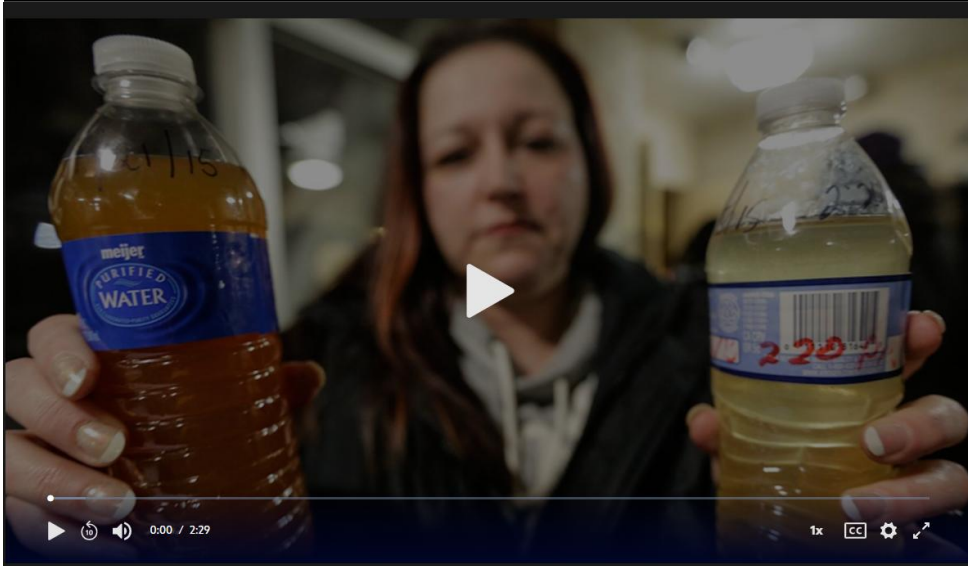


Group 1. The Flint water crisis

Document 1. LeeAnne Walters, of Flint, Michigan, helped save the city from a lead water crisis. May 23rd 2017. PBS.

[This Woman Helped Save Flint | NOVA | PBS](#)



Document 2. The city of Flint, Michigan (U.S.A)



Document 3. Flint water crisis: everything you need to know.

Flint is the birthplace of General Motors. In 1950, 200,000 people lived in the city, many employed by the automobile industry.

But in the 1980's a lot of auto factories closed because of the automobile industry crisis. Flint's population went down to just 100,000 people, and in 2011 the city was facing a \$25 million deficit.

To cut city costs it has been decided, in 2013, to end the practice of piping treated water from Detroit in favor of a cheaper alternative: temporarily pumping water from the Flint River.

In October 2014, General Motors recognized the Flint water was corroding its engines. They got permission to disconnect from Flint's water and go back to Detroit water. The people of Flint were finally allowed to disconnect from the corrosive Flint River as their water supply in October 2015. By then, the Flint River water had corroded the city's aging pipes, poisoning the drinking water with lead, which can cause permanent developmental delays and neurological impairment, especially in children.

NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council), July 1st 2025. www.nrdc.com

Group 2. First nations water crisis in Canada

Document 1. 28 First Nations communities still under boil water advisories, Global News, March 22, 2023.

[‘We have to fix it faster’: 28 First Nations communities still under boil water advisories - Winnipeg | Globalnews.ca](#)



Document 2. About drinking water advisories, Government of Canada, September 18th 2025.

What are drinking water advisories?

Drinking water advisories are issued to warn people that water may be unsafe to drink or use.

Drinking water advisories can be:

- short-term: are in effect for less than 1 year
- long-term: are in effect for more than 1 year

Drinking water advisories can affect:

- 1 building
- part of or a whole community

Types of advisories.

There are 3 types of drinking water advisories:

1. Boil water advisory

Boil water advisories are issued when:

- there are problems with the water treatment system such as chlorine levels that are too low
- water test results confirm the presence of disease-causing:
 - viruses
 - bacteria
 - parasites

2. Do not consume advisory

Do not consume advisories are also called **do not drink** advisories. Do not consume advisories are issued when the water system has contaminants that can't be removed from the water by boiling.

