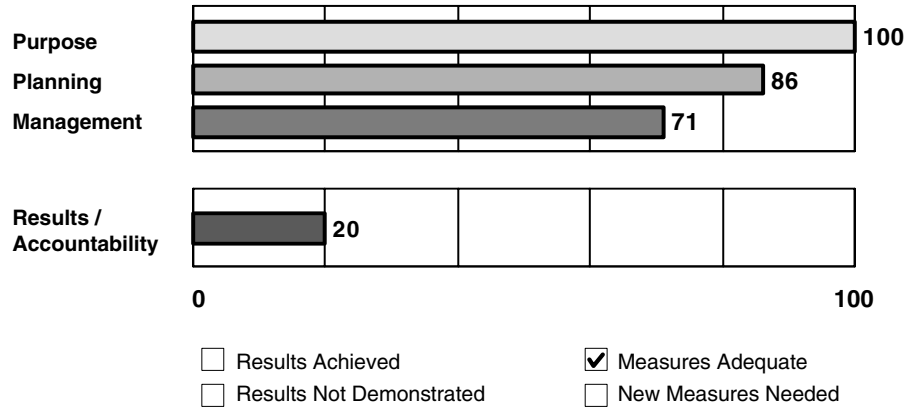


Program: Indian School Operations

Agency: Department of the Interior

Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

Measure	Year	Target	Actual
Long-term Measure: Percentage of students achieving standardized proficiency ratings in math and language arts	2012	70	
Annual Measure: Percentage of students achieving standardized proficiency ratings in math	1999	45	43
	2000	47	50
	2001	54	50
	2002	58	
Efficiency Measure: Measure and targets under development			

Rating: Adequate

Program Type: Direct Federal

Program Summary:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) supports 185 elementary and secondary schools serving approximately 48,000 Indian children in 23 states. Tribes operate 121 of these schools under Indian self-determination grants/contracts. The 64 remaining schools are BIA operated.

The assessment identified a need for more independent review of the effectiveness of the program. Additional findings include:

1. BIA schools meet the cultural needs of American Indians, and serve children in remote and isolated communities often not accessible to public schools. Its system also includes boarding schools and dormitories, which is unique to other state and local school systems.
2. BIA changed the target year for reaching its long term goal of a score of 70% in math and language arts proficiency for students from 2005 to 2012. The program's annual target was adjusted, as well, to realign with actual figures.
3. In 2002, 43 schools needed corrective action plans, as defined under the Department of Education guidelines, for raising student achievement scores.
4. The program does not have adequate academic performance and cost-efficiency measures that provide valid comparisons with public schools in rural areas with high concentrations of Indian students.
5. In 2002, BIA instituted a pilot program, focused on the 5 lowest performing schools, aimed at helping the faculty improve student achievement test scores. Initial findings indicate that at least 4 of the schools have shown improvement.

In response to these findings:

1. BIA will establish a measure to report on schools (number and %) that are below, near, meet or exceed academic proficiency performance goals.
2. BIA will develop academic performance and cost-efficiency measures that are comparable to similarly located public schools.

(For more information on this program, please see the Department of the Interior chapter in the Budget volume.)

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
504	522	529