United States Environmental Protection Agency

Fiscal Year 2025

Justification of Appropriation Estimates for the Committee on Appropriations

Tab 15: Program Performance and Assessment

EPA-190R24002

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www.epa.gov/cj

Contents

FY 2023 Annual Performance Report

Introduction

EPA's *FY 2023 Annual Performance Report* (APR) describes the second year of progress toward the *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan*. This APR presents results—the reliability and completeness of which are attested to by the EPA Administrator—against the annual performance goals and targets in the Agency's *FY 2023 Annual Performance Plan (APP) and Congressional Justification (CJ)* as updated in the *FY 2024 APP and CJ*. For the first time, this report also presents an appendix on the results of work to date funded by supplemental resources, specifically the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. Please also refer to EPA's *FY 2023 Agency Financial Report* (AFR) for information on financial performance results.

Organization of the FY 2023 APR

EPA's FY 2023 performance results and trend data are integrated throughout the FY 2025 APP and the CJ in the Budget Introduction, Cross-Agency Strategy and Goal Overviews, and Program Project Fact Sheets. The Program Performance and Assessment section (Tab 15) is the primary component of EPA's FY 2023 APR. This section also includes EPA's FY 2025 annual performance goal targets and any revisions to FY 2024 targets. EPA's FY 2023 performance results and trend data are organized by strategic goal and objective and cross-agency strategy. Results are presented in detailed multiyear tables with targets, actuals, graphs, and key takeaways for the Agency's annual performance goals. This section adopts the terminology and color coding used to measure progress under the EPA Continuous Improvement System, a set of practices and tools that supports Agency employees in identifying and solving problems for optimal performance results.

FY 2023 Highlights

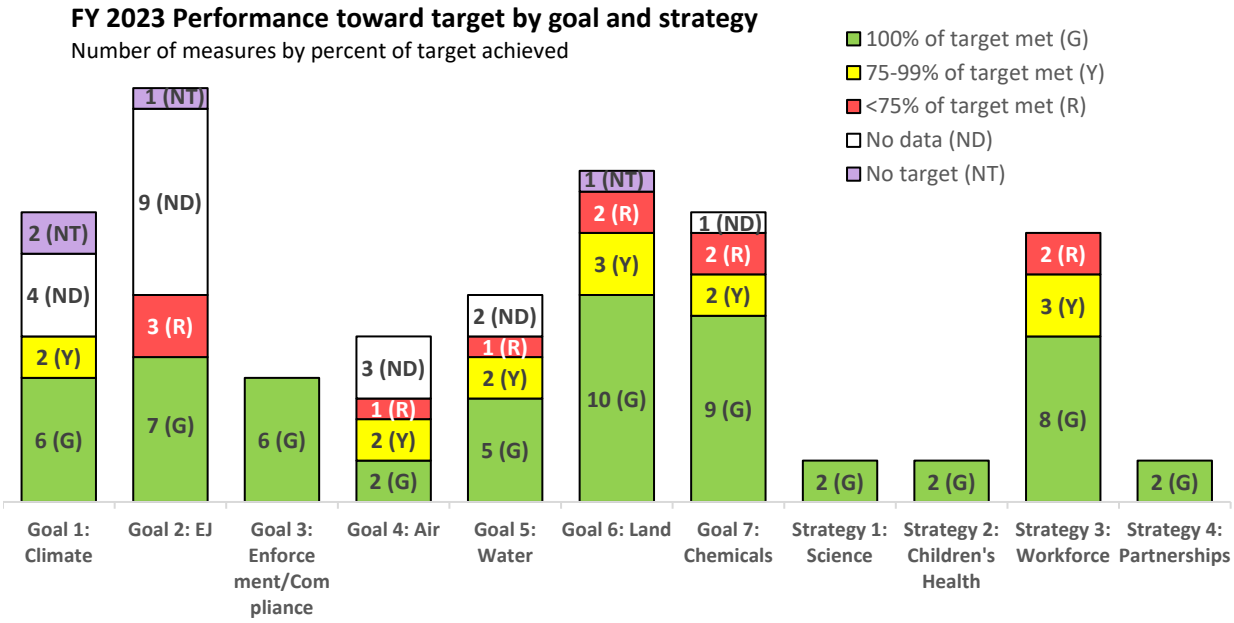
EPA continued its work with state, tribal and local partners throughout FY 2023 to further the Agency's mission to protect human health and the environment. Examples include:

- Developed a final rule under the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act to facilitate the transition to next-generation technologies by restricting the use of hydrofluorocarbons in the foams, aerosols, and refrigeration and air conditioning sectors.
- Proposed vehicle emissions standards anticipated to avoid 10 billion tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, equivalent to more than two times the total US CO2 emissions in 2022.
- Proposed new carbon pollution standards for coal and natural gas-fired power plants that will reduce harmful pollutants and deliver up to $85 billion in climate and public health benefits over the next two decades.
- Provided over 7,000 hours of assistance to help communities recover/rebuild after climate-related disasters.

- Established a Direct Implementation (DI) Center of Excellence to support actions that ensure EPA's implementation of federal environmental laws in Indian Country is as robust as implementing those laws outside of Indian Country.
- Deployed a holistic grant and technical assistance program to support community-based organizations, which will allow EPA to align investments and efforts to better meet the needs of communities.
- Selected 16 Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers. Each of these centers will receive at least $10 million to remove barriers and improve accessibility to federal funds for communities with environmental justice concerns.
- Revitalized enforcement, with significant increases in on-site inspections, new criminal investigations, civil settlements, and cleanup enforcement. For example, concluded 1,791 civil judicial and administrative cases, the highest number of conclusions since 2018, with 55% addressing facilities in areas with potential EJ concerns.
- Issued 203 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) orders, protecting more than 1.9 million people, including eight emergency orders protecting about 2,000 people in small, overburdened communities.
- Finalized plan for 22 states to reduce transported air pollution. In the first summer of the program, power plants in the 10 currently participating states decreased smog-forming emissions of nitrogen oxides by 18%.
- Proposed national drinking water standard for six per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). When fully implemented, the rule will prevent thousands of deaths and reduce tens of thousands of serious PFAS-attributable illnesses.
- Proposed first-time Clean Water Act (CWA) baseline water quality standards protections for over half a million people living on over 250 Indian reservations. This proposal will safeguard water quality on Indian reservations until tribes are able to adopt their own water quality standards for their water bodies.
- Completed 49 Superfund cleanup projects that address lead as a contaminant. Issued 36 Superfund federal facility decision documents; completed 24 remedial actions.
- Cleaned up 169 brownfields, completed 1,894 brownfield site assessments, made 736 brownfield sites ready for anticipated use, and leveraged 17,441 jobs and $3.76B at brownfield sites.
- Carried out emergency response efforts across the country, including in East Palestine, Ohio, and on Maui, Hawaii.
- Under the Toxic Substances Control Act, advanced rules to better protect communities from harmful chemicals like perchloroethylene and methylene chloride.
- Made significant contributions in PFAS research, air quality standards, and climate adaptation strategies, underlining the agency's role in leading environmental science.
- Established a first of its kind National Environmental Youth Advisory Council.
- Received 24th consecutive clean financial audit opinion, highlighting the EPA's commitment to responsible and transparent financial management.
- Received more than 6,600 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, closed more than 6,800 requests, and released more than 153,000 records. Reduced backlog of FOIA requests by nearly 26%, from 950 to 704.

FY 2023 Annual Performance Goal Results

For FY 2023, EPA focused on a set of 107 annual performance goals, including annualized long-term performance goals to achieve ambitious targets set in the *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan* and measures representing key work areas that support those long-term performance goals. EPA met or exceeded 70% of the targets in their entirety for annual performance goals with FY 2023 targets and data available (58 of 84). For 14 of its annual performance goals with FY 2023 targets and data available (17%), the Agency achieved between 75-99% of the target (including 10 where the Agency achieved between 90-99% of the target). For 11 of its annual performance goals with FY 2023 targets and data available (13%), EPA achieved less than 75% of the target. Reasons for missed targets include the complexity of environmental challenges, workload issues, resource/staffing challenges, and delays in program implementation. EPA will continue to make progress toward its performance targets by applying Lean management principles to improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of its operations. More detail is available throughout the report.



FY 2023 results were not available for 19 of the Agency's annual performance goals at the time of publication of this report. Most of these measures track progress on air quality and EPA's expanding work on environmental justice. Reasons for missing data include reporting lags due to grant reporting cycles, additional time needed to collect and provide quality assurance of data from external sources, and measures and measurement methods under development. As additional results data are received for FY 2023 annual performance goals, the Agency will include the results in future APRs. Finally, FY 2023 results are reported for four of the Agency's annual performance goals for which no targets were established.[1]

[1] (PM RUL) Number of final rules issued that will reduce GHG emissions from light duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles; electric utility generating units; and the oil and gas industry, (PM AD12) Hours of appropriate subject matter expert time provided by EPA to help communities adapt to climate impacts, build long-term resilience, and support the most

Fiscal Year 2022 Data Now Available

EPA received final results for eight of the 15 annual performance goals that had insufficient data for results reporting at the end of FY 2022. EPA met or exceeded targets for four of the eight[2], which support EPA's goals on climate and air quality. For three of the eight—tracking progress on EPA's work in the areas of climate, air quality, and chemical safety—the Agency achieved between 75-99% of the target[3].

Verification/Validation of Performance Data

The Agency developed Data Quality Records (DQRs) for the long-term performance goals in the *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan*. EPA maintains the DQRs to ensure consistency and quality of data used for assessing and reporting progress towards annual performance goals that support the long-term performance goals. The DQRs describe the results being measured; data sources and limitations; methods for calculating results; and controls to ensure good data quality.

FY 2022-2023 Agency Priority Goals

EPA met targets for two of the three FY 2022-2023 Agency Priority Goals (APGs) (Reducing Hydrofluorocarbons, Communities Technical Assistance) and missed targets for one of the three APGs (Environmental Justice/Civil Rights).

- **Phase down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).** *By September 30, 2023, annual U.S. consumption of HFCs will be 10% below the baseline of 303.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$) consistent with the HFC phasedown schedule in the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act and codified in the implementing regulations. A 10% reduction would decrease the U.S. consumption limit to less than 273.5 $MMTCO_2e$ in 2023.*

  Met FY 2023 target. EPA completed 13 of 14 milestones for FY 2022-2023 with one milestone continuing into FY 2024-2025 APG implementation; and made significant progress towards the FY 2023 target to decrease the U.S. HFC consumption limit to less

underserved and vulnerable communities after federally declared disasters, (PM EJCR15) Percentage of EPA programs and regions that have implemented program and region-specific disability access plans, and (PM CO1) Percentage of technical assistance projects in support of environmentally sustainable and community-driven revitalization that support or expand upon previous or ongoing federal investments.

[2] (PM HFC) Remaining U.S. consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), (PM AD09) Cumulative number of federally recognized tribes assisted by EPA to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change, (PM NAAQS) Percentage of air quality improvement in counties not meeting current NAAQS, and (PM HCFC) Remaining U.S. consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), chemicals that deplete the Earth's protective ozone layer, in ozone depletion potential (ODP)-weighted metric tons.

[3] (PM AD10) Cumulative number of states, territories, local governments, and communities (*i.e.,* EPA partners) assisted by EPA to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change, (PM NAAQS2) Percentage of people with low SES living in areas where the air quality meets the $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS, and (PM P2mtc) Reductions in million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMTCO2e) released per year attributed to EPA pollution prevention grants.

than 273.5 $MMTCO_2e$ in 2023 with the latest data (FY 2022) showing the consumption limit at 253.4 $MMTCO_2e$[4].

The AIM Act dictates a rigorous schedule for actions to be taken, including promulgating rules to facilitate the transition to next-generation technologies and the management of HFCs, while simultaneously implementing and revising existing rules to phase down HFC production and consumption. EPA began implementing the first final rule under the AIM Act to phase down U.S. production and consumption of HFCs to 85% by 2036, which is estimated to cumulatively reduce GHG emissions by 4,600 $MMTCO_2e$ between 2022 and 2050. The Agency continued implementation of the AIM Act by managing the HFC allowance allocation program in 2022 and 2023 and preparing for the HFC phasedown in 2024 and beyond by publishing final rules to amend the production and consumption baselines and methodology to issue allowances for 2024 through 2028. The Agency also issued HFC production and consumption allowances for calendar year 2022 and 2023; and retired calendar year 2022 and 2023 consumption allowances using administrative consequences provisions in HFC Allocation Framework rule. EPA launched and co-chaired the Interagency Task Force on Illegal HFC Trade with the Department of Homeland Security. EPA reviewed petitions under AIM Subsection (i) within the statutory deadline of 180 days from receipt.

- **Deliver tools and metrics for EPA and its Tribal, state, local, and community partners to advance environmental justice and external civil rights compliance**. *By September 30, 2023, EPA will develop and implement a cumulative impacts framework, issue guidance on external civil rights compliance, establish at least 10 indicators to assess EPA's performance in eliminating disparities in environmental and public health conditions, and train staff and partners on how to use these resources.*

  Missed FY 2023 target. EPA completed 13 of 32 milestones for FY 2022-2023 missing the overall target in terms of milestone completion. However, foundational progress was made on all three strategies setting the stage for significant advancement of each strategy as EPA continues this work with FY 2024-2025 APG implementation.

  EPA has made significant progress in advancing its approach to assessing and addressing cumulative impacts during the two-year goal period. A few examples of the Agency's achievements include the following: EPA convened an agency-wide workgroup on cumulative impacts. EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) developed a research recommendations report and 94 research projects on cumulative impacts under its Strategic Research Action Plans. The Office of General Counsel issued a Cumulative Impacts Addendum to the EPA Legal Tools to Advance Environmental Justice document. EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR), ORD, and respective EPA Regions have initiated place-based demonstration efforts in seven communities. OEJCER conducted monthly webinars on cutting-edge development in cumulative impacts tools and practice.

[4] Reflects data reported through September 27, 2023. All reported data are certified by the reporter to be true, accurate and complete. EPA continues to review and verify these data and may revise and update these data, as appropriate. EPA considers it likely that these numbers will change as companies and EPA continue to review and verify the data.

EPA experienced challenges with limited resources and competing priorities throughout FY 2022-2023 for drafting and finalizing the draft procedural safeguards and legal standards guidances. Delays were also experienced due to intra- and inter-agency review on the guidances.

EPA made significant progress on its commitment to establish at least 10 indicators to assess EPA's performance in reducing disparities in environmental and public health conditions and engaged closely with internal and external partners such as the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, federal and state governmental partners, and communities and tribes. EPA also began development and/or confirmation of data sources, reporting, and analysis for the indicators, and ensuring that tools were in place for operationalizing this work.

- **Clean up contaminated sites and invest in water infrastructure to enhance the livability and economic vitality of overburdened and underserved communities.** *By September 30, 2023, EPA will provide technical assistance to at least 10 communities to help achieve clean and safe water and reduced exposures to hazardous substances.*

  Met FY 2023 target. EPA completed all milestones for FY 2022-2023 and met all key indicator targets resulting in overall achievement of this APG.

  Over the past two years, EPA's Office of Water (OW) and Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM) have been collaborating to pilot a holistic, cross-media approach to providing technical assistance to 10 communities. The intent was to leverage multiple programs, legal authorities, and funding sources, and apply them in a way that provides each community meaningful input into the planning decisions and investment of resources for remediation and/or water infrastructure projects. Another goal was to help communities better understand opportunities available to assist them in their environmental challenges. Each EPA regional office selected an overburdened, underserved, or tribal community to pilot this cross-media approach.

  Through these efforts, EPA developed an online mapping application that brought together over 40 OW and OLEM programmatic datasets for use by EPA regions to initially identify selected communities. The community multi-media projects include activities such as addressing lead threats in resident's yards, identifying and promoting actions to reduce lead exposure in drinking water and addressing lead-based paint and/or engaging with a tribal government and community to enhance their understanding and confidence in cleanup decisions, while at the same time providing technical assistance to support key decisions related to their long-term stability in water infrastructure.

  While EPA's Water and Land staff have worked together on certain issues in the past, this APG gave both program offices the opportunity to collaborate more closely and build stronger lines of communication that will serve EPA better going forward. The APG has demonstrated the value of listening and asking questions to help determine how EPA can best assist communities, as opposed to starting off their interactions with each other by

giving presentations or explaining EPA programs. This approach will be helpful in future community-based work, particularly with communities who have faced long-standing environmental challenges. It also highlighted the importance of involvement of and coordination with community representatives and other internal and external partners and stakeholders.

Evidence and Evaluation

Summaries of FY 2023 program evaluations and contributions to EPA's portfolio of evidence are available at https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/results. EPA uses program evaluations and other evidence-building activities to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, and/or equity of programs' work in meeting Agency goals; identify ways to improve mission delivery; and build an evidence base to improve decision making. This is particularly important for fostering transparency and accountability. For example, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) evaluated the effectiveness of the pesticide safety training that EPA offers to farmworkers in accordance with the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS) rule, and the results of this evaluation will be used to make improvements to the training program. As another example, every five years, each location within the National Estuary Program (NEP) is evaluated for progress in achieving programmatic and environmental results, producing recommendations for improvement on areas including administration and governance, healthy ecosystems, and communication and stakeholder engagement.

Supplemental Resources

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) collectively provide EPA with more than $100 billion in supplemental funding over multiple years for a wide range of programs. EPA is supporting the Administration's Justice40 initiative by prioritizing benefits to underserved communities in developing requests for grant applications and in making grant award decisions, to the extent permitted by law. Supplemental investment information including current funding opportunities can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/invest.

The American Rescue Plan Act provided EPA with $100 million dollars to address health outcome disparities from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic, with which EPA is funding environmental justice initiatives and enhanced air quality monitoring. The FY 2023 APR includes an appendix with performance results to date. For additional information, refer to: https://www.epa.gov/arp.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides EPA with over $60 billion and represents the largest increment of funding EPA has ever received. This law more than doubles the Agency's annual budget each year over five years to fund water infrastructure, environmental cleanups, and electric school buses. It also provides funding to improve recycling programs and prevent pollution. Most of the funding in this law is being implemented through existing programs such as the State Revolving Funds in the Office of Water and the Superfund Program in the Office of Land and Emergency Management. Future APRs will include an appendix of IIJA results to date. For additional information, refer to https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure.

The Inflation Reduction Act provides roughly $41 billion in resources to the Agency. These resources fund efforts such as a national-scale clean energy financing network, a climate pollution reduction grant program, and investments to reduce air pollution at ports. Most of this funding is being implemented through new programs in the Administrator's Office, the Office of Air and Radiation, and the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Future APRs will include an appendix of IRA results to date. For additional information, refer to https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act.

THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

February 27, 2024

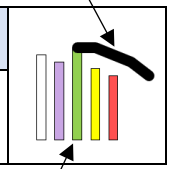
Reliability of EPA's Performance Data

I attest to the reliability and completeness of the performance data presented in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Performance Report. Because improvements in human health and the environment may not become immediately apparent, there might be delays between the actions we have taken and results we can measure. Additionally, we cannot provide results data for 19 out of 107 of our performance measures for this reporting year. Reasons for missing data include reporting lags due to grant reporting cycles, additional time needed to collect and provide quality assurance of data from external sources, and measurement methods under development. When possible, however, we have portrayed trend data to illustrate progress over time. We also report FY 2022 final performance results for eight measures that became available in FY 2023.

Michael S. Regan

Key to Multiyear Table Annual Performance Goal Data Presentation

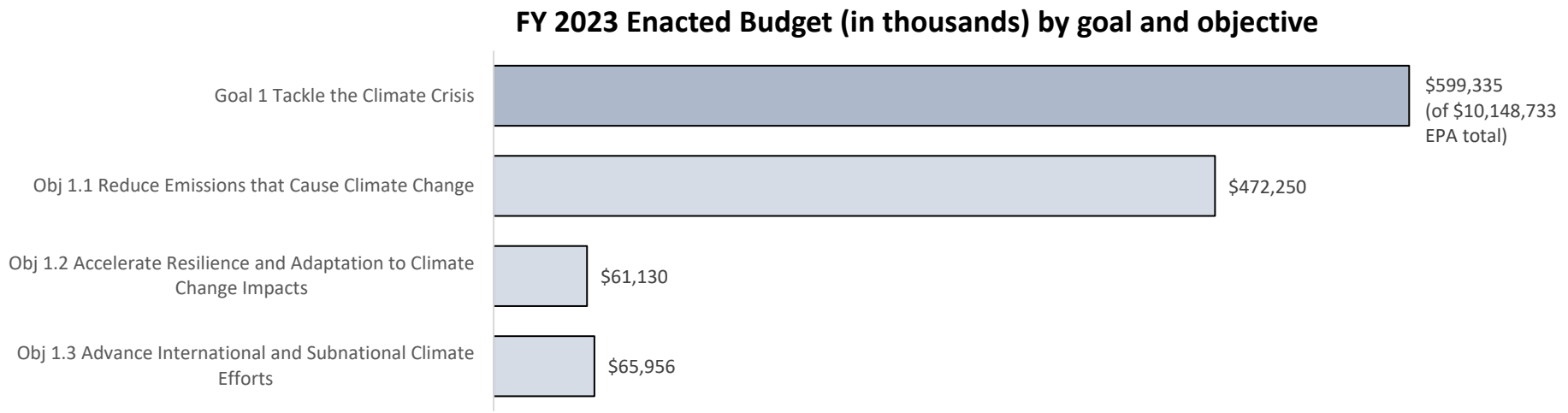
(PM #) Annual performance goal language here.*

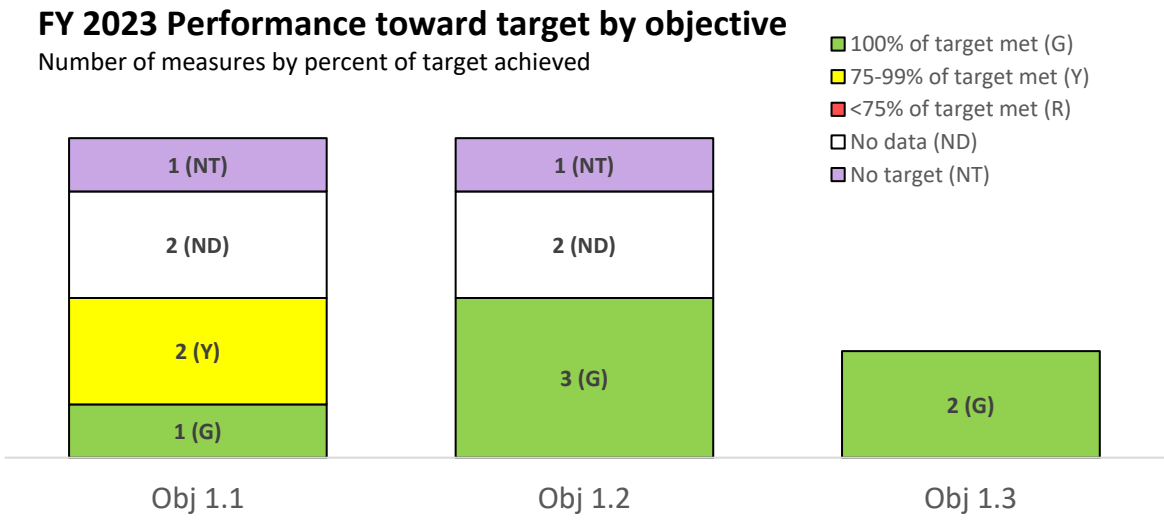
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target			No Target Established	13	13	12	11	9	Sites	Increase	
Actual		12	11	13	10	9					

* This character indicates a measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Goal 1 at a Glance

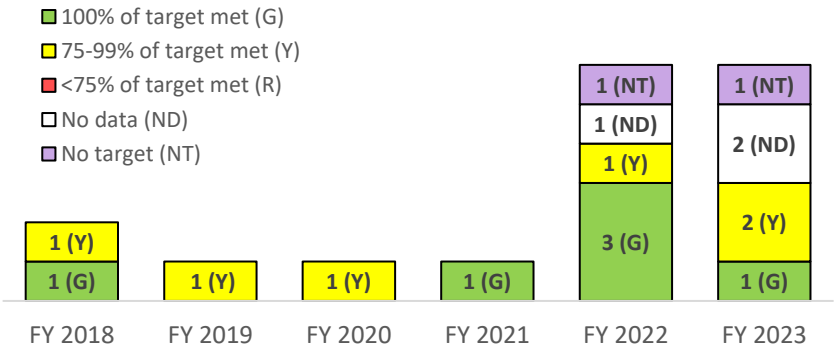
Tackle the Climate Crisis: Cut pollution that causes climate change and increase the adaptive capacity of Tribes, states, territories, and communities.





Objective 1.1 – Reduce Emissions that Cause Climate Change—*Aggressively reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases from all sectors while increasing energy and resource efficiency and the use of renewable energy.*

Performance toward target over time
Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Continued implementation of the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, which will phase down U.S. production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) 85% by 2036. Developed final rule to facilitate transition to next-generation technologies by restricting use of HFCs in the foams, aerosols, and refrigeration and air conditioning.
- Helped save 520B kWh electricity and avoid $42B in energy costs through ENERGY STAR, resulting in emission reductions of ~400M metric tons of greenhouse gases (GHGs) (~5% of U.S. total GHG emissions) and ~440K tons of criteria air pollutants in 2020.
- Issued Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to revise the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, including updates to Global Warming Potentials of GHGs.
- Ensured availability of AirNow during wildfire season despite increased demand, including a new single-day record of more than 10 million page views, making it the most-visited federal government website.
- Proposed rules to limit GHG emissions from new and existing power plants under section 111(b) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA).
- Proposed a rule to update, strengthen, and expand the FY 2021 proposal to reduce emissions of methane and other harmful air pollution from both new and existing sources in the oil and natural gas industry.
- Proposed emissions standards for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles (phase 3) for model year 2027 and beyond to avoid nearly 10 billion tons of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions through 2055, equivalent to more than twice total U.S. CO_2 emissions in 2022.
- Issued final rule under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program that establishes the biofuel volume requirements for 2023 to 2025.
- Published the 1990–2021 U.S. Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks and the third GHG Inventory by state, along with new clickable map user interface tool.

Challenges:

- The AIM Act and the Executive Order on Strengthening American Leadership in Clean Cars and Trucks have rigorous schedules for actions to be taken to reduce emissions across Illegal HFC imports that will undermine the environmental benefits and integrity of the HFC phasedown, and disadvantage companies complying with the requirements. It is important that EPA continues to support the HFC taskforce with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
- Limited resources for federal and state activities to support GHG emission reductions and other climate goals continue to pose program delivery challenges.

Annual performance goal:

(PM HFC) Remaining U.S. consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					273.5	273.5	181.5	181.5	$MMTCO_2e$	Below Target	
Actual					253.4	Data Avail 11/2024					

Key Takeaways:

- The FY 2022 result reflects data reported through September 27, 2023. All reported data are certified by the reporter to be true, accurate and complete. EPA continues to review and verify these data and may revise and update these data, as appropriate.
- Continued implementing the final rule under the AIM Act to phase down U.S. production and consumption by 85% over the next 15 years. Prepared for the HFC phasedown in 2024 and beyond by publishing final rules to amend the production and consumption baselines and methodology to issue allowances for 2024 through 2028. For more information, see the FY 2022-2023 Agency Priority Goal (APG) results at https://www.performance.gov/agencies/epa/apg/goal-1/.

Metric Details: This measure tracks U.S. consumption of HFCs in million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$). One $MMTCO_2e$ is numerically equivalent to the metric required under the AIM Act. HFCs are potent greenhouse gases, many of which have global warming potentials hundreds to thousands of times that of CO_2. The American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act of 2020 provides EPA the domestic authority to phase down production and consumption of HFCs. HFCs are commonly used in many sectors of the economy, including in refrigeration and air conditioning, aerosols, solvents, fire suppression, and as foam blowing agents. The AIM Act provides the legal framework to phase down HFC production and consumption consistent with the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer that was ratified on October 31, 2022. Phasing down HFCs globally is expected to avoid up to 0.5° Celsius of global warming by 2100. The baseline is 302.5 tons of $MMTCO_2e$. The FY 2022 and 2023 targets are based on the HFC consumption baseline of 303.9 MMTCO2e as established in a final rule published on October 5, 2021, "Phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons: Establishing the Allowance Allocation and Trading Program Under the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act." Subsequently, in a final rule published on July 20, 2023, "Phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons: Allowance Allocation Methodology for 2024 and Later Years," EPA amended the consumption baseline based on corrected data. The revised consumption baseline is 302.5 $MMTCO_2e$. Beginning in 2024, the phasedown consumption steps will be measured from this HFC consumption baseline. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/climate-hfcs-reduction. This measure tracked progress toward a FY 2022–2023 APG and tracks progress toward a FY 2024–2025 APG.

Long-Term Performance Goal - By September 30, 2026, promulgate final rules to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from light duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles; electric utility generating units; and the oil and gas industry.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM RUL) Number of final rules issued that will reduce GHG emissions from light duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles; electric utility generating units; and the oil and gas industry.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					No Target Established	No Target Established	No Target Established	No Target Established	Rules	Above Target	
Actual					1	1					

Key Takeaways:

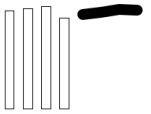
- Finalized a rulemaking that sets new, more stringent standards to reduce pollution from heavy-duty vehicles and engines starting in model year 2027.
- This final rule will reduce NO_x emissions from the in-use fleet of heavy-duty trucks by almost 50% in 2045 and will result in widespread air quality improvements across the U.S., especially in areas already overburdened by air pollution and diesel emissions.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of final rules that will reduce GHG emissions published in the *Federal Register*. EPA will reduce emissions that cause climate change through regulations on GHG emissions including CO_2 and methane from light duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles; electric utility generating units; and the oil and gas industry.

Long-Term Performance Goal - By September 30, 2026, EPA's climate partnership programs will reduce expected annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 545 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$). EPA's climate partnership programs reduced 518.6 $MMTCO_2e$ of annual GHG emissions in 2019.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM CPP) Million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent reduced annually by EPA's climate partnership programs.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					486.9	500.7	513.9	509.3	$MMTCO_2e$	Above Target	
Actual	505.6	518.6	529.6	469.9	Data Avail 11/2024	Data Avail 11/2025					

Key Takeaways:

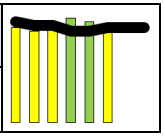
- In FY 2021 (latest available data), EPA's climate partnership programs reduced 469.9 $MMTCO_2e$.
- In 2022, with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), EPA transitioned the Natural Gas Star Partnership, ending the partnership agreements and annual reporting elements of the program, while retaining a focus on technology transfer and stakeholder engagement. The sunset of the Natural Gas Star Partnership resulted in lower actuals and targets summed across the methane programs. EPA continues to partner with operators making ambitious voluntary commitments to methane emissions mitigation and transparency through the Methane Challenge Partnership.
- Over 30 years, EPA's climate partnership programs have helped Americans save more than $500 billion and achieve more than 6 billion metric tons of GHG emissions reductions.

Metric Details: This measure tracks GHG reductions from EPA's climate partnership programs. The programs included are: ENERGY STAR Products, Residential, Commercial Buildings, and Industrial programs; Green Power Partnership; AgSTAR Program; Coalbed Methane Outreach Program; Landfill Methane Outreach Program; Methane Challenge Programs; SF_6 Emission Reduction Partnerships for Electric Power Systems; Responsible Appliance Disposal; GreenChill; and SmartWay. These programs work hand-in-hand with the private sector and others to achieve more GHG reductions than would be possible through federal regulations alone. These programs seek out and overcome market barriers, drive policy at the state and local level, and capture and channel marketplace ingenuity towards climate action. Note: In 2022, with the passage of the IRA, EPA transitioned the Natural Gas Star Partnership, ending the partnership agreements and annual reporting elements of the program, while retaining a focus on technology transfer and stakeholder engagement. The sunset of the Natural Gas Star Partnership resulted in lower actuals and targets summed across the methane programs. EPA continues to partner with operators making ambitious voluntary commitments to methane emission mitigation and transparency through the Methane Challenge Partnership. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/inventory-us-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-sinks.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goals:

(PM CRT) Number of certificates of conformity issued that demonstrate that the respective engine, vehicle, equipment, component, or system conforms to all applicable emission requirements and may be entered into commerce.

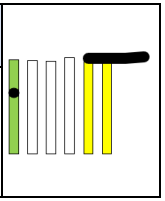
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	5,200	5,000	5,000	4,700	4,700	4,900	4,900	4,900	Certificates	Above Target	
Actual	4,869	4,711	4,843	5,351	5,196	4,844					

Key Takeaways:

- The total number of certificates issued by EPA in FY 2023 was nearly at the target, missing the goal by less than 60 certificates.
- EPA continues to issue vehicle and engine certificates of conformity in a timely manner and on pace with the number of requests received.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of certificates of conformity issued in a given year. The Clean Air Act requires that engines, vehicles, equipment, components, or systems receive a certificate of conformity which demonstrates compliance with the applicable requirements prior to introduction into U.S. commerce. EPA reviews all submitted requests and issues certificates of conformity when the manufacturer demonstrates compliance with all applicable requirements. This measure illustrates EPA's annual certification workload. The number of certification requests is determined by the manufacturers' product planning and will fluctuate from year to year. EPA strives to issue vehicle and engine certificates of conformity in a timely manner and on pace with the numbers of requests received.

