



**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 2022

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, 2022, a total of 6,078 cooling towers were registered with the Department of Buildings, representing 5,064 cooling tower systems in 4,054 buildings across all five boroughs. More detailed information is described on the attached page.



Health

| Reporting Information for Calendar Year 2022 | Total Number |
|---|---|
| 1. New Cooling Tower Registrations | 167 Cooling Towers (72 Cooling Tower Systems) |
| 2. Decommission Notifications | 199 Cooling Towers (143 Cooling Tower Systems) |
| 3. Annual Certifications * | 4,503 Cooling Towers (3,832 Cooling Tower Systems) |
| 4. <i>Legionella</i> Results \geq 1,000 CFU/mL | 154 Sample Reports |
| 5. Cooling Tower Inspections** | 5,370 Cooling Towers (4,443 Cooling Tower Systems) |
| 6. Violations Cited | 2,315 |
| Public Health Hazards Cited | 385 |
| Critical Violations Cited | 1,425 |
| General Violations Cited | 505 |
| 7. Cleanings/disinfections performed by or on behalf of the DOHMH | 0 |
| 8. Persons diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease in each of the previous 10 years: | |
| 2022 | 361 (preliminary) |
| 2021 | 363 |
| 2020 | 321 |
| 2019 | 443 |
| 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 2022. DOHMH prioritized inspections based on risk.