Table 4.14 Dumping of sewage sludge, industrial waste and dredgings at sea [1] : 1985-1999

United Kingdom — Tonnes, unless otherwise stated

		1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sewage sludge:	[2]											
Total amount dumped (thousand wet tonnes)		9,216	9,335	9,735	9,985	9,923	9,657	9,731	9,910	9,655	6,825	0
Total amount dumped (thousand dry tonnes)		262	274	287	292	274	289	296	277	258	193	0
Zinc		353	288	325	323	260	270	293	285	270	172	0
Lead		182	129	125	114	95	99	103	91	76	76	0
Copper		162	147	165	163	141	156	152	130	121	79	0
Chromium		102	104	104	93	69	77	75	71	57	35	0
Nickel		25.2	20.7	20.0	19.5	18.2	17.0	17.7	15.0	12.5	12	0
Cadmium		3.83	2.06	2.15	1.95	1.31	1.10	1.09	0.85	0.70	0.47	0
Mercury		1.37	1.07	1.06	0.97	0.75	0.83	0.66	0.59	0.51	0.37	0
Solid industrial waste:	[3]											
Total amount dumped (thousand wet tonnes)		3,550	4,652	4,230	3,418	2,206	164	188	0	0	0	0
Total amount dumped (thousand dry tonnes)		1,567	3,602	3,326	2,554	1,572	157	169	0	0	0	0
Zinc		389	435	408	314	241	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Lead		191	212	200	154	117	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Copper		152	176	166	128	98	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Chromium		12.9	21.0	19.5	15.7	12.1	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Nickel		51	64	60	46	36	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Cadmium		0.129	0.158	0.148	0.115	0.088	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Mercury		0.129	0.235	0.218	0.176	0.136	. .	. .	0	0	0	0
Dredged material:												
Total amount dumped (thousand wet tonnes)		41,622	36,155	41,746	28,976	28,487	39,132	40,248	51,251	41,241	35,724	56,821
Total amount dumped (thousand dry tonnes)		20,600	16,259	22,411	14,596	16,173	22,275	20,316	27,235	22,333	17,359	32,828
Zinc		6,533	3,939	3,391	2,527	2,396	3,777	3,518	4,149	3,100	3084	4223
Lead		2,909	1,537	1,286	990	969	1,558	1,535	1,814	1,312	1218	1459
Copper		1,455	900	792	597	591	860	746	835	624	689	1141
Chromium		1,580	1,093	1,201	923	852	1,427	1,455	1,613	1,230	1278	1997
Nickel		1,131	518	523	332	401	703	616	701	497	553	953
Cadmium		29.81	13.16	7.91	7.22	9.96	10.44	7.19	9.25	6.93	8.24	13.9
Mercury		19.02	7.6	7.54	6.05	6.75	6.70	8.69	7.61	6.16	5.63	7.4
Fish waste:	[4]											
Total amount dumped (wet tonnes)									16	798	194	1,093
Total amount dumped (dry tonnes)									16	788	166	1,066

Source: Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science

[1] All UK waters.

[2] Sewage sludge dumping ceased at the end of 1998.

[3] Solid industrial waste covers mainly colliery waste, i.e. minestone and tailings. It also includes some small amounts of dumping of explosives and of sediment processed in recovering coal. The dumping of colliery waste ceased in 1995. The figures exclude flyash dumping which ceased at the end of 1992.

[4] No contaminants determined.

Source publication: Digest of Environmental Statistics, Published March 2002
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/des/index.htm