



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DRINKING WATER UPDATES

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Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Focus on Change | 2024



FLORIDA OVERVIEW

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

- As of Jan. 5, 2024, Florida has a total of 4,983 regulated drinking water systems serving a population of approximately 22 million people. These drinking water systems include the following.
 - 96 are large drinking water systems, serving populations over 50,000.
 - 150 are medium drinking water systems, serving populations of 10,000 to 50,000.
 - 4,740 are small to medium drinking water systems, serving populations of 10,000 or less. The small systems serve approximately 18 million people.
 - 4,965 of these systems are ground water systems.
 - Florida has 18 surface water systems.



STORM SEASON RESPONSE

Drinking Water Updates



STORM SEASON RESPONSE

HURRICANES

- In 2023, Florida had a total of 20 named storms.
 - Of these, three were major hurricanes with wind speeds reaching 125 mph.
- Hurricane Idalia severely impacted Florida's water systems.
 - 49 counties, 4,181 drinking water systems and 1,470 wastewater facilities.
 - 31 facilities requested needs through Water Tracker and a total of 103 needs were requested.
 - Of these requests, generators were the most requested item.
 - Labor, distribution system operators, bypass/trash pumps, dump trucks, electricians, equipment trailers, fuel and vacuum trucks were among the needs requested by water systems and wastewater facilities.
 - A total of 287 boil water notices were issued.



STORM SEASON RESPONSE (2)

BROWARD COUNTY FLOODING APRIL 2023

- **Broward County Flood Event.**

- One county was affected, 54 drinking water systems and 1,470 wastewater facilities.
- Two facilities requested assistance through Water Tracker.
- The impact of the flood event created a need for vacuum trucks.
- Bypass/trash pumps, tanker trucks and contractors were also requested.
- Broward County was not required to issue any boil water notices during this event.



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) UPDATES

Drinking Water Updates



EPA UPDATES

PER-AND POLYFLUORINATED SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

- **What is EPA doing now?**

- EPA continues to prioritize efforts to reduce PFAS discharges to waterways.
- EPA is holding polluters accountable. EPA intends on holding polluters financially responsible for treatment and cleanup.
- EPA initiated nationwide monitoring for 29 PFAS at more than 10,000 public water systems under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR).
- Deploying funding to invest in infrastructure projects to address PFAS in water.
- Restricting point-source discharges from industrial facilities that use PFAS.
- PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024 link:
https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-10/pfas-roadmap_final-508.pdf.



EPA UPDATES (2)

UCMR5

CWS Source	Year to be Sampled			CWS Total	NTNC			NTNC Total	Grand Total
	2023	2024	2025		2023	2024	2025		
GW by size	128	140	57	325	2	2	3	7	332
Large	82	91	17	190					190
Medium	40	46	34	120	1		2	3	123
Small	4	3	5	12		2		2	14
Very Small	2		1	3	1		1	2	5
GWP by size	13	8	6	27		1		1	28
Large	6	3	1	10		1		1	11
Medium	6	2	5	13					13
Small	1	2		3					3
Very Small		1		1					1
SW by size	7	4	2	13					13
Large	7	4	2	13					13
SWP by size	10	19	9	38	1		2	3	41
Large	6	15	4	25					25
Medium	4	4	4	12	1		2	3	15
Small			1	1					1
Grand Total	158	171	74	403	3	3	5	11	414

