



Adapting to Change: Utility Systems and Declining Flows

January 16, 2018



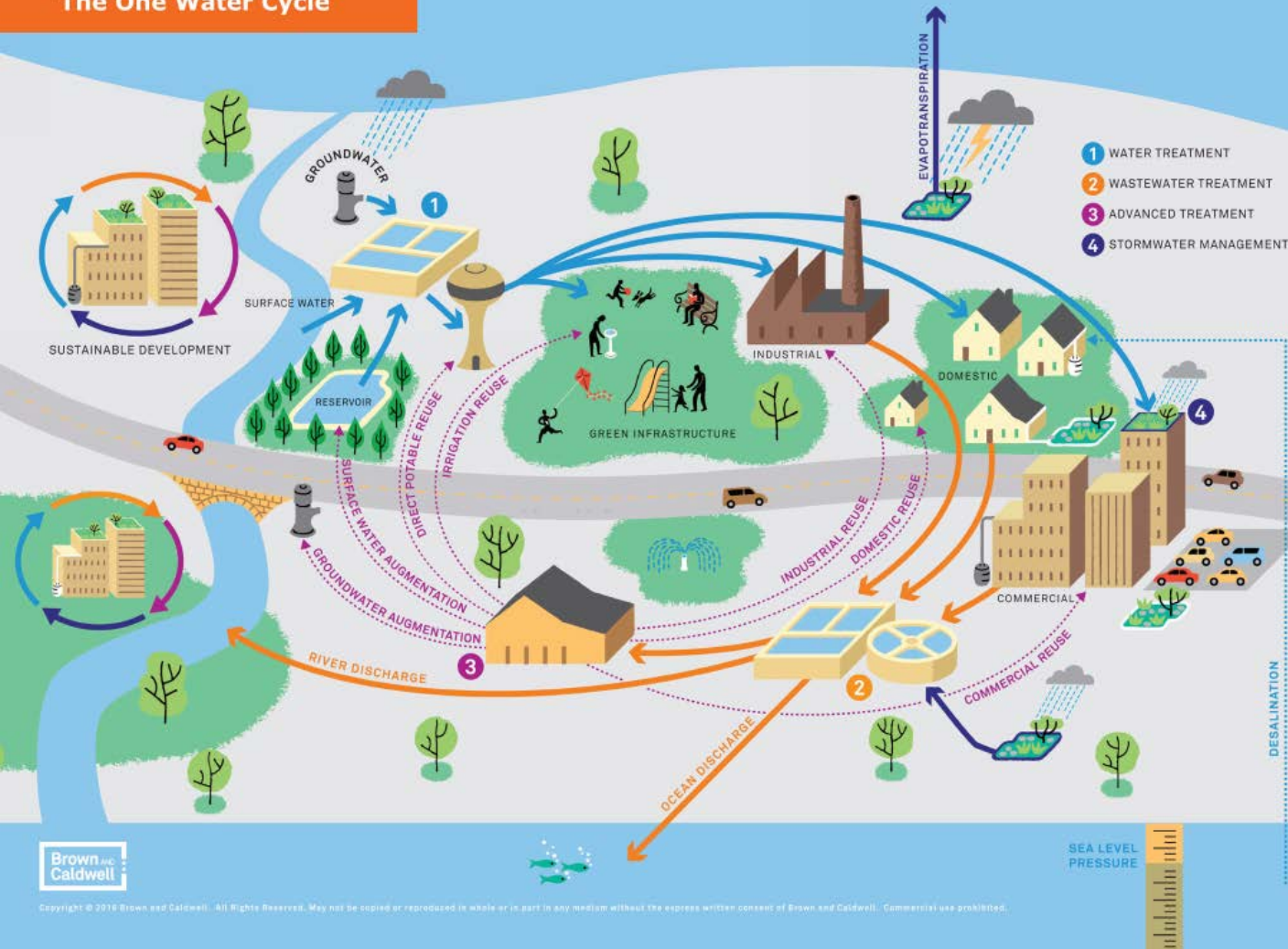


Our objective is to leverage utility experiences to inform water use efficiency (WUE) policy

- Californians successfully responded to the call to reduce water use during the recent drought.
- Significant reduction in water demands revealed some impacts from declining flows.
- Observations **offer a preview** into the potential impact of establishing permanent indoor water use targets at or below the thresholds achieved during the emergency conservation mandate.

