

News Release



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Special Observances

World Water Day 2006

World Water Day is celebrated each year on 22nd March. Every year, a different United Nations agency is selected to keep this Day by coordinating events around the world. Each year also, a different theme is identified to reflect the many facets of freshwater resources and the enormous impact these have on our life and well-being. The theme chosen this year is "Water and Culture". Appropriately, the organisation guiding World Water Day 2006 is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

On this occasion the NSO is publishing statistics relating to water production and consumption in 2005. In the course of the said year, water production exceeded 31 million cubic metres, with monthly output varying from 2.2 million cubic metres in February to 3 million cubic metres apiece in July and August. Well over half of total water output was produced by the three Reverse Osmosis plants situated in Pembroke, Ċirkewwa and Għar Lapsi. Pumping stations were responsible for a production of 7.7 million cubic metres with another 6.3 million sourced in boreholes. Virtually no springwater was produced.

The bulk of water consumption in the year under review was billed to households - 69 per cent of the total. The industrial sector was the collective recipient of water bills amounting to 5.5 per cent of billed water consumption, while this percentage for the agricultural, forestry and fishing sector stood at 4 per cent.

In 2005 an estimated amount of 6.7 million cubic metres of water was lost in leakages. Table 2 depicts monthly amounts of water lost in leakages in cubic metres per hour, with estimated losses at the end of each month ■

Theme:
General Statistics

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The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

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Table 1. Water production by source: 2005

cubic metres					
Month	RO plants	Pumping stations	Boreholes	Springs	Total
January	1,171,339	647,014	557,536	0	2,375,889
February	1,114,627	620,620	485,314	0	2,220,561
March	1,250,081	740,864	550,748	0	2,541,692
April	1,240,340	720,739	511,918	0	2,472,997
May	1,445,322	728,857	529,034	0	2,703,214
June	1,585,137	607,598	512,073	0	2,704,808
July	1,767,185	672,971	523,094	0	2,963,250
August	1,823,191	609,783	521,763	0	2,954,737
September	1,593,108	623,369	509,693	0	2,726,170
October	1,490,287	555,030	549,828	0	2,595,145
November	1,352,694	558,545	531,867	0	2,443,106
December	1,215,731	584,806	541,497	0	2,342,034
Total 2005	17,049,042	7,670,196	6,324,364	0	31,043,602
% production	54.92	24.71	20.37	0.00	100.00

Source: Water Services Corporation

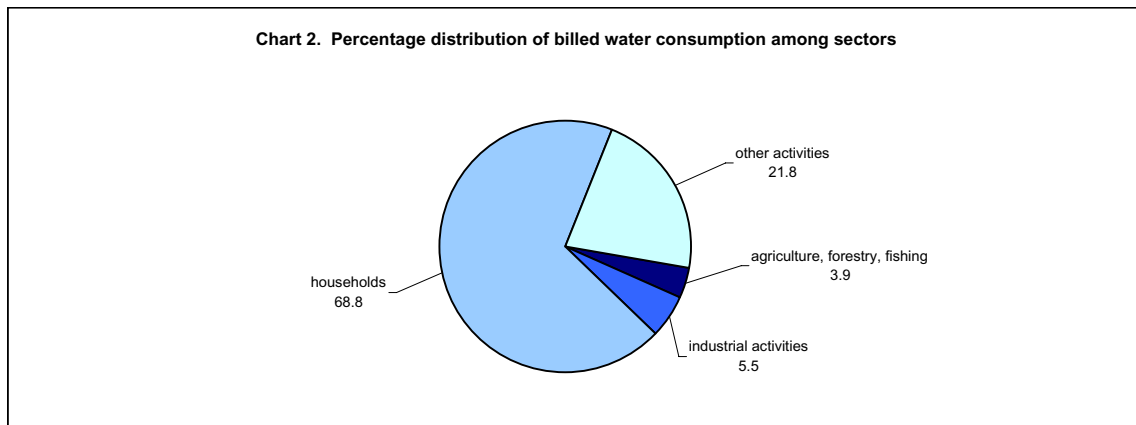
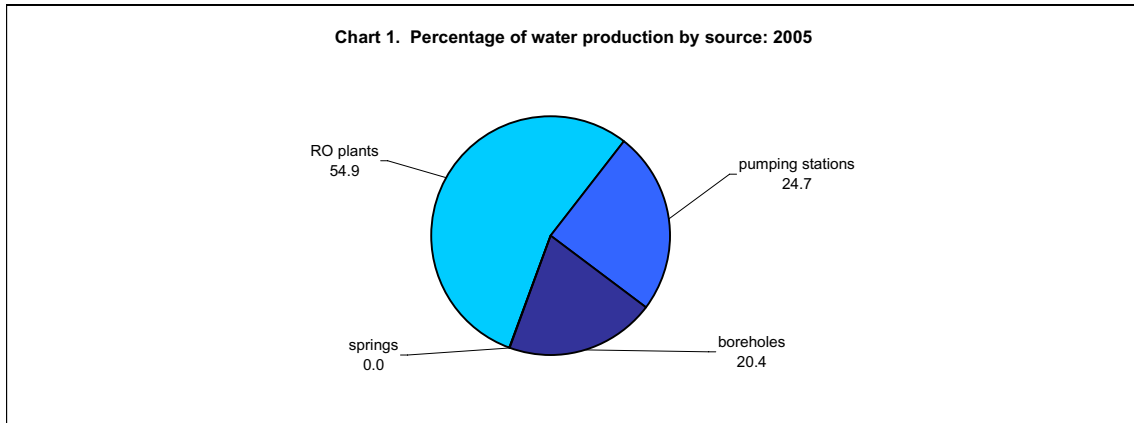


