

# LABORATORY SELF AUDIT

## 2023 PARTICIPATION DATA ANALYSIS



Environmental  
Health & Safety

The Laboratory Self Audit (LSA) is a yearly self-inspection aimed at fostering a safety culture and promoting resilience in the laboratory community at FIU. The inspection is designed to enforce regulatory compliance and safety initiatives. The Department of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) uses the information gathered from the audit to identify trends and encourage a safer working environment through safety campaigns, initiatives, and educational seminars. For more information, please visit the EH&S website at [ehs.fiu.edu](https://ehs.fiu.edu).

The participation and hazard analysis breakdown and the top compliance gaps can be found below.

## EXPERIENCE OPTIMIZATIONS

EH&S has implemented several measures to improve participants' experience in the LSA (Laboratory Self Audit) program. This year, EH&S conducted the General Safety Self Audit (GSSA) alongside the LSA, with the same opening and closing dates. The GSSA is designed for general, industrial, or shop-style settings, while the LSA is suited for laboratory-style settings. EH&S introduced a pre-survey, which enables participants to determine which audit they need to complete based on the classification of their space. In the LSA, EH&S also included four strategically placed drop-off points that expedited the process by ending the survey early if specific conditions were met. This ensured efficiency and reduced the time participants spent completing the audit. Furthermore, EH&S minimized the number of questions to streamline the process further. Lastly, EH&S automated conditional emails to guide participants in rectifying discrepancies within their control, enhancing program effectiveness, and optimizing corrective actions.

## PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS AND OPTIMIZATIONS

In 2023, 601 Laboratory Self Audits (LSAs) were submitted, yielding a 16% increase from the previous year (518 in 2022).

78% of the spaces are used for research, 13% are for academics, and 9% are for both research and academics.

Participation spanned 9 of FIU's campuses and satellite sites.



## HAZARD ANALYSIS

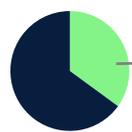
The top five hazards identified in the 2023 LSA that are handled, used, stored, or processed at FIU are represented below.



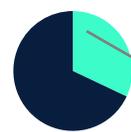
Chemicals



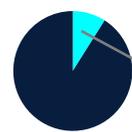
Generate Waste



Biological Materials



Gas Cylinders



Lasers

## THE HIGHS AND THE LOWS

The EH&S team plays an essential role in ensuring a safe working environment. They carefully analyze the LSA to identify potential trends and take proactive measures to educate the community. The team focuses on implementing initiatives, campaigns, newsletters, educational moments, and Safety Seminars to create awareness about the importance of safety.

Below are the top five with the highest and lowest scores.

### The top five scored answers discovered in the 2023 LSA:

- 99% of participants noted that electrical cords were away from doors, walkways, and metal furniture.
- 98% of participants agreed that the electrical outlets and face plates were in place and in good condition.
- 98% of participants conduct an annual visual inspection of their space and report any issues to facilities.
- 96% of participants restrict or limit access to their space to authorized personnel.
- 94% of participants ensure annual on-the-job training is administered to all space occupants.

### The top five compliance gaps discovered in the 2023 LSA.

- 44% of participants conduct hot work without a hot work permit. This question triggered a conditional email providing participants with guidance on obtaining a hot work permit.
- 40% of participants do not have Shutdown Procedures displayed within the space.
- 36% of participants do not have Emergency Spill Procedures displayed within the space.
- 34% of participants do not have Emergency Evacuation Procedures displayed within the space.
- 32% of participants do not annually review Shutdown Procedures with all space.

Visit the EH&S Laboratory Safety webpage for more information, found [here](#).

Reach out with any questions or concerns: [ehs@fiu.edu](mailto:ehs@fiu.edu).



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