

# Federal Finance Issues for Water

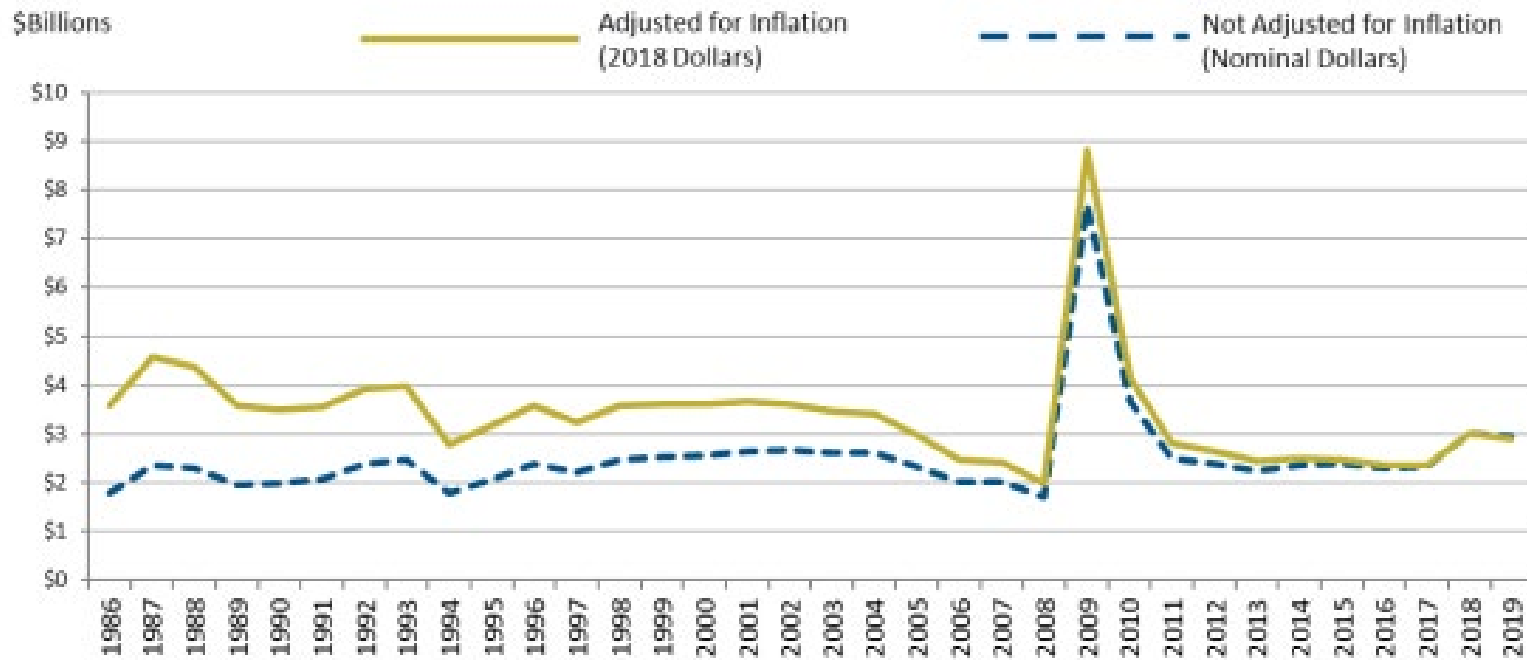


**Susan Iott**  
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GAO Reviews of

# **WATER FINANCE**

## CRS TABLE OF EPA STATE REVOLVING FUND APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEARS 1986 THROUGH 2020



Federal Support for

# **ASSET MANAGEMENT**

## EPA and USDA Asset Management

- 2008 Framework for Asset Management
  - *Identify*
    - Assets and condition
    - Desired service level
    - Critical assets
    - Life cycle costs
    - Long-term funding plan
- Used in small utility training
- 5 components

