River Group Sustainability Report

2024

river-group.com

About River Group

Founded in 2023, River Group is a leading Nordic aftermarket service provider of maintenance, service, rental, sales, and technical consulting of water pumps, pumping stations, electrical motors and related components. Water pumps serve as a key component in the infrastructure to transport water and wastewater and we provide critical services for Public and Industrial customers, such as municipalities, businesses, and industries.

River Group operates within the water and wastewater, building services and industry segments, and currently consists of 22 different operating units in all the Nordic Countries and Germany. In 2024 the group's total turnover was 927 MSEK.

River Group is made up of a dedicated group of people with extensive experience and a strong commitment to issues and challenges concerning the environment and water management. The Group combines the entrepreneurial spirit of small local business units with the structure and professionalism of a larger group. This combination provides our customers with even better services and ensures top quality and customer satisfaction.

The name River Group induces thoughts of our element, water. Transportation of water is the foundation of all activities within the group. A river is made up of many small streams to form a bigger flow, just like River Group consists of many smaller companies coming together and becoming stronger together.

About this report

River Group is committed to sustainability and transparency, and we believe that what gets measured gets managed and improved. The companies in our group have been dedicated to making sustainability improvements for years. The targeted work to reduce our environmental impacts has been ongoing from 2018 when most of our companies were a part of the Lakers Group. We proudly continue to do our part in improving the environment, both by working to reduce any negative impacts our operations might have and by helping our customers reduce their energy and water use and limit pollution and CO_2 emissions.

This report covers all companies in River Group and all figures represent the sum of our total environmental impact. We are also able to provide information on an individual company or country upon request. Companies that have reported their impact and are covered in this report are, per country:

Norway

- Driftsteknikk AS
- Driftsteknikk Industrier AS
- Kafra AS
- Oslo Pumpeservice AS
- Pumpe-Service AS
- Pumpeteknikk AS

Sweden

- Ahlström & Persson AB
- El-lindningar i Eskilstuna AB
- El & Driftteknik i Strängnäs AB
- Miva Montage Aktiebolag
- Pumpsnabben AB
- Pump och Vattenteknik i Sverige AB

Denmark

- Electro Care ApS
- Electro Performance A/S
- Elmodan A/S

Finland

- Pump Service River Oy
- Pumppulohja Oy
- Watman Engineering Ltd. Oy

Germany

- Alther Pumpen GmbH
- DWS GmbH

Note from the CEO

Continued economic development cannot happen at the expense of the environment. Water will be an increasingly important resource moving forward. In northern Europe we are spoiled with an abundance of clean water, but we need to preserve it and treat it with care for future generations.

“My ambition is that River Group shall have a net positive impact on the climate and that we help to manage our most important asset; clean water.”

— Stefan Bengtsson, Group CEO

River Group and Sustainability

Sustainability is, and has always been, at the core of our business and strategy. We conduct our business in a way that aims to have a net positive impact on society and the environment, and our purpose is Making Water Flow.

River Group's role is to help our member companies improve in the area of ESG (environmental, social and governance), with the aim of making them better and more sustainable than they would be on their own. Our goal is to have a strong ESG culture and performance as a part of our DNA, with River Group as enabler of ESG improvements.

The Challenges We Face

Underinvestment in water infrastructure, in the Nordics and around the world, has led to large inefficiencies while creating future challenges. Growth in the water service industry is driven by population growth, urbanization, increased connectivity and

tougher regulatory standards, all factors that increase the need for maintenance and upgrades.

Water and wastewater pumps account for approximately 10% of the world's total electricity consumption and as many as 90% of them work inefficiently*. With this as a starting point, it is clear that there is significant potential for us to help our customers both save money and reduce CO2 emissions by improving pump efficiency. Climate change also poses new challenges to mitigate and adapt existing water infrastructure to new weather conditions like flooding, heavy rainfall or draughts. River Group stands ready with expertise and capability to help our customers handle these challenges.

The Solutions We Provide

Water is our business, and we work with everything from improving the infrastructure to supply potable water to treating and transporting wastewater. We help to prevent and mitigate the effects of flooding and other water-related catastrophes with emergency callouts when they occur. Our product range covers everything from private households and industries to municipalities and cruise ships. Our team is united by a dedication to our customers and the environment, and we know how important it is to be agile in our market approach to help our customers in the best way possible.

At River Group we aim to have an overall positive impact on the climate and environment more broadly. To achieve this,

*Energy efficiency and savings in pumping systems — the holistic approach. T. Augustyn, Grundfos - https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=6408587

we start with our own operations and are working to reduce the environmental impact and carbon footprint of our offices and vehicle fleets. At the same time, we realise that our largest opportunity to have a positive impact on the environment comes through enabling our customers to reduce their water and energy use and emissions. Our team works diligently at repairing and optimising water pumps, electric motors and other mechanical components, which in turn reduces waste and energy consumption for our customers. By increasing the lifetime of installations and products as well as increasing efficiency, we can contribute to a substantial reduction in energy and resource use over the products' lifecycles.

Overall, we believe in reusage and repair rather than installing something new (leading to waste and scrap) and this is a key fundament for our service and rental business. However, when a new product is significantly more energy efficient, replacement will be the proposed solution. We always look at the big picture and strive to find the best solution for both the customer and the environment.

Organizational Values and Principles

River Group is committed to conducting our business in an ethical, responsible, and sustainable way, in line with all relevant guidelines and expectations from our owners, employees and other stakeholders. We are committed to human rights, working conditions and environmental responsibility throughout

our entire value chain. River Group has identified Diversity and Inclusion as a priority for the Group and we have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to discrimination. We are also committed to strong governance principles in all our activities. This includes a zero-tolerance policy for corruption and other breaches of governance principles.

