

Drinking water fact sheet 2026



vewin

association of
Dutch water
companies

Introduction

This leaflet gives an overview of core data on the drinking water sector and drinking water companies. Additionally, time series give insight into trends in the sector. The data derive from the Vewin benchmark database, Vewin's annual 'Overview of water charges' and the study 'Household drinking water consumption 2021', conducted by Statistics Netherlands for Vewin. The maps on hardness of drinking water, drinking water abstraction locations, groundwater protection areas and surface water resources were compiled by KWR Water Research Institute.



General indicators per supply area ¹⁾

	Inhabitants x 1,000	Surface km ²	Employees ²⁾ FTE	Network km
Brabant Water	2,664	5,016	867	18,598
Dunea	1,402	618	587	5,083
Evides Waterbedrijf	2,255	3,500	711	12,559
Oasen	827	1,115	280	4,359
PWN	1,795	2,465	652	10,290
Vitens	6,008	15,511	1,589	48,472
Waternet	1,095	350	637 ³⁾	3,355
Waterbedrijf Groningen	616	2,403	266	5,745
WMD Drinkwater	448	2,468	243	5,332
WML	1,138	2,209	404	8,586
The Netherlands	18,248	35,655	6,235	122,380

¹⁾ By December 31, 2025

²⁾ Full-time equivalents own pay-roll

³⁾ FTEs working for water supply only

Sector fundamentals

	2010	2020	2024	2025
Number of companies	10	10	10	10
Employees (FTE)	5,228	5,097	5,990	6,235
Investments (million €) ¹⁾	458	643	899	1,171
Taxes on drinking water (million €)	403	521	567	599
Production (million m ³)	1,136	1,225	1,161	1,191
Network length (x 1,000 km)	118	120	122	122
Connections (x 1,000)	7,701	8,429	8,691	8,807
Non-revenue water (million m ³) ²⁾	54	79	75	81

¹⁾ Including Watertransportmaatschappij Rijn-Kennemerland (WRK)

²⁾ 2025 based on provisional data. See page 7 for the definition.

Drinking water per supply area 2025

	Connections ¹⁾ x 1,000	Production mln m ³	Sales ²⁾ mln m ³	Turnover mln €
Brabant Water	1,313	191	177	260
Dunea	680	80	76	162
Evides Waterbedrijf	1,118	169	156	295
Oasen	381	42	47	97
PWN	856	95	103	260
Vitens	2,813	370	351	576
Waternet	543	95	70	141
Waterbedrijf Groningen	303	44	42	80
WMD Drinkwater	215	37	29	58
WML	584	68	67	143
Nederland	8,807	1,191	1,119	2,073

¹⁾ Number of connected properties by December 31, 2025

²⁾ Of drinking water supplied in own supply area (provisional figure)

Sector development of water sales and price ¹⁾

	2010	2020	2024	2025
Sales (million m ³)	1,090	1,154	1,095	1,119 ²⁾
Turnover (million €)	1,442	1,396	1,821	2,073
Average price (€ /m ³) ³⁾	1.53	1.62	2.17	2.37
• Costs water company	1.16	1.17	1.65	1.84
• Grondwater levies + distribution reimbursements	0.16	0.04	0.01	0.01
• Tap Water Tax + VAT	0.21	0.41	0.50	0.52
Real price, 2025=100 (€ /m ³) ⁴⁾	2.23	2.01	2.24	2.37

¹⁾ Of drinking water supplied in own supply area

²⁾ Provisional figure

³⁾ Over-all price (households and business users)

