ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS
ANNUAL DATA FOR 2020

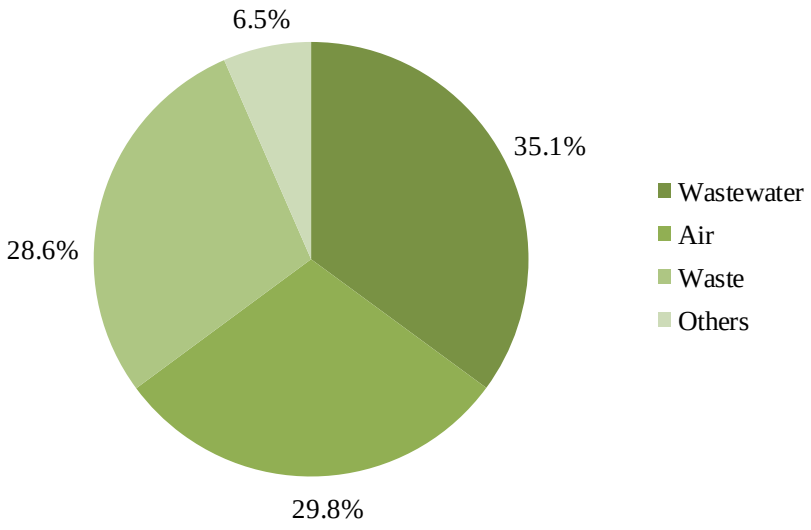
1. Tangible fixed assets with ecological use

The tangible fixed assets with ecological use (TFA with ecological use) are a part of the total tangible fixed assets within the country. They are distributed by environmental domains: wastewater, protection of ambient air, soil and ground water, biodiversity and protected areas and sites, hunting and fishing projects, waste treatment, noise and others.

In 2020, the share of TFA with ecological use at the end of the year by accounting value amounts to 4.8% of the total tangible fixed assets available in the country.

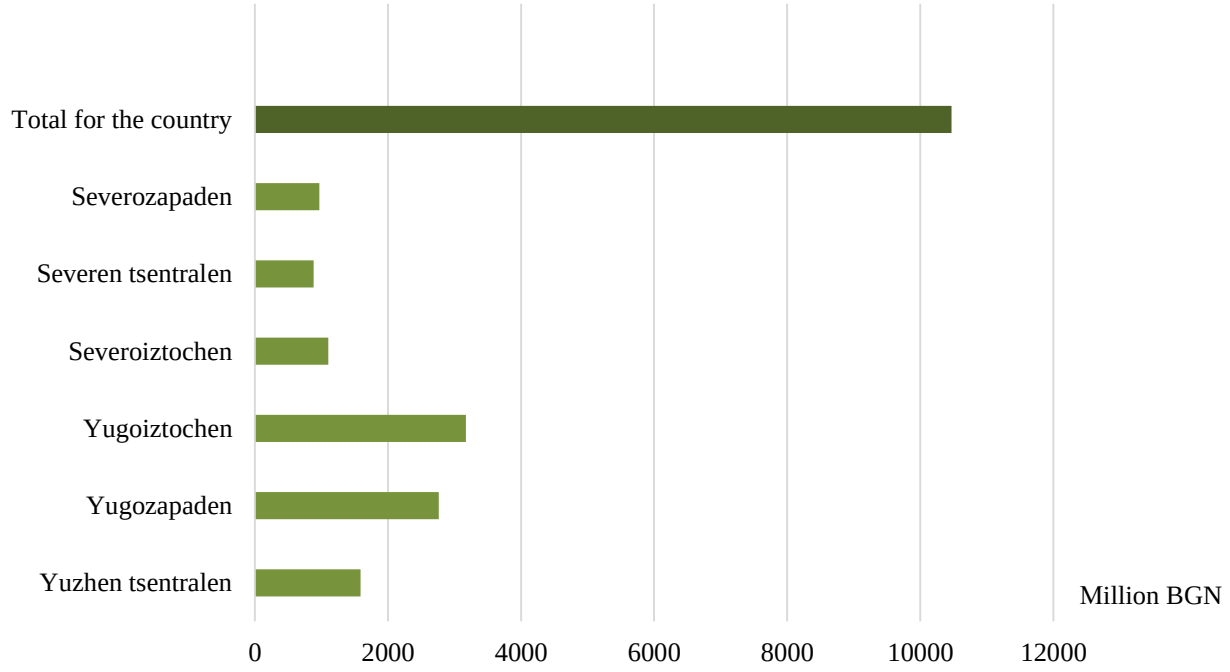
At the end of 2020, the total value of the TFA with ecological use amounted to 10 468 million BGN and is distributed by the main environmental domains as follows: for wastewater treatment (industrial and urban wastewater treatment plants, sewerage network, etc.) - 35.1%, followed by the facilities for air protection - 29.8% and for waste treatment - 28.6%. There is no significant change in the relative share of assets distributed by environmental domains compared to previous years.

