

# Groundwater Use in Oklahoma

## Overview<sup>1</sup>

### Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 635  
Percentage of total freshwater\* supply for state..... 35.9%

### Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 130  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 20.5%  
Percentage of total public supply ..... 19.8%

### Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 26.8  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 4.22%  
Percentage of total individual household supply ..... 100%

### Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 429  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 67.6%  
Percentage of total irrigation..... 76.1%

### Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 35.8  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 5.63%  
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 35.9%

### Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 6.46  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.02%  
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied ..... 31.1%

### Mining

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 4.75  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.75%  
Percentage of total mining..... 26.4%

### Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 1.26  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.20%  
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 0.33%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

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

<sup>1</sup> US Geological Survey, November 2014 report on 2010 water use.

<sup>2</sup> Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Water Use Permitting

<sup>3</sup> US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2014.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

## Groundwater's Role in Oklahoma's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 67,000 known residential wells statewide.<sup>2</sup>
- 471 community water systems use groundwater for 612,000 people<sup>3</sup>
- 90 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 18,500 people<sup>4</sup>
- 358 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 25,200 people<sup>5</sup>
- 4,910 irrigation wells used serving 1,290 farms and 375,000 acres<sup>6</sup>



**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](mailto:ngwa@ngwa.org) **Websites** [NGWA.org](http://NGWA.org) and [WellOwner.org](http://WellOwner.org)

# Oklahoma's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

## Oklahoma'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>7</sup>

- 154 firms employ an estimated 2,570 people<sup>8</sup>
- Annual estimated sales of \$620 million

## Oklahoma's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

### Environmental Consulting<sup>9</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.

- 405 firms employ an estimated 977 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$127 million

### Remediation<sup>10</sup>

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

- 70 firms employ an estimated 982 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$153 million

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

- Many more dedicated individuals



<sup>7</sup> InfoUSA, SIC 1781, March 2015.

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

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

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