



Energy Analysis

EA 2008-5

December 30, 2008

2005-2007 PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS FOR NATURAL GAS UTILITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

Summary data of gas utility financial profiles and performance appear in this Energy Analysis. The intent is to provide industry participants and observers with relative measures of financial returns and operational efficiencies of natural gas distribution companies. For this study, the American Gas Association (AGA) collected data from its members. The data source for these benchmarking metrics is the Uniform Statistical Report (USR), which is administered annually by AGA on behalf of its member companies. Results are presented for the years 2005 through 2007. Additional information, some of which is company specific, is included in an attachment to this analysis and available only to AGA member companies.

For study purposes, the gas utility industry is segmented into distinct groups: investor-owned gas-only utilities, investor-owned combination gas and electric utilities, and municipally-owned gas utilities. Summary results are segmented in this sample accordingly. Comprehensive details are provided in the appendices.

II. BACKGROUND

THE NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY. Approximately 1,400 utilities distribute natural gas to end-use consumers in the United States. For this analysis, a total of 75 utilities were included in the 2007 sample, 65 utilities were examined for 2006, and 73 companies were studied for 2005.¹ They are located across the United States, and each company has a unique combination of scale, load profile, and climatic attributes. In aggregate, the firms included in this study accounted for 38 percent of the natural gas consumed in 2007, 38 percent in 2006, and 37 percent in 2005.² *Given this sample size, any inferences about the sample's depiction of the entire industry are accordingly limited.*

Many AGA member companies are gas-only, investor-owned utilities, as are most companies in this analysis. These companies earn returns that accrue to their investors. State-

¹ This set number was determined after eliminating member companies for whom data was either incomplete or not provided. Firms with zero net income are excluded from the analysis. This is not a scientific sample in that sample stratification by segment type does not reflect population stratification. See Appendix 9 for list of companies included.

² Natural gas distributed for end-use consumption totaled 21.3 Tcf in 2007, 19.9 Tcf in 2006, and 20.4 Tcf in 2005. U.S. Department of Energy / Energy Information Administration, *Natural Gas Monthly*.

level public utility commissions regulate their operations, finance, and capital investment activities.

Combination utilities have the franchise rights to transport and sell both gas and electric power commodities. These are also investor-owned firms with financial obligations to shareholders. Like the gas-only investor-owned firms, these companies are subject to various state and federal regulations.

Municipal utilities are publicly owned by the citizens of the jurisdictions that the utilities serve. Local governments enjoy tax-free bond-issuing capabilities, usually at interest rates lower than can be obtained by investor-owned utilities. Ultimately, such debt is usually collateralized by these utilities' abilities to secure tax revenue to back up debt commitments. What an investor-owned utility would pay out in dividends accrues instead to the municipal company's citizen-shareholders in the form of lower rates. Municipal utility regulation is performed primarily by local governments as opposed to state-level commissions.³

DESCRIPTION OF DATA SOURCES. Financial data about AGA member companies are drawn from the Uniform Statistical Report (USR). Member company staff prepares these standardized forms annually for collection by AGA, but companies may choose to withhold any or all of the requested data. Some of the USR duplicates the information found in audited end-of-year financial statements, but the USR requests additional information, such as heating degree-day profiles, type of sales by customer class, number of customers served, and various employment profile statistics. Data for miles of mains came from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety.

DATA LIMITATIONS. Since the data used for this analysis are annual figures only, a few inferential limitations should be noted. First, a single year's data for gas distribution operations are influenced by weather patterns for that year. For the United States as a whole, 2007 was 6.0 percent warmer than normal, 2006 was 11.6 percent warmer than normal, and 2005 was 4.9 percent warmer than normal.⁴ The deviation between actual heating degree days (HDDs) versus historic normals will vary by location. This in turn suggests that utility benchmarks may slightly overstate or understate overall utility financial performance or efficiency of operations when impacted by weather.

Another limitation is that the ability to perform trend analysis is somewhat limited. While three years' worth of data are presented here, comparison of actual values (total revenues for example) from year to year can be distorted by changes in sample size. Also, variances in weather can affect these trends. Finally, the data set covers only three years and this limits the ability to compare longer-term trends.

Sample size and composition must also be considered as a potential limitation. The industry segment sample sizes used in this study are not consistently proportional to their respective populations. Additionally, the sample size—measured both in number of companies, and more importantly as percentage of total gas deliveries—has varied over time. Finally, specific company participation in the data collection changes from year to year. **This makes annual comparisons of absolute values, such as total number of therms sold, difficult and any resulting conclusions suspect.** However, the purpose of ratio analysis is to address this problem and facilitate annual comparisons.

³ Note that relatively few financial profiles were available for the municipal segment. The operations data used here considers only gas activities. The financial profiles of gas-only and combination municipal utilities are blended together for summary purposes.

⁴ Source: AGA *Gas Facts*, Table 6-16.

III. BENCHMARKING METRICS

Benchmarking metrics created for this study take several forms. Typical accounting ratios, based on income statements and balance sheets, serve as financial performance indicators. Financial statements are also recast in same-size formats, which present line items in percentage terms. Other benchmarks describe numbers of employees, meters, and volumes of gas throughput. All AGA data are summarized so that no individual company statistics are revealed. Additionally, summaries are created which divide the industry into type-of-company segments. These include gas utilities, combination gas and electric utilities, and municipally owned gas utilities.⁵ Appendix 2 is a series of charts that display the range of observations for selected benchmarking metrics. Appendix 9 shows the list of companies that were included in this analysis.

- *Utility Operating Profiles - Absolute Values (Section IV-A and Appendix 3a).* System profiles are summarized here by type of company. This data includes information on gas volumes delivered as well as the number of customers by class.
- *Financial Statements - Absolute Values (Section IV-B and Appendix 3b).* Income statement and balance sheet data are summarized here by type of company.⁶ Income statement amounts are expressed in absolute dollars in Appendix 3b. Note that these items represent gas operations only.
- *Financial Statements - Same-Size Analysis (Appendix 3c).* The financial statement data shown in absolute values are re-cast in percentage terms for a same-size analysis. Income statement line items are in percentages relative to operating revenue while balance sheet items are expressed as a percentage of total assets. This shows the disposition of a firm's revenue and composition of its asset base without respect to the size of an individual firm.
- *Financial Statements - Per Cost Driver (Section IV-B and Appendix 3d).* Income statements are shown in several formats: per therm delivered, per customer served, per dollar value of gas plant in service, and per mile of main in operation.
- *Financial Ratios (Section IV-D and Appendix 3e).* These are conventional financial analysis tools, and they compare a company's financial status to other firms or types of firms. Ratios are calculated from group totals or weighted averages (explanations are provided in the Glossary, Appendix 1).
- *O&M Detail Analysis (Section IV-C and Appendix 4).* These cost elements represent major gas delivery activities, starting with purchase or production and continuing sequentially through transmission, distribution, customer service, sales activities, and administrative and general (A&G) accounting. These results are also arrayed by type of company. Benchmarks for these data are created by expressing each line item on a basis of annual costs per therm delivered. See Table 3 for more detail.
- *Debt Analysis - Ratios (Section IV-E).* Data are presented to highlight various measures of debt. These include debt as a percent of capitalization and interest coverage ratios. The data in this section necessarily include both gas and electric operations.
- *Wages and benefits: Ratios and Same-Size Analysis (Section IV-G and Appendix 5).* Data about utility employment and benefits profiles are included. These measures are

⁵ See Glossary in Appendix 1 for a definition of these categories.

⁶ Appendix 3a financial statements are in thousands of dollars.

intended to illustrate the norms for staffing levels and expenses as they vary by type of firm. Benchmark measures include:

- ▶▶ Total salaries and wages per employee
 - ▶▶ Total benefits and pensions per employee
 - ▶▶ Ratio of total benefits to total compensation
 - ▶▶ Annual therm throughput per employee
 - ▶▶ Average annual customers served per employee
- *Profitability (Section IV-F and Appendix 6).* Profitability is expressed here in terms of return on assets (ROA) as well as return on common equity. Since ROA measures the returns attributable to operations (prior to finance costs), ROA is used to describe the relative economic efficiency of natural gas distribution by industry segment. This section will examine selected cost drivers-- numbers of therms sold, of customers served, dollars of gas plant utilized, and miles of pipe in service-- to evaluate each in terms of its impact on ROA. Additionally, return on equity indicates the rate of return that a firm earns on its equity base. See Table 6 for more detail.

IV. BENCHMARK DISCUSSION

IV-A. OVERVIEW

Benchmark summaries are presented here in order of accounting process: revenues are discussed first, followed by O&M costs, operating income, debt management, capitalized income values, and profitability. Finally, wage and benefit profiles are discussed. Table 1 summarizes the scope and scale of the companies studied. It is important to emphasize that the following data are meant to illustrate the typical company studied in this sample and absolute values should not be extrapolated to the industry as a whole. This is especially true of the average number of customers.

TABLE 1			
UTILITY PROFILES			
STATISTICAL SUMMARY, BY INDUSTRY SEGMENT			
DATA BASED ON SEGMENT AVERAGES			
	2005	2006	2007
All Companies	73 Firms	65 Firms	75 Firms
Number of gas customers	567,953	651,589	603,262
Annual therms delivered ('000)	1,026,994	1,176,501	1,097,065
Annual therms delivered per account	2,195	1,889	1,986
Therms delivered per \$1,000 of gas plant	1,007	927	872
Density of system ²	67.7	62.2	61.5
Firm sales ³	90.8%	90.8%	90.5%
Gas utilities	48 Firms	45 Firms	49 Firms
Number of gas customers	582,870	636,301	607,585
Annual therms delivered ('000)	1,137,638	1,190,433	1,171,511
Annual therms delivered per account	2,110	1,988	2,066
Therms delivered per \$1,000 of gas plant	1,029	902	935
Density of system ²	66.4	61.2	56.3
Firm sales ³	90.3%	89.3%	90.0%
Comb. Gas & Electric Utilities¹	16 Firms	14 Firms	17 Firms
Number of gas customers	734,300	883,591	822,650
Annual therms delivered ('000)	1,128,811	1,514,532	1,343,882
Annual therms delivered per account	1,966	1,831	2,042
Therms delivered per \$1,000 of gas plant	1,065	1,104	783
Density of system ²	71.0	59.9	73.0
Firm sales ³	96.7%	98.1%	97.7%
Municipal Utilities	9 Firms	6 Firms	9 Firms
Number of gas customers	192,669	224,910	165,326
Annual therms delivered ('000)	255,887	283,269	225,537
Annual therms delivered per account	1,493	1,286	1,443
Therms delivered per \$1,000 of gas plant	783	697	692
Density of system ²	68.4	74.7	67.1
Firm sales ³	82.7%	85.3%	79.9%

Source: AGA, USR and US Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety.

¹ Data for "Combination Gas & Electric Utilities is from gas operations only.

² "Density" refers to the number of customers per mile of pipe in service.

³ "Firm Sales" is expressed as a percentage of total annual therm volume delivered.

IV-B. REVENUE PERFORMANCE

Figure 1 shows the allocation of average revenue for the three years studied. Table 2 summarizes average industry revenue performance by segment. Weather patterns impacted revenues per customer, while changing gas costs impacted both revenues per customer and per therm.

TABLE 2

UTILITY REVENUE PERFORMANCE

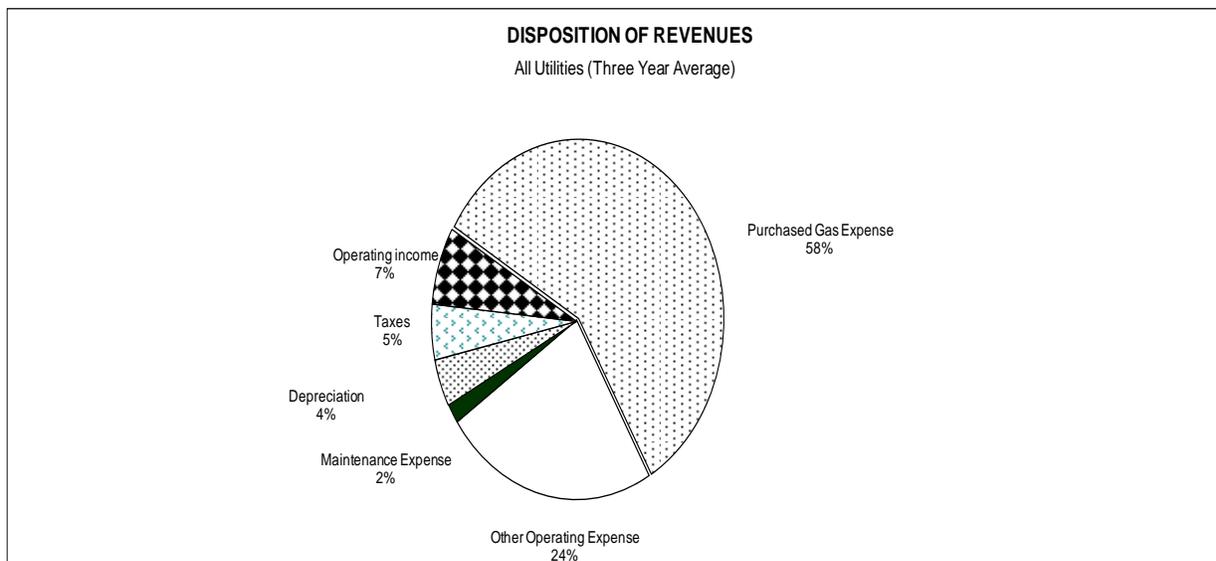
Annual Average Values per Group
Data Based on Segment Averages

	2005	2006	2007
All Companies			
Operating revenue ('000)	\$783,387	\$875,061	\$828,250
Per customer	\$1,552	\$1,535	\$1,614
Per therm	\$0.8835	\$0.9203	\$0.9261
Gross sales margin (Rev. less Pur. Gas, '000)	\$256,376	\$295,334	\$295,193
Per customer	\$498	\$493	\$557
Per therm	\$0.284	\$0.312	\$0.327
Collection period (days)	42.9	34.2	38.4
Gas Utilities			
Operating revenue ('000)	\$812,184	\$861,251	\$819,306
Per customer	\$1,569	\$1,560	\$1,573
Per therm	\$0.8479	\$0.8925	\$0.8720
Gross sales margin (Rev. less Pur. Gas, '000)	\$266,512	\$292,027	\$295,975
Per customer	\$512	\$515	\$527
Per therm	\$0.271	\$0.319	\$0.323
Collection period (days)	47.2	36.3	42.3
Comb. Gas & Electric Utilities¹			
Operating revenue ('000)	\$973,261	\$1,149,842	\$1,156,512
Per customer	\$1,441	\$1,492	\$1,686
Per therm	\$0.8560	\$0.9173	\$0.9427
Gross sales margin (Rev. less Pur. Gas, '000)	\$320,644	\$388,364	\$410,994
Per customer	\$465	\$470	\$691
Per therm	\$0.294	\$0.290	\$0.353
Collection period (days)	31.8	27.8	32.1
Municipal Utilities			
Operating revenue ('000)	\$292,250	\$337,475	\$256,897
Per customer	\$1,661	\$1,453	\$1,702
Per therm	\$1.1216	\$1.1365	\$1.1892
Gross sales margin (Rev. less Pur. Gas, '000)	\$88,059	\$103,063	\$71,693
Per customer	\$473	\$381	\$420
Per therm	\$0.333	\$0.303	\$0.302
Collection period (days)	39.7	33.5	29.6

Source: AGA

¹ Figures for gas operations only.

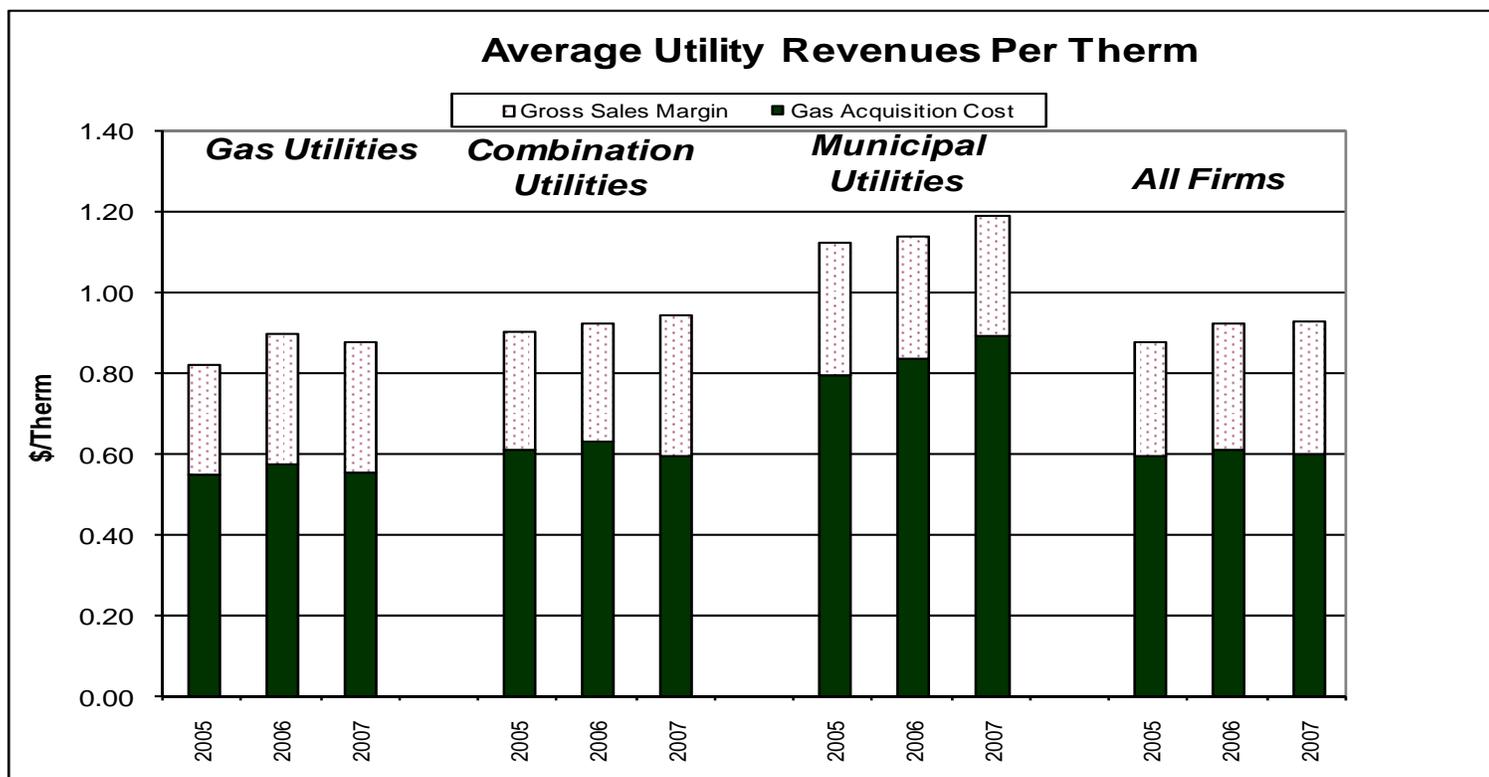
FIGURE 1



IV-C. O&M ANALYSIS

Operations and maintenance (O&M) expenses are those costs specifically attributable to current-year gas distribution activity. These are cost items that are incurred within an annual time period (as opposed to costs amortized over a period of years as is the case with finance costs and depreciation). A presentation of O&M costs on a per-therm basis will facilitate a comparison of cost efficiencies attained by the various industry segments. Table 3 shows average O&M expense detail for the years studied for the combination and gas utility segments.

FIGURE 2



Source: AGA, USR.

TABLE 3

UTILITY O&M DETAIL ANALYSIS

	GAS UTILITIES			COMBO UTILITIES ¹		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
VALUES PER THERM						
Gas-only revenues	\$0.8479	\$0.8925	\$0.8720	\$0.8560	\$0.9173	\$0.9427
Purchased-gas expense	\$0.4567	\$0.4771	\$0.4620	\$0.6176	\$0.5576	\$0.5657
Gross sales margin	\$0.2710	\$0.3194	\$0.3228	\$0.2941	\$0.2903	\$0.3530
Total production costs ²	\$0.5465	\$0.5730	\$0.5492	\$0.6061	\$0.6271	\$0.5898
Storage & LNG	0.0060	0.0059	0.0064	0.0019	0.0016	0.0017
Transmission	0.0083	0.0089	0.0099	0.0105	0.0054	0.0180
Distribution	0.0352	0.0437	0.0441	0.0409	0.0374	0.0385
Customer accounts	0.0263	0.0309	0.0315	0.0270	0.0271	0.0270
Customer svc. & info.	0.0022	0.0039	0.0034	0.0070	0.0092	0.0107
Sales	0.0024	0.0030	0.0038	0.0031	0.0031	0.0027
<u>Admin. & general</u>	<u>0.0536</u>	<u>0.0624</u>	<u>0.0583</u>	<u>0.0541</u>	<u>0.0458</u>	<u>0.0505</u>
Total O&M	\$0.6913	\$0.7316	\$0.7066	\$0.7507	\$0.7567	\$0.7388
SAME-SIZE ANALYSIS						
Gas-only revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Purchased-gas expense	53.9%	53.5%	53.0%	72.2%	60.8%	60.0%
Gross sales margin	32.0%	35.8%	37.0%	34.4%	31.6%	37.4%
Total production costs ²	64.4%	64.2%	63.0%	70.8%	68.4%	62.6%
Storage & LNG	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Transmission	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	0.6%	1.9%
Distribution	4.2%	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	4.1%	4.1%
Customer accounts	3.1%	3.5%	3.6%	3.2%	3.0%	2.9%
Customer svc. & info.	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.8%	1.0%	1.1%
Sales	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%
<u>Admin. & general</u>	<u>6.3%</u>	<u>7.0%</u>	<u>6.7%</u>	<u>6.3%</u>	<u>5.0%</u>	<u>5.4%</u>
Total O&M	81.5%	82.0%	81.0%	87.7%	82.5%	78.4%

Source: AGA, USR.

¹ Figures for gas operations only.

