



WATER AND BASIC SANITATION

PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVATORY OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW ¹

RECOMMENDATIONS TO BRAZIL AND ITS INDICATORS

Refers to the third cycle (2017-2021) of the UPR

RECOMMENDATION	ASSESSMENT
145. Address challenges on water and sanitation in favelas by full implementation of the National Basic Sanitation Plan (South Africa)	✘
146. Take further efforts to improve access to water and sanitation, especially in the North and Northeast of the country, through the effective implementation of the principle of equality, and to gradually reduce inequalities through the implementation of the National Sanitation Plan (Spain)	✘
147. Strengthen endeavours to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation through installing water and sanitation networks (Turkey)	↑



Caption: ↑ In progress | ✘

MAIN NATIONAL MILESTONES



1970

Draft of the National Plan for Sanitation (Planasa) – Universalization Treated Water Access.

2007

Establishing the National Plan for Basic Sanitation (Plansab) – Law No. 11.445/2007 "Universalization of access and effective supply of service".

2020

New Legal Framework for Sanitation Law No. 14.026, of July 15 of 2020.

¹The Observatory is a government mechanism to monitor the effectiveness of the recommendations made to Brazil in order to improve our human rights situation. It is a partnership between the House of Representatives and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

NEW LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR SANITATION

(LAW NO. 14.026, FROM JULY 15, 2020)

3 MAIN PILLARS

1

Establish a guiding rule so that the exploitation of any basic sanitation services are provided under the concession regime, forecasting the inclusion of several periods of transition for the new regime.

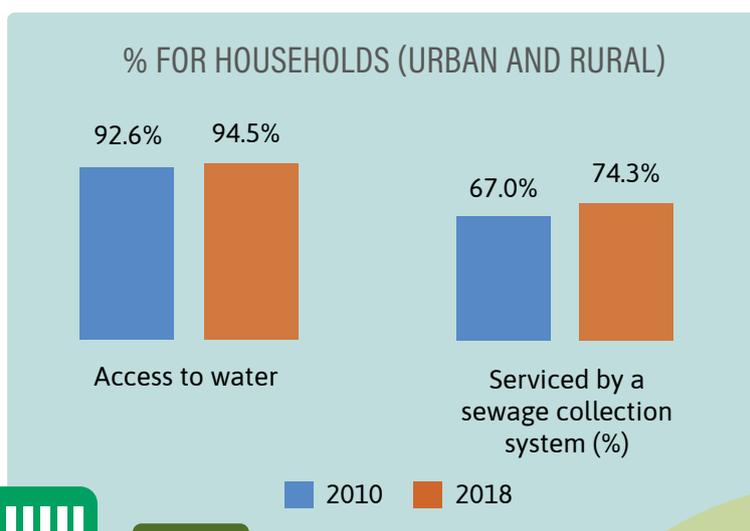
2

Inclusion, in all existing contracts, of the following universalization goals to be achieved by 12/31/2033: 99% of the population benefiting from services providing safe drinking water and 90% with sewage collection and treatment.

3

States may at first, and if not, the Federal Government may form reference blocks for the regionalized provision of public basic sanitation services – in other words, create regionalized services covering more than one municipality, be they contiguous or not, and from the same state or not –, allowing these blocks to enter public tenders issued by the Federal Government and be exploited under a concession regime.

EVALUATION OF THE NATIONAL BASIC SANITATION PLAN



58%

GDP growth in Brazil in the same period

The country's economic growth did not result in a proportional improvement in its basic sanitation rates.



INVESTMENTS IN BASIC SANITATION



Three investment sources

(analysed according to the application destination or origin)

