

News Release



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Environment

World Day for Water 2007

Water production and consumption in Malta decreased by 13 per cent over a six-year span.

March 22 is the World Day for Water. This UN Observance aims at promoting awareness of the extent to which the development of water resources contributes to economic productivity and social well-being.

The data made available by the Water Services Corporation for the period 2000-2006 indicate that water consumption patterns in Malta have been in tandem with production levels. Both water production and consumption in 2006 show a decrease of around five million cubic metres over the initial year in this time series, i.e., 2000 (Table 1 and Chart 1).

Theme:
Environment and Energy

Sectoral water consumption in industry

Table 2 presents data on water consumption patterns in Maltese industry. The data here have been harmonised in line with the NACE classification of economic activities, which is used internationally. In 2006, the Manufacturing sector consumed around 1.05 million cubic metres of water, the bulk of which went into the manufacture of food and beverages (61 per cent) and the manufacture of other transport equipment (11 per cent).

Apart from the Manufacturing sector, the Hotels and Restaurants sector was the heaviest sectoral water consumer, with 35 per cent of water consumption of the non-manufacturing NACE sectors (Chart 2)■

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Table 1. Water production and consumption in Malta

cubic metres

Year	Total production	Total consumption*	End-of-year reserves
2000	35,150,924	35,160,415	340,920
2001	33,603,700	33,647,308	297,313
2002	34,048,132	34,039,412	306,032
2003	34,165,692	34,193,511	282,080
2004	32,781,379	32,791,135	272,324
2005	31,043,602	31,033,785	282,124
2006	30,528,407	30,475,397	335,334

*includes water losses

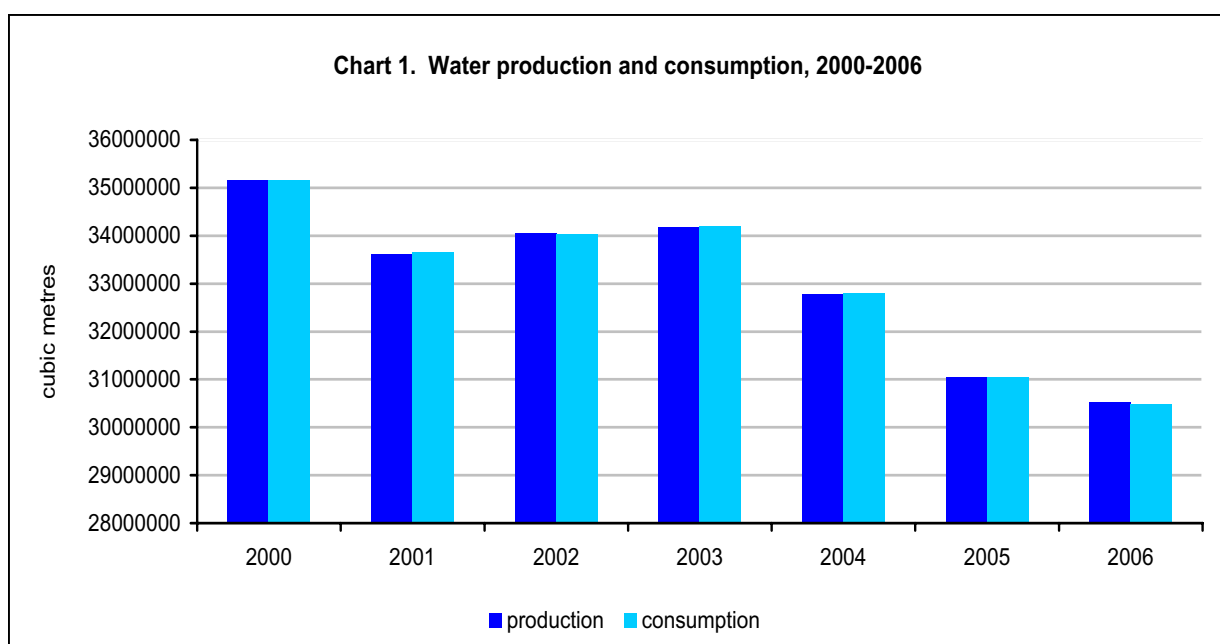


Table 2. Water consumption of Manufacturing sector, by sub-sector

NACE	Sub-sector	Sectoral water consumption in cu.metres	Percentage
15	food products and beverages	637,656	60.82
16	tobacco products	1,031	0.10
17	textiles	57,670	5.50
18	wearing apparel, dressing and dyeing of fur	15,818	1.51
19	tanning and dressing of leather; manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddlery, harness and footwear	1,101	0.11
21	pulp, paper and paper products	2,817	0.27
22	publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	12,682	1.21
24	chemicals and chemical products	56,069	5.35
25	rubber and plastic products	19,955	1.90
26	non-metallic mineral products	14,399	1.37
28	fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	18,838	1.80
29	machinery and equipment n.e.c.	2,513	0.24
31	electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.	6,459	0.62
32	radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus	51,679	4.93
33	medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	8,097	0.77
35	other transport equipment	116,799	11.14
36	furniture; manufacturing n.e.c.	23,294	2.22
	Others	1,513	0.14
	Manufacturing sector	1,048,390	100.00

