Identifying Corporate EHS and Sustainability Metrics: What Companies are Tracking and Why

May 2011

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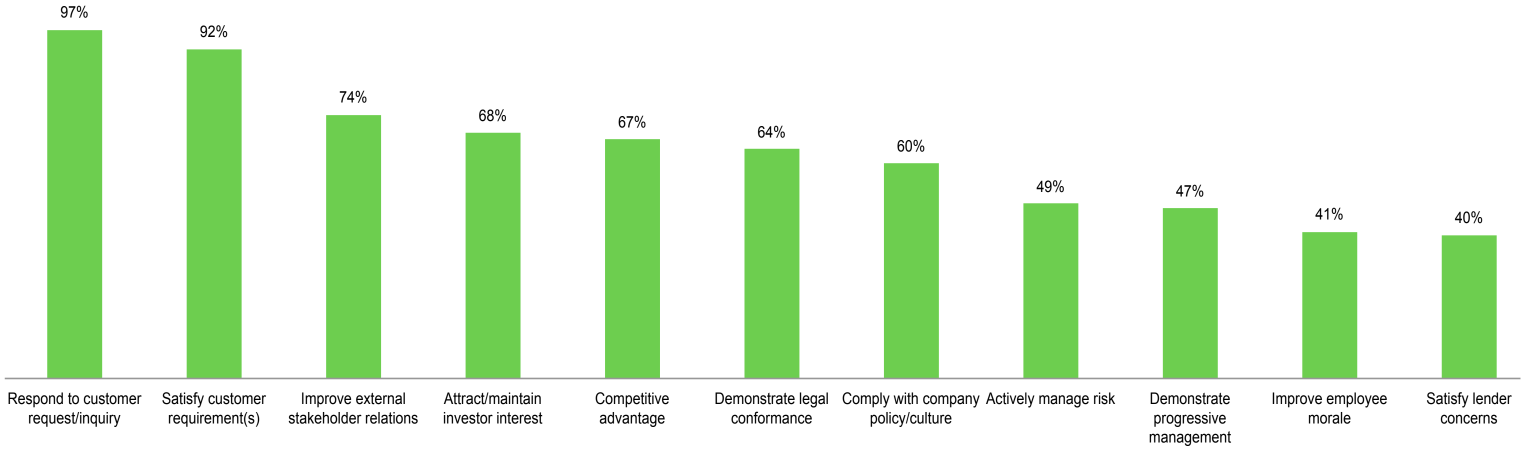
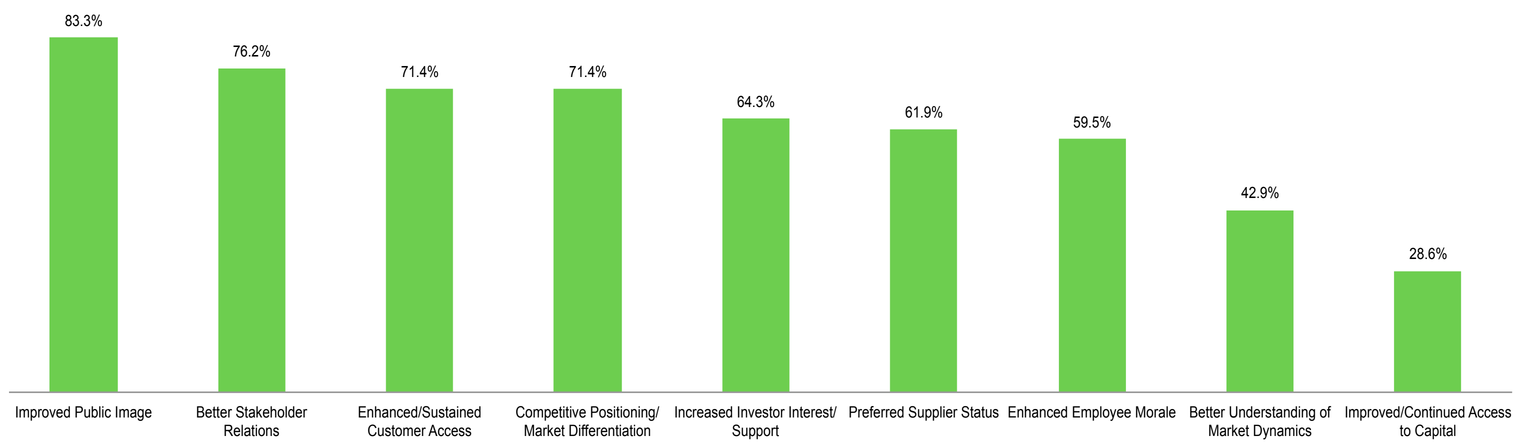
Customer requirements are driving external reporting

- The biggest drivers for external reporting among those we surveyed are: satisfying customer requirements:

Importance of Business Drivers in Responding to EHS/ESG Data Requests
Figure 16



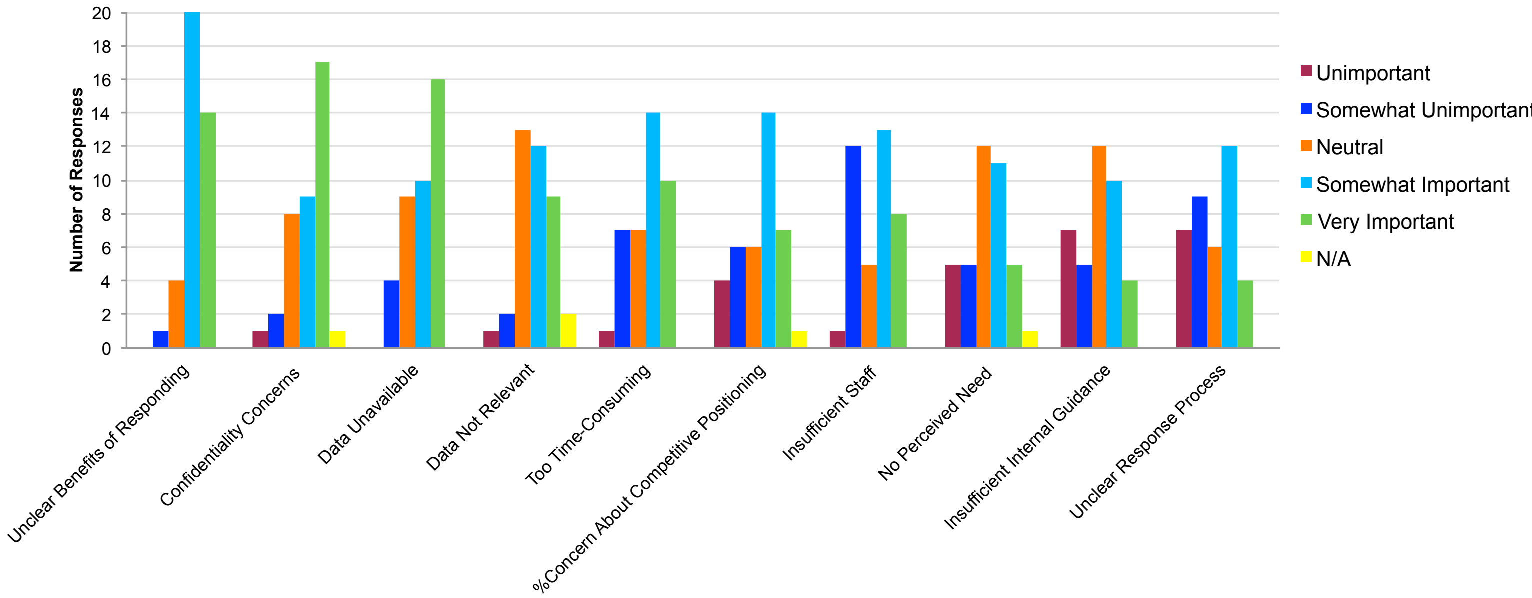
Desired Business Value from Responding to EHS/ESG Requests
Figure 17



Companies perceive barriers and potential risks to external reporting

- Despite the increase in the number of requests for information, there are risks to more widespread disclosure. Among the barriers cited by respondents are the unclear benefits of participating (no clear value proposition), concerns about confidentiality and questions about the relevancy of the data relevance being requested.

