

EASTME Reporting Annual Change at a Regional Scale

Water Quality Data: Rivers and Estuaries, Bathing Waters and Storm overflows

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East Marine Ecosystems

Reporting Annual Change in the
East Region & Building Social Capital



Thanks to all the contributors

- Statutory Assessment & Reporting Team – Environment Agency
- Ian Dunhill – Environment Agency
- Mike Best – Environment Agency
- Claire Humphries – Environment Agency
- Anwen Bickers – Environment Agency
- Virginie Chotard – Environment Agency

Aims

To share information on data the Environment Agency hold regarding:

Bathing Waters

Storm Overflows

River Water Quality

And how you can access it.

East Regions coasts – Designated Bathing Waters

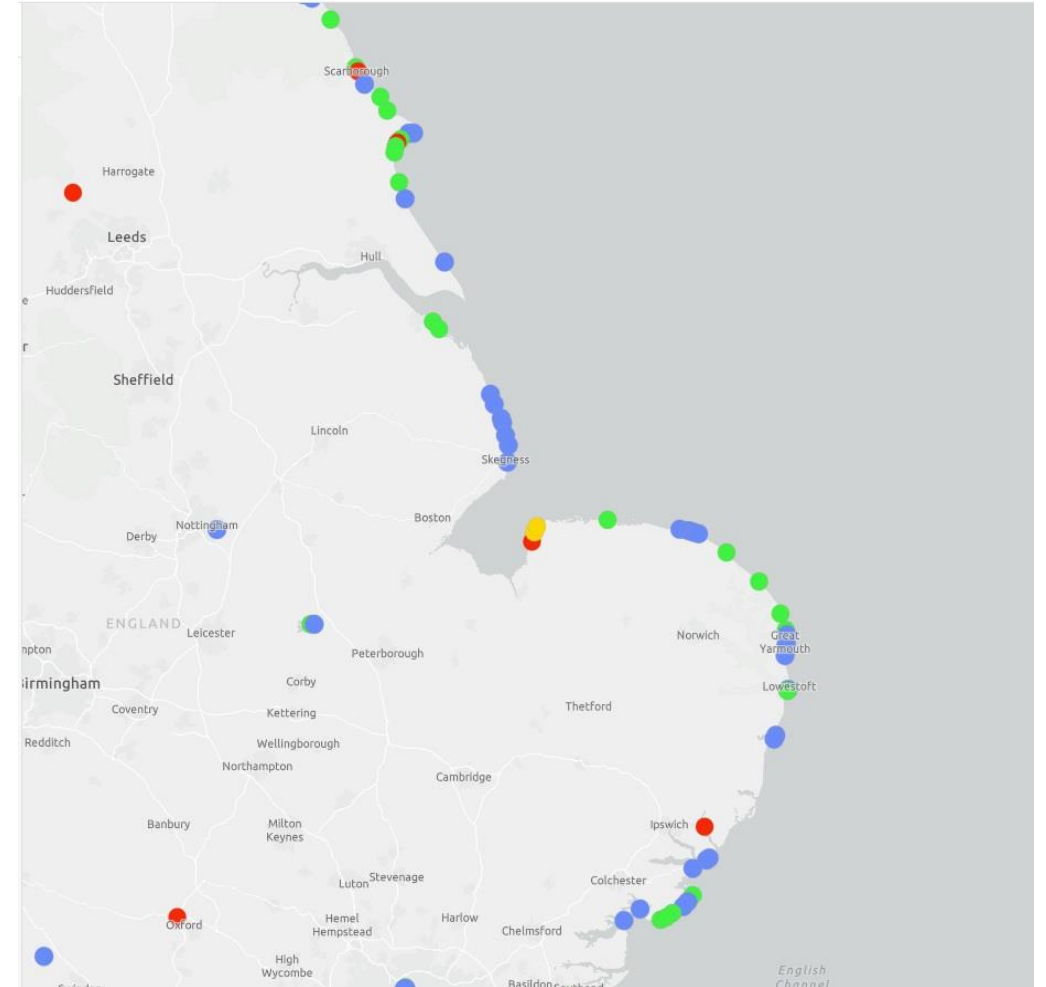
- Season: 15th May – 30th September
- Sampling programme
- Classifications
 - 4-year data set
 - Bacteria thresholds