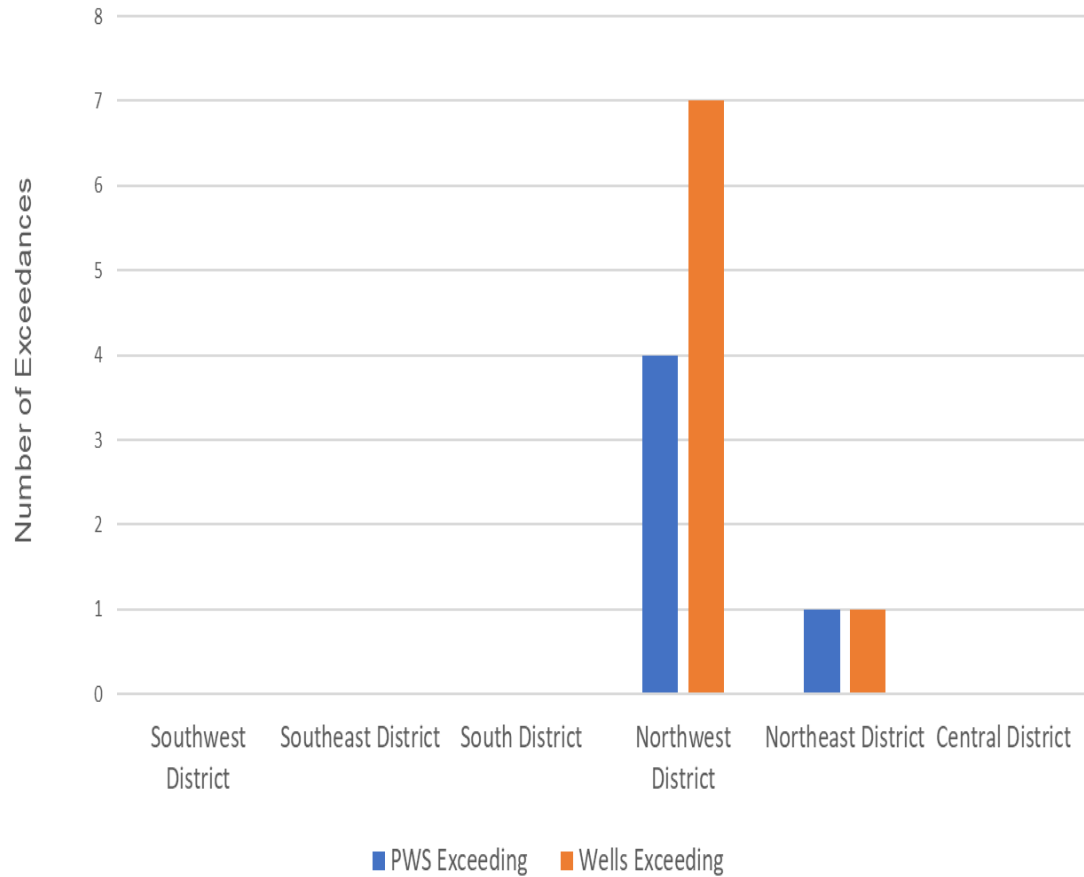
<https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>



