

17 December 2021

**Environmental accounts: Environmental goods and services  
Year 2020**

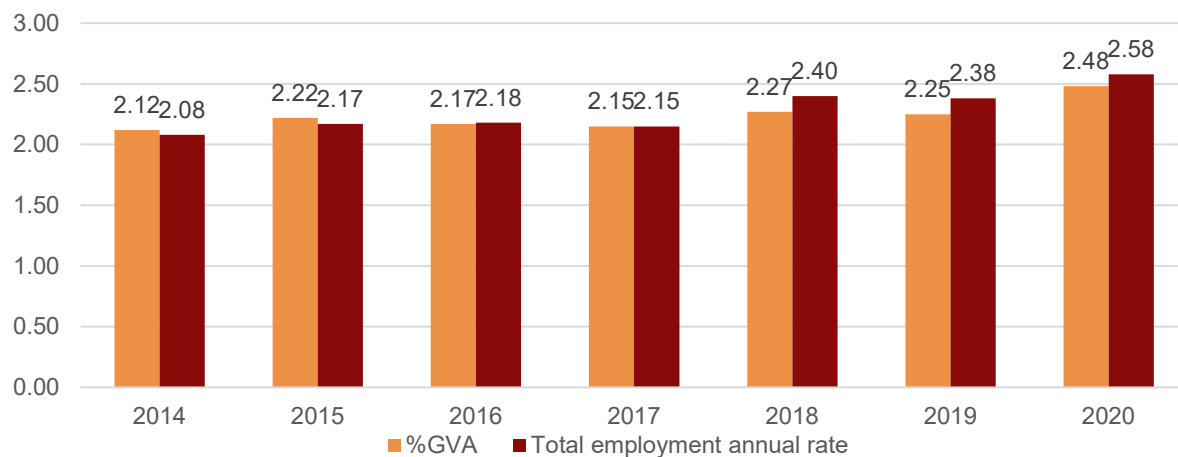
**The Gross Value Added of the environmental economy decreased  
by 0.6% in 2020 and represented 2.48% of GDP**

**The environmental economy generated 438.3 thousand jobs, 2.58%  
of the total economy**

The environmental economy, defined as the value of the activities associated with the protection of the environment and the management of natural resources, decreased by 0.6% in 2020 compared to the previous year. This represented 2.48% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), compared to 2.25% in 2019.

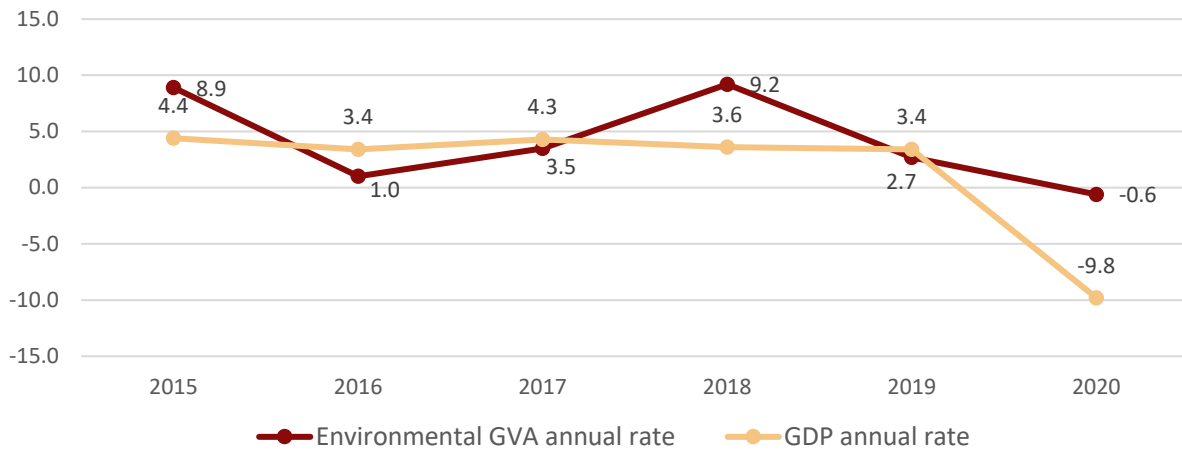
Employment generated by environmental activities accounted for 2.58% of the total, which was 0.20 points more than in the previous year.

