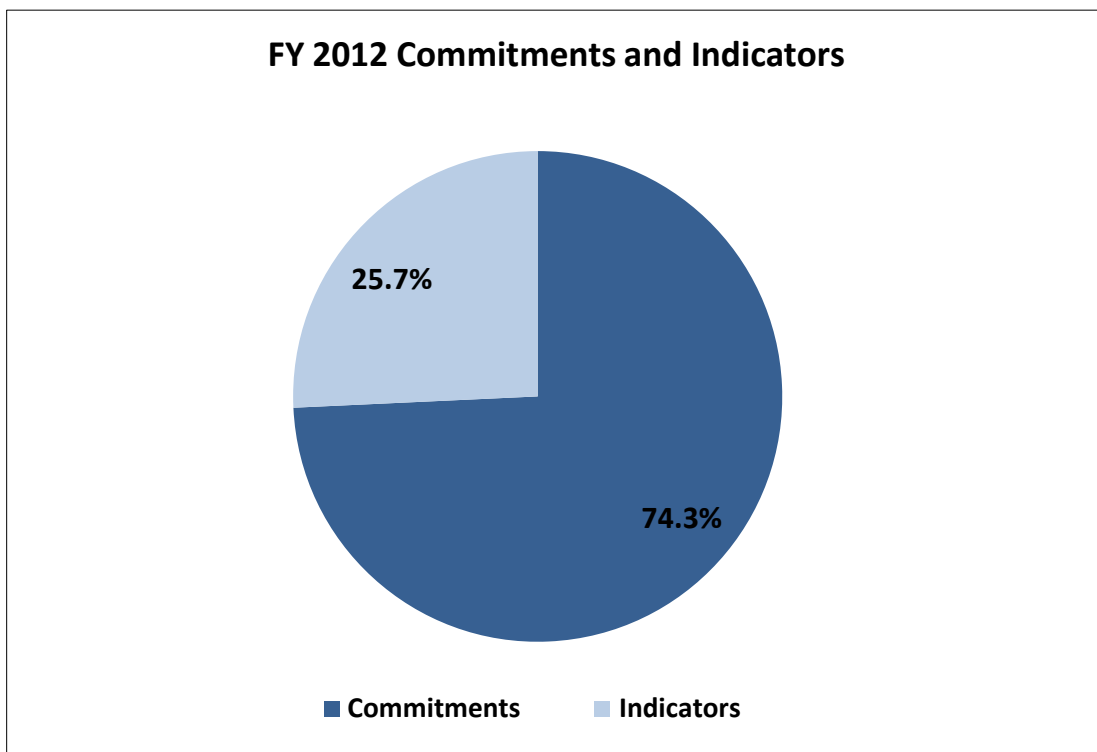


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

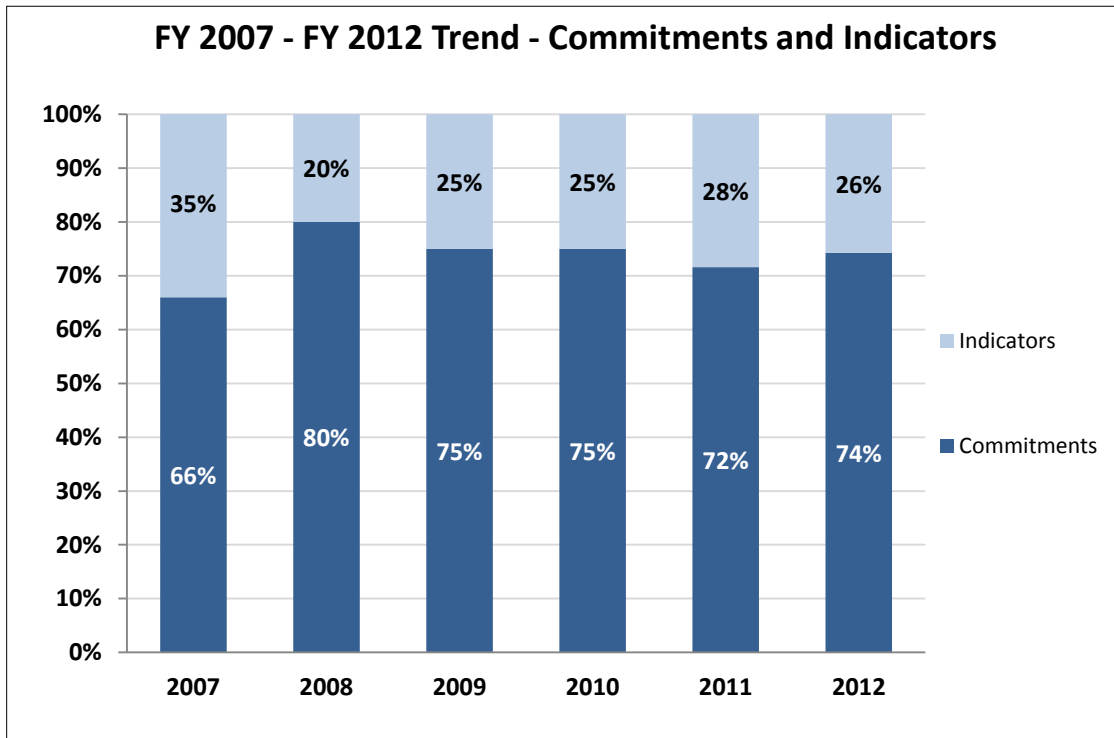
Appendix B. FY 2012 Performance Measure Universe

