Table 4.6 - Quality of estuaries : 1980-2000

England and Wales

	1980		1985		1990		1995		2000	
Class	km	%	km	%	km	%	km	%	km	%
Good	1,870	*68*	1,863	*68*	1,805	*66*	1,824	*66*	1,997	*72*
Fair	620	*23*	637	*23*	655	*24*	738	*27*	663	*24*
Poor	140	*5*	132	*5*	178	*7*	108	*4*	67	*2*
Bad	110	*4*	89	*3*	85	*3*	115	*4*	48	*2*
All classes [1]	2,740	*100*	2,722	*100*	2,722	*100*	2,785	*100*	2,775	*100*

Scotland

	1990		1995 (a^2)	
Class	sq km	%	sq km	%
Good	640	*78*	663	*82*
Fair	150	*18*	130	*16*
Poor	30	*4*	16	*2*
Bad	-	-	-	-
All classes	820	*100*	809	*100*

	1995 (b^2)		1996 (b^2)		1997 (b^2)		1998 (b^2)		1999 (b^2)		2000 (b^2)	
Class	sq km	%	sq km	%	sq km	%	sq km	%	sq km	%	sq km	%
Excellent	619	*77*	631	*78*	629	*78*	624	*77*	633	*78*	637	*79*
Good	153	*19*	147	*18*	150	*19*	155	*19*	144	*18*	133	*16*
Fair/Poor	28	*3*	30	*4*	30	*4*	30	*4*	32	*4*	38	*5*
Seriously Polluted	9	*1*	2	*0*	1	*0*	1	*0*	1	*0*	1	*0*
All classes	809	*100*	810	*100*	810	*100*	810	*100*	810	*100*	810	*100*

Northern Ireland

	1985		1993	
Class	km	%	km	%
Good	100	*83*	140	*88*
Fair	-	-	-	-
Poor	20	*17*	20	*12*
Bad	-	-	-	-
All classes [3]	120	*100*	160	*100*

Source: Environment Agency; SEPA; DoE(NI)

[1] Total estuarial length changed in 1995 as a result of re-classification and revised measurements.

[2] In 1995 Scotland changed to a new classification system. For comparison purposes, the results based on the old system are shown at (a), and the results based on the new system are shown at (b).

[3] The increase in estuarial length in Northern Ireland in 1993 is due to the inclusion of the sea loughs from and including 1991.

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