

Water Statistics – United States

Key Statistics

1. Summary of Key Statistics

	Value	Units	%
Land Area	9,157,841	km ²	
Population	316,129	1,000 capita	

Source: United States Census (2013 estimate)

Water Coverage			
Self-Supplied	44,500	1,000 capita	14%
Public supply	268,000	1,000 capita	86%

Source: US Geological Survey (Estimated Use of Water in the US in 2010)

2. Number of Water Utilities

	Number of Systems	Population Served (1,000)
Size of System		
Very Large (>100,000)	419	137,283
Large (>10,000)	3,802	108,770
Medium (3,300-10,000)	4,936	28,738
Small (<3,300)	42,083	24,425
Total	51,240	299,216

*Source: Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS)
Environmental Protection Agency*

Ownership	Number of Systems	% Population
Private	26,700	11%
Public & Cooperative	24,540	89%

Source: Wikipedia

3. Water Supply

Category	Quantity (billion gallons per day)	% of Total
Public supply	42,000	12%
Self-supported domestic	3,600	1%
Irrigation	115,000	32%
Livestock	2,000	1%
Aquaculture	9,420	3%
Self-supplied industrial	15,900	4%
Mining	5,320	2%
Thermoelectric power	161,000	45%
Total	354,240	100%
Withdrawal sources		
Fresh surface water	230,000	65%
Fresh groundwater	76,000	21%
Saline surface water	45,000	13%
Saline groundwater	3,290	1%
Total	354,290	100%
Public Supply Sources		
Surface Water	26,300	63%
Groundwater	15,700	37%
Total	42,000	100%

Source: US Geological Survey (Estimated Use of Water in the US in 2010)

Financial Statistics

Country-wide financial statistics are not available for public and private utilities. The tables below provide public spending totals for water infrastructure for 2014 and 2004. Summary statistics from a recent national survey of water and wastewater utilities are also provided.

4. Summary of Public Spending for Water Utilities

Water Utilities Expenditure	2014		2004	
	%	\$ Billions	%	\$ Billions
Total Public Spending for Water Utilities*		\$109		\$76
Water Utilities Spending as % of GDP	0.6%		0.5%	
Spending Category				
Capital	33%	\$35.97	37%	\$27.97
O&M	67%	\$73.03	63%	\$47.93
Funding Source				
Federal	4%	\$4.36	6%	\$4.56
State & Local	96%	\$104.64	94%	\$71.35

* Spending by state and local government water utilities—including supply systems for distributing potable water as well as wastewater and sewage treatment systems and plants

Source: Congressional Budget Office, *Public Spending on Transportation and Water Infrastructure, 1956 to 2014 (March 2015)*

5. Financial Conditions: Utility Survey*

	Group A	Group B	Group C
Water Utilities			
Utility Size (water sold)	> 75 MGD	20-75 MGD	< 20 MGD
Max Day to Average Day Production	1.49	1.55	n/a
Equity to Assets Ratio	0.42	0.76	0.64
Operating Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.91	0.81	0.89
Revenue per Quantity Sold (\$/m ³)	\$1.20	\$1.63	\$1.55
Wastewater Utilities			
Utility Size (volume treated)	> 70 MGD	20-70 MGD	< 20 MGD
Equity to Assets Ratio	0.41	0.55	0.68
Operating Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.91	0.83	0.84
Revenue per Quantity Treated (\$/m ³)	\$1.20	\$1.58	\$1.93

*2014 Water and Wastewater Rate Survey (American Water Works Association and Raftelis Financial Consultants)

