



Look at
these
images
and finish
the
heading:

**Summer
in Europe
2023**

.....



Water

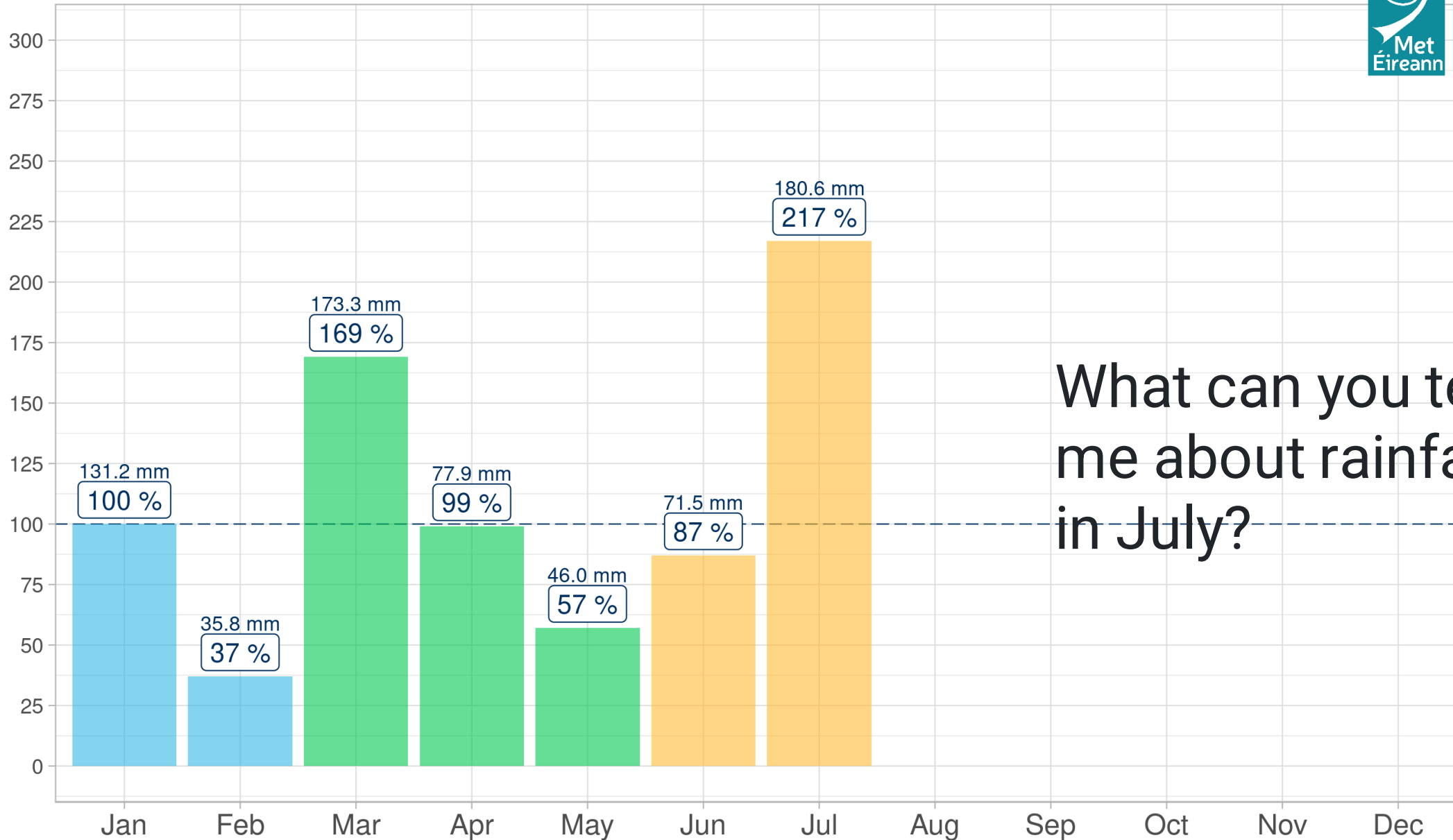
Scarcity and conservation

Water – questions to think about

- How do you use water in your everyday life?
 - Make a list of when you use water / when water is needed in your day-to-day life.
- Where does the water your drink come from?

