

# APPROVED FY 2015 PERFORMANCE PLAN



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Albuquerque Bernalillo County  
Water Utility Authority



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Report Prepared by  
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# Executive Summary

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Water Authority's (Water Authority) Budget Ordinance requires that a Performance Plan be connected to the Five-Year Goals and contain performance measures that help guide the operating and capital budgets in allocating the Water Authority's financial resources. The FY15 Performance Plan assesses the performance of the Water Authority using a set of identified and tested, high-level performance measures. These measures are designed to help the Water Authority improve its operational efficiency and effectiveness by identifying areas of improvement. The measures also provide a mechanism to conduct comparative analyses in order to implement quality improvement processes and enhance decision-making.

The Performance Plan contains three years of actual prior year data which establishes a baseline as well as projected performance targets that drive financial and budgetary policies. In addition to assessing its performance year to year, the Water Authority assesses its performance in relation to the other utilities.

The Performance Plan contains 23 performance measures organized by the Water Authority's Five-Year Goal areas. The following table summarizes the Water Authority's performance compared to other utilities and tracks the Water Authority's progress of baseline, current, and target performance.

Goal	Performance Measure	Baseline	Current	Target
<b>Water Supply &amp; Operations</b>	Drinking Water Compliance Rate	▲	▲	▲
	Distribution System Water Loss	■	■	■
	Water Distribution System Integrity	■	■	■
	Operations and Maintenance Cost Ratios	■	▲	▲
	Planned Maintenance Ratio	▼	▼	■
	Water Use per Capita Consumption	▲	▲	▲
<b>Wastewater Collection &amp; Operations</b>	Sewer Overflow Rate	■	■	■
	Collection System Integrity	■	■	■
	Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness Rate	▼	■	■
	Operations and Maintenance Cost Ratios	■	■	■
	Planned Maintenance Ratio	▼	▼	■
<b>Customer Services</b>	Technical Quality Complaints	■	■	■
	Customer Service Cost per Account	■	■	■
	Billing Accuracy	■	■	■
	Call Center Indicators	--	■	■
	Residential Cost of Water/Sewer Service	■	■	■
	Stakeholder Outreach Index	--	▲	▲
<b>Business Planning &amp; Management</b>	Debt Ratio	▼	▼	■
	Return on Assets	▼	▼	▼
	System Renewal/Replacement Rate	▼	▼	■
	Triple Bottom Line Index		■	■
<b>Organization Development</b>	Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate	■	■	■
	Training Hours per Employee	■	■	■
	Customer Accounts per Employee	▲	▲	▲
	Employee Turnover	--	▲	▲
	Retirement Eligibility	--	■	■
	Organizational Best Practices Index	■	■	■

## Performance Key

▲  
Excellent

■  
Good

■  
Fair

▼  
Poor

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## Introduction

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Water Authority's (Water Authority) Budget Ordinance requires that a Performance Plan be connected to the Five-Year Goals and contain performance measures that help guide the operating and capital budgets in prioritizing and allocating the Water Authority's financial resources. The Water Authority uses these measures to help improve its operational efficiency and effectiveness by identifying areas of improvement. The measures also provide a mechanism to conduct comparative analyses in order to implement quality improvement processes and enhance decision-making.

The Water Authority utilizes the *American Water Works Association's (AWWA) Benchmarking Performance Indicators Survey* (Survey) in developing its Performance Plan. The Survey provides utilities an opportunity to collect and track data from already identified and tested performance measures, based on the same collection process and definitions. The most recent survey data was compiled in 2012 by AWWA from over 100 different utilities. The survey is conducted every two years. The Performance Plan uses the survey data as a basis for its performance measures to track the Water Authority's performance with that of other utilities.

## Five-Years Goals

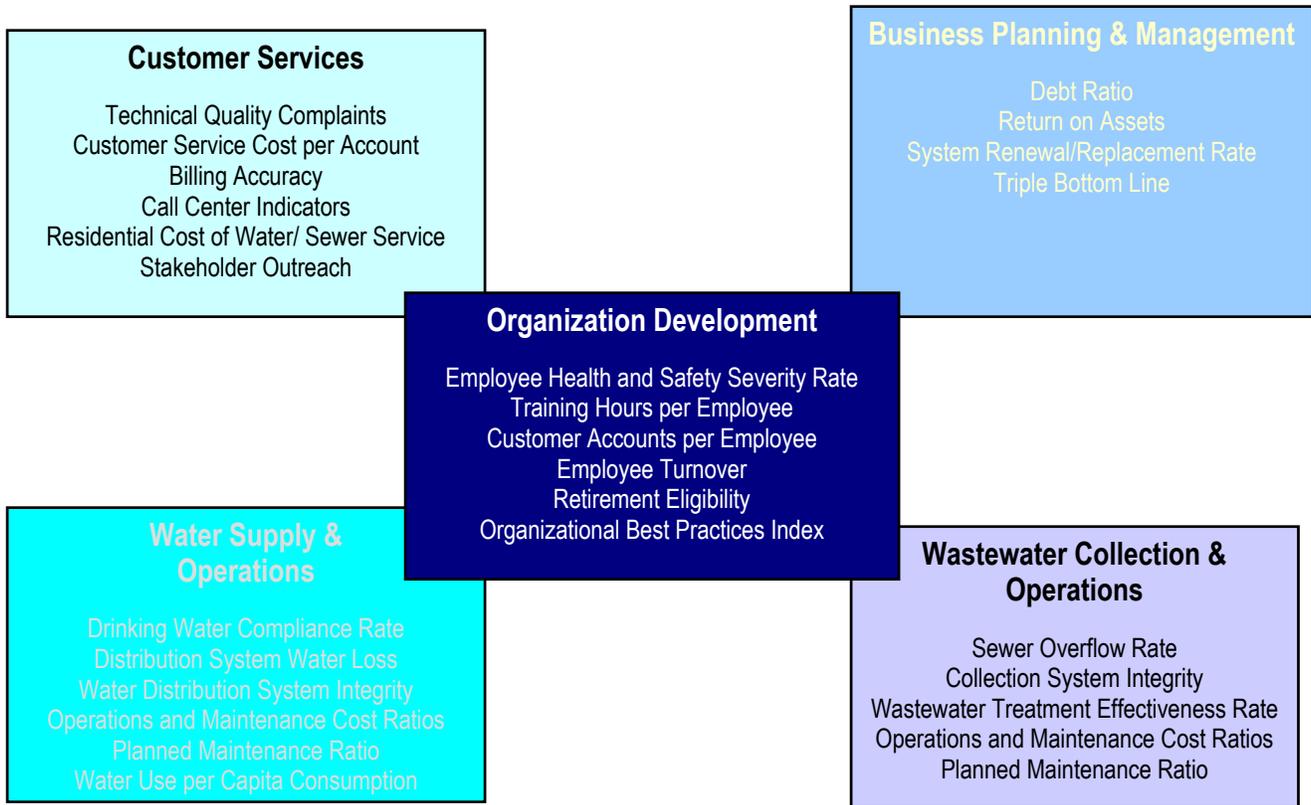
The Water Authority's Performance Plan is organized by the Water Authority's Five-Year Goal areas which are modeled after AWWA's QualServe business model. The QualServe model is modeled from fifteen successful quality achievement programs, including the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Program, the Deming Award, and the International Standards Organization series of quality standards. The model characterizes the work of the typical water and wastewater utility around five business systems. Figure 1 shows the Water Authority's Five-Year Goals which parallels the QualServe model. The Water Authority also has developed guiding goal statements for each goal area which explains the long-term desired result for that goal.

Figure 1: Water Authority's Five-Year Goals & Guiding Goal Statements



The Performance Plan contains 23 performance measures. The performance measures are organized by the Water Authority’s Five-Year Goal areas shown in Figure 2. The performance measures are linked to the Goal areas in that the tracking of the metric is used to achieve the long-term desired result for that goal.

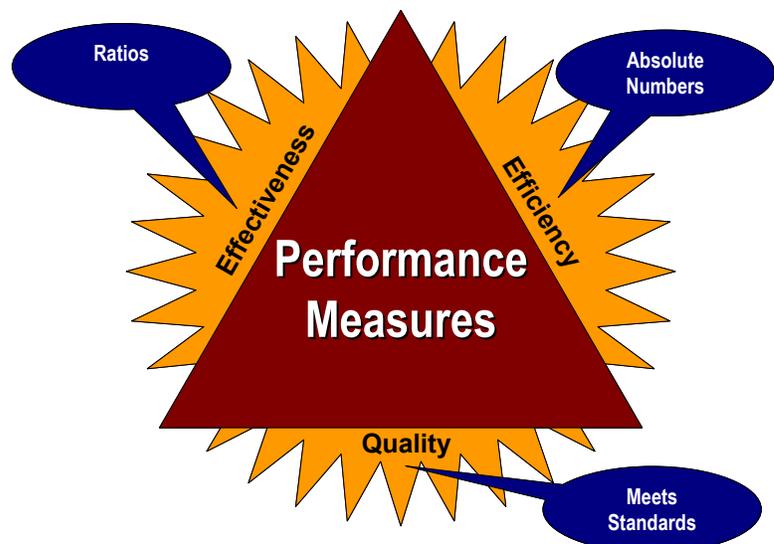
**Figure 2: Performance Measures by Goal Area**



**Performance Measure Types**

The Plan’s performance measures fall into three main categories: Quality, Effectiveness and Efficiency. Quality measures are presented as standards. Effectiveness measures are presented as ratios. Efficiency measures are presented as absolute numbers.

- (1) *Standards*, such as meeting drinking water quality standards
- (2) *Ratios*, such as operation and maintenance costs per million gallons of water or wastewater processed
- (3) *Absolute numbers*, such as the monthly bill for a residential water or wastewater customer



## **Performance Plan Logic Model**

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The Performance Plan presents each performance measure through an *evaluation logic model*. The logic model is a systematic and visual method that shows how performance measures quantify what is being done (inputs), how well it is being done (outputs), and why it is being done (outcomes). *Inputs* are the specific data needed to construct and calculate each performance measure. These resources may include dollars, hours, people or material resources used to produce an output. *Outputs* are the product of the calculation of the inputs and describe the level of effectiveness of each performance measure. The outputs are the metrics that are benchmarked with other utilities. *Outcomes* are the desired result of the performance measure that the Water Authority would like to achieve in connection with its long-range goals and with its shorter-term objectives. The logic model is used to show where the organization wants to be and how it can get there.

Simply stated, the performance measures identify gaps in service delivery or performance. They are used to help monitor the Water Authority's performance and to develop performance targets. The Water Authority sets performance targets that are aligned with the desired outcomes to determine how effective or efficient the organization is in achieving the desired outcome. The Water Authority uses the desired outcomes to create an ongoing discussion with its stakeholders and show why decisions are made in prioritizing and allocating financial resources.

The Five-Year Goals and One-Year Objectives are incorporated into the logic model. Figure 3 shows the alignment between the goals, objectives and performance measures in the logic model. With the performance measures being used to identify gaps, the One-Year Objectives which are policy directives from the Water Authority Board are used to close performance or service delivery gaps and improve performance levels. It should be noted that not all One-Year Objectives are tied to performance measures or have a measurable component. Some Objectives are related to completing projects or improving or implementing programs.

**Figure 3: Logic Model Alignment of Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures**



## **Benchmarking and Industry Peer Group**

The Performance Plan contains three years of actual prior year data (FY11 through FY13) which establishes a baseline. The Plan also includes estimated current fiscal year performance measures (FY14) as well as projected performance in the proposed budget year (FY15). The Plan allows the Water Authority to benchmark its performance from year to year and to determine how its current and projected performance compare to baseline past performance. Overall, the Performance Plan's logic model incorporates five years of data in determining its performance, evaluating trends, and determining projected performance.

In addition to assessing its performance year to year, the Water Authority also compares its performance with that of other utilities in its *industry peer group*. As stated in the Introduction section, the Water Authority obtains its comparative data from the AWWA Benchmarking Performance Indicators Survey. By benchmarking with other utilities, the Water Authority is able to assess its performance relative to other high-performing utilities. For each performance measure, the industry peer group is presented throughout the Plan.

<b>Industry Peer Group</b>	
1)	<b>Combined Water/Sewer</b> Represents those utilities designated as providing both water and wastewater services
2)	<b>Populations greater than 500,000</b> Utilities that serve populations greater 500,000
3)	<b>Western Utilities (region designated by the US Census Bureau)</b> States include: AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY, AK, CA, HI, OR, WA

## **Strategic Planning, Budgeting and Improvement Process**

The Performance Plan is a component of the *Strategic Planning, Budgeting and Improvement Process* that is discussed in Volume 1-Financial Plan. This Process drives the development of the annual operating and capital budgets by providing data used to set performance goals, as well as allocate and prioritize resources. Performance measures provide an approach for strategically allocating and prioritizing resources to balance the level and cost of services with customer expectations. For example, higher treatment costs may be the desired outcome to improve customer satisfaction.

As a part of the Strategic Planning, Budgeting and Improvement Process, the Five-Year Goals, One-Year Objectives, and performance measures are integrated through the use of the logic model in order to achieve service delivery and performance improvement. A good example of the integration between performance measures and objectives is the Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate (see pages 93-95) which measures the rate of employee days lost from work due to illness or injury. Since starting the benchmarking process, the Water Authority noticed that its lost workdays were on average fifteen times higher than other utilities. As a result, the Water Authority has used the Objectives to implement several programs including safety incentive bonuses to reduce the number of employee lost days. Overall, the integration of the performance measures and objectives are used to achieve the long-term desired results of the Water Authority's Five-Year Goals.

## **Performance Accountability & Budgeting**

Each Water Authority division manager is responsible for their respective goal areas and objectives and for tracking their performance. The Executive Director, who is the champion and supportive leader of the performance management, meets with the division managers and their staff to review progress reports on the performance measures and objectives. The Water Authority Board is provided quarterly status reports on the One-Year Objectives and annually on the Performance Plan. Also, results of a customer opinion survey are presented biannually to the Board. The survey allows the Water Authority to track customer satisfaction on the

programs, policies, and operational performance of the organization. Several survey questions are tied to the performance measures and levels of service. In this way, the survey provides qualitative data that relates to quantitative data from the benchmarking to ensure that the Water Authority is balancing performance improvement with customer expectations.

The Water Authority also uses performance measures and performance targets in conjunction with the review of the annual budget. The Executive Director and the managers integrate performance reporting into the budget process in order to focus the budget discussion on the allocation of resources and to address performance gaps. The manager’s budget requests are tied either to performance measure targets or objectives in terms of providing a justification for their purpose. By integrating the objectives and performance measures into the budget process, the Water Authority has moved from just measuring performance to managing performance and how and what it what it wants to achieve. As a result, the Water Authority has become more transparent and accountable to its customers and the governing board.

**Performance Measurement Linkage to Asset Management Planning**

The Water Authority has established an asset management program with a steering committee to oversee the program. The program is an extensive, well thought out ‘Business Model’ that helps the Water Authority make better acquisition, operations and maintenance, renewal, and replacement decisions. The principles of asset management were developed to address the critical problem of aging public infrastructure and changing utility business environment. The Water Authority has completed an Asset Management Plan (AMP) which provides a 30-year projection that will allow the Water Authority to budget for renewals and replacements into the future. The Water Authority uses performance measures, performance targets, and the customer opinion survey to develop its levels of service to deliver the defined services at the lowest life-cycle cost. In quantifying its performance, the Water Authority has begun to balance its performance with the levels of service, cost of service, customer expectations, and business risk. As a part of its AMP, the Water Authority has developed its levels of service to coincide with its performance measures at the Goal level.

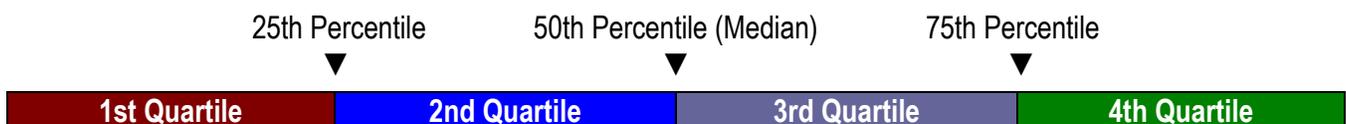
**Communicating Performance Measurement**

Performance measurement results and progress in meeting performance targets are communicated to elected officials and customers through this report, and to employees through-out the organization. Increasing employee understanding of the performance measures and the organization’s long-term goals is a critical step in achieving the Water Authority’s long-term goals. The Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate is a good example how the Water Authority educated the importance of meeting its goals and making safety a high priority in the organization.

**Presentation of Data**

The Performance Plan’s comparative data is presented in quartile rankings. The top quartile reflects the 75th percentile, and the bottom quartile reflects the 25th percentile. The median is the 50th percentile value. Figure 4 illustrates the four quartiles. Data in the 2nd and 3rd quartiles is described as the “median range.” Data in the median range includes 50% of all the values submitted for each performance measure. This range is considered nominal or representative of the majority of the data.

**Figure 4: Percentile/Quartile Illustration**



## **Layout of Performance Plan**

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The performance measures are categorized by the Water Authority's Five-Year Goal areas.

- Each Goal area section provides an overview of the Goal with a Guiding Goal Statement and Goal Performance Scorecard for each performance measure.
- Each Goal area section shows how the Objectives are linked to the performance measures and their scorecard status.
- Each performance measure is presented through a logic model of inputs, outputs and outcomes as well as comparative statistics and charts to illustrate how the Water Authority is performing year to year and how it is performing compared to the industry peer group.

A results narrative includes a discussion and analysis of how the performance measure meets anticipated performance targets and long-range goals. If the targets are not being met, an explanation is provided for the reason and what is expected in the future. The Performance Plan also indicates if there are One-Year Objectives related to a performance measure to show how policy directives are used to improve service delivery and/or minimize performance gaps. In addition, the Performance Plan provides customer opinion survey statistics to show how customer expectations relate to the performance measure.

# Goal 1

## Water Supply and Operations

### Guiding Goal Statement

*Provide a reliable, safe, affordable, and sustainable water supply by transitioning to renewable supplies and minimizing long term environmental impacts on the community and natural resources while ensuring the ability of the community to grow in a responsible manner.*

### Goal Performance Scorecard

Ref #	Performance Measure	Status	Trend
1-1	Drinking Water Compliance Rate	▲	▲
1-2	Distribution System Water Loss (Apparent Loss)	■	■
1-2	Distribution System Water Loss (Real Loss)	■	■
1-3	Water Distribution System Integrity	■	■
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per account	▲	▲
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per MG processed	▲	▲
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: Direct cost of treatment per MG	▲	▲
1-5	Planned Maintenance Ratio	▼	■
1-6	Water Use per Capita Consumption	▲	▲
<b>Overall Goal Status</b>		■	■

### Performance Key

▲  
Excellent

■  
Good

■  
Fair

▼  
Poor

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## Linkage of Objectives to Performance Measures

<b>FY15 Objectives</b>	<b>Measure Reference</b>
Complete Ground Water Plant Preventive Maintenance to Corrective Maintenance ratio to at least 55% of all completed maintenance labor hours by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-5</b>
Complete Surface Water Plant Preventive Maintenance to Corrective Maintenance ratio to at least 40% of all completed maintenance labor hours by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-5</b>
If funding is available, implement the decommissioning plans for Yale Reservoir and Santa Barbara Pump Station by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>NA</b>
Purchase the necessary field equipment and begin implementation of a pilot large diameter valve exercise program including field location and GPS coordinates of existing valves. The program should include developing exercise protocol and standard operating procedures and determining overall manpower needs and equipment to implement a priority phasing schedule based on business risk exposure rating; continue implementation of program through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-3</b>
Maintain water use between 136 to 146 gallons per capita per day for calendar year 2014; maintain water use between 135 to 145 gallons per capita per day for calendar year 2015.	<b>1-6</b>
Submit an application for a full scale aquifer storage and recovery permit for Bear Canyon by the end of the 1st Quarter of FY15.	<b>NA</b>
Submit an application for an aquifer storage and recovery demonstration permit at Webster Well #1 by the end of the 2nd Quarter of FY15.	<b>NA</b>
Complete 95% design of the Large Scale aquifer storage and recovery project by the end of the 2nd Quarter of FY15.	<b>NA</b>
Complete a plan to provide field trips to all area fourth grade students by the end of the 2nd Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-6</b>
Continue the distribution water loss program by locating water leaks from surveying 500 miles of small diameter water lines through conventional leak detection methods and 2,000 miles of small diameter water lines through acoustic leak detection by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-2</b>
Continue work on the Partnership for Safe Water program for surface water treatment and drinking water distribution systems to optimize water system operations and performance by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-4</b>
Complete asset management plans for the reservoirs, wells, and pump stations to determine the condition of the Water Authority's groundwater facilities by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-1</b>
Continue implementation of the Water Resources Management Strategy and report to the Customer Advisory Committee by the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY15; and initiate the process to update the Water Resources Management Strategy (WRMS) by the 4th quarter of 2015 with the Customer Advisory Committee and a series of public forums.	<b>1-6</b>
Continue implementation of the Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan (WPPAP) including administrative, policy and technical support to the Water Quality Advisory Board (WPAB). Continue to monitor ongoing or new ground water contamination sites and provide technical comments to preserve and protect the aquifer and surface water supplies in the Middle Rio Grande. Provide quarterly status reports to the Water Authority Board through the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>1-1</b>

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## Performance Measure Division Responsibility

Ref #	Performance Measure	Operations Plant	Operations Field	Operations Compliance	Operations Water Resources, Engineering & Planning
1-1	Drinking Water Compliance Rate	✓		✓	
1-2	Distribution System Water Loss		✓		✓
1-3	Water Distribution System Integrity		✓		✓
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per account	✓	✓		
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per MG processed	✓			
1-4	O&M Cost Ratios: Direct cost of treatment / MG	✓			
1-5	Planned Maintenance Ratio	✓	✓		✓
1-6	Water Use per Capita Consumption				✓

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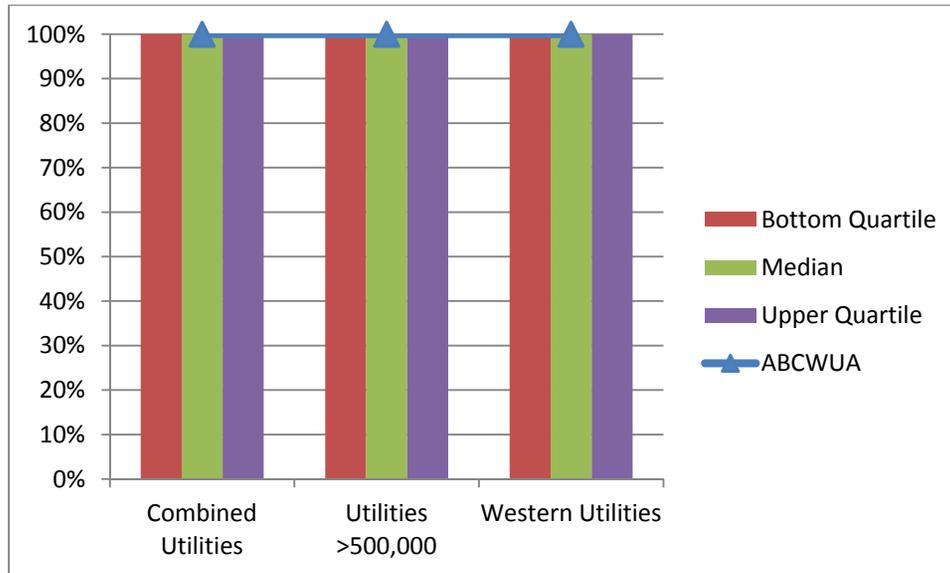
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-1 Drinking Water Compliance Rate**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	
Quality	Quantify the percentage of time each year that the Water Authority meets all of the health related drinking water standards in the US National Primary Drinking Water Regulations	Number of days in full compliance	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Provide safe and reliable drinking water to our customers 100% of the time

**Industry Benchmark**



**Results Narrative**

The drinking water compliance rate indicates the percent of time that a drinking water utility is in full compliance with all of the water quality contaminants and treatment techniques mandated for public water systems in the United States. A utility measures its compliance relative only to those primary maximum contaminant levels and treatment techniques that apply to its operations. The drinking water compliance rate uses simple tests of “in compliance” and “not in compliance.” As a

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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performance measure for comparative analysis, the drinking water compliance rate allows a utility to gauge its compliance with health-related drinking water parameters relative to other water utilities reporting data into the comparative analysis system.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority has been in 100% compliance for the past three fiscal years and is on-target to meet 100% compliance for the next two fiscal years.

In December 2008, the Water Authority began distribution of treated surface water mixed with ground water resources as part of the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project (SJCDWP). For FY11, the Water Authority operated the new surface water treatment plant in phased capacity with a gradual increase to minimize water quality changes. In 2009, the Water Authority directed an independent review of key water quality and treatment issues for the SJCDWP treatment plant. The study was performed by Dr. Kerry Howe, a professor of engineering at the University of New Mexico and a world-renowned expert in water treatment. The study concluded that the new plant will meet or exceed all Safe Drinking Water Act regulations.

For FY12, the Water Authority developed several policy objectives to improve the processes and procedures for water quality compliance reporting. The Water Authority created a new Compliance Division in FY10 to better improve and consolidate all its compliance functions. In FY13, the Compliance Division developed and implemented a reporting system and environmental monitoring program. In FY14, the Compliance Division is now measuring its progress on key performance indicators.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 99% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the reliability/availability of water
- 78% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the quality of drinking water

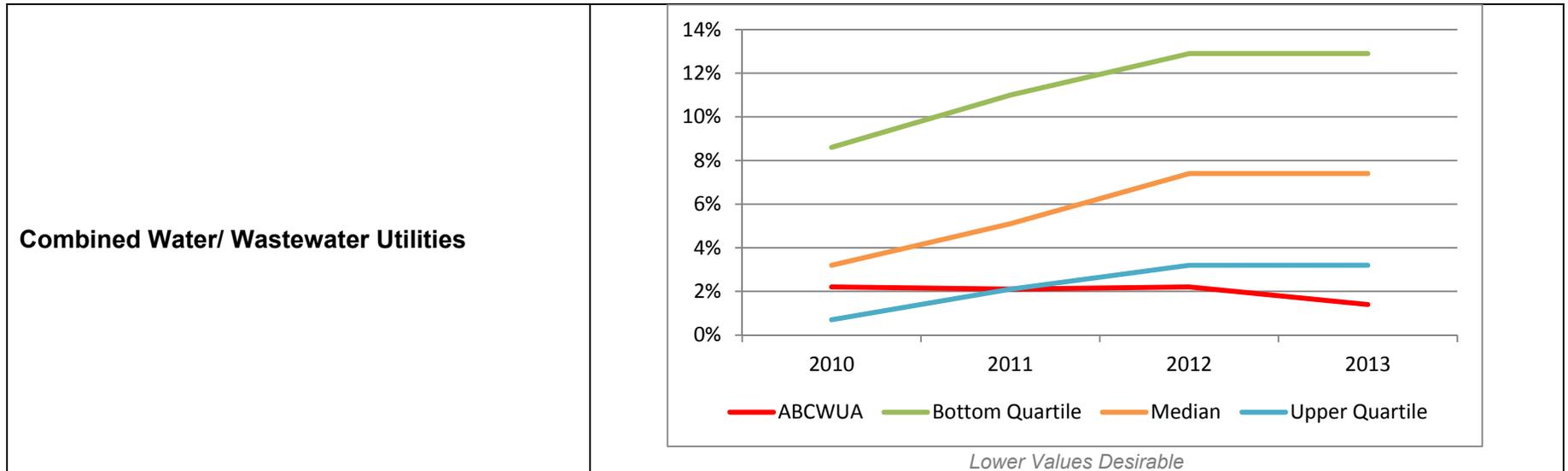
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-2 Distribution System Water Loss**

**Performance Results (Apparent Losses)**

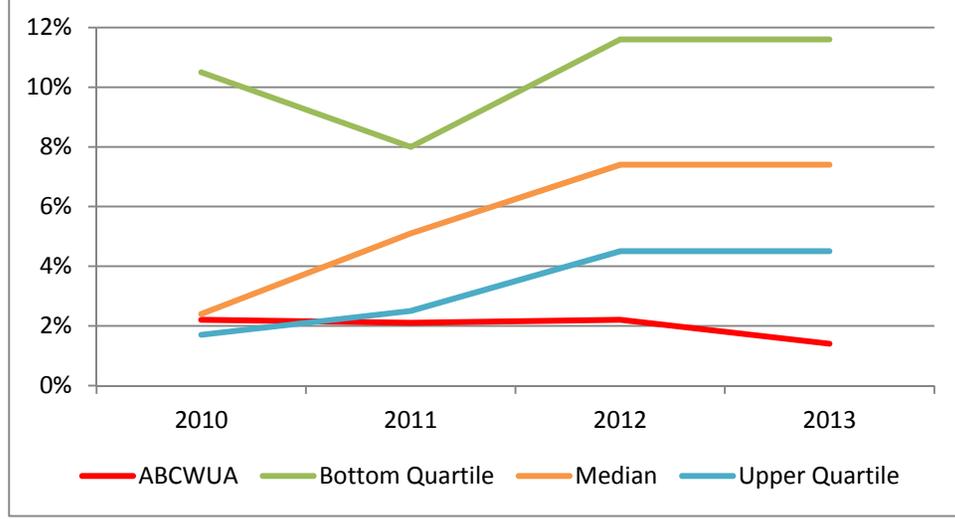
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Efficiency	Quantify the percentage of produced water that is not properly measured, accounted or paid for	Total water unbilled, meter inaccuracies, data handling errors, total water distributed	2.2%	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%	Improve water use efficiency and recover lost revenue

**Industry Benchmarks**



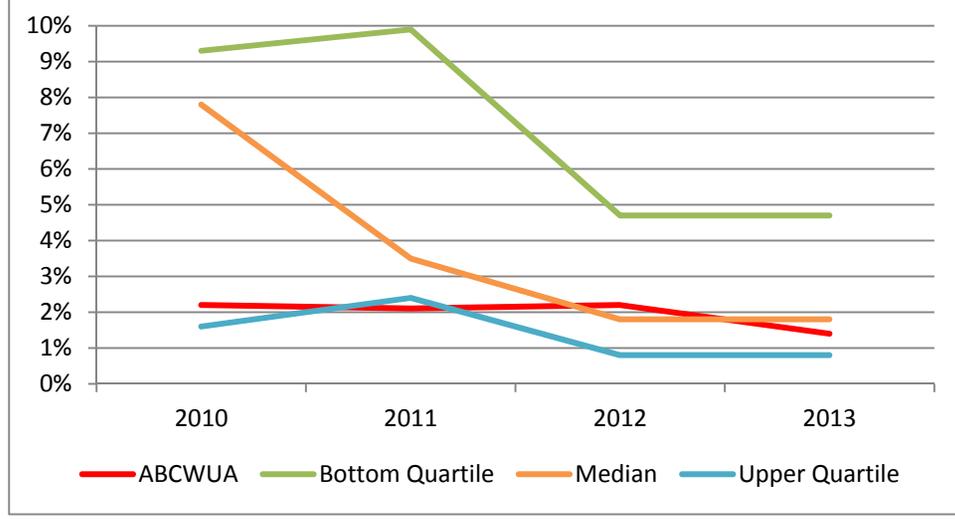
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



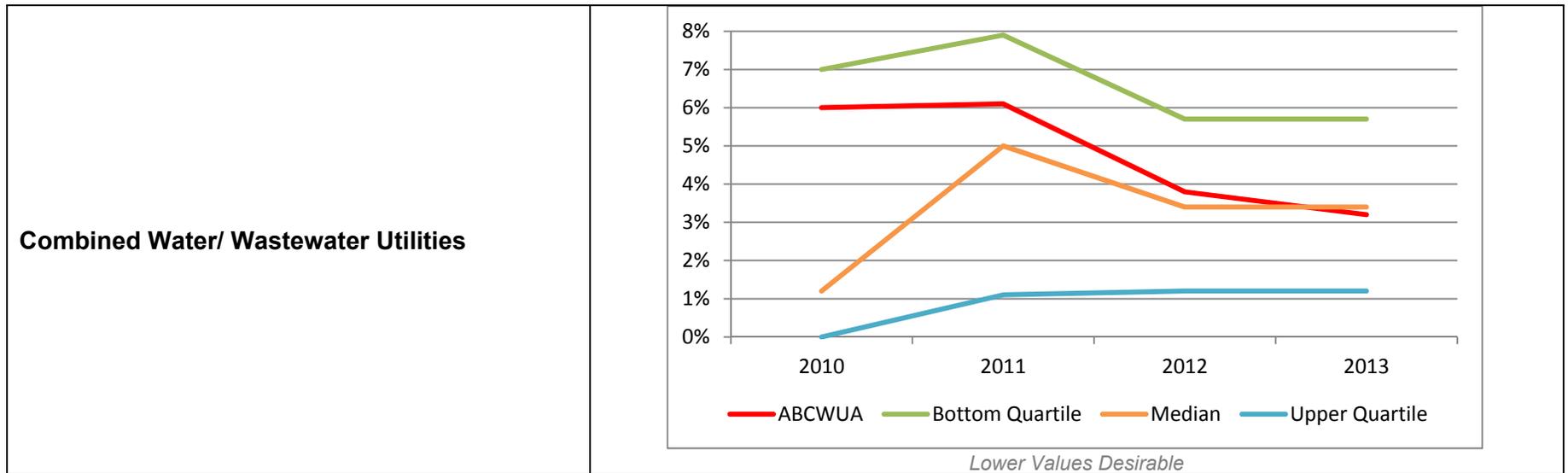
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Performance Results (Real Losses)**

