

Water Quality Analysis Reporter (WQAR) is a data analysis program developed in partnership by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and Windsor Solutions. U.S. EPA provided program funding for WQAR's development. The program was developed to assist ADEQ with the assessment of water quality data for the development of the list of impaired waterbodies (303(d) List).

WQAR's analysis of water quality data takes into account the most current EPA-approved Regulation No. 2 water quality standards and the most current assessment methodology.

WQAR streamlines the assessment process by automating functions such as data retrieval and organization, comparison to water quality criteria, and calculation of percent exceedances. It then displays an assessment attainment result.

WQAR assigns an initial 303(d) list attainment category for each assessed waterbody reach for all water quality parameters that have appropriate data for assessment. ADEQ water planning staff then reviews the data and the initial attainment category and determines a final attainment category. This final assessment category is used for the draft 303(d) list.

Other useful information is also contained in WQAR such as HUC 8, Reach Number, Planning Segment, and County for each assessment unit.

Limitations to WQAR are public access, data formatting, and data source distinction requirements. Direct connection to the WQAR database is required; therefore, the program cannot be accessed or used outside of ADEQ. Raw data is required to be in a very specific format for analysis. WQAR was designed to accommodate ADEQ's internal water quality database, Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). Data from outside sources could be analyzed by WQAR if it were in the proper format; however, at this time no other data source utilizes the same format for their databases.

ADEQ is working toward developing a template outside agencies and entities could use to properly format their data for analysis within WQAR; however ADEQ cannot require entities to use this template. Nor does ADEQ have the resources to convert outside data into the necessary useable format. Until such time outside data is formatted for use with WQAR, it will continue to be assessed in Excel spreadsheets format.