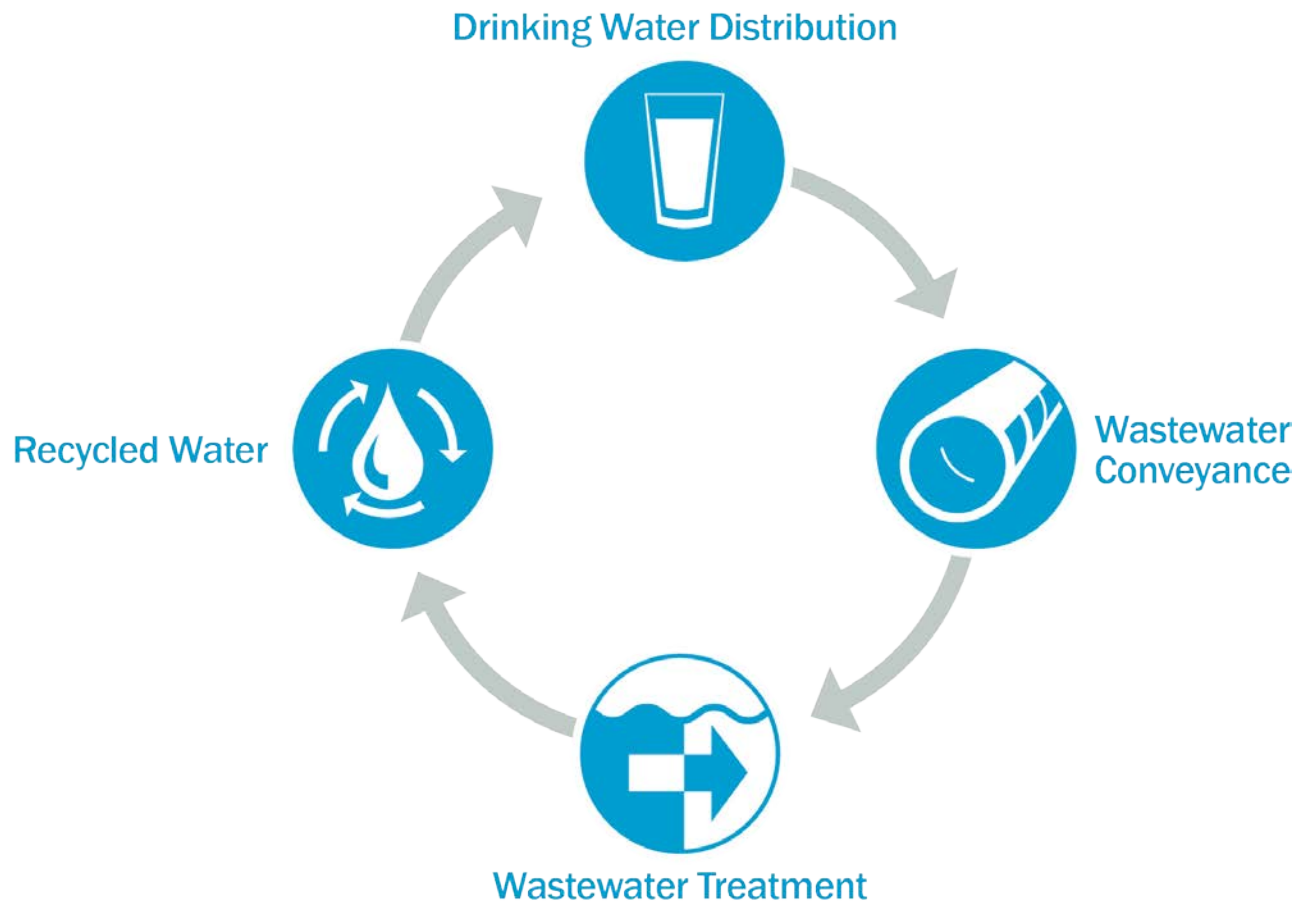
CUWA supports a holistic approach to addressing California's water supply challenges

The One Water Cycle



Understanding how WUE strategies affect the interconnected water supply system is critical to optimizing future water management.