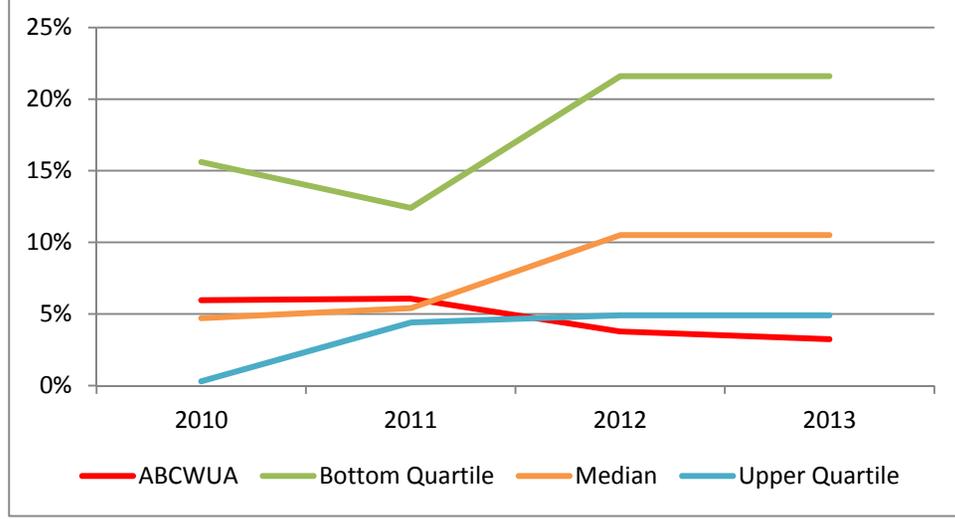
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Efficiency	Quantify the percentage of produced water that fails to reach customers and cannot otherwise be accounted for through authorized usage	Total water loss from leakages, total water distributed	5.3%	6.0%	6.1%	3.8%	3.4%	3.4%	Improve water use efficiency and recover lost revenue

**Industry Benchmarks**



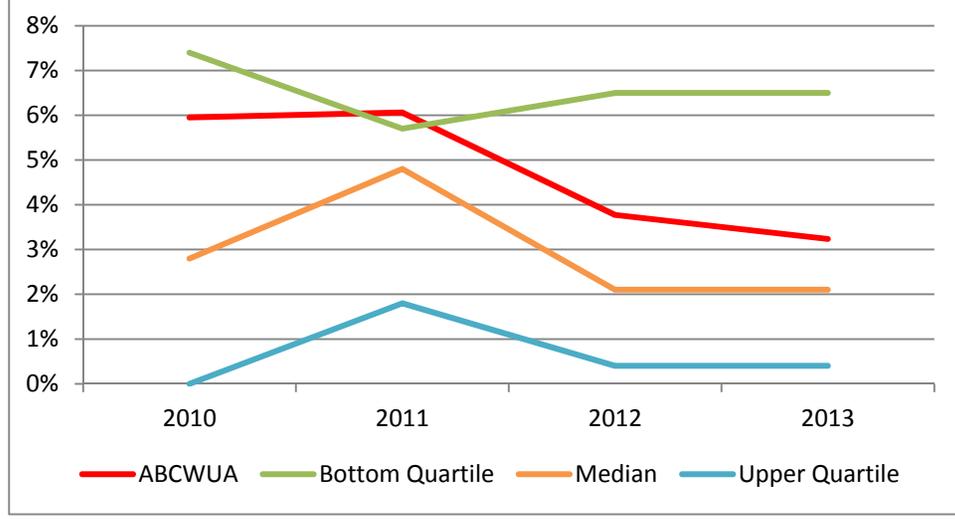
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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Results Narrative

Distribution system water loss is the difference between the volume of water distributed for use by all customer classes and the volume of water actually consumed by authorized users. There are many factors contributing to distribution system water loss. The major ones are leakage, metering inaccuracies, and unauthorized consumption. Among these, only leakage is a true loss of water. Metering inaccuracies affect the utility's capability for measuring true loss, but such inaccuracies can lead to both overstatements and understatements of the true loss. Unauthorized consumptions diminish revenues and should be dealt with, but they are not real losses of water. Because water losses impact revenues, it is important that a utility have practices in place to understand the specific causes of losses in its system. Tracking water losses will help the Water Authority understand the condition of distribution system infrastructure and the effects of its operation, maintenance, and replacement practices. This measure provides opportunity for the Water Authority to compare the distribution system water loss against that in the distribution systems of other utilities. Non-Revenue Water (NRW), a term used to define where water losses exist within the distribution system. NRW includes apparent losses, real losses, unbilled metered and unbilled unmetered. It should be noted that Performance Measure 1-2 only benchmarks apparent and real losses and not total NRW.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the top quartile for the past three fiscal years. In FY09, the Water Authority began its leak detection program that focused on finding water line leaks before they surface, fixing leaking hydrants, and improving meter inaccuracy. This program will help move the Water Authority's performance in line with utilities in the Western United States where water is a more scarce resource. In the past three years, the Water Authority has utilized the AWWA Water Audit methodology in determining its apparent and real water losses. In addition, the Water Authority participates in annual studies sponsored by the AWWA Water Loss Control Committee. This allows the water audits to be verified by water loss control experts which improves the utility's confidence in its data. For FY15, the Water Authority will continue to set targets for conventional and passive leak detection surveying.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 57% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the condition of the water lines in the number of leaks that they may observe surfacing

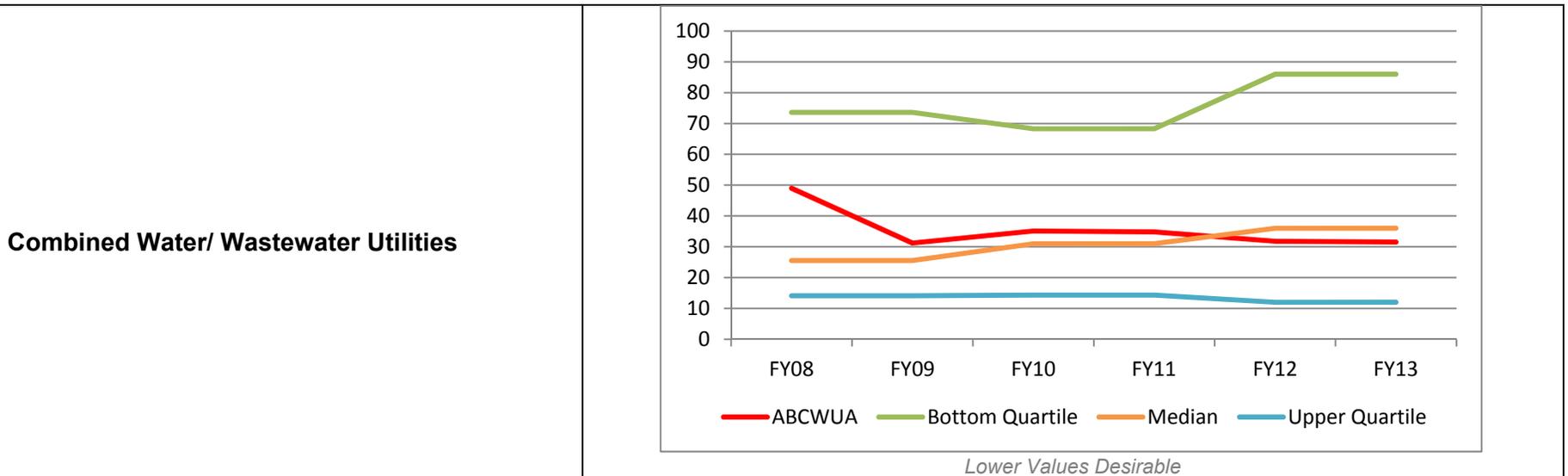
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**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-3 Water Distribution System Integrity**

**Performance Results**

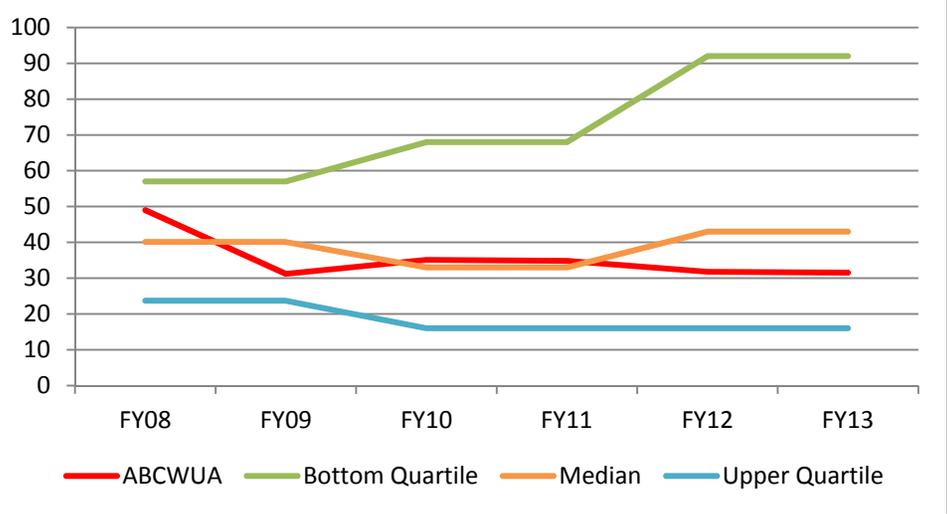
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the condition of the water distribution system	Number of leaks per 100 miles of distribution piping	32.6	34.8	31.8	31.3	23.9	23.3	Improve the condition and reliability of the water distribution system and reduce emergency repairs and water supply interruptions

**Industry Benchmarks**



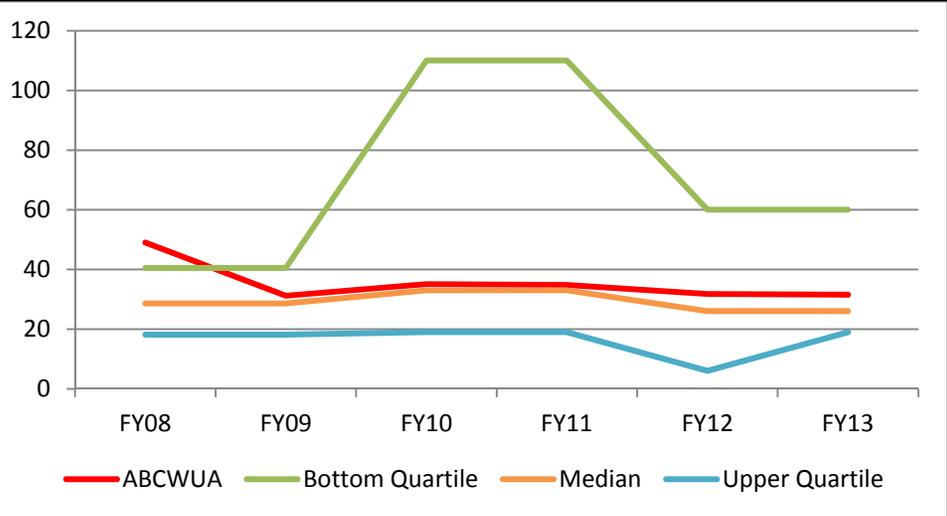
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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Results Narrative

For a water utility, distribution system integrity has importance for health, customer service, operations, and asset management reasons. Excessive leaks and breaks result in increased costs due to an increased number of emergency repairs. Utilities use operational and maintenance (O&M) procedures designed to reduce the value of this measure. The cost of these (O&M) programs must be balanced against the cost of emergency repairs and the consequences of water supply interruptions. Comparing the value of this measure with other utilities can provide information on the rate that many utilities may find acceptable.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the median range for the past three fiscal years. The Water Authority has adopted policy objectives for the past three fiscal years to increase spending on water line rehabilitation which will help reduce emergency repairs and water supply interruptions. Since FY08, the Water Authority has invested \$1 million in steel water line rehabilitation in addition to planned water line rehabilitation spending. The purpose for this objective is to target steel lines because they have a higher frequency of leaks than other material types in the system. The Water Authority included as an objective for FY15 to continue spending an additional \$1 million in steel water line rehabilitation. In the last five years, the Water Authority has seen a decrease in leaks from steel water lines by 50%. In FY11, the Water Authority completed a ten-year asset management plan for its small diameter water lines. This plan has been utilized for the past three fiscal years in its capital planning in order to replace water lines that are past their useful life and have had multiple leaks on the same line segment.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 67% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the effectiveness of the Water Authority to repair leaks and the response time for restoring service

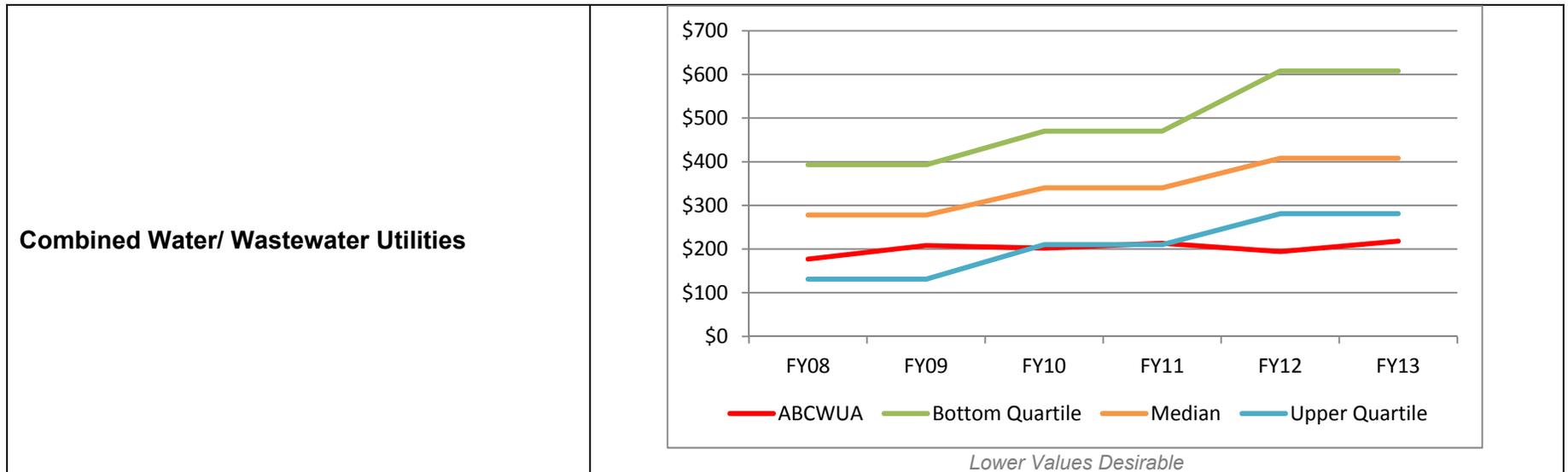
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-4 Operations and Maintenance Cost Ratio**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost per Account**

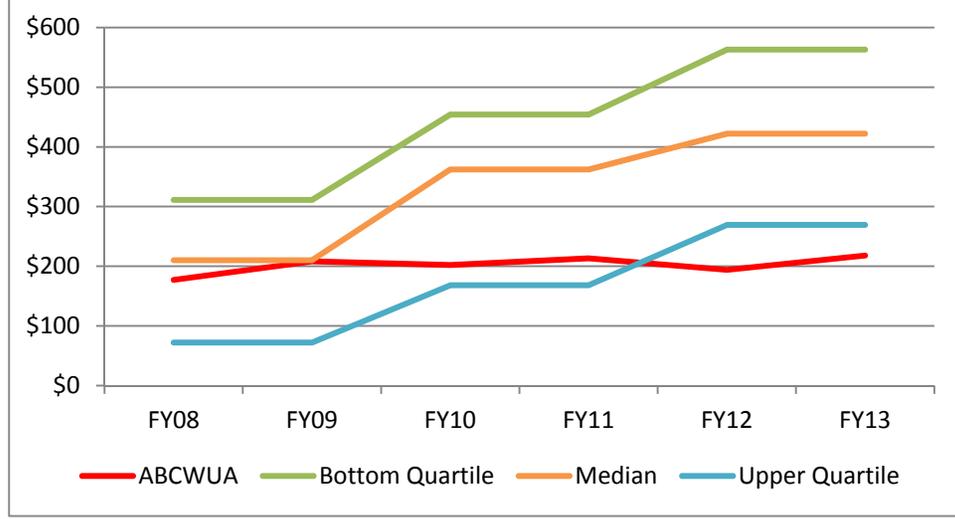
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total O&M costs and total number of active customer accounts	\$208	\$213	\$194	\$218	\$218	\$219	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmark for O&M Cost per Account**



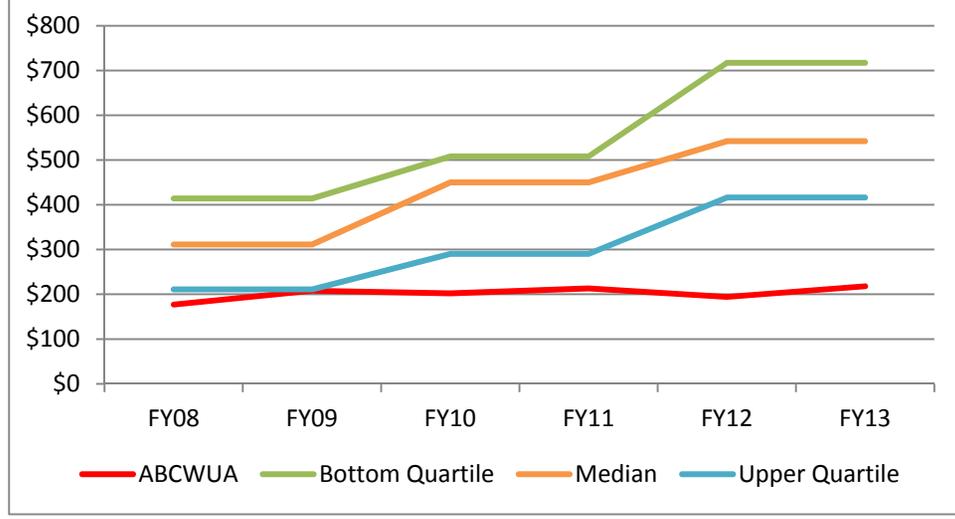
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



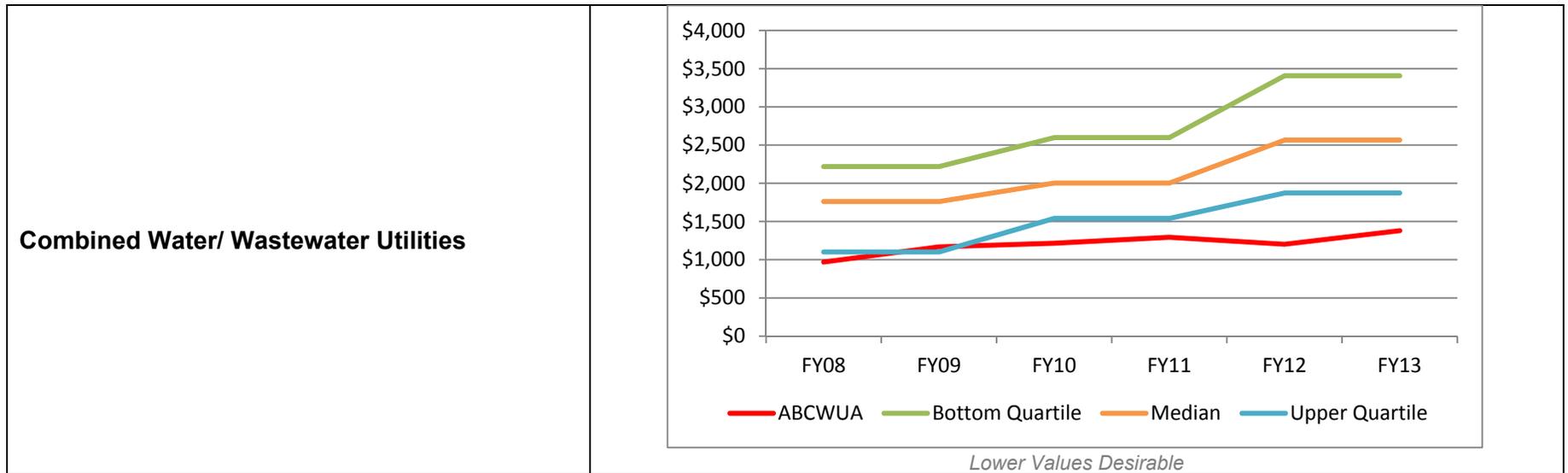
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost per MG Distributed**

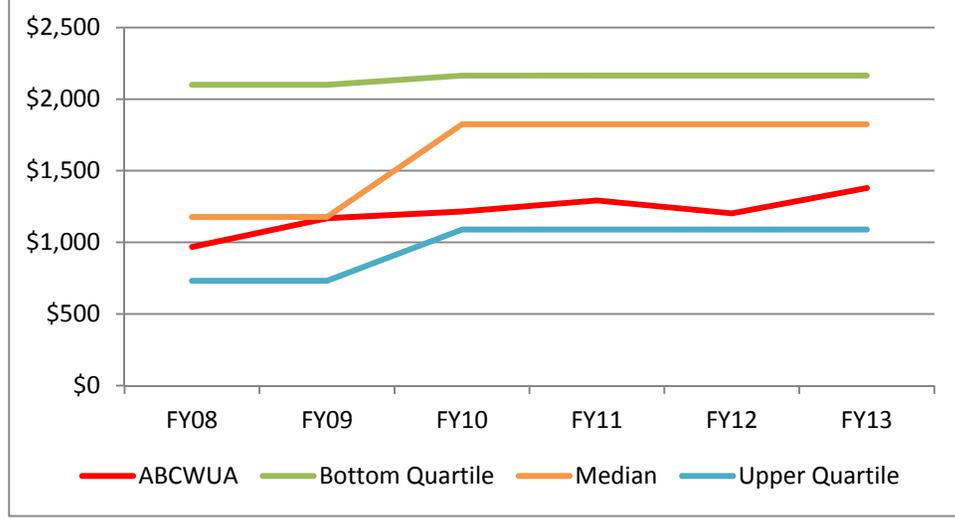
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total O&M costs and total volume of water distributed	\$1,280	\$1,285	\$1,190	\$1,365	\$1,385	\$1,527	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmark for O&M Cost per MG Distributed**



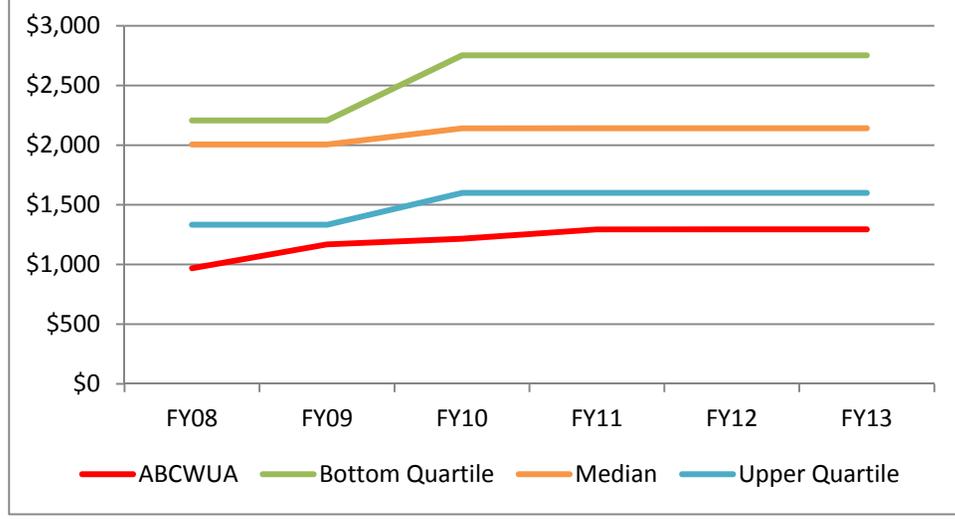
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



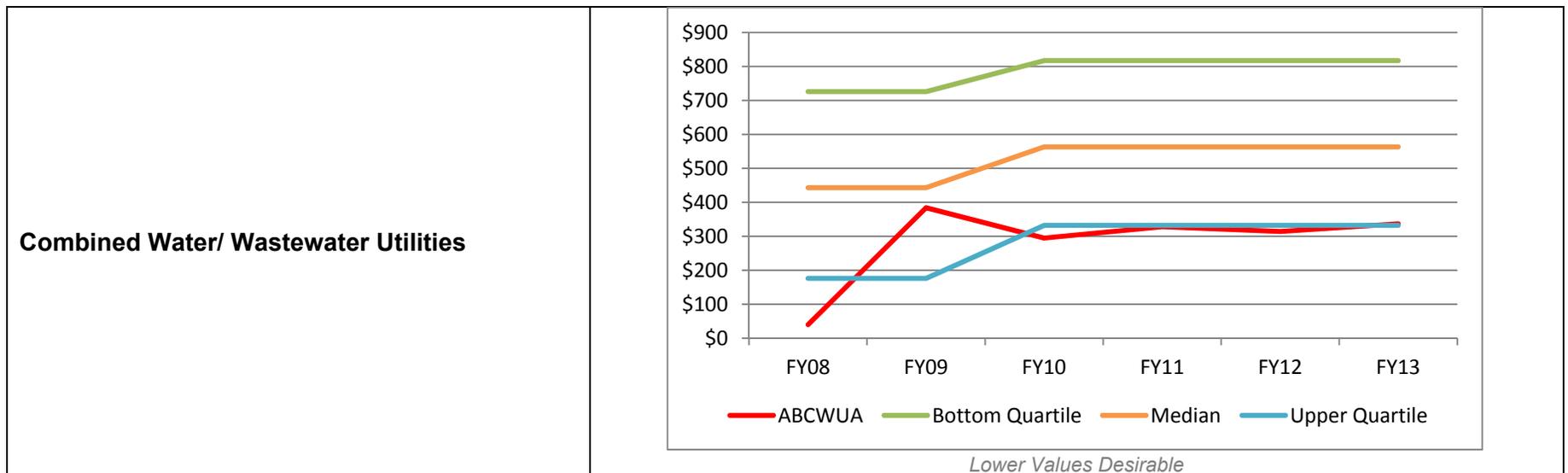
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost of Treatment per MG**

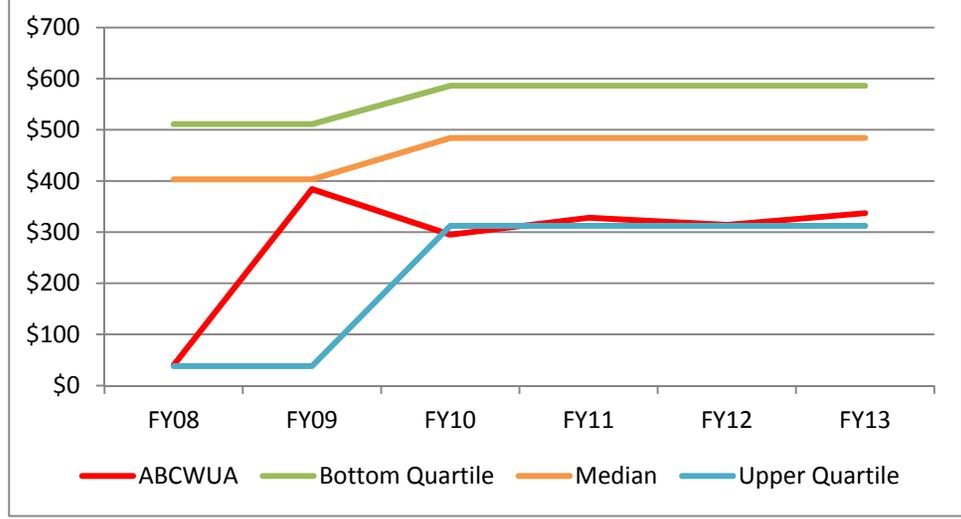
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total Direct O&M costs and total volume of water treated	\$324	\$326	\$311	\$334	\$309	\$346	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmarks**



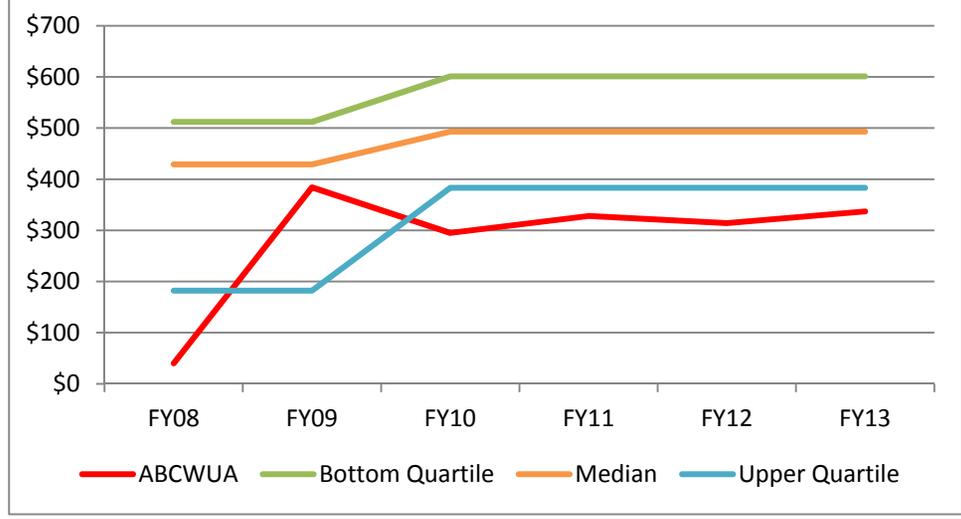
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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Results Narrative

These related measures tally the cost of O&M per account and per million gallons of water processed. Comparing the value of this measure with other utilities can provide information regarding the status of current accepted practices.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been above the median range for the past three fiscal years. O&M costs have increased with operating the new surface drinking water plant. The Water Authority is working on treatability studies to determine the optimum chemical doses for the surface water treatment plant which will help reduce operation costs. The Water Authority continues to work on optimizing chemical use at the treatment plant. Moreover, the Water Authority is developing a comprehensive energy master plan that will include demand and potential energy reduction measures and costs to implement alternative clean energy sources for use by the Water Authority. For FY15, the Water Authority will continue to work on the Partnership for Safe Water program to optimize its system operations and performance.

