Economic aspects of environmental protection 2022

31 August 2023

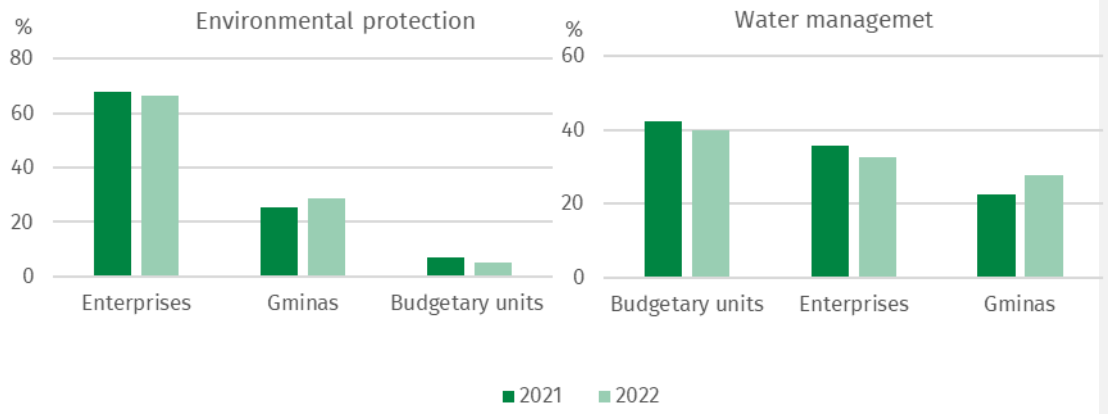
⇧ **14.4%**

Outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection and water management in relation to 2021.

The amount of outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection in 2022 amounted to approx. PLN 13.9 billion (compared to PLN 12.4 billion in 2021), and outlays on fixed assets for water management reached the level of approx. PLN 4.0 billion (PLN 3.3 billion in 2021). In 2022, outlays on environmental protection and water management accounted for 0.45% and 0.13% of GDP, respectively (0.47% and 0.12% in 2021, respectively).

As in previous years, enterprises are the main investor in outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection, followed by gminas, and then budgetary units. The group of investors with the highest share of outlays in the field of water management were budgetary units, then enterprises and gminas.

Chart 1. Structure of outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection and water management by groups of investors

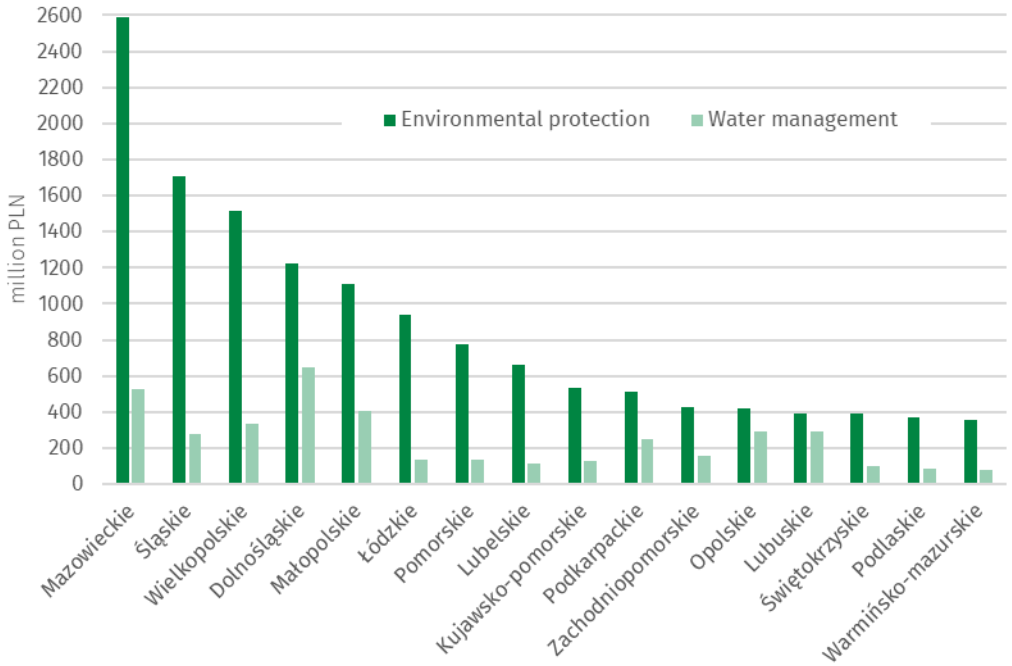


In 2022, outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection amounted to approx. PLN 13.9 billion, and on water management to approx. PLN 4.0 billion

