

The Energy – Water Nexus of *Cooling Towers*

H.W. (Bill) Hoffman, P.E.

H.W. (Bill) Hoffman & Associates, LLC



9013 Texas Sun Drive

Austin, Texas 78748

billhoffmantx@earthlink.net

512-294-7193

Phoenix Industrial, Commercial & Institutional Water Demand Research

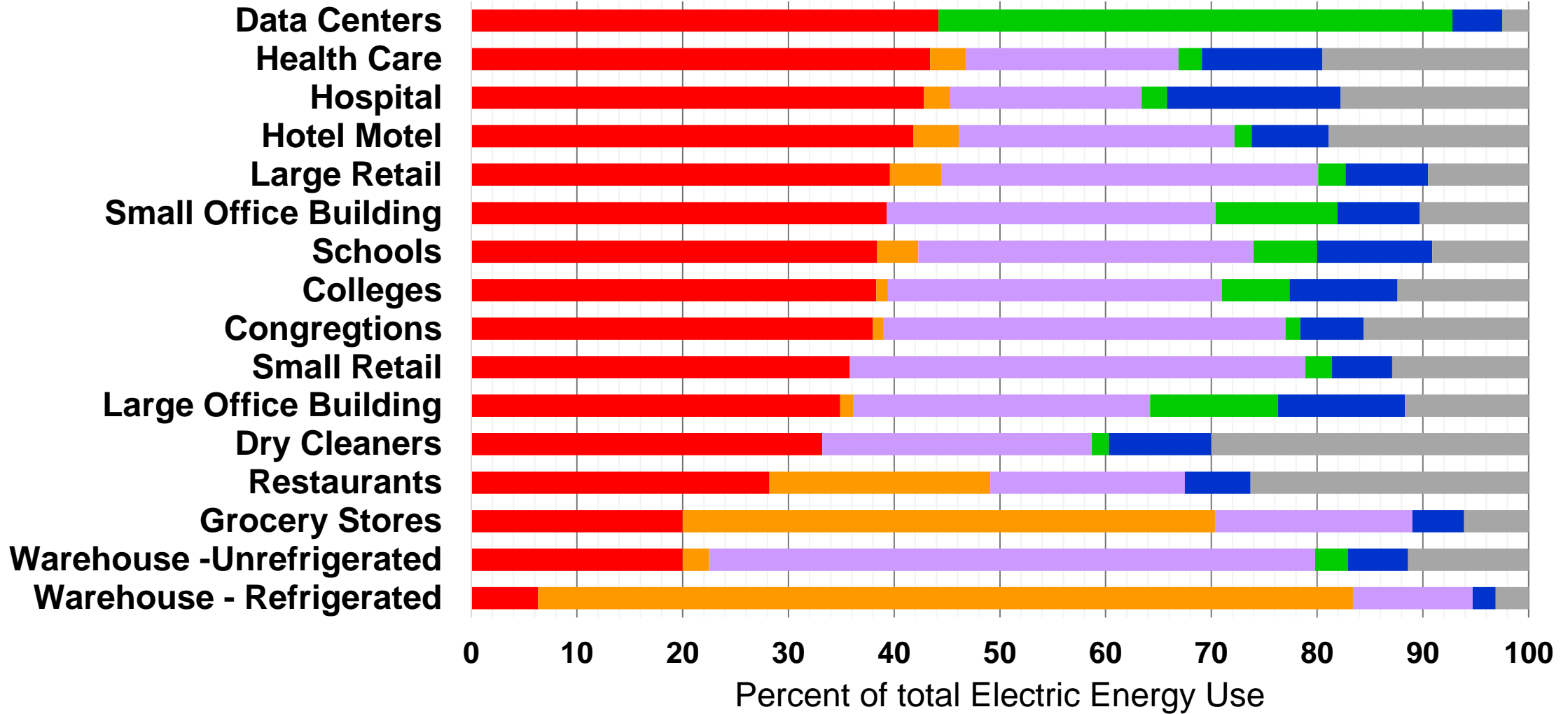
- City of Phoenix Water Services Department interested in improving accuracy of medium and long-range projections
- Least understood component of demand is ICI
- ICI research/projections is following model used for SF and MF research/projections
- Emphasis is on end-use and 'building block' analysis
- Attempts to break down demand into functional components for each sector such as laundry, washroom, irrigation, cooling, etc.

Cooling System Research

- Preliminary research focused on towers
- Inventories created of cooling tower locations
- Currently in process of developing detailed database including estimates of:
 - Type of customer and amount of space cooled
 - Type of building and cooling tower characteristics
 - Operational patterns and management
- *Investigation of energy/water nexus*

Electric Energy Use by Type of Facility in Phoenix

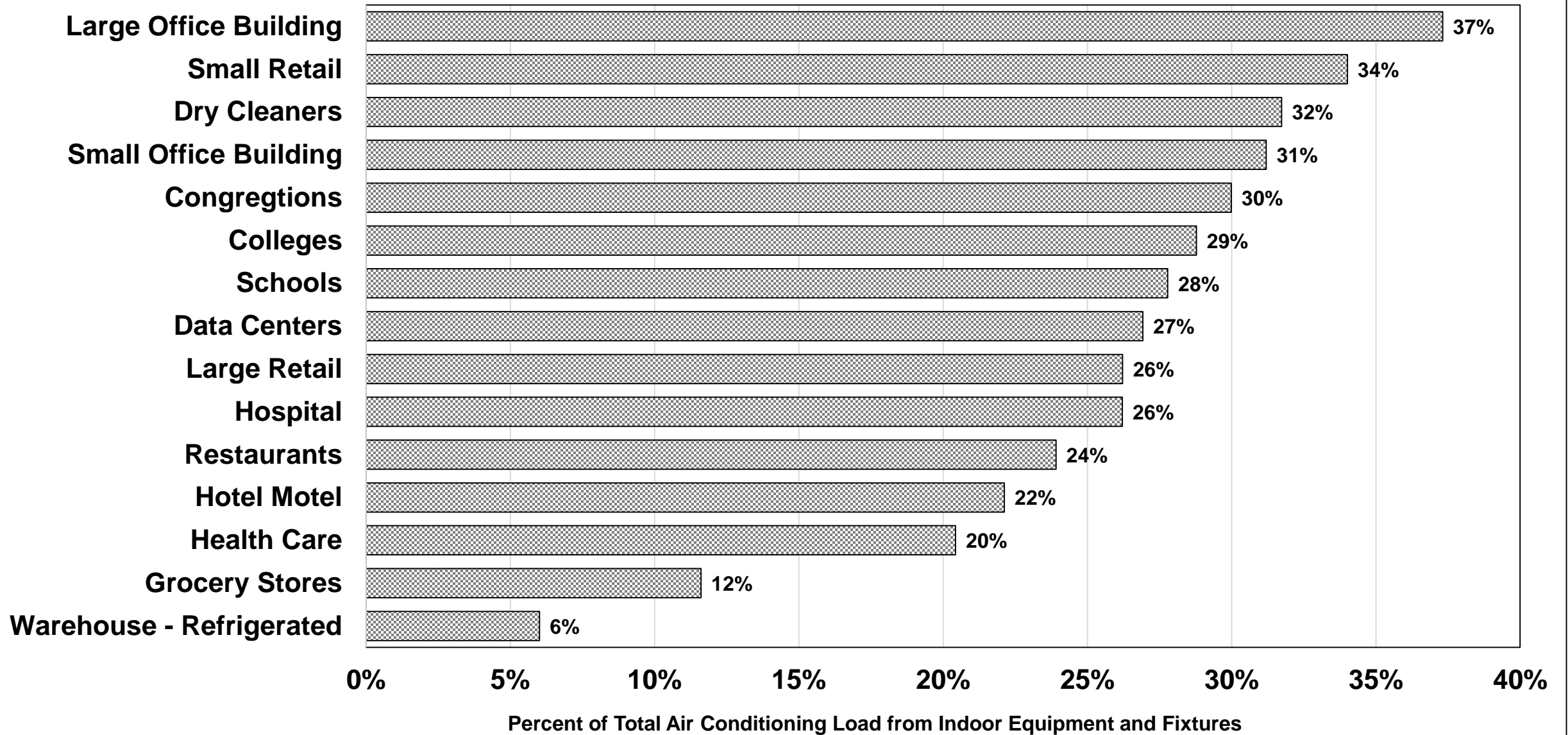
Source: <http://www.savewithsrpbiz.com/generaluse.aspx>



■ Air Conditioning
 ■ Refrigeration
 ■ Lighting
 ■ Equipment
 ■ Ventelation
 ■ Other

Percent of Potential Air Conditioning Cooling Load From Indoor Equipment and Fixture Use Including, Lights, Ventilation, Computers, Etc. in 2013

Does not include water heating and space heating.



