

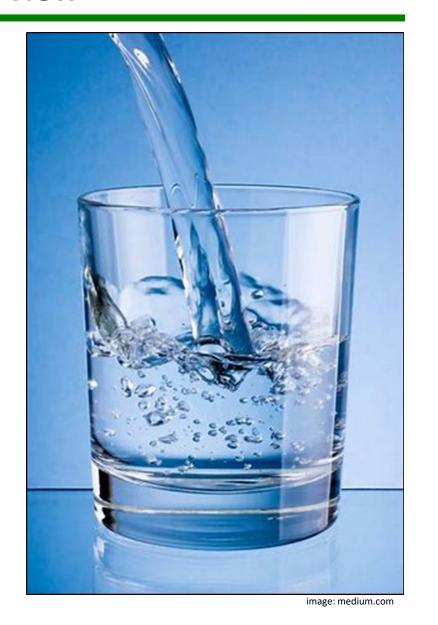
Summary of the Technical Background Report for the Proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels and Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards for PFOA, PFOS, PFNA and PFHxS.

Stakeholder Meeting 07/09/2019



Presentation Overview

- 1. Health-Based Risk Assessment Process
- 2. Chemical-Specific Reference Doses for:
 PFOA PFOS
 PFNA PFHxS
- 3. Exposure Assumptions
 Use of the "Minnesota" Model
 Relative Source Contribution
- 4. Modeled Exposures & Proposed MCLs
- 5. Questions





Acknowledgements

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) acknowledges the following groups for technical comments submitted by New Hampshire's:

- residents and community stakeholders,
- academic institutions,
- community advocacy groups,
- representatives for the business community,
- and municipalities.

Additionally, NHDES acknowledges the productive and professional discussions and information sharing by the following entities:

- Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH)
- Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) PFAS Caucus
- Federal-State Toxicology & Risk Analysis Committee (FSTRAC)
- Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) PFAS Working Group
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP)
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MIDHHS)
- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC)
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
- Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA)



Health-Based Risk Assessment Process

1. Identify the chemicals of concern:

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)

Perflurononanoic acid (PFNA) Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)

- Identify sensitive and human-relevant health effects due to exposure to the chemical, and derive a reference dose (RfD) for the effects.
 - Is the chemical a carcinogen?
 - Are non-cancer health effects more protective than cancer endpoints?
 - Do epidemiological studies provide clear evidence?
 - Are there appropriate animal models for quantifying toxicity?
- **3.** Characterize an exposure scenario using protective assumptions to determine an environmental concentration (*i.e.*, drinking water level) that will not exceed the RfD.



Health-Based Risk Assessment Process

Per the CDC's **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry** (ATSDR) draft toxicity profile on PFAS (ATSDR, 2018), suspected health outcomes include:

Rodent Experiments



- Altered lipid metabolism
- Liver stress and inflammation
- Altered liver enzyme levels
- Thyroid disruption
- Reduced birth weight
- Fetal skeletal defects
- Fetal loss (death)
- Neurobehavioral defects
- Delayed mammary gland development
- Liver, testicular & kidney cancer

Human Epidemiology

Possible effects based on associations:

- Immune system modulation
- Altered lipid metabolism
- Altered liver enzyme levels
- Altered thyroid hormone levels
- Altered behavior in infants, children & adolescents
- Infertility in women
- Reduced birth weight
- Potentially testicular & kidney cancer