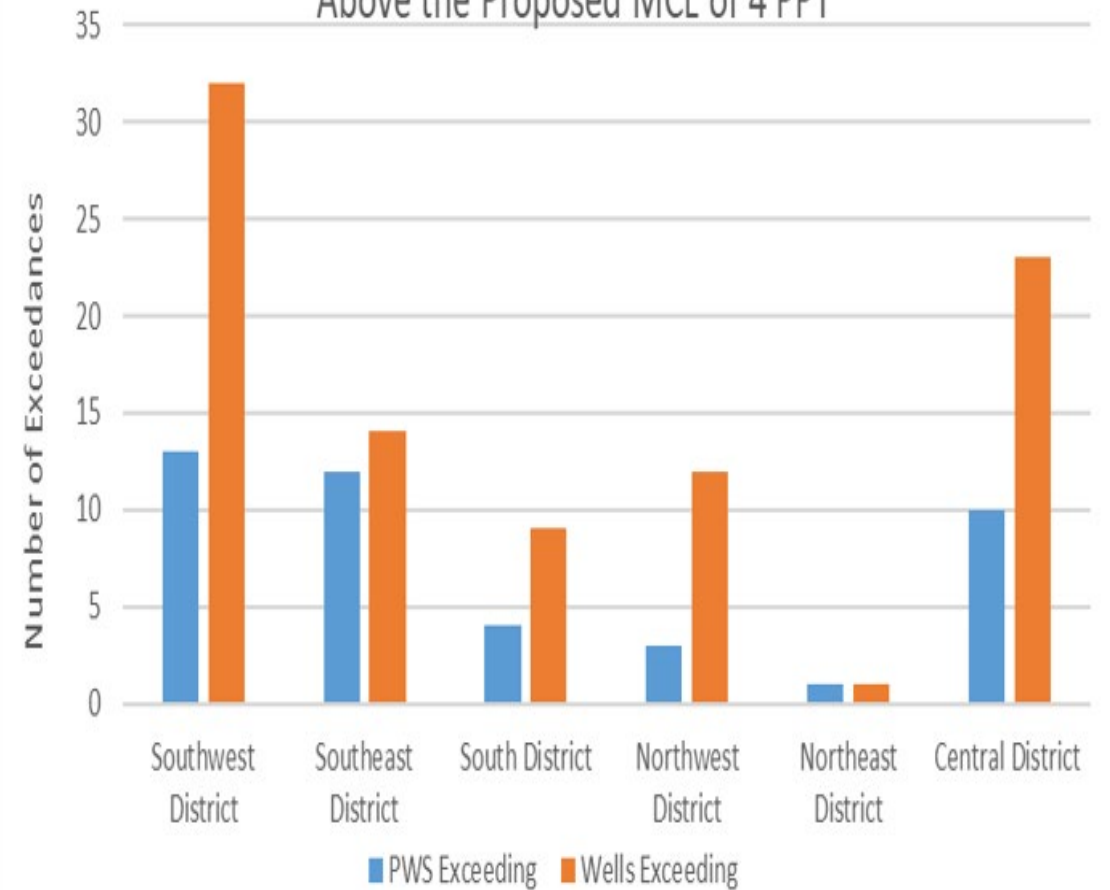
EPA UPDATES (3)

UCMR5

Lithium Exceedances
Above the provisional HRL of 10,000 ppt



Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) Exceedances
Above the Proposed MCL of 4 PPT





PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM

Drinking Water Updates



FLORIDA DEP FILE REVIEW

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM (PWSS)

- EPA conducted a file review of Florida's PWSS Program in August 2022.
 - 16 water systems reviewed; 2020-2021 data.
 - Six Community Water Systems (CWSs).
 - Six Non-Transient, Non-Community Systems (NTNCs).
 - Four Transient, Non-Community Systems (TNCs).
- Purpose of review.
 - Evaluate Florida's compliance with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR).
 - Ensure federally required Public Water System (PWS) data entered in the Safe Drinking Water Information System/Federal Reporting Services (SDWIS/Fed) is accurate and consistent.
- Finalizing follow up actions with the DEP district and Approved County Health Department (ACHD) offices with EPA noted discrepancies.



FLORIDA DEP FILE EVALUATIONS

PWSS

- Division Drinking Water Program staff conducted an internal file evaluation of DEP's districts and ACHD offices in 2023.
 - Two districts and all six ACHD offices were evaluated.
 - Three years of data for seven water systems for the districts.
 - Annual data for five water systems for the ACHDs.
- Purpose of Evaluations.
 - To determine if districts and ACHD offices are in compliance with EPA's regulations.
 - To ensure federally required PWS data is entered into the Potable Water System database accurately and consistently.
 - To review several program aspects including data management, compliance and enforcement, sanitary surveys and permitting.
- Evaluation Results.
 - The lowest overall score was 97%.
 - Feedback provided to resolve discrepancies.



VOLUNTARY LEAD TESTING IN SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE PROGRAM

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LEAD TESTING IN SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE FACILITIES SAMPLES COLLECTED

	COUNTIES	SAMPLES	FACILITIES
Schools	13	17,351	449
Childcare Facilities/Head Starts	33	1,613	101
TOTAL	37*	18,964	550

