

Strategic Plan, July 10, 2020
Occupational Safety and Health Division
of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services
“Oregon OSHA”
Federal Fiscal Year 2021-2025

Mission & Goals

Oregon OSHA’s mission is to enhance and improve workplace safety and health for all workers in Oregon.

In pursuit of this mission, Oregon OSHA has adopted the following three strategic goals:

Goal 1: Reduce serious workplace injuries and the risks that lead to them.

Oregon OSHA will continue the reduction in injuries and illnesses as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the statewide DART rate being reduced to 2.0 per 100 workers (or less) and the statewide total case incidence rate being reduced to 3.5 per 100 workers (or less).

Goal 2: Reduce serious workplace illnesses and the risks that lead to them.

Oregon OSHA will establish a baseline measurement of severe chemical hazards identified and will increase such hazards identified (and therefore corrected) to a five-year average of at least 869 by the final year of the planning period.

Goal 3: Reduce workplace deaths and the risks that lead to them.

Oregon OSHA will accelerate the decline in Oregon workers compensation fatality rates, with the final three years of the planning period averaging 1.6 per 100,000 workers (or less), which will be a 8 percent decrease compared to the most recent three-year baseline period.

Strategies for Success

In pursuing Oregon OSHA’s three strategic goals, the division will promote excellence in all its activities. Oregon OSHA will endeavor both to expand the capability of Oregon employers and their employees to fulfill their obligations in pursuing workplace health and safety and to increase their motivation to do so. All of Oregon OSHA’s activities support one or both of these broad initiatives.

Specifically, Oregon OSHA will . . .

- maintain its presence in the workplace, in relation both to enforcement and to onsite consultation.
- target educational, collaborative and enforcement efforts to protect workers in high-hazard industries and occupations.
- focus educational, collaborative and enforcement efforts on protecting particularly vulnerable and hard-to-reach worker populations.
- ensure that penalties are used more effectively as tools to promote compliance, both before and after a particular workplace has been inspected.
- ensure that employers who desire to provide a safe and healthy workplace have access to a wide range of educational tools, including on-site consultations.
- ensure that education, collaborative and enforcement efforts are tailored to meet the unique needs and circumstances of small employers, especially in higher hazard industries.
- develop regulatory strategies tailored, when appropriate, to the unique needs and hazards of Oregon industry.
- bring its strongest enforcement tools to bear on the most egregious and persistent violators.

Evaluating the Plan's Success

In order to determine the success of this strategic plan in achieving Oregon OSHA's stated goals over the long term . . .

- Oregon OSHA expects to see reported injury rates, as measured using both Bureau of Labor Statistics and Oregon Workers Compensation data, continue their steady downward trend.
- Oregon OSHA expects to see a higher rate of identification and correction of the most serious chemical and other health-related hazards, as well as anecdotal evidence of success in reducing occupational disease risks.
- Oregon OSHA expects to see a continued downward trend in the rate of workplace deaths, after accounting for normal statistical variation in the year-to-year comparisons.

In order to determine Oregon OSHA's success in pursuing the strategies in this plan, Oregon OSHA will adopt and track specific one- and two-year initiatives in support of one or more of these broad strategies and goals. Where possible, Oregon OSHA will track (at the overall program level) a range of statistical indicators, which will include but not be limited to . . .

- a) the number of enforcement visits;
- b) the number of on-site consultations;
- c) the number of educational activities and other outreach efforts;
- d) the number and nature of collaborative efforts with government, employer and worker organizations.
- e) the number of serious hazards corrected in enforcement and identified on-site consultation activities;
- f) the number and percentage of programmed and non-programmed enforcement visits in high-hazard industries;
- g) the number and percentage of consultations and other educational activities in high-hazard industries;
- h) the average penalty where the hazard cited creates a meaningful increase in the risk of workplace death;
- i) the number and percentage of on-site consultations provided to employers who have not used Oregon OSHA's consultation services during the previous five years;
- j) the number and percentage of on-site consultations provided to small employers;
- k) the number and percentage of other educational activities used by small employers;
- l) the number of new or substantially revised publications and other educational resources, particularly those targeted at small employers and at vulnerable or hard-to-reach worker populations;
- m) the satisfaction level of employers and others who interact with enforcement, on-site consultation and other Oregon OSHA programs.