

Types of Water Systems in California

- ✓ **Public Water System:** Provides water for human consumption and (1) has 15 or more service connections or (2) regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. Water quality is generally regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), although in 29 counties SWRCB has delegated authority to regulate smaller systems with between 15 and 200 connections to county environmental health departments.
 - **Community Water System:** Public water system that (1) serves at least 15 service connections used by yearlong residents or (2) regularly serves at least 25 yearlong residents. Roughly 2,900 across the state, serving about 39 million people.
 - **Noncommunity Water System:** Public water system that (1) regularly serves 25 or more of the same persons for more than 6 months but fewer than 12 months per year (referred to as “nontransient”), such as a school, or (2) does not regularly serve at least 25 of the same persons over 6 months of the year (referred to as “transient”), such as a rest stop or campground. Roughly 1,500 nontransient systems and 3,000 transient systems across the state.
 - **Tribal Water System:** Public water system that is located on tribal land and serves a federally recognized tribe. Regulated under tribal sovereign authority in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, not SWRCB.
- ✓ **State Small Water System:** Provides water for human consumption with between 5 and 14 service connections and does not regularly serve drinking water to more than an average of 25 individuals daily for more than 60 days out of the year. Water quality is overseen by county health officers. Roughly 1,500 across the state.
- ✓ **Domestic Well:** Groundwater well used to supply water for the domestic needs of an individual residence or a water system that has no more than four service connections. Water quality not regularly monitored by the state or local governments. At least 350,000 across the state, providing water for between 1.5 million and 2.5 million Californians.