	SCHOOLS	CHILDCARES
POPULATION	Approx. 333,027	Approx. 4,332

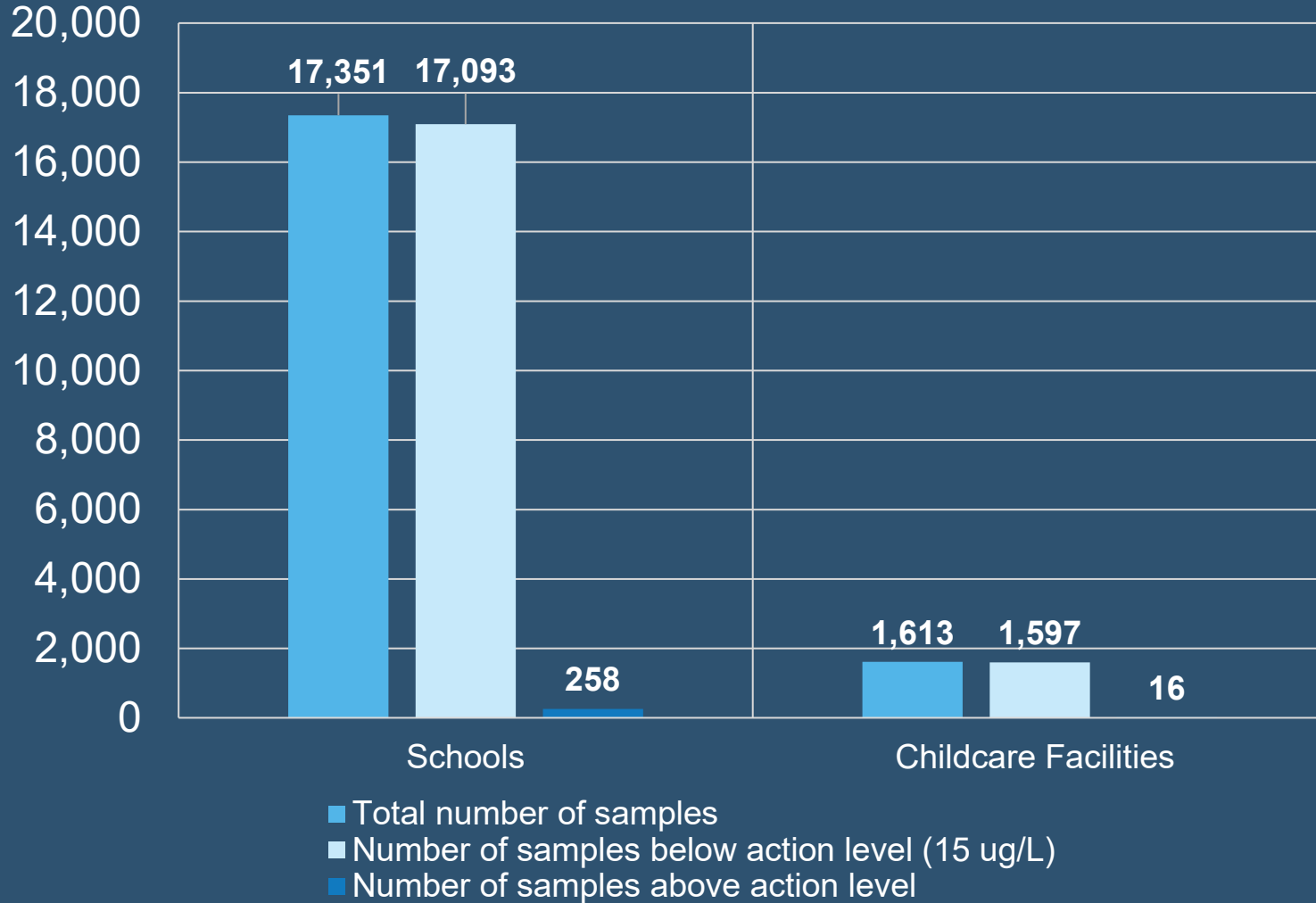
- * If a county includes both tested schools and childcare facilities.
- Contact information.
 - PWS@FloridaDEP.Gov or 850-245-8382.
- These numbers are accurate as of December 2023.



