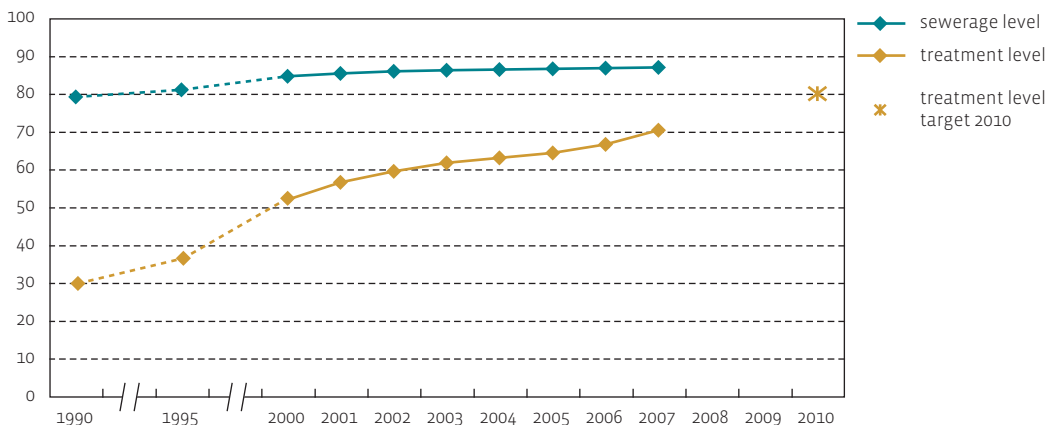


sewerage and treatment level (%)



Source: VMM

Sewerage level increasing slowly

At the end of 2007 the sewerage level was 87 %. As it would be too expensive to connect all inhabitants to the sewerage system, the sewerage level will never reach 100 %. For this reason the level of implementation of the sewerage system is monitored. The implementation level is the number of inhabitants that currently are connected to the sewerage system with respect to the number of inhabitants that was foreseen by the municipalities to discharge into the sewerage system when drafting the total sewerage plans (TSPs). At the end of 2007 the implementation level in Flanders was 92 %.

Level of wastewater treatment increasing faster again

At the end of 2007 the level of wastewater treatment was 70.3 %, compared with 66.6 % in 2006. In 2003 and 2004 the contract award rate of Aquafin was very low, partly because of a number of blocked projects for which additional action was taken. In 2006 and particularly in 2007 the contract award rate was (not surprisingly) noticeably higher. In order to reach the 80 % target set in the MINA plan 3+ (2008-2010), it will be necessary to keep the contract award rate in the coming years comparable with that of 2007.

(%)	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007
sewerage level	79.0	81.0	84.6	86.6	86.8	87.0
level of wastewater treatment	30.0	37.0	52.0	64.4	66.6	70.3