

EPD - Beach Water Quality

Beach Water Quality in Hong Kong 2015

Our Mission:

To safeguard the health and welfare of the community and meet conservation goals by working to achieve and maintain the Water Quality Objective for bathing beaches

[Photo: Beaches with white sands and clean water are popular places for both local people and tourists to swim and enjoy their leisure time]

Introduction

Hong Kong has a long twisting coastline with many beautiful and attractive beaches. Each year, millions of beach-goers enjoy bathing in these beaches with white sands and clean water.

The objective of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD)'s Beach Water Quality Monitoring Programme is to monitor beach water quality and protect the health of bathers. The background and details of the EPD's monitoring activities can be found at its [Hong Kong Water Quality Resource Centre \(HKWQRC\) thematic website](http://wqrc.epd.gov.hk) (<http://wqrc.epd.gov.hk>) or its [beach water quality thematic website](http://www.beachwq.gov.hk) (<http://www.beachwq.gov.hk>).

[Photo: There are many great beaches in Hong Kong to swim, sunbathe and play]

This report summarises the beach monitoring data collected in 2015, the gradings of the beaches and their annual compliance with the Water Quality Objective (WQO) for bathing beaches. In 2015, the EPD monitored 41 gazetted beaches and three non-gazetted beaches in different parts of the territory. The gazetted beaches were monitored weekly during the bathing season from March to October, and EPD staff made field observations and collected samples for laboratory analyses of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) as the bacteriological water quality indicator. EPD staff also took measurements of dissolved oxygen, pH, salinity, temperature and turbidity of beach water.

[Photo: Bacteriological analysis of beach water at EPD's microbiology laboratory]

[Photo: EPD staff monitoring beach water quality]

Hong Kong's beaches are assessed using a dual system: annual ranking and weekly grading which are both based on the *E. coli* level in beach water to indicate potential health risks associated with swimming. The annual ranking reflects the overall water quality of the beach over the entire bathing season, while the weekly grading denotes the recent water quality of the beach. Under the dual rating system, beaches are categorised into "Good", "Fair", "Poor" and "Very Poor". Those ranked "Good" and "Fair" meet the WQO for bathing waters.

[Photo: Beach water quality grading board]

Annual Beach Ranking in 2015

All 41 gazetted beaches in Hong Kong complied with the WQO in 2015. Although the total rainfall (1703 mm) recorded during the bathing season in 2015 was 33% lower than that in 2014 (2523 mm) for the same period, there were frequent heavy rainstorms in the territory since May, and the total rainfall recorded in May, July and October were all higher than the normal amount recorded in the three months. There were occasional increases in the E. coli levels in beach water after heavy rainstorms, which were seen mostly for beaches in the western side of Hong Kong. Their E. coli levels were, however, still generally within the normal range of fluctuation of their bacteriological water quality. Compared with the ranking in 2014, the number of beaches ranked as "Good" has increased from 23 (or 56 %) to 25 (or 61 %) and the number of beaches ranked as "Fair" has changed from 18 (or 44%) to 16 (or 39%). No beach was ranked as "Poor" or "Very Poor" in 2015.

[Photo: Kwun Yam Beach - a favourite beach for both Cheung Chau residents and visitors]

The beaches with "Good" water quality ranking were largely located in the Southern District (Hong Kong Island South), Outlying Islands and Sai Kung. Ten of the 12 beaches in the Southern District were ranked as "Good" in 2015. The ranking of Big Wave Bay Beach had progressed from "Fair" to "Good", while Shek O Beach and Rocky Bay Beach (not open for swimming) had changed to "Fair", but the changes in E. coli levels were not statistically significant. Of the nine beaches on the Outlying Islands, eight were ranked as "Good". The ranking of Pui O Beach had progressed to "Good" while Silver Mine Bay Beach remained as "Fair". In the Sai Kung area, all six beaches were rated as "Good" in 2015 with Silverstrand Beach moved up to "Good". On the western side, Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach had progressed to "Good" while the other seven beaches in Tsuen Wan District and all six beaches along the Tuen Mun coast were all ranked as "Fair" in 2015.

[Photo: Repulse Bay Beach - one of the most beautiful beaches in Hong Kong]

Despite the occasional and temporary deterioration of water quality, largely due to heavy rain and substandard discharge from private treatment works which was later rectified, the water quality of the Tsuen Wan beaches has been stable in 2015, mainly owing to the smooth operation of the Advance Disinfection Facilities (ADF) of the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works since March 2010, and the completion of the sewerage works in the hinterland of the beaches.

[Photo: Scenic Lido Beach]

Since all the Tsuen Wan beaches have achieved the WQO for bathing, four previously closed beaches, namely Approach Beach, Casam Beach, Hoi Mei Wan Beach and Lido Beach, have been reopened to the public for swimming since June 2011. After the upgrading of beach facilities, Anglers' Beach and Ting Kau Beach have been reopened for swimming since September 2013 and April 2014 respectively. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has also reopened Gemini Beaches for public use after the completion of the improvement works in 2014, but the beaches are not open for swimming since there is no lifeguard service.

