

Chapter 2

WATER USE

Chapter 2.0 WATER USE

2.1 OVERVIEW

This chapter describes historic and current water usage and the methodology used to project future demands within CLWA's service area. Water usage is divided into sectors such as residential, industrial, institutional, landscape, agricultural, and other purposes. To undertake this evaluation, existing land use data and new housing construction information were compiled from each of the retail water purveyors and projections prepared by "One Valley One Vision" (OVOV), a joint planning effort by the City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (LACDRP). This information was then compared to historical trends for new water service connections and customer water usage information. In addition, weather and water conservation effects on historical water usage were factored into the evaluation.

The methodology used to project future demands within CLWA's service area included three steps: (1) obtain projected demands to 2030 from each water purveyor, (2) compare projections based on historical records to the totals developed by the purveyors, and (3) compare these results with the OVOV Plan for consistency with the General Plan.

This approach allowed the comparison of three different sources of data and projections to be evaluated. Several factors can affect demand projections, including:

- ▼ Land use revisions
- ▼ New regulations
- ▼ Consumer choice
- ▼ Economic conditions
- ▼ Transportation needs
- ▼ Highway construction
- ▼ Environmental factors
- ▼ Conservation programs
- ▼ Plumbing codes

The foregoing factors affect the amount of water needed, as well as the timing of when it is needed. Past experience in the Valley has indicated that the economy is the biggest factor in determining water demand projections. During an economic recession, there is a major downturn in development and a subsequent slowing of the projected demand for water. The projections in this Plan do not attempt to forecast recessions or droughts. Likewise, no speculation is made about future plumbing codes or other regulatory changes. However, the projections do include water conservation, which is projected to reduce overall water demand by 10 percent. There have been, and continue to be, major efforts statewide to conserve water, which have been successful.

2.2 HISTORIC WATER USE

Predicting future water supply requires accurate historic water use patterns and water usage records. Both the economy and entitlement process (compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA]) are key factors impacting growth in population and demand. Figure 2-1 illustrates the steady increase in Valley water demand since 1980.

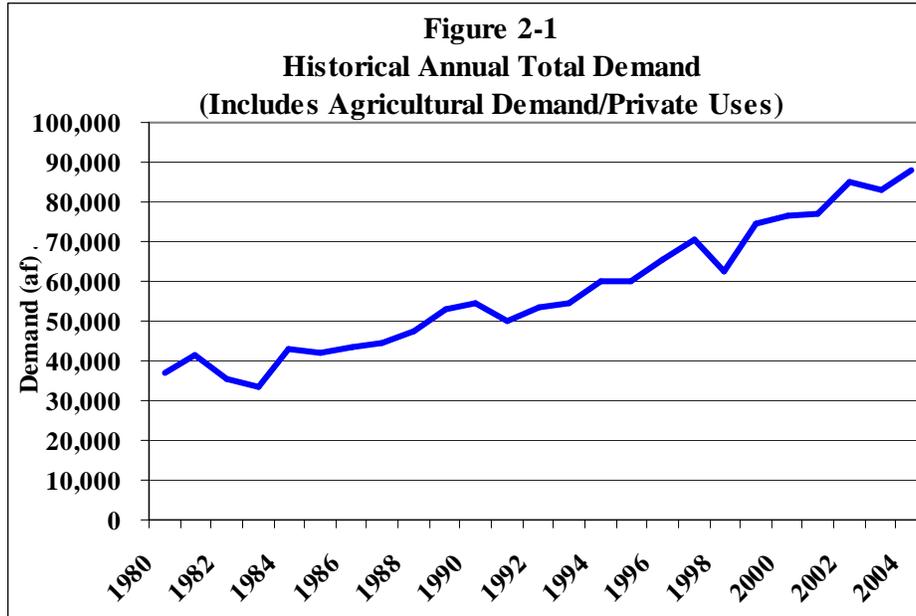


Table 2-1 presents the historical accounts and deliveries by retail purveyor since 1990. The type of customer accounts included in the table are single family homes, multi-family homes, commercial, industrial, institutional/government, and landscape.

