

Name	Symbol	Equivalence
litre	L	1000 mL 1000 cm <sup>3</sup> 0.001 m <sup>3</sup>
grams per litre	g/L	ppt
milligrams per litre	mg/L	ppm
micrograms per litre	F g/L	ppb
grams per kilogram	g/kg	ppt, mg/g
milligrams per gram	mg/g	ppt, g/kg
micrograms per gram	F g/g	ppm, mg/kg
milligrams per cubic metre	F g/m <sup>3</sup> (weight in air)	Multiply by 0.0241 and divide by the molecular weight to obtain ppm (volume)
parts per thousand	ppt	g/L, g/kg
parts per million	ppm	mg/L, F g/g, mg/kg
parts per billion	ppb	F g/L, F g/kg
becquerel	Bq	1000 mBq, 27 pCi, 27 x 10 <sup>-12</sup> Ci
Curie	Ci	37 GBq, 37 x 10 <sup>9</sup> Bq, 1 x 10 <sup>12</sup> pCi
roentgen equivalent man	rem	rad x Q where Q is a quality factor 1 rad (for external radiation; Q=1) 10 mSv 0.01 Sv 0.01 Gy
radiation absorbed dose	rad	0.01 J/kg 100 ergs/g 10 mSv 0.01 Sv 0.01 Gy

<sup>1</sup> The information in this table is adapted from several sources including: Rosalie Bertell, *No Immediate Danger?* (Toronto: Women's Educational Press, 1985), Friends of the Earth, *Water Pollution: A Sleuth's Guide* (London, England, 1992), The Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, *Table of Conversion* at [www.ieer.org/classroom/unitconv.html](http://www.ieer.org/classroom/unitconv.html), Ontario Hydro, *Journalist's Guide to Nuclear Power* (Toronto, 1988).

gray	Gy	100 rads 100 rems 1 Sv
sievert	Sv	100 rads 100 rems 1 Gy
degrees Celsius	EC	Multiply the value by 1.8 and add 32 to obtain Fahrenheit

**Table 10 Common prefixes**

Prefix	Symbol	Factor	Equivalence
giga	G	$10^9$	billion
mega	M	$10^6$	million
kilo	k	$10^3$	thousand
centi	c	$10^{-2}$	hundredth
milli	m	$10^{-3}$	thousandth
micro	F	$10^{-6}$	millionth
nano	n	$10^{-9}$	billionth
pico	p	$10^{-12}$	trillionth