

Water Resources

Germany is a country rich in water; 2.2% of its surface area is covered by water. The water surface is comprised of eleven large rivers (Elbe, Danube, Rhine, Weser, Ems, Warnow/Peene, Elder, Schiel/Trave, Oder, Rhône, Maas). Natural lakes contribute approximately 0.85% of the surface area. Furthermore, Germany has 291 dams. Approximately 11.7% of the surface area is designated to drinking water protection and underlie restrictions of use to protect existing water resources.

Germany's Water Use

83% Industry 3% Agriculture 14% Domestic

A vast amount of Germany's water is used within the industrial sector, and nearly two thirds of this is used in the production of electricity:

Production of electricity: 72.7%

Manufacturing: 17%
Mining & Quarrying: 7.7%

Construction & Other: 2.6%

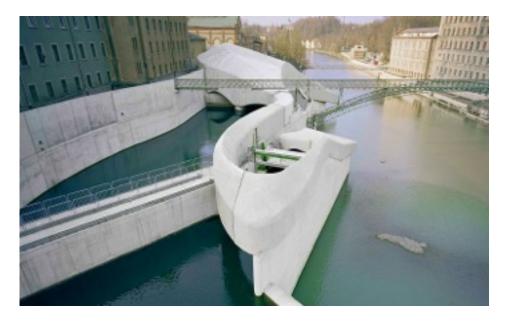


Fresh Water Supply and Sanitation

Public water supply and sanitation in Germany is universal and of good quality. Compared to other developed countries it has low per capita water use, this is helped by the high share of advanced wastewater treatment and very low distribution losses. Responsibility for water supply and sanitation provision lies with 6,400 different public water suppliers.







Iller Hydroelectric Plant, Kempten, Germany

