

Bathing water results 2009 – Romania

1. Introduction

This report gives a general overview of bathing water quality in Romania during the 2009 bathing season.

Romania reported eight parameters under the Directive 76/160/EEC (1 Total coliforms, 2 Faecal coliforms, 3 Faecal streptococci, 4 Salmonella, 8 Mineral oils, 9 Surface-active substances reacting with methylene blue, 10 Phenols (phenol indices), 12 Dissolved oxygen).

The parameters to be taken into account for assessment according to the assessment rules of the Directive 76/160/EEC are microbiological (1 Total coliforms, 2 Faecal coliforms) and physico-chemical (8 Mineral oils, 9 Surface-active substances reacting with methylene blue, 10 Phenols (phenol indices)).

The bathing waters are classified in the following categories:

- Compliant with mandatory values of the Directive for the five parameters (class CI);
- Compliant with mandatory and more stringent guide values of the Directive for the five parameters (class CG);
- Not compliant with mandatory values of the Directive for the five parameters (class NC);
- Banned or closed (temporarily or throughout the season) (class B).

2. Length of bathing season and number of bathing waters

For all bathing waters the bathing season lasted 3.5 months, from 1 June till 15 September 2009.

A total of 49 coastal bathing waters were monitored in Romania during the 2009 bathing season. There are no freshwater bathing waters monitored.

With 49 bathing waters Romania accounts for about 0.2% of the reported bathing waters of the European Union.

The evolution of the reported number of bathing waters since monitoring of the water quality began under the Directive 76/160/EEC is presented in Table 1. The number of coastal bathing waters increased since the start of the reporting from 35 in 2007 to 49 in 2008 and 2009.

3. Results of bathing water quality

The results of the bathing water quality in Romania for 2007 and 2008 as reported in the past reporting years and for the bathing season of 2009 are presented in Figure 1. The previous reports are available on the European Commission's bathing water quality website (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/index_en.html; Water and Health/Bathing Water/2005-2009 reports) and the European Environment Agency's bathing water website (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water>; reports for 2008 bathing season).

The graph shows, for coastal bathing waters:

- The percentage of bathing waters that comply with the guide values (class CG, blue line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that comply with the mandatory values (class CI, green line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that do not comply with the mandatory values (class NC, red line);
- The percentage of bathing waters that are banned or closed (temporarily or throughout the season) (class B, grey line).

Table 1 shows the same information in absolute numbers and in percentages for coastal bathing waters.

Map 1 shows the locations of the reported bathing waters in Romania. The location of the bathing waters is based on the geographic coordinates reported by the Romanian authorities.

Figure 1: Results of bathing water quality in Romania from 2007 to 2009

Coastal bathing waters (RO)

