

# COUNTRIES REJECTING THE ADDITION OF TOXIC, INORGANIC FLUORIDES TO DRINKING WATER

8 countries in the world fluoridate 50% or more of their drinking water.

For more information see Fluoride Alert:

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/RFW-nations.htm>

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/govt-statements.htm>



## Austria

**NEVER PERMITTED:** "Toxic fluorides have never been added to the public water supplies in Austria." (*M. Eisenhut, Head of Water Department, Osterreichische Yereinigung fur das Gas- und Wasserfach Schubertring 14, A-1015 Wien, Austria, February 17, 2000*).

[www.fluoridation.com/c-austria.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-austria.htm)



## Belgium

**NEVER PERMITTED:** "This water treatment has never been of use in Belgium and will never be (we hope so) into the future. The main reason for that is the fundamental position of the drinking water sector that it is not its task to deliver medicinal treatment to people. This is the sole responsibility of health services." (*Chr. Legros, Directeur, Belgaqua, Brussels, Belgium, February 28, 2000*). [www.fluoridation.com/c-belgium.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-belgium.htm)



## Czech Republic

**REJECTED:** "Since 1993, drinking water has not been treated with fluoride in public water supplies throughout the Czech Republic. Although fluoridation of drinking water has not actually been proscribed it is not under consideration because this form of supplementation is considered:

- uneconomical (only 0.54% of water suitable for drinking is used as such; the remainder is employed for hygiene etc. Furthermore, an increasing amount of consumers (particularly children) are using bottled water for drinking (underground water)
- unecological (environmental load by a foreign substance)
- unethical ("forced medication")
- toxicologically and physiologically debateable (fluoridation represents an untargeted form of supplementation which disregards actual individual intake and requirements)

and may lead to excessive health-threatening intake in certain population groups; [and] complexation of fluor in water into non biological active forms of fluor." (*Dr. B. Havlik, Ministerstvo Zdravotnictvi Ceske Republiky, October 14, 1999*).

[www.fluoridealert.org/czech.jpeg](http://www.fluoridealert.org/czech.jpeg)



## China

**FORBIDDEN:** "Having consulted with the Ministry of Construction, we would like to inform you that it is not allowed to add fluorides into public drinking water in accordance with the regulations of the Hygiene Standard of Public Drinking Water in China." (Gao Xishui, Ministry of Health, China, March 1, 2000)

<http://www.fluoridation.com/c-china.htm>



## Denmark

**NEVER PERMITTED:** "We are pleased to inform you that according to the Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy, toxic fluorides have never been added to the public water supplies. Consequently, no Danish city has ever been fluoridated." (Klaus Werner, Royal Danish Embassy, Washington DC, December 22, 1999). [www.fluoridation.com/c-denmark.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-denmark.htm)

(To read the Danish Ministry of the Environment's reasons for banning fluoridation, [click here](#))

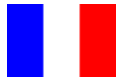


## Finland

**REJECTED:** "We do not favor or recommend fluoridation of drinking water. There are better ways of providing the fluoride our teeth need." (*Paavo Poteri, Acting Managing Director, Helsinki Water, Finland, February 7, 2000*). [www.fluoridation.com/c-finland.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-finland.htm)

"Artificial fluoridation of drinking water supplies has been practiced in Finland only in one town, Kuopio, situated in eastern Finland and with a population of about 80,000 people (1.6% of the Finnish population). Fluoridation started in 1959 and finished in 1992 as a result of the resistance of local population. The most usual grounds for the resistance presented in this context were an individual's right to drinking water without additional chemicals used for the medication of limited population groups. A concept of "force-feeding" was also mentioned.

