

2022
Public Health Goals Report on Drinking Water

Presented by:
The City of Rialto / Rialto Utility Authority



WHAT ARE PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS (PHGS)?

PHG is the **safe level** of concentration which poses no significant health risk if consumed for a lifetime. The process of establishing a PHG is a risk assessment based strictly on human health considerations. PHGs are recommended targets and are not required to be met by any public water system.

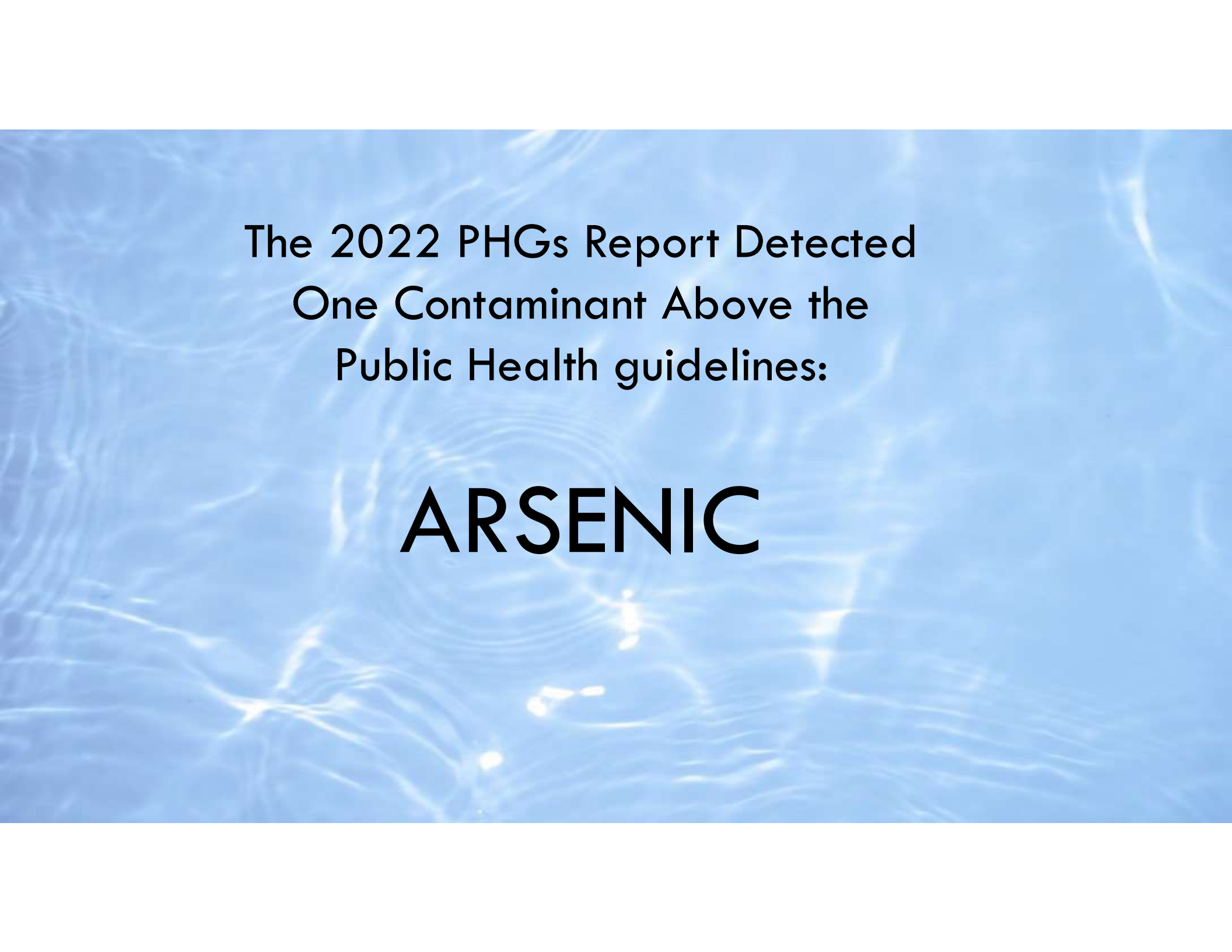
PHGs are developed by the California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.





