



2017

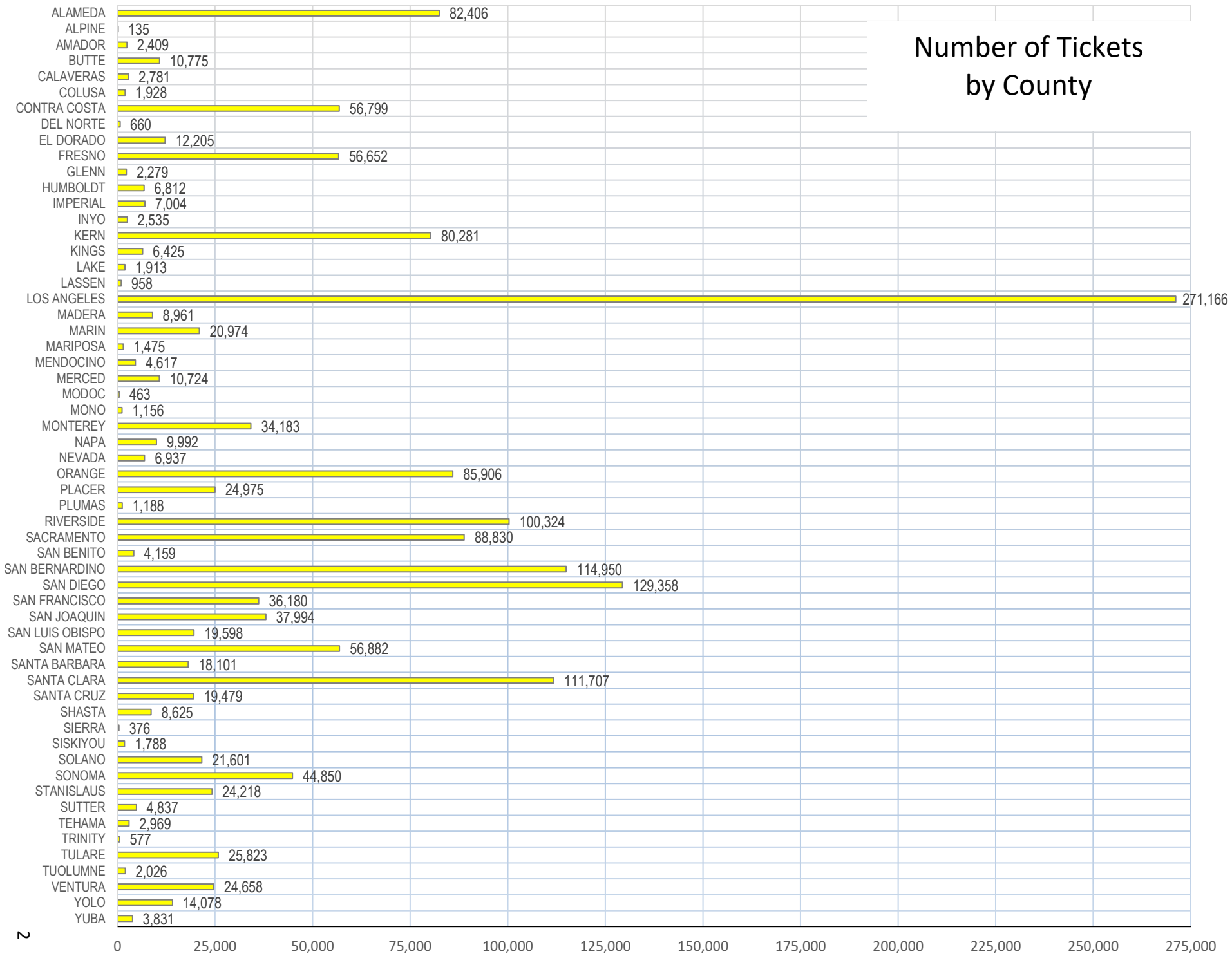
CARCGA

Incident Event Report

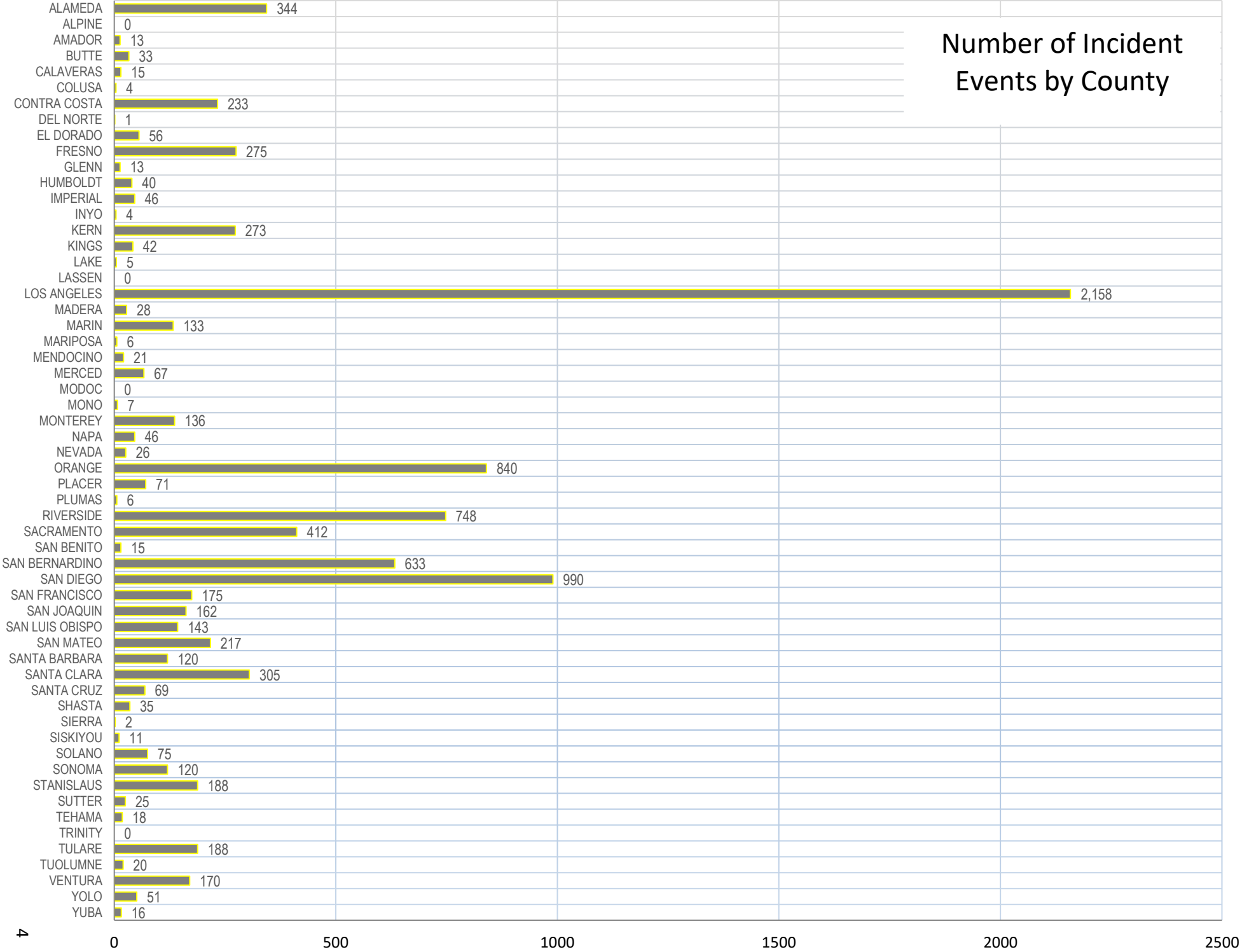
2017 Distribution of Tickets



Number of Tickets by County

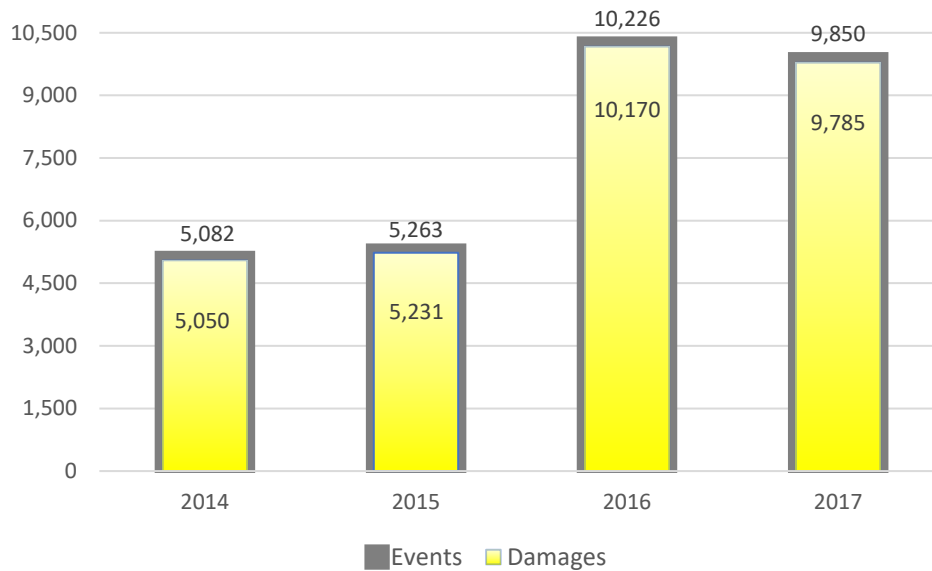


Number of Incident Events by County

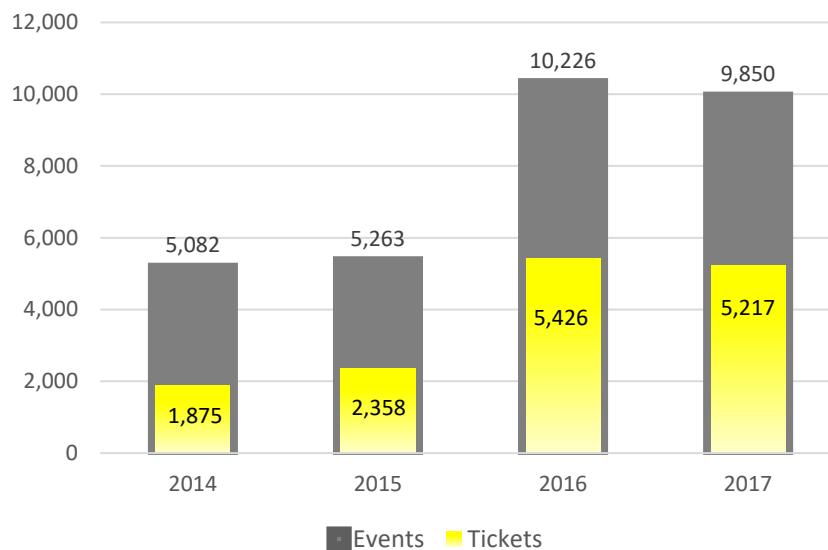


In its 4th year of accepting data, the California Regional Common Ground Alliance (CARCGA) Virtual Private Damage Information Reporting Tool (aka California 811 Virtual Private DIRT) had 9,850 reports of incident events. An incident event is the occurrence of excavator downtime, damages, near misses and other violations of California Government Code section 4216 et seq. This statewide information is voluntarily provided by operators and excavators. All statistics following are garnered from the voluntarily provided information.

99% of the incident events reported are damages – which has been consistent over the last 4 years of reporting.