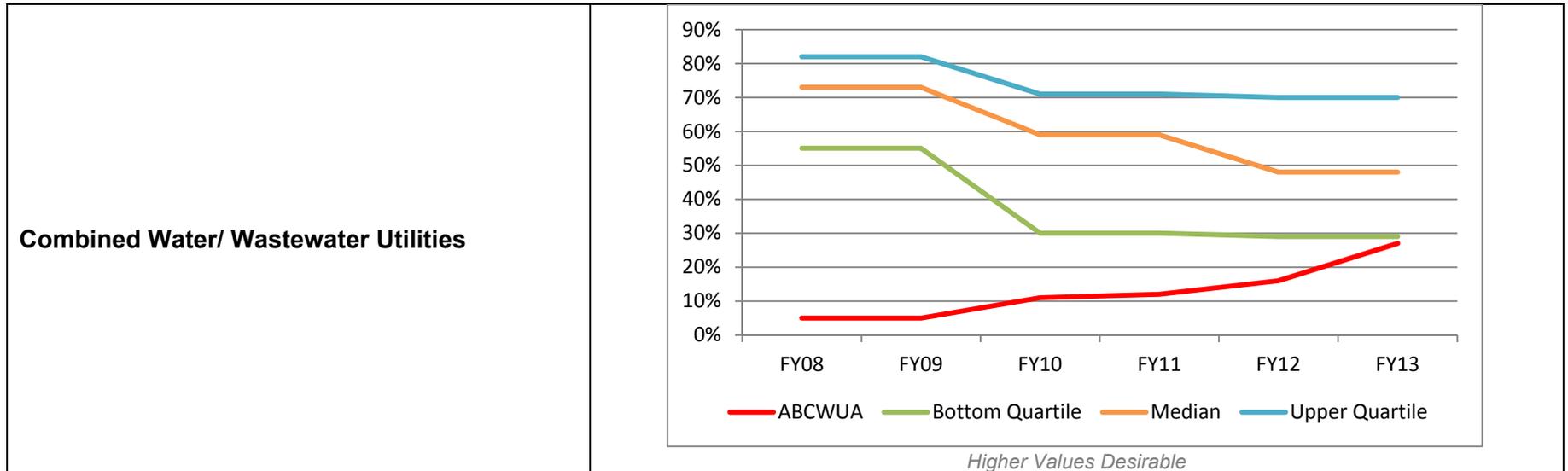
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-5 Planned Maintenance Ratio**

**Performance Results**

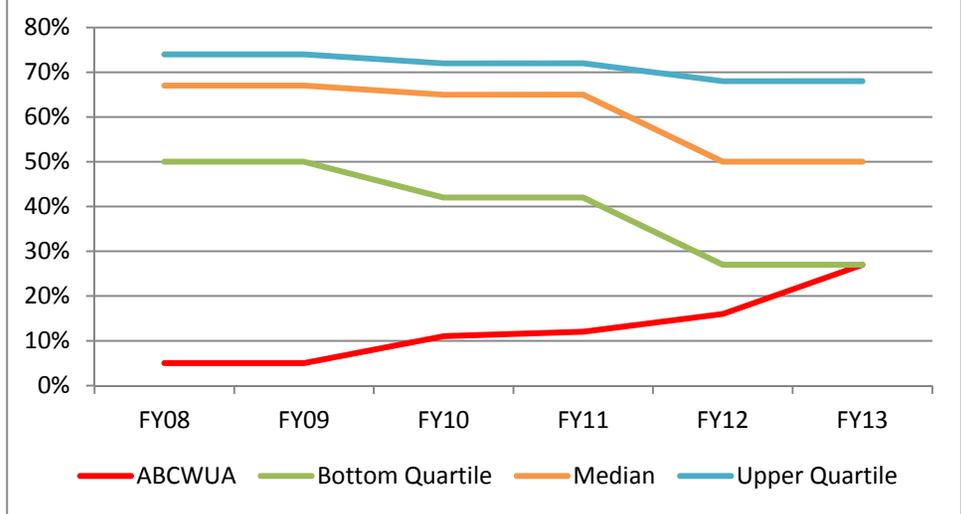
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Comparison of how effectively the Water Authority is in investing in planned maintenance	Hours of planned maintenance compared to hours of corrective maintenance	18%	12%	16%	27%	33%	34%	Reduce emergency maintenance from system malfunctions

**Industry Benchmarks**



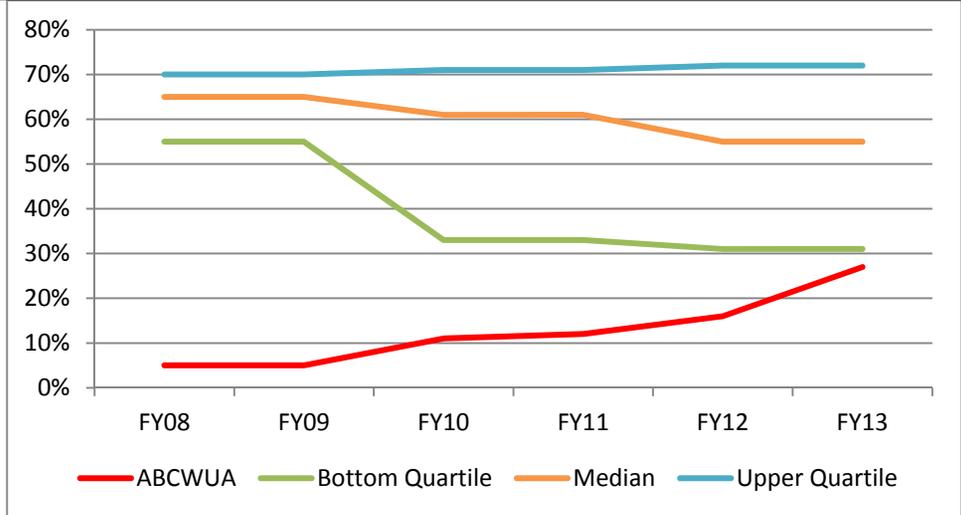
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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Results Narrative

Planned maintenance includes preventive and predictive maintenance. Preventive maintenance is performed according to a predetermined schedule rather than in response to failure. Predictive maintenance is initiated when secondary monitoring signals from activities indicate that maintenance is due. All other maintenance is categorized as corrective (i.e., maintenance resulting from an asset that is no longer providing reliable service such as a breakdown, blockage, or leakage). Planned maintenance is preferable for assets for which the cost of repairs is high relative to the cost of corrective maintenance. The avoided cost includes both the cost of repair and the cost consequences of the service disruption, with the latter including an allowance for customer costs. Many utilities want to increase their percentage of planned maintenance activities and reduce their percentage of corrective maintenance activities. A higher ratio may indicate a reduction in emergency maintenance resulting from system malfunctions (e.g., pipeline breaks or pump failures).

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for the past three fiscal years. Since FY08, the Water Authority has used this performance measure to identify gaps in planned/preventative maintenance activities. Over the past three fiscal years, the Water Authority has focused on increasing water operations planned maintenance for its groundwater facilities and the surface water plant. For the distribution system, the Water Authority will be increasing planned maintenance through its leak detection program mentioned in Performance Measure 1-2, Distribution System Water Loss. For FY15, there are two policy objectives with planned maintenance targets for both the ground and surface water facilities.

Planned maintenance is a key component to the Water Authority's asset management program. In FY10, the Water Authority upgraded its work order system to integrate with the Water Authority's asset management program in order to collect and track its asset information. The purpose for this upgrade was to obtain better information to make better decisions on the Water Authority's assets.

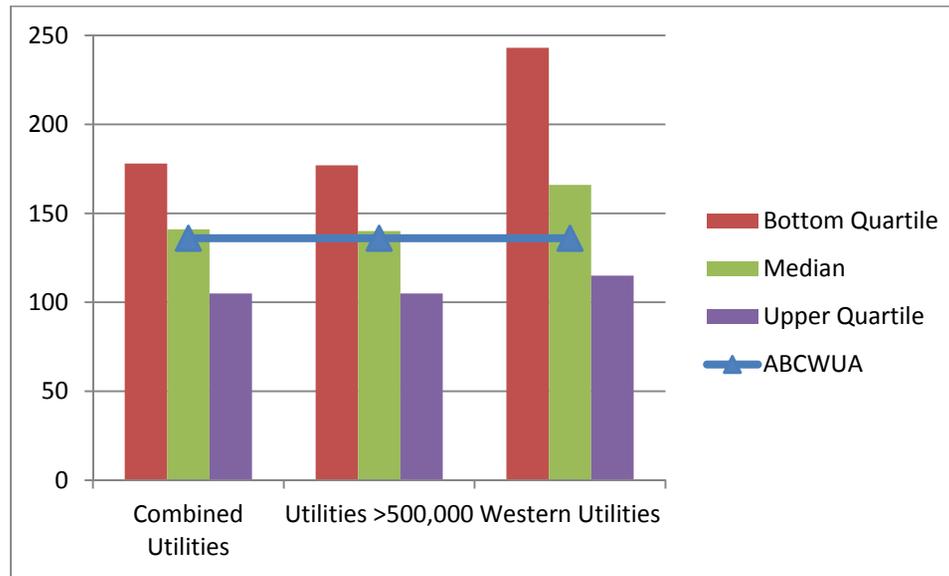
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**1-6 Water Use per Capita Consumption**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Effectiveness	Measure water savings by comparing the annual consumption and account growth by customer class and system-wide per capita usage	Gallons per person per day (GPCD)	152	157	150	148	136	135	Reduce water consumption to extend water resources and minimize environment impacts

**Industry Benchmarks**

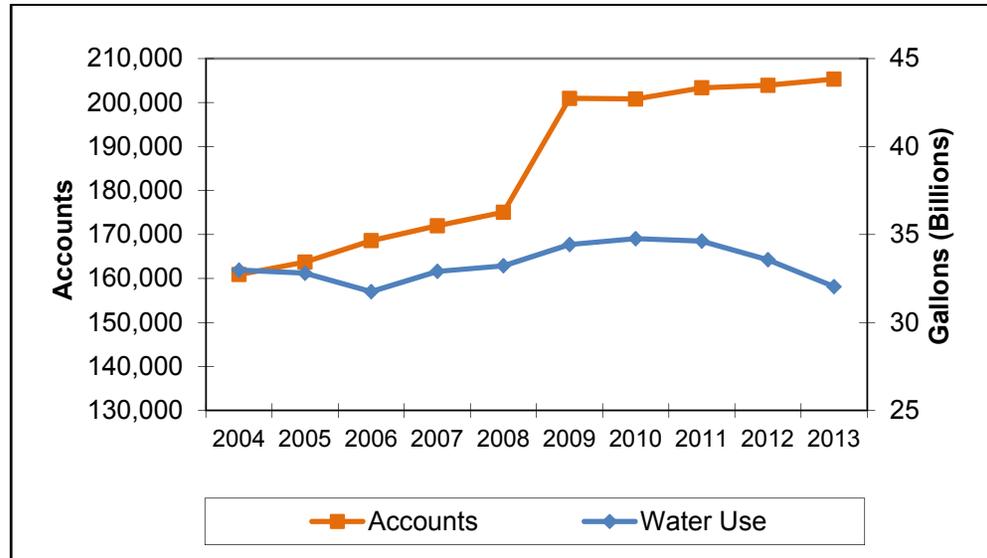


*Generally, lower values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

**Results Narrative**

Total yearly water use has declined from 40.6 billion gallons in the mid-1990s to 32 billion gallons in 2013. Even though accounts have increased by 48 percent during this time, water use declined by 19 percent. The graph to the right compares water use with accounts from 2004 to 2013. There was a sharp increase in customer accounts in 2009 with the acquisition of NMUI, adding about 17,000 accounts; however, most of the customers were residential whose homes were built in the last decade with low-water conservation fixtures so water use only increased by seven percent.



Since the beginning of the conservation program over 223 billion gallons of water have been saved. This is enough water to serve the entire population of the service area for 6 years.

Water Authority customers used about twelve gallons less per person per day in 2013 than in 2012, bringing the metropolitan area’s daily per-person water usage down to 136 gpcd. The 136 gpcd number is actually less than the 155 gpcd mandated by the Office of the State Engineer as a condition of using surface water from the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project. The State Engineer had required that this goal be met by 2024. The Water Authority is on target in reaching the 135 GPCD goal by 2024. The Water Authority will continue to reduce water consumption by implementing several initiatives to reduce outdoor consumption and to target commercial and institutional users. The Water Authority evaluates its rebate program on annual basis with the help of its Customer Advisory Committee. The proposed new programs are designed to target more outdoor savings and to focus on more programs for non-residential customers, because residential customers have already made dramatic water usage reductions. These changes are projected to reduce overall demand from 134,669 acre-feet in 2024 to 122,399 acre-feet and projected to save 59,157 acre-feet over the ten year period.

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations**

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One reason for the success in water reduction is from the 1-2-3-2-1 “Water by the Numbers” program, which asks Water Authority customers to voluntarily limit their outdoor water usage to one day per week in March, two days a week in April and May and three days a week in the summer before ramping down in the fall. To the right is the diagram used to educate customers on the program.



2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 72% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the utility’s conservation programs
- 79% of customers feel that it is very or somewhat important for the Water Authority to increase water conservation programs

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 1: Water Supply and Operations***

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# Goal 2

## Wastewater Collection & Operations

### Guiding Goal Statement

*Provide reliable, safe and affordable wastewater collection, treatment and reuse systems to protect the health of the Middle Rio Grande Valley by safeguarding the regional watershed, minimizing environmental impacts, and returning quality water to the Rio Grande for downstream users.*

### Goal Performance Scorecard

Ref #	Performance Measure	Status	Trend
2-1	Sewer Overflow Rate	■	■
2-2	Collection System Integrity	■	■
2-3	Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness Rate	■	■
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per account	▲	▲
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per MG processed	■	■
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: Direct cost of treatment per MG	■	■
2-5	Planned Maintenance Ratio	▼	■
<b>Overall Goal Status</b>		■	■

#### Performance Key

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 Excellent
  Good
  Fair
  Poor

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## Linkage of Objectives to Performance Measures

FY15 Objectives	Measure Reference
Limit overall permit excursions to no more than 5 operating discharge permit violations to comply with effluent quality standards through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-3
Complete application to NACWA's Peak Performance Award and the Excellence in Management Program by the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY15.	2-3
Beneficially reuse biosolids by diverting 25% of the biosolids to compost through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-3
Complete Waste Water Plant Preventive Maintenance to Corrective Maintenance ratio to at least 35% of all completed maintenance labor hours by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-5
To continue minimizing odors, begin testing of the magnesium hydroxide station in the sanitary sewer system and establish criteria to evaluate performance impacts to the interceptor system including the Yucca/Central area and the water reclamation facility by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Conduct a root foaming pilot program on sewer lines that meet the root infested and/or inaccessibility criteria; assess the effectiveness to mechanical cleaning currently practiced and provide recommendation by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Conduct a Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Buster pilot program on sewer lines; evaluate and provide recommendation by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Develop a nozzle program for cleaning sewer lines in conjunction with the Maximo software module and based on televised identified conditions; provide status report and recommendation by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Televiser and assess the condition of approximately five percent of the small diameter sanitary sewer system by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Complete an Arc Flash Hazard Evaluation and begin implementation if funding is available by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	NA
Complete asset management plans for the sanitary sewer lift stations to determine the condition and criticality of the Water Authority's facilities by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-2
Implement the Reclamation Rehabilitation Asset Management Plan by planning, designing and constructing reclamation facility improvements through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	2-3
Continue examination of water reclamation and reuse alternatives for future use of wastewater effluent or other non-potable water sources by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	NA
Monitor compliance with the Water Authority's Sewer Use and Wastewater Control Ordinance by continuing to inspect, monitor, and take enforcement action for permitted industrial users, septage waste haulers, food service establishments, and dental offices; report activities and respective compliance rates through weekly, monthly, and quarterly reporting, while referencing past performance through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15. Obtain a compliance rate goal is 85% for each category.	2-2

FY15 Objectives	Measure Reference
<p>Implement the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Policy to reduce impacts on the sewer system by inspecting each Food Service Establishment (FSE) once every three years, working with the Collections section with Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSOs) investigations, and convene FOG Task Force of other governmental entities to coordinate efforts to reduce FOG discharges. Track and report the number of SSOs due to FOG compared with previous years. In conjunction with Public Affairs Manager, develop a public relations campaign to inform rate-payers of Best Management Practices for FOG. Report campaign progress monthly and quarterly.</p>	<p>2-2</p>

## Performance Measure Division Responsibility

Ref #	Performance Measure	Operations Plant	Operations Field	Operations Compliance
2-1	Sewer Overflow Rate		✓	
2-2	Collection System Integrity		✓	
2-3	Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness Rate	✓		✓
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per account	✓	✓	
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: O&M Cost per MG processed	✓		
2-4	O&M Cost Ratios: Direct cost of treatment / MG	✓		
2-5	Planned Maintenance Ratio	✓	✓	

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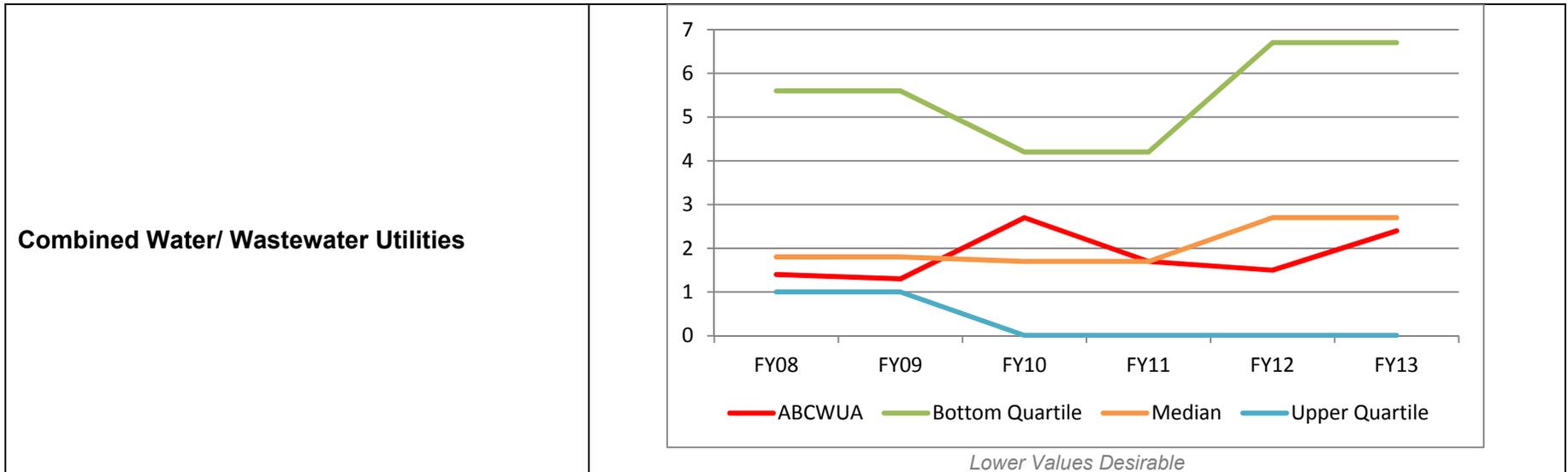
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**2-1 Sewer Overflow Rate**

**Performance Results**

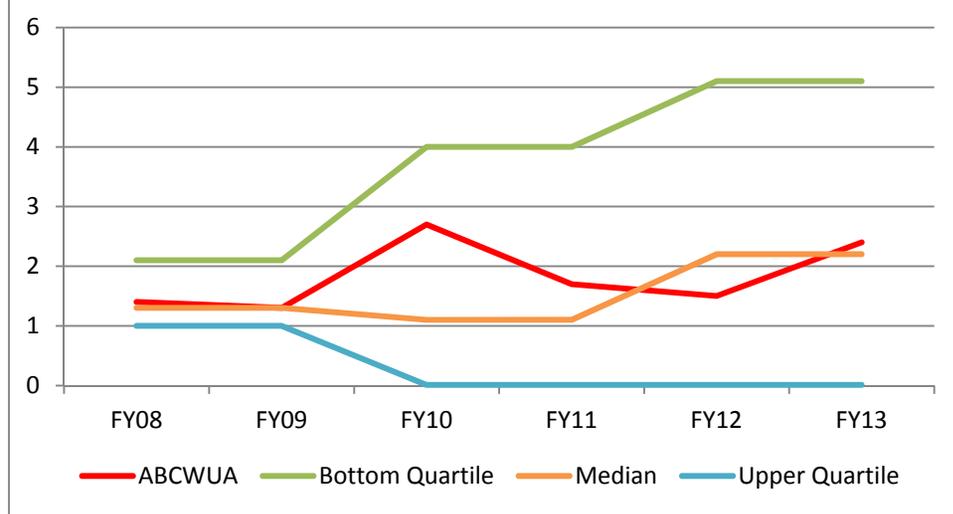
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the condition of the collection system and the effectiveness of routine maintenance	Number of sewer overflows per 100 miles of collection piping	1.9	1.7	1.5	2.4	2.2	2.0	Improve the condition and reliability of the collection system and reduce customer complaints

**Industry Benchmarks**



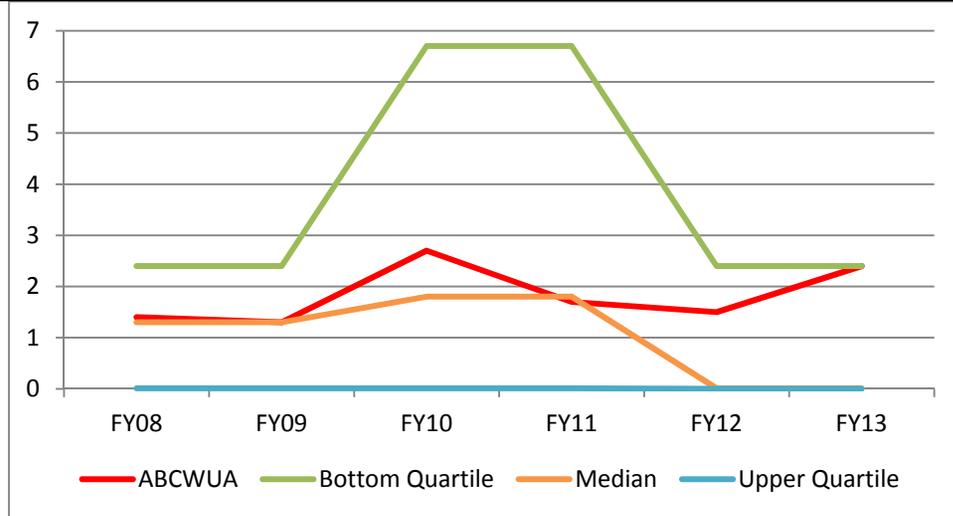
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

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**Results Narrative**

Overflows are good measures of collection system condition and the effectiveness of maintenance activities. This measure is intended to measure overflows created by conditions within collection system components under control of the utility. This measure does not include conditions which are deemed outside control of the utility such as general flooding from wet weather conditions.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the median range for the past three fiscal years and is on-target to maintain a very low overflow rate for the next two fiscal years. The Water Authority has been using its GIS in connection with its upgraded work order system based on asset management principles to analyze sanitary sewer overflows. For FY14, the Collection Section implemented the CMOM activities from the CMOM report completed in FY13. The FY15 Objectives will help to improve the monitoring, cleaning, and response procedures related to sewer overflows.



Every year, the Water Authority provides bill inserts reminding customers not to pour cooking grease down the drain as this causes backups and overflows in the collection system; this usually occurs during the holidays.

**2014 Customer Opinion Survey**

- 57% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the condition of the sewer lines in the number of overflows that they may observe
- 60% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the effectiveness of the Water Authority to respond to overflows or backups and the response time for restoring service

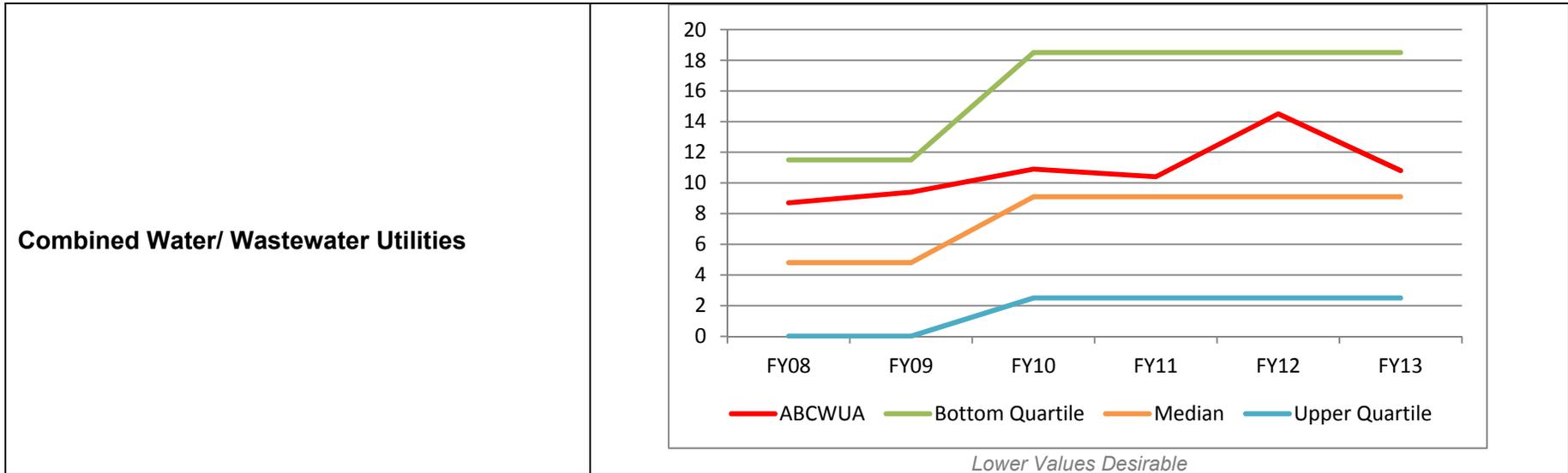
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**2-2 Collection System Integrity**

**Performance Results**

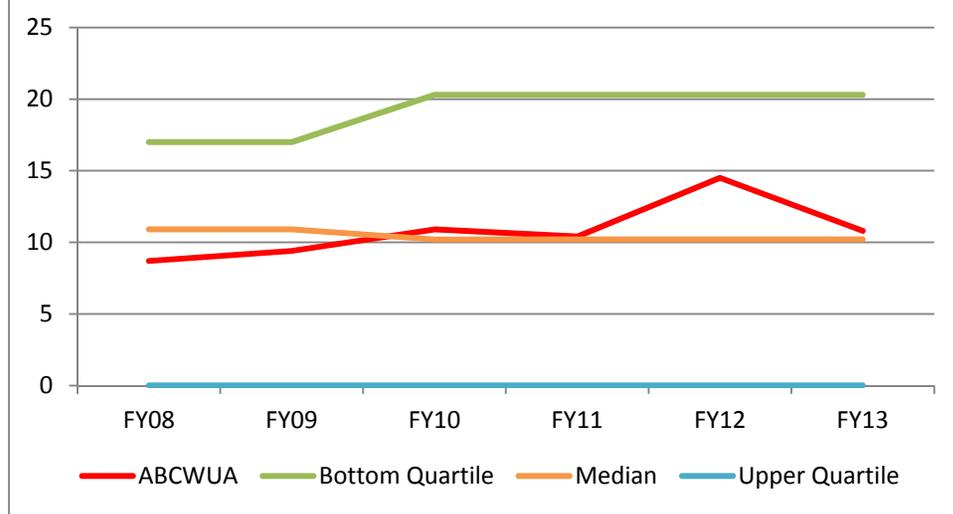
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Measure of the condition of a sewage collection system	Number of collection system failures each year per 100 miles of collection system piping	11.9	10.4	14.5	10.7	9.6	9.0	Improve the condition and capacity of the collection system and minimize catastrophic failures

**Industry Benchmarks**



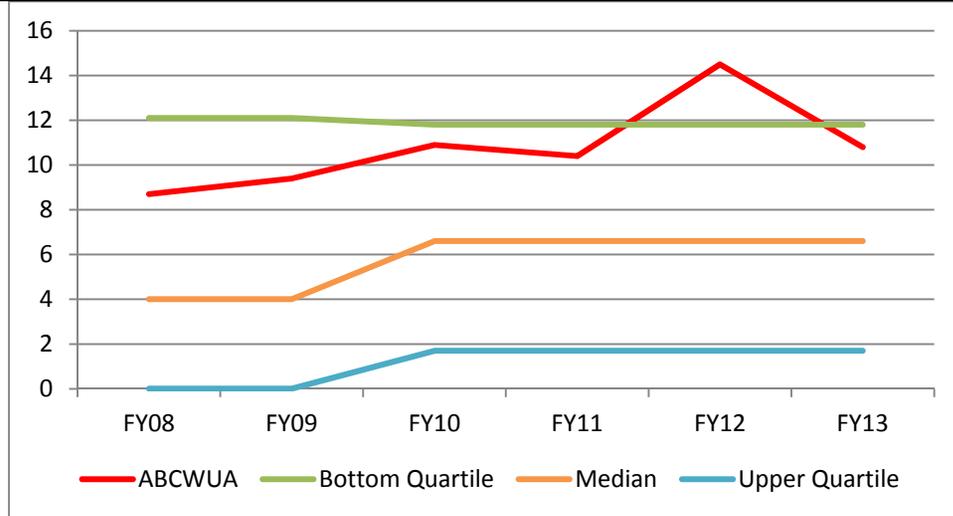
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

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Results Narrative

When tracked over time, a utility can compare its failure rate to those at other utilities and it can evaluate whether its own rate is decreasing, stable, or increasing. When data is maintained by the utility to characterize failures according to pipe type and age, type of failure, and cost of repairs, better decisions regarding routine maintenance and replacement/renewals can be made.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for the past three fiscal years. For FY11, the Water Authority completed ten-year asset management plans for both its small and large diameter sewer lines. These plans will be utilized for the utility's capital planning in order to help minimize expensive catastrophic failures. For FY15, there is a policy objective to assess the condition of approximately five percent of the collection system.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 94% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the reliability of wastewater collection
- 74% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the effectiveness of the Water Authority to control odors from sewer lines or treatment facilities

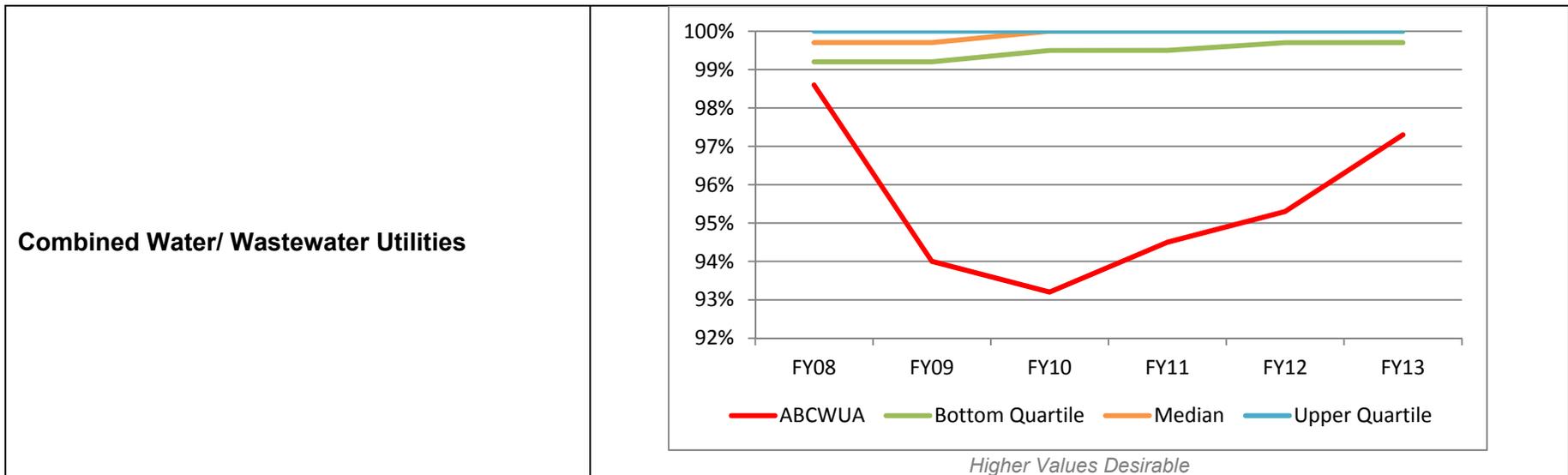
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**2-3 Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness Rate**

**Performance Results**

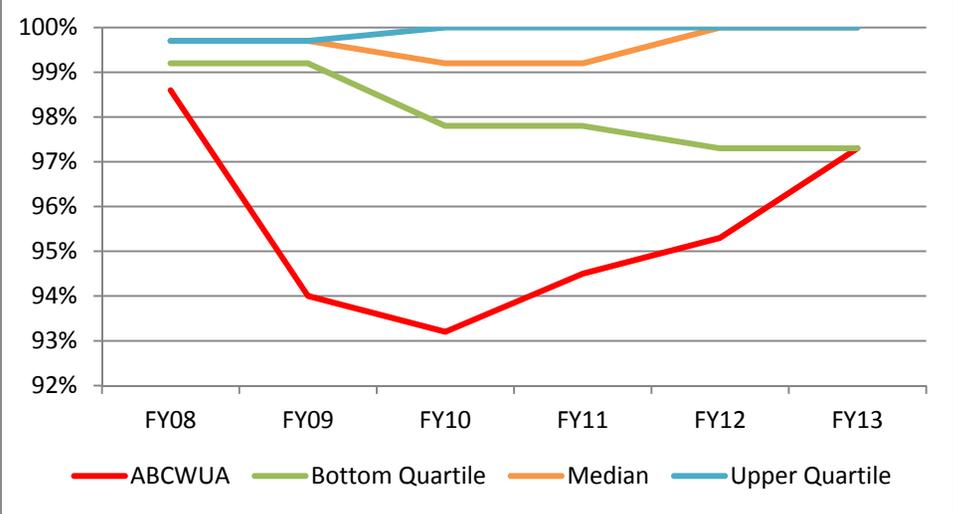
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Quality	Quantify the Water Authority's compliance with the effluent quality standards in effect at its wastewater treatment facilities	Percent of time each year that an individual wastewater treatment facility is in full compliance with applicable effluent quality requirements	95.7%	94.5%	95.3%	97.3%	99.2%	99.2%	Minimize environmental impacts to the river by returning high quality water to the river

**Industry Benchmarks**



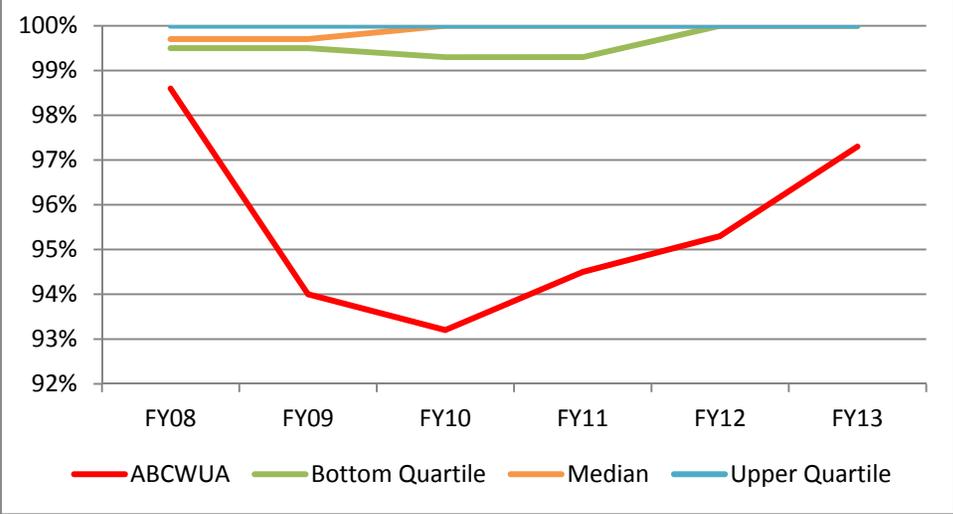
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

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Results Narrative

The wastewater treatment effectiveness rate allows a utility to compare its treatment effectiveness rate for its facility with those at other utilities. It also can track its individual facility performances over time. Ideally, the percentage of days in a year that the treatment facility satisfies all discharge permit requirements should be 100%. A number lower than this indicates that a violation occurred during the year.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been outside of the median range for last three fiscal years. The Water Authority's goal in for FY14 is to have no more than five non-compliance days. The Water Authority experienced a setback the last three years with several violations caused by equipment upgrades. In FY11, the Water Authority completed conversion to ultraviolet disinfection to eliminate use of chlorine for safety, security and to protect river environment. The Water Authority will continue in meeting its performance targets during major rehabilitation activities at the wastewater treatment plant over the next five fiscal years.

