

Groundwater Use in Oregon

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 1,480
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 22.5%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 147
Percentage of total groundwater..... 9.9%
Percentage of total public supply 25.9%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 66.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 4.49%
Percentage of total individual household supply 89.9%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 1,220
Percentage of total groundwater..... 82.4%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 23.6%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 35.8
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.42%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 5.51%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 3.45
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.23%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 3.29%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 8.45
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.57%
Percentage of total mining..... 74.8%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 1.57
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.11%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 13.8%

(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 Oregon Water Resources Department

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.

Groundwater's Role in Oregon's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 225,000 known residential wells statewide.²
- 667 community water systems use groundwater for 573,200 people³
- 320 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 71,500 people⁴
- 1,229 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 168,800 people⁵
- 8,780 irrigation wells used serving 4,800 farms and 510,000 acres⁶



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Oregon's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Oregon'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

- 87 firms employ an estimated 564 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$145.4 million

Oregon'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.

- 561 firms employ an estimated 2,123 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$406.5 million

Remediation⁹

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

- 81 firms employ an estimated 793 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$188.7 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.