

Integrating physical & economic data into water accounts for the United States

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# Acknowledgments

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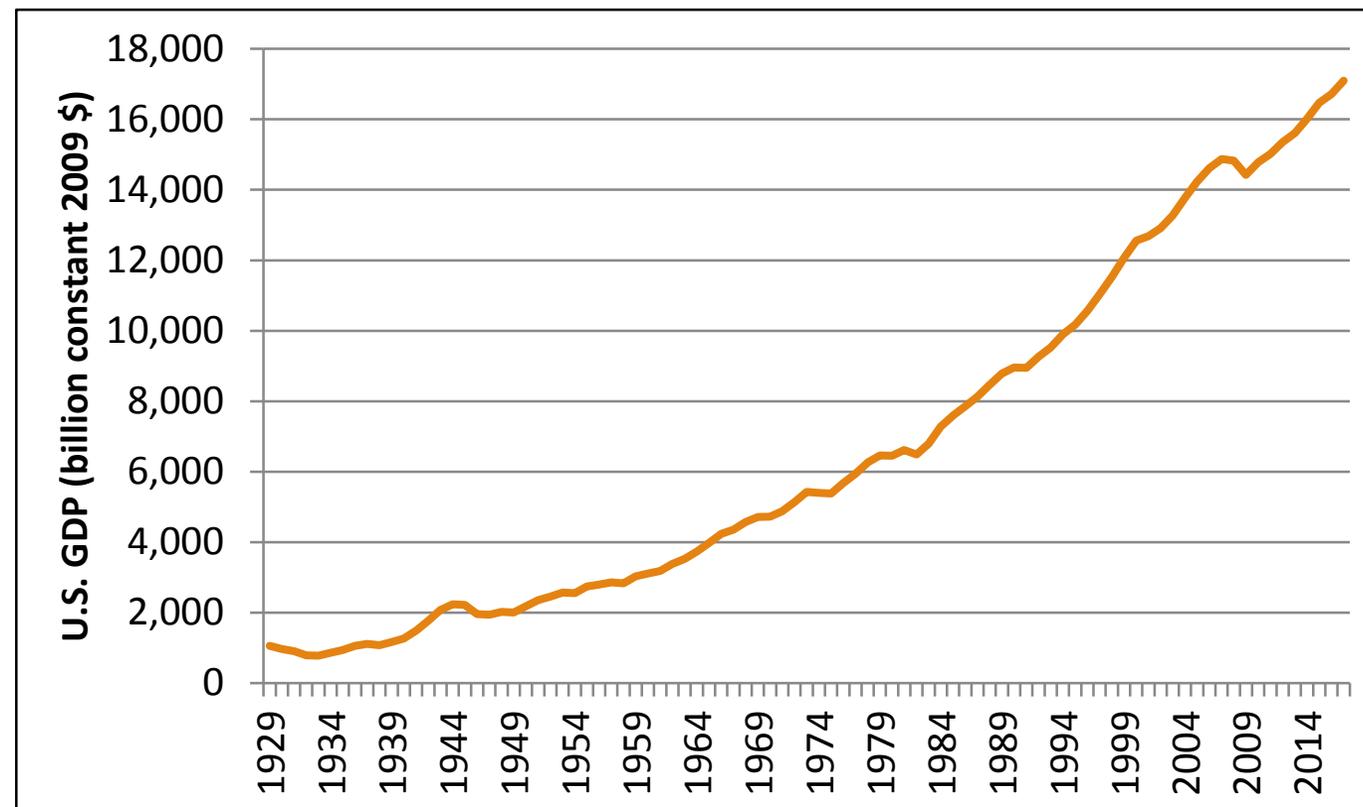
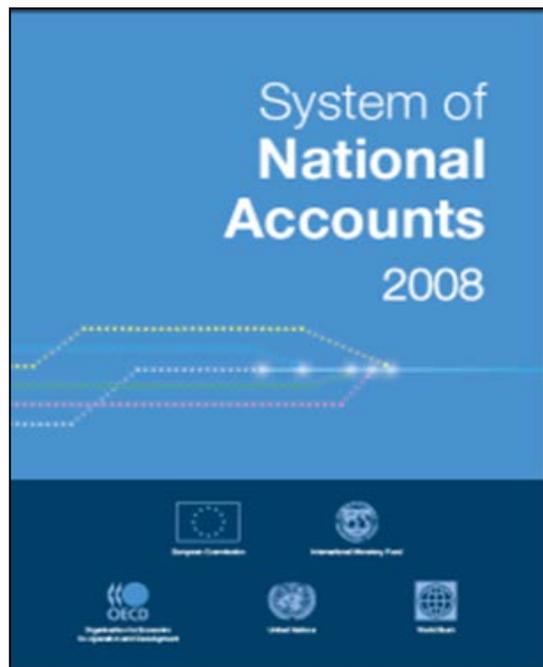


<https://powellcenter.usgs.gov/view-project/57741607e4b07657d1a9910c>



# Natural capital accounting: statistical standards

System of National Accounts

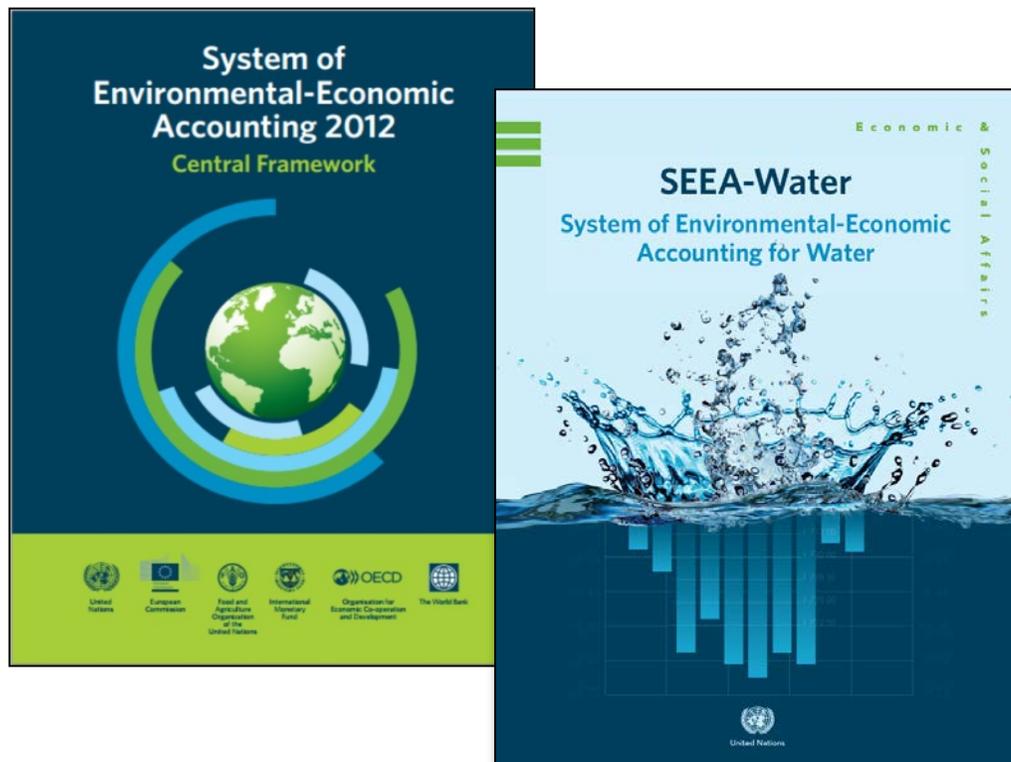


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/pubs.asp>

# Natural capital accounting: statistical standards

SEEA – Central Framework

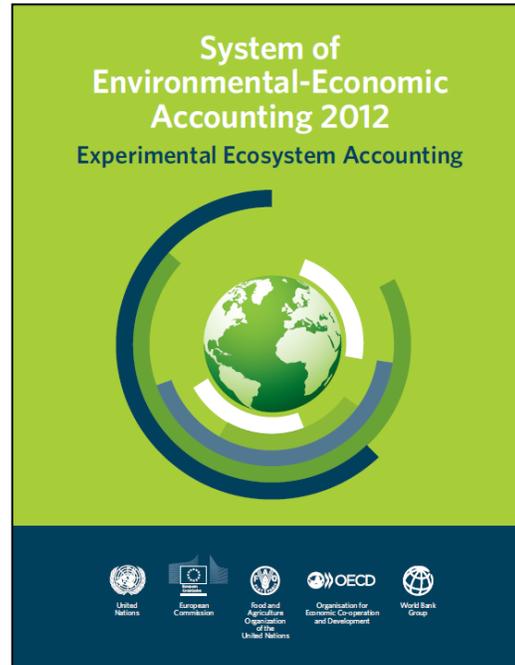


<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/pubs.asp>



# Natural capital accounting: statistical standards

SEEA - Experimental Ecosystem Accounting



(Not yet a statistical standard)

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/pubs.asp>



# Initial U.S. accounts: state & national, ca. 2000 to 2015

## *Land accounts*

- Land cover
- Land use
- Land value

## *Water accounts*

- Water use by industry
- Water productivity
  - Water quality
- Water emissions
- Expert elicitation of water quality – water use linkages

## *Ecosystem accounts*

- Crop pollination
- Water filtration
- Avian biodiversity
  - Recreational birdwatching
  - Air filtration
- Urban heat island mitigation
- Stormwater mitigation
- Wildfire mitigation

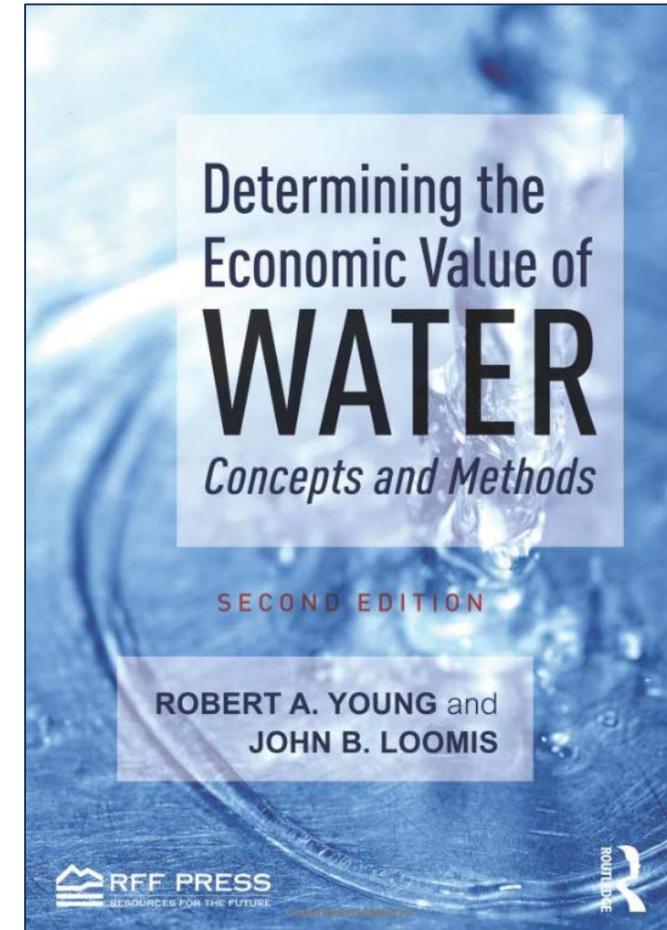
# Why use natural capital accounts?

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- Current economic accounts are incomplete
- Link physical & monetary information in a systematic way
- Link information needed to assess water sustainability
- Integrated information for decision making:
  - Public sector: management & tradeoff analysis across diverse resource types
  - Private sector: identify supply chain liabilities, risk, opportunities for current & future investors
- Synthesize available information and improves data coherence and coordination
- Updated periodically - ideally annually - like economic accounts (GDP)

# Basic accounting principles

- Assets combine to produce economic value
- The extent and condition of those assets matters:
  - A large, brand-new factory vs. a smaller factory with years of deferred maintenance
  - A stock of water, its quality, and the timing of flows (+ how well these mesh with needed uses)
- Assets can be valued using net present value (discounted flow of benefits into the future)
  - Water is notoriously tricky to place an economic value on (natural monopoly, water rights, subsidies, etc.)



# Accounting rules

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- Fundamentally, are *tables governed by rules*, e.g.:

Total supply = Outputs + Imports

Total use = Intermediate consumption + Final consumption + Gross capital formation + Exports

Gross value added = Gross operating surplus + Compensation of employees + Taxes – Subsidies

- In water accounts:

Total abstraction + Water received from other economic units = Supply of water to other economic units + Total returns + Water consumption

