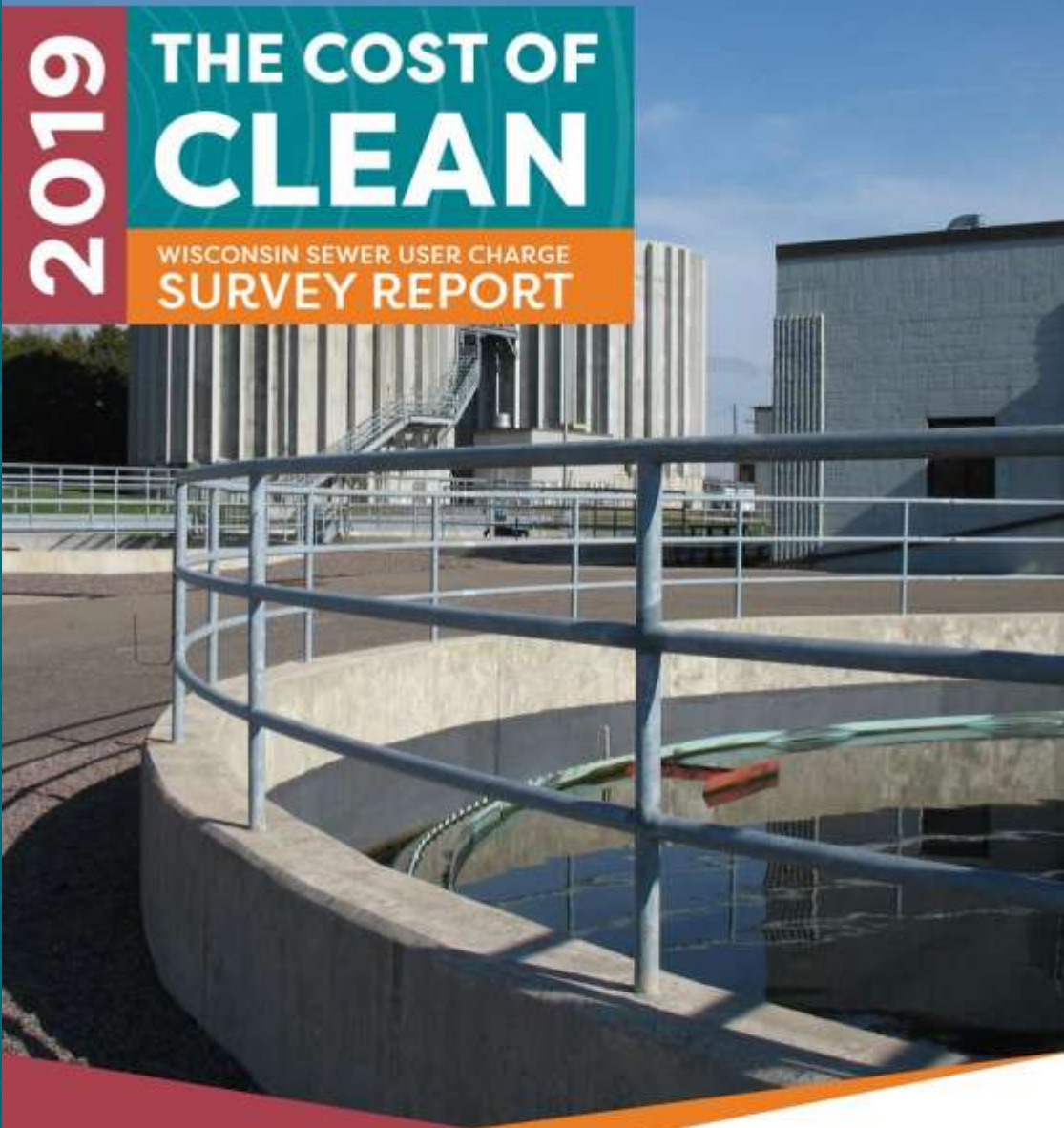


2019 - Cost of Clean

2019 WWOA Conference



2019
**THE COST OF
CLEAN**
WISCONSIN SEWER USER CHARGE
SURVEY REPORT

Overview

- History of the survey
- Cost of Sewer
- Cost of Water
- Other Revenue Sources
- Affordability
- What is the value of water?
- Summary

2016 Survey

- Survey was emailed in January 2019
- Survey Monkey format
- Completed surveys returned by April 2016
- Report is complete and available



2019 Wisconsin Sewer User Charge Survey

Return completed survey by January 31, 2019 in the enclosed self-addressed, postage paid envelope. Or, email your completed survey to ratesurvey@msa-ps.com. The survey is also available to fill out online: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019_Sewer_User_Charge.

Contact Information

Name/Title	Utility Name	City
Email	Phone	County

I. General Sewer System Information

- Type of Sewer System:
 - City Sanitary District Village
 - Other (please specify) _____
- Current population (number of people, not number of households) served by wastewater treatment facility: _____
- Does your community own and operate a wastewater treatment facility?
 - No (i.e. you operate a sewer collection system)
 - What entity treats your community's sewage? (Answer then skip to Section V.) _____
 - Yes (i.e. you operate under a WPDES permit)
 - List all other Cities, Villages, and Sanitary Districts, from which wastewater is accepted to your facility, if any: _____

II. Treatment Facility Information (Check all that apply.)

- Lagoon System: Aerated Lagoon Stabilization Pond Not applicable
- Activated Sludge System: Conventional Activated Sludge Membrane Bioreactor Oxidation Ditch Package Plant Sequencing Batch Reactor Not applicable
- Fixed Film System: Trickling Filter/Bio-Tower Rotating Biological Contractor Recirculating Sand Filter Moving Bed Bioreactor Not applicable
- Tertiary Filtration System: Deep Bed Sand Filter Traveling Bridge Sand Filter Disc Filter Not applicable Other System (please specify): _____

III. BioSolids (Sludge) Processing

- Do you process BioSolids (Sludge)?
 - Yes No (If no, skip to section IV.)
- How do you dispose of Sludge? (Check all that apply.)
 - Land Application Landfill Incineration
 - Public Distribution Contract hauling/storage
- Do you produce Class A or Class B Sludge?
 - Class A Class B Both Neither
- Do you foresee the need to produce Class A Sludge?
 - Yes No Not applicable

IV. Discharge Type

- What is your discharge method? (Check all that apply.)
 - Surface water (rivers, lakes, wetland, etc.)
 - Groundwater (seepage cells, etc.)
 - Land application (spray irrigation, etc.)
- Design Capacity (MGD). Use MGD format, 0.123 MGD equals 123,000 GPD: _____
- Current Average Daily Flow (MGD). Use MGD format, 0.123 MGD equals 123,000 GPD: _____

Please return survey by January 31, 2019. Need clarification on a question? Contact us: ratesurvey@msa-ps.com



WWW.MSA-PS.COM | (800) 362-4505

2019 Wisconsin Sewer User Charge Survey

V. Rate Information

- What is your billing frequency?
 - Monthly (12/year) Bi-monthly (6/year)
 - Quarterly (4/year) Annually (1/year)
- What are your Residential Fixed Fee sewer rates in dollars as of January 1, 2019 (per bill)? \$ _____
- What volume is included in the Residential Fixed Fee, if any?
 - \$ _____ Cubic feet Gallons
- What are your Residential Volume Charge sewer rates in dollars as of January 1, 2019 (per bill)?
 - \$ _____ Per 1,000 Gallons Per 100 Cubic Feet
- Effective date of last rate increase (mm/dd/yyyy): _____
- Do you anticipate a rate increase in 2019?
 - No
 - Yes _____ % rate increase (approximate)
- Which residential sewer connection fee do you charge? If so, how much?
 - Residential Hook-up Fee \$ _____
 - Acre Equivalency Unit
 - Meter Size Other
 - Impact Fee \$ _____
 - Acre Equivalency Unit
 - Meter Size Other
 - Neither/Unsure

VI. Hauled Waste

- Do you accept hauled waste?
 - No (If no, skip to section VII.)
 - Yes
- Do you accept holding tank waste?
 - No
 - Yes (If yes, what is your disposal charge?)
 - \$ _____ Per Load Per 1000 Gallons
- Do you accept septic tank waste?
 - No
 - Yes (If yes, what is your disposal charge?)
 - \$ _____ Per Load Per 1000 Gallons

VII. High Strength Waste Charges

- Do you assess a surcharge for high strength or industrial wastes?
 - No (If no, skip to section VIII.)
 - Yes
- Which of the following high strength wastes are you surcharging? Check all that apply:
 - BOD \$ _____ per lb above mg/l _____
 - TSS \$ _____ per lb above mg/l _____
 - Nitrogen \$ _____ per lb above mg/l _____
 - Phosphorus \$ _____ per lb above mg/l _____

VIII. Budget Information

- What is your projected sewer utility budget for 2019 (or actual expenditures for 2018)? Include operation, maintenance, replacement and debt. \$ _____
- Are any General Fund Revenues derived from property tax levy allocated to the sewer utility?
 - No
 - Yes, \$ _____ Dollars Mill Rate
- What year was your last major facility upgrade (yyyy): _____

IX. Collection System

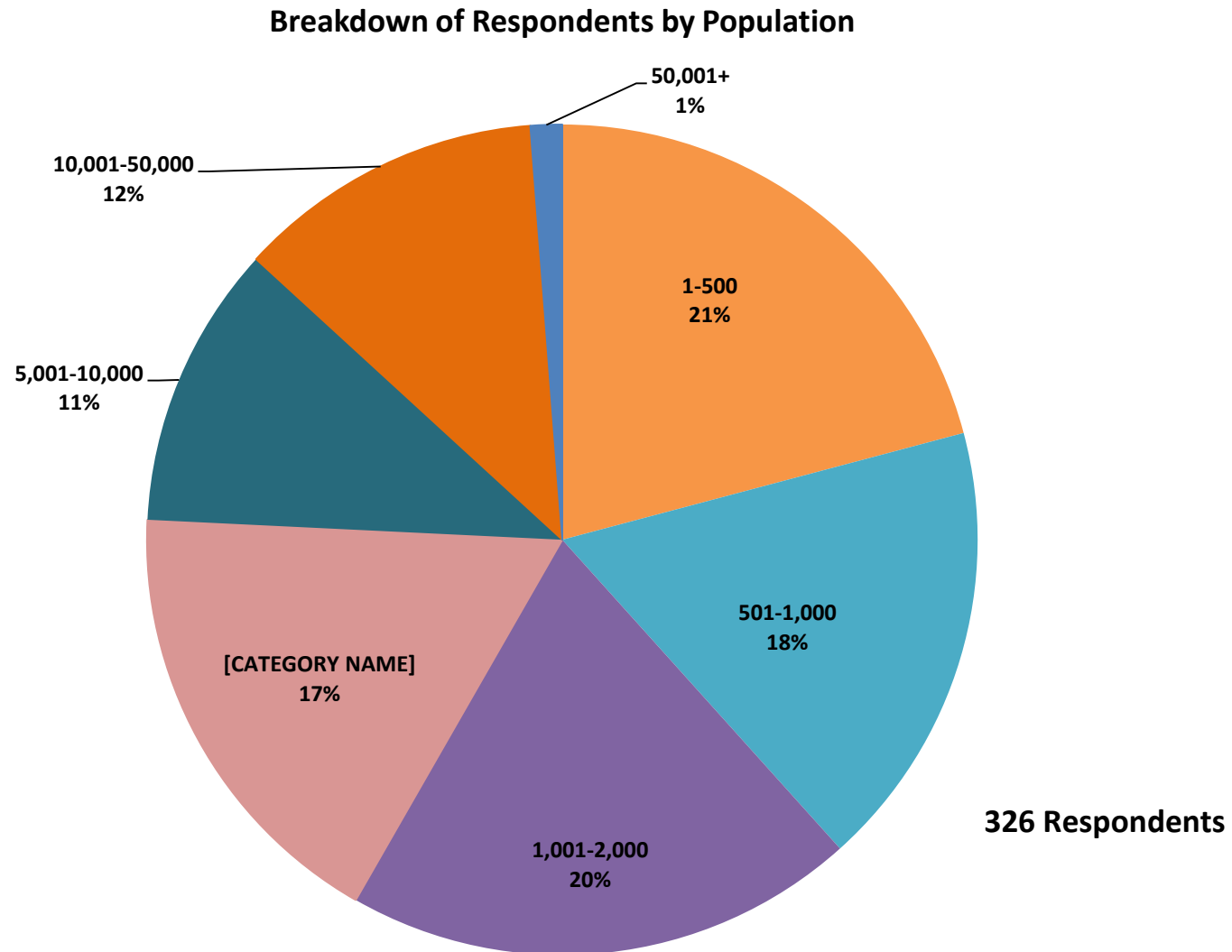
- What is the approximate length of your collection system in miles (if known)? _____
- What is the approximate age in years of your oldest sewer? _____
- Are you regularly televising a portion of your collection system?
 - No
 - Yes _____ % total collection system length televised annually.
- In the past three years, have you completed any significant sanitary sewer system improvements (pipe replacement, lining, etc.)?
 - No
 - Yes _____ feet replaced _____ feet lined

PLEASE RETURN SURVEY BY JANUARY 31, 2019.

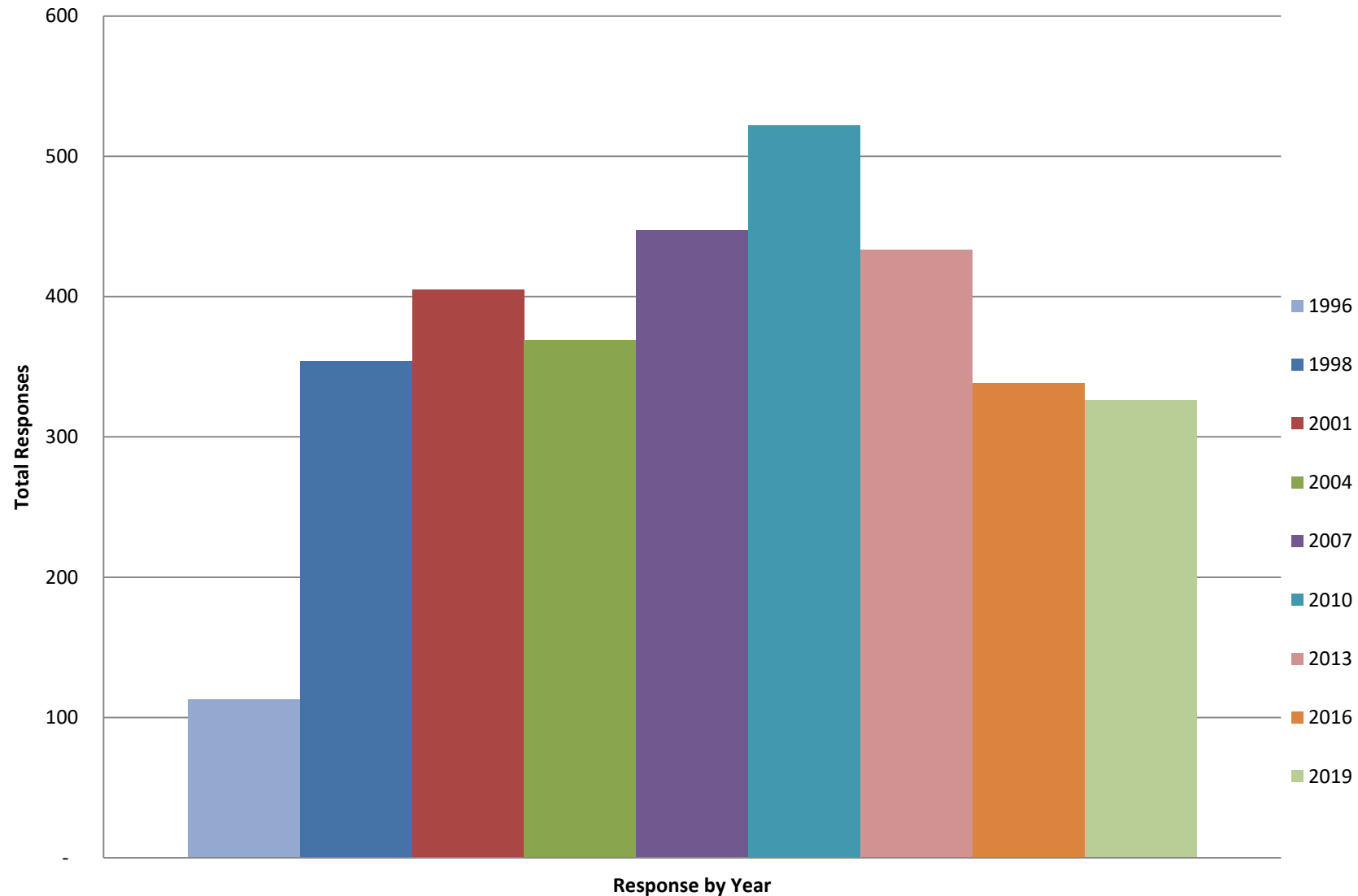
Comments

Thank you for filling out the 2019 Sewer User Charge survey. Share any additional comments you have here. _____

