

A snapshot of Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene  
in the UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region

**2017 Update and  
SDG Baselines**



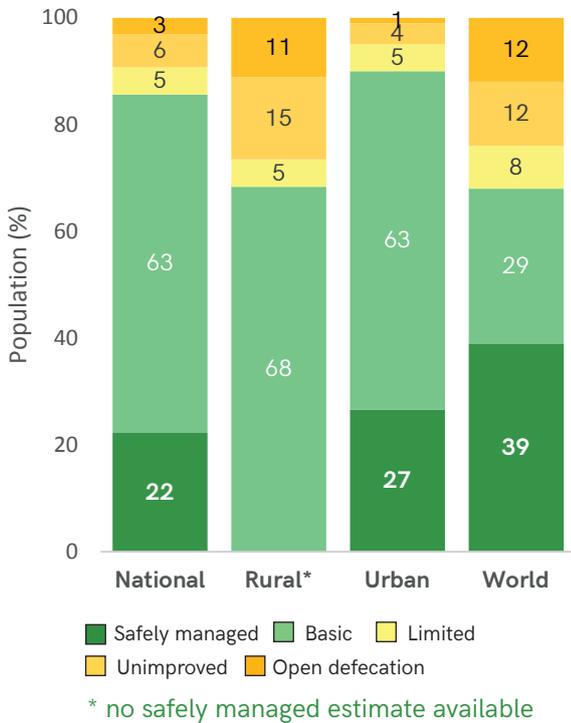
Photo: Iobolia/Garrett Hoffmann

Prepared by:  
WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene  
September 2017

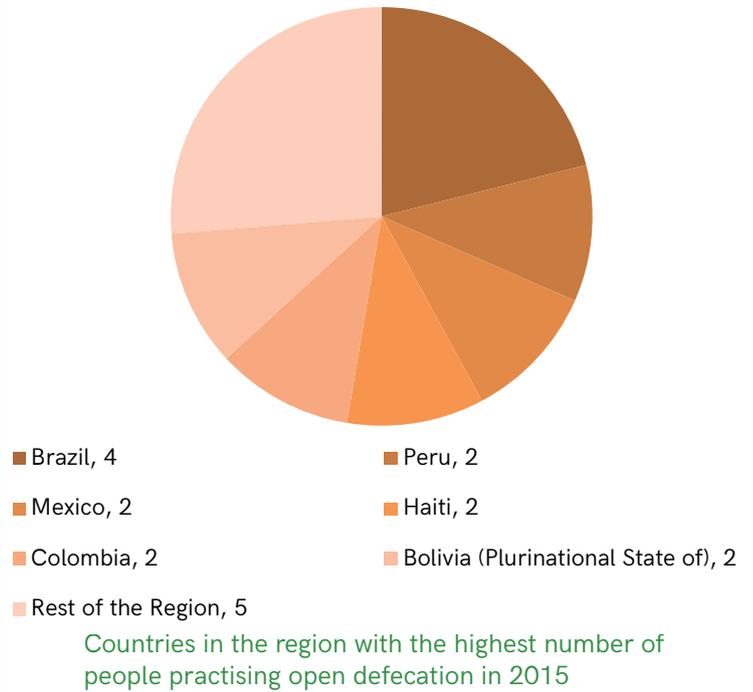


# Sanitation coverage

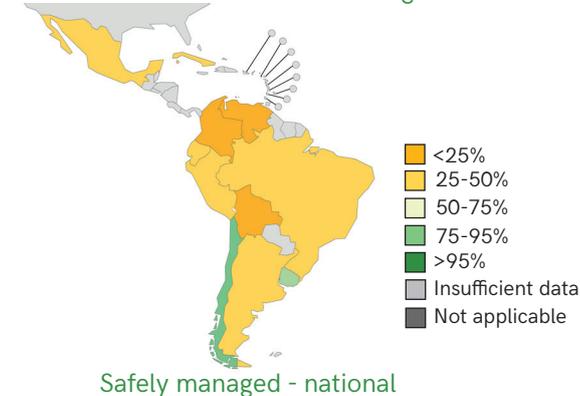
Proportion of population using safely managed, basic, limited, unimproved sanitation services or practising open defecation, 2015



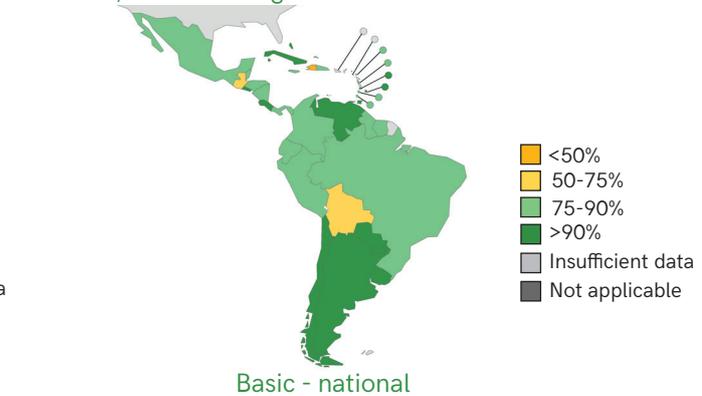
90 million people in the UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region lacked a basic sanitation service in 2015, 19 million of whom practise open defecation



Safely managed sanitation estimate is available for 11 countries in the region

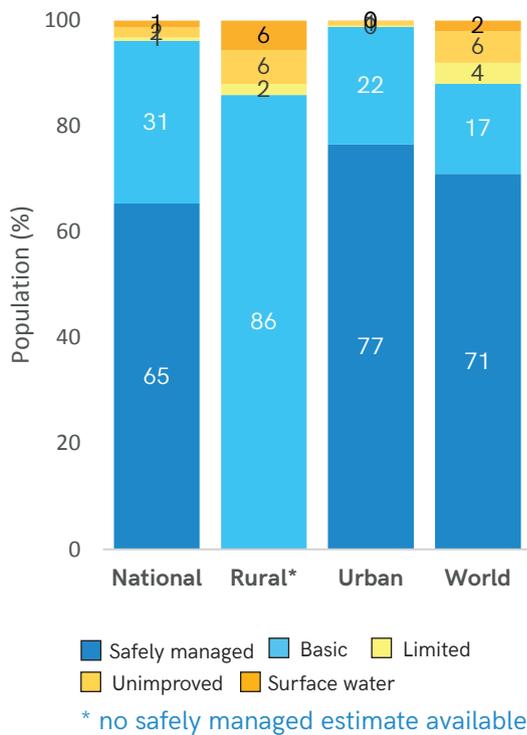


Urban coverage of basic sanitation services exceeds 50% in 25 countries, rural coverage exceeds 50% in 23 countries

