



RCAC

Using Median Household Income Data for Water System Management

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Environmental
Finance Center
EPA REGION 10

Your Presenter Today...

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Who is in the room?



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Learning Objectives

- How to determine if your system could benefit from an income survey
- What are those benefits
- How you can develop a stronger capital improvement plan
- MHI process, how and when to get started
- Who should conduct the survey, and who's going to pay for it
- Q & A and Evaluation

Legal Actions Announced in Pinedale Water Tank Fatality



Local Water
Officials Facing
Allegations
of Negligence,
Mismanagement

Story on Page B3

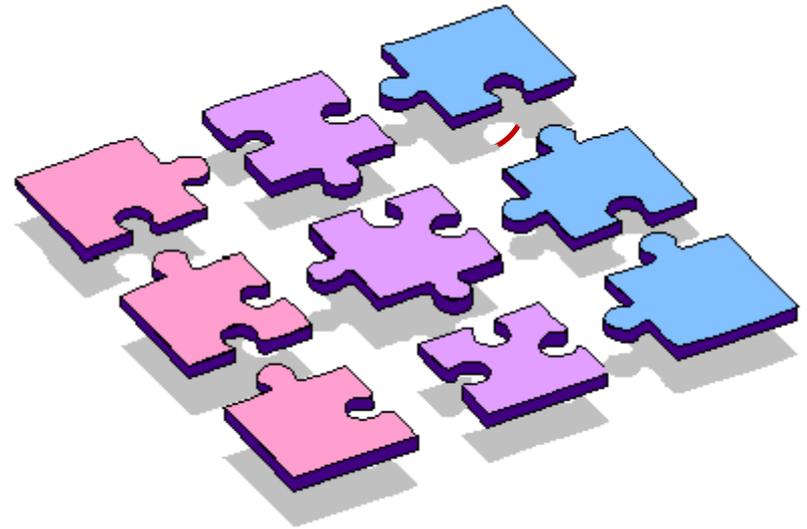
 www.rcac.org

Can your system benefit from an MHI

- Does your system have enough reserves to fund infrastructure replacement
- Have a future compliance project
- Planning to apply for funding
- Planning a rate increase
- A DAC/SDAC in the past

What are the benefits...

- Helps you develop a more solid plan for replacement of critical assets
- Determine if your system is indeed a DAC/SDAC
- Help determine an affordable service rate for your community
- Determine what type of funding is truly available to your system



A quick question

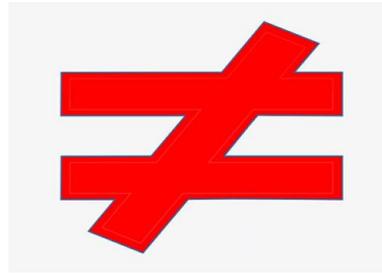
Is there a difference between the
American Community Survey and
the **2020 Census**?

*****Please type your answer into the chat box*****

And the answer is...

American Community Survey

- Conducted every month, every year
- Sent to a **sample** of addresses
- Asks about topics **not** on the 2020 Census, such as education, employment, and housing



2020 Census

- Conducted every 10 years
- Counts **every person** living in the 50 states, DC, and five US territories
- Also asks age, sex, race, etc

So where do you find census data?

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>

The screenshot shows the 'United States Census Bureau' logo and a search bar at the top. Below is a navigation menu with 'BROWSE FILTERS' including Topics, Geography (selected), Years, Surveys, and Codes. The 'GEOGRAPHY' section has a 'Show Summary Levels' toggle and a list of levels: Nation, Region, Division, State, County (selected), Tract, Block Group, and Block. The 'WITHIN (STATE)' section has a search icon and a dropdown for 'Within Other Geographies'. A list of states is shown, with 'California' selected. The 'CALIFORNIA' section has a 'Show Geographic Components' toggle and a list of counties, with 'San Joaquin County, California' checked.



Poll Time!

Do you feel your system would benefit from an income survey?

Using your MHI as a management tool

- Determine what your community can afford
- Understanding funding agencies criteria
- Plan better for the future
- Use the information to educate the board and customers
- Transparency
- Timing is everything

This is going to lock us into a project...