Importance of Barriers to Limiting Responses to Requests for EHS/ESG Data
Figure 18

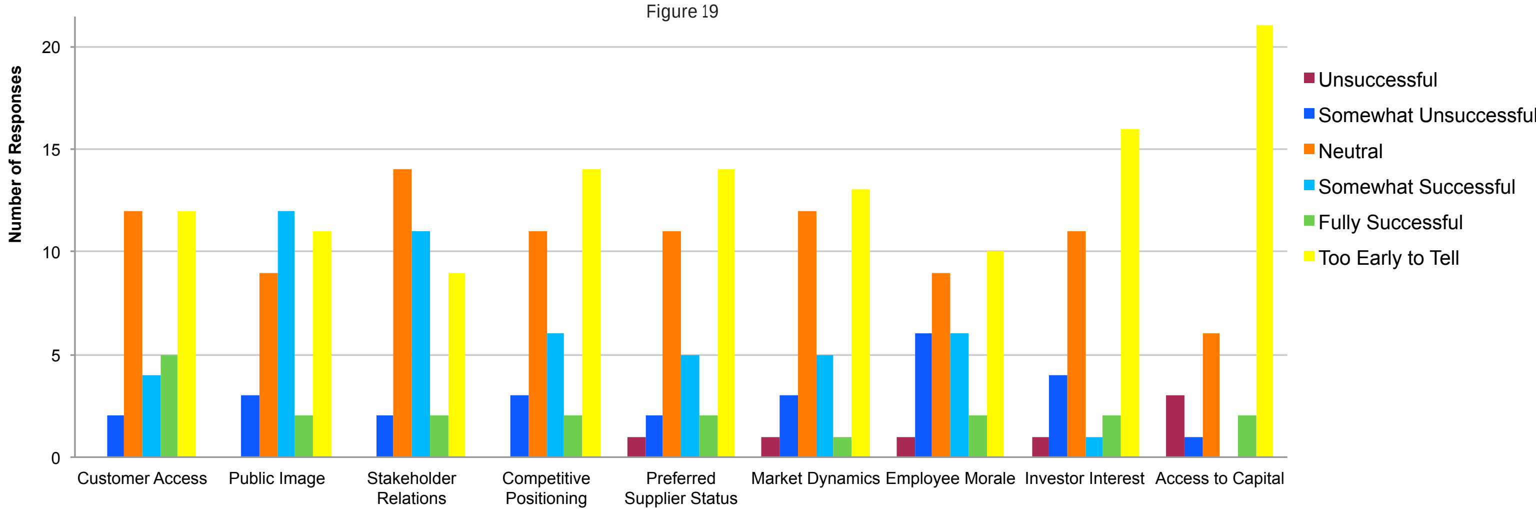


The business benefits of external reporting are not yet clear

- Most respondents said it was "Too early to tell" whether external reporting delivered clear business benefits, such as increased access to capital, improved competitive positioning, investor interest and preferred supplier status.

- While growing, this indicates that the SRI investing is still a niche marketplace

Success in Capturing Business Benefits of External Reporting
Figure 19



Summary Charts:

Resource Consumption Metrics

- Resource Consumption Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Resource Consumption Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Resource Consumption Metrics

Resource Conservation and Recyling Metrics

- Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics

Emissions and Waste Management Metrics

- Emissions and Waste Management Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Emissions and Waste Management Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Emissions and Waste Management Metrics

Health and Safety Metrics

- Health and Safety Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Health and Safety Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Health and Safety Metrics

Compliance Metrics

- Compliance Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Compliance Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Compliance Metrics

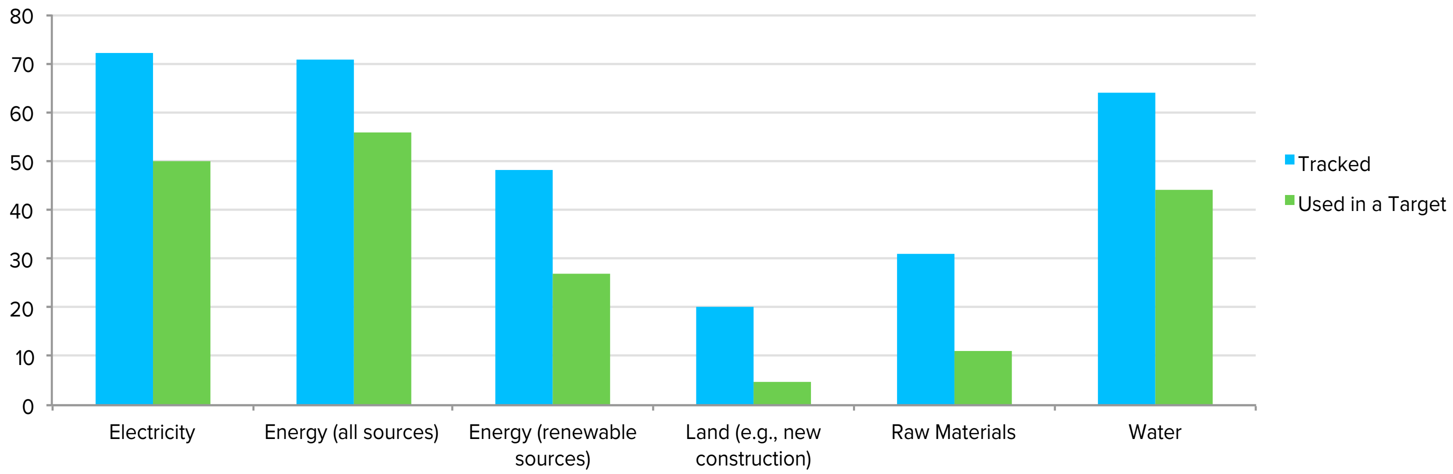
Management-Oriented Metrics

- Management-Oriented Metrics Tracked/Targeted
- Highest Level to Which Management-Oriented Metrics Are Reported
- Primary Purpose of Management-Oriented Metrics

Summary Charts: Resource Consumption Metrics

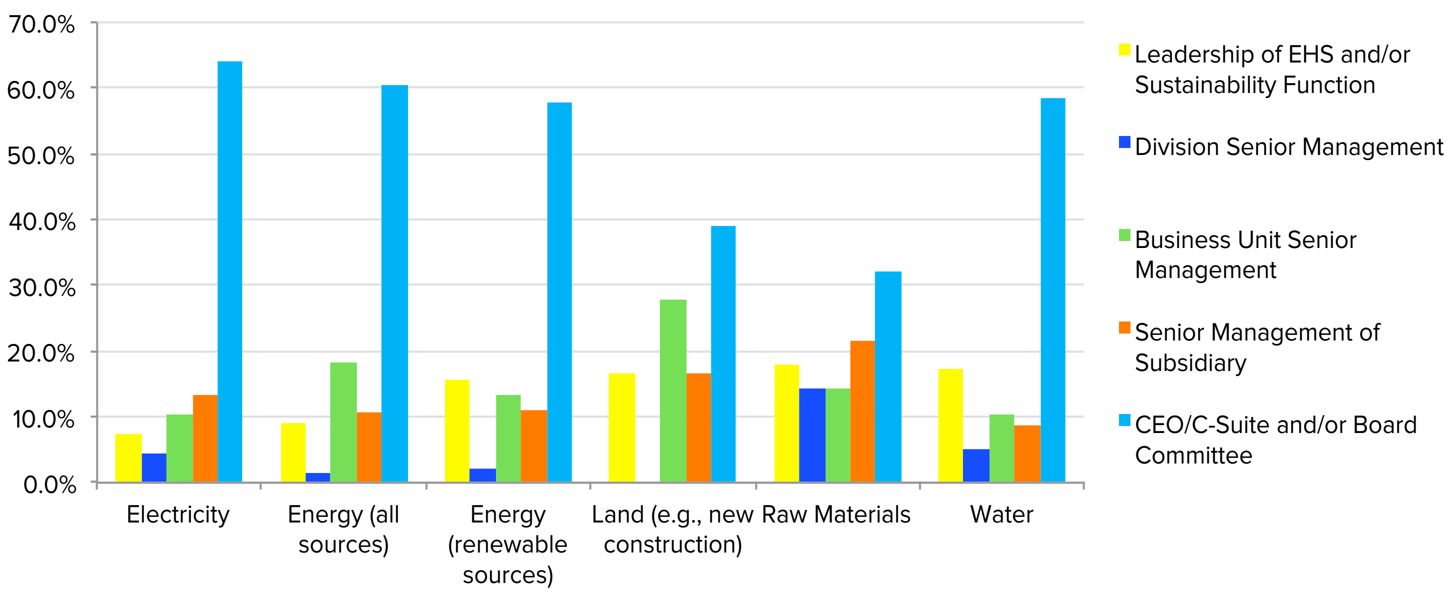
Resource Consumption Metrics Tracked vs. Targeted

