



U.S. PRIVATE WATER AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE BY THE NUMBERS

PRIVATE WATER PROFESSIONALS PROUDLY SERVE AND PARTNER WITH CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS THE U.S.

- **73 million Americans:** The private water industry serves more than 73 million Americans.¹
- **4.6 billion gallons/day and 1.7 trillion gallons/year:** Water companies produce 4.6 billion gallons of water every day and 1.7 trillion gallons each year.²
- **100,000 miles of pipes maintained:** Water companies maintain 100,000 miles of water pipes to serve their customers.³
- **200 years:** Public-private partnerships have been around for more than 200 years⁴ as have private water companies.⁵
- **2,000+ P3s:** More than 2,000 water and wastewater facilities across the country are operated under public-private partnership arrangements.⁶
- **97% contract renewal rate from 2000-2015:** Between 2000-2015, 5,391 private water contracts have come up for renewal. Only 182 contracts have reverted to municipal operation in that time, giving private water a nearly 97% renewal rate within the industry.⁷
- **24 percent lower cost:** Public-private partnerships have been shown to lower a system's operating costs by 24 percent on average.⁸

OUR COUNTRY'S INFRASTRUCTURE CRISIS IS REAL AND PRIVATE WATER COMPANIES OFFER MUCH-NEEDED INVESTMENT

- **D Grade:** Our nation's water infrastructure received a "D" grade on its 2013 report card.⁹
- **\$384 billion in investment needed for drinking water infrastructure:** The EPA projects a \$384 billion gap in funding that will be needed to maintain drinking water infrastructure between 2011 and 2030.¹⁰
- **\$2 billion invested each year by 5 largest private water companies:** The five largest private water companies in the U.S. alone invest \$2 billion annually to improve community tap water systems across the country.¹¹

PRIVATE WATER HAS AN EXEMPLARY RECORD OF COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL SAFETY REGULATIONS

- **Public water is 24% more likely to violate SDWA:** According to EPA data from 2010-2013, public utilities are 24% more likely to violate the Safe Drinking Water Act than privately-operated water systems.¹²
- **NAWC members have fewer EPA enforcement actions per 1 million customers:** Major private water utilities have fewer EPA violations, fines or work orders under the SDWA. NAWC members had 0.09 EPA enforcement actions per 1 million customers, while all other water operators had 30.03 EPA enforcement actions per 1 million customers.¹³

Sources

¹["Private Water Service Providers Quick Facts"](#) NAWC Factsheet; ["Drinking Water Case Study"](#) NAWC

²U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Community Water System Survey

³U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Community Water System Survey

⁴["Top Ten Facts About P3s,"](#) National Council for Public-Private Partnerships

⁵["York Water Co. celebrates 200th anniversary,"](#) *York Dispatch*, 2/23/16

⁶["Quick Facts on U.S. Water Public-Private Partnerships,"](#) NAWC Factsheet

⁷Public Works Financing Annual Water Partnerships Survey, 2010-2016

⁸["Establishing Public-Private Partnerships for Water and Wastewater Systems: A Blueprint for Success,"](#) *Water Partnership Council*, 2003

⁹["Drinking Water,"](#) 2013 Report Card, *ASCE*, Accessed 5/19/16

¹⁰["Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment,"](#) US EPA, Fifth Report to Congress, Apr. 2013

¹¹American Water, "White House Water Summit Fact Sheet" March 2016; Aqua America Annual Report, 2015; Suez / United Water figure provided by the company; California Water Service Group 2014 Annual Report; American States Water Company 2015 Annual Report

¹²David Konisky, Georgetown University, and Manny Teodoro, Texas A&M University, ["When Governments Regulate Governments"](#) November 2014

¹³["Investor-Owned Water Firms Boast Sterling SDWA Record,"](#) *Global Water Intelligence*, Oct. 2011