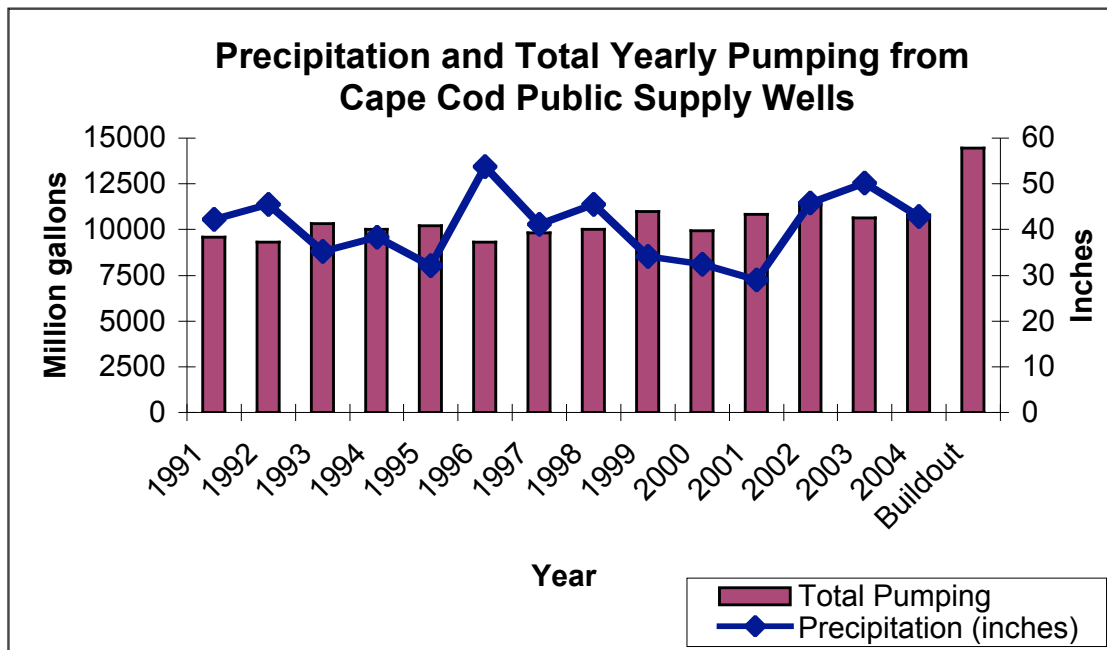


Drinking Water Quantity

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Public water suppliers pumped approximately 11 billion gallons in 2004, which is approximately 18% higher than the lowest amount pumped over the past ten years (nine billion gallons pumped in 1996). Coincidentally, according to recent census data, the Cape's year-round population has increased 22.5% from 1990 to 2003. The following figure shows a considerable amount of fluctuation in total water pumped from year to year. Variations in pumping are dependent on precipitation amounts, summer temperatures, tourism numbers and internal water department operations, among other factors. The estimate of water use under build-out conditions is approximately 14 billion gallons per year. This number is based on the additional amount of water that would be needed to support potential residential and commercial growth under current zoning.



Source: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Program