⁴⁾ Average price adjusted for inflation to price level 2025

Residential drinking water rate per company¹⁾

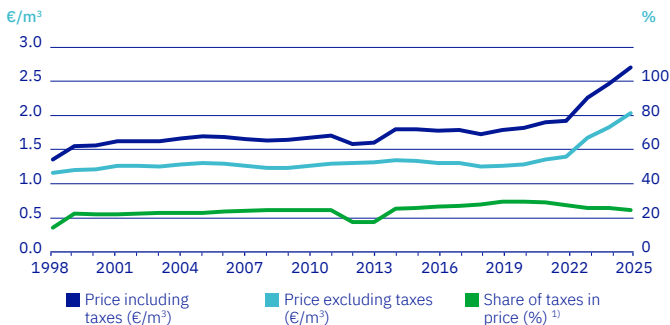
	2025	2026		Difference	
	Total ²⁾ €/m ³	Standing charge €/year	Volumetric rate €/m ³	Total ²⁾ €/m ³	Total 2026 vs. 2025 %
Brabant Water	1.68	87.84	0.95	1.83	8.7%
Dunea	2.12	90.41	1.45	2.35	10.9%
Evides Waterbedrijf	2.27	92.71	1.22	2.14	-5.7%
Oasen	2.11	104.65	1.10	2.15	1.7%
PWN	2.56	89.10	1.82	2.71	5.7%
Vitens	1.67	52.00	1.23	1.75	4.9%
Waternet	2.20	90.55	1.18	2.09	-5.4%
Waterbedrijf Groningen	1.98	98.73	1.16	2.15	8.5%
WMD Drinkwater	2.19	121.89	1.14	2.36	7.5%
WML	2.19	109.10	1.20	2.29	4.9%
The Netherlands ³⁾	1.97	80.35	1.25	2.05	3.9%

¹⁾ Based on the company tariff arrangement for metered houses; excluding Tap Water Tax and VAT

²⁾ Total rate calculated for a family using 100 m³ of drinking water per year (standing charge/100m³ + volumetric rate)

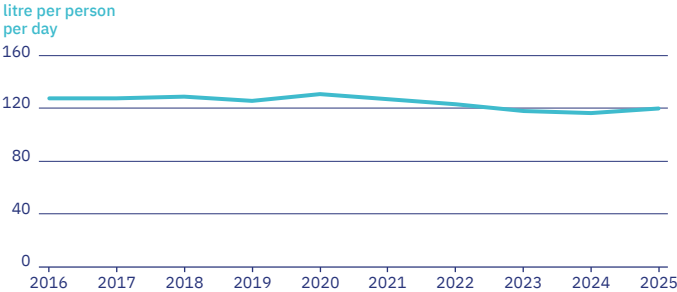
³⁾ Weighted average according to inhabitants per area

Development residential drinking water price



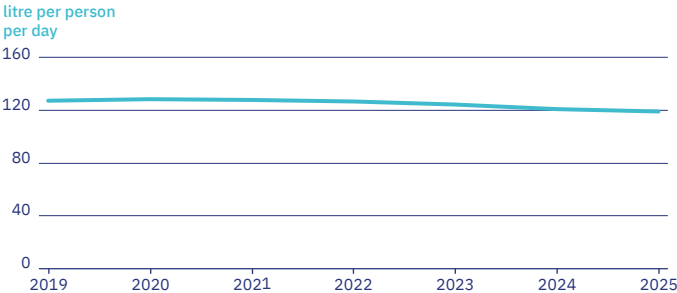
¹⁾ National groundwater tax (until 2012), provincial groundwater levies, distribution reimbursements (until 2022), Tap Water Tax and VAT

Development of domestic per capita drinking water consumption ¹⁾



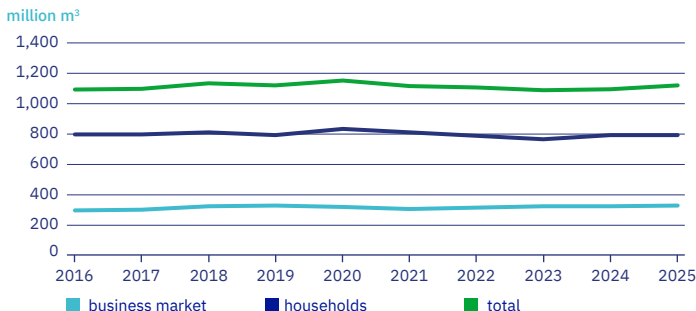
¹⁾ 2025 based on provisional data

Development of rolling 4-year average domestic per capita drinking water consumption ¹⁾