As the foundation for our business and to guide our employees and partners in their activities we have developed a set of policies that together form the framework for how we act as a company. This includes:

- Code of Conduct
- Workplace harassment policy
- Supplier Code of Conduct
- ESG policy
- Anti-corruption policy
- Economic Sanctions policy
- GDPR Privacy protection policy
- Whistle-blower policy

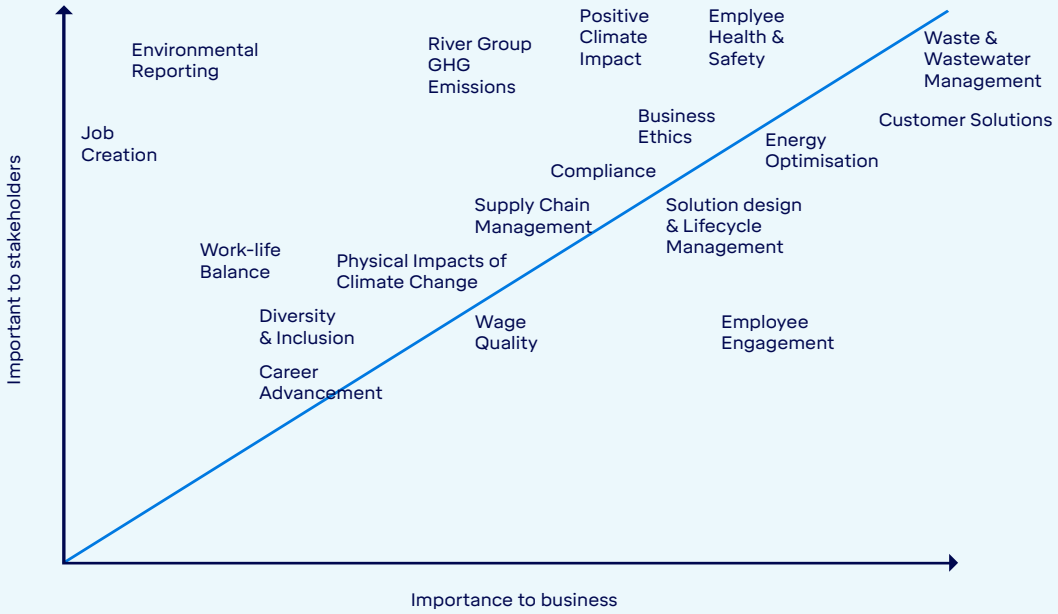
We have rolled out a shorter and more easily digestible version of the above policies, summarising the most important content to our employees. We have conducted training sessions with all companies in the group to make sure all are aware of these policies and that they are integrated into daily operations. We also engage with our suppliers and other key partners to make sure that our policies and priorities are understood.

Sustainability Strategy and Materiality Mapping

The development of River Group's sustainability strategy was a thorough process with the aim of creating a holistic and robust approach. This process included a materiality mapping, whereby both internal and external stakeholders' perspectives on relevant sustainability issues and actions were considered. The following stakeholders were included in the materiality mapping:

- Employees
- Customers (from different segments)
- Suppliers
- Local communities
- Owners

The materiality mapping exercise resulted in the overview shown below. The most material sustainability issues are those have both a high importance to stakeholders and a high importance to our business.



The materiality mapping revealed several highly material issues in the area of environmental sustainability such as wastewater management, energy optimisation, positive climate impact and solution design & lifecycle management. Other highly material sustainability issues identified include business ethics & compliance, employee health and safety and employee engagement. This demonstrates that ESG and sustainability is about more than just climate and the environment, and that we must dedicate resources to following up social and governance factors in a way that fulfils our stakeholders' expectations and supports our business goals.

This assessment has helped us develop our strategy and identify concrete actions to address the range of sustainability considerations with the aim of both reducing risks and maximizing value creation.

River Group's overall sustainability objective is to help our customers reach their water- and climate-related sustainability goals while at the same time minimising our own negative environmental impact and promoting high social and governance standards.

The KPIs disclosed in this report and the targets set for our future sustainability performance are anchored in our sustainability strategy and will enable us to move closer to achieving our goals.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries — developed and developing — in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand in hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth — all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

River Group is proud that our core business activities actively contribute to the achievement of several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover, we ensure that the way we conduct our business and treat our employees, other stakeholders and the environment is supportive of the achievement of the remaining Goals that we are not able to actively contribute to through our core products and services.

Our mapping of sustainability issues has identified SDG 6 and SDG 13 as the most relevant SDGs for River Group's business. We have also identified SDG 9 as a goal where River Group can make a substantial contribution. River Group has board-level commitment to continue pursuing activities that help meet these SDGs and associated targets.

SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

- **6.3** By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
  - **River Group's contribution:** By servicing and maintaining water pump stations, we support critical infrastructure that is necessary to manage wastewater reductions and avoid harmful emissions to water.

- **6.4** By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
  - **River Group's contribution:** We service, optimise and maintain water treatment plans, filtration and drinking water applications. We also help reduce water leakages and waste and increase water efficiency through maintenance of existing water pump infrastructure and installation of new pumps.

SDG 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

- **9.4** By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to

make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.
    - **River Group's contribution:** Our customers include industrial companies as well as operators of municipal water infrastructure and our services help them improve existing water infrastructure, reduce energy use and CO2 emissions and increase the efficiency of water deliver systems to avoid wastewater.

SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

- **13.1** Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
    - **River Group's contribution:** As climate change results in more extreme weather such as increased rainfall resulting in flooding, our water pumps are essential to reduce the impact of such natural hazards and increase the resilience of critical infrastructure.