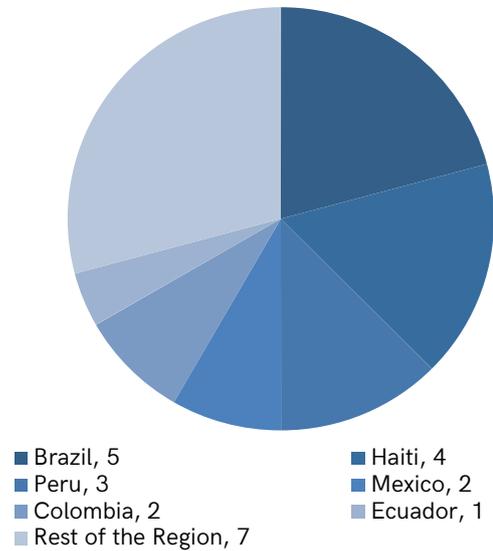


# Drinking water coverage

Proportion of population using safely managed, basic, limited, unimproved water services or surface water, 2015

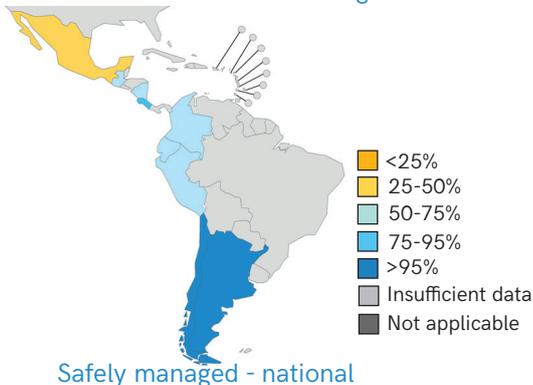


24 million people in the UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region lacked a basic drinking water service in 2015, 75% of whom live in rural areas

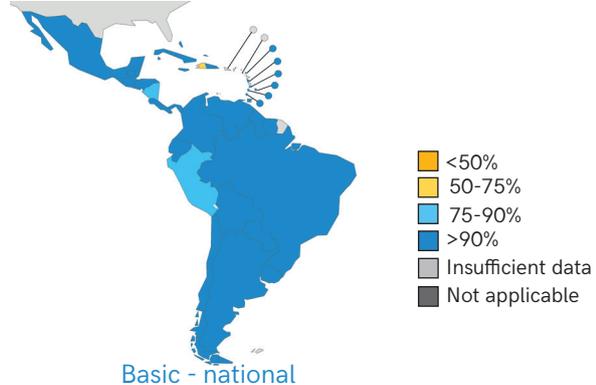


Countries in the region with the highest number of people who did not use a basic water service in 2015

💧 Safely managed drinking water estimate is available for 9 countries in the region



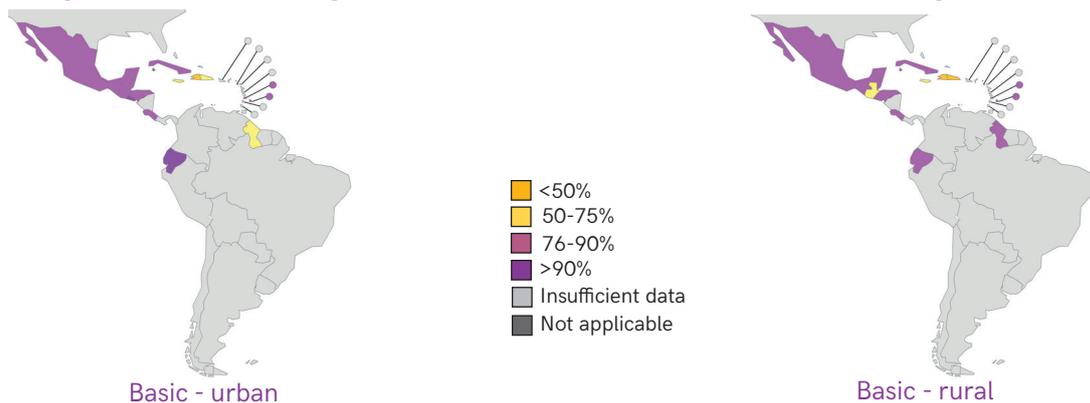
💧 Urban coverage of basic drinking water services exceeds 50% in 26 countries, rural coverage exceeds 50% in 24 countries