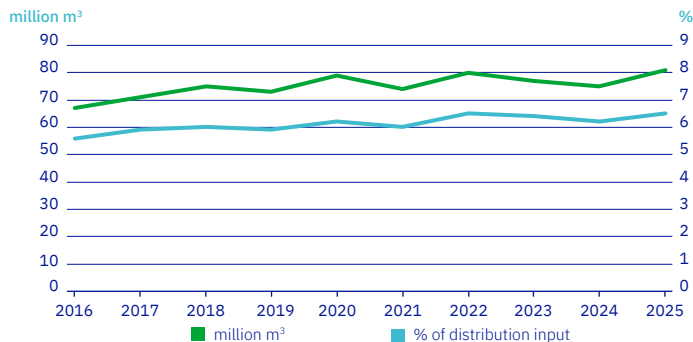
¹⁾ 2025 based on provisional data

Development of drinking water sales by user group ¹⁾



¹⁾ 2025 based on provisional data

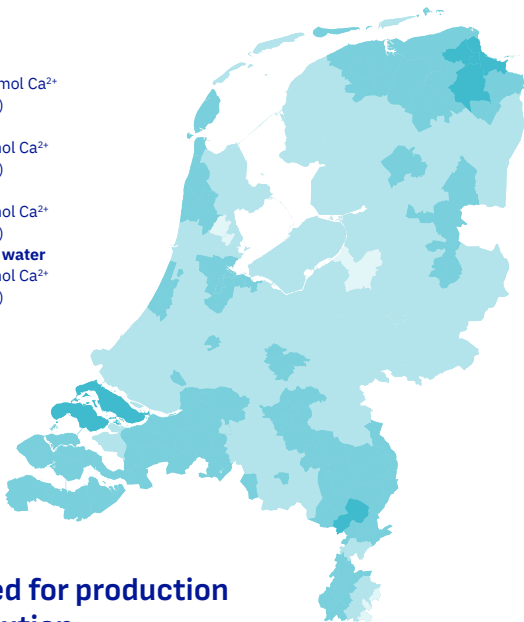
Development of non-revenue water distribution ¹⁾



¹⁾ 2025 based on provisional data; Distribution non-revenue water (NRW) consists of leakage, cleaning losses, unbilled authorised consumption (s.a. water for firefighting) and apparent losses.

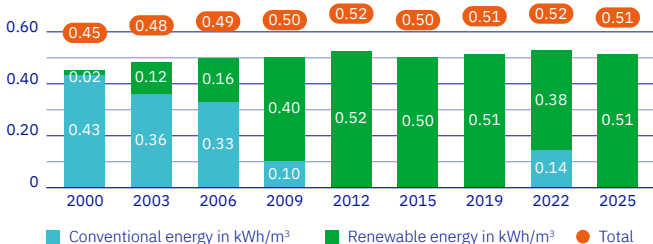
Hardness of drinking water

- **Very soft water**
(maximal 0.71 mmol Ca²⁺
and Mg²⁺ per litre)
- **Soft water**
(>0.71 - 1.43 mmol Ca²⁺
and Mg²⁺ per litre)
- **Average water**
(>1.43 - 2.14 mmol Ca²⁺
and Mg²⁺ per litre)
- **Moderately hard water**
(>2.14 - 2.39 mmol Ca²⁺
and Mg²⁺ per litre)



Energy used for production and distribution

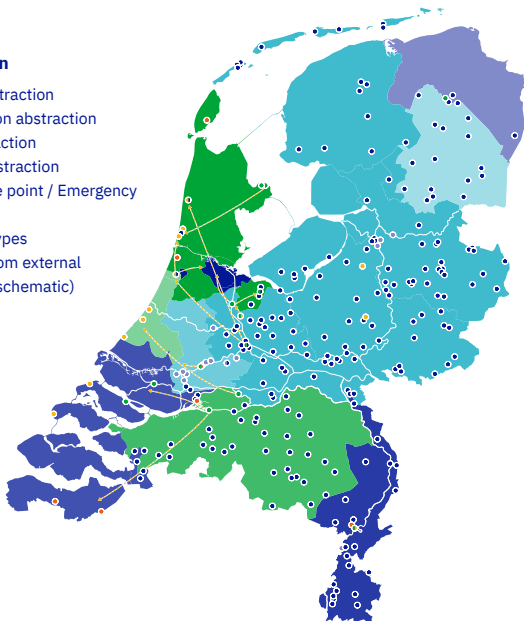
kWh/m³
produced



Drinking water abstraction locations

Type of abstraction

- Groundwater abstraction
- Riverbank filtration abstraction
- Infiltration abstraction
- Surface water abstraction
- Emergency intake point / Emergency abstraction site
- ⊕ Combination of types
- Transportation from external abstraction site (schematic)



