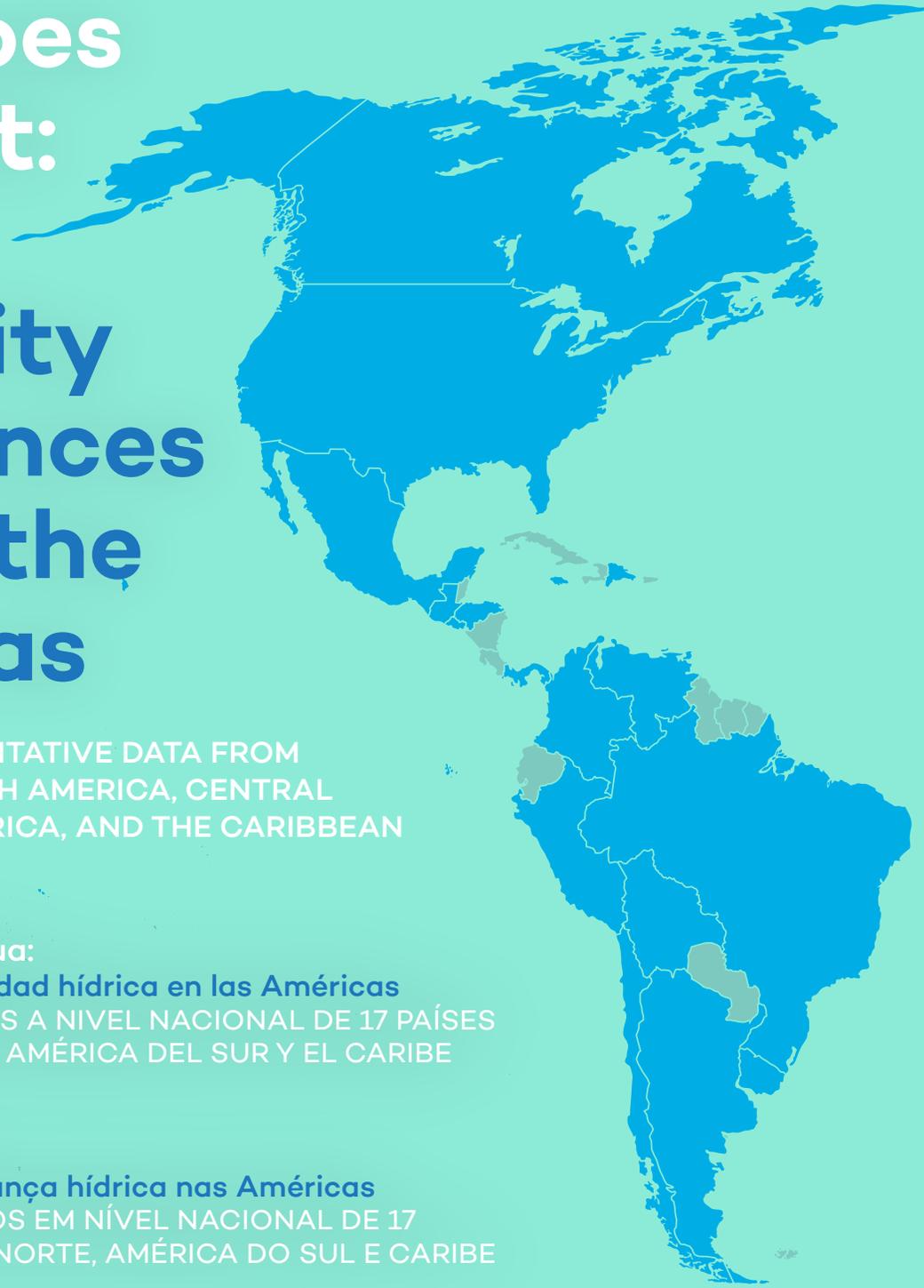


Who Goes Without: Water Insecurity Experiences Across the Americas



NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE DATA FROM 17 COUNTRIES IN NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA, AND THE CARIBBEAN

Quién se queda sin agua:

Experiencias de inseguridad hídrica en las Américas

DATOS REPRESENTATIVOS A NIVEL NACIONAL DE 17 PAÍSES DE AMÉRICA DEL NORTE, AMÉRICA DEL SUR Y EL CARIBE

Quem fica sem água:

Experiências de insegurança hídrica nas Américas

DADOS REPRESENTATIVOS EM NÍVEL NACIONAL DE 17 PAÍSES DA AMÉRICA DO NORTE, AMÉRICA DO SUL E CARIBE



Haz clic para leer la introducción en español



Clique para ler a introdução em português

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1. Gallup World Poll, 2020
 2. Gallup World Poll, 2022
 3. Gallup World Poll, 2025
 4. Encuesta Nacional de Salud y Nutrición (ENSANUT), 2021-2024



1

Introduction



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A need for new water metrics

Progress toward safe water for all has primarily been tracked by measuring what is most visible and easiest to count, like how much water is available per person and whether households have access to improved drinking water services. These are important metrics that have helped inform water policy globally. But they tell us surprisingly little about whether people can reliably get enough water to meet their everyday needs.¹

Consider a household with a piped water connection. By standard measures, basic service needs would be considered met. But if water flows for only a few hours a day, or is deemed unsafe for drinking or cooking, that service falls short of what the family needs to thrive. These gaps in availability and adequacy – invisible with conventional metrics – determine whether water services support healthy lives.

Furthermore, existing measures tend to be collected at the household or national level, making it difficult to determine who within a household bears the greatest burden. Current global monitoring frameworks cannot capture how water access varies by gender, age, disability status, or racial and ethnic background. To design effective policies and address inequalities, we need to know not just whether water is available, but *who* can(not) access it.

Adding a human dimension to water measurement

The Water Insecurity Experiences (WISE) Scales were developed to complement and build upon existing water indicators.² While conventional metrics capture which water services exist, the WISE Scales ask people directly whether they can reliably access those services and whether available water is sufficient for meeting basic need.³

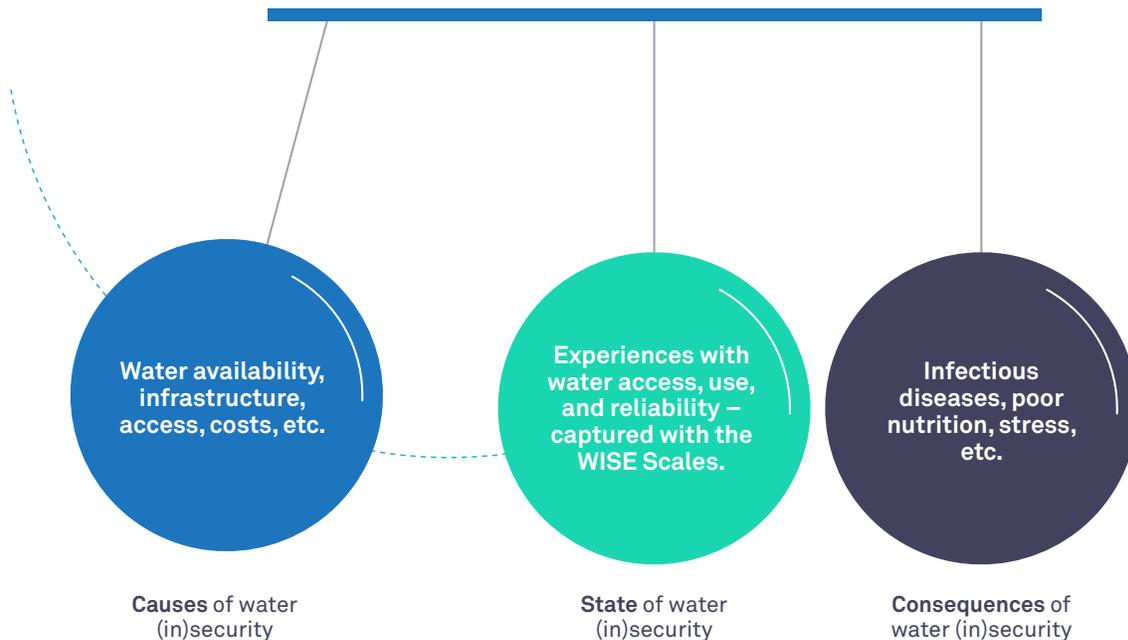


figure 1 Water insecurity is a broad concept that can be measured in many ways. The WISE Scales measure the state of water (in)security (middle), which is driven by many factors (left) and has many consequences (right).

These tools provide a more complete picture of water security, defined as reliable access to sufficient water for basic daily needs.³ The 12-item scales, validated for use in Low-, Middle-, and High-income Countries¹⁵, can be applied at the household (HWISE Scale)⁴ or individual (IWISE Scale)⁵ level. The questions were designed to capture universal experiences that arise when water is problematic: difficulties with drinking, cooking, and hygiene – including handwashing and bathing – as well as the emotional consequences of water challenges, such as worry and frustration (Figure 2). Complete phrasing of the questions is available in [Appendix 1](#).

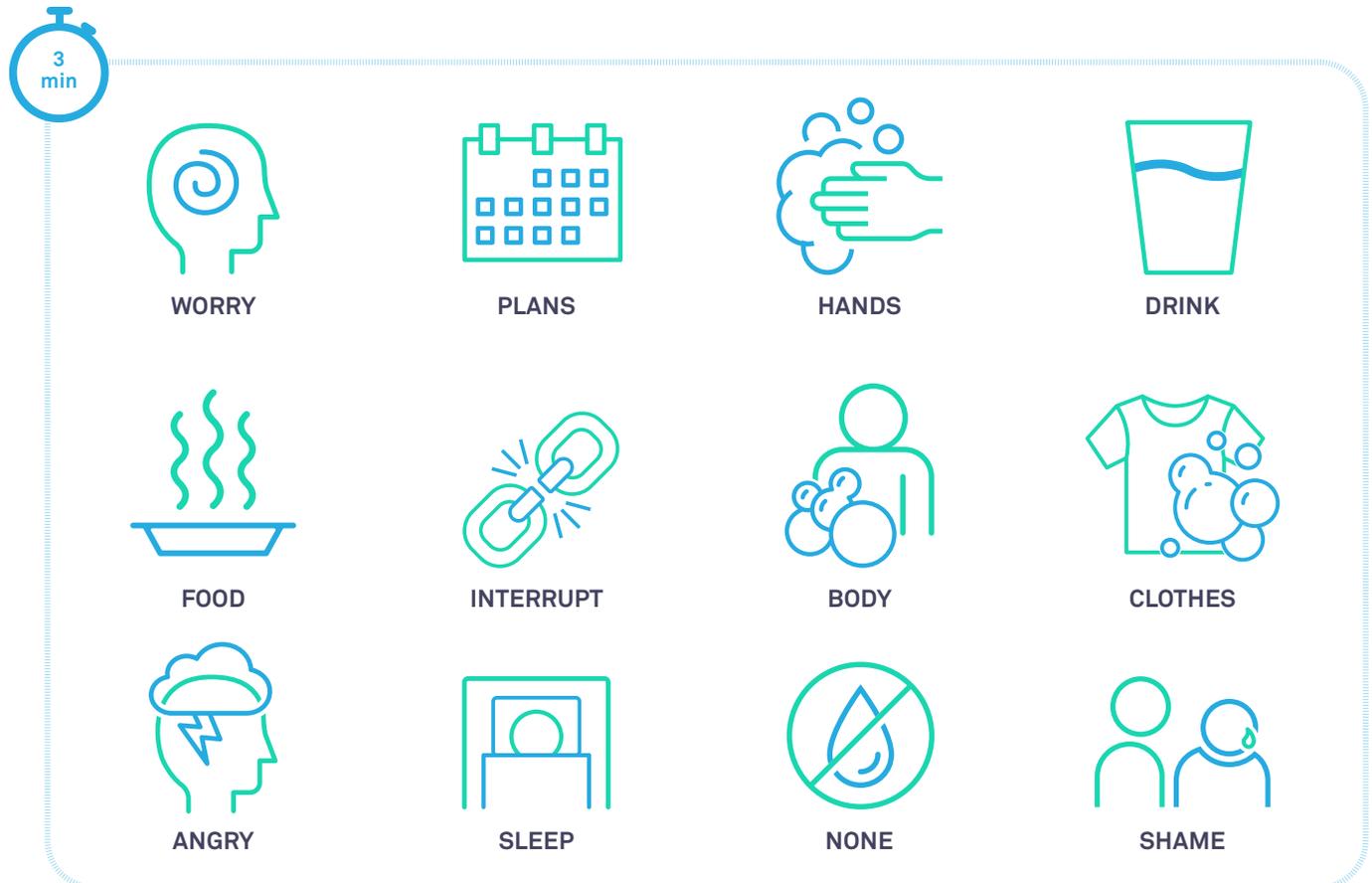


figure 2 The 12 items (questions) in the Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale query about adverse experiences caused by problems with water. Full phrasing and the scoring process for the WISE Scales can be found in [Appendix 1](#). The Scales have been translated into dozens of languages and are [freely accessible online](#). Figure reproduced from a prior publication.⁶

Taking only three minutes to implement, the WISE Scales generate detailed information about the types and frequency of water-related challenges people face.⁷ Additionally, responses can be used to classify individuals or households as experiencing no-to-marginal, low, moderate, or high water insecurity.⁸

Given its demonstrated utility, the IWISE Scale has been incorporated into multiple rounds of the Gallup World Poll9, providing nationally representative data on water insecurity that can be compared within and across countries. Details on Gallup World Poll methodology are available in [Appendix 2](#).



image 1 [DtMF!](#)

Water insecurity across the Americas

This booklet brings together snapshots ([DtMF!](#)) of nationally representative data on water accessibility, sufficiency, and reliability in 17 countries across the Americas – from Chile to Canada. Six of these country estimates appeared in an earlier publication¹⁰, they are now being presented in greater detail using newly established cut-offs for classifying levels of water insecurity.⁸ Additionally, data from 11 countries sampled in the 2025 Gallup World Poll are being published here for the first time.