Health-Based Risk Assessment Process

Proposed MCLs based on non-cancer endpoints

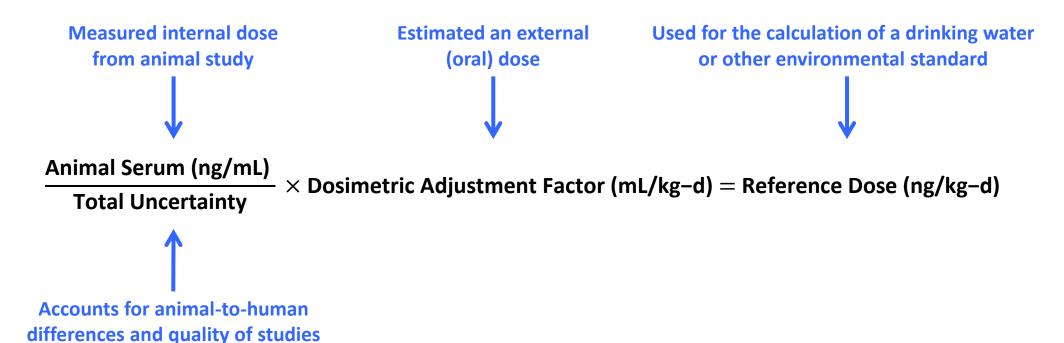
Specific PFAS	NHDES Revised MCLs	Animal Health Outcome	
PFOA	12 ng/L	Liver toxicity & altered lipid metabolism	
PFOS	15 ng/L	Suppressed immune response to vaccines	
PFHxS	18 ng/L	Reduced female fertility	
PFNA	11 ng/L	Liver toxicity & altered lipid metabolism	



A reference dose (RfD) is:

"An estimate (with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude) of a daily oral exposure to the human population (including sensitive subgroups) that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime." – EPA 2002

RfDs are not synonymous to ATSDR minimal risk levels (MRLs).





Animal studies selected for RfDs in the Initial (January) MCL proposal.

Specific PFAS	Animal Study Health Effect	Notes & Corresponding Animal Serum Concentration	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	Increased relative liver weight	Male mouse study Duration: 14 days 4,351 ng/mL BMDL ₁₀ ; Loveless et al. 2006, NJDWQI 2017	
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	Delayed pup growth & development	Reproductive & transgenerational rat study Duration: 2 generations 6,260 ng/mL Modeled; Luebker 2005ab, EPA 2016	
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) Reduced litter size		Reproductive & developmental CD-1 mouse study Duration: 14 days prior to & through gestation 27,200 ng/mL NOAEL; Chang et al. 2018	
Perfluorononanoic acid Increased relative liver (PFNA) weight		Reproductive & developmental CD-1 mouse study Duration: through gestation, 17 days 4,900 ng/mL BMDL ₁₀ ; Das et al. 2015, NJDWQI 2018	



Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) RfD Derivation

Animal Starting Point (Internal Dose and Effect)

Animal Serum Level (Benchmark Model, NJDWQI calculation)



Increased relative liver weight, 4,351 ng/mL or the onset of hepatotoxicity

Uncertainty Factors

Human-to-Human Variation	10
Rodent versus Human Sensitivity	10 ^{0.5}
(assumes humans are more sensitive than mice)	
Database Uncertainty	

(suspected growth & immune effects)	×10 ^{0.5}
Total Uncertainty Factor	100

Internal Target Serum Level

4,351 ng/mL ÷ 100 43.5 ng/mL

Estimation of Human External Dose

Dosimetric Adjustment Factor (DAF)

Converts the internal blood dose (above) to an external (oral) dose of the chemical.

$$DAF = Vd \times \left(\frac{Ln2}{Halflife (days)}\right)$$

DAF = 0.17 L/kg ×
$$\left(\frac{\text{Ln2}}{840 \text{ days}}\right)$$
 = 1.40x10⁻⁴ L/kg-d

Assumed a 2.3 year half-life

43.5 ng/mL $1.40 \times 10^{-4} \text{ L/kg-d}$ $\times 1,000 \text{ mL/L}$ 6.1 ng/kg-d

PFOA RfD, 6.1 ng/kg-d





Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) RfD Derivation

Animal Starting Point (Internal Dose and Effect)

Animal Serum Level (No Observed Adverse Effect Level, Agreed with MDH 2019 Assessment)