LEAD TESTING DATA

SAMPLING RESULTS

Sample Analysis

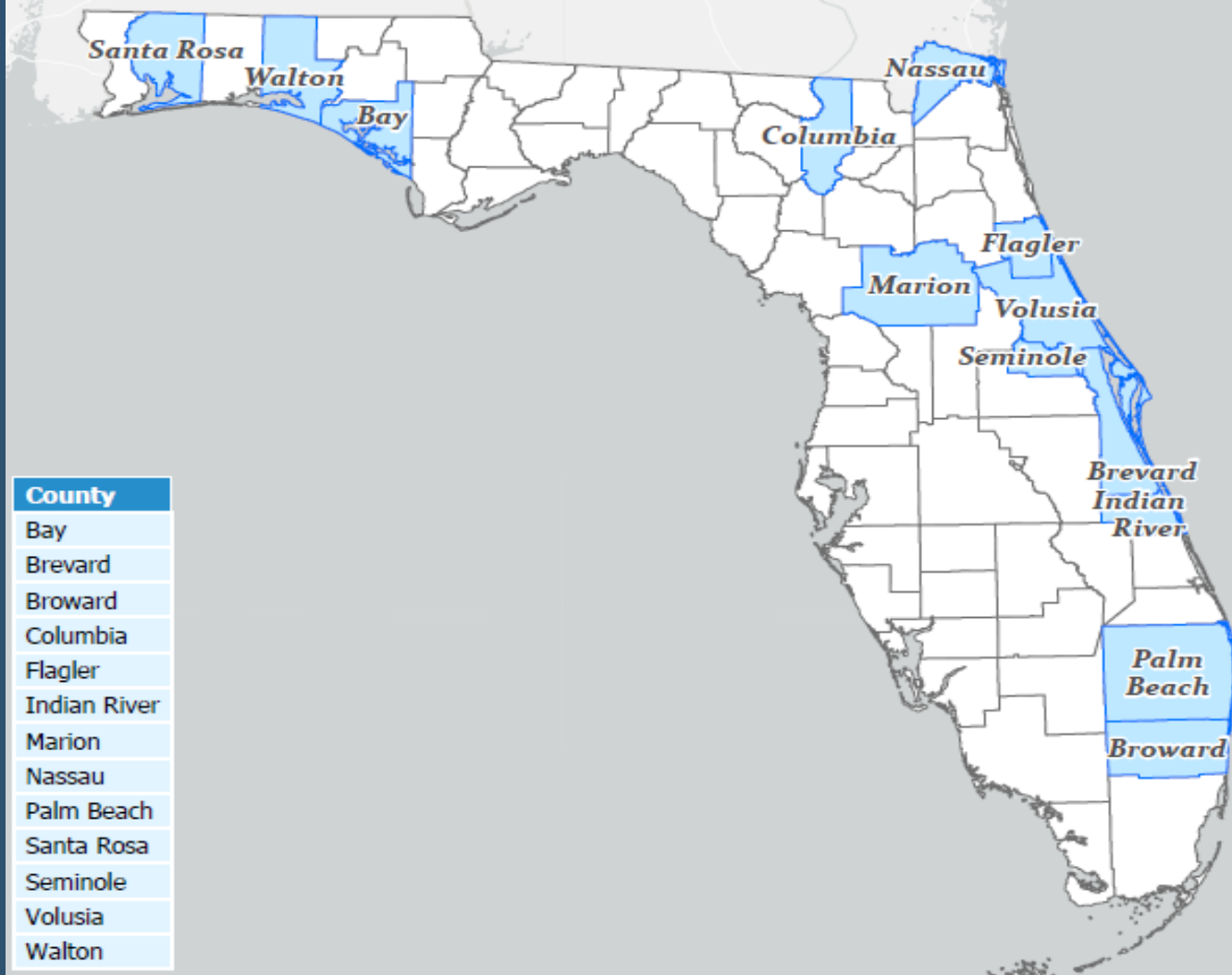


- Only 2% of samples collected have exceeded the Action Level Exceedance of 15 parts per billion (ppb).



