

# 2025 Aquifer Risk Map Methodology

State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Water Quality

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## Introduction

The 2025 Aquifer Risk Map represents the fifth version of the Aquifer Risk Map<sup>1</sup>. This map fulfills requirements of Senate Bill 200 (California Health and Safety Code, § 116772) and is updated yearly to support California's Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program. The map is intended to help prioritize areas where domestic wells (less than five service connections) and state small water systems (between five and fourteen service connections) may be accessing groundwater that does not meet safe drinking water standards (maximum contaminant level or MCL).

## Intended use of this analysis

The potential water quality risk presented here is not intended to represent groundwater quality conditions at any given domestic supply well or state small water system location. The State Water Board has limited water quality and location data for state small water systems and domestic wells, as these systems are not regulated by the state nor are MCL's applied to domestic wells<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, a different approach for conducting a risk assessment for these systems was developed in comparison with the risk assessment for public water systems<sup>3</sup>. The risk assessment for state small water systems and domestic wells uses modeled and estimated data based on nearby wells of similar depth to assess potential risk, because data directly from these systems is unavailable in most cases.

The purpose of this analysis is to prioritize areas that may not meet safe drinking water standards for additional outreach and sampling efforts. The current lack of available domestic well and state small system water quality data makes it difficult to characterize water quality for individual domestic wells and state small water systems. The analysis described herein represents a best effort at using available data to estimate potential water quality risk for domestic wells and state small water systems.

## Methodology (summary)

The Aquifer Risk Map methodology involves summarizing publicly available water quality data from previously sampled wells of a similar depth to domestic wells or state small water system wells, since these systems are largely unregulated by the state and there is no comprehensive database of water quality data available directly from these systems. Water quality data is summarized for each square mile section. Sections that do not contain representative water quality data but are adjacent to a section with

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<sup>1</sup> [Aquifer Risk Map](https://gispublic.waterboards.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=18c7d253f0a44fd2a5c7bcfb42cc158d), including archived maps from 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. (https://gispublic.waterboards.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=18c7d253f0a44fd2a5c7bcfb42cc158d)

<sup>2</sup> State small water systems are typically required to conduct limited monitoring. If water quality exceeds an MCL, corrective action is required only if specified by the Local Health Officer. State small water systems provide an annual notification to customers indicating the water is not monitored to the same extent as public water systems.

<sup>3</sup> [SAFER Public Water System Dashboard](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/saferdashboard.html) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/saferdashboard.html)

representative data are assessed using the summarized results for all neighboring sections. Sections are assessed on two metrics: average water quality over the last twenty years, and the highest recent sample from the last five years. Sections are assigned a potential risk status using the following criteria:

*Table 1. Details on potential water quality risk criteria.*

Potential Water Quality Risk	Criteria
High	Twenty-year average OR highest recent sample is above the comparison concentration for one or more constituents
Medium	Twenty-year average OR highest recent sample are within 80% - 100% of comparison concentration for one or more constituents
Low	Twenty-year average AND highest recent sample are below 80% of the comparison concentration for all sampled constituents
Unknown	No water quality results meeting time or depth filters was available in this area

Domestic well locations are identified by Well Completion Reports (WCR) submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR)<sup>4</sup>. Although DWR’s Online System for Well Completion Reports (OSWCR) database is an incomplete record of domestic wells, it is the best available data source for identifying the count and location of potential domestic wells. As of September 2024 there were 298,715 domestic well records in OSWCR when the filtering criteria was applied.

State small water system locations are provided by the Division of Drinking Water (DDW). DDW has identified 1,206 state small water systems in California<sup>5</sup>, though this may not be a comprehensive inventory of all state small water systems.

The total number of domestic wells and state small water systems in potential high-risk areas is determined by overlaying the domestic and state small water system location data with the section water quality data. Domestic wells and state small water systems within the boundary of the square mile section are assigned the water quality status of the section.

## Results

Due to uncertainty in the available domestic well location data, and the lack of water quality results directly from domestic well and state small water systems, the numbers below should not be used as an assessment of the number of domestic wells and state

<sup>4</sup> [Online System for Well Completion Reports Feature Service](https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/ArcGIS/rest/services/i07_WellCompletionReports_Exported_v2_gdb/FeatureServer)

([https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/ArcGIS/rest/services/i07\\_WellCompletionReports\\_Exported\\_v2\\_gdb/FeatureServer](https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/ArcGIS/rest/services/i07_WellCompletionReports_Exported_v2_gdb/FeatureServer))

<sup>5</sup> This count of state small water systems is a temporary estimate derived from the list of State Small Water Systems on the [SAFER Clearinghouse](https://wbappsrv.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/home) (<https://wbappsrv.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/home>) with “Deactivated” systems removed. DDW is currently working with counties to verify the number and location of state small water systems in California. This number is a current best available estimate.

small water systems potentially serving contaminated water. A long-term average or highest recent result of a square mile section above the comparison concentration does not necessarily indicate that wells within the sections are accessing contaminated water. Additionally, domestic well record counts for a section may not be an accurate representation of the number of domestic wells in the area and is likely to represent an undercount of the actual number.

Table 2 shows the summarized count of domestic well records, state small water systems, and total square mile sections in each potential risk area. Approximately one-third of domestic well records and half of state small water systems are in potential high-risk areas, where water quality for one or more constituents may be above the comparison concentration.

A map of the estimated water quality risk by square mile section is shown in Figure 1. The interactive webtool version of the map allows users to see section data in more detail and includes other geospatial information overlays.

*Table 2. Water Quality Risk Results from 2025 Aquifer Risk Map*

Potential Water Quality Risk	Domestic Well Records	State Small Water Systems	Square Mile Sections
High	89,523 (30%)	651 (54%)	18,739 (12%)
Medium	23,604 (8%)	94 (8%)	4,137 (3%)
Low	132,317 (44%)	378 (31%)	24,908 (16%)
Unknown	53,271 (18%)	83 (7%)	110,893 (70%)

Counties with the highest number of domestic well records in potential high-risk areas include Fresno County, Sonoma County, and San Joaquin County (Table 7). Counties with the highest number of state small water systems in potential high-risk areas include Monterey County, Riverside County, and Kern County (Table 8).

Nitrate accounts for 23% of domestic well records in potential high-risk areas (Figure 2). The count of domestic well records in potential high-risk areas where PFAS were the constituent above the comparison concentration increased from 2024 to 2025. One reason for this change is the increase in PFAS water quality results over the past year.

