

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2015

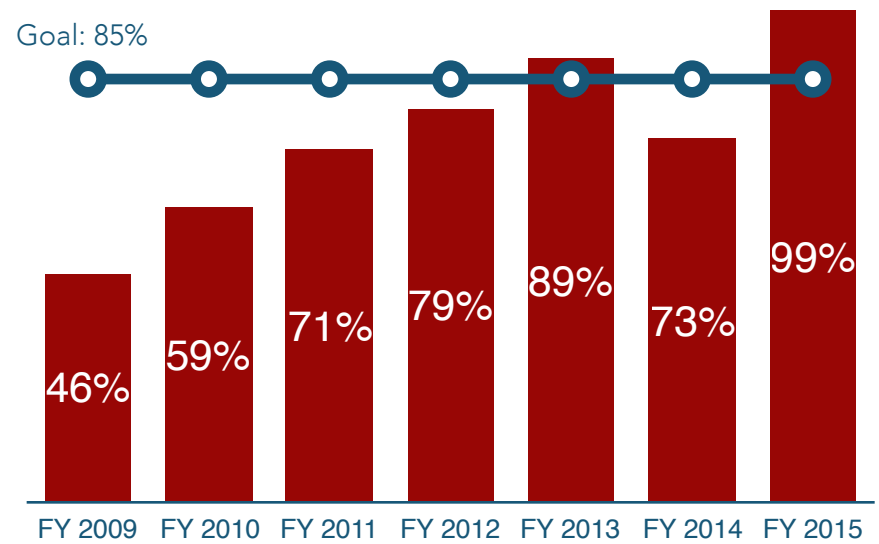


2015 is Best Year on Record for Environmental Performance

Fiscal Year 2015 was Mecklenburg County's best year on record for environmental performance. The County continued to successfully reduce both electricity and fuel use, purchased 419 acres of land for preservation and conversation, and met its commitments to purchase environmentally preferable products. The County also had a stand-out year for employee engagement, exceeding its 2015 goal of 2500 hours by 14 percent. Reflecting this result, 59 percent of County Departments achieved a "Green Light" (which signals that they hit 85% or more of their departmental goals) on their Environmental Action Plans.

Overall, these results are reflected in Mecklenburg County's Environmental Leadership Index score of 99%. The goal each year is to have 85% of its operations performed in a manner that conserves and protects the County's air, water and land resources, making 2015 an exceptional year for Mecklenburg County.

Environmental Leadership Index



○ Target
■ Result

The Environmental Leadership Index is the overall measure that the County uses to assess its performance.

Mecklenburg County's Environmental Leadership Index Results

6.6% reduction in energy use (kBTU/sq. ft.)
Goal: 6%

32% reduction in NOx emissions from fleet
Goal: 0.5%

419 acres acquired for parks, nature preserves, greenways, and watershed protection
Goal: 460 acres

