

Drinking Water Quality in Katherine

Parameter/Location	Trigger level ¹	Units	Actual level ²
Health Parameters			
Antimony	0.003	mg/L	0.0001
Arsenic	0.007	mg/L	0.0004
Barium	0.7	mg/L	0.03
Boron	4	mg/L	0.01
Cadmium	0.002	mg/L	0.0001
Chromium	0.05	mg/L	0.002
Fluoride	1.5	mg/L	0.4
Iodide	0.1	mg/L	0.03
Lead	0.01	mg/L	0.0008
Mercury	0.001	mg/L	0.0001
Molybdenum	0.05	mg/L	0.04
Nickel	0.02	mg/L	0.001
Nitrate	50	mg/L	0.7
Nitrite ³	3	mg/L	DNA
Radiological ⁴	0.5	mSv/year	0.11
Selenium	0.01	mg/L	0.0005
Silver	0.1	mg/L	0.005
Total THMs	0.25	mg/L	0.04
Uranium	0.02	mg/L	0.0002
Aesthetic Parameters			
Aluminium	0.2	mg/L	0.02
Chloride	250	mg/L	4
Copper	1	mg/L	0.02
Hardness	200	mg/L	80
Iron	0.3	mg/L	0.03
Manganese	0.1	mg/L	0.002
pH	6.5 - 8.5	pH units	7.2
Sodium	180	mg/L	7.4
Sulphate	500	mg/L	7.4
TDS	800	mg/L	110
Zinc	3	mg/L	0.2
Other Parameters⁵			
Alkalinity	*	mg/L	90
Beryllium	*	mg/L	0.0005
Bromide	*	mg/L	0.4
Calcium	*	mg/L	20
Electrical Conductivity	*	µS/cm	190
Magnesium	*	mg/L	9
Potassium	*	mg/L	1
Silica	*	mg/L	11
Tin	*	mg/L	0.005

Legend

N/A	Not applicable	*	No guideline value applicable
DNA	Data not available	µS/cm	Microsiemens per centimetre
mg/L	Milligrams per litre	mSv/year	Millisieverts per year

¹ Australian Drinking Water Guideline (ADWG 1996) values for health and aesthetic parameters. TDS guideline value set by DHCS.

² Actual level is the average of results obtained from samples collected in the reticulation system in Katherine for 2002-2004.

³ Readily oxidises to Nitrate and therefore not tested.

⁴ Total annual radiological dose per year.

⁵ With the exception of Beryllium and Tin all other parameters are not included in the ADWG and tests are conducted for analytical purposes and to assist in providing a complete set of water quality results.