

SDG Indicator 6.3.1 - Progress on wastewater treatment

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Progress on the proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated

Mid-term status of SDG Indicator 6.3.1 and
acceleration needs, with a special focus on
climate change, wastewater reuse and health

2024



Safely treated wastewater

- Target 6.3 seeks to “by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally”
- Indicator 6.3.1 is “the proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated”
 - Total and industrial wastewater: UN-Habitat
 - Domestic wastewater: WHO

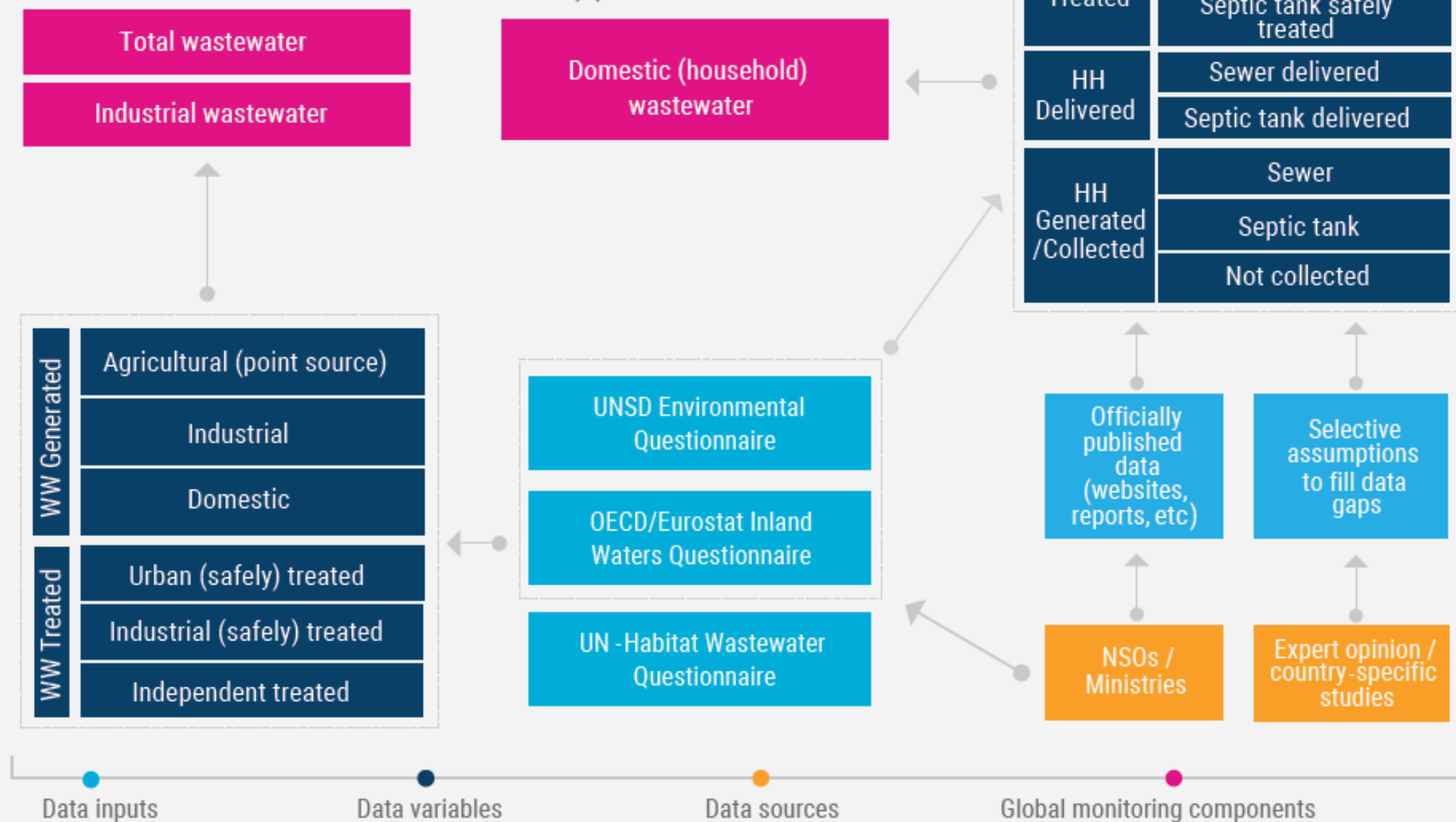


Table W4: Data for SDG 6.3.1 calculations

Volumes generated

Line	Category
1	Total wastewater generated
2	by:
	Agriculture, forestry and fishing ISIC (01-03)
3	Mining and quarrying (ISIC 05-09)
4	Manufacturing (ISIC 10-33)
5	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (ISIC 35)
6	of which by:
	Electric power generation, transmission and distribution (ISIC 351)
7	Construction (ISIC 41-43)
8	Other economic activities
9	Households