EU Taxonomy Alignment

A central pillar of the EU Sustainable Finance package, the EU taxonomy is designed to be an enabler to scale up sustainable investment and to implement the European Green Deal. One step in this is for companies to calculate what percentage of their activities meet the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities, as defined by the EU Taxonomy.

Our first internal Taxonomy calculation was done as part of the Vestum Group in 2023 (for the year 2022) and we found that a significant portion of our business activities were eligible to be considered under the Taxonomy criteria. We have continued to conduct internal assessments of our Taxonomy eligibility and alignment, with the assistance of the specialised external service provider, Celsia. For 2024 we are ready to publish our Taxonomy results for the first time. The assessment shows that our activities (as measured by revenue) are 75% aligned with the Taxonomy criteria, coming from working with one of our most important resources — water. Taxonomy-aligned activities include pump and electric motor service and maintenance, building and refurbishing pumping stations for both drainage water and wastewater, manufacturing of pumping stations, treatment of water and more.

River Group's aligned activities come from the following Taxonomy categories:

Category	Activities in River Group	Companies
2.2. Urban Waste Water Treatment (sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources)	Construction, extension, upgrade, and renewal of urban waste water infrastructure, mainly of waste water pumping stations.	Ahlström & Persson AB, Alther Pumpen GmbH, Miva Montage AB, Oslo Pumpeservice AS, Pump Service River Oy
2.3. Sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) (sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources)	Construction, extension, and renewal of urban drainage systems facilities that mitigate pollution and flood hazards due to discharges of urban runoff and improve the urban water quality and quantity, by harnessing natural processes, such as infiltration and retention.	Pumpsnabben AB, Electro Care AS, Electro Performance AS, Elmodan AS, El&Driftteknik i Strängnäs AB, Pumppulohja Oy, Driftsteknikk AS, Oslo Pumpeservice AS, DWS GmbH, Midt-Telemark Pumpeservice AS
5.1. Repair, refurbishment and remanufacturing (transition to a circular economy)	Repair, refurbishment and re-manufacturing of goods that have been used for their intended purpose before by a customer (physical person or legal person). Mainly in electromechanical machines and electric motors and pumps.	Elmotorservice Syd AB, Electro Care AS, Elmodan AS, El&Driftteknik i Strängnäs AB, El-lindningar i Eskilstuna AB,
5.1 Construction, extension and operation of water collection, treatment and supply systems	Construction of pre-fabricated pumping stations for treatment and supply systems.	Driftsteknikk Industrier AS, AS Kafra
5.13. Desalination	Construction, operation, upgrade, extension and renewal of desalination plants to produce water to be distributed in drinking water supply systems. Mainly for the cruise ship industry.	Watman Engineering Oy
9.1. Engineering activities and related technical consultancy dedicated to adaptation to climate change	Engineering activities and related technical consultancy dedicated to adaptation to climate change. See case story in this report for an example.	Pumpeteknikk AS, Pump och Vattenteknik AS

Our Group policies pertaining to social and governance issues, including our Code of Conduct, Supplier Code of Conduct, Anti-corruption, Competition and Whistleblowing policies, all help ensure that our business is conducted in a way that is in line with international standards for responsible business. We therefore meet the social and governance requirements of the EU Taxonomy in addition to the environmental objectives. Moreover, we feel confident that River Group's activities do not cause significant harm to the other environmental objectives.

Our Climate Impact

River Group is continually working to reduce our environmental impact, including in terms of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, measured in tons of CO2 equivalents (CO2e).

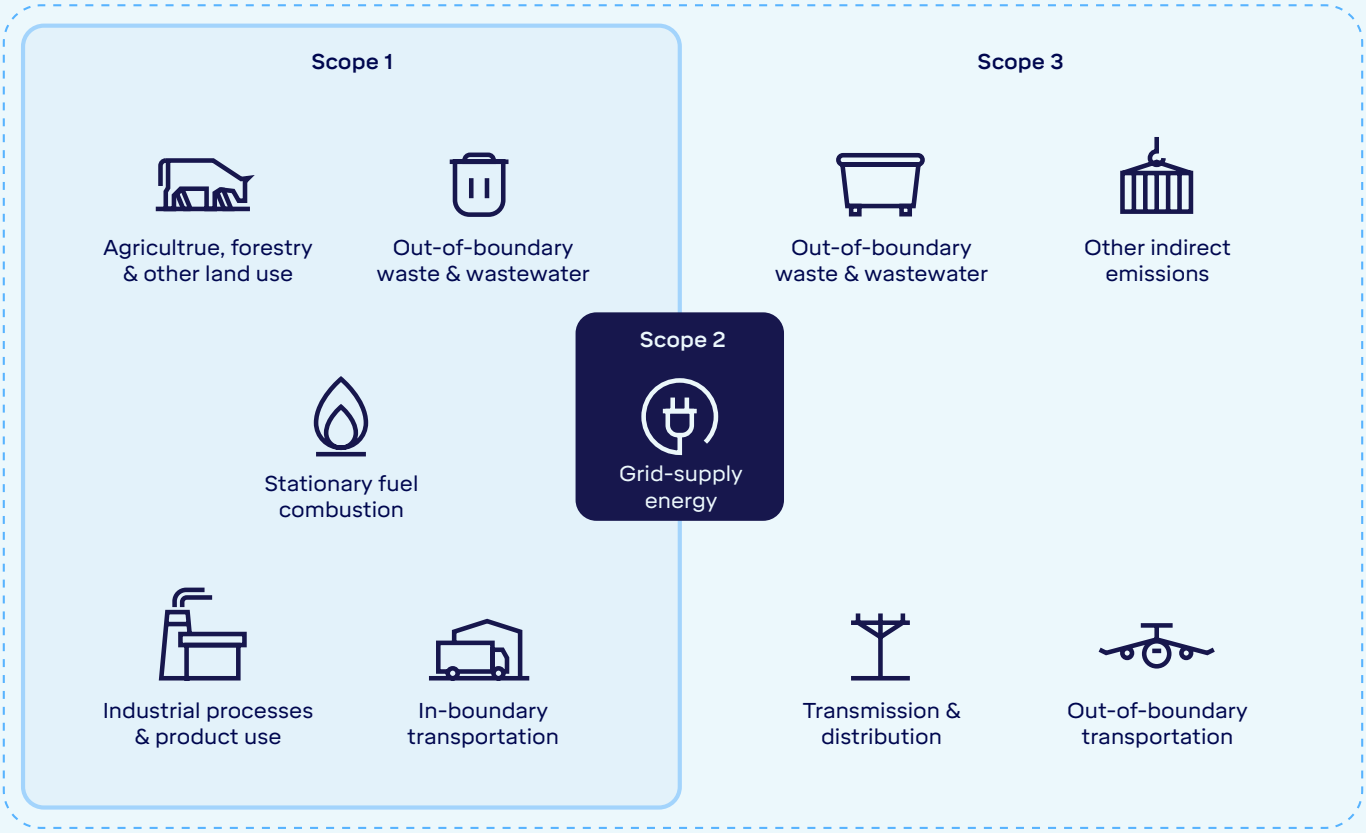
To measure and report our emissions, River Group uses the GHG protocol to calculate Scope 1, 2 and 3 (upstream) CO2 emissions with help from Normative **(https://normative.io/)**. Scope 1 & 2 emissions represent emissions from River Group's own operations, from fueling our vehicles to using electricity in our offices. Upstream Scope 3 emissions cover the emissions of our suppliers and upstream value chain.

