



ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

Annual data for 2010

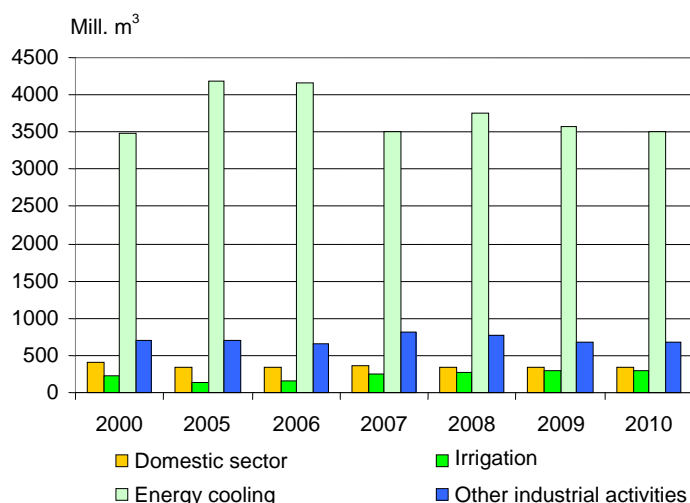
The National Statistical Institute presents to the users results from annual surveys in the domain of environmental statistics for 2010. More detailed data are placed under the heading "Environment" on the NSI web page: <http://www.nsi.bg>

1. WATER

The total freshwater abstracted for the economy in 2010 is evaluated to 5 960 million m³ which constitutes about 5.7% of the country's freshwater resources. This ratio defines the water exploitation index. According to literary sources, the warning threshold that distinguishes regions without stress from those with a shortage of water is 20%. Bulgaria is among the European countries with relatively low water exploitation index.

In 2010 the water abstraction from fresh surface waters and groundwater decreased to 97% of 2009 level. About 44% of abstracted fresh water in 2010 were from the Danube River and primarily used for cooling in energy production. Total water used by supply and self-supply in 2010 was 4 821 million m³, which is about 2% less than in 2009. The structure of the water use remains unchanged - 73% of water is used for cooling in energy, 14% - for other industrial activities, for irrigation - 6%, and in the domestic sector (households and services) - 7%. Compared to 2009 a decrease is registered in industrial use (by 1.5%) and water for irrigation (by 4%).

Figure 1. Water used by activities



The drinking water supplied to the households in 2010 was 264 million m³, or on average 97 l/day/per capita (by about 2 litres less than in 2009). The data show significant regional differences - with the highest consumption is the district of Sofia cap. (140 l/day/per capita), and with the lowest - the district of Targovishte (58 l/day/per capita).



In 2010, the reported by the water supply sector total losses of water amount to 973 million m³, which is 57.6% of the passed water volume (59.2% in 2009). The predominant part of PWSs' water supply network is of asbestos cement (72%) and steel pipes (15%). About 90% of the network is built by 1990 and 2.4% - during the period 2006 - 2010.

In 2010, point sources generated 462 million m³ wastewater and 3 245 million m³ processed water from cooling processes, which together constitute 78% of water used. About 68% of the generated domestic and industrial wastewater were treated in own or urban wastewater treatment plants (2009 - 66%).

The collected water into public sewage system (from point and non-point sources) is estimated at 585 million m³, of which 83% had entered into urban wastewater treatment plants (UWWTP). In 2010, 8 new UWWTP with secondary treatment came into operation, by which another approximately 171 thousand people were covered. Thus, the share of population connected to the UWWTP increased from 45.2% in 2009 to 47.6% in 2010.

According to current statistics, sewage network operated by Public Water Supply partnerships and municipalities with organized discharge of municipal wastewater in UWWTP covers 70.6% of the country's population. The majority of the sewage network is of concrete pipes (92%) and was built by 1990 (87%).

2. MUNICIPAL WASTE

Municipal waste is the waste resulting from the activities of people in homes, administrative, social and public buildings. Included here is also the waste from commercial outlets, crafts, resort and entertainment facilities, which is non-hazardous, and at the same time, which quantity or composition will not obstruct to be treated together with the household waste.

