

# Hazen



## Central Ohio Regional Water Study

Kathleen Smith, Hazen and Sawyer  
June 16, 2025





THE HEART OF IT ALL™

COLUMBUS HOUSING MARKET

## Columbus named the second-fastest growing U.S. city in 2024, highlighting housing needs

by: [Katie Millard](#)  
Posted: Mar 14, 2025 / 07:00 AM EDT  
Updated: Mar 13, 2025 / 09:32 PM EDT

Forbes

FORBES > LIFESTYLE > TRAVEL

## Columbus Is America's Fastest Growing City And A Wonderful Place To Visit

Katie Chang Contributor

Follow



Apr 14, 2024, 08:00am EDT





Environmental Protection Agency

### Major New Development Driving Times

Intel

- 20 minutes
- 40 minutes

Honda

- 20 minutes
- 40 minutes

Hyperion

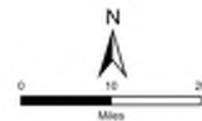
- 20 minutes
- 40 minutes

Within 60 minutes of Development

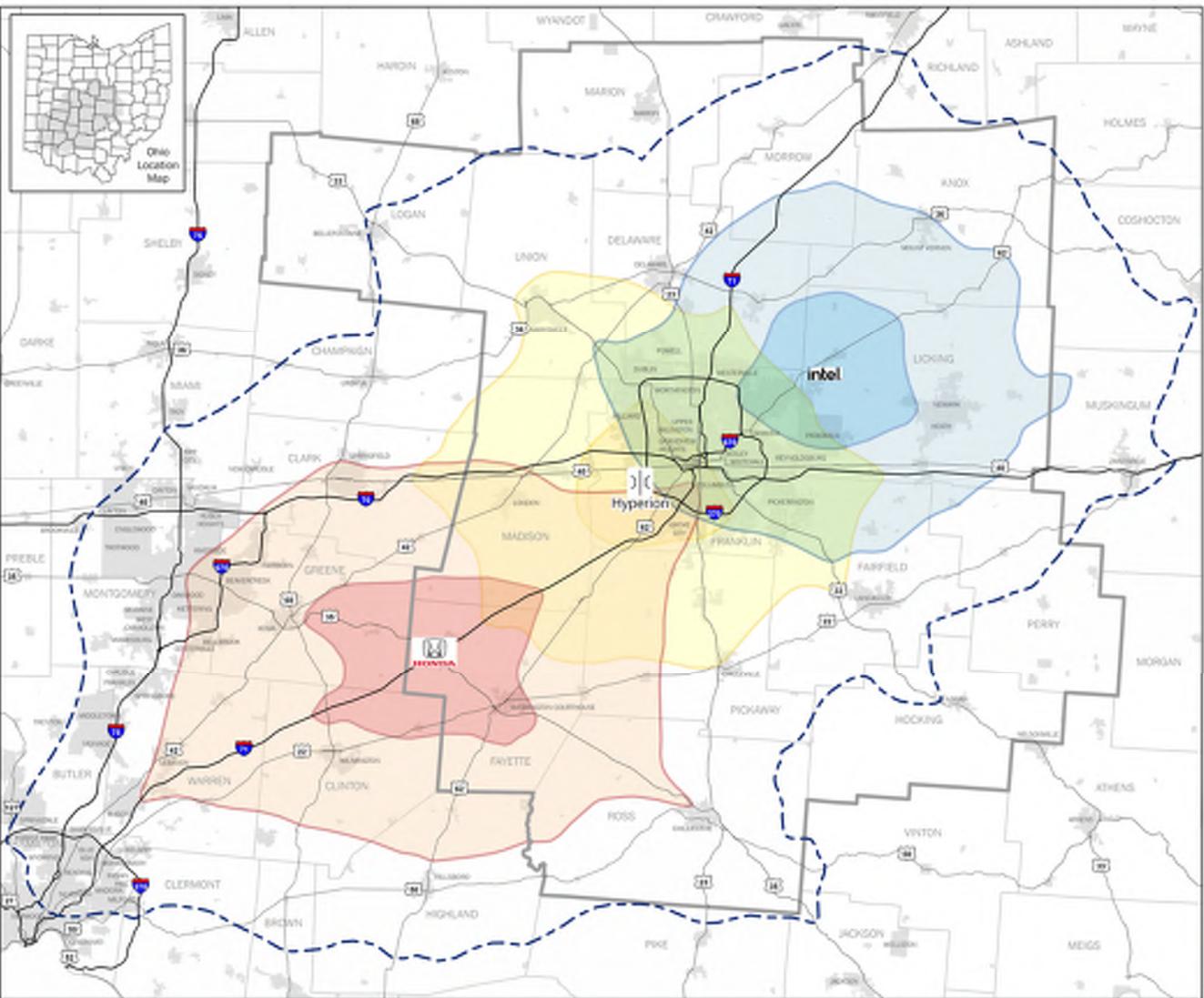
MORPC Area

City/Village

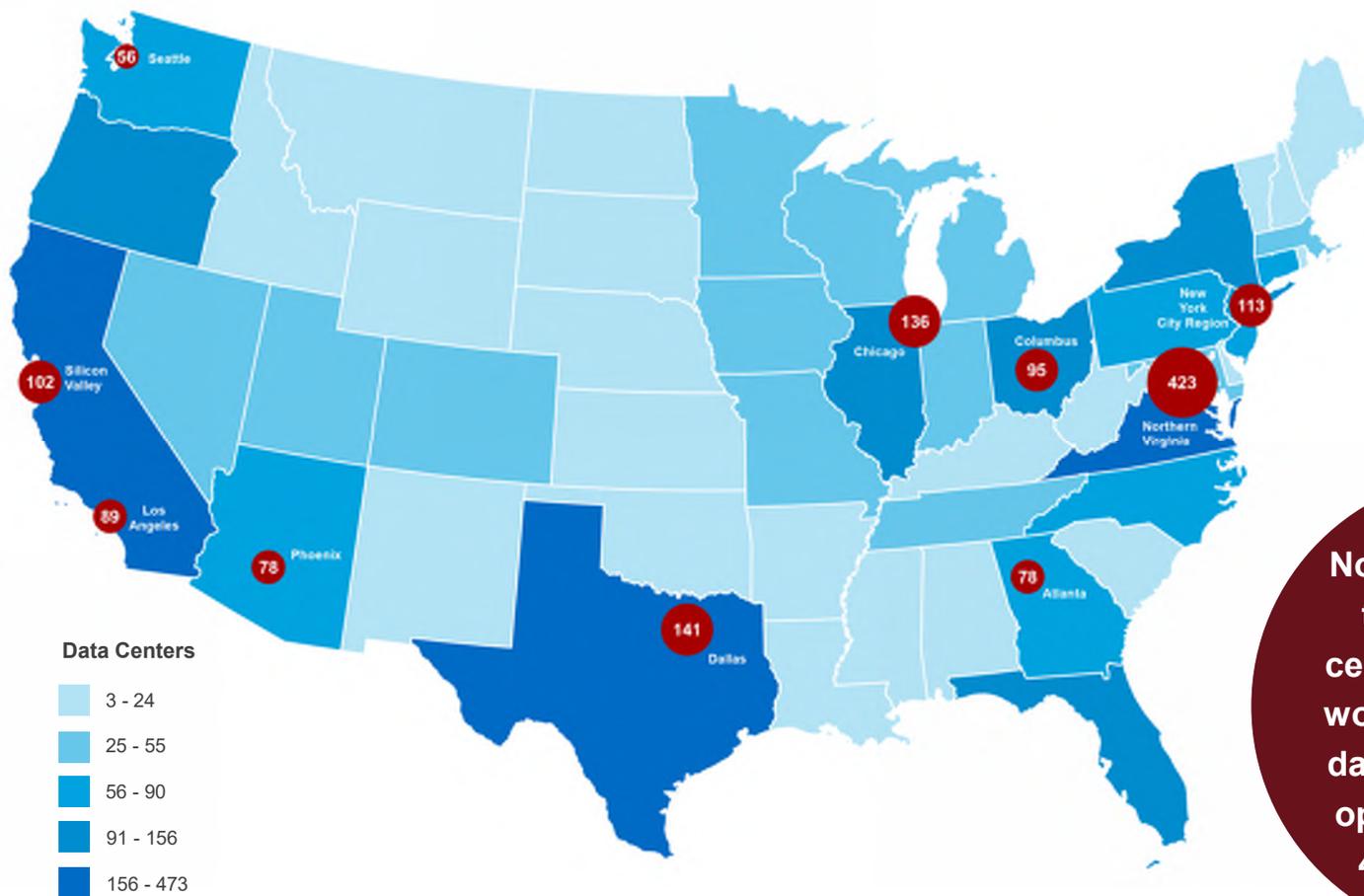
Note: Travel assumed by car. Travel times are approximate from Intel, Hyperion, and Honda sites out at 5pm. Buffers generated using ESRI Network current conditions.



The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources made available to us which we believe to be reliable. N:\Info\LOCAL Maps\Dev\MapDevDriveTimes.aprx 2/14/2023



# Ohio Ranks #4 in Data Centers Nationally



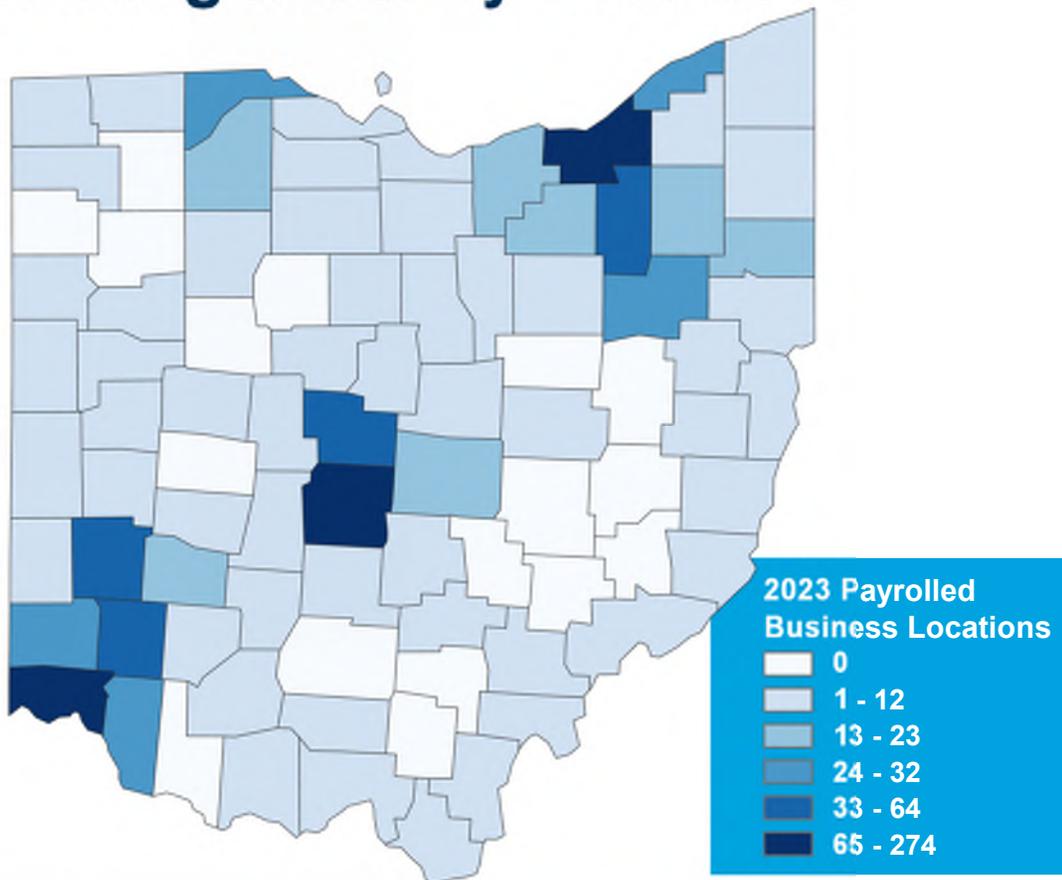
Columbus is a top 10 data center market on par with tech hubs such as Silicon Valley and New York City

Northern Virginia is the largest data center market in the world, with over 400 data centers and an operational load of 4.7GW of power

Sources: <https://www.datacentermap.com/usa/>, <https://www.cushmanwakefield.com/en/insights/global-data-center-market-comparison>



# Dramatic Growth in the Data Processing and Hosting Industry over the Past Decade



## Data Processing and Hosting Growth

*Since 2011, Ohio has had over a 384% growth to now over 1,800.*

Source: Lightcast 2024.3, 2023 Payrolled Business Locations in NAICS 51821: Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services  
Note: NAICS 51821 includes all manner of data hosting activities, including web hosting, application service provisioning, and data storage and management.

