



# Top 10 Water & Sanitation Crisis Facts

*The global water and sanitation crisis impacts the lives of over 2 billion people worldwide.*

1. 844 million people around the world are without basic water access. That's more than twice the population of the United States.
2. More people die from unsafe water than from all forms of violence, including war.
3. 2.3 billion people, or nearly 1 in 3, lack access to a toilet.
4. Diarrheal diseases, caused primarily by unsafe water and poor sanitation, kill more children under 5 years old than malaria, AIDS, and measles combined.
5. Diarrheal disease kills one child every 60 seconds.
6. Unsafe water and poor sanitation cause repeated bouts of diarrheal disease, which causes malnutrition, weakens the immune system, and makes other illnesses more likely. This makes diarrheal diseases one of the most deadly illnesses in developing countries.
7. An estimated 263 million people, primarily women and children, are walking over 30 minutes to collect water. In most instances, it is far longer.
8. The latest data suggest that as many as 443 million school days are lost each year due to water-related diseases.
9. Lost time gathering water significantly reduces productive farming time for women in parts of the developing world. With safe water nearby, it's estimated that women could feed 150 million of the world's hungry.
10. For every \$1 invested in safe water and sanitation, a yield of \$5 to \$28 USD is returned in increased economic activity and reduced health care costs.

---

*"When the poor and needy search for water and there is none, and their tongues are parched from thirst, then I, the LORD, will answer them" - ISAIAH 41:17*