



# The price of water in France

on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015

## A price which corresponds to the cost of water services



Drinking water

+



Sanitation

+



Fees and taxes

As a natural resource, water doesn't have a price. This is the **water service** which has a cost : collecting water, treating it to make it drinkable, distributing it to the housing, gathering the wastewater, cleaning it up and discharging it ...

## The water circuit



Users who can not connect themselves to a collective sanitation system and which should have a non-collective sanitation facility, pay a specific fee et are not subject to the collective sanitation fee.

3,98€/m<sup>3</sup>

Overall price including taxes of drinking water and collective sanitation

All the figures related to the overall average price of the water service are calculated on the basis of an annual household consumption estimated at 120m<sup>3</sup>

Collective sanitation

48%

Being 1,93 €/m<sup>3</sup>\*

Drinking water

52%

Being 2,05 €/m<sup>3</sup>\*

\*including taxes

## A price influenced by :



### The population density

- Economies of scale (more subscribers for the same network length, in particular) provide a less expensive drinking water service in urban areas than in rural areas.



### The resource quality

- The quality of withdrawn water determine the importance of the treatments needed to make it drinkable.



### The receiving environment

- Wastewater treatment requirements depend on the sensitivity to pollution of the environment in which they will be discharged.



### The techniques used

- The technical equipment vary depending on the water services and does not all have the same efficiency or the same costs of use and maintenance.



### The local choices

- Local decisions on the management and the quality of the water service influence its cost.



### The receiving environment

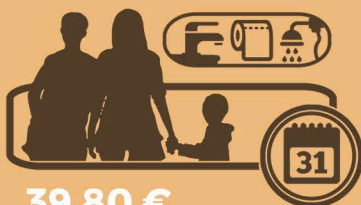
- Smaller communities have specific bookkeeping rules that can allow them to moderate their water price.

## This price represents

1%

in average, of yearly household expenditures

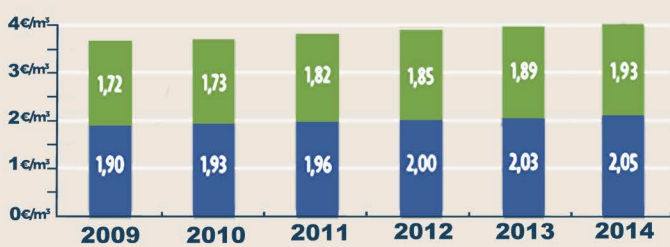
Based on an average disposable income (metropolitan France) of € 46,937 per year for an invoice of 120 m<sup>3</sup>



39,80 €

Average monthly bill  
Including 20,50 € for the drinking water and 19,30 € for the collective sanitation

## An overall upward trend

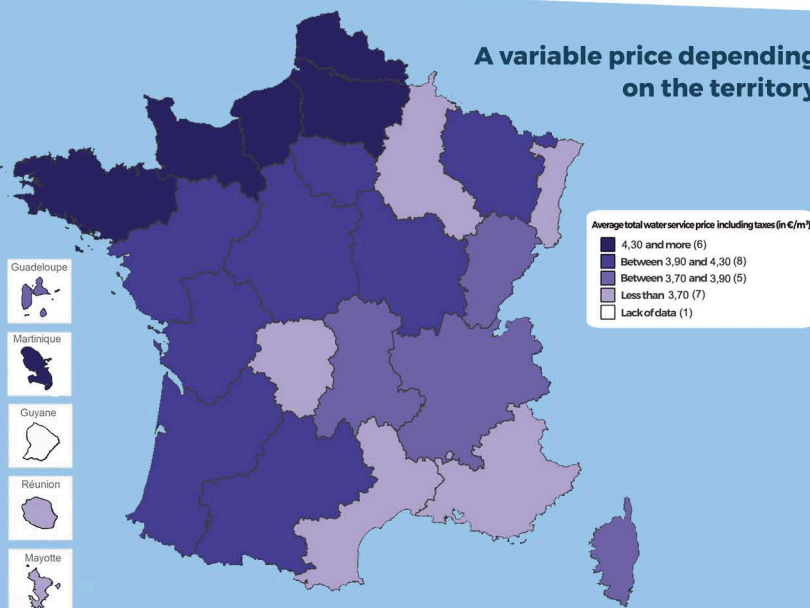


Collective sanitation



Drinking water

## A variable price depending on the territory



Average total water service price including taxes (in €/m<sup>3</sup>)

- 4,30 and more (6)
- Between 3,90 and 4,30 (8)
- Between 3,70 and 3,90 (5)
- Less than 3,70 (7)
- Lack of data (1)

The overall average water price is higher in the north of a Southwest/ Northeast diagonal. 80 % of the population benefits from a drinking water price of between 1,59 €/m<sup>3</sup> and 2,59 €/m<sup>3</sup> and a collective sanitation price of between 1,26 €/m<sup>3</sup> and 2,73 €/m<sup>3</sup>.

## TO KNOW MORE ABOUT

[www.services.eaufrance.fr](http://www.services.eaufrance.fr)

Source of data : SISPEA (AFB) – DDT(M) from datas on October 4th 2016

The overall average service price for water is calculated on the basis of an annual household consumption estimated at 120 m<sup>3</sup>.

Infography produced by the "International Office for Water" with the financial support of the French Agency for Biodiversity

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