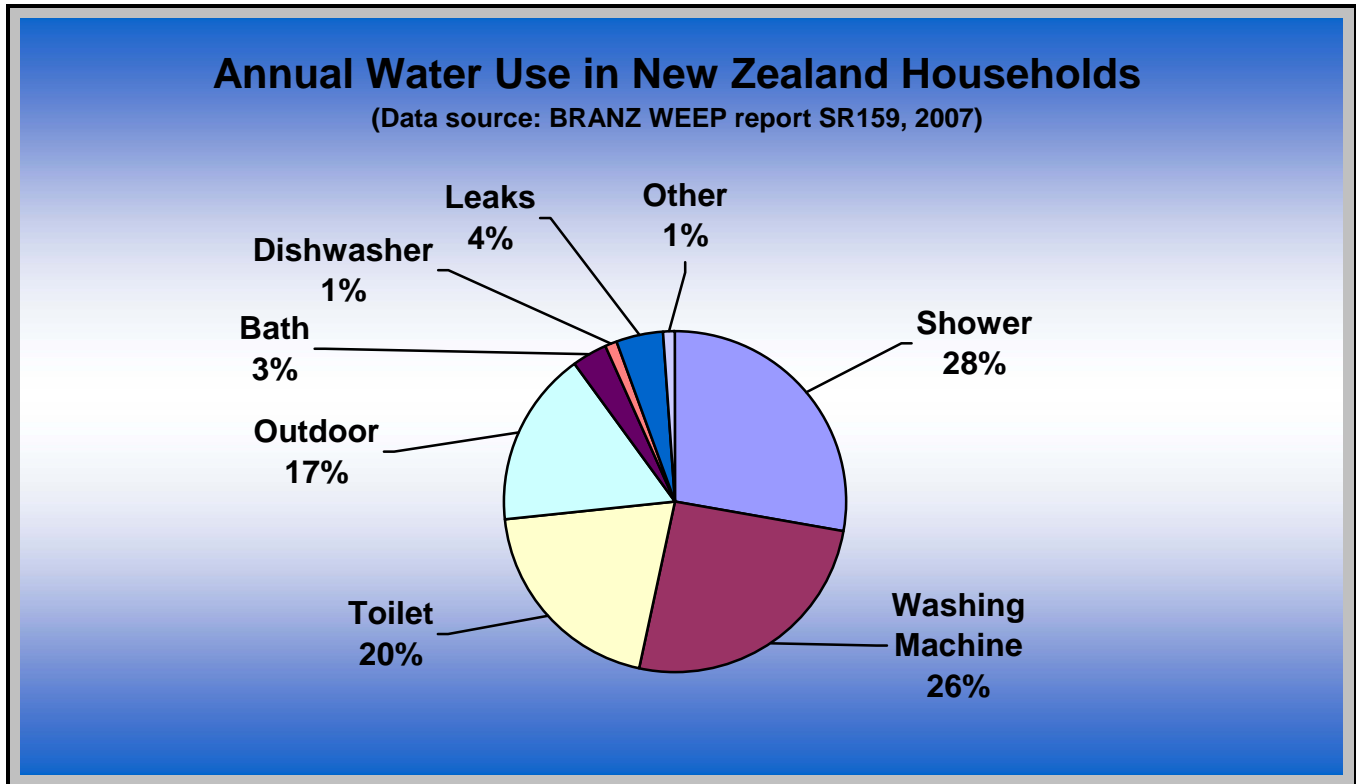




WATER EFFICIENCY v1.2



Did you know...

- Each person uses about 200 litres of water per day in summer and 170 litres in winter
- Each person uses about 67 000 litres of water per year

Data source: BRANZ WEEP report SR159, 2007

- Water Efficient Plumbing* - Install water efficient ('low-flow') toilet (look for dual flush 6/3 litres or less), showerheads and taps, or flow restrictors (low-flow usually 9 litres or less per minute).
- Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS)* – You can easily search for water efficient toilets showerheads, taps, washing machines and dishwashers at www.waterrating.gov.au (click on 'Finding a WELS product' on the left hand menu).
- Size* - Choose dishwashers and washing machines that are the right size for the household, so it's practical to run them only when they're full.
- Rainwater Systems* – If local regulations allow, consider a rainwater tank for outdoor use, flushing toilets and laundry use - over 60% of water use! If treated or purified, your tank water can also be used for drinking, bathing and kitchen use. Correct tank volume will depend on typical rainfall in an

area, roof area available for collection, the number of residents in a household and their expected water use. Slim wall or underfloor options are ideal on restricted urban sites.

Rule of thumb

- 1mm of rainfall = 1 litre of water per square metre of roof catchment area
 - Rainfall data can be found at www.niwa.co.nz
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- Greywater Systems* – Greywater (wastewater from laundry tubs, washing machines, showers, baths and vanity) can be re-used through subsurface garden irrigation systems or for flushing toilets.
 - Blackwater Systems* – If public sewerage systems are not available, blackwater (waste from toilets) can be processed using a composting (waterless) toilet system, septic tank system or an aeration system which treats sewerage to a higher level.
 - Leaks* – Check and fix leaking taps and pipes and especially toilet cisterns which can often go unnoticed.



References

- BRANZ – Study report SR 159 (2007), level book series and website www.level.org.nz
Beacon Pathway – www.beaconpathway.org.nz
Efficient home energy and water use – www.smarterhomes.org.nz
Comparing water efficient plumbing and appliances – www.waterrating.gov.au