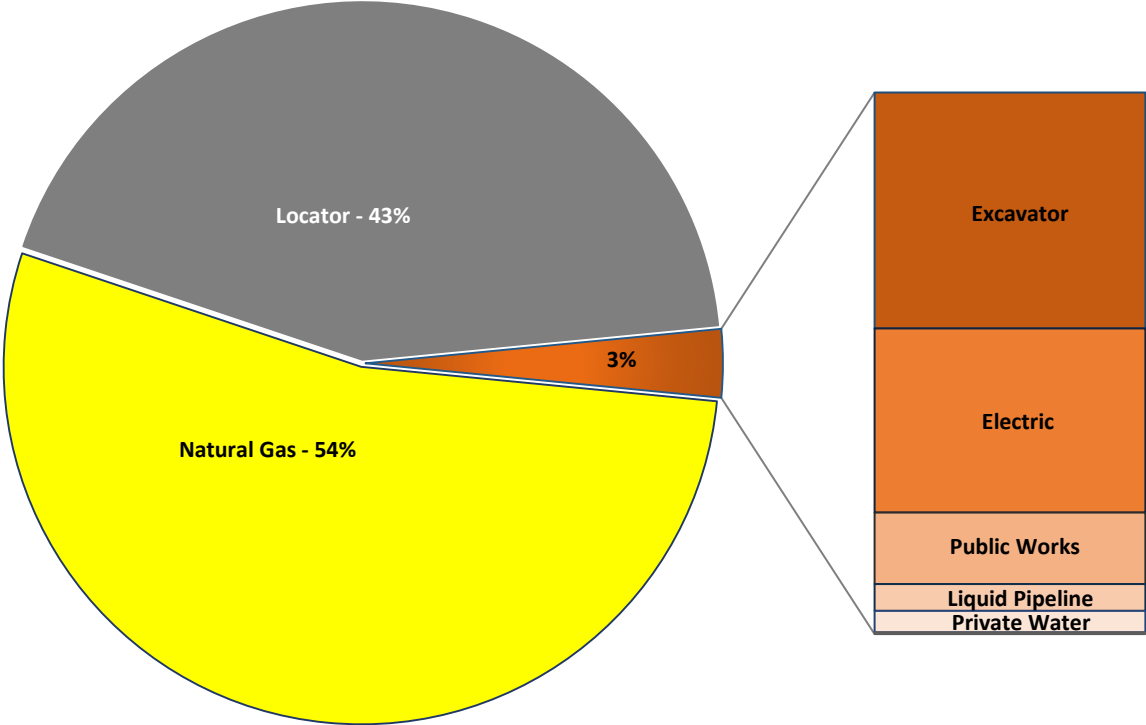


For the past 2 years, the number of incident events that had a ticket has remained the same at 53%.

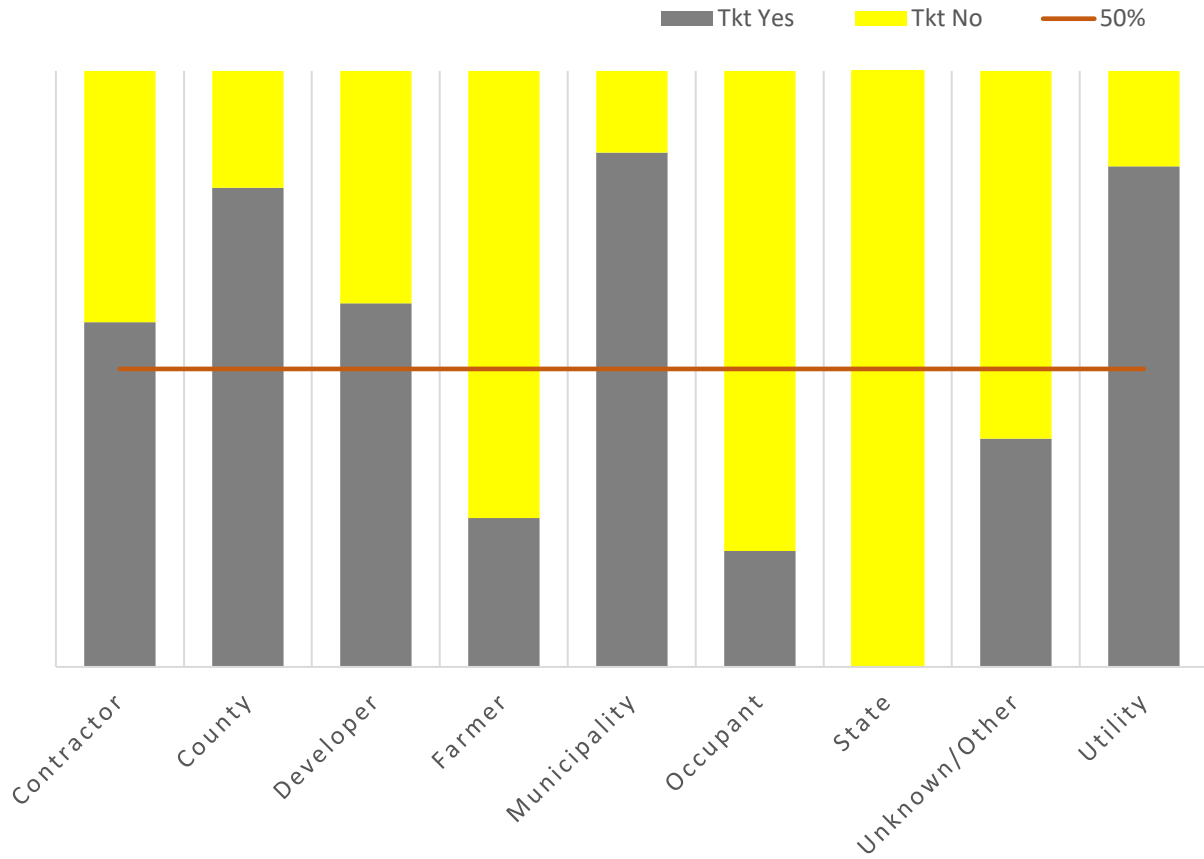


Natural Gas & Locator reported 97% of the 2017 incident events.

