

Short List: Water Quality Data Elements for Reporting Population/Community Results

Data Elements	Definition
1.0 Contact Information Module	Organization collecting data, address, contact
2.0 Results Module	
2.1 Result/Endpoint Value	Numerical measure of the result: e.g., index score, metric value, density, biomass, etc.; method used to calculate result; confidence values
3.0 Reasons for Sampling Module	
3.1 Reason for Sample Collection	Purpose of the data collection activity: e.g., regulatory compliance monitoring, trend analysis, research, reconnaissance, etc.
3.2 Sampling Design Used	Type of sampling design used: e.g., probabilistic, stratified-random, targeted, etc.
3.3 Data and/or Measurement Quality Objectives	DQOs/MQOs used: e.g., precision RSD \leq 20%.
4.0 Date/Time Module	
4.1 Sample Collection Start Date	Date when collection of the sample was started
4.2 Sample Collection Start Time	Time when collection of the sample was begun
4.3 Sample Collection End Date	Date when collection of the sample was finished
4.4 Sample Collection End Time Measure	Time when collection of the sample was finished
5.0 Sample Location Module	
5.1 Water Body/Aquifer Name	Receiving Water Name
5.2 Sample Station Identifier	The name or number that uniquely identifies the sample station.
5.3 Sampling Station Type Name	Type of sampling station: e.g., reservoir, river, lake, estuary, spring, etc.
5.4 Latitude Measure	Latitude and format (degrees, decimal)
5.5 Longitude Measure	Longitude and format (degrees, decimal)
5.6 Horizontal Reference Datum	Code representing reference datum used
6.0 Sample Collection Module	
6.1 Sample Type	The type of sample being described; e.g., blank, time series composite, routine sample, etc.; assemblage sampled
6.2 Media Sampled	Includes water, sediment, tissue, etc.
6.3 Sample Ambient Condition(s)	Physical and/or water quality characteristics measured <i>in situ</i> at the time of the survey
6.4 Sample Identification	The unique name, number, or code assigned to identify the sample.
6.5 Sample Collection Method	Gear type, citation of procedure, certification or training status of samplers
6.6 Sample Processing	Sample compositing, homogenizing procedures, field or lab processing used, sample container, preservation used, sample volume, weight
7.0 Sample Analysis and QC Module	
7.1 Organism Identification	Lab or field taxonomic identification, keys used, organism prep, taxonomic name, ITIS or other identifier, verification procedures, other QC used
7.2 Data Measurements	Quantitative measures of individual organisms