In 2010 the total generated municipal waste was estimated to 3 091 thousand tons.

By municipal administrations' data in 2010 totally 3 067 thousand tons of municipal waste have been collected by organized waste collection on landfills. Of them 3 041 thousand tons have been landfilled, and 26 thousand tons - delivered for recycling. In 2010 the collected construction waste at municipal landfill sites amounts to 380 thousand tons. The quantity of collected municipal waste is assessed by means of direct measurement and in case of lack of weighing equipment - on the basis of transport documents.

Building up regional landfills for municipal waste continues and at the same time landfills built in the past, which do not respond to the ecological requirements, are closed down. In 2010 the number of municipal waste landfills is 172, of which - 30 regional.

The implementation of organized waste collection systems in new settlements led to an increase of the population served by municipal waste collection systems, share of which achieved 98.2% in 2010 (96.6% in 2009). In 2010 the number of served settlements was 4 238 or by 250 more compared to 2009. At the same time in 2010 the quantity of collected municipal waste per capita of served population is estimated to 404 kg annually.



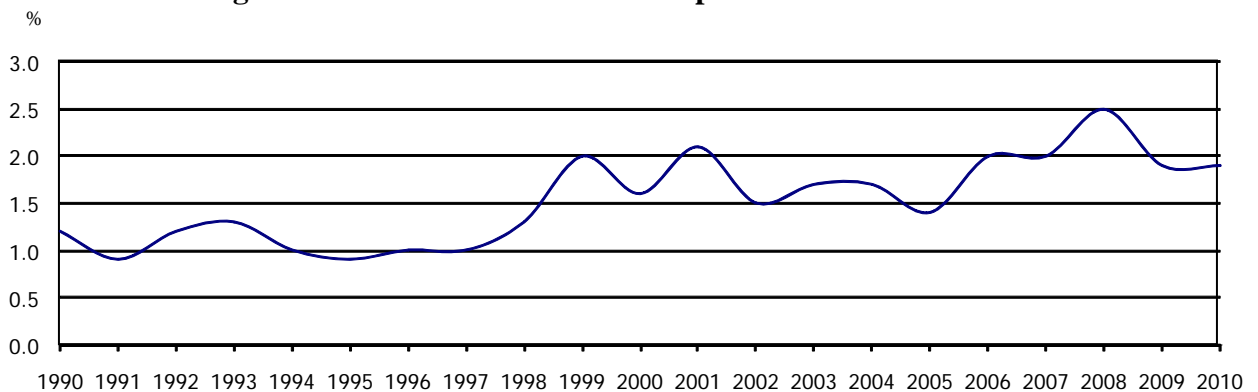
3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION EXPENDITURE AND TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT

3.1. Expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment

The necessity to protect the environment from pollution and elimination of damages requires additional resources. The amount of these funds is a key indicator about the measures which society and the state undertake to reduce the negative impact of socio-economic processes on the environment.

In 2010 1 329 million levs were spent on protection and restoration of the environment. There is no significant change compared to the previous year and therefore the share of environmental expenditure as a percent of GDP is considered the more appropriate indicator for the purposes of comparison. Both in 2010 and in 2009 it was 1.9%.

Figure 2. Share of environmental expenditure of GDP



Environmental expenditure includes two components: expenditure on maintenance, and expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets. In 2010, similarly to the previous 2009, current expenditure on maintenance has a predominant share (58.9%) in the expenditure's structure, while that of investment is smaller (41.1%).

In 2010 the total expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment is allocated by major directions of ecological use in a following way: the greatest is the share of the expenditure on waste disposal and recovery (55.1%), followed by the share of expenditure on water resources (18.5%), and the expenditure on preserving air purity (10.9%).

3.2. Tangible fixed assets with ecological use

At the end of 2010 the availability of tangible fixed assets with ecological use amounts to 4 053 million levs. The available fixed assets with ecological use are allocated by basic directions of ecological use as follows: for air preserving - 34.1%, for water resources' preserving - 30.7% and for waste - 19.7%.