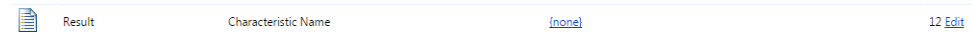WQX Web Error Resolution

The table below contains errors commonly reported in WQX Web. It contains 4 columns. The first column shows the exact wording of the error generated in WQX Web. The Error Description column describes the error in layman's terms. The General Resolution column describes the tasks to fix the error, and the Technical Resolution column contains the exact steps you need to take to resolve the issue.

This document contains only some of the most common errors generated in WQX Web. It is not an exhaustive list of all errors you may receive. In addition, occasionally errors will be reported which are the effect of other errors. For example: you may receive an error saying "Invalid Monitoring Location Id" and also receive an error on that same record that says "Missing Value: you must provide a Monitoring Location Id". The second error is an effect of the invalid monitoring location ID. Otherwise, if you continue to have errors you do not understand how to fix, please email us your question at storet@epa.gov or call us at 1 800 424-9067.

Error Generated	Error Description	General Resolution	Technical Resolution
Inconsistent Data: This Activity ID matches another one (from row X). So all other Activity elements must match as well. However, _____ is different on this row.	All Activity ID's must be unique to all Activity elements.	Create activity ID's based on the activity elements you are providing. Create a formula that concatenates[1] the activity elements to ensure the ID is unique.	Example Formula for template: =CONCATENATE(B2, TEXT(F2, "MM/DD/YYYY"), TEXT(G2, "HH:MM"))
Domain Value Invalid: Invalid value for Characteristic Name: "_____"	The characteristic (i.e. parameter being measured) being submitting does not perfectly match the characteristic domain list.	Check your spelling and ensure there are no hidden spaces in the name. If none are present, check to see if the characteristic is registered in the allowable values list.	You can ensure you submission matches the allowable values perfectly. To check the values go to WQX web > Domain Values drop down > View or download domain values > Characteristic. If you have many characteristics that do not match WQX allowable values, you can create translations in your import configuration. You can select "edit" next to characteristic in your import configuration to have the system change your "DO" to the WQX allowable value "Dissolved Oxygen (DO)" . (See the below screenshot) 📄 Result Characteristic Name {none} 12 Edit

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[1] Concatenate means to join two cells and put them into one cell. Making them into one data string

Value or Format Invalid: Invalid value for Result Analytical Method Context: "____"	The system does not recognize the analytical method you provided in your file.	The analytical method needs to be added as an allowable value in WQX Web.	Go to the Lookup values in WQX Web, select edit next to Analytical method, insert your ORG ID as the context and add the analytical method that is being rejected.
Value or Format Invalid: Invalid value 'SITE ID' for Monitoring Location ID	This error means you do not have the monitoring location 'SITE ID' in the system	Monitoring Locations need to be registered in WQX before you can associate results with them	Import only the missing monitoring locations before you submit your results. The Monitoring locations sheet in the WQX template can help you with this. http://www3.epa.gov/storet/wqx/products/WQXWeb_Physical_Chemical_Package.zip
Value or Format Invalid: Value for Activity Start Date does not match its required numeric format: 'm/d/yyyy'	The date format is not matching what you indicated in your import configuration.	Check your import configuration to determine which format you specified. Ex: If you indicated "mm/dd/yyyy" your previous submission is incorrect because it only contains one value for month and day when it needs two.	Change the field format to text, then insert a column to the right and insert this formula "=TEXT(B2, "mm/dd/yyyy") Next copy the column, and right click paste number into your date cell. Ensure the cell keeps your leading zeros.
Required Value Missing: Ex: Result detection limit is required when result detection is "Below Detection Limit"	Some data fields are called conditionally required. That means they are required when something else is reported. Such as result detection condition. If you report result detection condition of "Above detection limit" you need to indicate what limit you are referencing.	Fill in the information the error says is missing.	The below picture shows how data is captured if you have a result (fill in result value and result unit, but if you have a value that contains a < or >, use the result detection condition, result detection limit type, the limit value, and the unit the limit is measured in.

Value or Format Invalid: Invalid values 'QAPP' for Sample Collection Method When Activity Type contains the word 'Sample', Sample Collection Method is required	This means the sample collection method you reference in your file is not registered in WQX. Activity Types containing the word "Sample" mean the sample was sent to a lab or analyzed in some way. Which means you need to provide more information about how the sample was analyzed	The method needs to be registered in the system before you can reference in your results file.	1. Select: Lookup tables 2. Select: Edit next to Sample Collection Method 3. Select: Your Organization ID 4. Insert: Your Sample Collection Method ID Ex: STNDRD_SCM 5. Insert: Your Context Ex: Usually your Org ID 6. Insert: The full name of the Sample Collection Method • Optional: Add qualifiers or Description of your method
Required Value Missing: Sample Fraction is required when Characteristic is _____.	This error occurs when you submit a characteristic which requires a sample fraction.	You must add the sample fraction information for each result that contains the characteristic(s) that flagged the error.	You can check which characteristics require a sample fraction if you go to WQX web 1. Select: Doman Values tab 2. Select: View or Download domain values in the drop down list 3. Select: The word Characteristic 4. Type in the characteristic you want to know if it requires a sample fraction 5. Select: Search 6. The table generated has a column labelled "Sample Fraction Required". If the characteristic you are interested in contains a "Y" in the column, you need to identify the sample fraction. If you need to add a sample fraction to your dataset, reference the files you get from your lab to look for words such as: "Dissolve", "Total", etc.
Required Value Missing: Analytical Method is required when Activity Type is 'Sample'	Analytical methods are required with activity types containing the word "sample".	Add the Analytical Method and Analytical Method context to your dataset.	To find the Analytical method used for your data, look at the information your labs sends you. It should contain information such as: 350.1 EPA. In this case, you put "350.1" into the Analytical Method column and "USEPA" in the Analytical Method Context column.

			You may receive only a number from your lab. Such as: 350.1. You will need to determine the context for your Analytical Method. To do so follow the below steps.
			1. Select: Domain Values
			2. Select: View or Download domain values in the drop down list
			3. Select: Analytical Method
			4. Use the drop down to find USEPA
			5. Check the table for the Id you are looking for. If it is there, your Method Context is USEPA
			6. If the Method ID is not in the list, use the dropdown to select APHA
			7. Check the table for the ID your lab provided. If it is there, your Method Context is APHA
			If you cannot find the ID in either list, ask you lab who created the method they are using. If the context does not match one in our context dropdown, you will need to create a method under your organization, by selecting "edit" next to Analytical Methods