CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
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# KNOW YOUR COAST: 2025

Presentation of coastal water quality results and categories from the reporting period 1 October 2023 to 31 May 2025.

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CITY OF CAPE TOWN

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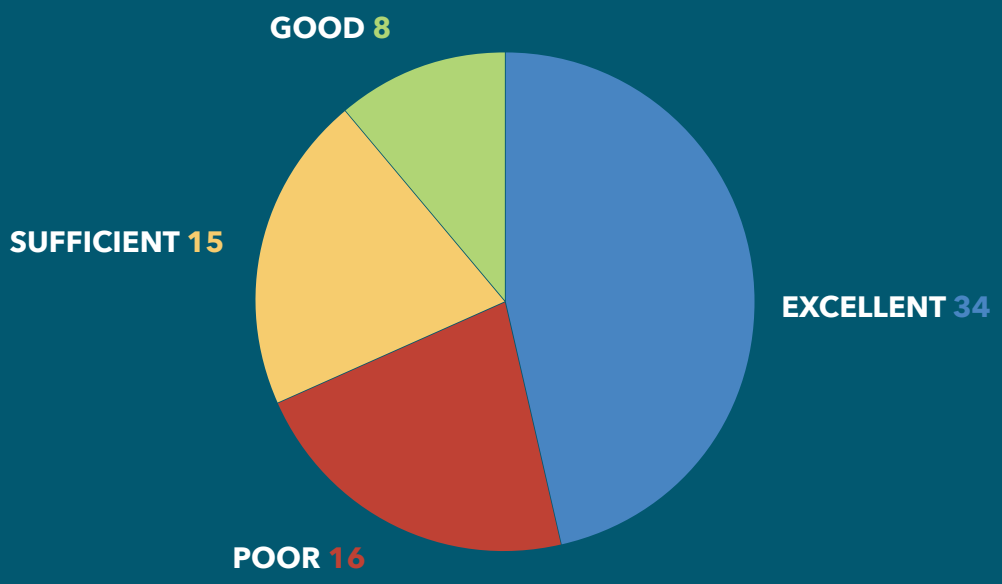
# SUMMARY

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING REPORT

**3 874**
**SAMPLES COLLECTED**
in the 20-month reporting period

OF THESE,
**275**
**SAMPLES (7%)**
EXCEEDED THE RECREATIONAL THRESHOLD OF 240 CFU/100 ML FOR ENTEROCOCCI.

## CAPE TOWN'S RECREATIONAL BEACHES DURING THE 20-MONTH REPORTING PERIOD



# INTRODUCTION

The Know Your Coast annual report provides a comprehensive analysis of coastal water quality across Cape Town's coastline. It offers insight into where and how often sampling is conducted, the health risk categories assigned to each site (overall, summer months, and winter months), and the compliance of test results over time. This report aims to communicate Coastal Management's coastal water quality monitoring efforts and the results thereof, as well as support informed decision-making for residents and beach-goers.

This year's edition presents data that was collected from October 2023 to May 2025 – a 20-month reporting period. This extended period, longer than the typical 12-month reporting cycle (1 December to 30 November as per previous KYC reports), was designed to include the most recent available data and to accommodate disruptions experienced in previous cycles. At some sites, data collection only resumed in November 2024 after the new sampling regime was implemented.

The last iteration of this report was presented in the form of a **Know Your Coast FAQ** document, providing detailed information on the City's coastal water quality monitoring programme as well as marine outfalls, in the absence of sufficient data for health risk categorisation.

This report presents the findings of a total of 3 874 samples for enterococci collected over 20 months across 73 recreational sites in Cape Town. These include routine samples, and daily sampling at five sites. Enterococci is the sole faecal indicator organism/bacteria (FIO/FIB) currently tested by the City of Cape Town (the City) for health risk categorisation as prescribed by the current global recommendations. The World Health Organization recommends enterococci as the sole indicator for faecal monitoring in recreational waterbodies.

