

C-14: Population connected to wastewater treatment

Glossary and abbreviations

Glossary:

Population equivalent (1 p.e.): The organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of 60 g of oxygen per day

Primary/mechanical wastewater treatment: Treatment of wastewater by a physical and/or chemical process involving settlement of suspended solids, or other process in which the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of the incoming wastewater is reduced by at least 20% before discharge and the total suspended solids of the incoming wastewater are reduced by at least 50%. To avoid double counting, water subjected to more than one type of treatment should be reported under the highest level of treatment only.

Secondary/biological wastewater treatment: Post-primary treatment of wastewater by a process generally involving biological or other treatment with a secondary settlement or other process, resulting in a biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) removal of at least 70%. To avoid double counting, water subjected to more than one type of treatment should be reported under the highest level of treatment only.

Tertiary/advanced wastewater treatment: Treatment (additional to secondary treatment) of nitrogen and/or phosphorous and/or any other pollutant affecting the quality or a specific use of water: microbiological pollution, colour etc. The different possible treatment efficiencies ('organic pollution removal' of at least 95% for BOD5, 85% for COD, 'nitrogen removal' of at least 70%, 'phosphorus removal' of at least 80% and 'microbiological removal') cannot be added and are exclusive. To avoid double counting, water subjected to more than

one type of treatment should be reported under the highest level of treatment only.

Abbreviations:

AQUASTAT:	FAO's global information system on water and agriculture
ECE:	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
EEA:	European Environment Agency
EU:	European Union
Eurostat:	European Union Statistical Office
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
IRWS:	International Recommendations for Water Statistics
OECD:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PCWWT:	Population connected to wastewater treatment
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme
UNCSD:	United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development
UNSD:	United Nations Statistics Division