

Water Resources and Water Footprints

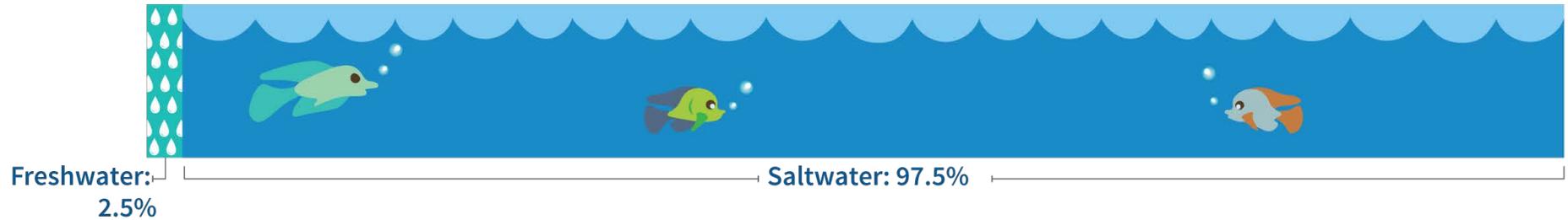


Lessons for Understanding Our Water Footprint



Water Distribution on Earth

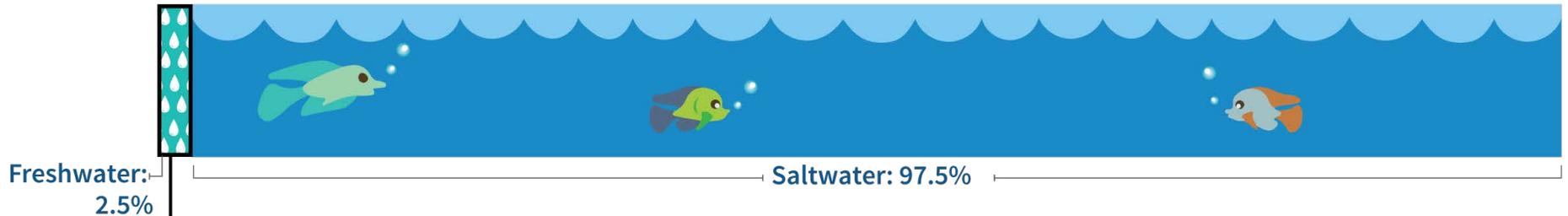
Total Global Water



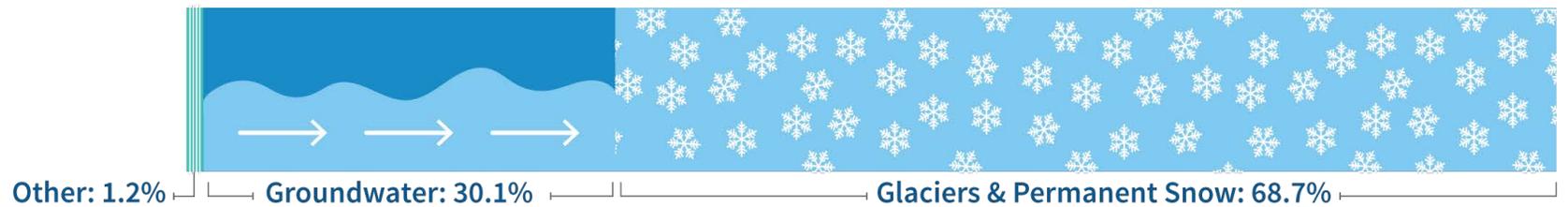
Numbers are rounded, so percent summations may not add up to 100.

