

	Tap Water	Bottled Water
Economics	\$10 = Cost for 1,000 gallons	\$1,000 = Cost for 1,000 gallons
	In the early 1970s, the federal government contributed 70 percent of the funds used for water infrastructure improvement, but this share dropped to less than 5 percent by 2007.	In the past 20 years, revenues have climbed from \$2.4 billion in the early 1990s to over \$10.5 billion today.
	A \$23 billion gap exists in investments for water infrastructure in the U.S.	It costs cities and states at least \$42 million each year to dispose of 1 million tons of discarded PET plastic water bottles.
	Investing in public water could provide 2,850 jobs and generate \$635 million in GDP for every \$100 million devoted to water infrastructure.	Bottlers are profiting from underfunded public water systems.
Regulations & Oversight	Strict regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Safe Drinking Water Act.	Less stringent regulation by the Food and Drug Administration and does not regulate bottled water that is produced and sold in the same state.
	Required to test and report water quality results to EPA for hundreds of samples every week, month and year.	FDA was found to have only 2.6 full time positions to inspect and regulate thousands of bottled water facilities in the U.S.
	DC Water collects 10,000 samples and conducts more than 30,000 tests per year - water is monitored 24/7.	Less stringent testing and transparency.
	The Potomac River (DC tap water source) is routinely monitored.	Not required to monitor source water or label bottles with information of where they get their water.
	DC Water is required to issue a public Annual Drinking Water Quality Report.	Not required to report water quality results to consumers.
	DC Water is required by strict regulations to notify the public if violations occur in testing , reporting or drinking water standards.	Not always required to report violations of standards or recall products if the product is at risk for contamination.

Environment	With a reusable bottle, consumers can choose tap water and eliminate bottled water waste.	Only 25 percent of plastic bottles are actually recycled and the other 75 percent (1 million tons) end up in landfills, roadside litter or make their way into our waterways.
	Reusable water bottles reduce the number of plastic bottles littering our neighborhoods and floating in the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.	People in the U.S. drink and discard more than half a billion bottles of water each week - enough bottles to circle the Earth five times.
	DC's distribution system depends on gravity, so minimal energy is required for water delivery from the treatment plant to your tap.	It requires 2,000 times the amount of energy to produce and distribute bottled water compared to producing and distributing tap water.
	The environmentally, sustainable option - reduce your waste and the production of PET plastic.	54 million barrels of oil are used to make and transport plastic water bottles each year - enough to fuel three million cars a year.
	Filtering tap water is an alternative for consumers and creates less waste than plastic bottles.	Nearly half (44 percent) of bottled water is provided by municipal water utilities, in other words it's bottled tap water.