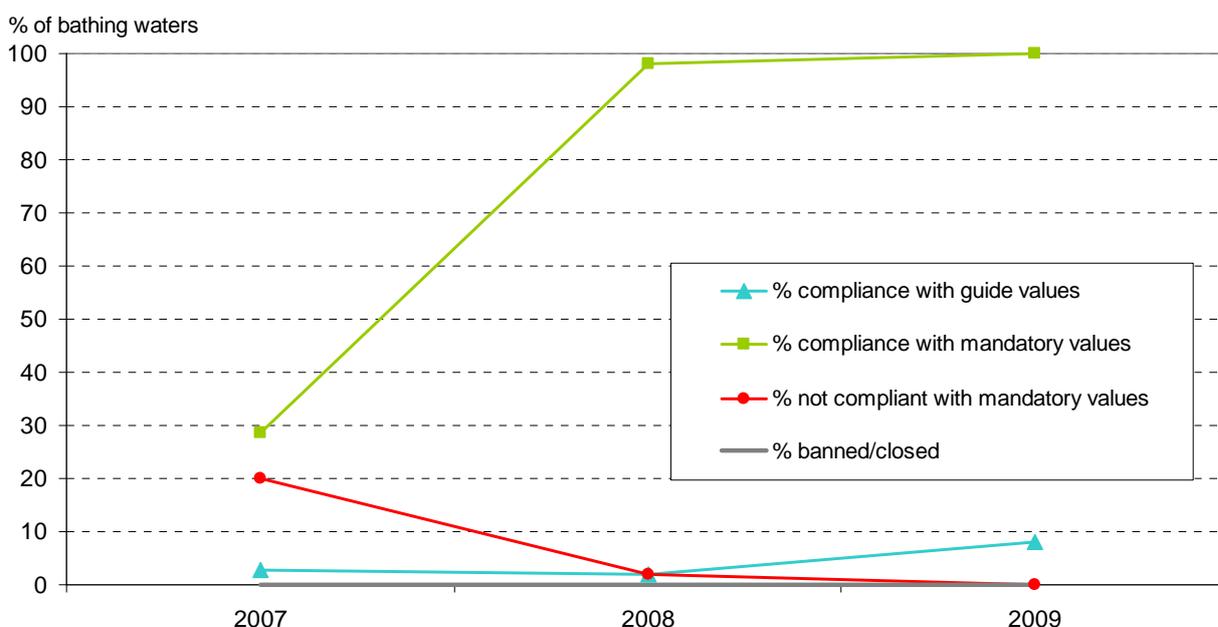


Table 1: Results of bathing water quality in Romania from 2007 to 2009

		RO								
		Total number of bathing waters	Compliance with guide values		Compliance with mandatory values		Not compliant		Banned/closed temporarily or throughout the season	
			Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Coastal bathing waters	2007	35	1	2.9	10	28.6	7	20.0	0	0.0
	2008	49	1	2.0	48	98.0	1	2.0	0	0.0
	2009	49	4	8.2	49	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Note: Bathing waters which were insufficiently sampled or not sampled according to the Bathing Water Directive were not included in this table. Therefore, in some cases, the sum of the different categories will not be equal to the total number of bathing waters. Bathing waters which were compliant with the guide values were also compliant with the mandatory values.

4. Development of bathing water quality

In Romania, 100% of the coastal bathing waters met the mandatory values in 2009. This is an increase of 2% (one bathing water) compared to the previous year. Four bathing waters (8.2%) met the more stringent guide value compared to one bathing water (2%) in 2008. Since 2007, no coastal bathing waters had to be closed during the season.

At the beginning of the reporting in 2007, the compliance rate was low because a large percentage of the bathing waters (51%) was insufficiently sampled and could not be taken into account in the quality

assessment. After this problem was solved since 2008 the compliance with the mandatory values increased significantly (100% in 2009). The compliance with the guide values, however, remained low.

5. General information as provided by Romanian authorities

Public participation in the establishment of the list of bathing waters

According to the national legislation in force, bathing zones are attributed for exploitation through auction, insuring a transparent public participation according to the Governmental Decision no. 241 from 16 February 2006 regarding the approval of hiring out Black Sea beaches, public states properties, that are in the administration of the National Administration „Romanian Waters”.

There was a public auction in April 2008 organized by the National Administration „Romanian Waters” - Water Directorate Dobrogea Litoral. The public announcement can be found on the web page: www.waterct.ro.

Starting with 2009 bathing season, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development proposed to involve the public in the establishment of the annual list of bathing waters by means of the existing mechanisms used within the framework of the Hydrographic Basin Committees. The bathing waters will be included in the management plans of the Hydrographic Basins and public participation will be developed according to the Water Framework Directive requirements.

Public information in summer season 2008 was done by the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, directly or through their subordinated local units.

The public communication was achieved through direct communication (with informational panels, folders, posters, various activities), communication via media and online communication with web-site and other online tools.

More detailed information about the way of communication is given in last year report at the European Commission’s bathing water quality website (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/report2009/RO_BWD%202008%20season.pdf).

6. More information on bathing water quality in the European Union

More information on bathing water quality in the European Member States, including the EU summary report, the reports for 27 Member States, Croatia and Switzerland, can be found on the European Commission’s bathing water quality website (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/index_en.html) and the European Environment Agency’s bathing water website (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water>). The reports for the bathing seasons of 2008 and 2009 have been produced by the Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia (IWRS), a partner in the EEA European Topic Centre on Water (ETC/W). Countries have collaborated in the assessment of bathing water quality and supplied additional information when needed.

