

Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene | 2000-2017

SPECIAL FOCUS ON INEQUALITIES



**Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2017:
Special focus on inequalities**

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1. Highlights

Leave no one behind

The World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund (WHO/UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) produces internationally comparable estimates of progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and is responsible for global monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets related to WASH. The JMP has recently published global baseline reports on WASH in schools (2018) and WASH in health care facilities (2019). This report presents updated national, regional and global estimates for WASH in households for the period 2000-2017.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits UN member states to take bold and transformative steps to 'shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path', 'realize the human rights of all', 'end poverty in all its forms', and ensure 'no one will be left behind'. The UN General Assembly will conduct its first quadrennial review of progress in September 2019. This report assesses progress in reducing inequalities in household WASH services and identifies the populations most at risk of being 'left behind'.



DRINKING WATER

2000-2017

- The population using safely managed services increased from 61% to 71%.
- Coverage of safely managed services increased in all SDG regions with estimates available. It rose from 25% to 35% in Least Developed Countries.
- Rural coverage of safely managed services increased from 39% to 53%. The gap between urban and rural areas decreased from 47 to 32 percentage points.
- 1.8 billion people gained access to at least basic services. The population lacking basic services decreased from 1.1 billion to 785 million and the number of people collecting water directly from surface water sources decreased from 256 to 144 million
- 20 out of 86 countries with disaggregated data succeeded in halving the gap in basic service coverage between the richest and poorest wealth quintiles.

In 2017

- 117 countries (and four out of eight SDG regions) had estimates for safely managed services, representing 38% of the global population.
- 5.3 billion people used safely managed services. An additional 1.4 billion used at least basic services. 206 million people used limited services, 435 million used unimproved sources, and 144 million still used surface water.
- Eight out of ten people still lacking even basic services lived in rural areas. Nearly half lived in Least Developed Countries.
- In 24 out of 90 countries with disaggregated data, basic water coverage among the richest wealth quintile was at least twice as high as coverage among the poorest quintile.
- 80 countries had >99% basic water coverage. One in three countries with <99% were on track to achieve 'nearly universal' coverage by 2030.

Seven out of ten people used safely managed drinking water services in 2017

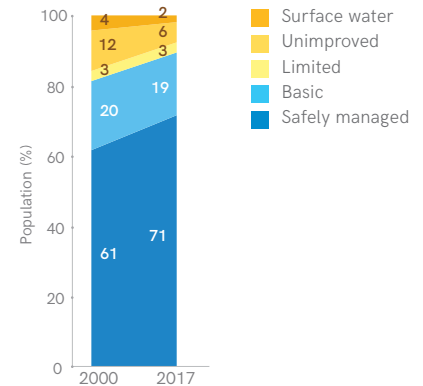


FIGURE 1 Global drinking water coverage, 2000-2017 (%)