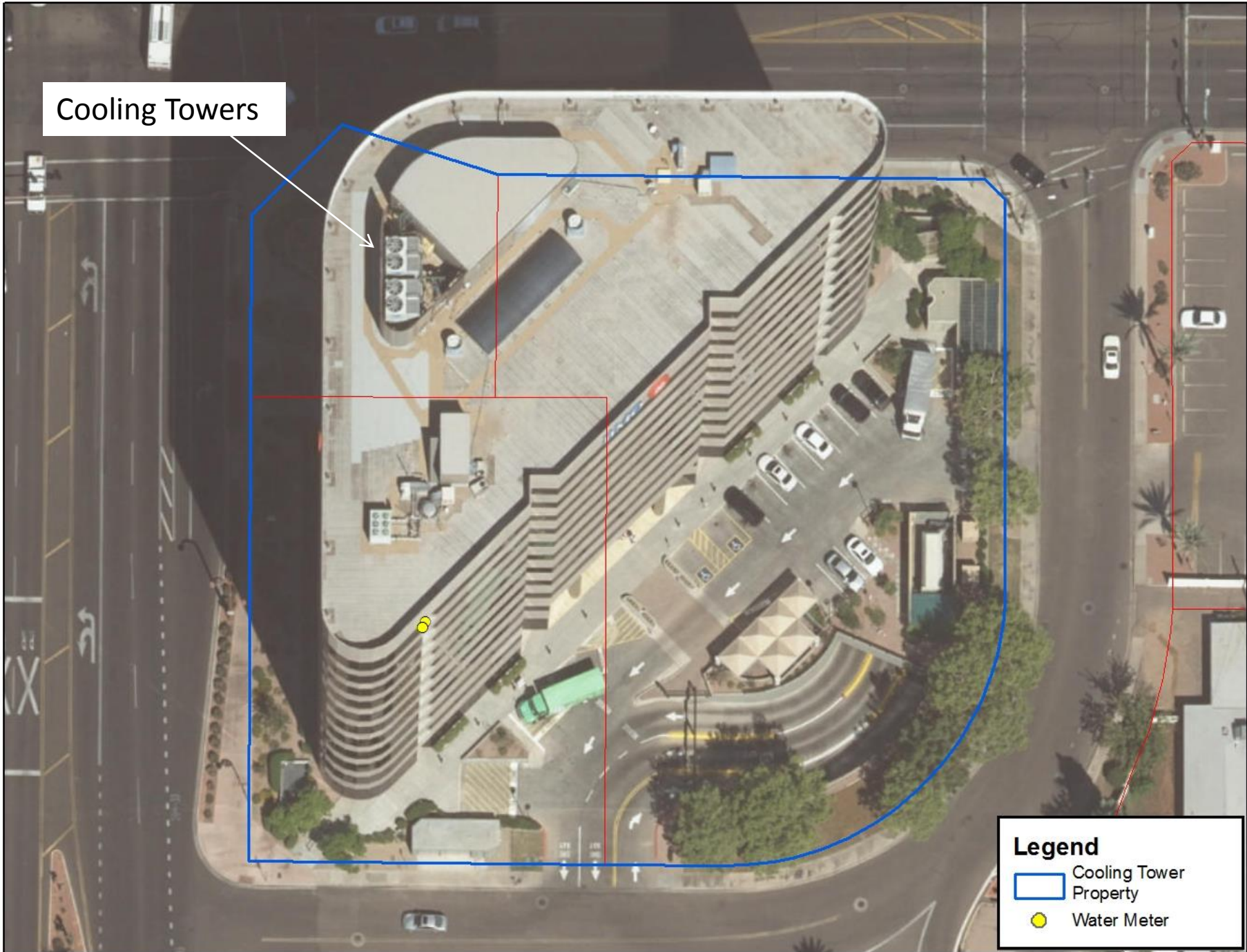
Estimated Percent Changes in Energy Efficiency Between 2003 and 3013

Type of Equipment	<i>Percent Decrease/ Increase in Efficiency</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Air Conditioning Equipment	10% Increase	
Lighting	25% Increase	
Ventilation	No change	
Equipment & Other	10% Decrease	
Cooking	15% Increase	Both electric load and nat. gas
Data Centers	Note	Energy use went up, but predication not possible

Estimated Reduction in Water Use in Cooling Towers per Year Between 2003 and 2013 for Commercial Buildings in Phoenix due to Energy Efficiency Improvements.



Type of Facility	Percent Reduction in Total Water Use	Reduction in Use in <u>Gallons per Square Foot</u> per Year Due To Energy Efficiency Improvements 2003-2013		
		Internal Reduction ¹ .	Air Conditioning System	Total Reduction in Water Use
Schools	13%	0.9	1.7	2.6
Large Office Building	14%	1.1	2.0	3.1
Large Retail	14%	1.2	2.3	3.5
Hotel Motel	13%	1.0	2.6	3.6
Colleges	12%	1.4	2.3	3.8
Health Care	11%	1.1	3.3	4.4
Grocery Stores	14%	2.3	4.1	6.4
Hospital	14%	1.6	6.0	7.6