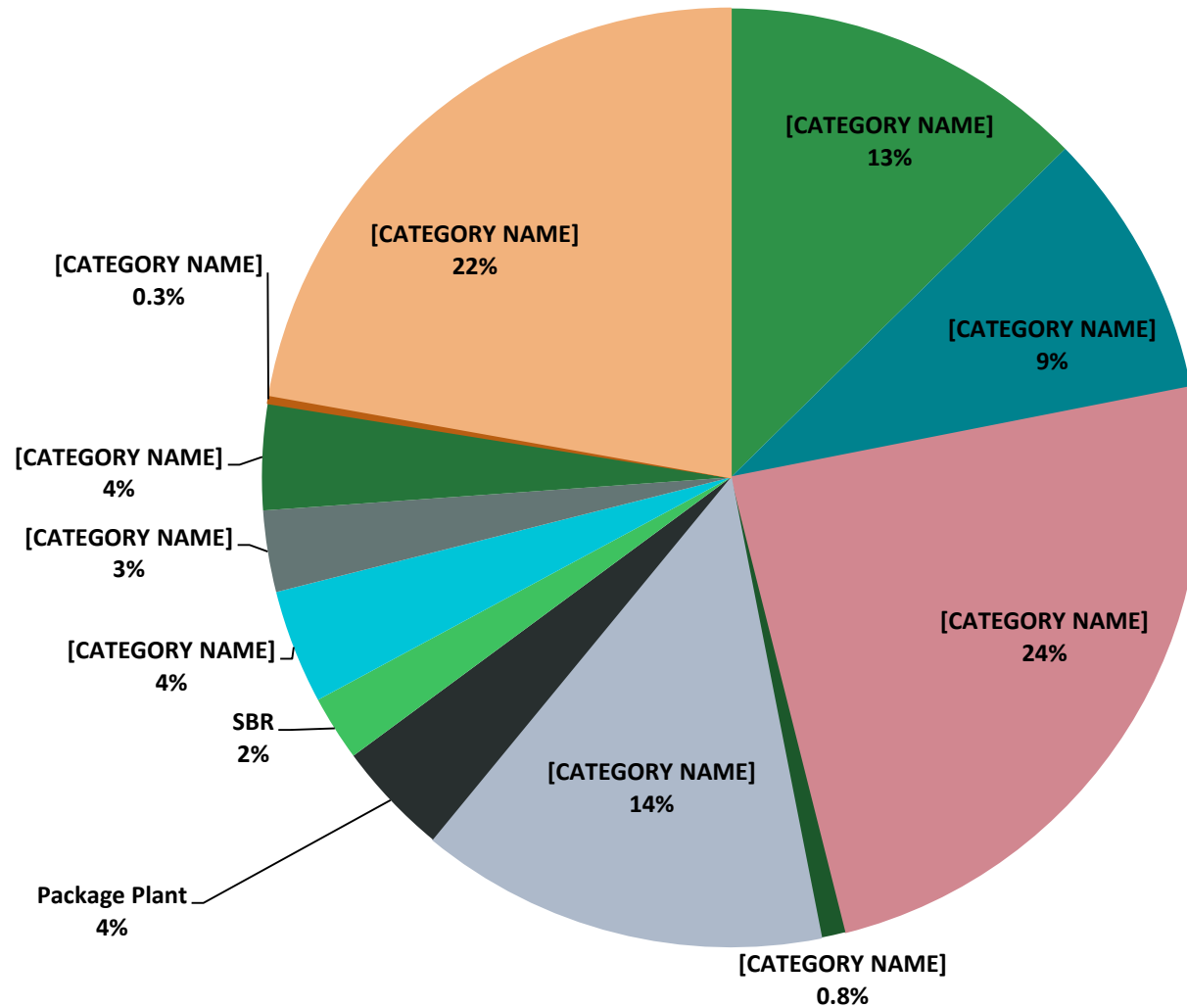
Respondents by Population



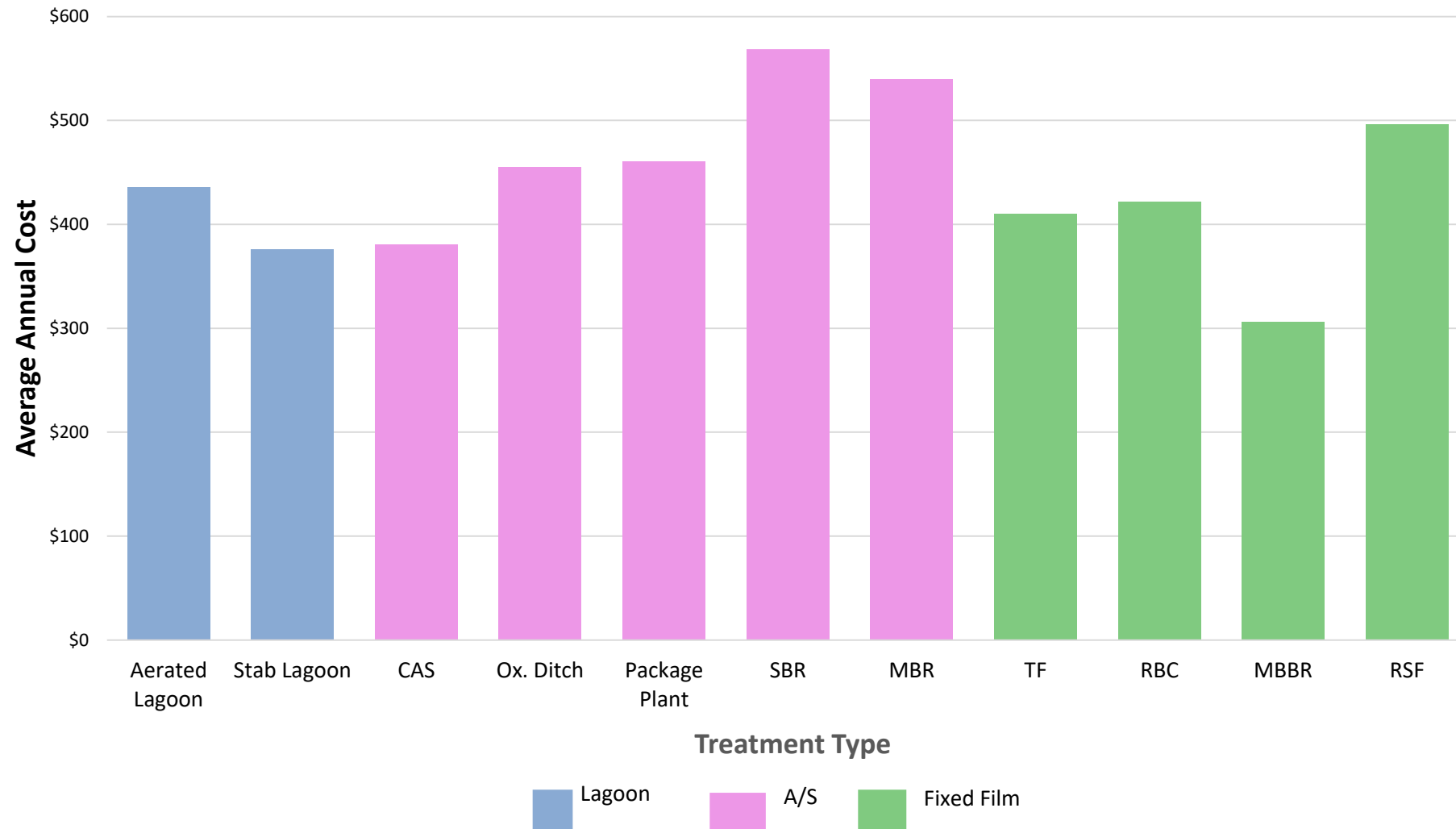
Historical Responses (1996 – 2019)



Distribution of Treatment Type



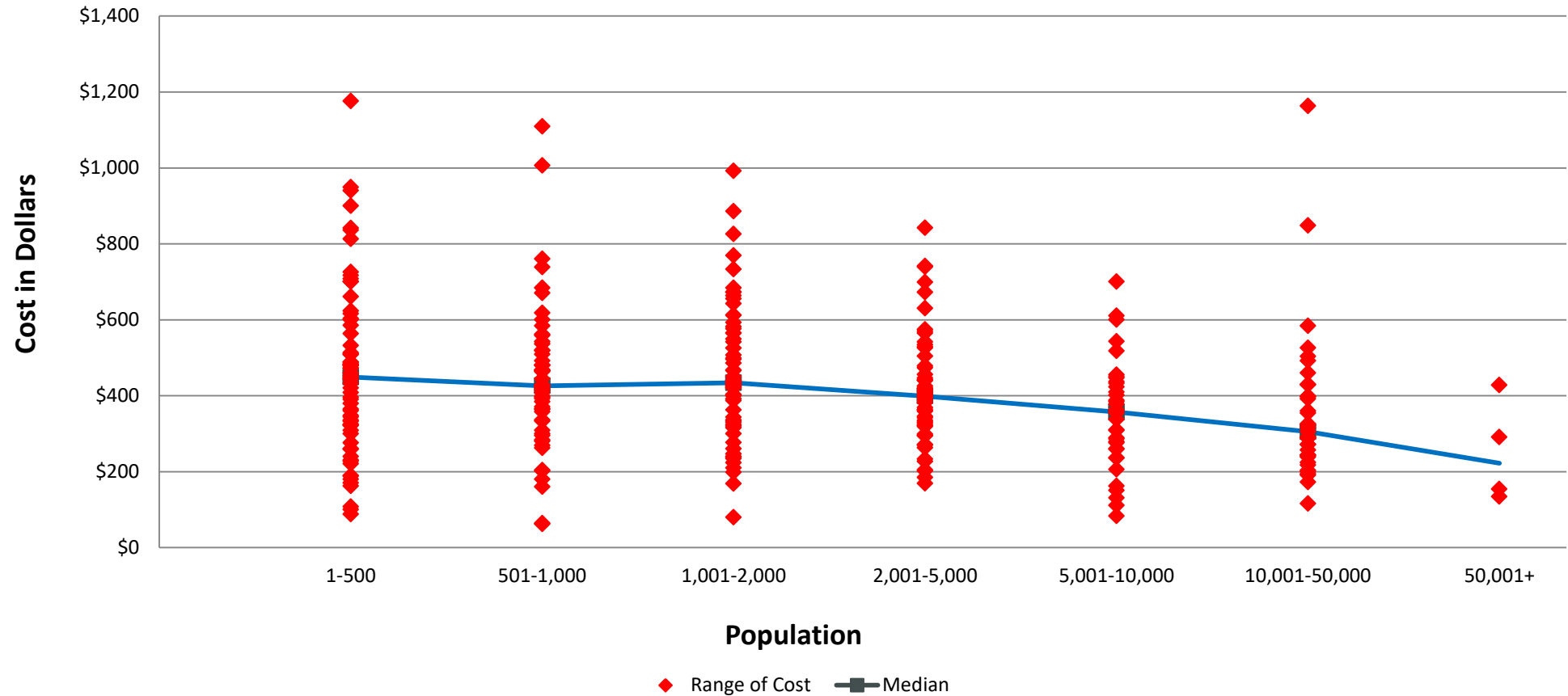
Annual Cost by Type of Treatment



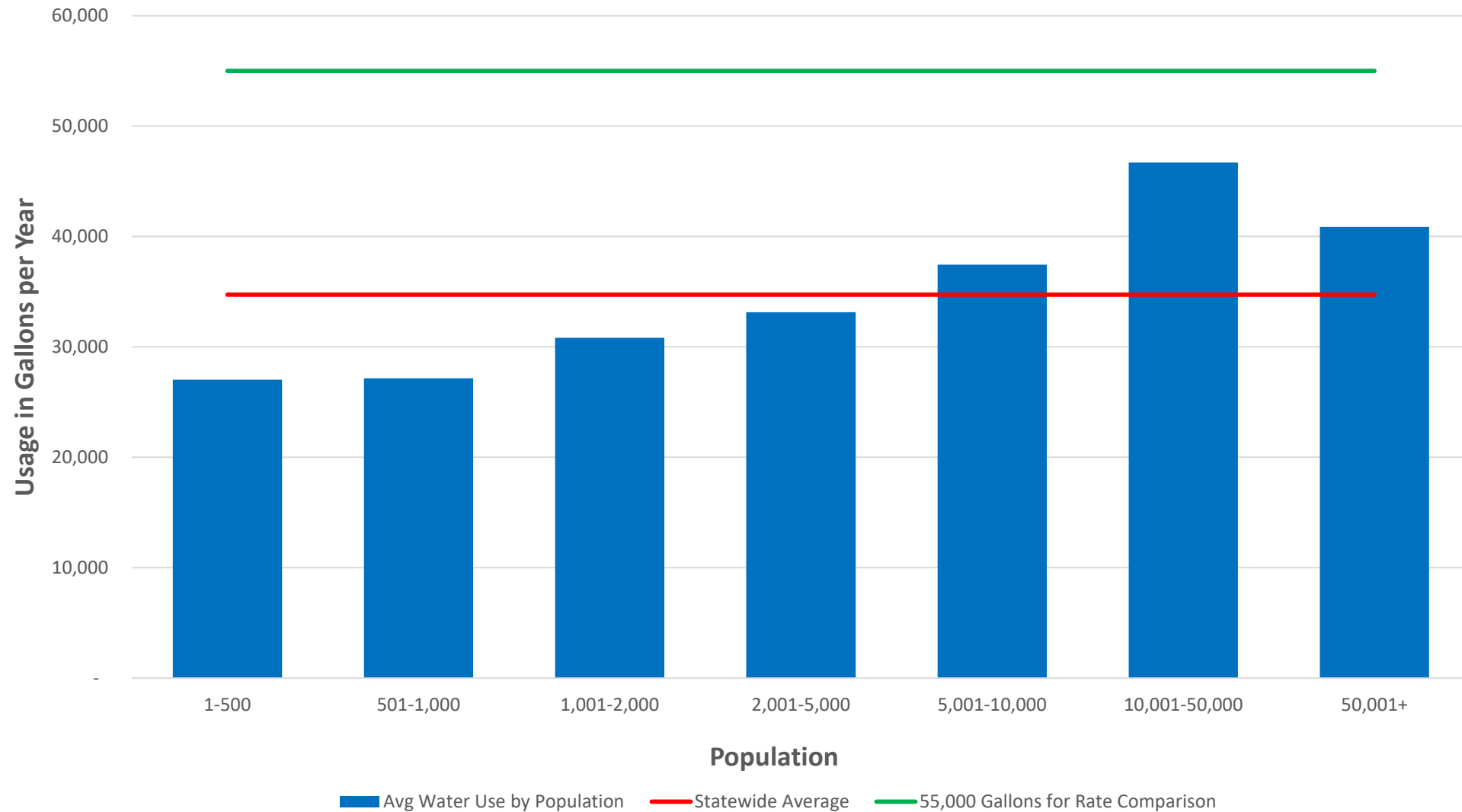
Annual Sewer Rates (Actual Water Usage)