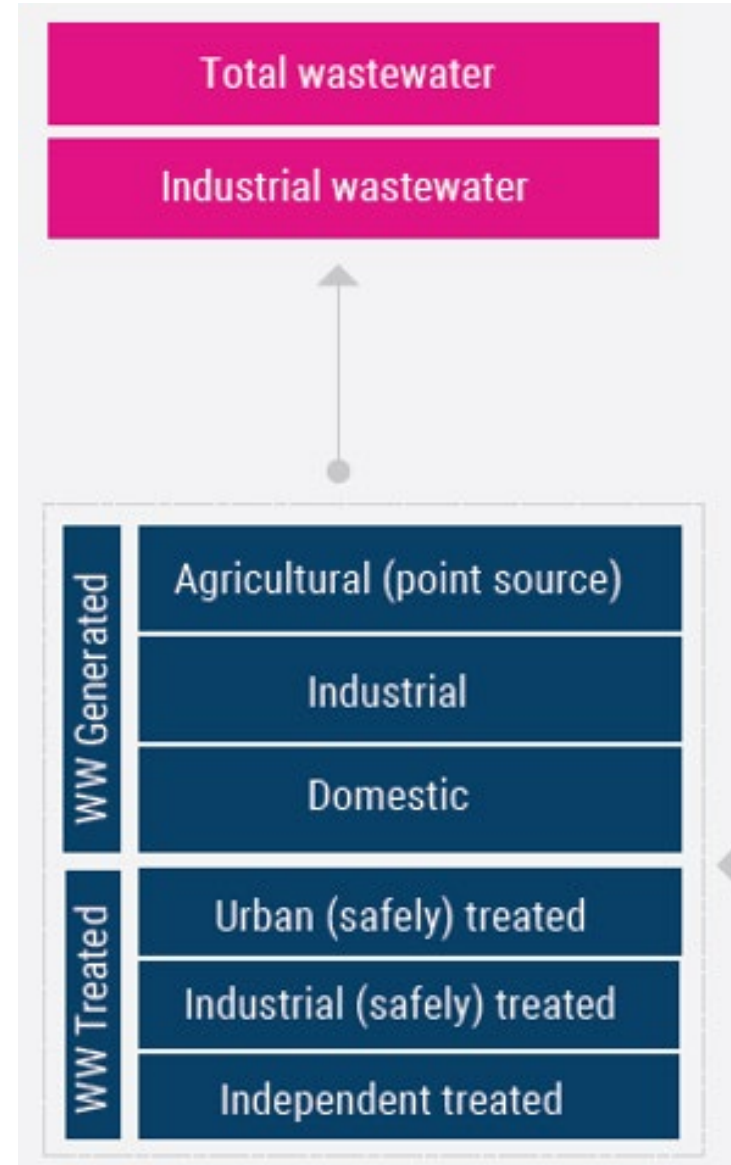
Volumes treated

Line	Category
10	Wastewater treated in urban wastewater treatment plants
11	Of which:
	Primary treatment
12	Secondary treatment
13	Tertiary treatment
14	Wastewater treated in other treatment plants
15	Of which:
	Primary treatment
16	Secondary treatment
17	Tertiary treatment
18	Wastewater treated in independent treatment facilities
19	Non-treated wastewater
20	Sewage sludge production (dry matter)

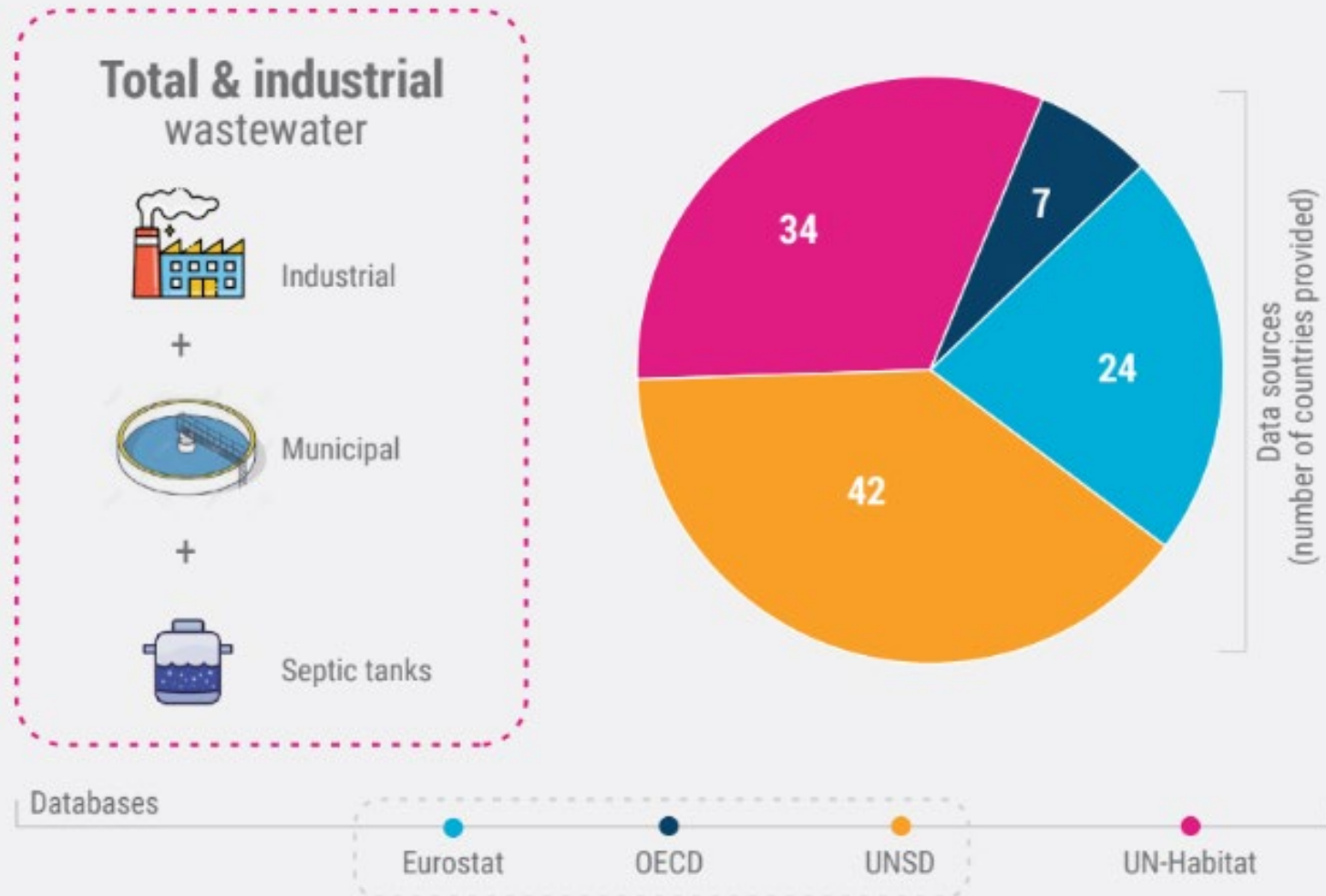
Table W5: Reporting applicable to household wastewater (household wastewater only)