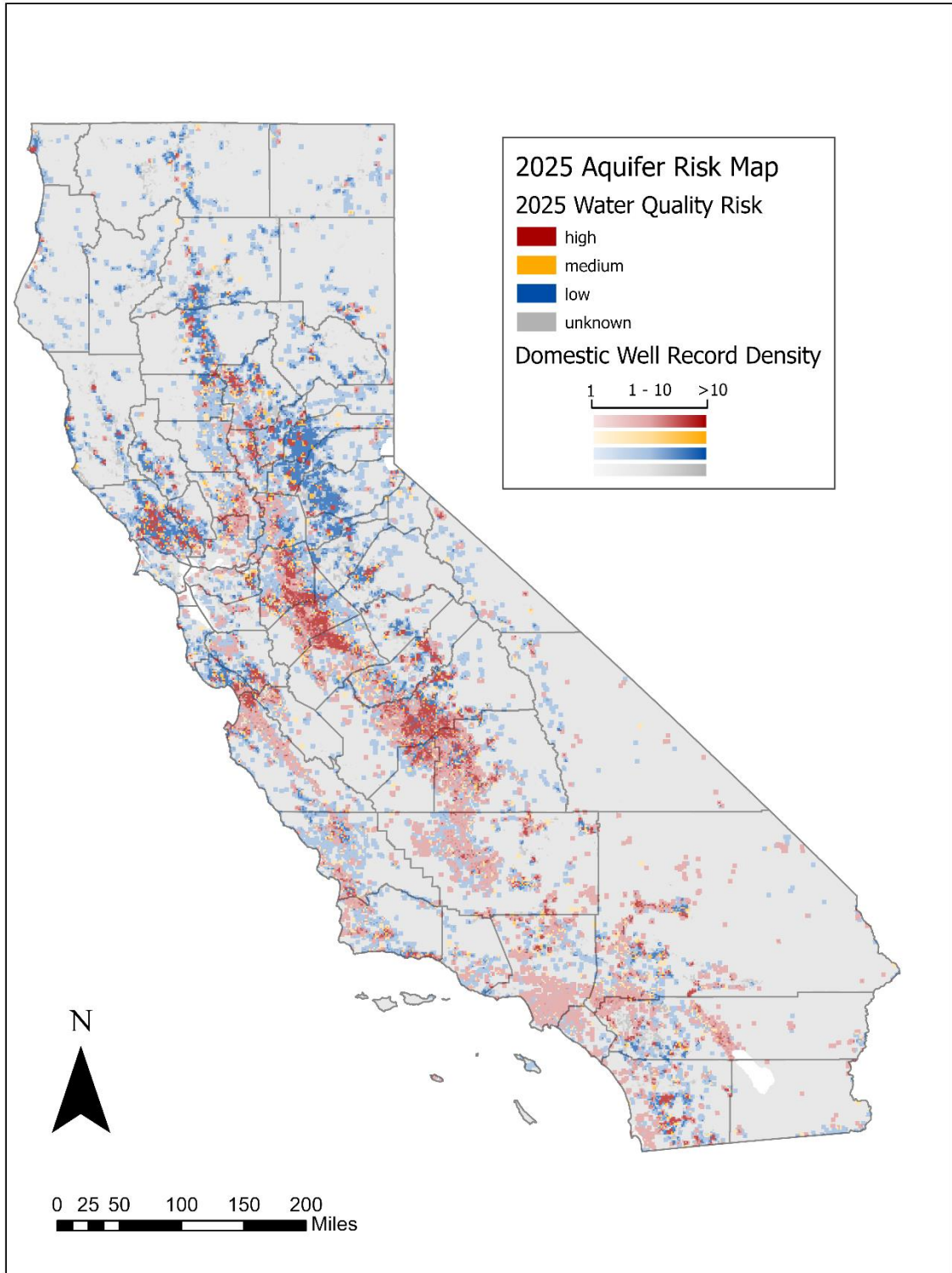
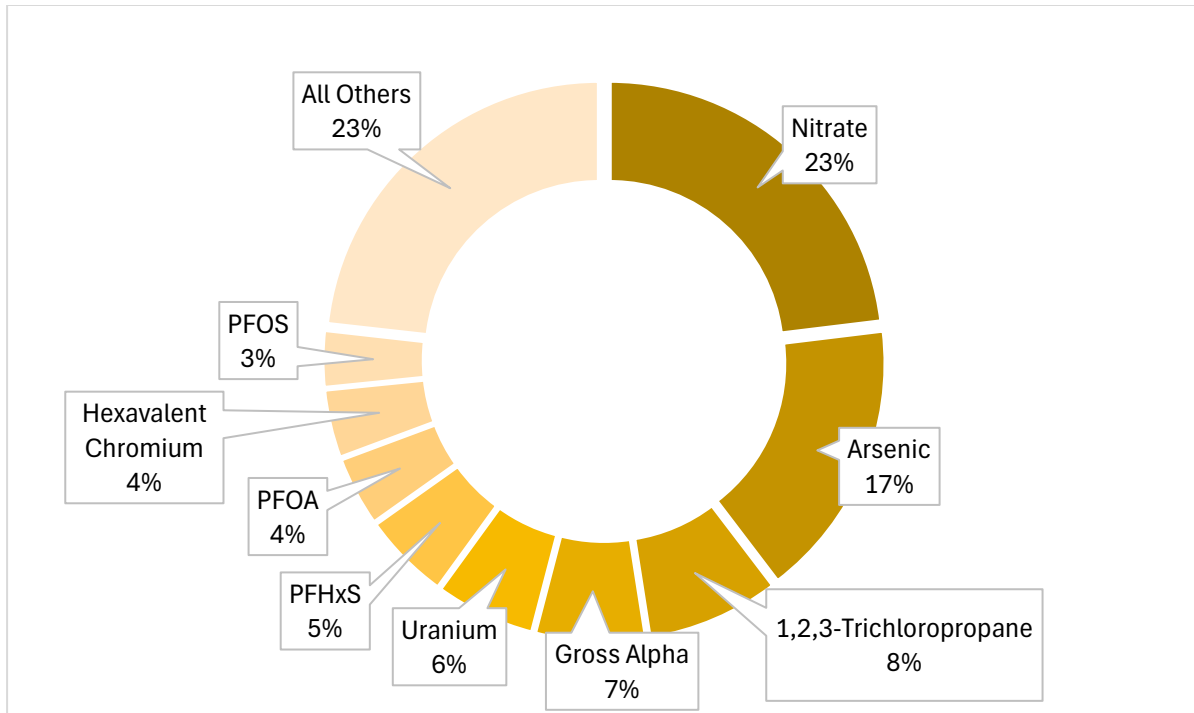


Figure 1. 2025 Aquifer Risk Map showing potential water quality risk (colors) and location of domestic well records (transparency effect).



*Figure 2. The number of domestic well records in potential high-risk areas, separated by the constituents accounting for results above the comparison concentration. For example, 23% of domestic well records in potential high-risk areas are in an area where nitrate is above the comparison concentration.*

### Missing data

Most domestic wells in California do not have available water quality data and the measured water quality risk of each individual domestic well is unknown. The potential water quality risk for domestic wells and state small water systems is determined by averaging data from nearby wells. As stated above, estimated water quality results in an area may not represent the quality of water being accessed by nearby wells. Groundwater gradient, well screen intervals, and local geologic and hydrologic conditions are all factors that are not considered with this methodology.

Approximately 70% (110,893) of square mile sections do not have nearby wells available to estimate water quality. Approximately 18% (53,271) of domestic well records are in areas without nearby available water quality data. Expanded water quality sampling in recent years has decreased the percentage of domestic well records in areas of unknown risk since the first iteration of the Aquifer Risk Map, which listed 26% of domestic well records in areas of unknown risk.

### Comparison with previous assessments

Changes in the total summary statistics from previous Aquifer Risk Maps to the 2025 Aquifer Risk Map do not necessarily indicate that water quality is actively degrading or improving but generally reflect changes in available water quality data.