Total Measures by Commitments vs. Indicators

The National Water Program tracked a total of 148 performance measures in FY 2012 to assess progress in protecting the public health and the environment. Seventy-four percent (74%) of these measures had annual commitments, and approximately 26% of the measures were indicators with no commitments in 2012. The percentage of measures with annual commitments has remained fairly steady over the past three years. Final commitments are numeric goals that are established annually through negotiations among EPA Headquarters, Regional Offices, and states. Commitments for FY 2012 were published in the *National Water Program Guidance Appendix* in December 2011.¹

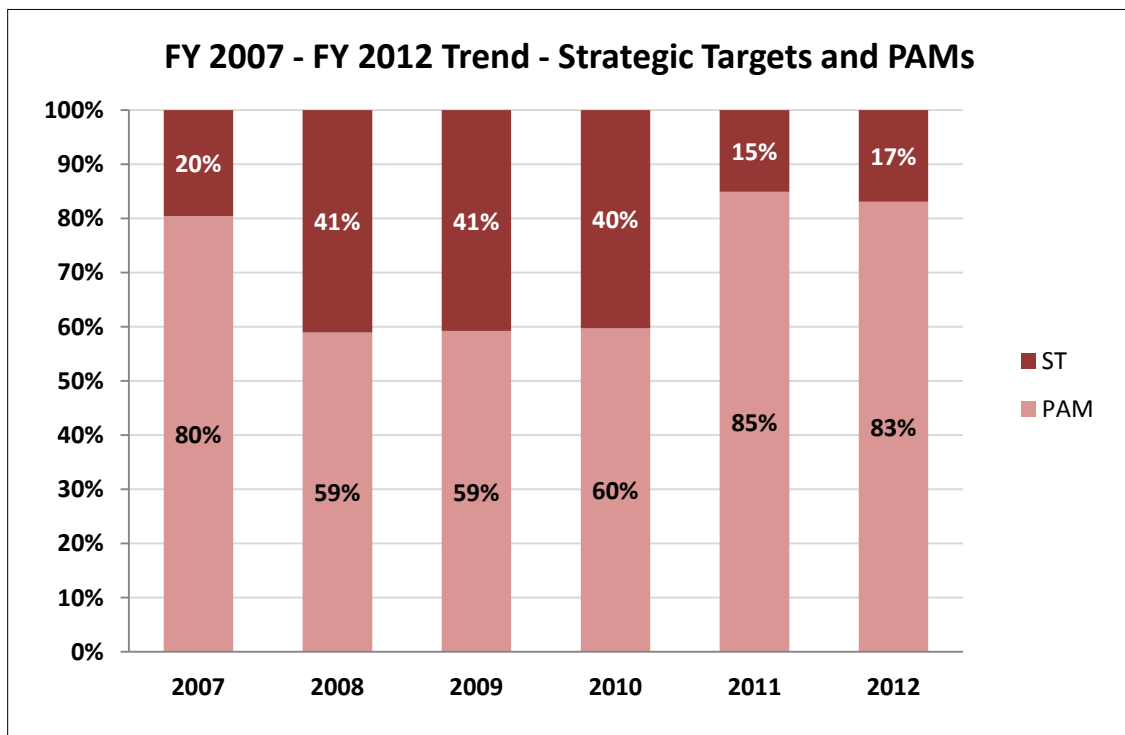
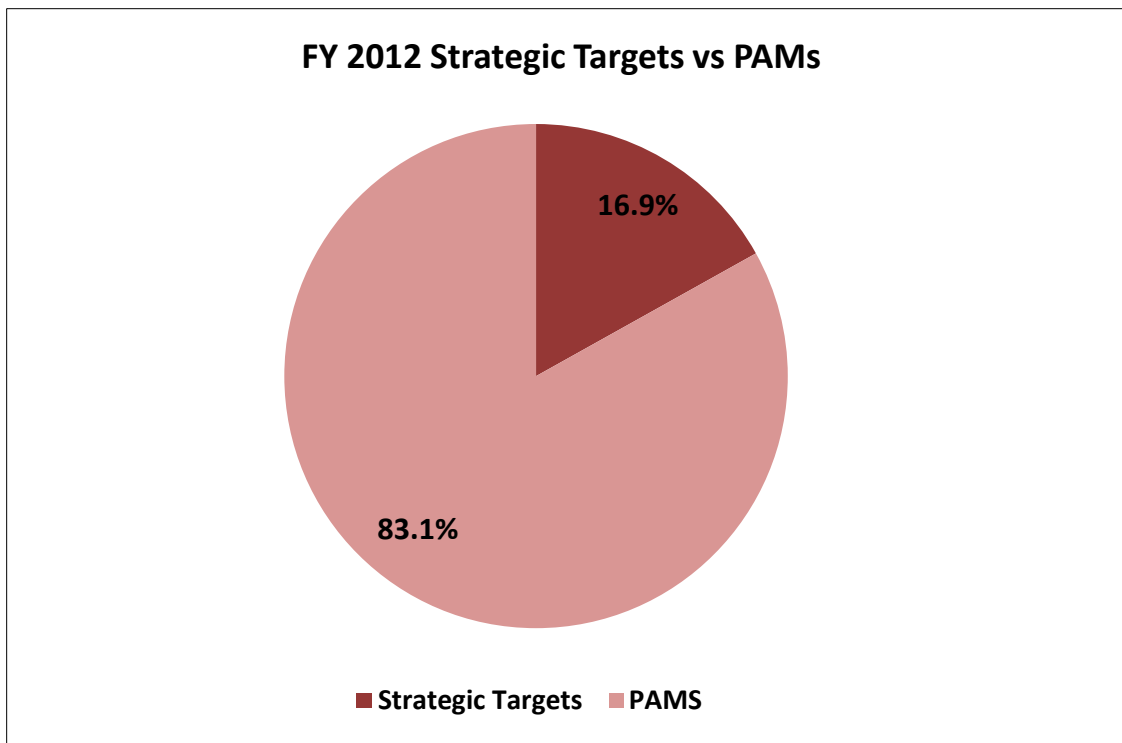


¹ National Water Program Guidance. Appendix FY 2012 Final Performance Measure Commitments, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, December, 2011, http://water.epa.gov/resource_performance/planning/FY-2012-National-Water-Program-Guidance.cfm