We also calculate the positive impact we have on our customers' CO2 footprint that results from our work at optimising pump installations, electrical engines, and replacement of old and inefficient equipment. This calculation of "avoided emissions" is done by using lifecycle assessments on products and installations.

Mitigating Negatives

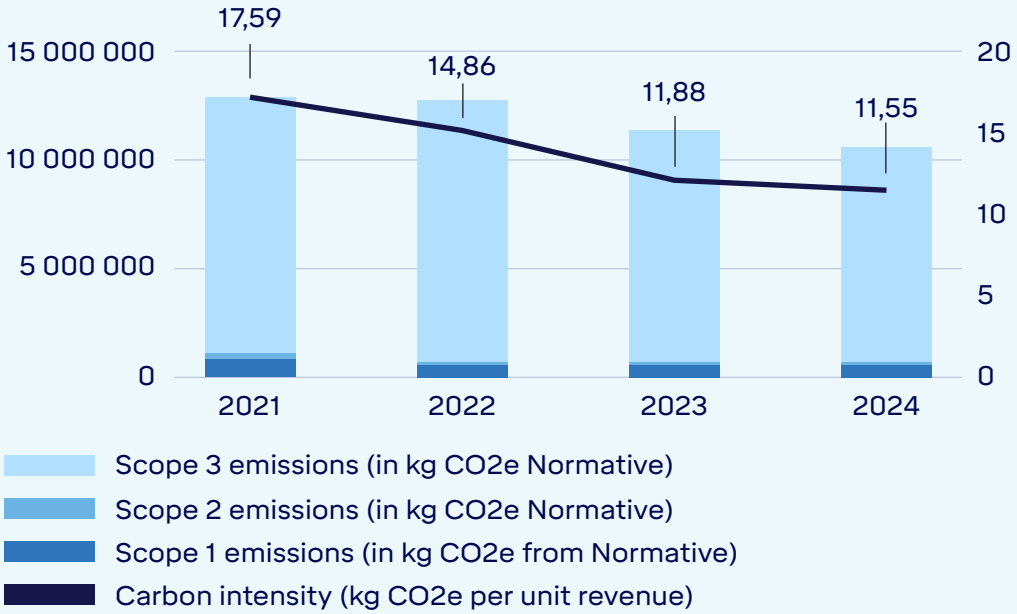
River Group's negative impact in terms of GHG emissions comes from three areas, or Scope 1-3. By measuring theseemissions, we can calculate our CO2 footprint. Our goal is to implement measures resulting in a reduction in this footprint each year, measured both as a total and as an intensity score calculated as amount of CO2 per SEK turnover. The intensity score is more relevant when we grow by acquiring companies as acquisitions will result in increased total emissions.

Negative impact



When it comes to managing and reducing our CO2 emissions, Scope 1 and 2 emissions are easier for River Group to impact directly because they are under the direct control of the Group companies. By monitoring these emissions, we have identified the largest contributing activities as well as steps we can take to reduce the emissions. We also measure our Scope 3 emissions, both in terms of upstream emissions in our supply chain and in terms of the reduction in emissions that we can help our customers achieve through our products and services. While it is more challenging to reduce upstream Scope 3 emissions than those in our direct operations, River Group is committed to working to achieve improvements together with our suppliers as well.