Figure 1.1. Availability of tangible fixed assets with ecological use by environmental domains as of 31 December 2020



Regional data for the available TFA with ecological use at the end of 2020 shows that the biggest amount is in the Yugoiztochen region of the country (3 169.7 million BGN) and the smallest amount is accounted in the Severen tsentralen region (880.4 million BGN).

Figure 1.2. Availability of tangible fixed assets with ecological use by statistical regions as of 31 December 2020



The total amount of the acquired tangible fixed assets with ecological use in 2020 is 495.6 million BGN. The prevailing part of them is related to: wastewater discharge and treatment - 34.6%, air protection - 29.4% and waste treatment - 27.6%. In other environmental domains, fixed assets with ecological use, acquired during the year, amount to 42.1 million BGN (8.5%).

The breakdown of the data by economic activity for 2020 shows that significant part of TFA with ecological use is concentrated in the industry sector: 6 101.6 million BGN (58.3%) of those available at the end of the year and 229.1 million BGN (46.2%) of those acquired in the country. The majority of the acquired tangible fixed assets with ecological use are accounted in the economic sectors: 'Mining and quarrying and manufacturing' - 32%, 'Sewerage, energy production, water supply' - 8.5% and 'Waste management and remediation activities' (specialized producers of EP services) - 5.5%.

In the category other activities (services sector, including general government sector), the TFA with ecological use available at the end of the year are estimated to 4 347.3 million BGN (41.5%) and brought into operation (acquired during the year) - 264.1 million BGN (53.3%).

Methodological notes

The purpose of this statistical survey is to obtain information about the availability and movement of the tangible fixed assets with ecological use (TFA with ecological use). The tangible fixed assets with ecological use include:

- facilities, installations and equipment necessary for environmental protection and recovery by use (water resources, air, soil, waste disposal, protection from noise);
- monitoring and control equipment.

The tangible fixed assets with ecological use do not include the equipment for preserving air quality, and noise and vibration reduction in the working premises, i.e. labour protection activities. The tangible fixed assets with ecological use are a part of the total tangible fixed assets within the country.

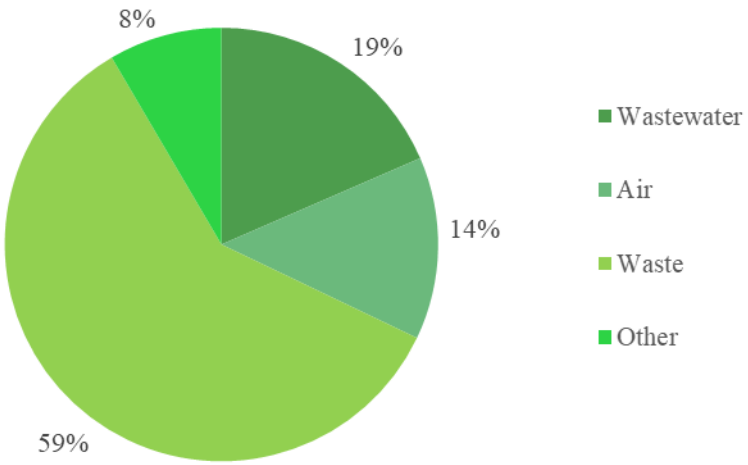
2. Expenditure for protection and restoration of the environment

