

Groundwater Use in Oklahoma

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 960
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 53.0%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 102
Percentage of total groundwater..... 10.6%
Percentage of total public supply 16.7%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 30.3
Percentage of total groundwater..... 3.16%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 787
Percentage of total groundwater..... 82.0%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 84.5%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 27.5
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.86%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 37.2%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 7.27
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.76%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 14.0%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 4.22
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.44%
Percentage of total mining..... 11.3%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 1.59
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.17%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 2.22%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

Groundwater's Role in Oklahoma's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 67,000 known residential wells statewide.²
- 453 community water systems use groundwater for 621,000 people³
- 85 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 17,600 people⁴
- 369 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 27,400 people⁵
- 4,910 irrigation wells used serving 1,290 farms and 375,000 acres⁶

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

² Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Water Use Permitting

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.



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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.⁷

- 119 firms employ an estimated 1,833 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$402.3 million

Oklahoma'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.

- 282 firms employ an estimated 987 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$186.5 million

Remediation⁹

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

- 71 firms employ an estimated 867 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$229.4 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.