Line	Category
1	Population connected to wastewater collecting system
2	Population connected to wastewater treatment
3	of which at least secondary treatment
4	Population with independent wastewater treatment (e.g., septic tanks)
5	Population not connected to wastewater treatment (100% - (2) - (4))

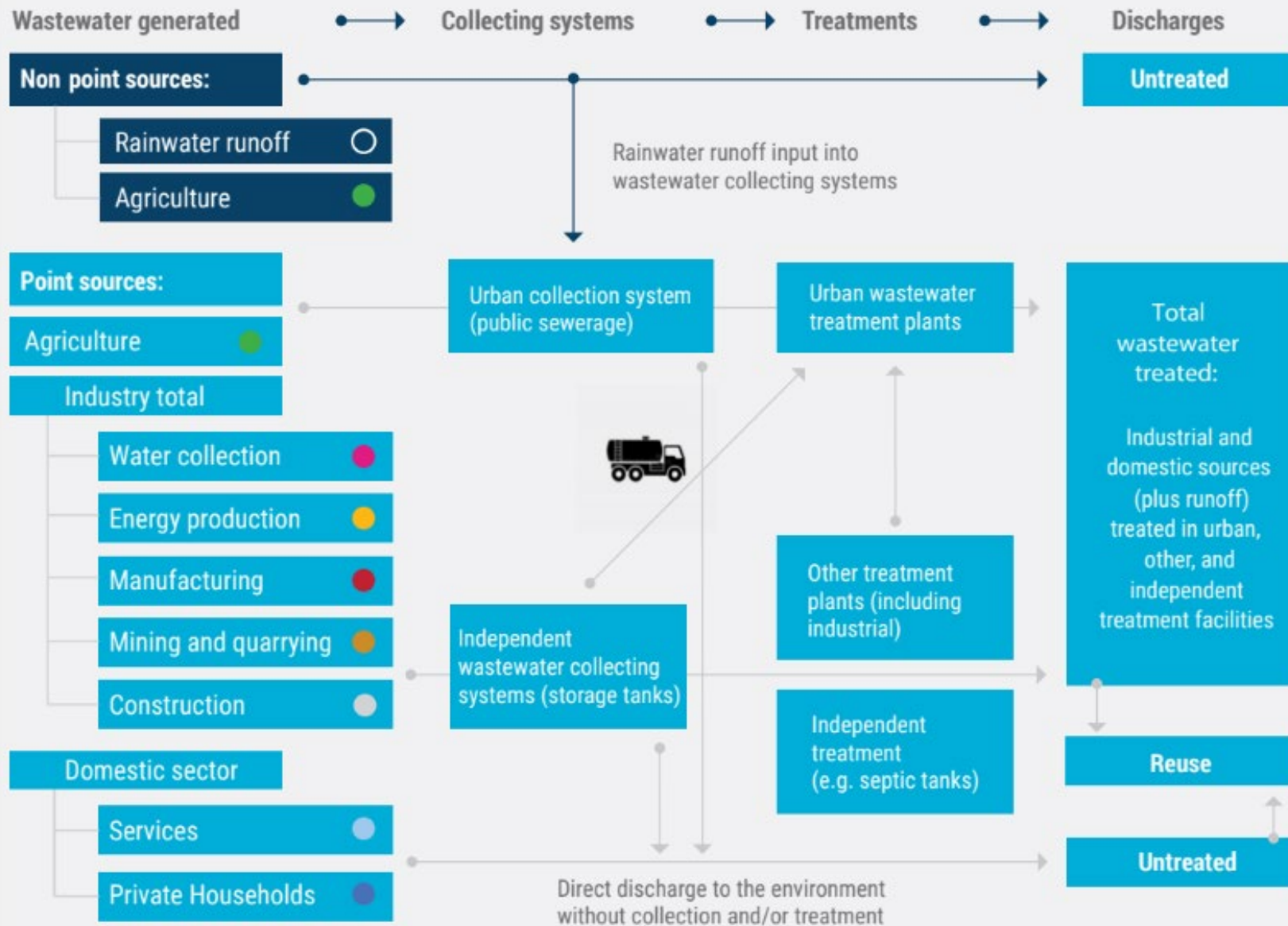
Total and industrial wastewater (UN-Habitat)



