

# Tasmania Industry

## Respondent characteristics



Number of responses: 48



Male:female ratio: 2.62:1



% regional: 25%



% rural: 23%

## Water use & efficiency

No TAS respondents believed the community's efforts to save water were excellent with 26% stating they were good; this compared to 9% and 45% (respectively) nationally. More than half (54%) describe it as average (34% nationally).

Only 8% of TAS respondents felt the communities would be willing to spend a large or moderate amount more to become more water efficient; the lowest of any State/Territory. Twenty-eight percent believed they wouldn't pay any more compared to 19% nationally.

Only 26% of TAS respondents rated the industry's efforts to save water as 'good', the lowest of any State/Territory, compared to the national average of 62%. Thirty-eight percent considered it critical to improve the efficiency of operations in the water sector (37% nationally), and a further 52% consider it as important (national average of 53%).

## Water prices

Most TAS respondents considered urban water prices about right compared to 43% nationally. Three quarters (75%) felt that prices should be used to reflect the scarcity of water to a large (20%) or moderate extent (55%) compared to 74% nationally.

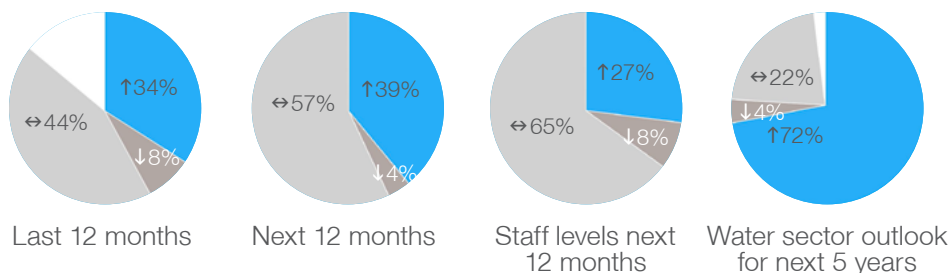
For rural water one third (34%) considered price to be it about right, while 21% saw it as a little low and 17% a little high (compared to the national average of 19%, 12% and 10% respectively). More than half (55%) of TAS industry respondent's believed the community's bills had gone up since last year, (national average of 44%), while zero thought they had gone down (9% nationally).

## Alternative water sources

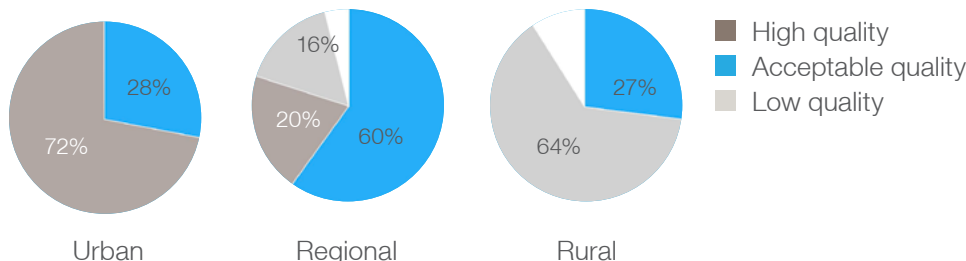
Compared to the national results, TAS had lower confidence in all sources for drinking and non-potable, especially for desalinated water and ground/bore water. Only 27% of TAS industry respondents considered recycled water cost as high, the lowest of any State/Territory (national average (42%), with a further 41% describing it as medium cost (compared to 39% nationally). Sixty-nine percent of TAS considered desalinated water high cost, below the national average of 78%.

Only 28% of TAS considered managed aquifer recharge a high priority (nationally 49%), the lowest of any State/Territory, with 38% considering it as a medium priority and a further 28% as a low priority.

**Business Outlook**



**Water quality by area**



**Highest impacts on water:**



**Confidence in water providers and governments**

Compared to the national average, TAS was more confident the water sector responded to faults and incidents quickly and were environmentally responsible. On all other parameters, TAS was below the national average. TAS confidence in governments was slightly lower than the national average across three key areas. Respondents however were more confident (29%) that governments recognise the need for new water infrastructure compared to 24% nationally.