1. Reduction in water use due to increase efficiency of lighting, equipment, cooking and ventilation.

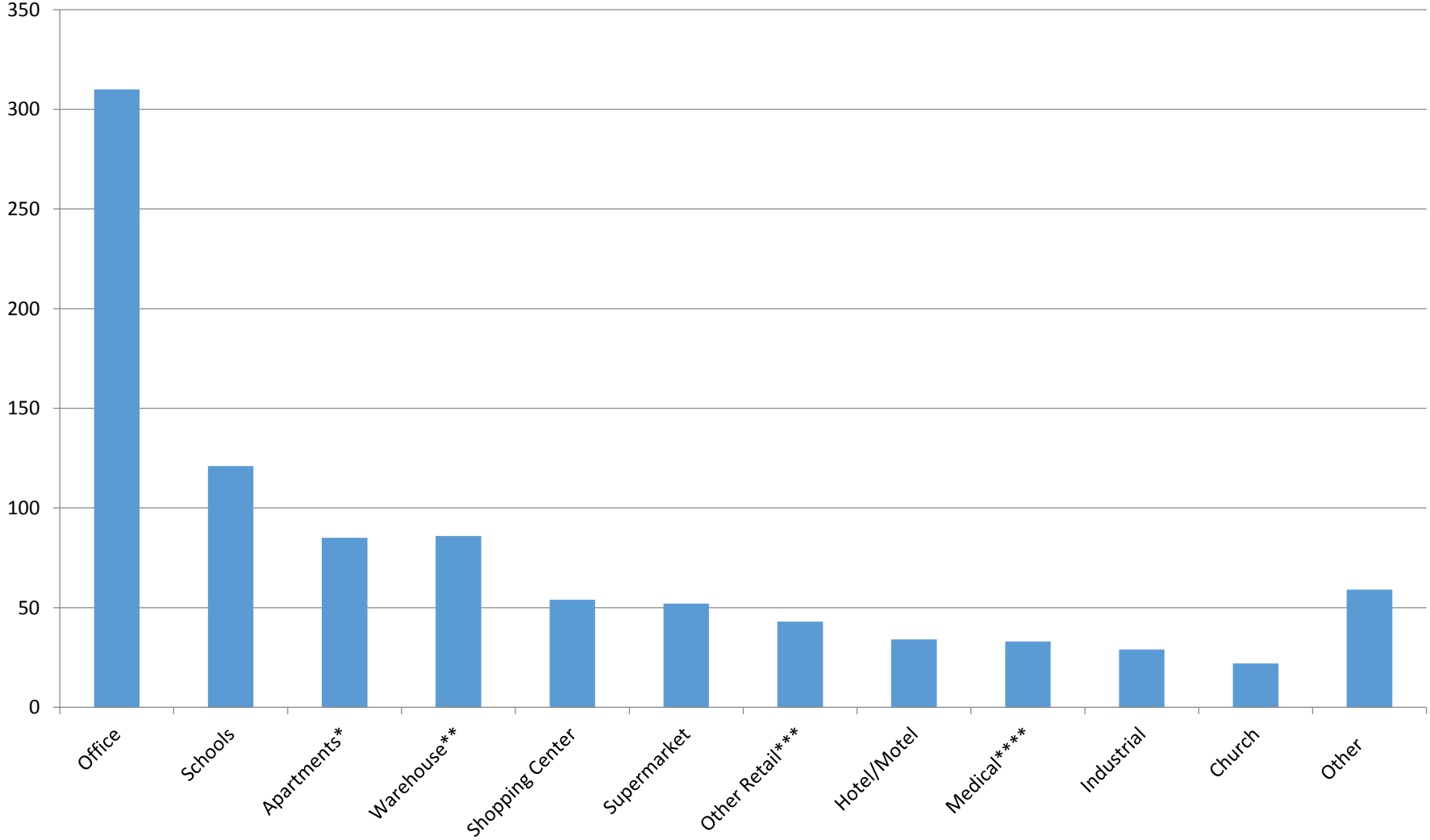


Cooling Towers

Legend

-  Cooling Tower Property
-  Water Meter

Identified Properties With Cooling Towers City of Phoenix, By Sector, 2014 Study





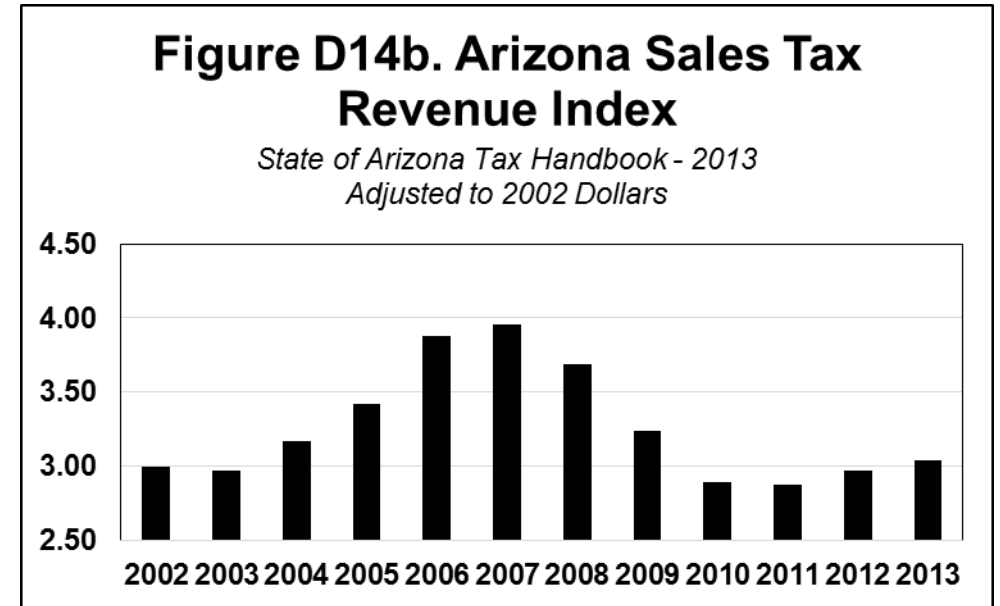
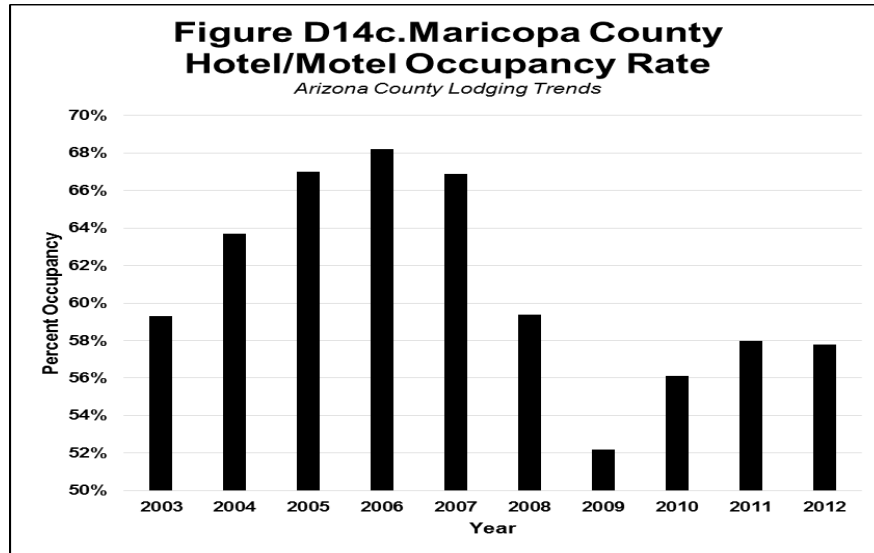
One of the most intriguing results of initial research into cooling towers is that improvements in air conditioning, lighting, and other device energy efficiency, and therefore heat loading, is likely leading to significant cooling tower water use reductions (up to 14% from 2003 to 2013)

Estimated Reduction in Water Use Due to Energy Efficiency Improvements, 2003-2013, For Structures with Cooling Towers (Gallons per Year per 1,000 Sq.Ft.)

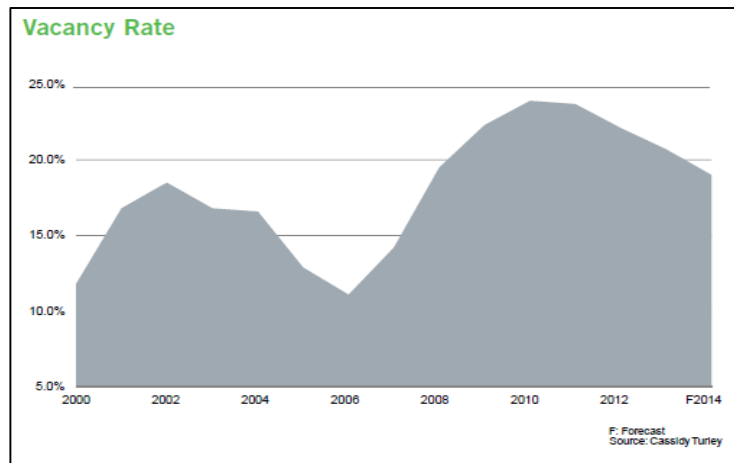
Type of Facility	Reduction in Water Use
Schools	2,600
Large Office	3,100
Large Retail	3,500
Hotel/Motel	3,600
College/University	3,800
Grocery Stores	6,400
Hospital	7,600