Table 2-1
Historical Accounts and Deliveries by Retail Purveyor

Purveyor		1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004
CLWA	No. Accounts	18,550	19,000	19,400	19,650	20,300	21,970	24,175	26,161
	Deliveries (af)	18,503	17,551	19,911	22,006	20,319	25,280	28,434	29,191
LACWWD #36	No. Accounts	706	736	752	768	774	972	1,200	1,300
	Deliveries (af)	513	456	500	533	578	758	1,071	1,302
NCWD	No. Accounts	6,039	6,230	6,373	6,475	6,726	7,434	7,941	8,970
	Deliveries (af)	7,813	7,973	7,754	8,916	8,782	9,623	9,869	10,555
VWC	No. Accounts	13,965	14,520	15,359	17,009	19,389	21,661	24,453	27,238
	Deliveries (af)	16,572	15,338	17,390	19,721	19,874	25,190	28,360	30,682
Total	No. Accounts	39,260	40,486	41,884	43,902	47,189	52,037	57,769	63,669
	Deliveries (af)	43,401	41,318	45,555	51,176	49,553	60,851	67,734	71,730
	af/Account	1.11	1.02	1.09	1.17	1.05	1.17	1.17	1.13

2.3 PROJECTED WATER USE

2.3.1 Purveyor Projections

Each of the four retail water purveyors provided projected water demands based on the projects that are under evaluation, are in the planning process, or the result of its own water planning efforts for its service area. The purveyors maintain historical data, as well as work closely with property owners and developers in their service areas, to ensure they have an adequate water supply and the necessary infrastructure to provide water service.

Since there are only four purveyors in the service area, there is close coordination and exchange of data. SCWD's engineering department continually updates expected demands and infrastructure needs. NCWD prepared a "Water Supply Assessment" in 2004 that is the basis for NCWD's projected demand. VWC is a California Public Utilities Commission (PUC)-regulated water supplier and is required to regularly provide its service plan for rate increases and service area changes. Table 2-2 summarizes the purveyors' projected water demands through 2030.

**Table 2-2
Projected Water Demands**

Purveyor	Demand (af)					Annual Increase	
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025		2030
CLWA SCWD	30,400	35,000	39,100	43,100	47,100	51,100	2.1%
LACWWD #36	1,300	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,400	2,800	3.1%
NCWD	11,800	14,400	16,000	17,700	19,300	21,000	2.4%
VWC	30,200	35,100	40,200	43,700	50,600	54,400	2.4%
Total Purveyor	73,700	86,100	97,100	106,500	119,400	129,300	2.2%
Agricultural/Private Uses	15,600	13,950	12,300	10,650	9,000	9,000	--
Total (w/o conservation)	89,300	100,050	109,400	117,150	128,400	138,300	--
Conservation (1)	(7,370)	(8,610)	(9,710)	(10,650)	(11,940)	(12,930)	--
Total (w/conservation)	81,930	91,440	99,690	106,500	116,460	125,370	1.3%

Notes:

(1) Assumes 10 percent reduction on urban portion of demand resulting from conservation best management practices (see Chapter 7).

Tables 2-3 through 2-6 present the past, current, and projected water deliveries by customer type for the CLWA SCWD, LACWWD #36, NCWD, and VWC, respectively.