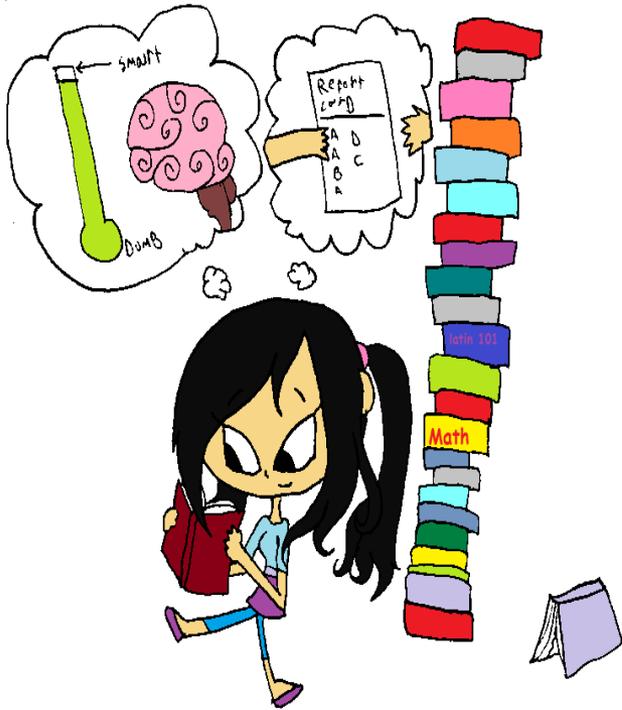
This plan isn't flexible...

This just means a rate increase....

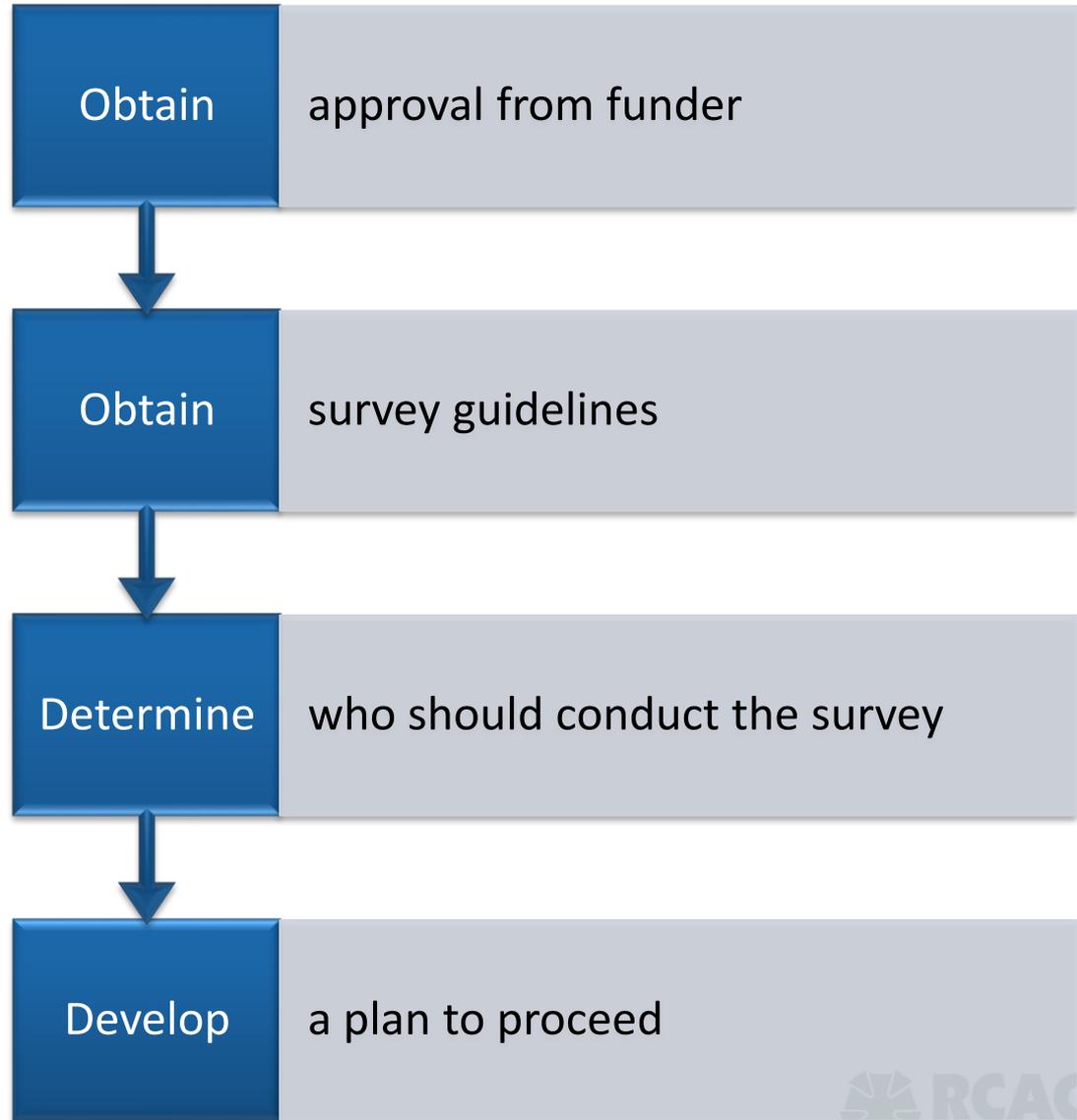
Your committing us to future debt....