Overall, the number of domestic well records and state small water systems in potential high-, medium-, and low-risk areas is generally consistent with the risk distribution of previous years (Figure 3, Table 3, Figure 4, and Table 4). There are more domestic well records in unknown risk areas in the 2025 assessment than in 2024 because data from the El Dorado Voluntary Domestic Well Study is no longer included in the map. These results were collected outside the date range for the 2025 map (which includes data from 2004 – 2024), and most results from the El Dorado study were collected in 2003. There were fewer state small water systems assessed in 2025 than in 2024 because the status of several of these systems changed from state small water system to public water system, so they are no longer included in this report but will be assessed in the 2025 Drinking Water Needs Assessment<sup>6</sup>.

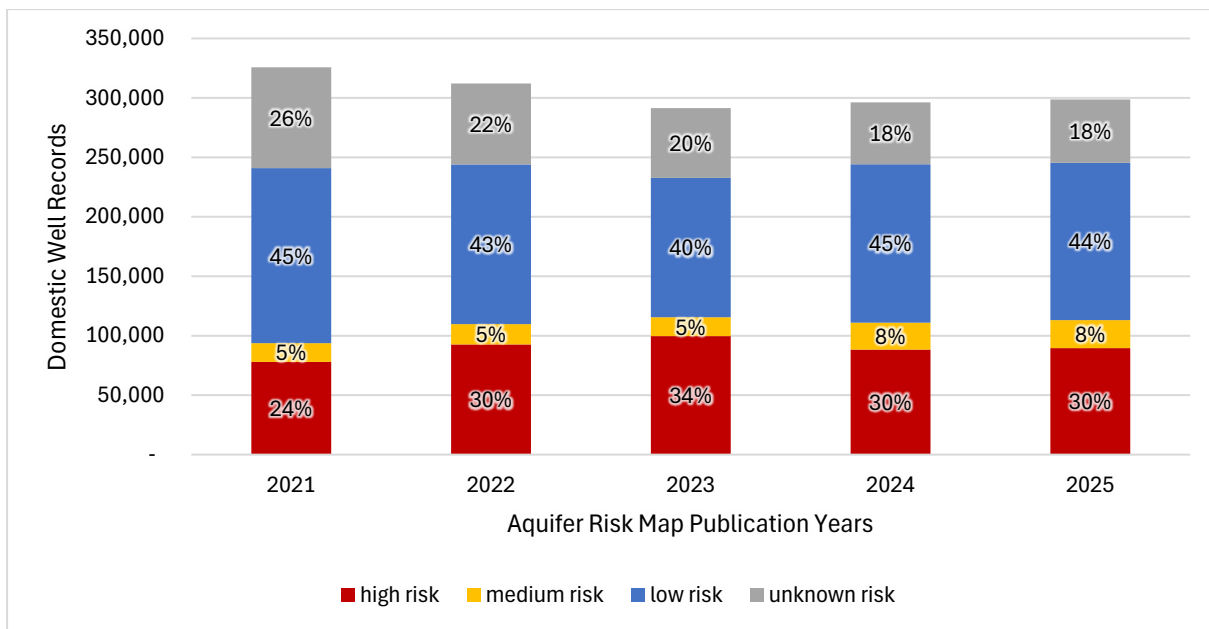


Figure 3. Domestic well water quality risk in the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Aquifer Risk Maps.

<sup>6</sup> SAFER Public Water System Dashboard ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/saferdashboard.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/saferdashboard.html))



Table 3. Risk distribution of domestic well records for the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Aquifer Risk Maps.

Potential Water Quality Risk	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>unknown</b>	84,800	68,192	58,690	52,113	53,271
<b>low</b>	147,185	134,282	117,134	133,238	132,317
<b>medium</b>	15,791	17,078	15,889	22,581	23,604
<b>high</b>	77,973	92,635	99,688	88,351	89,523

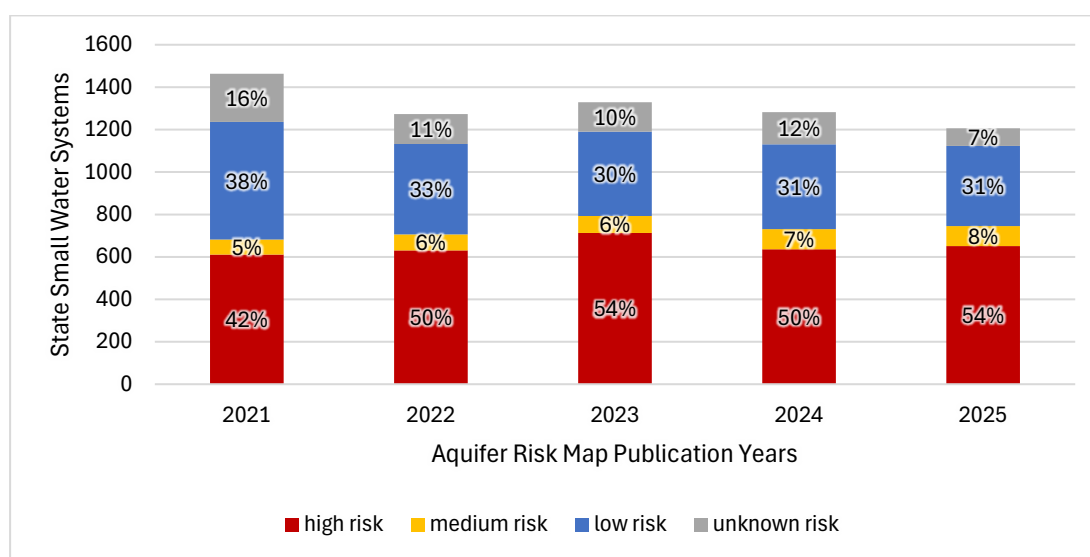


Figure 4. State small water system water quality risk in the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Aquifer Risk Maps.

Table 4. Risk distribution of state small water system counts for the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Aquifer Risk Maps.

Potential Water Quality Risk	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>unknown</b>	228	141	139	151	83
<b>low</b>	553	426	397	400	378
<b>medium</b>	71	75	80	95	94
<b>high</b>	611	631	713	636	651

### Methodology (detailed)

#### Data processing

Water quality results from DDW, the US Geological Survey -Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment programs' Priority Basin and Domestic Well Projects (GAMA\_USGS, GAMA\_DOM), the US Geological Survey-National Water Information

System dataset (USGS\_NWIS), DWR, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), local groundwater monitoring projects (GAMA\_LOCALGW and WB\_LOCALGW), the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (WB\_ILRP), cleanup monitoring sites (WB\_CLEANUP), UC Davis Nitrate dataset (UCD\_NO3) and Water Replenishment District (WRD) are included in this analysis.

The water quality results were downloaded from Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Groundwater Information System<sup>7</sup> (GAMA GIS) on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Results are only included in the estimate calculation if the well met the depth-filtering criteria described below. Duplicate data (that is available in other datasets) in the USGS\_NWIS and UCD\_NO3 datasets were removed. Data for most<sup>8</sup> chemical constituents with a MCL are assessed, and several additional chemical constituents including hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), and Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) are included in the analysis as well<sup>9</sup>. Water quality results are converted to a Comparison Concentration Index<sup>10</sup> to allow comparison between chemical constituents (see Table 9 for chemical names and comparison concentration values). The R script used to download, process, and filter the water quality data is available on GitHub<sup>11</sup>.