EPD also monitored three non-gazetted beaches in Hong Kong: Discovery Bay (a popular beach on Lantau Island), a sandy beach adjacent to Kiu Tsui Beach in Sai Kung, and a planned artificial beach in Lung Mei, Tai Po. In 2015, Discovery Bay and the beach adjacent to Kiu Tsui Beach continued to be ranked as "Good", and Lung Mei as "Fair". Village houses in the Lung Mei area are being connected to the public sewerage network in phases. Together with the pollution abatement measures to be implemented, the water quality at Lung Mei will continue to improve after all the sewerage connection works are completed.

Weekly Beach Grading in 2015

The EPD issues weekly gradings of gazetted beaches which are open for swimming. The information is disseminated to the public through weekly press release, EPD's websites, the beach enquiry hotline, GeoInfo Map of the GovHK website and noticeboards at the beaches.

[Photo: Clear water and fine sand makes St.Stephen's Beach an ideal bathing beach]

In 2015, the water quality of beaches in the Southern District was largely satisfactory. All ten open gazetted beaches received mostly "Good" or "Fair" grading in the bathing season. Chung Hom Kok Beach, South Bay Beach and Turtle Cove Beach achieved "Good" grading over 80% of the rating occasions, while St. Stephen's Beach was rated as "Good" close to 100% of the time.

The beaches on the Outlying Islands were generally very suitable for swimming, with Hung Shing Yeh Beach, Tong Fuk Beach and Upper Cheung Sha Beach achieving "Good" grading on all rating occasions, while Lo So Shing Beach was graded as "Good" over 90% of the time. Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach, Kwun Yam Beach and Silvermine Bay Beach were rated as "Very Poor" on one or two occasions after heavy rain.

[Photo: Hung Shing Yeh Beach - white sands, turquoise waters and blue sky]

The water quality of the Sai Kung beaches was also generally good with weekly grading of "Good" or "Fair". Hap Mun Bay Beach and Trio Beach had the best water quality achieving "Good" grading on all rating occasions.

The water quality of the beaches in Tuen Mun area was generally fine and nearly all graded as "Good" or "Fair" on most of the rating occasions. Cafeteria Old Beach and Castle Peak Beach were graded as "Very Poor" on one or two occasions after heavy rain.

The water quality of the beaches in Tsuen Wan was generally satisfactory with grading mostly at "Fair". Approach Beach, Hoi Mei Wan Beach and Ting Kau Beach were rated as "Very Poor" on several occasions after heavy rain, and Approach Beach was rated as "Poor" during the period of substandard discharge from private treatment works.

[Photo: Golden Beach in summer time]

Water Quality Trend

The beach water quality in Hong Kong is able to fully comply with the WQO for the last six years. The percentage of beaches complying with the WQO had changed from 74% in 1986 (29 of 39 beaches) to 63% (26 of 41 beaches) in 1997, and then improved to 100% since 2010 for all 41 gazetted beaches.

Comparison of annual beach ranking of gazetted beaches in 1986, 1997 and 2015

Year	WQO Compliant		WQO Non-compliant	
	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
1986	23.1%(9)	51.3%(20)	17.9%(7)	7.7%(3)
1997	24.4% (10)	39.0% (16)	29.3% (12)	7.3% (3)
2015	61.0%(25)	39.0%(16)	-	-

() No. of beaches

Note: Two Beaches degazetted in 1995 were excluded from the calculation.

Back in the 1980s, many beaches were either closed, such as Cafeteria Old Beach, Castle Peak Beach and Silver Mine Bay Beach, or on the verge of being closed (e.g. Middle Bay Beach and Repulse Bay Beach) because of poor water quality.

There was a further drop in compliance rate in the mid-1990s due to population growth particularly in the new town areas. Since then, there has been progressive improvement in the last decade as a result of enforcement of environmental legislation, extension of the sewerage network and provision of new sewage treatment facilities across the territory including the beach hinterland. Major improvement measures implemented in the past are summarized in the following table.

Major improvement measures for the beaches since the implementation of beach water quality monitoring programme in 1986

1986 – 1990

Implementation of the Livestock Waste Control Scheme under the Waste Disposal (Livestock Waste) Regulation.	Most beaches, particularly Silver Mine Bay Beach
Declaration of the Southern Water Control Zone (WCZ) under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO) and legislative enforcement.	Southern beaches
Interception and diversion of polluted storm drains at beaches in Southern District.	Southern beaches

1991- 1995

Implementation of chemical waste control.	All beaches
Declaration of the North Western WCZ under WPCO and legislative enforcement.	Tuen Mun beaches
Diversion of polluted storm water drains away from Castle Peak Beach.	
Provision of public sewers for So Kwun Wat and Sam Shing Estate.	
Commissioning of Stanley Sewage Treatment Works (STW).	Stanley Main Beach

1996 - 2000

Full implementation of WPCO in all WCZs.	All beaches
Commissioning of the Shek O Sewage Screening Plant and diversion of polluted storm water drains at Shek O Village.	Shek O Beach
Completion of all major works under Southern Southern Sewerage Master Plan.	Southern beaches
Commissioning of the new 2 km long Pillar Point sewage submarine outfall.	Tuen Mun beaches

2001 - 2005

Completion of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 1.	Big Wave Bay, Shek O, Rocky Bay Beaches
Provision of public sewers in the Silverstrand area.	Silverstrand Beach
Full operation of the Sham Tseng STW.	Beaches along the Tsuen Wan coast

