



How many of the Water Facts questions can you answer correctly?



1. In the year 2000, about how many Africans could not get safe drinking water? Check all that apply.
 - A Half
 - B 300 million
 - C More than the entire population of the United States.



2. How many people in Africa do you believe will not have enough drinking water to live healthy lives by the year 2020?
 - A 200 million people (decrease by 100 million people)
 - B 300 million people (remain the same as today)
 - C 400 million people (increase by 100 million people)



3. How many African countries do you think only have enough clean water for about half of the population?
 - A 5
 - B 7
 - C 10



4. Water is a scarce resource across the globe. Because it is so scarce, it usually costs more in other countries than it does in the United States. Who do you think pays the most for water in Africa?
 - A Rich people
 - B Middle-class people
 - C Poor people



5. How many children in Uganda do you think die from drinking unsanitary water? Check all that apply.
 - A About 22,880 per year
 - B About 440 per week
 - C About 63 each day



6. Beyond the diseases caused by untreated water, there is also the problem of pollution caused by untreated wastewater. In Africa, how much wastewater do you think is discharged into the environment without being sanitized of pollutants?

- A 50% of all wastewater
- B 90% of all wastewater
- C 100% of all wastewater



7. Which region is the driest in the world?

- A Sub-Saharan Africa
- B Middle East and North Africa
- C South Asia



8. How much of the world's renewable water does this region have?

- A 10%
- B 5%
- C 1%



9. How much of the world's population lives in this region?
Check all that apply.

- A 5% of the world's population
- B More than the population of the United States
- C More than 300 million



10. How much of the world's renewable water supply do you think is in Eastern Europe and Central Asia? Check all that apply.

- A 12%
- B More than North America
- C Less than Antarctica



11. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, how many children die from unsanitary water?

- A 10%
- B 25%
- C 50%

12. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, how many households have piped water?

- A 30%
- B 50%
- C 70%



13. In this region, which country generates the most electricity from water?

- A Russia
- B Albania
- C Tajikistan





Check your answers here.

- 1. All of the answers are correct.** 600 million people live in Africa, and about half (50%), or 300 million of them, could not get enough water to live healthy lives. 300 million is the number of people there are in the United States.

In the year 2000, 400 million people in Africa could not get clean water. That is greater than the combined population of the United States and Mexico.

Unclean water is a major cause of sickness and disease throughout the world. So, in addition to not having enough water to stay healthy, the water that many Africans have actually causes sickness.

- 2. C.** The number of Africans that don't have enough water to live healthy lives will increase from 300 million to 400 million if something is not done to stop this from happening. That's more people than live in the United States and Canada.

- 3. C.** Ten countries in Africa only have enough clean drinking water for half their population.

- 4. C.** Poor people pay the most for water in Africa. That is because poorer countries cannot afford to build water sanitization facilities. While the cost of building these facilities is high, it lowers the cost per gallon of water people have to pay while it is in operation.

For instance, in richer areas, people can afford to build pipe, sewer and sanitation systems that the people in poorer areas cannot afford to build. In Kibera, Nairobi, the poor pay ten times more for water than rich people do. That is because poor people have to pay for water collected in cans by other poor people, which takes a lot of time and effort. On the other hand, the rich pay for water from modern facilities built to sanitize water in a more efficient and cost effective manner.

Making matters worse, poor people in Africa have to spend much more time getting the water they need. During African dry seasons, they may have to spend four hours a day waiting in line for water that is usually unsanitary. Of course, unsanitary water is the leading cause of disease throughout the world.

- 5. All of the answers are correct.** Diseases caused by unsanitary water also make Ugandans miss work. Of course, this only adds to their problems by contributing to their poverty.

If you add up all the work days Ugandans lose in a year, it would equal 40 million work days. What if Ugandans did not miss so many work days due to sickness - would they be able to afford the water they need to stay healthy and survive? This what is called a 'self-perpetuating problem.'



6. **B.** 90% of all wastewater in Africa is discharged into the environment without being treated. Wastewater treatment and recycling is an important issue across the globe, even in areas that have an abundant supply.
7. **B.** The Middle East and North Africa region is the driest in the world.
8. **C.** This region only has 1% of the world's renewable water supply (of which about 90% is used for agricultural purposes). In Gaza, about 90% of all drinking water falls below World Health Organization safe drinking water standards. In Egypt, the primary source of water is the Nile River, which is polluted with too much iron and magnesium.
9. **All of the answers are correct.** The Middle East and North Africa region is home to about 5 percent of the world's population. In this region, about 45 million people do not have access to safe water, and 80 million people in this region do not have access to clean water.
10. **All of the answers are correct.** The Eastern Europe and Central Asian region has 12% of the world's renewable water supply. That's more of the world's renewable water than any other continent (other than Antarctica), including North America. In most countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as much as 50% of the water supply is wasted due to aging, leaky pipes. If this were not the case, these countries would have a very good water supply
11. **B.** In Eastern Europe, 25% of childhood deaths are caused by dirty water. For instance, in Ukraine, one out of every four water and sewer pipes need repair. These faulty pipes allow pollutants to enter the drinking water supply and allow pollutants in waste water to escape into the environment. Young children are most affected because their immune systems are not fully developed.
12. **A.** Only 30% of the households in rural areas of Eastern Europe and Central Asia have water piped into the home. Water quality is a serious issue in rural areas. For example, in Moldova, 60 % of water samples in rural areas do not meet biological or chemical standards.
13. **A.** Russia uses its rivers to generate electric power that is used in rural areas that would otherwise not have adequate electric supply. In fact, Russia has the world's largest hydropower generator. However, the other countries, Albania, Tajikistan and also the Kyrgyz Republic use water to generate more than 90% of their electricity.