Decreased immunoglobulin production, 2,360 ng/mL Or reduced vaccine response

Uncertainty Factors

Human-to-Human Variation	10
Rodent versus Human Sensitivity	10 ^{0.5}

(assumes humans are more sensitive than mice)

Database Uncertainty

(suspected growth & fetal thyroid effects) ×10 ^{0.}
Total Uncertainty Factor	100

Internal Target Serum Level 2,360 ng/mL ÷ 100 23.6 ng/mL

Estimation of Human External Dose

Dosimetric Adjustment Factor (DAF)

Converts the internal blood dose (above) to an external (oral) dose of the chemical.

$$DAF = Vd \times \left(\frac{Ln2}{Halflife (days)}\right)$$

DAF = 0.23 L/kg ×
$$\left(\frac{\text{Ln2}}{1,241 \text{ days}}\right)$$
 = 1.28x10⁻⁴ L/kg-d

Assumed a 3.4 year half-life

23.6 ng/mL $1.28 \times 10^{-4} \text{ L/kg-d}$ $\times 1,000 \text{ mL/L}$ 3.0 ng/kg-d

PFOS RfD, 3.0 ng/kg-d





Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) RfD Derivation

Animal Starting Point (Internal Dose and Effect)

Animal Serum Level (Benchmark Model, NJDWQI calculation)



Increased relative liver weight, 4,900 ng/mL or the onset of hepatotoxicity

Uncertainty Factors

Human-to-Human Variation			10	
Rode	nt versus Huma	n Sensitivity		$10^{0.5}$
,		• • •		

(assumes humans are more sensitive than mice)

Internal Target Serum Level

Database Uncertainty

(lack of multigenerational studies)	×10 ^{0.5}
Total Uncertainty Factor	100

4,900 ng/mL ÷ 100 → 49.0 ng/mL

Estimation of Human External Dose

Dosimetric Adjustment Factor (DAF)

Converts the internal blood dose (above) to an external (oral) dose of the chemical.

$$DAF = Vd \times \left(\frac{Ln2}{Halflife (days)}\right)$$

DAF = 0.20 L/kg ×
$$\left(\frac{\text{Ln2}}{1,570 \text{ days}}\right)$$
 = 8.83x10⁻⁵ L/kg-d

Assumed a 4.3 year half-life

49.0 ng/mL $8.83 \times 10^{-5} \text{ L/kg-d}$ $\times 1,000 \text{ mL/L}$ 4.3 ng/kg-d

PFNA RfD, 4.3 ng/kg-d





Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) RfD Derivation

Animal Starting Point (Internal Dose and Effect)

Animal Serum Level (Benchmark Model, *under peer-review*)



Reduced litter size in female mice, 13,900 ng/mL

Uncertainty Factors

Human-to-Human Variation	10
Rodent versus Human Sensitivity	$10^{0.5}$
(assumes humans are more sensitive than mice)	
Duration of Exposure (14-day effect)	10 ^{0.5}

Database Uncertainty
(lack of studies, fetal thyroid effects) ×10^{0.5}
Total Uncertainty Factor 300

Internal Target Serum Level 13,900 ng/mL ÷ 300 46.3 ng/mL

Estimation of Human External Dose

Dosimetric Adjustment Factor (DAF)

Converts the internal blood dose (above) to an external (oral) dose of the chemical.

$$DAF = Vd \times \left(\frac{Ln2}{Halflife (days)}\right)$$

DAF = 0.213 L/kg ×
$$\left(\frac{\text{Ln2}}{1,716 \text{ days}}\right)$$
 = 8.61x10⁻⁵ L/kg-d

Assumed a 4.7 year half-life

46.3 ng/mL $8.61 \times 10^{-5} \text{ L/kg-d}$ $\times 1,000 \text{ mL/L}$ 4.0 ng/kg-d

PFHxS RfD, 4.0 ng/kg-d





Comparison of Reference Doses

RfDs for the four evaluated PFAS in comparison to values from other agencies. All values below are presented in **ng/kg-d**

Specific PFAS	NHDES (01/2019) (RfD)	NHDES (06/2019) (RfD)	US EPA 2016 (RfD)	ATSDR 2018 (MRL)	EFSA 2019 (RfD)
PFOA	5.2	6.1	20	3.0	0.8
PFOS	8.0	3.0	20	2.0	1.8
PFHxS	9.3	4.0	-	20	-
PFNA	2.5	4.3	-	3.0	-

USEPA. 2016. Drinking Water Advisory for Perfluoroctanoic acid (PFOA).