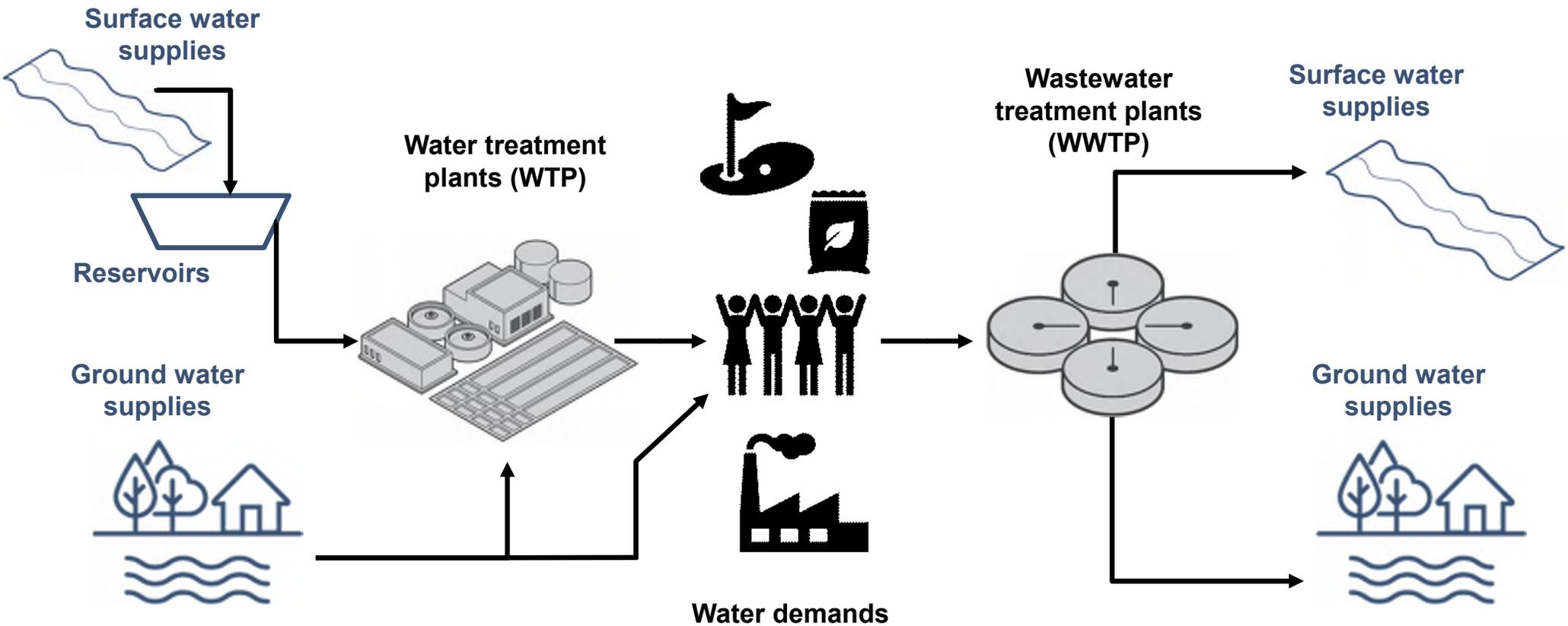




- Comprehensive Water Study:
  - Current availability
  - Current demand
  - Projected future demand 2030, 2040, & 2050
  - Gap analysis
  - Regionalization recommendations
  - Water reuse opportunities
  - Siting locations for new mega water users

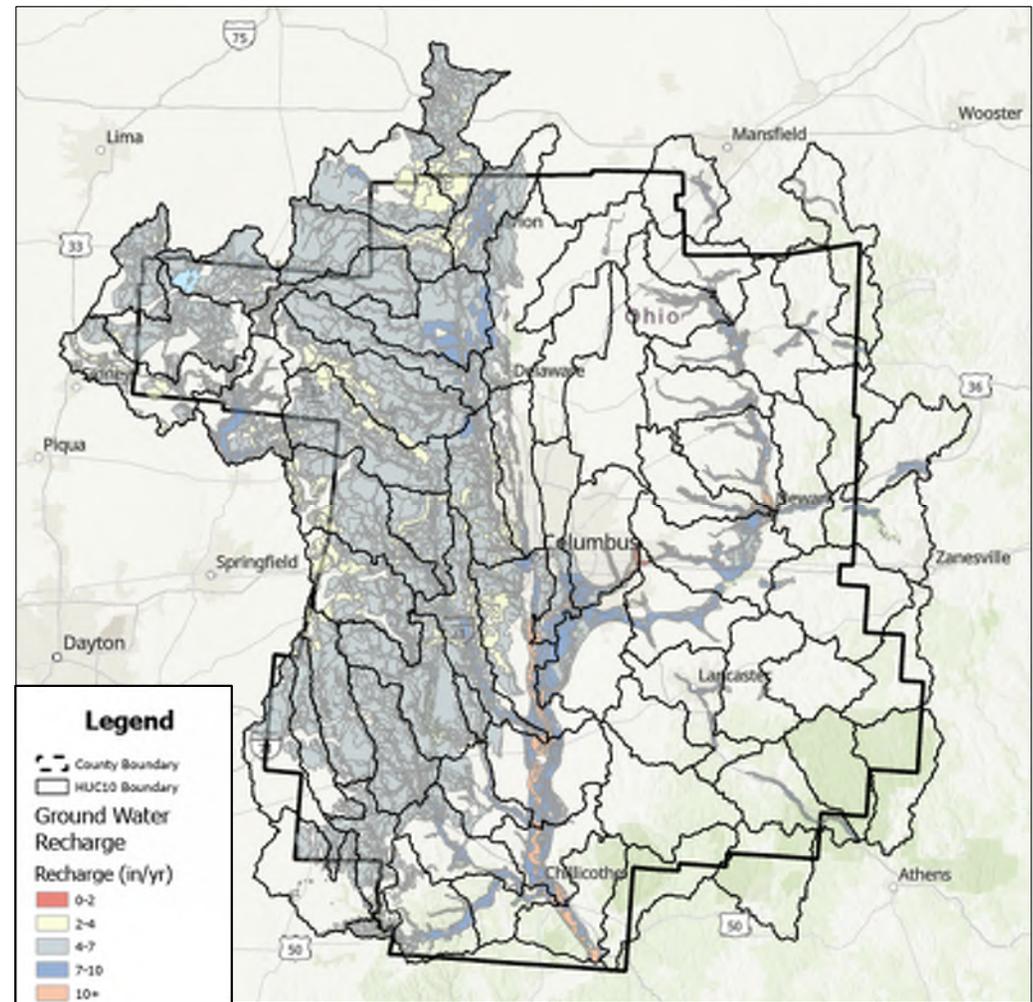
# Central Ohio Regional Water Study

## Model Components



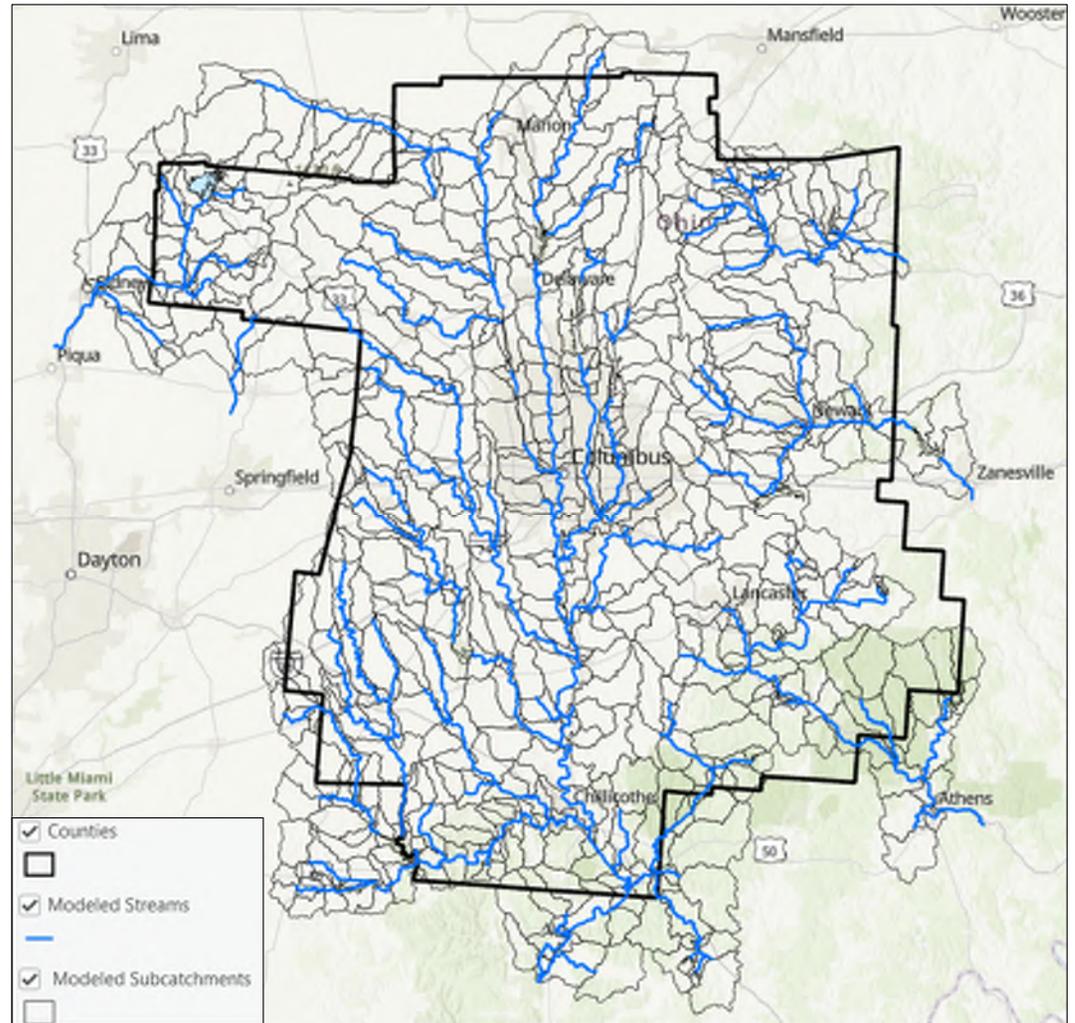
## Raw Ground Water Availability

- Ground water availability was estimated at the HUC10 level
- Estimated ground water availability is a function of both yield and recharge
- Shaded areas of the map show the recharge values within the high yielding aquifers
- There is roughly 520 MGD of available ground water across the 15-County region

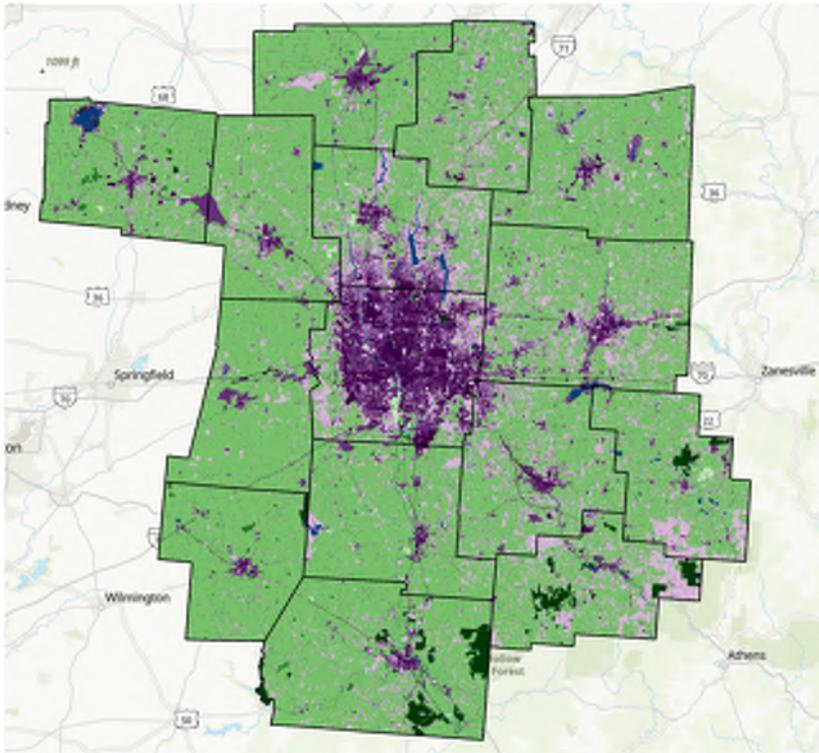


## Raw Surface Water Availability

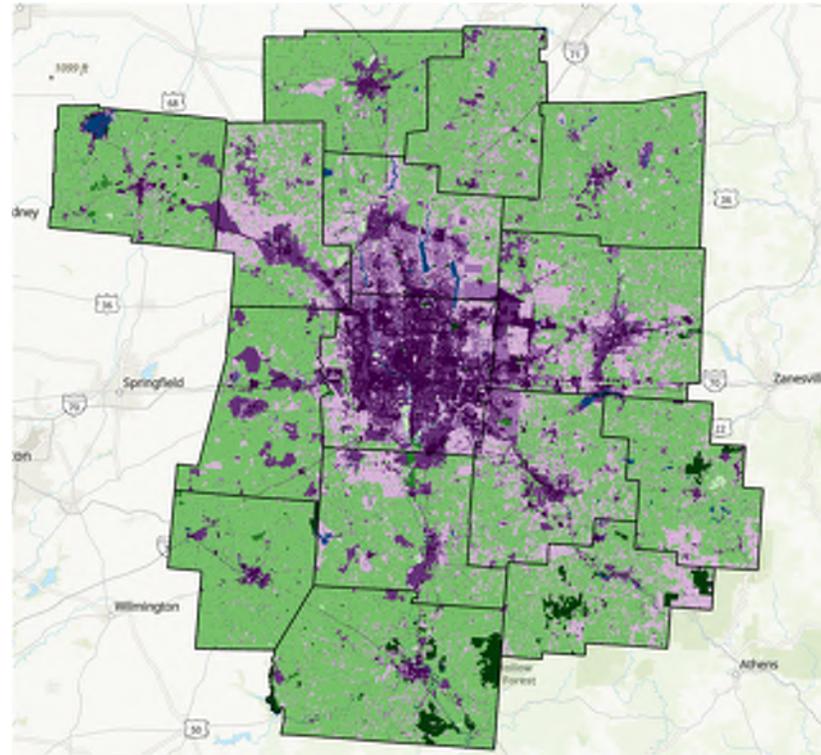
- Surface water inflows into streams were estimated at the sub-catchment level using US EPA Storm Water Management Model (SWMM)



# Current and Future Land Use



Current (2021)



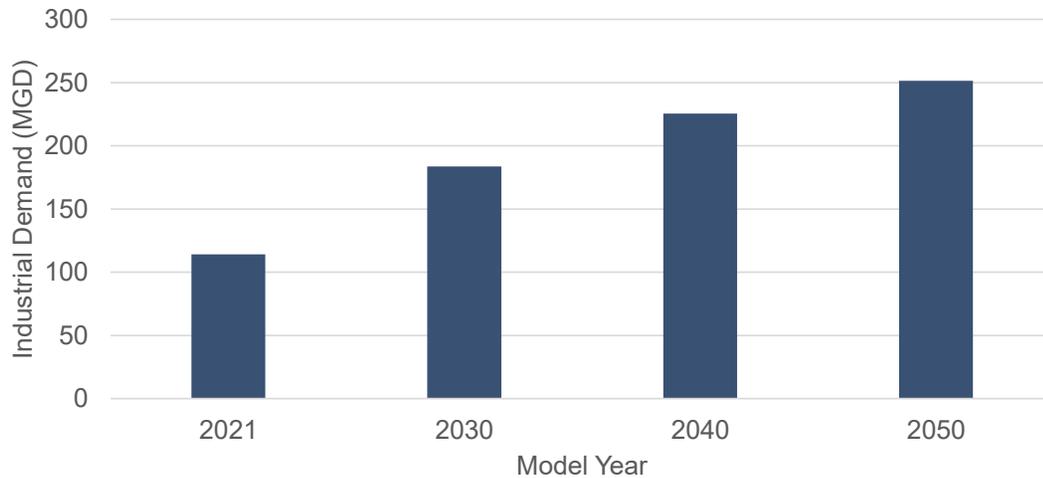
Future (2050)