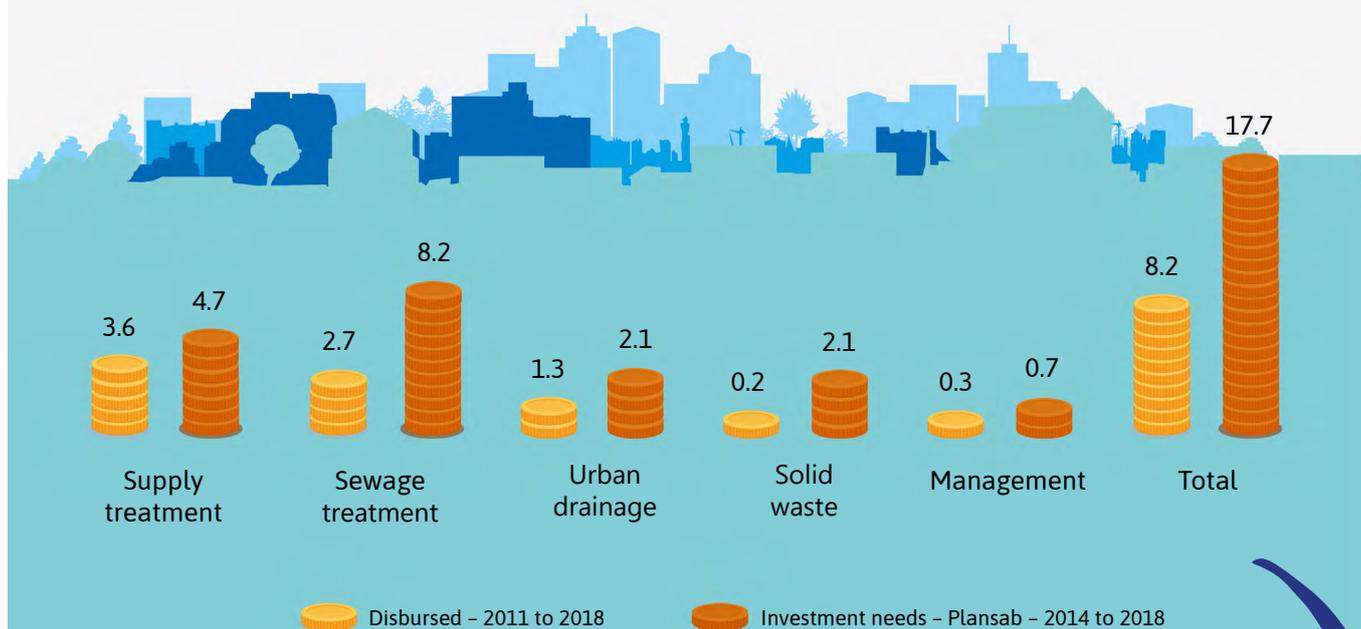
Resources disbursed by federal agents

International or multilateral financing (whether onerous or not)

Sanitation Companies resources

Resources disbursed by federal agents – Public resources from the Union's General Budget and from other sources, such as, for example, the Government Severance Indemnity Fund (FGTS), managed by the federal government's financial and development agents (for example, Caixa and other banks).

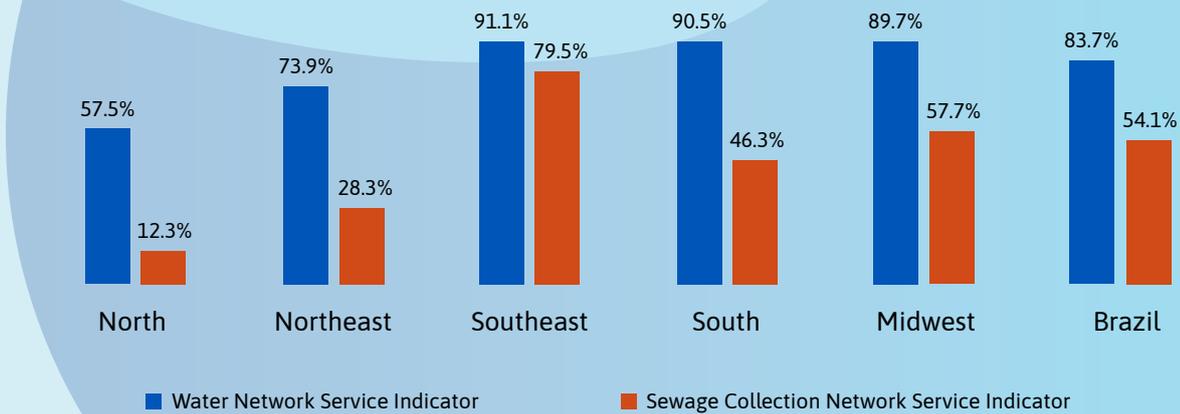
GRAPHIC 1 - ANNUAL AVERAGE VALUES DISBURSED BY FEDERAL AGENTS BETWEEN 2011 AND 2018 VERSUS INVESTMENT NEEDS FORESEEN BY PLANSAB FOR THE PERIOD OF 2014 TO 2018 (R\$ BILLION)



Source: chart elaborated by authors, based on data from the 2018 Plansab Report, available in the full report.

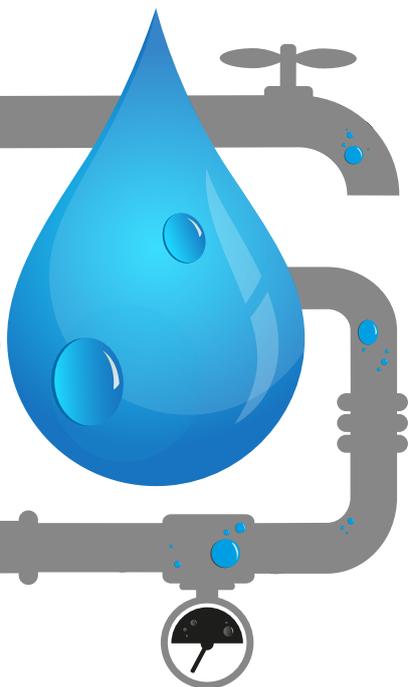
The amounts presented highlight the need for increased investments in all modalities, considering current needs, especially those related to sewage treatment, with the largest deficit in absolute terms (R\$5.505 billion).

INDICATORS OF SERVICES FOR WATER, SEWAGE COLLECTION AND SEWAGE TREATMENT NETWORKS IN 2019



Source: Diagnóstico SNIS AE_2019 - REPUBLICAÇÃO_04-02-2021.pdf, Quadro 6.1, p. 58.

