



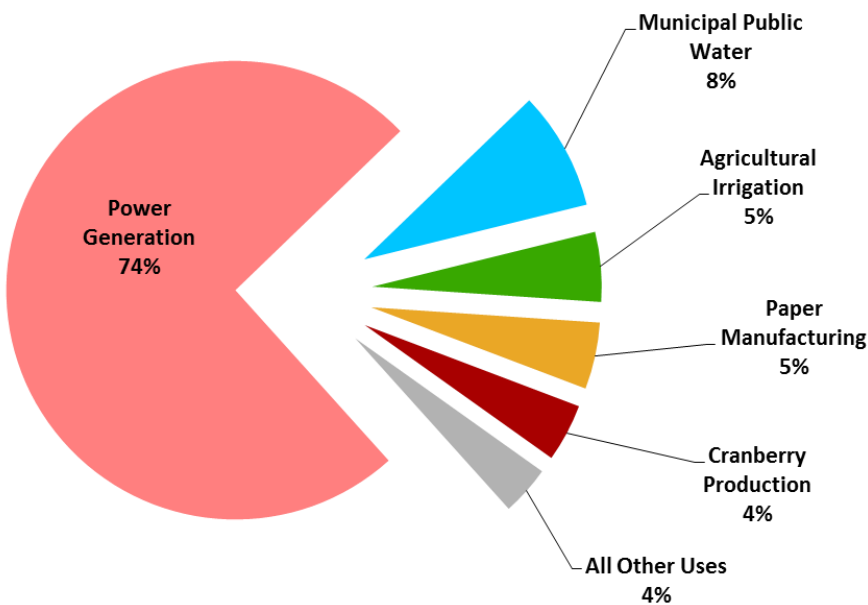
# Wisconsin Water Use

## 2013 Withdrawal Summary

**Water supply systems in Wisconsin** capable of withdrawing 100,000 gallons per day are required to register and report withdrawals. In 2013, total statewide withdrawals exceeded 2.12 trillion gallons of water from over 14,000 wells, ponds, streams, rivers and lakes. This amount is roughly equal to 3 times the volume of water in Lake Winnebago or enough water to cover the surface area of Wisconsin in nearly 2 inches of water. Total 2013 withdrawals were down 6.1% from 2012.

