

WATER

We focus on using less water, using it more efficiently, and recycling the water we collect on our sites, while working locally to give communities better access to clean water and sanitation. This supports our ambition to be water positive in water-stressed areas by 2030.

WATER CONTINUED

2022 PERFORMANCE

Our ambitions	2022 progress	2021 ¹	2020 ¹	2015 baseline ¹
30% reduction in water use (per tonne of production) by 2025 vs 2015	-5% ⁺	-5%	-8%	—
Water positive in water-stressed sites by 2030	1/17	1/17	—	—
50% reduction in product water footprint by 2040 vs 2015	+17.1% ⁺	+14.3%	—	—
Other water metrics				
MANUFACTURING & WAREHOUSING				
Total water use (m ³)	7,967,895 ⁺	8,241,339	8,551,910	8,060,308
Water use (m ³) per tonne of production	2.61 ⁺	2.61	2.53	2.76
Wastewater discharge (m ³)	5,672,683 ⁺	5,696,952	6,006,216	5,093,854
Water discharge (m ³) per tonne of production	1.86 ⁺	1.81	1.78	1.74
Fine or prosecutions for environmental breaches or pollution (£)	—	—	—	—
PRODUCT WATER FOOTPRINT				
Total water footprint (without indirect consumer phase) (million litres)	1,605,205 ⁺	1,566,605	—	1,371,073
Total water footprint (with indirect consumer phase) (million litres)	2,049,418 ⁺	2,001,351	—	1,817,429

* Assured by ERM CVS as part of their limited assurance scope; for details, see our [Sustainability Governance, Reporting and Assurance Insight](#)

1. Data restated due to removal of divested sites and data reporting improvements. See our Reporting Criteria for more detail at [reckitt.com/our-company/policies-reports](https://www.reckitt.com/our-company/policies-reports)

+/- indicates an increase/decrease relative to baseline

WATER CONTINUED

Water plays a crucial role in our products, how they're made and how they're used. We're looking at our impact across the whole water footprint, reducing the amount of water it takes to make our products and helping consumers use less water when using them. We're also helping water-stressed communities where we work to have better access to clean water and sanitation.

More than two billion people¹ around the world live in countries which are water-stressed. This is where demand for accessible fresh water exceeds supply. In some regions climate change is making the problem worse. This means we have a duty to find ways to reduce our water consumption, and help people reduce the water they consume when they use our products.

Since 2012, we've focused on reducing the water used across our value chain as we push ahead in minimising our overall impact. This isn't just good for the planet and people, but it also makes our business more resilient.

We also aim to help people get better access to clean water and sanitation in the communities in which we work. Through these efforts and through our products, we're helping to ease the problems of scarcity and water access or availability in support of Sustainable Development Goal 6, which calls for clean water and sanitation for all.

The water consumed in manufacturing makes up less than 1% of our products' overall water footprint. This means we need to address water use over the complete lifecycle of our products. We're continuing our efforts to help our consumers cut their water use, for example by reformulating our products using ingredients that need less water to be effective, and encouraging consumers to save water when using our brands. For example, our #SkipTheRinse campaign has encouraged people who use our Finish dishwasher product to save water by not rinsing their dishes before washing, in order to save water.

1. UN water: [unwater.org/water-facts/water-scarcity](https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/water-scarcity)



#SKIPTHERINSE WITH FINISH, A SIMPLE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE THAT SAVES WATER

We can help our customers change behaviours to use less water when they use our products. Our brand Finish encourages people to #SkipTheRinse when loading the dishwasher. Pre-rinsing dishes uses up to 57 litres of water per load. This is wasted water because Finish is so effective at removing dirt. The global #SkipTheRinse campaign, with our partners National Geographic, WWF, Love Water UK and The Nature Conservancy, aims to encourage people to turn off the tap before loading the dishwasher. In 2022, Finish US announced its ambition to save water each year by encouraging consumers not to pre-rinse before dishwashing.