These findings represent just one part of a much larger and growing body of work on water insecurity across the region. Central to this effort is the Water Insecurity Experiences–Latin America and the Caribbean (WISE-LAC) Network, whose members are actively engaged in research, policy, and advocacy to advance water security. Learn more at: <https://wiselac.iberomx/>.

 You can view video coverage of WISE data in the Americas by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) at: <https://tinyurl.com/WISEAmericas2026>



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figure 3 [The WISE-LAC Network](#) was founded at Universidad Iberoamericana in April 2023, in a meeting attended by 60 representatives from across the region. A declaration on the importance of measuring experiences with food and water¹¹ was published by all members shortly thereafter.

Just the beginning

The data presented herein are a starting point. Gallup World Poll results for additional regions will become available throughout the year, and we will continue to share them.

This information provides the foundation for deeper investigation into the scope of water insecurity– and strategies for reducing its burden. Across the region and around the world, individuals and organizations are using the WISE Scales to evaluate the effects of water insecurity on health, identify the factors that drive it, and pinpoint populations most at risk, thereby building the evidence base needed to improve policy and practice. These data contribute impactful insights needed to advocate for change and drive meaningful progress.

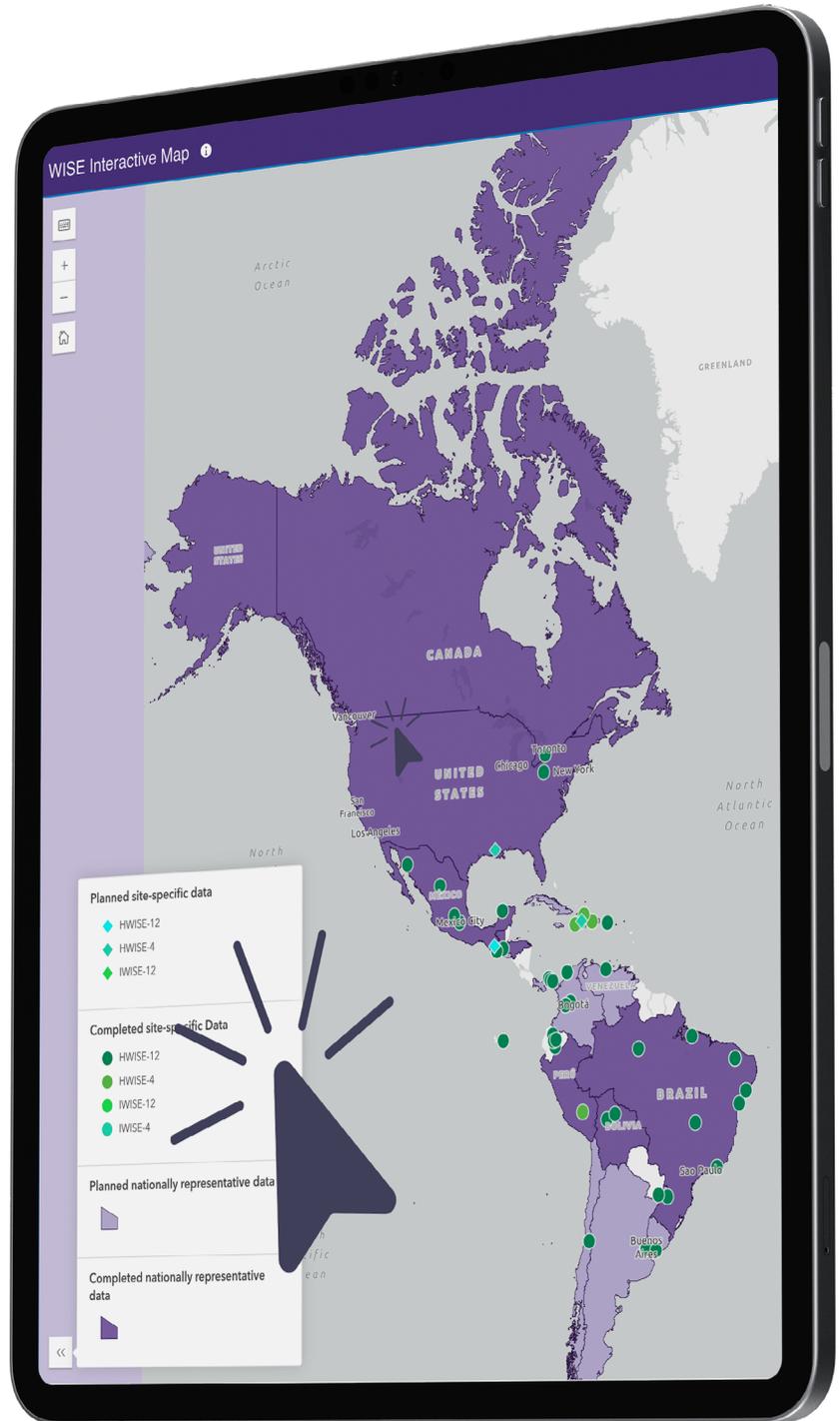


figure 4 An interactive map, indicating countries and sites where WISE data have been collected, is available here <https://arcg.is/1jyDG00>.

On the horizon

A number of WISE-related events are planned around the world.

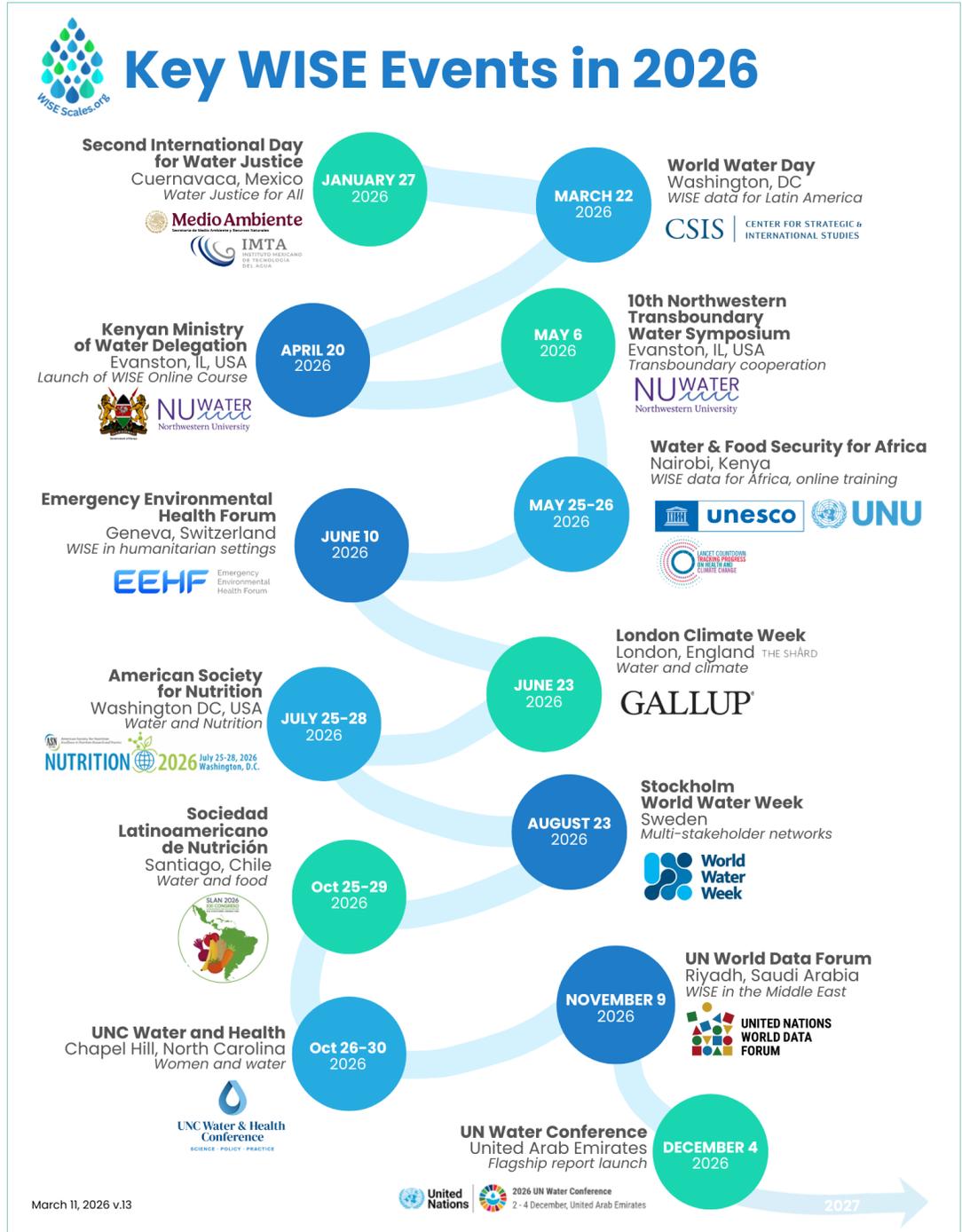


figure 5 WISE-related activities include the creation of an interactive training module with the United Nations University, the launch of a WISE network in Africa, and data dissemination activities globally.

 [Click here to jump to the country profiles](#)

Una necesidad de nuevas métricas del agua

El progreso hacia el agua segura para todos se ha monitoreado principalmente midiendo lo que es más visible y fácil de contar: por ejemplo, cuánta agua hay disponible por persona y si los hogares tienen acceso a servicios de agua potable. Estas son métricas importantes que han ayudado a informar la política del agua a nivel mundial. Sin embargo, nos dicen sorprendentemente poco sobre si las personas pueden obtener agua de manera consistente para satisfacer sus necesidades cotidianas.¹

Considere un hogar que cuenta con una conexión de agua entubada. De acuerdo con las medidas estándar, se consideraría que se cumplen las necesidades de servicio básico. Pero si el agua llega sólo unas pocas horas al día, o se considera insegura para beber o cocinar, el suministro no es suficiente para satisfacer las necesidades de la familia. Estas brechas en disponibilidad y adecuación, invisibilizadas bajo las métricas convencionales, determinan si los servicios de agua contribuyen al bienestar de las personas.

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Agregar una dimensión humana a la medición del agua

Las escalas de Experiencias de Inseguridad Hídrica (WISE) se desarrollaron para complementar y construir sobre los indicadores de agua existentes.² Mientras que las métricas convencionales nos dicen qué servicios de agua existen, las escalas WISE preguntan directamente a las personas si pueden acceder de manera confiable a esos servicios y si el agua disponible es suficiente para satisfacer las necesidades básicas.³

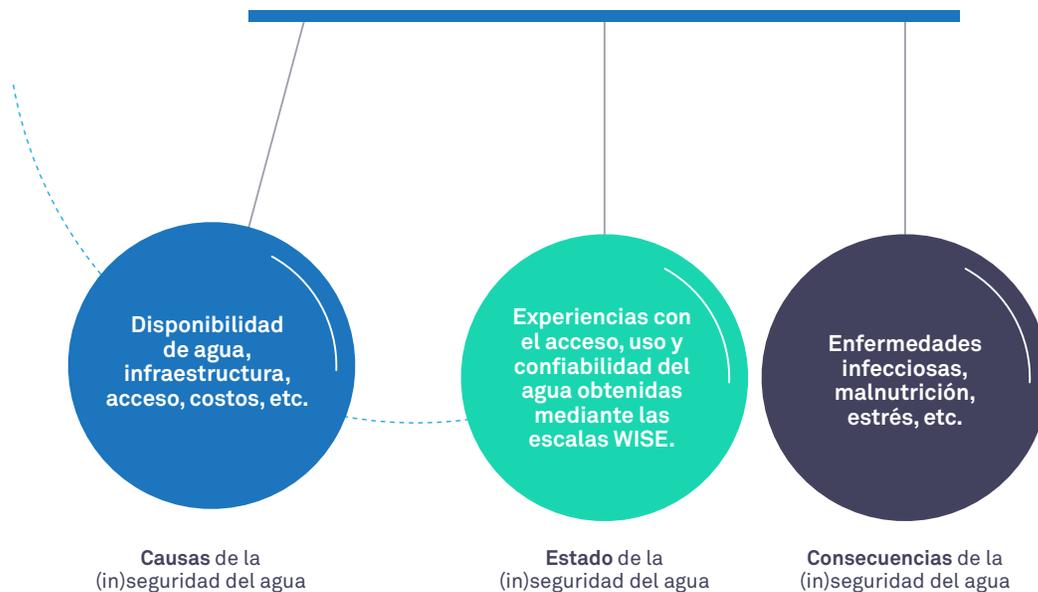


figura 1 La inseguridad del agua es un concepto amplio que puede medirse de muchas maneras. Las Escalas WISE miden el estado de (in)seguridad del agua (centro), que es impulsado por muchos factores (izquierda) y tiene muchas consecuencias (derecha).

