

U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board  
2011 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey

## **Background**

In 2011 the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) completed the annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS). The survey was administered by OPM and included 84 questions. The data are used to assess Federal employees' perceptions about how effectively agencies are managing their workforces.

### **1. Interpretation of Results:**

The results from the 2011 FEVS prove that the CSB has a dedicated professional staff that believes in the mission and works hard achieve it despite inadequate funding - CSB employees believe the work they do is important (92%), like the kind of work they do (92%), when needed will put in the extra effort to get a job done. (84%), look for better ways to do their jobs (84%) and believe their overall work quality is excellent. (91%) The staff has a positive view of their mission work despite the fact that they believe the agency does not have sufficient resources (people, materials, budget) to accomplish the CSB's mission. (62% negative)

CSB provides a family friendly environment which based on the survey results is valued by our staff – CSB employees are extremely satisfied with the support they receive for balancing work and family issues (73%), know they can telework (100%) and have teleworked for some period of time over the past 12 months. (90%)

The areas identified for improvement were communications and leadership. The following are examples of questions that were below government averages in the communication and leadership areas: (66) How satisfied are you with the policies and practices of your senior leaders, (58) Managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals needed resources), (64) How satisfied are you with the information you receive from management on what's going on in your organization, and (53) In my organization, leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workplace. FY 2011 was a transition year for the agency's leadership team and the uncertainty from the leadership changes are reflected in our results. The agency now has the new leadership team in place and believes the results will improve during the next survey period. One other way the agency's

leadership team is working to address the leadership issues is through the strategic planning process which will be complete in the fall of 2011.

**2. How the survey was conducted:** The survey was conducted online from April 4, 2011 to May 15, 2011.

**3. Description of sample:** All full time permanent CSB employees hired prior to September 30, 2010 were surveyed.

**4. Survey items and response choices:** See the tables on the following pages.

**5. Number of employees surveyed, number responded, and representativeness of respondents:** Of the 36 employees surveyed, 33 completed the survey for a response rate of 92%. (The highest response rate in the federal government for small agencies) While demographic questions were included in the OPM requirements, agencies with 800 or fewer employees were exempt from this requirement. The CSB decided not to ask these questions in order to foster a sense of confidentiality and anonymity for respondents.

# 2011 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey

## Empowering Employees

*inspiring change*

Chemical Safety and  
Hazard Investigation Board  
AGENCY RESULTS

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT



**CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD**  
**2011 FEDERAL EMPLOYEE VIEWPOINT SURVEY RESULTS**  
(Survey Administration Period April 4, 2011 to May 15, 2011)

		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*1. I am given a real opportunity to improve my skills in my organization.	N	64.3	6	16	2	6	3	33	NA
	%		17.0	47.3	6.8	19.4	9.4	100.0	
2. I have enough information to do my job well.	N	53.3	2	16	4	7	4	33	NA
	%		5.9	47.4	11.6	22.4	12.7	100.0	
3. I feel encouraged to come up with new and better ways of doing things.	N	58.2	9	11	3	3	7	33	NA
	%		26.3	31.9	9.1	9.5	23.2	100.0	
*4. My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment.	N	73.1	11	14	1	4	3	33	NA
	%		31.8	41.3	3.7	13.8	9.4	100.0	
*5. I like the kind of work I do.	N	91.5	13	17	2	1	0	33	NA
	%		39.3	52.2	5.6	2.9	0.0	100.0	
6. I know what is expected of me on the job.	N	63.1	6	15	3	5	4	33	NA
	%		18.3	44.9	9.4	15.8	11.7	100.0	
7. When needed I am willing to put in the extra effort to get a job done.	N	83.9	25	3	2	3	0	33	NA
	%		73.7	10.2	7.6	8.5	0.0	100.0	
8. I am constantly looking for ways to do my job better.	N	88.6	20	9	2	1	1	33	NA
	%		60.0	28.6	5.5	2.9	3.0	100.0	
9. I have sufficient resources (for example, people, materials, budget) to get my job done.	N	27.4	5	4	4	10	9	32	1
	%		15.8	11.6	10.6	35.3	26.7	100.0	
*10. My workload is reasonable.	N	29.1	0	10	5	10	7	32	1
	%		0.0	29.1	15.0	32.6	23.4	100.0	
*11. My talents are used well in the workplace.	N	58.9	5	14	2	6	5	32	1
	%		14.7	44.1	6.1	19.3	15.7	100.0	
*12. I know how my work relates to the agency's goals and priorities.	N	78.9	8	18	3	2	2	33	0
	%		22.1	56.7	8.5	6.2	6.4	100.0	
*13. The work I do is important.	N	91.5	17	13	2	0	1	33	0
	%		50.7	40.8	5.5	0.0	3.0	100.0	
*14. Physical conditions (for example, noise level, temperature, lighting, cleanliness in the workplace) allow employees to perform their jobs well.	N	81.8	7	20	3	1	2	33	0
	%		22.2	59.6	9.1	3.5	5.6	100.0	
*15. My performance appraisal is a fair reflection of my performance.	N	61.2	9	12	7	2	3	33	0
	%		25.6	35.6	23.8	5.9	9.1	100.0	
16. I am held accountable for achieving results.	N	66.5	12	10	4	2	5	33	0
	%		35.7	30.8	13.2	6.2	14.1	100.0	

