

essentialneed 

# World Water Map for Safe Drinking

Tracking UN SDG 6.1 Progress

Basic Access | Safely Managed Drinking Water



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# What is the World Water Map?

- ✔ Despite decades of global development efforts, more than **2 billion people still lack safely managed drinking water.**
- ✔ **Progress remains uneven**, and rapid population growth continues to place pressure on national systems.
- ✔ **The World Water Map makes this gap visible country by country linking water access to demographic change and human development outcomes.**

## The platform tracks:



UN Sustainable Development Goal 6.1



Basic Access to drinking water



Safely Managed drinking water services



Population trends



Human Development Index (HDI)

## It supports the achievement of:

### SDG Target 6.1

“By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.”

Who Is This For?

# Who Uses the World Water Map?



## Educators

Systems analysis and classroom engagement



## Policymakers

Data-informed prioritization



## Development agencies & donors

Impact targeting



## Researchers

Longitudinal trend analysis



## Journalists

Cross-country comparison

*The platform transforms complex datasets into accessible, decision-ready insight.*

# Understanding UN SDG 6.1 Indicators

The platform allows users to toggle between two UN indicators:

## Basic Access

- ✓ Water that can be reached within a 30-minute round trip from an improved source.
- ✓ Access to water does not always guarantee safety or reliability.

## Safely Managed Drinking Water Services

*Water that:*

-  Is located on premises
-  Is available when needed
-  Is free from contamination



## UN Target

Basic Access

Safely Managed

Users can switch between these two indicators using the UN Target toggle in the right navigation panel.

# Data Sources

The World Water Map integrates internationally recognized datasets:

## Drinking water data (Basic Access & Safely Managed)

*Source: WHO / UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)*



## Human Development Index (HDI)

*Source: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*



## Population data

*Source: WHO / UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)*



***All data is harmonized to ensure consistency and comparability across countries.***

# Right Navigation Panel

The right-hand panel allows you to:

**Data display year**

2000 ▾

01  
**Select Data  
Display Year**

**UN Target**

Basic Access **Safely Managed**

03  
**Choose UN Target**

Basic Access

Safely Managed

**Search by country**

Enter country name 🔍

02  
**Search for a  
country**

**Sort by**

**Name** ^ People ▾ % ▾ HDI ▾

04  
**Sort countries by**

Name People

% HDI

Changing the UN Target or year will automatically update:

Globe visualization

Country statistics

Graphs and analysis

## Step 01

# Select a Country

Click on any country on the globe

OR

Search for a country using the search bar.

A country information popup will appear showing:

- ✓ Total population
- ✓ People needing basic access (or safely managed access depending on selection)
- ✓ Percentage of affected population

*Click "Track Progress" to view detailed analysis.*



## Step 02

# Country Overview

### The country overview displays:

- ✓ Total population
- ✓ Number of people with access
- ✓ Number of people without access
- ✓ Percentage values

*The data reflects the selected UN Target (Basic Access or Safely Managed).*



## Step 03

# Progress Over Time

### The progress graph shows:

- ✓ Access trend from 2000 to latest available year
- ✓ Change in percentage over time
- ✓ Improvements or declines

*The graph reveals long-term national trajectories under the selected SDG 6.1 indicator.*



## Step 04

# Population Analysis

### This section compares:

- ✓ Population growth over time
- ✓ Number of people with access
- ✓ Number of people without access

*This comparison evaluates whether service expansion is outpacing demographic growth.*



