

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Population with access to bacteriological, protozoa and chemically compliant drinking-water
Domain and topic	Drinking-water quality: Access to safe drinking-water
Indicator definition and units	Number and percentage of the population on registered community drinking-water supplies, and number of water supplies/distribution zones that meet safety standards.
Data source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai. 2025. <i>Drinking Water Regulation Report 2024</i>. Wellington: Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai. Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai. 2025. <i>Distribution zone level data extract</i>. Created 22/09/2025 and provided to EHINZ through personal communication with Water Services Authority analysts.
Numerator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of people who were served with water complying with various safety standards The number of supplies/water distribution zones compliant with those standards.
Denominator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population on registered community drinking-water supplies Total registered supplies
Population coverage	Population on registered community drinking-water supplies (4.0 million as of 2024)
Time period and time scale	Annual only.
Measures of frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and percentage of people served compliant drinking-water – <i>by standard</i> Number and percentage of people served with overall compliant drinking-water Number of supplies exceeding contaminant Maximum Acceptable Values.
Limitations of indicator	Indicator only represents the population on registered drinking-water supplies, instead of all New Zealanders. For example, New Zealanders who rely on wells for potable drinking-water and water sources that serve a population of less than 100 people are not included.
Limitations of data source	The population statistics in the report are estimates derived from the online Water Information New Zealand (WINZ) datasets and it is not possible to determine their accuracy.

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	Some population figures are aggregated to supply-scale from the smaller populations of specific distribution zones, which results in giving precise figures for the number of people affected when a breach of safety standards only applies to a subset of the supply population.
Created by	Environmental Health Intelligence New Zealand, Centre for Public Health Research, Massey University, Wellington
Related indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notifications of campylobacteriosis, cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis with untreated drinking-water as a risk factor
For more information	
References	