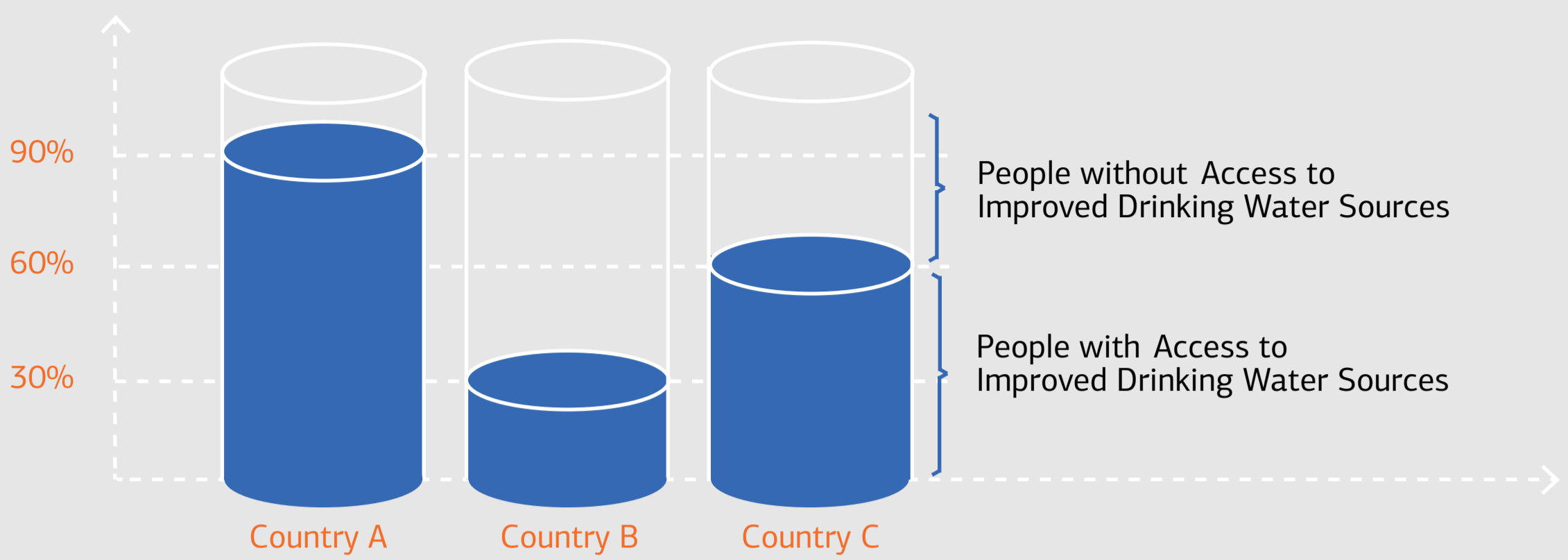


What is Access to Drinking Water?

The Access to Drinking Water indicator measures the percentage of the population with access to improved drinking water sources.



Improved vs Unimproved Sources of Drinking Water

IMPROVED



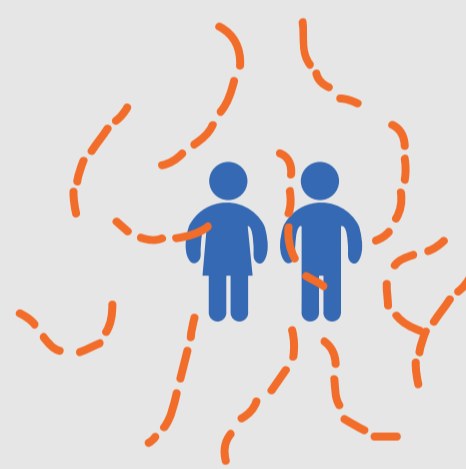
UNIMPROVED



The Dangers of Unimproved Drinking Water



88%
Diarrheal Causes
Unsafe drinking water, inadequate availability of water for hygiene, and lack of access to sanitation together contribute to about 88% of deaths from diarrheal diseases.

