

Groundwater Use in Idaho

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 5,350
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 30.2%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 247
Percentage of total groundwater..... 4.61%
Percentage of total public supply 89.49%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 70.2
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.31%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 4,900
Percentage of total groundwater..... 91.6%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 32.0%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 87.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.63%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 4.14%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 45.0
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.84%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 78.13%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 1.35
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.03%
Percentage of total mining..... 5.84%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 1.79
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.03%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 100%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

¹ US Geological Survey, Estimated use of water in the United States in 2015, published 2018.

² Idaho Department of Water Resources

³ US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2019.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

Groundwater's Role in Idaho's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 42,500 known residential wells statewide.²
- 674 community water systems use groundwater for 997,000 people³
- 236 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 49,300 people⁴
- 1,013 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 118,400 people⁵
- 9,190 irrigation wells used serving 3,070 farms and 1,430,000 acres⁶



Address 601 Dempsey Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081-8978 U.S.A.
Phone 800 551.7379 • 614 898.7791 **Fax** 614 898.7786
Email ngwa@ngwa.org **Websites** NGWA.org and WellOwner.org

Idaho's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Idaho'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

- 64 firms employ an estimated 402 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$125.9 million

Idaho's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

Environmental Consulting⁸

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.

- 237 firms employ an estimated 598 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$109.6 million

Remediation⁹

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

- 31 firms employ an estimated 413 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$110.6 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



⁷ InfoUSA, SIC 1781, June 2019.

⁸ Barnes Reports: Environmental Consulting Services Industry (NAICS 54162); C. Barnes & Co., 2019.

⁹ Barnes Reports: Remediation Services Industry (NAICS 56291); C. Barnes & Co., 2019.