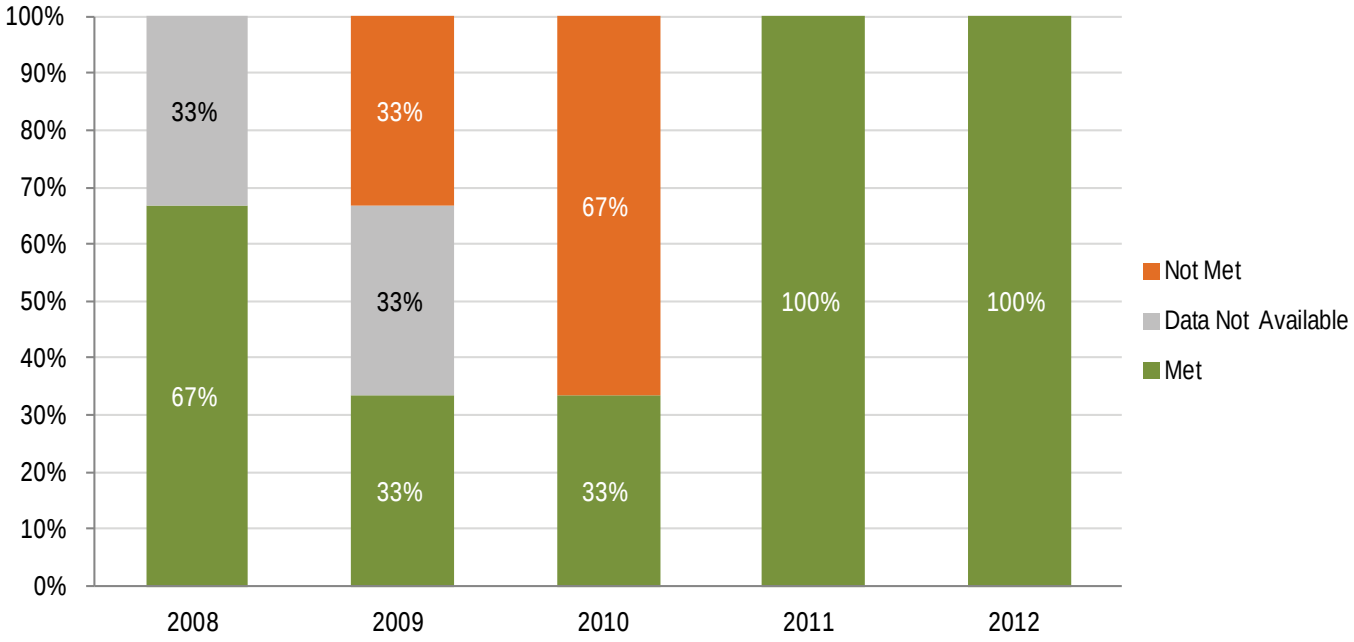
Subobjective: U.S.–Mexico Border

For the second consecutive year, the U.S.–Mexico Border Program met all three of its commitment measures in FY 2012 (Figure 51). Note that setting commitments for infrastructure projects can be difficult; an unanticipated project delay or an expedited project completion can affect end of year performance reporting.

Figure 51: U.S. Mexico Border Subobjective Five-Year Trend



FY 2012 ACS Code	Abbreviated Measure Description	Results and Commitment Status = Met; = Indicator/Long-Term (No Commitment); = Not Met; = Measure Did Not Exist; = Data Not Available						Appendix Page Number (D-0)/ Figure Number
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Subobjective 2.2.9 Sustain and Restore the U.S.–Mexico Border Environmental Health								
MB-SP23	Number million pounds BOD loadings removed U.S.-Mexico Border (cumulative)	0.0			65.2	108.5	119.0	D-62/Fig.52
MB-SP24.N11	Number additional Mexico Border homes access to safe drinking water (annual)	1,276	5,162	1,584	21,650	2,604	5,185	D-62/Fig.53
MB-SP25.N11	Number additional Mexico Border homes access to adequate sanitation (annual)	73,475	31,686	43,594	75,175	259,371	31,092	D-63/Fig.55

