

Bathing sites with excellent water quality by location (sdg_14_40)

ESMS Indicator Profile (ESMS-IP)
Compiling agency: Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union

Eurostat metadata
Reference metadata
1. Contact
2. Metadata update
3. Relevance
4. Statistical Indicator
5. Frequency and Timeliness of dissemination
6. Coverage and comparability
7. Accessibility and clarity
8. Comment
Related Metadata
Annexes
Footnotes

Eurostat Quality Profile	
4.5. Source data	European Environment Agency (EEA)
5.1. Frequency of dissemination	Every year
5.2. Timeliness	T+1 year
6.1. Reference area	All EU MS
6.2. Comparability - geographical	All EU MS
6.3. Coverage - Time	> 10 years
6.4. Comparability - over time	> 4 data points

Description of Eurostat quality grading system under the following [link](#).

Share your experience and feedback on the metadata with us!

Go to our short survey for more information on how to participate.

[Open survey >](#)

For any question on data and metadata, please contact: [Eurostat user support](#)

[Download](#)

1. Contact		Top
1.1. Contact organisation	Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union	
1.2. Contact organisation unit	E2: Environmental statistics and accounts; sustainable development	
1.5. Contact mail address	e-mail contact : ESTAT-SDG-MONITORING@ec.europa.eu	

2. Metadata update		Top
2.1. Metadata last certified	05/03/2023	
2.2. Metadata last posted	03/05/2024	
2.3. Metadata last update	03/05/2024	

3. Relevance		Top
<p>The indicator is part of the EU Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicator set. It is used to monitor progress towards SDG 14 on conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and towards SDG 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all which are embedded in the European Commission's Priorities under the 'European Green Deal'.</p> <p>SDG 14 aims to protect and ensure the sustainable use of oceans. This includes the reduction of marine pollution and the impacts of ocean acidification, the ending of overfishing and the conservation of marine and coastal areas and ecosystems. SDG 14 has strong interdependencies with a broad range of other SDGs, as oceans sustain coastal economies and livelihoods, contribute to food production and function as a carbon sink</p> <p>The EU Bathing Water Directive is one of the success stories in EU water policy and is important to protect human health and the environment. It also contributes to ensuring Good Environmental Status under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Good Ecological and Chemical Status under the Water Framework Directive.</p>		

4. Statistical Indicator		Top
4.1. Data description		
<p>The indicator shows the share of inland and coastal bathing sites with excellent water quality in the EU. Bathing water quality is assessed according to standards for microbiological parameters (intestinal Enterococci and Escherichia coli). The indicator is calculated based on the moving average of at least 16 sampling events in four years to be sure that a realistic bathing water classification is achieved. The Bathing Water Directive (BWD) requires Member States to identify and assess the quality of all inland and marine bathing waters and to classify these waters as 'poor', 'sufficient', 'good' or 'excellent' depending on the levels of faecal bacteria detected.</p>		
4.2. Unit of measure		
<p>Number and % of bathing sites with excellent water quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. coastal water ii. inland water 		
4.3. Reference Period		
Calendar year		
4.4. Accuracy - overall		

Indicator from non-ESS sources. For assessment of accuracy please refer to the original source (see link to external data source and metadata in “Annexes”).

4.5. Source data

European Environment Agency (EEA)

Data source: European Environment Agency (EEA)

Data provider: European Environment Agency (EEA)

5. Frequency and Timeliness of dissemination [Top](#)

5.1. Frequency of dissemination

Every year

Indicator is updated annually in June.

5.2. Timeliness

T+1 year

New data points are disseminated within one year after the reference year (bathing season).

6. Coverage and comparability [Top](#)

6.1. Reference area

All EU MS

Coastal water: Data are presented for all EU Member States (except landlocked countries) plus Albania and Montenegro.

Inland water: Data are presented for all EU Member States except Cyprus, and Malta, plus Switzerland.

6.2. Comparability - geographical

All EU MS

Data are comparable between EU Member States respectively other presented countries.

The geographical comparability is ensured by the application of common classification procedure established by the Article 5 of and Annex II to the Bathing Water Directive.

6.3. Coverage - Time

> 10 years

Presented time series (including EU aggregates) starts in 2011.

6.4. Comparability - over time

> 4 data points

Length of comparable time series without methodological breaks is longer than 4 data points.

7. Accessibility and clarity [Top](#)

7.1. Dissemination format - Publications

Analysis of indicator is presented in Eurostat's annual monitoring report on Sustainable development in the EU (progress towards SDGs in the EU context).

7.2. Dissemination format - online database

See table [sdg_14_40](#)

7.3. Dissemination format - other

Eurostat dedicated section on SDGs: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/overview>

8. Comment[Top](#)

Copyrights: [Eurostat Copyright/Licence Policy](#) is applicable.

Related metadata[Top](#)**Annexes**[Top](#)

[External data and metadata](#)

[European Environment Agency Datahub, Bathing sites with excellent water quality](#)

Footnotes[Top](#)