

Definitions for PWS Water Use Data Interactive Dashboard

Updated 1/4/2024 by Water Use Survey Team

Water Intake and Sales

Intake - Water entering a public water system, including self-supplied or purchased groundwater or surface water.

Sales - Water sales to all other public water systems or to industrial facilities (manufacturing, mining, steam electric) that buy 10 million gallons or more. This calculation takes Seller reported and Buyer reported Sales into account. If only the Seller reports the Sale, the Seller reported volume is used. If only the Buyer reports the Sale, the Buyer reported purchase is used. If both Seller and Buyer report the Sale, the Buyer reported purchase is used.

Net use - Total Intake subtracting Total Sales. Net use represents estimated municipal water use for a water system including single-family homes, units from multi-family buildings, and commercial and institutional water use, **excluding industrial use**.

Retail Connections and Use

Single-family - A classification of housing where a single detached dwelling or separate house is a free-standing residential building. Also includes duplexes.

Multi-family - A classification of housing where multiple housing units for residents are contained within one building or complex. A common form is an apartment building or condominiums.

Institutional - The use of water by an establishment dedicated to public service, such as a school, university, church, hospital, nursing home, prison or government facility. All facilities dedicated to public service are considered institutional regardless of ownership. (Examples: Educational services, Health care, Recreation, and Public Administration).

Commercial - A place of business such as a hotel, restaurant, or office building which uses water. Commercial water use does not include water used for multi-family residences, agricultural, industrial, or institutional users.

Industrial - The use of water in processes designed to convert materials of a lower order of value into forms having greater usability and commercial value, and the development of power by means other than hydroelectric, but does not include agricultural use. (Examples: mining, utilities, construction, and manufacturing).

Agricultural - Any use or activity involving agriculture, including irrigation (Examples: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting).

Reuse - The use of water that remains unconsumed after the water is used for the original purpose of use and before that water is either: Disposed, discharged, or otherwise allowed to flow into a watercourse, lake, or other body of state-owned water.

Total Metered - The sum retail water sold to Single-family, Multi-family, Institutional, Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural customers.

Total Unmetered - Unmetered water including known back-flushing, line-flushing, or fire department use water volumes (hydrants).

Other - Any connections that do not fit into the other categories.

Sales

Seller Volume - Water sale volume that is self-reported by a public water system. If N/A, the Seller did not report this Sale on their Water Use Survey.

Buyer No - Water use survey number of a public water system or industry that reports purchasing water from the Seller.

Buyer Name - Name of public water system or industry that reports purchasing water from the Seller.

Buyer Volume - Water purchase volume that is reported by the Buyer. If N/A, the Buyer did not report this purchase on their Water Use Survey or does not complete a Water Use Survey.

Seller and Buyer Source - Identifies the Seller or Buyer reported source of Sale as Ground Water (GW) or Surface Water (SW).

Buyer NAICS - North American Industry Classification System Code, which identifies the business activity of a Buyer if they are an industrial facility. If N/A, the Buyer is a public water system not an industrial facility.

Note: For water planning activities, if only the Seller reports the Sale, the Seller reported volume is used. If only the Buyer reports the Sale, the Buyer reported purchase is used. If both Seller and Buyer report the Sale, the Buyer reported purchase is used.

For any questions, please contact the [Water Use Survey Team](#), (512) 463-7952.