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Norlin Airlan Environment Agency
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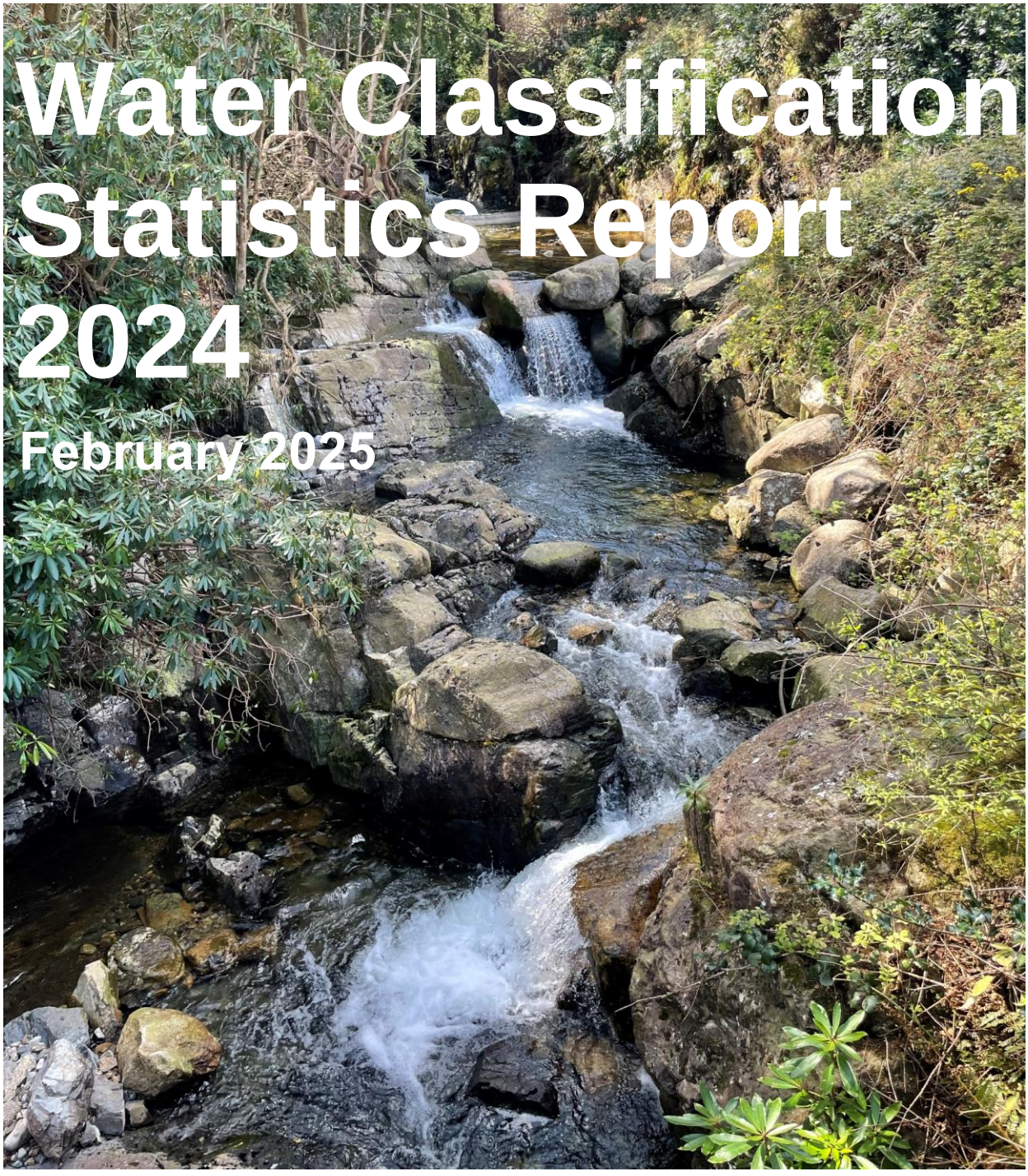
Water Classification Statistics Report 2024



February 2025

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An Agency within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Gníomhaireacht de chuid na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe

An Agency wi'in the Depairtment o Fairmin, Environment an' Kintra Matthers

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1. Key Points

1.1 River ecological status 2024

In 2024, 131 (29 %) of the 450 river water bodies were classified as good or high ecological status. This figure includes 2 river water bodies classified as high.

1.2 Lake ecological status 2024

In 2024, 5 (24 %) of the 21 lake water bodies were classified as good ecological status. No lake water bodies were classified as high ecological status.

1.3 Transitional & Coastal ecological status 2024

In 2024, 10 (40 %) water bodies achieved good ecological status. No transitional or coastal water body achieved high ecological status.

1.4 River chemical status 2024

In 2024, when excluding both uPBT (ubiquitous, persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic) substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a), 413 (92 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

When excluding uPBT substances, but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b), 383 (85 %) achieved good chemical status.

All 450 (100 %) rivers failed to achieve good chemical status when uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures are included (subgroup c).

1.5 Lake chemical status 2024

In 2024, all 21 (100 %) lakes achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a).

When excluding uPBT substances, but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b), 11 (52 %) lake water bodies achieved good chemical status.

All 21 (100 %) lakes failed to achieve good chemical status when uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures are included (subgroup c).

1.6 Transitional & Coastal chemical status 2024

In 2024, 8 (32 %) transitional & coastal water bodies achieved good chemical status and 17 (68 %) failed to achieve good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a).

When excluding uPBT substances, but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b), 2 (8 %) achieved good chemical status and 23 (92 %) failed to achieve good chemical status.

All 25 (100 %) transitional & coastal water bodies failed to achieve good chemical status when uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures are included (subgroup c).

2. Introduction

Water is of fundamental importance for life and our natural environment. Our water bodies provide us with drinking water and are critical for businesses, generating and sustaining wealth through activities such as agriculture, fishing, industry, services, transport & tourism. Our economy, our health and our enjoyment of the environment depend on the way we maintain our rivers, lakes, transitional (estuarine) waters, coastal waters and groundwater. The protection of our aquatic environment underpins our well-being and our livelihoods.

Within Northern Ireland, Integrated Catchment Management is implemented through a number of regulations, including:

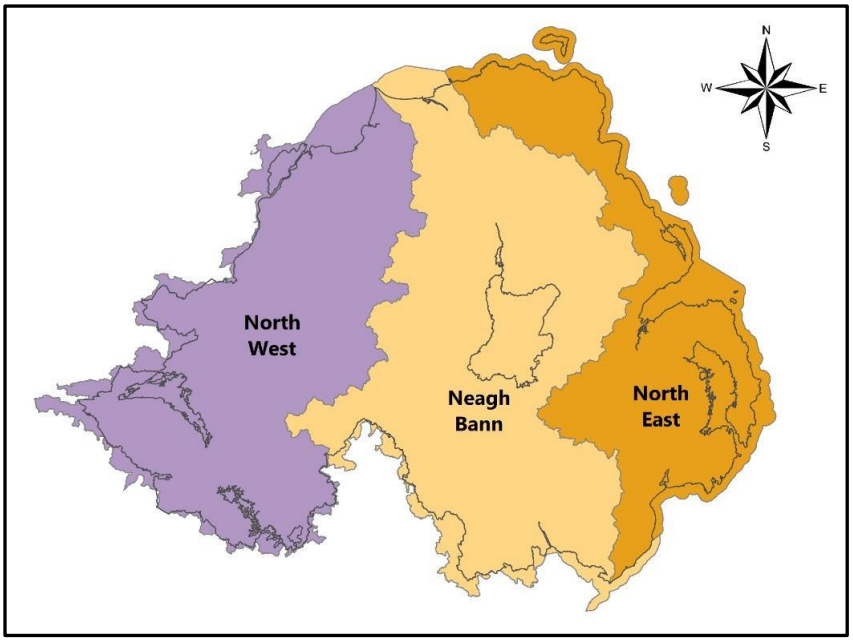
- the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017.
- the Water Framework Directive (Classification, Priority Substances and Shellfish Waters) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015
- Groundwater Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 and amendments

The Water (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 ensure that the Water Framework Directive (as transposed) and the supporting legislation continue to operate.

2.1 River Basin Management Plan

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) Regulations are implemented through a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP). Northern Ireland has three river basin districts: North West, Neagh Bann and North East (see Figure 1 below). North West and Neagh Bann are international river basin districts shared with the Republic of Ireland.

Figure 1 Northern Ireland's River Basin Districts



2.2 Northern Ireland Statistics - Water Environment

Each year DAERA release official statistics through the Northern Ireland Environmental Statistics Report. This report is a compendium of 7 key environmental themes and provides updates on associated indicator measures and monitoring programmes linked to government strategies. Water is one of the 7 key themes and is included each year. However, the water data included in this Water Classification Statistics report is not updated each year due to the timescales of the monitoring. This report is an update on the status of surface water body types: rivers, lakes and transitional & coastal. Due to a long lag time, groundwater body classifications are not updated mid-cycle. The 2021 groundwater body status, which is included the Norther Ireland Water Framework Statistics report 2021, remains current.

The water body status for this report is predominantly based on monitoring data for the six-year period between 2018 and 2023. However, for some trace elements older data are included due to rolling monitoring programmes.

2.3 Classification Units – Water Bodies

Water bodies are the basic management units for reporting and assessing compliance with the environmental objectives. There are 571 water bodies in Northern Ireland of these 496 are surface water bodies: including 450 rivers, 21 lakes, and 25 transitional & coastal water bodies (Marine); the remaining 75 are groundwater bodies.

