

Public Supply

40,200 million gallons per day

The quantity of water withdrawn for public supply during 1995 was an estimated 40,200 Mgal/d, or 4 percent more than during 1990. (See tables 9, 10). Public suppliers served about 225 million people during 1995, which is about 84 percent of the total population and a 7-percent increase from 1990. Total public-supply withdrawals in 1995 averaged 179 gal/d for each person served compared to 184 gal/d in 1990 and 183 gal/d in 1985. This is the first time public supply per-capita use declined since 1950.

The source and delivery of water for public supply for 1995 are shown in the chart below. Surface water was the source for 63 percent of public-supply withdrawals. Public-supply water was distributed to users as follows: domestic, 56 percent; commercial, 17 percent; industrial, 12 percent; and thermoelectric power, 0.3 percent. The remaining 15 percent was unaccounted water or public use and losses. This unaccounted water represents 2 percent of freshwater use for all offstream categories.

Public supply refers to water withdrawn by public and private water suppliers and delivered to multiple users for domestic, commercial, industrial, and thermoelectric power uses. In this report, public supply includes public and private water systems that furnish water to at least 25 people, or that have a minimum of 15 connections.

The difference between the quantity of water withdrawn by public suppliers in a water-resources region or State and the quantity of water delivered to all users represents losses in the distribution systems, filter back flushing, public use (water for firefighting, street washing, municipal office buildings, parks and swimming pools) and, in a few areas, water transferred between adjacent States or water-resources regions. These differences are shown in tables 9 and 10 as “Public use

and losses.” Large positive values of “Public use and losses” may indicate, in addition to public use and losses, large exports of public-supply water to adjacent areas; negative values indicate imports of public-supply water from adjacent areas to the extent that public-supply deliveries in a region or in a State exceed public-supply withdrawals. This is the case in Washington, D.C., which imports public-supply water from Maryland.

Information on public supply generally is available from State health agencies and through State permitting offices. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Information System also is available as a reference. Data on population served and withdrawals usually are accurate because local and State agencies maintain nearly complete information. Deliveries from public suppliers to various users are more difficult to obtain, and the information generally is less accurate.

State agencies were asked in 1995 for the first time to report saline-water withdrawals. Slightly saline ground-water withdrawals were reported for three states: Florida, 60 Mgal/d; California, 2.0 Mgal/d; and North Carolina, 2 Mgal/d. These values are included in the tables as freshwater.

Public-supply withdrawals in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic-Gulf, and California water-resources regions, the three most populated regions, account for about 42 percent of total public-supply withdrawals (figure 8; table 9). Public-supply withdrawals in California, Texas, New York, and Florida, the four most populous States (31 percent of the Nation’s population), account for 35 percent of nation-wide public-supply withdrawals (figure 9; table 10).

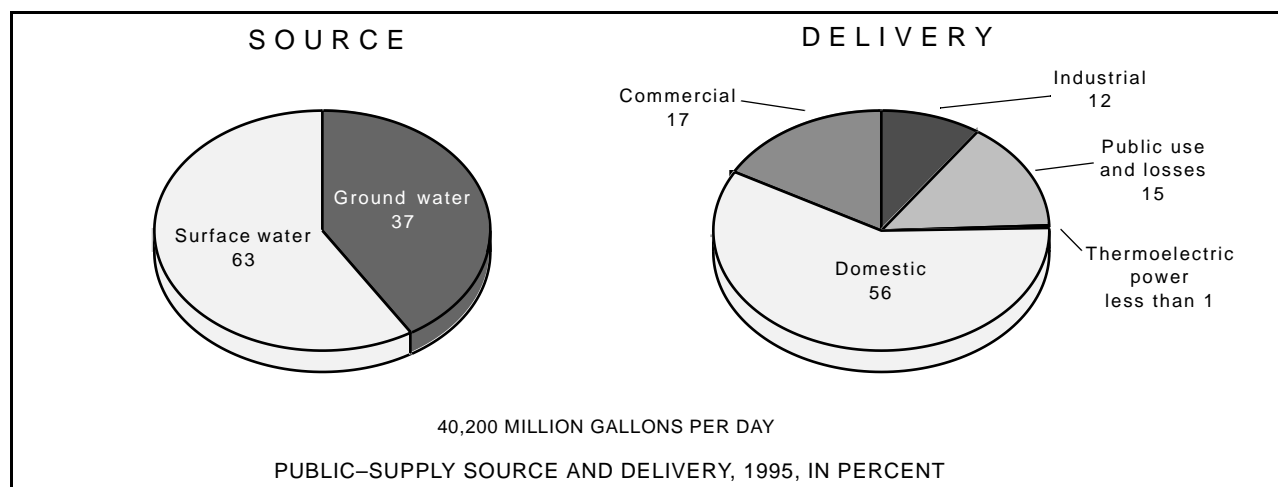




Figure 8. Public-supply freshwater withdrawals by water-resources region, 1995.

