

## 9 Health

### 9.1 H3—Percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved (%)

#### 9.1.1 Introduction

This indicator reports the percentage of the population serviced by the utility for which microbiological compliance was achieved. Compliance is assessed against the *2011 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* or licence conditions imposed on the utility by the regulator. Typically, utilities record very high (often 100 per cent) compliance, but occasionally there are unforeseen events that result in lower compliance. The cause of non-compliance is not always traceable.

The percentage of the population for which microbiological compliance was achieved, for all utilities reporting Indicator H3 in 2014–15 can be found in [Table A20](#).

#### 9.1.2 Key findings

A summary of the percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved, by utility group, is presented in [Table 9.1](#).

In 2014–15, nationwide and across all groups, most utilities achieved 100 per cent microbiological compliance ([Table 9.1](#)), with Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporation (TasWater) being the sole exception, as was the case in its size group (100,000+ group) in 2013–14 ([Table A20](#)).

**Table 9.1 Overview of results: H3—Percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved (%)**

Size group (connected properties)	Range		Number of utilities with increase/decrease from 2013–14		Median		Change in the median from 2013–14 %
	High	Low	Increase	Decrease	2013–14	2014–15	
100,000+	100	98.6	0	1	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	TasWater					
50,000– 100,000	100	100	1	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
20,000– 50,000	100	100	0	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
10,000– 20,000	100	100	0	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
<b>All size groups (national)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
	Multiple utilities	TasWater					

**Table note**

The median percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved was calculated using data from all utilities supplying both water services that reported data against H3 for both 2013–14 and 2014–15.

#### 9.1.3 Results and analysis—100,000+ group

With 2014–15 being its second year of reporting, TasWater continued to report less than 100 per cent of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved ([Table A20](#)).

Following the 2013–14 amalgamation of the three Tasmanian regional utilities (Ben Lomond Water, Southern Water, and Cradle Mountain Water) into the one entity (Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporation), TasWater continued to progress major water quality projects as part of a strategy to improve water quality around Tasmania, with significant investment (\$95.93 million) in major water quality projects underway at the end of June 2015 (TasWater 2015).