

Emergency Medical Services Stabilization and Regionalization Region 3

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Aaron Koehler
Office of EMS

Dirk Dijkstal
Health Readiness and
Response

Jen Davis
Policy Advisor
Governor Gordon



Wyoming
Department
of Health

Agenda

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1. Legislative Funding update
2. Background on Challenges to EMS Statewide
3. Discussion questions

Background - Legislative Direction

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1. Senate Enrolled Act 20 (former Senate File 66) appropriated federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars for various purposes.
2. Among these were three EMS-related appropriations:
 - a. \$87,000 for establishing **emergency medical dispatch** statewide certification.
 - b. \$5,000,000 for grants to **stabilize** emergency medical services.
 - c. \$10,000,000 for EMS regionalization pilot for the five trauma regions, in order to investigate alternative options for EMS to **improve access and reduce cost**.
Conditioned upon some local match.

Background - EMS

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1. EMS is a 24 hours a day, 365 days a year system that serves as a critical safety net for many Wyomingites.
 - a. In 2021, Wyoming EMS responded to approximately 89,000 requests for service.
 - b. Currently there are 48 WY based ground 911 response transporting EMS Agencies in the state staffing 78 stations.
 - c. Wyoming's EMS systems are operated by hospitals, fire departments, private non-profit, and for-profit corporations.
 - i. Funding mechanisms for EMS are fragmented and diverse.
2. There is a significant difference in services that exist between frontier, rural, and urban communities through the EMS system.

Service Closures

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Closures

EMS 911 Transporting Agency Replace by Another Agency

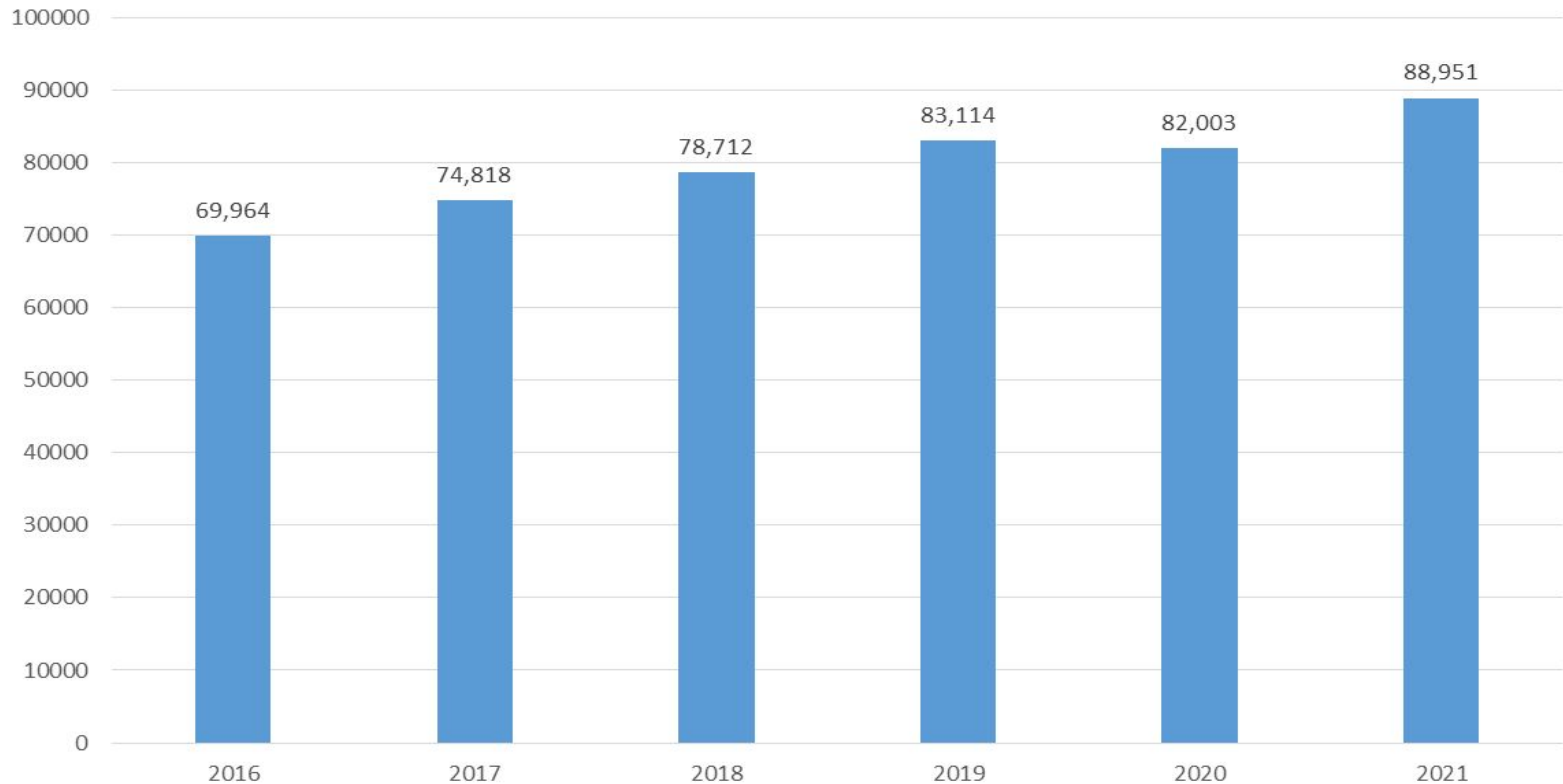
Agency Name	License Expiration Date	Region	New Agency
<i>Eastern Wyoming Ambulance Service</i>	<i>12/631/2015</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Platte County Memorial Hospital EMS</i>
<i>Fremont County Ambulance</i>	<i>12/31/2016</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Guardian EMS</i>
<i>Guernsey Ambulance</i>	<i>1/10/2017</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Platte County Memorial Hospital</i>
<i>Guardian EMS</i>	<i>12/31/2018</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>American Medical Response Fremont County</i>
<i>Washakie County EMS</i>	<i>5/3/2021</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Cody Regional Health</i>
<i>American Medical Response Fremont County</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Frontier Ambulance</i>
<i>Newcastle Ambulance</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Campbell County Health EMS</i>
<i>Alpine EMS Inc.</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Star Valley EMS</i>
<i>Thayne Ambulance</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Star Valley EMS</i>

