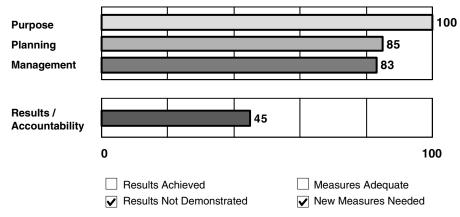
Program: Search and Rescue

Agency: Department of Homeland Security

Bureau: Coast Guard



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

Long-term Measure: Measures under development			
Annual Measure: Percent of all mariners in imminent danger rescued	1999		87.5%
	2000		82.7%
	2001	85%	84.2%
	2002	85%	

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Direct Federal

Program Summary:

The Search and Rescue (SAR) program saves people in distress in or on the water.

While the program is well-managed, it faces strategic planning and performance challenges.

- 1. The program has a clear purpose and is well-managed.
- 2. While the Coast Guard has a useful performance measure to assess its annual progress, more work is needed to develop long-term goals for the program.
- 3. Coast Guard has reached or very nearly reached its ambitious annual goal of saving 85% of all mariners in imminent danger. However, the program did not receive high scores in "Results" because it lacks long-term performance measures and because an audit found readiness problems.
- 4. A recent audit by the Inspector General identified "serious staffing, training, and equipment problems in the SAR program." These findings are supported by a few high-profile SAR cases that have been mishandled in the past decade.

To address these findings:

- 1. The Budget will provide funding in 2004 for two Coast Guard initiatives to improve SAR station readiness. These initiatives, totaling \$20 million, will enable the Coast Guard to increase SAR staffing. With additional personnel available at small boat stations and command centers, individuals' workweeks will be reduced to 68 hours and watch standards will be capped at 12 hours per shift. These changes will ensure that SAR operations are not hampered by personnel who are overworked and exhausted.
- $2.\ Coast\ Guard\ will\ work\ to\ develop\ useful\ long-term\ performance\ measures\ for\ the\ SAR\ program.$

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
640	777	830