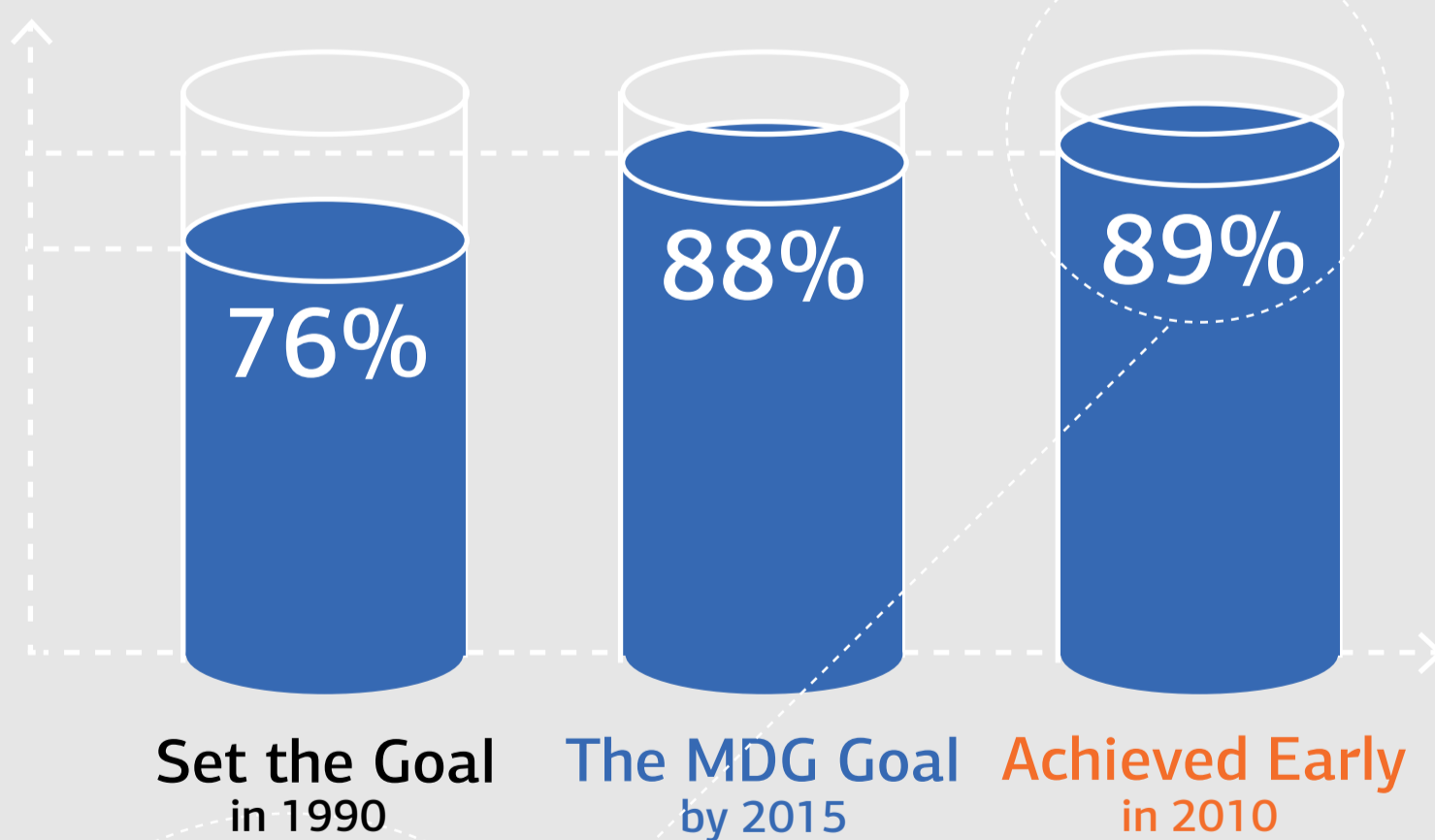


0-5 Years Old
Leading Cause of Death
Diarrheal disease is a leading cause of deaths among children and is frequently contracted through contaminated water sources. It is also a leading cause of malnutrition in children under five years old.

How is the world doing?

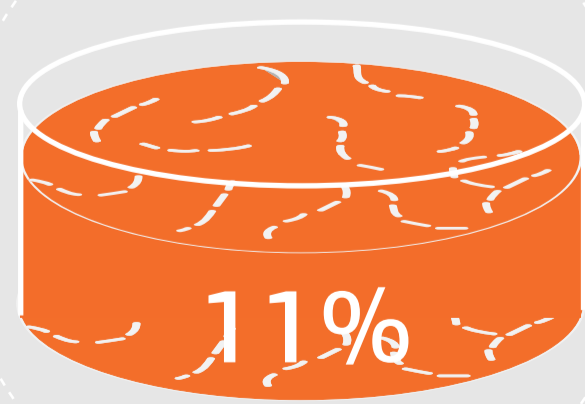
Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Access to Drinking Water

In Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability, Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.



↑ **13%**
↑ **2.1 billion**
➔ **21 years**

Since 1990, 2.1 billion people have gained access to improved drinking water sources. In 2010, 89% of people had access to drinking water, which meant that MDG Drinking Water Target was met five years ahead of the target date.



The Remaining 11%
Although we have reached the MDG goal for access to drinking water, we still have a long way to go. There is still 11% of the world's population, about 783 million people, who do not have access to improved drinking water. Also, water safety and quality in rural areas still remain problems.