The highest outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection were incurred in the following voivodships: Mazowieckie (18.6% of total outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection), Śląskie (12.3%) and Wielkopolskie (10.9%), while the lowest in Podlaskie and Warmińsko-mazurskie (2.6% each) as well as Świętokrzyskie and Lubuskie (2.8% each).

In water management, the highest outlays were incurred in the following voivodships: Dolnośląskie (16.3% of total expenditure), Mazowieckie (13.3%) and Małopolskie (10.2%), while the lowest in Warmińsko-Mazurskie (2.0%), Podlaskie (2.1%) and Świętokrzyskie (2.6%).

Chart 2. Outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection and water management by voivodship in 2022



Outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection

Outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection are classified according to 9 areas of environmental protection: 1. air and climate protection; 2. wastewater management and protection of water; 3. waste management; 4. protection and restoration of the utility value of soils and protection of groundwater and surface waters; 5. noise and vibration reduction; 6. protection of biodiversity and landscape; 7. protection against ionising radiation; 8. research and development activities and 9. other environmental protection activities (mainly administration and environmental management, education, training).[1]

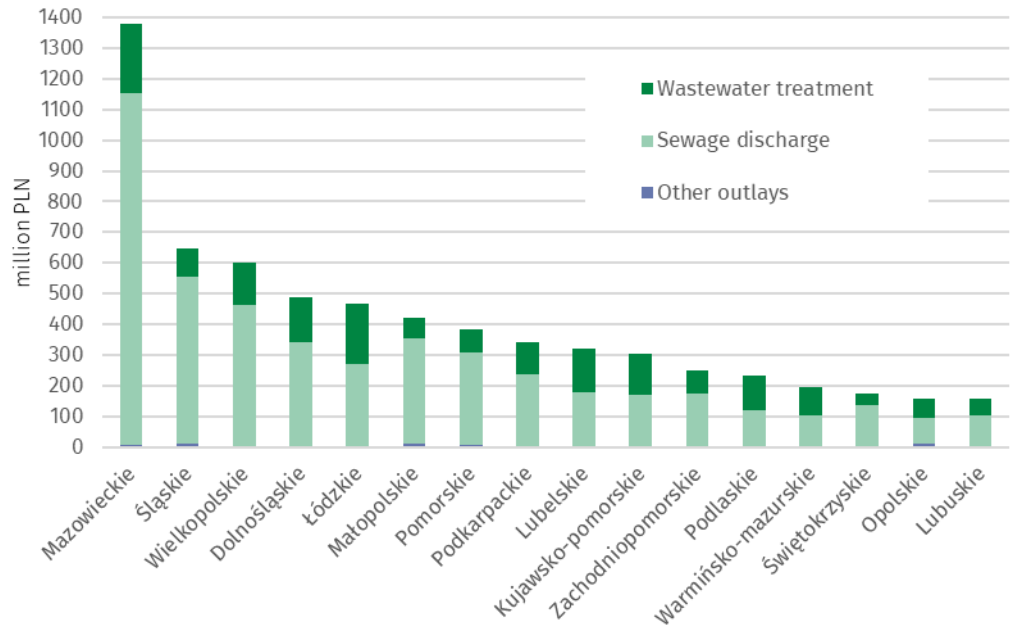
The structure of outlays on fixed assets for environmental protection in Poland in 2022 was dominated by outlays on **wastewater management and protection of water**, as well as **on air and climate protection**, with a share of 46.7% and 32.0%, respectively. The remaining 21,3% of outlays are outlays on waste management (8.4%), protection of soil and ground and surface waters (2.1%), noise and vibration reduction (0.9%) and protection of biodiversity and landscape (0.9%), and other environmental protection activities (9.0%), respectively.