2006 - 2015

Commissioning of the Advance Disinfection Facilities at Stonecutters Island STW.	All Tsuen Wan beaches
Extension of the public sewerage network to the beach hinterland along Castle Peak Road.	Beaches along the Tsuen Wan coast
Upgrading of the Pillar Point STW to chemically enhanced primary treatment with disinfection facilities	Tuen Mun beaches

Through continuous efforts of the government to implement pollution abatement measures over the years, there was significant improvement at the beaches in various districts in the last few years. Improvement at Silver Mine Bay Beach, Castle Peak Beach and Repulse Bay Beach was most remarkable as the beaches have consistently complied with the WQO in recent years. All beaches in Tsuen Wan have met the WQO since 2010. To sum up, all of Hong Kong's gazetted beaches have now achieved the required standard for swimming for the six consecutive year.

Compliance with WQO at gazetted beaches, 1997 - 2015

[Figure: Compliance with WQO at gazetted beaches, 1997 - 2015]

Water quality trend lines of gazetted beaches over the last 30 years are included in this report to show the changes over the years. More in-depth background and details of the beach monitoring programme are available at the EPD's [Hong Kong Water Quality Resource Centre \(HKWQRC\) thematic website \(http://wqrc.epd.gov.hk\)](http://wqrc.epd.gov.hk) or its [beach water quality thematic website \(http://www.beachwq.gov.hk\)](http://www.beachwq.gov.hk), which provides user-friendly access to the annual beach reports as well as data published since 2000.

[Photos: Children enjoy playing at the beach]

The Monitoring Programme

Beaches monitored by the EPD

Southern District	Sai Kung District	Tsuen Wan District	Tuen Mun District	Islands District	Tai Po District
Deep Water Bay	Kiu Tsui	Ma Wan Tung Wan	Butterfly	Silver Mine Bay	Lung Mei**
Repulse Bay	Hap Mun Bay	Anglers'	Castle Peak	Pui O	
Middle Bay	Trio	Gemini	Kadoorie	Lower Cheung Sha	
South Bay	Silverstrand	Hoi Mei Wan	Cafeteria Old	Upper Cheung Sha	
Chung Hom Kok	Clear Water Bay First	Casam	Cafeteria New	Tong Fuk	
St. Stephen's	Clear Water Bay Second	Lido	Golden	Cheung Chau Tung Wan	
Stanley Main	Kiu Tsui (New)**	Ting Kau		Kwun Yam	
Hairpin		Approach		Hung Shing Yeh	
Turtle Cove				Lo So Shing	
Shek O				Discovery Bay**	
Rocky Bay					
Big Wave Bay					

** Non-gazetted beaches

Beach monitoring frequency

Beach	Monitoring frequency per month	
	Bathing season *	Non-bathing season
Gazetted beaches open all year round**	at least 3 times	at least 3 times
Other gazetted beaches	at least 3 times	once
Non-gazetted beaches	at least 3 times	once

* March to October

** Clear Water Bay Second, Deep Water Bay, Golden and Silverstrand Beaches

Overview of various stages of the Beach Monitoring Programme

[Image of overview of various stages of the Beach Monitoring Programme]

Hong Kong's annual beach ranking system

Rank	<i>E. coli</i> counts per 100 mL*	Minor illness rate** (Cases per 1,000 swimmers)	WQO Compliance
Good	≤24	Undetectable	Compliant
Fair	25-180	≤10	
Poor	181-610	11-15	Non-compliant
Very Poor	>610	>15	

* Geometric mean *E. coli* count calculated based on all data collected between March and October.

** Skin and gastrointestinal illnesses

Hong Kong's weekly beach grading system

Grade	Beach water quality	<i>E. coli</i> counts per 100 mL*	Minor illness rate ** (Cases per 1,000 swimmers)
1	Good	≤ 24	Undetectable
2	Fair	25-180	≤ 10
3	Poor	181-610	11-15
4	Very Poor	> 610 or last reading $> 1,600$	> 15

* Unless otherwise indicated, the *E. coli* count represents the geometric mean of the 5 most recent sampling occasions.

** Skin and gastrointestinal illnesses

The 2015 Findings

[Hong Kong's gazetted beaches 2015 annual ranking](#)

[Weekly beach grading summary of gazetted beaches by district in 2015](#)

[Image of Annual ranking of gazetted beaches at a glance in 2015]

[Southern District beaches](#)

[Sai Kung beaches](#)

[Tsuen Wan beaches](#)

[Tuen Mun beaches](#)

[Outlying Islands beaches](#)

Water Quality Trend

[Annual beach rankings of gazetted beaches from 1986 to 2015](#)

[Comparison of annual beach ranking of gazetted beaches in 1986 and 2015](#)

[Annual geometric mean *E. coli* levels of gazetted beaches by district, 1997-2015](#)

Appendices

[Appendix A - Annual geometric mean *E. coli* levels \(1997 – 2015\)](#)

[Appendix B - 2015 Beach visitor number](#)

[Appendix C - Physicochemical water quality data for gazetted beaches, 2015](#)

Appendix D – Images of Long-term trend of beach water quality (1986 – 2015)

[\[Back to top\]](#)