Estas herramientas proporcionan un panorama más completo de la seguridad del agua, definida como el acceso confiable y suficiente al agua para la satisfacción de necesidades básicas cotidianas.³ Las escalas de 12 ítems, validadas para su uso en países de ingresos bajos, medios y altos,¹⁵ se pueden aplicar a nivel de hogar (Escala HWISE),⁴ o individual (Escala IWISE).⁵ Las preguntas fueron diseñadas para capturar experiencias universales que surgen cuando el agua es problemática: dificultades para beber, cocinar y realizar actividades de higiene – incluyendo el lavado de manos y el baño – así como las consecuencias emocionales que resultan de tener dificultades con el agua, como la preocupación y la frustración (Figura 2). La lista completa de preguntas se encuentra disponible en el [Apéndice 1](#).



figura 2 Los 12 ítems (preguntas) en la Escala de Experiencias Individuales de Inseguridad del Agua (IWISE) consultan sobre experiencias adversas causadas por problemas con el agua. La redacción completa y el proceso de puntaje para las Escalas WISE se pueden encontrar en el [Apéndice 1](#). Las Escalas han sido traducidas a docenas de idiomas y son de [acceso gratuito en línea](#). Figura reproducida de una publicación anterior).⁶

La implementación de las escalas WISE toma sólo tres minutos, y generan información detallada acerca de los tipos y frecuencia de desafíos relacionados con el agua que enfrentan las personas.⁷ Además, las respuestas se pueden usar para clasificar a individuos u hogares en función del nivel de inseguridad hídrica que experimentan; nula a marginal, baja, moderada o alta.⁸

Dada su utilidad demostrada, la escala IWISE se ha incorporado en múltiples rondas de la Encuesta Mundial Gallup⁹, proporcionando datos de inseguridad del agua representativos a nivel nacional que permiten hacer comparaciones al interior del país y entre países. Los detalles sobre la metodología de la Encuesta Mundial Gallup están disponibles en el [Apéndice 2](#).

imagen 1 [DtMF!](#)

Inseguridad del agua en las Américas

Este folleto reúne imágenes instantáneas de datos ([DtMF!](#)) representativos a nivel nacional acerca de la accesibilidad, suficiencia y confiabilidad del agua en 17 países de las Américas – desde Chile hasta Canadá. Las estimaciones de seis países aparecieron en una publicación anterior¹⁰, ahora se presentan con mayor detalle utilizando puntos de corte recientemente establecidos para clasificar los niveles de inseguridad hídrica.⁸ Además, los datos de 11 países muestreados en la Encuesta Mundial Gallup 2025 se publican aquí por primera vez.

Estos hallazgos representan sólo una parte de un trabajo mayor en torno a la inseguridad hídrica en toda la región. Estos hallazgos representan sólo una parte de un trabajo mayor en torno a la inseguridad hídrica en toda la región. Central a este esfuerzo es la Red de Experiencias de Inseguridad del Agua–América Latina y el Caribe (WISE-LAC), cuyos miembros están activamente comprometidos con investigación, políticas e incidencia para el avance de la seguridad del agua. Más información en: <https://wiselac.iberomx/>.



Puede ver la cobertura en video de los datos de WISE en las Américas por Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) en: <https://tinyurl.com/WISEAmericas2026>



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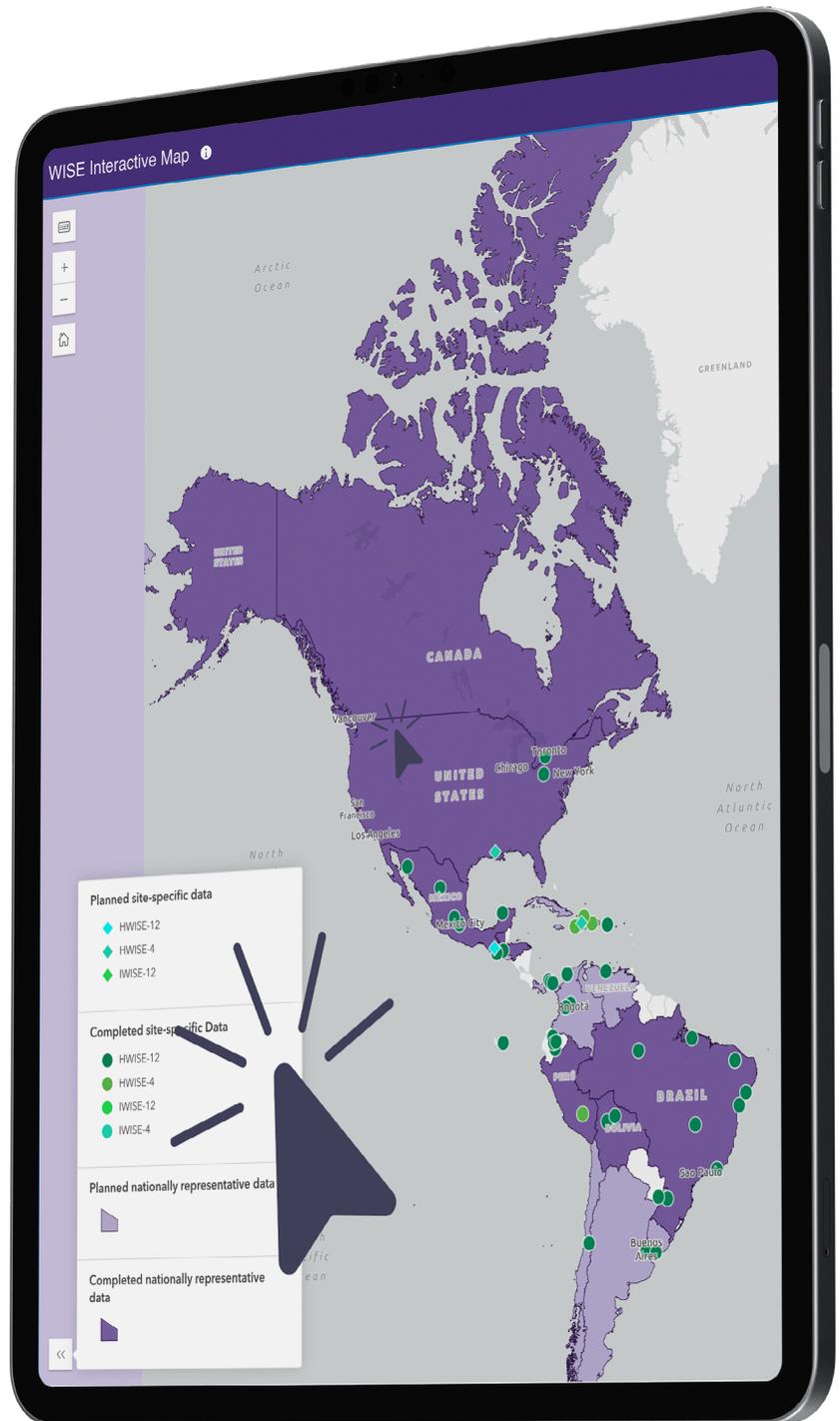
figura 3 [La Red WISE-LAC](#) fue fundada en la Universidad Iberoamericana en abril de 2023, en una reunión a la que asistieron 60 representantes de toda la región. Poco después de esta reunión, todos los miembros publicaron una declaración sobre la importancia de medir las experiencias con alimentos y agua.¹¹

Apenas el comienzo

Los datos presentados aquí son un punto de partida. Los resultados de la Encuesta Mundial Gallup para países adicionales estarán disponibles a lo largo del año, y continuaremos compartiéndolos.

Esta información proporciona la base para una investigación más profunda acerca del alcance de la inseguridad hídrica- y las estrategias para reducir su carga. A lo largo de la región y alrededor del mundo, individuos y organizaciones están utilizando las escalas WISE para evaluar los efectos de la inseguridad hídrica en la salud, identificar los factores que la impulsan, y señalar las poblaciones en mayor riesgo, así construir una base de evidencia necesaria para mejorar políticas y prácticas. Estos datos aportan conocimientos de impacto necesarios para incidir en el cambio e impulsar un progreso significativo.

figura 4 Un mapa interactivo, que indica regiones y sitios donde se han recopilado datos WISE, está disponible aquí: <https://arcg.is/1jyDG00>.



En el horizonte

Se han planeado varios eventos relacionados con WISE alrededor del mundo.

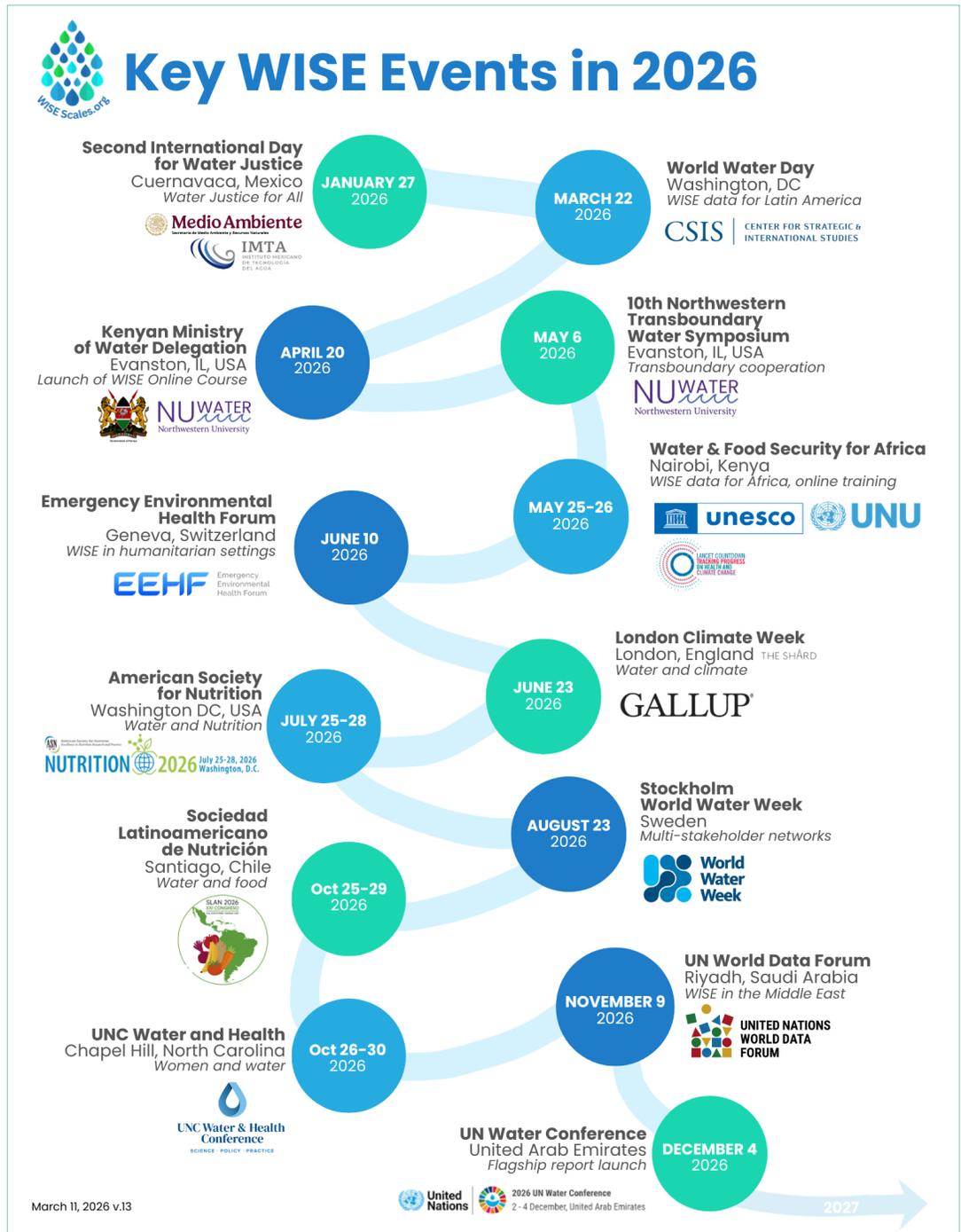


figura 5 Las actividades relacionadas con WISE incluyen la creación de un módulo de capacitación interactivo con la Universidad de las Naciones Unidas, el lanzamiento de la red WISE en África y actividades de difusión de datos a nivel mundial.

 Haz clic aquí para ir a los perfiles de los países

A necessidade de novas métricas hídricas

O progresso em direção à água segura para todos tem sido rastreado principalmente medindo o que é mais visível e mais fácil de contar – como quanta água está disponível por pessoa e se os domicílios têm acesso a serviços aprimorados de água potável. Essas são métricas importantes que já ajudaram a informar a política da água globalmente. Mas elas nos dizem surpreendentemente pouco sobre se as pessoas conseguem obter, de forma confiável, água o suficiente para atender suas necessidades diárias.¹

Considere um domicílio com ligação de água encanada. Pelas medidas padrão, as necessidades básicas de serviço seriam consideradas atendidas. Mas se a água flui apenas algumas horas por dia, ou é considerada insegura para beber ou cozinhar, esse serviço fica aquém do que a família precisa para prosperar. Essas lacunas na disponibilidade e na adequação – invisíveis nas métricas convencionais – determinam se os serviços de água sustentam vidas saudáveis.

Além disso, as medidas existentes tendem a ser coletadas no nível domiciliar ou nacional, o que dificulta determinar quem, dentro de um domicílio, suporta a maior parte do fardo. As estruturas de monitoramento global atuais não conseguem captar de que forma o acesso à água varia por gênero, idade, status de deficiência ou origem racial e étnica. Para projetar políticas eficazes e abordar desigualdades, precisamos saber não apenas se a água está disponível, mas *quem* pode (ou não) acessá-la.