Quotes from the latest **Guidelines on Recreational Water Quality**:

"WHO recommends intestinal enterococci only, rather than intestinal enterococci and/or *E. coli*, since no statistical relationship has been established for *E. coli* that can support a dose–response guideline value. Some jurisdictions, such as the European Union, use *E. coli* in fresh water with a 100 cfu/100 ml threshold of risk, based on findings of Wiedenmann et al. (2006). However, the study sites in Wiedenmann et al. (2006) are less characteristic of waters globally, and use of two FIOs can introduce avoidable complexity in analysis and interpretation of results at the operational level." (WHO, 2021)

Please refer to the Know Your Coast 2023 publication for further detail and information on coastal water quality pressures in an urban context (inclusive of pressures at a catchment-scale, wastewater systems, marine outfalls, the presence of pharmaceuticals in the coastal and marine environment, stormwater systems and the impact of stormwater on the coastal water quality, as well as information on algal blooms). In addition to this, more information is also provided on chemicals of emerging concern research which can be found on the **coastal webpage**.

# FIVE-YEAR ANALYSIS

The table below contains a list of all recreational sites, the sampling frequency, the corresponding number of samples collected over five years, the number of samples exceeding the single sample threshold of 240 cfu/100 ml as well as the percentage compliance, i.e. number of failures out of the total number of samples as a percentage. Note: some sites were added recently, so they do not have more than one year of sampling.

## TABLE 1

| Site | Sampling frequency | Total samples | Total exceedances | Compliance (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Glencairn Beach | Weekly | 121 | 0 | 100 |
| Camps Bay North | Weekly | 74 | 0 | 100 |
| Glencairn Tidal Pool | Weekly | 43 | 0 | 100 |
| Danger Beach | Weekly | 43 | 0 | 100 |
| Miller's Point Tidal Pool | Bimonthly | 37 | 0 | 100 |
| Queen's Beach Tidal Pool | Bimonthly | 23 | 0 | 100 |
| Queen's Beach Gully | Bimonthly | 23 | 0 | 100 |
| Noordhoek Beach (Hoek) | Bimonthly | 21 | 0 | 100 |
| Inner Kom | Bimonthly | 20 | 0 | 100 |
| Camps Bay Central | Weekly* | 309 | 2 | 99 |
| Silwerstroomstrand | Bimonthly | 115 | 1 | 99 |
| Clifton Second Beach | Bimonthly | 76 | 1 | 99 |
| Oudekraal | Weekly (Oct–Mar) | 69 | 1 | 99 |
| Glen Beach | Weekly* | 367 | 7 | 98 |
| Dalebrook Tidal Pool | Weekly | 180 | 3 | 98 |
| St James Tidal Pool | Weekly | 180 | 4 | 98 |
| Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool West Inside | Weekly | 123 | 2 | 98 |
| Kogel Bay Beach | Bimonthly | 123 | 2 | 98 |
| Maiden's Cove North Sandy Cove | Weekly | 122 | 2 | 98 |
| Scarborough Beach | Bimonthly | 104 | 2 | 98 |
| Beta Beach | Weekly | 44 | 1 | 98 |
| Camps Bay South | Weekly* | 424 | 11 | 97 |
| Clifton Fourth Beach | Weekly | 186 | 5 | 97 |
| Big Bay | Weekly | 180 | 6 | 97 |
| Llandudno | Weekly | 163 | 5 | 97 |
| Long Beach Kommetjie | Weekly | 156 | 4 | 97 |
| Melkbosstrand | Weekly | 133 | 4 | 97 |
| Kalk Bay Tidal Pool | Weekly | 125 | 4 | 97 |

