

Lithuanian bathing water quality in 2018



Lithuania 

June 2019

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Bathing Water Quality in the Season 2018

Lithuania

Under the provisions of the [Bathing Water Directive](#), more than 21 000 bathing waters are monitored in Europe each season. The monitoring data and other information regarding bathing water management are reported to the European Environment Agency by 30 reporting countries in Europe, to be assessed for the annual European report and more detailed national reports.

1. BWD reporting in the season 2018

In the season 2018, Lithuania identified and reported **117 bathing waters**, which is 0.5% of all bathing waters in Europe. Four bathing waters in Lithuania have been newly identified for the season 2018. One bathing water reported in the preceding seasons has not been reported any more in 2018.

Bathing waters of Lithuania in the season 2018		Bathing water quality in the season 2018	
Total reported	117	Excellent	99 (84.6%)
Coastal	16	Good	11 (9.4%)
Inland	101	Sufficient	2 (1.7%)
		Poor	1 (0.9%)
Total reported samples	999	Not classified	4 (3.4%)

The bathing waters are quality classified according to the two microbiological parameters (Escherichia coli and Intestinal enterococci) defined in the Bathing Water Directive. 95.7% of reported bathing waters are in line with the minimum quality standards of the Directive, thus classified “sufficient” or better. One bathing water is of “poor” quality.

More detailed information on bathing waters of Lithuania is available at the national bathing water portal http://www.smlpc.lt/lt/aplinkos_sveikata/maudyklos/.

2. BWD monitoring

Each bathing water that is identified by the reporting country needs to have a monitoring calendar established before the bathing season. The monitoring calendar requirements can be summarised as follows: (1) a pre-season sample is to be taken shortly before the start of each bathing season; (2) no fewer than four (alternatively, three for specific cases) samples are to be taken and analysed per bathing season; and (3) an interval between sampling dates never exceeds one month.

From the reported data, the assessment also designates effective implementation of the monitoring calendar. In Lithuania, monitoring calendar for 2018 was not implemented at two bathing waters.

Table 1: Bathing waters in 2018 according to implementation of the monitoring calendar

	Count	Share of total [%]
Monitoring calendar implemented A bathing water satisfies monitoring calendar conditions listed above.	115	98.30%
Monitoring calendar not implemented A bathing water does not satisfy monitoring calendar conditions listed above. They may be quality-classified if enough samples are available in the last assessment period.	2	1.70%

In addition to the monitoring calendar, management specifics of the last assessment period of four years are also assessed. The status primarily indicates whether the complete dataset of four seasons is available, but also points out the reasons as to why the bathing waters do not have the complete last assessment period dataset. The latter may indicate developing conditions at the site – most importantly, whether the bathing water has been newly identified within the period, or any changes have occurred that are likely to affect the classification of the bathing water.

Table 2: Management specifics in the last assessment period of 2015–2018

	Count	Share of total [%]
Continuously monitored A bathing water has been monitored in each bathing season in the last assessment period.	110	94%
Newly identified A bathing water was identified for the first time within the last assessment period. Such status is assigned until the complete four-year dataset is available, i.e. for three years after the first reporting.	6	5.10%
Quality changes A bathing water was subject to changes described in BWD Art. 4.4 within the last assessment period. Such status is assigned until the complete four-year dataset of samples taken after changes took effect is available.	0	0%
Monitoring gap A bathing water was not monitored for at least one season in the last assessment period. No quality	1	0.90%

classification is made if no samples are reported for the most recent season.		
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3. Bathing water quality

3.1 Coastal bathing waters

Coastal bathing waters are situated on the sea or transitional water coastline, with respective parameter thresholds defined in Annex I of the Directive. They are subject to more strict thresholds than the inland bathing waters. Quality trend in Lithuania for the period 1990–2018 if historical data are available is shown in Figure 1. Count of bathing waters by quality class for the last assessment period 2015–2018 is given in Annex I.