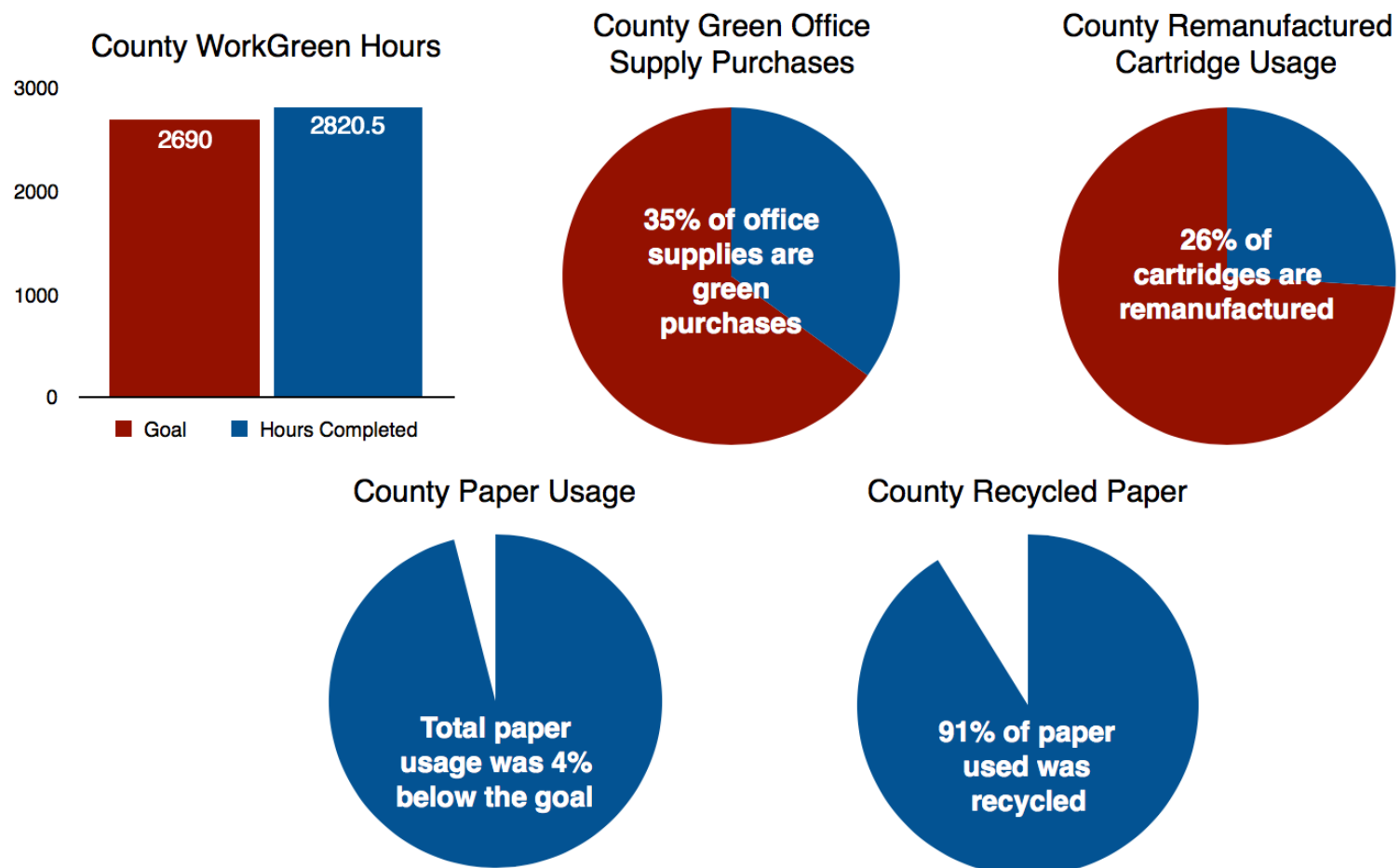
50% of purchased office supplies were environmentally preferable
Goal: 58%

2820 hours of employee participation in alternative commutes and environmental volunteering and education
Goal: 2500 hours

