

# Water Quality Index:

- Scores overall water quality
- Requires context → drinking water?  
Wildlife? Agriculture? Historical conditions?  
Combination?
- ONE NUMBER (+/- 's)
  - Useful for quick comparisons (+)
  - Lose the details (-)
  - Might be poorly designed (-)

Similar to:

QB rating in football:

- Tells you how good a quarterback is
- Combines pass completion percentage, interceptions, touchdowns, yardage

QB #1: 109.8 → better QB → details?  
LOST

QB #2: 97.6

QB #3: 41.8 poor in all categories (?)

Similar to:

GPA (Grade point average):

0-4: 0 (all F's)

A, A, B, B, B (?)

4 (all A's)



Student #1: 3.73 → Better student overall

Student #2: 3.48

Details? LOST

A, A, A, F, F ↖  
(?)

Locations	temp	pH	turb.	DO	other factor

W.I.T.R.B. water quality  $\approx$  other factor?

Water quality index

Location	Water Quality Index Value	Other factor
...		
...		
...		

PROJECT DATA