

Groundwater Use in Wyoming

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline).....	550
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state.....	11.9%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd)	51.5
Percentage of total groundwater.....	9.36%
Percentage of total public supply	52.0%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd)	8.55
Percentage of total groundwater.....	1.55%
Percentage of total individual household supply	100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd)	437
Percentage of total groundwater.....	79.5%
Percentage of total irrigation.....	10.0%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd)	8.24
Percentage of total groundwater.....	1.50%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture.....	22.1%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd)	4.92
Percentage of total groundwater.....	0.89%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied	73.0%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd)	37.1
Percentage of total groundwater.....	6.75%
Percentage of total mining	74.1%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd)	2.29
Percentage of total groundwater.....	0.42%
Percentage of total thermoelectric.....	3.61%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

Groundwater's Role in Wyoming'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 West region includes the states of Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. The last American Housing Survey indicates this region had 1,540,000¹ households served by residential wells, with an average of 2.54² 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 Wyoming to be 114,000³.
- 215 community water systems use groundwater for 129,000 people⁴.
- 84 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 17,800 people⁴.
- 364 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 56,500 people⁴.
- 1,150 irrigation wells are in use serving 487 farms and 137,000 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.

Wyoming's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Wyoming'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.

- 65 firms employ an estimated 541 people⁶
- Annual estimated sales of \$122 million⁶

Wyoming'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.

- 117 firms employ an estimated 609 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$99.4 million

Remediation⁸

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

- 29 firms employ an estimated 248 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$33.4 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.