Also, for FY12, the Water Authority developed several policy objectives to improve the processes and procedures for wastewater quality compliance reporting. The Water Authority created a new Compliance Division in FY10 to better improve and consolidate all its compliance functions. For FY15, the Compliance Division will continue to work on the reporting systems and updating the Sewer Use Wastewater Control Ordinance.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 83% of customers feel that it is very or somewhat important that the Water Authority should return high quality treated water back to the river

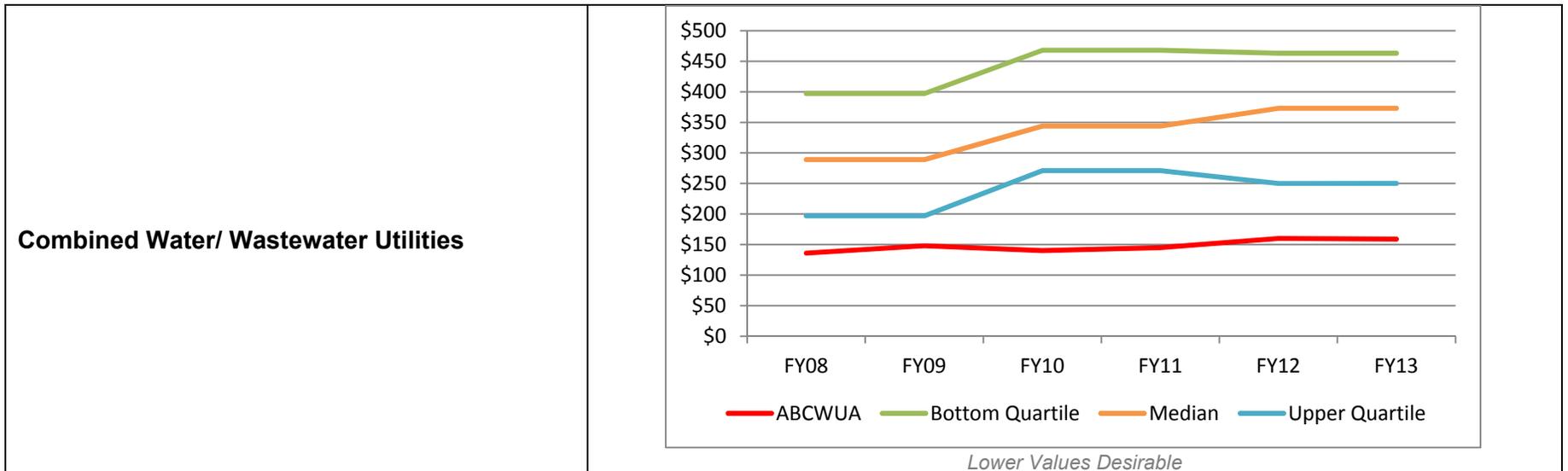
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**2-4 Operations and Maintenance Cost Ratio**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost per Account**

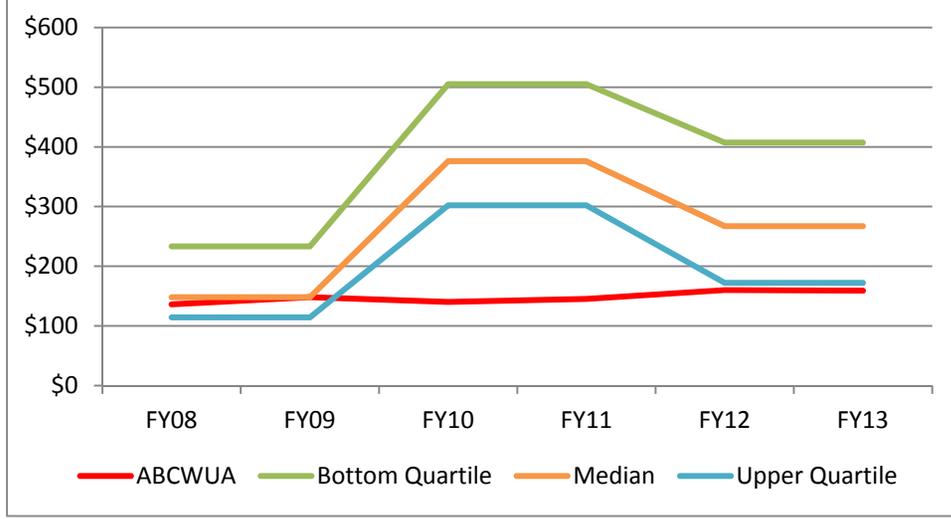
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total O&M costs and total number of active customer accounts	\$154	\$145	\$160	\$159	\$145	\$155	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmark for O&M Cost per Account**



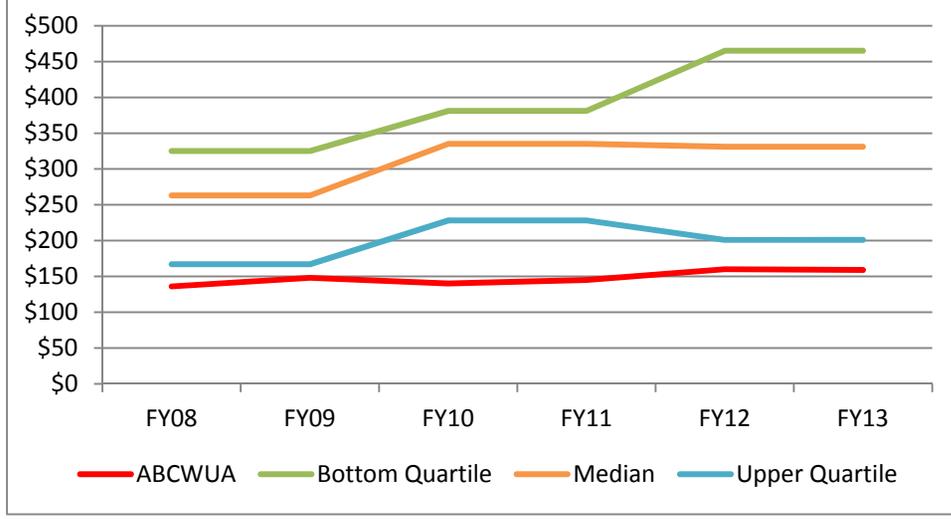
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



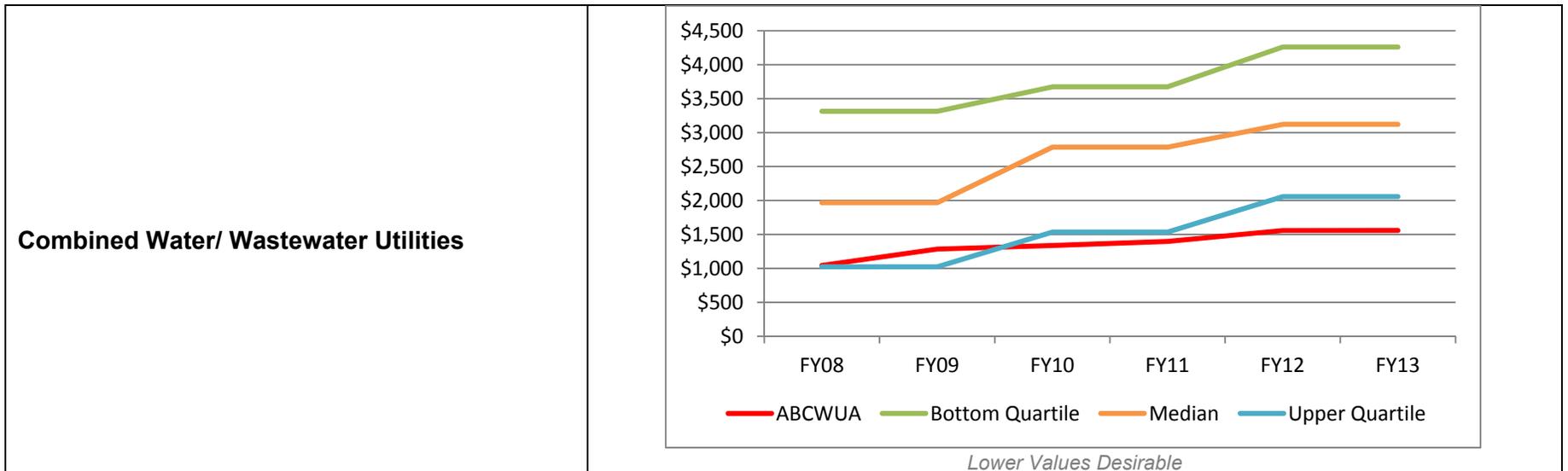
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost per MG Collected**

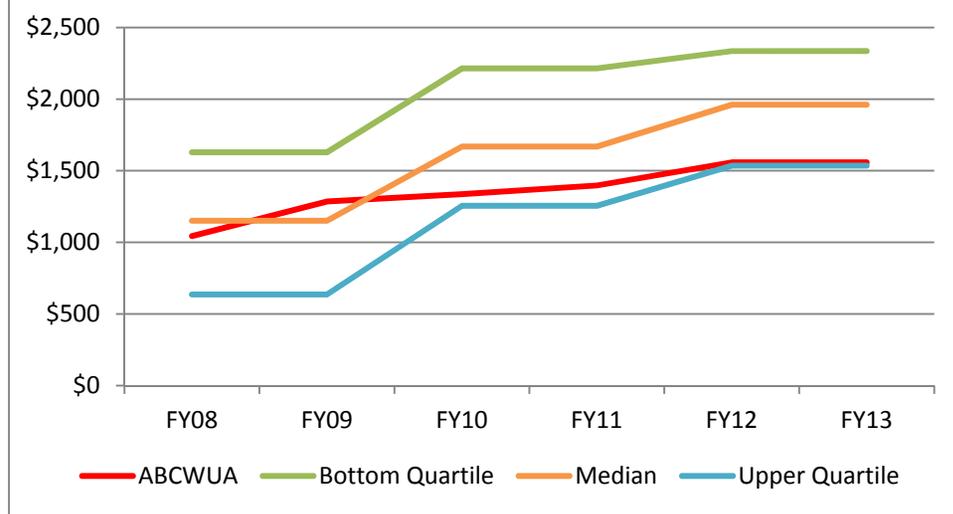
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total O&M costs and total wastewater collected	\$1,478	\$1,397	\$1,558	\$1,478	\$1,508	\$1,525	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmark for O&M Cost per MG Collected**



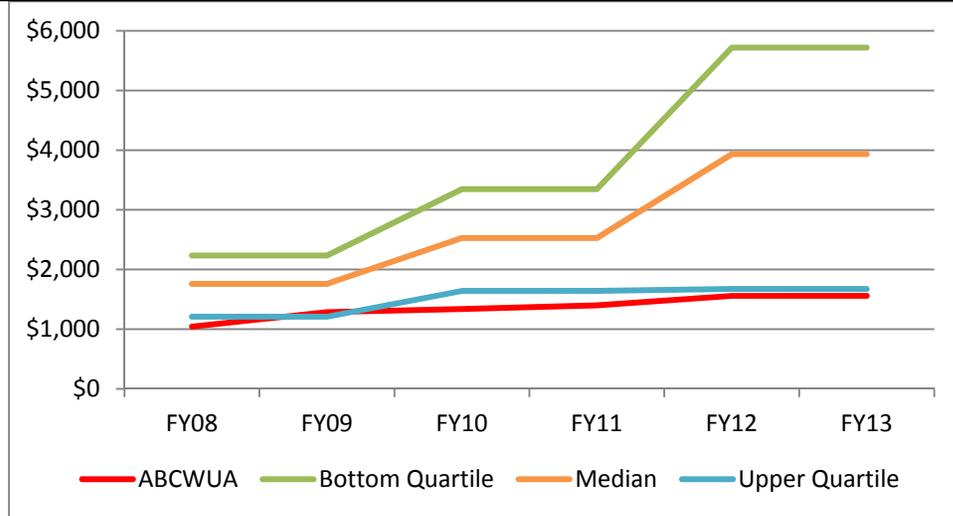
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



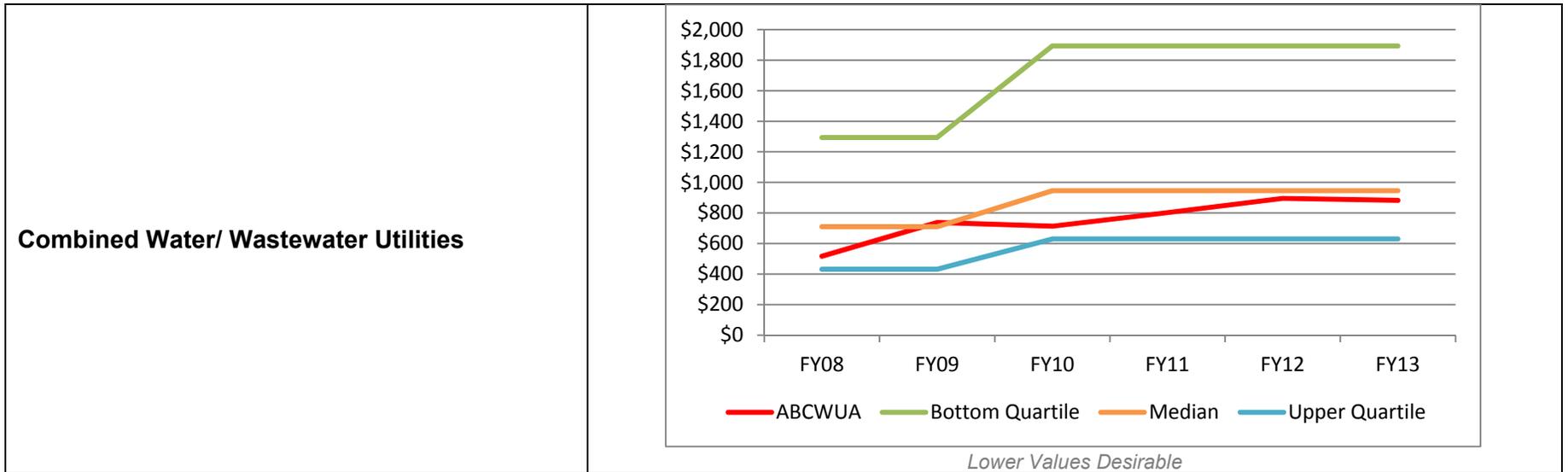
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Performance Results for O&M Cost of Treatment per MG**

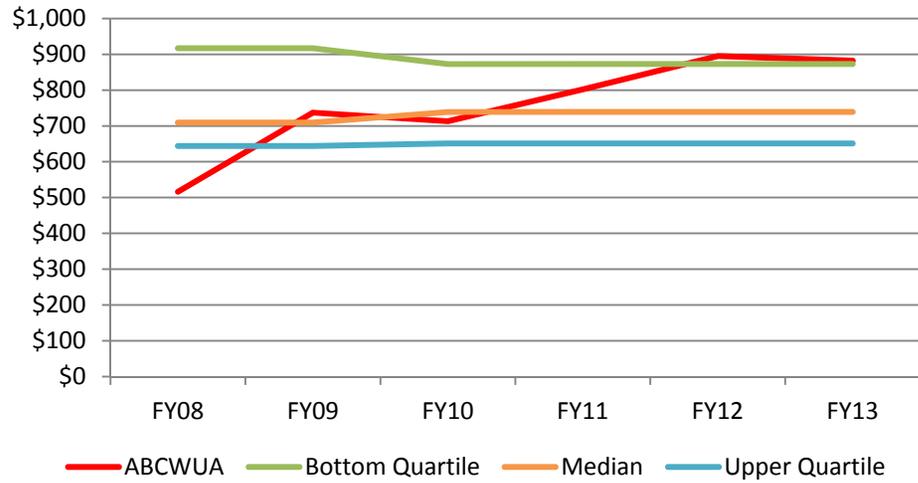
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify all utility costs related to operations and maintenance (O&M), with breakouts of those costs related to water treatment, as related to volumes processed and the number of active customers	Total Direct O&M costs and total wastewater treated	\$844	\$802	\$895	\$837	\$796	\$751	Maintain lower O&M costs without reducing customer level of service

**Industry Benchmark for O&M Cost of Treatment per MG**



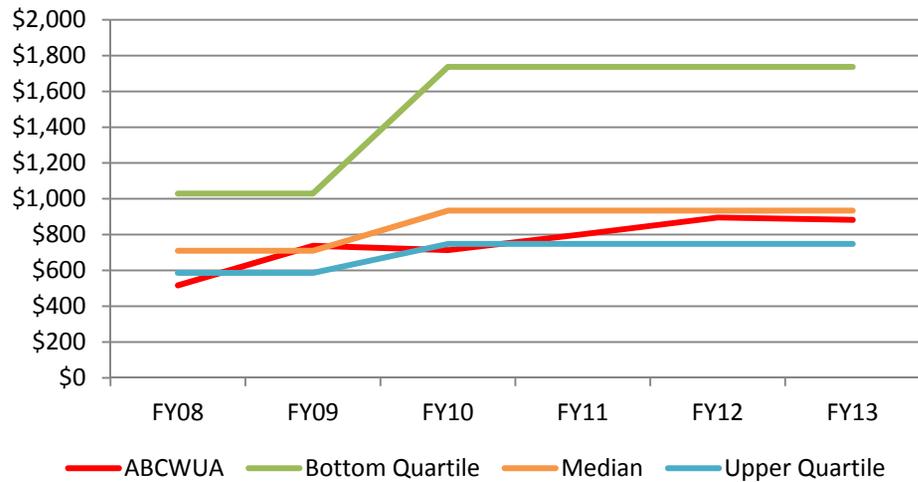
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations***

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Results Narrative

These related measures tally the cost of O&M per account and per million gallons of wastewater processed. Comparing the value of this measure with other utilities can provide information regarding the status of current accepted practices.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been above or within the median range for the past three fiscal years and is on-target to maintain this performance for the next two fiscal years.

A FY10 policy objective involved constructing ultraviolet disinfection facilities and replacing the current chlorine gas for disinfection and sulfur dioxide gas for dechlorination at the wastewater treatment plant. This project was completed in FY11, and it has helped to reduce operation costs, provide cleaner water that is returned to the river, and meet effluent quality requirements.

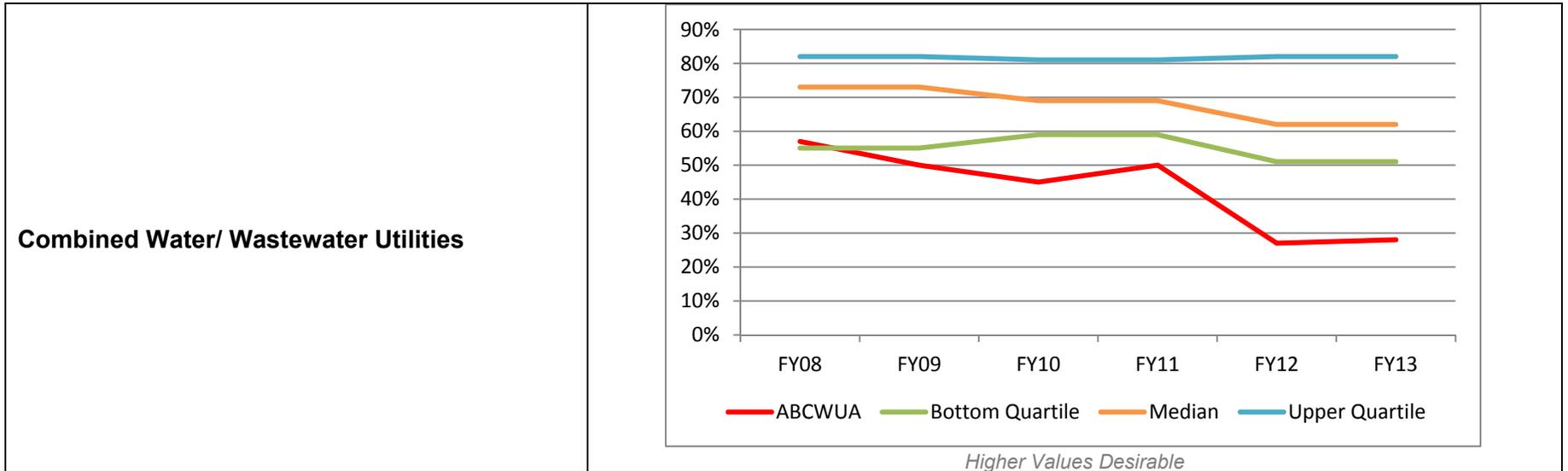
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**2-5 Planned Maintenance Ratio**

**Performance Results**

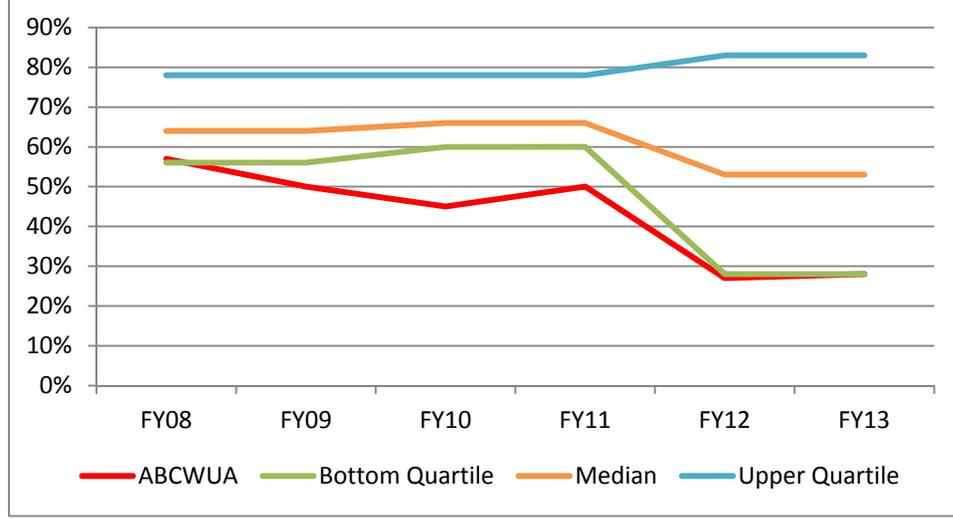
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Comparison of how effectively the Water Authority is in investing in planned maintenance	Hours of planned maintenance compared to hours of corrective maintenance	34%	48%	27%	26%	35%	35%	Reduce emergency maintenance from system malfunctions

**Industry Benchmarks**



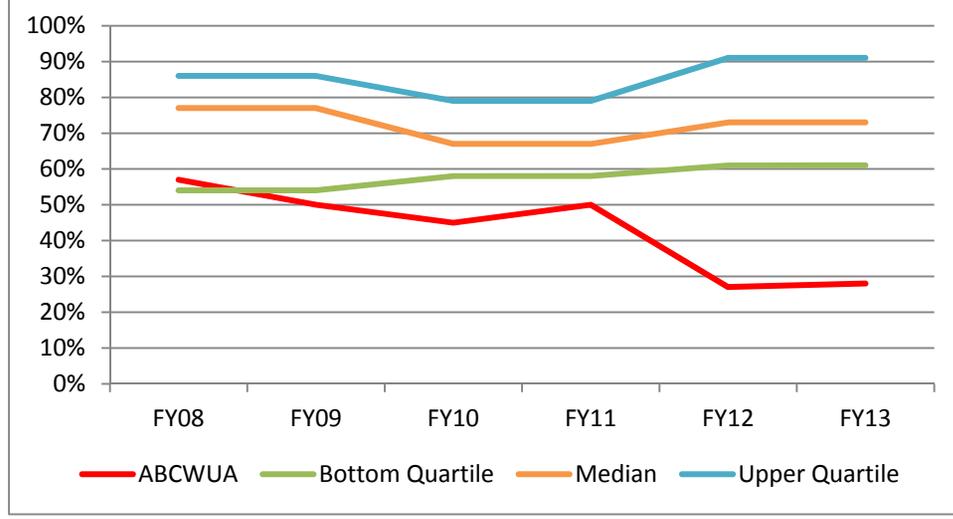
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations**

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**Results Narrative**

Planned maintenance includes preventive and predictive maintenance. Preventive maintenance is performed according to a predetermined schedule rather than in response to failure. Predictive maintenance is initiated when secondary monitoring signals from activities indicate that maintenance is due. All other maintenance is categorized as corrective (i.e., maintenance resulting from an asset that is no longer providing reliable service such as a breakdown, blockage, or leakage). Planned maintenance is preferable for assets for which the cost of repairs is high relative to the cost of corrective maintenance. The avoided cost includes both the cost of repair and the cost consequences of the service disruption, with the latter including an allowance for customer costs. Many utilities want to increase their percentage of planned maintenance activities and reduce their percentage of corrective maintenance activities. A higher ratio may indicate a reduction in emergency maintenance resulting from system malfunctions.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for the past three fiscal years. For the past three fiscal years, there have been objectives to increase planned maintenance work orders at the wastewater treatment plant. These objectives will also help the Water Authority meet its performance targets mentioned in Performance Measure 2-3, Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness Rate. For FY15, there is a policy objective with planned maintenance targets for the wastewater treatment plant.

Planned maintenance is a key component to the Water Authority's asset management program. In FY10, the Water Authority upgraded its work order system to integrate with the Water Authority's asset management program in order to collect and track its asset information. The purpose for this upgrade was to obtain better information to make better decisions on the Water Authority's assets.