The regulations require NIEA to classify water bodies' status and prevent that status from deterioration, while to protect, enhance and restore water bodies. The aim is to achieve good ecological and good chemical status for surface water bodies; and good chemical and good quantitative status for groundwater bodies. When assessing surface water status, we consider both ecological and chemical status.
The status of a water body is determined by the lowest test element and follows the one-out all-out rule.

2.4 The inclusion of uPBT substances in chemical status of surface water bodies

New priority substances, so-called 'forever' chemicals, were introduced for the first time in the chemical status in 2018. Although a number of these ubiquitous, persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic (uPBT) substances are now banned or have restricted use, their widespread use in the past has resulted in their accumulation in the aquatic environment with subsequent breaching of assigned Environmental Quality Standard (EQS) values. It is widely recognised that given their persistence the levels present in the aquatic environment will likely remain in breach of EQS values for some years to come. This finding is in common with European countries and indeed with countries across the globe where usage was widespread. In order to allow for a meaningful comparison with chemical status in 2018, for which the uPBT substances were not monitored, it is important that chemical classification be presented both including and excluding the uPBT substances.

The uPBT substances are monitored by analysing concentrations in both the water column and in biota. However, biota samples are only collected at selected surface water monitoring stations and not across the entire network. Due to their bioaccumulative and persistent nature, uPBT substances have been detected at all monitored stations and resulted in failures of all of those stations. Hence it is reasonable to presume that uPBT substances would cause more failures if additional stations were monitored. For this reason, the uPBT failures have been extrapolated to all surface water bodies across Northern Ireland. Due to their persistent nature, there are no measures that could be implemented to reduce their concentrations in the environment, apart from discontinuing their use.

The 2021 and 2024 chemical classification, include the results from monitoring a number of designated priority substances as well as cypermethrin, an insecticide used

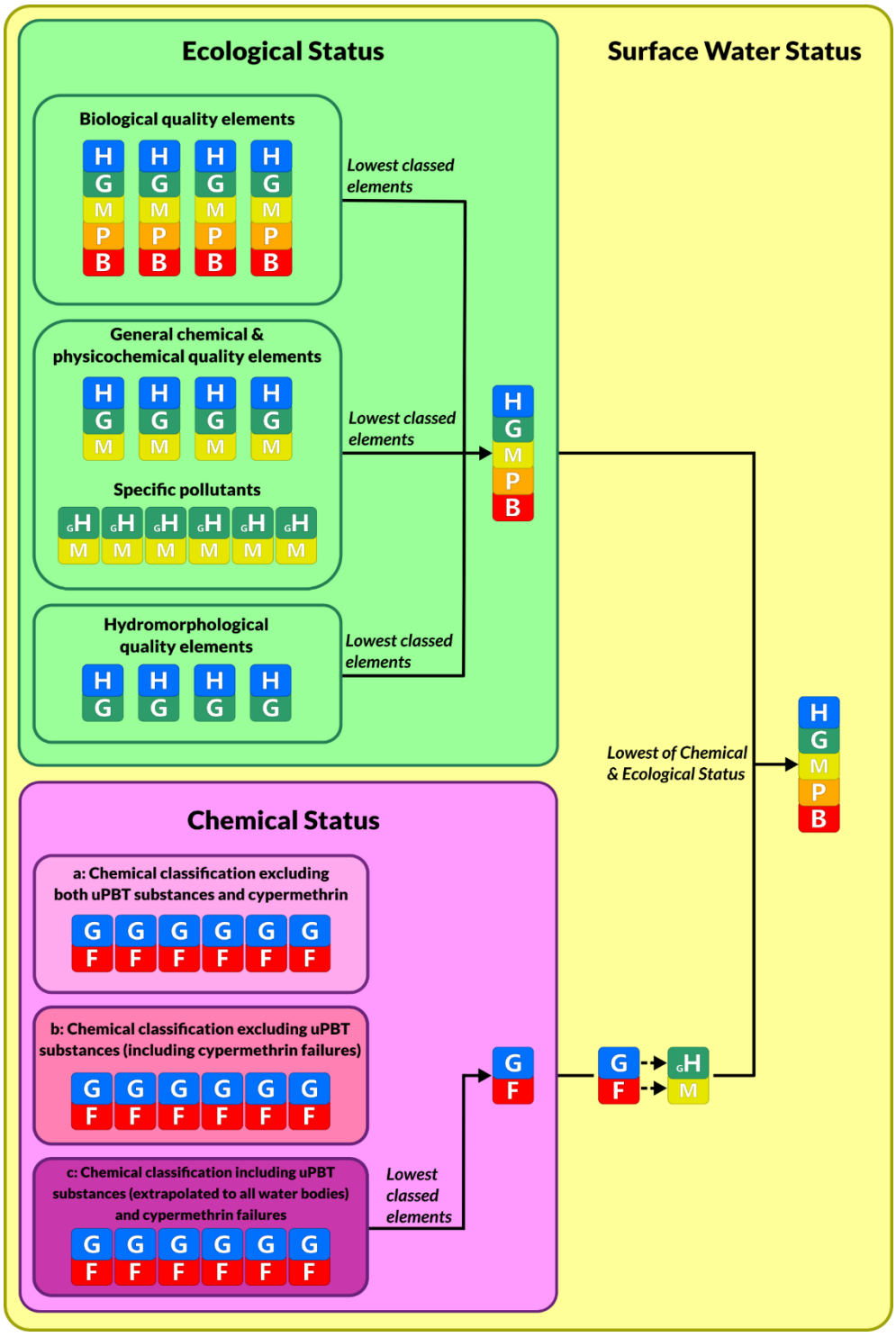
by a wide range of sectors. Therefore, status results are represented in three subgroups:

a) chemical classification excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin – this subgroup can be compared with the chemical classification results before 2018
b) chemical classification excluding uPBT substances, but including cypermethrin failures
c) chemical classification including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures

We have also presented the 2024 chemical status in the 3 subgroups highlighted above to provide comparison and transparency on the 2024 data.

Figure 2 below illustrates the 3 chemical subgroups which are shown separately throughout this report.

Figure 2 Representation of how the different quality elements are combined to classify ecological status and chemical status



In the past ecological status and chemical status were combined to produce one overall surface water status for ease of use. Since the inclusion of uPBT substances and the extrapolation of the related failures to all water bodies [chemical status subgroup (c)], no surface water body can achieve better than moderate overall surface

water status by default. This means overall surface water status does no longer provide detailed information at river basin district or water body level.
This report concentrates on ecological and chemical status of surface water bodies, but for completeness, overall status classification for all water bodies can be found in Annex I, II and III.

3. Northern Ireland's River Classification Status

The data in Figures 3a, 3b and 3c and Tables 3a, 3b and 3c refer to the ecological and chemical status of Northern Ireland's 450 river water bodies within the North East, Neagh Bann and North West River Basin Districts (RBDs).

3.1 River ecological status

The data in Figure 3a and Table 3a refers to the ecological status. In 2018, 141 (31 %) river water bodies were classified as good or high status. In 2021, 140 (31 %) achieved good or high ecological status. In 2024,131 rivers (29 %) achieved good or high ecological status.

The North East RBD has 89 river water bodies. In 2018, 17 (19 %) achieved good ecological status. In 2021, 20 (22 %) river water bodies achieved good status. In 2024, 15 (17 %) river water bodies achieved good ecological status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 199 river water bodies. In 2018, 56 (28 %) river water bodies achieved good or high ecological status. In 2021, 55 (28 %) river water bodies achieved good or high ecological status. In 2024, 44 (22 %) achieved good or high status.

The North West RBD has 162 river water bodies. In 2018, 68 (42 %) river water bodies achieved good or high ecological status. In 2021, 65 (40 %) river water bodies achieved good or high ecological status. In 2024, 72 (44 %) river water bodies achieved good or high ecological status.

