

R: Seas, oceans and coasts

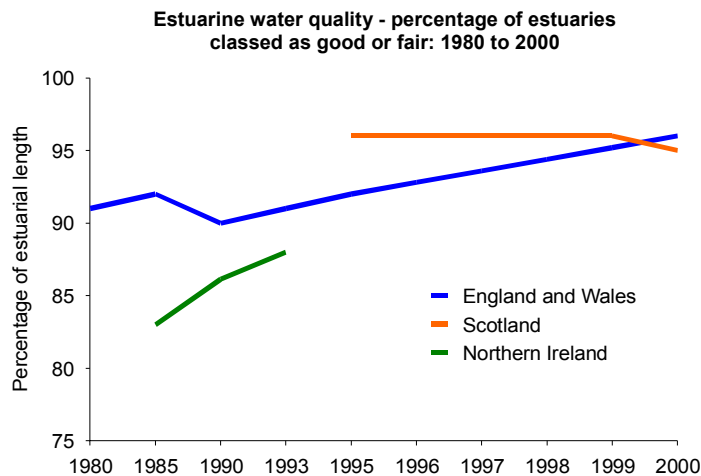
Over 95 per cent of the estuaries in Great Britain were classified as having good or fair water quality in 2000. The last decade has seen a substantial decline in most marine inputs of metals, nutrients and organic substances via rivers and direct coastal discharges.

Between 1998 and 2002 there was a slight improvement in the proportion of reported fish stocks around the UK assessed to be within safe biological limits, from 24 per cent to 29 per cent. However, the proportion of fish resources considered to be fully- or over- exploited has steadily increased over the last fifty years.

Ref. no.	Indicator		QOLC 1999		QOLC Updated Assessment		
			Change since		Change since		
			1970	1990	1970	1990	Strategy
R1	Estuarine water quality, marine inputs	Estuarine water quality	☹	☑	☹	☑	☑
		Marine inputs	☹	☑	☹	☑	≈
R2	Compliance with Bathing Water Directive		☹	☑	☹	☑	☑
R3	Biodiversity in coastal/marine areas [†]		☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
R4	Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits		☒	≈	☹	☹	≈
R5	State of the world's fisheries		☒	☒	☒	☒	☒

Indicator: Estuarine water quality, marine inputs

R1

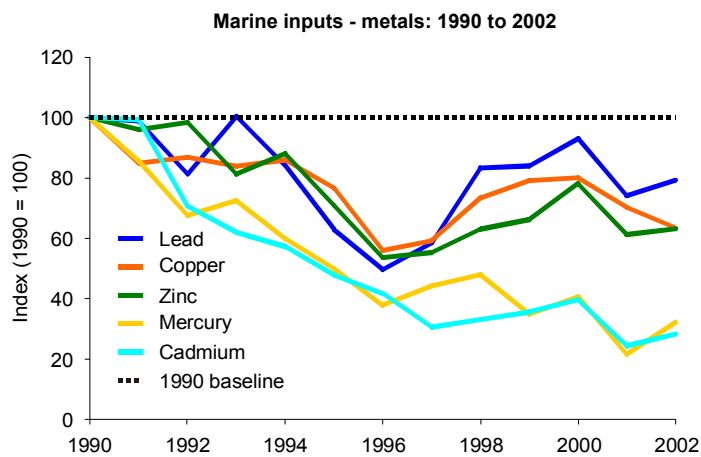


Estuarine water quality

Change since

- ☹️ 1970
- ✅ 1990
- ✅ 1997

United Kingdom
Source: Environment Agency, SEPA, DoE(NI)

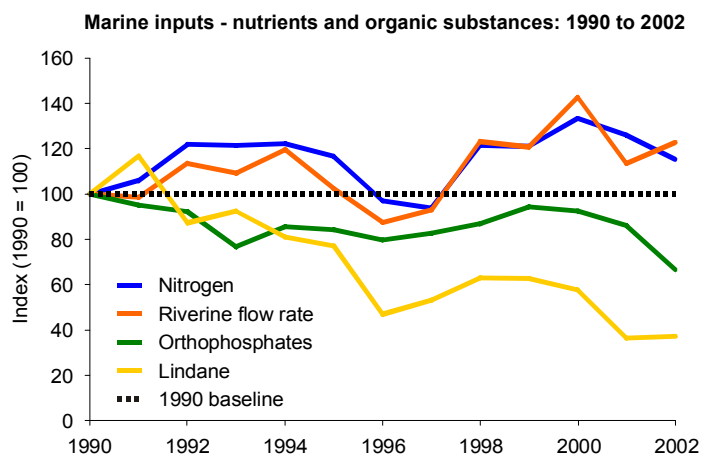


Marine inputs

Change since

- ☹️ 1970
- ✅ 1990
- 🌀 1997

United Kingdom
Source: Environment Agency, SEPA, DoE(NI)