EMS 911 Transporting Agencies that Closed

Agency Name	License Expiration Date	Region
<i>Greybull Fire Department</i>	<i>12/16/2005</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Chugwater EMS</i>	<i>12/31/2015</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Yoder Ambulance</i>	<i>12/31/2015</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Burgess Junction Rescue</i>	<i>12/31/2018</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>South Big Horn County Hospital District</i>	<i>12/31/2018</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Dayton Rescue Unit</i>	<i>7/30/2021</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Burns EMS</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Centennial Fire Department & Rescue</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Osage Ambulance Service</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>White Line, LLC DBA Atwood's Family Ambulance</i>	<i>12/31/2021</i>	<i>5</i>

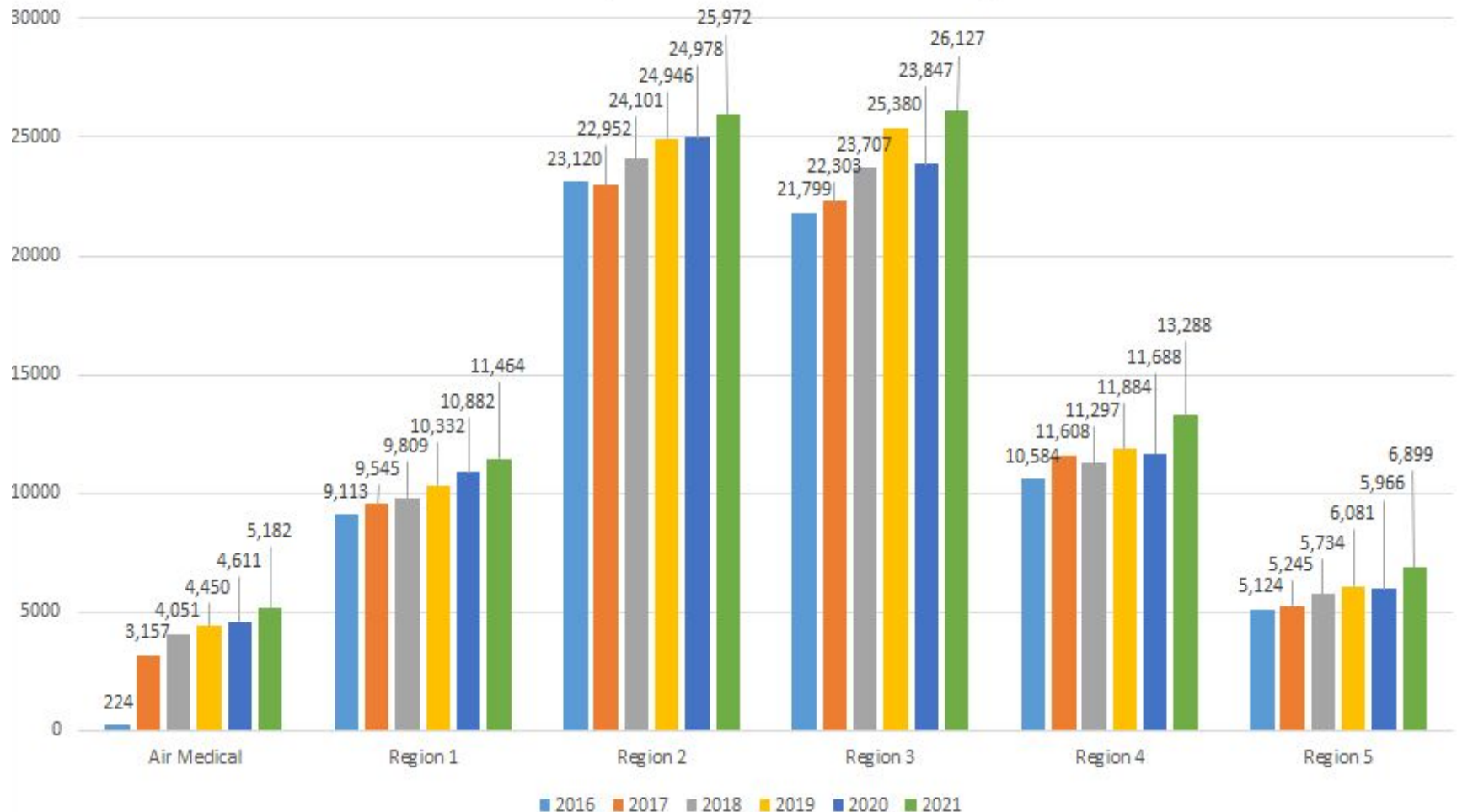
In the past six (6) years EMS requests for service have increased by 11.9%