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 2: Wastewater Collection and Operations***

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# Goal 3

## Customer Services

### Guiding Goal Statement

*Provide quality customer services by communicating effectively, billing accurately, and delivering water and wastewater services efficiently based on understanding the needs and perceptions of our customers and the community at large.*

### Goal Performance Scorecard

Ref #	Performance Measure	Status	Trend
3-1	Technical Quality Complaints	■	■
3-2	Customer Service Cost per Account	■	■
3-3	Billing Accuracy	■	■
3-4	Call Center Indicators	■	■
3-5	Residential Cost of Water & Wastewater Service	■	■
3-6	Stakeholder Outreach Index	▲	▲
<b>Overall Goal Status</b>		■	■

#### Performance Key

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▲	■	■	▼
Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor

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## Linkage of Objectives to Performance Measures

FY15 Objectives	Measure Reference
Maintain call wait time for all call centers to less than 1 minute, 90 percent of the time to provide effective customer service through the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>3-4</b>
Implement Phase 4 of the Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project pending WaterSmart funding to modernize the Water Authority's aging meter infrastructure with smart meters to increase revenue, support conservation efforts, and provide better customer service by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>3-4</b>
Implement new payment methods for customer billing and web self-service in conjunction with Western Union payment centers and the AMI program to provide more payment options to customers and improved cash flow through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15. Increase paperless billing to 22,000 enrollments and web self-service to 60,000 registrations by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>3-3</b>
Continue transition the meter-reading representatives to a Utility Tech position and add the AMI curriculum to the training program to transfer small meter replacement into customer service by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>3-4</b>
Evaluate and provide status reports on the low-income credit program; provide water use status reports on the low-income conservation program through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>3-6</b>
Conduct quarterly Customer Conversation meetings to engage customers and obtain input on the Water Authority's activities through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15	<b>3-6</b>

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## Performance Measure Division Responsibility

Ref #	Performance Measure	Operations Field	Operations Compliance	Customer Services	Information Technology	Finance
3-1	Technical Quality Complaints		✓	✓		
3-2	Customer Service Cost per Account			✓		✓
3-3	Billing Accuracy			✓	✓	
3-4	Call Center Indicators			✓		
3-5	Residential Cost of Water & Wastewater Service					✓
3-6	Stakeholder Outreach Index			✓		

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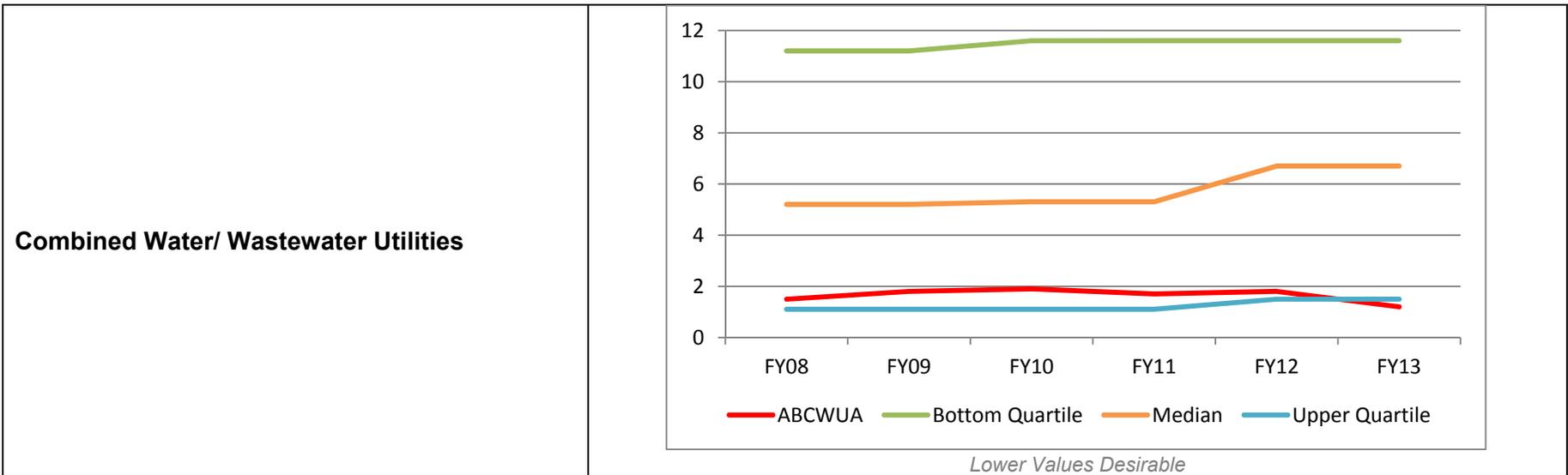
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-1 Technical Quality Complaints**

**Performance Results**

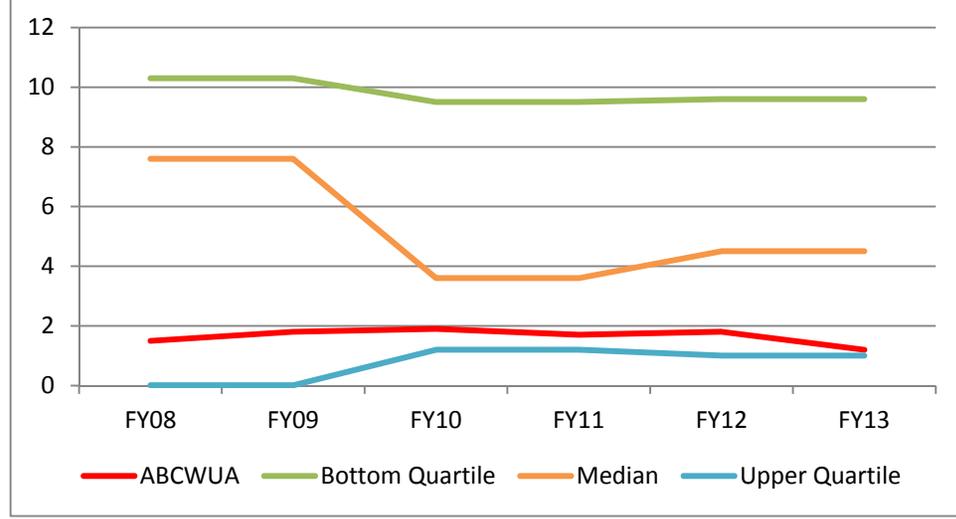
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Measure the complaint rates experienced by the Water Authority, with individual quantification of those related to customer service and those related to core utility services	Number of technical quality complaints per 1,000 customer accounts	5.0	5.5	5.1	4.5	3.4	3.3	Improve customer satisfaction with service and product

**Industry Benchmarks**



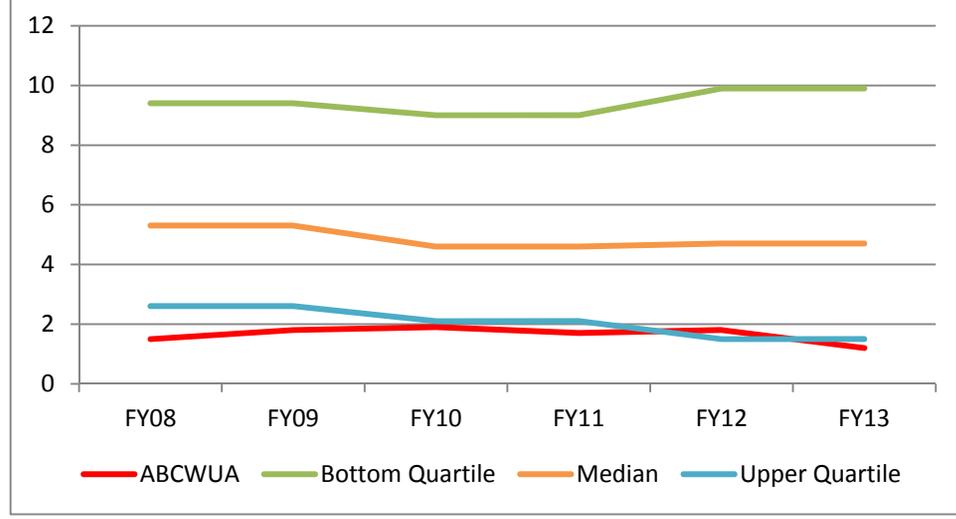
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 3: Customer Services***

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**Results Narrative**

This measure captures “technical quality” complaints received by the utility. This measure contains complaints related to chlorine, dirty or milky water, taste, odor, and pressure-related. The number of complaints is a good measure of customer service.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority’s performance in this measure has been within or above the upper quartile for the past three fiscal years for technical quality complaints. Even with the startup of the drinking water plant in 2008, the utility did not receive an increase in complaints with the blending of surface and ground water.

**2014 Customer Opinion Survey**

- 78% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the quality of the drinking water
- 831% of customers are either very or somewhat important to returning high quality water back to the river

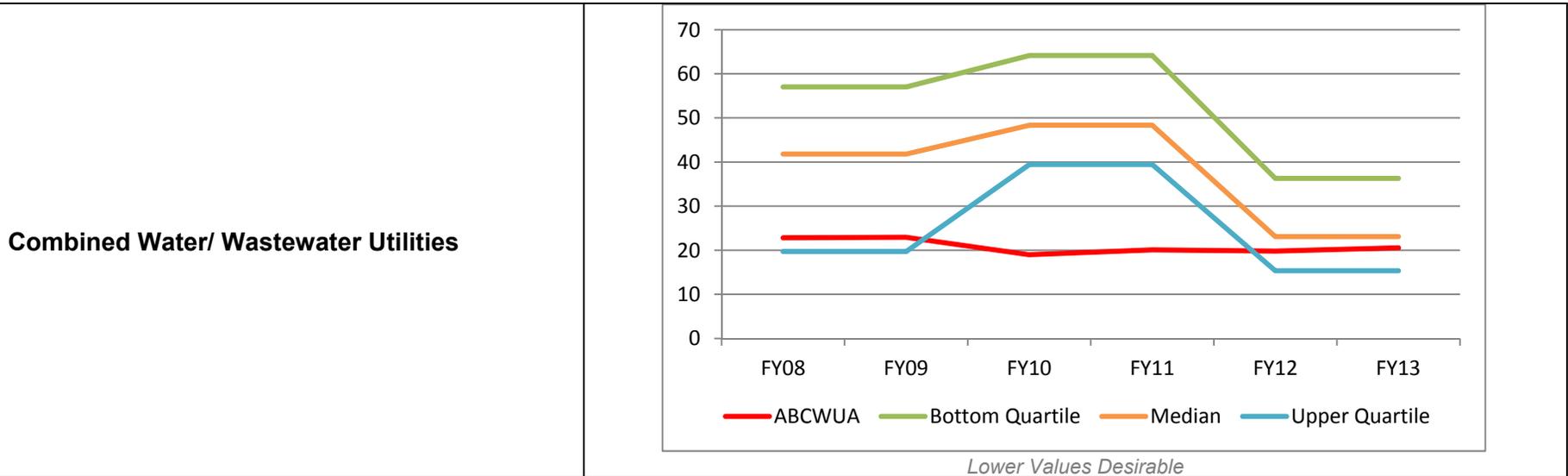
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-2 Customer Service Cost per Account**

**Performance Results**

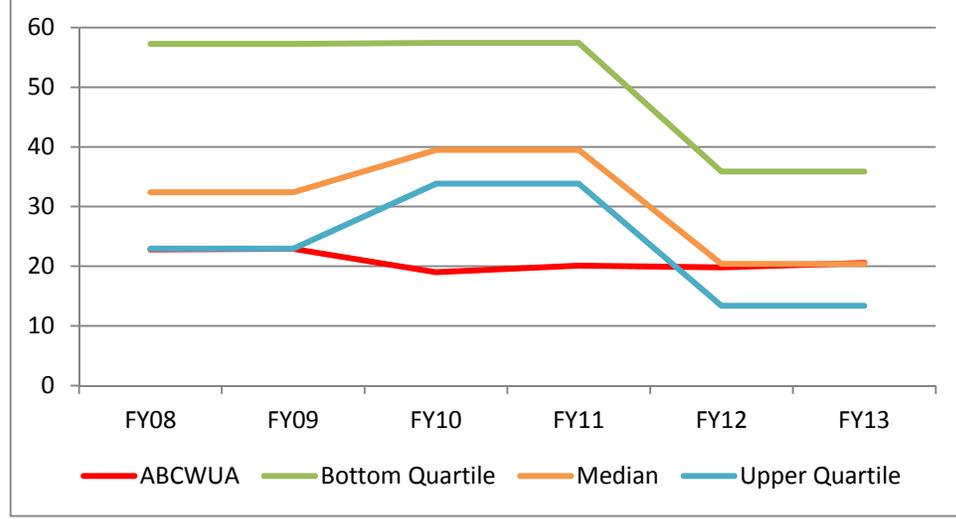
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Measure the amount of resources the Water Authority applies to its customer service program	Total customer service cost and the number of active accounts	\$20.14	\$20.07	\$19.79	\$20.54	\$29.81	\$29.88	Improve efficiency by reducing customer service cost per account while meeting customer expectations

**Industry Benchmarks**



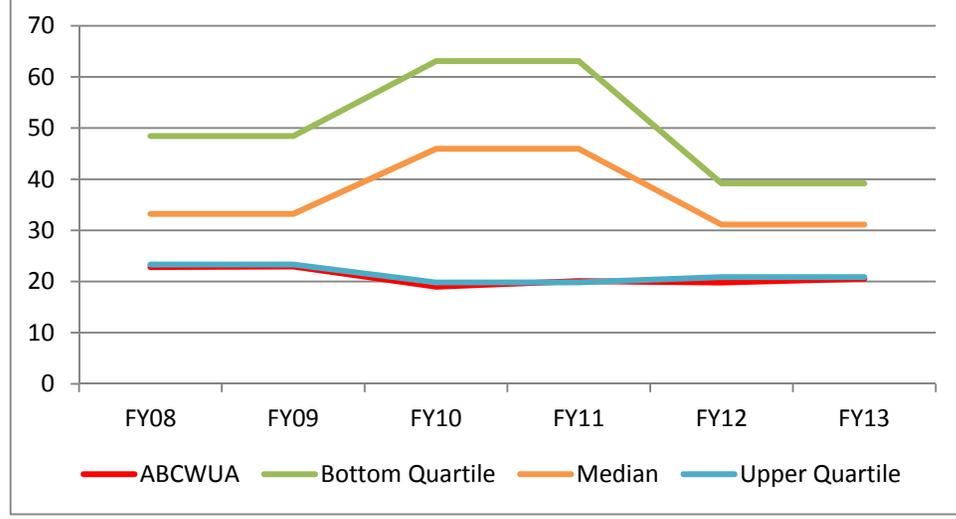
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 3: Customer Services***

---

**Results Narrative**

The measure is expressed as the cost of managing a single customer account for one year. When viewed alone, it quantifies resource efficiency. Viewing in conjunction with other measures such as customer complaints gives the utility more information about operational performance.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been above the median range for the past three fiscal years. The Water Authority Board approved a 5% rate increase in FY12, FY14 and FY15; another 5% rate increase will be implemented in FY16. However, the Water Authority anticipates that it will continue to be within the median range over the next three years.

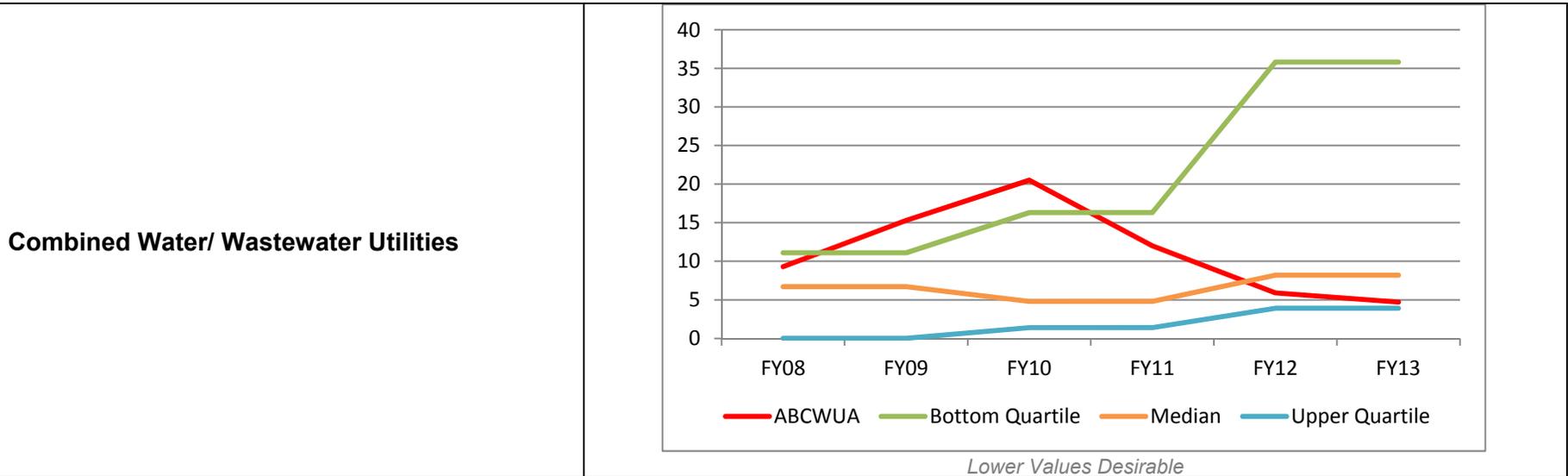
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-3 Billing Accuracy**

**Performance Results**

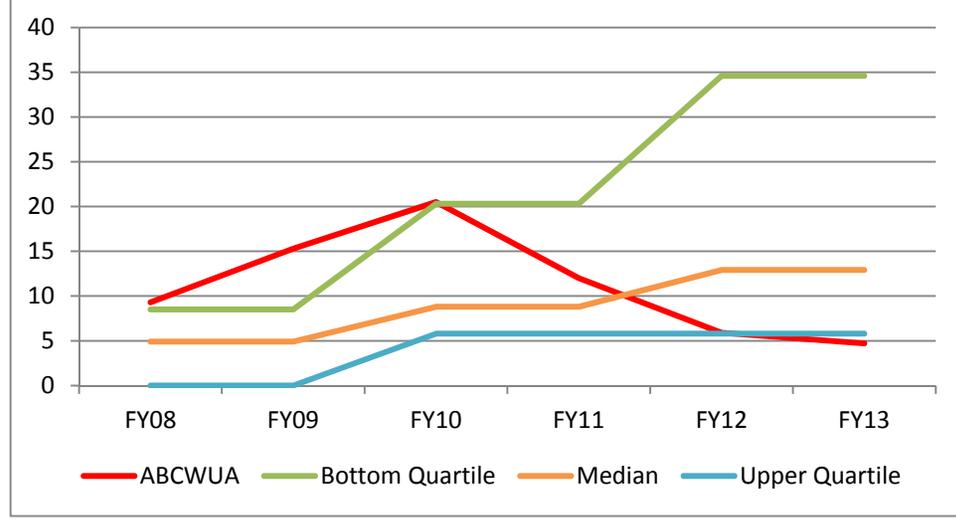
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Measure the effectiveness of the Water Authority's billing practices	Number of error-driven billing adjustments per 10,000 bills generated during the year	14.6	12.0	17.8	14.0	10.1	9.3	Improve billing accuracy to minimize customer complaints

**Industry Benchmarks**



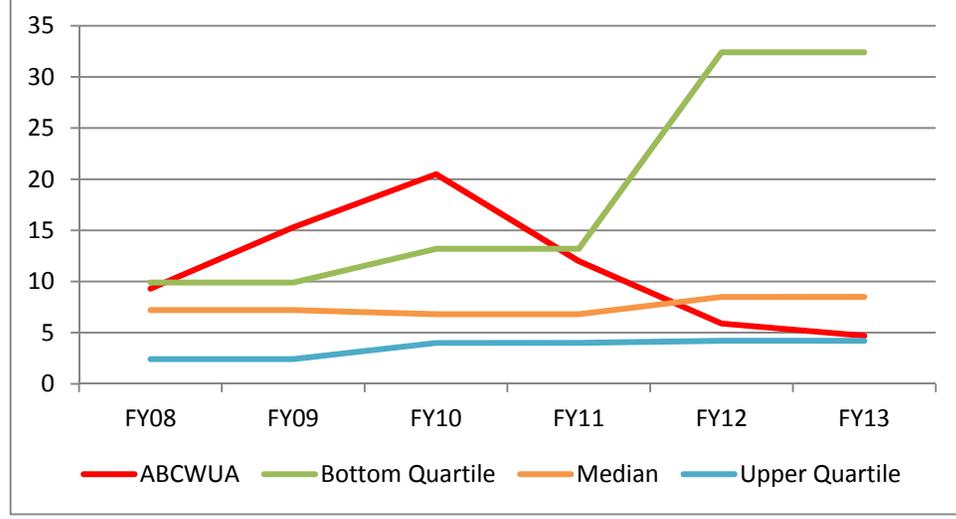
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 3: Customer Services**

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Results Narrative

Customers rarely think about their utility, unless they have a problem with service or billing. This measure helps a utility measure how effective its billing practices are relative to others.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the median range for the past three fiscal years. In FY08, there was an increase in error-driven billing adjustments due to misreads caused by below average temperatures; the misreads resulted in rebilling the accounts. In FY09, the conversion to a new billing system caused an increase in error-driven billing adjustments. In FY10, there were conversion issues related to incorporating the 17,000 New Mexico Utilities customers into the billing system and reclassifying specific customers. In FY12, issues with billing accuracy continued as a result from more meter change-outs which increased in billing adjustments. As the utility's meters infrastructure ages, this could continue to be an ongoing issue for the utility. The utility will continue with its implementation of its automated metering infrastructure program.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 91% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the accuracy of their bill
- 90% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the bill format and water usage graph
- 89% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the billing payment options

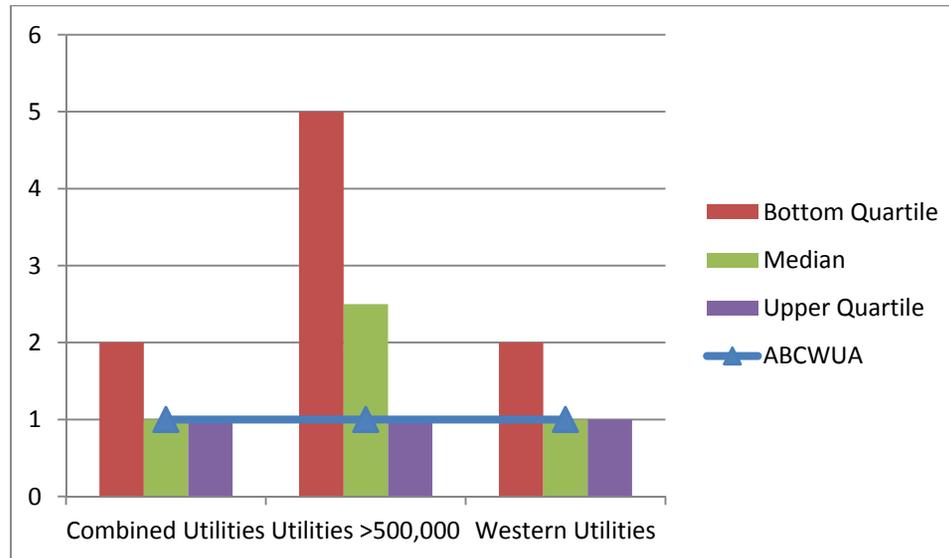
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-4 Call Center Indicators**

**Performance Results Average Wait Time (minutes)**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current /Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the call wait time experienced by Water Authority customers	Average time a caller must wait on hold before they can speak to an agent or customer service representative, not including time spent navigating through computerized menu options	--	--	--	1:12	3:12	2:12	Reduce call wait time and avoid customers hanging up

**Industry Benchmarks**



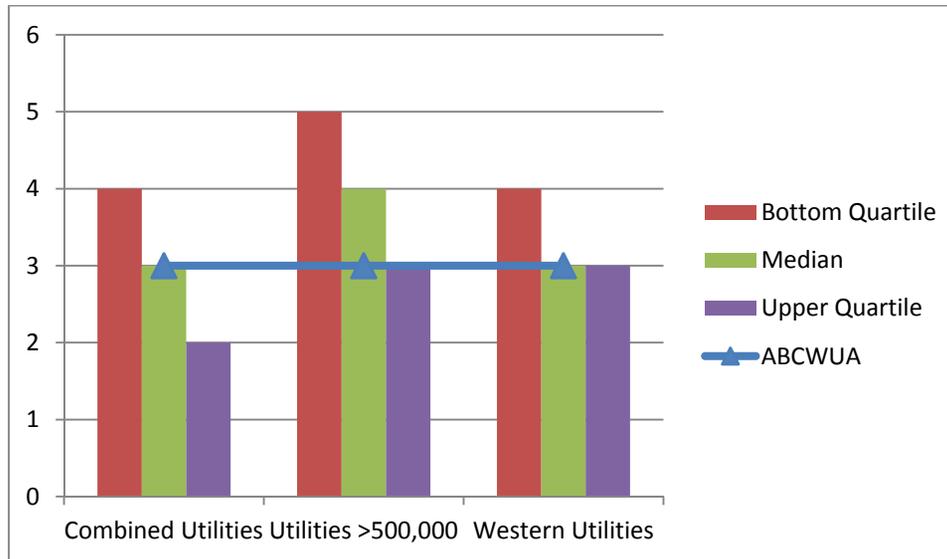
*Generally, lower values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Performance Results Average Total Call Time (minutes)**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current /Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the time spent to resolve the purpose of the phone call by Water Authority customers	Average time spent by an agent or CSR on the phone with a customer	--	--	--	3:47	5:51	3:78	Reduce the average total call time to enable CSRs to handle more customer calls and reduce wait time

**Industry Benchmarks**



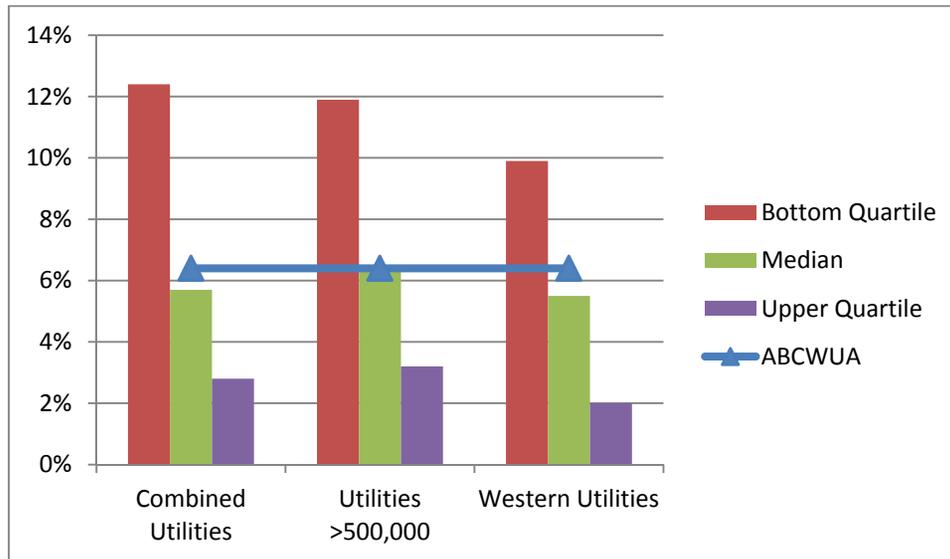
*Generally, lower values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Performance Results Abandoned Call Ratio**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current /Est	
Effectiveness	Quantify the number calls abandoned from Water Authority customers	Total number of calls abandoned divided by the total number of calls received	--	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15
				--	--	--	6.7%	13.4%

**Industry Benchmarks**



*Generally, lower values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 3: Customer Services**

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Results Narrative

The efficiency (cost) and effectiveness (outcomes) of call centers can be evaluated in many different ways. Utilities can track and compare their call center's average wait time, average talk time, and abandoned call ratio to better understand if expenses can be reduced while customer satisfaction is improved. Abandoned calls are those terminated by the calling party before being answered by an agent or customer service representative (CSR). The total number of calls received during the reporting period refers to the number of calls attempting to reach the contact center that are not blocked, incomplete, or denied.

Measurement Status

The Call Center Indicators metric was recently included by AWWA in their benchmarking survey. The Water Authority also recently upgraded its call center phone systems to effectively track customer service performance allowing the utility to benchmarking with industry peers. The new phone system also allows customers to pay their bills by phone and provide 24/7 service to billing, emergencies, and reporting water waste.

The Water Authority adopted a policy objective in FY09 is to reduce call wait time to less than 1 minute, 90 percent of the time by use of staffing and technology which will make this closer to the water industry standard. The Water Authority has maintained the call-wait-time metric for two of the last three years but did not meet its target in FY14 due to decreased staffing levels and taking on walk-in payments.

The Water Authority will continue to track these indicators and benchmark with industry peers and determine targets for operational and customer service improvements.

2014 Customer Opinion Survey

- 59% of customers gave either excellent or good rating on the overall quality of service provided by a customer service representative
- 94% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the courtesy of the customer service representative
- 80% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the knowledge and ability to answer your questions or resolve your issues
- 81% of customers are either very or somewhat satisfied with the length of wait to speak with a customer service representative

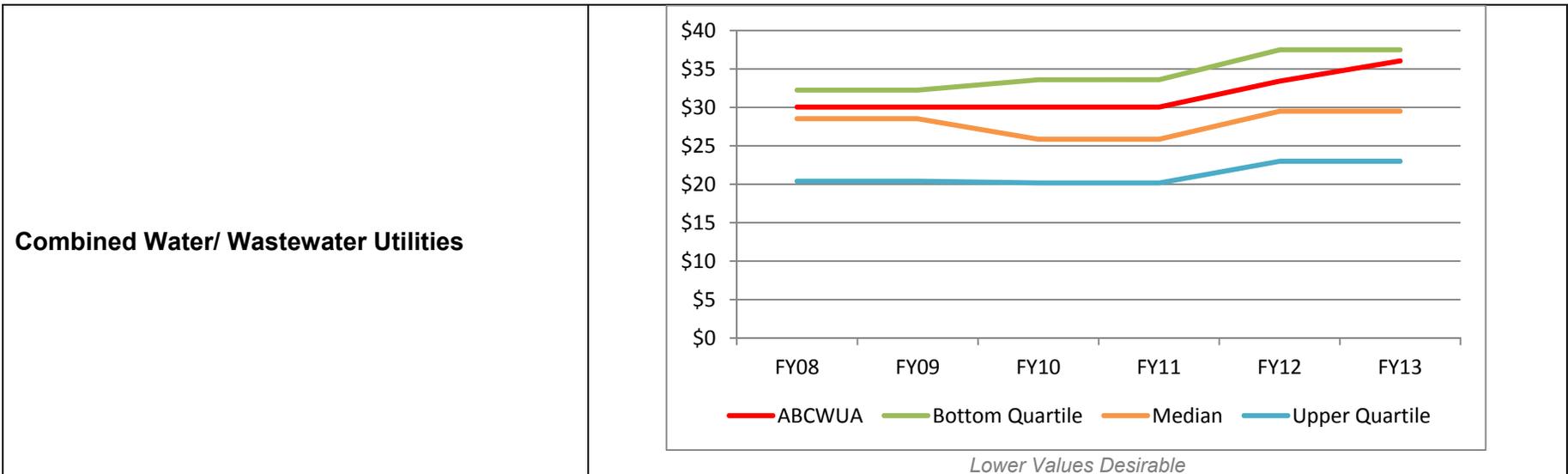
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-5 Residential Cost of Water and/or Sewer Service**

**Performance Results (Average Residential Water Service)**

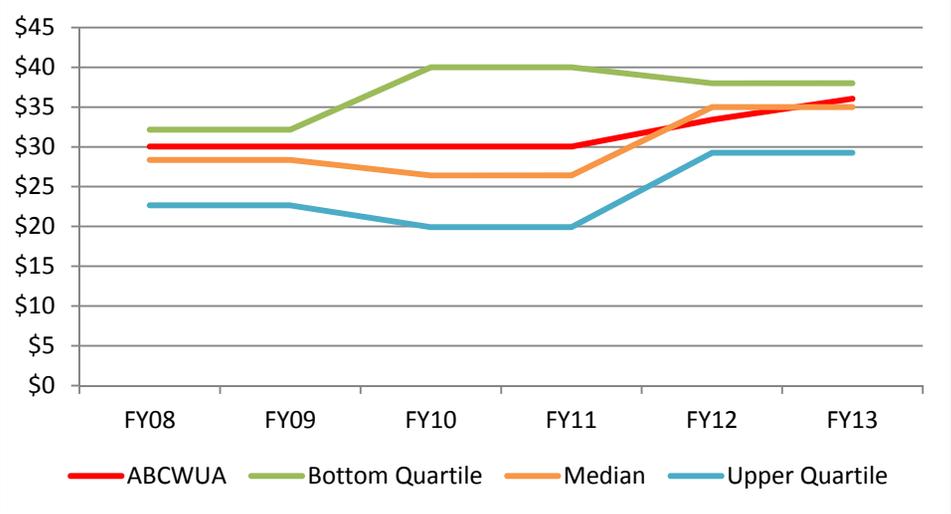
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Compare the residential cost of water and sewer service based on both a defined quantity of water use and the average residential bill amounts for those services	Bill amount for monthly residential water/sewer service and average residential water/sewer bill for one month of service	\$33.17	\$30.04	\$33.42	\$36.05	\$36.05	\$37.74	Provide affordable water and legally justifiable rates to our customers

**Industry Benchmarks**



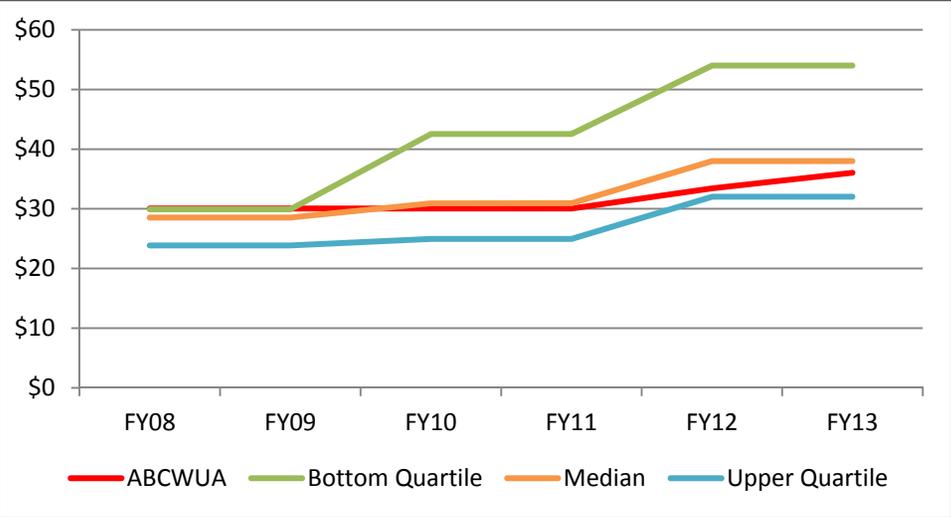
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



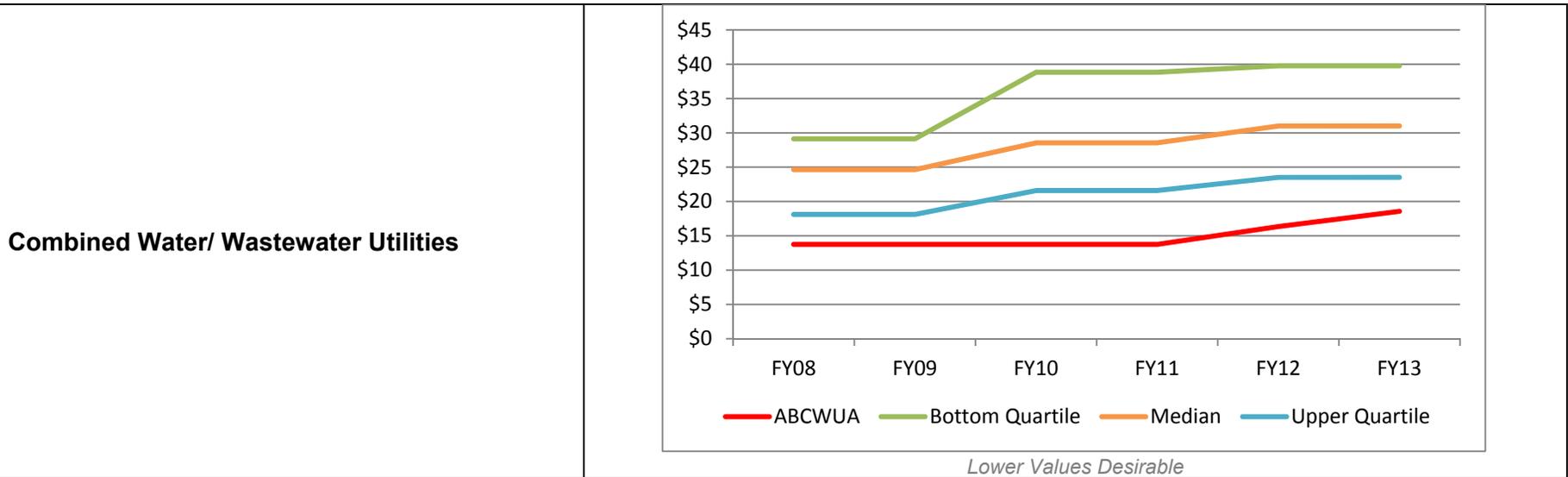
*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Performance Results (Average Residential Sewer Service)**