\*AES prescribed items

\*\* Sum of responses excluding DNK/NBJ

Sample or Census: Census

Number of Employees Selected: 36

Percentages are weighted to represent the Agency's population.

**CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD**  
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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
17. I can disclose a suspected violation of any law, rule or regulation without fear of reprisal.	N %	36.8	3 9.8	9 27.0	6 20.0	4 15.3	9 27.9	31 100.0	2
*18. My training needs are assessed.	N %	27.5	2 5.9	7 21.7	5 17.7	7 24.6	9 30.1	30 100.0	3
*19. In my most recent performance appraisal, I understood what I had to do to be rated at different performance levels (for example, Fully Successful, Outstanding).	N %	61.0	8 22.9	12 38.0	4 12.7	5 17.0	3 9.3	32 100.0	1
*20. The people I work with cooperate to get the job done.	N %	56.5	9 28.5	9 28.1	4 11.4	6 21.5	3 10.7	31 100.0	NA
*21. My work unit is able to recruit people with the right skills.	N %	60.4	6 18.6	14 41.8	3 9.4	6 20.0	3 10.2	32 100.0	1
*22. Promotions in my work unit are based on merit.	N %	54.1	8 24.3	10 29.8	9 28.2	2 6.2	4 11.5	33 100.0	0
*23. In my work unit, steps are taken to deal with a poor performer who cannot or will not improve.	N %	41.2	4 13.6	8 27.5	10 37.5	4 14.4	2 6.9	28 100.0	5
*24. In my work unit, differences in performance are recognized in a meaningful way.	N %	41.2	4 13.9	8 27.2	5 17.2	8 31.4	3 10.2	28 100.0	5
25. Awards in my work unit depend on how well employees perform their jobs.	N %	54.7	6 22.9	10 31.8	8 27.1	2 8.3	3 9.8	29 100.0	4
26. Employees in my work unit share job knowledge with each other.	N %	75.8	11 33.2	14 42.5	2 6.6	4 11.6	2 5.9	33 100.0	0
27. The skill level in my work unit has improved in the past year.	N %	74.7	10 30.6	15 44.2	4 11.8	2 6.8	2 6.6	33 100.0	0
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
28. How would you rate the overall quality of work done by your work unit?	N %	91.2	21 63.3	9 27.9	2 5.9	1 2.9	0 0.0	33 100.0	NA
		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*29. The workforce has the job-relevant knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish organizational goals.	N %	51.0	2 5.6	16 45.4	3 9.6	8 25.6	4 13.8	33 100.0	0

\*AES prescribed items

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**2011 FEDERAL EMPLOYEE VIEWPOINT SURVEY RESULTS**  
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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*30. Employees have a feeling of personal empowerment with respect to work processes.	N %	21.9	2 5.6	6 16.4	6 16.9	10 32.7	9 28.4	33 100.0	0
31. Employees are recognized for providing high quality products and services.	N %	31.9	2 5.6	9 26.4	9 24.7	8 28.9	5 14.5	33 100.0	0
*32. Creativity and innovation are rewarded.	N %	26.6	2 5.7	7 20.9	9 24.4	9 31.9	5 17.1	32 100.0	1
*33. Pay raises depend on how well employees perform their jobs.	N %	21.5	0 0.0	7 21.5	8 26.9	10 35.2	5 16.3	30 100.0	3
34. Policies and programs promote diversity in the workplace (for example, recruiting minorities and women, training in awareness of diversity issues, mentoring).	N %	38.1	1 3.6	10 34.6	8 28.6	3 12.0	6 21.3	28 100.0	5
*35. Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job.	N %	66.8	6 20.7	16 46.1	6 17.6	2 6.5	3 9.1	33 100.0	0
*36. My organization has prepared employees for potential security threats.	N %	43.1	1 3.9	12 39.2	9 26.8	6 21.4	3 8.6	31 100.0	2
37. Arbitrary action, personal favoritism and coercion for partisan political purposes are not tolerated.	N %	27.6	2 5.9	8 21.7	4 14.2	7 25.9	10 32.3	31 100.0	1
38. Prohibited Personnel Practices (for example, illegally discriminating for or against any employee/applicant, obstructing a person's right to compete for employment, knowingly violating veterans' preference requirements) are not tolerated.	N %	42.3	5 14.6	9 27.8	6 19.4	3 11.7	8 26.6	31 100.0	2
39. My agency is successful at accomplishing its mission.	N %	40.9	4 10.9	10 29.9	8 25.5	8 26.8	2 6.9	32 100.0	0
40. I recommend my organization as a good place to work.	N %	34.6	3 8.7	9 25.9	8 24.3	7 23.4	6 17.8	33 100.0	NA
41. I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work.	N %	27.0	2 6.4	7 20.6	8 27.5	7 24.8	6 20.7	30 100.0	3
*42. My supervisor supports my need to balance work and other life issues.	N %	72.8	12 34.2	13 38.6	4 15.2	1 2.6	3 9.4	33 100.0	0
43. My supervisor/team leader provides me with opportunities to demonstrate my leadership skills.	N %	56.5	9 24.8	11 31.7	3 9.6	6 19.8	4 14.1	33 100.0	0
*44. Discussions with my supervisor/team leader about my performance are worthwhile.	N %	52.7	9 24.6	10 28.1	5 15.8	2 7.2	7 24.3	33 100.0	0