# Hygiene coverage

NO REGIONAL ESTIMATE AVAILABLE

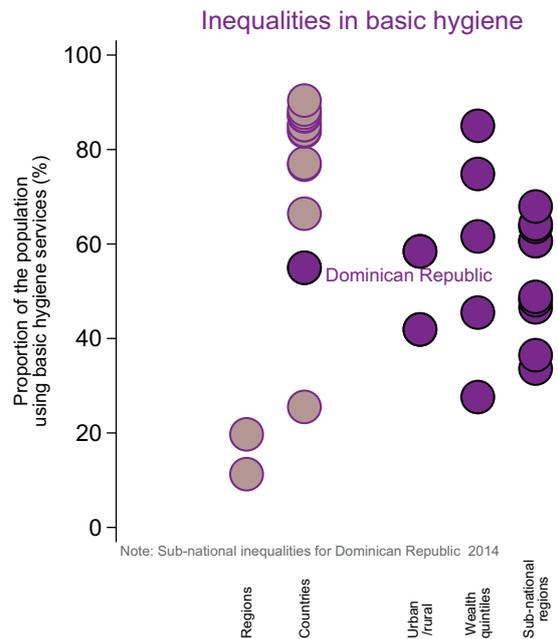
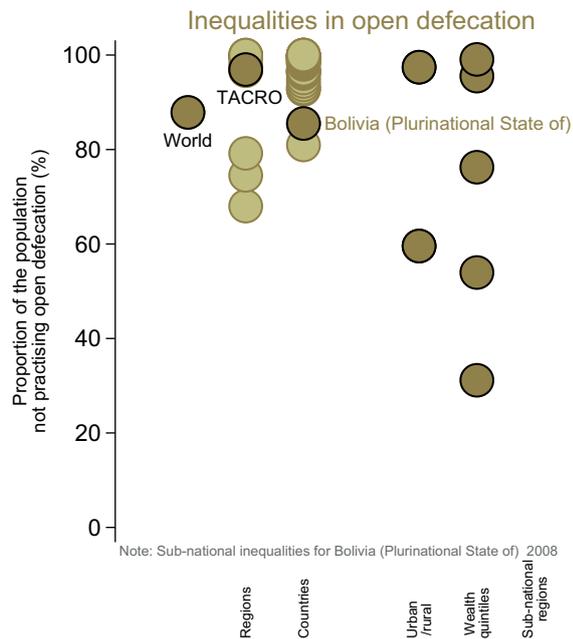
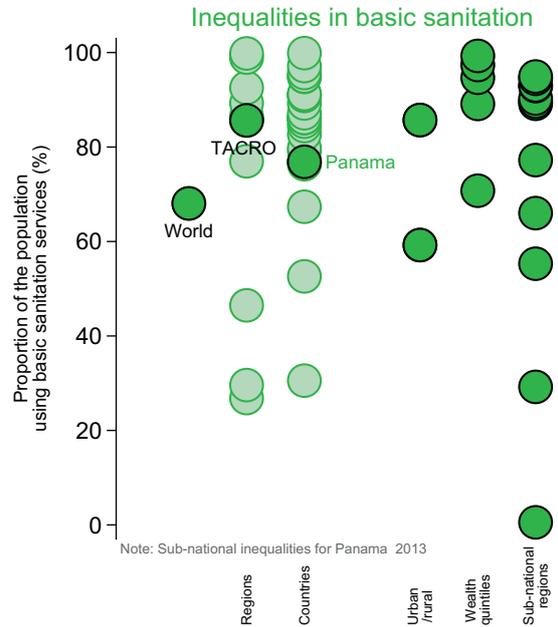
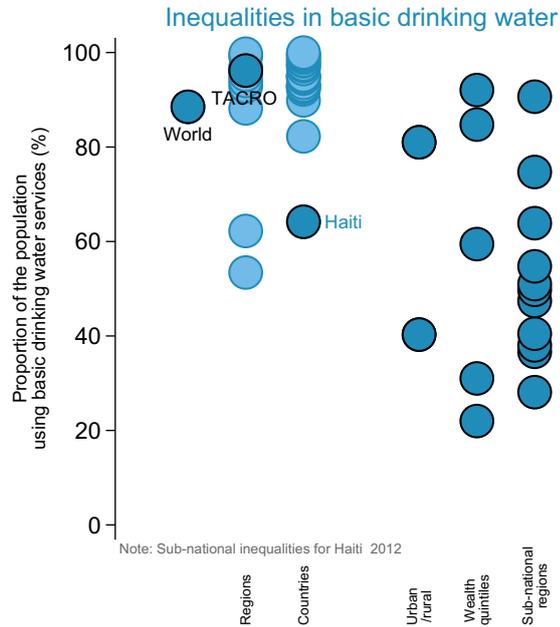
urban coverage of basic handwashing facilities exceeds 50% in 13 countries, rural coverage exceeds 50% in 12 countries



COUNTRY, AREA OR TERRITORY	Year	Population (thousands)	% urban	NATIONAL			RURAL			URBAN		
				Basic	Limited (without water or soap)	No facility	Basic	Limited (without water or soap)	No facility	Basic	Limited (without water or soap)	No facility
Barbados	2015	284	31	88	2	9	86	1	13	90	3	7
Belize	2015	359	44	87	8	5	86	8	5	88	7	5
Costa Rica	2015	4 808	77	84	10	6	83	12	5	84	10	6
Cuba	2015	11 390	77	85	10	5	76	12	12	88	9	3
Dominican Republic	2015	10 528	79	55	16	29	42	16	42	58	16	26
Ecuador	2015	16 144	64	85	14	1	76	22	2	91	9	0
El Salvador	2015	6 127	67	90	7	3	86	10	4	92	5	2
Guatemala	2015	16 343	52	77	21	3	70	27	3	83	14	2
Guyana	2015	767	29	77	11	12	78	12	10	75	9	16
Haiti	2015	10 711	59	26	42	32	17	46	37	31	39	29
Honduras	2015	8 075	55	84	10	6	80	15	5	87	6	7
Jamaica	2015	2 793	55	66	16	17	63	19	18	69	14	16
Mexico	2015	127 017	79	88	9	3	80	15	5	90	8	2
Saint Lucia	2015	185	19	87	8	5	87	8	5	88	7	5

"-" = no estimate; NA = data not applicable; for unrounded estimates see [www.washdata.org](http://www.washdata.org)

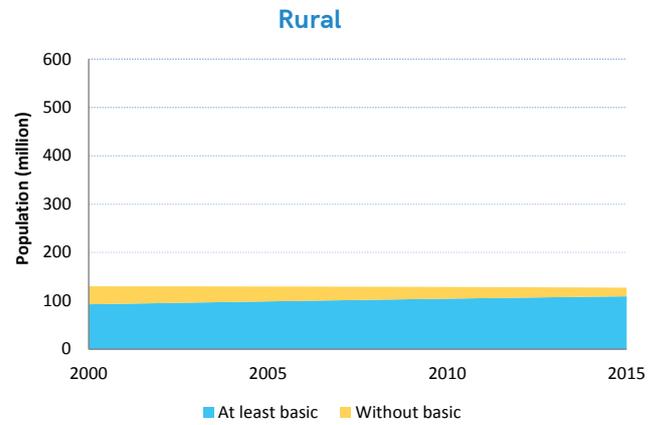
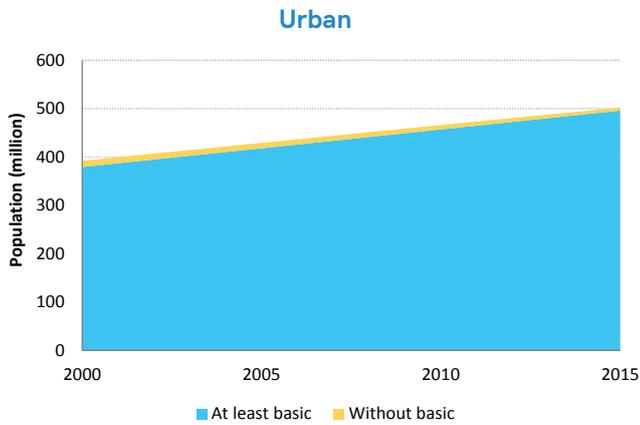
# Inequalities