# Industrial Cooling Demands

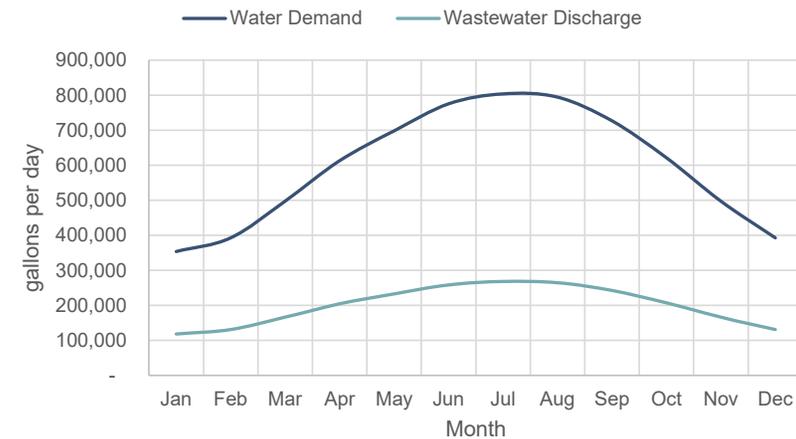
- Demand for data storage and processing and artificial intelligence is driving the need for additional cooling water
- Industrial demands are estimated to increase by approximately 120% across the region from 2021 to 2050
- Industrial cooling demands were assigned to specific utility providers based on approximate locations and any known agreements

Max Monthly Demands (MGD) per Site			
	2030 (50 Acre Site)	2040 (80 Acre Site)	2050 (100 Acre Site)
<b>Water Demand</b>	0.80	1.29	1.61
<b>Wastewater Demand</b>	0.27	0.43	0.54

Industrial Demands for 15-County Area

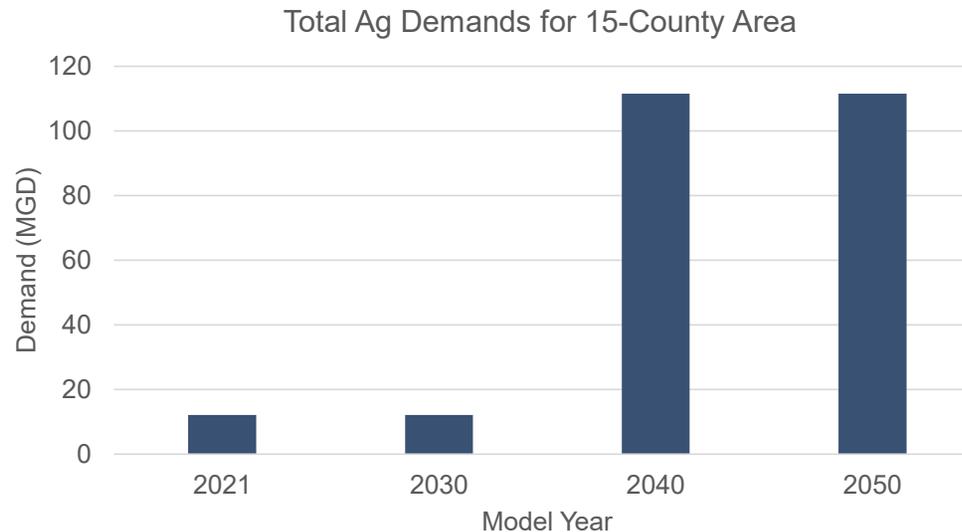


Typical Max Day Water Usage at Single Site

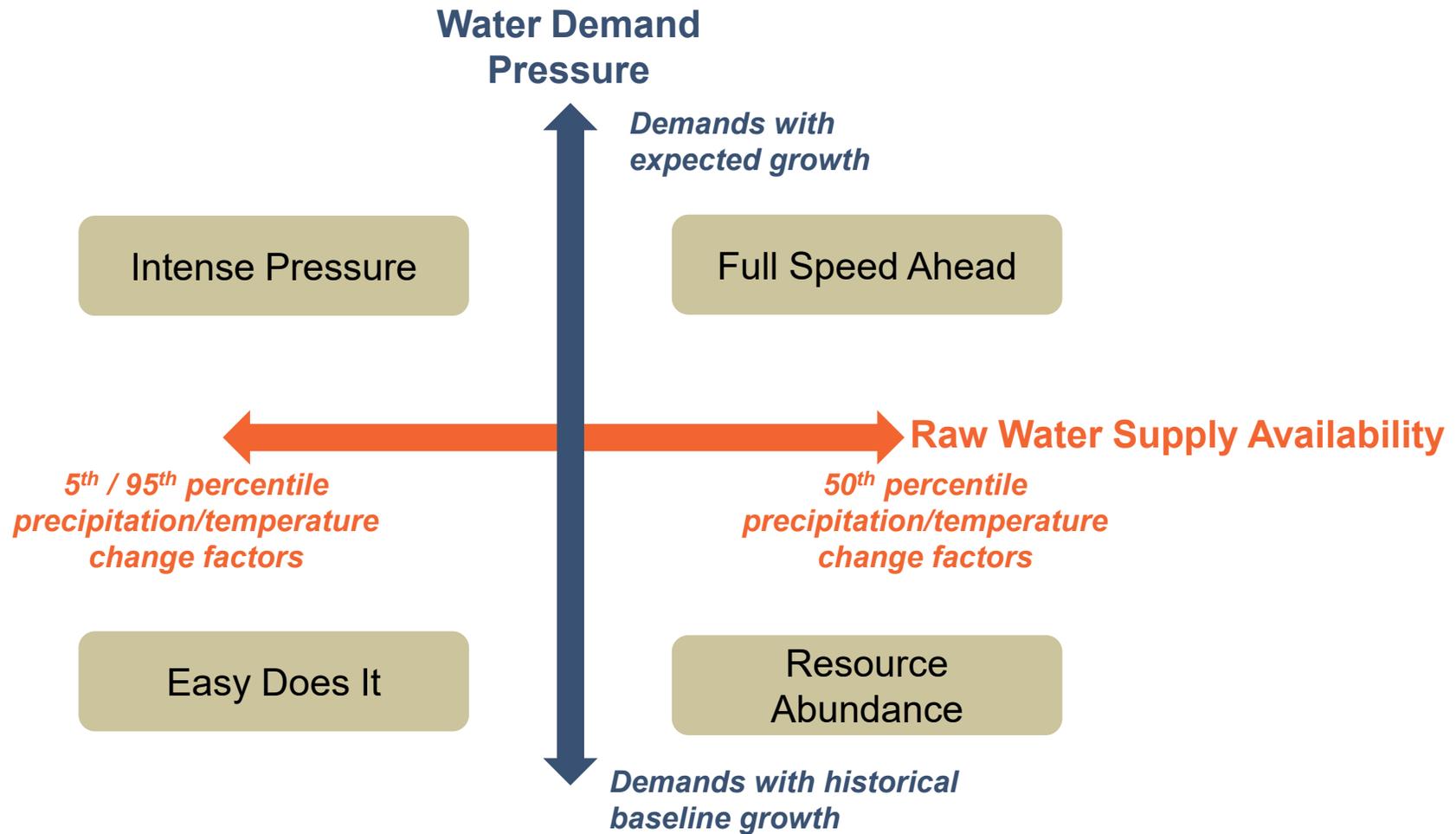


## Agricultural Irrigation Demands

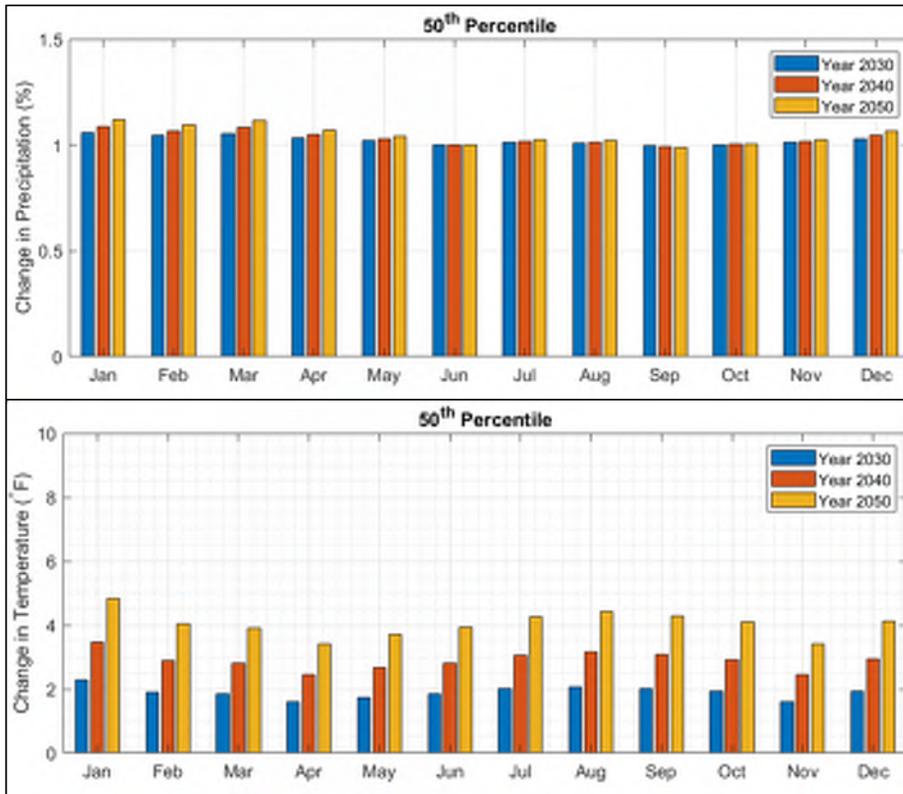
- By 2040 irrigation will be more widespread, driven by increasing temperatures
- Supplied by groundwater, during the critical growing season (July / August / September)
- Agricultural demands increase from approximately 12 MGD in the base year and 2030 to 110 MGD for 2040 and 2050 across the region during the July through September growing season



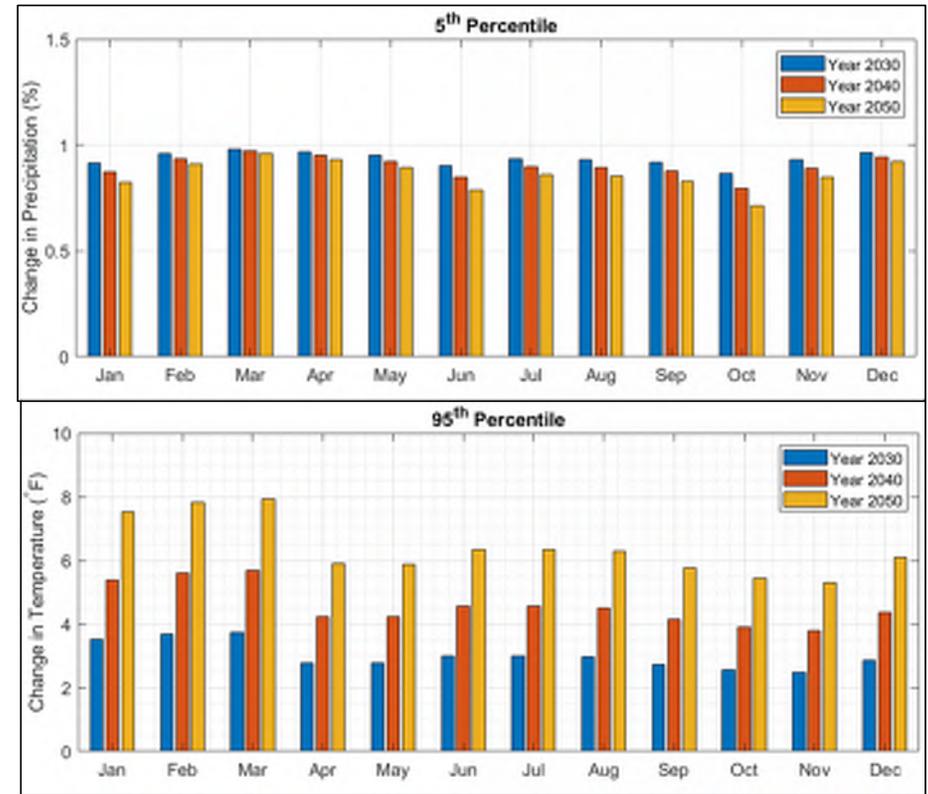
# Model Scenarios



# Raw Water Supply Availability Informed by Two Temperature/Precipitation Projections

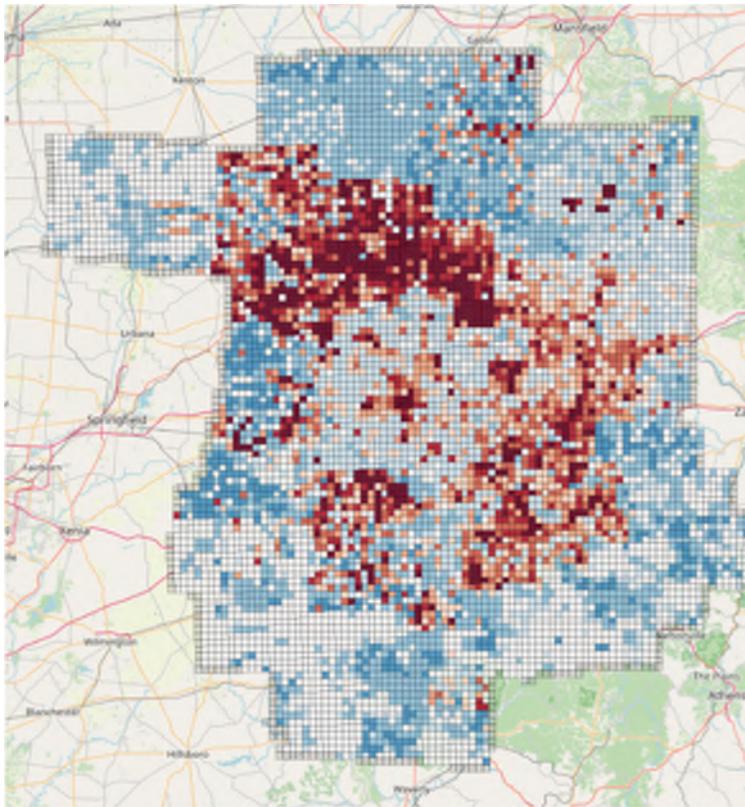


Moderate Change (50<sup>th</sup> Percentile Temperature and Precipitation)