USEPA. 2016. Drinking Water Advisory for Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS).

ASTDR. 2018. Toxicological Profile for Perfluoroalkyls Draft for Public Comment. https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp.asp?id=1117&tid=237 EFSA.



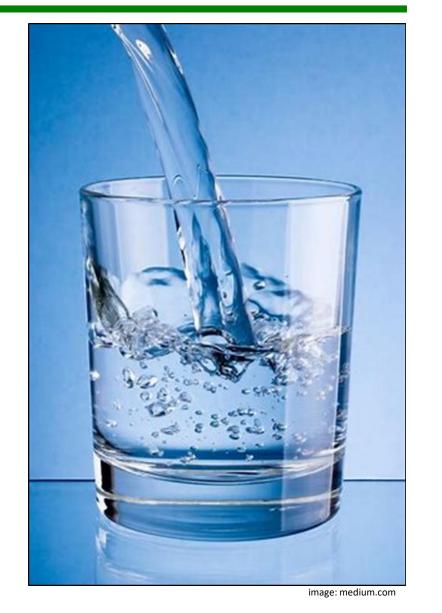
Exposure Assumptions

Exposure characterization considers how much PFAS is permissible given:

- 1. Protective assumptions about drinking water ingestion rates
- 2. Estimation of other non-drinking water sources of exposure.

The U.S. EPA (2016) assumed the drinking water ingestion rate of the 90th percentile of lactating women, and that 20% of exposure is permissible through drinking water (PFOA & PFOS at 70 ng/L).

These assumptions vary by state agencies, sometimes resulting in different drinking water values despite similar RfDs.





Exposure Assumptions: Initial Proposal (January 4th, 2019)

 $\frac{\text{RfD (ng/kg-day)} \times \text{Relative Source Contribution (\%)}}{\text{Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg-day)}} = \text{Maximum Contaminant Level (ng/L)}$

Specific PFAS	Reference Dose (ng/kg-day)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg-day)	Relative Source Contribution	Proposed MCL (ng/L)
PFOA				38
PFOS	These values changed in	These values changed in the EPA Exposure	These values changed in	70
PFHxS	response to technical comments	Factor Handbook (Feb 2019)	response to technical comments	85
PFNA				23



Exposure Assumptions: Example using June 2019 proposal

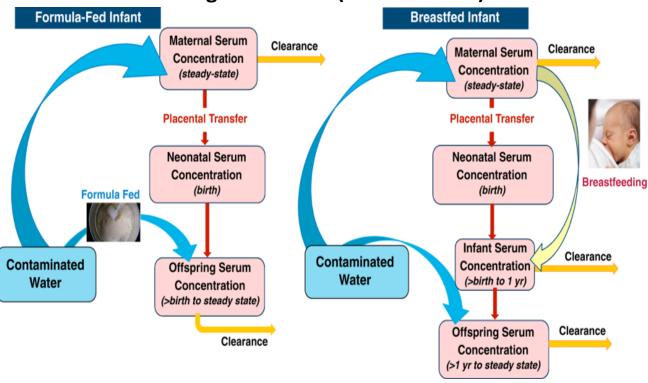
 $\frac{\text{RfD (ng/kg-day)} \times \text{Relative Source Contribution (\%)}}{\text{Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg-day)}} = \text{Maximum Contaminant Level (ng/L)}$

Specific PFAS	Reference Dose (ng/kg-day)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg-day)	Relative Source Contribution	Example Drinking Water Value (ng/L)
PFOA	6.1	These values	50%	
PFOS	3.0	do not account for the transfer	50%	These values would result in unacceptable
PFHxS	4.0	of PFAS across the placenta and into breastmilk.	50%	serum levels in breastfed infants.
PFNA	4.3	breastmirk.	50%	



Exposure Assumptions: Minnesota Model

What is the Transgenerational (or Minnesota) Model?