Adicionando uma dimensão humana à medição hídrica

As Escalas de Experiências de Insegurança da Água (WISE) foram desenvolvidas para complementar e construir sobre os indicadores hídricos existentes.² Enquanto as métricas convencionais nos dizem quais serviços hídricos existem, as Escalas WISE perguntam diretamente às pessoas se elas conseguem acessar esses serviços de forma confiável e se a água disponível é suficiente para atender às necessidades básicas.³

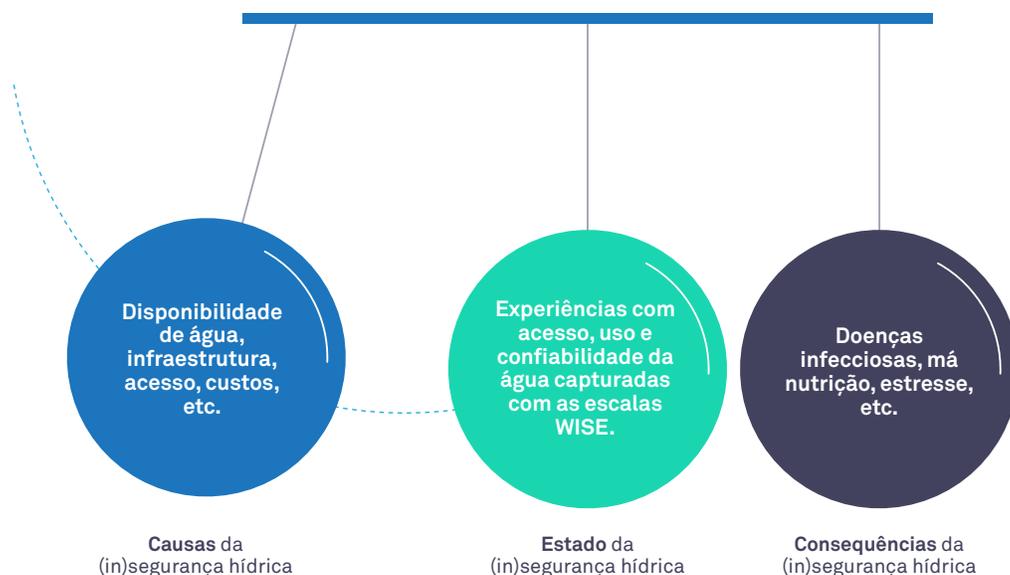


figura 1 A insegurança hídrica é um conceito amplo que pode ser medido de diversas maneiras. As Escalas WISE medem o estado de (in)segurança hídrica (centro), que é impulsionado por diversos fatores (à esquerda) e tem múltiplas consequências (à direita).

Essas ferramentas fornecem uma visão mais completa da segurança hídrica.³ As escalas de 12 itens, validadas para uso em países de renda baixa, média e alta,¹⁵ podem ser aplicadas no nível domiciliar Escala HWISE,⁴ ou individual (Escala IWISE).⁵ As perguntas foram elaboradas para capturar experiências universais que surgem quando a água é problemático: dificuldades para beber, cozinhar e manter a higiene – incluindo lavar as mãos e tomar banho – bem como as consequências emocionais dos desafios relacionados à água, como preocupação e frustração. A redação completa das perguntas está disponível no [Apêndice 1](#).



figura 2 Os 12 itens (perguntas) na Escala de Experiências Individuais de Insegurança Hídrica (IWISE) investigam experiências adversas causadas por problemas com água. A redação completa e o processo de pontuação para as Escalas WISE podem ser encontrados no [Apêndice 1](#). As Escalas foram traduzidas para dezenas de idiomas e estão [disponíveis gratuitamente online](#). Figura reproduzida de uma publicação anterior.⁶

Levando apenas três minutos para implementar, as Escalas WISE geram informações detalhadas sobre os tipos e frequência dos desafios relacionados à água que as pessoas enfrentam.⁷ Além disso, as respostas podem ser usadas para classificar indivíduos ou domicílios como enfrentando insegurança hídrica marginal, baixa, moderada, ou alta.⁸

Dada sua utilidade demonstrada, a Escala IWISE foi incorporada em várias rodadas da Pesquisa Mundial Gallup⁹, fornecendo dados nacionalmente representativos sobre a insegurança hídrica que podem ser comparados dentro e entre países. Detalhes sobre a metodologia da Pesquisa Mundial Gallup estão disponíveis no [Apêndice 2](#).



imagem 1 DtMF!

Insegurança hídrica nas Américas

Este livreto reúne retratos (DtMF!) de dados nacionalmente representativos sobre o acesso, suficiência e a confiabilidade da água em 17 países das Américas – do Chile ao Canadá. Embora 6 dessas estimativas nacionais já tenham aparecido em uma publicação anterior¹⁰, elas agora estão sendo apresentadas com maior nível de detalhe, usando pontos de corte recém estabelecidos para classificar os níveis de insegurança hídrica.⁸ Além disso, dados de 11 países incluídos na Pesquisa Mundial Gallup de 2025 estão sendo publicados aqui pela primeira vez.

Essas descobertas representam apenas uma parte de um conjunto muito maior, e em expansão, de trabalhos sobre a insegurança hídrica na região. Um elemento central desse esforço é a Rede de Experiências de Insegurança da Água–América Latina e Caribe (WISE-LAC), cujos membros estão ativamente engajados em pesquisa, formação de políticas e advocacia para promover a segurança hídrica. Saiba mais em: <https://wiselac.ibero.mx/>.

Você pode assistir a uma apresentação em vídeo dos dados do WISE nas Américas, produzido pelo Centro de Estudos Estratégicos e Internacionais (CSIS), disponível em: <https://tinyurl.com/WISEAmericas2026>

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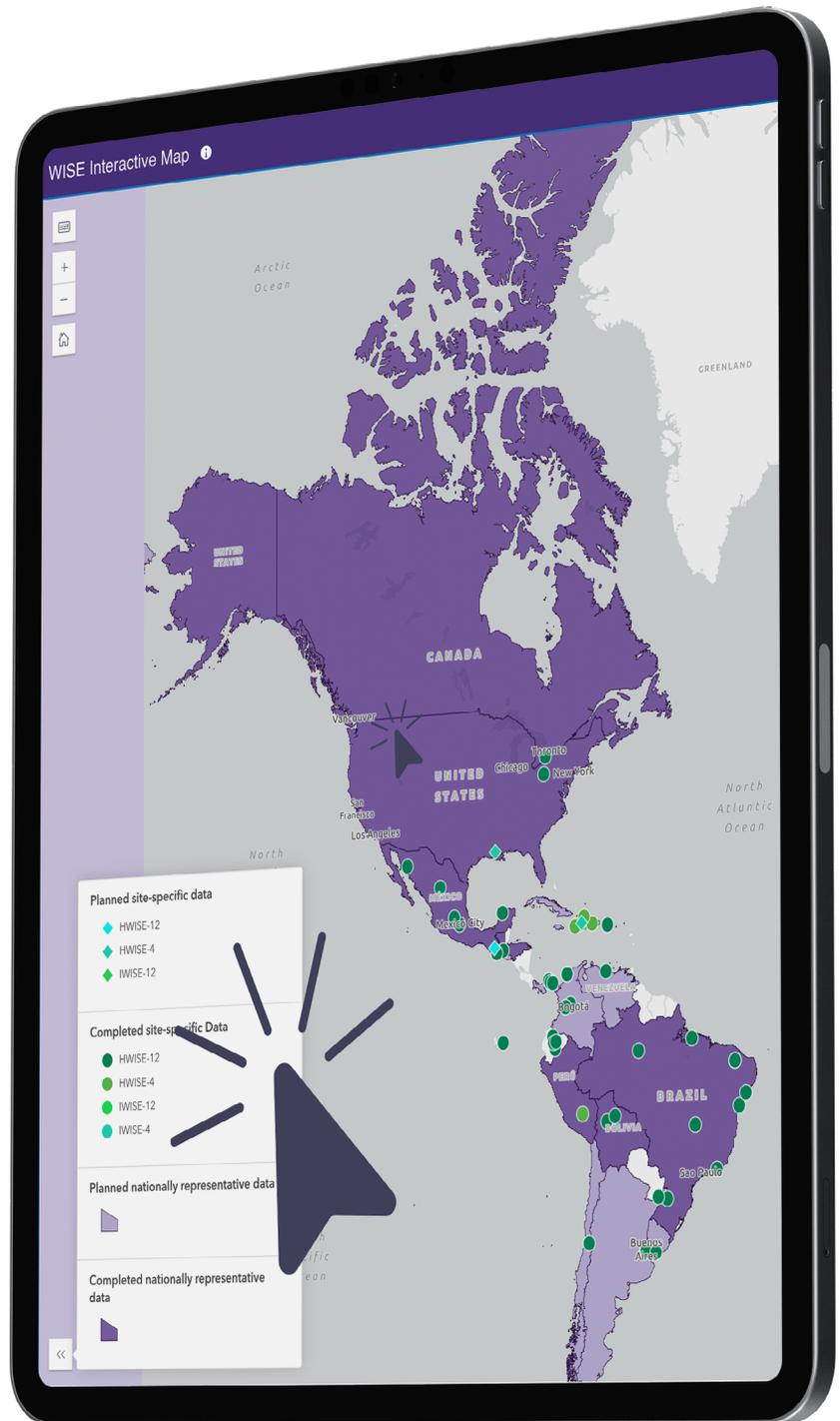
figura 3 A Rede WISE-LAC foi fundada na Universidad Iberoamericana em abril de 2023, em uma reunião que contou com a participação de 60 representantes de toda a região. Pouco depois, todos os membros publicaram uma declaração sobre a importância de medir as experiências com alimentos e água.¹¹

Apenas o começo

Os dados apresentados aqui são um ponto de partida. Os resultados da Pesquisa Mundial Gallup para regiões adicionais estarão disponíveis ao longo do ano, e continuaremos compartilhando-os.

Esta informação fornece a base para uma investigação mais profunda sobre o alcance da insegurança hídrica – e estratégias para reduzir seu impacto. Através da região e ao redor do mundo, indivíduos e organizações estão usando as Escalas WISE para avaliar os efeitos da insegurança hídrica na saúde, identificar os fatores que a impulsionam, e apontar populações em maior risco, deste modo construir a base de evidências necessária para melhorar políticas e práticas. Esses dados fornecem informações relevantes e necessárias para defender mudanças e impulsionar progresso significativo.

figura 4 Um mapa interativo, que indica países e locais onde foram coletados dados do WISE, está disponível aqui: <https://arcg.is/1jyDG00>.



No Horizonte

Vários eventos relacionados ao WISE estão planejados ao redor do mundo.

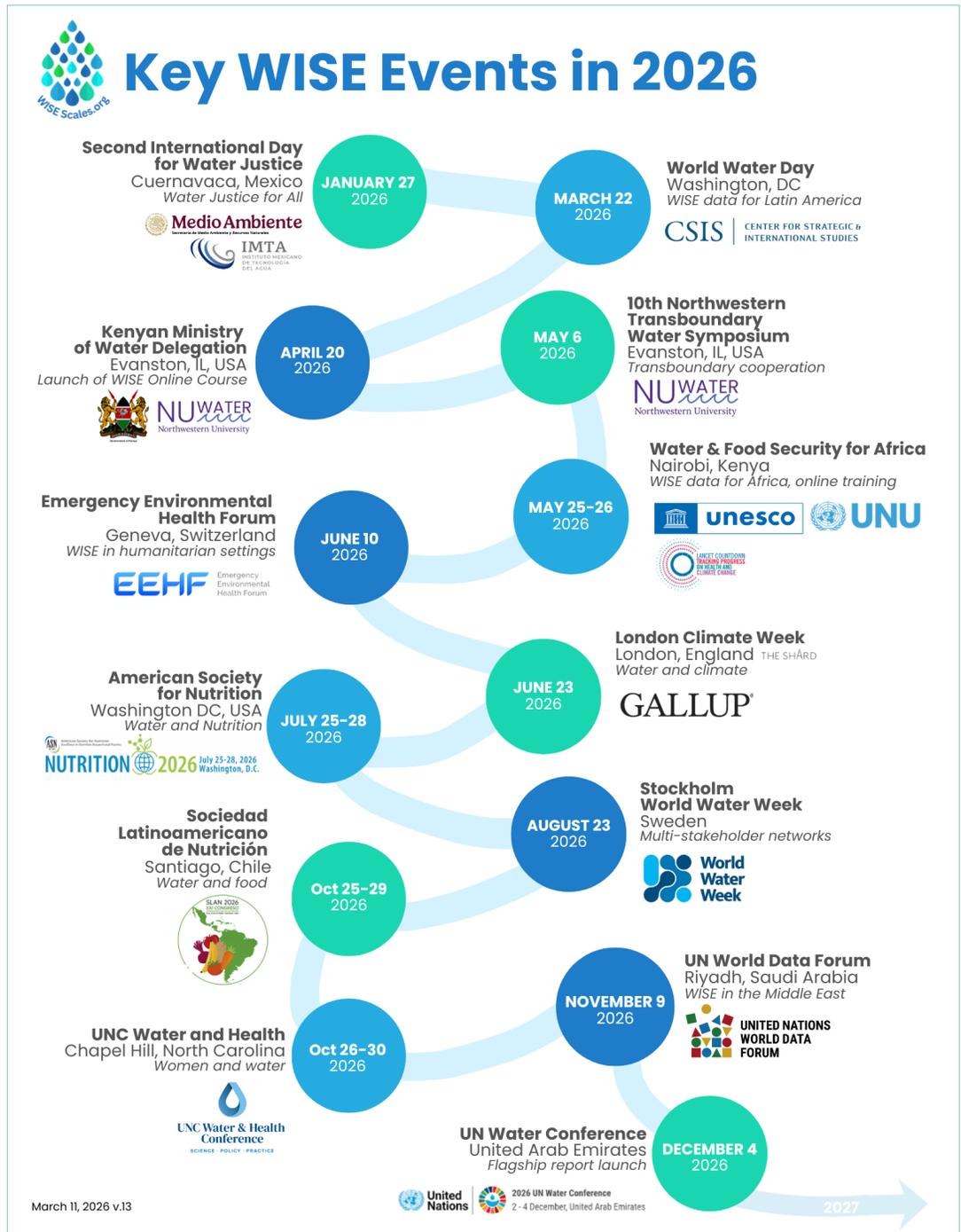


figura 5 As atividades relacionadas ao WISE incluem a criação de um módulo de treinamento interativo com a Universidade das Nações Unidas, o lançamento da rede WISE na África e atividades de disseminação de dados globalmente.

