

Groundwater Use in Mississippi

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 2,240
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 83.90%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 347
Percentage of total groundwater..... 15.49%
Percentage of total public supply 86.75%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 48.1
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.15%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 1,640
Percentage of total groundwater..... 73.21%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 92.66%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 94.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 4.21%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 65.51%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 72.8
Percentage of total groundwater..... 3.25%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 40.00%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 8.21
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.37%
Percentage of total mining..... 86.88%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 33.7
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.50%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 28.56%

(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, released 2018.

² US Census Bureau 2013 American Housing Survey.

³ US Census Bureau 2013 American Community Survey.

⁴ US Geological Survey, Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2015, released 2018.

⁵ US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2019.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

Groundwater's Role in Mississippi's Economic Vitality

- Few states can accurately or confidentially determine how many residential wells are in place. For each region, the American Housing Survey by the U.S. Census provides regional data. Mississippi is found in the South, along with these other states: Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The last American Housing Survey Census indicates this region had 4,360,000² households served by residential wells, with an average of 2.66³ persons per household. The USGS estimates the population of self-supplied water supply users in Mississippi to be 435,000, with 100% of their water supply from groundwater.⁴
- 1,025 community water systems use groundwater for 2,821,300 people⁵
- 70 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 61,400 people⁶
- 74 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 11,100 people⁷
- 14,700 irrigation wells used serving 1,450 farms and 1,610,000 acres⁸



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Mississippi's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Mississippi'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.⁹

- 47 firms employ an estimated 308 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$63.6 million

Mississippi's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

Environmental Consulting¹⁰

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.

- 131 firms employ an estimated 322 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$57.7 million

Remediation¹¹

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

- 43 firms employ an estimated 519 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$123.6 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



⁹ InfoUSA, SIC 1781, June 2019.

¹⁰ Barnes Reports: Environmental Consulting Services Industry (NAICS 54162); C. Barnes & Co., 2019.

¹¹ Barnes Reports: Remediation Services Industry (NAICS 56291); C. Barnes & Co., 2019.