

# **An Analysis of Public Water and Sewer Providers Rates and Practices**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE  
AND POLICY RESEARCH

# **An Analysis of Public Water and Sewer Providers Rates and Practices**

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## Preface

A core purpose of the University of South Carolina's Institute for Public Service and Policy Research (IPSPR) is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of state and local government management and leadership. In fulfilling this mission, the IPSPR administers the South Carolina Local Government Rate and Practices Surveys. The purpose of these surveys is to collect relevant and timely information on local government fees and practices and to serve as a repository of information. The ultimate goal of South Carolina Local Government Rate and Practices Surveys is to help inform the decision-making process for local government councils and staffs.

The topic of this survey is public water and sewer systems. The infrastructure of the United States has been an issue of concern for some time. In 2005, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave the drinking and waste water infrastructure a grade of "D-" for the nation as a whole.<sup>1</sup> For the state of South Carolina, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that the public water and sewer systems needed \$1.25 billion dollars of infrastructure improvements over a 20-year period to continue to provide safe drinking water.<sup>2</sup> The EPA estimated that the state needed \$698 billion in investment in order handle wastewater.<sup>3</sup>

A second concern in the country concerns water scarcity. As of September 16, 2008, all but ten counties within South Carolina are in some stage of drought, according to the South Carolina State Climatology Office. The efficient and effective use of water is forecast to become a major issue within the state, as well as the country, as drought related scarcity combines with issues relating to population growth, agricultural needs, business needs, and intra-state water resource competition.

## Introduction

The provision of water for consumption and the subsequent treatment of waste water is an extremely important service. Safe drinking water is important for public health. Water is also important for agriculture and industry. The treatment of wastewater is equally important as improper treatment and disposal of wastewater poses a threat to public health. Thus, the rates and fees charged to support water and sewer systems are important.

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<sup>1</sup> American Society of Civil Engineers (n.d) 2005 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. Retrieved April 10, 2008 <http://www.asce.org/reportcard/2005/index2005.cfm>

<sup>2</sup> January 2003 Dollars.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (2005, June) Drinking Water Needs Survey and Assessment (Pub. No. EPA 816-R-05-001). Retrieved on February 15, 2008 <http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/needssurvey/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> January 2004 Dollars, does not include needs related to stormwater or recycled water management programs.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (2008, January ) Clean Watershed Needs Survey 2004 Report to Congress. Retrieved on February 15, 2008. <http://www.epa.gov/owm/mtb/cwns/2004rtc/toc.htm>

## Basic Survey Information and Methodology

The water and sewer rate and practice survey was mailed to water and sewer providers. Respondents were given the option to complete the survey electronically and email it to IPSPR. A total of 267 surveys were mailed using addresses provided by the South Carolina Budget and Control Board and the South Carolina Association of Special Purpose Districts. Nine surveys were mailed back, notifying IPSPR that they did not provide either water or sewer service. A total of 139 surveys were received. After subtracting the nine respondents who did not provide either service, this yields a response rate of 54%.<sup>4</sup>

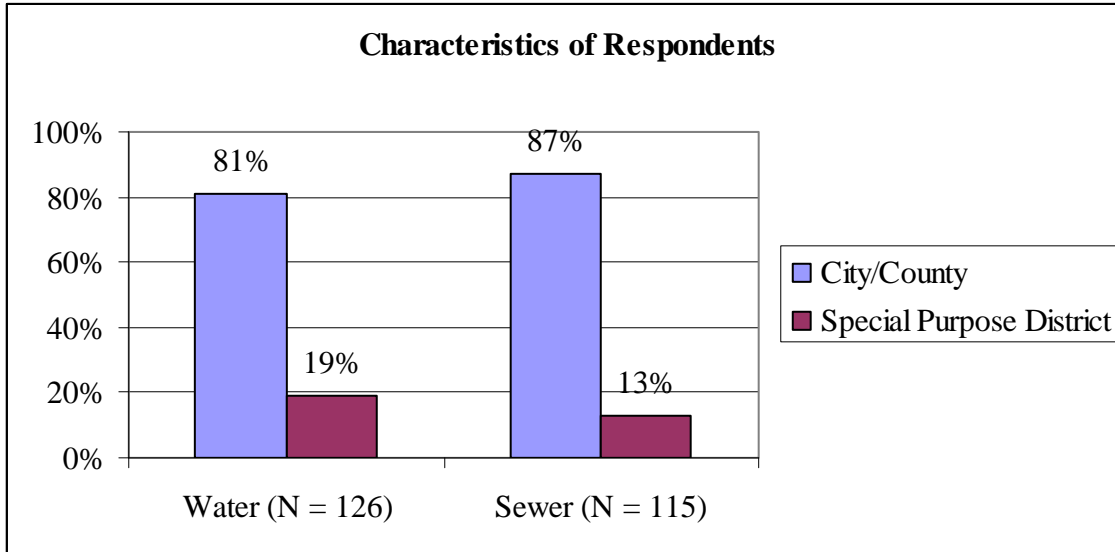
The survey instrument is available for view in Appendix A. Survey questions were developed by reviewing literature related to water and sewer rates and practices and conversations with experts from the South Carolina Budget and Control Board, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

## General Utility Information

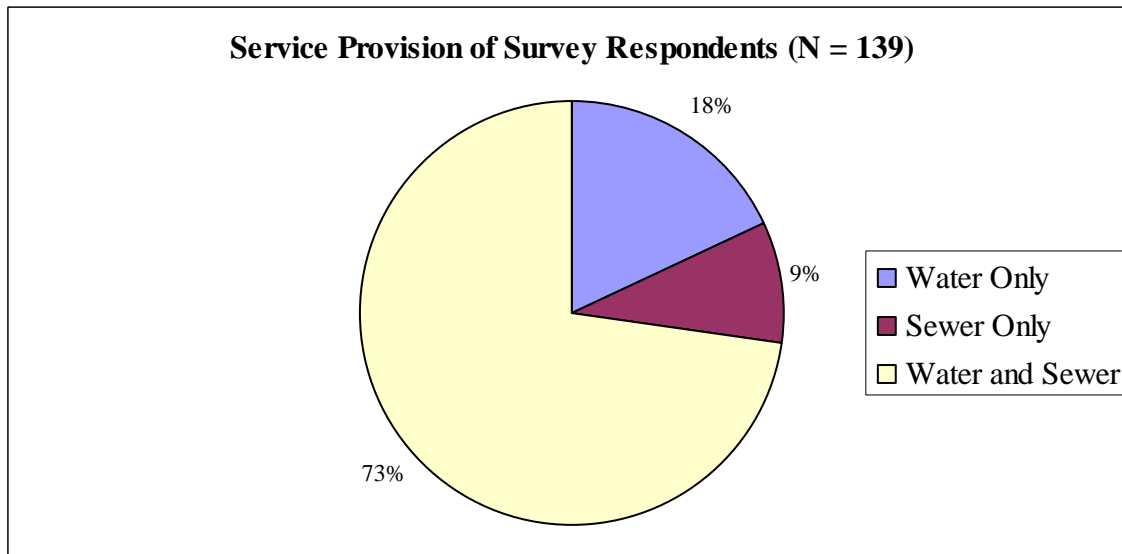
**Political Jurisdiction:** Public water and sewer providers fall under two categories: a part of a local government (such as a city or county) or a separate entity known as a special purpose district. As a part of this survey, water and sewer providers were asked to self identify themselves as either a special purpose district or as a part of a city or county government. Of the water providers, 102 (81%) categorized themselves as part of a city or county government, while 24 (21%) identified themselves as a special purpose district. For sewer providers, 100 (87%) identified themselves as part of a city or county government, while 15 (13%) identified themselves as special purpose district.

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<sup>4</sup> However, it should be noted that IPSPR staff aired on the side of caution when sending out surveys and there may be more non-respondents that do not provide either water or sewer services.



**Service Provision:** There are three service options for water and sewer providers. They may provide water service, sewer service, or both. There may be a number of reasons for this service provision. Water and sewer providers were asked to self identify their services as “water only,” “sewer only” or “water and sewer.” For the total number of respondents (139), 101 (73%) provided both water and sewer services, 25 (18%) provided water services only, and 13 (9%) provided services only.



**Size:** Size may be an important factor in analyzing water and sewer rates. Large entities may have an easier time achieving economies of scale; meaning, large utilities may be able to charge less for individual service without sacrificing infrastructure quality or service. Large utilities may be more likely to have the ability to have access to capital markets for large projects. Also, larger utilities may have a more diverse set of account

categories. However, research has shown that utility size is not statistically significant in determining whether or not a utility generates sufficient revenue to cover expenses.<sup>5</sup>

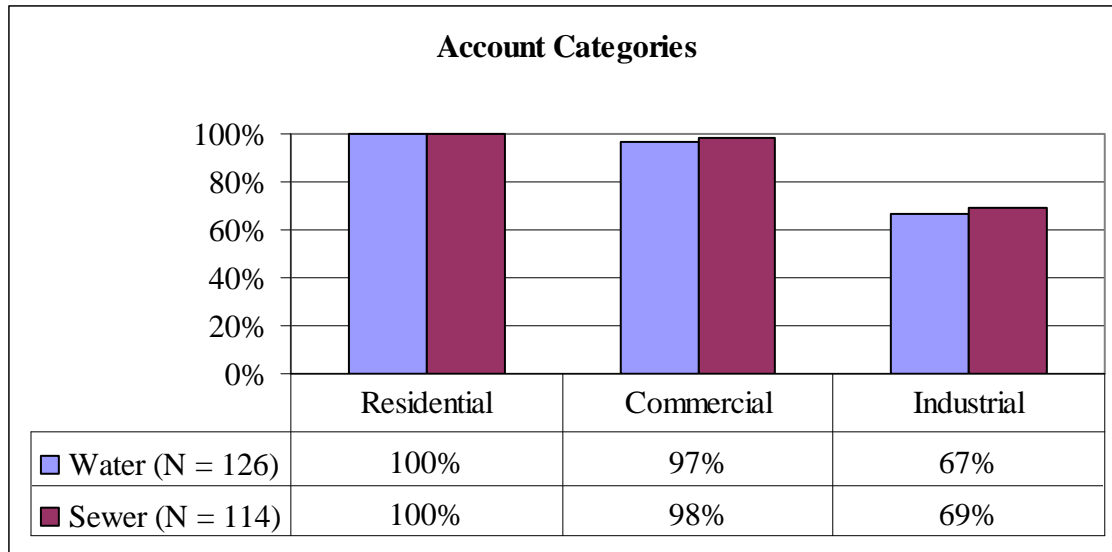
One measure of size is the number of active accounts. Accounts represent the number of bill payers. It is possible that one account has multiple connections. For water providers, the average number of active accounts was 8,388 and the median was 2,569. For sewer providers, the average number of active accounts was 8,148, and the median was 2,514. Additional information can be found in the following table:

	<b>Water (N =126)</b>	<b>Sewer (N = 112)</b>
Mean	8,388	8,148
Median	2,569	2,514
Minimum	50	200
Maximum	130,000	105,000
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	579	870
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	8,075	9,940

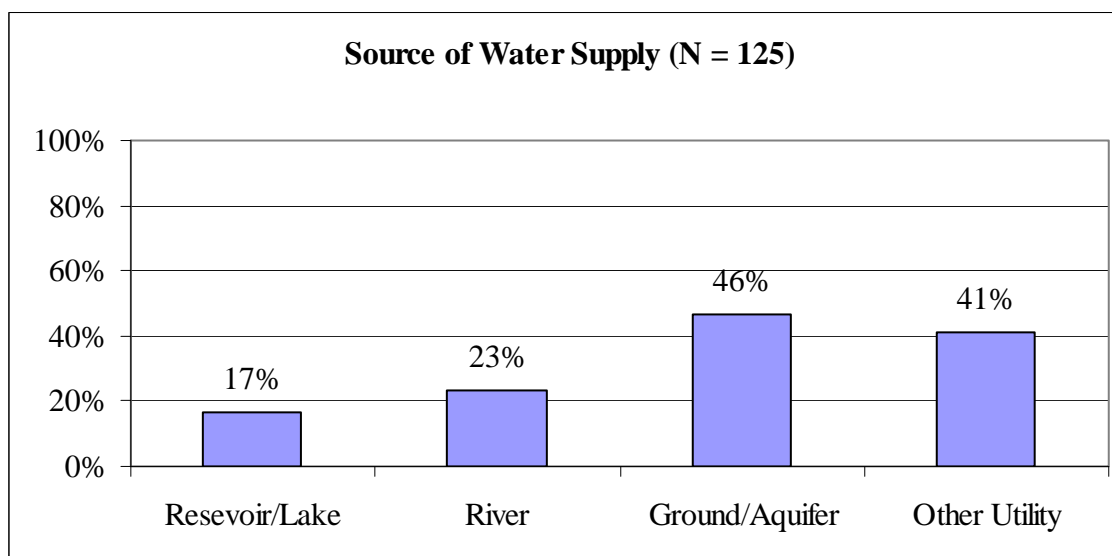
**Account Categories:** Water and sewer providers may provide service to different types of customers. Survey respondents were asked to list the different type of account categories that they provide service to. The respondents were given the options of residential, commercial, and industrial account categories. The type of service population may affect a service provider in many ways. For example, industrial customers may require larger amounts of water, but may also provide a predictable stream of demand and revenue. Also, different types of water and sewer customers may face different rate structures. For water providers, 126 (100%) have residential accounts, 122 (97%) have commercial accounts, and 84 (67%) have industrial accounts. For sewer providers, 114 (100%) have residential accounts, 112 (98%) have commercial accounts, and 79 (69%) have industrial accounts.

<sup>5</sup> United States Government Accountability Office (2002, August) Water Infrastructure: Information on Financing, Capital Planning, and Privatization. (GAO-02-764). Retrieved on September 30, 2008 <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d02764.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> The survey instrument only asked for the total number of active accounts, with no separation for water and sewer accounts. Thus, many providers of water and sewer services provided only one number. This number was used for both water and sewer. It is possible, and some providers separated active accounts by water and sewer, that this number could be different.



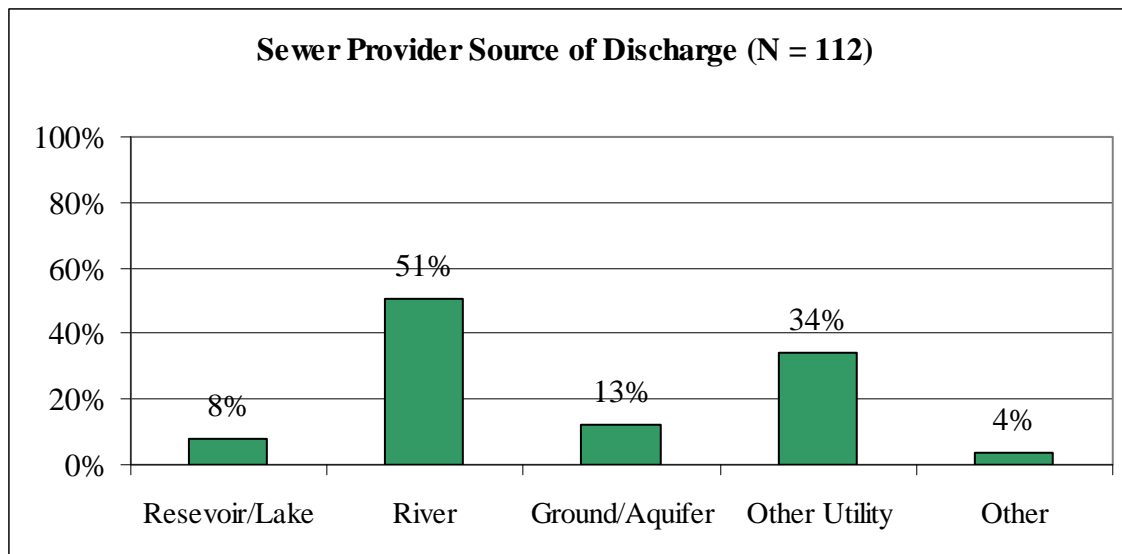
**Source of Supply:** The source of water supply is also an important characteristic to consider. There are a number of different supply options for water providers. They may obtain their water from a single source or some combination of reservoirs or lakes, rivers, ground/aquifer, or purchase it from another water provider. There are a number of other factors that were not asked that may be of interest, such as the distance of supply to the service area and the topography of the area, which may ultimately reflect the costs of providing service.<sup>7</sup> For the respondents, 21 (17%) obtained water from a reservoir/lake, 29 (23%) from a river, 58 (46%) from the ground or aquifer, and 51 (41%) from another utility.



<sup>7</sup> Brandt, P (2005) Benchmarking Water and Wastewater Rates and Charges. In Raftelis G. (2005) (pp 259-285).



