Quality of Surface and Finished Water from Community Water Supplies in Indiana and Nationally

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Samples were collected from 9 surface-water community water-supply systems across the United States between 2002 and 2005. Both raw and finished water were analyzed for about 260 man-made organic contaminants. About 65 percent of the contaminants were not detected. Herbicides, disinfection by-products, and compounds in fragrances were the most frequently detected contaminants. Concentrations of these contaminants were typically low, with about 75 percent of the concentrations below 0.1 micrograms per liter. Average concentrations did not exceed Maximum Contaminant Levels for regulated contaminants or Health-Based Screening Levels for unregulated contaminants, when those comparisons could be made. Findings from the heavily agricultural Indiana system were compared and contrasted with the national findings.

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