

E-Verify – More than One Million Worksites and Growing

[E-Verify](#), the free online service that allows employers to verify the employment eligibility of their new hires, has reached an important milestone. Employers have enrolled to use E-Verify at more than one million worksites. That's quite an accomplishment considering that the program continues to be – for the most part – voluntary. The growth of the program is even more remarkable when you factor in that more than 2,500 new employers are enrolling every week. The number of employers enrolled in E-Verify has more than doubled since 2009.

[E-Verify](#) is administered by the Department of Homeland Security in partnership with the Social Security Administration. The program's focus is always on continuing to improve its performance.

E-Verify is improving every year. In fiscal year (FY) 2011, more than 98 percent of workers were automatically confirmed as work authorized, instantly or within 24 hours. A U.S. Government Accountability Office report found that E-Verify had reduced mismatches by more than five percentage points from 8 percent in 2007 to 2.6 percent in 2009. In FY 2010, that rate went even lower – to 1.7 percent. E-Verify participation grows dramatically, while the system's performance improves significantly every year. Here are some of the enhancements E-Verify has made over the past few years:

- [Photo matching](#), introduced in 2007, improved E-Verify's ability to detect and combat identity fraud. This feature allows participating employers to compare photos on employment authorization documents or permanent resident cards, and now U.S. passport photos to images stored in DHS databases.
- [Naturalization data](#) was added to E-Verify in 2008. This reduced the number of mismatches for naturalized citizens by 35 percent. With the addition of passport data in 2010, the E-Verify mismatches were further reduced by more than 81,000.
- [Self Check](#) was initially launched in March 2011 to five states and made available nationwide in February 2012. This innovative service allows individuals to verify and learn how to correct their own records before they meet their next employer.
- [RIDE](#) initiative, launched in June 2011, is E-Verify's first collaboration with a state Department of Motor Vehicles to verify information from the most commonly presented identity document – the driver's license. Mississippi is the first state partner in the RIDE program, and hopefully other states will follow.

E-Verify is a smart, simple and effective tool that supports an employer's commitment to maintain a legal workforce. By its sheer growth, it is apparent that thousands of employers agree that it is a viable tool. To learn more about E-Verify, visit www.dhs.gov/E-Verify.