Reporting Stakeholders

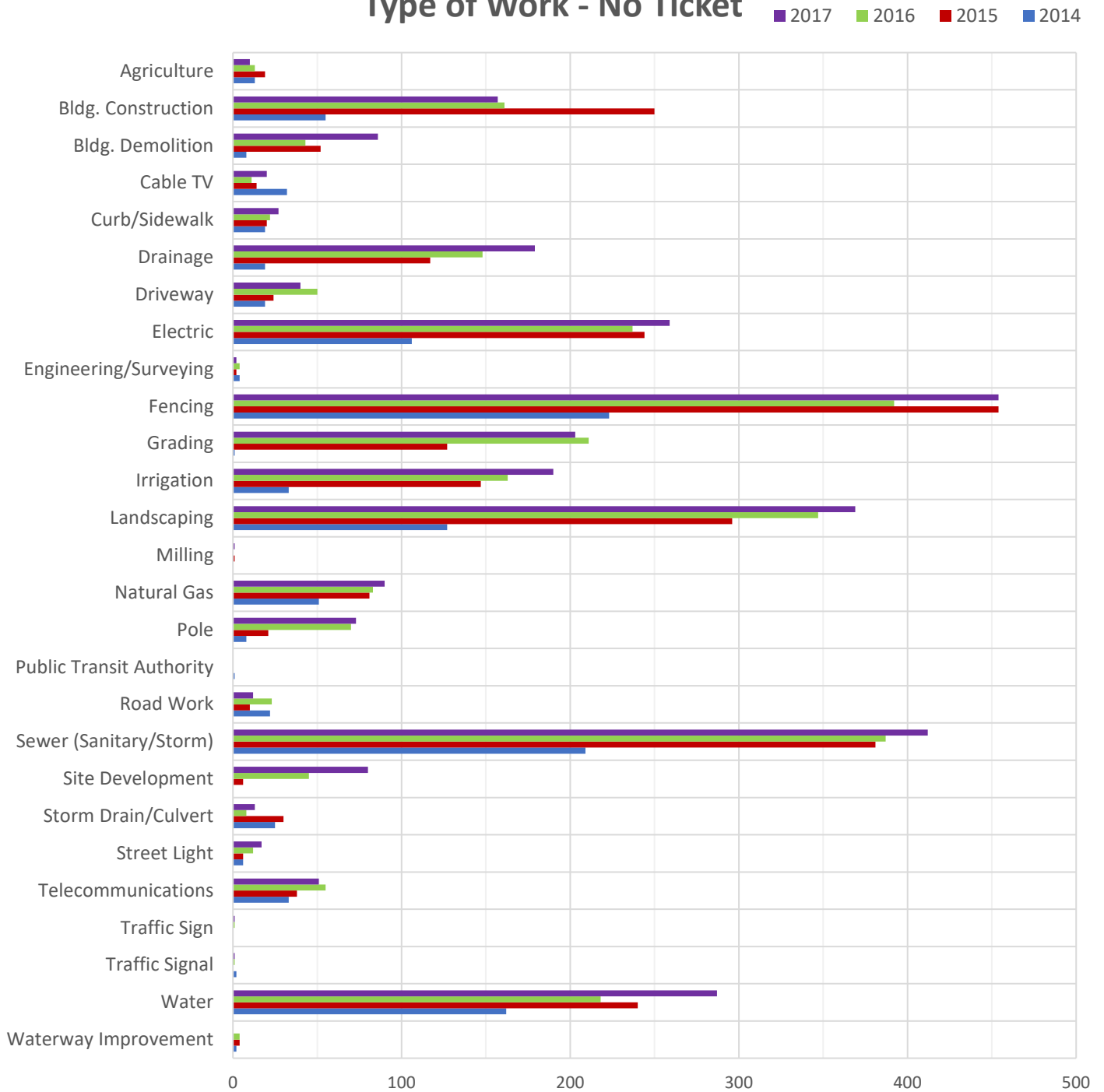


Excavator types most likely to get a ticket are municipalities and utilities, while occupants and farmers are least likely to get a ticket. There was only 1 incident event reported with the excavator type of state and there was no ticket. From the reported incident events in 2017, contractors obtained a ticket 58% of the time.



