

SDG Indicator 6.3.1 - Progress on wastewater treatment

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EG-ECCS

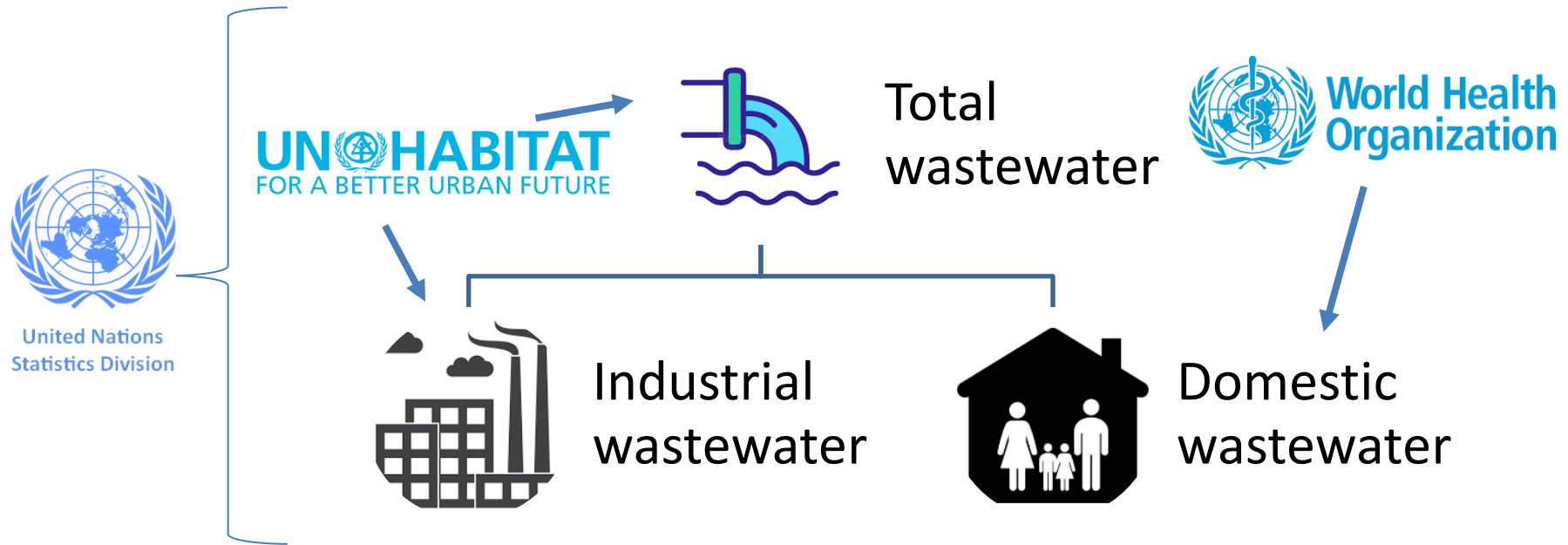
