Water Account, Mauritius 2023-2024



Statistics Mauritius

Ministry of Finance

October 2026

Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in reports and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not, in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

Foreword

This report is the sixth issue prepared by Statistics Mauritius presenting Water Accounts for years 2023 to 2024 based on the UN System of Environment – Economic Accounts (SEEA).

Other indicators on water covering the period 2015 to 2024 are also reported. Wherever possible, latest data available are presented and these may be subject to revision in later issues. All data, unless otherwise stated, refer to the Island of Mauritius.

Data produced by the Water Resources Commission of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, the Central Water Authority and Wastewater Management Authority and some other organisations were used to prepare the Water Account.

The cooperation and assistance of all these organisations are gratefully acknowledged.

The report, together with other publications released by Statistics Mauritius, is available on the website https://statsmauritius.govmu.org.

Mukesh Dawoonauth
Director of Statistics

Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance
Port Louis
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List of Symbols and Abbreviations

-	Nil or negligible
…	Not available or not applicable
CPC	Central Product Classification
CWA	Central Water Authority
m^3	Cubic metres
hm^3	Hectometre cube (million cubic metres)
inhab	Inhabitants
IRWS	International Recommendation for Water Statistics
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
km	Kilometre
KWh	Kilowatt hour
L	Litre
mm	Millimetres
Mm^3	Million cubic metres
%	Percent
km^2	Square kilometres
SEEA	System of Environment-Economic Accounting
TRWR	Total Renewable Water Resources
UFW	Unaccounted For Water
UN	United Nations
WRC	Water Resources Commission
WMA	Wastewater Management Authority

Note: Figures presented in the tables may not add up to totals due to rounding.

1. Introduction

This report on Water Accounts shows the stock and flow of water in physical terms between the environment and the different sectors of the economy for the Island of Mauritius. The accounts include rainfall, water abstractions (that is, withdrawals from reservoirs, rivers and boreholes), water uses, and wastewater, among others.

The Water Accounts are based on the United Nations System of Environment-Economic Accounting of Water (SEEA-Water) and the International Recommendation for Water Statistics (IRWS).

2. Salient features of the report

Water resources

- Precipitation (or rainfall) in Mauritius decreased from 2,543 mm in 2023 to 2,186 mm in 2024.
- Rainfall intensity in 2024 was 8.3% above the long-term annual mean of 2,018 mm for the period 1991–2020.
- Total Renewable Water Resources (TRWR) decreased from 3,319 Mm^3 in 2023 to 2,854 Mm^3 in 2024.
- Total freshwater abstracted from the environment for use within the economy as a proportion of available water increased from 18.6% in 2023 to 21.8% in 2024. Therefore, the Island was still in the 'no stress' class in terms of water stress severity.

Water abstraction

- From 2023 to 2024, freshwater abstraction from the environment increased by approximately 6.7%, from 955 Mm^3 to 1,019 Mm^3, including water abstracted for hydropower generation.

Water utilisation

- With a rise of 5.9%, total water utilisation reached 1,178 Mm^3 in 2024, compared to 1,112 Mm^3 in 2023.

Water consumption

- In 2024, total water consumption was 214 Mm^3, representing a decrease of 4.3% compared to 224 Mm^3 in 2023.

Water return to the environment

- The total amount of water returned to the environment increased from 731 Mm^3 in 2023 to 805 Mm^3 in 2024, representing 79.0% of water abstracted in 2024.

Water utility

- Water abstracted by CWA increased from 313 Mm^3 in 2023 to 332 Mm^3 in 2024.
- Unaccounted for Water by CWA increased from 202 Mm^3 in 2023 to 217 Mm^3 in 2024. The proportion of abstraction by water utilities that is lost increased from 64.5% to 65.3% over the same period.

3. Water resources

Table 1 below shows some indicators of water availability for the years 2023 and 2024.

Precipitation (or rainfall) in Mauritius for 2023 was 4,742 Mm^3 from 2,543 mm of rainfall. In 2024, a total amount of 4,077 Mm^3 of water was received from 2,186 mm of rainfall. With regards to the long-term annual mean of 2,018 mm of rainfall for the period 1991-2020, there was an increase of around 26.0% and 8.3% in rainfall intensity in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

As shown in *Table 1*, out of the water received from precipitation, 60% went as surface runoff, 10% recharged groundwater resources and the remaining 30% formed part of evapotranspiration from plants, water bodies and land surfaces.

Total Renewable Water Resources (TRWR), that is, water available from surface and ground water resources, was 3,319 Mm^3 for 2023, out of which total volume of water abstracted for use in the economy was 618 Mm^3. The economy constitutes the following sectors: Agriculture, Manufacturing and services, Hydropower generation, Water utility, Sewage collector and the Household sector. In 2024, TRWR was 2,854 Mm^3 out of which water abstraction was 621 Mm^3.

Total freshwater abstracted from the environment for use within the economy as a proportion of available water (that is, TRWR) increased from 18.6% in 2023 to 21.8% in 2024. Therefore, the Island was still in the 'no stress' class in terms of water stress severity[a].

[a] When a territory withdraws 25 per cent or more of its renewable freshwater resources, it is said to be water-stressed - UN Water

Table 1: Water Availability, Island of Mauritius, 2023-2024

Water Availability	2023	2024
Precipitation (rainfall in height), mm	2,543	2,186
Precipitation (rainfall in volume), Mm^3	4,742	4,077
Surface run off (60%), Mm^3	2,845	2,446
Evapotranspiration (30%), Mm^3	1,423	1,223
Net Recharge to Groundwater (10%), Mm^3	474	408
Total (Actual) Renewable Water Resources, Mm^3	3,319	2,854
Total Water abstractions*, Mm^3	618	621

excluding hydroelectricity

4. Physical Water Supply and Use

The physical supply and use tables describe the flows of water from the environment to the economy, within the economy, and from the economy to the environment. The balance between the water flows for the whole economy can be written as follows:

Total abstraction + use of water received from other economic units = *Supply of water to other economic units + total returns + water consumption*

That is,

Total abstraction = *Total returns + water consumption*

since total supply of water to other economic units is equal to the total use of water received from other economic units.