Note: TACRO - UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region

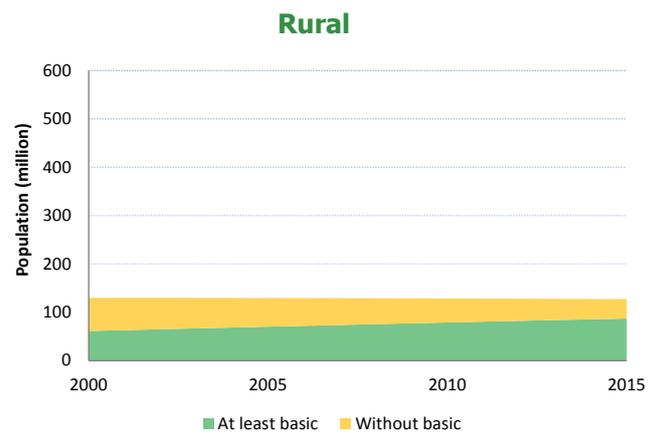
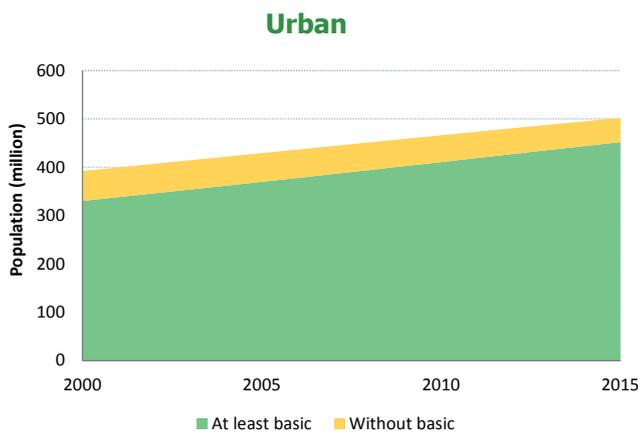
# Trends

## Drinking water



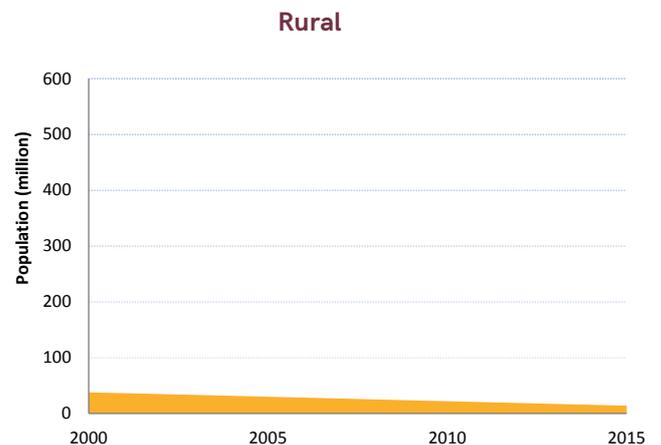
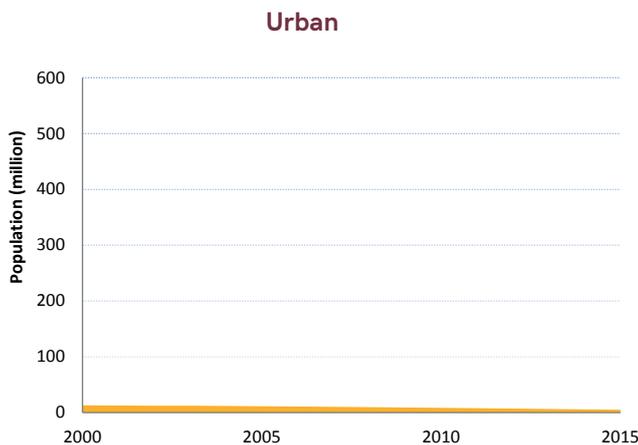
In 2015, 98.8% of the urban population and 85.9% of the rural population used a basic drinking water service.

## Sanitation



In 2015, 90% of the urban population and 68.4% of the rural population used a basic sanitation service.