Water Distribution on Earth

Total Global Water



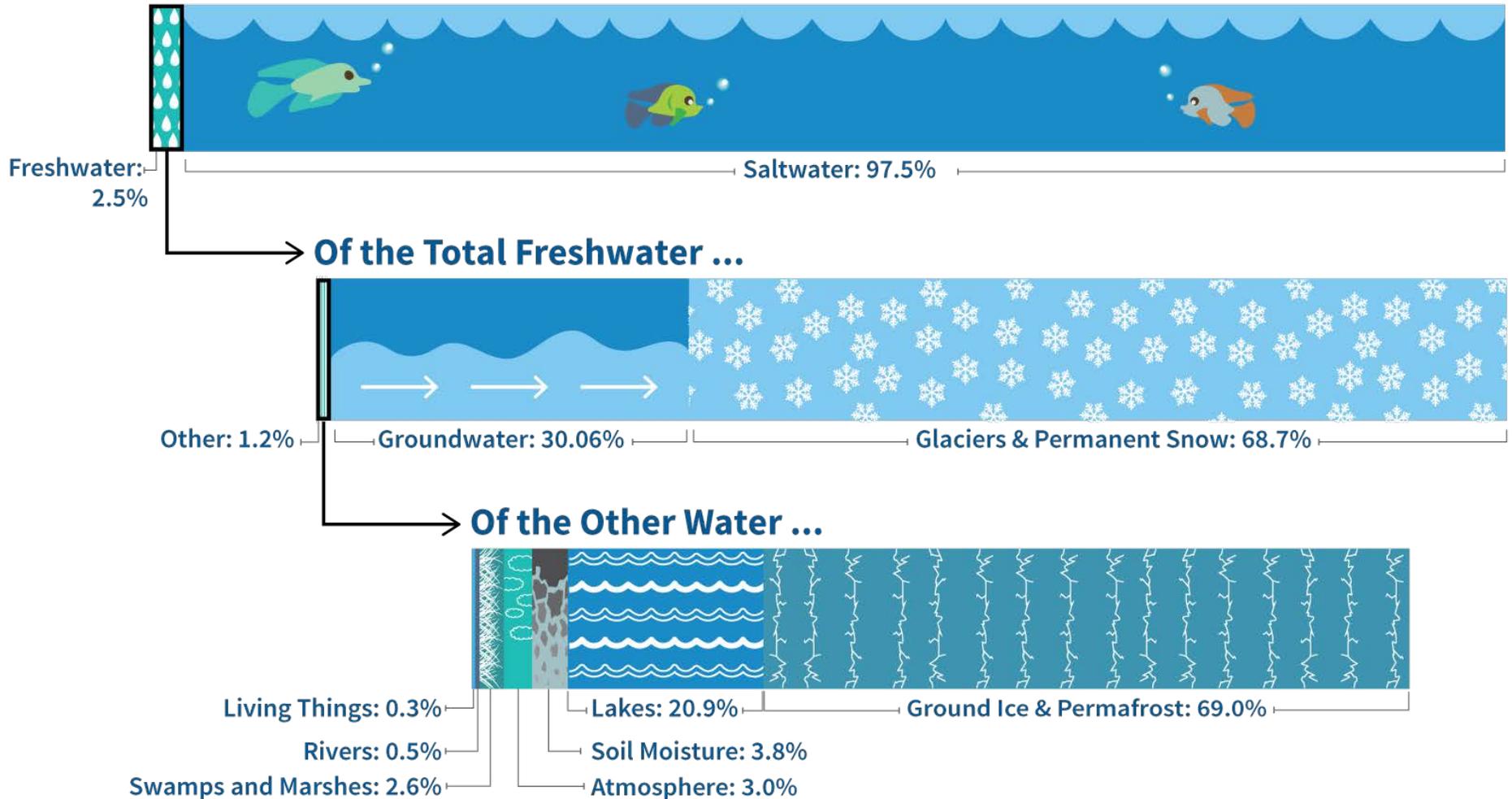
Of the Total Freshwater ...



Numbers are rounded, so percent summations may not add up to 100.

