

| Delaware River Basin Indicator | Report Card | Trend |
|--|---|--------------|
| Landscape | | |
| Population | Delaware Basin population projected to exceed 8,000,000 by 2010, an 800,000 increase from 7,200,000 in 1990. | ▼ |
| Land Use | The Delaware Basin gained 70 mi ² of developed land between 1996 and 2001, a rate of 25 acres per day. | ▼ |
| Impervious Cover | Impervious cover is increasing with new development. Watersheds near Philadelphia exceed 10% impervious cover. | ▼ |
| Tidal Wetlands | 20% of Delaware Bay watersheds covered by tidal wetlands. | ▲ |
| Tidal Wetland Buffers | 35% of Delaware Bay watersheds covered with tidal wetland buffers | ▲ |
| Total Wetlands | The Delaware Basin has lost 4 mi ² of wetlands between 1996 and 2001, a rate of 1.4 acres per day. | ▼ |
| Forest | The Delaware Basin lost 48 mi ² of forest between 1996 and 2001, a rate of 17 acres per day. There are more forests now (54% in 2001) than 1930 (32%). | ▼ |
| Superfund Sites | USEPA identified 1,600 Federal Superfund sites in the Delaware Basin, many are being cleaned up and being remediated. | ▲ |
| Riparian corridor condition | Riparian areas along streams contain 1 to 4 miles of roadway per mi ² of buffer. | ● |
| National Wild and Scenic Rivers | EB/WB, Hancock, NY (73 mi), Del. Water Gap (40 mi), Maurice R. (35.4 mi), Lower Del. River, PA (38.9 mi), White Clay Creek in DE, PA (190 mi). | ▲ |
| Water Quality | | |
| Dissolved Oxygen | DO has improved or remained constant since 1990 at 11/12 stations along main stem and at 14/20 tributary stations. | ▲ |
| Nitrogen | N has remained constant since 1990 at 7/7 stations along the river and bay and at 15/16 tributary stations. | ● |
| Phosphorus | P has improved or remained constant since 1990 at 7/7 stations along the river and bay and at 20/20 tributary stations. | ▲ |
| Total Suspended Sediment | TSS has remained constant since 1990 at 5/6 stations along the river and bay and at 19/19 tributary stations. | ● |
| Copper | Cu has remained constant since 1990 at 5/5 stations along main stem and at 19/19 tributary stations. | ● |
| Lead | Pb has remained constant since 1990 at 2/2 stations along main stem and improved or remained constant at 19/19 tributary stations. | ▲ |
| Zinc | Zn has improved or remained constant since 1990 at 5/5 stations along main stem and at 18/18 tributary stations. | ▲ |
| Mercury | Hg improved at Delaware R. at Trenton and EB/WB Delaware River and Neversink subwatersheds. Miles of Hg fish consumption advisories. | ● |
| PCBs | PCBs detected in 84% of fish samples. PCBs in fish tissue declined over 25 yrs in basin. | ● |
| Atrazine, | 95 of 100 streams in Delaware River Basin had detectable levels of Atrazine. | ▼ |
| Metolachlor | 83 of 103 streams in Delaware River Basin had detectable levels of Metolachlor. | ▼ |
| Water Temperature | Water temperatures constant since 1990 at 10/13 stations. Summer median and peak water temperature declined in EB/WB and Neversink River. | ● |
| Fish Consumption Advisories | 3,935 miles (17%) of Delaware River Basin streams have full/limited fish consumption advisories in 2006. | ▼ |
| Sec 303(d) Designated Uses /Impaired Streams | 2,493 miles (11%) of Delaware River Basin streams are impaired according to the USEPA in 2004. | ▼ |
| Salt Line (chlorides) | Salt line fluctuates annually in the Delaware River between the mouth of the Schuylkill at Philadelphia and the Christina River at Wilmington. | ● |

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| Water Quantity and Hydrology | | |
| Water Supply and Demand | 8,264 mgd of peak surface water withdrawals in 1996, | ● |
| Streamflow | Little or no changes in peak or low flow streamflows since 1990. | ● |
| Groundwater quantity | In the Delaware Basin: 4,645 mgd groundwater available, 423 mgd withdrawn, 9% of groundwater used. | ● |
| Flooding | Three major floods occurred along the Delaware River in 2004, 2005, and 2006. | ▼ |
| Dams (hydrologic impairment) | Dams removed or fish ladders installed along Schuylkill, Lehigh R., and Pennypack Creek. Dam removals proposed along Brandywine Creek. | ▲ |
| Living Resources | | |
| Macroinvertebrates | Macroinvertebrate health ranges from good to poor. | ● |
| Oyster Beds | 500,000 bushels of shell planted in 2005 for Delaware Bay oyster restoration project. | ▲ |
| Eastern Oyster | Oyster landings in bay down to 100,000 bushels from 500,000 bushels during 1980s. | ▼ |
| Horseshoe Crab | Spawning index constant since 1990 at 0.8. although ISA declining along the DE side of the bay. DE/NJ have horseshoe crab harvest moratoriums. | ▼ |
| Blue Crab | DE/NJ blue crab landings at 2 to 5 million, up from 1 million during 1970s. Most lucrative shellfishery in bay. Value of harvest = \$ 7 million. | ▲ |
| Freshwater Mussels | 23% of native freshwater mussels are federally endangered and 7% are extinct. | ▼ |
| Zebra Mussels | Invasive mussel only detected in Lehigh River watershed near Easton so far. Numerous sightings in adjacent basins of Hudson and Susquehanna. | ● |
| American Shad | Almost 200,000 migrating shad detected along Delaware River at Lambertville. Shad counted along the Schuylkill and Lehigh Rivers. | ● |
| Brook Trout | The state fish of NJ, NY, and PA, about 15% of native brook trout habitat extirpated in Delaware River Basin with habitat remaining in 50% of Basin. | ▼ |
| Striped Bass | 20,000 fish caught in 2005 and 40,000 in 2000 up from less than 5000 striped bass caught in 1990. | ▲ |
| Atlantic Sturgeon | In danger of extinction, only 2 fish caught in 2004, none in 2005. Atlantic sturgeon is on the DE endangered species list. | ▼ |
| Weakfish | Weakie abundance down to 50 per mile from at or above 150 fish per mile during 1990s. | ▼ |
| Summer Flounder | Fluke biomass at 50,000 metric tons in 2005, up from 30,000 tons in 2000. | ▲ |
| Louisiana Water Thrush | Breeding bird survey habitat down by more than 3% in much of the Delaware River Basin. | ▼ |
| Red Knot | The Delaware Bay red knot stopover population has declined since 1997. Peak numbers of over 100,000 in the 1980s have fallen to 13,455 in 2006 . | ▼ |
| Bald Eagle | Bald eagle nests have increased significantly in all four states in the Delaware as 96 nests spotted in the basin in 2004, up from 44 in 2001. | ▲ |
| Black Bear | Close to 5,000 black bear were spotted in NJ, NY, and PA up from 4,200 in 2002. | ▲ |
| Amphibians/Reptiles Bog Turtle | Bog turtle wetland habitat is declining as the reptile is a Federally endangered species and is on the NJ, NY, and PA state protected lists. | ▼ |
| Endangered Species | Almost 180 species on the DE, NJ, NY, and/or PA endangered species lists. | ● |