REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS

OSA
Colorado Office of the State Auditor
We Set the Standard for Good Government

ANNUAL REPORT: STATUS OF OUTSTANDING AUDIT
RECOMMENDATIONS AS OF JUNE 30, 2018

OCTOBER 2018
STATE OF COLORADO

CONCLUSION

Over the 5-year period, July 2012 through June 2017, the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) made 2,230 audit recommendations to state agencies and other audited organizations. Agencies and organizations generally agreed with our recommendations and usually implemented them in a timely manner. However, 94 (4 percent) of the recommendations agreed to, have not been fully implemented and are still outstanding as of June 30, 2018. Further, 29 of the 94 outstanding recommendations (31 percent) are considered high priority due to their seriousness or because they have been outstanding for 3 years or more.

KEY FACTS

- For Fiscal Years 2013 through 2017 (July 2012 through June 2017), the OSA made a total of 2,230 financial, performance, and information technology (IT) audit recommendations to state agencies and other audited organizations.

- The agencies and organizations agreed to implement 99 percent of all audit recommendations made in this 5-year period.

- Overall, as of June 30, 2018, state agencies and other audited organizations have implemented 96 percent of the recommendations that they agreed to implement.

- The number of outstanding recommendations has decreased since June 30, 2017.

FINANCIAL AND FINANCIAL-RELATED IT AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

- For Fiscal Years 2013 through 2017, a total of 1,014 of the recommendations (46 percent) that state agencies and other audited organizations agreed to implement were financial and financial-related IT recommendations from financial audits.

- As of June 30, 2018, the agencies and organizations had not fully implemented 65 of these recommendations (6 percent).

- Of the 65 outstanding recommendations from financial audits, 24 (37 percent) are considered high priority due to their seriousness or because they have been outstanding for 3 years or more.

PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND IT PERFORMANCE AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

- For Fiscal Years 2013 through 2017, a total of 1,192 of the recommendations (54 percent) that state agencies and other audited organizations agreed to implement were from performance audits or IT performance audits.

- As of June 30, 2018, the agencies and organizations had not fully implemented 29 of these recommendations (2 percent).

- Of the 29 outstanding recommendations from performance audits or IT performance audits, 5 (17 percent) are considered high priority because they have been outstanding for 3 years or more.

BACKGROUND

- The OSA tracks the implementation status of all recommendations contained in audit reports.

- The purpose of this initiative is to provide transparency to policy makers, the public, and others responsible for holding state agencies and other audited organizations accountable for the audit recommendations that they have agreed to implement.

- Implementation status for recommendations that result from financial audits is determined by the OSA through follow-up audits.

- Implementation status for recommendations that result from performance audits and IT performance audits is based on self-reported data from the respective audited agencies and organizations, and on follow-up audit work by OSA staff on select audits.