EMS Request for Service 2016 through 2021



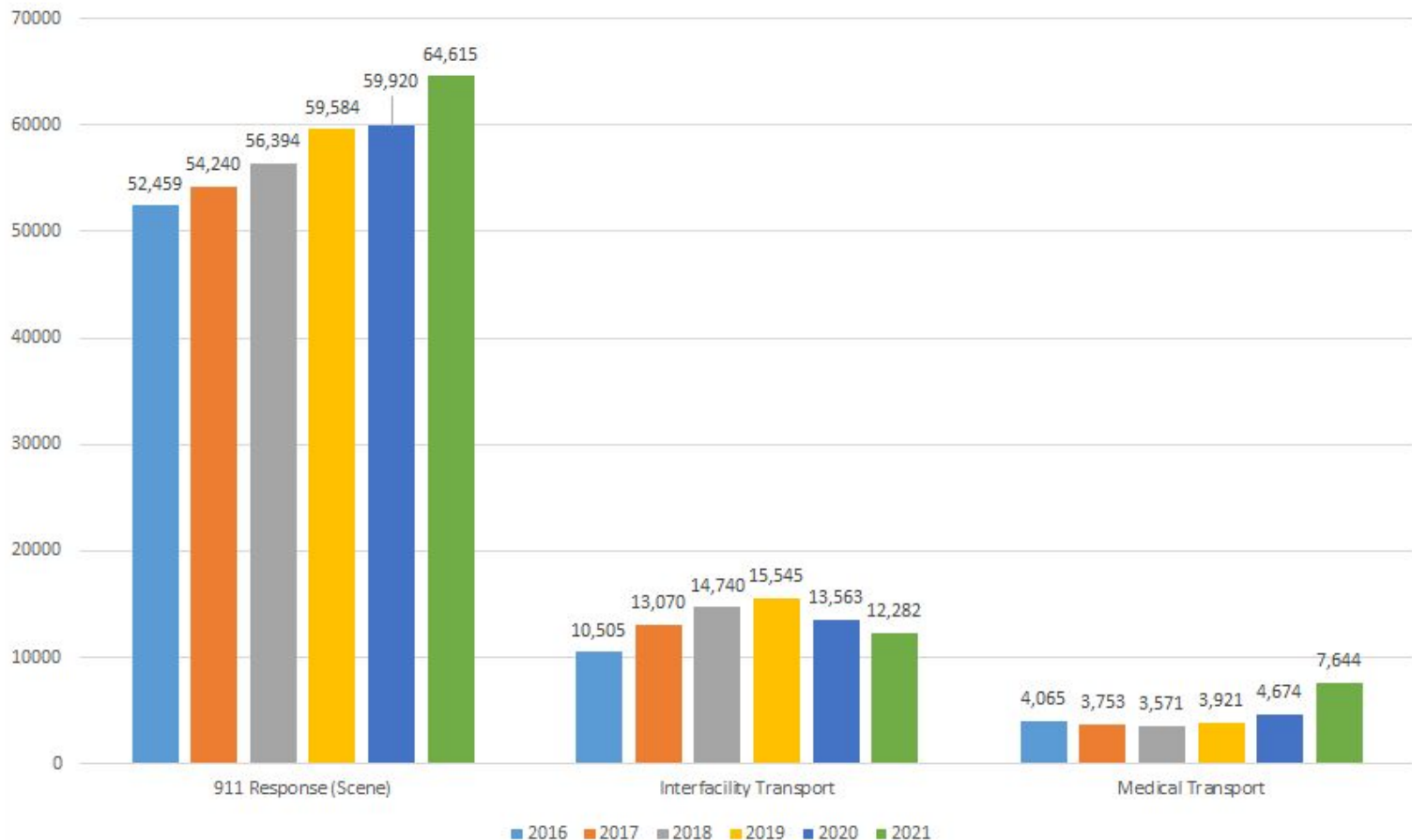
Filters: eTimes.03 is not empty, Negative Chute and Response times removed
Reporting Date: 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2021. 2016 Air Medical report is limited
Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

Trauma Region 3 has experienced a ~16% increase in total documented service requests



Filters: eTimes.03 is not empty, Negative Chute and Response times removed
Reporting Date: 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2021 2016 Air Medical report is limited
Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

911 responses represent more than 80% of service calls, but ~35% of them do not pay. Most interfacility transports do.

