



INTERSTATE WATER ORGANIZATIONS

Funding Models and Mechanisms
Survey Report



ICWP
INTERSTATE COUNCIL ON WATER POLICY

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ICWP Intern, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Funding Models and Mechanisms Survey Report

PAGE I: TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 1: SURVEY QUESTIONS AND GENERAL ANALYSIS

PAGE 2: AMERICA'S WATERSHED INITIATIVE

PAGE 3: DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

PAGE 4: INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN

PAGE 5: NEIWPC

PAGE 6: SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

PAGE 7: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION

PAGE 8: BUDGET REGULARITY AND COVID-19 DISCUSSION

This survey was conducted via email solicitation in March 2021. Organizations represented in this report voluntarily responded. Thank you to all participating organizations for your insight!

Survey Questions and General Analysis

QUESTION 1: REVENUE SOURCES

The responses from the participating organizations indicate a wide variety of funding sources, as well as a ranging diversity in the number of contributing funding sources represented in each individual budget.

All organizations surveyed received funding from public grants (Federal and/or State), while only two demonstrated funding sourced from either private grants or gift in their most recent budget.

QUESTION 2: PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

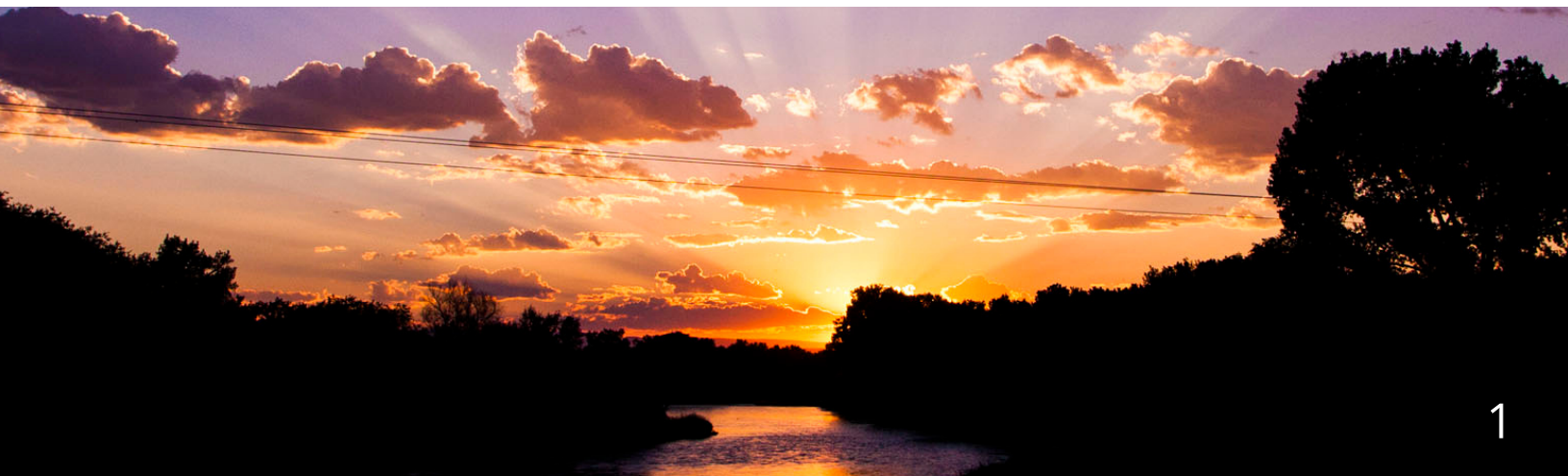
Of the organizations surveyed that did NOT have private gifts or grants represented among their funding sources in their most recent budget, none indicated a stated prohibition of accepting private partnerships, and many indicated the occurrence of such arrangements in the past.

QUESTION 3: PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING AS A CONDITION OF FINANCING

Most organizations indicated annual or quarterly performance based reporting was required as a condition of financing from grant money, be it public or private. Some organizations expressed reimbursement for costs associated with a grant financed project was conditional upon the sponsoring entities receipt and satisfaction with associated data and benchmark achievements .