**GVA and environmental employment (percentages of GDP and total employment)**



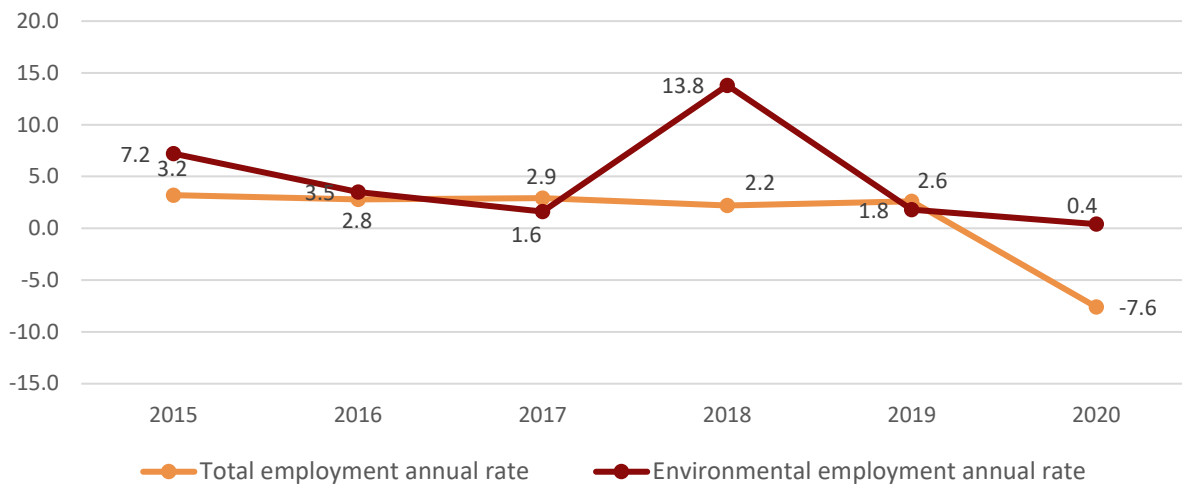
The Gross Value Added (GVA) associated with the production of environmental goods and services (hereinafter environmental GVA) stood at 27,828.12 million euros, 0.6% less than in the previous year, while the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) decreased by 9.8%.

**Annual change in GDP and environmental GVA**



In 2020, environmental employment amounted to 438.3 thousand full-time equivalent jobs, an increase of 0.4% over the previous year. On the other hand, total employment in the economy fell by 7.6% that year.

**Annual variation of total employment and environmental employment**



The variables included in the Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS) Account are classified according to the domain of the affected environment and by economic activities.

## Results by environmental domains

The domains with the greatest weight over the total environmental GVA generated in 2020 were *Energy production through renewable sources* (26.4% of the total) and *Waste management* (22.7% of the total).

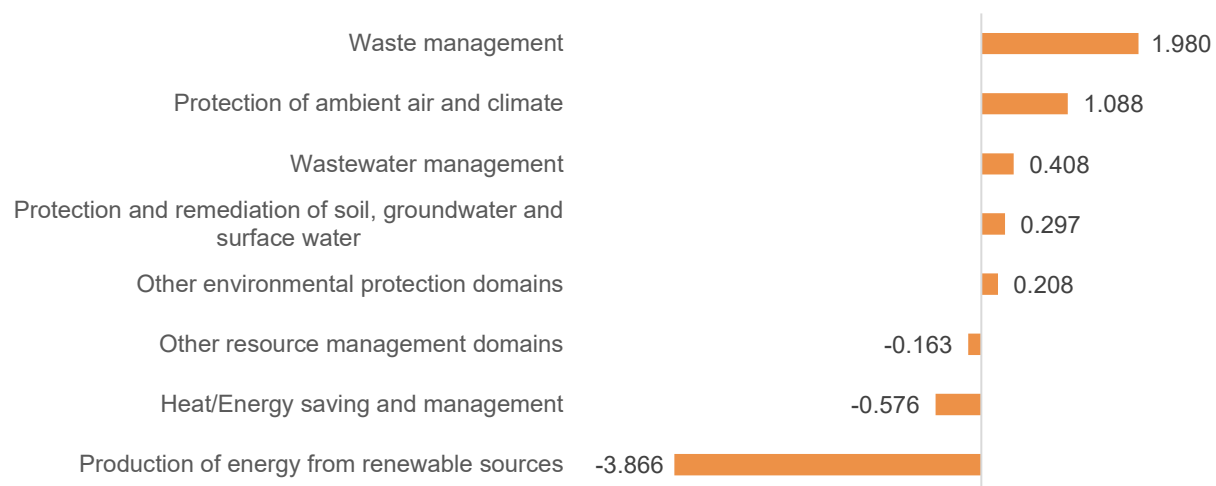
### GVA by environmental domains. Year 2020

Unit: millions of euros

	GVA	%	Annual Rate	Influence on the annual rate
TOTAL	27,828.1	100.0	-0.6	
Production of energy from renewable sources	7,335.2	26.4	-12.9	-3.866
Waste management	6,298.8	22.7	9.7	1.980
Heat / Energy saving and management	5,795.9	20.8	-2.7	-0.576
Other environmental protection domains	2,268.0	8.2	2.6	0.208
Wastewater management	1,811.9	6.5	6.7	0.408
Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water	1,736.3	6.2	5.0	0.297
Other resource management domains	1,683.1	6.0	-2.6	-0.163
Protection of ambient air and climate	898.9	3.2	51.3	1.088

The area *Waste management* contributed the most to the variation rate (1.980 points), while *Energy production through renewable sources* had the most negative contribution (-3.866 points).