Water consumption gives an indication of the amount of water that is lost by the economy during use, in the sense that the water has entered the economy but has not returned to either water resources or the sea. This is because part of the water used is incorporated into products, evaporated, transpired by plants or simply consumed by households or livestock.

Figure 1 and *Figure 2* depict the different flows of water between the environment and the economy as well as within the economy for the two years under study. Rainwater collected in surface bodies and aquifers is abstracted for use by the economy. Total water flows from the environment amounted to 955 Mm^3 in 2023 and 1,019 Mm^3 in 2024.

Flows within the economy relate to potable water being channelled from CWA to resident economic units, waste water being supplied to WMA for treatment and/or disposal and some discarded water being converted into re-used water for the agricultural sector. Water flows between economic units was 158 Mm^3, on average, over the two years.

Water is also returned from the economy to the environment, that is, the internal water resources (surface water and ground water) and other resources (the sea). These can be in the form of water turbinated in hydroelectric plants, water lost from the utility supply network and waste water. The return flows ranged between 731 Mm^3 and 805 Mm^3 for the period 2023 to 2024.

Figure 1: Water flows in the environment and the economy in Mm^3, Island of Mauritius, 2023

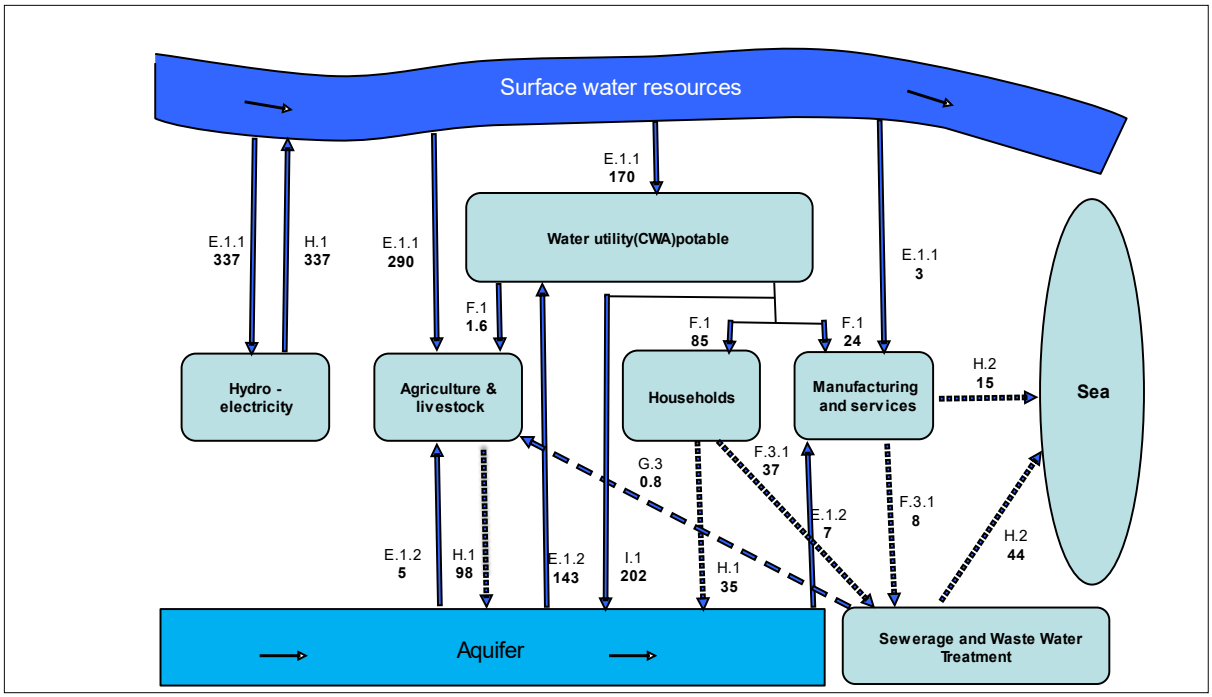
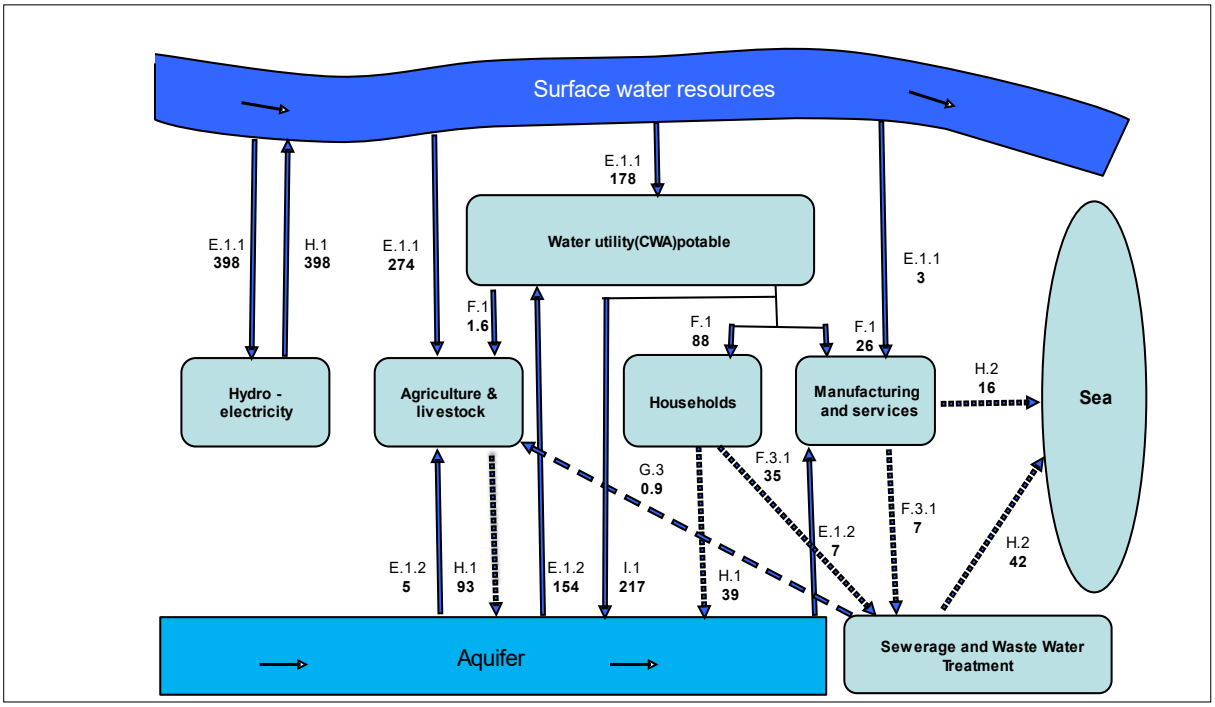