**Source of Discharge:** Much like the source of supply, the source of discharge is also an important characteristic of sewer service. There are a number of different discharge options available to sewer providers. Sewer providers may choose to discharge into any combination of a reservoir or lake, river, ground/aquifer, or into another sewer utility. A number of factors that were not addressed in this survey may be of further interest. One large factor that was not asked is the water quality of the body of water receiving the discharge. Waters that are nutrient sensitive will require more treatment to be given to the discharge. Distance to the receiving water body is also a factor that will affect the sewer provider.<sup>8</sup> For sewer providers, 9 (8%) discharge into a reservoir, 57 (50%) discharged into a river, 14 (12%) discharge into the ground, and 38 (34%) discharge into another utility. For the purposes of this analysis, creeks and the Inter-Coastal Waterway were classified as rivers, and swamps were classified as lakes. Four utilities provided answers that did not meet any of the categories.<sup>9</sup>



## Billing

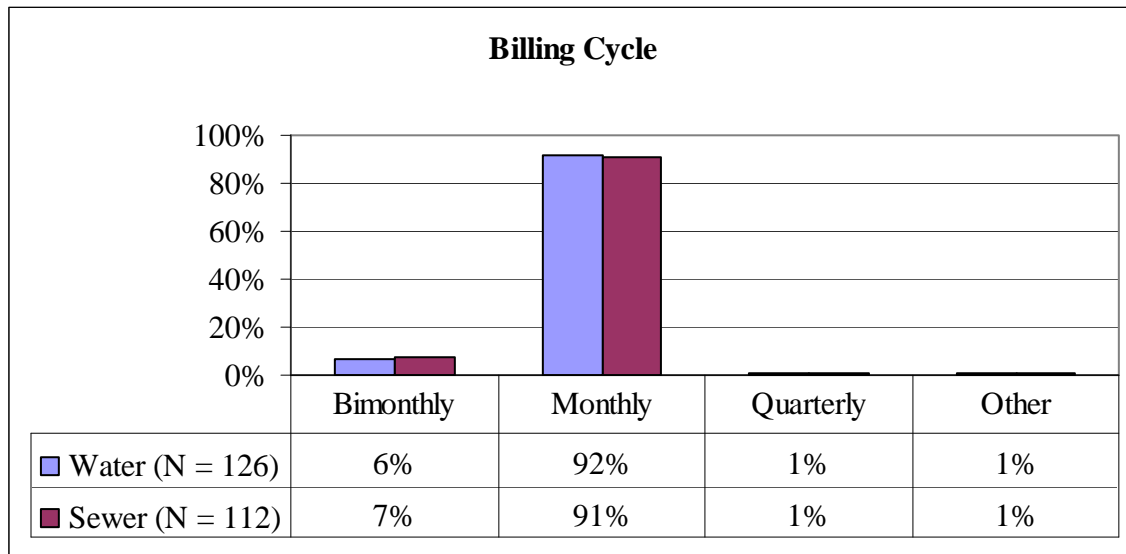
**Frequency of Billing Cycle:** The frequency of a billing cycle can affect billing costs. A longer billing cycle can result in lower billing costs (mailing, meter reading, etc). However, a longer billing cycle can also lead to a larger bill and may hamper collection.<sup>10</sup> For water providers, the vast majority (116 or 92%) use the monthly billing cycle. For the other cycles, 8 (6%) use a bimonthly billing cycle, one (1%) uses a quarterly billing cycle, and one (1%) use an “other” billing cycle. For sewer providers, the results are

<sup>8</sup> Op. Cit.

<sup>9</sup> The Town of Edisto Beach treats sewage and then sprays the discharge on its golf course. The Town of Bowman has a sewage lagoon. The Town of Turbeville uses a sprayfield. The Town of Sharon utilizes a septic tank.

<sup>10</sup> Brandt (2005)

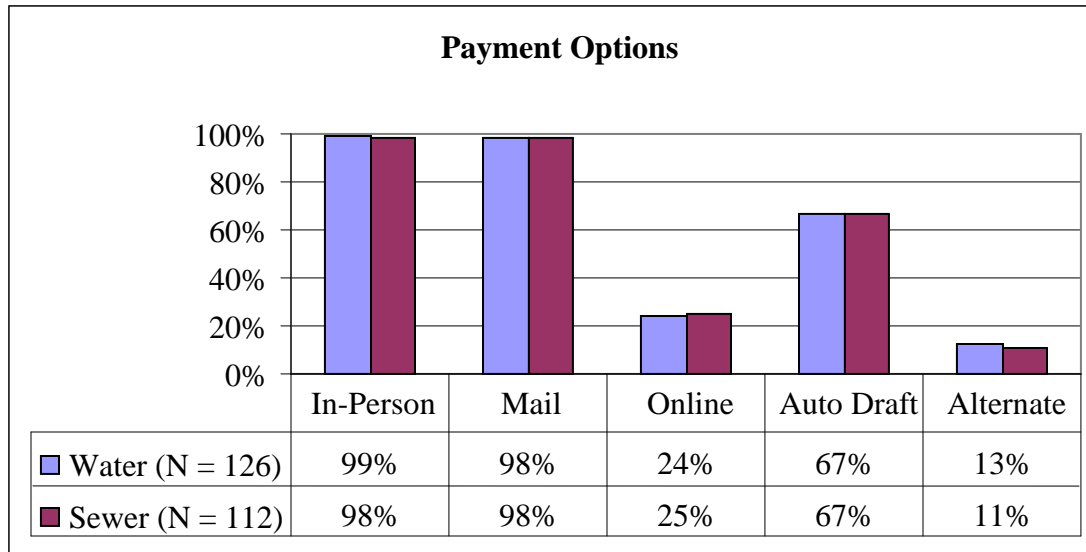
much the same: 102 (90%) use the monthly billing cycle, 8 (7%) use the bimonthly billing cycle, 1 (1%) use the quarterly billing cycle, and one classified as “other”.<sup>11</sup>



**Payment Options:** Customers may desire a variety of payment options and may have expectations for a variety of payment options based on their experience with paying other bills and purchasing services. Utilities may find it advantageous for a number of reasons to offer a variety of billing methods. Some reasons include customer relations, lower billing costs due to less paper, speed of collection, and the like. There may be additional set up, maintenance, and security costs when offering online payment and other options.<sup>12</sup> For water providers, the two most popular payment options are “in-person or drop box” (125 or 99%) and “by mail” (124 or 98%). Other methods are as follows: “auto draft from a bank account” (84 or 67%), “online” (30 or 24%), and “an alternate location” (16 or 13%). An alternate location could be a bank or another business that has agreed to accept payment for utility bills. For sewer providers, in-person and drop box (110 or 98%) and by mail (110 or 98%) are the most popular payment options. Other methods are as follows: 75 use an auto-draft (65%), 28 provide an online option (25%), and 12 (10%) allow the use of an alternate location.

<sup>11</sup> Hilton Head Public Service District No. 1 offers both quarterly and monthly billing. The Town of Edisto Beach was the entity that used the “other” billing cycle, as they bill at a six-month cycle.

<sup>12</sup> The Good, the Bad, and the Inevitable: The Pros and Cons of E-Government. *The Economist* (2008, February 14th). Retrieved February 20, 2008  
[http://www.economist.com/specialreports/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=10638105](http://www.economist.com/specialreports/displaystory.cfm?story_id=10638105)



**Delinquent Bills Policy:** Water and sewer providers provided information on their policies for dealing with late bills. Due to the number of responses, only a few are presented.

- All entities disconnect service after a certain period of non-payment.
- Many utilities charge a flat fee and/or a percentage of the unpaid bill, in addition to the unpaid amount due.
- Many entities choose to charge a discontinuation fee.
- Many entities require a reconnection fee to restore service.
- Many entities place a lien on the delinquent customer’s property.
- Some entities make use of the Municipal Association of South Carolina’s Set-Off Debt program for unpaid bills.
- Some entities require a deposit to reconnect service, to be paid back after a set period of timely payments.
- Some entities seek to collect amounts related to collection (i.e. legal fees, collection service charges, and processing fees) of delinquent bills.
- Some entities require customers to sign a contract, signifying the knowledge of discontinuation policies.
- Some entities noted that service is not disconnected during extreme hot or cold events.
- Some utilities noted that those designated as “critical” customers do not have their service disconnected.

**Utility Rates and Fees**

One of the most important aspects of operations for a water and sewer provider is the rates and fees that are charged to customers. Two main goals served by water and sewer rates are the long-term financial viability of the provider, and the harmonization with

other community goals.<sup>13</sup> Community goals in this case are typically public health, economic development, and water conservation.

A note of caution must be given to those who seek to compare data on water and sewer rates and charges. Rate and fees will naturally differ among entities. Brandt (2005) found two main factors that affect pricing to be “the costs to be recovered through water and waste water pricing, and the pricing structure.” Other factors that can influence fees and charges are: geographic location to the source of water or discharge; topography; demand; customer constituency; level of treatment; level of general fund subsidization; level of grant funding; age of the system; and infiltration and inflow levels.<sup>14</sup> Thus, making a statement of the financial health of an entity, or determining that a rate or fee should be raised or lowered based on this data would be improper.<sup>15</sup>

For the purposes of this report, only rate and fee amounts as it relates to residential customers are reported. Anytime a dollar figure is reported, it refers to residential customers, unless otherwise noted.

**Tap or Connection Fees:** A tap or connection fee is a common fee charged to new customers of a water or wastewater entity. Such charges are only charged for a new connection to the system. The main goal of a tap fee is to recover the costs of service line installation.<sup>16</sup> All water and sewer providers responded that they charge a water or sewer tap fee.

The basis for the tap fee can vary however. Entities may chose to charge customers at a fixed cost, where every customer pays the same tap fee. Some customers may chose to vary the tap cost by meter or line size. Finally, some entities may simply charge the customer the cost of tap installation. For water providers, 33 (27%) charge a fixed fee for a new tap. Seventy-four (60%) vary the cost by meter size. And, 15 (12%) use cost recovery. Finally, 2 (2%) did not fall under classification system.<sup>17</sup> For sewer providers, 41 (37%) charge a fixed fee for a tap connection; 48 (43%) vary the fee by meter; 17 (15%) use cost recovery; and, 5 (5%) classified as “other”.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Warmath, A. (2005) Water and Wastewater Pricing Policies. In Raftelis, G. (2005) (p 176)

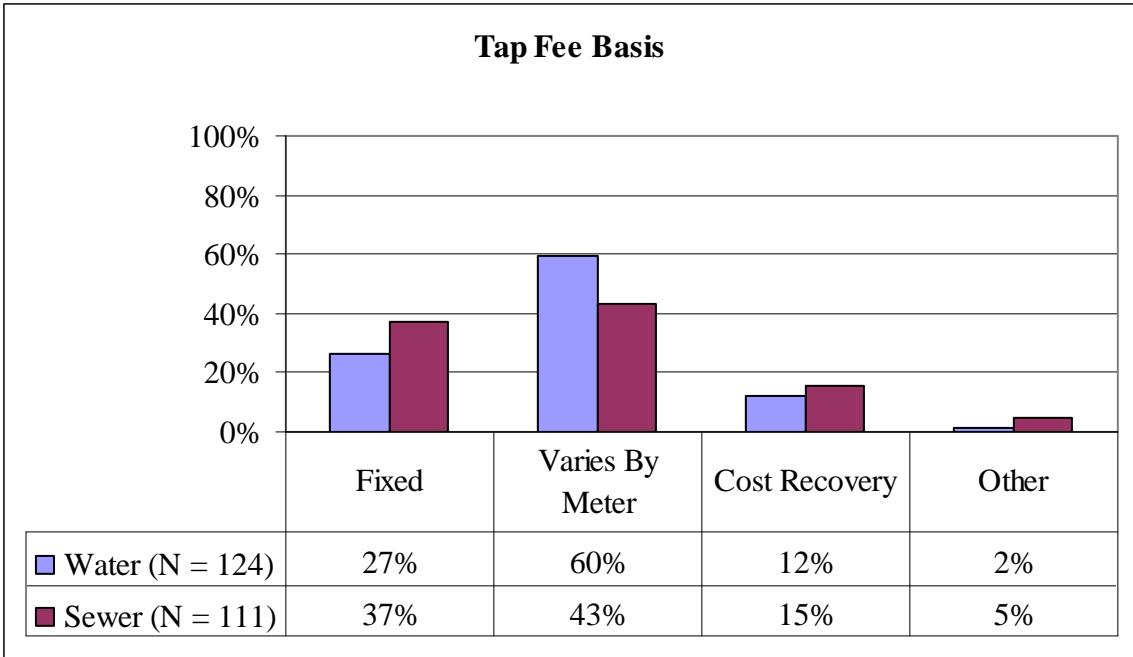
<sup>14</sup> Brandt (2005)

<sup>15</sup> A special note must be made on two utilities: the City of Fountain Inn, the Wade Hampton Fire and Sewer District, and Metropolitan Sewer Sub District use a mileage rate to support the sewer system instead of rates; as such, there responses were not included in the analysis of sewer fees.

<sup>16</sup> Westbrook A, (2006) “One-Time Fees for Residential Water and Sewer Connections in North Carolina.” Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Retrieved on February 27, 2008 from [http://www.efc.unc.edu/projects/tap\\_impactfee.htm](http://www.efc.unc.edu/projects/tap_impactfee.htm).

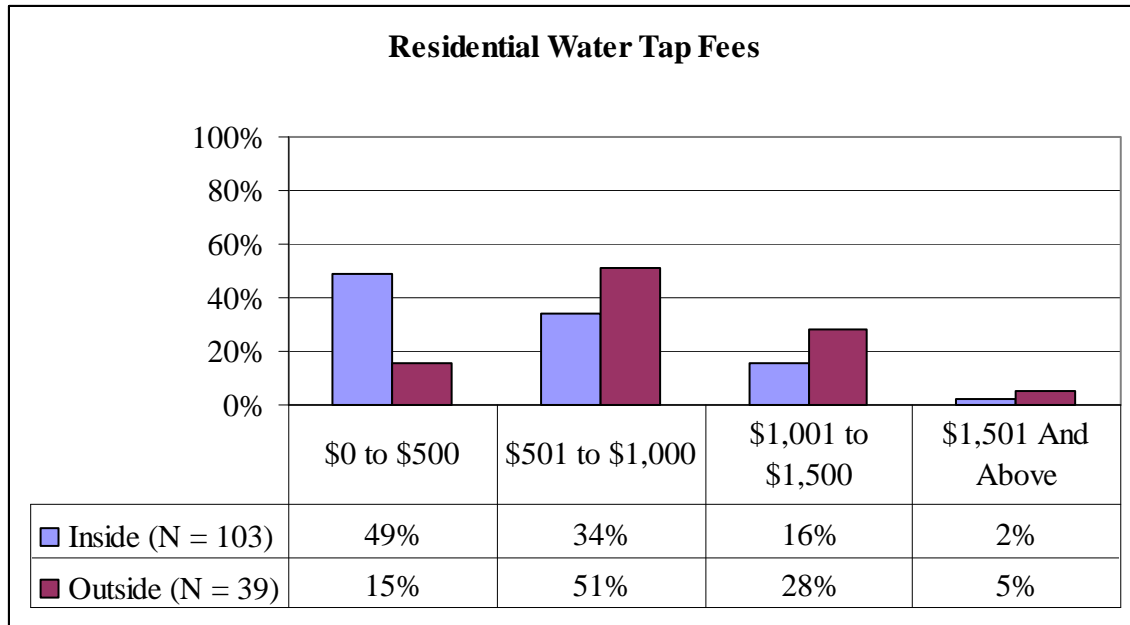
<sup>17</sup> Seabrook Island Utility Commission charges a water tap fee per ERU. The Clearwater Water and Sewer District charges a water tap fee using building square footage as a basis.

<sup>18</sup> Seabrook Island and Clearwater again classified as “other.” The North Charleston Sewer District uses the ERU as its sewer tap fee basis. The City of Columbia uses a fixed fee for single family homes and usage for all other sewer tap fees. The Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Commission bases its sewer tap fees on ERU.



