



Continually improve stream health and function throughout the watershed. Improve health and function of 10% of stream miles above the 2008 baseline for the watershed.

Why is this outcome important?

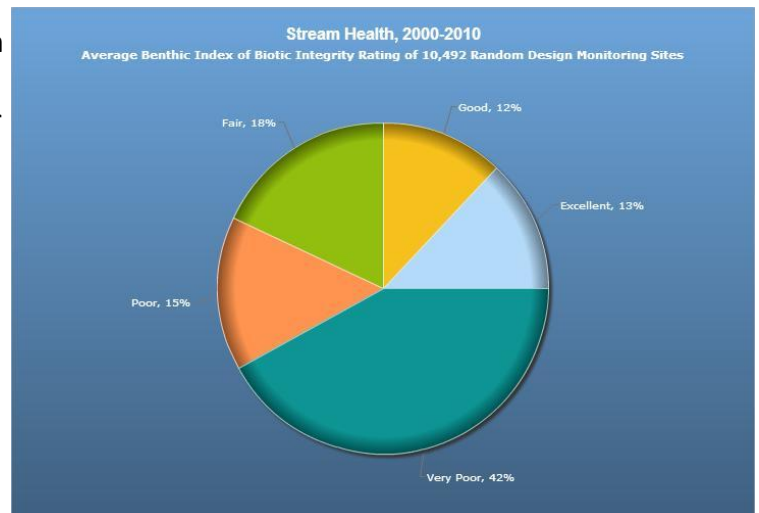
Restoring water quality in local rivers and streams is a necessary step toward meeting water quality standards in the Chesapeake Bay. Similarly, large-scale pollution-reducing actions meant to improve water quality across the Bay will improve the health of local streams. Restoring streams also benefits the fish, wildlife and people using them.

Current Conditions:

Between 2000 and 2010, more than 14,000 stream sites were sampled and rated for biological integrity. Forty-three percent were in fair, good, or excellent condition. Fifty-seven percent were in very poor or poor condition.

How was the outcome derived? Who came up with it?

This outcome was derived using an existing Chesapeake Bay Program indicator that uses an index to measure stream quality. Data are collected and assessed based on methodology agreed to by the Bay Program's [Nontidal Monitoring Workgroup](#).



See how stream health is doing at chesapeakebay.net

What was the basis or baseline?

As practices are implemented in the watershed to reduce nutrients, sediment and other pollutants, we will see improvements in the quality of streams. The current target is closely tied to the Bay-wide target of meeting water quality standards for dissolved oxygen, water clarity and chlorophyll-a in 60 percent of Bay segments by 2025.

For More:

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/rivers and streams](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/rivers_and_streams)

[http://www.chesapeakebay.net/indicators/indicator/health of freshwater streams in the chesapeake bay watershed](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/indicators/indicator/health_of_freshwater_streams_in_the_chesapeake_bay_watershed)