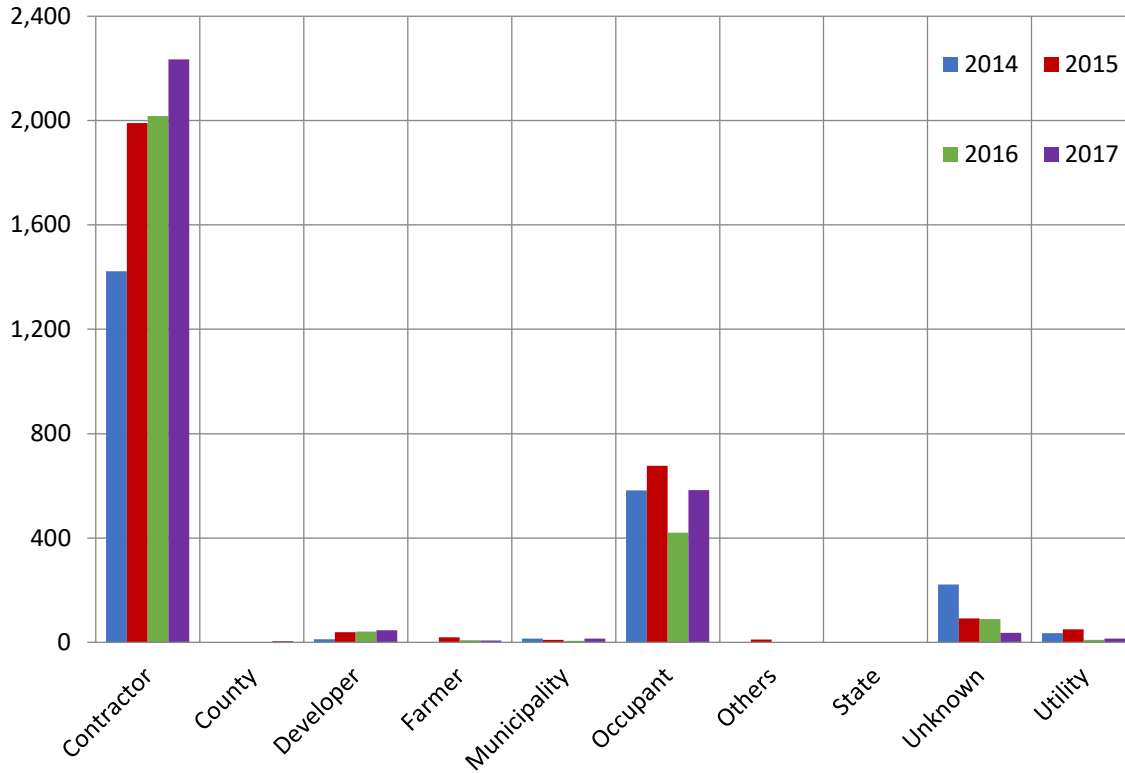
Over the last 4 years of data collected, the top three types of work that do not obtain a ticket before digging are fencing, landscaping and sewer. This is after removing data not collected, unknown and other (which was the largest data set).

