

# DISTANCE TO WATER SOURCE

Outcome indicator

---

## Indicator Phrasing

**English:** average time required to reach the water source, collect water (including queuing), and bring it back home

**French:** temps moyen nécessaire pour atteindre un point d'eau, collecter de l'eau (incluant le temps d'attente), et ramener l'eau au domicile

**Portuguese:** tempo médio necessário para chegar à fonte de água, recolher a água (incluindo o tempo de espera), e trazê-la de volta a casa

**Czech:** průměrný čas potřebný k cestě k vodnímu zdroji, sebrání vody (včetně čekání), a přinesení ji domů

## What is its purpose?

The indicator measures the average time household members need to go to their water source, collect water (including the waiting time), and bring it back home. The distance to the water source is a robust independent predictor of disease risk in that household (a 15-minute decrease in one-way walking time to the water source is associated with a 41% average relative reduction in diarrhoea prevalence\*).

## How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

Collect the following data by conducting individual interviews with a [representative sample](#) of adults from your target households:

### RECOMMENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS (Q) AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS (A)

(ask the following questions straight after you assess the source of the household's drinking water - see [relevant indicator](#))

**Q1:** *During this season, how long does it take you to go once to [specify the source], collect the water, and bring it back home?*

**A1:**

1) ..... minutes

2) does not know

**Q2:** *During [specify the season], how long does it take you to go once to [specify the source], collect the water, and bring it back home?*

**A2:**

- 1) ..... minutes
- 2) does not know

Calculate the average time by summing up the reported times and dividing them by the number of people who reported them (separate the times for whatever seasons you are assessing – for example, dry and rainy season).

## Important Comments

\* data source - [click here](#)

## E-Questionnaire

- [XLS form for electronic data collection - indicator Distance to Water Source](#)