

Groundwater Use in Delaware

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 156
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 52.0%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 44.8
Percentage of total groundwater..... 28.7%
Percentage of total public supply 57.4%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 14.8
Percentage of total groundwater..... 9.49%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 86.1
Percentage of total groundwater..... 55.2%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 85.3%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 1.37
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.88%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 100%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 8.43
Percentage of total groundwater..... 5.40%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 8.78%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 0.44
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.28%
Percentage of total mining..... 51.8%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 0.37
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.24%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 4.73%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

¹ US Geological Survey, November 2014 report on 2010 water use.

² Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Water Supply and Well Permitting Section

³ US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2014.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

Groundwater's Role in Delaware's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 75,400 known residential wells statewide.²
- 214 community water systems use groundwater for 446,000 people³
- 83 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 21,900 people⁴
- 191 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 50,300 people⁵
- 1,560 irrigation wells used serving 344 farms and 109,000 acres⁶



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Delaware's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Delaware'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.⁷

- 9 firms employ an estimated 27 people⁸
- Annual estimated sales of \$7.10 million

Delaware's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

Environmental Consulting⁹

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.

- 105 firms employ an estimated 344 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$48.6 million

Remediation¹⁰

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

- 25 firms employ an estimated 312 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$47.8 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



⁷ InfoUSA, SIC 1781, March 2015.

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

⁹ Barnes Reports: Environmental Consulting Services Industry (NAICS 54162); C. Barnes & Co., 2015.

¹⁰ Barnes Reports: Remediation Services Industry (NAICS 56291); C. Barnes & Co., 2015.