

# Texas Water Use Estimates Summary for 2021

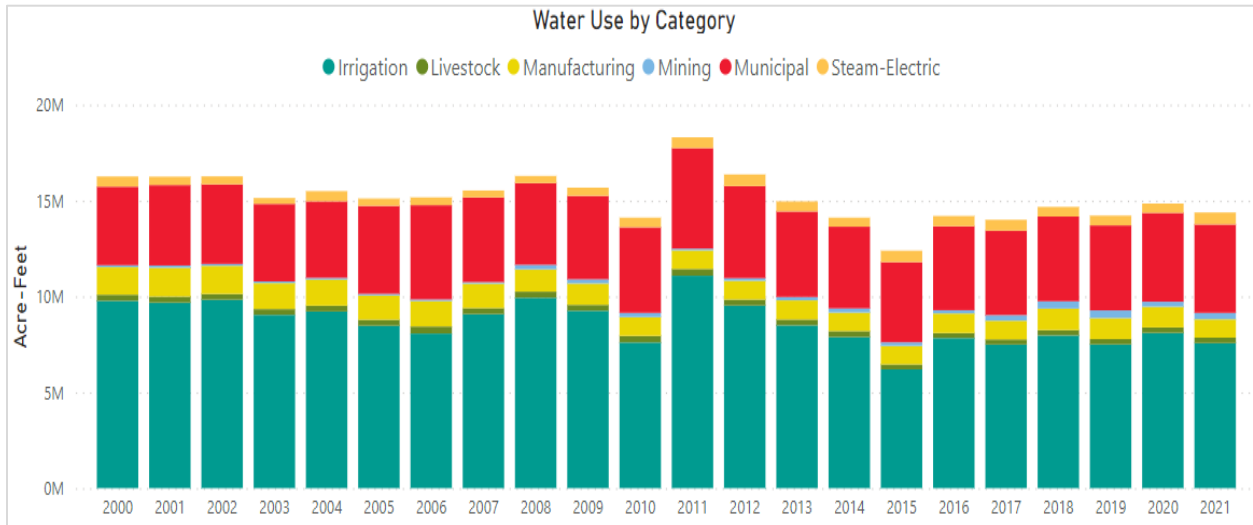
January 11, 2024

The Texas Water Development Board Water Use Survey program conducts an annual survey of about 4,650 public water systems and 2,600 industrial facilities. The water use survey collects the volume of both ground and surface water used, the source of the water, water sales, and other pertinent data from the users. This data provides an important source of information in helping guide water supply studies as well as regional and state water planning that is dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of the information water users provide.

Of the approximately 7,200 systems/facilities surveyed, 77% submitted their water use survey for 2021 water use. This represents about 98% of the total surveyed water use in the state. For those systems/facilities that did not submit their survey, estimates were carried-over from the most current available year. Estimates are also revised as additional or more accurate data becomes available through survey responses.

## Statewide Water Use Estimates for 2021

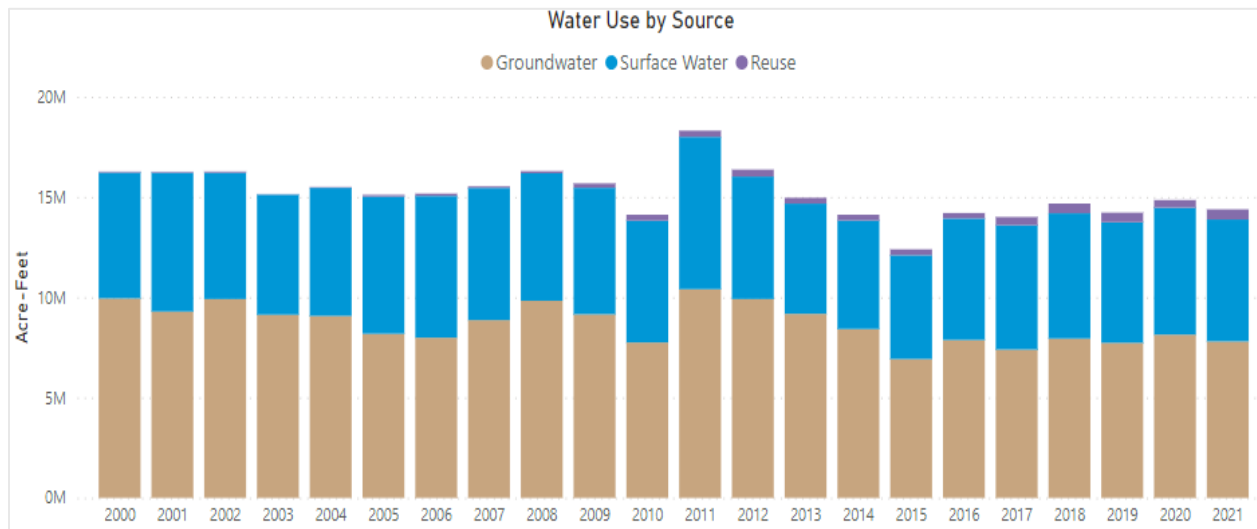
Total estimated water use for 2021 (including reported reuse) was about 14.4 million acre-feet (1 acre-foot = 325,851 gallons) and was down from the previous year which was estimated at about 14.7 million acre-feet. The total 2021 estimated municipal water use slightly increased to 4.6 million acre-feet compared to 4.5 million acre-feet in 2020. Estimated irrigation water use decreased to 7.6 million acre-feet compared to 8.1 million acre-feet in 2020. Irrigation water use (53%) topped the largest water use category in the state followed by municipal water use (32%). Manufacturing (7%), Power (4%), Mining (2%), and Livestock (2%), and estimated water use collectively comprised about 2.2 million acre-feet.



## Surface & Groundwater Use Estimates for 2021

Approximately 54% of the 2021 estimated water use in Texas was from groundwater sources (about 7.8 million acre-feet) with 42% from surface water sources (about 6.1 million acre-feet) and less than 4% from reuse (0.5 million acre-feet).

Of the total groundwater use in 2021, irrigation water use (74%) was the largest water use category, followed by municipal (20%), livestock (2%), manufacturing (2%), mining (2%), and power (1%) water use categories. Of the total surface water use, municipal water use (47%) was the largest water use category, followed by irrigation (28%), manufacturing (13%), power (9%), livestock (2%), and mining (1%) categories.



Interactive data dashboards and detailed reports of historical water use estimates and historical groundwater pumpage in Texas can be found at:

- Historical Water Use Summary & Data Dashboards:  
<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/waterusesurvey/dashboard/index.asp>
- Historical Water Use Estimates:  
<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/waterusesurvey/estimates/index.asp>
- Historical Groundwater Pumpage:  
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/waterusesurvey/historical-pumpage.asp>

**For questions about the Water Use Survey or historical water use estimates ,  
please contact the [Water Use Survey Team](#), (512) 463-7952**