### GVA by environmental domains (contribution). Year 2020



The environmental domains in which the most employment was generated were *Energy/Heat Savings and Management* (33.0% of the total) and *Waste Management* (27.3%).

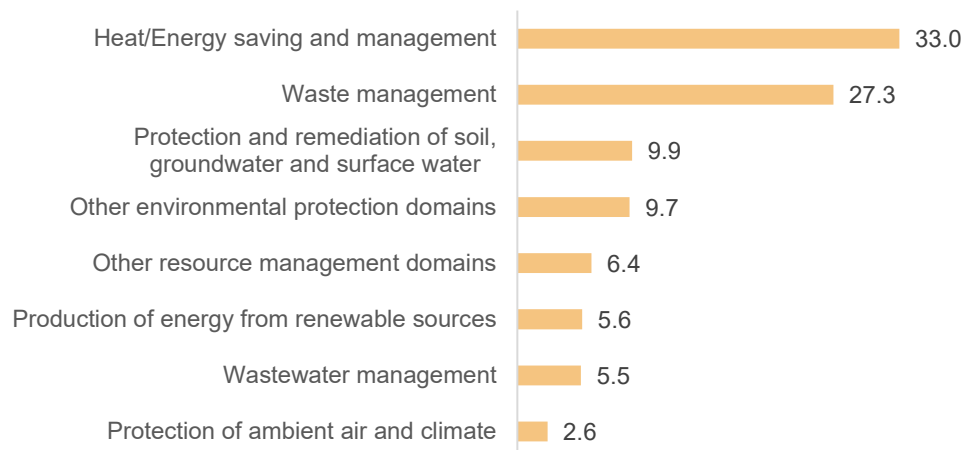
In terms of contributions to employment growth, the areas that contributed the most were *Protection and decontamination of soils, groundwater and surface waters* (0.870 points) and *Waste management* (0.641 points).

## Employment by environmental domains. Year 2020

Unit: thousands of full-time equivalent jobs

	2020	%	Annual Rate	Influence on the annual rate
TOTAL	438.3	100.0	0.4	
Heat / Energy saving and management	144.7	33.0	-3.7	-1.259
Waste management	119.7	27.3	2.4	0.641
Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water	43.5	9.9	9.6	0.870
Other environmental protection domains	42.3	9.7	2.2	0.206
Other resource management domains	27.9	6.4	-3.1	-0.206
Production of energy from renewable sources	24.5	5.6	-9.3	-0.572
Wastewater management	24.1	5.5	1.7	0.092
Protection of ambient air and climate	11.6	2.6	28.9	0.595

## Employment by environmental domains (in percentage). Year 2020



## Results by economic activities

Activities with the greatest weight in the Environmental GVA in 2020 were *Water supply, sanitation, waste management and decontamination activities* (29.3% of the total) and *Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply* (21.3%).

*Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities* was the activity that contributed the most to the employment growth rate compared to the previous year (2.284 points). On the other hand, *Supply of electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning* had the most negative contribution (-3,460 points).

