

Use with Chapter 10  
Section 10.1

# World's Water Supply

## World's Water Supply

Location	Surface Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Water Volume (km <sup>3</sup> )	Percentage of Total Water	Estimated Average Residence Time of Water
Oceans	361,000,000	1,230,000,000	97.2	Thousands of years
Atmosphere	510,000,000	12,700	0.001	Nine days
Rivers and streams	—	1200	0.0001	Two weeks
Groundwater: shallow,	130,000,000	4,000,000	0.31	Hundreds to many
Lakes (freshwater)	855,000	123,000	0.009	Tens of years
Ice caps and glaciers	28,200,000	28,600,000	2.15	Up to tens of thousands of years and longer

# World's Water Supply

1. Where is the largest percentage of the world's water supply located?

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2. Where is the smallest percentage of the world's water supply located?

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3. What percentage of the world's water supply is groundwater?

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4. What volume of water is found in the atmosphere?

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5. How much more water occurs as groundwater than in rivers and streams?

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6. In which location does water reside the longest? How long does it reside there?

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7. In which location does water reside the shortest? How long does it reside there?

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8. Which locations is water most likely to move in and out of during your lifetime?

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9. What surface area of water do the world's lakes represent?

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