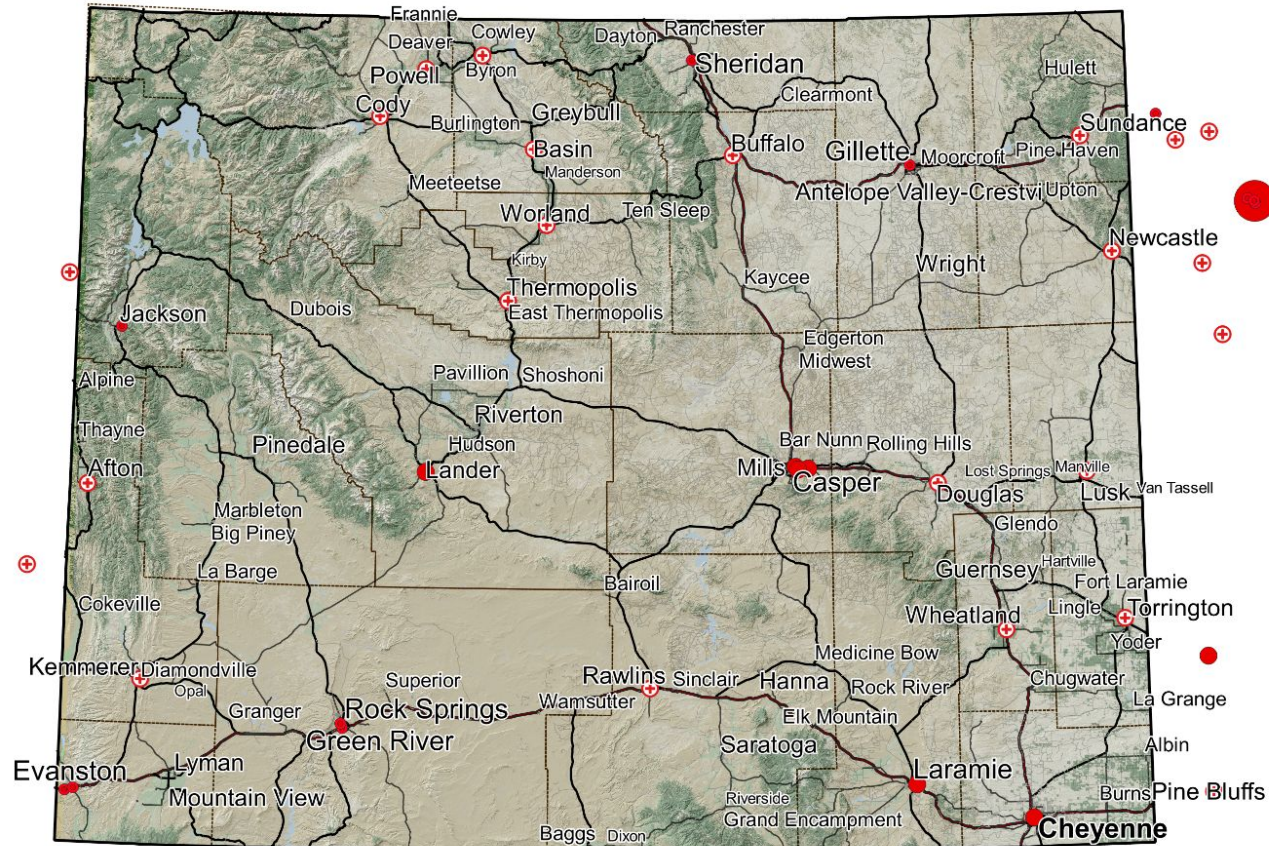


Filters: eTimes.03 is not empty, Negative Chute and Response times removed, Top 3 types of service requested (Not listed: Intercepts, Mutual Aid, Public Assistance, and Standbys which is ~5% of all responses)