Standards (Coastal Waters)	Classes			
	Excellent	Good	Sufficient	Poor
E.coli (EC/100ml), must be <=	250	500	500	>500
IE (IE/100ml), must be <=	100	200	185	>185
	95th percentile	95th percentile	90th percentile	90th percentile

East Regions coasts – Designated Bathing Waters

- 41 in East Inshore MMO Region
 - 24 Excellent
 - 12 Good
 - 2 Sufficient
 - 3 Poor

Bathing Water Regulations 2013 – waters should be classified "at least as "sufficient"

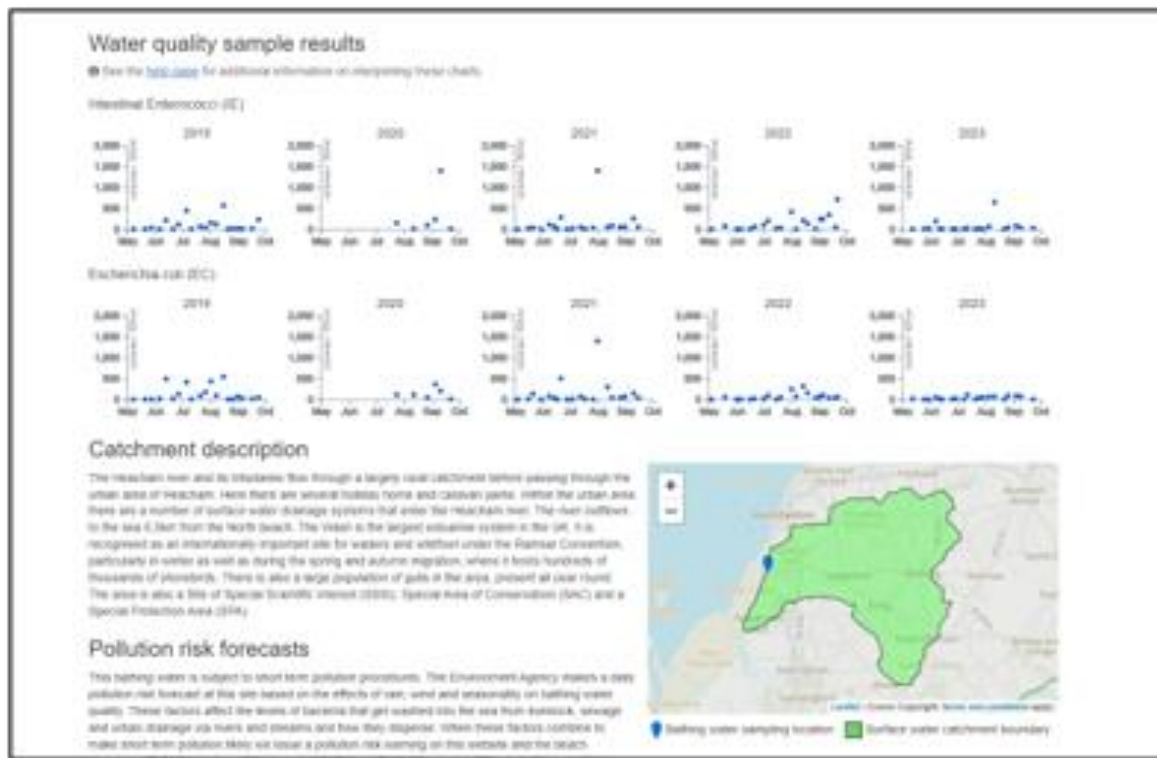


East Regions coasts – Designated Bathing Waters



East Regions coasts – Designated Bathing Waters

- Swimfo



2024 Bathing Water Profile for Heacham

Northfolk, England

No pollution incidents reported.

The most recent classification is **Poor**, based on samples taken from 2019 through to 2023.

Advice against bathing

About

Heacham North Beach is part of an extensive beach line which stretches north from the mudflats at Snettisham, up the eastern side of the Wash and along the Norfolk coast. Heacham is a popular Norfolk coastal holiday resort, with a largely sandy beach. It is one of the few beaches in Norfolk to face west. The majority of beach exposed at low tide is very pebbly shingle. Tidal movement lifts up sand and sediment in the sea and makes it look cloudy.

