



Marine waters affected by eutrophication (sdg_14_60)

ESMS Indicator Profile (ESMS-IP)

Compiling agency: Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union

Eurostat metadata
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Eurostat Quality Profile	
4.5. Source data	Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS)
5.1. Frequency of dissemination	Every year
5.2. Timeliness	T+1 year
6.1. Reference area	> 75% EU MS and EU aggregate
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](#).

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[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	08/03/2023
2.2. Metadata last posted	02/05/2024
2.3. Metadata last update	16/04/2024

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, which is embedded in the European Commission's Priorities under the 'European Green Deal'.</p> <p>SDG 14 aims to achieve conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, that also requires among other things preventing and reducing marine pollution and the impacts of ocean acidification.</p> <p>The indicator can be considered as similar to the global SDG indicator 14.1.1: (a) "Index of coastal eutrophication".</p> <p>The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) requires Member States to report on eutrophication for their regional seas every 6 years.</p>

4. Statistical Indicator Top
4.1. Data description
<p>The indicator shows the share of eutrophic marine waters in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). An area is classified as eutrophic if for more than 25 % of the observation days of a given year the chlorophyll concentrations as a proxy for eutrophication are above the 90th percentile of the 1998–2017 reference base line.</p> <p>Eutrophication is the process by which an excess of nutrients – mainly phosphorus and nitrogen – leads to increased growth of plant material, particularly algal blooms, in an aquatic body resulting in a decrease in water quality. This can, in turn, cause death by hypoxia of aquatic organisms. Anthropogenic activities, such as farming, agriculture, aquaculture, industry and sewage, are the main source of nutrient input in problem areas.</p> <p>The Copernicus Marine Service has calculated the indicator from satellite imagery.</p>
4.2. Unit of measure
km ² and % of Exclusive Economic Zone
4.3. Reference Period
Calendar year

4.4. Accuracy - overall
Indicator from non-ESS source. For assessment of accuracy please refer to the original source (see link to external data source and metadata in section “Annexes”).
4.5. Source data
Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS)
Data source: Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS)
Data provider: CMEMS (through Mercator Ocean International)

5. Frequency and Timeliness of dissemination	Top
5.1. Frequency of dissemination	
Every year Indicator is updated annually in February.	
5.2. Timeliness	
T+1 year New data points are disseminated within one years after the reference year.	

6. Coverage and comparability		Top
6.1. Reference area		
> 75% EU MS and EU aggregate Data are presented for all EU Member States but do not apply to Czechia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Austria, Slovakia (landlocked countries).		
6.2. Comparability - geographical		
All EU MS Data are comparable between all EU Member States (as far as applicable).		
6.3. Coverage - Time		
> 10 years Presented time series (including EU aggregates) starts in 1998.		
6.4. Comparability - over time		
> 4 data points Length of comparable time series without methodological break is > 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_60	
7.3. Dissemination format - other	
Eurostat dedicated section on SDGs: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/overview	

8. Comment	Top
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Annexes: Global Ocean Chlorophyll-a anomalies Copernicus Ocean State Report, issue 6 on methodology and alignment with UN method	
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