**Environment**

**Safe drinking water**

Access to safe drinking water is essential to human health. Every human being requires at least 20 – 50 liters per day of clean, safe water for drinking, cooking and simply keeping themselves clean. Oregon Drinking Water Services works to help keep drinking water safe for Oregonians by administering and enforcing drinking water quality standards for public water systems in the state of Oregon.

Government Performance and Results Act data contains reported health-based (HB) violations of drinking water standards from 1994 to present. The figure below shows the percent of Oregon population served by community water systems (CWS) that meet all of the HB standards set forth in the Safe Drinking Water Act.

*Oregon Public Health Division*

---

**FIGURE 1**

Population served by community water systems meeting all health-based standards, Oregon and U.S., 1994–2013

- **Oregon**
- **U.S.**

- 2011 EPA Target = 91%
  - Oregon = 95%
  - U.S. = 93%

*City of Portland boil water alerts

*Source: Oregon State & Federal Safe Drinking Water Information Systems*
Drops in 2010 and 2013 were attributed, in part, to *E. coli* violations incurred by Oregon’s largest community water system serving the City of Portland and surrounding areas.

**Additional Resources:** [www.healthoregon.org/dwp](http://www.healthoregon.org/dwp)

**About the Data:** Oregon violation and population data is reported from the State Safe Drinking Water Information System to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System to meet the requirements of the Government Performance & Results Act and others set forth by the US Environmental Protection Agency. U.S. data comes from the Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System.

**For More Information Contact:** info.drinkingwater@state.or.us

**Date Updated:** July 2, 2014

Oregon State Health Profile

---

*OHA 9153-D (Rev) 09/14: This document can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request this publication in another format or language, contact the Publications and Design Section at 503-378-3486, 711 for TTY, or email dhs-oha.publicationrequest@state.or.us.*