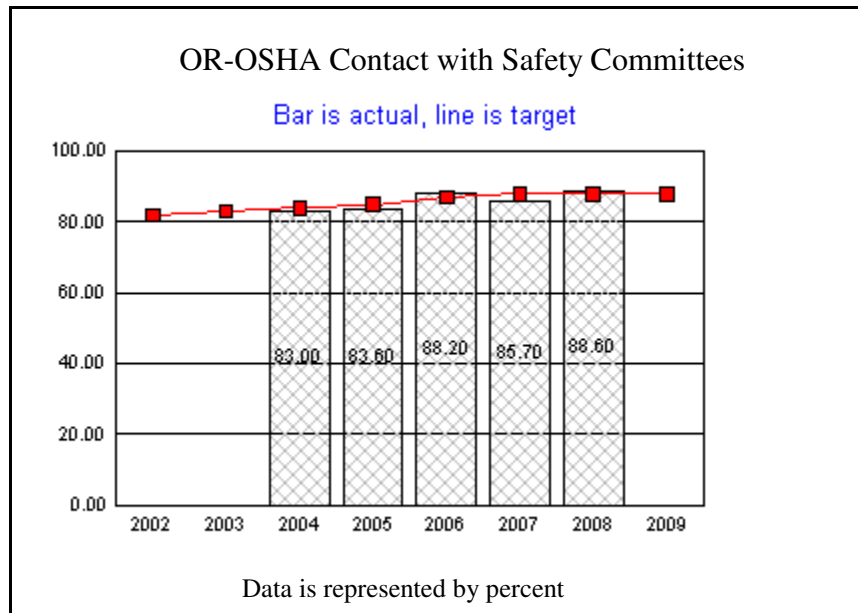


KPM #9	CONSULTATIONS WITH SAFETY COMMITTEES – Percent of Oregon-OSHA employer consultations where the consultant works actively with employee safety committees.	2002
Goal	DCBS Goal #1: Protect consumers and workers in Oregon.	
Oregon Context	DCBS Mission: To protect and serve Oregon's consumers and workers while supporting a positive business climate in the state.	
Data Source	Oregon-OSHA Consultations database	
Owner	Suzanne Kailey, Consultation and Public Education Manager, Oregon-OSHA, (503) 378-3272	



1. OUR STRATEGY

Create employer self-sufficiency in workplace safety and health by involving employees in workplace safety and educating employers on the value of employee safety committees.

Oregon OSHA offers no-cost, confidential consultation services to help employers improve workplace safety. Collaborating with the safety committee during those consultations ensures that both employers and employees are engaged in creating safer workplaces.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

We used historical trends to set a baseline for performance and set targets to show steady improvement from our baseline level, reflecting our desire to increase contact with safety committees. Target percentages increased through 2007 to an 88 percent threshold. The threshold of 88 percent reflects the expectation that approximately 12 percent of companies receive a consultation visit where safety committee involvement would not be productive. For example, consultants frequently meet with an employer more than once and it may not enhance safety efforts to meet with the safety committee at each visit. Also, some consultations focus on specific areas where working actively with the safety committee may not be constructive.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

In general, actual percentages have closely followed our targets. Over the past five years, the percentage of consultations where our staff work actively with safety committees has increased by more than 5 percentage points. The value of 88.6 percent for 2008 reflects a leveling off of interaction between Oregon OSHA consultants and safety committees because we realized that encouraging further increases in this target would be counterproductive to our efforts to improve safety (see explanation under “About The Targets”).

4. HOW WE COMPARE

It is difficult to compare Oregon OSHA’s performance with other states because only about 20 percent of states have a safety committee requirement and we do not know of any other states that track this data.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The percentage varies per quarter based on the type of consultation and the need for safety committee involvement. Consultants may visit the same employer over time to address specific safety and health issues. In these cases the consultant may not work with the safety committee during each visit. This is particularly true for subsequent visits if the employer already has an active and effective safety committee or has had previous consultant interactions related to safety committee roles and responsibilities.

House Bill 2222, which was passed during the 2007 Legislature, likely affects this measure. The bill changed the safety committee requirements, particularly as they relate to small employers. As a result, this measure is not as meaningful because many small employers now have alternative

options for promoting safety in the workplace. We have proposed this measure for deletion because of the new law and the potential for inefficient interactions between safety committees and Oregon OSHA staff to meet an increasing target. Not all Oregon OSHA/employer interactions require involvement with safety committees and we don't want to encourage employers to interact with us in an unproductive manner.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Oregon OSHA will continue to emphasize the importance of effective employee involvement mechanisms such as safety committees and employer safety meetings. As part of the implementation of House Bill 2222, Oregon OSHA consultants and public education staff will provide renewed emphasis on these issues in their contact with employers.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

Data is collected quarterly and reported for the Oregon fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Actual percentage figures are calculated by dividing the number of Oregon OSHA consultations where consultants worked with the safety committee to enhance their skills and /or improve their effectiveness by the total number of consultations with employers that had a safety committee. Note, DCBS reports final values to 1 decimal place. The automated annual report system shows a 0 as the second decimal place, which is a placeholder for measures that may require a second decimal place.