

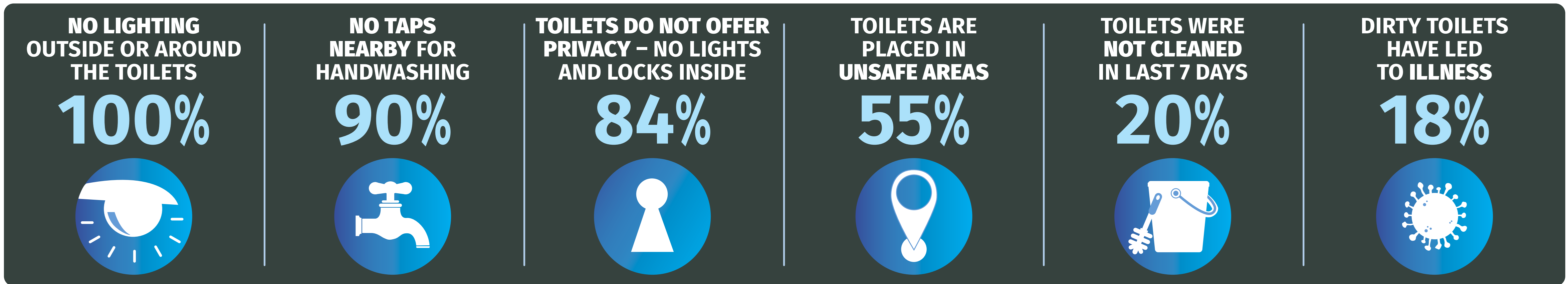
Women need safe sanitation

ASIVIKELANE WESTERN CAPE engaged women living in 50 informal settlements in Knysna. 40% of them use chemical toilets as their primary form of sanitation.

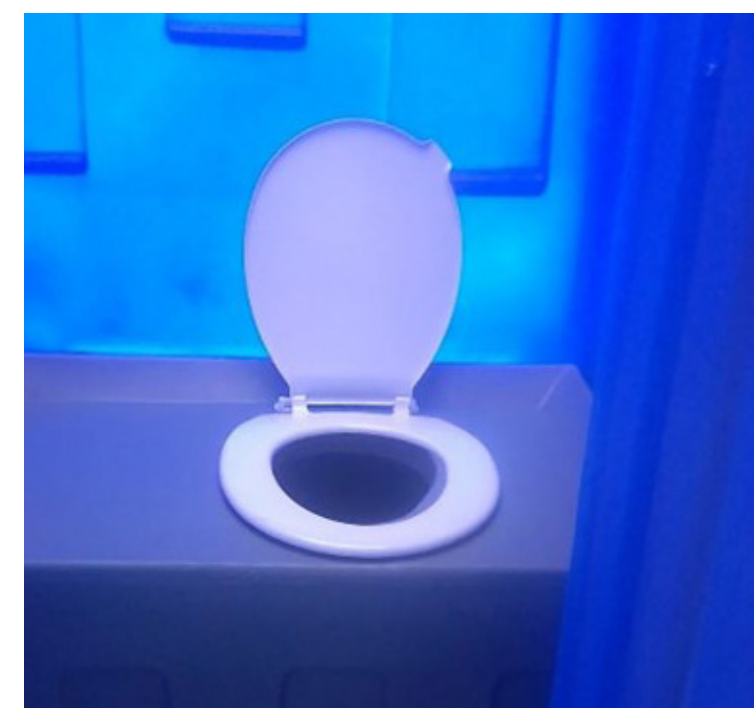
These chemical toilets pose several threats to the health and safety of these women.



Community facilitator Martina by the female toilet she helped to advocate for, Rheenedal.



Percentage of women who reported each issue as a concern



Community facilitator, Siphosethu, standing next to the female toilet in Nkandla Greenfield after advocating for the provision of separated toilets according to gender.

Knysna municipality has appointed a contractor to provide and maintain chemical toilets in its informal settlements. To make sanitation safer and healthier for women to use, the **tender specifications for chemical toilets should at least require:**

- **Lights inside** the units.
- Placement of toilets in **safe, well-lit** areas.
- **Disabled-friendly** access.
- **Separate toilets** for females and males.
- **Cleaning** at least three times per week.
- Doors with **locks inside**.
- **Waste disposal** bin inside.

To keep women and children safe, Knysna must provide **public lighting** around, and on the way to, the toilets. **Taps** should also be installed nearby to aid good hygiene.