The conceptual diagram for the toxicokinetic model.

Image from: Goeden et al. (2019), *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology* vol. 29, 183–195.

Excel-based model is available upon request from Minnesota Department of Health.

Human Half-life Assumptions

- NHDES applied average (central tendency) half-life estimates for PFOA (2.3 years), PFOS (3.4 years), PFNA (4.3 years) and PFHxS (4.7 years).
- NHDES did not apply the 95th percentile, or other high-end values derived from occupational exposures.

Placental & breastmilk transfer efficiencies

 NHDES applied average (central tendency) transfer efficiencies, similar to MDH and MIDHHS.

Duration of exclusive breastfeeding

 NHDES applied a conservative 12-month exclusive breastfeeding duration for the modeled exposure scenarios.

Breastmilk & water ingestion rates

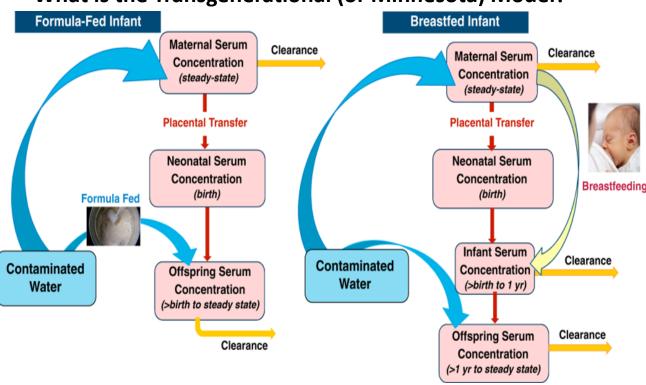
NHDES applied the 95th percentile (conservative)
ingestion rates for water and breastmilk across life.

Values are summarized in Table 3 of the June Report. 17



Exposure Assumptions: Minnesota Model

What is the Transgenerational (or Minnesota) Model?



The conceptual diagram for the toxicokinetic model.

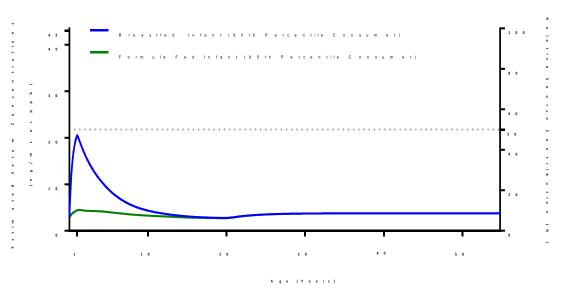
Image from: Goeden et al. (2019), *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology* vol. 29, 183–195.

Excel-based model is available upon request from Minnesota Department of Health.

The model allows for the comparison of:

- predicted blood levels (left y-axis) to
- the % of allowable maximum dose (right y-axis).

Example model output for a PFOA MCL of 12 ng/L using NHDES's risk assessment assumptions.

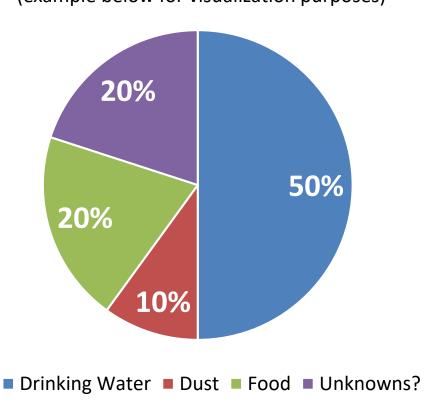




This is **how we "budget" the daily dose (RfD)** for water versus non-drinking water sources of exposure.