Drinking water fluoridation is not prohibited in Finland but no municipalities have turned out to be willing to practice it. Water suppliers, naturally, have always been against dosing of fluoride chemicals into water." (*Leena Hiisvirta, M.Sc., Chief Engineer, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland, January 12, 1996*). [www.fluoridealert.org/finland.jpeg](http://www.fluoridealert.org/finland.jpeg)



## France

**FORBIDDEN:** "Fluoride chemicals are not included in the list [of 'chemicals for drinking water treatment']. This is due to ethical as well as medical considerations." (*Louis Sanchez, Directeur de la Protection de l'Environnement, August 25, 2000*).  
[www.fluoridealert.org/France.jpeg](http://www.fluoridealert.org/France.jpeg)

Salt Fluoridation is permitted to be sold to consumers but is not permitted in industrial food preparation or restaurants. 19% of population used fluoridated salt in 2005 (see appendix).  
[www.afssaps.sante.fr](http://www.afssaps.sante.fr)



## Germany

**FORBIDDEN:** "Generally, in Germany fluoridation of drinking water is forbidden. The relevant German law allows exceptions to the fluoridation ban on application. The argumentation of the Federal Ministry of Health against a general permission of fluoridation of drinking water is the problematic nature of compuls[ory] medication." (Gerda Hankel-Khan, Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany, September 16, 1999).  
[www.fluoridealert.org/Germany.jpeg](http://www.fluoridealert.org/Germany.jpeg)

A recent study found [no evidence of an increasing trend of caries after discontinuing fluoridation](#)



## Greece

**NEVER PERMITTED:** No artificial water fluoridation.



## Japan

**FORBIDDEN:** 'In 1958, our government set the standards for Fluorine as 0.8 mg/litre (cf. WHO guideline: 1.5 mg/litre). This figure has not been changed in the two later revisions of water quality standards in 1978 and 1992-' "Japanese government and local water suppliers have considered there is not need to supply fluoridated water to ALL users because 1) impacts of fluoridated water on human health depends on each human being so that inappropriate application may cause health problems of vulnerable people, and 2) there is other ways for the purpose of dental health care, such as direct F-coating on teeth and using fluoridated dental paste and these ways should be applied at one's free will.' (Toru

Nagayama, Environment Agency of Japan, March 8, 2000) Available from:  
<http://www.fluoridation.com/c-japan.htm>



## Luxembourg

**NEVER PERMITTED:** "Fluoride has never been added to the public water supplies in Luxembourg. In our views, the drinking water isn't the suitable way for medicinal treatment and that people needing an addition of fluoride can decide by their own to use the most appropriate way, like the intake of fluoride tablets, to cover their [daily] needs." (*Jean-Marie RIES, Head, Water Department, Administration De L'Environnement, May 3, 2000*).



## Netherlands

**REJECTED:** "From the end of the 1960s until the beginning of the 1970s drinking water in various places in the Netherlands was fluoridated to prevent caries. However, in its judgement of 22 June 1973 in case No. 10683 (Budding and co. versus the City of Amsterdam) the Supreme Court (Hoge Road) ruled there was no legal basis for fluoridation. After that judgement, amendment to the Water Supply Act was prepared to provide a legal basis for fluoridation. During the process it became clear that there was not enough support from Parlement [sic] for this amendment and the proposal was withdrawn." (*Wilfred Reinhold, Legal Advisor, Directorate Drinking Water, Netherlands, January 15, 2000*).  
[www.fluoridation.com/c-netherlands.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-netherlands.htm)



## Northern Ireland

**NEVER PERMITTED:** "The water supply in Northern Ireland has never been artificially fluoridated except in 2 small localities where fluoride was added to the water for about 30 years up to last year. Fluoridation ceased at these locations for operational reasons. At this time, there are no plans to commence fluoridation of water supplies in Northern Ireland." (*C.J. Grimes, Department for Regional Development, Belfast, November 6, 2000*).  
[www.fluoridealert.org/northern-ireland.jpeg](http://www.fluoridealert.org/northern-ireland.jpeg)



## Norway

**REJECTED:** "In Norway we had a rather intense discussion on this subject some 20 years

ago, and the conclusion was that drinking water should not be fluoridated." (*Truls Krogh & Toril Hofshagen, Folkehelse Statens institutt for folkeheise (National Institute of Public Health) Oslo, Norway, March 1, 2000*). [www.fluoridation.com/c-norway.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-norway.htm)



## Sweden

**REJECTED:** "Drinking water fluoridation is not allowed in Sweden...New scientific documentation or changes in dental health situation that could alter the conclusions of the Commission have not been shown." (Gunnar Guzikowski, Chief Government Inspector, Livsmedels Verket -- National Food Administration Drinking Water Division, Sweden, February 28, 2000). [www.fluoridation.com/c-sweden.htm](http://www.fluoridation.com/c-sweden.htm)

(See statement by Dr. Arvid Carlsson, the Nobel Laureate in Medicine, who helped lead the campaign to prevent fluoridation in Sweden in the late 1970s.)