### Depth filter

Most available groundwater quality data is sourced from public (municipal) supply wells. This is a result of California's requirement for monitoring and reporting of groundwater from wells that are part of a water system that supplies water to fifteen or more service connections (public water systems). In contrast, domestic wells (any system that serves less than five connections) and state small water systems (five to fourteen connections) are not regulated by the state and therefore lack comprehensive data.

For many regions, public supply wells access a deeper portion of the groundwater resource when compared with domestic wells. This deeper groundwater is typically less affected by constituents introduced at the ground surface than shallower groundwater.

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<sup>7</sup> [GAMA GIS](https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/gamamap/public/)

(<https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/gamamap/public/>)

<sup>8</sup> Asbestos, fecal coliform, and total coliform are not assessed for this analysis, although these constituents have an MCL.

<sup>9</sup> The comparison concentration values for chemicals without an MCL are as follows: Hexavalent Chromium – 10 micrograms per liter (µG/L); Copper – 1.3 milligrams per liter (MG/L); Lead – 15 µG/L; N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) – 0.1 µG/L; PFOA – 5.1 ng/L; PFOS – 6.5 ng/L; PFBS – 500 ng/L; PFHxS – 3 ng/L. The notification levels for PFAS will continue to be used until the new MCL's are adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board.

<sup>10</sup>The Comparison Concentration Index consists of the finding divided by the comparison concentration (typically, the MCL), with a special consideration for non-detect results with a reporting limit above the MCL or comparison concentration which are automatically assigned a Comparison Concentration Index of 0.5.

<sup>11</sup> [Aquifer Risk Map Github page](https://github.com/EmilyHoulihan/Aquifer_Risk_Map) ([https://github.com/EmilyHoulihan/Aquifer\\_Risk\\_Map](https://github.com/EmilyHoulihan/Aquifer_Risk_Map))

As a result, use of data from municipal wells would likely result in a systematic low bias for an estimate of the shallower groundwater typically accessed by domestic wells.

Staff developed a depth filter to focus on data that best represents shallower groundwater accessed by domestic wells. Since well depth varies throughout the state, a domestic well depth zone is defined numerically for each Groundwater Unit<sup>12</sup> based on Total Completed Depth statistics from the OSWCR database (Figure 5). Staff use OSWCR data to determine a “Domestic Bottom” and “Domestic Top” depth for each Groundwater Unit. The domestic well depth zone is defined as the range between “Domestic Bottom” depth<sup>13</sup> and “Domestic Top” depth<sup>14</sup>. Water quality wells with numeric depth data are filtered using the domestic well depth zone of the Groundwater Unit.

OSWCR well depth data is also used to determine the average public well depth per Groundwater Unit, and the public well and domestic well depth statistics are compared for each Groundwater Unit to assess whether domestic and public well depth intervals overlap, indicating both well types access the same groundwater source (Figure 6). For each Groundwater Unit, “Domestic Bottom” depth (defined above) is compared to “Public Bottom” depth<sup>15</sup> (defined below). If the “Public Bottom” depth for a given Groundwater Unit was shallower than the “Domestic Bottom” depth, or within 10% of “Domestic Bottom” depth, then water quality data from public wells in that Groundwater Unit is included in the analysis. If the “Public Bottom” depth for a given Groundwater Unit is more than 10% deeper than the “Domestic Bottom” depth, water quality data from public wells in that Groundwater Unit is excluded from the analysis. Water quality wells without numeric data are filtered using this well type depth filter.

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<sup>12</sup> This project uses Groundwater Units as areas of analysis. Groundwater Units consist of groundwater basins as defined by [DWR Bulletin 118](https://www.water.ca.gov/dwr/bulletin/118) ([https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?url=https://gis.water.ca.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Geoscientific/i08\\_B118\\_CA\\_GroundwaterBasins/FeatureServer](https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?url=https://gis.water.ca.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Geoscientific/i08_B118_CA_GroundwaterBasins/FeatureServer)), and the connecting upland areas associated with each of these basins as delineated by the [USGS](https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/ds796) (<https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/ds796>). Use of Groundwater Units results in coverage of the entire state. Averaging of well depths and groundwater quality within a Groundwater Unit is considered reasonable based on the assumed relative consistency of hydrogeologic conditions within each Unit.

<sup>13</sup> Domestic Bottom = average of section maximum domestic well depths (from OSWCR) plus 3 standard deviations of section maximum well depths for each Groundwater Unit.

<sup>14</sup> Domestic Top = average of section minimum domestic well depths (from OSWCR) minus 3 standard deviations of section minimum well depths for Groundwater Unit.

<sup>15</sup> Public Bottom = average of section maximum public well depths (from OSWCR) plus 3 standard deviations of section maximum well depths for Groundwater Units.