### 2013 Withdrawals by Use

Total Withdrawals = 2.12 Trillion Gallons

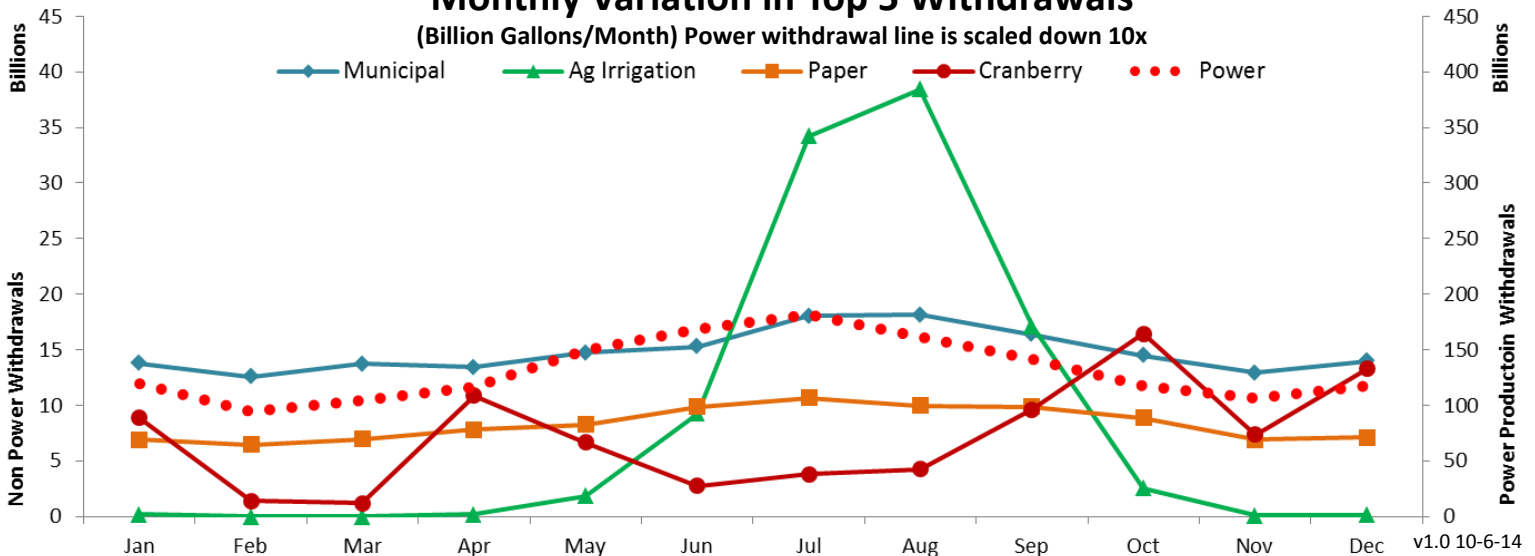


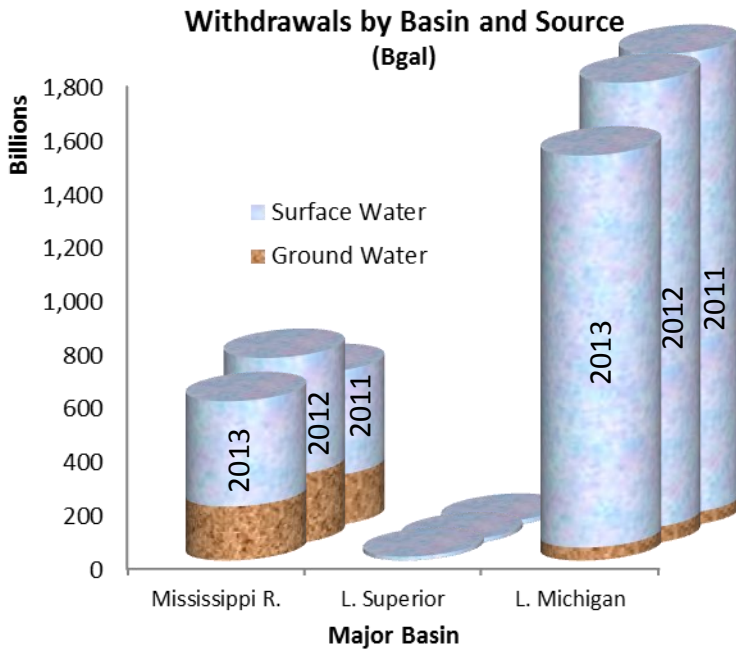
How and when water is withdrawn varies seasonally. Monthly withdrawal volumes typically vary throughout the year following temperatures and precipitation patterns. Withdrawals decreased in most categories as temperatures and precipitation stabilized from the extreme weather events in 2012.

- Municipal water demand and cooling water demand for power and paper production increases with the heat of summer.
- Agricultural irrigation withdrawals in July were down 32% from 50 billion gallons in 2012 to 34 billion gallons in 2013.
- Cranberry production withdrawals were down 84% in March from 7.4 billion gallons in 2012 to 1.2 billion gallons in 2013 as temperatures stabilized after the record March heat in 2012.

