

Orange County public water systems

3
systems are Failing or At-Risk
8% of all systems in the county profile

Status classification Share of listed systems, followed by the count, reported population, and funding in each status.

	Failing	At-Risk	Potentially At-Risk	Not At-Risk	Not Assessed
Systems	0	3	0	23	14
Population	0	372	0	888,509	2,306,240
Funding since 2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12M	\$41M

Key figures

40
public water systems

3,195,121
reported population

12%
serve 500 people or fewer

\$53M
reported funding since 2017

System locations

Points show reported system locations. They do not represent service-area boundaries.



Each point represents one system record. Nearby or overlapping points can conceal multiple systems.

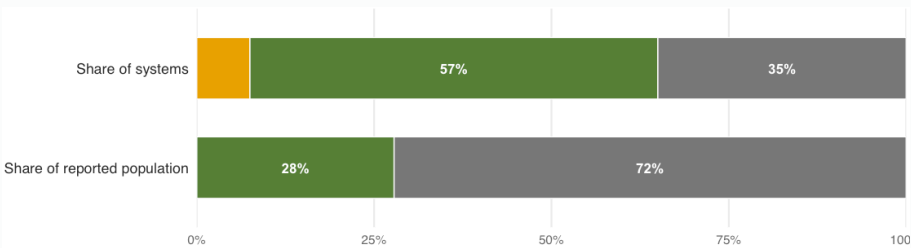
Summary

Orange County has 40 public water systems in the SAFER dataset. Of these, 3 (8%) are classified as Failing or At-Risk.

Those systems report serving 372 people. The county profile is also shaped by small systems: 5 systems serve 500 people or fewer.

14 systems are listed as Not Assessed, serving 2,306,240 people, so Not Assessed should not be read as a low-risk classification.

Reported funding since 2017 totals \$53M across 7 systems. Technical assistance funding totals \$6K.



System counts and reported population

Not Assessed systems make up 35% of listed systems and 72% of reported population. That population sits in a few large systems outside the SAFER assessment's scope, which generally have more capacity, so this reflects scope rather than hidden risk.

Risk profile

Risk in Orange County is distributed across four dimensions. Water Quality contributes the largest share of the combined weighted risk score at 41%. Across all individual indicators, Total net annual income appears most often, affecting 13 of 26 assessed systems.

Water Quality

41%

of combined weighted risk

State 32% · ▲ 9 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

Emerging contaminants

Accessibility

10%

of combined weighted risk

State 36% · ▼ 27 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

Limited water sources

Affordability

25%

of combined weighted risk

State 17% · ▲ 7 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

Household socioeconomic burden

TMF Capacity

25%

of combined weighted risk

State 15% · ▲ 10 pts

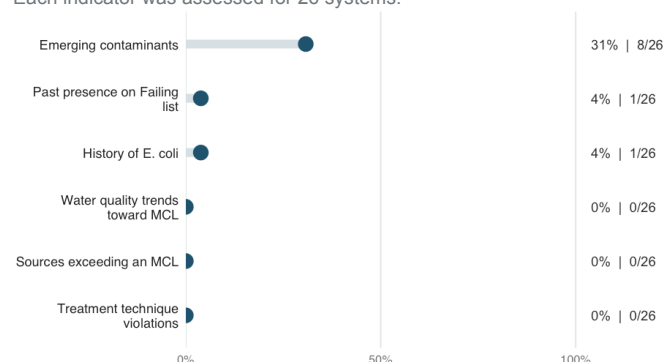
MOST COMMON FLAG

Total net annual income

Water Quality

Water Quality accounts for 41% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Emerging contaminants appears in 8 of 26 assessed systems. Past presence on Failing list is next, appearing in 1 of 26 assessed systems.

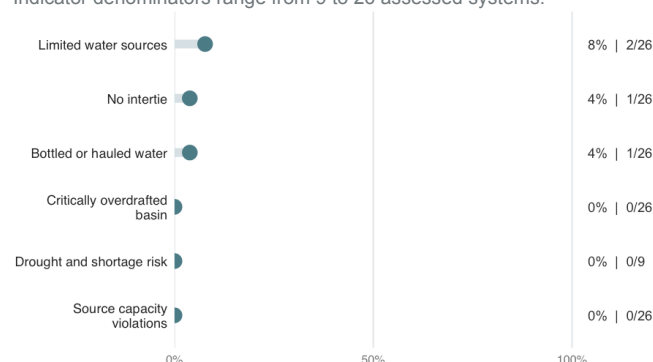
Each indicator was assessed for 26 systems.



