Groundwater Use in Missouri

Overview

Total
Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline) .............................................. 1,740
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state ....................... 20.6%

Public Supply
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 282
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 16.2%
Percentage of total public supply .......................................... 35.4%

Individual Household
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 57.5
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 3.3%
Percentage of total individual household supply .................... 100%

Irrigation
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 1,300
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 74.7%
Percentage of total irrigation ................................................... 94.9%

Livestock/Aquaculture
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 22.9
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 1.32%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture .................. 10.1%

Industrial, Self-Supplied
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 42.4
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 2.44%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied .................. 49.8%

Mining
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 21.1
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 1.21%
Percentage of total mining ..................................................... 71.3%

Thermoelectric
Groundwater (mgd) ................................................................. 13.8
Percentage of total groundwater ................................................. 0.79%
Percentage of total thermoelectric ......................................... 0.24%

(mgd = million gallons per day)
*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

Groundwater’s Role in Missouri’s Economic Vitality

- Approximately 152,000 known residential wells statewide.2
- 1,219 community water systems use groundwater for 2,055,500 people
- 219 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 75,300 people
- 1,132 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 121,900 people
- 13,600 irrigation wells used serving 1,800 farms and 1,170,000 acres

2 Missouri DNR, Geological Survey
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
6 Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.
Missouri’s Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Missouri’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

- 113 firms employ an estimated 629 people
- Annual estimated sales of $152.7 million

Missouri’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.

- 302 firms employ an estimated 1,071 people
- Annual estimated sales of $204.5 million

Remediation9
NAICS 56291: Establishments include those engaged in remediation and cleanup of contaminated buildings, mine sites, soil, or groundwater.

- 108 firms employ an estimated 1,295 people
- Annual estimated sales of $335.2 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers
- Many more dedicated individuals

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7 InfoUSA, SIC 1781, June 2019.