Water Distribution on Earth

Total Global Water

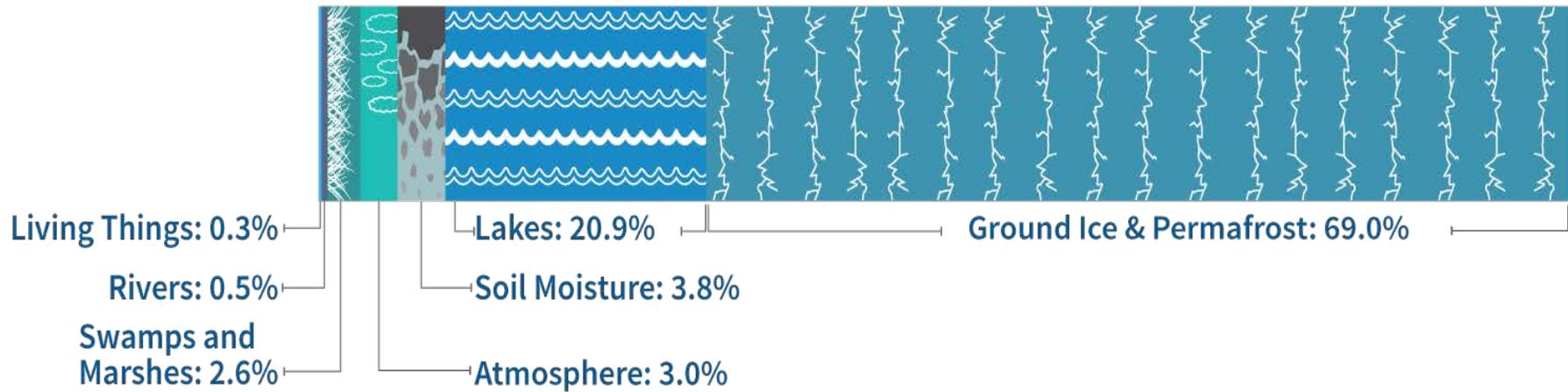


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Water Distribution on Earth



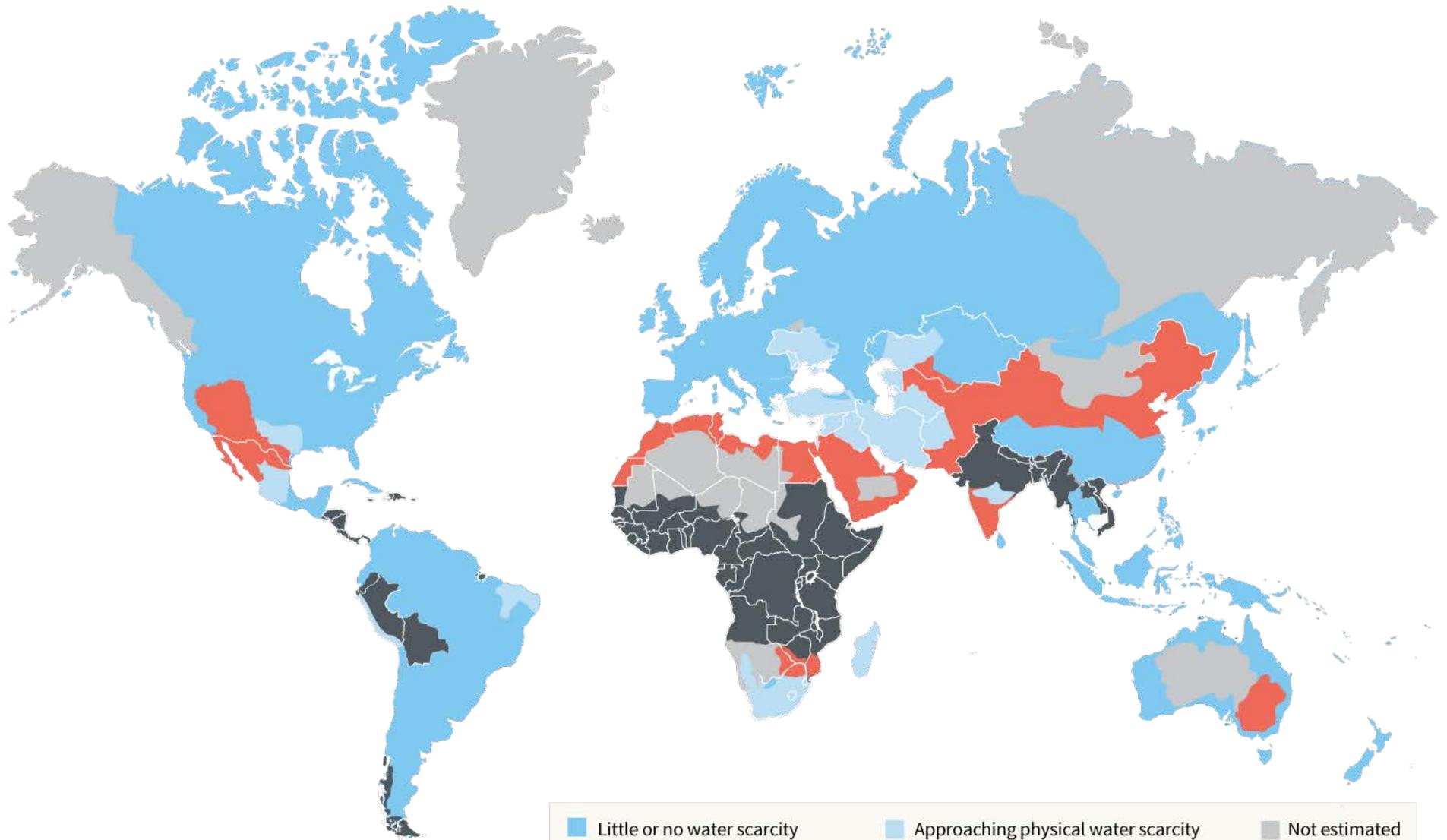
Of the Other Water ...



Numbers are rounded, so percent summations may not add up to 100.

Drought and Climate Change

Global Water Scarcity



An aerial photograph of the Chicago skyline, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers along the Lake Michigan coastline. The sky is filled with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway runs parallel to the water, with green parks and a baseball field visible below. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white band across the middle of the image.

In the last century, our use of water worldwide has grown at more than twice the rate of human population growth.

Many Ways to Use Water

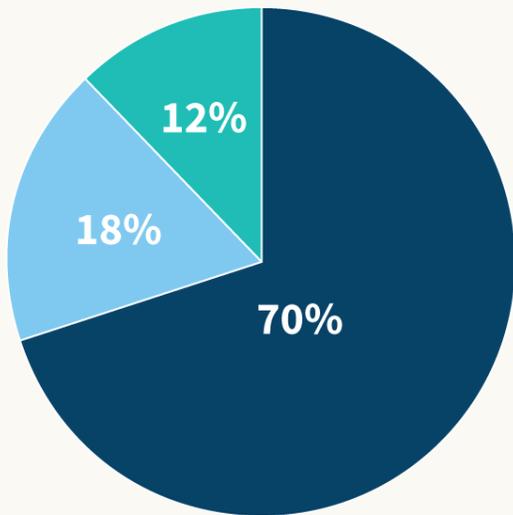


Competing Freshwater Uses

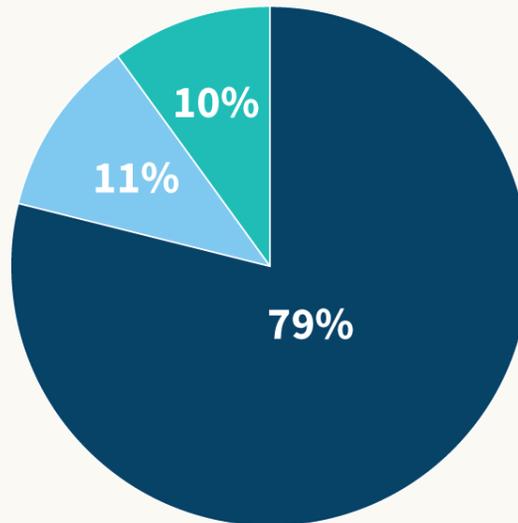
Based on Economic Activity

DOMESTIC INDUSTRIAL AGRICULTURAL

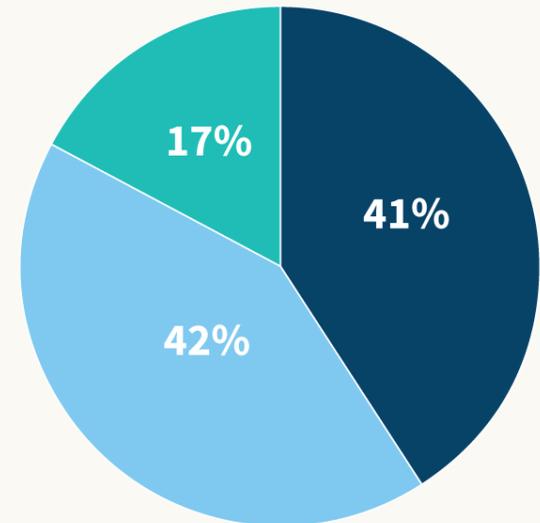
World



Low- and Mid-Income Countries



High-Income Countries



Top 10 Freshwater-Consuming Countries

1,368,004

Data in million cubic meters per year
(total, not per person)