Only 8% are completely confident, and 52% mostly confident, that urban infrastructure and systems will provide safe drinking water over the next 20 years – similar to the national average of 62%. Confidence dropped substantially for regional (27% completely/ mostly confident) and rural water infrastructure (13% completely/ mostly confident), compared to the combined national average of 37% and 21% respectively.

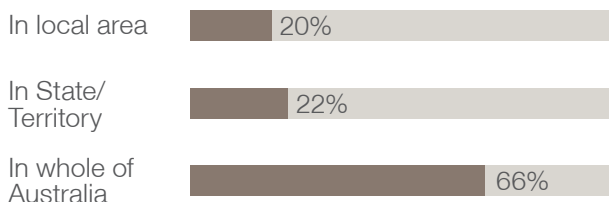
Just over half of respondents (52%) believed a significant amount of new investment in infrastructure is required to ensure water supply in 20 years, with a further 42% believing a considerable amount is needed (compared to 35% and 45% nationally).

**Water security**

No TAS respondents were completely confident that Australia has sufficient water security to meet its needs, and 37% felt they were mostly confident. These were the lowest results of any State/Territory and contrast to the national average of 4% and 42% respectively.

Forty-two percent of TAS respondents do not think procurement processes are maximising private sector involvement in water, with only 18% believing that is the case while 38% were not sure.

**Extremely/very concerned about water shortages:**




# Tasmania Community

## Respondent characteristics

 Number of responses: **79**

 Male:female ratio: **1.11:1**

 % regional: **25%**

 % rural: **23%**

## Water use & efficiency

Nineteen percent rated their efforts to save water as excellent, with a further 46% rating it as 'good'. Thirty-five percent place a high priority on saving water, (42% nationally) the lowest of any State/Territory, and a further 51% consider it a medium priority. 35% were willing to spend a great/moderate amount more to become more water efficient (36% nationally).

Only 14% rated their water provider as excellent or good for supporting households to become more water efficient (26% nationally) and 40% rated it as poor/very poor (26% nationally).

## Water prices

Around a third of TAS respondents (35%) thought the price of water was 'about right' but 47% considered it a little/much too high compared to all other States/Territories (39% nationally). Only 20% believed prices had a significant/considerable impact on how much water they used compared to 26% nationally, which was the lowest of any State/Territory.

Sixty-six percent believed that prices should be used to reflect the scarcity of water to a large /moderate extent (68% nationally).

Forty-three percent believed their bills had stayed the same over the last 12 months (34% nationally), and the 26% thought it had gone up or down (29% nationally).

## Alternative water sources

TAS respondents had the lowest level of confidence in using alternative water sources for drinking and non-portable purposes of any State/Territory, with only confidence in dams and rivers being in line with the national average.

TAS was the second least willing State or Territory to pay more for alternative water sources, with only 24% extremely/very willing (33% nationally), ranging from 15% for urban storm water 37% for dams and rivers.

## Water shortage concern

Twelve percent believed there are currently moderate water shortages in TAS.



**Highest impacts on water:**



**Confidence in water providers and governments**

Fifty-nine percent were very/somewhat confident in their water provider compared to 65% nationally. This included 48% confident that providers adequately plan for the future (54% nationally) and 43% confident they provide value for money (60% nationally). While 77% believed water providers supply high quality water, this was the lowest level of any State/Territory.

TAS had the equal highest confidence in governments (42% very/somewhat confident) compared to the national average (35%). Thirty-two percent thought governments were working together to make the right decisions for Australia's water resources (26% nationally) and 52% were confident governments recognise the need for new water infrastructure.

**Water security**

Only 34% of TAS were very/somewhat confident that Australia has sufficient water security (36% nationally).

Seventy-two percent saw a need for significant/considerable amount of new investment in infrastructure (76% nationally).

**Extremely/very concerned about water shortages:**

