

Drinking Water Program Update



Oregon
Health
Authority

Center for Health Protection
Public Health Division
April 2015

Topics

- Current events
- Program overview
- 2015 Legislature - fees
- Regulatory update
- Measures – how are we doing?

Current events - 2014

- LT2 - Unfiltered systems/open reservoirs:
 - Baker City temporary UV light, permanent UV light installation
 - Portland E. coli boil water advisory
 - Bend membrane filtration construction start
- Milton-Freewater health hazard abatement action
- North coast forestry/herbicides public concerns
- Southeast Oregon drought declarations
- Clean Water Services wastewater beer brewing pilot proposal
- West Virginia chemical spill
- Toledo Ohio algal bloom
- Ebola water/wastewater concerns
- OHA/PHD leadership changes

Safe drinking water and regulatory roles

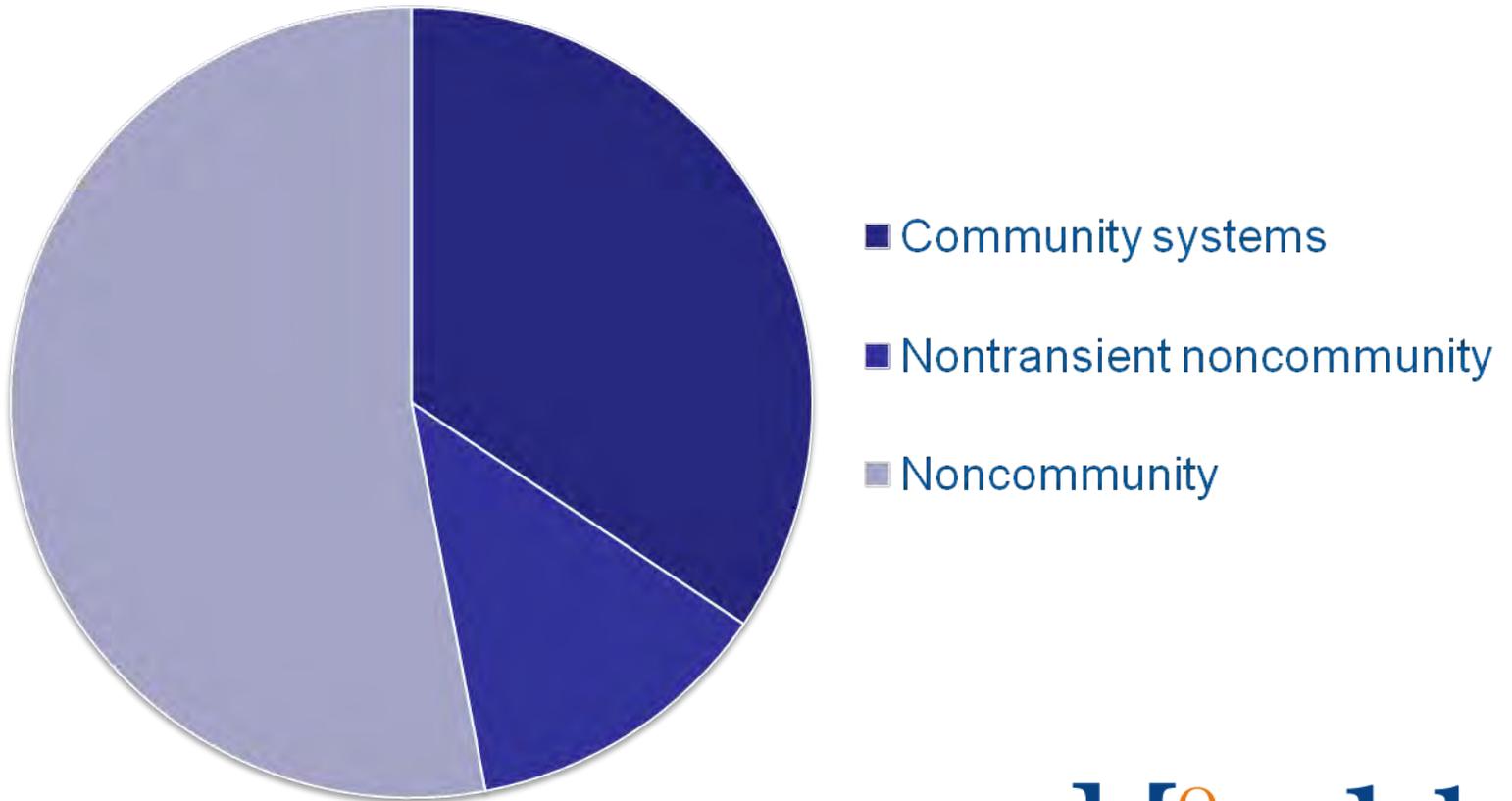
- Public water suppliers – supply safe drinking water
- **State/tribal drinking water programs – supervise public water systems under rules no less stringent than EPA (“Primacy”)**
- U.S. EPA – establish national safe drinking water standards and regulations, oversee and evaluate state primacy programs

Public water systems in Oregon

- Over 2,500 public water systems subject to EPA regulations (25 or more people)
- 900 known public water systems subject only to state regulations (10-24 people)
- Public systems serve entire state population
- **90% of water systems serve fewer than 500 people**
- 2,800 certified water system operators
- 100 certified drinking water labs
- 91 EPA regulated contaminants, 19 regulations
- **125,000+ test results per year**

