

Emergency Medical Services Stabilization and Regionalization Virtual Conference - June 28, 2022

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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**.

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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EMS 911 Transporting Agency Replaced by another Agency

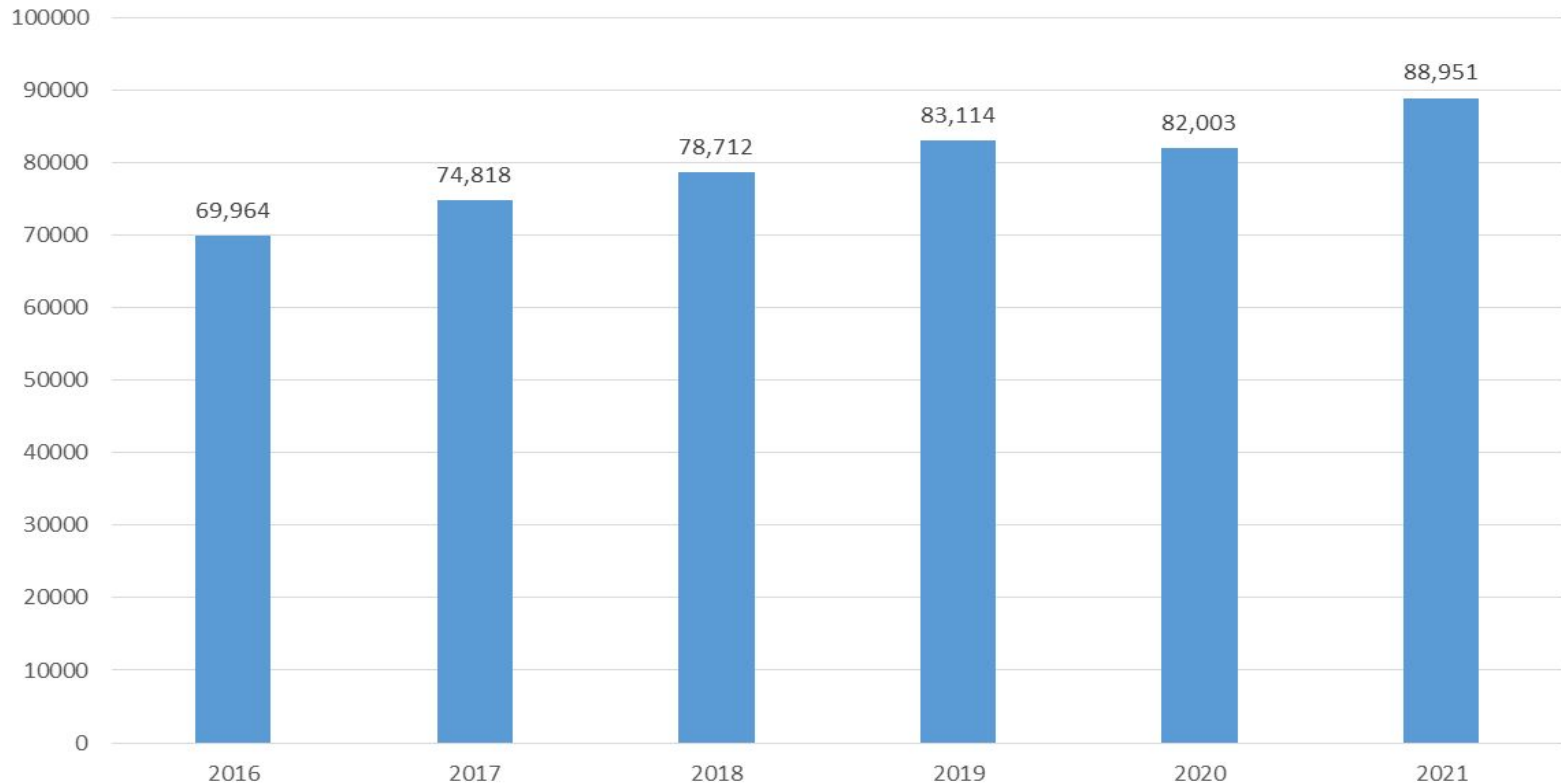
Agency Name	License Expiration Date	Region	New Agency
Eastern Wyoming Ambulance Service	13/31/2015	3	Platte County Memorial Hospital EMS
Fremont County Ambulance	12/31/2016	2	Guardian EMS
Guernsey Ambulance	1/10/2017	3	Platte County Memorial Hospital EMS
Atwood Family Services	12/31/2017	5	Guardian EMS
Guardian EMS	12/31/2018	5	Cody Regional Health
Guardian EMS	12/31/2018	2	American Medical Response Fremont County
Washakie County EMS	5/3/2021	5	Cody Regional Health
American Medical Response Fremont County	6/30/2021	2	Frontier Ambulance
Newcastle Ambulance Service	6/30/2021	1	Campbell County Health EMS
Alpine EMS Inc.	12/31/2021	4	Star Valley Health EMS
Thayne Ambulance Service	12/31/2021	4	Star Valley Health EMS