- 20% Low and the default EPA recommendation when "we don't know".
 Results in the most restrictive MCL.
- 50% Consistent with values derived from NHANES to estimate background
- 80% -Results in a higher MCL value and assumes that other sources are not contributing to exposure (20% or less).

Relative Source Contribution (example below for visualization purposes)





20%

U.S. EPA (2016)

20% RSC for PFOA & PFOS for the lifetime health advisory of 70 ng/L, based on RfDs of 20 ng/kg-d.

Vermont - VTDOH (2016-2017)

20% RSC across all for health-based screening values (HBSVs).

New Jersey - NJDWQI (2017-2018)

- 20% RSC for PFOA & PFOS because of insufficient serum data (proposed MCL).
- 50% RSC for PFNA because of sufficient serum data from NHANES and a NJ community (MCL).

New York - NYDWQC (2018)

≤60% RSC for PFOA & PFOS recommendation based on serum data (proposed MCL).

Minnesota - MDH (2017-2019)

50% RSC for PFOA, PFOS & PFHxS in their model for (HBSVs).

50-60%

Michigan - MIDHHS (2019)

50% RSC for PFOA, PFOS, PFNA & PFHxS in MDH's transgenerational model (HBSVs).

How did the NHDES MCLs arrive at a 50% RSC?

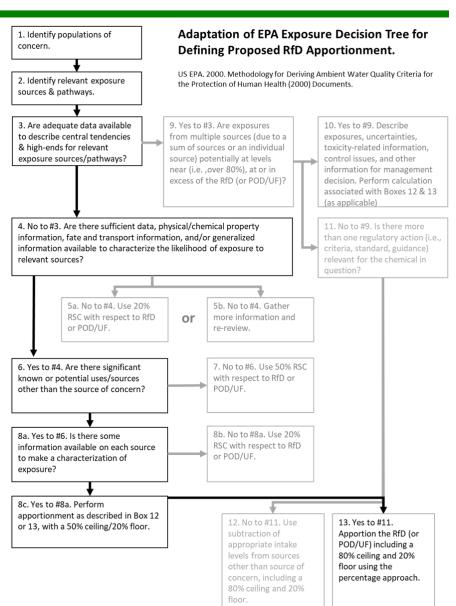


NHDES referred to the EPA Decision Tree for determining the relative source contribution.

Arrived at a 50% ceiling combined with apportionment (subtraction method) to derive chemical specific RSCs.

US EPA. 2000. Methodology for Deriving Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health (2000) Documents.

Accessed online at: https://www.epa.gov/wqc/methodology-deriving-ambient-water-quality-criteria-protection-human-health-2000-documents





In the initial proposal, NHDES estimated "background" using existing blood data. However, this value should reflect the typical non-drinking water exposures.

Used the EPA subtraction method:

$$\frac{\text{Target serum level (ng/mL)} - \text{Population background (ng/mL)}}{\text{Target serum level (ng/mL)}} = \text{RSC}$$

Using the NHANES (average) for PFOA:

$$\frac{43.5 \text{ ng/L} - 1.8 \text{ ng/L}}{43.5 \text{ ng/L}} = 0.96 \text{ or } 96\%$$

Using Adults from Southern NH (95th percentile) for PFOA:

$$\frac{43.5 \text{ ng/L} - 26.6 \text{ ng/L}}{43.5 \text{ ng/L}} = 0.39 \text{ or } 39\%$$

The use of the <u>NH-specific data likely overestimates</u> the background (non-drinking water) exposure.

But, the current lack of regulations on PFAS means an 80% RSC, especially for adults, is inadequately protective.