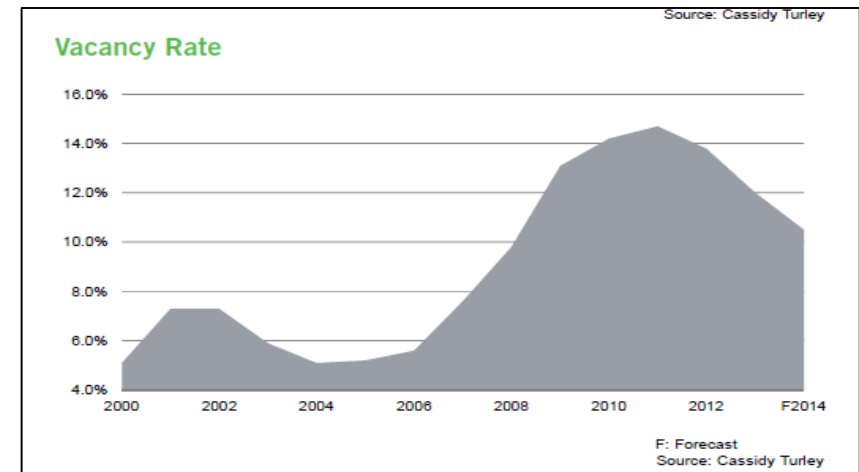
Economic Impacts



Office Space



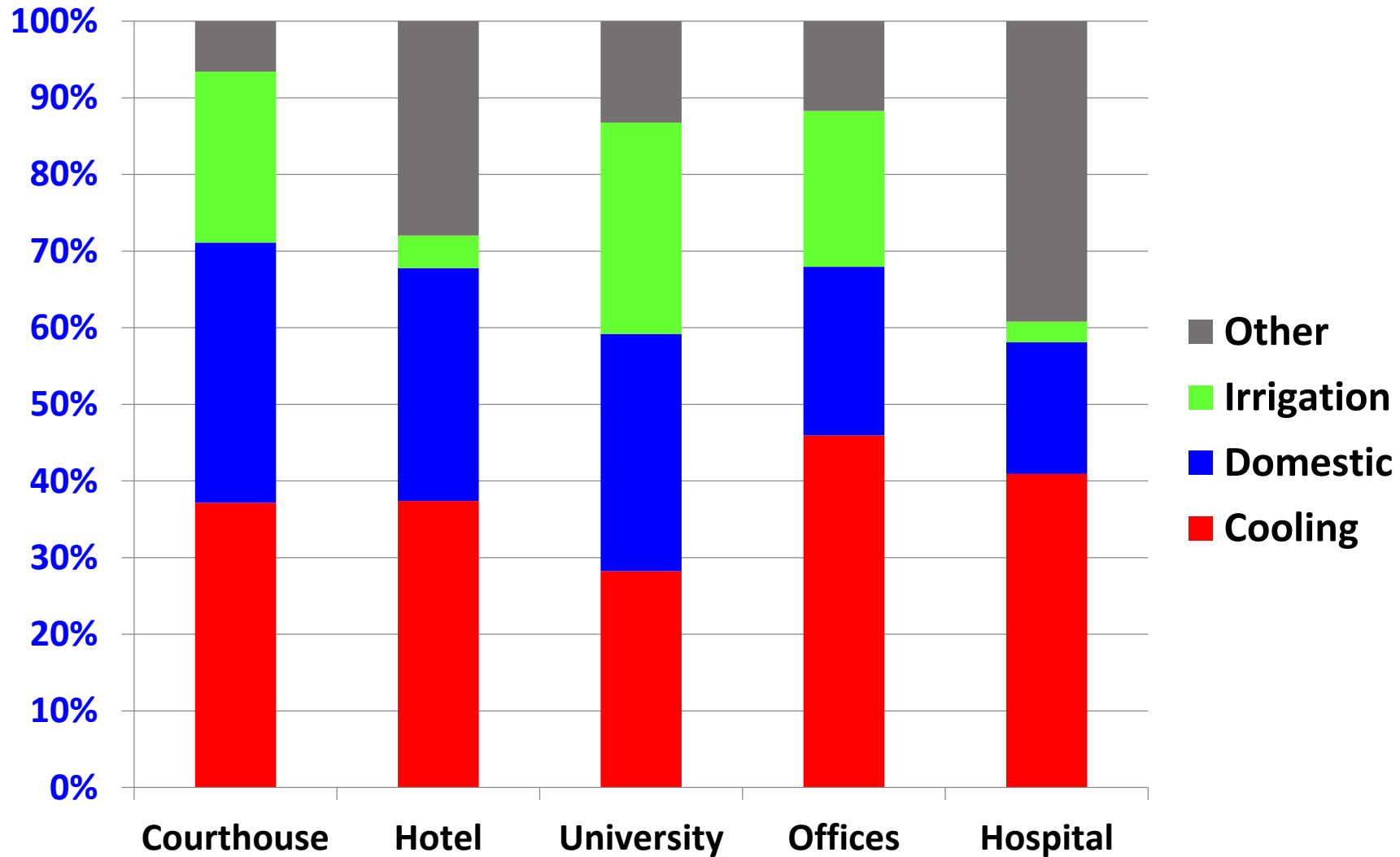
Retail Space



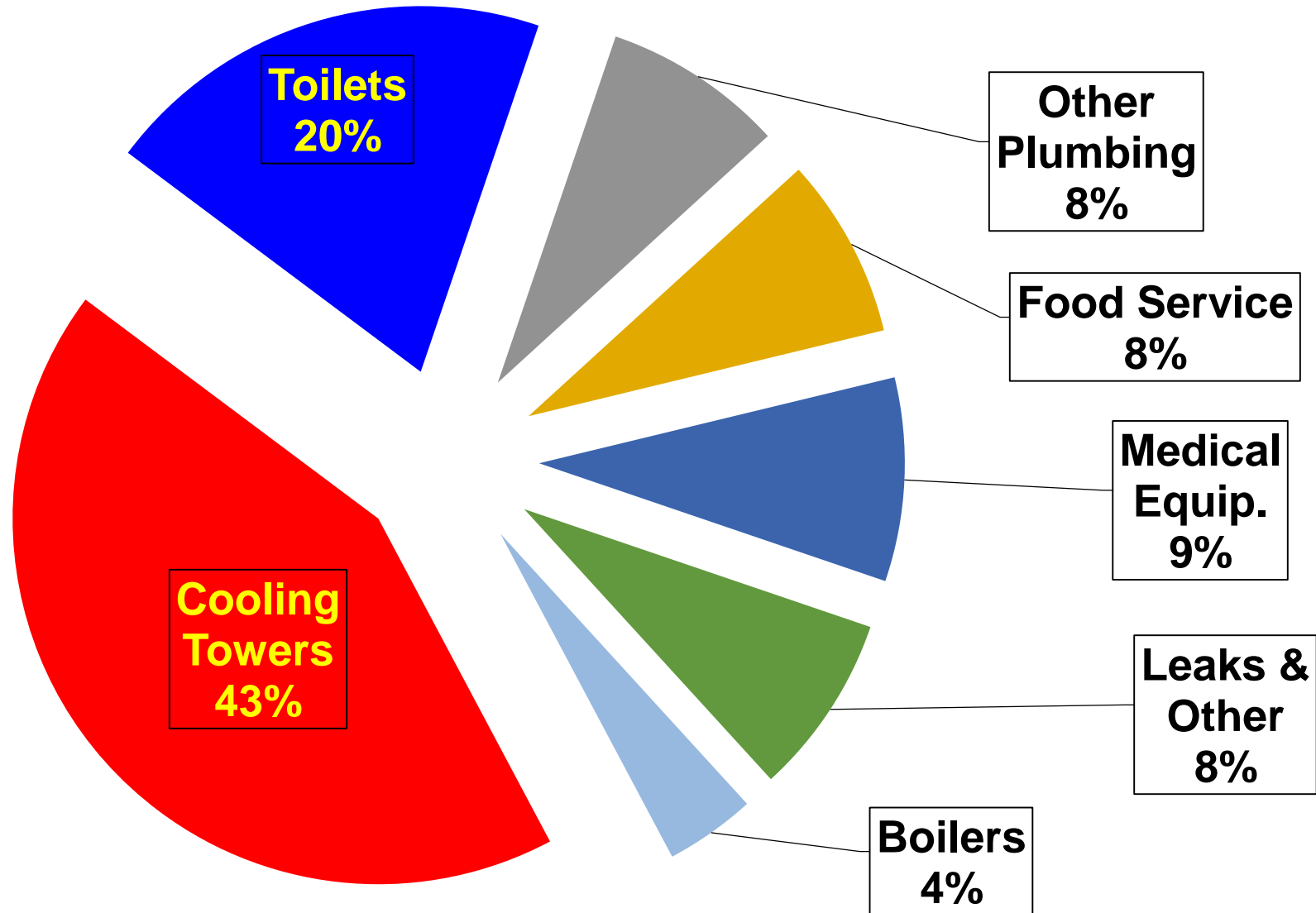
**A look at water use for
cooling towers across
the South and Southwest**

