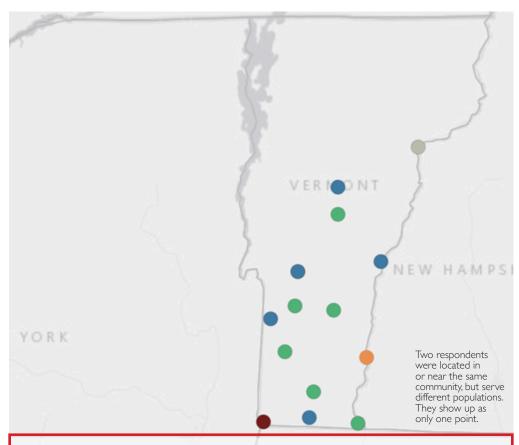


The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural and **Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems**



VERMONT



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

More than a year

Don't know/ Don't want too early to tell

to answer

20% of all VT respondents cannot sustain losses for more than six months of current financial conditions

Challenges faced because of financial conditions:

- Paying for chemicals
- Maintaining their system
- Complying with state and/or federal regulations

15 respondents

93% of respondents were small systems

 ≈ 1.870 residents

Average system size of respondent

FACILITIES TYPE:

60% water | **27**% both 13% wastewater

2-3: 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?

> 47%:Yes 13%: No

40% : Not sure

1 small system of 4

indicated they experienced a decrease in revenues, comparing April 2019 to April 2020. 2 respondents experienced

no change. (n = 4)

small system respondent median monthly revenue decrease (n = 1)

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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