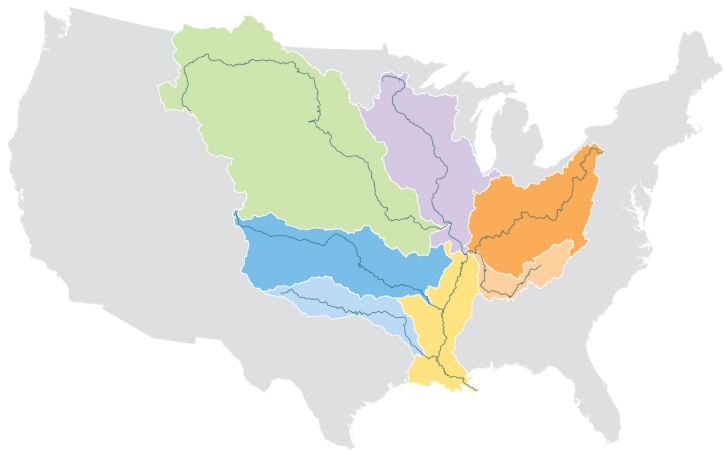
QUESTION 4: AREAS OF OBLIGATION OR RESPONSIBILITY

No organizations indicated the presence of areas of obligation/ responsibility inherent in there incorporating documents. Instead, some organizations have periodically updated goals that guide the composition of their project work, while others receive funding from signatory members that is categorized by purpose, and must be applied to projects as designated.



America's Watershed Initiative

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

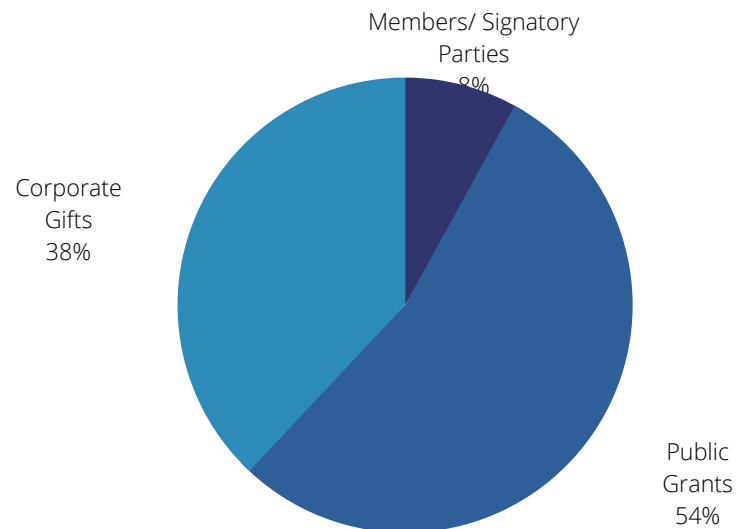
America's Watershed Initiative (AWI) is a collaboration working with hundreds of business, government, academic, and civic organizations to find solutions for the challenges of managing the Mississippi River and the more than 250 rivers that flow into it.

OVERVIEW OF FUNDING

As a non-governmental organization, AWI receives funding from its members, corporate gifts, and public grants.

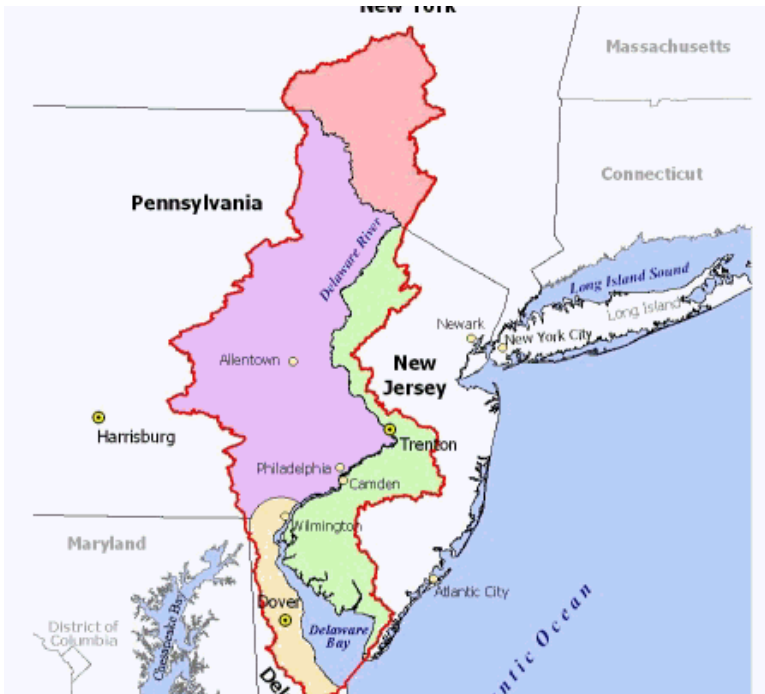
PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

AWI reports receiving grant funding from a private source that requires "extensive reporting against very specific performance standards." Such reporting includes benchmark metrics and dates, ensuring "x publications in Y time frame, x meetings with partners in y time frame, x number attending these meetings, etc." to ensure compliance with the parameters of the grant.



