

## Why should you read this?

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards. We are committed to providing you with quality water and to keep you fully aware of the efforts that are made continually to improve your water system. For more information please contact Terry Bradshaw Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, or attend City Commission meetings scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at the Law Enforcement Center, 201 N. Pine.

## Where does it come from?

Your water comes from four groundwater wells drilled into the Roubidoux formation of the Ozark Aquifer. We treat your water to remove several contaminants and also add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. An assessment of our source water is completed. For results of the assessment, please contact us or download the results at [www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/](http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/).

## For more information:

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**Director of Public Utilities**

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**Terry Bradshaw**

**Water Treatment Plant**

**Superintendent**

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**Email: [terry.bradshaw@pittks.org](mailto:terry.bradshaw@pittks.org)**

**Environmental Protection  
Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking  
Water Hotline:**

**(800) 426-4791**



201 W. 4<sup>th</sup> STREET  
PITTSBURG, KS 66762-0688  
[www.pittks.org](http://www.pittks.org)



# Water Quality Data

City of Pittsburg, Kansas 66762



Unless noted, the data presented is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2020. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. All regulated and some unregulated contaminants that were detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, are included. The Key to Table explains our findings, and there is a key to units of measurement below. Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is defined as “the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water”. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is “the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health”. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. The tables list the name of each substance, unit, MCLs, the amount detected, and MCLGs. SMCLs are recommended level for contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Contaminants that may be present in source water includes:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals
- Pesticides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses
- Organic chemical contaminants from industrial or petroleum use
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

**The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Detected Regulated Contaminants							
Inorganic Contaminants	Unit	Highest Value	MCL	MCLG	Range (low/high)	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	0.017	2	2	0.017	03/19	Discharge from metal refineries
Fluoride	ppm	0.77	4	4	0.23-0.77	07/20	Natural Deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	0.21	10	10	0.21	03/19	Run off from fertilizer use
Selenium	ppb	3.2	50	50	3.2	03/19	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium	ppb	1.1	100	100	1.1	03/19	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Volatile Organic Contaminants	Unit	Highest Value RAA	MCL	MCLG	Range (low/high)	Monitoring Period	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM-Total (Trihalomethanes)	ppb	20	80	0	9.5-23	2020	Chlorination disinfection byproduct
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	6	60	0	2.6-11	2020	Chlorination disinfection byproduct

Microbiological Contaminants					
Analyte	Unit	Result	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Coliform (TCR)</b>	samples	0 sample returned positive	No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment.

Metals in Drinking Water from Taps							
Analyte	Unit	90th Percentile	AL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Lead</b>	ppb	<1.0	15	0	N	2017-2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
<b>Copper</b>	ppm	0.049	1.3	0	N	2017-2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily for materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for let exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the safe drinking water hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Detected Secondary (Unregulated) Water Quality					
Parameter	Unit	Highest Value	Range	SMCL	Sampling Date
<b>Alkalinity, Total</b>	ppm	92	92	300	03/19
<b>Aluminum</b>	ppm	0.047	0.047	0.05	03/19
<b>Calcium</b>	ppm	17	17	200	03/19
<b>Chloride</b>	ppm	130	130	250	03/19
<b>Conductivity @ 25 C</b>	µmho/cm	760	760	1500	03/19
<b>Corrosivity</b>	LI	-0.35	-0.35	0	03/19
<b>Hardness, Total (As CaCO3)</b>	ppm	130	130	400	03/19
<b>Magnesium</b>	ppm	22	22	150	03/19
<b>pH</b>	pH	8.1	8.1	8.5	03/19
<b>Phosphorus, Total (P)</b>	ppm	0.24	0.24	5	03/19
<b>Potassium</b>	ppm	5.7	5.7	100	03/19
<b>Silica</b>	ppm	9.6	9.6	50	03/19
<b>Sodium</b>	ppm	95	95	100	03/19
<b>Sulfate</b>	ppm	63	63	250	03/19
<b>Total Dissolved Solids</b>	ppm	400	400	500	04/16
<b>Zinc</b>	ppm	0.016	0.016	5	04/16