Type of Work - No Ticket



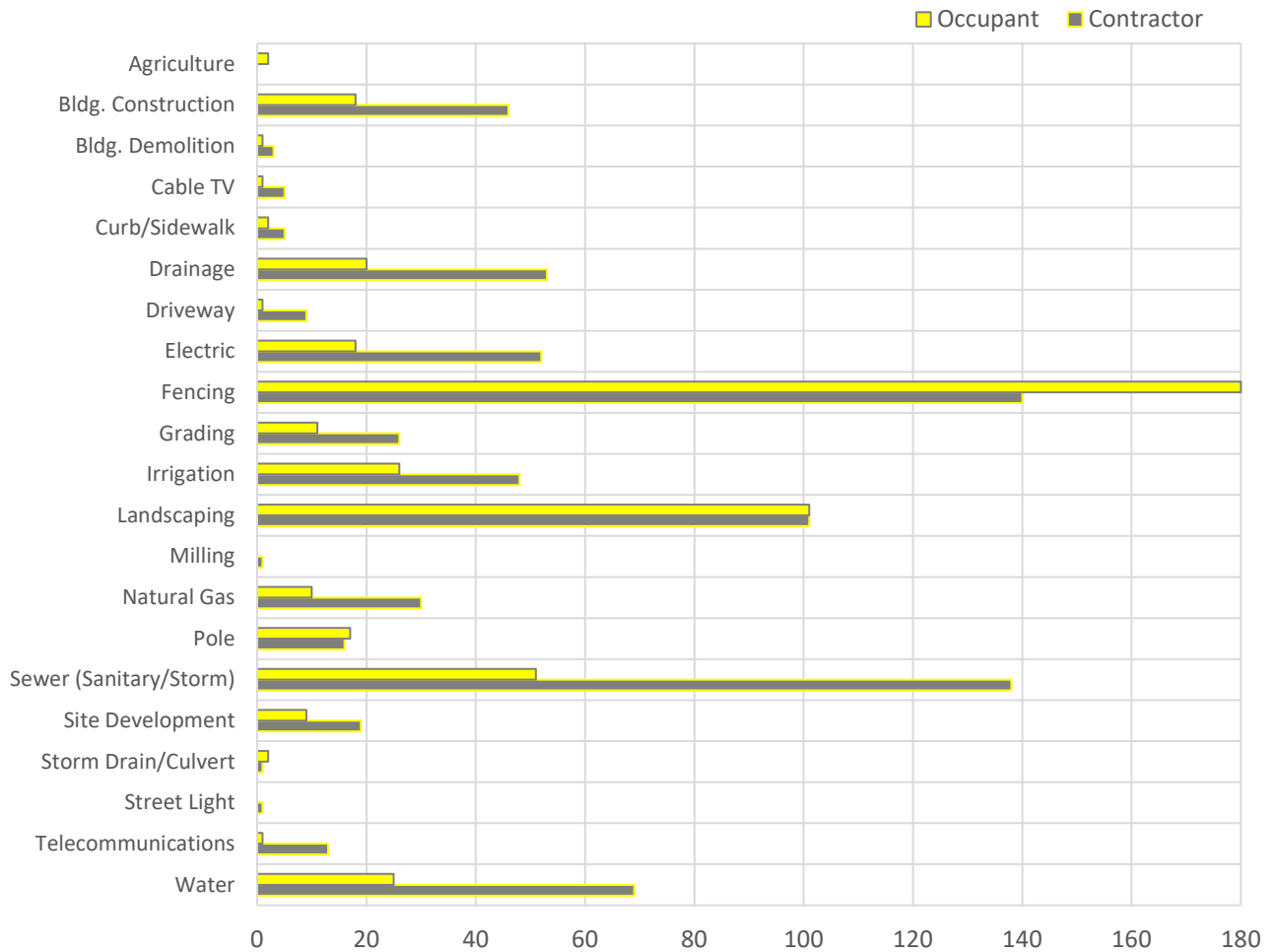
2014 – 2017 shows that of the incident events listed as work on private property the work is predominately done by contractors. In 2017, excavation by contractors resulted in 76% of the incident events reported on private property. Of those incident events, 71% were without tickets. California Government Code requires contractors to obtain a ticket regardless of where the excavation will be taking place.