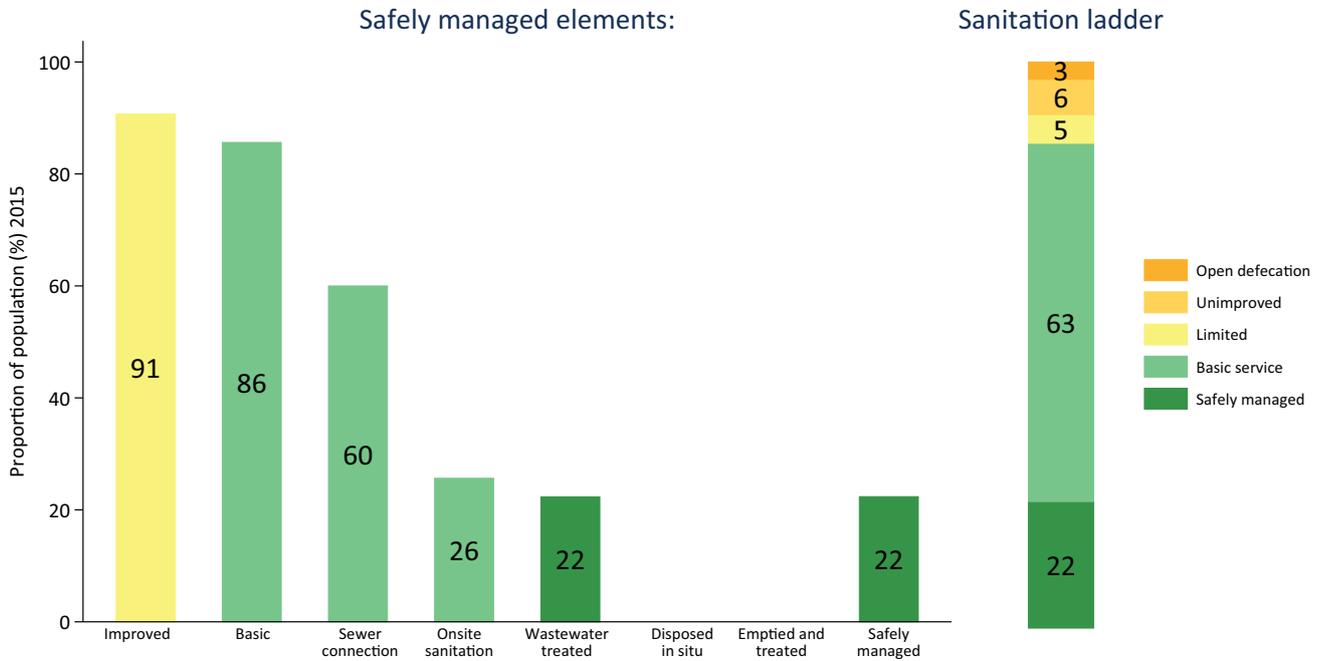
## Open defecation



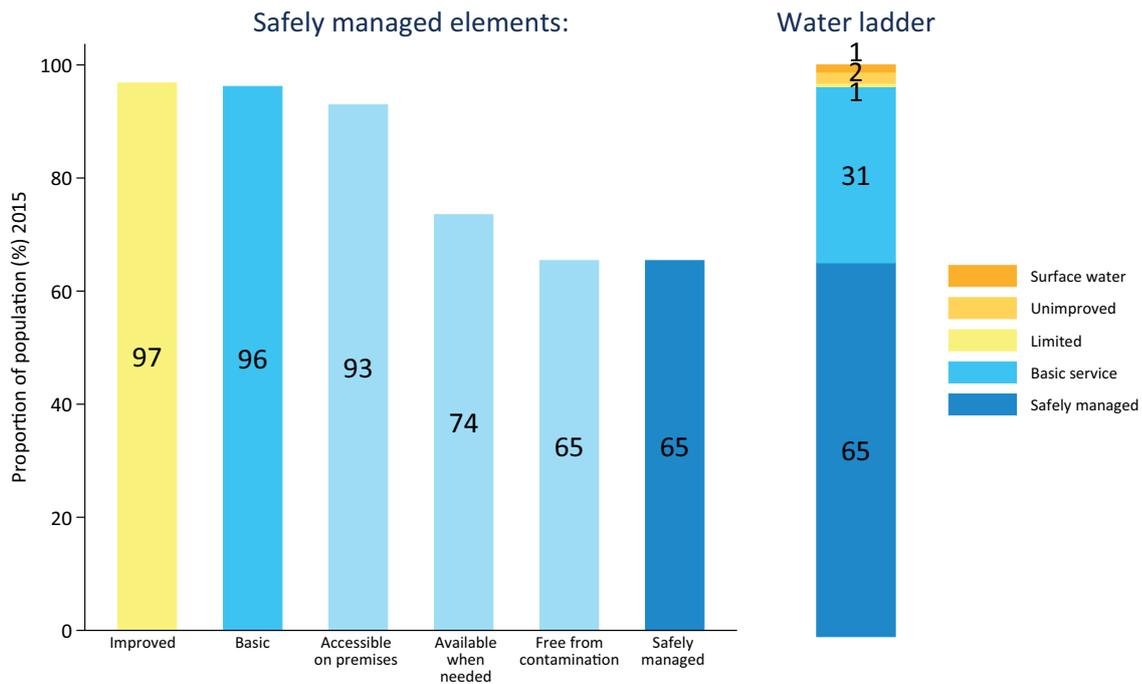
In 2015, 1% of the urban population and 11.1% of the rural population practised open defecation.