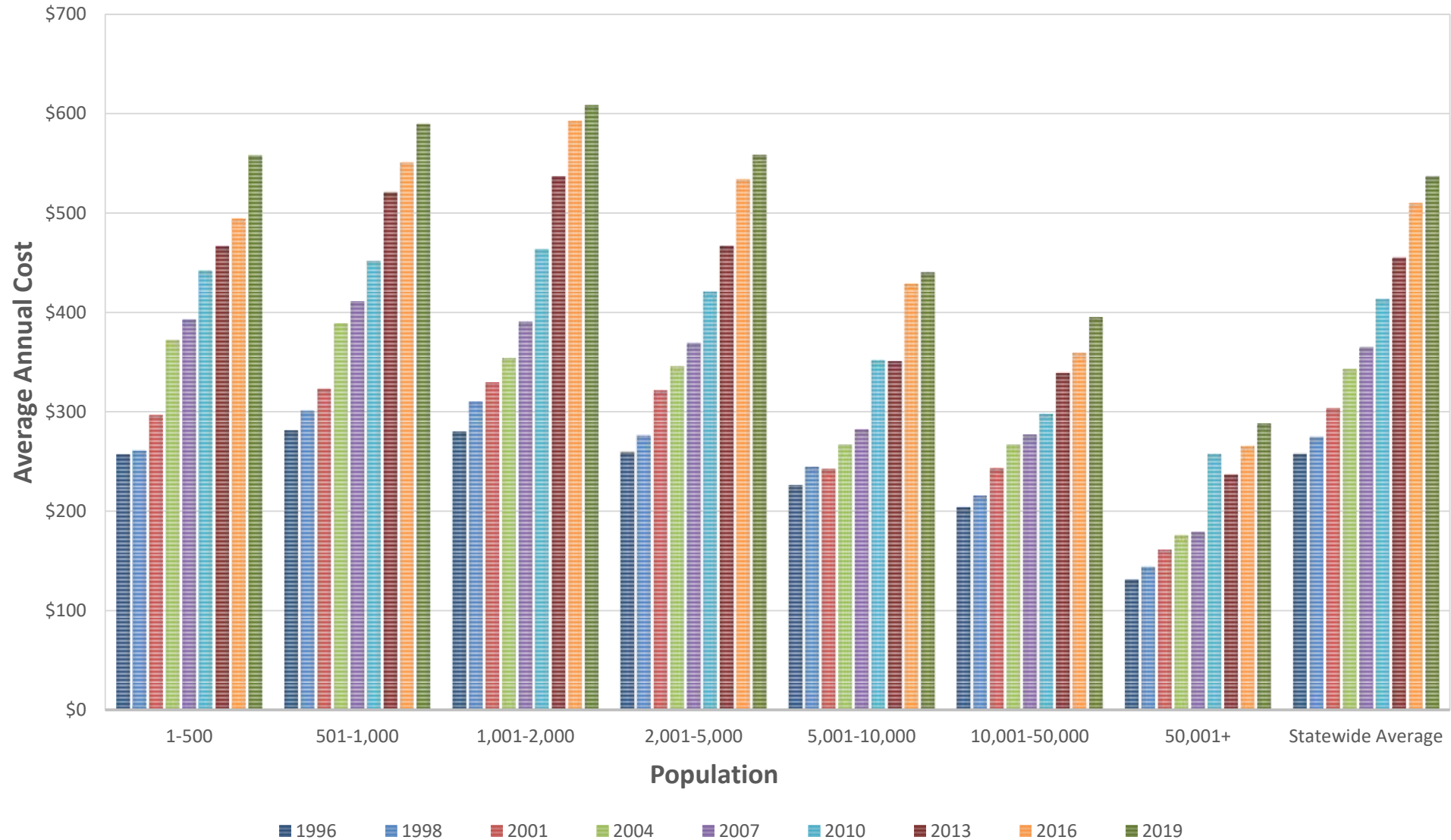
Variation of Sewer Charges (Actual)



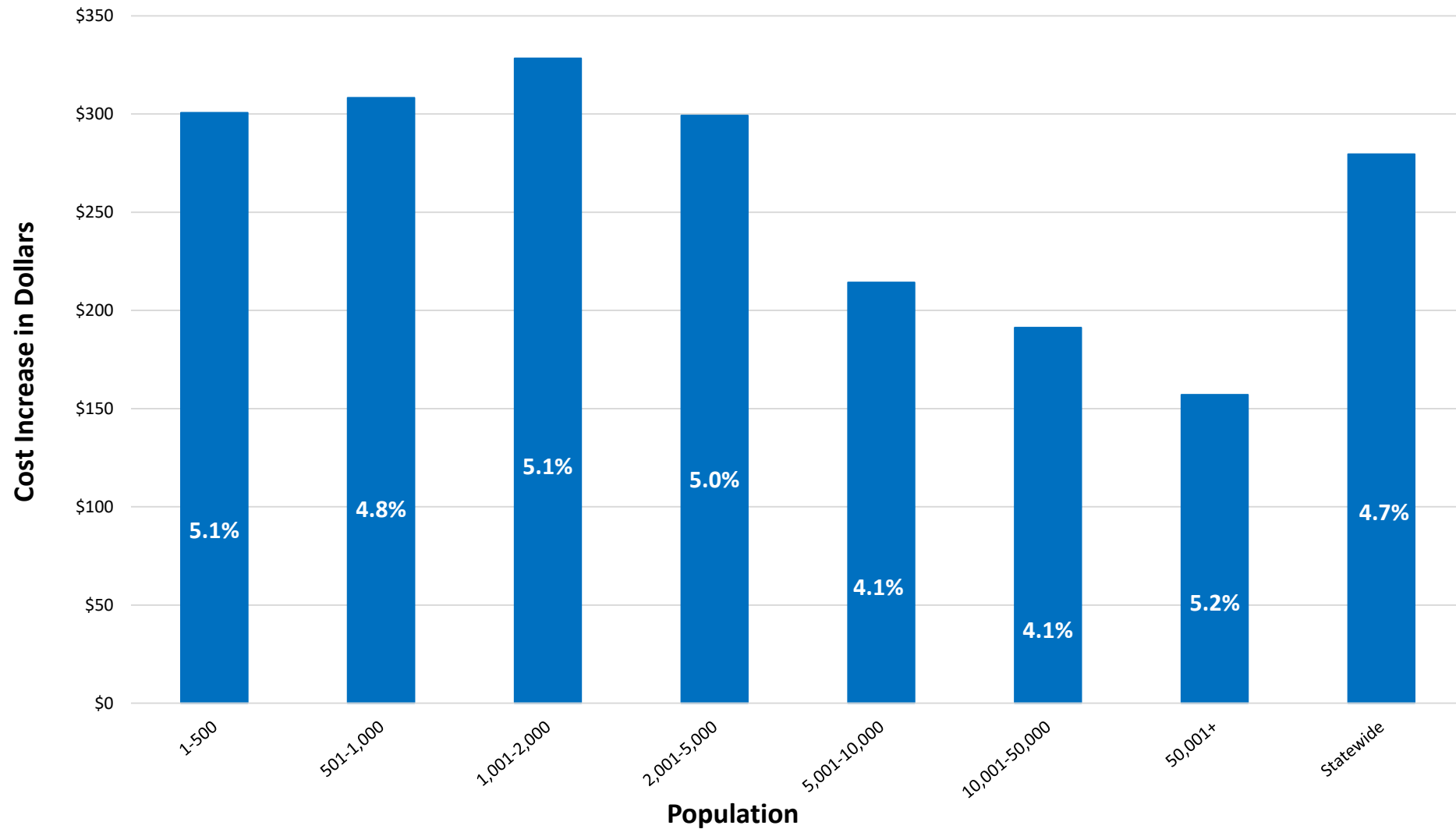
Residential Water Use by Population



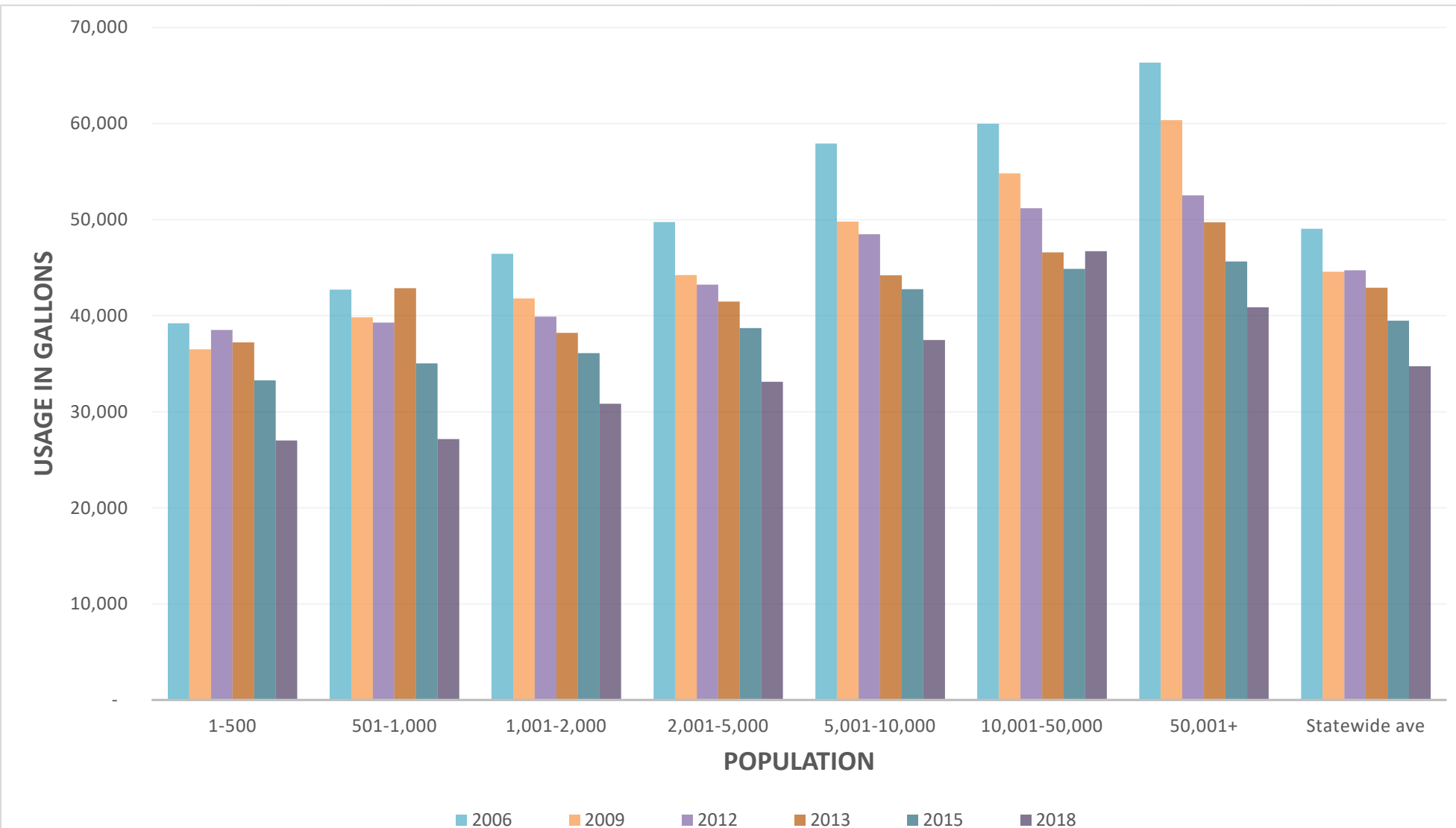
Historic Sewer Charges (55 kgal/d)



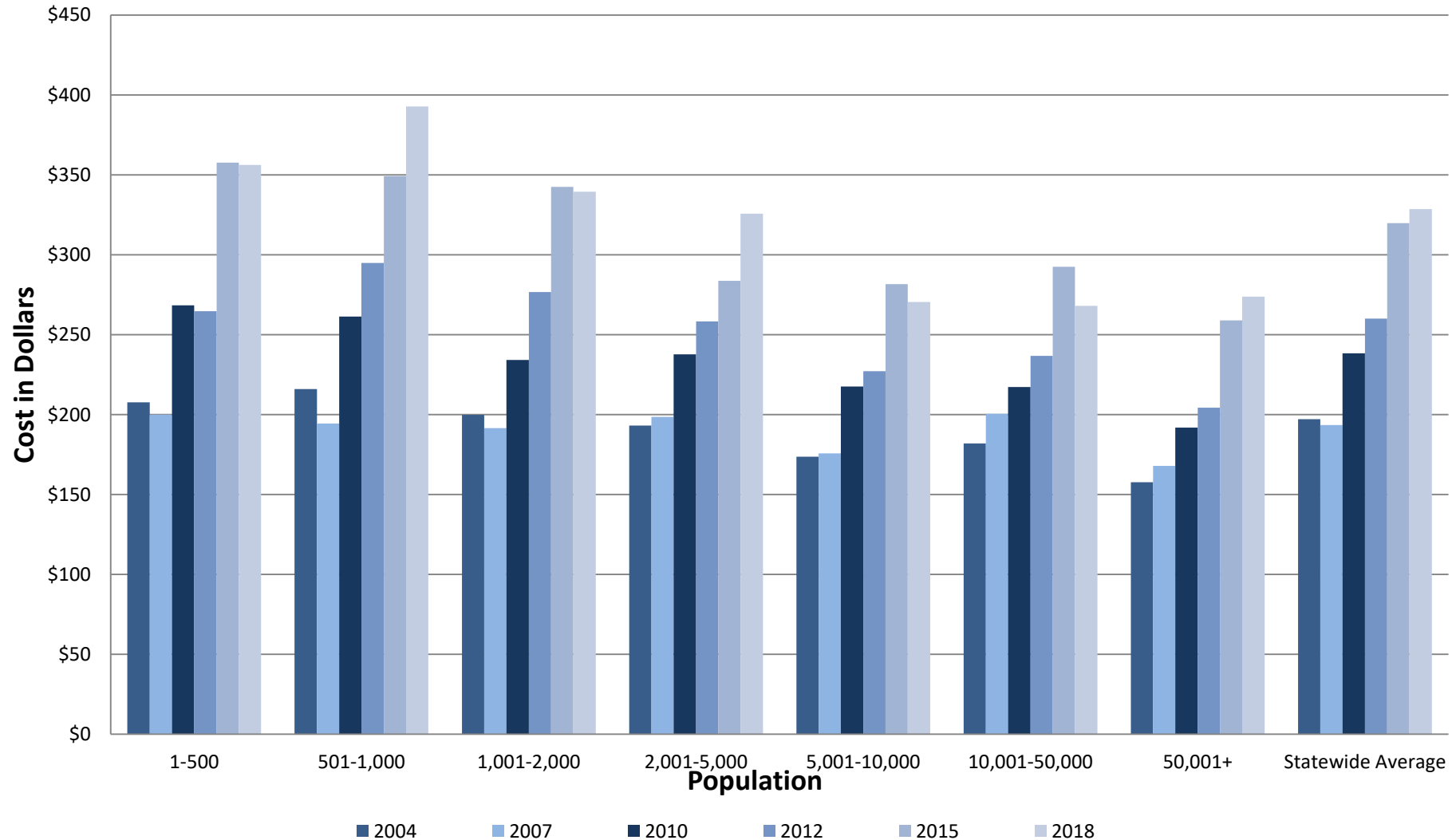
Sewer Cost Increases (Since 1996)



