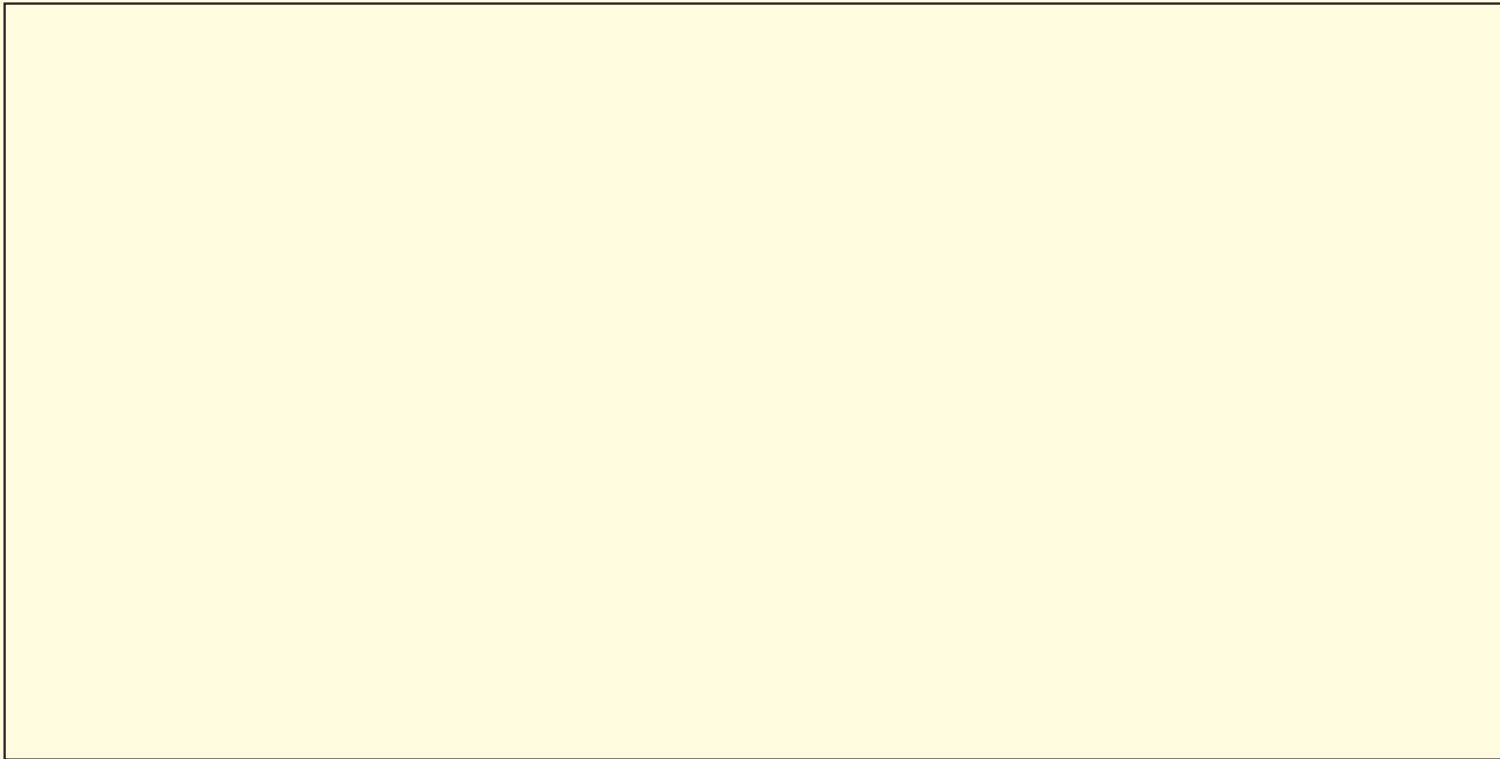


# Poor Water

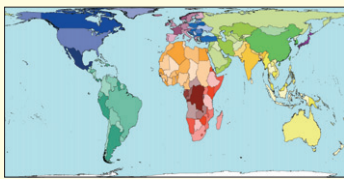


Drinking water is essential to live, but dirty drinking water is also a major cause of disease. Whilst most people living in Western Europe can access safe water, only 50% of people living in Central Africa can do this.

The largest population without access to safe tap water is in China: that is 324 million people, or 25% of the population. In a quarter of all territories more than a quarter of the population is without access to safe water. Worldwide 18% of people have no safe drinking water.

Safer water can be obtained by treating water, collecting it from a spring, or pumping it up from groundwater.

Territory size shows the proportion of all people without reliable access to safe water that live there.



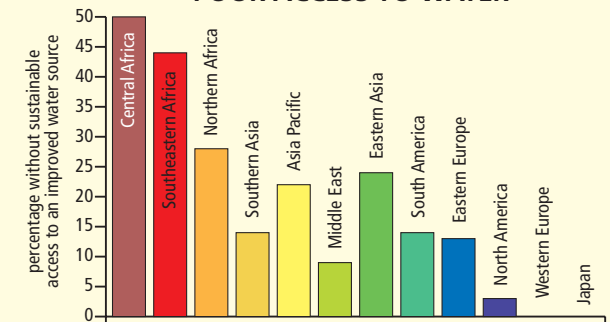
Land area

## LEAST AND GREATER ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Ethiopia	76	151	Bahamas	3
2	Chad	73	151	Albania	3
3	Cambodia	70	153	Greenland	3
4	Mauritania	63	154	Ukraine	2
4	Lao People's Dem Republic	63	154	Saint Lucia	2
6	Angola	62	154	Uruguay	2
7	Oman	61	154	Saint Kitts & Nevis	2
8	Rwanda	59	158	Russian Federation	1
9	Burkina Faso	58	158	Samoa	1
9	Papua New Guinea	58	158	Hungary	1

percentage of population without sustainable access to an improved water source 2000\*

## POOR ACCESS TO WATER



### Technical notes

- Data are from the United Nations Development Programme's 2004 Human Development Report.
- \*In 40 territories less than 1% of population has not got a reliable source of safe drinking water.
- Poor water is water that is either not safe or is unreliable.
- See website for further information.

*“It is the cause of debilitating diseases for the majority of children. That is how serious a lack of sanitation and clean water is.”*

Hans Spruijt, 2004