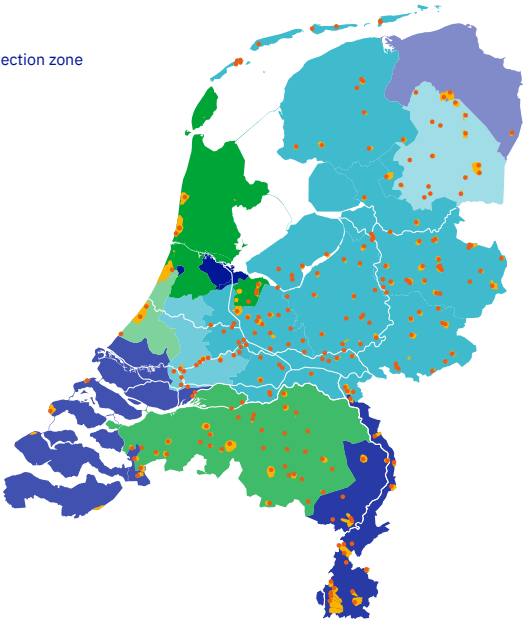
Number of abstractions per type 2026¹⁾

Groundwater abstraction site	213
Riverbank filtration abstraction site	14
Infiltration abstraction site	13
Surface water abstraction site	12
Totaal	252

¹⁾ Excluding emergency abstractions. Mixed abstractions (e.g. a combination of surface water abstraction and riverbank filtration abstraction) are included in both categories. Without these double-counted sites the total number is 245.

Groundwater protection zones

- Groundwater protection zone
- Abstraction site



Financial balance by December 31, 2025

Assets	million €	Liabilities	million €
Tangible fixed assets	8,696	Share capital	36
Intangible fixed assets	131	Reserves	3,370
Financial fixed assets	422	Contributions third parties	569
Stocks	32	Provisions	327
Account receivables/debtors	373	Long-term loan capital	4,360
Liquid assets/cash	52	Short-term loan capital	1,044
Total	9,705	Total	9,705

