

Completeness and Reliability of Data

Treasury's Commitment to Quality Performance Measurement

The availability of quality performance information to assess program performance has long been a priority at the Department. Starting with its FY 1998 performance plans, Treasury has provided descriptive information on each performance measure to define what was being measured and the significance of the measurement. With the FY 1999 performance plans, a description of the accuracy and means to verify data was included for each measure. In the FY 2000 performance plans, bureaus were required to provide self-assessments of data quality.

These self-assessments require bureaus to rate the data for each performance measure as having:

- *Reasonable Accuracy* -- Judged to be sufficiently accurate for program management and performance reporting purposes (specified in OMB Circular A-11, Section 232.10 as "acceptably reliable")
- *Questionable or Unknown Accuracy* -- Judged to be materially inadequate
- Where statistical confidence intervals are available, these are provided instead of the rating statements

In addition, the process for submission of FY 2001 information and assurance statements attendant to the requirements of the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA) and the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act (FFMIA) required bureaus to address any data reliability issues regarding their performance measures in their assurance statement. With the exception of CDFI's Bank Enterprise Award performance measures (see "Data Reliability" section), all data was deemed to be reliable.

Completeness of Data

All performance measures with targets presented in the final FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan are reported in this report with the exceptions as noted below. Actual FY 2001 performance data for these measures will be included in the FY 2002 Program Performance Report.

E2: Maintain U.S. Leadership on Global Economic Issues

- Level of direct investment abroad (\$ in billions) -- data available July 2002

F3: Provide Accurate and Timely Financial Information and Support the Government-wide Implementation of Accounting Standards

- Percentage of Federal agency reports for the *Financial Report of the U.S. Government* processed by FMS within the established standard range -- data available April 2002

M1: Support the Achievement of Business Results

- Percentage of new IT capital investments that are within costs, on schedule, and meeting performance targets -- data was not sufficient to allow an indicator to be determined and was classified as "unmet." (The Chief Information Officer is working to improve data collection efforts in FY 2002.)

In addition, the report does not include twenty-five IRS measures presented in their final FY 2001 annual performance plan. Treasury has classified these measures as workload indicators, but not balanced performance measures for purposes of Results Act reporting. FY 2001 results information on these indicators can be found in the IRS section of Volume II of the FY 2003 Justification for Appropriations and Performance Plan.

Data Reliability

Performance data presented in this Report meets the standards for reliability set forth in OMB Circular A-11, Section 232. There is neither a refusal nor a marked reluctance by agency managers or government decision makers to use the data in carrying out their responsibilities. Data judged as materially inadequate, along with a brief reason for the inadequacy and planned corrective actions are as follows.

Bureau	Data Not Reasonably Accurate / Materially Inadequate	Reason for Inadequacy and Actions to Correct
CDFI	Increase in dollar amount of community development loans, investments and services in distressed communities by BEA applicants that submitted a final report (assessment period over baseline period) (\$ in millions)	The FY 2001 Bank Enterprise Award (BEA) program performance information is being directly reported by the BEA awardees. The CDFI fund has not corroborated the BEA awardee-reported information to assess reliability. Without further assessment and analysis, the CDFI fund cannot deem the fiscal year 2001 performance data to be reliable. Actions to Correct: Validate BEA awardee reported performance data to ensure reliability. Establish methodology to corroborate performance data provided by BEA awardees to ensure accuracy and reliability.
	Amount of financial assistance provided to CDFIs by BEA applicants that submitted a final report (\$ in millions)	
	Number of CDFIs receiving financial assistance by BEA applicants that submitted a final report	
	Number of BEA applicants that submitted a final report that provided financial assistance to CDFIs.	

Steps to Improve the Quality and Value of Performance Data

Centralized Treasury Efforts

- Teams of Treasury analysts, with the assistance of a loaned executive from OMB, performed reviews and analyses of Treasury's FY 2001 performance measures, including a review of existing verification and validation information. Results and recommendations were forwarded to bureaus for use in their data quality improvement efforts.
- Classes were conducted at several bureaus on the Department's implementation of the Results Act, including session on quality performance measures and data verification and validation using a model from GAO. Similar classes will take place in FY 2002 at other Treasury bureaus.

Major Bureau Efforts

- ***IRS.*** During FY 2001, IRS worked with GAO to enhance its "data dictionary" input document to provide additional detail around the purpose, limitations, critical path, and management controls for each of its strategic and critical measures. IRS also began to capture baseline data and detailed definitions for its strategic level measures and plans to begin reporting on these measures in FY 2002. Service-wide, IRS moved to a web-based Business Performance Management System that will incrementally provide for 100% automation of data along with tailored reports, templates, and integration of performance information for phases of its Strategic Planning and Budgeting cycle.
- ***Customs.*** Customs conducted its Self Inspections Program in FY 2001, with managers performing self-assessments of methods, procedures and performance measurements for continued improvement.

Treasury Inspectors General Efforts

- ***OIG.*** OIG issued a report on Customs performance measures for its Commercial Activity. Recommendations included the need for measuring both overall and significant compliance rates, and an additional measure for facilitation of trade and travel. Customs management concurred with OIG's recommendations.