

Key Takeaways:

1. Texas has a generational opportunity to invest in water infrastructure. This includes developing new water supplies, and fixing the problems associated with aging, deteriorating water and wastewater infrastructure.
2. State water policy should focus on improving the regionalization of water and wastewater service, and enhancing technical assistance outreach to small, rural, and disadvantaged communities that require assistance in addressing their water infrastructure needs.
3. The state can also **establish regional water market frameworks** to enable smarter water management strategies that lead to more efficient and effective water use.

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D

ASCE's grade for Texas' drinking water and wastewater infrastructure

\$150+
billion

The estimated cost to **develop new water supplies and flood project**, or repair broken systems over the next 50 years.

89%

of Texas voters **support spending \$5 billion of budget surplus** on fixing aging, deteriorating water systems.

Bills To Monitor:

- ⇒ **HB 10/SB 28 (T. King/Perry)** – Creates new funds administered by the Texas Water Development Board for developing new water supplies and addressing aging, leaking drinking water infrastructure.
- ⇒ **HJR 130/SJR 75 (T. King/Perry)** and **HJR 169 (Clardy)** – Amends the Texas Constitution to create the Texas Water Fund for water infrastructure projects.
- ⇒ **HB 1565/SB 1351 (Canales/Perry)** – Texas Water Development Board Sunset bills.
- ⇒ **HB 3232/SB 1406 (Rogers/Perry)** – Removes regulatory disincentive for the regionalization of water and wastewater service.
- ⇒ **HB 5016/SB 2541 (Kitzman/Blanco)** – Creates Water Technical Assistance Consortium to facilitate the expansion of the state's technical assistance provider capacity.
- ⇒ **SB 2202 (Zaffirini)** – Establishes data-driven assessment for the identification of water and wastewater utilities that are failing or at-risk of failing.
- ⇒ **HB 4623 (Goldman)** – Authorized regional water planning groups to identify opportunities to water markets when developing regional water plans.
- ⇒ **HB 874/SB 894 (Bowers/Zaffirini)** – Establishes process allocating portions of water rights for environmental or recreational purposes.
- ⇒ **HB 1845/SB 650 (Metcalf/Perry)** – Creates certification pathway for entry-level water workforce jobs.

Bills To Monitor:

- ⇒ **HB 2460/SB 296 (Tracy King/Perry)** – Updates surface water availability data used for planning and permitting purposes.
- ⇒ **HB 2759/SB 988 (Ed Thompson/Perry)** – Creates statewide resource for water and weather-related data.
- ⇒ **HB 2757/SB 1047 (Tepper/Perry)** – Authorizes Texas Produced Water Consortium to develop pilot project to demonstrate produced water recycling feasibility.
- ⇒ **HB 4532/SB 2540 (Kacal/Zaffirini)** – Establishes a process for water planners to identify how much water can be pumped from an aquifer without contributing to depletion.



84%

of Texas voters support legislative action *to create a fund to update aging water infrastructure.*

82%

of Texas voters agree *that the state should increase investments to expand water supplies.*



73%

of Texas voters agree that *Texas must rethink how water markets work and how water is priced. Just 12% disagree.*