1,144,605

821,354

355,374

270,490

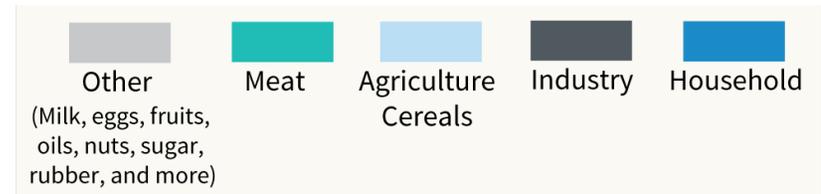
232,239

199,429

197,425

174,779

157,336



China

India

U.S.

Brazil

Russia

Indonesia

Pakistan

Mexico

Japan

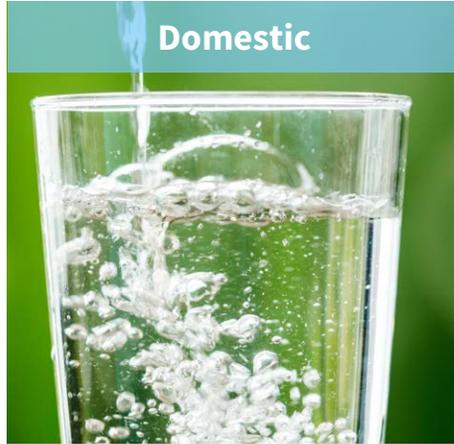
Nigeria

Categories of Water Use in the United States

Public supply