# Water & the economy: System of Environmental & Economic Accounts-Water

Figure II.1  
Flows between the economy and the environment

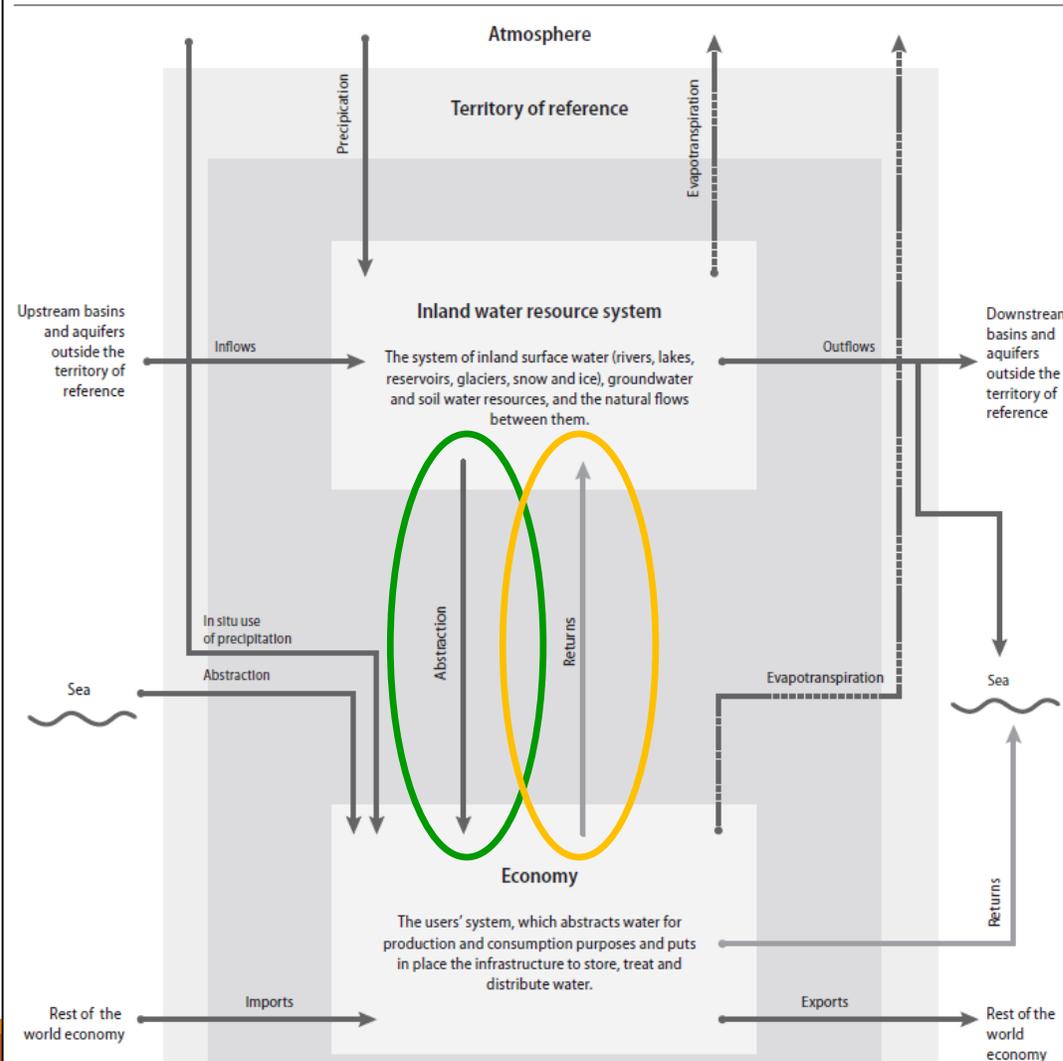
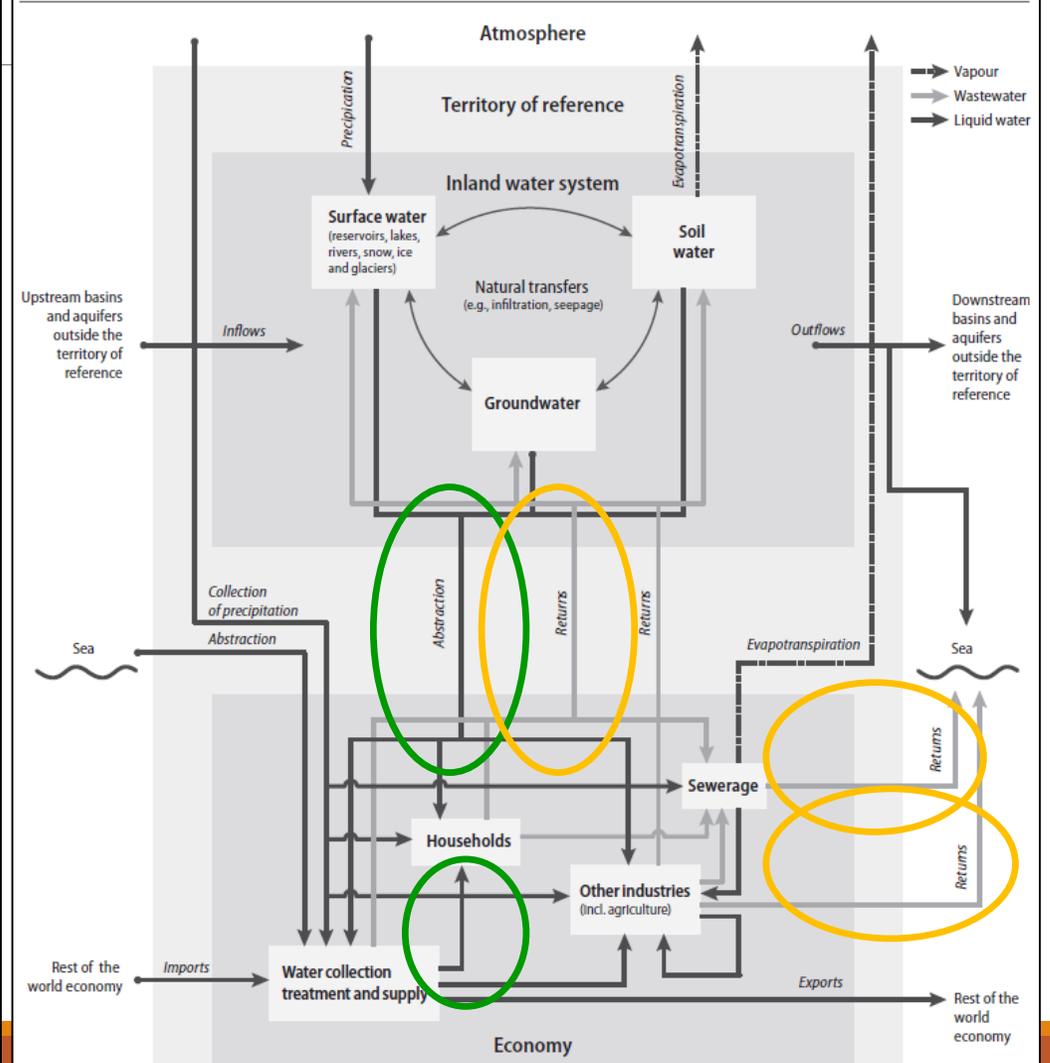


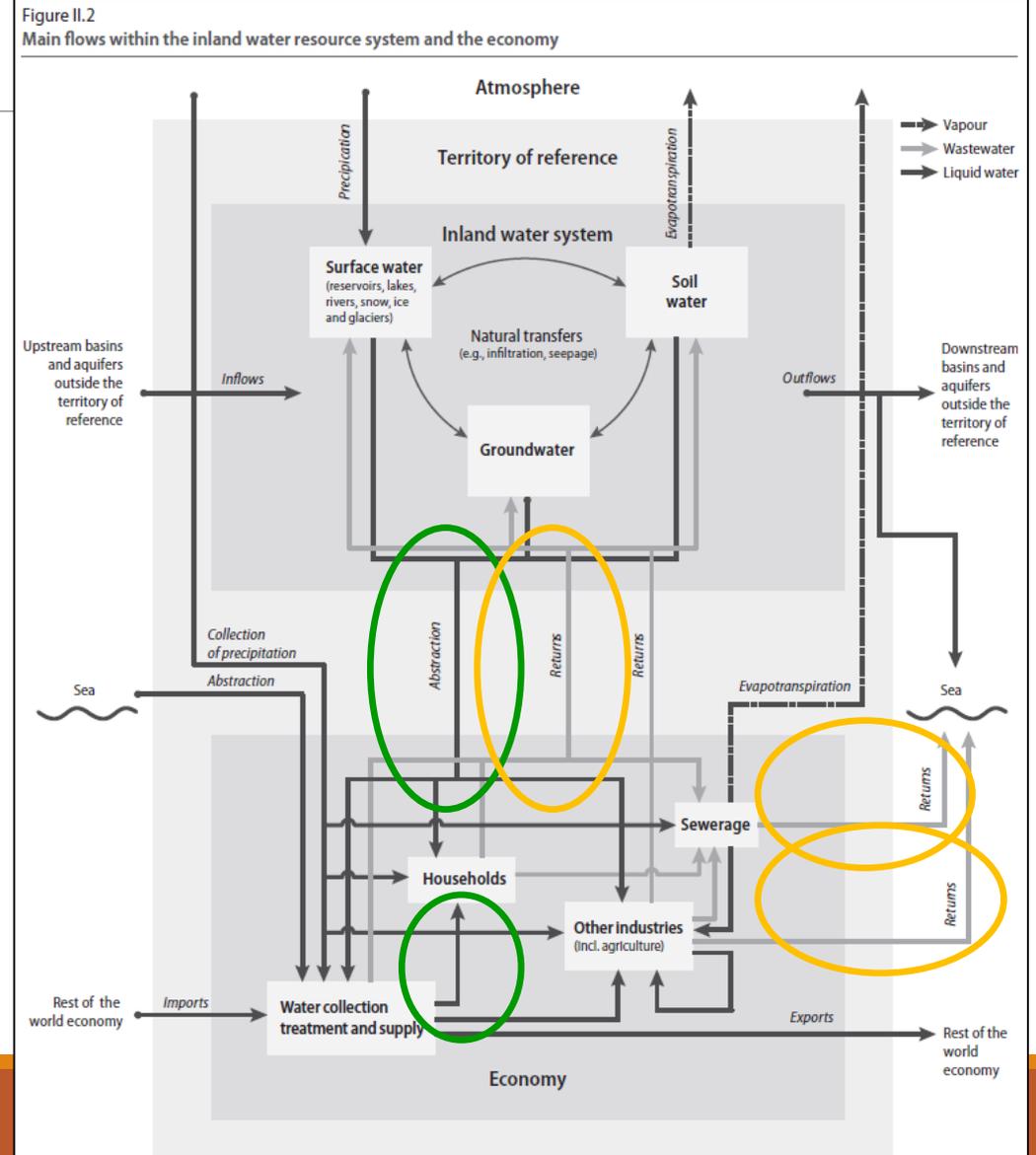
Figure II.2  
Main flows within the inland water resource system and the economy



# SEEA Water at a glance

## Typical challenges:

- Reconciling physical & political boundaries
- Quantifying the stock of water (asset)
- Disaggregated/inconsistent reporting
- Incomplete/no reporting (water returns, intra-economy flows, pollutant emissions, wastewater treatment)





# Types of water accounts

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## Flow accounts

- **Physical supply & use tables** – flows from environment to economy & within economy
- **Emission accounts** – discharge back into environment
- Hybrid & economic accounts – water-related products & industries; gov't expenditures on water supply & infrastructure

## Asset accounts

- Produced assets – stocks of built infrastructure to supply & treat water
- Water resources – volume of water resources in different asset categories (surface/ground; fresh/saline) plus natural & human-caused changes
- **Quality accounts** – stocks & their change

“the SEEA (pp. 70 – 79) recommends starting by setting up a physical supply and use table... for different water sources, showing domestic water abstraction and distribution, domestic water use disaggregated by different users, return flows into the environment, as well as water trade (if any) with neighboring countries. More advanced water accounts could also include physical and monetary asset accounts for water bodies such as lakes and groundwater”

# Our work

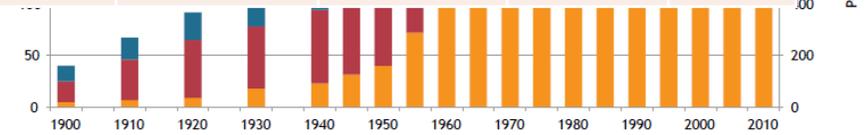
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- Best first estimates for U.S. & state level, for:
  - Physical supply & use accounts
  - Water quality accounts
  - Water emissions accounts
  - Water productivity accounts
  - Expert elicitation of water quality-economic linkages (connect above accounts)
- Evaluate data gaps these and for other accounts (esp. asset accounts)
- Lay groundwork for future accounts, including new accounts & continuation of ongoing time series

# Water supply & use

| Physical supply & use of water, Alabama, 2015 | 2213. Water, Sewage & Other (Irrigation) |   |                       | Irrigation                             |  |                                    |                   |                   | 2211. Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution |  |  |  |                             | Across all industries |
|---|--|---|-----------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | 2213. Water, Sewage & Other (Irrigation) |   | Households (Domestic) | Irrigation                             |  | 112. Animal Production (Livestock) | 1125. Aquaculture | 31-33. Industrial | 21. Mining   | 2211. Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution |  |  | Total Across all Industries |                       |
|   | 221310 Water supply (Public supply)      | 221320 Sewage treatment facilities (Wastewater) |                       | 111. Crop Production (Irrigation Crop) | 713910. (Golf Courses and Country Clubs) |                                    |                   |                   |  | Thermoelectric Power (Once-through cooling)                    | Thermoelectric Power (Closed-loop cooling) | Hydroelectric (Evaporative Use) <sup>a</sup> |                             |                       |
| <b>A. Water Use</b>                           |  |   |                       |  |  |                                    |                   |                   |  |  |  |  |                             |                       |
| 1. Total abstraction                          | 762.0                                    | N/R   | 36.7                  | 180.9                                  | 43.0                                     | 26.2                               | 49.4              | 493.7             | 30.3   | 6,460.0  | 162.0                                      | 999.7  | 9,243.7                     | 5,575.0               |
| 1.i.1. Surface Water, of which is             | 490.0                                    | N/R   | 0.0                   | 81.1                                   | 43.0                                     | 14.7                               | 22.2              | 461.0             | 8.5  | 6,460.0  | 162.0                                      | 999.7  | 8,742.0                     | 2,654.5               |
| Fresh   | 490.0                                    | N/R   | 0.0                   | 81.1                                   | 43.0                                     | 14.7                               | 22.2              | 461.0             | 8.5  | 6,460.0  | 162.0                                      | 999.7  | 8,742.0                     | 5,102.7               |
| Saline  | 0.0                                      | N/R   | 0.0                   | 0.0                                    | 0.0                                      | 0.0                                | 0.0               | 0.0               | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0                         | 0.0                   |
| 1.i.2. Ground Water, of which is              | 272.0                                    | N/R   | 36.7                  | 99.8                                   | 0.0                                      | 11.5                               | 27.2              | 32.7              | 21.8   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 501.7                       | 7,713.3               |
| Fresh   | 272.0                                    | N/R   | 36.7                  | 99.8                                   | 0.0                                      | 11.5                               | 27.2              | 32.7              | 21.8   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 501.7                       |                       |
| Saline  | 0.0                                      | N/R   | 0.0                   | 0.0                                    | 0.0                                      | 0.0                                | 0.0               | 0.0               | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0                         | 0.0                   |
| 2. Use of water from other economic units     | N/R                                      | N/R   | 320.0                 | N/R                                    | N/R                                      | N/R                                | N/R               | N/R               | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | 320.0                       |                       |
| Reclaimed wastewater                          | N/R                                      | N/R   | N/R                   | N/R                                    | N/R                                      | N/R                                | N/R               | N/R               | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | 0.0                         |                       |
| 3. Total use of water                         | 762.0                                    | 0.0   | 356.7                 | 180.9                                  | 43.0                                     | 26.2                               | 49.4              | 493.7             | 30.3   | 6,460.0  | 162.0                                      | 999.7  | 9,563.7                     | 1,000                 |
| <b>B. Water supply</b>                        |  |   |                       |  |  |                                    |                   |                   |  |  |  |  |                             |                       |
| 4. Supply of water to other economic units    | 320.0                                    | N/R   | N/R                   | N/R                                    | N/R                                      | N/R                                | N/R               | N/R               | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | N/R  | 320.0                       | 1,800                 |
| Wastewater to sewerage                        |  |   |                       |  |  |                                    |                   |                   |  |  |  |  |                             |                       |
| 5. Total returns                              | N/R                                      | N/R   | N/R                   | 1.2                                    | 0.0                                      | N/R                                | N/R               | N/R               | N/R  | 6,415.9  | 98.9                                       | N/R  | 6,516.0                     | 2,200                 |
| 6. Total supply of water                      | 320.0                                    | 0.0   | 0.0                   | 1.2                                    | 0.0                                      | 0.0                                | 0.0               | 0.0               | 0.0  | 6,415.9  | 98.9                                       | 0.0  | 6,836.0                     | 3,000                 |
| 7. Consumption                                | 442.0                                    | 0.0   | 356.7                 | 179.7                                  | 43.0                                     | 26.2                               | 49.4              | 493.7             | 30.3   | 44.1   | 63.1                                       | 999.7  | 2,727.7                     | 1,000                 |