\*AES prescribed items

\*\* Sum of responses excluding DNK/NBJ

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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
45. My supervisor/team leader is committed to a workforce representative of all segments of society.	N		9	10	5	3	3	30	3
	%	60.7	28.8	31.9	16.9	11.9	10.5	100.0	
46. My supervisor/team leader provides me with constructive suggestions to improve my job performance.	N		8	11	3	5	6	33	0
	%	52.4	22.0	30.4	8.5	18.3	20.8	100.0	
*47. Supervisors/team leaders in my work unit support employee development.	N		9	11	4	5	4	33	0
	%	56.6	25.5	31.1	12.1	18.8	12.4	100.0	
48. My supervisor/team leader listens to what I have to say.	N		13	11	2	3	4	33	NA
	%	69.5	34.0	35.4	6.2	9.7	14.6	100.0	
49. My supervisor/team leader treats me with respect.	N		15	11	1	4	2	33	NA
	%	75.8	40.9	34.9	3.7	14.1	6.4	100.0	
50. In the last six months, my supervisor/team leader has talked with me about my performance.	N		10	16	0	2	5	33	NA
	%	77.4	27.5	49.9	0.0	6.7	15.9	100.0	
*51. I have trust and confidence in my supervisor.	N		13	7	4	2	7	33	NA
	%	55.4	34.7	20.7	13.8	6.5	24.3	100.0	
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*52. Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by your immediate supervisor/team leader?	N		15	5	5	1	7	33	NA
	%	56.3	41.3	15.0	16.5	2.9	24.2	100.0	
		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*53. In my organization, leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce.	N		1	3	9	8	12	33	0
	%	11.1	3.0	8.1	24.3	26.1	38.6	100.0	
54. My organization's leaders maintain high standards of honesty and integrity.	N		2	3	9	6	12	32	0
	%	13.6	5.7	7.8	27.3	21.5	37.6	100.0	
*55. Managers/supervisors/team leaders work well with employees of different backgrounds.	N		3	10	4	12	3	32	1
	%	40.2	8.4	31.8	12.3	39.1	8.5	100.0	
*56. Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization.	N		1	11	3	13	5	33	0
	%	33.5	3.0	30.5	8.8	40.9	16.8	100.0	
*57. Managers review and evaluate the organization's progress toward meeting its goals and objectives.	N		3	6	6	9	9	33	0
	%	26.2	8.1	18.1	18.8	28.3	26.7	100.0	

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Sample or Census: Census

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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
58. Managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals, needed resources).	N %	19.4	1 3.0	6 16.4	3 8.1	13 38.7	10 33.8	33 100.0	0
59. Managers support collaboration across work units to accomplish work objectives.	N %	29.1	2 5.7	8 23.4	5 14.1	8 25.0	9 31.8	32 100.0	0
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
60. Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by the manager directly above your immediate supervisor/team leader?	N %	21.8	4 10.8	4 10.9	11 35.1	5 16.0	9 27.1	33 100.0	0
		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*61. I have a high level of respect for my organization's senior leaders.	N %	19.2	1 3.0	6 16.2	7 20.8	8 27.8	11 32.3	33 100.0	0
62. Senior leaders demonstrate support for Work/Life programs.	N %	29.6	2 5.9	8 23.7	14 49.4	5 14.6	2 6.4	31 100.0	2
		Percent Positive	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*63. How satisfied are you with your involvement in decisions that affect your work?	N %	38.4	2 5.5	12 32.9	4 12.5	11 37.1	4 12.0	33 100.0	NA
*64. How satisfied are you with the information you receive from management on what's going on in your organization?	N %	19.3	1 3.0	6 16.3	5 14.2	12 38.3	9 28.3	33 100.0	NA
*65. How satisfied are you with the recognition you receive for doing a good job?	N %	36.2	1 3.0	12 33.2	8 24.1	8 25.6	4 14.1	33 100.0	NA
*66. How satisfied are you with the policies and practices of your senior leaders?	N %	11.2	1 3.0	3 8.3	6 15.6	14 44.7	9 28.4	33 100.0	NA
*67. How satisfied are you with your opportunity to get a better job in your organization?	N %	23.5	2 6.8	6 16.7	11 36.8	7 21.6	6 18.0	32 100.0	NA
*68. How satisfied are you with the training you receive for your present job?	N %	34.9	0 0.0	12 34.9	5 16.0	11 33.7	5 15.5	33 100.0	NA