| Site | Sampling frequency | Total samples | Total exceedances | Compliance (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool | Bimonthly | 115 | 3 | 97 |
| Fisherman's Beach | Bimonthly | 105 | 3 | 97 |
| Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool East Inside | Bimonthly | 102 | 3 | 97 |
| Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach | Weekly | 132 | 5 | 96 |
| Milton Beach Tidal Pool | Weekly | 127 | 5 | 96 |
| Table View | Weekly | 125 | 5 | 96 |
| Camps Bay Tidal Pool | Weekly | 187 | 9 | 95 |
| Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool | Weekly | 128 | 7 | 95 |
| Cosy Bay | Bimonthly | 22 | 1 | 95 |
| Woolley's Tidal Pool | Bimonthly | 21 | 1 | 95 |
| Monwabisi Tidal Pool | Weekly | 179 | 10 | 94 |
| Strandfontein Tidal Pool | Weekly | 178 | 10 | 94 |
| Small Bay | Weekly | 126 | 7 | 94 |
| Fish Hoek Beach Jager Walk | Weekly | 126 | 9 | 93 |
| Mouille Point Beach | Bimonthly | 108 | 8 | 93 |
| Rocklands Beach | Bimonthly | 107 | 7 | 93 |
| Barley Bay | Bimonthly | 106 | 7 | 93 |
| Boulders Beach | Bimonthly | 92 | 6 | 93 |
| Seaforth Beach | Weekly | 180 | 15 | 92 |
| Simon's Town Long Beach | Weekly | 179 | 15 | 92 |
| Mnandi Beach | Weekly | 131 | 10 | 92 |
| Hout Bay Mariner's Wharf | Weekly | 71 | 6 | 92 |
| Milnerton Lighthouse | Weekly | 183 | 17 | 91 |
| Gordon's Bay Milkwoods | Weekly | 74 | 7 | 91 |
| Three Anchor Bay Beach | Weekly | 45 | 4 | 91 |
| Windmill Beach | Bimonthly | 22 | 2 | 91 |
| Blue Waters Resort | Bimonthly | 22 | 2 | 91 |
| Fish Hoek Beach | Weekly | 131 | 13 | 90 |
| Kalk Bay Harbour Beach | Bimonthly | 105 | 10 | 90 |
| Strandfontein Beach | Weekly | 81 | 9 | 89 |
| Muizenberg Pavilion | Weekly | 132 | 17 | 87 |
| Bakoven Beach | Weekly | 130 | 18 | 86 |
| Strand Lifesaving Club | Weekly* | 370 | 55 | 85 |
| Strand Pipe Surfing | Weekly* | 285 | 43 | 85 |
| Muizenberg Surfer's Corner | Weekly | 127 | 20 | 84 |
| Gordon's Bay East Beach | Weekly | 127 | 20 | 84 |
| Hout Bay Chapman's Peak | Weekly | 193 | 32 | 83 |
| Strand Harmonie Park Jetty | Weekly | 127 | 22 | 83 |
| Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool Outside | Weekly | 158 | 28 | 82 |
| Macassar Beach | Bimonthly | 104 | 20 | 81 |
| Monwabisi Beach | Bimonthly | 159 | 32 | 80 |
| Sunrise Beach Parking Area | Bimonthly | 106 | 22 | 79 |
| Ribbon Road Parking Area | Bimonthly | 105 | 23 | 78 |
| Clovelly Beach | Bimonthly | 137 | 36 | 74 |
| Lagoon Beach | Weekly | 245 | 89 | 64 |

*Select research sites with daily sampling.
Sampling data as of September 2025.

# THE CITY'S COASTAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMMES

The below provides an overview of the programmes currently run by the City in terms of coastal water quality monitoring. These programmes include:

1. Routine sampling of 107 sites – see table 1 for details on sites, sampling frequency and compliance.

2. Blue Flag monitoring – independent collection and analysis, conducted only during the Blue Flag season.

3. Ongoing higher frequency daily sampling at selected beaches (see detailed reports for **Camps Bay**, **Strand**, **Green Point** and **Hout Bay** for results of this higher frequency sampling). Updated reports for Camps bay and Strand will be published after a full year of daily sampling.

4. Marine outfall **historic** and ongoing monitoring (published online soon) – multiple CWQ variables are monitored monthly and quarterly at 18–21 locations around each outfall. Results are presented publicly at quarterly Permit Advisory forums.