LEAD TESTING PROGRAM

COUNTY PARTICIPATION FOR SCHOOLS

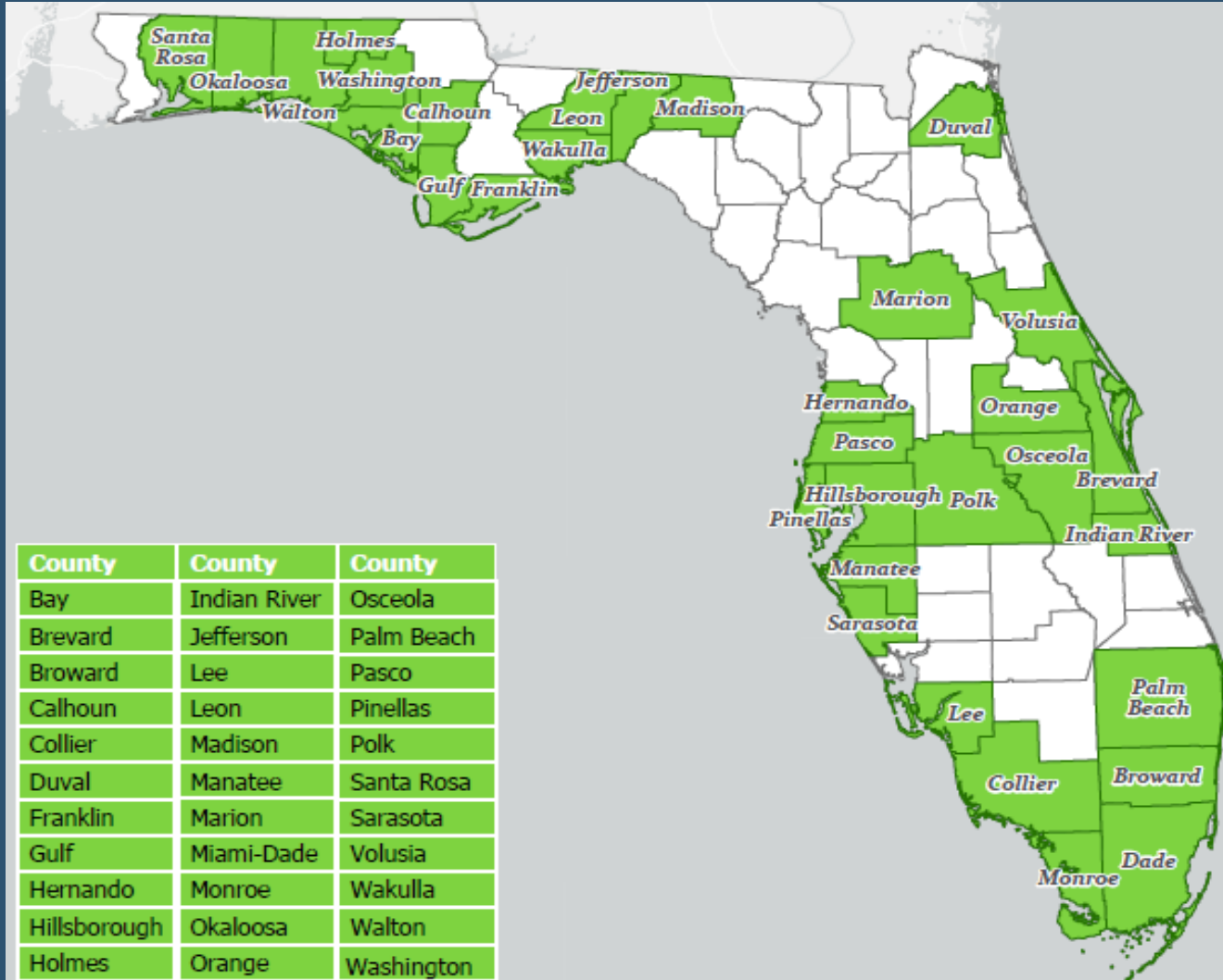


- 13 counties have schools that have participated.
 - This map does not indicate that all schools within the county have been sampled.