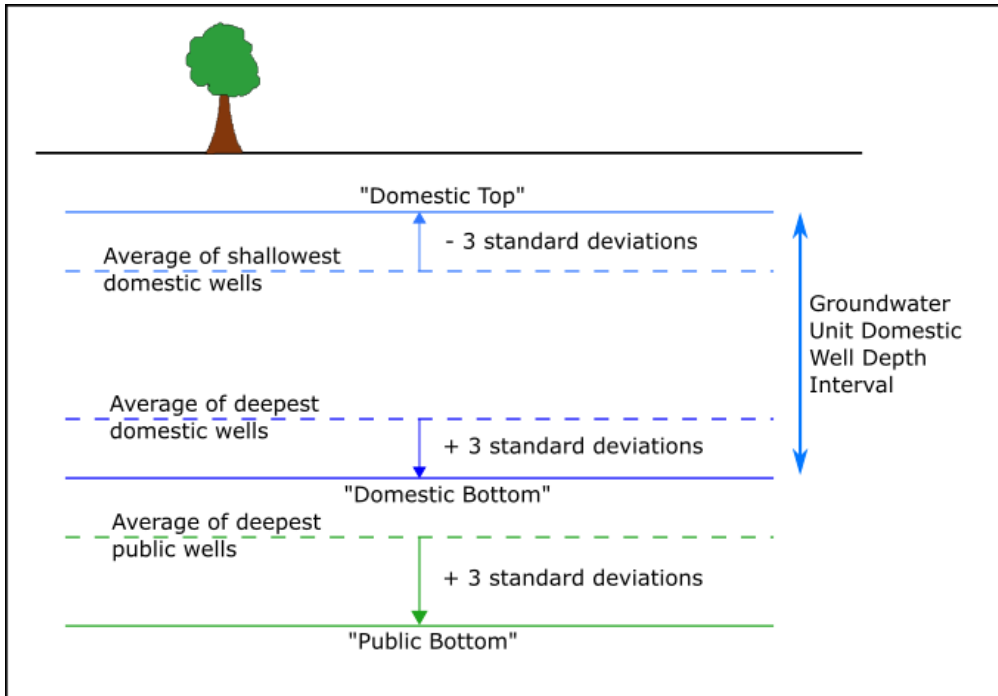
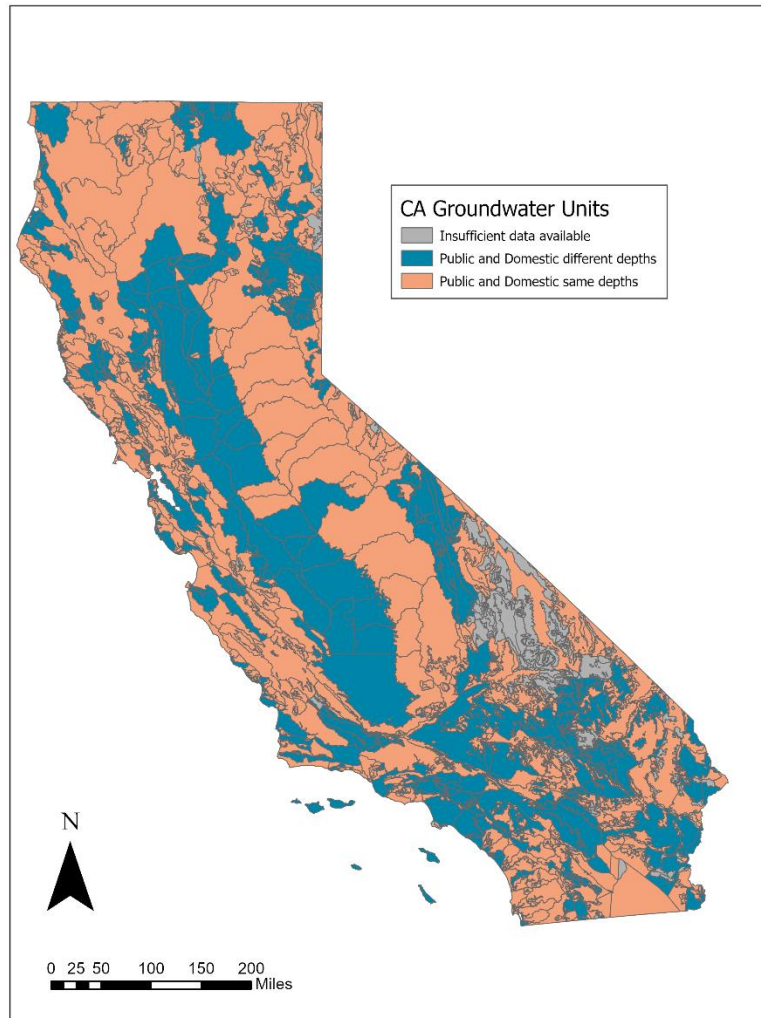


Figure 5. Numeric depth filter – based on average of section maximum/minimum well depths per Groundwater Unit. Wells with a known depth that fall within the “domestic well depth interval” are included in the analysis. Wells with a known depth that fall outside the “domestic well depth interval” are screened out of the analysis. For wells without a known depth – if the “public bottom” depth of a Groundwater Unit is shallower or within 10% of the “domestic bottom” depth, then wells classified as public are included in the analysis. If the “public bottom” depth of a Groundwater Unit is more than 10% deeper than the “domestic bottom” depth, then wells classified as public are screened out of the analysis.



*Figure 6. Depth filter by well type (for wells with unknown depth). This map shows basins where domestic wells and public wells may be accessing similar groundwater depths (pink) and basins where domestic wells and public wells are accessing different groundwater depths (blue).*

### De-clustering

Available water quality results are spatially and temporally de-clustered to square mile sections to account for differences in data sampling density within each section over space and time. This is to prevent certain areas with a high density of wells and frequent sampling to achieve a disproportionate weighting to the overall risk characterization of an area. To expand the coverage of the water quality risk map, averaged, de-clustered data from sections that contain a well(s) that provide water quality data (“source sections”) are projected onto neighboring sections that do not include a well providing water quality data.

Water quality data is assessed using two metrics – the long-term (20 year<sup>16</sup>) average and all recent results (within 5 years<sup>17</sup>). The temporal and spatial de-clustering methodology for each metric is outlined below.

#### *Long-term average*

1. Water quality results from each well for each chemical constituent are averaged per year (for the past 20 years).
2. The results from step one is averaged per well.
3. The results from step two are averaged for all the wells that lie within a section.
4. For sections that do not contain a well with water quality data, the de-clustered data from step three is projected onto adjacent sections.

#### *Recent results*

1. All recent (within the past 5 years) results in a section are categorized as “under” (less than 80 percent of comparison concentration), “close” (80 percent – 100 percent of comparison concentration), or “over” (greater than comparison concentration).
2. The count of recent results in each category are summarized per square mile section for each constituent.
3. For square mile sections that do not contain a well with recent water quality data, the results from step two are averaged for all adjacent sections.

#### *Water quality risk*

Water quality data is summarized by square mile section using the methodology outlined above. For each square mile section, several metrics are reported (Table 5) and the sections are then grouped into high-risk, medium-risk, low-risk, or unknown risk (Table 1). This potential water quality risk is then combined with the density of domestic well records and the location of state small water system to identify the number and location of wells and systems potentially at risk.

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<sup>16</sup> To calculate the 20-year average, water quality results with sample collection dates after January 1, 2004 are used.

<sup>17</sup> To calculate results within the last five years, water quality results with sample collection dates after January 1, 2019 are used.

Table 5. Description of data available per square mile section.

GIS Attribute Name	GIS Alias	Description
MTRS	MTRS	Unique section identifier (square mile section)
SRF1	Count of constituents above comparison concentration	Count of constituents with long-term average or recent results above comparison concentration
SRF2	Count of constituents close to comparison concentration	Count of constituents long-term average or recent results between 80-100% of comparison concentration
SRF3	Magnitude of contamination	Average magnitude of long-term average or recent results for constituents above comparison concentration (reported as Comparison Concentration Index)
SL1	List of constituents above comparison concentration	List of constituents above comparison concentration
SL2	List of contaminants close to comparison concentration	List of constituents between 80-100% of comparison concentration
WQ_2025	2025 Water Quality Risk	Water quality risk based on comparison of long-term average and recent results to comparison concentration (see Table 1)
DWR_dm_	Domestic Well Record Count	Total number of domestic well records in section (from OSWCR)
ssws_cn	State Small Water System Count (DDW)	Total number of state small water systems in section (from DDW)
WQ_method	Water Quality Estimate Method	Indicates if risk is from source data (well located in section) or neighbor data (well in adjacent section). Method is for constituents with the highest risk in that section.

#### *Areas with no available water quality data*

Areas without nearby available water quality data for any constituents are listed as “unknown” risk.

#### *Individual chemical constituents*

Single-chemical constituent layers are available as square mile section data for nitrate, arsenic, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, hexavalent chromium, and uranium. These layers display the long-term average and the count of recent results over, close to, and under the comparison concentration per square mile section for a single chemical constituent.

### Location of domestic wells and state small water systems

The location of potential domestic wells is determined by using well completion records from the OSWCR database. The count of potential domestic wells per square mile section is created by filtering the [OSWCR database](https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/arcgis/rest/services/i07_WellCompletionReports_Exported_v2_gdb/FeatureServer) ([https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/arcgis/rest/services/i07\\_WellCompletionReports\\_Exported\\_v2\\_gdb/FeatureServer](https://services.arcgis.com/aa38u6OgfNoCkTJ6/arcgis/rest/services/i07_WellCompletionReports_Exported_v2_gdb/FeatureServer)) for the following parameters:

- B118 Well Use is “Domestic”
- Date Work Ended is greater than “12/31/1969”
- Record Type is “WellCompletion/New/Production or Monitoring/NA”

The OSWCR database includes four types of well completion reports (new drilling, modification, destruction, or other). Starting in 2023 only reports of “new drilling” were included to count domestic wells, whereas in the 2021 and 2022 maps both new drilling, modification, and other records were included to count domestic wells (Table 6).