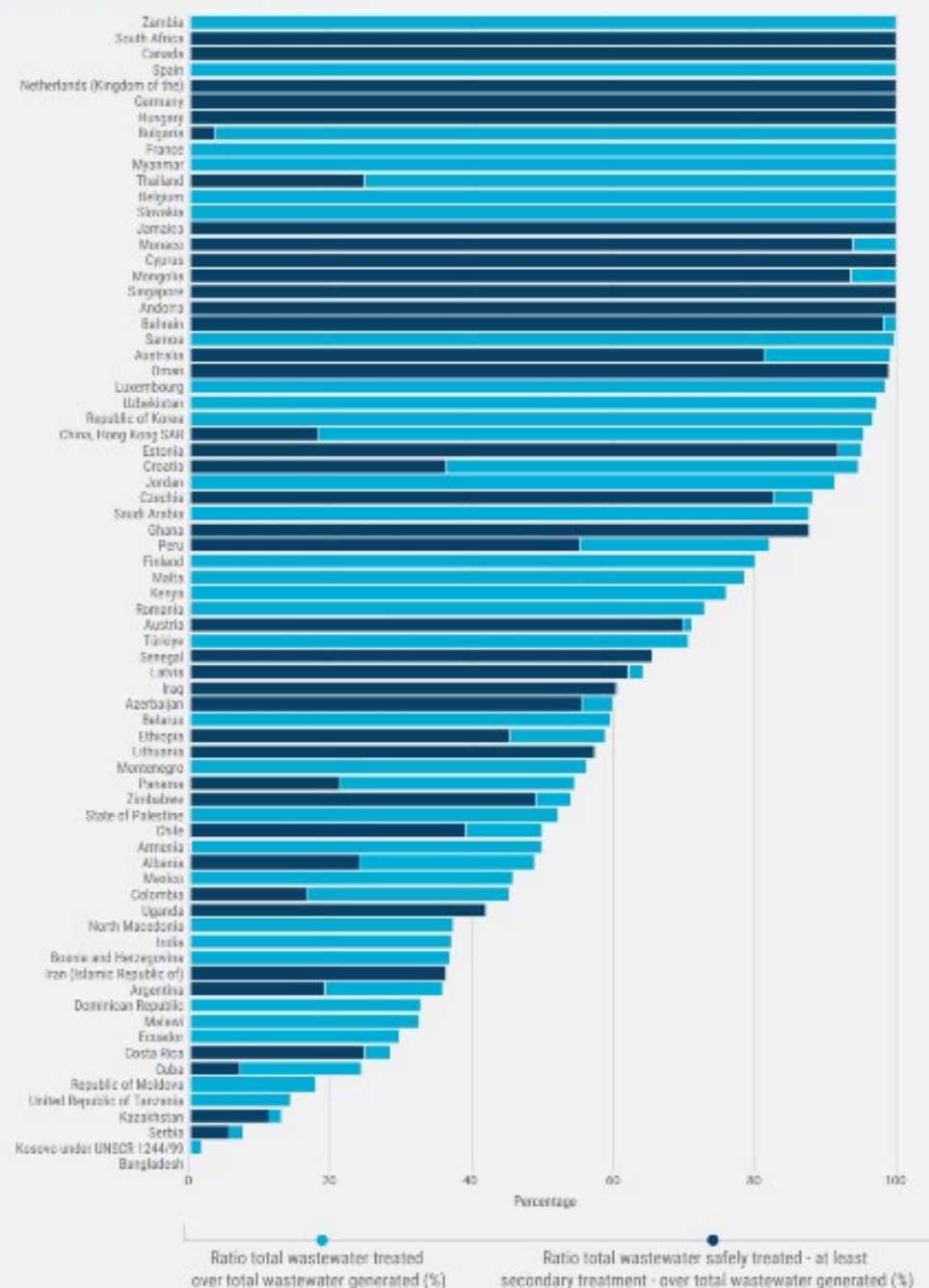
SDG 6.3.1 monitoring builds on different databases and data sources



