



## PROGRAM

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## PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

### CDC: Occupational Safety and Health

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the lead Federal agency for research on the occupational health of U.S. workers. It conducts and supports research, responds to investigation requests, supports training and disseminates findings to inform worker safety programs and regulations.

#### PERFORMING

##### Adequate

- **The program works to address and prevent occupational hazards that result in disabling injuries, disease and/or death.** It is well managed overall, but has lacked strong performance measures to evaluate its impact on reducing workplace illness and injuries.
- **It has a well-established mechanism for setting priorities to guide budget requests and funding decisions.** Starting with a base of \$15 million in 1996, the program has targeted an increasing amount of its research investments through the National Occupational Research Agenda. This year, the program will invest up to \$99 million in 21 priority areas of research.
- **The program adopted new long-term measures that will help better capture the outcome of the program on occupational safety, illness and death.**

**We are taking the following actions to improve the performance of the program:**

- Tracking performance on the percent of firefighters/first responders with access to respirators and reductions in respirable coal dust overexposure and road construction fatalities and injuries.
- Advancing work with the National Academy of Sciences to develop a standard method of measuring the impact of their research on the occupational safety and health field.
- Using performance information from its research efforts to help improve program direction, allocate resources and develop annual budgets.

- [Assessment Details, Funding, and Improvement Plan.](#)
- [How all Federal programs are assessed.](#)
- [Learn more about CDC: Occupational Safety and Health.](#)