N/R: Not reported  
<sup>a</sup>Coefficient-based estimate  
<sup>b</sup>Relative surface and groundwater use unknown; assigned as 50/50

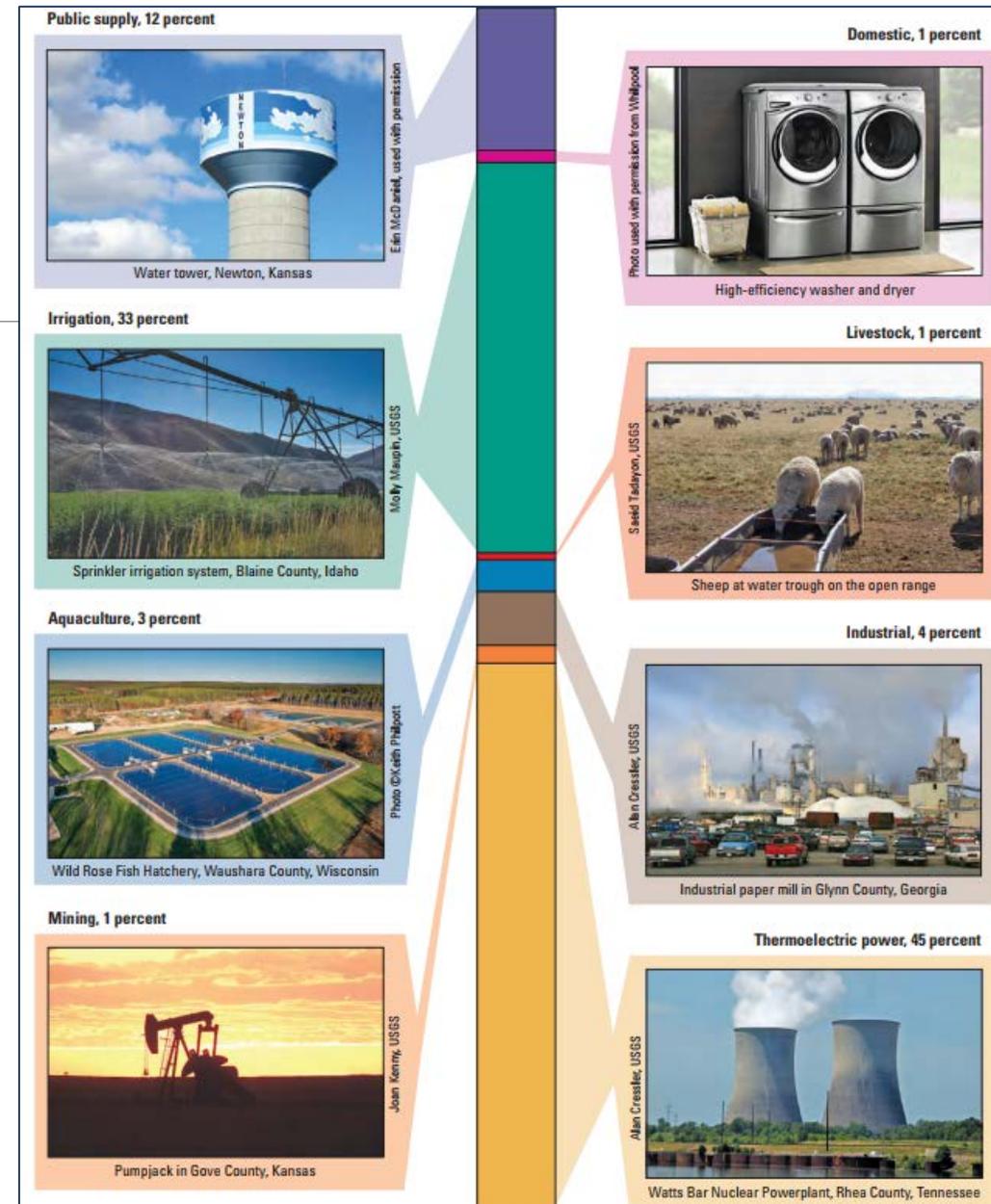


# Water use classification vs. NAICS

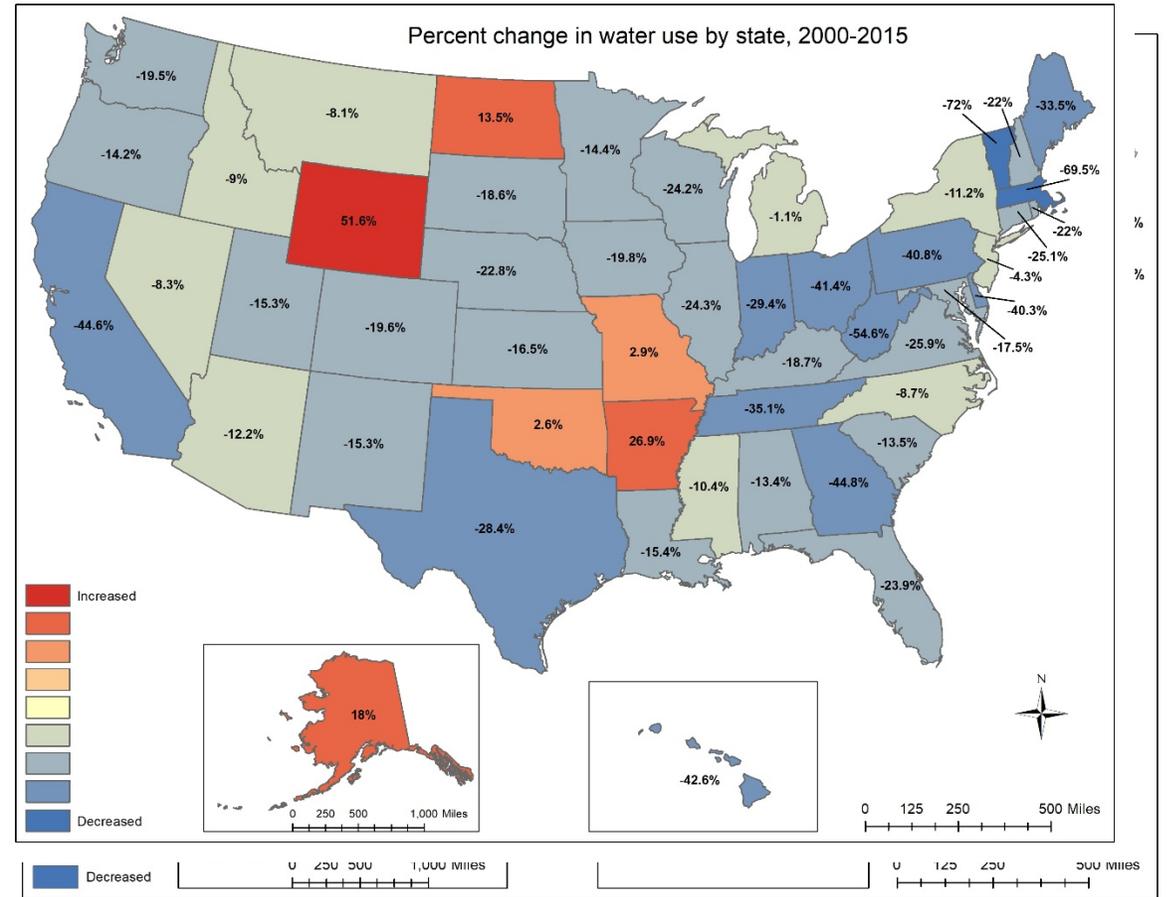
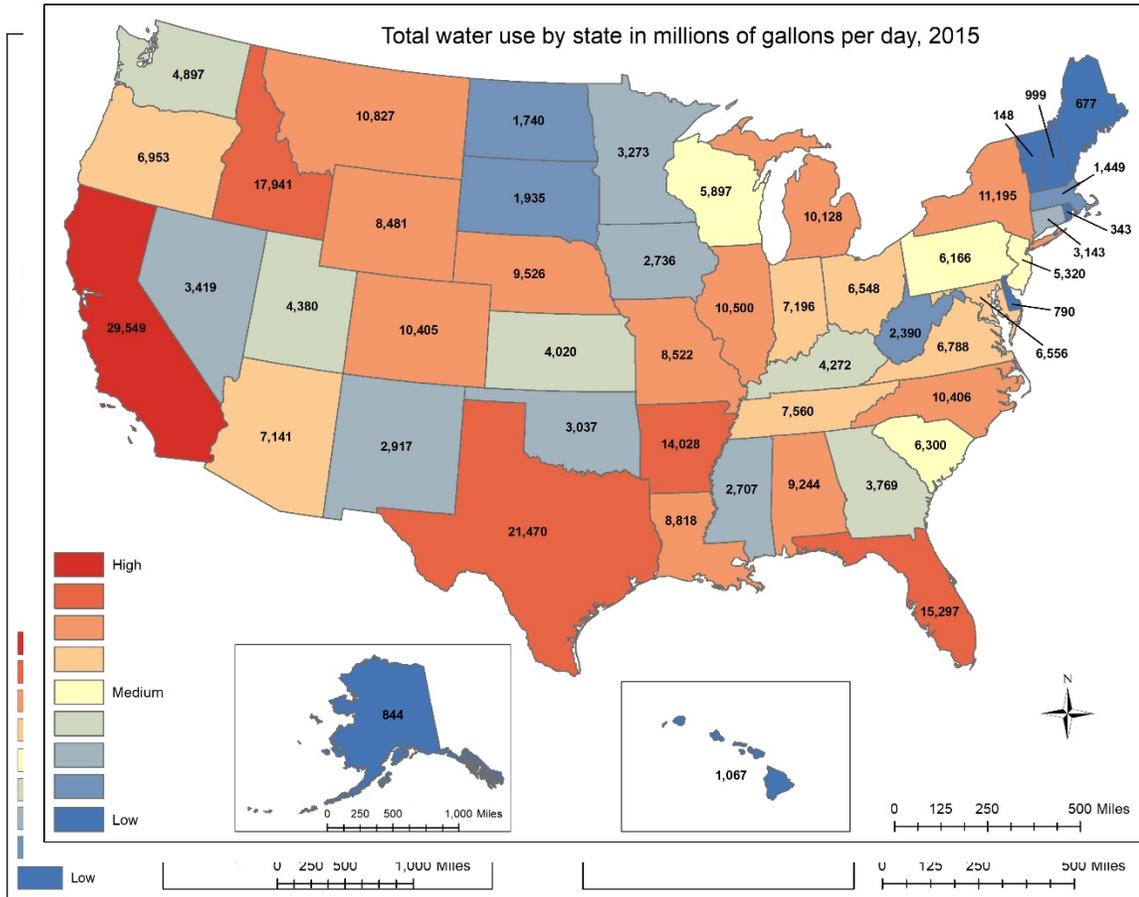
USGS: 8 categories

North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS): Hierarchical industry classification

| 2017 NAICS 2, 3, and 4-digit codes                 |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 11. Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting    | 111. Crop production                           | 1111. Oilseed & grain farming                                  |
|  |  | 1112. Vegetable & melon farming                                |
|  |  | 1113. Fruit & tree nut farming                                 |
|  |  | 1114. Greenhouse, nursery, & floriculture production           |
|  |  | 1119. Other crop farming                                       |
|  | 112. Animal production & aquaculture           | 1121. Cattle ranching & farming                                |
|  |  | 1122. Hog & pig farming  |
|  |  | 1123. Poultry & egg production                                 |
|  |  | 1124. Sheep & goat farming                                     |
|  |  | 1125. Aquaculture  |
|  |  | 1129. Other animal production                                  |
|  |  | 1131. Timber tract operations                                  |
|  | 113. Forestry & logging                        | 1132. Forest nurseries & gathering of forest products          |
|  |  | 1133. Logging  |
|  |  | 1141. Fishing  |
| 114. Fishing, hunting & trapping                   | 1142. Hunting & trapping                       |  |
|  | 1151. Support activities for crop production   |  |
| 115. Support activities for agriculture & forestry | 1152. Support activities for animal production |  |
|  | 1153. Support activities for forestry          |  |
|  | 211. Oil & gas extraction                      |  |
|  | 212. Mining (except oil & gas)                 | 2121. Coal mining  |
|  |  | 2122. Metal ore mining   |
|  |  | 2123. Nonmetallic mineral mining & quarrying                   |
|  |  | 2131. Support activities for mining                            |
|  |  | 213. Support activities for mining                             |
| 22. Utilities                                      | 221. Utilities                                 | 2211. Electric power generation, transmission and distribution |
|  |  | 2212. Natural gas distribution                                 |
|  |  | 2213. Water, sewage, and other systems                         |
|  |  | 2361. Residential building construction                        |
|  |  | 2362. Nonresidential building construction                     |
| 23. Construction                                   | 237. Heavy & civil engineering construction    | 2371. Utility system construction                              |