### Monthly Variation in Top 5 Withdrawals

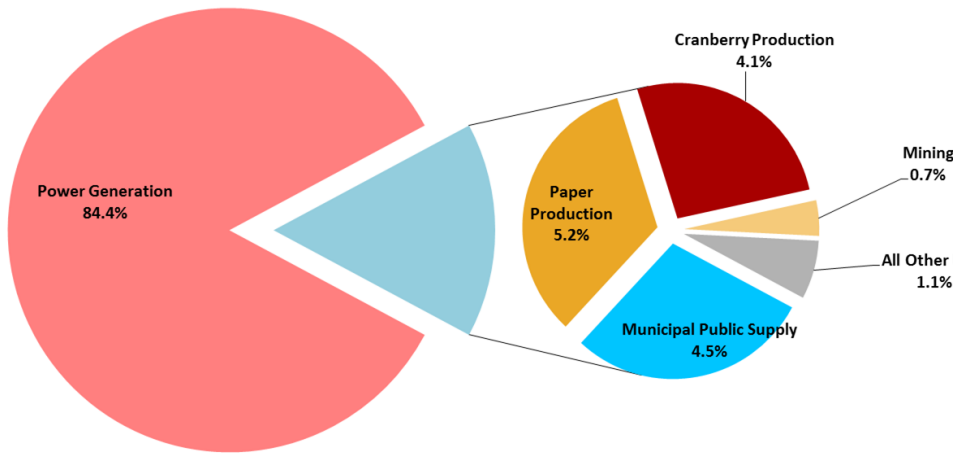
(Billion Gallons/Month) Power withdrawal line is scaled down 10x





- Power production withdrawals continued to decline and were down 3.7% from 2012. They declined 1.8% from 2011 to 2012. This is due in part to changes in customer demand, cooler temperatures and the closing of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station.
- Withdrawals decreased significantly for agricultural irrigation (-24.5%) and golf course irrigation (-39.2%) as precipitation and temperatures were closer to average compared to the drought of 2012.
- Municipal public water withdrawals were down 11.7% from 2012 as summer water demand decreased.
- Cranberry production *surface* water withdrawals were down nearly 20% from 2012. However, *groundwater* withdrawals increased for cranberry production due in part to producers supplementing drought depleted reservoirs with groundwater.

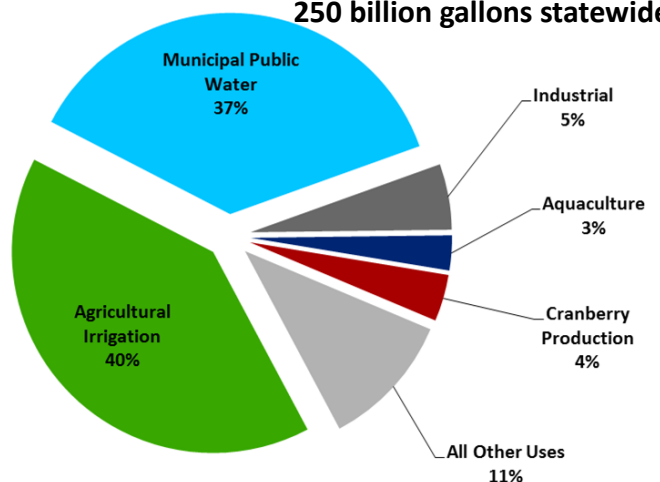
### 2013 Total Surface Water Withdrawals by Water Use 1.87 trillion gallons statewide



- Surface water withdrawals totaled 1.87 trillion gallons from 682 active sources.
- The largest volume of water withdrawn in the state (1.58 trillion gallons) was used by power production facilities. These facilities are concentrated along Lake Michigan and the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers.
- Many surface water withdrawals are used and discharged near their point of withdrawal. This results in little water lost from the original source relative to the size of the withdrawal.

### 2013 Total Groundwater Withdrawals by Water Use 250 billion gallons statewide

- Groundwater withdrawals totaled 250 billion gallons from over 13,000 high capacity wells.
- Agricultural irrigation remained the largest use of groundwater in the state. Agricultural irrigation withdrawals decreased 25% from 135 billion gallons in 2012 to 101 billion gallons in 2013.
- Municipal Public Water Supplies are typically owned by cities and deliver water for residential, commercial, institutional and industrial uses. These providers represented the second largest groundwater withdrawal at 92 billion gallons, down 7% from 99 billion gallons in 2012.



For more information regarding the Water Use Reporting program or to request more specific information on withdrawals, please visit our website or contact Water Use Program staff: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) keyword "Water Use"  
[DNRWaterUseRegistration@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRWaterUseRegistration@Wisconsin.gov) 606.266.2299