

**Survey on Water Supply and Sewerage
Year 2016**

The average water consumption of households was 136 litres per inhabitant per day, 3.0% more than in 2014

The unit cost of water rose by 3.2% reaching 1.95 euros per cubic metre.

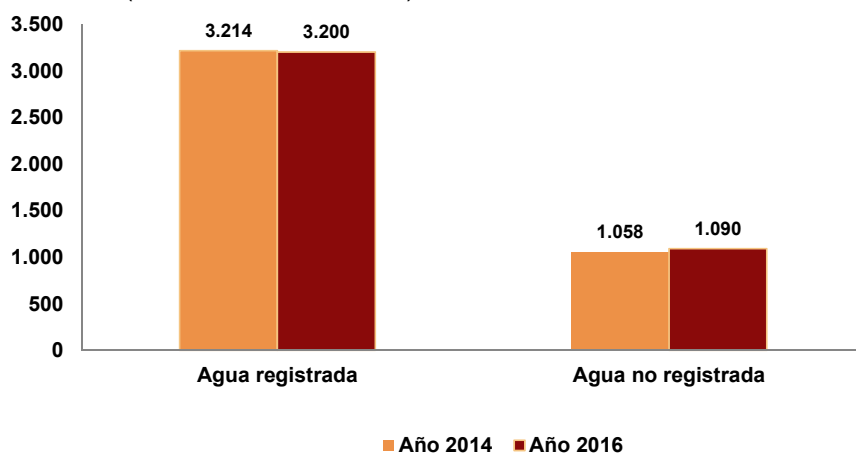
During 2016, 4,290 cubic hectometres (hm³) of water were supplied to the public urban supply networks. This figure is 0.4% higher than that registered in the previous survey, carried out in 2014. Of this volume, almost three quarters (3,200 hm³) were recorded water, that is, measured on users' meters. The rest (1,090 hm³) were volumes of unrecorded water (not measured or estimated by gauging).

Volúmenes de agua suministrada a la red

Unidad: hectómetros cúbicos

	Año 2016	% variación bienal
Agua registrada	3.200	-0,4
Agua no registrada	1.090	3,0
TOTAL	4.290	0,4

Volúmenes de agua suministrada a la red
(en hectómetros cúbicos)



By type of user, household water consumption increased by 2.6% with respect to 2014. On the other hand, water use in economic sectors fell by 7.6% and municipal uses (garden irrigation, street cleaning and other uses) fell by 7.2%.

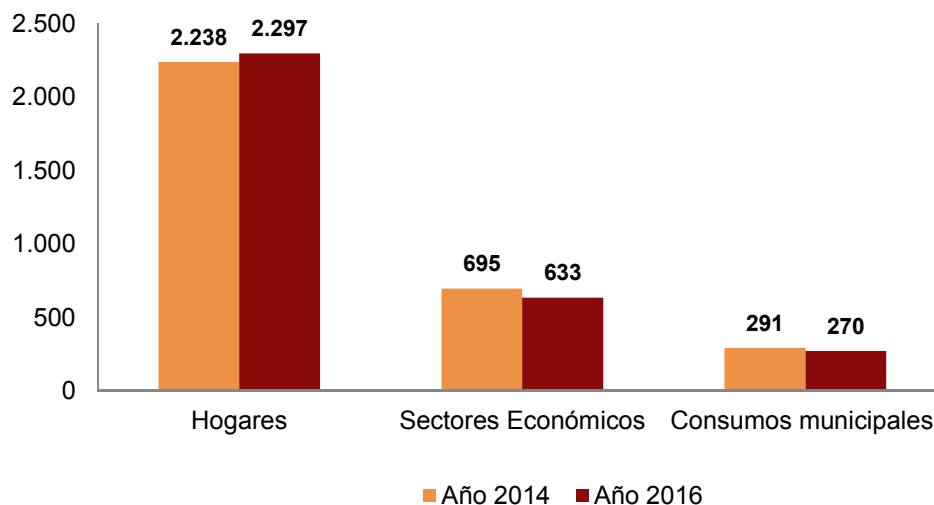
Volúmenes de agua registrada y distribuida a los usuarios

Unidad: miles de m³

	Año 2016	% sobre el total	% variación bienal
Hogares	2.297	71,8	2,6
Sectores Económicos	633	19,8	-7,6
Consumos municipales	270	8,4	-7,2
TOTAL	3.200	100	-0,4

Unrecorded water is broken down into real and apparent losses. Real losses (leaks, breaks and failures in the supply network) were estimated at 701 hm³, which represented 16.7% of the total water supplied to these networks. On the other hand, apparent losses (measurement errors, fraud and unmeasured authorised consumption) were 389 hm³.