Total CO2 Emissions (kg)



River Group's CO2 Emissions in 2024

Scope 1 emissions

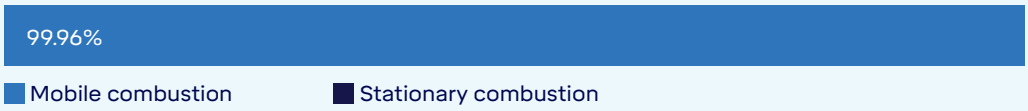
The table below shows River Group's Scope 1 emissions for 2024. The main source for emissions in Scope 1 comes from diesel fuel — which accounts for 90% of Scope 1 emissions. Total Scope 1 emissions were 743.5 tonnes CO2, down from 747.9 in 2023, and down from 1073 in 2021. Our total emissions from Scope 1 are now below the level that we had in 2019, despite a big growth in revenue and number of employees.

To address and reduce our Scope 1 emissions, we are actively increasing our share of electric vehicles in our car fleet. By the end of 2023 we had 28 electric vehicles (up from 14 the year before), corresponding to 12.5% of our total fleet.

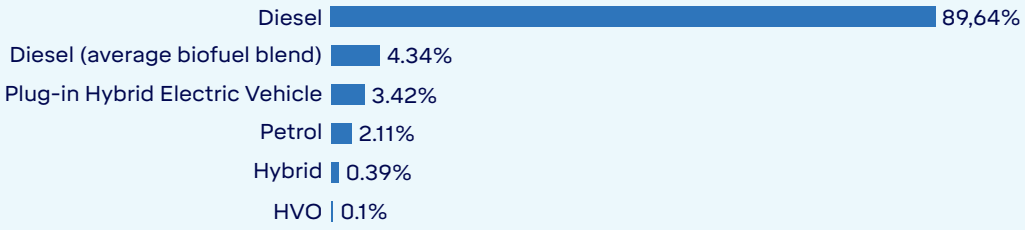
One-year focus

743.5	3,430.25
Total emissions (tCO_2e)	Energy consumed (MWh)

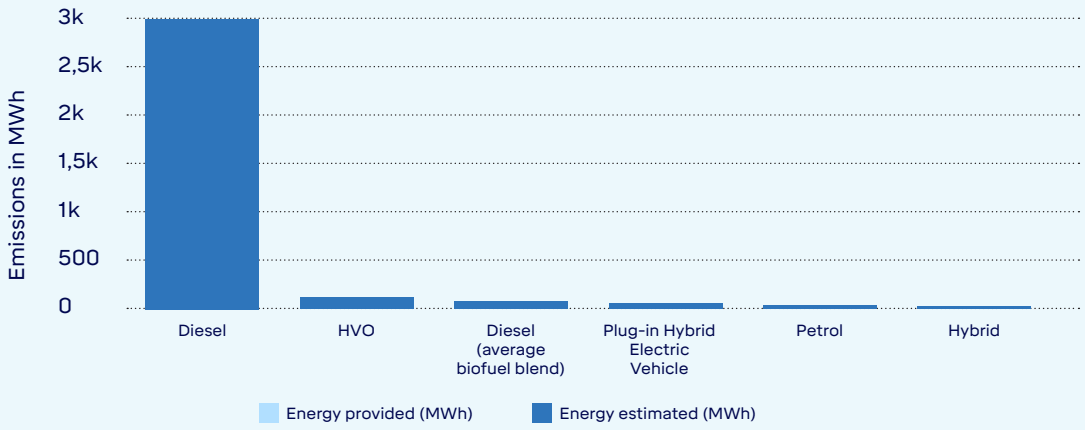
Share of emissions by scope 1 category, 2024



Share of emissions by chemical & fuel type, top 10, 2024



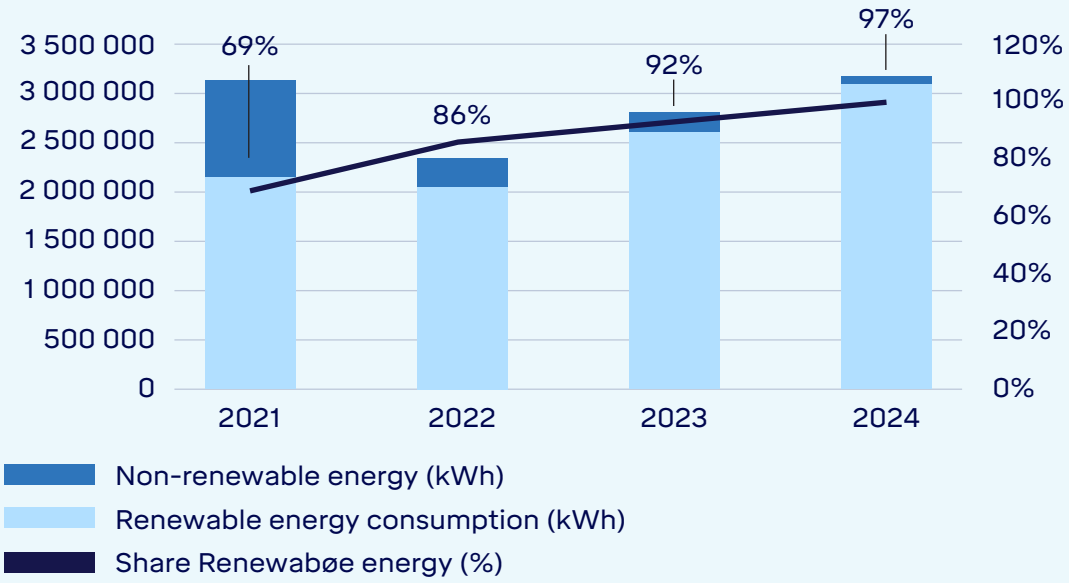
Energy by energy source & data origin, top 10, 2024



Scope 2 emissions

The table below shows River Group' Scope 2 emissions for 2024. These emissions come from our electricity and heating. The percentage of our electricity and heating that comes from renewable sources is 97% at an aggregate group level, up from 69% in 2021 and 92% last year.

