Our strategy

ODOT tracks and reports on awards made to firms that are certified by the Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity (COBID); this includes disadvantaged business enterprise, minority- and woman-owned and emerging small business certifications, or collectively reported as “certified firms.” Since 2016, we have also tracked and reported on businesses that are owned by service-disabled veterans.

Reporting on all certified firms winning contracts as prime contractors and those certified firms working as subcontractors is a more accurate and complete representation of how ODOT uses these firms. The agency also sets internal targets for payments to these certified firms and implements programs and supportive services to encourage participation.

About the target

The certified firms’ aspirational targets are set on state-funded-only projects over $100,000. The aspirational targets are not a condition of contract award; rather the target represents the level of certified small business participation ODOT has determined is reasonably achievable in the scope of work, availability of certified firms, and the logistics of the project; such as duration and location.

How we are doing and how we compare

ODOT is committed to programs that encourage the participation of small businesses, including minority- and women-owned firms, in contracting opportunities with the Department across divisions and business lines. To that end, we implement
the state Emerging Small Business (ESB) Program and ODOT Small Contracting Program (SCP), facilitate numerous small business supportive services including mentoring and training opportunities, and sponsor outreach events to communicate contracting and business development opportunities to certified firm communities.

These programs and initiatives are intended to ensure ODOT and our contractors comply with state and federal non-discrimination laws; create a level playing field for small businesses to compete fairly for contracts; ensure only eligible firms benefit from the programs; help develop firms to compete successfully in the marketplace outside the programs; and assist small businesses in overcoming barriers to participation in ODOT’s procurement and contracting processes.

We provide statewide training for project management and field staff and we reach out to certified firms to let them know about opportunities and resources for working on ODOT projects. Due to the wide variation in metrics, it is not statistically feasible to compare our overall goals on a state-to-state basis.

Factors affecting results and what needs to be done
ODOT Information Systems completed a project recently to integrate all data systems to provide comprehensive information. This system will provide an enterprise approach to data collection and reporting.

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Data sources
Trns*port which is downloaded to the Civil Rights Compliance Tracking system, Purchasing & Contract Management System (PCMS), and Local Agencies