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² Inclusion of Total no. active storm overflows listed in the annual return in 2023 to represent overflows where we would expect monitoring to be installed and removing overflows that are no longer operational.

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Table 5: 2023 Storm Overflow Spill Reasons	Anglian Water (AWS)	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) (in England)	Northumbrian Water (NW)	Severn Trent Water (STW)	South West Water (SWW)	Southern Water (SW)	Thames Water (TW)	United Utilities (UU)	Wessex Water (WSSX)	Yorkshire Water (YB)
Please note these metrics are in development. In 2023 there is some inconsistency in approach by different Water & Sewerage Companies										
No. monitored storm overflows that spilled >60 in one year	161	24	234	300	390	177	104	666	230	493
Of those that spilled over SOAF thresholds of >60x in one year, % with a reason provided	100%	58.3%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Of those that spilled over SOAF thresholds of >60x in one year, what % due to exceptional rainfall throughout the year?	77.6%	0%	14.5%	48.0%	12%	22%	0%	6.8%	26.1%	7.1%
Of those that spilled over SOAF thresholds of >60x in one year, what % due to other operational (incl. asset maintenance)?	7.5%	4.2%	7.3%	13.0%	13.8%	65.0%	40.4%	19.2%	31.3%	6.3%
Of those that spilled over SOAF thresholds of >60x in one year, what % due to hydraulic capacity reasons?	9.9%	12.5%	66.7%	32.0%	19.2%	11.9%	49.0%	66.5%	29.6%	83.6%
Of those that spilled over SOAF thresholds of >60x in one year, what % N/A - Ongoing Investigation for primary reason?	5.0%	41.7%	11.5%	7.0%	55.1%	1.1%	10.6%	7.5%	13.0%	3.0%

Exceptional rainfall: This does not refer to individual rainfall events, but rather the rainfall across the reporting year. Two datasets can be used to determine whether rainfall in the reporting year was "exceptional" or not (over & above typical rainfall) – (1) Eventual Rainfall (Column V) and (2) Annual Rainfall (Column W). If rainfall was exceptional and deemed the primary reason for high spill count then this is indicated in the annual return (Column W).

Asset Maintenance: Where the asset (storm overflow) and potentially parts of the upstream & downstream sewer network have not operated as designed/expected, high spill counts (over 60 times per year) can be caused. If asset maintenance is deemed the primary reason for high spill count this is indicated in the annual return (column W). The different asset maintenance categories are listed in the EDM data README guide Appendix A.

Hydraulic capacity: If the reason for a high spilling storm overflow (over 60 times per year) is neither "exceptional rainfall" nor "asset maintenance" then the reason is classified under the "Hydraulic capacity" category.

This indicates there is insufficient capacity (conveyance or storage) in the sewer network to cope with the wastewater flow plus typical rainfall entering the sewer network.

Link to: [Storm Overflow Assessment Framework \(SOAF\)](#)

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