

Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018 -Environmental Protection Agency

The EPA published the Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018 report late last year. Most of the data used for the report are from the national Water Framework Directive monitoring programme and show that water quality in Irish rivers is deteriorating; despite some improvements. There has been a net overall decline of 5.5% in river water quality since 2015 along with the continuing long-term loss of high status river sites. Nutrient levels in our waters are starting to increase again despite long-term reductions previously evident in our major rivers. On a positive note, there has been an almost 17% improvement in river water quality in the Prioritised Areas for Action, the water bodies in these areas have been selected in the current River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 as areas where collaborative efforts will be focussed to improve water quality.