

# Groundwater Use in New Jersey

## Overview<sup>1</sup>

### Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 569  
Percentage of total freshwater\* supply for state..... 30.27%

### Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 379  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 66.61%  
Percentage of total public supply ..... 32.12%

### Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 90.7  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 15.94%  
Percentage of total individual household supply ..... 100%

### Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 55.1  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 9.68%  
Percentage of total irrigation..... 58.70%

### Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 10.7  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.88%  
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 100%

### Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 30.0  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 5.27%  
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied ..... 31.88%

### Mining

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 1.48  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.26%  
Percentage of total mining..... 2.54%

### Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 2.08  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.37%  
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 0.58%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

\*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

<sup>1</sup> US Geological Survey, Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2015, released 2018.

<sup>2</sup> US Census Bureau 2013 American Housing Survey.

<sup>3</sup> US Census Bureau 2013 American Community Survey.

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

<sup>5</sup> US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2019.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

## Groundwater's Role in New Jersey'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. New Jersey is found in the Northeast, along with these other states: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The last American Housing Survey Census indicates this region had 3,210,000<sup>2</sup> households served by residential wells, with an average of 2.74<sup>3</sup> persons per household. The USGS estimates the population of self-supplied water supply users in New Jersey to be 966,000, with 100% of their water supply from groundwater.<sup>4</sup>
- 420 community water systems use groundwater for 2,259,900 people<sup>5</sup>
- 728 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 347,000 people<sup>6</sup>
- 2,404 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 432,600 people<sup>7</sup>
- 2,020 irrigation wells used serving 961 farms and 60,000 acres<sup>8</sup>



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# New Jersey's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

## New Jersey'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.<sup>9</sup>

- 84 firms employ an estimated 648 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$228.9 million

## New Jersey's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

### Environmental Consulting<sup>10</sup>

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.

- 991 firms employ an estimated 4,008 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$800.7 million

### Remediation<sup>11</sup>

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

- 296 firms employ an estimated 3,511 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$894.8 million

### Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



<sup>9</sup> InfoUSA, SIC 1781, June 2019.

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

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