EMS Transporting Agencies that Closed

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

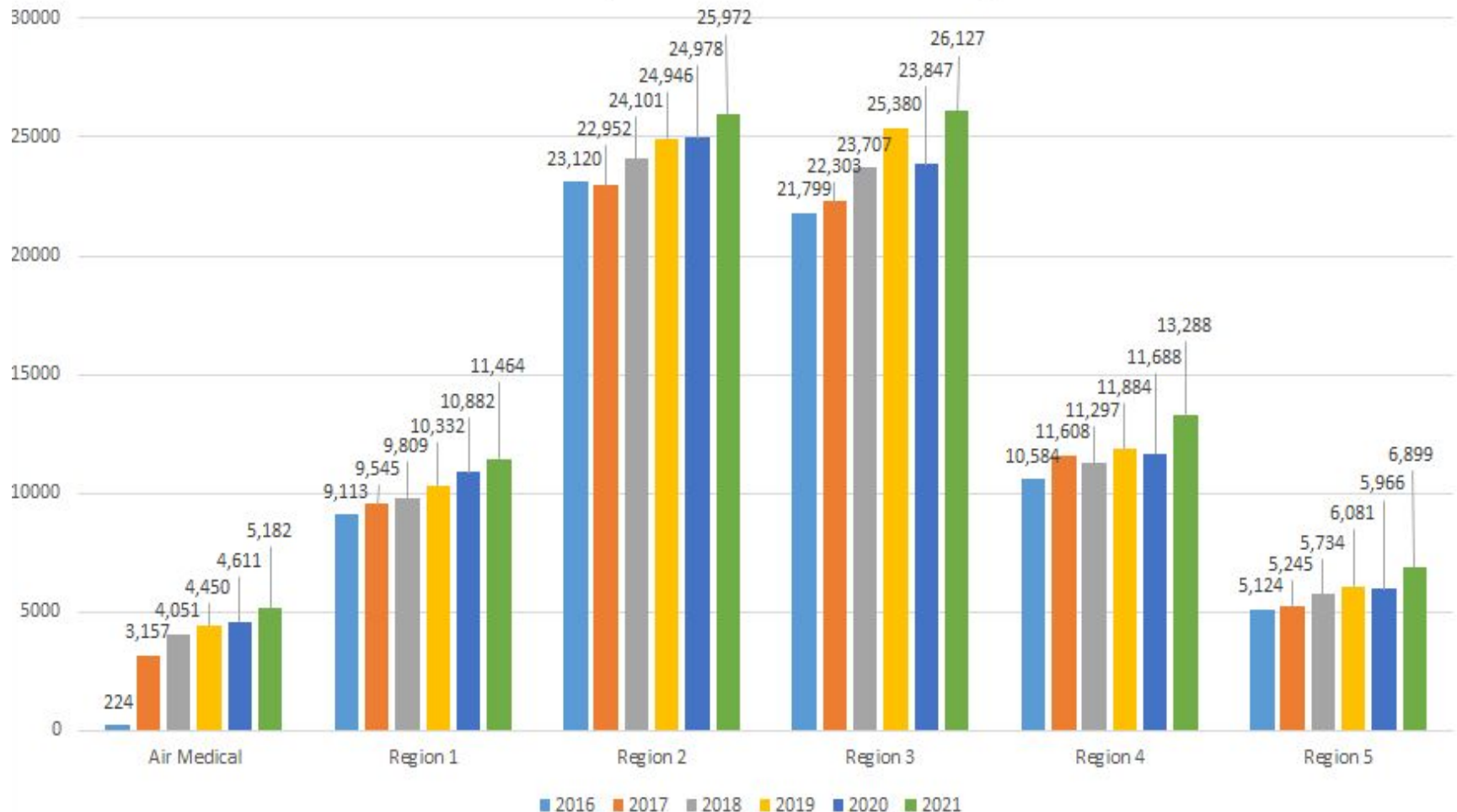
In the past six (6) years EMS requests for service have increased by 27.1%

