

Groundwater Use in New Mexico

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 1,350
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 48.0%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 184
Percentage of total groundwater..... 13.6%
Percentage of total public supply 70.2%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 24.6
Percentage of total groundwater..... 1.82%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd)1,050
Percentage of total groundwater..... 77.8%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 44.3%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 48.5
Percentage of total groundwater..... 3.59%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 86.5%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 3.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.25%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied100.0%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 39.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.92%
Percentage of total mining..... 69.4%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 6.13
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.45%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 18.3%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

Groundwater's Role in New Mexico's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 145,000 known residential wells statewide.²
- 524 community water systems use groundwater for 1,049,600 people³
- 130 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 38,600 people⁴
- 367 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 65,800 people⁵
- 8,760 irrigation wells used serving 4,030 farms and 405,000 acres⁶

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

² New Mexico Office of the Engineer Well Point of Diversions Database

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.



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 **Websites** NGWA.org and WellOwner.org

New Mexico's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

New Mexico'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

- 80 firms employ an estimated 674 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$133.7 million

New Mexico'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.

- 285 firms employ an estimated 922 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$177.7 million

Remediation⁹

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

- 52 firms employ an estimated 660 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$156.4 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.