# Your drinking water supply in 2023.

## Every day, SIG supplies high-quality drinking water that meets the standards of Switzerland's Federal Act on food safety<sup>1</sup>.

The water supplied to your home is treated to meet the same rigorous standards as any other food product. It is constantly monitored and analysed by the SIG laboratory to ensure that its microbiological and chemical properties meet all legal requirements. These results are regularly forwarded to the cantonal food standards agency (Cantonal Chemist).

Lake water	average min.	average max.	
Calcium	44.5	44.6	mg/L
Magnesium	6.0	6.0	mg/L
Potassium	1.7	1.7	mg/L
Sodium	9.8	10.8	mg/L
Water hardness <sup>2</sup>	13.6	13.6	°f

#### Lake water and Allondon aquifer

Calcium	44.6	79.2	mg/L
Magnesium	6.0	7.2	mg/L
Potassium	1.1	1.7	mg/L
Sodium	4.5	9.8	mg/L
Water hardness <sup>2</sup>	13.6	22.7	°f

Lake water and Geneva aquifer			
Calcium	54.9	60.1	mg/L
Magnesium	8.6	10.9	mg/L
Potassium	1.5	2.1	mg/L
Sodium	9.4	9.4	mg/L

17.6

19.5

°f

#### Geneva aquifer

Water hardness<sup>2</sup>

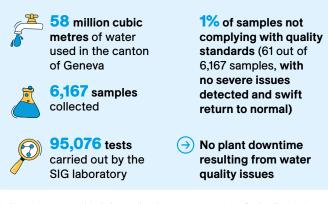
Calcium	67.2	72.2	mg/L
Magnesium	11.3	15.5	mg/L
Potassium	1.4	1.7	mg/L
Sodium	7.2	7.3	mg/L
Water hardness <sup>2</sup>	21.5	24.4	°f

 Scan the QR Code for more information about water composition.



#### Water hardness scale (in °f)<sup>2</sup>

Very hard water	42	
Hard water	32	
Moderately hard wat	ter 25	
Moderately soft wat	er 15	
Soft water	7	
Very soft water	0	



 The duty to provide information is governed by the Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs Ordinance on Drinking Water and Water in Public Baths and Shower Facilities (OPBD policy).

 Water hardness (network average) in French degrees (°f), a measure of the amount of calcium carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) in the water supply.



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### All the benefits of drinking Eau de Genève water for just CHF 3 a year.

Water is an essential commodity, and SIG continually strives to ensure that the people of Geneva can access this resource at a fair price every day, without compromising on quality.

#### One litre of tap water costs 0.2 cents.

#### The cost of:

- Pumping (90% from the lake and 10% from the aquifers);
- Treatment to make it suitable for consumption;
- Distribution and quality control.

### • Tap water is up to 500 times cheaper than bottled water.

A family of four can save between CHF 400 and CHF 2,000 per year by opting for tap water.

#### A reassuring level of PFAS in Geneva's water resources and tap water.

Supervised by Switzerland's Department of Consumer and Veterinary Affairs (SCAV), SIG measures and monitors the presence of substances known as PFASs\* in local water resources (the lake and aquifers) and in drinking water. The maximum values currently observed in Geneva are **10 to 30 times lower than the maximum levels authorised by Swiss and European legislation.** 

PFASs are chemical substances that effectively repel grease, heat and water, and have been widely used since the 1950s. They include more than 9,000 synthetic pollutants found in a vast number of industrial and everyday products: non-stick cookware, food packaging, waterproof textiles, fire-fighting foams, cosmetics, ski wax, and so on. They are released into the environment through abrasion and evaporation. As PFAS do not degrade naturally, they persist in the environment and in the water cycle.



\*PFAS stands for for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

#### Eau de Genève, professions and innovations.

#### Well-maintained hydrants for reliable fire protection.



Local authorities are responsible for protecting the local area from fire, and are responsible for ensuring that all equipment is in good working order. For the past 22 years, SIG has provided local authorities with a hydrant inspection and maintenance service (2,400 hydrants were inspected and maintained in 2023).

## • A solution for eliminating quagga mussels.



An entire year has passed since cleaning work was undertaken at the Prieuré plant and a new lining was added to the screen filter. The results have been very positive: with mussels no longer present, the screen filter can now be cleaned very easily just by rinsing it out.



### Eau de Genève, in your heart since 15 years. Thank you for your support!



Launched in 2009, the Eau de Genève brand is now celebrating its 15th birthday THANKS TO YOU! Let's look back at some milestones from the past 15 years.



- A distribution network of 1100 km of pipes.
- More than 6,000 samples and almost 100,000 analyses carried out each year by the SIG laboratory under the supervision of the Cantonal Chemist.

### A brand-new Eau de Genève carafe to mark our 15th birthday.

SIG invited students from the Geneva School of Comics and Illustration (ESBDI) to design our new carafe. First, three designs were shortlisted by the jury. Then, at the end of March, the public were invited to vote for their favourite design on our social media channels and website.

### Check out the winning design by scanning the QR code.

Where can you find them?

- Order one online at bit.ly/sig-carafes
- Pick one up at Quartier Libre SIG (Pont de la Machine)



CHF 5 improve access to drinking water worldwide



### 15 years of useful, sustainable and socially responsible products.

Carafes and water bottles are an integral part of Eau de Genève's success. And we owe our success to you for making these objects part of your daily lives.

- **19** carafes decorated by artists (ZEP, Tom Tirabosco, Exem, BEN, students from the HEAD school of art and design and the ESBDI).
- 60,000 carafes sold = CHF 300,000 donated to 3 humanitarian organisations.
- 7 projects backed in Cameroon, Kenya, Ecuador and Nepal = 15,000 people who can now access drinking water thanks to your help.
- The only stainless steel water bottle manufactured in Europe (less than 500 miles from Geneva).

Check out the artwork!

 16,000 water bottles sold = CHF 40,000 donated to the Association for the Safeguard of Lake Geneva (ASL).

CHF 2

donated to preserve

Lake Geneva