24 September 2025



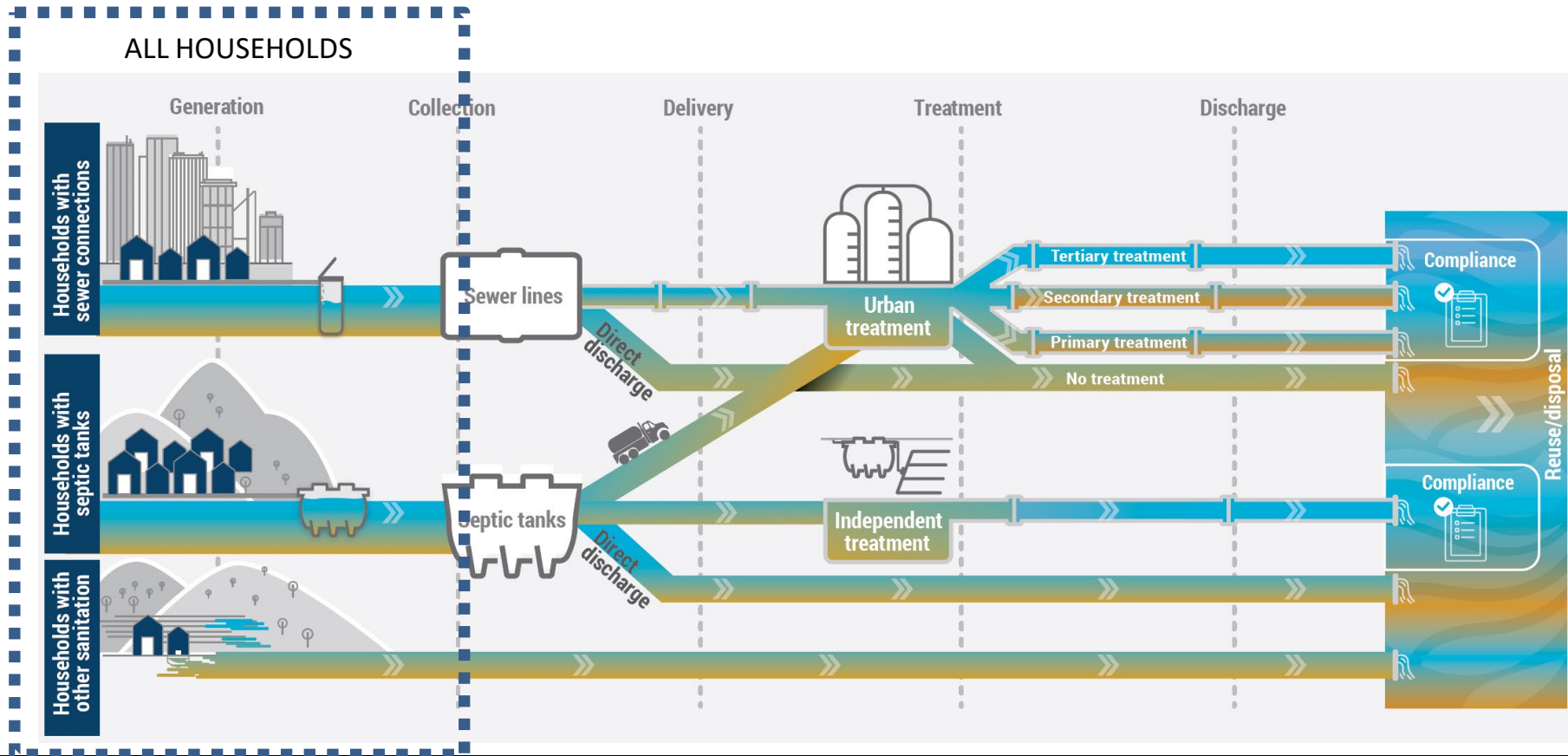
Safely treated wastewater

- 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”