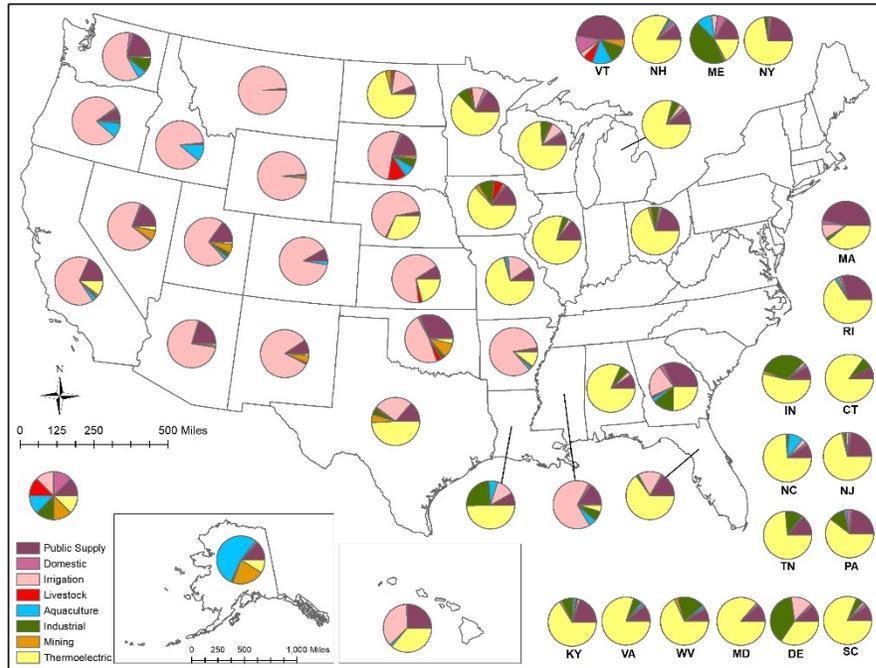


# Water use - 2015

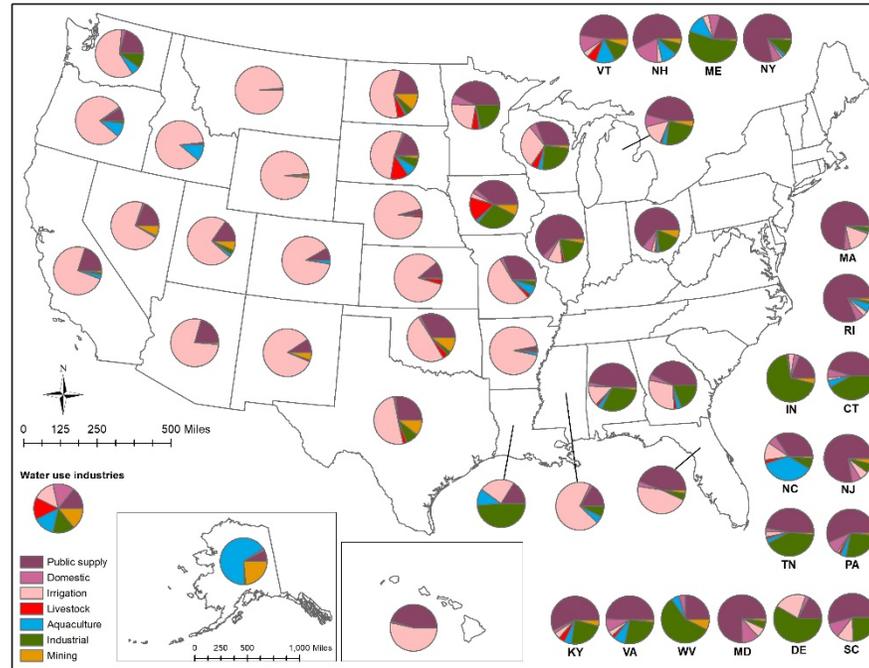


# Water use

Total water use by industry including thermoelectric, 2015



Total water use by industry excluding thermoelectric, 2015



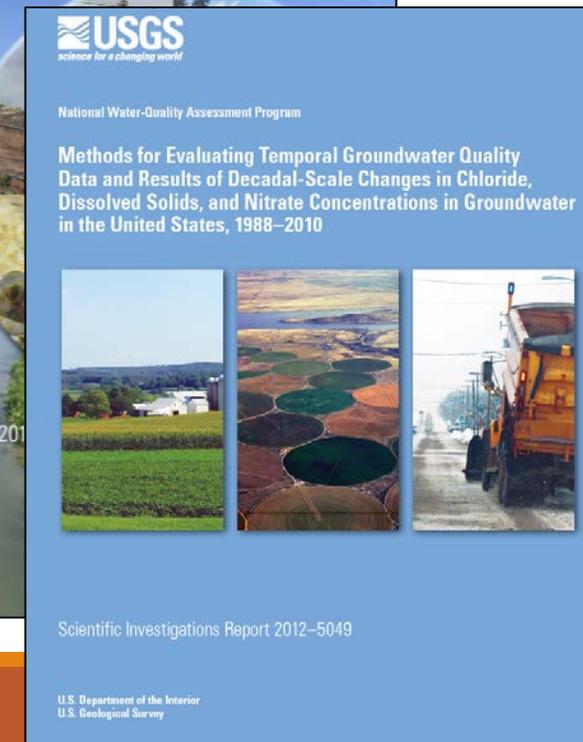
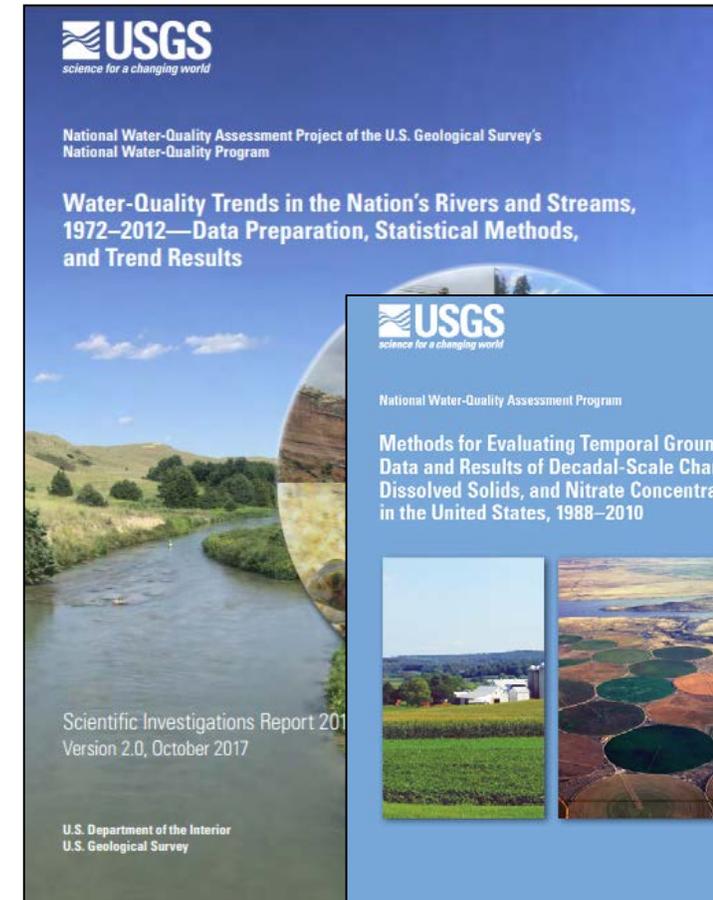
(Values in Mgal/day)

| Category | All other uses | Total, excl. hydroelectric | Total, incl. hydroelectric |
|----------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2        | 48,404         | 77,696                     | 544,624                    |
| 3        | 193,408        | 351,991                    | 366,795**                  |

OK, SD

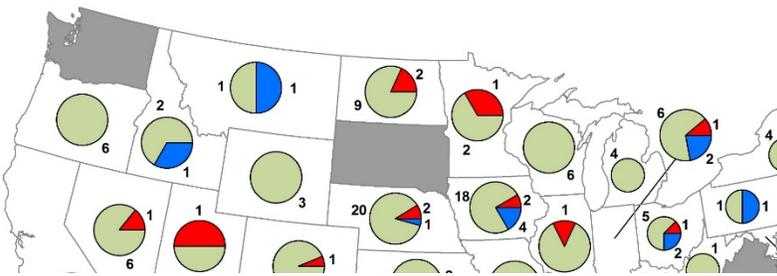
# Water quality accounts (ca. 2002-2012)

| Region                 |           | CONUS | Southeast | Northeast | Midwest | Plains | Southwest | Northwest |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Chloride               | Decreased | 25    | 7         | 1         | 8       | 6      | 2         | 1         |
|                        | No Change | 245   | 59        | 16        | 50      | 81     | 31        | 8         |
|                        | Increased | 29    | 7         | 0         | 6       | 13     | 3         | 0         |
| Nitrate                | Decreased | 31    | 12        | 7         | 5       | 4      | 2         | 1         |
|                        | No Change | 307   | 86        | 44        | 94      | 38     | 20        | 25        |
|                        | Increased | 44    | 16        | 3         | 8       | 10     | 1         | 6         |
| Specific Conductance   | Decreased | 55    | 15        | 7         | 6       | 15     | 6         | 6         |
|                        | No Change | 527   | 136       | 63        | 62      | 138    | 68        | 60        |
|                        | Increased | 62    | 15        | 9         | 5       | 17     | 9         | 7         |
| Total Nitrogen         | Decreased | 29    | 9         | 6         | 6       | 3      | 4         | 1         |
|                        | No Change | 222   | 71        | 58        | 55      | 21     | 9         | 8         |
|                        | Increased | 19    | 14        | 0         | 2       | 2      | 1         | 0         |
| Total Phosphorous      | Decreased | 30    | 6         | 6         | 6       | 8      | 4         | 0         |
|                        | No Change | 281   | 73        | 50        | 68      | 66     | 15        | 9         |
|                        | Increased | 48    | 19        | 4         | 7       | 12     | 5         | 1         |
| Total Suspended Solids | Decreased | 27    | 6         | 3         | 5       | 7      | 2         | 4         |
|                        | No Change | 122   | 39        | 15        | 18      | 21     | 5         | 24        |
|                        | Increased | 28    | 12        | 3         | 0       | 5      | 0         | 8         |

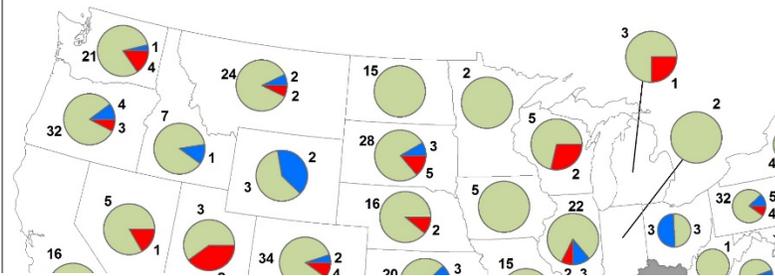


# Water quality accounts

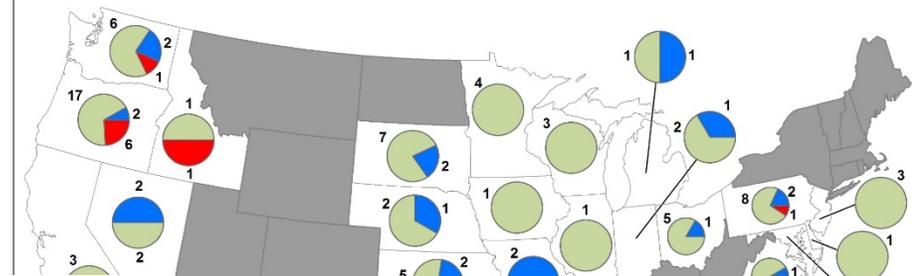
Chloride changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



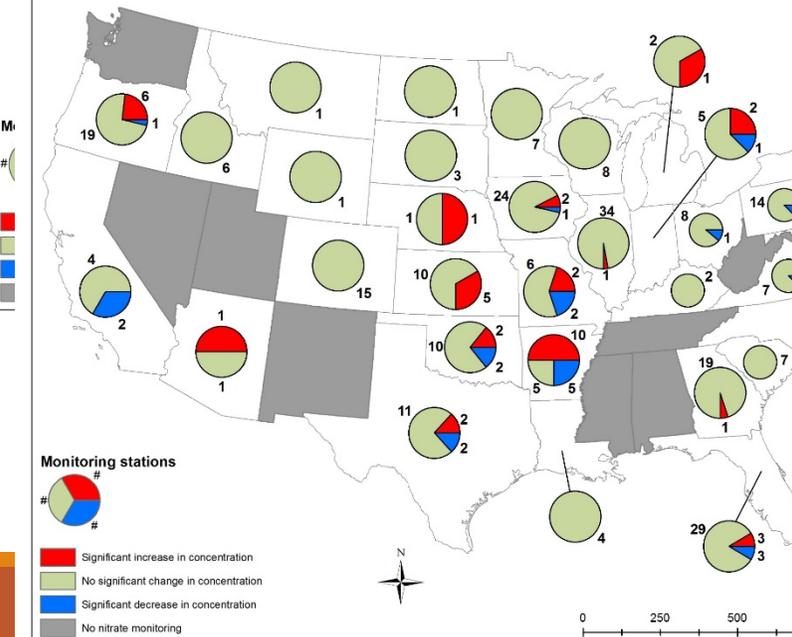
Specific conductance changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



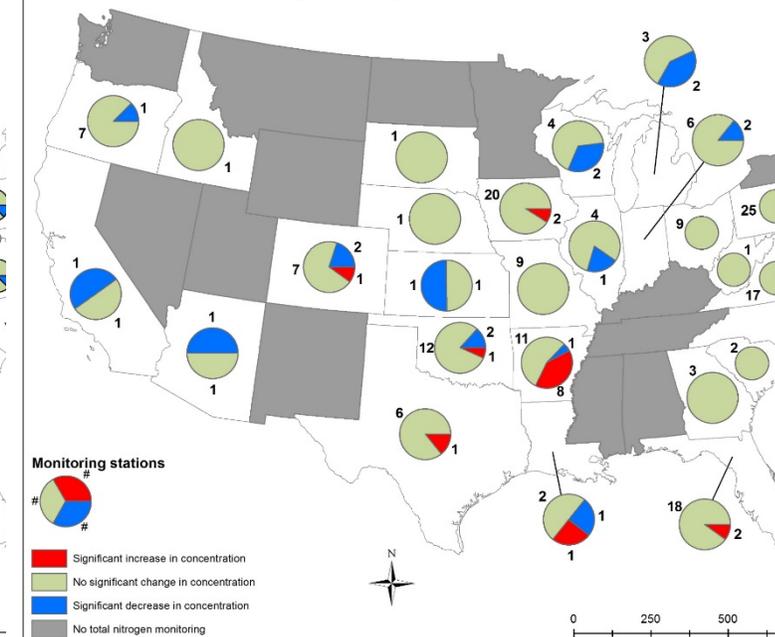
Total suspended solids changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



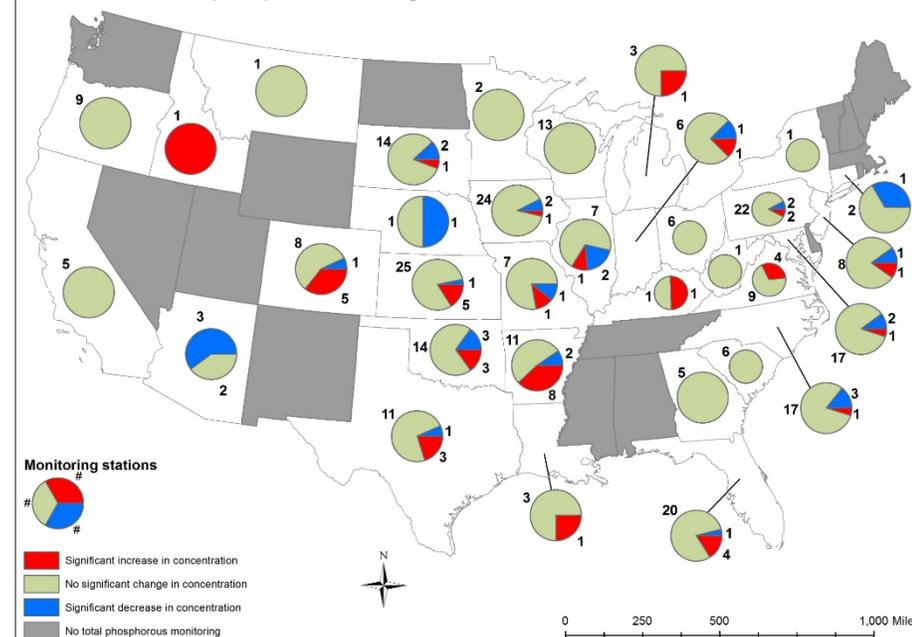
Nitrate changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