Figure 3a River ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024

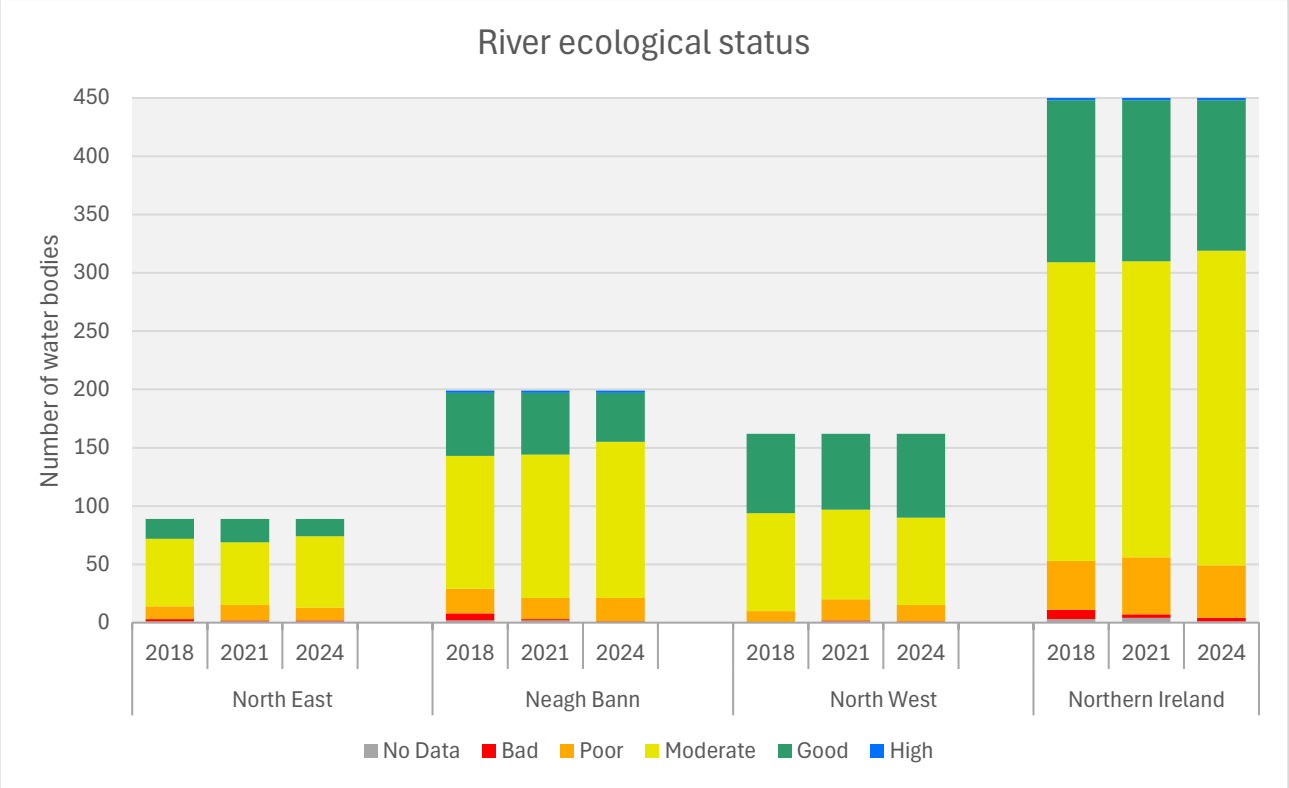


Table 3a River ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024

River ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	17	*19*	20	*22*	15	*17*
Moderate	58	*65*	54	*61*	61	*69*
Poor	11	*12*	13	*15*	11	*12*
Bad	2	*2*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	1	*1*	1	*1*	1	*1*
Neagh Bann						
High	2	*1*	2	*1*	2	*1*
Good	54	*27*	53	*27*	42	*21*
Moderate	114	*57*	123	*62*	134	*67*
Poor	21	*11*	18	*9*	20	*10*
Bad	6	*3*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	2	*1*	2	*1*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	68	*42*	65	*40*	72	*44*
Moderate	84	*52*	77	*48*	75	*46*
Poor	10	*6*	18	*11*	14	*9*
Bad	0	*0*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	0	*0*	1	*1*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	2	*0*	2	*0*	2	*0*
Good	139	*31*	138	*31*	129	*29*
Moderate	256	*57*	254	*56*	270	*60*
Poor	42	*9*	49	*11*	45	*10*
Bad	8	*2*	3	*1*	3	*1*
No Data	3	*1*	4	*1*	1	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

3.2 River chemical status subgroup (a) - excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin

The data in Figure 3b and Table 3b refers to the chemical status subgroup (a) which is the chemical status excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin. In 2018, 410 (91 %) river water bodies were classified as good chemical status. In 2021, 418 (93 %) achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 413 (92 %) achieved good chemical status.

The North East RBD has 89 river water bodies. In 2018, 84 (94 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2021, 85 (96 %) of river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 84 (94 %) achieved good chemical status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 199 river water bodies. In 2018, 178 (89 %) river water bodies achieved chemical good status. In 2021, 180 (90 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 179 (90 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North West RBD has 162 water bodies. In 2018, 148 (91 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2021, 153 (94 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 150 (93 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

Figure 3b River chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024

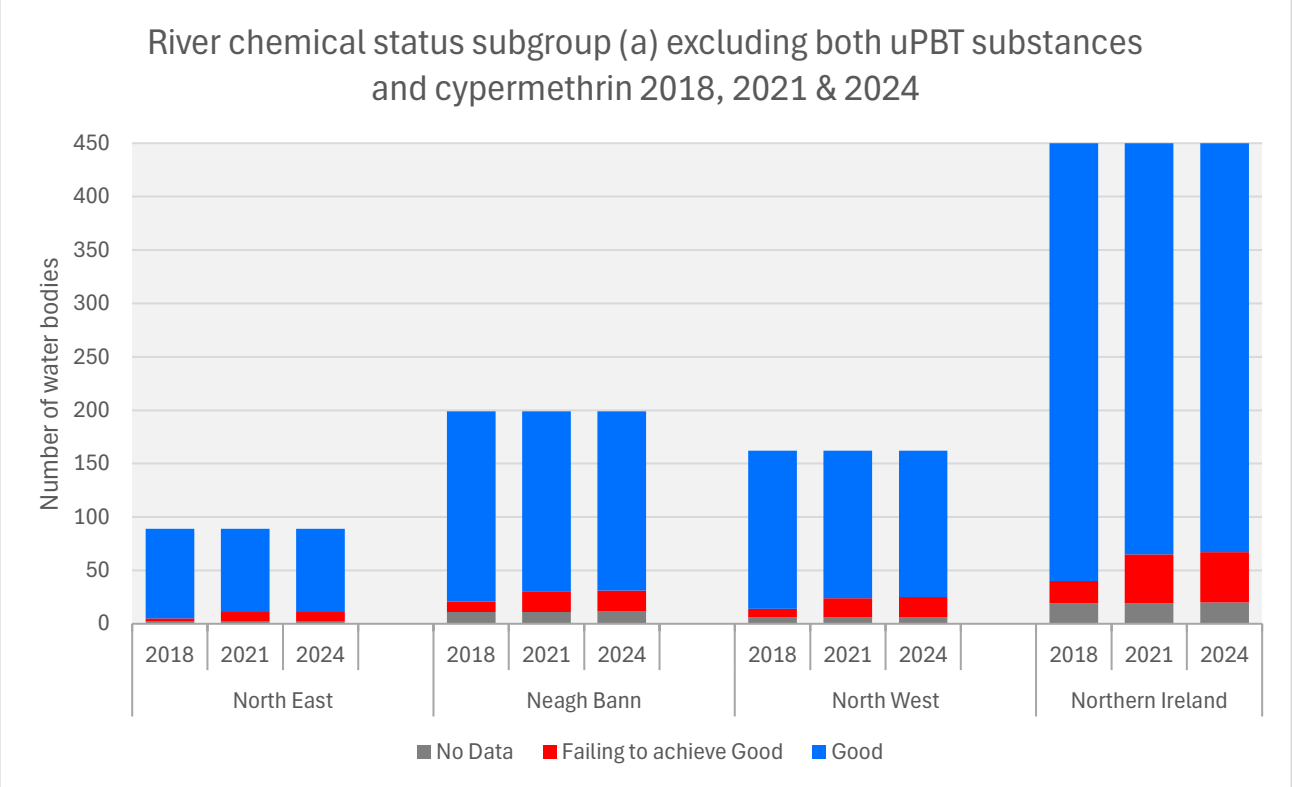


Table 3b River chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024

River chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	84	*94*	85	*96*	84	*94*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*3*	2	*2*	3	*3*
No Data	2	*2*	2	*2*	2	*2*
Neagh Bann						
Good	178	*89*	180	*90*	179	*90*
Failing to achieve Good	10	*5*	8	*4*	8	*4*
No Data	11	*6*	11	*6*	12	*6*
North West						
Good	148	*91*	153	*94*	150	*93*
Failing to achieve Good	8	*5*	3	*2*	6	*4*
No Data	6	*4*	6	*4*	6	*4*
Northern Ireland						
Good	410	*91*	418	*93*	413	*92*
Failing to achieve Good	21	*5*	13	*3*	17	*4*
No Data	19	*4*	19	*4*	20	*4*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

3.3 River chemical status subgroup (b) - excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin

The data in Figure 3c and Table 3c refers to the chemical status subgroup (b) which is the chemical status excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin.

In 2021, 385 (86 %) achieved good chemical status, whereas in 2024, 383 (85 %) achieved good chemical status.

The North East RBD has 89 river water bodies. In 2021 and 2024, 78 (88 %) of river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 199 river water bodies. In 2021, 169 (85 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 168 (84 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

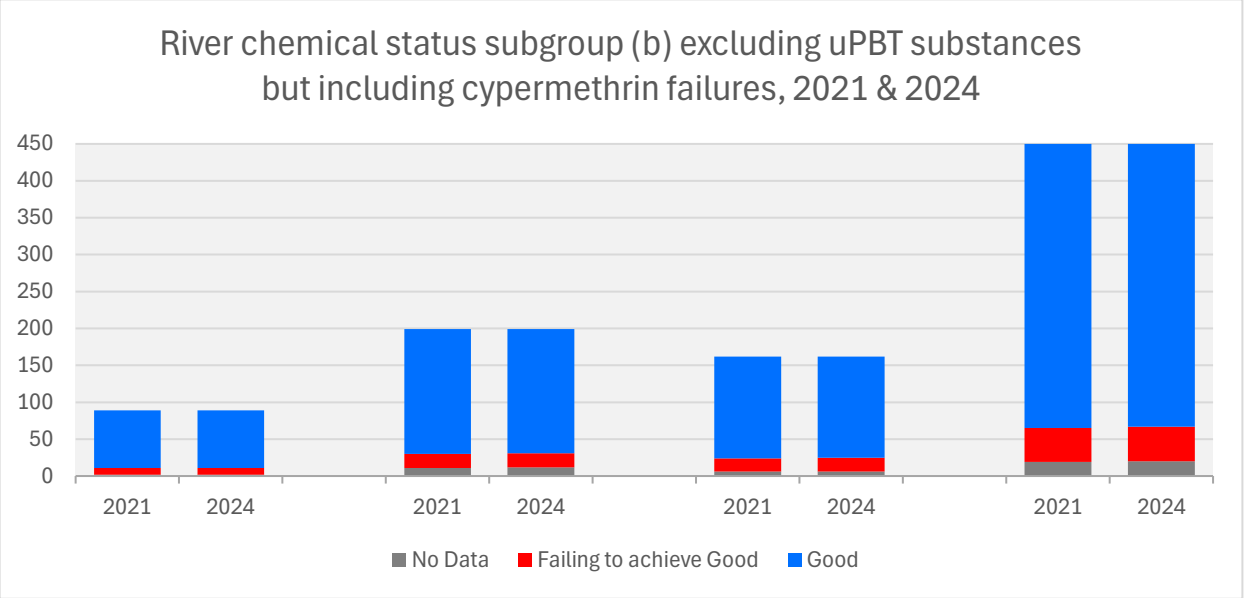
The North West RBD has 162 water bodies. In 2021, 138 (85 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 137 (85 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status.