Custodian agencies for global monitoring



Conceptual framework for estimating safely treated household wastewater



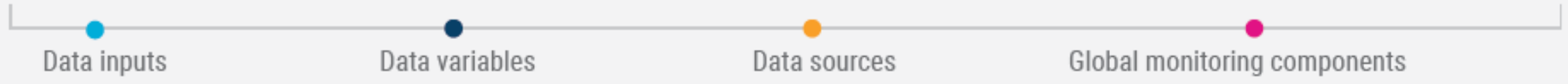
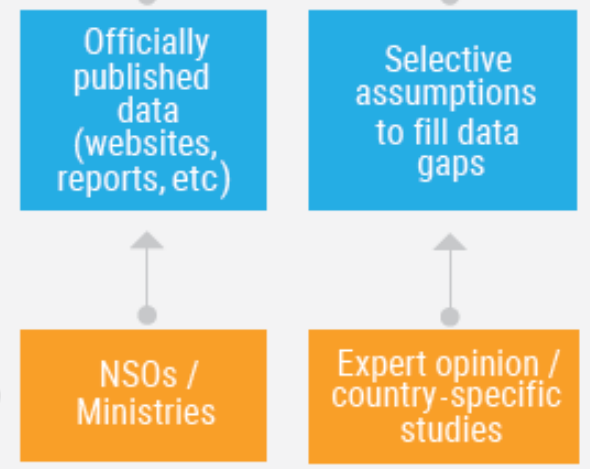
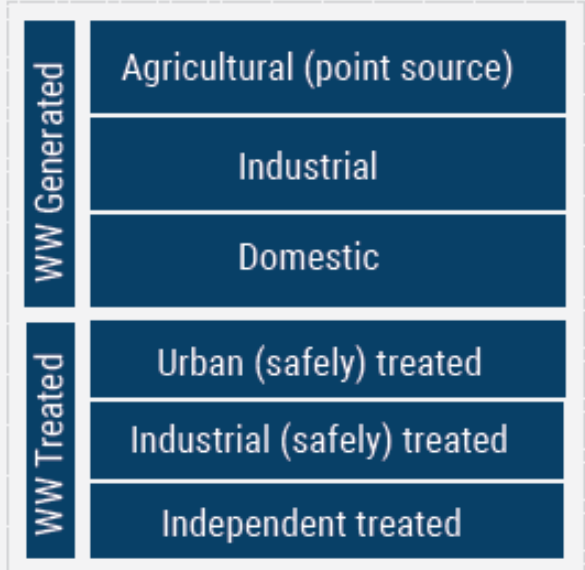
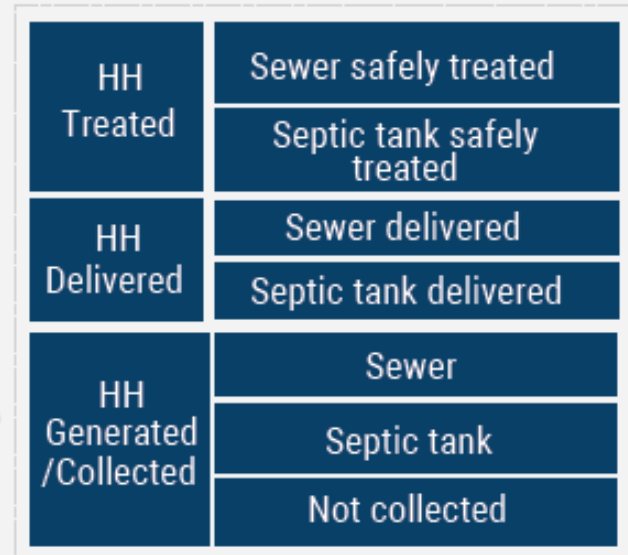
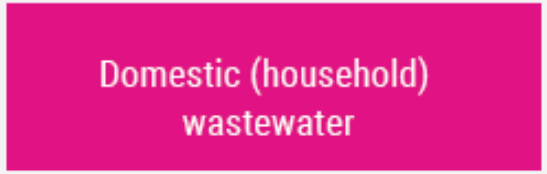
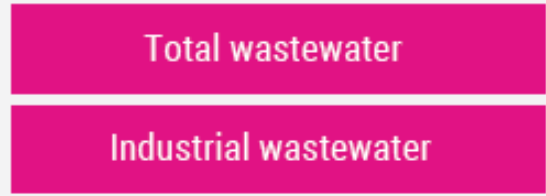


Table W4: Wastewater by volume (UNH, UNH+WHO, neither)

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)
	of which by:
6	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: Wastewater by population (WHO, neither)

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))

Table 1 – Proportion of household wastewater safely treated (2020 to 2024)