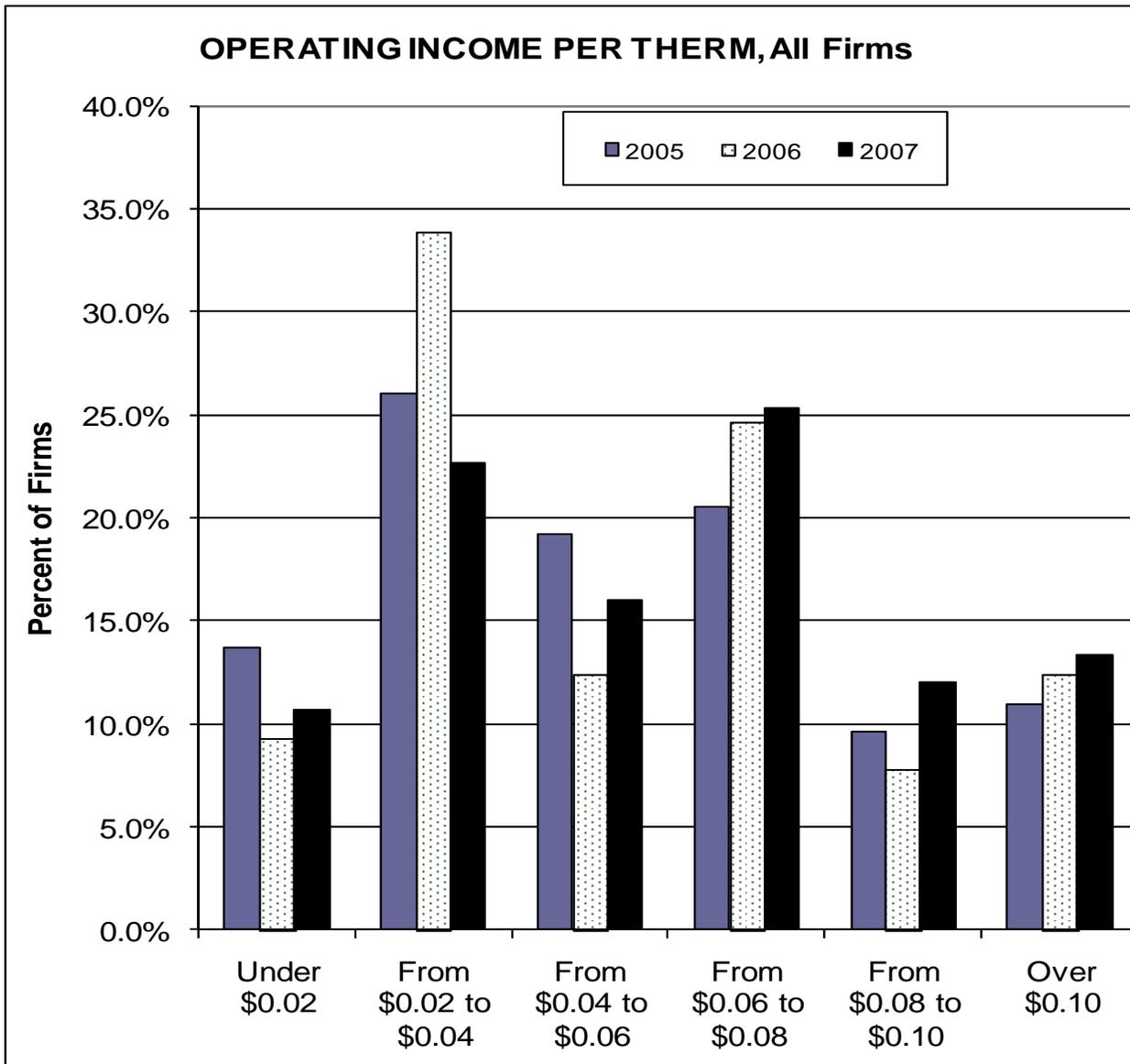
² Purchased-gas expense is subsumed within total production costs.

NOTE: Figures do not sum precisely due to independent rounding.

IV-D. INCOME ANALYSIS

Operating income, by accounting definition, represents revenues net of operations expenses. Operating income does not net out capital cost-related expenses such as interest and amortization. A summary of operating income, then, allows a comparison of efficiency in gas distribution. Figure 3 shows the dispersion of individual companies' operating income per therm. Table 4 shows average operating income results by type of firm.

FIGURE 3



Source: AGA, USR.

TABLE 4

UTILITY INCOME STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS
AVERAGE VALUES PER GROUP, GAS OPERATIONS ONLY

	GAS UTILITIES			COMBO UTILITIES ¹		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Operating revenue, \$000	\$812,184	\$861,251	\$819,306	\$973,261	\$1,149,842	\$1,156,512
Total O&M, \$000	\$667,524	\$707,894	\$655,071	\$823,708	\$953,324	\$928,261
Operating income, \$000	\$53,953	\$57,926	\$69,481	\$54,804	\$73,445	\$91,534
Percent of Revenue						
Total O&M	81.5%	82.6%	81.0%	83.2%	82.5%	78.4%
Operating income	7.4%	6.9%	7.4%	6.8%	7.0%	9.1%
Per Therm						
Revenue	\$0.848	\$0.893	\$0.872	\$0.856	\$0.917	\$0.943
Total O&M	0.691	0.732	0.707	0.712	0.757	0.739
Operating income	0.063	0.065	0.065	0.058	0.064	0.086
Per Customer						
Revenue	\$1,569	\$1,560	\$1,573	\$1,441	\$1,492	\$1,686
Total O&M	1,305	1,299	1,296	1,198	1,232	1,257
Operating income	105	106	112	104	106	191
Per Dollar of Gas Plant						
Revenue	\$0.722	\$0.683	\$0.691	\$0.732	\$0.754	\$0.641
Total O&M	0.607	0.575	0.574	0.611	0.623	0.514
Operating income	0.044	0.042	0.047	0.051	0.053	0.051
Per Mile of Main²						
Revenue	\$109,015	\$100,146	\$91,910	\$104,098	\$88,404	\$120,680
Total O&M	89,727	82,735	74,643	87,393	73,110	90,567
Operating income	7,596	6,918	7,052	7,121	6,324	13,000

Source: AGA, USR.

¹ Figures for gas operations only.

² Miles of main only.

IV-E. DEBT ANALYSIS

Historically, utilities have operated in a regulated environment. Therefore, debt instruments and their management have been prominent items on the utilities' financial agendas. Debt has traditionally represented a large share of utility capitalization. This is due to the historically regulated environment in which utilities have operated. The presence of regulatory oversight, from an investor's perspective, suggests less risk, more stable cash flow, and generally better debt ratings and interest coverage from cash flow. Historically, this made the utility industries attractive to bond investors. As for utilities, the containment of interest and other debt-related carrying costs can have a decisive impact on the overall profitability of operations.

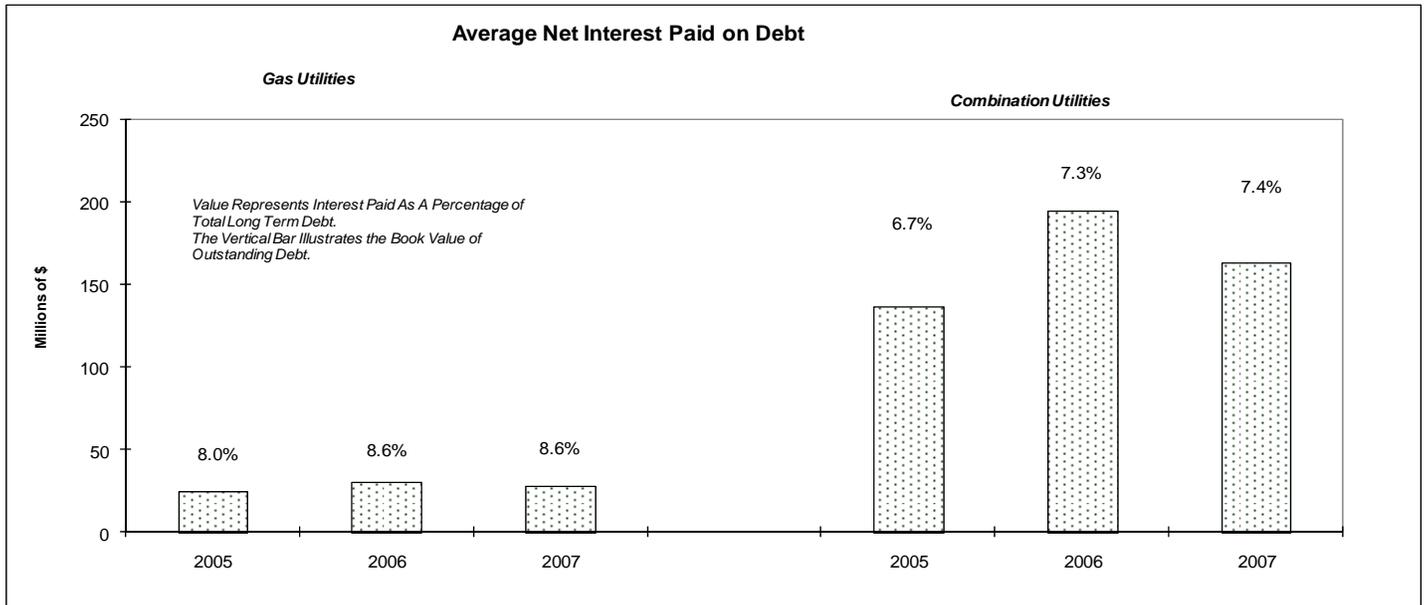
The total cost of capital for a utility reflects that of both debt and equity financing.⁷ Table 5 shows summary descriptors of capital costs for utilities by industry segment.

TABLE 5			
UTILITY DEBT AND DEBT COVERAGE			
AVERAGE VALUES			
	2005	2006	2007
Gas utilities			
Total LT Debt to Total Assets	22.5%	23.2%	20.7%
LT Debt to Total Capitalization	40.1%	40.9%	36.5%
EBITDA Interest Coverage	8.9x	5.9x	7.6x
Combination Utilities¹			
Total LT Debt to Total Assets	31.3%	33.0%	29.6%
LT Debt to Total Capitalization	52.6%	52.9%	49.2%
EBITDA Interest Coverage	5.8x	5.5x	6.6x

Source: AGA, USR.

¹ Figures represent combined gas and electric operations.

FIGURE 4



Note: Combination utility figures represent combined gas and electric operations.

⁷ For combination utilities, such measures necessarily reflect combined gas and electric financials. Some municipal utilities in this study have similar combined activity financing.

Note again that the discussion of combination utility debt and capital structure cannot be limited to gas operations. Therefore, this portion of the analysis necessarily considers combined-commodity financial performance. The combination utilities feature a diversity of

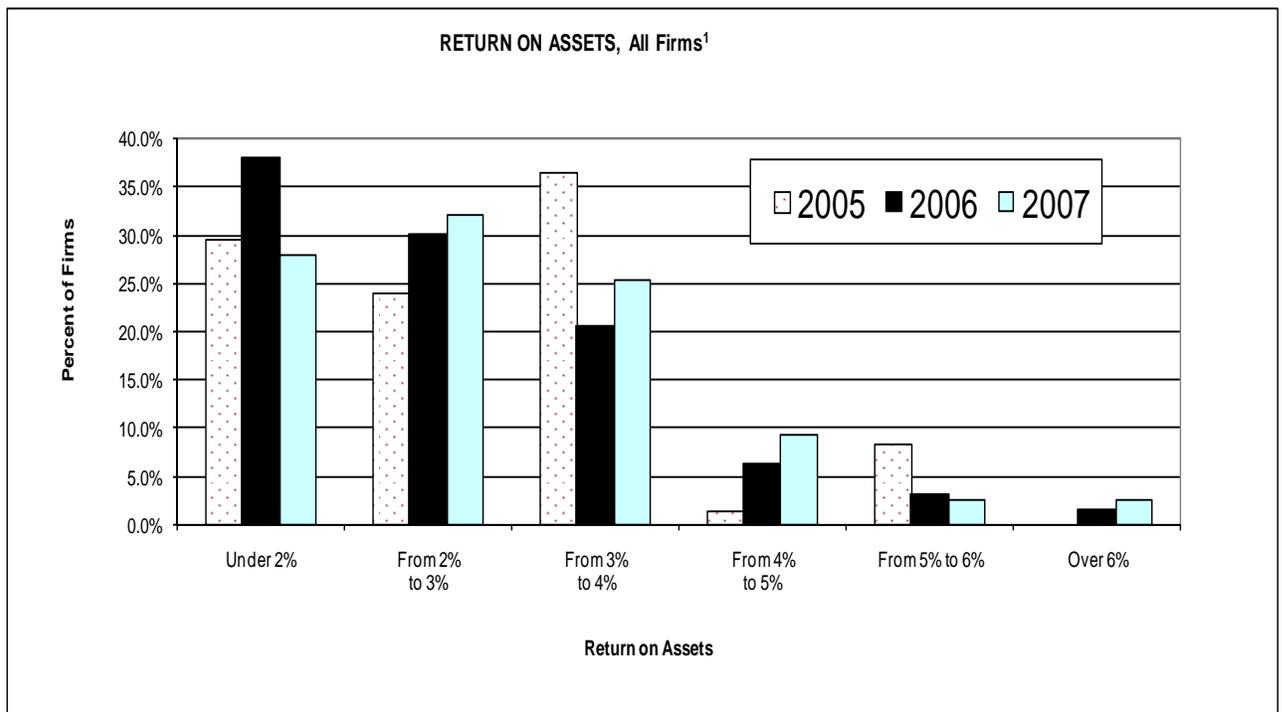
commodity sales and stabilized electric base-load operations attributable to base-load (i.e., not weather-driven) sales.

IV-F. PROFITABILITY ANALYSIS

For this study, profitability is expressed in terms of return on assets (ROA), which relates net income to the value of the asset base that generated that income. Stated differently, ROA measures how well a company's assets "work" to generate income from operations. As such, ROA is convenient for comparing the operating results across companies within an industry.

Figure 5 shows the dispersion of individual company ROA results. Table 6 shows profitability measures for both gas and combination utilities for the years studied.

FIGURE 5



¹ When referring to combined gas and electric operations, the balance sheet items (i.e., total end-of-year assets) refer to the total firm, which could include non-utility assets, gas transmission assets and "other" utility assets (e.g., water), while income statement items (i.e., total revenues) refer to only gas and electric utility distribution operations combined. As a result, these ratios may differ from other reports that consolidate income statement items for the total firm.

While ROA is typically measured as the ratio of net income to assets, it can also be expressed as asset turnover multiplied by profit margin. Asset turnover measures a firm's ability to generate sales from its fixed asset base. The second component of ROA is profit margin, or return on sales. This measures the operating profit per dollar of sales.

TABLE 6			
UTILITY PROFITABILITY INDICATORS			
AVERAGE VALUES			
	2005	2006	2007
Gas Utilities			
Asset Turnover	0.71X	0.73X	0.75X
Financial Leverage	67.6%	65.1%	63.9%
Equity Multiplier	3.50x	3.21x	3.12x
Profit Margin	4.9%	4.6%	5.4%
ROA ²	2.4%	2.2%	2.7%
ROE ²	7.0%	5.9%	8.0%
Current Ratio	1.02	0.93	1.01
Current Assets/Total Assets	26.6%	20.4%	22.8%
Combination Utilities¹			
Asset Turnover	0.46X	0.44X	0.49X
Financial Leverage	70.3%	69.4%	68.8%
Equity Multiplier	3.93x	3.51x	3.47x
Profit Margin	5.1%	5.8%	7.4%
ROA ²	2.5%	2.4%	3.2%
ROE ²	9.1%	8.1%	11.0%
Current Ratio	1.22	1.11	1.04
Current Assets/Total Assets	16.3%	11.8%	12.7%

Source: AGA, USR.

¹ Figures represent combined gas and electric operations.

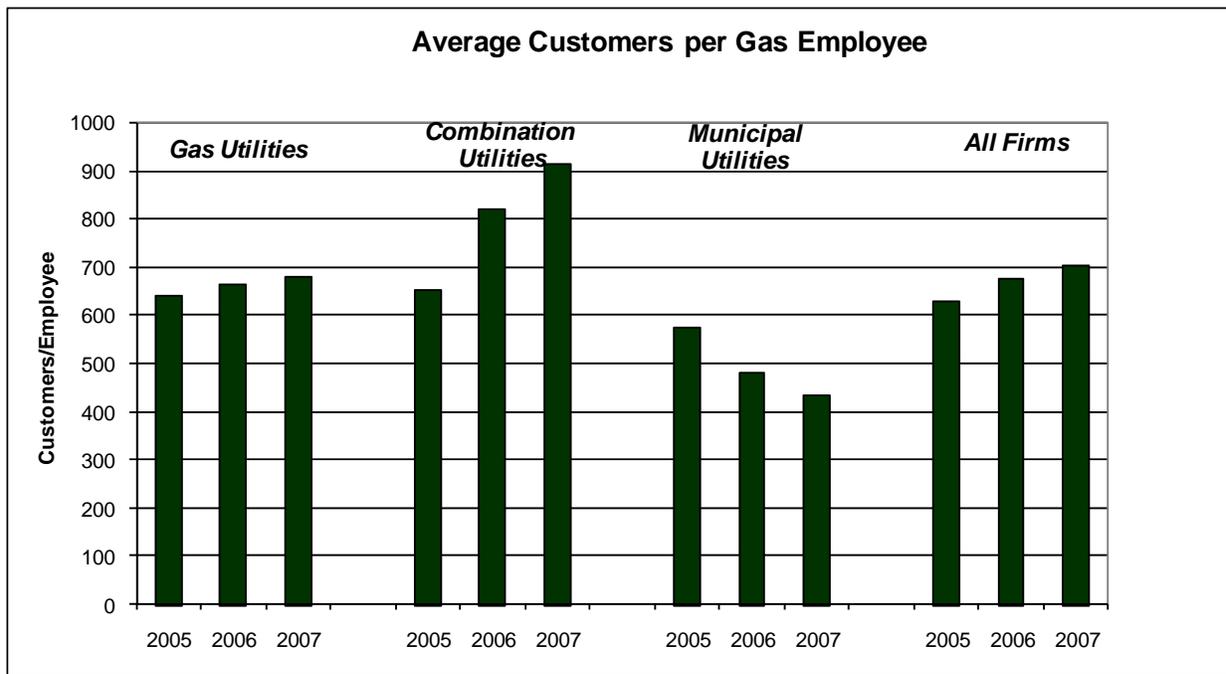
² When referring to combined gas and electric operations, the balance sheet items (i.e., total end-of-year assets) refer to the total firm, which could include non-utility assets, gas transmission assets and "other" utility assets (e.g., water), while income statement items (i.e., total revenues) refer to only gas and electric utility distribution operations combined. As a result, these ratios may differ from other reports that consolidate income statement items for the total firm.

Another measure of profitability is return on common equity (ROE). This differs from ROA in that it takes into account the impact of a firm's capital structure on its profitability. The capital structure of a firm can be examined in many different ways. ROE can be expressed as ROA multiplied by the equity multiplier. The equity multiplier (shown in Table 6) measures a firm's assets relative to its common stock equity. An increase in a firm's level debt financing (an increase in liabilities) will cause a reduction in stockholders equity. This will cause the equity multiplier to rise and thereby increase total ROE. The rise in ROE compensates equity holders for the increased risk they must bear as the firm increases its level of debt.

IV-G. LABOR PRODUCTIVITY AND WAGE ANALYSIS

Current industry interest in restructuring, efficiency, and cost effectiveness often calls attention to staffing and wage profiles. Figure 6 and Table 7 summarize wage and benefit values by industry segment.

FIGURE 6



Source: AGA, USR.

TABLE 7
UTILITY WAGES AND BENEFITS
AVERAGE VALUES PER EMPLOYEE AT YEAR-END

	2005	2006	2007	3-Year Average
All Firms				
Number of employees at year-end	848	676	777	767
Total salaries and wages	\$62,854	\$69,479	\$69,970	\$67,434
Total benefits and pensions	\$17,793	\$19,481	\$18,593	\$18,622
Total salaries, benefits, and pensions	\$79,749	\$88,960	\$88,563	\$85,757
Ratio of total benefits to total compensation	23.8%	23.2%	20.1%	22.37%
Therms sold per employee	1,254,449	1,246,786	1,752,211	1,417,815
Customers per employee	627	676	702	668
Gas Utilities				
Number of employees at year-end	843	903	772	839
Total salaries and wages	\$64,565	\$68,764	\$67,316	\$66,882
Total benefits and pensions	\$16,830	\$17,883	\$16,313	\$17,009
Total salaries, benefits, and pensions	\$80,022	\$86,647	\$82,629	\$83,099
Ratio of total benefits to total compensation	23.2%	21.6%	17.7%	20.83%
Therms sold per employee	1,314,237	1,276,154	1,342,685	1,311,025
Customers per employee	639	664	678	660
Combination Utilities¹				
Number of employees at year-end	1,099	1,241	999	1,113
Total salaries and wages	\$64,099	\$66,324	\$87,761	\$72,728
Total benefits and pensions	\$22,642	\$24,092	\$23,473	\$23,402
Total salaries, benefits, and pensions	\$86,742	\$97,358	\$111,233	\$98,444
Ratio of total benefits to total compensation	24.5%	25.7%	21.2%	23.80%
Therms sold per employee	1,403,786	1,454,451	1,816,327	1,558,188
Customers per employee	650	818	914	794
Municipal Utilities				
Number of employees at year-end	457	481	383	440
Total salaries and wages	\$52,170	\$66,681	\$52,538	\$57,130
Total benefits and pensions	\$15,281	\$22,475	\$23,124	\$20,293
Total salaries, benefits, and pensions	\$67,450	\$89,156	\$75,662	\$77,423
Ratio of total benefits to total compensation	26.5%	31.4%	32.6%	30.17%
Therms sold per employee	726,518	616,088	672,269	671,625
Customers per employee	526	481	448	485

Source: AGA, USR.

¹ Figures for gas operations only.