Table 3c River chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin, 2021 & 2024

River chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin, 2021 & 2024				
	2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%
North East				
Good	78	*88*	78	*88*
Failing to achieve Good	9	*10*	9	*10*
No Data	2	*2*	2	*2*
Neagh Bann				
Good	169	*85*	168	*84*
Failing to achieve Good	19	*10*	19	*10*
No Data	11	*6*	12	*6*
North West				
Good	138	*85*	137	*85*
Failing to achieve Good	18	*11*	19	*12*
No Data	6	*4*	6	*4*
Northern Ireland				
Good	385	*86*	383	*85*
Failing to achieve Good	46	*10*	47	*10*
No Data	19	*4*	20	*4*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

Figure 3c River chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures, 2021 & 2024



3.4 River chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups

Figure 3d and Table 3d below show:

- chemical status subgroup (a) for 2024 excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin
- chemical status subgroup (b) for 2024 excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures
- chemical status subgroup (c) for 2024 including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures.

When excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a), in 2024, 413 (92 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status. When excluding uPBT substances, but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b), 383 (85 %) achieved good chemical status. All 450 (100 %) river water bodies failed by default to achieve good chemical status when uPBT substances failures were extrapolated to all water bodies and cypermethrin failures included (subgroup c).

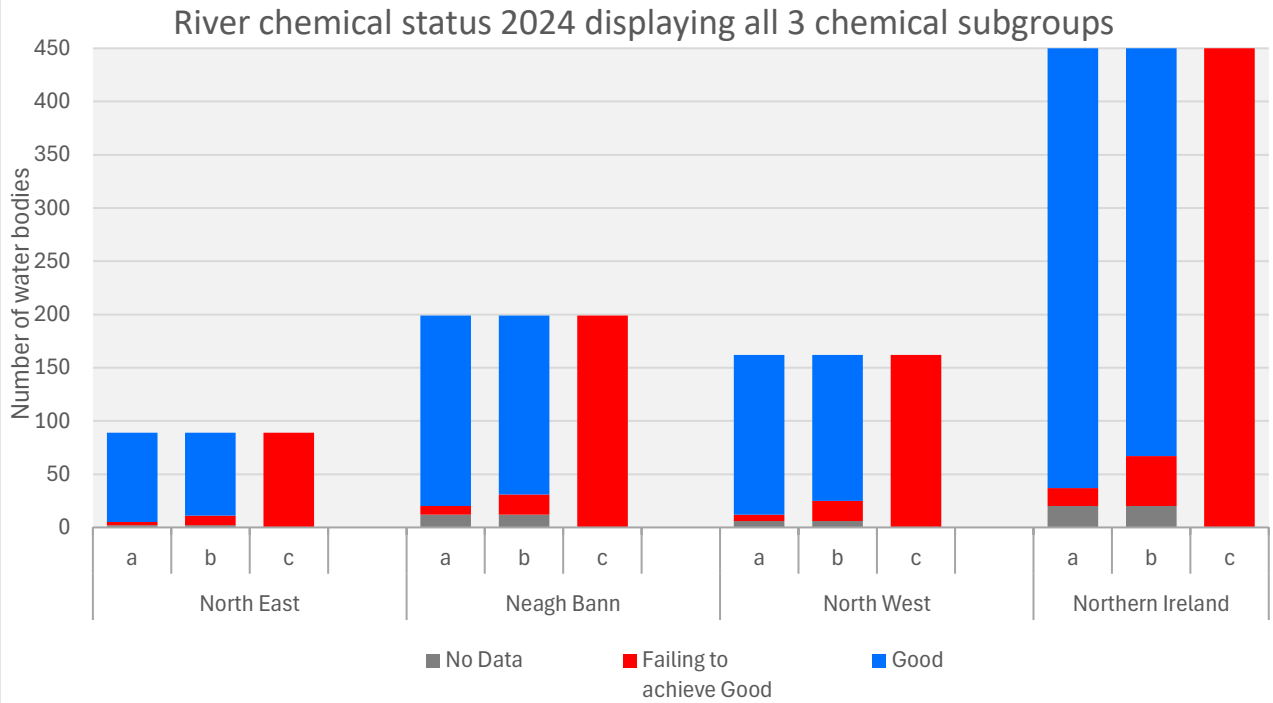
In the North East RBD, 84 (94 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). In subgroup b, 78 (88 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures. When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (failures extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures

(subgroup c), all 89 (100 %) river water bodies fail to achieve good chemical status by default.

In the Neagh Bann RBD, 179 (90 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). That fell to 168 (84 %) river water bodies achieving good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (failures extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures (subgroup c) all 199 (100 %) river water bodies fail to achieve good chemical status by default.

In the North West RBD, 150 (93 %) river water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). 137 (85 %) river water bodies achieved good when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures (subgroup c) all 162 (100 %) river water bodies failed to achieve good chemical status.

Figure 3d River chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups



a: Chemical classification excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin

b: Chemical classification excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures

c: Chemical classification including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures

Table 3d River chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups

River chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups						
	a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin		b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures		c) including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	84	*94*	78	*88*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*3*	9	*10*	89	*100*
No Data	2	*2*	2	*2*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
Good	179	*90*	168	*84*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	8	*4*	19	*10*	199	*100*
No Data	12	*6*	12	*6*	0	*0*
North West						
Good	150	*93*	137	*85*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*2*	19	*12*	162	*100*
No Data	6	*4*	6	*4*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
Good	413	*92*	383	*85*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	17	*4*	47	*10*	450	*100*
No Data	20	*4*	20	*4*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

4. Northern Ireland's Lake Classification Status

The data in Figures 4a, 4b, 4c and 4d and Tables 4a, 4b, 4c and 4d refer to the ecological and chemical status of the 21 lake water bodies (that is lakes with an area greater than 50 hectares) within the North East, Neagh Bann and North West River Basin Districts (RBD).

4.1 Lake ecological status

The data in Figure 4a and Table 4a refer to the ecological status for lake water bodies in 2018, 2021 and 2024. In 2018, 5 (24 %) of the 21 lake water bodies in Northern Ireland were classified as good ecological status. In 2021, 3 (14 %) lakes were classified as good ecological status. In 2024, 5 (24 %) of the 21 lake water bodies were classified as good for ecological status.

The North East RBD has 3 lake water bodies of which 1 (33 %) achieved good ecological status in 2018, 2021 and 2024.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 10 lake water bodies, 2 (20 %) achieved good ecological status in 2018, and 1 (10 %) in 2021. In 2024, 2 (20 %) water bodies achieved good ecological status.

The North West RBD has 8 lake water bodies, 2 (25 %) achieved good ecological status in 2018 and 1 (13 %) achieved good ecological status in 2021. In 2024, 2 (25 %) lakes achieved good ecological status.

