

Groundwater Use in South Carolina

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline).....	339
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state.....	5.00%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd)	114
Percentage of total groundwater.....	33.6%
Percentage of total public supply	18.4%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd)	115
Percentage of total groundwater.....	33.9%
Percentage of total individual household supply	100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd)	67.7
Percentage of total groundwater.....	20.0%
Percentage of total irrigation.....	54.2%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd)	7.23
Percentage of total groundwater.....	2.13%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture.....	31.4%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd)	22.7
Percentage of total groundwater.....	6.70%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied	5.85%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd)	6.69
Percentage of total groundwater.....	1.97%
Percentage of total mining	79.4%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd)	4.86
Percentage of total groundwater.....	1.43%
Percentage of total thermoelectric.....	0.09%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

Groundwater's Role in South Carolina's Economic Vitality

- Few states can accurately or confidently determine how many residential wells are in place. For each region, the American Housing Survey by the U.S. Census provides regional data. The South region includes the states of Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The last American Housing Survey indicates this region had 4,360,000¹ households served by residential wells, with an average of 2.58² persons per household. The U.S. Census stopped asking citizens their source of water supply following the 1990 Census. The USGS estimates the population of self-supplied water supply users in South Carolina to be 1,150,000³.
- 379 community water systems use groundwater for 501,000 people⁴.
- 102 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 30,500 people⁴.
- 569 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 37,300 people⁴.
- 1,820 irrigation wells are in use serving 759 farms and 102,000 acres⁵.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau 2013 American Housing Survey.

² U.S. Census Bureau 2013 American Community Survey.

³ U.S. Geological Survey, November 2014 report on 2010 water use.

⁴ U.S. EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2014.

⁵ Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

* All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

South Carolina's Groundwater Industry Employment

Men and women working to provide and protect South Carolina's groundwater resources for the benefit of people, business, and our environment.

South Carolina's Contracting Employment

Drill and service water wells, install and service pumps, install and service point-of-use water treatment devices. This portion of the industry is characterized by small firms, many of which are multi-generation family-owned and operated.

- 79 firms employ an estimated 318 people⁶
- Annual estimated sales of \$80.2 million⁶

South Carolina's Scientists and Engineers Employment

Geologists, hydrogeologists, engineers, geochemists, geophysicists, microbiologists, regulators.

Environmental Consulting⁷

NAICS 54162: Establishments primarily engaged in providing advice and assistance on environmental issues, such as the control of environmental contamination from pollutants, toxic substances, and hazardous materials.

- 406 firms employ an estimated 1,170 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$200 million

Remediation⁸

NAICS 56291: Establishments include those engaged in remediation and cleanup of contaminated buildings, mine sites, soil, or groundwater.

- 69 firms employ an estimated 618 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$88.9 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



⁶ InfoUSA, SIC 1781, March 2015.

⁷ Barnes Reports: Environmental Consulting Services Industry (NAICS 54162); C. Barnes & Co., 2015.

⁸ Barnes Reports: Remediation Services Industry (NAICS 56291); C. Barnes & Co., 2015.