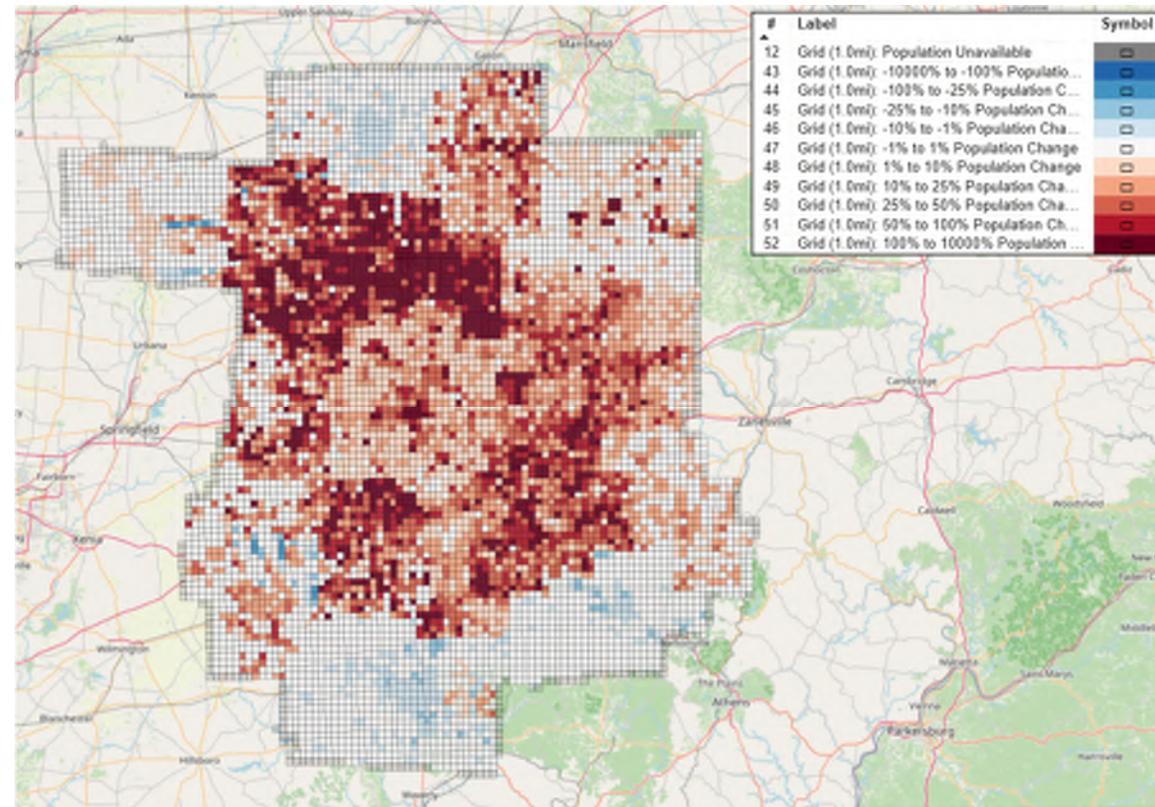


Extreme Change (5<sup>th</sup> Percentile Precipitation and 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile Temperature)

# Percent Population Growth (2021 to 2050)



Historical Growth Trend (ODOD)



Expected Growth Trend (MORPC)

[Home](#)
[Population Data](#)
[Demand Data](#)
[Gap Identification](#)
[Water Quality](#)




The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of population information on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

Layer Visibility ⓘ

Multiple selections ▾

County ⓘ

All ▾

Grid - Data Category ⓘ

Population ▾

Grid - Growth Trend ⓘ

Historical Baseline Growth Tr... ▾

Grid - Data Type ⓘ

Value ▾

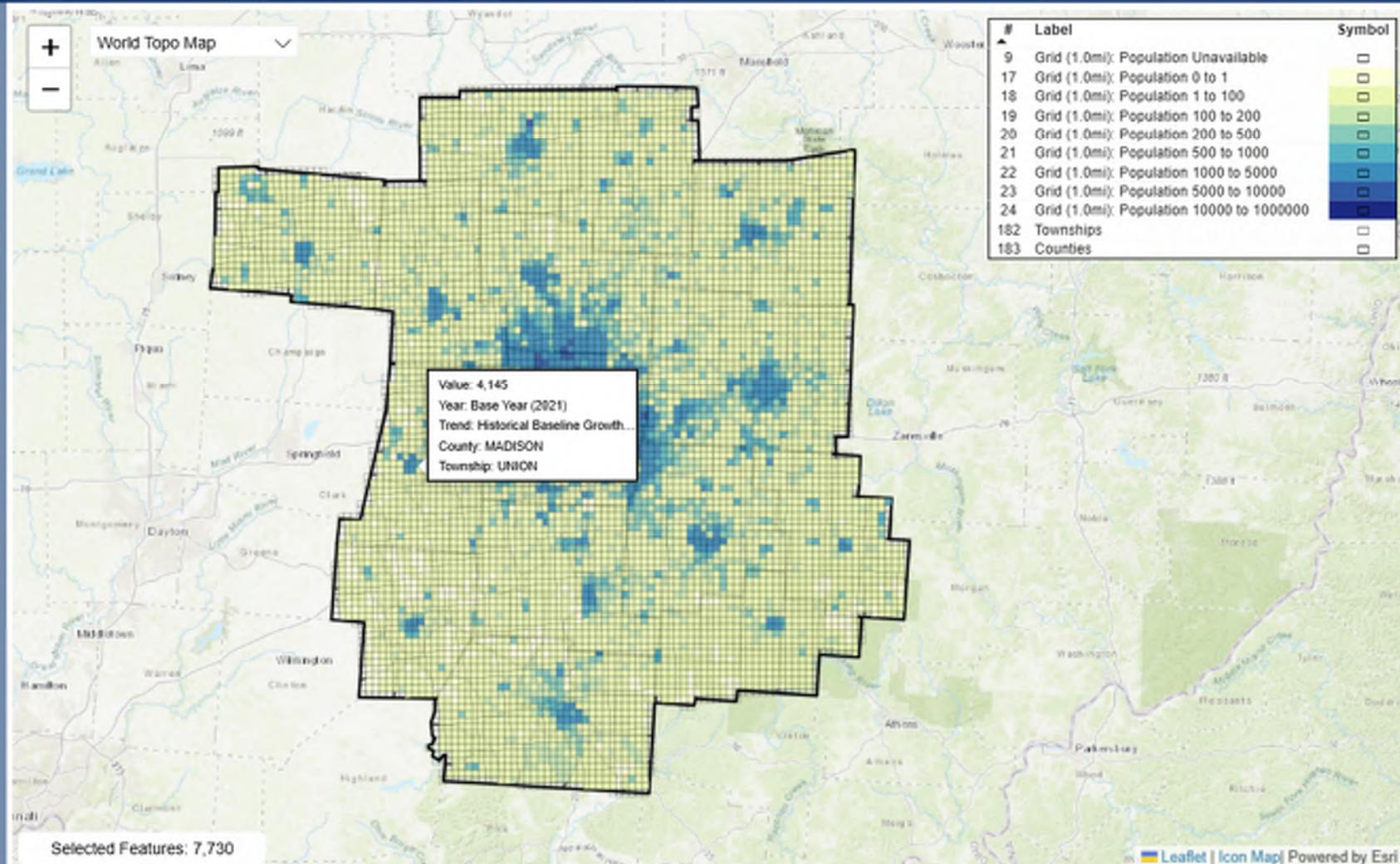
Grid - Data Year ⓘ

Base Year (2021) ▾

Land Use - Data Category ⓘ

Future Land Use (2050) ▾

Reset



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of water demand data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections.

**Layer Visibility**

Multiple selections

**Demand Node Visibility**

All

**County**

All

**Nodes - Population Trend**

Historical Baseline Growth Tr...

**Nodes - Value Type**

Total Demand

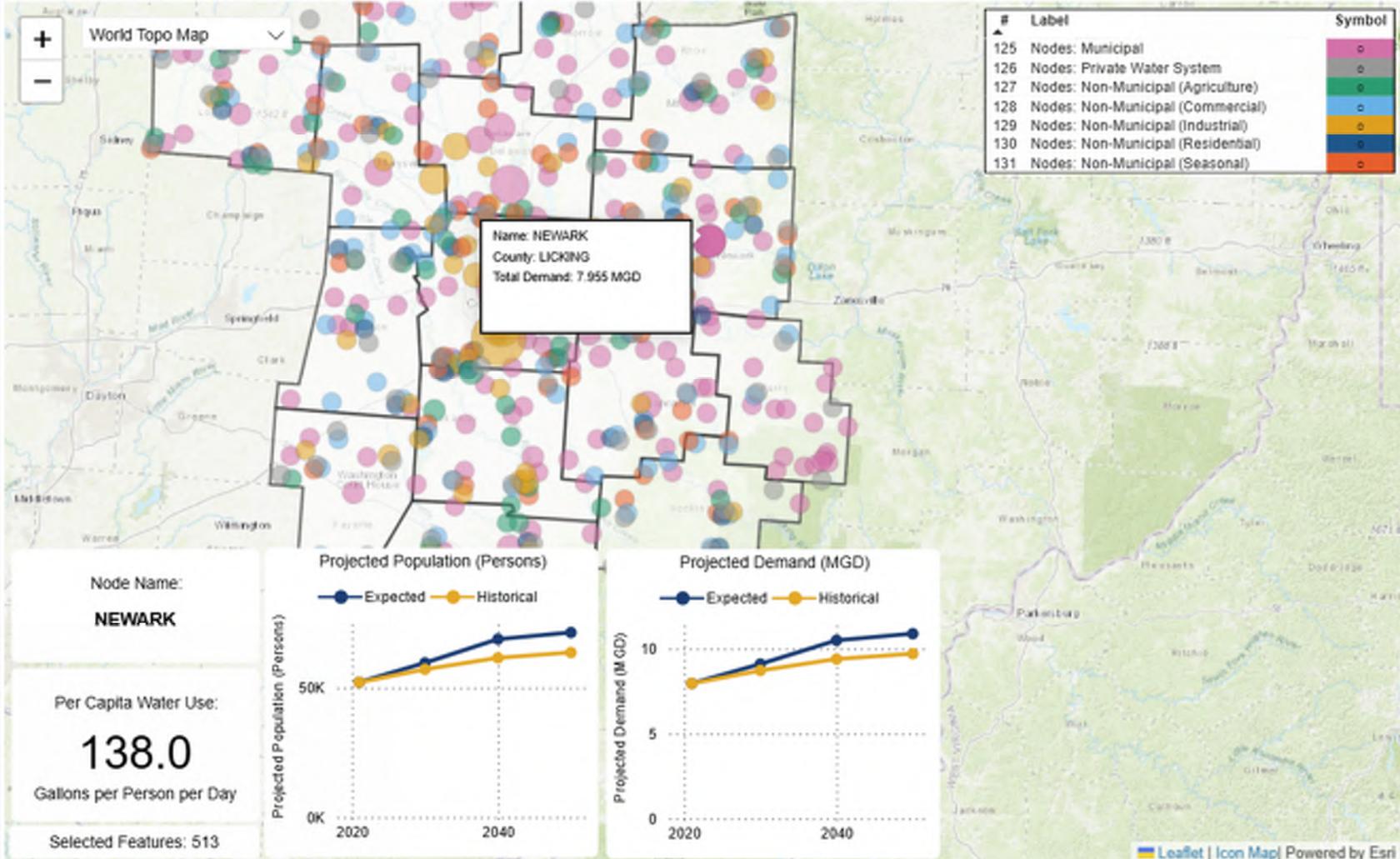
**Nodes - Value Year**

Base Year (2021)

**Nodes - Scale Per Capita Use**

0.00%

Reset



[Home](#)
[Population Data](#)
[Demand Data](#)
[Gap Identification](#)
[Water Quality](#)



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of watershed information on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