Figure 4a Lake ecological status for 2018, 2021 & 2024

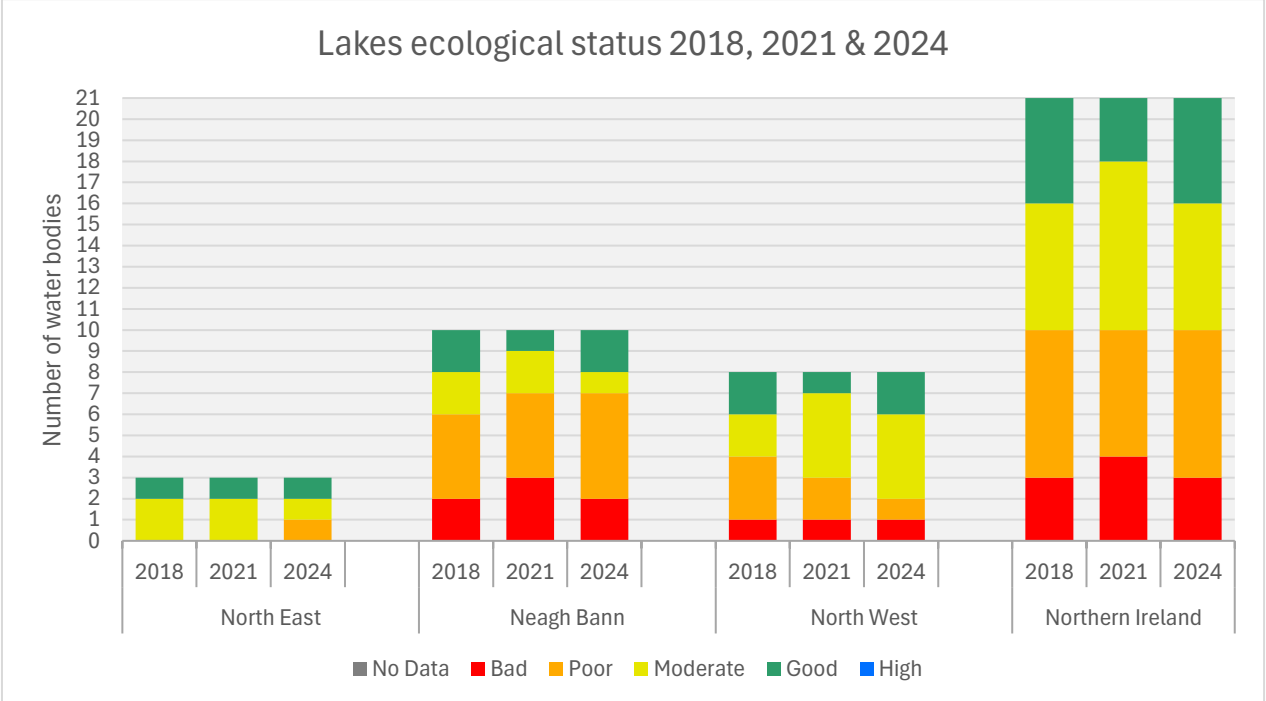


Table 4a Lake ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024

Lake ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	1	*33*	1	*33*	1	*33*
Moderate / MEP	2	*67*	2	*67*	1	*33*
Poor / PEP	0	*0*	0	*0*	1	*33*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	2	*20*	1	*10*	2	*20*
Moderate / MEP	2	*20*	2	*20*	1	*10*
Poor / PEP	4	*40*	4	*40*	5	*50*
Bad	2	*20*	3	*30*	2	*20*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	2	*25*	1	*13*	2	*25*
Moderate / MEP	2	*25*	4	*50*	4	*50*
Poor / PEP	3	*38*	2	*25*	1	*13*
Bad	1	*13*	1	*13*	1	*13*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	5	*24*	3	*14*	5	*24*
Moderate / MEP	6	*29*	8	*38*	6	*29*
Poor / PEP	7	*33*	6	*29*	7	*33*
Bad	3	*14*	4	*19*	3	*14*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding. GEP/ MEP/ PEP – Good/ Moderate/ Poor Ecological Potential.

4.2 Chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin

The data shown in Figure 4b and Table 4b refers to the lake chemical status subgroup (a) - chemical status excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin. The 2021 status update included uPBT substances and cypermethrin for the first time and hence this 2024 data is also presented without the new substances to allow comparison with 2018 and 2021 datasets.

In 2018, 2021 and 2024, all 21 (100 %) lake water bodies were classified as good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin in all 3 river basin districts.

Figure 4b Lake chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024

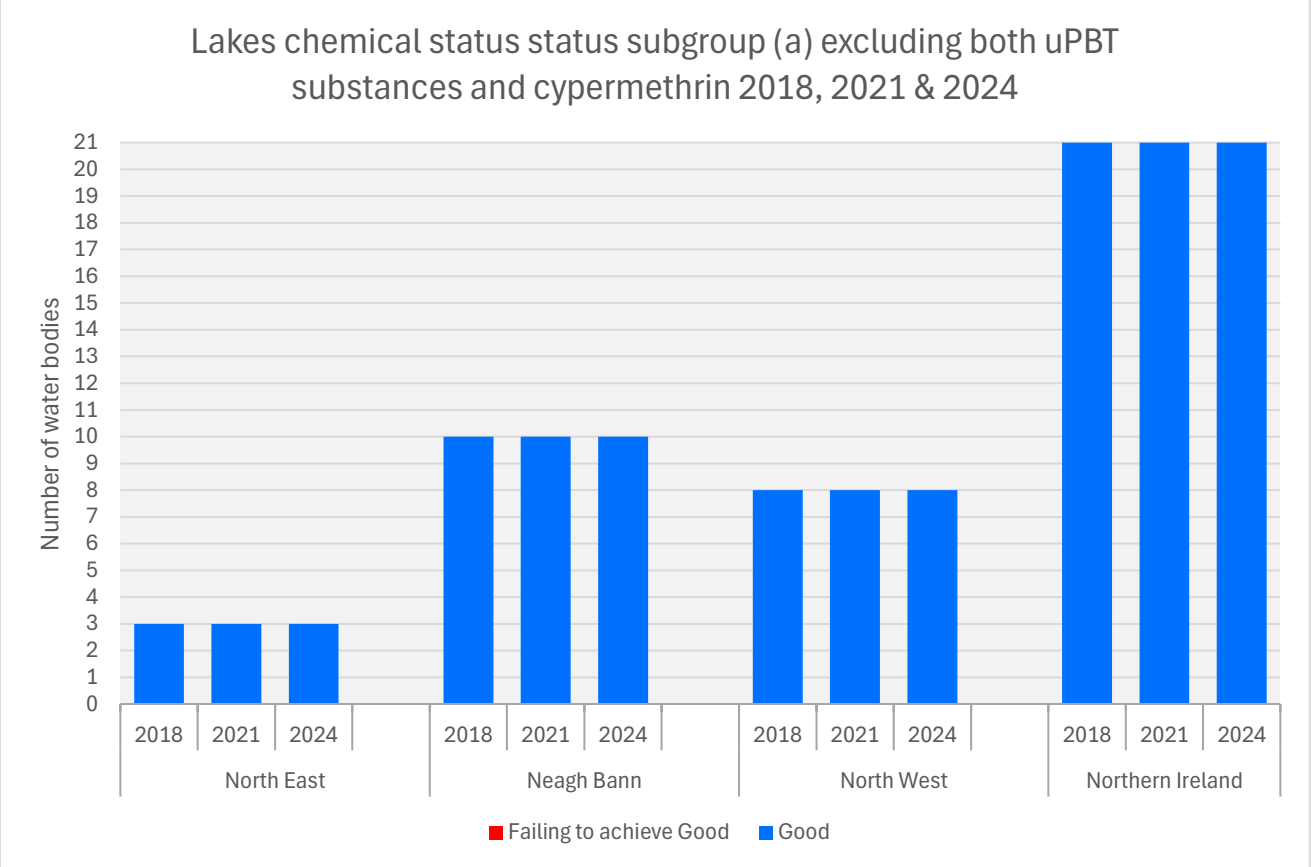


Table 4b Lake chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024

Lake chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	3	*100*	3	*100*	3	*100*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
Good	10	*100*	10	*100*	10	*100*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
Good	8	*100*	8	*100*	8	*100*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
Good	21	*100*	21	*100*	21	*100*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

4.3 Lake water body chemical status subgroup (b) - excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures

The data shown in Figure 4c and Table 4c show the chemical status excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b) in the 21 lake water bodies. In 2021 and 2024, 11 (52 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North East RBD has 3 lake water bodies. In 2021 and 2024, 1 (33 %) water body achieved good chemical status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 10 lake water bodies. In 2021 and 2024, 3 (30 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North West RBD has 8 lake water bodies. In 2021 and 2024, 7 (88 %) lake water bodies achieved good chemical status.

Figure 4c Lake chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures, 2021 & 2024

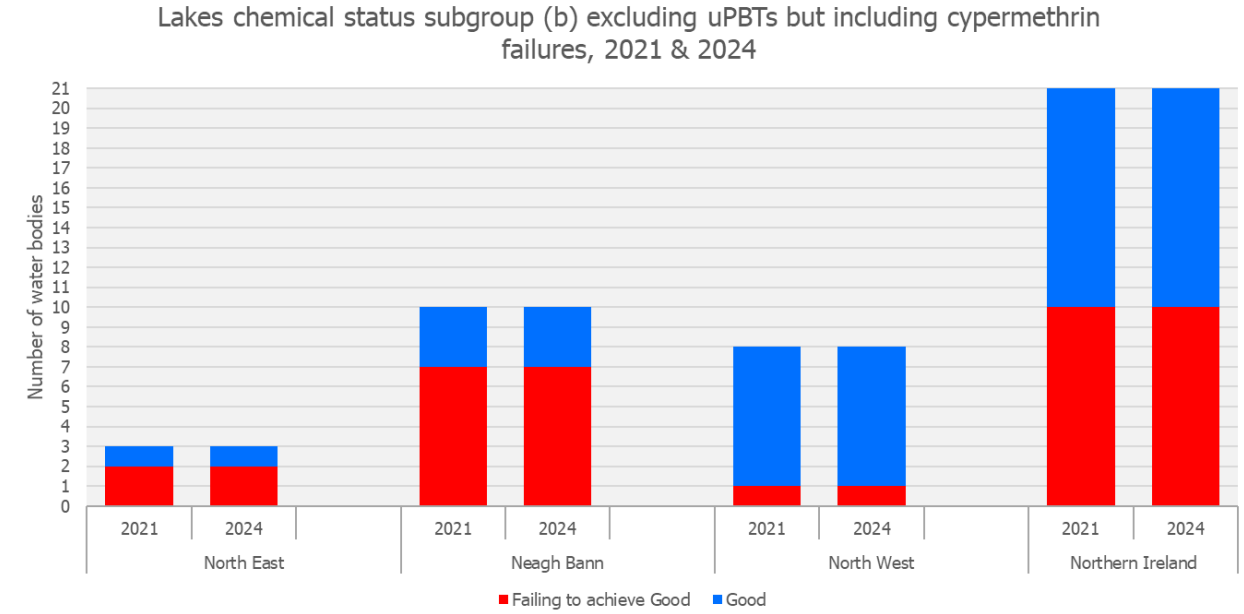


Table 4c Lake chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin, 2021 & 2024

Lake chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin, 2021 & 2024				
	2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%
North East				
Good	1	*33*	1	*33*
Failing to achieve Good	2	*67*	2	*67*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann				
Good	3	*30*	3	*30*
Failing to achieve Good	7	*70*	7	*70*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West				
Good	7	*88*	7	*88*
Failing to achieve Good	1	*13*	1	*13*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland				
Good	11	*52*	11	*52*
Failing to achieve Good	10	*48*	10	*48*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

4.4 Lake chemical status 2024 showing all 3 subgroups

Figure 4d and Table 4d below show chemical status for 2024 for all 3 subgroups: (a) chemical status excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (b) chemical status excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures and (c) the chemical status including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures.

