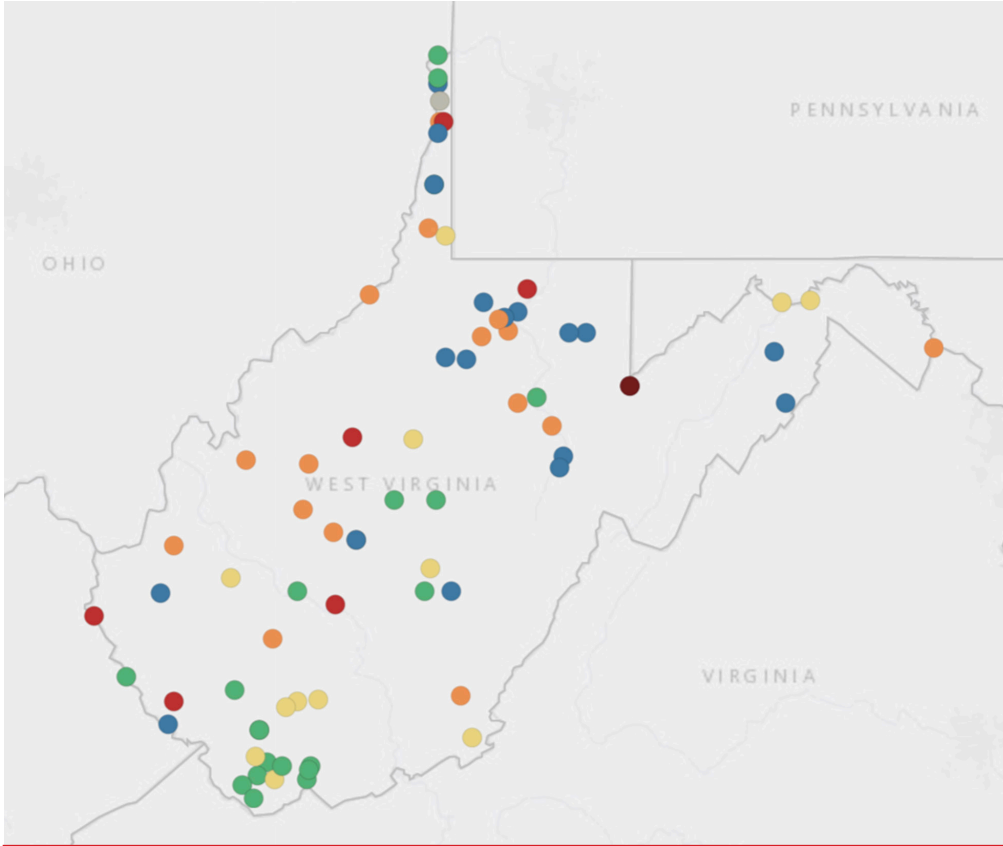


The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



WEST VIRGINIA



76 respondents

93% of respondents were small systems (n = 75)
≈ 3,114 residents
 Average system size of respondent

FACILITIES TYPE:
47.4% water | **47.4%** both
5.2% wastewater

5: 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?
37% : Yes
42% : No
21% : 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

32% of all WV respondents cannot sustain losses for more than six months of current financial conditions

83% of small systems indicated they experienced a **decrease in revenues**, comparing April 2019 to April 2020 (n = 24)

\$10,000
 WV small system respondent median monthly revenue decrease (n = 20)

- Challenges faced because of financial conditions:
- Paying bills
 - Paying staff
 - Paying back debt
 - 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 the RCAP Network 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.



The Great Lakes Community Action Partnership (GLCAP), the Great Lakes RCAP, began as a Community Action Agency more than 50 years ago serving Ohio and has since expanded to seven states. GLCAP provides rural development solutions for small communities for a variety of needs. Visit glcap.org for more info.