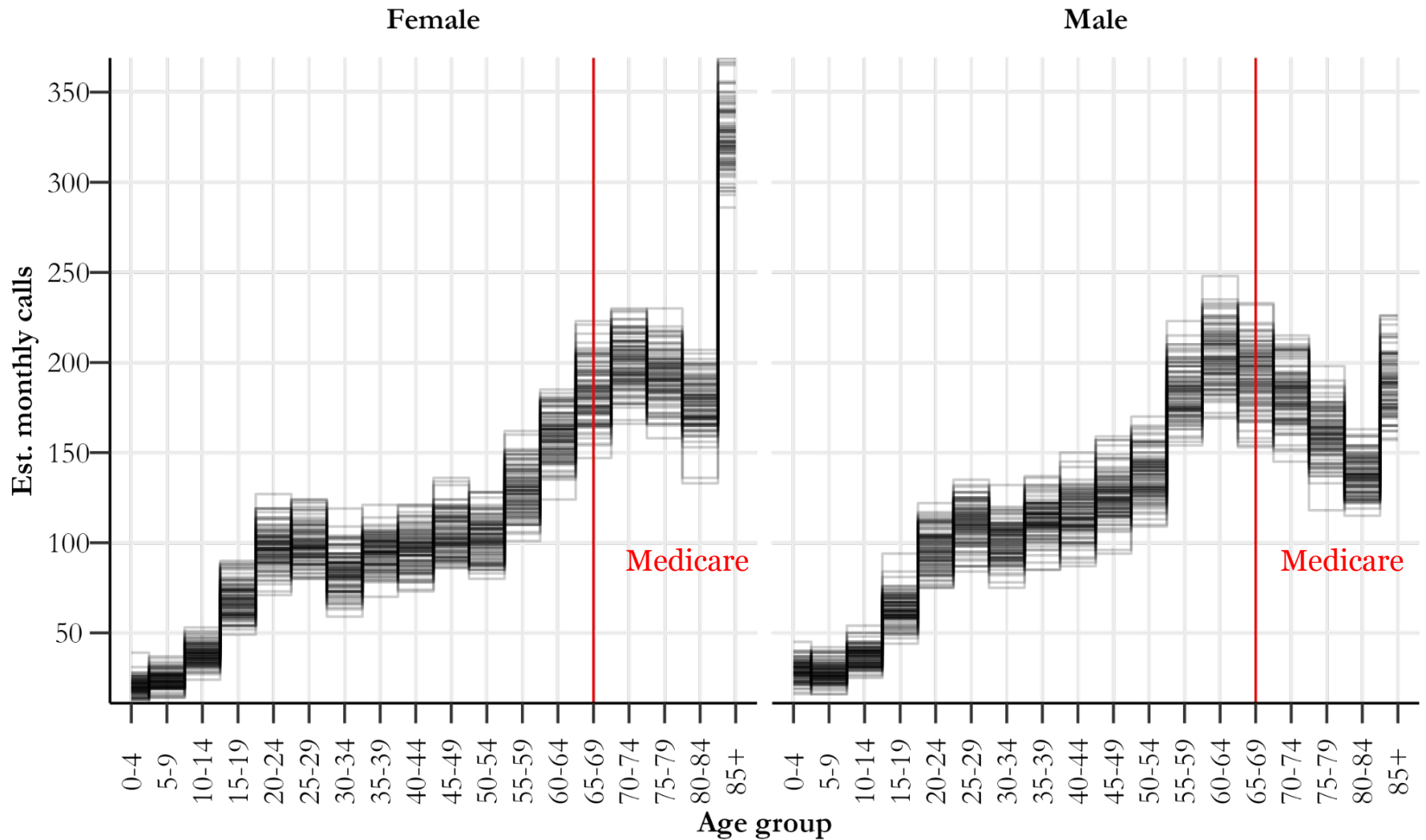
Reporting Date: 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2021

Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

Hospitals in and around Wyoming (2019)

