

Table 2K. Microbial constituents, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) parameter code, primary use or source, and method detection limit (MDL) for the USGS Ohio Microbiology Laboratory.

[The five-digit USGS parameter code is used to uniquely identify a specific constituent or property; MCL-US, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency maximum contaminant level; na, not available; mL, milliliters; TT, treatment technique - a required process intended to reduce the level of contamination in drinking water]

Microbial constituent	USGS parameter code	Primary use or source	MDL	Comparison type	Threshold value
<i>Escherichia</i> coliform (<i>E. coli</i>)	90901	Sewage and animal waste indicator / Intestinal tracts of humans and animals	1 colony / 100 mL	TT	No fecal coliforms are allowed.
Total coliform (including fecal coliform and <i>E. coli</i>)	90900	Water-quality indicator / Soil, water, and intestinal tracts of animals	1 colony / 100 mL	MCL-US	No more than 5 percent samples total coliform-positives in a month. Every sample that has total coliforms must be analyzed for fecal coliforms; no fecal coliforms are allowed.
F-specific coliphage	99335	Viral indicator / Intestinal tracts of warm-blooded animals	na	TT	99.99 percent killed / inactivated
Somatic coliphage	99332	Viral indicator / Fecal contaminated waters	na	TT	99.99 percent killed / inactivated