LEAD TESTING PROGRAM (2)

COUNTY PARTICIPATION FOR CHILDCARE FACILITIES



- 33 counties have childcare facilities that have participated.
 - This map does not indicate that all childcare facilities within the county have been sampled.



LEAD TESTING PROGRAM (3)

REMEDIATION UPDATE

- EPA's updated Implementation Plan for the Voluntary Lead Testing in Schools and Childcare Facilities Program includes approved remediation activities.
- Remediation activities include, but are not limited to, the following.
 - Removal and/or installation of water fountains and related plumbing.
 - Removal and/or installation of fixtures, such as faucets and related components.
- Water systems are not financially responsible for remediation activities.



LEAD TESTING PROGRAM (4)

LEAD AND COPPER RULE IMPROVEMENTS

- Current Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) allow Public Water Systems to apply for waivers for compliance sampling for schools and childcare facilities if sampled after the compliance date of Oct. 16, 2024.
- Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) will allow Public Water Systems to utilize lead and copper data from schools and childcare facilities for compliance.
- Encourage schools and childcare facilities to participate in the Voluntary Lead Testing in Schools and Childcare Facilities Program.



LEAD TESTING PROGRAM (5)

FUNDING

- EPA has awarded Florida \$2.78 million to support the sampling and analysis of schools and childcare facilities.
 - As of December 2023, with the assistance of the Florida Rural Water Association (FRWA), Florida has spent \$881,350.
 - Future funding will be available.
- In addition to sampling, expanded eligible activities for funding include.
 - Compliance monitoring related to the LCRR and the proposed LCRI.

