Well water in Perry County, Illinois

45% of 29 Samples High in Iron

Risk Unknown Too few health tests to rate. Based on a USGS estimate. Confidence: Low. Top concerns: Iron, Sodium, Manganese.

What tests found

SUBSTANCE	TESTED	OVER THE LIMIT	RISK
Everyday water problems			
Iron	29 samples	45%	**Very common**
Sodium	9 samples	67%	**Very common**
Chloride	9 samples	44%	**Very common**
Manganese	16 samples	19%	**Common**
Sulfate	9 samples	11%	**Common**

Low risk here: Arsenic, Nitrate, Fluoride.

What this means

Iron: Iron leaves orange or brown stains on sinks, toilets and laundry, can make water taste metallic, and can clog pipes and fixtures. It is not a health risk. A water softener handles small amounts; an iron filter handles more.

Sodium: Sodium makes water taste salty. It matters most for people on a low-salt diet; a water softener also adds sodium. Reverse osmosis at the kitchen tap removes it.

Manganese: Manganese leaves black or brown stains and can make water taste bitter or metallic. At high levels it can also affect health, especially for babies, so use other water for baby formula if your well is high. An oxidizing filter or a water softener can remove it.

What to test for

Make sure the test covers iron, sodium and manganese. Test for bacteria and nitrate every year.

Only a test can tell you what is in your own well. A well next door can be different.

Where to get a test

Certified labs near Perry County:

- Precision Water Lab, Centralia · 618-533-0758 · about 35 miles
- BAR Laboratory / Brown & Roberts, Inc., Harrisburg · 618-252-8111 · about 52 miles

Local help

Perry County Health Department · 618-357-5371

perryhealth.net

Illinois has no statewide rule that makes you test your own well, even when a home is sold. Your well driller must give you the state's information on testing.

YourWaterReport is a free guide for private well owners. Results are for the county as a whole and come from Illinois State Water Survey and U.S. Geological Survey. Want copies with your organization's name for your office or clients? Email hello@yourwaterreport.com. Free web card for your site: yourwaterreport.com/share