

Groundwater Use in Utah

Overview¹

Total

Groundwater (mgd — fresh, not saline)..... 1,050
Percentage of total freshwater* supply for state..... 27.1%

Public Supply

Groundwater (mgd) 359
Percentage of total groundwater..... 34.2%
Percentage of total public supply 57.3%

Individual Household

Groundwater (mgd) 10.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.99%
Percentage of total individual household supply 100%

Irrigation

Groundwater (mgd) 537
Percentage of total groundwater..... 51.1%
Percentage of total irrigation..... 17.7%

Livestock/Aquaculture

Groundwater (mgd) 91
Percentage of total groundwater..... 8.7%
Percentage of total livestock/aquaculture..... 91.9%

Industrial, Self-Supplied

Groundwater (mgd) 37.4
Percentage of total groundwater..... 3.56%
Percentage of total industrial, self-supplied 69.0%

Mining

Groundwater (mgd) 1.67
Percentage of total groundwater..... 0.16%
Percentage of total mining..... 48.1%

Thermoelectric

Groundwater (mgd) 22.7
Percentage of total groundwater..... 2.16%
Percentage of total thermoelectric..... 37.2%

(mgd = million gallons per day)

*All totals and ratios are measures of freshwater only.

Groundwater's Role in Utah's Economic Vitality

- Approximately 19,800 known residential wells statewide.²
- 365 community water systems use groundwater for 803,900 people³
- 68 non-community, non-transient water systems use groundwater for 42,500 people⁴
- 466 non-community, transient water systems use groundwater for 99,500 people⁵
- 3,060 irrigation wells used serving 1,430 farms and 280,000 acres⁶

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

² Utah Division of Water Rights, Well & Geothermal Program

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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Utah's Groundwater Industry Employment

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

Utah'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

- 48 firms employ an estimated 354 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$106.7 million

Utah'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.

- 302 firms employ an estimated 851 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$161.4 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 544 people
- Annual estimated sales of \$143.2 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.