Figure 2: Water flows in the environment and the economy in Mm^3, Island of Mauritius, 2024



Legend to figure 1 and figure 2:

Water flows

Waste water flows

Reused water flows

***E.1.1**: Abstraction from surface water*

***E 1.2**: Abstraction from groundwater*

***F.1**: Water supplied by resident economic units to resident economic units*

***F.3.1**: Water supplied by resident economic units to resident economic units for treatment or disposal*

***G.3**: Wastewater received for further use*

***H.1**: Returns of water to the environment by economic units to inland water resources*

***H.2**: Returns of water to the environment by economic units to the sea*

***I.1**: Losses of water in distribution*

More details are given at “Definition from the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS)”.

Sections 4.1-4.4 explain the different parts of the Physical Supply and Use tables for 2023 and 2024.

Table 2: Detailed Physical Supply and Use, Island of Mauritius, 2023

A. Physical Use table *(millions of cubic metres)*		ISIC 01-03	ISIC 05-33, 41-43,38,39,45-99	ISIC 3510	ISIC 3600	ISIC 3700	Total	Households	Rest of the world	Total
		Agriculture	Manufacture and services	Hydroelectricity	Water utility (drinking water)	Sewerage (sewage collection and treatment)				
From the environment	**1. Total Abstraction (= 1.a + 1.b = 1.i + 1.ii)**	**295**	**10**	**337**	**313**		**955**			**955**
	1.a. Abstraction for own use	*295*	*10*	*337*			***642***			***642***
	Hydroelectric power generation			*337*			***337***			***337***
	Irrigation water	*295*					***295***			***295***
	Mine water									
	Urban run-off									
	cooling water									
	Other		*10*				***10***			***10***
	1.b. Abstraction for distribution				*313*		***313***			***313***
	1.i. From inland water resources:	***295***	***10***	***337***	***313***		***955***			***955***
	1.i.1. Surface water	*290*	*3*	*337*	*170*		***800***			***800***
	1.i.2. Ground water	*5*	*7*		*143*		***155***			***155***
	1.i.3. Soil water									
	1.ii. Collection of precipitation									
	1.iii. Abstraction from the sea									
Within the economy	**2. Use of water received from other economic units**	2	24			45	**72**	85		**157**
	of which:									
	2.a. Reused water	*0.8*					***0.8***			***0.8***
	2.b. Wastewater to sewerage					*45*	***45***			***45***
	2.c. Desalinated water									
	3. Total use of water (=1 + 2)	**297**	**34**	**337**	**313**	**45**	**1027**	**85**		**1112**

Note: Dark grey cells indicate zero entries by definition

Table 2: Detailed Physical Supply and Use, Island of Mauritius, 2023 (*continued*)

B. Physical Supply table *(millions of cubic metres)*		ISIC 01-03	ISIC 05-33, 41-43,38,39,45-99	ISIC 3510	ISIC 3600	ISIC 3700	Total	Households	Rest of the world	Total
		Agriculture	Manufacture and services	Hydroelectricity	Water utility (drinking water)	Sewerage (sewage collection and treatment)				
Within the economy	**4. Supply of water to other economic units**		**8**		**111**	**0.8**	**120**	**37**		**157**
	of which:									
	4.a. Reused water					*0.8*	***0.8***			***0.8***
	4.b. Wastewater to sewerage		*8*				***8***	*37*		***45***
	4.c. Desalinated water									
Into the environment	**5. Total returns (= 5.a + 5.b)**	***98***	**15**	**337**	**202**	**44**	**696**	**35**		**731**
	Hydroelectric power generation			*337*			***337***			***337***
	Irrigation water	*98*					***98***			***98***
	Mine water									
	Urban run-off									
	cooling water									
	Losses in distribution because of leakages				*202*		***202***			***202***
	Treated wastewater					*44*	***44***			***44***
	Other		*15*				***15***	*35*		***50***
	5.a. To inland water resources (= 5.a.1 + 5.a.2 + 5.a.3)	*98*		*337*	*202*		***637***	*35*		***672***
	5.a.1. Surface water			*337*			***337***			***337***
	5.a.2. Groundwater	*98*			*202*		***300***	*35*		***335***
	5.a.3. Soil water									
	5.b. To other sources (e.g. Sea water)		*15*			*44*	***59***			***59***
	6. *Total supply of water (= 4 + 5)*	**98**	**22**	**337**	**313**	**45**	**816**	**73**		**888**
	7. Consumption (= 3 - 6)	**199**	**12**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**211**	**13**		**224**
	of which:									
	7.a. Losses in distribution not because of leakages									