Here you can see the recent results from water quality assessments under the Bathing Water Directive. For historical measurements, [view the detailed water quality data](#).

Water quality

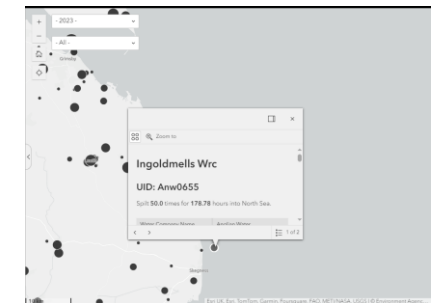
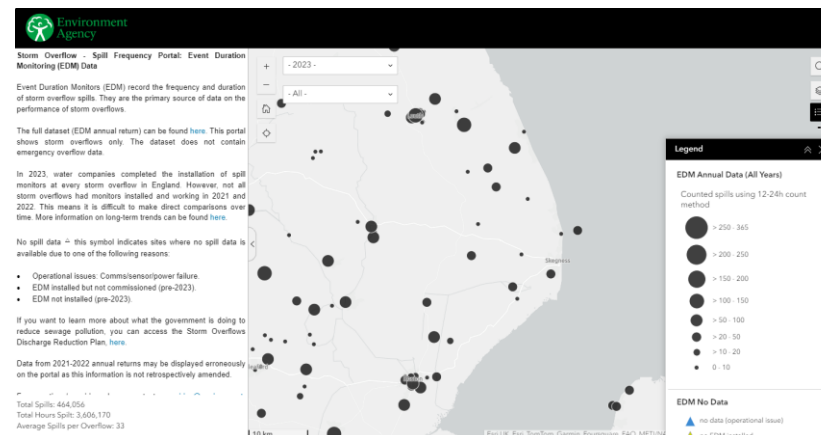
Samples taken: weekly between May 1st 2024 and Sep 30th 2024

Most recent sample: no samples have been collected yet

2023 classification	poor
2022 classification	poor
2021 classification	poor
2019 classification	sufficient

Storm overflows

- Are an automatic safety valve that release excess pressure on the sewage network from flooding and rain.
- Event Duration Monitors (EDM) measure when and how long a storm overflow is in operation.
- The Environment Agency publish this monitoring data annually.



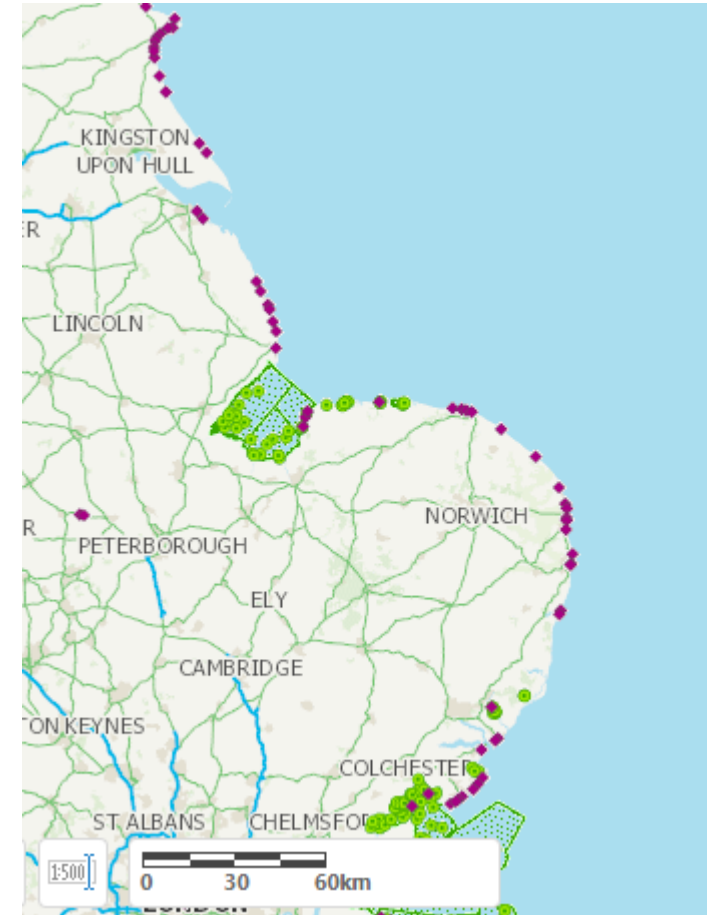
Storm overflows – National Picture

- Number of overflows with EDM monitoring returned in:
 - 2022 –13,313 (<100% EDM coverage)
 - 2023 - 14,318 (100% EDM coverage)
- 33 = Average number of spills per overflow in 2023
- 40% of Storm overflows spilled less than 10 times in 2023
- 13.9% overflows did not spill at all in 2023



