ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By

City of Sonoma

PWS ID#: 4910012

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.



About This Report

This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The city's primary source is water purchased from Sonoma Water. Our secondary water source consists of six city-owned groundwater wells. The City of Sonoma uses these wells as a supplementary supply to water purchased from Sonoma Water.



Source Water Assessment

In 2018 the city conducted a thorough source water assessment of its municipal groundwater wells. According to the assessment, all sites are in compliance with federal Safe Drinking Water Act guidelines. A complete copy of the source water assessment may be viewed at City Hall, No. 1 The Plaza.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

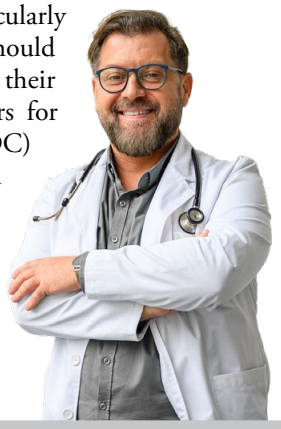


- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Important Health Information

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or epa.gov/safewater.



Questions?

For more information about this report, please call MacLean Meyn, Water Supervisor, at (707) 933-2231.

Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

PFAS in Your Drinking Water

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are manufactured chemicals used since the 1950s in products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. PFAS do not break down easily and accumulate in the environment and in people over time. Common sources of exposure include nonstick cookware, stain-resistant fabrics, water-resistant clothing, food packaging, personal care products, and firefighting foam.

Source in drinking water: Discharge from industrial facilities, use of consumer products, and firefighting activities.

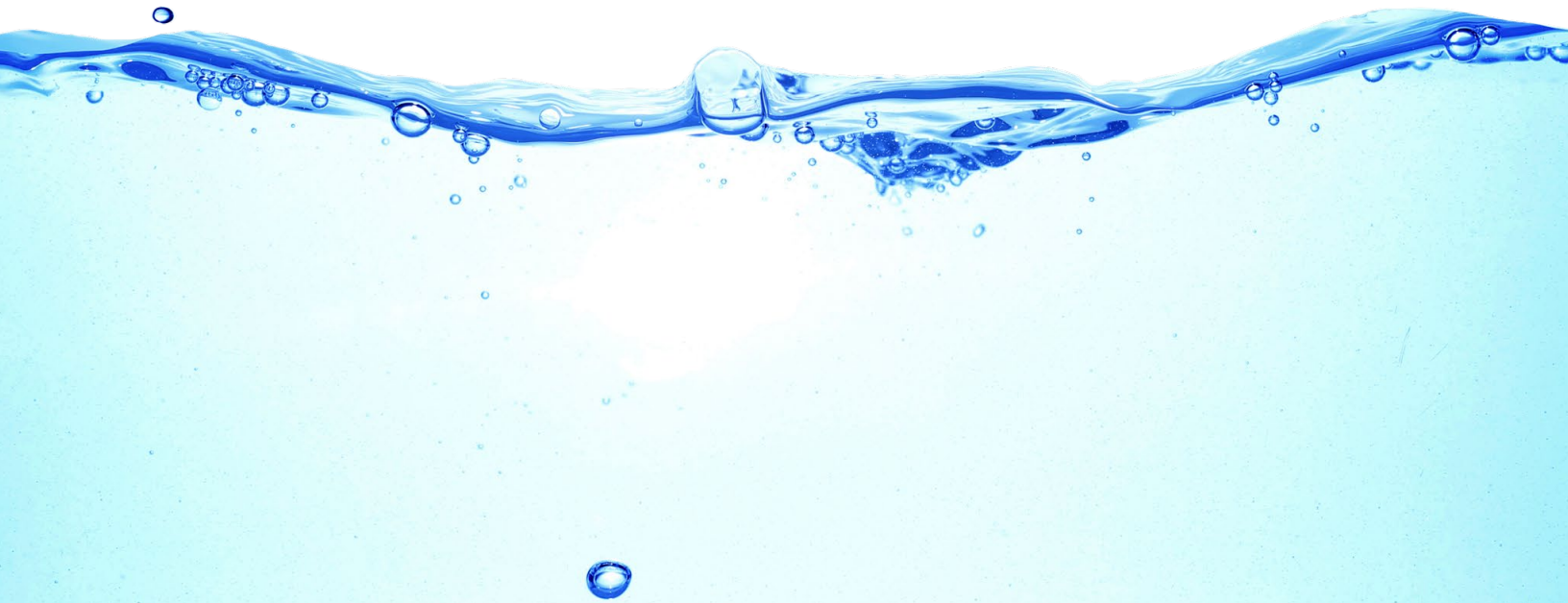
Health Effects of Regulated PFAS (if MCL is exceeded over many years):

CHEMICAL	POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS (LONG-TERM EXPOSURE ABOVE MCL)
HFPO-DA (GenX)	Immune, liver, and kidney effects; potential cancer risk; developmental effects from exposure during pregnancy/childhood.
PFHxS	Immune, thyroid, and liver effects; developmental effects from exposure during pregnancy/childhood.
PFNA	Elevated cholesterol, immune and liver effects; developmental effects from exposure during pregnancy/childhood.
PFOS	Cardiovascular, immune, and liver effects; increased risk of liver cancer; developmental and immune effects from exposure during pregnancy/childhood.
PFOA	Cardiovascular, immune, and liver effects; increased risk of kidney and testicular cancer; developmental and immune effects from exposure during pregnancy/childhood.