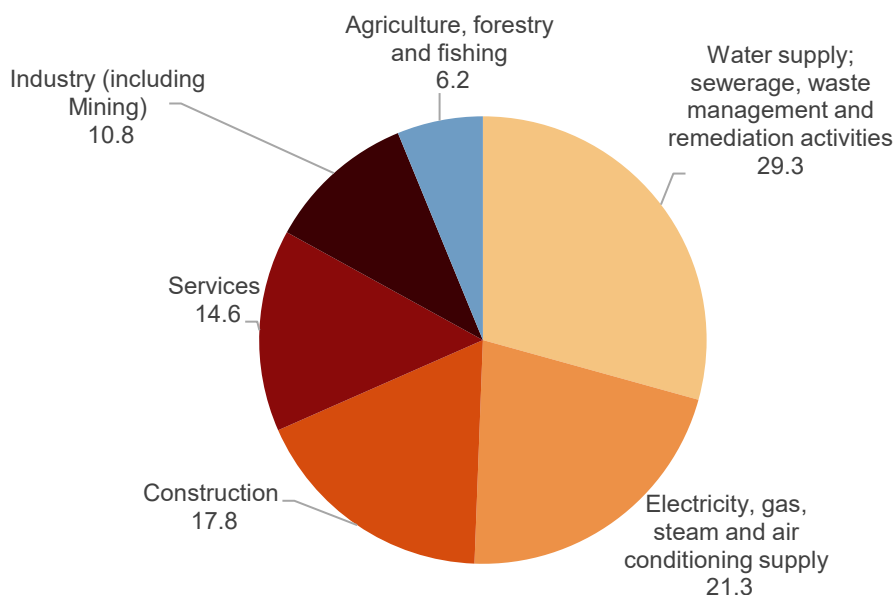
## GVA by economic activities Year 2020

Unit: millions of euros

	GVA	Annual Rate	Influence on the annual rate	% GDP/GVA <sup>1</sup>
TOTAL	27,828.1	-0.6		2.48
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	8,161.7	8.5	2.284	61.75
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	5,923.1	-14.1	-3.460	23.38
Construction	4,960.1	-0.7	-0.119	7.78
Services Sector	4,061.2	-0.6	-0.091	0.53
Industry (including Mining)	2,994.5	5.7	0.574	2.37
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,727.5	3.1	0.188	4.89

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of GDP for the total. Percentage of GVA for economic activities.

## Environmental GVA by economic activities (in percentage). Year 2020



The economic activities with the highest environmental employment were *Construction* and *Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities*, with 132.8 and 130.9 thousand jobs respectively.

*Agriculture, forestry and fishing* was the activity that contributed the most to the employment growth rate (0.710 points) and registered the highest annual increase, 7.6%.

## Employment by activity sectors. Year 2020

Unit: thousands of full-time equivalent jobs

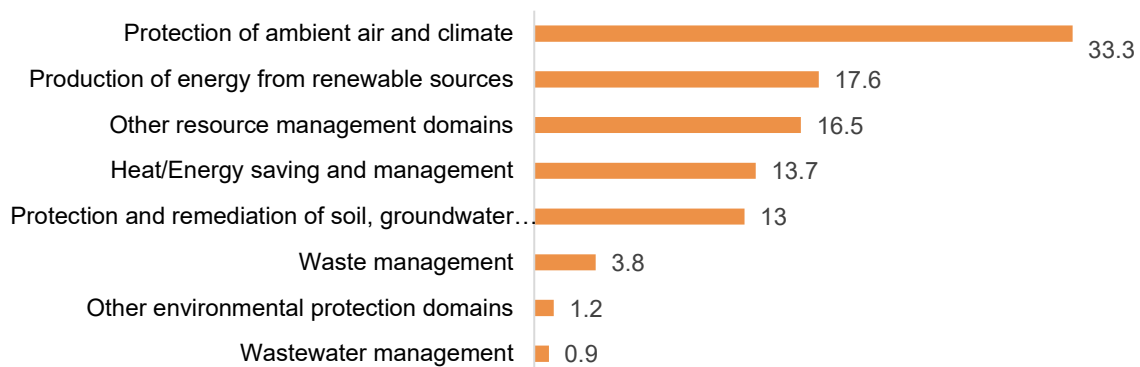
	Environmental employment	Annual Rate	Influence on the annual rate	% Employment
TOTAL	438.3	0.4		2.58
Construction	132.8	-2.8	-0.870	11.21
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	130.9	1.6	0.481	70.23
Services Sector	84.4	0.1	0.014	0.64
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	44.0	7.6	0.710	6.63
Industry (including Mining)	40.0	2.6	0.229	2.27
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6.2	-11.4	-0.183	18.13

## Exports

Total environmental production amounted to 61,719.1 million euros in 2020, of which 7,987.7 million euros were destined for export; this represented an increase in exports of 22.6% compared to the previous year.

The areas with the greatest weight in exports were *Air and climate protection* (33.3 % of the total) and *Energy production through renewable sources* (17.6%). Exports in these areas mainly include electric vehicles, energy products (biofuels) and capital goods associated with the production of renewable electricity (wind power generators).

## Exports by environmental domains (in percentage). Year 2020



## Data Review and Update

The data published today is provisional and will be revised when next year's data is released. This year the complete series has been revised to incorporate the methodological recommendations contained in the [Guidance note - Reporting of energetic refurbishment and construction of new energy efficient buildings in EGSS accounts](#). All results are available on INEbase.

## Methodological note

The objective of the Environmental Accounts (EA) is to integrate environmental information into the central system of National Accounts in a coherent way. They include a set of satellite accounts, which are transmitted annually, compiled using the accounting formats applicable to the different sectoral and territorial areas, with a strong use of physical data. They show the interaction between the economy, households and environmental factors.

The Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS) Account presents data on the main variables associated with the production of goods and services whose main objective is the protection of the environment and/or the most efficient management of natural resources, classified by economic activities and environmental domains.

For more information the methodology can be accessed at:

[INEbase / Agriculture and Environment / Environmental Accounts / Environmental Goods and Services Sector / Latest Data](#)

The standardized methodological report is at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30089>

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information see the section [Quality at INE and the Code of Best Practices](#) on the INE website.

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