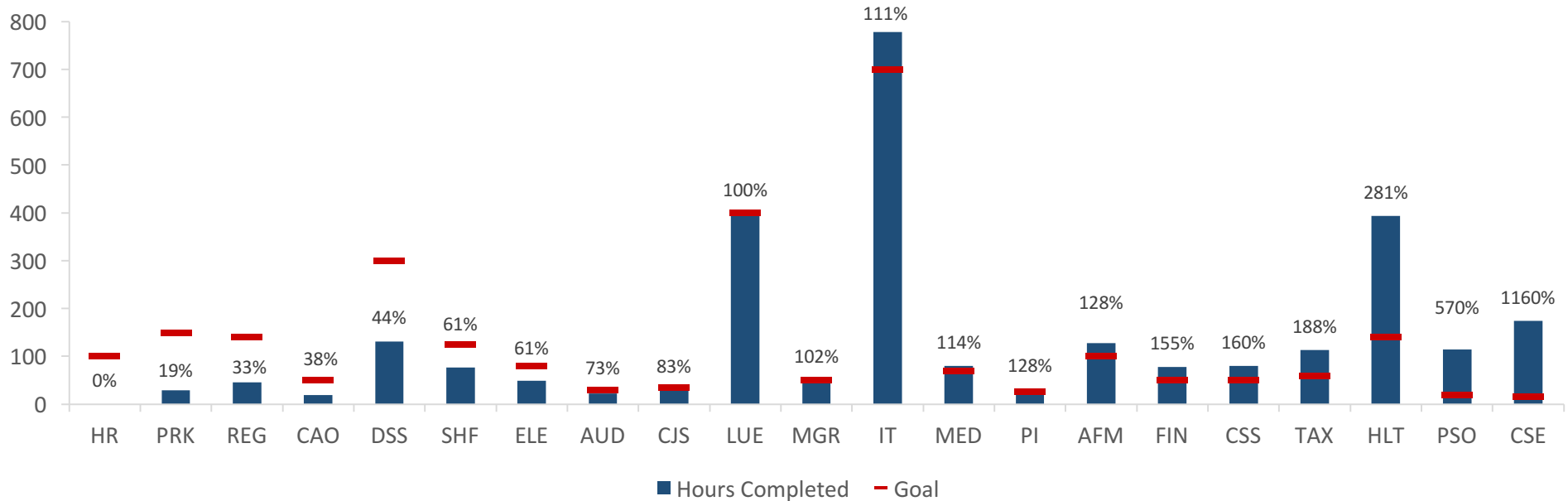
59% of departments reaching a "green light" on their environmental action plans
Goal: 85%

END OF YEAR RESULTS

AT A GLANCE



Department Participation in WorkGreen (hours)

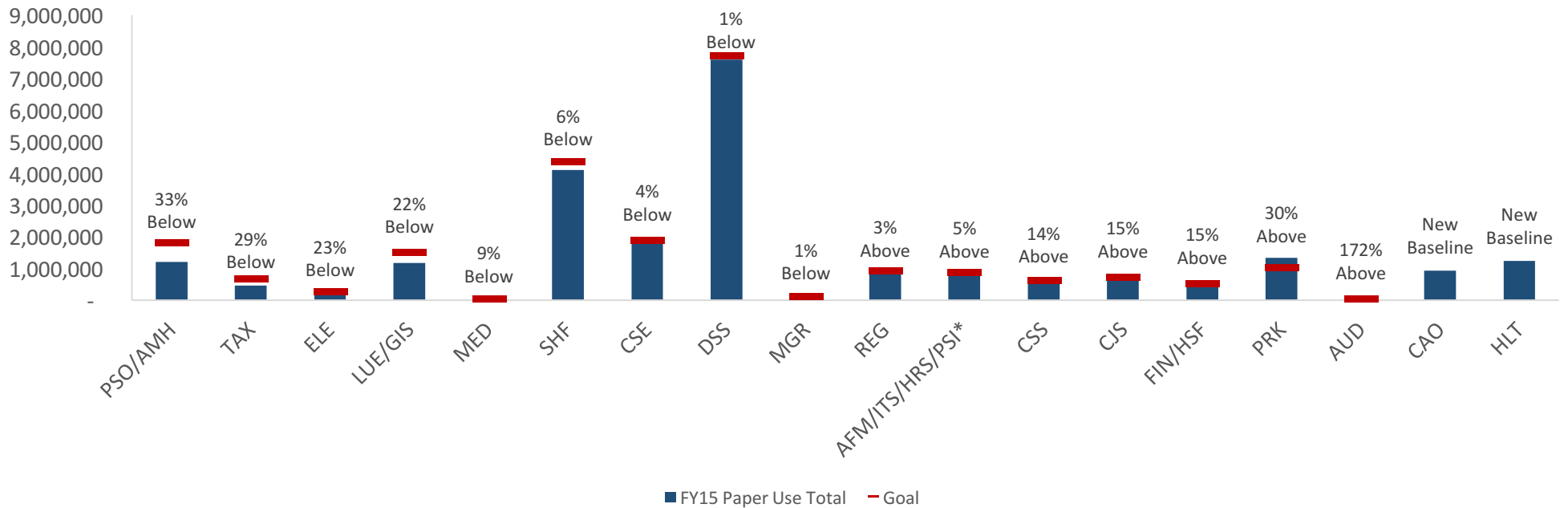


Halfway through fiscal year 2015, 10 departments achieved at least 40 percent of their end-of-year goals and 2 departments exceeded their goals through participation in environmental education programs, environmental volunteer opportunities, and/or alternative commute methods. By the end of the fiscal year, 11 departments have exceeded their WorkGreen employee participation goals, and the Land Use and Environmental Services Agency matched their goals.