For 2024, all 21 (100 %) lakes achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). Eleven (52 %) lake water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). All 21 (100 %) lakes failed to achieve good chemical

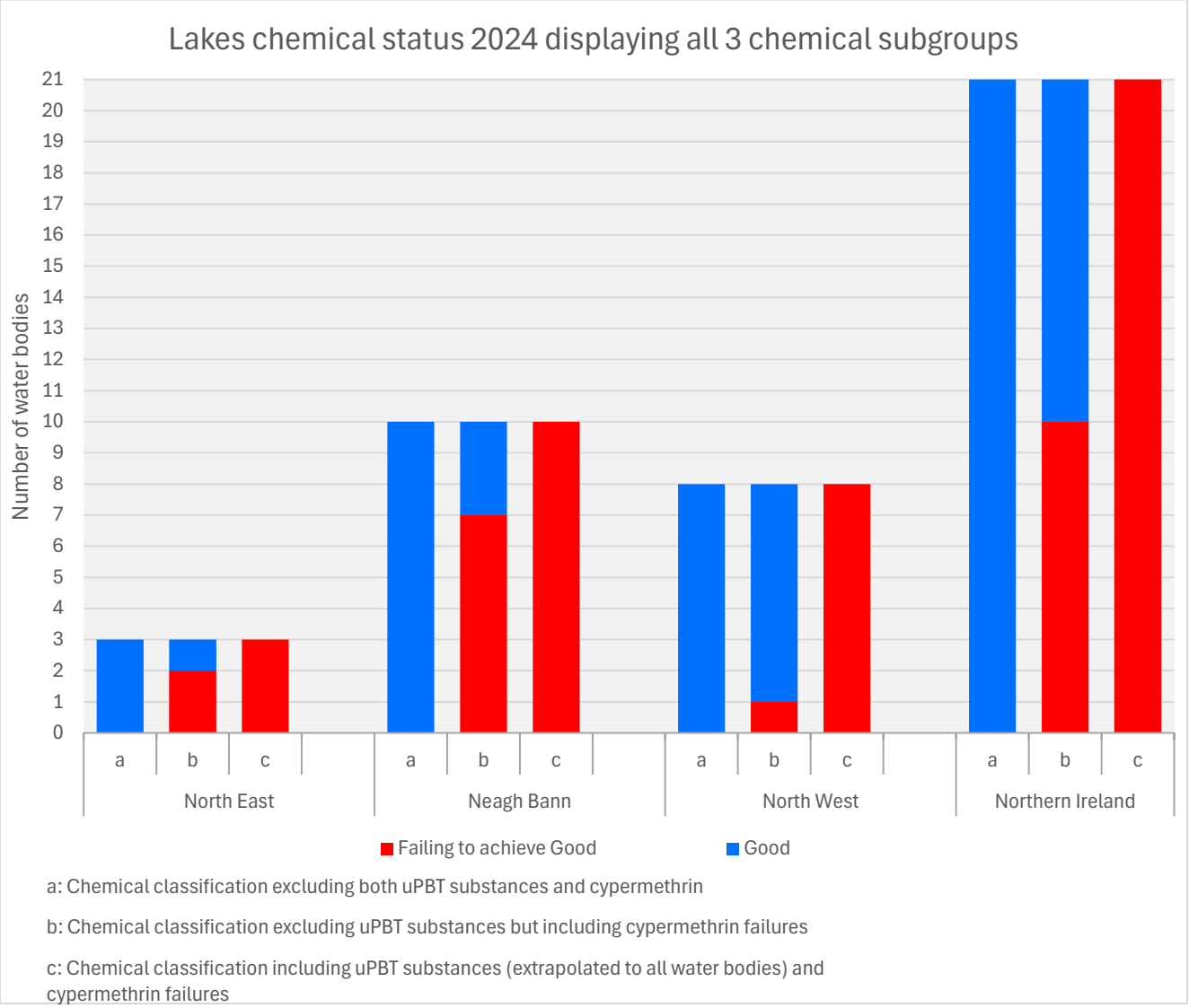
status when uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures are included (subgroup c).

In the North East RBD, 3 (100 %) lakes achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). One (33 %) lake water body achieved good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures (subgroup c), all 3 (100 %) lakes failed to achieve good chemical status.

In the Neagh Bann RBD, 10 (100 %) lakes achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). Three (30 %) lake water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures (subgroup c), all 10 (100 %) lakes failed to achieve good chemical status.

In the North West RBD, 8 (100 %) lakes achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). Seven (88 %) lake water bodies achieved good when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). When the chemical status includes uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures (subgroup c), all 8 (100 %) lake water bodies failed to achieve good chemical status.

Figure 4d Lake chemical status for 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups



a: Chemical classification excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin

b: Chemical classification excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures

c: Chemical classification including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures

Table 4d Lake chemical status for 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups

Lake chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 chemical subgroups						
	a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin		b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures		c) including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	3	*100*	1	*33*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	2	*67*	3	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
Good	10	*100*	3	*30*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	7	*70*	10	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
Good	8	*100*	7	*88*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	1	*13*	8	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
Good	21	*100*	11	*52*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	10	*48*	21	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

5. Northern Ireland's Transitional & Coastal Water Body Classification Status

The data in Figures 5a, 5b, 5c, and 5d and Tables 5a, 5b, 5c, and 5d refer to the ecological and chemical status of the 25 transitional & coastal water bodies within the North East, Neagh Bann and North West River Basin Districts (RBDs).

5.1 Transitional & coastal water body ecological status

The data in Figure 5a and Table 5a refers to the ecological status of Northern Ireland's 25 transitional & coastal water bodies. In 2018, 2021 and 2024, 10 (40 %) achieved good ecological status.

The North East RBD has 17 transitional & coastal water bodies, 7 (41 %) water bodies achieved good ecological status in 2018. In 2021 and 2024, 8 (47 %) achieved good ecological status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 5 transitional & coastal water bodies. In 2018, 2021 and 2024, 2 (40 %) achieved good ecological status.

The North West RBD has 3 transitional & coastal water bodies. In 2018, 1 (33 %) achieved good ecological status. In 2021 and 2024, no water bodies achieved good ecological status.

Figure 5a Transitional & coastal water body ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024