EMS Request for Service 2016 through 2021



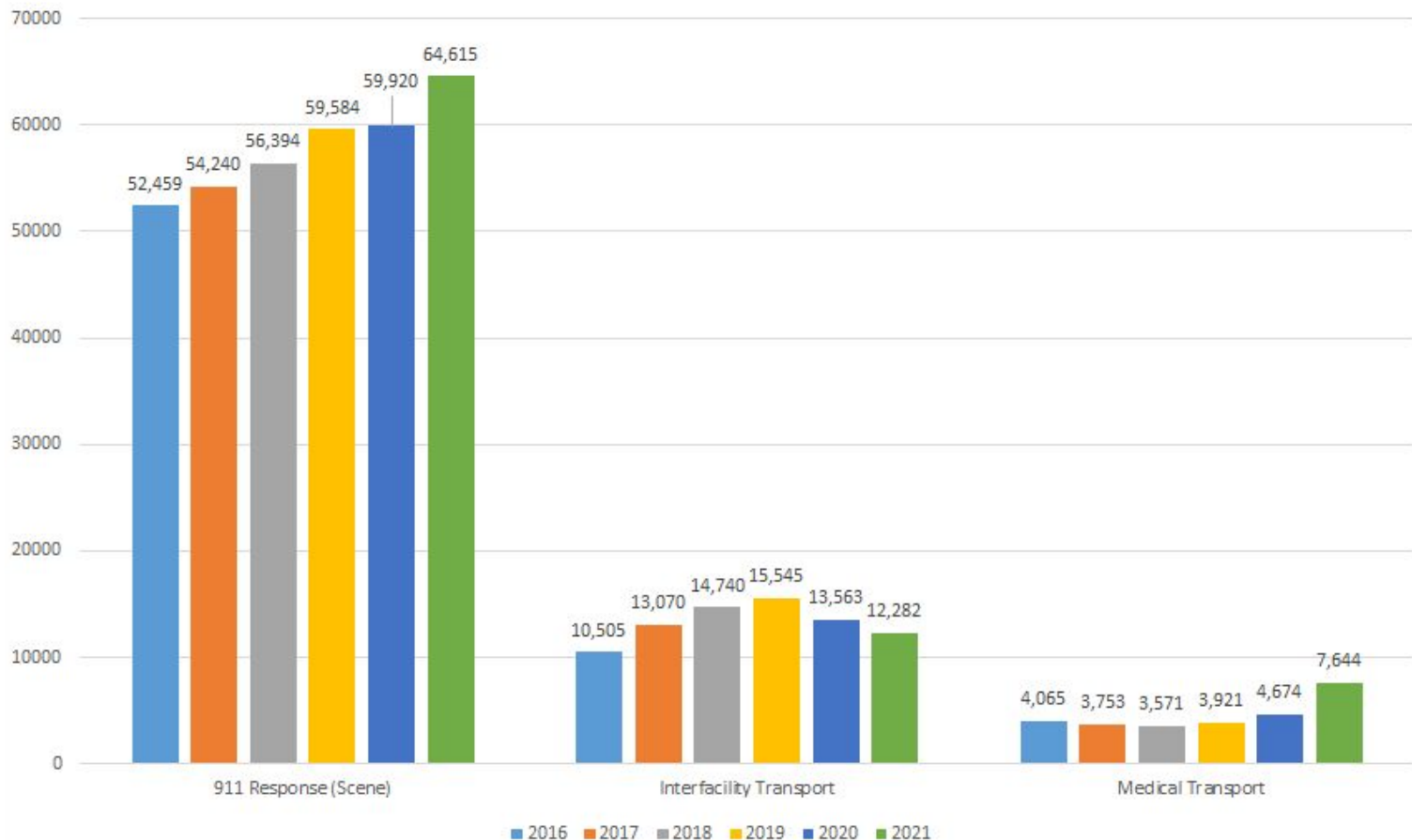
Filters: eTimes.03 is not empty, Negative Chute and Response times removed
Reporting Date: 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2021. 2016 Air Medical report is limited
Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