Figure 20

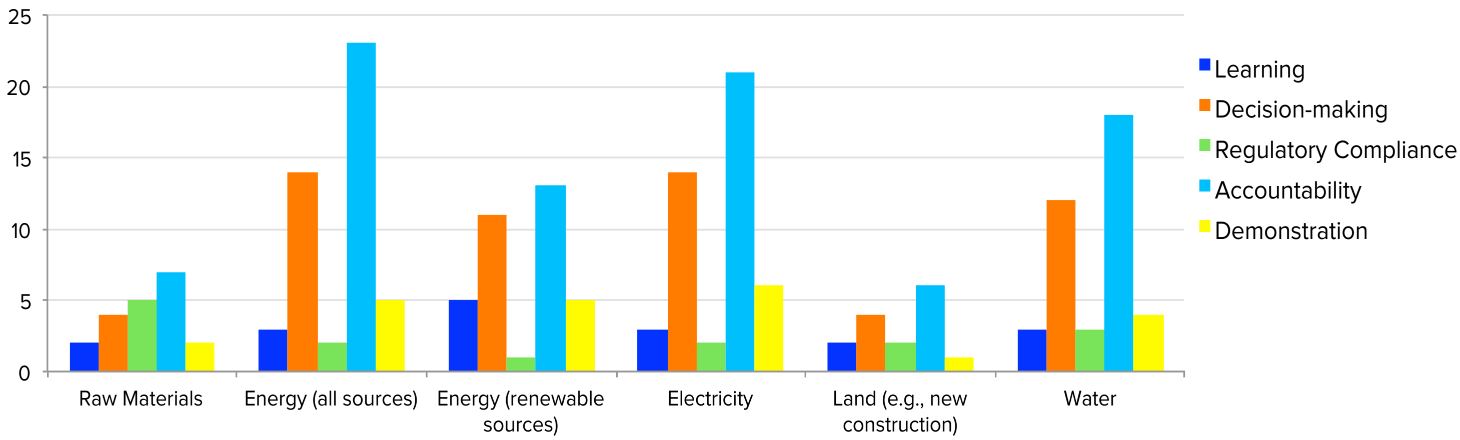


Highest Level to Which Resource Consumption Metrics are Reported

Figure 21



Primary Purpose of Resource Consumption Metrics
Figure 22

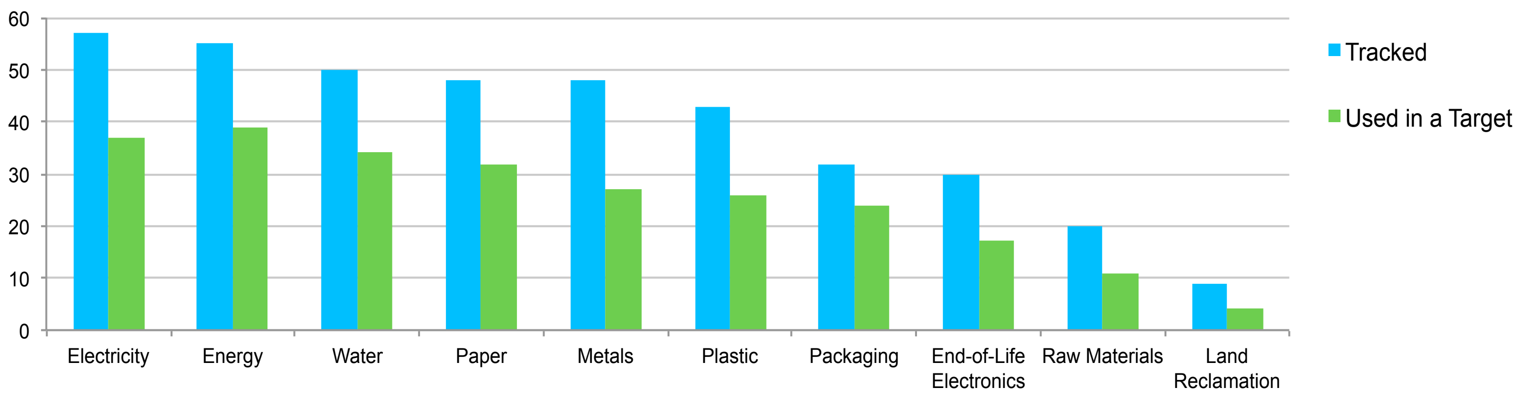


Appendix

Summary Charts: Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics

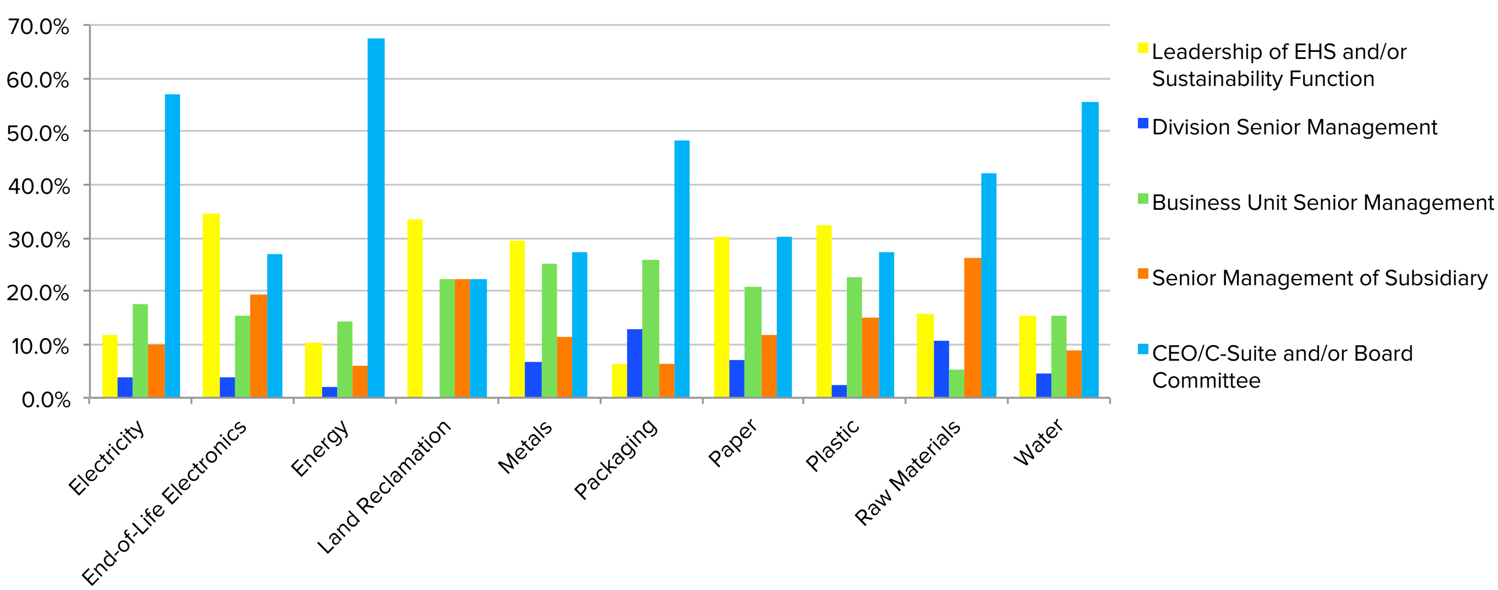
Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics Tracked vs. Targeted

Figure 23



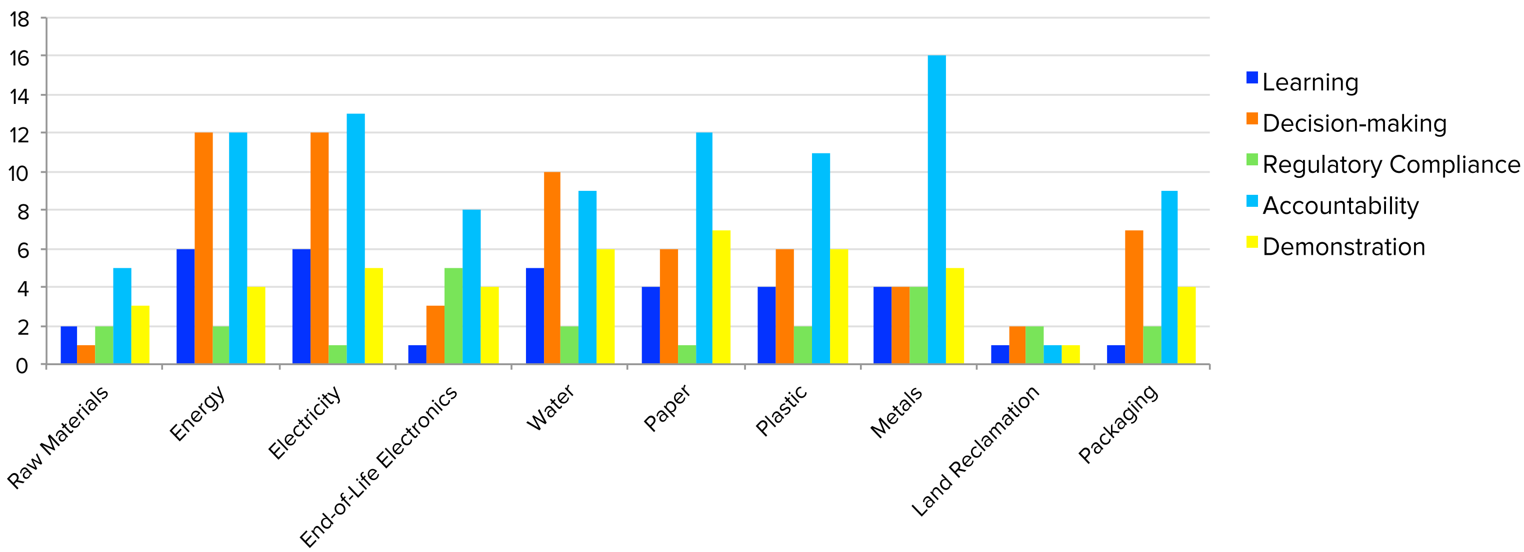
Highest Level to Which Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics are Reported