**Additional Required Health Effects Language:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

Please note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

Key to Table	
Key	Description
<b>MCL</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level
<b>MCLG</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
<b>ppb</b>	Parts per billion, or micrograms per Liter (µg/L)
<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million, or milligrams per Liter (mg/L)
<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
<b>SMCL</b>	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level
<b>LI</b>	Langelier Index
<b>WTP</b>	Water Treatment Plant
<b>ND</b>	Non-Detects
<b>RAA</b>	Running Annual Average
<b>AL</b>	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
<b>90<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>	In a ranking of the 10 samples with the highest level of a contaminant, the ninth highest sample is the value that represents the 90th percentile

## A message from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water from public water systems.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons who can particularly be at risk for infections include those who have undergone chemotherapy or organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly persons and infants. These people should seek advice about the quality of drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA / Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Hotline or their web site. [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

This annual **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**, required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other important facts you should know about drinking water.

The **Consumer Confidence Report** is based upon tests conducted by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE). Tests were conducted on the finished water produced by the City Of Pittsburg's Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

### How often is Pittsburg's water tested?

Certified staff at the City of Pittsburg's Water Treatment Plant conduct the following tests:

<b>Daily :</b>	Hardness, Alkalinity, Turbidity, (every 8 hours), Fluoride and Phosphate.
<b>Hourly:</b>	pH and Chlorine residual
The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Laboratories (KDHE) in Topeka conduct the following tests:	
<b>Monthly:</b>	Bacteriological (20 samples collected from the distribution system)
<b>Quarterly:</b>	Fluoride, Trihalomethanes, HAA5
<b>Annually:</b>	Organic Analysis and Nitrate
<b>Tri-annually:</b>	Lead, Copper, Synthetic Organic Chemicals, Inorganic analysis and Volatile Organic Chemicals

### How much water does Pittsburg Treat?

In 2020 the water plant pumped 853,756,000 gallons of water from our wells. There was 824,622,000 gallons of treated water that was pumped into the distribution system. This was an average of 2,253,066 gallons per day. Water sold amounted to 1,851,900 gallons per day, with a total water loss of 17.81%.

## Water Quality Information:

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulations, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced. Infants & young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of the materials used in you home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water.

**THE CITY OF PITTSBURG'S  
DRINKING WATER MEETS OR  
SURPASSES ALL FEDERAL AND  
STATE DRINKING-WATER  
STANDARDS.**



Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	Monitoring Period Average	Monitoring Period Average Units	Running Annual Average	Running Annual Average Units
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10/01/2020-10/31/2020

2.5

MG/L

2.2

**During the 2020 calendar year, we had no violations of drinking water regulations.**

Unresolved Deficiency Date Identified	Facility	Comments
12/03/2019	WATER SYSTEM	Not all records were maintained and available for review as required by KAR 28-15a-33. The system must provide to this office a brief written statement outlining how the system will maintain records as required by KAR 28-15a-33.
12/03/2019	WATER SYSTEM	During the inspection, the city did not have an approved Emergency Water Supply Plan. K.A.R. 28-15-18(c) requires all public water supplies to prepare and maintain an Emergency Water Supply Plan. The city must create an Emergency Water Supply Plan. An Emergency Water Supply plan does not only cover source water, but all aspects of water treatment and distribution as well. If there are questions, please contact SEDO for assistance. Once a plan is completed, please submit a copy to SEDO for approval. As a reminder, the city will need to annually review, and update their Emergency Water Supply Plan as needed.
12/03/2019	STORAGE TANK 04	The elevated and ground storage must have a screened overflow pipe or screened vents as required by KAR 28-15-18(g). As a reminder, no overflow may be connected directly to any type of a sewer or a storm drain, drain piping or drain structure. All overflow pipes shall be located so that any discharge is visible. The city must conduct an assessment on all water storage structures, resolve any issues found during the assessment and submit a written document summarizing the findings to SEDO to resolve the deficiency.

**There are no additional required health effects notices.**

**There are no additional required health effects violation notices.**