Each Region has experienced an 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 70% of service calls, but ~35% of them do not pay. Most interfacility transports do.



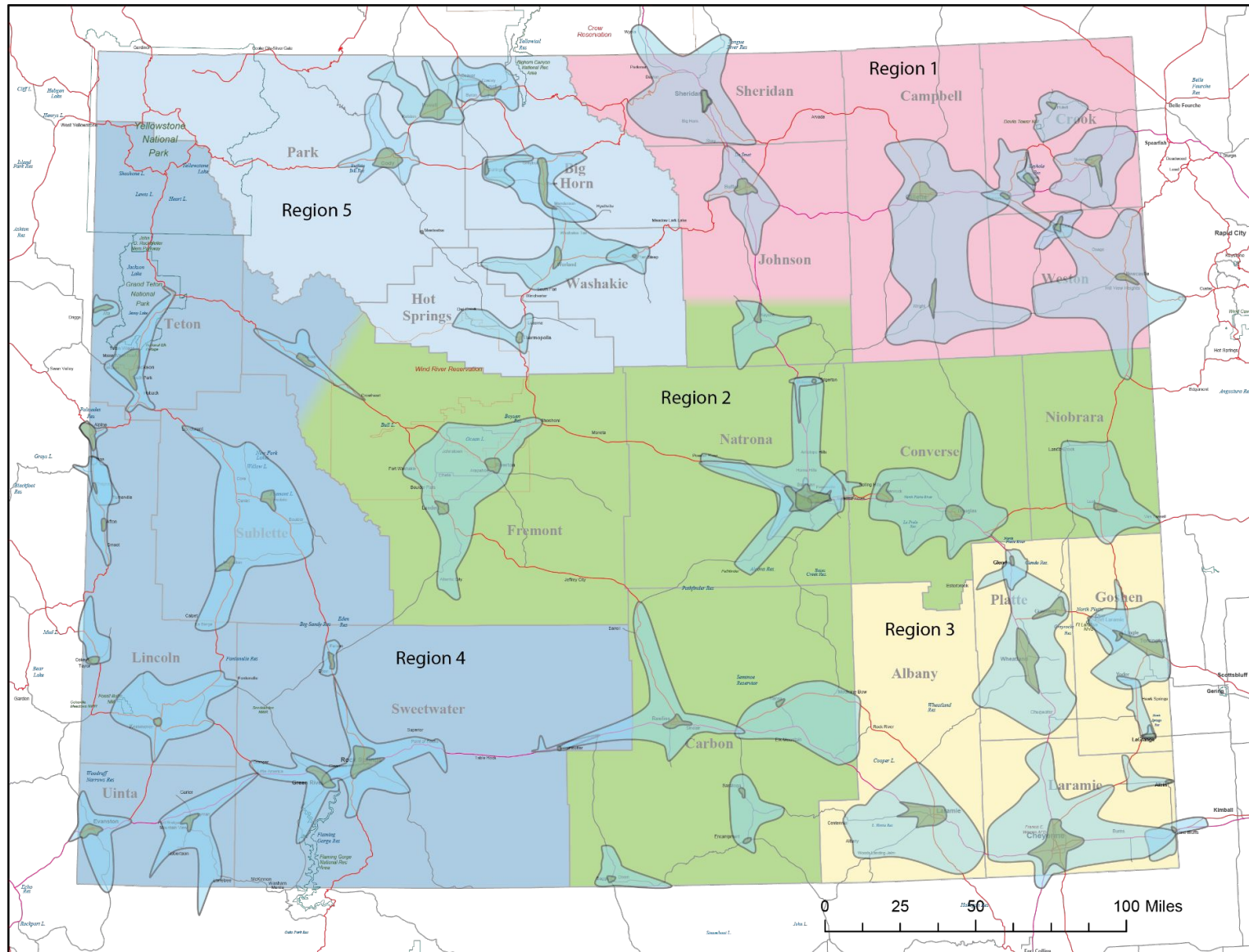
Filters: eTimes.03 is not empty, Negative Chute and Response times removed, Top 3 types of service requested (Not listed: Intercepts, Mutual Aid, Public Assistance, and Standbys which is ~5% of all responses)

