

FACT SHEET

Water and sewerage charges and typical customer bills from 1 July 2014

Based on Sydney Water Corporation Determination and Final Report, June 2012, Hunter Water Corporation Determination and Final Report, June 2013, Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council's Determination and Final Report, May 2013 and Essential Energy (Water) Determination and Final Report, June 2014

This Fact Sheet summarises water and sewerage prices commencing on 1 July 2014 for Sydney Water, Hunter Water, Gosford City Council, Wyong Shire Council, and Essential Water (Table 1). We have also provided examples of annual bills for residential customers (Tables 2 and 3) and non-residential customers (Tables 4 to 8), to show the typical change in bills.

For most households, less than 2% of disposable household income is spent on water services.¹ In 2014/15, the typical weekly bill for customers who live in a house and use 200 kL of water per year will increase by:

- ▼ \$0.44 for Sydney, Illawarra and Blue Mountains customers
- ▼ \$0.54 for Wyong customers
- ▼ \$0.58 for Hunter customers
- ▼ \$1.39 for Gosford customers
- ▼ \$1.60 for Broken Hill customers.

¹ IPART analysis. See IPART 2012/13 Annual Report, October 2013, p 43, figure 8.

Table 1 Urban water prices from 1 July 2014

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford Shire Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water service charge for residential houses, flats and units, and other 20mm connections (\$) ^a	113.98	17.51	149.78	172.33	312.67
% change from previous year	-9.1	2.9	19.0	1.7	23.3
Water service charge for residential flats and units with a common meter (\$) ^b	91.72	n/a	n/a	115.46	n/a
% change from previous year	11.8	n/a	n/a	36.2	n/a
Water usage charge (\$ per kL)	2.23	2.19 ^c	2.23	2.23	1.72
% change from previous year ^d	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0 ^e
Sewer service charge for houses (\$) ^f	592.31	585.61 ^{g,h}	612.28	470.75	511.19
% change from previous year	3.8	2.9	6.3	2.9	2.9
Sewer service charge for individually metered units (\$)	592.31	409.93	612.28	470.75	511.19
% change from previous year	3.8	6.7	6.3	2.9	2.9
Stormwater drainage charge for houses (\$) ⁱ	79.64	79.05	102.78	108.76	n/a
% change from previous year	16.7	-7.7	11.8	10.3	n/a
Stormwater drainage charge for flats & units (\$)	37.48	29.24	102.78	81.57	n/a
% change from previous year	-8.5	-7.7	11.8	10.3	n/a

a These water service charges apply to individually-metered residential properties and non-residential properties with a 20mm meter (excluding residential multi-premises with a common meter). For non-residential properties with a meter size larger than 20mm, a higher charge will apply.

b This is a separate water service charge for residential multi-premises with a common meter. The charge is being transitioned to the charge for residential properties by 2015/16.

c Applies to filtered water usage of <50,000 kL. Hunter Water's water usage charge for unfiltered water >50,000kL per year is \$1.79 per kL.

d The percentage increase in the water usage price for Sydney Water, Hunter Water, Gosford Council and Wyong Council varies slightly from inflation of 2.9% in 2013/14 because these utilities round usage prices to the nearest cent. For Essential Water, it reflects our June 2014 price determination, again reflecting rounding to the nearest cent.

e Percentage change shown in 2014/15 is a comparison with the tier 1 water price in 2013/14.

f The sewerage service charges apply to residential properties and non-residential properties with a 20mm water meter. For non-residential properties with a water meter size larger than 20mm, a higher charge will apply.

g Includes Dungog.

h Clarence Town customers incur a Clarence Town sewer service charge of \$77.21 per year, in addition to the standard Hunter Water sewer service charge.

i Includes vacant land.

Residential bills

Table 2 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered residential houses (\$ per year)

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford City Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water and sewerage	1,153	1,079	1,208	1,089	1,168
% change from previous year	2.0	2.9	6.4	2.6	7.7

Note: Annual bills are based on 200 kL usage per year. For our recent report on our determination of Essential Energy's water prices in Broken Hill, we have assumed a typical residential customer consumed 300 kL of water per year. IPART, *Essential Energy's water and sewerage services in Broken Hill - Final Report*, June 2014, p 11. Under this assumption, the typical bill would be \$1,340 which is an increase of 7% from 2013/14.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 3 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered residential units (\$ per year)

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford City Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water and sewerage	1,041	794	1,097	978	1,082
% change from previous year	1.9	4.8	6.7	2.6	8.1

Note: Annual bills are based on 150 kL usage per year.

Source: IPART modelling.

Non- Residential bills

Table 4 Sydney Water – 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,376	2.2
1,000	32mm	4,894	7.9
10,000	100mm	52,223	5.3

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Sydney Water's network of 79%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. There is a minimum service charge for non-residential customers equal to the residential service charge.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 5 Hunter Water – 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,430	1.3
1,000	32mm	4,958	2.2
10,000	100mm	48,866	2.5

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Hunter Water's network of 74%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. There is a minimum service charge for non-residential customers equal to the residential service charge.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 6 Gosford City Council – 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,550	4.6
1,000	32mm	5,032	8.0
10,000	100mm	51,171	7.4

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Gosford Council's water network of 90%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. A discharge allowance of 150kL per year has been used to calculate these examples. These examples exclude other bill adjustments that may apply.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 7 Wyong Shire Council – 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,412	2.5
1,000	32mm	3,832	2.9
10,000	100mm	39,211	2.8

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Wyong Shire Council's water network of 90%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 8 Essential Water (Broken Hill) – 2014/15 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties with treated water (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,738	6.0
1,000	32mm	5,084	-6.2
10,000	100mm	50,290	-13.9

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Essential Water's network of 83%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each customer. Essential Water's 2 tier water usage price was discontinued from 2014/15. The percentage change shown here is a comparison with 2013/14 based on a 30% summer and 70% non-summer consumption profile. This reflects the proportion of the year that the summer (>600 kL per year) and non-summer (>400 kL per year) thresholds applied for Tier 2 charges.

Source: IPART modelling.