Office Building Benchmarks

Approximately 88% of the water usage in office buildings goes to cooling towers, toilets and pantries.

Figure 1 below shows a breakdown of the overall water usage statistics in the office building sector.

*Others include water features, general washing, fire protection and kitchens

**Figure 1: Breakdown of Water Usage for Office Buildings with Water-Cooled Cooling Towers**

Both Gross Floor Area (GFA) per m² and average number of people (occupants and visitors) per day are collected as Business Activity Indicators (BAIs) for the office building sector. Office building WEI reflects the amount of water used by an office building for its operations for each gross floor area annually.

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\text{Office building WEI} = \frac{\text{Annual Water Consumption (m}^3/\text{yr)}}{\text{Gross Floor Area (m}^2)}
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The distribution of WEI for office buildings with water-cooled cooling towers is shown in Figure 2.