Table 2. Estimated water leakages: 2005

cubic metres		
Month	Actual leakage at end of month m ³ /hr	Estimated leakage
January	812	604,128
February	816	548,352
March	743	552,792
April	750	539,741
May	743	552,792
June	780	561,730
July	836	622,274
August	812	604,351
September	802	577,289
October	738	549,295
November	642	462,240
December	700	520,621
Total estimated leakages		6,695,605

Source: Water Services Corporation

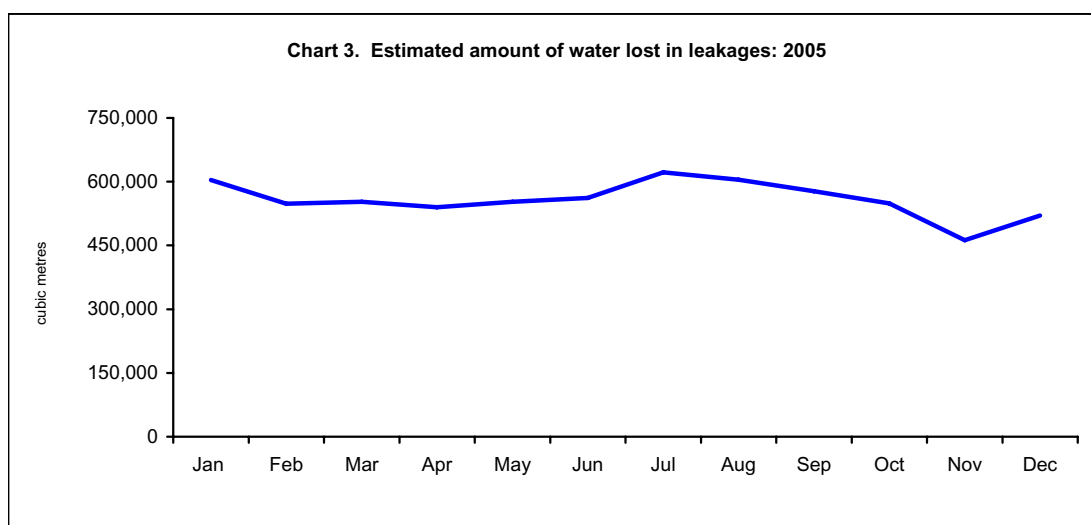


Table 3. Water in Malta, 2005: a summary

million cubic metres	
Total water production	31.04
Estimated amount lost in leakages	6.70
Water available for end users	24.34