

## Commercial and Institutional Water Consumption, 1999

---

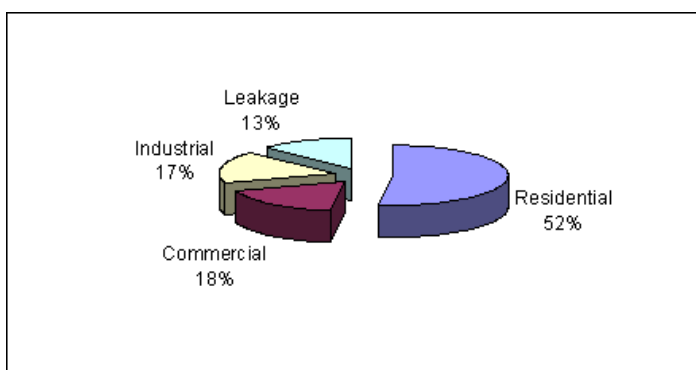
### Abstract

Commercial consumers are businesses, and institutional users such as government agencies, schools, and hospitals. Apartment buildings are also included in this section since these are normally operated by businesses. Next to residential uses, commercial and institutional consumption makes up the largest part of municipal water use. On per capita basis, consumption rates are highest in Prince Edward Island and in New Brunswick, and lowest in Manitoba.

---

Next to residential uses, commercial consumption makes up the largest part of municipal water use. Commercial consumers are businesses, and institutional users such as government agencies, schools and hospitals. The commercial sector also includes water consumed in some residential units, namely apartment buildings, as these are normally operated by businesses.

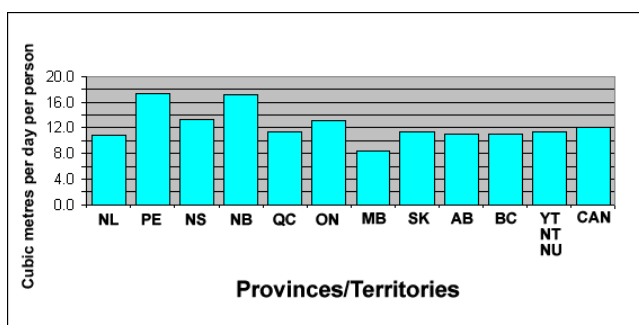
Figure 1 shows that commercial use is about 18% of all municipal water use in Canada (as of 1994).



**Figure 1.** Municipal Water Use by Sector, 1994

**Source:** Canada. Environment Canada. Urban Water Indicators: Municipal Water Use and Wastewater Treatment. Ottawa, 2001

Figure 2 gives a regional breakdown of commercial water use. On a per capita basis, consumption rates are highest in Prince Edward Island and in New Brunswick, and lowest in Manitoba.



**Figure 2.** Commercial Water Use per Capita by Province and Territory, 1996

**Source:** Canada. Environment Canada. Urban Water Indicators: Municipal Water Use and Wastewater Treatment. Ottawa, 2001.

## Definition of underlined term

**Commercial water use:** In the Municipal Water Use Database, water used by business, government, schools, hospitals and other institutions. This category also includes water used by apartment buildings, because these are normally operated by businesses. However, it is not possible to provide a good estimate of how much of total commercial water use is by apartment buildings.

## Map Sources

### **Commercial and institutional water consumption (litres/day/person)**

Environment Canada. 1999. Municipal Water Use and Pricing Survey, 1999. Managed by the Ecosystem and Environmental Resources Directorate.

### **Commercial and institutional water use change in municipalities (1991 - 1999)**

Environment Canada. 1999. The Municipal Water Use and Pricing Survey.

## References

Canada. Environment Canada. Water Works! (<http://www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/>)

Canada. Environment Canada. 2001. Urban Water Indicators: Municipal Water Use and Wastewater Treatment. National Environmental Indicator Series, SOE Bulletin No. 2001-1. Ottawa (<http://www.ec.gc.ca/indicateurs-indicators/default.asp?lang=en&n=32E1E173-1>).

Canada. Environment Canada. 2000. A Primer on Fresh Water: Questions and Answers. Fifth Edition. Ottawa (<http://www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/>).

Canada. Environment Canada. 2001. Tracking Key Environmental Issues. 2001. Ottawa ([http://www.ec.gc.ca/TKEI/toc/toc\\_e.cfm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/TKEI/toc/toc_e.cfm)).

Federal-Provincial Task Force on the Importance of Nature to Canadians. 1999. The Importance of Nature to Canadians: Survey Highlights. Ottawa: Environment Canada (<http://www.ec.gc.ca/nature/highlights/highlite.html>).

Marsh, James H. (ed. in chief). 1985. The Canadian Encyclopedia. Edmonton: Hurtig.

Stanké, Alain (ed.). 2000. L'Encyclopédie Canada 2000. Montréal, Québec: Éditions internationales Alain Stanké.

## **Related Web sites (1999 – 2009)**

### **Federal Government**

Environment Canada. Freshwater Web Site

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/>

This web site gives access to the nature of water, water policy and legislation, the management of water, water and culture, and informational resources and services.

Environment Canada. Freshwater Website. Municipal Water Use Database

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/Publications/default.asp?lang=En&xml=C0788E25-E527-42CC-A136-75368C6177E6>

The Municipal Water Use and Pricing Survey has been conducted by Environment Canada every two or three years since the early 1980s. The survey has included all municipalities in Canada with populations greater than 1000 (over 1300 municipalities on the latest survey). Questions on the survey relate to wastewater and water – use, treatment and pricing. This is a voluntary survey, but traditionally the response rate has been high, over 80%. Data collected from the 1999 survey is available on the web.

Environment Canada. Quebec Region. The St. Lawrence Centre

<http://www.universadecouvrier.gc.ca/page/index.php?l=e&p=86>

The St. Lawrence Centre studies the ecosystems of the St. Lawrence River and conduct research programs with the aim of better understanding how these ecosystems function, and maintaining knowledge of the St. Lawrence River up to date.

Environment Canada. The National Water Research Institute

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/inre-nwri/>

The National Water Research Institute (NWRI) is Canada's largest freshwater research establishment. NWRI conducts a comprehensive program of research and

development in the aquatic sciences, in partnership with the Canadian and international science communities.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS)

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/regions/central/science/chs-shc/index-eng.htm>

The CHS is responsible for charting Canada's 243,792 kilometres of coastline (the longest of any country in the world) and 6.55 million square kilometres of continental shelf and territorial waters (the second largest in the world) and an extensive system of inland waterways.

## **Other**

University of Guelph. Canada's Aquatic Environments

<http://www.aquatic.uoguelph.ca/index.htm>

This site, at the University of Guelph, gives information on lakes, rivers, wetland regions and aquatic animals and plants.

## **Inter-agency**

International Joint Commission

<http://www.ijc.org/>

The International Joint Commission is an independent binational organization established by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. Its purpose is to help prevent and resolve disputes relating to the use and quality of boundary waters and to advise Canada and the United States on related questions.