

RANGES OF KEY WATER NUMBERS

The data shown below are only for comparison purposes. They show orders of magnitude of the different data items and indices that can be derived from the data items.

Long Term Annual Average Precipitation

Highest in the world (mm/year)

- Malaysia 2 875
- Colombia 2 612
- Ecuador 2 087
- Mauritius 2 041
- Brazil 1 782

Lowest in the world (mm/year)

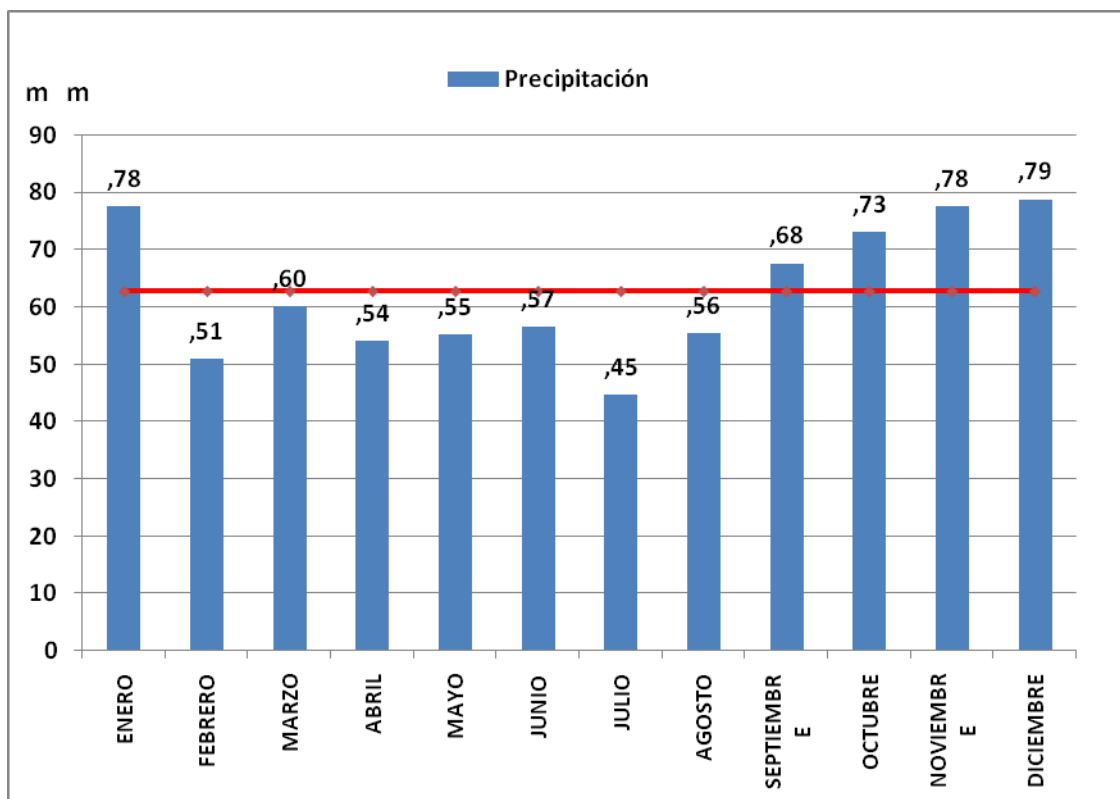
- Egypt 51
- Saudi Arabia 59
- Qatar 74
- United Arab Emirates 78
- Bahrain 83

Source: FAO Aquastat online.

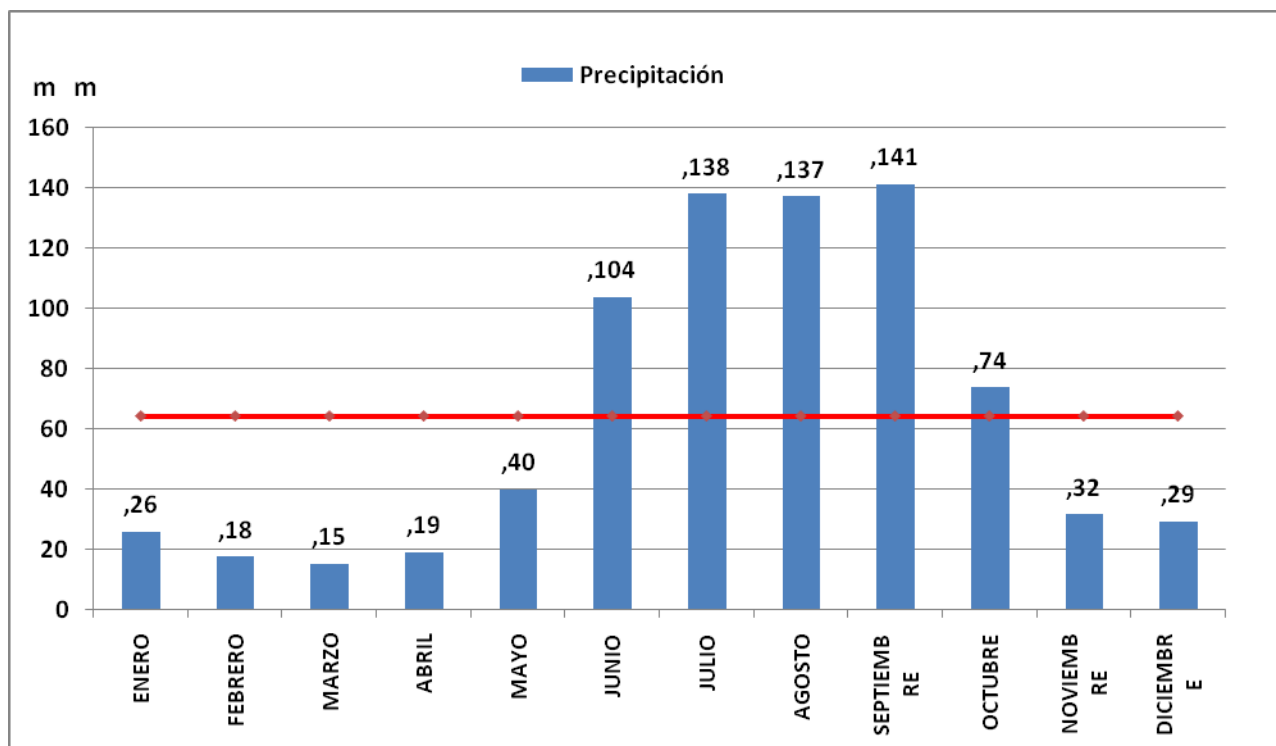
Distribution of the precipitation through the year