Layer Visibility ⓘ

Multiple selections ▾

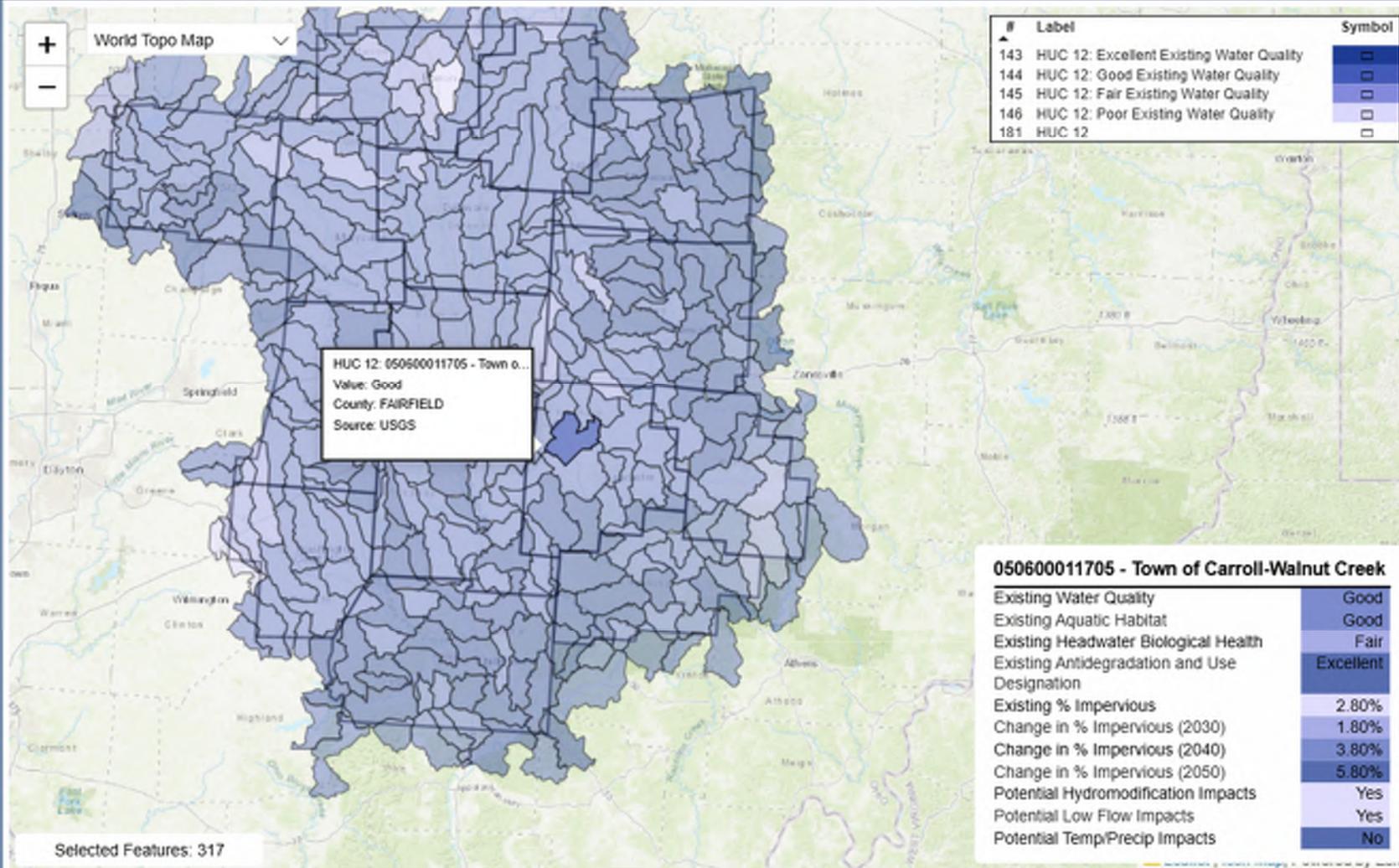
County ⓘ

All ▾

HUC 12 - Data Type ⓘ

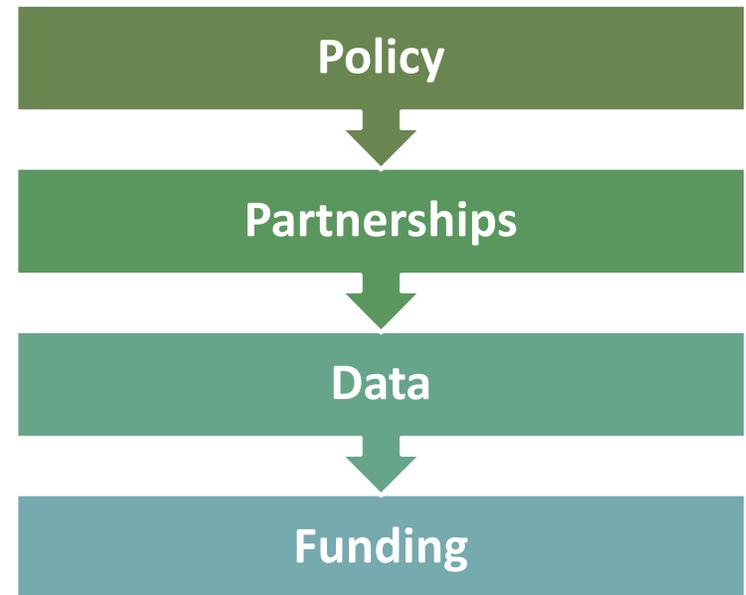
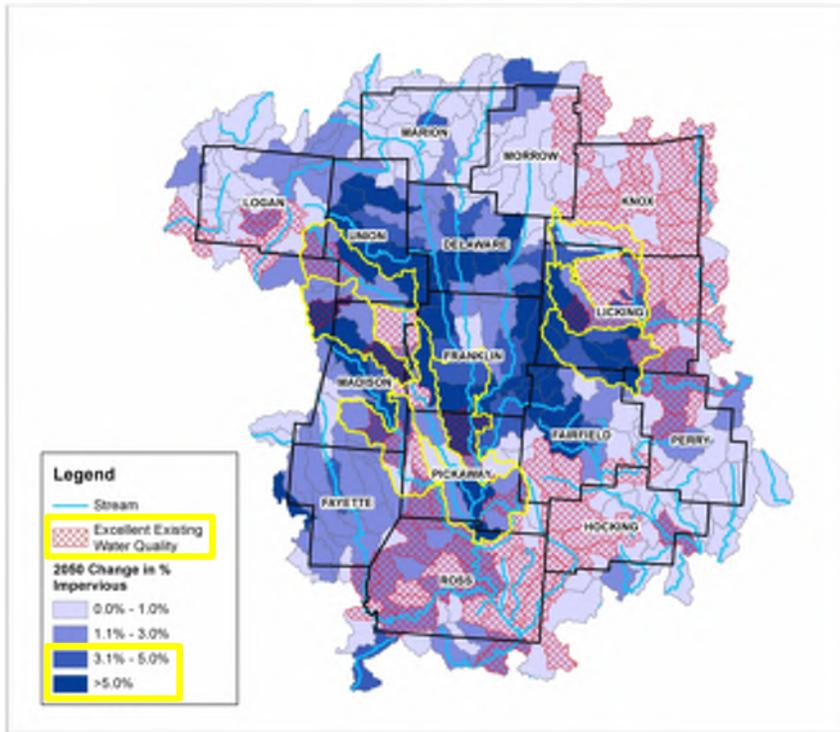
Existing Water Quality ▾

Reset



# Water Quality Protection

Watersheds containing excellent existing water quality AND a relatively high change in impervious area in 2050 are:



[Home](#)
[Population Data](#)
[Demand Data](#)
[Gap Identification](#)
[Water Quality](#)



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info](#)

Layer Visibility

Multiple selections

Node Visibility

All

Only Show Gaps

Off

County

All

Gaps - Growth Trend

Expected Growth Trend

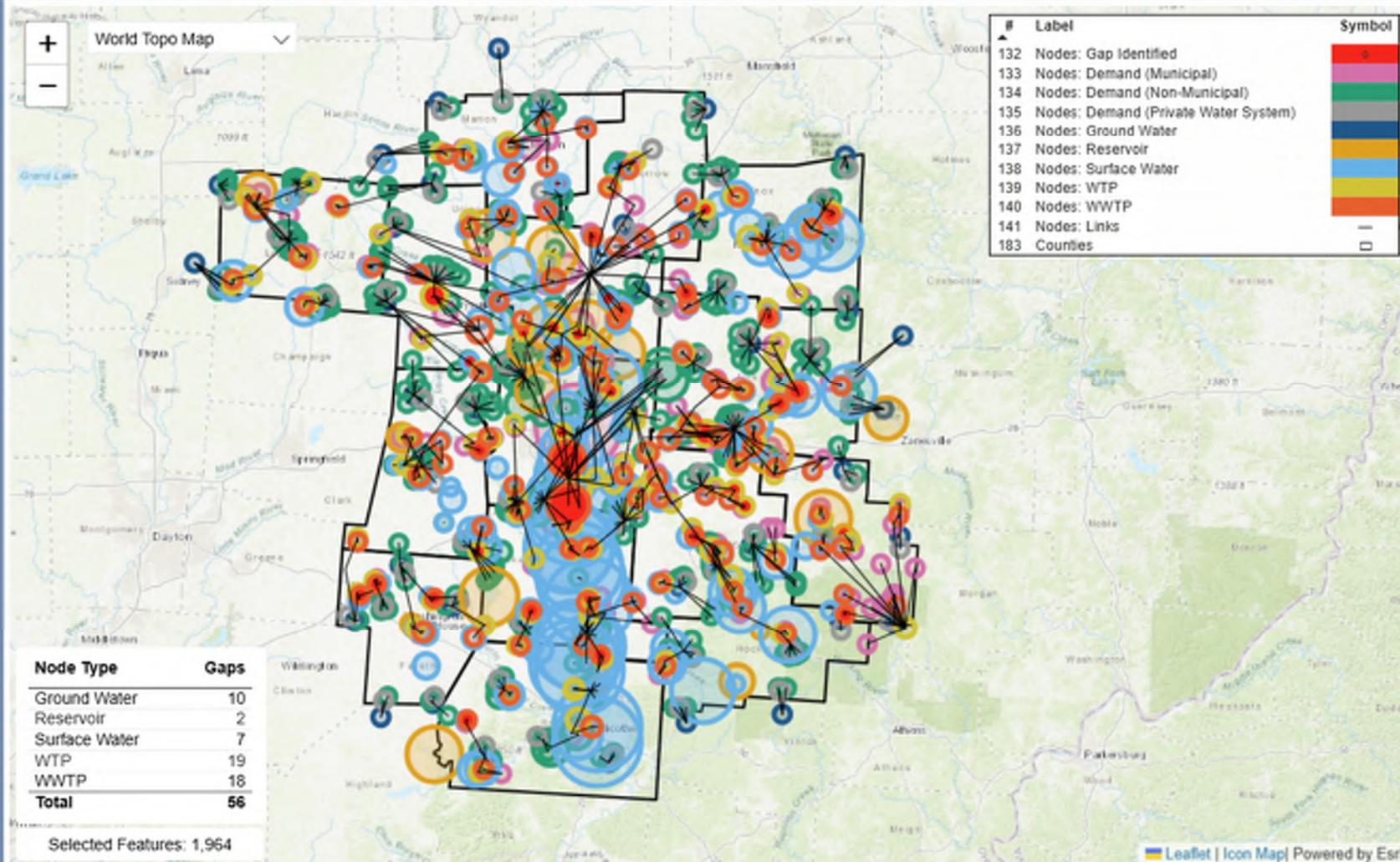
Gaps - Temp/Precip Change

Moderate Change

Gaps - Demand Year

2040

Reset



# Resource Gaps - Definitions

Gaps are defined based on the node type:

**Surface water** – if any shortage is observed throughout the simulation period

**Reservoir** – if usable storage ever reaches 20% or lower

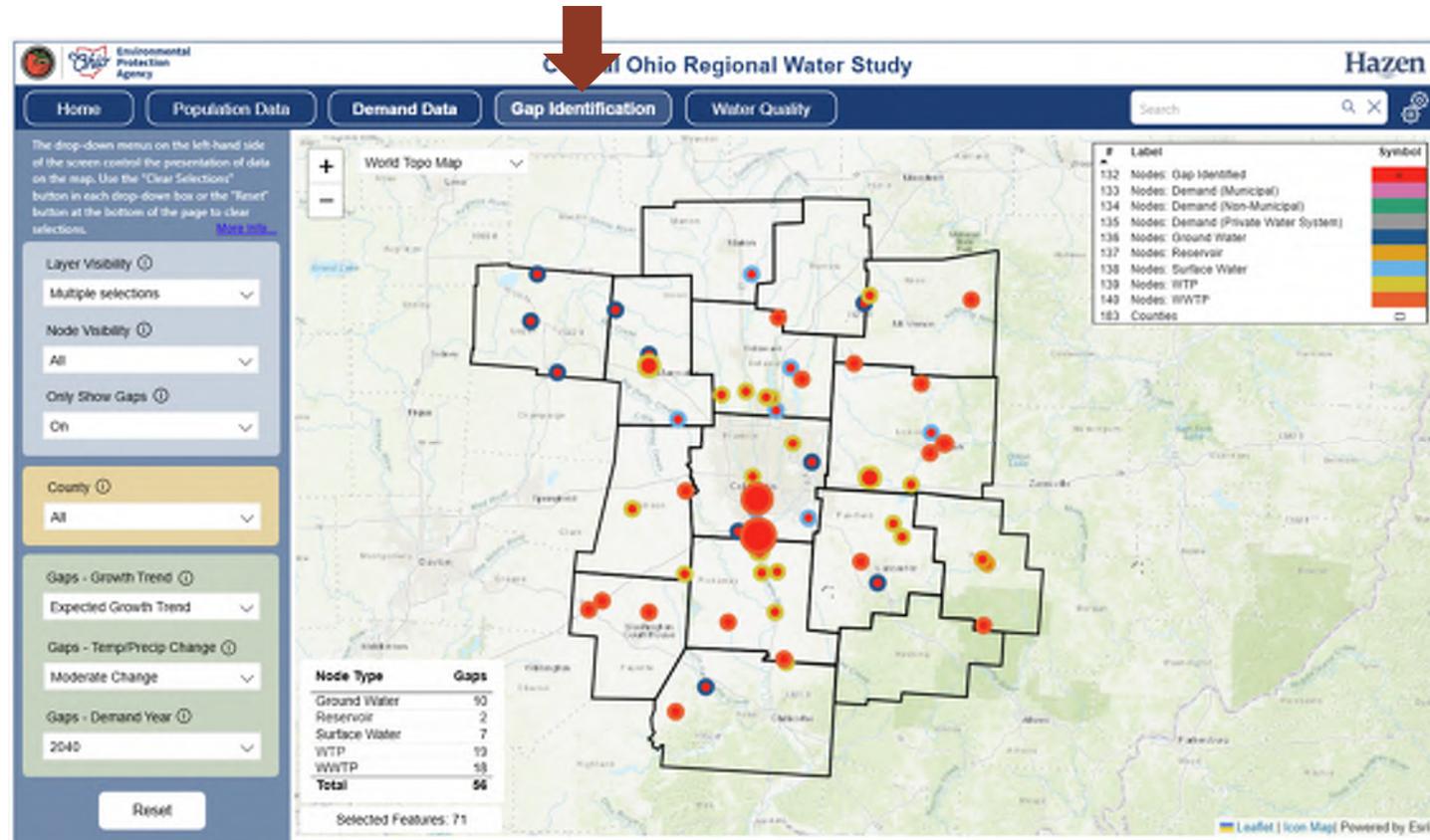
**Ground water** – if remaining ground water ever reaches zero

**Water treatment plant** – if the max month average flow reaches 80% or more of the permitted capacity

**Wastewater treatment plant** – if the max annual average flow reaches 100% or more of the permitted capacity

In the dashboard, red-filled nodes represent gaps for the selected conditions on the left