(PM REP) Percentage of Annual Greenhouse Gas Emission Reports verified by EPA before publication.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	65				98	98	98	100	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	97	96	95	99	97	97					
Numerator	7,821	7,867	7,722	7,935	7,877	7,891			Reports		
Denominator	8,061	8,165	8,126	8,029	8,141	8,130					

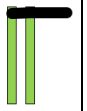
Key Takeaways:

- EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) has consistently maintained a high percentage of verified reports prior to annual publication. While EPA did not meet the ambitious target in FY 2023, the result is in line with program expectations and will help advance the Agency's understanding of GHG emissions.
- The quality of GHGRP data at time of submittal continues to improve due to the data system and verification process changes that have increased real-time data quality feedback to industry reporters over time.

Metric Details: The GHGRP, established in 2009, covers 41 sectors that account for more than 8,100 reports summarizing annual GHG emissions and supply. Both facilities and suppliers are required to report their data annually by March 31. After submission of the data, EPA conducts a verification review that lasts approximately 150 days and includes a combination of electronic checks, staff review, and follow-up with facilities to identify potential reporting errors that are corrected before publication. The 150-day period includes 60 days for EPA to review reports and identify potential data quality issues, 75 days for reporters to resolve these issues, and 15 days for EPA to review responses or resubmitted reports. EPA typically publishes the data by early October each year. These data support federal and state-level policy development and allow EPA to share GHG emissions and

supply data with industry stakeholders, state and local governments, academia, the research community, and the public in general. There are no targets in FYs 2019–2021 because this measure was not included in these Annual Performance Plans. For more information, see: www.epa.gov/ghgreporting.

(PM RD3) Percentage of ORD climate-related research products meeting partner needs.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					93	94	94	94	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					100	100					
Numerator					1	25			Products		
Denominator					1	25					

Key Takeaways:

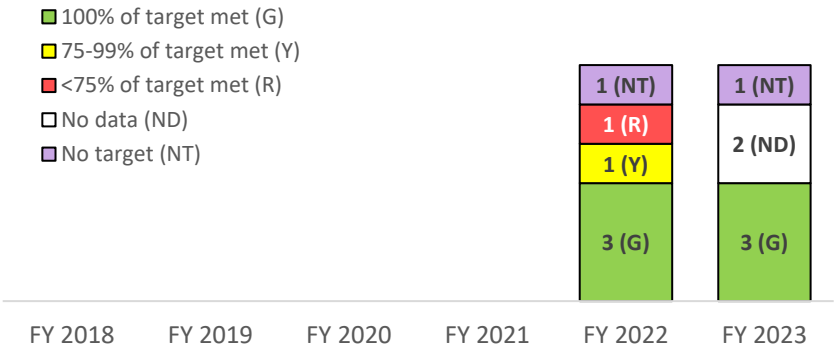
- Met partner needs for 100% of climate-related research products included in the annual partner satisfaction assessment. A key driver behind this result was the high degree of partner involvement during the product development as stated by respondents in the survey.
- The report "*Managing Climate Refugia for Cold Water Fishes Under an Expanding Human Footprint*" performed the best of all climate products with ORD partners, having received a perfect score for the products quality, usability, and timeliness. (Report available at: https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/fee.2206).
- EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) has increased the number of climate products assessed and will continue to do so as it implements the FY 2023-2026 Strategic Research Action Plan (available at: https://www.epa.gov/research/strategic-research-action-plans-fiscal-years-2023-2026).

Metric Details: Partner satisfaction is assessed through a robust survey process. The annual survey engages key users of ORD products. Survey respondents assess the scientific rigor of research products (quality), product relevance (usability), and timeliness of product delivery. This measure assesses the subset of ORD's research products specifically related to climate.

Objective 1.2: Accelerate Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts—*Deliver targeted assistance to increase the resilience of Tribes, states, territories, and communities to the impacts of climate change.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Completed 177 priority actions to integrate climate adaptation into core work, exceeding the target of 100. Significant accomplishments include:
  - The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) issued a new "Climate and Enforcement Strategy" to incorporate climate adaptation and resilience into all enforcement and compliance activities.
  - Programs are integrating climate adaptation into rulemaking processes.
  - Programs and regions are integrating climate adaptation into financial assistance agreements to ensure the outcomes of investments are resilient to the impacts of climate change, with an immediate focus on Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds.
  - EPA's Supply Chain Risk Management Plan includes actions to protect against the risks posed by climate change.
- Provided financial and technical assistance to help tribal, state, community and other partners take action to adapt to climate change.
  - EPA's "Schools as Community Cleaner Air and Cooling Centers" project is supporting upgrades to school facilities to make them safe spaces for students during extreme heat and wildfire smoke events.
  - In partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), EPA is supporting development of climate-disaster "resilience hubs" in communities to provide safe shelter, while upgrading the locations with solar panels and energy efficiency improvements.
  - A new Office of Research and Development Integrated Climate Sciences Division was established to provide place-based technical support to all 10 regional offices and the communities they serve.
  - Communities are using EPA's climate science and mapping tools to clean up long-standing pollution at Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Superfund sites and to ensure cleanups are resilient to climate change impacts.
  - Tribes use funds from the Tribal General Assistance Program (GAP) to develop climate change adaptation plans. EPA is working closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to coordinate funding for adaptation plan implementation.

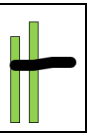
Challenges:

- A major FY 2024 challenge is refining measures and approaches to more effectively tracking the *outcomes* of EPA's climate adaptation projects in communities.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, implement all priority actions in EPA's Climate Adaptation Action Plan and the 20 National Program and Regional Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans to account for the impacts of the changing climate on human health and the environment.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM AD07) Number of priority actions completed in EPA's Climate Adaptation Action Plan and Program and Regional Implementation Plans.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					100	100	105	105	Priority Actions	Above Target	
Actual					151	177					

Key Takeaways:

- Programs and regions completed 177 priority actions to integrate climate adaptation into core work, including enforcement, rulemaking, and financial assistance.
- The Office of Children's Health Protection has developed a plan and will begin reporting in FY 2024. This will increase the target by 5.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of priority actions implemented in support of EPA's October 2021 Climate Adaptation Action Plan through the 20 Program and Regional Office Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans. The Action Plan commits EPA to five Priority Actions per year by 10 of EPA's program offices and 10 regional offices. EPA projected 100 actions per year for FY 2022 and FY 2023, and 105 per year for FY 2024-2026 for a total of 515 actions by FY 2026. The Implementation Plans identify EPA's specific Priority Actions to: 1) integrate climate adaptation planning into EPA programs, policies and rulemaking processes; 2) consult and partner with tribes, states, territories, local governments, environmental justice organizations, community groups, businesses and other federal agencies to strengthen adaptive capacity and increase the resilience of the nation, with a particular focus on advancing environmental justice; 3) implement measures to protect the Agency's workforce, facilities, critical infrastructure, supply chains and procurement processes from the risks posed by climate change; and 4) modernize EPA financial assistance programs to encourage climate-resilient investments across the nation. The FY 2022 actual is corrected from 155 in the FY 2022 Annual Performance Report.

(PM AD08) Number of EPA national program offices that have developed adaptation training for programs and staff.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					4	10			Offices	Above Target	
Actual					4	10					

Key Takeaways:

- Ten program and regional offices have completed 17 training events to build the capacity of EPA staff and partners to administer EPA programs. This training will help EPA staff and partners use climate data to improve program and community resilience.
- Beginning in FY 2024, this measure is replaced by PM AD13 which tracks an expanded set of training tools including videos, websites, and other interactive methods for increasing climate literacy and building capacity instead of tracking the EPA programs.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the development of training by EPA's national program and regional offices on how current and future climate impacts should be considered in specific program activities, such as direct program implementation, regulation development, permitting, inspections, enforcement, partnerships, research, grants, loans, and technical assistance. EPA currently has an introductory training module for new employees which will be revised in FY 2024.

(PM AD13) Number of capacity building trainings, tools, and events, developed or hosted by EPA, that serve a unique purpose, unique audience, and/or provide new or updated information.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target							27	32	Actions	Above Target	
Actual						17					

Metric Details: This measure tracks the cumulative number of climate adaptation capacity building trainings, tools, and events (Climate Capacity Building Actions), developed or hosted by EPA, to address how current and future climate impacts should be considered in EPA or delegated program activities. Capacity building can be related to direct program implementation, regulation development, permitting, inspections, enforcement, partnerships, research, grants, loans, or technical assistance. The Climate Capacity Building Actions can be for internal staff or to build joint capacity with EPA's state, local, and tribal co-regulators. The baseline is 17 Climate Capacity Building Actions completed in FY 2022-2023.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, assist at least 400 federally recognized Tribes to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM AD09) Cumulative number of federally recognized tribes assisted by EPA to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					100	150	330	370	Tribes	Above Target	
Actual					110	Data Avail 3/2024					

Key Takeaways:

- Preliminary data as of October 2023 show 289 tribal partners have taken action to increase their adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change after EPA assistance. Final data will be available in March 2024 when EPA receives grantees' progress reports from partners.
- FY 2022 and FY 2023 investments in building tribal climate resilience are reflected in the number of tribes that have taken action to respond to the impacts of climate change. Investments from IIJA, IRA, ongoing appropriations, and focused staff efforts have all contributed to this progress.
- Through tribal discussions, EPA has learned from tribal leaders about barriers they face applying for and managing federal financial resources. Addressing these barriers will continue to be a priority for EPA and other federal agencies in FY 2024.
- Tribal and cross-agency partnerships are critical for continued progress. For example, EPA and BIA are coordinating and leveraging their tribal grants programs to strengthen the adaptive capacity of tribes while avoiding duplication of effort.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the cumulative number of federally recognized tribes EPA provides with financial assistance, technical assistance, or training that then take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change. Actions may include but are not limited to developing a climate adaptation plan; identifying potential impacts; assessing vulnerability; planning; applying for additional funding; adoption of adaptation measures such as green infrastructure; improved coordination with other key organizations (*e.g.*, a state or federal partner); estimation of financial impacts; or more effective remedy selection in a hazardous waste cleanup program. Results are cumulative from a starting value of 0 on September 30, 2021.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, assist at least 550 states, territories, local governments, and communities, especially communities that are underserved and disproportionately at risk from climate change, to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change.[5]

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM AD10) Cumulative number of states, territories, local governments, and communities (i.e., EPA partners) assisted by EPA to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					250	300	500	525	Partners	Above Target	
Actual					242	Data Avail 3/2024					

Key Takeaways:

- Preliminary data as of October 2023 show 453 state, territorial, local government, and community partners have taken action to increase their adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change after EPA assistance. Final data will be available in March 2024 when grantees' progress reports are received from partners.
- FY 2022 and FY 2023 investments in building climate resilience in communities are reflected in the number of communities that have taken action to respond to the impacts of climate change. Investments from IIJA and IRA, ongoing appropriations, and focused staff efforts have all contributed to the Agency's success.
- EPA is aware of the need to focus on building climate adaptation capacity in communities that currently have lower capacity to accept funding or manage programs. This will continue to be a priority in FY 2024.
- The Office of Water is driving many of these outcomes with investments in water infrastructure, wetland restoration, and green infrastructure.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the cumulative number of states, territories, local governments, and communities EPA provides with financial assistance, technical assistance, or training that then take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change. Actions may include but are not limited to: developing a climate adaptation plan; identifying potential impacts; assessing vulnerability; planning; applying for additional funding; adoption of adaptation measures such as green infrastructure; improved coordination with other key organizations (*e.g.*, a state or federal partner); estimation of financial impacts; or more effective remedy selection in a hazardous waste cleanup program. Results are cumulative from a starting value of 0 on September 30, 2021.

(PM AD11) Number of tribal, state, regional, and/or territorial versions of the Climate Change Adaptation Resource Center (ARC-X) or similar systems universities and other partners, with EPA support, have committed to develop.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					3	6	7	8	Systems	Above Target	
Actual					1	7					

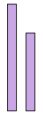
[5] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, assist at least 450 states, territories, local governments, and communities, especially communities that are underserved and disproportionately at risk from climate change, to take action to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, or recover from the impacts of climate change."

Key Takeaways:

- An Indiana state-level version of the ARC-X system has already been launched by the University of Indiana. Commitments to develop state-level versions have also been made for Pennsylvania by Drexel University, Louisiana by Loyola University, and North Carolina by the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency.
- Commitments to develop international versions of the ARC-X system have been made for Sao Paulo, Brazil (by CETESB, the State of Sao Paulo Environmental Company), Sierra Leone (by Fourah Bay College), and Glasgow (by the University of Strathclyde).

Metric Details: This measure tracks the cumulative number of ARC-X or similar systems universities, or other parties, have committed to develop to support tribal, state, regional, international, and/or territorial partners. ARC-X is an interactive EPA online resource designed to help local government officials in communities across the United States and internationally anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, and recover from the impacts of climate change. It also is a portal to EPA tools and resources on climate adaptation. ARC-X provides users with an integrated package of information tailored specifically to their needs, based on where they live and the issues of concern to them. The system is available at: https://www.epa.gov/arc-x. The information provided in these resource centers will help communities understand and prepare for the impacts of climate change. In addition, regional or local systems may expand resources to encompass the full breadth of climate adaptation issues, even those beyond EPA's mission. Results are cumulative from a starting value of 0 on September 30, 2021.

(PM AD12) Hours of appropriate subject matter expert time provided by EPA to help communities adapt to climate impacts, build long-term resilience, and support the most underserved and vulnerable communities after federally declared disasters.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					No Target Established	No Target Established	No Target Established	No Target Established	Hours	N/A	
Actual					9,763	7,130					

Key Takeaways:

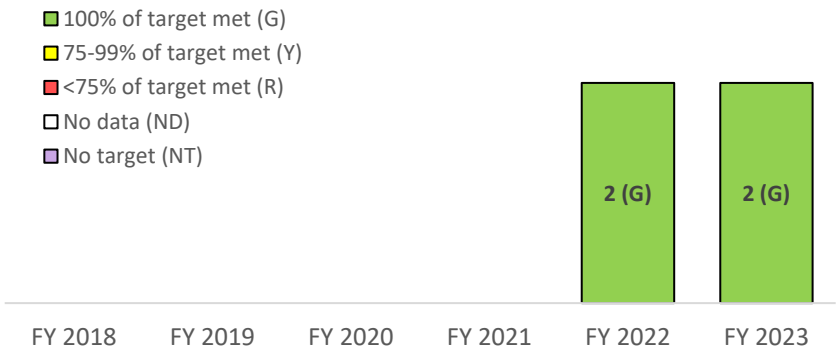
- Ongoing work from Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the U.S Virgin Islands (2017) continues to be a substantial investment of resources from EPA.
- Resources from EPA were required to support new and ongoing disaster recovery efforts. These included efforts to recover from Hurricane Ian, which hit Florida in September 2022, and the FY 2023 wildfires in Hawaii and New Mexico.
- While reduced from previous years, interagency coordination efforts from the recovery from Hurricane Sandy in the mid-Atlantic region (2012) are ongoing.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA contributions to supporting local communities' efforts to rebuild in a manner that increases community resiliency and adaptive capacity as they recover from federally declared disasters. This does not include clean-up or immediate response activities, but rather supports communities to build back in ways that help anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to climate change. There are no targets for this measure as the number of federal declared disasters where EPA assistance is requested varies by year. As the number of climate disasters increases so do the demands on EPA time to assist in the recovery. Across the country, communities are experiencing more climate impacts and the communities increasingly look to EPA to ensure safe recovery of community health, infrastructure, and environmental systems. Recovery efforts for major disasters can extend for many years. This increases the number of hours EPA spends supporting communities as they recover and help the communities become more resilient to future climate-related disasters. The data on the number of hours spent post disaster will help EPA plan for and provide the support communities need to rebuild.

Objective 1.3: Advance International and Subnational Climate Efforts—*Collaborate with Tribal, state, local, and international partners and provide leadership on the global stage to address climate change.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- EPA secured agreement for new climate activities with Canada and Mexico at the 30th Council Session of the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) including: 1) a project on sharing approaches and best practices to adaptation planning and implementation; 2) a new initiative on fast mitigation strategies for short-lived climate pollutants, with a particular focus on addressing methane; 3) a third cycle of the EJ4Climate grant program to support underserved and vulnerable communities and Indigenous communities on the front lines of climate change and; 4) a new cycle of the North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) grant program to engage and empower Indigenous communities in climate adaptation.
- Following three years of international cooperation that was launched by EPA, the International Standards Organization (ISO) completed a project to standardize greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting for freight and passenger transportation. This new standard provides a global framework for credible, accurate calculation and evaluation of transportation-related climate pollutants. Such transparency provides market leverage to reduce carbon from goods movement and informs national and international policy. The new ISO standard 14083, *Quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions arising from transport chain operations*, is now available for global adoption (https://www.epa.gov/vcs/using-international-standards-assess-greenhouse-gases-transportation).
- EPA Administrator Regan represented the United States at the G20 Environment Ministers Meeting where a consensus agreement on High Level Principles for a Sustainable and Resilient Blue/Ocean-Based Economy was adopted. The document describes joint action on the ocean-climate nexus, climate adaptation and resilience, climate mitigation, and achieving successful outcomes at COP28 (http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2023/230728-environment.html#annex).

Challenges:

- Multiple White House priorities on climate engagement and competing priorities for other issues, such as trade. EPA has had to rapidly shift efforts and in some instances is not able to provide follow on assistance.
- Inability to hire new EPA staff and/or not received Congressional requested funding.

Long-Term Performance Goal - By September 30, 2026, implement at least 40 international climate engagements that result in an individual partner commitment or action to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, adapt to climate change, or improve resilience in a manner that promotes equity.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM E13a) Number of climate engagements that result in an individual partner commitment or action to reduce GHG emissions, adapt to climate change, or improve resilience in a manner that promotes equity.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					8	10	10	10	Engage-ments	Above Target	
Actual					8	10					

Key Takeaways:

- Many countries and organizations have reached out to EPA to partner on climate activities, showing strong international interest, such as with Egypt, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, and Taiwan. Note, China activities are not included in EPA resources at present.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of senior level EPA international actions implemented annually that result in the provision of tools that when utilized by partners can result in equitable GHG emissions reductions, adaptation to climate change, or improvements in resilience. Climate change is a global issue that has far-reaching human health, social, economic, and biodiversity impacts on the planet, with direct adverse effects in the United States. EPA represents the U.S. Government in climate-related multilateral meetings and treaty negotiations, such as Montreal Protocol, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), G7 and G20 Environment Ministers meetings. EPA also works directly with other countries and stakeholders through bilateral agreements and work plans to share technical expertise, implement capacity building, and help countries address their climate gaps.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goal:

(PM E13b) Number of Border 2025 actions implemented in the U.S.-Mexico Border area to improve water quality, solid waste management and air quality including those that address climate change, and advance emergency response efforts.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					3	10	10	10	Actions	Above Target	
Actual					6	10					

Key Takeaways:

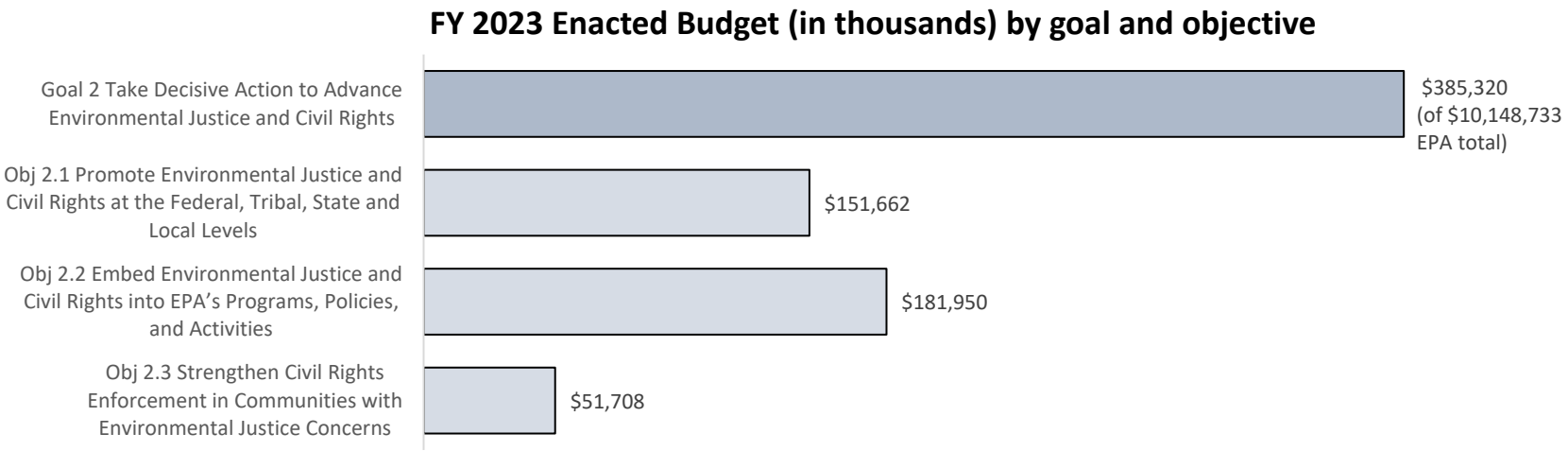
- EPA co-hosted a two-day exercise in Eagle Pass, Texas to help agencies in both countries jointly prepare for environmental emergencies. The event was co-hosted by EPA, Mexico's Federal Attorney of Environmental Protection (PROFEPA), Mexico's National Coordination for Civil Protection (CNPC), and the Cities of Eagle Pass, Texas and Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico.
- EPA and Mexico's Secretariat for Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) co-hosted a webinar on e-Waste Recycling to discuss best practices for e-waste recycling and challenges with e-waste management.

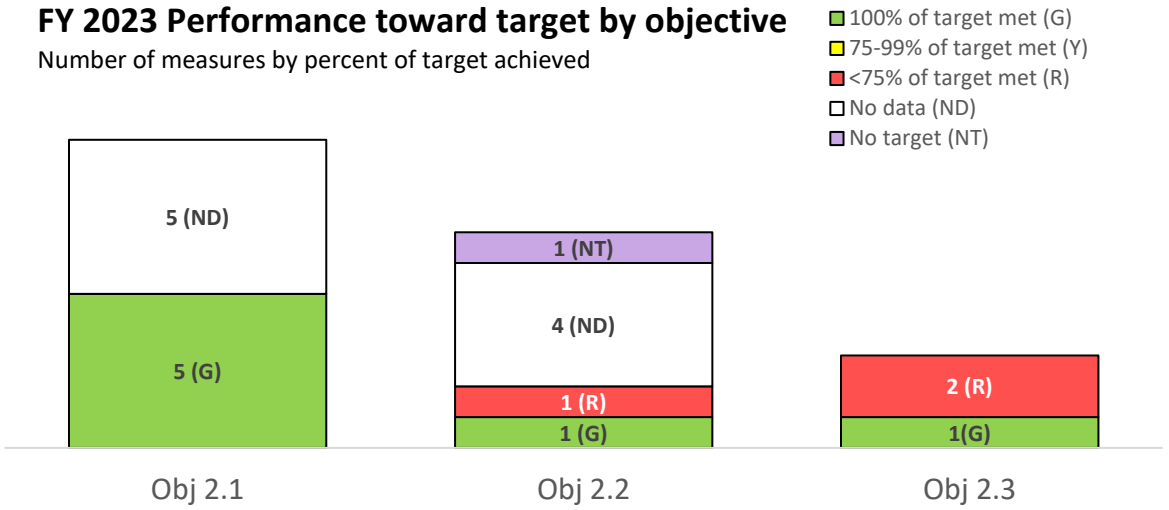
GOAL 1: Tackle the Climate Crisis

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA actions to provide tools and capacity building activities that when utilized by partners can result in improved water quality, solid waste management and air quality. These include actions to address climate change and advance emergency response efforts along the two-thousand-mile border between the United States and Mexico.

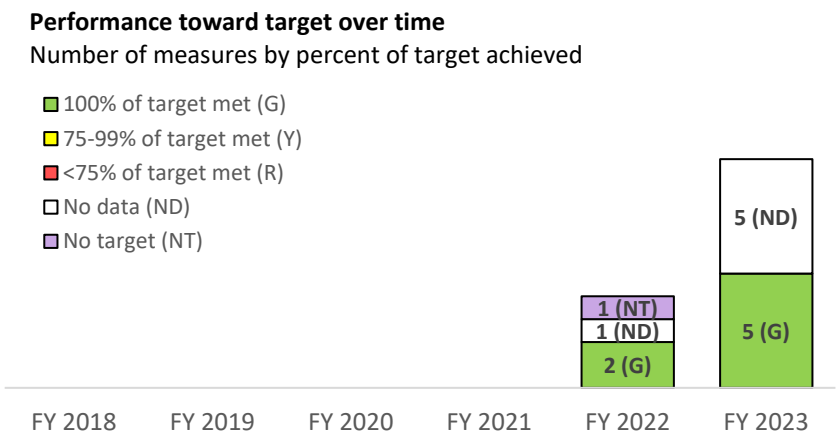
Goal 2 at a Glance

Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights: Achieve tangible progress for historically overburdened and underserved communities and ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income in developing and implementing environmental laws, regulations and policies.





Objective 2.1: Promote Environmental Justice and Civil Rights at the Federal, Tribal, State and Local Levels—*Empower and build capacity of underserved and overburdened communities to protect human health and the environment.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- EPA is now in the deployment stages of releasing all newly designed grant and technical assistance programs that will provide an array of options for communities to easily access technical and financial support matched to their needs and capacity.
- One of these new grant programs has established the national network of Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers to provide foundational capacity building support to thousands of communities across the United States.
- Established a Direct Implementation (DI) *Center of Excellence* to support actions that ensure EPA's implementation of federal environmental laws in Indian Country is as robust as implementing those laws outside of Indian Country.
- Championed the release by the White House of the "Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge," recognizing Indigenous Knowledge as one of the many important bodies of knowledge that contribute to the scientific, technical, social, and economic advancements in EPA's collective understanding of the natural world.
- EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) is making steady progress toward the FY 2026 environmental justice Long-Term Performance Goal.

Challenges:

- Hiring sufficient staff across all headquarters and regional environmental justice units to support the implementation of all financial and technical assistance programs.
- Competing demands among multiple environmental justice initiatives, as well as Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) commitments.
- Although progress has been made in securing necessary software licenses, EPA still needs to rapidly develop use of the platform to support process execution, stakeholder engagement, and coordination across EPA programs and regional offices.
- Tribes continue to request that EPA develop mechanisms to ensure that EPA funds build long-term programs for environmental protection, and not only fund immediate needs and short-term projects as the IIJA/IRA funding is currently designed.
- EPA continues to explore ways to make EPA direct implementation regulatory data and information available to tribes and the public. These efforts specifically refer to work benefitting tribes, tribal members, and others by carrying out EPA's obligations and responsibilities under EPA statutes in Indian Country.
- ORD research activities for the FY 2023-FY 2026 research cycle are in progress and cannot be counted until they are completed near the end of FY 2026.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs that seek feedback and comment from the public will provide capacity-building resources to communities with environmental justice concerns to support their ability to meaningfully engage and provide useful feedback to those programs.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR01) Percentage of EPA programs and regional offices that provide capacity-building resources to communities with environmental justice concerns to improve how the public's feedback and comments influence the Agency's decision-making process.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						25	50	75	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Programs		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- Refined the focus of this measure to resources that increase skills and abilities for communities with environmental justice concerns, rather than simple information sharing.
- Will begin implementation in early FY 2024 and will be able to make up ground in FY 2024 and FY 2025 to meet annual targets.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA national program sub-offices (those that regularly seek feedback from the public) and regional offices that provide capacity-building resources to communities with environmental justice concerns. The purpose of the measure is to improve how the public's feedback and comments influence the Agency's decision-making process. A qualifying capacity-building resource is a product designed to develop or strengthen skills and abilities on the topic as it relates to EPA's programs/policies/activities (*e.g.*, training, workshops, handbooks, train-the-trainer sessions, dedicated technical assistance programs, grants). Simple knowledge transfer or providing information resources does not qualify for this measure. In FY 2024, EPA will establish the universe for this measure.

(PM EJCR02) Percentage of EPA programs utilizing extramural vehicles to fund organizations and individuals providing environmental justice expertise and support to advance EPA priorities and activities.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						50			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Programs		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- Established a non-competitive grant program as the primary funding vehicle for providing financial resources to community-based non-profit organizations, other organizations, and individuals that provide environmental justice expertise in support of EPA's priorities and activities.
- Unable to report data in FY 2023 due to staffing and workload challenges.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of EPA programs that provide financial resources to community-based non-profit organizations, other organizations, and individuals that provide environmental justice expertise in support of EPA's priorities and activities. As part of EPA's decision-making processes or other Agency work streams,

EPA programs regularly rely upon the time, efforts, and expertise of community members, leaders, and organizations for a variety of activities/inputs. Examples of EPA activities that organizations or individuals could provide support for include organizing, educating, and engaging communities on environmental justice, climate justice, and other EPA priorities. EPA programs that rely on such community support will provide funding, as appropriate, to those community members/organizations for their time, efforts, and expertise just as they would if they needed the time, support, and expertise of a scientist or engineer. Providing funding can be achieved through use of financial assistance instruments such as grants and cooperative agreements, procurement vehicles, or interagency agreements, depending upon the principal purpose of the financial transaction.

(PM EJCR03) Percentage of environmental justice grantees whose funded projects result in a governmental response.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						No Target Established			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Grantees		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- Developed a logic model framework to track outputs and outcomes such as this one over the long-term for several environmental justice grant programs.
- Unable to report data in FY 2023 due to staffing and workload challenges.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of environmental justice grantees whose EPA-funded projects result in a governmental response (planned and/or actualized). The governmental response can range from on-the-ground response/activity to a policy change, and it may be at the local, state, tribal, or federal level. Tracking this measure would require incorporation of expectations for reporting into grant solicitations and agreements, and sufficient time post-award for results to materialize.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, include commitments to address disproportionate impacts in all written agreements between EPA and Tribes and states (e.g., grant work plans) implementing delegated authorities.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR04) Percentage of new grant workplans submitted by states that include commitments to address disproportionate impacts.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						5	25	50	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Agreements		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- In FY 2024, EPA will have additional staff available to coordinate the cross-agency work needed to prepare for and support implementation of this measure.
- EPA will also begin using a new grant implementation workflow platform that will greatly enhance transparency, accountability, and reporting on achievement of grant commitments.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of new grant workplans submitted by states in performance partnership agreements/performance partnership grants (PPAs/PPGs) that include commitments to address disproportionate impacts. EPA will partner with stakeholders to determine what qualifies as a commitment to address disproportionate impacts.

(PM EJCR05) Percentage of state-issued permits reviewed by EPA that include terms and conditions that are responsive to environmental justice concerns and comply with civil rights obligations.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						10			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Permits		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

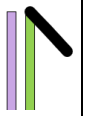
- Explored the permit-review processes and tracking mechanisms within the different permitting programs and determined that additional work and resources were needed to standardize and centralize tracking to operationalize this measure.
- In FY 2024, EPA will explore other foundational measures in the permitting space that are implementable.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of state-issued permits reviewed by EPA that are explicitly responsive to environmental justice concerns and comply with civil rights obligations. Achievement of this work is pursued through the provision of clear guidance, training, and support by EPA programs to states and other partners.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, EPA programs with direct implementation authority will take at least 100 significant actions that will result in measurable improvements in Indian country.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM E21) Number of significant actions taken by EPA programs with direct implementation authority that will result in measurable improvements in Indian country.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					No Target Established	25	20	15	Significant Actions	Above Target	
Actual					25	25					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA created a Direct Implementation (DI) Center of Excellence with EPA Region 9 to focus on direct implementation activities in all EPA programs and regions to identify best practices, promote uniformity and add efficiency across EPA when performing direct implementation activities.
- EPA continues to make progress in making direct implementation regulatory data and information available to tribes on EPA public-facing data systems.
- As a significant action, EPA trained over 800 staff on direct implementation responsibilities.

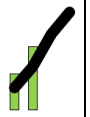
Metric Details: This measure tracks number of significant actions by EPA direct implementation programs that will assist EPA in meeting federal trust responsibilities and provide for equitable program implementation in Indian country. Significant actions are those actions taken on an annualized basis by an EPA program to achieve four significant direct implementation program priorities: 1) training on direct implementation for EPA staff; 2) contributing to an Agency direct implementation report identifying barriers and making

recommendations; 3) making EPA direct implementation federal facility and entity data available on EPA's environmental justice mapping and screening tool EJScreen; and 4) identifying actions taken to improve EPA direct implementation and progress made to remove direct implementation barriers.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all state recipients of EPA financial assistance will have foundational civil rights programs in place.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR06) Percentage of required civil rights procedural safeguard elements implemented by state permitting agencies that are recipients of EPA financial assistance.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					20	40	70	90	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					33	58					
Numerator					138	236			Elements		
Denominator					408	408					

Key Takeaways:

- The percentage of civil rights procedural safeguard elements came in above target for FY 2023 and thus the baseline coming into FY 2024 is higher as well, with data review indicating that several state agency recipients implemented procedural safeguards elements during the course of FY 2023. Accordingly, EPA has adjusted the targets for FY 2024 and 2025.
- Fourteen state agency recipients showed implementation of all the procedural safeguards elements reviewed, with another six state agency recipients needing to implement only one more procedural safeguard element to have full implementation.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of civil rights procedural safeguards elements implemented by state recipients of EPA financial assistance, calculated as the percentage of required civil rights procedural safeguards elements (8) implemented by state environmental permitting agencies that are recipients of EPA financial assistance (51) by using the denominator of 408 (51 x 8). The numerator is the total number of civil rights procedural safeguards elements implemented in aggregate by the state environmental permitting agencies.