The location of state small water systems come from [records at DDW](https://wbappsrv.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/login?returnUrl=%2Fsafer-systems) (<https://wbappsrv.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/login?returnUrl=%2Fsafer-systems> ). The state small water system inventory is created by filtering the Clearinghouse database using the following parameters:

- System Type is “Local State Small Water System” or “State Small Water System”
- Current SAFER Status is not “Deactivated”



Methodology updates over time

Table 6. Summarized updates to Aquifer Risk Map over time.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Identification of domestic wells (DW)</b>	OSWCR – “domestic” WCRs excluding those drilled before 1970	OSWCR – “domestic” WCRs excluding those drilled before 1970, excluding “destruction” record types	OSWCR – B118WellUse is “Domestic”, date work ended is greater than 12/31/1969, RecordType is “WellCompletion /New /Production/ or Monitoring/NA”. Wells attributed to county based on WCR designation.	OSWCR – B118WellUse is “Domestic”, date work ended is greater than 12/31/1969, RecordType is “WellCompletion /New /Production/ or Monitoring/NA”. Wells attributed to county based on WCR designation.	
<b>Identification of state small water systems (SSWS)</b>	Rural Community Assistance Corporation	DDW			DDW – “Deactivated” systems removed from list
<b>Water quality datasets used<sup>18</sup></b>	DDW DWR GAMA_DOM GAMA_USGS <sup>19</sup> USGS_NWIS WB_ILRP	DDW DWR GAMA_DOM GAMA_USGS USGS_NWIS <sup>20</sup> WB_ILRP WB_CLEANUP	DDW DWR GAMA_DOM USGS_NWIS <sup>21</sup> WB_ILRP WB_LOCALGW WB_CLEANUP	DDW DPR DWR GAMA_DOM GAMA_LOCALGW GAMA_SP-STUDY GAMA_USGS UCD_NO3 USGS_NWIS WB_ILRP	

<sup>18</sup> For more information about source datasets available in GAMA GIS, please refer to the [GAMA GIS Dataset Descriptions](https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/GAMA_Data_Descriptions.pdf) (https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/GAMA\_Data\_Descriptions.pdf).

<sup>19</sup> GAMA\_USGS results are also reported in USGS\_NWIS dataset. In all years where GAMA\_USGS and USGS\_NWIS results are both included, duplicate results were removed during data processing. In 2023, GAMA\_USGS results were not downloaded because it was understood that USGS\_NWIS data would cover the GAMA\_USGS results. However, in 2024 staff reverted to including GAMA\_USGS results since this dataset sometimes includes more well depth data alongside the water quality results.

<sup>20</sup> USGS\_NWIS data in GAMA GIS was not updated from 2019-2021, so the 2021 and 2022 maps were missing some USGS\_NWIS data from those years.

<sup>21</sup> A data processing error in the GAMA GIS meant that some USGS\_NWIS nitrate results were incorrectly listed as “Nitrate as N” when they represented “Nitrate” concentrations. This caused the concentration to be ~4.4 times higher than it actually should be in the 2023 map. This error was corrected in March 2023 on GAMA GIS but affected the 2023 Aquifer Risk Map results.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
				WB_LOCALGW WB_CLEANUP WRD	
<b>Constituents</b>	All constituents with an MCL excluding asbestos, coliform and fecal coliform bacteria, and radon 222, and including hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, and N-Nitrosodimethylamine.			All constituents with an MCL excluding asbestos, coliform and fecal coliform bacteria, and radon 222, and including hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, N-Nitrosodimethylamine, PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, and PFBS.	
<b>Recent water quality results</b>	Results sampled within the last 2 years	Results sampled within the last 5 years			
<b>Determination of risk</b>	If long term concentration or any recent result is above comparison concentration, section is high-risk. If long term concentration or any recent result is within 80% of comparison concentration, section is medium-risk. If long term concentration and all recent results are below 80% of comparison concentration, section is low-risk. Section risk is assigned to all DWs and SSWS in section.			Same as previous but threshold for recent results is changed to “one or more recent results above/ within 80% of comparison concentration” instead of “more than zero recent results above/ within 80% of comparison concentration”.	
<b>Summary by census area</b>	Census areas ranked by percentile based on number of constituents above comparison concentration, magnitude of exceedance, percent area with constituents above comparison concentration.	Count of high-risk and total DW and SSWS summarized by census area.			

Table 6, cont.

Additional figures and tables

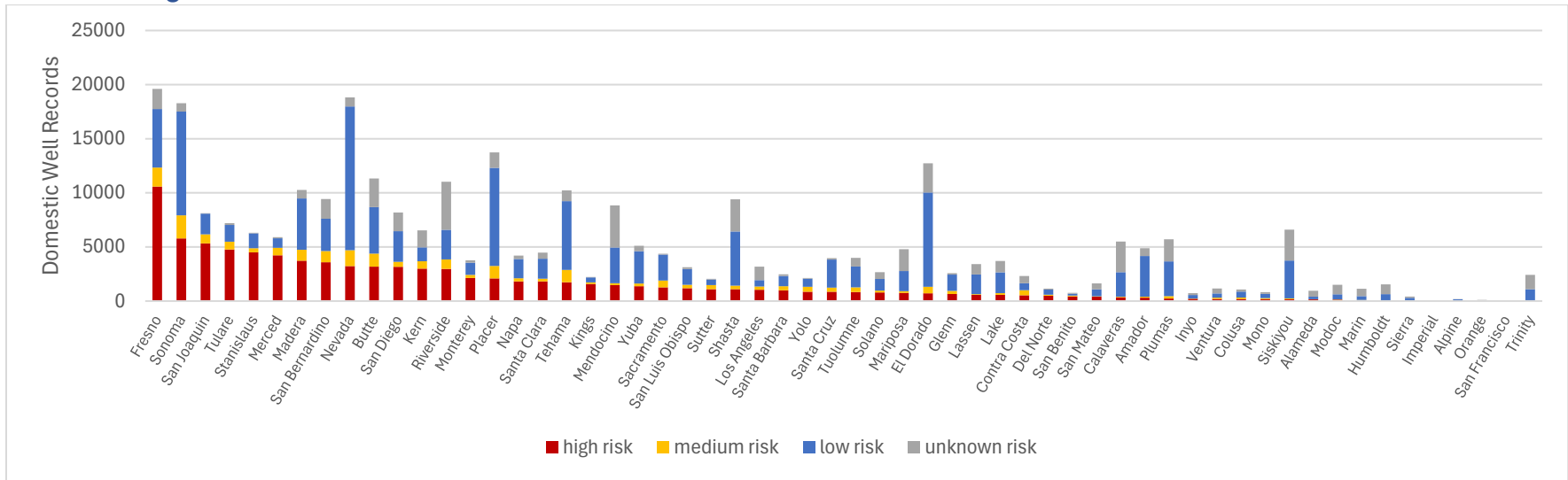


Figure 7. Domestic well risk by county (chart).

