

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

Annual Employee Survey Results
Fiscal Year 2015

2015 Annual Employee Survey Results

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) strives for continuous improvement and uses feedback from the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) to build a better workplace.

This report highlights what OGE employees have identified as areas of strengths and challenges, along with areas of progress and opportunities for improvement. The 2015 results are compared with the 2014 results.

Of note, 78 percent of employees participated in the survey in 2015 as opposed to 88 percent in 2014. Below are the five survey items with the most positive responses (strengths) and the five survey items with the most negative responses (challenges).

Strengths

I know how my work relates to the agency's goals and priorities. (Q.12)

- **96.23%** percent positive
- **1.88%** neutral
- **82%** government-wide average (percent positive)

Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job. (Q.35)

- **95.04%** percent positive
- **0%** neutral
- **76%** government-wide average (percent positive)

The work I do is important. (Q.13)

- **94.05%** percent positive
- **4.07%** neutral
- **90%** government-wide average (percent positive)

I am held accountable for achieving results. (Q.16)

- **92.90%** percent positive
- **4.41%** neutral
- **81%** government-wide average (percent positive)

When needed I am willing to put in the extra effort to get a job done. (Q.20)

- **92.79%** percent positive
- **8.99%** neutral
- **73%** government-wide average (percent positive)

Challenges

In my work unit, steps are taken to deal with a poor performer who cannot or will not improve. (Q.23)

- **26.79%** percent negative
- **23.94 %** neutral
- **28%** government-wide average (percent positive)

I have sufficient resources (for example, people, materials, budget) to get my job done. (Q. 9)

- **24.55%** percent negative
- **12.14%** neutral
- **46%** government-wide average (percent positive)

My workload is reasonable. (Q.10)

- **24.45%** percent negative
- **10.95%** neutral
- **57%** government-wide average (percent positive)

My talents are used well in the workplace. (Q.11)

- **22.27%** percent negative
- **6.89%** neutral
- **58%** government-wide average (percent positive)

In my organization, senior leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce. (Q.53)

- **21.67%** percent negative
- **15.72%** neutral
- **39%** government-wide average (percent positive)

Below are the survey items that had the largest increases and decreases in percentage points for positive responses since the 2014 survey.

Increased the Most

Pay raises depend on how well employees perform their jobs. (Q.33) **+25.21**

I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work. (Q.41) **+22.14**

Decreased the Most

Managers review and evaluate the organization's progress toward meeting its goals and objectives. (Q.57) **-8.94**

Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization. (Q.56) **-8.88**

The survey items and response choices are below.

		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*1. I am given a real opportunity to improve my skills in my organization.	N		23	18	2	1	3	47	NA
	%	86.44	48.30	38.14	4.41	1.88	7.26	100.00	
2. I have enough information to do my job well.	N		19	18	3	3	4	47	NA
	%	78.55	40.58	37.97	5.54	6.01	9.90	100.00	
3. I feel encouraged to come up with new and better ways of doing things.	N		23	13	2	6	3	47	NA
	%	76.07	48.24	27.83	3.66	13.01	7.26	100.00	
*4. My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment.	N		27	11	4	2	3	47	NA
	%	78.05	55.21	22.84	9.91	4.78	7.26	100.00	
*5. I like the kind of work I do.	N		29	12	2	3	1	47	NA
	%	85.97	59.79	26.18	4.52	7.63	1.88	100.00	
6. I know what is expected of me on the job.	N		22	17	0	5	3	47	NA
	%	82.21	46.02	36.19	0.00	10.53	7.26	100.00	
7. When needed I am willing to put in the extra effort to get a job done.	N		37	7	1	0	2	47	NA
	%	92.79	77.08	15.71	1.83	0.00	5.38	100.00	
8. I am constantly looking for ways to do my job better.	N		34	9	2	0	2	47	NA
	%	90.26	70.62	19.63	4.37	0.00	5.38	100.00	
9. I have sufficient resources (for example, people, materials, budget) to get my job done.	N		14	16	6	5	6	47	0
	%	63.31	28.90	34.41	12.14	10.88	13.67	100.00	
*10. My workload is reasonable.	N		11	20	5	5	6	47	0
	%	64.60	22.21	42.39	10.95	9.97	14.48	100.00	
*11. My talents are used well in the workplace.	N		15	19	3	5	5	47	0
	%	70.84	31.00	39.83	6.89	10.42	11.85	100.00	
*12. I know how my work relates to the agency's goals and priorities.	N		31	14	1	1	0	47	0
	%	96.23	64.64	31.59	1.88	1.88	0.00	100.00	

