

**Data Quality Record for FY 2016 Performance Results
FY 2018 Congressional Budget Justification**

Section 1: Measure Metadata

1. Name of Indicator	Regulatory Cost Savings
2. Name of Office/Program	Office of Advocacy
3. Indicator Overview or Summary (measure description & relevance)	Measure is an indicator to quantify regulatory cost savings to small entities achieved as a result of Advocacy interventions in the rule development process. Regulatory advocacy on behalf of small entities is a primary statutory mission of Advocacy (see 15 U.S.C. 634a et seq.). Dollars saved by small businesses in regulatory compliance costs can be used to maintain and grow their firms.
4. Strategic Goal/Objective	1.1
5. GPRA Type	Performance Indicator
6. Internal Use?	No

Section 2: Data Definitions and Source Reporting

7. Logic Model Type	Outcome
8. Term Definitions	Regulatory cost savings from rules on which Advocacy has intervened consist of forgone capital or annual compliance costs that otherwise would have been required in the first year of a rule's implementation.
9. Direction of Measure	Decrease
10. Unit of Measurement	Dollars
11. Origination Fiscal Year	2001
12. Data Collection Process	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.
13. Data Source	Cost savings data are supplied by the federal agencies promulgating the relevant rules or the industries affected by them.
14. Data Quality Procedures	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.
15. Calculation Methodology	Cost savings data are supplied by federal agencies or affected industries. Because each rule's scope and effects are different, no standard formula for cost savings is possible.

Section 3: Reporting, Oversight, and Certification

16. Lag Time	<p>Data on 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 includes cost savings data in quarterly management reports as soon as such data becomes available. It also appears in detail in Advocacy's annual report to the Congress and the President on implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act and in the office's annual Congressional Budget Justification.</p>
17. Frequency of Data Collection	<p>Cost savings data are captured in the quarter and fiscal year in which the regulating agency agrees to changes in its rule resulting from Advocacy's intervention; this is not necessarily during the period in which the intervention occurred.</p>
18. Data Limitations	<p>A limitation of this measure is that it is impossible to predict with any degree of accuracy when federal agencies will publish final rules that reflect cost savings resulting from Advocacy interventions. Also, 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.</p>
19. Indicator Quality	Medium
20. Third-Party Auditors	