Node sizing reflects the magnitude of the identified gap



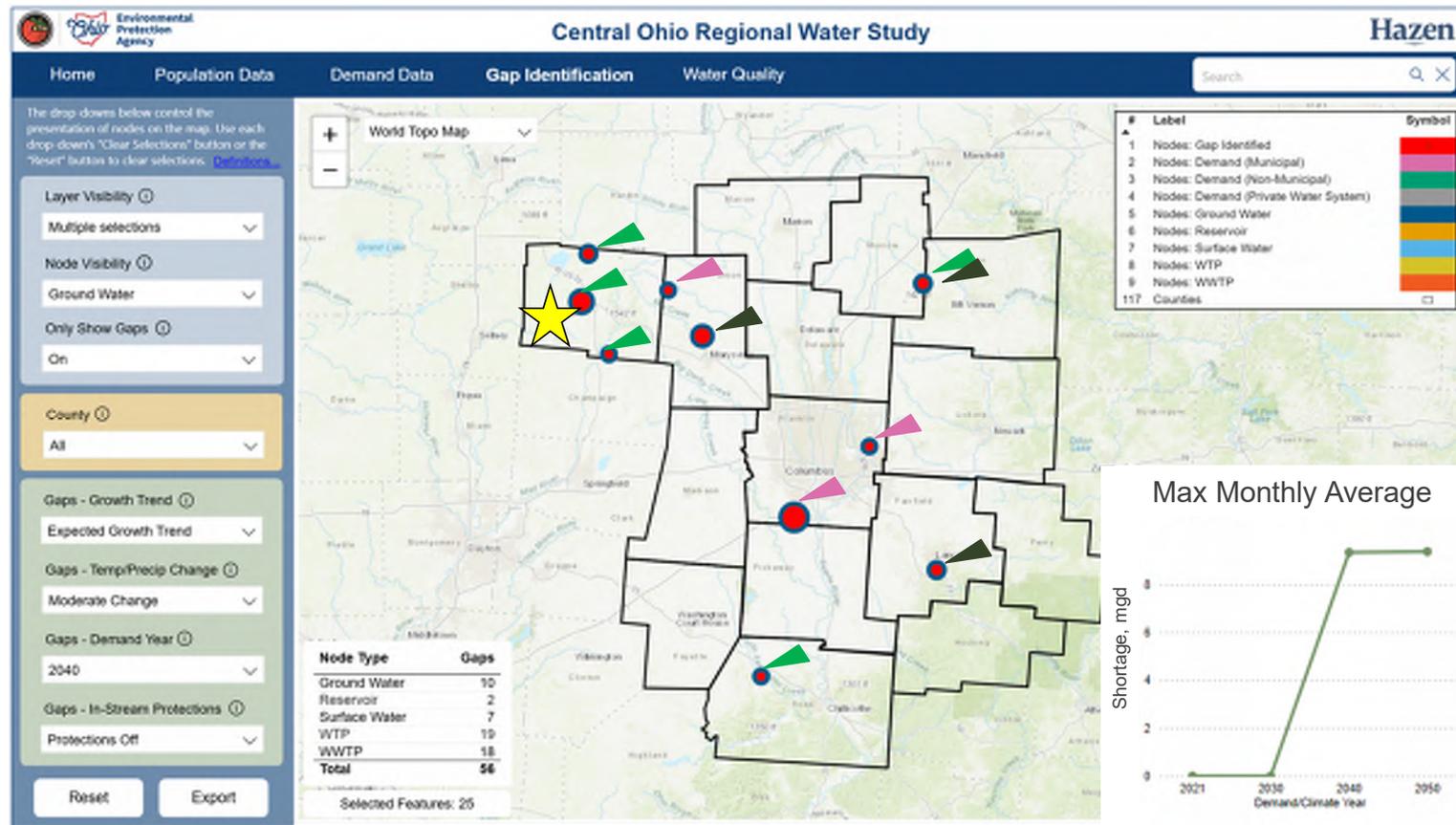
# Resource Gaps - Summary

Full Summary of Gaps – 15 Counties

Scenario		GW	Reservoir	SW	WTP	WWTP	Total
Base Year		2	2	7	7	13	31
<b>Intense Pressure</b> <i>(expected growth + high temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	16	39
	2040	10	3	7	19	17	56
	2050	10	5	7	22	20	64
<b>Full Speed Ahead</b> <i>(expected growth + moderate temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	16	39
	2040	10	2	7	19	18	56
	2050	10	2	7	22	21	62
<b>Easy Does It</b> <i>(historical growth + high temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	14	37
	2040	9	2	7	14	15	47
	2050	9	4	6	16	14	49
<b>Resource Abundance</b> <i>(historical growth + moderate temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	14	37
	2040	9	1	7	14	15	46
	2050	9	1	7	16	16	49

# Resource Gaps – Ground Water Supplies

- Gap = Ground water supplies that reach zero in the simulation period
- 10 gaps in total
  - Agricultural driver – 5
  - Industrial driver – 3
  - Municipal driver – 3
  - One gap overlaps agriculture and industry
- Drivers are presented in the overall 15-County Report Out



[Home](#)
[Population Data](#)
[Demand Data](#)
[Gap Identification](#)
[Water Quality](#)

Data Updated 5/20/25



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections.

[More Info](#)

Layer Visibility

Multiple selections

Node Visibility

All

Only Show Gaps

Off

County

LICKING

Gaps - Growth Trend

Expected Growth Trend

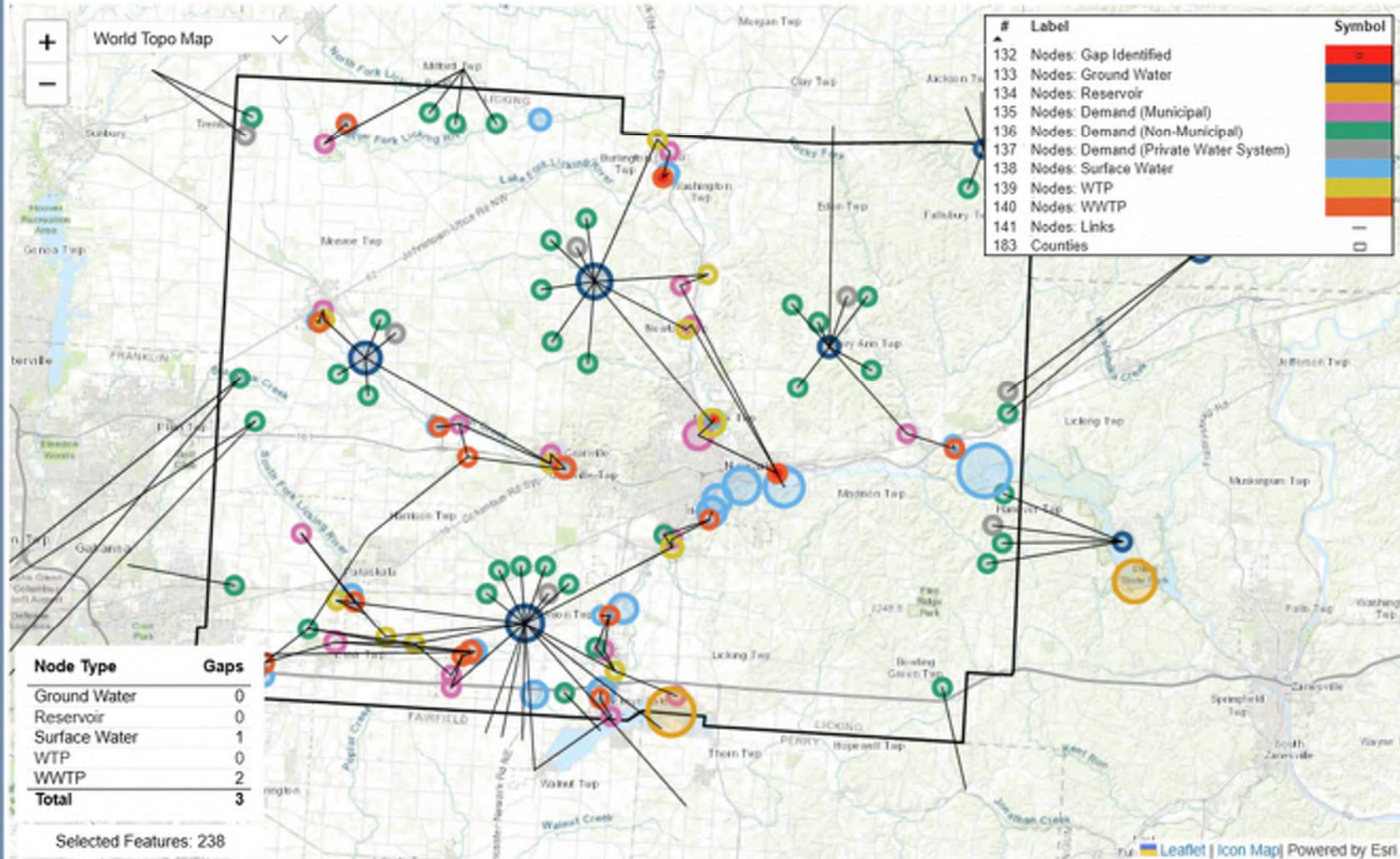
Gaps - Temp/Precip Change

Moderate Change

Gaps - Demand Year

Base Year (2021)

Reset



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections.

[More Info](#)

### Layer Visibility

Multiple selections

### Node Visibility

All

Only Show Gaps

Off

### County

LICKING

### Gaps - Growth Trend

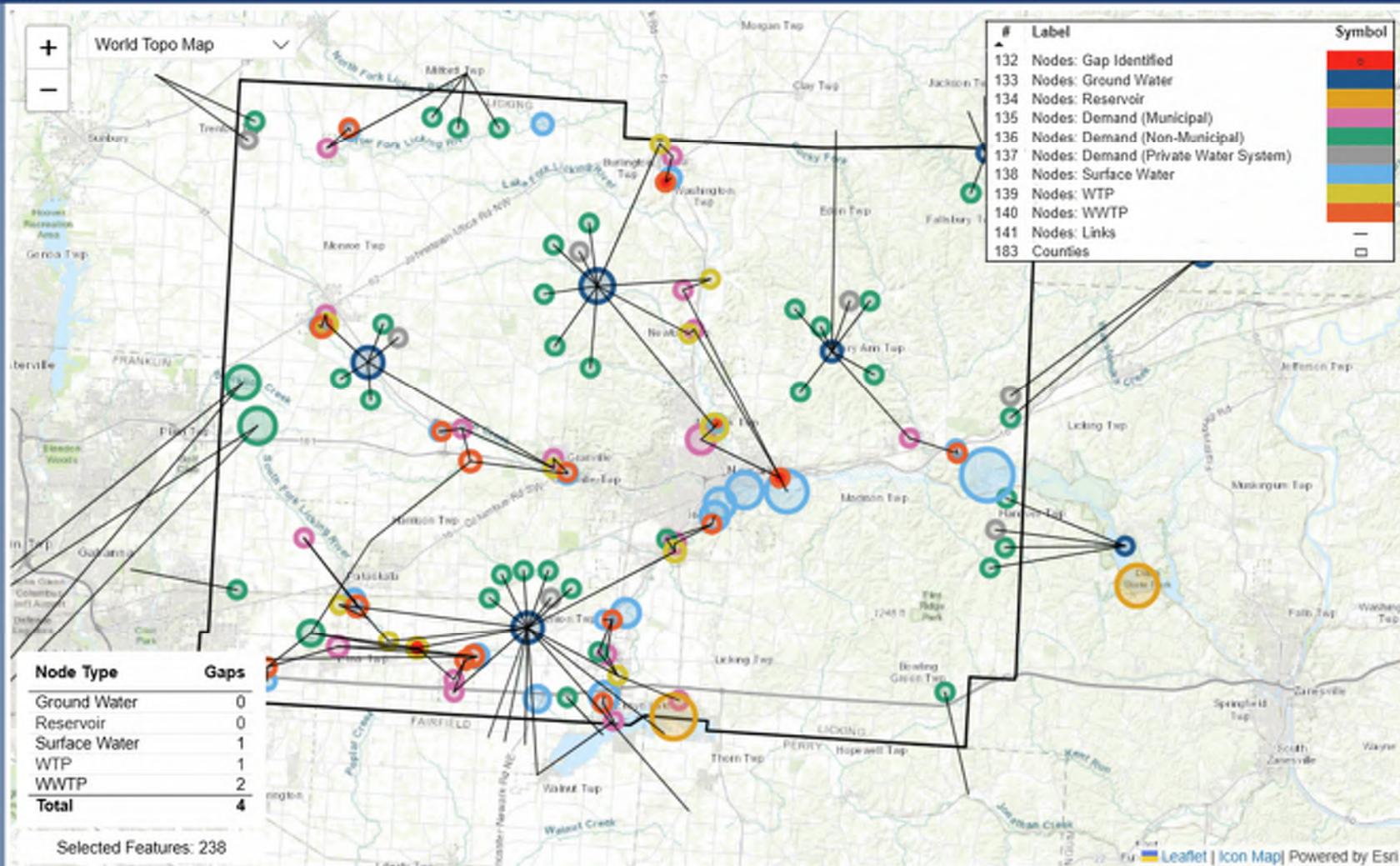
Expected Growth Trend

### Gaps - Temp/Precip Change

Moderate Change

### Gaps - Demand Year

2030



[Home](#)
[Population Data](#)
[Demand Data](#)
[Gap Identification](#)
[Water Quality](#)



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info](#)

