



The ACCOUNTS CHAMBER OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Impact of the environmental audits of the
Accounts chamber of the Russian Federation
conducted in 2008 – 2009



Objective of the efficiency audit

to develop an efficient tool to control the performance of executive authorities performing their state functions and to monitor the efficient use of the state funds.



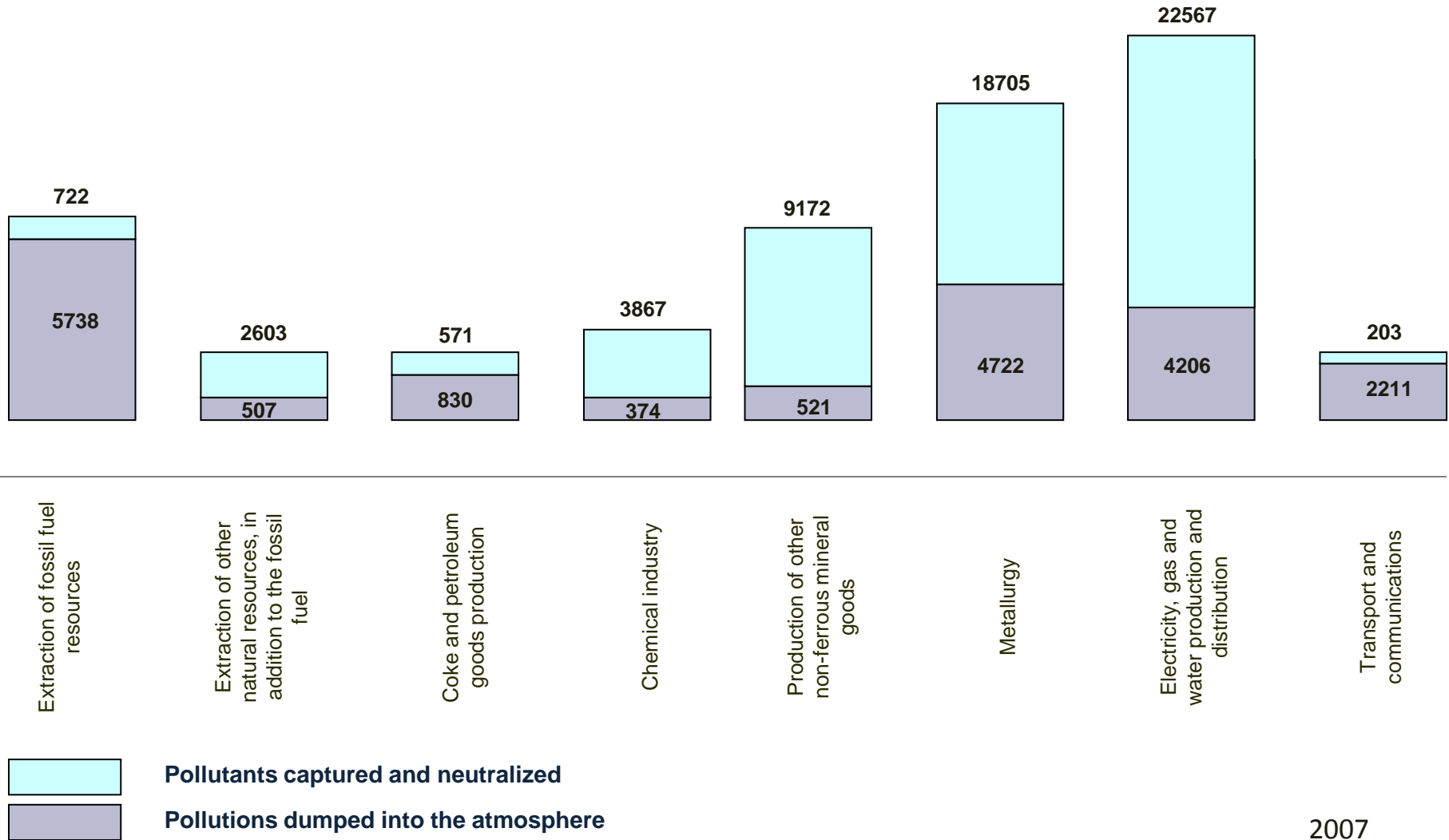
Efficiency Audit of Environmental Protection in the Russian Federation in 2005-2007

Audited entities:

- ✓ Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation and subordinated control and monitoring authorities
- ✓ Three joint stock companies

