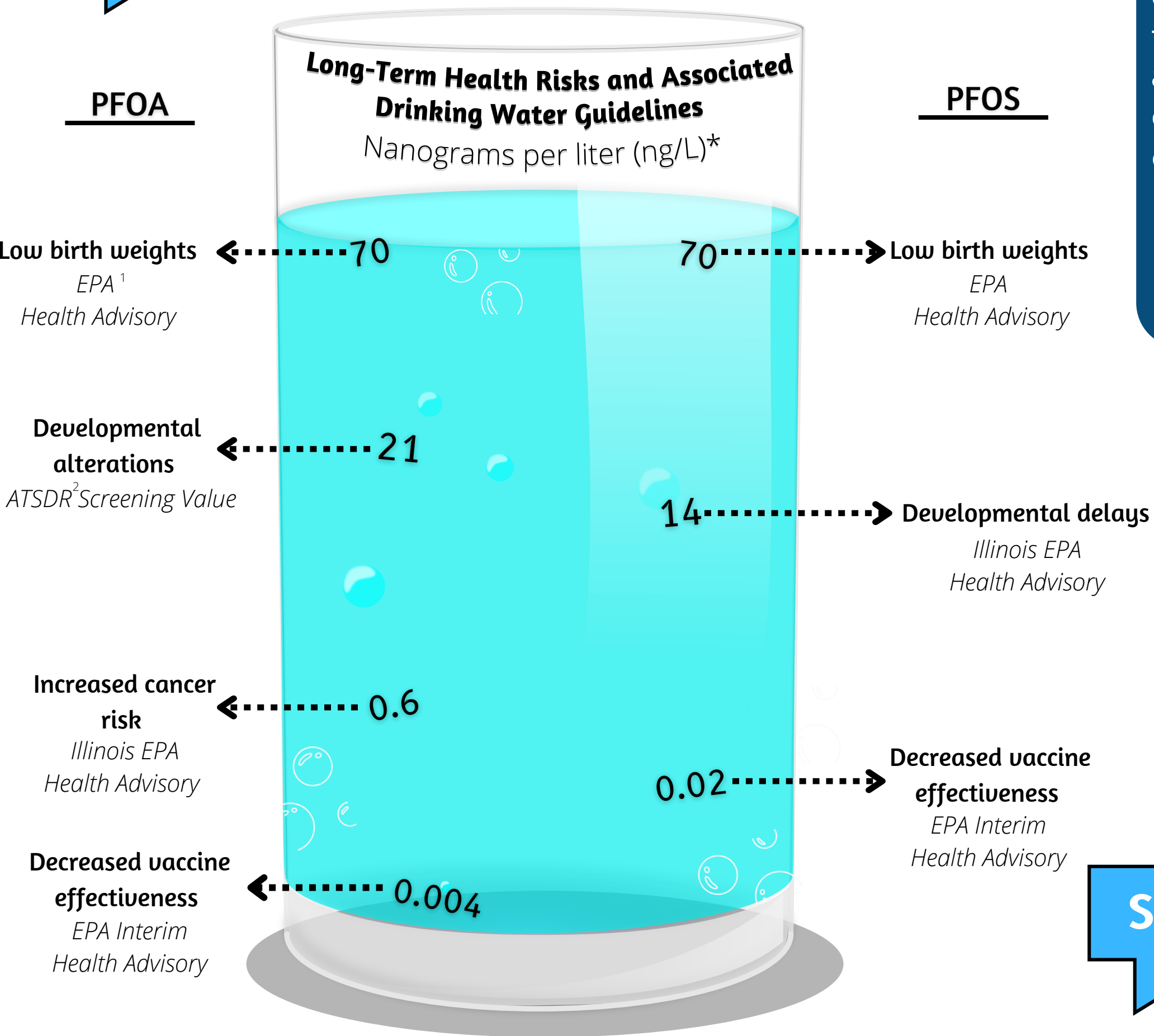


# PFAS in Drinking Water

## What are the risks?



\*ng/L = parts per trillion (ppt)  
<sup>1</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
<sup>2</sup> Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

## What we know...

There are thousands of different per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances [PFAS]. Because of their widespread use, these manmade chemicals can sometimes be found in drinking water.

Most of what is known about the human health effects of PFAS exposure is based on studies of two chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA] and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid [PFOS]. These chemicals have been detected in some Illinois drinking water supplies above levels of concern.

There are potential health risks within a wide range of PFAS concentrations.

## Other possible health effects

- Increased cholesterol/triglycerides
- Liver damage
- Increased risk of ulcerative colitis
- Disruption to thyroid hormones
- Decreased fertility in women
- High blood pressure during pregnancy
- Kidney, breast, or testicular cancers

## Should I test my well for PFAS?

If you live near a community where PFAS have been detected in the community water supply or a site where PFAS may have been released, you should consider testing your well for PFAS. IDPH or your local health department can provide assistance.

## What can I do about PFAS?

### Treatment

PFAS can be removed by:

- Carbon Filtration
- Kitchen faucet
  - Fridge
  - Pitcher
  - Whole-home

- Reverse Osmosis System
- Under kitchen sink
  - Whole home

### Health Care

Talk to your physician about a PFAS detection in your water supply. They may assess the need for:

- A blood test for PFAS
- Specific wellness exams

They may also provide guidance on reducing your PFAS exposure.

### Questions?

## Contact Us:

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