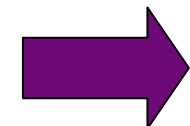


Groundwater protection



Careful water consumption has paid off for Merck's largest production plant at Darmstadt.

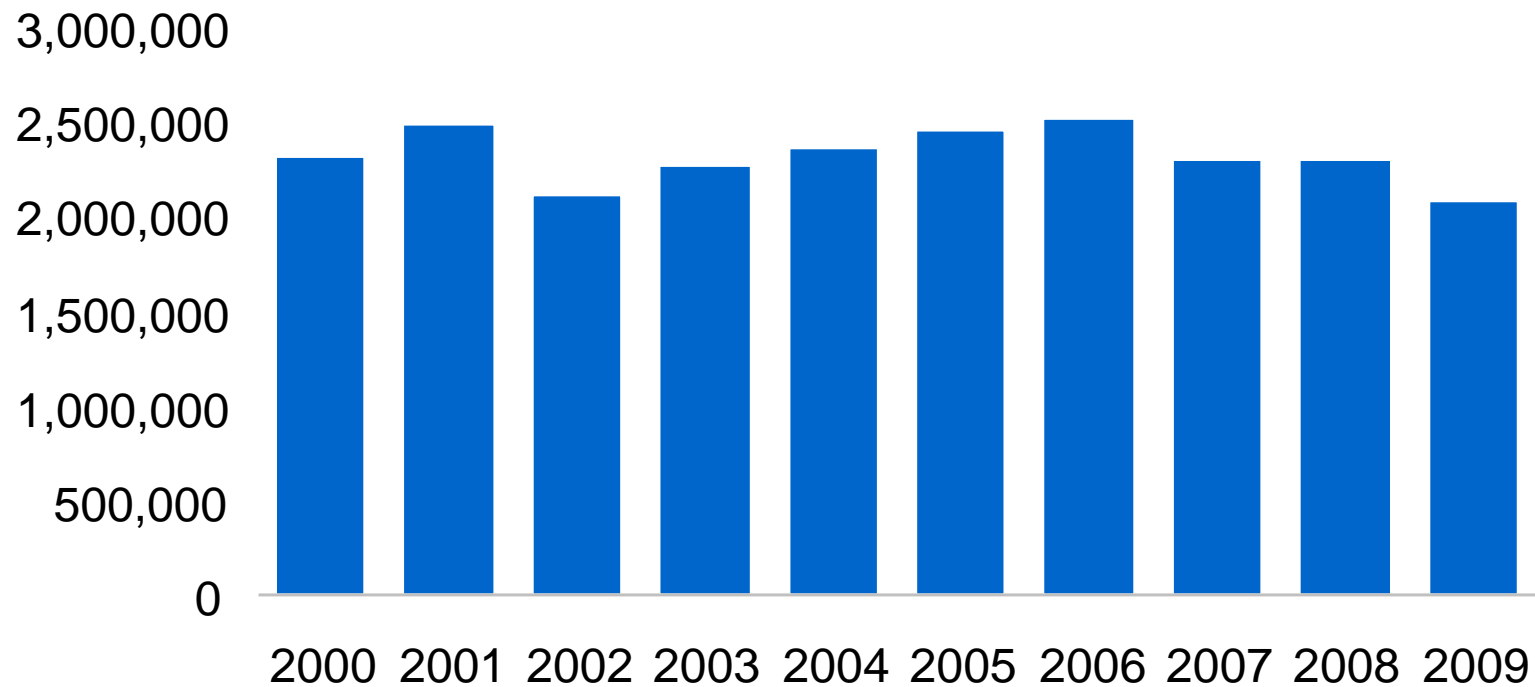
- Groundwater extraction was reduced from 6 to under 2,1 million m³ annually between 1991 and 2009.
- In the past few years Merck was below the maximum legally approved extraction rate.



