

Tap-water Quality Standard Of Metropolitan Waterworks Authority

Parameters	units	Guideline Value WHO 2006
1. Bacteriological Quality		
<i>E. coli</i>	Presence-Absence/100 ml	Absence /100 ml
2. Physical and Chemical Quality		
Apperance colour	True colour unit	15
Turbidity	NTU	5
Taste and odour	-	Acceptability
Arsenic	mg/l	0.01
Cadmium	mg/l	0.003
Chromium	mg/l	0.05
Cyanide	mg/l	0.07
Lead	mg/l	0.01
Inorganic Mercury	mg/l	0.006
Selenium	mg/l	0.01
Fluoride	mg/l	1.5
Chloride	mg/l	250
Copper	mg/l	2
Iron	mg/l	0.3
Manganese	mg/l	0.4
Aluminium	mg/l	0.1
Sodium	mg/l	200
Sulfate	mg/l	250
Zinc	mg/l	3
Hydrogen sulfide	mg/l	0.05
Total dissolved solids	mg/l	1,000
Nitrate as NO ₃ ⁻	mg/l	50
Nitrite as NO ₂ ⁻	mg/l	3
Free residual chlorine	mg/l	> 0.2
Trichloroethene	mg/l	0.02
Tetrachloroethene	mg/l	0.04
Microcystin-LR	mg/l	0.001

3. Pesticides		
Aldrin/Dieldrin	µg/l	0.03
Chlordane	µg/l	0.2
DDT	µg/l	1
2,4-D	µg/l	30
Heptachlor and Heptachlor epoxide	µg/l	0.03
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/l	1
Lindane	µg/l	2
Methoxychlor	µg/l	20
Pentachlorophenol	µg/l	9
4. Trihalomethanes sum of the ratio		
Chloroform , CHCl ₃	mg/l	0.3
Bromodichloromethane , CHBrCl ₂	mg/l	0.06
Dibromochloromethane , CHBr ₂ Cl	mg/l	0.1
Bromoform , CHBr ₃	mg/l	0.1
5. Radioactive		
Gross alpha activity	Bq/l	0.5
Gross beta activity	Bq/l	1

Guideline values for chemicals that are of health significance in drinking-water

Note: 1 mg = 1,000 µg

* Recommended minimum sample numbers for faecal indicator testing in distribution systems *

Population	Total number of samples per year
Point sources	Progressive sampling of all sources over 3 to 5 year cycles (maximum)
Piped supplies	
<5,000	12
5,000-100,000	12 per 5,000 head of population
> 100,000-500,000	12 per 10,000 head of population plus an additional 120 samples
>500,000	12 per 100,000 head of population plus an additional 180 samples

* Parameters such as chlorine, turbidity and pH should be tested more frequently as part of operational and verification monitoring.

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