

Santa Clara County public water systems

13
systems are Failing or At-Risk
16% 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	9	4	5	55	6
Population	1,093	308	1,582	535,522	1,539,585
Funding since 2017	\$2M	\$0	\$0	\$1M	\$0

Key figures

79
public water systems

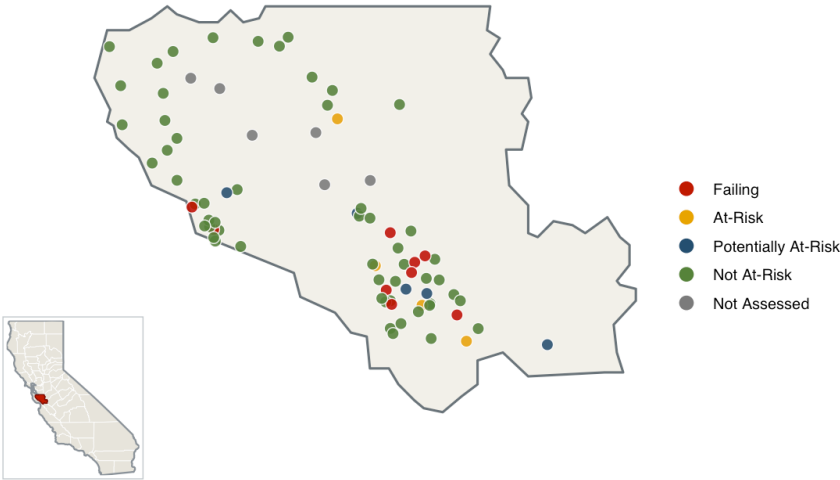
2,078,090
reported population

75%
serve 500 people or fewer

\$3M
reported funding since 2017

System locations

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



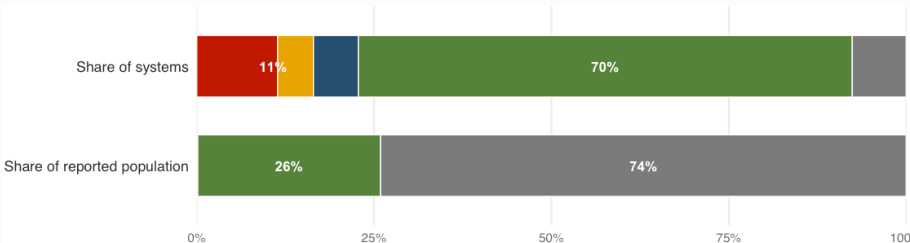
Each point represents one system record. Nearby or overlapping points can conceal multiple systems.

Summary

Santa Clara County has 79 public water systems in the SAFER dataset. Of these, 13 (16%) are classified as Failing or At-Risk. Those systems report serving 1,401 people. The county profile is also shaped by small systems: 59 systems serve 500 people or fewer. 6 systems are listed as Not Assessed, serving 1,539,585 people, so Not Assessed should not be read as a low-risk classification. Reported funding since 2017 totals \$3M across 2 systems. Technical assistance funding totals \$406K.

System counts and reported population

Not Assessed systems make up 8% of listed systems and 74% 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.



Santa Clara County | Public water system SAFER profile

Risk profile

Risk in Santa Clara County is distributed across four dimensions. Accessibility contributes the largest share of the combined weighted risk score at 49%. Across all individual indicators, No intertie appears most often, affecting 44 of 73 assessed systems.