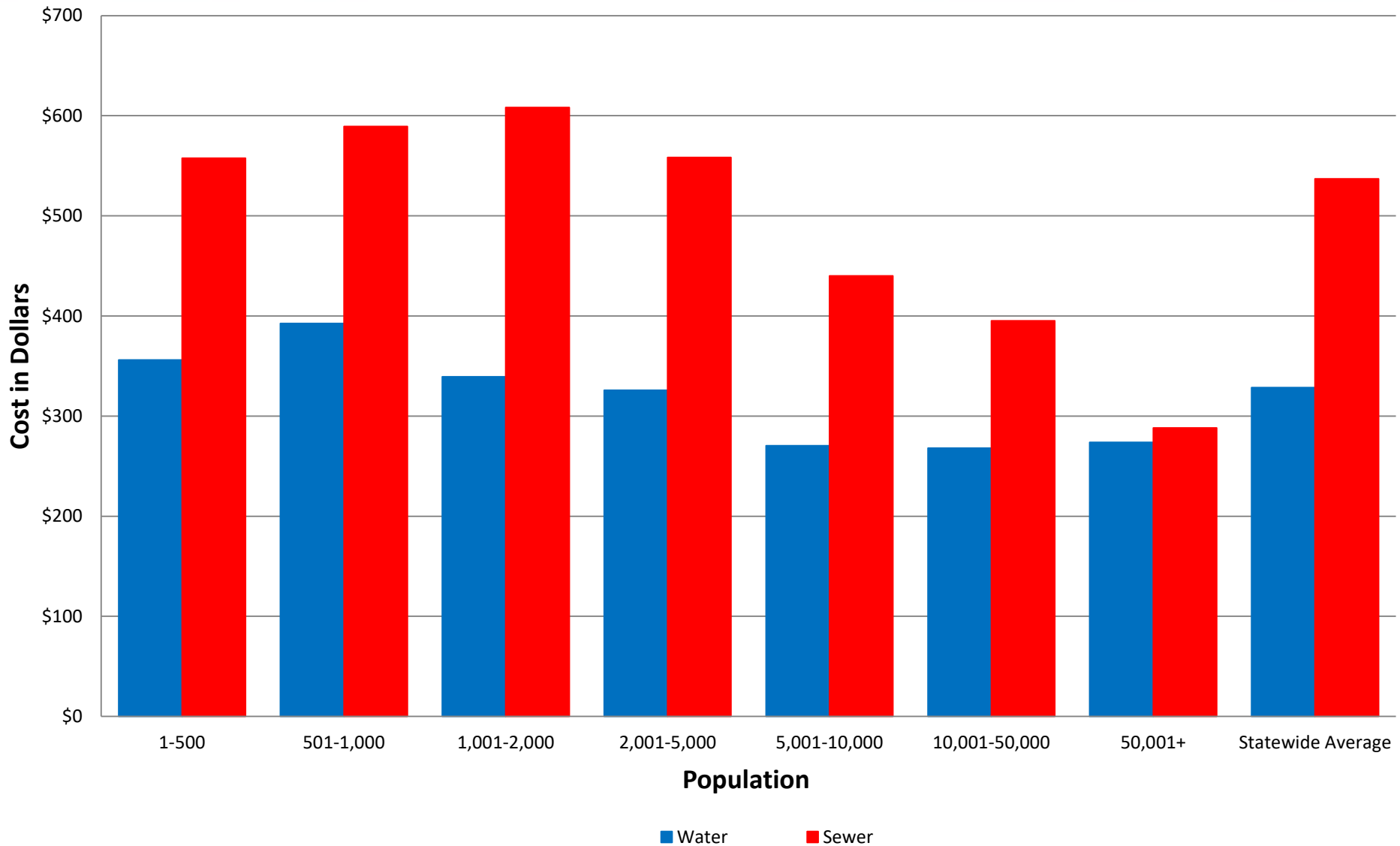
Historic Water Use by Population



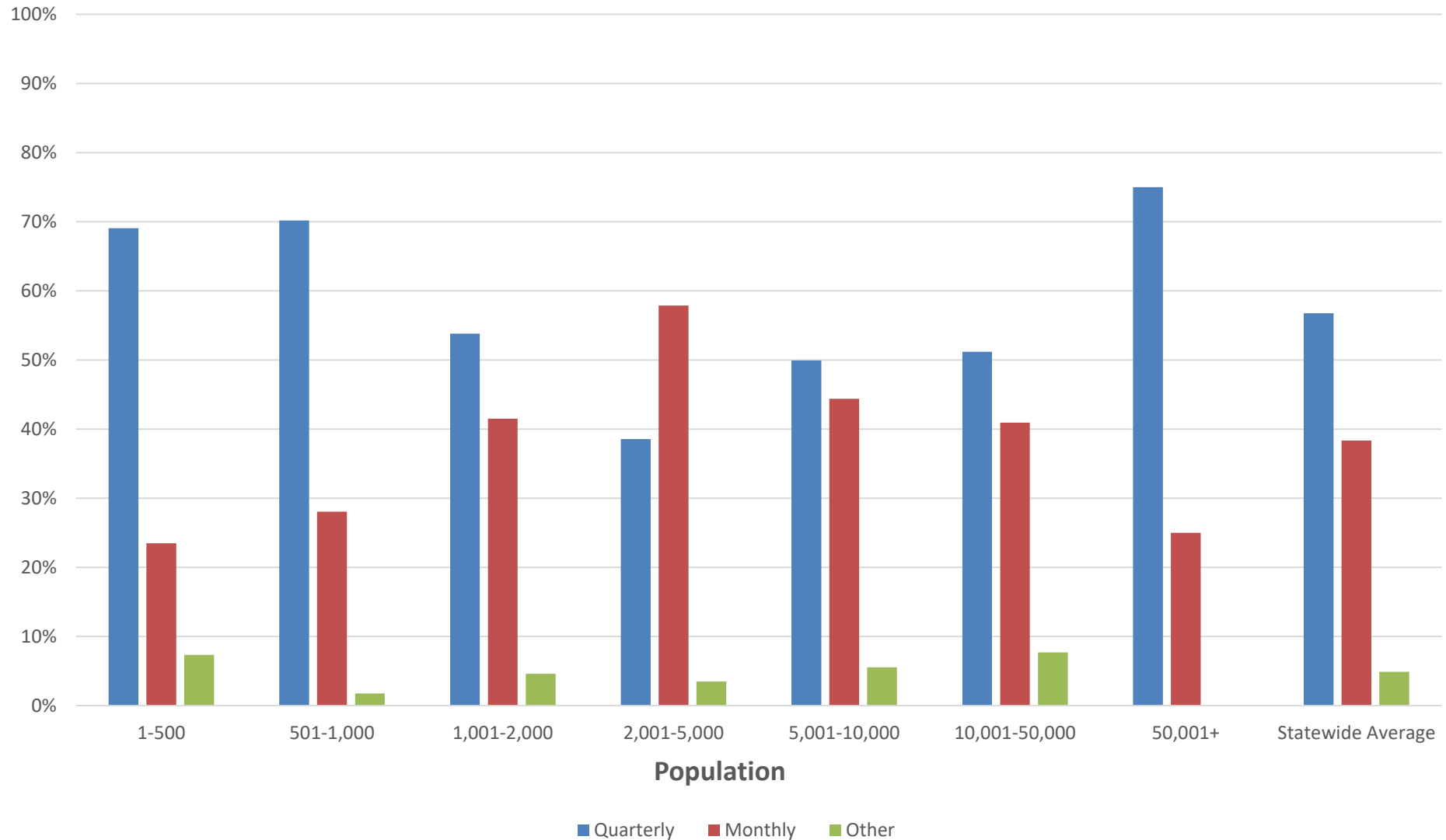
Historic Water Rates by Population (55 kgal/d)



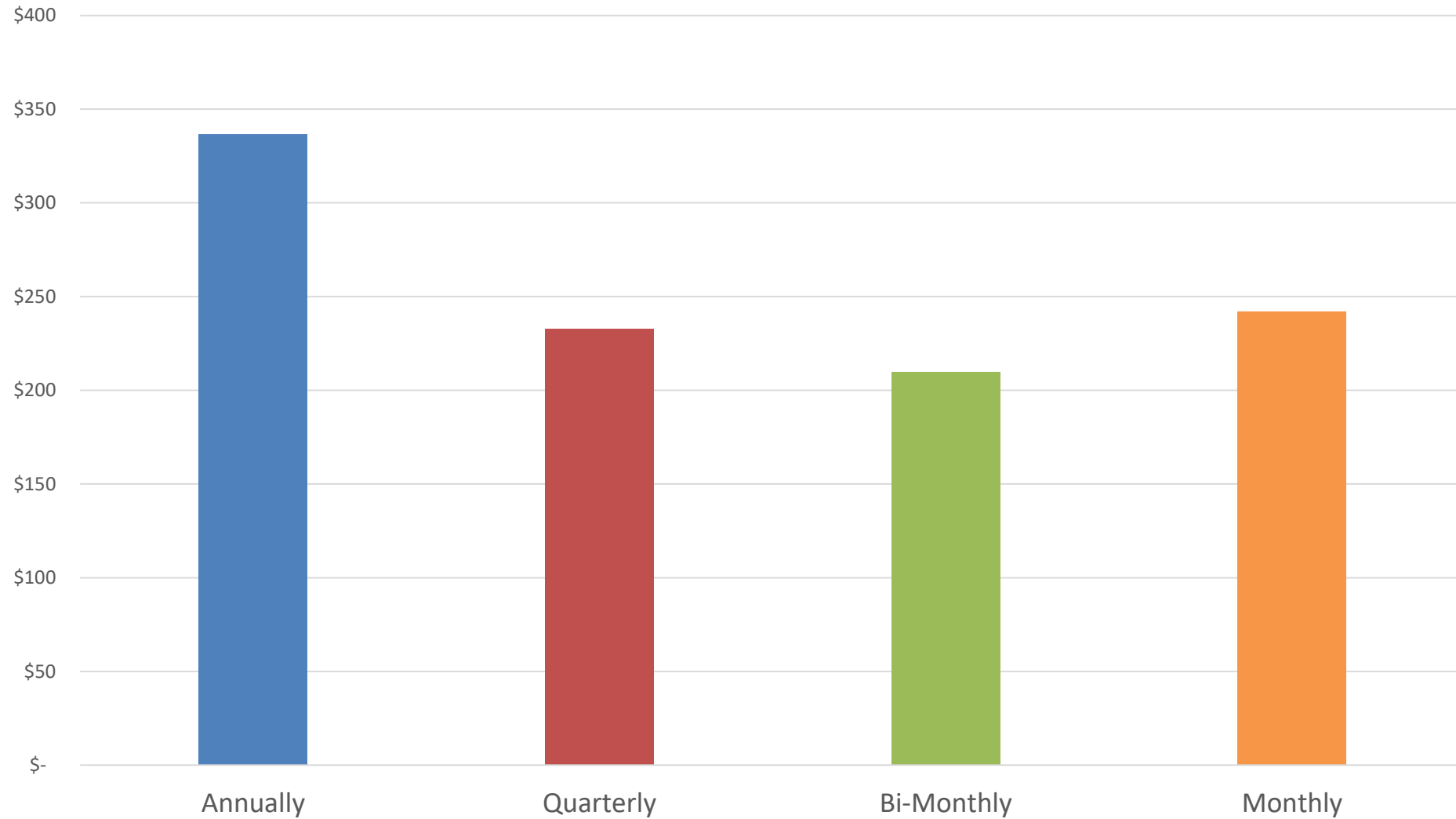
2016 Water and Sewer Rates by Population



