

Iowa League of Cities Utility Rates Survey 2020

Start of Block: Iowa League of Cities Utility Rates Survey 2020

Iowa League of Cities Utility Rates Survey 2020

The Iowa League of Cities requests your participation in a survey about local utility rates. Please complete this survey by no later than December 9, 2020.

Please contact Erin Mullenix, Research Director at the League, at erinmullenix@iowaleague.org, if you have any questions or technical difficulties related to this survey. Thank you in advance for your participation!

By including your contact information below, you allow the League to contact you to clarify understanding of survey responses, if necessary. Additionally, those participants that provide an email will receive a copy of the survey results after they have been compiled (approx January).

Which city, county, or local organization do you represent? (Please type only the city/organization name and do NOT precede with "City of" etc.)

Your Name _____

Your Email _____

Does your city have a municipal water/wastewater utility?

Yes

No

Skip To: End of Survey If Does your city have a municipal water/wastewater utility? = No

End of Block: Iowa League of Cities Utility Rates Survey 2020

Start of Block: Water Rate Information

Residential Water Consumption Information

How many residential users do you provide water service to?

Do you have a minimum charge for residential water consumption?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for residential water consumption? = Yes

About the minimum rate...

What is the cost of the minimum charge for residential water consumption (monthly rate in dollars)?

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for residential water consumption? = Yes

Which unit of measurement do you use?

- Gallons
- Cubic Foot
- Other (please describe): _____

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for residential water consumption? = Yes

How many units of water can a resident use to still only be charged this minimum amount?
(Enter number only)

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for residential water consumption? = Yes

What is the actual rate per unit charged after the minimum is met?

Residential Water Consumption Example for Comparison Across Communities...

Note: Please answer the following with the amount that you would charge if a resident in your community had the following amount of water consumption in one month.

Cost to customer (monthly rate in dollars). Enter numbers only, without the

dollar sign or other characters.

If the 5,000 gallons and 10,000 gallons structure do not apply (for example, if you use cubic feet, etc.) leave those lines blank and describe or note under "other structure."

5,000 Gallons of Water _____

10,000 Gallons of Water _____

Other Structure (please describe with cost)

End of Block: Water Rate Information

Start of Block: Commercial Water Information

Commercial Water Consumption Information

How many commercial users do you provide water service to?

Do you have a minimum charge for commercial water consumption?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for commercial water consumption? = Yes

About the minimum rate...

What is the cost of the minimum charge for commercial water consumption (monthly rate in dollars)?

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for commercial water consumption? = Yes

Which unit of measurement do you use?

- Gallons
- Cubic Foot
- Other (please describe): _____

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for commercial water consumption? = Yes

How many units of water can a commercial user use to still only be charged this minimum amount? (Enter number only)

Display This Question:

If Do you have a minimum charge for commercial water consumption? = Yes

What is the actual rate per unit charged after the minimum is met?

Commercial Water Consumption Example for Comparison Across Communities...

Please answer the following with the amount that you would charge if a commercial customer

(monthly rate in dollars) in your community had the following amount of water consumption in one month.

If the 25,000 gallons and 200,000 gallons structure do not apply (for example, if you use cubic feet, or do not have customers at those thresholds) leave those lines blank and describe or note under "other structure."

25,000 Gallons of Water _____

200,000 Gallons of Water (or mark N/A)

Other Structure (please describe with cost)

What are these rates based on? (select any that apply, and enter description/text if applicable)

Basic cost of service _____

Rate is higher because the city is paying off water utility debt. How much debt?

Rate is higher because the city is saving towards an upcoming water utility debt. How much debt? _____

Other _____

If you sell water to another utility, system, home owners association, etc., please describe to whom and your rate structure:

Wastewater Rate Information

How many users do you provide wastewater service to?

Residential Users _____

Commercial Users _____

Residential Wastewater Information

What is the average wastewater bill for your residential customers (representing 1 month use)?

For residential wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If For residential wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

About the minimum/flat rate...

What is the cost of the minimum charge for residential wastewater consumption (monthly rate in dollars)?

Display This Question:

If For residential wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

About the minimum/flat rate...

How many units can a resident dispose of to still only be charged the minimum, flat rate amount?

Display This Question:

If For residential wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

Which unit of measurement do you use?

Gallons

Cubic Foot

Other (please describe): _____

Display This Question:

If For residential wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

What is the actual rate per unit charged after the minimum is met?

Residential Wastewater Consumption Example for Comparison Across Communities...