**Table 2-3
Past, Current, and Projected Water Deliveries (by customer type)
CLWA Santa Clarita Water Division**

Year		Water Use Sectors	Single Family	Multi-Family	Comm-ercial	Industrial	Institutional/ Government	Landscape	Total
2000	metered	No. of accounts	16,906	3,784	537	48	83	612	21,970
		Deliveries (af)	15,966	2,669	930	1,096	893	3,726	25,280
2005	metered	No. of accounts	20,550	4,800	650	50	125	700	26,875
		Deliveries (af)	19,139	3,386	1,126	1,142	1,345	4,262	30,400
2010	metered	No. of accounts	23,575	5,800	750	60	175	800	31,160
		Deliveries (af)	21,486	4,091	1,299	1,370	1,883	4,871	35,000
2015	metered	No. of accounts	25,715	6,800	850	70	225	900	34,560
		Deliveries (af)	23,333	4,796	1,472	1,598	2,421	5,480	39,100
2020	metered	No. of accounts	27,855	7,800	950	80	275	1,000	37,960
		Deliveries (af)	25,080	5,501	1,645	1,826	2,959	6,089	43,100
2025	metered	No. of accounts	29,995	8,800	1,050	90	325	1,100	41,360
		Deliveries (af)	26,827	6,206	1,818	2,054	3,497	6,698	47,100
2030	metered	No. of accounts	32,135	9,800	1,150	100	375	1,200	44,760
		Deliveries (af)	28,574	6,911	1,991	2,282	4,035	7,307	51,100

**Table 2-4
Past, Current, and Projected Water Deliveries (by customer type)
Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36**

Year		Water Use Sectors	Single Family	Multi-Family	Comm-ercial	Const/ Industrial	Institutional/ Government	Landscape	Total
2000	metered	No. of accounts	948	5	0	10	5	4	972
		Deliveries (af)	643	29	0	54	20	12	758
2005	metered	No. of accounts	1,275	5	0	10	5	5	1,300
		Deliveries (af)	1,185	29	0	54	20	12	1,300
2010	metered	No. of accounts	1,575	5	0	10	5	4	1,600
		Deliveries (af)	1,480	30	0	56	21	12	1,600
2015	metered	No. of accounts	1,774	5	0	11	5	4	1,800
		Deliveries (af)	1,676	31	0	58	22	13	1,800
2020	metered	No. of accounts	1,973	6	0	11	6	4	2,000
		Deliveries (af)	1,872	32	0	60	22	13	2,000
2025	metered	No. of accounts	2,372	6	0	11	6	5	2,400
		Deliveries (af)	2,268	33	0	62	23	14	2,400
2030	metered	No. of accounts	2,772	6	0	12	6	5	2,800
		Deliveries (af)	2,665	34	0	63	23	14	2,800

**Table 2-5
Past, Current, and Projected Water Deliveries (by customer type)
Newhall County Water District**

Year		Water Use Sectors	Single Family	Multi-Family	Commercial	Construction/ Industrial	Institutional/ Government	Landscape	Total
2000	metered	No. of accounts	6,608	293	377	11	18	127	7,434
		Deliveries (af)	5,556	1,537	872	411	119	1,128	9,623
2005	metered	No. of accounts	8,047	293	399	35	59	232	9,065
		Deliveries (af)	7,243	1,969	891	207	133	1,357	11,800
2010	metered	No. of accounts	9,735	425	425	60	75	300	11,020
		Deliveries (af)	8,750	2,485	999	250	176	1,740	14,400
2015	metered	No. of accounts	10,730	450	450	85	90	425	12,230
		Deliveries (af)	9,475	2,595	1,038	315	212	2,365	16,000
2020	metered	No. of accounts	11,865	475	475	110	105	550	13,580
		Deliveries (af)	10,385	2,750	1,066	375	234	2,890	17,700
2025	metered	No. of accounts	12,620	500	500	135	120	675	14,550
		Deliveries (af)	11,000	2,900	1,114	425	261	3,600	19,300
2030	metered	No. of accounts	14,050	525	525	160	135	800	16,195
		Deliveries (af)	12,275	3,000	1,140	500	285	3,800	21,000