Accessibility

Accessibility accounts for 10% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Limited water sources appears in 2 of 26 assessed systems. No intertie is next, appearing in 1 of 26 assessed systems.

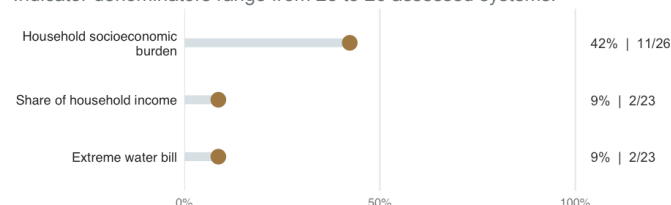
Indicator denominators range from 9 to 26 assessed systems.



Affordability

Affordability accounts for 25% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Household socioeconomic burden appears in 11 of 26 assessed systems. Share of household income is next, appearing in 2 of 23 assessed systems.

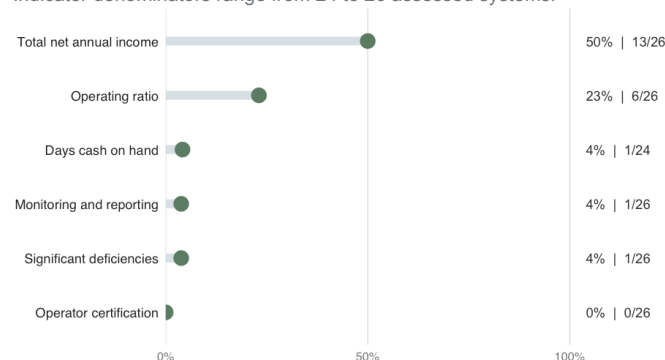
Indicator denominators range from 23 to 26 assessed systems.