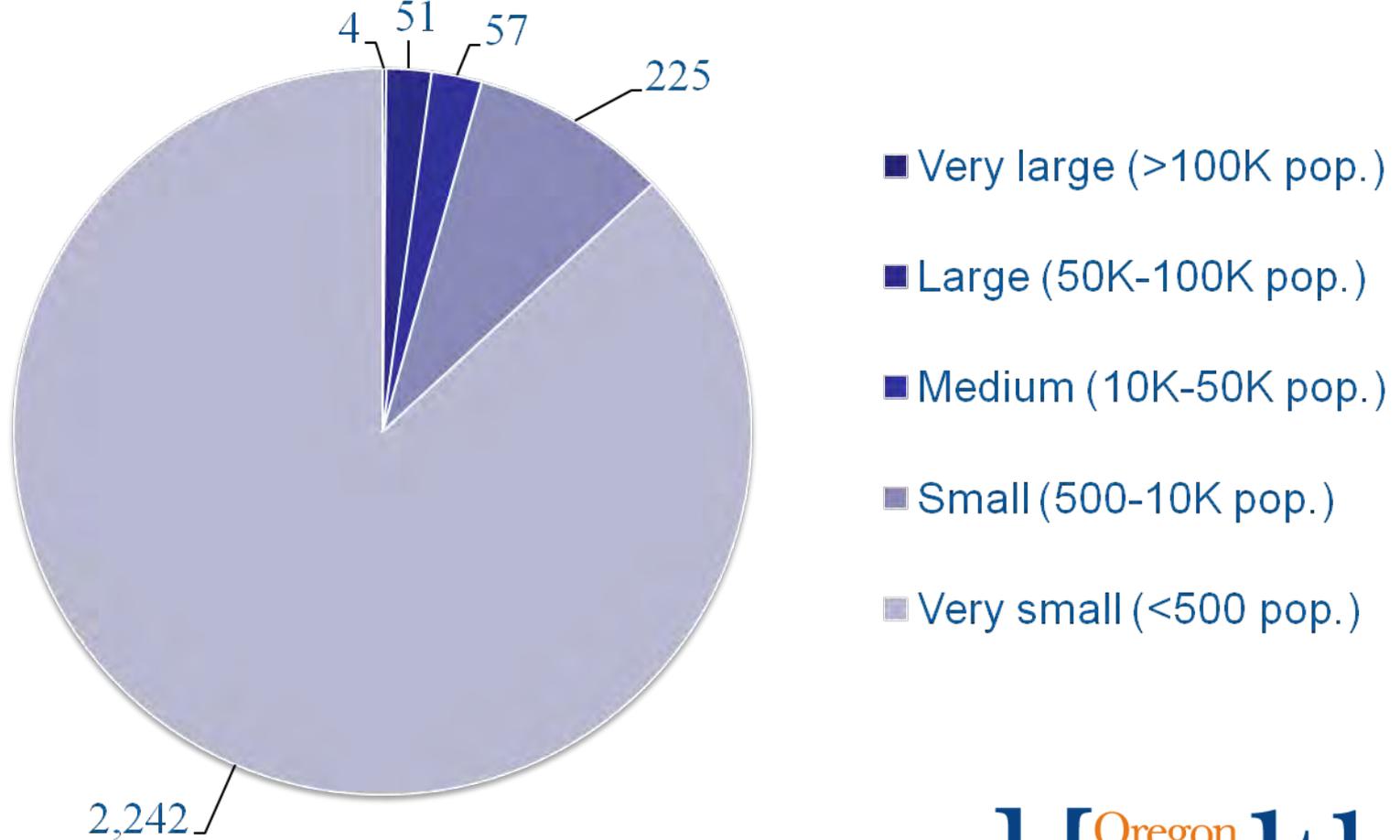
Oregon water systems by type

2,559 public water systems



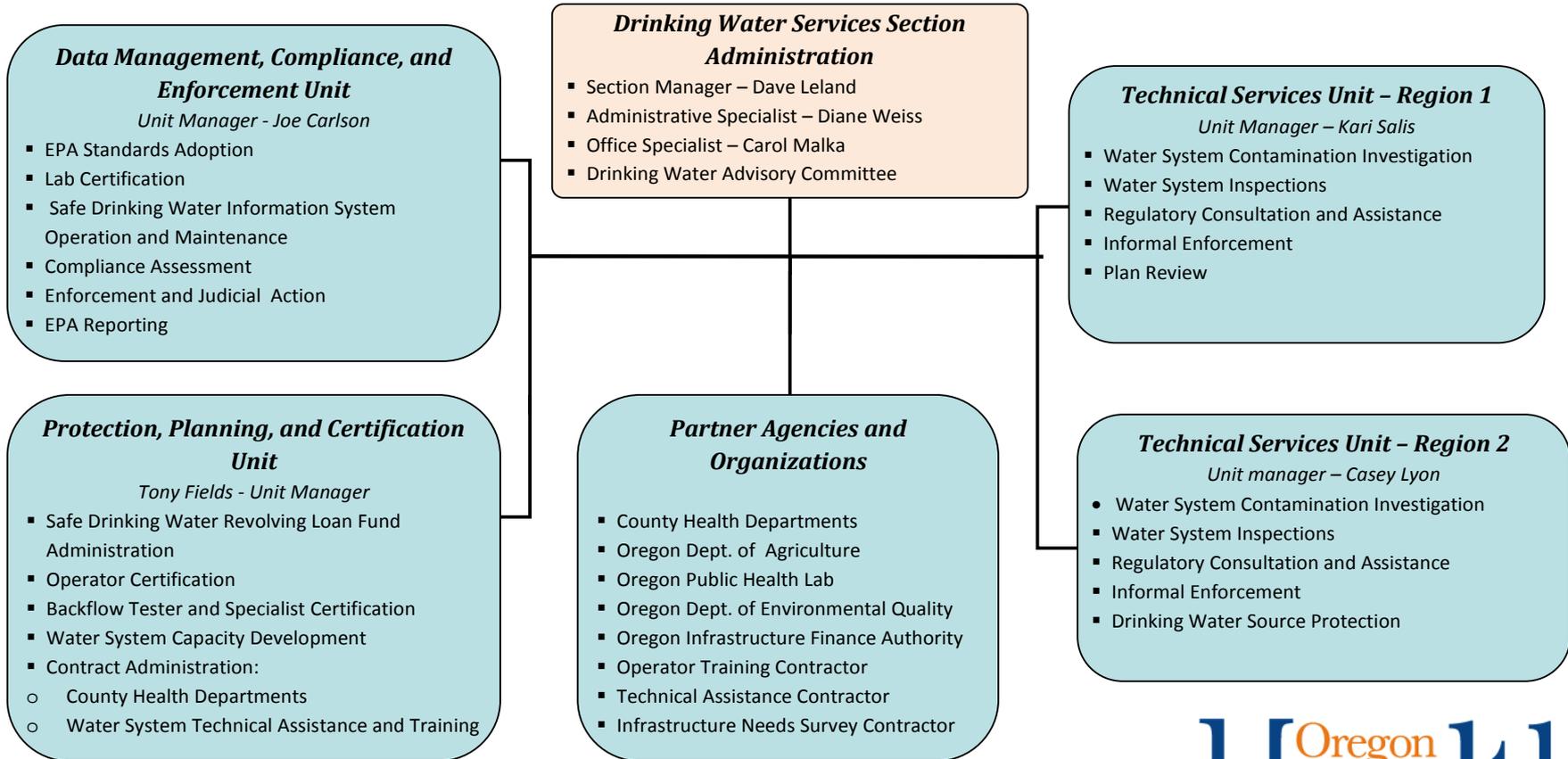
Oregon water systems by size

2,559 water systems



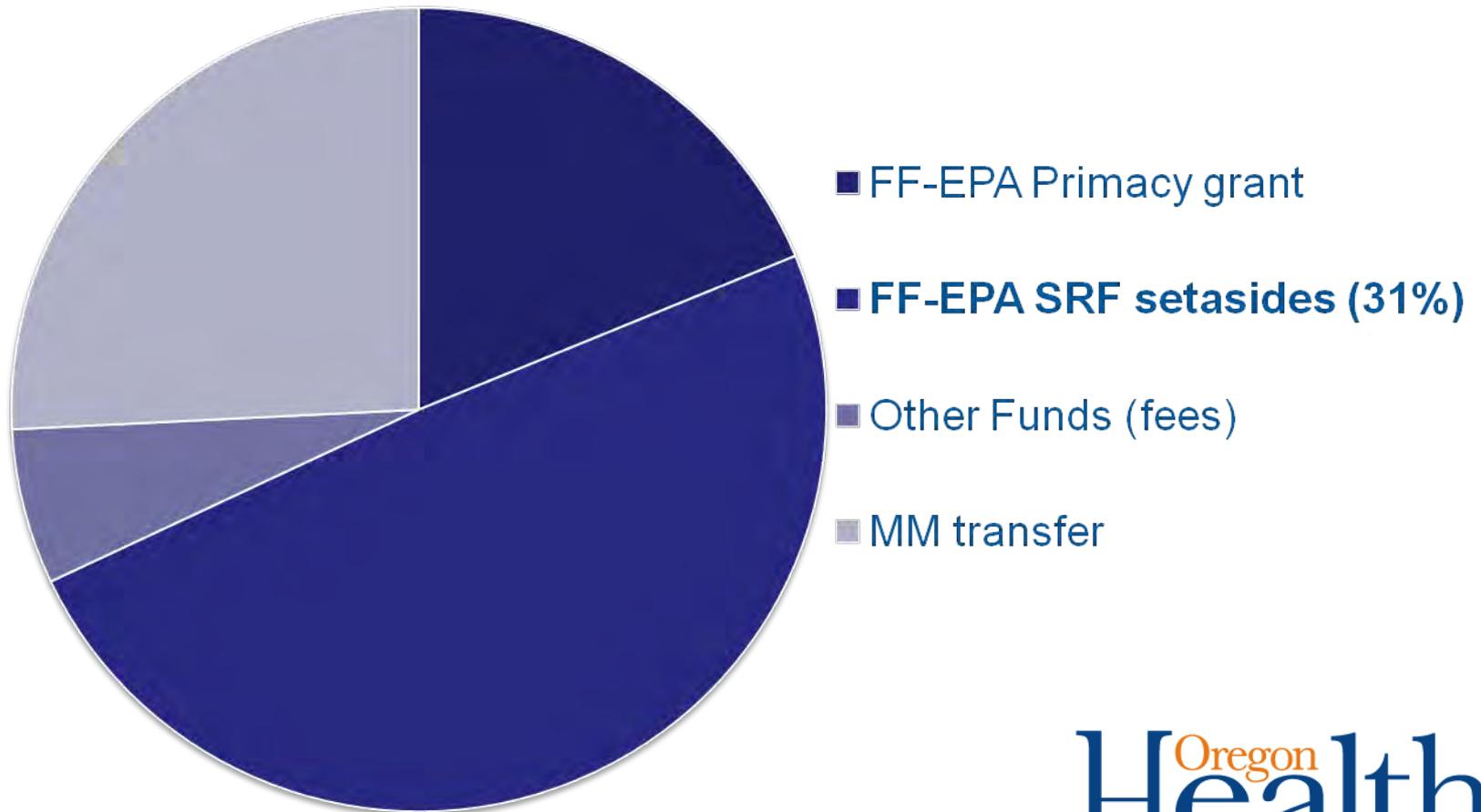
**Drinking Water Services Section
Center for Health Protection
Public Health Division**

We assure all Oregonians safe drinking water (ORS 448)



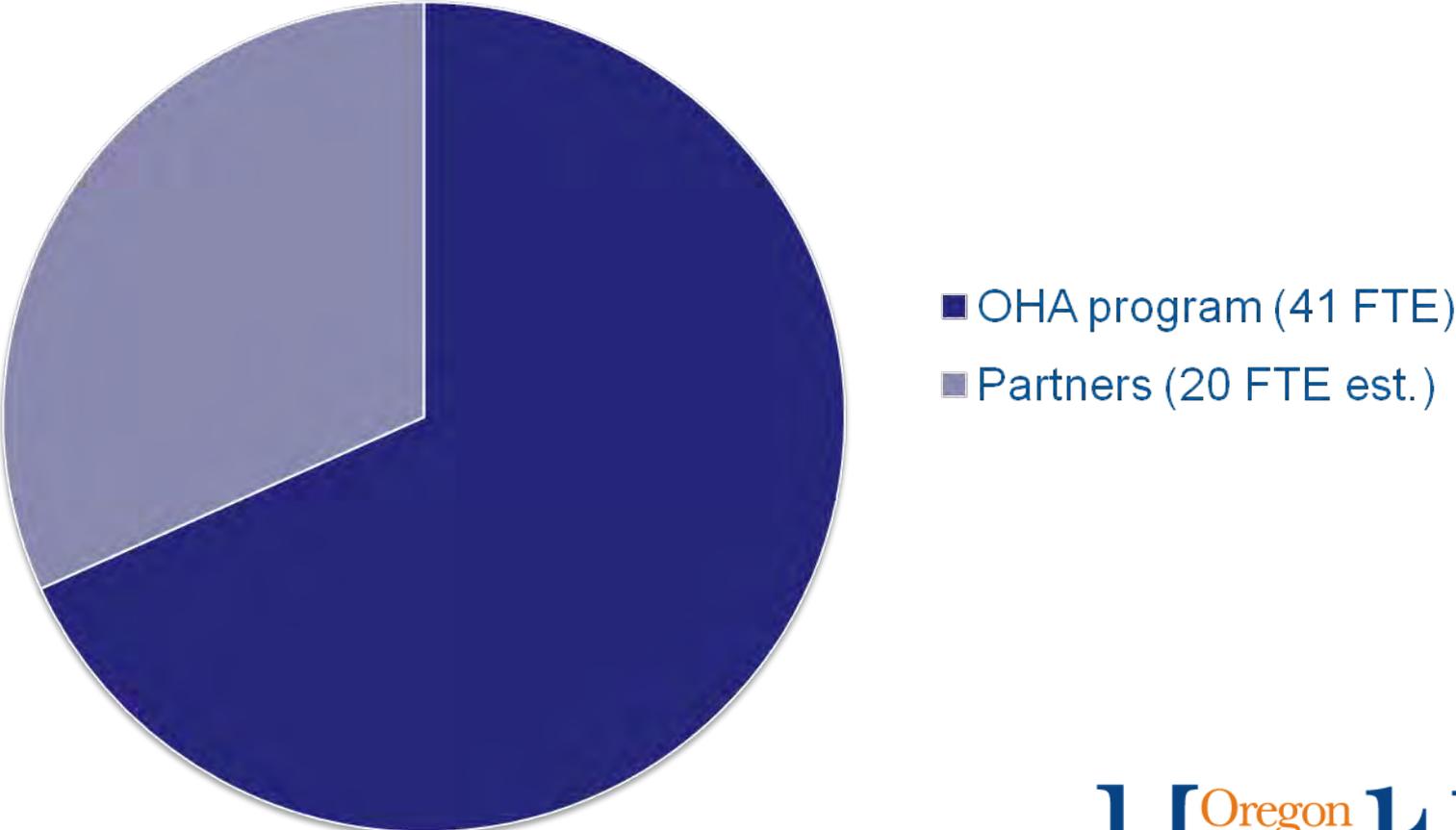
2013-15 DWS revenue (through Dec. 2014)

2/3 is federal funds (no general funds)



2013-15 DWS expenditures (through Dec. 2014)

1/3 supports partners



ASDWA State Drinking Water Programs' Resources and Needs Report (Jan. 2014)

- US EPA PWSs – 152,000 (OR 2,534, 1.7%)
- Analysis gives total program FTEs (state, counties, partners, contractors, etc.) for base and comprehensive programs
- Base program:
 - Current US state FTEs – 3,100
 - Needed US state FTEs – 5,400
- Comprehensive program (including base)
 - Current US state FTEs – 3,800
 - Needed US state FTEs – 6,500