The information on water and sewer residential tap fee amounts is presented in the following tables and graphs. The average residential water tap fee inside the jurisdiction is \$628, with a median of \$540. Outside of the jurisdiction, the average residential water tap fee is \$883 with a median of \$800. The average residential sewer tap fee inside the jurisdiction is \$732, with a median of \$575. Outside of the jurisdiction, the average residential sewer tap fee is \$1,025, with a median of \$750.<sup>19</sup>

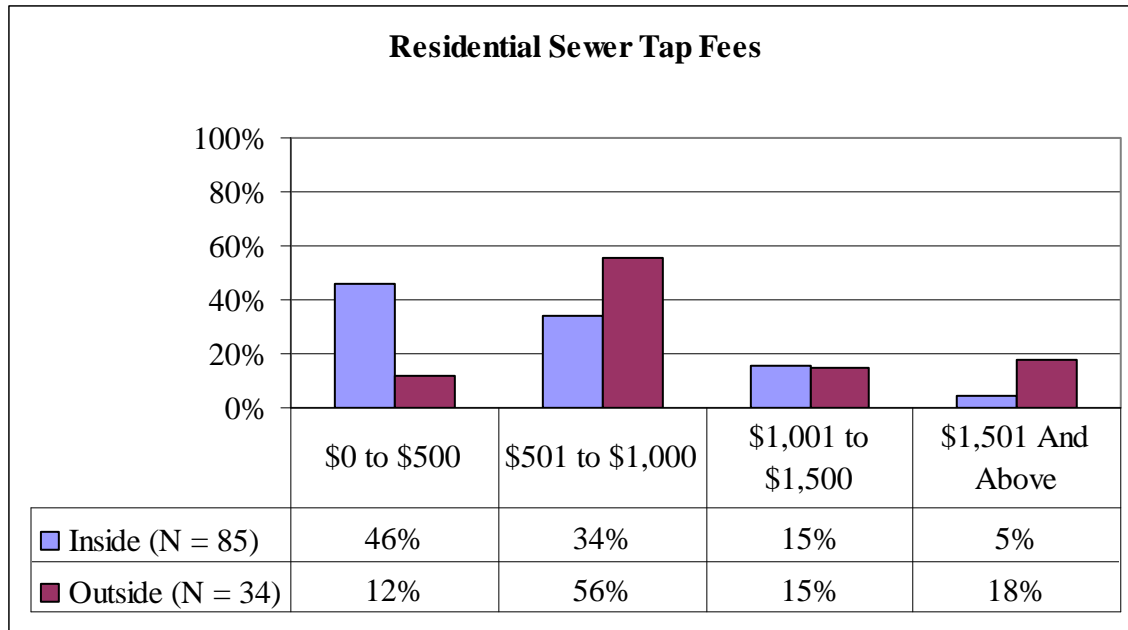
<sup>19</sup> The level of detail provided for tap fees varied by response. For the purpose of this analysis, separate fees related to new connections (i.e. administrative fees, application fees, deposits, etc) were not included. It may be possible that some of these charges were reported in the tap fee amount given by some respondents. Also, fees were calculated separately, some entities provide a discount if one connects to the water and sewer system at the same time. This analysis does not reflect such as discount.



**Residential Water Tap Fee (3/4 or 5/8 Inch Meter)**

<b>Water Tap Fees</b>	<b>Inside (N = 103)</b>	<b>Outside (N = 39)<sup>20</sup></b>
Mean	\$628	\$883
Median	\$540	\$800
Minimum	\$50	\$233
Maximum	\$2,512	\$2,000
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$400	\$585
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$780	\$1,200

<sup>20</sup> If the tap fee was the same for inside and outside customers, they were not included in the outside analysis. Of those who submitted fee schedules, 28 entities who charge a different water rate for inside and outside customers do not charge a different tap fee for such users.



**Residential Sewer Tap Fee (4 Inch Tap)**

Sewer Tap Fees	Inside (N = 86)	Outside (N = 34) <sup>21</sup>
Mean	\$732	\$1,025
Median	\$575	\$750
Minimum	\$200	\$233
Maximum	\$2,867	\$3,900
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$407	\$600
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$1,000	\$1,350

**Impact Fees:** Some capital costs for water and sewer systems are the result of population growth, and thus new accounts, in the service area. To the extent that new growth leads to increased capital expenditures to increase system, entities may seek to charge impact fees to new connections to the system. Impact fees are also known as system development charges, facility expansion fees, and capital recovery charges. For the purposes of this study, they will be referred to as impact fees for the remainder of the report.<sup>22</sup>

Equity is a primary concern in the development of impact fees. On the one hand, it may be inequitable to charge existing customers for capital costs attributable to new customers. On the other hand, it would also be inequitable to aggressively charge new customers more than the cost their additional demand imposes on the system. The decision of *Nollan vs. California Coastal Commission* (1987)<sup>23</sup> founded what is termed as

<sup>21</sup> If the tap fee was the same for inside and outside customers, they were not included in the outside analysis. Of those who submitted fee schedules, 20 entities who charge a different sewer rate for inside and outside customers do not charge a different tap fee for such users.

<sup>22</sup> Westbrook, A. (2006).

<sup>23</sup> *Nollan vs. California Coastal Commission*, 483 U.S. 825 (1987).

the “Rational Nexus Test.”<sup>24</sup> Using the logic of the decision, those charging an impact fee would have to ensure that a specific public purpose was addressed by the impact fee, and that the fee be connected to the new customer. In the subsequent decision of *Dolan vs. the City of Tigard* (1994) the “rough proportionality test” was founded.<sup>25</sup> Under the ruling, an entity charging an impact fee “must make some sort of individualized determination that the required dedication is related both in nature and extent to the impact of the proposed development.”<sup>26</sup> Furthermore, under the South Carolina State Code, entities charging an impact fee must have both a capital improvement plan and an impact fee ordinance. The fees charged must be based on the accepted capital improvement plan.<sup>27</sup>

There are a number of ways that entities may chose to assess impact fees. These methods are a fixed fee, lot size, building size, meter size, the equivalent residential unit (ERU), and usage approach. The fixed fee method charges all new customers the same fee. Under the lot and building size method, the fee is based on the size of the lot or building, with larger customers paying a greater fee. The meter size approach would vary the fee on the basis of the size of the meter – those with a larger meter would typically pay a higher fee. An ERU is typically the size of an average residential lot, and may be similar to charging an impact fee based on lot size.<sup>28</sup> Finally, some utilities may want to charge on the basis of forecast usage.<sup>29</sup>

For the South Carolina respondents, 47 (37%) water providers charge an impact fee, and 50 (45%) sewer providers charge an impact fee. The basis for the impact fee varies. Some providers use a fixed charge for all new connections to the system. For water, 12 (26%) providers use this method. For sewer, 12 (24%) use the fixed fee method. Some providers chose to use the building size chose method – two providers for both water and sewer used this method (4%). Some providers vary their charge by meter size, with 11 (23%) water providers and 8 (16%) sewer providers choosing this method. Using the ERU as the basis was the most popular, with 15 (32%) of water providers and 17 (35%) using this method. Forecast usage was used by 7 (13%) water providers and 10 (18%) sewer providers. Finally, one water and sewer provider uses a method that was not classified.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Davis, Frank (2005). System Development Charges.” In G. Raftelis (Ed.), *Water and Wastewater Finance and Pricing: A Comprehensive Guide* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed, pp. 79-101). Boca Raton: Taylor and Francis.

<sup>25</sup> *Dolan vs. the City of Tigard*, 512 US 687 (1994)

<sup>26</sup> Op. Cit.

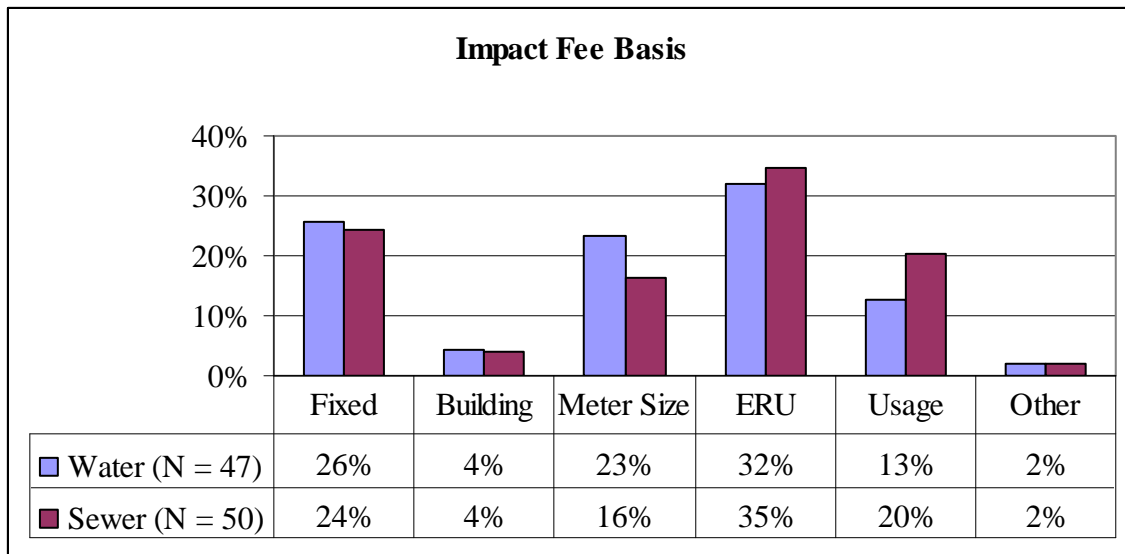
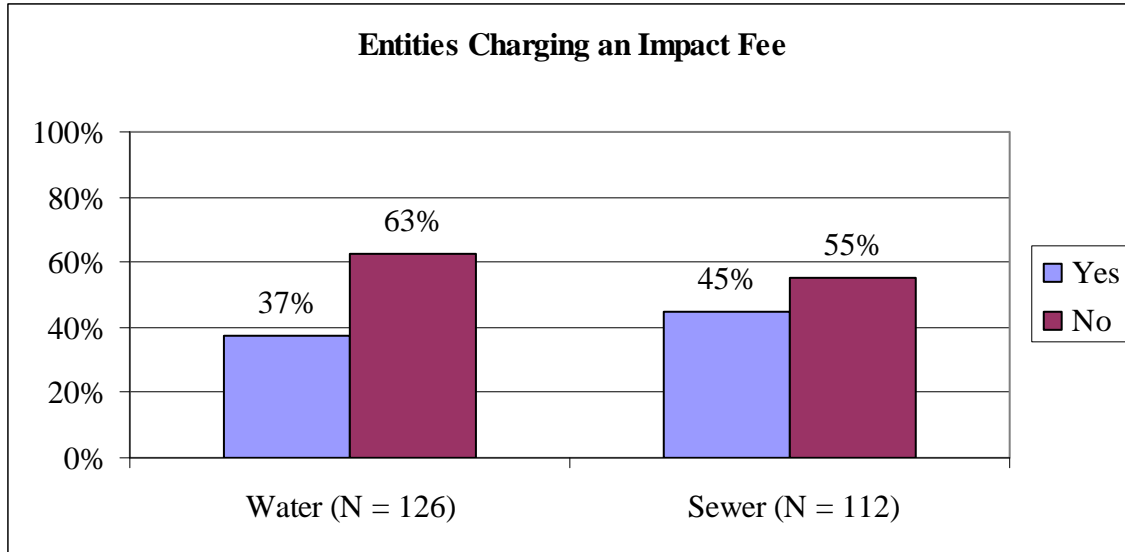
<sup>27</sup> Sections 6-1-910 to 6-1-2010 of the South Carolina State Code, as amended, 1976.

<sup>28</sup> Berger, A. & Tomes, B. (2006). An Analysis of Stormwater Rates and Practices – 2006. Institute for Public Service and Policy Research, University of South Carolina. Retrieved on February 25, 2008 <http://www.ipspr.sc.edu/publication/Stormwater%20Final%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>29</sup> Westbrook (2006). For our purposes, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control’s Unit Contributory Loading Guide was classified as “usage.”

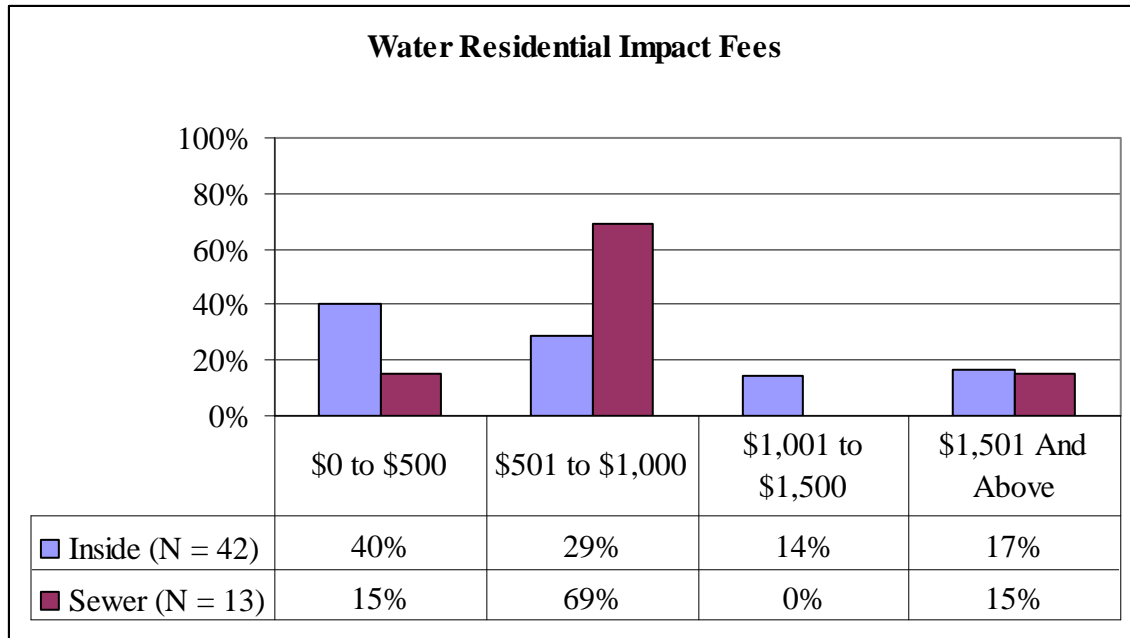
<sup>30</sup> The City of North Myrtle Beach based their impact fee on the type of use (single home, restaurant, hotel/motel, etc).





The information on water and sewer residential impact fee amounts is presented in the following tables and graphs. The average residential water impact fee inside the jurisdiction is \$938, with a median of \$635. Outside of the jurisdiction, the average residential water impact fee is \$872 with a median of \$735. The average residential sewer impact fee inside the jurisdiction is \$1,341, with a median of \$920. Outside of the jurisdiction, the average residential sewer impact fee is \$1,467, with a median of \$1,365.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>31</sup> State law and federal court decisions require impact fees be related to the specific area charging them, specifically the capital improvement plan under state law. Thus, it would be improper to compare two entities based solely on the information presented in this report. For example, raising or lowering a fee on the basis of a neighboring area would be improper, as fees are required to be based on the capital improvement plans specific to the area.

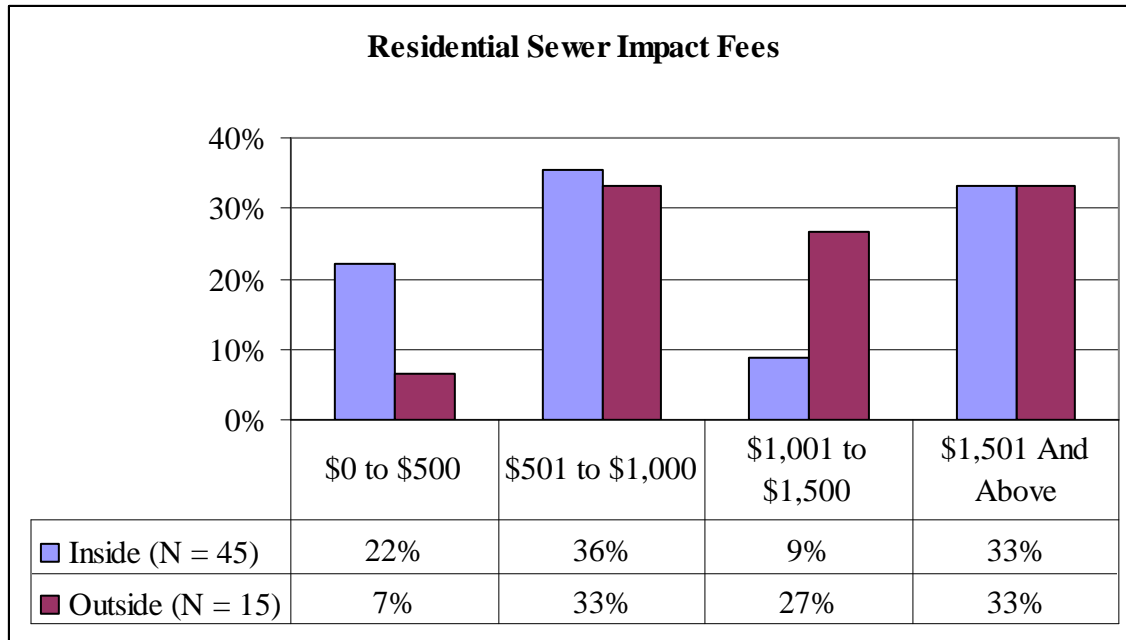


**Residential Water Impact Fees<sup>32</sup>**

<b>Water Impact Fees</b>	<b>Inside (N = 42)</b>	<b>Outside (N = 13)<sup>33</sup></b>
Mean	\$938	\$872
Median	\$635	\$735
Minimum	\$100	\$150
Maximum	\$4,400	\$2,050
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$428	\$600
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$1,162	\$915

<sup>32</sup> The rates were calculated for a standard residential customer. When ERU was the basis for rates, one ERU was used. When usage was the basis for rates, 1,000 cubic feet was used. The Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Authority provided a set of fees based on building square footage (2,000 or less square feet was used in the calculation). The City of Rock Hill charges an additional impact fee for fire protection, which was not included in these calculations.

