

## Performance Measurement Reporting System

ONDCP's performance measurement reporting system monitors the annual performance of Federal drug control agencies—in accordance with Section 202 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (P. L. 109-469). This system provides ONDCP leadership with assessments to inform decisions and gauge program progress towards the goals of the *National Drug Control Strategy*.

The *Strategy's* policies are carried out through a variety of programs and activities undertaken by ONDCP's drug control partner agencies. These constitute the infrastructure to achieve the Strategy's targets and priority programs. To assess the contributions of individual agencies, ONDCP draws on existing agency data systems required by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and on national indicators such as the Monitoring the Future study. Additional information from budget justifications, program assessments, and internal management documents are also utilized where appropriate.

Agency performance measures, and the data sources that inform them, are tailored to assess the unique contribution of each drug control agency. The reliance on existing, customized mechanisms for evaluating performance results in the use of a wide variety of measures and data sources. For example, prevention indicators range from perception of harm from drug use, to attitudes towards drug use, to actual drug use. Data sources vary from national surveys such as the *National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (NSDUH) and the *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System* (YRBS), to records maintained by individual programs. For instance, the Department of Education uses YRBS data to estimate the percent of students offered, sold, or given an illegal drug in school as a measure for the State Grants component of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program. The Department of Defense uses program records to track the percent of active duty military personnel that test positive.

Treatment performance measures primarily focus on the effectiveness of programs in helping clients attain and sustain recovery, obtain and keep jobs, and reduce criminality. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Outcomes Measures (NOMS) system is a collaborative effort with States. The NOMS evaluates both the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant and Programs of Regional and National Significance across ten performance domains and documents progress with State-by-State outcome information. The Office of Justice Programs records the number of drug courts and the Veterans Health Administration monitors the percent of clients receiving appropriate continuity of care -- both through program records. The National Institute on Drug Abuse employs various research milestones documenting progress towards developing and testing evidence-based treatment approaches for specialized populations in community settings.

Programs that contribute to market disruption use several performance measures that monitor eradication, alternative crop substitution, interdiction, and law enforcement activities. The Coast Guard's non-commercial maritime cocaine removal rate relies on the interagency-developed Consolidated Counter Drug Database (CCDB), which was established to collect data on cocaine movement events in the source and transit zones and to permit strategic analyses of trafficking trends and operational performance. The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs tracks the number of hectares of coca (or opium poppy) cultivated in relevant source countries, obtained from the Central Intelligence Agency's Crime and Narcotics Center. The Drug Enforcement Administration's number of Priority Target Organizations disrupted or dismantled is tracked in program records. Other measures include the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force's percent of key defendants convicted.

The performance measurement reporting system utilizes several tools to assess performance and encourage improvement, the most important being the explicit linkage of performance and budget through the budget certification process. Every year, ONDCP sends guidance to Federal drug control agencies, urging improvements in their accountability systems and when needed, pressing for aggressive performance targets in order to meet the *Strategy's* goals. For example, ONDCP established an interdiction target of 40 percent to guide the interdiction community. This long-term target has since been adopted by interdiction agencies such as the Coast Guard and appropriate annual targets developed by an interagency working group. Summer and fall budget submissions are assessed annually and feedback about performance issues transmitted to each agency. The Director has employed these performance assessments to inform resource allocation decisions for the President's Budget.

The Budget Summary, a separate publication to be released at a later date, documents the performance targets and actual achievements of each program along with a qualitative description of past-year accomplishments. The Summary includes findings from the Office of Management and Budget's Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART), which evaluates a program's purpose, planning, management, and results to determine its overall effectiveness rating.

To further improve the capabilities of this performance measurement reporting system, ONDCP, in collaboration with national drug control agencies, has taken several steps to develop valid performance measures, refine data collection systems, and improve agency accountability systems.

Agencies are also required to submit annual performance summary reports. Each report is to include performance-related information for National Drug Control Program activities—specifically on performance measures, prior year performance targets and results, current year targets, and the quality of the performance data. In 2008, each agency Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an attestation review consistent with the Statements for Standards of Attestation Engagements, promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The objective of the attestation review was to evaluate an entity's performance reporting and to provide negative assurance. Negative assurance, based on the criteria established by the ONDCP Circular, indicated that nothing came to the attention of the OIG that would cause them to believe an agency's submission was presented other than fairly, in all material respects.

These reports constitute a key component of ONDCP's performance system by providing independent assessments of the robustness of agency accountability systems—exposing weaknesses and validating credible performance measures, targets, and related databases. Some of the OIGs Strategy reported deficiencies in agency accountability systems—for instance, the lack of a performance measure for the drug treatment-related Research and Development program in the Department of Veterans Affairs. This deficiency was immediately addressed by the Department and procedures established to monitor the measure selected. Other OIG findings present opportunities for improving agency performance systems and their contribution to the *Strategy*, for example, ONDCP has begun working with the United States Agency for International Development to refine their monitoring of program performance.