Volúmenes de agua registrada y distribuida a los usuarios (en hectómetros cúbicos)



Average household water consumption

Average household water consumption was 136 litres per inhabitant per day in 2016, representing an increase of 3.0% over the 132 litres recorded in 2014.

This average consumption is calculated by means of the quotient between the total volume of water recorded and distributed to households and the population ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ For the calculation of volume indicators, the resident population figures published by the INE have been used.

Unit cost of water

The unit cost of water stood at 1.95 euros per cubic metre in 2016, with an increase of 3.2% over 2014. This cost is defined as the quotient between the amounts paid for the water supply plus the amounts paid for sewerage, treatment and sanitation or discharge fees, and the volume of water recorded and distributed to users.

For its part, the unit cost of the water supply reached 1.17 euros per cubic metre, 6.4% more than in 2014, while that of sanitation (sewerage, treatment, sanitation and discharge fees) was 0.78 euros, with a decrease of 1.3%.

Coste unitario del agua

Unidad: euros / m³

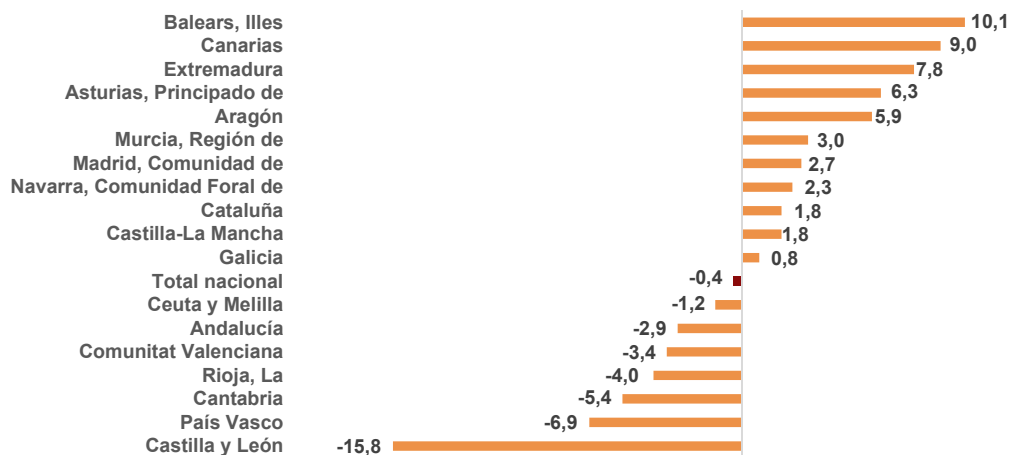
	Año 2016	% variación anual
Suministro	1,17	6,4
Saneamiento	0,78	-1,3
Coste unitario total	1,95	3,2

With regard to the origin of the water, 65.6% of the volume collected by the companies and public bodies supplying water came from surface water, whereas 29.6% originated from groundwater. The remaining 4.8% came from other types of water (desalinated from the sea or brackish).

Results by Autonomous Community

The Autonomous Communities that most increased the volume of water recorded and distributed during the year 2016 as compared with 2014 were Illes Balears (10.1%), Canarias (9.0%) and Extremadura (7.8%). In turn, the Autonomous Communities that reduced it the most were Castilla y León (-15.8%), País Vasco (-6.9%) and Cantabria (-5.4%).

Porcentaje de variación bienal de los volúmenes registrados y distribuidos a los usuarios por comunidad autónoma



The Autonomous Communities that distributed the greatest volume of water in 2016 were Andalucía (16.9% of the total), Cataluña (14.5%) and Comunidad de Madrid (13.1%).

At the other extreme were La Rioja (0.7% of the total), Cantabria (1.4%) and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (1.5%).

