

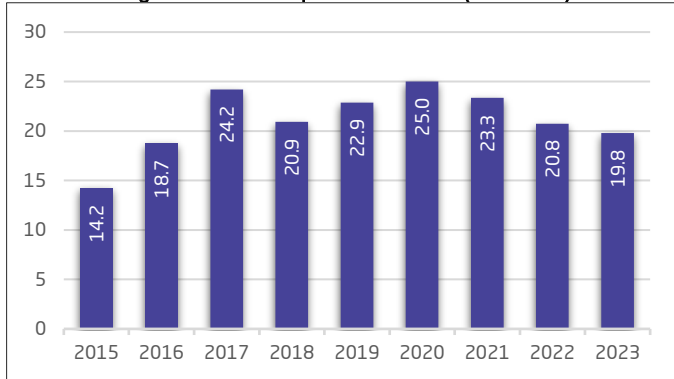
Marine protected areas increase by 17.7% in 2023

Marine protected areas recorded an increase in 2023 by 17.7% reaching 14 thousand km² compared to 2022 which was 12 thousand km². On the other hand, the area of protected land recorded an increase in 2023 by 7.1%, reaching 361 thousand km² compared to 337 thousand km² in 2022, comprising 18.1% of the total land area of the Kingdom (Table 1).

Municipal waste

The quantity of municipal waste collected in 2023 decreased by 4.6% amounting to 19.8 million tons of municipal waste compared to 20.8 million tons in 2022 (Figure 1).

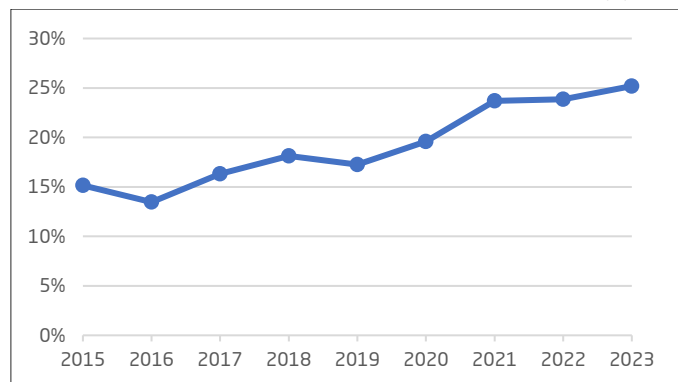
Figure 1. Total municipal waste collected (million tons)



Reused treated water

The volume of reused treated water in 2023 increased by 13.3% reaching 554 million m³ compared to 489 million m³ in 2022. In addition, 25.2% of the total volume of treated water in 2023 was reused (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Percentage of reused treated water from treated water (%)

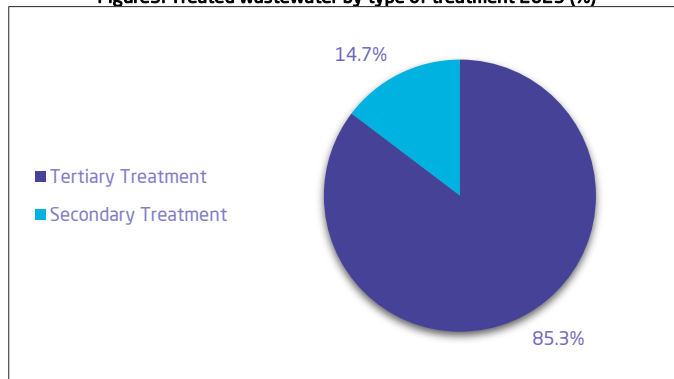


Wastewater treatment plants

The total capacity of wastewater treatment in the municipal sector increased by 8.9% reaching 2.5 billion m³ in 2023 compared to 2.3 billion m³ in 2022, and the number of plants reached 147 in 2023.

Furthermore, the amount of treated water in the municipal sector reached 2.1 billion m³ for 2023, of which 85.3% was treated water treated through tertiary treatment and 14.7% was treated by secondary treatment (Figure 3, Table 1).

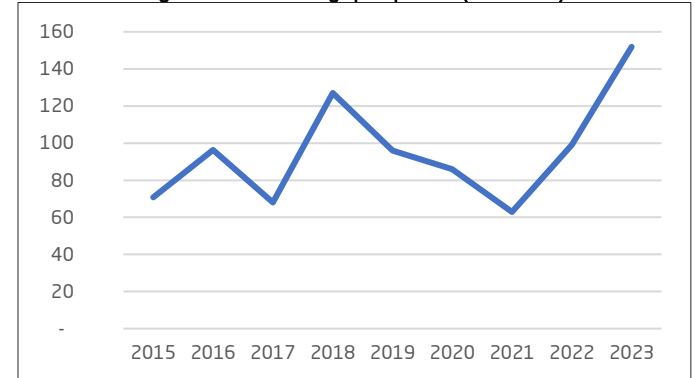
Figure 3. Treated wastewater by type of treatment 2023 (%)



Annual average precipitation

The annual average precipitation reached 152 millimeters in 2023, 53.4% higher than in 2022 while the long-term average annual precipitation for the reference period (1991-2023) was 91 millimeters. On the other hand, the amount of flood water received by dams in 2023 increased by 164.1% reaching 1574 million m³ compared to 596 million cubic meters in 2022 (Figure 4, Table 1).

Figure 4. Annual average precipitation (millimeters)



Green spaces and areas of gardens and parks in the municipal sector

The area of green spaces in the municipal sector increased by 3.2% in 2023, reaching 230 million m² compared to 223 million m² in 2022. The area of gardens and parks in the municipal sector increased by 1.4%, reaching 149 million m² in 2023 compared to 147 million m² in 2022. The area of national parks reached 340 million m² in 2023 with 2.6 million planted trees (Table 1).

Table1: Key Indicators of Environmental Statistics Publication 2023

Statistical indicators	Unit	2022	2023
Terrestrial protected area	Square kilometer	337,133	361,146
Marine protected area	Square kilometer	12,216	14,383
The amount of flood water received by the dams	Million cubic meters	596	1574
Wastewater treatment plants	Number	143	147
Total capacity of wastewater treatment plants in the municipal sector	billion cubic meters	2.3	2.5
Volume of wastewater treated in the municipal sector	billion cubic meters	1.9	2.1
Volume of reused treated water	Million cubic meters	489	554
The area of gardens and parks in the municipal sector	million square meters	147	150
The area of green spaces in the municipal sector	million square meters	223	230
The amount of municipal waste collected	Million tons	20.8	19.8

Source: [Tables](#).

Methodology and Quality

The Environment Statistics Publication was prepared according to the General Framework for Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) prepared by the United Nations Organization, and relies on two main sources: Statistics from the General Authority for Statistics (censuses, sample surveys) and statistics from administrative records sources, including the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Ministry of Municipalities and Housing, Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, Public Authority for Water, and Environmental Centers.

[For more details, please refer to the Methodology and Quality.](#)