Environmental protection and damage repairs require additional resources. The amount of funds is a key indicator of the measures taken by society and the state to reduce the negative impact of socio-economic processes on the environment.

The expenditures for environmental protection and restoration are part of the total expenditure of tangible and intangible fixed assets. In 2020, the share of expenditure available at the end of the year for acquisition of tangible and intangible fixed assets with ecological purpose amounts to 2.8% of the total expenditure for acquisition of tangible and intangible fixed assets in the country.

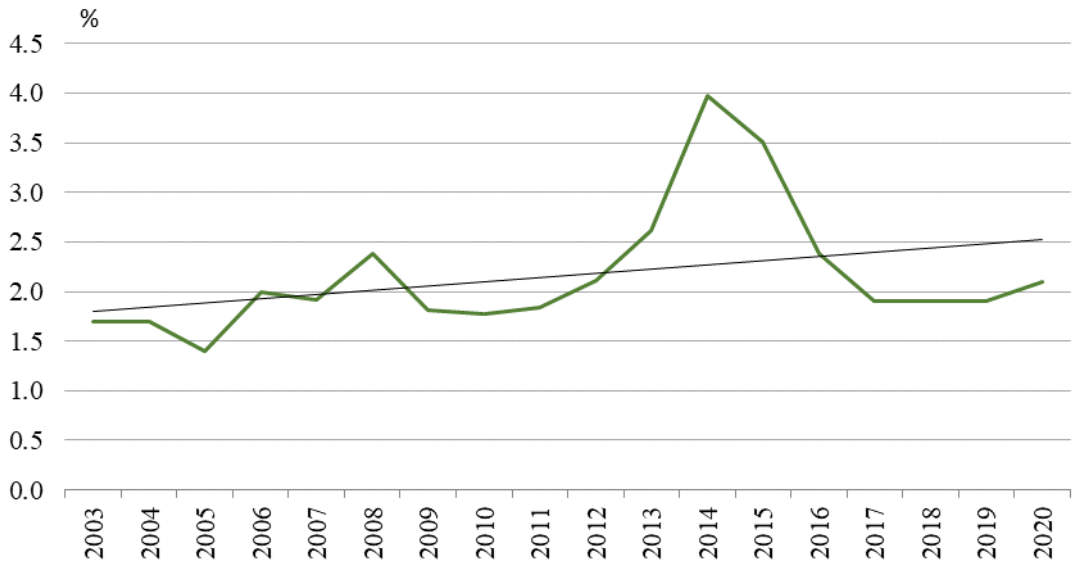
The incurred environmental expenditures (investments and current expenditure) are estimated at 2 467 million BGN and are allocated to environmental areas - wastewater (19%), air protection (14%), waste treatment (59%) and others (8%). Current expenditure has a predominant share in the total environmental expenditure (73.5%). Most of the total expenditures were incurred for air protection, waste collection, treatment and disposal and wastewater treatment and discharge.

Figure 2.1. Structures of Environmental protection and recovery expenditures in 2020 by use



The share of the expenditures for environmental protection and restoration from the produced gross domestic product (GDP) is 2.1% and is a main criteria for measures taken by society and the state to reduce environmental pressure.

Figure 2.2. Share of environmental protection and recovery expenditures of GDP



Methodological notes

The methodology was developed in 2014, in accordance with the requirements of the European Economic Accounts for the Environment (Regulation EU No. 691/2011), and in accordance with the Law on Accountancy and the National Chart of Accounts in Bulgaria.

