

92.4% of Ohio's 4,579 public water systems sourced from ground water

Ohio's Public Water Systems by Category, 2024			
Category	Ground Water	Surface Water	Total Systems
Community Serves at least 15 water service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents (e.g., cities, mobile home parks, and nursing homes)	991	300	1,291
Transient noncommunity Serves at least 25 nonresidential persons during 60 days or more per year (e.g., campgrounds, parks, highway rest stops, restaurants, and gas stations)	2,658	5	2,663
Nontransient noncommunity Serves at least 25 of the same persons during six months per year (e.g., schools, hospitals, businesses, and factories)	580	45	625
Total	4,229	350	4,579

Source: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

- Of the 4,579 public water systems (PWS) in 2024, 4,229 (92.4%) are sourced from ground water (wells) and the remaining 350 (7.6%) are sourced from surface water (lakes and rivers).
- Ohio's 4,579 PWS range in size from large municipalities to small churches and restaurants relying on a single well. The number of PWS in Ohio fluctuates from year to year. In 2022, there were 4,664.
- PWS are regulated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
- Private water systems are regulated by the Ohio Department of Health and include households and small businesses that serve fewer than 25 people per day 60 days out of the year (e.g., small bed and breakfasts, small daycares, and small churches).