Share of Renewable Energy

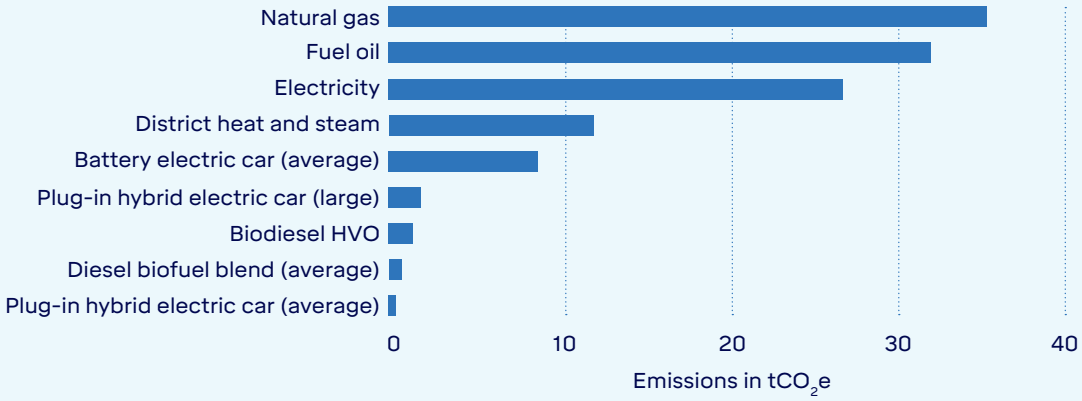


Total emissions from scope 2 are down 59% since 2021. Actions taken include switching to renewable electricity, replacing oil burners for heating with heat exchangers and installing solar panels.

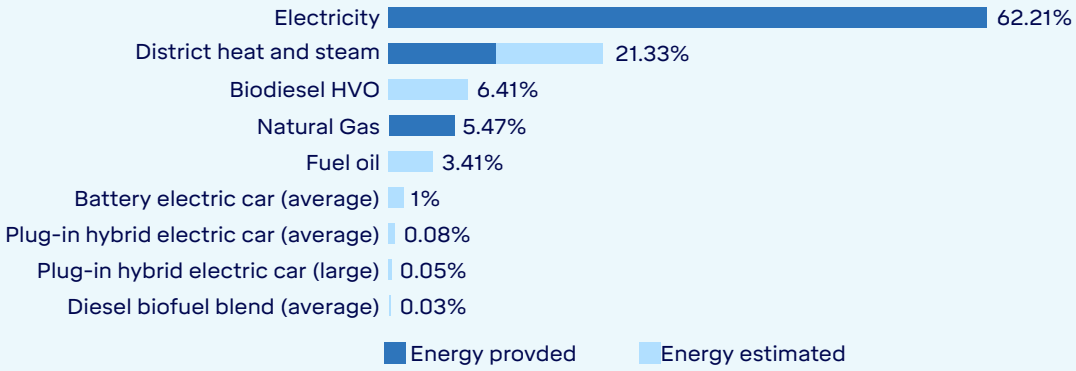
One year focus

113.4	3,191.65	97.21%
Market-based scope 2 emissions (tCO_2e)	Energy consumed (MWh)	Renewable electricity

Emissions (market-based electricity) by activity description, top 10, 2024



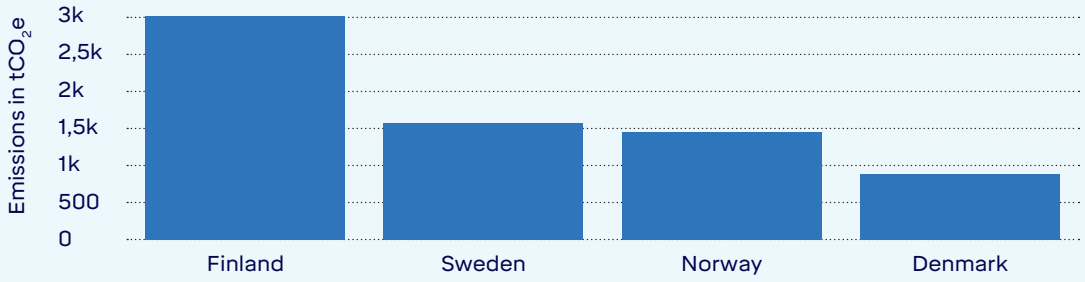
Share of energy by activity description & data origin



Scope 3 emissions

River Group's upstream scope 3 emissions are from our suppliers and all the emissions associated with their value chains. This scope represents the largest part of River Group's total CO2 emissions by far; approximately 9 830 tonnes compared to approx. 857 tonnes from Scope 1 and 2 together. River Group has assessed the emissions of the companies in our supply chain, using both reporting and estimated data provided by Normative, and the table below shows those with the largest contribution to our upstream Scope 3 emissions.