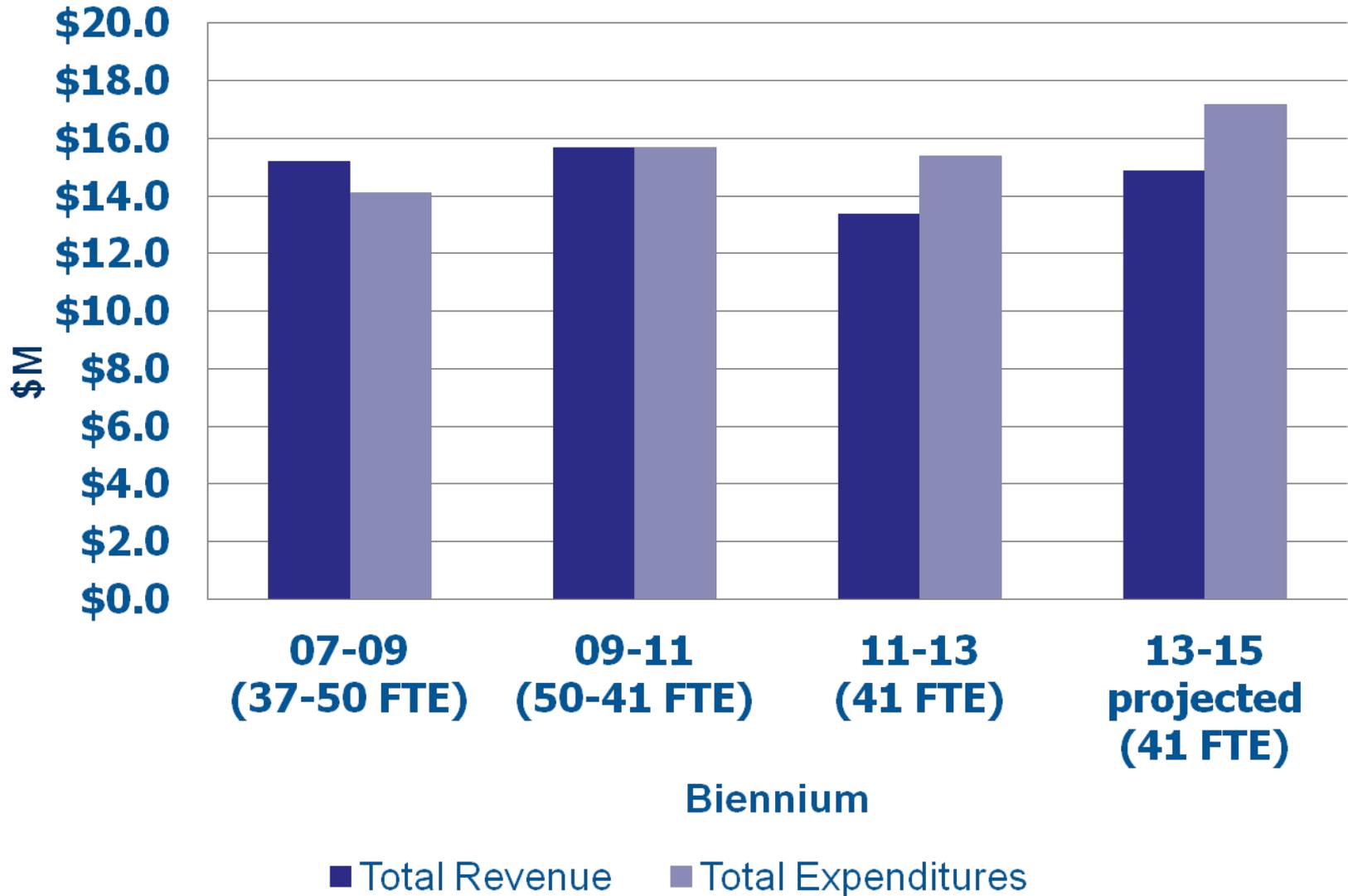
ASDWA recommendations

- Congress – funding and statute changes
 - Increase annual Primacy grants
 - **Increase annual Drinking Water State Revolving DWSRF fund grants**
 - Remove 10% match for DWSRF state program management set-aside
 - Increase DWSRF admin set-aside from 4% to 6%
- States
 - Implement program and process efficiencies
 - **Increase fees**, set new fees
 - Increase state general fund support
 - Remove hiring caps and freezes
- States/EPA
 - **Set priorities**
 - Exercise flexibility in SRF set-aside use

ASDWA Oregon-specific resources and needs

- Current OR total equivalent FTEs (state, counties, partners, contractors) – 60
- OR does base program functions and some comprehensive program functions
- State-specific resource needs model supplied to each state
- OR results for 2014:
 - Base program need – 100
 - Comprehensive program need – 122
- **Oregon has about 50% of a comprehensive statewide program**

DWS revenue and expenditure history



2015 Legislature



- OHA-PHD 2015-17
Governors
Recommended Budget
- PHD agency bills
- Public health
modernization, HB 3100
- Other legislative bills

2015-17 PHD major budget issues

- Dependency on federal funds to support core public health programs
- Dependency on medical marijuana fee support for core (but unrelated) public health programs, uncertainty of sustainability
- Loss of some federal funds in 2013-15
- Uncertainty of federal funds in 2015-17
- Changes in the health care delivery system
- **Redesign of fee-based revenue structures necessary based on current demands (stay tuned...)**

Drinking water fees

- Fees last raised in 1995, 2006, or 2008
- Fee-related workload constant over time – 9 FTE
 - Operator certification
 - Backflow certification and oversight
 - Plan review
 - Water system survey inspections
- Current fees now support less than half of the staff that conduct fee-related work
- Federal fund sources supported more of fee-related work over time as program costs increased
- Federal fund sources have been flat and may decline in future, no state general fund support
- **What fee revenue needed to fully maintain current staffing and current service level for fee-supported work through 2017-19? No new positions!**

Needed fee revenue

Fee type	Work-load (FTE)	Current fee revenue (2013-15)	Fee revenue needed (2015-17) 18 months	Fee revenue needed (2017-19) 24 months	Percent revenue increase over current
Operator certification	1.8	\$260,070	\$407,618	\$543,491	110%
Backflow tester and specialist certification	1.8	\$252,220	\$414,445	\$552,593	120%
Water system survey inspections	3.4	\$351,165	\$877,913	\$1,170,551	230%
Plan review	2.2	\$122,535	\$536,099	\$714,799	480%

Modernizing the program

- State program:
 - ABC certification exams at H&R Block - now
 - Pay fees by credit card – survey inspection fees in 2015
 - E-PIPELINE newsletter posted on line with email subscription/notification – 2015
 - E-water system survey forms – date TBD
 - File imaging and records management – date TBD
- EPA program:
 - E-reporting of all compliance data and monthly reports via Compliance Monitoring Data Portal – 2016
 - New national SDWA database system (SDWIS Prime) – date TBD

EPA regulatory update

- Near future - Revised Total Coliform Rule
- Future outlook:
 - New MCLs and standards
 - Review of current rules
 - Regulatory determinations for future MCLs
 - Other issues and initiatives

Revised Total Coliform Rule - RTCR

- Final rule: 2/13/13, compliance date: 4/1/16
- MCL for E. coli only!
- No MCL for total coliforms. PWSs with TC presence must “find and fix” problems
- Rule applies to all 154,000 PWSs nationally
- EPA Quick Reference Guide available

Revised Total Coliform Rule - RTCR

- Draft state rule presentation to Drinking Water Advisory Committee on 7/16/14, to EPA in August
- Adopt allowable monitoring reductions? Like TCR - no
- Final draft to DWAC in Jan. 2015
- State rule adoption during fall 2015, winter 2016
- State Primacy applications due to EPA 2/13/15, **Oregon and 35 other states extended to 4/1/16**
- EPA/states emphasis now is on preparing for implementation, guidance documents, data systems
- State information and outreach to prepare water suppliers well in advance of 4/1/16 effective date, stay tuned.....