Provisional Gridded Rainfall 2023

Sunday 1 January 2023 and Monday 31 July 2023 inclusive



What can you tell me about rainfall in July?

So...if there is so much rainfall in Ireland,
and we are surrounded by the sea, why
do we need to conserve water?

The most abundant resource on the planet is water,

**But is it all
accessible?**



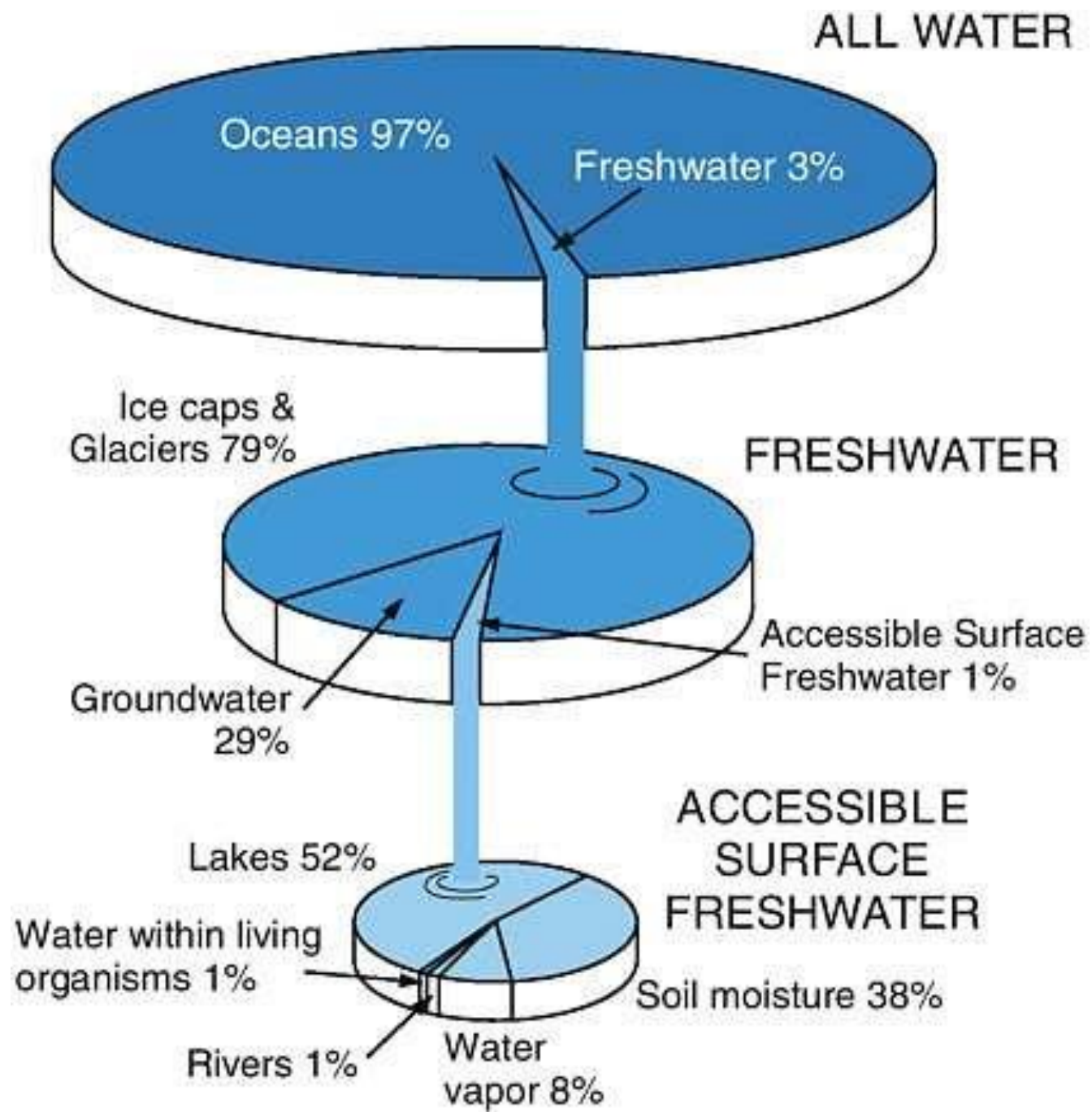
total
water



fresh
water



water
available
for drinking



Why Ireland experiences water shortages

- Water is vital which makes scarcity a real threat.
- A short spell of dry weather does not cause water shortages.
- However, we do need regular rainfall throughout the year to build up our water supplies.
- Here are a few reasons why water shortages happen:
 - Climate change
 - Increasing demand
 - Leaking pipes
 - Agriculture and industry use