Volúmenes de agua registrados y distribuidos por comunidad autónoma

Unidad: miles de m³

	Año 2016	% sobre el total	% variación bienal
Andalucía	540.794	16,9	-2,9
Aragón	102.785	3,2	5,9
Asturias, Principado de	83.733	2,6	6,3
Balears, Illes	94.235	2,9	10,1
Canarias	157.510	4,9	9,0
Cantabria	45.482	1,4	-5,4
Castilla y León	192.215	6,0	-15,8
Castilla-La Mancha	149.899	4,7	1,8
Cataluña	465.434	14,5	1,8
Comunitat Valenciana	368.952	11,5	-3,4
Extremadura	73.179	2,3	7,8
Galicia	187.900	5,9	0,8
Madrid, Comunidad de	418.022	13,1	2,7
Murcia, Región de	103.973	3,2	3,0
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	49.495	1,5	2,3
País Vasco	136.487	4,3	-6,9
Rioja, La	21.173	0,7	-4,0
Ceuta y Melilla	8.642	0,3	-1,2
Total nacional	3.199.910	100	-0,4

The Autonomous Communities with the highest consumption of water recorded and distributed to households in the year 2016 were Andalucía (17.2% of the total), Cataluña (15.0%) and Comunidad de Madrid (13.6%).

With regard to the consumption of the economic sectors, the Autonomous Communities with the greatest volumes were Andalucía (15.5% of the total), Cataluña (13.6%) and Comunidad de Madrid (12.2%).

On the other hand, the Autonomous Communities with the highest municipal water consumption were Andalucía (17.4% of the total), Cataluña (13.0%) and Comunitat Valenciana (11.8%).

Volúmenes de agua registrados y distribuidos por tipo de usuario y comunidad autónoma. Año 2016

Unidad: miles de m³

	Hogares	% sobre el total	Sectores económicos	% sobre el total	Consumos municipales	% sobre el total
Andalucía	395.574	17,20	98.120	15,50	47.100	17,40
Aragón	65.776	2,90	27.866	4,40	9.143	3,40
Asturias, Principado de	56.898	2,50	20.631	3,30	6.204	2,30
Balears, Illes	55.955	2,40	32.426	5,10	5.854	2,20
Canarias	117.518	5,10	28.386	4,50	11.606	4,30
Cantabria	32.789	1,40	11.392	1,80	1.301	0,50
Castilla y León	135.634	5,90	40.294	6,40	16.287	6,00
Castilla-La Mancha	95.378	4,20	31.402	5,00	23.119	8,60
Cataluña	344.628	15,00	85.764	13,60	35.042	13,00
Comunitat Valenciana	292.572	12,70	44.401	7,00	31.979	11,80
Extremadura	50.996	2,20	11.144	1,80	11.039	4,10
Galicia	136.274	5,90	39.474	6,20	12.152	4,50
Madrid, Comunidad de	312.768	13,60	77.304	12,20	27.950	10,30
Murcia, Región de	70.513	3,10	24.450	3,90	9.010	3,30
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	25.986	1,10	14.822	2,30	8.687	3,20
País Vasco	88.622	3,90	38.287	6,10	9.578	3,50
Rioja, La	13.074	0,60	5.650	0,90	2.449	0,90
Ceuta y Melilla	6.397	0,30	691	0,10	1.554	0,60
Total nacional	2.297.352	100	632.504	100	270.054	100

Average household water consumption by Autonomous Community

The highest average water consumption was found in Comunitat Valenciana (163 litres per inhabitant per day), Cantabria (155) and Castilla y León (152). On the other hand, the lowest levels were recorded in País Vasco and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (112 in both) and La Rioja (115).

Consumo de agua de los hogares por comunidad autónoma

Unidad: litros/ habitante/día

	Año 2016	% variación bienal
Andalucía	129	2,4
Aragón	137	5,4
Asturias, Principado de	150	11,9
Balears, Illes	134	8,1
Canarias	150	4,2
Cantabria	155	2,0
Castilla y León	152	-8,4
Castilla-La Mancha	128	2,4
Cataluña	127	7,6
Comunitat Valenciana	163	0,6
Extremadura	129	3,2
Galicia	138	7,0
Madrid, Comunidad de	133	1,5
Murcia, Región de	132	4,8
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	112	0,9
País Vasco	112	-3,4
Rioja, La	115	8,5
Ceuta y Melilla	103	-2,9
Consumo medio nacional	136	3,0

