

Cadmium Distribution in New Mexico Private Wells

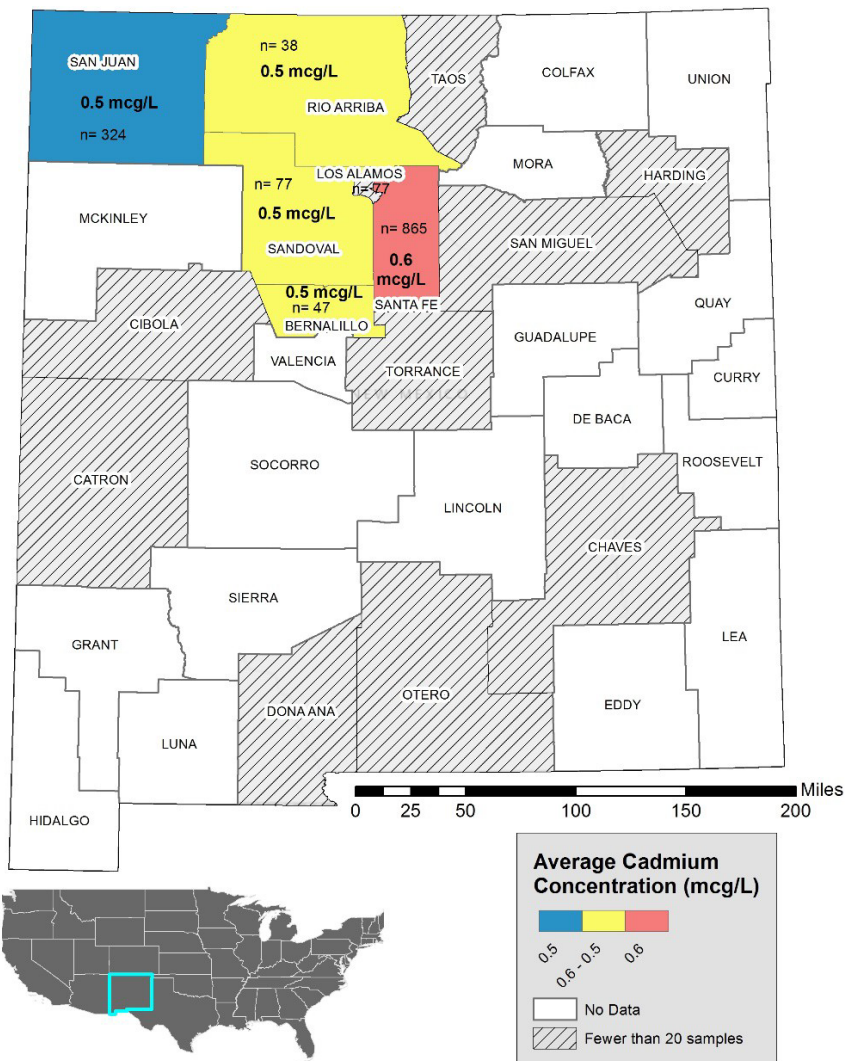
Wells Sampled January 2004 - April 2018

Cadmium levels in water samples from private wells vary between New Mexico counties and even within the same county. The groundwater system in New Mexico is very complex. This complexity can lead to large cadmium concentration variability even amongst neighboring wells. **Therefore, to know the cadmium concentration in your water from your own well, you need to test.** The safe drinking water concentration for cadmium is 5 micrograms per liter (mcg/L). Based on available data, none of the water samples from wells in counties (with greater than 20 samples), appear to exceed this Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water standard.

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Average Cadmium Concentration (mcg/L) by County

"n" is number of samples per county.



Data Sources: NMED Water Fairs, NMBGMR, USEPA, USGS NWIS, NMDOH biomonitoring, Bernalillo County, Santa Fe County

Updated 08/2022

<https://nmtracking.doh.nm.gov/environment/water/cadmium>



New Mexico Private Wells Inventory

Cadmium Test Results Summary January 2004 - April 2018

County	Number of tests	% Tests above MCL (5 mcg/L)	Concentration of Cadmium in Micrograms per Liter (mcg/L)						
			Mean	Standard Deviation	Max	95th Percentile	Median	5th Percentile	Minimum Detected Value*
Bernalillo	47	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Catron	1	0.0	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Chaves	1	0.0	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Cibola	5	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Colfax	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Curry	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
De Baca	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Doña Ana	10	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Eddy	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guadalupe	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Harding	2	0.0	1.9	2.0	3.3	3.3	1.9	0.5	0.5
Hidalgo	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lea	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lincoln	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Los Alamos	5	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Luna	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
McKinley	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mora	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Otero	17	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Quay	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rio Arriba	38	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Roosevelt	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
San Juan	324	0.0	0.5	0.1	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.25	0.1
San Miguel	5	0.0	0.9	0.8	2.4	2.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Sandoval	77	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Santa Fe	865	0.0	0.6	0.5	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Sierra	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socorro	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Taos	2	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Torrance	9	0.0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Union	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Valencia	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- Indicates insufficient data to calculate statistics; N/A indicates Not Applicable; *Minimum detected value calculated as half the detection limit (DL) for concentrations less than DL; DL varies