Delaware River Basin Commission

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

DRBC has partaken in a public-private partnership to fund outreach work in collaboration with the William Penn Foundation, a Philadelphia based grant-making charitable organization.

PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

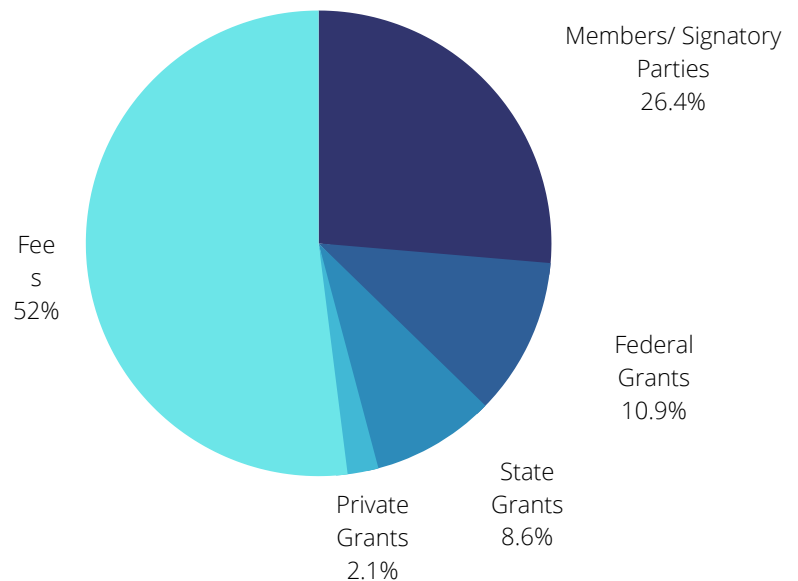
As a condition of their financing, several of DRBC's funding sources do require performance-based reporting.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The Delaware River Basin Commission is a regional body comprised of leaders from the four basin states of Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania, with the US Army Corp of Engineers providing Federal Representation. DRBC was founded to streamline and centralize planning in the Delaware Watershed.

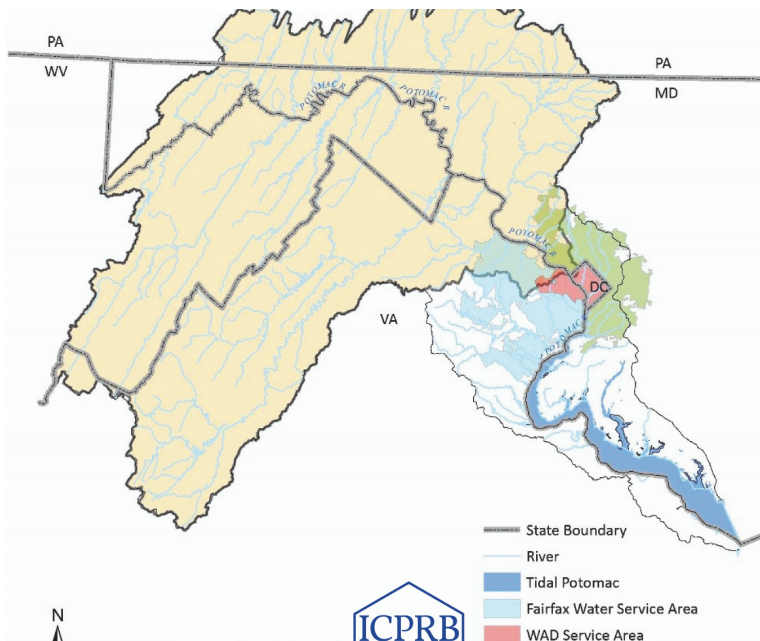
OVERVIEW OF FUNDING

DRBC has a diverse funding portfolio, with revenue garnered from fees, signatory parties, federal, state, and private grants



Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND



ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

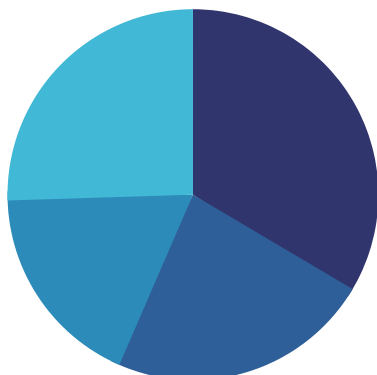
The mission of ICPRB is to protect and enhance the waters and related resources of the Potomac River basin through science, regional cooperation, and education.