NOTICE

In issuing and making this publication available, AGA is not undertaking to render professional or other services for or on behalf of any person or entity. Nor is AGA undertaking to perform any duty owed by any person or entity to someone else. Anyone using this document should rely on his or her own independent judgment or, as appropriate, seek the advice of a competent professional in determining the exercise of reasonable care in any given circumstances. The statements in this publication are for general information and represent an unaudited compilation of statistical information that could contain coding or processing errors. AGA makes no warranties, express or implied, nor representations about the accuracy of the information in the publication or its appropriateness for any given purpose or situation.

Information on the topics covered by this publication may be available from other sources, which the user may wish to consult for additional views or information not covered by this publication.

APPENDIX1: GLOSSARY

NOTE: Immediately below some glossary items are references to the USR data field(s) which are the source for that item. The specific field reference is in the format (x,y) where x is the schedule and y is the line item on that schedule. For example, [(6, 21) divided by (2,1 / 365)] refers to Schedule VI, 21 divided by the result of Schedule II, line 1 divided by 365.

Absolute values; absolute dollars

These numbers show the sum of the actual reported data of those companies responding to the survey.

Admin. and gen. expense (4,12)

The overhead cost associated with office activities. Examples of such expenses include stationery, telephone service, office cleaning, heat and power, etc.

Asset turnover (2,1)/(6,36)

A ratio which expresses sales revenue as a percentage of assets on-hand over corresponding accounting periods (usually one year). This ratio can be interpreted as the relative degree to which a company's assets "work" to generate sales revenue.

Assets (6,36)

The total accounting value of a company's productive resources at a point in time (as on a balance sheet).

Average salaries, benefits, & pensions per employee [(13,6)+(13,10)]/(13,2)

Total compensation to employees (wages, benefits, etc.) divided by number of employees.

Capitalization (6,51)

The structure of a firm's long-term financing. "Capitalization" refers to the combination of debt and equity, which (in addition to retained earnings) is the monetary equivalent of the firm's assets.

Collection period (days) (6,21) / [(2,1)/365]

An accounting measure that indicates the efficiency of revenue collections. This measure expresses an accounts receivable total in terms of the number of days of normal revenue collections that would be accumulated to make a sum equivalent to the accounts receivable balance.

Combination gas and electric company

A business entity that distributes both gas and electricity to customers within a franchise territory.

Common equity (6,42)

The total value of wealth given by investors to a company in return for ownership of shares (common stock) of that company's assets and retained earnings.

Current ratio (6,29)/(6,61)

Current assets divided by current liabilities. An indication of a company's ability to meet short-term debt obligations; the higher the ratio, the more liquid the company is.

Customer

An entity which enters into an account with a utility in order to receive natural gas for heating, power, feedstock, and other uses. For current purposes, an individual gas meter functionally represents each customer account. As such the terms "customer," "meter," and "account" are used interchangeably in this study.

Customers per employee [20,15)+(20,18)]/(8,2)

Total customers (including both sales and transportation) divided by total employees.

Customer accounts expense (4,9)

The expense attributable to serving a customer. For utility operations, this includes metering, billing, and fixed charges incurred by customer hook-ups. Includes FERC System of Accounts 901 (Supervision), 902 (Meter reading expenses), 903 (Customer records and collection expenses), 904 (Uncollectable accounts), and 905 (Misc. customer accounts expenses).

Customer accounts expense per therm (4,9)/[(20,15+20,18)]

Customer accounts expense divided by total therms (including both sales and transportation volumes).

Customer service and information (4,10)

The expense attributable to all customer assistance and information operations. Bill remediation, bill inserts, and other communication with existing customers is included in this category. Includes FERC System of Accounts 907 (Supervision), 908 (Customer assistance expenses), 909 (Informational and instructional advertising expenses), and 910 (Misc. customer and informational expense).

Customer service and information expense per therm (4,10)/[(20,15+20,18)]

Customer service and information expense divided by total therms (including both sales and transportation volumes)

Debt (6,50) + (6,54) + (6,61)

The summed monetary value of a company's short- and long-term obligations to repay money that it has borrowed from lenders.

Depreciation (2,4)

The operating expense that, as an accounting mechanism, represents the predetermined annual write-down of a durable capital asset. Depreciation, as an accounting item, impacts net income and taxes. It is not a cash expenditure, but is an annual recognition of long-lived asset costs which are spread over the years that these assets are expected to be in operation.

Distribution expense (4,8)

The operating expense that represents the cost of moving natural gas from a utility's city gate to all the meters along the franchise's system of gas mains. Includes FERC System of Accounts 871 (Distribution load dispatching), 872 Compressor station labor and expenses), 873 (Compressor station fuel and power (Major only), 874 (Mains and service expenses), 875 (Measuring and regulating station expenses 0 General), 876 (Measuring and regulating station expenses – Industrial), 877 (Measuring and regulating station expenses – City Gate Check Stations), 878 (Meter and house regulator expenses), 879 (Customer Installation expenses), 880 (Other expenses), 881 ((Rents), 885 (Maintenance supervision and engineering), 886 (Maintenance of structure and improvements), 887 (Maintenance of mains), 888 (Maintenance of mains), 888 (Maintenance of compressor station equipment), 889 (Maintenance of measuring and regulating stations equipment – General 890 (Maintenance of measuring and regulating station equipment – Industrial), 891 (Maintenance of measuring and regulating station equipment – City Gate Check Stations), 892 (Maintenance of services), 893 (Maintenance of meters and house regulators), and 894 (Maintenance of other equipment).

EBIT (2,18)+(2,8)

A measure which describes, for an accounting period, the total company income net of operations expense, but not yet net of interest and tax expenses. This measure facilitates comparisons of companies' economic output after operations, capital depletion, and depreciation conventions.

EBITDA (2,18)+(2,6)+(2,8)

A measure which describes, for an accounting period, the total company income net of operations expense, but not yet net of interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization expenses. This measure facilitates comparisons of companies' economic output from operations.

Equity multiplier (4,36)/(4,42)

Total assets divided by total common stock equity. Used as a measure of corporate profitability.

Fuel (4,1)

Includes FERC System of Accounts 501, 518 and 547.

Field

An element of database structure that holds the recorded values for a specific attribute of interest common to all observations. See also *Uniform Statistical Report (USR)*.

Financial leverage $[(6,50)+(6,54)]+(6,61)]+(6,67)]/(6,36)$

Total debt divided by total assets. Measures the employment of funds obtained at a fixed cost.

Firm, percent $((20,1+20,2+20,3+20,5+20,7+20,9)/20,15)$

Total sales volumes of gas sold under the firm tariff divided by total sales volumes.

Gas plant (6,2)

The undepreciated capital facilities directly related to gas distribution. See also "total plant in service."

Gas plant per customer $(6,2)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Gas plant divided by total customers (including both sales and transportation).

Gas plant per mile of main $(6,2)/(26,10)$

Gas plant divided by total miles of mains (from U.S. Dept. of Transportation).

Gas utility

A franchised gas distribution company, the equity value of which is held by shareholders in the form of stock. The earnings of such a company are distributed wholly or in part to shareholders in the form of dividends. Any earnings not distributed are retained by the company on its balance sheet.

General & administrative costs per therm $(4,12)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Expenses incurred by the utility not specifically assignable to operations or sales, such as overhead, general office, personnel, etc., divided by total customers (both sales and transportation).

General & administrative costs per therm $(4,12)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Expenses incurred by the utility not specifically assignable to operations or sales, such as overhead, general office, personnel, etc., divided by total therms (both sales and transportation volumes).

Gross sales margin per customer or Gross margin per customer $[(2,1) - (4,2)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Defined as revenue, less purchased gas costs, divided by total customers, both sales and transportation. An accounting measure that describes the per-unit dollar value that remains after the acquisition cost of the unit is subtracted from the retail revenue received for that unit.

Gross sales margin per therm or Gross margin per therm $[(2,1) - (4,2)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Defined as revenue, less purchased gas costs, divided by total delivered therms. An accounting measure that describes the per-unit dollar value that remains after the acquisition cost of the unit is subtracted from the retail revenue received for that unit. Includes both sales and transportation volumes.

Heating Degree Days (HDD)

A measure of the coldness of the weather experienced, based on the extent to which the daily mean temperature falls below a reference temperature, usually 65 degrees F.

Implied long-term (LT) debt cost $(2,24)/(6,50)$

A proxy measure of the interest rate paid by utilities for long-term borrowing (obligations over one year). Data as collected on the USR did not request a breakout of short- versus long-term interest obligations. Therefore, a strict calculation of cost of long term debt (annual interest paid on long-term obligations divided by total long-term debt) was not possible. The implied cost relates net interest costs (interest of all types) to long-term debt. The result permits some distortion of true long-term debt costs.

Interest coverage $[(2,18 + 2,4 + 2,6 + 2,8) \text{ divided by } (2,24)]$

The comparison of a company's financial returns to its interest payment obligations, for a specific accounting period. "EBITDA" is an income statement result; specifically, it means "earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization." This ratio indicates the company's relative ability to generate the cash flow necessary to meet its interest payment obligations.

Long-term debt (6,50)

Financial instruments that become due on a date at least one year beyond the current accounting period. These include the mortgages and bonds, which represents a company's capital borrowings. By issuing debt, the company has an obligation to repay its lenders the amount borrowed plus regular increments of interest.

Lower quartile (LQ)

A statistical measure that describes a data value that is halfway between the median and the lowest value in the data set. Technically defined as the "first quartile." See "quartile" and "median."

Mean (Arithmetic – See Weighted Average.)

An average value; i.e., a single calculated value which is representative of a set of values. The mean is calculated by summing a set of observation values, then dividing that total by the number of observations that were used.

Median (MED)

A statistical measure describing the "middle position" for a sequence of observations, or the 50-percent position in a sequence of ordered observations (2nd quartile). See "quartile."

Meter

(See "customer")

Miles of Main

Length of utility system's distribution mains (excludes transmission and service lines) as reported by utilities to the US Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety.

Municipal utility

A type of gas distribution company that is owned by a local government entity and run on behalf of that entity's citizenry. Whereas investor-owned utilities usually pay out dividends to shareholders, the municipal utility's dividends accrue to the citizens in the form of a lower cost for energy.

Net margin per customer $[(2,1)-(4,13)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Operating revenues less total O&M, with the result divided by total customers (includes both sales and transportation).

Net margin per therm $[(2,1)-(4,13)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Operating revenues less total O&M, with the result divided by total therms (includes both sales and transportation volumes).

Net worth

The residual value of a company's assets after deducting liabilities.

Operations and maintenance (O&M) (20,13)

These are accounting summaries of expenditures attributable to company operations. Most importantly, these are expenses over which management has direction. These are distinct from (i.e., do not include) expenses imposed from outside of operations such as interest payments and amortization.

Observation

A single event for which an activity is recorded or measured. For a measurable event the unique record for any observation is that observation's value. For example, if the variable of interest is annual therms sold, then "1,000,000" may be the value of this variable for the single observation "ABC Company."

Operating income (2,11)

The financial outcome of a company that represents revenues earned less the expenses attributable to operations, including depreciation, amortization, and taxes (but not expenses such as interest payments, amortization, etc.).

Operating revenue

See revenue.

Other production expenses (4,4)

Includes FERC System of Accounts 805 (Other gas purchases and purchase gas adjustments), 806 (Exchange gas), 812 (Gas used for the utility operations), and 813 (Other gas supply expense).

Profit margin (2,29)/(2,1)

Net income available for common stockholders divided by total operating revenues (including electric for combination companies, since net income is not segmented by operational division).

Purchased gas expense (4,3)

The utility expenditure for the gas it buys on the market from producers, transmission companies, marketers, and other sources. Includes FERC System of Accounts 800 (wellhead purchases), 801 (field line purchases), 802 (plant outlet purchases), 803 (transmission line purchases), 804 (city gate purchases) LESS 804.1 (LNG), and 807 (Purchased or expense).

Purchased gas cost per therm (4,3)/(20,15)

Purchased gas expense divided by total sales volumes

Quartile

A statistical tool that analyzes a set of values that are sequenced by order of magnitude. Any set of ordered values can be divided into four quartiles. The first quartile is the observation reached after counting off the first 25 percent of the sequenced values (counting from the lowest value). The second quartile is the observation at the 50 percent position in the sequence; the third quartile is at the 75 percent position; and the fourth quartile is at the 100 percent position, which is also the highest value for the entire data set.

Return on Assets (ROA) (2,29)/(6,36)

A financial ratio that expresses net income as a percentage of assets. This ratio measures how well a company uses its assets to generate operating income.

Return on Equity (ROE) (2,29)/(6,42)

A financial ratio that expresses net income as a percentage of total common stock equity. This ratio measures how well investors in a firm are doing relative to other investments.

Revenue (2,1)

The receipts from utility operations and sales of gas, excluding non-utility and other income, before expenses are considered.

Revenue per customer (2,1)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]

Operating revenues divided by total meters, including transportation customers.

Revenue per therm (2,1)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]

Operating revenues divided by total therms, including transportation volumes.

Sales expense (4,11)

The cost of sales administration, including commissions overhead, materials, etc. Includes FERC System of Accounts 911 (Supervision), 912 (Demonstrating and selling expenses), 913 (Advertising expenses), and 916 (Misc. sales expenses).

Same-size financial statement

This is an alternative method of displaying income statement and balance sheet summaries. It is intended to facilitate comparisons across company types. As opposed to displaying absolute dollar values, the same-size statement presents each line item as a percentage of its aggregate total. The same-size income statement sets revenues at 100.0 and all other items are a percent of that total. The same-size balance sheet similarly sets total assets (as well as total liabilities and owners' equity) to 100.0.

System density $[(20,15)+(20,18)]/\text{Miles of Main}$

Total customers (both sales and transportation) divided by total miles of mains (from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation). A ratio that describes the degree to which meters are "packed" onto a distribution system.

Tax expense (2,8)

The amount representing the utility's obligation to pay taxes, including sale, gross receipts, income, and property taxes. This total includes pass-through taxes collected by the utility on behalf of local government jurisdictions.

Therm

A unit of measurement for energy, equivalent to 100,000 British thermal units.

Therms per customer $[(20,15)+(20,18)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Total therms (both sales and transportation) divided by total customers (both sales and transportation).

Therms delivered per employee $[(20,15)+(20,18)]/(8,2)$

Total therms (both sales and transportation) divided by total employees.

Total benefits (13,10)

The annual compensation accruing to utility employees in the form of pensions, health care, insurance, and other non-payroll items.

Total compensation (13,6 + 13,10)

The total annual compensation accruing to utility employees, both as payroll and non-payroll compensation, as well as benefits.

Total production expense (4,5)

Combination of fuel (4,1), purchased gas (4,3), and other production expenses (4,4).

Total O&M per customer $(4,13)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

All operations and maintenance expenses divided by total customers (includes both sales and transportation).

Total O&M per therm $(4,13)/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

All operations and maintenance expenses divided by total therms (includes both sales and transportation volumes).

Total plant in service (6,5)

The total value of utility plant as shown on the balance sheet. In the case of combination utilities, this will include gas and electric plant used for the purpose of power distribution.

Transmission (4,7)

The cost to a utility for moving natural gas purchases from its source to its city gate. Includes FERC System of Accounts 850 (Operations, supervision and engineering), 851 (System control and load dispatching), 852 (Communication system expenses), 853 (Compressor station labor and expenses), 854 (Gas for compressor station fuel), 855 (Other fuel and power for compressor stations), 856 (Main expenses), 857 (Measuring and regulating station expenses), 858 (Transmission and compression of gas by others), 859 (Other expenses), 860 (Rents), 861 (Maintenance supervision and engineering), 862 (Maintenance of structures and improvements), 863 (Maintenance of mains), 864 (Maintenance of compressor station equipment), 865 (Maintenance of measuring and regulating station equipment), 866

(Maintenance of communication equipment), 867 (Maintenance of other equipment), and 870 (Operation supervision and engineering).

Transmission and distribution costs per customer $[(4,7)+(4,8)]/[(20,15)+(20,18)]$

Cost of transporting gas to the customer, divided by total customers (both sales and transportation).

Transmission and distribution costs per therm $[(4,7+4,8)/(20,15+20,18)]$

Cost of transporting gas to the customer, divided by total therms (both sales and transportation).

Uniform Statistical Report (USR)

The standardized reporting form used by the American Gas Association to collect financial and operating information from its individual member companies. The USR data is the source for information presented in this study.

Upper quartile (UQ)

A statistical measure, which describes a data value that, is halfway between the median and the highest value in the data set. Technically defined as the "third quartile." See "Quartile" and "Median."

Value

In statistics, a "value" is the recorded measurement for an individual observation. For example, if the variable of interest is "annual therms sold," then "1,000,000" may be the value of this variable for the single observation "ABC Company."

Variable

An attribute, more or less common to a set of observations, which is subject to measurement. For example, if the variable of interest is "annual therms sold," then "1,000,000" may be the value of this variable for the single observation "ABC Company."

Weighted average

A statistical measure for describing the mean or "central tendency" of a set of numeric observations. Weighted averages are used in this study to provide benchmark ratios per group or per industry segment. For these benchmark ratios and arithmetic (simple) average would be the mean value of the ratios calculated individually for each company. Instead, the weighted average ratio has as its numerator the sum of observations for that variable divided by the sum of observations for the denominator variable. For example, the density of distribution system metric for gas utilities relates the sum of all gas utility meters divided by the sum of all gas utility miles of pipe.

APPENDIX 2: MULTI-YEAR CHARTS FOR ALL COMPANIES

Explanation of factors influencing results:

REVENUE: Impacted by weather, rate design, customer growth, the economy, allowed rates of return, taxes, depreciation expense, total O&M expense, and subsidiary operations.

REVENUE PER CUSTOMER: Determined by revenue and customer base (predominantly higher-consuming customer population yields larger results).

REVENUE PER THERM: Determined by revenue and customer base (predominantly smaller-consuming customer base yields larger results).

THERMS DELIVERED PER CUSTOMER: Influenced by weather and customer base (predominantly higher-consuming customer population yields larger results).

PERCENT FIRM SALES: Determined by customer base. Utilities with predominantly residential and small commercial customers tend to have higher values here. Large customers switching from sales to transportation tariffs also influence results.

PURCHASED GAS COST PER SALES THERM: Impacted by proximity to supplies (closer leads to lower transportation costs), interstate pipeline access (more competition leads to lower costs), volumes purchased (economies of scale), and purchasing strategies (spot versus contracts, storage refill, hedging, etc.).

GROSS SALES MARGIN: Influenced by revenue, O&M, and company size (economies of scale).

TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION COST PER THERM/CUSTOMER: Determined by age of system, throughput, customer base, system density, and size of company (economies of scale).

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT EXPENSE PER THERM: Impacted by customer base (concentration of smaller customers leads to higher costs per therm), types of administrative (e.g., billing) systems, and throughput.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INFORMATION EXPENSE PER THERM: Influenced by types of administrative systems (e.g., database software and hardware), customer base, and throughput.

SALES EXPENSE PER THERM: Determined by level of marketing effort put forth by company and throughput.

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE PER THERM/CUSTOMER: Impacted by employee base/compensation, overhead expenses, customer base, and throughput.

TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSE PER THERM/CUSTOMER: Combination of purchased gas expense, other production costs, T&D, customer accounts, service, & information expenses, sales, and G&A. See those factors for explanation.

NET MARGIN PER THERM/CUSTOMER: Influenced by allowed rates of return, taxes, depreciation, weather, customer base, and throughput.

AVERAGE SALARIES, BENEFITS, AND PENSIONS PER EMPLOYEE: Impacted by union contracts, experience/tenure of average employee, age of employees and retirees, local economic competition for employees, proportion of upper management relative to employee base (higher for companies outsourcing significant workload), and special offers to employees (early retirement, severance packages due to downsizing, etc.).

CUSTOMERS PER EMPLOYEE: Determined by the customer base (companies with predominately small-use customers tend to have a higher value) as well as the employee base (more efficient companies and those outsourcing significant workload tend to have a higher value).

THERMS DELIVERED PER EMPLOYEE: Primarily determined by the customer base (companies with predominately large-use customers tend to have a higher value).

GAS PLANT PER CUSTOMER: Influenced by the customer base (companies with predominately large-use customers tend to have a higher value).

RETURN ON ASSETS: Impacted by allowed rate of return, weather, sales growth, subsidiary performance, and one-time charges (e.g., asset reevaluation, merger expense, etc.).

RETURN ON EQUITY: Impacted by allowed rate of return, weather, sales growth, subsidiary performance, and one-time charges (e.g., asset reevaluation, merger expense, etc.).

