

New Jersey's Combined Sewer Systems By the Numbers

The Problem

The combined-sewer overflow (CSO) problem is significant

- 217** The number of places ("outfalls") in New Jersey where diluted raw sewage discharges into waterways
- 7 billion or 23 billion** The number of gallons per year of CSO discharge, depending on who you ask (a combined figure from 16 municipal reports or a 2012 estimate from the USEPA)
- \$2 billion to \$9.3 billion** The range of estimated costs of fixing the CSO systems, depending on who you ask (a combined figure from 15 municipal reports or a 2008 estimate from the USEPA)

Growing, Stressed, Challenged

New Jersey's cities are becoming the state's economic-growth engine

- 17** The percentage of the state's population living in combined-sewer cities
- 27** The percentage of New Jersey's population growth between 2008 and 2013 that took place within the 21 CSO cities
- 10** The employment growth rate in New Jersey's 21 CSO cities between 2003 and 2013 (more than double the state-wide employment growth rate of 4 percent)
- 20** The percentage of the state's population and employment growth projected for these urban areas between now and 2040
- 66** The percentage of the state's transit assets (as measured by weekday transit boardings) in these cities, making them attractive places for commercial investment
- 23.7** The percentage of the population in the 21 CSO municipalities aged 22 to 34. This age group comprises only 16.9 percent of the state's total population

New Jersey's combined-sewer cities have high fiscal distress levels

- 36** The percentage of the state's population below the poverty line that lives in these cities

Camden, Hoboken, Newark and Jersey City exemplify some of New Jersey's urban water challenges

- 541** The number of RiverLINE train delays in Camden in 2011 and 2012 due to water main breaks, rainstorms and other water-related events, accounting for 40 percent of total delays.
- 20** The average number of water main breaks per year in Hoboken since 2000, which come from pipes as much as 157 years old
- 70** The percent of Newark's land area that is covered by impervious surfaces where rainwater cannot be absorbed into the ground but instead flows into the underground combined sewer system
- 54** The diameter in inches of the Jersey City sewer main that ruptured in November 2014, suspending service on the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Line and sending raw sewage into the Hudson River for many days



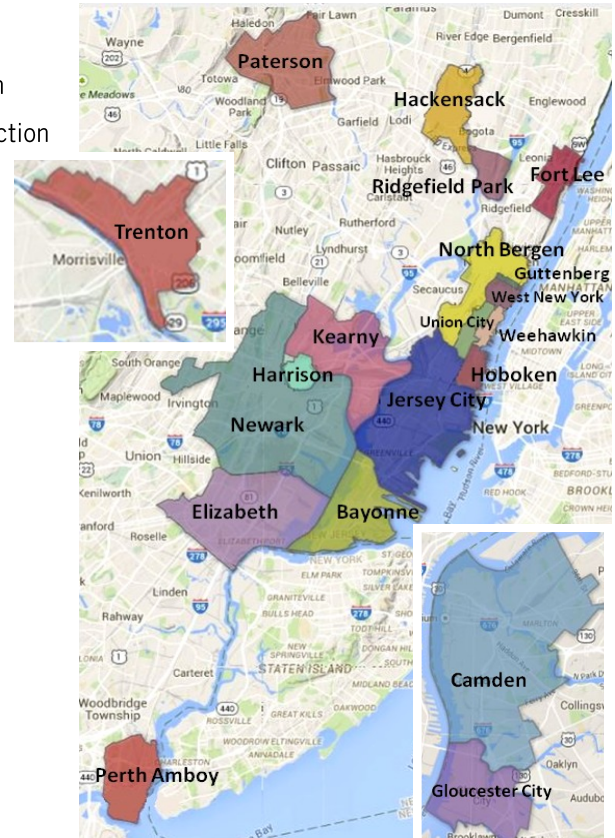
The Permits

Many different entities hold CSO permits

- 17 Municipal departments and utilities that manage sewage collection
- 8 Sewage treatment plants, one of which also manages sewage collection

CSO Permittees (With Numbers of Outfalls)

Sewer Treatment Authority	City	Number of Outfalls
Bergen County Utility Authority (10)	Ridgefield Park	(6)
	Fort Lee	(2)
	Hackensack	(2)
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (36)	Camden	(29)
	Gloucester City	(7)
Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties (28)	Elizabeth	(28)
Middlesex County Utilities Authority (16)	Perth Amboy	(16)
North Bergen Municipal Utility Authority (2)	North Bergen	(1)
	Guttenberg	(1)
North Hudson Sewerage Commission (10) (also manages sewer collection)	West New York	(combined 10 outfalls)
	Hoboken	
	Union City	
Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority (114)	Weehawken	
	Bayonne	(30)
	Paterson	(24)
	Jersey City	(21)
	Newark	(17)
	Harrison	(7)
	North Bergen	(9)
Trenton Sewer Authority (1)	Kearny	(5)
	East Newark	(1)
	Trenton	(1)



The Solutions

CSO solutions that combine green and grey infrastructure can produce more benefits

- 3.8 billion** The additional gallons per year in CSO reductions from New York City's green-and-gray plan as compared to the all-gray plan for the same price
- 68 million** The estimated net cost savings in dollars of integrating green infrastructure into the City of Lancaster (Pa.)'s CSO plan, which has also generated \$2.8 million annually in energy, air quality, and climate-related benefits
- 4.3 million** The number of gallons of stormwater captured each year by Camden's green-infrastructure projects, including new parks, rain gardens, more than 992 trees and more than 120 rain barrels. This stormwater would otherwise be contributing to overflows of the combined sewer system into Camden's streets, parks, homes and waterways

CSO fixes will take a long time

- 3 to 5** The number of years a city or utility has to adopt its Long Term Control Plan, depending on whether it's for an individual place or a broader region
- 20+** The number of years most places expect to take to implement the plan and make the required upgrades

National Perspective

- 859** Total number of municipalities nationwide that have (or have had) combined-sewer systems
- 84** Number of municipalities nationwide that still need to upgrade their CSOs or adopt Long Term Control Plans
- 21** Number of those municipalities that are in New Jersey (25 percent)

Data sources: The American Community Survey, New Jersey Department of Labor, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; [Water Infrastructure in New Jersey's CSO Cities: Elevating the Importance of Upgrading New Jersey's Urban Water Systems](#) 2014, Daniel J. Van Abs, PhD, PP/AICP; [Ripple Effects: The State of New Jersey's Water Infrastructure and Why It Matters](#), 2014, Chris Sturm and Nick Dickerson; and other sources.