(PM EJCR07) Percentage of EPA national program and regional offices that extend paid internships, fellowships, or clerkships to college students from diverse backgrounds.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						50			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						100					
Numerator						21			Programs and Regions		
Denominator						21					

Key Takeaways:

- All headquarters, national, and regional offices extended paid internships to students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. In most cases the percentages of students' self-reported ethnicities closely mirrored the overall ethnic percentages of the U.S.

- EPA continued to conduct outreach with Minority Serving Institutions, Historic Black Colleges and Universities, and tribal and indigenous educational institutions to market and attract students for paid internships at EPA.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of EPA national programs and regional offices that have dedicated funding to bring college students from diverse backgrounds into the Agency on paid internships, fellowships, or clerkships.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, increase by 40% the number of Office of Research and Development (ORD) activities related to environmental justice that involve or are applicable to Tribes, states, territories, local governments, and communities.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM RD2) Number of ORD activities related to environmental justice that involve or are designed to be applicable to tribes, states, territories, local governments, and communities.

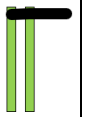
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					No Target Established	113	113	113	Activities	Above Target	
Actual					N/A	117					

Key Takeaways:

- Developed systematic ways to tag ORD activities as environmental justice-related to ensure all relevant activities are identified and tracked.
- Several ORD research activities for the FY 2023-2026 research cycle are in progress and will be counted upon completion near the end of FY 2026.
- The ORD Environmental Justice Council sponsored (or collaboratively co-sponsored) five webinars for Agency staff to advance equity and justice in EPA research through agencywide dialogue and opportunities to build collaborations.
- Completed Phase 2 of the Environmental Justice Video Challenge for Students with the goal of enhancing communities' capacity to address environmental and public health inequities using data and publicly available tools. Distributed a prize package of $175,000 to the Phase 2 winning teams that included local community organizations along with the student team members (available at: https://www.epa.gov/innovation/phase-2-winners-ej-video-challenge-students.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of completed environmental justice-related ORD activities that involved communities or are designed to be applicable to tribes, states, territories, local governments, and communities with environmental justice concerns. ORD activities related to environmental justice are any actions, projects, research, tool development, training, etc. that are funded or conducted by ORD and intended to help inform and/or reach the goal of environmental justice as defined by EPA. An activity is considered to involve a tribe, state, territory, local government, or community if ORD engages with or consults the affected entity (or entities) on the specific activity. An activity is considered to be applicable to a tribe, state, territory, local government, or community if the results of the activity may be directly for or used by the entity (or entities) and/or be used in decisions affecting communities or otherwise have potential to benefit a community (or communities) with environmental justice concerns. The FY 2019-2022 baseline was established as 324 EJ-related ORD activities. The goal is a 40% increase, or 454 total EJ-related ORD activities over FY 2023-2026. The approximate annual target for FY 2023-2026 is the average of 113 EJ activities per year (*i.e.*, 454/4 = 113 EJ activities/year).

(PM RD4) Percentage of ORD environmental justice-related research products meeting partner needs.

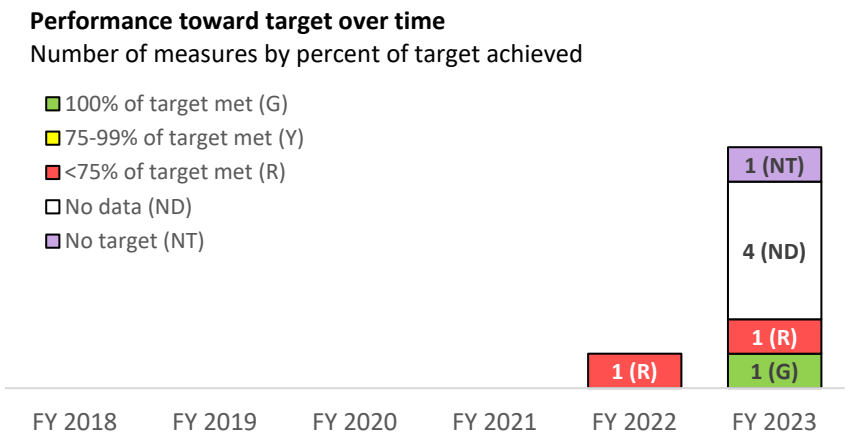
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					93	94	94	94	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					100	100					
Numerator					1	3			Products		
Denominator					1	3					

Key Takeaways:

- Met partner needs for 100% of environmental justice-related research products included in the annual partner satisfaction assessment. For example, the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Applications to Brownfields Reuse and Redevelopment to Support Community Resiliency and Revitalization documents the HIA conducted to evaluate the potential health impacts of proposed neighborhood revitalization of the South Main Corridor Area in Rockford, Illinois (available at: https://assessments.epa.gov/risk/document/&deid=354883).
- ORD has increased the number of environmental justice-related research products assessed and will continue to do so as ORD implements the FY 2023-2026 Strategic Research Action Plan (available at: https://www.epa.gov/research/strategic-research-action-plans-fiscal-years-2023-2026).

Metric Details: Partner satisfaction is assessed through a robust survey process. The annual survey engages key users of ORD products. Survey respondents assess the scientific rigor of research products (quality), product relevance (usability), and timeliness of product delivery. This measure will assess a subset of ORD's research products specifically related to environmental justice.

Objective 2.2: Embed Environmental Justice and Civil Rights into EPA's Programs, Policies, and Activities—*Integrate environmental justice and civil rights in all the Agency's work to maximize benefits and minimize impacts to underserved and overburdened communities.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Continued to build out the new national program office with hiring of management and staff as well as coordination of a consistent regional reorganization proposal to create consistent lines of direction and communication across the entire environmental justice and external civil rights enterprise.
- Worked closely with program office staff to integrate environmental justice and external civil rights considerations in policy documents and significant regulatory actions.
- Expanded staff capacity to participate in EPA regulatory workgroups and identify integration points for environmental justice considerations.
- Deployed a holistic grant and technical assistance program to support community-based organizations, which will allow EPA to align investments and efforts to better meet the needs of communities.
- Experience having developed first ever national program and regional office implementation plans has informed significant maturation of the approach to future instances of national program guidance and accompanying implementation plans. These plans cover a broad spectrum of policies and program implementation activities.

Challenges:

- Hiring sufficient staff across all headquarters and regional environmental justice units to support the implementation of all financial and technical assistance programs.
- Difficulties in finalizing attainment of suitable contractor support has significantly delayed progress on key priorities, such as the ten indicators of disparity elimination commitment.
- Although progress has been made in securing necessary software licenses, EPA still needs to rapidly develop use of a platform to support process execution, stakeholder engagement, and coordination across EPA programs and regional offices.
- Managing environmental justice commitments across EPA programs and regional offices is complex, as is scoping the associated measures appropriately.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce disparities in environmental and public health conditions represented by the indicators identified through the FY 2022-2023 Agency Priority Goal.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

For FY 2024 and FY 2025, progress on this Long-Term Performance Goal will be tracked under the Agency Priority Goal "Implement guidance, tools, and metrics for EPA and its Tribal, state, local, and community partners to advance environmental justice and external civil rights compliance."

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, 80% of significant EPA actions with environmental justice implications will clearly demonstrate how the action is responsive to environmental justice concerns and reduces or otherwise addresses disproportionate impacts.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR08) Percentage of significant EPA actions with environmental justice implications that respond to environmental justice concerns and reduce or address disproportionate impacts.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						40	50	60	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Actions		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- In FY 2023, EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR) worked with the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) on development of the Procedures for Chemical Risk Evaluation under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The proposed rule strengthens EPA's process for conducting chemical risk evaluations. The rule advances President Biden's environmental justice agenda which includes enhancements to environmental protections in communities overburdened by pollution.
- In early FY 2024, EPA will have additional staff available to develop reference materials to prepare for and support implementation and tracking of this measure.
- EPA expects to make significant progress over the next several years, to meet the Long-Term Performance Goal target.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of actions (rules) determined to be significant under the Executive Order on Regulatory Planning and Review (EO 12866). The Office of Policy's Office of Regulatory Policy and Management's (OP-ORPM) EPA Action Management System (EAMS) database will be used to determine the denominator for this measure. Responding to environmental justice concerns means acknowledging the concerns in the written decision or final regulation and, wherever feasible, including terms, conditions, mitigation, monitoring, regulatory requirements, etc. that are responsive to the concerns expressed by communities and/or issues identified through environmental justice analysis. Reducing or addressing disproportionate impacts in the final action means including an explanation for how the action reduces and/or mitigates disproportionality associated with cumulative threats to public health and environmental quality.

(PM EJCR09) Percentage of EPA programs that have developed guidance on the use of environmental justice and equity screening tools.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						50	75	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Programs		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- In early FY 2024, EPA will have additional staff available to develop key principles on screening as guidance for programs and regions to use to implement this measure.
- With guidance and subject matter expertise offered to programs and regions, EPA will be able to make up ground over the next two years.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA national program sub-offices that have developed written guidance on the use of environmental justice and equity screening tools within their programmatic context. Screening tools provide geospatial information about potential environmental, public health, and equity issues in underserved and overburdened communities (*e.g.*, EJScreen, Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. The written guidance will be used within the program sub-office and related regional divisions.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs that work in and with communities will do so in ways that are community-driven, coordinated and collaborative, support equitable and resilient community development, and provide for meaningful involvement and fair treatment of communities with environmental justice concerns.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR10) Percentage of EPA programs and regions that work in and with communities that do so in ways that are community-driven, coordinated and collaborative, support equitable and resilient community development, and provide for meaningful involvement and fair treatment of communities with environmental justice concerns.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						25			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						N/A					
Numerator									Programs		
Denominator											

Key Takeaways:

- Updated EPA's Public Involvement Policy (2003) as EPA's Meaningful Involvement Policy.
- In FY 2024, will begin tracking implementation of the updated policy through new performance goal EJCR19.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of EPA programs and regional offices that integrate key principles for community work (*e.g.*, community-driven, coordinated, and collaborative) into core functions (*e.g.*, regulatory development, permitting, enforcement). This approach allows EPA to operate across programs to support projects based on community need rather than operating exclusively in programmatic silos.

(PM EJCR11) Number of established EJ collaborative partnerships utilizing key principles for community work (e.g., community-driven, coordinated, and collaborative).

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target						30			Partnerships	Above Target	
Actual						N/A					

Key Takeaways:

- The focus of this performance goal will be captured in the new performance goal (EJCR19). An important component of developing meaningful public involvement plans will be to identify partnerships, and to coordinate and collaborate with those partners to meaningfully involve communities with environmental justice concerns.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the number of collaborative partnerships in communities supported and participated in by EPA, utilizing key principles for community work (*e.g.*, community-driven, coordinated and collaborative).

(PM EJCR19) Percentage of EPA national programs and regions that have created a new meaningful involvement plan for a specific Agency project or decision with potential impacts in communities with environmental justice concerns.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target							45	60	Percent	Above Target	
Actual											
Numerator									Programs		
Denominator											

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA national program sub-offices and regional offices that create new meaningful involvement plans for a specific Agency project or decision with potential impacts in communities with environmental justice concerns. When seeking ideas, input, feedback, and recommendations from the public to influence a project or decision, national program sub-offices and regional divisions should develop a meaningful involvement plan. A meaningful involvement plan identifies the components of a well-designed process to involve the public in the Agency's decision-making from planning the process, to designing and implementing communication materials and involvement activities, to showing how the public influenced the project or decision. Qualifying plans will be tailored to fit the need and scale of a particular project or decision. In FY 2024, EPA will establish the universe for this measure.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs and regions will identify and implement areas and opportunities to integrate environmental justice considerations and achieve civil rights compliance in their planning, guidance, policy directives, monitoring, and review activities.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR13) Percentage of EPA national programs and regions that have established environmental justice and external civil rights implementation plans.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						100	100	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						100					
Numerator						17			Regions and Programs		
Denominator						17					

Key Takeaways:

- In FY 2023, for the first time in EPA history, seven national programs and ten regions developed environmental justice and external civil rights implementation plans. Each of these plans listed commitments under the priorities of working with communities, environmental justice and external civil rights integration at EPA, engagement with external partners, external civil rights compliance, and other coordinated cross-agency activities.
- EPA brought in a contractor to assist with qualitative analysis of the commitments in the 17 implementation plans, and to develop a summary document that was posted on EPA's website. The FY 2023 Summary of the Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Implementation Plans is available at: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-08/FY%202023%20Summary%20of%20the%20Environmental%20Justice%20and%20External%20Civil%20Rights%20Implementation%20Plans.pdf

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA national program and regional offices that have established annual environmental justice and external civil rights implementation plans and are tracking progress on commitments. OEJECR provides guidance on agencywide focus areas for environmental justice integration and external civil rights compliance to include in environmental justice and external civil rights implementation plans on an annual basis.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs and regions will implement program and region-specific language assistance plans.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR14) Percentage of EPA programs and regions that have implemented program and region-specific language assistance plans.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					30	35	60	80	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					0	5					
Numerator					0	1			Programs and Regions		
Denominator					23	19					

Key Takeaways:

- Led action requested in November 2022 by the U.S. Attorney General for all federal agencies to review, revise, and update their limited English proficiency (LEP) plans and policies for providing public access. Coordinated this review across EPA to update EPA Order 1000.32.
- Revised EPA Order 1000.32, which was finalized on November 3, 2023, issued by the Office of Mission Support and posted by the Department of Justice (DOJ) on its LEP.gov webpage.

- Developed one sample plan, which is being used to develop additional program specific plans. Regions 4, 5, and 6 are leading efforts to develop a sample regional plan to be used by all regional offices in FY 2024 and beyond.
- Development of program and region-specific plans was delayed as EPA revised the existing Order, Standard Operating Procedures, budget methodology, etc., as requested by the Attorney General. EPA was featured as a model agency during the DOJ launch event in light of its efforts to integrate this action in EPA's Strategic Plan and measure progress in implementing program and region-specific plans across EPA through a Long-Term Performance Goal.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA headquarters (9) and regional offices (10) that develop and implement plans and procedures, consistent with EPA Order 1000.32, "Compliance with Executive Order 13166: Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency." The Order outlines necessary steps the Agency will take to provide meaningful language access to persons with limited English proficiency. Program and regional office plans and procedures will ensure that every EPA community outreach and engagement activity considers the needs of community members with limited English proficiency and that EPA secures the language services necessary to provide "meaningful access" to EPA programs and activities for individuals with limited English proficiency. EPA Order 1000.32 is available at: LEP.GOV (https://www.lep.gov/sites/lep/files/media/document/2023-11/2023%20Enviromental%20Protection%20Agency%20%28EPA%29%20Language%20Access%20Plan.pdf) and will also be posted on EPA's internet pages.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs and regions will implement program and region-specific disability access plans.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR15) Percentage of EPA programs and regions that have implemented program and region-specific disability access plans.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						No Target Established	10	25	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						0					
Numerator						0			Programs and Regions		
Denominator						19					

Key Takeaways:

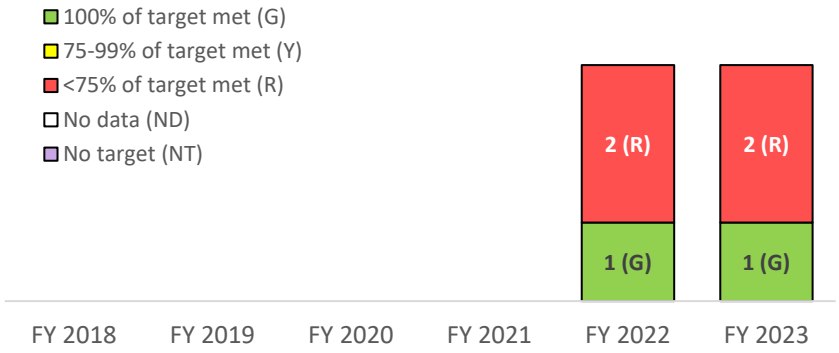
- Action delayed due to staffing and workload challenges. Pursuing a contract vehicle that will be used to develop the EPA Order, policies and procedures in FY 2024.
- Related to work on Executive Order 14091, formed a workgroup to assist in developing the issue of external disability access as a priority area. Have identified barriers, needs, and a strategy for moving forward to develop a program.
- In the process of hiring a National Program Coordinator to lead EPA's limited English proficiency and disability access efforts.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA headquarters (9) and regional offices (10) that develop and implement plans and procedures, consistent with guidance and an EPA Order to be issued in FY 2024 to ensure meaningful access to EPA programs and activities for persons with disabilities. Program and regional office plans and procedures will ensure every EPA community outreach and engagement activity considers the needs of persons with disabilities and that EPA provides persons with disabilities reasonable accommodations and appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary so they may effectively participate in EPA program and activities.

Objective 2.3: Strengthen Civil Rights Enforcement in Communities with Environmental Justice Concerns—*Strengthen enforcement of and compliance with civil rights laws to address the legacy of pollution in overburdened communities.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Far exceeded targets for information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events held with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on external civil rights and environmental justice issues.
- Launched the revised Pre-Award Form 4700-4 review process in January 2023. By the end of FY 2023, had entered into 113 six-month agreements to correct deficiencies, with 36 successfully completed.
- Launched Post-Award Audit Program in March 2023, and initiated four state audits, completing one. One agreement to correct deficiencies is already in place.
- Completed jurisdictional review of a record 47 complaints. Accepted 10 of those cases for investigation and resolved five.
- Entered into Informal Resolution negotiations in 21 cases – more than ever in EPA's history.

Challenges:

- A historic number of complaint receipts in FY 2023 (49, twice the number received in FY 2021), has delayed the initiation of additional compliance reviews.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, initiate 45 proactive post-award civil rights compliance reviews to address discrimination issues in environmentally overburdened and underserved communities.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR16) Number of proactive post-award civil rights compliance reviews initiated to address discrimination issues in environmentally overburdened and underserved communities.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					3	6	4	10	Compliance Reviews	Above Target	
Actual		1	1	0	1	0					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA initiated no new civil rights compliance reviews due to ongoing resource limitations and receipt of a record number of civil rights complaints.
- EPA is targeting 3-6 compliance reviews for initiation in FY 2024 in anticipation of additional resources.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of EPA's civil rights enforcement efforts through annual affirmative civil rights compliance reviews of EPA funding recipients targeting critical environmental health and quality of life impacts in overburdened communities.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, complete 305 audits to ensure EPA financial assistance recipients are complying with nondiscrimination program procedural requirements.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR17) Number of audits completed to ensure EPA financial assistance recipients are complying with federal civil rights laws.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					25	30	30	60	Audits	Above Target	
Actual				0	0	1					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA for the first time initiated post-award audits of Form 4700-4 submissions by recipients of EPA financial assistance, following on the implementation of EPA's revised EPA's pre-award compliance review process on January 1, 2023, for applicants and recipients requesting EPA financial assistance. EPA initiated four and completed one post-award audit in FY 2023. EPA is in the process of on-boarding contractor assistance to initiate and conduct post-award audits in FY 2024.

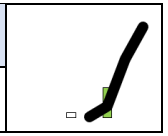
Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of post-award audits of Form 4700-4 forms completed to ensure EPA financial assistance recipients have in place foundational nondiscrimination program requirements as required by federal law and EPA's nondiscrimination regulation.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, complete 84 information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and environmental justice issues.

GOAL 2: Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EJCR18) Number of information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events held with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and environmental justice issues.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					8	90	650	1,100	Sessions and Events	Above Target	
Actual				40	30	235					

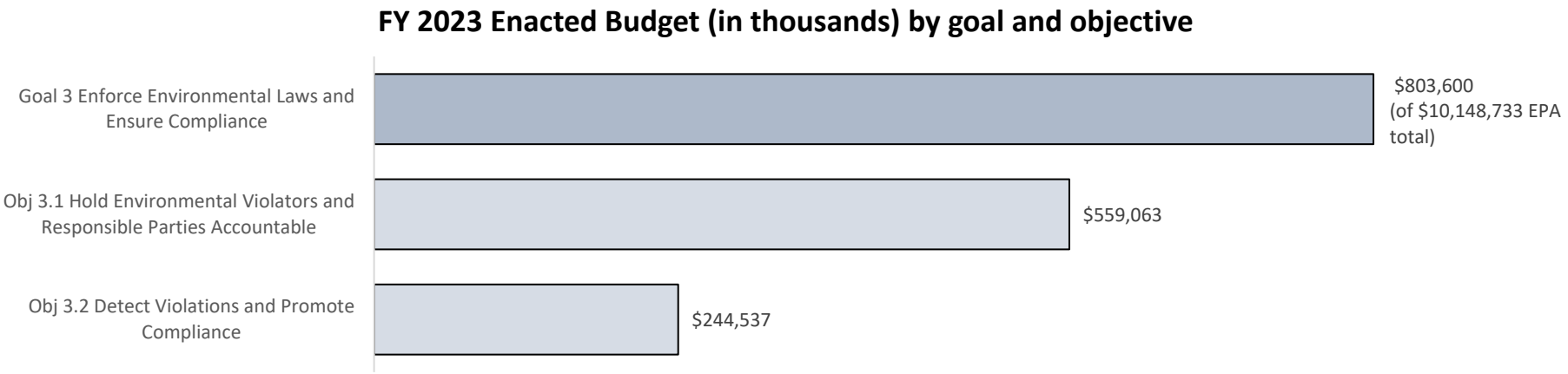
Key Takeaways:

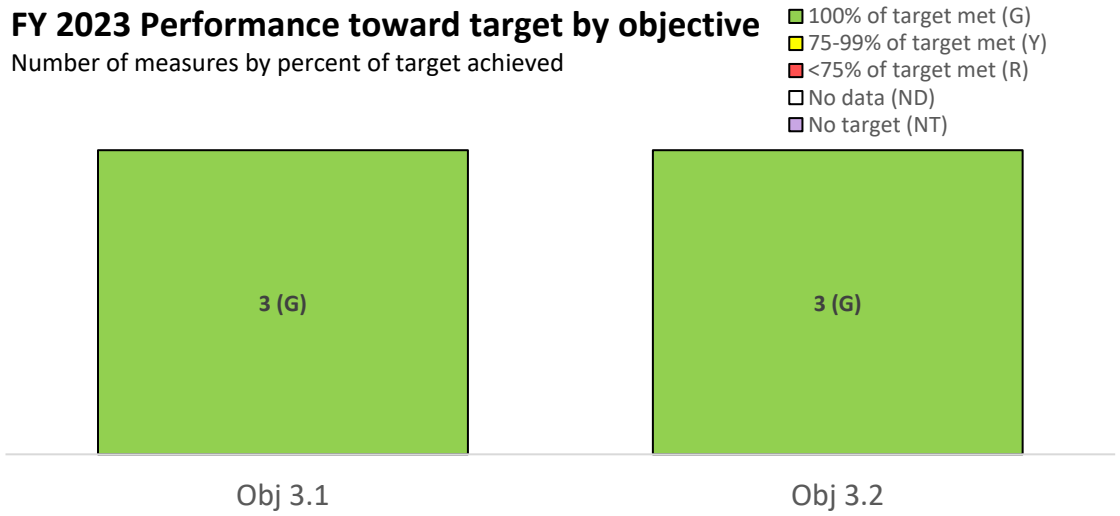
- With the creation of the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR) as a program office, the universe of reporting on this performance goal expanded to regional environmental justice divisions. This expansion has led to far exceeding the original target for this performance goal.
- As staffing levels continue to increase for OEJECR and regional environmental justice divisions, it is likely that target-setting and actual numbers will continue to increase exponentially.

Metric Details: Starting in FY 2022, this measure tracks the cumulative number of EPA's OEJECR engagements with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and/or environmental justice issues with impacts on communities with environmental justice concerns. This outreach will help the Agency to better identify concerns and priorities for EPA's civil rights and environmental justice work. This also allows for increased capacity-building and meaningful involvement opportunities for communities with environmental justice concerns.

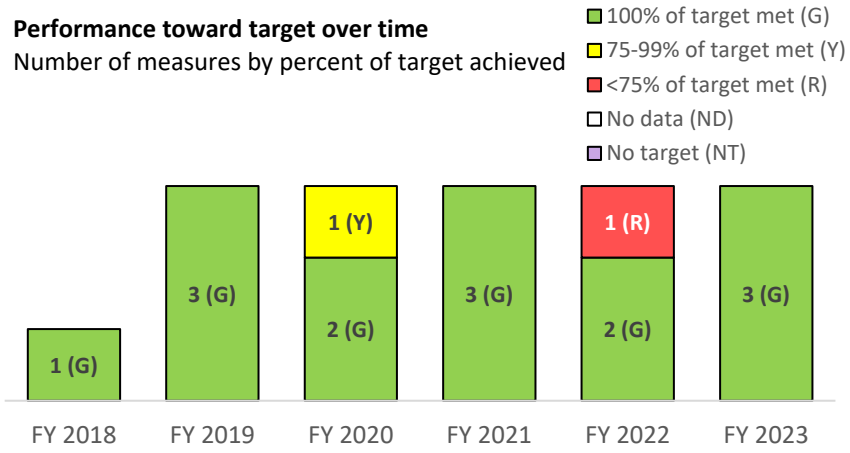
Goal 3 at a Glance

Enforce Environmental Laws and Ensure Compliance: Improve compliance with the nation's environmental laws and hold violators accountable.

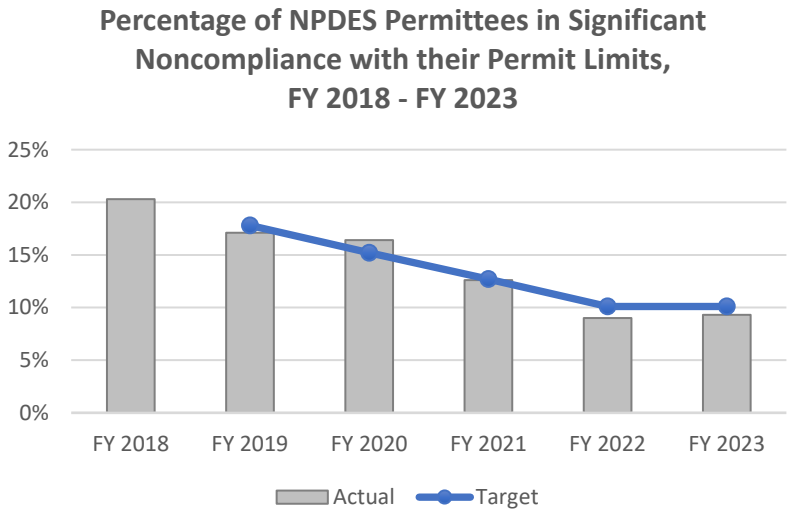




Objective 3.1: Hold Environmental Violators and Responsible Parties Accountable—*Use vigorous and targeted civil and criminal enforcement to ensure accountability for violations and to clean up contamination.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



EPA, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, has determined that performance toward this objective is making noteworthy progress due to numerous activities to accelerate results, notably in priority areas, *e.g.*, environmental justice and climate change.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

Strengthened Enforcement to Advance Environmental Justice (EJ)

- Concluded 1,791 civil judicial and administrative cases (highest number since 2018), with 55% addressing facilities in areas with potential environmental justice concerns.
- Issued 203 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) orders, protecting >1.9M people, including eight emergency orders protecting ~2,000 people in small, overburdened communities.

Combatting Climate Change and integrating climate consideration in policies

- Protected communities by reducing >60M lbs. of carbon dioxide (CO_2) equivalent and ~11.9M lbs. of Volatile Organic Compounds and Hazardous Air Pollutants.
- Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) task force provided criminal enforcement training to >200 from partner agencies, *e.g.*, Customs and Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security.
- Settlements with gas processing plants in 12 states and Indian Country provided >$25M in penalties and injunctive relief (IR) and will reduce thousands of tons of methane.

Protecting human health through Addressing PFAS and Lead Exposures

- Multiple cases related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of drinking water and unauthorized releases, including a SDWA 1431 order at 3M Cordova.
- Took 107 enforcement cases to prevent community exposure to lead in pre-1978 housing, particularly multi-unit, and subsidized housing.

Strong Enforcement Results

- Civil actions: over $3.7B in IR, $167M in penalties, and 1.2B lbs. of pollution reduced.
- Criminal: $536M in fines/restitution, ~$4.5M in court-ordered environmental projects, and forfeiture of $521M in illegal proceeds. Obtained criminal sentences of ~104 years.
- Superfund response/cost recovery commitments of ~$1.1B (including $22.6M from redevelopers); oversaw 175 federal facility National Priorities List sites.
- Working with Mexico, Canada, and Tribes, implemented a North America enforcement program targeting illegal trade of certain chemicals from ships.

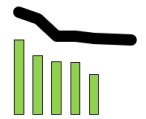
Challenges:

- Delays in promotions/new hire processing leave extended vacancies, reducing inspectors in the field and hindering knowledge transfer before departures.
- Complex cases (*e.g.*, national companies, complex facilities) often take longer.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce to not more than 93 the number of open civil judicial cases more than 2.5 years old without a complaint filed.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM 436) Number of open civil judicial cases more than 2.5 years old without a complaint filed.

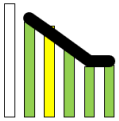
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target		129	120	99	99	96	95	94	Cases	Below Target	
Actual		94	74	66	65	50					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA and the Department of Justice (DOJ) continue to move the most challenging civil judicial cases toward resolution in a timely manner, thereby returning violators to compliance more quickly and supporting increases in pounds of pollutants reduced and pounds of waste managed. Case teams incorporate best practices into case docket reviews (*e.g.*, preparation of case status updates prior to docket reviews) to ensure timely conclusion of cases. Likewise, managers promote the use of docket best practices with their case teams. Today, the number of open civil judicial cases more than 2.5 years old without a complaint filed is more than 60% lower than in 2018 when the measure was initiated.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of all open civil judicial cases that are more than 2.5 years old without a complaint filed, excluding Superfund, bankruptcy, collection action, and access order cases. By measuring and highlighting the amount of time from referral of an enforcement case to DOJ to its conclusion, the Agency hopes to reduce the time by which violation(s) alleged in the case are corrected. Data are tracked in the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS). The average time from referral to complaint for a complaint filed between FY 2013 and FY 2017 was 2.5 years. The baseline for this measure is 129 cases that were more than 2.5 years old without a complaint filed as of June 30, 2018.

(PM 446) Quarterly percentage of Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permittees in significant noncompliance with their permit limits.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target		17.8	15.2	12.7	10.1	10.1			Percent	Below Target	
Actual	20.3	17.1	16.4	12.6	9.0	9.3					
Numerator	8,310	7,015	6,941	5,330	3,942	4,168			Permittees		
Denominator	40,944	41,085	42,334	42,429	44,015	44,784					

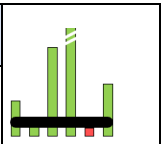
Key Takeaways:

- Maintained an NPDES significant noncompliance (SNC) rate of 9.3% in FY 2023, surpassing the target of 10.1%.
- Through the SNC National Enforcement and Compliance Initiative, EPA fully utilized its compliance toolbox. This included developing a new mechanism for prioritizing NPDES noncompliance to help EPA and states focus attention on the worst violators and conducting quarterly meetings with all 47 NPDES authorized states focused on data sharing and ways to reduce SNC challenges. The SNC National Enforcement and Compliance Initiative concluded in FY 2023 upon successful completion of the goal to reduce the SNC rate by half, and EPA will discontinue this measure.

- These results would not have been possible without the effective EPA-state partnership, and the commitment that states made to the SNC National Compliance Initiative. Furthermore, a close working partnership with the Association of Clean Water Administrators played a key role in obtaining input from the states to help plot a successful and collaborative path for the initiative.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the NPDES SNC/Category 1 noncompliance rate among individually permitted major and non-major (minor) NPDES permittees in the last quarter of the year. NPDES SNC/Category 1 noncompliance identifies a specific level of violation, based on duration, severity, and type of violation, and is assessed quarterly. The numerator counts major and minor permittees that were in SNC/Category 1 noncompliance in the last quarter of the fiscal year. The denominator includes all active individually permitted NPDES permittees (except permittees for which there is insufficient permit data/compliance tracking status in ICIS-NPDES for the data system to evaluate SNC status). The FY 2018 baseline of 20.3% represents an average based on four quarters of data.

(PM 434) Millions of pounds of pollutants and waste reduced, treated, or eliminated through concluded enforcement actions.

