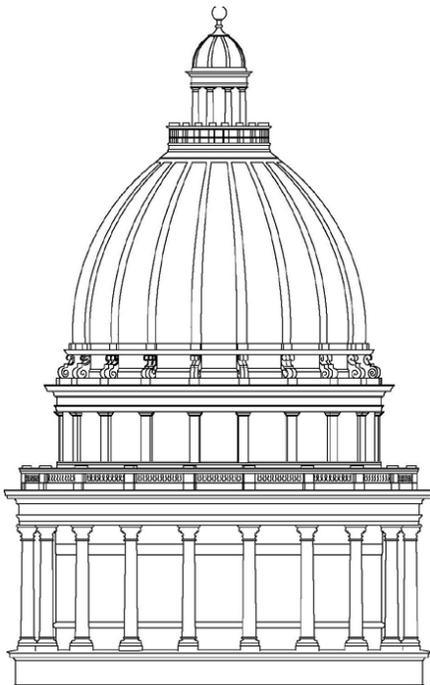


A Performance Audit of the University of Utah's Laboratory Safety Practices



Presentation to the
Higher Education
Appropriations Subcommittee

October 15, 2019

Other Universities' Tragedies Show The Effect of Uncorrected Safety Deficiencies

Figure 1.2

University of
California
Los Angeles

December 29, 2008
Researcher died from
burns to her body

Texas Tech
University

January 7, 2010
Graduate student
lost three fingers

University of
Hawaii

March 16, 2016
Post doctorate
researcher loses arm

Common Theme:

Repeat Deficiencies

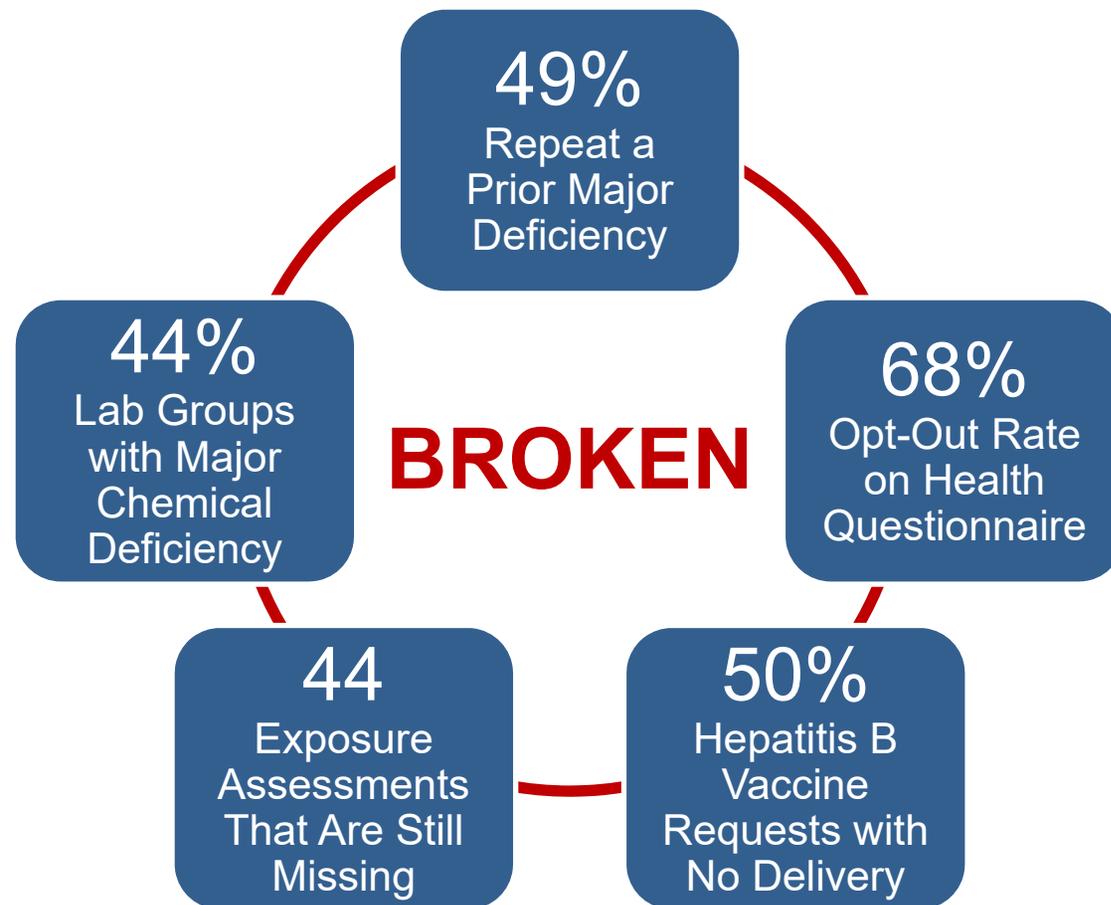
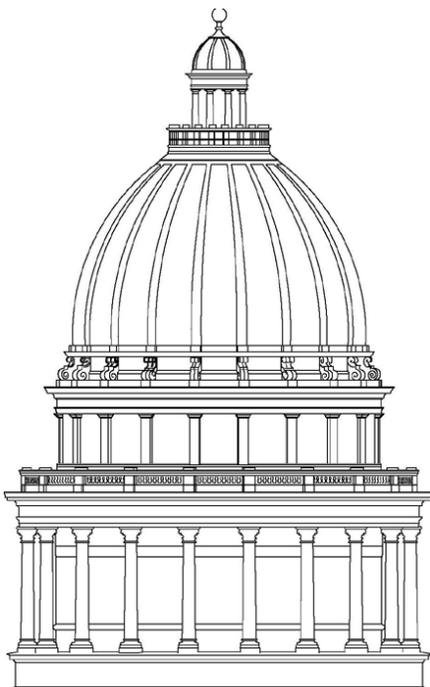
FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter I, Pages 2-7