Total nitrogen changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



Total phosphorous changes in surface water, ca. 2002-2012



# Water emissions accounts

- USEPA Discharge Monitoring Reports – great but some important caveats
  - Only NPDES facilities
  - Self-reported - data gaps & errors (can sometimes be fixed)
  - Tracks by SIC code – messy translation to NAICS
- We initially report only for 2015 at national scale

**ECHO**  
Enforcement and Compliance History Online

You are here [Home](#) > [Trends](#) > [Water Pollutant Loading Tool](#) > Water Pollution Search

## Water Pollution Search

[Water Pollution Search](#) [Data Downloads](#) [Everyday Searches](#) [Resources](#)

Select Search Type  [Help](#)

Select Reporting Year  [?](#)

### 1 Location or Watershed

Nationwide

Search by Location

ZIP Code

EPA Region ([View EPA Regional Map](#))  
Select an EPA Region

State

County

City

Search by Watershed

ZIP Code

Watershed ID (2-Digit to 12-Digit HUC)

Major U.S. Watersheds

### 2 Pollutant

All Pollutants

Specify Pollutant

Pollutant Name(s)  
Specify Pollutant Name

Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) Number  
Specify CAS Number

Pollutant Categories

With calculated loadings [?](#)

- Nitrogen
- Phosphorus
- Organic Enrichment
- Solids
- Metals
- Clean Water Act Priority Pollutants
- CERCLA Hazardous Substances
- TRI Chemicals
- Radionuclides

Without calculated loadings [?](#)

- Pathogen Indicators
- Temperature
- Wastewater Flow

### 3 Industry

All Point Sources

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)

Industrial Point Sources (non-POTWs)

Point Source Category  
All Point Source Categories

Industrial Sector ID (2-Digit SIC Code)  
All SIC Codes

[SIC Code Lookup](#)

SIC Code (Enter 4-Digit Codes)

2-Digit NAICS Code  
All NAICS Codes

Enter 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6-Digit NAICS Code(s)

### 4 Facility

Facility Name

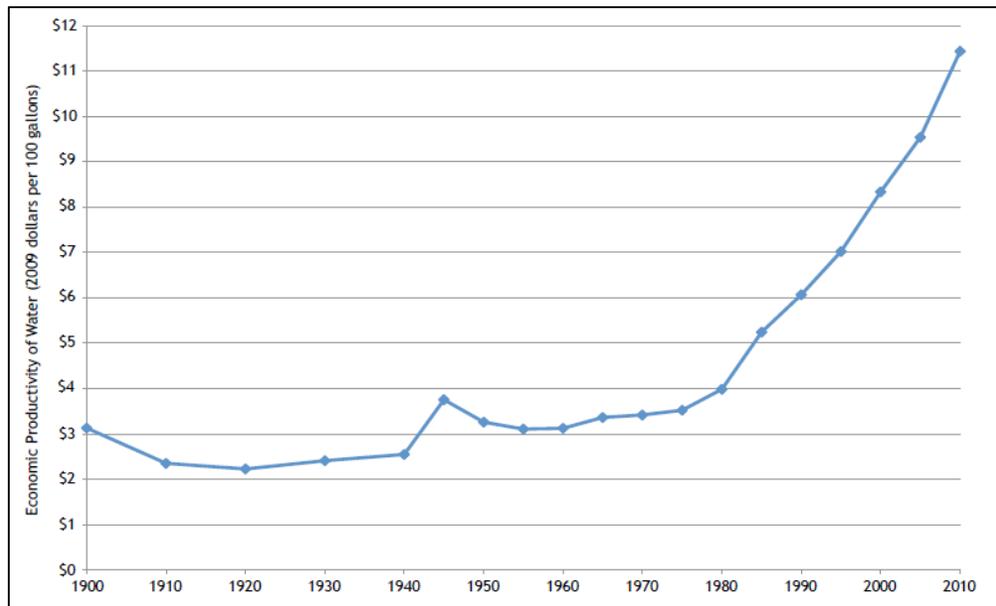
# Water emissions accounts

| National water emissions accounts: Net emissions from point sources (lbs), 2015 |  |                                |                                 |   |                                     |                         |   |                                 |                          |                             |   |  |
|---|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
|   | Industries (by NAICS 2017 category) <sup>a</sup> |                                |                                 |   |                                     |                         |   |                                 |                          |                             |   |  |
|   | 211. Oil & Gas Extraction                        | 212. Mining (Except Oil & Gas) | 2211. Electric Power Generation | 221310. Water supply & irrigation systems | 221320. Sewage Treatment Facilities | 311. Food Manufacturing | 312. Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing | 321. Wood Product Manufacturing | 322. Paper Manufacturing | 325. Chemical Manufacturing | 326. Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing | 488. Support Activities for Transportation |
| Nitrogen  | 1,958,753  | 175,894                        | 30,799,748                      | 4,625,342                                 | 1,707,044,049                       | 9,076,309               | 223,678                                       | 2,304,678                       | 4,476,851                | 11,390,196                  | 689,532                                       | 2,745,438                                  |
| Phosphorus  | 1,812,670  | 1,080,377                      | 3,518,434                       | 278,333                                   | 229,369,504                         | 46,984,187              | 482,744                                       | 66,860                          | 3,062,443                | 4,483,287                   | 22,353,375                                    | 57,155                                     |
| Organic enrichment  | 17,864,431                                       | 1,527,739                      | 7,921,047                       | 1,877,695                                 | 794,384,600                         | 126,283,081             | 58,361,620                                    | 63,112,102                      | 221,832,247              | 31,189,631                  | 32,721,806                                    | 32,693,096                                 |
| Solids  | 31,838,843                                       | 47,734,469                     | 815,669,482                     | 1,413,229,518                             | 2,402,701,873                       | 256,619,855             | 4,365,042                                     | 189,360,155                     | 319,345,828              | 291,293,333                 | 937,320,550                                   | 268,138,914                                |
| Metals  | 84,021,720                                       | 94,431,196                     | 53,179,422                      | 15,175,581,651                            | 486,175,286                         | 9,730,834               | 82,041  | 361,429                         | 1,337,937                | 4,025,157                   | 8,382   | 97,100,990                                 |

|                    | 493. Warehousing & Storage | 562. Waste Management & Remediation Services | 721. Accommodation | Other industries | Total          | % as other industries |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Nitrogen           | 276,071                    | 41,456,922                                   | 1,712,585          | 61,160,117       | 1,880,116,163  | 3.3%                  |
| Phosphorus         | 1,115                      | 53,324                                       | 7,845,753          | 2,467,571        | 323,917,132    | 0.8%                  |
| Organic enrichment | 102,962,934                | 89,413,204                                   | 7,770,512          | 213,201,676      | 1,803,117,422  | 11.8%                 |
| Solids             | 5,059,140                  | 305,548,960                                  | 15,089,070         | 3,023,845,194    | 10,327,160,225 | 29.3%                 |
| Metals             | 72,625                     | 60,815,915                                   | 21,083             | 184,521,154      | 16,251,466,822 | 1.1%                  |

# Water productivity (\$ GDP/100 gal water used)

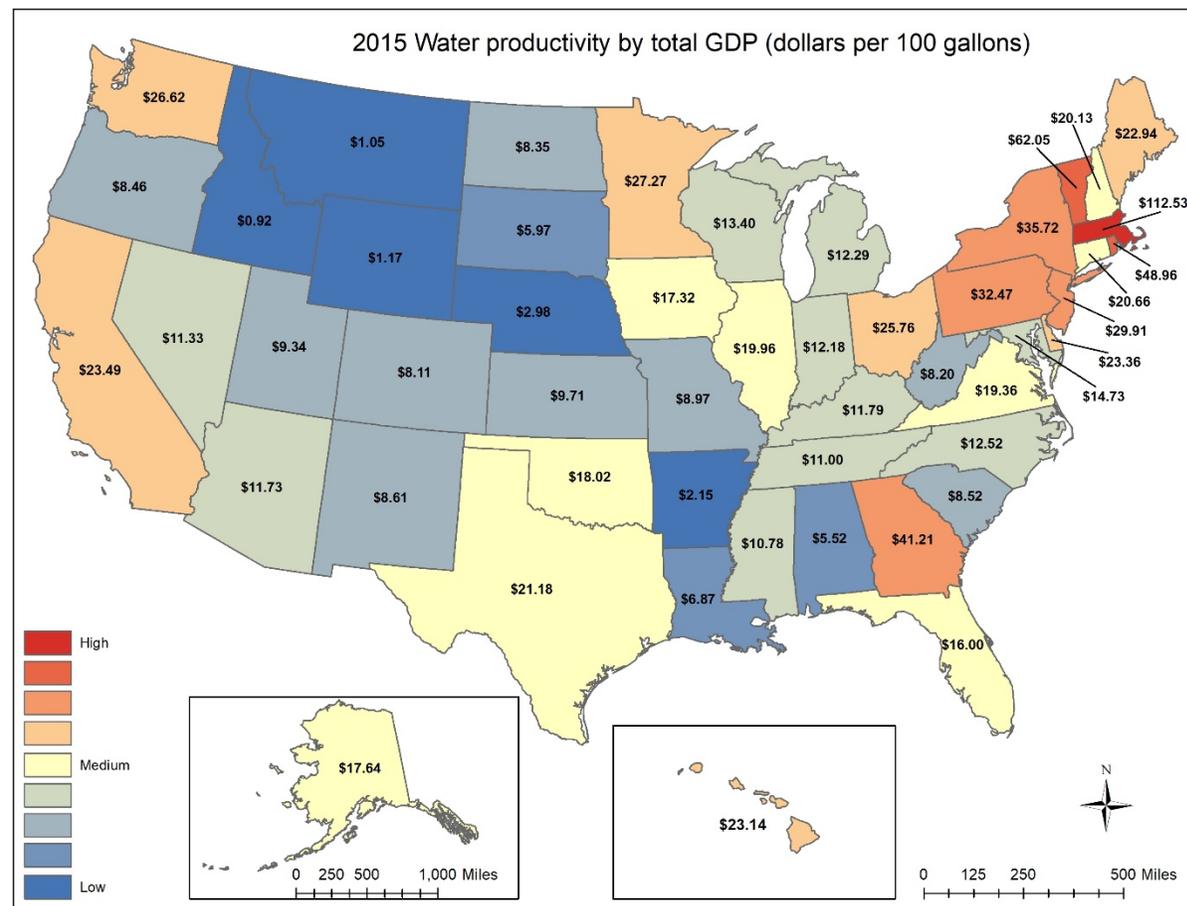
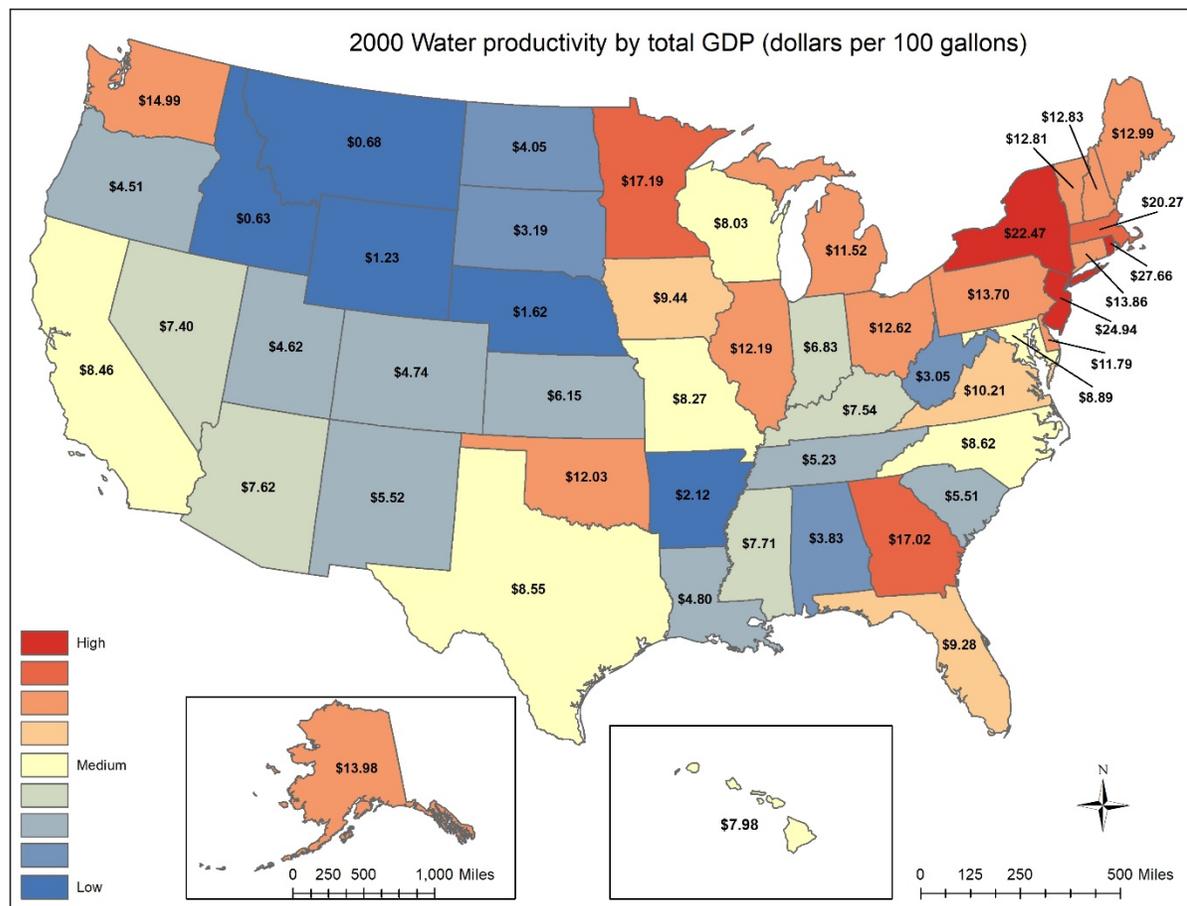
- Limited by thematic resolution of water use & GDP data
- Can't resolve e.g., industries as we lack data on industrial use of public supply



