



Study about **water consumption** at airports

# billion tons of water are consumed daily worldwide



### **AIRPORTS AND WATER MANAGEMENT**

WATER CONSUMPTION IS VITAL TO ALL OF OUR DAILY ACTIVITIES.



Whether we're at home, at work or traveling, water is essential; however, only

2.5% of the water

present on our planet is drinkable.

**It's important to consume water responsibly**, since both wasting water and using PET plastic bottles **have negative environmental impacts.** 

Access to water fountains and bottle filling stations is beneficial, in public and private spaces, both to improve health and quality of life and to reduce plastic waste.

Bottled water is more common in some parts of the world than others, with Asia and the South Pacific at the top of the list.

Region	Households that consume bottled water in millions	Millions of bottles per day
Europe	75	150
Asia and South Pacific	350	700
Latin America	72	144
North America	49	98
Africa and Middle East	30	60

<sup>\*</sup>Magnus Jern, Head of R&D and international partnerships at TAPP Water.



### **MEASURES IN AIRPORTS**

**Globally, there are more than 40,000 airports** under the umbrella of **International Civil Aviation Organization**, a group that belongs to the United Nations. To reduce the use of PET plastic bottles, these spaces have begun to **implement different sustainable drinking water measures for the benefit of travelers**.

One of these benefits is economic, since buying bottled water represents an additional expense for travelers.

## In some airports in Europe, the cost for a half-liter bottle can reach 5 euros.

**The environmental aspect is also important to consider** since the reduction of PET bottles contributes to the reduction of toxic materials for the environment.

Estimated cost of water bottles (0.5L) in European airports in euros		
Paris Charles de Gaulle	5	
Amsterdam	3	
Frankfurt and Munich	1	
Madrid, Barcelona and Palma	1	
Zurich	1.28	
Athens	0.5	
Copenhagen	1.34	
Rome-Fiumicino	1.5	
Dublin	1	

Source: virail.es

According to San Francisco International Airport data, approximately 10,000 bottles of water are sold daily or almost 4 million bottles each year. To change this scenario, the use of PET plastic bottles has been banned, so it is no longer possible to buy bottled water at stores or vending machines.

Before banning bottled water sales, the terminal began installing filtered water fountains in 2011, with more than 100 installed today. This made San Francisco the first airport to successfully ban PET plastic bottles.



### MEASURES IN AIRPORTS (continued)



In 2019, the Airports Authority of India banned the use of single-use plastics (including plastic bags, cups, plates, straws and PET bottles) at 129 airports in the country.

**Eco-friendly alternatives are being used as a substitute,** and PET plastic bottle crushers have also been installed. **As a result of this, 30 terminals were declared as single-use plastic-free zones**, including Bhopal, Indore, Kolkata, Madurai, Pune, Raipur, Varanasi and Delhi.

To encourage the use of reusable water bottles, **14 UK** airports have installed drinking fountains for travelers. Among them are Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Gatwick, Glasgow International and London.

Estimated water consumption per passenger at different airports in the world		
Airport	Liters per passenger	
Bristol airport	9.4	
Amsterdam airport	13.3	
Gatwick airport	17.08	
Frankfurt airport	21.7	
Porto Alegre airport	23	
El Salvador airport	23	
Madrid-Barajas airport	23.09	

Water consumption per passenger includes food services, toilets, water available in airplanes and terminals. Source: Airport Water Consumption Foot printing. hrpub.org



### MEASURES IN AIRPORTS (continued)

These types of initiatives improve water distribution at airports and provide better service to travelers. According to the annual Airports Council International report, passenger traffic increased in 2019 compared to the previous year:

The world's airports handled traffic of 9.1 billion passengers (+3.5%) on more than 102 million flights (+1,7%), figures that include departures and arrivals.

Also, the international organization points out that **the fastest-growing airports are in Asia** and **eight of the 30 fastest growing airports**, with more than 15 million passengers **in China and Vietnam**.

It is worth mentioning that in the case of Cornwall Newquay and Glasgow Prestwick airports, **there are no water fountains**, **but free drinking water is provided in coffee shops**, **bars and restaurants**.

### WATER IN REUSABLE BOTTLES



Due to security protocols, **bottled water can't be taken through checkpoints**, **so travelers have chosen to use reusable bottles**, which in most airports they can refill once they pass through security .

By 2017, Elkay® had installed 21 bottle filling stations at the Philadelphia airport and 40 bottle filling stations at the Chicago O'Hare airport. Aaron Frame, deputy commissioner for the environment for the Chicago Department of Aviation, estimated that O'Hare had kept nine million plastic bottles out of its waste since the installation of those stations.

**This has not only allowed passengers to stay hydrated during their trips**, but it has also helped them control their expenses when leaving their city of origin; for this reason, **a reusable bottle has become a great travel companion**.



### WATER IN REUSABLE BOTTLES (continued)

**Reusable bottles and bottle filling stations are a great option for travel**. Carrying water in its own container allows users to reduce physical contact with other people, while reducing plastic consumption.

Since **bottle filling stations feature hands-free sensor activation**, they provide users with a sanitary, **touchless bottle filling experienc**e that is healthier for both travelers and the environment.

### WATER WITHOUT WASTE



**Elkay®** offers hands-free water fountains and bottle filling stations, which help to eliminate the use of PET plastic bottles, while being a hygienic, efficient, easy to use, accessible and free initiative for the end user (travelers and employees).

Refilling bottles is a healthy and ecologically friendly option.

Elkay products are CE certified for 220V / 50Hz products, they are certified under NSF/ANSI 61 standards (Annex G, AB1953), they are designed to comply with the A.R.I. (regulation 1010) and are lead-free.

**The Elkay ezH2O bottle filling station** is easy to use and many models feature a state-of-the-art filtration system.

Hands-free units provide water instantly while reducing touchpoints, and feature antibacterial plastic to help reduce the spread of germs, and feature a power compressor and high-efficiency units insulation that reduces power consumption. The bottle filling stations have a graphical display, the Green Ticker™, which indicates how many 20-ounce PET plastic bottles are no longer used, thus helping the environment.

Elkay's efforts to improve the water situation and help reduce the use of single-use disposable plastic bottles with our range of thousands of bottle filling stations installed worldwide have left a positive footprint.

With these actions, it is possible to build a path that leads us to a more sustainable state of our planet, in addition to getting more people and spaces to join this journey through our ecosystem.

Sources:

nytimes.com | telepraph.co.uk | viajes.nationalgeographic.com.es | hosteltur.com | canaero.or.mx | hrpub.org | ourworldindata.org | bbc.com



# Drinking Water in Airports



The lack of availability to a basic service.

### Did you know ...



At international airports a bottle of water may cost

300% more than its regular price



Terminals at **Heathrow** in London

have 100 drinking fountains



There are still airports that do not have sources of free drinking water

### Free drinking water for travelers.



**IN SOME INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS** restaurants and food courts are required to refill travelers' reusable bottles with drinking water.



**CAMPAIGNS HAVE BEEN MADE** on social media with the hashtag **#wheresmywaterfountain** to request governments and airports worldwide to install drinking fountains or bottle filling stations.



**THE GREATEST CHALLENGE** for those traveling with reusable bottles is restrictions of bottles that exceed certain size, but in some United Kingdom airports this rule has been modified.

Did you know that ... **Elkay®** has a wide variety of products that meet the standards for supplying drinking water within international airports.

### Sources