EPA Regulatory Actions (March 2015, AWWA)

Coming out in 2015	Coming out in 2016 or later
Draft Fourth Contaminant List (CCL4)	Proposed Long-Term Lead and Copper (LT-LCR) Revisions
Proposed 4 th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4)	Proposed Perchlorate Rule
Final recommended fluoride level for drinking water (from HHS)	Proposed Carcinogenic VOCs (cVOCs)
Second Round of LT2ESWTR monitoring	Third Six-Year Review of Existing Regulations
Something on storage tanks?	Final CCL4
Health advisories for cyanotoxins	Final UCMR4
Guidance on Legionella treatment	Hexavalent chromium rule?
Final Third Regulatory Determination	
Report from NDWAC lead and copper working group	

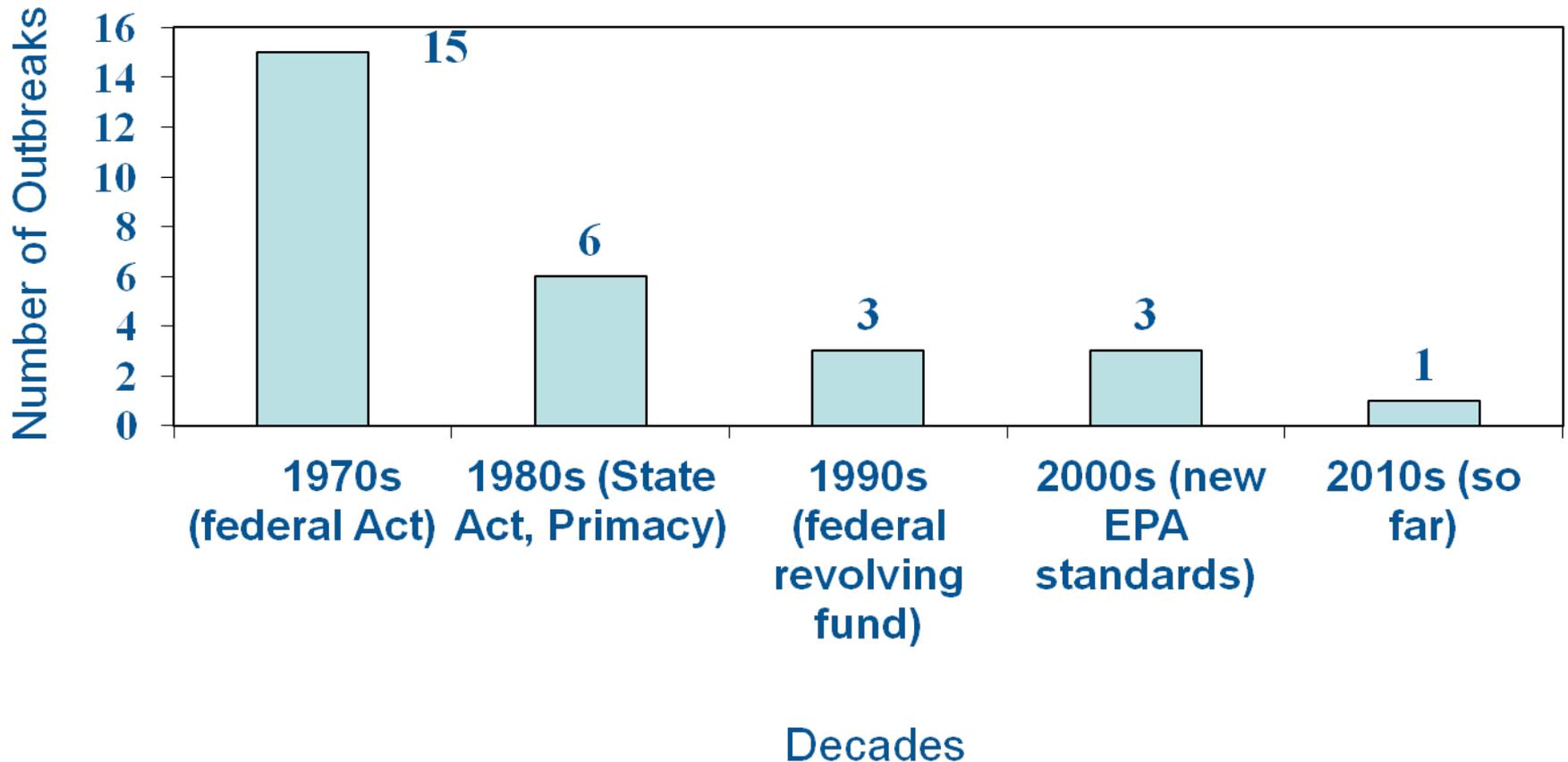
Immediate key initiatives

- Algal toxins – EPA focused on analytical methods. Health advisory levels for microcystin-LR and cylindrospermopsin in May 2015
- Legionella – EPA workgroup on effective secondary treatment technologies. Draft guidance for states and facilities by end of 2015

Measuring progress

Oregon waterborne outbreaks

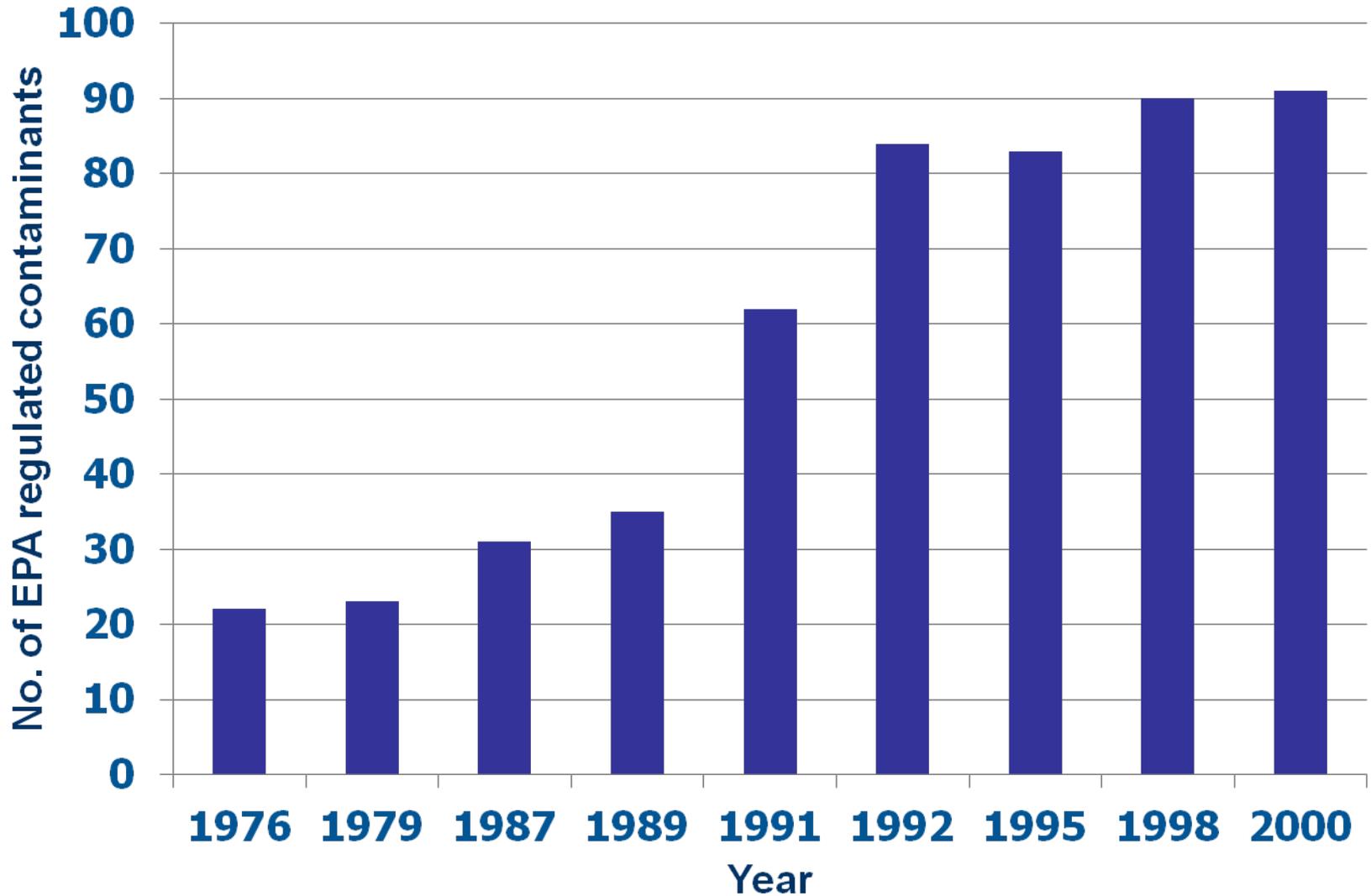
Total Cases, 28 Outbreaks-9,000 sickened (CDC)