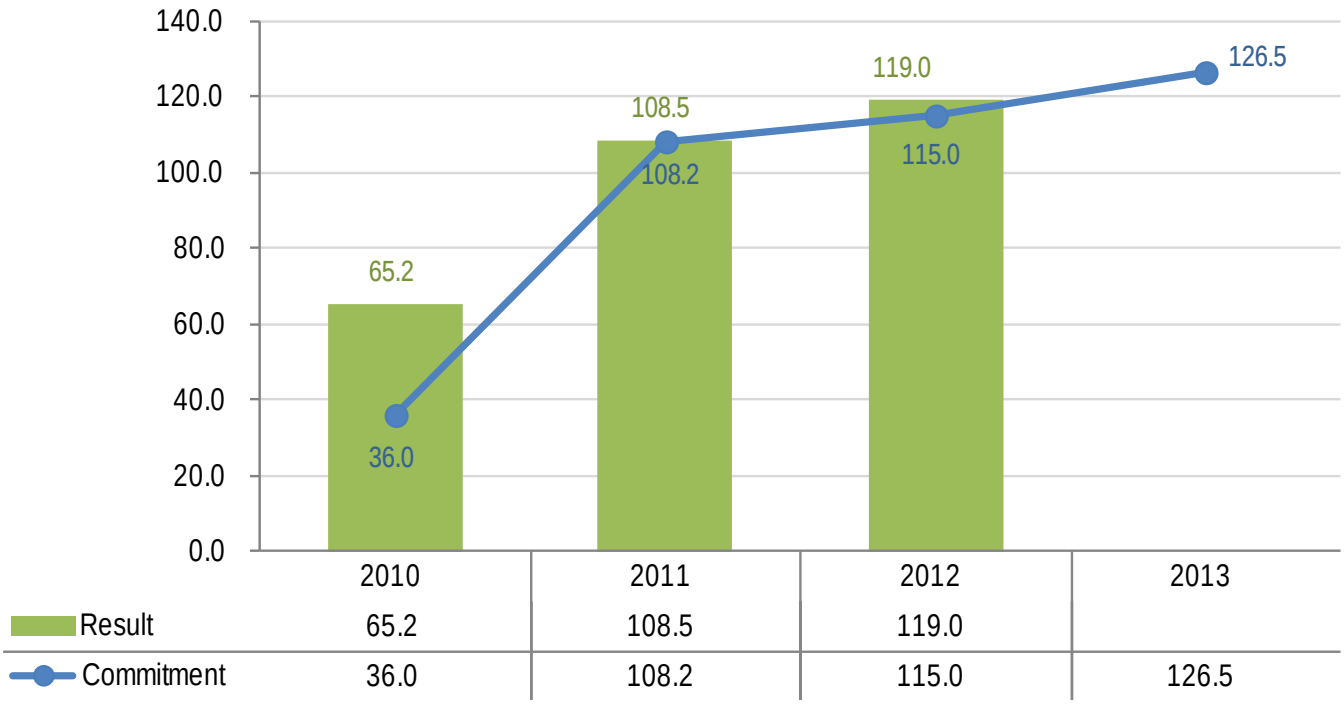
The United States and Mexico have a longstanding commitment to protecting the environment and public health in the U.S.–Mexico Border Region. EPA's U.S.–Mexico Border Program will continue to implement this binational program by working with the Mexican government, the Border Environment Cooperation Commission, the North American Development Bank, the 10 border states, and border communities to improve public health and the environment in the region.