What is Maximum Contaminant Level?

- ❖ Upon establishment of a PHG, the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (SWRCB) determines a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) in drinking water.
- ❖ The MCL is the highest level of concentration that is **allowed** in drinking water for a contaminant.

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of blue water with gentle ripples and light reflecting off the surface. The text is centered over this background.

The 2022 PHGs Report Detected
One Contaminant Above the
Public Health guidelines:

ARSENIC

What is ARSENIC?

- **Arsenic** is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It is a naturally occurring element that is found in combination with either inorganic or organic substances, and are found in soils, sediment, and sand groundwater.
- The Public Health Goal (PHG) for arsenic in drinking water is 0.004 ppb (parts per billion).
- The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic is 10 ppb.
- Therefore, **safe** levels of arsenic in drinking water is any level under 10ppb, zero being the safest.
- Arsenic was found to occur in only one groundwater well – City Well 2, and not in any other wells.
- It should be noted that City Well 2 water is blended with additional water sources that contain no detection levels of arsenic.

FACTS!

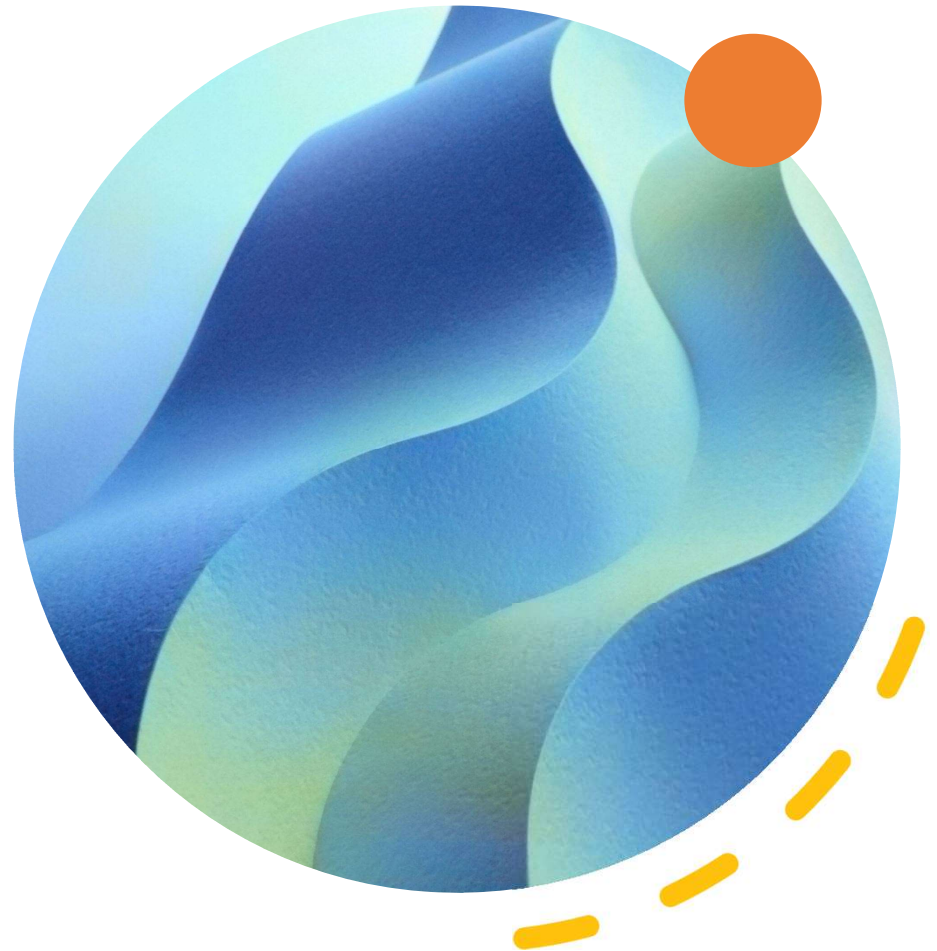
**SAFE LEVELS OF ARSENIC
HAS BEEN DETECTED IN OUR
DRINKING WATER
SINCE SAMPLING HAS BEEN
REQUIRED.**

Detection Levels

Arsenic was found to occur in one groundwater well, *City Well 2*, with a detection of 3.1ppb, which is within the safety zone of 0 – 10bbp.