<sup>33</sup> If the impact fee was the same for inside and outside customers, they were not included in the outside analysis. Of those who submitted fee schedules, 16 entities charge a different water rate for inside and outside customers and do not charge a different impact fee for such customers.



**Residential Sewer Impact Fees<sup>34</sup>**

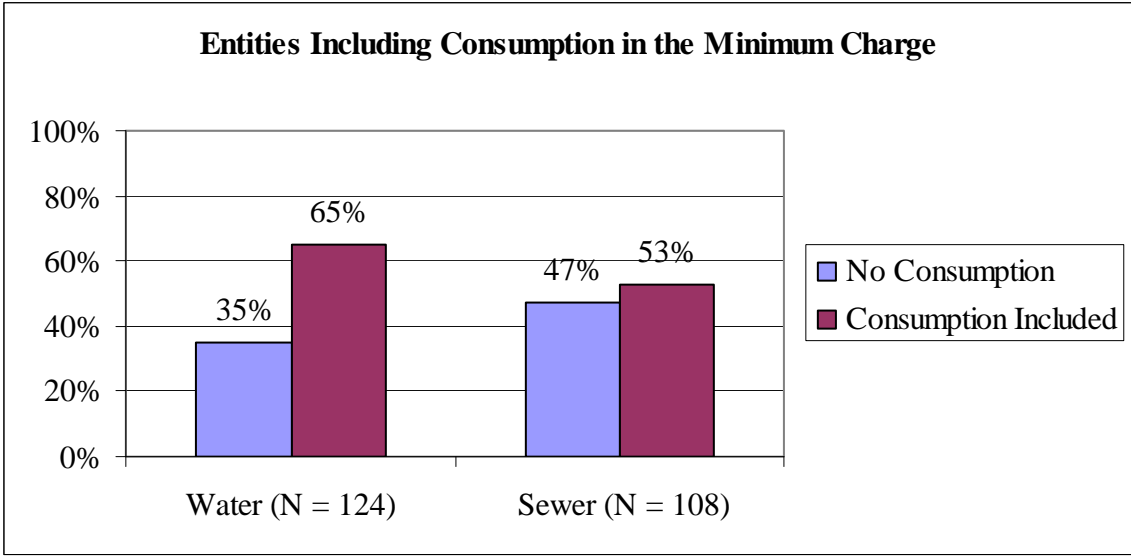
Sewer Impact Fees	Inside (N = 45)	Outside (N = 15) <sup>35</sup>
Mean	\$1,341	\$1,467
Median	\$920	\$1,365
Minimum	\$100	\$321
Maximum	\$4,500.00	\$3,700
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$550	\$1,000
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$2,047	\$1,908

**Rates:** As mentioned above, rates are usually the primary method to finance a water and sewer entity. There are two different ways to charge rates. The two different methods are known as a base and a minimum charge. Under the base charge, entities charge a fixed amount that does not include consumption. After paying the charge, customers pay a rate per consumption. Under the minimum charge, entities include a certain amount of water or sewer use in the charge. After consuming the minimum amount, customers pay for additional consumption. The typical purpose of both fees, regardless of the inclusion of consumption, is to cover billing and customer service, fixed capital costs, and fixed operation and maintenance costs.<sup>36</sup> Of the respondents, 43 (35%) water providers and 52 (48%) sewer providers charge a base charge with no consumption.

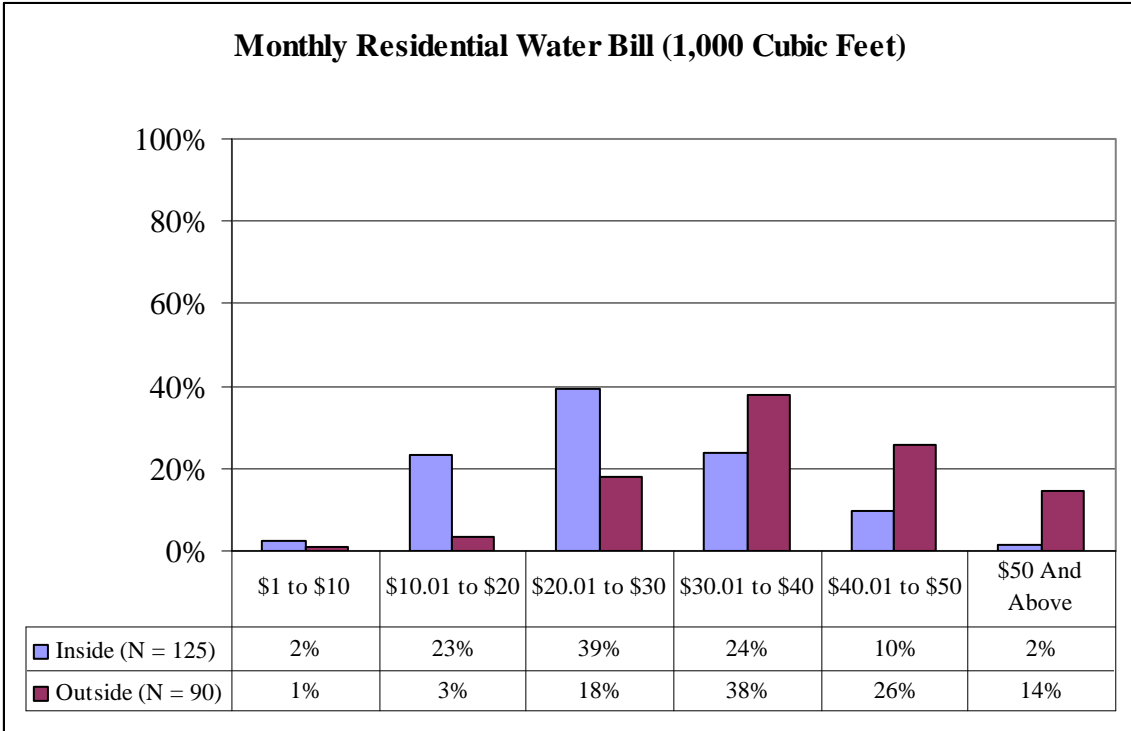
<sup>34</sup> The rates were calculated for a standard residential customer. When ERU was the basis for rates, one ERU was used. When usage was the basis for rates, 1,000 cubic feet was used, unless a standard charge was provided. The Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Authority provided a set of fees based on building square footage, (2,000 or less square feet was used in this calculation). The City of Rock Hill charges an additional impact fee for fire protection, which was not included in these calculations.

<sup>35</sup> If the impact fee was the same for inside and outside customers, they were not included in the outside analysis. Of those who submitted fee schedules, 16 entities who charge a different sewer rate for inside and outside customers do not charge a different impact fee for such customers.

<sup>36</sup> Warmath, A. (2006)

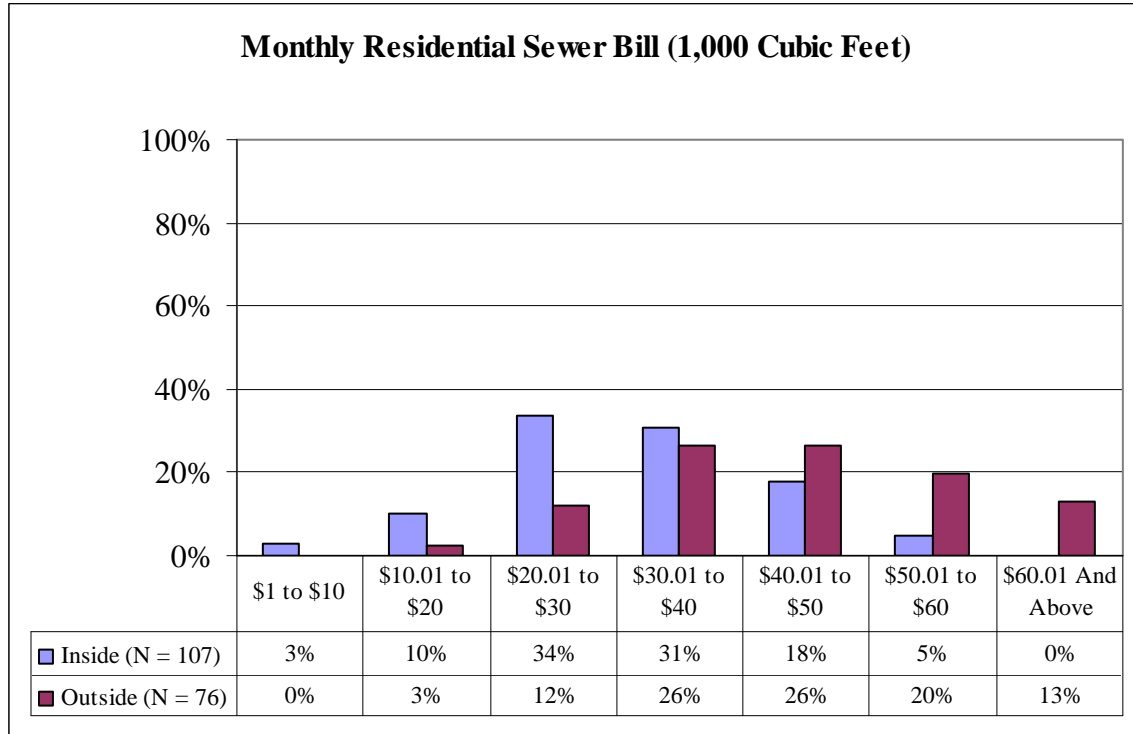


For survey respondents, the average monthly bill for residential water customers inside the jurisdictions limits is \$27.46, with a median of \$25.99. Outside of the jurisdiction limits, the average monthly residential bill is \$38.54, with a median of \$37.64. For sewer customers, the average monthly bill for residential customers is \$31.68, with a median bill of \$30.70. For those outside of the jurisdiction, the average monthly residential bill is \$44.69, with a median monthly bill of \$44.65.



**Water System Monthly Residential Rate (1,000 cubic feet)**

	Inside (N = 125)	Outside (N = 76)
Mean	\$27.46	\$38.63
Median	\$25.99	\$37.63
Low	\$5.13	\$6.92
High	\$51.98	\$82.79
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$19.98	\$30.63
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$34.20	\$44.71



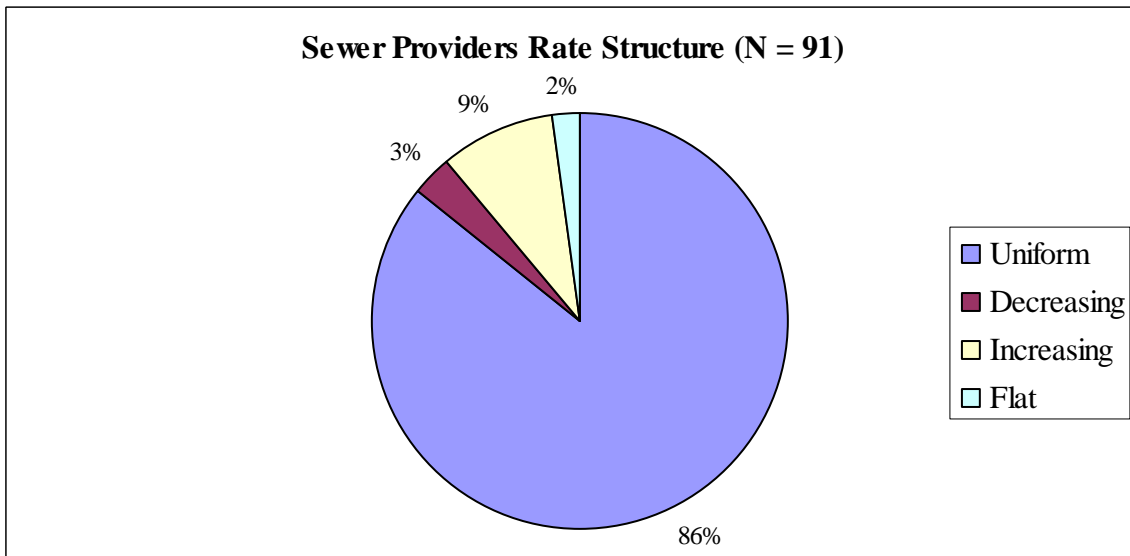
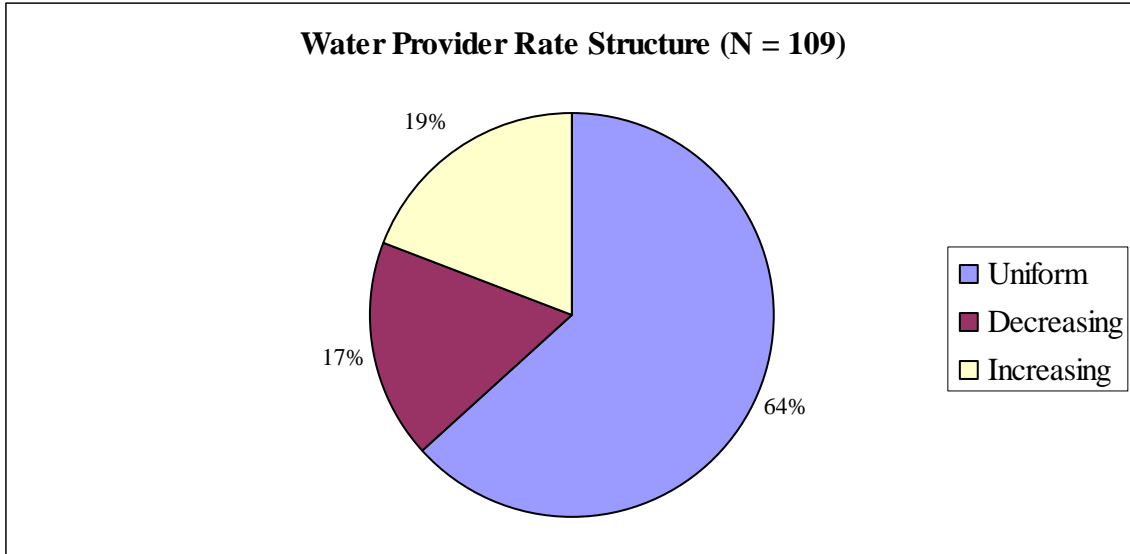
**Sewer Monthly Residential Rate (1,000 cubic feet)**

	Inside (N = 107)	Outside (N = 76)
Mean	\$31.68	\$44.69
Median	\$30.70	\$44.65
Low	\$7.70	\$10.67
High	\$56.93	\$82.39
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$25.00	\$34.80
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	\$39.09	\$53.81

Customers are typically charged per volume of water or waste water used. These rates can be structured in three different ways: uniform, declining, and increasing blocks. Under uniform block rates, the customer pays the same amount per some amount of usage. Thus, the 100,000<sup>th</sup> gallon would cost the same amount as the 1,000<sup>th</sup> gallon. Under the declining block rate, customers pay less per additional amount of water used. Under increasing block rates, customers pay more per each block used. These rate

structure categories are typical for sewer customers as well, with the addition of a flat rate. Under a flat rate, a sewer customer pays a flat fee for usage

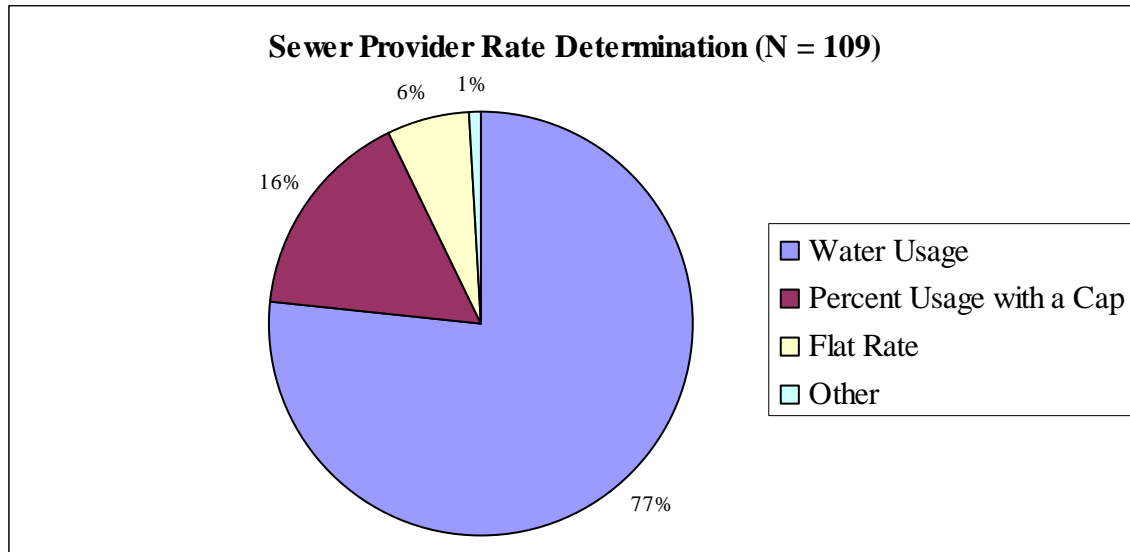
For water providers, the uniform rate structure is the most popular, with 69 (63%) using this method. Water providers also reported using an increasing rate structure, with 21 (19%) using this method. Finally, 19 (17%) reported using a decreasing rate structure. For sewer providers, 78 (86%) utilize a uniform rate structure; 8 (9%) utilize an increasing rate structure; 3 (3%) utilize a decreasing rate structure; and 2 (2%) utilize a flat rate.<sup>37</sup>