Table 3: Detailed Physical Supply and Use, Island of Mauritius, 2024

A. Physical Use table *(millions of cubic metres)*		ISIC 01-03	ISIC 05-33, 41-43,38,39,45-99	ISIC 3510	ISIC 3600	ISIC 3700	Total	Households	Rest of the world	Total
		Agriculture	Manufacture and services	Hydroelectricity	Water utility (drinking water)	Sewerage (sewage collection and treatment)				
From the environment	**1. Total Abstraction (= 1.a + 1.b = 1.i + 1.ii)**	**279**	**10**	**398**	**332**		**1019**			**1019**
	1.a. Abstraction for own use	*279*	*10*	*398*			***687***			***687***
	Hydroelectric power generation			*398*			***398***			***398***
	Irrigation water	*279*					***279***			***279***
	Mine water									
	Urban run-off									
	cooling water									
	Other		*10*				***10***			***10***
	1.b. Abstraction for distribution				*332*		***332***			***332***
	1.i. From inland water resources:	*279*	*10*	*398*	*332*		***1019***			***1019***
	1.i.1. Surface water	*274*	*3*	*398*	*178*		***853***			***853***
	1.i.2. Ground water	*5*	*7*		*154*		***166***			***166***
	1.i.3. Soil water									
	1.ii. Collection of precipitation									
	1.iii. Abstraction from the sea									
Within the economy	**2. Use of water received from other economic units**	**3**	**26**			**42**	**71**	**88**		**159**
	of which:									
	2.a. Reused water	*0.9*					***0.9***			***0.9***
	2.b. Wastewater to sewerage					*42*	***42***			***42***
	2.c. Desalinated water									
	3. Total use of water (=1 + 2)	**282**	**36**	**398**	**332**	**42**	**1090**	**88**		**1178**

Note: Dark grey cells indicate zero entries by definition

Table 3: Detailed Physical Supply and Use, Island of Mauritius, 2024 (*continued*)

B. Physical Supply table *(millions of cubic metres)*		ISIC 01-03	ISIC 05-33, 41-43,38,39,45-99	ISIC 3510	ISIC 3600	ISIC 3700	Total	Households	Rest of the world	Total
		Agriculture	Manufacture and services	Hydroelectricity	Water utility (drinking water)	Sewerage (sewage collection and treatment)				
Within the economy	**4. Supply of water to other economic units**		**7**		**115**	**0.9**	**123**	**35**		**159**
	of which:									
	4.a. Reused water					0.9	**0.9**			**0.9**
	4.b. Wastewater to sewerage		7				**7**	35		**42**
	4.c. Desalinated water									
Into the environment	**5. Total returns (= 5.a + 5.b)**	**93**	**16**	**398**	**217**	**42**	**765**	**39**		**805**
	Hydroelectric power generation			*398*			***398***			***398***
	Irrigation water	*93*					***93***			***93***
	Mine water									
	Urban run-off									
	cooling water									
	Losses in distribution because of leakages				*217*		***217***			***217***
	Treated wastewater					*42*	***42***			***42***
	Other		*16*				***16***	*39*		***56***
	5.a. To inland water resources (= 5.a.1 + 5.a.2 + 5.a.3)	*93*		*398*	*217*		***708***	*39*		***747***
	5.a.1. Surface water			*398*			***398***			***398***
	5.a.2. Groundwater	*93*			*217*		***310***	*39*		***349***
	5.a.3. Soil water									
	5.b. To other sources (e.g. Sea water)		*16*			*42*	***58***			***58***
	6. *Total supply of water (= 4 + 5)*	**93**	**23**	**398**	**332**	**42**	**889**	**75**		**963**
	7. Consumption (= 3 - 6)	**189**	**13**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**201**	**13**		**214**
	of which:									
	7.a. Losses in distribution not because of leakages									

4.1 Water Abstraction

From 2023 to 2024, fresh water abstraction from the environment increased by approximately 6.7% from 955 Mm^3 to 1,019 Mm^3. Abstraction from surface water also rose by 6.7% during the same period.

Table 4 provides a breakdown of water abstracted for the years 2023 to 2024 by sector. Out of total water abstracted for 2023, 30.9% was for agricultural use, 1.0% for industrial use, 35.3% for generating electricity and 32.8% for distribution to other resident units after treatment (through CWA).

For the year 2024, the same relative share of water was abstracted for CWA supply (32.6%) and industrial use (1.0%) as in 2023. An increase of 18.1% was noted for hydropower generation while water abstracted for agriculture was down by 5.4%.

Table 4: Fresh water abstraction by economic unit, Island of Mauritius, 2023-2024

Economic Unit	2023		2024	
	Mm^3	**%**	**Mm^3**	**%**
Agriculture	295	30.9	279	27.4
Manufacturing	10	1.0	10	1.0
Hydropower	337	35.3	398	39.1
Water Supply Industry (CWA)	313	32.8	332	32.6
TOTAL	***955***	***100.0***	***1019***	***100.0***

Over the two-year period, CWA abstracted slightly more from surface water resources (54.0%) than ground water for distribution whereas the Manufacturing sector abstracted mostly groundwater (around 70.0%) compared to surface water.

4.2 Water utilisation

In addition to water abstracted by some of the resident sectors for use (that is, Agriculture, Hydropower, Manufacturing sectors), an average of 158 Mm^3 of water was supplied by CWA in each year. The latter supplied potable water to the household sector and a mix of potable and untreated water to the manufacturing and agricultural sectors. The WMA received waste water from almost all concerned sectors, excluding Agriculture, to conduct its main activity of waste water collection, treatment and disposal. Some of the waste water was treated and directed to agriculture as re-used water (0.8 Mm^3 in 2023 and 0.9 Mm^3 in 2024).

In 2023, 1,112 Mm^3 of water was utilised by all sectors jointly. Water volume of 337 Mm^3 (30.3%) was withdrawn to generate electricity, 313 Mm^3 (28.1%) by CWA, 297 Mm^3 (26.7%) was used in agriculture, 85 Mm^3 (7.6 %) for domestic use mainly and 34 Mm^3 (3.1%) was meant for the manufacturing and services industries.

With a rise of 5.9%, the corresponding figure representing water utilisation reached 1,178 Mm^3 in 2024. The hydropower generation industry (398 Mm^3 or 33.8%) and the CWA (332 Mm^3 or 28.2%) are the two largest users of water. They were followed by the agriculture industry (282 Mm^3 or 23.9%) and households (88 Mm^3 or 7.5%). The manufacturing and services industries represented the smallest user with 36 Mm^3 of water utilised that is 3.1% of the total.