Drinking Water Utility
Contributions
25.5%

Signatory
Parties
33.5%

Non-Federal
Grants
18%

Federal
Grants
22%



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

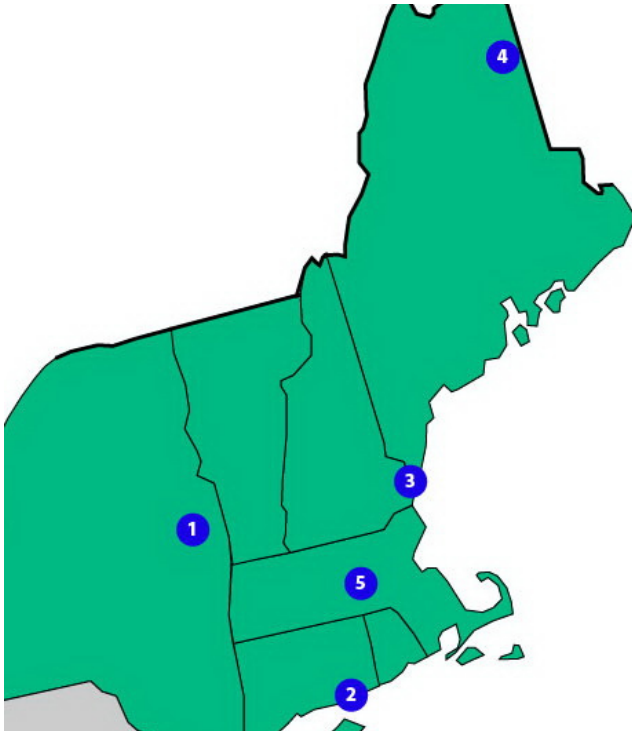
ICPRB participates in public-private partnerships with drinking water utilities for continuous program activities like the Potomac River Basin Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership and the ICPRB Section for Cooperative Water Supply Operations on the Potomac. Additionally they participate in public-private partnerships for specific science or research projects with partners such as The Nature Conservancy, Water Research Foundation, and the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities.

PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

CWA Section 106 and 117 grants, as well as project-specific grants typically require periodic reports of activities. Project milestones outcomes, and timelines are specified in the projects' scopes of work.

While the ICPRB's compact does not specify expectations for achievement, such expectations are spelled out in the basin-wide comprehensive plan, strategic plan, and annual workplans. .





ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. Their mission is to advance clean water in the Northeast through collaboration with, and service to, our member states.

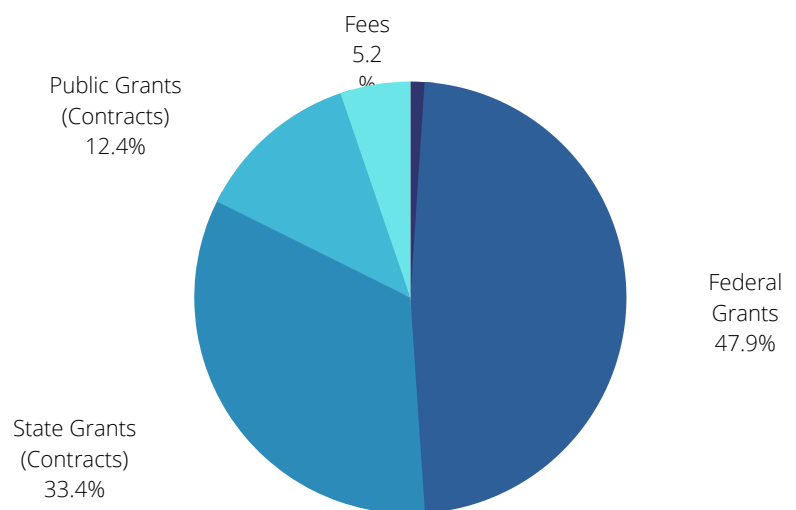
OVERVIEW OF FUNDING

NEIWPCC is primarily funded via Public, State, and Federal Grants.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