Billing Frequency

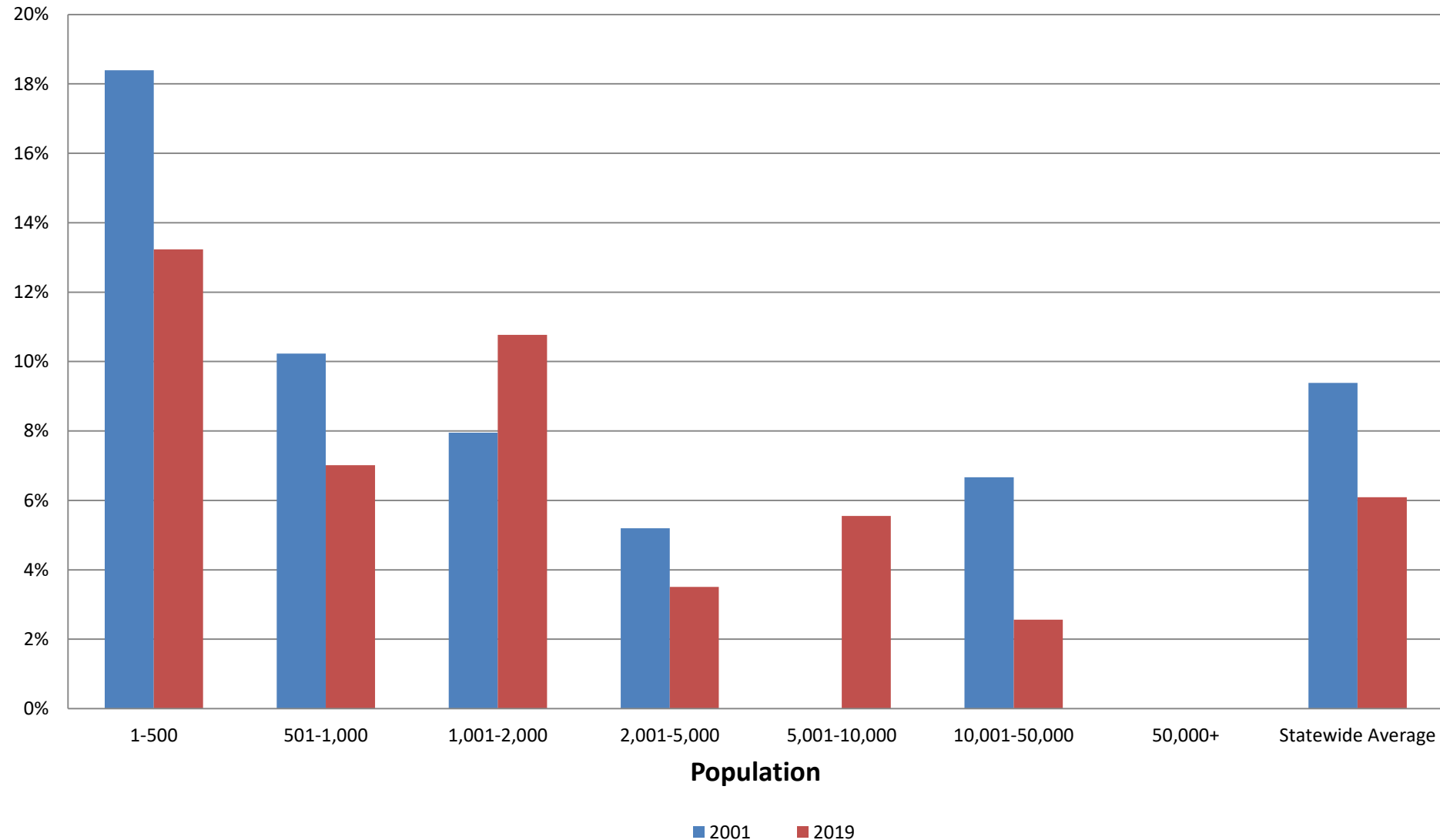


Annual Charge Compared to Billing Frequency

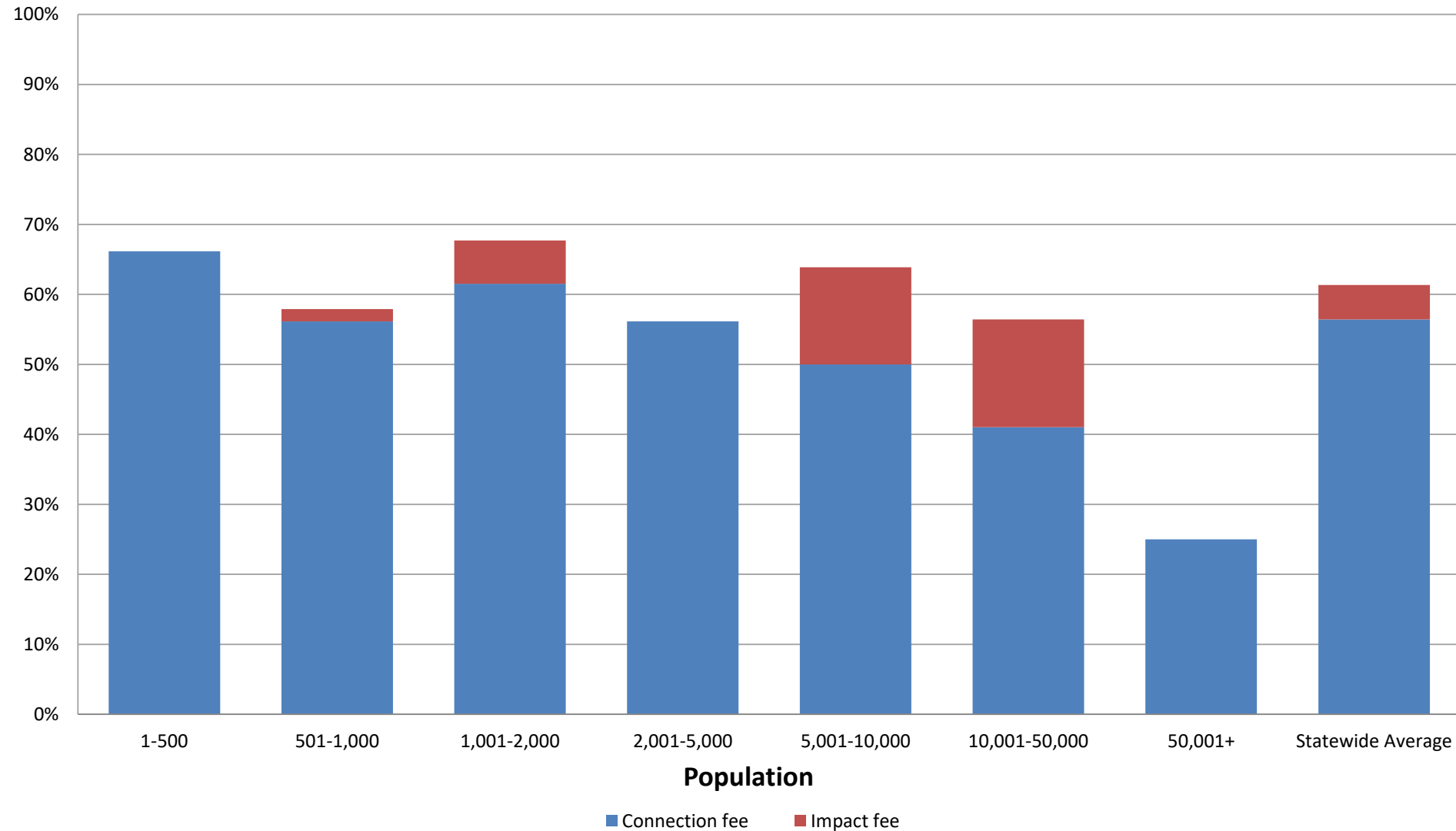


OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

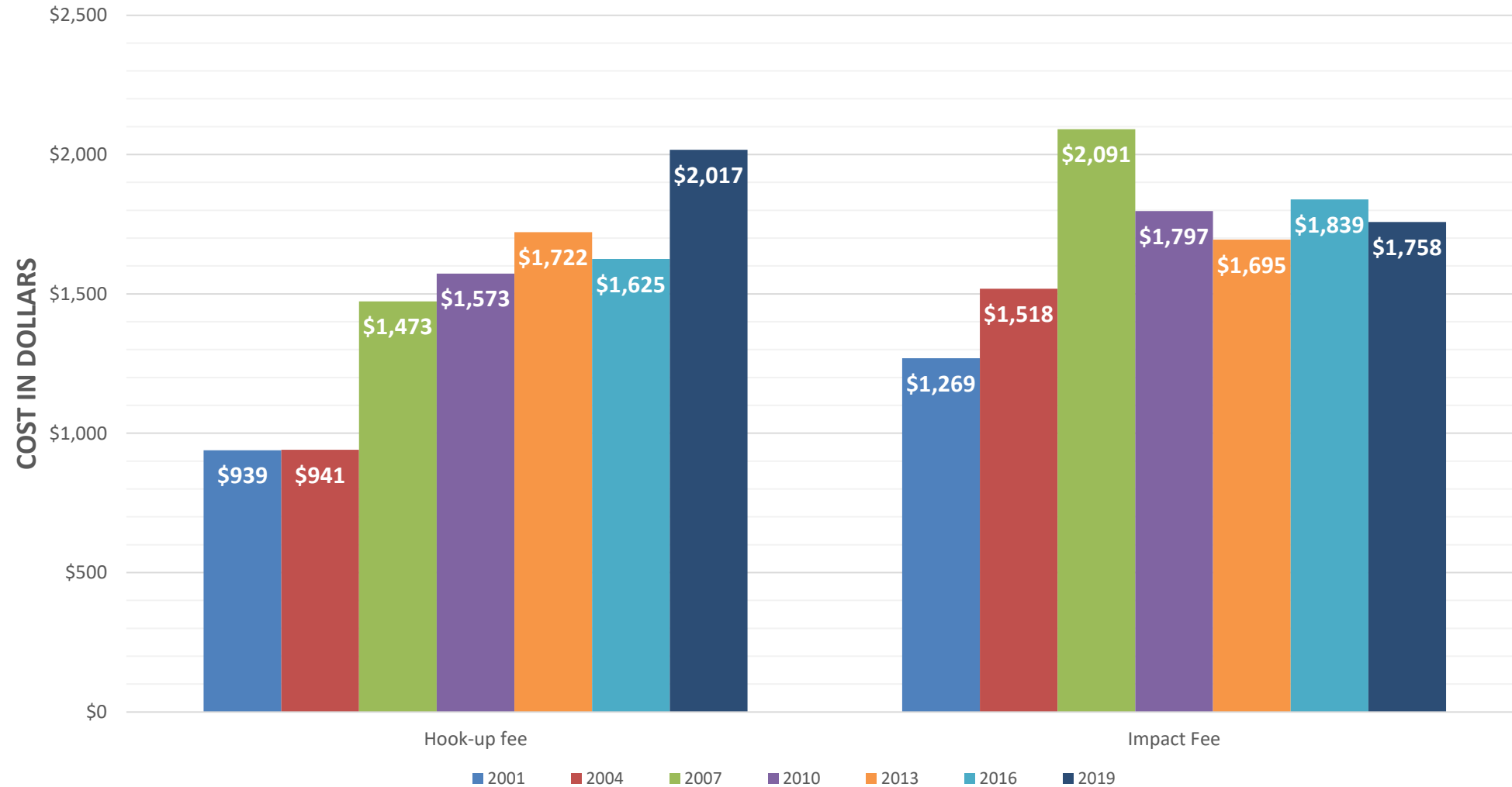
Percent of Communities using Property Tax to Generate Sewer Revenue



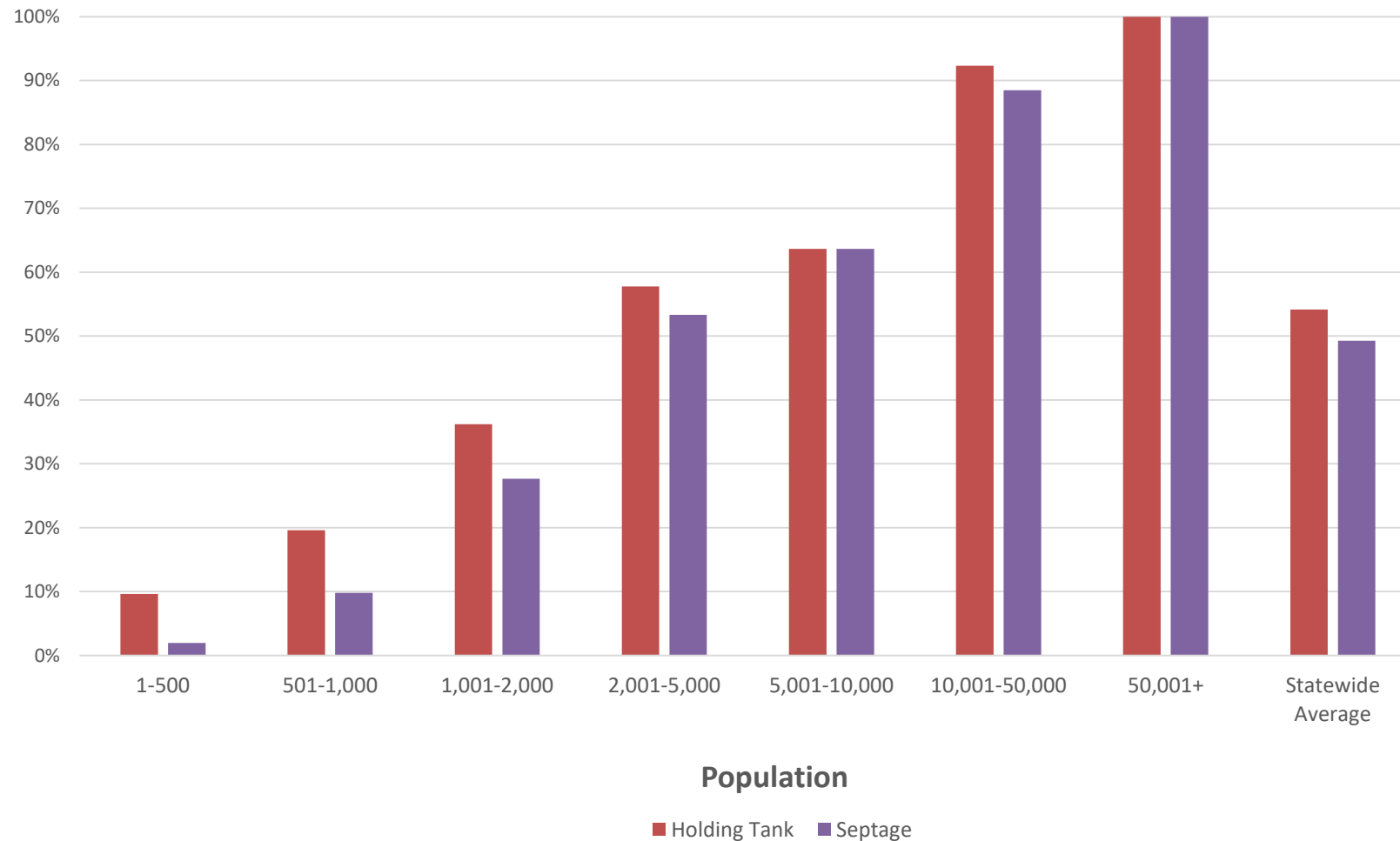
Revenue Source - Impact and Connection Fees