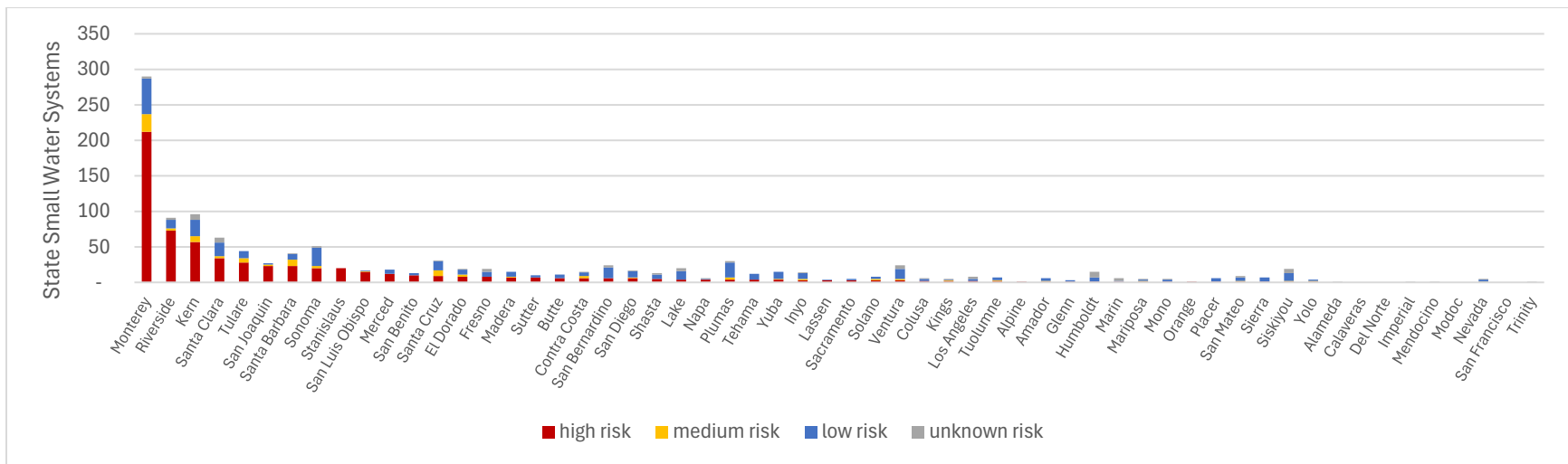


Figure 8. State small water systems risk by county (chart).

Table 7. Domestic well risk by county (table).

<b>County</b>	<b>High-Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Medium-Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Low-Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Unknown Risk Domestic Well Records</b>
Fresno	10,581	1,750	5,410	1,858
Sonoma	5,787	2,131	9,594	770
San Joaquin	5,328	842	1,913	30
Tulare	4,766	717	1,542	170
Stanislaus	4,503	382	1,376	51
Merced	4,224	702	875	100
Madera	3,732	1,004	4,748	778
San Bernardino	3,588	1,036	2,976	1,830
Nevada	3,231	1,471	13,276	845
Butte	3,179	1,204	4,302	2,640
San Diego	3,168	451	2,830	1,729
Kern	2,995	682	1,286	1,570
Riverside	2,967	879	2,736	4,438
Monterey	2,130	288	1,133	212
Placer	2,091	1,159	9,053	1,439
Napa	1,822	281	1,783	317
Santa Clara	1,816	252	1,839	574
Tehama	1,733	1,138	6,353	999
Kings	1,579	149	458	37
Mendocino	1,475	172	3,306	3,889
Yuba	1,368	253	2,979	510
Sacramento	1,261	628	2,409	76
San Luis Obispo	1,181	318	1,459	162
Sutter	1,098	381	503	72
Shasta	1,091	326	5,010	2,977
Los Angeles	1,040	309	589	1,234
Santa Barbara	995	373	946	155
Yolo	864	458	744	63
Santa Cruz	863	375	2,593	138
Tuolumne	831	437	1,922	803
Solano	789	170	1,082	629
Mariposa	761	146	1,865	2,011
El Dorado	721	596	8,708	2,707
Glenn	648	284	1,518	130
Lassen	572	60	1,823	953

<b>County</b>	<b>High-Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Medium- Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Low-Risk Domestic Well Records</b>	<b>Unknown Risk Domestic Well Records</b>
Lake	569	161	1,923	1,045
Contra Costa	530	475	643	662
Del Norte	491	89	478	83
San Benito	431	81	169	72
San Mateo	397	43	644	549
Calaveras	343	60	2,269	2,821
Amador	307	98	3,749	732
Plumas	235	223	3,205	2,037
Inyo	199	37	326	167
Ventura	197	110	393	464
Colusa	187	137	546	193
Mono	179	91	391	158
Siskiyou	167	72	3,497	2,865
Alameda	151	19	227	555
Modoc	124	32	467	878
Marin	78	18	358	685
Humboldt	47	3	590	896
Sierra	45	-	254	113
Imperial	25	1	24	26
Alpine	22	41	96	14
Orange	21	9	37	28
San Francisco	-	-	-	2
Trinity	-	-	1,092	1,330

Table 8. State small water system risk by county (table).

<b>County</b>	<b>High-Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Medium- Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Low-Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Unknown Risk State Small Water Systems</b>
Monterey	212	25	50	3
Riverside	73	3	12	3
Kern	57	8	23	8
Santa Clara	34	3	19	7
Tulare	28	6	10	-
San Joaquin	23	2	2	-
Santa Barbara	23	9	8	1
Sonoma	20	3	26	2
Stanislaus	20	-	-	-
San Luis Obispo	15	1	1	-
Merced	12	-	6	-
San Benito	10	-	3	-
Santa Cruz	9	8	13	1
El Dorado	8	3	7	1
Fresno	8	-	7	4
Madera	7	1	7	-
Sutter	7	-	3	-
Butte	6	-	5	-
Contra Costa	6	3	5	1
San Bernardino	6	-	15	3
San Diego	6	1	9	1
Shasta	5	-	6	2
Lake	4	-	12	4
Napa	4	-	1	1
Plumas	4	3	21	2
Tehama	4	-	8	-
Yuba	4	1	10	-
Inyo	3	2	8	1
Lassen	3	-	1	-
Sacramento	3	-	2	-
Solano	3	2	3	-
Ventura	3	2	14	5
Colusa	2	-	3	1
Kings	2	1	1	1

<b>County</b>	<b>High-Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Medium- Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Low-Risk State Small Water Systems</b>	<b>Unknown Risk State Small Water Systems</b>
Los Angeles	2	-	3	3
Tuolumne	2	1	4	-
Alpine	1	-	-	-
Amador	1	1	4	-
Glenn	1	-	2	-
Humboldt	1	-	6	8
Marin	1	-	1	4
Mariposa	1	1	2	1
Mono	1	-	3	1
Orange	1	-	-	-
Placer	1	-	5	-
San Mateo	1	1	5	2
Sierra	1	-	6	-
Siskiyou	1	1	11	6
Yolo	1	1	2	-
Alameda	-	-	-	1
Calaveras	-	-	-	-
Del Norte	-	-	-	-
Imperial	-	-	-	1
Mendocino	-	-	-	1
Modoc	-	-	-	-
Nevada	-	1	3	1
San Francisco	-	-	-	-
Trinity	-	-	-	1