## GAO recommended

- EPA and USDA issue lessons learned
- EPA track use of AM by utilities



Federal Assistance for

# **SMALL RURAL UTILITIES**

# Small and Rural Utilities Rely on Technical Assistance

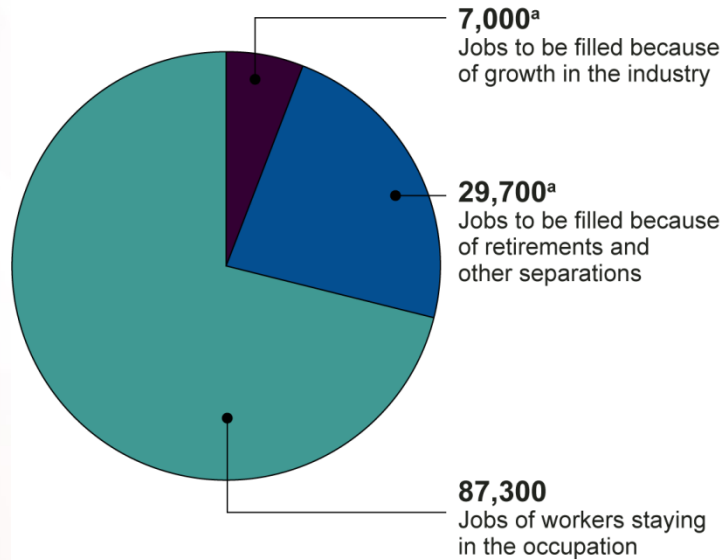


- Rely on consultants to design and build projects.
- Federal agencies provide technical assistance such as circuit riders to build and manage projects.



# Small and Rural Utilities Need Assistance to Build Workforce

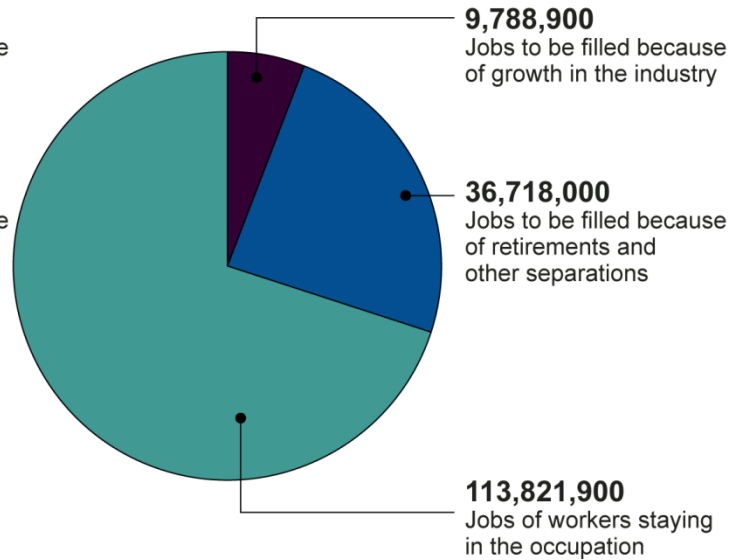
Projected number of water operator jobs



2014 – Total number of jobs (117,000)  
 2024 – Total number jobs (124,000)

Source: GAO analysis of BLS data. | GAO-18-102

Projected number of jobs for all occupations



2014 – Total number of jobs (150,593,900)  
 2024 – Total number jobs (160,328,800)

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# Small and Rural Utilities Need Assistance Building Climate Resilience

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## Relocation of Iowa City's North Wastewater Treatment Due to 2008 Flooding



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## List of GAO Reports

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- GAO-15-567, State Revolving Funds: Improved Financial Indicators Could Strengthen EPA Oversight
- GAO-16-237, Water Infrastructure: EPA and USDA Are Helping Small Water Utilities with Asset Management; Opportunities Exist to Better Track Results
- GAO-18-102, Water and Wastewater Workforce: Recruiting Approaches Helped Industry Hire Operators, but Additional EPA Guidance Could Help Identify Future Needs
- GAO-20-24, Water Infrastructure: Technical Assistance and Climate Resilience Planning Could Help Utilities Prepare for Potential Climate Change Impacts

# Questions?

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