Sewer rates are usually determined differently than water rates. Sewers typically do not have a meter associated with them. Thus, sewage charges are typically determined by a number of methods. One method is to charge on some basis of water usage; 83 (77%)

<sup>37</sup> Rate structures were determined on the basis of requested documents, rate schedules. Some respondents did not provide this information, and their response could not be determined.

use this method. This method assumes that all, or a percentage, of water used in a structure is returned to the sewage system. The second method is to charge the customer on a percentage of water usage with a cap on total charges; 18 (16%) use this method. A third method is to simply charge a flat rate to all customers; 7 (6%) use this method. Finally, one (1%) respondent selected “other” as their method of determining rates.<sup>38</sup>



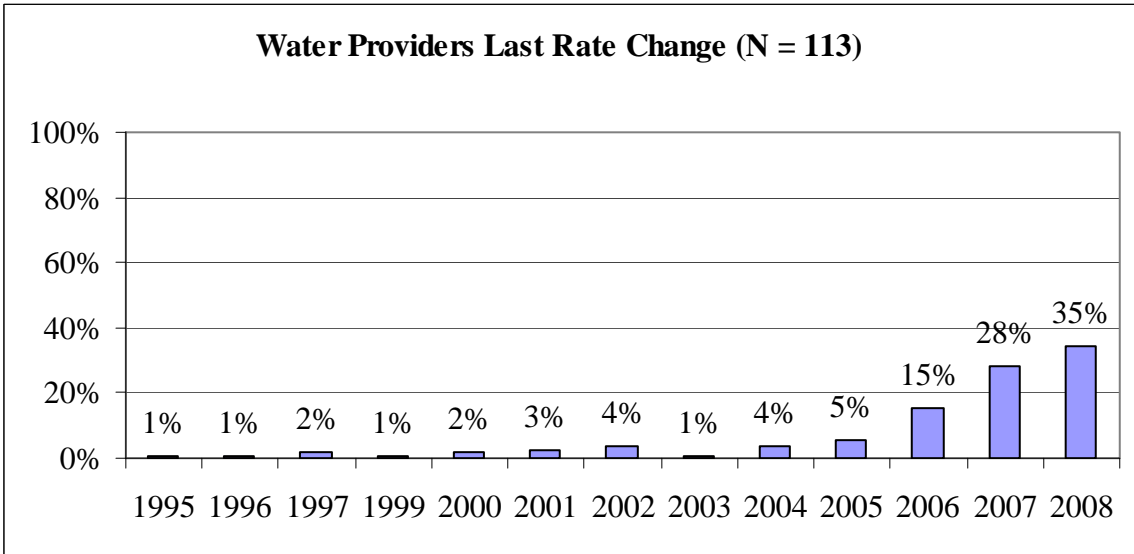
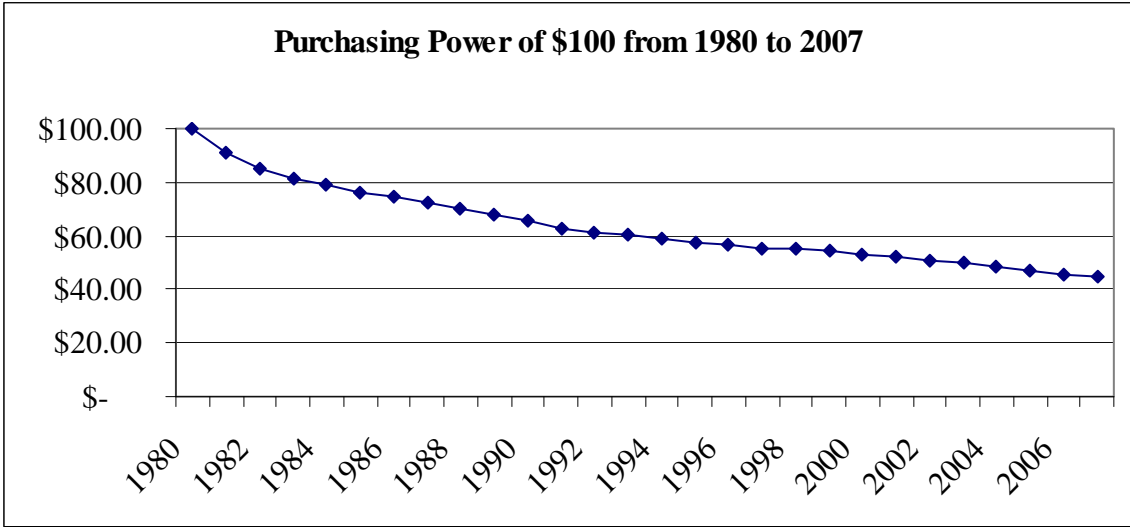
**Rate Changes:** As mentioned in the introduction, water and sewer infrastructure maintenance, rehabilitation, and expansion is a large need in the nation and state. Also, the cost of delivering water and wastewater has increased dramatically. Some of the increase is due to costs of materials, age of the system, manpower costs, and the like. And, some of the costs are related in response to environmental and health requirements. A typical response to these cost pressures is to raise rates.<sup>39</sup> Water and sewer rates are typically known as a per-unit fee. This is contrasted with the sales tax, which is a per-price tax. A per-unit fee does not increase with inflation. Thus, if a utility does not change its rates and fees frequently, they will notice a significant decline in purchasing power. The only way to increase revenues is to have an increase in service usage and/or an increase in service users. As an example of the effect of inflation, please refer to the following graph: if one were to put \$100 in a lock box in 1980, that same \$100 would have roughly the purchasing equivalent of \$44.42 in 2007.<sup>40</sup> The majority of respondents reported that they have changed their rates within the last two years.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>38</sup> Seabrook Island Utilities Commission charges sewer customers per ERU.

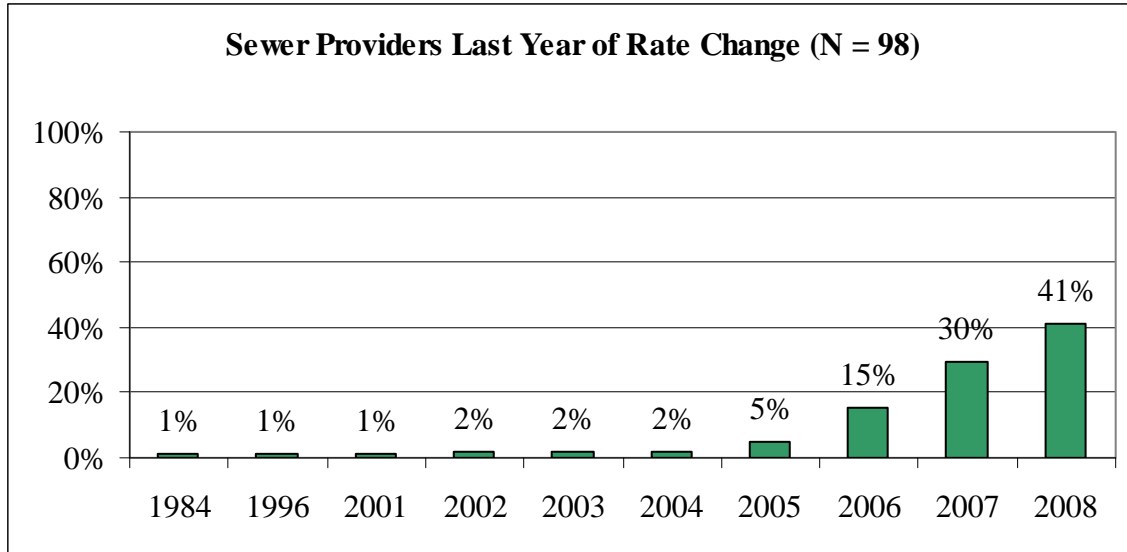
<sup>39</sup> GAO (2002)

<sup>40</sup> United States Office of Management and Budget (2008). The Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2009: Historical Tables: Table 10.1., Retrieved on September 1, 2008. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2009/spreadsheets.html>

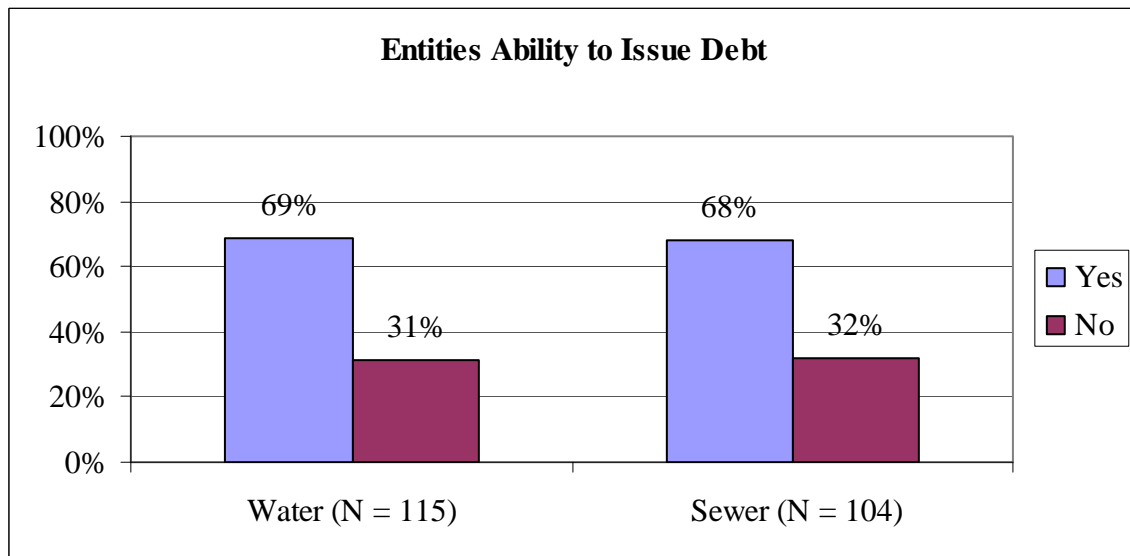
<sup>41</sup> Unfortunately, the survey was not specific enough for the question relating to the last year of a rate change. As such, years reported may be either fiscal years or calendar years. Also, respondents were not asked when the rate change took effect. It is possible that a rate change was made in FY 2007, to take effect in FY 2008. For the purpose of this analysis, if fiscal year was given, the rate change was classified in the calendar year (FY 2009 as 2008, for example).







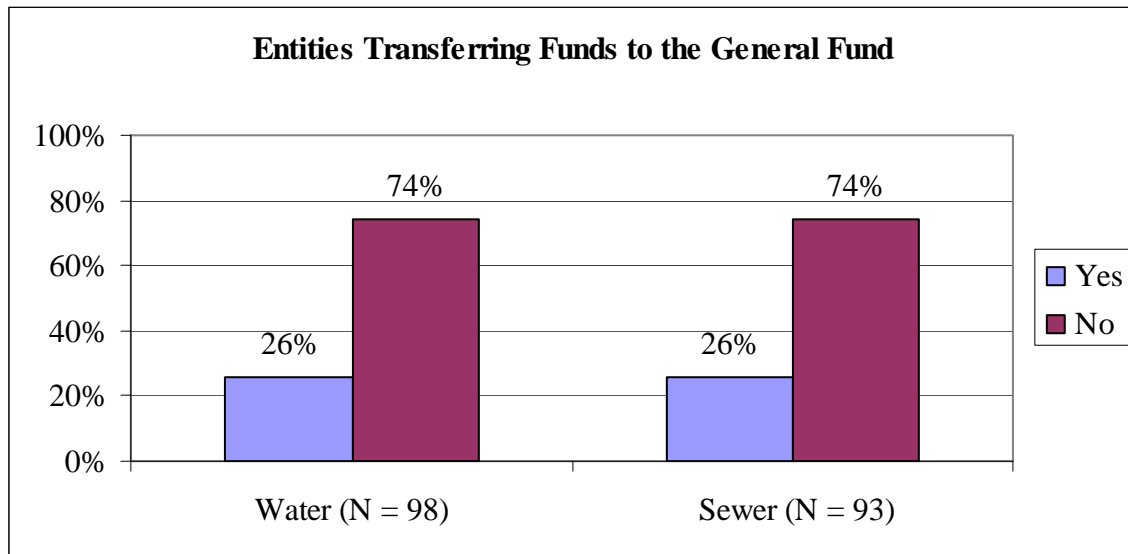
**Debt Authority:** Water and sewer provision is a highly capital intensive operation. The ability to issue debt is one way that water and waste water entities invest in capital. Water and sewer providers were asked if they had the ability to issue debt on their own. For water providers, 79 (69%) responded that they have the authority to issue debt, as opposed to 36 (31%) that do not. For sewer providers, 71 (68%) have the authority to issue debt, while 33 (32%) do not.



**Transfers to the General Fund:** Transfers to the general fund may be problematic for water and sewer providers that are part of a city or county government. Water and waste water operations should be established as an enterprise funds. Enterprise funds are used in government for operations that are intended to be run as business (i.e. the rates and fees charged by entities should allow the entity to “operate on a self-sustaining basis”).<sup>42</sup>

<sup>42</sup> Warmath, A. (2005)

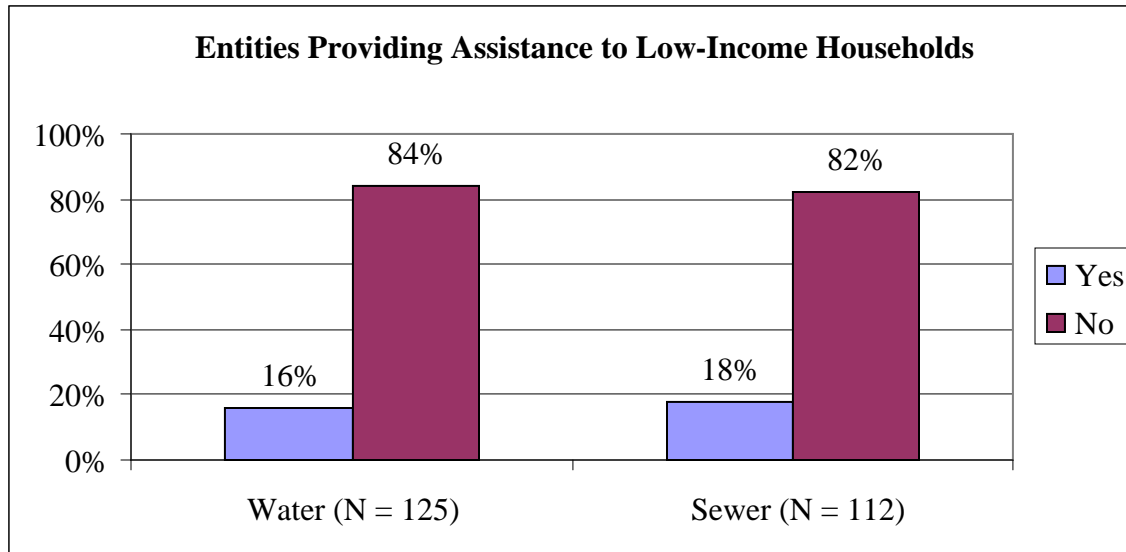
It is normal to transfer funds from the enterprise fund to other funds within the government, if it is to pay for a service within the government. For example, if a city water utility uses the city fleet maintenance facility, it pays for this service. For water providers, 25 (26%) report that funds generated by rates and fees are transferred to other governmental departments for programs unrelated to water, while 73 (74%) did not report this practice. For sewer providers, 25 (26%) reported that they support general fund activities with rates and fees, while 72 (74%) reported that they do.<sup>43</sup>



### Low-Income Assistance

As mentioned in the introduction, water and sewer services serve many goals, one of which is public health. As such, it may be beneficial to assist those who may have difficulty paying for water and sewer services. Respondents were asked if they had any such program, and if so to provide details. For water providers, 20 (16%) provide some form of low-income assistance, while 105 (84%) do not. For sewer providers, 20 (18%) provide low-income assistance, while 92 (82%) do not.

<sup>43</sup> Special purpose districts were not included in the analysis.



