



India Data Insights

A **SATTVA** INITIATIVE

www.indiadatainsights.com



State of Water Resources in India

Data Guide – July 2025

Table of Contents

Section	Page
<u>Introduction</u>	4
<u>Summary</u>	8
<u>Annual groundwater utilisation</u>	9
<u>Annual groundwater recharge</u>	18
<u>Categorisation of assessed groundwater resource units</u>	31

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 6 is: Access to Clean Water and Sanitation. **Ensuring access to clean and safe water for all is therefore a universal development goal.**

Some of the targets (by the year 2030) under SDG 6 are:

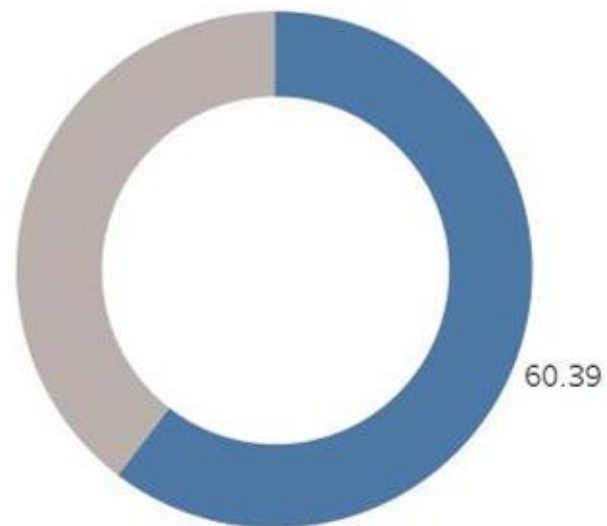
- 6.1: Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.
- 6.2: Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all.
- 6.3: Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials.
- 6.4: Increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater.
- 6.5: Implement integrated water resources management at all levels.
- 6.6: Protect and restore water-related ecosystems.



Country Rank

109_{/167}

Score



UN Dashboard Status

Major Challenges Remain



Trend

Moderately Improving



Notes: As per UN Sustainable Development Report 2024

Definitions

- **GW** : GroundWater
- **BCM**: Billion Cubic Meters
- **MCM**: Million Cubic Meters
- **Stages of Development**: Percentage of GroundWater extracted out of total Annual extractable water available.
- **Safe**: Groundwater extraction is less than 70% of the total annually available.
- **Semi-Critical**: Groundwater extraction is between 70%-90% out of the total available to extract.
- **Critical**: Groundwater extraction is between 90%-100% out of the total available to extract.
- **Over-Exploited**: Groundwater extraction exceeds the annual replenishable groundwater recharge.
- **Salinity**: The term "salinity" refers to the concentrations of salts in water.

Data Sources

Sources:

- Central GroundWater Board (CGWB), Ministry of Jal Sakti, Department of Water Resources, Gol

About CGWB

Central GroundWater Board has a mandate to “Develop and disseminate technologies, and monitor and implement national policies for the scientific and sustainable development and management of India’s groundwater resources, including their exploration, assessment, conservation, augmentation, protection from pollution and distribution, based on principles of economic and ecological efficiency and equity”.

State of Water Resources in India at a glance



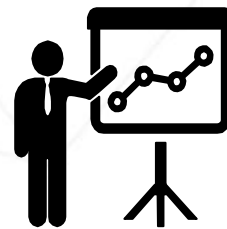
2/3rd of India's annual groundwater recharge is dependent on rainfall.



87% of extracted groundwater extracted used for **Irrigation**.



Punjab (0.37 MCM), Bihar (0.36 MCM) receive the most GW Recharge per sq. Km.



Number of blocks categorized as **Over-Exploited** has **decreased** by **27%** percentage point **and safe** blocks has **increased** by **10%** percentage points, in the last two decades.

State of Water Resources in India

Annual groundwater utilisation

Key Insights

- For the last two decade, India's annual groundwater extraction has been around 60%.
- GW extraction decreased by 2.4% in the last 6 years. However, it is still higher by 2.5% than in 2004. Notably, it increased by 0.8% from the last one year.
- ~87% of the extracted groundwater is used for irrigation, ~11% for domestic use and ~2% for industrial use.
- More than 90% of extracted groundwater is used for irrigation in the states of Punjab, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.