

WHO 2008 Geneva - Guide Lines for Potable piped Water Supplies

Chemical	Limit Value	Unit	Remarks
Total Dissolved Solids TDS	< 1500	mg/l	300 mg/l upper limits in high class water 500 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Colour, units on Platinum-Cobalt scale	< 50	-	3 upper limits in high class water 5 highest desirable concentration
Turbidity, JTU	<25	-	0.2 upper limits in high class water 5 highest desirable concentration
Aluminium	0.2	mg/l	
Arsenic	0.01	mg/l	
Barium	0.7	mg/l	
Benzene	0.01	mg/l	
Boron	0.5	mg/l	
Bromate	0.1	mg/l	
Cadmium	0.003	mg/l	
Calcium	< 200	mg/l	75 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Chloride	600	mg/l	100 mg/l upper limits in high class water 200 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Chlorine	5	mg/l	For effective disinfection, there should be a residual concentration of free chlorine of ≥ 0.5 mg/l after at least 30 min. contact time at pH < 8.0
Chromium	0.05	mg/l	For total Chromium
Copper	2	mg/l	
Cyanide	0.07	mg/l	
Fluoride	1.5	mg/l	Volume of water consumed and intake from other sources should be considered when setting national standards
Hardness as CaCO ₃	80	mg/l	
Iron	1	mg/l	0.1 mg/l upper limits in high class water 0.3 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Lead	0.01	mg/l	
Magnesium	150	mg/l	50 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Magnesium and Sodium Sulphate	1000	mg/l	200 mg/l upper limits in high class water 500 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Manganese	0.4	mg/l	0.02 mg/l upper limits in high class water 0.1 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Mercury	0.001	mg/l	For total Mercury (inorganic plus organic)
Nickel	0.02	mg/l	
Nitrate (as NO ₃)	50	mg/l	
Nitrate (as NO ₂)	3	mg/l	
Sulphate	400	mg/l	200 mg/l highest desirable concentration
Zinc	15	mg/l	1 mg/l upper limits in high class water 5 mg/l highest desirable concentration