

SDG Goal 6	Clean water and sanitation
SDG Target 6.3	By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally
SDG Indicator 6.3.1	Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated
Time series	Wastewater that is safely treated or does not require treatment

1. General information on the time series

- Date of national metadata: 20 December 2021
- National data: <http://sdg-indicators.de/6-3-1/>
- Definition: The time series measures the percentage of wastewater flows safely treated.
- Disaggregation: Not available.

2. Comparability with the UN metadata

- Date of UN metadata: April 2025
- UN metadata: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-06-03-01.pdf>
- The time series is compliant with the UN metadata.

3. Data description

- According to the Federal Water Act wastewater that is passed into water bodies without treatment is monitored by the water authorities and the pollution of this water should not deteriorate the water quality of the respective water body. Therefore, all wastewater is considered to be safely treated.

4. Access to data source

- Federal Water Resources Act (Wasserhaushaltsgesetz, WHG) as amended (only available in German): https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/whg_2009/

5. Metadata on source data

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6. Timeliness and frequency

- Timeliness: t + 18 months
- Frequency: Annual

7. Calculation method

- Unit of measurement: Percentage
- Calculation:

Not available.

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SDG Indicator 6.3.1	Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated
Time series	Wastewater and cooling water

1. General information on the time series

- Date of national metadata: 22 December 2021
- National data: <http://sdg-indicators.de/6-3-1/>
- Definition: The time series measures the amount of total wastewater produced from public and non-public disposal as well as cooling water.
- Disaggregation: treatment; type of waste water

2. Comparability with the UN metadata

- Date of UN metadata: April 2025
- UN metadata: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-06-03-01.pdf>
- The time series is not compliant with the UN metadata, but provides additional information.

3. Data description

- Data on public and non-public wastewater is derived from the Federal Statistical Office. For the total wastewater produced from public and non-public disposal, the amounts of treated and untreated wastewater are listed in addition. According to the UN metadata cooling water is excluded. Therefore, the amount of cooling water is depicted separately. The time series includes the following time series:
 1. Total wastewater produced from public and non-public disposal
 - 1.1 Untreated wastewater
 - 1.2 Ureated wastewater
 2. Cooling water

4. Access to data source

- Wastewater treated in wastewater treatment plants (only available in German):
https://www.destatis.de/DE/Themen/Gesellschaft-Umwelt/Umwelt/Wasserwirtschaft/_inhalt.html

5. Metadata on source data

- Quality report – Survey on public water supply and public waste water disposal 2016 (only available in German):
<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Methoden/Qualitaet/Qualitaetsberichte/Umwelt/oeffentliche-wasserversorgung-abwasserentsorgung.pdf?>
- Quality report – Survey on non-public water supply and non-public waste water disposal 2016 (only available in German):
<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Methoden/Qualitaet/Qualitaetsberichte/Umwelt/nichtoeffentliche-wasserversorgung-abwasserentsorgung.pdf?>

6. Timeliness and frequency

- Timeliness: Not applicable.
- Frequency: Every 3 years

7. Calculation method

- Unit of measurement: 1 000 m³
- Calculation:

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 \text{Total wastewater produced} & & \\
 \text{from public and non-public} & = & \text{Wastewater treated in} \\
 \text{disposal} & & \text{public wastewater treatment} \\
 & & \text{plants [1,000 m}^3\text{]} + \text{Wastewater treated in} \\
 & & \text{non-public wastewater} \\
 & & \text{treatment plants [1,000 m}^3\text{]}
 \end{array}$$