Summary of Audits of 30 Large Facilities with Cooling Towers in Downtown Fort Worth Texas

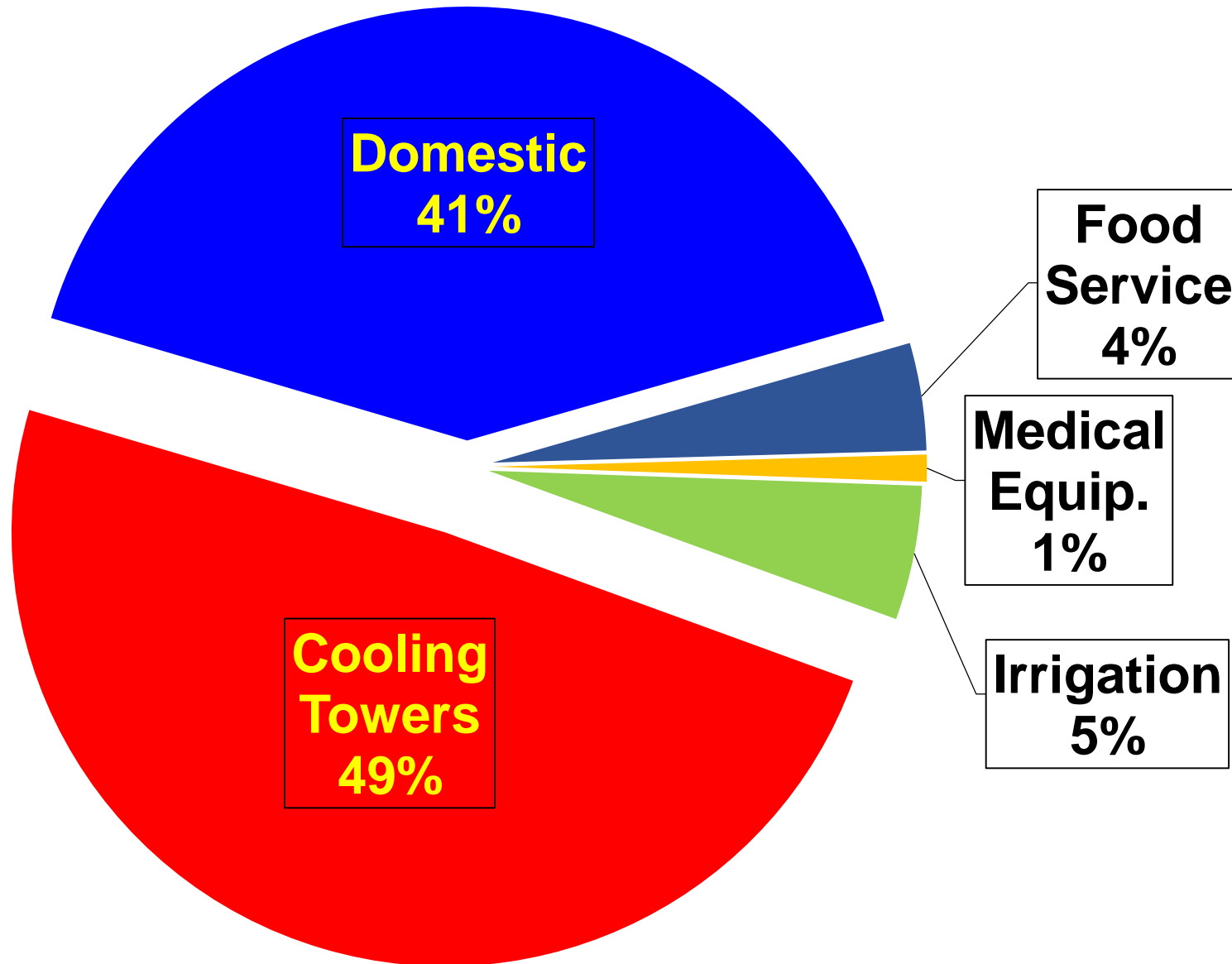
Water Management, Inc.



