

# Private Water Service Providers Quick Facts

- Nearly 73 million Americans receive water service from a privately owned water utility or a municipal utility operating under a public-private partnership.<sup>1</sup>

## Privately Owned Drinking Water Utilities

- Private water companies own about 16% of the nation's community water systems.<sup>2</sup>
- Private Water Systems produce 4.6 billion gallons of water a day, or about 1.7 trillion gallons per year.<sup>3</sup>
- Private water utilities maintain 100,000 miles of distribution mains (water pipes) to serve their customers.<sup>4</sup>
- The private drinking water business is a \$4.3 billion per year business.<sup>5</sup>
- Ten Water Utility Companies are publicly traded:
  - American Water
  - American States Water Company
  - Aqua America
  - Artesian Resources Corp.
  - California Water Service Group
  - Connecticut Water Service, Inc
  - Middlesex Water Co.
  - Pennichuck Corp.
  - SJW Corp.
  - York Water Co.

## Privately Owned Wastewater Utilities

- There are about 4,200 privately owned wastewater facilities (POTWs) in the U.S..<sup>6</sup>
- 20% of all wastewater utilities (POTWs) in the U.S. are privately owned.<sup>7</sup>
- About 3% of Americans get wastewater service from private wastewater utilities.<sup>8</sup>

## Water and Wastewater Management Contracts

- There are more than 2,000 drinking water and wastewater facilities that are operated in public-private partnership contract arrangements.<sup>9</sup>
- These contracts regularly get renewed at better than a 93 percent renewal rate.<sup>10</sup>
- Annually, it is a \$1.5 billion industry.<sup>11</sup>

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1. US Environmental Protection Agency, 1995 and 2000 Community Water System Survey, and NAWC member data.

2. US Environmental Protection Agency, 1995 Community Water System Survey

3. US Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Community Water System Survey

4. NAWC Financial and Operating Data and US Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Community Water System Survey

5. NAWC Financial and Operating Data and US Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Community Water System Survey

6. US Environmental Protection Agency

7. Congressional Budget Office, "Future Investment in Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure," November 2002.

8. Congressional Budget Office, "Future Investment in Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure," November 2002.

9. Public Works Financing, March 2008

10. Public Works Financing, March 2008

11. Public Works Financing, March 2008