



ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

Annual data for 2012

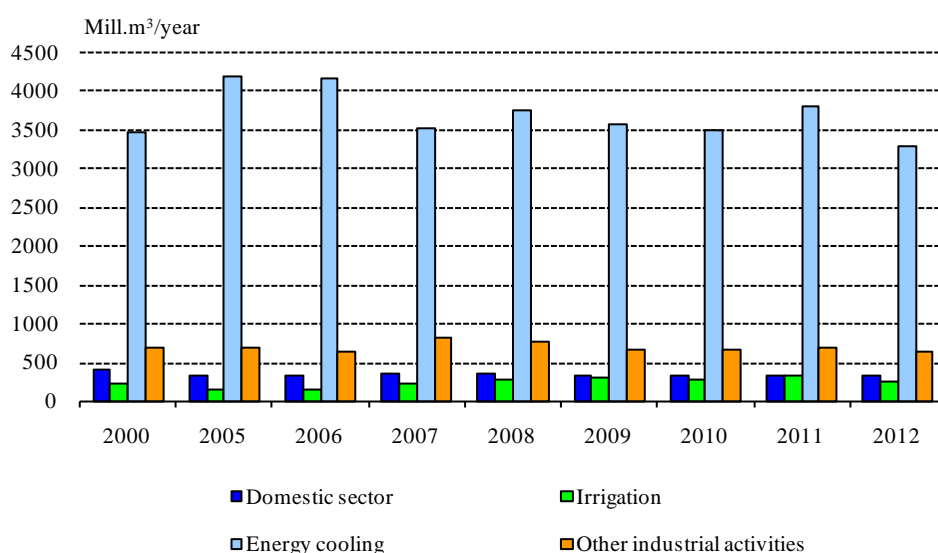
The National Statistical Institute presents to the users results from annual surveys in the domain of environmental statistics for 2012. More detailed data on specific topics are placed under the heading "Environment" on the NSI web page: <http://www.nsi.bg>

1. Water

The level of water abstraction is determined by the structure and intensity of the economy and the climate conditions. In 2012, a decline of water abstraction was registered compared to the relatively dry 2011. Total fresh water abstraction for the economy in 2012 is estimated at 5 715 million m³, which is the lowest level since 2000. Water abstracted from surface sources reduced (88% of the volume in 2011), while the abstraction of groundwater increased - by about 4% compared to the previous year. Registered drop is formed mainly by the water used for cooling in the energy production and water abstraction for irrigation.

At second place after energy production, the most significant decline is registered in the demand of water for irrigation - from 322 million m³ in 2011 to 262 million m³ in 2012, which is mainly due to climatic conditions and the reduction of areas under water-intensive crops. The structure, however, is relatively stable - about 72% of the total water used (4 559 million m³) is cooling water in the energy production, 14% are used for other industrial purposes, and 6% - for irrigation.

Fig.1 Water used by activities





Water consumption in the domestic sector is relatively stable. Drinking water supplied to the households in 2012 was 271 million m³, which is about 2 % more than in 2011. The drinking water used average per capita increased from 100 liters/day in 2011 to 102 liters/day in 2012. With the highest consumption are the districts of Sofia (stolitsa) - 134 l/day/per capita) and Burgas (116 l/day/per capita), while the lowest is consumption in the district of Targovishte (64 l/day/per capita). Households living in cities, consumed 104 l/day average per capita, while those in rural areas – by 5 l less.

An increase of the population was registered at regime of water supply due to scarcity of water - from 3 % in 2011 to 4.5 % in 2012. Most affected are the districts of Pleven (61%), Lovech (43%) and Gabrovo (28%).

Public water supply sector reported relatively constant losses of water (in the water supply network, unauthorized use, inaccuracies at measurement, etc.). In 2012, total losses were estimated at 572 million m³, which accounts for 60.4% of the water delivered to end users.

The amount of wastewater generated by economic activities follows the level of consumption. In 2012, from point sources were formed about 447 million m³ of wastewater and 3 057 million m³ of water from cooling processes, which together constitute 77% of the used water.

The total volume of wastewater discharged into water bodies in 2012 was estimated at 787 million m³ (excluding cooling water), of which 68% are after treatment in wastewater treatment plants. In 2012 were operating 87 urban wastewater treatment plants (UWWTP) of which 53 with secondary treatment and 23 - with tertiary treatment. Population connected to UWWTP constitutes 56.1 % of the country's population. About 18% of the population is connected to public sewers without any treatment plant.

2. Municipal waste

Municipal waste is the waste resulting from the activities of people at home and in administrative, social and public buildings. Included here is also the waste from commercial outlets, crafts, resort and entertainment facilities when being non-hazardous, and at the same time its quantity or composition does not prevent its treatment together with the household waste.