Research reveals declining flows have impacts on the interconnected urban water cycle



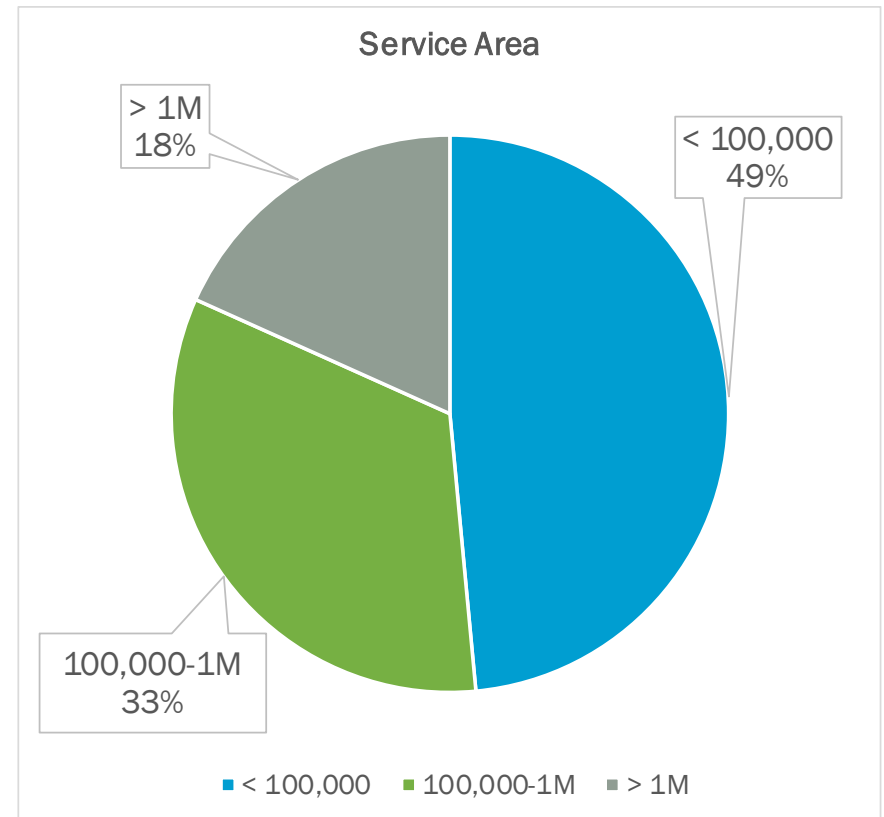
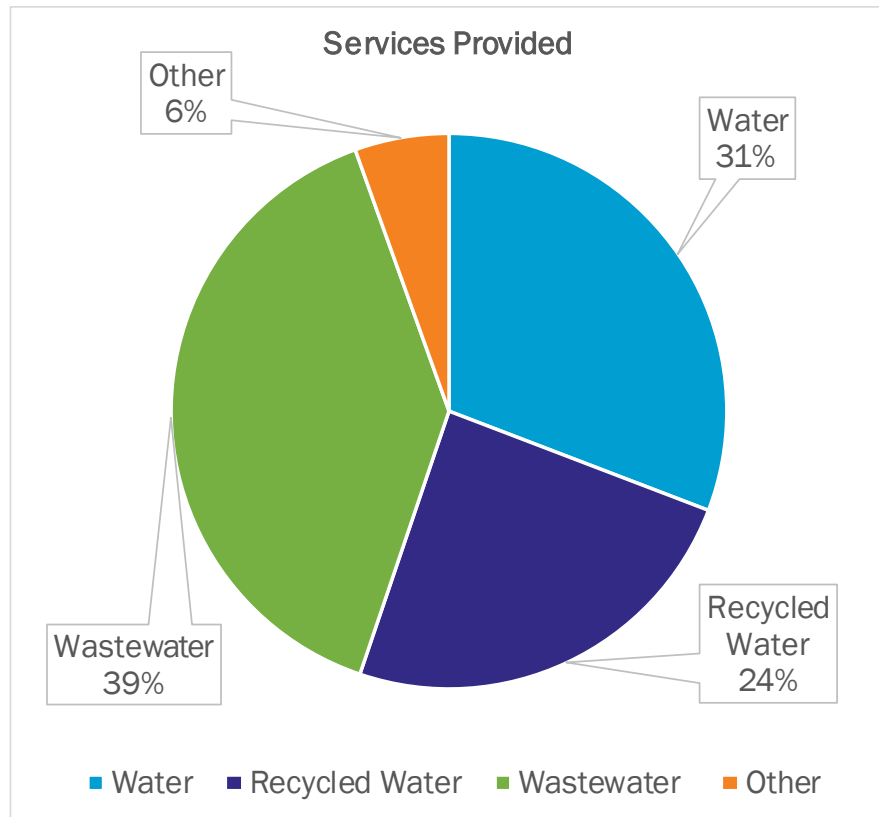
CUWA is working with collaborative partners to better understand these impacts