A photograph of two young girls in a rural, agricultural setting. The girl in the foreground is wearing a patterned sweater and a dark skirt, carrying two large, light-colored plastic water jugs. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. Another girl is visible behind her, also carrying a water jug. The background shows a field of tall grass or crops. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal color.

2

Country snapshots

Water Insecurity Experiences in Argentina

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

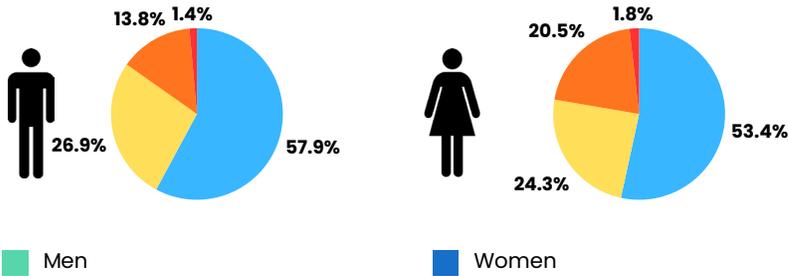
How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Argentina?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

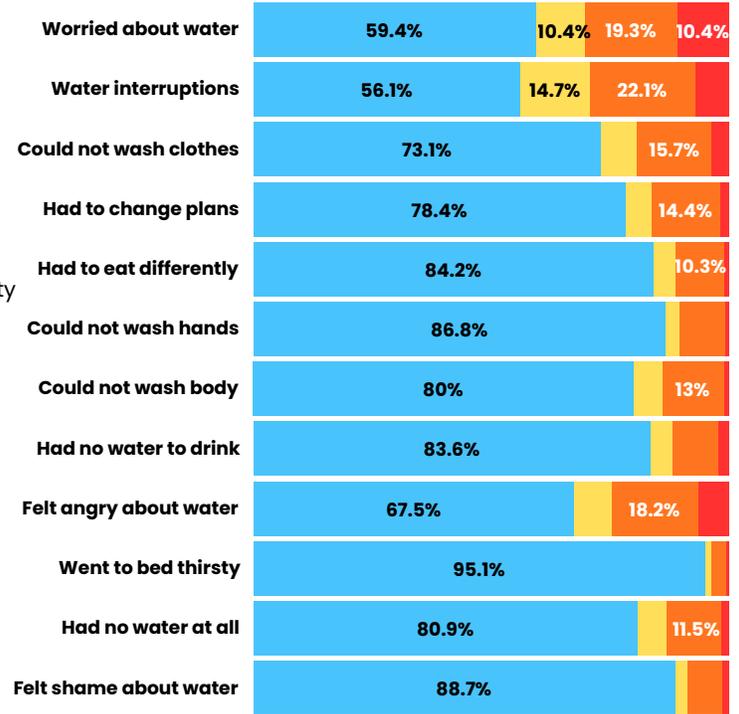
Per capita household income quintiles



19.0% of Argentinian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Argentina?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

www.WISEscales.org

✉ WISE_scales@northwestern.edu

¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 999 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Argentinian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Bolivia

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

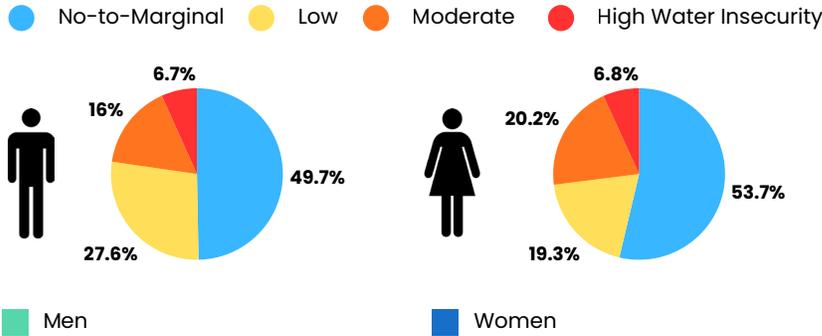
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Bolivia?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

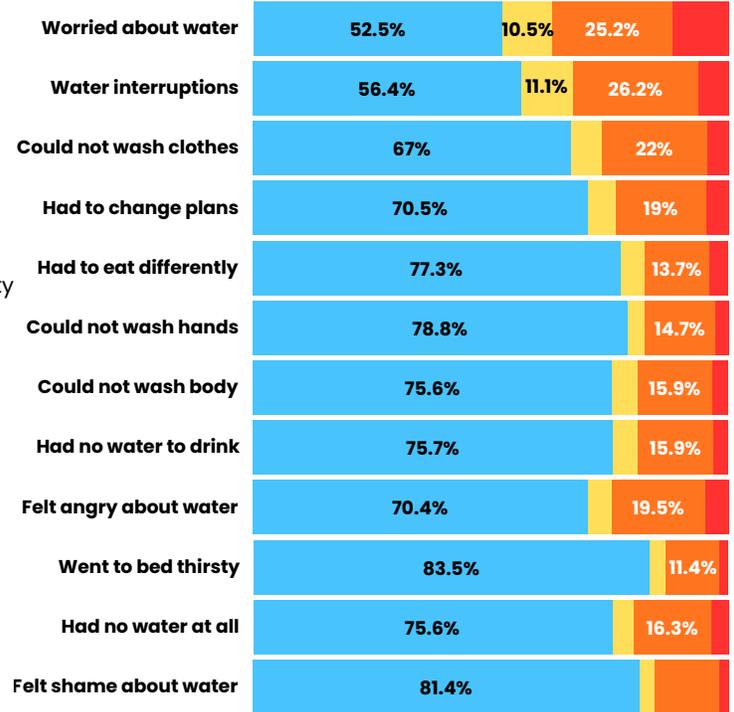
Per capita household income quintiles



24.9% of Bolivian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Bolivia?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

- Never
- In 1 or 2 months
- In Some but Not Every Month
- Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 996 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Bolivian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Brazil

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

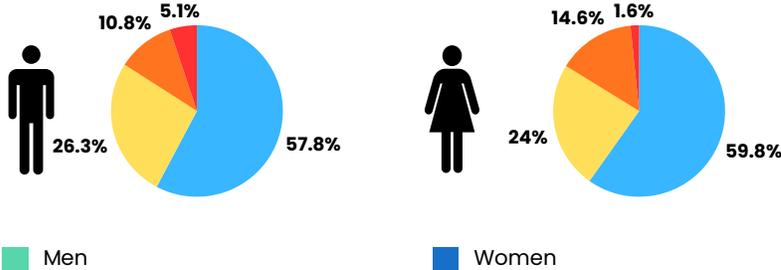
How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Brazil?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGRUBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

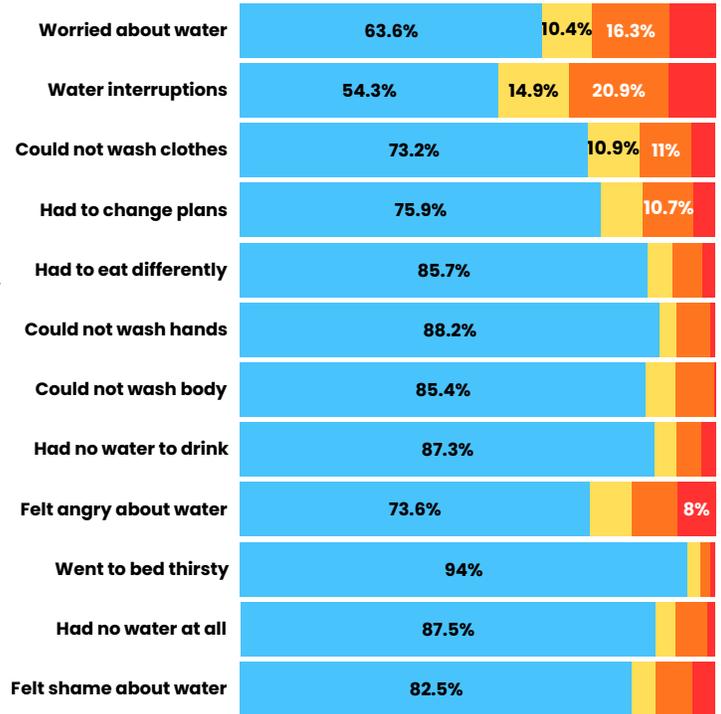
Per capita household income quintiles



16.1% of Brazilian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2020¹

How does water insecurity look in Brazil?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1003 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Brazilian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Canada

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

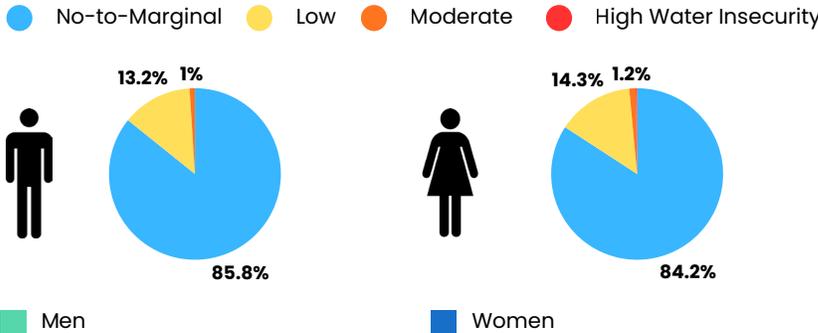
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Canada?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGRUBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

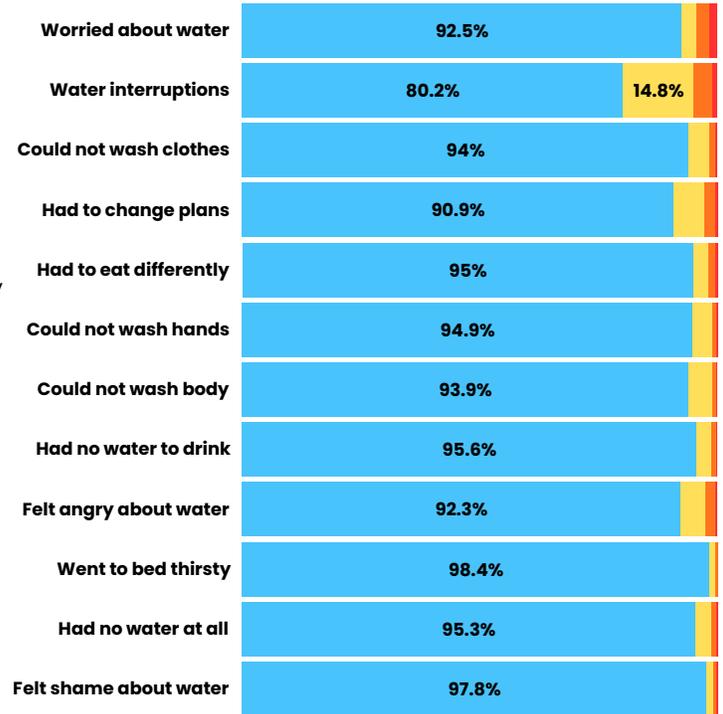
Per capita household income quintiles



1.3% of Canadian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Canada?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed



These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1014 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Canadian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Chile

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

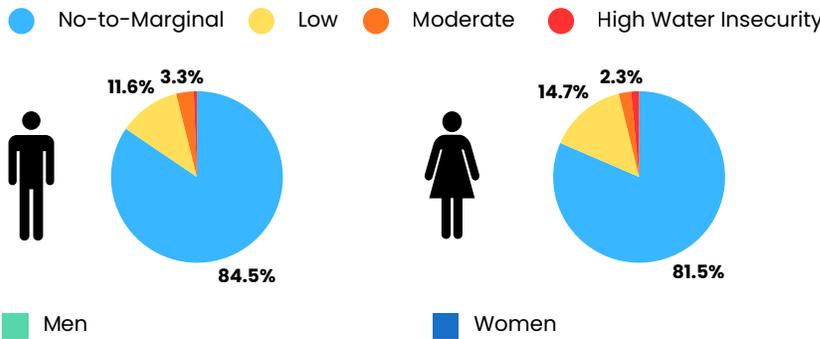
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Chile?