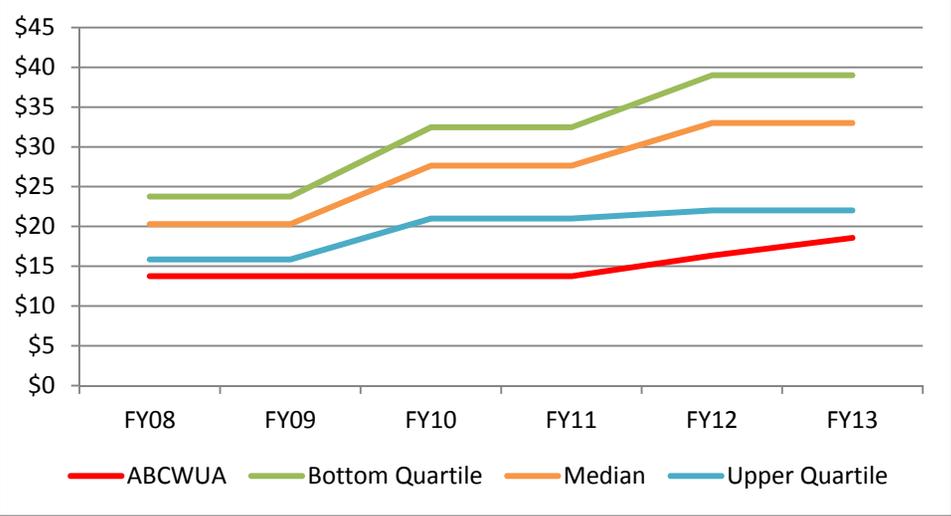
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Compare the residential cost of water and sewer service based on both a defined quantity of water use and the average residential bill amounts for those services	Bill amount for monthly residential water/sewer service and average residential water/sewer bill for one month of service	\$16.22	\$13.74	\$16.35	\$18.56	\$18.56	\$18.40	Provide affordable water and legally justifiable rates to our customers

**Industry Benchmarks**



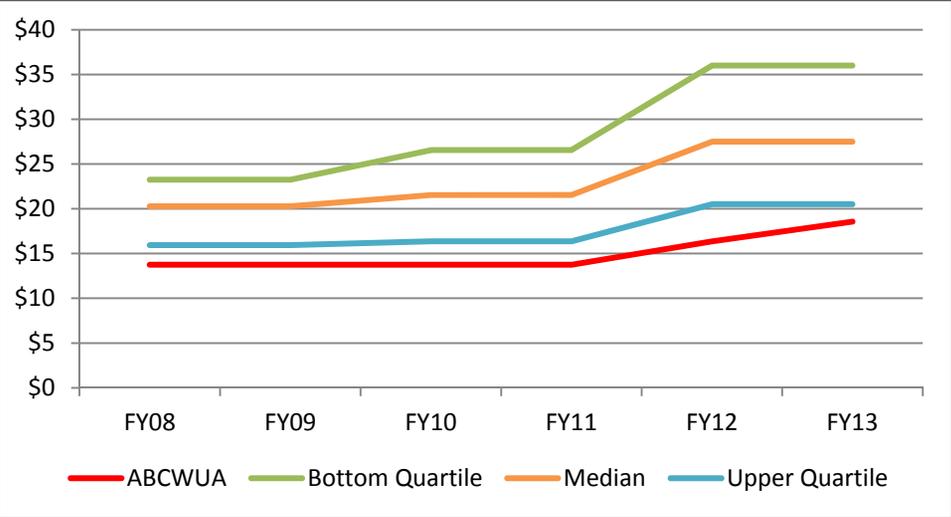
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 3: Customer Services**

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**Results Narrative**

This measure shows average residential water bill amount for one month of service for water and wastewater. The data provided is based on a bill amount for a typical residential customer served water through a 3/4 × 5/8-inch meter. Because each utility is unique, this measure is quite complex. In some places, rates may be artificially low or high in order to achieve non-utility objectives. In others, utilities may have rates controlled by public utility commissions.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the median range for the past three fiscal years for average residential water service, and above the median range for the past three fiscal years for average residential sewer service. The Water Authority completed a comprehensive water and wastewater rate study in FY05 which had not been conducted since the early 1990s. The Water Authority adopted a policy objective for FY08 to update that rate study in order to include wholesale water rates. Another reason to update the rate study is to include a cost of services model for master planned communities so that these new large developments pay 100% of the cost for building master planned facilities. In FY11, the water and sewer rate structures were evaluated to ensure equity within the structures. The 2010 rate structure evaluation included incorporating former New Mexico Utilities into the Water Authority rate structure. The FY12 rate ordinance also added a 200% tier to the extra use surcharge to promote conservation and increased the Low Use Water Discount from 20% to 30%. A 5% rate increase was implemented in FY12, FY14 and FY15; another 5% rate increase is planned for FY16. The FY14 rate ordinance update also increased the Low Use Water Discount from 30% to 50%. The FY15 rate adjustment was on exclusively on the fixed rate in order to meet infrastructure renewal needs. Even with the adopted and planned rate increases, the Water Authority anticipates that it will still be above the median range over the next five years. Another rate study will be conducted in FY15 in preparation of the FY16 rate increase.

**2014 Customer Opinion Survey**

- 87% of customers either strongly or somewhat agree that water and sewer services are a good value for the amount of money paid
- 74% of customers either strongly or somewhat agree that because water is a scarce resource, water rates should be designed to reflect the value of water in our daily lives
- 67% of customers either strongly or somewhat agree that water rates should be increased to cover the cost of providing a reliable water supply for future generations

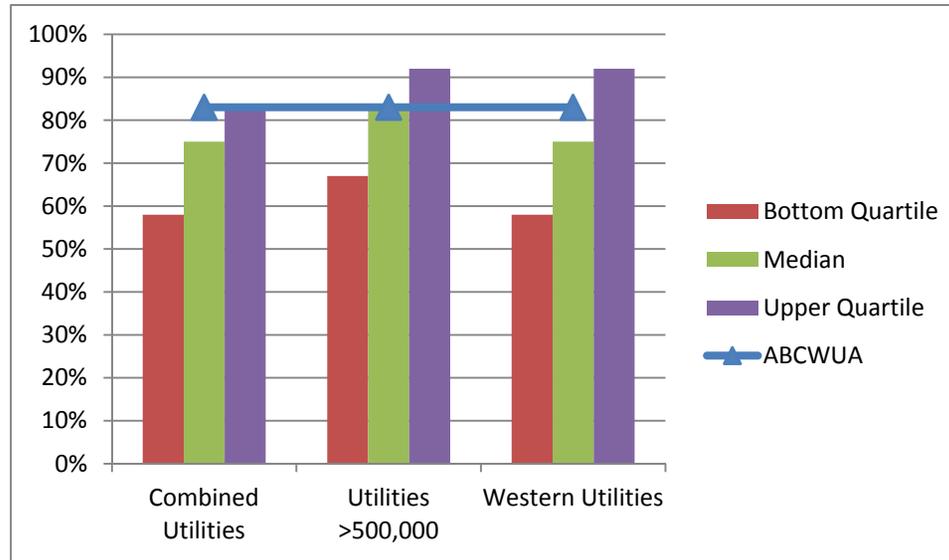
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 3: Customer Services**

**3-6 Stakeholder Outreach Index**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current /Est		Projected
Effectiveness	Quantify the utility's stakeholder outreach activities	Self-assessment based on Stakeholder Outreach Checklist		FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	Assess the utility's outreach efforts with its stakeholders
			--	--	--	75%	83%	85%	

**Industry Benchmarks**



*Generally, higher values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 3: Customer Services**

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Results Narrative

This indicator provides a measure of a utility's stakeholder outreach activities. It is calculated based on self-assigned points the various categories in the Stakeholder Outreach Checklist. The value assigned to each statement is based on evidence that existed during the reporting period to support the statement, as reviewed and rated by senior utility management. Total scores can range from 0 to 12 and are presented as a percentage of the maximum possible score of 12.

Measurement Status

The Stakeholder Outreach Index was recently included by AWWA in their benchmarking survey. The Water Authority has been measuring this Index for the last two fiscal years. In FY14, the Water Authority conducted a customer opinion survey in order to assess the Water Authority's performance from the customer's viewpoint from previous surveys. This was the fifth customer opinion survey conducted since the first survey in 2006 which allowed the Water Authority view trends of customer's opinions. The results of the 2014 survey have been incorporated into the Performance Plan as many questions or statements are connected to the benchmarks in the Performance Plan.

Also in FY14, the Water Authority conducted four meetings called Customer Conversations to engage its customers through topic forums. The purpose of these meetings was not only to comply with organizational Goals and Objectives but to also establish a process to engage customers on an ongoing basis as recommended by the Water Resources Management Strategy. The Customer Advisory Committee (CAC) hosted each meeting and CAC members attended these meetings to observe the process and listen to customers' discussions and comments. A total of 203 customers attended the four meetings. Participants provided input on the topics areas of near- and long-term importance to the Water Authority that would be the basis of these meetings. These included: 1) Long Term Water Supply Priorities; 2) Water Waste Enforcement Program Retrofit; and 3) Potable Water Reuse.

From all meetings, 624 comments were recorded or received during the activities. At the end of the meeting, participants were asked to provide feedback and score five statements on an evaluation form. Based on the meeting evaluations, participants gave a score of 4.5 or higher on all five statements on a scale of 1 to 5. Overwhelmingly, participants stated that their time was well spent and that they would participate again. In addition, they felt that the Water Authority truly wanted their input. Moreover, they stated they learned something about the utility's water resources and programs.

# Goal 4

## Business Planning & Management

### Guiding Goal Statement

*Maintain a well planned, managed, coordinated, and financially stable utility by continuously evaluating and improving the means, methods, and models used to deliver services.*

### Goal Performance Scorecard

Ref #	Performance Measure	Status	Trend
4-1	Debt Ratio	▼	■
4-2	Return on Assets	▼	▼
4-3	System Renewal / Replacement Rate (Water)	▼	■
4-3	System Renewal / Replacement Rate (Wastewater)	▼	■
4-4	Triple Bottom Line Index	■	■
<b>Overall Goal Status</b>		▼	▼

### Performance Key

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Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor

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## Linkage of Objectives to Performance Measures

FY15 Objectives	Measure Reference
Expend \$34 million in water and wastewater capital rehabilitation and replacement programs to replace aging, high risk assets that are past their useful life by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15. \$1 million shall be dedicated and used for identifying steel water pipes in critical or poor condition and rehabilitating or replacing at least 2 miles of small diameter steel water lines by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	4-3
Continue to develop the integrated water/sewer/reuse master plan by incorporating the Southwest quadrant of Bernalillo County by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	4-4
Continue development of a comprehensive energy master plan to reduce energy demand by utilizing alternative clean energy sources by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	4-4
Continue implementation and system integration of mobile solutions to operations staff for optimization of the work order process including Clevest, and automation of preventative maintenance on utility equipment through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	NA
Implement an independent telephony/data network that will provide a more reliable infrastructure and network in order to provide better customer service and additional functionality to staff by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	NA
Implement an Information Technology Strategic Plan that supports the upgrading and hosting of major utility applications including: Customer Care and Billing (CC&B) application, Maximo Work Order application, Sungard Core Finance & HR/Payroll application; consolidate network storage by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15; continue implementation of an IT Service Desk WUA wide.	NA
Implement Phase 3 of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project to integrate and optimize major business management functions by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	NA
Evaluate water and sewer rate structures to ensure equity within the structures by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15; develop a customer outreach strategy to educate customers on the value of water and infrastructure rehabilitation needs by the end of the 1st Quarter of FY15.	4-4
Maintain the Compliance Division Regulatory Compliance Permit Matrix and the Regulatory Matrix Status Report to respectively maintain schedules for permit submittals and monitor and report emerging Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) regulations, New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission and Environmental Improvement Board regulations, and local laws ordinances, etc. to identify and assess potential impacts on the Water Authority. Provide quarterly reports through the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	4-4
Collect, monitor, and report weekly, monthly and quarterly key laboratory performance metrics to include: WQL results approved and reported for each laboratory section (chemistry, microbiology, metals, and external labs), laboratory productivity (results reported per productive hour), and the percentage of results reported late (turnaround time (TAT)). Maintain performance levels at FY13 levels. Research and identify industry performance benchmarks to be included for comparison.	4-4

FY15 Objectives	Measure Reference
Continue collection and analyses of the operational data necessary to determine and document the actual cost of service for laboratory services for the analytical methods within the Water Quality Laboratory scope of accreditation. The status of the data collection and analyses efforts will be reported quarterly.	4-4
In conjunction with the Information Technology Division, continue reimplementation of the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).	4-4
Continue to develop the data repository including coordinating with Plant Operations Division to develop reports generated from the Data Repository to provide new access to approved laboratory and field analytical instrument water quality analyses and user statistical analyses tools.	4-4
Continue to develop the Environmental Monitoring Program to improve the reliability of results from field instrumentation and sample collection techniques. Develop a program plan based on designated ISO standard to address accreditation requirements to include standard operating procedures, document control and records management plans, and a process for demonstration of staff capability. Implement program plan by the end of Quarter 2 of FY15.	4-4
Prepare for the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) annual assessment of the Water Quality Laboratory including completing required internal audits and annual review and revision of Standard Operating Procedures. Monitor and report findings each Quarter of FY15, along with progress made to address and resolve any deficiencies identified in the preceding quarter. Monitor and report weekly, monthly, and quarterly the number of Corrective Action Reports and the necessary time for completion of corrective actions.	4-4
In conjunction with ITD Quality Assurance, define a clear organizational architecture and IT governance structure for Compliance Division technology assets. Roles and responsibilities for this structure will be defined through a division service portfolio. The service portfolio will identify all information services provided to the Compliance Division and include a service catalog of software/hardware required to deliver services and service level agreements (SLAs) defining service metrics.	4-4
In order to evaluate and improve the services provided by Pretreatment staff members that interact with the public and customers on a daily basis, a customer service survey will be developed and implemented to survey businesses and facilities that are inspected and/or monitored by Pretreatment staff members to include permitted industrial users, food service establishments, dental facilities, septage waste haulers, as well as pollution prevention assessments, public outreach events and consultations. Report survey results quarterly, as well as improvements made as a result of findings.	4-4

## Performance Measure Division Responsibility

Ref #	Performance Measure	Finance	Operations Water Resources, Engineering & Planning
4-1	Debt Ratio	✓	
4-2	Return on Assets	✓	
4-3	System Renewal / Replacement Rate (Water)	✓	✓
4-3	System Renewal / Replacement Rate (Wastewater)	✓	✓
4-4	Triple Bottom Line Index		✓

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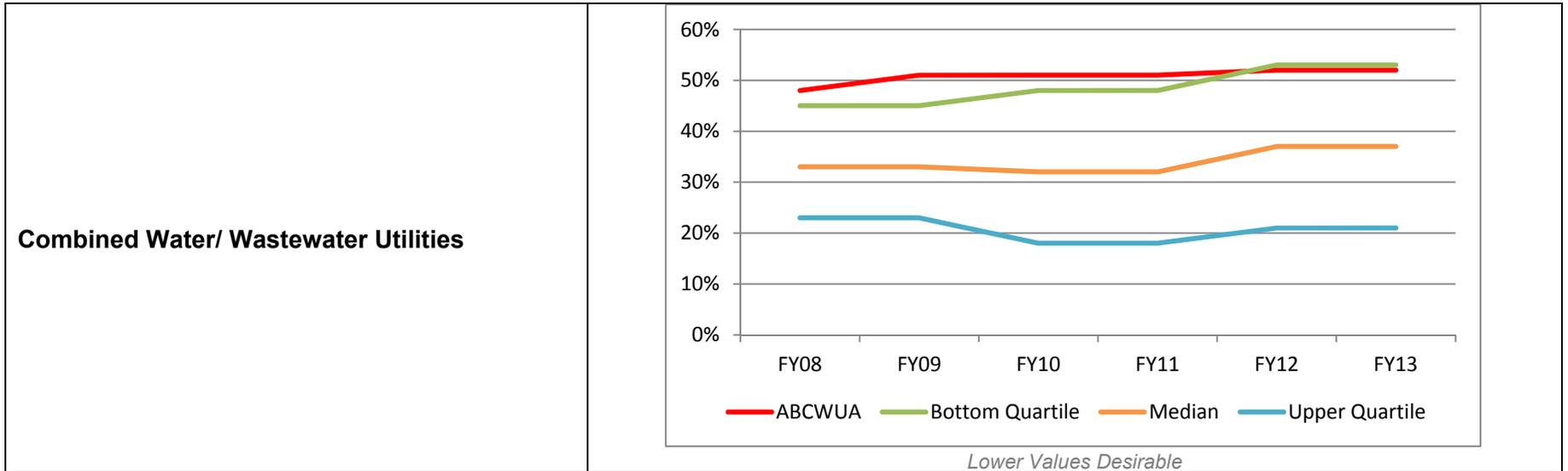
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**4-1 Debt Ratio**

**Performance Results**

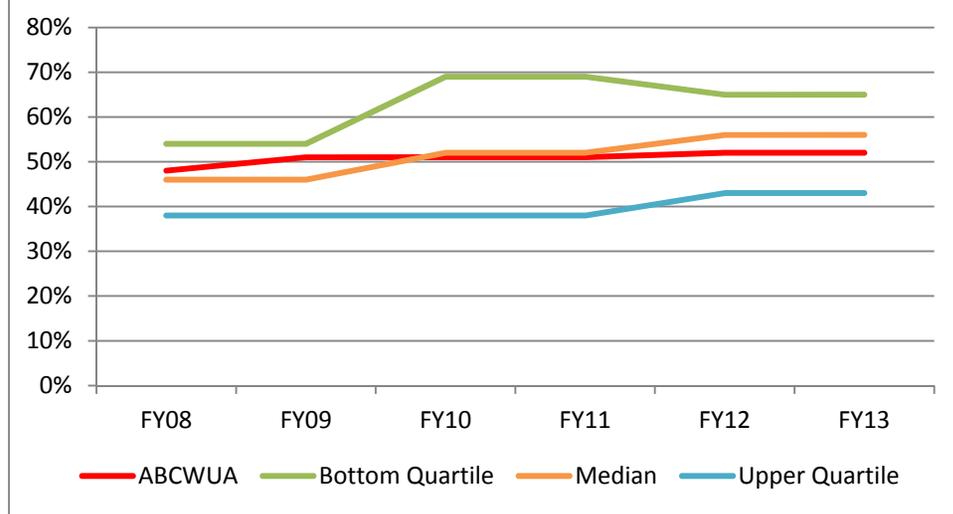
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the Water Authority's level of indebtedness	Total liabilities and total assets	51%	51%	52%	51%	52%	52%	Maintain low debt burden and communicate fiscally responsible to our customers

**Industry Benchmarks**



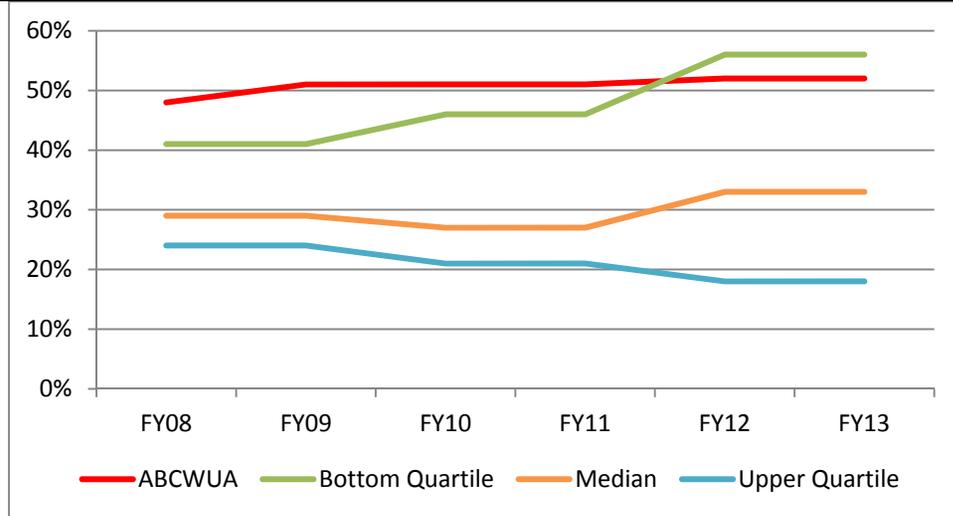
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Lower Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

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Results Narrative

The higher the calculated debt ratio, the more dependent the utility is on debt financing. Many utilities use this measure as an internal measure of performance. Debt equity ratio is an important measure because a high debt burden brings larger costs for interest and capital repayments.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for the past three fiscal years.

The Water Authority has borrowed a significant amount of funds to pay for a new surface drinking water treatment plant as part of the \$500 million San Juan Chama Drinking Water Project. The Water Authority has approximately \$690 million in outstanding debt which is primarily attributed to carrying out the Water Resources Management Strategy projects, including the San Juan Chama Drinking Water Project. In addition, the Water Authority has secured its water supply for the long term compared to most utilities which must invest a significant amount of capital in securing a water supply. The Water Authority has never managed for a high rating from the three rating agencies. Although the ratings are above peer average, the amount of debt and cash on hand tend to be below peer. However, the cost of the new facilities, rehabilitation of existing facilities and asset management plan implementation will continue to require significant capital financing. The only way to improve this category would be to not invest in the required capital improvements and/or have significant rate increases to improve cash on hand. The long term outlook for the Water Authority is above peer given the capital investments which will be made and the rapid retirement of debt. The Water Authority has a bond rating of Aa2 by Moody's and AA by Fitch and AA+ by Standard and Poor's – all ratings which are above our peers.

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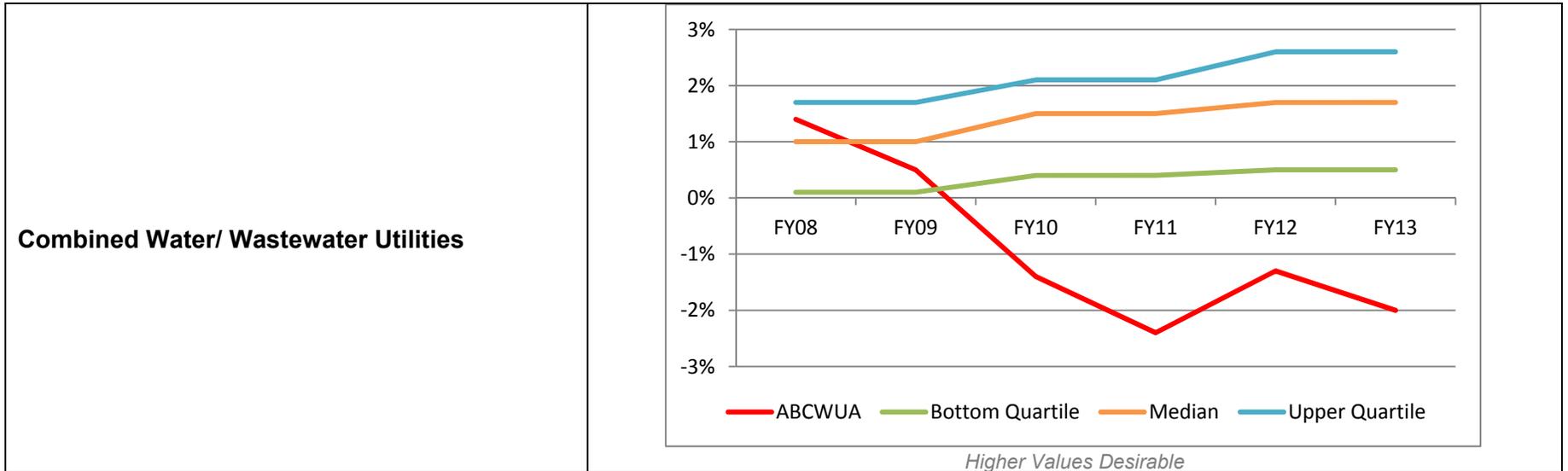
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**4-2 Return on Assets**

**Performance Results**

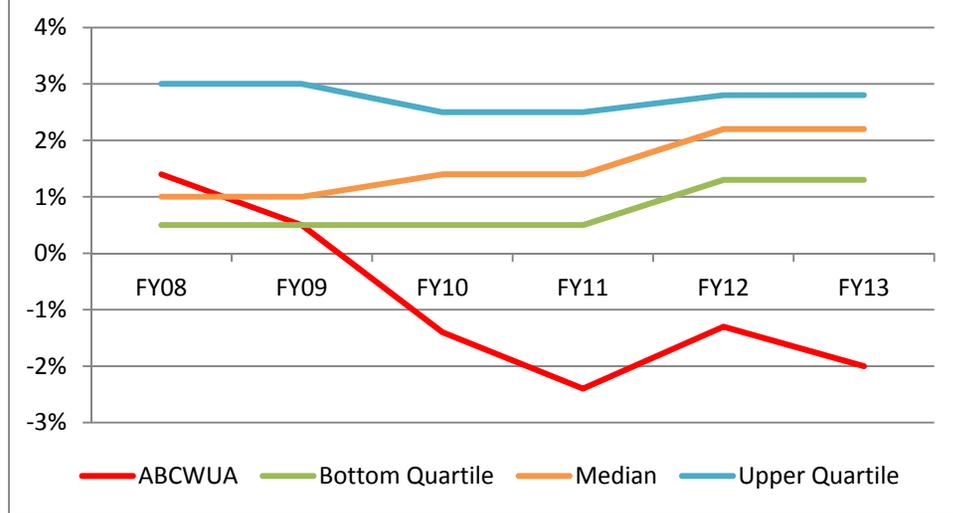
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Measure the financial effectiveness of the Water Authority	Net income and total assets	-1.9%	-2.4%	-1.3%	-2.0%	-1.2%	-1.2%	Improve the financial health of the Water Authority

**Industry Benchmarks**



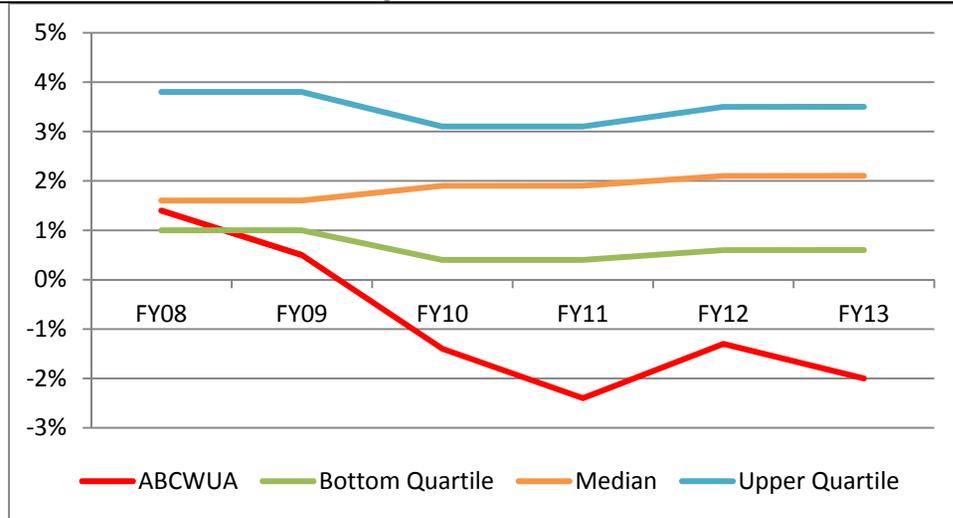
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

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Results Narrative

The return on assets ratio measures how well a utility's management team is doing its job. A comparison of net income and average total assets, the return on assets ratio reveals how much income management has been able to squeeze from each dollar's worth of a utility's assets. All utilities are interested in their financial health and are particularly sensitive to this measure, seeking higher ratios where possible.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for two of the last three fiscal years. The Water Authority's performance in this measure has decreased over the last three years. The recently completed \$500 million San Juan Chama Drinking Water Project has had a major impact on depreciation and interest expenses. In addition, connection charge revenue has been declining over the last five years. Even though building permits for new construction in the Albuquerque metropolitan area have significantly decreased because of the downturn in the economy, the Water Authority has maintained a 2% increase in customer accounts during the same time period not including the acquisition of a private utility in 2009 which added about 17,000 accounts. The 2% increase trend in customer accounts is a result from adding households from developed but unserved areas that were on domestic wells and septic systems to the Water Authority's water and wastewater system as part of the Valley Utilities Project and the South Valley Drinking Water Project.

The Water Authority has developed and implemented a long term financial plan which anticipates revenue needs allows for financial stability, ongoing system improvements and rate stability for customers. It has also ensured conservative financial policies, including 12 year financing on basic capital with 50% cash, \$30 million must be invested in system rehabilitation and replacement. In addition, it has established rate reserve fund to mitigate revenue fluctuations and postpone rate increases (\$2 million per year contributed).