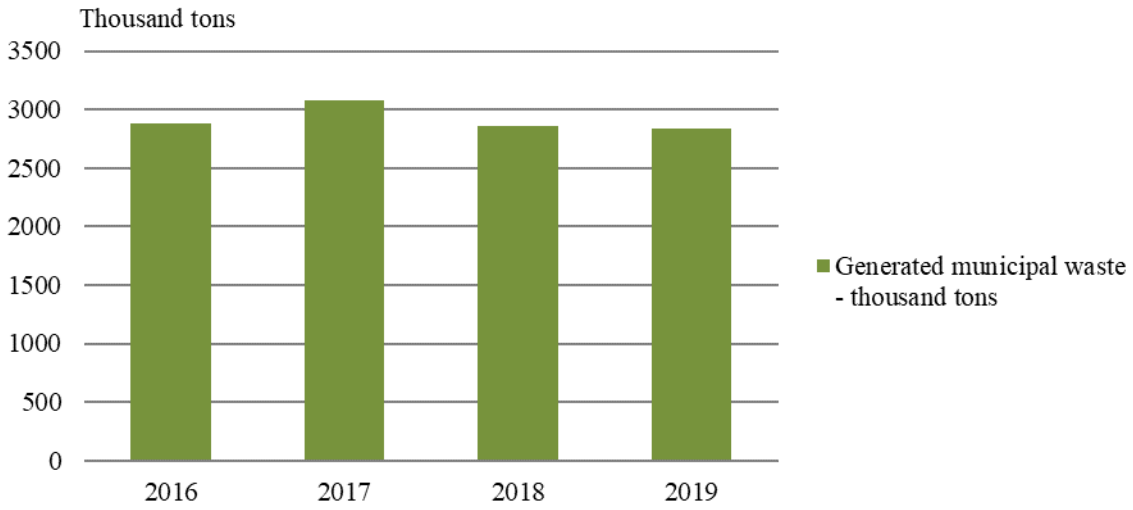
There are two types of expenditures on the acquisition of tangible fixed assets (FTA) under EU Structural Business Statistics (SBS) Regulation 295/2008:

- specialized end-of-pipe facilities - facilities that do not participate in the production process and serve only to reduce pollution from production;
- integrated technologies - elements of the production process/technology that result in less environmental pollution than other similar ones. Often the equipment is fully integrated into the production process and cannot be identified as a separate component. In this case, only the estimated share of the total investment related to the choice of environmentally friendly technology is taken into account.

3. Municipal waste

In 2019, the quantity of generated municipal waste is evaluated to 2 838 thousand tons, maintaining almost the same level compared to 2018 (2 862 thousand tons).

Figure 3.1. Generated municipal waste



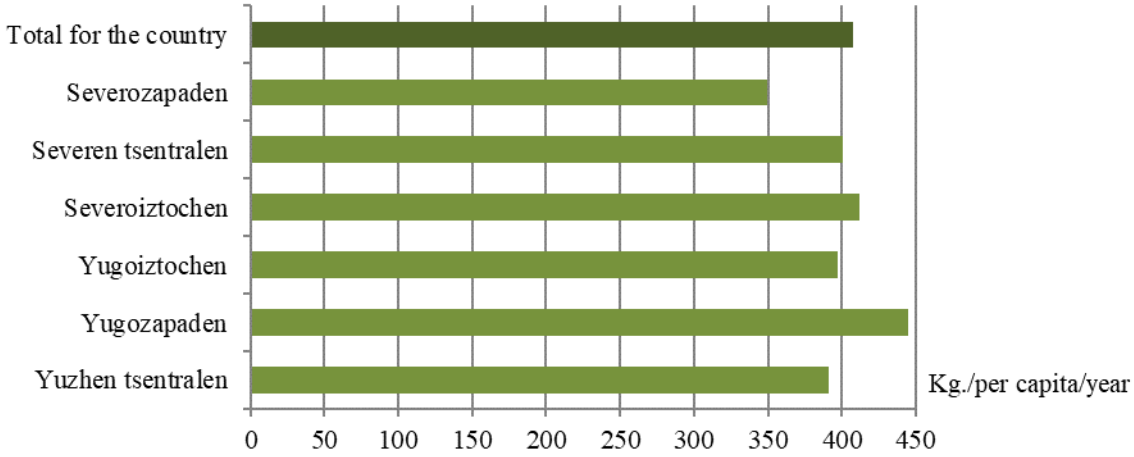
Regional waste management systems continue to be built, while at the same time the landfills constructed in the past that do not meet environmental requirements are being closed. The total number of registered landfills in operation in 2019 are 69, some of them being facilities of the regional waste management systems.