5. Chemicals of emerging concern: **preliminary report** complete, and monitoring programme in development.

# SAMPLING REGIME

In November 2024, the City revised its Coastal Water Quality Monitoring programme, increasing the sampling frequency from bimonthly or monthly to weekly at most recreational sites (please refer to table 1). This is important to monitor finer scale patterns in water quality at highly recreational sites, and especially throughout winter where coastal water quality has been seen to fluctuate in some areas.

Additional sites were also introduced to enhance spatial coverage and improve detection of localised water quality issues.

Based on this new sampling programme the City now monitors a total of 107 coastal sites. These sites are classified into two categories, namely:

- Recreational nodes: 73 sites at beaches and tidal pools used by the public, and which are assessed for public health risks.
- Monitoring points: 34 sites located near known or potential pollution sources (such as stormwater outlets, effluent discharge sites and river mouths), and which are selected to monitor pollution from these sources. As these sites are not recreational use sites, they are not assessed against nationally determined coastal recreational use guidelines.

This new regime will now produce a total of 3 468 samples per year with dedicated coastal samplers travelling along the whole coastline each week. This amounts to just under 300 samples per month, results of which are all published online. With this increase in frequent, consistent sampling, greater understanding of coastal water quality dynamics and trends will be available for policymakers and the public.

# COASTAL MANAGEMENT SAMPLING WORKFLOW

Coastal water quality sampling and testing is a delicate process and can be influenced by a number of factors including the sampling method and environment, handling of the samples, sampling site, time of day, and more. The City follows accredited sampling and analysis methods for coastal analysis.

The steps below provide an overview of the workflow for sample collection, sample handling, data processing and reporting within the Coastal Water Quality Monitoring programme:

1. Samples are collected according to a fixed schedule and stored in a cooler box with ice bricks and a temperature logger which records the sample temperature from the time of collection until arrival at a laboratory accredited for testing of faecal indicator bacteria (FIBs) in marine water.

2. Chain of custody documentation and cold-chain quality are maintained to ensure traceability and the preservation of sample quality.

3. Laboratory analysis is conducted in line with standard methods and SANS 7899-2:2004/ ISO 7899-2:2000.

4. Laboratory results are received in PDF format and automatically imported into a database using a specialised programme.

5. Hazen percentile categories and percentage exceedances are calculated automatically and populated into the Coastal Water Quality Dashboard as a spreadsheet.

6. The final dashboard is exported as a PDF and uploaded onto the City's website for public viewing.

7. Coastal Management is working toward a more automated dashboard with historic data, similar to the **Inland Water Quality Dashboard**.

# HOW THE DATA IS REPORTED

Weekly updates are published on the **City's Coastal Water Quality Dashboard**, which includes the following information for each recreational node:

1. Descriptive location names of each sampling site
2. GPS coordinates of each site
3. Hazen percentile **five-year health risk category**
4. Percentage compliance over preceding five years
5. Hazen percentile **12-month health risk category**
6. Most recent summer (six months) health risk category
7. Last eight weeks' raw test results
8. Date of most recent sample
9. Current beach status and any related action, if required

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## Coastal Water Quality Dashboard

1 Health risk categories are calculated on five year rolling period, 365 day rolling period and six month (summer; October 2024 to March 2025) period. These are calculated using the Hazen percentile method. Any difference in category observed is due to different time periods of data being included in the calculation e.g. five years of data vs. 12 months of data.

2 Percentage exceedence over single sample threshold (>240cfu/100ml) is also indicated for the rolling five year period.

3 The five year rolling period is calculated from 2018 to Present day (PD) and excludes 2022 and 2023 where enterococci data was not consistently available (please see more information on page 5 of the 2025 KYC report).