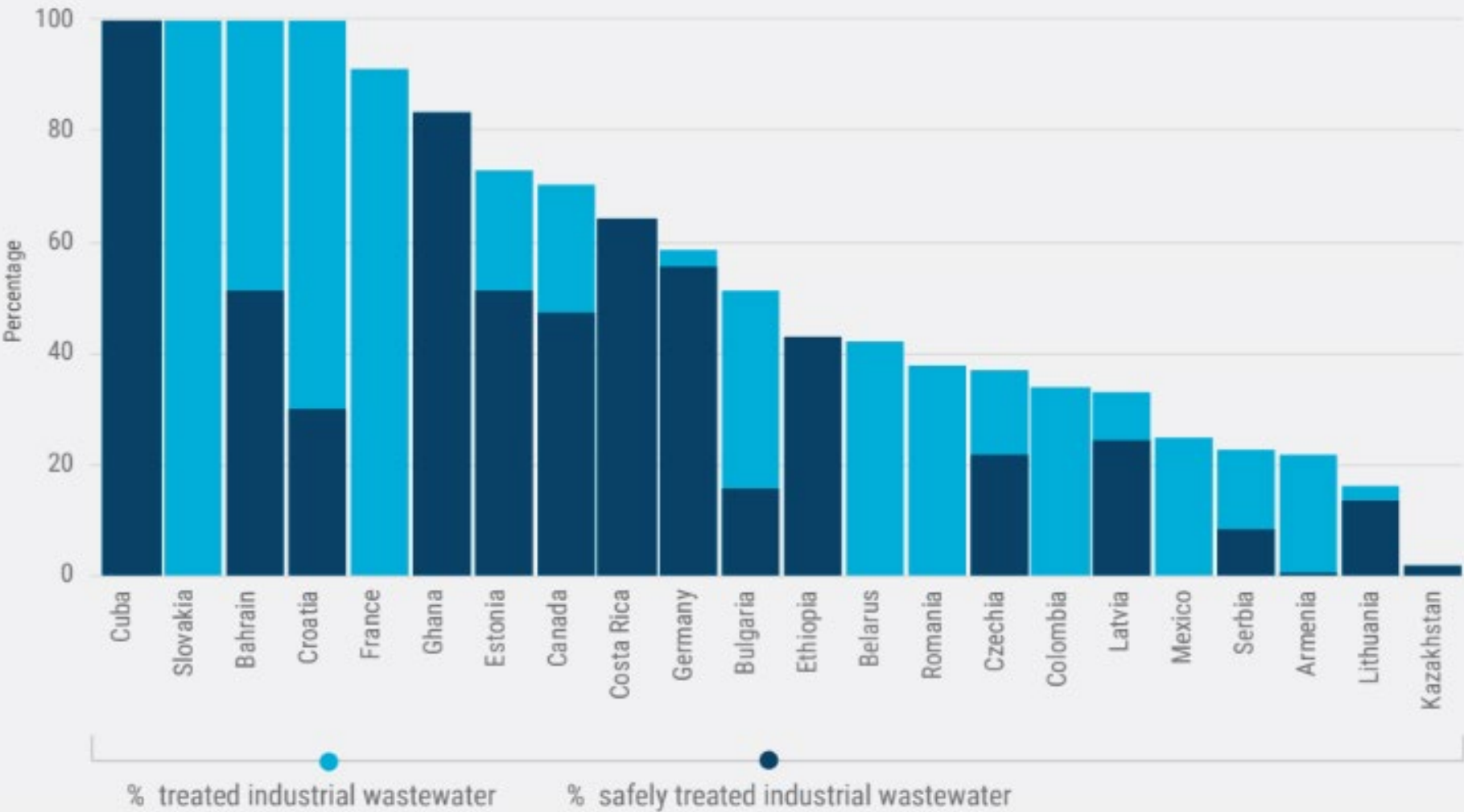
6.3.1 monitoring includes total and industrial wastewater flows from generation to discharge



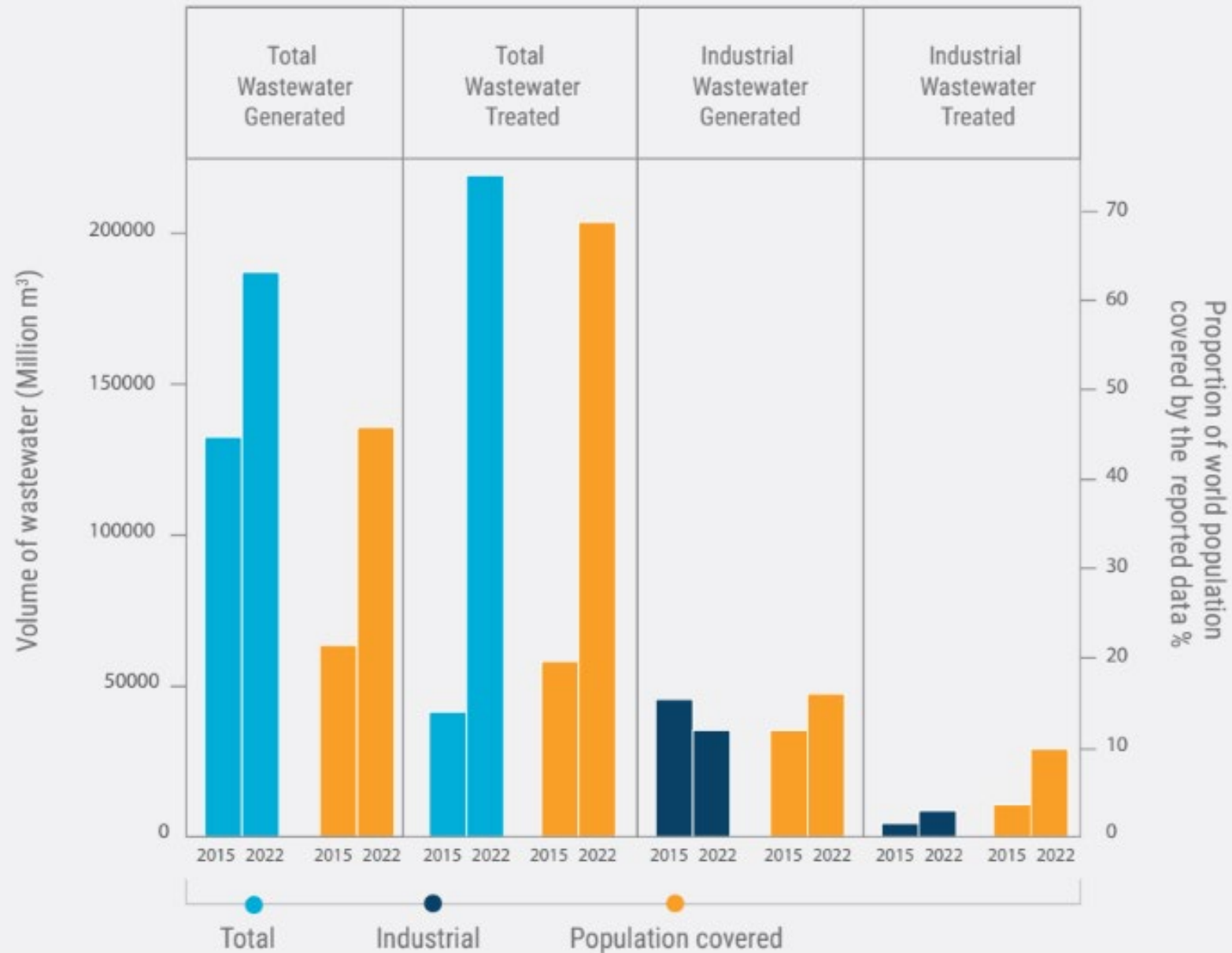
Only 73 Member States (representing less than 50 per cent of the population) reported on both total wastewater generation and treatment



