Regulated, Private Water Companies Invest in America's Infrastructure

PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

TRUTH FROM THE TAP

AGING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE LEADS TO WASTE & DISRUPTIONS

Every year, an estimated 300,000 water mains break in the United States – that's one every two minutes. Many of our water mains and pipes are more than 100 years old, with some dating as far back as the Civil War era . Our old and leaky infrastructure results in a loss of over 2 trillion gallons of water per year, wasting more than $6.4 billion worth of treated water annually.[i] For many systems, more than one in five gallons of treated drinking water is lost before it reaches the customer.

NATIONAL **19.5%** of treated water is lost each day through leaks and breaks.[ii]

PENNSYLVANIA

Water systems lose **339.2 million gallons of water per day**, or **22.6%** of all treated water.[iii]

NEW JERSEY

20% to **22%** of the state's treated water supply is lost due to leaky pipes.[iv]

20% of drinking water infrastructure is more than 100 years old.[ix]

ILLINOIS

106 million gallons of water lost per day by systems drawing source water from Lake Michigan.[v]

INDIANA

20% of treated water statewide is lost through leaks and breaks.[vi]

PHILADELPHIA

Half of Philadelphia's water mains were installed before 1930, and 15% were installed before 1900. **The average main in the city is 76 years old**.[vii]

LOS ANGELES

Over 27% (1,840 miles) of the city's mainlines are over 80 years old; nearly all installed mains will reach the end of their useful lives in the next 15 years.[viii]

WASHINGTON, DC

Median installed water main is **79 years old**; median installed sewer line is **85 years old**.[x]

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America's 15 largest regulated, private water companies collectively invested nearly $6.8 billion in 2025 to improve infrastructure restructure- and more than $43.5 billion over the past decade - to enhance the safety and reliability of water and wastewater in their communities. These are dollars coming from the private sector and not out of municipal budgets.[xi] And these investments work: an April 2025 analysis by Bluefield Research found that water companies had the lowest rate of non-revenue water in the U.S.

[i] American Society of Civil Engineers; Utah State University; Bluefield Research
[ii] Bluefield Research
[iii] Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
[iv] Facing Our Future
[v] American Society of Civil Engineers
[vi] Indiana Finance Authority
[vii] Circle of Blue; CBS News; American Society of Civil Engineers
[viii] LADPW; Los Angeles Times
[ix] New Jersey Utilities Association
[x] DC Water; AWWA
[xi] Based on data from annual reports and 10-K filings for 15 private water companies with figures confirmed directly by companies as needed; Bluefield Research