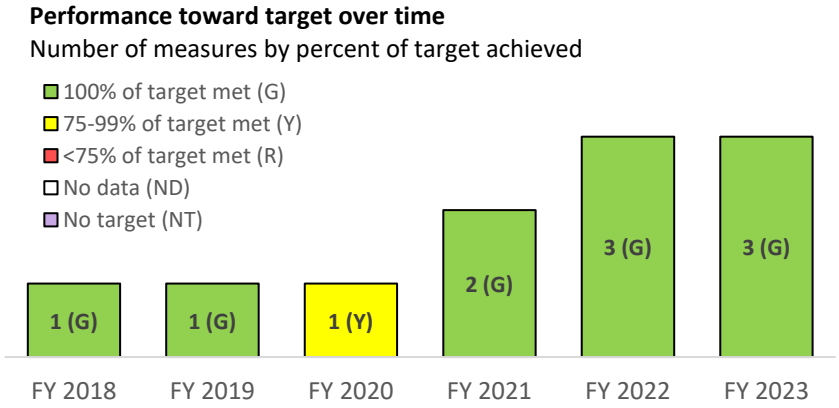
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	325	325	325	325	325	325	No Target Established	No Target Established	Millions of Pounds	Above Target	
Actual	810	347	2,058	7,864	195	1,214					

Key Takeaways:

- Results in any given year are dependent on actual case outcomes, which are variable and difficult to predict. Annual totals are often influenced by a few large cases (*e.g.*, in FY 2021, the exceptionally high result was due to the US Magnesium case which accounted for 90% of the total pounds of pollutants reduced, treated, or eliminated that year).
- In FY 2023, one case (PCS Nitrogen) accounted for 94% of the total. PCS Nitrogen manufactured phosphate products in Louisiana for agriculture from the 1960s to 2018, including phosphoric acid and phosphate fertilizer, through processes that generated large quantities of acidic wastewater and phosphogypsum. The facility is now undergoing closure and PCS will spend over $84M to reduce environmental impact and treat over 1B lbs. of waste.

Metric Details: This measure combines estimated pounds of air, water, hazardous and non-hazardous waste, and toxics/pesticides pollutants reduced, treated, or eliminated through concluded enforcement actions. Given the fact that this measure is dependent on the settlement of a small number of cases which are difficult to predict, it will not have targets after FY 2023.

Objective 3.2: Detect Violations and Promote Compliance— *Ensure high levels of compliance with federal environmental laws and regulations through effective compliance tools -- including inspections, other monitoring activities, and technical assistance supported by evidence and advanced technologies.*



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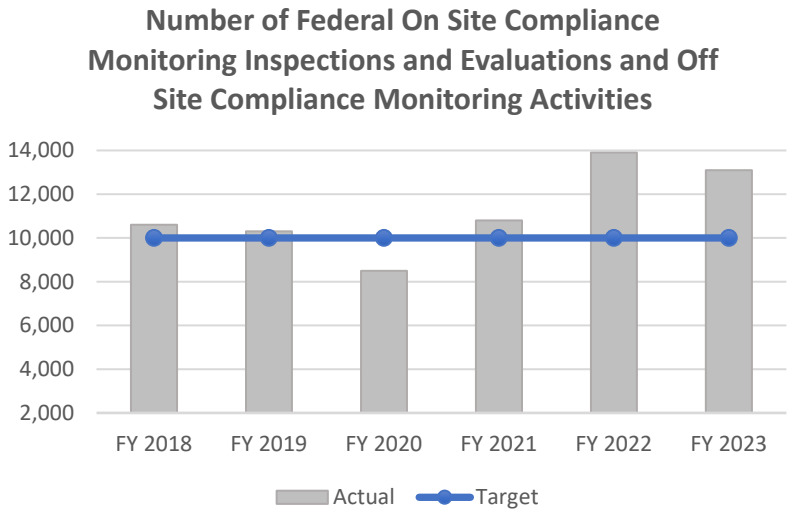


Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

Inspections

- Increased the number of on-site inspections to > 7,700, a 31% increase over FY 2022.
- Over 60% of on-site inspections were at facilities affecting communities with potential environmental justice (EJ) concerns, exceeding the 50% goal set for this year.
- Credentialed new inspectors for public drinking water systems (PWS), and increased training for all PWS inspectors with 115 sessions reaching over 450 participants.
- Initiated sampling of private drinking water wells near military installations with known, significant per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination.
- Led or accompanied states, territories, or tribes that have been approved to implement and enforce the public water system program on nearly 120 onsite inspections and performed offsite compliance monitoring at more than 260 Community Water Systems.

Community Engagement and Compliance Assistance

- Newly released and updated Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) tools (Notify, Clean Air Act tool, PFAS Analytical, and Drinking Water System Search). New and updated tools allow users to access test results, facilitate communication, and present a comprehensive overview of the cumulative impacts within a respective community.
- *Compliance Advisors* assisted and trained 195 small public water systems and 61 small wastewater treatment facilities; 84% are in communities with potential EJ concerns.
- Prioritized "Mitigation of Climate Change" enforcement, by establishing it as a new National Enforcement Compliance Initiative (NECI).

Evidence-Based Enforcement

- Compliance Learning Agenda advanced its evidence-based studies focusing on offsite compliance monitoring and the root causes of municipal noncompliance.
- Advanced EPA Learning Agenda priority area for reducing drinking water noncompliance by synthesizing existing tools that identify systems of concern and confirming key characteristics important to maintaining or improving compliance.

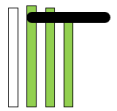
Challenges:

- During the past decade, the enforcement program has lost over 900 positions, nearly 30 percent of its workforce, resulting in loss of expertise and fewer inspections.
- Despite efforts, thousands of community water systems violate health-based standards each year, exposing millions to potential health risks. Many states and tribes have limited capacity to address these violations.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, send 75% of EPA inspection reports to facilities within 70 days of inspection.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM 444) Percentage of EPA inspection reports sent to the facility within 70 days of inspection.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target				75	75	75	75	75	Percent	Above Target	
Actual			83	85	83	77					
Numerator			4,177	1,940	4,362	5,521			Reports		
Denominator			5,037	2,287	5,237	7,129					

Key Takeaways:

- Ongoing cooperation between EPA headquarters and regional offices continues to ensure that the majority of inspection reports are completed by EPA within 60 calendar days and sent to facilities within 70 calendar days of an inspection.
- As EPA inspectors have resumed a more active field presence post-pandemic and have conducted more on-site inspections, there was an expected decrease in the completion of inspection reports within the timeframe as compared with prior years; however, the results are still above the target.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of inspection reports completed and sent to the facility within 70 calendar days of an inspection. Improving the timeliness of EPA inspection reports allows facilities to address compliance issues more quickly. The 75% goal recognizes that it may not always be possible or appropriate to provide an inspection report within 70 days because of the nature and complexity of the compliance and enforcement program.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, conduct 55% of annual EPA inspections at facilities that affect communities with potential environmental justice concerns.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM 450) Percentage of EPA inspections at facilities affecting communities with potential environmental justice concerns.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					45	50	50	55	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					57	61					
Numerator					3,333	4,700			Inspections		
Denominator					5,861	7,750					

Key Takeaways:

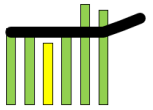
- EPA conducted nearly 61% of all inspections at facilities affecting communities with potential environmental justice concerns, surpassing the target of 50%. The Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) and internal tools have been enhanced to make this inspection data easily accessible to all Agency staff and management, ensuring that communities most in need of environmental protection are receiving appropriate attention and review.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA on-site inspections conducted by credentialed EPA inspectors at facilities affecting communities with potential environmental justice concerns. The total includes facilities with one environmental indicator triggered at the 80th percentile at the national level (80th percentile/one index trigger) on EPA's environmental justice mapping and screening tool EJScreen, and other areas flagged through an enhanced review. The baseline for this measure is 27% based on an average of FY 2017- FY 2019 results (pre-COVID levels).

Other Core Work

Annual performance goal:

(PM 409) Number of federal on-site compliance monitoring inspections and evaluations and off-site compliance monitoring activities.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	11,000	12,000	Inspections & Evaluations	Above Target	
Actual	10,600	10,300	8,500	10,800	13,900	13,100					

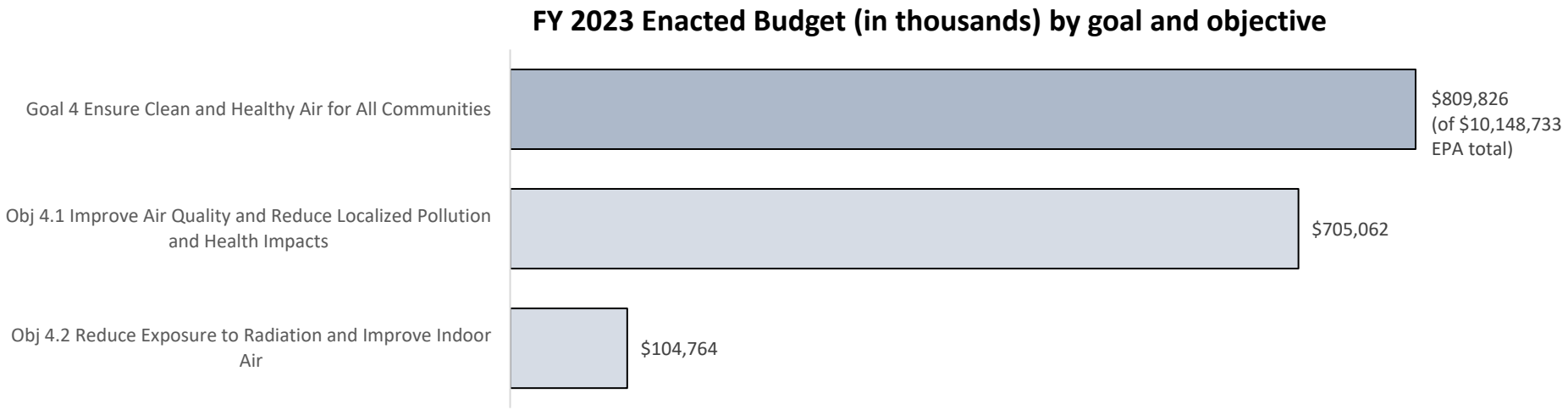
Key Takeaways:

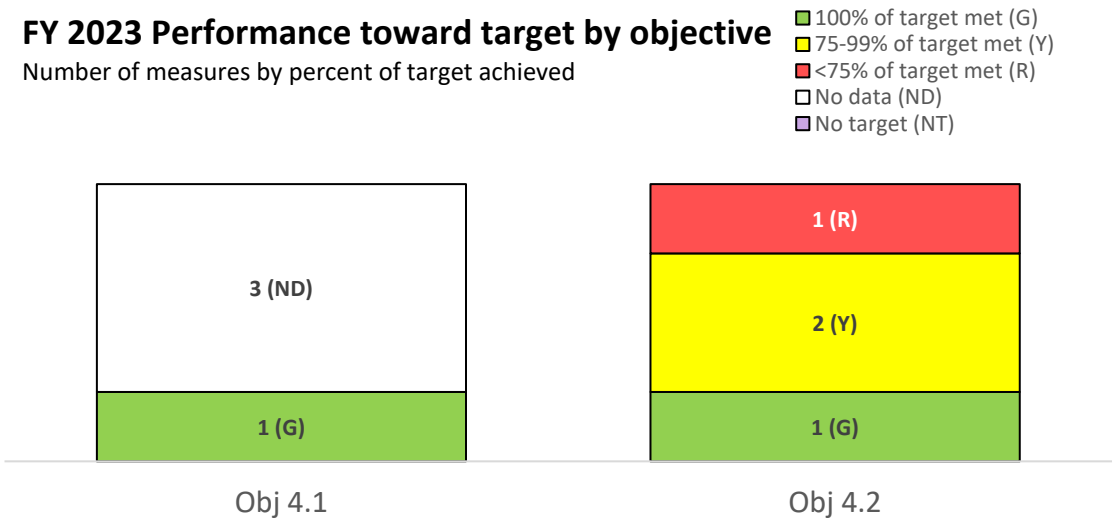
- EPA conducted approximately 7,750 on-site inspections (~1,850 more than in FY 2022) and 5,350 off-site compliance monitoring activities.
- EPA has been able to conduct more on-site inspections since the end of the COVID pandemic, while still utilizing off-site compliance monitoring activities where appropriate (*e.g.*, review of responses to information requests to assess compliance; review of facility monitoring reports and/or sampling data). Since the focus shifted back to on-site inspections which often take more time, the overall compliance monitoring number is down but still well above the target.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities to determine whether a facility or group of facilities is in compliance with applicable law.

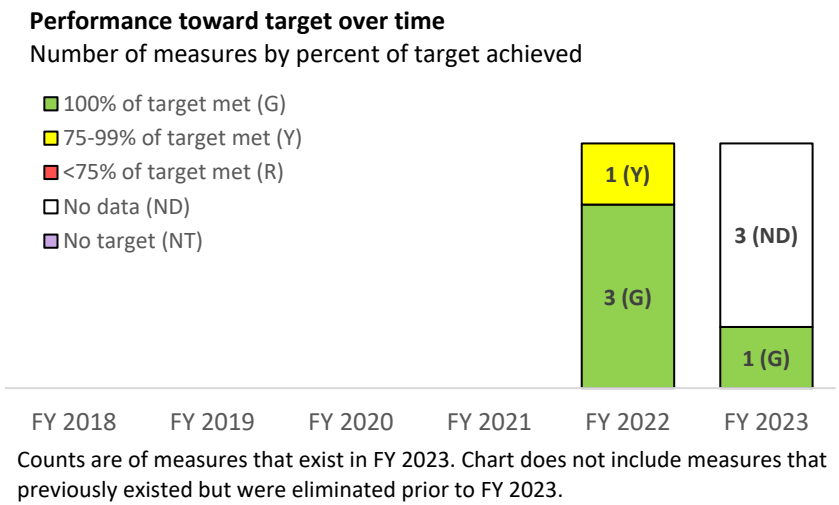
Goal 4 at a Glance

Ensure Clean and Healthy Air for All Communities: Protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of air pollution.





Objective 4.1: Improve Air Quality and Reduce Localized Pollution and Health Impacts—*Reduce air pollution on local, regional, and national scales to achieve healthy air quality for people and the environment.*



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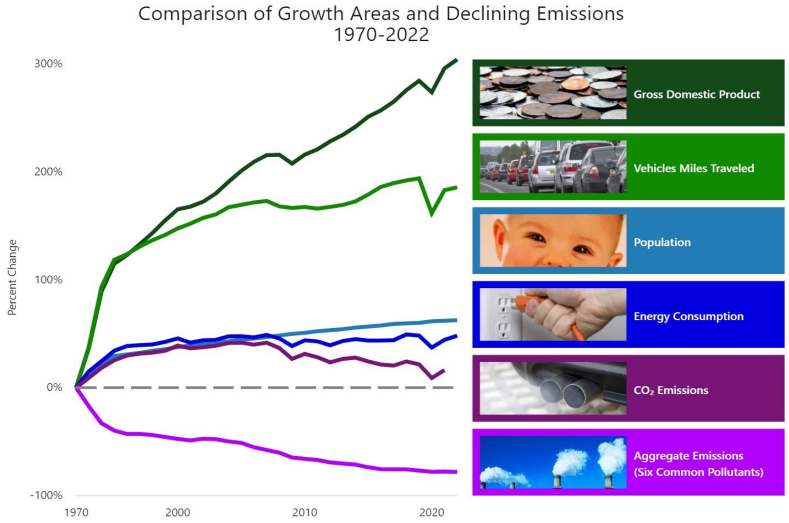


Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Finalized the first rulemaking of EPA's Clean Trucks Plan, which focuses on reducing emissions from smog and soot beginning in model year 2027.
- Provided Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA), funding support for cutting-edge clean technologies that reduce emissions from diesel-powered mobile sources and focused on reducing emissions in and around ports through EPA's Ports Initiative.
- Finalized two rules determining that 27 nonattainment areas failed to attain the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards by their attainment dates.
- Released Clean Air Markets Program Data (CAMPD) 1.1 and Clean Air Power Sector Programs: Facility Level Comparisons 2022 annual and ozone season emission data and trends, and Clean Air Power Sector Programs: Power Plant Emissions Trends for the third quarter of 2022, showing decreases in all tracked pollutants.
- Issued a proposed rule to strengthen the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for fine particle pollution ($PM_{2.5}$) by revising the level of the primary (health based) annual $PM_{2.5}$ standards from 12 ug/m^3 to within the range of 9.0 to 10.0 ug/m^3.
- Published "Our Nation's Air: Status and Trends Through 2022" in June 2023.
- Issued the final Good Neighbor Plan, which secures significant reductions in ozone-forming emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from power plants and industrial facilities.
- Proposed rule to reduce toxic air pollution from the synthetic organic chemical industry and the polymers and resins industry, including highly toxic chemicals ethylene oxide (EtO) and chloroprene, as well as smog-forming volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Also proposed a rule to reduce EtO emissions from commercial sterilizing facilities.
- Proposed updated Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) for coal-fired power plants to further reduce – by 67% – the emissions limit for filterable particulate matter for existing coal-fired power plants. The standards also include a 70% reduction in the emissions limit for mercury from existing lignite-fired sources.
- Reported calculated ozone-depleting substances (ODS) production and consumption under Montreal Protocol and Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements, including issuing allowances for certain hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) as part of the 2020-2023 "servicing tail" and developing a proposed rule to update recordkeeping and reporting.

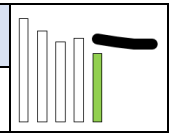
Challenges:

- Insufficient resources for federal implementation of the NAAQS and other CAA requirements at the headquarters and regional level poses program delivery challenges such as timely processing of State Implementation Plans (SIPs).

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce ozone season emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from electric power generation sources by 21% from the 2019 baseline of 390,354 tons.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM NOX) Tons of ozone season NO_x emissions from electric power generation sources.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					355,000	344,000	332,000	332,000	Tons	Below Target	
Actual	443,764	389,170	341,082	359,124	324,285	293,519					

Key Takeaways:

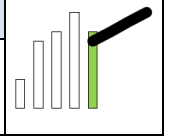
- Nationwide power plant ozone season emissions data for 2023 show a marked 9 percent decrease compared to 2022, demonstrating some of the most significant reduction levels of the last few years.
- These decreases in emissions were due primarily to changes in the mix of fossil fuel-fired generation and improved emission rate performance.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the ozone season NO_x emissions from sources in five of EPA's nationwide and multi-state air pollution control programs: an annual NO_x trading program and three ozone season NO_x trading programs operated by EPA on behalf of 27 states in the eastern U.S. under Title I of the CAA, as well as a national NO_x emissions reduction program for the power sector operated by EPA under Title IV of the CAA, the Acid Rain Program. NO_x are precursors for fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) and ground-level ozone (O_3). Researchers have associated $PM_{2.5}$ and O_3 exposure with adverse health effects in toxicological, clinical, and epidemiological studies. Lowering exposure to $PM_{2.5}$ and O_3 contributes to significant human health benefits. The ozone season corresponds to the warm summer months when ozone formation is highest (May 1 – September 30). Reductions in NO_x emissions during the ozone season help areas attain ambient ozone standards. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/power-sector/progress-report-emissions-reductions#osnox.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, improve measured air quality in counties not meeting the current National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) from the 2016 baseline by 10%.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM NAAQS) Percentage of air quality improvement in counties not meeting current NAAQS.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					7	8	9	10	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	3	7	8	10	8	Data Avail 11/2024					

Key Takeaways:

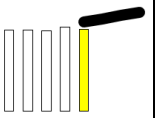
- EPA continues to make progress toward achieving the 2026 long term performance goal.
- Long-term progress is due to emissions reductions from State Implementation Plans and other regulatory control programs.
- Meteorology and exceptional events, like wildfires, can contribute to year-to-year variability in this measure.

Metric Details: This measure shows progress in reducing pollutant concentrations in counties not meeting one or more current NAAQS relative to the 2016 calculated baseline. The CAA requires EPA to set the NAAQS for six "criteria" pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. These national standards form the foundation for air quality management. The measure is presented as the aggregate percentage change in design value concentrations – a statistic that describes the air quality status of a given location relative to the NAAQS – since the baseline year. The aggregate percentage change is weighted by the number of counties violating the NAAQS for each pollutant in the baseline year, so more weight is given to pollutants with more violating counties. Four criteria pollutants (ozone, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, SO_2, and lead) are part of this measure. All counties met the NAAQS for carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide in 2016, so those two criteria pollutants are not considered in this measure.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, strive to ensure all people with low socio-economic status (SES) live in areas where the air quality meets the current fine particle pollution ($PM_{2.5}$) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM NAAQS2) Percentage of people with low SES living in areas where the air quality meets the $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					90	93	97	100	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	82	82	81	85	83	Data Avail 11/2024					
Numerator	52,044,172	51,560,102	48,678,558	50,304,779	49,634,175				People		
Denominator	63,150,683	62,687,368	60,053,454	59,241,268	59,614,742						

Key Takeaways:

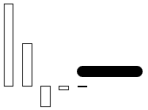
- EPA continues to make progress toward achieving the 2026 long term performance goal.
- Long-term progress is due to emissions reductions from State Implementation Plans and other regulatory control programs.
- Meteorology and exceptional events, like wildfires, can contribute to year-to-year variability in this measure. The 'Actual' values in recent years are likely influenced by higher concentrations in areas affected by wildfires.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of people with low SES, defined as two times the poverty level, living in counties with monitors measuring concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ that meet the 2012 annual and 2006 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS. Long- and short-term exposures to fine particles can harm people's health, leading to heart attacks, asthma attacks, and premature death. In the baseline period of 2006-2008, 43% of the low SES population lived in counties that met both $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS. Changes since that time reflect the effectiveness of strategies designed to reduce fine particle pollution.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, ensure U.S. consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) is less than 76.2 tons per year of ozone depletion potential.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM HCFC) Remaining U.S. consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), chemicals that deplete the Earth's protective ozone layer, in ozone depletion potential (ODP)-weighted metric tons.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					76.2	76.2	76.2	76.2	Metric Tons	Below Target	
Actual	434.1	224.2	-110.8	-20.8	-6.36	Data Avail 10/2024					

Key Takeaways:

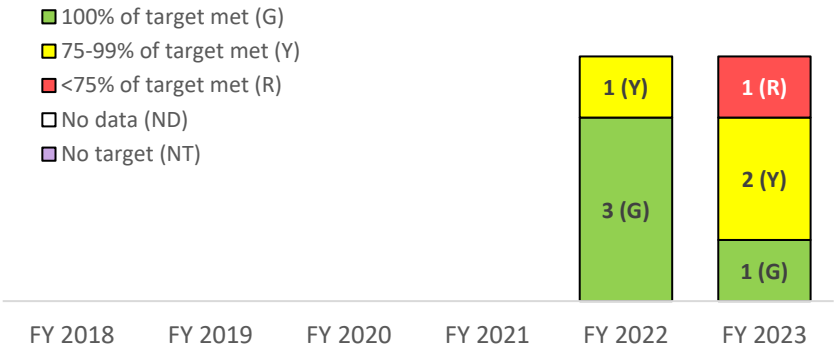
- The FY 2022 result (latest available data) is negative because exports and destruction together exceeded production and imports in calendar year 2022.
- The measure demonstrates how the U.S. continues to meet its obligations as a Party to the Montreal Protocol.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the United States' annual consumption of HCFCs in ODP-weighted tons. Consumption means the amount of HCFC produced, plus imports, minus exports, minus destruction, and minus amounts produced or imported for transformation. As a Party to the Montreal Protocol, the U.S. must incrementally decrease HCFC consumption and production, culminating in a complete HCFC phaseout in 2030. The current annual consumption cap of the U.S. for all HCFCs is 76.2 ODP-weighted metric tons, down from the 2015–2019 target of 1,520 ODP-weighted metric tons per year. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/ods-phaseout/phaseout-class-ii-ozone-depleting-substances.

Objective 4.2: Reduce Exposure to Radiation and Improve Indoor Air—*Limit unnecessary radiation exposure and achieve healthier indoor air quality, especially for vulnerable populations.*

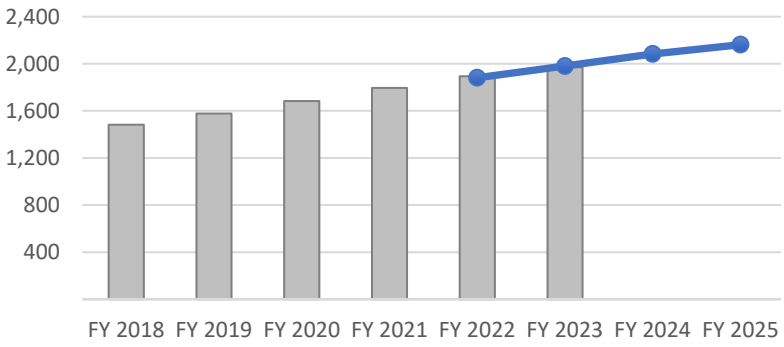
Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Number of Lung Cancer Deaths Prevented through Lower Radon Exposure, FY 2018 - FY 2025



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Increased adoption and use of clean, and cleaner, fuels and cookstoves around the world by developing an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Institutional Stove Standard, organized a round-robin stove testing initiative with 11 regional labs, developed guidance on Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation, and held country consultations on NDC monitoring, reporting, and verification.
- The situation in Ukraine has underscored the importance of federal agency collaboration to increase preparedness for international radiological emergencies, including support for communications to U.S. citizens domestically and abroad, should there be a nuclear incident. EPA developed radiological emergency public messaging materials delivered to the National Security Council, developed a website design template for sharing data and information, and advanced internal notification and preparedness procedures.
- Continued effective oversight of the Department of Energy (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for transuranic radioactive waste from DOE facilities, conducting stakeholder engagement sessions in New Mexico in March 2023, and completing a quality assurance review at WIPP and 9 site inspections at DOE facilities, ensuring that waste is being managed safely for long term disposal at WIPP.
- Implemented new competitive funding program to improve public health protection against wildfire smoke by enhancing preparedness in community buildings.

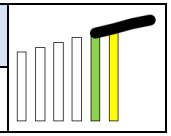
Challenges:

- Critical sustained investments are needed to address the high public health risks associated with poor indoor air.
- Americans typically spend approximately 90% of their time indoors resulting in exposure to many air pollutants being many times higher indoors than outdoors. Nearly every ambient air pollutant infiltrates indoors, and there are significant sources of those same ambient air pollutants indoors as well as unique indoor sources of pollutants.
- The pandemic, wildfire smoke, and widespread water and mold issues from storms and flooding have all dramatically raised public concern about poor indoor air quality and increased the need for more comprehensive technical assistance and responses to these issues.
- EPA's critical suite of field radiological equipment and instrumentation needs updating/replacement to ensure the highest level of radiological emergency preparedness (2008 was last modernization effort).
- There are limited resources to address radiation monitoring (RadNet) IT and radiochemistry lab modernization efforts and actions to improve security posture pursuant to Agency requirements as identified by past audits and inspections.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, prevent 2,250 lung cancer deaths annually through lower radon exposure as compared to the FY 2020 baseline of 1,684 prevented lung cancer deaths.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM LCD) Number of lung cancer deaths prevented through lower radon exposure.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					1,881	1,981	2,083	2,162	Deaths Prevented	Above Target	
Actual	1,482	1,578	1,684	1,795	1,894	1,970					

Key Takeaways:

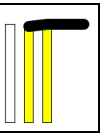
- EPA nearly met the FY 2023 target (missing by just 0.5%) and is making progress toward preventing 2,250 lung cancer deaths annually by 2026.
- The 2021-2025 National Radon Action Plan (http://radonleaders.org/resources/nationalradonactionplan) will further support increased efforts to find, fix and prevent high indoor radon levels in homes and buildings and prevent annual lung cancer deaths.

Metric Details: This measure tracks lung cancer deaths prevented annually by reducing radon exposure, calculated using estimates of the number of homes in the U.S. with radon levels above the EPA action level of 4pCi/L (picocuries per liter) that have been mitigated and the number of new homes that have been built with radon resistant features. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among both men and women in the United States. Exposure to radon indoors is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. EPA estimates there are 21,000 avoidable lung cancer deaths annually attributable to indoor radon exposure and more than seven million homes in the U.S. are at or above the EPA radon action level. For more information, see https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/5499/health-effects-of-exposure-to-radon-beir-vi; and https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-05/documents/402-r-03-003.pdf.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goals:

(PM RAD2) Percentage of radiation emergency response program personnel and assets that meet functional readiness requirements necessary to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operation.

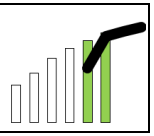
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					90	92	92	92	Percent	Above Target	
Actual				92	87.7	87.1					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA narrowly missed the target due to the loss of scientific (field and laboratory) personnel, and the Mobile Environmental Radiation Laboratory being outdated and out of commission. EPA is actively hiring to replace key personnel and will continue to upgrade equipment as funds are available and where it makes the most sense.
- EPA participated in key government exercises and is actively engaged in contingency planning for supporting responses to any foreign radiological incidents stemming from active warfare in Ukraine.

Metric Details: This measure tracks percent readiness of EPA headquarters, laboratory and field support elements including assets and equipment, procedures and programs, licenses and accreditations, personnel, qualifications, exercise participation, and training. Percent readiness is calculated by the total score earned during an annual assessment of elements divided by the total points assigned to those elements.

(PM IA) Number of programs, equipped to support the infrastructure, delivery and sustainability of comprehensive asthma care.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					1,800	2,855	3,005	3,155	Programs	Above Target	
Actual	1,232	1,645	2,132	2,446	2,705	2,954					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA is working to ensure that all people with asthma have access to programs that deliver comprehensive asthma care and improve indoor air quality.
- EPA is providing technical assistance to equip all asthma stakeholders (*e.g.*, individuals, state and community-based healthcare, housing and school systems) to carry out straightforward and proven solutions that create healthier indoor environments.
- EPA's asthma community network has more than 5,000 members supporting asthma programs across the country.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA delivery of technical assistance, tools, and grant support to equip community-based programs and the organizations that support them to deliver evidence-based, comprehensive asthma care. Twenty-four million Americans, including 4.2 million children, have asthma. Low income and minority children suffer disproportionately. In-home environmental interventions reduce health care utilization and improve quality of life for people with asthma. No targets were established in FYs 2018-2021 because this measure was not included in EPA's Annual Performance Plan. For more information, see: https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/.

(PM CS) Millions of demonstrably improved (field or lab tested) cookstoves sold.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					50	60			Millions of Cookstoves	Above Target	
Actual					50	20					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA missed the target as a result of the Government of India ending their Ujjwala campaign which was disseminating approximately 35 million Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) stoves per year.
- EPA is retiring this measure after FY 2023 due to the termination of the campaign. EPA will track a new measure beginning in FY 2024, Number of countries with household energy in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's). The new measure aligns with current efforts.

Metric Details: This measure tracked millions of demonstrably improved cookstoves sold worldwide. More than three billion low-income people around the world, including 600,000 low-income Americans, cook their food and/or heat their homes with open fires or rudimentary stoves. The resulting exposure to extraordinarily high levels of indoor air pollution causes 3.2 million premature deaths worldwide, primarily among women and girls. Emissions from household energy/cookstoves are the largest controllable source of the short-lived climate pollutant black carbon (>50%) and cookstove emissions also include methane and carbon dioxide (CO_2). EPA leads the development of cookstove standards through the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and works with partners to rapidly increase the sustained use of demonstrably clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels, with approximately 48 million improved stoves sold in 2019. For more information, see: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/household-air-pollution-and-health.

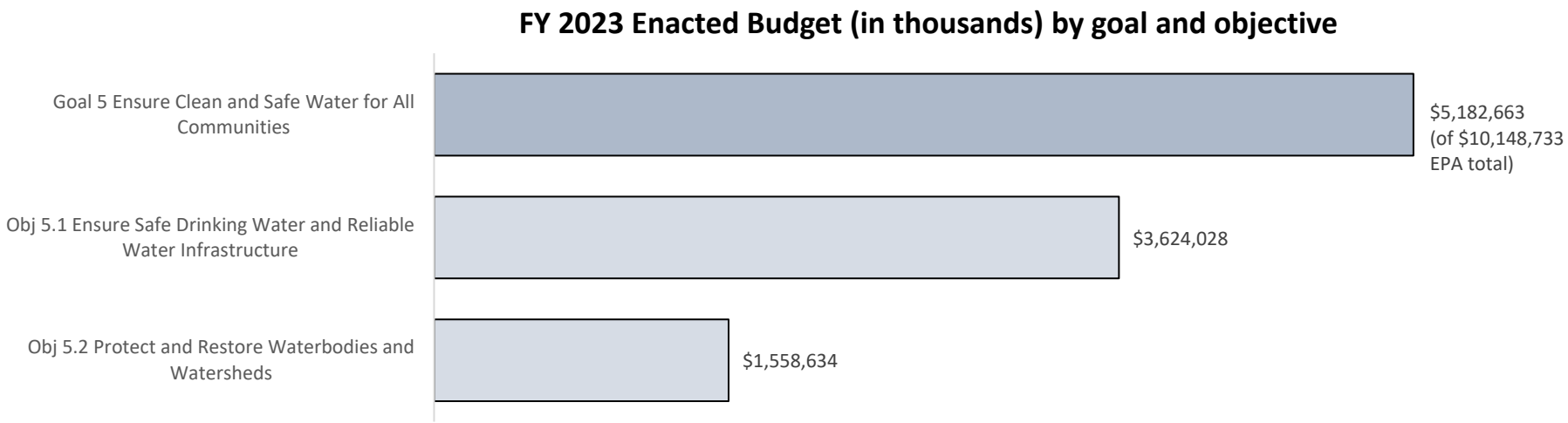
(PM NDC) Number of countries with household energy in their NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions or Paris Climate Plans).