Climate change

- Climate change is leading to more frequent and intense weather events, such as flooding and dry spells.
- This impacts our water resources which can mean we need to put restrictions in place.



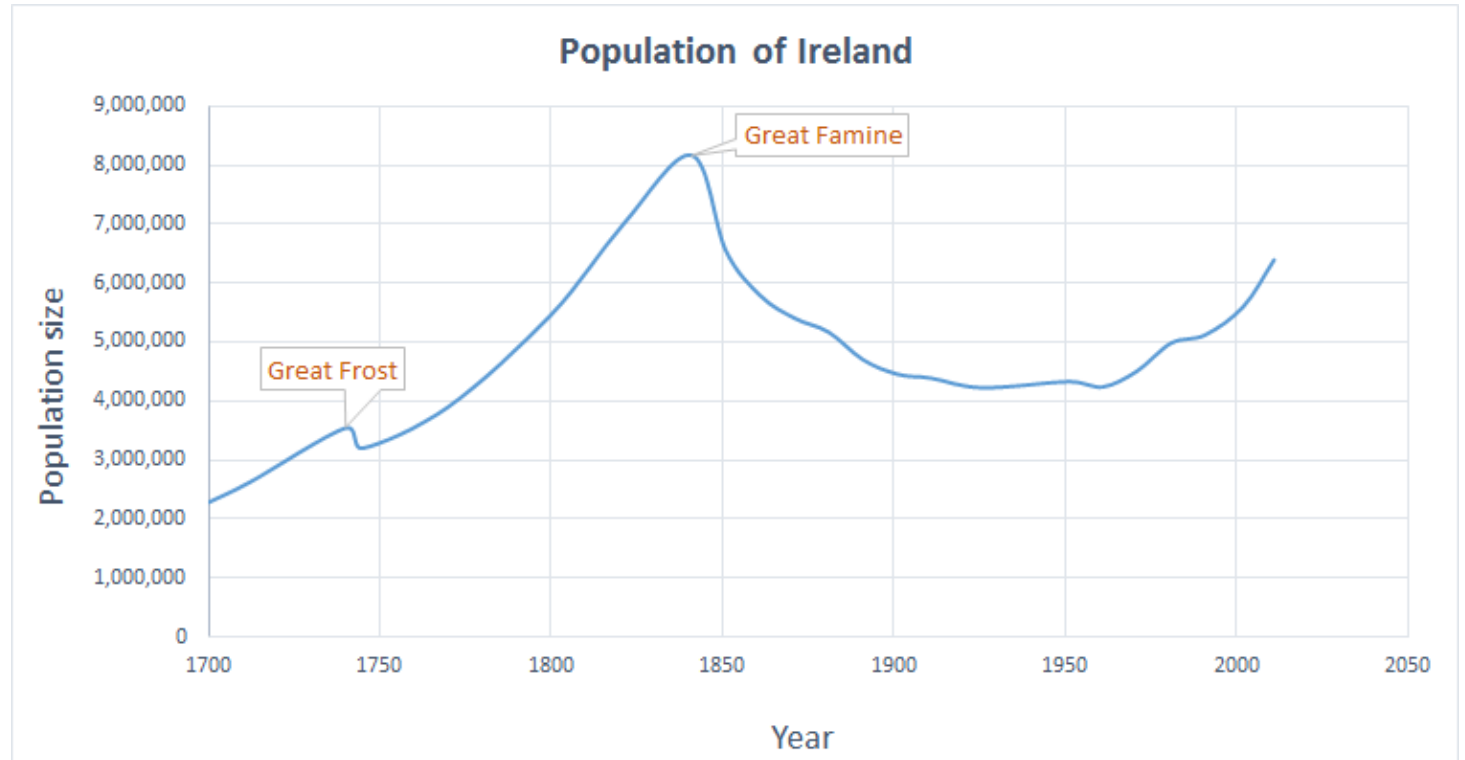
No hosepipe ban expected despite 'high demand on supplies', Irish Water confirms

However Uisce Éireann has imposed night time water restrictions in the Clonakilty area of West Cork until Tuesday, June 6



Increasing demand

- For some regions, supplies are nearing their maximum capacity.
- A growing population in Ireland puts more demand on our water resources.
- By 2044, we expect to need around 40% more treated water.



