GROUNDWATER IS CRITICAL TO ARIZONA’S ECONOMY

Arizona’s ability to successfully manage its groundwater supplies today is a direct result of the Groundwater Management Code of 1980, which was enacted to aggressively manage the state’s finite groundwater resources to support the growing economy... A tool this valuable must be defended. We will act to protect the Groundwater Code and its accomplishments and will work to improve on it to assure Arizona is prepared for the drier future ahead.”

— DIRECTOR THOMAS BUSCHATZKE, ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

A predictable, long-term groundwater supply is the foundation of Arizona’s economic development. Locally developed tools that allow communities to manage groundwater will be necessary to sustain Arizona’s rural and urban economies.

Groundwater for industrial, agricultural and municipal use in Arizona is critical for the state’s economic growth.

Arizona’s Groundwater contributed to 45% of state GDP or $1.2 trillion to the economy over 9 years.
ABOUT THE STUDY
This study, a first of its kind, was conducted at the Seidman Research Center at Arizona State University to calculate the economic impact of the state’s groundwater. For the purpose of this report, the term groundwater means water that is pumped out of the ground. This water may have originated from artificial or natural recharge processes. The full report is available at www.businessforwater.org.

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF GROUNDWATER IN JOBS AND STATE GDP ACROSS ARIZONA’S FIVE ACTIVE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Arizona maintains five Active Management Areas where groundwater is carefully managed and regulated. Annually, nearly 45% of the state’s economy and over 1.5 million jobs are dependent on sustained access to this water.

ARIZONA’S WATER SUPPLY & RELIANCE ON GROUNDWATER

(Source, ADWR 2019)