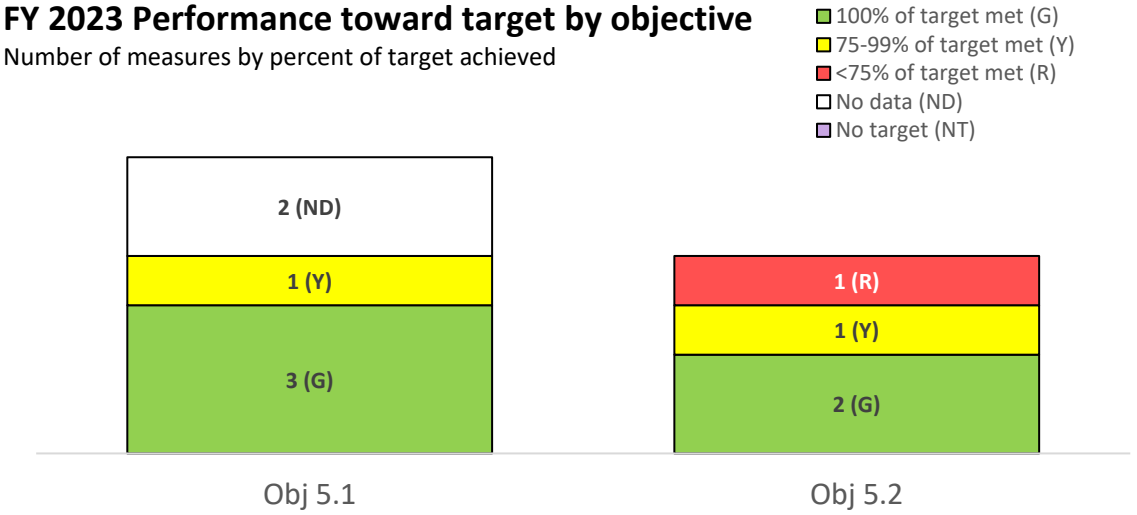
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target							100	115	Countries	Above Target	
Actual											

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of countries that have put household energy emissions reductions in their NDCs. More than three billion low-income people around the world, including 600,000 low-income Americans, cook their food and/or heat their homes with open fires or rudimentary stoves. The resulting exposure to extraordinarily high levels of indoor air pollution causes 3.2 million premature deaths worldwide, primarily among women and girls. Emissions from household energy/cookstoves are the largest controllable source of the short-lived climate pollutant black carbon (>50%) and cookstove emissions also include methane and CO_2. EPA launched the Clean Cooking & Climate Consortium with the Clean Cooking Alliance, Berkeley Air Monitoring Group, Climate & Clean Air Coalition, Stockholm Environment Institute, and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to work with country governments on reducing climate emissions from household energy sources in low-to-middle income countries to achieve climate goals as part of their NDCs. The Consortium is providing national governments with evidence and guidance on how best to articulate, plan, and meet the cooking-related goals in their NDCs; to access opportunities for implementation support and potential funding, and providing guidance on program design and implementation, as well as measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) for clean cooking initiatives.

Goal 5 at a Glance

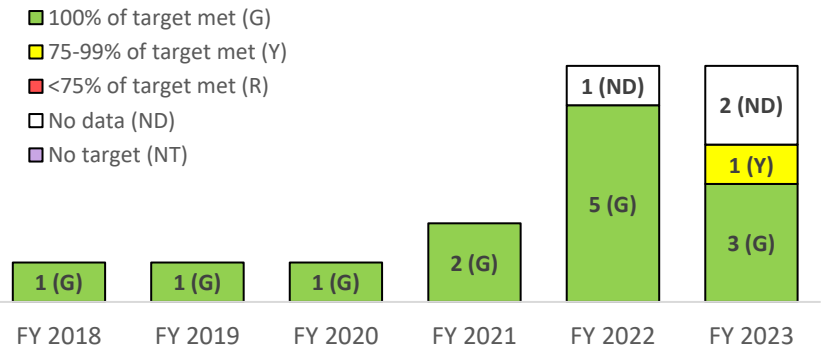
Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities: Provide clean and safe water for all communities and protect our nation's waterbodies from degradation.



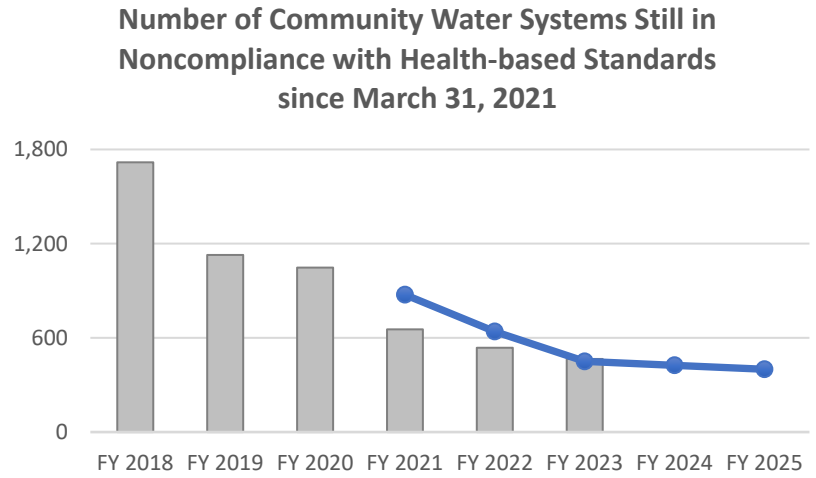


Objective 5.1: Ensure Safe Drinking Water and Reliable Water Infrastructure—*Protect public health from the risk of exposure to regulated and emerging contaminants in drinking and source waters by improving the reliability, accessibility, and resilience of the nation's water infrastructure to reduce the impacts of climate change, structural deterioration, and cyber threats.*

Performance toward target over time
Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- The Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds provided $13.12 (CWSRF: $8.76B; DWSRF: $4.36B) in water infrastructure project financing (including state and federal money) to help fund over 1,675 wastewater and 1,197 drinking water projects.
- The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program closed 22 transactions totaling over $3.1B in loans, financing nearly $7B for water infrastructure projects and creating over 35,000 jobs. Disbursed over $1.5B to implement critical projects.
- Released the 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment, which established allotment formulas for the DWSRF and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Lead Service Line Replacement funding.
- 93% of the population served by community water systems (CWSs) (including 84% of the population in Indian Country served by CWSs) received drinking water that met all applicable health-based drinking water standards.
- Made Emergency Determination under Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) 1442(b) and awarded the City of Jackson, MS $2.7M in grants to stabilize their drinking water system, an additional $115.5M in grants, and $44M in supplemental emergency funds.
- Provided over $63M in Small Underserved Disadvantaged Communities Grants to aid drinking water compliance, $30M to remove lead in drinking water, $58M for the Lead Testing and Remediation in Schools and Childcare Program, and $1.89B for Emerging Contaminants in Small and Disadvantaged Communities Grants.
- Proposed drinking water standard for six per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).
- Provided hands-on technical support for communities to assess their needs, identify potential solutions, and develop funding applications.

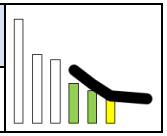
Challenges:

- The 20-year national DWSRF-eligible drinking water infrastructure need is estimated to be $625B; including 9.2 million Lead Service Lines which will cost $50-80B to replace.
- PFAS and other emerging contaminants create new challenges for developing toxicity data and risk assessments.
- Over 80% of CWSs serve fewer than 3,300 persons. These systems are often challenged to maintain technical, managerial, and financial capacity, and address cybersecurity threats.
- Adversary states and actors are exploring options for cyberattacks to critical U.S. infrastructure including drinking water and wastewater treatment systems.
- Water systems will be subject to more disruptive events from increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events due to climate change.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce the number of community water systems still in noncompliance with health-based standards since March 31, 2021, from 752 to 500.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM DW-02) Number of community water systems still in noncompliance with health-based standards since March 31, 2021.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target				875	640	450	425	400	CWSs	Below Target	
Actual	1,718	1,128	1,048	654	537	466					

Key Takeaways:

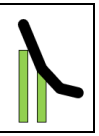
- While EPA has already achieved the Long-Term Performance Goal of fewer than 500 CWSs still in noncompliance, the pace of reduction has slowed because the remaining CWSs are more challenging, potentially requiring significant infrastructure or source water investments.
- Limited technical, managerial, and financial capacity, which is the second largest cause of CWSs in violation, can lead to unaddressed deficiencies in water systems. Drinking water systems, especially small systems, often have limited technical expertise to address operational issues as well as increasing cybersecurity threats.
- To help address violations, EPA regional drinking water programs and enforcement programs are reviewing quarterly updates on CWSs with violations and working with states on actions to address noncompliance. EPA also sends quarterly reports on CWSs with violations to the United States Department of Agriculture for their awareness of systems in their purview.
- EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) programs are providing free hands-on support for communities to assess their needs, identify potential solutions, and develop funding applications (see https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance-waterta). EPA also has a number of long-standing technical assistance programs that support communities in identifying water challenges, developing plans, building capacity, and developing application materials to access water infrastructure funding. These programs include the Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP), Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU) initiative, and EPA's cybersecurity assistance program.
- Ninety-three percent of the population served by CWSs received drinking water met all applicable health-based drinking water standards.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of CWSs still in noncompliance with the health-based National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (maximum contaminant level or treatment technique) during any part of the year, relative to the group in noncompliance as of September 30, 2017. A CWS is a public water system that supplies water to the same population year-round. There are approximately 50,000 CWSs in the U.S. The total includes CWSs in Indian country. As of September 30, 2023, 466 of the original 3,508 systems were still in non-compliance with health-based standards. Data are derived from the Safe Drinking Water Information System Federal Data Warehouse (SDWIS-FED), which contains information about violations by public water systems as reported to EPA by the primacy agencies (tribes and states with EPA-delegated enforcement responsibility). EPA's technical assistance focuses on non-compliant water systems in underserved communities. Similarly, SDWA prioritizes non-compliant water systems for funding under various programs, including those implementing IIJA funding. EPA expects progress on this measure to decelerate because many of the remaining systems have complex compliance issues or may require capital infrastructure improvements to help address noncompliance. While Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding will support these systems, infrastructure projects can take many years to complete.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce the number of community water systems in Indian country still in noncompliance with health-based standards since March 31, 2021, from 110 to 70.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM DWT-02) Number of community water systems in Indian Country still in noncompliance with health-based standards since March 31, 2021.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					100	55	35	30	CWSs	Below Target	
Actual					74	54					

Key Takeaways:

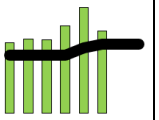
- Fifty-four CWSs remained in non-compliance with health-based standards in Indian Country. EPA regularly monitors CWSs with violations and works with partners on actions to bring those systems back into compliance. EPA works closely with the Indian Health Service to target funding to tribal water systems with infrastructure needs to improve water quality and delivery.
- Eighty-four percent of the population in Indian Country served by CWSs received drinking water met all applicable health-based drinking water standard.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of tribal CWSs still in noncompliance with the health-based National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Maximum Contaminant Level or treatment technique) during any part of the year, relative to the group in non-compliance on March 31, 2021. There are approximately 730 tribal CWSs. Data are derived from SDWIS-FED, which contains information about violations by public water systems as reported to EPA by the primacy agencies (EPA regional offices and tribes with EPA-delegated enforcement responsibility).

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, leverage an additional $45 billion in non-federal dollars through EPA's water infrastructure finance programs (CWSRF, DWSRF and WIFIA).

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM INFRA-01) Billions of non-federal dollars leveraged by EPA's water infrastructure finance programs (CWSRF, DWSRF and WIFIA).

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	9.5	9.5	9.5	Billions of Dollars	Above Target	
Actual	9.7	10.3	10.2	12.1	14.6	11.4					

Key Takeaways:

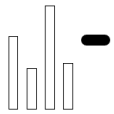
- EPA's CWSRF, DWSRF, and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) programs exceeded the annual target by leveraging over $11.4 billion in non-federal dollars for water infrastructure projects. This success was in part due to the ongoing effective state management and EPA oversight of the SRFs.

Metric Details: This measure tracks funds leveraged by the three primary water infrastructure programs. These programs represent the largest federal source of funds to address this critical component of the nation's drinking water and clean water infrastructure. Non-federal funds include loans made from recycled loan payments, bond proceeds, state match, interest earnings, and co-funding from non-SRF sources. EPA will increase the amount of non-federal funds leveraged by providing communities with tools, training, and resources to help plan for infrastructure improvements and identify funding opportunities. The Agency will ensure a focus on climate resiliency and equity by revising loan guidelines, program guidance and providing technical assistance. SRF data are tracked in the SRF Data System.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, in coordination with other federal agencies, provide access to basic sanitation for an additional 36,500 American Indian and Alaska Native homes.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM WWT-02) Number of American Indian and Alaska Native homes provided access to basic sanitation, in coordination with other agencies.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					6,098	6,098			Homes	Above Target	
Actual	6,398	3,561	9,114	4,007	N/A	N/A					

Key Takeaways:

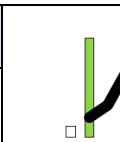
- Data for this measure were provided by the Indian Health Service (IHS). IHS started tracking this data in a different way, and EPA will no longer be able to report on this measure. EPA has retired this measure as of November 2023. EPA is exploring an alternative measure which would also use IHS data.

Metric Details: This measure tracked American Indian and Alaska Native homes provided with wastewater treatment infrastructure through Congressionally appropriated funds, in coordination with other agencies. To show progress toward this measure, EPA intended to use the number of homes that received improved wastewater sanitation services as reported through the Indian Health Service (IHS) Sanitation Tracking and Reporting System (STARS). There were 378,211 American Indian and Alaska Native homes in the IHS database as of FY 2022 (most currently available data). For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/small-and-rural-wastewater-systems/clean-water-indian-set-aside-program. In 2022, IHS started tracking this data in a different way, and EPA will no longer be able to report on this measure. EPA is exploring an alternative measure which would also use IHS data.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, provide 2,203 Tribal, small, rural, or underserved communities with technical, managerial, or financial assistance to improve operations of their drinking water or wastewater systems.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM INFRA-06) Number of tribal, small, rural, or underserved communities provided with technical, managerial, or financial assistance to improve system operations.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					339	542	1,100	1,300	Communities	Above Target	
Actual				187	1,668	Data Avail 4/2024					

Key Takeaways:

- Preliminary FY 2023 data (not shown in the above table) shows the target for this measure was exceeded by over 1,600 communities. An increase in funding enabled the grantees to provide more technical assistance across the country. While EPA expects these results to continue, the Agency has updated its reporting guidance for grantees which might reduce reported results in future years.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of tribal, small, or rural communities, or communities with environmental justice concerns, provided with EPA technical, managerial, or financial assistance through on-site visits or training to effectively operate drinking water systems or wastewater treatment systems. Data are collected through grantee reports.

(PM DW-07) Number of drinking water and wastewater systems, tribal and state officials, and water sector partners provided with security, emergency preparedness, and climate resilience training and technical assistance.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					2,000	3,500	4,500	4,500	Systems and Partners	Above Target	
Actual					3,939	3,895					

Key Takeaways:

- While most resilience trainings and technical assistance are voluntary for water systems, EPA has been conducting significant outreach and training for community water systems on compliance with America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Section 2013 requirements, a need critical to addressing these challenges. AWIA Section 2013 requires CWSs serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update Risk and Resilience Assessments (RRAs) and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs).

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater (water sector) utilities, tribal and state officials, and water sector partners provided by EPA with practical tools, training, and technical assistance to increase resilience to extreme weather events (*e.g.*, drought, flooding, wildfires, hurricanes), malevolent acts (*e.g.*, cyberattacks), and climate change. EPA assistance promotes a clear understanding of climate change and potential long-term adaptation options for decision-making related to water utility infrastructure operations and financing. Training and technical assistance targets participation of underserved communities.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goal:

(PM INFRA-07) Number of lead service line replacements funded.

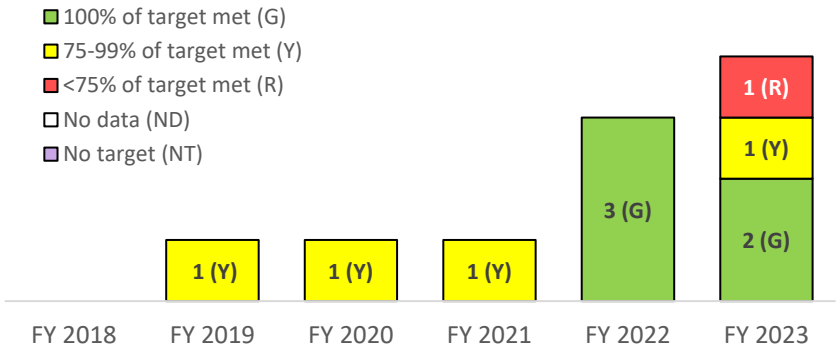
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target							222,000	500,000	Lead Service Lines	Above Target	
Actual											

Metric Details: This measure tracks the estimated cumulative number of lead service line replacements funded through drinking water funding programs beginning in FY 2024, primarily through IIJA and DWSRF funds, but also WIFIA and the Reducing Lead in Drinking Water and Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction grant programs. This measure captures the impact of EPA's work providing technical assistance to states and communities (*e.g.*, increasing awareness, supporting State Revolving Fund application development in disadvantaged communities) to ensure the equitable distribution of lead service line replacements funds. DWSRF data are derived from the estimated number of lead service line replacements funded by assistance agreements provided by state SRF programs. Data for the WIFIA and the Reducing Lead in Drinking Water and Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction grant programs will be collected internally. A lead service line connects a water main to a building inlet. A lead service line may be owned by the water system, the property owner, or both. Based on available data, EPA estimates that in recent years on average, 73,000 lead service lines have been funded annually. EPA estimates there are 9.2 million lead service lines in the country.

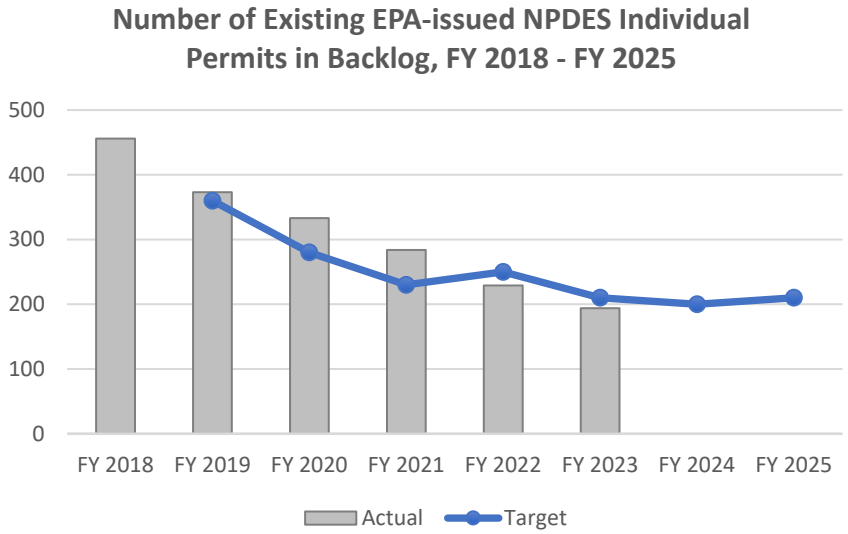
Objective 5.2: Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds—*Address sources of water pollution and ensure water quality standards are protective of the health and needs of all people and ecosystems.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- At the end of FY 2023, states and territories had 15,432 square miles of priority areas covered by Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), other restoration plans, or protection approaches.
- In FY 2023, EPA restored or improved 46 waters that were previously impaired due to nonpoint sources.
- Reduced the backlog of EPA's new National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit applications by 89 percent, and the backlog of existing NPDES permits by 65 percent, compared with the March 2018 baseline.
- Issued a final rule to update the regulatory requirements for water quality certification under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401.
- Proposed a rule to promulgate federal baseline water quality standards (WQS) for waters on over 250 Indian reservations that do not have WQS in effect under the CWA.
- Proposed a rule to strengthen the wastewater discharge standards for coal-fired power plants.
- Proposed a rule that would streamline and clarify the requirements and steps necessary for states and tribes to administer programs protecting waterways from discharges of dredged or fill material without a permit under CWA Section 404.
- Issued a Final Determination under CWA Section 404(c) to prohibit and restrict the use of certain waters in the Bristol Bay watershed as disposal sites for the discharge of dredged or fill material associated with mining the Pebble deposit, Southwest Alaska (Bristol Bay).

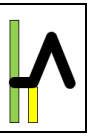
Challenges:

- A changing climate is affecting how water systems respond to pollution due to changes in temperature, flow, and sediment.
- More frequent natural events (*e.g.*, hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires) will increase nonpoint source pollution loading.
- Nutrient pollution affects upwards of 50 percent of lakes and streams. Total phosphorus levels are increasing in rivers, streams and lakes across the country. Excess nutrients contribute to harmful algal blooms, low oxygen "dead zones," and high levels of nitrates that contaminate waters while also damaging the economy. Impervious surfaces can generate increased flows of stormwater pollutants, degrading water quality and threatening public health.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, increase by 41,000 square miles the area of watersheds with surface water meeting standards that previously did not meet standards.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM SWP-01) Annual increase in square miles of watersheds with surface water meeting standards that previously did not meet standards.

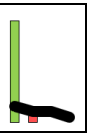
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					8,000	8,000	17,100	7,900	Square Miles	Above Target	
Actual					20,511	7,121					

Key Takeaways:

- Missed target because fewer Clean Water Act Section 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report (IR) submissions were finalized this year than anticipated. IRs are due on April 1 of even numbered years, but they usually come in slowly throughout the two-year period. There was a significant push to get the lists in on time. Last year, EPA received an influx of lists, leaving fewer lists to come in this year, hence the lower results.

Metric Details: This measure tracks improvements in impaired waters as reported on state CWA Section 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Reports. States report on their water quality assessments every two years. Water quality standards attainment means that: 1) the impairments have been effectively removed due to actions including water quality restoration efforts, more complete monitoring to better understand waterbody conditions, or appropriate changes in water quality standards; and 2) the waterbody now either fully supports the use or meets the water quality criterion for that particular pollutant or stressor for which it had been impaired. EPA will ensure watersheds will continue to meet the standards by assessing for equity and climate impacts. Data are tracked in EPA's Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS). As states continue to perform assessments, they continue to identify additional impaired waters. As of July 28, 2022, the baseline was 504,605 square miles of watersheds with surface water not meeting standards. This is an update to the draft baseline of 425,198 square miles that was included in the FY 2023 Budget. This measure has transitioned from using the old National Hydrology Dataset Plus (NHDPlus) V2 catchments to the new a NHDPlus HR-VF-Gen catchment layer. Targets are based on receipt of IRs due to EPA every even year, with some reporting delayed to other years.

(PM SWP-02) Annual increase in square miles of watersheds with previously impaired surface waters due to nutrients that now meet standards for nutrients.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					2,100	1,400	1,400	650	Square Miles	Above Target	
Actual					12,833	904					

Key Takeaways:

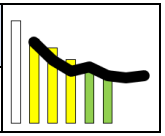
- Missed target because fewer state 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report submissions were finalized this year than anticipated. IRs are due on April 1 of even numbered years, but they usually come in slowly throughout the two-year period. There was a significant push to get the lists in on time. Last year, EPA received an influx of lists, leaving fewer lists to come in this year, hence the lower results.

Metric Details: This measure tracks improvements in impaired waters due to nutrients as reported on state CWA Section 303(d)/305(b) IRs. As of July 28, 2022, the universe is 157,485 square miles of watershed area with surface water that are not meeting standards due to nutrients.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goals:

(PM NPDES-03) Number of existing EPA-issued NPDES individual permits in backlog.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target		360	280	230	250	210	200	210	Permits	Below Target	
Actual	456	373	333	284	229	194					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA issued or terminated a total of 94 existing permits in FY 2023, which reduced the backlog of existing EPA-issued NPDES permits by 11 percent in FY 2023, and by 65 percent since March 2018.
- EPA headquarters and regions worked closely to identify challenges and develop solutions to complex permitting issues, such as those related to CWA Section 401 water quality certifications, Waters of the United States, CWA Section 316(b) cooling water intake mitigation, state legal authority, water quality-based effluent limitations for selenium, nutrients and other parameters, and emerging contaminants such as PFAS, to aid in the issuance of high-quality permits. These efforts will also help prevent future permits from becoming backlogged.

Metric Details: This measure tracks existing EPA-issued NPDES individual permits that are administratively continued for 180 days or more. Permits are removed from the backlog as soon as the Agency issues, denies, or terminates a permit. The baseline for this measure is 547 as of March 2018. For FY 2024 and FY 2025, EPA expects the backlog to remain relatively constant. Factors that could potentially influence permit backlog reduction in the next two years are a significantly larger number of permits set to expire, inability to promptly backfill permit writers and other critical staff due to competing priorities, technical and complex permit issues, and the addition of new Agency priorities. EPA will continue to monitor progress on reducing the backlog and will reassess targets, as needed. Data are tracked in EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS)-NPDES Database.

(PM TMDL-03) Square miles of priority areas covered by TMDLs, other restoration plans, or protection approaches.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target						7,940	19,280	TBD	Square Miles	Above Target	
Actual						15,432					

Key Takeaways:

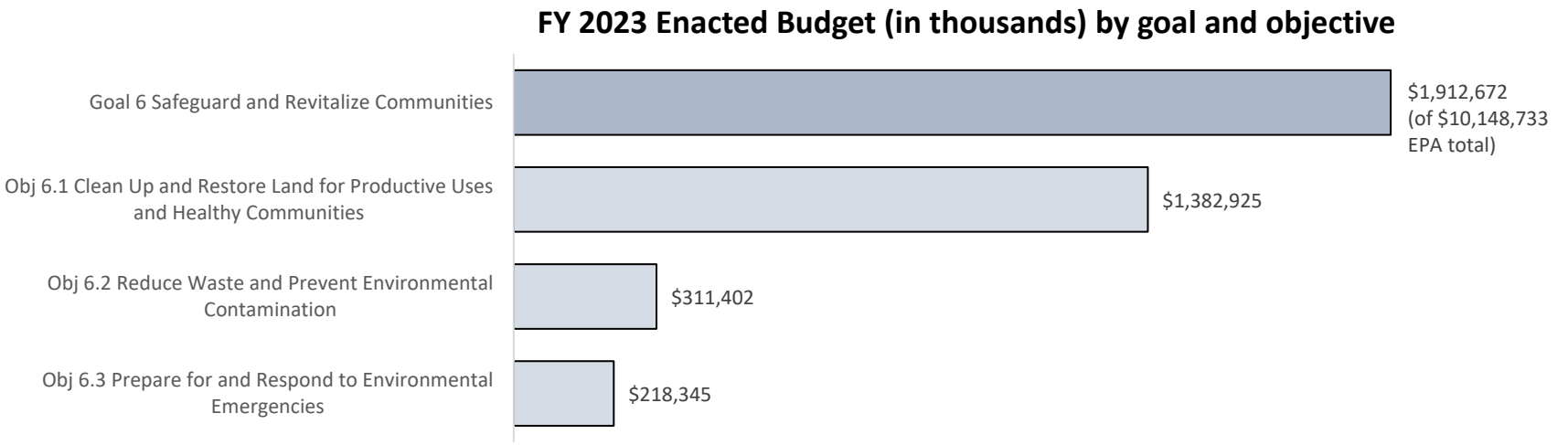
- EPA greatly exceeded the target, likely due to a number of reasons. There has been a large focus on increased communication between states, regions, and headquarters. Regions and states have made great progress in updating ATTAINS in a timely manner and the new Priorities Module in ATTAINS has helped to make tracking of progress more streamlined. The measure's 2-year schedule has allowed for more pragmatic planning by the states and the ability to keep a plan in development for full credit has allowed for greater flexibility.

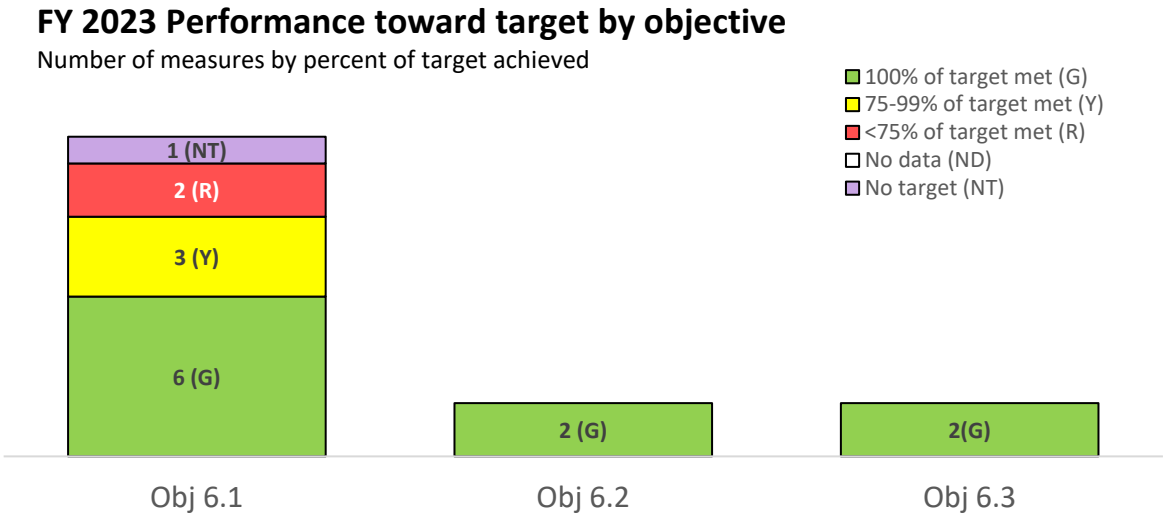
Metric Details: This measure tracks square miles of priority areas covered by TMDLs, other restoration plans, or protection approaches included in state commitments submitted to EPA by September 30, 2022. The universe is 22,685 square miles. This measure does not require a final plan to be in place to count toward the result; states can choose whether each plan will be in place or in development at the end of the two-year period. States will be able to meet targets with a mix of plans in development and plans in place depending on their initial commitments. EPA uses a weighting factor of 0.5 for plans in development. Data are tracked in ATTAINS. This is a two-year bridge measure developed by EPA in

collaboration with the Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA), to begin after completion of the Section 303(d) Vision 1.0 measure (PM TMDL-02). After completion of this two-year measure, EPA will transition into a Vision 2.0 measure beginning in FY 2025. The Vision 2.0 measure will also include a longer-term planning component to align with the timeline of the Vision. This new Vision 2.0 measure will begin in FY 2025 and end in FY 2032. The measure will be calculated in the same way as the bridge measure in the sense that states will choose waterbody/parameter combinations to develop plans for and EPA will calculate a universe in square miles of catchment. The eight years will consist of four two-year periods. Each two-year period will be measured separately, with a new universe as states decide which waterbody/parameter combinations to develop plans for during that period. EPA will use a Prioritization Framework to document the long-term planning process for the eight years. EPA will calculate the new FY 2025 universe for this measure in FY 2024. A target for FY 2025 will not be available until the new universe is calculated. To calculate the FY 2025 target, EPA will multiply the universe by 0.35.

Goal 6 at a Glance

Safeguard and Revitalize Communities: Restore land to safe and productive uses to improve communities and protect public health.