Domestic



Irrigation



Thermoelectric power



Industrial



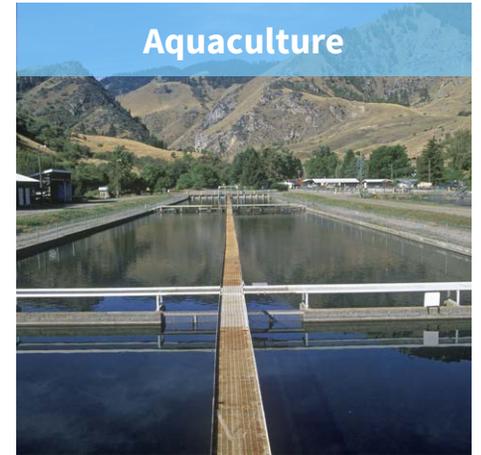
Mining



Livestock



Aquaculture

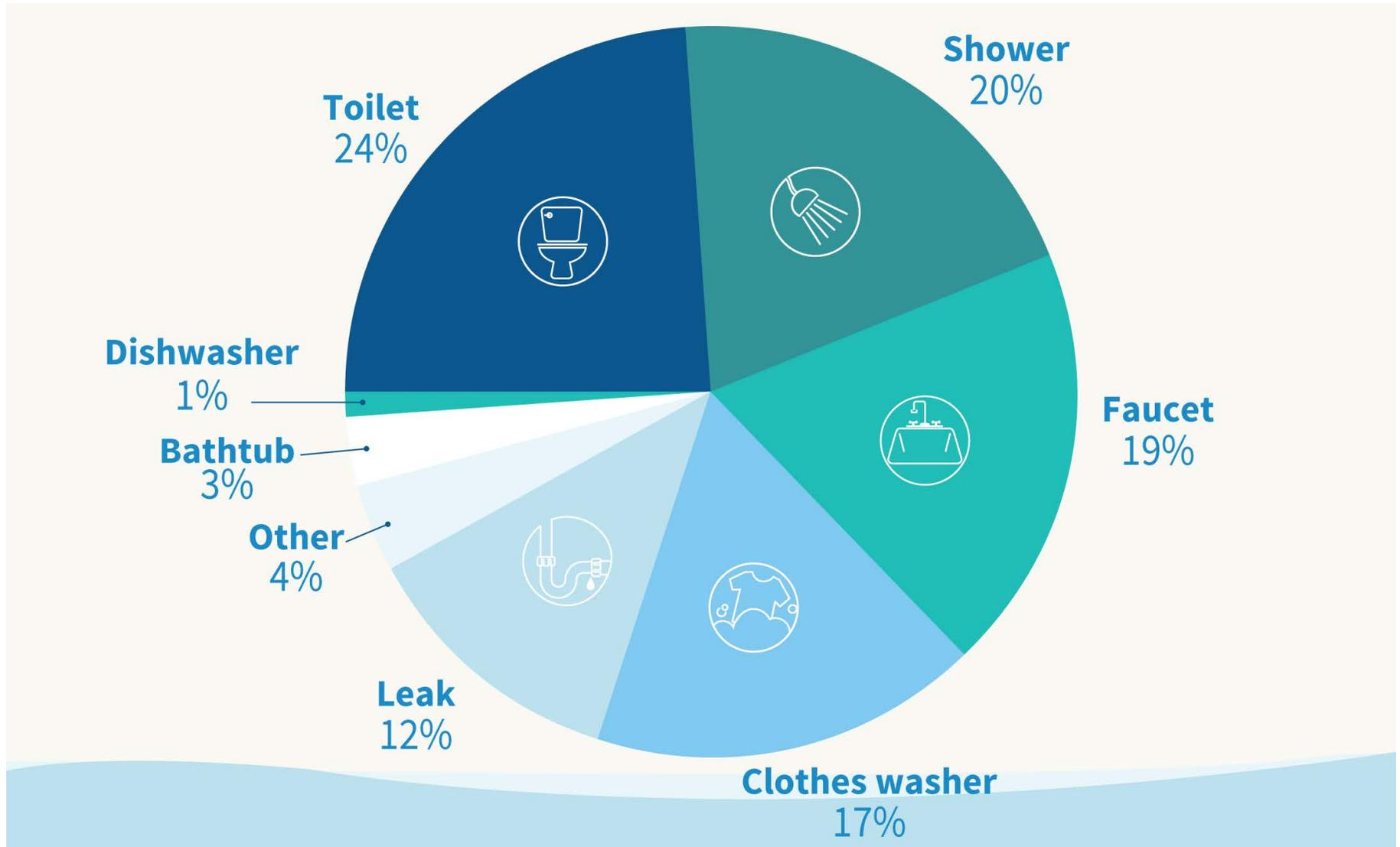


Types of Water Use: Direct Water Use

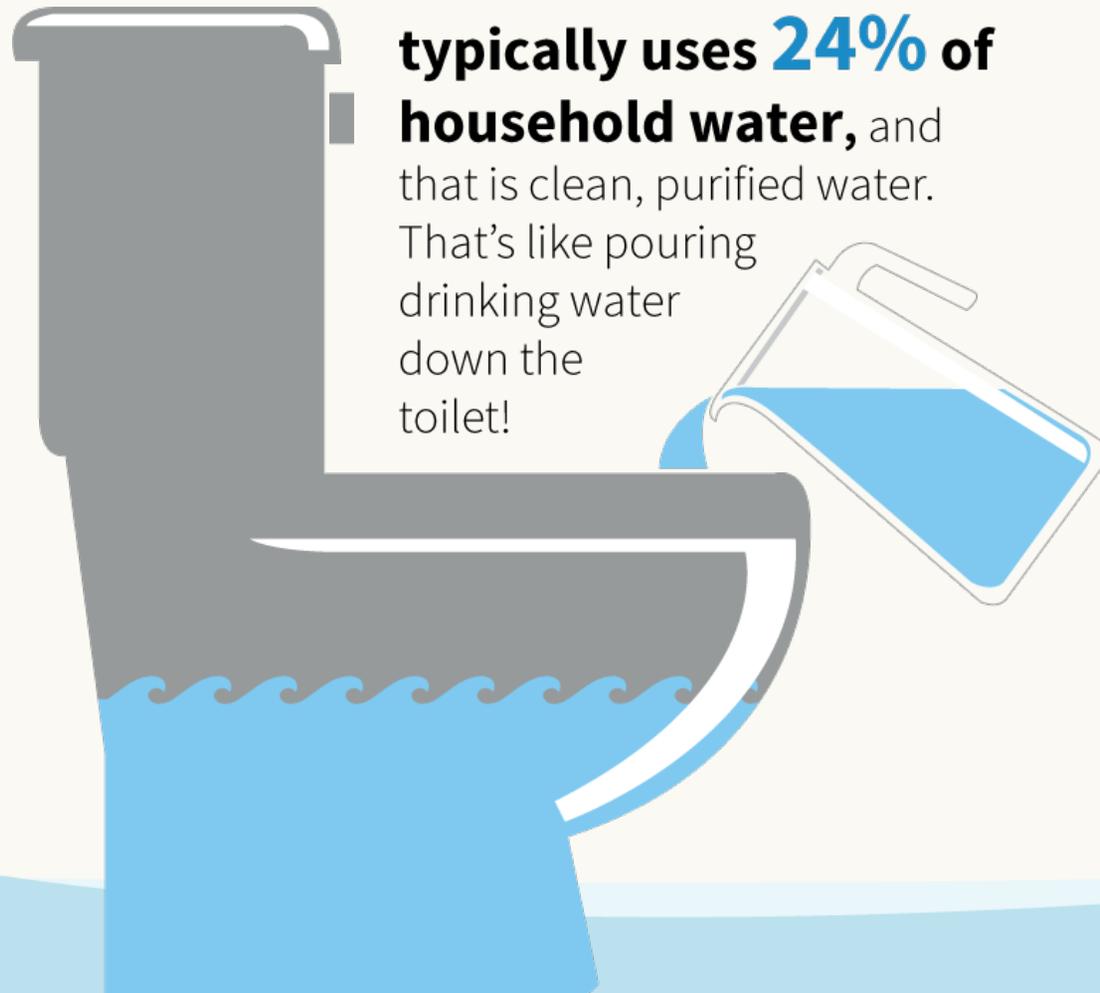
Types of Water Use: Indirect (Virtual) Water Use