The U.S.–Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program provides funding for the development and construction of wastewater and drinking water infrastructure for border residents, often for first-time services. EPA establishes annual commitments for the safe drinking water and wastewater sanitation measures using detailed project schedules to estimate project completions. Many variables can impact the construction schedule of a large infrastructure project. These variables may include weather delays, local economic conditions, or the unique challenges of binationally funded and managed projects, such as political exigencies or the complications associated with multiple funding sources working on different schedules. In prior years, these variables have impacted the end-of-year results, with some projects completed ahead of schedule and some experiencing delays. In FY 2012, all expected project completions were accomplished, and the program met its commitment measures

FY 2012 Performance Highlights and Management Challenges

BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) Loadings Removed: Under the U.S.–Mexico Border Program, EPA tracks the amount of BOD—a measure of organic content and a standard metric of wastewater strength—removed from wastewater as a result of EPA investments in wastewater infrastructure. Project completions through FY 2012 resulted in the removal of 119 million pounds of BOD loadings per year from the U.S.–Mexico Border area, slightly more than its commitment of 115 million pounds (based on a baseline of 0 pounds in 2003) (SP-23) (Figure 52). New project completions in FY 2012 contributed 10.3 million pounds to the total 100 million pounds of BOD removed per year.

Figure 52: Loading of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) Removed (Cumulative Million Pounds/Year) from the U.S.-Mexico Border Area (MB-SP23)



	2010	2011	2012	2013
Result	65.2	108.5	119.0	
Commitment	36.0	108.2	115.0	126.5

Safe Drinking Water to Homes in U.S.–Mexico Border Area: EPA provided 5,185 additional homes with access to safe drinking water in FY 2012 (SP-24) (Figure 53). Two drinking water projects that were completed in FY 2012 serve an additional 8,000 people. Since 2003, the Agency has provided 59,919 additional homes in the border region with access to safe drinking water (Figure 54). As a result, the Agency has achieved 81% of its long-term FY 2015 target of 73,886 additional homes having access to safe drinking water.

Figure 53: Homes with Safe Drinking Water in the U.S.–Mexico Border Area by Fiscal Year (MB-SP24.N11)

