

## How much water is in the Great Lakes?

	Volume (cubic miles)	Surface Area (square miles)	Retention Time (years)	Comments
All Great Lakes	5,500	95,000		90% of US fresh surface water, 18% of world fresh surface water
Lake Michigan	1,180	22,300	99	Enough water to cover Wisconsin to a depth of 95 feet
Lake Superior	2,900	31,700	191	Enough water to cover Wisconsin to a depth of 230 feet
1 cubic mile of water is equivalent to approximately 1 <b>trillion</b> gallons of water.				

\*\*Source: Great Lakes Atlas, EPA, Factsheet 1, <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/atlas/gl-fact1.html>

## How much water is lost from the Great Lakes?

Evaporation: The peak rate of evaporation occurs from September to December on the Great Lakes is 1-2 inches per week. This translates to 55 - 110 **billion** gallons of water evaporated from Lake Michigan per day.

\*\*Source: Army Corp of Engineers, Great Lakes Update, Volume 148, July 2, 2002

Outflows: On average 237 **billion** gallons of water flow out of the St. Lawrence Seaway every day. The Chicago Diversion allows for 2 **billion** gallons of water to flow out of Lake Michigan every day. Outflows represent less than one percent per year of the total Great Lakes volume.

Wisconsin Losses: Wisconsin has an approved diversion at Pleasant Prairie for 3.2 million gallons per day.

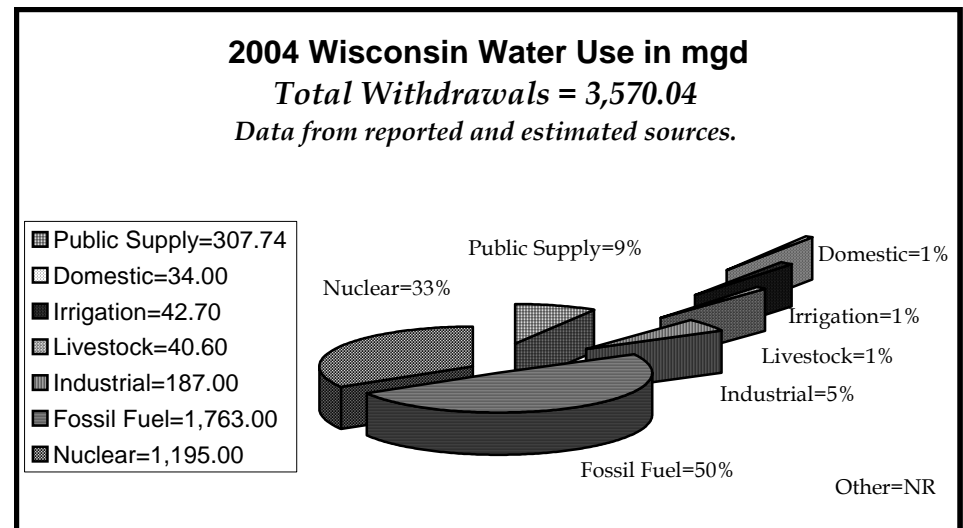
## How much Great Lakes water does Wisconsin use?

About one third of Wisconsin's area is the Great Lakes Basin, while 50% of Wisconsin's population is estimated to be within the Great Lakes Basin boundaries.

Note: Data are from both reported and estimated sources.

mgd = million gallons per day	Lake Michigan Basin	Lake Superior Basin
Surface Water	3320 mgd	41 mgd
Ground Water	174 mgd	11 mgd
Other Surface Water	24 mgd (Lake Winnebago)	0 mgd
Total	3,570 mgd Energy production accounts for 83% of water withdrawal.	

\*\*Source: Based on data reported to Great Lakes Commission, 2004.



## Some measures of the economic value of the Great Lakes to the region and Wisconsin.

### Tourism:

In 2005 tourism generated approximately \$3.8 billion in Wisconsin's Great Lakes counties.

Bayfield	\$129 million
Ashland	\$71 million
Douglas	\$128 million
Iron	\$74 million
Marinette	\$103 million
Oconto	\$66 million
Brown	\$476 million
Door	\$399 million
Kewaunee	\$33 million
Manitowoc	\$126 million
Sheboygan	\$284 million
Milwaukee	\$1.5 <b>billion</b>
Racine	\$250 million
Kenosha	\$211 million

\*Source: Dept. of Tourism, W. Christianson, 2005

### Recreation:

One third of boats registered in the United States are in the Great Lake states.

Boating alone supports over 250,000 jobs in the Great Lake states.

Fishing, boating, hunting, and wildlife watching generate \$50 billion annually in the Great Lakes.

\*\*Source: U.S Fish and Wildlife Survey, FHW/01-NAT

### Shipping:

United States vessels ship 125 million tons of cargo between ports annually.

\*\*Source: Data from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.