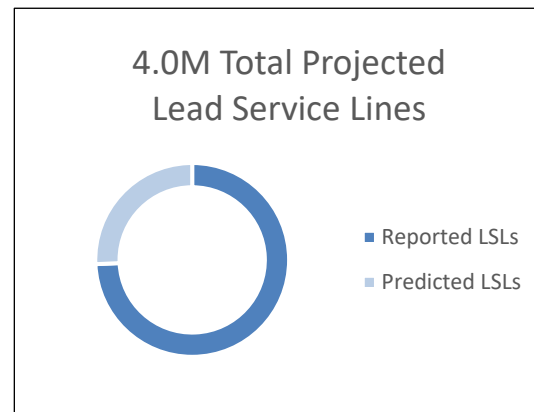


2025 Update to the 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSA) November 2025

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working with states and public water systems to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. Lead pipes, also known as lead service lines (LSLs), are a key source of lead where they are present. These pipes carry drinking water from water mains to buildings, including homes. Under the [Lead and Copper Rule Revisions](#) (LCRR), EPA requires public water systems to conduct inventories detailing the kinds of water pipes used in their respective state and submit the data to EPA. With the latest data from 2025, EPA estimates that there are 4 million lead service lines across the country.

EPA's national inventory of data gathered from state submissions includes numbers of:

- Lead service lines—or pipes made from lead.
- Galvanized pipes requiring replacement (GRR)—or pipes made from galvanized steel, which lead can adhere to. These pipes are also considered lead service lines.
- Non-lead service lines.
- Water service lines made with unknown materials.



3 million reported LSLs and 1 million service lines reported as 'unknown' that are predicted to be LSLs.

EPA's national inventory reflects recent information regarding lead service lines in the United States.

How EPA Uses Lead Service Line Information

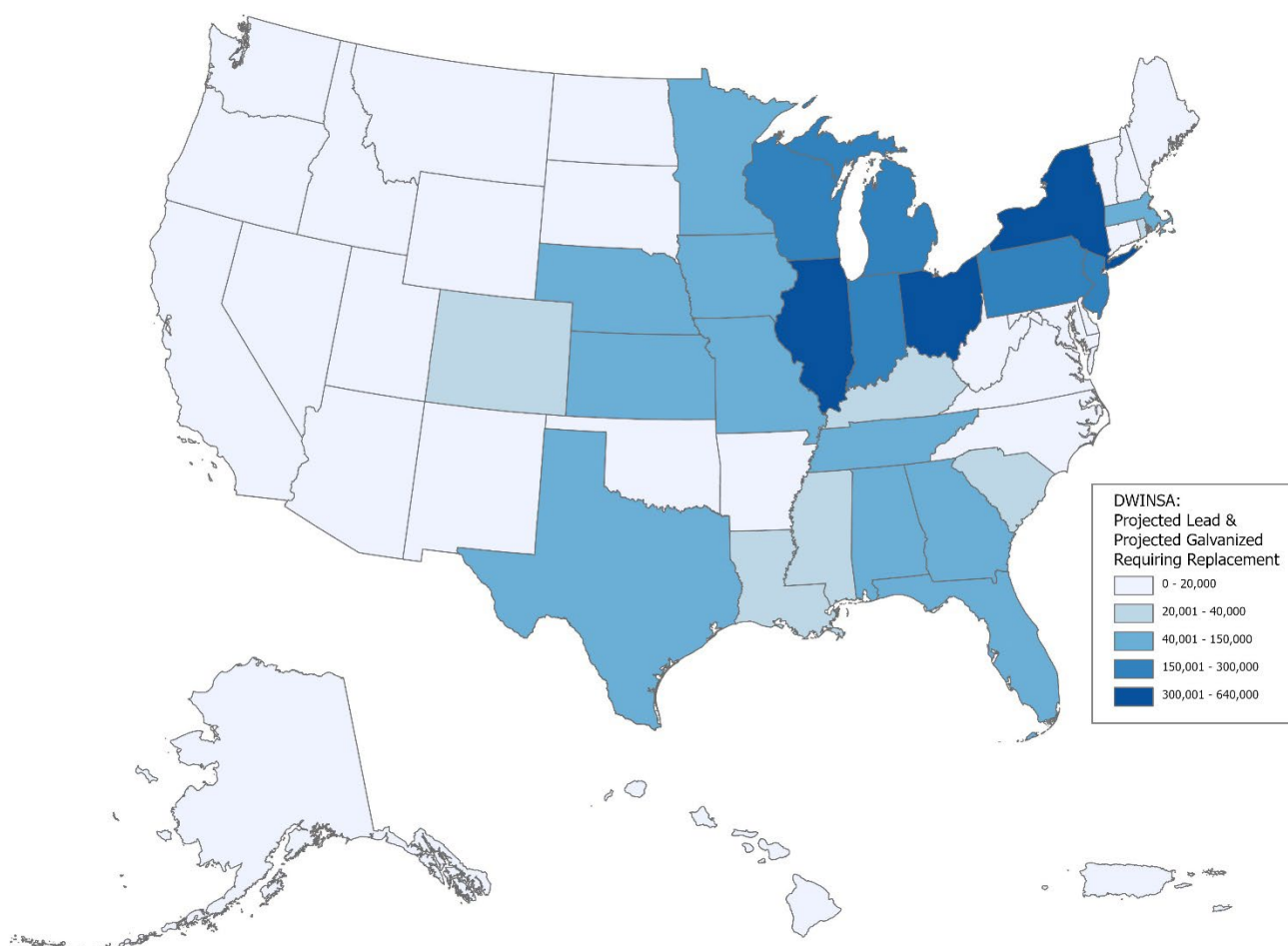
The service line inventory information submitted to EPA in 2025 is used to update to the 7th DWINSA. The DWINSA assesses the nation's public water systems' infrastructure needs over the next 20 years and is used to allocate Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) grants to states.