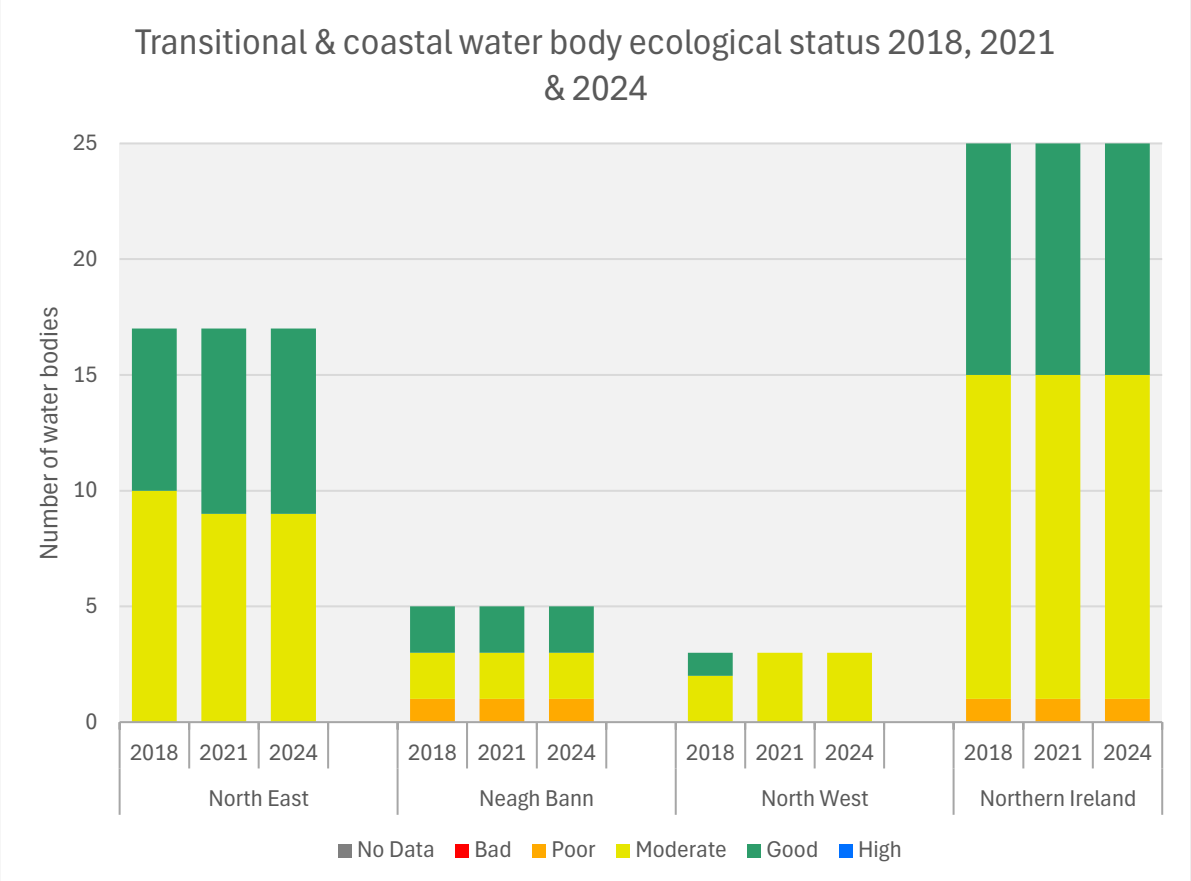


Table 5a Transitional & coastal water body ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024

Transitional & coastal water body ecological status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	7	*41*	8	*47*	8	*47*
Moderate / MEP	10	*59*	9	*53*	9	*53*
Poor / PEP	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	2	*40*	2	*40*	2	*40*
Moderate / MEP	2	*40*	2	*40*	2	*40*
Poor / PEP	1	*20*	1	*20*	1	*20*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	1	*33*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate / MEP	2	*67*	3	*100*	3	*100*
Poor / PEP	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good / GEP	10	*40*	10	*40*	10	*40*
Moderate / MEP	14	*56*	14	*56*	14	*56*
Poor / PEP	1	*4*	1	*4*	1	*4*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

5.2 Transitional & coastal water body chemical status subgroup (a) - excluding uPBT substances and cypermethrin

The data shown in Figure 5b and Table 5b show the chemical status excluding uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a) in the 25 transitional & coastal water bodies. In 2018, 11 (44 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2021, 22 (88 %) achieved good status. In 2024, 8 (32 %) achieved good chemical status.

The North East RBD has 17 water bodies. In 2018, 7 (41 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2021, 15 (88 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 6 (35 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The Neagh Bann RBD has 5 water bodies. In 2018, 2 (40 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2021, all 5 (100 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 2 (40 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North West RBD has 3 water bodies. In 2018 and 2021, 2 (67 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, none of the 3 water bodies achieved good chemical status.

Figure 5b Transitional & coastal water body chemical status subgroup (a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024

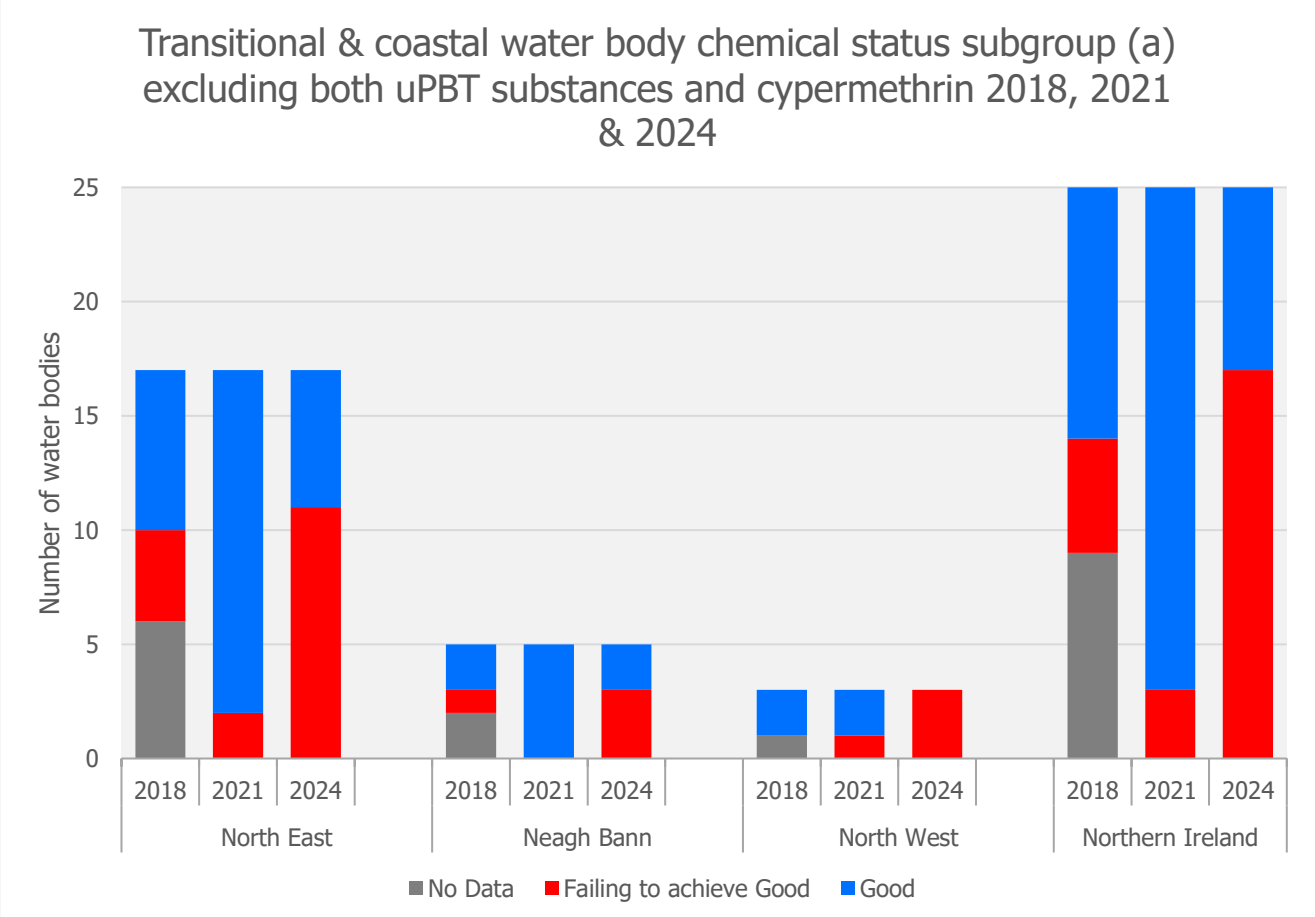


Table 5b Transitional & coastal water body chemical status excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a), 2018 2021 & 2024

Transitional & coastal water body chemical status excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	7	*41*	15	*88*	6	*35*
Failing to achieve Good	4	*26*	2	*12*	11	*65*
No Data	6	*35*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
Good	2	*40*	5	*100*	2	*40*
Failing to achieve Good	1	*20*	0	*0*	3	*60*
No Data	2	*40*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
Good	2	*67*	2	*67*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	0	*0*	1	*33*	3	*100*
No Data	1	*33*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
Good	11	*44*	22	*88*	8	*32*
Failing to achieve Good	5	*20*	3	*12*	17	*68*
No Data	9	*36*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

5.3 Transitional & coastal water body chemical status subgroup (b) - excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures

The data shown in Figure 5c and Table 5c show the chemical status excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin (subgroup b) in the 25 transitional & coastal water bodies. In 2021, 8 (32 %) achieved good chemical status. In 2024, 2 (8 %) of the water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North East RBD has 17 water bodies. In 2021, 6 (35 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status; in 2024, 2 (12 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status

The Neagh Bann RBD has 5 water bodies. In 2021, 2 (40 %) water bodies achieved good chemical status. In 2024, none of the 5 water bodies achieved good chemical status.

The North West RBD has 3 water bodies. In 2021 and 2024 none of the 3 water bodies achieved good chemical status.

