



Figure 1. Distribution of nitrate concentration in groundwater wells by county with at least one sample collected from 2012 – 2015, pursuant to Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011. Green box plots represent irrigation wells and blue box plots represent domestic drinking water wells. Dark black line in box is the median nitrate concentration and the blue diamond represents the mean nitrate concentration. The dashed red line represents the California maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate (10 mg/L NO₃-N). All data is available at <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/>

Table 3. ILRP Groundwater Data – All Groundwater Wells (2012 – 2015)

ALL GROUNDWATER WELLS	COUNTY							
	Monterey	San Benito	San Luis Obispo	San Mateo	Santa Barbara	Santa Clara	Santa Cruz	Ventura
Total Number of Groundwater Wells (Domestic and Irrigation)	1244	188	1398	1	867	141	148	12
% Wells above the MCL ¹	38%	18%	14%	0	28%	35%	21%	0
Min. Nitrate	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Max. Nitrate	188	66	124.2	<0.1	870	56	71.7	8
Mean Nitrate	14.2	6.4	6.2	<0.1	11.6	9.7	6.2	2.1

¹MCL is 10 mg/L nitrate as N; All nitrate concentration values are in mg/L nitrate as N. Values shown in red bold exceed the MCL.

Table 4. ILRP Groundwater Data – Domestic Drinking Water Wells (2012 – 2015)

DOMESTIC DRINKING WATER WELLS	COUNTY							
	Monterey	San Benito	San Luis Obispo	San Mateo	Santa Barbara	Santa Clara	Santa Cruz	Ventura
Total Number of Domestic Drinking Water Wells	724	65	630	0	255	35	20	4
% Wells above the MCL ¹	40%	26%	11%	NA	20%	40%	15%	0%
Min. Nitrate	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	NA	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.3
Max. Nitrate	188	66	121	NA	116	28.2	24.5	4.3
Mean Nitrate	16.1	9.5	5	NA	8.4	8.9	3.6	1.9

¹MCL is 10 mg/L nitrate as N; All nitrate concentration values are in mg/L nitrate as N. NA – Not Applicable. Values shown in red bold exceed the MCL.

Table 5. ILRP Groundwater Data – Irrigation Wells (2012 – 2015)

IRRIGATION WELLS	COUNTY							
	Monterey	San Benito	San Luis Obispo	San Mateo	Santa Barbara	Santa Clara	Santa Cruz	Ventura
Total Number of Irrigation Wells	520	123	768	1	612	106	128	8
% Wells above the MCL¹	34%	14%	16%	0	32%	34%	22%	0%
Min. Nitrate	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1
Max. Nitrate	156	35	124.2	<0.1	870	56	71.7	8
Mean Nitrate	11.5	4.7	7.2	<0.1	12.8	10	6.6	2.3

¹MCL is 10 mg/L nitrate as N; All nitrate concentration values are in mg/L nitrate as N. Values shown in red bold exceed the MCL.