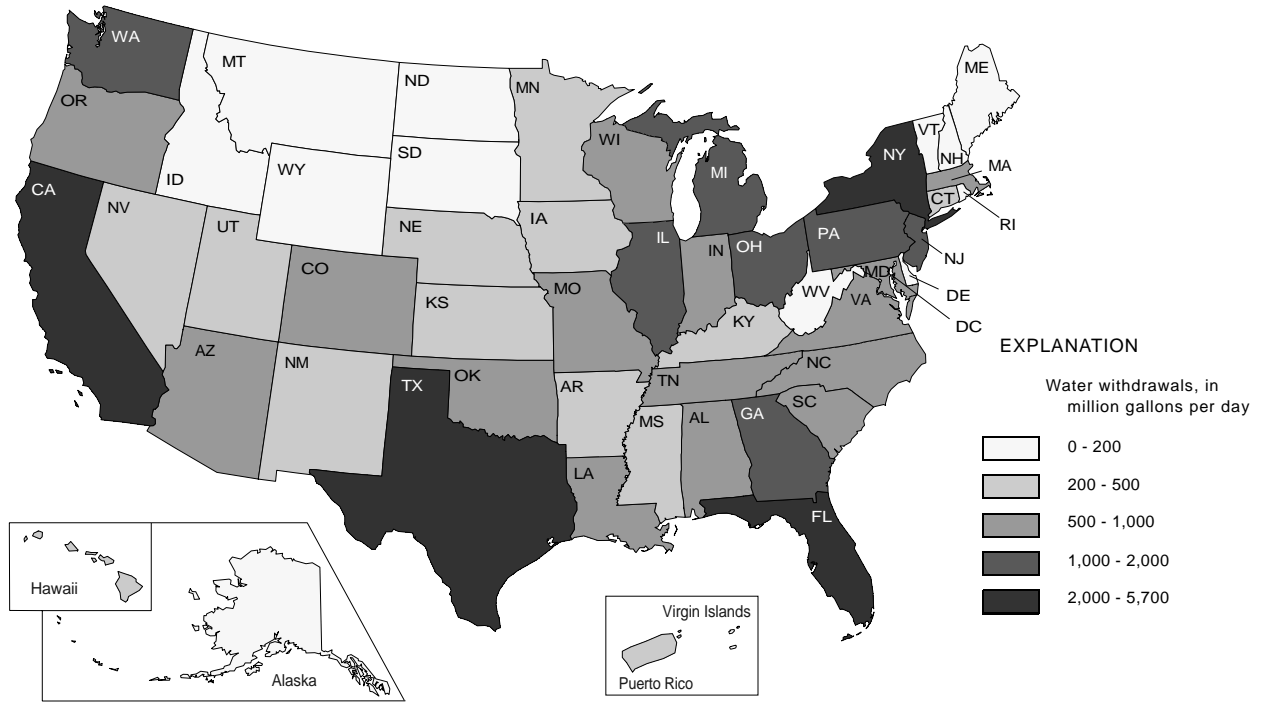
Table 9. Public-supply freshwater use by water-resources region, 1995

[Figures may not add to totals because of independent rounding. Mgal/d = million gallons per day; gal/d = gallons per day]