Figure 24



Primary Purpose of Resource Conservation and Recycling Metrics

Figure 25

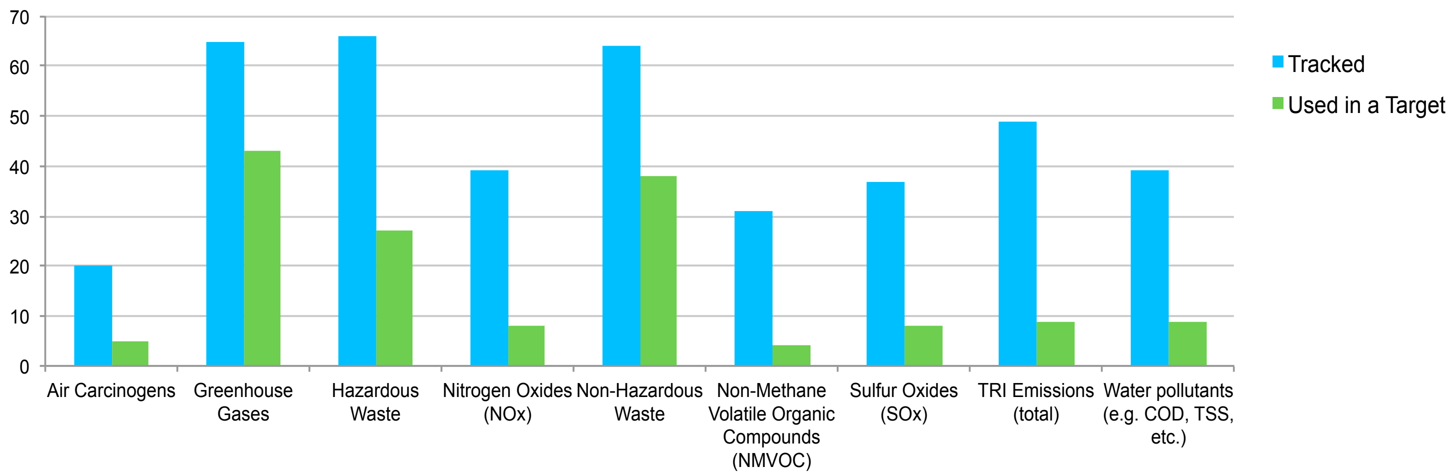


Appendix

Summary Charts: Emissions and Waste Management Metrics

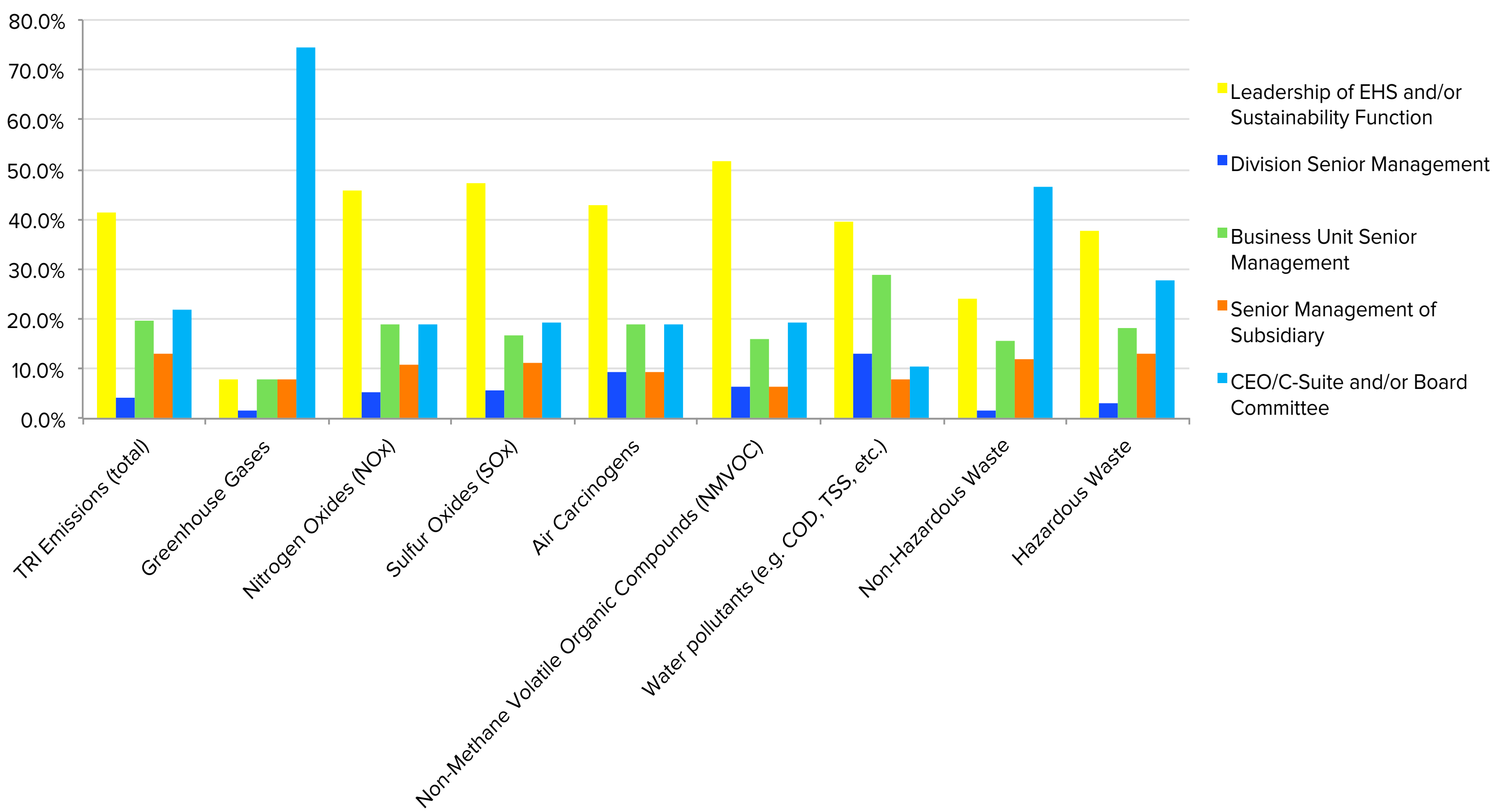
Emissions and Waste Management Metrics Tracked vs. Targeted