**Table 2-6
Past, Current, and Projected Water Deliveries (by customer type)
Valencia Water Company**

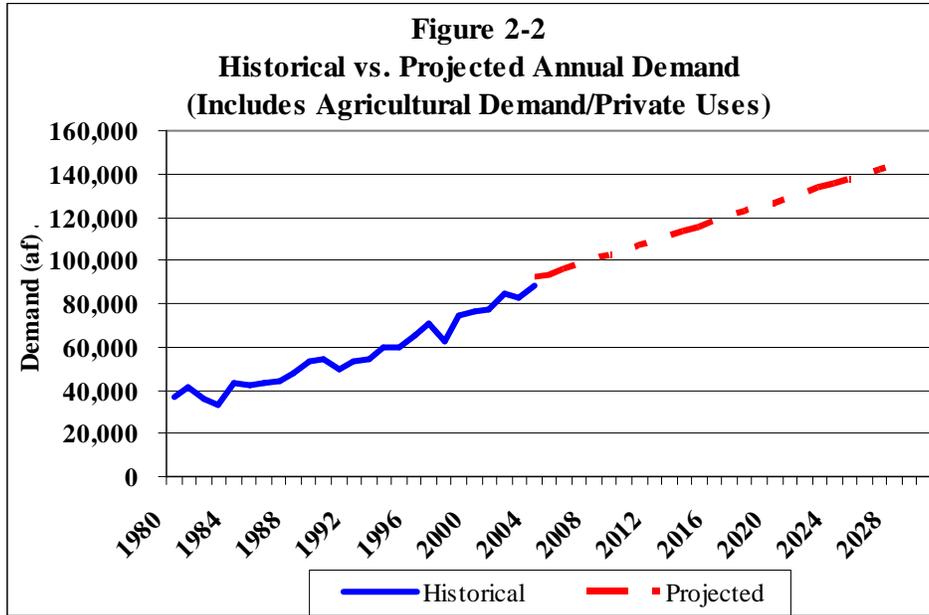
Year		Water Use Sectors	Single Family	Multi-Family	Comm-ercial	Industrial	Institutional/ Government	Landscape	Total
2000	metered	No. of accounts	19,805	191	876	382	406	1	21,661
		Deliveries (af)	12,112	1,373	5,798	1,759	3,711	437	25,190
2005	metered	No. of accounts	25,067	364	1,307	452	505	3	27,698
		Deliveries (af)	14,526	1,646	6,949	2,108	4,448	523	30,200
2010	metered	No. of accounts	29,405	2,035	1,615	558	624	3	34,240
		Deliveries (af)	17,147	2,186	8,611	2,399	4,465	292	35,100
2015	metered	No. of accounts	30,724	8,176	1,998	690	772	3	42,363
		Deliveries (af)	17,998	4,151	9,882	2,753	5,124	292	40,200
2020	metered	No. of accounts	31,234	13,203	2,282	788	882	3	48,392
		Deliveries (af)	18,326	5,760	10,752	2,995	5,575	292	43,700
2025	metered	No. of accounts	36,384	14,341	2,605	900	1,007	3	55,240
		Deliveries (af)	21,803	6,124	12,454	3,469	6,458	292	50,600
2030	metered	No. of accounts	39,484	14,391	2,767	956	1,069	3	58,670
		Deliveries (af)	23,909	6,140	13,388	3,729	6,942	292	54,400

2.3.2 Projections Based On Historical Use

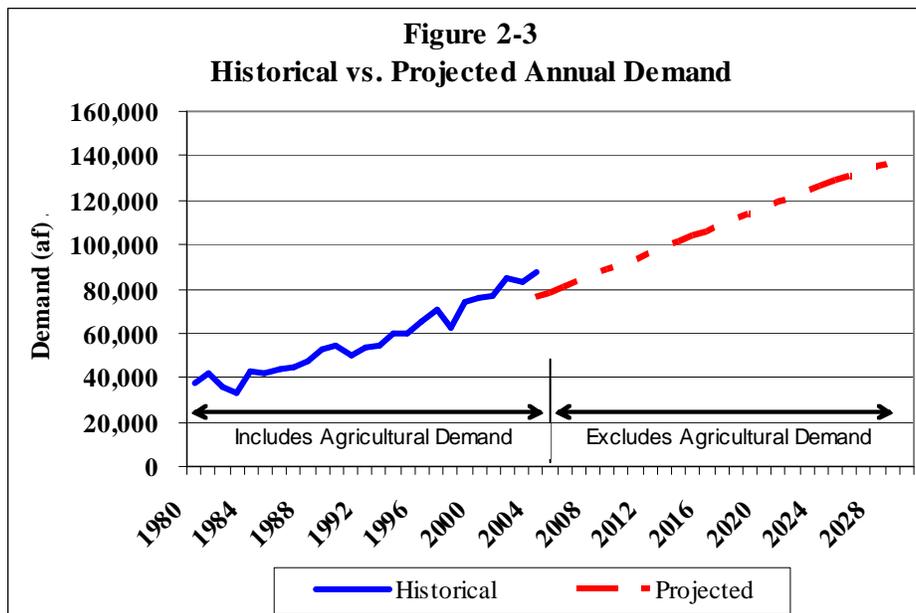
Another methodology to forecast demand involves projecting historical water use into the future. Mathematical methods are used to perform this projection. A correlation factor to the historical data of 1.0 would be considered the most exact. The ideal method results in a correlation of 0.9 or greater. For this Plan, a Linear Regression method was used to project demands, which resulted in a coefficient of correlation of 0.95.