Hong Kong's gazetted beaches 2015 annual ranking

Annual Rank			
Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Hap Mun Bay	Kadoorie	--	--
Upper Cheung Sha	Shek O		
Hung Shing Yeh	Cafeteria New		
Lo So Shing	Golden		
Tong Fuk	Rocky Bay *		
Trio	Cafeteria Old		
Turtle Cove	Casam		
Kiu Tsui	Lido		
St. Stephen's	Gemini *		
Hairpin *	Silver Mine Bay		
South Bay	Castle Peak		
Kwun Yam	Anglers'		
Chung Hom Kok	Hoi Mei Wan		
Middle Bay	Butterfly		
Clear Water Bay First	Approach		
Repulse Bay	Ting Kau		
Clear Water Bay Second			
Lower Cheung Sha			
Silverstrand			
Cheung Chau Tung Wan			
Deep Water Bay			
Ma Wan Tung Wan			
Stanley Main			
Big Wave Bay			
Pui O			

*Beaches not open for swimming
(no lifeguard service)

Weekly beach grading summary of gazetted beaches by district in 2015

District	Percentage of Weekly Gradings				Total no. of Grading Occasions
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	
Southern	72%	28%	0%	1%	351
Sai Kung	86%	14%	0%	0%	198
Tsuen Wan	14%	67%	15%	4%	251
Tuen Mun	29%	62%	7%	1%	201
Outlying Islands	75%	23%	1%	2%	294

Figures may not add up to 100% due to roundings

Annual ranking and weekly grading summary - Southern District beaches

Beach	Annual Ranking	Percentage of Weekly Gradings			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Big Wave Bay	Good	46 %	54 %	0 %	0 %
Chung Hom Kok	Good	81 %	17 %	0 %	3 %
Deep Water Bay	Good	57 %	43 %	0 %	0 %
Hairpin *	Good	94 %	6 %	0 %	0 %
Middle Bay	Good	77 %	23 %	0 %	0 %
Repulse Bay	Good	74 %	26 %	0 %	0 %
Rocky Bay *	Fair	46 %	49 %	0 %	6 %
Shek O	Fair	46 %	54 %	0 %	0 %
South Bay	Good	86 %	14 %	0 %	0 %
St. Stephen's	Good	97 %	3 %	0 %	0 %
Stanley Main	Good	66 %	34 %	0 %	0 %
Turtle Cove	Good	86 %	14 %	0 %	0 %

* Beaches not open for swimming (no lifeguard service)

Annual ranking and weekly grading summary - Sai Kung beaches

Beach	Annual Ranking	Percentage of Weekly Gradings			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Clear Water Bay First	Good	79 %	21 %	0 %	0 %
Clear Water Bay Second	Good	70 %	30 %	0 %	0 %
Hap Mun Bay	Good	100 %	0 %	0 %	0 %
Kiu Tsui	Good	94 %	6 %	0 %	0 %
Silverstrand	Good	73 %	27 %	0 %	0 %
Trio	Good	100 %	0 %	0 %	0 %

Annual ranking and weekly grading summary - Tsuen Wan beaches

District	Beach	Annual Ranking	Percentage of Weekly Gradings			
			Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Tsuen Wan	Anglers'	Fair	0 %	89 %	11 %	0 %
	Approach	Fair	0 %	58 %	34 %	8 %
	Casam	Fair	17 %	71 %	11 %	0 %
	Gemini *	Fair	0 %	94 %	6 %	0 %
	Hoi Mei Wan	Fair	6 %	78 %	14 %	3 %
	Lido	Fair	23 %	69 %	9 %	0 %
	Ting Kau	Fair	0 %	64 %	23 %	13 %
	Ma Wan Tung Wan	Good	61 %	39 %	0 %	0 %

* Beaches not open for swimming (no lifeguard service)

Annual ranking and weekly grading summary - Tuen Mun beaches

District	Beach	Annual Ranking	Percentage of Weekly Gradings			
			Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Tuen Mun	Butterfly	Fair	12 %	61 %	27 %	0 %
	Cafeteria New	Fair	42 %	58 %	0 %	0 %
	Cafeteria Old	Fair	31 %	60 %	3 %	6 %
	Castle Peak	Fair	18 %	65 %	15 %	3 %
	Golden	Fair	36 %	64 %	0 %	0 %
	Kadoorie	Fair	36 %	64 %	0 %	0 %

Annual ranking and weekly grading summary - Beaches on the Outlying Islands

Beach	Annual Ranking	Percentage of Weekly Gradings			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Cheung Chau Tung Wan	Good	62 %	35 %	0 %	3 %
Hung Shing Yeh	Good	100 %	0 %	0 %	0 %
Kwun Yam	Good	80 %	14 %	0 %	6 %
Lo So Shing	Good	91 %	9 %	0 %	0 %
Lower Cheung Sha	Good	75 %	25 %	0 %	0 %
Pui O	Good	63 %	38 %	0 %	0 %
Silver Mine Bay	Fair	12 %	79 %	3 %	6 %
Tong Fuk	Good	100 %	0 %	0 %	0 %
Upper Cheung Sha	Good	100 %	0 %	0 %	0 %

