

Groundwater Use in Wisconsin

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 754
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 12.2%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 261
Percentage of total groundwater..... 34.6%
Percentage of total public supply 54.3%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 78.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 10.4%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 256
Percentage of total groundwater..... 34.0%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 67.6%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 91.3
Percentage of total groundwater..... 12.1%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 70.8%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 54.3
Percentage of total groundwater..... 7.20%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 12.5%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 10.9
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.45%
Percentage of total mining..... 55.6%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 2.78
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.37%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 0.06%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

¹ US Geological Survey, November 2014 report on 2010 water use.

² Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Well Construction Reports

³ US EPA Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System Data for 2014.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Census of Agriculture 2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

Groundwater's Role in Wisconsin's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 340,000 known residential wells statewide.²
- 1,000 community water systems use groundwater for 2,200,000 people³
- 869 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 201,000 people⁴
- 9,540 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 720,000 people⁵
- 5,170 irrigation wells used serving 1,850 farms and 429,000 acres⁶



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Wisconsin's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Wisconsin'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

- 168 firms employ an estimated 853 people⁸
- Annual estimated sales of \$231 million

Wisconsin's Scientists and Engineers Employment

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

Environmental Consulting⁹

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.

- 289 firms employ an estimated 828 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$121 million

Remediation¹⁰

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

- 98 firms employ an estimated 862 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$140 million

Public Service and Universities, Colleges, and Research Centers

- Many more dedicated individuals



⁷ InfoUSA, SIC 1781, March 2015.

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

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

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