













Microbial Quality: Total Coliform

TOTAL COLIFORM RANGE (Counts/100ml)	DRINKING		FOOD PREPARATION	BATHING	LAUNDRY
	(Health) 	(Aesthetics) 			
0	No detectable chance of infection	No effects	No detectable chance of infection	No effects	No effects
0-10	Insignificant chance of infections	No effects	Insignificant chance of infections	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects
10-100	Clinical infections unlikely in healthy adults, but may occur in some sensitive groups	No effects	Clinical infections unlikely in healthy adults, but may occur in some sensitive groups	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects
100-1000	Clinical infections common, even with once-off consumption	No effects	Clinical infections common, even with once-off consumption	Slight risk	Slight risk
>1000	Serious health effects common in all users	No effects	Serious health effects common in all users	Possibility of infection	Possibility of infection

	Blue - Ideal		Green - Good		Yellow - Marginal
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	Red - Poor		Purple – Completely unacceptable*
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*Not to be used without treatment

DWAF (1998). Quality of domestic water supplies. Volume 1: Assessment Guide. WRC No. TT 101/98, p. 53.