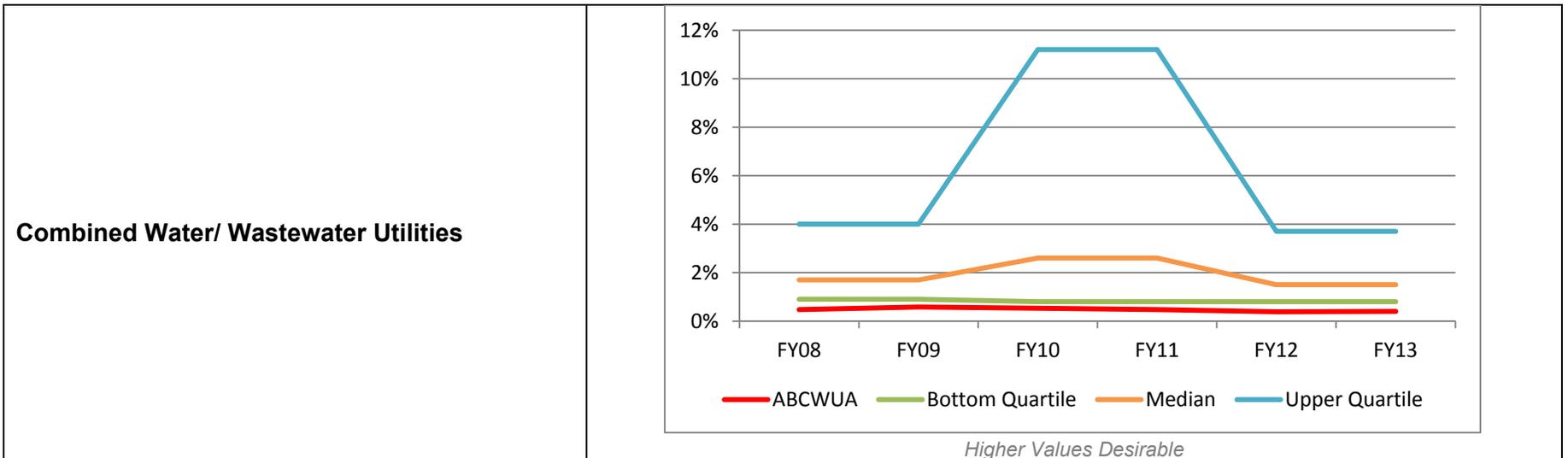
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**4-3 System Renewal / Replacement Rate**

**Performance Results (Water Pipeline & Distribution)**

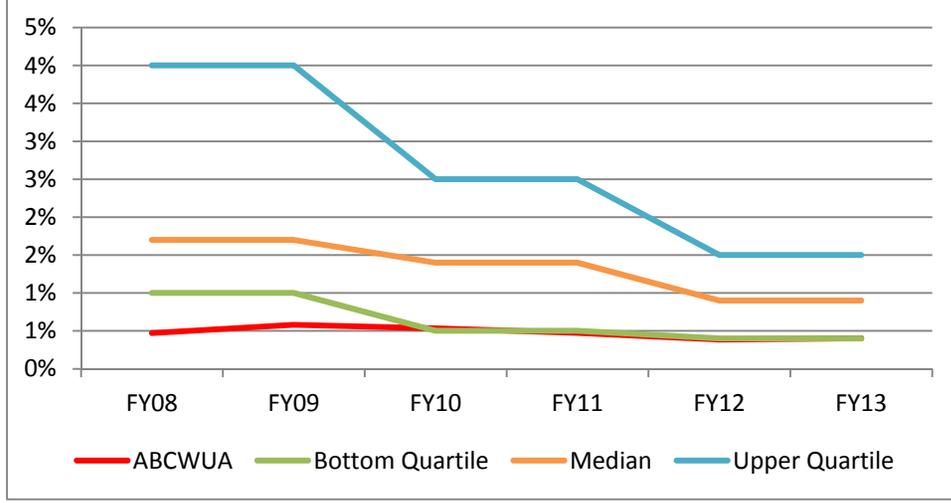
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the rate at which the Water Authority is meeting its individual need for infrastructure renewal or replacement	Total actual expenditures reserved for renewal and replacement and total present worth for renewal and replacement needs for each asset group	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	Reduce corrective maintenance by investing in infrastructure improvements to the system

**Industry Benchmarks**



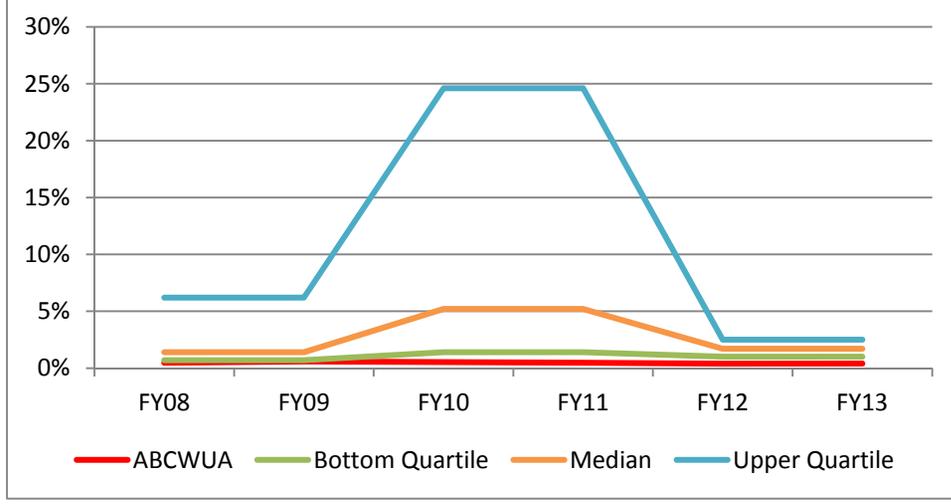
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



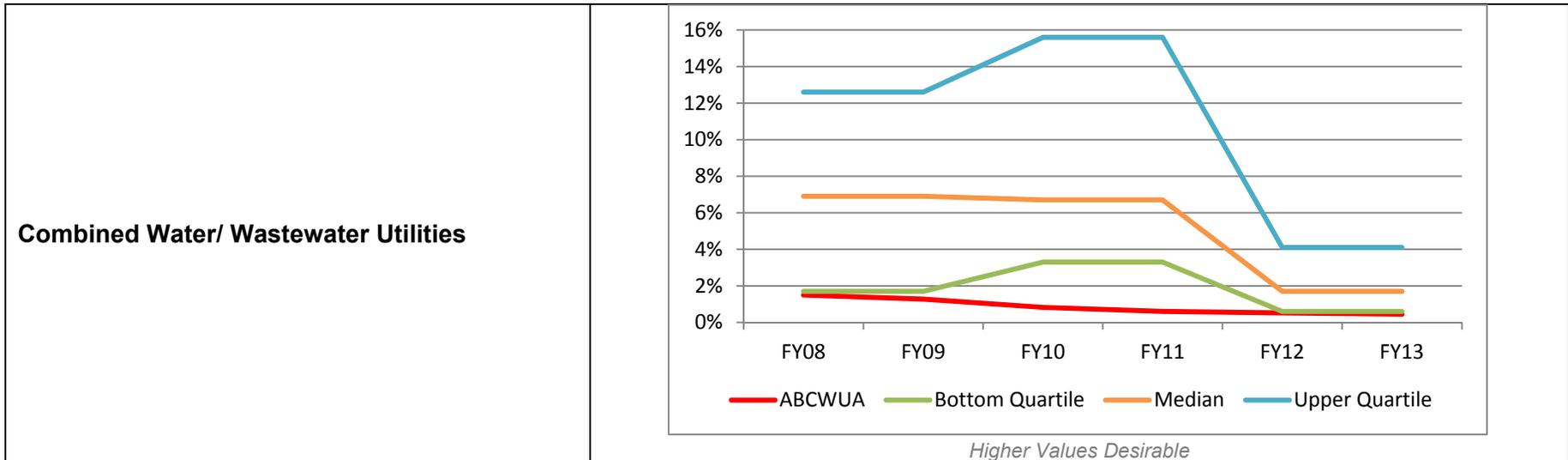
*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Performance Results (Water Facility & Pumping)**

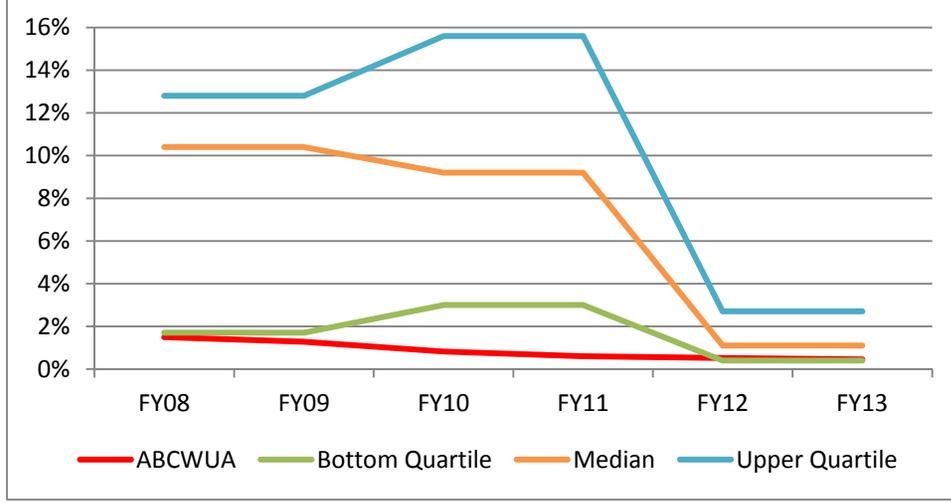
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the rate at which the Water Authority is meeting its individual need for infrastructure renewal or replacement	Total actual expenditures reserved for renewal and replacement and total present worth for renewal and replacement needs for each asset group	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	Reduce corrective maintenance by investing in infrastructure improvements to the system

**Industry Benchmarks**



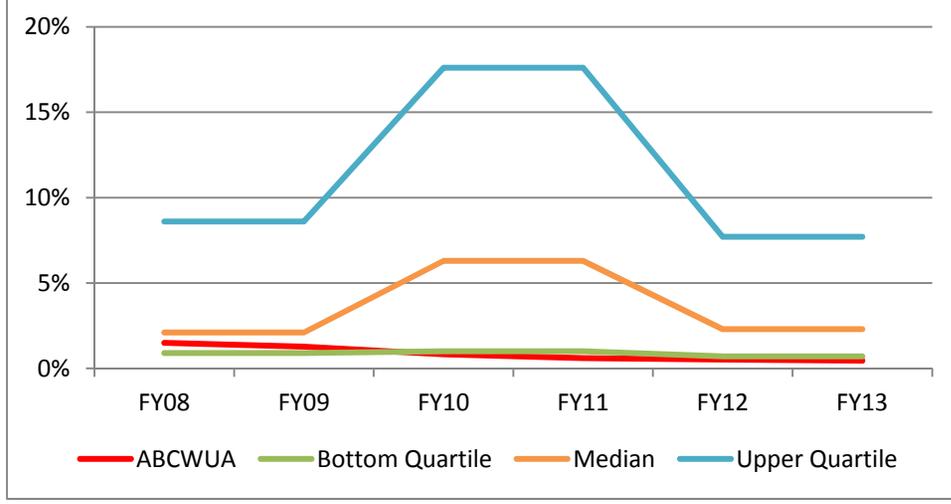
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



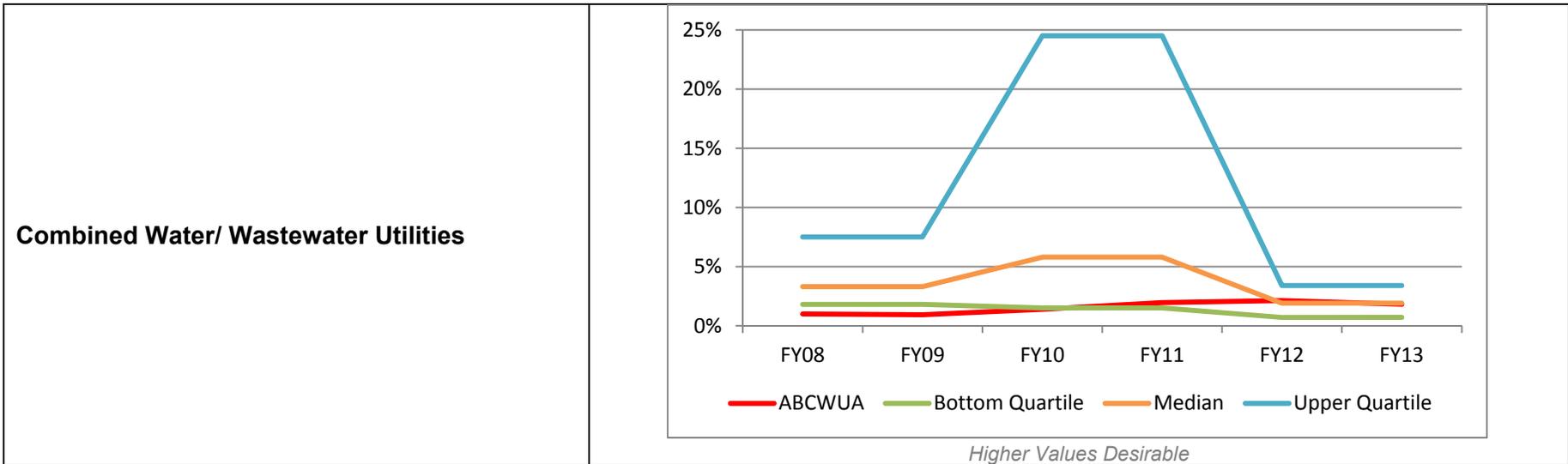
*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Performance Results (Wastewater Pipeline & Collection)**

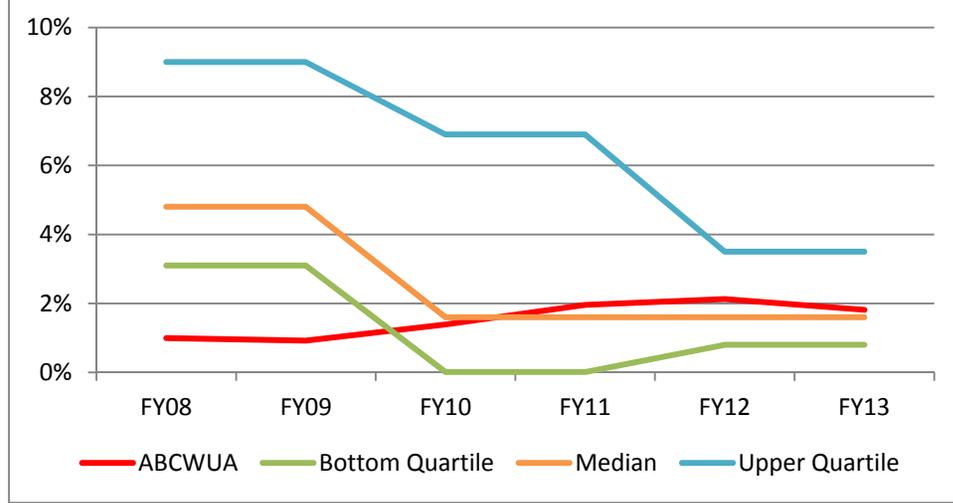
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the rate at which the Water Authority is meeting its individual need for infrastructure renewal or replacement	Total actual expenditures reserved for renewal and replacement and total present worth for renewal and replacement needs for each asset group	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	Reduce corrective maintenance by investing in infrastructure improvements to the system

**Industry Benchmarks**



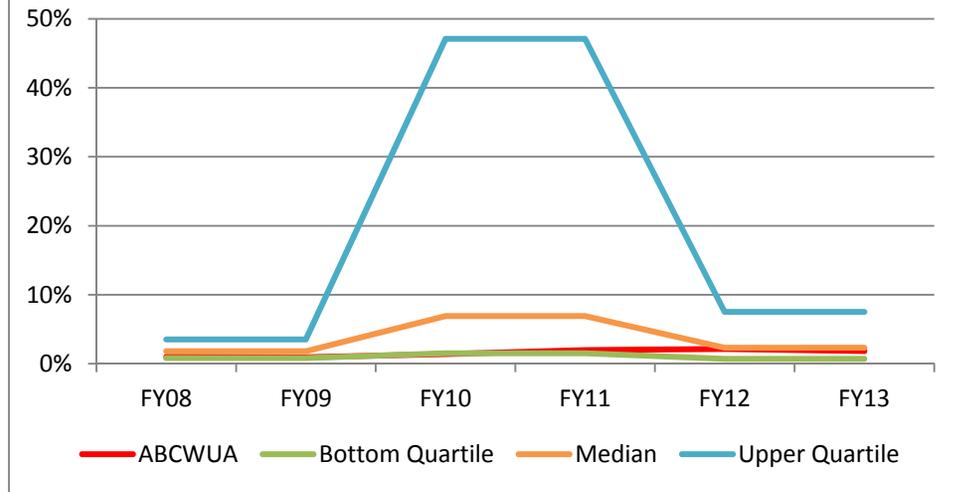
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



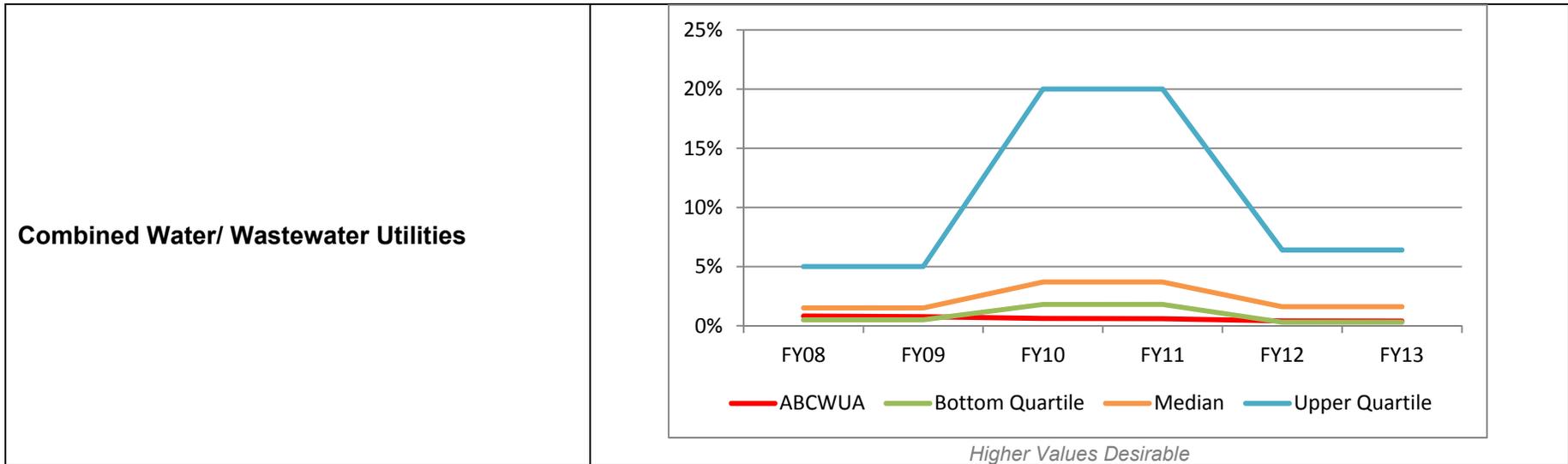
*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Performance Results (Wastewater Facility & Pumping)**

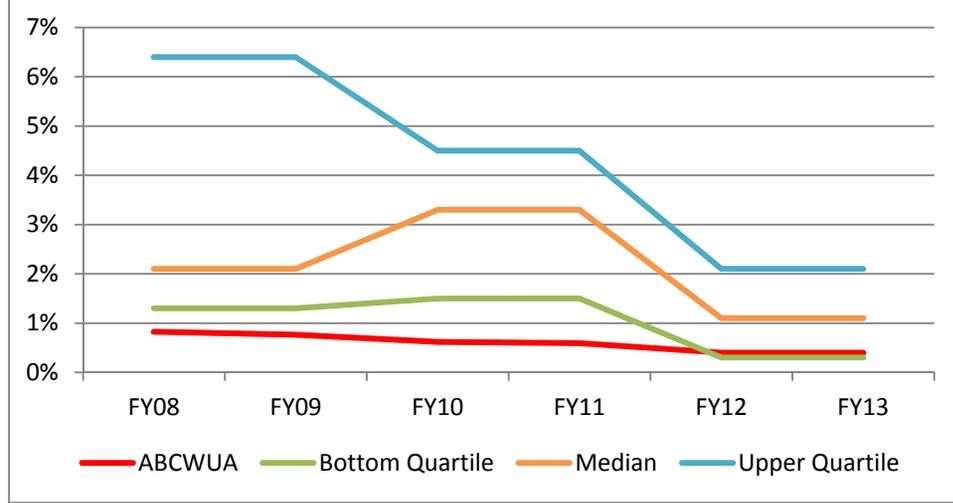
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Quantify the rate at which the Water Authority is meeting its individual need for infrastructure renewal or replacement	Total actual expenditures reserved for renewal and replacement and total present worth for renewal and replacement needs for each asset group	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	Reduce corrective maintenance by investing in infrastructure improvements to the system

**Industry Benchmarks**



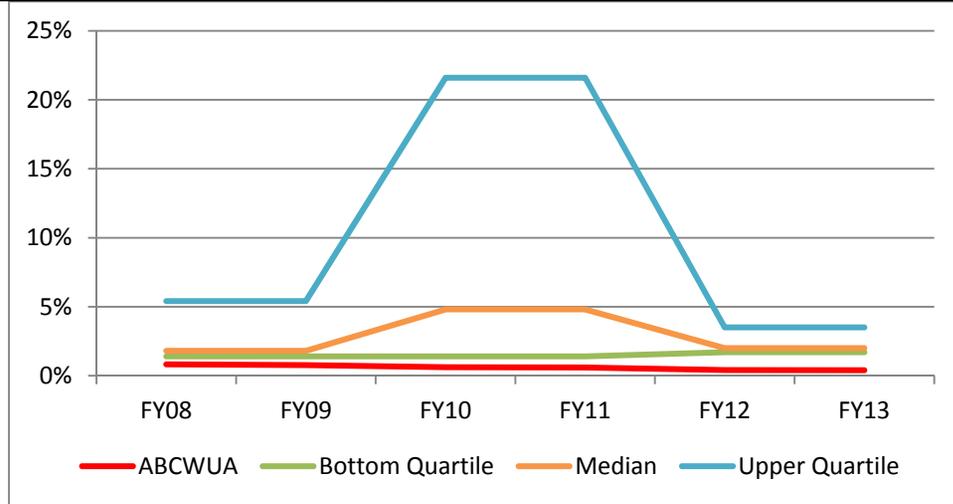
**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

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**Results Narrative**

This measure quantifies the degree to which a water or wastewater utility is replacing its infrastructure based on target lives for both water and wastewater asset groups. Data for these asset groups are provided in four categories:

1. Water pipeline/distribution
2. Water treatment facility and pumping
3. Wastewater pipelines and collection
4. Wastewater treatment facility and pumping

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been below the median range for the past three fiscal years for water distribution system and treatment and wastewater collection system and treatment. In FY07, the Water Authority increased its capital program spending from \$30 million per year to \$43 million per year, including significant increases in planned rehabilitation spending from \$22 million to \$31 million. Starting in FY15, the utility will add \$3 million each year cumulatively to reach \$30 million in additional funding in the next ten years. Over the last five years, the Water Authority has averaged \$40 million annually on rehabilitation spending.

In FY08, the Water Authority formally established its asset management program and established a Steering Committee to implement the program. The Committee's role is to communicate and drive the development and implementation of the asset management program. The program is an extensive, well thought out 'Business Model' that helps the Water Authority make better acquisition, operations and maintenance, renewal, and replacement decisions. In FY11, the Water Authority completed an Asset Management Plan (AMP) as a part of its asset management program. The AMP provides a 30-year projection that allows the Water Authority to budget for renewals and replacements into the future. In addition, the Water Authority will begin upgrading its work order system in a manner that supports asset management business objectives. Moreover, the Water Authority has incorporated asset management principles and management of risk into ten-year Capital Improvement Plan.

**2014 Customer Opinion Survey**

- 86% of customers feel that it is very or somewhat important to invest in the repair and replacement of old water and sewer lines

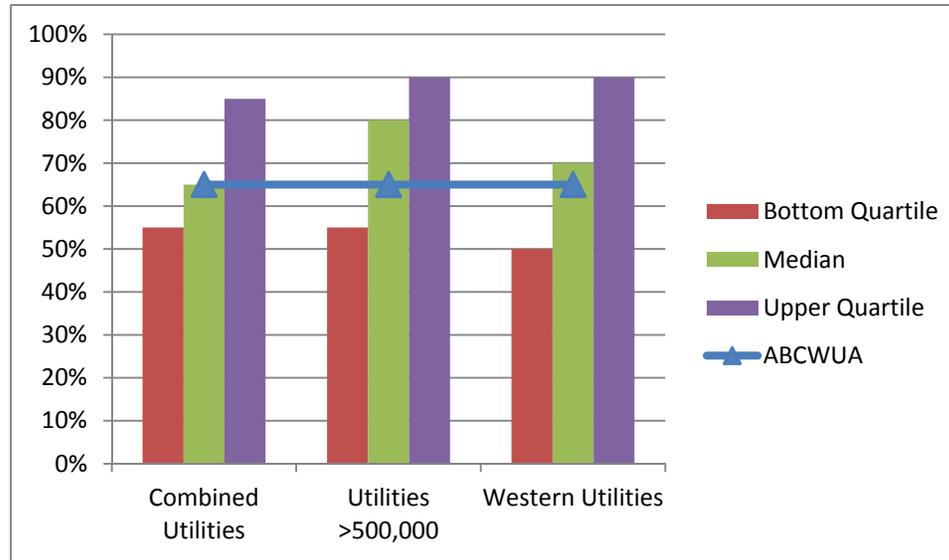
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

**4-4 Triple Bottom Line Index**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current /Est		Projected
Effectiveness	Quantify the utility's sustainability efforts	Self-assessment based on Triple-Bottom-Line Checklist		FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	Assess the utility's sustainability efforts
			--	--	--	60%	65%	65%	

**Industry Benchmarks**



*Generally, higher values are desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

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**Results Narrative**

This indicator provides a measure of a utility's sustainability efforts. It is calculated based on self-assessed points assigned in the various categories in the Triple-Bottom-Line (TBL) Checklist. The TBL framework represents a balanced view of environmental, social, and economic considerations. The value assigned to each statement is based on evidence that existed during the reporting period to support the statement, as reviewed and rated by senior utility management. Cumulative scores can range from 0 to 20 and are presented as percentages (total score / 20 × 100%).

**Measurement Status**

The Triple-Bottom-Line Index was recently included by AWWA in their benchmarking survey. The Water Authority has been measuring this Index for the last two fiscal years. It will continue to track these indicators and benchmark with industry peers and determine targets for its sustainability programs.

**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 4: Business Planning and Management**

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# Goal 5

## Organizational Development

### Guiding Goal Statement

*Sustain a well informed, trained, motivated, safe, organized, and competitive work force to effectively meet the expectations of the customers, community, and Board in accordance with adopted policies and mandates.*

### Goal Performance Scorecard

Ref #	Performance Measure	Status	Trend
5-1	Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate	■	■
5-2	Training Hours per Employee	■	■
5-3	Customer Accounts per Employee (Water)	▲	▲
5-3	Customer Accounts per Employee (Wastewater)	▲	▲
5-4	Employee Turnover	▲	▲
5-5	Retirement Eligibility	■	■
5-6	Organizational Best Practices Index	■	■
<b>Overall Goal Status</b>		■	▲

#### Performance Key

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 Excellent
  Good
  Fair
  Poor

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## Linkage of Objectives to Performance Measures

<b>FY15 Objectives</b>	<b>Measure Reference</b>
Implement Phase 2 of employee performance expectations that aligns to performance strategies through the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>5-6</b>
Maintain an average utility-wide vacancy rate of no greater than 6% through the end of FY15.	<b>5-4</b>
Improve workforce efficiency by implementing electronic personnel action forms in conjunction with the Sungard financial system by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>5-4</b>
Complete the standard operating procedures for the water and wastewater plants and begin training by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>5-2</b>
Continue implementation of the Operational Improvement Strategy by implementing the Area Procedures and Evaluations, and documenting and collecting data from key performance indicators to improve work load management and system performance efficiencies by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>5-2</b>
Reduce injury hours to 2,750 hours or less to improve productivity and reliability of services provided by employees by the end of the 4th Quarter of FY15.	<b>5-1</b>

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## Performance Measure Division Responsibility

Ref #	Performance Measure	Operations	Financial / Business Services	Human Resources
5-1	Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate			✓
5-2	Training Hours per Employee			✓
5-3	Customer Accounts per Employee (Water)	✓	✓	
5-3	Customer Accounts per Employee (Wastewater)	✓	✓	
5-4	Employee Turnover	✓		✓
5-5	Retirement Eligibility	✓		✓
5-6	Organizational Best Practices Index	✓	✓	✓

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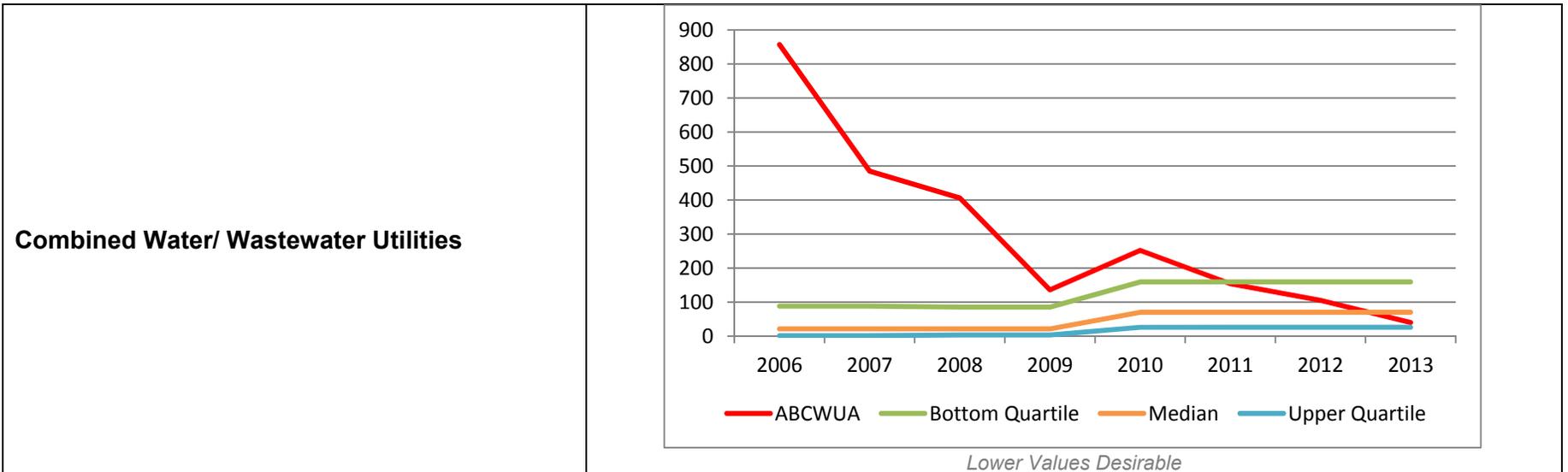
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**5-1 Employee Health and Safety Severity Rate**

**Performance Results**

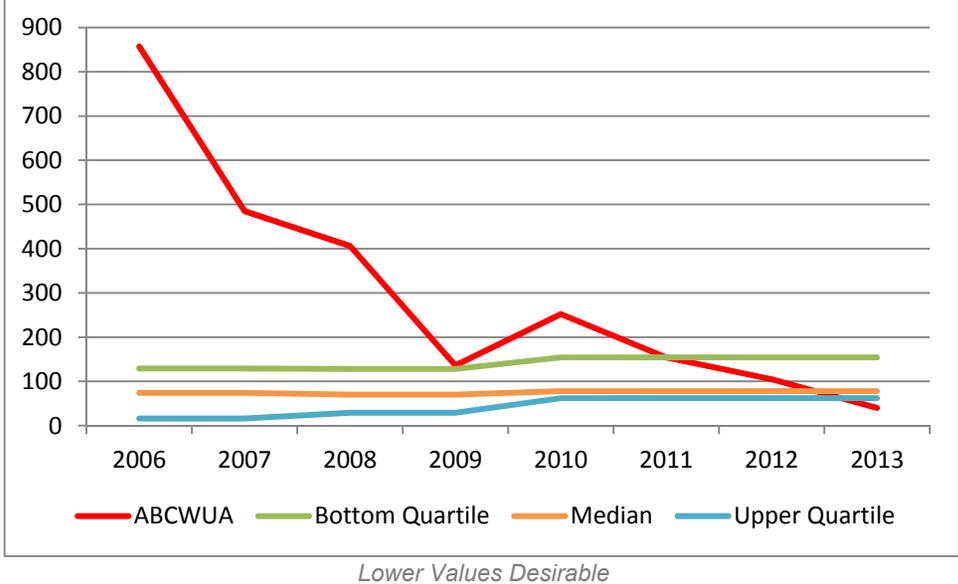
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Effectiveness	Quantify the rate of employee days lost from work due to illness or injury	Total workdays away from work and total hours worked by all employees	170	252	154	105	40	17	Improve employee health and safety to reduce total workdays from work

**Industry Benchmarks**

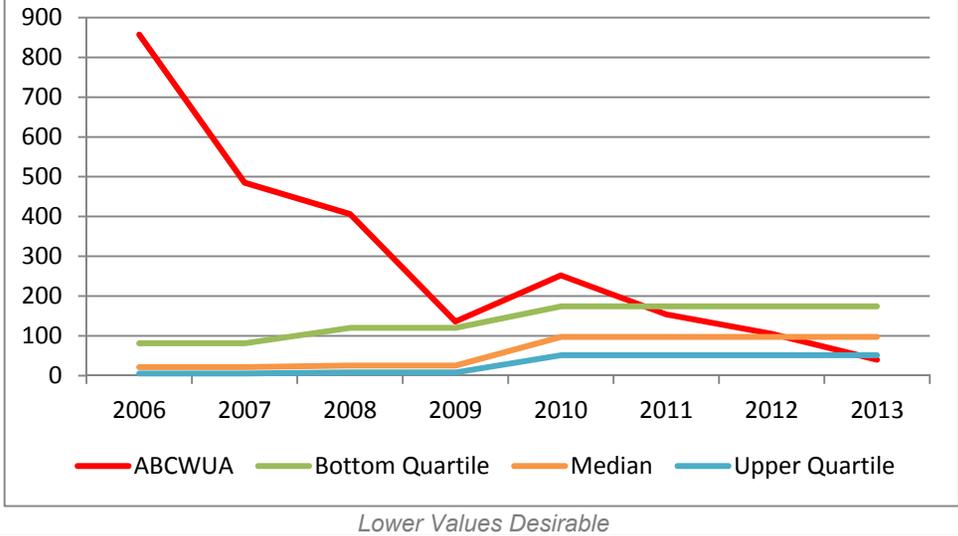


**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



**Utilities located in the Western United States**



**FY15 Performance Plan**  
**Goal 5: Organization Development**

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Results Narrative

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has established accident and illness recording and reporting requirements that affect most organizations. The OSHA standard is recommended because it has broad applicability and most utilities are already recording the needed data. The OSHA lost-days measure quantifies the rate of days lost due to illness or injury per 100 employee-years of work. It was selected as a good measure for water and wastewater utilities because it summarizes a very useful set of data that is readily available at most utilities.