A Large Hospital in Florida

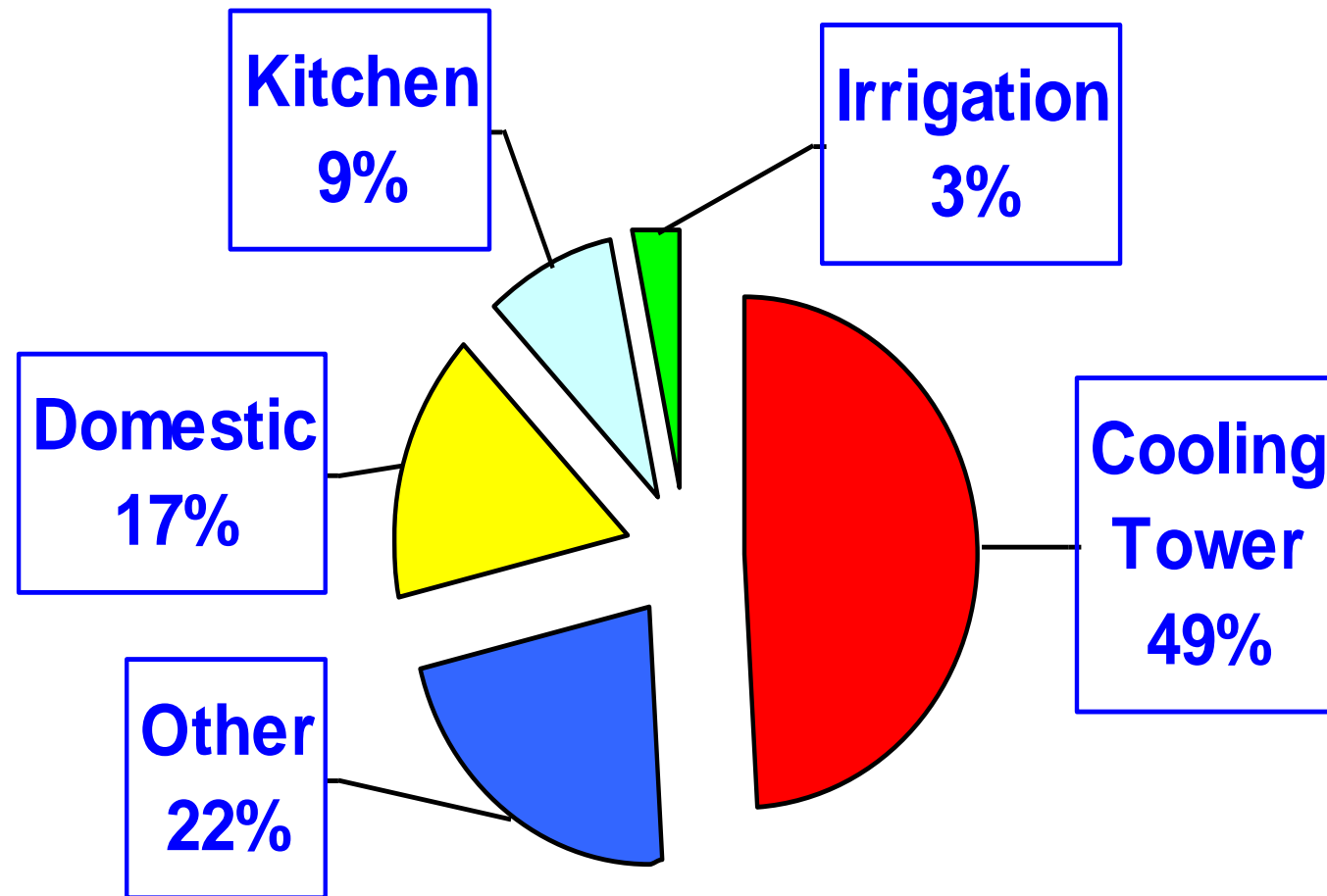


A Large Hospital in Arizona



Grocery Store Water Use in California

Pacific Institute

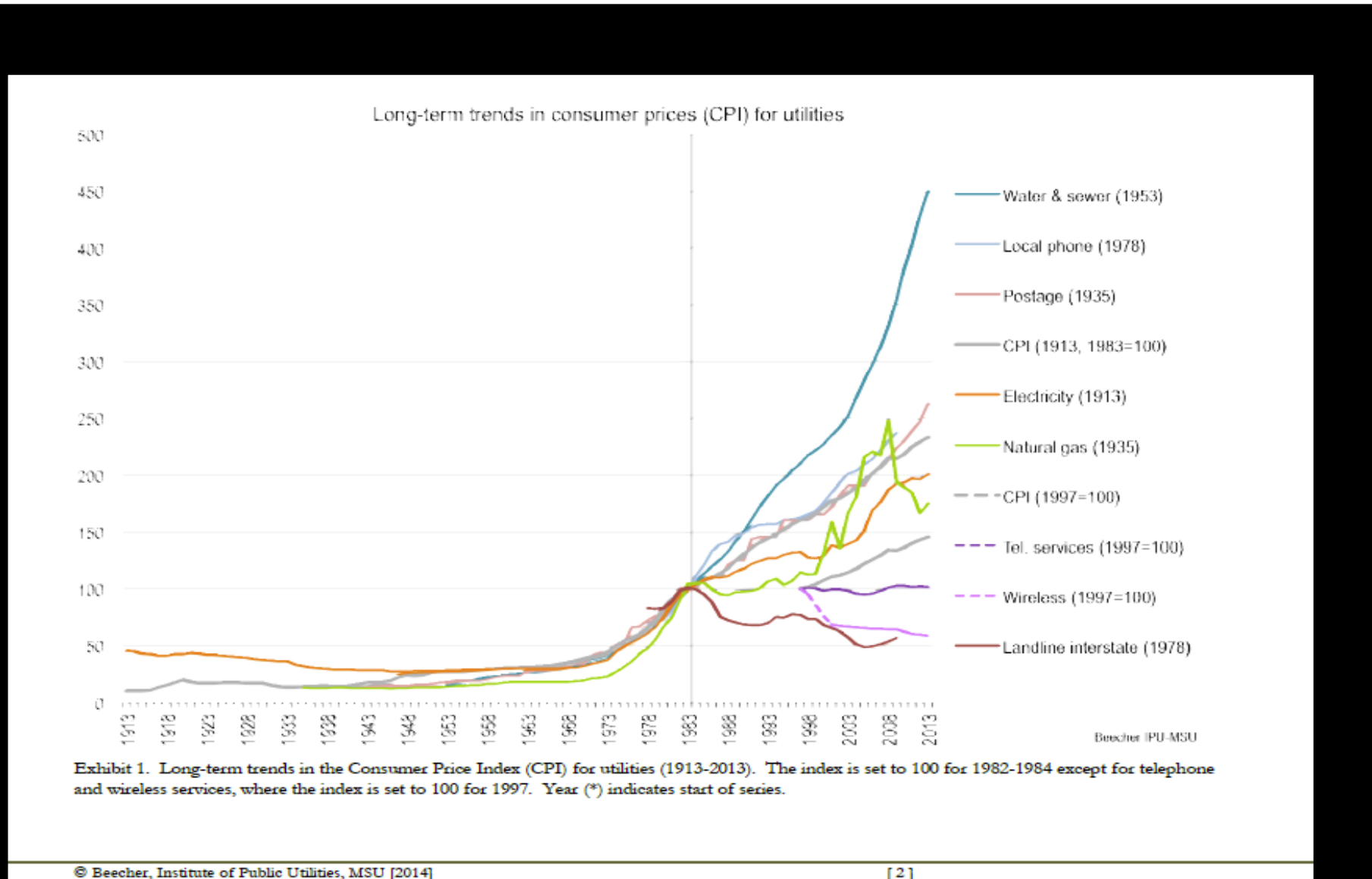


Cooling Towers

**The purpose of a cooling tower is to get
rid of**

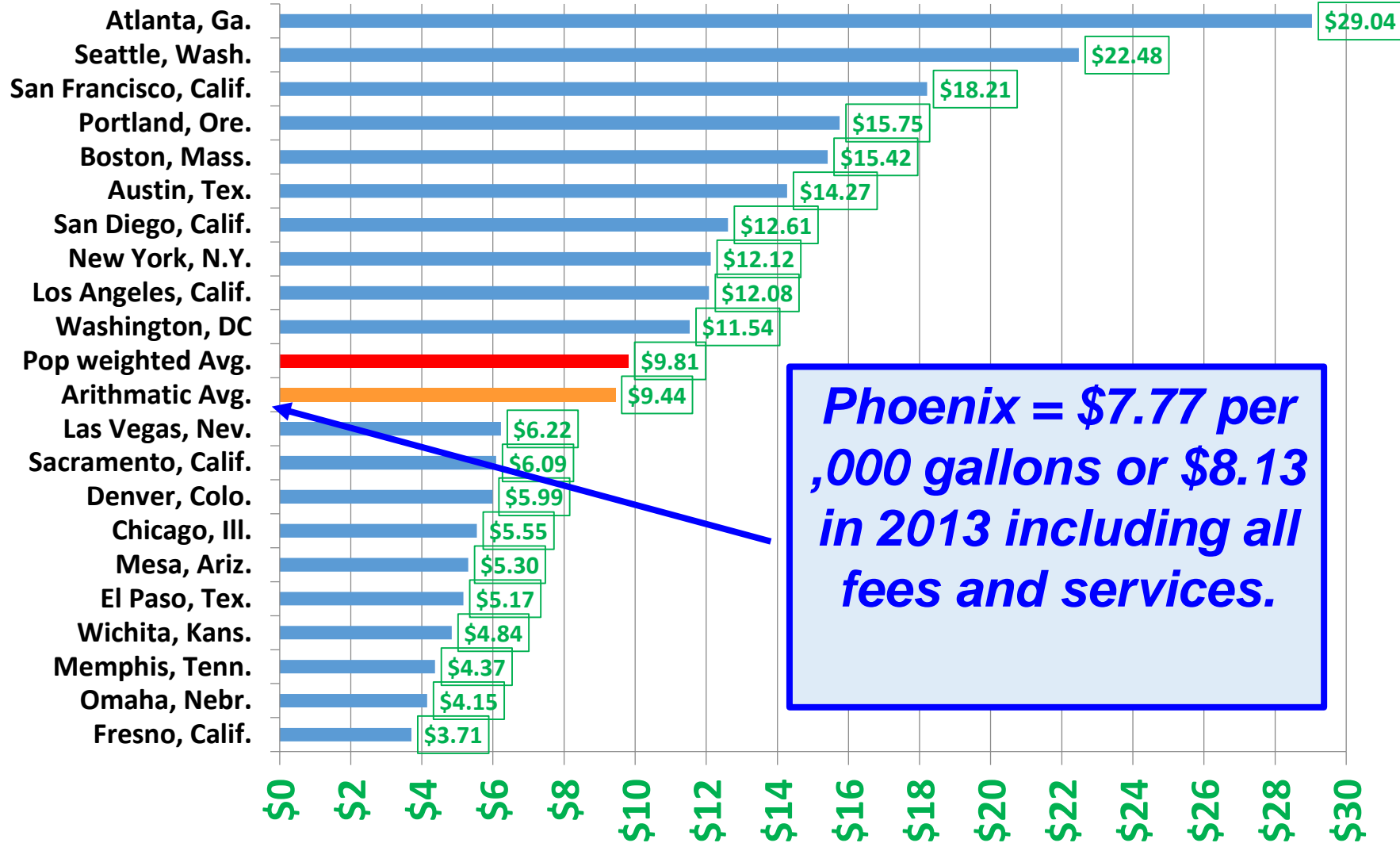
unwanted energy!