4.3 Water consumption

Water consumption refers to the portion of water use that is not returned to the original water source after being withdrawn. It includes water evaporated and/or incorporated into products or living things (humans, plants/crops, livestock).

Water consumed in agriculture, manufacturing and services, and households decreased by 4.3% from 224 Mm^3 in 2023 to 214 Mm^3 in 2024. Over the two years, the largest consumer was agriculture with water volumes ranging from 189 Mm^3 to 199 Mm^3 not being returned to the environment.

In 2024, agricultural water consumption was 189 Mm^3 (or 88.3%) whilst household sector and manufacturing (13 Mm^3 each) represented 6.1% and 5.9%, respectively, of total consumption. Therefore, 21.0% of water abstracted from the environment was consumed.

4.4 Water return to the environment

Out of the total volume of water abstracted for use in the economy in 2023, some 731 Mm^3, that is, 76.5% was returned to the environment. Of these returns, some 672 Mm^3 (91.9%) was returned to the internal water resources system and the remaining 59 Mm^3 was discharged to other sources, namely, the sea.

The total amount of water which is returned to the environment adds up to 805 Mm^3 in 2024. This represented 79.0% of water abstracted. Around 92.8% of the returns combined with existing internal water resources and the rest (58 Mm^3) with seawater. In terms of economic units, the following can be noted:

- The electricity industry returned 398 Mm^3 representing all water abstracted for hydropower;
- The agricultural sector returned 93 Mm^3 as irrigation water;
- The CWA returned 217 Mm^3 of water as a result of losses in distribution due to leakages (that is, Unaccounted for Water);

- For the remaining sectors, households returned 39 Mm^3 and the manufacturing and services returned 16 Mm^3 directly into the environment;
- Some 42 Mm^3 of water was returned by household and industrial users through the sewerage and water treatment system (WMA).

5. Water Asset Accounts

Water Asset Accounts show the stocks of water resources and their changes during a particular period, linking water use by the economy (abstraction and returns) and the natural flows of water to the stocks of water in the country. They can be represented as follows:

a) Opening and closing stocks, which are the stock levels at the beginning and the end of the period;

b) Increases in stocks, which include those due to human activity (returns) and natural causes, such as precipitation;

c) Decreases in stocks, which include those due to human activity (abstraction) and natural causes, such as evaporation/evapotranspiration and outflows.

In the absence of data on stocks at the beginning and end of the year, simplified accounts have been prepared where it is assumed that the total addition to stock and the reduction in stock of water are the same.

The physical asset accounts for water resources in Mauritius for 2023 and 2024 are shown below.

Table 5: Water Asset Account, Island of Mauritius, 2023

2023	Type of water resource					TOTAL
	Surface water			Groundwater	Soil water	
	Artificial reservoirs	Lakes	Rivers and streams			
Opening stock of water	**Opening A.1**			**Opening A.2**		**Opening A.1 + Opening A.2**
Additions to	**3,182**			**809**	**1,897**	**5,888**
Returns	179		158	335		**672**
Precipitation	2,845				1,897	**4,742**
Inflows from other territories						
Inflows from other inland water resources				474		**474**
Discoveries of water in aquifers						
Reductions	**348**	**0**	**2,834**	**809**	**1,897**	**5,888**
Abstractions	348		452	155		**955**
for hydro power generation	*179*		*158*			***337***
for cooling water						
Evaporation & actual evapotranspiration					1,423	**1,423**
Outflows to other territories						
Outflows to the sea			2,382	654		**3,036**
Outflows to other inland water resources					474	**474**
Closing stock of water	**Closing A.1**			**Closing A.2**		**Closing A.1 + Closing A.2**

Note: Dark grey cells indicate zero entries by definition

The physical asset account for 2023 (*Table 5*), mainly shows that around 3,182 Mm^3 of water was added to the existing stock of surface water by means of precipitation and returns from the economy. Out of this, 800 Mm^3 (or 25.1%) was abstracted for use and the remaining water flowed to the sea. With regards to groundwater, some 809 Mm^3 was added to the deep aquifers whereas only some 155 Mm^3 (or 19.2%) was withdrawn for use, and sea outflows was 654 Mm^3.

