

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

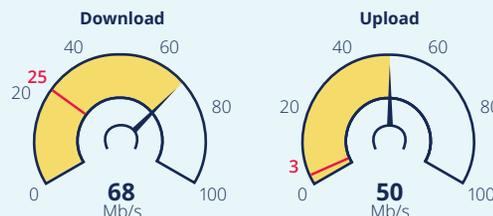
 Approximately **3,000 IT devices.**

 **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.