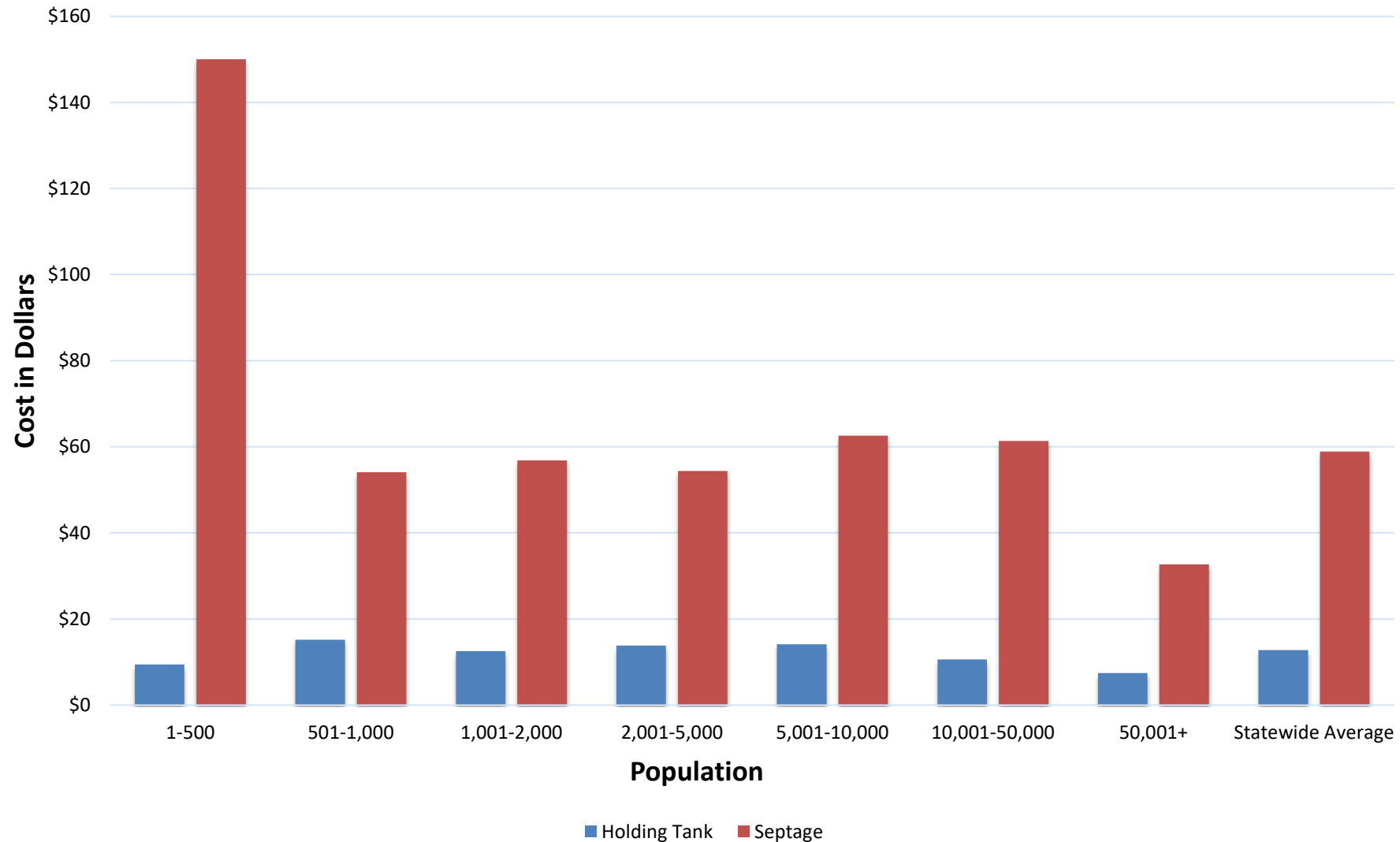
Historic Connection Fee Charges



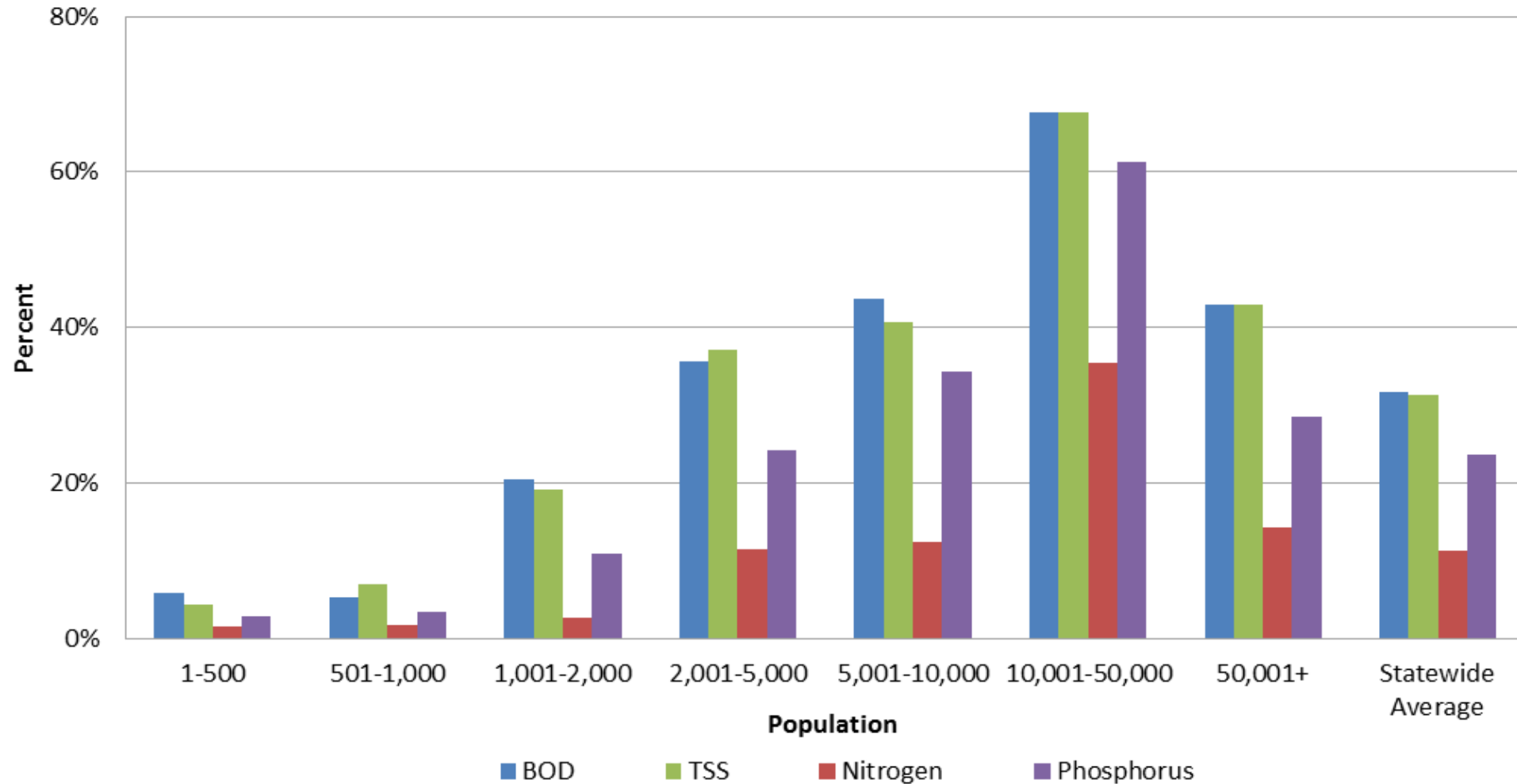
Revenue Source - Hauled Wastes



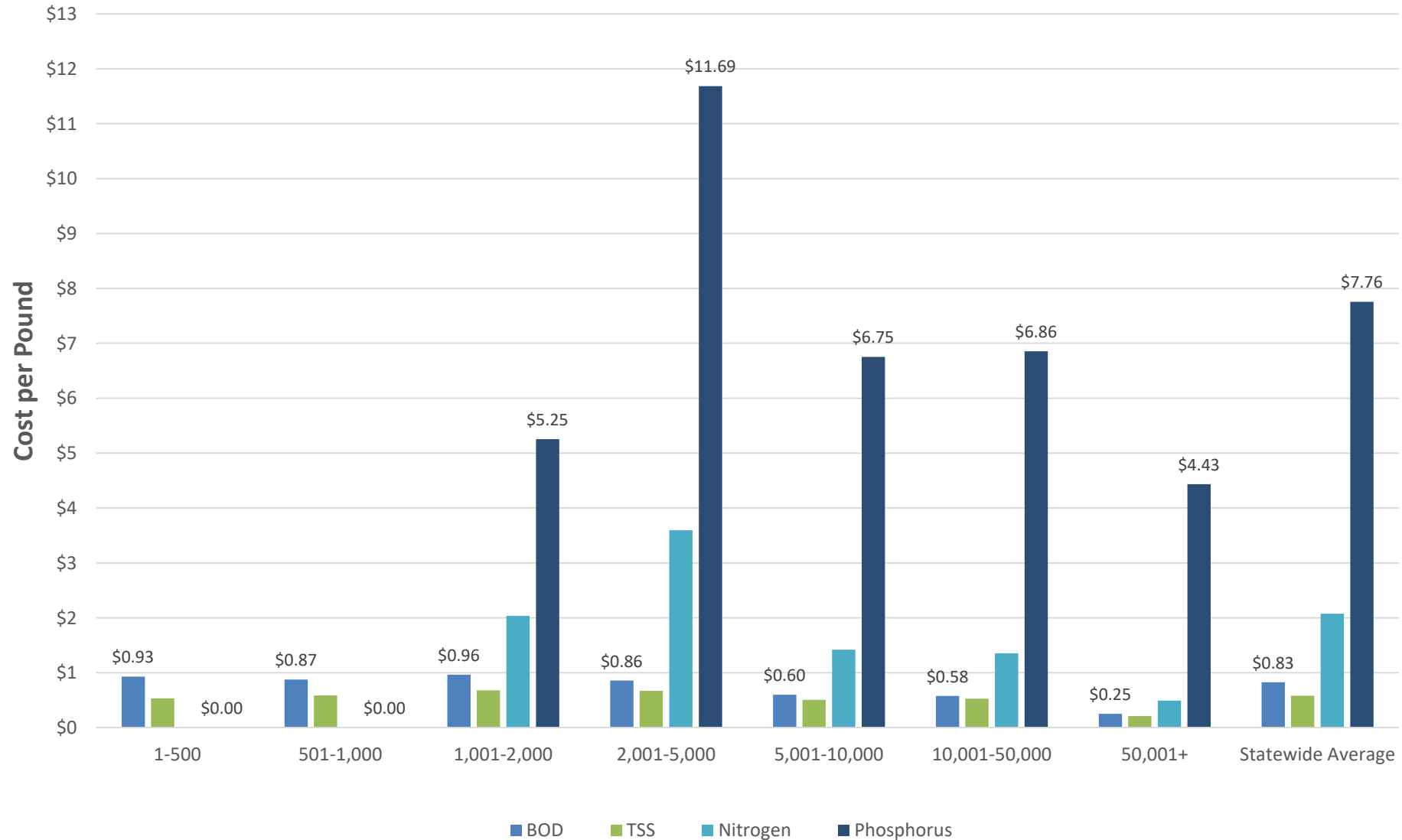
Hauled Waste Charges (per 1,000 gallons)



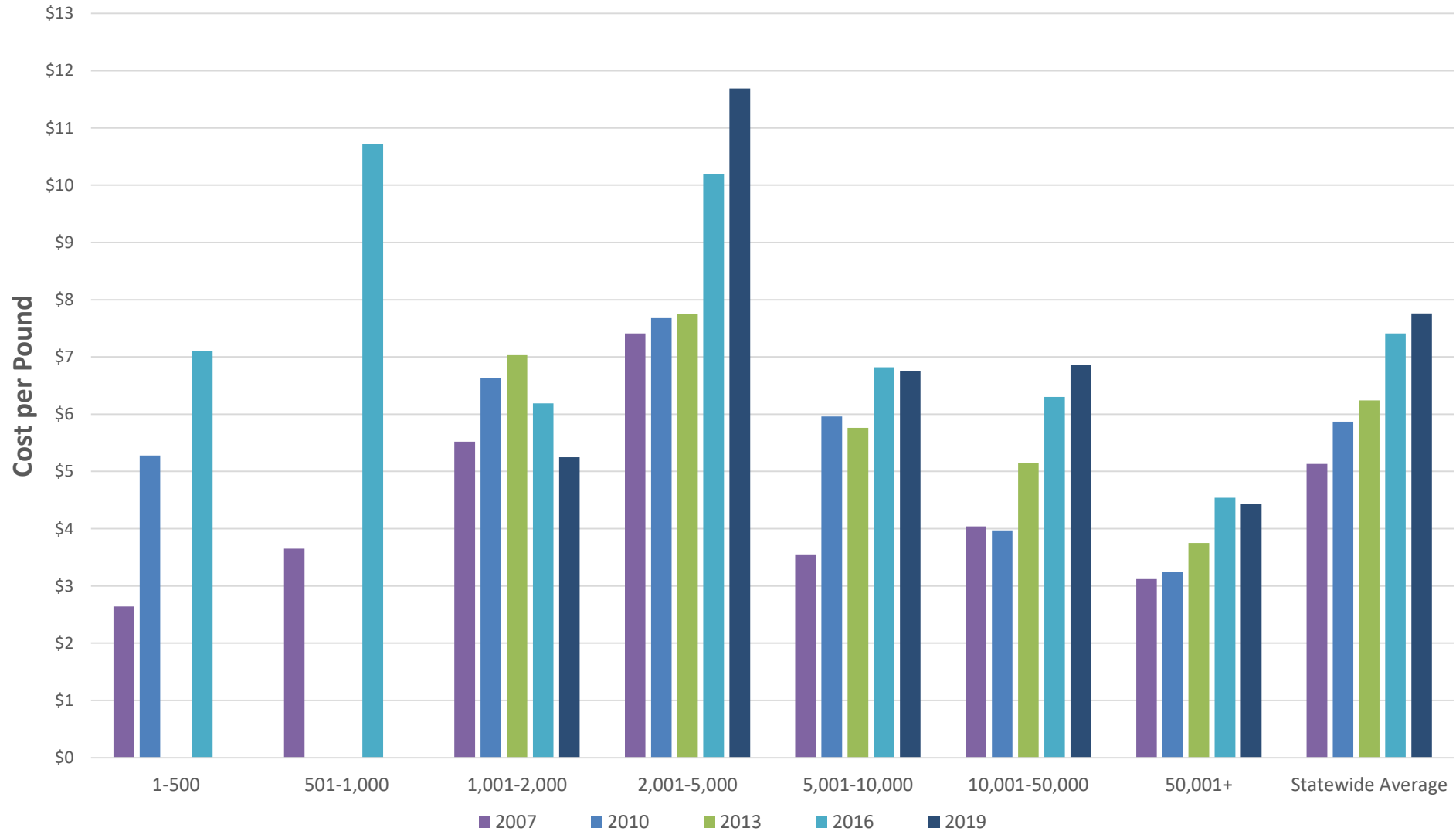
Revenue Source - High Strength Surcharges



