

| Wastewater Services in the Border Region | | Type of indicator |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Figure 6 | | State |
| | | Goal and Objective: 1.1 |
| Description of the INDICATOR | | |
| <i>Definition</i> | Percentage of households in the U.S.-Mexico border region, by border county/ city, with access to wastewater services, 2000. U.S. households are those with access to wastewater collection and treatment services. Mexican households are those with wastewater collection services; the percentage of those households that are connected to a treatment system has not been tracked. | |
| <i>Importance of the indicator/purpose</i> | Population and industrial growth along the border has created large demands for clean and safe drinking water. Water is also the most limited resource in this primarily arid region, further emphasizing the need to protect it through means such as adequate infrastructure and efficient and responsible use. | |
| <i>Units of measure</i> | Percentage | |
| <i>Concepts and definitions</i> | <p>Wastewater service (U.S.) - "Complete Plumbing Facilities" include: (1) hot and cold piped water; (2) a flush toilet; and (3) a bathtub or shower. All three facilities must be located in the housing unit. Housing unit - a house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants whenever possible. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.</p> <p>Wastewater Collection Service (Drenaje) (Mexico) – Percentage of inhabited, private homes that have access to a system of pipes through which wastewater is eliminated (connected to a public network). If at least one of the household's sanitary installations (laundry, toilet, sink, or patio) has a system of pipes to eliminate wastewater, they are considered to have drainage. Fuente: INEGI Censo de Población y Vivienda 2000.</p> | |
| <i>Coverage</i> | 2000 Census data. U.S.-Mexico border region by county / city. | |
| <i>Calculation</i> | <p>U.S. percentages reported represent "Housing Units" with "Complete Plumbing Facilities". Take "Total Housing Units" minus the percentage of "Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities" both occupied and vacant housing units. Total reported include 15 counties and 13 municipalities.</p> <p>Mexico data: Take Z136 - Houses connected to public wastewater collection system – divide by Z120 - Houses with residents at time of survey – and multiply by 100. Plot percentages geographically. The code in brackets is the variable code in INEGI.</p> | |
| <i>Source(s) of information</i> | <p>Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2003. Basic Indicators 2003. Health Situation on the U.S.-Mexico Border</p> <p>U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.</p> <p>INEGI Censo de Población y Vivienda 2000.</p> | |
| <i>References (Additional information)</i> | <p>Fernandex, L. and R.T. Carson (Eds). 2002. Both Sides of the Border: Transboundary Environmental Management Issues Facing Mexico and the United States. Kluwar Academic Publishers. Netherlands.</p> <p>U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO). U.S.-Mexico Border: Despite Some Progress, Environmental Infrastructure Challenges Remain (GAO/NSIAD-00-26). March 2000.</p> | |
| <i>Limitations of the indicator</i> | Data for Mexican households do not indicate whether the water from the public drainage system goes to treatment facilities. | |