By Sex

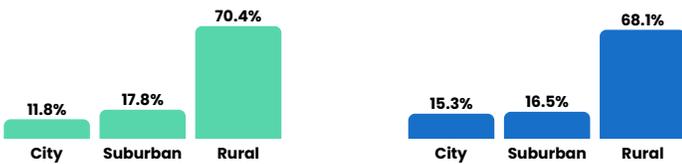


By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

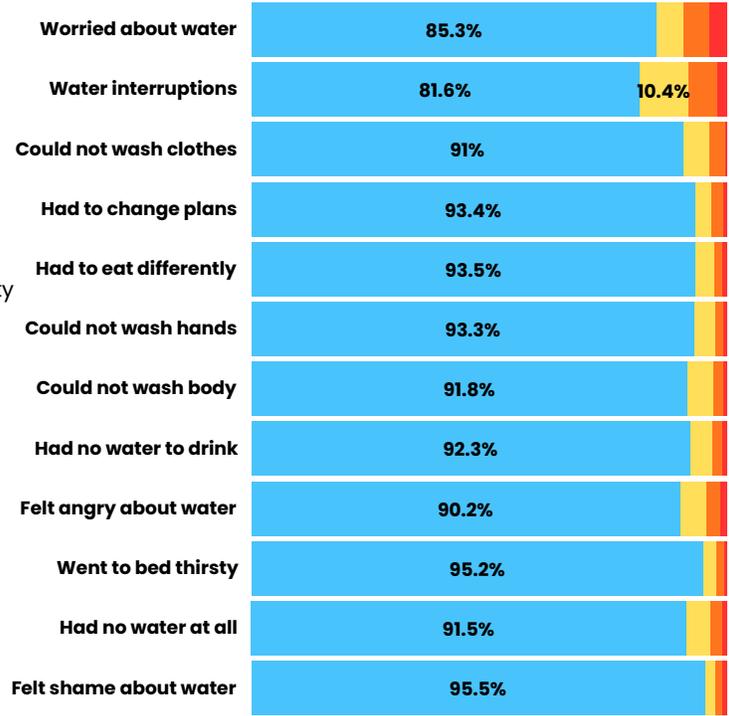
Per capita household income quintiles



3.8% of Chilean adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Chile?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed



These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 996 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Chilean population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. *BMJ Global Health* 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Colombia

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

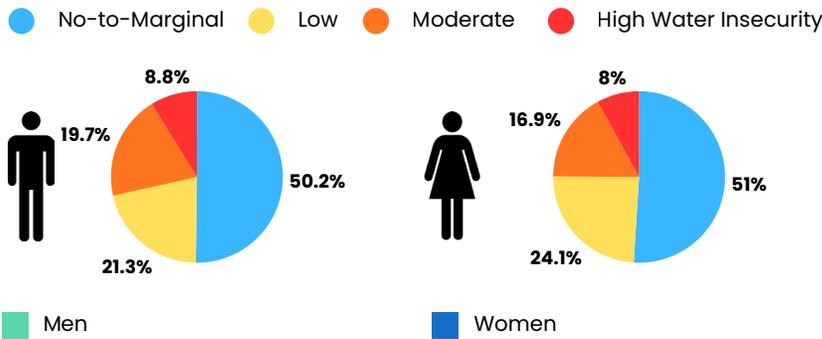
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Colombia?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

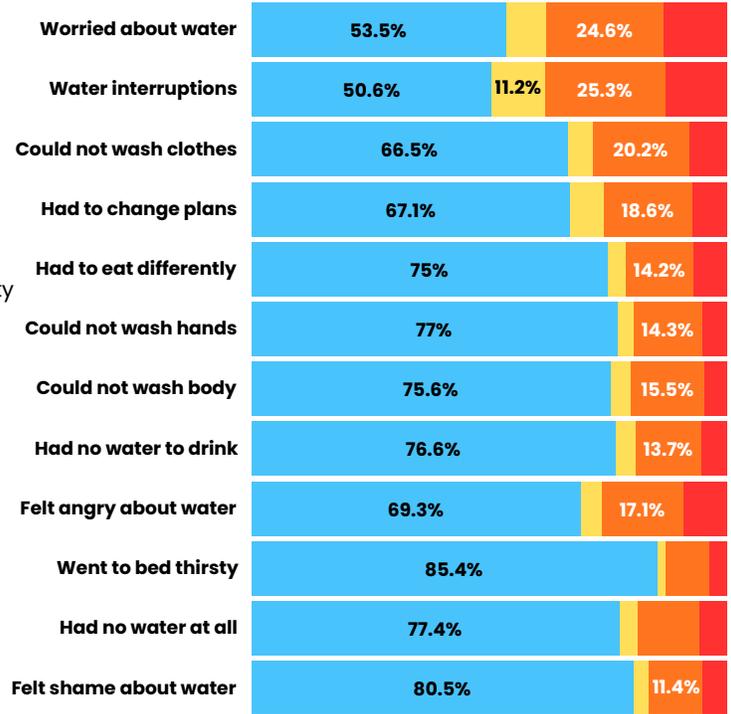
Per capita household income quintiles



26.6% of Colombian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Colombia?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

Legend: Never (blue), In 1 or 2 months (yellow), In Some but Not Every Month (orange), Almost Every Month (red)

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 998 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Colombian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in The Dominican Republic

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

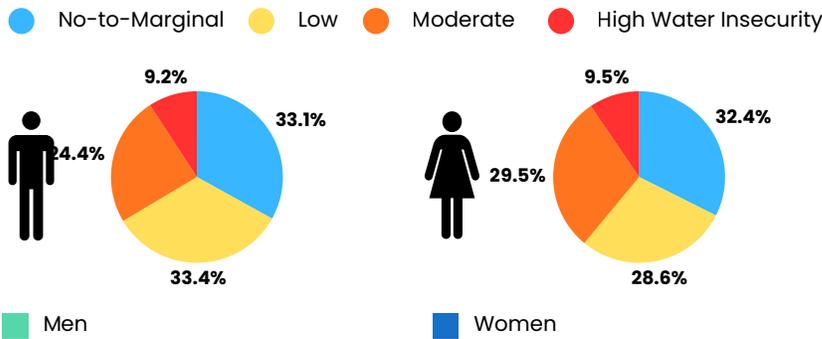
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in The Dominican Republic?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on self-reported urbanicity



By Wealth⁴

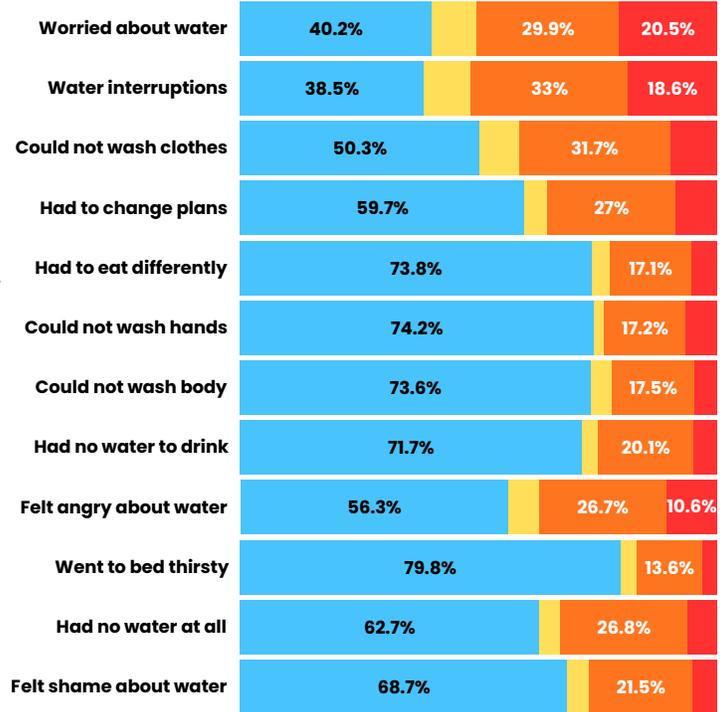
Per capita household income quintiles



36.4% of Dominican adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in The Dominican Republic?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed



These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1000 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Dominican population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in El Salvador

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

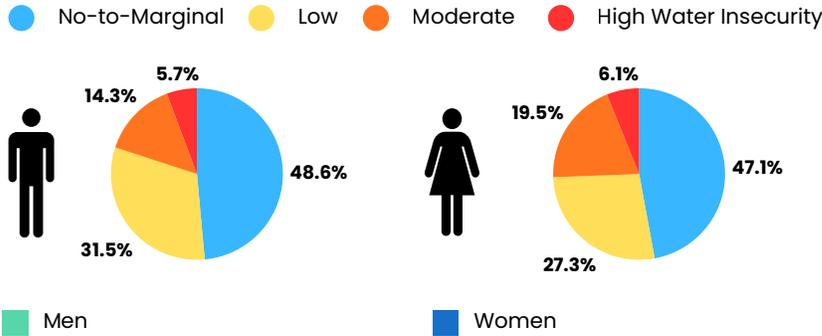
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in El Salvador?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on self-reported urbanicity



By Wealth⁴

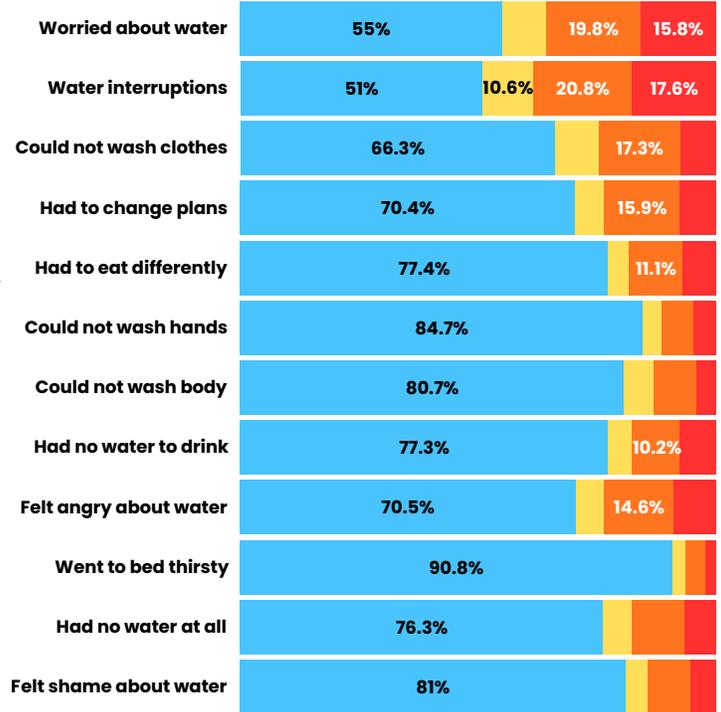
Per capita household income quintiles



23.1% of Salvadoran adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in El Salvador?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

Legend: Never (blue), In 1 or 2 months (yellow), In Some but Not Every Month (orange), Almost Every Month (red)

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1001 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Salvadoran population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Guatemala

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

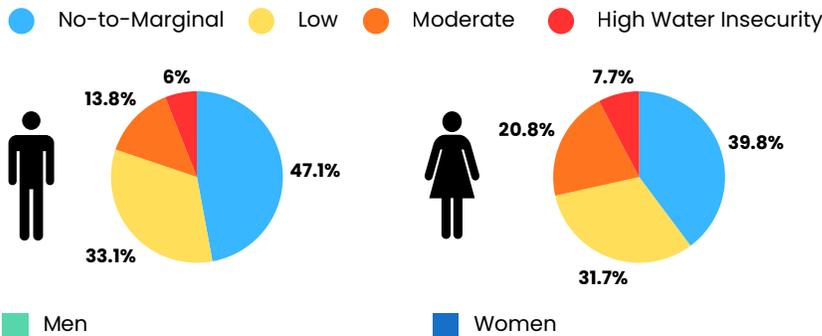
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Guatemala?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

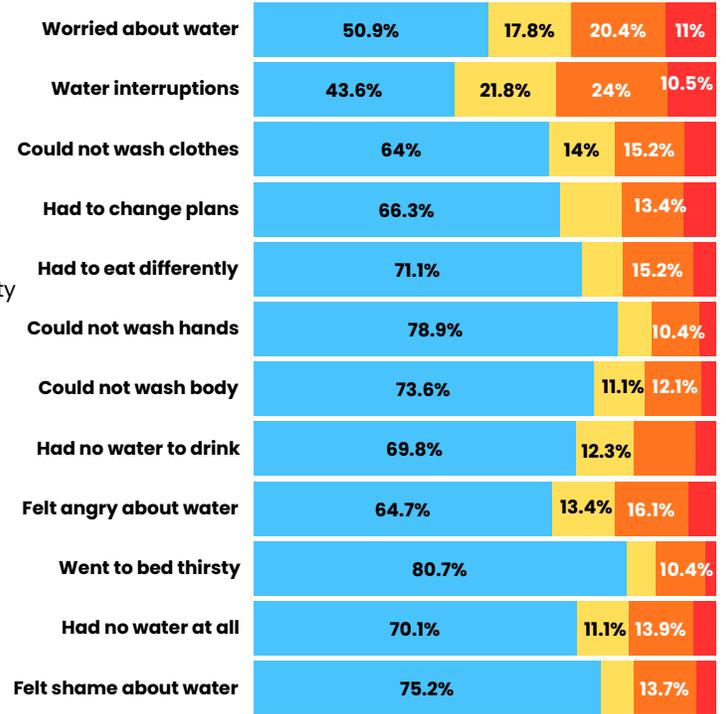
Per capita household income quintiles



24.2% of Guatemalan adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2020¹

How does water insecurity look in Guatemala?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

Legend: Never (blue), In 1 or 2 months (yellow), In Some but Not Every Month (orange), Almost Every Month (red)

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1145 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Guatemalan population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Honduras

