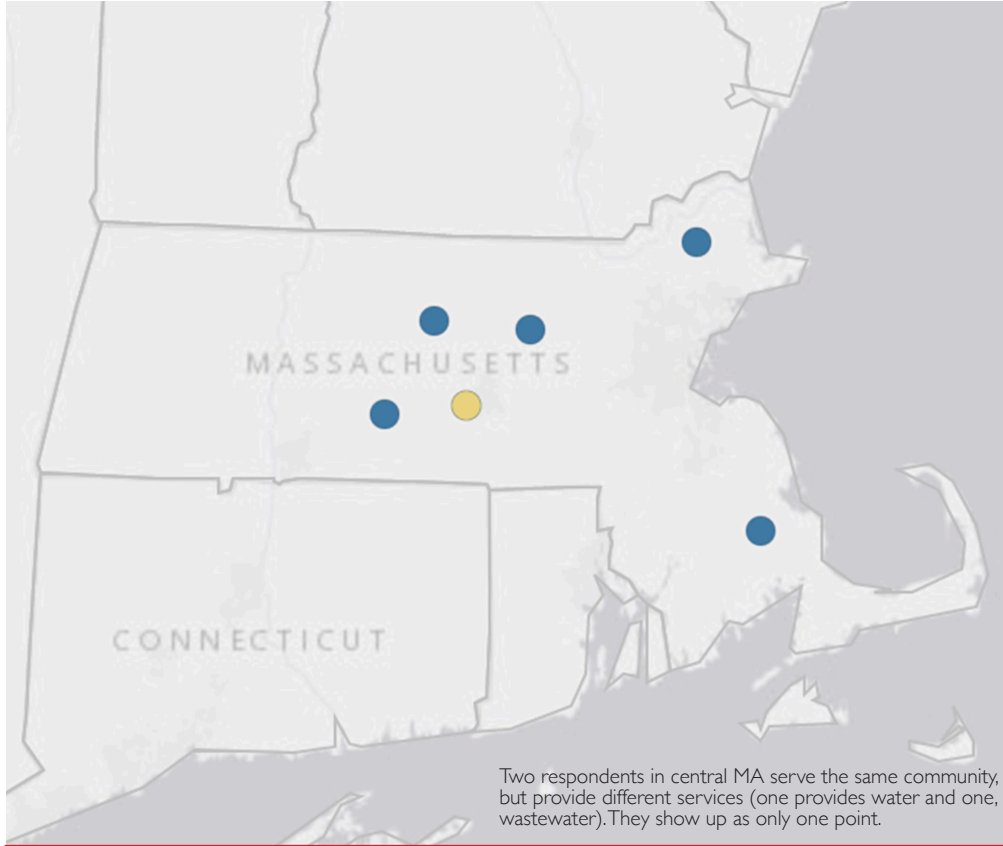


The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



MASSACHUSETTS



7 respondents

100% of respondents were small systems (n = 6)
 ≈ **1,119** residents
 Average system size of respondent

FACILITIES TYPE:
57% water | **29%** both
14% 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 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.



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