Only 22 Member States (representing less than 10 per cent of the population) reported on both industrial wastewater generation and treatment



Substantial progress was achieved from 2015 (baseline) to 2022 in statistics reporting

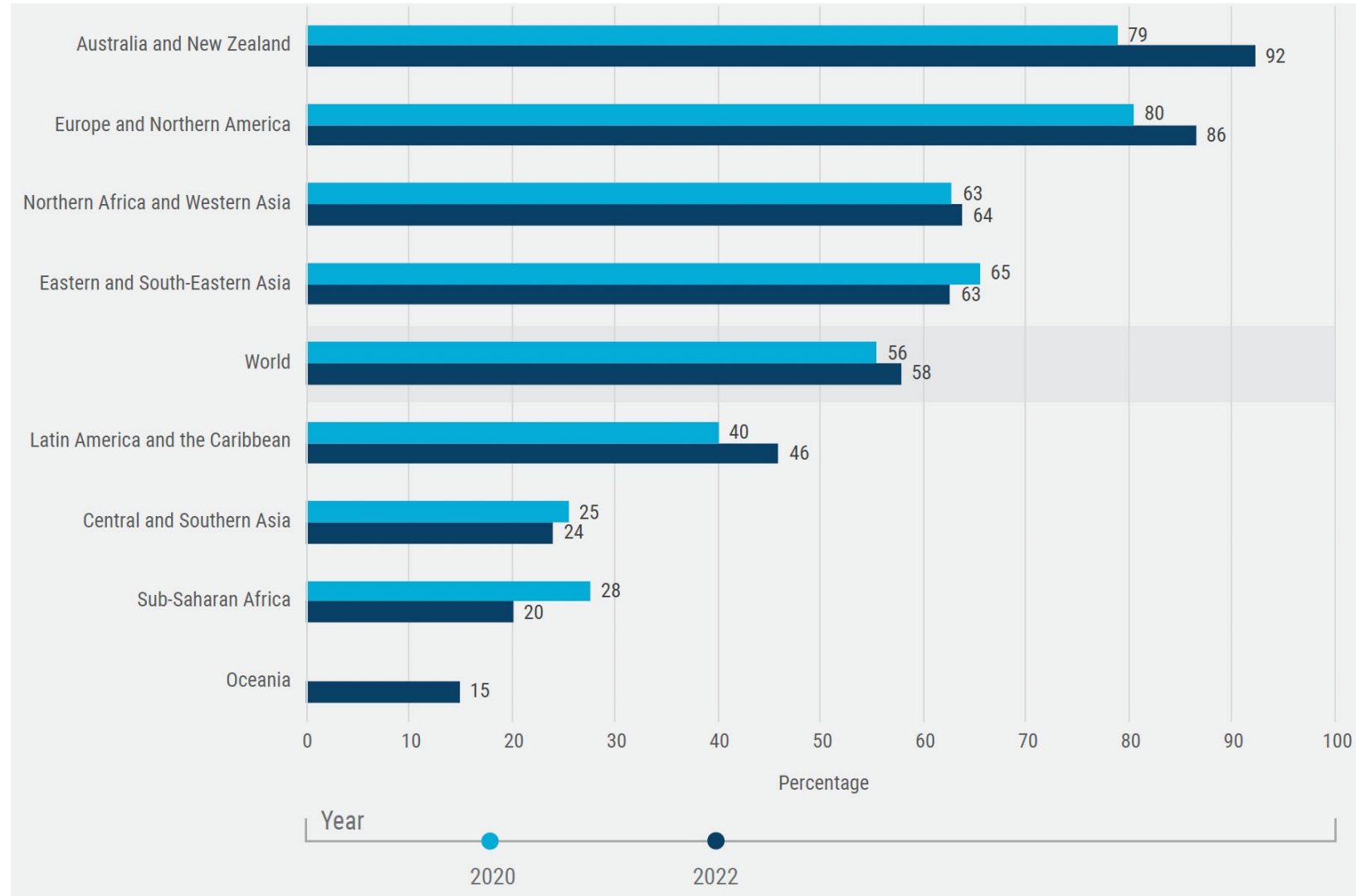


Domestic wastewater (WHO)