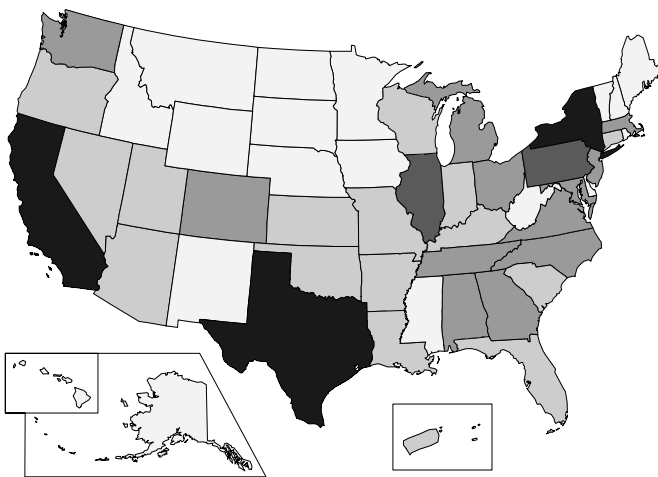
REGION	POPULATION SERVED, in thousands			WATER WITHDRAWALS, in Mgal/d			PER CAPITA USE, in gal/d	WATER DELIVERIES, BY TYPE OF USE, in Mgal/d				PUBLIC USE AND LOSSES ¹
	Source			Source				Domestic	Commer- cial	Indus- trial	Thermo- electric power	
	Ground water	Surface water	Total	Ground water	Surface water	Total						
New England	3,950	6,470	10,400	335	1,100	1,440	138	717	343	168	2.3	210
Mid-Atlantic	10,100	25,600	35,700	1,270	4,730	6,000	168	3,340	942	516	27	1,170
South Atlantic-Gulf	17,000	13,100	30,100	2,760	2,710	5,470	182	3,080	866	742	5.6	779
Great Lakes	3,340	13,600	17,000	585	3,830	4,420	260	1,400	600	775	.1	1,640
Ohio	6,140	11,900	18,000	880	1,800	2,680	149	1,140	461	590	.3	494
Tennessee	862	2,380	3,250	125	449	574	177	274	134	101	0	64
Upper Mississippi	7,750	10,200	18,000	1,150	731	1,880	104	1,450	653	361	7.4	-599
Lower Mississippi	4,780	1,540	6,330	741	330	1,070	169	703	144	94	1.1	129
Souris-Red-Rainy	262	184	446	34	32	66	149	26	15	3.9	0	21
Missouri Basin	3,890	5,090	8,980	643	926	1,570	175	966	279	106	4.7	212
Arkansas-White-Red	2,540	5,140	7,680	378	1,170	1,550	202	767	275	291	28	193
Texas-Gulf	6,580	9,110	15,700	978	1,860	2,840	181	2,160	126	171	13	372
Rio Grande	1,560	735	2,300	356	131	487	212	340	73	20	0	55
Upper Colorado	154	407	561	35	106	141	252	86	25	4.2	0	26
Lower Colorado	2,440	2,510	4,950	476	698	1,170	237	757	235	68	1.5	113
Great Basin	1,230	1,050	2,280	350	254	605	265	417	132	17	0	39
Pacific Northwest	3,460	4,020	7,480	917	993	1,910	256	1,020	267	407	0	221
California	13,000	17,400	30,400	2,730	2,880	5,610	184	3,700	992	284	5.3	626
Alaska	161	220	381	30	50	81	212	38	23	12	.6	8.0
Hawaii	1,080	45	1,120	200	14	214	191	131	47	5.6	.3	31
Caribbean	835	2,750	3,580	95	342	437	122	173	64	15	2.2	183
Total	91,200	134,000	225,000	15,100	25,100	40,200	179	22,700	6,690	4,750	100	5,980

¹ Includes transfers from adjacent areas.

TOTAL WITHDRAWALS



SURFACE-WATER WITHDRAWALS



GROUND-WATER WITHDRAWALS

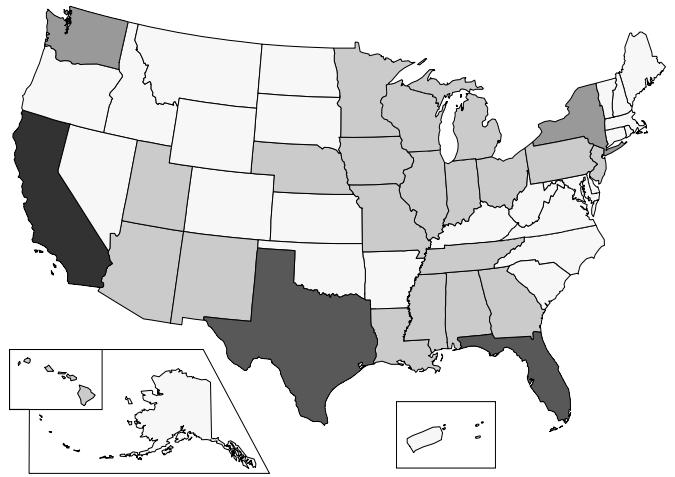


Figure 9. Public-supply freshwater withdrawals by source and State, 1995.

Table 10. Public-supply freshwater use by State, 1995

[Figures may not add to totals because of independent rounding. Mgal/d = million gallons per day; gal/d = gallons per day]