Four SDG regions had estimates for safely managed drinking water in 2017

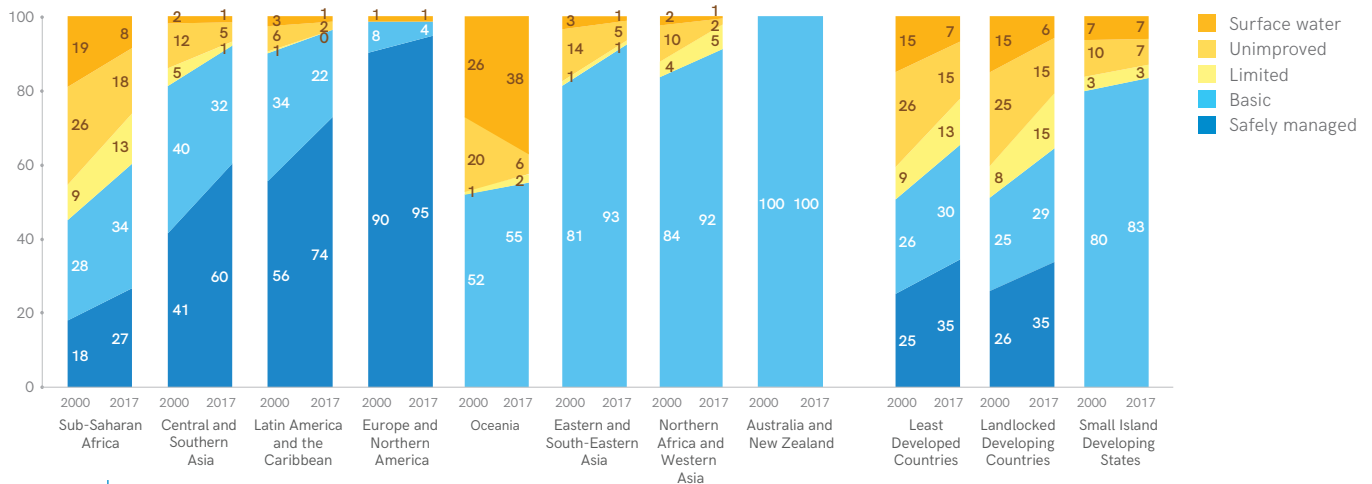


FIGURE 2 Regional drinking water coverage, 2000-2017 (%)

In 2017, 117 countries¹ had estimates for safely managed drinking water services

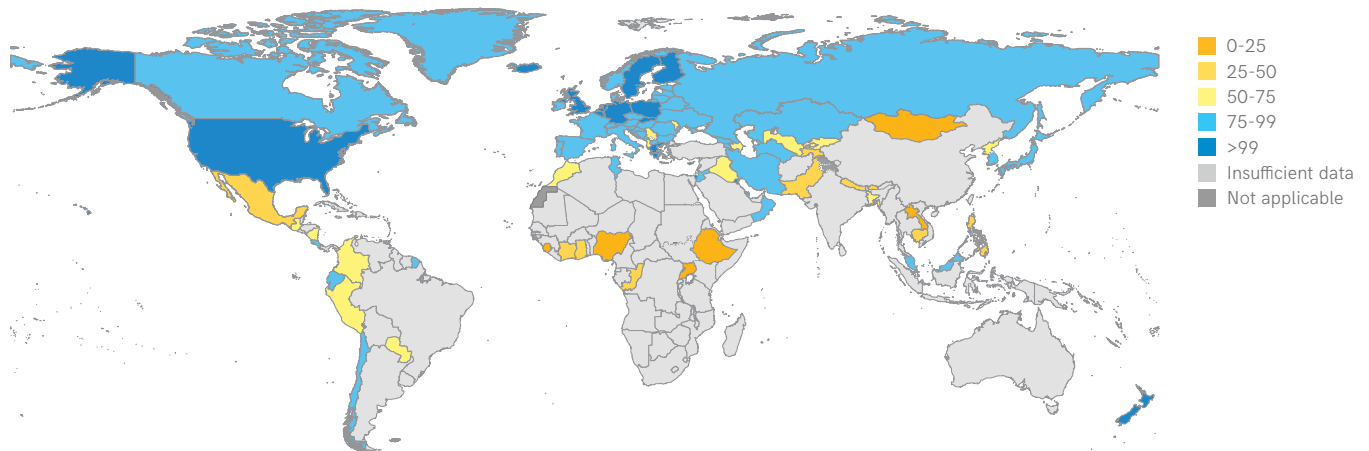


FIGURE 3 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services, 2017 (%)

¹ The JMP tracks progress for 232 countries, areas and territories, including all United Nations Member States. Statistics in this report refer to countries, areas or territories.

SANITATION

2000-2017

- The population using safely managed services increased from 28% to 45%.
- Coverage of safely managed services increased in all SDG regions with estimates available.
- Rural coverage of safely managed services increased from 22% to 43%, while the gap between urban and rural areas decreased from 14 to 5 percentage points.
- 2.1 billion people gained access to at least basic services and the population lacking basic services decreased from 2.7 billion to 2 billion
- The population practising open defecation halved from 1.3 billion to 673 million. 23 countries reduced open defecation rates below 1% and were classed as reaching 'near elimination'.
- 9 out of 86 countries with disaggregated data succeeded in halving the gap in basic service coverage between the richest and poorest wealth quintiles.

