

Southern Sydney report card 2017-18

This report card provides a long-term assessment of how suitable a site is for swimming in the Southern Sydney region. Monitored locations include ocean beaches from Boat Harbour to Oak Park and estuarine areas in Botany Bay, lower Georges River and Port Hacking.

Best beaches

Greenhills Beach, Wanda Beach, Elouera Beach, North Cronulla Beach, South Cronulla Beach, Shelly Beach and Oak Park.

These sites had excellent water quality and were suitable for swimming almost all of the time.

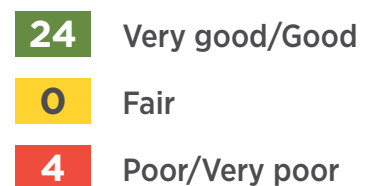
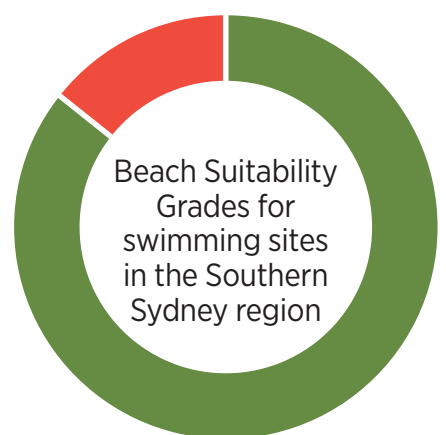
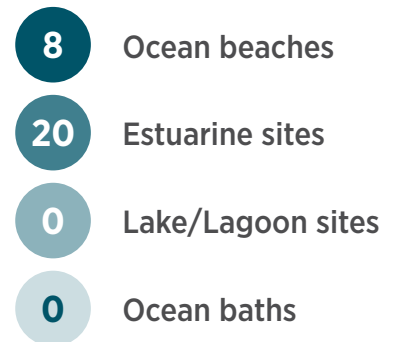
Estuarine swimming sites did not perform as well as ocean beaches due to lower levels of flushing which increase the time needed to disperse and dilute pollution inputs, taking longer to recover from stormwater events.

Rainfall impacts

Rainfall is the major driver of pollution to recreational waters, generating stormwater runoff and triggering discharges from the wastewater treatment and transport system.

Monitoring in Sydney

Recreational water quality has been monitored in the Sydney region since 1989 by the Office of Environment and Heritage's Beachwatch Program.



Beachwatch issues daily beach pollution forecasts to enable beachgoers to make informed decisions about where and when to swim.

For additional information see the *State Of The Beaches 2017-18 Report* at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/beaches/reporting

Beachwatch Southern Sydney report card 2017-18

Beach suitability grade

- VG** Very good
- G** Good
- F** Fair
- P** Poor
- VP** Very poor

Dry weather swimmability

- 100** Percentage (%) of dry weather samples within the safe swimming limit

86%
swimming sites graded
Good or Very good