In 2022, we launched the 'Finish 24-Hour Challenge', daring consumers to cook and eat a lasagne, load the dishwasher and run it once it is full, 24 hours later. If Finish Quantum doesn't remove the 24-hour dried-on stains, the meal is on Finish.

Some consumers mistakenly believe they need to pre-rinse their dishes to remove dried-on food, and that if it's already dried, it won't wash off. The Finish 24-Hour Challenge sets out to disprove this misconception and help save water along the way.



OUR WATER FOOTPRINT



4%

Raw materials



1%

Packaging



<1%

Manufacturing



0%

Logistics & retail



94%

Consumer use (direct only)



0%

End of life

WATER CONTINUED

We're committed to being a good water steward. By 2030, we aim to be water positive in regions of water stress where we operate. Climate change means water stress is becoming more widespread. This is an important issue for us. We currently have 17 sites in regions where water scarcity is a potential risk, and we're focused on reducing our water impact in these communities, where 18%* of our total water use is withdrawn from water-stressed regions. To tackle water stress, we need to collaborate with, and learn from, others. For example, we partner with WWF and Agua Capital. We are also a member of the Water Resilience Coalition, an industry-driven group that seeks to put global water stress at the top of the corporate agenda, and its parent organisation, the CEO Water Mandate, which is endorsed by more than 200 companies. This aims to address global water challenges through corporate water stewardship, in partnership with the United Nations, governments, civil society organisations and other stakeholders.

* This figure includes a site which was partially operational during 2022 and sold in the same year. When not including this site, the figure is 17%

Water use in our operations

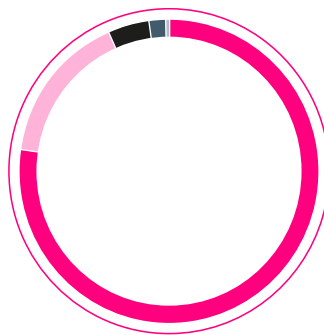
Our aim is to reduce water use per tonne of production against a 2015 baseline by 30% by 2025.

Our progress on water reduction remained fairly flat this year, as all our sites continued work to meet their water reduction goals, and to treat wastewater more effectively. Since 2015, we've reduced our water use by 5% globally. Challenges in our supply chain meant that this figure stayed the same from 2021 to 2022. But, we've identified projects that will get us to our 2025 target. We've made progress with initiatives to use water more efficiently in production, for example through cooling tower operations or during routine cleaning, while maintaining the same standards of hygiene. This year, our total water withdrawals were 7,967,895 m³, a decrease in absolute terms of 3% compared with the previous year, while we recycled and reused 380,925 m³, up 57% since 2021 (241,592 m³).

Managing and monitoring performance

We operate under a Group certification for ISO 14001. All sites were independently certified in 2022, except one site in Wanamingo, in the US, a new facility which is scheduled for certification in 2023. Our sites must also meet our Global Water Management Standard. This requires them to go beyond compliance and reduce their water impact in support of our Sustainability Ambitions.

TOTAL WATER USE (WITHDRAWALS) IN OUR OPERATIONS IN 2022 IN M³+



Source	Volume m ³
● Public supply (e.g. municipal)	6,162,234
● Private wells (e.g. groundwater)	1,286,459
● Surface water (e.g. rivers, lakes, rainwater)	364,031
● Other (third-party sources)	148,799
● Rainwater harvesting	6,372

* Assured by ERM CVS as part of their limited assurance scope; for details, see our [Sustainability Governance, Reporting and Assurance Insight](#)

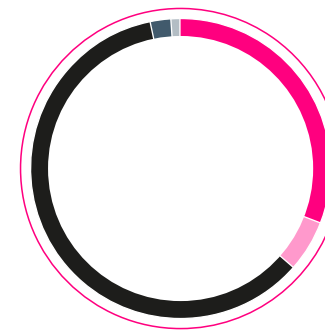
We were pleased to be awarded leadership status for water stewardship by the CDP for the fourth consecutive year. In 2022, we retained our A- score for water security, which we've maintained since 2019.