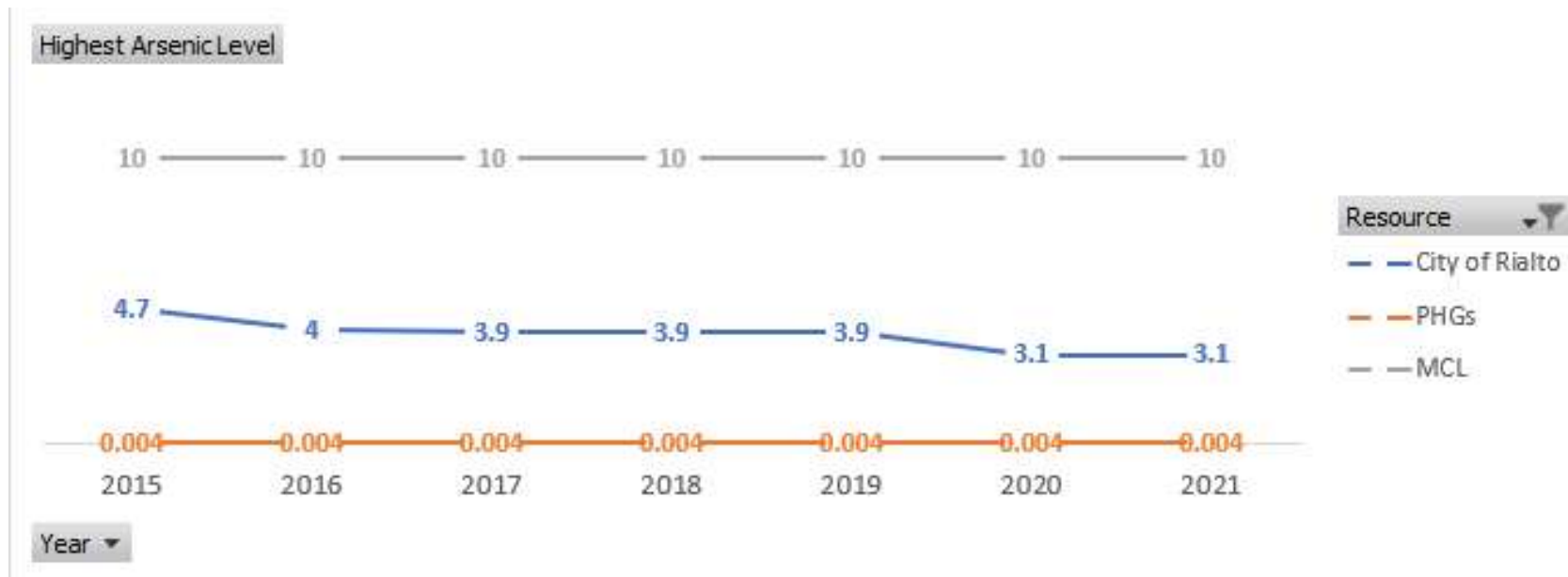
Keep in mind, 3.1 ppb was the **highest** arsenic level detected at one point in time amongst multiple tests performed throughout the year.

The **average** arsenic detection level for 2021 was only .52 ppb, which is very close to the PHGs level of .004.