Surface water resources for drinking water

Type of abstraction site

● Riverbank filtration

● Surface water

■ Surface water resource

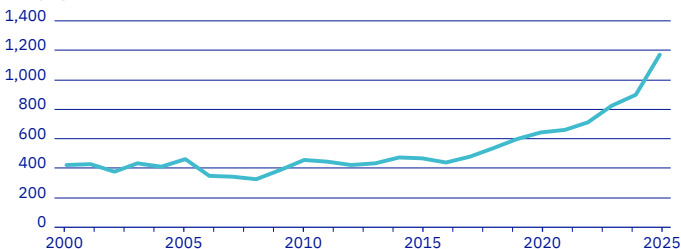
■ Infiltration area

■ Surface water reservoir



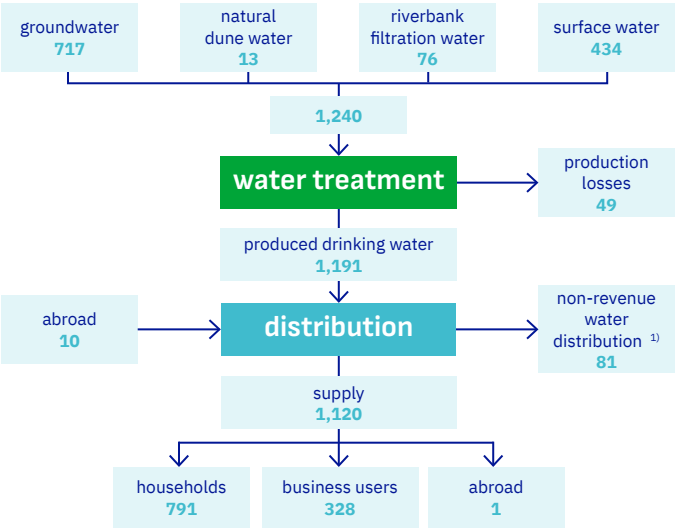
Development of investments ¹⁾

million €



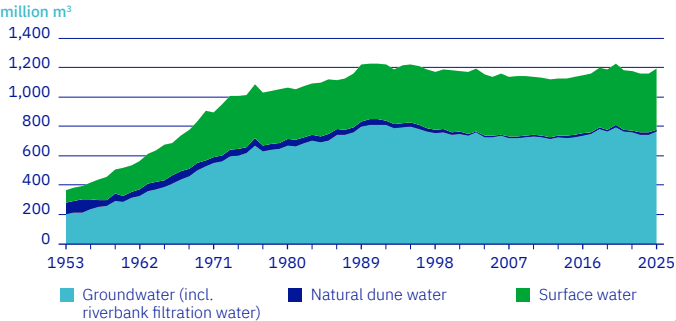
¹⁾ Including Watertransportmaatschappij Rijn-Kennemerland (WRK)

Drinking water balance 2025, in million m³

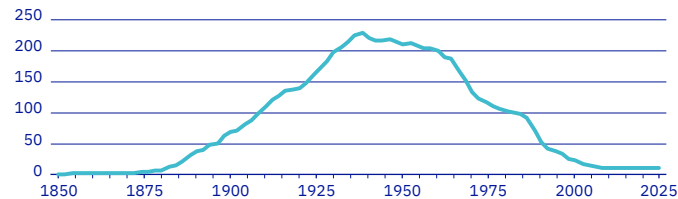


¹⁾ Provisional figure. See page 7 for the definition.

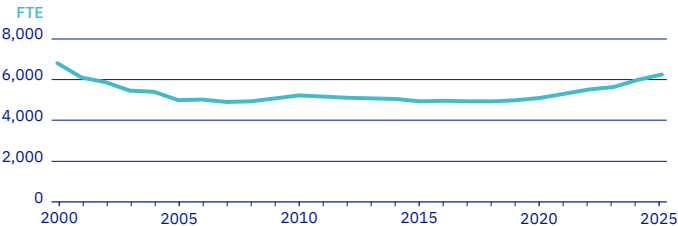
Drinking water production by source



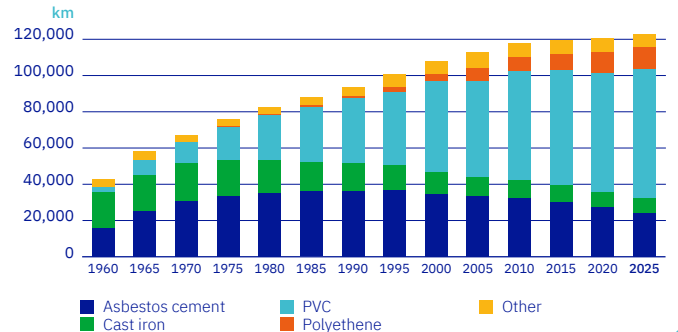
Development of the number of companies



Development of the number of employees

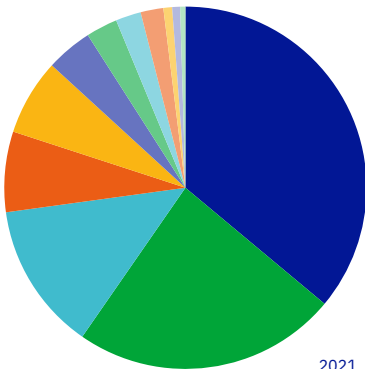


Development of the drinking water network



Breakdown of domestic water consumption

- Shower (36.1%)
- Toilet (23.6%)
- Laundry by machine (13.2%)
- Washing hands (7.2%)
- Washbasin (6.8%)
- Bath (4.1%)
- Other (2.8%)
- Washing up by machine (2.3%)
- Consumption (2.0%)
- Washing up by hand (0.8%)
- Outside (0.7%)
- Laundry by hand (0.5%)



Customer satisfaction

Report mark given
by customer ¹⁾

	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2019	2022	2025
Service of the water company	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.1
Drinking water quality	7.7	8.0	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6

¹⁾ Grades from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



vewin

association of
Dutch water
companies

Visiting address
Bezuidenhoutseweg 12
2594 AV The Hague

Postal address
PO box 90611
2509 LP The Hague

(070) 349 08 50
info@vewin.nl
www.vewin.nl