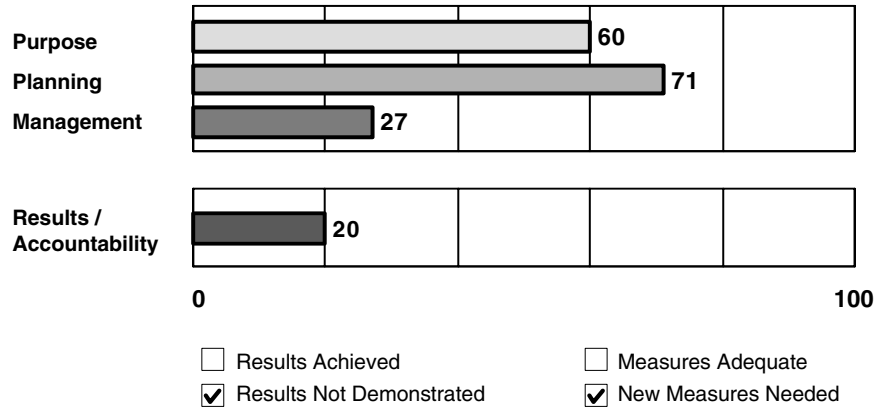


Program: AmeriCorps

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service

Bureau: Corporation for National and Community Service



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

Measure	Year	Target	Actual
Long-term Measure: Measures under development			
Annual Measure: Measures under development			
Annual Measure: Measures under development			

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Competitive Grants

Program Summary:

The AmeriCorps program makes competitive grants to states and national organizations to support people to provide community services. These services include tutoring children, responding to natural disasters, establishing or expanding neighborhood safety patrols, and building and rehabilitating homes for the homeless. Participants are eligible to receive a \$4,725 education award for each year of full-time service completed to help pay for college, job training or pay back student loans.

Key PART findings include:

1. The PART identified that while AmeriCorps makes a contribution in addressing community needs for volunteer services, AmeriCorps has not been able to demonstrate results. Its current focus is on the amount of time a person serves, as opposed to the impact on the community or participants.
2. The program has limited data to show progress on performance measures, and current CNCS goals are neither specific nor measurable. For example, "Meeting Community Needs" is one of the program's long-term performance goals, but since CNCS does not provide a numerical target or baseline to explain how it will achieve this goal, it is difficult to determine what progress if any will be made. CNCS acknowledges the need to improve its performance measures and will begin to adopt new goals and indicators in 2003.
3. CNCS has made significant improvements in addressing past financial management problems. In 2001, the agency received an unqualified audit for the second consecutive year, with no material weaknesses identified. However, CNCS has found weaknesses in recording education awards and approved AmeriCorps positions in excess of budgeted levels. CNCS is implementing a corrective action plan to address these issues.
4. AmeriCorps does not have a limited number of annual performance goals that demonstrate progress toward achieving its long-term goals. CNCS will begin to adopt quantifiable goals by which performance outcomes can be measured.

In response to these findings, CNCS will:

1. Continue to work on strengthening performance measures and indicators.
2. Establish new financial management procedures to ensure that the Corporation has timely and accurate information on AmeriCorps enrollments that are within budgeted levels and properly records education award obligations.
3. Develop more outcome-oriented long-term and annual performance measures for the 2005 Budget.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
240	403	313