



# Statistics

- **In some areas of the developing world, only 1% of households have soap for handwashing.** To make matters worse, even those who can find and afford soap often use improper hand washing technique. For far too many in the developing world, soap is a luxury.

*Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water: 2015 Update and MDG Assessment.* Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015. [https://www.wssinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/resources/JMP-Update-report-2015\\_English.pdf](https://www.wssinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/resources/JMP-Update-report-2015_English.pdf). Accessed November 2, 2016.

- **11 children under age five die every minute.** An overwhelming proportion of these deaths are caused by entirely preventable illnesses, including diarrheal diseases, acute respiratory infection, and other infections that cause fever.

Under-Five Mortality: Current Status + Progress. unicef.org. <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-survival/under-five-mortality/>. Updated October 2016. Accessed March 9 2017.

- Worldwide, **1.6 million deaths per year are attributed to unsafe water, poor sanitation, and lack of hygiene.** While overcrowded hospitals have scrambled to focus on treatment—often turning away sick people who have traveled a great distance—there's been a critical, systemic lack of prevention.

Hygiene Challenges and Resources in Lower Income Countries. cdc.gov. [https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/lidc/hygiene\\_challenges.html](https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/lidc/hygiene_challenges.html). Updated January 20, 2015. Accessed February 1, 2017.

- In Cambodia, Eco-Soap Bank's first target country, **the tourist count is rapidly approaching five million per year**. They choose from among thousands of hotels and guesthouses, where they only partially use individually packaged soap bars.

*Tourism Statistics Report: Year 2016*. Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Cambodian Ministry of Tourism, Statistics and Tourism Information Department. [http://www.tourismcambodia.org/images/mot/statistic\\_reports/tourism\\_statistics\\_year2016.pdf](http://www.tourismcambodia.org/images/mot/statistic_reports/tourism_statistics_year2016.pdf). Accessed February 2, 2017.

- **Handwashing with soap has been proven to reduce the presence of harmful bacteria by 92%**, but it's often overlooked as a public health intervention.

Burton M, Cobb E, Donachie P, et al. The Effect of Handwashing with Water or Soap on Bacterial Contamination of Hands. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2011 Jan; 8(1): 97-104. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3037063/>. Published online January 6, 2011. Accessed February 3, 2017.

- **The poorest populations in developing countries have net primary school attendance rates as low as 4%**.

Education: Current Status + Progress.  
unicef.org. <https://data.unicef.org/topic/education/overview/>. Updated April 2016. Accessed February 9, 2017.

- **Steady employment for women is one of the most serious economic issues in developing countries today.**

Women's Economic Empowerment; The Key to a Sustainable World.  
globalwa.org. <http://globalwa.org/issues/2017-2/womens-economic-empowerment-key-sustainable-world/>. Updated 2017. Accessed March 9, 2017.

- Eco-Soap Bank partners with **960 hotels and 68 distribution partners in 10 countries**, employing **106 women**. It's recycled **over 108,000 pounds of soap**, resulting in **more than 1.3 million donations** to schools, health clinics, and village communities. So far, **over 730,000 people** have received soap and hand washing training from Eco-Soap Bank.

For more information, contact [contact@ecosoapbank.org](mailto:contact@ecosoapbank.org) or visit [ecosoapbank.org](http://ecosoapbank.org).