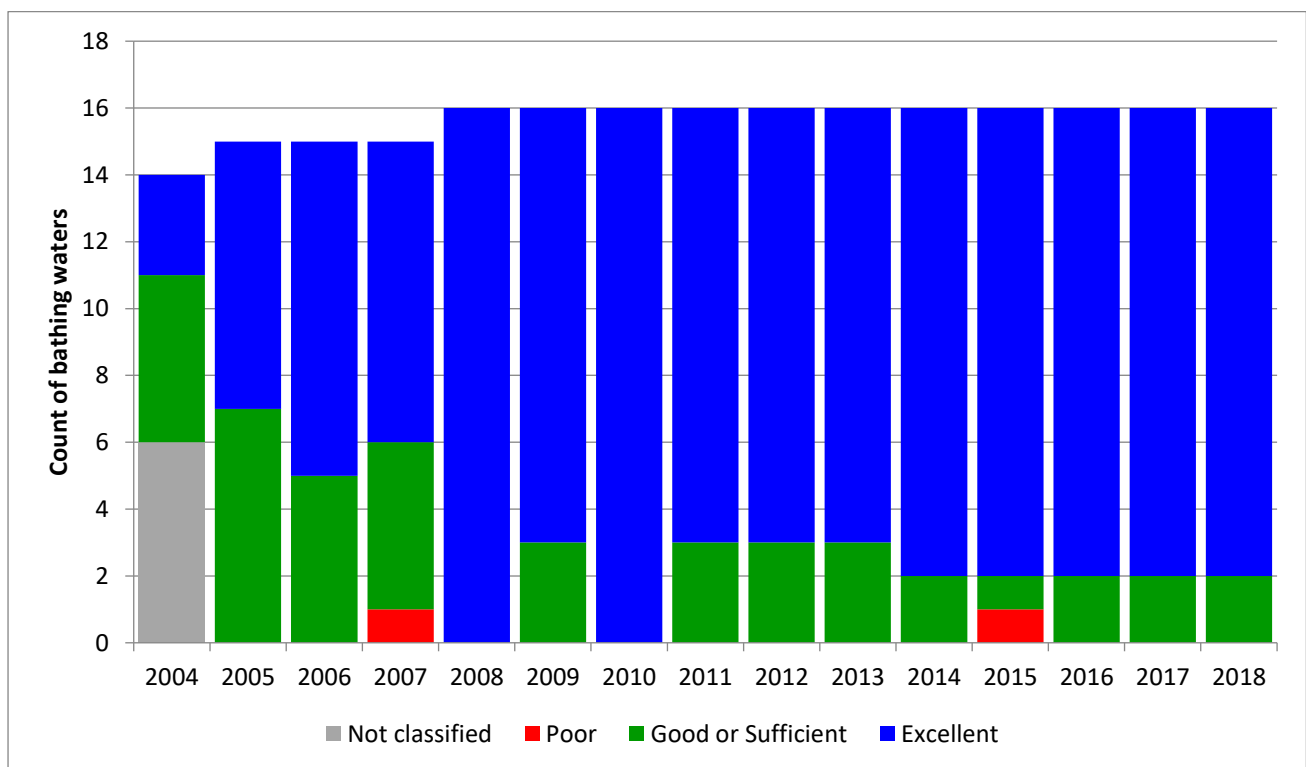


Figure 1: Trend of coastal bathing water quality in Lithuania. Notes: Each column represents an absolute count of bathing waters in the season. Quality classes “good” and “sufficient” are merged for comparability with classification of the preceding Bathing Water Directive 76/160/EEC.

3.2 Inland bathing waters

Inland bathing waters are situated at rivers and lakes, featuring fresh water and with respective parameter thresholds defined in Annex I of the Directive. Quality trend in Lithuania for the period 1990–2018 if historical data are available is shown in Figure 2. Count of bathing waters by quality class for the last assessment period 2015–2018 is given in Annex I.

