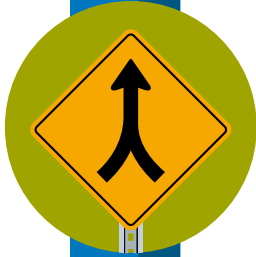




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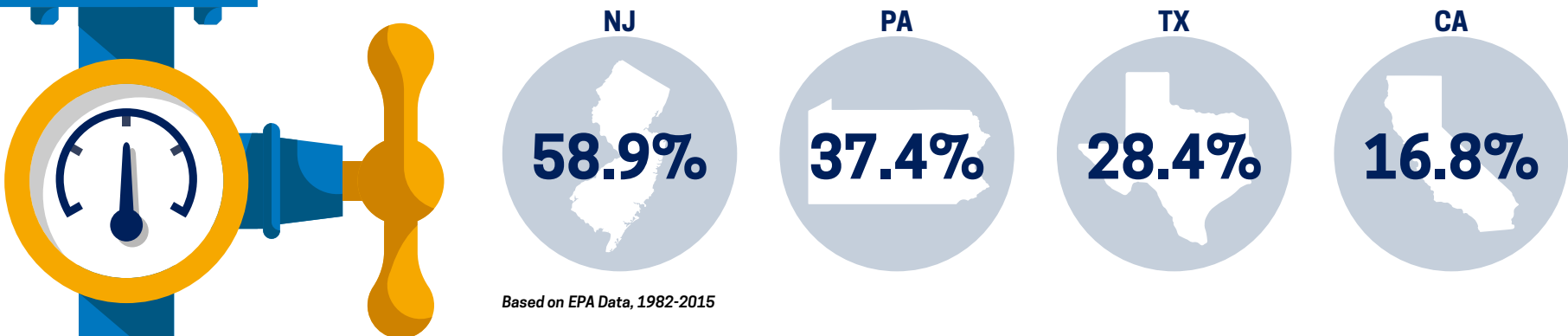
- ▶ **Conclusion:** “Improved compliance is needed to ensure safe drinking water nationwide.”
- ▶ **Finding:** Greater compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was associated with private ownership.
- ▶ **Finding:** Utilities owned by water companies are less vulnerable to water quality violations than their municipal counterparts.
- ▶ **Recommendation:** To ensure adequate water quality and compliance, the study recommends consolidating systems.



## State Level SDWA Analysis

A state-level analysis of the PNAS dataset examined compliance rates in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas and California. Water companies in each of the four states were significantly less likely to have a health-based SDWA violation compared to government-run systems.

**Percent less likely that a water company has a SDWA violation than a government-run system:**



## Texas A&M University and Georgetown University SDWA Analysis

- ▶ **Finding:** Utilities owned by water companies are 24% less likely to have a health violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act than municipal systems.
- ▶ **Conclusion:** It’s politically difficult for local officials to approve rate hikes for municipal systems and generate the revenue necessary for upgrades and maintenance. Therefore, public utilities are more likely to miss or delay crucial investments, and cause more violations of federal safe drinking water standards.

Based on EPA Data, 2010-2013



## American Water Intelligence SDWA Analysis

- ▶ **Finding:** NAWC members had 0.09 EPA enforcement actions per 1 million customers. All other water system operators had 30.03 EPA enforcement actions per 1 million customers.

Based on EPA Data, 2001-2011