Table 9. Chemical Abbreviations Used in Aquifer Risk Map

Chemical Abbreviation (Web Tool)	Chemical Name	Units	Comparison Concentration Value	Comparison Concentration Type
24D	2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4 D)	UG/L	70	MCL
AL	Aluminum	UG/L	1000	MCL
ALACL	Alachlor	UG/L	2	MCL
ALPHA	Gross Alpha radioactivity	pCi/L	15	MCL
AS	Arsenic	UG/L	10	MCL
ATRAZINE	Atrazine	UG/L	1	MCL
BA	Barium	MG/L	1	MCL
BDCME	Bromodichloromethane (THM)	UG/L	80	MCL
BE	Beryllium	UG/L	4	MCL
BETA	Gross beta	pCi/L	50	MCL
BHCGAMMA	Lindane (Gamma-BHC)	UG/L	0.2	MCL
BIS2EHP	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)	UG/L	4	MCL
BRO3	Bromate	UG/L	10	MCL
BTZ	Bentazon	UG/L	18	MCL
BZ	Benzene	UG/L	1	MCL
BZAP	Benzo(a)pyrene	UG/L	0.2	MCL
BZME	Toluene	UG/L	150	MCL
CD	Cadmium	UG/L	5	MCL
CHLORDANE	Chlordane	UG/L	0.1	MCL
CHLORITE	Chlorite	MG/L	1	MCL
CLBZ	Chlorobenzene	UG/L	70	MCL
CN	Cyanide (CN)	UG/L	150	MCL
CR	Chromium	UG/L	50	MCL
CR6	Chromium, Hexavalent (Cr6)	UG/L	10	Temporary comparison level for this analysis only <sup>22</sup>
CRBFN	Carbofuran	UG/L	18	MCL
CTCL	Carbon Tetrachloride	UG/L	0.5	MCL
CU	Copper	MG/L	1.3	Action Level
DALAPON	Dalapon	UG/L	200	MCL

<sup>22</sup> The HBSL for Hexavalent Chromium is 20 ug/l.



<b>Chemical Abbreviation (Web Tool)</b>	<b>Chemical Name</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Value</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Type</b>
DBCME	Dibromochloromethane (THM)	UG/L	80	MCL
DBCP	1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	UG/L	0.2	MCL
DCA11	1,1-Dichloroethane (1,1 DCA)	UG/L	5	MCL
DCA12	1,2 Dichloroethane (1,2 DCA)	UG/L	0.5	MCL
DCBZ12	1,2 Dichlorobenzene (1,2-DCB)	UG/L	600	MCL
DCBZ14	1,4-Dichlorobenzene (p-DCB)	UG/L	5	MCL
DCE11	1,1 Dichloroethylene (1,1 DCE)	UG/L	6	MCL
DCE12C	cis-1,2 Dichloroethylene	UG/L	6	MCL
DCE12T	trans-1,2, Dichloroethylene	UG/L	10	MCL
DCMA	Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride)	UG/L	5	MCL
DCP13	1,3 Dichloropropene	UG/L	0.5	MCL
DCPA12	1,2 Dichloropropane (1,2 DCP)	UG/L	5	MCL
DINOSEB	Dinoseb	UG/L	7	MCL
DIQUAT	Diquat	UG/L	20	MCL
DOA	Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	MG/L	0.4	MCL
EBZ	Ethylbenzene	UG/L	300	MCL
EDB	1,2 Dibromoethane (EDB)	UG/L	0.05	MCL
ENDOTHAL	Endothall	UG/L	100	MCL
ENDRIN	Endrin	UG/L	2	MCL
F	Fluoride	MG/L	2	MCL
FC11	Trichlorofluoromethane (Freon 11)	UG/L	150	MCL
FC113	1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane (Freon 113)	MG/L	1.2	MCL
GLYP	Glyphosate (Round-up)	UG/L	700	MCL
H-3	Tritium	pCi/L	20000	MCL
HCCP	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	UG/L	50	MCL
HCLBZ	Hexachlorobenzene (HCB)	UG/L	1	MCL
HEPTACHLOR	Heptachlor	UG/L	0.01	MCL
HEPT-EPOX	Heptachlor Epoxide	UG/L	0.01	MCL
HG	Mercury	UG/L	2	MCL
MOLINATE	Molinate	UG/L	20	MCL
MTBE	MTBE (Methyl-tert-butyl ether)	UG/L	13	MCL

<b>Chemical Abbreviation (Web Tool)</b>	<b>Chemical Name</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Value</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Type</b>
MTXYCL	Methoxychlor	UG/L	30	MCL
NI	Nickel	UG/L	100	MCL
NNSM	N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	UG/L	0.01	NL
NO2	Nitrite as N	MG/L	1	MCL
NO3N	Nitrate as N	MG/L	10	MCL
OXAMYL	Oxamyl	UG/L	50	MCL
PB	Lead	UG/L	15	Action Level
PCA	1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane (PCA)	UG/L	1	MCL
PCATE	Perchlorate	UG/L	6	MCL
PCB1016	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	UG/L	0.5	MCL
PCE	Tetrachloroethene (PCE)	UG/L	5	MCL
PCP	Pentachlorophenol (PCP)	UG/L	1	MCL
PFBSA	Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	NG/L	500	Notification Level
PFHXSA	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	NG/L	3	Notification Level
PFOA	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	NG/L	5.1	Notification Level
PFOS	Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	NG/L	6.5	Notification Level
PICLORAM	Picloram	MG/L	0.5	MCL
RA-226-228	Combined Radium 226 and Radium 228	pCi/L	5	MCL
SB	Antimony	UG/L	6	MCL
SE	Selenium	UG/L	50	MCL
SILVEX	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	UG/L	50	MCL
SIMAZINE	Simazine	UG/L	4	MCL
SR-90	Strontium 90	pCi/L	8	MCL
STY	Styrene	UG/L	100	MCL
TBME	Bromoform (THM)	UG/L	80	MCL
TCA111	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	UG/L	200	MCL
TCA112	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	UG/L	5	MCL
TCB124	1,2,4- Trichlorobenzene (1,2,4 TCB)	UG/L	5	MCL
TCDD2378	2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (Dioxin)	UG/L	3.00E-05	MCL
TCE	Trichloroethene (TCE)	UG/L	5	MCL
TCLME	Chloroform (THM)	UG/L	80	MCL

<b>Chemical Abbreviation (Web Tool)</b>	<b>Chemical Name</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Value</b>	<b>Comparison Concentration Type</b>
TCPR123	1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3 TCP)	UG/L	0.005	MCL
THIOBENCARB	Thiobencarb	UG/L	70	MCL
THM	Total Trihalomethanes	UG/L	80	MCL
TL	Thallium	UG/L	2	MCL
TOXAP	Toxaphene	UG/L	3	MCL
U	Uranium	pCi/L	20	MCL
VC	Vinyl Chloride	UG/L	0.5	MCL
XYLENES	Xylenes (total)	UG/L	1750	MCL