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

Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

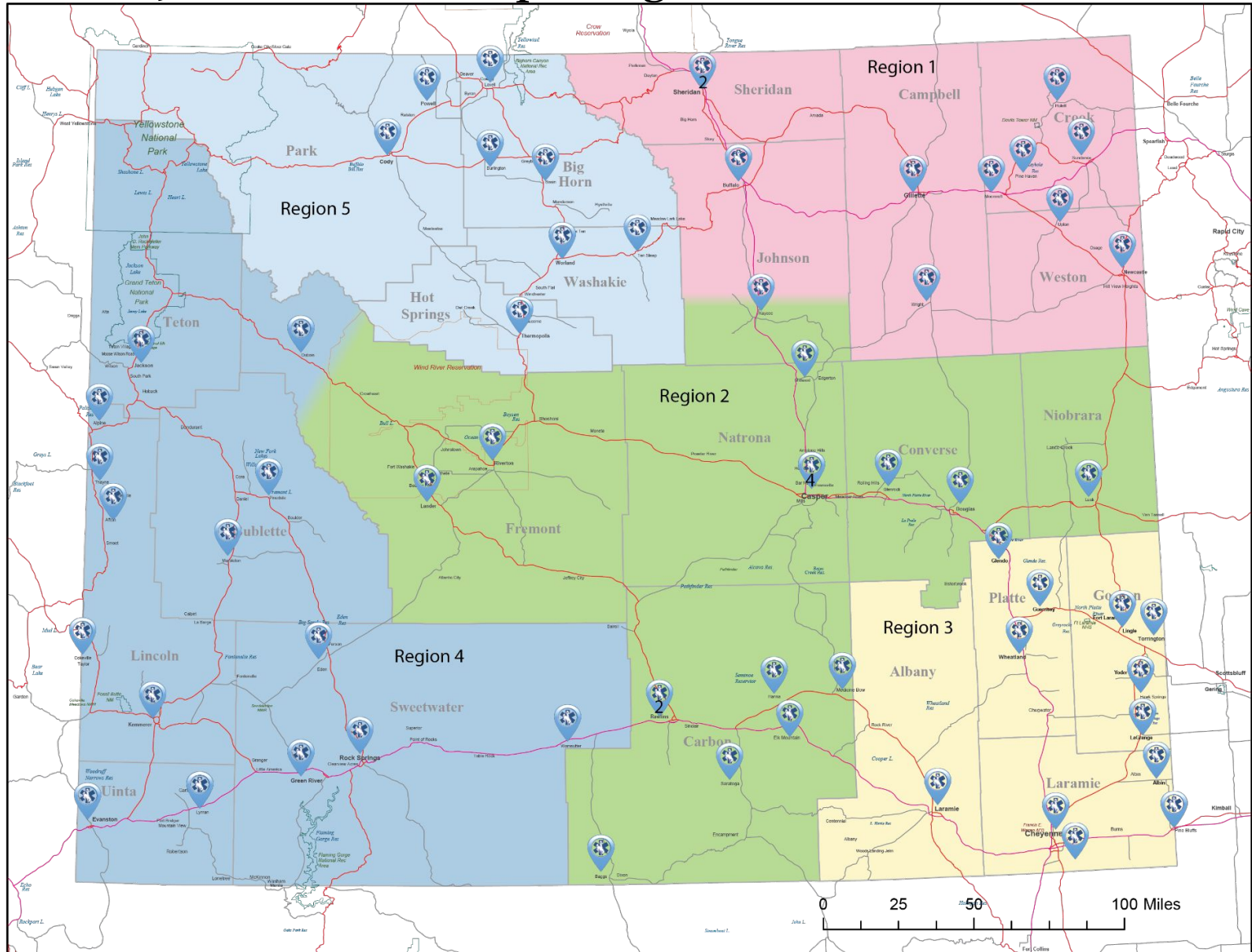
EMS Response Times Overlay (2019)