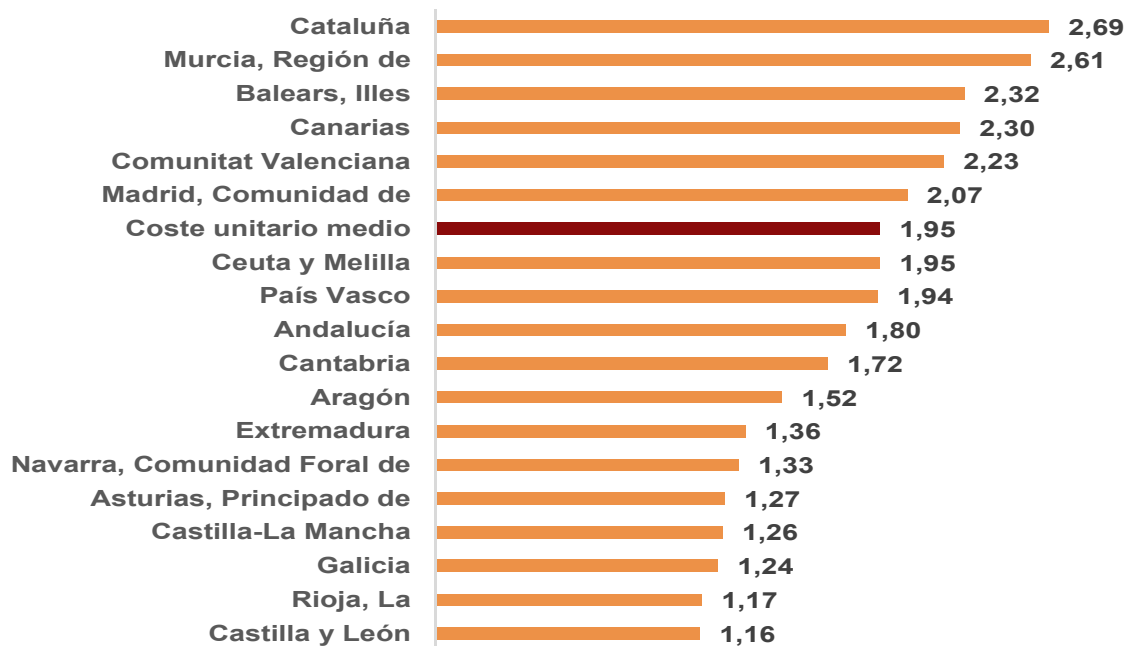
Unit cost of water by Autonomous Community

The highest values of the unit cost of water in 2016 were recorded in Cataluña (2.69 euros per cubic metre), Región de Murcia (2.61) and Illes Balears (2.32).

In turn, Castilla y León (1.16 euros per cubic metre), La Rioja (1.17) and Galicia (1.24) presented the lowest unit costs.

Distribution of the unit cost of water by Autonomous Community

Unit: euros/m³



Review and update of data

The data published today are final. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Survey on Water Supply and Sewerage is to quantify in physical units and value in economic magnitudes the activities related to the so-called integral water cycle, which is formed by the supply of water and sanitation (sewerage and wastewater treatment).

In addition, it provides the information necessary to prepare the satellite water accounts and satisfies the demand for this type of data from national and international bodies, companies in the sector and Public Administrations.

The information obtained is integrated with the data provided by the industrial and services surveys carried out by the INE in order to have a more complete view of the situation of water in our economy. Summary indicators are also developed to make it easier for users to interpret the results obtained.

Type of survey: biennial structural survey.

Population scope: the population under study is the set of units that provide, whether or not as a main activity, the services classified in the CNAE-2009 in divisions 36 (Water collection, treatment and supply) and 37 (Sewerage).

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period: the calendar year.

Sample size: approximately 414 units.

Type of sampling: geographical coverage (population).

Collection method: questionnaire completed by the respondent (internet/paper).

For more information you can access the methodology at:

https://www.ine.es/en/daco/daco42/ambiente/agua/metodolo_en.pdf

And the standardised methodological report at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30077>

For further information see **INEbase:** www.ine.es/en/ Twitter: [@es_ine](https://twitter.com/es_ine)

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