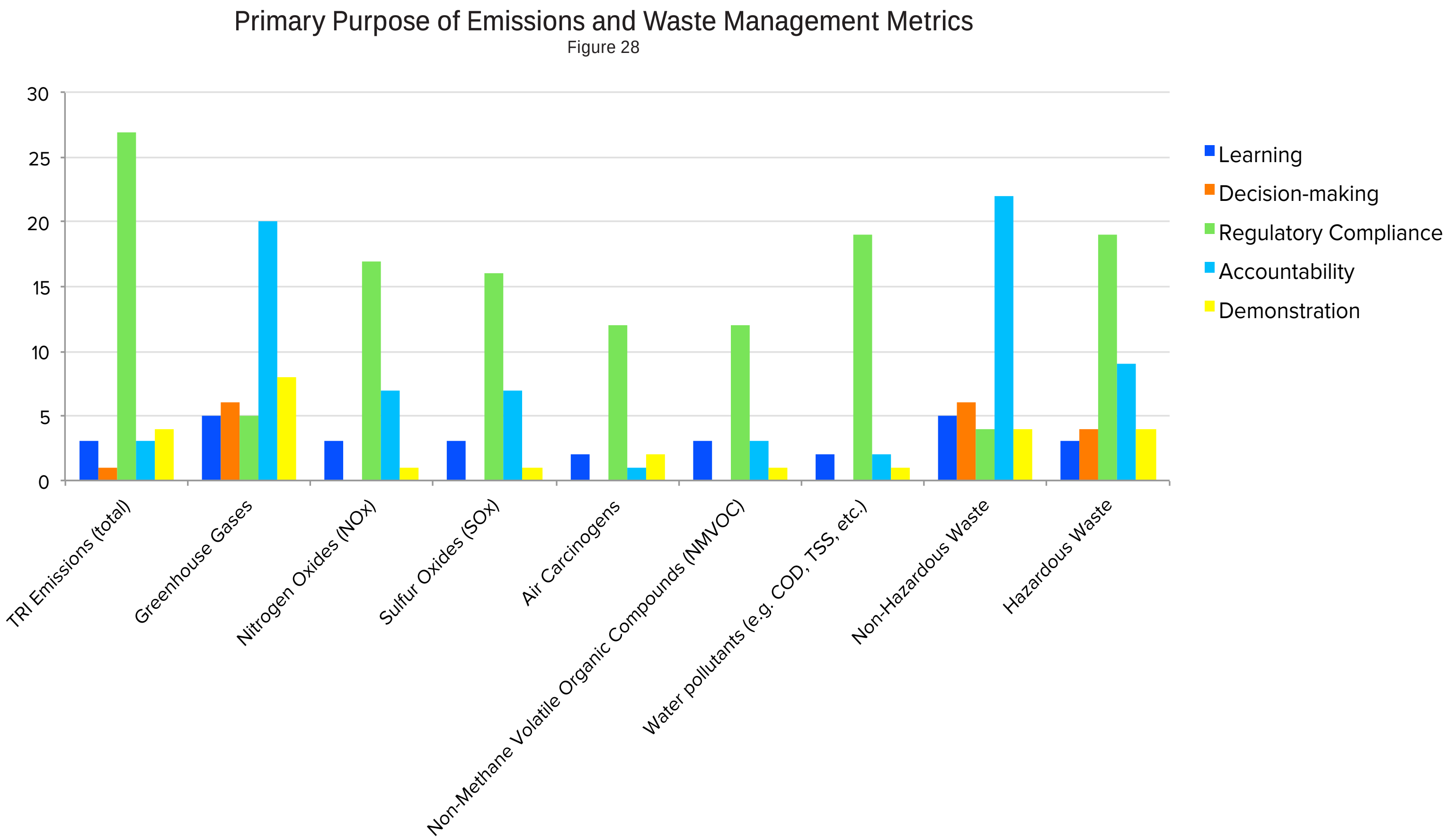
Figure 26



Highest Level to Which Emissions and Waste Management Metrics are Reported

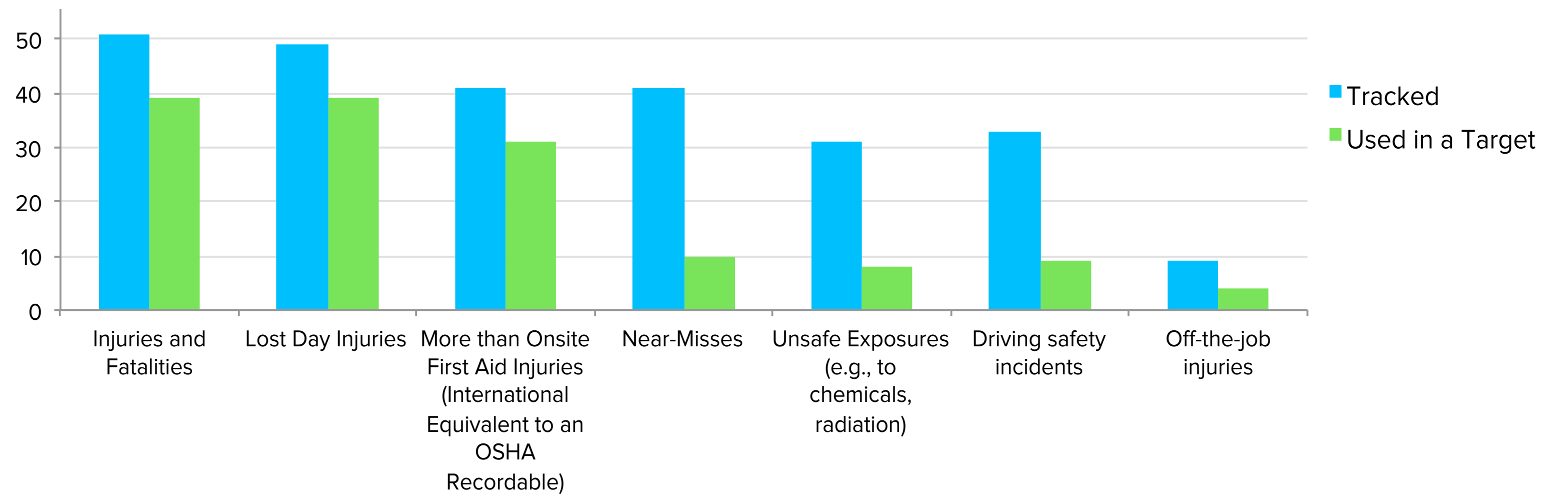
Figure 27



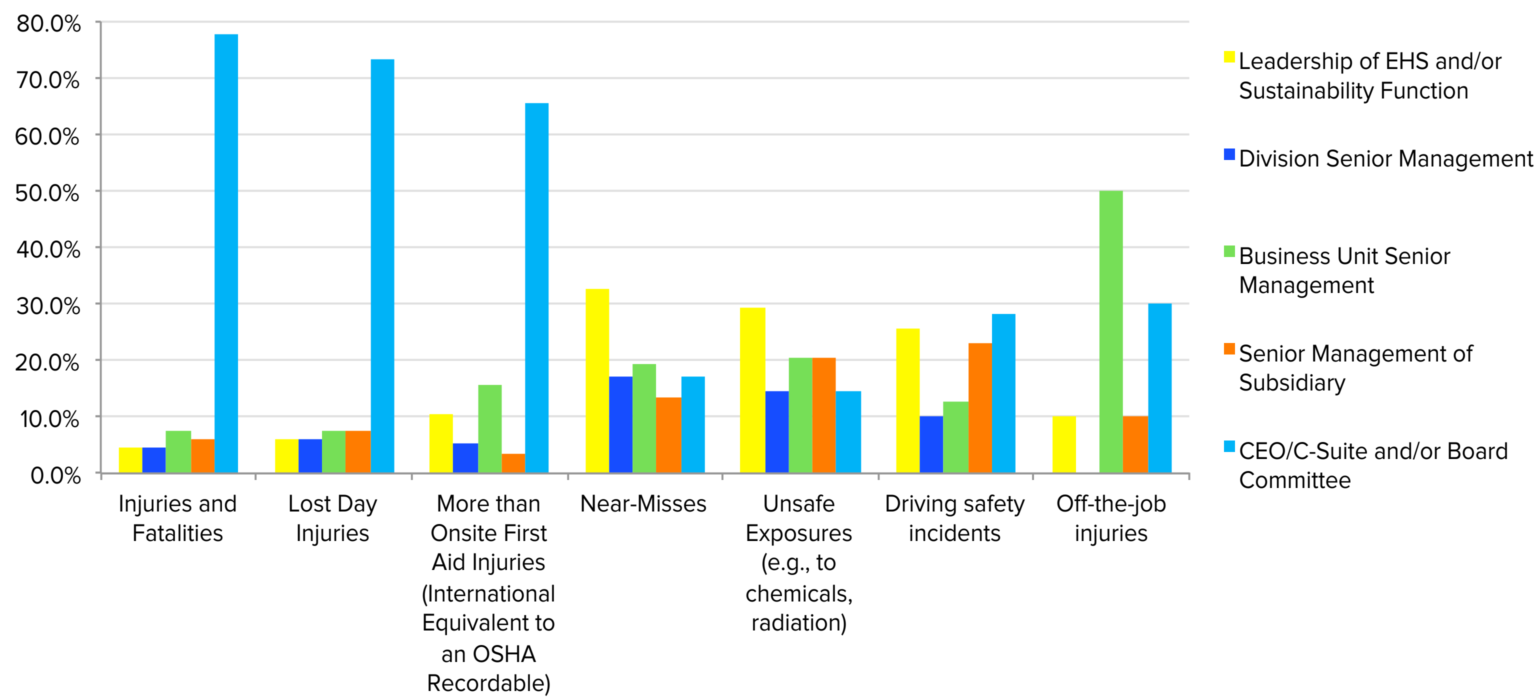

Primary Purpose of Emissions and Waste Management Metrics
Figure 28
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
Learning
Decision-making
Regulatory Compliance
Accountability
Demonstration
TRI Emissions (total)
Greenhouse Gases
Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)
Sulfur Oxides (SOx)
Air Carcinogens
Non-Methane Volatile Organic Compounds (NMVOC)
Water pollutants (e.g. COD, TSS, etc.)
Non-Hazardous Waste
Hazardous Waste