High Strength Surcharges

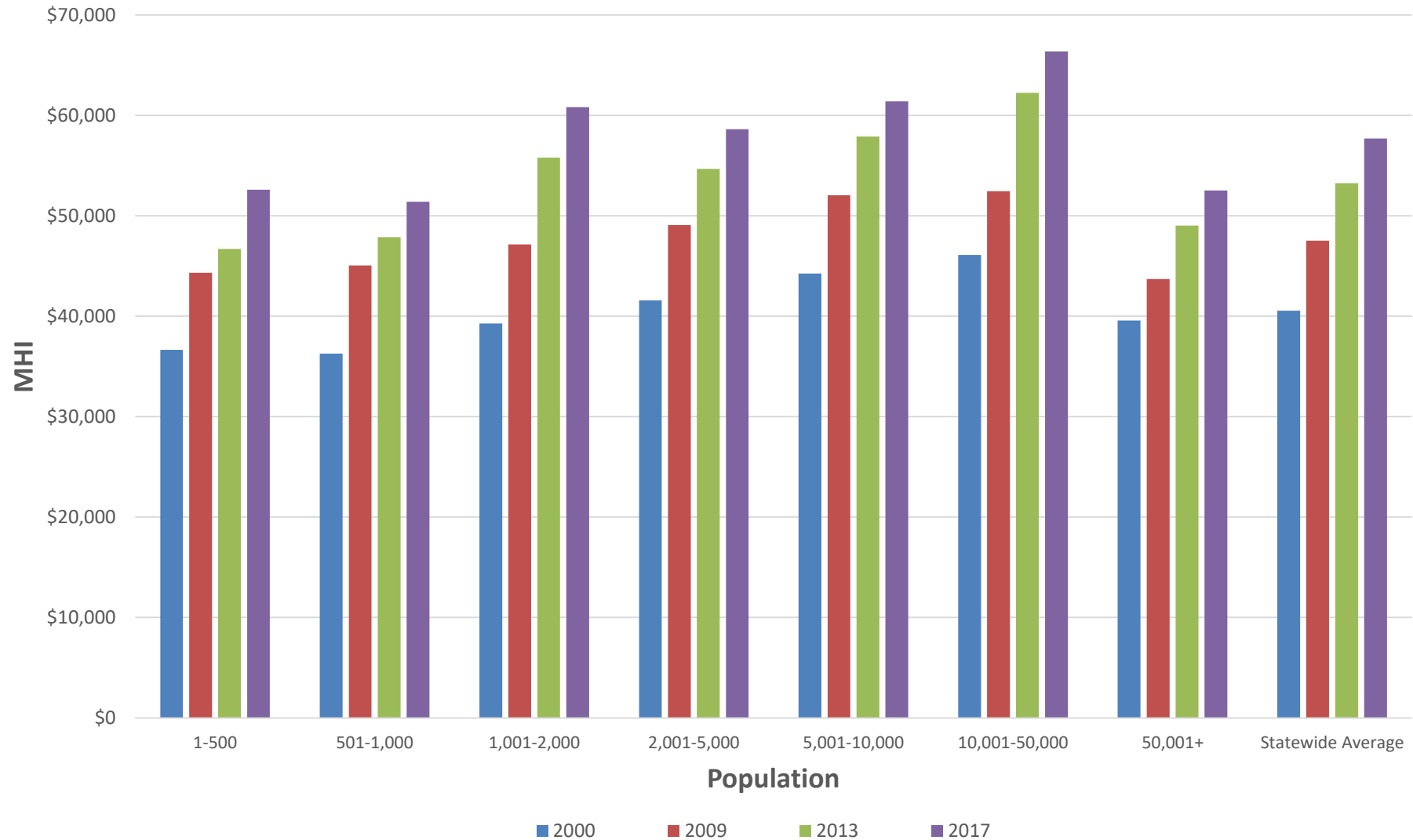


Phosphorus Surcharges

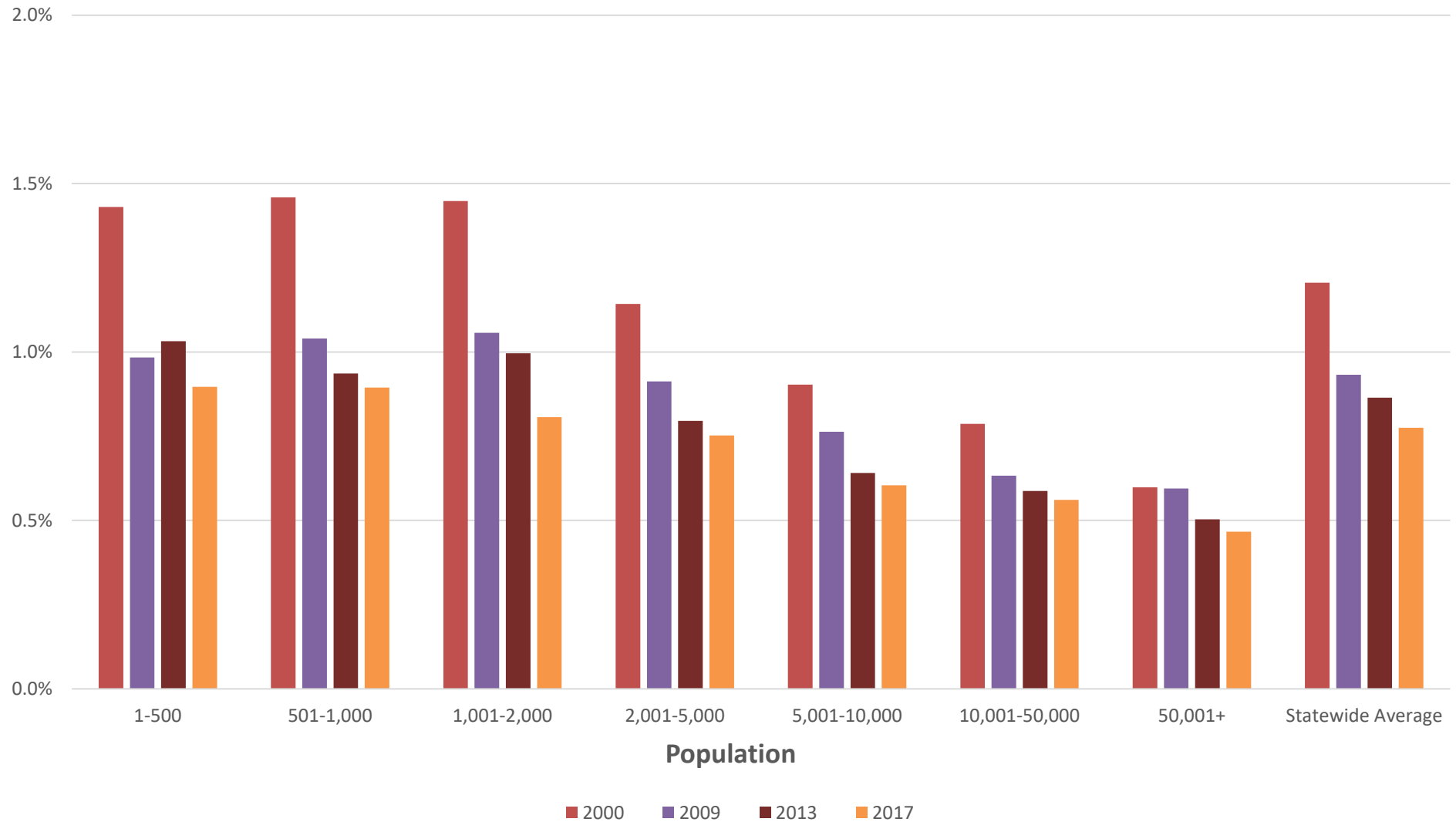


AFFORDABILITY

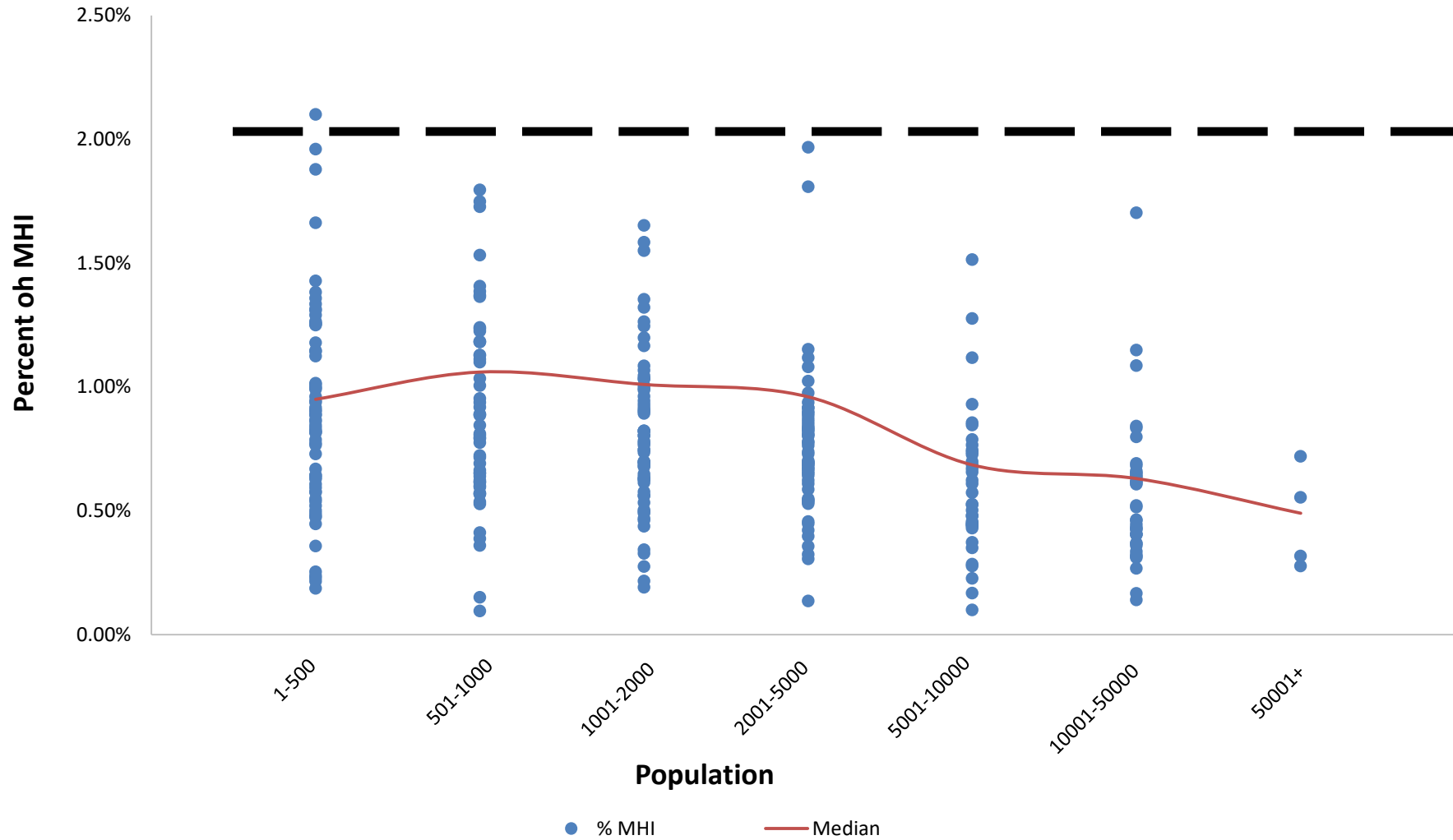
Historic Median Household Income



Sewer Cost as a Percent of MHI

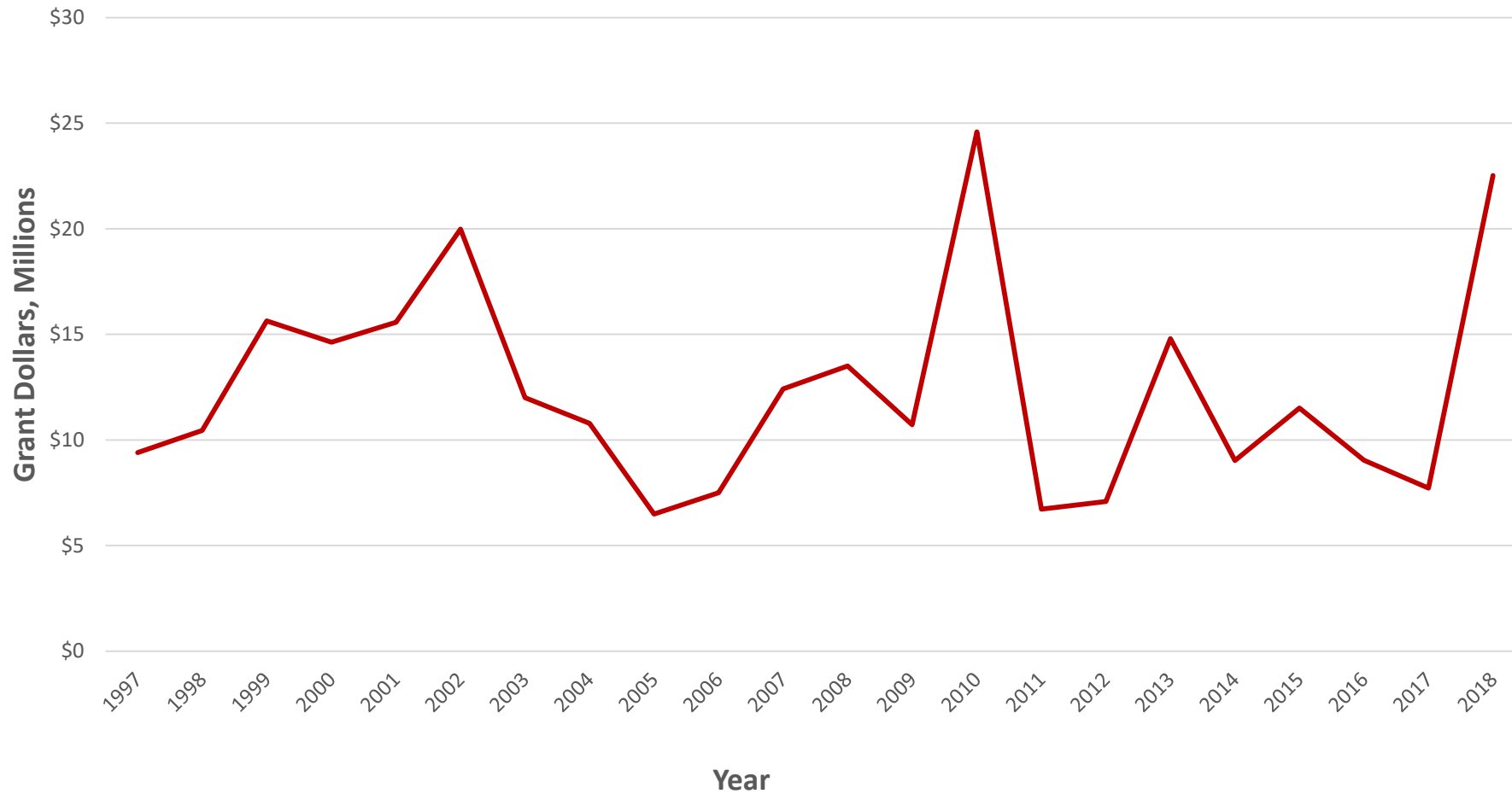


Range of Sewer Cost Percent of MHI

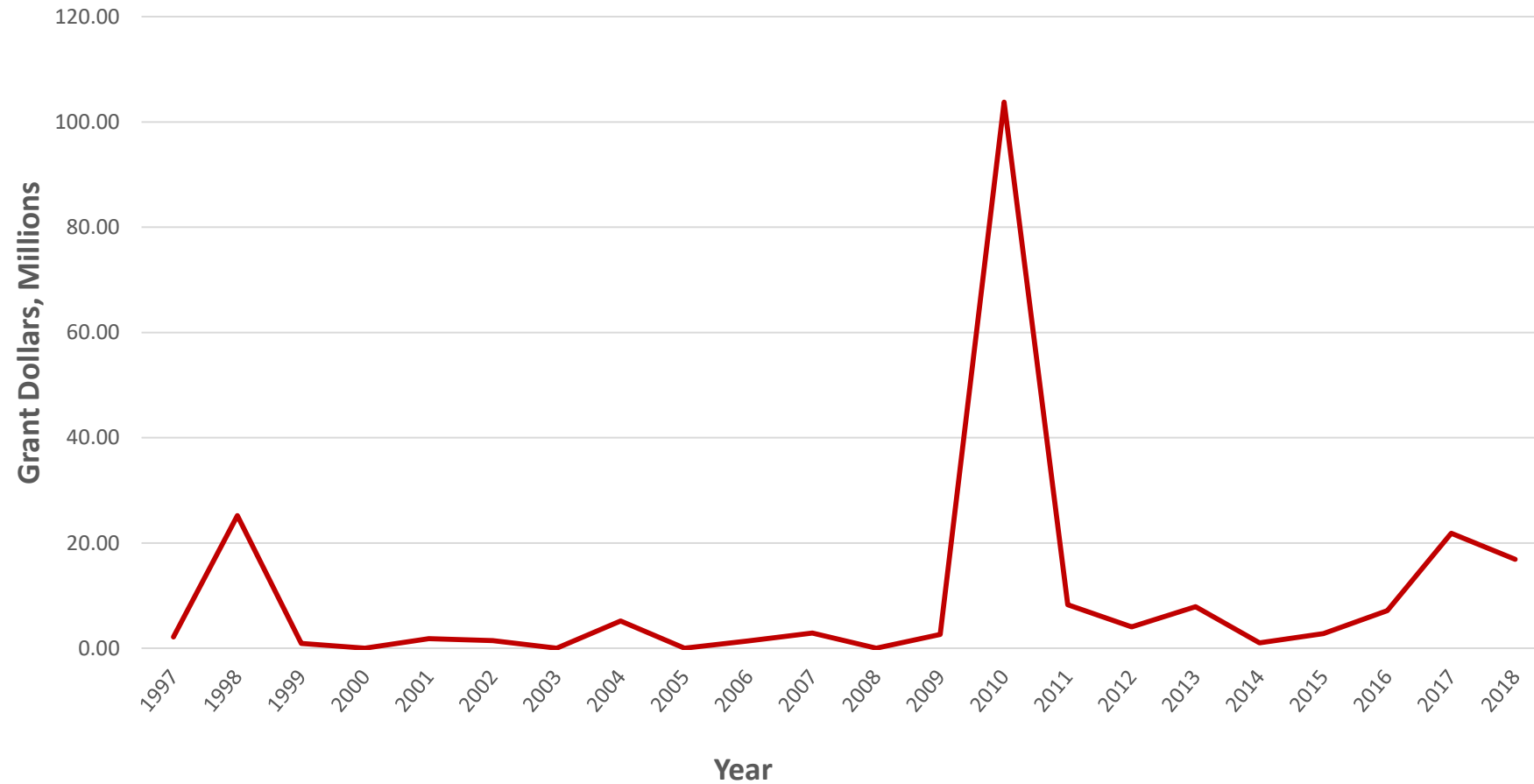


FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Available Funding – USDA RD