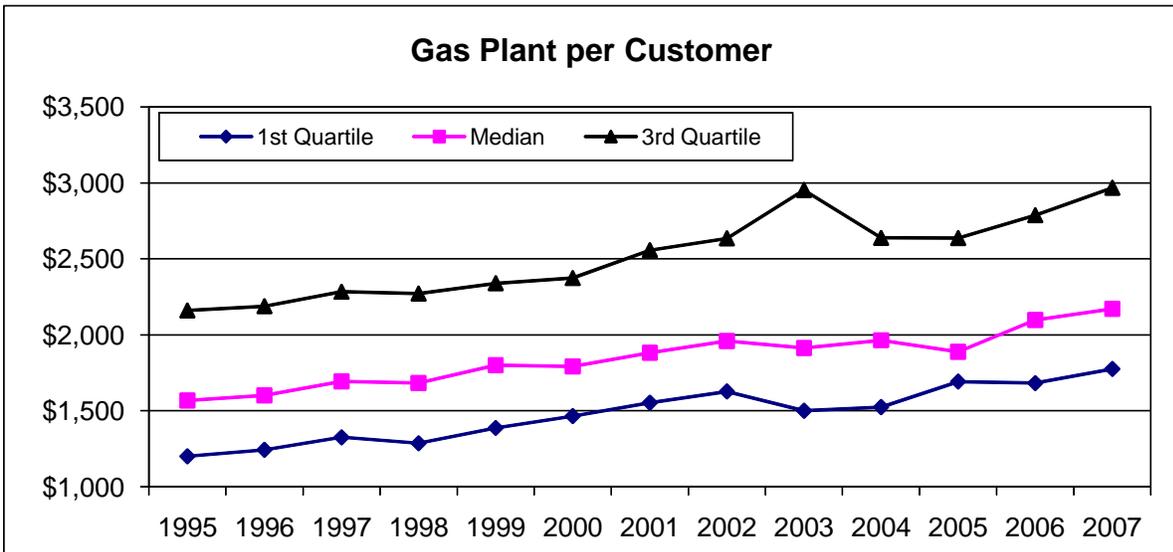
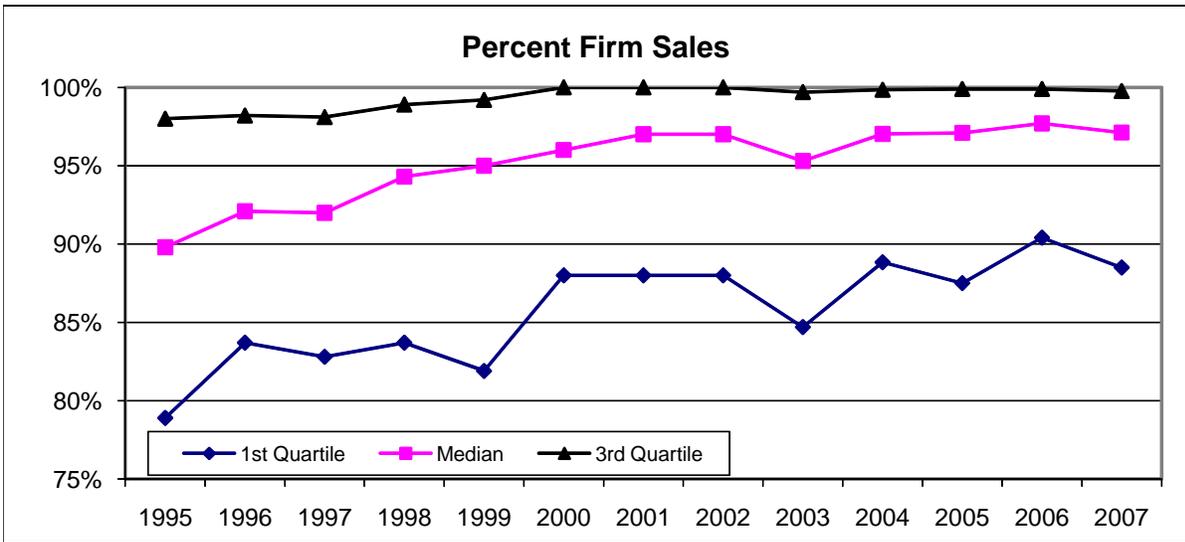
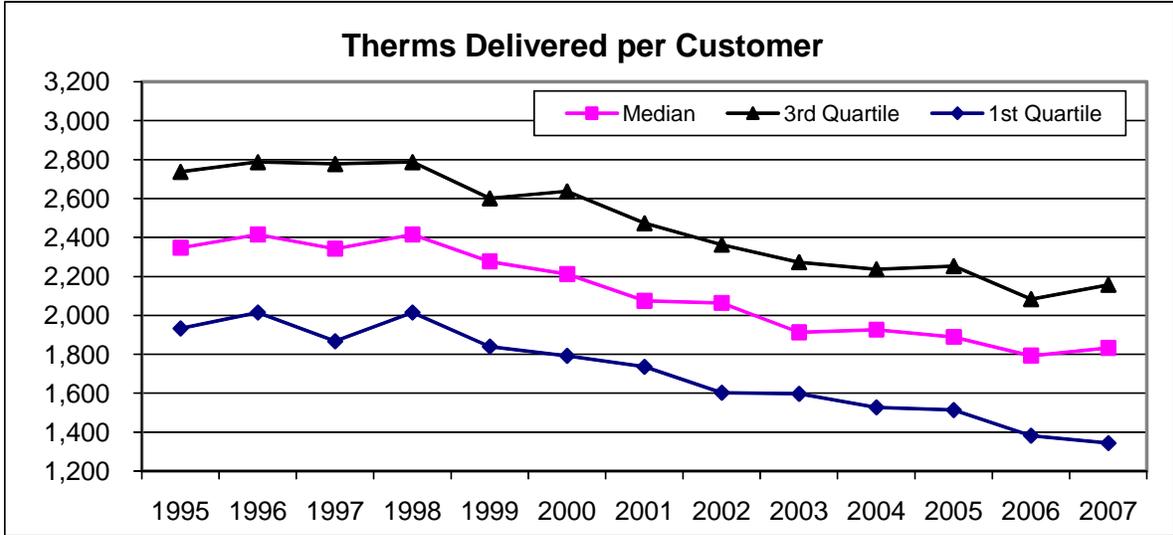
ASSET TURNOVER: Influenced by revenue and composition/age of gas plant.

PROFIT MARGIN: Impacted by allowed rate of return, income taxes, interest expense, and weather.

FINANCIAL LEVERAGE: Influenced by the proportion of debt and the amount of gas plant for a company.

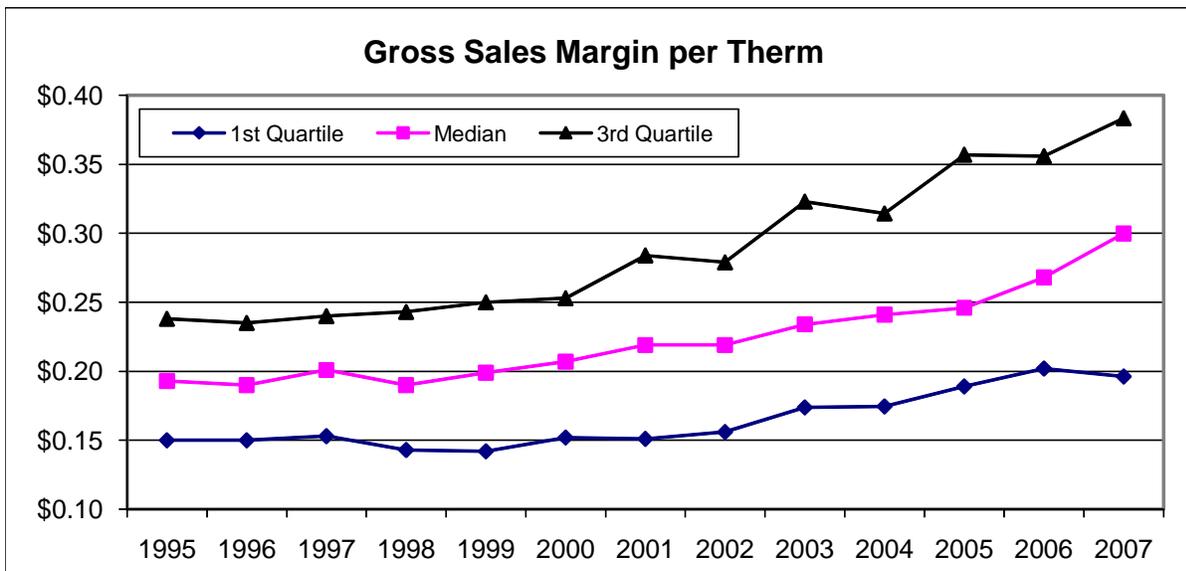
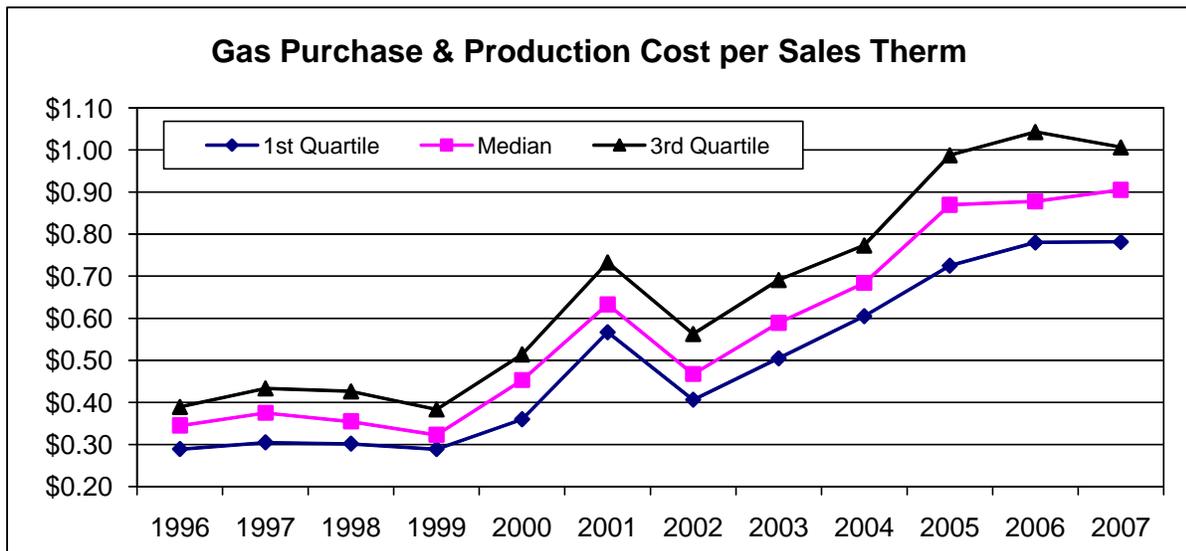
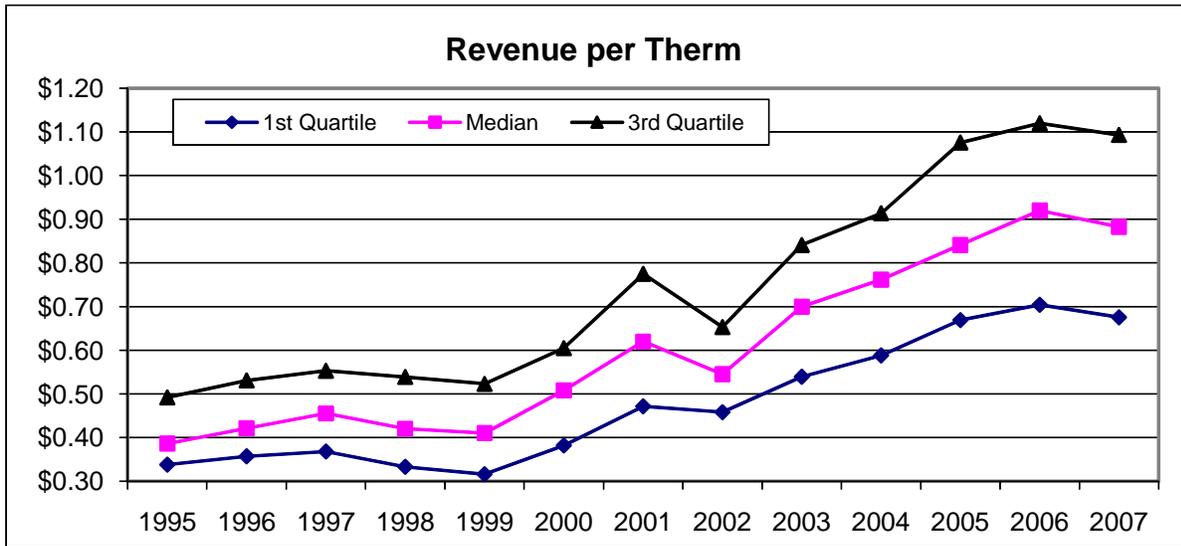
NOTE: Recent results of metrics involving miles of main are not comparable for years prior to 2004 because of changes in the definition of miles of main changed (no longer includes services) and in the data source (now derived from the US Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety database).

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



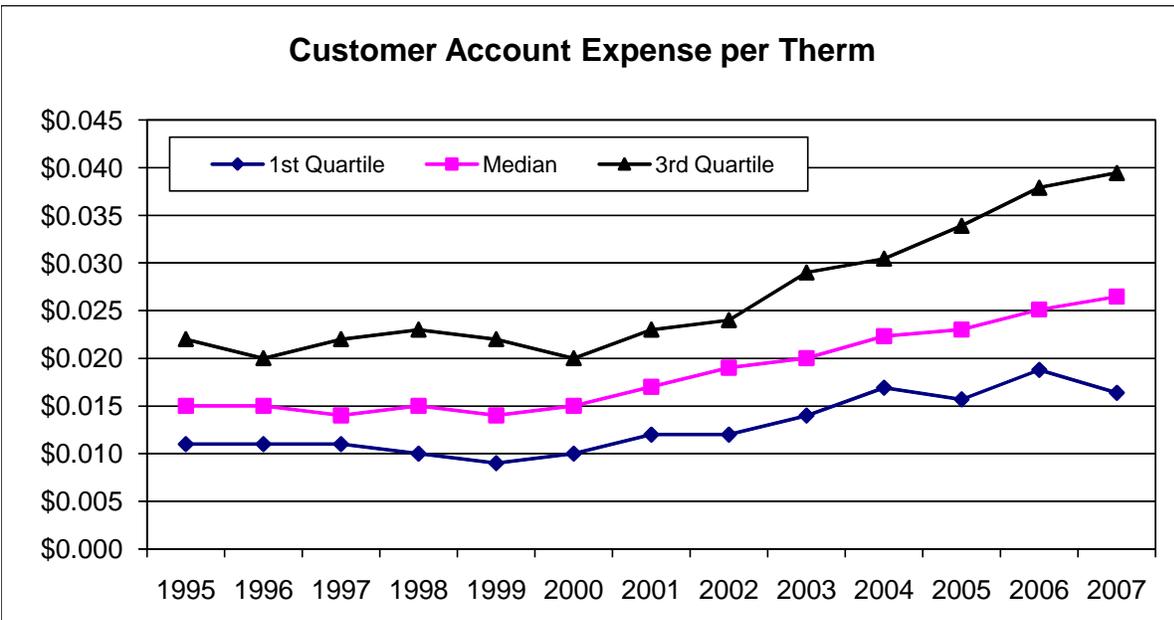
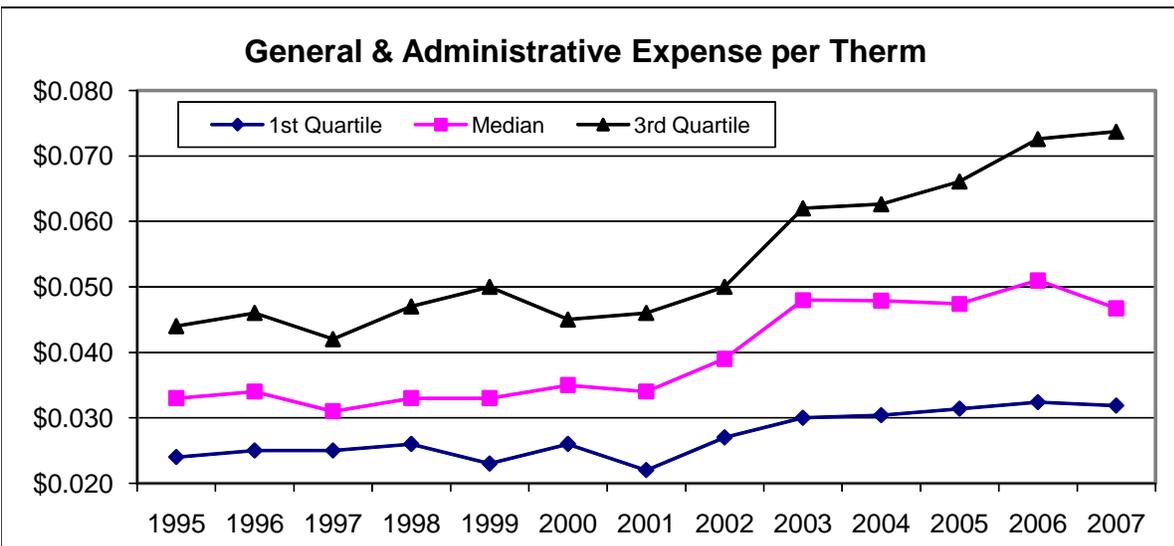
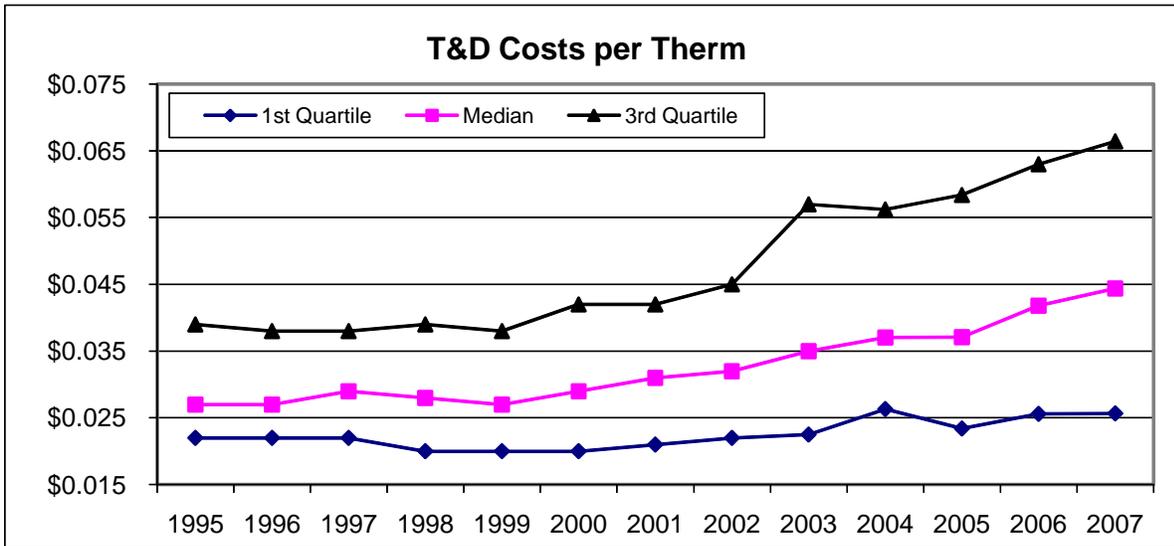
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



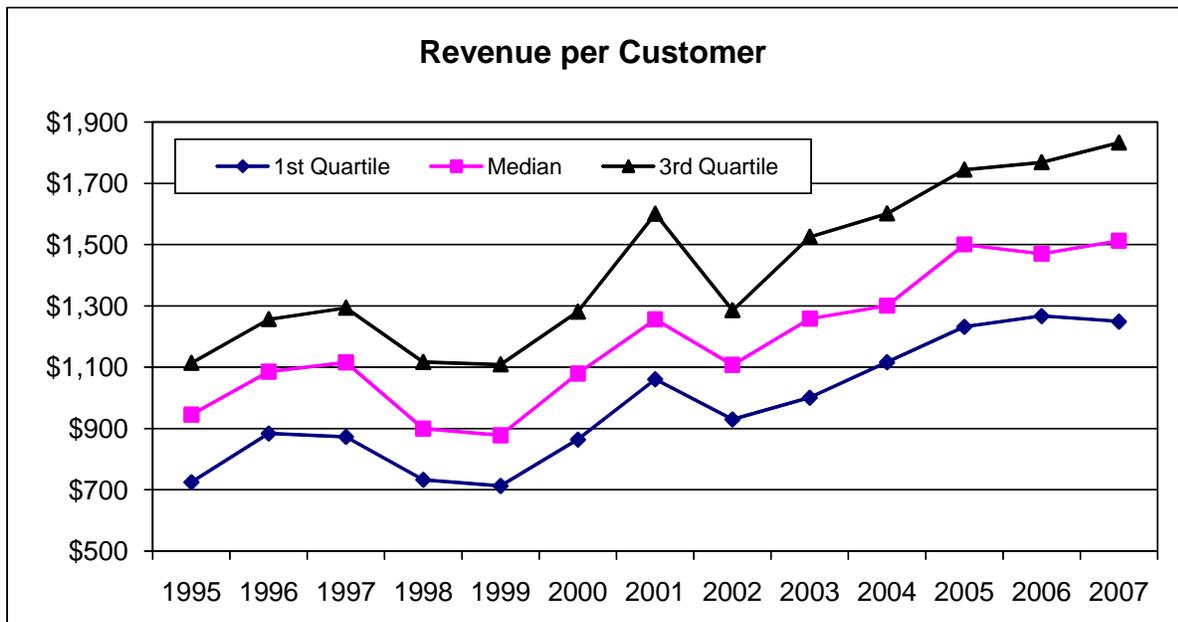
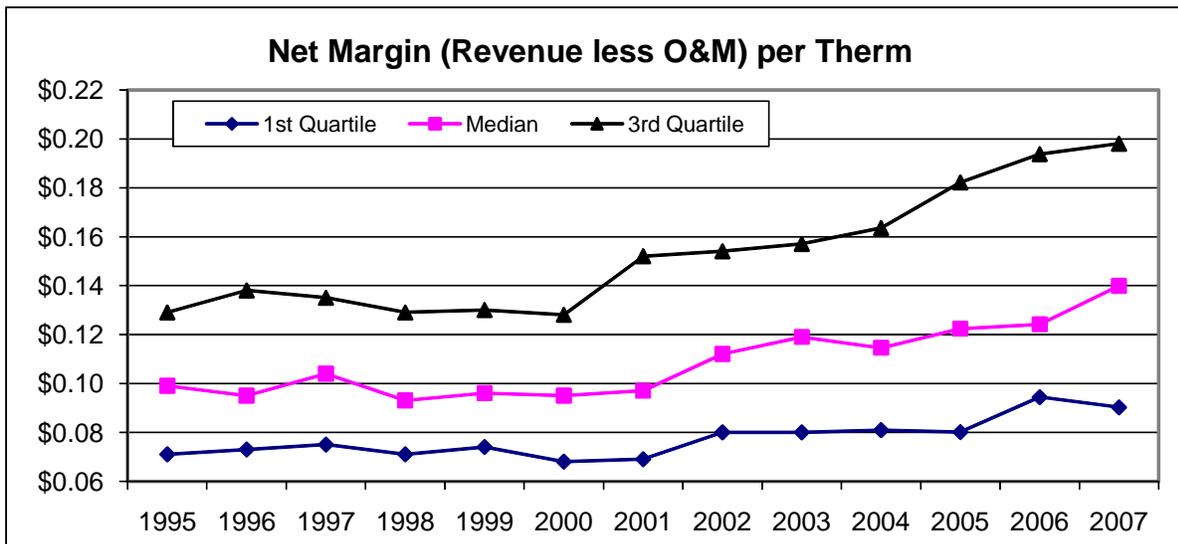
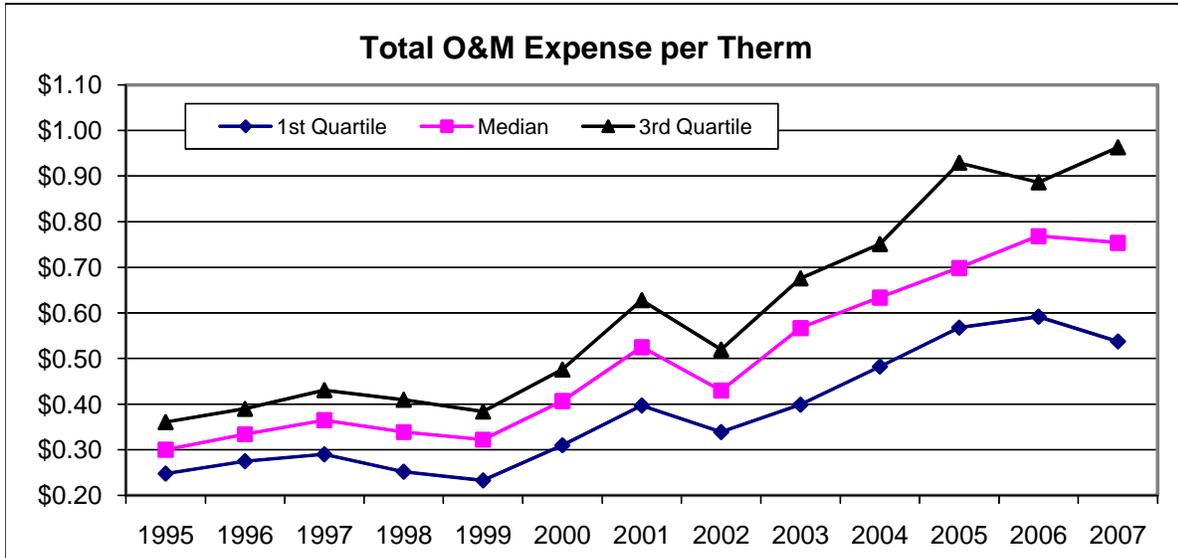
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



