






















Population Ranking	Country	Number of Utilities	Sources	Data Confidence Level	Note	Link
1	 India	4372	Swatch Bharat Mission	★★★☆☆	Water and sanitation services in urban areas are primarily managed by municipal corporations, municipal councils, and urban local bodies (ULBs). India has 4,372 urban local bodies (ULBs), which include: Municipal Corporations (large cities), Municipal Councils (medium-sized towns), Nagar Panchayats. This count does not include rural utilities.	<a href="https://swachhbharaturban.gov.in/RPT_LocalBodiesRegister.aspx">https://swachhbharaturban.gov.in/RPT_LocalBodiesRegister.aspx</a>
2	 China	41663	wikipedia article	★★★☆☆	No further citations found than the wikipedia count, last updated in 2015	<a href="https://unhabitat.org/global-report-on-sanitation-and-wastewater-management-in-cities-and-human-settlements">https://unhabitat.org/global-report-on-sanitation-and-wastewater-management-in-cities-and-human-settlements</a> <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_China">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_China</a>
3	 United States	60500	EPA & CISA	★★★★★	Highly fragmented landscape; includes public, private, and cooperative systems. There are approximately 44,000 Community water systems (CWS) in the CWS Water System Service Area Boundaries Database. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) defines a community water system as a public water system that has at least 15 service connections that serve year-round residents or that regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents. According to CISA there are more than 16,500 POTWs in the United States that collectively provide wastewater service and treatment to more than 227 million people and are generally designed to treat domestic sewage. There are 382 POTWs that service more than 100,000 people; 2,288 POTWs service between 10,001 and 100,000 people; 2,598 POTWs that service populations between 10,000 and 3,301; and 11,050 POTWs that service fewer than 3,301 people	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/nipp-ssp-water-2015-508.pdf">https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/nipp-ssp-water-2015-508.pdf</a> <a href="https://css.umich.edu/us-wastewater-treatment-factsheet">https://css.umich.edu/us-wastewater-treatment-factsheet</a> <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5a9963ca7a594fbd9b0df40050ed704e">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5a9963ca7a594fbd9b0df40050ed704e</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/community-water-system-service-area-boundaries?tab=resources">https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/community-water-system-service-area-boundaries?tab=resources</a>
4	 Indonesia	35489	Perpamsi & PAMSIMAS	★★★★★	394 urban PDAMs or local gov owned water utilities are members in Perpamsi, national association of water utilities. Covers ~24% of the population (mostly urban) + plus 35095 rural water service providers established/supported by PAMSIMAS in 2021 MIS data	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Indonesia">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Indonesia</a> <a href="https://journal.ums.ac.id/index.php/GPP/article/view/14629">https://journal.ums.ac.id/index.php/GPP/article/view/14629</a>
5	 Pakistan	508	wikipedia article	★★★☆☆	7 large urban WASAs and 1 water and sewerage board in Karachi, about 500 Tehsil Municipal Administrations (TMAs), ~thousands of PHEDs	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Pakistan">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Pakistan</a>
6	 Nigeria	37	lbnet country profile	★★★☆☆	state water agencies	<a href="https://newibnet.org/country-profiles/nigeria">https://newibnet.org/country-profiles/nigeria</a>