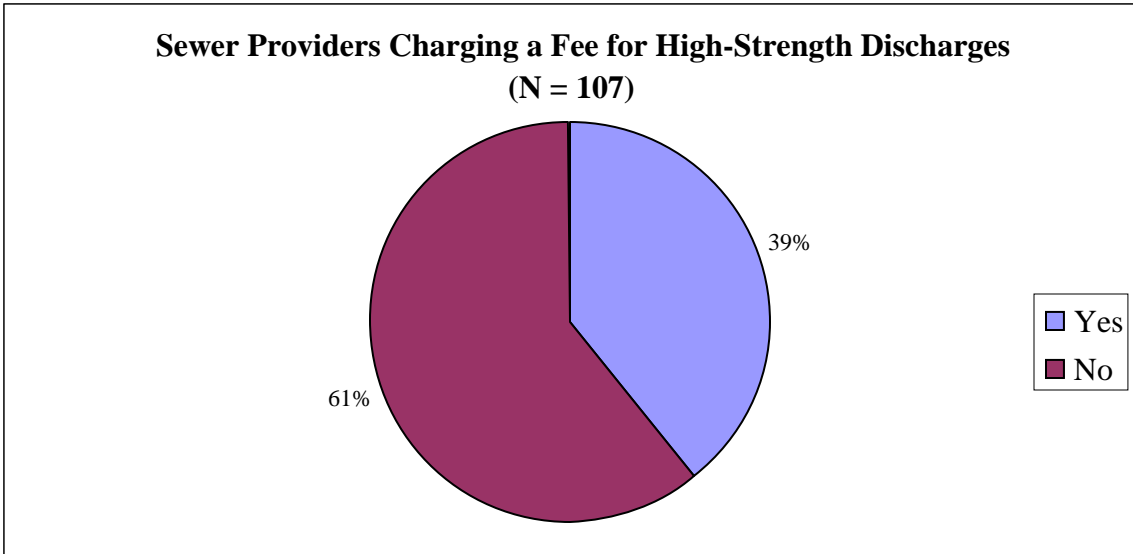
Because the responses were open-ended, the responses were varied. Response themes are summarized below:

- Some entities allow customers to make donations to a third party organization who provides assistance to low-income households.
- Some entities utilize a “round-up” program on bills. Under this program, customers round their bill to the nearest dollar, with difference being used for low-income assistance.
- Some entities budget an amount each year in their own budget to assist customers with the utility bill.
- Some entities use Community Development Block Grants, administered by the United States Department for Housing and Urban Development, to extend service to low-income areas.
- Some entities waive various fees, such as tap and impact fees, for low-income households.

### High-Strength Discharges

**High-Strength Discharges:** Some sewer systems may chose to charge for high-strength discharges into the sewer system. Many sewer systems serve industries and other businesses. Some customers may discharge waste into the sewer system that requires more treatment than normal waste. A fee for high-strength discharges charges for the additional treatment cost.<sup>44</sup> Of the sewer systems that responded, 42 (39%) charge a fee for high-strength discharges, while 65 (61%) do not.

<sup>44</sup> Stannard, W. (2005) Designing a Water and Wastewater Rate Structure. In Raftelis (2005) (pp 219-234)



**Fees for Fire Protection**

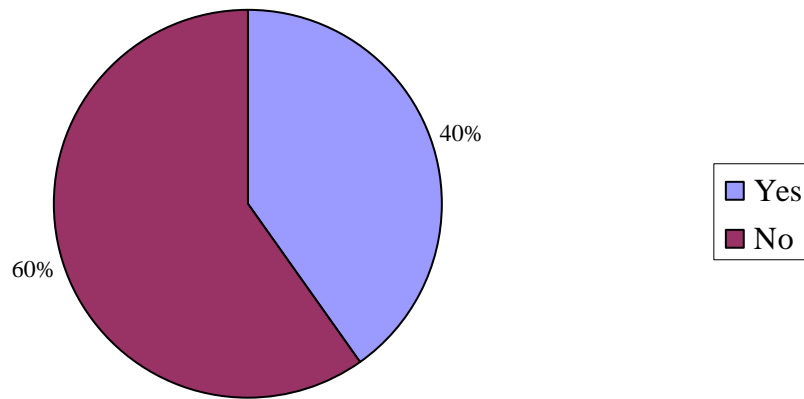
**Fees for Fire Protection:** A customer may want to, or be required to, have their building protected from fire by having a sprinkler system installed. However, such a system needs to be assured of having available water and water pressure if the need should arise. Some water providers may seek to charge a fee to sprinkled buildings.<sup>45</sup> Of those water providers that responded, 49 (40%) charge a separate fee for fire protection, while 73 (60%) do not. The basis for the fire service protection fee varied: 11 (34%) charge a per sprinkler head fee, 13 (42%) charge a fee by the fire pipe size, 12 (38%) charge flat monthly or annual fee, and 3 (9%) charge a one-time impact fee. Some entities charge a combination of fees.<sup>46,47</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Op. Cit.

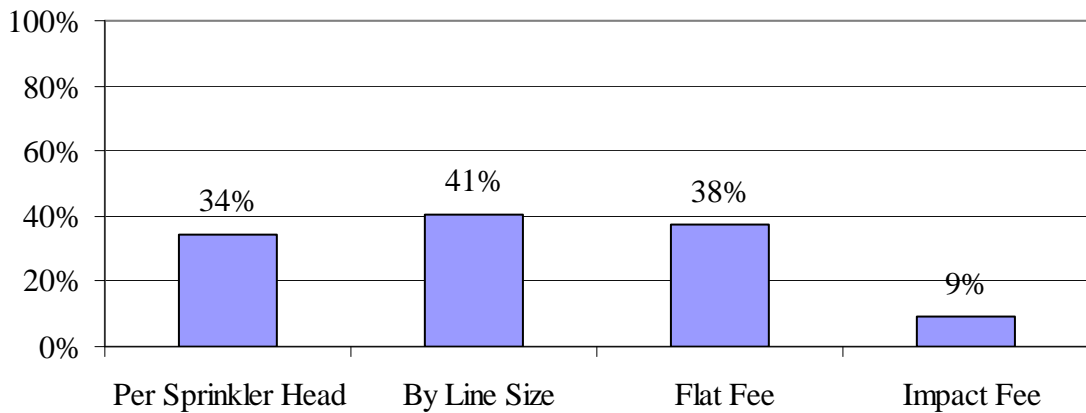
<sup>46</sup> Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority was counted as charging both a flat fee and a per sprinkler head fee. However, it would be possible to pay only the flat fee or a per sprinkler head fee. After a certain number of sprinklers, one would pay whatever is greater among the flat fee or head fee. After 5,000 sprinklers, one pays per sprinkler.

<sup>47</sup> Determination of fee basis was based on information provided by survey respondents. Fire hydrant fees were not included in the analysis.

**Water Providers Charging A Seperate Fee for the Maintenance of a Fire Protection Systems (N = 122)**



**Water Provider Fire Service Charge Basis (N = 32)**



Act 357, regarding fire sprinklers, was passed in the 117<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Legislative Session. Under this act, cost recovery is the only method that can be used for tap fees relating to fire sprinkler systems. The Act does not require a utility to provide service to a private sprinkler system. The Act prohibits sprinkler systems, not required by law, to be counted as improvements on property for the purpose of assessment, until there is an “assessable transfer.” If the local property taxing entity so chooses, it may enact a property tax credit for 25% of the cost of the sprinkler system for buildings not required by law to have such a system. At such time, the individual can claim a state income tax credit equal to the property tax credit.<sup>48</sup>

<sup>48</sup> A.357, (2007-2008 Session of the General Assembly)

## Infrastructure Status

**Age of Infrastructure:** As mentioned previously, the status of the nation and state’s water and waste water infrastructure is viewed as problematic. The age of water and waste water pipes is one important consideration for the quality of water and waste water infrastructure. Those with older infrastructure may face increased costs due to maintenance and increased leakage.<sup>49</sup> Improper system design and poor maintenance can also increase water loss. Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) may increase as sewer lines age. Inflow is when “clear water” enters the sewer system through improper connections. Infiltration is when ground water enters the sewer lines. Both are costly, as the water that enters the system is required to be treated as sewage.<sup>50</sup> Respondents were not asked about the amount inflow and infiltration for sewer providers.

Respondents were asked to identify the percentage of pipes in their system that was within a given age. The age categories used were under 40 years of age, between 40 and 80 years of age, and over 80 years of age. The average age of pipes for water providers was 59% under 40 years of age; 36% between 40 and 80 years of age; and, 5% over 80 years of age. The average age of pipes for sewer providers was 58% under 40 years of age; 36% between 40 and 80 years of age; and, 7% over 80 years of age. More information is presented in the tables below.

**Age of Pipes for Water Providers (N = 107)**

	<b>Under 40 years of Age</b>	<b>40 to 80 Years of Age</b>	<b>Over 80 Years of Age</b>
Mean	59%	36%	5%
Median	50%	35%	0%
Minimum	0%	0%	0%
Maximum	100%	100%	65%
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	30%	4%	0%
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	96%	60%	10%

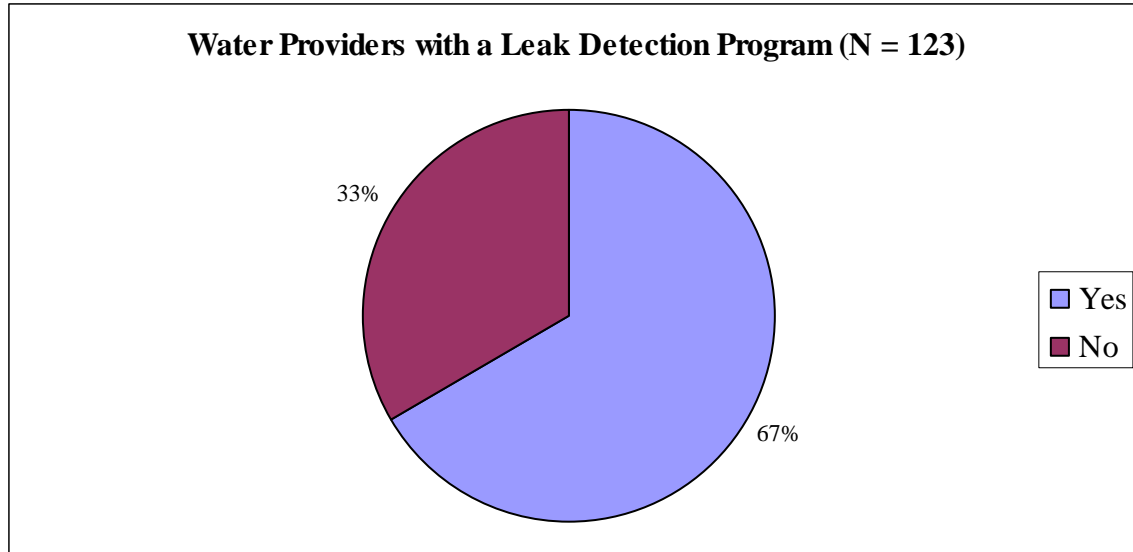
**Age of Pipes for Sewer Providers (N = 94)**

	<b>Under 40 years of Age</b>	<b>40 to 80 Years of Age</b>	<b>Over 80 Years of Age</b>
Mean	58%	36%	6%
Median	50%	31%	0%
Minimum	0%	0%	0%
Maximum	100%	100%	70%
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	30%	0%	0%
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	100%	60%	10%

<sup>49</sup> GAO (2002).

<sup>50</sup> Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (n.d.) Inflow and Infiltration. Retrieved on August 11, 2008 <http://www.msdlouky.org/programs/ii.htm>

Before being able to determine the amount of water lost to leaks, water providers must have a leak detection system. Of the water providers who responded, 82 (67%) responded that they have a leak detection program, while 41 (33%) do not. The average amount of water lost to leaks annually was roughly 11%.



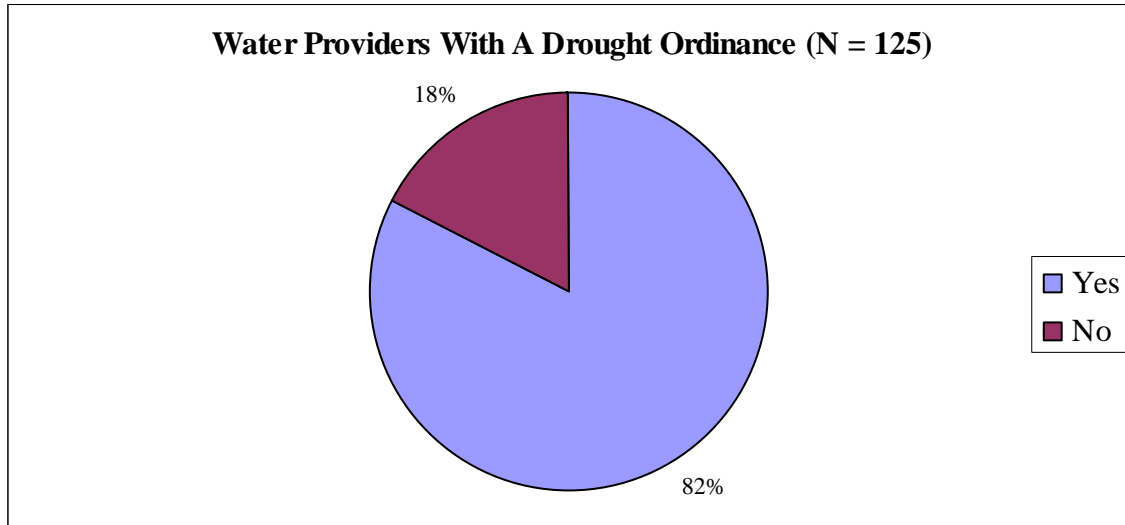
	<b>Percentage of Water Lost to Annually to Leaks (N = 75)</b>
Mean	11%
Median	10%
Minimum	0%
Maximum	50%
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	5%
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	15%

**Conservation**

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, the South Carolina Drought Response Committee declared that all but ten of the 46 counties in South Carolina remain in some form of drought. Nine counties are categorized as in “extreme drought status.” Ten counties are classified as being in “severe” drought status. Three counties are in “moderate drought status.” Thirteen counties are classified as being in “incipient drought status.”<sup>51</sup> Depending on the level of drought severity, a variety of measures may need to be employed to conserve water. Furthermore, to ensure the sustained availability of water resources in the face of population growth and changing climate patterns, communities may seek to have policies in place to reduce the demand over the long run.

<sup>51</sup> South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, State Climatology Office (2008, September). Retrieved September 17, 2008 [http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought\\_current\\_info.php#drought\\_table](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought_current_info.php#drought_table).

One important tool during a drought is to have a formalized policy, set in law, to help manage water resources during a drought. For local governments, such a policy is also known as a “drought ordinance”. A drought ordinance is allowed under the South Carolina Drought Response Act Section 49-23-10.<sup>52</sup> Respondents were asked if they had such a drought ordinance. Of water providers, 103 (82%) responded that they have drought ordinance, while 22 (18%) do not have such an ordinance.

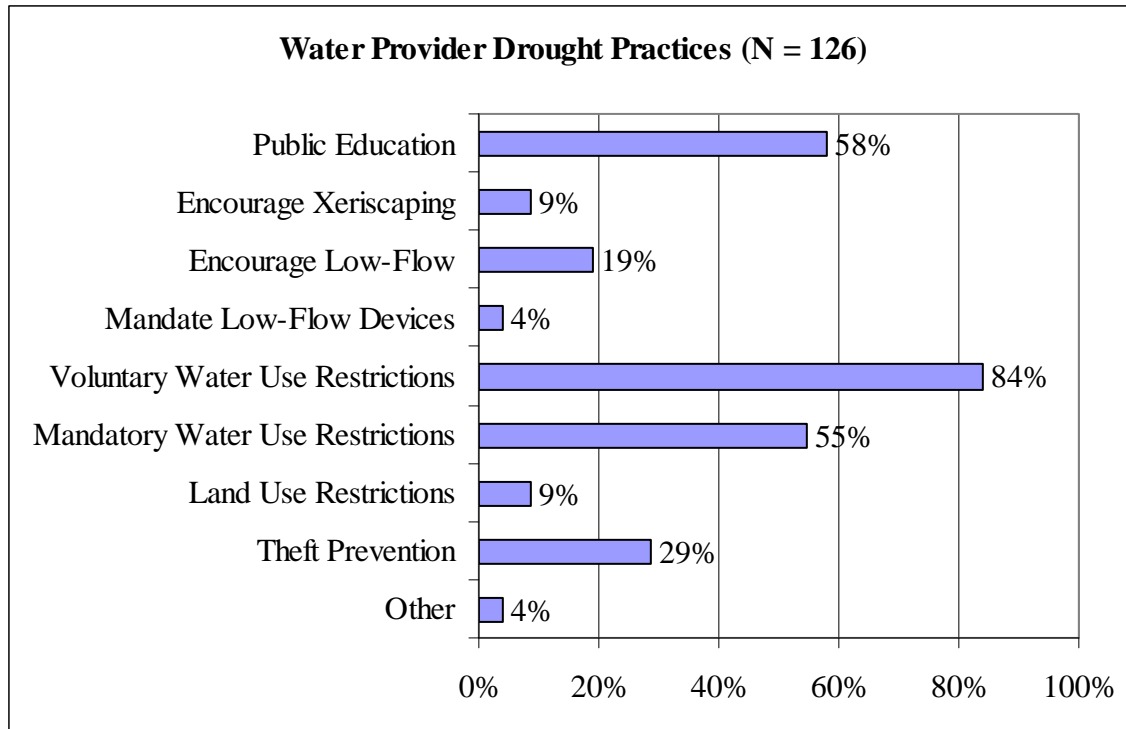


Regardless of whether or not a community has a drought ordinance, they may still have various policies in place to help encourage water resource conservation. Such policies are as follows:

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<sup>52</sup> Section 49-23-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, 1976.





