

**Data Quality Record**  
**FY 2017 Congressional Budget Justification**

**Section 1: Measure Metadata**

<b>1. Name of Indicator</b>	Cost per \$1 million in regulatory cost savings
<b>2. Name of Office/Program</b>	Office of Advocacy
<b>3. Performance Indicator Statement, if applicable (for PREP)</b>	
<b>4. Indicator Overview or Summary</b> (measure description & relevance)	Measure is an efficiency indicator to quantify the cost in Advocacy resources for each \$1 million in regulatory cost savings to small entities as a result of Advocacy interventions in the rule development process. Regulatory advocacy on behalf of small entities is a primary statutory mission of the office (see 15 U.S.C. 634a et seq.). Small business dollars saved by not having to comply with unnecessary federal regulations can be used to grow or maintain affected businesses.
<b>5. Strategic Goal/Objective</b>	1.1
<b>6. GPRA Type</b>	Performance Indicator
<b>7. Internal Use?</b>	No

**Section 2: Data Definitions and Source Reporting**

<b>8. Logic Model Type</b>	Efficiency
<b>9. Term Definitions</b>	Advocacy costs are the total of those budgetary obligations actually incurred by Advocacy for all purposes in the reporting year. Regulatory cost savings consist of forgone capital or annual compliance costs for rules in which Advocacy intervened that otherwise would have been required in the first year of a rule's implementation.
<b>10. Direction of Measure</b>	Decrease
<b>11. Unit of Measurement</b>	Dollars
<b>12. Origination Fiscal Year</b>	2001
<b>13. Data Collection Process</b>	Savings on a given rule on which Advocacy has worked are recorded in quarterly reports after the agency promulgating that rule agrees to the changes that result in savings and finalizes that rule. Advocacy budgetary obligations actually incurred during the reporting year are provided by the SBA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
<b>14. Data Source</b>	Cost savings data are supplied by the federal agencies promulgating the relevant rules or the industries affected by them. Advocacy budgetary obligations actually incurred during the reporting year are provided by the SBA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
<b>15. Data Quality Procedures</b>	Advocacy attorneys and economists work with regulatory development officials in other agencies and with affected industries to validate and verify the accuracy of cost savings data, however, the ultimate sources of such data are beyond Advocacy's direct control.
<b>16. Calculation Methodology</b>	The total of all Advocacy budgetary obligations actually incurred in the reporting year is divided by the amount of regulatory cost savings for that year (in \$ millions).

**Section 3: Reporting, Oversight, and Certification**

<b>17. Lag Time</b>	Advocacy budgetary obligations actually incurred during the reporting year are provided by the SBA’s Office of the Chief Financial Officer sometime during the first quarter following the close of the reporting year. Regulatory cost savings can lag an agency’s final action on the rule which generated these savings. The length of this lag time varies with each rule/agency. On some rules data may be available immediately; on others months may pass before savings are scored. Advocacy finalizes its annual calculation before the end of the first quarter following the reporting year, and this information is available to the public with the release of the President’s annual budget request to Congress, normally released in the second quarter following the year of the Advocacy’s Annual Performance Report.
<b>18. Frequency of Data Collection</b>	Cost savings data are captured in the quarter and fiscal year in which the regulating agency agrees to changes to its rule resulting from Advocacy’s intervention and finalizes the rule. Advocacy budgetary obligations during the reporting year are provided on an annual basis by the SBA’s Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
<b>19. Data Limitations</b>	A limitation of this measure is that it can vary unpredictably because one of the two factors used in its calculation, regulatory cost savings, is impossible to predict with any degree of accuracy. There is no way to determine in advance what rules will cost in any given year or what cost saving modifications will be made based on Advocacy’s interventions. Advocacy must rely on data supplied by federal agencies or affected industries. Cost savings rely on externalities; Advocacy does not control the content or timing of the regulations on which it works and from which cost savings may be derived. Another limitation of this measure is that Advocacy is unable to include in its annual estimate of regulatory cost savings any savings that result solely from pre-decisional deliberative consultations or technical assistance provided to regulatory agencies. These savings are in addition to those scored under this performance measure and are substantial but impossible to measure with accuracy.
<b>20. Indicator Quality</b>	Medium
<b>21. Third-Party Auditors</b>	