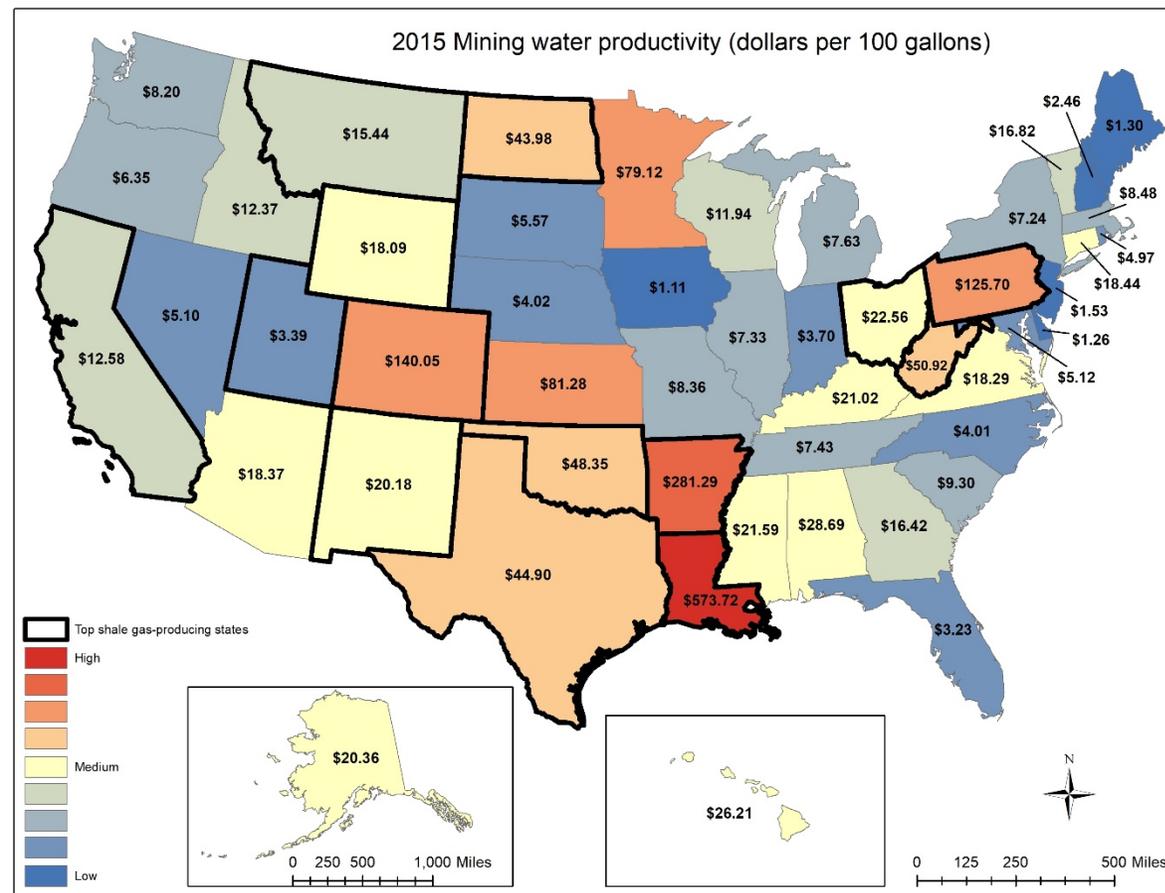
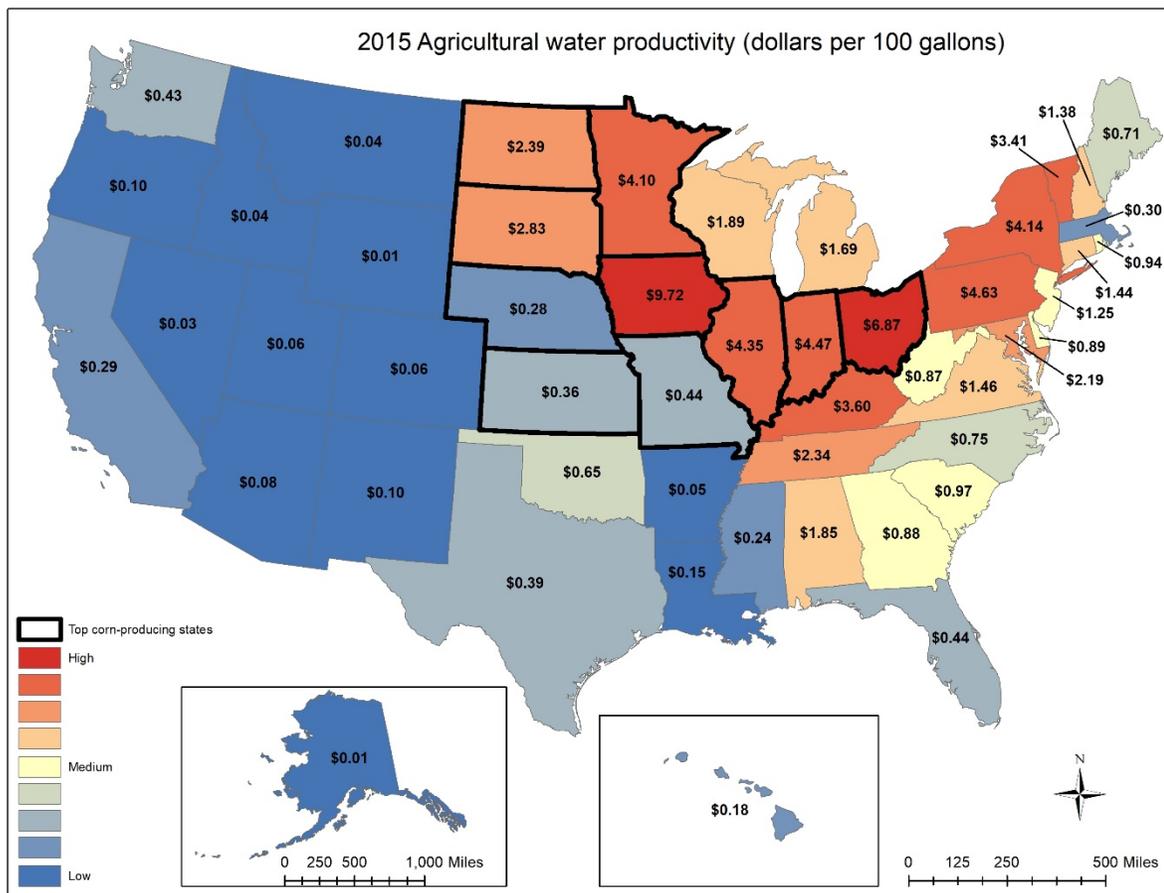
|          |      | Water productivity (GDP, 2009 US Dollars/100 gallons of water) |         |  |                       |
|----------|------|--|---------|--|-----------------------|
|          |      | Crop Production, Livestock, Aquaculture                        | Mining  | Total (Deducting domestic use, adding golf courses & evaporative loss from hydropower) | Total (USGS Reported) |
| National | 2000 | \$0.16   | \$14.17 | \$8.27   | \$8.40                |
| National | 2005 | \$0.20   | \$15.39 | \$9.83   | \$9.53                |
| National | 2010 | \$0.24   | \$19.27 | \$11.75  | \$11.39               |
| National | 2015 | \$0.26   | \$28.16 | \$14.32  | \$13.84               |

Donnelly and Cooley 2015

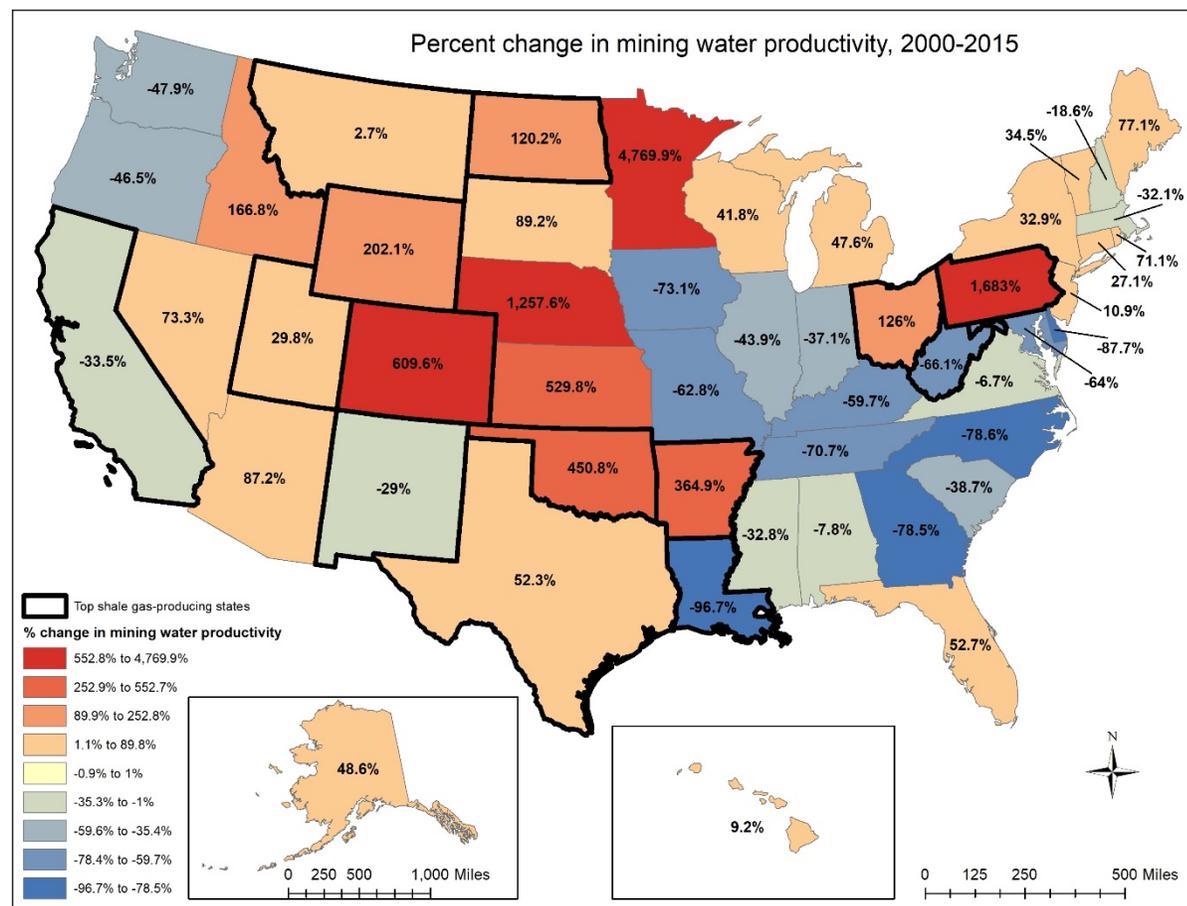
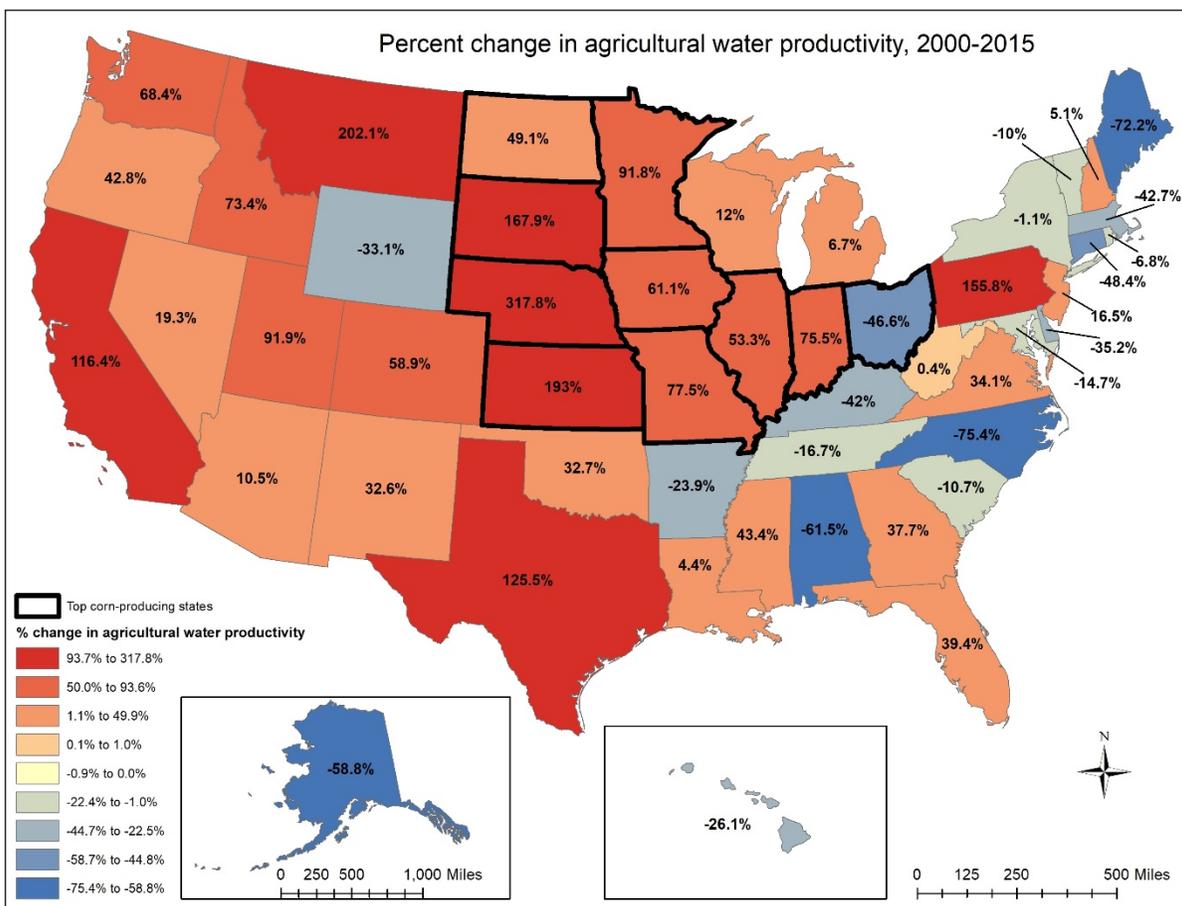
# Total water productivity - 2000 & 2015



# Water productivity by industry - 2015



# Changes in water productivity, 2000-2015



# Expert elicitation, water quality-economic linkages

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- Q1: What are the effects of changing water quality on the economy?
- Q2: How does economic activity affect water quality?
- Compare, e.g.,:
  - States with water quality changes for key metrics
  - States with high GDP in industries potentially vulnerable to water quality change

