



Why This Matters

Section 888 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 directs the Inspector General to conduct an annual review that assesses the performance of all United States Coast Guard (USCG) missions, with a particular emphasis on non-homeland security missions.

The Act defines the USCG's 11 statutory missions as either non-homeland security missions or homeland security missions, and prohibits the Secretary of Homeland Security from substantially or significantly reducing any of the USCG's missions or its capability to perform those missions.

Annual Review of the United States Coast Guard's Mission Performance (FY 2011)

What We Determined

The USCG's statutory non-homeland security missions include marine safety, marine environmental protection, search and rescue, aids-to-navigation, living marine resources, and ice operations. The USCG's homeland security missions are ports, waterways, and coastal security; drug interdiction; migrant interdiction; defense readiness; and other law enforcement.

We reviewed the resource hours the USCG used to perform its various missions. We also reviewed the USCG's performance measures and results for each non-homeland security and homeland security mission. We did not verify the accuracy of the USCG-provided data.

The USCG reported that it met or exceeded 14 of 23 summary performance measures in fiscal year (FY) 2011. This includes 9 of 12 non-homeland security performance measures and 5 of 11 homeland security performance measures.

In FY 2011, the USCG budgeted approximately the same percentage of its funding for non-homeland security missions (49.6 percent) as homeland security missions (50.4 percent).

The USCG dedicated approximately 4 percent more resource hours to homeland security missions than non-homeland security missions in FY 2011. Homeland security mission resource hours totaled 355,586, while non-homeland security mission resource hours totaled 328,008. Homeland security mission resource hours decreased by approximately 0.5 percent from fiscal year 2010, and remained approximately 91 percent above the baseline. Non-homeland security mission resource hours decreased by approximately 7 percent from fiscal year 2010 and were approximately 10 percent above the baseline.

For Further Information:

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