Wastewater discharge

We are aware of the importance of wastewater management to overall water quality and water supply. That's why we're developing our wastewater treatment programmes and enhancing controls in our factories to mitigate this in our operations. All our sites must also meet our Global Wastewater Standard, which sets minimum standards for wastewater management at our sites.

Total wastewater discharge this year was 0.4% lower than 2021.

WASTEWATER DISCHARGE BY DESTINATION/VOLUME+



Source	Volume m ³
● Wastewater discharged to municipal or third-party treatment (treated before discharge)	1,754,580
● Wastewater discharged to municipal or third-party treatment (untreated before discharge)	316,081
● Natural water bodies e.g., rivers (treated before discharge)	3,411,571
● Natural water bodies e.g., rivers (untreated before discharge)	137,910
● Other water discharges (treated/untreated)	52,543

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WASTEWATER DISCHARGES - QUALITY

	2022	2021 ¹	2020 ¹
Direct chemical oxygen demand (metric tonnes)	2,081	1,966	2,521

1. Data restated due to removal of divested sites and data reporting improvements. See our Reporting Criteria for more detail at [reckitt.com/sustainability/policies-and-reports](#)

WATER CONTINUED

Optimising our processes

We've made progress on reducing, reusing and recycling water at several of our sites. For example, our facility in Cali, Columbia, has eliminated 80% of the water used in cleaning by reducing the number of steps involved from three to two, while maintaining effectiveness and optimising the process. Cleaning and sanitisation is a critical element of our pharmaceutical manufacturing, and none more so than at our Hull site. Through a number of optimisation studies and successful trials, our RPS (Reckitt Production Systems) teams changed our cleaning times and routines. As a result, we could reduce both the water and cleaning materials used, while making sure our processes maintained quality.

Reusing and recycling more water

When thinking about the water we use, we not only look at the water coming into our plants, but also at how we use and potentially reuse the water in our plants for certain operations. By increasing the water we reuse and recycle, so that it's used several times, we're able to optimise how we use the water in our systems before returning it to the environment. This in turn reduces the amount of water we source locally and our overall water use.

For example, at Tatabanya in Hungary, we've implemented a relatively simple system to treat and reuse 'grey' water, which has been captured from another process. The water has already been used once in the plant, but is still useable, free of bacteria and viruses. By collecting this grey water and using it to flush the toilets, the site reduced its total water use by 8%.

Aiming for water positivity

Our ambition is to become water positive at all our sites in water-stressed areas by 2030. To meet our ambition, we're testing a range of methods and evolving our approach as we learn.

We're developing water catchment area programmes at key sites. At Hosur in India, we started by focusing on water neutrality activities and opportunities in 2019 and have invested in rainwater harvesting and helped reinstate local water courses. In 2022, the site was independently certified as water neutral, using the Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA) methodology. Projects included restoring tanks, deepening canals, digging sunken ponds, repairing spill-ways and building small check dams to prevent soil erosion. These projects have also benefited local communities.

We'll continue to work to reduce water consumption at our manufacturing sites, looking for new opportunities to recycle water and replenish the water catchments we operate in.

We assess water risk using the World Resources Institute (WRI) Aqueduct tool. We've also worked with the consultancy Resilience and their Climate and Enterprise analytics technology, founded on the influential frameworks pioneered by the Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies, since 2020 to assess our climate change risks and opportunities in the areas where we operate, and to inform our strategic decision-making. This involves assessing physical risks, including water stress, over a five- to 20-year period, focusing on impacts throughout the value chain.

For more information, see our [Climate Change Insight](#), including our TCFD statement



WATER SAVINGS IN NOTTINGHAM

As part of the Nottingham site's strategy to cut its water use, the team has been reviewing key water processes on site, tracking exactly where water goes and assessing how it's used.

A key finding was in Strepsils manufacturing, where water was being continuously fed into four purified water vessel pumps to keep the seals lubricated. A more water-friendly method was found, using glycerine pots. By installing these pots on each pump, the Asset Care team generated annual water savings of 3,500 m³, with the investment repaid in less than a year.