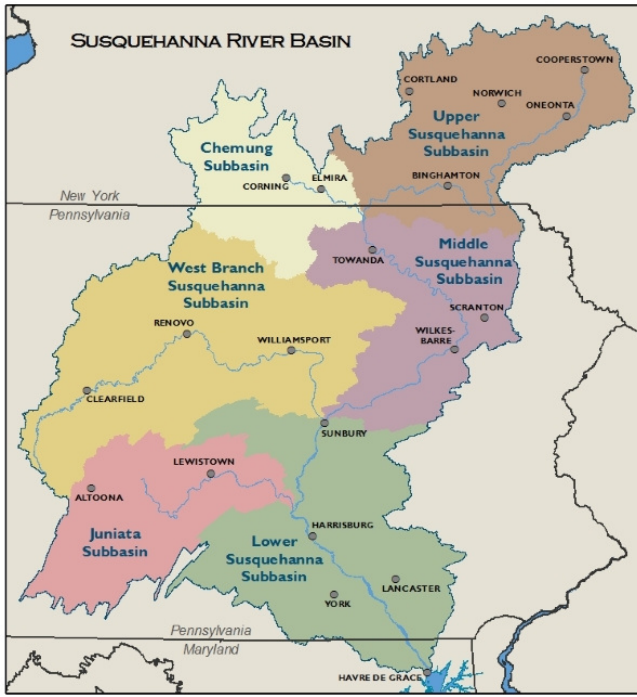
NEIWPCC has not partaken in any public-private partnerships. The organization has a funding guidance document which acts as a guideline for permitted funding sources. Their projects are driven by a work plan with an achieved outcome.

Some of NEIWPCC's funding sources do require performance-based reporting as a condition of financing. However, NEIWPCC's incorporating statutes do not include expectations of specific achievement in designated areas of responsibility or obligation.



Susquehanna River Basin Commission

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The mission of the Commission, which is defined in the Compact, is to enhance public welfare through comprehensive planning, water supply allocation, and management of the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.

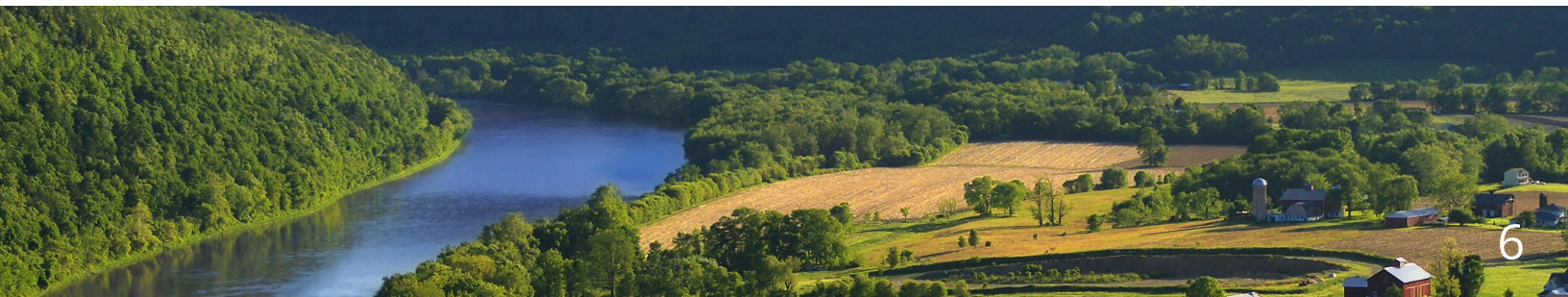
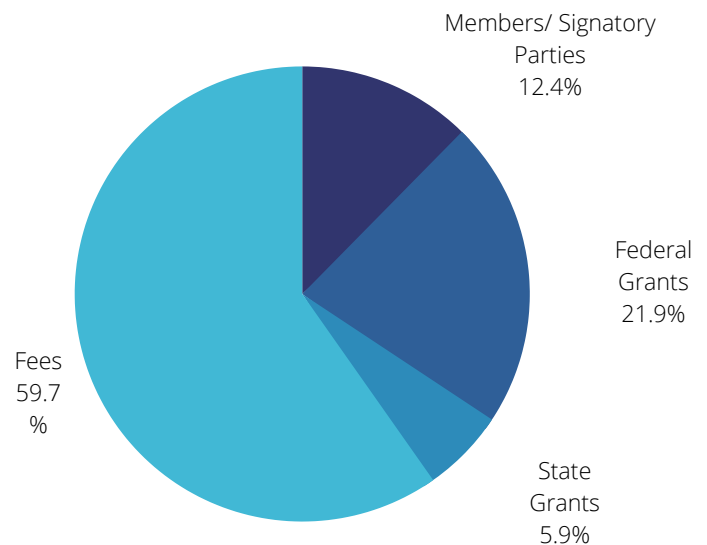
PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