Organized waste collection and disposal systems are being introduced increasingly in settlements, with the total number reaching 4 723 in 2019. At national level in 2019, the relative share of the population, covered by waste management systems, remained at the same level as the previous year - 99.8% of the total population.

Waste generated on average per capita shows the pressure on the environment. In 2019, the amount of waste generated in the country is estimated on average 407 kg/per capita - the same level as 2018.

Regional data shows that in 2019 the leading region in the country in collected municipal waste per capita is the Yugozapaden region (444 kg/capita/year) and the last one - Severozapaden region (359 kg/capita/year).

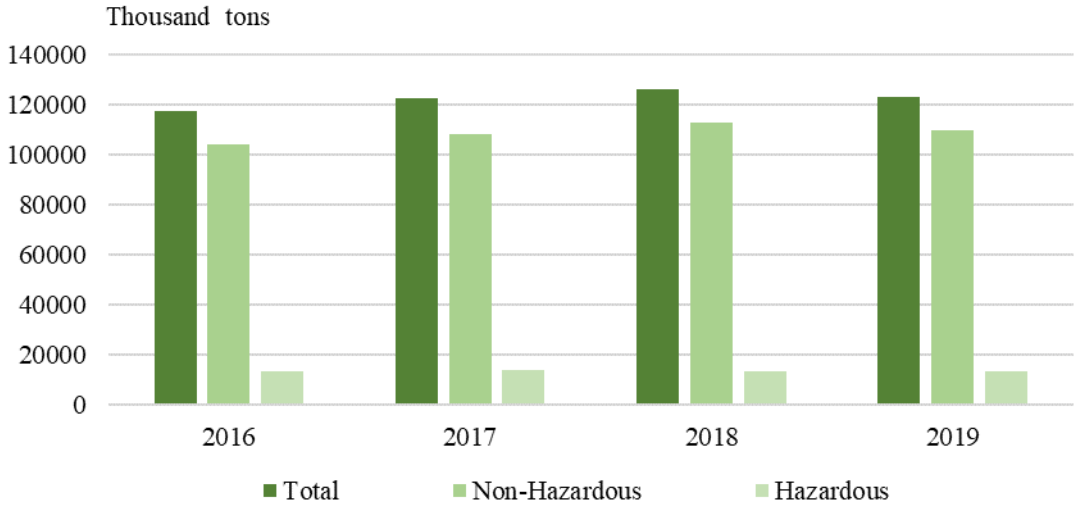
Figure 3.2. Municipal waste collected on average per capita by statistical regions in 2019



4. Waste from economic activity

Generated waste from economic activity in 2019 is 123 148 thousand tons. The non-hazardous waste is 109 654 thousand tons and the hazardous waste is 13 494 thousand tons. There is no significant change in the generated waste quantities compared to the previous years.