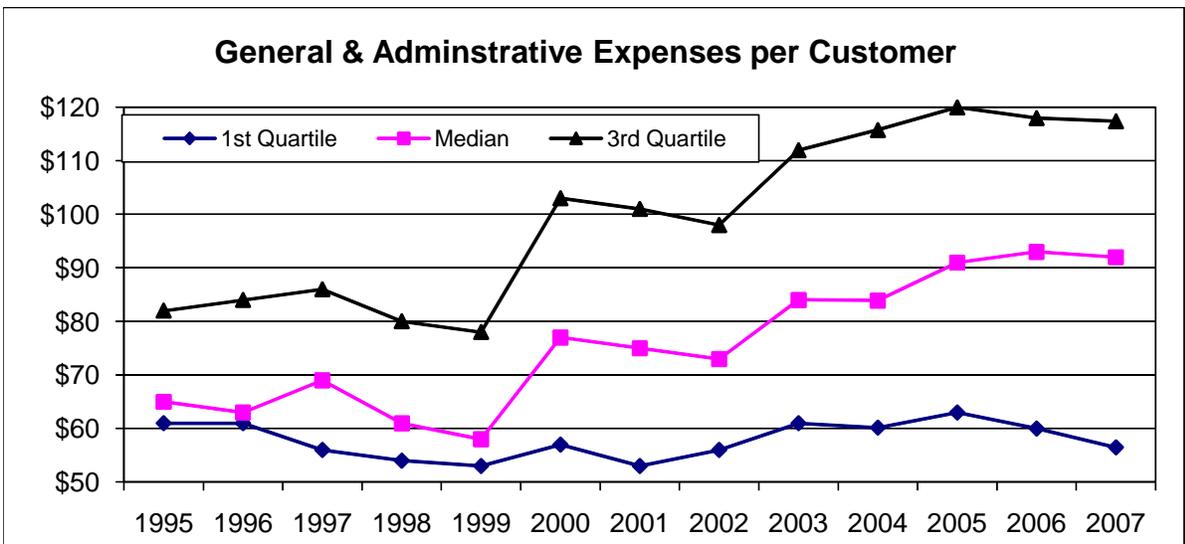
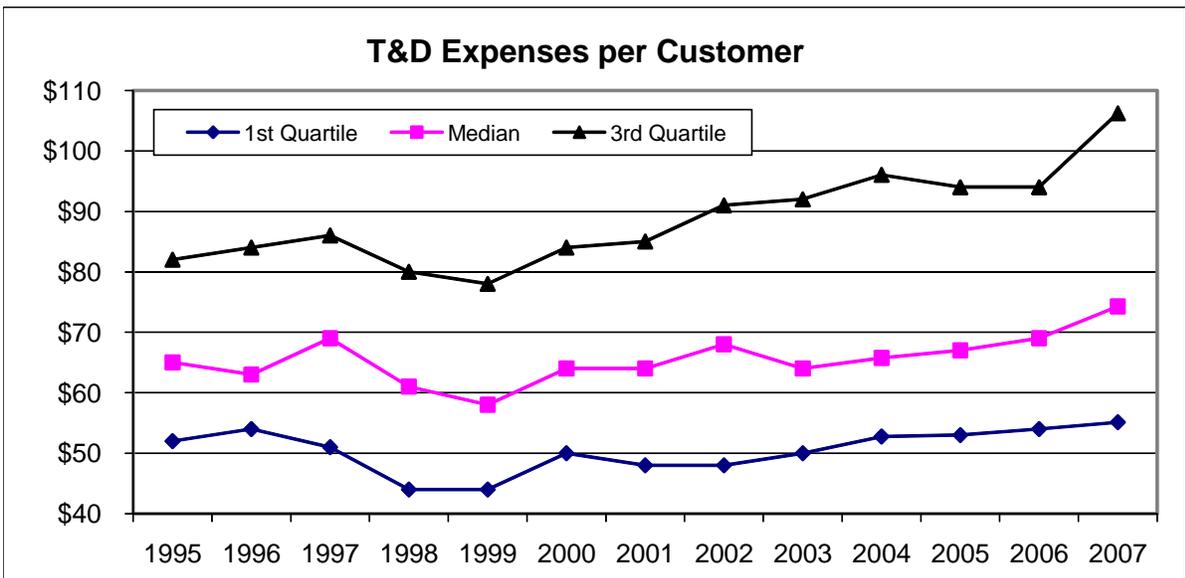
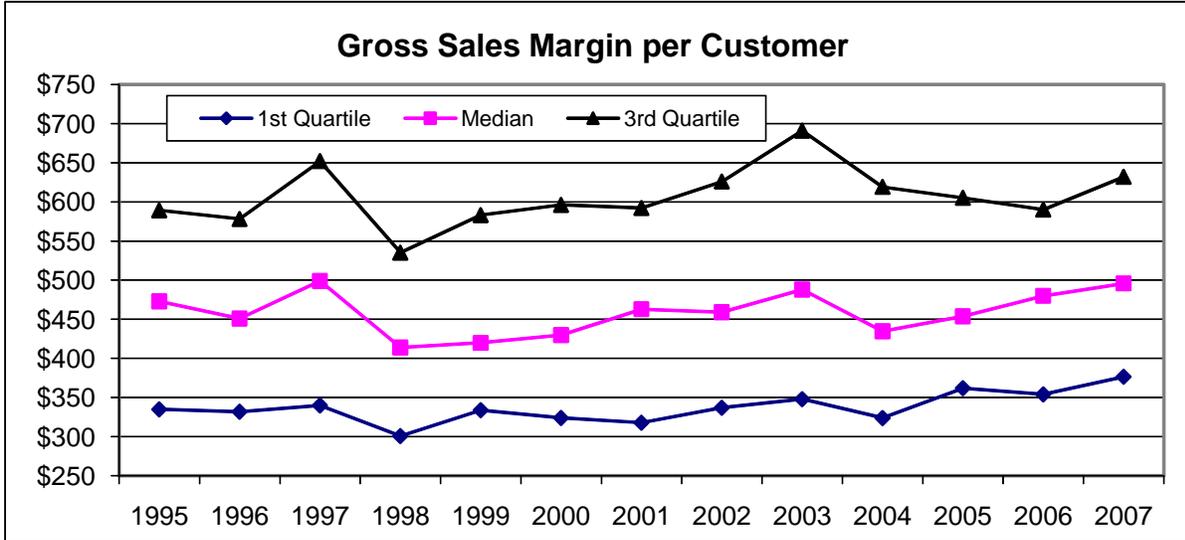
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



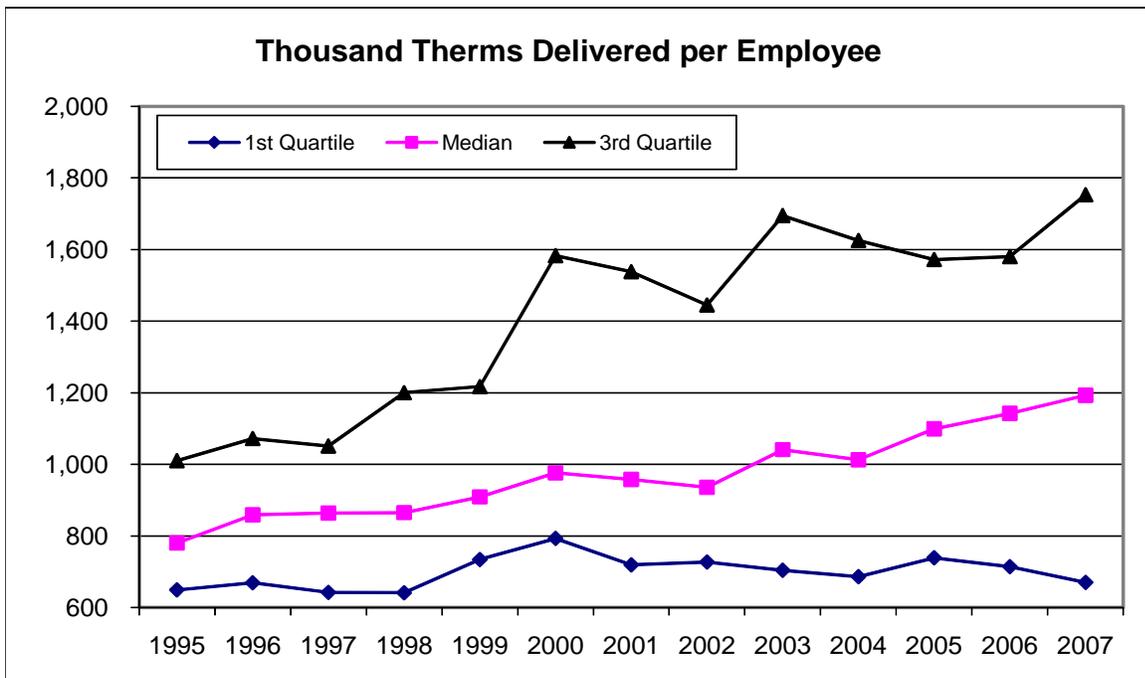
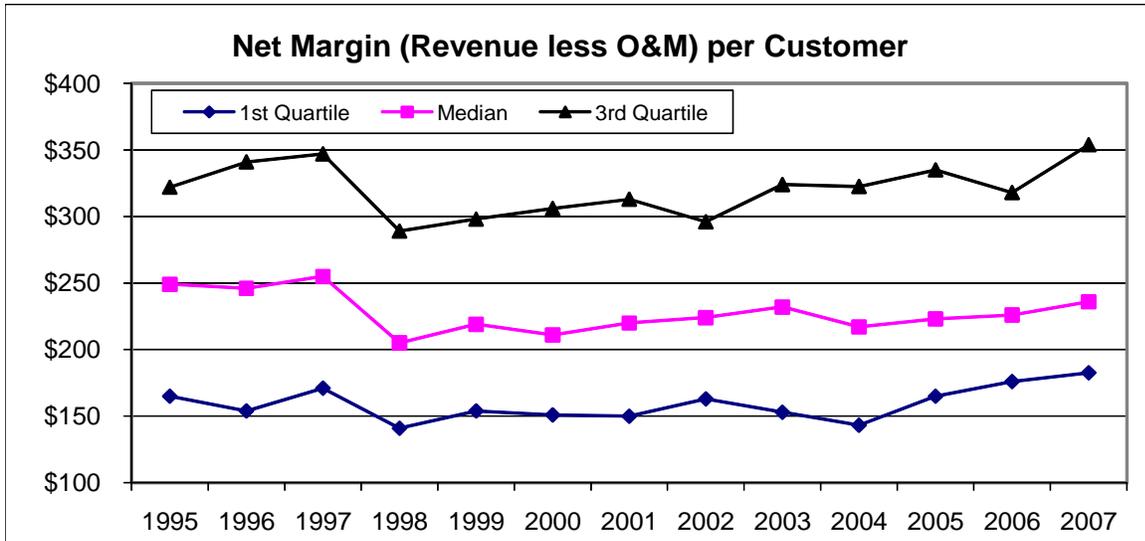
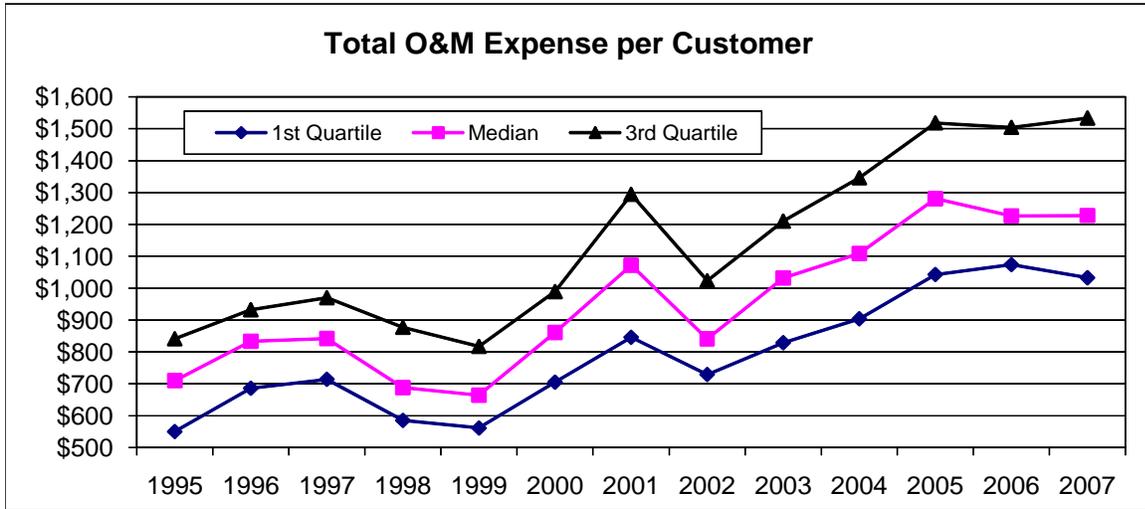
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



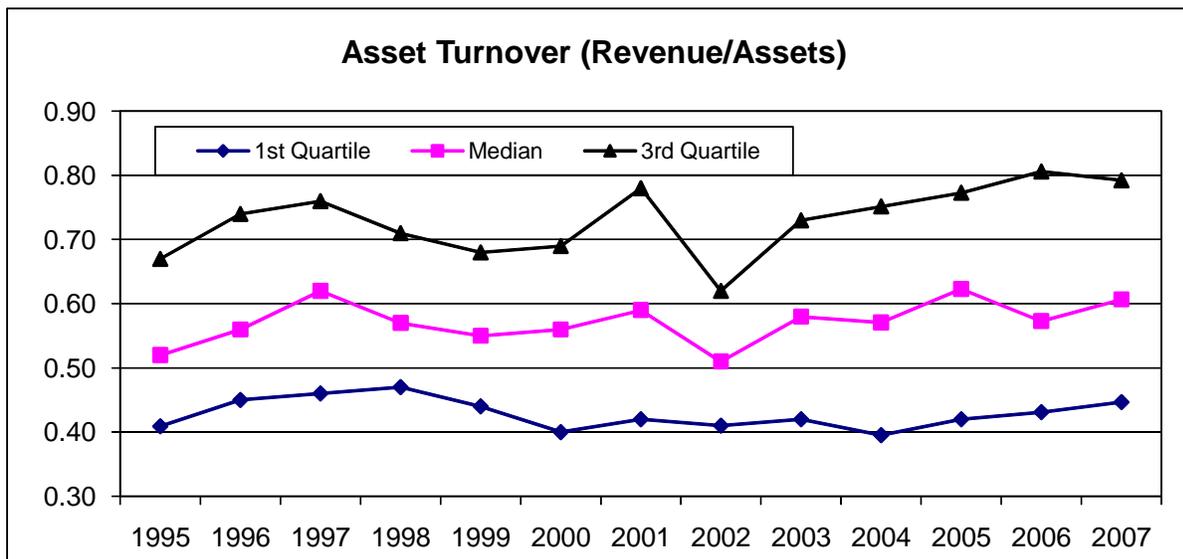
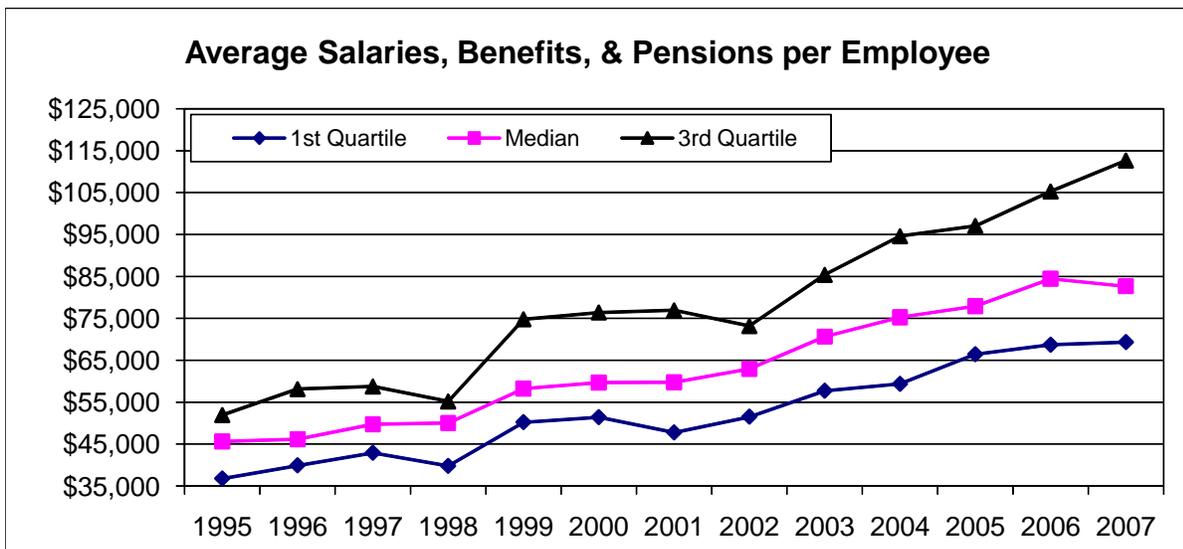
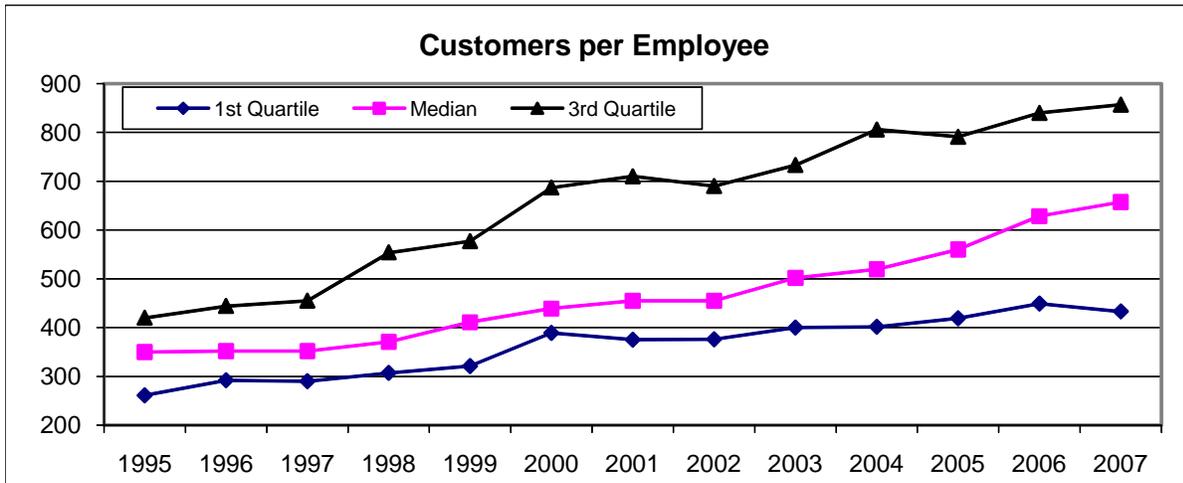
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