Baker City *cryptosporidiosis* outbreak Summer 2013



Safe drinking water standards



Jim Boydston

EPA-570/9-76-003

NATIONAL INTERIM PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF WATER SUPPLY

OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
CHAPTER 333

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS 1983



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
PORTLAND
OREGON

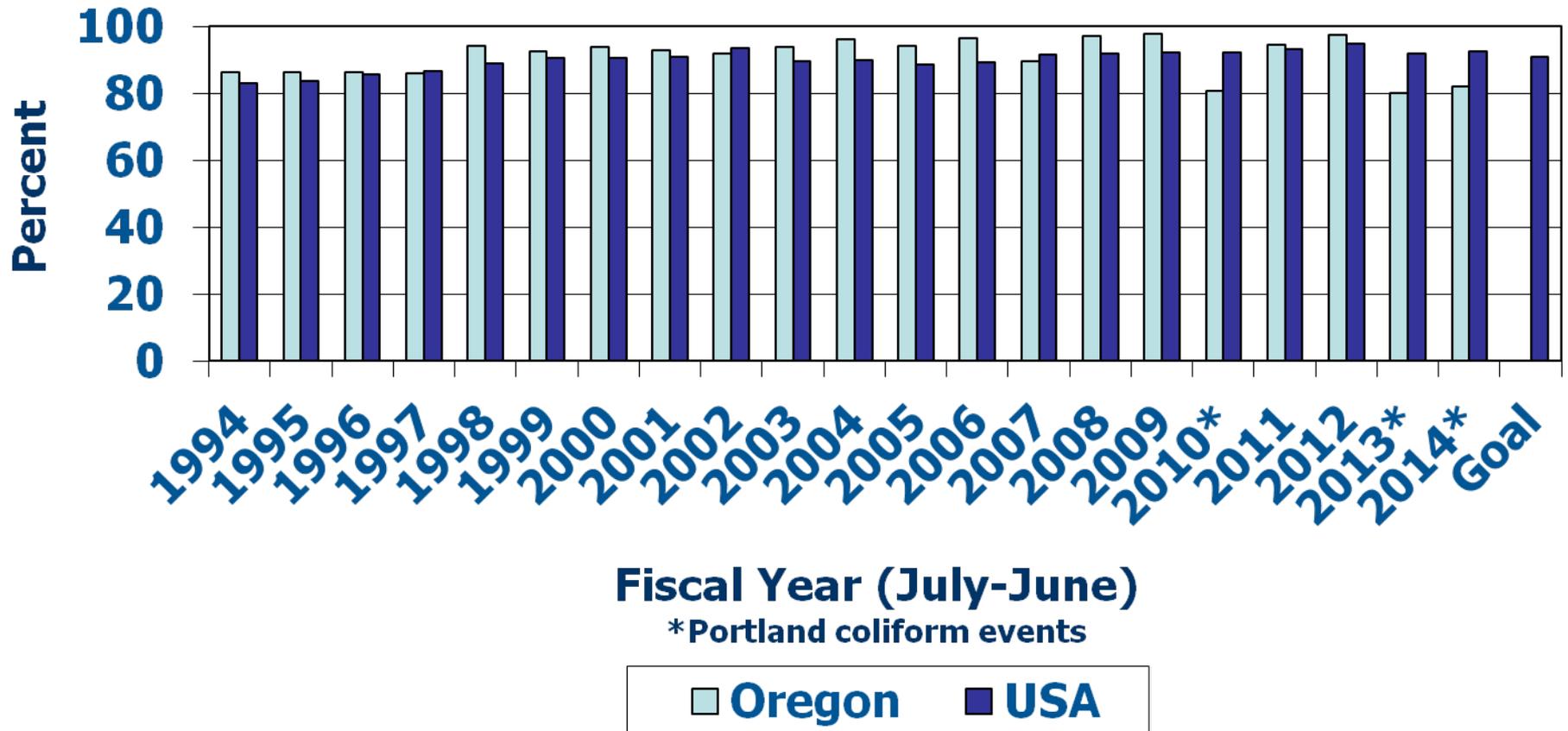
Oregon accomplishments

- ORS 448, Oregon program restart, 1981
- Primacy since 1986
- **200 water systems using unfiltered surface water sources installed treatment, connected to others, drilled wells**
- 130 systems installed corrosion control treatment to reduce lead levels at the tap
- 50 systems took action to meet the arsenic MCL
- Other systems dealt with coliform bacteria, nitrate, DBPs, VOCs, SOCs...
- \$300M in revolving fund assistance to 150 communities since 1998!
- Oregon has adopted all current EPA rules, RTCR is next