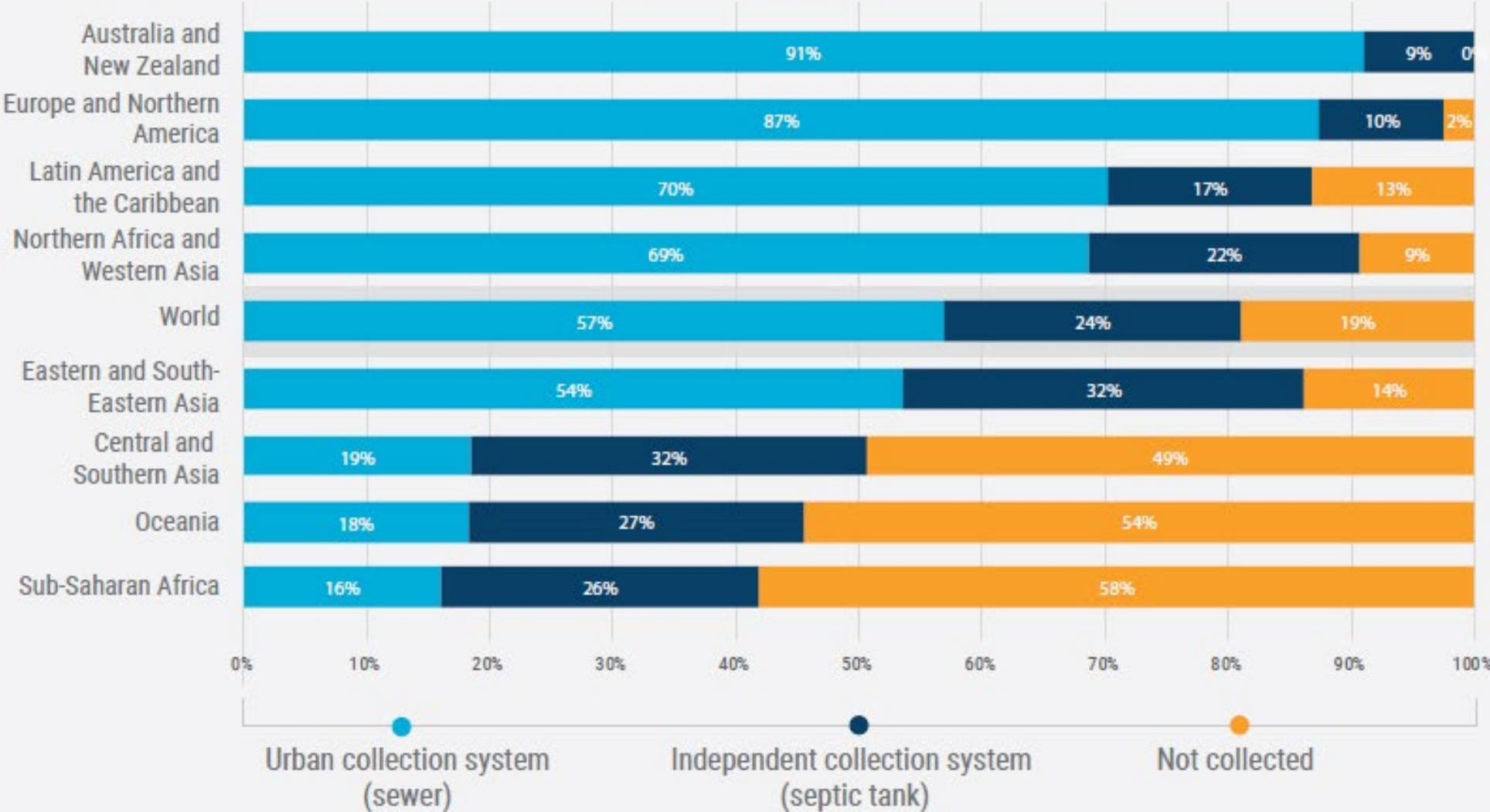
- Domestic wastewater
 - Households
 - Services
- Methods
 - Estimation of total household wastewater flows generated
 - Estimation of proportion of flow associated with sewer and septic tank connections
 - Estimation of proportions...
 - ...delivered to treatment facilities
 - ...safely treated at treatment facilities (secondary or higher or discharged in compliance)

Household wastewater

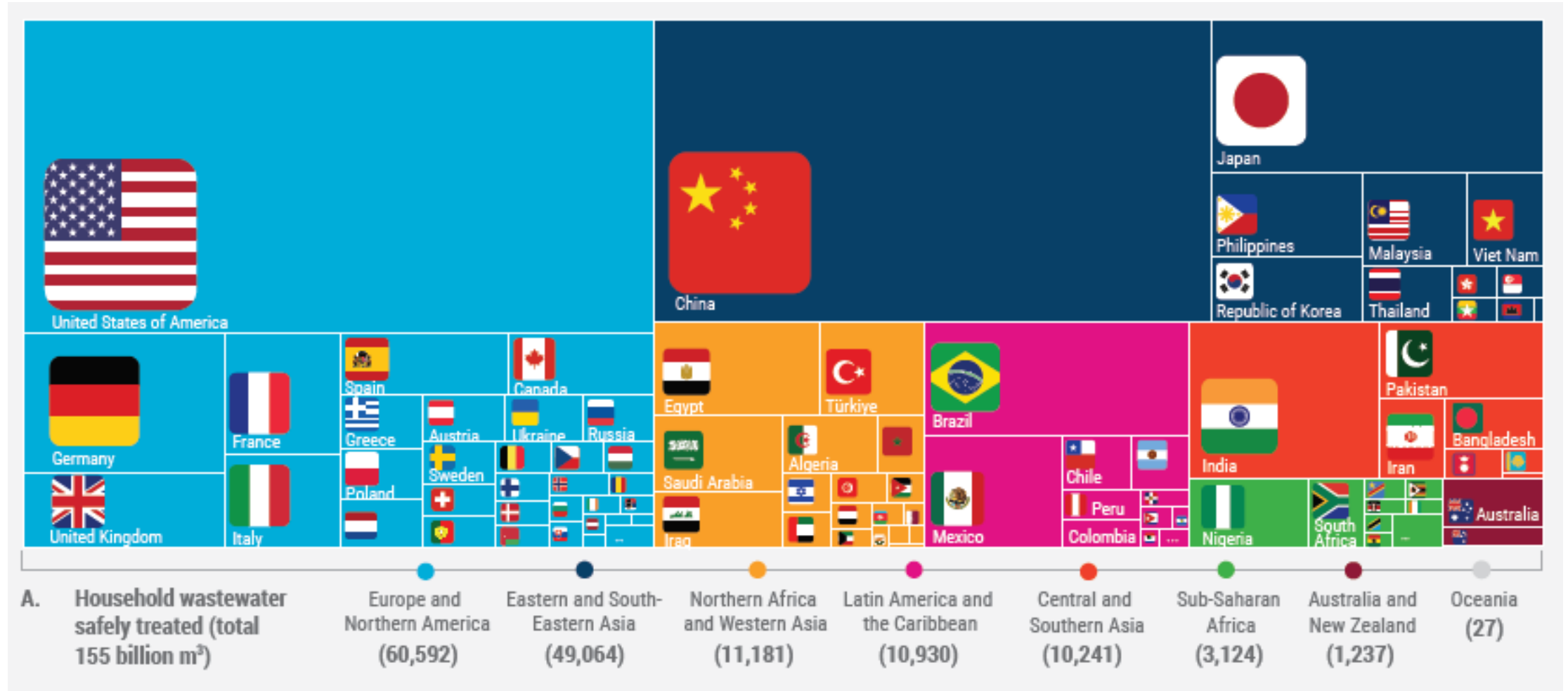
- Variability across regions
- 2020 and 2022 statistics similar, limited scope for trend analysis
- World: 56% to 58%