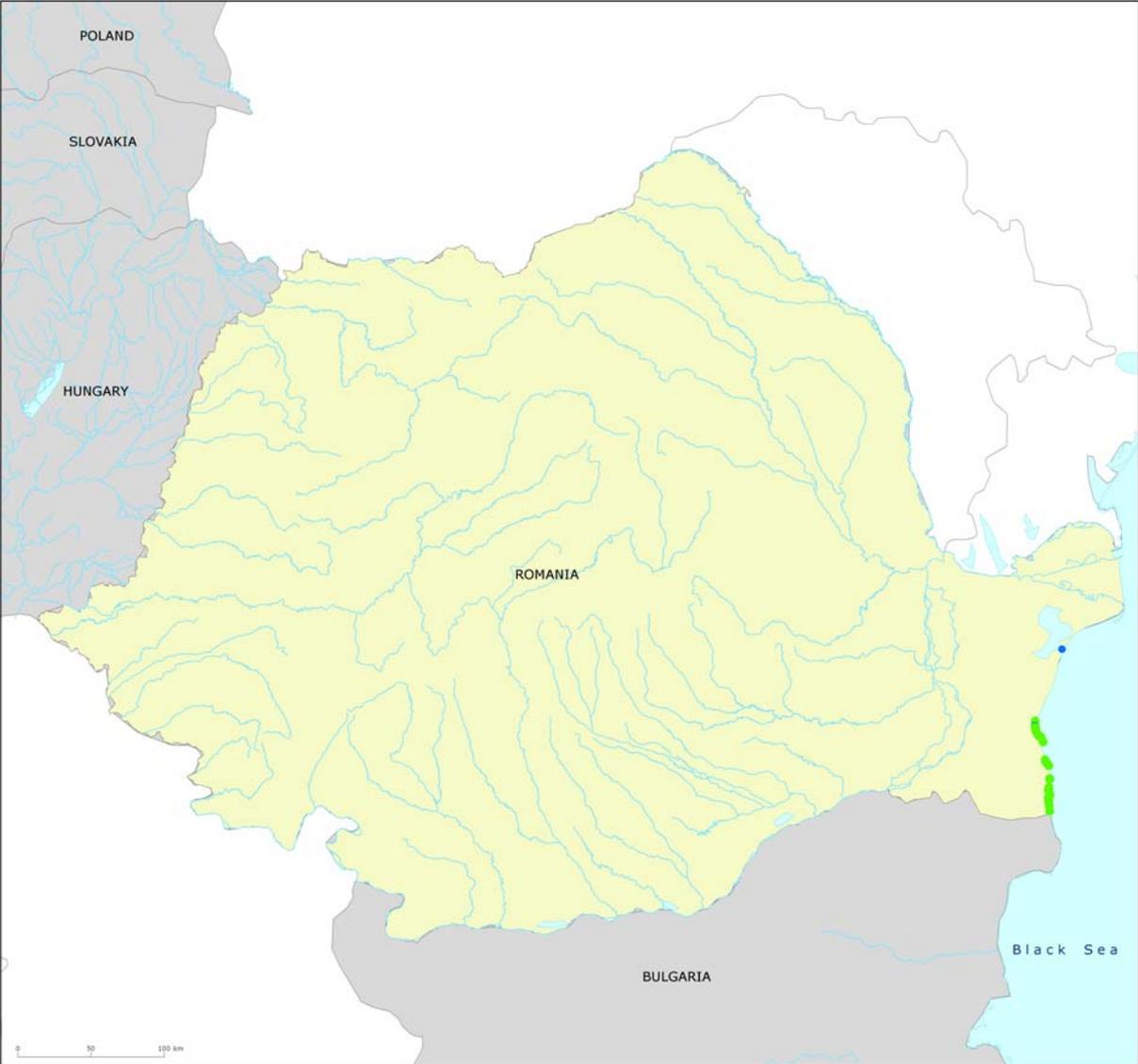
By 2015, Member States will have to comply with the stricter and more ambitious requirements laid out in the New Bathing Water Directive (Directive 2006/7/EC). This Directive requires more effective monitoring and management of bathing waters, greater public participation and improved information. More information on the new Directive can be found on the bathing water quality website and on <http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:064:0037:0051:EN:PDF>.

Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden started to report according to more stringent new requirements in 2008 bathing season. Malta and the Netherlands started to report in 2009 bathing season under the new requirements. Sweden and Malta also sent data for three previous bathing seasons under the new requirements. Luxembourg started to monitor under the new requirements in 2006 bathing season, while reported for the first time in 2007 bathing season.

WISE - Water Information System for Europe (www.water.europa.eu) is a gateway to all water related information. Among other water related data, information on individual bathing water quality can be

found in the WISE map viewer and WISE Bathing Water Quality data viewer through interactive maps and graphs (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water>).

Map 1: Bathing waters reported during the 2009 bathing season in Romania



Bathing water quality

Coastal/transitional bathing waters	□ No data
● Compliant with guide values	■ Outside data coverage (data available, not presented on the map)
● Compliant with mandatory values	
● Closed*	
● Insufficiently sampled or not sampled	
● Not compliant with mandatory values	

Note: * banned or closed (temporarily or throughout the season)
 More data on bathing water quality on: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/mapviewers/bathing>
Source: National boundaries: GISCO; Large rivers and lakes: EEA, WFD Article 3; Bathing waters data and coordinates: Romanian authorities