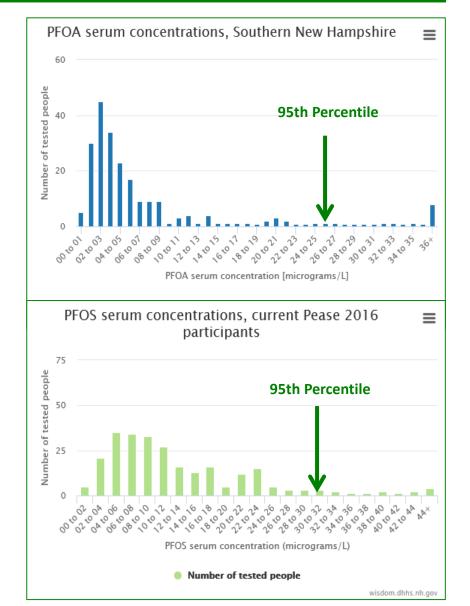


Estimation of RSC by Subtraction Method Using NH-specific data

Subtraction method applied to all 4 PFAS using blood data collected by NH Dept. Health & Human Services from highest exposed populations.

Used NH-specific PFAS blood concentrations:

	Geometric mean	95 th Percentile
PFOA*	4.40 ng/mL	26.6 ng/mL
PFOS**	10.2 ng/mL	31.7 ng/mL
PFHxS**	4.50 ng/mL	26.0 ng/mL
PFNA	0.66 ng/mL	1.70 ng/mL



^{*} **PFOA** concentrations from exposed population in Merrimack (217 participants) & Southern NH (219 participants).

^{**} **PFOS** & **PFHxS** concentrations from exposed population in Pease, NH (256 participants).



Estimation of RSC Using NHANES data

RSC estimates using the NHANES 2013-2014 dataset (summarized by Daly et al. 2018):

- geometric mean (GM) and
- 95th percentile.

NHANES data more likely to reflect background exposure levels from non-drinking water sources.

Reference Population	Reference Serum level (ng/mL)	Target Serum Level (ng/mL)	Resulting RSC Allotment for Drinking Water (%)
PFOA	\··o/ ···-/	\ <i>\oldoy</i>	
3-5 year olds (GM)	2.00	43.5	95.4
6-11 year olds (GM)	1.89	43.5	95.7
12-19 year olds (GM)	1.66	43.5	96.2
3-5 year olds (95th percentile)	5.58	43.5	87.2
6-11 year olds (95th percentile)	3.84	43.5	91.2
12-19 year olds (95th percentile)	3.47	43.5	92.0
PFOS			
3-5 year olds (GM)	3.38	24.0	85.9
6-11 year olds (GM)	4.15	24.0	82.7
12-19 year olds (GM)	3.54	24.0	85.3
3-5 year olds (95 th percentile)	8.82	24.0	63.3
6-11 year olds (95th percentile)	12.40	24.0	48.3
12-19 year olds (95th percentile)	9.30	24.0	61.3
PFNA			
3-5 year olds (GM)	0.76	49.0	98.4
6-11 year olds (GM)	0.81	49.0	98.3
12-19 year olds (GM)	0.60	49.0	98.8
3-5 year olds (95 th percentile)	3.49	49.0	92.9
6-11 year olds (95th percentile)	3.19	49.0	93.5
12-19 year olds (95 th percentile)	2.00	49.0	95.9
PFHxS			
3-5 year olds (GM)	0.72	46.3	98.4
6-11 year olds (GM)	0.91	46.3	98.0
12-19 year olds (GM)	1.27	46.3	97.3
3-5 year olds (95th percentile)	1.62	46.3	96.5
6-11 year olds (95th percentile)	4.14	46.3	91.1
12-19 year olds (95 th percentile)	6.30	46.3	86.4



