



WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

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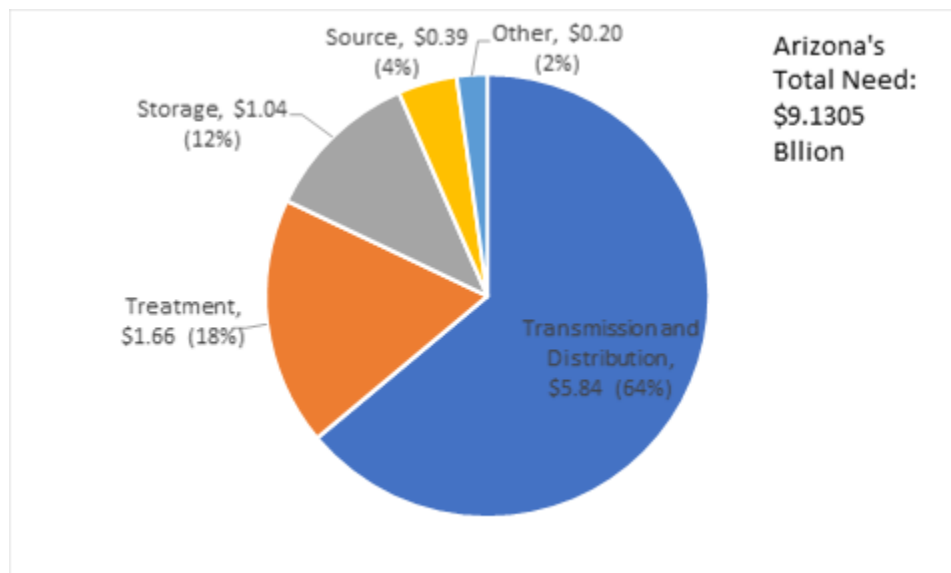
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WIFA anticipates increase in funding available for Arizona's drinking water projects

PHOENIX (May 17, 2018) - Every four years, the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) takes part in a very important data collection effort to help capture the national drinking water infrastructure needs for the next 20-year horizon. After extensive data analysis, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) delivered the 2015 Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment to Congress.

The 2015 Assessment shows **\$472.6 billion** is needed to maintain and improve the nation's drinking water infrastructure over the next 20 years. Investments are needed for thousands of miles of pipe, as well as thousands of treatment plants, storage tanks, and other key assets to ensure the public health, security, and economic well-being of cities, towns, and communities.

Arizona's long-term drinking water infrastructure replacement and rehabilitation needs total **\$9.1 billion**, with distribution and transmission, treatment, and storage as the top three need categories, consistent with the national outlook. Most water system needs are not directly related to violations, rather are ongoing investments that systems must make to continue delivering safe drinking water to their customers, for example, the replacement or rehabilitation of leaking water mains.



The EPA allots Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) capitalization grants to each state based on the findings of the most recent Assessment. WIFA manages Arizona's State Revolving Funds and anticipates it will receive an estimated \$20 million in grant funding from EPA for fiscal year 2019. The additional funding is based on a federal omnibus spending bill to help state and local governments fund water treatment and other infrastructure. The bill includes an additional \$300 million for the DWSRF, increasing funding by approximately 30%. Because WIFA has bonding authority and is able to leverage its funding, the funds received from EPA are just a portion of its financial portfolio.

With the additional funding, WIFA can assist more communities with vital investments in infrastructure needed to improve water quality and protect public health. To that end, WIFA is marketing [new initiatives and program improvements](#), such as lower rates, longer loan terms, Capital Improvement Plan Financing, and streamlined projects. These program changes are designed to increase loan demand and provide communities with more investment tools.

For more information on EPA's *6th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment*, visit [EPA's Assessment website](#).

About WIFA

WIFA is a governmental organization dedicated to protecting public health and promoting environmental quality through financial assistance for water and wastewater infrastructure. WIFA offers funding for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater projects designed to ensure safe, reliable drinking water and proper wastewater treatment. Over the last 25 years, WIFA has invested over \$2 billion in Arizona's communities.

For more information, please visit WIFA's website at azwifa.gov.

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