

Text Box 3-1. Major Findings***Current and future drinking water resources***

- Most of the U.S. population (270 million in 2011, or 86%) relies on water supplied to their homes through a public water system, 70% of which comes from surface water and 30% of which comes from ground water.
- An estimated 14% of the U.S. population relies on private water systems for drinking water.
- An increasing number of states are developing new drinking water supplies via reuse of reclaimed water, recycling of storm water, and desalination. These new supplies can augment existing water sources.
- Most of the U.S. population (270 million in 2011, or 86%) relies on water supplied to their homes through a public water system, 70% of which comes from surface water and 30% of which comes from ground water.
- An estimated 14% of the U.S. population relies on private water systems for drinking water.
- An increasing number of states are developing new drinking water supplies via reuse of reclaimed water, recycling of storm water, and desalination. These new supplies can augment existing water sources.

Proximity of drinking water resources to hydraulic fracturing activity

- Nationwide, while most hydraulic fracturing activity from 2000 to 2013 did not occur in close proximity to public water supplies, a sizeable number of hydraulically fractured wells (21,900) were located within 1 mile of at least one PWS source.
- The distance between wells that were hydraulically fractured between 2000 and 2013 and the nearest source supplying a PWS ranged from 0.01 to 41 miles, with an average distance of 6.2 miles (9.9 km).
- An estimated 6,800 public water system sources were located within 1 mile of a hydraulically fractured oil and gas well between 2000 and 2013. These PWS sources supplied water to 3,924 public water systems and served more than 8.6 million people year-round in 2013.
- Approximately 9.4 million people lived within 1 mile of at least one hydraulically fractured oil and gas well between 2000 and 2013.
- Approximately 3.6 million people obtain drinking water from private systems in counties with at least one hydraulically fractured well and in which at least 30% of the population (i.e., double the national average) is reliant on private water systems.

3.4. References for Chapter 3

[AWWA](http://www.waterrf.org/PublicReportLibrary/RFR90781_1999_241A.pdf) (American Water Works Association). (1999). Residential end uses of water. In PW Mayer; WB DeOreo (Eds.). Denver, CO: AWWA Research Foundation and American Water Works Association. http://www.waterrf.org/PublicReportLibrary/RFR90781_1999_241A.pdf