7	 Brazil	8132	SNIS	★★★★	In SNIS-AE 2021, there are 5,312 municipalities with public water supply systems, fewer than provide sanitation too.	<a href="https://antigo.mdr.gov.br/images/stories/ArquivosSNSA/Arquivos_PDF/Snis/AGUA_E_ESGOTO/REPUBLICACAO_DIAGNOSTICO_TEMATICO_VISAO_GERAL_AE_SNIS_2022.pdf">https://antigo.mdr.gov.br/images/stories/ArquivosSNSA/Arquivos_PDF/Snis/AGUA_E_ESGOTO/REPUBLICACAO_DIAGNOSTICO_TEMATICO_VISAO_GERAL_AE_SNIS_2022.pdf</a> <a href="https://essd.copernicus.org/preprints/essd-2021-214/essd-2021-214.pdf">https://essd.copernicus.org/preprints/essd-2021-214/essd-2021-214.pdf</a>
8	 Bangladesh	332	lbnnet country profile	★★★★	Bangladesh's water and sanitation utility landscape is structured as follows: Four major city utilities: The largest cities—Dhaka, Chattogram (Chittagong), Khulna, and Rajshahi—each have a semi-autonomous Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA) responsible for both water and sanitation services. 328 municipal utilities: Outside these cities, each of Bangladesh's 328 municipalities (Paurashavas) is directly responsible for its own water supply and sanitation services. These municipal bodies operate as local utilities, often with support from the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). In total, there are at least 332 formal water and sanitation utilities in Bangladesh (4 WASAs + 328 municipal utilities), with additional service provision in rural areas managed by DPHE and community groups rather than standalone utilities	<a href="#">Water supply and sanitation in Bangladesh - Wikipedia</a>
9	 Russia	24200	Russian Ministry of Natural Resources	★★★☆☆	2,800 urban service providers, over 800 Vodokanals, and a total of around 14,600 water operators nationwide, including both large and small, urban and rural systems. There are also about 9,000–9,600 centralized wastewater treatment plants	<a href="#">Water supply and sanitation in Russia - Wikipedia</a>
10	 Ethiopia	980	IRC WASH	★★★★	23 Grade 1, 178 Grade 2, and the rest are Grades 3-5. There are five grades/categories of town water utilities in the country based on a weighted score for performance. Sources: Lemessa Mekonta, IRC WASH Ethiopia Country Director, WaterAid Ethiopia, World Bank, Ethiopia Water and Sanitation Overview	<a href="#">National Guideline for Urban Water Utilities Categorization - CMP CoWASH Ethiopia</a>
11	 Mexico	2826	Conagua	★★★★	Mexico does not have a single, consolidated number of water or sanitation utilities nationwide, as the sector is highly decentralized and managed at the municipal level. Each of the country's more than 2,400 municipalities typically operates its own water and sanitation utility—known as an <i>Organismo Operador de Agua Potable y Saneamiento</i> (OOAPAS) or similar entity—responsible for local water supply and wastewater services. CONAGUA counted 2,826 water utilities in the 2018 census, the majority of them urban or peri-urban.	<a href="#">Panorama censal de los organismos operadores de agua en México. Censos Económicos 2019</a>
12	 Japan	10801	JWWA (2017)	★★★★	7000 public water systems and 3,699 municipally run WWTPs.	<a href="http://www.jwwa.or.jp/jigyoku/kaigai_file/2017WaterSupplyInJapan.pdf">http://www.jwwa.or.jp/jigyoku/kaigai_file/2017WaterSupplyInJapan.pdf</a> <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Japan">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_Japan</a>

13	 Egypt	171		★★☆☆	25 regional water & wastewater companies, 146 wastewater plants	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#2">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#2</a>
14	 Philippines	609		★★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#3">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#3</a>
15	 Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	REGIDESO	★★★★	REGIDESO is the primary public utility responsible for urban water supply in the DRC. It operates in most of the larger cities and towns. However, its coverage is limited, and many urban and peri-urban areas rely on alternative sources.	<a href="#">Regideso - Wikipedia</a>
16	 Vietnam	85		★★☆☆	provincial water supply companies in urban areas, urban environmental companies	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#5">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#5</a>
17	 Iran	62		★★☆☆	provincial water and wastewater companies	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#6">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#6</a>
18	 Turkey	2597		★★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#8">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#8</a>
19	 Germany	13300	WISE	★★★★	water + wastewater utilities count	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#9">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#9</a>
20	 Thailand	233	PWA and MWA	★★★★	The PWA is responsible for water supply in urban areas across 75 provinces in Thailand, serving millions of residents. It operates around 260 water supply systems and provides services mainly in provincial towns.	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#11">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#11</a>
21	 Tanzania	82	EWURA	★★★★	82 WSSAs included in sector performance review report by EWURA	<a href="https://www.ewura.go.tz/uploads/documents/en-1743160797-Water%20Utilities%20Performance%20Review%20Report%202023-24%20Final.pdf">https://www.ewura.go.tz/uploads/documents/en-1743160797-Water%20Utilities%20Performance%20Review%20Report%202023-24%20Final.pdf</a>
22	 United Kingdom	25	Ofwat (Water Services Regulation Authority)	★★★★	Includes 10 regional water and wastewater companies and 13 water-only companies. + Scottis Water and NI Water	<a href="https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/">https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/</a>

