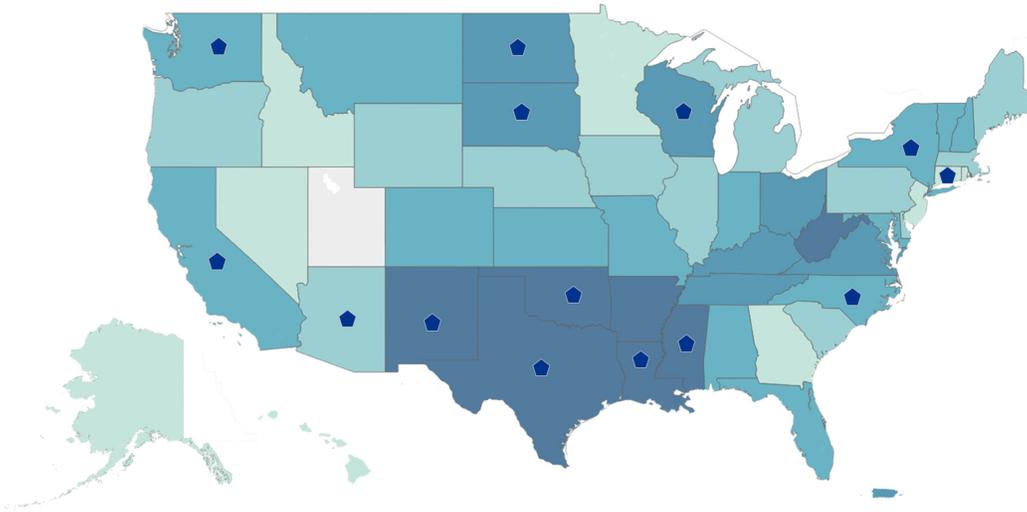


The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



About the survey: In early May, the RCAP Network surveyed communities to understand the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on rural and tribal water and wastewater systems. Results are from systems RCAP serves and are not representative of all small systems. These results, however, provide an important snapshot of rural and tribal experiences so policy-makers can make informed decisions on how to address these issues during COVID-19 recovery.

≈ 2,340 residents
Average system size of respondent

94% small systems
Serving 10,000 or fewer residents

Number of Responses: 1 to 4 5 to 9 10 to 19 20 to 49 50+

◆ Indicates 14 states where one or more respondents serve a federally recognized tribe

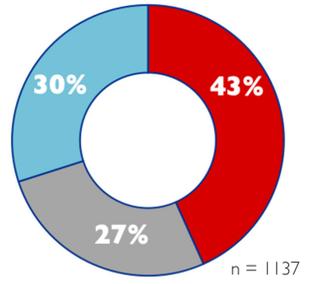
1,137 respondents

FACILITIES TYPE: 43% water 6% wastewater 51% both

43% with 1 or no full-time staff
Supplementing with part-time, contract or volunteer staff

Has the COVID-19 emergency negatively impacted your system's financial position, or do you anticipate negative impacts?

■ Yes ■ Not Sure ■ No



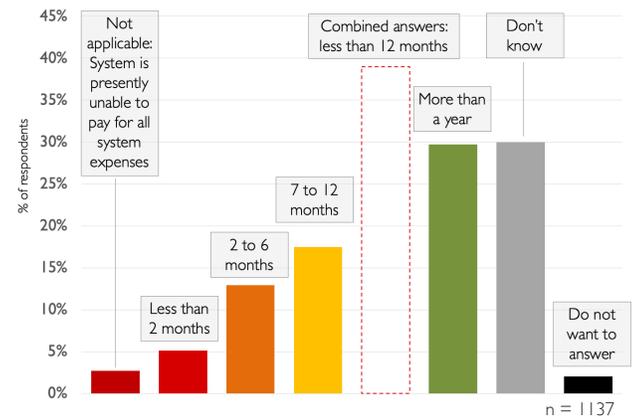
If current conditions were to continue for a year, small water systems could face a

\$3.6 - 5.5B REVENUE LOSS

RCAP was able to estimate for systems providing **water or both** water and wastewater using data for 33 states and Puerto Rico. This impact would be much greater if extrapolated nationally and with systems providing wastewater alone.

\$4,685
small system respondent median monthly revenue decrease
n = 208

How long will you be able to continue to pay for all system expenses under the current financial circumstances due to COVID-19?



31% cannot sustain losses for more than six months of current financial conditions of those respondents who were able to estimate (n = 773)

13 percent answered they are collaborating with other utilities or organizations to help fill gaps/resolve any issues

The RCAP Network provides opportunity, assistance, and practical guidance to small communities in all 50 states, U.S. territories, and tribal lands to ensure access to safe drinking water; sanitary wastewater disposal, and economic prosperity for all rural America. **Visit www.rcap.org to learn more.**