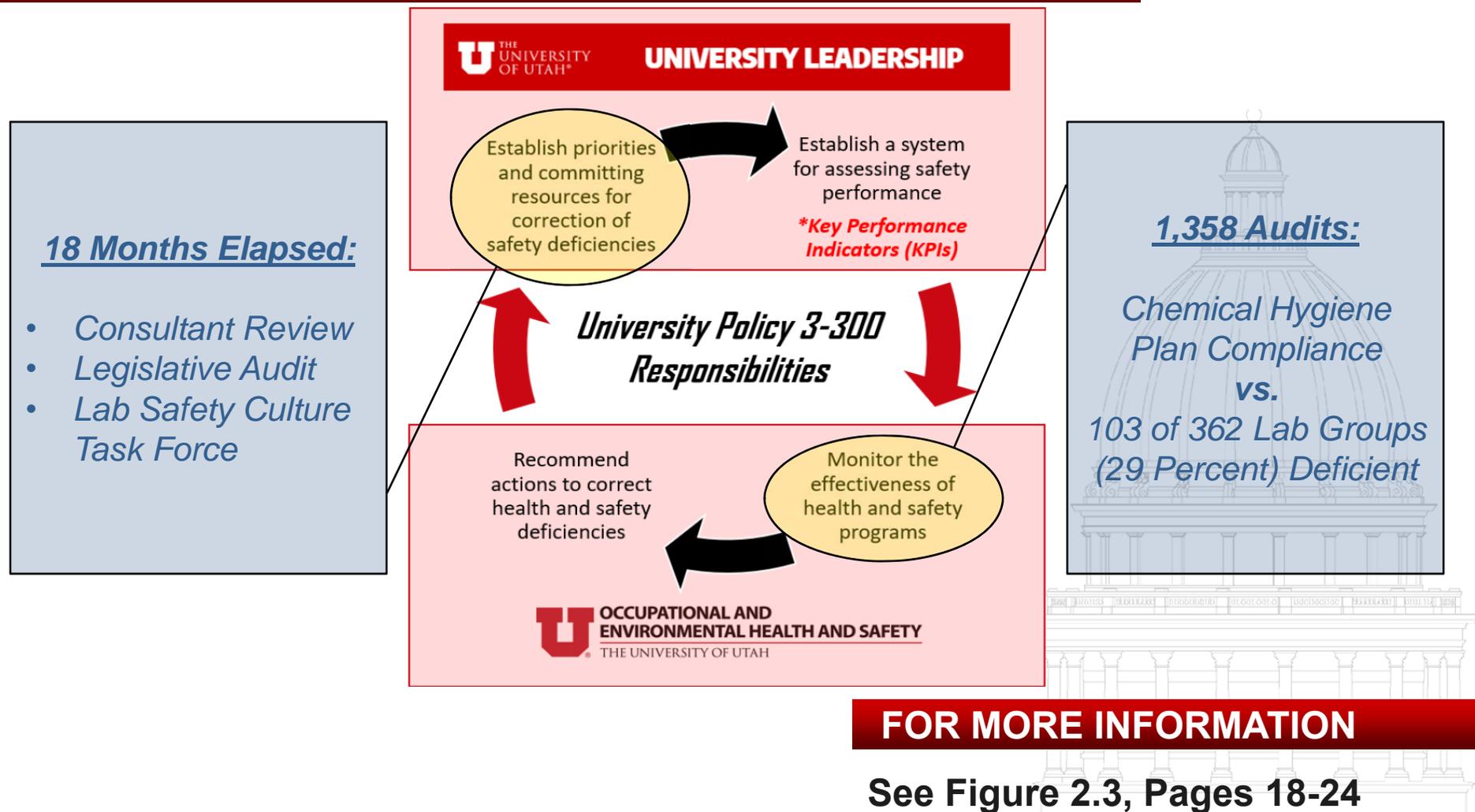


Chapter II

The University's Risk Management System for Lab Safety Is Broken



The University's Lab Safety System Needs Better Oversight



Chapter III

OEHS's Poor Management Practices Leave Safety Issues Unresolved