*Public Education* (73 or 59%): Public education programs can consist of fliers that are mailed separately or included in monthly bills. Such programs may also include community meetings, mass media advertisements, and community education programs.

*Encourage Xeri-scaping* (11 or 9%): Landscaping is a function that can use a great deal of water. Xeri-scaping is a practice that encourages low impact landscaping. Common practices of xeri-scaping include “planning & design, limiting turf areas, selecting and zoning plants appropriately, improving the soil, using mulches, irrigating efficiently, and doing appropriate maintenance.” Plants are typically selected on their suitability for the climate and soil of a given area, and their lower need of water and fertilizers. The term was developed in 1981 by the Denver (CO) Water Department.<sup>53</sup>

*Encouraging the Use of Low-flow Devices* (24 or 19%): Some devices, such as toilets, showerheads, washing machines, and the like use a great deal of water. Low-flow devices are designed to use less water than a standard device. Some communities may have separate programs that encourage the use of such devices.

*Mandatory Use Low-flow Devices* (5 or 4%): Such a policy would mandate the use of certain low-flow devices.

*Voluntary Water Use Restrictions* (106 or 84%): Voluntary water use restrictions are typically policies that ask consumers to conserve water. For example, asking consumer

<sup>53</sup>Denver Water (n.d). Retrieved on August 15, 2008  
[http://www.denverwater.org/cons\\_xeriscape/xeriscape/xeriscape\\_index.html](http://www.denverwater.org/cons_xeriscape/xeriscape/xeriscape_index.html)

to limit water usage by washing (or not washing) cars on given days, watering lawns on given days, or not to wash off sidewalks.

*Mandatory Water Use Restrictions (69 or 55%):* Mandatory water use restrictions are typically policies that make voluntary water use restrictions required and enforceable. Penalties are limited by the South Carolina Drought Response Act (Section 49-23-10).

*Land-Use Restrictions (11 or 9%):* Areas may choose to limit the setting of various entities that are more water intensive, perhaps golf courses or water parks. Other restrictions may be to restrict population growth in certain areas.

*Theft Prevention (36 or 29%):* Theft prevention programs are designed to detect and punish those who illegally connect and withdraw water from the water system.

*Other (5 or 4%):* Several entities listed additional practices conservation practices, and drought management practices. The City of Florence and the Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority both use the conservation pricing of water during a drought. Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority listed their permit program for fire hydrants as a conservation measure. The Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Commission charges punitive rates.

## **Conclusion**

Water and sewer service provision is an important issue in South Carolina, as well as the nation as a whole. Water and sewer infrastructure maintenance, improvement, and expansion appear to be an issue requiring large capital expenditures in the future. However, it is important to note that water and sewer service provision also meets community goals related to economic development, conservation, the environment, and public health. Thus, rates, fees, and practices must be harmonized so that financial sustainability and broad community goals can be achieved. The goal of the Institute for Public Service and Policy Research is not to render judgment on practices, rates, and fees, but to serve as a tool to provide basic information on water and sewer services in the state, as well as facilitate a dialogue on practices within water and sewer service.

## South Carolina Water and Sewer Rate and Practice Survey

Please save the completed survey on **your** computer. After completing the survey, please email your saved copy as a Microsoft Word attachment to Mark Bondo at [bondo@sc.sdu](mailto:bondo@sc.sdu).

*Organization Name:*

*Contact Information:*

*Name:*

*Address:*

*Phone:*

*Email:*

1. What service(s) does your organization provide?

- Water Only
- Sewer Only
- Water and Sewer

2. What best describes your organization's service area?

- Part of a city/county government
- A special purpose district
- A private company

3. Please list the areas to which your organization provides direct service. If applicable, please indicate whether some areas receive service, but at a different rate. These rates may be known as inside or outside rate.

Jurisdiction	Inside	Outside
<i>City of Columbia (Example)</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Parts of Lexington County (Example)</i>		<b>X</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. How many active accounts do you have?

5. How many employees does your organization currently employ (Please include unfilled positions)?

Full-Time:

Part-Time:

6. Please check all account categories that you provide service to:

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial

7. What is the source of your water supply/discharge (Check all that apply)?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Reservoir or Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Reservoir or Lake
<input type="checkbox"/> River	<input type="checkbox"/> River
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground/Aquifer	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground/Aquifer
<input type="checkbox"/> Purchased from another water utility (Please List)	<input type="checkbox"/> Discharge into another sewer utility (Please List)

8. What is the frequency of your billing cycle?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bimonthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Bimonthly
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly

9. What payment options do you offer to customers (Check all that Apply)?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> In Person/Drop Box	<input type="checkbox"/> In Person/Drop Box
<input type="checkbox"/> By Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> By Mail
<input type="checkbox"/> Online	<input type="checkbox"/> Online
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto Draft from Bank Account	<input type="checkbox"/> Auto Draft from Bank Account
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Locations (such as a bank)	<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Locations (such as a bank)

10. What is your policy for dealing with delinquent bills (Please Explain)?

11. Does your organization charge a tap or connection fee for connecting new accounts to the system?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide a fee schedule for these tap fees)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide a fee schedule for these tap fees)
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

12. What is the basis for these tap fees?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A fixed amount	<input type="checkbox"/> A fixed amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Varies by meter size	<input type="checkbox"/> Varies by meter size
<input type="checkbox"/> Cost recovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Cost recovery
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Explain):	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Explain):

13. Does your organization charge an impact fee for new connections to the system? Such an impact fee may also be known as a “system development charge” or a “capital recovery charge.”

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide a fee schedule for these impact fees)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide a fee schedule for these impact fees)
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

14. What is the basis for these impact fees?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed fee	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Lot size	<input type="checkbox"/> Lot size
<input type="checkbox"/> Building size	<input type="checkbox"/> Building size
<input type="checkbox"/> Meter size	<input type="checkbox"/> Meter size
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Explain):	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Explain):

15. Please check the statement that best defines your organization.

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> We charge a minimum, fixed, or base charge for customers that <b>does not</b> include water consumption	<input type="checkbox"/> We charge a minimum, fixed or base charge, for customers that <b>does not</b> include sewer consumption
<input type="checkbox"/> We charge a minimum, fixed, or base charge for customers that <b>includes</b> a set amount of water consumption	<input type="checkbox"/> We charge a minimum, fixed or base charge, for customers that <b>includes</b> sewer consumption

- Please include a copy of your meter charge schedule.
- Please include a copy of your rate schedule.

16. What would the bill be for a residential customer who consumes 1,000 cubic feet (7,480 gallons) of water a month?

**INSIDE RATES**

**Water**

\$

**Sewer**

\$

**OUTSIDE RATE**

**Water**

\$

**Sewer**

\$

**Last year of rate change:**

**Water:**

**Sewer:**

17. If your organization is part of a city or county government, does revenue generated by rates and fees support programs in other government departments, unrelated to water service functions? (Please exclude payments relating to internal services provided by the city and county to the department; such as human resources, fleet maintenance, or information technology).

- Yes  
 No

18. Does your organization have the authority to issue debt?

- Yes
- No

19. What percentage of the total length in pipe in the distribution is less than 40 years old, between 40 and 80 years old, and more than 80 years old (Totals 100%)?

<b>Water</b>	<b>Sewer</b>
Less than 40 years old	Less than 40 years old
Between 40 and 80 years old	Between 40 and 80 years old
More than 80 years old	More than 80 years old

20. Does your organization have a leak detection program?

- Yes
- No

If yes, what is the percentage of water lost due to leaks in a year?  
%

21. Does your organization provide assistance to low-income households?

- Yes
- No

If yes, what types of assistance does your organization provide? (Please describe)

22. Does your organization charge a separate fee related to maintaining a fire protection system (such as an indoor sprinkler system)?

- Yes (Please provide the rate schedule)
- No
- N/A

23. How are sewer rates determined?

- Based on water usage
- Based on a percentage of water usage with a cap
- Flat rate
- Other
- N/A

24. Does your organization charge a fee for high strength discharges into the system to industrial customers?

- Yes
- No

***Drought/Conservation Practices:***

25. Does your organization have a drought ordinance?

- Yes
- No

26. Which of the following activities does your organization practice/encourage during a drought (Please check all that apply):

- Public Education Programs (Such as fliers, brochures, advertisements, meetings, etc)
- Programs to encourage the use of low flow, water saving devices
- Programs to encourage xeriscaping or low impact landscaping
- Voluntary Water Use Restrictions
- Mandatory Water Use Restrictions
- Mandated use of low flow, water saving devices
- Land Use Restrictions
- Water Theft Detection and Enforcement Program
- Other (Please Describe):

Thank You for completing the survey. Please save the completed survey on **your** computer. After saving, please email your saved copy as a Microsoft Word attachment to Mark Bondo at [bondo@sc.sdu](mailto:bondo@sc.sdu).



Selected Water Fee Information

Entity	Active Accounts	Rate (1)		Residential Tap (2)		Residential Impact	
		Inside	Outside	Inside	Outside	Inside	Outside
Bamberg Board of Public Works	1900	\$ 27.79	\$ 43.12	\$ 450.00	\$ 550.00	.	.
Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority	45000	\$ 30.83	.	\$ 625.00	.	\$ 1,200.00	.
Beech Island Rural Community Water District	3065	\$ 23.65	.	\$ 400.00	.	.	.
Berkeley County Water and Sewer	39523	\$ 37.46	.	\$ 1,050.00	.	\$ 1,350.00	.
Broad Creek PSD	4053	\$ 8.75	.	\$ 780.00	.	\$ 4,400.00	.
Broadway Water and Sewer	3066	\$ 24.25	.	\$ 1,500.00	.	.	.
Charleston Water System	105000	\$ 19.03	\$ 33.54	\$ 500.00	.	\$ 2,000.00	.
Chester Metropolitan Water and Sewer District	6331	\$ 49.10	.	\$ 1,000.00	.	.	.
City of Abbeville	2740	\$ 25.72	\$ 40.68	\$ 340.00	\$ 640.00	.	.
City of Aiken	21371	\$ 14.61	\$ 29.22	\$ 190.00	.	\$ 750.00	.
City of Anderson d/b/a Electric City Utilities	16689	\$ 23.00	\$ 46.00	\$ 1,000.00	.	\$ 600.00	.
City of Barnwell	2400	\$ 16.22	\$ 32.44	\$ 400.00	.	.	.
City of Camden	6000	\$ 31.02	\$ 53.38	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	.	.
City of Cayce	7250	\$ 37.08	\$ 65.48	\$ 565.00	\$ 665.00	\$ 465.00	\$ 930.00
City of Clinton	4950	\$ 24.21	\$ 36.35	.	.	.	.
City of Columbia	130000	\$ 17.42	\$ 28.21	\$ 2,512.00	.	.	.
City of Conway	12992	\$ 19.96	\$ 39.38	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00
City of Dillon	3564	\$ 15.38	\$ 30.74	\$ 550.00	.	.	.
City of Florence	28910	\$ 24.04	\$ 36.03	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 750.00
City of Folly Beach	1992	\$ 39.34	.	\$ 425.00	.	\$ 104.00	.
City of Georgetown	4605	\$ 25.99	\$ 38.93	\$ 1,000.00	.	\$ 550.00	.
City of Goose Creek	7800	\$ 18.96	\$ 38.85	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,050.00	.
City of Hartsville	3900	\$ 17.78	\$ 35.56	\$ 350.00	.	.	.
City of Johnsonville	1450	\$ 26.57	\$ 37.05	.	.	.	.
City of Lancaster	3800	\$ 35.26	\$ 48.30	\$ 1,000.00	.	.	.
City of Liberty	1500	\$ 29.44	\$ 42.42	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,200.00	.	.
City of Manning	2862	\$ 19.88	\$ 29.87	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 440.00	.
City of Mullins	2377	\$ 23.50	\$ 39.94	.	.	.	.
City of Myrtle Beach	16778	\$ 16.73	\$ 33.48	\$ 756.00	.	\$ 980.00	.
City of Newberry	5971	\$ 23.31	\$ 44.67	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,400.00	.	.
City of North Augusta	11430	\$ 16.40	\$ 32.80	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,300.00	.	.
City of North Myrtle Beach	12500	\$ 23.46	\$ 46.92	\$ 600.00	.	\$ 2,271.00	.
City of Orangeburg DPU	20043	\$ 11.26	\$ 22.62	\$ 800.00	.	\$ 300.00	.
City of Rock Hill	35000	\$ 19.39	\$ 41.28	\$ 1,150.00	.	\$ 478.00	.
City of Sumter	24903	\$ 17.16	\$ 34.32	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00	.	.

Selected Water Fee Information

City of Union	6305	\$	23.52	\$	35.25	\$	350.00	.	.				
City of Waltherboro	5629	\$	19.21	\$	39.64	\$	486.00	\$	972.00				
City of West Columbia	19250	\$	16.66	\$	28.19	\$	1,000.00	\$	2,000.00				
City of Westminster	3317	\$	22.91	\$	34.87	.	.	.	.				
Clearwater Water and Sewer District	240	\$	30.02	.	.	\$	300.00	.	.				
Darlington County Water and Sewer Authority	16647	\$	21.52	\$	21.52	.	.	.	.				
Donalds Due West Water Authority	2200	\$	40.12	.	.	\$	600.00	.	.				
Dorchester County Water Authority	6327	\$	35.50	.	.	\$	500.00	.	\$	500.00			
Dorchester Water and Sewer Department	16514	\$	29.05	.	.	\$	725.00	.	\$	690.00			
Easley Central Water District	2561	\$	27.44	.	.	\$	800.00	.	.				
Easley Combined Utilities	13345	\$	27.38	\$	41.09	\$	550.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	600.00		
Edgefield County Water & Sewer Authority	8900	\$	22.03	.	.	\$	850.00	.	.				
Elloree Water System	641	\$	28.44	\$	41.98	\$	350.00	\$	500.00	\$	400.00	\$	450.00
Georgetown County Water and Sewer District	21000	\$	24.34	.	.	\$	590.00	.	\$	800.00	\$	875.00	
Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District	2222	\$	41.92	.	.	\$	800.00	.	\$	1,400.00	.		
Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority	64859	\$	18.50	\$	18.50	\$	565.00	.	\$	500.00	\$	735.00	
Greer Commission of Public Works	17347	\$	15.85	\$	25.06	\$	500.00	\$	1,300.00	\$	670.00		
Hilton Head No. 1 PSD	11000	\$	19.25	.	.	\$	1,020.00	.	\$	2,400.00	.		
Inman-Campobello Water District	10419	\$	31.85	\$	39.79	\$	600.00	.	.	.			
Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Commission	4520	\$	40.13	.	.	\$	450.00	.	\$	2,400.00	.		
Lancaster County Water and Sewer District	18362	\$	44.59	.	.	.	.	.	\$	1,075.00	.		
Laurens Commission of Public Works	6023	\$	35.68	\$	53.56	\$	500.00	\$	750.00	.	.		
Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission	12700	\$	42.30	.	.	\$	540.00	.	.	.			
Liberty-Chesnee-Fingerville Water Districe	6300	\$	51.98	\$	65.76	\$	900.00	\$	1,250.00	.	.		
Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority	7200	\$	42.59	.	.	\$	530.00	.	\$	740.00	.		
McCormick County Water/Sewer	5000	\$	34.11	.	.	\$	750.00	.	.	.			
McCormick CPW	1086	\$	26.64	\$	36.11	.	.	.	.	.			
Mount Pleasant Waterworks	33461	\$	25.61	\$	25.61	\$	550.00	.	\$	2,000.00	.		
Pendleton Water Works	1450	\$	39.65	\$	59.50	\$	350.00	\$	700.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Powersville Water District	11111	\$	28.92	.	.	\$	1,000.00	.	\$	740.00	.		
Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority	1020	\$	37.71	.	.	.	.	.	.	.			
Sandy Springs Water District	5418	\$	33.11	.	.	\$	750.00	.	.	.			
Scranton Water System	375	\$	22.67	\$	24.67	\$	400.00	.	.	.			
Seabrook Island Utility Commission	2450	\$	39.81	.	.	\$	375.00	.	\$	2,000.00	.		
Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District	20035	\$	26.99	\$	33.72	\$	500.00	.	\$	300.00	\$	600.00	
Summerville CPW	24779	\$	21.00	\$	30.20	\$	750.00	.	\$	385.00	.		
Talatha Rural Community Water District	575	\$	50.64	.	.	\$	700.00	.	.	.			