Water Quality

25%

of combined weighted risk

State 32% · ▼ 7 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

Water quality trends toward MCL

Accessibility

49%

of combined weighted risk

State 36% · ▲ 13 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

No intertie

Affordability

11%

of combined weighted risk

State 17% · ▼ 7 pts

MOST COMMON FLAG

Extreme water bill

TMF Capacity

15%

of combined weighted risk

State 15% · ▲ 1 pts

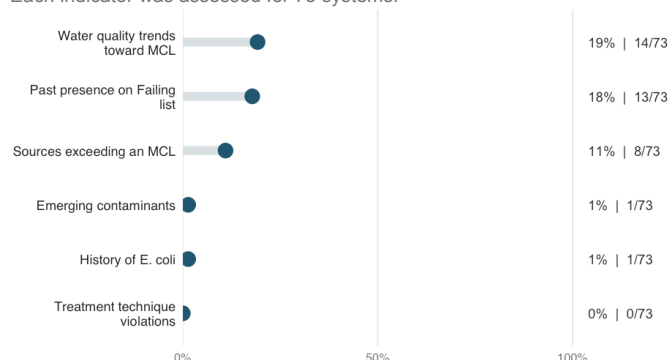
MOST COMMON FLAG

Total net annual income

Water Quality

Water Quality accounts for 25% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Water quality trends toward MCL appears in 14 of 73 assessed systems. Past presence on Failing list is next, appearing in 13 of 73 assessed systems.

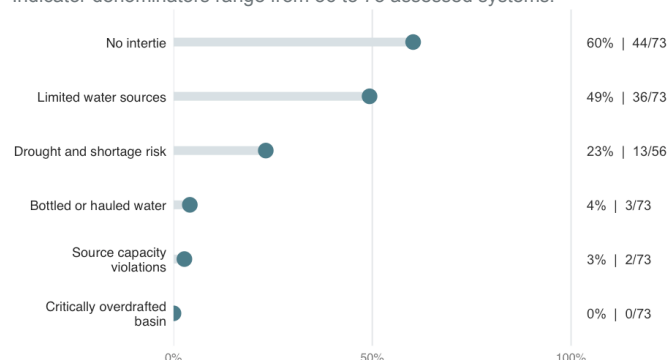
Each indicator was assessed for 73 systems.



Accessibility

Accessibility accounts for 49% of the county's combined weighted risk score. No intertie appears in 44 of 73 assessed systems. Limited water sources is next, appearing in 36 of 73 assessed systems.

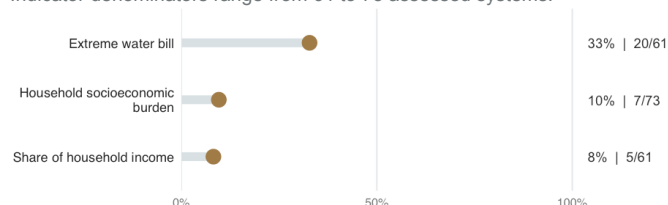
Indicator denominators range from 56 to 73 assessed systems.



Affordability

Affordability accounts for 11% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Extreme water bill appears in 20 of 61 assessed systems. Household socioeconomic burden is next, appearing in 7 of 73 assessed systems.

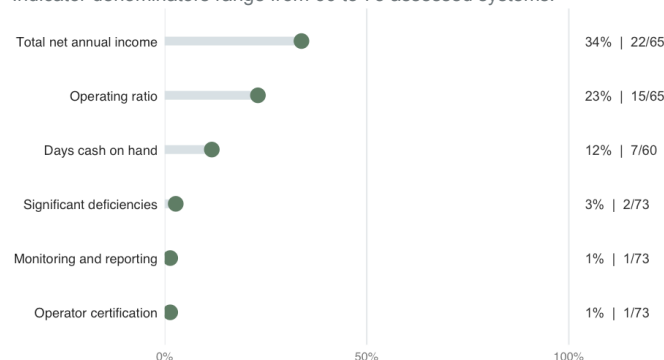
Indicator denominators range from 61 to 73 assessed systems.



TMF Capacity

TMF Capacity accounts for 15% of the county's combined weighted risk score. Total net annual income appears in 22 of 65 assessed systems. Operating ratio is next, appearing in 15 of 65 assessed systems.

Indicator denominators range from 60 to 73 assessed systems.

