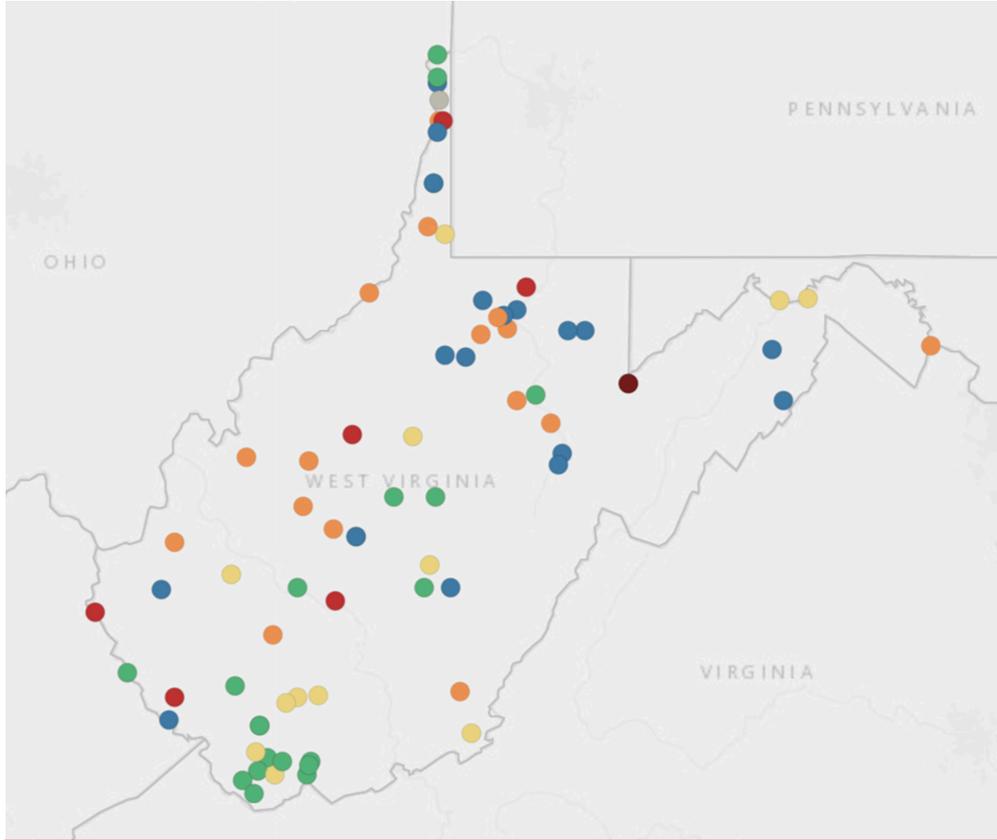


The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



MASSACHUSETTS



7 respondents

MA had **1,732** small Public Water Systems in Q1 2020 (serving 10,000 or fewer residents)

85% of respondents were small systems
 ≈ **1,119** residents
 Average system size of respondent

FACILITIES TYPE:
57% water | **62%** both
29% wastewater

1-2: Average full-time staff size
 Many supplement with part-time, contract or volunteer staff

Has the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted your system's financial position, or do you anticipate negative impacts?
43% : Yes
0% : No
57% : Not sure

FINANCIAL VIABILITY
 How long respondents can continue to pay for all system expenses under the current financial circumstances due to COVID-19:

N/A: Already could not cover all costs	Less than 2 months	2 to 6 months	7 to 12 months	More than a year	Don't know/ too early to tell	Don't want to answer

14% of all MA respondents cannot sustain losses for more than a year of current financial conditions

2 small system respondents provided detailed financial info and indicated their revenue **decreased** when comparing April 2019 to April 2020 (n = 2)

\$500
 MA small system respondent median monthly revenue decrease (n = 1)

- Challenges faced because of financial conditions:
- Paying bills
 - Maintaining their system
 - Delays/limitations to capital improvement

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 policymakers can make informed decisions on how to address these issues during COVID-19 recovery.



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