Daily Direct Water Use in the United States



Direct Water Use—A U.S. Toilet



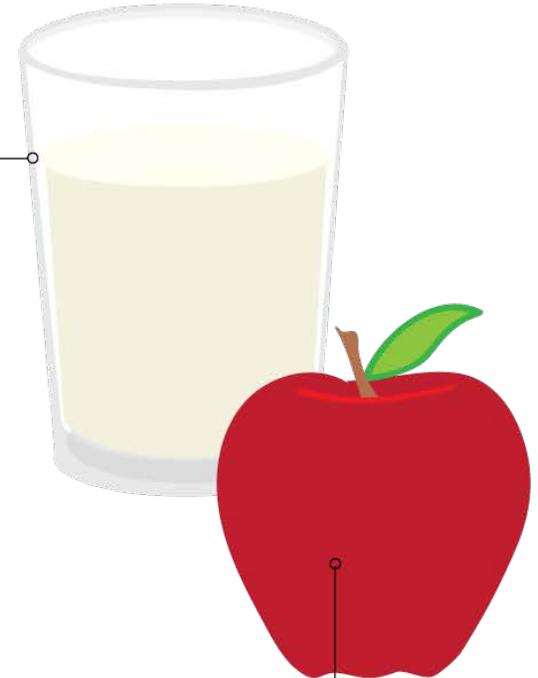
typically uses **24%** of household water, and that is clean, purified water. That's like pouring drinking water down the toilet!

Virtual Water Use—A Typical U.S. Diet

It took 3,961 L (1,047 gal.) of virtual water to make this meal!

Beef steak
227 g (8 oz.)
3,405 L (900 gal.)

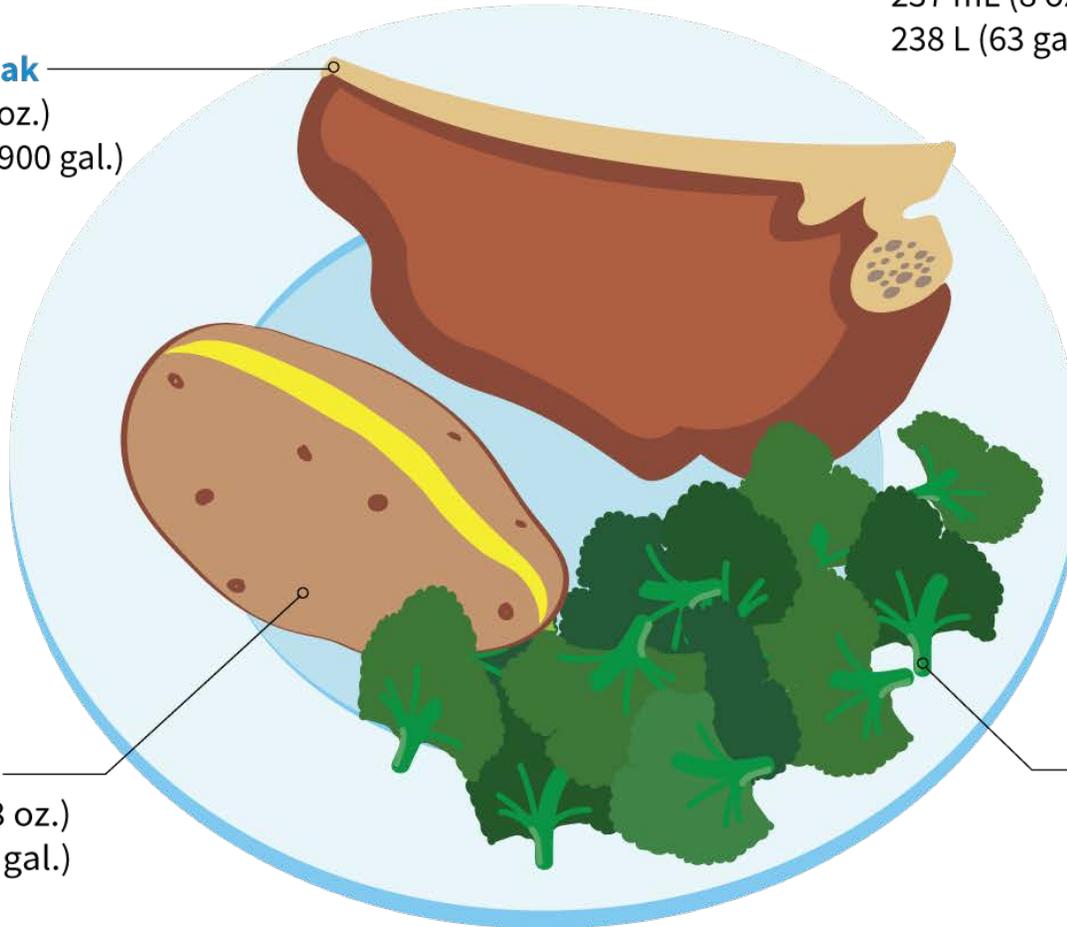
Milk
237 mL (8 oz.)
238 L (63 gal.)



Apple
227 g (8 oz.)
189 L (50 gal.)

Potato
227 g. (8 oz.)
65 L (17 gal.)

