

## Gallons Per Capita per Day (GPCD) Descriptions

The intent of this document is to provide a description of the per-person water use (Gallons Per Capita per Day or GPCD) calculated for Regional Water Planning Water User Group (WUG) Utilities, the Water Loss Audit, and the Annual Conservation Report. These definitions may assist with the understanding by your planning group members as you consider multiple information sources while establishing conservation goals. These terms come from the [Guidance and Methodology for Reporting on Water Conservation and Water Use](#), as developed by TWDB and the TCEQ, in consultation with the Water Conservation Advisory Council. The four standardized types of GPCD include Regional Water Planning GPCD, Total GPCD, Residential GPCD, and Water Loss GPCD.

**Regional Water Planning GPCD - This is the value reported in the regional water planning process.** It is the annual volume of water pumped, diverted, or purchased minus the volume exported (sold) to other water systems or large industrial facilities divided by 365 and divided by the permanent population of the Municipal WUG. Coastal saline and reused/recycled water are not included in this volume. This data is primarily collected through the TWDB's annual survey of water use and is stored in the TWDB's water use database. The population values include only permanent population and are estimated using 1) the population-served reported in returned water use surveys, 2) utility service area population estimated based on the U.S. Census block group data and utility service area boundaries, or 3) number of connections times the average household size from the most recent census, depending on the data availability and quality. Then the population estimates are calibrated with county or state level annual population totals provided by the Texas Demographic Center.

**Total GPCD – This is a value reported in the conservation annual reports.** This is the total amount of water treated for potable use divided by the total permanent population divided by 365. This volume includes water produced plus wholesale water imported minus wholesale water exported, all adjusted by self-reported meter accuracy estimates. Retail volumes sold to large industrial facilities are included in Total GPCD. Permanent population may reside in single-family or multi-family dwellings or in group quarters (nursing homes, prisons, group homes, etc.). It should include only those served directly by the system. It does not include wholesale customer populations.

**Residential GPCD – This is a value reported in the conservation annual reports.** Residential GPCD is calculated as the volume of water metered to residential and multi-family connections, divided by the total residential population served divided by 365. The residential water use is reported through the water use survey. The residential population is the total residential population of the service area including only the residential population housed in single family and multi-family housing.

**Water Loss GPCD -** Calculated as the sum of (Real Losses plus Apparent Losses), divided by the retail population, divided by 365.