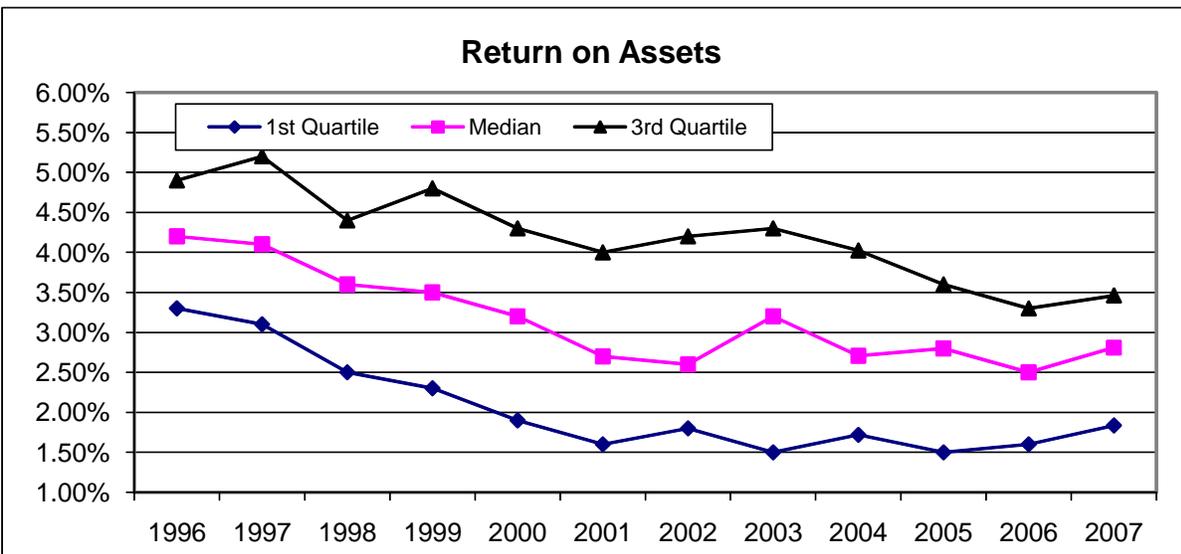
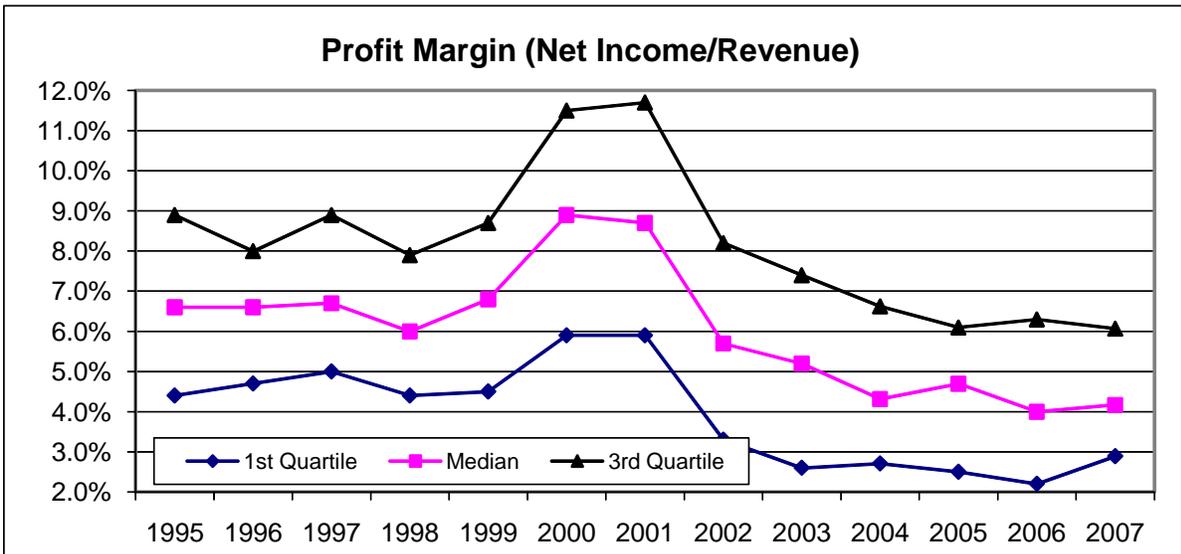
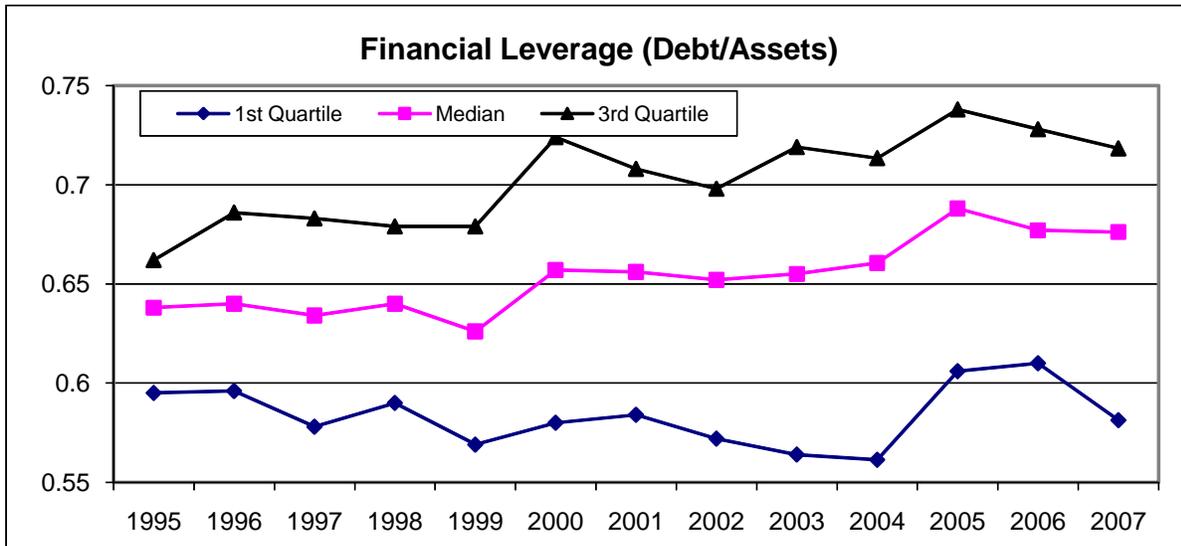
Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies

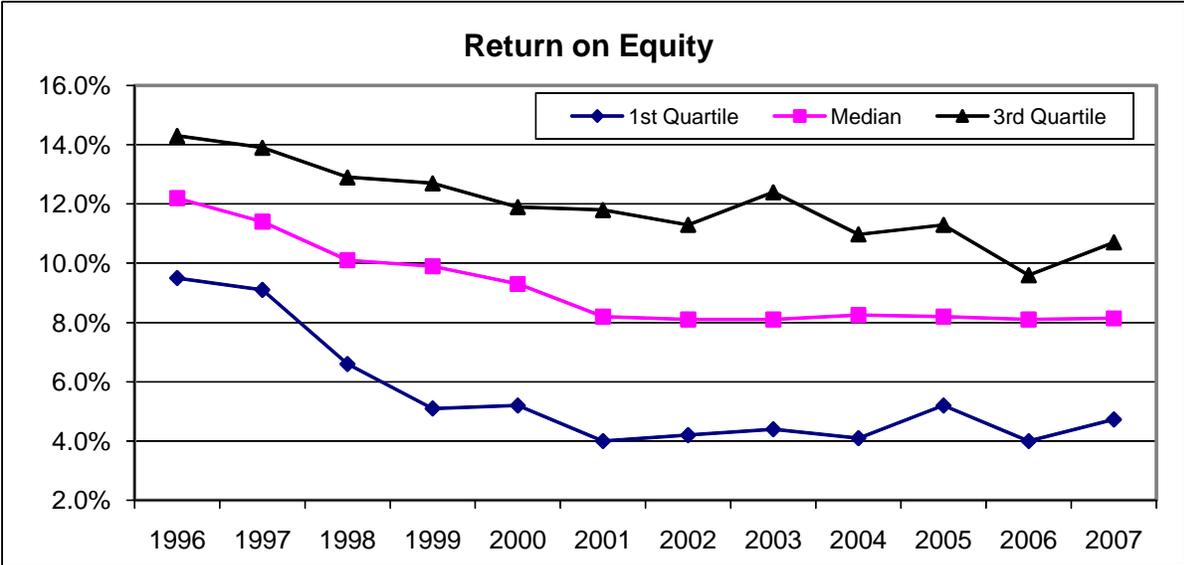


Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

Appendix 2: Multi-year Charts for All Companies



Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis



Note: Sample size and individual company participation vary by year, impairing trend analysis

APPENDIX 3a: GAS UTILITY SYSTEM PROFILES AND DELIVERY VOLUMES

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting Stratified by Type of Company	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
SYSTEM PROFILE 1/																
Total Therms delivered (000)	207,490	827,050	1,595,600	1,171,511	328,583	1,003,203	2,530,525	1,343,882	69,292	168,900	320,260	225,537	154,555	564,143	1,589,619	1,097,065
Total Sales Volume (000)	63,690	494,653	839,410	589,181	285,904	608,710	1,322,694	858,306	68,580	157,674	316,600	192,479	86,707	391,411	843,312	602,578
Transportation Volume (000)	28,980	236,156	664,210	582,330	95,931	241,664	815,850	485,576	-	712	13,384	33,057	9,660	175,190	597,280	494,487
Gas customers	62,819	357,008	862,784	607,585	256,885	482,391	1,041,459	822,650	53,433	106,585	210,512	165,326	75,506	319,983	810,632	603,262
Miles of main in use	2,225	6,617	14,812	11,207	4,264	6,832	14,561	10,573	1,847	2,320	3,023	2,283	2,243	5,275	13,061	9,976
Density (meters/mile of main)	42.0	49.0	63.5	56.3	49.4	61.5	71.8	73.0	45.7	57.7	79.3	67.1	42.6	52.1	66.5	61.5
THERM VOLUME BY CUSTOMER CLASS (000) 2/																
Residential heating	31,205	234,940	510,991	366,163	195,756	376,340	564,358	540,468	23,284	61,588	161,060	108,388	41,434	222,400	505,411	374,739
Residential non-heating	-	-	1,060	3,442	-	-	9,320	14,716	-	-	405	1,306	-	-	2,311	5,741
Commercial, firm	22,180	96,973	204,780	150,986	42,263	174,759	378,371	239,474	10,483	34,499	91,640	49,098	29,932	92,289	207,665	158,817
Commercial, interruptible	-	-	1,430	8,175	-	-	1,260	3,791	-	1,883	7,461	7,199	-	-	1,912	7,064
Industrial, firm	490	3,918	16,794	20,858	2,960	7,834	40,472	30,654	349	5,004	8,288	6,210	525	6,161	18,257	21,321
Industrial, interruptible	-	-	2,490	8,982	-	-	3,853	2,778	-	7,361	29,438	15,031	-	-	4,269	8,302
Electric utility generation, firm	-	-	-	1,029	-	-	-	9,681	-	-	-	533	-	-	-	2,930
Electric utility generation, interup.	-	-	-	8,385	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,379	-	-	-	5,763
Non-utility generation, firm	-	-	-	2,308	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,508
Non-utility generation, interup.	-	-	-	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86	-	-	-	52
NGV	-	-	-	116	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	81
Municipal & public	-	-	3	4,191	-	-	-	10,115	-	-	300	2,155	-	-	54	5,289
Interdepartmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	267	6,601	-	-	55	94	-	-	-	1,507
Other	-	-	-	14,484	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,464

1/ Includes transportation only customers

2/ Quartile figures for each column do not sum. The quartile arrangements do not yield the same sequence of firms for each variable.

Key: LQ = Lower Quartile, MED = Median, UQ = Upper Quartile, AVG = Average

APPENDIX 3b: GAS UTILITY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (000\$)

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting Stratified by Type of Company	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT																
Operating revenue	108,254	593,030	1,416,927	819,306	421,487	945,005	1,481,208	1,156,512	82,162	207,526	312,690	256,897	131,788	556,877	1,183,683	828,250
Operating expense	89,011	458,695	1,056,826	639,993	330,552	739,589	1,146,120	908,476	71,978	179,411	279,235	227,615	107,781	429,908	935,411	651,364
Maintenance expense	1,904	10,192	24,306	15,078	7,591	16,022	21,000	19,785	934	3,078	8,401	5,959	2,156	10,192	20,881	15,051
Total O&M	90,096	463,245	1,082,961	655,071	338,143	759,304	1,199,961	928,261	72,412	186,433	287,636	233,574	110,461	447,780	954,213	666,415
Depreciation	6,319	28,376	47,136	38,806	16,228	35,863	84,584	58,396	4,184	7,140	11,009	9,854	6,207	19,694	48,395	39,772
Depletion	-	-	-	254	-	-	1,051	1,465	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	498
Amortization	-	-	3,034	2,814	-	1,157	3,396	2,620	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,167	2,432
Prop. loss charged to operations	-	-	-	119	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78
Total taxes	5,133	23,474	83,722	52,761	27,000	43,605	110,560	74,236	-	4,754	6,574	4,438	5,293	26,600	80,521	51,830
Other operating income	-	-	-	565	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	694	-	-	-	453
Total operating income	8,288	40,074	84,980	69,481	21,818	57,000	105,608	91,534	1,179	5,566	13,160	9,031	7,629	38,417	90,693	67,226
BALANCE SHEET																
Gas plant	212,342	917,407	1,779,893	1,316,769	599,654	1,448,220	2,279,591	1,885,891	153,432	235,639	363,559	385,833	234,631	878,782	1,706,597	1,334,058
Common plant	-	-	-	9,315	82,327	259,797	469,000	538,870	-	-	114,468	122,983	-	-	37,034	142,988
Other plant	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	109,143	-	-	407,691	307,386	-	-	-	61,634
Total plant in service 1/2/	212,342	917,407	1,779,893	1,326,096	2,057,988	5,891,699	8,758,491	8,205,587	153,432	855,304	1,633,300	1,104,569	243,243	1,185,536	2,936,446	2,858,864
Accumulated depreciation 1/	73,462	378,579	678,397	513,498	402,172	2,103,651	3,948,845	3,290,318	46,713	247,087	654,709	398,379	69,524	402,172	922,282	1,129,097
Construction work-in-progress 1/	1,985	8,652	28,318	33,304	29,600	90,449	241,347	227,301	1,666	64,406	96,834	78,581	2,511	18,027	66,564	82,710
Net utility plant 1/	136,895	575,960	1,191,782	845,302	1,423,348	3,197,341	5,642,640	5,155,405	107,050	883,698	1,042,997	786,529	162,569	821,038	1,903,827	1,815,206
Gas storage (non-current) 1/	-	-	-	3,983	-	-	1,239	3,427	-	-	-	16,668	-	-	-	5,379
Customer accts. Receivable 1/	6,670	50,880	112,763	98,426	72,994	217,978	322,806	352,042	6,994	27,827	82,741	43,583	8,112	71,987	133,663	149,331
Total current & accrued assets 1/	31,079	184,690	447,116	307,016	167,087	504,514	1,579,034	978,337	46,282	136,990	465,366	260,929	49,922	212,454	563,381	453,651
Total deferred debits 1/	7,818	55,295	288,167	215,227	280,580	954,346	2,224,948	1,715,847	102	8,296	46,608	140,230	8,862	106,341	487,883	546,368
Total assets 1/	202,111	989,401	2,243,533	1,470,501	2,049,251	4,040,828	9,810,000	8,096,786	153,332	1,104,550	1,848,979	1,222,635	241,001	1,261,265	3,201,161	2,942,715
Common stock 1/	1	4,048	59,171	79,685	194,429	588,720	859,488	632,846	-	-	-	-	-	10,300	231,298	195,506
Retained earnings 1/	13,561	57,587	263,156	194,460	196,231	345,899	770,578	1,046,902	117,939	246,523	775,971	507,512	35,283	161,347	367,864	425,247
Total common stock equity 1/	62,924	324,059	660,297	457,782	587,915	1,394,077	3,211,694	2,398,441	117,939	246,523	775,971	519,720	104,974	390,844	988,645	905,097
Total long-term (LT) debt 1/	45,000	176,978	425,876	323,302	512,000	1,184,602	2,866,000	2,214,973	24,830	196,023	1,060,298	522,615	56,222	270,685	772,860	775,998
Total capitalization 1/2/	122,272	488,378	1,106,751	788,034	1,099,652	2,255,412	5,184,840	4,652,965	142,769	971,994	1,448,061	1,046,115	152,273	771,925	1,837,747	1,695,055
Total non-current other liabilities 1/	-	-	31,715	35,148	3,148	20,563	300,123	375,947	-	-	32,403	20,068	-	1,588	39,558	110,587
Current & accrued liabilities 1/	42,714	261,159	443,031	387,906	207,803	512,249	1,484,610	1,067,998	13,028	90,753	137,994	128,913	42,810	261,159	529,263	510,981
Total deferred credits 1/	26,547	141,053	310,464	241,393	368,421	1,146,902	3,318,000	1,843,024	376	10,067	14,398	20,342	26,120	149,284	633,869	577,903
Total capitalization & liabilities 1/2/	202,111	989,401	2,243,533	1,470,501	2,049,251	4,040,828	9,810,000	8,096,786	153,332	1,104,550	1,848,979	1,222,635	241,001	1,261,265	3,201,161	2,942,715

1/ Figures for combination utilities are necessarily based on combined gas and electric operations. Some municipal utilities are also combined utilities.

2/ Reflects gas and non-gas assets, also includes regulatory assets.

3/ Total capitalization figure in this display includes preferred stock.

Key: LQ = Lower Quartile, MED = Median, UQ = Upper Quartile, AVG = Average

APPENDIX 3c: GAS UTILITY SAME-SIZE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting						
Stratified by Type of Company			Gas Utilities	Combination Utilities	Municipal Utilities	All Companies
			49 firms	17 firms	9 firms	75 firms
GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Based on average values						
Operating revenue			100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Operating expense			78.9	76.5	87.7	79.7
Maintenance expense			2.1	1.9	2.6	2.1
Total O&M			81.0	78.4	90.2	81.8
Depreciation			4.9	4.8	4.1	4.7
Depletion			0.0	0.1	-	0.0
Amortization			0.3	0.4	-	0.2
Prop. loss charged to operations			0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Total taxes			6.4	7.2	1.5	5.8
Other operating income			0.0	-	0.3	0.1
Total operating income			7.4	9.1	4.2	7.3
BALANCE SHEET - Based on average values						
Gas plant			89.5	23.3	31.6	45.3
Common plant			0.6	6.7	10.1	4.9
Other plant			0.0	1.3	25.1	2.1
Total plant in service	1/2/		90.2	101.3	90.3	97.2
Accumulated depreciation	1/		34.9	40.6	32.6	38.4
Construction work-in-progress	1/		2.3	2.8	6.4	2.8
Net utility plant	1/		57.5	63.7	64.3	61.7
Gas storage (non-current)	1/		0.3	0.0	1.4	0.2
Customer accts. receivable	1/		6.7	4.3	3.6	5.1
Total current & accrued assets	1/		20.9	12.1	21.3	15.4
Total deferred debits	1/		14.6	21.2	11.5	18.6
Total assets	1/		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Common stock	1/		5.4	7.8	-	6.6
Retained earnings	1/		13.2	12.9	41.5	14.5
Total common stock equity	1/		31.1	29.6	42.5	30.8
Total long-term (LT) debt	1/		22.0	27.4	42.7	26.4
Total capitalization	1/3/		53.6	57.5	85.6	57.6
Total non-current other liabilities	1/		2.4	4.6	1.6	3.8
Current & accrued liabilities	1/		26.4	13.2	10.5	17.4
Total deferred credits	1/		16.4	22.8	1.7	19.6
Total capitalization & liabilities	1/3/		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- 1/ Figures for combination utilities are necessarily based on combined gas and electric operations. Some municipal utilities are also combined utilities.
- 2/ Reflects gas and non-gas assets, also includes regulatory assets.
- 3/ Total capitalization figure in this display includes preferred stock.

