



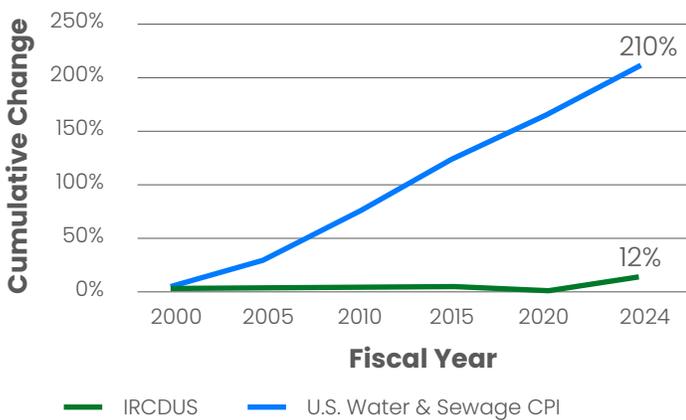
Indian River County Department of Utility Services (IRCDUS)

Comprehensive Rate Study Fact Sheet | #IRCUtilityRates

WHAT?

Indian River County is conducting a rate study to evaluate the adequacy of the rates and fees it collects to cover the cost of providing water and wastewater services to its customers and to understand how its charges compare to other utility systems in the region.

CHANGE IN WATER & SEWER COSTS TO A TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD



WHY?

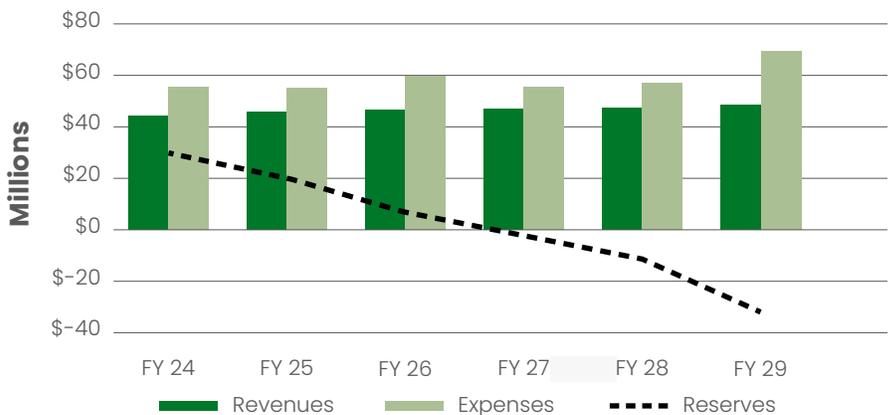
IRCDUS operations and capital improvements, which includes building new facilities and upgrades to existing systems, are funded exclusively through user fees (not through taxes). To ensure it can continue providing safe and reliable service for residents and businesses, IRCDUS is conducting the rate study to ensure its rates and fees generate sufficient revenue to satisfy ongoing operational, maintenance, renewal and replacement, system expansion, and regulatory requirements.

IRCDUS has not raised water and sewer rates for 20 years between 1999 to 2019, and since 2021, the average annual rate increase per year has been 3.25%. IRCDUS has only increased its rates cumulatively by 12% in the last 25 years, while inflation has increased by over 200%. However, as many of us know, recent inflation has been impactful and IRCDUS is not immune to those pressures, seeing substantial increases in the cost of operations and capital projects.

RATE STUDY RESULTS

The study concludes that existing rates do not generate sufficient funding to meet the current and projected costs of providing water and wastewater services. Existing rates aren't enough to fund the operating expenses and multi-year capital improvement program (inclusive of repairs, replacements, rehabilitations of aging infrastructure, etc.) to continue providing safe and reliable services and adjustments to rates and fees are required.

REVENUES VS. EXPENSES



FACT

Indian River County Department of Utility Services provides water service to approximately 57,000 total residential and commercial customers in unincorporated Indian River County, and similarly collects and treats wastewater from approximately 34,000 total customers.

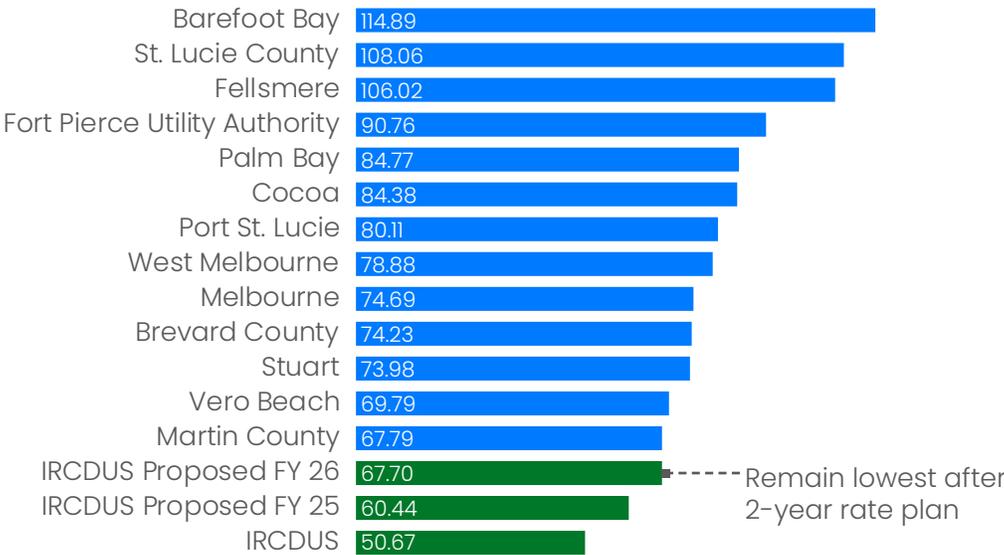
HOW WILL THIS AFFECT ME?

The initial rate increases will come into effect January 1, 2025 and a second increase will take effect October 1, 2025.

	Current	Effective 1/1/25	Change (\$)	Effective 10/1/25	Change (\$)
Low Volume User (2 kgal)	\$39.17	\$46.78	\$7.61	\$52.40	\$5.62
Average User (4 kgal)	\$50.67	\$60.44	\$9.77	\$67.70	\$7.26
High Volume User (8 kgal)	\$78.06	\$92.68	\$14.62	\$103.79	\$11.11

Even after rate increases, IRCDUS will still have the least expensive rates compared to the 14 peer utilities current rates as shown in the comparison below. It is important to note that many of these utilities are facing similar pressures as IRCDUS and it can be reasonably expected that their rates will increase to some degree as well.

FY 2024 RATES - WATER & SEWER (4,000 GALLONS)



IRCDUS residential water and sewer rates are the lowest of 14 peer utilities, with the highest being more than twice as much.

Even after the proposed rate changes, the cost of water is still very affordable. This graphic offers some perspective on the value of water when compared to other items we typically purchase.



1,000 GALLONS OF IRC WATER = \$2.80



1 PREMIUM COFFEE = \$3.45



1 LOAF OF BREAD = \$4.29



1 LARGE PIZZA = \$7.99



1 BOX OF CEREAL = \$6.42



1 GALLON OF MILK = \$3.05