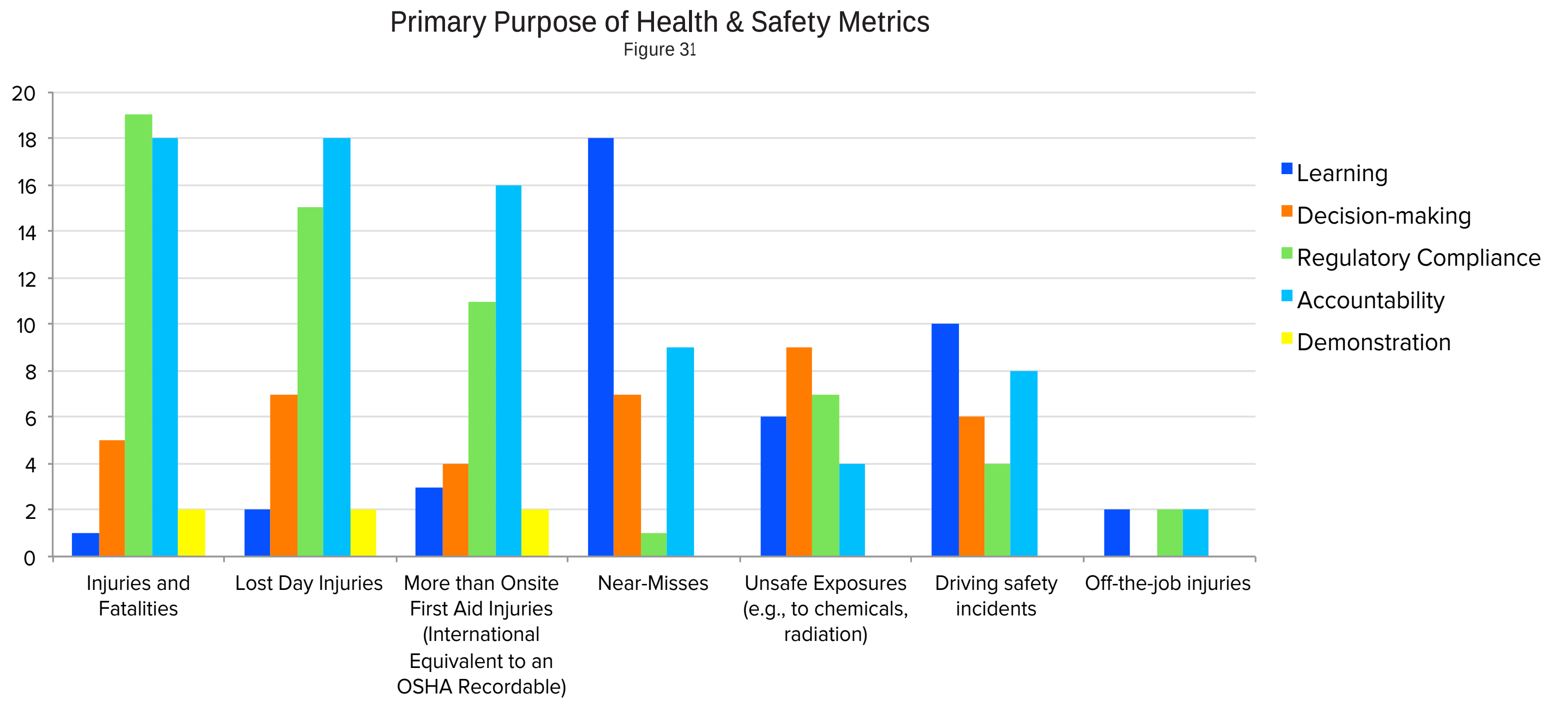
Summary Charts: Health and Safety Metrics

Health & Safety Metrics Tracked vs. Targeted
Figure 29



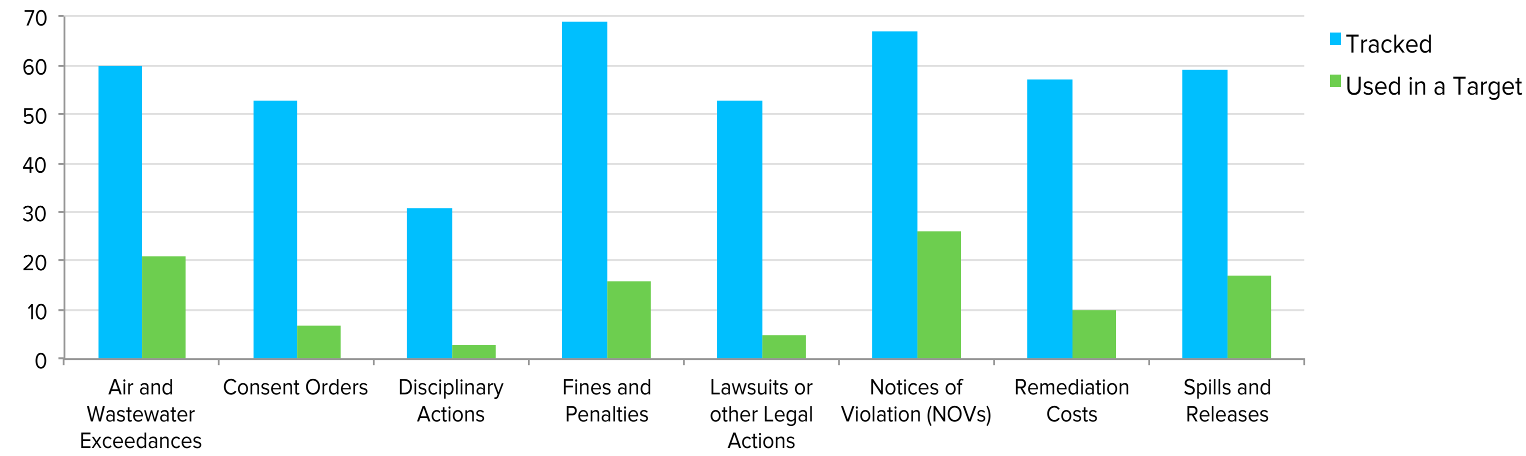
Highest Level to Which Health & Safety Metrics are Reported
Figure 30



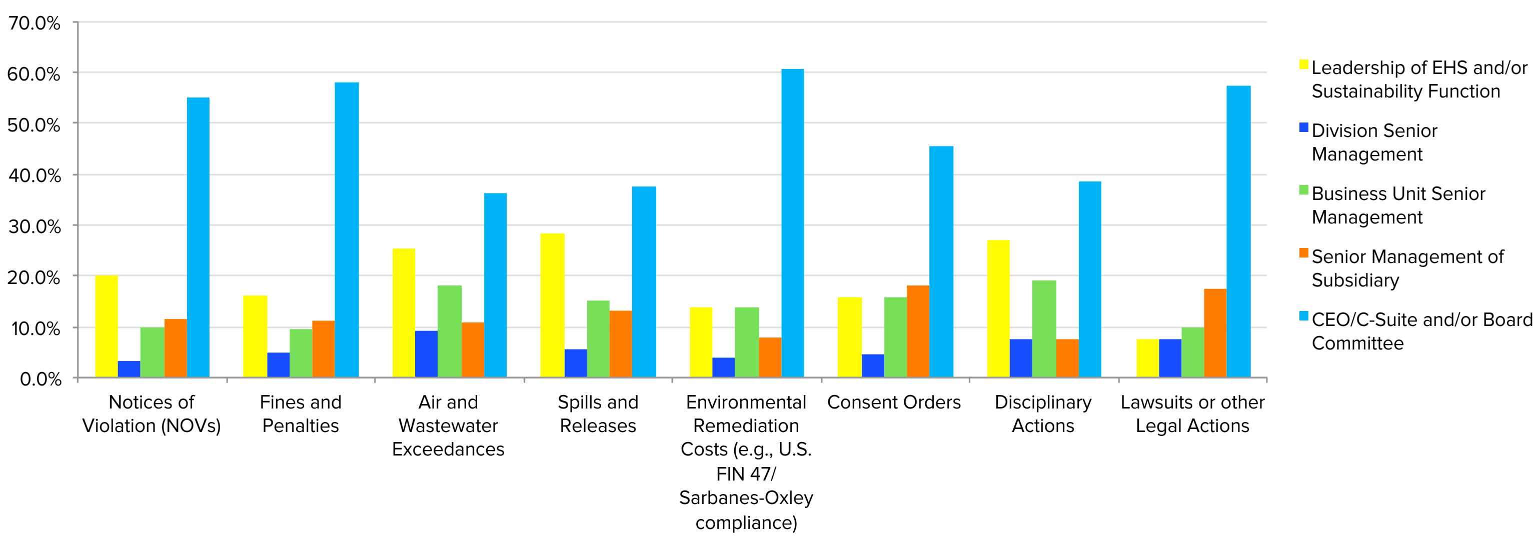

Primary Purpose of Health & Safety Metrics
Figure 31
20
18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Injuries and Fatalities
Lost Day Injuries
More than Onsite First Aid Injuries (International Equivalent to an OSHA Recordable)
Near-Misses
Unsafe Exposures (e.g., to chemicals, radiation)
Driving safety incidents
Off-the-job injuries
Learning
Decision-making
Regulatory Compliance
Accountability
Demonstration