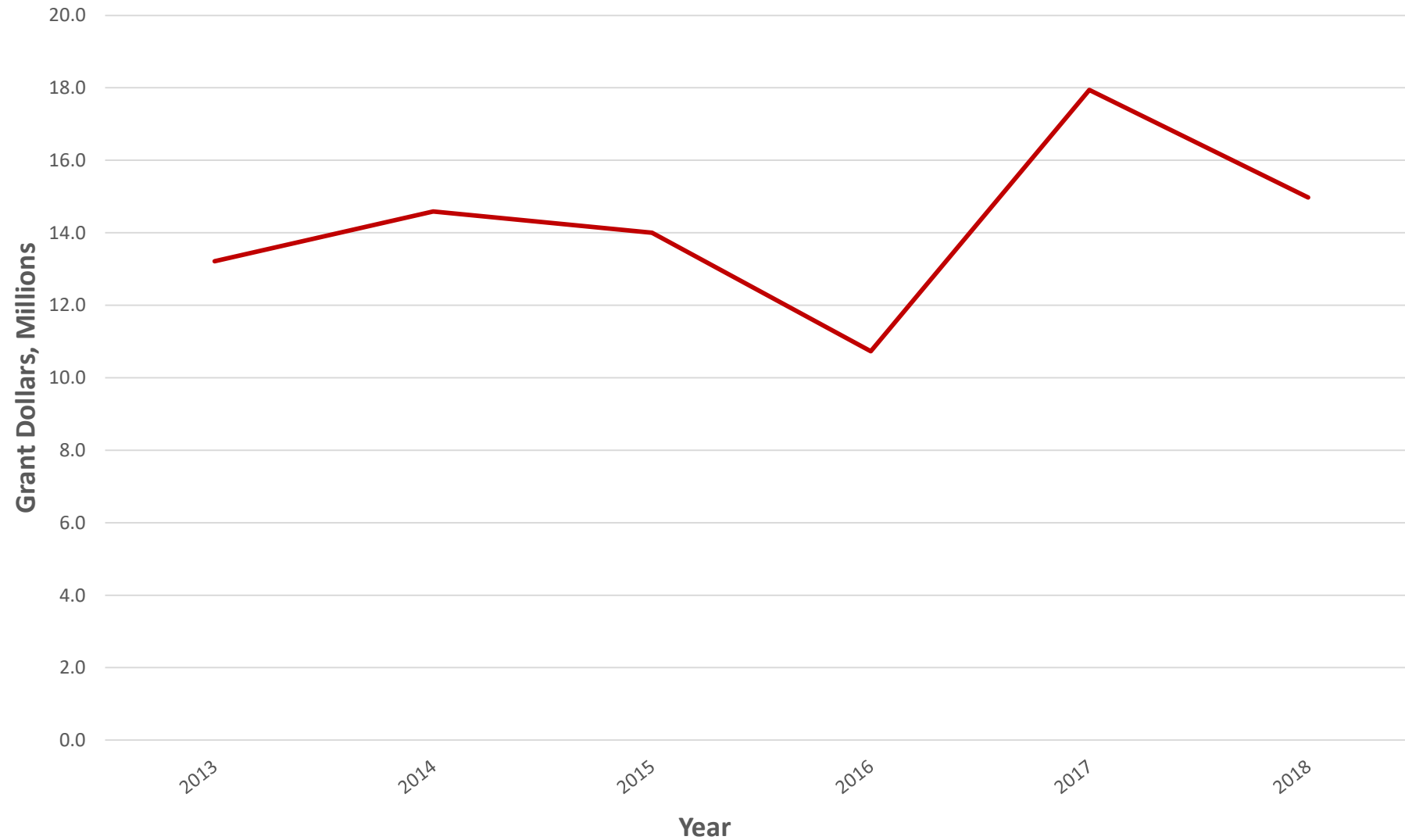


Available Funding – WDNR CWF



*Prior to 2010 Principle Forgiveness Grants were not available

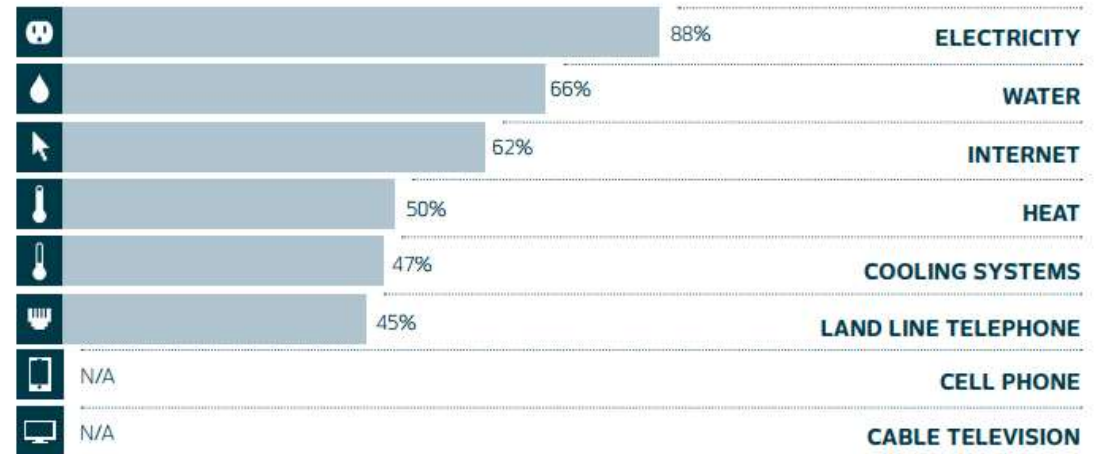
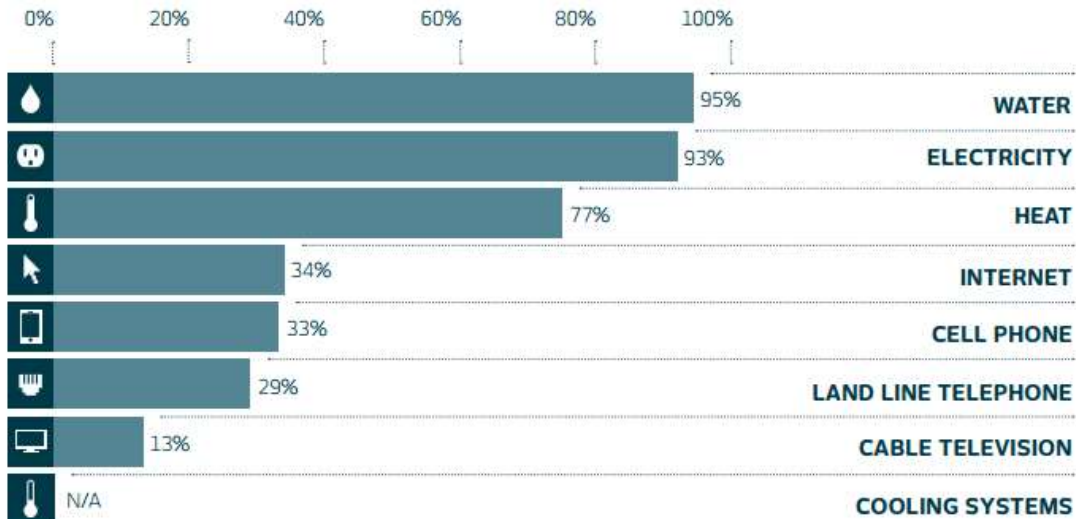
Available Funding – CDBG PF



HOW MUCH DO WE VALUE CLEAN WATER?

Do We Value Water?

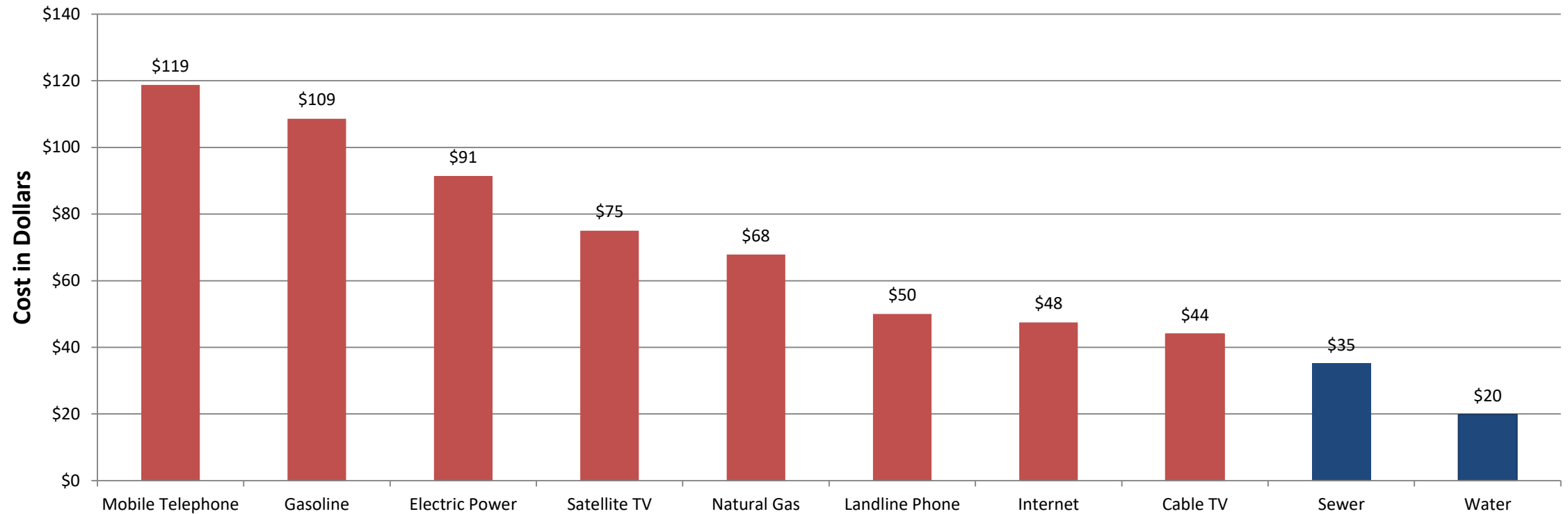
VOTERS VALUE WATER MORE THAN ANY OTHER SERVICE; BUSINESSES* RANK IT SECOND



*INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES ONLY

■ VOTERS
■ BUSINESS*

Clean Water is a Bargain



Building Public Support

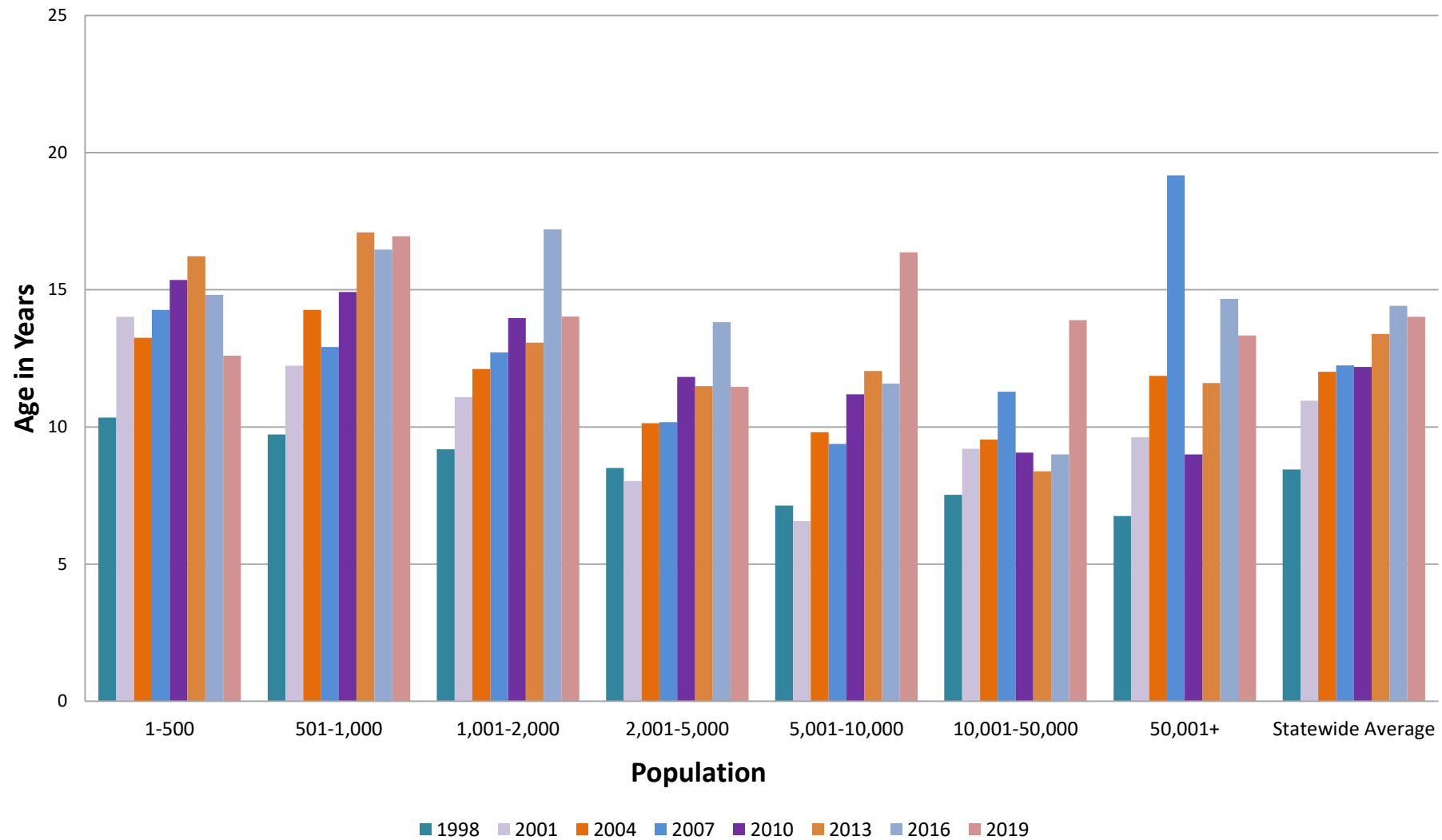
- ***How much would you pay:***
 - *To have safe, clean water delivered to your house in virtually unlimited quantities?*
 - ***Average User says only \$0.66 per day***
 - *To have all of the waste produced by your family whisked away for safe treatment and disposal?*
 - ***Average User says only \$1.16 per day***
- ***Total of \$1.82 per day. That is a deal!***

Why So Cheap?

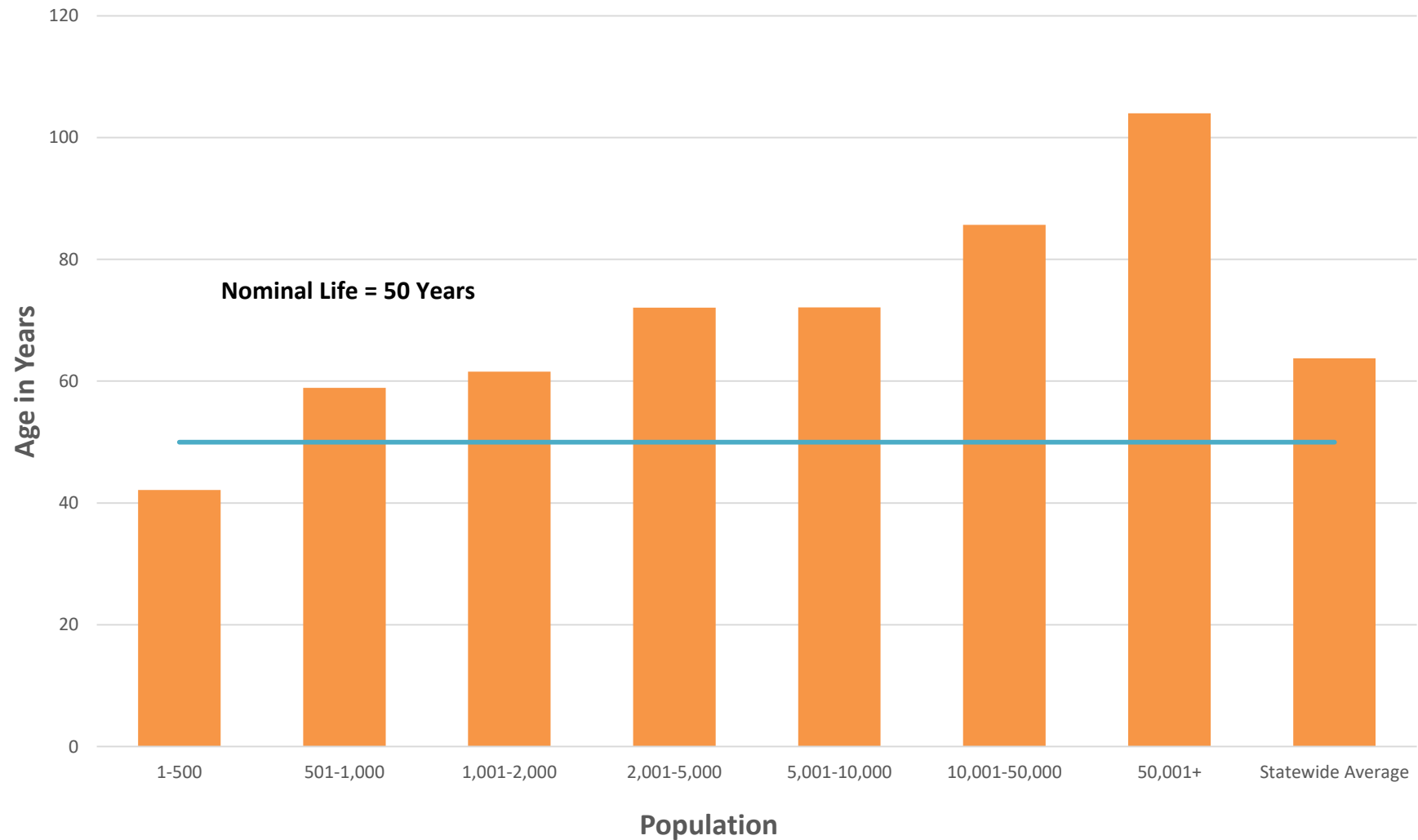
- We are used to it
- Water is plentiful in Upper Midwest
- Most current infrastructure was installed with significant grant funding
- Secondary treatment requirements relatively new

- **Why shouldn't it remain cheap?**

Age of Treatment Plants



Age of Collection Systems



SUMMARY

Summary

- We are not charging the true cost of water
- Public education and outreach will provide the basis for a sustainable utility
- Use this information to inform your residents and other municipal officials
- Start Planning Rate Increases Now! Don't wait for a big project to come along

Uses of Information

- Inform public
- Inform Boards & Councils
- Compare to neighbors
- Compare to other utilities – phone, internet, etc.
- Implement regular, scheduled rate increases

Where to get the 2019 Survey Report

- Survey Respondents – Free Download
- If you did not respond, PDF can be purchased for \$25
- Hardcopies available for \$50

Thank You!

- Survey Respondents
- Allie LoBue
- WDNR Environmental Loans Division
- Wisconsin Public Service Commission
- USDA Rural Development
- Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program

Questions

Tom Fitzwilliams

tfitzwilliams@msa-ps.com

608-355-8864

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