

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Is your drinking-water up to standard?**

The Nelson Marlborough Health Public Health Service is surveying local registered networked drinking-water suppliers to gauge their compliance with bacterial, protozoal and chemical water standards.

The annual survey was sent to 32 local suppliers and the results will be published by the Ministry of Health next year in the *Annual Report on Drinking-water Quality 2015-2016*.

[Last year's report](#) described how drinking-water supplies met the requirements of the *Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand* and their progress towards meeting the requirements of the *Health Act*.

The report found that nationally, 79.4 per cent of people on supplies serving over 100 persons, received drinking-water that met all standards in that reporting period.

Health Protection Officer Rica Salamat says that the standards apply to all networked (where water has been piped across a property boundary, compared to 'self supply' which supplies only one building) drinking-water suppliers but the annual report is only for those serving populations of more than 100 people.

She says that the survey response rate from suppliers serving over 100 persons is 100 per cent. Suppliers who meet the standards are issued a compliance report that they can show to consumers. Miss Salamat encourages consumer awareness about the standards.

"Consumers are entitled to ask their supplier if they completed the survey and what the results were."

### **Results for Nelson Marlborough in 2014/15:**

Of 32 suppliers (each serving more than 100 persons)

- 23 (72%) achieved the bacteriological standards
- 3 (0.1%) achieved the protozoal standards
- 31 (97%) achieved the chemical standards

For further information on public drinking water see <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/environmental-health/drinking-water>

**Ends**

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