TMF Capacity

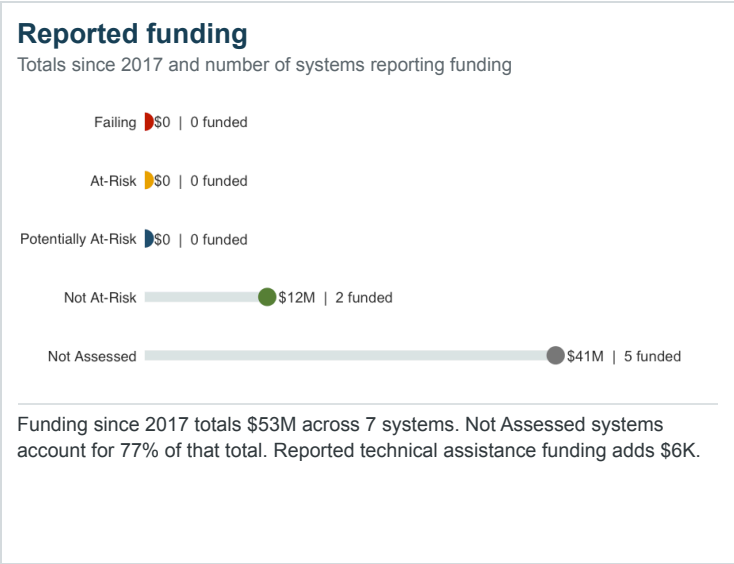
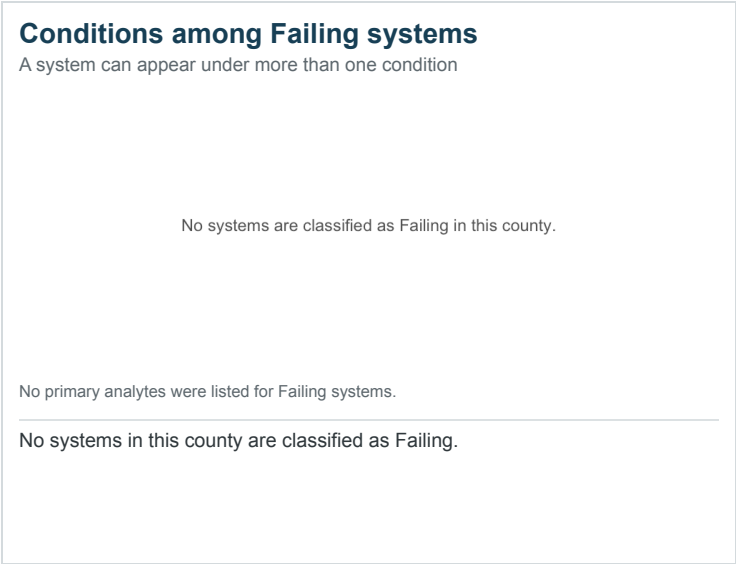
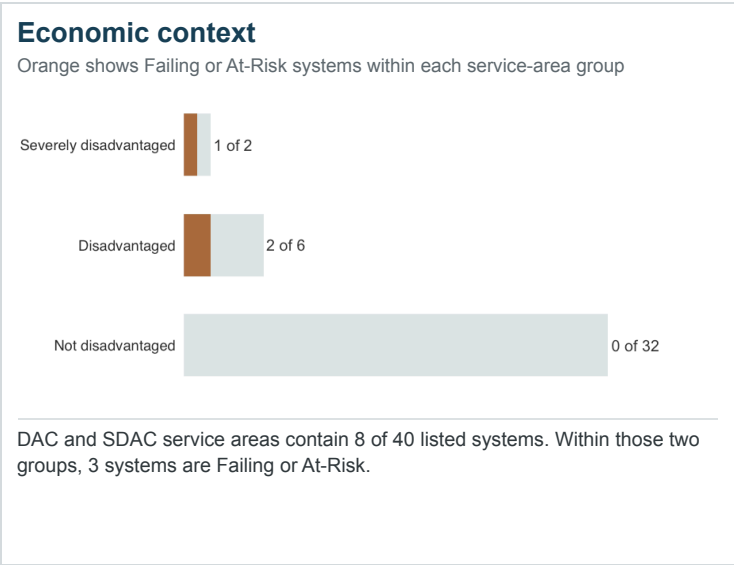
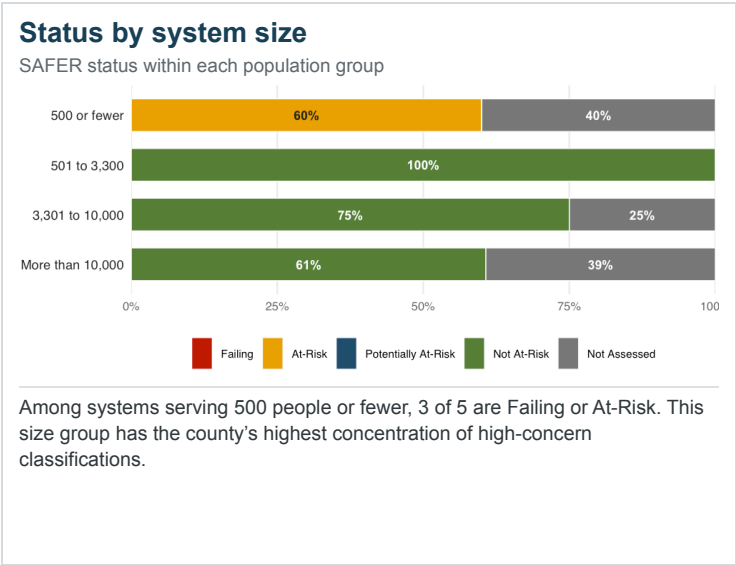
TMF Capacity accounts for 25% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Total net annual income appears in 13 of 26 assessed systems. Operating ratio is next, appearing in 6 of 26 assessed systems.

Indicator denominators range from 24 to 26 assessed systems.



Patterns and context

The countywide totals hide important differences among systems. The panels below show how SAFER status varies by system size and service-area economic status, what conditions appear among Failing systems, and how reported funding is distributed across the 40 systems in Orange County.



Key takeaways

8%
of systems are Failing or At-Risk

That represents 3 systems reporting service to 372 people. That is below the statewide average of 33%.

41%
of weighted risk comes from Water Quality

The most widespread individual flag is total net annual income, found in 13 of 26 assessed systems. Statewide, Water Quality accounts for 32% of weighted risk.

12%
of systems serve 500 people or fewer

Small systems account for 5 of the county's 40 listed systems. That is below the statewide average of 61%.



Interactive SAFER dashboard
For system-level data and current maps, see the State Water Board's SAFER dashboard. Scan the code or visit waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/saferdashboard.html.