Under a do not consume advisory, users should:

- **Not** use their tap water for:
 - drinking
 - cooking
 - making juice, drinks or infant formula
 - brushing teeth or cleaning dental appliances like retainers or dentures
 - washing fruit and vegetables
 - making soup, tea or coffee
 - making ice cubes

3. Do not use advisories

Do not use advisories warn the public they should not use tap water for any purpose. A do not use advisory is issued when:

- using the water poses a health risk
- the water system has pollutants that can't be removed through boiling

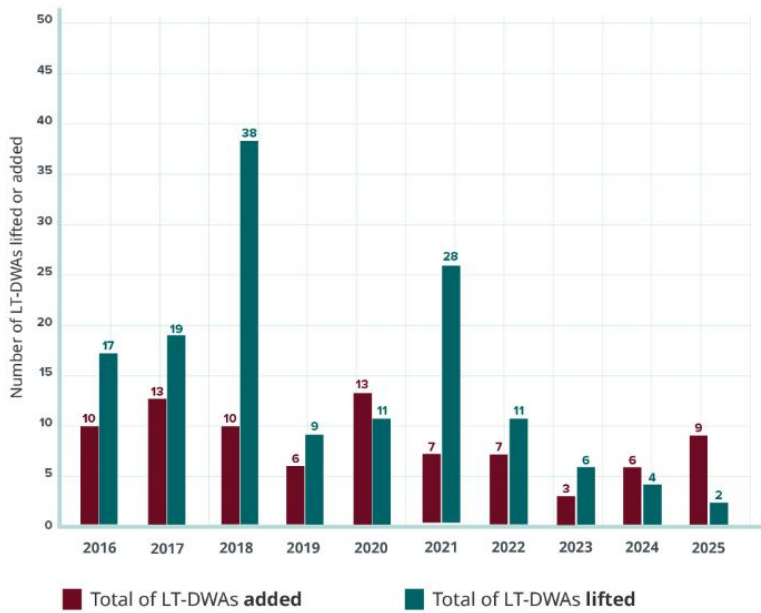
- being exposed to the water through bathing could, perhaps due to a chemical spill, irritate the skin, eyes or nose

Document 3. Ending long term drinking water advisories, Government of Canada, November 18th 2025



149
long-term drinking water advisories
lifted since
November 2015

38 long-term drinking water advisories
in effect in
36 communities



Group 3. California water wars

Document 1. Farmers « furious » at Trump's California reservoir water release plan, ABC News, February 5th, 2025.

[Farmers 'furious' at Trump's California reservoir water release plan](#)



Document 2. California cracks down on water theft but spares data centers from disclosing how much they use, The L.A Times, October, 14th 2025.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has vetoed a law that would have required new data centers to disclose their expected water use when they apply for a business license and would have required to report how much water they use each year.

New data centers have been rapidly proliferating in California and other arid states like Arizona and Texas. The rise of artificial intelligence and growing investments in cloud computing drive a construction boom. The centers, full of equipment, generate lots of heat and can use large quantities of water to cool their servers and interiors. Many companies don't reveal how much water they use.

In a message explaining his decision, Newsom said the widespread adoption of AI "is driving an unprecedented demand for data center capacity throughout the nation. As the global epicenter of the technology sector, California is well positioned to support the development of this critically important digital infrastructure".

Document 3. The low water level on the Colorado River is noticeable behind Hoover Dam, 2023.



Group 4. Water shortages in Mexico

Document 1. Mexico water crisis. Residents struggle with severe water shortages. Al Jazeera, April 1st 2024.

[Crise de l'eau au Mexique : les habitants font face à de graves pénuries d'eau](#)



Document 2. Water scarcity in Mexico is intensifying. America Quarterly, November 14th, 2023.

[Mexico's Water Crisis Is Spilling Over Into Politics](#)

AQ Water scarcity in Mexico is intensifying

The number of states highly exposed to water stress may increase from 11 to 20 by 2050.

- LOW EXPOSURE
- MODERATE EXPOSURE
- HIGH EXPOSURE



SOURCE: S&P GLOBAL RATINGS
NOTE: ANALYSIS BASED ON A MODERATE-STRESS SCENARIO.

Document 3. Low access to drinkable water for indigenous people in Mexico's wettest region.

Chiapas, the southernmost region of Mexico, has the highest renewable water resources per capita in the entire country. Yet, tap water is almost never safe to drink.

Chiapas houses a little more than 5 million people, half of which live in rural areas where they have almost no access to clean, safe, drinking water. People need to fetch water from springs miles away from their homes. The amount of water they can physically carry back home is between 20 and 50 litres a day.

In comparison, statistics from the Canadian government show that the average Canadian consumes up to 400 litres of water a day, 8 to 20 times more than a whole family's consumption in Chiapas.

In the summer of 2022, Monterrey, one of the wealthiest and largest cities in Mexico but also one of the few cities blessed with safe, drinkable tap water, ran out of surface water. Officials rationed and distributed the water only a few hours a day. Within two months, the government invested 10,000 million pesos (6-700 million Canadian dollars) to build a dam and an aqueduct to bring water to Monterrey. This was one of the largest investments on water in the past decade.

Within one year, the federal government provided Monterrey with the equivalent of one hundred years of funding to Chiapas.

Ciara Balhi, *The Upstream journal*, February, 26th, 2025.