Image: Hosur – water positivity achieved

WATER CONTINUED

PRODUCT WATER FOOTPRINT

Product water use:	2022						2021 (baseline)	
	Raw material	Packaging	Manufacturing	Logistics & retail	Consumer use (direct only)	End of life	Total	Total
Million litres	70,100	21,700	9,000	<100	1,504,500	0	1,566,600	1,371,100
% split	4%	1%	<1%	<1%	94%	0%	100%	

Figures in the above tables have been rounded for presentation purposes

* Assured by ERM CVS as part of their limited assurance scope; for details, see our [Sustainability Governance, Reporting and Assurance Insight](#)

Our water footprint across the value chain

As well as focusing on the water we use in manufacturing, our approach also involves looking at our product footprints, and we've set an ambition to halve the overall water footprint of our products by 2040, compared with 2015.

This goes beyond looking at product water intensity in our operations to include water use across the value chain, for example in the production of raw materials and packaging. We also include the direct consumer-use phase, for example when consumers need to add water to infant formula. We don't include indirect consumer use, for example the water used by consumers' dishwashers.

This year our water footprint increased as our production volumes increased. However, we continue to assess the water footprint of each new product during its development. At each stage, we run models using our Sustainable Innovation Calculator (SIC) to make sure we're minimising our water use as much as possible. Our R&D teams use the SIC to check if new products are more sustainable than existing ones, and the criteria include water.

There can be trade-offs between our different Sustainability Ambitions and we consider these as part of the SIC calculations. For example, moving to bio-based and renewable resources may cause our water footprint to increase, especially in the areas of raw materials and packaging. However, we're still committed to driving down this footprint over time.

For more details, see our [Sustainable Product Innovation Insight](#)

RAINWATER HARVESTING IN MEXICO CITY

Across much of Mexico, water stress is a growing concern, both socially and environmentally. In the areas surrounding our Tlalpan and Atizapan sites, limited groundwater, problems with water infrastructure and the demands of a growing population mean that water availability is a key focus. Meanwhile, the region also experiences periods of fluctuating or unpredictable rainfall at particular times of the year.

To help with this, we're working with local communities and the Agua Capital NGO and its partners to increase water availability. We've installed rainwater harvesting equipment in nine schools and community centres, which captures rainwater for use in washrooms and cleaning. We've also carried out water-saving measures, piping upgrades and leak repairs, as well as local engagement and water education to increase access and awareness.



Image: Rain water harvesting in Mexico City

WATER CONTINUED

WWF PARTNERSHIP TO HELP COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN

We are working with WWF Pakistan and organisations in the country, including government stakeholders, to replenish and conserve water resources in Karachi and Sindh, where we have facilities.

In 2022, we started to implement nature-based solutions with the aim of providing the biggest benefits, while raising awareness with local community leaders. This has included installing 30 rainwater harvesting systems, three drinking water filtration plants, three Ablution Water Reuse Systems and the construction of a floating treatment wetland.

In total, we aim to replenish around 15,000 m³ of water a year, while also demonstrating good water stewardship practices.

We have a global partnership with WWF focused on freshwater. In addition to the project in Pakistan, we are also protecting and saving 2,100 km of the Ganges and Tapajos river basins in India and Brazil.

Looking ahead

In 2023, we'll continue to work on reducing water in our operations, focusing on optimising our processes, reusing, recycling and collecting water, and advancing water positive programmes, as well as continuing to reduce wastewater. We'll continue to cut our products' water footprint, supported by the Sustainable Innovation Calculator. We also plan to focus on the unique challenges that our sites face in areas of water stress. We will be engaging in the UN Water Conference 2023, which will be hosted in New York, where we'll be driving thought leadership around water sustainability, and as part of that, we'll lead and participate in panels and roundtables to raise awareness on how businesses can tackle the global water crisis, and reiterate the link between water and public health.



Image: Reckitt Pakistan's Head of Communications & Public Affairs, Natashe Zafar, talking with communities about water stewardship