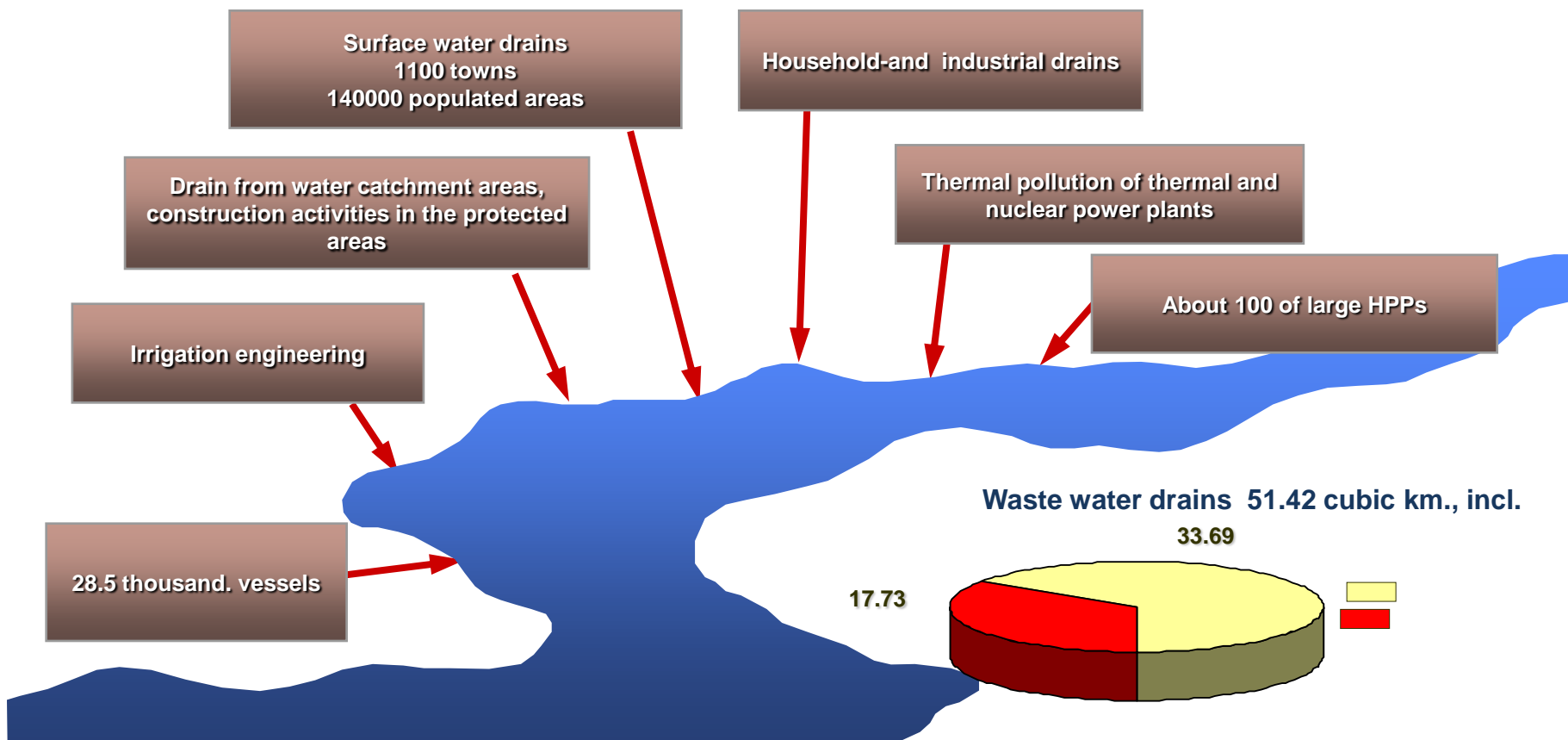


Industries with the adverse atmospheric impact



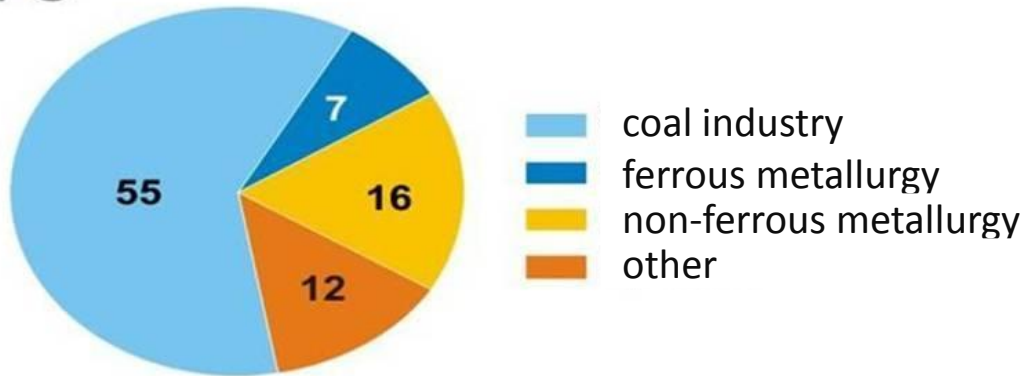
Main sources of water ponds pollution

Water ponds receive over 10 million tons of pollutants

