



CITY OF HIDALGO

PWS ID # TX1080021

2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT



Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021.
This report is intended to provide you with important information about your
Drinking water and the efforts made by City of Hidalgo to provide safe drinking water



CITY OF HIDALGO

Superior Public Water System

The City of Hidalgo has been designated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a Superior Public Water System in view of the high standards of water made available to the residents of Hidalgo. For over 20 years we have been recognized as a Superior Public Water Supply System, which achieves and maintains recognition for those systems who exceed the minimum acceptable standards of the TCEQ.

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Water Susceptibility Assessment

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact (956) 843-2286.

Lead in Home Plumbing

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Hidalgo 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 lead 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



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Substances That Could be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Substances that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.



CITY OF HIDALGO

Our Commitment Continues

We are pleased to present our annual water quality report conducted between January 1 and December 31, 2021. We were anxious to get our operations back to normal after that challenges we all encountered. We continuously strive to provide you with the best drinking water and with adequate reliable water pressure. Our staff continues to work hard every day, to distribute the best quality drinking water without interruption. Although, there might be challenges ahead due to growth, we know that by investing in customer outreach and education, new treatment technologies, and training, the payoff will be rewarding.

Please know that we are always available, if you have any questions or concerns about your water.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water used by City of Hidalgo is Ground Water. From January 1 to December 31, we had to purchase water from the City of McAllen, (TCEQ PWS No. 1080006) for emergency use. For any questions about the City of McAllen's water quality, please contact the utility at (956) 681-4000



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Important Health Information

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)-429-4791

Water Treatment Process

The City of Hidalgo obtains its water source from the Gulf Coast aquifer through the use of several water wells. Our ground water source is free of organic material and is naturally filtered as it flows through porous layers of soils such as sand. We use only one treatment chemical. This chemical is chlorine similar to the product used in your home but purer and approved as a disinfectant for use in drinking water. Chlorine is added to protect and maintain water quality.

We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste. Staff maintains a series of storage tanks and pumps to pressurize the distribution system so the sanitized treated water is pumped to the City water tower and into your home or business.



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Community Participation

Date: July 1- 31,2022

Time: 8:00am-5:00 pm

Location: Hidalgo City Hall

704 East Ramon Ayala Dr.

Hidalgo, TX 78557

Phone: (956) 843-2286; Fax:(56) 843-2317

Website: www.cityofhidalgo.net

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to schedule one, please call (956) 843-2286.

Report Now Online

The 2021 Drinking Water Quality report for City of Hidalgo water supply customers is now available online. Starting July 1, 2021, you will be able to view the City of Hidalgo annual water quality report on-line at:

<https://cityofhidalgo.net/public-works>



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2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of contaminants on a very strict sampling schedule. The information below represents only those substances that were detected; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels. The State recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.



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WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS:

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	2019	1.3	1.3	0.19	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead (ppb)	2019	0	15	2.4	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)(ppb)	2021	11	7.8 – 11.2	No goal for the total	60	ppm	N	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2021	75	24.8 – 75.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-products of drinking water disinfection

**The value in the Highest level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.*

*** The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.*



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WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS:

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	05/22/2019	0.0233	0.0199 –0.0233	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	09/08/2020	0.96	0.94 - 096	4	4.0	Ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposit; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories .
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	2021	0.09	0 – 0.09	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposit
Selenium	05/22/2019	3	0 - 3	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.



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WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS:

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon Emitters	12/18/2020	8.2	8.2 – 8.2	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Uranium	12/18/2020	8.9	8.9 – 8.9	0	30	Ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposit

**EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.*

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MIRD	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chlorine	2021	0.98	0.7 – 1.31	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes



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Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions and Abbreviations	The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.
Action Level:	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Avg:	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment:	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment:	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MFL	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem:	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
na:	not applicable.



Definitions and Abbreviations

NTU	nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



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Due to COVID-19 staff shortages last year, City staff was unable to complete all the required regularly scheduled water tests. As a result, the City of Hidalgo wants to assure customers that your drinking water was safe since it was continually chlorinated and all bacteriological samples collected were in compliance with TCEQ state regulations. The following list provided by TCEQ explains the issues that occurred last year:

Violations

Chlorine

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people which drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)	10/01/2021	12/31/2021	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. NOTE: The City of Hidalgo drinking water was continually chlorinated but TCEQ could not confirm receipt of our report. The resubmitted to TCEQ.



Consumer Confidence Rule

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	07/01/2021	10/21/2021	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water. NOTE: We have updated our water quality report this year to ensure the report meets TCEQ rules in its entirety.

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E. coli. E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children,

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE, MAJOR (RTCR)	02/01/2021	02/28/2021	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. NOTE: Due to staff shortages as a result of COVID-19, staff was unable to collect samples in February 2021. Staff successfully collected over 100 bacteriological samples during the 2021 calendar year and all samples were compliant with TCEQ.



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The City of Hidalgo continuously strives to provide you with the best drinking water and with adequate reliable water pressure. As a result, we have a state approved interconnection with the City of McAllen Public Utilities Board (TCEQ PWS No. 1080006). This ensures our customers are provided with access to a secondary water source during emergencies. The water quality data provided by this water system is as follows:

2021 Water Quality Test Results (City of McAllen)

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2021	0.0035	<0.002-0.0035	0.0	.01	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2021	0.101	0.0942-0.101	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2021	0.14	0.02-0.14	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride	2021	0.68	0.48-0.68	4.0	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2021	0.19	0.19-0.19	10.0	10.0	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2021	0.0047	<.0030-.0047	.05	.05	ppm	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Raddioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photom emitters	09/15/2021	<4.0	<4.0-<4.0	0	50	pCi/L	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	12/18/2020	<1.0	<1.0-<1.0	0	5.0	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	09/15/2021	<3.0 - <3.0	1.0-1.0	0	15.0	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	09/15/2021	1.9	1.9-1.9	0	30.0	ug/l	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source in Drinking Water
Chloramines	2021	3.10	2.64-3.40	4.00	4.00	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Turbidity	Year	Highest Single Measurement	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Measurements	2021	0.23	0.09	0.07-0.23	0.30	NTU	N	TDS: Total Dissolved Solids
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	2021	100%						