

## Freshwater quality

[REMOVE](#) [1]

This indicator shows:

1. Annual median concentrations in rivers of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) and ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub>).
2. Trends in concentrations of orthophosphate and nitrate in rivers, total phosphorus and nitrate in lakes, and nitrate in groundwater bodies.

Units

The concentration of nitrate is expressed as mg nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>)/l for groundwater and mg nitrate-nitrogen (mg NO<sub>3</sub>-N/l) for rivers and orthophosphate and total phosphorus as mg P/l.

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/freshwater-quality> [2].

### Data host:

Eurostat

### Unit of Measurement:

Millie gramme/Liter (mg/l)

### Link to Data:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/waterbase-groundwater-10> [3]

### Description to get data:

These are data per water basin, not the indicator that we are looking for

### Type of Indicator source:

- [Intergovernmental Organisation](#) [4]

### Geographical Coverage:

Austria  
Belgium  
Bulgaria  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Germany

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Hungary  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
United Kingdom

## Geographical Level:

- [Regional or Local](#) [5]

## Same/similar indicators appears in the following sets:

- [EEA's environmental indicators/Environmental Pressure indicators](#) [6]

## Methodological transparency:

- [Complete methodology available](#) [7]

## Temporal Coverage:

1992 to 2006

## Frequency of Updates:

- [irregular](#) [8]

## Indicator developer:

European Environment Agency

## Link to Methodology:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/freshwater-quality/freshwater-...> [9]

## Aggregation level of indicator:

- [Index or Composite](#) [10]

## Data quality assesment:

- [assessed by international institution including WTO, OECD](#) [11]

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## Publishing delay:

- [more than 3 years](#) [12]

## Link to data quality assessment:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/freshwater-quality/freshwater-...> [9]

## Contribution to the green economy:

Biodiversity relevance: the indicator gives an assessment of water quality which fundamentally determines the structure and functioning of aquatic and associated terrestrial ecosystems and dependent organisms.

## Cost of accessing data:

- [free of charge](#) [13]

**Potential misinterpretation:** Is the freshwater quality good, but water is massively extracted?

**Related Indicator:** [Water exploitation index](#) [14]

**Potential misinterpretation:** Is freshwater quality good, but its resources are shrinking?

**Related Indicator:** [Fresh Water Resources](#) [15]

**Potential misinterpretation:** Is freshwater quality improving because there are less agricultural activities?

**Related Indicator:** [Agriculture, value added \(% of GDP\)](#) [16]

**Potential misinterpretation:** Is freshwater quality improving because there are less industrial activities?

**Related Indicator:** [Industry, value added \(% of GDP\)](#) [17]



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**Source URL:** <https://measuring-progress.eu/freshwater-quality>

## Links

[1] <https://measuring-progress.eu/coll-del/nojs/680>

[2] <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/freshwater-quality>

[3] <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/waterbase-groundwater-10>

[4] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/52>

[5] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/31>

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- [6] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/65>
  - [7] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/34>
  - [8] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/21>
  - [9] <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/freshwater-quality/freshwater-quality-assessment-published-may-2010>
  - [10] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/30>
  - [11] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/39>
  - [12] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/26>
  - [13] <https://measuring-progress.eu/taxonomy/term/9>
  - [14] <https://measuring-progress.eu/water-exploitation-index-0>
  - [15] <https://measuring-progress.eu/fresh-water-resources>
  - [16] <https://measuring-progress.eu/agriculture-value-added-gdp>
  - [17] <https://measuring-progress.eu/industry-value-added-gdp>