Annual beach rankings of gazetted beaches from 1986 to 2015

Year	Number of Beaches in Each Rank				Total
	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	
1986	9	20	7	3	39
1987	5	21	9	5	40
1988	7	19	7	7	40
1989	13	18	7	2	40
1990	14	19	5	2	40
1991	17	14	7	2	40
1992	16	14	7	3	40
1993	15	12	10	3	40
1994	13	14	11	2	40
1995	14	10	13	4	41
1996	13	14	10	4	41
1997	10	16	12	3	41
1998	16	16	8	1	41
1999	22	13	6	0	41
2000	21	14	6	0	41
2001	21	13	5	2	41
2002	23	10	2	6	41
2003	23	11	1	6	41
2004	25	9	5	2	41
2005	23	11	1	6	41
2006	22	12	5	2	41
2007	25	9	7	0	41
2008	24	10	7	0	41
2009	23	15	3	0	41
2010	23	18	0	0	41
2011	31	10	0	0	41
2012	23	18	0	0	41
2013	24	17	0	0	41
2014	23	18	0	0	41
2015	25	16	0	0	41

Comparison of annual beach ranking of gazetted beaches in 1986 and 2015

Year	WQO Compliant		WQO Non-compliant	
	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
1986	23.1% (9)	51.3% (20)	17.9% (7)	7.7% (3)
2015	61.0% (25)	39.0% (16)	0% (0)	0% (0)

() No. of beaches

Annual geometric mean *E. coli* levels of gazetted beaches by district, 1997 - 2015

Year	Southern	Sai Kung	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Outlying Islands
1997	55	26	562	326	24
1998	34	17	321	125	12
1999	16	9	231	59	7
2000	16	11	219	57	8
2001	18	13	321	101	12
2002	10	12	666	70	7
2003	11	14	566	85	8
2004	9	10	405	64	5
2005	14	14	576	77	8
2006	13	11	447	122	11
2007	9	8	294	77	9
2008	11	13	247	56	12
2009	11	13	163	43	10
2010	14	10	90	39	8
2011	7	5	25	34	7
2012	11	10	50	47	8
2013	12	15	85	54	11
2014	12	13	76	44	12
2015	14	8	70	45	10

Note: Annual geometric mean *E. coli* levels calculated based on all the data collected between March and October

Annual geometric mean *E. coli* levels (1997 - 2015)

Beach	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Southern District																		
Big Wave Bay	179	114	77	98	106	23	33	26	101	50	17	31	46	149	17	31	21	40	21
Chung Hom Kok	22	40	14	8	15	13	14	9	13	10	9	13	14	9	5	5	8	13	13
Deep Water Bay	55	46	14	16	18	9	9	7	8	7	7	9	12	9	6	9	11	14	19
Hairpin	44	72	17	18	10	6	7	7	13#	11#	19#	10#	12#	33#	6#	9#	14#	12#	8#
Middle Bay	40	16	11	11	8	9	14	12	20	18	9	11	12	12	6	15	14	13	13
Repulse Bay	23	11	8	9	13	9	12	4	8	12	7	14	11	7	6	7	10	11	14
Rocky Bay	399#	223#	72#	80#	118#	43#	28#	19#	30#	33#	17#	15#	13#	50#	23#	30#	22#	16#	35#
Shek O	102	70	32	29	31	13	11	16	19	24	18	22	11	19	11	16	15	18	29
South Bay	17	6	4	7	5	5	11	9	7	7	5	5	4	4	4	5	4	5	9
St. Stephen's	40	26	11	6	7	5	9	4	12	11	6	9	6	4	4	4	10	5	6
Stanley Main	72	24	13	12	9	8	6	5	7	10	9	10	13	20	6	34	19	9	20
Turtle Cove	40	14	12	11	15	8	4	5	8	7	5	5	5	8	4	6	6	8	5
Sai Kung District																			
Clear Water Bay First	62	41	11	16	28	28	17	9	16	20	14	11	15	10	7	8	24	15	14
Clear Water Bay Second	66	44	12	26	22	14	21	10	19	13	9	19	27	13	5	18	15	18	17
Hap Mun Bay	3	2	2	2	1	2	4	3	4	4	3	5	3	3	2	2	7	4	2
Kiu Tsui	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	17	14	11	6	13	16	13	9	10	13	11	6
Silverstrand	148	99	32	61	100	133	97	74	67	30	33	35	51	28	18	30	39	40	18
Trio	30	21	17	10	12	6	10	2	6	5	2	12	5	6	2	9	8	10	4
Tsuen Wan District																			
Anglers'	691#	502#	442#	326#	621#	1169#	693#	619#	895#	772#	496#	510#	276#	134#	27#	69#	133	130	77
Approach	1009#	435#	387#	316#	411#	696#	762#	470#	663#	599#	352#	251#	208#	124#	59	83	106	121	143
Casam	609	239	231	209	233	741	702#	594#	716#	426#	305#	289#	144#	102#	21	50	71	63	52
Gemini	458	399	350	258	323	1155	875#	1102#	1042#	853#	566#	481#	410#	137#	19#	40#	135#	110#	56#
Hoi Mei Wan	471	280	109	177	199	547	442#	287#	641#	308#	286#	271#	130#	87#	23	51	86	58	90
Lido	600	262	231	181	269	683	734#	523#	782#	459#	280#	296#	178#	87#	21	32	53	57	52
Ma Wan Tung Wan	110	92	51	39	133	201	159	101	132	171	78	53	60	17	10	24	41	31	20
Ting Kau	1583#	1045#	515#	593#	739#	742#	831#	412#	512#	469#	405#	258#	145#	141#	58#	88#	107#	89	151
Tuen Mun District																			
Butterfly	259	121	44	61	74	60	74	55	55	94	84	56	49	30	41	42	71	38	98
Cafeteria New	309	100	60	51	104	62	80	54	70	120	68	48	38	31	27	47	50	31	30
Cafeteria Old	435	138	58	57	125	74	76	61	81	150	67	45	46	34	29	48	39	45	41
Castle Peak	332#	199#	57#	58#	105#	58#	64#	80#	90	139	64	47	35	63	49	48	78	91	71
Golden Beach	352	98	44	50	87	66	84	46	62	117	87	63	42	37	26	62	45	39	31
Kadoorie	290	130	109	68	120	114	160	98	117	118	101	87	48	45	37	40	52	37	29
Outlying Islands																			
Cheung Chau Tung Wa	24	19	11	12	16	17	11	12	14	37	21	15	17	12	6	13	10	14	19
Hung Shing Yeh	5	3	3	5	6	2	5	4	4	4	6	4	6	4	3	4	4	5	4
Kwun Yam	32	21	6	10	11	9	7	5	10	13	9	10	9	8	5	5	9	8	12
Lo So Shing	3	2	4	2	5	2	3	2	3	4	3	5	7	3	3	4	5	5	4
Lower Cheung Sha	85	23	10	12	22	10	14	7	12	11	12	20	13	11	9	10	17	21	17
Pui O	36	16	10	10	17	10	15	9	10	16	30	24	12	14	13	22	51	60	24
Silver Mine Bay	481	123	39	50	67	42	50	14	34	52	22	43	45	31	28	38	39	51	59
Tong Fuk	14	10	4	5	6	4	3	4	5	5	4	10	5	5	4	4	7	4	4
Upper Cheung Sha	8	3	2	3	5	3	3	3	3	4	4	7	5	4	3	4	4	5	3

