

NSF's McMurdo Station

U.S. Antarctic Program



Opened in 1956 as part of Operation Deep Freeze.
Named after its location in McMurdo Sound.

Population

Up to 1,100 people during a week in the summer.

Up to 200 people during a week in the winter.

2,300 people move through annually.

147,956 meals served a year.

Size

Largest of the USAP stations.

49 acres, plus 2 airfields.

146 buildings, totaling 632,174 square feet.

Oldest building is 65 years old. Average age of all buildings: **39.7 years.**

32 fuel tanks with 17,580,000-gallon capacity.

Fleet

300 vehicles, plus 140 snowmobiles and ATVs.

Oldest vehicle is **40 years old.**

Average age of all vehicles: **20 years.**

Vehicles drive **65,620 miles** per year.

32 miles of roadway in and around the station.

McMurdo Station
Peter Rejcek, NSF



Utility/Services

Electric:
Uses ~1M gallons of fuel annually.

From 5 USAP generators, and 3 generators and Wind Farm from **NZ Scott Base:**

150,000 linear feet of electric cable.

Waste:
4,628,827 pounds total generated annually.
280 containers shipped home annually. 60% of annual waste is recycled.

Water:
10,370,000 gallons annually from two reverse osmosis units.
50,000 gallons per day in the summer; **20,000** in the winter.

Sewage:
7,002,000 gallons per year.

35,000 average gallons per day.

Pipe:
95,500 linear feet.

Fuel:
Annual fuel consumption: **1,418,600 gallons.**

Telecommunications

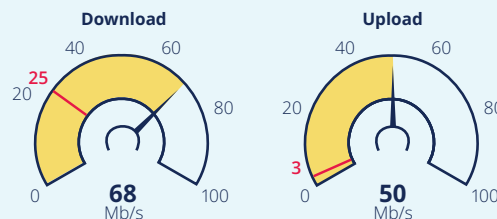
Approximately **3,000 IT devices.**

2 satellites serving the station.

24 hours a day internet coverage.

U.S.: one broadband connection per household.
Antarctica: one broadband connection per 100 to 1,000 people.

McMurdo Station internet speed:



*Per Federal Communications Commission, "broadband" delivers download speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (or Mb/s) and upload speeds of at least 3 Mb/s.