Excavator Type Working on Private Property



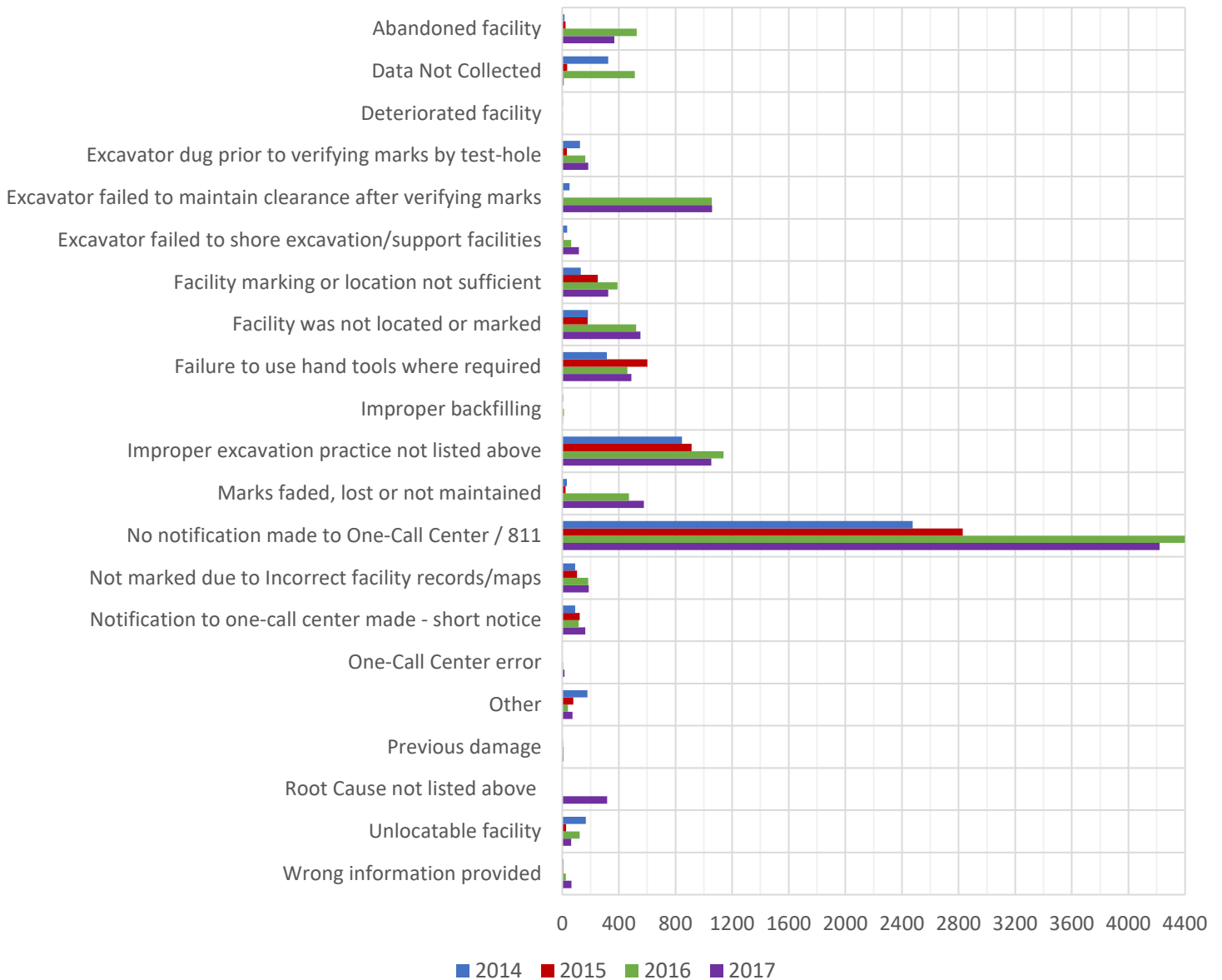
In 2017, of work done on private property with hand tools without a ticket, fencing work was number one from both occupants and contractors. Contractors doing sewer work was second and landscaping by both contractors and occupants was third.

No Ticket - Type of Work on Private Property Using Hand Tools



The voluntary data supplied continues to show that the number one root cause over the past four years continues to be no notification made to the one-call center or no ticket.

Incident Event Root Causes 2014-2017



The same incident events (same location, same date of incident and the same work type) reported by different stakeholder groups (excavator, locator and facility owner) accounted for approximately 6% of the 9,850 incidents reported. An interesting observation was that the locator and facility owner did not always have the same root cause listed for the “same incident”. 9% of the incident events that were listed as “No ticket” did not list the root cause as “no notification to 811 – no ticket”. Better data input after an investigation might yield a more accurate primary cause while contributing secondary cause or causes should be listed under additional comments.

While some trends can be seen from the data supplied, to have accurate information requires those that supply the data to thoroughly check their information before input. An example of questionable input is of the 4,633 incident events that listed no ticket, only 4,220 listed the root cause as no notification to one-call center. Data gathering needs to strive for precise information and not use “data not collected” or “unknown” as an option. The California Regional Common Ground Alliance might want to consider DIRT workshops to show those that are inputting data how important accurate data input is to determine trends.

Damage prevention is a shared responsibility and awareness of the 811 process should be the primary focus of outreach for all stakeholders. All stakeholders can be safe digging partners and deliver the message to contact 811 before anyone digs.