Note:

Figure in red indicates that the beach was not open for swimming in that year

2015 Beach visitor number

Beach	Daily Average		Peak Day	Peak Month	Total
	Weekdays	Weekends & Public Holidays			
Southern District					
Big Wave Bay	302	1,023	2,500	23,150	131,590
Chung Hom Kok	235	626	2,000	15,000	88,770
Deep Water Bay	910	4,428	15,000	115,800	504,400
Hairpin	147	266	500	7,550	45,510
Middle Bay	262	349	750	15,100	71,150
Repulse Bay	10,318	13,620	21,000	366,100	2,792,000
Rocky Bay	-	-	-	-	-
Shek O	2,858	7,166	23,000	343,600	1,044,800
South Bay	200	675	2,500	26,450	86,950
St. Stephen's	155	378	800	10,500	55,700
Stanley Main	682	2,840	18,400	72,240	339,760
Turtle Cove	61	475	2,730	9,410	48,050
Sai Kung District					
Clear Water Bay First	192	596	1,590	15,570	79,410
Clear Water Bay Second	1,964	4,540	22,000	200,600	687,190
Hap Mun Bay	332	1,170	5,400	44,940	148,370
Kiu Tsui	255	804	2,600	15,040	106,320
Silverstrand	195	1,086	7,600	28,970	119,000
Trio	322	1,019	3,610	33,540	134,670
Tsuen Wan District					
Anglers'	149	561	1,240	10,030	69,390
Approach	164	431	1,080	11,680	61,530
Casam	64	152	400	3,560	22,710
Gemini	9	31	50	620	4,010
Hoi Mei Wan	59	157	430	3,490	22,340
Lido	341	917	10,300	23,750	129,530
Ma Wan Tung Wan	518	2,427	4,500	51,380	279,670
Ting Kau	149	394	1,230	10,360	56,190
Tuen Mun District					
Butterfly	784	1,430	2,200	36,700	243,750
Cafeteria New	878	1,703	3,850	64,500	281,150
Cafeteria Old	847	1,293	3,320	39,300	243,250
Castle Peak	391	1,310	2,000	22,440	169,270
Golden	1,997	4,480	8,300	104,000	687,900
Kadoorie	653	973	1,550	32,090	185,495
Outlying Islands					
Cheung Chau Tung Wan	401	1,141	6,500	32,500	157,470
Hung Shing Yeh	459	1,136	2,020	30,900	166,640
Kwun Yam	105	485	1,040	11,500	56,090
Lo So Shing	100	318	630	6,770	41,900
Lower Cheung Sha	286	1,064	2,170	28,700	132,280
Pui O	843	2,357	7,100	71,050	327,630
Silver Mine Bay	478	1,294	4,800	34,900	182,440
Tong Fuk	280	513	1,610	19,280	87,260
Upper Cheung Sha	377	611	1,400	23,610	111,070

Note: Information provided by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Physicochemical water quality data for gazetted beaches, 2015