Only fill in the line(s) that correspond to your community's rate structure (percentage of water usage, or per 1,000 gallons). Leave any lines blank that correspond to methods listed that do not apply.

If by percentage of water usage, please type/describe the structure - cost and for what percentage use. If you have a rate structure other than either percentage of water usage or by gallons of water, please describe it in the "other structure" field.

Percentage of Water Usage (monthly rate in dollars)

Per 1,000 Gallons of Water (monthly rate in dollars)

Other Structure (please describe with cost):

What are these rates based on? (select any that apply, and enter description/text if applicable)

Basic cost of service _____

Rate is higher because the city is paying off wastewater utility debt. How much debt?

Rate is higher because the city is saving towards an upcoming wastewater utility debt. How much debt? _____

Other _____

Page Break _____

Commercial Wastewater Information

What is the average wastewater bill for your commercial customers (representing 1 month use)?

For commercial wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate?

- Yes
- No

Display This Question:

If For commercial wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

About the minimum/flat rate...

What is the cost of the minimum charge for commercial wastewater consumption (monthly rate in dollars)?

Display This Question:

If For commercial wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

About the minimum/flat rate...

How many units can a commercial user dispose of to still only be charged the minimum, flat rate amount?

Display This Question:

If For commercial wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

Which unit of measurement do you use?

- Gallons
- Cubic Foot
- Other (please describe): _____

Display This Question:

If For commercial wastewater consumption, do you have a minimum/flat rate? = Yes

What is the actual rate per unit charged after the minimum is met?

Commercial Wastewater Consumption Example for Comparison Across Communities...

Only fill in the line(s) that correspond to your community's rate structure (percentage of water usage, or per 1,000 gallons). Leave any lines blank that correspond to methods listed that do not apply.

If by percentage of water usage, please type/describe the structure - cost and for what percentage use. If you have a rate structure other than either percentage of water usage or by gallons of water, please describe it in the "other structure" field.

- Percentage of Water Usage (monthly rate in dollars)

- Per 1,000 Gallons of Water (monthly rate in dollars)

- Other Structure (please describe with cost):

What are these rates based on? (select any that apply, and enter description/text if applicable)

Basic cost of service _____

Rate is higher because the city is paying off wastewater utility debt. How much debt?

Rate is higher because the city is saving towards an upcoming wastewater utility debt.
How much debt? _____

Other _____

End of Block: Wastewater Rate Information

Start of Block: Stormwater Rate Information

Stormwater Rate Information

Does your city have a stormwater utility or charge a separate fee for collecting stormwater?

Yes

No, but we would like to start one

No

Display This Question:

*If Stormwater Rate Information Does your city have a stormwater utility or charge a separate fee f...
= Yes*

What is the basic charge for stormwater (monthly rate per unit)?

Residential users _____

Commercial users _____

Display This Question:

If Stormwater Rate Information Does your city have a stormwater utility or charge a separate fee f...
= Yes

Which unit of measurement do you use?

- Gallons
- Cubic Foot
- Square footage of property (please describe):

- Other (please describe): _____

Display This Question:

If Stormwater Rate Information Does your city have a stormwater utility or charge a separate fee f...
= Yes

What are these rates based on?

End of Block: Stormwater Rate Information

Start of Block: Solid Waste Utility Information

Solid Waste/Recycling Utility Information

Does your city provide city-owned garbage?

- Yes
- No

Display This Question:

If Solid Waste/Recycling Utility Information Does your city provide city-owned garbage? = Yes

What is the basic cost to the consumer for garbage (monthly rate in dollars)?

Do your residents pay for recycling?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Do your residents pay for recycling? = Yes

What is the basic cost to the consumer for recycling (monthly rate in dollars)?

End of Block: Solid Waste Utility Information

Start of Block: Utility Rate Survey, continued...

Has your city had to upgrade, replace or build new infrastructure over the last 5 years? Please note specifically what type of utility, what type of infrastructure (new plant, treatment technologies/methods, or other facilities or infrastructure), and what prompted this need (compliance, testing, etc.).

How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your utility rates? Or, at the current time, do you anticipate impacts to your utility rates or infrastructure due to COVID-19? Please be specific.

Do you have any other comments related to this survey?

You can submit your completed survey by clicking the "submit" button below. Once submitted, you will not be able to go back and view or change your answers. You may review or make changes before submitting by using the back arrows within the survey. Thank you for your participation in this survey!

End of Block: Utility Rate Survey, continued...