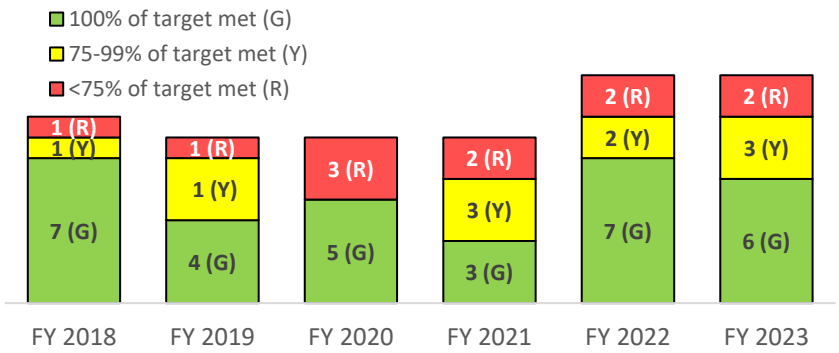




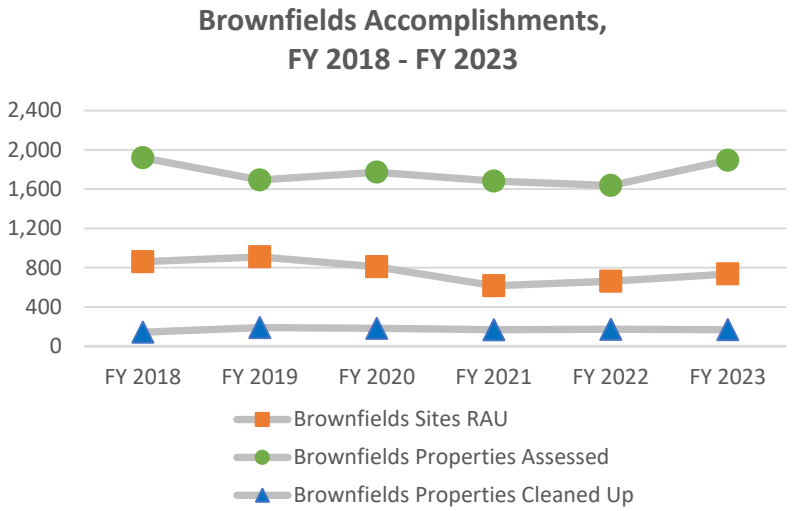
Objective 6.1: Clean Up and Restore Land for Productive Uses and Healthy Communities—*Clean up and restore contaminated sites to protect human health and the environment and build vibrant communities, especially in underserved and overburdened areas.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Exceeding annual milestones for 3/5 Long-Term Performance Goals (LTPGs) toward FY 2026 Strategic Plan targets:
  - Cleaned up 169 brownfields, completed 1,894 site assessments, made 736 sites ready for anticipated use, and leveraged 17,441 jobs and $3.76B.
  - Made 117 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action sites ready for anticipated use. Also completed construction on 48 remedies at corrective action facilities and achieved designated performance standards at 58 facilities.
  - Completed 49 Superfund cleanup projects that address lead as a contaminant.
  - Issued 36 Superfund federal facility decision documents; completed 24 remedial actions.
- EPA is made progress on one LTPG compared with FY 2022 but continues to face challenges due to external influences.
  - Added 13 Superfund sites with human exposures under control but retracted 16 sites (-3 net) and made 14 additional sites ready for anticipated use, but similarly retracted 3 sites due to additional investigations (11 net). Both results represent a significant improvement over FY 2022. Completed 69 remedial actional projects.
- Completed 6,597 Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanups that meet risk-based standards, accomplishing ~90% of the expected result.
- Work on all measures benefits from monthly review with OLEM senior leadership, and quarterly review with regional program divisions.

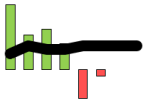
Challenges:

- EPA and the states face challenges such as technically difficult cleanups, no viable responsible parties or cleanup funding, legislative limitations on liability, and variations in cleanup standards and adoption of risk-based corrective action.
- The remaining sites across all programs are increasingly complicated, requiring more personnel, funds, and expertise to complete cleanup actions.
- EPA will award approximately $275 million in additional Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding in FY 2024 for brownfields, creating increased oversight and reporting responsibilities.
- There is the potential for higher cost Superfund actions due to increased costs for lead (Pb) and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) removals.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, bring human exposures under control at an additional 60 Superfund sites.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM 151) Number of Superfund sites with human exposures brought under control.

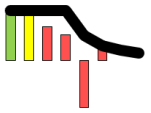
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	8	12	10	10	12	12	12	12	Sites	Above Target	
Actual	32	17	20	13	-14	-3					

Key Takeaways:

- Brought human exposures under control at an additional 13 Superfund sites, but these accomplishments were offset by 16 retractions.
- Retractions were primarily due to additional sampling for PFAS concentrations in drinking water and new vapor intrusion pathway investigations. Additional retractions were due to lead (Pb) contamination.

Metric Details: This measure documents progress achieved in controlling unacceptable human exposures to contamination at both private and federal facility Superfund sites and denotes a site-wide accomplishment. The human exposure determination at a site can change over time as conditions across portions (operable units) of a site change. EPA regional offices enter human exposure determinations and supporting data into the Superfund Enterprise Management System (SEMS). Results reflect a net accomplishment as sites can shift between human exposure under control to human exposure not under control or human exposure insufficient data. The status change often occurs when a previously unknown exposure pathway (*e.g.*, vapor intrusion) or contaminant is discovered, and a reasonable expectation exists that people could be exposed or that there is insufficient data to make such a determination until further investigation takes place. As of October 2023, there were 1,533 Superfund sites with human exposures under control out of a total of 1,848 sites where human exposure is tracked.

(PM S10) Number of Superfund sites made ready for anticipated use site-wide.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	51	51	51	51	25	15	10	7	Sites	Above Target	
Actual	51	48	34	26	-48	11					

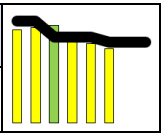
Key Takeaways:

- An additional 14 sites were made ready for anticipated use, but these accomplishments were offset by three retractions.
- The retractions resulted from a rigorous review that identified sites that no longer met protectiveness requirements due to detection of PFAS and other emerging contaminants, aging remedies, and new exposure pathways requiring new institutional controls.
- As most eligible sites have already achieved sitewide ready for anticipated use (SWRAU) status, the remaining sites potentially face more significant obstacles to SWRAU achievement. Several sites retracted from SWRAU in FY 2022 have re-entered the potential universe of SWRAU sites and are likely to regain status in coming years.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA's progress in cleaning up and preparing Superfund sites (both private and federal facility) for reuse site-wide, while ensuring human health and environmental protection. To be considered 'eligible' for SWRAU achievement, a site must be on the final National Priorities List (NPL) or designated as a non-NPL Superfund Alternative Approach (SAA) site and have achieved Construction Complete status. A site is considered SWARU if it meets three criteria: 1) The site has a current Human Exposure status of current human exposures under control and all protective remedies in place or long-term human health protection achieved. 2) For media that affect current and future land uses, all cleanup goals in the Record(s) of Decision (RODs) or other remedy decision document(s) must be met so that there are no unacceptable risks. 3)

All controls required for achieving protectiveness (engineered as well as institutional) are identified in the ROD(s) or other remedy decision document(s) such as an Explanation of Differences or ROD Amendment and are in place. EPA documents the SWRAU determination directly in SEMS once a site meets all required criteria and the appropriate EPA regional personnel have approved the determination. Since 2018, SWRAU accomplishments and the inventory of eligible sites have decreased. The number of SWRAU eligible sites is currently estimated at 253 sites following a FY 2023 final reporting on targets. Many of the remaining eligible sites face increasingly difficult challenges to achieve SWRAU, primarily related to institutional controls implementation and emerging contaminants. Cleaning up contaminated land reduces the environmental and health effects of exposure to contamination in communities, especially overburdened communities, and contributes to the Administration's Justice40 goal.

(PM 170) Number of remedial action projects completed at Superfund sites.*

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	95	95	80	80	80	75	75	75	Projects	Above Target	
Actual	87	89	91	75	74	69					

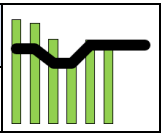
Key Takeaways:

- Issues that contributed to missing the target include changes to the scope of work, addressing PFAS contamination, potentially responsible party (PRP) processing delays, remedy redesign, supply chain issues, and larger reports that require increased review time. These issues and others routinely arise and will likely continue to be impediments in future years.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of remedial action projects completed at Superfund sites. Cleaning up contaminated land reduces the environmental and health effects of exposure to contamination in communities, especially overburdened communities, and contributes to the Administration's Justice40 goal. By tracking the completion of a discrete scope of Superfund cleanup activities (for both private and federal facility sites), this measure documents incremental progress in reducing risk to human health and the environment. Multiple remedial action projects may be necessary to achieve sitewide construction completion. EPA captures this data in SEMS.

* This measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(PM 137) Number of Superfund removals completed.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	175	175	141	141	183	183	183	183	Removals	Above Target	
Actual	242	233	197	150	195	194					

Key Takeaways:

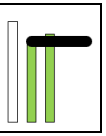
- The removal program anticipates a decline in the number of removals in the early part of FY 2024 due to an extremely busy FY 2023 (*e.g.*, East Palestine train derailment, Maui wildfires, responses to severe weather, other sizeable disaster responses). Emergency response staff (*e.g.*, On-Scene Coordinators, Community Involvement Coordinators, and Public Information Officers) have been deployed to disaster sites, and once they complete work on these responses, they will need to take time to recover and refocus work on other areas of the removal program (*e.g.*, sites cleanup).

Metric Details: This measure tracks Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) removal-related hazardous waste cleanups, known as Superfund removal actions, including those that are Superfund-lead and PRP-lead. There is no pre-established universe of removal sites, as removal actions take place after a release has occurred. Data are tracked in SEMS.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, complete 225 Superfund cleanup projects that address lead as a contaminant.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM 155) Number of Superfund cleanup projects completed that address lead as a contaminant.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					45	45	45	45	Projects	Above Target	
Actual				56	45	49					

Key Takeaways:

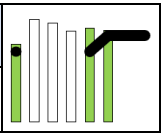
- Exceeded the target by completing 49 response action projects, consisting of 33 removal and 16 remedial projects.

Metric Details: This measure documents progress to reduce exposure to lead and associated health impacts by reporting the completion of cleanup actions that include lead as a contaminant. Response action projects include removal and remedial actions that address lead as a contaminant. The universe of applicable remedial actions consists of those at all final and deleted NPL sites and sites with SAA agreements. There is no pre-established universe of removal sites, as removal actions take place after a release has occurred. Removals are time-critical and emergency in nature. Remedial cleanups take multiple years to complete. Much of the data for this performance measure comes from PRPs and federal facilities and the government's program offices cannot control when it is submitted.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, clean up an additional 650 brownfields properties.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM B32) Number of brownfields properties cleaned up.*

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	130				130	160	160	160	Properties	Above Target	
Actual	143	190	183	168	173	169					

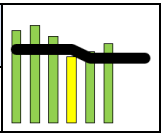
Key Takeaways:

- Fifty percent of cleanups completed occurred in communities that were in census tracts identified disadvantaged by the Climate and Environmental Justice Screening Tool (CEJST).

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of properties that have been cleaned up to a regulatory risk-based standard using EPA brownfields funding, as reported by cooperative agreement recipients into the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) database. Cleaning up contaminated land reduces the environmental and health effects of exposure to contamination in communities, especially overburdened communities, and contributes to the Administration's Justice40 goal. Reusing brownfields enables communities to pursue economic growth without expanding their environmental footprint. There are no targets in FYs 2019-2021 because this measure was not included in those Annual Performance Plans.

* This measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(PM B30) Number of brownfields sites made ready for anticipated use.*

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	684	684	684	684	600	600	600	600	Sites	Above Target	
Actual	861	910	809	616	662	736					

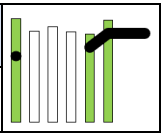
Key Takeaways:

- EPA continues to exceed targets due to enhanced and prompt reporting. This is a continued benefit from the data cleanup efforts completed in FY 2022.
- Fifty-one percent of sites made ready for anticipated use occurred in communities that were in census tracts identified by CEJST as disadvantaged.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of properties/sites benefiting from EPA brownfields funding that have been assessed and determined not to require cleanup, or where cleanup has been completed and institutional controls are in place if required, as reported by cooperative agreement recipients. This activity results in additional sites available for productive reuse.

* This measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(PM B29) Number of brownfields properties assessed.*

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	1,300				1,400	1,650	1,650	1,650	Properties	Above Target	
Actual	1,919	1,693	1,772	1,682	1,637	1,894					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA continues to exceed targets due to enhanced and prompt reporting. This is a continued benefit from the data cleanup efforts completed in FY 2022.
- Forty-five percent of assessments completed occurred in communities that were in census tracts identified by CEJST as disadvantaged.

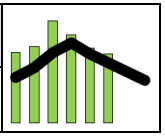
Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of properties that have been environmentally assessed for the first-time using EPA brownfields funding, as reported by cooperative agreement recipients. There are no targets in FYs 2019-2021 because this measure was not included in those Annual Performance Plans.

* This measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, make an additional 425 RCRA corrective action cleanups Ready for Anticipated Use.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM RSRAU) Number of RCRA corrective action facilities made ready for anticipated use.

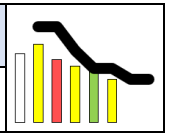
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	75	91	117	133	114	100	85	70	Facilities	Above Target	
Actual	117	127	169	146	124	117					

Key Takeaways:

- There is a decreasing universe of sites, and many of the remaining sites are complex and require significant resource contributions.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of RCRA corrective action facilities made ready for anticipated use (RAU). To be determined RAU, facilities must meet the following criteria: human exposure under control; final cleanup goals achieved for media that would affect the anticipated use; and if needed, controls in place to ensure long-term protectiveness. Information is entered into the RCRAInfo database by authorized states and/or EPA regional offices overseeing cleanups. EPA is on track to achieve the Long-Term Performance Goal. The targets decrease as a majority of RCRA facilities requiring corrective action are completed and the remaining facilities are more challenging. There were 3,983 facilities subject to RCRA corrective action at the end of FY 2023, of which 1,940 had not yet been determined RAU.

(PM CA5RC) Number of RCRA corrective action facilities with final remedies constructed.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target		98	98	73	55	55	44	44	Facilities	Above Target	
Actual	70	80	64	57	55	48					

Key Takeaways:

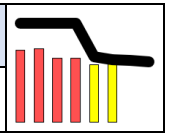
- Several facilities experienced delays completing final remedies by the end of FY 2023. Many of these will be completed in FY 2024. In addition, the pipeline of available facilities is narrowing and the facilities remaining have complex issues such as groundwater or financial concerns.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of RCRA corrective action facilities that have final remedies constructed such as a groundwater treatment system, designed to achieve long-term protection of human health and the environment. This measure tracks a mid-term step in the progression toward completing facility cleanup. Targets are selected based on the number of sites in the pipeline with construction planned or underway.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, conduct an additional 35,000 cleanups at Leaking Underground Storage Tank facilities.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM 112) Number of LUST cleanups completed that meet risk-based standards for human exposure and groundwater migration.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	11,200	11,200	11,200	11,200	7,439	7,125	6,970	6,815	Cleanups	Above Target	
Actual	8,128	8,358	7,211	7,271	6,536	6,597					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA improved on FY 2022 performance, but still fell short of the FY 2023 target. These targets were aspirational when set and the program looks to make up ground on the FY 2026 goal.
- The program faces several challenges at the sites including supply chain issues and others that are region-specific. Headquarters frequently coordinates with regional counterparts to address specific issues and problem-solve where applicable.
- As the backlog of remaining cleanups declines, confirmed releases also decline and state resources continue to be constrained, making cleanup completions increasingly challenging.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of completed cleanups of petroleum-contaminated confirmed releases, also known as LUST cleanups. The totals include cleanups reported by states as well as EPA cleanups in Indian country. Cleanups in Indian country represent approximately 0.2% of total cleanups completed. Data are tracked in the LUST4 database. Targets are ambitiously based on 12% of the prior year's estimated backlog of remaining cleanups. The backlog will continue to reduce over time so the targets will correspondingly reduce. Forecasted backlog reduction is based on five years of data trends through FY 2020. As of FY 2023, there were 573,296 cumulative confirmed releases, out of which there were 515,859 LUST cleanups completed.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goal:

(PM CO1) Percentage of technical assistance projects in support of environmentally sustainable and community-driven revitalization that support or expand upon previous or ongoing federal investments.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						No Target Established			Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						72					
Numerator						31			Projects		
Denominator						43					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA initiated a technical assistance partnership with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation and the Department of Energy (DOE) Vehicle Technologies Office to help communities with lower income and zero-car households benefit from Federal investments in clean transportation alternatives. This work helped Gonzales, Louisiana build capacity to apply for funding through the Community Fueling Infrastructure grant program. The funding supports electric vehicle mobility options that will not be eligible under the National Electric Vehicle Initiative given its primary emphasis on electric vehicle charging stations.
- This measure sunsets in FY 2023 and will be replaced by PM OCR02, which aligns better with program influence.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the percentage of community revitalization technical assistance projects with communities that have had programmatic or financial investments from federal programs within the past five years. These investments include those of EPA or other federal agencies. This subsequent technical assistance can help maximize the previous investment by supporting its implementation or expanding upon it by helping the community make related improvements. These efforts can help coordinate and align federal engagements and create connections that will spur ongoing utilization of smart growth tools and best practices toward environmental protection and economic development.

(PM OCR02) Cumulative number of communities that, as a result of OCR assistance, have been able to attract new investment and/or enact policies that produce improved public health and environmental outcomes.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target							No Target Established	TBD	Communities	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual											

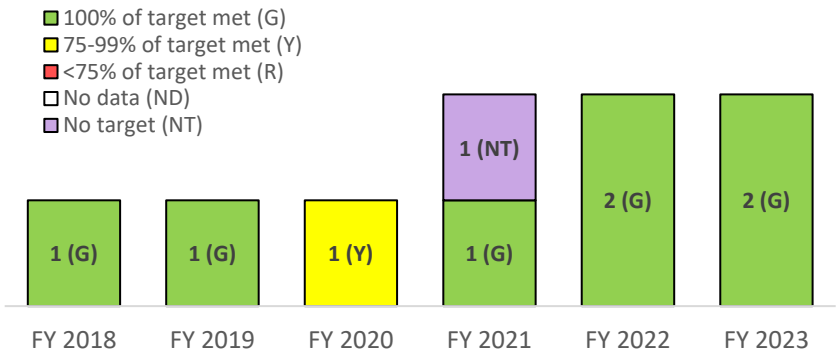
GOAL 6: Safeguard and Revitalize Communities

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of technical assistance engagements by EPA's Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) with communities that have had programmatic or financial investments from federal programs within the past five years. These investments include those of EPA or other federal agencies. This subsequent technical assistance can help maximize the previous investment by supporting its implementation or expanding upon it by helping the community make related improvements. These efforts can help coordinate and align federal engagements and create connections that will spur ongoing utilization of smart growth tools and best practices toward environmental protection and economic development.

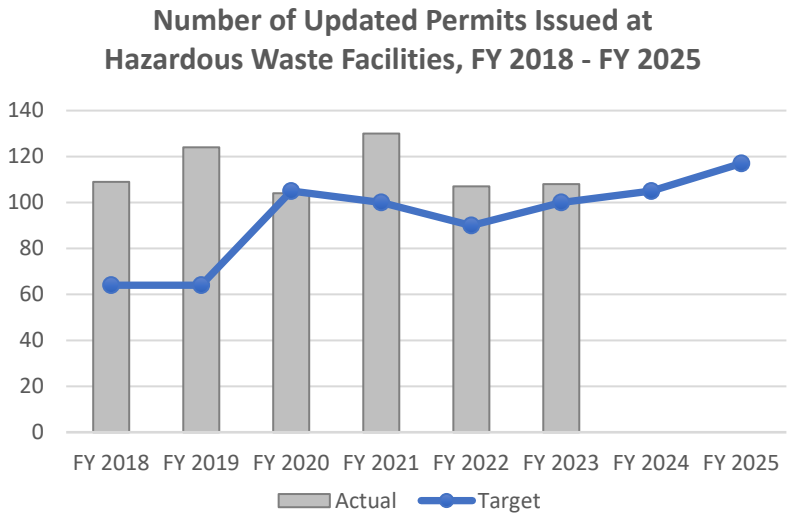
Objective 6.2: Reduce Waste and Prevent Environmental Contamination—*Prevent environmental pollution by preventing releases, reducing waste, increasing materials recovery and recycling, and ensuring sustainable materials management practices.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- EPA made steady progress toward accomplishing Objective 6.2:
  - Increased the percentage of updated permits at Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) facilities to 74% from a starting point of 71%. 114 additional permits were renewed in FY 2023.
  - Recorded the lowest number of confirmed releases at Underground Storage Tank (UST) facilities (4,354) since the program began, indicating success of the release prevention program.
- In April 2023, EPA released the Draft National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution, which is the second in a series to dedicated to building a circular economy. EPA received over 91,000 comments. Future circular economy strategies will focus on organics, electronics, the built environment, and textiles. In September 2023, EPA announced 84 selections for the first round of Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grants for all states, territories, and the District of Columbia, as well as 25 communities, which were funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as well as additional funding provided by annual appropriations. These recycling grants will help communities in implementing the actions in the National Recycling Strategy.

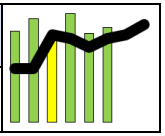
Challenges:

- Risks of reduced capacity due to staff turnover and shifting prioritizations for federal, state, tribal and local environmental land and emergency management programs. These impacts potentially decrease EPA's ability meet projected targets due to training and recruitment time lags, as well as the potential loss of expert technical knowledge.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, increase the percentage of updated permits at RCRA facilities to 80% from the FY 2021 baseline of 72.7%.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM HW5) Number of updated permits issued at hazardous waste facilities.

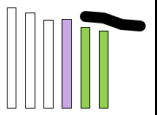
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	64	64	105	100	90	100	105	117	Permits	Above Target	
Actual	109	124	104	130	107	114					

Key Takeaways:

- Exceeded the target, with 114 updated permits. This raised the percentage of updated permits from 71% to 74%, putting the Agency on a path to achieve the 80% goal at the end of FY 2026. There are fewer permits coming up for renewal in FY 2025 and FY 2026.
- These results are challenging to forecast since there are several factors that can be difficult to project, including newly proposed facilities and facilities that no longer need a permit.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of RCRA hazardous waste permit updates or clean-closures in the universe of permitted facilities using EPA's RCRAInfo system. This does not include all permit maintenance since permit modifications cannot be projected and are not included. The related Long-Term Performance Goal refers to the overall percentage of RCRA facilities with permits that are not past expiration and have been updated though a permit renewal (or are not past the permit term/expiration). Maintaining up-to-date permits ensures that permitted facilities have consistent and protective standards to prevent release. This will ensure permits reflect updated standards, remain protective under changing conditions due to climate change, and provide meaningful community involvement in the permitting process over time. Proper standards for waste management can protect human health, prevent land contamination/degradation and other releases, and avoid future cleanups and associated costs. EPA directly implements the RCRA Program in Iowa and Alaska and provides leadership, work-sharing, and support to the remaining states and territories authorized to implement the permitting program. There are about 1,300 permitted hazardous waste facilities in the workload as of October 2023.

(PM UST01) Number of confirmed releases at UST facilities.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target				No Target Established	5,150	5,075	4,700	4,625	Releases	Below Target	
Actual	5,654	5,375	4,944	4,991	4,568	4,354					

Key Takeaways:

- Fewest number of annual confirmed releases in the history of the program, for a second consecutive year. Continued implementation of the 2015 regulation changes and maintenance of three-year inspection cycle are leading factors in this reduction.

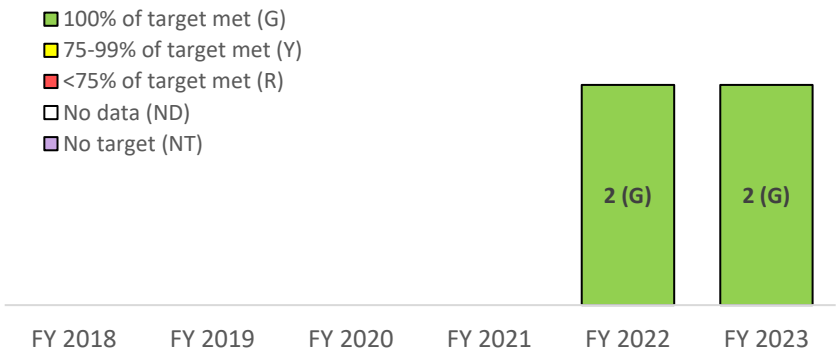
Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of confirmed releases discovered at UST facilities during the year. The Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Prevention Program provides funding to tribes and states to prevent releases from the 536,503 federally regulated USTs by ensuring compliance with federal and state laws through inspections and other activities (data as of FY 2023). Preventing UST releases is more efficient and less costly than cleaning up releases after they occur. The three-year inspection cycle is a requirement from the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The 2015 revisions strengthen the 1988 federal UST regulations by increasing emphasis on properly operating and

maintaining UST equipment. This includes such items as sump and spill bucket testing, walkthrough inspections, and leak detection functionality testing. The revisions help prevent and detect UST releases, which are a leading source of groundwater contamination. The two facets of the program (every facility inspected every three years and new requirements) work in tandem to ensure that the number of confirmed releases continues to decline.

Objective 6.3: Prepare for and Respond to Environmental Emergencies—*Prevent, prepare, and respond to environmental emergencies and support other agencies on nationally significant incidents, working with Tribes, states, and local planning and response organizations.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- EPA continues to significantly exceed annual benchmarks for Objective 6.3:
  - Increased the average percentage of emergency response and removal exercises incorporating environmental justice to 53% from an FY 2022 average of 49%. In FY 2023, conducted 98 such exercises and participated in 86 additional trainings.
- Performance exceeded expectations to the point where EPA increased the FY 2024 target to 40%.

Challenges:

- A significant proportion of the required training sessions must be held in person for successful completion.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, ensure that 40% of annual emergency response and removal exercises that EPA conducts or participates in incorporate environmental justice.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM ER02) Percentage of emergency response and removal exercises that EPA conducts or participates in that incorporate environmental justice.

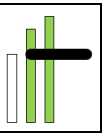
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					14	30	40	40	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					49	53					
Numerator					80	98			Exercises		
Denominator					164	185					

Key Takeaways:

- This accomplishment is largely due to EPA adapting work plans to this new Administration priority.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of emergency response and removal exercises that EPA conducts or participates in that incorporate solutions to or address environmental justice challenges. The following mechanisms are used to incorporate solutions to or address environmental justice challenges in exercises: involving facilities in locations that affect communities with environmental justice concerns; including an entity with environmental justice concerns as a participating organization; including environmental justice concerns or communities in the exercise scenario; and including scenario injects that incorporate environmental justice concerns or entities. Incorporating solutions to or addressing environmental justice challenges includes addressing language, mobility, or financial barriers or engaging community-based leadership. The estimated baseline for this measure is 12.5%, based on FY 2021 data.

(PM ER01) Number of emergency response and removal exercises that EPA conducts or participates in.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					120	120	120	120	Exercises	Above Target	
Actual				120	164	185					

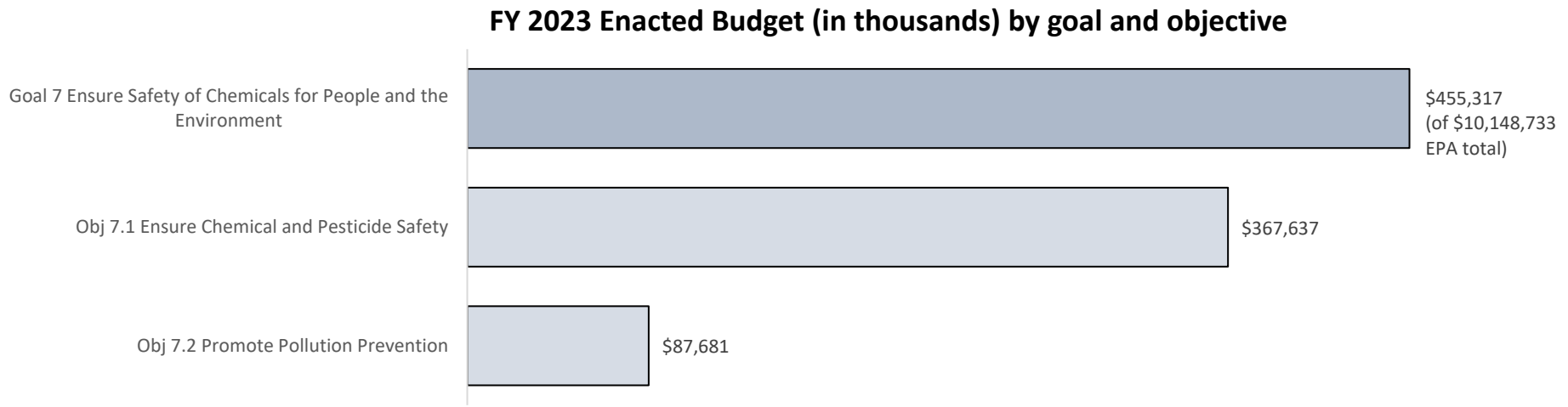
Key Takeaways:

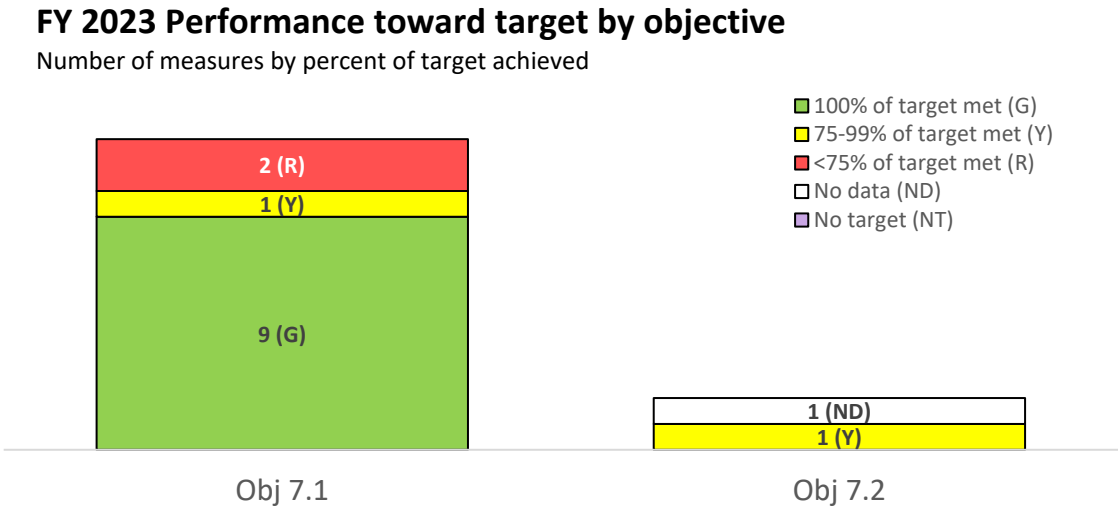
- Exceeded the target by conducting or participating in 152 emergency response and removal exercises.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of emergency response and removal exercises that EPA conducts or participates in, including: 1) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) exercises which are exercises specific to CERCLA requirements or contaminants. These can include participation in exercises with Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) or Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities with emphasis on CERCLA hazardous substance releases. 2) Oil spill preparedness exercises including tabletop, functional and full scale, and Government-Initiated Unannounced Exercises (GIUEs). These include internal exercises to ensure readiness and external training and readiness exercises. 3) Homeland Security exercises at which EPA staff participated. And 4) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) exercises in which EPA staff participated. The baseline is 120 exercises in FY 2021. Annual targets for this measure maintain this level of effort.

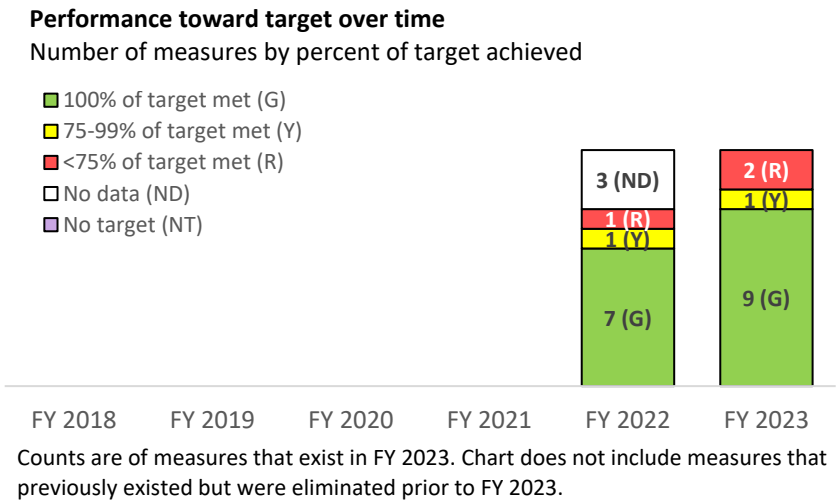
Goal 7 at a Glance

Ensure Safety of Chemicals for People and the Environment: Increase the safety of chemicals and pesticides and prevent pollution at the source.