OR compliance trends

Large water systems consistently meet standards

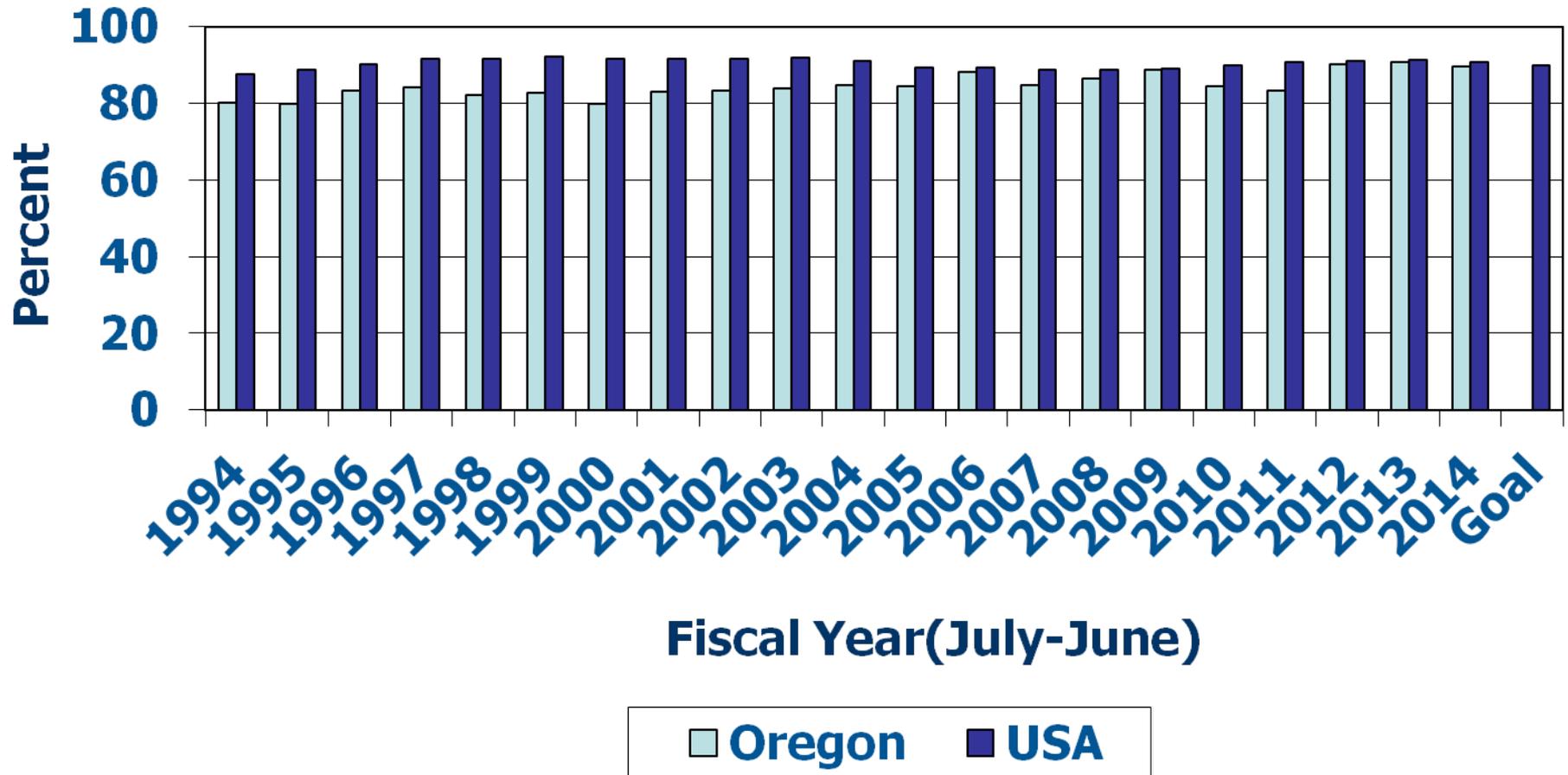
Measure #1-% of OR population served by community systems that meet health-based standards throughout the year