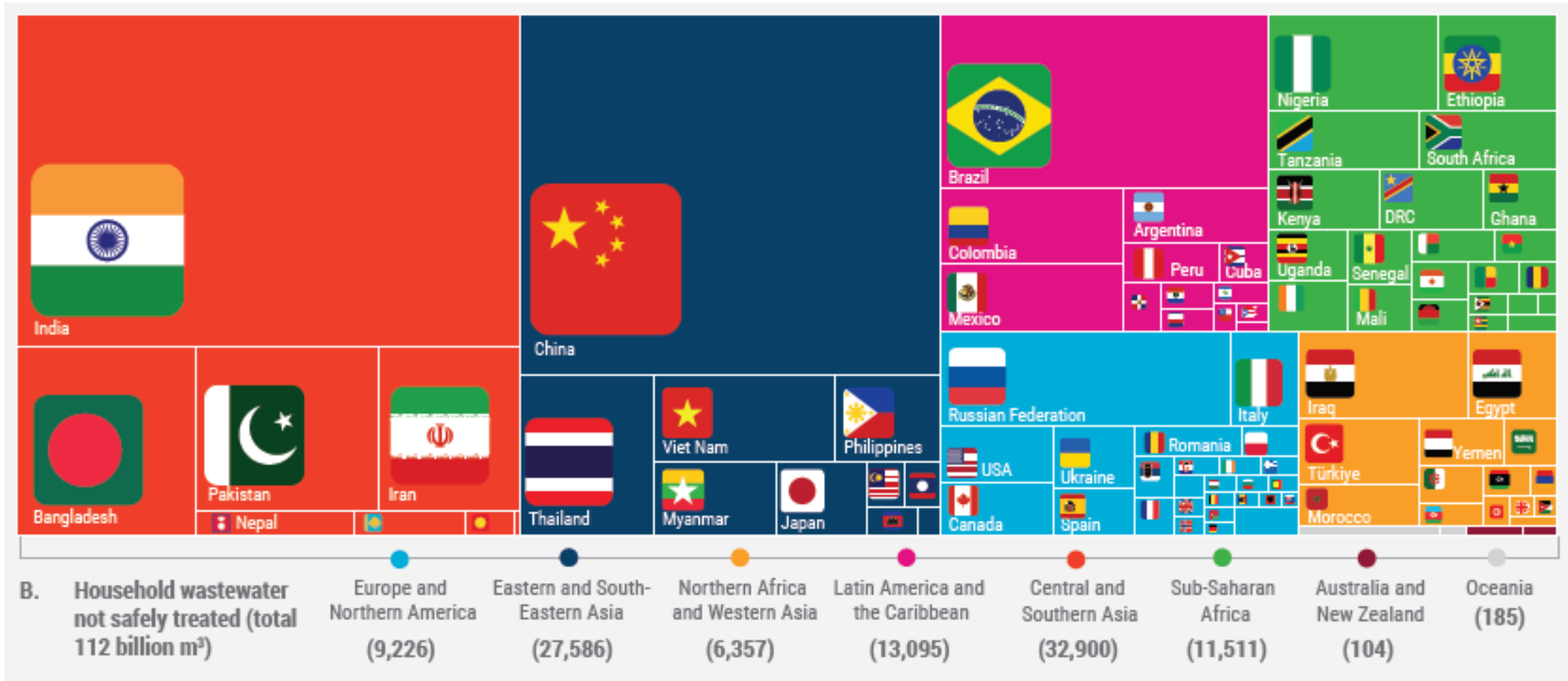
Household wastewater collection varies significantly by region



Discharges of safely treated household wastewater



Discharges of not safely treated household wastewater



Download the report!

- <https://www.unwater.org/publications/progress-wastewater-treatment-2024-update>
- <https://www.unwater.org/publications/domestic-wastewater-treatment-methodology-2024>
- <https://tinyurl.com/631household2022>



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