Rising Water & Sewer Rates From a National Perspective



Commercial Combined Water and Sewer Rates For 50 Largest Cities in 2013

<http://bv.com/docs/management-consulting-brochures/50-largest-cities-brochure-water-wastewater-rate-survey>



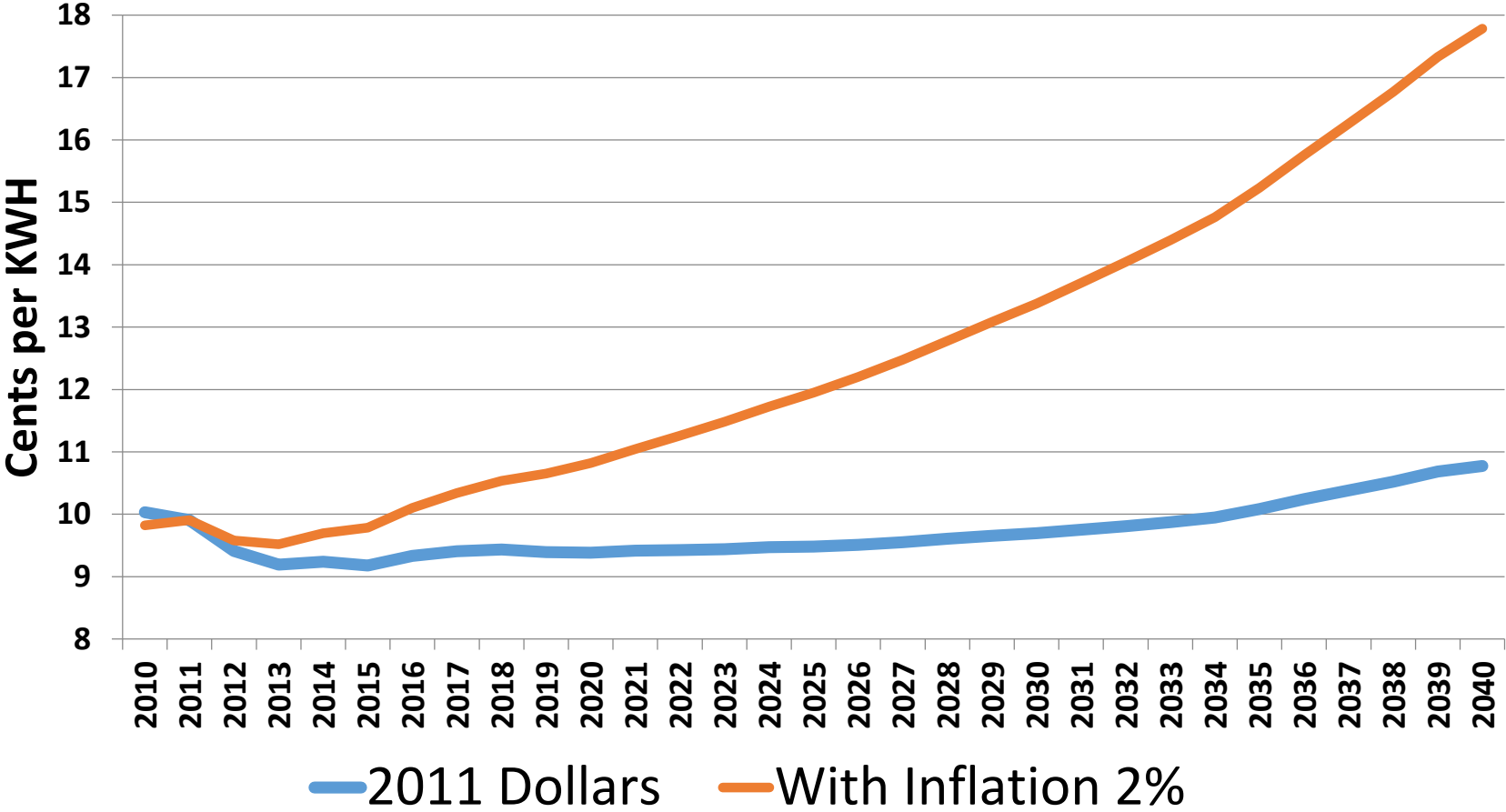
***Phoenix = \$7.77 per
,000 gallons or \$8.13
in 2013 including all
fees and services.***

Dollars per 1,000 Gallons

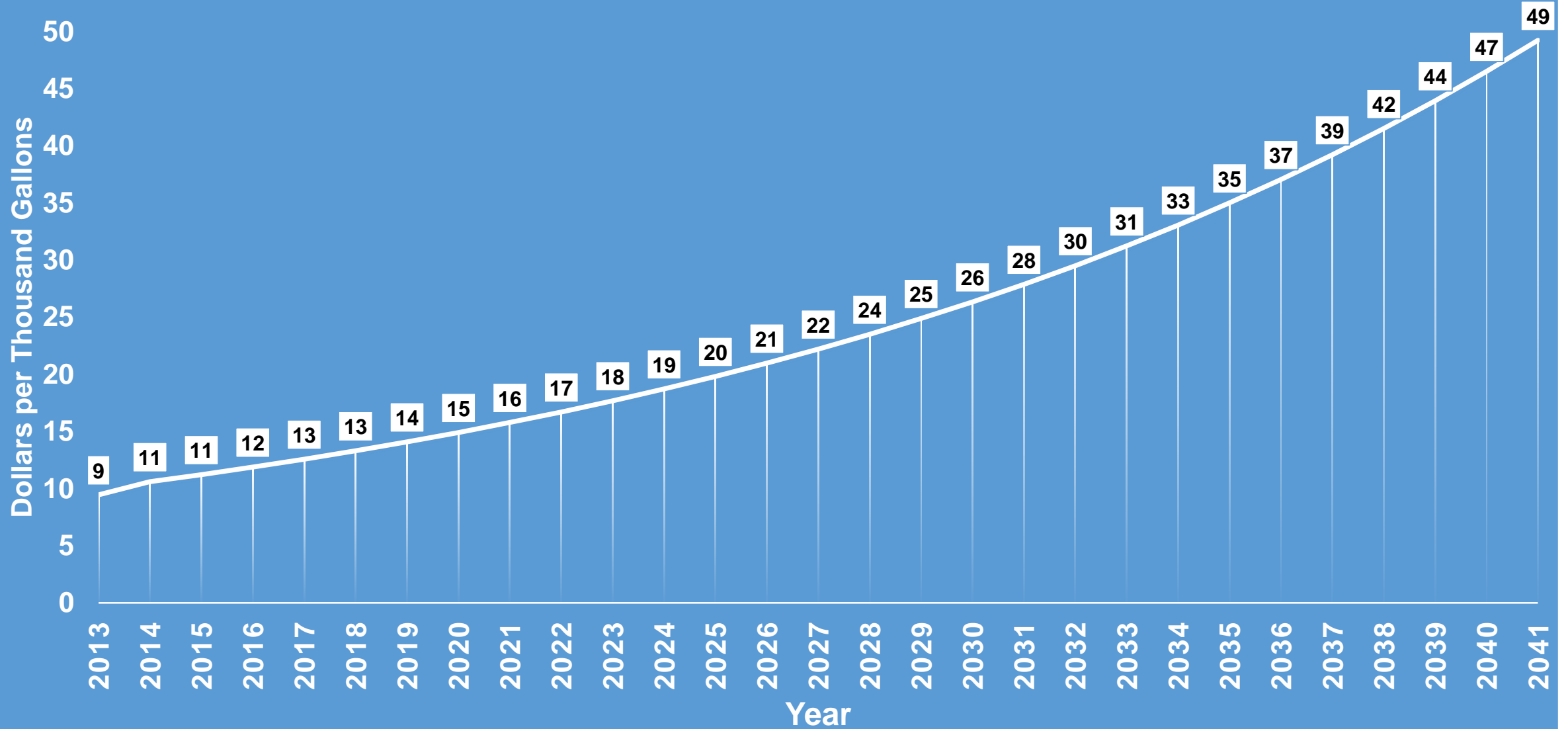
Cents per KWH

(With & Without Inflation)

