



NAEM Research

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY LEADING-EDGE METRICS AND PROGRAMS

Description:

This research provides a comprehensive benchmark of the metrics leadership companies are using to advance their EHS and sustainability programs. It documents how targets are set, how they are funded and the average payback periods required. It also provides a series of charts that allow you to benchmark your goals and programs, based on six categories of metrics.

Objective:

The purpose of the survey was to:

- Identify the leading-edge targets for resource management metrics
- Understand how companies fund their resource reduction goals
- Establish a benchmark for the time-period for return on investment

Methodology:

This 25-question survey was developed by NAEM Corporate Members in partnership with NAEM Staff, and fielded in February 2014. The results are based on over 95 respondents who took the survey, including NAEM Corporate members, Conference Board Chief Environmental Officer members and attendees to NAEM's "Best Practices in Corporate Energy, Waste and Water" conference in March 2014.

The survey questions were designed to address the following categories of metrics:

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Energy Use
- Waste
- Water Use
- Air Emissions
- Safety

For each category of metrics, respondents were asked to describe the extent to which they were tracking specific metrics. The choices for each included:

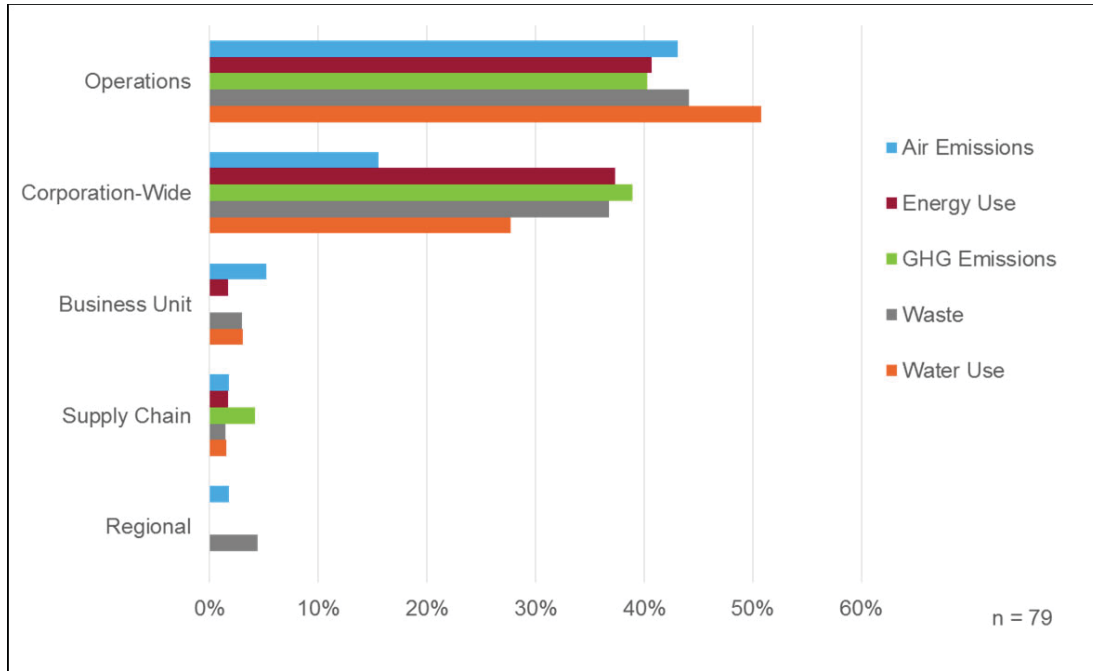
- Currently using
- Currently thinking about using
- Considered using but chose not to
- Did not consider using
- Previously used and discontinued
- Previously used and achieved

Key Findings:

Looking broadly across all metrics categories, the following is a summary of key findings:

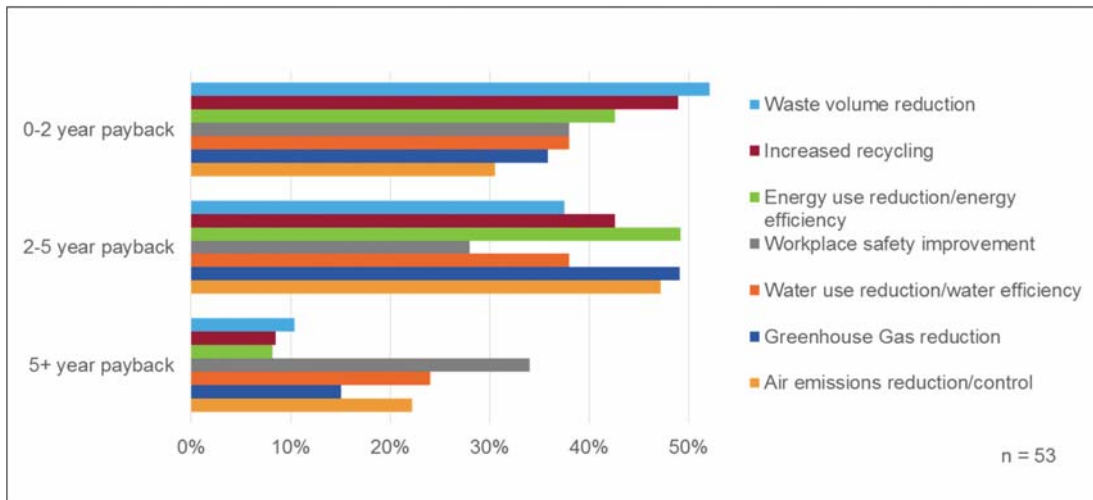
- The most aggressive resource efficiency goals currently apply to waste, with many set at 100 percent recycled.
- Most companies set targets at the corporate or operations level