Survey Administration Period: May 4, 2015 to June 12, 2015

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* AES prescribed items

** Unweighted count of responses excluding 'Do Not Know' and 'No Basis to Judge'

Sample or Census: Census

Number of surveys completed: 47

Number of surveys administered: 60

Response Rate: 78.3%

		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*13. The work I do is important.	N		31	13	2	0	1	47	0
	%	94.05	63.14	30.91	4.07	0.00	1.88	100.00	
*14. Physical conditions (for example, noise level, temperature, lighting, cleanliness in the workplace) allow employees to perform their jobs well.	N		29	11	2	3	2	47	0
	%	85.70	60.65	25.06	3.77	5.60	4.93	100.00	
*15. My performance appraisal is a fair reflection of my performance.	N		28	13	3	0	3	47	0
	%	86.50	57.75	28.74	6.24	0.00	7.26	100.00	
16. I am held accountable for achieving results.	N		29	15	2	0	1	47	0
	%	92.90	61.21	31.69	4.41	0.00	2.69	100.00	
17. I can disclose a suspected violation of any law, rule or regulation without fear of reprisal.	N		22	9	8	1	5	45	2
	%	66.03	46.51	19.52	19.05	1.96	12.96	100.00	
*18. My training needs are assessed.	N		19	15	5	4	4	47	0
	%	72.83	39.49	33.34	9.95	8.07	9.15	100.00	
*19. In my most recent performance appraisal, I understood what I had to do to be rated at different performance levels (for example, Fully Successful, Outstanding).	N		32	7	1	1	2	43	4
	%	89.93	74.23	15.71	2.07	2.07	5.92	100.00	
*20. The people I work with cooperate to get the job done.	N		28	14	4	0	1	47	NA
	%	88.32	56.82	31.50	8.99	0.00	2.69	100.00	
*21. My work unit is able to recruit people with the right skills.	N		17	16	4	7	0	44	2
	%	74.17	36.76	37.41	9.56	16.27	0.00	100.00	
*22. Promotions in my work unit are based on merit.	N		16	14	11	1	3	45	2
	%	64.47	35.35	29.12	26.02	1.91	7.59	100.00	
*23. In my work unit, steps are taken to deal with a poor performer who cannot or will not improve.	N		11	10	10	6	4	41	6
	%	49.26	25.90	23.36	23.94	14.79	12.00	100.00	
*24. In my work unit, differences in performance are recognized in a meaningful way.	N		12	11	10	4	4	41	6
	%	53.76	28.61	25.15	25.53	9.45	11.27	100.00	

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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
25. Awards in my work unit depend on how well employees perform their jobs.	N		15	8	11	0	6	40	7
	%	55.18	36.53	18.65	28.05	0.00	16.77	100.00	
26. Employees in my work unit share job knowledge with each other.	N		26	17	1	0	2	46	1
	%	92.70	55.24	37.46	1.94	0.00	5.36	100.00	
27. The skill level in my work unit has improved in the past year.	N		26	13	3	1	2	45	2
	%	86.70	56.99	29.71	6.54	1.97	4.79	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
28. How would you rate the overall quality of work done by your work unit?	N		37	7	1	1	1	47	NA
	%	92.74	78.20	14.54	1.88	2.69	2.69	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*29. The workforce has the job-relevant knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish organizational goals.	N		19	19	3	3	1	45	1
	%	84.23	41.20	43.02	6.59	6.34	2.84	100.00	
*30. Employees have a feeling of personal empowerment with respect to work processes.	N		15	12	9	6	3	45	1
	%	58.63	31.54	27.09	20.86	12.92	7.59	100.00	
31. Employees are recognized for providing high quality products and services.	N		18	20	2	2	4	46	0
	%	80.85	37.42	43.43	4.70	4.23	10.21	100.00	
*32. Creativity and innovation are rewarded.	N		16	13	9	4	3	45	0
	%	63.72	34.89	28.83	20.32	8.32	7.65	100.00	
*33. Pay raises depend on how well employees perform their jobs.	N		8	17	7	4	4	40	6
	%	61.56	19.50	42.06	18.57	9.29	10.58	100.00	