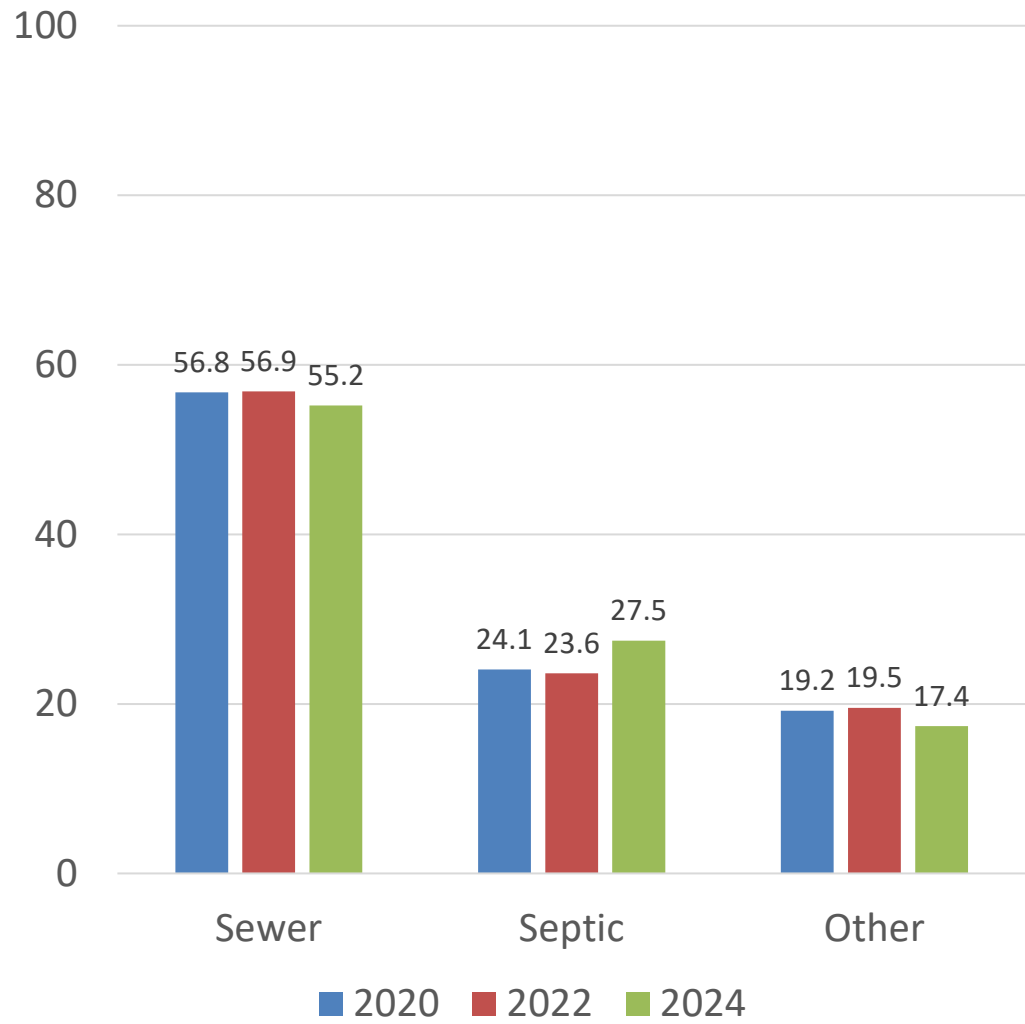
Regions	2020	2022	2024
World	55.5	57.8	55.8
Australia and New Zealand	78.8	92.2	92.2
Europe and Northern America	80.4	86.5	87.2
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	65.5	62.6	65.3
Northern Africa and Western Asia	62.7	63.8	64.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	40.8	45.9	36.6
Central and Southern Asia	25.5	24.0	27.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	27.6	20.1	19.4
Oceania	...	14.8	15.7
Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)	...	20.8	17.3
Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	...	41.1	39.4
Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	22.3	17.5	19.5
World Bank Income Groups			
High	90.4	91.9	92.0
Lower and middle income countries (LMICs)	51.8	42.7	43.5
Upper-middle	55.5	52.8	53.9
Lower-middle	31.0	33.2	32.6
Low	...	23.2	26.1

