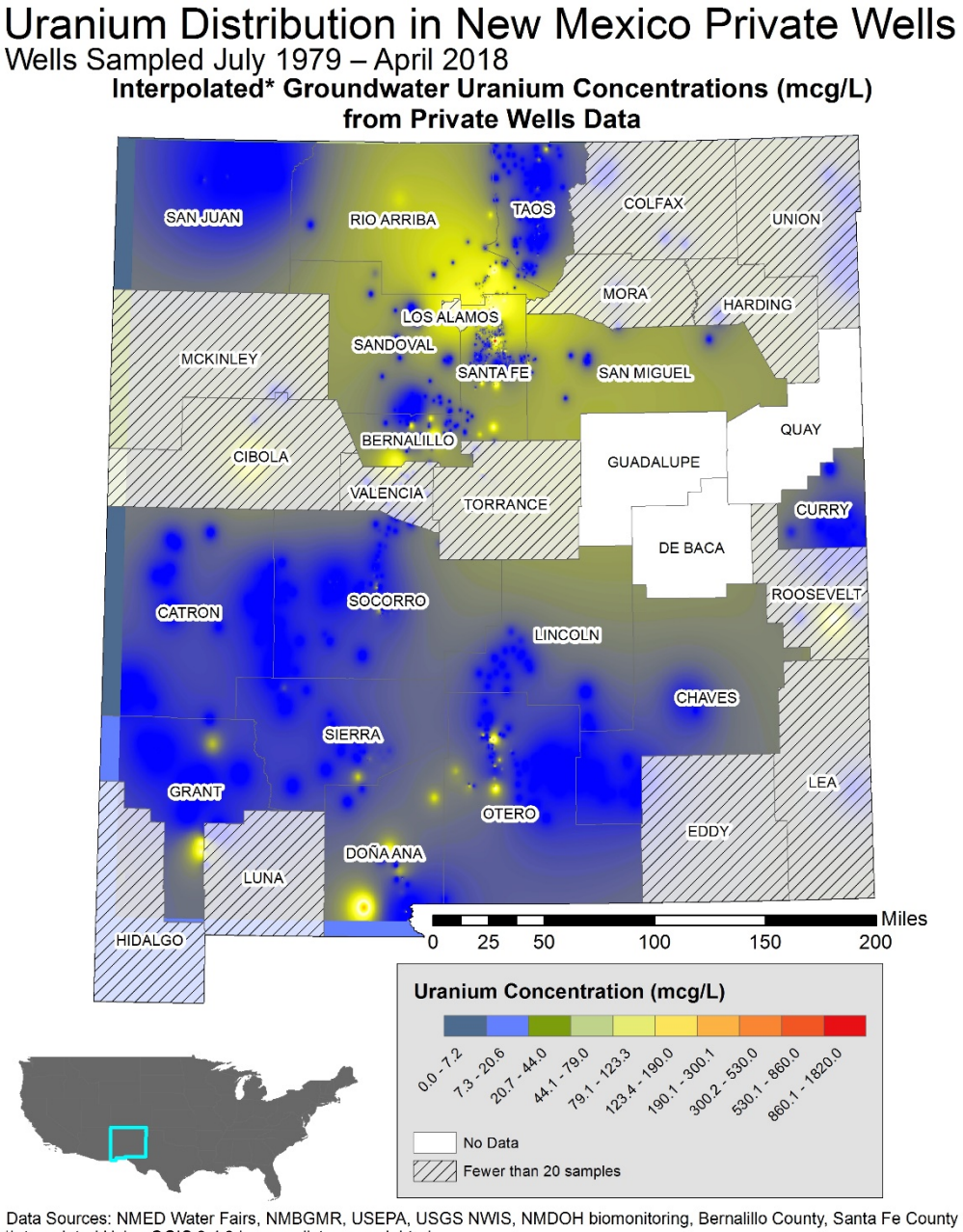
Uranium Distribution in New Mexico Private Wells

Wells Sampled July 1979 – April 2018

Uranium 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 uranium concentration variability even amongst neighboring wells. **Therefore, to know the uranium concentration in your water from your own well, you need to test.** The safe drinking water concentration for uranium is 30 micrograms per liter (mcg/L) and some of the water samples from wells in north and south central counties appear to exceed this Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water standard.