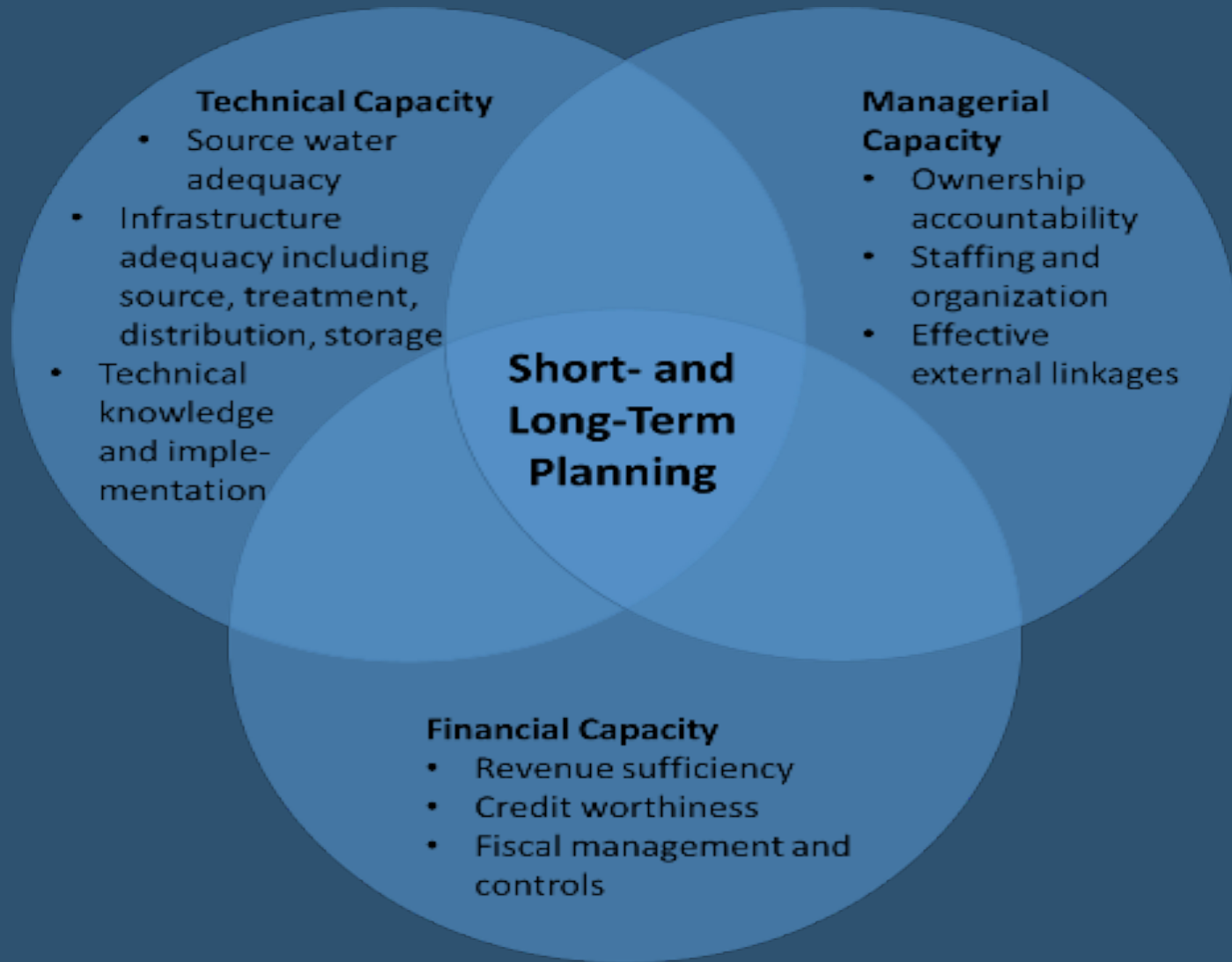


CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

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CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



- Capacity development is a process for water systems to acquire and maintain adequate technical, managerial and financial (TMF) capacity.
- TMF capacity enables water systems to have the capability to consistently provide safe drinking water to the public.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

FOR JUNE 2022 – MAY 2023

- FRWA Circuit Riders conducted 3,242 technical assistance visits to drinking water systems.
 - Actual compliance visits: 552.
 - Potential compliance visits: 943.
 - Compliance related to capacity development: 600.
 - 1,147 outreach visits were conducted.
- 51 Wellhead Protection Plans and four Source Water Protection Plans were completed.
 - These plans encompass 141 water systems and a population of 147,000.
- FRWA trainer held 23 classes.
 - 1,228 operators earned continuing education credits (CEUs).
- 35 public water system water audits were completed.
- Eight water systems were assisted with long range planning and capacity analysis.



DIRECT POTABLE REUSE

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DIRECT POTABLE REUSE

- The Direct Potable Reuse Program will require a pretreatment program.
- The Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWTF) is the cornerstone of potable reuse.
- Direct potable reuse will have similar requirements to surface water systems.
- These rules are still being developed.



LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS

Drinking Water Updates



LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS

FUNDING

- The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program has low-interest loans and principal forgiveness loans available for disadvantaged communities and eligible utilities to complete lead service line (LSL) inventories.
 - Complete service line replacement is an eligible expense regardless of pipe material and ownership of the service line.
 - The EPA Advisory Board advises against partial line replacement.
 - Corrosion control planning and design as well as associated capital infrastructure projects, are eligible for funding.



LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

- All CWSs and NTNCs, must develop and submit their **initial** service line inventory by Oct. 16, 2024.
 - It is not the expectation of the state that 100% of the service line inventory will be completed by Oct. 16, 2024.
 - It is understood that water systems will potentially have service connections identified as “Unknown”.
- Water systems should start, if they have not already, tracking materials as they are encountered during normal operations.
- Service line classifications must be determined through an evidence-based method or technique.



LEAD AND COPPER RULE REQUIREMENTS

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

- Water systems must submit an inventory of every service line, including customer and utility side.
 - The inventory spreadsheet will require systems to indicate material type, for both the customer and utility owned portions.
- A Lead Service Line Replacement Plan (LSLRP) will be required if a system identifies any Lead, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) and/or “Unknown” service connections.
 - The replacement plan is due by the compliance date, Oct. 16, 2024.
- Systems will continue refining the inventory and identifying the material of “Unknown” service connections until all service connections have been identified and classified.



THANK YOU

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