Emissions by supplier country, top 10, 2024



Emissions by supplier, top 10, 2024

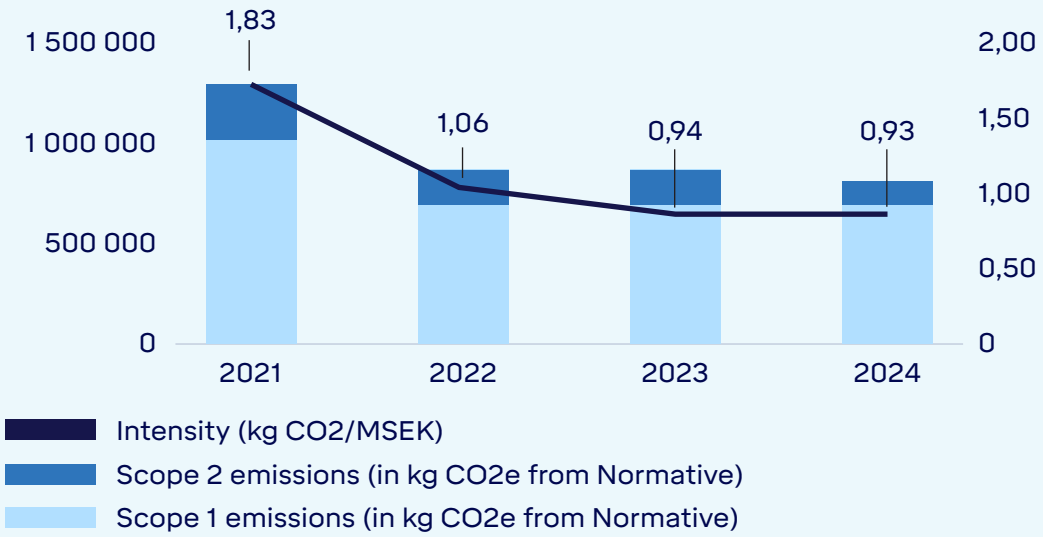
1. Vestfold Plastindustri	507.6
2. Danfoss Oy	244.0
3. Ahlsell Vvs Ab	196.4
4. Ventim	191.4
5. Lg- Chem Europe Gmbh	189.8
6. Tibnor Oy	168.8
7. Tas-Power Oy	156.7
8. Uudenmaan Pumppaamohuolto Oy	135.8
9. Wemasto Oy	99.16
10. Vink Finnland Oy	98.91

Scope 3 emissions are more difficult for River Group to control, but by mapping our suppliers' emissions we have taken a first step in identifying the largest sources of emissions in our supply chain. This is useful information that we will use in the planning and optimization of our supply chain, and in our dialogue and collaboration with our suppliers. With this information we can assess top suppliers' emissions performance as well as their net zero targets and strategies and encourage those without a target to set one.

Emission intensity

Our main KPI is the emission intensity for scope 1 and 2, because this number is something we can directly influence through actions taken in the Group companies on a year-to-year basis. River Group's Scope 1 and 2 emission intensity was 0.93 kgCO2 per million SEK revenue in 2024, a decrease of 49% compared to our base year 2021 and a slight decrease from last year.

CO2 Scope 1+2



Actions taken in 2024 to reduce River Group's CO2 emissions:

- **Scope 1:** Increased share of electric and hybrid cars in our vehicle fleet. To support this, we have also installed electric chargers at our facilities.
- **Scope 2:** Switched to renewable energy sources for our electricity consumption and replaced oil heating systems with heat exchangers and opted to use of biodiesel where we could not switch to other technology. We also installed solar panels on some facilities.
- **Scope 3 (upstream):** Engaged with key suppliers to communicate the importance of climate and other ESG matters in our sourcing decisions.

Climate: Positive impact

River Group is contributing to lower CO2 emissions for our customers by reducing energy consumption from water pumps and electrical motors. This is done through service and sale of energy efficient equipment.

Water pumps or electrical motors not running at their optimal duty point, affected by clogging, and not serviced in a long time, have significantly higher energy consumption. Through equipment optimisation and frequent service, we can help reduce the electricity consumption (and thereby CO2 emissions) by as much as 10-15%. When a motor cannot be repaired, replacing an old, inefficient electrical motor with a new, high-efficiency motor can reduce the energy consumption significantly, generating a substantial impact over the lifetime of the motor.

A typical smaller sized pump used to transport water sewage will emit about 30 million kg of CO2 over its lifetime*, but the difference between a new energy efficient pump and an old one can be very high. Pumps account for approximately 10% of the world's total electricity consumption and as many as 90% of them work inefficiently. If all pumps were switched to high-efficiency ones, this could save 4% of global electricity consumption and 2bn m3 of fresh water (8x Denmark's annual water consumption).

Through our employee training program (the "River Group Equipment Optimisation Program"), our service technicians receive detailed training in how to adjust pumps and equipment to ensure optimal performance and reduced emissions. The program includes:

- Basic electrical motor efficiency;
- Pump curves and duty points;
- Factors reducing the efficiency, internal and external; and
- Maximising efficiency in practice

The training program is performed as an on-site training as we believe that this will have a better and more constructive impact on our staff compared to online tutorials.

*Energy efficiency and savings in pumping systems — the holistic approach. T. Augustyn, Grundfos - https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=6408587

**Source: Flygt 3085.183 Environmental Production Declaration

Social Goals and Performance in 2024

For River Group, sustainability extends beyond environmental issues and relates to social considerations as well. Our employees are our greatest asset, and how we manage and develop our people has a significant impact on the success of our business.

Inclusion and diversity are important values for us. We are an equal opportunity employer and strive to have a more equal workforce in our organisation. In 2024, 11% of River Group employees were women. While we acknowledge a structural challenge in our industry where women are underrepresented in the available talent pool, we maintain a goal of increasing the number of women employed every year. River Group has a non-tolerance policy to harassment or discrimination of any kind, i.e. based on gender or gender identity, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy status, religion, disability and political opinion.

The number of female managers in 2024 was 9% and the number of female representatives on the Board of Directors (“BoD”) was 16%.

The short-term sickness rate for the year was 4.5%, in line with what is average for the industry. The long-term sickness rate, measured as more than 8 consecutive weeks, was 2.3% (higher than our goal of 1%), due to a few individuals with serious but not

work-related sicknesses. The sickness rate is slightly higher for employees with physical jobs.