Table 6: Water Asset Account, Island of Mauritius, 2024

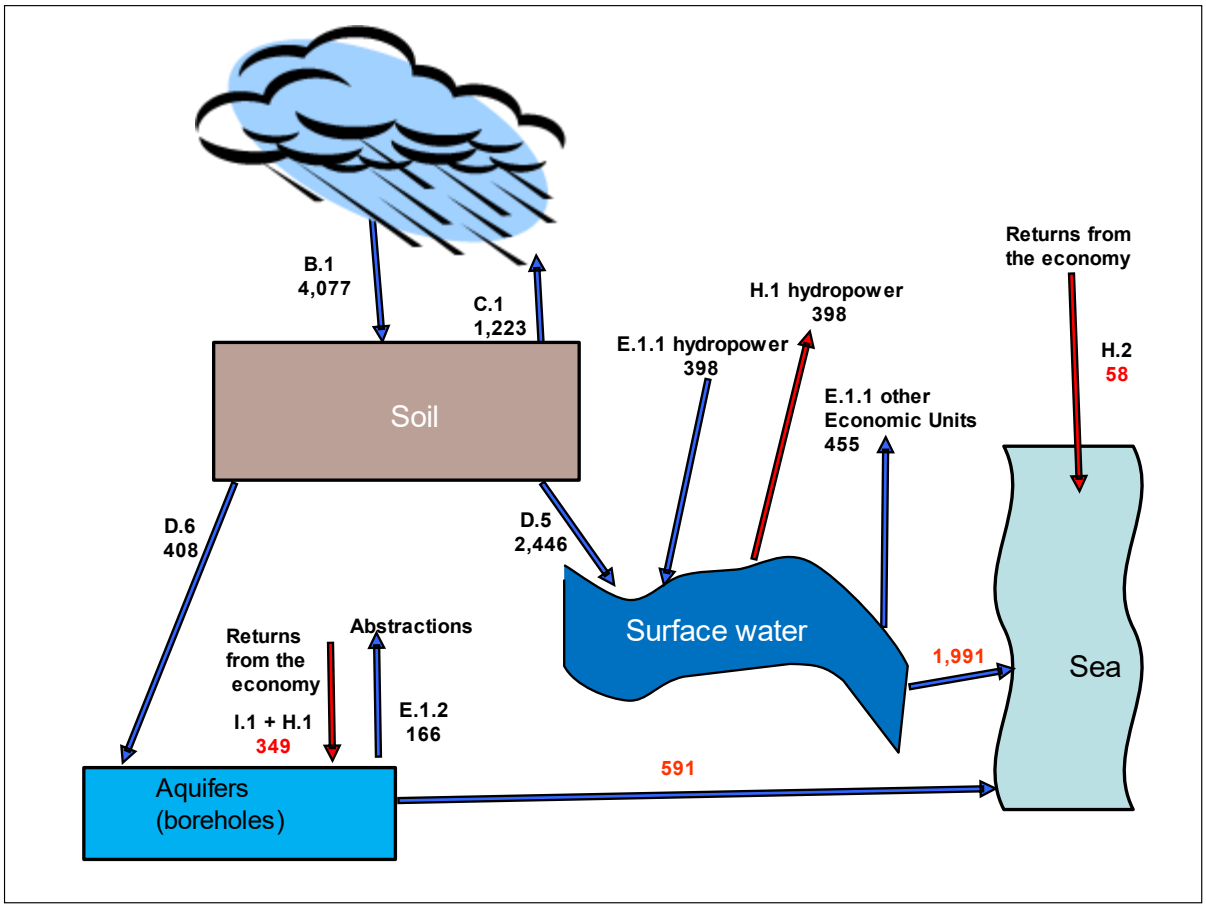
2024	Type of water resource					TOTAL
	Surface water			Groundwater	Soil water	
	Artificial reservoirs	Lakes	Rivers and streams			
Opening stock of water	**Opening A.1**			**Opening A.2**		**Opening A.1 + Opening A.2**
Additions to	**2,844**			**757**	**1,631**	**5,232**
Returns	227		171	349		**747**
Precipitation	2,446				1,631	**4,077**
Inflows from other territories						
Inflows from other inland water resources				408		**408**
Discoveries of water in aquifers						
Reductions	**391**	**0**	**2,453**	**757**	**1,631**	**5,232**
Abstractions	391		462	166		**1,019**
for hydro power generation	*227*		*171*			***398***
for cooling water						
Evaporation & actual evapotranspiration					1,223	**1,223**
Outflows to other territories						
Outflows to the sea			1,991	591		**2,582**
Outflows to other inland water resources					408	**408**
Closing stock of water	**Closing A.1**			**Closing A.2**		**Closing A.1 + Closing A.2**

Note: Dark grey cells indicate zero entries by definition

In 2024, the total volume of water added to the existing water resources was 5,232 Mm^3, representing a decrease of 11.1 % as compared to 5,888 Mm^3 in 2023. Over the year, surface water added to the environment, mainly, in reservoirs and rivers/streams was 2,844 Mm^3, ground water was 757 Mm^3 and soil water, referring to the water contained in the uppermost belt of soil, was 1,631 Mm^3.

Total reduction is mainly explained by outflows to the sea (2,582 Mm^3) from surface and ground water bodies and evaporation/evapotranspiration (1,223 Mm^3). Reduction in water stock from abstraction including hydropower was 1,019 Mm^3 and outflows to other inland water resources was 408 Mm^3. Of the total surface water and total ground water available to Island of Mauritius, water abstracted represented 30.0% and 21.9%, respectively.

Figure 3: Water flows (Mm^3) to and from inland water resources, Island of Mauritius, 2024



Note: 1. *Red numbers are rough estimates or balancing numbers.*
2. *Surface water include artificial reservoirs, lakes, and rivers and streams.*

Figure 3 shows water flows within the internal water resources and the sea in 2024. The role played by soil as a transportation medium to flow water into boreholes (408 Mm^3) and surface water bodies (2,446 Mm^3) is clearly described. In addition, soil allows evapotranspiration of some 1,223 Mm^3 of water back into the water cycle. From rainfall of 4,077 Mm^3, some 2,640 Mm^3 was flowed to the sea from internal water resources and as returns from the economy.

