

# Routine Drinking Water Profile

## Report Interpretation

## Technical note 4

When you request analyses from our Laboratory, you are sent a written report based on the information given with the sample. This report is sectioned into:

- **Sample Information:** Details about the sample site, sample collection, and the date the sample was received in the Lab.
- **Results:** This section contains our database references (Your Reference) a secondary reference and Notes – information provided by you with the sample - and, if provided, the date of sample collection.
- **Test Method Information:** The test method used, whether the test is IANZ accredited, or has been subcontracted.
- **End of report:** Statements covering the potential reuse of the report information, the signature of the Key Technical Personnel (KTP), report date and accreditation logo.

## What do my results mean?

The following table lists the parameter measured, units of measurement, New Zealand Drinking Water Standard maximum acceptable value (MAV), whether the parameter is of health or aesthetic significance, and a comment of the significance of the parameter measured.

Note: 'NA' in the MAV column means that parameter does not have a maximum accepted value specified in the New Zealand Drinking Water Standard.

This information is referenced from NZ Drinking Water Standards 2008.

## Important

**The results reported only apply to the water quality at the time of sampling.** Water quality will vary from day to day and is dependent on factors such as rainfall, land use in the catchment area and other seasonal influences. Regular monitoring of your water quality is recommended.

## Our aim is to make your job easier

If you have any further questions about this, please contact us. We are eager to understand your testing needs and ensure that they are met consistently, so your decisions are easier and more meaningful. We hope you are satisfied with the additional information available to you and find it useful when making decisions.



Whangarei District Council Laboratory

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Parameter	Units	NZ Drinking Water Standard Maximum Accepted Value (MAV) Aesthetic or Health	Significance of or problem with having this parameter in the water
Escherichia Coli (E coli)	MPN /100mL	< 1 (not detected) Health	Indicates water contaminated with faecal matter
Total Coliform	MPN /100mL	NA	Indication of organic content in water
Approx Total Dissolved Salts	mg/L	1000 Aesthetic	Taste may become unacceptable from 600-1200mg/L
Chloride	mg/L	250 Aesthetic	Taste, corrosion, can indicate salt water intrusion.
Electrical Conductivity	uS/cm	NA	Used to calculate TDS, ion balance check and other parameter estimation.
Free Carbon Dioxide	mg/L	NA Aesthetic	From atmosphere and decaying vegetation, contributes to corrosion
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	11.4 as NO <sub>3</sub> -N 50 as NO <sub>3</sub>	Can cause methaemoglobinaemia in bottle fed infants - blue baby syndrome
pH	NA	7.0 - 8.5 Aesthetic	Low pH can contribute to corrosion, high pH can feel soapy, cause scale.
Sulphate	mg/L	250 Aesthetic	Taste threshold
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	NA Aesthetic	Alkalinity <25 can contribute to corrosive waters (blue staining)
Total Boron	mg/L	1.4 Health	From geothermal areas.

Parameter	Units	NZ Drinking Water Standard Maximum Accepted Value (MAV) Aesthetic or Health	Significance of or problem with having this parameter in the water
Total Calcium	mg/L	NA Aesthetic	Major element, used to calculate hardness.
Total Copper	mg/L	1 Aesthetic 2 Health	Can be product of corrosive water resulting in blue staining of laundry & sanitary ware,
Total Hardness	mg/L	200 Aesthetic	High hardness causes scale deposits & scum formation. Low hardness (<100) can contribute to corrosion.
Total Iron	mg/L	0.2 Aesthetic	Staining of laundry and sanitary ware – brown.
Total Magnesium	mg/L	NA	Major element, used to calculate hardness.
Total Manganese	mg/L	0.04 Aesthetic	Staining of Laundry
		0.1 Aesthetic	Taste threshold
		0.4 Health	Affects appearance taste odour
Total Potassium	mg/L	NA	Major element, no health or aesthetic significance.
Total Sodium	mg/L	200 Aesthetic	Taste threshold.
Total Zinc	mg/L	3 Aesthetic	Taste threshold. May affect appearance from 3mg/L