# Water quality-economic linkages

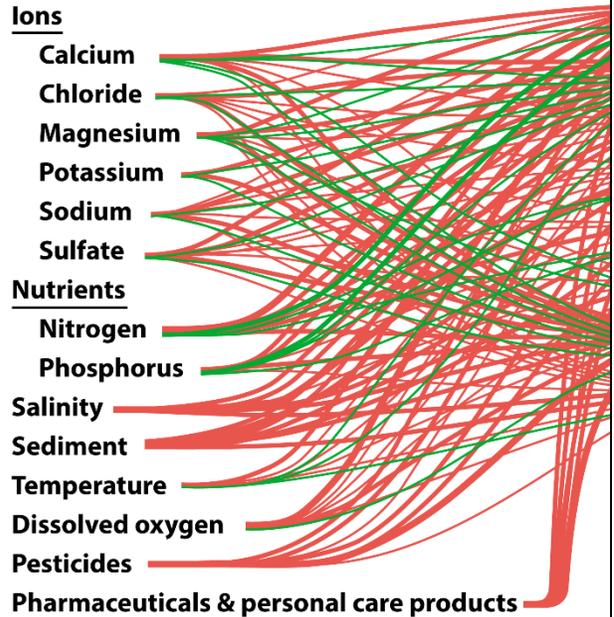
- Elicitation from 15 water/water quality experts from USGS & USEPA
- Effects of 14 water quality parameters (measured nationally or of emerging concern) on 8 water use types

| Water quality metrics |  | Water uses/industries |          |            |            |           |        |               |                      |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------|--------|---------------|----------------------|
|                       |  | Aquaculture           | Domestic | Industrial | Irrigation | Livestock | Mining | Public Supply | Thermoelectric Power |
| Ions                  | Calcium                                  | +/--                  | +/--     | -          | +          | +         | -/+    | +/--          | -                    |
|                       | Chloride                                 | -                     | +/--     | -          | -          | -         |        | +/--          | -                    |
|                       | Magnesium                                | +/--                  | +/--     | -          | +          | +         | -/+    | +/--          | -                    |
|                       | Potassium                                |                       | +/--     |            |            |           |        | +/--          |                      |
|                       | Sodium                                   | -                     | +/--     | -          | -          | -         |        | +/--          | -                    |
|                       | Sulfate                                  | --                    | +/--     | -          | -          | -         | -      | +/--          | -                    |
| Nutrients             | Nitrogen                                 | ---/+++               | --       |            | -/+        | --/+      |        | --            |                      |
|                       | Phosphorus                               | --/+++                | --/+     |            | -/+        | -/+       |        | --            | -                    |
|                       | Salinity                                 | --                    | --       | --         | ---        | --        | -      | --            | --                   |
|                       | Sediment                                 | --                    | --       | --         | --         | --        | --     | --            | --                   |
|                       | Temperature                              | --                    | -/+      | -/+        |            |           |        | -/+           | -/+                  |
|                       | Dissolved oxygen                         | ---                   | -        | -          |            |           | -      | --            | -                    |
|                       | Pesticides                               | --                    | --       | -          | --         | --        |        | ---           |                      |
|                       | Pharmaceuticals & personal care products | --                    | --       | -          | --         | --        |        | ---           |                      |

# Impacts of water quality on the economy

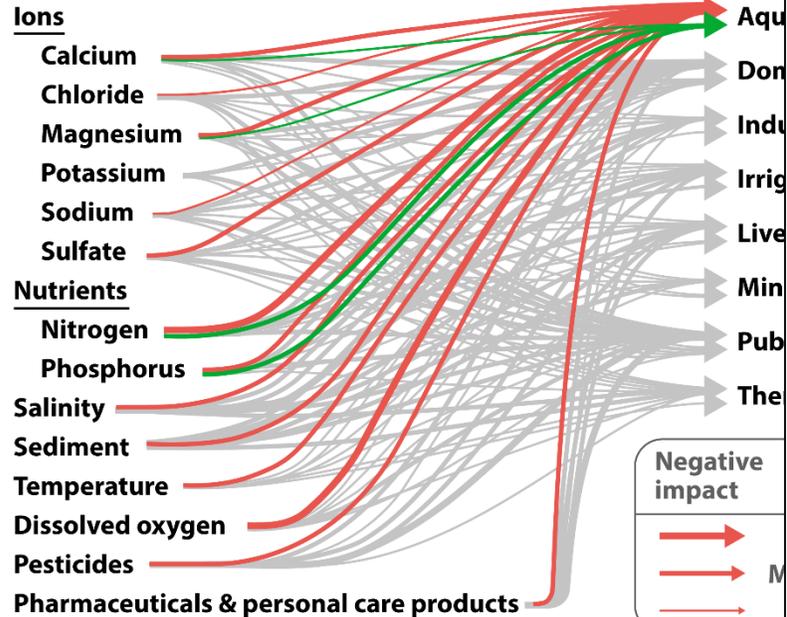
## Impacts of water quality

### Water quality metrics



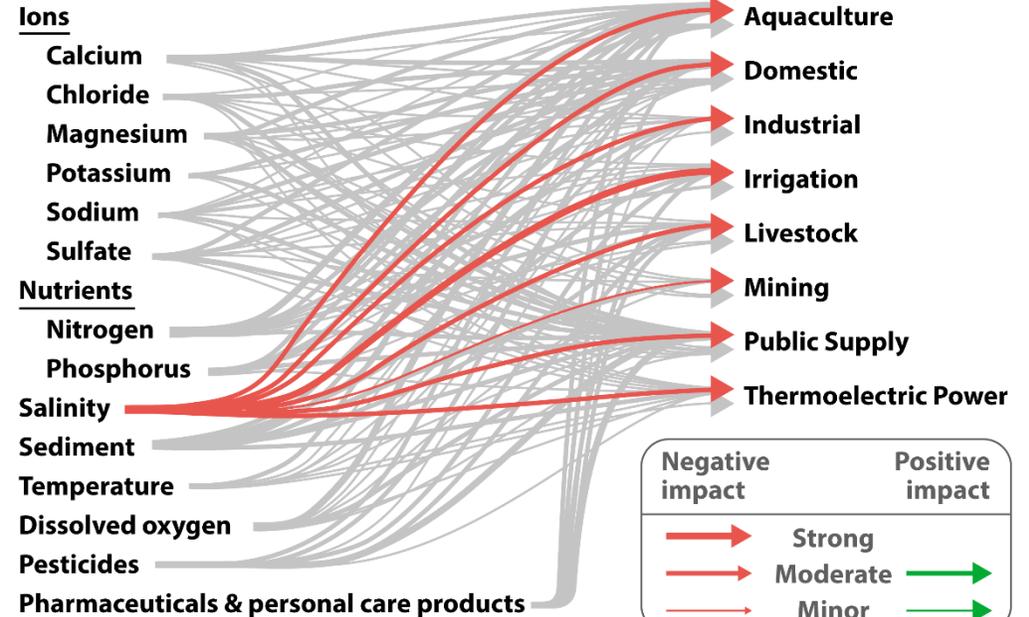
## Impacts of water quality on the

### Water quality metrics



## Impacts of water quality on the economy

### Water quality metrics



# Impacts of economic activity on water quality

## Potential impacts of water use on water quality

### Water quality metrics

#### Ions

Calcium  
Chloride  
Magnesium  
Potassium  
Sodium  
Sulfate

#### Nutrients

Nitrogen  
Phosphorus

Salinity  
Sediment  
Temperature  
Dissolved oxygen  
Pesticides  
Pharmaceuticals & personal care products

## Potential impacts of water use on water quality

### Water quality metrics

#### Ions

Calcium  
Chloride  
Magnesium  
Potassium  
Sodium  
Sulfate

#### Nutrients

Nitrogen  
Phosphorus

Salinity  
Sediment  
Temperature  
Dissolved oxygen  
Pesticides  
Pharmaceuticals & personal care products

## Potential impacts of water use on water quality

### Water quality metrics

#### Ions

Calcium  
Chloride  
Magnesium  
Potassium  
Sodium  
Sulfate

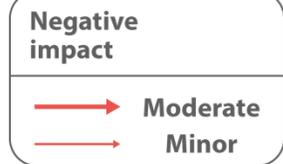
#### Nutrients

Nitrogen  
Phosphorus

Salinity  
Sediment  
Temperature  
Dissolved oxygen  
Pesticides  
Pharmaceuticals & personal care products

### Water uses

Aquaculture  
Domestic  
Industrial  
Irrigation  
Livestock  
Mining  
Public Supply  
Thermoelectric Power



# Accounts investigated but not compiled

- Water asset accounts -  
Work underway with USGS  
National Water Census
  - Watershed-level surface  
water budgets
  - National-scale groundwater &  
soil water model

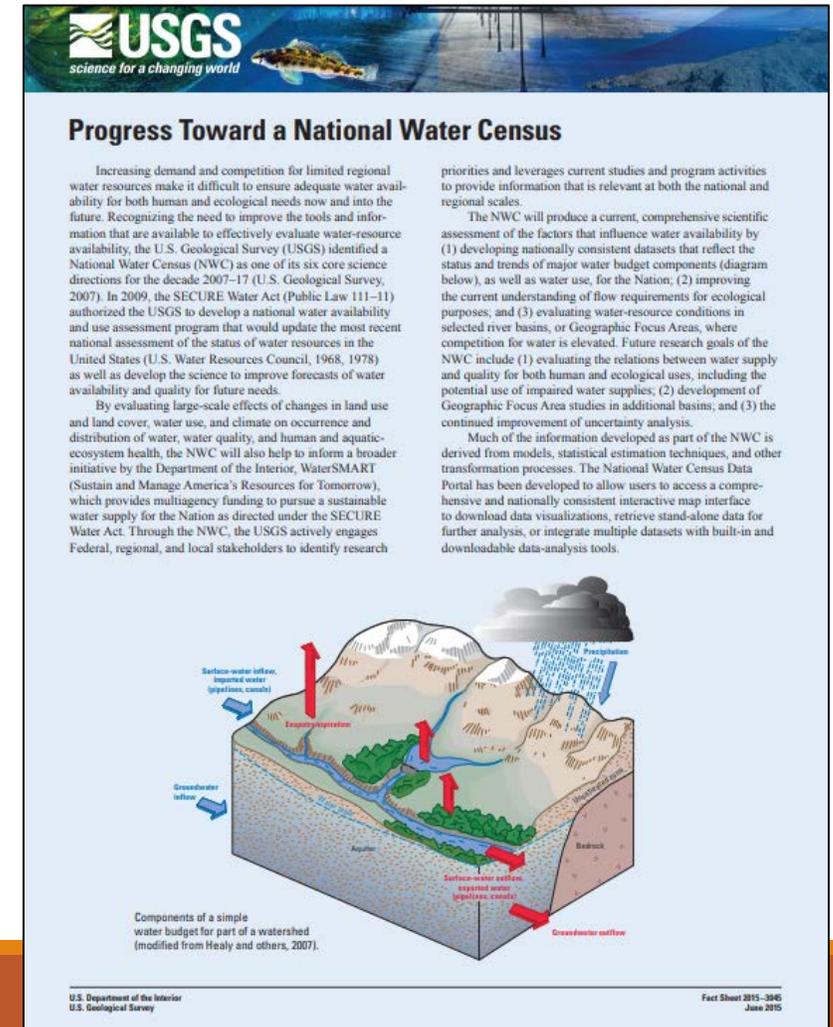
Table VI.1

Asset accounts (millions of cubic metres)

|  | EA.131. Surface water               |                  |                   |                                      | EA.132<br>Groundwater | EA.133<br>Soil water | Total          |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|  | EA.1311<br>Artificial<br>reservoirs | EA.1312<br>Lakes | EA.1313<br>Rivers | EA.1314<br>Snow, ice<br>and glaciers |                       |                      |                |
| <b>1. Opening stocks</b>                   | <b>1 500</b>                        | <b>2 700</b>     | <b>5 000</b>      | <b>0</b>                             | <b>100 000</b>        | <b>500</b>           | <b>109 700</b> |
| Increases in stocks                        |                                     |                  |                   |                                      |                       |                      |                |
| 2. Returns                                 | 300                                 | 0                | 53                |                                      | 315                   | 0                    | 669            |
| 3. Precipitation                           | 124                                 | 246              | 50                |                                      |                       | 23 015               | 23 435         |
| 4. Inflows                                 | 1 054                               | 339              | 20 137            |                                      | 437                   | 0                    | 21 967         |
| 4.a. From upstream territories             |                                     |                  | 17 650            |                                      |                       |                      | 17 650         |
| 4.b. From other resources in the territory | 1 054                               | 339              | 2 487             | 0                                    | 437                   | 0                    | 4 317          |
| Decreases in stocks                        |                                     |                  |                   |                                      |                       |                      |                |
| 5. Abstraction                             | 280                                 | 20               | 141               |                                      | 476                   | 50                   | 967            |
| 6. Evaporation/actual evapotranspiration   | 80                                  | 215              | 54                |                                      |                       | 21 125               | 21 474         |
| 7. Outflows                                | 1 000                               | 100              | 20 773            | 0                                    | 87                    | 1 787                | 23 747         |
| 7.a. To downstream territories             |                                     |                  | 9 430             |                                      |                       |                      | 9 430          |
| 7.b. To the sea                            |                                     |                  | 10 000            |                                      |                       |                      | 10 000         |
| 7.c. To other resources in the territory   | 1 000                               | 100              | 1 343             | 0                                    | 87                    | 1 787                | 4 317          |
| 8. Other changes in volume                 |                                     |                  |                   |                                      |                       |                      | 0              |
| <b>9. Closing stocks</b>                   | <b>1 618</b>                        | <b>2 950</b>     | <b>4 272</b>      |                                      | <b>100 189</b>        | <b>553</b>           | <b>109 583</b> |

# Overlap, challenges, extensions to USGS National Water Census

- Other remaining gaps for water accounts:
  - Water supply & use: 1) Return flows to environment, 2) flows between industries (Marston et al. 2017), 3) timing & thematic resolution
  - Water quality: Finer-scale change than # of gages (national SPARROW model would be ideal – forthcoming 2019 USGS product)
  - Summarize by watersheds or political boundaries?
- Some overlap with ongoing work at USGS & other agencies
  - April 2018 USGS Water Availability & Use Program – Water Use Workshop
  - Census Bureau collecting data on water use by industry in 2017 Economic Census (most recent previous data from 1983, Becker 2016)
- Water accounts offer connections to economic data – value of water resources, multiple ways to inform decision making



# Summary

| Account                         | Description   | Key data sources  | Key limitations   |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Physical supply & use           | Water use & its change over time  | USGS National Water Use Information Program                             | 5-year time periods /w 4 years to release; low thematic resolution  |
| Water quality                   | Key water quality parameters  | USGS NAWQA for surface & groundwater                                    | Uneven spatial coverage (national SPARROW model showing annual change would be the ideal)   |
| Water productivity              | GDP/unit water use  | Bureau of Economic Analysis GDP estimates; USGS water use data          | Be sure to tie any improvements in water use thematic resolution to NAICS codes   |
| Water emissions                 | N, P, organic enrichment, solids, metals emissions to waters  | USEPA Discharge Monitoring Reports                                      | Data limited to facilities with NPDES permit; incomplete data & errors more likely prior to 2017; reports using SIC codes; discharges to WWTPs included in TRI but difficult to incorporate |
| Water quality-economic linkages | Expert elicitation linking water quality change to economic impacts   | Expert elicitation led by USGS  | Qualitative; provides basis for further quantitative work   |
| Water asset account             | Changes in water volume held in different types of water assets (reservoirs, lakes, streams, snow, groundwater, soil) | Not yet attempted; key components underway as part of USGS Water Census | TBD   |