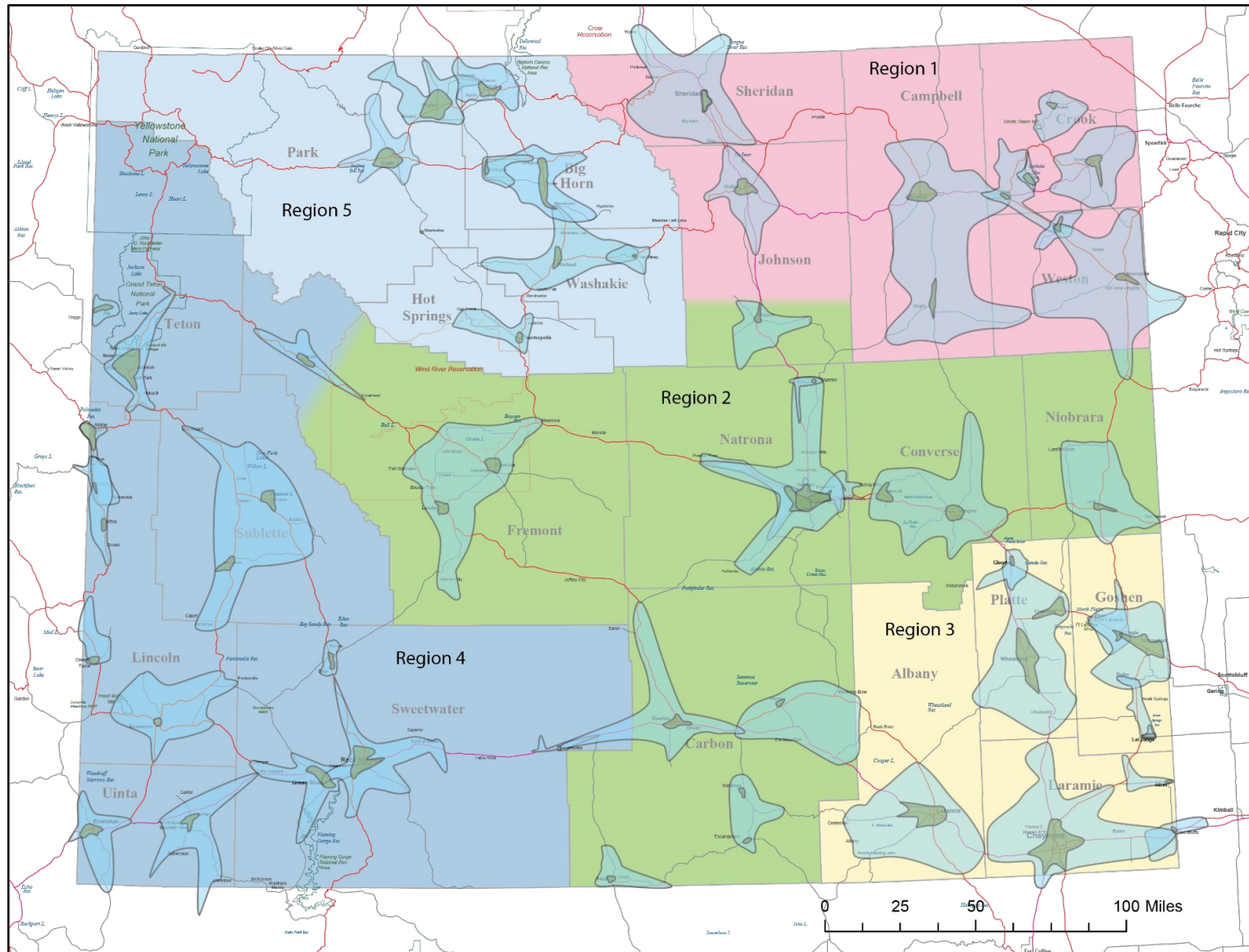


~ 40% of ground EMS calls are for Medicare patients; risk of needing EMS increases with age



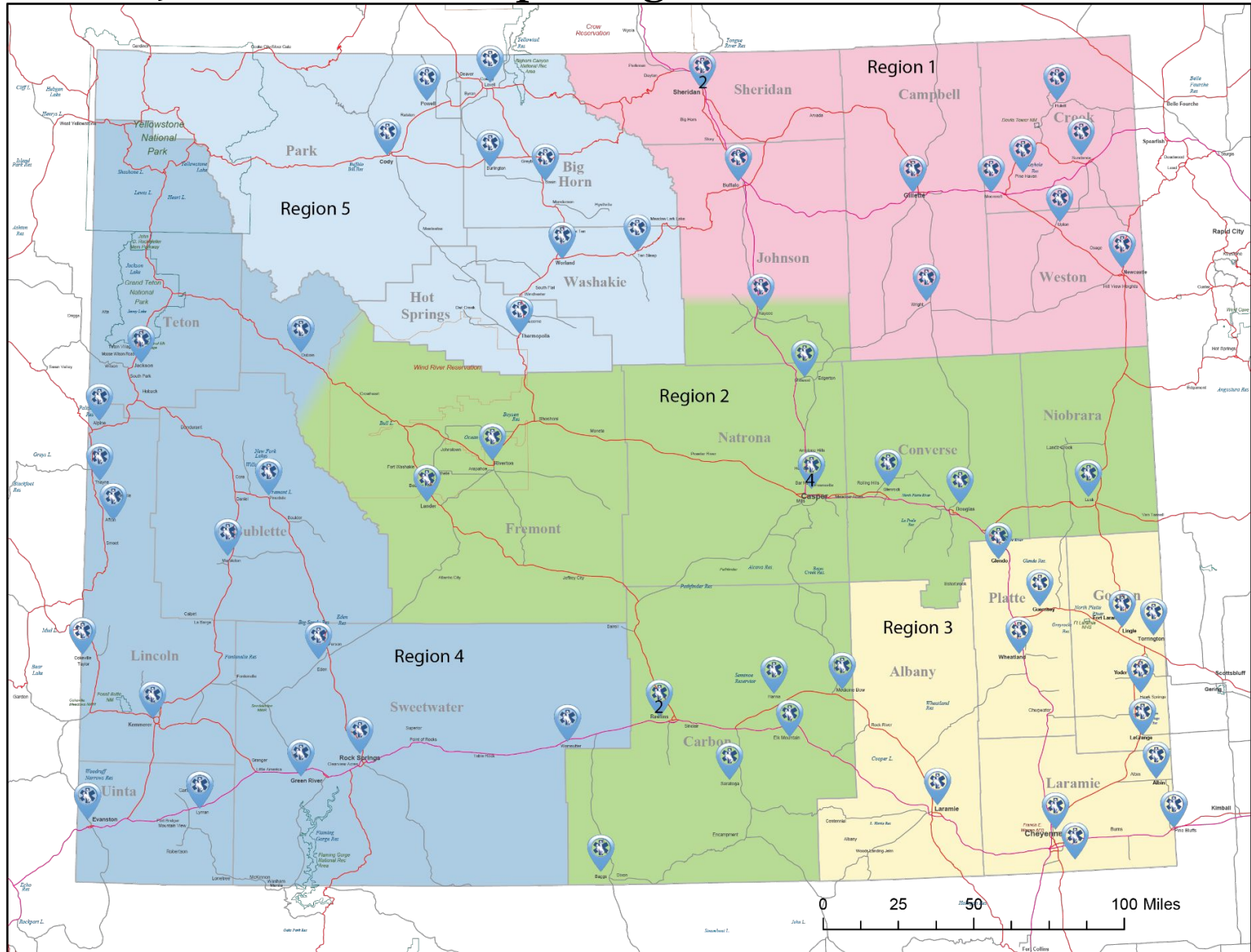
EMS Response Times Overlay (2019)