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)

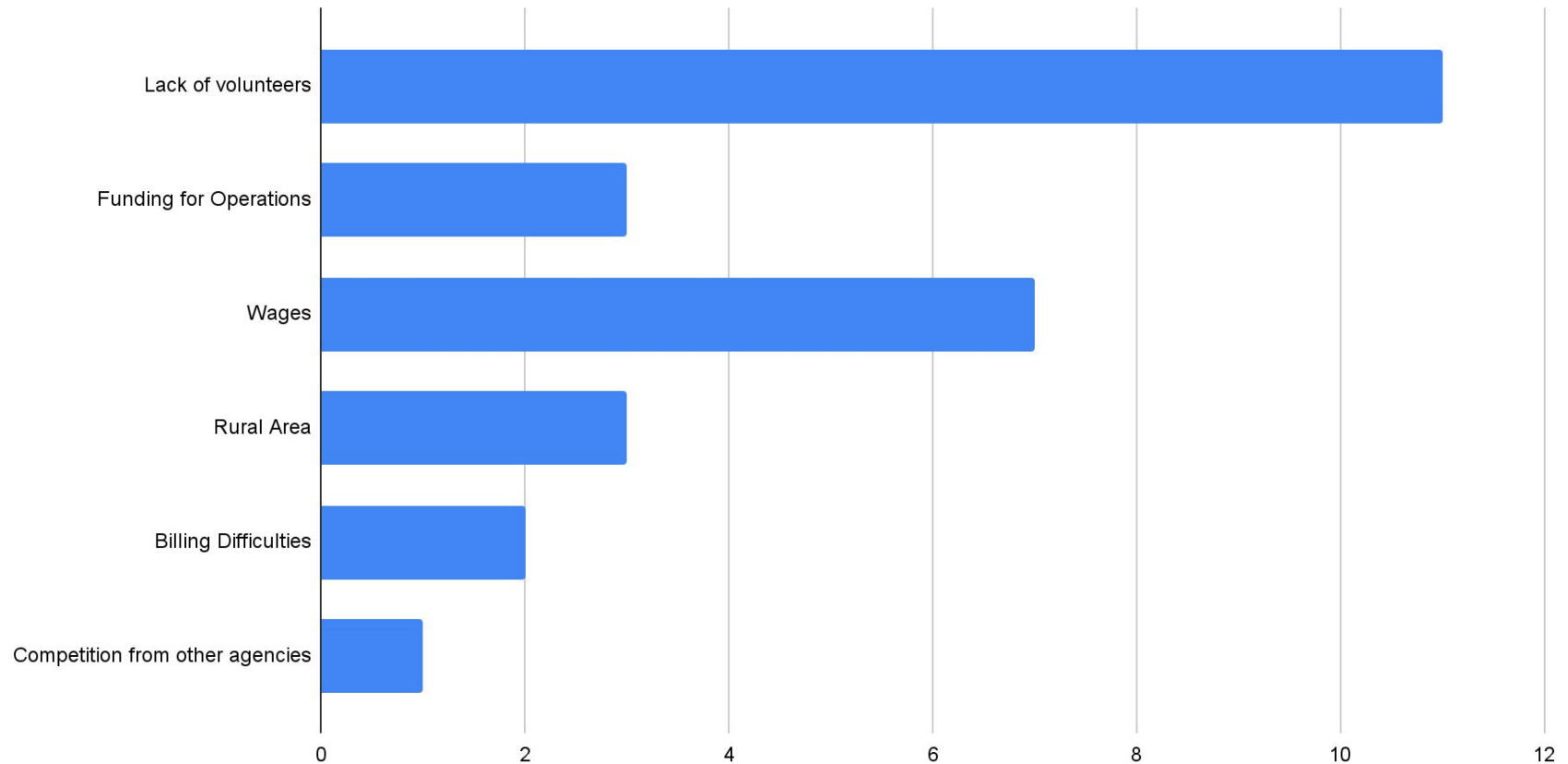
Problems we are trying to solve

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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.
2. **Sustainability.**
 - 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