# Safely managed services

## Safely managed sanitation (2015)



## Safely managed drinking water (2015)







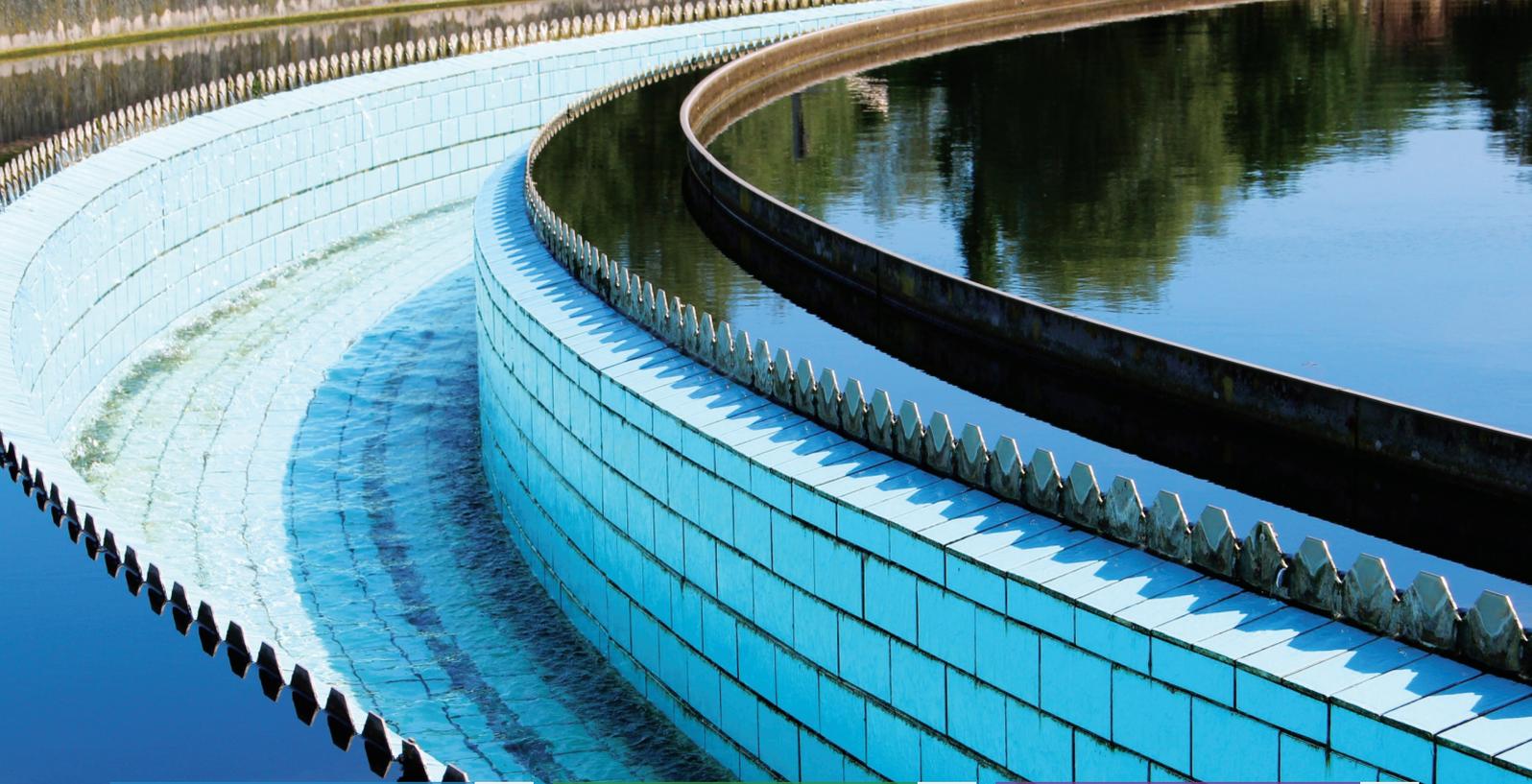
# Drinking water estimates

COUNTRY, AREA OR TERRITORY	ISO3	Year	Population (thousands)	% urban	NATIONAL					RURAL					URBAN				
					At least basic	Limited (more than 30 mins)	Unimproved	Surface water	Annual rate of change in basic	At least basic	Limited (more than 30 mins)	Unimproved	Surface water	Annual rate of change in basic	At least basic	Limited (more than 30 mins)	Unimproved	Surface water	Annual rate of change in basic
Anguilla	AIA	2000	11	100	93	-	7	0	0.37	-	-	-	-	-	93	-	7	0	0.37
		2015	15	100	98	-	2	0		-	-	-	-	-	98	-	2	0	
Antigua and Barbuda	ATG	2000	78	32	98	-	2	0	-0.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	92	24	97	-	3	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	ARG	2000	37 057	89	99	-	0	1	0.04	-	-	0	6	0.42	100	-	0	0	-0.00
		2015	43 417	92	100	-	0	0		100	-	0	0		100	-	0	0	
Bahamas	BHS	2000	298	82	98	-	2	0	-0.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	388	83	98	-	2	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barbados	BRB	2000	270	34	99	0	1	0	-0.03	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	284	31	98	0	2	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belize	BLZ	2000	247	48	88	1	8	3	0.64	84	1	9	5	0.75	91	1	7	1	0.53
		2015	359	44	97	1	2	0		96	1	3	0		99	1	0	0	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	BOL	2000	8 340	62	79	0	7	14	0.94	53	0	12	35	1.75	95	0	4	1	0.29
		2015	10 725	69	93	0	2	5		79	1	5	15		99	0	0	0	
Brazil	BRA	2000	175 786	81	94	1	5	1	0.25	74	2	20	3	0.83	98	0	1	0	0.07
		2015	207 848	86	97	0	1	1		87	3	3	8		99	0	1	0	
British Virgin Islands	VGB	2000	21	42	95	-	5	0	0.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	30	46	100	-	0	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chile	CHL	2000	15 170	86	95	-	5	0	0.32	72	-	28	0	1.84	99	-	1	0	0.07
		2015	17 948	90	100	-	0	0		100	-	0	0		100	-	0	0	
Colombia	COL	2000	40 404	72	90	0	6	4	0.43	70	0	16	13	1.05	98	0	2	0	0.14
		2015	48 229	76	97	0	1	2		86	1	5	8		100	0	0	0	
Costa Rica	CRI	2000	3 925	59	94	0	2	3	0.39	86	0	5	8	0.87	99	0	0	0	0.05
		2015	4 808	77	100	0	0	0		100	0	0	0		100	0	0	0	
Cuba	CUB	2000	11 117	75	93	2	4	1	0.14	80	4	14	2	0.61	97	1	1	0	-0.02
		2015	11 390	77	95	2	2	0		90	4	4	2		97	1	2	0	
Dominica	DMA	2000	70	65	93	-	7	0	0.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	73	70	97	-	4	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican Republic	DOM	2000	8 563	62	91	3	3	3	0.23	81	6	7	6	0.28	97	1	1	0	-0.02
		2015	10 528	79	94	2	2	1		86	6	3	5		97	1	2	0	
Ecuador	ECU	2000	12 629	60	83	0	9	7	0.63	72	1	9	18	0.56	90	0	9	0	0.61
		2015	16 144	64	93	0	3	4		80	1	8	11		100	0	0	0	
El Salvador	SLV	2000	5 812	59	80	3	11	5	0.85	60	6	22	12	1.58	95	1	4	0	0.22
		2015	6 127	67	93	4	0	3		83	9	0	8		98	1	0	1	