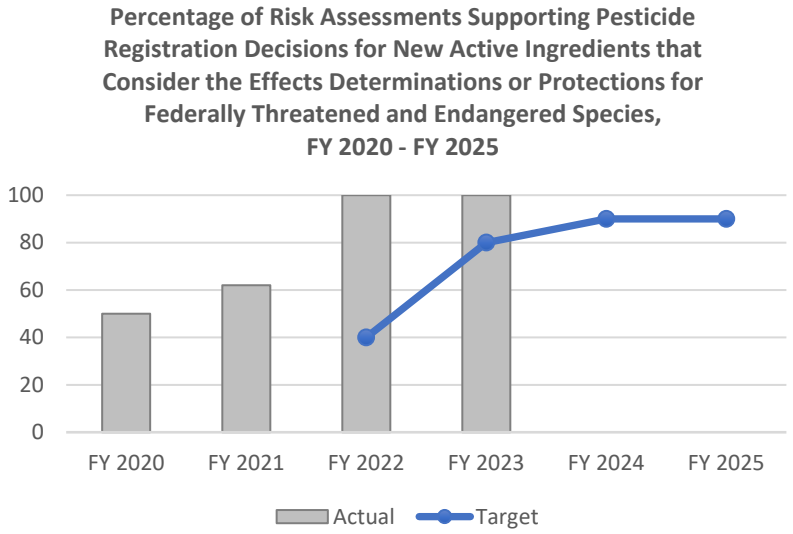




Objective 7.1: Ensure Chemical and Pesticide Safety—*Protect the health of families, communities, and ecosystems from the risks posed by chemicals and pesticides.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



EPA, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, has highlighted this objective as a focus area for improvement due to missed targets in key program areas where significant funding and resource challenges have impeded progress.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- **Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 5 (New Chemicals):** Completed risk assessments for 270 notices and 202 applications for exemptions, and risk management for 145 notices and 208 applications for exemptions. Proposed 78 and finalized 61 Significant New Use Rules (SNURs). These actions manage potential risk by identifying conditions to be placed on the use of a new chemical before it is entered into commerce.
- **TSCA Section 6 (Existing Chemicals):** Proposed four rules to address unreasonable risks, submitted one more rule for interagency review, issued six final and one draft revised unreasonable risk determinations, developed revised rule for conducting risk evaluations, and released for public comment and peer review principles for evaluating cumulative risks and an approach for using the principles in evaluating certain phthalate chemicals.
- **Lead:** Proposed revisions to the Dust Lead Hazard Standards and Dust Lead Clearance Levels to strengthen requirements for the removal of lead-based paint hazards in pre-1978 buildings and childcare facilities. If finalized, the rule will reduce lead exposures for 250,000 to 500,000 children under age 6 per year. Helped protect overburdened and underserved communities by delivering 25 trainings on lead-safe work practices.
- **Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)**: Completed 15 registration reviews and 10 draft risk assessments and opened 25 review dockets.
- **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**: All pesticide risk assessments in support of new active ingredient regulatory decisions included ESA effects determinations or protections of federally endangered and threatened species. For draft risk assessments supporting registration review decisions, 78% included ESA effects determinations or protections.
- **Agricultural Work Protection Standard (WPS) Rule**: Provided 15,155 farmworkers with annual training. Average level of content knowledge post-training was 97%.

Challenges:

- For FY 2023, the President asked for an increase of $59.2M and 175 FTEs for TSCA. EPA received only $17.8M. As a result, EPA was unable to meet statutory deadlines.
- Resource challenges also affected statutory timeframes for EPA's pesticide registration and registration review decisions, and full implementation of ESA.
- Information technology challenges prevented EPA from issuing Data Call-Ins (DCIs) for information needed to re-evaluate active ingredients under pesticide registration review.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, complete at least eight High Priority Substance (HPS) TSCA risk evaluations annually within statutory timelines compared to the FY 2020 baseline of one.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM TSCA4) Number of HPS TSCA risk evaluations completed within statutory timelines.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					0	0	1	6	Evaluations	Above Target	
Actual			1	0	0	0					

Key Takeaways:

- Although EPA issued no final risk evaluations in FY 2023 (as planned), EPA issued six final and one draft unreasonable risk determinations amending the previous administration's TSCA risk evaluations of the first 10 chemicals. The original risk evaluations did not assess air, water, or disposal exposures to the general public. These assessments are important, particularly for "fenceline" communities—those located near industrial facilities.
- EPA faces challenges including enacted funding not meeting resource requests, evolving science such as evaluation of cumulative risk, combined exposures across multiple conditions of use, and additional exposure pathways and legal challenges. Taking this into account, EPA anticipates issuing one final risk evaluation in FY 2024, six in FY 2025, and seven in FY 2026.
- EPA proposed a rule to improve alignment of the risk evaluation process with applicable court decisions and the statutory text (reflecting the Agency's experience implementing the risk evaluation program following enactment of the 2016 TSCA amendments), and to allow for consideration of future scientific advances in the risk evaluation process. EPA also is designing a sustainable prioritization and data gathering process, streamlining the peer review process, and working toward finalization of a TSCA fees rule reflecting the actual costs of the program. These improvements will help EPA meet targets for this measure in the future.

Metric Details: This measure tracks HPS chemical risk evaluations completed annually for existing chemicals within statutory timelines. Risk evaluations are needed to protect human health and the environment from unnecessary risks. TSCA requires risk evaluations for HPS to be completed within 3.5 years of the date the chemical is prioritized. TSCA requires that upon completion of a HPS risk evaluation, EPA must designate at least one additional HPS to take its place, thus ensuring that at least 20 EPA-initiated HPS risk evaluations are underway at all times. A baseline of one HPS risk evaluation was completed within statutory timelines to protect human health and the environment from unnecessary risk in FY 2020. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-evaluations-existing-chemicals-under-tsca.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, initiate all TSCA risk management actions within 45 days of the completion of a final existing chemical risk evaluation.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM TSCA5) Percentage of existing chemical TSCA risk management actions initiated within 45 days of the completion of a final existing chemical risk evaluation.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					100	100	100	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual					N/A	100					
Numerator						6			Actions		
Denominator						6					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA initiated risk management actions corresponding to all of EPA's final revised unreasonable risk determinations completed in FY 2023 amending the previous administration's TSCA risk evaluations (the FY 2023 revisions included assessments of air, water, or disposal exposures to the general public not previously assessed).
- The completion of final rules will create additional responsibilities for EPA to realize the intended protections to human health and the environment.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of existing chemical risk management rulemakings initiations, defined as the point at which EPA convenes the Agency workgroup following the tiering process for the rulemaking, within 45 days of publishing the final risk evaluation. TSCA Section 6(a) requires EPA to issue a proposed risk management rule for a chemical substance no later than one year after the date on which the final risk evaluation is published, and to publish a final rule no later than two years after the publication date of the final risk evaluation. Prompt initiation of risk management actions after the completion of risk evaluations is necessary for protecting human health and the environment from chemical risks. A baseline of 100% of existing chemical TSCA risk management actions were initiated within 45 days of the completion of a final existing chemical risk evaluation in FY 2020. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-management-existing-chemicals-under-tsca#process.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, review 90% of risk management actions for past TSCA new chemical substances reported to the 2020 Chemical Data Reporting Rule (CDR) compared to the FY 2021 baseline of none.[6]

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM TSCA6a) Percentage of past TSCA new chemical substances decisions with risk management actions reviewed.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					5	25	30	90	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual					N/A	16					
Numerator						40			Decisions		
Denominator						258					

Key Takeaways:

- Reviews were initially delayed as EPA worked against competing demands to establish its database of past new chemicals decisions to review. Once that work was completed, EPA completed reviews of 40 chemicals in FY 2023.
- EPA completed actions that will clarify and improve the efficiency of the new chemical review process. These include release of the new chemicals per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Framework for Pre-manufacture Notices (PMNs) and Significant New Use Notices (SNUNs) under review, and proposal of the "720" New Chemicals Procedural Rule.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of past risk management decisions for TSCA new chemical substances that were reported under the Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) Rule, that EPA reviews for adherence/non-adherence with these requirements. EPA will use the 2020 CDR report which covers calendar years 2016 to 2019. Initial upfront work is required to prepare three data sources for comparison, which may take up to one year to complete (by December 2022). EPA puts measures in place to protect human health and the environment by identifying conditions to be placed on the use of a new chemical before it is entered into commerce. EPA will review compliance with established restrictions in TSCA Section 5 Consent Orders or SNURs by cross-walking action requirements with information reported under the CDR rule. Instances of non-compliance will be relayed to EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance for additional actions. This could include additional virtual records auditing, on-site audits, issuance of

[6] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, review 90% of past risk mitigation requirements for TSCA new chemical substances decisions compared to the FY 2021 baseline of none."

compliance advisories or guidances, requests for information/subpoenas, and modifications/updates to TSCA Section 5 Consent Orders, SNURs, or other requirements, as appropriate. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/basic-information-review-new.

(PM TSCA6b) Percentage of TSCA new chemical substances with risk management actions reported to the 2020 CDR reviewed for adherence/non-adherence with TSCA Section 5 risk management actions that are determined to adhere to those requirements.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					N/A	25	30	90	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual					N/A	70					
Numerator						28			Substances		
Denominator						40					

Key Takeaways:

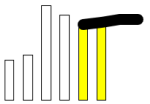
- The percentage of new chemical substances reviewed that adhered to TSCA Section 5 risk management action requirements significantly exceeded OCSPP's estimate of what the results of its review would reveal.
- When the results of the reporting crosscheck indicate that a company may not be addressing the requirements of a SNUR or order, EPA will determine if further enforcement action is warranted.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of new chemicals substances reported under the 2020 CDR reviewed for adherence/non-adherence with TSCA Section 5 risk management actions that are determined to be in adherence with reported risk mitigation requirements of the actions. For more information, see: https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/basic-information-review-new.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, recertify before the expiration date 36% of lead-based paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) firms whose certifications are scheduled to expire compared to the FY 2021 baseline of 32%.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM RRP30) Percentage of lead-based paint RRP firms whose certifications are scheduled to expire that are recertified before the expiration date.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					32	33	34	34	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	17	19	40	36	31	31					
Numerator	1,134	1,185	9,006	6,524	2,874	2,308			RRP Firms		
Denominator	6,855	6,091	22,384	18,158	9,423	7,529					

Key Takeaways:

- Recertification numbers vary year to year due to external factors such as the high level of turnover (companies closing and opening) in the industry.
- Interest rate increases over the past year have reduced residential construction activity and hindered growth for remodelers, which could have depressed recertifications.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of expiring lead-based paint firm certifications renewed before the expiration date. Number of recertifications can vary widely from year to year due to external factors. This industry has a high level of turnover (companies closing and opening). Higher numbers for this measure reflect interest in the industry for continuing to provide these critical services. Federal law requires all RRP firms working in housing, or facilities where children are routinely present, built before

1978, to be certified. Firms must apply to EPA for certification to perform renovations or dust sampling. To apply, a firm must submit a completed application and fee to EPA online. EPA RRP firm certifications are good for five years. Firms must apply for recertification at least 90 days before the firm's current certification expires. Data are tracked in the Federal Lead-based Paint Program database. Data include recertifications from jurisdictions where EPA administers the RRP Program. These data do not include recertifications from tribes or states with delegated programs. The baseline of 32% is based on the average recertification rate during the final six months of FY 2021 due to unusual circumstances in the first half of the fiscal year.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, complete pesticide registration review for 78 cases.[7]

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM FIFRA3a) Number of pesticide registration review cases completed.

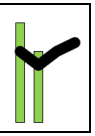
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					15	8	4	5	Cases	Above Target	
Actual					16	15					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA exceeded the target because cases moved more quickly through the registration review process than initially expected. These cases moved quickly because they were not dependent on data for risk assessment requested from pesticide registrants through DCIs and/or were considered lower risk and required less risk mitigation.
- Information technology system issues might delay draft risk assessments (DRAs) due to delays in issuing DCIs to pesticide registrants, which could limit EPA's ability to complete review cases in the future. EPA is addressing these issues as part of an overall IT upgrade for development in FY 2024. The legacy system used previously to generate DCIs no longer functions.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of pesticide registration review completions for cases with initial registration after October 1, 2007, or a final decision in the first cycle of registration review. EPA must review each registered pesticide every 15 years to determine whether it still meets the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) standard for registration and to ensure that pesticides already in the marketplace do not pose unreasonable adverse effects on people or the environment based on current science standards. A total of 78 registered pesticides have 15-year cycle due dates that fall within the timeframe of the performance goal.

(PM FIFRA3b) Number of pesticide registration review dockets opened for registration review cases.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					25	20	25	28	Dockets	Above Target	
Actual					35	25					

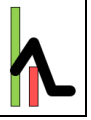
Key Takeaways:

- EPA exceeded the target because of a short-term change in priorities which expanded the scope of cases to be reviewed. These docket openings did not require DCIs to be issued.

[7] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, complete 78 pesticide registration review cases with statutory due dates that fall after October 1, 2022." The December 2022 omnibus bill extended the deadline for completing pesticide registration review for cases registered prior to October 1, 2007, from October 1, 2022 to October 1, 2026.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of docket openings for pesticide registration review cases with initial registration after October 1, 2007, or a final decision in the first cycle of registration review. Every registered pesticide must complete registration review every 15 years. Docket openings are the first stage of the registration review process and offer the first opportunity for the public to provide comment. The baseline is 11 docket openings in FY 2020.

(PM FIFRA3c) Number of draft risk assessments completed for pesticide registration review cases.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					9	16	4	4	Draft Assessments	Above Target	
Actual					25	10					

Key Takeaways:

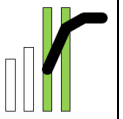
- Missed target due to IT system issues. The module that allows EPA to issue and track DCIs for additional information and data to support the reevaluation of registered pesticides by current scientific standards resides in a legacy IT system. During FY 2022 and 2023, this module ceased to function, preventing the issuance of DCIs, and thus EPA is unable to receive or process the registrant data for risk assessment.
- The ability to issue and track DCIs is being developed as part of an overall IT upgrade and is a priority for development in FY 2024.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of draft risk assessments completed for pesticide registration review cases with initial registration after October 1, 2007, or a final decision in the first cycle of registration review. Every registered pesticide must complete registration review every 15 years. The draft risk assessment presents EPA's preliminary risk findings to the public and provides opportunity for public comment. The baseline is five draft risk assessments completed in FY 2020.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, consider the effects determinations or protections of federally threatened and endangered species for new active ingredients in 90% of the risk assessments supporting pesticide registration decisions compared to the FY 2020 baseline of 50%.[8]

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM ESA1) Percentage of risk assessments supporting pesticide registration decisions for new active ingredients that consider the effects determinations or protections for federally threatened and endangered species.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					40	80	90	90	Percent	Above Target	
Actual			50	62	100	100					
Numerator			8	8	14	12			Risk Assessments		
Denominator			16	13	14	12					

[8] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, consider the effects determinations or protections of federally threatened and endangered species for new active ingredients in 90% of the risk assessments supporting pesticide registration decisions for new active ingredients compared to the FY 2020 baseline of 50%."

Key Takeaways:

- EPA was able to consider effects on endangered species for all new active ingredients it registered in FY 2023. This was a top priority in EPA's FY 2022 workplan toward achieving better protections for endangered species (see https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-04/balancing-wildlife-protection-and-responsible-pesticide-use_final.pdf).

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of risk assessments for pesticide registration decisions for new active ingredients that incorporate Endangered Species Act (ESA) requirements to ensure federal actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of federally threatened or endangered species or damage their critical habitat. Historically, EPA has not incorporated ESA determinations into its regulatory decisions other than determinations of "no effects" (mostly for biopesticides), due to the lengthy process of ESA consultation with the Services (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service). EPA will more routinely incorporate ESA effects determinations into its regulatory decisions and ensure protection for listed species earlier in the consultation process through label mitigation. The FY 2020 baseline year included a relatively higher percentage of determinations of "no effects" for biopesticide new active ingredient registration decisions in relation to overall new active ingredient registration decisions. Biopesticide determinations of "no effects" are estimated to apply to 70-80% of new active ingredient registration decisions in any given fiscal year. The remainder includes conventional pesticides, antimicrobial pesticides, and biopesticides for which determinations of "no effects" cannot be made.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, consider the effects determinations or protections of federally threatened and endangered species in 50% of the risk assessments supporting pesticide registration review decisions compared to the FY 2020 baseline of 27%.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM ESA2) Percentage of risk assessments supporting pesticide registration review decisions that include effects determinations or protections of federally threatened and endangered species.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					20	30	20	50	Percent	Above Target	
Actual			27		79	78					
Numerator			29		27	7			Risk Assessments		
Denominator			107		34	9					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA exceeded its FY 2023 target primarily because of the small number of risk assessments completed for the registration review program in FY 2023. The higher percentage in FY 2022 was a result of ESA assessment due to ESA-related litigation and pilot implementation.
- Additionally, EPA was able to make several ESA "no effects" determinations in cases where it was not expecting to conduct a risk assessment but found through the planning process that no effects were expected from a particular active ingredient.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of risk assessments for pesticide registration review decisions that incorporate ESA determinations, including decisions subject either to the statutory deadline of October 2026 for the first cycle of registration review or to a 15-year schedule of review under the second cycle. Implementation of this process for pesticide registration review decisions will follow implementation for new active ingredient pesticide registration decisions. Some cases in the first cycle of registration review are currently involved in litigation due to EPA's failure to incorporate ESA considerations. EPA calculated the FY 2020 baseline of 27% based on the portion of all actions in registration review during FY 2020 for conventional pesticides, biopesticides, and antimicrobial pesticides that included either a determination of "no effects" or measures that are intended to reduce exposure to listed species. The risk assessments that considered endangered species in FY 2020 were cases where EPA made a determination of "no effects" on

listed species based either on the absence of potential exposure or the absence of toxicological harm. EPA calculated the FY 2020 baseline assuming 107 completed risk assessments of which 29 included determinations of "no effects" on listed species.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, support Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS) pesticide safety training for 20,000 farmworkers annually compared to the FY 2018-2020 annual average baseline of 11,000.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM WPS1a) Number of farmworkers receiving EPA-supported WPS pesticide safety training.

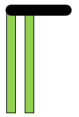
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					20,000	12,000	13,000	13,000	Farm-workers	Above Target	
Actual					12,716	15,155					

Key Takeaways:

- The grantee overseeing WPS training under the cooperative agreement was able to slowly build back toward normal operations by recruiting and maintaining a total of 33 participating community non-profit organizations in 31 states.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of farmworkers trained under EPA cooperative agreements in accordance with the Agricultural WPS rule. The purpose of the WPS is to reduce pesticide poisonings and injuries among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. The WPS offers occupational protections to over 2 million agricultural workers and pesticide handlers who work at over 600,000 agricultural establishments. WPS pesticide safety training is an annual requirement. An average of 11,000 individuals had the EPA-supported WPS training from FY 2018-2020, which reflects a sharp drop-off in training in FY 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(PM WPS1b) Percentage of pesticide safety content knowledge demonstrated by farmworker/trainees upon completion of EPA-supported WPS pesticide training.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					95	95	95	95	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					96	97					

Key Takeaways:

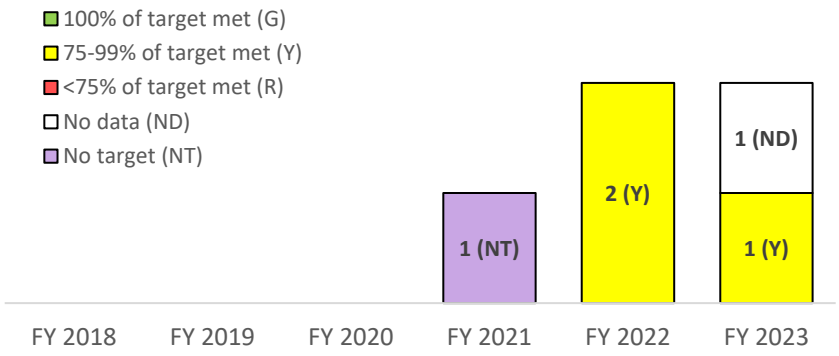
- This result indicates that farmworkers continue to have a high level of understanding of the content administered in the annual WPS training of farmworkers, per post-training survey results.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the average level of knowledge of the pesticide safety content demonstrated by farmworkers/trainees at the conclusion of EPA-supported WPS pesticide training, based on pre- and post-survey questions administered to trainees. The baseline of 95% is based on post-training assessments conducted annually from FY 2018-2020.

Objective 7.2: Promote Pollution Prevention—*Encourage the adoption of pollution prevention and other stewardship practices that conserve natural resources, mitigate climate change, and promote environmental sustainability.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Added 22 chemicals to the Safer Choice Ingredients List and certified 208 new products to carry EPA's Safer Choice label.
- Awarded 32 recurring pollution prevention grants to states and tribes to help businesses adopt source reduction practices and technologies, with emphasis on addressing climate change impacts and environmental justice.

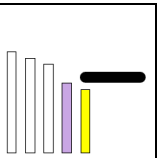
Challenges:

- While Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding has been an important resource for pollution prevention programs, funding for the Safer Choice Program continues to be a challenge. Implementation of pollution prevention grants for technical assistance to businesses was significantly delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in lower than expected emission reductions.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, reduce a total of 6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$) released attributed to EPA pollution prevention grants.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM P2mtc) Reduction in million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$) released per year attributed to EPA pollution prevention grants.*

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target				No Target Established	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	$MMTCO_2e$	Above Target	
Actual	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.0	Data Avail 10/2024					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA missed the FY 2022 target due to the cumulative impact of COVID-induced delays on the implementation of technical assistance to businesses. The inclusion of three COVID-affected years in the four-year rolling measurement period is reflected in the results,
- Quality Assurance (QA) review of FY 2022 results for a small number of grants was deferred to the FY 2023 reporting cycle as a result of reporting and staffing issues. These results will be included in FY 2023 reporting.

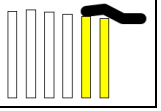
Metric Details: This measure tracks $MMTCO_2e$ reductions from all Pollution Prevention Grant Program activities. $MMTCO_2e$ is calculated by using an online tool to convert standard metrics for electricity, green energy, fuel use, chemical substitutions, water management, and materials management into $MMTCO_2e$ (https://www.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-tools-and-calculators). Annual results are the total reported by grantees in a single year plus the contributions from the previous three years. This method accounts for recurring benefits of a pollution prevention action, not just in the year it was implemented, but also in future years. Pollution prevention grants are "two-year" grants with an optional third year for follow-up reporting and case study development. These grants have annual reporting but with a one-year reporting lag due to the grant reporting cycle.

* This measure is also used to track progress in implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, EPA's Safer Choice program will certify a total of 2,300 products compared to the FY 2021 baseline of 1,892 total certified products.[9]

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM P2sc) Number of products certified by EPA's Safer Choice program.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					1,950	2,000	1,792	1,795	Products	Above Target	
Actual	1,958	1,989	1,929	1,892	1,835	1,788					

[9] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, EPA's Safer Choice program will certify a total of 2,300 products compared to the FY 2021 baseline of 1,950 total certified products."

GOAL 7: Ensure Safety of Chemicals for People and the Environment

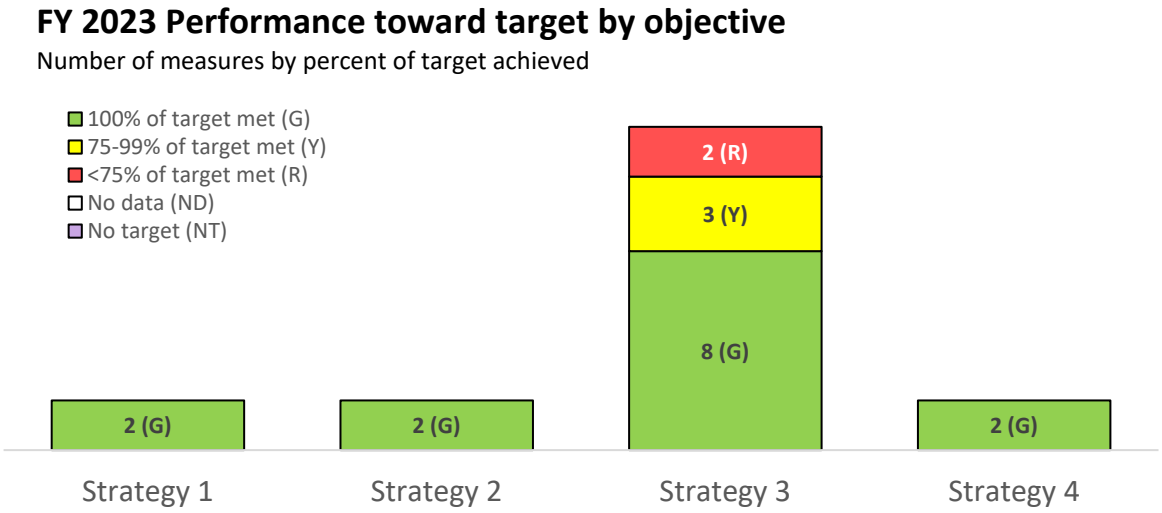
Key Takeaways:

- As a result of continuing resource challenges that began during the last administration, the Safer Choice Program focused on providing services and support to current program partners.
- In recent years, Congressional appropriations committee reports in enacted budgets have directed EPA to fund and operate the Safer Choice Program consistent with prior years.

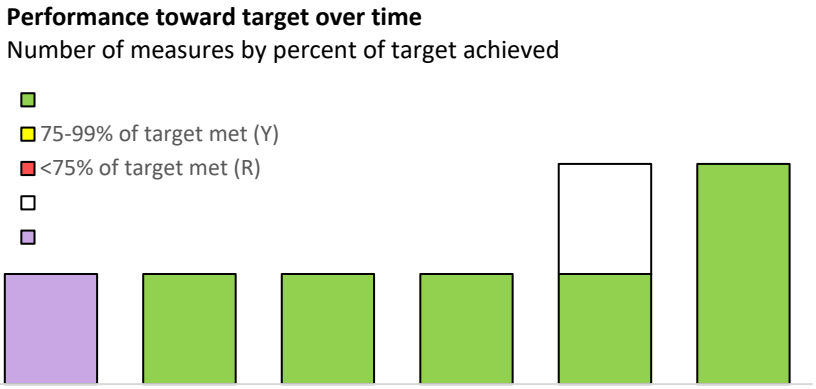
Metric Details: This measure tracks the total number of products certified by the Safer Choice program at the end of the year. Safer Choice is a voluntary program that helps consumers, businesses, and purchasers find products that perform and contain ingredients that are safer for human health and the environment. Certified products are verified by EPA to meet the Safer Choice Standard through initial certification, annual audits, and recertification every three years. The total includes Design for the Environment-certified antimicrobial products and total number of products certified. Disinvestment from the program by the previous administration caused a drop in the number of certified products. In FY 2021-2023, the Safer Choice Program prioritized maintenance of existing partnerships and was not able to invest in broadening the number of certified products and new product sectors. Data are tracked in EPA's Safer Choice database. For additional information, see: https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice.

Cross-Agency Strategies at a Glance

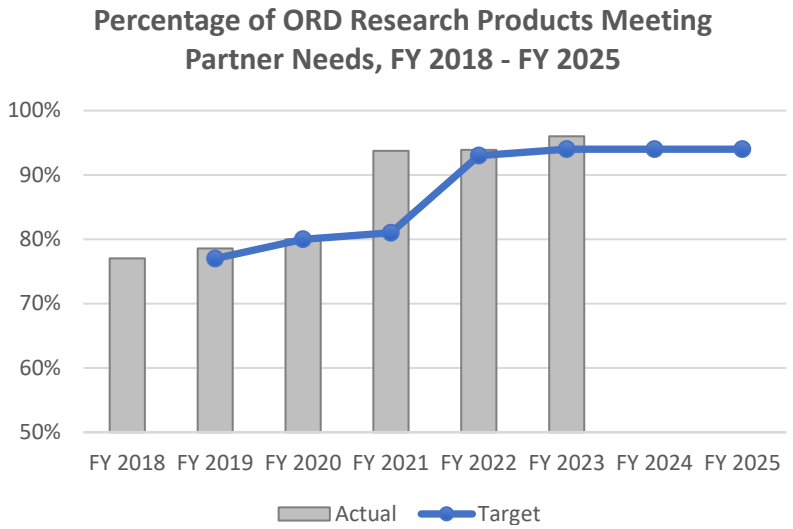
EPA's FY 2023 enacted budget, in thousands, included $1,710,685 of $10,148,733 total for cross-agency mission and science support. This funding was allocated across strategic goals and objectives in the FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan.



Strategy 1: Ensure Scientific Integrity and Science-Based Decision Making—*Deliver rigorous scientific research and analyses to inform evidence-based decision-making.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Delivered an updated draft scientific integrity policy to the White House. The draft policy introduced a new federal definition of Scientific Integrity (SI) and enhanced several policy elements critical to fostering a culture of SI.
- Continued work on the final updated SI policy planned for release in mid-2024, using a White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) framework report published in January 2023. The draft policy has undergone formal consultation with tribes, engagement with and comment by EPA employee unions, and significant legal review.
- Completed a whiteboard training video on SI at EPA that will be distributed throughout the Agency with the updated SI policy.
- Added SI language to the FY 2024 required critical element for EPA supervisors for performance reviews.
- Deputy Scientific Integrity Officials (DSIOs) throughout the Agency implemented 24 additional actions to strengthen SI.
- EPA's Scientific Integrity Official was elected co-chair of Subcommittee on Scientific Integrity (SOSI) of the Committee on Science, National Science and Technology Council.
- Received six allegations of potential loss of SI and responded to 28 requests for advice.
- Reported previous SI survey results, making 20 reports so each division/region could review their results.
- Met partner needs for 96% of research products included in the annual customer satisfaction assessment (see graph pictured on the left).
- Led the Agency on community-based participatory science under the Executive Orders on Equity, including completing the Participatory Science Policy Guidelines and Checklist.
- Published 20 draft or final human health toxicity assessments (*e.g.*, Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), Provisional Peer-Reviewed Toxicity Values (PPRTVs)), informing decision-making.

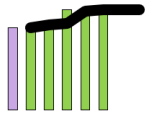
Challenges:

- 36.6% of EPA's research and development staff are retirement eligible. EPA will be delayed in meeting research goals if unable to sustain a trained and skilled workforce. To address this, EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) is improving hiring efficiencies and enhancing succession management practices.
- Achieving an appropriate response rate threshold to provide adequate data to evaluate delivered ORD Products, causing the Agency to extend the survey open period.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, increase the annual percentage of Office of Research and Development (ORD) research products meeting partner needs to 95% from a baseline of 93% in FY 2021.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM RD1) Percentage of ORD research products meeting partner needs.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	No Target Established	77	80	81	93	94	94	94	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	77	79	80	94	94	96					
Numerator	171	154	120	60	77	278			Products		
Denominator	222	196	150	64	82	290					

Key Takeaways:

- Met partner needs for 96% of research products included in the annual partner satisfaction assessment, based on an annual customer survey of 50 randomly selected ORD research products. The FY 2023 survey was provided to 201 federal and 80 non-federal respondents and had a 63% response rate.
- The results suggests that 100% of ORD Research Products were delivered to the partner when it was needed, whereas 13% of ORD Research Products could have been improved in terms of usability and 5% could have been improved in terms of quality.
- The number of products evaluated in FY 2023 was expanded dramatically over the previous fiscal years, as more products were completed and delivered to ORD partners from the FY 2019-2022 Strategic Research Action Plan (StRAP) cycle. ORD expects the number of delivered products to decline in FY 2024 as new products are initiated under the new StRAP cycle.

Metric Details: Partner satisfaction is assessed through a robust survey process. The annual survey engages key users of ORD products. Survey respondents assessed the scientific rigor of research products (quality), product relevance (usability), and timeliness of product delivery. Products are randomly selected from the universe of products identified as delivered during the previous fiscal year in the Research Approval Planning Implementation Dashboard (RAPID). Per information collection request stipulations, each year ORD surveys 50 randomly selected products of the universe of products that were delivered. The numerator is a statistical inference from the survey results calculated via a stratified sample design to account for the proportion of products delivered by ORD and then applied to the entire universe of products. The denominator is the total universe of products.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, implement 131 actions for scientific integrity objectives that are certified by Deputy Scientific Integrity Officials in each EPA program and region.[10]

[10] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, implement 126 actions for scientific integrity objectives that are certified by Deputy Scientific Integrity Officials in each EPA program and region." At the beginning of FY 2023, there were 21 DSIOs, currently there are 22 DSIOs.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM RD5) Number of actions implemented for EPA scientific integrity objectives.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					No Target Established	21	22	44	Actions	Above Target	
Actual					N/A	24					

Key Takeaways:

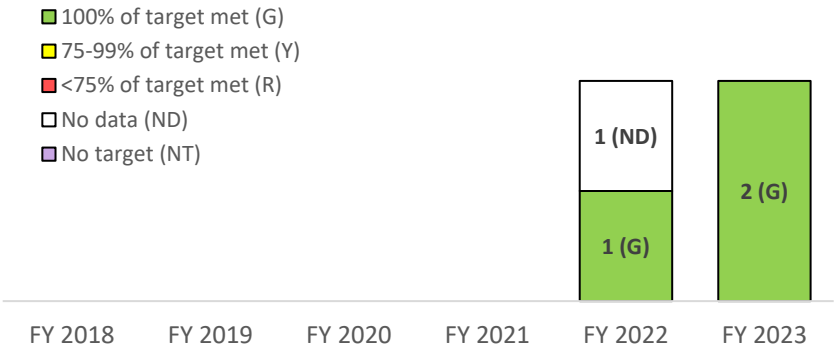
- EPA completed 24 actions for SI objectives, exceeding the target of 21. The total includes actions by the new Office of Environment Justice and External Civil Rights.
- Highlights include: increased training and outreach efforts across the Agency; launch of a scientific integrity award in EPA Region 10; addition of scientific integrity sections in Idaho and Washington state performance partnership grants; discussion of SI during state events by Region 4; implementation of an SI Awareness Week in Region 8; and inclusion of an SI statement in all of the Office of Water's Performance Work Statements.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual number of actions completed by EPA DSIOs to implement the scientific integrity objectives that implement the EPA Scientific Integrity Policy (https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-02/documents/scientific_integrity_policy_2012.pdf). From FY 2023 – FY 2026, each DSIO will certify completion of two actions for each of the three scientific integrity objectives: scientific integrity is highly visible at EPA (Objective 1); all of EPA embraces and models scientific integrity (Objective 2); and robust mechanisms protect and maintain EPA's culture of scientific integrity (Objective 3). DSIOs are members of the Scientific Integrity Committee representing each EPA program office and region. There were 21 DSIOs at the beginning of FY 2023, and there are 22 DSIOs currently.

