

# East Metro PFAS Biomonitoring



Washington County requests a **\$1.1 million** appropriation to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to conduct an updated biomonitoring study of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in East Metro residents.

## Issue At-A-Glance

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are chemicals that have been used for many years to make products that resist stains, grease, water, and heat. PFAS have been found in East Metro drinking water supplies, including several Washington County communities, since the early 2000s.
- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), directed by the Minnesota Legislature, has completed three studies testing PFAS blood levels in people who live in the East Metro since 2008. The last study was conducted in 2014. Results indicated progress in reducing PFAS levels, but residents still showed higher levels of PFAS compared to national data sets at that time.
- An updated PFAS biomonitoring study will help MDH, Washington County, and municipalities understand the prevalence of PFAS in our communities and how public health interventions continue to impact those levels.
- An updated PFAS biomonitoring study is also supported by Washington County's newly adopted Groundwater Plan, which includes a strategy to monitor and advocate for research and studies (e.g. biomonitoring, additional surveillance) on health effects from PFAS and other contaminants.

## No Action

Without additional funding, an updated PFAS biomonitoring study would not be conducted.

## Financial Implications

**State of Minnesota: \$1.1 million** appropriation to Minnesota Department of Health

