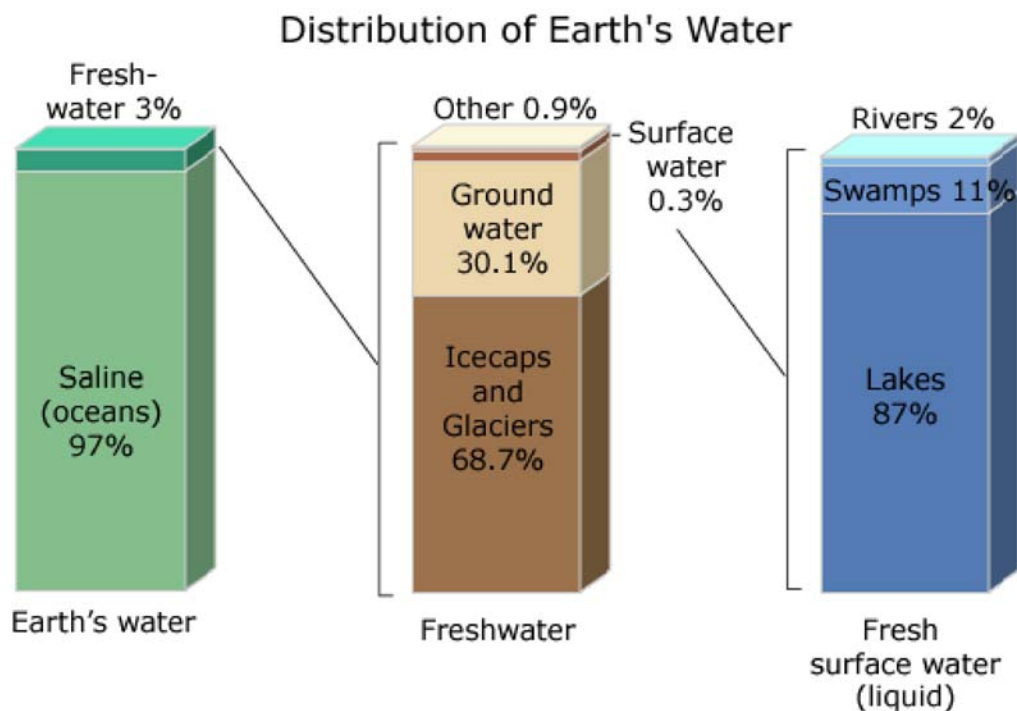


Water Math

- **71 percent** of the earth is covered with water.
- **97 percent** of earth's water is salt water in the oceans
- **3 percent** of earth's water is freshwater
- Over **68 percent** of the fresh water on Earth is locked in icecaps and glaciers
- **30 percent** of the fresh water on Earth is ground water
- Only **0.3 percent** of our fresh water is found in the surface water of lakes, rivers, and swamps.
- Fresh surface water is precious, representing only **0.008 percent** of all of earth's water

The Great Lakes represent 20 percent of the world's total supply of fresh surface water and 85 percent of all fresh surface water in North America.



Source: Gleick, P. H., 1996: Water resources. In Encyclopedia of Climate and Weather, ed. by S. H. Schneider, Oxford University Press, New York, vol. 2, pp.817-823

Water source	Water volume, in cubic miles	Water volume, in cubic kilometers	Percent of freshwater	Percent of total water
Lakes, swamps	24,600	102,500	0.29%	0.008%
Rivers	509	2,120	0.006%	0.0002%
Total global fresh water	8,404,000	35,030,000	100%	2.5%
Total global water	332,500,000	1,386,000,000	--	100%

Source: Gleick, P. H., 1996: Water resources. In Encyclopedia of Climate and Weather, ed. by S. H. Schneider, Oxford University Press, New York, vol. 2, pp.817-823.