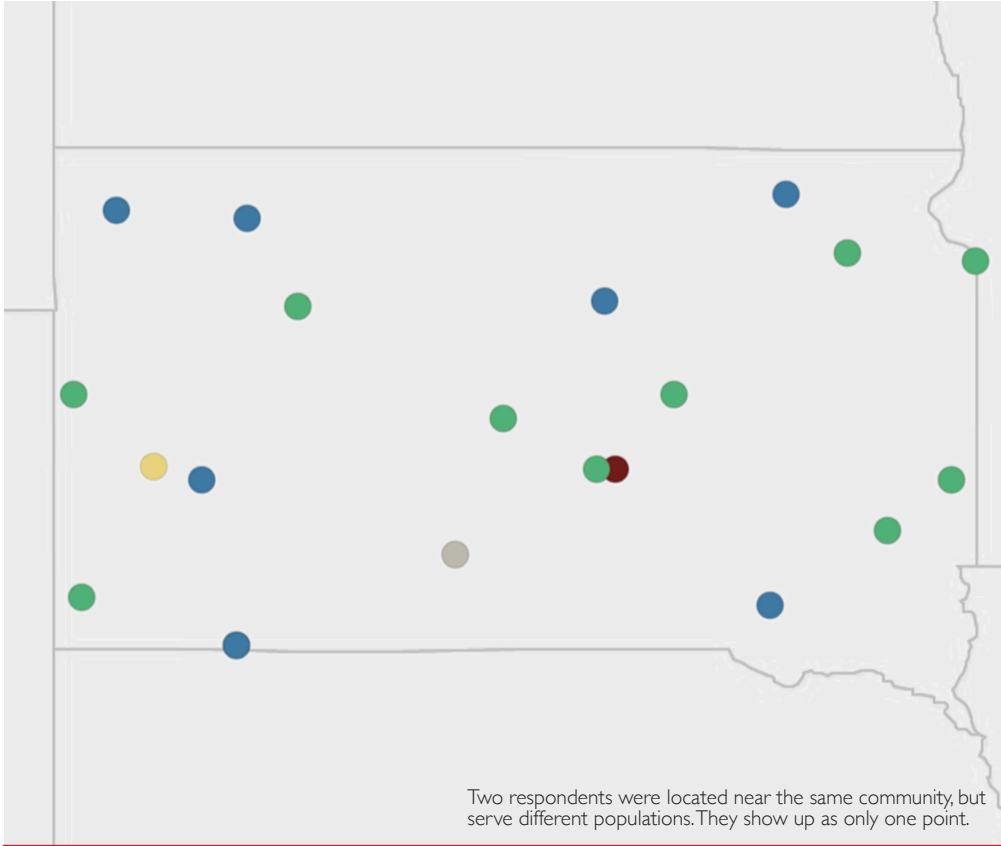


# The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



## SOUTH DAKOTA



Two respondents were located near the same community, but serve different populations. They show up as only one point.

**21** respondents

**90%** of respondents were small systems  
 ≈ **1,006** residents  
 Average system size of respondent

**FACILITIES TYPE:**  
**24%** water | **76%** both  
**0%** wastewater

**3-4:** 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?  
**19% : Yes**  
**57% : No**  
**24% : 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

**33% of respondents are not sure how long they can cover all costs under current financial conditions**

**2 small systems** indicated their revenue **decreased** when comparing April 2019 to April 2020. They did not provide the value of revenue decreases.  
 1 respondent indicated **no change** in their monthly revenue. (n = 3)

- Challenges faced because of financial conditions:
- Paying bills
  - Paying staff
  - Paying for supplies
  - 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 Midwest Assistance Program, the Midwest RCAP, has been helping communities and tribal nations find solutions to their infrastructure and development needs through information, resource management, expertise, and technical assistance since 1979. MAP provides solutions to rural communities and tribal nations each year in 9 midwestern and western states. Communities are revitalized through help from MAP, which then strengthens the future and vitality of rural America. **Visit [map-inc.org](http://map-inc.org) for more info.**