



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
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Commissioner

Annual Report for Cooling Towers and Legionnaires' Disease for Reporting Year 2021

This report is submitted pursuant to New York City Administrative Code §17-194.1(l), which requires the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) to submit the information enumerated below to the Mayor and City Council Speaker by May 15, for the prior calendar year.

1. The number of new cooling tower registrations
2. The number of notifications of discontinued use (decommissioning) of a cooling tower
3. The number of annual certifications that a cooling tower was inspected, tested, cleaned and disinfected
4. The number of reports of tests for the presence of microbes that reveal levels that present a serious health threat received by the DOHMH
5. The number of cooling tower system inspections conducted
6. The number and types of any violations cited during such inspections
7. The number of cleanings, disinfections or other actions performed by or on behalf of the DOHMH
8. The number of persons diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease in the city in each of the previous 10 years

As of December 31, 2021, 6,110 cooling towers were registered with the Department of Buildings, representing 5,135 cooling tower systems in 4,104 buildings across all five boroughs. More detailed information is described on the attached page.



Reporting Information for Calendar Year 2021	Total Number
1. New Cooling Tower Registrations	167 Cooling Towers (107 Cooling Tower Systems)
2. Decommission Notifications	247 Cooling Towers (199 Cooling Tower Systems)
3. Annual Certifications*	4,360 Cooling Towers (3,746 Cooling Tower Systems)
4. <i>Legionella</i> Results \geq 1,000 CFU/mL	139 Sample Reports
5. Cooling Tower Inspections**	3,977 Cooling Towers (3,366 Cooling Tower Systems)
6. Violations Cited	2,247
Public Health Hazards Cited	536
Critical Violations Cited	1,159
General Violations Cited	552
7. Cleanings/disinfections performed by or on behalf of DOHMH	0
8. Persons diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease in each of the previous 10 years:	
2021	363 (preliminary)
2020	321
2019	447
2018	656
2017	435
2016	271
2015	439
2014	225
2013	301
2012	177

* All registered CTs are subject to DOHMH inspections even if the owner has not submitted the annual certification.

**Not all cooling towers were inspected in 2021 because of the COVID-19 public health emergency.