STATE	POPULATION SERVED, in thousands			WATER WITHDRAWALS, in Mgal/d			PER CAPITA USE, in gal/d	WATER DELIVERIES, BY TYPE OF USE, in Mgal/d				PUBLIC USE AND LOSSES ¹
	Source		Total	Source		Total		Domestic	Commer- cial	Indus- trial	Thermo- electric power	
	Ground water	Surface water		Ground water	Surface water							
Alabama	1,380	2,040	3,430	253	560	813	237	383	122	213	0	94
Alaska	161	220	381	30	50	81	212	38	23	12	.6	8.0
Arizona	2,240	1,670	3,920	409	398	807	206	526	135	66	0	81
Arkansas	831	1,160	2,000	135	246	381	191	193	58	57	0	73
California	13,000	17,500	30,500	2,740	2,880	5,620	185	3,710	994	283	5.3	629
Colorado	475	2,920	3,390	100	605	705	208	481	101	19	14	90
Connecticut	1,030	1,500	2,530	65	329	393	155	191	89	42	1.0	70
Delaware	321	243	564	40	49	89	159	43	20	16	.5	11
D.C.	0	554	554	0	0	0	0	95	50	.7	0	-146
Florida	11,200	1,040	12,200	1,860	210	2,070	169	1,260	386	103	3.6	312
Georgia	1,680	4,220	5,900	263	890	1,150	195	629	168	194	0	161
Hawaii	1,080	45	1,120	200	14	214	191	131	47	5.6	.3	31
Idaho	736	44	780	180	9.9	189	243	141	18	6.7	0	23
Illinois	2,500	7,900	10,400	371	1,450	1,820	175	936	440	118	5.2	324
Indiana	2,170	2,120	4,280	319	350	669	156	326	119	125	0	99
Iowa	1,530	619	2,150	257	116	373	173	139	65	78	3.0	88
Kansas	1,050	1,270	2,320	161	209	370	159	191	67	37	.8	74
Kentucky	465	2,890	3,360	55	441	496	148	235	23	197	0	42
Louisiana	2,150	1,690	3,850	294	344	638	166	468	55	35	0	80
Maine	217	491	708	25	75	100	142	46	25	14	.9	14
Maryland	679	3,490	4,170	83	751	834	200	433	85	44	0	271
Massachusetts	2,280	3,300	5,580	192	533	725	130	362	188	86	0	88
Michigan	1,740	5,170	6,900	348	952	1,300	188	623	253	270	0	154
Minnesota	2,410	936	3,340	331	154	485	145	239	103	41	.1	103
Mississippi	2,050	214	2,260	302	41	344	152	248	33	20	2.2	40
Missouri	1,870	2,460	4,330	226	473	699	161	374	59	140	.2	125
Montana	240	405	645	55	89	143	222	77	26	1.0	0	39
Nebraska	1,080	212	1,290	232	53	286	221	155	79	26	0	26
Nevada	380	1,060	1,440	117	351	468	325	306	116	2.2	1.5	42
New Hampshire	257	440	697	31	66	98	140	57	21	13	.3	6.7
New Jersey	3,220	3,710	6,930	397	640	1,040	150	538	179	91	25	203
New Mexico	1,210	174	1,380	277	34	311	225	188	78	15	.1	30
New York	4,350	11,900	16,200	552	2,450	3,000	185	1,810	409	356	0	424
North Carolina	1,130	3,620	4,750	136	633	769	162	332	138	193	.4	105
North Dakota	213	276	489	30	43	73	149	40	15	2.5	0	15
Ohio	3,290	5,990	9,280	497	923	1,420	153	497	355	355	0	213
Oklahoma	759	2,170	2,930	99	468	567	194	241	170	122	1.2	34
Oregon	374	1,770	2,150	87	417	504	235	292	79	71	0	62
Pennsylvania	1,950	7,110	9,050	243	1,300	1,550	171	559	218	193	1.6	574
Rhode Island	150	728	878	16	99	114	130	57	20	12	0	26
South Carolina	698	2,020	2,720	107	436	543	200	368	50	44	0	81
South Dakota	382	220	602	53	35	88	147	52	21	7.9	0	7.1
Tennessee	1,630	2,790	4,420	277	500	777	176	355	214	130	.5	78
Texas	7,330	10,200	17,600	1,130	2,160	3,290	188	2,450	130	268	29	412
Utah	1,010	840	1,850	293	204	497	269	340	115	17	0	25
Vermont	110	204	315	15	32	47	148	26	7.7	7.7	0	5.5
Virginia	594	4,360	4,960	82	704	786	159	424	152	88	.5	121
Washington	2,300	2,130	4,430	631	548	1,180	266	565	161	331	0	122
West Virginia	282	1,040	1,320	38	139	176	134	96	23	14	.2	44
Wisconsin	2,020	1,540	3,560	311	289	600	169	189	111	151	.1	148
Wyoming	145	199	344	38	52	90	261	54	16	2.4	0	17
Puerto Rico	827	2,710	3,540	95	336	431	122	171	61	15	2.2	182
Virgin Islands	7.6	39	47	.3	6.2	6.5	138	1.6	3.3	0	.8	.8
Total	91,200	134,000	225,000	15,100	25,100	40,200	179	22,700	6,690	4,750	100	5,980

¹ Includes transfers from adjacent areas.