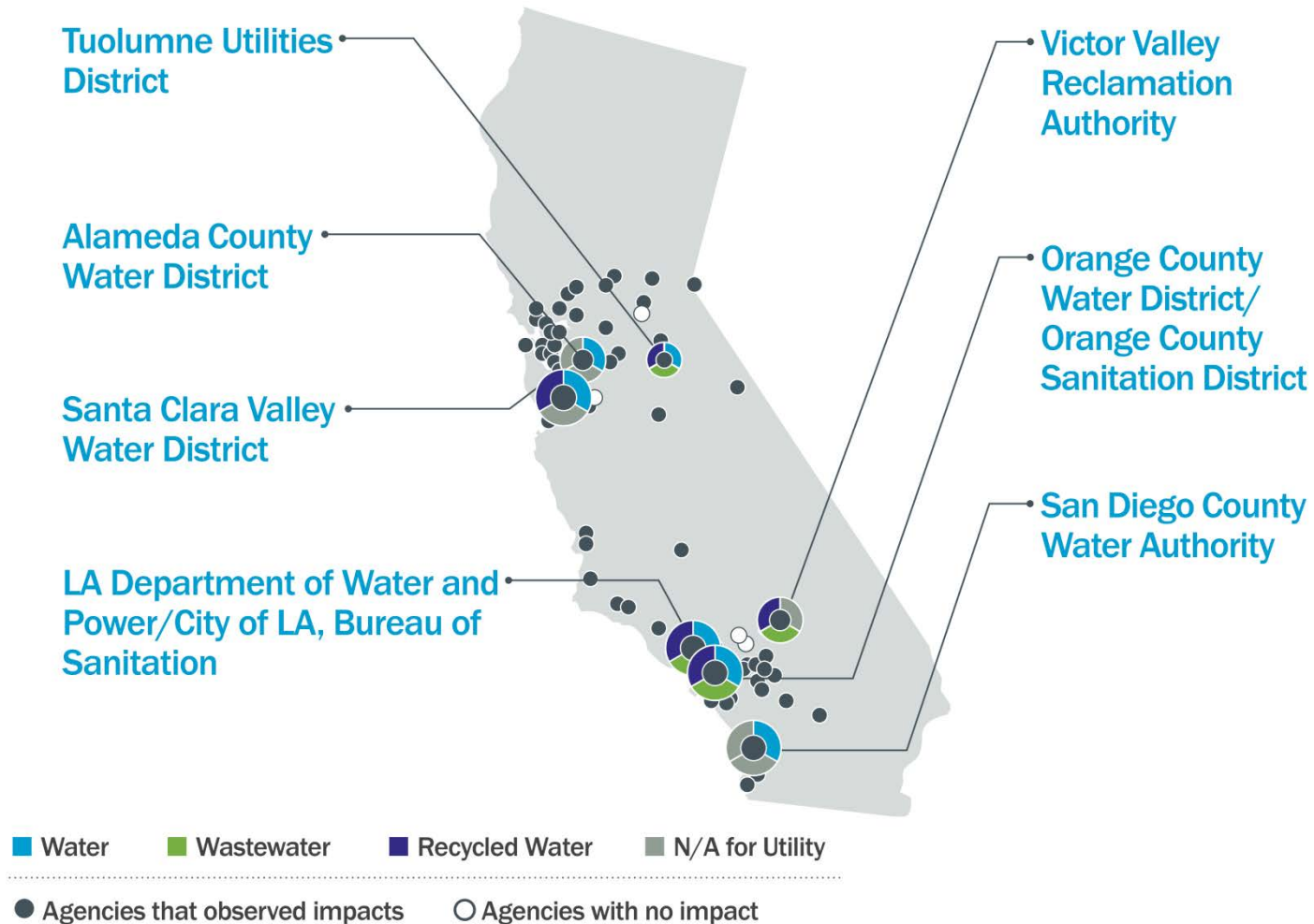
California
Water
Environment
Association