MHI Process



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Poll Time!

Who can conduct a qualified survey?

Who pays for the survey?

- Check with your TAP's
- Verify with the funding agency if it's a reimbursable expense
- Check with your local University
- System contracts with a reliable impartial source

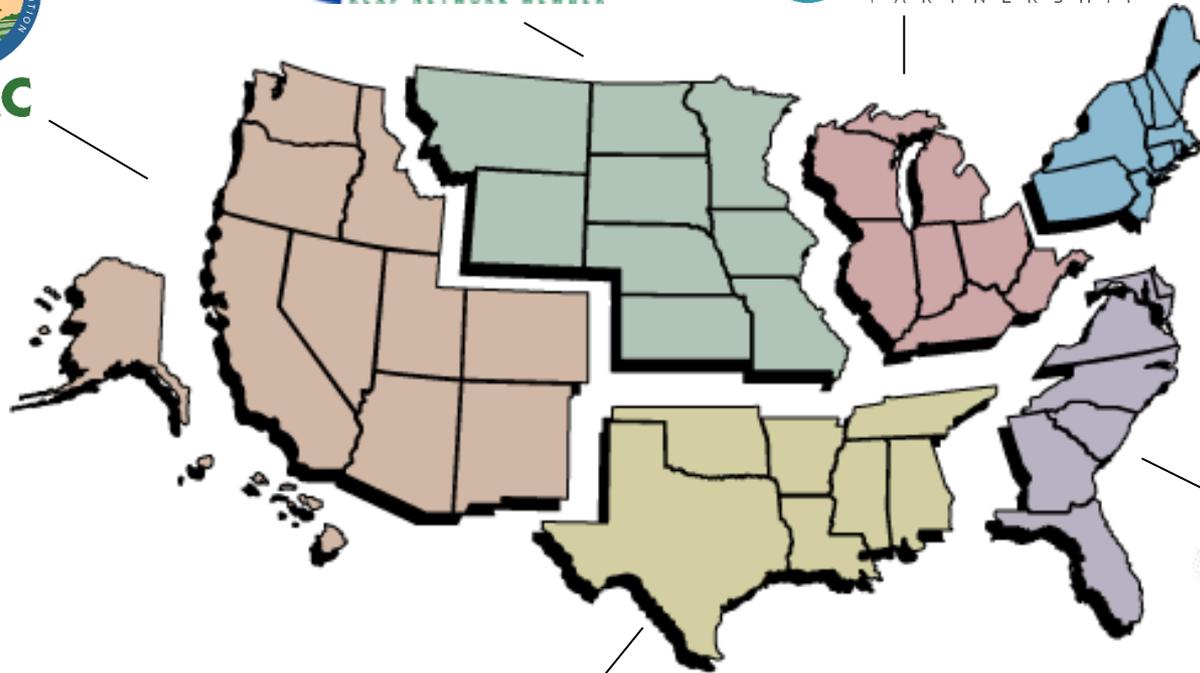
The Rural Community Assistance Partnership



Southeast Rural
Community Assistance
Project, Inc.



COMMUNITIES
Unlimited



Questions/Answers