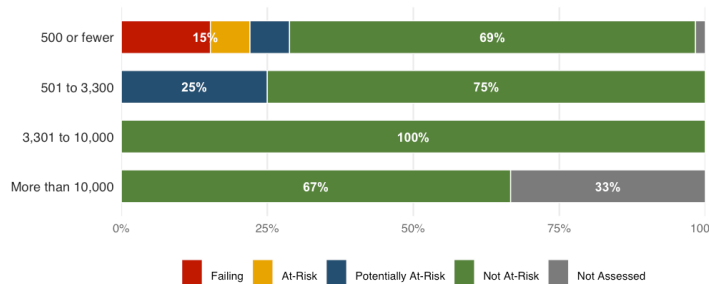


Patterns and context

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 79 systems in Santa Clara County.

Status by system size

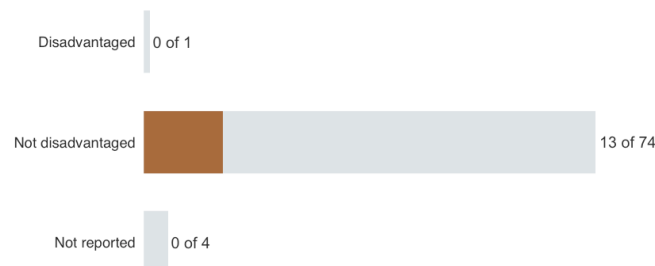
SAFER status within each population group



Among systems serving 500 people or fewer, 13 of 59 are Failing or At-Risk. This size group has the county's highest concentration of high-concern classifications.

Economic context

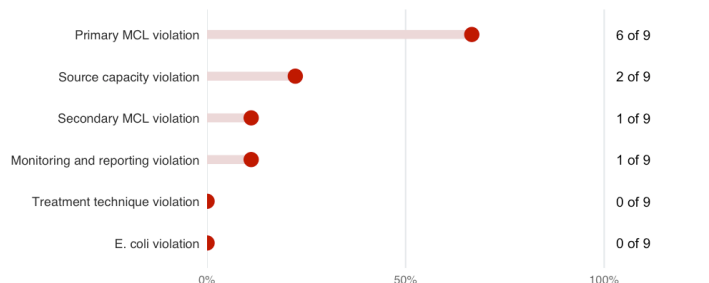
Orange shows Failing or At-Risk systems within each service-area group



DAC and SDAC service areas contain 1 of 79 listed systems. Within those two groups, 0 systems are Failing or At-Risk.

Conditions among Failing systems

A system can appear under more than one condition



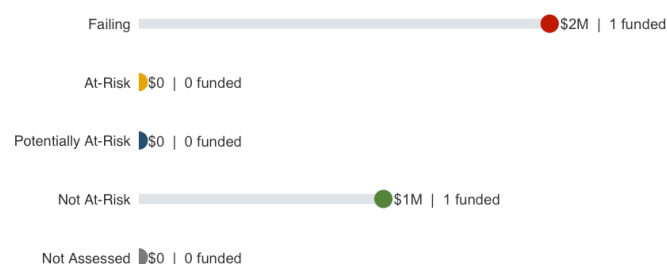
Frequently listed primary analytes

Nitrate	5	Total Haloacetic Acids (Haa5)	1
Tthm	1		

Among 9 Failing systems, 6 report primary MCL violation. The most frequently listed primary analytes are Nitrate, Total Haloacetic Acids (Haa5), and Tthm.

Reported funding

Totals since 2017 and number of systems reporting funding



Funding since 2017 totals \$3M across 2 systems. Failing systems account for 63% of that total. Reported technical assistance funding adds \$406K.

Key takeaways

16%

of systems are Failing or At-Risk

That represents 13 systems reporting service to 1,401 people. That is below the statewide average of 33%.

49%

of weighted risk comes from Accessibility

The most widespread individual flag is no intertie, found in 44 of 73 assessed systems. Statewide, Accessibility accounts for 36% of weighted risk.

75%

of systems serve 500 people or fewer

Small systems account for 59 of the county's 79 listed systems. That is above 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.