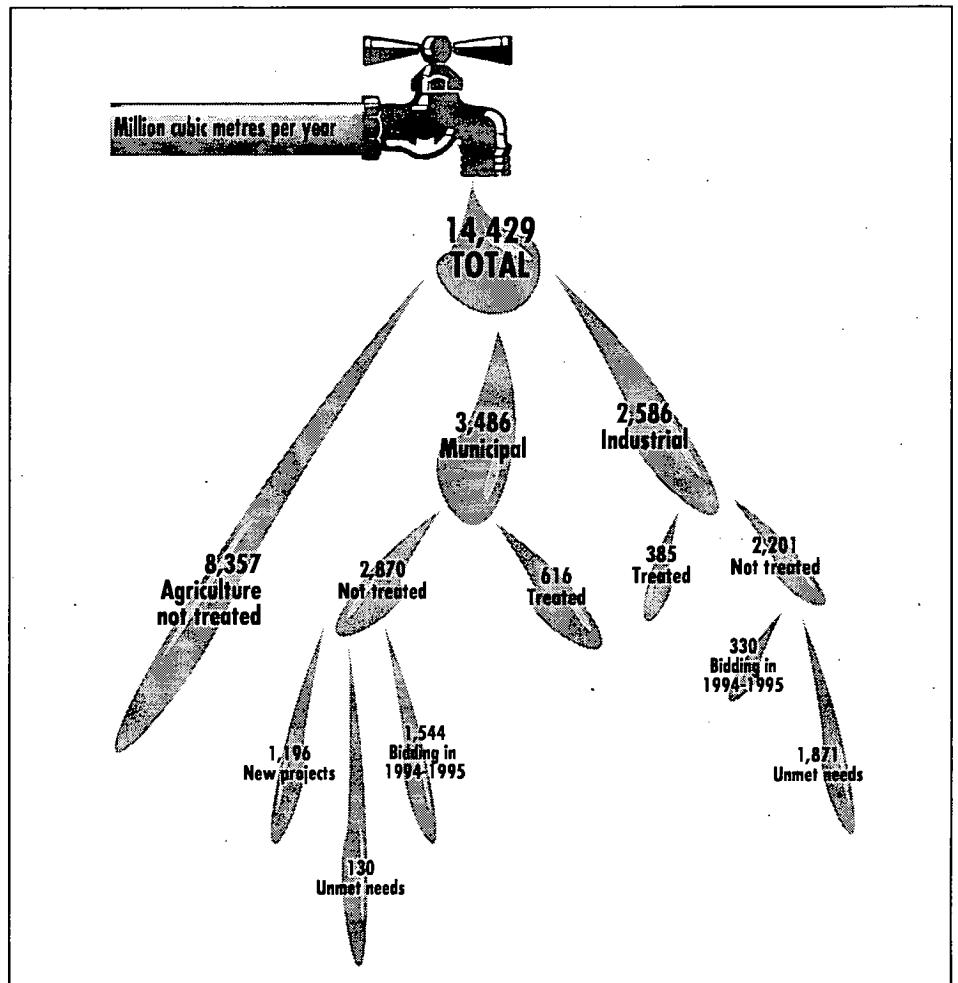


## ESTIMATED WASTEWATER GENERATION IN MEXICO - 1994



Source: United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Office of Energy, Environment and Technology, 1995.

The wastewater capacity of the industrial sector is also very low. The industrial sector generates 18 percent of all wastewater and it is estimated that only about 15 percent of it is treated. Over 80 percent of total industrial discharges come from nine highly polluting industries: sugar, chemicals, pulp and paper, petroleum, beverages, textiles, iron and steel, electronics, and food processing.

Agriculture and cattle production are the largest sources of water contamination, accounting for some 58 percent of total discharges. Pig farming is considered the most serious threat. Farmers use raw sewage to irrigate some crops, and some vegetables have been found to be contaminated with fecal bacteria, posing a serious health problem.