EMS Response Time less than 9 minutes in green and less than 30 minutes in blue



From EMS Notification to Arrival at the Scene - Source Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

911 Ground Transporting EMS Stations (2022)



Background - EMS

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1. Challenges to sustainability.
 - a. Nationally, a single BLS ambulance costs \$507,474 annually to operate 24/7.
 - i. More specifically, equipment costs \$70,000. (Reinert, 2021)
 - ii. BLS staffing cost averages \$456,396. (Reinert, 2021)
 - iii. ALS staffing cost averages \$1,100,000. (Reinert, 2021)
 - b. Volunteerism is declining.
 - i. Nationally, first responder agencies have experienced approximately a 27% decrease in volunteers since 1987. (NFPA, 2020)
 - c. Significant increase in advanced level providers.
 - i. IEMT level vs. Paramedic level increases costs.

Problems we are trying to solve

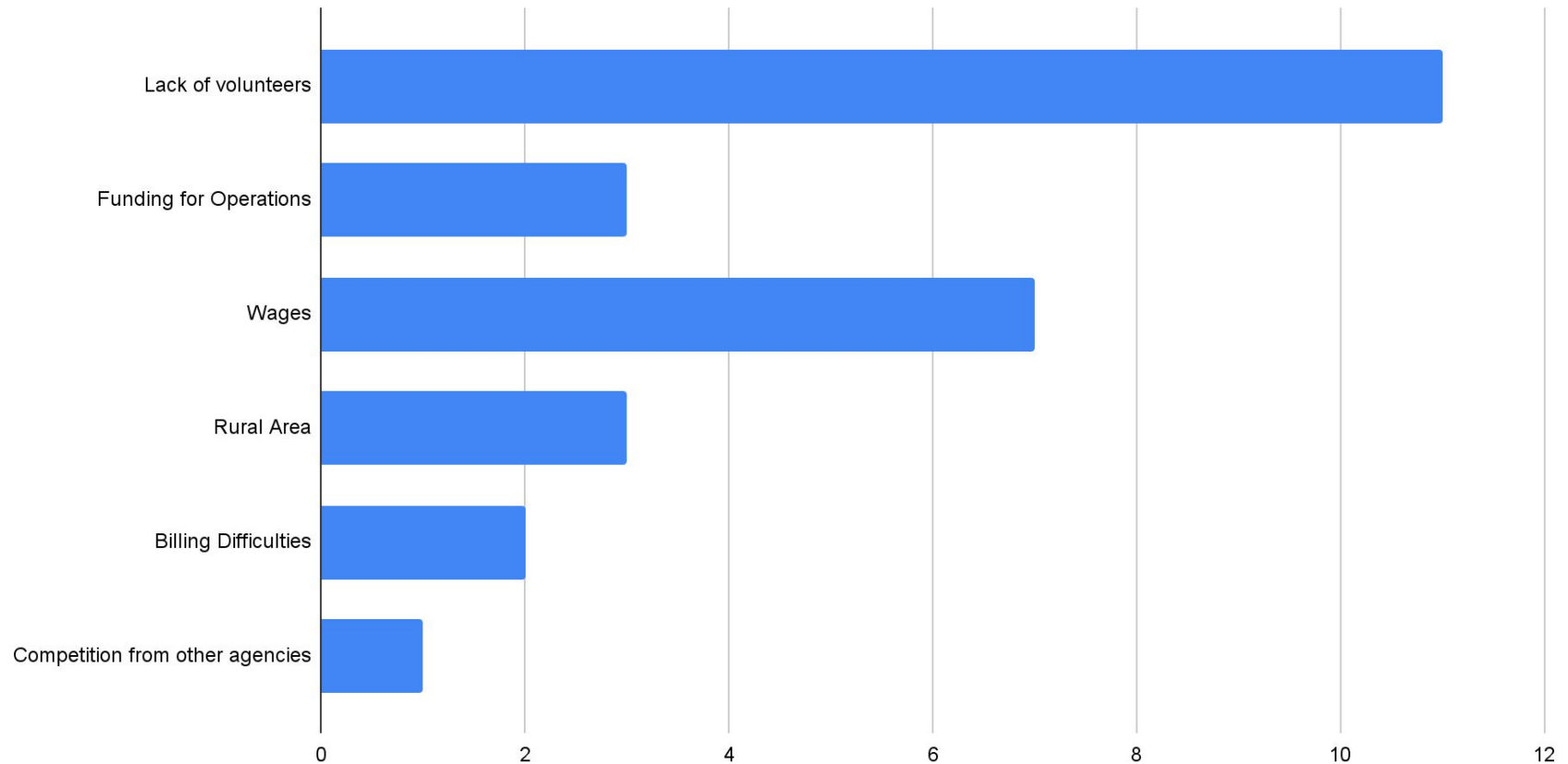
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1. **Access to care in rural settings.**

- a. The smaller the EMS agency, the more difficult it is to sustain operations through revenue.
 - i. EMS agencies have high fixed costs.
 - 1. Readiness matters.
 - 2. Must staff for unpredictable and highly variable demand.
 - ii. Smaller population base = fewer calls = less revenue to sustain operations.
 - iii. An increasing shortage of volunteers.