## United Kingdom

9% Fluoridated

# Appendix

## France

Fluoridated Salt permitted. 19% of population uses fluoridated salt. ( Agence francaise de securite sanitaire des produits de santes 2008)

### **Limit systemic fluorides to one source.**

"Afin d'éviter la survenue d'une fluorose dentaire, il faut contrôler l'administration des fluorures chez les jeunes enfants (avant 6 ans). Ceci nécessite de réaliser périodiquement un bilan fluoré et de restreindre l'utilisation de fluorures systémiques à une seule source."

"it is necessary to control the use of fluorides with young children (less than 6 years)...restrict the use of systemic fluorides to one source."

### **Fluoride Water Concentrations in bottled water limited to 0.5 mg/L for Infants**

"En 2001, l'Afssa a fixé une valeur limite en fluor dans les eaux minérales embouteillées en dessous de laquelle les nourrissons et les enfants peuvent consommer de l'eau minérale

sans risque d'apparition de fluorose<sup>3</sup>. Cette limite est fixée à **0,5 mg/L...**"

#### **Health Harm from Systemic Use of Fluoride:**

"On a noté aussi que l'administration systémique de suppléments fluorés entraîne, selon la dose utilisée, des effets métaboliques sur d'autres tissus et organes, comme par exemple des dysfonctions thyroïdiennes au-delà d'un certain seuil."

"It has also been recognized that side effects of systemic use of fluoride supplements, in a dose-dependent fashion, include metabolic effects on other tissues and organs, like, for example, thyroid dysfunctions, beyond certain thresholds." (translation)

#### **Fluoridated Salt BANNED in industrial food production and restaurant food preparation.**

D'après les données de vente de sel, le sel iodé et fluoré représentait en 2005 19% des ventes de sel en petits conditionnements. Cette proportion est en baisse puisqu'il représentait, en 2001, 28% des ventes. Le sel fluoré est autorisé dans les cantines scolaires depuis 1993, mais n'est pas autorisé en France dans les préparations industrielles (industries agro-alimentaires et restauration collective). En pratique, l'enfant consomme très peu de sel avant l'âge de deux ans."

"According to the data on the sale of salt, iodized and fluoridated salt represents 19% of salt sales in 2005 in small quantities sold to consumers. This proportion of sales is falling, since it was 28% in 2001. Fluoridated sale has been authorized for sale in student lunch-rooms since 1993, but it is not authorized in France in industrial food preparation (agricultural-food industries and restaurants collectively)<sup>5</sup>. Practically speaking, an infant consumes very little salt before the age of 2 years." (translation)

## **News Updates**

**May 2007:** A [new study](#) of European public opinion on water fluoridation, published in the journal *Community Dentistry & Oral Epidemiology*, reports that the "vast majority of people opposed water fluoridation." According to the study, Europeans opposed fluoridation for the following reasons:

"Many felt dental health was an issue to be dealt with at the level of the individual, rather than a solution to be imposed en masse. While people accepted that some children were not encouraged to brush their teeth, they proposed other solutions to addressing these needs rather than having a solution of unproved safety imposed on them by public health authorities whom they did not fully trust. They did not see why they should accept potential side effects in order that a minority may benefit. In particular, water was something that should be kept as pure as possible, even though it was recognized that it already contains many additives." (See [study summary](#))

**November 2004:** After months of consultation, [Scotland](#) - which is currently unfluoridated - rejected plans to add fluoride to the nation's water. For more information, [click here](#)

**April 9, 2003:** The City Parliament of [Basel, Switzerland](#) voted **73 to 23** to stop Basel's 41

year water fluoridation program. Basel was the only city in Switzerland to fluoridate its water, and the only city in continental western Europe, outside of a few areas in Spain. To learn more about Basel's decision, [click here](#).