In 2022, outlays on fixed assets for **wastewater management and protection of water** amounted to **PLN 6.5 billion**. The highest outlays for this purpose were incurred in the following voivodships: Mazowieckie (21.2%), Śląskie (9.9%) and Wielkopolskie (9.2%), the lowest in Lubuskie and Opolskie (2.4% each) and Świętokrzyskie (2.7%)

In 2022, outlays on fixed assets for wastewater management and protection of water amounted to PLN 6.5 billion

[1] In accordance with the Polish Statistical Classification of Activities and Facilities Related to Environmental Protection, introduced by the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of March 2, 1999 (Journal of Laws 1999, No. 25, pos. 218).

Chart 3. Outlays on fixed assets for wastewater management and protection of water by amount and voivodship in 2022



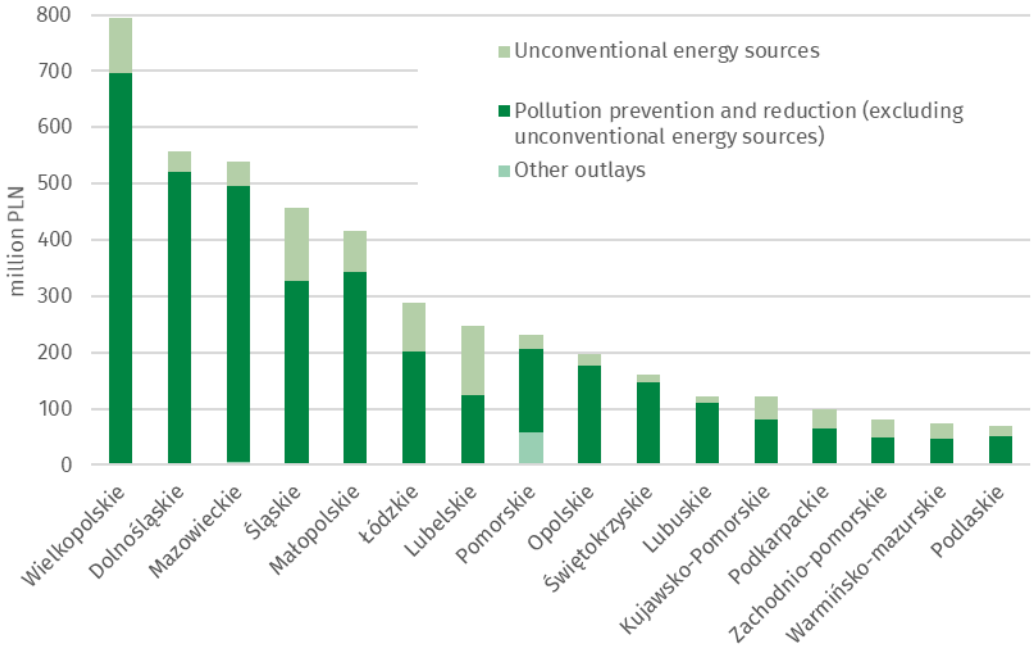
Outlays on fixed assets for the **protection of air and climate** amounted to **PLN 4.5 billion**. The highest outlays were incurred in the following voivodships: Wielkopolskie (17.8%), Dolnośląskie (12.5%) and Mazowieckie (12.1%), the lowest in Podlaskie (1.5%), Warmińsko-mazurskie (1.7%) and Zachodniopomorskie (1.8%).

In 2022, outlays on fixed assets for air and climate protection amounted to PLN 4.5 billion

The largest part of outlays on air and climate protection were outlays on **pollution prevention equipment** (64.8% of the total expenditure), including modern fuel combustion technologies along with the modernisation of boiler and thermal energy plants (42.4%), unconventional energy sources (18.3%) and **pollution reduction equipment** (33.4%)

The highest outlays on unconventional energy sources were in Śląskie (PLN 129 million) and Lubelskie (PLN 124 million), the lowest in Lubuskie and Świętokrzyskie (PLN 13 million each).