Accidents are measured as how many accidents that resulted in absence from work. Two accidents with serious injuries were reported, but there were fortunately no lasting health impacts. We are working hard to limit risks and maximise work safety, and have had a thorough process following the accidents in question to understand what happen and to help prevent anything similar from happening again.

Our staff turnover rate is at a 13.7%, which we believe is too high and are working to reduce. Our analysis is that organisational changes in the past couple of years have contributed to the higher rate.

In the table below, we report on several employee-related KPIs which we have collected data on at the Group level. More detailed data is available on company level, but not consolidated for River Group.

KPI	2024
Number of Employees	364
Share of female employees	11%
Short-term sickness rate	4.5%
Long-term sickness rate	2.3%
Nr of lost time injuries	7
Employee turnover rate	13.7%

Sustainability Ambitions for 2025 and Beyond

River Group has established several actions for the coming years to help continue to improve our sustainability performance:

1. **First, do no harm**
   a. River Group will follow all regulations and reporting requirements to make our negative impact as small as possible
      i. Reducing CO2 emissions
      ii. Reducing sick leave and accidents
      iii. Increasing diversity
      iv. Having high business ethics
      v. Following up ESG in our supply chain / with our partners

2. **We are committed to follow the 1.5-degree target of the Paris Agreement and working towards:**
   a. 100% renewable electricity by 2027
   b. Increase the proportion of EVs in the vehicle fleet
   c. 4.6% reduction of CO2 intensity in Scope 3 year over year from 2021 baseline
   d. Decrease River Group's direct CO2 impact (Scope 1+2) in relation to turnover (CO2/MNOK)

3. **Our sustainable impact**
    a. Continue to help our customers reduce their environmental impact and respond to the physical impacts of climate change
    b. Work to improve the quantification and disclosure of positive impact metrics

4. **Certification and Product Declarations**
    a. ISO Certification for selected companies
        i. In 2024 Electro Care AS has been working to get ISO 9001, to be certified in 2025.
    b. Secure the ability to produce Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) in our manufacturing companies
        i. The project is ongoing on Driftsteknikk Industrier, to be finished in 2025.

5. **Social ambitions for 2025**
    a. Continued focus on Diversity & Inclusion in recruiting and training processes
    b. Continued effort to reduce sickness rate and decrease the number of accidents
    c. Roll-out of training programme to help develop and grow expertise in the organisation

6. **Reporting**
    a. Prepare for CSRD reporting requirements by conducting a DMA, Double Materiality Analysis
    b. Report on account of the Taxonomy and CSRD requirements when we are in scope

Emergency Response, Engineered Right:

How Pumpeteknikk Helped Equinor Prevent Pollution During a Critical Testing Phase

When Equinor needed a fast, effective solution to prevent potentially contaminated water from being discharged into a vulnerable fjord, Pumpeteknikk AS and River Group delivered. In just two weeks, a full-scale treatment system was installed, turning environmental risk into a documented sustainability success.

When Equinor's floating production giant Johan Castberg arrived at Stord in 2024 for final system testing, all eyes were on the fjord. The vessel — longer than three football fields and built to process over 200,000 barrels of oil per day — was entering a critical phase before heading to the Barents Sea.

Attention wasn't just on the ship's technology but on the environment. Environmental organisations had raised concerns about discharges from earlier operations. While not proven harmful, even the possibility of releasing chemically affected water into a pristine fjord triggered justified public concern. Equinor decided to act. Fast.

From Concern to Action

Rather than risk releasing untreated water, Equinor redirected all discharges to land-based treatment. Shuttle boats carried wastewater ashore, and Pumpeteknikk AS was brought in to engineer a rapid solution.
"We had already worked with Equinor for years," says Fridtjof Støre, CEO of Pumpeteknikk. "But this time, the challenge was different: design, deliver, and deploy a complete treatment system, capable of handling up to 70 litres per second, in just two weeks."

A small system was already in place, but it wasn't enough.
The project quickly escalated to include multiple industrial oil separators, filtration stages, daily sampling, and a fully modular setup installed dockside in record time.

Prevention, Not Cleanup

“This wasn’t about cleaning up a spill; it was about preventing one,” Fridtjof says. “The goal was to avoid any chance of environmental harm. That´s why speed, reliability, and documentation were so critical.”

The result was a robust, transparent process that ensured no untreated water reached the sea. It also signalled a shift in approach—from reactive to proactive environmental action.

The project also demonstrated something else:
“In a situation where every hour matters, being small, skilled and well-organised is a huge advantage,” Fridtjof Støre adds.

A River Group Advantage

This project showcased River Group’s core strength: agile member companies that deliver fast, effective, and highly accountable solutions without layers of bureaucracy.

The system was monitored daily, and samples were taken to ensure compliance with environmental expectations. Equinor took the critique seriously, not just in words but in verifiable action.

“This wasn’t just a customer order,” Fridtjof reflects. “It was a proof point that sustainability, accountability, and engineering

can work hand in hand. And that River Group members have a real role to play in protecting both business and nature."

Fast Facts: Treatment Setup at Stord

- 5 oil separators (4 × NS15, 1 × NS10)
- Max capacity: 70 litres/second
- Delivery time: < 14 days from order to full operation
- Included: Modular manifold system, uniform flow balancing, carbon-based polishing filters

Environmental Impact

- **Zero direct discharge** from Johan Castberg during dockside testing
- **Daily water sampling** ensured regulatory compliance
- **Designed to prevent** release of oil and chemical residues
- **Rapid response model** built on River Group's agile, decentralised structure

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