Modeled Exposures & Proposed MCLs

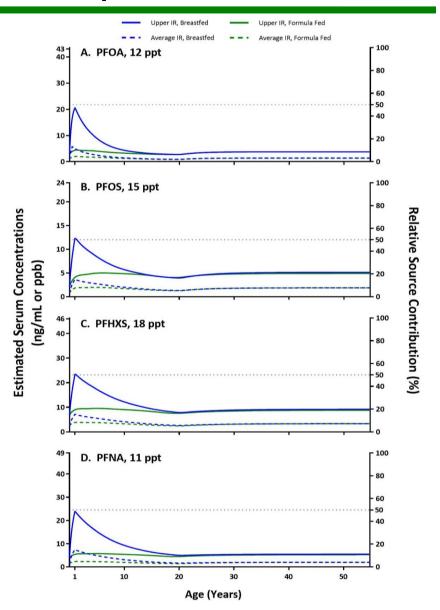
Given these **reference doses** and **exposure assumptions**, the proposed MCLs/AGQS are:

PFOA 12 ng/L
PFOS 15 ng/L
PFHxS 18 ng/L
PFNA 11 ng/L

Because of the unique properties of PFAS, accounting for breastmilk transfer is necessary.

The 50% RSC (upper limit) protects children from additional exposures to from other non-drinking water sources of PFAS.

Thus, these proposed MCLs are protective across all life stages for associated chronic health outcomes.





Modeled Exposures & Proposed MCLs

Where was NHDES conservative in its health-based risk assessment?

Central Tendency Assumptions		Conservative (High-End) Assumptions		
1.	Application of Uncertainty Factors (see page 23 of the June Technical Report)	1.	Accounting for breastmilk & placental transfer in a drinking water standard (MDH model)	
2.	Human half-life estimates (average values)	2.	95 th percentile water consumptions rates, throughout life	
3.	Placental & breastmilk transfer estimates (average values)	3.	Assumed 12-month exclusive breastfeeding period	
4.	Individual MCLs specific to each compound instead of a class-based MCL.	4.	Assuming 100% absorption in GI tract	
5.	Relative Source Contribution cap of 50%*	5.	Relative Source Contribution cap of 50%*	



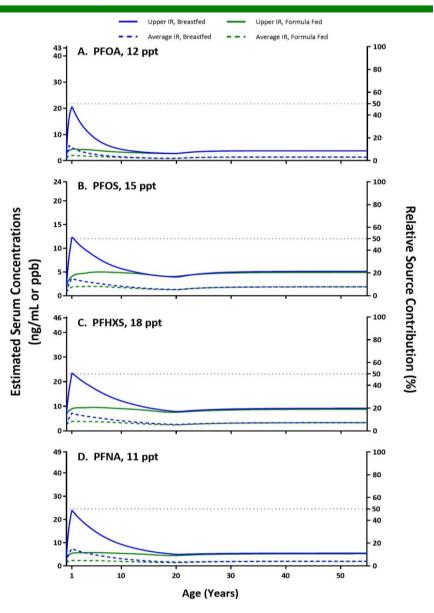
Modeled Exposures & Proposed MCLs

Given these **reference doses** and **exposure assumptions**, the proposed MCLs/AGQS are:

PFOA 12 ng/L
PFOS 15 ng/L
PFHxS 18 ng/L
PFNA 11 ng/L

NHDES is *currently* not recommending a classor subclass-based approach to regulating PFAS.

NHDES is committed to continuing to review the scientific literature for advances in risk assessment for these and other PFAS.





Questions

References and Supporting Documents can be found in the Reference List of the June 2019 Technical Report:

https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/documents/pfas-scr-attch-1-w-ltr.pdf

Technical Questions about this presentation can be submitted to the **NHDES Permitting & Environmental Health Bureau**:

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ATTACHMENT 1

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Technical Background Report for the June 2019 Proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (AGQSs) for Perfluorooctane sulfonic Acid (PFOS), Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA), and Perfluorohexane sulfonic Acid (PFHXS)

And

Letter from Dr. Stephen M. Roberts, Ph.D. dated 6/25/2019 – Findings of Peer Review Conducted on Technical Background Report

June 28, 2019