Figure 5c Transitional and coastal water bodies chemical status subgroup (b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures, 2021 & 2024

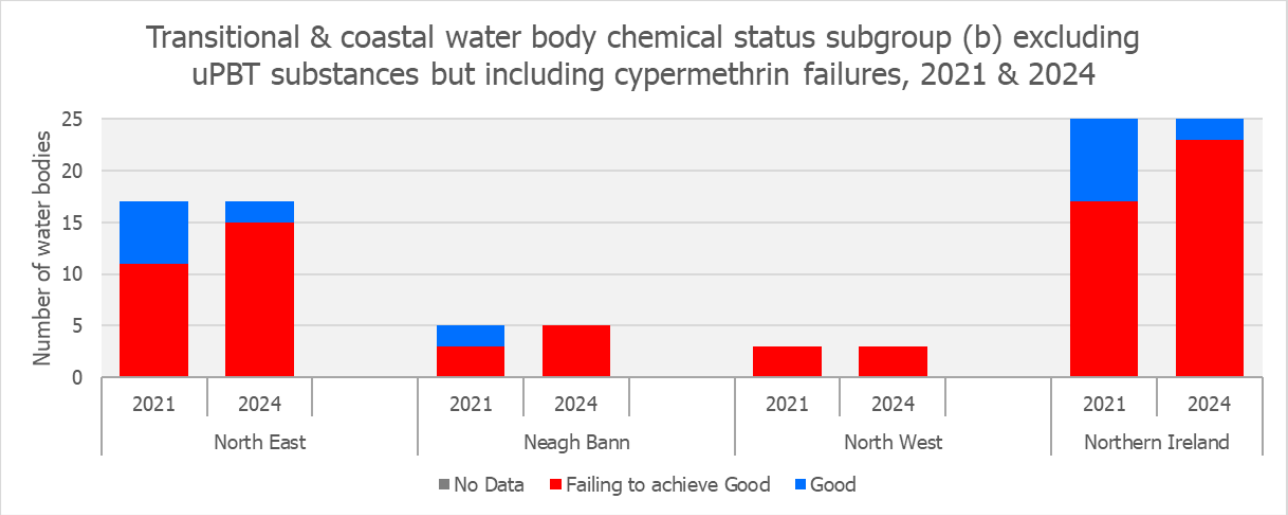


Table 5c Transitional & coastal water body chemical status (subgroup b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin 2021 & 2024

Transitional & coastal water body chemical status excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures, 2021 & 2024				
	2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%
North East				
Good	6	*35*	2	*12*
Failing to achieve Good	11	*65*	15	*88*
Neagh Bann				
Good	2	*40*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*60*	5	*100*
North West				
Good	0	*0*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*100*	3	*100*
Northern Ireland				
Good	8	*32*	2	*8*
Failing to achieve Good	17	*68*	23	*92*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

5.4 Chemical status for transitional & coastal water bodies 2024 showing all 3 subgroups

Figure 5d and Table 5d below show all 3 subgroups: (a) chemical status for 2024 excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (b) chemical status for 2024 excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures and (c) the chemical status including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures.

In 2024, 8 (32 %) transitional & coastal water bodies achieved good chemical status when excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin (subgroup a). Two (8 %) achieved good chemical status and 23 (92 %) failed to achieve good chemical status when excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures (subgroup b). All 25 (100 %) transitional & coastal water bodies failed to achieve good status when uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures are included (subgroup c).

Figure 5d Transitional and coastal water bodies chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 subgroups

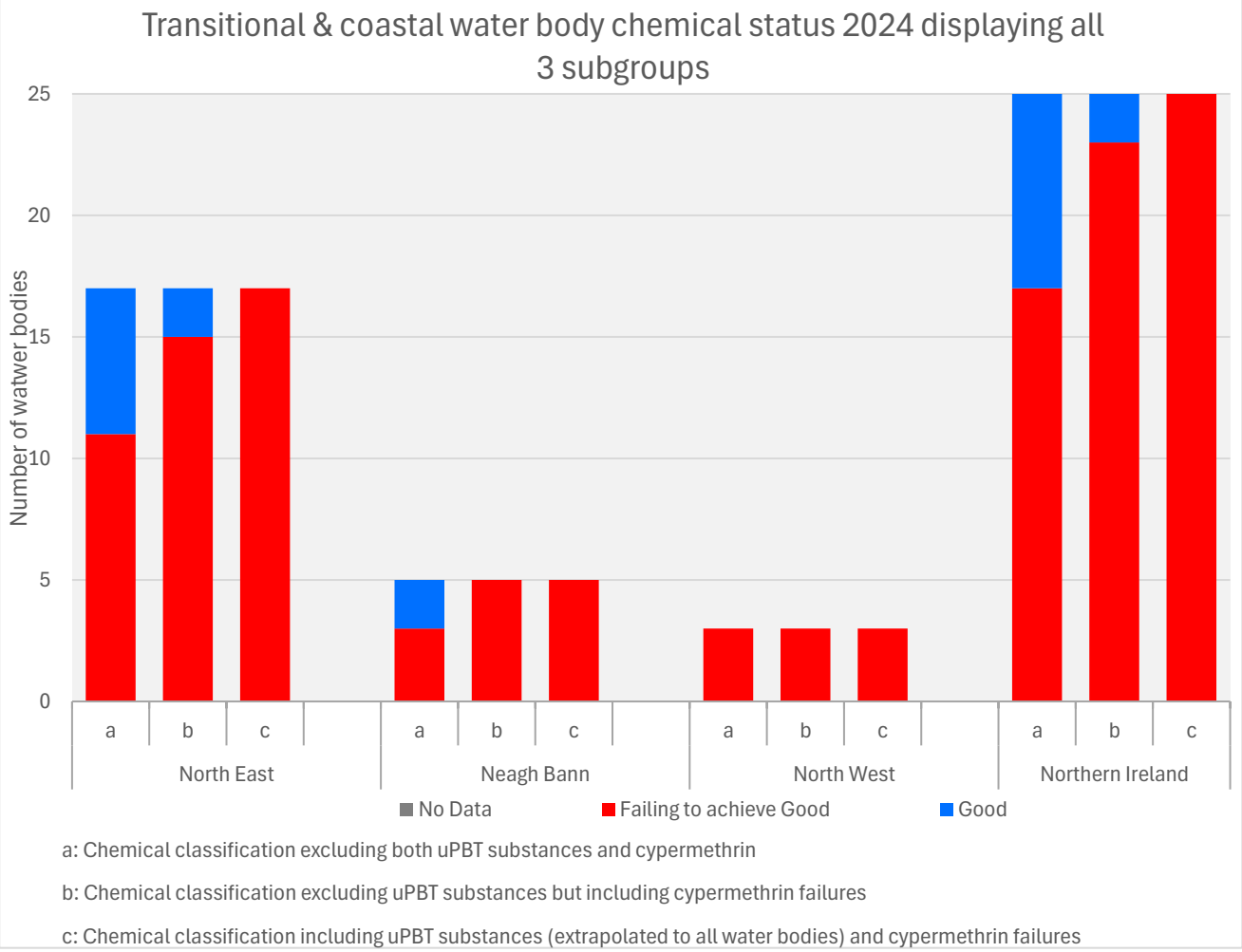


Table 5d Transitional & coastal water body chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 subgroups

Transitional & coastal water body chemical status 2024 displaying all 3 subgroups						
	a) excluding both uPBT substances and cypermethrin		b) excluding uPBT substances but including cypermethrin failures		c) including uPBT substances (extrapolated to all water bodies) and cypermethrin failures	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
Good	6	*35*	2	*12*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	11	*65*	15	*88*	17	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
Good	2	*40*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*60*	5	*100*	5	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
Good	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	3	*100*	3	*100*	3	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
Good	8	*32*	2	*8*	0	*0*
Failing to achieve Good	17	*68*	23	*92*	25	*100*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

An Official Statistics Publication

These official statistics are produced in compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics. These statistics are released according to the Statement of Compliance with the Pre-release access to Official Statistics Order (NI) 2009. Official Statistics are produced to a high professional standard. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR).

Annex I - Overall river water body status 2018, 2021 & 2024

Overall river water body status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	17	*19*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	58	*65*	76	*85*	77	*86*
Poor	11	*12*	12	*13*	11	*12*
Bad	2	*2*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	1	*1*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
High	2	*1*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	54	*27*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	114	*57*	180	*90*	178	*89*
Poor	21	*11*	18	*9*	20	*10*
Bad	6	*3*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	2	*1*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	68	*42*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	84	*52*	143	*88*	147	*90*
Poor	10	*6*	18	*11*	14	*9*
Bad	0	*0*	1	*1*	1	*1*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	2	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	139	*31*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	256	*57*	398	*88*	402	*89*
Poor	42	*9*	49	*11*	45	*10*
Bad	8	*1*	3	*1*	3	*1*
No Data	3	*1*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

Annex II - Overall lake status 2018, 2021 & 2024

Overall lake status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	1	*33*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	2	*67*	3	*100*	2	*67*
Poor	0	*0*	0	*0*	1	*33*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	2	*20*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	2	*20*	3	*30*	3	*30*
Poor	4	*40*	4	*40*	5	*50*
Bad	2	*20*	3	*30*	2	*20*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	2	*25*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	2	*25*	5	*63*	6	*75*
Poor	3	*38*	2	*25*	1	*13*
Bad	1	*13*	1	*13*	1	*13*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	5	*24*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	6	*29*	11	*52*	11	*52*
Poor	7	*33*	6	*29*	7	*33*
Bad	3	*14*	4	*19*	3	*14*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

Annex III - Overall transitional & coastal water body status 2018, 2021 & 2024

Overall transitional & coastal water body status 2018, 2021 & 2024						
	2018		2021		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
North East						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	7	*41*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	10	*59*	17	*100*	17	*100*
Poor	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Neagh Bann						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	2	*40*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	2	*40*	4	*80*	4	*80*
Poor	1	*20*	1	*20*	1	*20*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
North West						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	1	*33*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	2	*67*	3	*100*	3	*100*
Poor	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Northern Ireland						
High	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Good	10	*40*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Moderate	14	*56*	24	*96*	24	*96*
Poor	1	*4*	1	*4*	1	*4*
Bad	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*
No Data	0	*0*	0	*0*	0	*0*

Note: Totals may not sum to 100 % due to rounding

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Gníomhaireacht Comhshaoil Thuaisceart Éireann
Norlin Airlan Environment Agency
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

For further information:

Integrated Catchment Planning
NIEA Lisburn
17 Antrim Road
Lisburn, Co. Antrim
BT19 7EY

Email: catchmentplanning@daera-ni.gov.uk
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

An Agency within the Department of
Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

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