

Sustainable infrastructure: abstraction of water from source(s)



Indicator 9.1 Volume abstracted (m³)

STEADY

Purpose of indicator

Monitoring the amount of water taken from underground water stores shows the pressure put on this essential resource. Underground water supplies replenish as water seeps through the ground, but if the water is extracted faster than it is replaced then at some point there will be a deficit. Knowing the drinking water need or demand for Rotorua's population helps in planning for future resource use and water service delivery.

Current information and trend

Figure 9.1 shows that trends in population growth and abstraction of water are similar. This indicates that the demand for water is being met as population growth increases.

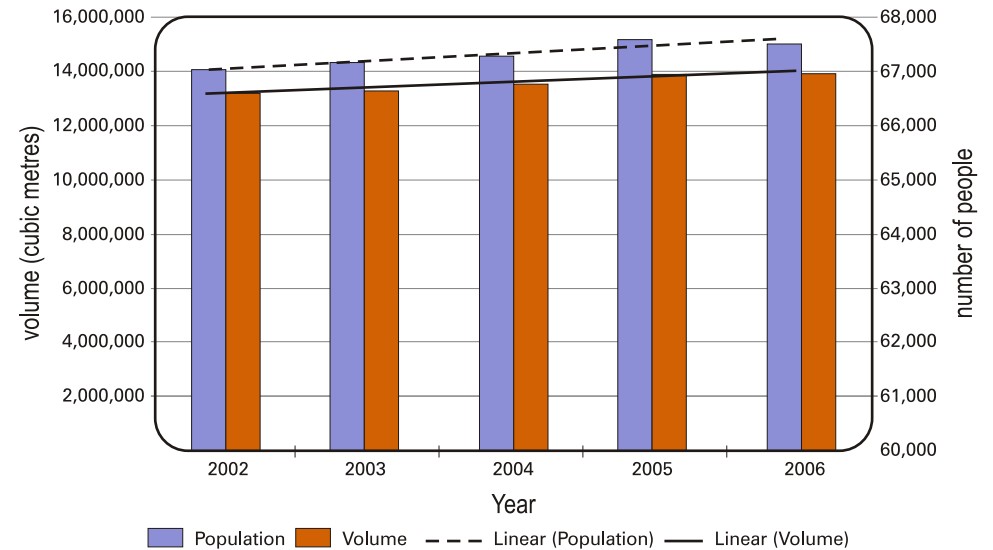
Council's Water Supply Strategy looks at different scenarios for planning infrastructure upgrades and volume of water required to meet future demands to the year 2051.



Freshwater availability will be an emerging issue for future generations, so it is important it is used in a manner that ensures long term sustainability. In addition to good planning the challenge remains to change individual behaviour to use water more efficiently and to use less water overall.



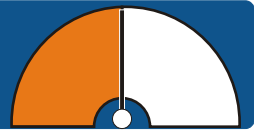
Figure 9.1 Annual water abstracted from sources



Source: Rotorua District Council, 2006



Sustainable infrastructure: consumption of drinking water



Indicator 9.2 Cubic metres of water per connection per day

STEADY

Purpose of indicator

The amount of freshwater used and consumed puts direct pressure on water supply sources. Water use affects the amount of water requiring treatment and the turnover time for natural and other systems to purify it. Measuring consumption helps manage an efficient water supply network and plan for future water supply needs.

Current information and trend

Rotorua's urban water supply is taken from seven different sources. There are also rural supplies and private water supplies.

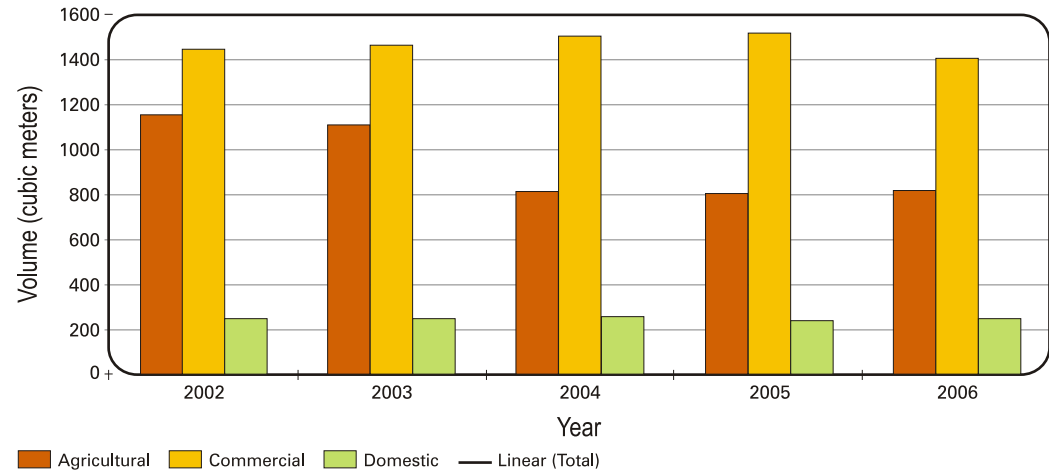
Figure 9.2 shows that the greatest consumption per connection in the urban water supply area is by commercial users (1398m³ in 2007), followed by agricultural (811m³) and domestic users (239m³). This figure also shows that while there has been a decrease in agricultural use and a slight decrease in commercial use, domestic use per connection has remained the same.

Annual water consumption (Figure 9.3) shows that although there has been a slight increase in the total consumption of drinking water in the district, there has been little or no change in consumption by agricultural, commercial or domestic users.

What the community said

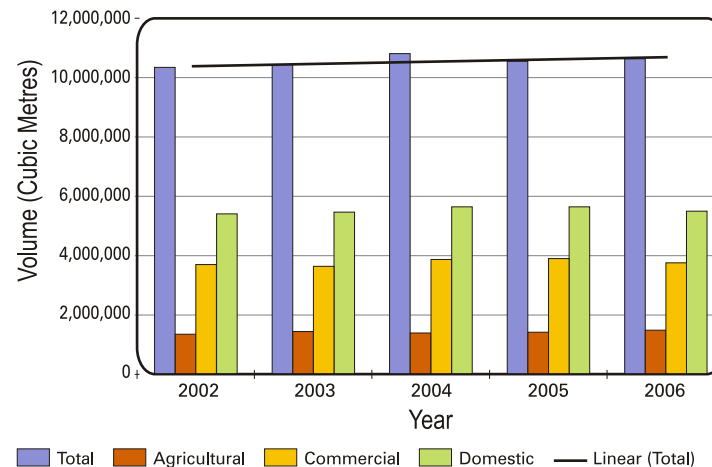
The majority of residents (94%) who received reticulated water were satisfied with the water supply.

Figure 9.2 Annual urban water consumption per connection*



Source: Rotorua District Council, 2006

Figure 9.3 Annual water consumption*



Source: Rotorua District Council, 2006

*Note: these figures include all supplies managed by Rotorua District Council in the Rotorua district. They do not include private water supplies.