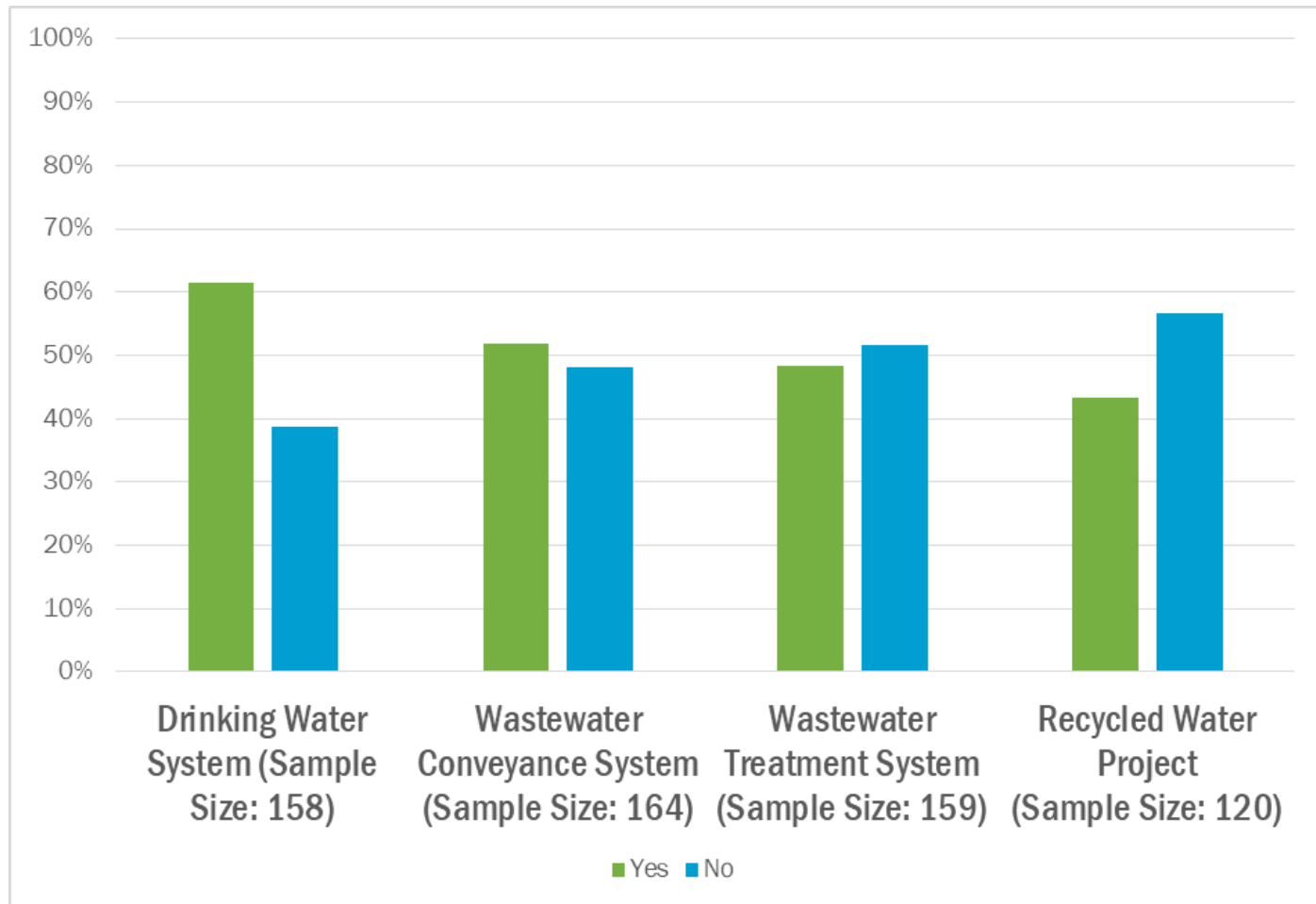
The high-level survey provided nearly 300 representative viewpoints