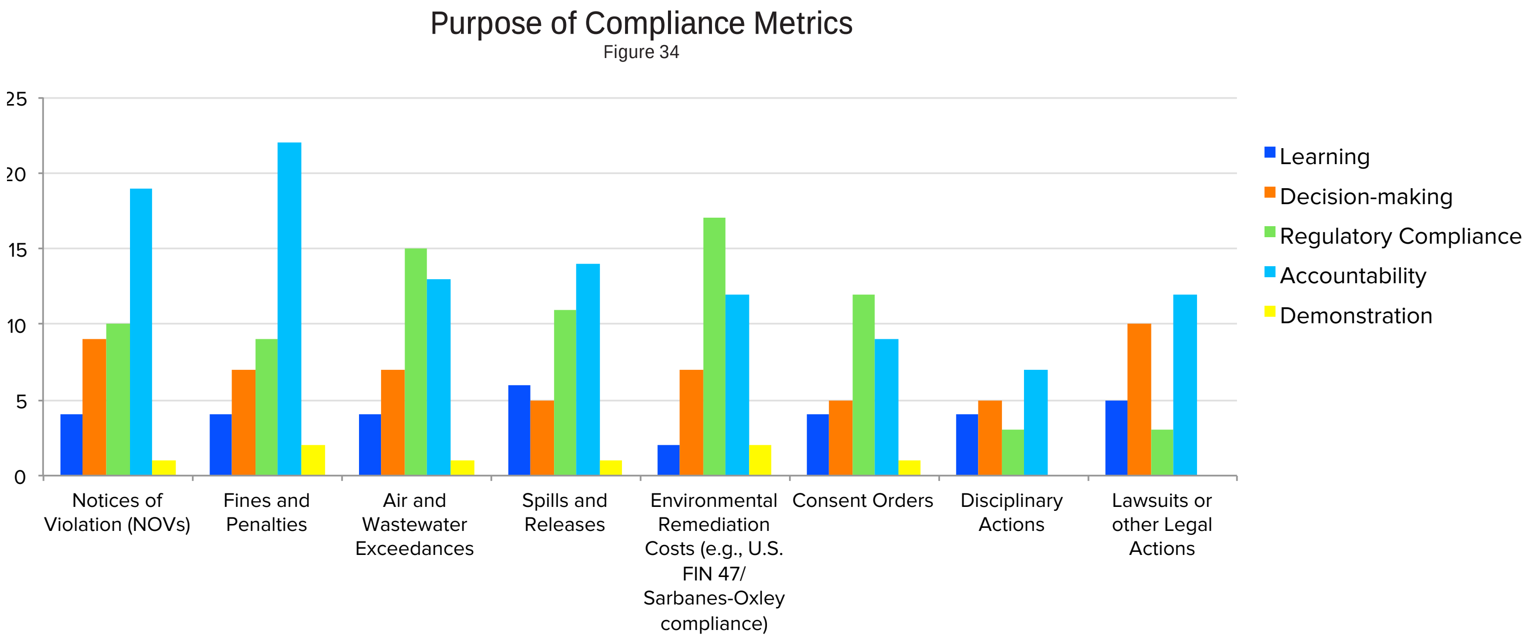
Summary Charts: Compliance Metrics

Compliance Metrics Tracked vs. Targeted
Figure 32



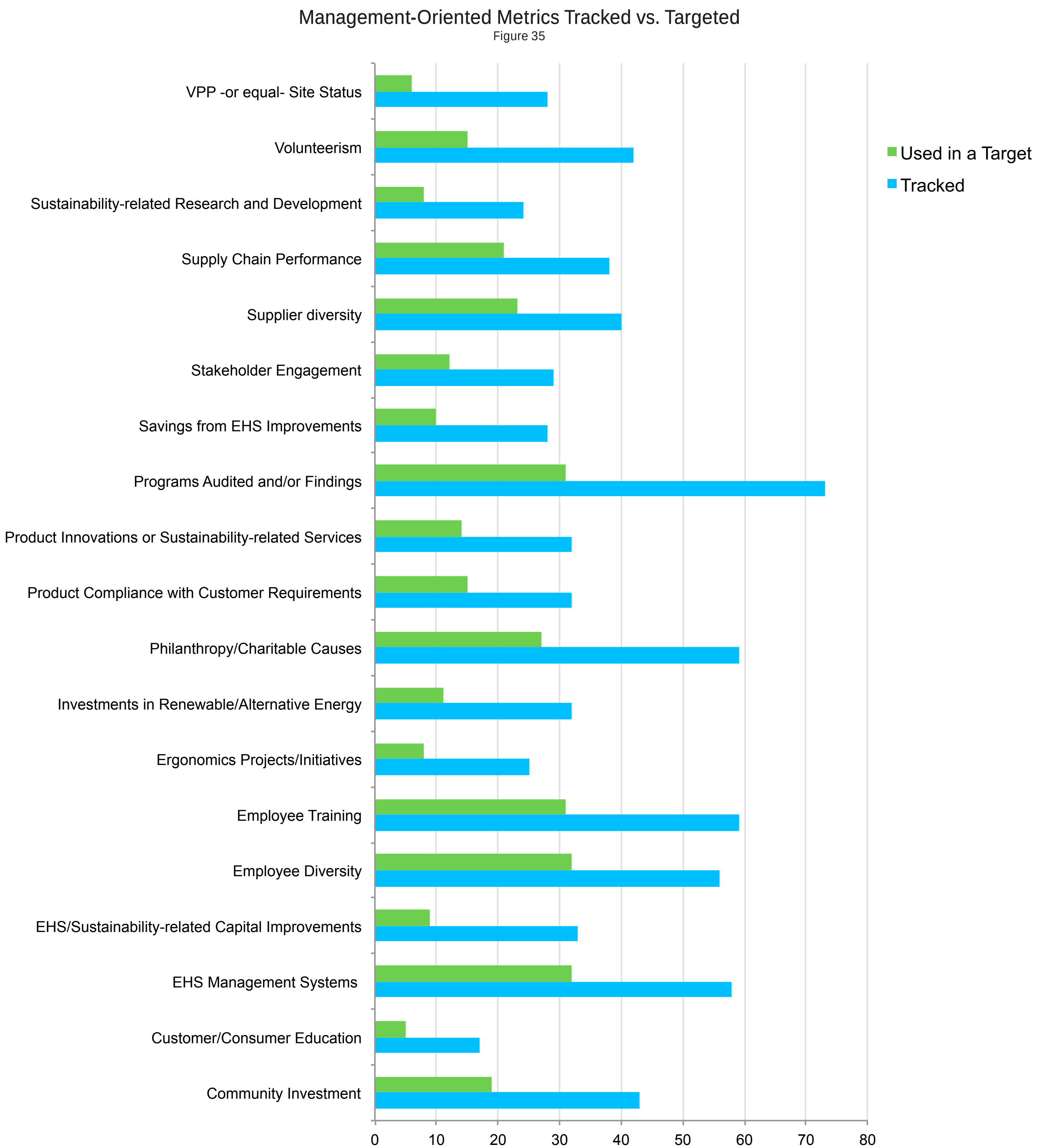
Highest Level to Which Compliance Metrics are Reported
Figure 33




Purpose of Compliance Metrics
Figure 34
25
20
15
10
5
0
Notices of Violation (NOVs)
Fines and Penalties
Air and Wastewater Exceedances
Spills and Releases
Environmental Remediation Costs (e.g., U.S. FIN 47/ Sarbanes-Oxley compliance)
Consent Orders
Disciplinary Actions
Lawsuits or other Legal Actions
Learning
Decision-making
Regulatory Compliance
Accountability
Demonstration