Contact Person

Ms V. SOOKOOL
Statistician/Senior Statistician
Email: vsookool@govmu.org

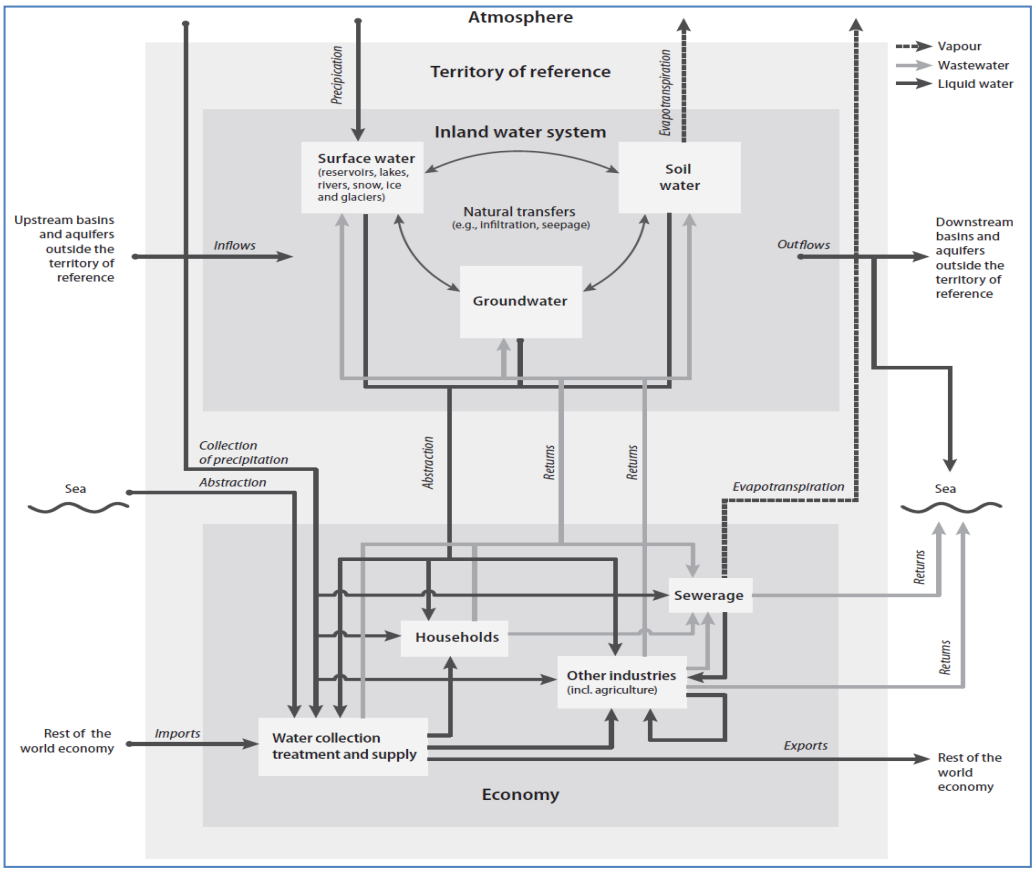
Mr. P. RAMPARSAD
Principal Statistical Officer
Email: prramparsad@govmu.org

Tel. No. (230) 650 1824
Fax: (230) 211 4150

Concepts and Methodologies

Water accounts: Water accounts are a set of statistical data representing the water stocks and flow in a country in both physical and monetary terms. The framework commonly adopted for water accounting is the SEEA-Water which provides a conceptual framework for organizing hydrological and economic information in a coherent and consistent manner in order to enable the study of the interactions between the economy and the environment.

SEEA-Water: System of Environmental and Economic Accounts for Water is presented in simplified diagrammatic form below, which shows the economy, the system of water resources and their interactions.



Source: SEEA-Water, 2012

The economy and the inland water resource system of a territory, referred to as "territory of reference", are represented in the figure as two separate boxes. The inland water resource system of a territory is composed of all water resources in the territory (surface water, groundwater and soil water) and the natural flows between and among them. The economy of a territory consists of residential water users that abstract water for production and consumption purposes and put in place the infrastructure to store, treat, distribute and discharge water.

Definition from the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS)

1. **Inland water stocks (A)** - The volume of water contained in surface water, groundwater and soil water within the territory of reference at a particular point in time. This includes freshwater, brackish water and saline water and all types of water quality.

2. **Surface water stock (A.1*)*** - The volume of water that flows from the atmosphere via rain, snow, sleet, hail, dew, mist, etc., and upon reaching the Earth's surface, either lands in surface water or flows overland into surface water bodies, per year.

3. **Groundwater stocks (A.2)** -The volume of water in porous and permeable underground layers, known as aquifers, that can yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs within the territory of reference at a particular point in time.

4. **Precipitation (B.1)** - The volume of water that flows from the atmosphere to inland water resources via rain, snow, sleet, hail, dew, mist, etc., per year.

5. **Evapotranspiration from inland water resources (C.1)** - The volume of water from land and water surfaces that enters the atmosphere by vaporization of water into a gas and through evaporation and transpiration from plants, per year.

6. **Natural transfers with other resources in the territory (D) -** The volume of water that moves between inland water resources of a territory, per year. The volume of water that moves from soils to artificial reservoirs, lakes and rivers on the land's surface (D.5). The volume of water that infiltrates from soils into aquifers (D.6).

7. **Abstraction of water (E)** is the volume of water that is removed or collected by economic units directly from the environment within the territory of reference, per year. The abstraction of water is disaggregated by the source of water: inland water resources (E.1), collection of precipitation (E.2) and abstraction of water from the sea (E.3).

8. **Abstraction from inland water resources (E.1**) - The volume of water that is removed by economic units from surface water, groundwater and soil water within the territory of reference, per year. This includes the abstraction of inland waters that are fresh, brackish, saline or polluted. This excludes abstraction of water from the sea or ocean, since these are not inland water resources

9. **Abstraction from surface water (E.1.1)** - The volume of water removed by economic units from artificial reservoirs, lakes, rivers, wetlands and snow, ice and glaciers within the territory of reference, per year. Bank filtration is considered an abstraction of surface water

10. **Abstraction from groundwater (E.1.2)** - The volume of water removed by economic units from aquifers and springs within the territory of reference, per year

11. **Water supplied to other economic units (F)** is the volume of water that is provided by one economic unit to another economic unit through mains, artificial open channels, sewers, drains, trucks or other means, per year. Water supplied to other economic units (F) excludes the losses of water in distribution that are included in data item I and the supply of bottled water (CPC, Ver. 2, 94100), which is one of the supplementary data items.

12. **Water supplied by resident economic units to resident economic units (F.1)** - The volume of water (CPC 18000) that is provided by resident economic units, typically of the water supply industry (ISIC 36), to other resident economic units through mains, artificial open channels, sewers, drains, trucks or other means, per year.

13. **Water supplied by resident economic units to resident economic units for treatment or disposal (F.3 and F.4)** - The volume of water discharged into drains or sewers by resident economic units for treatment or disposal by other resident economic units, per year.

14. **Water received from other economic units (G)** - Water received from other economic units (G) consists of G.1 water (CPC 18000) received by resident economic units from other resident economic units; G.2 water (CPC 18000) received by resident economic units from the rest of the world (water imports); G.3 wastewater received by resident economic units from other resident economic units; and G.4 wastewater received by resident economic units from the rest of the world (wastewater imports). Wastewater (G.3 and G.4) is further divided into wastewater received for treatment and disposal (G.3.1 and G.4.1) and wastewater received not for treatment and disposal (for further use, G.3.2 and G.4.2).