Layer Visibility ⓘ

Multiple selections ▾

Node Visibility ⓘ

All ▾

Only Show Gaps ⓘ

Off ▾

County ⓘ

LICKING ▾

Gaps - Growth Trend ⓘ

Expected Growth Trend ▾

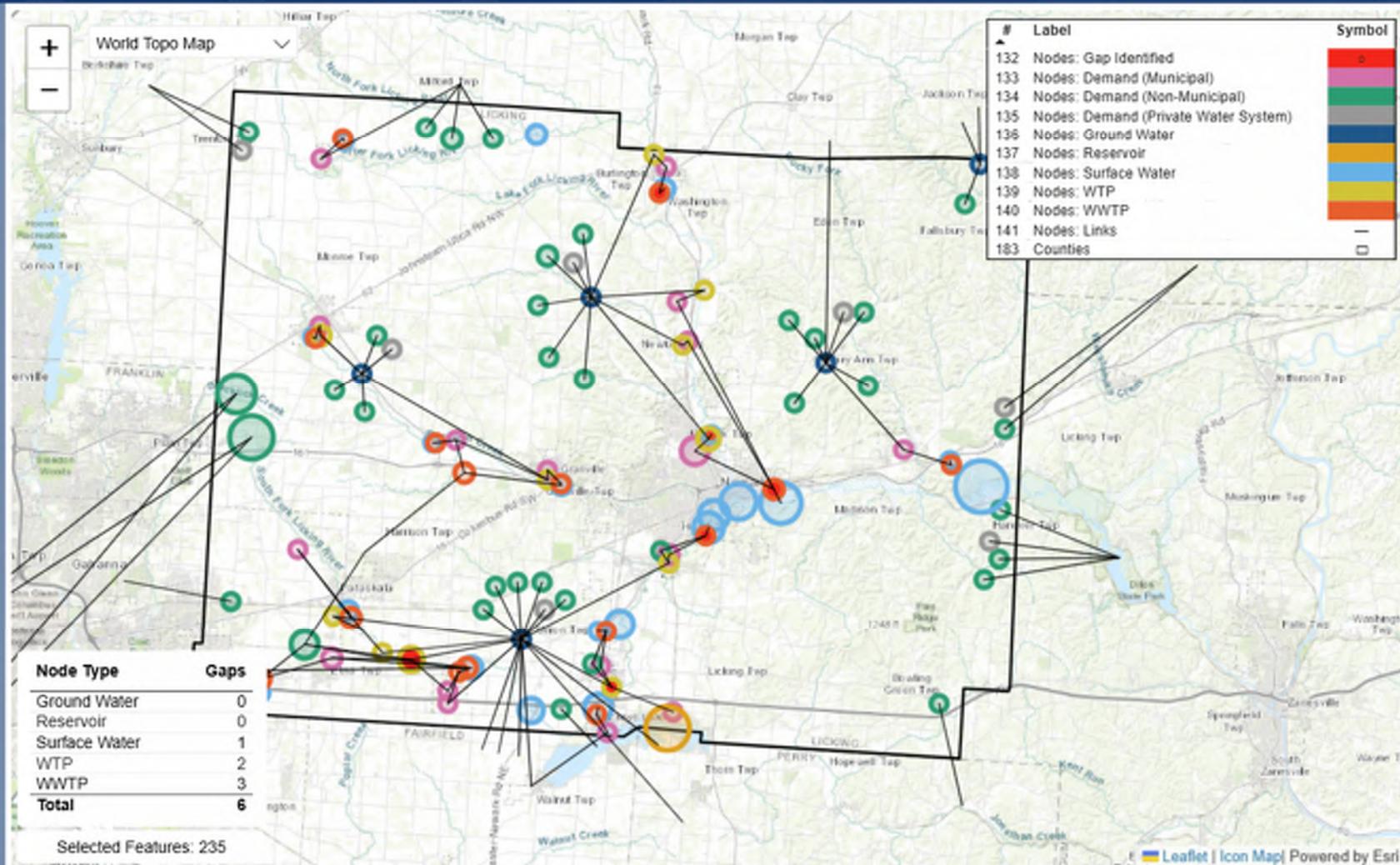
Gaps - Temp/Precip Change ⓘ

Moderate Change ▾

Gaps - Demand Year ⓘ

2040 ▾

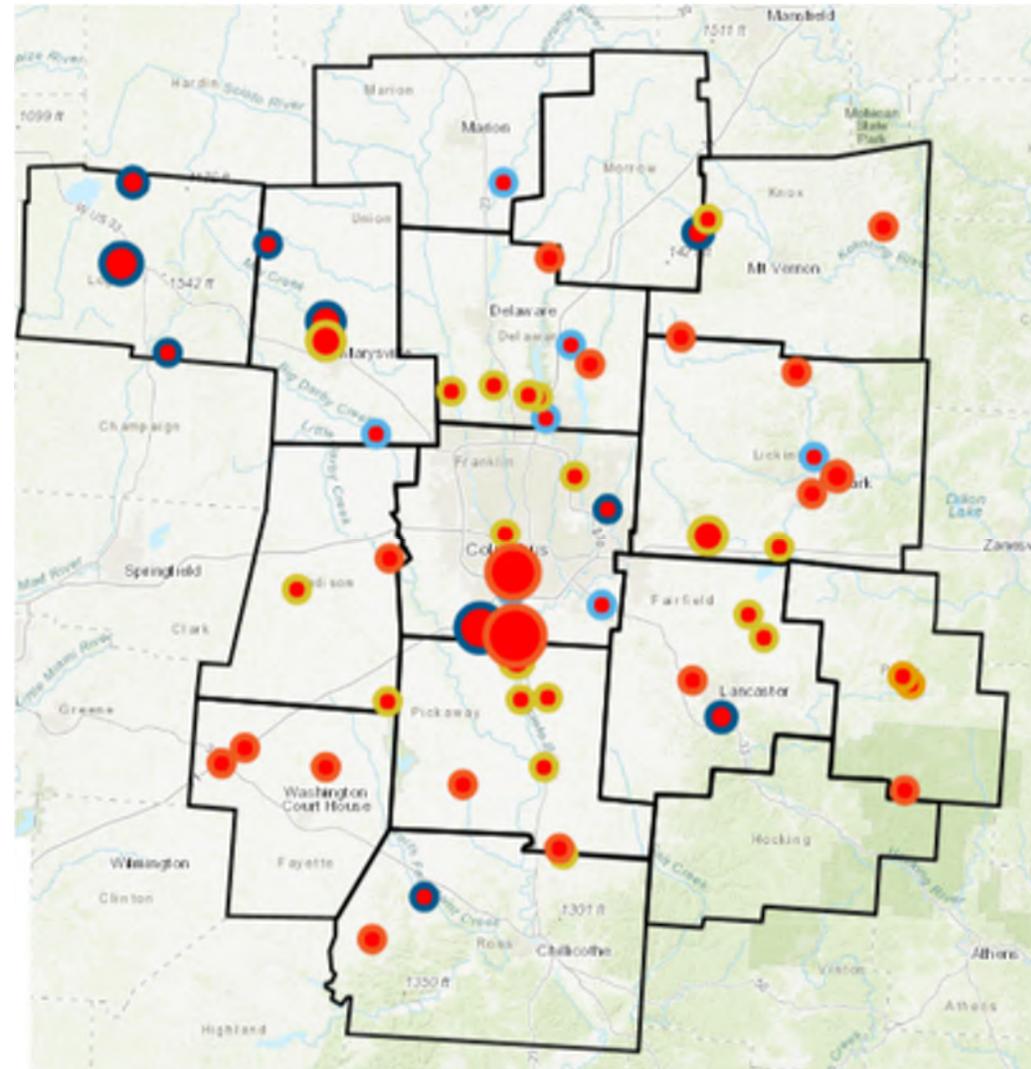
Reset



# Each County Report Out Includes

## 2040 Full Speed Ahead Scenario

- County data analysis including model demands
- Discussion of gaps identified
- Identification of areas of opportunity
- Detailed project options – **LOCAL**, **REGIONAL**, **REUSE**
  - **Local** – Utility largely uses its own assets to fill gap or industrial provides its own onsite solutions
  - **Regional** – Utility collaborates with other utilities
  - **Reuse** – Utility leverages reuse water to provide non-potable water to an industrial user to reduce potable water demand
  - Cost models for comparative purposes and are in 2024 costs
- Water quality analysis



# Resource Gaps - Summary

Full Summary of Gaps – 15 Counties

Scenario		GW	Reservoir	SW	WTP	WWTP	Total
Base Year		2	2	7	7	13	31
<b>Intense Pressure</b> <i>(expected growth + high temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	16	39
	2040	10	3	7	19	17	56
	2050	10	5	7	22	20	64
<b>Full Speed Ahead</b> <i>(expected growth + moderate temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	16	39
	2040	10	2	7	19	18	56
	2050	10	2	7	22	21	62
<b>Easy Does It</b> <i>(historical growth + high temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	14	37
	2040	9	2	7	14	15	47
	2050	9	4	6	16	14	49
<b>Resource Abundance</b> <i>(historical growth + moderate temperature/precipitation stress)</i>	2030	4	2	7	10	14	37
	2040	9	1	7	14	15	46
	2050	9	1	7	16	16	49

The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

**Layer Visibility** ⓘ

Multiple selections ▾

**Node Visibility** ⓘ

All ▾

Only Show Gaps ⓘ

Off ▾

**County** ⓘ

LICKING ▾

**Gaps - Growth Trend** ⓘ

Expected Growth Trend ▾

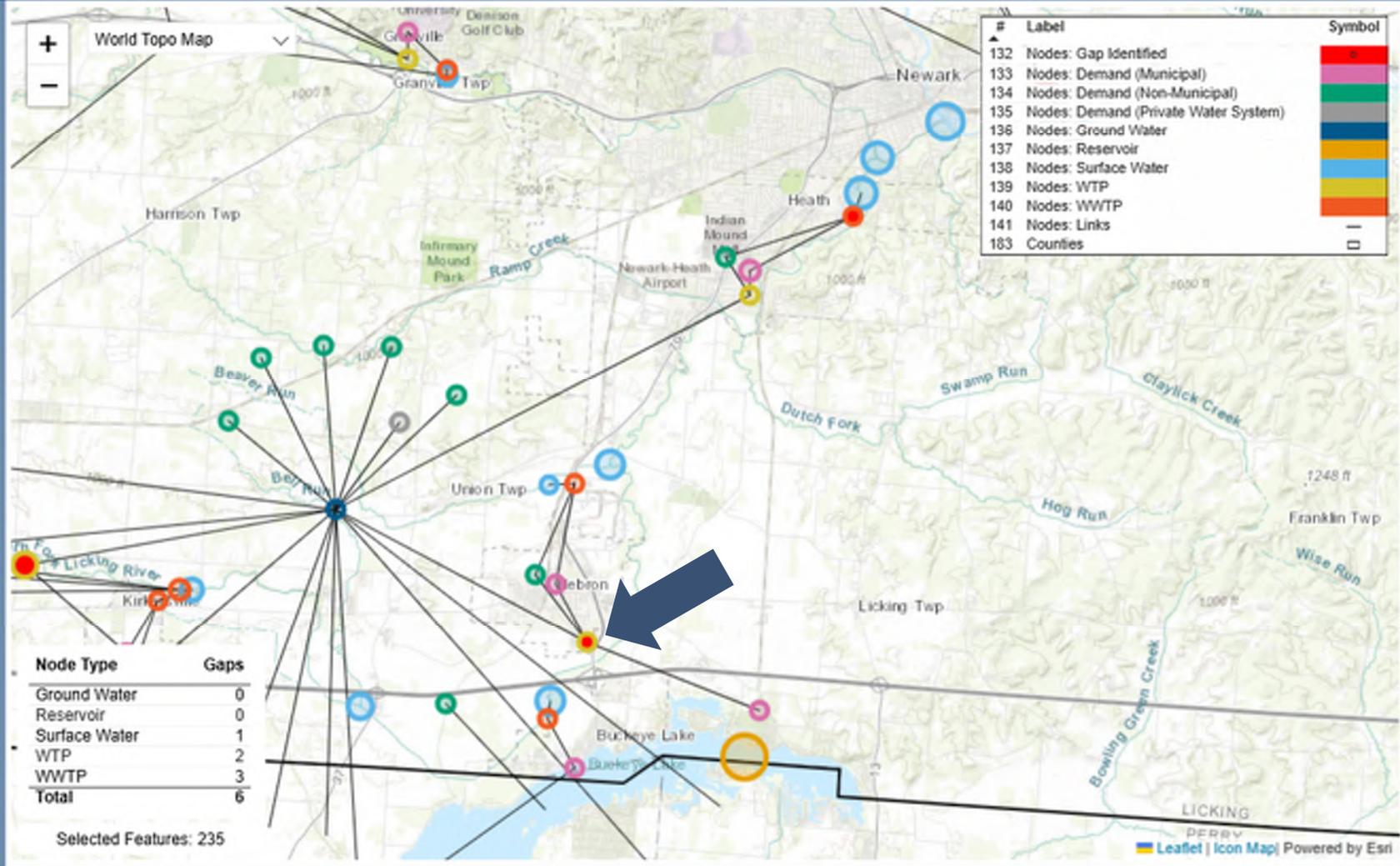
**Gaps - Temp/Precip Change** ⓘ

Moderate Change ▾

**Gaps - Demand Year** ⓘ

2040 ▾

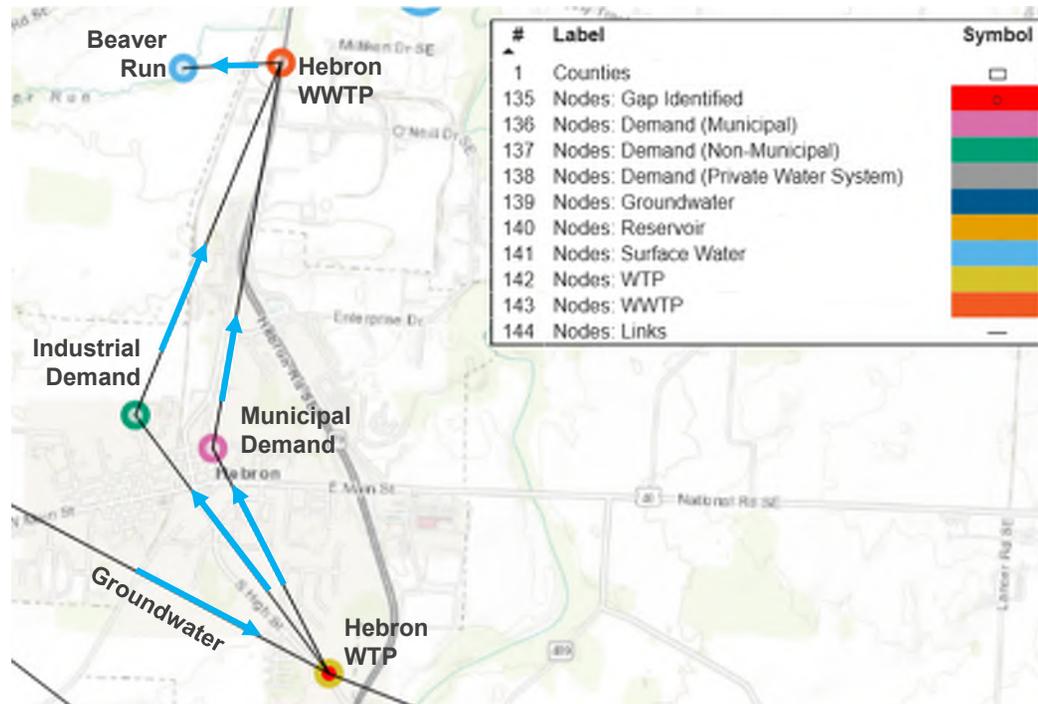
**Reset**



# Hebron Village WTP

## Overview (2040 Full Speed Ahead Scenario)

- Industry and population growth WTP driven gap. The estimated demand and capacity are the same. Ohio EPA recommends an expansion at or near 80% of a treatment plant's capacity.
- Local upgrade, reuse, and regional connections are potential solutions



