

[Home](#) → [Drinking Water](#) → [Certlic](#) → [Drinkingwater](#)

UCMR Monitoring Results

Last Update: April 11, 2005

Unregulated Chemicals for which Monitoring is Required

CDPH [The California Department of Public Health] has a regulation that identifies nine chemicals as [unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required \(UCMR\)](#). Methods and detection limits for purposes of reporting (DLRs) are presented [here](#). This monitoring was to have been completed by 2003.

The monitoring results from the UCMR process can be used by CDPH for cost estimates for monitoring and treatment, as part of the [MCL process](#), should an MCL be considered appropriate.

CDPH intends to establish MCLs for three of the UCMR chemicals. It is in the process of developing an MCL for [perchlorate](#), and will be developing an MCL for [chromium-6](#), once a public health goal (PHG) is available. CDPH has requested a PHG for [1,2,3-trichloropropane \(1,2,3-TCP\)](#). ([Find out more about PHGs here.](#))

Findings

Results from UCMR sampling that occurred from 2000 through 2004, as compiled in April 2005, are presented in Tables 1, 2, and 3. Distribution by county is presented for the five organic chemicals (Table 2) and the four inorganics (Table 3):

There are ~16,000 drinking water sources, though not all are subject to UCMR requirements.

UCMR Chemical	No. of Sources	
	Detects	Detects >NL*
Boron	3,797**	152
Chromium-6	3,482**	--***
Dichlorodifluoromethane (Freon 12)	180	0
Ethyl tertiary butyl ether (ETBE)	2	--
Perchlorate	462	275
Tertiary amyl methyl ether (TAME)	0	--
Tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA)	46	12
1,2,3-TCP	405	388
Vanadium	5,483**	146

*NL=Notification level, discussed below
 **The large number of detections reflects the natural occurrence of the chemical.
 ***Chemical has no notification level.

Findings by county are presented in Tables 2 and 3. Some chemicals were detected above their [notification levels](#).

Notification of local agencies by water systems would be required if subsequent sampling confirmed those levels. (Note that the values presented in Tables 1, 2 and 3, are not based on confirmed findings, only single detections.)

County	Freon 12		ETBE	TAME	TBA		1,2,3-TCP	
	No. of Sources	No. >NL	No. of Sources	No. of Sources	No. of Sources	No. >NL	No of Sources	No. >NL
Alameda	5	.	.	.	1	.	1	1
Amador	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.
Calaveras	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.
El Dorado	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Fresno	33	.	.	.	.	.	72	68
Kern	4	.	.	.	15	7	111	108
Kings	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Los Angeles	65	.	1	.	4	.	48	43
Madera	.	.	.	.	1	.	3	3
Merced	.	.	.	.	1	.	28	28
Monterey	3	.	.	.	1	.	5	3
Orange	4	.	.	.	1	1	2	2
Riverside	.	.	.	.	.	.	18	17
Sacramento	5	.	.	.	2	1	2	2
San Benito	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
San Bernardino	43	.	.	.	4	.	28	27
San Diego	.	.	.	.	7	.	6	6
San Joaquin	3	.	.	.	1	.	14	14
San Luis Obispo	.	.	.	.	1	.	3	2
San Mateo	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	7
Santa Barbara	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Santa Clara	5	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Santa Cruz	.	.	.	.	2	.	2	2
Shasta	.	.	.	.	2	1	.	.
Solano	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Stanislaus	9	.	.	.	.	.	12	12
Sutter	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	3
Tulare	4	.	.	.	.	.	34	33
Yolo	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Yuba	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1
TOTAL	180	0	2	0	46	12	405	388
DLR (mg/L)	0.0005	.	0.002	0.002	0.003	.	0.000005	.

NL (mg/L)	.	1	n/a**	n/a**	.	0.012	.	0.000005
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*Number of drinking water sources with at least one detection in water sampled 2000-2004. Numbers are considered "draft" because they will change with subsequent updates.

** ETBE and TAME do not have NLs.

Table 3. Drinking water sources with inorganic UCMR detections 2000-2004, and detections above notification levels (NLs)*

County	Boron		Cr-6**	Perchlorate		Vanadium	
	No. of Sources	No. >NL		No. of Sources	No. >NL	No. of Sources	No. >NL
Alameda	43	.	34	.	.	28	.
Alpine	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Amador	10	.	4	.	.	6	.
Butte	38	2	61	.	.	97	.
Calaveras	6	1	1	.	.	7	.
Colusa	6	.	4	.	.	1	.
Contra Costa	42	15	5	.	.	13	.
Del Norte	.	.	6	.	.	.	.
El Dorado	5	.	3	.	.	18	.
Fresno	33	3	341	1	.	412	7
Glenn	15	.	21	.	.	17	.
Humboldt	10	.	10	.	.	4	.
Imperial	10	.	2	3	.	10	2
Inyo	13	3	4	.	.	35	.
Kern	386	14	193	5	3	328	7
Kings	37	.	2	3	1	13	1
Lake	51	12	8	.	.	26	.
Lassen	14	.	1	.	.	27	.
Los Angeles	702	12	489	147	99	635	5
Madera	12	.	30	.	.	51	.
Marin	6	.	.	1	1	4	1
Mariposa	6	.	2	.	.	8	.
Mendocino	55	3	8	1	.	12	.
Merced	27	1	73	2	2	88	.
Modoc	6	.	1	.	.	10	.
Mono	4	.	1	.	.	7	.
Monterey	90	1	135	10	7	146	.
Napa	28	.	1	.	.	24	.
Nevada	9	.	8	1	1	21	.
Orange	188	.	5	37	7	170	.
Placer	9	.	11	.	.	20	.
Plumas	1	.	.	.	.	16	.

Riverside	169	11	285	93	60	426	21
Sacramento	82	1	300	12	6	309	.
San Benito	58	8	22	2	1	41	.
San Bernardino	232	7	454	93	60	706	53
San Diego	74	.	5	6	1	110	2
San Francisco	3	.	.	.	.	1	.
San Joaquin	150	12	185	18	11	316	7
San Luis Obispo	170	1	94	.	.	227	2
San Mateo	15	.	15	.	.	18	.
Santa Barbara	138	1	40	.	.	114	5
Santa Clara	174	3	107*	12	5	157	.
Santa Cruz	37	1	15	.	.	19	.
Shasta	18	1	12	.	.	99	.
Sierra	.	.	.	.	.	9	.
Siskiyou	5	.	.	.	.	19	1
Solano	74	.	31	.	.	73	.
Sonoma	156	8	30	2	1	99	.
Stanislaus	98	3	157	.	.	231	10
Sutter	18	.	21	.	.	16	.
Tehama	6	.	42	.	.	28	.
Trinity	1	.	1	.	.	4	.
Tulare	27	.	130	11	7	249	18
Tuolumne	3	.	.	.	.	10	.
Ventura	150	5	11	2	2	71	4
Yolo	81	23	54	.	.	57	.
Yuba	8	.	9	.	.	20	.
TOTAL	3,797	152	3,482	462	275	5,483	146
DLR (mg/L)	0.1	.	0.001	0.004	.	.003	.
NL (mg/L)	.	1	n/a**	.	0.006	.	0.05

*Number of drinking water sources with at least one detection in water sampled 2000-2004. Numbers are considered "draft" because they will change with subsequent updates.

**Chromium-6 has no NL. It is regulated under the total chromium MCL of 0.05 mg/L. Five sources had Cr-6 detected above 0.05 mg/L.

On July 1, 2014, CDPH's Drinking Water Program transferred to the State Board to become the [Division of Drinking Water](#).

(Updated 8/15/14)