Child Support Enforcement has the highest exceedance rate out of all the 21 departments. These high numbers are due to the department’s commitment to learning about the County’s Sustainability program and alternative commuting.

9 county departments did not meet their WorkGreen goals, but programming opportunities and adjusted goals will give these departments an opportunity to meet their goals in the year to come.

Department Paper Use (sheets)



This fiscal year, paper use was tracked for 17 individual County departments and the formerly Business Support services Agency grouping of Asset and Facility Management, Information Technology, Human Resources, and Public Information.

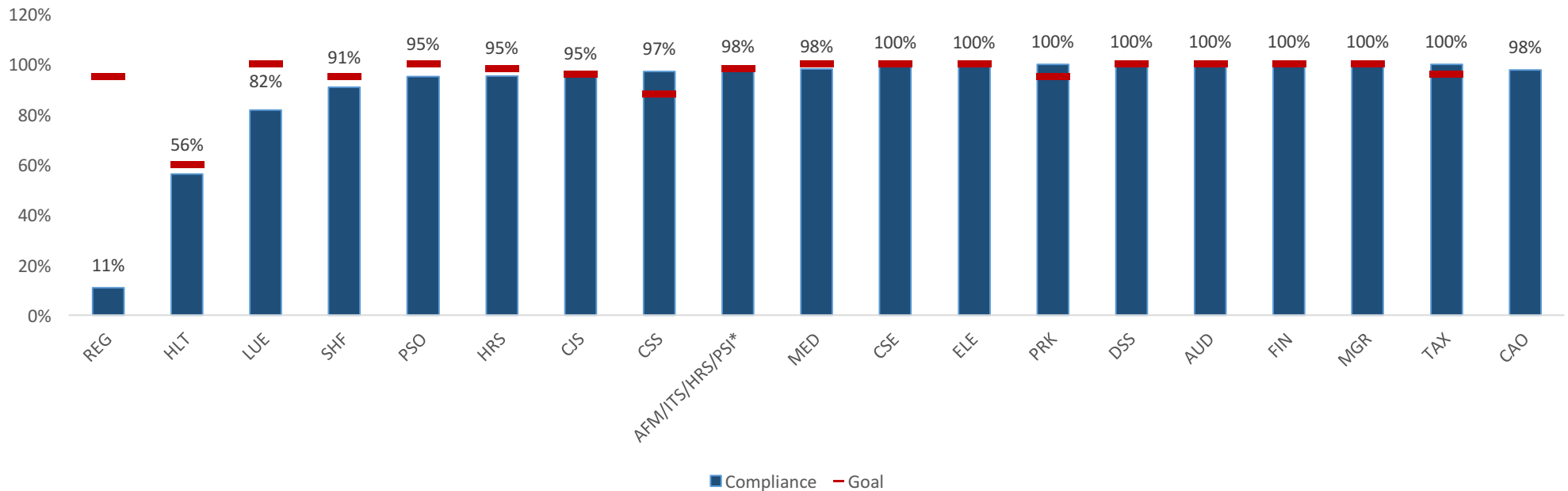
Of these 18 groups, 9 departments – Provided Services, Tax Collections, Board of Elections, LUESA, Medical Examiner’s Office, County Sherriff, Child Support and Enforcement, Department of Social Services, and the County Manager’s Office – used less paper than their FY15 goals.

The County Assessor’s Office and the Health Department did not set paper use goals and are using this fiscal year’s sheets as a baseline to form future goals. The Provided Services Organization and Area Mental Health departments used the least amount of paper proportional to their paper usage goals.

The remaining 7 departments have exceeded their paper usage goals.

*Because the departments that formerly made up BSSA are still billed as a mostly single unit, these metrics have been combined for FY15.