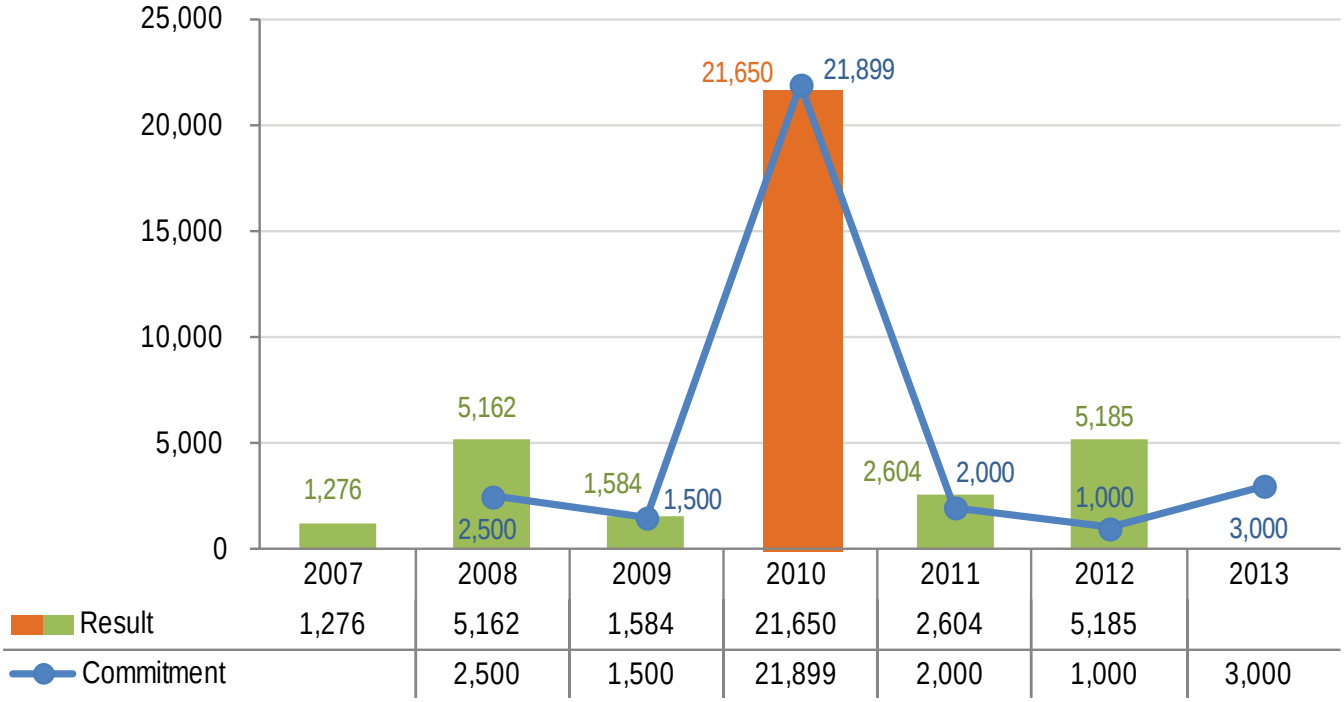
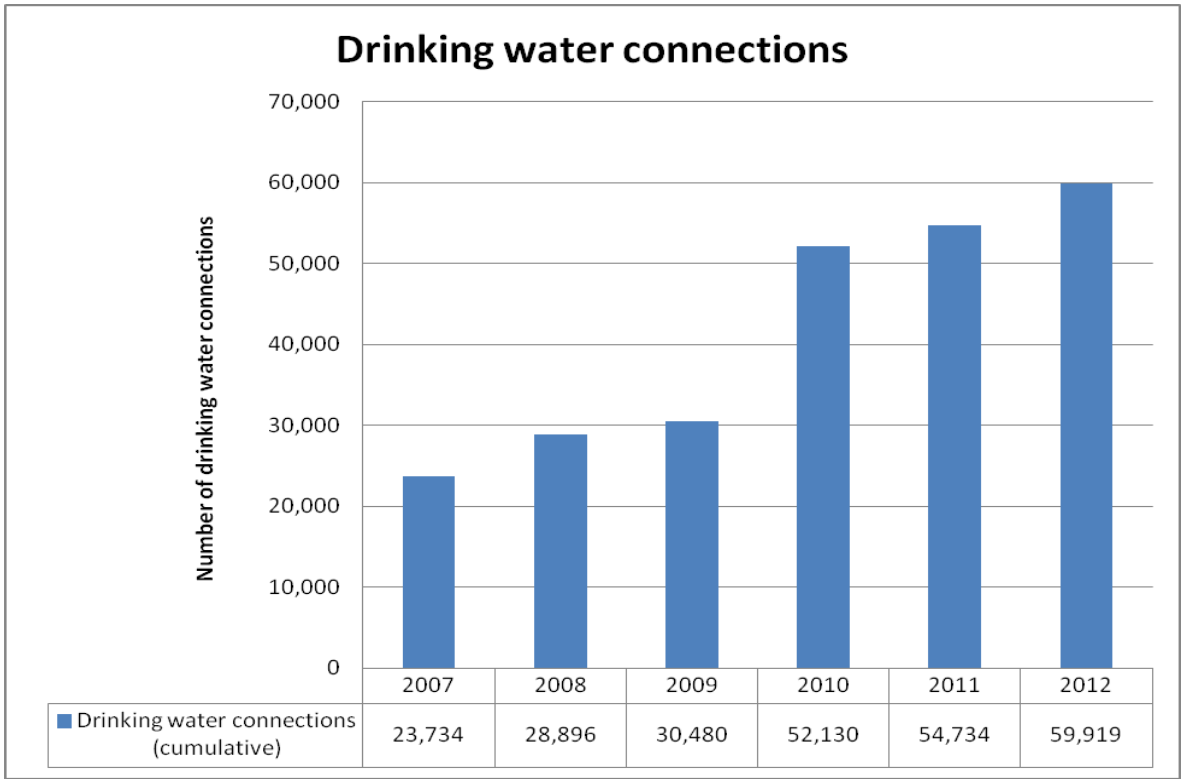