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34. Policies and programs promote diversity in the workplace (for example, recruiting minorities and women, training in awareness of diversity issues, mentoring).	N		18	14	10	1	2	45	1
	%	69.59	37.95	31.64	22.82	1.97	5.62	100.00	
*35. Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job.	N		23	19	0	0	2	44	2
	%	95.04	50.94	44.10	0.00	0.00	4.96	100.00	
*36. My organization has prepared employees for potential security threats.	N		10	16	10	7	2	45	1
	%	56.64	22.81	33.83	22.04	16.54	4.78	100.00	
37. Arbitrary action, personal favoritism and coercion for partisan political purposes are not tolerated.	N		14	16	7	1	6	44	2
	%	65.37	31.96	33.42	16.45	2.87	15.31	100.00	
38. Prohibited Personnel Practices (for example, illegally discriminating for or against any employee/applicant, obstructing a person's right to compete for employment, knowingly violating veterans' preference requirements) are not tolerated.	N		21	12	8	1	3	45	1
	%	71.03	45.65	25.38	18.57	2.81	7.59	100.00	
39. My agency is successful at accomplishing its mission.	N		26	15	3	1	0	45	1
	%	90.89	57.29	33.60	7.12	1.99	0.00	100.00	
40. I recommend my organization as a good place to work.	N		21	13	6	3	3	46	NA
	%	71.86	43.16	28.70	12.73	7.13	8.28	100.00	
41. I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work.	N		19	14	5	5	2	45	1
	%	71.74	40.06	31.68	12.22	10.41	5.63	100.00	
*42. My supervisor supports my need to balance work and other life issues.	N		34	7	2	0	2	45	1
	%	89.59	75.30	14.30	4.78	0.00	5.62	100.00	
43. My supervisor provides me with opportunities to demonstrate my leadership skills.	N		29	11	2	0	3	45	1
	%	88.09	64.28	23.81	4.31	0.00	7.59	100.00	
*44. Discussions with my supervisor about my performance are worthwhile.	N		25	12	3	2	3	45	1
	%	81.77	55.48	26.29	5.91	3.88	8.44	100.00	

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45. My supervisor is committed to a workforce representative of all segments of society.	N		24	11	6	0	2	43	3
	%	80.01	55.76	24.25	14.14	0.00	5.85	100.00	
46. My supervisor provides me with constructive suggestions to improve my job performance.	N		21	12	6	3	3	45	1
	%	72.11	47.10	25.01	13.60	5.85	8.44	100.00	
*47. Supervisors in my work unit support employee development.	N		30	10	2	1	2	45	1
	%	87.78	64.84	22.94	4.62	1.97	5.62	100.00	
48. My supervisor listens to what I have to say.	N		30	11	3	0	2	46	NA
	%	88.01	64.36	23.66	6.47	0.00	5.52	100.00	
49. My supervisor treats me with respect.	N		35	6	3	0	2	46	NA
	%	88.74	74.57	14.17	5.74	0.00	5.52	100.00	
50. In the last six months, my supervisor has talked with me about my performance.	N		31	12	2	0	1	46	NA
	%	92.70	66.29	26.42	4.54	0.00	2.76	100.00	
*51. I have trust and confidence in my supervisor.	N		32	4	6	2	2	46	NA
	%	76.74	68.83	7.92	13.05	4.69	5.52	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*52. Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by your immediate supervisor?	N		31	9	4	0	2	46	NA
	%	86.14	66.95	19.19	8.35	0.00	5.52	100.00	

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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*53. In my organization, senior leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce.	N		16	14	7	4	5	46	0
	%	62.61	33.62	29.00	15.72	9.75	11.92	100.00	
54. My organization's senior leaders maintain high standards of honesty and integrity.	N		20	14	5	3	4	46	0
	%	71.20	42.86	28.34	11.30	7.45	10.05	100.00	
*55. Supervisors work well with employees of different backgrounds.	N		22	10	5	3	5	45	1
	%	69.16	47.01	22.15	12.00	5.79	13.05	100.00	
*56. Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization.	N		28	8	2	5	3	46	0
	%	77.63	58.80	18.84	4.48	10.44	7.45	100.00	
*57. Managers review and evaluate the organization's progress toward meeting its goals and objectives.	N		29	9	3	1	3	45	1
	%	82.88	62.29	20.59	6.64	2.83	7.65	100.00	
58. Managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals, needed resources).	N		24	10	7	0	5	46	0
	%	72.44	50.82	21.62	15.48	0.00	12.09	100.00	
59. Managers support collaboration across work units to accomplish work objectives.	N		27	9	6	0	4	46	0
	%	77.69	58.06	19.63	12.10	0.00	10.21	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
60. Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by the manager directly above your immediate supervisor?	N		25	16	2	0	3	46	0
	%	87.86	53.05	34.81	4.69	0.00	7.45	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*61. I have a high level of respect for my organization's senior leaders.	N		17	16	6	2	4	45	0
	%	72.20	36.24	35.95	13.55	3.92	10.33	100.00	

