

Water Infrastructure Investment Tracking System (WIITS)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the new data system developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Office of Water for tracking water infrastructure investments by EPA and its partners.

WIITS Purpose

Effective data tracking and management is critical for sound management of water infrastructure investments that EPA and our state partners are making to protect public health and the environment. In May 2021, EPA launched the Water Infrastructure Investment Tracking System (WIITS) for efficiently sharing this information between states, EPA, and the public.



Data Systems Consolidated and Modernized into WIITS

The first WIITS release replaced the following four legacy systems with a modernized, integrated system with improved data quality and access as well as reduced data management burden:

- **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) National Information Management System** – System for states to annually report their Drinking Water SRF measures to EPA.
- **Clean Water SRF National Information Management System** – System for states to annually report their Clean Water SRF measures to EPA.
- **Drinking Water SRF Project Benefits Reporting System** – System used to collect Drinking Water SRF project-level information.
- **Clean Water Benefits Reporting System** – System used to collect Clean Water SRF project-level information.

These systems have been combined into a Drinking Water SRF Data System and Clean Water SRF Data System within WIITS.

Since May 2021, additional program data has been added in WIITS:

- **Clean Watersheds Needs Survey** – Assessment of the capital costs to meet the water quality goals of the Clean Water Act and address water quality and water quality-related public health concerns.
- **“Reducing Lead in Drinking Water” Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Grant 2105 Program** – Awards funding for the reduction of lead in drinking water in disadvantaged communities.
- **“School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction State Grant” WIIN Grant 2107 Program** – Assists local and tribal educational agencies in voluntary testing for lead contamination in drinking water at schools and childcare facilities.
- **Regional Tribal Funding** – Tribal Direct Implementation Nexus includes various funding sources to tribes, such as, SRF, WIIN grants, Tribal Public Water System Supervision Program grants.

EPA plans to add data from other water infrastructure programs to WIITS, including:

- **Community Grants** – Grants fund specifically named community water infrastructure projects.
- **Small, underserved, and disadvantaged communities WIIN grants** – Grants to assist underserved, disadvantaged, and small communities with meeting Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment** – Determines the financial needs of the nation’s drinking water infrastructure over the next twenty years.
- **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program** – A government bank operated by the EPA to provide low-cost credit assistance to borrowers for water infrastructure projects.

WIITS Data Sharing

The architecture of WIITS allows program data to be easily shared while providing a standard set of information across EPA water infrastructure investment programs to facilitate cross program management and understanding by states, EPA, Congress, and the public. Additionally, WIITS makes extensive use of data already available in EPA systems by copying this authoritative data into WIITS instead of asking states to re-enter the data. This helps improve data quality and reduces burden on states in entering data. WIITS uses data from these EPA systems:

- **Compass** – EPA’s grants and financial data system. WIITS has a direct connection and searches Compass for grant and outlay data.
- **Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS)** – WIITS connects with and searches SDWIS for system location, population, and other system data.
- **Facility Registry System** – EPA’s data set of facilities regulated by EPA across all media (such as, air, water, land). WIITS searches the Facility Registry System for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit data, such as, facility name, location, and other permit data.

WIITS Features

Batch Data Upload – The WIITS data system allows states to batch data from parallel systems using an Application Programming Interface (API). This is helpful for state’s that have their own reporting systems, as they can avoid duplicative reporting.

Program Management Report Tools – The WIITS data system has robust reporting features that allow users to develop and save customized reports. For example, Quality Assurance reports assist the user in entering their information correctly and completely. These reports can be easily exported as Excel spreadsheets for further analysis.

Public Portal and Dashboard – Data and reports from the CWSRF and DWSRF programs will be available for viewing and use by the public via a public portal. The portal will use data from states’ official annual submissions to EPA to present summary state data since program inception and project specific data since 2021. Public portals will be available for additional water programs in the future. Dashboard visualizations, based on the public portal data, will also be available to the public to facilitate data use and engagement.

Benefits

WIITS reduces data reporting burden and reduces program data management costs by leveraging shared development expertise and functions, coordinated reporting, and unified system upgrades. WIITS also provides EPA, Congress, and the public with a unified set of reports for common oversight and understanding of water infrastructure investment programs. For more information about WIITS, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/water-infrastructure-investments>.

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