Storm overflows – East Region Coasts

- 56 Overflows within 1km of a designated Bathing Water or Shellfish water between Flamborough and Felixstowe
- Average number of spills from these overflows in 2023 = 23
- 36% of these storm overflows spilled less than 10 times in 2023
- 4% of these overflows did not spill at all in 2023



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River Water Quality Data

- River Surveillance Network
- Water Framework Directive
 - Ecology
 - Physico-chemical
 - Chemicals
- OSPAR
- Hydrology Data Explorer



Water Quality Data Archive

- Open WIMs
 - Explore
 - Download

Search sampling points

Look up sampling points in the archive by providing one or more of the search criteria.

Sampling point name or ID

EA Area
areas

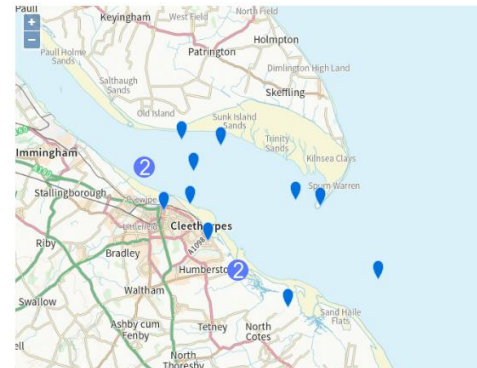
Sampling point type
Saline Water

Status
 open closed

Near-to, or within bounding box
Click or tap the map to select a point, or enter the easting and northing values.

Maximum number of results
500

[Find sampling points](#)



Matching sampling point locations:

Show entries

Search:

Water quality data archive

This data is updated regularly

The data is updated within two working days of a new sample being added. We also do a complete data refresh each month which may include corrections to earlier data.

The data was last updated on **28 April 2024** and the latest complete refresh was on **19 April 2024**

About this service

The Water Quality Archive provides data on water quality measurements. Samples are taken at sampling points around England and can be from coastal or estuarine waters, rivers, lakes, ponds, canals or groundwaters. They are taken for a number of purposes including compliance assessment against discharge permits, investigation of pollution incidents or environmental monitoring. The archive provides data on measurements and samples dating from 2000.

Only *complete* samples, where all analyses have been completed, are included. Currently the dataset does not include all groundwater or third party data. In addition, where measurement results are reported as text, we are currently unable to display the results due to size limitations. Examples where this may happen are for some location data at default sampling sites and gas chromatography mass spectroscopy or metals scans. These results are available on request. Data may also be subject to change after publication.

Download

Download water quality archive datasets to your computer.

[Download](#)

Understand

Documentation on the structure of data in this archive, and the meanings of the terms used.

[Understand](#)

Explore

Explore the data to find water sampling points at a particular location and their associated data.

[Explore](#)

Where to access Environment Agency Data

All the available data is hosted on gov.uk

Environment Agency Water Quality sampling data can be downloaded from [Open WIMS data](#)

Bathing water data including information on bathing water classifications, pollution risk forecasts, warnings against bathing and bathing waters sampling data can be found on Swimfo [Bathing water quality \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

Storm overflows Event Duration Monitoring Annual Returns, The 2021 – 2023 annual returns can be downloaded from [Event Duration Monitoring - Storm Overflows - Annual Returns \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

This data is displayed spatially here [Storm Overflow Spill Frequency \(arcgis.com\)](#)

Catchment Data Explorer for [England | Catchment Data Explorer](#)

Public Register of permitted discharges [Environmental Permitting Regulations – Discharges to Water and Groundwater \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

Hydrology Data Explorer [Hydrology Data Explorer - Explore](#)

OSPAR Commission [Microsoft PowerPoint - GUIDELINE How to find data in the RID Database \(ospar.org\)](#)