Beach Name	pH	Salinity(psu)	Turbidity(NTU)	Temperature(°C)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	(% Saturation)
Southern District						
Big Wave Bay Beach	8.31 (8.11 - 8.49)	30.6 (11.9 - 33.3)	3.03 (1.05 - 12.50)	25.8 (17.9 - 30.6)	6.8 (5.1 - 8.8)	96 (76 - 111)
Chung Hom Kok Beach	8.35 (8.16 - 8.67)	30.5 (22.1 - 33.6)	3.81 (1.24 - 16.50)	26.4 (18.8 - 30.0)	6.8 (5.4 - 9.7)	97 (76 - 111)
Deep Water Bay Beach	8.29 (8.03 - 8.72)	29.6 (19.3 - 33.5)	6.91 (1.89 - 29.10)	26.7 (18.1 - 30.4)	6.8 (5.5 - 8.1)	99 (86 - 118)
Hairpin Beach *	8.37 (7.97 - 8.72)	30.4 (21.3 - 33.5)	2.14 (0.69 - 5.57)	26.8 (18.1 - 31.5)	7.1 (6.2 - 8.3)	101 (81 - 118)
Middle Bay Beach	8.37 (8.18 - 8.78)	29.9 (21.1 - 33.4)	4.55 (1.06 - 16.90)	26.4 (18.5 - 29.8)	6.9 (5.5 - 8.8)	98 (85 - 116)
Repulse Bay Beach	8.35 (8.13 - 8.74)	30.4 (21.5 - 33.6)	4.95 (1.33 - 26.20)	26.1 (18.5 - 29.9)	6.8 (5.3 - 8.6)	97 (83 - 110)
Rocky Bay Beach *	8.27 (8.05 - 8.44)	31.6 (24.2 - 33.3)	2.80 (0.49 - 8.46)	25.7 (17.8 - 30.7)	6.7 (5.7 - 8.5)	95 (80 - 108)
Shek O Beach	8.33 (8.19 - 8.67)	31.5 (21.9 - 33.4)	3.81 (0.93 - 13.60)	25.9 (17.9 - 30.7)	6.9 (6.1 - 8.0)	98 (77 - 120)
South Bay Beach	8.36 (8.17 - 8.71)	30.3 (21.6 - 33.5)	3.44 (1.12 - 10.50)	26.5 (18.8 - 30.0)	6.7 (5.3 - 8.0)	98 (82 - 116)
St. Stephen's Beach	8.33 (8.17 - 8.55)	30.2 (21.9 - 33.6)	3.41 (1.07 - 28.50)	26.4 (17.1 - 30.1)	6.9 (5.4 - 9.6)	99 (85 - 122)
Stanley Main Beach	8.37 (8.14 - 8.72)	30.2 (21.6 - 33.1)	3.53 (0.69 - 13.40)	26.8 (18.3 - 30.9)	7.0 (6.1 - 8.7)	102 (77 - 130)
Turtle Cove Beach	8.37 (8.09 - 8.74)	30.1 (20.4 - 33.6)	4.84 (0.86 - 15.90)	26.6 (18.3 - 31.3)	6.8 (5.9 - 8.6)	98 (76 - 122)

Sai Kung District

Clear Water Bay First Beach	8.37 (8.08 - 8.63)	31.4 (22.7 - 33.4)	5.16 (1.31 - 25.30)	26.8 (17.1 - 32.0)	6.9 (6.1 - 8.1)	99 (91 - 120)
Clear Water Bay Second Beach	8.36 (8.15 - 8.59)	31.9 (24.5 - 33.4)	6.32 (1.43 - 25.20)	26.7 (17.1 - 32.0)	6.8 (6.0 - 7.4)	98 (90 - 112)
Hap Mun Bay Beach	8.39 (8.21 - 8.64)	31.6 (24.1 - 33.4)	2.45 (0.40 - 11.10)	26.9 (17.7 - 32.3)	6.7 (5.6 - 8.6)	97 (75 - 123)
Kiu Tsui Beach	8.40 (8.10 - 8.70)	31.4 (23.8 - 33.4)	1.96 (0.50 - 5.02)	27.0 (17.9 - 32.0)	6.8 (5.5 - 7.9)	98 (76 - 110)
Silverstrand Beach	8.38 (8.15 - 8.65)	30.5 (24.3 - 32.7)	3.08 (0.77 - 9.18)	26.7 (17.7 - 32.0)	6.8 (5.9 - 7.9)	98 (91 - 105)
Trio Beach	8.38 (8.21 - 8.66)	30.7 (16.8 - 33.2)	2.39 (0.76 - 5.13)	27.2 (17.9 - 33.5)	6.7 (5.5 - 8.0)	97 (73 - 116)