Water consumption



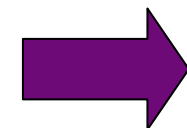
m³/year



Wastewater treatment



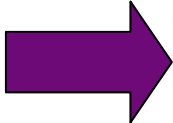
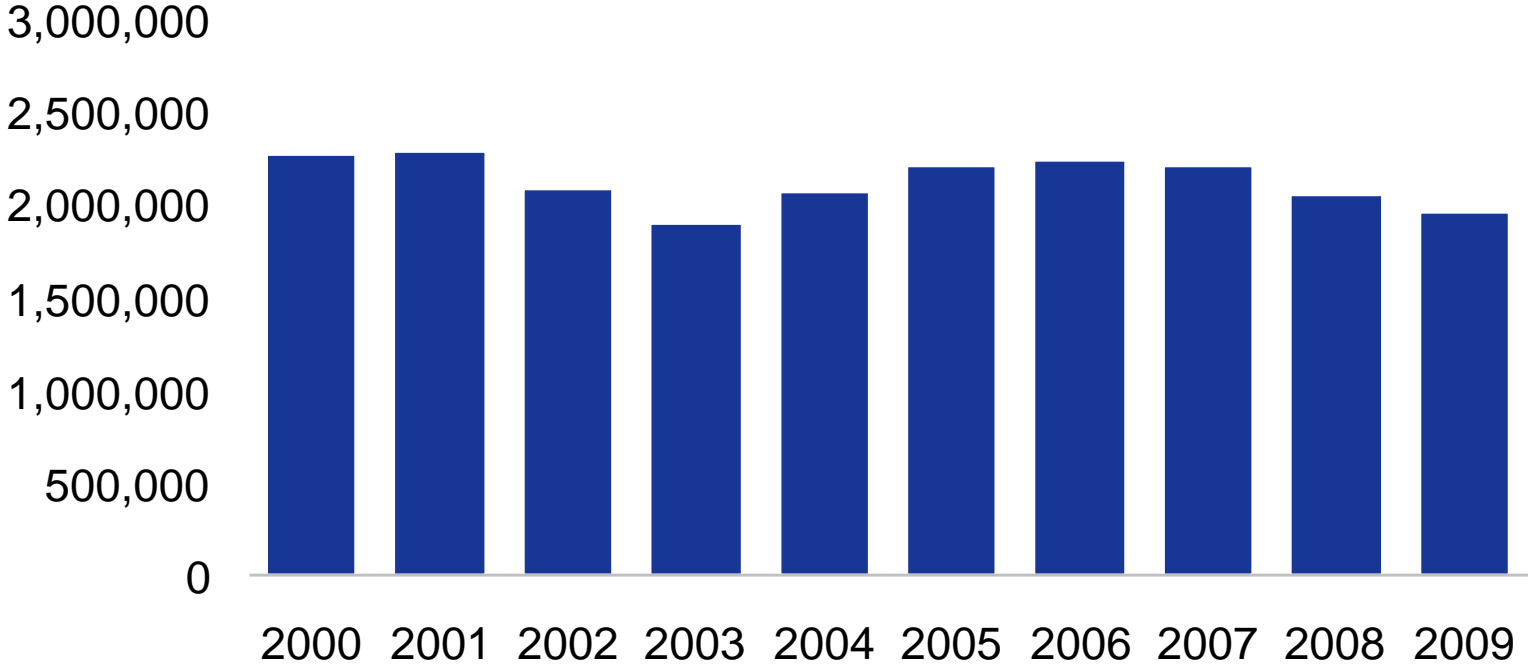
Wastewater amounts to nearly 2.0 million m³/year.



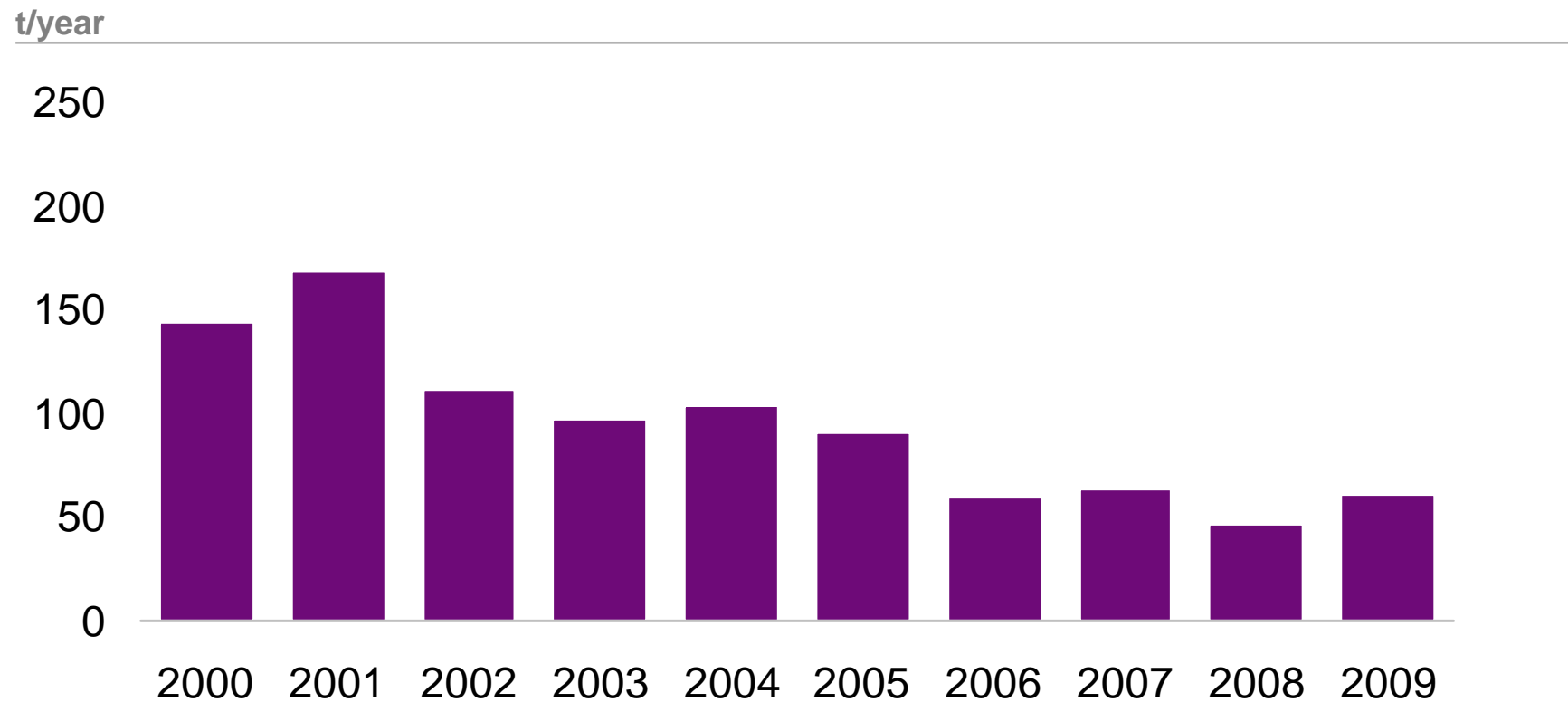
Wastewater



m³/year



Development of COD*



* Chemical oxygen demand (tons oxygen/year)
= Total parameter for oxidizable substances in water

