

11. ATTAINS

The Assessment TMDL Tracking & Implementation System (ATTAINS) lets you view tables and charts that summarize state-reported data for the nation as a whole, individual states, individual waters and the 10 EPA regions. The *full story* of assessed waters that are impaired, are currently being restored or have been restored is provided.

11.1 Open [ATTAINS](#).

Watershed Assessment, Tracking & Environmental Results

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Water Quality Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads Information

This site provides information reported by the states to EPA about the conditions in their surface waters. This information is required every two years under Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d).

Because of differences in state assessment methods, the information in this site should not be used to compare water quality conditions between states or to determine water quality trends. Check out the Frequent Questions box on the right to learn more.

[Which state reports are available?](#) [National Summary of State Assessments](#)

Frequent Questions

- [About This Database \(Integrated Report\)](#)
- [Assessing Water Quality \(Questions and Answers\)](#)
- [2006 Integrated Reporting Guidance](#)
- [Previous National Water Quality Reports](#)
- [EnviroMapper for Water](#)
- [AskWATERS](#)
- [EPA WATERS Homepage](#)

Legend
 States
 Trust Territories
 American Samoa
 Northern Mariana Islands

11.2 Click the **About this Database** link within the Frequent Questions box in the upper, right portion of the screen.

This page provides an overview of the reported data, details which information can be extracted from the data, and defines the water quality terms used such as “good,” “threatened” or “impaired.”

Use the keyboard shortcut for the menu item (under Edit) for Find (on This Page):
CTRL + F

How is “impaired” defined?

How is “threatened” defined?

11.3 Click the browser’s **Back** button.

11.4 Click the top hyperlink, **Which state reports are available?** The chart on the next page lists the specific reports available for each state.

State	2004	2006	2008
Alabama	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report	Available Integrated Report
Alaska	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report
American Samoa	Impaired Waters report only	Impaired Waters report only	Available Integrated Report
Arizona	Available Integrated Report	Unavailable	Assessed Waters report only
Arkansas	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Unavailable	Available Integrated Report
California	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Impaired Waters report only	Unavailable
Colorado	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report	Available Integrated Report
Connecticut	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report	Available Integrated Report
Delaware	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report	Unavailable
District Of Columbia	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report	Available Integrated Report
Florida	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable
Georgia	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report
Guam	Impaired Waters report only	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Available Integrated Report
Hawaii	Impaired Waters report only	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Unavailable
Idaho	Unavailable	Unavailable	Available Integrated Report
Illinois	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports	Unavailable

11.5 Click the Texas 2004 **Separate Impaired and Assessed Waters Reports**.

11.6 On the next page, click **Assessed Waters Report**. Texas' 2004 305(b) information appears.

11.7 Under Water Quality by Waterbody Type – Rivers, Streams, and Creeks, click **Individual Use Support for Assessed Waters**. An overview of the assessed waters' conditions and their support of designated uses can be found here.

11.8 Scroll down to look at the other summary tables for rivers and streams in Texas.

What are the three top impairment causes?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What are the three top probable sources of impairments?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Locating TMDL Information from an Integrated Report

More information is available on the state's Web site. **Note:** Each state may vary in the way it organizes its information.

- 11.9 Click the browser's **Back** button three times, arriving at the ATAINS Status of Available Data chart. Select **Texas 2008 – Available Integrated Report**.
- 11.10 On the lower, left portion of the Texas 2008 Water Quality Assessment Report page, click **State Water Quality Program**.
- 11.11 At the top of Texas' TCEQ page, click **Surface Water Quality Monitoring** (6th choice on the list) and select **Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303 (d) List** (3rd on the list).
This is the state report that is used by EPA to generate the information in ATTAINS.
- 11.12 Return to the [ATTAINS Status of Available Data](#) chart by clicking **Back** four times. Select the **Louisiana 2006 Integrated Report**.

The screenshot shows the EPA's Watershed Assessment, Tracking & Environmental Results website. The page title is "Louisiana 2006 Water Quality Assessment Report" under the heading "Assessed Waters of Louisiana by Watershed". The page features a map of Louisiana with several watersheds highlighted in orange. A dropdown menu is set to "Amite" with a "GO" button. Below the map is a search box for waterbodies within Louisiana. On the left, there is a navigation menu with links such as "Louisiana Assessment Summary", "Water Quality by Waterbody Type", and "Cumulative TMDLs by Pollutant". On the right, there is a "Frequent Questions" sidebar with links like "About This Database (Integrated Report)" and "Assessing Water Quality (Questions and Answers)".

- 11.13 Click **Rivers and Streams** (at the top, left of the page) and scroll down to the Causes of Impairments and Sources of Impairments tables. Notice the three pie charts.
- 11.14 Return to the top of the page. Click **Cumulative TMDLs by Pollutant**.
How many TMDLs have been established for fecal coliform? _____
- 11.15 Click the number next to the bar graph for **Fecal Coliform**.
- 11.16 Click the fourth TMDL document – **Bayou Chauvin – Headwaters to Ouachita River**.
- 11.17 To download the TMDL document in PDF format, click **TMDL Document**.
- 11.18 Click the **Back** button.

- 11.19 Click the hyperlinked Waterbody ID **LA-080102**. The Listed Water Information page appears, providing information on additional impairments and links to their TMDL documents.

To learn more about ATTAINS, view the June 18, 2008 Watershed Academy Webcast Seminar, “[ATTAINS –A Gateway to State-Reported Water Quality Information.](#)”