



Percentage of major rivers and streams rated as bad/very bad

Year	1986	1991	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
%	58.30	58.30	41.70	41.70	33.30	33.33	25	33.33	33.33	25	33.33	33.33	33.33	16.67

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
%	16.67	16.67	16.67	16.67	16.67	8.33	16.67	16.67	16.67	16.67	16.67

Operational Definitions

The percentage of major rivers and streams that are classified as bad or very bad. The rivers and streams referred to include: Ho Chung River, Kam Tin River, Lam Tsuen River, Mui Wo River, River Beas, River Ganges, River Indus, Sam Dip Tam Stream, Shing Mun River, Tai Po River, Tuen Mun River and Yuen Long Creek. The quality of these rivers are measured by the Water Quality Index compiled by the Environmental Protection Department. Water Quality Index refers to annual average index of the stream sampled at a specific location based on measurements of dissolved oxygen, 5-day biochemical oxygen demand and ammoniacal nitrogen. Rivers with water quality indices of 3.0-4.5 are classified as of excellent quality, 4.6-7.5 as good, 7.6-10.5 as fair, 10.6-13.5 as bad and 13.6-15.0 as very bad.

Footnote

All figures are collected from Census and Statistics Department since 1986.

Figure for 1988 is used as a proxy for 1986. Figures for years before 1998 are not available.