Energy Information Administration



PROJECTED FUTURE COST OF WATER AT CURRENT INFLATION RATE OF 5.85%



Savings With Cooling Tower

Energy savings

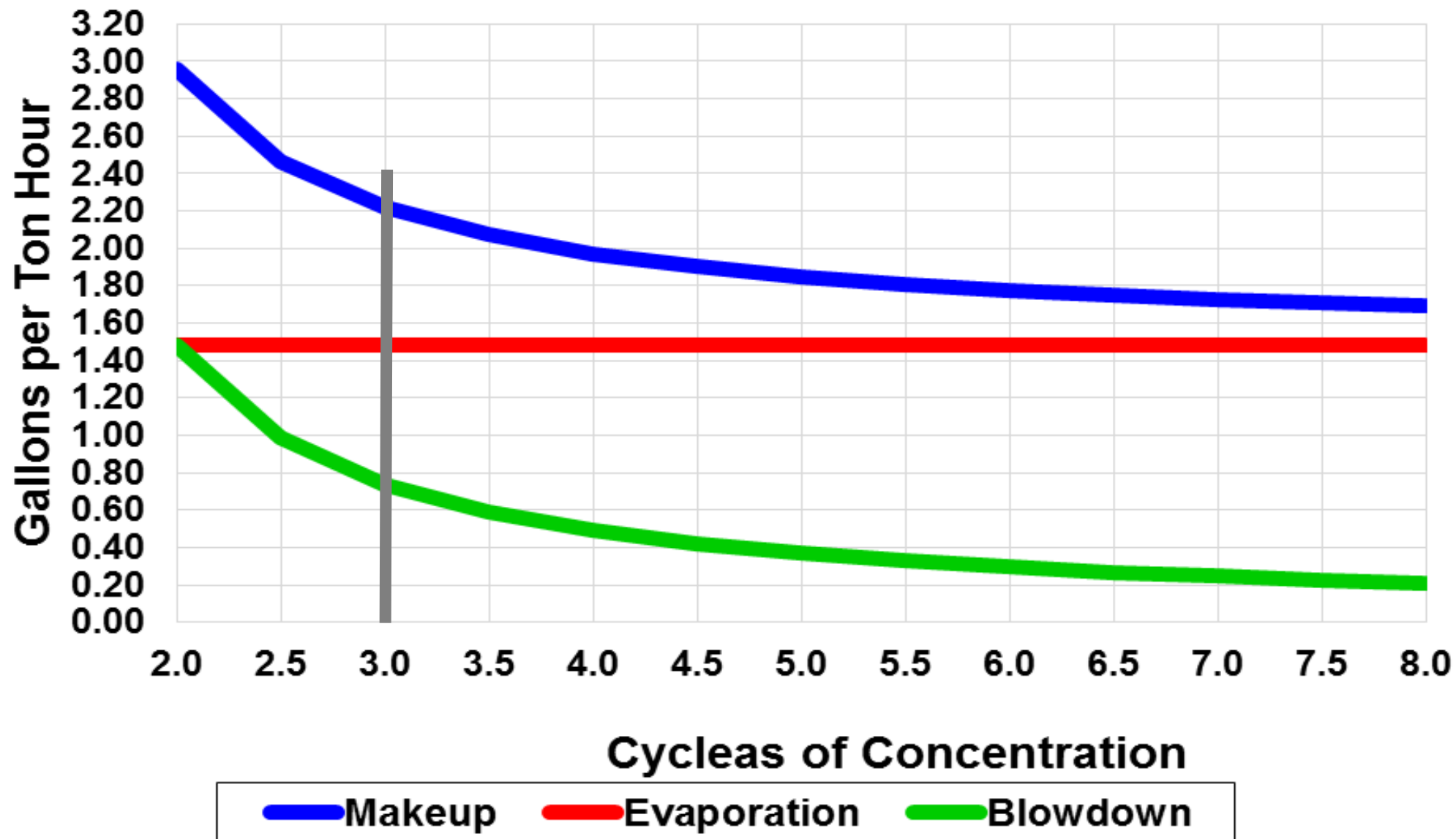
0.3 to 0.4 kWh/Ton-Hr

Equal to about

3.0 to 4.0 cents

in most markets

Cooling Tower Water Use per Ton Hour



And again -

The True Cost of Water

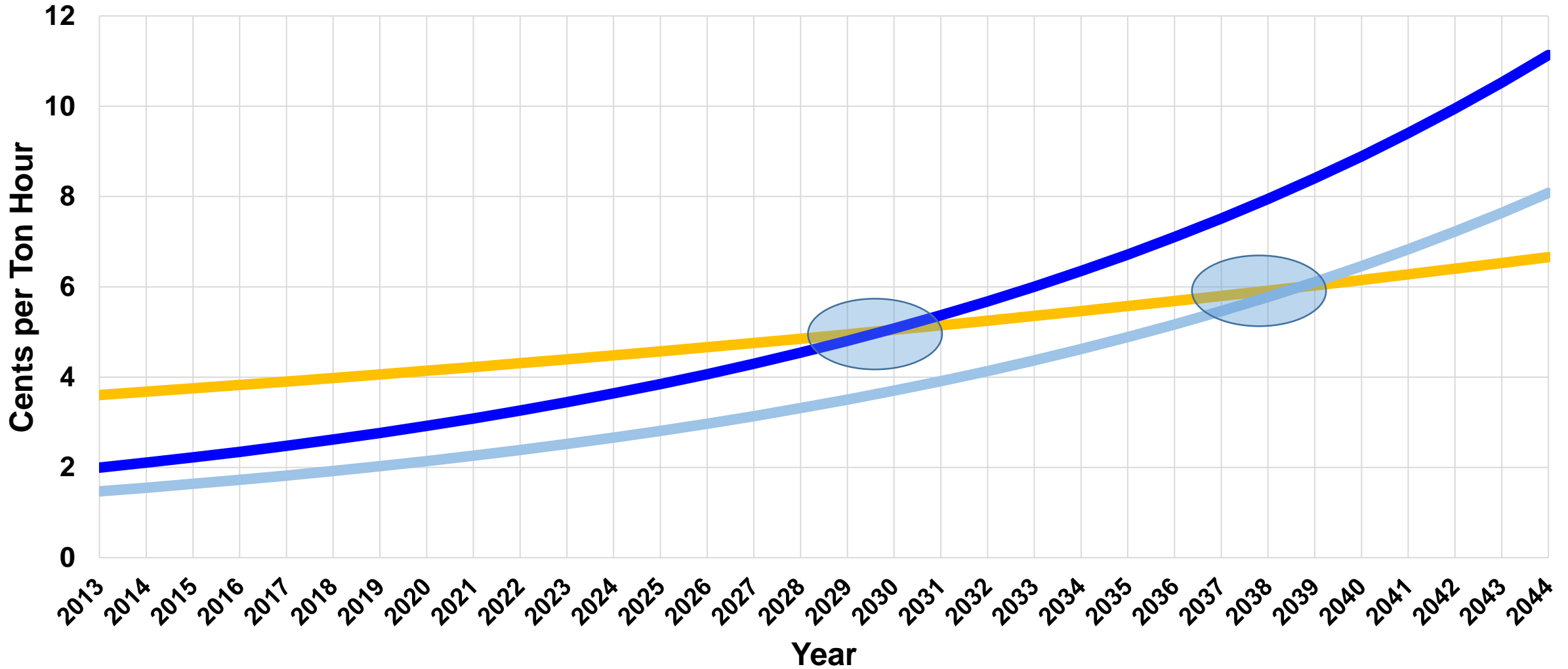
- **Water Cost**
- **Sewer/Pre-treatment**
 - **Energy**
 - **Chemicals**
- **Solid Waste Disposal**
 - **Capital Equipment**
 - **Labor**
 - **Liability**

Additional Associated Cost of Tower Operations

Cost Factor	Cents per Ton Hour			
	At 2.0 gal./Ton-hour	lowest	Median	Highest
Water Treatment (Chemical and other)		0.1	0.2	0.9
Labor & Other		0	0.1	0.1
TOTAL		0.1	0.3	1.0
<i>In Austin, Texas, typical treatment cost are in the range of 0.4 to 0.5 cents per ton hour (\$2.00 to \$2.50 per thousand gallons)</i>				

Graph of Water, Sewer & Water Treatment Costs Vs. Electric Energy Savings With Chilled Water/Cooling Tower Air Conditioning

Assumes a savings of 0.35 kWh/ton hour with cooling tower and national average water and wastewater costs plus 0.1 cents per ton hour



The



End