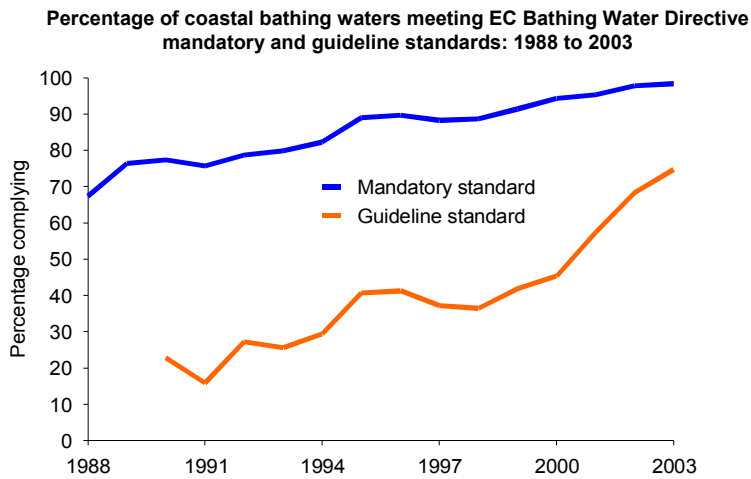
United Kingdom
Source: Environment Agency, SEPA, DoE(NI)

Objective: Reduce or eliminate inputs of hazardous and radioactive substances of most concern

- Over 95 per cent of estuaries in Great Britain were classified as good or fair in 2000, with the England and Wales proportion up from 90 per cent in 1990.
- The last decade has seen a substantial decline in most marine inputs of metals, nutrients and organic substances via rivers and direct coastal discharges.
- Between 1997 and 2002 there has been an increase in some marine inputs, reflecting a corresponding increase in riverine flows.

Indicator: Compliance with Bathing Water Directive

R2



Change since

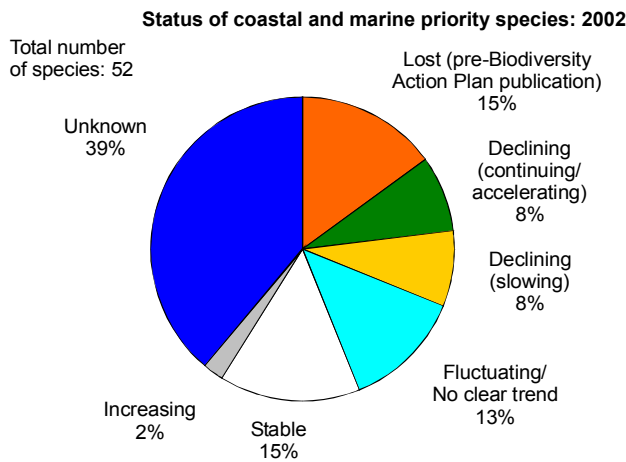
- ☹️ 1970
- ✅ 1990
- ✅ 1999

Objective: Aim to raise consistent compliance with European Bathing Water Directive

- Compliance with the mandatory coliform standards of the European Bathing Water Directive at coastal waters in the UK was 98 per cent in 2003 compared with 77 per cent in 1990 and 91 per cent in 1999.
- The Directive’s tougher, non-mandatory, guideline standards were met at 75 per cent of UK coastal bathing beaches in 2003 compared with 23 per cent in 1990 and 42 per cent in 1999.

Indicator: Biodiversity in coastal/marine areas[†]

R3



Change since

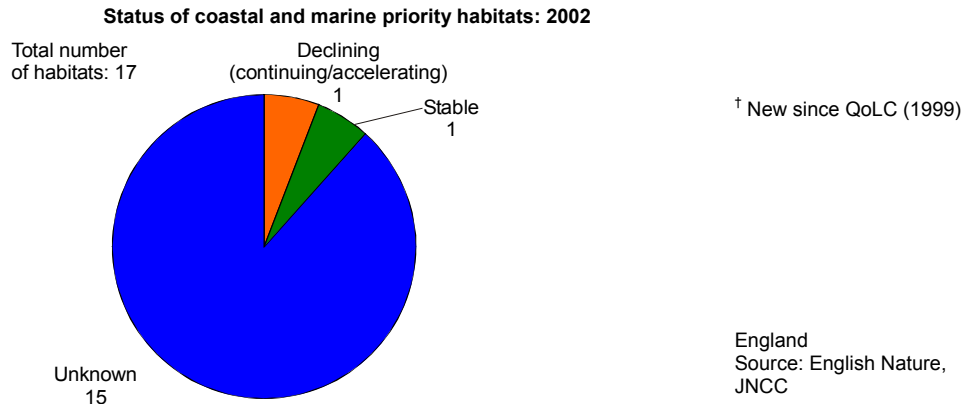
- ☹️ 1970
- ☹️ 1990
- ☹️ Strategy

[†] New since QoLC (1999)

