

## First Release

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# PUBLIC SEWAGE SYSTEM, 2024

**In 2024, the total volume of waste waters amounted to 368 096 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, which was an increase of 2.1% compared to 2023.**

Out of the total volume of waste waters, 197 036 thousand m<sup>3</sup> were from households and economic activities (increase of 3.7%), while 171 060 thousand m<sup>3</sup> were other waste waters (precipitations, etc.).

The volume of waste waters discharged from households increased by 3.8% and from economic activities by 3.3%, as compared to the previous year.

**In 2024, the volume of treated waste waters amounted to 308 303 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, which was 1.4% more than the total volume of treated waste waters in 2023.**

The volume of untreated waste waters amounted to 59 793 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, which was 6.0% more than in the previous year.

The public sewage network in 2024 was 15 560 km long, which was 3.1% more than in 2023.

The total number of waste water treatment plants was 210 in 2024. The number of plants for all treatment methods increased, but the number of tertiary treatment plants increased the most, by 9.4%.

More detailed data will be available in the [database](#) on 18 July 2025.

## 1 SOURCE, TREATMENT AND DISCHARGE OF WASTE WATERS, 2023 AND 2024

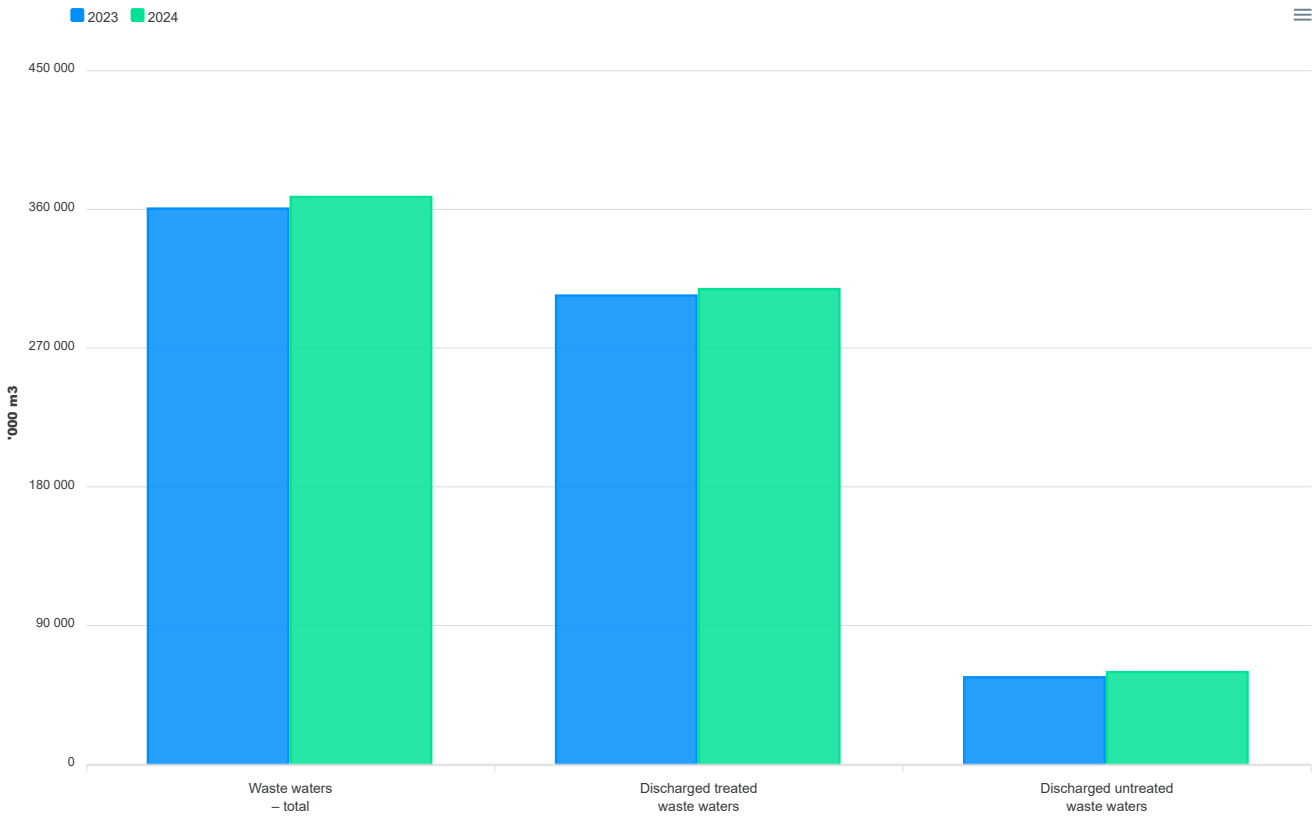
'000 m<sup>3</sup>

	2023	2024	Indices 2024 2023
Waste waters – total	360 539	368 096	102,1
From households	127 237	132 128	103,8
From economic activities	62 844	64 908	103,3
Other waters	170 218	171 060	100,5
Discharged treated waste waters – total	304 109	308 303	101,4
Primary treatment	66 534	68 310	102,7
Secondary treatment	180 331	183 128	101,6
Tertiary treatment	57 244	56 865	99,3
Discharged untreated waste waters	56 430	59 793	106,0

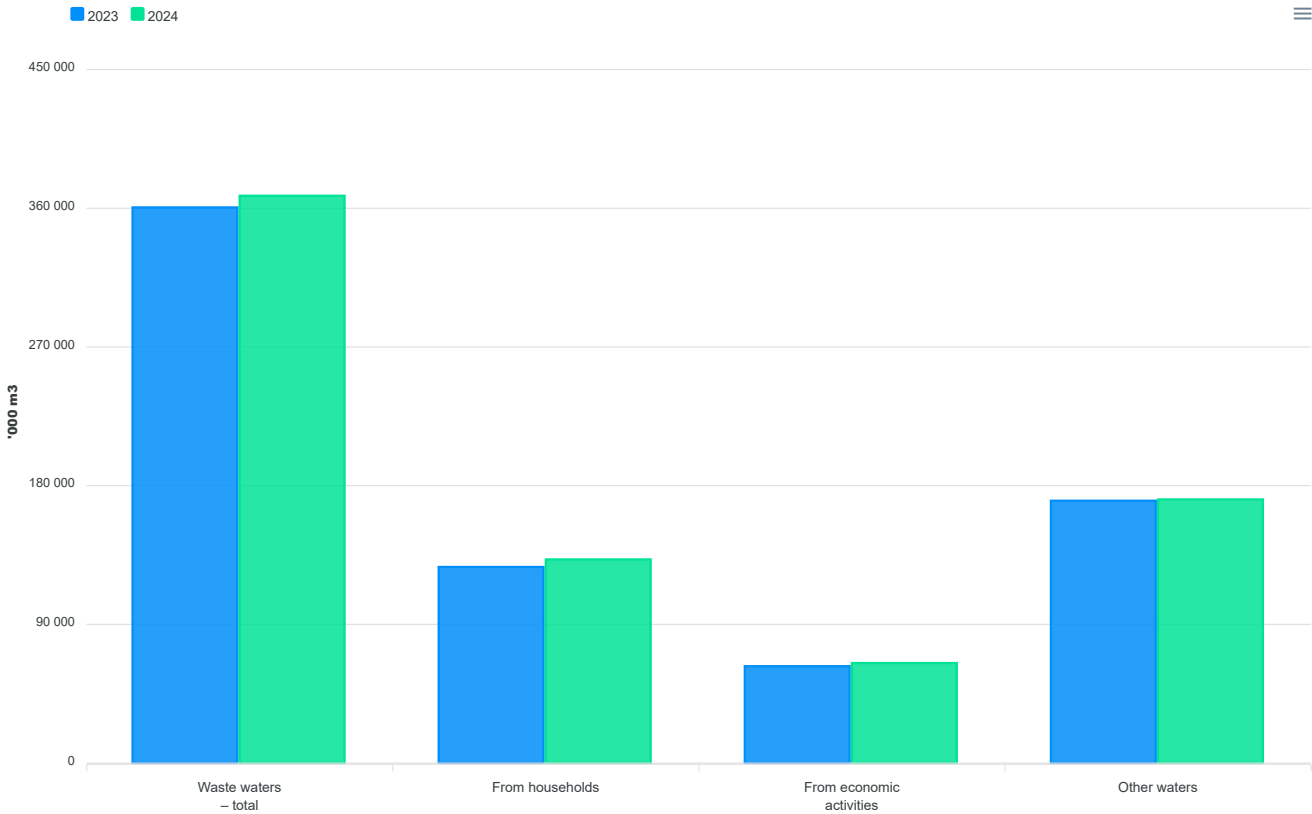
2 PUBLIC SEWAGE NETWORK AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS, 2023 AND 2024