Department Recycled Paper Purchases (Percent of Dollars spent on Paper)



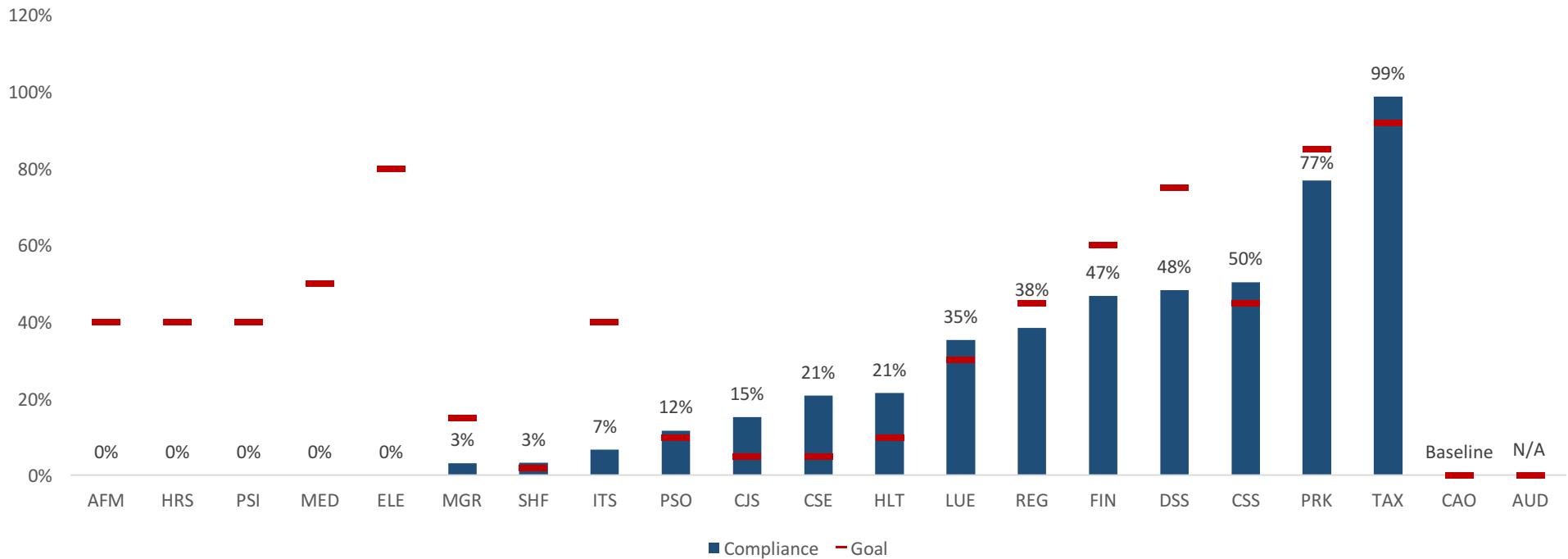
All the office paper used in Mecklenburg County’s contracted IKON printers contain recycled content. Additionally, Office Depot makes it easier than ever to order recycled paper, which is why recycled paper has successfully become the standard in Mecklenburg County Government operations. Most of Mecklenburg County’s departments have strongly supported this standard.

Department recycled paper purchases are calculated by comparing the amount each department spends on paper to the total amount spent all office paper.

In fiscal year 2015, recycled paper was tracked for 18 individual departments, as well as Business Support Services Agency grouping of Asset and Facility Management, Information Technology, and Public information.

Of these 19 groups, 8 departments were fell below their goals, 6 departments reached their goals, and 3 departments – Community Support Services, Park and Recreation, and Tax Collection – exceeded their FY15 goals.

Department Remanufactured Printer Cartridge Purchases (Percent of dollars spent on printer cartridges)



Remanufactured cartridges are less expensive and have a much smaller environmental impact than brand new ones. Many Mecklenburg County departments are making a commitment to take advantage of these benefits.

In fiscal year 2015, remanufactured printer cartridge purchases were tracked for 21 individual departments.

