

Beachwatch

Central Sydney report card 2020-21

This report card provides a long-term assessment of how suitable a site is for swimming in the Central Sydney region. Monitored locations include ocean beaches from Bondi to Little Bay, a rockpool and estuarine areas in Sydney Harbour, lower Parramatta River and lower Lane Cove River.

Best beaches

Clovelly Beach, Gordons Bay, Maroubra Beach, South Maroubra Beach, Camp Cove and Nielsen 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 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Beachwatch Program.



10

Ocean beaches

26

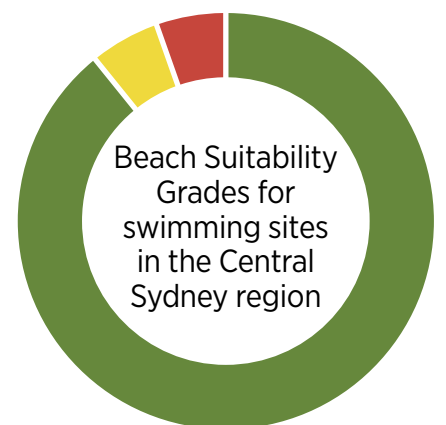
Estuarine sites

0

Lake/Lagoon sites

1

Ocean baths



33

Very good/Good

2

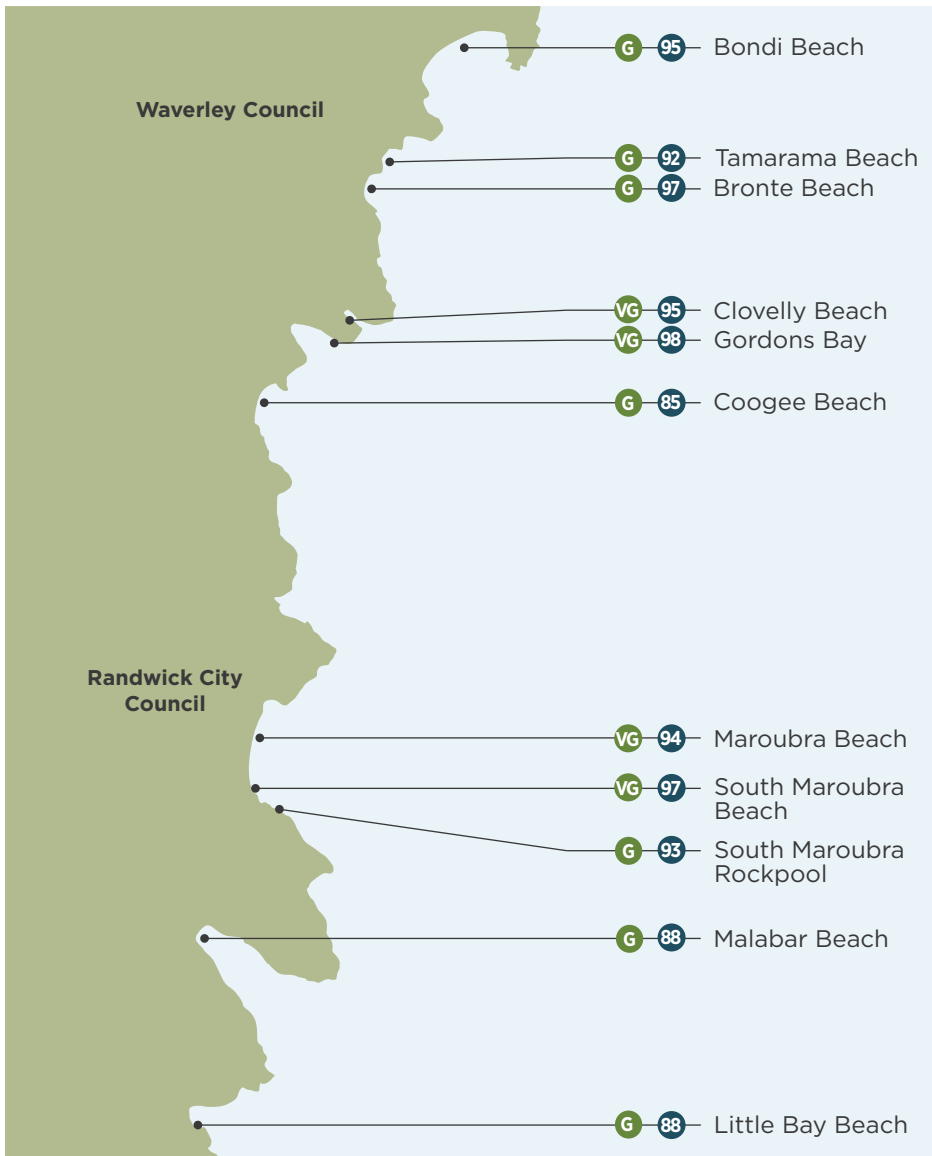
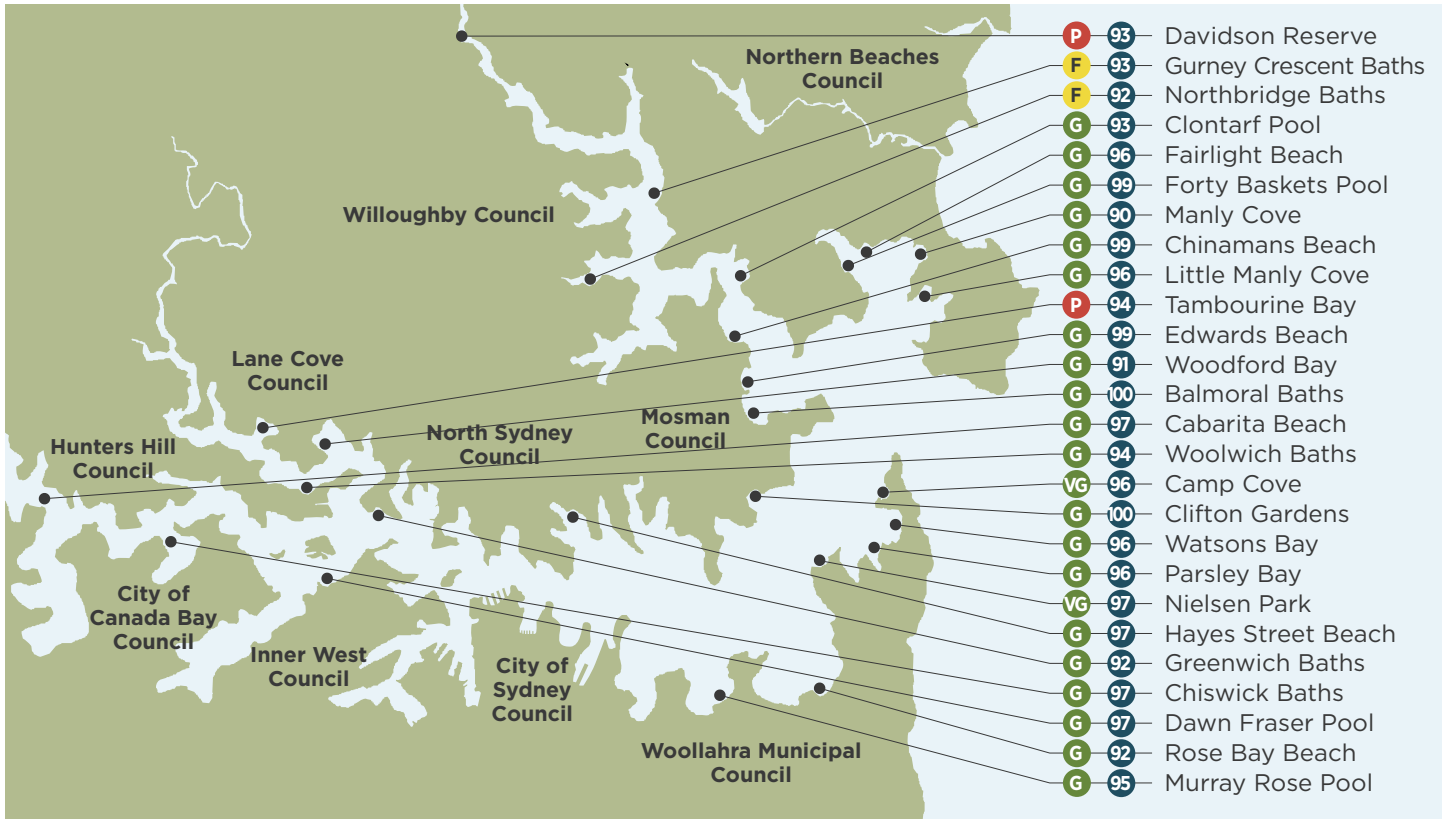
Fair

2

Poor/Very poor

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 2020-21 Report* at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/state-of-the-beaches



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89%
swimming
sites graded
Good or
Very good

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