EPA uses the DWSRF to fund capital improvement projects at drinking water systems across the nation. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) appropriated a total of \$15 billion to the DWSRF specifically to accelerate replacement of lead service lines. EPA's goal is to ensure these funds are deployed where they are needed most.

EPA has continuously updated and refined its 7th DWINSA data to accurately reflect the regions in the country with the highest prevalence of lead service lines.

- In 2023, EPA released the 7th DWINSA [Report to Congress](#), which included, for the first time, an assessment of needs for replacing lead service lines. EPA based this assessment on a lead service line questionnaire sent to a statistical sample of drinking water systems in 2021, from which EPA extrapolated state-level lead service line counts and projected the number of lead service lines in each state. This assessment guided EPA's allotment of Fiscal Year 2023 DWSRF IIJA Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) funds.

- For the Fiscal Year 2024 allotments, states had an opportunity to update their DWINSA lead service line questionnaire responses. EPA used the [Updated 7th DWINSA](#) to allot these funds. This update was collected in 2023, a year before water systems had to complete inventories under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.
- For the Fiscal Year 2025, EPA updated its approach to use LCRR inventory information, which is now the best-available national and state-level information on lead service lines. More information on EPA's 2025 DWSRF IIJA LSLR allotments is available [here](#). Below is the methodology EPA used to develop these allotments.



This map shows the amount of projected lead and galvanized requiring replacement service lines across the country that was used to develop Fiscal Year 2025 DWSRF IIJA LSLR allotments.

2025 Projection Methodology for the 7th DWINSA

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires EPA to base its funding decisions on the infrastructure needs of each state. Using the best-available data from service line inventories to project the number of lead service lines ensures that EPA can provide funding to the locations that need these funds the most.

The service line inventory data can be found in EPA's service line inventory report, housed under EPA's Safe Drinking Water Information System ([SDWIS\) Federal Reporting Services site](#). For the 7th DWINSA 2025 updated analysis, EPA used the inventory data from community water systems¹ eligible for DWSRF state and territory funds.

All states were required to report service line inventory information to EPA by March 31, 2025. States were then able to update this information by June 30, 2025. EPA compiled this data into the 2025 Update to the 7th DWINSA. The service line inventory reflects recent LSL information in the U.S.

EPA made two adjustments to address data gaps in the reported service line counts that would impact the DWINSA projection calculations:

- First, if a state did not report any data for a water system's inventory, EPA assumed that all its service connections were non-lead.
- Second, if a state did not report data on the number of non-lead service lines for a water system (which was optional to report), but reported everything else, EPA estimated the number of non-lead service lines by taking the difference between their total service connections and reported number of service lines.

Consistent with the approach used previously for the 7th DWINSA, EPA predicted how many of the unknown material service lines were likely to be lead service lines. To do this, EPA calculated a state-specific ratio of the number of lead and GRR service lines divided by the number of lead, GRR, and non-lead service lines (after the adjustments mentioned above were made). For each state, EPA multiplied the ratio by the number of reported unknown service lines to yield the predicted amount of lead service lines. This value, added to the reported lead and GRR service line counts, resulted in the total projected lead service lines in each state. EPA then used a state's proportion of the projected national total to develop the state allotments for the DWSRF, with every state receiving the statutory minimum of 1% of the available funding.

¹ A Community Water System is a public water system that supplies water to the same population (of at least 15 service connections or serves an average of at least 25 people for at least 60 days) year-round. There were approximately 48,000 Community Water Systems in states and territories. Visit EPA's page for more information on [public water system types](#).