We can observe that the service indicators of the North and Northeast regions are well below the national average. As for sewage treatment, although the percentage is also below the national average (22% and 33.7%, respectively, in the North and Northeast regions, compared to 49.1%), the sewage treatment indicator percentage collected in both regions is slightly higher than the national average (82.8% and 82.7%, respectively, against 78.5%). In other words, although only a small amount of sewage is collected, most of it is treated.



Growth trend for extension of water and sewage networks in Brazil

(for service providers that are participants of the National System of Sanitation Information)

Average annual growth between 2009 and 2019:

3.6% for water network
6.4% for the sewage system

Growth of total sewage collection and treatment services to the general population between 2009 and 2019

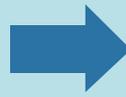
(for service providers that are participants of the National System of Sanitation Information)

9.6% for sewage collection
11.2% for treatment of generated sewage



WATER AND SANITATION IN SUBNORMAL AGGLOMERATES

Subnormal agglomerates are irregular occupation of lands owned by others (public or private) for housing purposes in urban areas and, in general, characterized by an irregular urban pattern, lack of essential public services and location in areas that have restrictions on occupation. They include favelas, stilts, slums, irregular batches and similar subdivisions.



5.1 million

of households in Brazil (7%) are located in these areas (PNAD/2019)



88.3%
had access to the general water distribution network

56.3%
had access to the sewage collection network



With the exception of the capital cities of the North region and the cities of Goiânia (82%), São Luís (66%) and Maceió (81%), **access to the general water network was greater than 90%** in all other capitals of the Southeast, South, Midwest and Northeast of the country.



Indicators regarding the **coverage of sewage networks:**

- North and Midwest regions: less than 20%
- Northeast Region: 49%
- South Region: 63%
- Southeast Region: 72%



The legal system on the right of access to basic water supply and sewage infrastructure services is subject to land ownership rights and environmental law in Brazil.

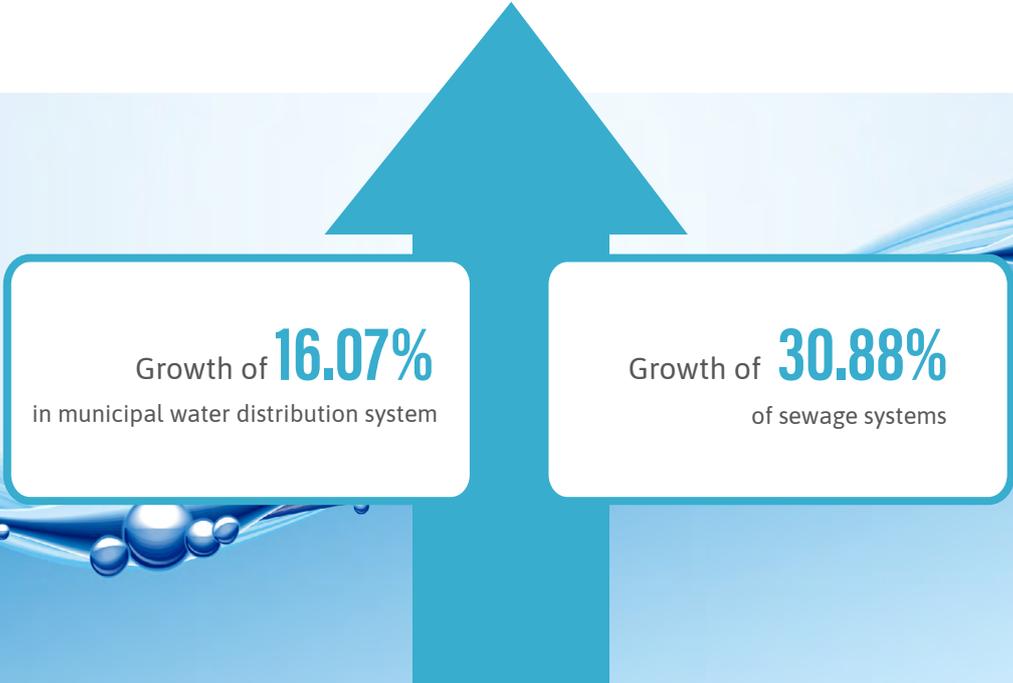
Providers who establish water and sewage networks in irregular areas, or areas with environmental restrictions run the risk of being sued in court.

Until these areas are regularized, they cannot be covered by the national service plans and are often not included in the indicators and universalization goals.

²Data from the last IBGE Demographic Census, from 2010.

EXPANSION OF BASIC SANITATION NETWORKS IN BRAZIL

Between 2014 and 2019



Growth of **16.07%**
in municipal water distribution system

Growth of **30.88%**
of sewage systems



However, we can observe that there is uneven growth in the country. The Southeast region, the most populous, stands out from the others when it comes to the expansion of water and sewage networks. In the other regions, we can identify constant growth, but that is proportionally lower and asymmetric, if we consider population concentration in each region.

LEARN MORE



[Full report – Water and sanitation](#)

- [Public Hearing on 6/11/2021](#)
- [Report on the hearing](#)
- [Parliamentary Observatory of the Universal Periodic Review](#)