Picturing A Part Per Million (ppm)
Statistics for Action

Our results show arsenic in the drinking water.

How much? The EPA standard is only 0.010 ppm.

Uh oh. We found 0.10 ppm. That's 10 times the EPA standard.

But what is a part per million (ppm)? Is it like a drop of ink in...
(answer upside down below)

More ways to picture a part per million:
(But don’t believe everything you hear; be a skeptic. Check the math. We did the first one for you.)

☑ One inch in 16 miles
   \[1760 \text{ (yards in a mile)} \times 3 \text{ (feet in a yard)} = 5280 \times 12 \text{ (inches in a foot)} = 63,360 \times 16 \text{ miles} = 1,013,760\]

☐ About one minute in two years

☐ One car in a line of bumper-to-bumper traffic from Cleveland to San Francisco.

☐ One penny in $10,000.

Extra! Read “Water is Precious” by Luis Costa at <www.nelrc.org/changeagent/extras>.