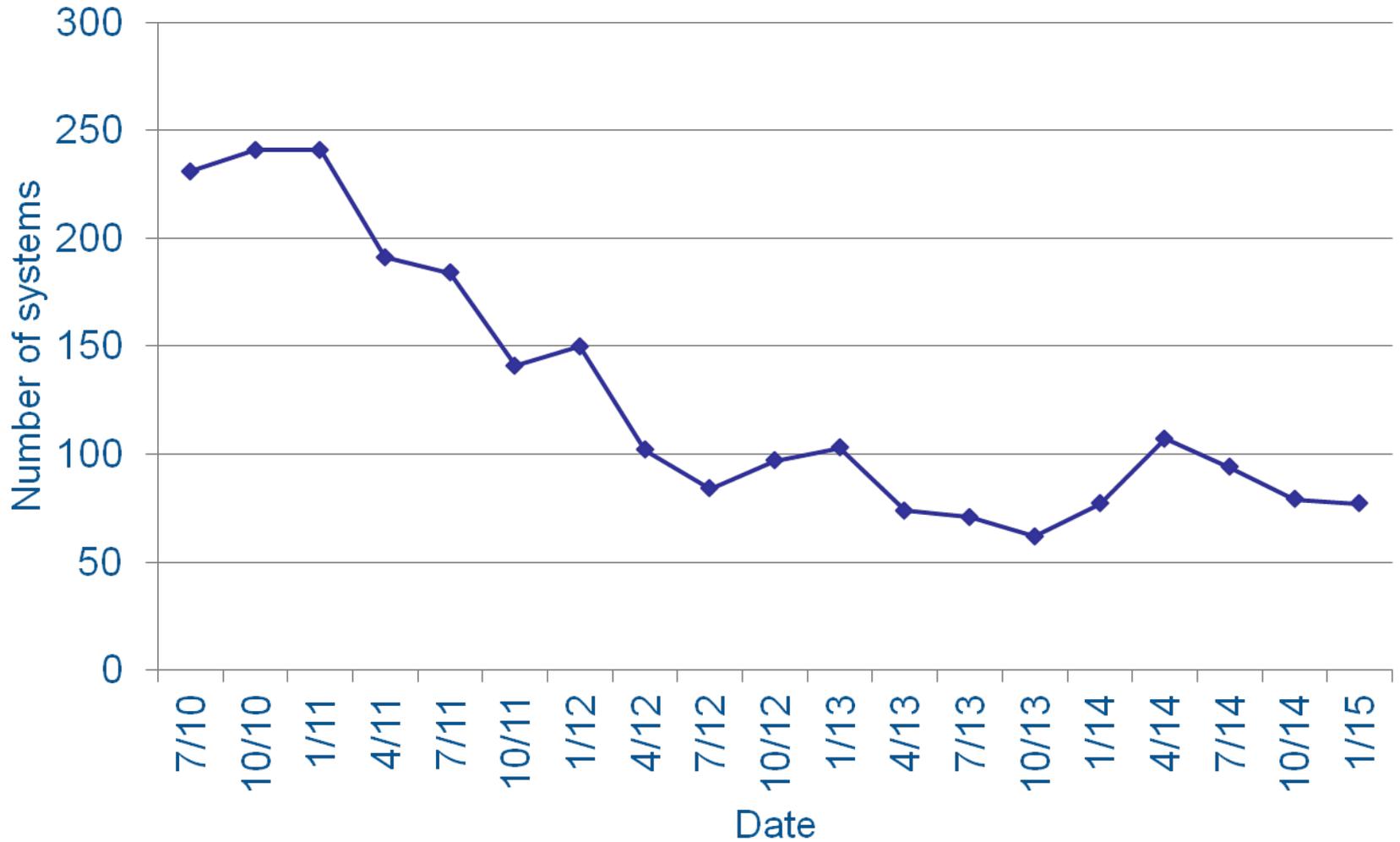
OR compliance trends

Small systems do not always meet standards

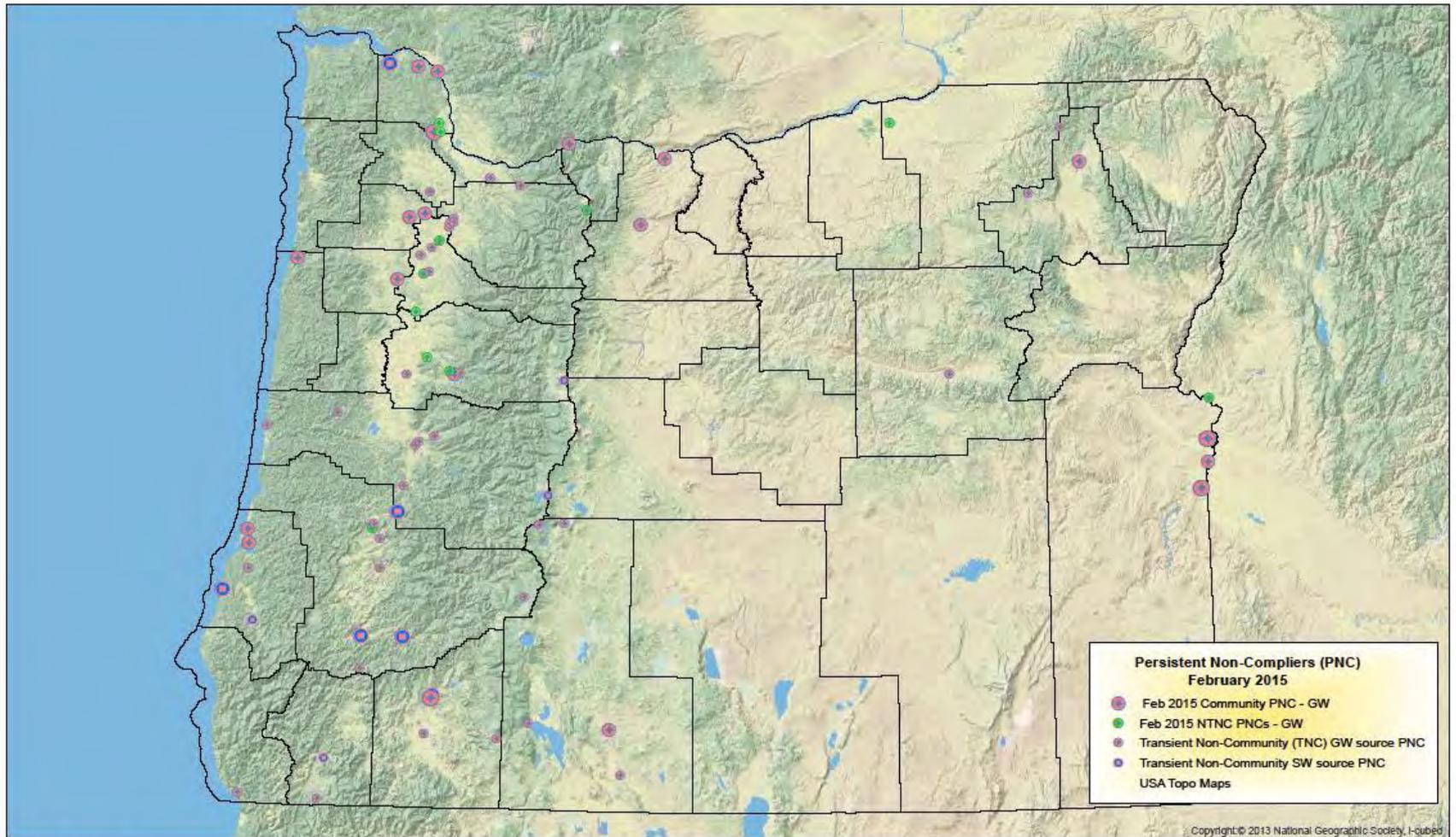
Measure #2-% of OR community systems that meet health-based standards throughout the year



Oregon priority noncomplier water systems (>10 points)



Geographic Distribution of Persistent Non-Compliant (PNC) Water Systems



Organizational performance level survey

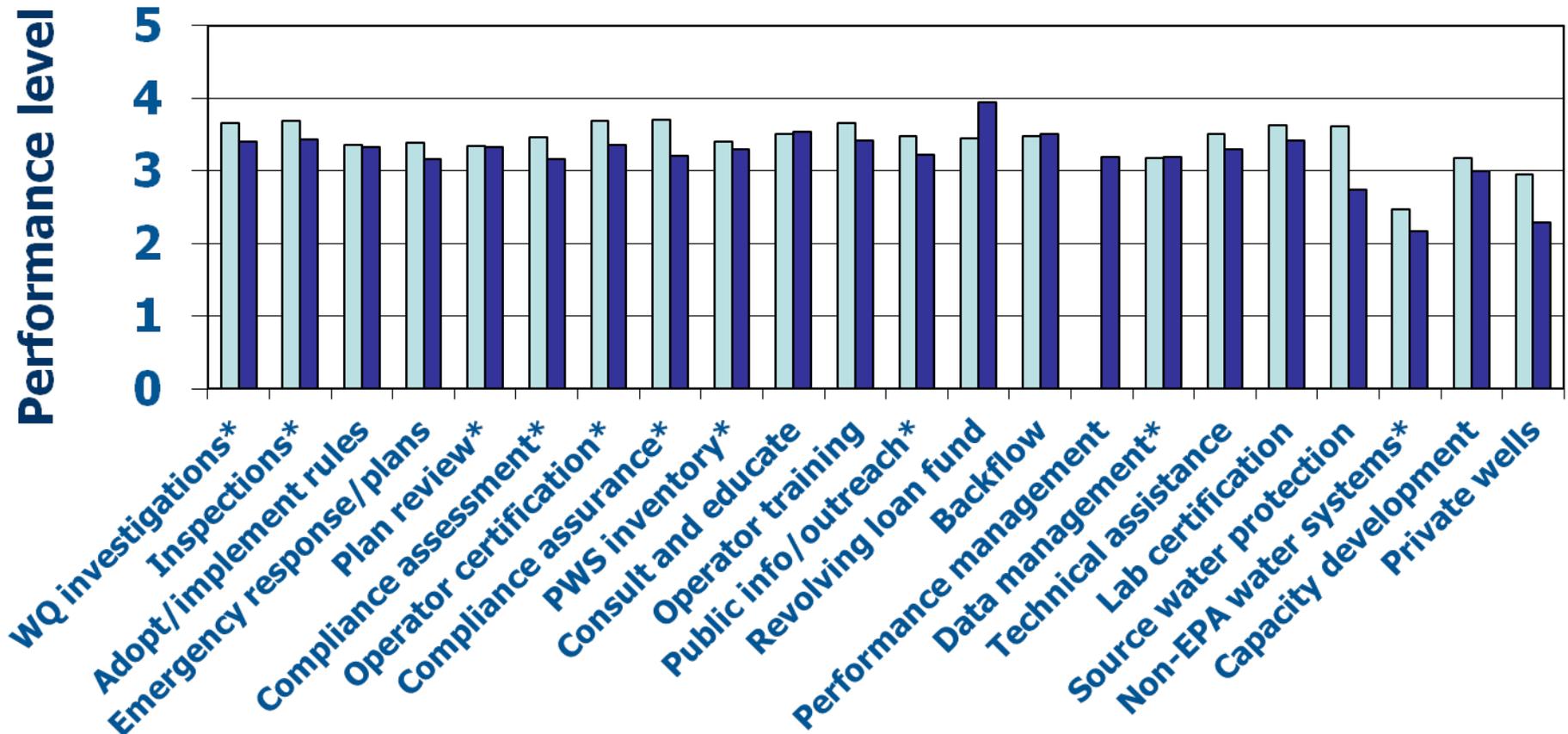
1. Reactive and variable outcomes; many problems, little standardized work
2. Awareness of need for more consistent outcomes; glitches occur frequently, sometimes serious
3. Consistent outcomes; some glitches occur; usually not serious
4. Outstanding outcomes; but not quite always automatic
5. Seamless; transparent; automatic excellent outcomes

OHA/Co HD/ ODA performance level survey results

Feb 2015 – 40 responses, overall aver. 3.21

Feb 2011 – 72 responses, overall aver. 3.30

(Nov 2012 – 87 PWS responses, overall aver. 3.13)



Essential functions – in priority order

* 30 or more responses in 2015





Questions?

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