

Program overview

The Statewide Groundwater Quality Monitoring Program (“Statewide Program”) is an information-gathering, non-regulatory effort to understand the quality of Idaho’s aquifers. The program was established in 1990 following the passage of the Ground Water Quality Protection Act of 1989.

The goals of the program are to:

- 💧 Determine the overall quality of Idaho’s groundwater.
- 💧 Identify existing or emerging problems.
- 💧 Determine changes in groundwater quality over time.

Groundwater monitoring in Idaho

IDWR monitors background groundwater quality across Idaho and works with other state agencies (e.g., Department of Environmental Quality [DEQ], Idaho State Department of Agriculture [ISDA]) to help protect water quality. For example, DEQ conducts regional and local groundwater quality monitoring when potential problem areas are detected by the Statewide Program.

Many other state, local, federal, and private agencies, organizations, and individuals also conduct monitoring on Idaho’s groundwater.

For more information about the Statewide Program, contact:

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<https://idwr.idaho.gov/water-data/groundwater-quality/>



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STATEWIDE GROUNDWATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM


“Statewide Program”



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Why monitor groundwater?

Groundwater is a valuable resource and serves many different purposes. Groundwater replenishes our lakes, rivers, and streams and provides water for uses such as irrigation, livestock, industry, and drinking.

 About 95% of Idaho's drinking water comes from groundwater.

It's important to monitor this valuable resource so that we can protect it for uses today and for future generations to come.



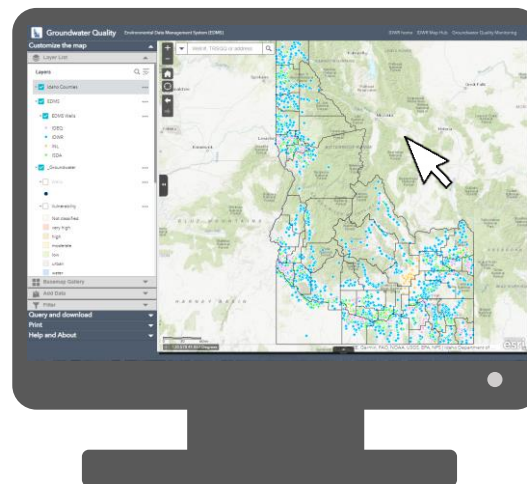
What does IDWR sample for?

The Statewide Program samples between 20-30 constituents annually, with the exact list changing over time. Generally, the program tests for field parameters (e.g., temperature, pH), metals (e.g., arsenic, sodium), nutrients (e.g., nitrate, ammonia), common ions (e.g., fluoride, sulfate), pesticides (e.g., atrazine, glyphosate), and emerging contaminants (e.g., BPA, triclosan).

How do I access the data?

Groundwater data collected by the Statewide Program and other state agencies (e.g., DEQ, ISDA) are housed in the Environmental Data Management System (EDMS) and are available for download at:

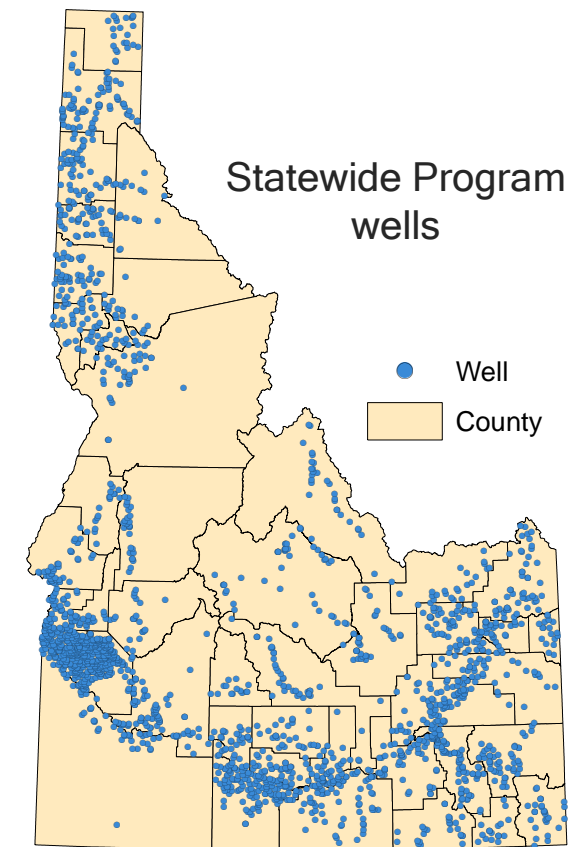
<https://maps.idwr.idaho.gov/agol/groundwaterquality/>




Where does IDWR sample?

Statewide Program wells are dispersed throughout Idaho and can be found in all 44 counties. Every year, 200-250 wells are sampled.

The program samples wells that are used for a variety of uses: domestic, irrigation, livestock, commercial, industrial, and public supply.



 Over 2,100 wells have been sampled in the program, producing over 750,000 results.