

Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018

Main findings

52.8%

of surface waters are in good or better ecological health

364 water bodies improved in quality

481 water bodies declined in quality

4.4%
net decline

Rivers

53%

in good or better ecological health

5.5%

net decline since 2010-15

26%

increasing nutrient concentrations

91

fewer higher status river water bodies since 2007-09

110

more poor status river water bodies since 2007-09

40 fish kills in 2018

Lakes

50.5%

in good or better ecological health

28.8%

increasing total phosphorus concentrations

Estuaries

38%

in good or better ecological health

16%

increase in loads of nitrogen

31%

increase in loads of phosphorus

Inputs of phosphorus and nitrogen from rivers increasing since 2012-2014

Canals

87%

in good or better ecological potential

Coastal

80%

in good or better ecological health

92%

of groundwater bodies are in good chemical and quantitative status