

Outline of Water Supply Administration

The Water Supply Law sets standards for water quality and water supply facilities and specifies rules for the operation and management of the water supply service to ensure a stable supply of safe water.

City water supply systems	Municipal water supply (1,572 system)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of water for general needs • In principle, managed by municipalities • Needs authorization by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare or prefectural governors 	Supply for population: 5,001 and over
	Small scale public water supply (7,630 system)		Supply for population: 101 - 5,000
Bulk water supply systems (102 system)	Wholesale of purified water to city water suppliers Most managed by prefectures or groups of municipalities Needs authorization by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare or prefectural governors		
Private water supply systems (7,737 system)	Supply of water for private use with supply for population of 101 or more, or private daily supply or the like with the maximum daily water supply volume of more than 20 m ³ . Requires confirmation of design by the prefectural governor for installation (excluding for those installed by the national government which could be notified to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare).		
Small scale private water supply systems	Supply of water from tanks installed in office buildings, apartment houses, etc. where the source is only from city water suppliers, with the effective volume of the tanks being more than 10 m ³		

Source: Health Service Bureau, MHLW

Note: Number of systems at the end of FY 2006