For questions about products in your home, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772. For more on PFAS, visit http://bit.ly/3Z5AMm8.

Community Participation

The city council normally meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. For more information, please visit sonomacity.org or call City Hall at (707) 938-3681.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				City of Sonoma		Sonoma County Water Agency			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2025	15	0	NA	NA	0.54	-0.36–1.52	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2025	10	0.004	8.1	7.2–10.0	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2025	5	(0)	NA	NA	0.38	-0.18–0.96	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2025	2.0	1	0.3	NA	0.01	ND–0.11	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2025	60	NA	ND	NA	8.69	ND–26.44	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2025	10	20	0.52	0.03–0.91	0.28	ND–0.48	No	Erosion of natural deposits; transformation of naturally occurring trivalent chromium to hexavalent chromium by natural processes and human activities such as discharges from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities
Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm)	2025	45	45	0.6	ND–1.9	NA	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	27	23–31	13.85	6.13–22.88	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	0.3	0.086	ND–0.092	0/31	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0.2	ND	ND–11	0/31	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				City of Sonoma		Sonoma County Water Agency			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2025	500	NS	7.4	NA	7.84	4.3–21.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2025	15	NS	NA	NA	10.0	ND–45	No	Naturally occurring organic materials

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				City of Sonoma		Sonoma County Water Agency			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Iron (ppb)	2025	300	NS	82	NA	156.7	ND–800	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2025	50	NS	22	NA	58.4	ND–150	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (TON)	2025	3	NA	NA	NA	4.7	ND–28	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2025	1,600	NS	NA	NA	236.3	220–260	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2025	500	NS	5.6	NA	10.2	3.2–14.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2025	1,000	NS	204	NA	160	120–270	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2025	5	NS	0.60	NA	1.56	0.03–13.00	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES [2]

		City of Sonoma		Sonoma County Water Agency		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2025	93	NA	94.1	42–110	NA
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	94.1	42–110	NA
Boron (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	228.3	200–270	NA
Calcium (ppm)	2025	11	NA	18.5	9.1–24.0	NA
Chlorodibromomethane (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	0.003	0.002–0.004	NA
Conductivity (µS/cm)	2025	225	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hardness, Total [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2025	56.1	NA	92.3	36–125	NA
Magnesium (ppm)	2025	6.96	NA	11.06	3.2–16.0	NA
pH (units)	2025	7.83	NA	7.65	7.30–8.41	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	1.3	1.0–1.7	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2025	21	NA	17.1	8–45	NA



Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Regulatory Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

PHG (Public Health Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

UCMR5 (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5): A U.S. EPA rule requiring monitoring for 29 PFAS and lithium from 2023–2025 to inform future drinking water standards.

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

UCMR5 CONTAMINANTS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	NOTIFICATION LEVEL	RESPONSE LEVEL	City of Sonoma AMOUNT DETECTED	City of Sonoma RANGE LOW-HIGH	Sonoma County Water Agency AMOUNT DETECTED	Sonoma County Water Agency RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid [HFPO-DA/GenX] (ppt)	2025	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.07	ND–1.3	NA
Lithium (ppb)	2024	NA	NA	170	NA	NA	NA	NA
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppt)	2025	500	NA	NA	NA	0.26	ND–1.8	NA
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	2025	3	10	NA	NA	0.15	ND–1.1	NA
Perfluorohexanoic Acid [PFHxA] (ppt)	2024	1,000	10,000	6.1[3]	NA	0.15[1]	ND–1.1[1]	NA
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2025	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.06	ND–1.3	NA
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2025	4	40	NA	NA	0.26	ND–1.4	NA
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2024	4	10	6.2[3]	NA	0.19[1]	ND–1.1[1]	NA

[1] Sampled in 2025.
[2] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
[3] All wells were non-detect, except for Well 2. Well 2 is an active source but has not distributed water into the system since 2020.

Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. City of Sonoma is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.

Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact City of Sonoma at (707) 933-2231. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory for City of Sonoma may be viewed at sonomacity.org/lead-service-line-inventory. Please contact us at (707) 933-2231 if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