Grenada	GRD	2000	102	36	93	1	6	0	0.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	107	36	96	1	0	3		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guatemala	GTM	2000	11 689	45	85	1	10	3	0.54	78	1	15	6	0.77	95	0	5	0	0.19
		2015	16 343	52	94	1	4	2		89	1	6	4		97	0	2	0	
Guyana	GUY	2000	742	29	88	2	5	5	0.45	86	2	6	6	0.47	94	2	4	0	0.43
		2015	767	29	95	1	1	2		93	2	2	3		100	0	0	0	
Haiti	HTI	2000	8 549	36	56	8	19	17	0.52	41	10	26	23	-0.02	85	5	5	5	-0.26
		2015	10 711	59	64	7	29	0		40	10	50	0		81	5	14	0	
Honduras	HND	2000	6 243	45	82	1	5	12	0.66	71	1	6	22	0.87	95	0	4	0	0.22
		2015	8 075	55	92	1	5	2		84	1	10	4		99	0	1	0	
Jamaica	JAM	2000	2 600	52	91	3	3	3	0.14	85	5	5	6	0.23	96	1	2	0	0.03
		2015	2 793	55	93	3	2	2		88	5	3	4		97	1	2	0	
Mexico	MEX	2000	102 809	75	89	0	8	3	0.60	74	1	15	9	1.30	94	0	5	0	0.34
		2015	127 017	79	94	0	1	0		94	2	4	1		100	0	0	0	
Montserrat	MSR	2000	5	2	99	-	1	0	-0.16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	5	9	97	-	3	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nicaragua	NIC	2000	5 027	55	81	1	14	4	0.11	62	2	26	9	-0.11	96	0	4	0	0.11
		2015	6 082	59	82	1	13	3		61	2	30	8		97	0	2	0	
Panama	PAN	2000	3 029	62	88	1	7	4	0.45	76	1	12	11	0.77	96	1	3	0	0.20
		2015	3 929	67	95	1	3	1		87	1	8	4		99	1	0	0	
Paraguay	PRY	2000	5 303	55	75	0	22	3	1.59	52	0	41	7	3.10	94	0	6	0	0.37
		2015	6 639	60	99	0	1	0		98	0	1	0		99	0	1	0	
Peru	PER	2000	25 915	73	81	1	11	7	0.62	51	1	24	24	1.44	91	1	7	1	0.21
		2015	31 377	79	90	1	6	3		72	2	13	13		95	1	4	1	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	KNA	2000	46	33	98	-	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	56	32	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saint Lucia	LCA	2000	157	28	88	2	10	0	0.65	87	2	12	0	0.76	93	2	5	0	0.33
		2015	185	19	98	2	0	0		98	2	0	0		98	2	0	0	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	VCT	2000	108	45	93	-	7	0	0.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	109	51	95	-	4	1		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suriname	SUR	2000	481	66	89	1	3	8	0.39	72	1	5	22	1.06	97	0	2	0	0.05
		2015	543	66	95	1	1	4		88	1	0	11		98	0	1	0	
Trinidad and Tobago	TTO	2000	1 268	11	92	1	6	1	0.34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	1 360	8	97	1	2	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	TCA	2000	19	85	86	-	14	0	0.52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2015	34	92	94	-	6	0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uruguay	URY	2000	3 321	92	97	1	2	0	0.17	72	4	22	2	1.42	99	0	1	0	0.04
		2015	3 432	95	99	1	0	0		94	5	1	0		100	0	0	0	
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	VEN	2000	24 481	88	96	-	1	3	0.09	82	-	1	17	0.30	98	-	1	1	0.05
		2015	31 108	89	97	-	2	1		86	-	5	9		99	-	1	0	
UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region		2000	521 689	75	90	1	6	3	0.38	71	2	16	10	0.97	97	0	3	0	0.14
		2015	629 076	80	96	1	2	1		86	2	6	6		99	0	1	0	