Chart 4. Outlays on fixed assets for air and climate protection by voivodship in 2022



Outlays on waste management amounted to PLN 1.2 billion, on soil, ground and surface water protection PLN 0.3 billion, on noise and vibration reduction PLN 0.1 billion, on biodiversity and landscape protection PLN 0.1 billion, and on other activities PLN 1.3 billion was spent in total.

The highest outlays on waste management were in the following voivodships: Mazowieckie (PLN 374 million), Śląskie (PLN 137 million) and Małopolskie (PLN 95 million), and soil, ground and surface water protection in Mazowieckie and Pomorskie (PLN 216 million summed). The lowest outlays on waste management were in Świętokrzyskie (PLN 18 million), Opolskie and Lubuskie (PLN 20 million each), and soil, ground and surface water protection in Opolskie and Warmińsko-mazurskie (PLN 1,8 million summed).

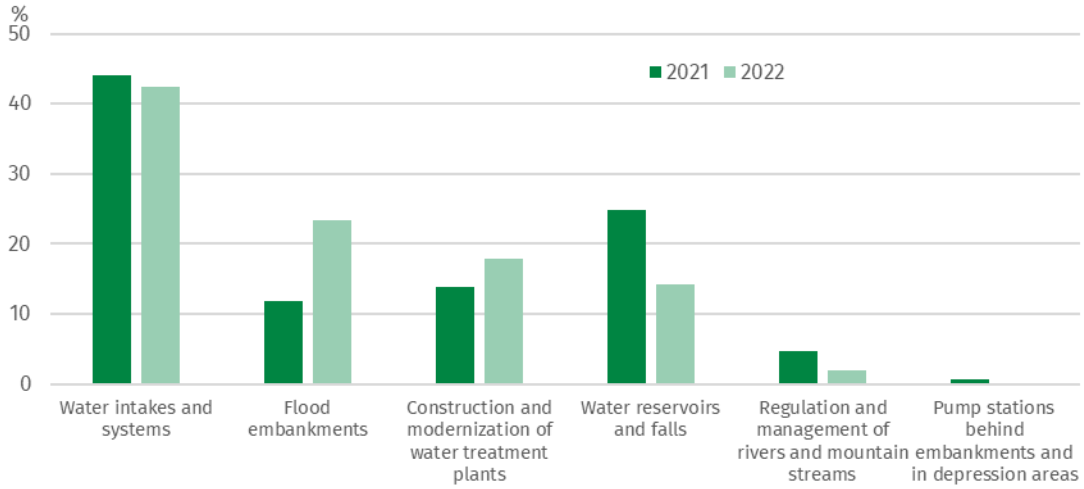
In 2022 the Łódzkie voivodship was characterized amongst other voivodships by the highest outlays on noise and vibration reduction (PLN 62 million), Dolnośląskie on biodiversity and landscape protection (PLN 36 million). In the Warmińsko-Mazurskie and Pomorskie voivodeships there were no outlays on noise and vibration reduction incurred, and in the Opolskie voivodeship no outlays on the protection of biodiversity and landscape incurred.

Outlays on fixed assets for water management

Investments related to water management include water intakes and systems (including the main and distribution water network and construction of water quality control laboratories, including automatic water quality measurement stations), construction and modernization of water treatment plants, construction of water reservoirs (except fire and daily equalisation reservoirs), water, sailing and energy falls, as well as locks and weirs, regulation and management of rivers and mountain streams, construction of flood embankments and construction of pump stations behind embankments and in depression areas.