Tsuen Wan District

Anglers' Beach	8.19 (7.88 - 8.56)	26.1 (10.6 - 32.7)	4.81 (1.47 - 11.20)	26.1 (18.4 - 30.4)	6.6 (5.5 - 9.1)	93 (75 - 113)
Approach Beach	8.19 (7.94 - 8.43)	24.9 (15.0 - 32.3)	4.48 (1.69 - 13.90)	26.4 (18.5 - 29.8)	6.7 (5.1 - 9.2)	94 (72 - 122)
Casam Beach	8.22 (8.05 - 8.51)	25.9 (17.0 - 32.4)	3.42 (1.59 - 7.37)	26.0 (15.5 - 29.5)	6.6 (5.5 - 9.3)	93 (73 - 117)
Gemini Beaches *	8.19 (7.91 - 8.56)	26.3 (13.1 - 32.7)	3.99 (1.47 - 11.80)	26.2 (18.4 - 29.8)	6.6 (5.5 - 7.9)	94 (70 - 115)
Hoi Mei Wan Beach	8.18 (7.96 - 8.49)	25.6 (15.9 - 32.5)	3.62 (1.72 - 8.15)	26.5 (18.4 - 30.4)	6.5 (5.4 - 8.8)	93 (77 - 117)
Lido Beach	8.19 (7.97 - 8.55)	25.9 (16.5 - 32.6)	3.84 (1.61 - 9.62)	26.3 (18.5 - 29.8)	6.5 (5.5 - 8.0)	93 (70 - 115)
Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach	8.18 (8.00 - 8.32)	28.0 (18.1 - 32.7)	5.60 (2.52 - 12.40)	26.0 (18.5 - 31.0)	6.5 (5.5 - 7.7)	93 (76 - 100)
Ting Kau Beach	8.22 (7.93 - 8.48)	24.7 (15.1 - 32.3)	3.79 (1.61 - 7.96)	26.5 (18.4 - 29.4)	6.5 (5.0 - 8.6)	92 (70 - 119)

Tuen Mun District

Butterfly Beach	8.19 (7.95 - 8.52)	23.3 (9.1 - 31.3)	9.57 (2.89 - 22.30)	27.1 (18.5 - 30.9)	6.7 (5.2 - 8.8)	96 (70 - 129)
Cafeteria New Beach	8.22 (7.92 - 8.60)	22.7 (7.6 - 31.4)	9.99 (4.35 - 16.70)	26.7 (18.8 - 30.8)	6.6 (5.3 - 7.8)	94 (71 - 114)
Cafeteria Old Beach	8.21 (7.97 - 8.53)	22.2 (7.6 - 31.5)	10.27 (2.62 - 27.20)	26.9 (18.7 - 30.6)	6.6 (5.3 - 8.4)	95 (70 - 115)
Castle Peak Beach	8.23 (7.98 - 8.56)	22.3 (5.9 - 31.7)	6.36 (2.62 - 24.10)	27.2 (18.7 - 31.3)	6.8 (5.8 - 9.2)	97 (77 - 125)
Golden Beach	8.20 (7.96 - 8.51)	22.8 (7.7 - 31.6)	11.59 (4.98 - 26.60)	26.7 (18.8 - 30.8)	6.6 (5.2 - 8.0)	95 (71 - 117)
Kadoorie Beach	8.20 (7.98 - 8.46)	22.6 (7.1 - 31.6)	6.4 (2.43 - 12.50)	26.9 (18.8 - 30.8)	6.7 (5.4 - 8.3)	94 (71 - 114)

Islands District

Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach	8.28 (8.03 - 8.53)	28.8 (22.4 - 32.8)	3.62 (1.30 - 14.40)	26.5 (18.4 - 30.6)	6.7 (5.6 - 8.5)	95 (75 - 121)
Hung Shing Yeh Beach	8.28 (8.13 - 8.68)	28.6 (17.2 - 33.1)	5.15 (1.18 - 17.30)	26.5 (17.7 - 30.4)	6.8 (6.0 - 8.7)	96 (83 - 114)
Kwun Yam Beach	8.27 (7.99 - 8.57)	28.4 (21.0 - 32.7)	4.26 (1.41 - 17.20)	26.5 (18.3 - 29.9)	6.9 (5.3 - 8.7)	96 (75 - 120)
Lo So Shing Beach	8.29 (8.10 - 8.60)	29.2 (13.9 - 33.3)	3.80 (1.33 - 25.20)	26.6 (18.9 - 31.2)	6.9 (6.0 - 8.9)	96 (82 - 113)
Lower Cheung Sha Beach	8.35 (8.15 - 8.78)	28.2 (17.2 - 32.5)	9.94 (3.52 - 38.60)	26.9 (18.3 - 31.6)	6.8 (5.6 - 8.1)	96 (81 - 117)
Pui O Beach	8.35 (8.15 - 8.83)	27.8 (13.2 - 32.8)	12.06 (4.13 - 36.20)	27.5 (18.6 - 32.2)	6.7 (5.3 - 7.8)	96 (78 - 111)
Silver Mine Bay Beach	8.27 (8.01 - 8.67)	26.0 (9.8 - 31.6)	10.41 (2.28 - 23.20)	27.4 (18.1 - 32.0)	6.8 (5.1 - 8.0)	96 (77 - 121)
Tong Fuk Beach	8.37 (8.12 - 8.81)	28.5 (18.0 - 32.6)	7.20 (1.75 - 19.50)	26.7 (18.4 - 30.5)	6.8 (6.0 - 7.7)	96 (77 - 104)
Upper Cheung Sha Beach	8.37 (8.16 - 8.82)	28.6 (17.4 - 32.9)	8.51 (2.06 - 56.60)	26.6 (18.5 - 30.4)	6.8 (6.0 - 8.5)	96 (84 - 104)

*Beaches not open for swimming (no lifeguard service)

Note: Data presented are arithmetic means; figures in brackets are ranges.

Footnote:

1. Practical Salinity Unit
2. Nephelometric Turbidity Unit