

2016 Fluoridation Statistics

Data by Year	
2018	2008
2016	2006
2014	2004
2012	2002
2010	2000

NOTE: A new methodology for calculating population estimates has been applied starting with 2016 data. Prior to 2016, the state reported community water system (CWS) populations were corrected by adjusting those states that had a total CWS population greater than the U.S. Census Bureau (USCB) down to the USCB population for the state and adjusting the state reported fluoridated population by the same factor. For many states, this still overestimated the CWS population as it did not account for those residents on private residential wells or non-community water systems. The new methodology also leverages the Percent of State Population on CWS estimate from the U.S. Geological Survey, which tailors the factor appropriately for each state and accounts for the proportion of each state’s population on other self-supply water sources (private residential wells or non-community water systems). The new methodology results in a new control factor that is applied to both the state reported CWS population and state reported fluoridated population.

As a result, reported population estimates may be different from previous reports. You can read more about the new methodology here on the [Calculating Fluoridation Statistics](#) page.

These statistics were prepared using water system data reported by states to the CDC [Water Fluoridation Reporting System](#) as of December 31, 2016, the [U.S. Census Bureau state population estimates for July 2016](#), and population estimates served by public water supply [as published](#) by the U.S. Geological Survey on November 5, 2014.

2016 National Water Fluoridation Statistics

Total US population, persons ^a	323,127,513
US population on community water systems (CWS), persons ^{b,c}	276,969,134
Total US population on fluoridated drinking water systems, persons ^{b,c}	201,565,162
Percentage of US population receiving fluoridated water ^{c,d}	62.4%
Percentage of US population on CWS receiving fluoridated water ^{c,e}	72.8%
Total number of CWS in United States ^b	52,286
Number of CWS providing fluoridated water ^b	18,030
Number of CWS adjusting fluoride ^b	5,817
Number of CWS consecutive to systems with optimal fluoride levels ^b	6,230

Number of CWS with naturally occurring fluoride at or above optimal levels ^b	5,865
Population served by CWS with naturally occurring fluoride at or above optimal levels ^{b,c}	11,283,910




2016 State Fluoridation Percentage Calculations and States Ranked by Fluoridation Percentage

State	Persons Receiving Fluoridated Water ^c	Persons Served by CWS ^c	% Population Served by CWS Receiving Fluoridated Water	Rank ^f
US	201,565,162	276,969,134	72.8%	
Alabama	3,367,031	4,314,476	78.0%	24
Alaska	233,192	469,850	49.6%	44
Arizona	3,868,308	6,694,514	57.8%	39
Arkansas	2,431,541	2,840,231	85.6%	20
California ^g	22,201,744	36,641,304	60.6%	37
Colorado	3,893,189	5,197,242	74.9%	29
Connecticut	2,421,487	2,704,505	89.5%	16
Delaware	660,276	755,629	87.4%	20
District of Columbia	681,170	681,170	100.0%	1
Florida ^g	14,269,078	18,521,077	77.0%	26
Georgia	8,348,197	8,681,891	96.2%	6
Hawaii	154,360	1,370,079	11.3%	51
Idaho	392,745	1,219,353	32.2%	48
Illinois	11,474,462	11,648,817	98.5%	4
Indiana	4,652,921	4,936,187	94.3%	8
Iowa	2,280,194	2,526,141	90.3%	14
Kansas	1,829,273	2,753,541	66.4%	34
Kentucky	3,753,680	3,758,413	99.9%	2
Louisiana	1,801,324	4,074,943	44.2%	46
Maine	610,053	769,362	79.3%	23
Maryland	4,579,173	4,901,590	93.4%	10
Massachusetts	3,621,778	6,256,423	57.9%	38

State	Persons Receiving Fluoridated Water ^c	Persons Served by CWS ^c	% Population Served by CWS Receiving Fluoridated Water	Rank ^f
Michigan	6,492,531	7,240,436	89.7%	15
Minnesota	4,294,393	4,346,035	98.8%	3
Mississippi	1,548,369	2,539,375	61.0%	36
Missouri	3,986,715	5,194,390	76.8%	27
Montana	250,037	742,072	33.7%	47
Nebraska	1,106,087	1,545,849	71.6%	31
Nevada	2,076,200	2,768,047	75.0%	28
New Hampshire	410,339	883,053	46.5%	45
New Jersey	1,159,594	7,963,631	14.6%	50
New Mexico	1,367,330	1,774,661	77.0%	25
New York	12,655,170	17,660,481	71.7%	30
North Carolina	5,814,174	6,631,229	87.7%	19
North Dakota	672,662	702,333	95.8%	7
Ohio	9,042,076	9,771,921	92.5%	11
Oklahoma	2,499,519	3,593,399	69.6%	32
Oregon	778,590	3,445,307	22.6%	49
Pennsylvania	5,138,572	9,417,111	54.6%	42
Rhode Island	796,730	943,071	84.5%	22
South Carolina	3,404,278	3,725,371	91.4%	12
South Dakota	734,542	785,109	93.6%	9
Tennessee	5,382,302	6,087,058	88.4%	17
Texas	17,017,307	25,158,299	67.6%	33
Utah	1,578,107	2,995,452	52.7%	43
Vermont	249,073	443,316	56.2%	41
Virginia	6,428,007	6,677,652	96.3	5
Washington	3,962,936	6,201,066	63.9%	35
West Virginia	1,301,998	1,442,417	90.3%	13

State	Persons Receiving Fluoridated Water ^c	Persons Served by CWS ^c	% Population Served by CWS Receiving Fluoridated Water	Rank ^f
Wisconsin	3,625,881	4,107,306	88.3%	18
Wyoming	266,465	466,949	57.1%	40

Footnotes

- ^a Census Population Count 2016. Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: December 2016. Available at https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2016_PEPANNRES&src=pt 
- ^b Reported in CDC Water Fluoridation Reporting System (WFRS). For purposes of this report, a water system is considered a community water system if so designated by the state drinking water administrator in accordance with the regulatory requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A community water system (CWS) supplies water to the same population year-round. It serves at least 25 people at their primary residences or at least 15 residences that are primary residences (for example, municipalities, mobile home park, sub-divisions). <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/factoids.cfm> .
- ^c State populations served by CWS reported in WFRS are controlled using a product of the U.S. Census state population estimate and the U.S. Geological Survey’s estimate of the percentages of state populations on public water systems. Populations served by each CWS are controlled proportionately within each state. For details on the population controlling method used, see [Calculating Fluoridation Statistics](#). U.S. Geological Survey: Maupin, M.A., Kenny, J.F., Hutson, S.S., Lovelace, J.K., Barber, N.L., and Linsey, K.S., 2014, Estimated use of water in the United States in 2010: U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1405, 56 p., <https://dx.doi.org/10.3133/cir1405> 
- ^d Fluoridated population divided by total population.
- ^e Fluoridated population divided by population served by community water systems.
- ^f Rank is based on highest to lowest percentage of population served by CWS receiving fluoridated water. Includes all states and Washington DC (51 total rankings).
- ^g Complete data were not available from WFRS. State provided additional information.