

Table 5

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

Contaminant	US EPA	Australia	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	European Union	WHO
BACTERIA							
Heterotrophic Plate Count	← 500 colonies/L	←100 colonies / mL	← 500 colonies/L	No sig. increase over nrml.	←100 colonies / mL	←100 colonies / mL	No Guideline
E. coli	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0 /100 mL	0/100 mL
Fecal Coliforms	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL	0/100 mL
Total Coliforms	0/100 mL 5% of Samples*	0/100 mL 5% of Samples*	10/100mL ↑↑↑ 10% of Samples	0/100 mL 5% of Samples*	0/100 mL 5% of Samples*	0/100 mL	0/100 mL 5% of Samples*
PROTOZOA							
Acanthameoba	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Cryptosporidium	(TT) 99.9% Removal	(TT) 99.9% Removal	No Guideline	←1 / 10 L ↑↑↑↑	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Giardia lamblia	(TT) 99.9% Removal	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Naegleria fowleri	No Guideline	##	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
VIRUSES							
Adenoviruses	99.9% Removal	#	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Caliciviruses	99.9% Removal	No Guideline	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Coxsackieviruses	99.9% Removal	No Guideline	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Echoviruses	99.9% Removal	No Guideline	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Enteric Viruses	(TT) 99.9% Removal	#	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Hepatitis Viruses	99.9% Removal	#	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Norwalk Virus	99.9% Removal	#	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found
Rotavirus	99.9% Removal	#	Under Review	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found	Not Found

↑↑↑Canada has a zero specification similar to the rest of the developed world. No sample should contain → 10 colonies and not more than 10% of the samples should be positive.

* No more than 5% of samples may be positive. Positive samples must be analyzed for either fecal coliforms or E. coli.

(TT) = Treatment Technique

↑↑↑↑Continuous monitoring at the entry point to the distribution system is required.

#Routine monitoring is not required. If fecal coliforms or E. coli are detected, or an outbreak is detected, monitoring these contaminants may be needed. ##Action required if detected. Routine monitoring not required.

Table 5A

Comparison of Unique Microbial Drinking Water Standards

By Country or Organization

Contaminant	US EPA	Australia	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	European Union	WHO
Aeromonas Hydrophilia	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Campylobacter coli	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Campylobacter jejuni	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Mycobacterium Avium Intercellulare	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	0 / 250 mL***	No Guideline
Salmonella spp.	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Shigella spp.	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Vibrio cholera	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Yersinia enterocolitica	No Guideline	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Legionella	No Limit**	#	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Fecal Streptococci	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	0 / 100 mL	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Sulfite-reducing Clostridia	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	≤1 / 20 mL	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Toxic Algae & Algal Toxins							
Cyanobacteria	No Guideline	1000 - 2000/mL↑	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline
Microcystin-LR	No Guideline	No Guideline*	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	No Guideline	1 ug/L
Helicobacter Pylori	No Guideline	No	No	No	No	No	No Guideline

		Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	
Microsporidia	No Guideline	No	No	No	No	No	No Guideline
		Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	
Clostridium perfringens	No Guideline	No	No	No	No	0 / 100	No Guideline
		Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	Guideline	mL↑↑	

*No standards are currently in place.

**Removal of 99.9% of Giardia and Viruses will accomplish removal of Legionella.

*** Requirement for bottled waters.

↑For counts of 1000 - 2000 / mL, incrsd montng is recmd. Counts →2000 per mL require immediate action.

↑↑ Required for systems using surface water.

#Routine monitoring is not required. If fecal coliforms or E. coli are detected, or an outbreak is detected, monitoring these contaminants may be warranted.