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Texas Water Capital Needs Survey

Identifies Keys Trends and Demonstrates Demand for Water Infrastructure Investment

On December 6, 2022, the Texas Water Infrastructure Network (TXWIN), a 501 C6 Texas-based trade association founded in 2013 representing the state's top water infrastructure construction companies and related businesses, **released results from its 2022 Texas Water Capital Needs Survey with Water Opinions**, an Austin-based water research and public opinion consultancy led by Dr. Todd Votteler.

This year's survey was developed and disseminated with assistance and participation from **Texas' top water trade associations and NGO's** including AWWA Texas Section, the Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT), the Texas Rural Water Association, the Texas Water Foundation, and the Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA).

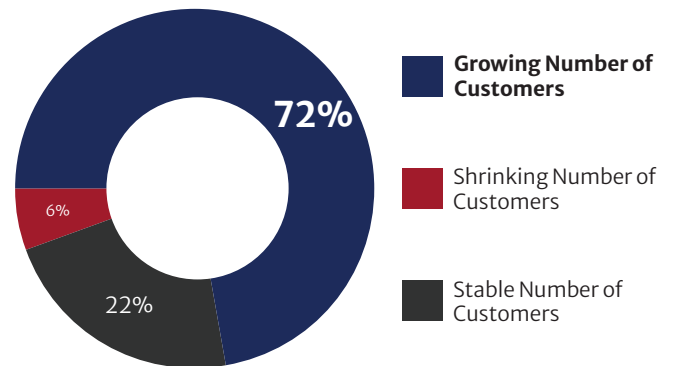
This was the third annual survey conducted by TXWIN and Water Opinions, which was originally used to identify key trends and challenges in water infrastructure needs and decisions factors **driving investment in Texas water infrastructure** during the height of the COVID pandemic.

Amidst a continuing Texas **drought and water infrastructure failures** capturing national attention, this year's survey once again asked Texas water utilities to **identify key areas of concern** and needs driving investment decisions.

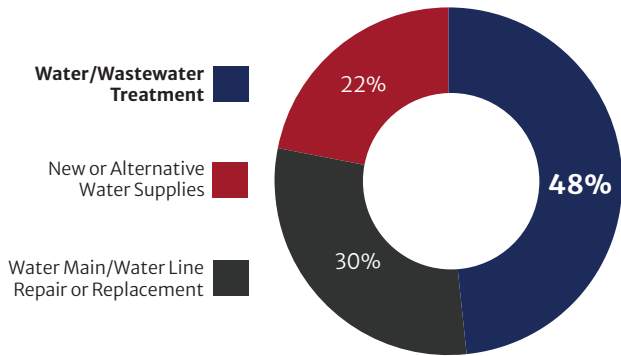
According to the survey results, over **70% of the utilities** that responded indicated that the **number of customers that they served were growing**. A similar number of utilities implemented water conservation plans and drought related restrictions during 2022.

Workforce issues, inflation, aging infrastructure, and regulatory compliance are also on the minds of water utilities who further **identified key areas of need**, including water and wastewater treatment infrastructure, aging pipes, and developing new or alternative water supplies as their top priorities.

What Is the Best Description of You Utilities Customer Base?



Please Select Your Utilities' Current Highest Priority Infrastructure Needs.



Despite challenging times, **most utilities have indicated that they have actively committed funds for capital improvements** in FY 22/23 with many utilizing over-subscribed state and federal infrastructure funding and financial assistance.

The Texas Water Development Board continues to be the preferred “go-to” entity for financial assistance. However, the “strings attached” to state-administered Federal funds discouraged some **32% of responding utilities with infrastructure needs** from applying because the application process and administrative process is “**too cumbersome.**”

Remarkably, **nearly 90% of respondents** indicated that they would **consider applying for non-federal funding** assistance through the Texas Water Development Board if the Texas Legislature were to make additional funding available.

Also of note, **62% of respondents cited continuing concern about the reliability of the Texas electric grid** with **39% citing concern about the impacts of climate change** from a “supply, demand, or operational perspective.”

According to TXWIN Executive Director Perry L. Fowler, these survey results only **reinforce what the Texas water infrastructure sector is experiencing.** “The results of this year’s survey validate that the factors driving water infrastructure investment are not changing anytime soon. Part of the solution is **increasing the amount of funding from the State of Texas for water projects** to make them affordable. The Legislature and Texas Water Development Board have made great strides by enhancing our ability to meet our water infrastructure needs through programs such as SWIFT, but we can always do better.”

Fowler further stated, “**TXWIN members are overcoming the challenges of the day** working with water utilities in a high-risk environment under volatile market conditions hampered by supply chain and inflationary issues to **deliver critical water projects.** However, in a growing state with a leading world economy that depends on stable water supplies and reliable infrastructure. Texas is investing **less than 30% of what we put into transportation projects** annually which demonstrates an **historic trend of under-investment** that simply cannot continue. **It’s time to reevaluate our commitment to water infrastructure** funding to ensure that our communities can make affordable investments in our water infrastructure because the health, safety, and economic prosperity of Texas depend on it.”

To view survey results please [CLICK HERE](#).

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