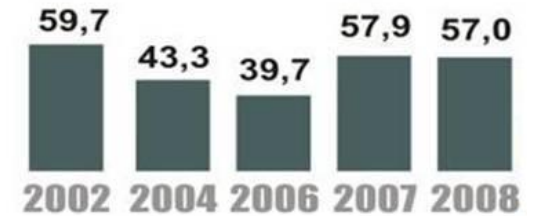


Trends of waste amounts

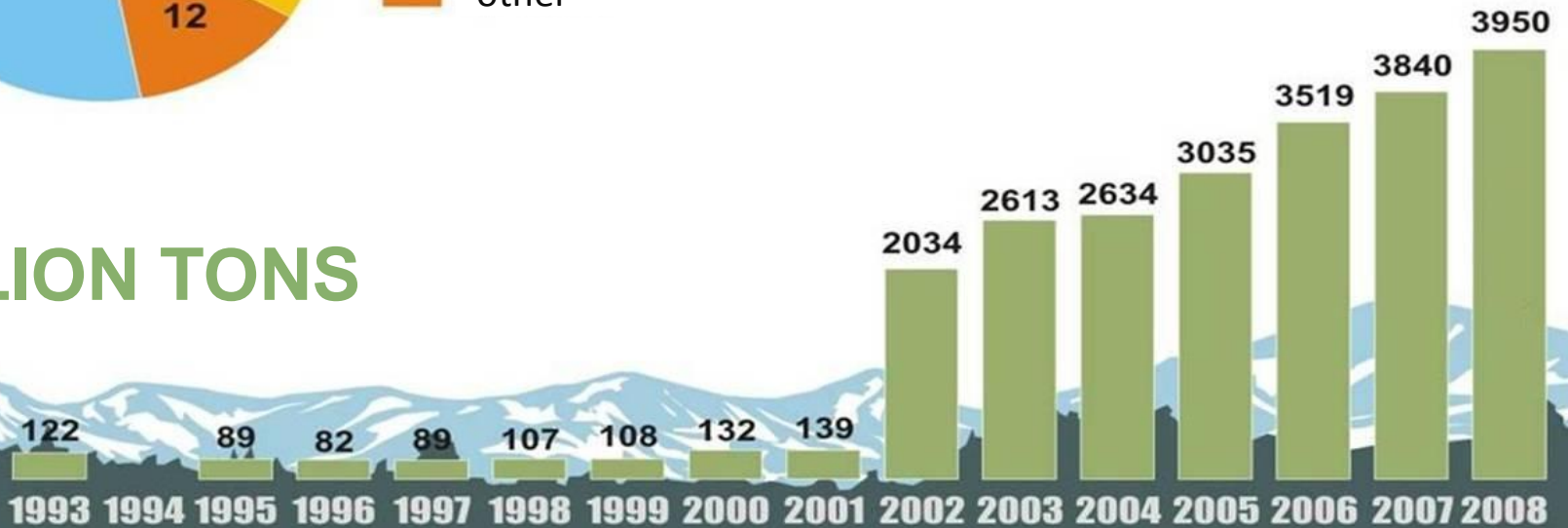
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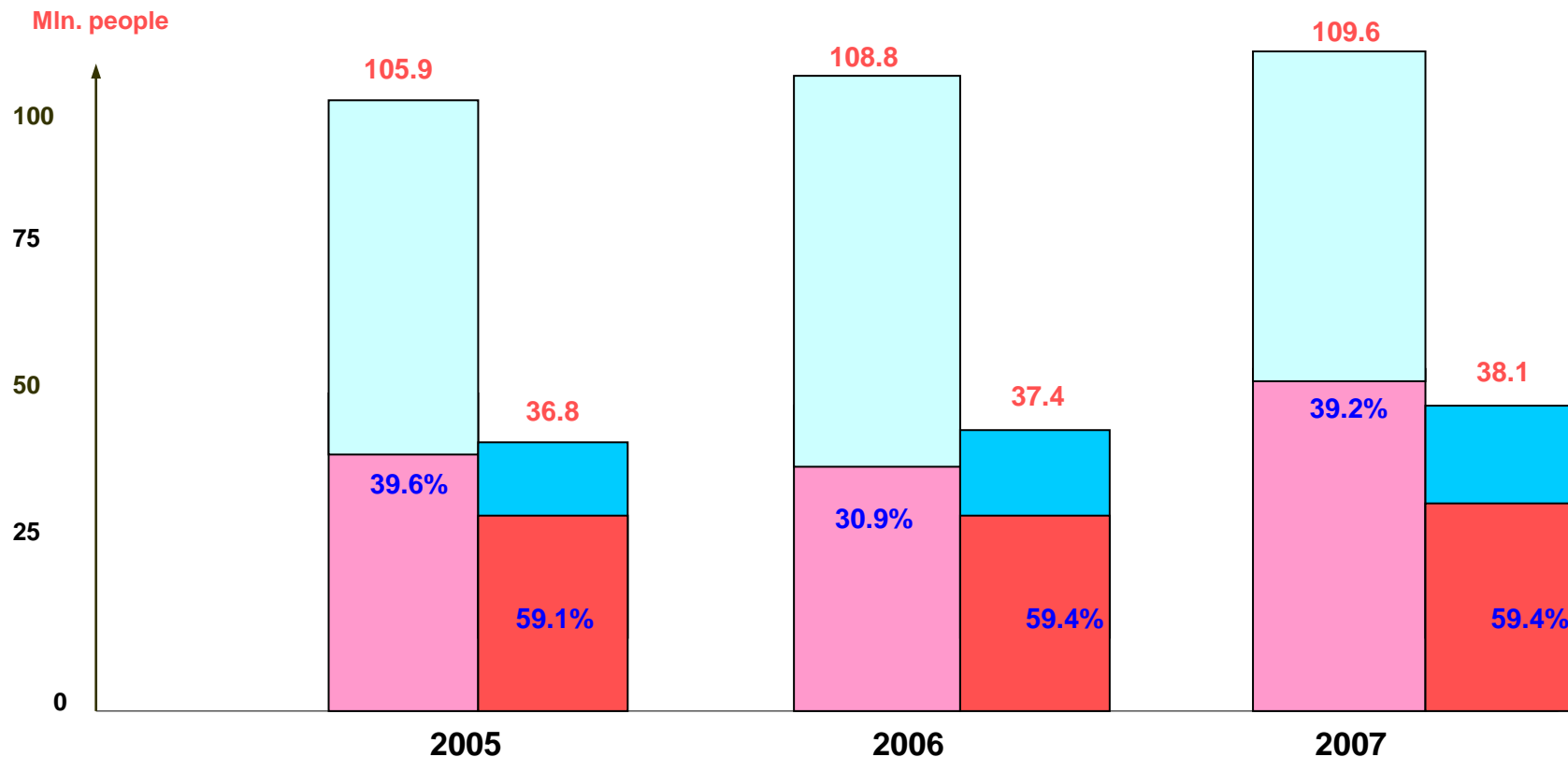
Trends of waste recycling