	2023	2024	Indices 2024 2023
Total length of public sewage network, km	15 097	15 560	103,1
Waste water treatment plants	198	210	106,1
Number of primary treatment plants	72	73	101,4
Number of secondary treatment plants	94	102	108,5
Number of tertiary treatment plants	32	35	109,4

G-1 WASTE WATERS, 2023 AND 2024



G-2 WASTE WATERS, BY ORIGIN, 2023 AND 2024



NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

Sources and methods of data collection

The data on the public sewage system are collected by using the annual statistical survey entitled the Annual Survey on Public Sewage System (VOD-2K form) on the basis of the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20 and 155/23).

Reporting units are public suppliers of public sewage system services. According to the Water Act (NN, No. 47/23), the public supplier of sewage system services is a company in which all shares or equity shares are held by local self-government units or companies in which all shares or equity shares are held directly by local self-government units, that is, an institution founded by a local self-government unit.

The report is filled in by legal entities and parts thereof that are registered, according to the NKD 2007 (NN, Nos 58/07 and 72/07), in section E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities, class 37.00 Sewerage.

Coverage and comparability

The source for the address list is the Statistical Business Register.

The survey provides basic data on waste waters, their treatment and discharge as well as on the public sewerage network and waste water treatment plants.

Definitions

**Public sewerage** means the activity of collection of waste waters, their transport to a waste water treatment plant, treatment and direct or indirect discharge into surface waters, treatment of sludge generated in the process of waste water treatment, if the above is conducted through public sewerage facilities, and management of these facilities; public sewerage also includes pumping and transport of waste water from sump pits.

**Waste waters** are all potentially polluted industrial, sanitary, rainwater and other waters.

**Treated waste waters** comprise all amounts of waste waters treated by using either primary (mechanical), secondary (biological) or tertiary (combined) treatment method.

**The primary treatment** includes the application of physical and/or chemical processes by which at least 50% of suspended solids are removed from the waste water, while the BOD<sub>5</sub> value decreases by as much as 20%, as compared to the BOD<sub>5</sub> value of influent waters.

**The secondary treatment** includes the application of biological and/or other treatment processes by which the concentration of suspended solids and BOD<sub>5</sub> decreases by 70% to 90% and the concentration of COD by at least 75%.

**The tertiary treatment** includes the application of physical and chemical, biological and other treatment processes by which the concentration of nutritious matters of influent in waste waters decreases by as much as 80%, or other pollutants, which could not be removed to that extent in the secondary treatment, are now removed as well.

**Discharged waste waters** consist of discharges of treated and untreated waters. The waters can be discharged into ground waters, waterflows, reservoirs, lakes and the sea.

**Public sewage network** is a network of enclosed public drains and sewers used either for draining of both waste and atmospheric waters together (general water sewage system), or for separate draining of waste and atmospheric waters (separation water sewage system).

**Total length of the public sewage network** is the length of the sewerage network of enclosed public drains and pipes for wastewater and atmospheric waters from settlements, without connections and networks within buildings.

**Waste water treatment plants** are devices for the treatment of waste water. They are divided to devices for the primary, secondary and tertiary treatment.

## Abbreviations

BOD <sub>5</sub>	biochemical oxygen demand
COD	chemical oxygen demand
km	kilometre
m <sup>3</sup>	cubic metre
NKD 2007	National Classification of Activities, 2007 version
NN	Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia
'000	thousand

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