**Data coverage
(2024)**

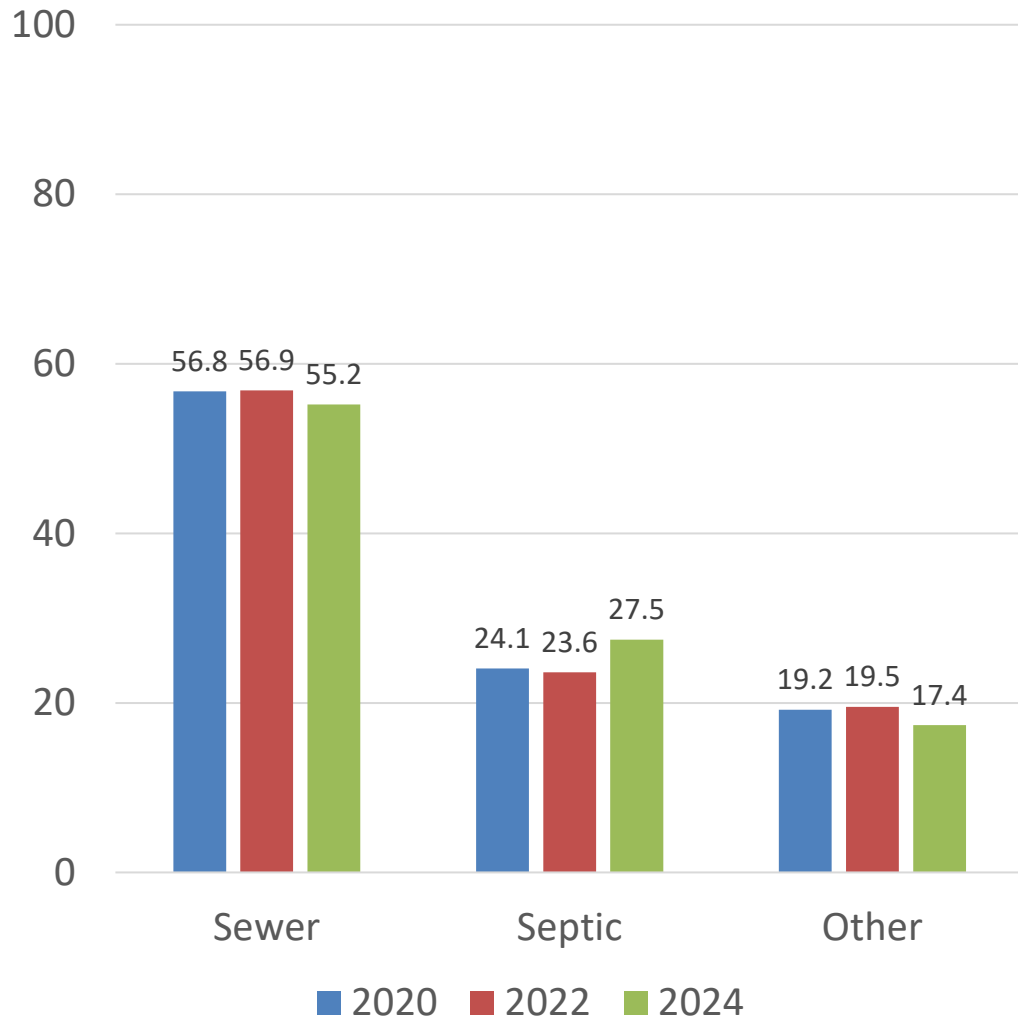
**By volume HH
wastewater: 88%**

**By global
population: 84%**

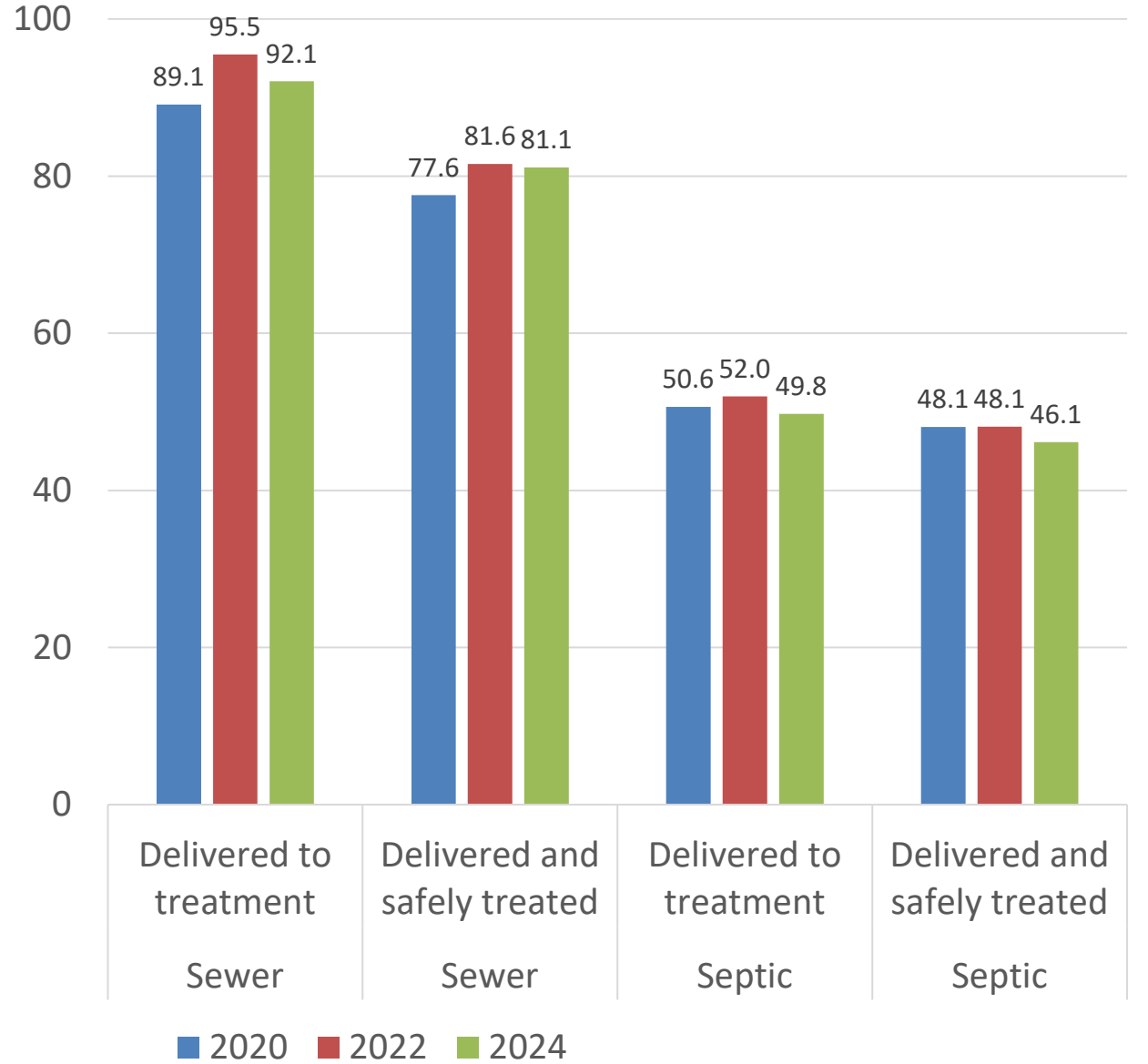
Household wastewater collection



Household wastewater collection

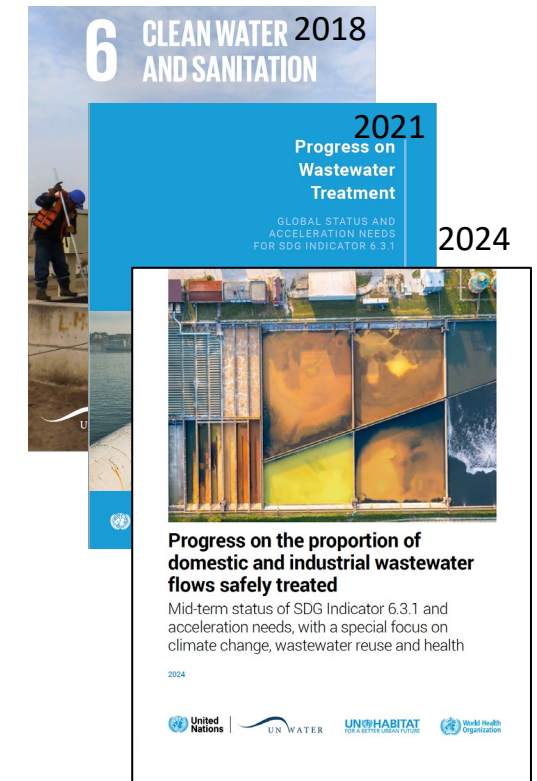


Household wastewater delivery and safe treatment



Global progress reports on SDG 6.3.1

- Domestic and Total/Industrial methods and results
- First report was published in 2018
- Subsequent reports every 3 years
- Latest report (domestic 2022 estimates)
 - <https://www.unwater.org/publications/progress-wastewater-treatment-2024-update>



Additional links and resources

- New progress brief (domestic 6.3.1 estimates for 2024)
 - Coming soon
- Methodological Note (domestic 6.3.1 only)
 - <https://www.unwater.org/publications/domestic-wastewater-treatment-methodology-2024>
- Country files for domestic wastewater
 - <https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/water-sanitation-and-health/monitoring-and-evidence/wash-monitoring/2025-country-files-for-sdg-6.3.1-proportion-of-wastewater-safely-treated>



Thank you!