Leaking pipes

- About 38% of Ireland's drinking water is lost to leaks before it reaches our taps.
- The leaks can be in the public water infrastructure or in private homes and businesses.



Agriculture and industry use

- Agriculture and businesses use significant amounts of water.
- Agricultural activities are at their peak in the summer when supplies can already be under pressure.



How can you
conserve water at
home?

- <https://www.water.ie/conservation/home/water-conservation-calculator/>



Water conservation

5 easy tips

Water conservation methods

Take a shower



Tip: Take a shower instead of a bath to reduce water usage.

Drop the hose



Tip: Use a rosehead watering can in the garden instead of a hose or sprinkler and aim for the roots.

Use a bucket and sponge



Tip: If you need to wash your car, use a bucket and sponge instead of a hose.

Take a shorter shower



Tip: Taking a shorter shower can save up to 10 litres of water a minute.

Use it twice



Tip: Use a basin in your sink when rinsing food and use it for watering plants.

If it's yellow, let it mellow



Tip: Consider only flushing the toilet when you really need to.

Fix dripping taps



Tip: Avoid using excess water at home by mending taps and running toilets.

Protect your soil



Tip: Add a layer of plant material, like bark to your flower bed to prevent evaporation.

Turn off the tap



Tip: Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving.

Load 'em up



Tip: Run your washing machine and dishwasher with full loads.

Keep chilling



Tip: Keep a jug of water in the fridge instead of running the cold tap.

Keep an eye on running water



Tip: Don't leave running taps and hosepipes unattended.

Limit any trough overflow



Tip: Adjust the ball valves in drinking troughs to lower the float or replace faulty parts. Drain and cover troughs in the winter to avoid frost damage.

Use your plate cooler



Tip: If you own a dairy farm, divert clean plate cooler water to a tank and use it for parlour washing.

Butt seriously!



Tip: Install a water butt to harvest rainwater from your gutters. Use it to water your garden or wash your yard.

Dry-clean the yard



Tip: Use scrapers and brushes to remove solid waste from yards and pens before hosing.

Garden clever



Tip: Water your plants in the early morning or late evening. This saves water from evaporating and avoids your plants being scorched.

Choose dry condition plants



Tip: Choose plants with low water needs such as lavender or olive trees.

Lock in moisture



Tip: Add special gel beads to plant pots to keep roots hydrated.

Do not over water



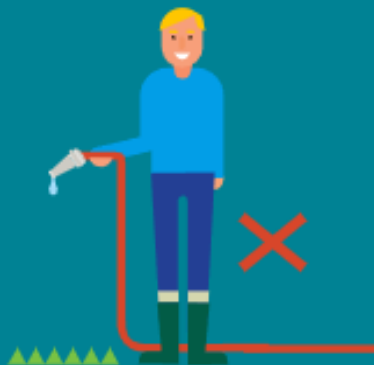
Tip: Established plants do not need watering, unless in severe drought.

Plug holes in containers in dry weather



Tip: Stop water escaping when it's dry by plugging holes in plant containers.

Avoid watering the lawn



Tip: Even if your lawn goes yellow in dry weather, it will recover quickly.

Check pipe work



Tip: Check the ground above your pipes often for signs of leaking.

Task: Poster competition

- Work in groups to create a poster on water scarcity and conservation
 - Why do we need to conserve water
 - How can we conserve water
- Winning posters will be displayed around the school



Extension activity

- Students research global access to safe drinking water.
- Is it equal around the world?
- Can they see a pattern with places that have access to safe drinking water and places that do not?
- What are the reasons for this – human and physical

Access to safe drinking water

