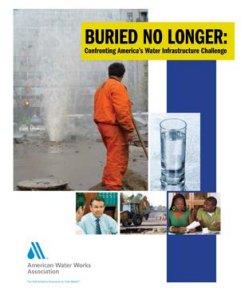


# DIPRA Facts & Figures

## Buried No Longer: Confronting America's Water Infrastructure Challenge

A report by the American Water Works Association

With critical water pipes and fittings aging past the century mark in some American cities, the nation has no choice but to face up to its massive infrastructure needs. Policy decisions worth tens of billions of dollars are being made at the local, state and federal levels as we tackle our water infrastructure challenge. Not only are millions of miles of pipe in need of replacement, we must invest in additional piping to meet the changing demands of a growing nation. According to a study by the American Water Works Association (AWWA), over the next 25 years the United States must invest more than \$1 trillion in underground water infrastructure. That amount grows to more than \$1.7 trillion over the next 40 years. Delaying the investment will only increase the cost and increase the likelihood of disastrous and costly mishaps.



There is more iron pipe in service in the U.S. than any other pipe material, and Ductile Iron Pipe has the longest service life of any material on the market today.

Most of our existing water infrastructure consists of Ductile and cast iron pipe. In service to more than 600 utilities throughout the U.S. and Canada, cast iron pipe has proven its ability to last at least 100 years, often withstanding harsh operating conditions it was never designed to experience. Modern Ductile Iron Pipe is even stronger than cast iron and with modern advances in engineering, metallurgy and manufacturing can be expected to exceed the performance of cast iron pipe.

The data used to write this report came from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the water industry, the U.S. Census Bureau, the AWWA Water Stats Database, and the 2002 Public Works Infrastructure Survey. Utilities of all sizes from areas throughout the United States participated in this study.

According to those utilities of all sizes and locations, the average design service life for Ductile Iron Pipe installed using "evolved laying practices" (such as polyethylene encasement) is at least 105 years.

It is clear that utilities that engage in proper installation techniques have had impressive experiences with their Ductile Iron Pipelines. Ductile Iron Pipe requires little if any maintenance, resists corrosion, and has the lowest annual pumping costs of available substitutes, saving American households thousands of dollars. Having as much as 90% recycled content, Ductile Iron Pipe is itself a 100% recyclable material.

Investing in Ductile Iron Pipe as the long-term solution to our water infrastructure needs makes sense. To read the AWWA study, go to [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org) and click on the "Buried No Longer" link on their homepage.

For details about the benefits of Ductile Iron Pipe or the Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association visit [www.dipra.org](http://www.dipra.org)



**Strength** and **Durability** for **Life**®

