

Water and sewerage companies

Environmental Performance Assessment 2022

For a version of this document in an accessible format, and for individual water and sewerage company data reports please visit:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-and-sewerage-companies-in-england-environmental-performance-report-2022>

Note: discharge permit compliance is a core metric, required to be green for a water company to achieve a 4 star performance rating

Metric and units ¹	Total pollution incidents per 10,000km ² (actual)	Serious pollution incidents – actual number	Self-reported pollution incidents % ³	Discharge permit compliance ⁴ % (failing sites)	Satisfactory sludge use and disposal %	WINEP ⁵ scheme delivery on time %	Supply Demand Balance Index (SDBI) score	Performance star rating (out of 4) ¹
Anglian Water	33 (255)	11	73 (83)	98.6 (12)	99.96	99.8	100	★★☆☆
Northumbrian Water	20 (60)	0	91 (92)	98.9 (2)	100	100	100	★★★☆☆
Severn Trent Water	21 (193)	1	87 (93)	99.3 (5)	100	100	100	★★★★
Southern Water	90 (358)	5	90 (95)	98.2 (6)	100	100	100	★★☆☆
South West Water	62 (108)	2	78 (87)	99.4 (2)	99.14	99.6	86	★★☆☆
Thames Water	30 (331)	17	74 (94)	99.5 (2)	100	95.2	100	★★☆☆
United Utilities	16 (126)	0	88 (90)	98.5 (6)	98.93	100	100	★★★☆☆
Wessex Water	31 (110)	5	92 (97)	99.4 (2)	100	100	100	★★☆☆
Yorkshire Water	22 (117)	3	77 (95)	99.7 (1)	99.91	100	100	★★★☆☆
Sector - England	31 (1,658)	44	82 (92)	99.0 (38)	99.79	99.5	98.4 (average)	
Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water	25 (89)	5	69 (46)	98.5 (9)	100	100	100	★★☆☆

Red Significantly below target
 Amber Below target
 Green Achieved target or better
 R A G Red, amber, green metric thresholds

Note: These results are drawn, in part, from information submitted by the companies and may change as a result of subsequent audits and checking

¹ Refer to the EPA metric guide for detailed information including how we calculate performance star ratings (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-and-sewerage-companies-in-england-environmental-performance-report-2022>)

² of sewer length ³ The figure in brackets is the combined self-reporting percentage for just sewage treatment works and pumping stations - this must be 90% or more for a green rating

⁴ with numeric water quality limits for treated wastewater at sewage treatment works and water treatment works ⁵ Water Industry National Environment Programme

Pollution incident performance

44

serious water quality incidents

42 from sewerage assets and 2 from a water supply asset

2,026

total water quality incidents

1,658 from sewerage assets and 368 from water supply assets

82%

incidents were self-reported

92% from just sewage treatment works and pumping stations combined

Compliance with licences and permits

99.0%

discharge permit compliance

out of 3,802 (STW and WTW), 38 sites failed numeric limits for treated wastewater

98.9%

abstraction & impoundment compliance

out of 1,218 licences, 14 were recorded as failing to meet licence conditions

4

permitted waste operations

were assessed as compliance band D (must improve to achieve permit compliance)

Sludge disposal and use

816,023

tonnes (dry solid) sludge dispatched

94.5% used in agriculture, 156,529 hectares land used for spreading

99.5%

completion of planned schemes on time

3,121 environmental improvement schemes met their requirements within planned deadlines

91.3%

storm overflows with spill data

out of a total of 14,454 listed in the annual return dataset

Water resources planning (for the financial year ending March 2022)

140

litres Per Capita Consumption (PCC)

average household water use per person per day, above planned for most companies

56.89%

properties with household meters

2% behind the overall sector plan of 58.9%

2,289

megalitres per day total leakage

not all companies kept leakage within planned levels

Flood and coastal erosion risk management

£281.1m

sewer flooding investment

including £117.7m to reduce the risk of sewer flooding to properties

3

Enforcement Undertaking offers accepted

from 2 companies totalling £500,000 and ranging from £100,000 to £250,000

9

successful prosecutions

against 3 water companies, resulting in total fines of £4,198,750