

Unregulated Dams in the NID

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The National Inventory of Dams (NID) is a congressionally authorized database documenting dams in the United States and its territories. The NID is maintained and published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The database includes information about the dam's location, size, purpose, type, last inspection and regulatory facts. The 2016 NID includes 90,580 dams provided by the state and federal dam safety agencies. Approximately 70 percent of the NID dams are privately owned and 17 percent are high hazard potential, which means there is potential loss of life due to failure or mis-operation of the dam.

The state dam safety agencies reported on 93 percent of these dams and the federal agencies seven percent. Not all dams provided by the state dam safety offices are regulated at the state level. For all dams in the NID, 24 percent are listed as not regulated. For the 15,498 high hazard potential dams, 77 percent are regulated at the state level, 15 percent at the federal level and eight percent are not regulated. Sixty-four percent of the non-regulated high hazard potential dams are located in Alabama and Missouri. This presentation will focus on these unregulated high hazard potential dams and discuss their details such as location, size, purpose, owner, EAP status and inspection dates.