

Metadata for: Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN)

This table provides essential information about the program data.

Title	Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network
Alternative Title	PWQMN
Description	The Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) measures water quality in rivers and streams across Ontario. Over 400 locations are currently monitored in partnership primarily with Ontario's Conservation Authorities and the Severn Sound Environmental Association. Partners collect water samples on an approximately monthly basis and deliver them to the Ministry's laboratory where they are analyzed for a suite of water quality indicators. The program has been operating since 1964 providing a valuable database for tracking changes in water quality over time. More recently, special studies have been implemented in agricultural and urban watersheds to collect additional information in support of source protection planning and nutrient, road salts and pesticides management.
Status	Ongoing
Frequency of Updates	Yearly
Contact	Name: Georgina Kaltenecker Email: pwqmn@ontario.ca Organisation: Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks Role: Author
Cited Responsible Parties	Name: Georgina Kaltenecker Email: pwqmn@ontario.ca Organisation: Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks Role: Point of Contact
Keywords	Streamwater, Nutrients, Fresh Water
Tags	Water, Water Quality, EMRB
	<p>Station locations are deemed to be accurate given the information that was originally supplied at the time the station was created. This information could include GPS coordinates, road intersection description, site map, or other descriptive spatial information. However, there may remain a small number of historical (discontinued) stations for which locations cannot be verified. Station IDs have 11 digits, generally beginning with a leading 0.</p> <p>Please exercise caution when interpreting the field data (water temperature, field pH, stream condition, ambient conductivity and dissolved oxygen) since these observations are performed in the field and are not subject to our laboratory QA/QC protocol. Ensure to check the remark code fields when interpreting the accuracy of the water quality results.</p> <p>Please use the provided look up tables for the Value Qualifier Codes, Remark Codes, and Analytical Methods. Note that some laboratory methods have changed over time; users should apply judgement and exercise caution when comparing various laboratory analytical methods when exploring the data.</p> <p>For historical data (1964-1999), please be aware that you may encounter erroneous data due to manual transcription errors. Detection limits and details of analytical methods for some historical data are unavailable, including missing or</p>

Use Limitations	<p>undefined value qualifiers and remark codes.</p> <p>In March 2021, the Ministry adopted a modernized Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). As a result, some naming conventions have changed with the migration to the new LIMS. Data prior to March 2021 are provided in the pqmnm_rawdata_2000_2021 file and data after 2021 are posted separately.</p> <p>A lookup table is provided to match some of the changes (e.g. column headings and analyte names). Additionally, the Result Call column indicates if the result was above the detection limit or was below the detection limit (BDL)</p> <p>The changes in column headings include:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="523 443 1230 929"> <thead> <tr> <th>OLD (BEFORE MARCH 2021)</th> <th>NEW (AFTER MARCH 2021)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>STATION</td> <td>COLLECTION SITE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PARM/ PARM_DESCRIPTION</td> <td>ANALYTE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DATE</td> <td>COLLECTION DATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TIME</td> <td>COLLECTION TIME</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>FIELD_ID (new)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RESULT</td> <td>RESULT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UNITS</td> <td>UNITS</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>DETECTION LIMIT (new)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>RESULT CALL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ANALMETHOD</td> <td>METHOD</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	OLD (BEFORE MARCH 2021)	NEW (AFTER MARCH 2021)	STATION	COLLECTION SITE	PARM/ PARM_DESCRIPTION	ANALYTE	DATE	COLLECTION DATE	TIME	COLLECTION TIME		FIELD_ID (new)	RESULT	RESULT	UNITS	UNITS		DETECTION LIMIT (new)		RESULT CALL	ANALMETHOD	METHOD
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Legal Constraints	See the Open Government Licence - Ontario																						
Geographic Bounds	<p>Ontario: province-wide</p> <p>West bound: -95.15699 East bound: -74.30798 South bound: 41.6723 North bound: 56.850117</p>																						
Supplemental Information	<p>DATA AVAILABILITY:</p> <p>*****INTERACTIVE MAP*****</p> <p>https://www.ontario.ca/page/map-provincial-stream-water-quality-monitoring-network</p>																						
Date Stamp	April 25, 2023																						