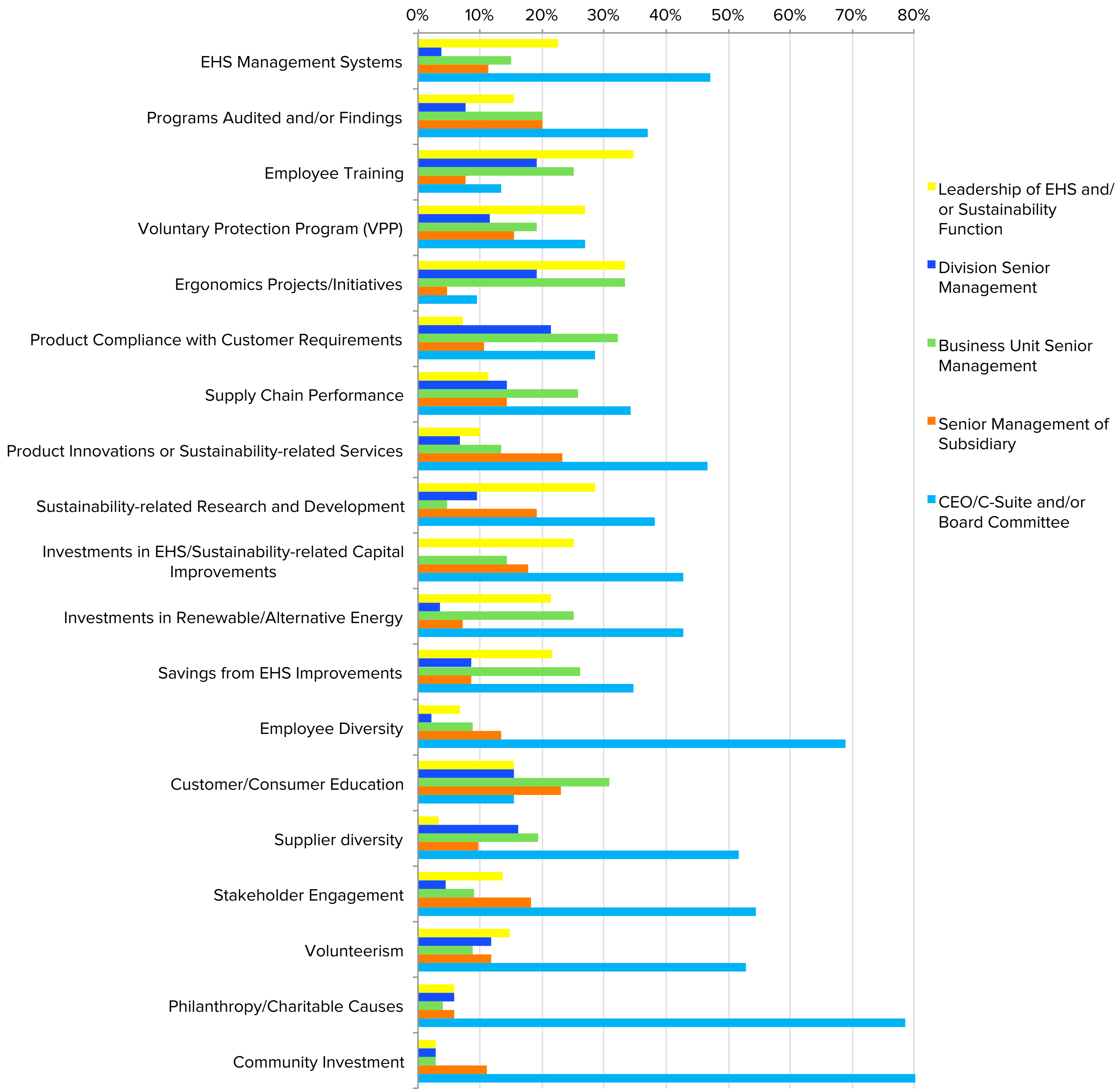
Appendix

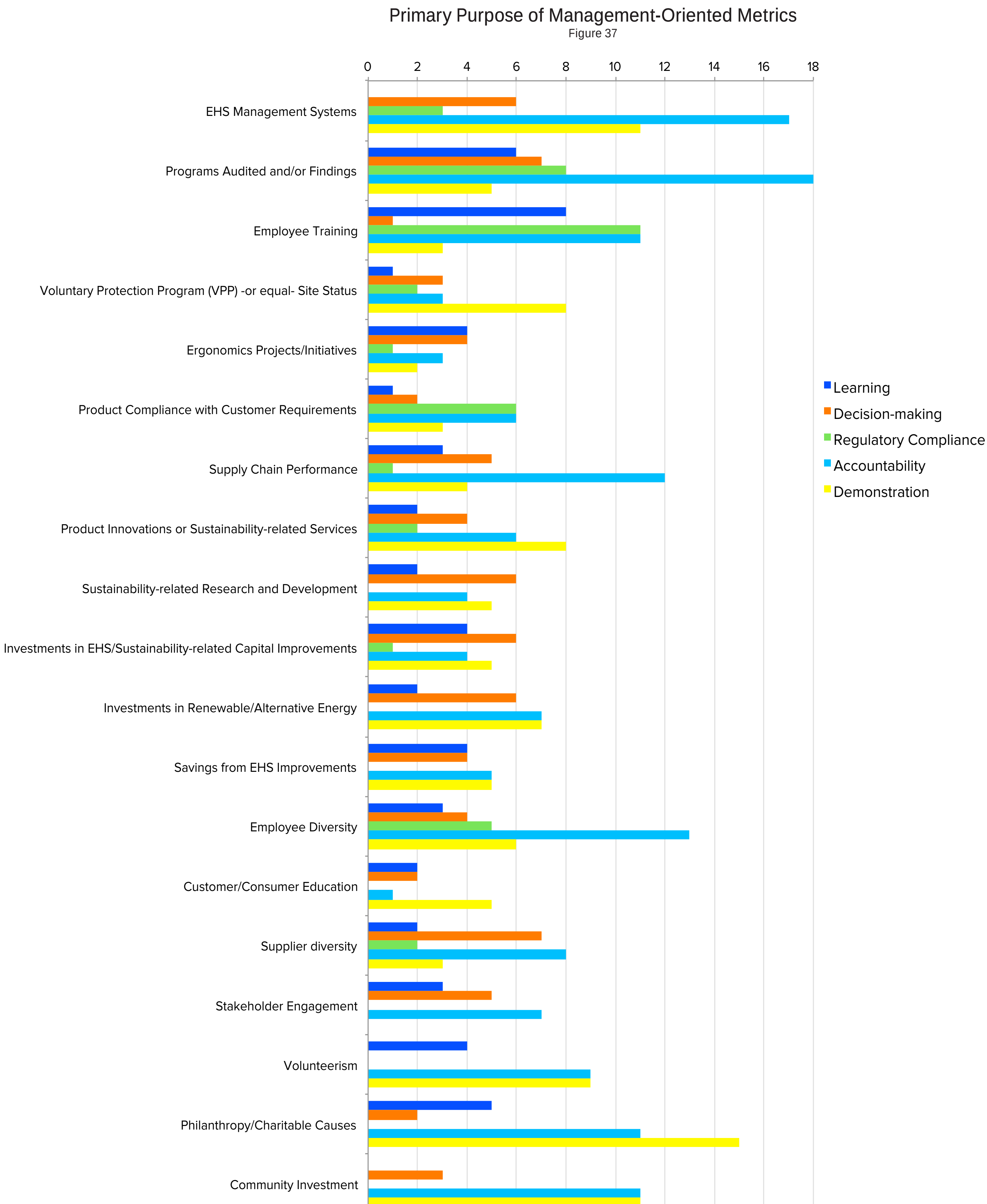
Summary Charts: Management-Oriented Metrics



Highest Level to Which Management-Oriented Metrics are Reported

Figure 36




Primary Purpose of Management-Oriented Metrics
Figure 37
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
EHS Management Systems
Programs Audited and/or Findings
Employee Training
Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) -or equal- Site Status
Ergonomics Projects/Initiatives
Product Compliance with Customer Requirements
Supply Chain Performance
Product Innovations or Sustainability-related Services
Sustainability-related Research and Development
Investments in EHS/Sustainability-related Capital Improvements
Investments in Renewable/Alternative Energy
Savings from EHS Improvements
Employee Diversity
Customer/Consumer Education
Supplier diversity
Stakeholder Engagement
Volunteerism
Philanthropy/Charitable Causes
Community Investment
Learning
Decision-making
Regulatory Compliance
Accountability
Demonstration

Acknowledgements

Publisher

The National Association for Environmental Management (NAEM)
1612 K St., NW Suite 1002
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202)986-6616
www.naem.org
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Contributors

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For more information, please contact:

Elizabeth Ryan
Director of Interactive Media and Communications
(202) 986-6616 x109
elizabeth@naem.org