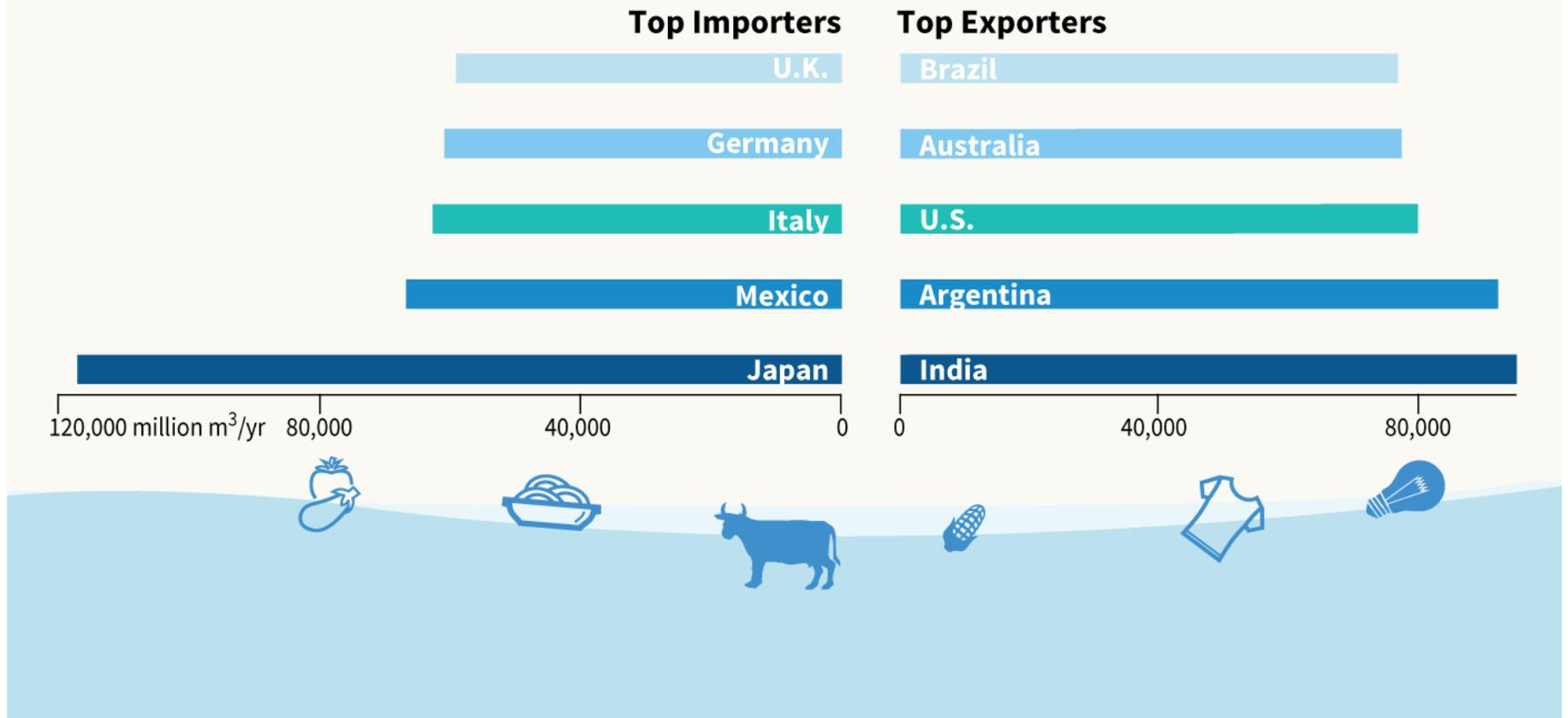
Steamed broccoli
227 g (8 oz.)
64 L (17 gal.)