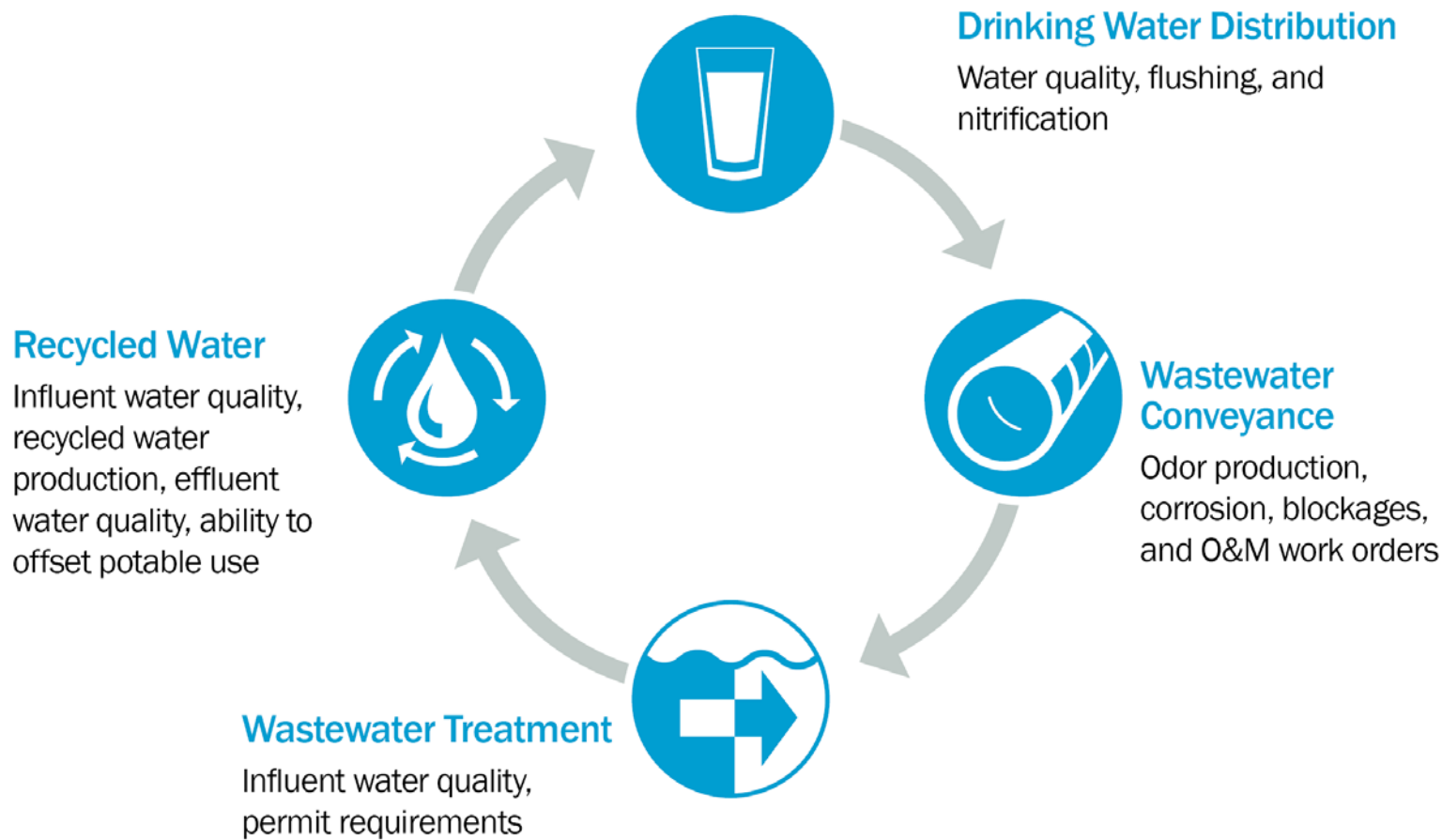
Many utilities are feeling the impacts and working to adapt



