*Note: This PIRS reflects an Accelerator Behavior indicator for which data are readily available through The Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program. The Accelerator Behavior that can be measured using this indicator is shown in the "Name of Result Measured" field below, and can be updated as needed. Data for this indicator are displayed for maternal and child survival priority countries at* [*acceleratorbehaviors.usaid.gov*](https://acceleratorbehaviors.org/index)*. Should a USAID Mission wish to adopt this indicator for its performance monitoring plan, this PIRS should be updated according to the needs of each Mission*.

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| **USAID Performance Indicator Reference Sheet** |
| **Name of Indicator:** Households using an improved water source |
| **Name of Result Measured (DO, IR, sub-IR, Project Purpose, Project Outcome, Project Output, etc.):**  Family members drink safe water |
| **Is This a Performance Plan and Report Indicator?**  No  Yes  for Reporting Year(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **If yes, link to Foreign Assistance Framework:** |
| **DESCRIPTION** |
| **Precise Definition(s):** Percentage of households whose main source of drinking water is an improved source  Calculated:   * Numerator: Households whose main source of drinking water is an improved source * Denominator: Total number of households   Improved drinking water sources include:   * piped drinking water supply on premises * public tap/standpost; tube well/borehole * protected dug well; protected spring * rainwater * bottled water (when another basic service is used for hand washing, cooking or other basic personal hygiene purposes).   All other services are considered to be “unimproved”, including: unprotected dug well, unprotected spring, cart with small tank/drum, tanker truck, surface water (river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal, irrigation channel), and bottled water (unless basic services are being used for hand washing, cooking and other basic personal hygiene purposes). |
| **Unit of Measure:** Percentage of households |
| **Data Type:** Percentage |
| **Disaggregated by:** |
| **Rationale for Indicator** *(optional):*This indicator represents a key behavior known to accelerate reduction of child mortality (<https://acceleratorbehaviors.org/safe_water>). Access to safe drinking water among children under five could prevent most diarrheal episodes and reduce mortality and levels of malnutrition (<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/43840/1/9789241596435_eng.pdf>). This is a habitual set of behaviors that must be practiced on every occasion by adults, children and babies. This indicator is useful for program management, funding allocations and tracking, and reporting towards USAID’s Water and Development Strategy objectives. |
| **PLAN FOR DATA COLLECTION BY USAID** |
| **Data Source:** Demographic and Health Survey Program (DHS), indicator ID: WS\_SRCE\_H\_IMP. Data are readily available through the DHS Stat Compiler website: <https://www.statcompiler.com/en/>. Data from DHS and other secondary sources such as Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) may also be accessed through the Joint Monitoring Programme: <https://washdata.org/> |
| **Method of Data Collection and Construction:** DHSHousehold survey, Household Questionnaire. Available here: <https://dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-dhsq7-dhs-questionnaires-and-manuals.cfm> |
| **Reporting Frequency:** Approximately every 5 years |
| **Individual(s) Responsible at USAID:** |
| **TARGETS AND BASELINE** |
| **Baseline Timeframe***:* |
| **Rationale for Targets** *(optional):* |
| **DATA QUALITY ISSUES** |
| **Date of Data Quality Assessment (DQA) and Name(s) of Reviewer(s):** |
| **Date of Future Data Quality Assessments** *(optional)****:*** |
| **Known Data Limitations:**  Validity: Bacteriological quality of improved sources is not guaranteed to be safe and free from pathogens that can cause diarrhea. This measure assumes reduced risk of diarrheal infection; however, protected sources can have contamination, and contamination may also enter drinking water through poor storage and handling procedures.  Timeliness: DHS survey timing may not align with program cycles and may be too infrequent for planning. However, data from MICS, DHS, and other surveys available through <https://washdata.org/> combined may sufficiently bridge data gaps, as their timing alternates to provide more consistent data. USAID Missions may also wish to incorporate the same DHS questions and methodology into their own population-based surveys to ensure timeliness, though results may not be fully comparable to DHS and MICS. |
| **CHANGES TO INDICATOR** |
| **Changes to Indicator:** |
| **Other Notes** *(optional)***:** |
| **This Sheet Last Updated On:** December 22, 2017 |