



Pools and Fluxes

On Earth, water can be **fresh, saline**, or a mix of both. **Pools** are places where water is stored, like the ocean. **Fluxes** are the ways that water moves between pools, such as evaporation ↑↑↑, precipitation ↓↓↓, discharge ↘, recharge ↙, or human use ↗.

See www.usgs.gov/water-cycle for definitions.

The Water Cycle

Pools

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> atmospheric moisture over land | <input type="checkbox"/> lakes - saline | <input type="checkbox"/> rivers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> atmospheric moisture over ocean | <input type="checkbox"/> ocean - deep water zone | <input type="checkbox"/> snowpack |
| <input type="checkbox"/> groundwater | <input type="checkbox"/> ocean - mixed zone | <input type="checkbox"/> soil moisture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ice sheets and glaciers | <input type="checkbox"/> permafrost | <input type="checkbox"/> wetlands - fresh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lakes - fresh | <input type="checkbox"/> reservoirs | <input type="checkbox"/> wetlands - brackish |

Fluxes

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> agricultural water use | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial water use | <input type="checkbox"/> streamflow to closed basins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> domestic water use | <input type="checkbox"/> municipal water use | <input type="checkbox"/> streamflow to ocean |
| <input type="checkbox"/> evapotranspiration | <input type="checkbox"/> ocean circulation | <input type="checkbox"/> runoff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grazing water use | <input type="checkbox"/> ocean evaporation | <input type="checkbox"/> snowmelt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> groundwater discharge to ocean | <input type="checkbox"/> precipitation over land | <input type="checkbox"/> transport of moisture from ocean to land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> groundwater recharge | <input type="checkbox"/> precipitation over ocean | <input type="checkbox"/> urban runoff |