Selected Water Fee Information

Town of Batesburg-Leesville DPW WTP	3608	\$	34.90	\$	48.41	\$	625.00		\$	571.00			
Town of Bethune	250	\$	25.20	\$	31.20	\$	475.00						
Town of Bishopville	1850	\$	15.51	\$	22.79	\$	200.00	\$	300.00				
Town of Blacksburg	1518	\$	32.87	\$	62.51	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,500.00				
Town of Bowman	509	\$	19.48	.		\$	450.00	.					
Town of Branchville	426	\$	33.08	.		\$	450.00	.					
Town of Calhoun Falls	878	\$	37.98	\$	55.03	\$	400.00	\$	500.00				
Town of Carlisle	215	\$	47.62	\$	50.62	.		.					
Town of Central	1465	\$	29.88	\$	44.82	\$	425.00	\$	800.00	\$	100.00	\$	150.00
Town of Chapin	4000	\$	37.46	\$	37.46	\$	1,800.00						
Town of Cheraw	2609	\$	15.04	\$	40.22	.		.					
Town of Chesterfield	781	\$	41.66	\$	66.49	.		.					
Town of Clio	400	\$	42.07	\$	44.07	\$	200.00						
Town of Clover	2578	\$	41.34	\$	82.79	\$	794.00	\$	850.00	\$	500.00	\$	900.00
Town of Coward	580	\$	18.60	\$	33.45	\$	550.00						
Town of Edisto Beach	2305	\$	23.12	\$	52.40	\$	500.00	.					
Town of Ehrhardt	285	\$	39.00	.		.		.					
Town of Estill	958	\$	28.44	\$	47.88	\$	425.00	\$	475.00				
Town of Fairfax	826	.		.		.		.					
Town of Greeleyville	425	\$	19.80	\$	22.55	\$	495.00	\$	522.50				
Town of Hampton	1584	\$	28.93	\$	40.52	\$	1,000.00	.					
Town of Harleyville	313	\$	33.68	\$	33.68	\$	500.00	\$	800.00				
Town of Heath Springs	410	\$	30.00	\$	37.00	.		.					
Town of Hickory Grove	268	\$	26.45	\$	27.45	\$	500.00						
Town of Jamestown	310	\$	15.97	.		\$	400.00	.					
Town of Jefferson	375	\$	37.61	\$	46.08	\$	500.00	\$	600.00				
Town of Kershaw	1191	\$	25.41	\$	30.30	\$	500.00	\$	600.00				
Town of Kingstree	3100	\$	19.87	\$	37.94	\$	1,035.00	\$	1,552.00				
Town of Lane	255	\$	23.20	\$	23.20	.		.					
Town of Lexington	11000	\$	34.29	\$	62.76	\$	410.00			\$	1,150.00	\$	2,050.00
Town of Lodge	50	\$	12.00	.		\$	50.00	.					
Town of McColl	1000	\$	22.68	\$	45.36	\$	500.00	.					
Town of Monetta	460	\$	29.18	.		\$	750.00	.					
Town of North	635	\$	23.98	\$	27.76	.		.					
Town of Norway	344	\$	31.06	\$	34.56	\$	204.10	\$	233.20	\$	437.30	\$	699.60
Town of Pageland	1520	\$	33.07	\$	49.59	\$	400.00	\$	525.00				
Town of Pelion	410	\$	32.81	\$	37.81	\$	1,100.00	\$	1,350.00				

Selected Water Fee Information

Town of Pinewood	270	\$	25.22	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Ridge Spring	564	\$	10.50	\$	12.65	\$	800.00	.	.
Town of Ridgeville	287	\$	28.07	\$	41.07	\$	1,180.00	\$	1,180.00
Town of Saint Georges	1000	\$	22.26	\$	44.52	\$	300.00	\$	600.00
Town of Salem	2035	\$	37.39	\$	39.64	.	.	.	.
Town of Salley	184	\$	20.50	\$	23.50	.	.	.	.
Town of Sharon	205	\$	25.48	.	.	\$	600.00	.	.
Town of Stuckey	149	\$	10.00	\$	12.80	.	.	.	.
Town of Summerton	745	\$	5.13	\$	6.92	.	.	.	.
Town of Tuberville	536	\$	23.70	\$	35.55	\$	300.00	\$	300.00
Town of Ulmer	100	\$	20.00	.	.	\$	125.00	.	.
Town of Wagener	493	\$	24.96	\$	30.96	\$	400.00	.	.
Town of Ware Shoals	1167	\$	44.57	\$	58.32	.	.	.	.
Town of West Pelzer	408	\$	32.79	\$	42.94	\$	460.00	\$	585.00
Town of West Union	200	\$	34.44	\$	42.92	.	.	.	.
Town of Winnsboro	3747	\$	21.19	\$	33.92	\$	375.00	\$	1,350.00
Valley Public Service Authority	2854	\$	29.25	\$	29.25	\$	600.00	\$	1,100.00

1: Assumes 1,000 Cubic feet (7,480 Gallons) Per Month

2: Assumes a 3/4" or 5/6" Meter for Residential Property

Selected Sewer Fee Information

Entity	Active Accounts	Rate (1)		Residential Tap (2)		Residential Impact	
		Inside	Outside	Inside	Outside	Inside	Outside
Anderson County Wastewater Management	3880	\$ 39.70	.	\$ 800.00	.	\$ 1,000.00	.
Bamberg Board of Public Works	1900	\$ 37.16	\$ 53.80	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00	.	.
Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority	45000	\$ 45.00	.	.	.	\$ 2,760.00	.
Berkeley County Water and Sewer	39523	\$ 44.00	.	\$ 1,200.00	.	\$ 2,500.00	.
Broad Creek PSD	4053	\$ 31.00	.	\$ 1,550.00	.	\$ 4,400.00	.
Broadway Water and Sewer	3066	\$ 34.40	.	.	.	.	.
Charleston Water System	105000	\$ 56.28	\$ 78.42	\$ 200.00	.	\$ 2,650.00	.
Chester Metropolitan Water and Sewer District	6331	\$ 42.90	.	\$ 1,000.00	.	.	.
City of Abbeville	2450	\$ 27.50	\$ 44.54	\$ 400.00	\$ 575.00	.	.
City of Aiken	21371	\$ 25.11	\$ 50.22	\$ 500.00	.	\$ 400.00	.
City of Anderson d/b/a Electric City Utilities	16689	\$ 29.87	\$ 59.74	\$ 1,000.00	.	\$ 600.00	.
City of Barnwell	2400	\$ 16.22	\$ 32.44	\$ 500.00	.	.	.
City of Camden	6000	\$ 29.70	\$ 35.13	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,800.00	.	.
City of Cayce	9850	\$ 28.26	\$ 56.52	\$ 810.00	\$ 830.00	\$ 785.00	\$ 1,570.00
City of Chesnee	532	\$ 37.92	\$ 53.27	\$ 400.00	.	.	.
City of Clinton	4950	\$ 43.20	\$ 62.45	.	.	.	.
City of Columbia	70000	\$ 30.32	\$ 54.57	\$ 1,300.00	.	\$ 2,640.00	\$ 2,640.00
City of Conway	12992	\$ 24.02	\$ 48.04	\$ 500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,100.00
City of Dillon	3564	\$ 28.01	\$ 56.02	\$ 550.00	.	.	.
City of Florence	18510	\$ 34.41	\$ 52.05	\$ 550.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 750.00
City of Folly Beach	1992	\$ 56.93	.	\$ 410.00	.	\$ 2,094.00	.
City of Fountain Inn	3000	.	.	\$ 500.00	.	.	.
City of Georgetown	4192	\$ 33.84	\$ 61.02	\$ 900.00	.	\$ 850.00	.
City of Hartsville	3900	\$ 24.32	\$ 48.64	\$ 395.00	.	.	.
City of Johnsonville	1450	\$ 25.64	\$ 35.90	.	.	.	.
City of Lancaster	3800	\$ 37.52	\$ 53.81	\$ 1,200.00	.	.	.
City of Liberty	1500	\$ 44.86	\$ 58.70	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,600.00	.	.
City of Manning	2862	\$ 24.37	\$ 42.75	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 440.00	.
City of Mullins	2377	\$ 22.72	\$ 36.06	.	.	.	.
City of Myrtle Beach	16778	\$ 19.91	\$ 39.83	\$ 2,867.00	.	\$ 1,272.00	\$ 1,908.00
City of Newberry	5971	\$ 31.60	\$ 63.20	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,200.00	.	.
City of North Augusta	10306	\$ 28.77	\$ 35.94	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,300.00	.	.
City of North Myrtle Beach	12500	\$ 20.82	\$ 41.64	\$ 450.00	.	\$ 1,906.00	.
City of Orangeburg DPU	10094	\$ 18.00	\$ 32.40	\$ 1,100.00	.	\$ 350.00	.
City of Rock Hill	35000	\$ 34.80	\$ 48.80	\$ 1,460.00	.	\$ 850.00	.

Selected Sewer Fee Information

City of Sumter	24903	\$ 26.26	\$ 52.52	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00	.	.
City of Union	5074	\$ 27.61	\$ 39.96	\$ 300.00	.	.	.
City of Walterboro	5629	\$ 25.31	\$ 47.72	\$ 311.00	\$ 622.00	.	.
City of West Columbia	19520	\$ 9.78	\$ 16.02	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	.	.
City of Westminster	3317	\$ 41.49	\$ 28.71	\$ 700.00	.	\$ 300.00	.
City of Woodruff	1636	\$ 28.30	.	.	.	.	.
Clearwater Water and Sewer District	240	\$ 8.50	.	\$ 300.00	.	.	.
Darlington County Water and Sewer Authority	16647	\$ 40.17	\$ 40.17	.	.	.	.
Donalds Due West Water Authority	2200	.	.	\$ 800.00	.	.	.
Dorchester County Water and Sewer Dept	16514	\$ 34.80	.	\$ 1,145.00	.	\$ 2,600.00	.
Easley Combined Utilities	9970	\$ 33.68	\$ 50.52	\$ 300.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 900.00	.
Edgefield County Water & Sewer Authority	8900	\$ 26.23	.	\$ 1,015.00	.	.	.
Elloree Water System	641	\$ 36.44	\$ 49.98	\$ 350.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 750.00
Georgetown County Water and Sewer District	21000	\$ 30.70	.	.	.	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,400.00
Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority	64859	\$ 21.99	\$ 21.99	\$ 750.00	.	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,365.00
Greer Commission of Public Works	10244	\$ 35.78	\$ 49.91	\$ 500.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 670.00	.
Hilton Head No. 1 PSD	11000	\$ 25.30	.	\$ 1,200.00	.	\$ 3,040.00	.
Inman-Campobello Water District	10419	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00	.	.	.	.
Isle of Palms Water and Sewer Commission	4520	\$ 50.92	.	\$ 400.00	.	\$ 2,500.00	.
James Island Public Service District	12779	\$ 34.75	\$ 34.75	.	.	.	.
Kershaw County	1295	\$ 36.65	.	\$ 750.00	.	\$ 2,250.00	.
Lancaster County Water and Sewer District	8275	\$ 36.74	.	.	.	\$ 1,350.00	.
Laurens Commission of Public Works	750	\$ 42.32	.	\$ 500.00	.	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission	6023	\$ 27.90	\$ 41.89	\$ 600.00	.	.	.
McCormick County Water/Sewer	5000	\$ 51.91	.	\$ 750.00	.	.	.
McCormick CPW	1086	\$ 26.50	\$ 38.91	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan Sewer Sub-district	.	.	.	\$ 600.00	.	\$ 897.00	.
Mount Pleasant Waterworks	28584	\$ 34.37	\$ 34.37	.	.	\$ 4,500.00	.
North Charleston Sewer District	27306	\$ 44.49	.	\$ 1,250.00	.	.	.
Pendleton Water Works	1450	\$ 43.39	\$ 65.09	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority	1020	\$ 41.40	.	.	.	.	.
Seabrook Island Utility Commission	2450	\$ 34.10	.	\$ 300.00	.	\$ 2,000.00	.
Summerville CPW	24779	\$ 19.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 920.00	.
Town of Batesburg-Leesville DPW WTP	3608	\$ 37.45	\$ 56.21	\$ 625.00	.	\$ 722.00	.
Town of Bishopville	1850	\$ 18.48	\$ 27.76	.	.	.	.
Town of Blacksburg	805	\$ 42.20	\$ 82.39	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	.	.
Town of Bowman	509	\$ 21.98	.	\$ 950.00	.	.	.

Selected Sewer Fee Information

Town of Branchville	426	\$	38.16	.		\$	450.00	.		.	.
Town of Calhoun Falls	841	\$	31.03	\$	42.30	\$	450.00	\$	550.00	.	.
Town of Carlisle	215	\$	45.62	.		.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Central	1465	\$	49.49	\$	60.55	\$	900.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	625.00 \$ 1,000.00
Town of Chapin	4000	\$	18.00	\$	28.00	\$	2,600.00	\$	3,900.00	.	.
Town of Cheraw	2609	\$	16.30	\$	36.30	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Chesterfield	781	\$	41.66	\$	66.49	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Clio	400	\$	42.74	\$	44.74	\$	200.00	.	.	.	.
Town of Clover	2578	\$	40.97	\$	82.02	\$	550.00	\$	600.00	\$	550.00 \$ 1,000.00
Town of Due West	349	\$	23.37	.		\$	500.00	.	.	.	.
Town of Edisto Beach	2305	\$	40.44	.		\$	2,500.00	.	.	.	.
Town of Ehrhardt	285	\$	39.31	.		.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Estill	958	\$	30.34	\$	44.56	\$	300.00	\$	450.00	.	.
Town of Fairfax	826	.	.	.		.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Great Falls	1000	\$	25.70	\$	58.31	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Greeleyville	425	\$	24.24	\$	30.48	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Hampton	1584	\$	43.00	.		\$	1,000.00	.		\$	1,000.00 .
Town of Harleyville	313	\$	54.86	\$	54.86	\$	850.00	\$	1,500.00	.	.
Town of Heath Springs	410	\$	30.00	\$	37.00	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Hollywood	965	.	.	.		\$	500.00	.		\$	1,750.00 .
Town of Jefferson	375	\$	28.21	\$	34.56	\$	500.00	\$	600.00	.	.
Town of Kershaw	1013	\$	23.41	\$	28.30	\$	700.00	\$	800.00	.	.
Town of Kingstree	3100	\$	22.54	\$	29.89	\$	1,035.00	\$	1,552.00	.	.
Town of Lexington	11000	\$	39.09	\$	47.65	\$	324.00			\$	1,900.00 \$ 3,700.00
Town of Lyman	1340	\$	28.78	\$	38.20	\$	1,200.00	\$	2,400.00	.	.
Town of McColl	1000	\$	18.08	\$	36.16	\$	500.00	.		.	.
Town of North	635	\$	17.89	.		.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Norway	344	\$	33.79	\$	33.79	\$	204.10	\$	233.20	\$	262.40 \$ 320.70
Town of Pageland	1520	\$	32.67	\$	49.94	\$	450.00	\$	525.00	.	.
Town of Pinewood	270	\$	32.20	.		.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Ridge Spring	564	\$	16.00	\$	20.80	\$	800.00			.	.
Town of Saint George	1000	\$	37.15	\$	74.30	\$	500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	500.00 \$ 1,000.00
Town of Sharon	205	\$	25.00	.		\$	600.00	.		.	.
Town of Summerton	745	\$	7.70	\$	10.67	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Tuberville	536	\$	30.44	\$	45.66	\$	300.00			\$	300.00
Town of Wagener	493	\$	28.70	\$	34.95	\$	400.00	.		.	.
Town of Ware Shoals	1167	\$	14.76	\$	30.07	.	.	.	.	.	.

Selected Sewer Fee Information

Town of West Pelzer	408	\$	32.58	\$	45.23	\$	635.00	.	.
Town of West Union	200	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Town of Winnsboro	2436	\$	27.98	\$	44.81	\$	600.00	\$	700.00
Valley Public Service Authority	2854	\$	22.10	\$	22.10	\$	450.00	\$	1,000.00
Wade Hampton Fire & Sewer District	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	400.00

1: Assumes 1,000 Cubic feet (7,480 Gallons) Per Month

2: Assumes a 4" Meter for Residential Property



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Dorchester County Water Authority	Oscar Black	843-875-0140	<a href="mailto:obpadm@yahoo.com">obpadm@yahoo.com</a>
Dorchester Water and Sewer Department	Jackie Canaday	843-832-0062	<a href="mailto:jcanaday@dorchestercounty.net">jcanaday@dorchestercounty.net</a>
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Seabrook Island Utility Commission  
Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District  
Summerville CPW  
Talatha Rural Community Water District  
Town of Batesburg-Leesville DPW WTP  
Town of Bethune  
Town of Bishopville  
Town of Blacksburg  
Town of Bowman  
Town of Branchville  
Town of Calhoun Falls  
Town of Carlisle  
Town of Central  
Town of Chapin  
Town of Cheraw  
Town of Chesterfield  
Town of Clio  
Town of Clover  
Town of Coward  
Town of Due West  
Town of Edisto Beach  
Town of Ehrhardt  
Town of Estill  
Town of Fairfax  
Town of Great Falls  
Town of Greeleyville  
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