FY 2012 Strategic Targets vs. PAMs

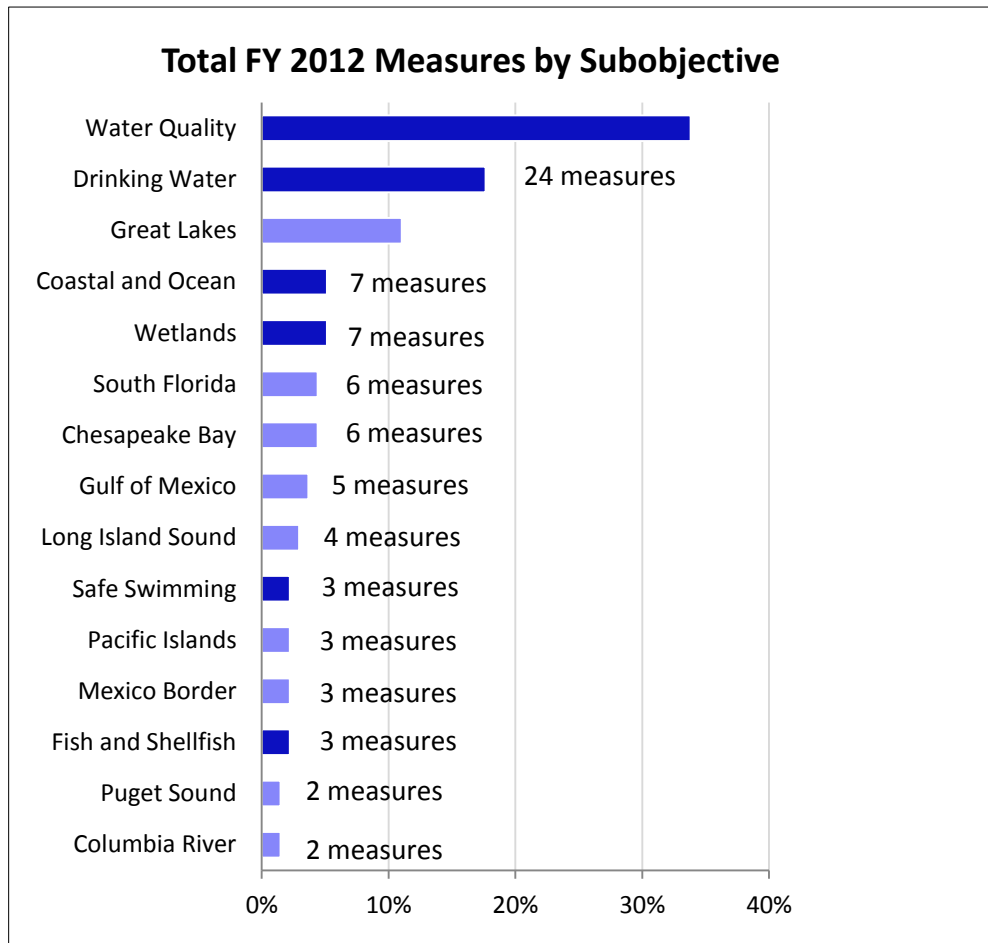
The National Water Program uses two types of measures to assess progress toward the goals in the *FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan*: Strategic Targets and Program Activity Measures (PAMs). Strategic Targets are organized under individual subobjectives in the *Strategic Plan* and are outcome-based measures of changes in the environment or public health with long-term targets in most cases for FY 2014. Program Offices and Regions also set annual commitments for almost all of these measures. Strategic Targets represented about 17% of all 2012 performance measures. PAMs are primarily output-based measures that track programmatic progress on an annual basis. PAMs represented 83.1% of all measures in 2012. Notably, the number of strategic targets decreased dramatically from 59 in the *FY 2006 Strategic Plan* to 22 in the *FY 2011 Plan*.



Total Measures by Subobjective

Among the 15 subobjectives outlined in the FY 2012 National Water Program Guidance, Water Quality had the largest share of performance measures at 34%; Drinking Water

was next with 18%; and the Great Lakes program was third with 11%. The remaining 37% of the measures were spread among the other 12 subobjectives



FY 2012 Core Program vs Large Aquatic Ecosystem Measures (LAEs)

The National Water Program can be viewed as divided between core program activities and geographic or Large Aquatic Ecosystems. Core programs are usually responsible for activities such as funding state drinking water programs, adopting water quality standards, developing TMDLs, and issuing NPDES permits. This would include the water quality, drinking water, safe swimming, fish and shellfish, oceans and coastal, and wetlands subobjectives under the national Water Program Guidance. Geographic or LAEs usually involve partnership-based efforts focused on ecosystems surrounding large waterbodies. This would include Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, U.S.-Mexico Border, Pacific Islands, Long Island Sound, South Florida, Puget Sound, and Columbia River subobjectives. Sixty-six percent (66%) of performance measures in the National Water Program are focused on core program activities. The remaining 34% of measures cover the LAEs.

