

# Groundwater Use in New Hampshire

## Overview<sup>1</sup>

### Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 80.4  
Percentage of total freshwater\* supply for state..... 33.22%

### Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 35.4  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 44.03%  
Percentage of total public supply ..... 37.07%

### Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 29.7  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 36.94%  
Percentage of total individual household supply ..... 100%

### Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 1.09  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.36%  
Percentage of total irrigation..... 20.96%

### Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 7.09  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 8.82%  
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 39.30%

### Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 4.21  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 5.24%  
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied ..... 33.41%

### Mining

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 1.76  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.19%  
Percentage of total mining..... 28.71%

### Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) ..... 1.10  
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.37%  
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 1.47%

(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 Hampshire'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 Hampshire 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 2.47<sup>3</sup> persons per household. The USGS estimates the population of self-supplied water supply users in New Hampshire to be 497,000, with 100% of their water supply from groundwater.<sup>4</sup>
- 658 community water systems use groundwater for 358,600 people<sup>5</sup>
- 470 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 83,900 people<sup>6</sup>
- 1,374 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 244,500 people<sup>7</sup>
- 456 irrigation wells used serving 341 farms and 1,220 acres<sup>8</sup>



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# New Hampshire's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

## New Hampshire'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>

- 34 firms employ an estimated 255 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$65.7 million

## New Hampshire'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.

- 154 firms employ an estimated 600 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$113.7 million

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

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

- 39 firms employ an estimated 498 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$120.2 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.