In 2017

- 92 countries (and six out of eight SDG regions) had estimates for safely managed services, representing 54% of the global population.
- 3.4 billion people used safely managed services. An additional 2.2 billion used at least basic services. 627 million people used limited services, 701 million used unimproved facilities, and 673 million still practised open defecation.
- Seven out of ten people who still lacked even basic services lived in rural areas. One third lived in Least Developed Countries.
- In 48 out of 90 countries with disaggregated data, basic service coverage among the richest wealth quintile was at least twice as high as coverage among the poorest quintile.
- 51 countries had >99% basic sanitation coverage. One in four countries with <99% were on track to achieve 'nearly universal' coverage by 2030.
- Fewer than one in three 'high burden' countries with >5% open defecation were on track to achieve 'near elimination' (<1% of open defecation by 2030).
- Only one in five countries with >1% open defecation were on track to achieve 'near elimination' of open defecation among poorest rural wealth quintile by 2030.

Four out of ten people used safely managed sanitation services in 2017

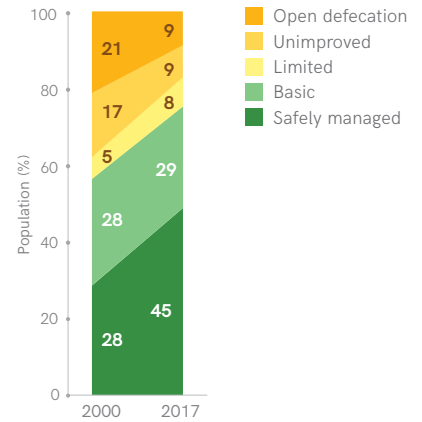


FIGURE 4 Global sanitation coverage, 2000-2017 (%)

Six SDG regions had estimates for safely managed sanitation services in 2017

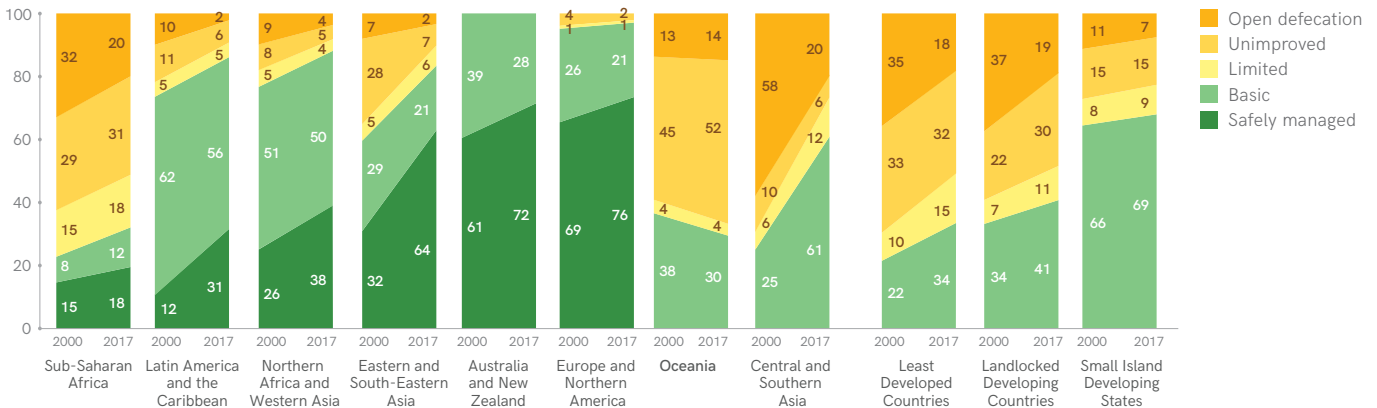


FIGURE 5 Regional sanitation coverage, 2000-2017 (%)

In 2017, 86 countries had estimates for safely managed sanitation

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