

Microbes and chemical composition of potable water in the capital area in 2019

Reykjavik's Department of Environment and Planning (RDEP) regularly collects samples to monitor water quality. Samples are also collected for a complete chemical composition analysis.

Microbe analysis

Microbial properties	Unit	Max. recommended value	Lab	Well V-3, Jadar area	Well V-12, Myllulaekur	Well VK-01, Vatnsendakriki	Well VK-05, Vatnsendakriki	Tank T-2, all water from Vatnsendakriki	Well V-10, Jadar area	RDEP microbial samples
Total number of microbes	Number			1	1	1	1	1	1	109
Total microbes 22°C	Average	100/ml	MATÍS	3	0	0	0	1	2	1.4
	Highest value	100/ml	MATÍS	3	0	0	0	1	2	70
	Lowest value	100/ml	MATÍS	3	0	0	0	1	2	0
Escherichia coli (E. Coli)	Average	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Highest value	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lowest value	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enterococci	Average	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Highest value	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lowest value	0/100 ml	MATÍS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Chemical composition of potable water

Physiological and chemical properties	Unit	Max. recommended value	Sk.	Lab	Well V-1 Jadar area	Well V-13 Myllulaekur	Well VK-01 Vatnsendakriki	Arbaer dam	Well VK-5 Vatnsendakriki	Well V-14 Myllulaekur
Sample no.					R19-946-1	R19-946-2	R19-946-3	R19-2487-1	R19-2487-2	R19-2487-3
Sampling date					6.5.2019	6.5.2019	6.5.2019	16.10.2019	16.10.2019	16.10.2019
Colour of sample	mgPt/l			ALS	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
Turbidity	NTU	adequate	(1)	MATÍS	0.11	0.12	<0.10	<0.10	0.20	0.17
Temperature	°C	25		MATÍS	4.0	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.2
Acidity (pH)	pH unit			MATÍS	9.10	9.20	8.95	8.95	8.75	9.20
Conductivity	µS/cm	2500		MATÍS	86	90	81	82	91	94
Chloride (Cl)	mg/l	250		ALS	10	9.94	9.32	9.3	9.91	10.3
Sulphate (SO ₄)	mg/l	250		ALS	1.95	2.00	1.99	2.32	2.46	2.40
Fluoride (F)	mg/l	1.5		ALS	<0.200	<0.200	<0.200	<0.200	<0.200	<0.200
Nitrate (NO ₃)	mg/l	50		ALS	0.226	0.292	0.226	0.204	0.204	0.195
Nitrite (NO ₂)	mg/l	0.5		ALS	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
Ammonium (NH ₄ -N)	mg/l	0.5		ALS	<0.026	<0.026	<0.026	<0.026	<0.026	<0.026
TOC	mg/l	no abnormal changes		ALS	<0.50	<0.50	<0.50	0.24	0.21	0.19
Calcium (Ca)	mg/l	100	(3)	ALS	4.64	5.20	5.26	5.16	5.50	4.67
Iron (Fe)	mg/l	0.2		ALS	0.0007	0.0005	<0.0004	0.0011	0.0011	0.0007
Potassium (K)	mg/l	12	(3)	ALS	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	0.487	<0.4	<0.4
Magnesium (Mg)	mg/l	50	(3)	ALS	0.857	0.563	0.885	0.952	0.915	0.767
Sodium (Na)	mg/l	200		ALS	12.5	13.3	10.0	9.78	11.6	13
Sulphur (S)	mg/l		(4)	ALS	0.739	0.722	0.746	0.699	0.818	0.767
Silica (Si)	mg/l		(4)	ALS	6.59	6.41	6.76	6.9	6.67	6.65
Aluminium (Al)	µg/l	200		ALS	22.3	12.9	21.0	18.5	12.7	20.4
Arsen (As)	µg/l	10		ALS	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	0.0520	<0.05	0.0513

Physiological and chemical properties	Unit	Max. recommended value	Sk.	Lab	Well V-1 Jadar area	Well V-13 Myllulaekur	Well VK-01 Vatnsendakriki	Arbaer dam	Well VK-5 Vatnsendakriki	Well V-14 Myllulaekur
Sum PAH other	µg/l			ALS	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20
Sum PAH 4	µg/l			ALS	0,21	0,18	0,16	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10
Sum PAH L	µg/l			ALS	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20
Sum PAH M	µg/l			ALS	<1,0	<1,0	<1,0	<1,0	<1,0	<1,0
Sum PAH H	µg/l			ALS	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10
Tribromomethane	µg/l			ALS	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20	<0,20
Dibromochloromethane	µg/l			ALS	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10
Bromodichloromethane	µg/l			ALS	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10	<0,10
Sum trihalomethane	µg/l			ALS	<0,350	<0,350	<0,350	<0,35	<0,35	<0,35
Cyanide (CN total)	µg/l	50		ALS	<0,005	<0,005	<0,005	<0,005	<0,005	<0,005

Commentary:

- (1) Adequate for consumption and no uncharacteristic changes
- (2) Maximum value for sum of trichloroethane and tetrachloroethene
- (3) Maximum value in older Icelandic regulations 319/1995 (void)
- (4) Maximum value not in Icelandic regulations
- (5) Maximum value for the sum of the following substances: benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k) fluoranthene, benzo(ghi)perylene, indeno(123cd)pyrene

Laboratories:

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