


WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2020: **The next Covid-19 wave will start in informal settlements.**

Up to 45% of informal settlement residents contracted the coronavirus in the first wave. **This is not surprising because they are sharing dirty taps and toilets.** The sharp increase in the number of red traffic lights in Asivikelane 11 makes us worry that the second wave of infections will start and spread in informal settlements. **Inadequate access to water is growing**, with residents in Cape Town, for example, reporting that water trucks have stopped delivering water. There are also still residents who do not have access to water at all. More residents in Tshwane, Ekurhuleni, Johannesburg, and Cape Town **report that their toilets have not been cleaned.**

The pandemic aside, academic research shows that informal settlements have higher levels of infectious diseases, respiratory diseases, diarrhoea, waterborne diseases, TB, malnutrition, and stunting. This is largely because of inadequate basic services. **The pandemic has increased the urgency to address this challenge.**

IN YOUR INFORMAL SETTLEMENT OVER THE LAST 7 DAYS...



...WAS THERE ENOUGH WATER FOR ALL RESIDENTS?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE



...WERE THE TOILETS CLEANED/ DRAINED?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE



...WAS THE WASTE COLLECTED?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE

RED: 60% or fewer respondents said yes **DARK ORANGE: Between 60% and 75% of respondents said yes**
LIGHT ORANGE: Between 75% and 90% of respondents said yes **GREEN: 90% or more respondents said yes**

683 residents from 217 settlements responded over the last week.

Detailed results and comments from residents themselves are available at: www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/

HOTSPOTS

- Some residents in Cape Town, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay and Tshwane still do not have access to toilets.
- Residents in Somalia Park and Mandela settlements, Ekurhuleni, still use a bucket system for sanitation. While the buckets are cleaned by the metro, residents complain about the smell in warm weather.
- Female residents in Ekurhuleni, Ekurhuleni reported that the strong chemicals used to clean toilets caused feminine health problems. Some had to seek medical assistance.
- The lack of maintenance of ablution blocks in eThekweni remains a major problem in many settlements.
- In Cape Town, residents in BM Section, Khayelitsha said that the water trucks have stopped delivering to their settlement and most communal taps need maintenance.

GOOD NEWS

- Buffalo City is the only metro showing improvement in both the provision of water and toilet cleaning.
- While there are still problems with outages and insufficient water points, Ethekewini's water traffic light *almost* went green for the first time.
- In Ekurhuleni, the small Jojo tanks in Mzondi were replaced by a big tank and water tanks were delivered to some sections of Somalia Park. Taps were also installed in Tsakane, Extension 21.
- Residents from Tshepiso West and Emnandini in Johannesburg reported that new taps were installed in their settlements.
- New toilets were delivered to residents in Etwatwa in Ekurhuleni.