Strategy 2: Consider the Health of Children at All Life Stages and Other Vulnerable Populations—*Focus on protecting and improving the health of children at all life stages and other vulnerable populations in implementing our programs.*

Performance toward target over time

Number of measures by percent of target achieved



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.

Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Nine of 10 EPA regions implemented projects that are durable, replicable, widespread, and focused on disadvantaged communities. Region 8 provided outreach and education related to wildfire smoke in Montana. Region 7 provided material to farmworkers on lead risks to children, and pesticides safety. Region 2 helped the Virgin Islands Department of Health acquire testing kits to address elevated lead levels in St. Croix drinking water.
- Completed 298 actions that concern children's environmental health, exceeding the goal of 163. These include:
  - Rules, such as the Final Heavy-Duty Vehicles Standard, expected to result in 18,000 fewer cases of childhood asthma and 1.1 million fewer lost school days by 2045;
  - Reports, such as the Climate Change and Children's Health and Well-Being Report, which quantifies health risks to children from climate change impacts and the extent to which these disproportionately fall on overburdened and underserved children; and
  - Risk determinations under the Toxic Substances Control Act for whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment.
  - Proposed more protective standards for the removal of lead-based paint hazards in pre-1978 buildings and childcare facilities to protect children and communities from the harmful effects of exposure to dust-lead.
- Charged Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) on children's health indicators, received recommendations, issued response, and developed implementation plan for the next three years. Coordinated charge to CHPAC on climate change and children; received over 150 recommendations.
- Supported the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units to provide education and awareness around keeping children safe from the impacts of climate change as well as chemical exposures during emergencies, like the East Palestine, OH train derailment.
- Supported Schools as Community Clean Air and Cooling Centers and released fact sheets for parents, principals, facilities managers, and teachers to keep children safe during extreme heat and/or wildfire smoke events.
- Co-led the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children. Engaged 17 departments and agencies and other federal partners to advance four priority areas: asthma disparities; lead exposures; chemical exposures; and climate emergencies and disasters.

Challenges:

- Environmental and public health statutes differ in the extent to which they require protection of children and sensitive populations, presenting challenges in aligning approaches across program offices.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, assess and consider environmental health information and data for children at all life stages for EPA actions that concern human health.[11]

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM CH01) Number of EPA actions that concern human health that include assessment and consideration of environmental health information and data for children at all life stages to the extent relevant data are available.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					50%	163	166	TBD	Actions	Above Target	
Actual					N/A	298					

Key Takeaways:

- Actions include rules, risk assessments, guidance, reports, and workshops where children's health data and information was considered in the decision making.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of EPA actions (*e.g.*, rules, risk assessments, exposure assessments, economic and benefits analyses, research and other products, program implementation guidances, enforcement and compliance efforts and activities, grants, training, partnerships, fact sheets, internal capacity building work, and other communication materials) that have a human health impact and for which children's environmental health information and data was considered and assessed, to the extent relevant data are available. The intent of this measure is to demonstrate improvements in complying with EPA's *2021 Policy on Children's Health* (https://www.epa.gov/children/epas-policy-childrens-health), which calls for EPA to protect children from environmental exposures by "consistently and explicitly considering early life exposures and lifelong health in all human health decisions." In FY 2022, the measure was a percentage. EPA will set the FY 2025 target based on FY 2024 results and will include this target in the FY 2026 Budget.

(PM CH02) Number of EPA regional offices with stakeholder engagement on children's environmental health designed to provide durable, replicable, and widespread results.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					3	6	9	10	Regional Offices	Above Target	
Actual					6	9					

Key Takeaways:

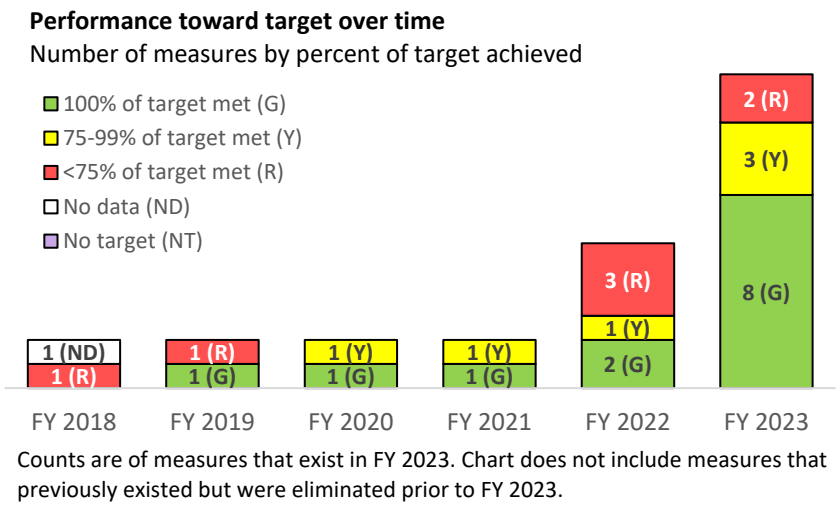
- EPA exceeded its target due to EPA leadership's increased emphasis on sustainability of engagements as critical to the success of the Cross-Agency Strategy. In addition, several Regions partnered with Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (a network of children's environmental health experts working in communities), which helped ensure that the projects were durable, replicable and widespread.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of EPA regional offices that have developed and are implementing stakeholder engagement activities on children's environmental health that support joint planning, collaboration, or action; identify and address community-scale issues; build federal/state/local "whole-of-government" partnerships; and/or address health disparities. EPA aims to increase outcome-driven stakeholder participation and program visibility. The activities under this measure must be underway in

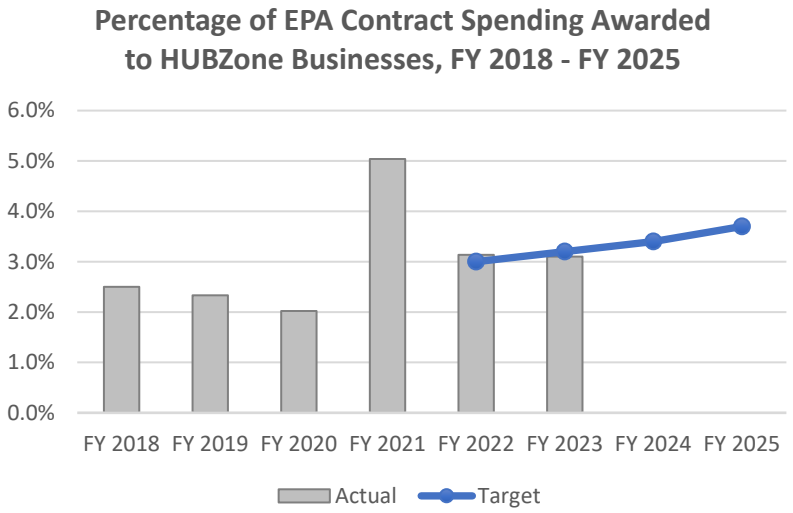
[11] Changed from "By September 30, 2026, assess and consider environmental health information and data for children at all life stages for all completed EPA actions that concern human health."

disadvantaged communities for more than one year (durable), include outreach or training materials that could be adapted by other regions or communities (replicable), and involve more than one EPA region or program office and/or community (widespread).

Strategy 3: Advance EPA's Organizational Excellence and Workforce Equity—*Foster a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workforce within an effective and mission-driven workplace.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- Improved 236 operational processes, exceeding the target, with contributions from all 10 regions and nine program offices.
- Completed 100% of EPA's FY 2023 climate resiliency goals. Met targets by completing a total of seven facility climate adaptation assessments and initiating a priority climate resiliency project within 24 months of the assessment at one EPA-owned facility.
- Completed two milestones toward the Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity, and Accessibility (DEIA) "Leading and Sustaining" Maturity Level.
- Completed succession management planning and workforce analyses across all major EPA organizations. The results will be used to inform and develop policies and approaches that equip EPA employees with the needed competencies, knowledge and most up-to-date tools to advance EPA's mission.
- Secured a contract vehicle for information technology (IT) development to automate EPA's major permitting programs.
- Received 24th consecutive clean financial audit opinion, highlighting the EPA's commitment to responsible and transparent financial management.

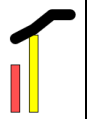
Challenges:

- Missed some annual targets for cybersecurity Long-Term Performance Goals, but laid the groundwork for more robust compliance with cybersecurity requirements by prioritizing enterprise-level coordination and incorporation of critical feedback from system owners.
- Missed target for permitting processes automated, due to a delay in automating the Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)'s Financial Assurance tool.
- Missed target for percentage of EPA contract spending awarded to HUBZone businesses, but continued progress to increase dollars awarded to HUBZone businesses under the *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, EPA will be in full compliance with the five high-priority directives in Executive Order 14028 - *Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM MFA) Percentage of EPA applications in compliance with multifactor authentication requirements.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					75	85	100	100	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					48	79					
Numerator					223	321			Applications		
Denominator					463	406					

Key Takeaways:

- Missed target due to variance in technical requirements for implementing multifactor authentication compliance, as well as competing priorities across EPA programs which administer the required cybersecurity improvements.
- Made progress by closer coordination with system owners as well as greater visibility of system compliance through the IT Portfolio Review Dashboard.
- On track to complete 100% compliance in FY 2024.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA implementation of one of the five priority requirements of Executive Order 14028 – *Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity* (https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/05/12/executive-order-on-improving-the-nations-cybersecurity/). Multifactor authentication confirms user identify and ensures only authorized users have access to Agency systems and information.

(PM DAR) Percentage of EPA data at rest in compliance with encryption requirements.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						90	95	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						93					
Numerator						110			Systems		
Denominator						118					

Key Takeaways:

- Better than expected progress in part due to closer coordination with system owners as well as greater visibility of system compliance through the IT Portfolio Review Dashboard.
- Remaining systems have legacy issues that may take additional time to resolve.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA implementation of one of the five priority requirements of *Executive Order 14028 – Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*. Encrypting data at rest ensures any unauthorized individual who has gained access to EPA's network or any of its information systems will still be unable to read the data in any meaningful and potentially destructive or malicious way. The August 2022 baseline for this measure is 83%.

(PM DIT) Percentage of EPA data in transit in compliance with encryption requirements.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						90	98	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						98					
Numerator						116			Systems		
Denominator						118					

Key Takeaways:

- Better than expected progress in part due to closer coordination with system owners as well as greater visibility of system compliance through the IT Portfolio Review Dashboard.
- Remaining systems have legacy issues that may take additional time to resolve.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA implementation of one of the five priority requirements of *Executive Order 14028 – Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*. Encrypting data in transit ensures that any unauthorized individual who has gained the ability to monitor network traffic will be unable to read and interpret data in a meaningful and potentially destructive or malicious way. The August 2022 baseline for this measure is 82%.

(PM ZTA) Percentage of "Zero Trust Architecture" projects completed on time.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						100	100	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						50					
Numerator						1			Projects		
Denominator						2					

Key Takeaways:

- Identified two projects to complete to inform future zero trust architecture (ZTA) work: a Gap Assessment Analysis and a ZTA Roadmap.
- Needed additional time to complete the ZTA Roadmap to respond to the greater than anticipated feedback to the draft plan and address the needs of key stakeholders. The result is a more robust Roadmap.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA implementation of one of the five priority requirements of *Executive Order 14028 – Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*. The "Zero Trust Architecture" security model eliminates implicit trust in any one element, node, or service and instead requires continuous verification of the operational picture via real-time information from multiple sources to determine access and other system responses. Once implemented, the various components of Agency network infrastructure will be more resistant to unauthorized access. Each year, EPA determines the final portfolio of ZTA implementation projects that will be completed under this annual performance goal and the associated deadlines. EPA will work to achieve the deadlines 100% of the time.

(PM ALR) Implementation of advanced event logging requirements (EL3) across EPA networks.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target					EL1	EL3	EL3	EL 3	Tier	Above Target	
Actual					EL0	EL0					

Key Takeaways:

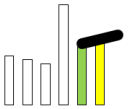
- Missed target due to the variance in technical requirements to implementing Enterprise Logging compliance, as well as competing priorities across EPA programs which implement logging requirements.
- EPA is revising its project schedule to meet compliance, including a Logging Sprint in Q1 of FY 2024.
- EPA is actively engaging with system owners to resolve noncompliance issues.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA implementation of one of the five priority requirements of *Executive Order 14028 – Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*. EPA will implement the highest event logging tier of "Advanced" (EL3) across EPA networks and infrastructure as established by *Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-21-31 – Improving the Federal Government's Investigative and Remediation Capabilities Related to Cybersecurity Incidents*.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, award 4% of EPA contract spending to small businesses located in Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZones) compared to the FY 2018-2020 average annual baseline of 2.2%.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM SB1) Percentage of EPA contract spending awarded to HUBZone businesses.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					3.0	3.2	3.4	3.7	Percent	Above Target	
Actual	2.4	2.2	2.0	4.9	3.1	3.1					
Numerator	37.5	35.0	30.3	75.6	59.6	69.3			Millions of Dollars		
Denominator	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,900	2,265					

Key Takeaways:

- Continued to increase in the amount of dollars awarded to HUBZones since the establishment of this Long-Term Performance Goal. This demonstrates the continuing incremental effectiveness of initiatives to expand contracting opportunities for HUBZone firms, including to provision of training on the HUBZone mechanism and developing HUBZone vendor lists tied to procurement opportunities.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the percentage of EPA prime contracting dollars awarded to firms designated as certified HUBZone small business awardees in the Federal Procurement Data System. To qualify for certification as a HUBZone firm, the small business must: 1) be at least 51% owned and controlled by U.S. citizens, a Community Development Corporation, an agricultural cooperative, or an Indian tribe; 2) maintain its principal office within a HUBZone; and 3) hire at least 35% of its workforce from a HUBZone area. HUBZones are generally defined to include urban and rural communities with low income, high poverty, or high unemployment.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, initiate all priority climate resiliency projects for EPA-owned facilities within 24 months of a completed facility climate assessment and project prioritization.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM CRP) Percentage of priority climate resiliency projects for EPA-owned facilities initiated within 24 months of a completed facility climate assessment and project prioritization.

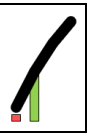
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						100	100	100	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						100					
Numerator						1			Projects		
Denominator						1					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA has successfully initiated its first priority climate resiliency project at the Agency-owned Gulf Ecosystem Measurement and Modeling Division Laboratory in Gulf Breeze, FL.

Metric Details: This measure tracks initiation of climate adaptation projects at EPA-owned facilities following a climate assessment. EPA will prioritize identified projects based on multiple factors – ability to execute, impact on facility resiliency, cost, etc. – and initiate projects within 24 months of identification as a priority.

(PM CAA) Number of EPA-owned facility climate adaptation assessments completed.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					2	7	11	14	Assessments	Above Target	
Actual					1	7					

Key Takeaways:

- Completed the 2023 goal of five Climate Resiliency Assessments reports, as well as finishing the remaining 2022 Climate Resiliency Assessment reports. Additionally, EPA finalized its All Facility Hazard Map and the schema voting for EPA's Test and Evaluation facility in Cincinnati, OH.
- Economic conditions have created long lead times for services and materials, and higher construction costs are making projects more difficult to fund due to constraints in the enacted budget levels in the Buildings and Facilities appropriation. The FY 2025 President's Budget requests sufficient resources to advance these projects.

Metric Details: This measure tracks completion of climate adaptation assessments at EPA-owned facilities with planned long-term occupancy that will determine which facilities require investments to protect against climate change. Climate resiliency assessments enable EPA to identify facility-specific vulnerabilities and proactively identify projects that will increase resiliency and fortify facilities against climate-related events.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, EPA will achieve the highest Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Maturity Level of "Leading and Sustaining" as defined by the November 2021 *Government-wide Strategic Plan to Advance DEIA in the Federal Workforce* and achieve all EPA goals identified in the Agency's Gender Equity and Equality Action Plan.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM DEIA) Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity, and Accessibility (DEIA) actions completed toward Maturity Level "Leading and Sustaining" achieved.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target						2	4	6	Actions	Above Target	
Actual						2					

Key Takeaways:

- Established the Office of Inclusive Excellence, a priority action in the DEIA Strategic Plan, to lead the implementation of DEIA efforts across the Agency.
- Launched the DEIA Data Catalog. The Data Catalog includes information available to all employees on diversity, Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey results, Management Directive 715 (MD-715) Reports to promote equal employment opportunities, and restricted access data on workforce demographics and applicant flow data.

Metric Details: This measure tracks completion of the eight Strategic Actions in the EPA DEIA Strategic Plan. Each completed action signifies progress toward achieving the highest DEIA Maturity Level of "Leading and Sustaining."

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, automate all priority internal administrative processes.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM GOPA) Number of priority internal administrative processes automated.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	No Trend Data
Target						1	1	3	Processes	Above Target	
Actual						1					

Key Takeaways:

- Completed transformation of Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) process from manual/email-driven to an automated process. Rejected submissions were reduced from 15.6% to 1.5%, indicating improved quality and increased efficiency.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the completion of processes to complete priority administrative forms and/or processes to full automation for improved internal data collection and utilization. EPA is prioritizing 10 identified internal administrative processes to be automated by 2026 but is tracking all efforts to automate administrative processes. Previous examples of administrative process automation include: transitioning OGE-450 Financial Disclosure Forms from electronic documents to a centralized reporting database; transitioning paper-based employee performance reviews to USA Performance; and transitioning Headquarters Transit Subsidy requests from a paper form to a digital approval workflow.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, automate the major EPA permitting programs.

Annual performance goals that support this long-term performance goal:

(PM PAT) Annual percentage of EPA permitting processes automated.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target						10	30	30	Percent	Above Target	No Trend Data
Actual						8					
Numerator						1			Permitting Processes		
Denominator						13					

Key Takeaways:

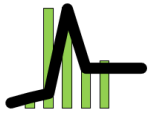
- EPA secured a contract vehicle for IT development for permit automation. Supplemental funding through the Inflation Reduction Act is supporting permit automation work along with regular appropriations.
- The Office of Water completed the automation of its Permit Tracking System to facilitate and track EPA's review of state-issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits.
- Automation of the Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)'s Financial Assurance tool was delayed due to the proprietary nature of the tool, which made it necessary to take more time to secure an appropriate contract vehicle to do the work. OLEM expects to complete its tool by the end of March 2024.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the Agency's progress toward bringing EPA into the 21st century by transitioning EPA's major permitting programs from paper to electronic processes. EPA will advance the paperless transformation through automation of permit application, review, and issuance processes for EPA's permitting programs. This will reduce processing time on issuing permits, decrease the time between receiving monitoring data and engaging in enforcement actions, and foster transparency by allowing communities to search, track, and access permitting actions easily. Further, permit automation will enable the integration of climate change and environmental justice considerations into permit processes and ensure that they are addressed within the terms and conditions of the permit. For the regulated community, permit automation will allow for a simplified, streamlined, and transparent permitting process which will result in time and costs savings. EPA identified a universe of 13 eligible processes.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, improve 1,000 operational processes.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM OP1) Number of operational processes improved.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	25	50	72	500	200	200	200	200	Operational Processes	Above Target	
Actual	N/A	66	502	507	208	236					

Key Takeaways:

- Exceeded target thanks to contributions from all 10 EPA regions and nine program offices The Office of the Chief Financial Officer and the Office of Air and Radiation achieved the most of any program offices, at 39 and 33 improvements respectively. Region 6 was the highest regional contributor, achieving 18 process improvements.
- Each region and program office completed executive sponsored improvement projects, accounting for a significant portion of the total number of processes improved.
- EPA continues to explore ways to encourage more improvement, including replication of best practices and processes that have already been improved.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the number of EPA operational processes improved through the application of Lean principles improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the Agency's operations. An operational process is a sequence of activities that results in the delivery of a service. Process improvements efforts are intended to empower frontline staff, engage leadership, drive innovation, improve operations, and create a better customer experience. A process improvement is counted when a baseline measure is exceeded by a reasonable amount, as determined by EPA program or regional office leadership. While a standard percentage improvement is not required, teams are encouraged to have stretch goals to promote breakthroughs. Process improvements result from a variety of tools (*e.g.*, kaizen events, special senior leadership projects, other problem-solving activities) and often include standard work (*e.g.*, standard operating procedures) and visual management (visible placement of information and indicators that quickly convey the status of the process) to help ensure the improvement is sustained and can be shared to promote benchmarking when appropriate.

Other Core Work

Annual performance goal:

(PM CF2) Number of Agency administrative systems and system interfaces.

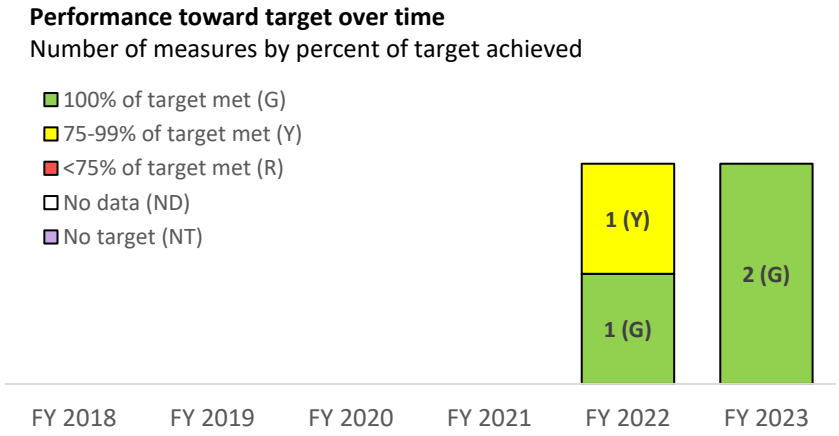
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target	24	22	22	19	17	17			Systems and Interfaces	Below Target	
Actual	30	30	24	21	20	17					

Key Takeaways:

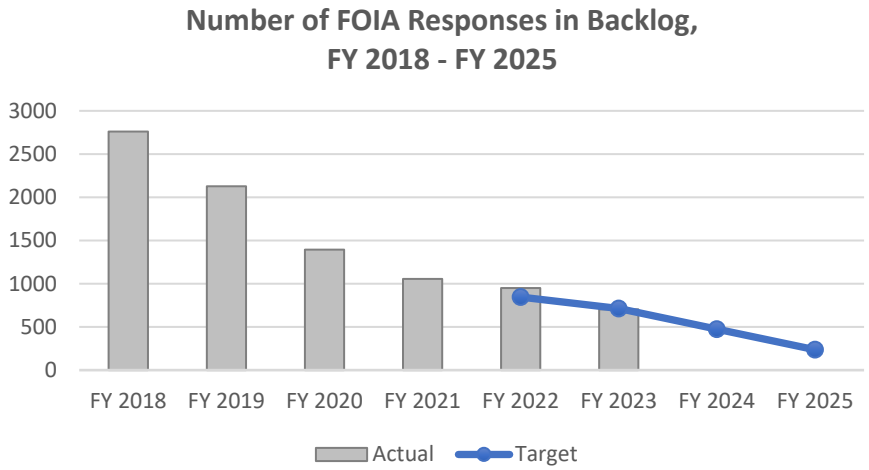
- Decommissioned three systems: Contract Payment System, EasyLite invoice payment system, and Small Purchase Information Tracking System.
- Integrated the work of these systems into EPA's financial system and created a tighter integration between EPA's Acquisition System, Compass (EPA's financial management system), and Treasury's Invoice Processing Platform.
- This measure is retired after FY 2023. EPA has achieved its goal to reduce the number of small administrative systems by 43%.

Metric Details: This measure tracked the number of administrative systems or system interfaces EPA actively operates. Administrative systems support execution of the Agency's administrative functions such as accounting, grants management, and contracts management. System interfaces are connections among administrative systems where data are shared. Reducing the number of administrative systems and system interfaces has a positive impact on streamlining operational processes and drives the integration of financial transactions across multiple administrative systems, reducing manual entry, improving data quality, and allowing EPA to input and access data more easily and standardize reporting as payment processing is moved to a federal shared service provider.

Strategy 4: Strengthen Tribal, State, and Local Partnerships and Enhance Engagement—*Collaborate and engage effectively with Tribal nations in keeping with the Federal Government's trust responsibilities, state and local governments, regulated entities, and the public to protect human health and the environment.*



Counts are of measures that exist in FY 2023. Chart does not include measures that previously existed but were eliminated prior to FY 2023.



Summary of progress toward strategic objective:

- For the EPA Learning Agenda priority area on grant commitments met, developing a set of measures broadly relevant across multiple EPA grant and media programs to enable EPA to collect and report on performance in a consistent way.
- Conducted an extensive nationwide 5-month consultation with tribes on proposed revisions to the 2011 EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes and the supplementary 2016 Guidance for Discussing Tribal Treaty Rights.
- Championed the release by the White House of the "Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge," recognizing Indigenous Knowledge as one of the many important bodies of knowledge that contribute to the scientific, technical, social, and economic advancements to the collective understanding of the natural world.
- Reduced the backlog of overdue Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests by nearly 26%. Received more than 6,600 FOIA requests, closed more than 6,800 requests and released more than 153,000 records.

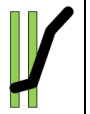
Challenges:

- Additional tools and training will be needed for EPA staff to implement the EPA Tribal Consultation Policy revisions under development and expand tribal treaty rights consultations to national level consultations.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, consider Tribal treaty rights as part of all EPA Tribal consultations that may affect Tribal treaty rights.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM EC41) Percentage of EPA tribal consultations that may affect tribal treaty rights that consider those rights as part of the consultation.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					20	25	80	100	Percent	Above Target	
Actual					100	100					
Numerator					19	10			Tribal Consultations		
Denominator					19	10					

Key Takeaways:

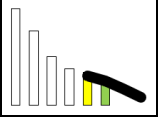
- EPA continues to consider tribal treaty rights during all tribal consultations on EPA decisions and actions affecting tribes.
- EPA is revising its Tribal Consultation Policy to further emphasize and expand upon the recognition of tribal treaty rights during consultations.

Metric Details: This measure tracks the annual percentage of EPA tribal consultations that may affect tribal treaty rights that consider those rights as part of the consultation, consistent with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes: Guidance for Discussing Tribal Treaty Rights* (https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-and-coordination-indian-tribes-guidance-discussing-tribal-treaty) which establishes clear Agency standards for consultations when an EPA action or decision may affect tribal treaty rights. Data are collected in EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System, a publicly accessible database used to communicate upcoming and current EPA consultation opportunities to tribal governments that documents EPA consultations using the tribal treaty rights guidance. The system provides a management, oversight, and reporting structure that helps ensure accountability and transparency.

Long-Term Performance Goal: By September 30, 2026, eliminate the backlog of overdue Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) responses, compared to the FY 2021 baseline of 1,056.

Annual performance goal that supports this long-term performance goal:

(PM FO2) Number of FOIA responses in backlog.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Units	Preferred Direction	
Target					845	712	474	236	Responses	Below Target	
Actual	2,761	2,128	1,395	1,056	950	704					

Key Takeaways:

- EPA received more than 6,600 FOIA requests, closed more than 6,800 requests and released more than 153,000 records. EPA reduced its backlog of overdue FOIA requests by nearly 26%.
- EPA issued a final rulemaking to modernize its FOIA regulations, make FOIA more affordable, and expedite the release of information for communities with environmental justice concerns.
- EPA procured and implemented the FOIAXpress software system to replace FOIAonline.

Metric Details: This measure tracks EPA's responsiveness to the public by measuring progress toward reducing EPA's backlog of responses to FOIA requests. Overdue responses are indicated in FOIAXpress as pending beyond the statutory deadline of 20 working days for simple requests, 30 days or longer for unusual circumstances (*e.g.*, complex requests), or another timeframe to which the requestor has agreed. EPA receives approximately 7,000 FOIA requests annually.

American Rescue Plan Performance Report – Cumulative results as of September 30, 2023

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 provided EPA with $100 million dollars to address health outcome disparities from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic, with which EPA is funding environmental justice initiatives and enhanced air quality monitoring.

EPA identified performance measures for major categories of funding under ARP. For FY 2023, EPA is reporting results for 18 measures across nine areas of support. EPA will report on five additional measures in FY 2024. Results show EPA is deploying ARP funding to support public health in numerous communities and reaching many new communities in doing so.

EPA posts financial status by funding categories (including total funding, obligations, and remaining funding) quarterly on its website.

Additional information is available at: https://www.epa.gov/arp

In FY 2024, a section similar to this will be included for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, when more robust performance results are available. For more information, see https://www.epa.gov/invest.

Environmental Justice Grants and Technical Assistance

EPA provides environmental justice grants and technical assistance directly to community-based organizations, federally recognized tribes, state governments, local governments, and U.S. territories for projects that support underserved communities and build partnerships to address local environmental and public health issues. EPA allocated a total of $16.65 million in ARP funding to environmental justice grants and technical assistance through the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program, the State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreement Program, and other technical assistance.

Measures	Results to date
Number of partnering organizations participating in projects	491
Number of recipients	150
Number of new recipients	125

Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) funding

EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Program—authorized under sections 791 through 797 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16131 through 16137)—funds grants and rebates that protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines. EPA allocated a total of $7 million to fund electric school bus rebates in underserved communities. Selected applicants received $300,000 for each bus replacement, and applicants could request up to four new buses.

Measures	Results to date
Number of tons of nitrogen oxides (NOx) reduced over the lifetime of the affected buses	Reporting in FY 2024
Number of tons of particulate matter (PM2.5) reduced over the lifetime of the affected buses	Reporting in FY 2024

Measures	Results to date
Number of tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) reduced over the lifetime of the affected buses	Reporting in FY 2024

Civil and Criminal Enforcement

EPA's Civil and Criminal Enforcement Program ensures compliance with environmental requirements. When warranted, EPA may take civil or criminal enforcement to ensure compliance with environmental laws. EPA allocated a total of $5.13 million to support civil and criminal enforcement.

Measures	Results to date
Number of air and drinking water inspections in or near overburdened and underserved communities	Reporting in FY 2024
Number of views of environmental crime victim outreach ads on social media	17,129,834

Brownfields

EPA's Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program—authorized under section 104(k)(7)(A) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604(k)(7)(A))—helps communities and other stakeholders to understand the risks and challenges posed by brownfield sites and to learn how to safely assess, clean up, revitalize, and reuse brownfields properties. TAB grant recipients (also known as TAB providers) serve as an independent resource and can provide expert technical assistance and guidance to help communities. EPA allocated $5 million to fund TAB cooperative agreements for organizations serving as technical assistance providers for activities targeted towards underserved communities.

Measures	Results to date
Number of new communities receiving technical assistance	543
Number of communities receiving technical assistance	1,370

Children's Health

EPA works to protect children from environmental exposures by consistently and explicitly considering early life exposures and lifelong health in all human health decisions. Children who live in pollution-overburdened or underserved communities may have reduced biological resilience and ability to recover from exposure to environmental hazards (see: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-10/2021-policy-on-childrens-health.pdf). EPA allocated $4.85 million to fund children's health programs.

Measures	Results to date
Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs): Number of underserved communities trained	362
PEHSUs: Number of community outreach activities	159
PEHSUs: Number of health and public health providers trained (in environmental medicine)	1,258
Children's Healthy Learning: Number of cooperative agreements awarded	10

Measures	Results to date
Children's Healthy Learning: Number of children served by projects conducted under a cooperative agreement	Reporting in FY 2024

Drinking Water

EPA's drinking water initiatives in rural and tribal areas ensure that assistance is provided to communities through specific regional projects. A total of $4.7 million was allocated to fund 13 technical assistance programs to improve drinking water and compliance monitoring in urban, rural, and tribal areas.

Measures	Results to date
Number of drinking water systems supported that serve overburdened and underserved communities	391
Number of tribal drinking water systems supported	242

Community Technical Assistance

EPA's community technical assistance efforts support community-driven solutions to collaboratively build community capacity to address air and drinking water issues in underserved communities. A total of $2.15 million was allocated for this work.

Measures	Results to date
Number of underserved communities served	70
Number of partnerships supported	116

Tribal Engagement (Public Participation)

EPA supports federally recognized tribal governments to establish or modify public participation programs where fair treatment and meaningful participation priorities have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. EPA allocated $1.6 million to support tribal public participation efforts. After receiving six eligible applications totaling $500 thousand in awards, EPA allocated and used the remaining funds to support three competitive grant awards for enhanced air quality monitoring for tribes.

Measures	Results to date
Number of communities engaged by supported public participation programs	21
Number of public participation processes (a) developed and/or (b) modified by supported tribal programs	3

Direct Awards for Continuous Monitoring of PM 2.5 and other Common Air Pollutants

Of the $100 million in ARP funding, $50 million was allocated to improve ambient air quality monitoring for communities across the United States and to address adverse and disproportionate health outcomes from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. Of that $50 million, $22.5 million was given in direct awards to air agencies for continuous monitoring of fine particles and the five other criteria pollutants covered by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards under the Clean Air Act.

Measures	Results to date
Number of grant projects awarded	126

Grant Competition for Community Air Monitoring

Of the $100 million in ARP funding, $50 million was allocated to improve ambient air quality monitoring for communities across the United States and to address adverse and disproportionate health outcomes from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. Of that $50 million, $20 million was awarded through a grant competition seeking proposals from community groups; state, tribal and local government air agencies; and other eligible entities.

Measures	Results to date
Number of competitive grant projects awarded	52