading online platforms. This includes an ongoing case filed against Google in October 2020, alleging monopolistic behavior in the general internet search and advertising markets. The trial for this case began in September 2023.

Vigorous enforcement of criminal antitrust laws will continue to be prioritized by the Division's Criminal Program. The ATR has a long history of aggressive prosecution of culpable individuals and companies and expects this trend to continue in FY 2025. The Division will continue to uncover and prosecute cartels and other criminal activity across the spectrum of the Nation's economy, from safeguarding competition for American workers, which leads to competitive wages, benefits, and standards of employment, to rooting out collusion in critical markets from food and farmland to health care, and vital supply chain industries.

Among other recent initiatives, the Procurement Collusion Strike Force (PCSF), launched in November 2019, has made an immediate impact on protecting the integrity of the procurement process and saving taxpayer dollars. The PCSF is an interagency partnership among the ATR, multiple U.S. Attorneys' Offices, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and various Federal Offices of Inspector General, and was formed to deter, detect, investigate, and prosecute antitrust and related crimes that affect government procurement, grant, and program funding.

The Division will continue to advocate for competition with government entities, private firms and organizations, and the general public with a focus on many international initiatives, including enforcement and policy cooperation, bilateral/multilateral activities, and technical assistance. This approach aims to protect consumers and workers by strengthening enforcement and promoting international convergence around sound antitrust principles.

FY 2025 Program Changes:

Increased Antitrust Enforcement: \$13.7 million and 83 positions (32 attorneys)

As the American economy has grown more complicated, so too have the types of cases before the Division, while investigation teams must also understand cutting edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and large language models. Structural and programmatic changes are required to respond to a historic market-driven spike in enforcement activity and to implement the increased work required to overcome staffing shortfalls. By increasing its roster of attorneys, paralegals, economists, and support staff, the Division can address historically high investigative, litigative, and program support needs, and therefore more effectively enforce the antitrust laws, fight fraud, and protect American consumers and workers. Current services for this program are \$235.5 million and 910 positions (444 attorneys).

Technology and Data Modernization Support: \$14.9 million and zero positions

The ATR is charged with protecting competition in the economy. Free and open competition benefits the American people by ensuring lower prices and better products. Proper enforcement of these laws saves the American people billions of dollars each year. To ensure proper enforcement, the ATR was granted Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) resources in FY 2024 to address persistent technical shortcomings faced by the Division which have led to a lack of enforcement. To maintain the functionality established and improved from the TMF, increased operation and maintenance (O&M) resources are needed to ensure the following initiatives are sustained in the outyears: IT service management, matter and document management workflow, document review platform, citizen complaint portal and data ingestion and analysis. Current services are \$8.9 million and zero positions (zero attorneys).

Information Technology Operations Sustainment: \$23.9 million and zero positions

To meet the critical mission of the Division, a well maintained and mature information technology operation is needed to ensure the ATR's information system infrastructure is always available and fully operational, not only during traditional dayto-day activities, but also during continuity of operations To sustain current information technology events. operations within the Division, dedicated contracts are required to provide program management, project management, engineering, systems architecture, cloud engineering and integration services, operations support, and other critical support services. Services provided through the contracts will provide a lean but efficient and effective O&M of IT infrastructure and operations support while adhering to industry's best practices resulting in continuous service improvement. There are no current services for this initiative.

<u>Antitrust Division</u> (Dollars in Thousands)

		Antitrust Division			
	Pos	FTE	Amount		
2023 Appropriation	[1,022]	758	225,000		
2024 Continuing Resolution	[1,022]	887	225,000		
FY 2024 Annualized Continuing Resolution	[-112]	23	0		
2024 Continuing Resolution	[910]	910	225,000		
2025 Request	[993]	952	288,000		
Change 2025 from 2024 Continuing Resolution	[83]	42	63,000		
Technical Adjustments					
Additional Amount for 2024 Pay Raise	0	0	3,000		
Total Technical Adjustments	0	0	3,000		
Base Adjustments					
Pay & Benefits	0	0	7,516		
Total Base Adjustments	0	0	7,516		
2025 Current Services	[910]	910	235,516		
Program Changes					
Increases:					
Increased Antitrust Enforcement	[83]	42	13,682		
Technology and Data Modernization Support	0	0	14,901		
Information Technology Operations Sustainment	0	0	23,901		
Subtotal, Program Increases	[83]	42	52,484		
Decreases:					
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0		
Total Program Changes	[83]	42	52,484		
2025 Request	[993]	952	288,000		

Antitrust Division

(Dollars in Thousands)

	2024 Continuing Resolution			2025 Current Services		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Antitrust Division	910	910	225,000	910	910	235,516
Total	910	910	225,000	910	910	235,516

	2025 Total Program Changes			2025 Request		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Antitrust Division	83	42	52,484	993	952	288,000
Total	83	42	52,484	993	952	288,000