## Step 05

# Human Development Index (HDI)

## The HDI graph illustrates development trends across:

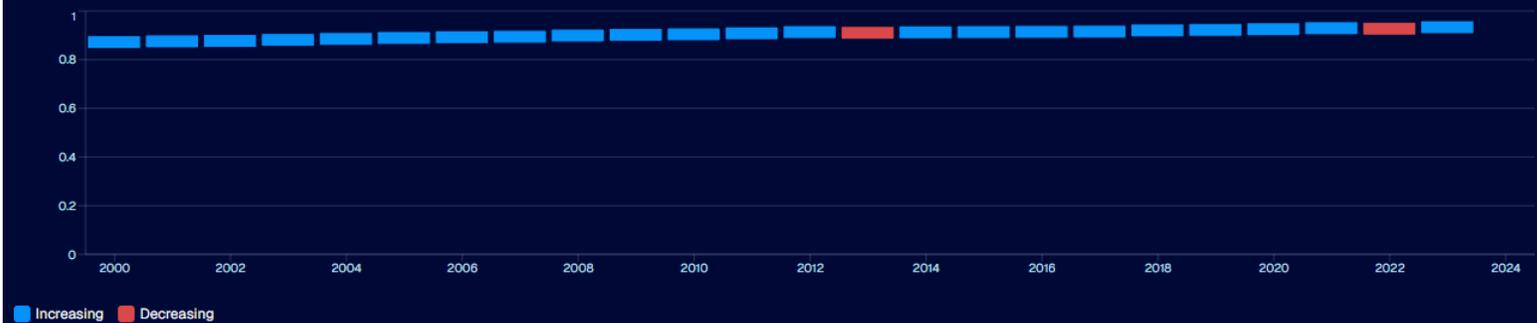
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Income

*The comparison enables assessment of the relationship between water access expansion and broader human development outcomes.*

*This integrated view strengthens evidence-based development planning.*

### Human Development Analysis ⓘ

Human Development Index (HDI) is an indicator of a country's development in terms of **health, education, and income**. It is measured from 0 to 1, where 1 represents 100%. For example, 0.5 means 50%.



HDI in year 2000

**89.7%**

Year 2023

**95.8%**

23-years HDI Progress

**6.1%**

#### 💡 Can water accessibility cause an increase in health, education, or income? ↗

Access to safe drinking water has profound impacts on health, education, and income, serving as a foundational element in improving overall quality of life.

- 1. Health:** Safe drinking water drastically reduces the incidence of waterborne diseases like cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and hepatitis A. By preventing these illnesses, communities experience lower morbidity and mortality rates, reduced healthcare costs, and overall better physical and mental health. Additionally, clean water supports better nutrition and hygiene, further contributing to health improvements.
- 2. Education:** When communities gain access to safe drinking water, children, especially girls, are more likely to attend school rather than spending significant time collecting water. This increased attendance improves literacy and educational outcomes. Additionally, fewer health-related school absences mean that students can maintain continuity in their learning, which is crucial for their academic success.
- 3. Income:** Access to clean water also influences economic opportunities. With better health and more time available (due to reduced need for water collection), individuals can pursue employment or entrepreneurial activities. Moreover, communities can attract businesses and industries that rely on clean water, creating jobs and boosting local economies. Improved health and education also contribute to higher productivity and potential for increased income.

# Interpreting the Legend

## Globe color indicators represent:

- ✓ Need basic access / lack safely managed services
- ✓ ≥99% access
- ✓ Data unavailable

*The legend updates dynamically based on selected UN Target.*

*Countries approaching universal coverage may still experience subnational disparities, infrastructure fragility, or service quality challenges.*



# Impact on Health

Improving access to drinking water:



Reduces waterborne diseases



Improves maternal and child health



Enhances nutrition



Strengthens immune systems

*Safe water forms the foundation of public health.*



# Impact on Education

Access to safe water:



- ✓ Reduces school absenteeism
- ✓ Improves learning environments
- ✓ Supports hygiene facilities
- ✓ Empowers girls through reduced water collection burden



*Water access directly influences educational outcomes.*

# Why This Matters Now



**Climate variability** is increasing water stress globally



**Urban population growth** is accelerating infrastructure demand



Fragile and **low-income states** face widening access gaps



**The 2030 SDG deadline** is approaching

*Data-driven decision-making is essential to closing the global water access gap.*

# Conclusion

01. Track SDG 6.1 progress globally
02. Compare Basic Access and Safely Managed indicators
03. Analyze trends over time
04. Understand the link between water, development, and population

*By integrating water access indicators, demographic trends, and human development metrics, the platform supports evidence-based decision-making toward achieving universal and equitable access to safe drinking water.*