

Agency Name: Department of Consumer & Business Services

II. KEY MEASURE ANALYSIS

Agency Mission: To serve and protect Oregon’s consumers and workers while supporting a positive business climate in the state.

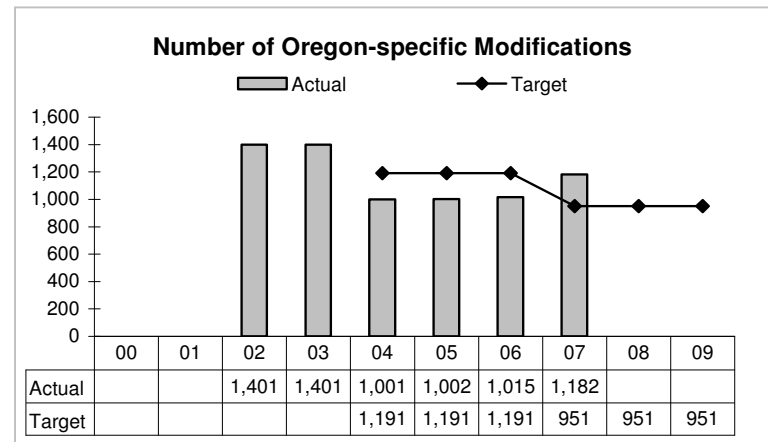
KPM #12	STREAMLINED BUILDING CODES Number of Oregon-specific building codes modifications made to the national model codes.	Measure since: 2002
Goal	DCBS Goal #2: Regulate in a manner that supports a positive business climate.	
Oregon Context	Oregon Benchmark #9: Oregon’s national rank in the cost of doing business.	
Data source	Manual counts based on review of building code revisions.	
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1. OUR STRATEGY

Make Oregon’s building codes as consistent as possible with national model codes, so that contractors and inspectors will need less training and code enforcement will be more uniform, predictable, and consistent.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

We determined our target by selecting the commercial structures code that contained many Oregon amendments and identifying Oregon-specific amendments that were in statute (e.g. accessibility, energy, etc.) and should not be changed. Our target is based on the number of amendments that remained. Our goal is to reduce amendments to the national code, however, we cannot eliminate all Oregon-specific amendments because they are intended to protect the public or accomplish other policy objectives. Therefore, our projections for the next few years are cautious. Our targets for 2007 through 2009, for example, are 951 modifications annually, an additional reduction of 5 percent.



3. HOW WE ARE DOING

The codes are adopted once every three years with occasional mid-term updates. The last code change occurred in 2007, and the number of code differences increased by more than 16 percent at that time.

4. HOW WE COMPARE

We know of no other comparable standards. Most states do not have statewide codes.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

We are experiencing an increase in Oregon code changes because of several policy changes related to energy efficiency, sustainability, and other issues. We are making Oregon-specific changes that reverse national code changes that are inconsistent with these and other policy objectives.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

We need to continue to communicate to BCD’s code advisory boards our goal of reducing modifications to the code.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

The code is adopted every three years. At the point of adoption, the modifications are manually counted. Additionally, any mid-term modifications to the code are manually counted annually.