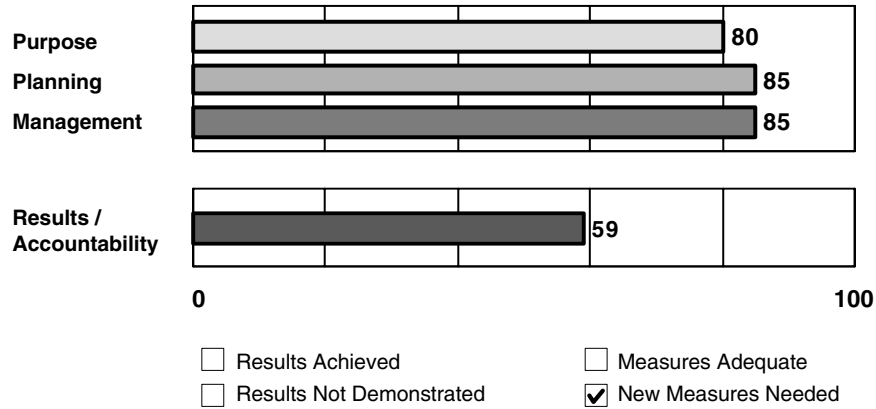


**Program: Visa and Consular Services**

**Agency:** Department of State

**Bureau:**



**Key Performance Measures**

**Year Target Actual**

Long-term Goal: Percentage of consular application forms revised annually as a protective check for the safety of American Citizens who travel and live abroad	2000	100%	64%
	2001	100%	76%
	2002	100%	73%
	2003	100%	
Annual Goal: Timely and effective passport issuance with passport document integrity assured	2001	100%	100%
	2002	100%	100%
	2003	100%	
Annual Measure: Facilitate travel to US by qualified foreigners, immigrants and refugees while preventing entry by those who abuse US immigration laws or threaten national security through the use of electronic tracking and saving of all visa applications in accordance with P.L. 107-173 (Goal of 100% paper in 2002 and 100% electronic thereafter)	2002	100%	100%
	2003	100%	

**Rating: Moderately Effective**

**Program Type:** Direct Federal

**Program Summary:**

Consular Affairs (CA) administers laws, writes regulations and implements policies relating to a broad range of consular services and activities provided to American citizens (AmCits) abroad. For instance, CA is responsible for issuing visas and providing travel advisories. Historically, Consular Affairs processes more than 9 million visa applications and 5 million passport applications annually in addition to the other citizen services provided. In general, the purpose of the Border Security Program is to protect American citizens here and abroad and to safeguard US borders through improvements in consular systems and programs.

The purpose of this program is clear. The program is unique but many of its activities work in conjunction with several other federal programs and agencies.

1. Various portions of the program are frequently evaluated and the overall visa and consular programs regularly achieve annual targets for protection & safety of Americans who travel or live abroad and facilitation of travel for qualified foreign visitors. Annual goals and targets do not adequately link to the long-term goals or provide relevant performance data. There have been highly publicized lapses related to visa and consular officers as shown by the events of 9/11. Since 9/11, the State Department has taken some steps to better integrate the visa process into overall border security efforts by improving access to intelligence data for visa issuance through the referral of questionable applications to the FBI and CIA. In addition, CA has imposed a mandatory delay on visa issuances to certain nationalities and demographic groups, to permit a more thorough interagency review of each application. The Administration will work to develop measurable goals that better reflect what State is actually doing to meet the needs of Americans traveling abroad and non-US citizens traveling to the US. These new goals should demonstrate results for this program in the future.
2. The Department is collecting adequate financial information.
3. The program is designed to have a significant impact on the safety and welfare of Americans abroad, wishing to travel abroad, and the provision of visas to qualified foreigners to travel to the US. In the past years two laws (Patriot Act and Border Security Act) have been passed that have added significant new requirements on CA. The bureau has revised its planning in accordance with those laws to better integrate its planning with other agencies related to homeland security & counterterrorism.
4. Consular Affairs is relatively effective and heavily scrutinized. CA is funded predominantly by fee collections, therefore funding decisions in 2004 were not based on this PART analysis.

**Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)**

<u>2002 Actual</u>	<u>2003 Estimate</u>	<u>2004 Estimate</u>
486	664	807