In 2012 the total municipal waste generated was estimated at 3 258 thousand tons. This quantity is less than the estimated for 2011 (3 732 tons).

According to data of the municipal administrations for 2012, 2 508 thousand tons of municipal waste were collected on landfill sites with organized waste collection while in 2011 they amounted to 2 727 thousand tons. Of these, in 2012 were landfilled 2 323 thousand tons, while in 2011 they have been 2 568 thousand tons. The collected construction waste on municipal landfill sites amounts to 554 thousand tons in 2012 which is more than in 2011 (508 thousand tons). The quantity of municipal waste collected is assessed by means of direct measurement and in case of lack of weighing equipment - on the basis of transport documents. Based on data from administrative sources the recycled and composted waste originating from the population on national level was added. Data on recycled waste were revised for the period 1999-2012.

The construction of regional systems for waste management is still in process. At the same time constructed landfills not responding to the ecological criteria are closed down. The number of municipal waste systems for waste management in 2012 is 157, of which 30 are regional.

The organized waste collection systems implementation in new settlements in 2012 led to an increase of the population served by organized waste collection systems to 99.2% (compared to 98.9%



in 2011). The number of settlements served was 4 431 in 2012 or 67 more than the year before. At the same time the quantity of collected municipal waste per capita for population served by organized waste collection systems is estimated at 347 kg for 2012 compared to 376 kg in 2011.

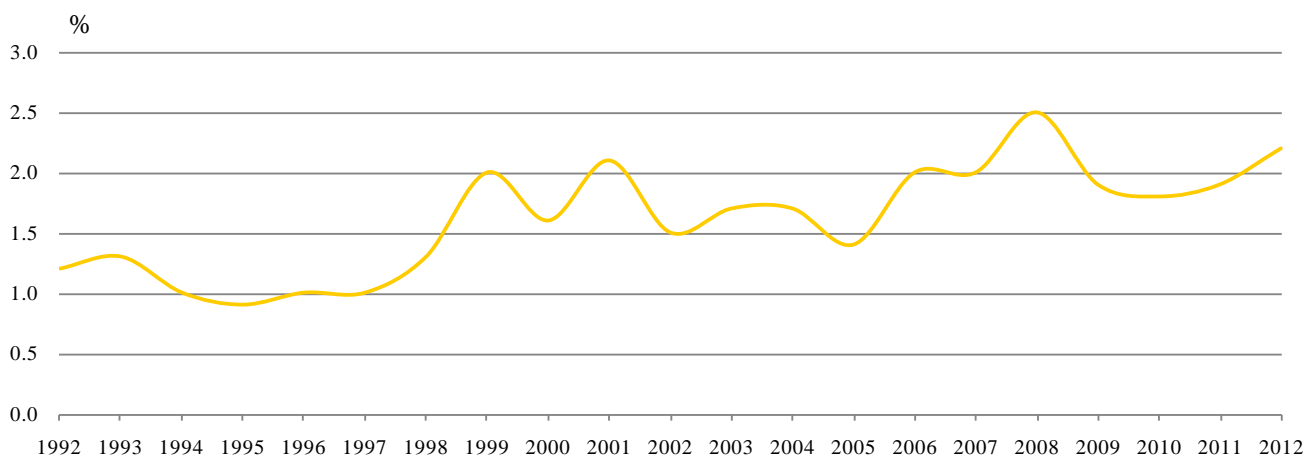
3. Environmental protection expenditure and tangible fixed assets related to the environment

3.1. Expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment

Environmental protection and elimination of damages requires additional funds. 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 2012 1 694 million BGN were spent on protection and restoration of the environment. There is an increase compared to the previous year and for this reason the share of environmental expenditure as a percent of GDP is considered the more appropriate indicator for the purposes of comparison. In 2012 it is 2.2% while in 2011 it was 1.9%.

Fig.2 Share of environmental expenditure of GDP



Environmental expenditure includes two components: expenditure on maintenance, and expenditure on acquisition of tangible fixed assets. In 2012, similarly to the previous 2011, **current expenditure had a predominant share (75.6%) in the expenditure's structure, while that of investment was smaller (24.4%).**

In 2012 the total expenditure on protection and restoration of the environment was allocated by major directions of ecological use in a following way: the greatest was the share of the expenditure on waste disposal and recovery (52.1%), followed by the share of expenditure on wastewater treatment (21.5%), and the expenditure on preserving the air purity (16.5%).



3.2. Tangible fixed assets with ecological use

At the end of 2012 the availability of tangible fixed assets with ecological use amounted to 4 948 million BGN. The available fixed assets with ecological use are allocated by basic directions of ecological use as follows: for wastewater treatment - 32.5%, for air preserving - 29.9% and for waste - 26.0%.