APPENDIX 3d: GAS UTILITY INCOME STATEMENTS – Per Cost Driver

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Annual Therm Delivered

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
Operating revenue	\$0.624 3	\$0.834 9	\$1.0359	\$0.8720	\$0.6765	\$0.8749	\$1.0575	\$0.9427	\$1.016 5	\$1.1857	\$1.3100	\$1.1892	\$0.675 2	\$0.882 9	\$1.093 1	\$0.9261
Operating expense	\$0.505 2	\$0.664 1	\$0.8315	\$0.6880	\$0.5192	\$0.7431	\$0.7847	\$0.7213	\$0.963 4	\$1.0388	\$1.0622	\$1.0425	\$0.521 3	\$0.724 8	\$0.944 9	\$0.7381
Maintenance expense	\$0.007 3	\$0.015 0	\$0.0238	\$0.0186	\$0.0094	\$0.0149	\$0.0210	\$0.0175	\$0.024 0	\$0.0262	\$0.0302	\$0.0304	\$0.008 6	\$0.016 1	\$0.026 2	\$0.0198
Total O&M	\$0.529 2	\$0.676 5	\$0.8485	\$0.7066	\$0.5330	\$0.7542	\$0.8081	\$0.7388	\$0.987 3	\$1.0450	\$1.1038	\$1.0729	\$0.537 4	\$0.754 2	\$0.963 3	\$0.7579
Depreciation	\$0.027 6	\$0.035 4	\$0.0437	\$0.0424	\$0.0323	\$0.0358	\$0.0526	\$0.0453	\$0.023 1	\$0.0573	\$0.0652	\$0.0483	\$0.027 6	\$0.035 6	\$0.051 2	\$0.0438
Depletion	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0001	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0008	\$0.0008	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0003
Amortization	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0018	\$0.0022	\$0.0000	\$0.0011	\$0.0045	\$0.0037	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.001 6	\$0.0023
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0003	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0002
Total taxes	\$0.028 1	\$0.043 2	\$0.0730	\$0.0554	\$0.0337	\$0.0625	\$0.0992	\$0.0680	\$0.000 0	\$0.0099	\$0.0351	\$0.0178	\$0.024 9	\$0.043 0	\$0.074 1	\$0.0538
Other operating income	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0004	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0041	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0008
Total operating income	\$0.029 4	\$0.049 2	\$0.0765	\$0.0649	\$0.0583	\$0.0635	\$0.0837	\$0.0861	\$0.019 1	\$0.0662	\$0.0803	\$0.0501	\$0.033 8	\$0.060 1	\$0.079 6	\$0.0680

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Average Annual Customer Served

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
Operating revenue	\$1,185	\$1,444	\$1,800	\$1,573	\$1,422	\$1,664	\$1,831	\$1,686	\$1,485	\$1,547	\$2,089	\$1,702	\$1,249	\$1,513	\$1,833	\$1,614
Operating expense	\$965	\$1,176	\$1,496	\$1,267	\$1,081	\$1,196	\$1,472	\$1,226	\$1,310	\$1,347	\$1,683	\$1,498	\$1,015	\$1,204	\$1,492	\$1,285
Maintenance expense	\$16	\$25	\$38	\$30	\$20	\$25	\$41	\$31	\$32	\$39	\$57	\$44	\$19	\$26	\$40	\$32
Total O&M	\$1,002	\$1,201	\$1,540	\$1,296	\$1,132	\$1,224	\$1,499	\$1,257	\$1,343	\$1,366	\$1,749	\$1,542	\$1,033	\$1,228	\$1,533	\$1,317
Depreciation	\$48	\$61	\$89	\$70	\$58	\$69	\$80	\$88	\$42	\$75	\$97	\$67	\$51	\$64	\$89	\$74
Depletion	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Amortization	\$0	\$0	\$3	\$4	\$0	\$3	\$7	\$6	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3	\$4
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total taxes	\$53	\$82	\$125	\$90	\$65	\$97	\$125	\$143	\$0	\$13	\$48	\$25	\$49	\$72	\$111	\$94
Other operating income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2
Total operating income	\$53	\$97	\$144	\$112	\$80	\$103	\$162	\$191	\$24	\$80	\$104	\$69	\$56	\$97	\$145	\$124

APPENDIX 3d: GAS UTILITY INCOME STATEMENTS – Per Cost Driver (cont'd)

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Dollar of Gas Plant

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
Operating revenue	\$0.529 7	\$0.646 4	\$0.8122	\$0.6907	\$0.5895	\$0.652 5	\$0.7029	\$0.641 0	\$0.554 0	\$0.616 3	\$0.9300	\$0.7681	\$0.5402	\$0.646 4	\$0.8062	\$0.688 7
Operating expense	\$0.403 9	\$0.557 4	\$0.6519	\$0.5606	\$0.4453	\$0.535 1	\$0.5943	\$0.501 8	\$0.469 1	\$0.523 2	\$0.8327	\$0.6885	\$0.4407	\$0.535 3	\$0.6502	\$0.562 6
Maintenance expense	\$0.006 9	\$0.011 6	\$0.0162	\$0.0137	\$0.0096	\$0.012 7	\$0.0136	\$0.011 8	\$0.012 3	\$0.019 3	\$0.0250	\$0.0187	\$0.0078	\$0.012 3	\$0.0165	\$0.013 9
Total O&M	\$0.415 2	\$0.563 5	\$0.6637	\$0.5743	\$0.4586	\$0.545 5	\$0.6007	\$0.513 6	\$0.476 8	\$0.552 3	\$0.8555	\$0.7072	\$0.4507	\$0.554 1	\$0.6624	\$0.576 5
Depreciation	\$0.025 4	\$0.027 9	\$0.0338	\$0.0292	\$0.0261	\$0.028 4	\$0.0338	\$0.029 9	\$0.023 3	\$0.027 2	\$0.0284	\$0.0269	\$0.0252	\$0.028 2	\$0.0336	\$0.029 1
Depletion	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0001	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0006	\$0.000 5	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.000 2
Amortization	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0020	\$0.0016	\$0.0000	\$0.000 6	\$0.0033	\$0.002 4	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0019	\$0.001 6
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0002	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.000 2
Total taxes	\$0.022 2	\$0.035 6	\$0.0520	\$0.0384	\$0.0321	\$0.037 4	\$0.0562	\$0.043 5	\$0.000 0	\$0.004 0	\$0.0212	\$0.0107	\$0.0198	\$0.032 7	\$0.0533	\$0.036 3
Other operating income	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0008	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.0046	\$0.0000	\$0.000 0	\$0.0000	\$0.001 0
Total operating income	\$0.031 9	\$0.040 4	\$0.0514	\$0.0468	\$0.0367	\$0.048 4	\$0.0554	\$0.051 2	\$0.019 2	\$0.029 7	\$0.0368	\$0.0233	\$0.0325	\$0.040 4	\$0.0515	\$0.045 0

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Mile of Distribution Pipe

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
Operating revenue	\$51,071	\$67,165	\$101,228	\$91,910	\$82,726	\$101,113	\$136,562	\$120,680	\$89,451	\$100,208	\$120,035	\$112,209	\$55,464	\$80,180	\$121,933	\$100,988
Operating expense	\$38,328	\$54,036	\$87,317	\$72,887	\$63,865	\$74,072	\$105,737	\$88,137	\$83,852	\$87,397	\$107,192	\$99,054	\$43,980	\$64,865	\$97,072	\$79,573
Maintenance expense	\$796	\$1,061	\$1,755	\$1,756	\$1,116	\$1,557	\$2,553	\$2,430	\$1,327	\$2,953	\$3,803	\$2,908	\$872	\$1,352	\$2,536	\$2,051
Total O&M	\$39,718	\$55,779	\$88,793	\$74,643	\$65,078	\$75,305	\$108,892	\$90,567	\$85,178	\$89,797	\$110,417	\$101,962	\$44,470	\$66,007	\$100,306	\$81,624
Depreciation	\$2,103	\$3,042	\$5,052	\$3,896	\$3,836	\$4,645	\$5,851	\$6,004	\$2,399	\$2,770	\$4,426	\$4,234	\$2,350	\$3,647	\$5,245	\$4,422
Depletion	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$46	\$0	\$0	\$117	\$66	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$45
Amortization	\$0	\$0	\$167	\$305	\$0	\$206	\$529	\$317	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$199	\$271
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9
Total taxes	\$2,193	\$3,825	\$6,659	\$5,953	\$4,018	\$5,532	\$9,170	\$10,726	\$0	\$1,825	\$2,457	\$1,536	\$2,184	\$3,844	\$6,748	\$6,512
Other operating income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$420	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$97
Total operating income	\$2,076	\$4,746	\$7,568	\$7,052	\$4,873	\$8,971	\$11,179	\$13,000	\$1,697	\$2,974	\$5,985	\$4,477	\$2,271	\$5,074	\$9,352	\$8,106

APPENDIX 3e: GAS UTILITY FINANCIAL RATIOS

2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting Stratified by Type of Company	Gas Utilities 49 firms				Combination Utilities 17 firms				Municipal Utilities 9 firms				All Companies 75 firms			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG
Therms delivered (avg.) per acct.	1,457	1,896	2,179	2,066	1,553	1,877	2,459	2,042	1,297	1,305	1,521	1,443	1,344	1,833	2,157	1,986
Therms per \$1,000 of gas plant	623	820	1,224	935	540	782	871	783	435	465	953	693	568	784	1,082	872
Value of gas plant per customer	\$1,661	\$2,170	\$2,744	\$2,461	\$1,988	\$2,206	\$3,002	\$3,036	\$1,597	\$2,792	\$3,203	\$2,433	\$1,776	\$2,172	\$2,968	\$2,588
%Sales firm (not interruptible)	89.9%	97.0%	99.7%	90.0%	97.8%	99.4%	99.9%	97.7%	70.9%	82.0%	88.2%	79.9%	88.5%	97.1%	99.8%	90.5%
Collection period (days) 1/	21.7	32.7	49.6	42.3	28.1	31.9	39.2	32.1	24.2	30.4	37.3	29.6	23.3	31.8	43.0	38.4
Gas O&M expense as pct. of revenue	77.6%	84.4%	86.7%	81.6%	77.0%	82.4%	85.8%	77.3%	88.1%	89.6%	95.2%	90.8%	77.8%	84.2%	87.1%	81.7%
Gas operating income as pct. of revenue	4.1%	6.3%	9.0%	7.3%	6.4%	6.9%	10.4%	9.5%	2.2%	5.2%	6.0%	3.8%	4.3%	6.5%	9.0%	7.4%
Gas operating revenue per customer	\$1,185	\$1,444	\$1,800	\$1,573	\$1,422	\$1,664	\$1,831	\$1,686	\$1,485	\$1,547	\$2,089	\$1,702	\$1,249	\$1,513	\$1,833	\$1,614
Gas O&M expense per customer	\$1,002	\$1,201	\$1,540	\$1,296	\$1,132	\$1,224	\$1,499	\$1,257	\$1,343	\$1,366	\$1,749	\$1,542	\$1,033	\$1,228	\$1,533	\$1,317
Gas operating income per customer	\$53	\$97	\$144	\$112	\$80	\$103	\$162	\$191	\$24	\$80	\$104	\$69	\$56	\$97	\$145	\$124
Gas revenue per dollar of gas plant	\$0.530	\$0.646	\$0.812	\$0.691	\$0.589	\$0.653	\$0.703	\$0.641	\$0.554	\$0.616	\$0.930	\$0.768	\$0.540	\$0.646	\$0.806	\$0.689
Gas O&M expense per dollar of gas plant	\$0.415	\$0.564	\$0.664	\$0.574	\$0.459	\$0.545	\$0.601	\$0.514	\$0.477	\$0.552	\$0.856	\$0.707	\$0.451	\$0.554	\$0.662	\$0.576
Gas operating income per \$ of gas plant	\$0.032	\$0.040	\$0.051	\$0.047	\$0.037	\$0.048	\$0.055	\$0.051	\$0.019	\$0.030	\$0.037	\$0.023	\$0.032	\$0.040	\$0.052	\$0.045
Gas revenue per mile of pipe 2/	\$51,071	\$67,165	\$101,228	\$91,910	\$80,190	\$101,113	\$136,562	\$120,680	\$89,451	\$100,208	\$120,035	\$112,209	\$55,464	\$80,180	\$121,933	\$100,988
Gas O&M expense per mile of pipe 2/	\$39,718	\$55,779	\$88,793	\$74,643	\$63,353	\$75,305	\$108,892	\$90,567	\$85,178	\$89,797	\$110,417	\$101,962	\$44,470	\$66,007	\$100,306	\$81,624
Gas operating income per mile of pipe 2/	\$2,076	\$4,746	\$7,568	\$7,052	\$4,764	\$8,971	\$11,179	\$13,000	\$1,697	\$2,974	\$5,985	\$4,477	\$2,271	\$5,074	\$9,352	\$8,106
Long-term debt - total assets ratio 1/	14.9%	21.3%	28.4%	20.7%	25.2%	29.2%	31.1%	29.6%	16.2%	32.5%	48.8%	31.7%	16.8%	24.4%	30.1%	24.1%
Long-term debt - total capitalization ratio 1/3/	29.7%	41.3%	47.6%	36.5%	46.6%	51.5%	52.5%	49.2%	17.4%	38.3%	54.7%	37.6%	32.1%	44.2%	50.4%	39.5%
Net interest - long-term debt ratio 1/	7.4%	8.3%	11.3%	10.1%	6.6%	7.2%	7.8%	7.2%	4.6%	5.0%	5.9%	4.7%	6.6%	7.8%	8.9%	8.7%
EBITDA interest coverage 1/	4.6x	5.8x	7.3x	7.6x	5.1x	6.1x	7.1x	6.6x	2.7x	5.0x	8.5x	6.0x	4.7x	5.8x	7.3x	7.2x
Return on assets	2.0%	2.8%	3.5%	2.7%	2.5%	2.9%	3.5%	3.2%	1.1%	1.6%	1.9%	1.5%	1.8%	2.8%	3.5%	2.7%
Gross sales margin per therm 4/	\$0.183	\$0.300	\$0.370	\$0.323	\$0.235	\$0.300	\$0.390	\$0.353	\$0.199	\$0.278	\$0.385	\$0.302	\$0.196	\$0.300	\$0.383	\$0.327
Gross sales margin per customer 4/	\$364	\$541	\$637	\$527	\$412	\$478	\$646	\$691	\$285	\$360	\$610	\$420	\$377	\$496	\$632	\$557

Key: LQ = Lower Quartile, MED = Median, UQ = Upper Quartile, AVG = Average

1/ Figures for combination utilities are necessarily based on combined gas and electric operations. Four municipal utilities are also combined gas-electric utilities.

2/ Miles of distribution pipes from US Department of Transportation.

3/ Total capitalization figure in this display includes preferred stock.

4/ Gross sales margin = operating revenues less total production costs

NOTE: Some ratios are not always normally distributed. Therefore, average ratio values may be subject to distortion by a few observations that are outliers.

APPENDIX 4: GAS UTILITY O&M Detail
Based on Segment Averages

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
VALUES PER THERM	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Gas-only revenues	\$0.8479	\$0.8925	\$0.8720	\$0.8560	\$0.9173	\$0.9427	\$1.1216	\$1.1365	\$1.1892	\$0.8835	\$0.9203	\$0.9261
Purchased-gas expense	\$0.4567	\$0.4771	\$0.4620	\$0.6176	\$0.5576	\$0.5657	\$0.7141	\$0.8325	\$0.8867	\$0.5224	\$0.5272	\$0.5365
Gross sales margin	\$0.2710	\$0.3194	\$0.3228	\$0.2941	\$0.2903	\$0.3530	\$0.3325	\$0.3031	\$0.3025	\$0.2837	\$0.3116	\$0.3272
Total production costs ¹	\$0.5465	\$0.5730	\$0.5492	\$0.6061	\$0.6271	\$0.5898	\$0.7891	\$0.8334	\$0.8867	\$0.5892	\$0.6087	\$0.5989
Storage & LNG	0.0060	0.0059	0.0064	0.0019	0.0016	0.0017	0.0162	0.0023	0.0023	0.0064	0.0046	0.0049
Transmission	0.0083	0.0089	0.0099	0.0105	0.0054	0.0180	0.0010	0.0018	0.0012	0.0079	0.0075	0.0107
Distribution	0.0352	0.0437	0.0441	0.0409	0.0374	0.0385	0.0495	0.0552	0.0652	0.0382	0.0434	0.0453
Customer accounts	0.0263	0.0309	0.0315	0.0270	0.0271	0.0270	0.0327	0.0348	0.0368	0.0273	0.0304	0.0311
Customer svc. & info.	0.0022	0.0039	0.0034	0.0070	0.0092	0.0107	0.0116	0.0088	0.0069	0.0044	0.0055	0.0055
Sales	0.0024	0.0030	0.0038	0.0031	0.0031	0.0027	0.0012	0.0010	0.0016	0.0024	0.0028	0.0033
Admin. & general	0.0536	0.0624	0.0583	0.0541	0.0458	0.0505	0.0426	0.0694	0.0724	0.0523	0.0595	0.0582
Total O&M	0.6913	0.7316	0.7066	0.7507	0.7567	0.7388	0.9440	1.0066	1.0729	0.7353	0.7624	0.7579
PERCENT OF REVENUE												
Gas-only revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Purchased-gas expense	53.9%	53.5%	53.0%	72.2%	60.8%	60.0%	63.7%	73.3%	74.6%	59.1%	57.3%	57.9%
Gross sales margin	32.0%	35.8%	37.0%	34.4%	31.6%	37.4%	29.6%	26.7%	25.4%	32.1%	33.9%	35.3%
Total production costs ¹	64.4%	64.2%	63.0%	70.8%	68.4%	62.6%	70.4%	73.3%	74.6%	66.7%	66.1%	64.7%
Storage & LNG	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	1.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%
Transmission	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	0.6%	1.9%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.9%	0.8%	1.2%
Distribution	4.2%	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	4.1%	4.1%	4.4%	4.9%	5.5%	4.3%	4.7%	4.9%
Customer accounts	3.1%	3.5%	3.6%	3.2%	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.3%	3.4%
Customer svc. & info.	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.8%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%
Sales	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Admin. & general	6.3%	7.0%	6.7%	6.3%	5.0%	5.4%	3.8%	6.1%	6.1%	5.9%	6.5%	6.3%
Total O&M	81.5%	82.0%	81.0%	87.7%	82.5%	78.4%	84.2%	88.6%	90.2%	83.2%	82.8%	81.8%
VALUES PER CUSTOMER												
Gas-only revenues	\$1,569	\$1,560	\$1,553	\$1,480	\$1,492	\$1,686	\$1,661	\$1,453	\$1,702	\$1,562	\$1,535	\$1,614
Purchased-gas expense	\$863	\$819	\$822	\$1,037	\$891	\$986	\$1,051	\$1,071	\$1,282	\$923	\$858	\$925
Gross sales margin	\$512	\$515	\$527	\$465	\$470	\$691	\$473	\$381	\$420	\$498	\$493	\$557
Total production costs ¹	\$1,057	\$1,044	\$1,026	\$1,015	\$1,022	\$994	\$1,188	\$1,072	\$1,282	\$1,064	\$1,042	\$1,057
Storage & LNG	\$10	\$9	\$11	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$29	\$3	\$3	\$11	\$7	\$8
Transmission	\$12	\$13	\$16	\$10	\$9	\$46	\$1	\$2	\$1	\$10	\$11	\$21
Distribution	\$64	\$67	\$67	\$67	\$58	\$63	\$72	\$70	\$92	\$66	\$65	\$70
Customer accounts	\$50	\$48	\$49	\$44	\$47	\$44	\$45	\$43	\$52	\$48	\$47	\$49
Customer svc. & info.	\$5	\$6	\$6	\$9	\$14	\$15	\$18	\$11	\$9	\$8	\$8	\$8
Sales	\$5	\$5	\$8	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$4	\$5	\$6
Admin. & general	\$102	\$106	\$99	\$87	\$76	\$88	\$61	\$86	\$99	\$94	\$98	\$98
Total O&M	\$1,305	\$1,299	\$1,282	\$1,239	\$1,232	\$1,257	\$1,416	\$1,290	\$1,542	\$1,305	\$1,284	\$1,317

1/ Purchased cost expense is subsumed within total production costs. **NOTE:** Figures may not add precisely due to independent rounding.

**APPENDIX 5: WAGES & BENEFITS
2007 Data, 75 Utilities Reporting**

	Gas Utilities				Combination Utilities				Municipal Utilities				All Companies			
	49 firms				17 firms				9 firms				75 firms			
	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG.	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG.	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG.	LQ	MED	UQ	AVG.
Average number of employees	125	418	1,190	761	158	551	1,281	1,011	24	165	451	382	121	410	1,190	772
Number of Employees at year-end	178	415	1,200	772	212	548	1,256	999	24	165	450	383	160	412	1,193	777
O&M wages ('000)	\$6,871	\$24,700	\$55,690	\$40,340	\$6,729	\$33,000	\$70,682	\$62,967	\$1,735	\$6,354	\$23,379	\$20,086	\$5,149	\$24,047	\$55,565	\$43,038
Construction wages ('000)	\$767	\$4,652	\$12,806	\$10,206	\$1,748	\$9,252	\$19,882	\$20,886	\$0	\$1,875	\$3,838	\$2,727	\$774	\$4,652	\$12,985	\$11,729
Total pensions ('000)	\$561	\$6,935	\$23,306	\$14,229	\$2,318	\$14,000	\$18,667	\$21,389	\$988	\$2,899	\$10,389	\$14,193	\$972	\$7,326	\$20,211	\$15,848
PER YEAR END EMPLOYEE:																
Total salary & wages	\$52,056	\$60,600	\$69,677	\$67,316	\$72,275	\$90,342	\$108,583	\$87,761	\$38,063	\$57,176	\$63,982	\$52,538	\$53,227	\$63,157	\$84,951	\$69,970
Tot. benefits & pension	\$6,873	\$17,981	\$25,004	\$16,313	\$14,344	\$25,547	\$31,031	\$23,473	\$15,369	\$20,333	\$27,713	\$23,124	\$12,753	\$18,172	\$26,070	\$18,593
Total salary, benefits, and pension	\$68,026	\$77,420	\$99,801	\$83,629	\$98,026	\$113,139	\$127,311	\$111,233	\$52,962	\$80,333	\$111,849	\$75,662	\$69,316	\$82,680	\$112,640	\$88,563
Ratio: avg. benefits to avg. compensation	15%	23%	30%	18%	14%	22%	26%	21%	26%	30%	38%	33%	16%	23%	30%	20%
Therms delivered per year-end employee	743,884	1,192,571	1,779,598	1,342,685	1,240,576	1,637,245	1,813,963	1,816,327	493,447	613,320	737,752	672,269	670,345	1,193,206	1,752,909	1,367,211
Customers per year-end employee	403	665	852	678	599	860	1,136	914	380	456	512	448	433	657	857	702

NOTE: Some ratios are not always normally distributed. Therefore, average ratio values may be subject to distortion by a few observations that are outliers.