"-" = no estimate; NA = data not applicable; for unrounded estimates see [www.washdata.org](http://www.washdata.org)

# Drinking water estimates

COUNTRY, AREA OR TERRITORY	Year	NATIONAL Proportion of population using improved water supplies					RURAL Proportion of population using improved water supplies					URBAN Proportion of population using improved water supplies							
		Safely managed	Accessible on premises	Available when needed	Free from contamination	Piped	Non-piped	Safely managed	Accessible on premises	Available when needed	Free from contamination	Piped	Non-piped	Safely managed	Accessible on premises	Available when needed	Free from contamination	Piped	Non-piped
Anguilla	2000	-	93	83	-	56	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93	83	-	56	37
	2015	-	98	88	-	98	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	88	-	98	0
Antigua and Barbuda	2000	-	83	91	-	98	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	75	90	-	94	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	2000	98	98	-	98	98	1	-	92	-	-	94	0	98	98	-	99	98	1
	2015	99	99	-	99	100	0	-	100	-	-	99	1	98	99	-	98	100	0
Bahamas	2000	-	98	98	-	96	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	96	98	-	95	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barbados	2000	-	98	89	-	97	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	98	89	-	98	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belize	2000	-	85	-	-	65	24	-	81	-	-	52	34	-	89	49	-	78	13
	2015	-	95	-	-	83	15	-	93	-	-	75	22	-	98	54	-	93	7
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2000	-	71	68	-	74	6	-	39	42	-	45	8	-	91	85	-	91	4
	2015	-	92	78	-	74	19	-	77	60	-	39	40	-	98	86	-	90	10
Brazil	2000	-	84	-	-	86	8	-	45	-	-	51	26	93	93	-	97	95	4
	2015	-	97	-	-	96	2	-	85	-	-	79	11	97	99	-	97	99	0
British Virgin Islands	2000	-	93	-	-	91	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	98	-	-	96	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chile	2000	92	92	94	95	94	2	-	53	67	-	62	10	98	98	99	99	99	0
	2015	98	99	99	98	100	0	-	95	93	-	100	0	98	100	99	98	100	0
Colombia	2000	67	89	72	74	83	7	32	66	48	32	52	19	81	98	81	90	96	2
	2015	71	96	74	79	88	9	40	85	53	40	63	23	81	99	81	91	95	4
Costa Rica	2000	70	94	79	70	90	4	-	86	49	-	80	7	-	99	99	-	97	2
	2015	90	100	90	95	99	1	-	99	56	-	99	1	-	100	100	-	99	1
Cuba	2000	-	80	-	-	74	21	-	55	83	-	48	36	-	87	-	-	82	16
	2015	-	93	-	-	79	18	-	83	92	-	57	37	-	95	-	-	86	12
Dominica	2000	-	66	51	-	92	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	75	53	-	95	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican Republic	2000	-	75	-	-	75	19	-	62	75	-	56	31	-	83	-	-	87	12
	2015	-	92	-	-	80	17	-	73	79	-	65	27	-	97	-	-	84	14
Ecuador	2000	66	77	79	66	72	12	50	65	65	50	56	17	77	85	88	77	83	8
	2015	74	91	88	74	86	7	56	78	73	56	67	14	85	98	97	85	96	3
El Salvador	2000	-	71	72	-	71	12	-	46	51	-	44	22	86	88	86	96	90	6
	2015	-	90	71	-	88	9	-	77	59	-	75	17	77	96	77	99	94	6
Grenada	2000	-	79	90	-	92	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	90	92	-	92	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guatemala	2000	50	72	50	62	77	9	-	58	46	-	65	14	-	88	55	-	92	3
	2015	61	86	61	92	77	17	-	77	57	-	64	27	-	94	65	-	91	7
Guyana	2000	-	75	-	-	68	22	-	74	-	-	64	24	-	78	95	-	79	16
	2015	-	94	-	-	66	30	-	91	-	-	58	37	-	100	100	-	86	14
Haiti	2000	-	21	53	-	44	21	-	11	40	-	31	20	-	38	77	-	68	22
	2015	-	7	60	-	25	47	-	5	40	-	24	26	-	9	73	-	25	61
Honduras	2000	-	78	54	-	77	6	-	66	56	-	64	8	-	92	52	-	93	3
	2015	-	91	60	-	89	4	-	83	66	-	81	4	-	99	54	-	96	3
Jamaica	2000	-	84	54	-	79	15	-	73	41	-	61	28	-	93	66	-	95	3
	2015	-	83	56	-	81	15	-	72	43	-	66	27	-	93	67	-	93	5
Mexico	2000	39	80	70	39	83	6	-	57	58	-	62	13	-	87	74	-	90	4
	2015	43	94	69	43	95	4	-	82	61	-	85	10	-	97	72	-	98	2
Montserrat	2000	-	99	-	-	99	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	97	-	-	97	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nicaragua	2000	54	60	67	64	67	15	26	26	54	30	38	26	78	87	78	92	91	5
	2015	59	78	61	67	70	14	30	51	36	30	33	30	79	97	79	94	95	2
Panama	2000	-	85	73	-	88	1	-	72	66	-	75	1	-	93	77	-	96	1
	2015	-	93	85	-	92	4	-	85	74	-	81	7	-	98	90	-	98	2
Paraguay	2000	-	72	64	-	51	24	-	48	43	-	19	33	-	92	82	-	77	16
	2015	-	95	86	-	89	10	-	91	82	-	81	17	-	97	89	-	95	4
Peru	2000	45	72	66	45	72	10	14	36	45	14	34	18	56	86	74	56	86	6
	2015	50	84	73	50	83	8	20	67	51	20	60	14	58	89	79	58	89	6
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2000	-	97	86	-	97	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saint Lucia	2000	-	86	-	-	89	1	-	85	-	-	87	1	-	89	-	-	95	0
	2015	-	96	-	-	96	4	-	96	-	-	95	5	-	94	-	-	100	0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2000	-	92	68	-	86	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	94	70	-	93	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suriname	2000	-	87	50	-	76	13	-	68	44	-	49	24	-	96	53	-	90	8
	2015	-	90	53	-	67	28	-	78	53	-	47	42	-	97	53	-	77	21
Trinidad and Tobago	2000	-	82	73	-	83	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	95	80	-	92	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	2000	-	85	-	-	42	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	90	-	-	68	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uruguay	2000	-	96	97	-	96	2	-	72	-	-	58	18	94	98	99	94	99	0
	2015	-	99	100	-	100	0	-	94	-	-	94	4	94	99	100	94	100	0
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2000	-	87	60	-	85	11	-	53	51	-	50	32	-	91	61	-	90	8
	2015	-	89	60	-	86	11	-	59	53	-	52	34	-	93	61	-	90	8
UNICEF Latin America & Caribbean Region	2000	61	82	72	61	83	8	-	53	56	-	54	19	77	91	77	92	93	4
	2015	65	93	74	65	91	6	-	79	61	-	72	16	77	97	77	93	96	3



## DRINKING WATER



In 2015,

- 71 per cent of the global population (5.2 billion people) used a **safely managed** drinking water service; that is, one located on premises, available when needed and free from contamination.
- Eight out of ten people (5.8 billion) used improved sources with **water available when needed**.
- Three out of four people (5.4 billion) used improved sources **located on premises**.
- Three out of four people (5.4 billion) used improved sources **free from contamination**.
- 844 million people still lacked even a **basic** drinking water service.
- 263 million people spent over 30 minutes per round trip to collect water from an improved source (a **limited** drinking water service).
- 159 million people still collected drinking water directly from **surface water** sources, 58% lived in sub-Saharan Africa.

## SANITATION



In 2015,

- 39 per cent of the global population (2.9 billion people) used a **safely managed** sanitation service; that is, excreta safely disposed of in situ or treated off-site.
- 27 per cent of the global population (1.9 billion people) used private sanitation facilities connected to sewers from which **wastewater was treated**.
- 13 per cent of the global population (0.9 billion people) used toilets or latrines where excreta were **disposed of in situ**.
- Available data were insufficient to make a global estimate of the proportion of population using septic tanks and latrines from which excreta are **emptied and treated off-site**.
- 2.3 billion people still lacked even a **basic** sanitation service.
- 600 million people used a **limited** sanitation service.
- 892 million people worldwide still practised **open defecation**.

## HYGIENE



In 2015,

- 70 countries had comparable data available on handwashing with soap and water, representing 30 per cent of the global population.
- Coverage of **basic handwashing** facilities with soap and water varied from 15 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa to 76 per cent in Western Asia and Northern Africa, but data are currently insufficient to produce a global estimate, or estimates for other SDG regions.
- In Least Developed Countries, 27 per cent of the population had basic handwashing facilities with soap and water, while 26 per cent had handwashing facilities lacking soap or water. The remaining 47 per cent had no facility.
- In sub-Saharan Africa, three out of five people with basic handwashing facilities (89 million people) lived in urban areas.
- Many high-income countries lacked sufficient data to estimate the population with basic handwashing facilities.

JMP website: [www.washdata.org](http://www.washdata.org)