*OEHS Reports to College Deans:
"During 2017 No Deficiencies Required Escalation"*

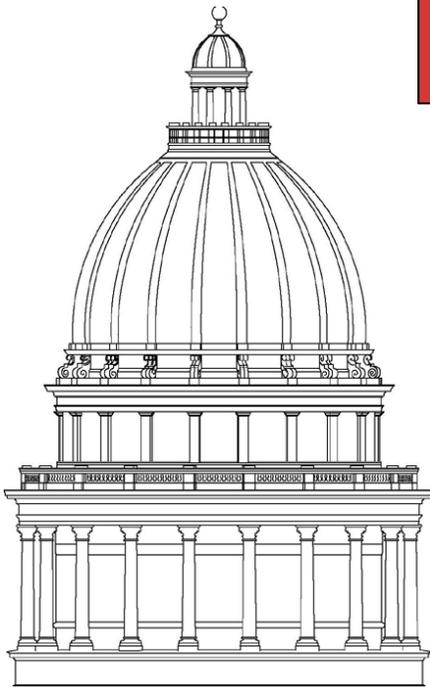
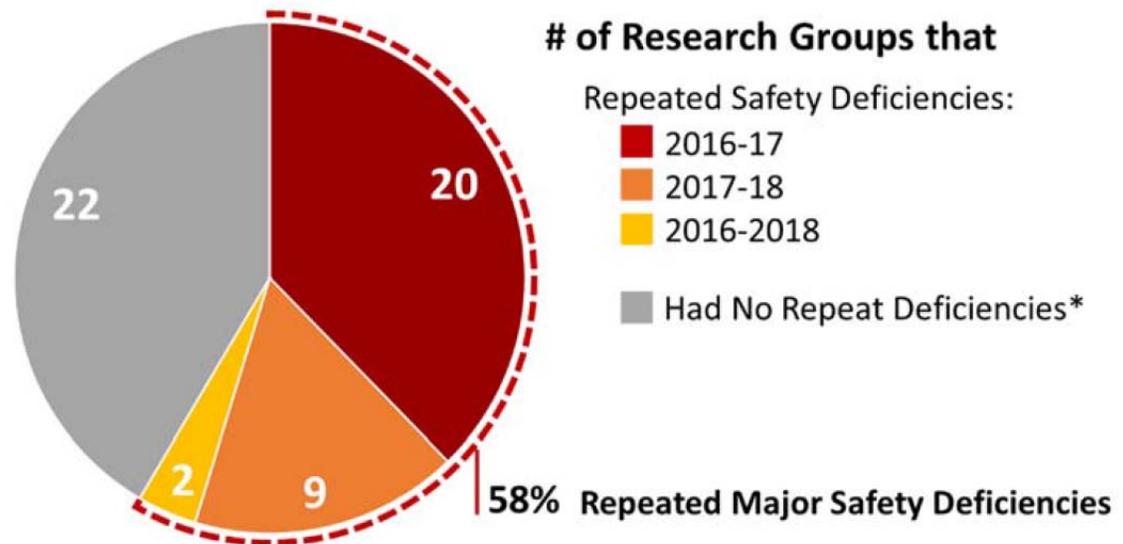


Figure 3.1



OEHS Needs Better Management Practices to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Safety Programs