Data Sources: NMED Water Fairs, NMBGMR, USEPA, USGS NWIS, NMDOH biomonitoring, Bernalillo County, Santa Fe County
*Interpolated Using QGIS 3.4.3 inverse distance weighted.

Updated 08/2022

https://nmtracking.doh.nm.gov/environment/water/Uranium.html

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New Mexico Private Wells Inventory

Uranium Test Results Summary July 1979 - April 2018

County	Number of tests	% Tests above MCL (30 mcg/L)	Concentration of Uranium in Micrograms per Liter (mcg/L)						
			Mean	Standard Deviation	Max	95th Percentile	Median	5th Percentile	Minimum Detected Value*
Bernalillo	105	24.8	37.1	81.7	480.0	210.0	7.5	0.3	0.100
Catron	46	0.0	2.4	2.0	9.0	6.0	1.9	0.5	0.500
Chaves	39	0.0	6.5	4.0	18.0	16.0	5.0	2.5	2.500
Cibola	11	27.3	45.6	83.1	270.0	270.0	6.0	0.1	0.136
Colfax	14	0.0	1.4	1.2	5.0	5.0	1.2	0.5	0.500
Curry	21	0.0	6.6	1.9	10.8	10.7	6.3	5.2	2.200
De Baca	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Doña Ana	74	13.5	16.3	41.8	320.0	76.0	3.8	0.3	0.065
Eddy	4	0.0	3.8	1.4	5.0	5.0	3.8	2.5	2.500
Grant	46	8.7	9.4	24.6	117.8	39.6	2.0	0.3	0.006
Guadalupe	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Harding	2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.100
Hidalgo	2	50.0	20.4	21.8	35.8	35.8	20.4	5.0	5.000
Lea	5	0.0	9.5	8.0	17.4	17.4	10.2	1.4	1.360
Lincoln	22	0.0	4.4	2.7	10.0	10.0	5.0	2.0	0.050
Los Alamos	6	50.0	232.0	444.4	1130.0	1130.0	50.5	0.4	0.400
Luna	19	10.5	11.8	22.7	75.3	75.3	3.5	0.0	0.038
McKinley	1	0.0	22.8		22.8	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.800
Mora	12	0.0	2.2	3.3	10.0	10.0	0.2	0.0	0.003
Otero	136	8.1	13.8	35.2	340.0	49.0	5.0	2.5	0.100
Quay	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rio Arriba	108	35.2	52.5	78.7	350.0	230.0	9.1	0.1	0.007
Roosevelt	12	8.3	19.4	38.1	139.0	139.0	7.3	1.3	1.300
San Juan	261	0.0	4.9	2.6	21.0	9.0	5.0	0.8	0.006
San Miguel	22	9.1	17.8	56.8	269.4	36.0	3.0	1.0	0.200
Sandoval	164	0.0	4.0	4.6	25.0	12.3	2.8	0.2	0.006
Santa Fe	1323	28.2	48.3	139.3	1820.0	205.0	6.8	0.5	0.006
Sierra	42	4.8	10.0	16.5	100.0	23.0	3.9	1.3	1.000
Socorro	139	2.9	7.4	9.8	55.0	26.0	4.0	0.5	0.250
Taos	352	2.8	5.8	8.9	65.6	25.0	3.0	0.3	0.006
Torrance	10	20.0	15.4	19.2	50.0	50.0	6.5	0.1	0.100
Union	16	0.0	4.5	1.9	7.8	7.8	4.4	0.3	0.250
Valencia	19	0.0	3.3	3.1	13.0	13.0	2.7	0.1	0.097

- 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

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