



Department of Health
DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

The table below outlines contaminants that are potential risks to the public's health:

Parameter	Concentration Limit
Total coliforms (non-distribution water eg. private dwellings, licensed premises etc)	Less than 4 cfu/100 ml *
Total coliforms (piped distribution water eg. PWD etc)	0 cfu/100 ml *
<i>E.coli</i>	0 cfu/100 ml *
Chlorine residual	0.5 mg/*
Arsenic	0.01 mg/l
Cadmium	0.005 mg/l
Chromium	0.1 mg/l
Cyanide (as free cyanide)	0.2 mg/l
Lead	0.015 mg/l
Mercury	0.002 mg/l
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	10 mg/l *
Selenium	0.05 mg/l
Pesticides (Total)	0.5 µg/l
Total Trihalomethanes	0.080 mg/l
Turbidity	1-5 NTU
Asbestos fibres	7 X 10 ⁶ fibres/l

The table below contains “nuisance” contaminants that may cause cosmetic and aesthetic effects:

Parameter	Concentration Limit
Aluminum	0.2 mg/l
Chloride	300 *
Colour	15 colour units
Copper	1.0 mg/l
Fluoride	2.0 mg/l
Foaming agents	0.5 mg/l
Hardness	300 *
Iron	0.3 *
Manganese	0.05 mg/l
Odour	3 threshold odour number
pH	6.5 – 8.5 *
Silver	0.10 mg/l
Sulfate	250 mg/l
Total Dissolved Solids	500 mg/l
Zinc	5 mg/l

* Denotes routine testing performed by Department of Health

DOH standards are closely aligned with US EPA primary and secondary drinking water regulations. Full EPA list found here: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/npwdr_complete_table.pdf