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

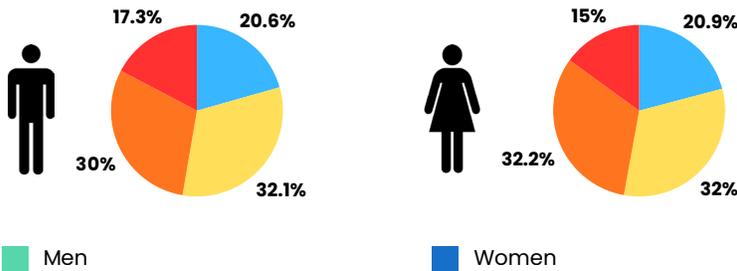
How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Honduras?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



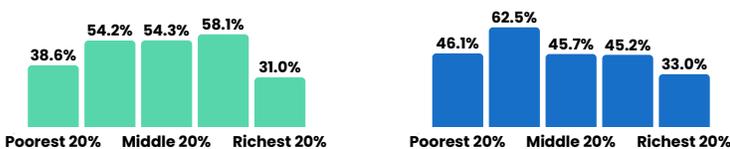
By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

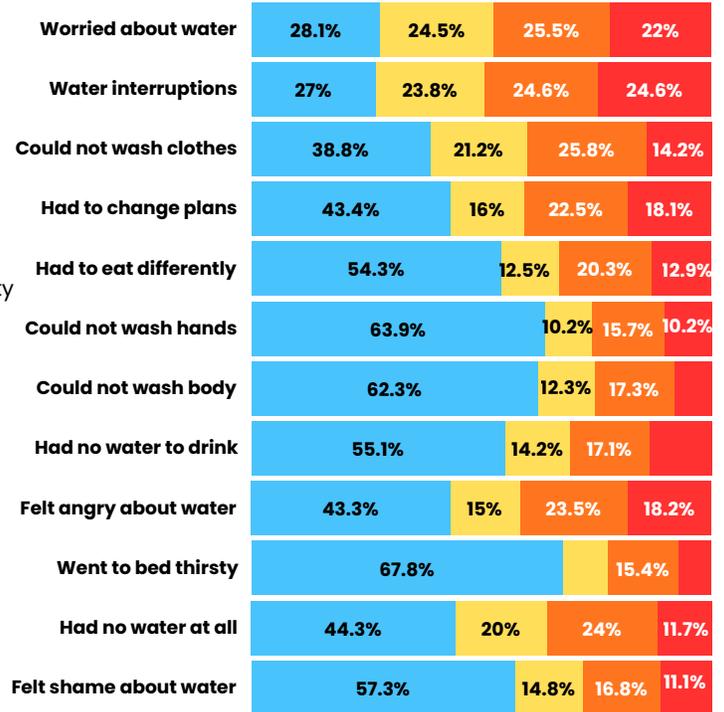
Per capita household income quintiles



47.2% of Honduran adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2020¹

How does water insecurity look in Honduras?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In 1 or 2 months ● In Some but Not Every Month ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

www.WISEscales.org

✉ WISE_scales@northwestern.edu

¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 986 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Honduran population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Jamaica

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

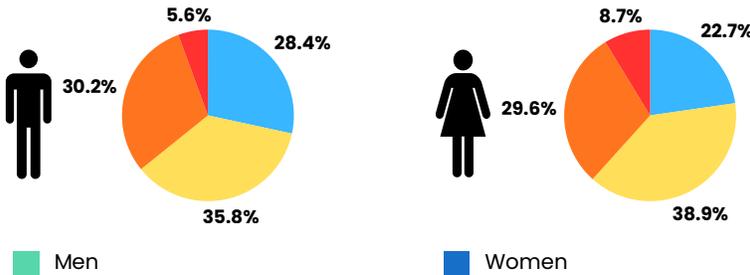
How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Jamaica?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



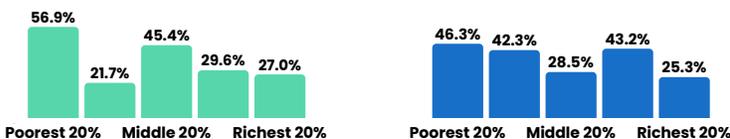
By Urbanicity⁴

Based on self-reported urbanicity



By Wealth⁴

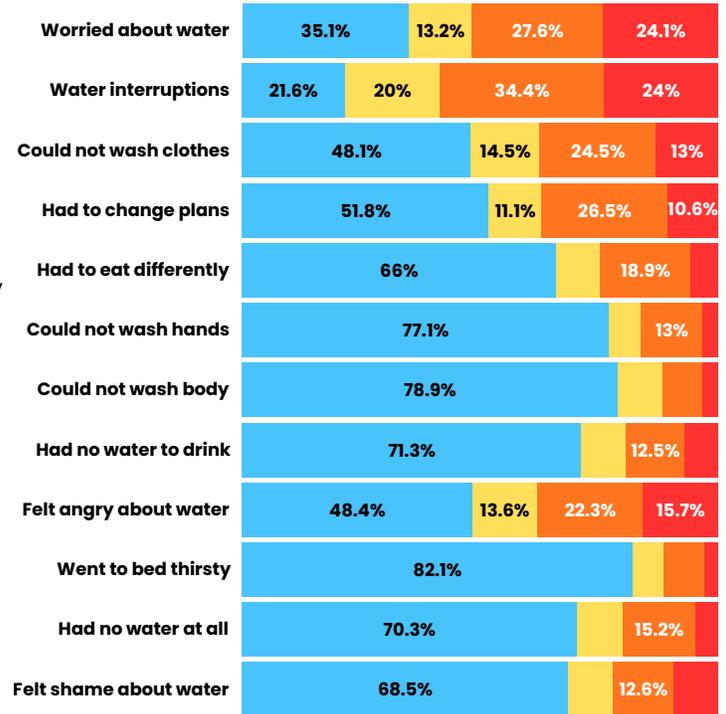
Per capita household income quintiles



37.2% of Jamaican adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Jamaica?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

www.WISEscales.org

✉ WISE_scales@northwestern.edu

¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 500 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Jamaican population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Panama

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

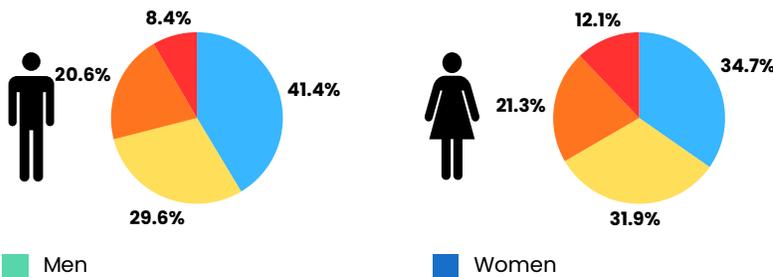
How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Panama?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

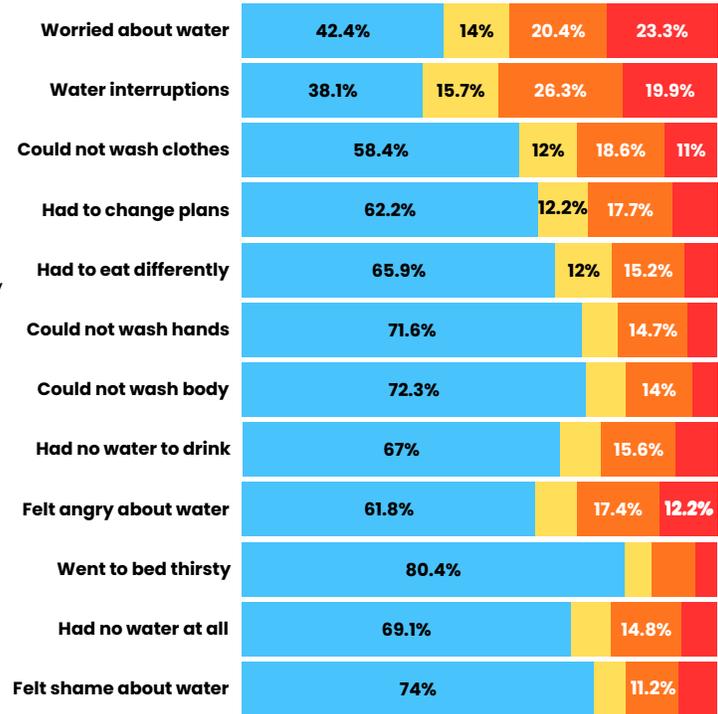
Per capita household income quintiles



31.3% of Panamanian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Panama?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 988 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Panamanian population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. *BMJ Global Health* 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Peru

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

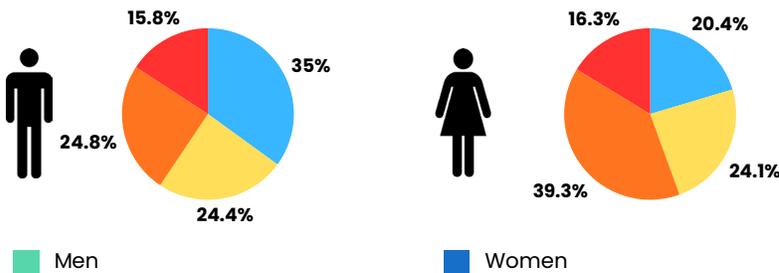
How was water insecurity measured?

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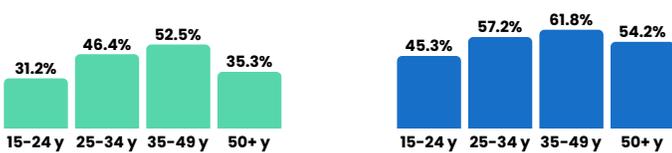
Who is water insecure in Peru?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



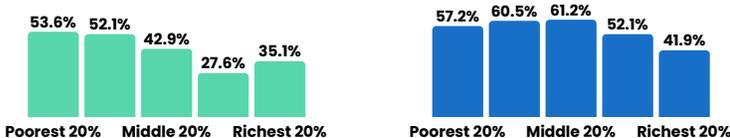
By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

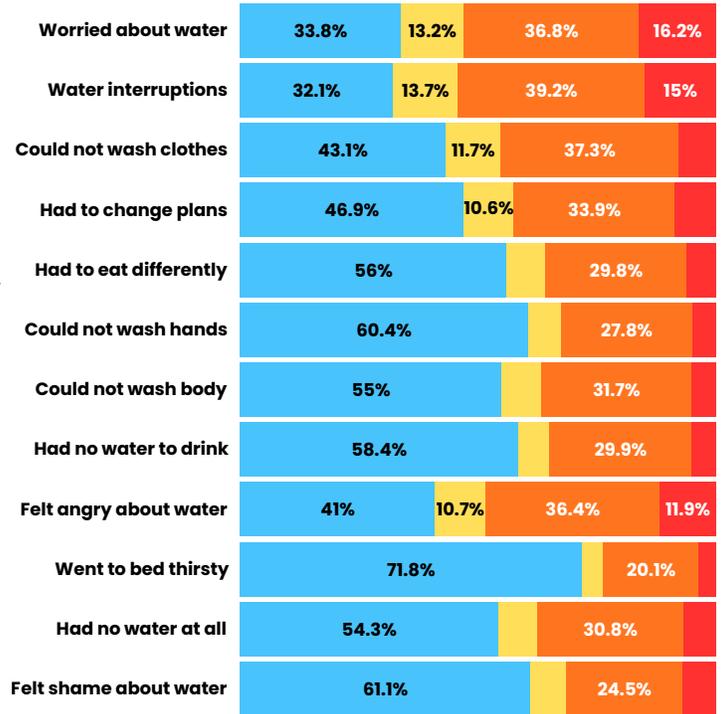
Per capita household income quintiles



48.2% of Peruvian adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2022¹

How does water insecurity look in Peru?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

www.WISEscales.org

✉ WISE_scales@northwestern.edu

¹Each of the 12 Individual Water Insecurity Experiences Scale items are scored 0 (never), 1 (1-2 months), 2 (some but not all months), or 3 (almost every month) in the last year, for a total score range of 0-36. The scores 0-2, 3-11, 12-23, and 24-36 represent no-to-low, mild, moderate, and high water insecurity categories, respectively.