Challenges to Staffing an EMS Agency

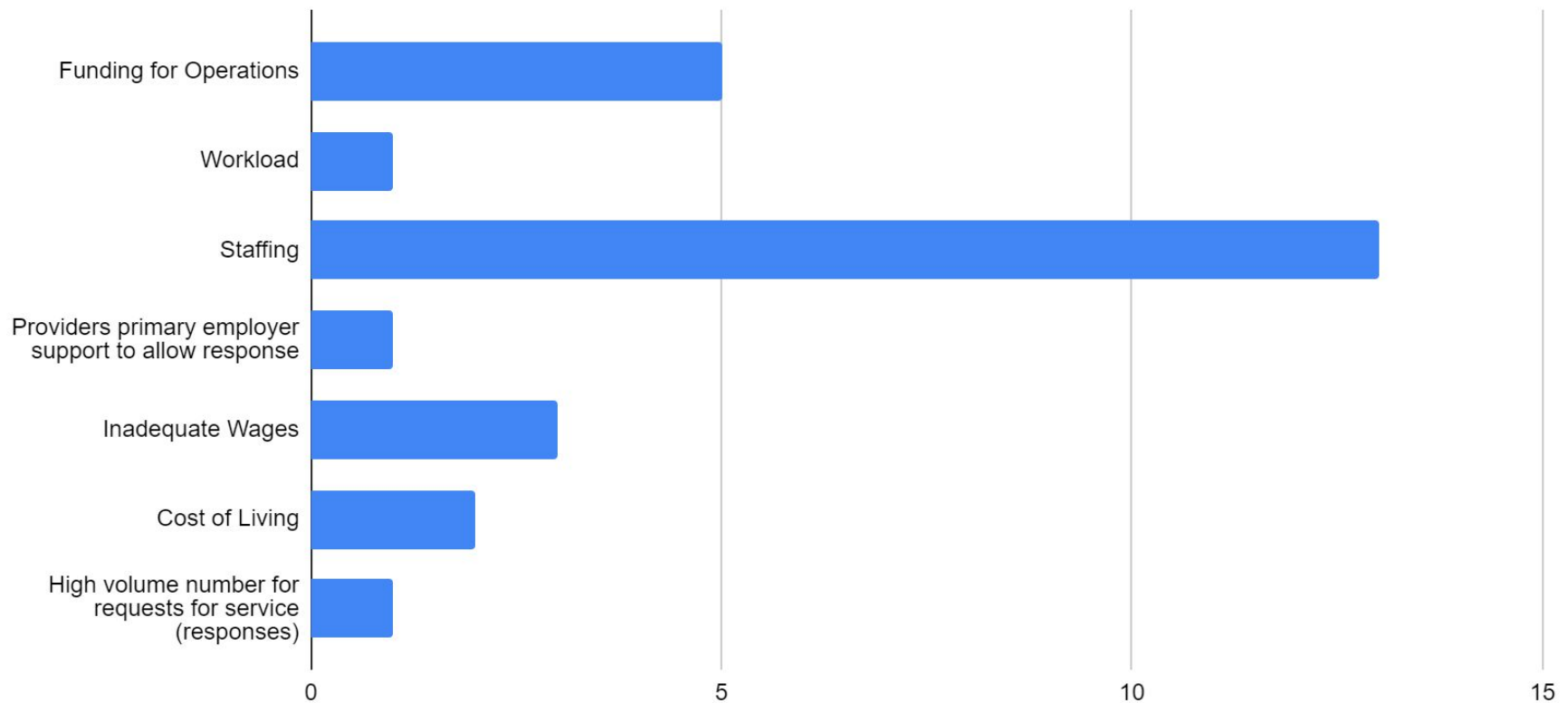
Wyoming EMS Agency Response: Barriers to staffing an Agency



Source: Wyoming Ambulance and Reporting System (WARS)

Top Challenge to Sustainability

What do you see as barriers to sustainability of emergency medical services in your area?



For Discussion

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1. What are the challenges to sustainability your agency is currently facing?
2. What are the strengths of your local agency?
3. What are your expectations surrounding the EMS system
 - a. 911 vs. interfacility
 - b. Access vs quality of care
4. Are you currently experiencing a shortfall in funds?
 - a. How are you currently addressing this issue?
5. What are potential solutions to sustainability?
 - a. Local
 - b. State
 - c. Federal