

Santa Barbara County Water Facts



Water Demand Facts and Figures *

Agricultural Use: 234,400 AFY
79% of total county use

Urban Use: 62,000 AFY
21% of total county use

Kitchen 7%
Toilet 11%
Bath/Shower 7%
Laundry 9%
Leak 6%
Exterior 59%
Other 1%

Average Daily Water Use

Average Daily Water Use, Per Person (based on 2001 Water Production Survey): 148 gallons

Santa Barbara County
Population: 399,347

Water Conservation

Since 1980 water purveyors have seen an average reduction of per capita use within their districts of 18%.

Water Conservation Tips:

- Shut off the faucet when you are brushing your teeth and shaving. Only turn it on to rinse.
- Fix leaks. A dripping faucet can waste 3,000 gallons per year.
- Change automatic irrigation system settings to reflect the season. When it is raining, turn the system off. Or ask your local purveyor about ETo Irrigation Controllers.
- Landscape with plants that require less water.

* "AFY" means Acre Feet per Year. An Acre Foot is the amount of water that would cover one acre of land one foot deep — 325,851 gallons — about 2 million cups of tea.

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Average Annual Rainfall

(in inches)

La Cumbre Peak	30
Figueroa Mountain	23
Montecito	20
Santa Barbara	18
Goleta	18
Summerland	18
Carpinteria	20
Santa Ynez	16
Lompoc	16
Santa Maria	14
Vandenberg AFB	12
New Cuyama	8

Water Sources in Santa Barbara County

Groundwater	78%
Reservoirs	8%
State Water Project	12%
Recycled	2%
Desalination	(Backup during drought)

Water Supplies



Reservoirs

Average Amount Withdrawn Annually (Water Agency Models)	
Cachuma	24,000 AFY
Gibraltar	4,600 AFY
Juncal	1,700 AFY

Groundwater

Average Amount Withdrawn Annually (Water Agency Models)	290,000 AFY
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State Water Project

Total Contracted (GCWA)	42,986 AFY
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Water Recycling

Total Developed Capacity (tertiary or advanced secondary treatment)	4,400 AFY
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Santa Barbara Desalination Plant

Maximum Capacity	3,125 AFY
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