²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1000 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Peruvian population ≥15 years in 2022.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in the United States

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

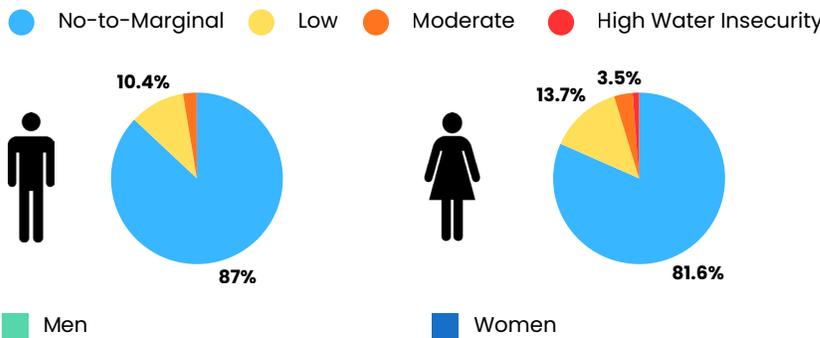
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in the United States?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on Degurba data reports



By Wealth⁴

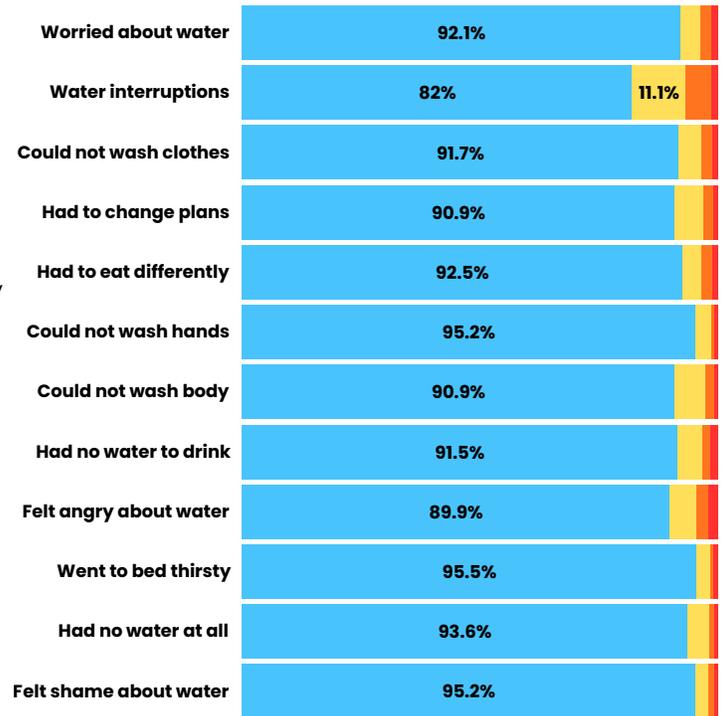
Per capita household income quintiles



3.7% of American adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2022¹

How does water insecurity look in the United States?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed



These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 1003 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized American population ≥15 years in 2022.
³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.
⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Uruguay

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

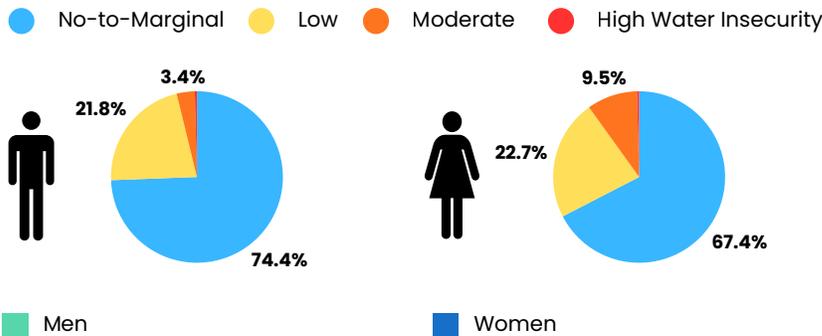
were measured among nationally representative samples of adults in 80 countries² in a partnership between Gallup World Poll, Northwestern University, & others. Experiential data tell us how water “shows up” in individuals’ lives, and are therefore complementary to conventional supply-side indicators, like water availability and infrastructure.

How was water insecurity measured?

The Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale, a rigorously validated, 12-question survey³, was asked of each participant. The user-side, gender-disaggregated insights provided by IWISE data offer a fresh perspective on water security.

Who is water insecure in Uruguay ?

By Sex



By Age⁴



By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEGURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

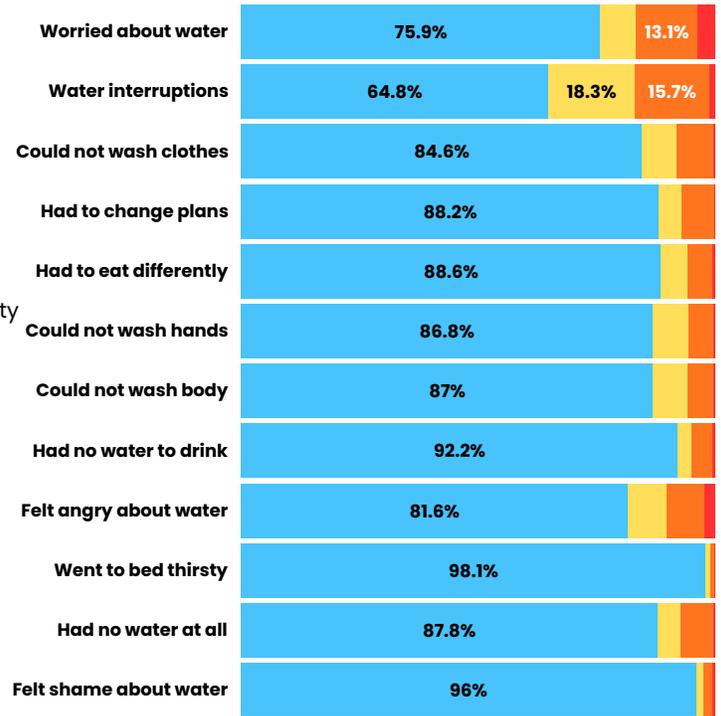
Per capita household income quintiles



7.0% of Uruguayan adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Uruguay?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed



These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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✉ WISE_scales@northwestern.edu

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 999 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Uruguayan population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Water Insecurity Experiences in Venezuela

Experiences with water access, use, & reliability

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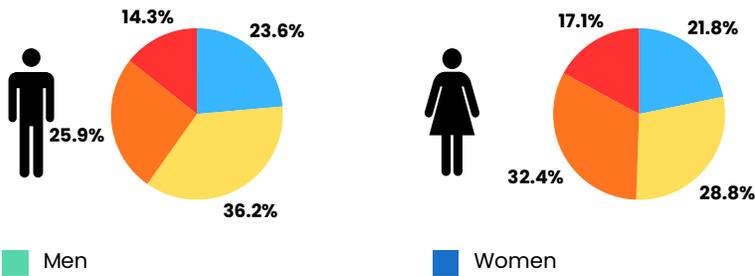
How was water insecurity measured?

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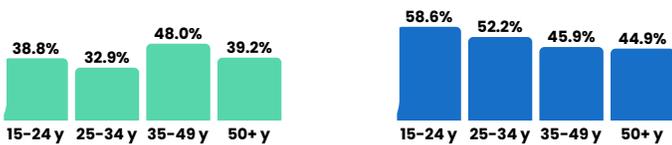
Who is water insecure in Venezuela?

By Sex

● No-to-Marginal ● Low ● Moderate ● High Water Insecurity



By Age⁴



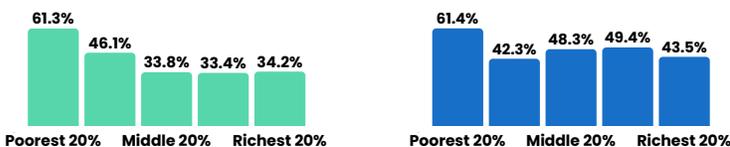
By Urbanicity⁴

Based on DEURBA data reports



By Wealth⁴

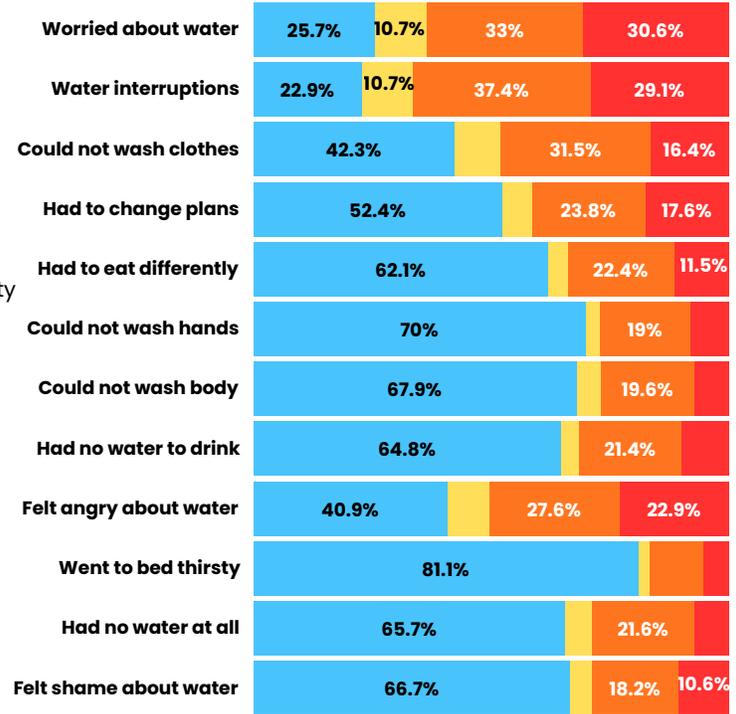
Per capita household income quintiles



44.9% of Venezuelan adults were moderately or highly water insecure in 2025¹

How does water insecurity look in Venezuela?

Respondents reported the following negative experiences due to water problems in the prior year.



*Proportions under 10% are not displayed

● Never ● In Some but Not Every Month
● In 1 or 2 months ● Almost Every Month

These data provide insights into the **prevalence and severity** of water insecurity that can guide **policymaking**, including resource allocation. The IWISE Scale can also be used to measure the **impact** of interventions, monitor **progress towards SDGs**, and increase **accountability**.

More information

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²Respondents were selected using probability-based sampling with post-stratification weights to ensure the 997 respondents were representative of the non-institutionalized Venezuelan population ≥15 years in 2025.

³Young et al. BMJ Global Health 2021; 6:e006460.

⁴Representative of moderate to high water insecurity

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Appendices

APPENDIX 1: WISE QUESTION PHRASING AND SCORING

Each item in the Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale is phrased to capture experiences that an individual has had in a particular recall period. (HWISE Scale items are similarly phrased, but ask about experiences for the entire household.) For the Gallup World Poll, the IWISE Scale is phrased to capture individual experiences in the prior year. Responses to items for a 1-year recall are: never (0 times), rarely (in 1-2 months), sometimes (in some but not every month), and often/ always (in almost every month). Never is scored as 0, rarely is scored as 1, sometimes is scored as 2, and often/ always is scored as 3.

These worksheets are available in multiple languages and can be downloaded [here](#).

LABEL	ITEM	SCORE
 Worry	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you worry that you would not have enough water for all of your needs?	
 Interrupt	Please think about where you get most of your water, such as a tap, well, borehole, bottled water, river, or stream. How often was this water source interrupted or limited in any way (e.g., water pressure, less water than expected, river dried up) during the last [4 weeks or 1 year]?	
 Clothes	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often could your clothes not be washed because of problems with water?	
 Plans	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you have to change schedules or plans because of problems with water? (Activities that may have been interrupted include caring for others, doing household chores, agricultural work, income-generating activities, sleeping, etc.)	
 Food	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you change what you ate because of problems with water (e.g., for washing foods, cooking, etc.)?	
 Hands	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often were you not able to wash your hands after dirty activities (e.g., defecating or changing diapers, cleaning animal dung) because of problems with water?	
 Body	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often were you not able to wash your body because of problems with water (e.g., not enough water, dirty, unsafe)?	
 Drink	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you not have as much water to drink as you would have liked?	
 Angry	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you feel angry because of problems you were experiencing with water?	
 Sleep	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you go to sleep thirsty because there was no water to drink?	
 None	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you have no useable or drinkable water whatsoever?	
 Shame	In the last [4 weeks or 1 year], how often did you feel shame because of problems you were experiencing with water?	
TOTAL		

For guidance on scale development and administration, including peer-reviewed papers and manuals, see www.WISEscales.org.

The [Gallup World Poll](#) was established in 2005 to systematically collect information on citizens' attitudes, behaviors, and well-being across more than 140 countries.

Within each country, the Gallup World Poll seeks to recruit a sample representative of the entire civilian, non-institutionalized population aged 15 years and older. Gallup interviews approximately 1,000 residents per country to achieve a 3% margin of error. Participants are asked the same questions, in the same way, with the same meaning, in their own language to produce comparable results. Typically, telephone surveys are used in countries where telephone coverage represents at least 80% of the population; where penetration falls below this threshold, face-to-face interviewing is used instead.

Since 2020, the Individual Water Insecurity Experiences (IWISE) Scale has been implemented in 76 countries across three rounds of the Gallup World Poll. Details on Gallup implementation of the IWISE Scale are available elsewhere.^{5,12,13}

In Mexico, nationally representative data have been collected in the Encuesta Nacional de Salud y Nutrición (ENSANUT) Survey annually since 2022, using the Household Water Insecurity Experiences (HWISE) Scale. Details on the methodology can be found here.¹⁴

In addition to IWISE, the variables also collected by Gallup and reported in this booklet include:

- **Gender:** Gender is classified by the interviewer; “man” or “woman” are the only options.
- **Age:** Self-reported age at the time of data collection. Only respondents aged 15 years and older are eligible per the Gallup World Poll sampling framework.
- **Urbanicity:** Respondents are classified as living in “cities”, “towns and suburbs”, or “rural areas” based on the Degree of Urbanization ([DEGURBA](#)) classification of settlement type.
- **Wealth:** The socioeconomic status of respondents is based on per capita self-reported household income level.

APPENDIX 3: CITATIONS

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4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

NIH National Institute
of Mental Health

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Reckett Global
Hygiene Institute

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

BE IN TOUCH

We are always happy to hear from you!

If you would like to join the Water Insecurity Experiences – Latin America and Caribbean network, simply send an email to WISE.LAC@ibero.mx.

You don't need to be in touch to use the open-access WISE Scales, but you might want to reach out if:

- You have any questions about scale implementation or data analysis
- You would like access to the nationally representative data on water insecurity experiences
- You have ideas for additional adventures in water (in)security
- You have [translations](#) or implementation experiences to share

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