Excessive lost workdays affect productivity and can cost utilities in a number of ways. Health care, insurance premiums, and overtime can all be adversely impacted by lost work due to injury or health reasons.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure was below the median range since the Water Authority began measuring its performance in 2005. Since 2005, the Water Authority's performance in this measure has improved every year with a dramatic drop in 2009 – a 76% decrease from 2008. From past policy objectives, the Water Authority has developed safe work incentives and routine employee safety training. In addition, the Water Authority improved its Light Duty Program in order to get workers back to the job safely. This new process has provided a clearer understanding on what needs to take place when an injury occurs including the documentation, payroll coding and expectation and assignment of the employee. In 2009, the Water Authority awarded its employees with a \$500 incentive payment, taxes paid, and in 2010, employees received \$300 for meeting injury reduction goals. However, the Water Authority did not meet its FY11 goal due to several long-term injuries, but the utility did meet its FY12, FY13 and FY14 goals and awarded its employees with a \$300 incentive payment. A policy objective for FY15 is to reduce injury hours to 2,750 hours or less to improve productivity and reliability of services provided by employees; the goal is connected with a \$300 per employee safety incentive program.

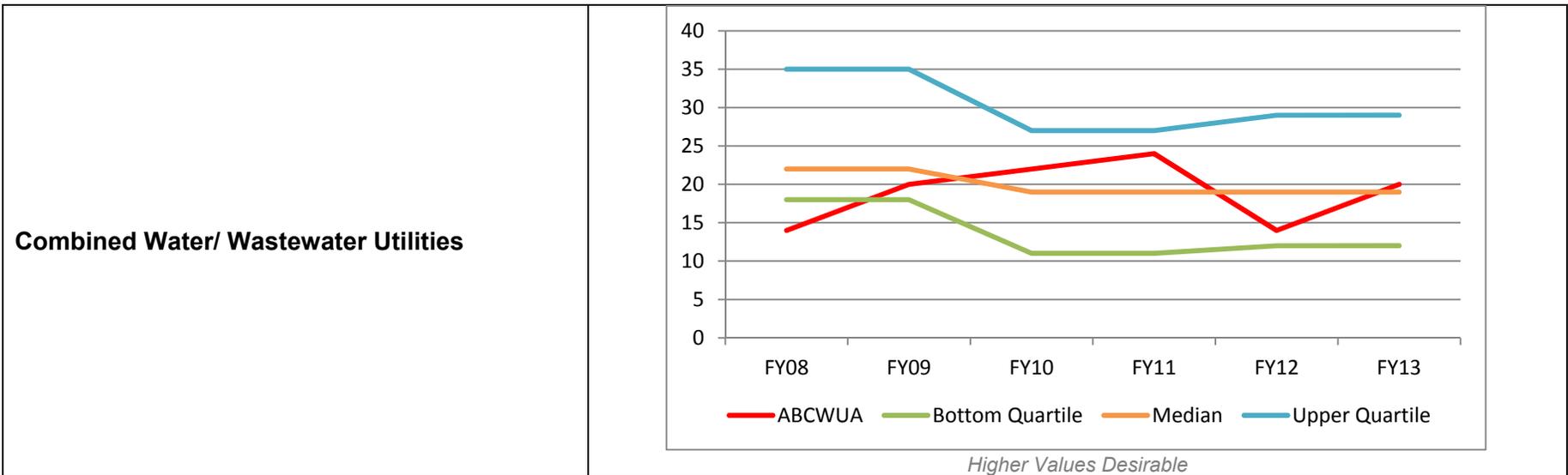
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**5-2 Training Hours per Employee**

**Performance Results**

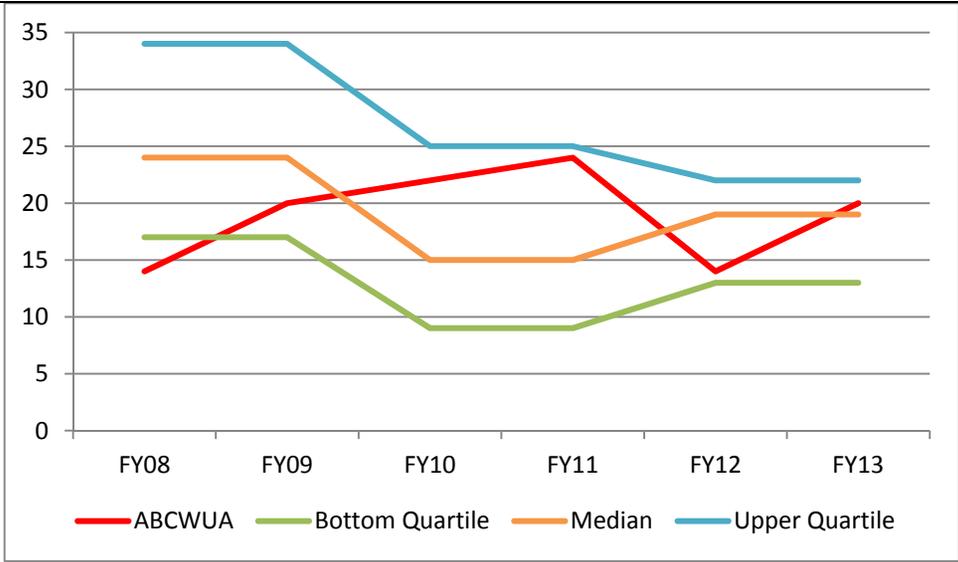
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Effectiveness	Measure the quantity of formal training Water Authority employees actually completing	Number of formal training hours per employee per year	19	24	14	19	17	18	Improve employee knowledge and skills to maintain a motivated and effective works force

**Industry Benchmarks**



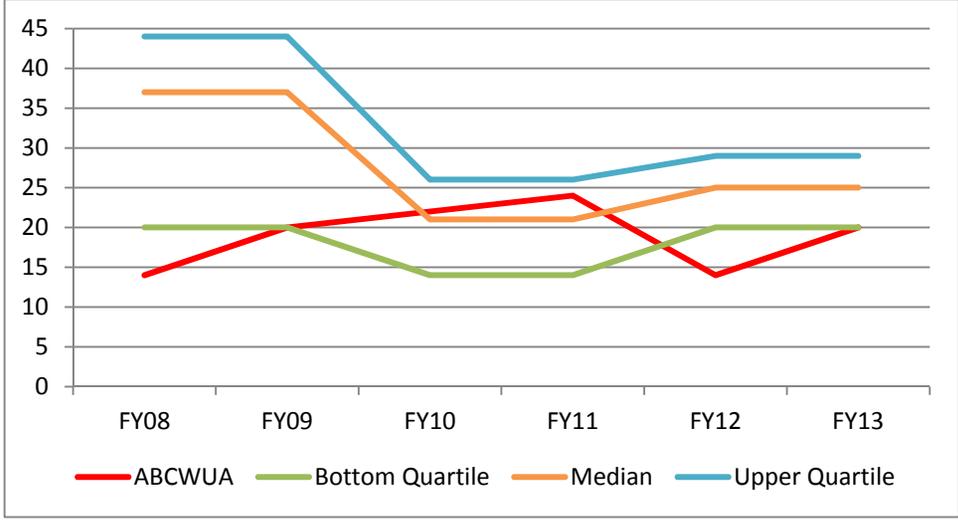
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



*Higher Values Desirable*

**Utilities located in the Western United States**



*Higher Values Desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 5: Organization Development***

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Results Narrative

This measure is intended to reflect the organization's commitment to formal training as a means of improving employee knowledge and skills. It also does not address the effectiveness or efficiency of the training programs used by the utility.

Measurement Status

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the median range for the past three fiscal years. The Water Authority adopted a policy objective in FY09 to increase certification training hours and by creating an organizational succession plan by implementing hiring, training and certification programs for mechanics, electricians and electronics technicians. The Water Authority has improved its performance in this measure in FY10 and FY11 from implementation of several training programs. The Water Authority will continue to improve its performance in FY15 on continuing to implement its training programs and developing new programs.

**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

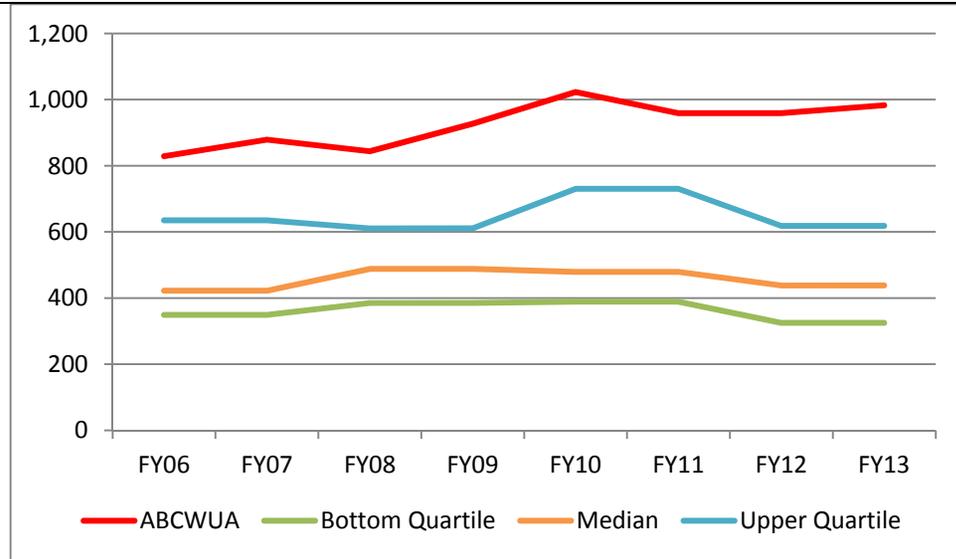
**5-3 Customer Accounts per Employee**

**Performance Results (Customer Water Accounts per Employee)**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Measure employee efficiency	Number of active accounts per employee and average million gallons of water delivered and processed per day per employee	967	959	959	983	978	993	Provide efficient service to our customers to meet their expectations

**Industry Benchmarks**

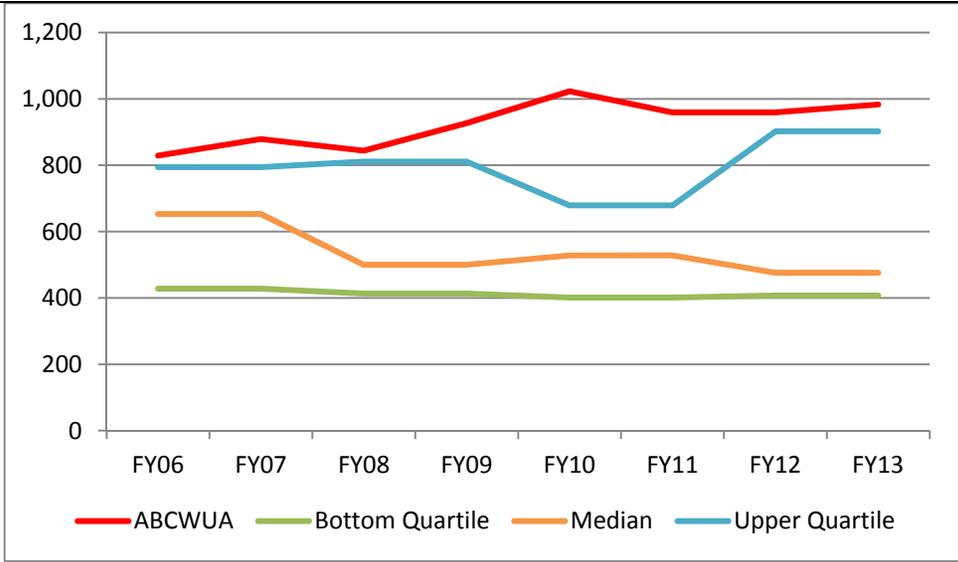
**Combined Water/ Wastewater Utilities**



*Higher Values Desirable*

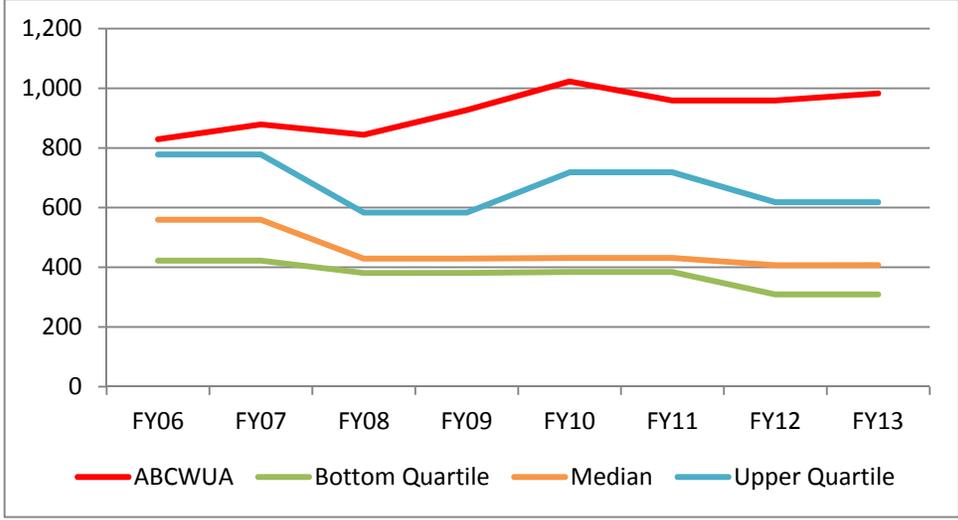
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**Utilities with populations greater than 500,000**



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**Utilities located in the Western United States**



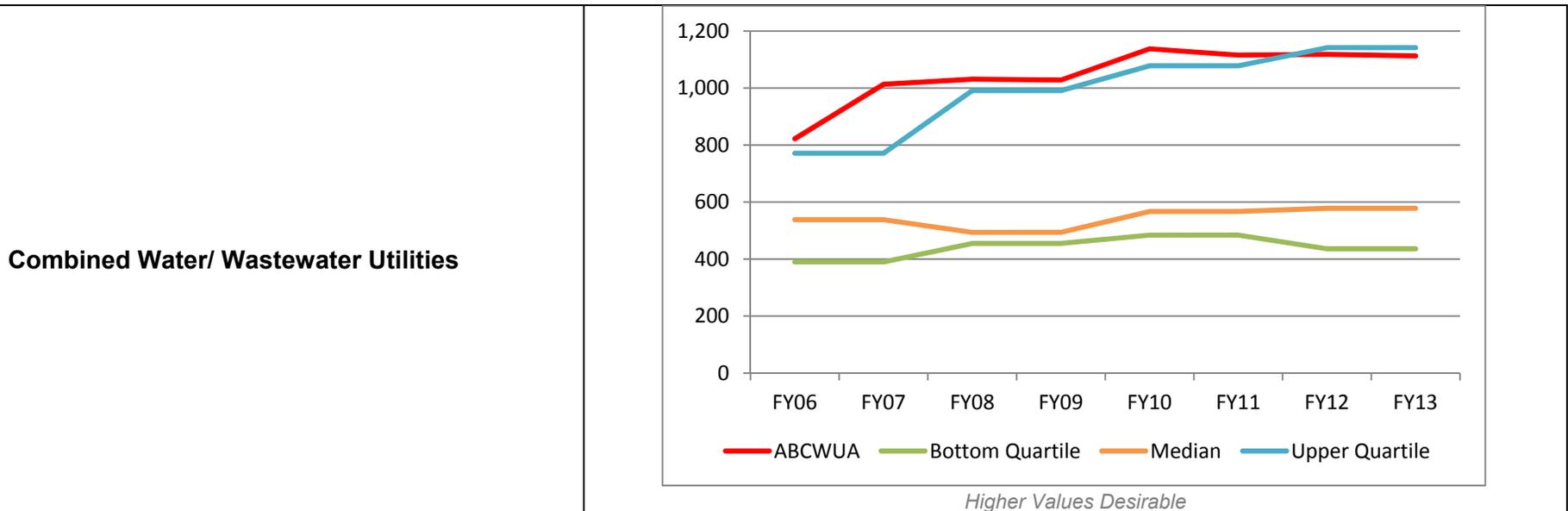
*Higher Values Desirable*

**FY15 Performance Plan  
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**Performance Results (Customer Wastewater Accounts per Employee)**

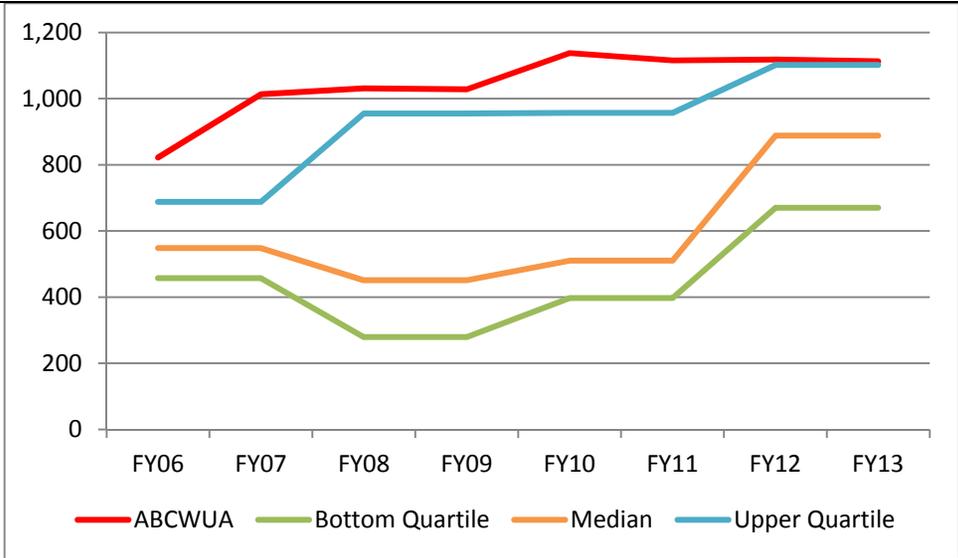
Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Measure employee efficiency	Number of active accounts per employee and average million gallons of water delivered and processed per day per employee	1,118	1,116	1,118	1,119	1,176	1,214	Provide efficient service to our customers to meet their expectations

**Industry Benchmarks**



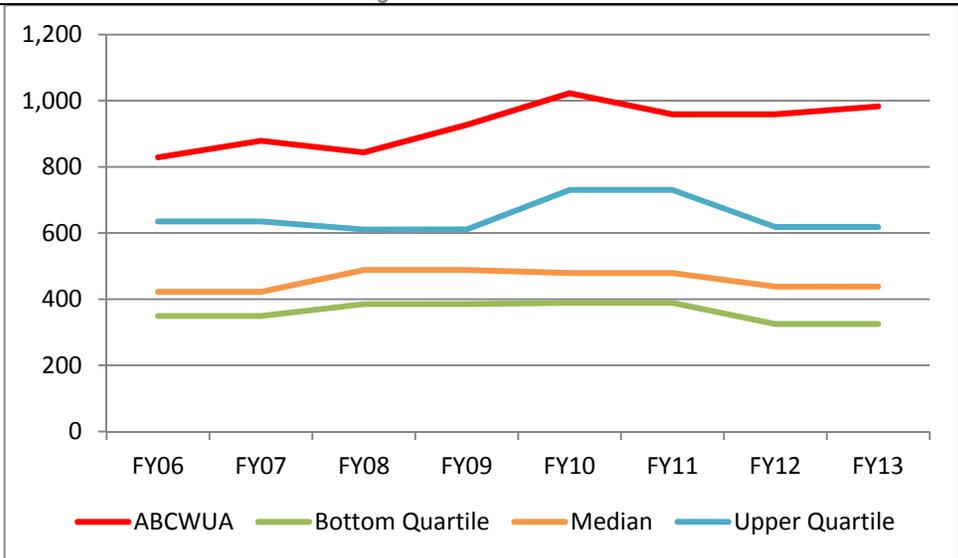
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

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***Goal 5: Organization Development***

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**Results Narrative**

These measures measure employee efficiency. By expressing them in terms of both accounts and millions of gallons (MGD) per day of water delivered or wastewater processed, the effects of customer class are diminished.

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure has been within the top quartile for the past three fiscal years for water and wastewater accounts per employee. The utility anticipates no change in the metric for FY15.

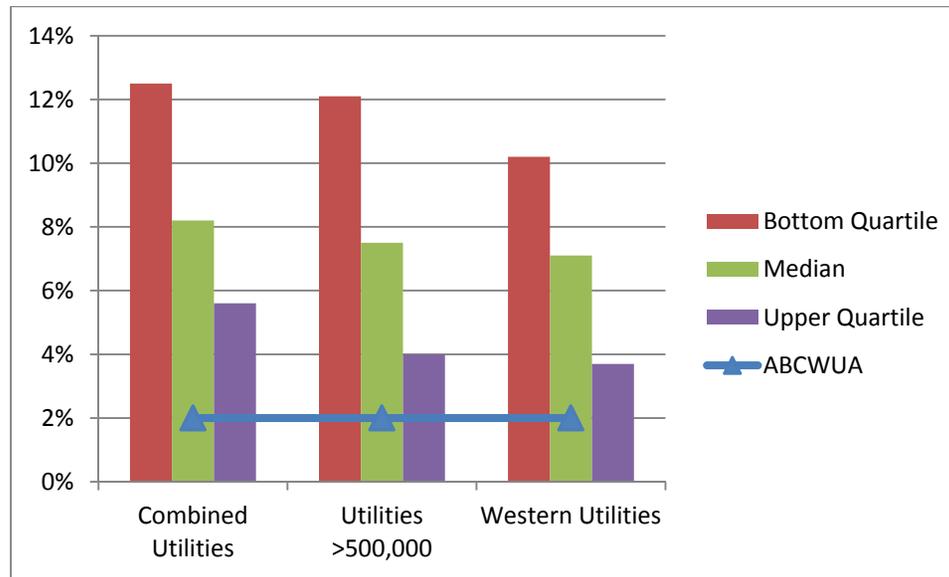
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**5-4 Employee Turnover**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Quantify the annual employee departures	Number of regular employee departures during the reporting period / Total number of FTEs	--	--	2%	2%	2%	2%	Determine staffing levels for operation needs and meeting service levels

**Industry Benchmarks**



*Generally, lower values are desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 5: Organization Development***

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**Results Narrative**

This indicator quantifies annual employee departures normalized by the utility's workforce (as FTEs) per year. Regular employee departures include employees who leave voluntarily, retire, or are let go during the reporting period. Regular employees are those who worked more than 1,000 hours during the reporting period

**Measurement Status**

This indicator was recently included by AWWA in their benchmarking survey. The Water Authority has been measuring this indicator for the last three fiscal years. The utility's performance is above the median range. The utility will continue to track this metric to determine staffing levels for operation needs and meeting service levels.

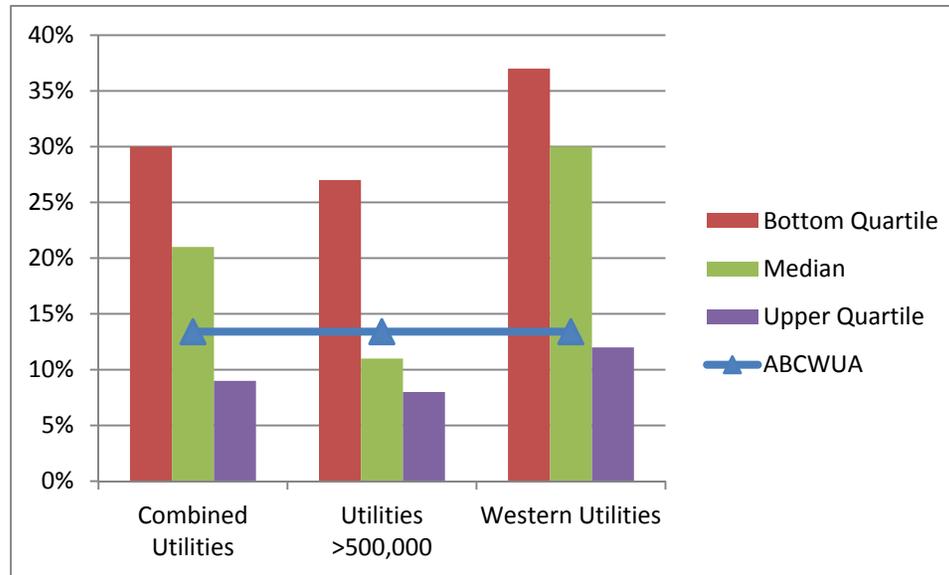
**FY15 Performance Plan  
Goal 5: Organization Development**

**5-5 Retirement Eligibility**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Efficiency	Quantify the number of employees who can retire	Number of regular employees eligible for retirement in the next 5 years / Total number of FTEs	--	--	15%	15%	13%	12%	Determine staffing levels for operation needs and meeting service levels

**Industry Benchmarks**



*Generally, lower values are desirable*

***FY15 Performance Plan***  
***Goal 5: Organization Development***

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**Results Narrative**

This indicator provides a measure of the number of regular employees eligible for retirement normalized by the utility's workforce (as FTEs). Regular employees are those who worked more than 1,000 hours during the reporting period.

**Measurement Status**

This indicator was recently included by AWWA in their benchmarking survey. The Water Authority has been measuring this indicator for the last three fiscal years. The utility's performance is within the median range. The utility will continue to track this metric to determine staffing levels for operation needs and meeting service levels.

**FY15 Performance Plan  
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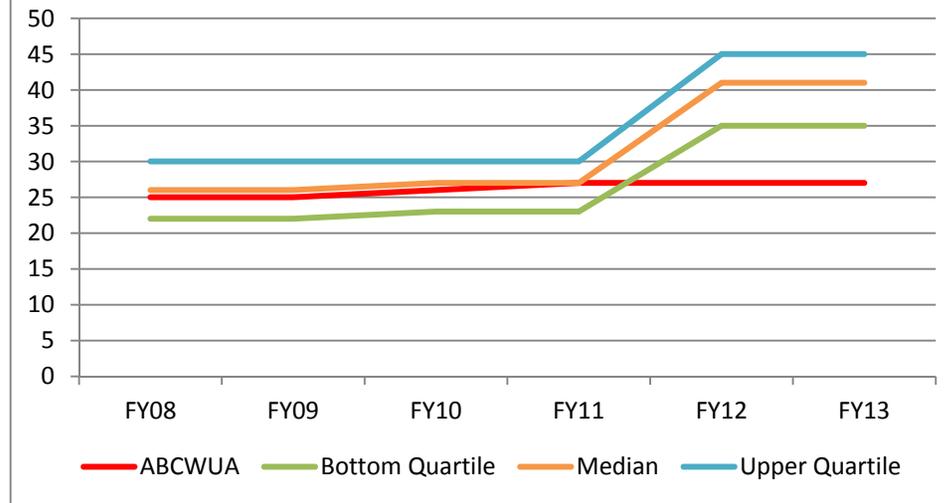
**5-6 Organizational Best Practices Index**

**Performance Results**

Measure Type	Purpose	Inputs	Outputs					Outcome	
			Baseline	Prior Year Actuals			Current/Est		Projected
				FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	
Quality	To summarize the Water Authority's implementation of management programs important to water and wastewater utilities	Self-scoring system to identify the degree to which the Water Authority is implementing the seven organizational best practices	27	27	27	27	29	29	Implement best management practices to sustain a competitive work force

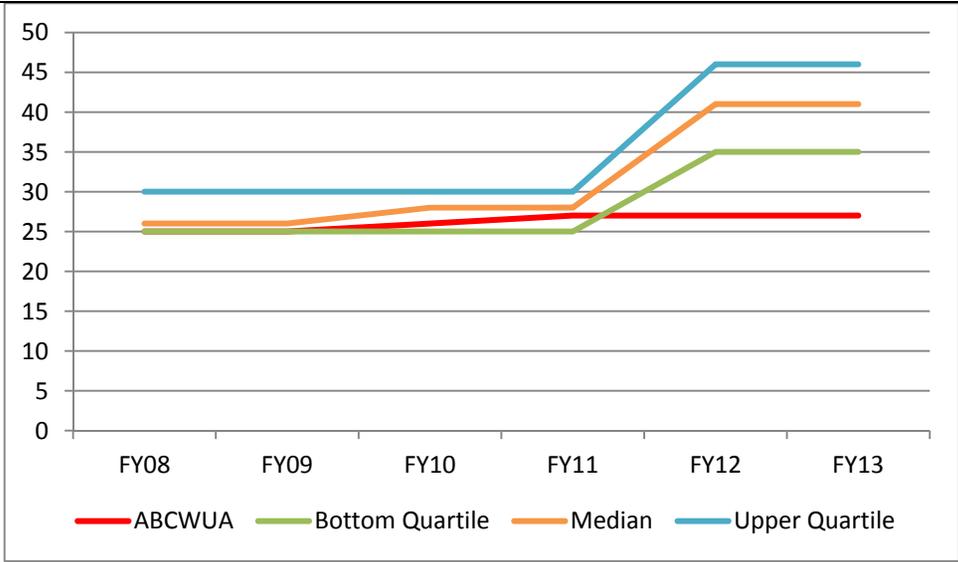
**Industry Benchmarks**

**Combined Water/ Wastewater Utilities**



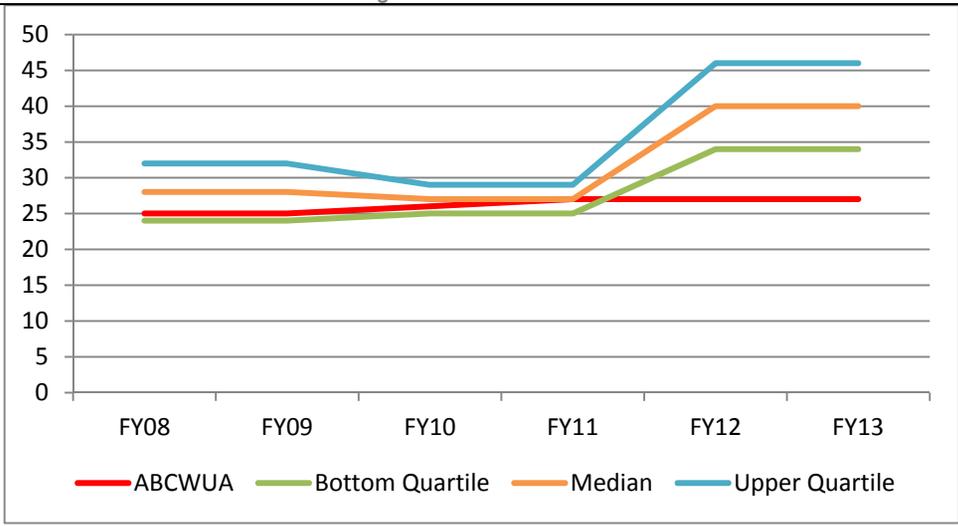
**FY15 Performance Plan  
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**Results Narrative**

This measure summarizes the status of implementation of good management practices at a utility. It is particularly useful for identifying potential benchmarking partners, especially organizations that may have advanced knowledge and experience with applying these tools. Correlations with other measures might show that performance in other areas is related to investments in improved management practices. The Water Authority used a self-scoring system to identify the degree to which each of seven important practices being implemented. The scoring system is based on the results from the QualServe Self Assessments that the Water Authority completed in 2004 and 2011. Scores for the seven areas are aggregated to provide an index score.

The practices included in the index are as follows:

- Strategic Planning
- Long-Term Financial Planning
- Risk Management Planning
- Optimized Asset Management Program
- Performance Measurement System
- Customer Involvement Program
- Continuous Improvement Program

**Measurement Status**

The Water Authority's performance in this measure is below the median range for past three fiscal years. After implementing the areas of improvement suggested in the 2004 QualServe Peer Review, the Water Authority anticipates continued progress on this measure. This measure is particularly useful for identifying potential benchmarking partners, especially organizations that may have advanced knowledge and experience with applying these tools. The Water Authority is working on its Effective Utility Management (EUM) program which incorporates the benchmarking performance indicators from the AWWA QualServe program. The utility will utilize the EUM program to make performance improvements in its operations and service delivery by examining its performance on a quarterly basis.