

Table 1

**Comparison of Primary Inorganic Drinking Water Standards
By Country or Organization**

Contaminant	US EPA	Australia	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	European Union	WHO [†]
	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L
METALS							
Antimony	6	3	6	10	10	5	5
Arsenic	10	7	25	50	10	5	10
Barium	2000	700	1000	1000	1000	No Guideline	700
Beryllium	4	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Cadmium	5	2	5	5	5	5	3
Chromium	100	No Guideline	50	50	50	50	50
Copper	1300	2000	1000	3000	3000	2000	1000
Lead	15	10	10	50	40	10	10
Mercury	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nickel	100	20	No Guideline	50	50	20	20
Selenium	50	10	10	10	10	10	10
Thallium	2	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Non - Metals							
Asbestos	7 mil F/L	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Cyanide	0.2 mg/L	0.08 mg/L	0.2 mg/L	0.05 mg/L	0.05 mg/L	0.05 mg/L	0.07 mg/L
Fluoride	4 mg/L	1.5 mg/L	1.5 mg/L	1.5 mg/L	1.5 mg/L	1.5 mg/L	1.5 mg/L
Nitrate	10 mg/L	50 mg/L*	10 mg/L	50 mg/L*	50 mg/L*	50 mg/L*	50 mg/L*
Nitrite	0.1 mg/L	3.0 mg/L**	3.2 mg/L**	0.1 mg/L	0.1 mg/L	0.5 mg/L	3.0 mg/L**

†The World Health Organization's standards are the basis for both developed and underdeveloped countries standards. They are guidelines based on health and may not be practical for all countries.

*Measured as Nitrate. U.S. standards measured as nitrogen.

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