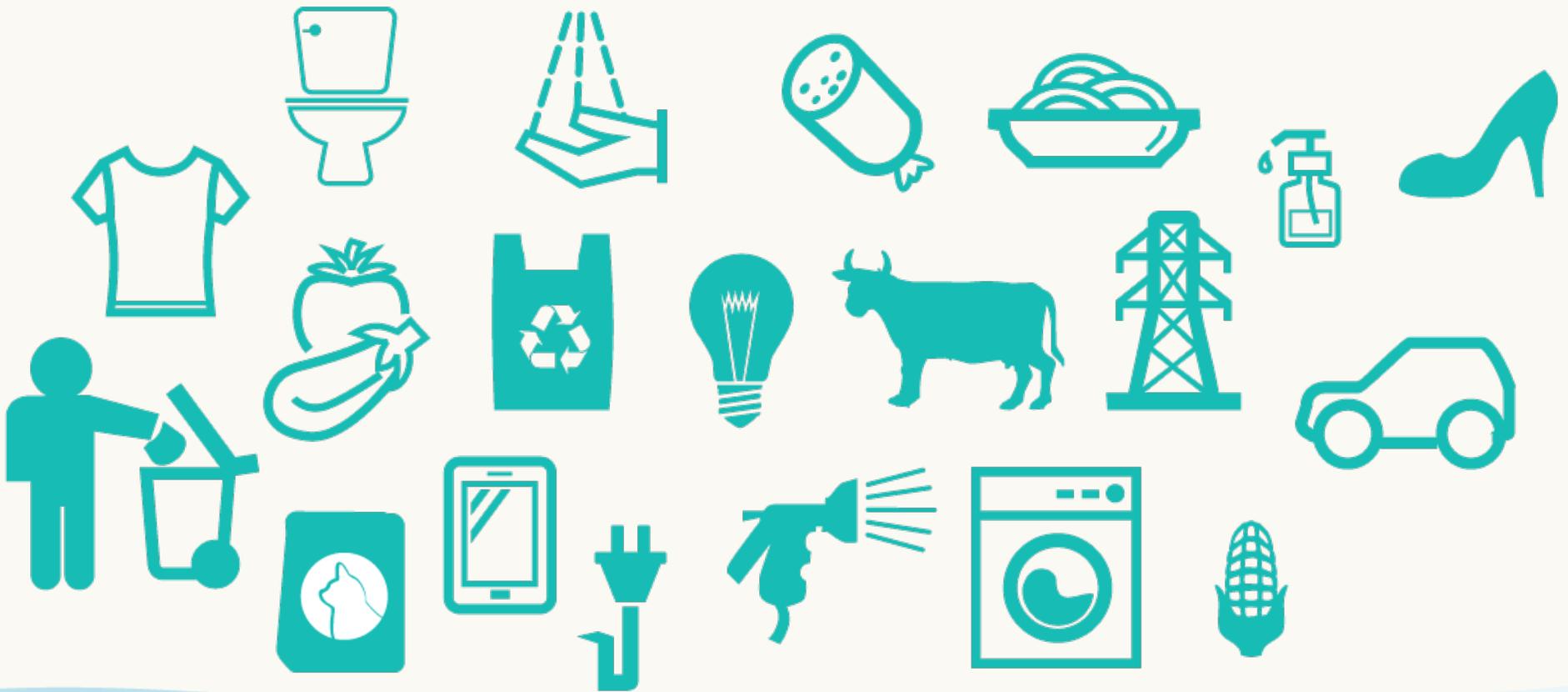
The Virtual Water Trade

Largest Net Importers and Exporters of Virtual Water

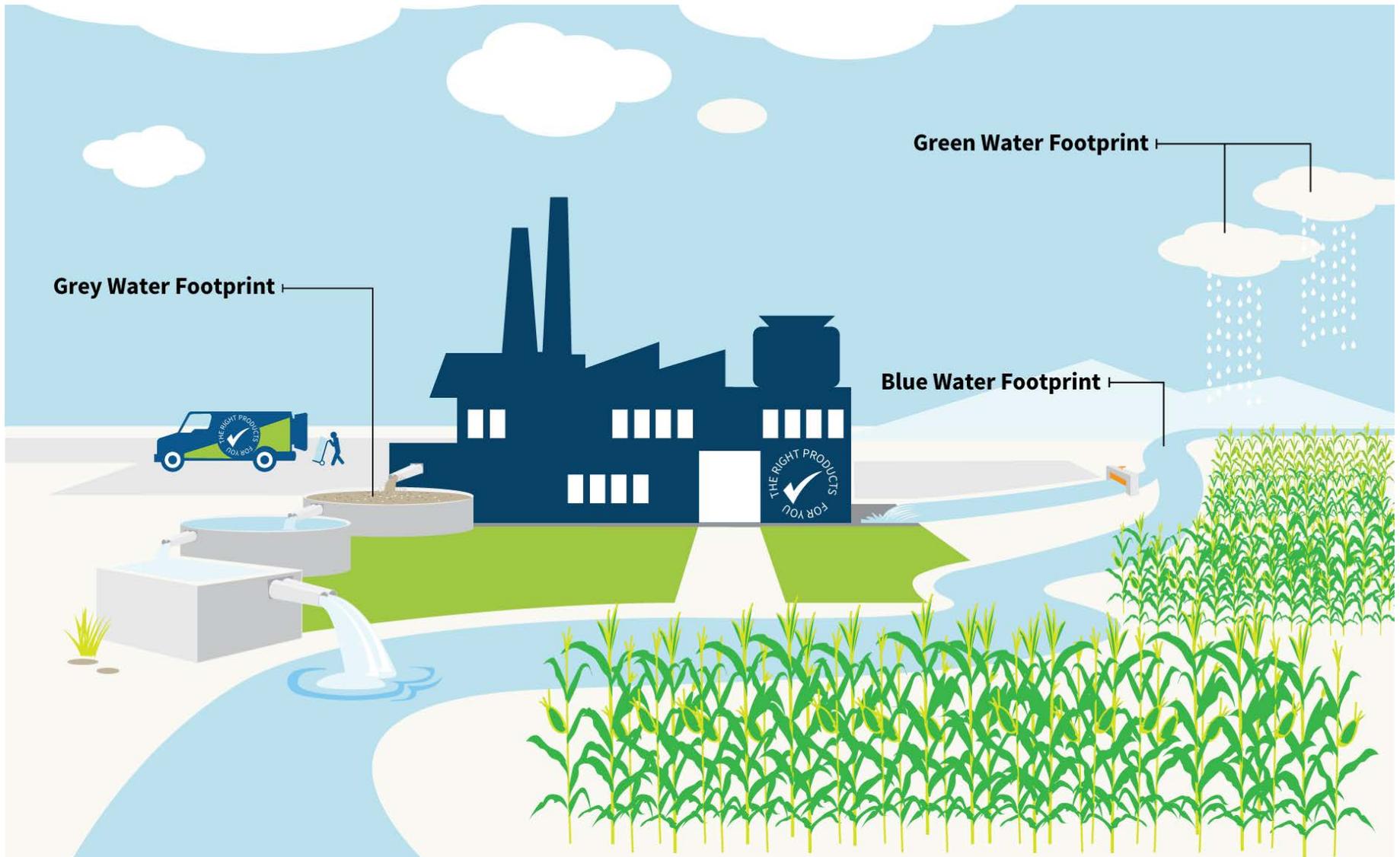
(In grain, animal, and industrial products)



What Is a Water Footprint?



Water Footprints: Blue, Green, and Grey



FIND YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT AND LEARN HOW TO SAVE WATER

Your water footprint includes the water you use from a tap plus the “virtual water” used to produce the food you eat, the products you buy and the energy you use. This virtual water makes up most of your water footprint.

With increasing strain on water resources, it’s important to learn how you use water in different parts of your life. You can also find the best tips to show you how to save water. And check out our [Water Footprint Calculator](#) to find out your personal water footprint.



food



indoor



outdoor



energy



shopping

 **WATER FOOTPRINT**[®]
CALCULATOR

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