England
Source: English Nature, JNCC

Indicator: Biodiversity in coastal/marine areas[†]
(continued)

R3

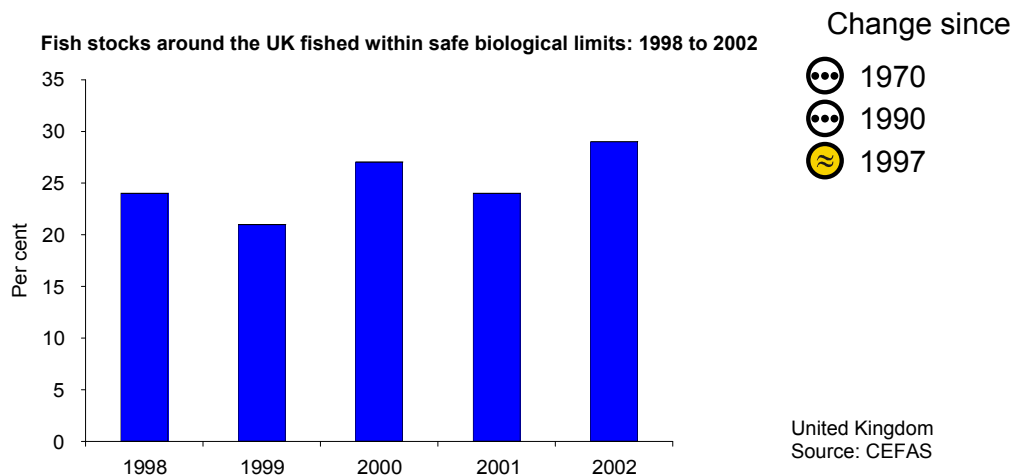


Objective: Protection of marine habitats and species

- Only one priority species was assessed as increasing in 2002 with 8 declining. The trend was either fluctuating or unknown for 27 species (52 per cent), so an overall assessment of progress has not been made.
- In 2002, 15 out of the 17 priority coastal and marine habitats had a status reported as unknown.

Indicator: Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits

R4



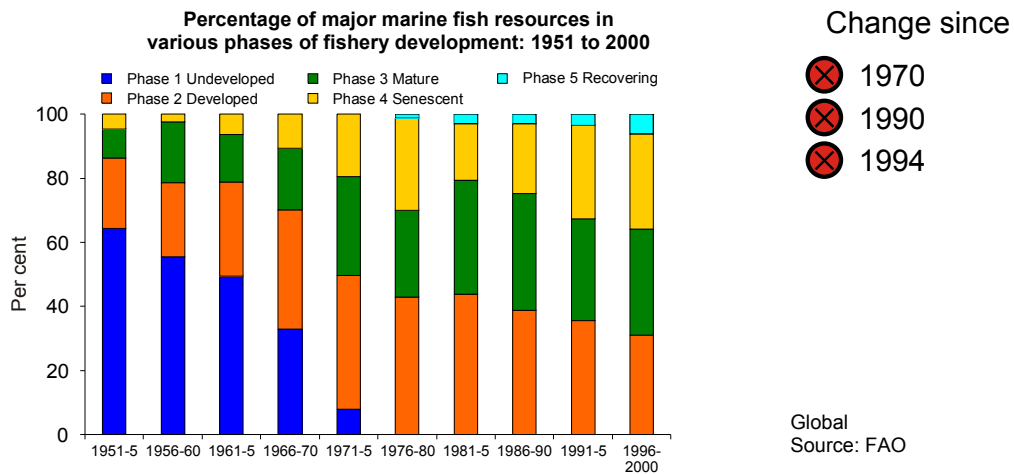
Note: Data shown in this chart are not consistent with those shown in the last publication due to a redefinition of "biologically safe limits".

Objective: Improve the management and conservation of fish stocks

- Between 1998 and 2002 there was a slight increase in the proportion of reported fish stocks around the UK assessed to be within safe biological limits, from 24 per cent to 29 per cent. However, the absolute number of stocks assessed to be within safe limits has not changed and it is uncertain whether the apparent improvement in the percentage represents a long-term trend.

Indicator: State of the world’s fisheries

R5



Objective: Work with other countries to achieve effective management and conservation of fish stocks

- The proportion of fish resources considered to be fully- or over-exploited has steadily increased over the last fifty years.
- By 2000, approximately 60 per cent of major world fish resources were considered to be in urgent need of management action (mature or senescent) to halt increases in fishing capacity or to allow resources to recover.