



DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CALIFORNIA WATER FACTS 12/2009

Average annual precipitation	— 23.5 inches*	Average annual runoff	————— 71 million ac-ft
Lowest annual runoff (1977)	—————		————— 15 million ac-ft
Highest annual runoff (1983)	—————		————— 135 million ac-ft
Population (2005)	—————		————— 36.7 million
2005 average irrigated land acreage	—————		————— 9.2 million acres
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta 2005 total outflow	—————		————— 15.1 million ac-ft
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta 2005 required outflow	—————		————— 7.0 million ac-ft
2005 average applied urban water use	—————		————— 9.0 million ac-ft
2005 average applied agricultural water use	—————		————— 31.2 million ac-ft
2005 average applied environmental water use**	—————		————— 42.5 million ac-ft
(includes 26.2 million acre-feet wild and scenic river flows)			
Special Districts in California performing water supply	—————		————— over 2, 800
Water management function (including county service areas)			
Total capacity of 1,350 surface reservoirs	—————		————— 41 million ac-ft
Usable storage capacity of groundwater basins: estimates range between 143 and 450 million ac-ft			

*footnotes are on the other side

CONVERSION FACTORS FOR WATER

1 cubic foot -----7.48 gallons ----- 62.4 pounds of water

1 cubic foot per second (cfs)----- 450 gallons per minute (gpm)

1 cubic foot per second (cfs)----- 646,400 gallons per day -----1.98 acre-feet per day

1 acre-foot ----- 325,851 gallons ----- 43,560 cubic feet ----- 1,233 cubic meters

An acre-foot covers an acre of land to a depth of one foot.

1 million cubic meters ---- 811 acre-feet 1 cubic meter per second ---- 35.32 cfs

8.1 AF (acre feet) ---- 1 hectare/meter 1 hectare ---- 2.47 acres

1 million gallons ----- 3.07 acre-feet

1 million gallons per day (mgd) ----- 1,120 acre-feet per year

10 cents per 1,000 gallons ----- \$ 32.59 per acre-foot

* The average annual rainfall is calculated on a 30-year average.
2005 was defined as an above normal water year.

** Environmental water includes designated wild and scenic flows, instream flows, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta required outflow, managed wildlife refuge water, and the Environmental Water Account. Theoretically, the number would also include water for riparian habitats; however, it is not quantified at this time.