Key: LQ = Lower Quartile, MED = Median, UQ = Upper Quartile, AVG = Average

APPENDIX 6: GAS UTILITY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

<i>Based on Segment Medians</i>	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Asset Turnover	0.71X	0.75X	0.70X	0.41X	0.41X	0.45X	0.47X	0.46X	0.51X	0.62X	0.57X	0.61X
Financial Leverage	69.9%	67.1%	68.0%	70.8%	69.8%	68.9%	46.1%	45.3%	52.7%	68.8%	67.7%	67.6%
Debt/Equity Ratio	70.7%	78.9%	70.3%	106.9%	110.4%	104.9%	79.6%	73.1%	63.3%	81.9%	84.0%	79.2%
Equity Multiplier	3.22	3.12	3.14	3.66	3.33	3.56	2.24	2.19	1.95	3.19	3.15	3.14
Profit Margin	3.5%	3.4%	4.0%	5.7%	6.1%	5.9%	5.4%	5.0%	4.2%	4.7%	4.0%	4.2%
ROA	2.5%	2.5%	2.8%	2.9%	2.7%	2.9%	2.9%	1.9%	1.6%	2.8%	2.5%	2.8%
ROE	8.2%	7.8%	8.1%	9.5%	8.4%	10.0%	5.1%	3.4%	3.1%	8.2%	8.1%	8.1%
Current Ratio	0.96	0.82	0.89	1.16	1.00	0.95	2.99	2.75	3.37	1.02	0.92	0.96
Current Assets/Total Assets	24.3%	19.0%	20.4%	13.7%	11.6%	11.8%	25.5%	23.7%	27.8%	23.5%	18.0%	19.6%

<i>Based on Segment Averages</i>	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Asset Turnover	0.71X	0.73X	0.75X	0.46X	0.44X	0.49X	0.45X	0.43X	0.48X	0.62X	0.64X	0.66X
Financial Leverage	67.6%	65.1%	63.9%	70.3%	69.4%	68.8%	46.4%	48.1%	48.7%	67.6%	65.1%	63.9%
Debt/Equity Ratio	85.4%	82.6%	68.8%	127.8%	114.5%	102.4%	121.0%	123.2%	108.2%	99.3%	92.9%	81.2%
Equity Multiplier	3.50	3.21	3.12	3.93	3.51	3.47	2.71	2.68	2.57	3.50	3.22	3.13
Profit Margin	4.9%	4.6%	5.4%	5.1%	5.8%	7.4%	7.6%	2.1%	3.5%	5.3%	4.6%	5.6%
ROA	2.4%	2.2%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	3.2%	2.7%	1.4%	1.5%	2.5%	2.2%	2.7%
ROE	7.0%	5.9%	8.0%	9.1%	8.1%	11.0%	4.6%	4.8%	2.7%	7.2%	6.2%	8.0%
Current Ratio	1.02	0.93	1.01	1.22	1.11	1.04	2.60	2.73	2.78	1.26	1.14	1.23
Current Assets/Total Assets	26.6%	20.4%	22.8%	16.3%	11.8%	12.7%	25.3%	25.2%	27.1%	24.2%	19.1%	21.0%

APPENDIX 7a: GAS UTILITY INCOME STATEMENTS

Based on Segment Averages

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Annual Therm Delivered

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Operating revenue	\$ 0.8479	\$ 0.8925	\$ 0.8720	\$ 0.8560	\$ 0.9173	\$ 0.9427	\$ 1.1216	\$ 1.1365	\$ 1.1892	\$ 0.8835	\$ 0.9203	\$ 0.9261
Operating expense	\$ 0.6747	\$ 0.7139	\$ 0.6880	\$ 0.6969	\$ 0.7404	\$ 0.7213	\$ 0.9188	\$ 0.9861	\$ 1.0425	\$ 0.7096	\$ 0.7447	\$ 0.7381
Maintenance expense	\$ 0.0167	\$ 0.0177	\$ 0.0186	\$ 0.0151	\$ 0.0164	\$ 0.0175	\$ 0.0252	\$ 0.0204	\$ 0.0304	\$ 0.0174	\$ 0.0177	\$ 0.0198
Total O&M	\$ 0.6913	\$ 0.7316	\$ 0.7066	\$ 0.7120	\$ 0.7567	\$ 0.7388	\$ 0.9440	\$ 1.0066	\$ 1.0729	\$ 0.7270	\$ 0.7624	\$ 0.7579
Depreciation	\$ 0.0388	\$ 0.0433	\$ 0.0424	\$ 0.0397	\$ 0.0390	\$ 0.0453	\$ 0.0418	\$ 0.0453	\$ 0.0483	\$ 0.0394	\$ 0.0425	\$ 0.0438
Depletion	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0005	\$ 0.0008	\$ 0.0008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0003	\$ 0.0003	\$ 0.0003
Amortization	\$ 0.0024	\$ 0.0029	\$ 0.0022	\$ 0.0033	\$ 0.0048	\$ 0.0037	\$ 0.0000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0023	\$ 0.0030	\$ 0.0023
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0003	\$ -	\$ 0.0004	\$ 0.0000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0002
Total taxes	\$ 0.0522	\$ 0.0494	\$ 0.0554	\$ 0.0423	\$ 0.0517	\$ 0.0680	\$ 0.0171	\$ 0.0198	\$ 0.0178	\$ 0.0457	\$ 0.0471	\$ 0.0538
Other operating income	\$ (0.0017)	\$ (0.0002)	\$ 0.0004	\$ (0.0000)	\$ (0.0011)	\$ -	\$ 0.0005	\$ 0.0033	\$ 0.0041	\$ (0.0010)	\$ (0.0001)	\$ 0.0008
Total operating income	\$ 0.0629	\$ 0.0650	\$ 0.0649	\$ 0.0582	\$ 0.0640	\$ 0.0861	\$ 0.1188	\$ 0.0648	\$ 0.0501	\$ 0.0687	\$ 0.0648	\$ 0.0680

NOTE: "\$0.0000" indicates a value which, on a per-therm basis, is too small to be expressed within four significant digits.

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Average Customer Served

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Operating revenue	\$ 1,569	\$ 1,560	\$ 1,573	\$ 1,441	\$ 1,492	\$ 1,686	\$ 1,661	\$ 1,453	\$ 1,702	\$ 1,552	\$ 1,535	\$ 1,614
Operating expense	\$ 1,277	\$ 1,271	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,173	\$ 1,207	\$ 1,226	\$ 1,378	\$ 1,264	\$ 1,498	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,257	\$ 1,285
Maintenance expense	\$ 28	\$ 27	\$ 30	\$ 25	\$ 26	\$ 31	\$ 38	\$ 26	\$ 44	\$ 28	\$ 27	\$ 32
Total O&M	\$ 1,305	\$ 1,299	\$ 1,296	\$ 1,198	\$ 1,232	\$ 1,257	\$ 1,416	\$ 1,290	\$ 1,542	\$ 1,295	\$ 1,284	\$ 1,317
Depreciation	\$ 66	\$ 69	\$ 70	\$ 66	\$ 62	\$ 88	\$ 59	\$ 58	\$ 67	\$ 65	\$ 66	\$ 74
Depletion	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ 0
Amortization	\$ 4	\$ 5	\$ 4	\$ 5	\$ 9	\$ 6	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ 6	\$ 4
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total taxes	\$ 88	\$ 80	\$ 90	\$ 68	\$ 80	\$ 143	\$ 27	\$ 26	\$ 25	\$ 76	\$ 75	\$ 94
Other operating income	\$ (3)	\$ (1)	\$ 1	\$ (0)	\$ (0)	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 4	\$ 8	\$ (2)	\$ (1)	\$ 2
Total operating income	\$ 105	\$ 106	\$ 112	\$ 104	\$ 106	\$ 191	\$ 159	\$ 79	\$ 69	\$ 112	\$ 104	\$ 124

APPENDIX 7a: GAS UTILITY INCOME STATEMENTS – Per Cost Driver (cont'd)
Based on Segment Averages

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Dollar of Gas Plant

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Operating revenue	\$ 0.7222	\$ 0.6834	\$ 0.6907	\$ 0.7318	\$ 0.7544	\$ 0.6410	\$ 0.8398	\$ 0.7481	\$ 0.7681	\$ 0.7391	\$ 0.7047	\$ 0.6887
Operating expense	\$ 0.5942	\$ 0.5627	\$ 0.5606	\$ 0.5990	\$ 0.6115	\$ 0.5018	\$ 0.6765	\$ 0.6579	\$ 0.6885	\$ 0.6055	\$ 0.5820	\$ 0.5626
Maintenance expense	\$ 0.0124	\$ 0.0122	\$ 0.0137	\$ 0.0120	\$ 0.0114	\$ 0.0118	\$ 0.0186	\$ 0.0141	\$ 0.0187	\$ 0.0131	\$ 0.0122	\$ 0.0139
Total O&M	\$ 0.6065	\$ 0.5749	\$ 0.5743	\$ 0.6110	\$ 0.6229	\$ 0.5136	\$ 0.6951	\$ 0.6720	\$ 0.7072	\$ 0.6186	\$ 0.5942	\$ 0.5765
Depreciation	\$ 0.0296	\$ 0.0294	\$ 0.0292	\$ 0.0337	\$ 0.0287	\$ 0.0299	\$ 0.0271	\$ 0.0271	\$ 0.0269	\$ 0.0302	\$ 0.0290	\$ 0.0291
Depletion	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0003	\$ 0.0006	\$ 0.0005	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0002	\$ 0.0002
Amortization	\$ 0.0016	\$ 0.0021	\$ 0.0016	\$ 0.0024	\$ 0.0084	\$ 0.0024	\$ 0.0000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0016	\$ 0.0033	\$ 0.0016
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$ 0.0000	\$ 0.0000	\$ 0.0002	\$ -	\$ 0.0003	\$ 0.0000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0000	\$ 0.0001	\$ 0.0002
Total taxes	\$ 0.0401	\$ 0.0351	\$ 0.0384	\$ 0.0335	\$ 0.0402	\$ 0.0435	\$ 0.0124	\$ 0.0133	\$ 0.0107	\$ 0.0352	\$ 0.0342	\$ 0.0363
Other operating income	\$ (0.0008)	\$ (0.0007)	\$ 0.0008	\$ (0.0000)	\$ 0.0031	\$ -	\$ 0.0005	\$ 0.0017	\$ 0.0046	\$ (0.0005)	\$ 0.0003	\$ 0.0010
Total operating income	\$ 0.0441	\$ 0.0417	\$ 0.0468	\$ 0.0509	\$ 0.0533	\$ 0.0512	\$ 0.1051	\$ 0.0357	\$ 0.0233	\$ 0.0533	\$ 0.0436	\$ 0.0450

NOTE: "\$0.0000" indicates a value which, on a per \$gas plant basis, is too small to be expressed within four significant digits.

GAS-ONLY INCOME STATEMENT - Per Mile of Distribution Pipe

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Operating revenue	\$ 109,015	\$ 100,146	\$ 91,910	\$ 104,098	\$ 88,404	\$ 120,680	\$ 112,192	\$ 111,728	\$ 112,209	\$ 108,379	\$ 98,640	\$ 100,988
Operating expense	\$ 87,738	\$ 80,938	\$ 72,887	\$ 85,589	\$ 71,538	\$ 88,137	\$ 92,569	\$ 95,129	\$ 99,054	\$ 87,896	\$ 80,201	\$ 79,573
Maintenance expense	\$ 1,989	\$ 1,797	\$ 1,756	\$ 1,804	\$ 1,573	\$ 2,430	\$ 2,730	\$ 2,276	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,044	\$ 1,793	\$ 2,051
Total O&M	\$ 89,727	\$ 82,735	\$ 74,643	\$ 87,393	\$ 73,110	\$ 90,567	\$ 95,298	\$ 97,405	\$ 101,962	\$ 89,940	\$ 81,993	\$ 81,624
Depreciation	\$ 4,493	\$ 4,065	\$ 3,896	\$ 4,555	\$ 3,857	\$ 6,004	\$ 3,878	\$ 4,083	\$ 4,234	\$ 4,428	\$ 4,021	\$ 4,422
Depletion	\$ 74	\$ 68	\$ 46	\$ 65	\$ 96	\$ 66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63	\$ 68	\$ 45
Amortization	\$ 270	\$ 391	\$ 305	\$ 195	\$ 411	\$ 317	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 220	\$ 359	\$ 271
Prop. loss charged to operations	\$ 13	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ -	\$ 67	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9	\$ 25	\$ 9
Total taxes	\$ 6,841	\$ 5,953	\$ 5,953	\$ 4,768	\$ 4,540	\$ 10,726	\$ 1,659	\$ 1,644	\$ 1,536	\$ 5,746	\$ 5,229	\$ 6,512
Other operating income	\$ (235)	\$ (66)	\$ 71	\$ (1)	\$ (212)	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 559	\$ 420	\$ (149)	\$ (39)	\$ 97
Total operating income	\$ 7,596	\$ 6,918	\$ 7,052	\$ 7,121	\$ 6,324	\$ 13,000	\$ 11,356	\$ 8,596	\$ 4,477	\$ 7,972	\$ 6,946	\$ 8,106

APPENDIX 7b: GAS UTILITY FINANCIAL RATIOS
Based on Segment Averages

Stratified by Type of Company

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies			
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	
Therms delivered (avg.) per acct.		2,110	1,988	2,066	1,966	1,831	2,042	1,493	1,286	1,443	2,003	1,889	1,986
Therms per \$1,000 of gas plant		1,029	902	935	1,065	1,104	783	783	697	693	1,007	927	872
Value of gas plant per customer		\$ 2,258	\$ 2,417	\$ 2,461	\$ 2,041	\$ 2,146	\$ 3,036	\$ 2,128	\$ 2,113	\$ 2,433	\$ 2,195	\$ 2,330	\$ 2,588
%Sales firm (not interruptible)		90%	89%	90%	97%	98%	98%	83%	85%	80%	91%	91%	91%
Collection period (days)	1/	47.2	36.3	42.3	31.8	27.8	32.1	39.7	33.5	29.6	42.9	34.2	38.4
Gas O&M expense as pct. of revenue		82%	83%	82%	83%	82%	77%	83%	89%	91%	83%	83%	82%
Gas oper. income as pct. of revenue		7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	10%	12%	5%	4%	8%	7%	7%
Gas operating revenue per customer		\$ 1,569	\$ 1,560	\$ 1,573	\$ 1,441	\$ 1,492	\$ 1,686	\$ 1,661	\$ 1,453	\$ 1,702	\$ 1,552	\$ 1,535	\$ 1,614
Gas O&M expense per customer		\$ 1,305	\$ 1,299	\$ 1,296	\$ 1,198	\$ 1,232	\$ 1,257	\$ 1,416	\$ 1,290	\$ 1,542	\$ 1,295	\$ 1,284	\$ 1,317
Gas operating income per customer		\$ 105	\$ 106	\$ 112	\$ 104	\$ 106	\$ 191	\$ 159	\$ 79	\$ 69	\$ 112	\$ 104	\$ 124
Gas revenue per dollar of gas plant		\$ 0.7222	\$ 0.6834	\$ 0.6907	\$ 0.7318	\$ 0.7544	\$ 0.6410	\$ 0.8398	\$ 0.7481	\$ 0.7681	\$ 0.7391	\$ 0.7047	\$ 0.6887
Gas O&M expense per \$ of gas plant		\$ 0.6065	\$ 0.5749	\$ 0.5743	\$ 0.6110	\$ 0.6229	\$ 0.5136	\$ 0.6951	\$ 0.6720	\$ 0.7072	\$ 0.6186	\$ 0.5942	\$ 0.5765
Gas oper. income per \$ of gas plant		\$ 0.0441	\$ 0.0417	\$ 0.0468	\$ 0.0509	\$ 0.0533	\$ 0.0512	\$ 0.1051	\$ 0.0357	\$ 0.0233	\$ 0.0533	\$ 0.0436	\$ 0.0450
Gas revenue per mile of pipe	2/	\$109,015	\$100,146	\$ 91,910	\$ 104,098	\$ 88,404	\$120,680	\$112,192	\$ 111,728	\$112,209	\$ 108,379	\$ 98,640	\$ 100,988
Gas O&M expense per mile of pipe	2/	\$ 89,727	\$ 82,735	\$ 74,643	\$ 87,393	\$ 73,110	\$ 90,567	\$ 95,298	\$ 97,405	\$101,962	\$ 89,940	\$ 81,993	\$ 81,624
Gas oper. income per mile of pipe	2/	\$ 7,596	\$ 6,918	\$ 7,052	\$ 7,121	\$ 6,324	\$13,000	\$11,356	\$ 8,596	\$ 4,477	\$ 7,972	\$ 6,946	\$ 8,106
LT debt - total assets ratio	1/ 1/3	22.5%	23.2%	20.7%	31.3%	33.0%	29.6%	33.2%	36.3%	31.7%	25.8%	26.5%	24.1%
LT debt - total capitalization ratio	/	40.1%	40.9%	36.5%	52.6%	52.9%	49.2%	40.2%	43.2%	37.6%	42.9%	43.7%	39.5%
Net interest - long-term debt ratio	1/	8.6%	9.7%	10.1%	6.9%	6.6%	7.2%	4.4%	4.3%	4.7%	7.7%	8.5%	8.7%
EBITDA interest coverage	1/	8.9x	5.9x	7.6x	5.8x	5.5x	6.6x	5.8x	6.1x	6.0x	7.9x	5.8x	7.2x
Return on assets		2.4%	2.2%	2.7%	3.1%	2.4%	3.2%	2.7%	1.4%	1.5%	2.6%	2.2%	2.7%

1/ Figures for combination utilities are necessarily based on combined gas and electric operations.

2/ Miles of distribution pipes and services combined. Starting in 2004, services are excluded from the pipe calculation

3/ Total capitalization figure in this display includes preferred stock.

NOTE: Some ratios are not always normally distributed. Therefore, average ratio values may be subject to distortion by a few observations that are outliers.

APPENDIX 8: GAS UTILITY WAGES AND BENEFITS

Based on Segment Averages

Stratified by Type of Company

	Gas Utilities			Combination Utilities			Municipal Utilities			All Companies		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Average number of employees	826	900	761	1,084	1,268	1,011	425	578	382	829	940	772
Number of Employees at year-end	843	903	772	1,099	1,241	999	457	572	383	848	937	777
O&M wages ('000)	\$41,633	\$46,370	\$40,340	\$58,656	\$66,324	\$62,967	\$21,756	\$36,641	\$20,086	\$42,695	\$49,448	\$43,038
Construction wages ('000)	\$9,716	\$10,701	\$10,206	\$16,177	\$21,392	\$20,886	\$2,159	\$2,492	\$2,727	\$10,117	\$12,108	\$11,729
Total pensions ('000)	\$14,095	\$17,220	\$14,229	\$19,543	\$26,009	\$21,389	\$8,024	\$13,552	\$14,193	\$14,471	\$18,626	\$15,848
PER EMPLOYEE(1/):												
Total salary & wages	\$64,565	\$68,764	\$67,316	\$64,099	\$73,266	\$87,761	\$52,170	\$66,681	\$52,538	\$62,854	\$69,479	\$69,970
Tot. benefits & pension	\$16,830	\$17,883	\$16,313	\$22,642	\$24,092	\$23,473	\$15,281	\$22,475	\$23,124	\$17,793	\$19,481	\$18,593
Total salary, benefits, and pension	\$80,022	\$86,647	\$83,629	\$86,742	\$97,358	\$111,233	\$67,450	\$89,156	\$75,662	\$79,749	\$88,960	\$88,563
Ratio: avg. benefits to avg. compensation	23.2%	21.6%	17.7%	24.5%	25.7%	21.2%	26.5%	31.4%	32.6%	23.8%	23.2%	20.1%
Therms sold per year-end employee	1,314,237	1,276,154	1,342,685	1,403,786	1,454,451	1,816,327	726,518	616,088	672,269	1,254,449	1,246,786	1,367,211
Customers per year-end employee	639	664	678	650	818	914	526	481	448	627	676	702

1/ year-end employees

APPENDIX 9: Companies Studied

GAS IOUs	Years Reported			GAS IOUs (cont.)	Years Reported		
	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007
AGL Resources	X	X	X	Southeastern Natural Gas Co			X
Aquila Networks	X	X	X	Southwest Gas Corporation	X	X	X
Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corp	X	X	X	Southwestern Virginia Gas Co.	X	X	X
Arkansas Western Gas Company	X	X	X	Union Oil & Gas Co.	X	X	X
Atmos Energy Corporation	X	X	X	Vermont Gas	X	X	X
Berkshire Gas Company	X	X	X	Washington Gas Light Company	X	X	X
Centerpointe Energy - Minnesota Gas Co	X	X	X	Yankee Gas Services Company	X	X	X
Centerpointe Energy - Southern Gas - Arkla	X	X	X				
Centerpointe Energy - Southern Gas - Entex	X	X	X	COMBINATION IOUs	2005	2006	2007
Chesapeake Utilities Corp			X	Ameren Corp.	X	X	
Citizens Gas & Coke Utility	X			Avista Corp	X	X	X
Corning Natural Gas Corp	X	X	X	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.	X	X	X
Delta Natural Gas Company	X	X	X	Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp.	X	X	X
Dominion Peoples	X	X	X	Cheyenne Light, Fuel, & Power			X
Dominion East Ohio Gas Company	X	X	X	Consolidated Edison of New York			X
Enstar Natural Gas Company	X	X	X	Consumers Energy	X	X	X
Equitable Resources, Inc.	X	X	X	DTE Energy	X		
Hope Gas, Inc.	X	X	X	Florida Public Utilities Company	X	X	X
Illinois Gas Company	X	X	X	Gainesville Regional Utilities	X	X	
Indiana Gas Company, Inc.	X	X	X	Missouri Public Service	X		
Intermountain Gas Company	X	X	X	New York State Electric and Gas Corp			X
KeySpan Energy Delivery - NYC	X	X	X	Nisource (NIPSCO)			X
KeySpan Energy Delivery New England	X	X	X	Pacific Gas & Electric	X	X	X
KeySpan Gas East - LILCO	X	X	X	PECO Energy Company (consolidated)	X	X	X
Kokomo Gas and Fuel Company			X	Public Service Enterprises		X	X
Laclede Gas Company	X	X	X	Puget Sound Energy	X	X	X
Michigan Consolidated Gas Co		X	X	Rochester Gas and Electric Corp			X
Michigan Gas Utilities	X			Southern Indiana Gas & Elec Co	X	X	X
Mobile Gas Service Corporation	X	X	X	St. Joseph Light & Power	X		
Mountaineer Gas	X		X	UGI Utilities, Inc.	X	X	X
National Fuel Gas Company	X	X	X	WE Energies	X	X	X
New Jersey Natural Gas Company	X	X	X				
Nicor Gas And Sub Companies	X	X	X	MUNICIPALS	2005	2006	2007
Nisource Inc (Columbia Ohio)			X	Colorado Springs Utilities	X	X	X
North Shore Gas Company	X	X		Knoxville Utilities Board	X	X	X
Northern Indiana Fuel And Light	X		X	Memphis Light, Gas & Water Div	X	X	X
Northwest Natural Gas Company	X	X	X	Metropolitan Util Dist-Omaha	X	X	X
NSTAR Gas	X	X	X	Middle Tenn Nat Gas Util Dist	X	X	X
Ohio Gas Company	X	X	X	Owatonna Public Utilities	X		X
Oklahoma Natural Gas	X	X	X	Philadelphia Gas Works	X	X	X
Peoples Gas Light & Coke Company	X	X		Richmond Dept. of Pub. Util., City of	X		X
Peoples Gas System, Inc.	X	X	X	San Antonio Public Service Board	X		
Piedmont Natural Gas Company	X	X	X	Westfield Gas and Electric Light Dpt			x
Questar Gas Company	X	X	X				
Semco Energy (S.E. Michigan)	X	X	X				