# Application of water accounts to water management elsewhere

## Box VIII.5 Marginal value of water in Canada, by Industry, 1991

Using a production function approach, the marginal value of raw water was estimated for 58 manufacturing industries in Canada in 1981, 1986 and 1991. Assuming that firms would minimize their costs, the researchers formulated a translog cost function based on the quantity of output; the quantity of water; the price of capital, labour, energy, materials, water recirculation and in-plant water treatment; as well as several dummy variables that took into consideration site-specific and industry-specific characteristics, such as the aridity of provinces and the share of raw water that was used for industrial processes. In the cost function approach, the shadow price of water was estimated as the marginal change in costs resulting from an incremental change in the quantity of raw water intake. The mean shadow value across industries was C\$ 0.046 per cubic metre in 1991 prices. In very dry provinces, the shadow value was higher than in water-abundant provinces: C\$ 0.098 and C\$ 0.032, respectively.

| Industry         | Shadow price of water<br>(Canadian dollars<br>per cubic metre) | Industry                  | Shadow price of water<br>(Canadian dollars<br>per cubic metre) |
|------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| Food             | 17   | Paper and allied products | 31   |
| Beverages        | 38   | Basic metals              | 107  |
| Rubber           | 6  | Fabricated metal          | 48   |
| Plastic          | 32   | Transport equipment       | 25   |
| Primary textiles | 14   | Non-metallic minerals     | 23   |
| Textile products | 5  | Refined petroleum/coal    | 288  |
| Wood             | 20   | Chemicals                 | 72   |

Table IX.3  
Water profile and water productivity in Australia, 2000-2001

|                            | Water<br>consumption<br>(megalitres) | Percentage<br>distribution<br>of water<br>consumption | Percentage<br>of industry gross<br>value added | Value added<br>in Australian dollars<br>per megalitre of<br>water consumption |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Agriculture, total         | 16 660 381                           | 66.9  | 1.8  | 0.58  |
| Livestock                  | 5 568 474                            | 22.4  | 0.3  | 0.27  |
| Dairy farming              | 2 834 418                            | 11.4  | 0.3  | 0.53  |
| Vegetables                 | 555 711                              | 2.2   | 0.3  | 3.27  |
| Fruit                      | 802 632                              | 3.2   | 0.3  | 1.98  |
| Grapes                     | 729 137                              | 2.9   | 0.3  | 1.86  |
| Sugar cane                 | 1 310 671                            | 5.3   | 0.1  | 0.22  |
| Cotton                     | 2 908 178                            | 11.7  | 0.2  | 0.42  |
| Rice                       | 1 951 160                            | 7.8   | 0.1  | 0.18  |
| Forestry and fishing       | 26 924                               | 0.1   | 0.3  | 57.42   |
| Mining                     | 400 622                              | 1.6   | 6.3  | 84.81   |
| Manufacturing              | 866 061                              | 3.5   | 13.6   | 84.70   |
| Electricity and gas supply | 1 687 778                            | 6.8   | 2.1  | 6.59  |
| Water supply               | 1 793 953                            | 7.2   | 0.8  | 2.35  |
| Other industries           | 832 100                              | 3.3   | 75.2   | 487.65  |
| Households                 | 2 181 447                            | 8.8   | n/a  | n/a   |
| Environment                | 459 393                              | 1.8   | n/a  | n/a   |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>24 908 659</b>                    | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>                                   |   |

# Application of water accounts to water management elsewhere

Figure IX.1  
Index of water use, population and GDP in Botswana, 1993-1998

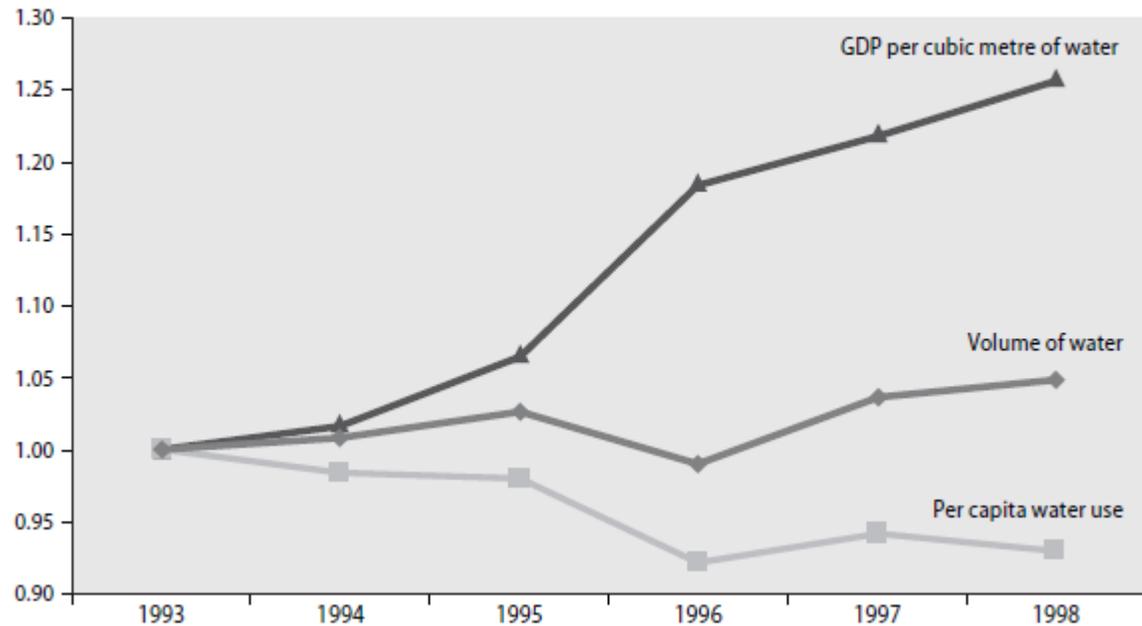
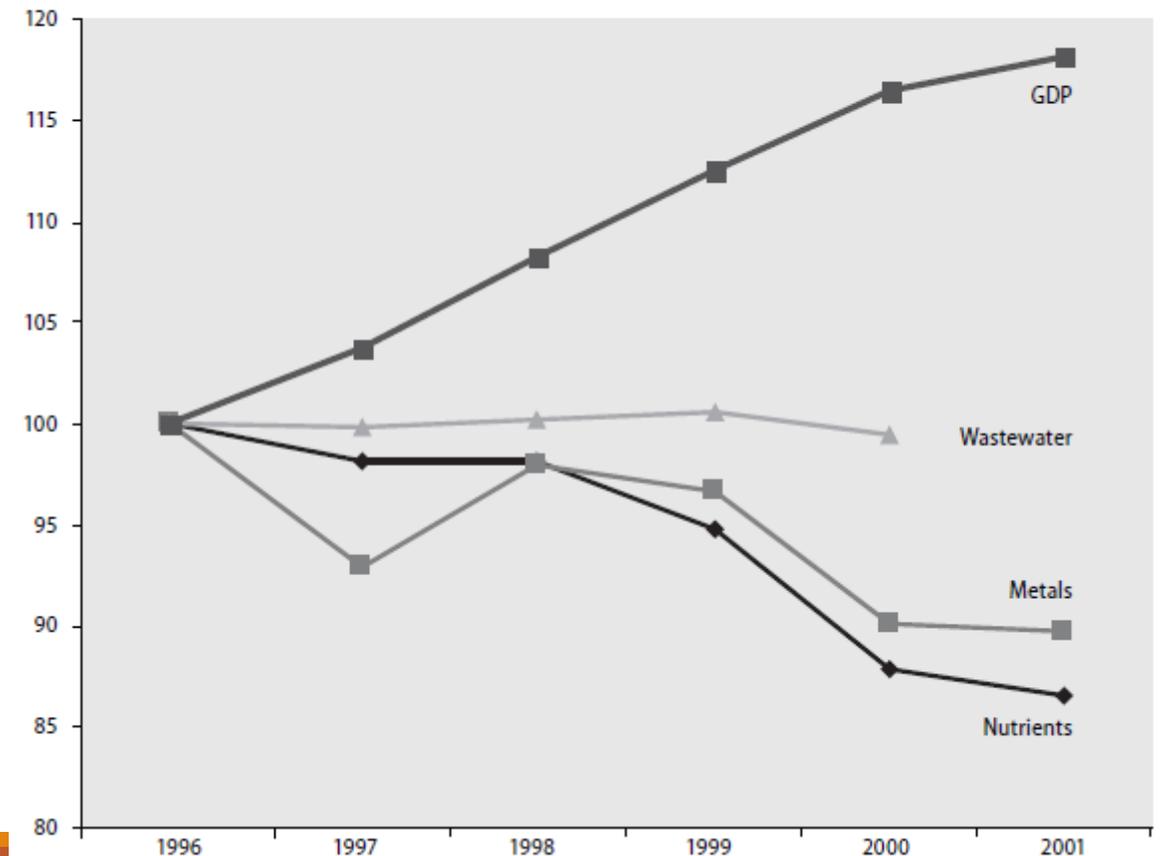


Figure IX.2  
Index of growth of GDP, wastewater and emissions of nutrients and metals in the Netherlands, 1996-2001



### Box VIII.3

#### Calculating residual value: an example from Namibia

The residual value technique was applied to agricultural production in the Stampriet region of Namibia where farmers abstract groundwater to raise cattle and irrigate crops, including lucerne, for their livelihood. A survey was undertaken in 1999 and data for farm income and costs were obtained for 16 of the 66 farms in the region. The data on some items are considered reasonably accurate, notably, farm income, imputed income, most goods and services, and the compensation of employees. Fixed capital costs, one of the largest components, were difficult to estimate because farmers often did not keep good records. Farmers do not always meter their water use; thus, the estimates of water use must be treated with caution. From the survey, average farm income and costs were calculated. Average residual value was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Gross farm income} - \text{inputs of goods and services} - \text{compensation of employees} - \text{farmer imputed income} - \text{capital costs (depreciation, working capital, cost of fixed capital)}$$

Despite the weakness of the data, the results are useful in illustrating the sensitivity of the residual value to the assumptions made. The table below shows the costs of production and residual value under different assumptions about the cost of capital. Assuming a 5 per cent cost for capital investment, the residual value of water was 19 Namibian cents per cubic metre. However, if the real cost of capital is raised to 7 per cent, farmers would not earn enough to cover even the capital costs and the value of water would be negative.

| Farm revenue and costs (in 1999 Namibian dollars)  |                       | Data source   |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| Gross farm income                                  | \$601 543             | Output multiplied by market prices obtained from survey   |
| Inputs of goods and services                       | \$242 620             | Inputs multiplied by prices obtained from survey  |
| Value added, of which:                             | \$358 923             |   |
| Compensation of employees                          | \$71 964              | Wages paid + in kind payments obtained from survey  |
| Gross operating surplus, of which:                 | \$286 959             |   |
| Imputed value of farmers' labour                   | \$48 000              | Imputed value based on average salary of hired manager  |
| Depreciation                                       | \$66 845              | Standard depreciation rates multiplied by farmers' estimated historical cost of capital in survey |
| Cost of working capital                            | \$17 059              | Imputed as percentage of the value of fixed capital   |
| Cost of fixed capital including land, 3-7 per cent | \$75 739 to \$176 724 | Based on farmers' estimated historical cost of capital reported in survey                         |
| Residual value of water                            | \$79 316 to -\$21 669 |   |
| Amount of water used (cubic metres)                | 154 869               | Farmers' "best guess" (water is not metered)  |
| Residual value (Namibian dollars/cubic metre)      | \$0.51 to -\$0.14     |   |

### Box VIII.4

#### Adjusting the residual value of water for market distortions

The case studies for the United Kingdom and Jordan show the importance of adjusting for market distortions occurring as a result of trade protection. In both cases, the residual value of water is calculated with and without the effective subsidies from trade protection. Substantial differences occur as a result.

**Case 1. United Kingdom.** Bate and Dubourg estimated the residual value of water used for irrigating five crops in East Anglia from 1987 to 1991, using data from farm budget surveys. However, because data about actual water use were not available, the residual value was calculated for the amount of water needed to cultivate a hectare of a given crop. When the effective subsidies from the European Union's Common Agricultural Programme are taken into account, the residual value is negative for all crops except potatoes.

|                | British pounds sterling per hectare <sup>a</sup>         |  |
|----------------|--|--|
|                | Not adjusted for Common Agricultural Programme subsidies | Adjusted for Common Agricultural Programme subsidies |
| Winter wheat   | 101.12   | -176.48  |
| Barley         | 13.45  | -164.70  |
| Oilseed (rape) | 220.04   | -146.48  |
| Potatoes       | 1 428.84   | 880.04   |
| Sugar beet     | 327.93   | -3 565.10  |

Source: Adapted from Roger N. Bate and W. Richard Dubourg, "A net-back analysis of irrigated water demand in East Anglia", *Journal of Environmental Management* (1997), vol. 49, No. 3, pp. 311-322.

a The actual amount of water used per hectare of a crop is unknown.

**Case 2. Jordan.** Schiffler calculated residual value for fruit crops (apples, peaches, olives, grapes) and vegetable crops (tomatoes, watermelon, cucumbers, squash and wheat) in 1994 based on data from farm surveys. Values were calculated with and without trade protection. The difference was small (7 per cent) for fruit crops, but nearly 50 per cent for vegetables.

|                 | Jordanian dinars per cubic metre of water input |                               |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|
|                 | Not adjusted for trade protection               | Adjusted for trade protection |
| Fruit crops     | 0.714   | 0.663                         |
| Vegetable crops | 0.468   | 0.244                         |

Source: Adapted from Manuel Schiffler, *The Economics of Groundwater Management in Arid Countries* (London and Portland, Oregon, Frank Cass Publishers, 1998).

# Possible water management/analysis applications

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- Meeting future water demand
- Social & economic gains from water policy changes – e.g., water pricing & allocation
- Trade & environment: water use & pollution
- Transnational water resource management
- Linkages to other environmental accounts (fisheries, forestry, land/soils, ecosystems)
- Value of water to the public & the economy
- Context for value of USGS information studies

# Open questions

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- What value/use cases do you see for developing water accounts in the U.S.?
- Are we missing any potentially important data sources/databases?
- How can we better collect and manage data to provide more timely, complete, & accurate water accounts information?

Thanks!

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