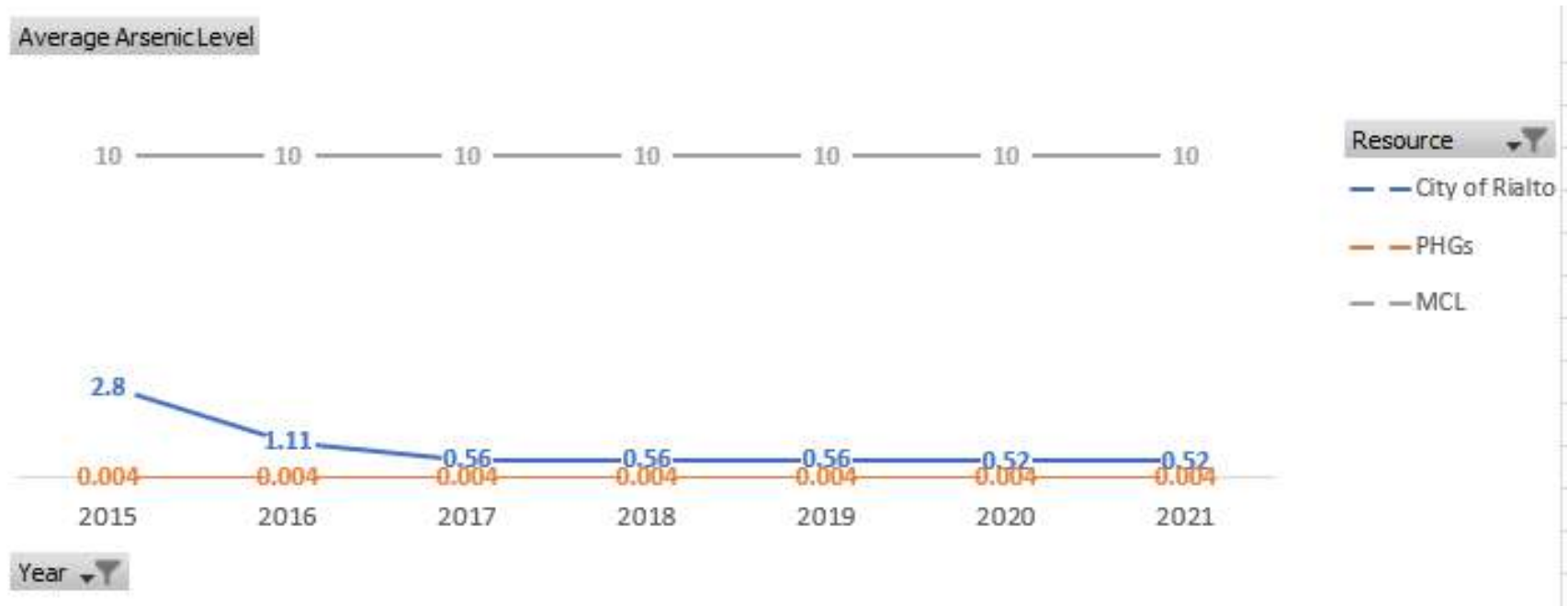
7-YEAR COMPARISON – Highest-Point Arsenic Level:

Over the past 7 years, the **highest arsenic level** detected dropped from 4.7 ppb in 2015 to 3.1 ppb in 2021, resulting in a 34% decrease:



7-YEAR COMPARISON – Average Arsenic Level:

During the same period, the **average arsenic level** has dropped from 2.8 ppb in 2015 to .52 ppb in 2021, resulting in an 81% decrease:





PROGRESSION TO “NO DETECTION”

Overall, the amounts of Arsenic detected between 2015 and 2021 has dropped each year since 2015 and is making progress to a “**No Detection**” Arsenic level result in future PHGs reporting.

- ❖ The state does not require treatment when the contaminant level is less than 50% of the MCL.
- ❖ Currently, the State only requires 1 test per 3 years, which is less frequent than others which require more sampling and testing.

THE END

- ❖ The 2022 edition of the Public Health Goals Report is included as **Attachment 1**.
- ❖ The 2021 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is included as **Attachment 2**.