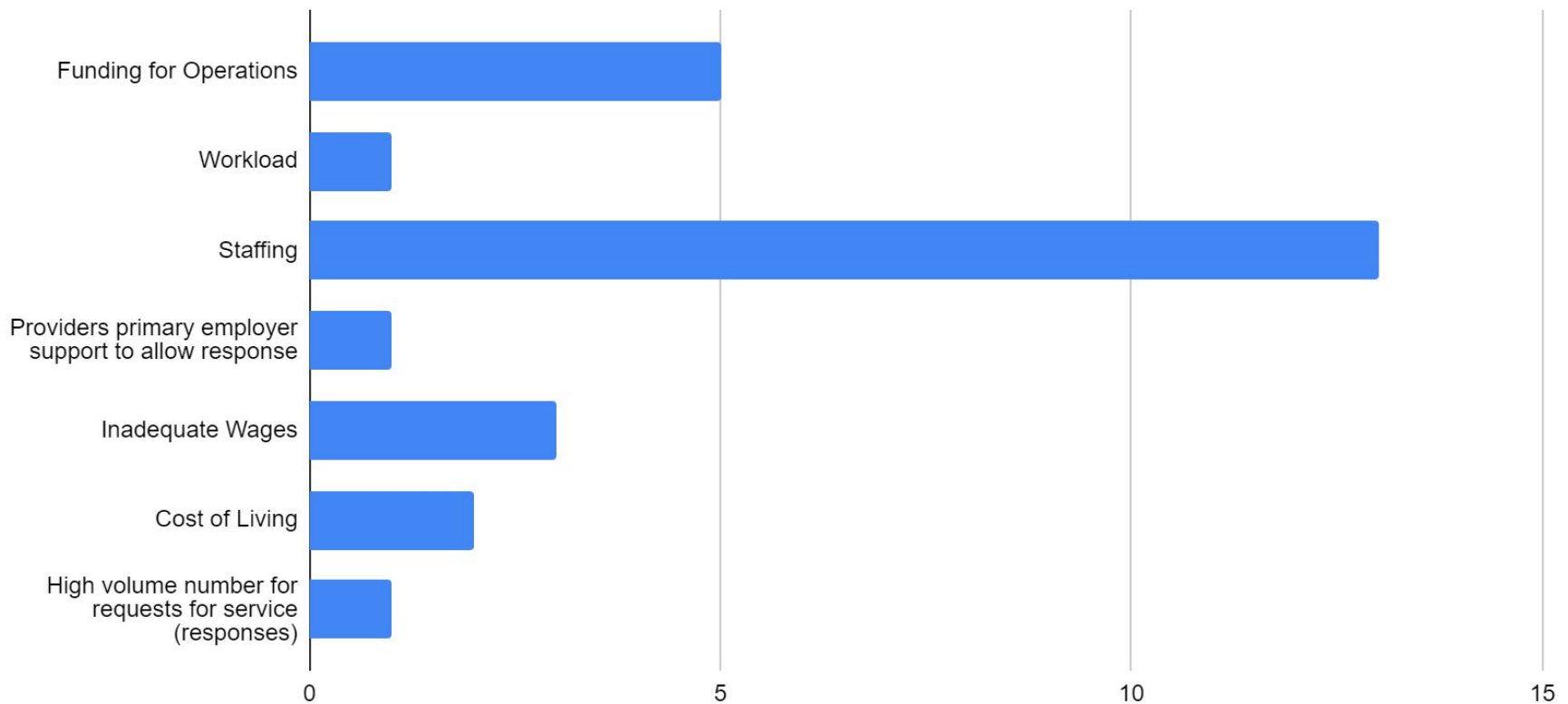
Wyoming EMS Agency Response: Barriers to staffing an Agency



Source: Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System (WATRS)

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