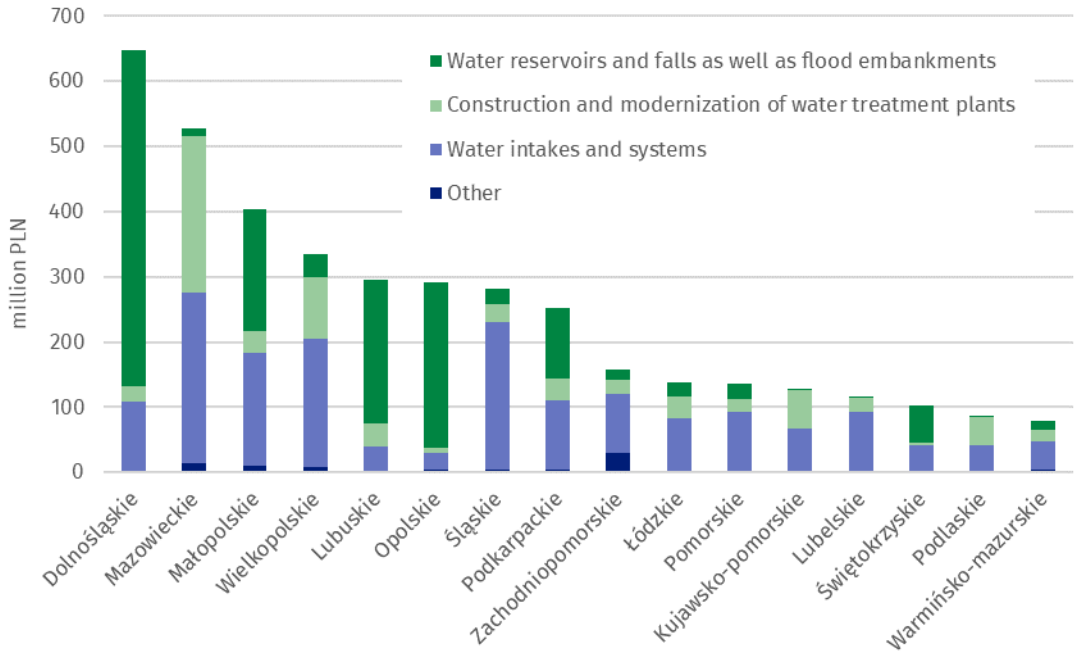
In 2022, the amount of outlays on water management amounted to approximately **PLN 4.0 billion**. The main stream of outlays were directed to the construction of drinking water infrastructure. Investments in water intakes and systems accounted for 42.5% of all outlays in water management.

Chart 5. Structure of outlays on fixed assets for water management



The largest outlays on water intakes and systems were incurred in Mazowieckie (PLN 262 million) and Śląskie (PLN 227 million) voivodships. On the other hand, on water reservoirs and falls and flood embankments in Dolnośląskie (PLN 516 million) and Opolskie (PLN 255 million) voivodships. For the construction and modernization of water treatment plants, the greatest amount of funds was allocated in the Mazowieckie voivodship (PLN 239 million).

Chart 6. Outlays on fixed assets for water management by investment directions and voivodship in 2022



Tangible effects of investments in environmental protection and water management

In 2022, as a result of the implementation of environmental protection investments, 34 wastewater treatment plants with a total capacity of 36 thousand m^3/day (including 28 municipal wastewater treatment plants with a total capacity of 33 thousand m^3/day) were completed. 3.6 thous. km of sewage network discharging of wastewater and approx. 0.5 thous. km of sewage network discharging of precipitation water were completed.

In the field of air protection, devices for reducing gaseous pollutants with a capacity of approx. 230 thousand tons/year and equipment for neutralisation of particulates pollutants with a capacity of approx. 38 thousand tons/year were completed.

In 2022, waste neutralisation equipment and installations with a total capacity of approx. 579 thousand tons/year (of which approx. 96% was waste treatment by landfilling) were completed.

In 2022, in terms of the tangible effects of water management investments, water supply devices (i.e. water intakes and water treatment) with a total capacity of approx. 136 thousand m^3/day were completed. The capacity of the water treatment plants amounted to approx. 78 thousand m^3/day, and the capacity of newly completed water intakes approx. 58 thousand m^3/day. Eight water reservoirs were built with a total capacity of approx. 0.7 million m^3. In addition, 3 thousand km of the water supply network were built, 116 km of rivers and mountain streams were regulated and management, and 50 km of flood embankments were built or modernised.

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