

## 9 Health

### 9.1 Percentage of population for whom microbiological compliance was achieved—H3

This indicator reports the percentage of the population serviced by the utility for whom microbiological compliance was achieved.

Compliance is assessed against the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011*<sup>7</sup>, or licence conditions imposed on the utility by their regulator. Typically, utilities record very high compliance; however, unforeseen events may deliver a lower compliance result and the cause of non-compliance is not always traceable.

Microbiological compliance data for 2019–20 are presented in Table A18, Appendix A.

#### 9.1.1 Key findings

Table 9.1 presents a summary of the percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved by utility size group.

In 2019–20, nationwide and across all utility groups, all utilities achieved 100 per cent microbiological compliance except Southern Downs Regional Council (99.5 per cent), Gympie Regional Council (98.6 per cent), Cassowary Coast Regional Council (97.5 per cent), and Coliban Water (94.3 per cent).

**Table 9.1 Overview of results: Percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved.**

Utility group	Range		No. utilities with increase/decrease from 2018–19		Median		Change in median from 2019–20 (%)
	High	Low	Increase	Decrease	2018–19	2019–20	
Major	100	100	0	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
Large	100	94.3	0	1	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Coliban Water					
Medium	100	100	1	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
Small	100	97.5	0	3	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Cassowary Coast					
<b>All size groups (national)</b>	100	94.3	1	4	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Coliban Water					

**Table note**

The median percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved for each year was calculated using data from all utilities supplying both water services reporting data against H3 in that reporting year.

#### 9.1.2 Results and analysis—Major utility group

All utilities in this Major utility group reported achieving microbiological compliance for 100 per cent of the population. In 2019–20, TasWater reported 100 per cent compliance for the second successive year.

<sup>7</sup> [www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh52](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh52), updated August 2018.