OEHS Has Not Systematically Tracked Information



Figure 2.1

49 Percent Repeated Major Deficiencies

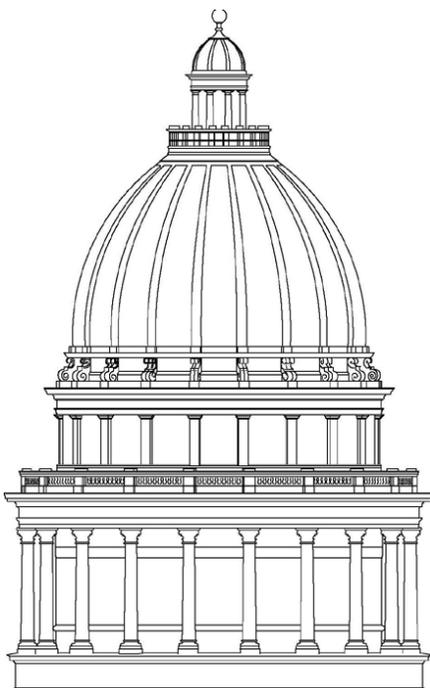


FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter III, Pages 36-38

Chapter IV

University Administrators Need to Take Ownership of Their Lab Safety Responsibilities



**Administrators
Need to
Ensure
Compliance**



Low PPE Use for Multiple Years



Missing Chemical Inventories in LMS



Poor Vaccination Delivery and Record Keeping

Administration Needs to Accurately Assess Performance of Safety Programs

Passive/Lagging Indicators

- Workers' Comp. Losses
- Job Fatalities
- Number of UOSH Violations

Predictive/Leading Indicators

- Number & Severity of Hazards
- Timely Resolution of Deficiencies
- Number of Safety Inspections

“As administrators relied on passive indicators, the scope of improvements recommended in this report were at risk of not being implemented until a serious accident that severely injures an employee.”

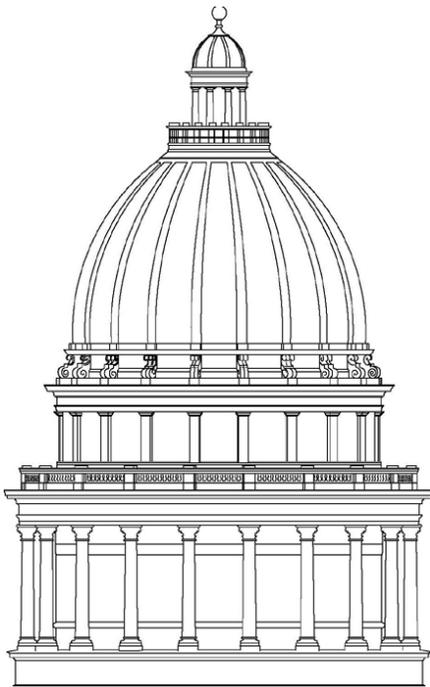
- Page 23 Callout

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter IV, Page 47

Chapter V

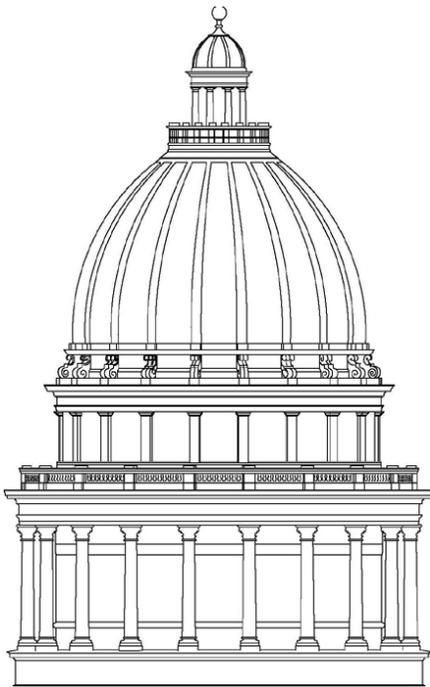
Lab Personnel Need to Take Ownership in Assessing Their Safety Performance



“Nothing seems to be institution wide and every department has to come up with their own protocols for a variety of safety issues, if they have enough concern to make their own.”

- 2016 Safety Culture Survey

A Performance Audit of the University of Utah's Laboratory Safety Practices



Presentation to the
Higher Education
Appropriations Subcommittee

October 15, 2019