

Revision & Dissemination Policy for the annual EPA Bathing Water Quality in Ireland Report

1 Revision Policy

The revision process for the annual *EPA Bathing Water in Ireland Report* follows the guidelines set out in the CSO General Revisions Policy from the Central Statistics Office [CSO General Revisions Policy - Central Statistics Office](#). According to this policy, revisions involve modifying published statistical data when the underlying information has been corrected. There are no scheduled revisions for the annual bathing water classifications or other data in the report; the published results are considered final.

This policy details the procedure for handling unplanned revisions. Unplanned revisions happen when updated data is received, or errors are identified, requiring changes to the published bathing water classifications or statistics related to the number and likely causes of incidents published in the report.

When an unplanned revision occurs, the relevant statistics are revised and a revised version (Version 2 etc.) of the report published on the same location as the first version i.e. EPA website and www.beaches.ie with an explanatory note on the webpage outlining the change. The changes are also highlighted within the report by means of a footnote. Relevant stakeholders are informed of the revised report by email according to the circulation list.

For data reported to the European Commission, the EPA bathing water team revises and resubmits the data as appropriate, which then appears on the European Union Reportnet website as Version 2. e.g. https://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/ie/eu/bwd/bwd_787/envynpzbw with an explanatory note describing what has been amended.

2 Dissemination Policy

The publication of the annual EPA Bathing Water Quality in Ireland Report is included in the list of publications in the CSO table of releases [Statistical Work Plan 2024 - CSO - Central Statistics Office](#) and in the EPA Statistical Release Calendar [EPA Release Calendar | Environmental Protection Agency](#).

A pre-release is circulated to limited contacts in the following organisations one day before the official release: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; Uisce Éireann, EPA Urban Waste Water Enforcement Team.

In accordance with the EPA Data Strategy 2021-2024 and the goal of leadership in environmental evidence and knowledge, published annual EPA bathing water classification data are made available for download in a clear and accessible manner on the EPA website [Bathing water quality in Ireland in 2024. | Environmental Protection Agency \(epa.ie\)](#) and [Beach Guide - Beaches.ie - Beaches.ie](#). The publication of the report is accompanied by a press release, infographic and list of bathing water classifications.

Bathing water data reported by the EPA to Europe is publicly available on the European Environment Agency website. Bathing water quality in Ireland is also included in the annual European Environment Agency Bathing Water Quality report.

Additionally, the EPA makes bathing water data, including classifications, sample results, and incidents, available via API on data.epa.ie and data.gov.ie, with metadata included for both.