2.3.2.1 Linear Regression Method

The Linear Regression method examines the historical growth in water demand and projects forward using linear regression. Figure 2-2 displays the growth in water demand since 1980 for the CLWA service area with a linear progression through the year 2030. Growth in demand has been relatively constant with some downturns that reflect either weather patterns or economic trends. The demand includes agricultural as well and municipal and industrial (M&I) uses.



On Figure 2-3, agricultural demand is removed to show M&I use only. As shown on Figure 2-3, results from the linear regression (after extracting the projected agricultural demands provided in Table 2-2) indicate a total 2030 demand of 137,100 af. This demand figure is comparable to the 129,300 af submitted by the purveyors (a six percent difference), as shown in Table 2-2.



2.3.2.2 Comparison to City and County Planning

The next step involved comparison of the purveyor-projected growth in water demand with the growth projections provided by local land use planning agencies. Table 2-7 is the result of the joint OVOV planning effort by the City of Santa Clarita and LACDRP.

Table 2-7
Adjusted Santa Clarita Valleywide General Plan ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
(SCAG 2004 RTP, Projections: Years 2000 to 2030)

Jurisdiction	2000 ⁽³⁾	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	Change	Average Annual Growth
City of Santa Clarita									
Population	151,088	171,290	196,680	210,280	222,290	232,830	242,620	91,532	1.6%
Households	50,787	55,614	62,837	67,832	72,883	77,868	82,806	32,019	1.6%
Employment	51,380	59,640	68,820	73,240	77,490	81,460	85,190	33,810	1.7%
<i>Jobs/Household ratio</i>	<i>1.01</i>	<i>1.07</i>	<i>1.10</i>	<i>1.08</i>	<i>1.06</i>	<i>1.05</i>	<i>1.03</i>	<i>0.02</i>	
<i>Persons per Household</i>	<i>2.97</i>	<i>3.08</i>	<i>3.13</i>	<i>3.10</i>	<i>3.05</i>	<i>2.99</i>	<i>2.93</i>	<i>(0.04)</i>	
SCV Unincorporated Area									
Population	61,523	78,053	105,094	125,850	146,401	166,557	185,589	124,066	3.7%
Households	17,973	20,645	28,108	34,609	41,154	47,941	54,630	36,657	3.8%
Employment (estimated)	10,790	13,900	18,830	23,190	27,980	33,080	38,240	27,450	4.3%
<i>Jobs/Household ratio</i>	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.69</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.10</i>	
<i>Persons per Household</i>	<i>3.42</i>	<i>3.78</i>	<i>3.74</i>	<i>3.64</i>	<i>3.56</i>	<i>3.47</i>	<i>3.40</i>	<i>(0.03)</i>	
SCV Planning Area ⁽⁴⁾									
Population	212,611	249,343	301,774	336,130	368,691	399,387	428,209	215,598	2.4%
Households	68,760	76,259	90,945	102,441	114,037	125,809	137,436	68,676	2.3%
Employment	62,170	73,540	87,650	96,430	105,470	114,540	123,430	61,260	2.3%
<i>Jobs/Household ratio</i>	<i>0.90</i>	<i>0.96</i>	<i>0.96</i>	<i>0.94</i>	<i>0.92</i>	<i>0.91</i>	<i>0.90</i>	<i>(0.01)</i>	
<i>Persons per Household</i>	<i>3.09</i>	<i>3.27</i>	<i>3.32</i>	<i>3.28</i>	<i>3.23</i>	<i>3.17</i>	<i>3.12</i>	<i>0.02</i>	

