



How Many Inspections Federal OSHA Conducted in Fiscal Year 2026

Original analysis of 365,450 records from OSHA, FY2015–FY2026 (federal fiscal years, Oct–Sep; FY2026 partial).

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Federal OSHA opened at least 21,506 workplace inspections in fiscal year 2026 (October 2025 through September 2026), according to OSHA's enforcement records released on October 16, 2026. That is 8,770 fewer than the 30,276 we count for fiscal 2025. The figure is a lower bound: the records run only through September 23, 2026, and October 2025, a month with a lapse in federal appropriations, shows 383 inspections.

21.5K

Federal OSHA inspections, FY2026
(partial count)

30.3K

Federal OSHA inspections, FY2025
(our count)

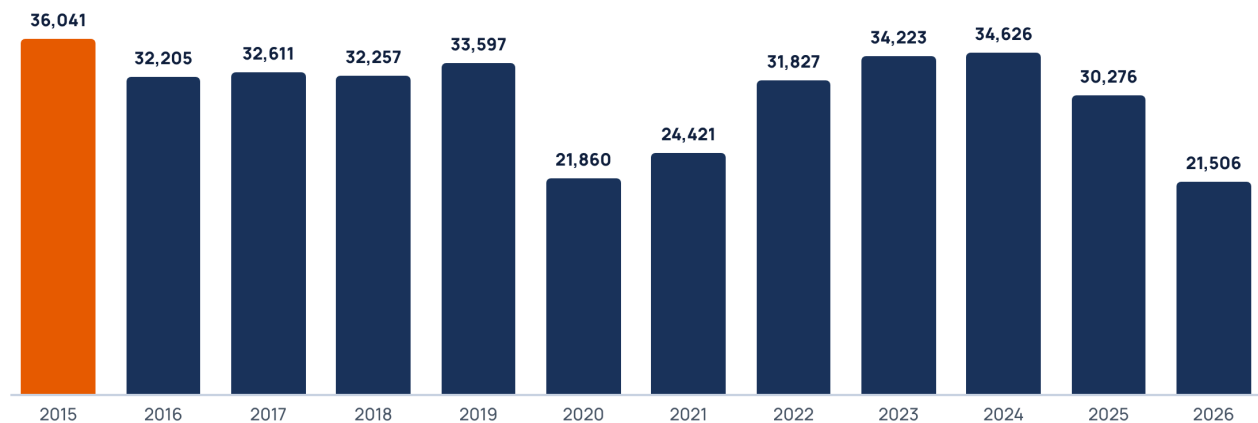
–15%

Change Dec–Jun, FY2026 vs. FY2025



Federal OSHA inspections by fiscal year

Inspections



Source: Settlement Insight analysis of data from OSHA

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What OSHA's Enforcement Records Show

- 1. At least 21,506 federal inspections in FY2026.** Federal OSHA offices opened 21,506 inspections between October 1, 2025, and September 23, 2026, the last opening date in the current release. OSHA has not yet published its own total for the year.

2. **October and November 2025 fell sharply.** Federal offices opened 1,431 inspections in October and November 2025, compared with 5,429 in the same two months a year earlier, a drop of 73.6%. October 2025 alone shows 383, against 3,266 in October 2024.
3. **Lower even outside the shutdown months.** In the months from December through June, after the October 2025 funding lapse and well before the release date, federal OSHA opened 15,365 inspections in fiscal 2026, against 18,090 in fiscal 2025, a decline of 15.1%.
4. **Fiscal 2025 was already lower.** Our count for fiscal 2025, which OSHA has not published, is 30,276, which is 12.6% below the 34,626 we count for fiscal 2024.
5. **Texas had the most federal inspections.** Worksites in Texas accounted for 2,232 federal inspections in fiscal 2026. The five states with the most federal inspections together account for 42.6% of the total, a ranking that does not adjust for workforce size and is shaped by whether federal OSHA or a state plan covers private-sector workplaces.

How we measured

The data come from OSHA's inspection records, published by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of its enforcement data and loaded into our database from the release dated October 16, 2026. The latest inspection opening date in that release is September 23, 2026.

We counted inspections opened by federal OSHA offices. An office is treated as a state-plan office when the third digit of its seven-digit reporting ID is 5; those records are excluded, as state-plan inspections are excluded from OSHA's federal total. We also excluded records whose inspection scope is coded "no inspection"; in fiscal 2026 there were 1,932 such records.

Inspections are assigned to the federal fiscal year (October through September) of their opening date. The December–June comparison sums the same seven calendar months in fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2026. The same filters applied to fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2023 reproduce OSHA's published federal totals within 0.20% and 0.13%.

Checked against published figures

- Total federal OSHA inspections, fiscal year 2024 (Oct 2023–Sep 2024): published 34,696, our count 34,626 (0.20% apart). [OSHA Commonly Used Statistics](#)
- Total federal OSHA inspections, fiscal year 2023 (Oct 2022–Sep 2023): published 34,267, our count 34,223 (0.13% apart). [OSHA Commonly Used Statistics \(archived June 14, 2024\)](#).

Limitations

- The fiscal 2026 count is a lower bound. OSHA adds inspection records after the fact, so the most recent months, above all September 2026 and likely July and August, will rise in later releases. A comparison of the latest months with the same months a year earlier partly measures this reporting delay rather than a change in enforcement.
- The count excludes the states and territories that run their own OSHA-approved plans. It is not a count of all workplace safety inspections in the United States.

- An inspection record counts visits, not their outcome or size: a brief records-only inspection counts the same as a months-long investigation. The records do not explain why the number of inspections changed, and the state ranking does not adjust for workforce size.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics also lists a 2026 lapse in appropriations that delayed releases scheduled for early February 2026; it falls inside the December–June comparison months and is not removed from the comparison.

Data files

- [Federal OSHA inspections by fiscal year](#) (CSV, 12 rows)
- [Federal OSHA inspections by month, FY2024–FY2026](#) (CSV, 12 rows)
- [Federal OSHA inspections by state, FY2026](#) (CSV, 52 rows)
- [Calibration against OSHA's published totals](#) (CSV, 2 rows)

How to cite

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