15. **Returns of water to the environment by economic units (H)** - The volume of water that flows from economic units directly to inland water resources, the sea or to land, within the territory of reference, per year. This includes urban storm water, losses due to leakage and burst pipes, irrigation water that infiltrates into groundwater or ends up in surface water, and the discharges of cooling water and water used for hydroelectricity generation. It excludes evaporation because evaporation is consumption.

16. **Returns of water to the environment by economic units to inland water resources (H.1)** - The volume of water that flows from economic units directly to surface water or groundwater within the territory of reference, per year.

17. **Returns of water to the environment by economic units to the sea (H.2)** - The volume of water that flows from economic units directly into the sea or ocean, within the territory of reference, per year. These discharges may occur near the coast or further offshore.

18. **Losses of water (I)** - The volume of water that is lost in distribution or lost when sent for treatment and disposal, within the territory of reference, per year. This includes water (CPC 18000) and wastewater.

19. **Losses of water in distribution (I.1**) - The volume of water (CPC, Ver. 2, 18000) that is lost during distribution and transportation, between the point of abstraction and the point of use or between the points of use and reuse (e.g., from mains, artificial open channels and trucks). Losses of water sent for treatment or disposal in collection (I.2) consists of water lost from the system used to collect, treat or dispose of discharged water, including artificial open channels and trucks used to collect discharged water.

Annex 1 : Selected water-related indicators for Island of Mauritius, 2015-2024

INDICATORS*	Units	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Indicators											
Mid-year population	`000	1,215	1,215	1,215	1,215	1,214	1,213	1,212	1,208	1,204	1,201
Population density	inhab/km^2	650	650	650	650	650	649	649	646	645	643
Hydrologic Information											
Precipitation in height	mm	2,377	1,896	2,134	2,816	2,130	1,993	2,025	2,201	2,543	2,186
TRWR	hm^3/year	3,103	2,475	2,794	3,676	2,780	2,602	2,643	2,874	3,319	2,854
TRWR per capita	m^3/inhab	2,555	2,038	2,300	3,027	2,290	2,145	2,180	2,380	2,756	2,376
Socio-economic water indicators											
Total water abstracted	hm^3/year	612	620	610	591	595	607	604	632	618	621
Water abstracted per capita	m^3/inhab	504	510	506	487	490	500	498	523	513	517
Water abstraction as proportion of TRWR	%	19.7	25.1	21.8	16.1	21.4	23.3	22.9	22.0	18.6	21.8
Water abstracted for drinking water per capita per day	Litre	553	556	589	643	666	684	712	725	712	756
Water abstracted by CWA	hm^3	255	257	262	281	287	294	295	320	313	332
Unaccounted for Water by CWA	hm^3	157	157	157	172	177	185	187	207	202	217
Proportion of abstraction by water utilities that is lost	%	61.5	61.0	60.1	61.3	61.7	63.1	63.5	64.6	64.5	65.3
Water received in households per capita per day	Litre	169	172	181	187	188	190	192	199	194	200
Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services**	%	…	…	…	…	…	…	…	99.8	…	…
Proportion of hydropower generation	%	4.1	3.3	2.9	4.0	3.0	4.0	3.6	4.1	2.9	3.6

Revised figures* * Source: 2022 Housing and Population Census*

Annex 2 : Water supply by sector, Island of Mauritius, 2015-2024

INDICATORS	Unit	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Potable Water Supply to:											
Households	Mm^3	75	76	80	83	84	85	85	88	85	88
Non-household:	Mm^3	23	24	24	26	26	24	23	26	26	28
Agriculture and livestock	Mm^3	*1*	*1*	*1*	*1*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*
Manufacturing	Mm^3	*4*	*4*	*4*	*4*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*	*3*
Accommodation & Other services	Mm^3	*18*	*19*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*20*	*18*	*21*	*21*	*23*
Total Potable Water Supply	**Mm^3**	**98**	**100**	**105**	**109**	**110**	**109**	**108**	**113**	**111**	**115**
Non-potable Water Supply to:											
Agriculture and livestock	Mm^3	8	11	8	8	7	6	5	6	6	6
Manufacturing	Mm^3	7	8	7	8	8	8	9	8	9	11
Total Non-potable Water Supply	**Mm^3**	**15**	**19**	**15**	**15**	**15**	**14**	**14**	**14**	**14**	**16**
Total Sales of water	**Mm^3**	**113**	**119**	**120**	**124**	**125**	**123**	**122**	**127**	**125**	**132**

Annex 3: Water abstraction, Island of Mauritius, 2015-2024

INDICATORS	Unit	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Abstractions											
Surface water	Mm^3	467	473	468	441	442	457	451	475	463	455
from reservoirs	Mm^3	*157*	*158*	*144*	*154*	*151*	*170*	*173*	*186*	*169*	*164*
from rivers and streams	Mm^3	*310*	*315*	*324*	*287*	*291*	*287*	*278*	*289*	*294*	*291*
Groundwater	Mm^3	145	147	142	150	153	150	153	157	155	166
Total abstraction *(excluding hydroelectricity)*	**Mm^3**	**612**	**620**	**610**	**591**	**595**	**607**	**604**	**632**	**618**	**621**
Abstraction per capita	Litre	504	510	506	487	490	500	498	523	513	517
Hydroelectricity	Mm^3	361	341	312	398	330	389	364	431	337	398
Total abstraction	Mm^3	**973**	**961**	**927**	**989**	**925**	**996**	**968**	**1,063**	**955**	**1,019**
Water abstraction by CWA for distribution											
Surface water	Mm^3	122	124	132	143	146	154	152	175	170	178
Groundwater	Mm^3	133	133	130	138	141	140	143	145	143	154
Total water abstracted by CWA	**Mm^3**	**255**	**257**	**262**	**281**	**287**	**294**	**295**	**320**	**313**	**332**
% Abstracted by CWA	%	41.7	41.5	42.6	47.5	48.2	48.4	48.8	50.6	50.6	53.5