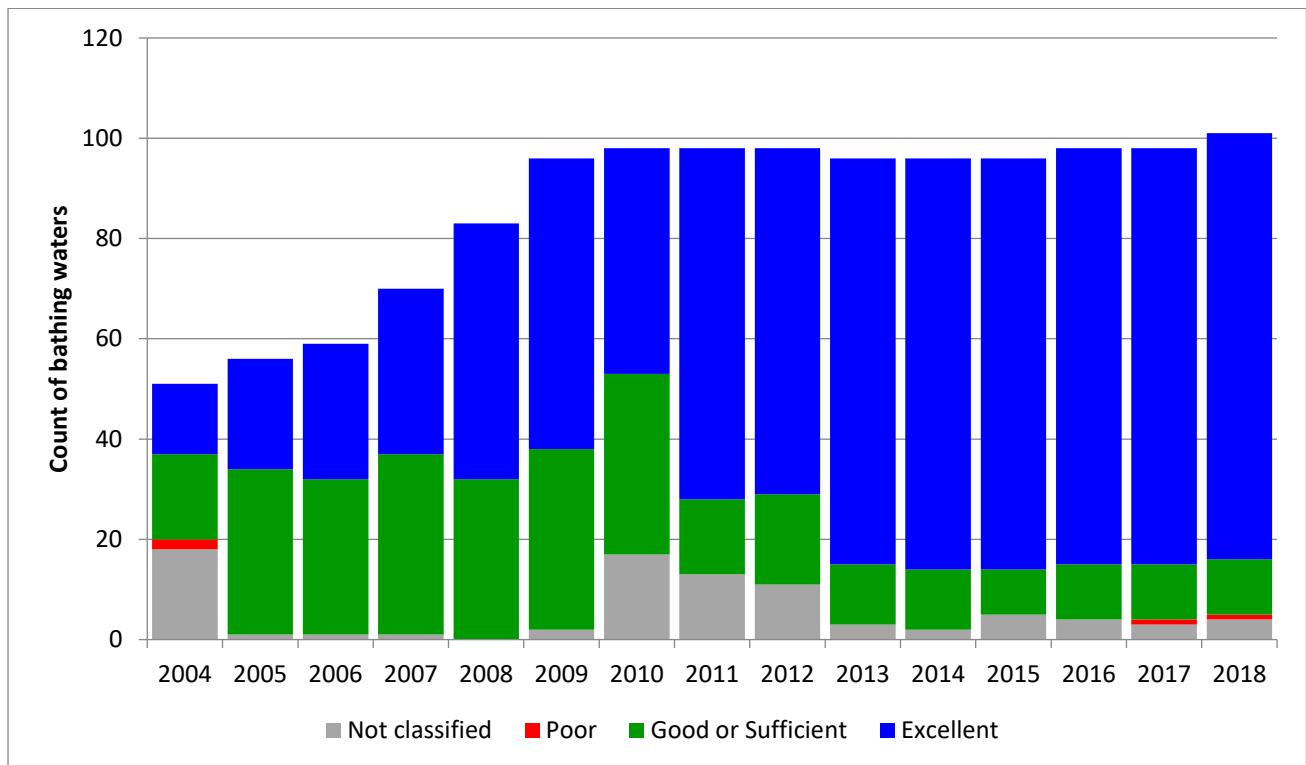


Figure 2: Trend of inland bathing water quality in Lithuania. Notes: Each column represents an absolute count of bathing waters in the season. Quality classes “good” and “sufficient” are merged for comparability with classification of the preceding Bathing Water Directive 76/160/EEC.

4. Bathing water management in Lithuania

In addition to monitoring data, reporting countries also provide information on bathing water management in the country. The information is used to exchange good practices, discuss issues on the European level, and understand the specifics of implementation of the Directive.

The information for the public about bathing water quality during the bathing season was provided on the websites of municipalities and the website of the Centre for Health Education and Disease Prevention and on boards equipped on the beaches. The information includes:

- the duration for the bathing season;
- working hours for rescue workers on the beach;
- the update results of bathing water quality;
- in case of short-term pollution, the data when any bathing prohibition or advise against bathing are referred.

During the 2018 bathing season, six short-term pollution events have occurred.

General information including information on bathing water monitoring, quality, legislation, blue flag programme can be accessed through the following webpage:

http://www.smlpc.lt/lt/aplinkos_sveikata/maudyklos/.

Annex I Bathing water quality in Lithuania in 2015–2018

Table 3: Bathing water quality by water category and season

		Total count of bathing waters	Excellent		Good		Sufficient		Poor		Not classified	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Coastal	2015	16	14	87.5	0	0.0	1	6.3	1	6.3	0	0.0
	2016	16	14	87.5	0	0.0	2	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2017	16	14	87.5	2	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2018	16	14	87.5	2	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Inland	2015	96	82	85.4	9	9.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	5.2
	2016	98	83	84.7	10	10.2	1	1.0	0	0.0	4	4.1
	2017	98	83	84.7	10	10.2	1	1.0	1	1.0	3	3.1
	2018	101	85	84.2	9	8.9	2	2.0	1	1.0	4	4.0
Total	2015	112	96	85.7	9	8.0	1	0.9	1	0.9	5	4.5
	2016	114	97	85.1	10	8.8	3	2.6	0	0.0	4	3.5
	2017	114	97	85.1	12	10.5	1	0.9	1	0.9	3	2.6
	2018	117	99	84.6	11	9.4	2	1.7	1	0.9	4	3.4

Annex II Bathing water quality map

Map 1: Bathing waters reported during the 2018 bathing season in Lithuania



Bathing water quality

- Excellent water quality
- Good water quality
- Sufficient water quality
- Poor water quality
- Quality classification not possible
- No data
- Outside data coverage (data available, not presented on the map)

Source: National boundaries: EEA; Large rivers and lakes: EEA, WFD Article 3; Bathing waters data and coordinates: Lithuanian authorities; Digital Elevation Model over Europe (EU-DEM): EEA.