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

**Layer Visibility** ⓘ

Multiple selections

**Node Visibility** ⓘ

All

Only Show Gaps ⓘ

Off

**County** ⓘ

LICKING

**Gaps - Growth Trend** ⓘ

Expected Growth Trend

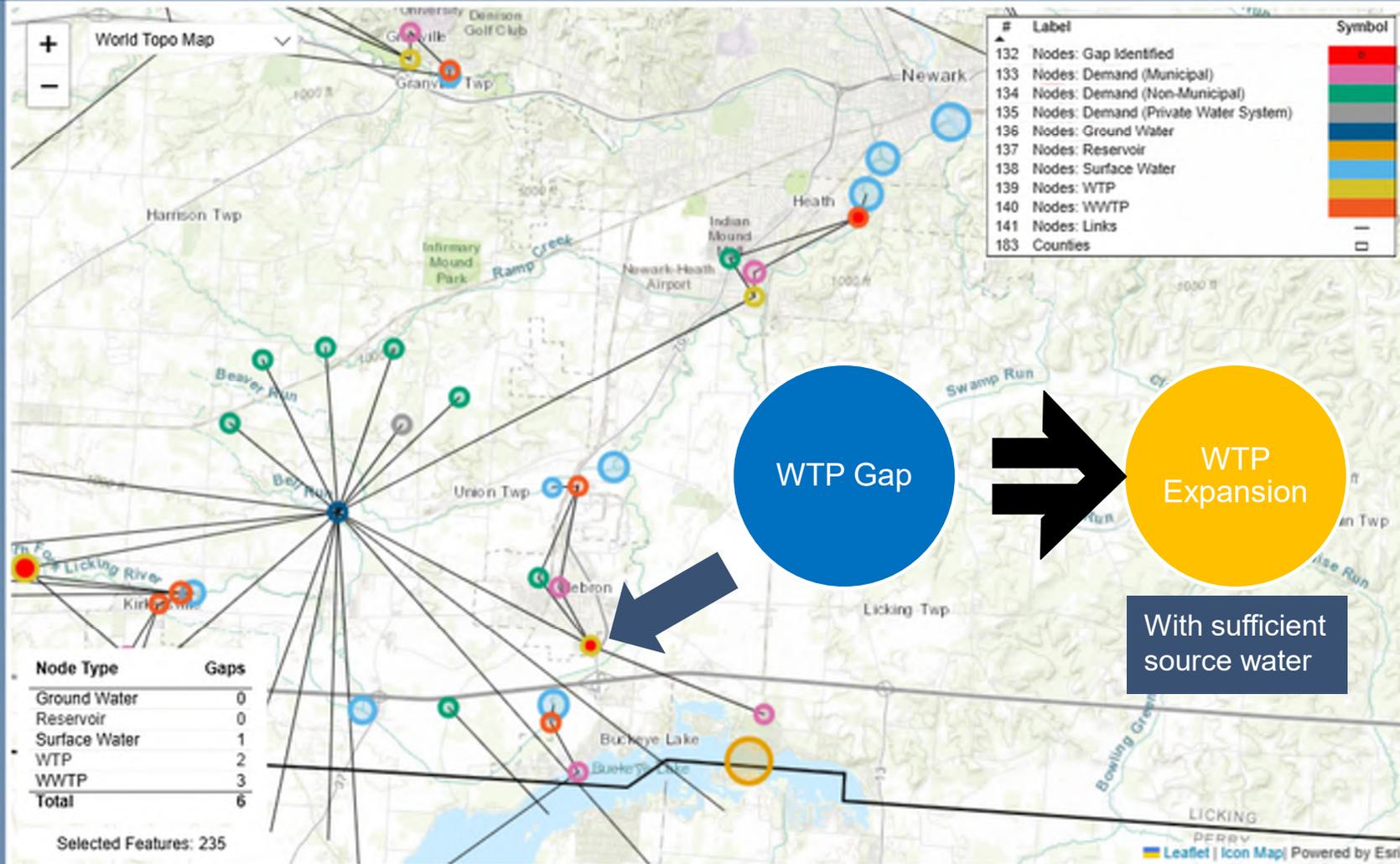
**Gaps - Temp/Precip Change** ⓘ

Moderate Change

**Gaps - Demand Year** ⓘ

2040

**Reset**



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

**Layer Visibility**

Multiple selections

**Node Visibility**

All

Only Show Gaps

Off

**County**

LICKING

**Gaps - Growth Trend**

Expected Growth Trend

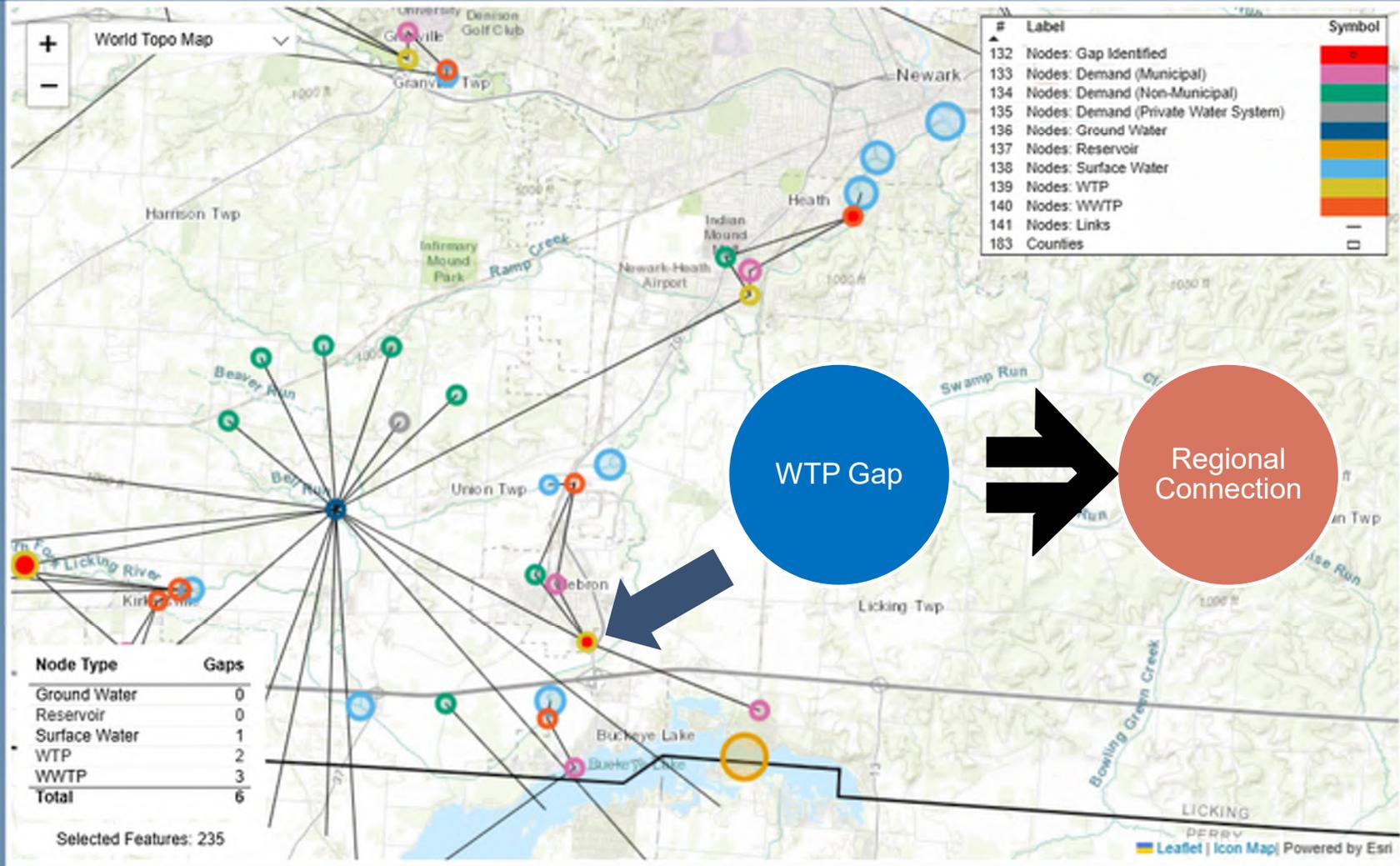
**Gaps - Temp/Precip Change**

Moderate Change

**Gaps - Demand Year**

2040

**Reset**



The drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the screen control the presentation of data on the map. Use the "Clear Selections" button in each drop-down box or the "Reset" button at the bottom of the page to clear selections. [More Info...](#)

Layer Visibility ⓘ

Multiple selections ▾

Node Visibility ⓘ

All ▾

WTP Gap

+

Water Supply Gap

+

High Industrial Demands

+

Receiving Water Sensitivities

⇒

Reuse

Gaps - Growth Trend ⓘ

Expected Growth Trend ▾

Gaps - Temp/Precip Change ⓘ

Moderate Change ▾

Gaps - Demand Year ⓘ

2040 ▾

Reset



# Hebron Village WTP

Overview (2040 Full Speed Ahead Scenario)

Project	WTP Need(s)	WWTP Need(s)	Outside Fence Need(s)	Total	O&M Relative Requirements
Expand WTP	0.5 MGD (Total Capacity, 2.66 MGD) \$23,900,000	N/A	+ Distribution	\$23,900,000	Low
Regional Interconnection (LRWD)	0.5 MGD Booster Pump Station \$4,500,000	N/A	\$6,600,000	\$11,100,000	Medium
Upgrade WWTP for Reuse	N/A	Expand and add reuse to supply industrial demand. 2.66 MGD reuse \$11,300,000	+ Conveyance	\$11,300,000	Low

	Project Cost	Favorability Across Scenarios	Favorability Across Gaps	Life Cycle Cost	Water Quality Impact	Implementation Timeline
Option A – Expand Hebron WTP	\$\$	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
Option B – Regional Interconnection(s)	\$	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Option C – Expand and add reuse	\$\$	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

# Project Resources

- Dashboard Tutorial Videos
- 15-County Overall Presentation, with Recording
- County-Level Presentations, Including Recordings
- Technical Presentations
  - Cost Curve
  - Water Quality
  - OASIS Modeling
  - SWMM Modeling

**Central Ohio Regional Water Study**

Home | Population Data | Demand Data | Cop Identification | Water Quality

### Adaptable • Integrated • Unifying

Central Ohio's economic growth, driven by development and industrial interest, is increasing demand for water resources. While Ohio has abundant water, Central Ohio has limited surface and ground water supplies that must be carefully managed. Ohio EPA and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) developed this Regional Water Study (RWS) to support a sustainable and resilient future.

This integrated water resource model assesses how development affects water resources, reuse options and ecosystem needs. By characterizing these existing and future conditions, this model helps align existing resources with economic development, identifies areas requiring water quality protection, and guides infrastructure investments. This dashboard enables Ohio to proactively plan for growth based on water availability, existing infrastructure, environmental sensitivities, and economic goals for the study's 15-county area.

To browse data and results from the RWS, select a tab in the menu at the top of the screen. For more information about the RWS and how to use this application, click [here](#).

#### Accessibility Statement

Ohio EPA and ODNR are committed to ensuring digital accessibility for all users. We strive to meet or exceed the standards set forth in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. To maintain and improve accessibility, we continuously assess our digital content and implement best practices to enhance usability for all visitors. Your feedback is essential in helping us improve accessibility. You can get assistance and report issues from any page by clicking the "Export & Technical Assistance" button in the upper right.

For additional assistance, state employees and job applicants with disabilities may contact their respective agency's ADA Coordinator to request reasonable accommodations in accordance with Ohio Administrative Policy HR-54, "Disability Inclusion and Accessibility for State of Ohio Employees and Applicants." The State's ADA Coordinators Directory can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Leaflet | Open Map! Powered by Esri

# Future Water Studies

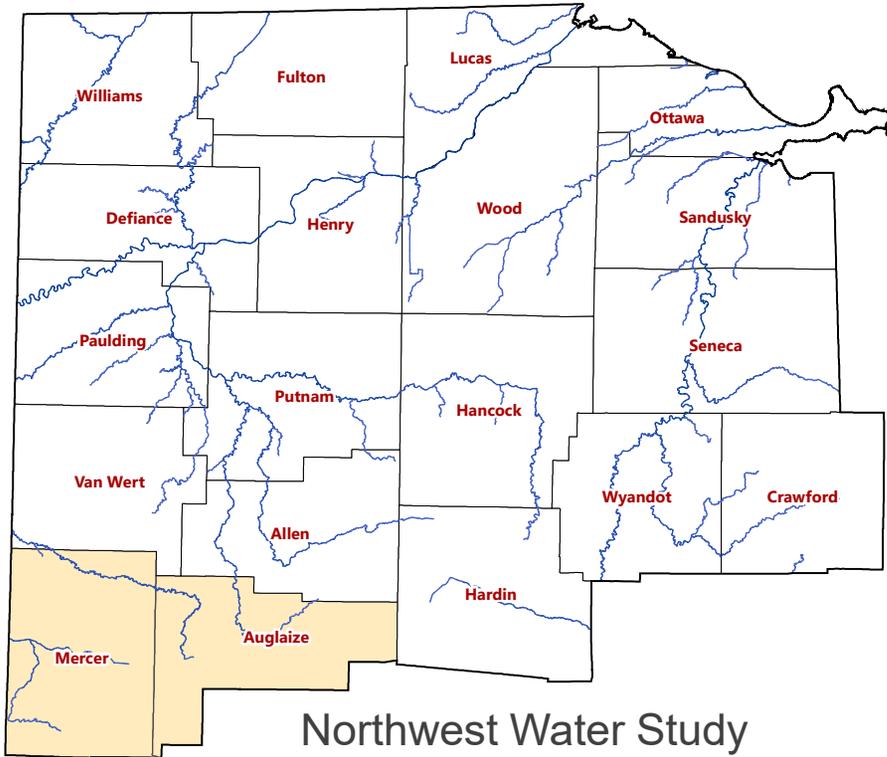


Southwest Water Study



Southeast Water Study

# Future Water Studies



# Hazen



## Central Ohio Regional Water Study

Kathleen Smith, Hazen and Sawyer  
June 16, 2025