Examples

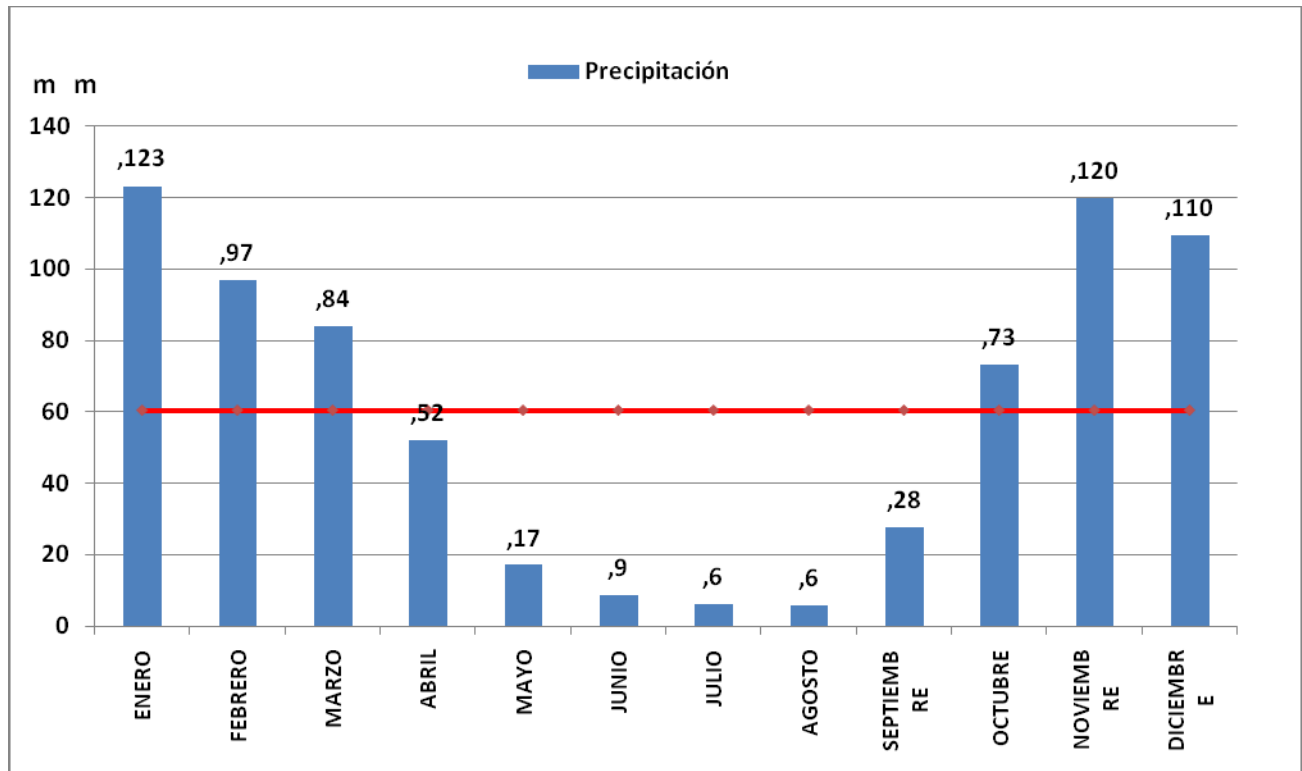
London, Great Britain



Mexico City, Mexico



Johannesburg, South Africa



Evapotranspiration

Some examples:

- Egypt 96% of the average precipitation
- Australia 88%
- Mexico 73%
- France 58%
- Spain 65%
- Brazil 64%
- Canada 47%

Water in agriculture

Countries with the largest irrigated areas:

Rank	Country or territory	Irrigated area in millions	Irrigated area in
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		of hectares	thousands of km ²
1	India	57.29	572.9
2	China	53.82	538.2
3	United States of America	21.40	214.0
4	Pakistan	17.82	178.2
5	Islamic Republic of Iran	7.65	76.5
6	Mexico	6.50	65.0
7	Turkey	5.22	52.2
8	Thailand	4.99	49.9
9	Bangladesh	4.73	47.3
10	Russian Federation	4.60	46.0

Source: FAO Aquastat online and other sources from the countries.

Note: irrigated area varies depending on the definition: area with infrastructure to irrigate, area actually irrigated, multiple crops in the same physical area. Irrigation is often only a complement to the amount of water received through rain ("green water").

Water supplied by water utilities in cities

Some examples

- Great Britain Water supplied to households. Per capita average: 136 L/head/day
Leakage in distribution: 23%

Source: Ofwat, Security of supply, leakage and water efficiency. 2005-06 report.

- Mexico Leakage in distribution: about 40%

Source: CONAGUA Statistics of Water in Mexico, 2008.

- United States of America Water abstracted for public supply 596 L/head/day

Source: USGS Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2005.