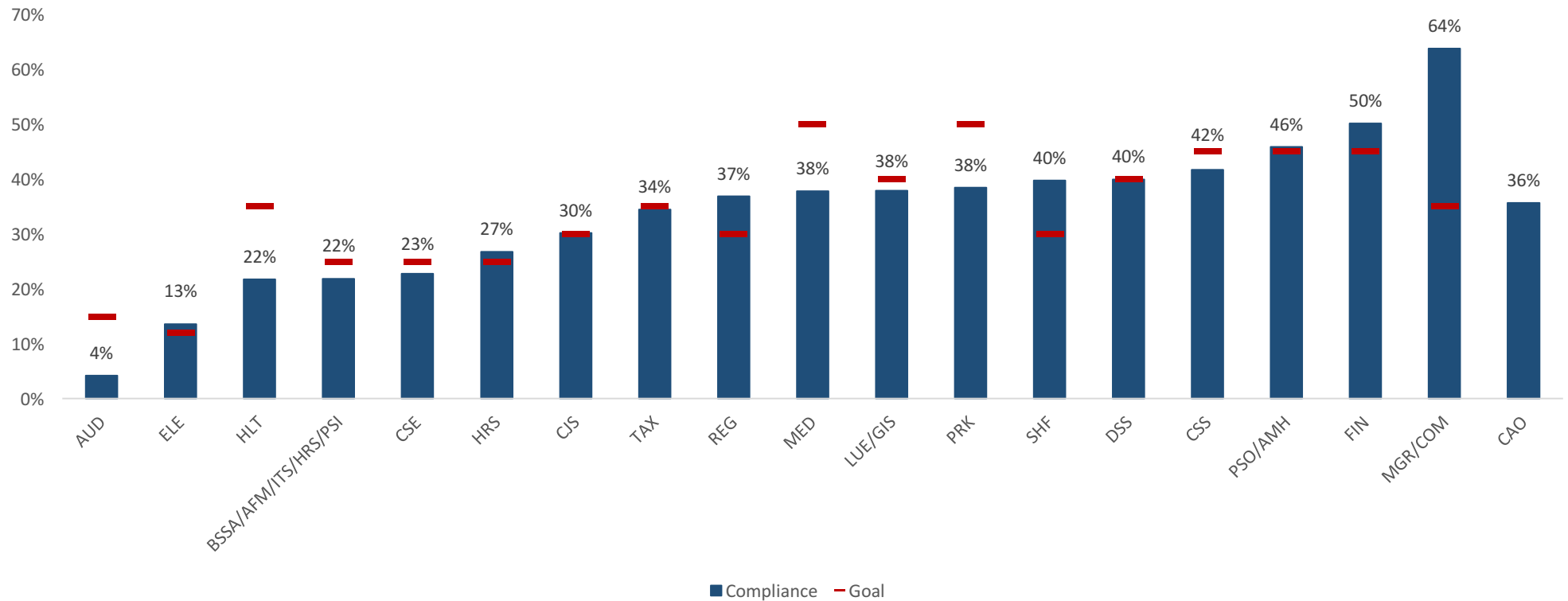
9 departments – Sheriff’s Office, Provided Services, Criminal Justice Service, Child Support Enforcement, Health

Department, LUESA, Community Support Services, Park and Recreation, and Tax Collections – have exceeded their FY15 goals. The County Assessor’s Office is using this year’s remanufactured cartridge purchase levels to set a baseline for years to come.

Mecklenburg County departments can work to increase their compliance by requesting their remanufactured printer cartridges from Office Depot and/or SunBelt.

Department Green Office Supply Purchases

(percent of dollars spent on office supplies excluding printer cartridges & paper)



“Green” office supplies can have a variety of important characteristics. It may mean that products were made with recycled materials, are easily reusable, are energy efficient, or made using renewable energy.

Most Mecklenburg County Offices are committed to integrating green office supplies into their daily operations. Of the 19 groups tracked for the green office supply purchases, 7 departments exceeded their FY15 goals. That being said, 2

departments met their goals, and 5 departments fell just short of their goals.

Green office supply purchases were calculated by comparing the amount a department spends on “green” supplies to the total amount spent on all office supplies.

County departments can continue to increase their green office supply purchases by prioritizing those items characterized by Office Depot as environmentally preferable.