Notes:

- (1) Source: Stanley R. Hoffman Associates, Inc.; Southern California Association of Governments, 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
- (2) The SCAG population and household projections are used as control totals for the entire "One Valley One Vision" (OVOV) planning area while the allocation between the City and unincorporated areas is based on 2000-2003 Department of Finance (DOF) population and household trend data. The 1998-2003 Employment Development Department data is used to calibrate the 2005 base year for employment. However, the employment totals for the unincorporated area are allowed to exceed the SCAG RTP 2004 forecast based on local information from the County of Los Angeles Planning staff.
- (3) 2000 Population and Household data is based on DOF estimates benchmarked to the 2000 U.S. Census Figures.
- (4) The Santa Clarita Valley Planning Area estimates are the sum of the City and unincorporated area.
- (5) On May 11, 2005, the OVOV Team agreed to use these adjusted RTP data for the OVOV General Plan Update.

The OVOV task force used the data provided by Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG's) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the State Department of Finance (DOF), and the Employment Development Department. This joint effort was undertaken to ensure compatibility of planning efforts since the Valley is considered a realistic planning area with both City and County jurisdictions.

The annual rate of growth was examined to determine if the projected water demand was in accordance with the purveyors' projected growth shown in Table 2-2.

In Table 2-7, the OVOV projections indicate a 1.6 percent annual growth rate of population and households for the City of Santa Clarita, and 3.7 to 3.8 percent annual growth rates for the Valley Unincorporated Area. This results in a combined growth rate of 2.3 to 2.4 percent, which is

comparable to the purveyors' projected annual growth rate in water demand of 2.2 percent shown in Table 2-2.

Table 2-8 summarizes the projected Valley water use per household in af and in gallons per capita per day (gpcd). The data developed in this table is derived from the total annual demand projections provided in Table 2-2 divided by the projected annual populations and by the projected annual households provided in Table 2-7. Since the forecasted growth is based on households and population, it is not possible to obtain a direct match to number of service connections and water use per connection. However, based on 2005 population and water demand, the current estimated water use is 264 gpcd. The projected water use in 2030 of 270 gpcd remains very close to the 2005 water use of 264 gpcd, thus demonstrating that water demand and projected growth track closely. The term "household" is a term used by OVOV and does not equate to a single family residence.

**Table 2-8
Projected Household Water Use**

Projected Water Use	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Water Use (af/household) (1)	0.97	0.95	0.95	0.93	0.95	0.94
Water Use (gpcd) (2)	264	255	258	258	267	270

Notes:

- (1) Based on dividing the total annual demand projections provided in Table 2-2 by the projected annual households provided in Table 2-7.
- (2) Based on dividing the total annual demand projections (converted from af to gpd) provided in Table 2-2 by the projected annual populations provided in Table 2-7.

An additional analysis was conducted by using actual 2004 water use (in gpcd) and multiplying that by the projected population from the OVOV population forecast (Table 2-7). 2004 actual water use was determined by taking the "2004 Santa Clarita Valley Water Report" M&I water use for 2004 and dividing that by the 2004 population. This resulted in an actual water use of 269 gpcd, which compares closely to the values presented in Table 2-8. Table 2-9 presents a summary of the comparison between the purveyors and OVOV demand projections. The projected demand by the purveyors varies from -0.20 percent to 5.62 percent of the water demand determined based on the OVOV population projections. This demonstrates that the purveyors' projections track closely with the anticipated growth projected by OVOV.

