

## 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>8</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, with the cause of non-compliance not always traceable.

Microbiological compliance data for 2018–19 are presented in Table A18, Appendix A.

#### 9.1.1 Key findings

A summary of the percentage of population for which microbiological compliance was achieved, by utility group, is shown in Table 9.1.

In 2018–19, nationwide and across all utility groups, all utilities achieved 100 per cent microbiological compliance except Cassowary Coast Regional Council (98.9 per cent) and South Gippsland Water (99.0 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 2017–18		Median		Change in median from 2018–19 (%)
	High	Low	Increase	Decrease	2017–18	2018–19	
Major	100	100	1	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
Large	100	100	2	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
Medium	100	100	1	0	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Multiple utilities					
Small	100	98.9	1	2	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Cassowary Coast					
<b>All size groups (national)</b>	100	98.9	5	2	100	100	0
	Multiple utilities	Cassowary Coast					

**Table note**

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

#### 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. The Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporation reported 100 per cent compliance this year for the first time.

<sup>8</sup> [www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh52](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh52), updated May 2019