



# WATER FACTS



SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT • 1974-2004 • PROTECT OUR HEALTH FROM SOURCE TO TAP

## Drinking Water Facts And Figures

- Water is the only substance found on earth in three forms solid, liquid, and gas.
- A person can live more than a month without food, but only about a week, depending on conditions, without water.
- 66% of the human body is water; 75% of the human brain is water.
- 75% of a chicken, 80% of a pineapple, and 95% of a tomato is water.
- A person must consume 2.5 quarts of water per day from all sources (drinking, eating) to maintain health.
- Water regulates the earth's temperature. It also regulates the temperature of the human body, carries nutrients and oxygen to cells, cushions joints, protects organs and tissues, and removes wastes.
- It is possible for people today to drink water that was part of the dinosaur era.

## Usage

- Industries as well as people need water. It takes, on average, 39,090 gallons of water to manufacture a new car and its four tires.
- 62,600 gallons of water are needed to produce one ton of steel; 1,500 gallons to process one barrel of beer; and 9.3 gallons to process one can of fruit or vegetables.
- On average, 50-70% of household water is used outdoors (watering lawns, washing cars).
- The average American uses over 100 gallons of water per day; the average residence uses over 100,000 gallons during a year.
- Americans drink more than 1 billion glasses of tap water per day.

## Infrastructure

- The average cost for water supplied to a home in the U.S. is about \$2.00 for 1,000 gallons, which equals about 5 gallons for a penny.
- It costs over \$3.5 billion to operate water systems throughout the United States each year.