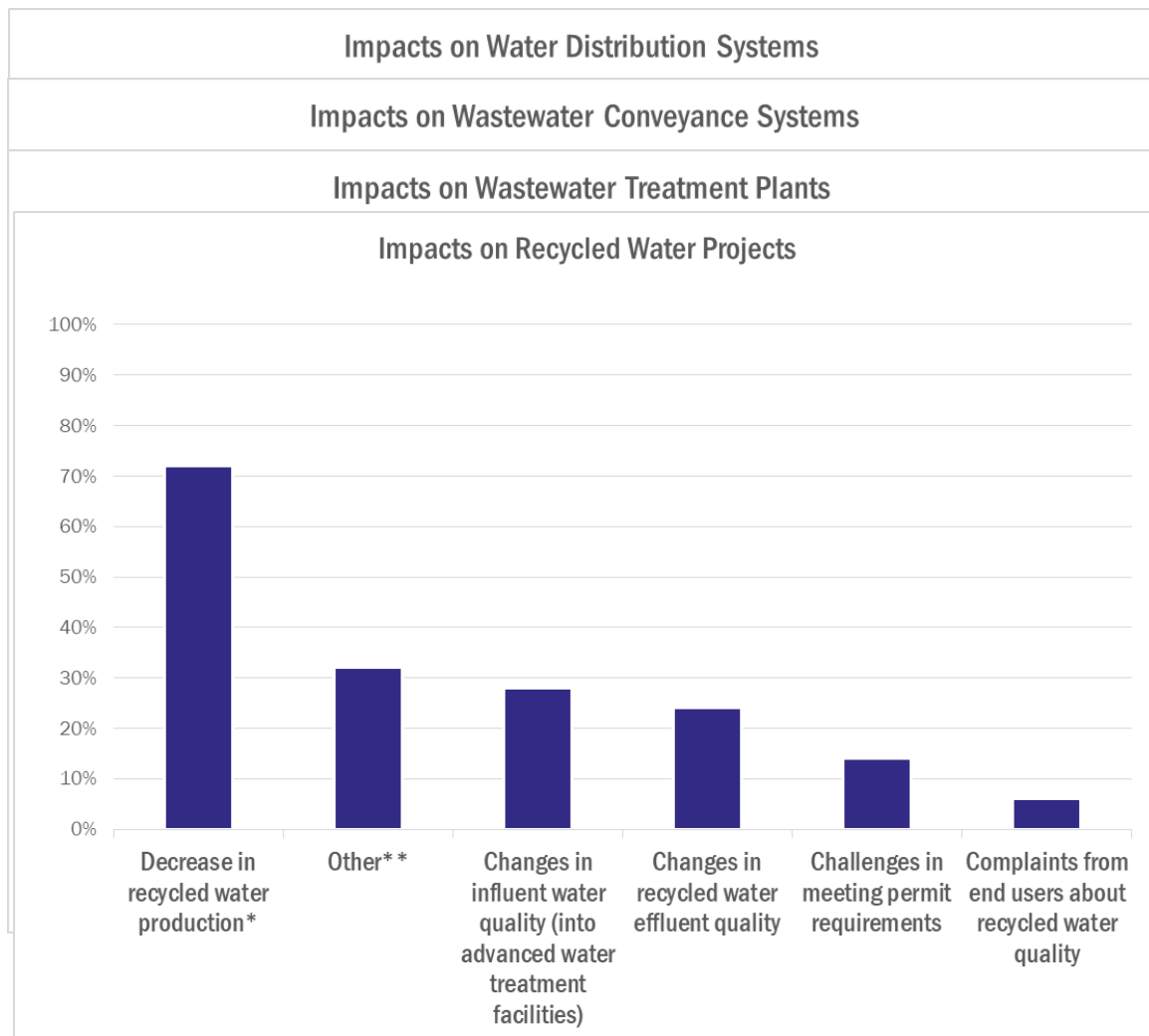
Nearly half of survey respondents have experienced impacts of declining flows



Impacts from declining flows experienced in all elements of the urban water cycle



The survey provided insights into the most significant impacts within each type of system



Of the impacted water system respondents, **49% reported operational challenges** in water distribution systems due to low flows.

Of the impacted wastewater conveyance respondents, **50% indicated increased solids deposition, odor problems, and O&M challenges.**

Of the impacted wastewater treatment respondents, **68% indicated changes in wastewater influent quality.**

Of the impacted recycled water respondents, **70% indicated a decrease in recycled water production.**

Questions?

The white paper and policy principles is available for download at the CUWA website (www.cuwa.org).



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