Figure 1. Scope of Metrics Set



- Annual targets are most common overall, but a 5-10-year timeframe was predominantly used when setting a specific target improvement goal
- Companies use formal commitments to achieve improvements in metrics
- Safety, waste recycled, and energy and greenhouse gas targets are the most prevalent goal areas
- The majority of companies empower the business units to fund their own projects for environmental or sustainability initiatives
- For an EHS or sustainability project to receive funding, most must provide either a 0-2 or a 2-5-year payback

Figure 2. Metric Payback Period



Diving into each metric category, the key findings include:

Safety

- Site-specific safety plans were most commonly used
- Voluntary site participation in OSHA VPP and Voluntary site attainment of OHSAS 18001 was the next most frequently used

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- More than 60 percent of respondents are either currently using or considering using a CO2e reductions
- Very few are looking at CO2e reductions beyond manufacturing

Energy Use

- Reduction in energy use and improvement in manufacturing energy efficiency are the most commonly used energy targets

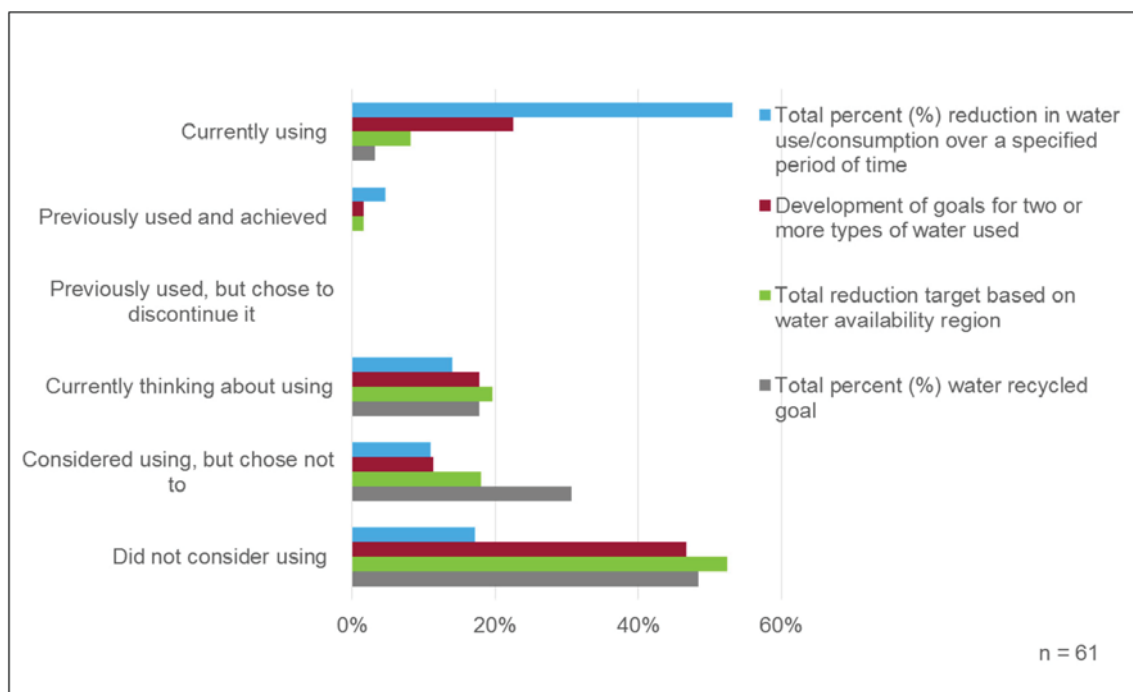
Waste

- 48 percent of respondents are currently using a total percentage waste recycled target

Water Use

- 56 percent of respondents are using a total percent reduction in water use/consumption target

Figure 3. Water Use Targets



Air Emissions

- Air emissions are predominately not applicable or targets are not being considered by most respondents. Respondents suggested that the Clean Air Act requirements provide sufficient guidelines

If you would like to see the full results of this benchmark, sign in and download the full results presentation. This research a unique benefit of NAEM membership. To learn more about NAEM membership, please contact us at (202) 986-6616.