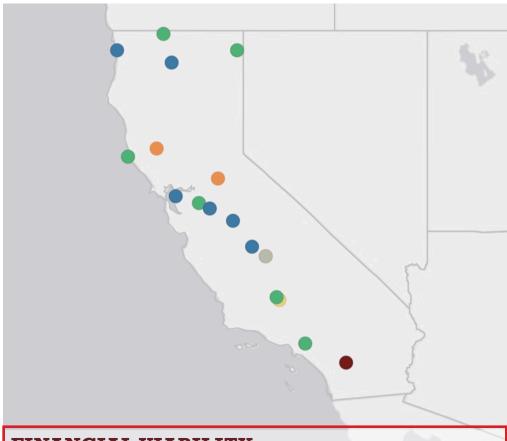


## The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems



# **CALIFORNIA**



#### 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

Less than 2 months

2 to 6 months

7 to 12 months

a year

too early

to tell

More than Don't know/ Don't want to answer

18% of all CA respondents cannot sustain losses for more than six months of current financial conditions

Challenges faced because • Paying bills • Paying staff • Maintaining their system of financial conditions:

- Paying for chemicals
- Compliance

### 17 respondents

**88%** of respondents were small systems (n = 16)

 $\approx$  5,016 residents

Average system size of respondent

#### **FACILITIES TYPE:**

65% water | 29% both 6% wastewater

**4-5:** 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?

> 41%:Yes 24%: No

**35%: Not sure** 

43% of small systems indicated they experienced a decrease in revenues, comparing April 2019 to April 2020 (n = 7)

CA small system respondent median monthly revenue decrease (n = 3)

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.