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		Percent Positive	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
62. Senior leaders demonstrate support for Work/Life programs.	N		25	14	3	0	3	45	1
	%	84.30	53.74	30.55	7.27	0.00	8.44	100.00	
		Percent Positive	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Item Response Total	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
*63. How satisfied are you with your involvement in decisions that affect your work?	N		18	17	4	4	3	46	NA
	%	74.73	38.20	36.53	8.70	9.11	7.45	100.00	
*64. How satisfied are you with the information you receive from management on what's going on in your organization?	N		19	18	1	6	2	46	NA
	%	79.41	39.96	39.45	2.76	13.14	4.69	100.00	
*65. How satisfied are you with the recognition you receive for doing a good job?	N		21	14	3	5	3	46	NA
	%	75.34	43.89	31.46	5.68	11.52	7.45	100.00	
*66. How satisfied are you with the policies and practices of your senior leaders?	N		14	17	9	4	2	46	NA
	%	65.15	29.56	35.59	20.17	9.99	4.69	100.00	
*67. How satisfied are you with your opportunity to get a better job in your organization?	N		15	9	12	3	5	44	NA
	%	54.51	33.76	20.75	27.36	6.76	11.37	100.00	
*68. How satisfied are you with the training you receive for your present job?	N		17	17	8	2	2	46	NA
	%	73.46	35.29	38.17	17.98	3.87	4.69	100.00	
*69. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your job?	N		20	15	6	2	3	46	NA
	%	74.62	41.95	32.66	13.70	4.23	7.45	100.00	
*70. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your pay?	N		17	18	5	4	2	46	NA
	%	75.67	36.36	39.31	11.46	9.00	3.87	100.00	
71. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your organization?	N		19	16	6	2	3	46	NA
	%	73.79	40.02	33.77	13.40	5.35	7.45	100.00	

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72. Have you been notified whether or not you are eligible to telework?	N	%
Yes, I was notified that I was eligible to telework.	40	88.33
Yes, I was notified that I was not eligible to telework.	3	6.04
No, I was not notified of my telework eligibility.	0	0.00
Not sure if I was notified of my telework eligibility.	3	5.63
Total	46	100.00

73. Please select the response below that BEST describes your current teleworking situation.	N	%
I telework 3 or more days per week.	3	6.10
I telework 1 or 2 days per week.	12	27.76
I telework, but no more than 1 or 2 days per month.	2	3.81
I telework very infrequently, on an unscheduled or short-term basis.	15	33.35
I do not telework because I have to be physically present on the job (e.g., Law Enforcement Officers, Park Rangers, Security Personnel).	3	6.04
I do not telework because I have technical issues (e.g., connectivity, inadequate equipment) that prevent me from teleworking.	0	0.00
I do not telework because I did not receive approval to do so, even though I have the kind of job where I can telework.	0	0.00
I do not telework because I choose not to telework.	11	22.95
Total	46	100.00

74. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Alternative Work Schedules (AWS)	N	%
Yes	23	51.12
No	22	46.11
Not available to me	1	2.77
Total	46	100.00

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75. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Health and Wellness Programs (for example, exercise, medical screening, quit smoking programs)		N	%
Yes		24	53.63
No		22	46.37
Not available to me		0	0.00
Total		46	100.00

76. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Employee Assistance Program (EAP)		N	%
Yes		5	13.29
No		38	81.70
Not available to me		2	5.02
Total		45	100.00

77. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Child Care Programs (for example, daycare, parenting classes, parenting support groups)		N	%
Yes		0	0.00
No		33	71.15
Not available to me		13	28.85
Total		46	100.00

78. Do you participate in the following Work/Life programs? Elder Care Programs (for example, support groups, speakers)		N	%
Yes		0	0.00
No		32	70.15
Not available to me		14	29.85
Total		46	100.00

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		Percent Positive	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Item Response Total**	Do Not Know/ No Basis to Judge
79. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Telework	N		17	10	4	0	1	32	0
	%	83.18	53.16	30.03	12.92	0.00	3.90	100.00	
80. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Alternative Work Schedules (AWS)	N		20	2	0	1	0	23	0
	%	96.33	87.46	8.87	0.00	3.67	0.00	100.00	
81. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Health and Wellness Programs (for example, exercise, medical screening, quit smoking programs)	N		12	10	1	0	0	23	1
	%	96.37	53.31	43.06	3.63	0.00	0.00	100.00	
82. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	N		3	2	0	0	0	5	1
	%	100.00	62.44	37.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	
83. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Child Care Programs (for example, daycare, parenting classes, parenting support groups)	N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
84. How satisfied are you with the following Work/Life programs in your agency? Elder Care Programs (for example, support groups, speakers)	N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	

Survey Administration Period: May 4, 2015 to June 12, 2015

The work/life satisfaction results only include employees who indicated that they participated in the program.

Percentages are weighted to represent the Agency's population.

** Unweighted count of responses excluding 'Do Not Know' and 'No Basis to Judge'

Sample or Census: Census

Number of surveys completed: 47

Number of surveys administered: 60

Response Rate: 78.3%