**Table 2-9
Comparison of Purveyor and OVOV Demand Projections**

Projection	Demand (af)					
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Purveyor (1)	73,700	86,100	97,100	106,500	119,400	129,300
OVOV (2)	75,136	90,936	101,288	111,100	120,350	129,035
Difference	1,436	4,836	4,188	4,600	950	(264)
Percent Difference	1.95%	5.62%	4.31%	4.32%	0.80%	-0.20%

Notes:

- (1) Demand projections based on total purveyor projections provided in Table 2-2.
- (2) Demand projections based on 269 gpcd multiplied by OVOV population projections provided in Table 2-7.

The data provided in Tables 2-3 through 2-6 indicates total estimated 2005 Valley water use to be (in af/connection) 1.13 for all connection types and 0.77 for a single family connection. These findings were compared with a study conducted by the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF), Residential End Uses of Water (1999). This study compared residential water demand for several cities in the western United States. For comparison, the average annual water use (in af/connection) for a single family connection in Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and the City of San Diego are 0.87 and 0.47, respectively, which compare with the Valley water use of 0.77.

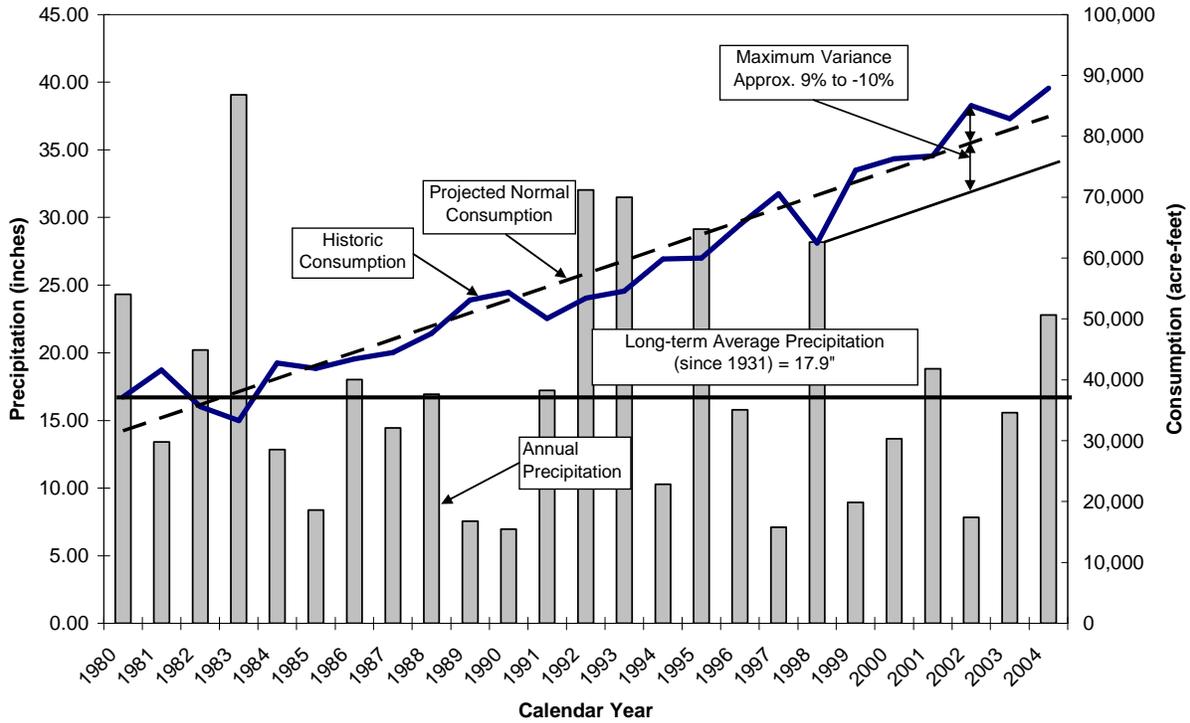
2.4 OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING WATER USAGE

Two major factors that affect water usage are weather and water conservation. Historically, when the weather is hot and dry, water usage increases. The amount of increase varies according to the number of consecutive years of hot, dry weather and the conservation activities imposed. During cool-wet years, historical water usage has decreased to reflect less water usage for external landscaping. Water conservation measures employed within the CLWA's and purveyors' service areas have a direct long-term effect on water usage. Both of these factors are discussed below in detail.