MILLION TONS



Diseases of people split per illness types



ADULTS – Registered patients with diagnosed respiratory diseases (%)

CHILDREN – Registered patients with diagnosed respiratory diseases (%)



Imperfections of environmental protection regulations

- ❑ the current legislation has no tools to oblige users of the natural resources to mitigate their environmental impact, run the environmental protection and restoration programmes in full to compensate the damage to the environment;
- ❑ the lack of the legislative tools for compulsory environmental insurance, environmental audit, normative regulation of the environmental quality, introduction of the best-practice and environmentally sound technologies, gradual mitigation of the environmental impact;
- ❑ poor distribution of functions and lack of proper coordination between the entities controlling the use of the natural resources and environmental protection;
- ❑ lack of the RF budget legislation provisions on the intended expenditure of funds received from the control and monitoring activities conducted by the relevant environmental monitoring bodies.



Organizational problems of the environmental protection

- distribution of functions among the authorized environmental protection and natural resources use authorities on each level needs to be specified and detailed;
- poor efficiency of environmental protection and natural resources use management is also explained by the problems with the informational support of the decision making problems.



Economical problems of the environmental protection

- ✓ the lack of efficient incentives for mitigation of the environmental impact, conservation of natural resources and application of energy- and resource saving technologies;
- ✓ obviously low fees for pollution, waste burial and use of natural resources, which results in poor financing of the nature protection activities and proper restoration of renewable natural resources;
- ✓ the pollution fees are too low to prevent or compensate the damage incurred;



Recommendations of the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation to the Federal Authorities of the Russian Federation

- To take steps aimed at introduction of changes to the environmental protection legislation in order to boost the efficiency of the executive authorities in the area of environmental protection and to mitigate the risks of corruption.

This shall include:

- a) pollution fee increase;
 - b) considering the issue of introducing a legal tool to regulate the use of funds received from environmental fines and claims;
 - c) taking appropriate steps to survey and register all the specially protected natural areas.
- To consider the issue of adopting a dedicated federal programme for environmental protection and resources conservation.
 - To implement the following measures in organization and functioning of the specially protected natural areas:
 - a) to optimize the borders of the current natural areas with a special protection status;
 - a) to create new natural areas with a special protection status;
 - c) to develop the prospective territorial planning schedule of the Russian Federation in terms of development and positioning of natural areas with a special protection status of the Federal importance.