Figure 4.1. Generated industrial and hazardous waste total for the country

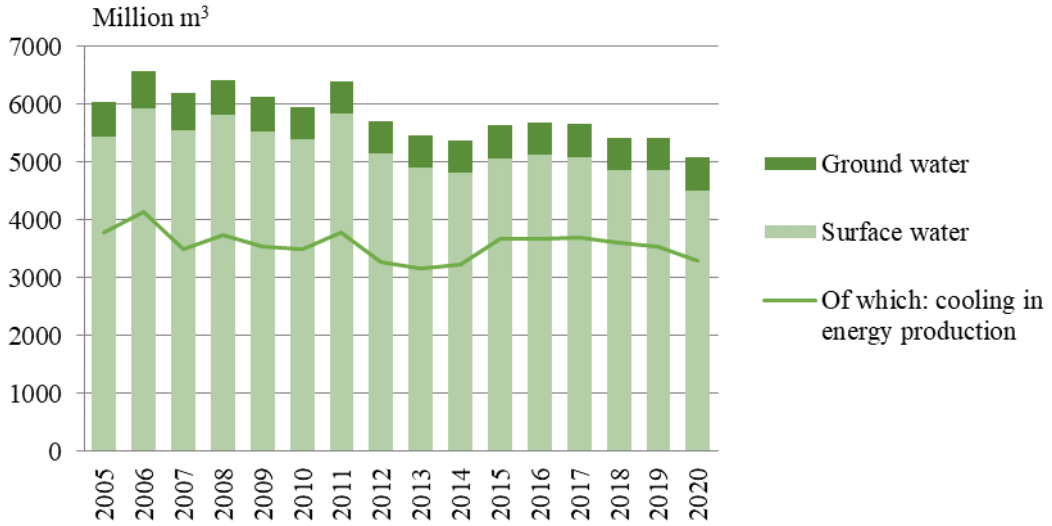


5. Water statistic

Water abstraction

In year 2020, 5 077 million cubic meters of fresh water are abstracted in the country, which is 6.4% less than in 2019. Surface water abstracted have been decreased with 7.1%, and form 88.9% of freshwater abstracted. Water abstraction for cooling processes in the energy sector has decreased with 7.2% to 3 288 million cubic meters. They are 64.8% from abstracted fresh water. The abstracted ground water is estimated at 561 million cubic meters and they are nearly the same level as 2019 - 562 million cubic meters. The main part from groundwater abstracted - 81.1% are for the purposes of public water supply (PWS).

Figure 5.1. Fresh water abstraction (excluding water for hydropower generation)

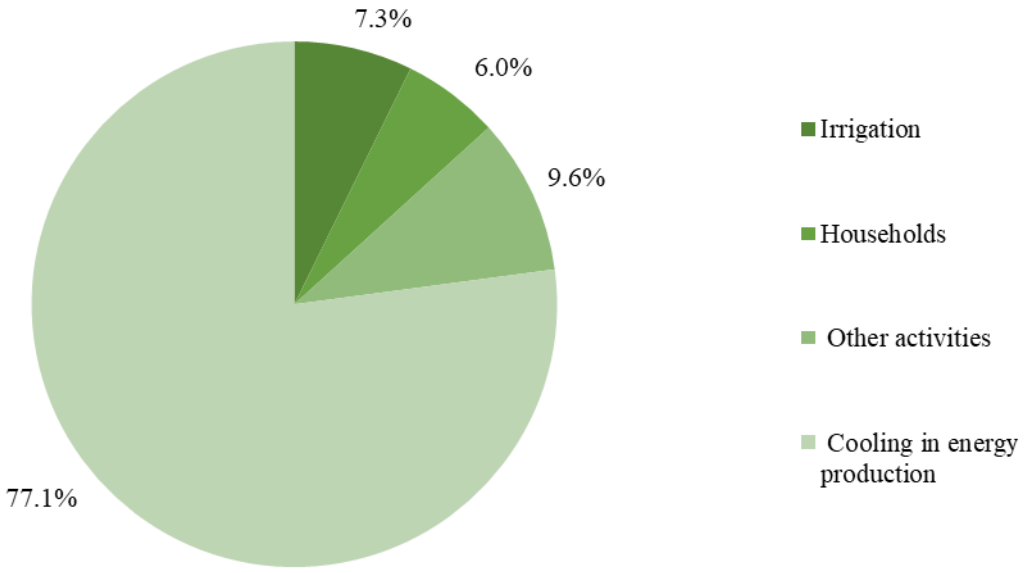


Part of abstracted water is delivered to the end users and the rest is water losses (leakages, evaporation, unauthorized consumption, measurement errors etc.).