23	 France	13064	National Observatory of Water and Sanitation Services (ONSEA) of France	★★★★	In the Sispea database (Information System for Public Water and Sanitation Services) it says at the end of 2022, 13,061 local authorities were managing 24,975 water, collective and noncollective sanitation services. We assume the 6,221 water or sanitation services managed under a public service delegation to a private company are part of one of three large private companies (Veolia, Suar and Suez). Approx 60% of pop served by private (public service delegation), 40% public	<a href="https://www.services.eaufrance.fr/rapport-national">https://www.services.eaufrance.fr/rapport-national</a> <a href="https://www.services.eaufrance.fr/cms/uploads/Rapport_SISPEA_2022_Resume_EN_VF_9d49a28076.pdf">https://www.services.eaufrance.fr/cms/uploads/Rapport_SISPEA_2022_Resume_EN_VF_9d49a28076.pdf</a>
24	 South Africa	144	lbnet country profile	★★★	There are 144 water service authorities who provide service to, about 287 municipal providers	<a href="#">South Africa   International Benchmarking Network</a>
25	 Italy	2552		★★★	Primarily public utilities with some private participation.	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#12">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#12</a>
26	 Kenya	91	lbnet country profile	★★★		<a href="#">Kenya   International Benchmarking Network</a>
27	 Myanmar	3		★★★	3 main city departments (YCDC, MCDC, Nay Pyi Taw CDC), of which Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw also provide wastewater services	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-mjpU3Kd9TpG4ELoIVzWQAA#0">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-mjpU3Kd9TpG4ELoIVzWQAA#0</a>
28	 Colombia	2787	lbnet country profile	★★★		<a href="#">Colombia   International Benchmarking Network</a>
29	 South Korea	1145		★★★	With around 160 municipal water supply systems, combined with facilities operated by K-water and local governments, the total number of water and sanitation service providers in South Korea is relatively small compared to many other countries, focusing primarily on efficient, centralized management.	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#16">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#16</a>
30	 Sudan	208	SNWC	★★★★	The sector is managed by at least 18 state water authorities, up to 189 local departments, and thousands of community-managed systems. Only Khartoum has a formal sewerage utility, and most sanitation is handled at the household or community level.	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#17">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg#17</a>
31	 Uganda	7	National Water and Sewerage Corporation	★★★	Counting branches separately	<a href="#">About the Corporation - National Water &amp; Sewerage Corporation</a>
32	 Spain	5362		★★★★	54% of 8,000 municipalities manage services directly or via public companies. Agbar and Aqualia are the main private providers, each serving >1,100 municipalities., while 13% of municipalities use mixed models (public-private partnerships).	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#22">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#22</a>
33	 Algeria	2		★★★★	Algeria has 2 main water and sanitation utilities (AdE and ONA), with service delivery organized through their provincial and city-level branches. Four joint subsidiaries operate in the largest cities, but there are no independent municipal utilities. Wastewater treatment is handled by ONA and private operators under contract, with over 100 plants nationwide	<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#23">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#23</a>

34	🇮🇶 Iraq	28		★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24</a>
35	🇲🇦 Argentina	1400	lbnnet country profile	★★★		<a href="#">Argentina   International Benchmarking Network</a>
36	🇦🇫 Afghanistan	15		★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24</a>
37	🇲🇦 Yemen	44		★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d#24</a>
38	🇨🇦 Canada	2500	wikipedia article	★★★	60% of municipalities are responsible for water/sanitation	<a href="#">Water supply and sanitation in Canada - Wikipedia</a>
39	🇲🇦 Peru	453	Water For People Peru	★★★	50 EPS (large urban utilities), 403 UGM (municipal management units in smaller towns), and 27,155 rural service providers (community-based)	<a href="#">Climate-Resilient WASH in Asunción, Peru - The WASH Room</a>
40	🇲🇦 Malaysia	20	SPAN presentation at IWA World Congress 2024	★★★☆☆	Malaysia has about 14 main water utilities (12 in Peninsular Malaysia, 2 in East Malaysia) and one national wastewater utility (IWK) for Peninsular Malaysia, with a handful of local authorities still managing sanitation in some areas. The sector is highly centralized at the state (for water) and national (for sewerage) levels	<a href="https://iwa-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Masterslide.pdf">https://iwa-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Masterslide.pdf</a>
41	🇲🇦 Nepal	179	National MIS of Nepal	★★★☆☆		<a href="https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d&amp;29=d#32">https://www.perplexity.ai/search/how-many-water-and-wastewater-6zwRFGiVTQaCEPIAq3nPhg?20=d&amp;29=d#32</a>
		<b>237,009</b>				

**count of utilities in sample population of countries in sample world population** 237,009  
 6,812,621,044  
 8,218,019,248 as of april 2025  
**approximate number of world utilities** **285,902**