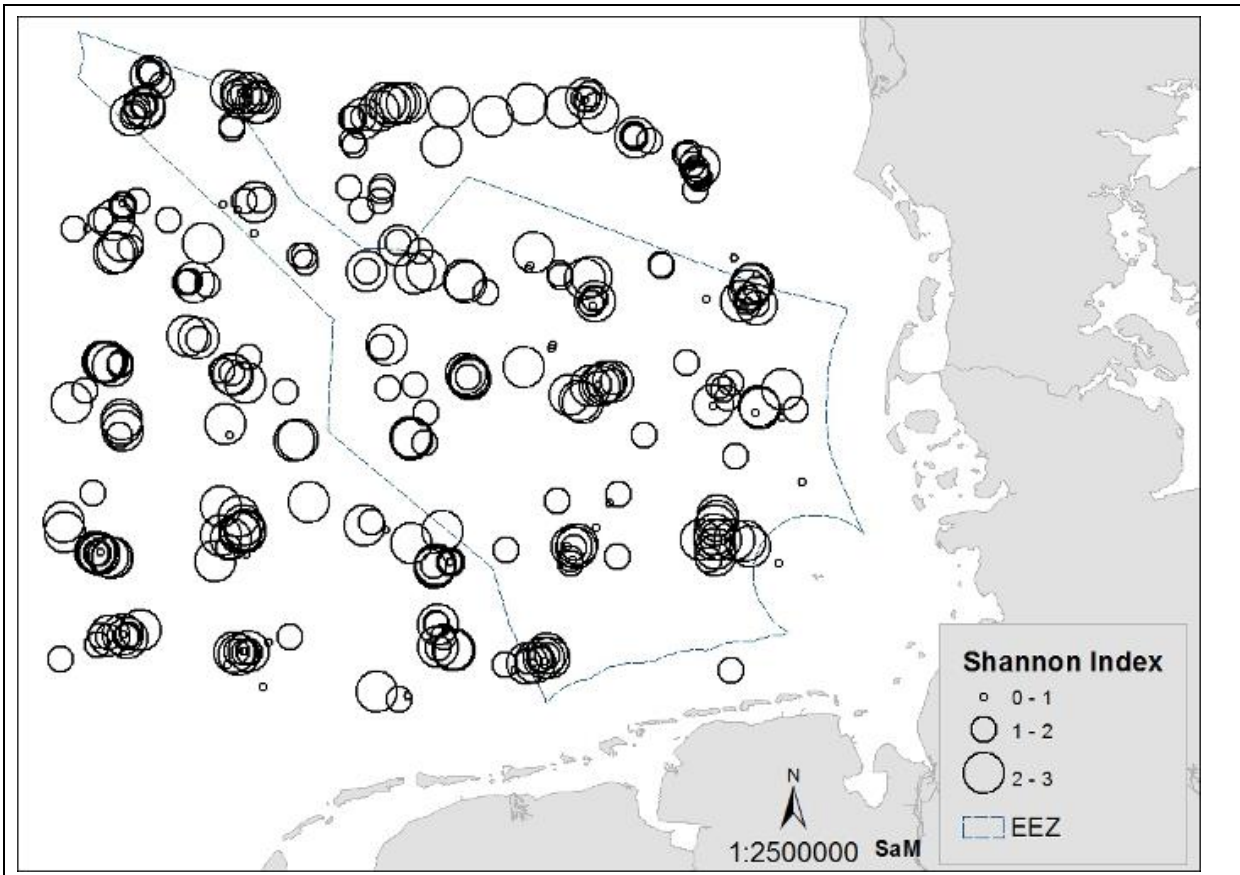


Epibenthic diversity (Shannon-Wiener Index H')

GENERAL OVERVIEW	
Dataset name: Epibenthic diversity (Shannon-Wiener Index H') in the south-eastern North Sea	
Project: <i>International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS)</i> <i>North Sea – Observation and Assessment of Habitats (NOAH)</i>	
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Hermann Neumann, Ulrike Kleeberg (Web Services) [HZG]	
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DATASET SPECIFICATIONS	
Dataset Parameter(s) and supplied Unit(s): <i>Shannon Index</i>	
Date(s) available: <i>1998 – 2014 (July/August); except of 2001 and 2002</i>	
Validated: <i>Yes</i>	Version Date: <i>23.02.2015</i>
Current State: <i>updates expected (long term series)</i>	
Format: <i>ESRI shape- /layer file</i>	
Citation: <i>Neumann, H., Reiss, H., Rakers, S., Ehrich, S., Kröncke, I., 2009. Temporal variability of southern North Sea epifauna communities after the cold winter 1995/1996. ICES J Mar Sci 66, 2233-2243.</i> <i>Neumann, H., Reiss, H., Ehrich, S., Sell, A., Panten, K., Kloppmann, M., Wilhelms, I., Kröncke, I., 2013. Benthos and demersal fish habitats in the German Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the North Sea. Helgoland Mar Res 67, 445-459.</i>	
DATASET DETAILS	
Abstract <i>The map shows the Shannon-Wiener diversity index (H') for benthic epifauna. The Shannon index is a popular diversity index in ecology taking into account the number of species as well as the evenness of species (how close in numbers each species in an environment are). The index is higher with increasing number of species and with decreasing dominance of only few species.</i>	



Acquisition and Processing Description:

Samples were taken with a 2-m beam trawl from 1998 to 2014 on board of FRV Walther Herwig III. The beam trawl was fitted with a 20 mm net and a cod end of 4 mm mesh size. The beam was towed at a speed of about 1.5 – 2 knots for 5 minutes. Catches were sieved over 5-mm mesh size. In total, 365 stations were sampled (usually 24 per year). Abundance data were standardized to a tow length of 250 m (500 m²).

Notes and Limitations:

Sampling did not take place in 2001 and 2002. Certain species were excluded from the analysis. Ask data owner for details.