Figure 54:



Adequate Wastewater Sanitation to Homes in the U.S.–Mexico Border Area: EPA provided adequate wastewater sanitation to an additional 31,092 homes over the past year, more than three times the FY 2012 NWPG's targets (Figure 55). Ten wastewater projects were completed in fiscal year 2012, providing service for more than 115,000 people. Cumulative wastewater sanitation connections made through FY 2012 total 544,133 homes (SP-25) (Figure 56), exceeding the Agency's long-term commitment of connecting 518,042 homes by FY 2015.

Figure 55: Homes Provided Adequate Wastewater Sanitation in the U.S.–Mexico Border Area by Fiscal Year (MB-SP25.N11)

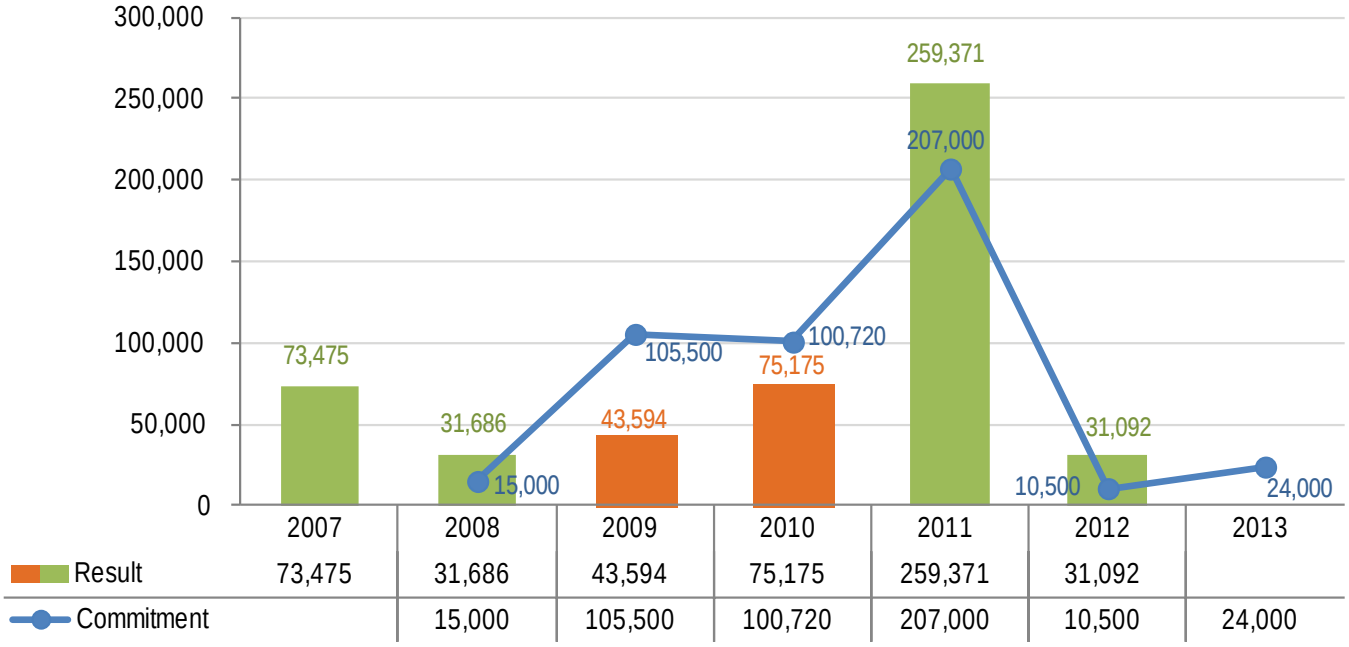


Figure 56: