

# EPA Standards for Drinking Water Contaminants

Contaminant	Symbol	EPA Maximum Contaminant Level	Common Sources of Contaminant in Drinking Water
Antimony	Sb	6 ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries, fire retardants, and solder
Arsenic	As	10 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits, and runoff from orchards
Barium	Ba	2000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits and industrial discharge
Beryllium	Be	4 ppb	Discharge from various industries
Cadmium	Cd	5 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits, industrial discharge, and corrosion of galvanized pipes
Chromium	Cr	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits and industrial discharge
Copper	Cu	1300 ppb*	Erosion of natural deposits and corrosion of household plumbing systems
Iron	Fe	300 ppb**	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	Pb	15 ppb*	Erosion of natural deposits and corrosion of household plumbing systems
Manganese	Mn	50 ppb**	Erosion of natural deposits and industrial discharge
Nickel	Ni	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits and industrial discharge
Selenium	Se	50 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits and industrial discharge
Thallium	Tl	2 ppb	Industrial discharge
Uranium	U	30 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits

The National Primary Drinking Water Regulations are legally enforceable primary standards and treatment techniques that apply to public water systems. The EPA limits levels of these contaminants in drinking water. \* The EPA regulates lead and copper under an Action Level rather than a Maximum Contaminant Level. \*\* The EPA has established secondary standards for these contaminants that are not considered to present a risk to human health. Sources:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/national-primary-drinking-water-regulations>  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>