Water used

Water is provided through public water supply, irrigation systems, self-supply or others. The total use of freshwater and non-freshwater in the country in 2020 is estimated at 4 310 million m^3 which is a decrease with 5.9% compare to the previous year. The energy sector cooling water comprises the main share of the total water usage in the country - 77.1%.These waters are provided mainly by own supply and after usage they are usually returned back to the source. The quantity of water used for irrigation in 2020 is 314 million m^3 (306 million m^3 in 2019). Water used by the households in 2020 is 257 million m^3, which is with 3% more than previous year.

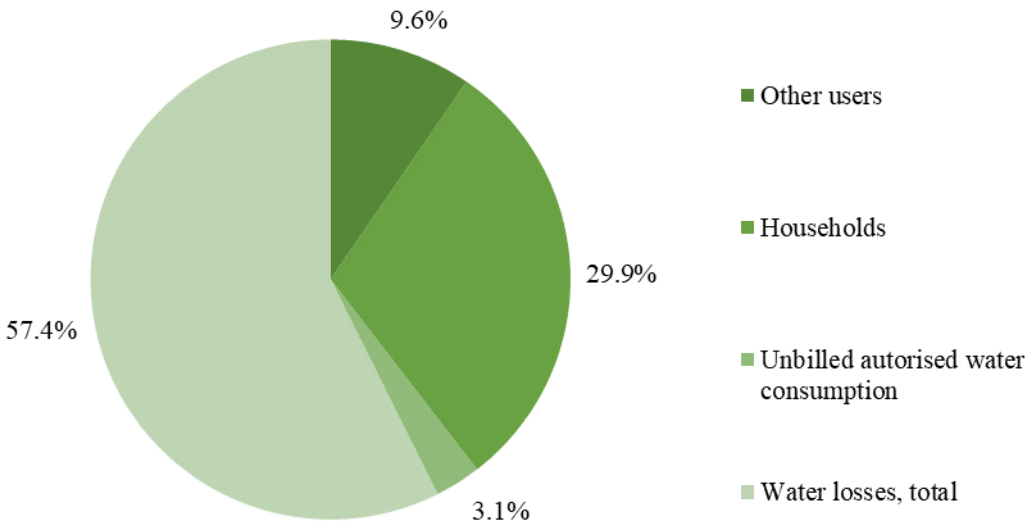
Figure 5.2. Structure of water used by purpose 2020



Public water supply (PWS)

The amount of water supplied by PWS in 2020 is 858.5 million m^3, which is with 3.6% less than previous year. The delivered water to end users (billed) in 2020 amounts for 39.5% of the supplied water and the unbilled water delivered - 3.1% (for technological, fireproof and other purposes). The total water losses in 2020 are estimated at 492.5 million m^3 or 57.4% of the supplied water. The main part of the losses is in the water transport (real losses) which in 2020 are estimated at 415.3 million cubic meters.

Figure 5.3. Structure of Water supplied from PWS in 2020



The total length of the water supply network (operated by PWS) in 2020 is 76 174 km. According to the material of the pipes, Eternit pipes have the main share - 65.3%, Steel pipes 14% and Polyethylene pipes - 13.7%.

Methodological note

Water statistic reflects different quantitative aspects of water abstraction, water supply and water use by economy and households, wastewater treatment and discharge into water bodies.

Information on water abstraction makes it possible to identify the main sources and to quantify the distribution of water use between different activities.