Federal and State Grants that SRBC receives typically have a monthly or quarterly requirement for reporting on progress or deliverables, with reimbursements requiring completion of any interim/ final deliverables.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

SRBC has partaken in a handful of public-private partnerships, all in scenarios with very specific project goals. In partnership with the Nature Conservancy, SRBC investigates instream flow needs of basin waterways to develop recommended maximum allowable alteration to natural flow patterns

SRBC also partnered with a local municipal authority to develop accessible water storage in the authority-owned abandoned quarry to augment river flows during times of drought. Additionally, SRBC has worked with a variety of organizations (NGOs, industry, academic institutions) to establish and maintain a network of continuous water quality monitoring stations.



Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



Map courtesy of U.S. Geological Survey

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association is to facilitate dialogue and cooperative action regarding water and related land resource issues. The five member states of UMBRA are represented by gubernatorial appointees, while six Federal Agencies participate as advisory members.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

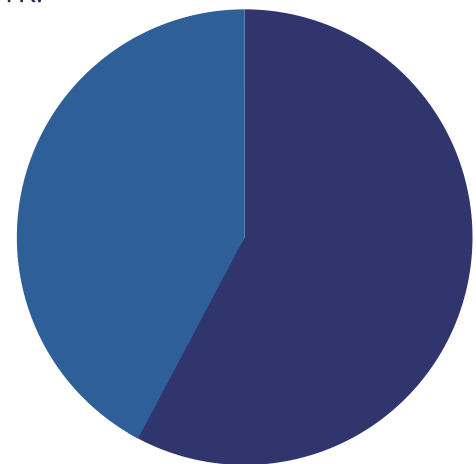
UMBRA has received U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Planning assistance with the States projects with nonprofit partners contributing in-kind staff resources to UMBRA's cost-share.

PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING

State dues that UMBRA receives require ongoing reporting of work being advanced through a strategic plan. Additionally, Federal grants are reimbursed back on receipts and description of work accomplished.

While UMBRA does not have designated expectations of achievement in areas of responsibility set forth in their articles of incorporation, UMBRA receives two sets of state dues, a general payment and water quality assessment dues, designated for water quality specific work.

Federal
Grants
42.3%



Member
S
57.8%



Budget Regularity and Covid-19 Pandemic Related Funding Outlook

After sending the initial funding survey, our team determined there was value in asking two follow-up questions of the participating organizations:

- 1. Was the 2020 budget standard compared to the preceding five years?
- 2. Do you anticipate budget impacts related to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic?

Organization Name	Budget Standard Compared to Preceding Years?	Impact on Budget from Covid-19 Pandemic Anticipated?
America's Watershed Initiative	AWI has been a 501c3 since 2018, so can't compare past budgets. Biggest new expense is hiring full-time staff.	1. Foundations that would normally fund have been eliminating grants for the fiscal year, reducing donations to new organizations, and focusing on COVID related funding. 2. Indication from private corporations that funding may diminish although it has not been demonstrated yet.
Delaware River Basin Commission	NO- DRBC modified their fiscal year 2021 (by delaying it for several months) in order for our Basin states to adopt their budgets.	No Anticipated Impacts
Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin	YES- Standard compared to preceding years.	No immediate anticipated funding impacts, although potential for trickle-down impact to Federal funding availability in the future.
NEIWPCC	YES- Standard compared to preceding years.	No Anticipated Impacts
Susquehanna River Basin Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member contributions have declined in preceding five years. • Unfavorable return on investments in 2020 compared to preceding years • Private gift of \$141,400 in 2017 to support instream monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent market rebound positive for investments. • Possibility that impacts-if any- will be more evident in fiscal year beginning July 2021. • Possibility that federal relief to states may support increased contributions
Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission	NO- Reduction in Travel and Meeting Costs, and Printed Materials as well as Postage	New technology for hosting hybrid in-person and remote meetings, unpredictability with respect to when travel and in-person meetings may resume, potential for recovery funds