

Key reform facts and figures

Issue	Status
Drinking water quality	21.4 per cent of water supplies (serving more than 100 people) did not achieve full compliance with New Zealand's drinking water standards Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality 2019-2020 (health.govt.nz)
Drinking water illness	More than 34,000 New Zealanders are estimated to get sick from drinking water annually https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/water-borne-disease-burden-prelim-report-feb07.doc
Public concern	A survey of more than 23,000 New Zealanders found the top infrastructure concern was not having access to safe drinking water; 80 per cent of respondents wanted more investment in water networks TeWaihangā Aotearoa2050 Report.pdf (infracom.govt.nz)
Sewage plant status	25 per cent on expired consents; more than 50 per cent to be re-consented in the next decade Report-1-National-Stocktake-of-Municipal-WWTPs.pdf (dia.govt.nz)
Sewage overflows	There were 3385 reported overflows from sewerage networks in 2019-20; the true extent of the problem is unknown WNZ NPR 2019-2020 Final v2.pdf
Infrastructure condition	Underground pipes are estimated at up to 80 per cent of the asset base; a high proportion is in an unknown state WNZ NPR 2019-2020 Final v2.pdf
Costs and revenue	43 (of 67) councils have three waters revenues that do not cover their operating expenditure, interest costs and full economic depreciation WICS final report - economic analysis of water services aggregation (dia.govt.nz)
Infrastructure deficit	Up to \$185 billion required nationally over next 30 years WICS final report - economic analysis of water services aggregation (dia.govt.nz)
Government support	\$3 billion to support councils and three waters reform process Three Waters Reform programme support package information and frequently asked questions (dia.govt.nz)
Jobs created by reform	Estimated 6000-9000 jobs created over 30 years through reform Three Waters Industry Development Study and Economic Impact Assessment (dia.govt.nz)
Economic growth	Estimated \$14 to \$23 billion increase in GDP Three Waters Industry Development Study and Economic Impact Assessment (dia.govt.nz)

The four water services entities

