



AWS is building a sustainable business in California, partnering with local communities, and investing in the region's future

Our sustainability work includes enhancing energy efficiency, transitioning to carbon-free energy, reducing embodied carbon, using water responsibly, driving a circular economy, and enabling sustainability for customers.

At AWS, we focus on efficiency across all aspects of our infrastructure. We use industry-standard metrics to measure efficiency and seek the optimal balance of energy and water use.

For more information, visit the [AWS Cloud Sustainability webpage](#).

Efficiencies of Scale

Our scale allows us to achieve higher resource utilization and energy efficiency than the typical on-premises data center. A study released by Accenture and AWS estimates running optimized workloads on AWS’s infrastructure is up to **4.1 times more efficient than on-premises**.

For more information, visit the full report, “[How moving to the AWS cloud reduces carbon emissions](#).”

Key Sustainability Metrics

AWS US West (Northern California)	2023	2024	2025
Average PUE	1.17	1.18	1.18
Average WUE	---	0.51	0.39

Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) and Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE) (in liters per kilowatt-hour) for data centers operated by AWS between January 1 and December 31 of each year.

Water Stewardship in California

OVERVIEW

ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Water Replenishment: Central Valley

- We are working with River Partners to restore native ecosystems in California's Central Valley — reconnecting rivers to floodplains, retiring agricultural irrigation to conserve water, enhancing habitat for threatened salmon species, and improving flood management. This project is expected to generate 1.6 billion liters of volumetric water benefits annually by 2027.

Minimizing Water Use

- In our US West (Northern California) Region, we switched from a traditional cooling system to a direct evaporative cooling system, reducing annual water use by 85%. Given California's water challenges, every drop saved makes a difference.
- These data centers use recycled water or reclaimed wastewater for cooling instead of potable water. After running through the cooling system, the water returns to the wastewater facility for treatment and reuse.

Our Water Positive Commitment

In 2025, AWS withdrew 154,160,322 liters of water in California. We are committed to being water positive by 2030, meaning we will return more water to communities than we use in our direct operations. As of the end of 2025, we were 75% of the way towards this goal. To learn more, see the [Amazon Water spotlight page](#).



Carbon-Free Energy

In 2025, BloombergNEF again recognized Amazon as one of the world's leading corporate purchasers of carbon-free energy, in addition to building the largest carbon-free energy portfolio of any corporation globally.

We have invested in over 700 carbon-free energy projects in 28 countries, with the capacity to generate 40+ gigawatts of electricity.

Building and Revitalizing Infrastructure

Investment in California's clean energy economy: The Baldy Mesa Solar and Storage Project in Adelanto, CA represents our investment in battery energy storage paired with solar generation.

Ratepayer Protection Pledge: Amazon signed the White House Ratepayer Protection Pledge (March 2026) — committing to fully pay data center energy costs including new generation and grid upgrades, negotiating separate rate structures with utilities and state governments, and ensuring AI data center growth does not increase household electricity costs for American families.



Community Impact

Southern California wildfire relief: Amazon donated \$10 million in January 2025 to support wildfire response, including 550,000 items from its Wildfire Disaster Relief Hub. Our cloud technology, including drone support, helped emergency responders quickly assess and react to wildfire conditions.

AWS scholarships: For high school seniors in designated California districts where we have data center operations, supporting students pursuing higher education in cloud and technology fields.



Investing in California

\$240+ billion invested in California since 2010, including infrastructure and compensation to our employees

\$6.5 billion invested in data center infrastructure in California from 2022 through 2025

\$3.8 billion estimated total gross domestic product (GDP) contributed to California from 2022 through 2025

150,000+ full- and part-time employees in California across Amazon

1,950+ estimated average full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs* supported at local businesses annually in California as part of our investment in data center infrastructure

*This study is conducted in part based on the IMPLAN methodology. Note the IMPLAN resource page that provides guidance on interpreting direct, indirect, and induced effects.