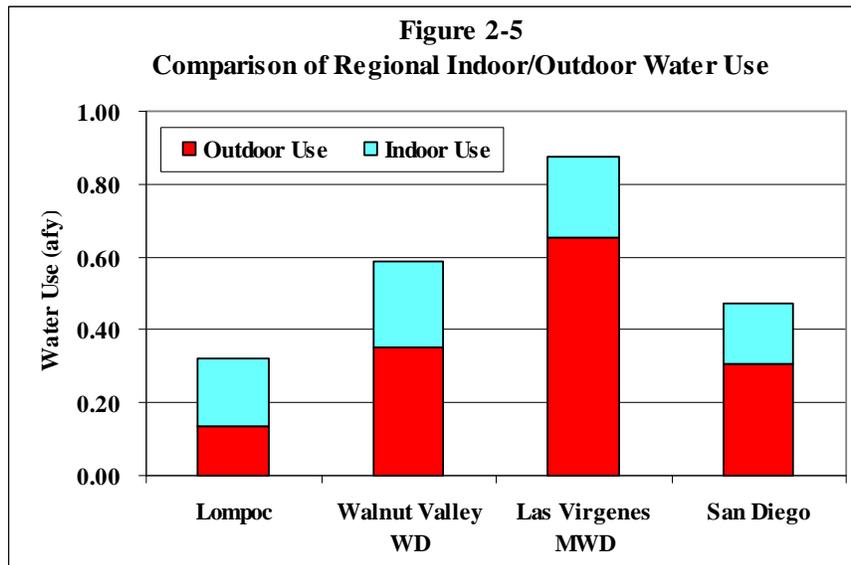
2.4.1 Weather Effects on Water Usage

Historically, about 605 to 1,110 gallons of water are consumed daily for urban uses for every household in the CLWA's and purveyors' service areas. Most of this range in water use is due to seasonal weather variations. As presented on Figure 2-4, the historical water use from 1980 to 2004 fluctuated principally due to weather, with the maximum variance around the projected normal of approximately 9 percent higher use in hot, dry years to approximately 10 percent lower use in cool, wet years.

Figure 2-4
Weather Effects on Water Usage



The same AWWARF study described in Section 2.3.2.2 compared residential indoor and outdoor water use for several cities in the western United States. A comparison of the water use for four California locations is presented on Figure 2-5. As shown on the figure, indoor water use tracks closely among each of the four locations. However, outdoor use (landscaping), varies significantly among the locations. CLWA and the retail purveyors' water use correlates most closely with the data provided for Las Virgenes MWD.



2.4.2 Conservation Effects on Water Usage

In recent years, water conservation has become an increasingly important factor in water supply planning in California. The California plumbing code has instituted requirements for new construction that mandate the installation of ultra low-flow toilets and low-flow showerheads. CLWA and the purveyors have developed water conservation measures that include public information and education programs. CLWA funds a toilet replacement program and, through its connection fee program, has provided financial incentives to developers for good water management practices.

During the 1987-1992 drought period, overall water requirements due to the effects of hot, dry weather were projected to increase by approximately 10 percent. As a result of extraordinary conservation measures enacted during the period, the overall water requirements actually decreased by more than 10 percent.

Residential, commercial, and industrial usage can be expected to decrease as a result of the implementation of more aggressive water conservation practices. As previously discussed, the greatest opportunity for conservation is in developing greater efficiency and reduction in landscape irrigation. The irrigation demand can represent as much as 50 percent of the water demand for residential customers depending upon lot size and amount of irrigated turf and plants. It is assumed that conservation will result in a long-term 10 percent reduction of demand.