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		Percent Positive	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Item Response Total	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*69. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your job?	N		7	8	6	9	3	33	NA
	%	43.4	19.7	23.7	19.1	28.6	9.0	100.0	
*70. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your pay?	N		3	16	6	8	0	33	NA
	%	56.0	10.3	45.8	19.0	25.0	0.0	100.0	
71. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your organization?	N		3	10	3	10	7	33	NA
	%	36.0	8.7	27.3	9.2	34.6	20.2	100.0	

72. Have you been notified that you are eligible to telework? Telework means working at a location other than your normal work site during your regular work hours (excludes travel).		N	%
<b>Yes</b>		33	100.0
<b>No</b>		0	0.0
<b>Not sure</b>		0	0.0
<b>Total</b>		33	100.0

73. Please select the response below that BEST describes your current teleworking situation:		N	%
<b>I telework 3 or more days per week.</b>		0	0.0
<b>I telework 1 or 2 days per week.</b>		5	13.8
<b>I telework, but no more than 1 or 2 days per month.</b>		12	37.2
<b>I telework very infrequently, on an unscheduled or short-term basis.</b>		13	39.1
<b>I do not telework because I have to be physically present on the job (e.g., Law Enforcement Officers, Park Rangers, Security Personnel).</b>		0	0.0
<b>I do not telework because I have technical issues (e.g., connectivity, inadequate equipment) that prevent me from teleworking.</b>		0	0.0
<b>I do not telework because I did not receive approval to do so, even though I have the kind of job where I can telework.</b>		0	0.0
<b>I do not telework because I choose not to telework.</b>		3	9.9
<b>Total</b>		33	100.0

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74. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs?  
Alternative Work Schedules (AWS)

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	5	13.9
<b>No</b>	12	37.9
<b>Not available to me</b>	16	48.2
<b>Total</b>	33	100.0

75. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Health  
and Wellness Programs (for example, exercise, medical screening,  
quit smoking programs)

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	12	34.7
<b>No</b>	7	22.8
<b>Not available to me</b>	14	42.5
<b>Total</b>	33	100.0

76. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs?  
Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	2	6.5
<b>No</b>	26	80.2
<b>Not available to me</b>	5	13.3
<b>Total</b>	33	100.0

77. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Child  
Care Programs (for example, daycare, parenting classes, parenting  
support groups)

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	1	3.7
<b>No</b>	17	52.5
<b>Not available to me</b>	15	43.8
<b>Total</b>	33	100.0

78. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Elder  
Care Programs (for example, support groups, speakers)

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	0	0.0
<b>No</b>	20	62.4
<b>Not available to me</b>	13	37.6
<b>Total</b>	33	100.0

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		Percent Positive	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
79. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Telework	N	59.5	4	14	6	4	4	32	1
	%		13.3	46.2	17.0	11.0	12.5	100.0	
80. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Alternative Work Schedules (AWS)	N	36.9	0	6	3	3	3	15	17
	%		0.0	36.9	18.2	22.9	22.1	100.0	
81. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Health and Wellness Programs (for example, exercise, medical screening, quit smoking programs)	N	39.5	1	7	6	5	0	19	14
	%		5.3	34.2	32.4	28.1	0.0	100.0	
82. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	N	34.1	0	6	11	1	0	18	15
	%		0.0	34.1	60.4	5.6	0.0	100.0	
83. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Child Care Programs (for example, daycare, parenting classes, parenting support groups)	N	19.3	1	1	6	3	1	12	21
	%		9.8	9.5	45.5	25.4	9.8	100.0	
84. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Elder Care Programs (for example, support groups, speakers)	N	0.0	0	0	7	2	0	9	24
	%		0.0	0.0	74.9	25.1	0.0	100.0	

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Number of Employees Selected: 36

Percentages are weighted to represent the Agency's population.  
Surveys Completed: 33  
Response Rate: 91.7%



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