4 More information on the suggested monitoring protocol and implementation protocol is available in the below footnote hyperlink

| Grade | Estimated risk of illness per exposure* | Enterococci (cfu/100 mℓ) |
|---|---|---|
| Excellent | <2.9% gastrointestinal (GI) illness risk | < 100 (95 percentile) |
| Good | <5% GI illness risk | < 200 (95 percentile) |
| Sufficient | <8.5% GI illness risk | < 185 (90 percentile) |
| Poor | > 8.5% GI illness risk | > 185 (90 percentile) |

* Please see chapter 6 of Vol 2: Guidelines for Recreational Use (2012)

| NWQ Operational Management** Legend | Action |
|---|---|
| Green | No action required, enterococci less than 240 cfu/100ml. Continue surveillance. |
| Amber | Determine cause or conduct follow up sample if required |
| Red alert | Two consecutive samples greater than 380 cfu/100ml. Inform public via signage |

**Please see chapter 6.2 of Vol 2: Guidelines for Recreational Use (2012)

| Legend | |
|---|---|
| TFD | Too few data |
| | Awaiting data or not sampled as part of sampling schedule |

### RECREATIONAL NODES **ATLANTIC COAST**

| | | | | | | | | | Most Recent Sample | | Current Status | Previous Samples | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Site Order | Site | Code | Longitude | Latitude | 5-year Category | Percentage compliance over 5-year period | 365-day Category (past 12 months) | Summer 2024/2025 Category | Most Recent Sample | Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL) | Action Required | 2025/10/27 | 2025/10/20 | 2025/10/13 | 2025/10/06 | 2025/09/29 | 2025/09/22 | 2025/09/15 | 2025/09/08 |
| 1 | Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool | KCN08 | 18.36005 | -33.59123333 | Excellent | 97 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-20 | 0 | Green | | 0 | | 1 | | | 0 | |
| 2 | Silwerstroomstrand | KCN14 | 18.359023 | -33.588165 | Excellent | 99 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-20 | 1 | Green | | 1 | | 1 | | | 0 | |
| 3 | Melkbosstrand | KCN07 | 18.44006 | -33.726691 | Good | 97 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 1 | Green | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 12 |
| 4 | Big Bay | KCN12 | 18.45666667 | -33.7938 | Excellent | 97 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 1 | Green | 1 | 4 | 7 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 25 |
| 5 | Small Bay | CN37 | 18.45852252 | -33.79914844 | Sufficient | 95 | Good | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 42 | Green | 42 | 8 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 33 | 7 | 44 |
| 6 | Tableview | KCN06 | 18.4761 | -33.82303333 | Excellent | 96 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 2 | Green | 2 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 120 |
| 7 | Milnerton Lighthouse | KCN04 | 18.48665 | -33.88135 | Poor | 91 | Sufficient | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 43 | Green | 43 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 85 | 2 | 1 | 410 |
| 8 | Lagoon Beach | CN22 | 18.481274 | -33.892047 | Poor | 85 | Poor | Poor | 2025-10-27 | 93 | Green | 93 | 18 | 41 | 120 | 90 | 75 | 17 | 25 |
| 9 | Mouille Point Beach | CN04 | 18.40758333 | -33.89918333 | Sufficient | 93 | Good | Good | 2025-10-20 | 51 | Green | | 51 | | 40 | | 139 | | 6 |
| 10 | Three Anchor Bay Beach | CN36 | 18.39798198 | -33.90611137 | Poor | 92 | Poor | Poor | 2025-10-27 | 38 | Green | 38 | 51 | 20 | 155 | 8 | 98 | 106 | 15 |
| 11 | Rocklands Beach | CN06C | 18.39336667 | -33.90851667 | Sufficient | 93 | Good | Good | 2025-10-20 | 2 | Green | | 2 | | 120 | | 23 | | 8 |
| 12 | Milton Beach Tidal Pool | CN18I | 18.386189 | -33.914455 | Good | 96 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 0 | Green | 0 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 52 |
| 13 | Queen's Beach Tidal Pool | CN34 | 18.37869426 | -33.92108985 | Excellent | 100 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-30 | 1 | Green | | 1 | | 14 | | 0 | | 0 |
| 14 | Queen's Beach Gully | CN35 | 18.37825668 | -33.92135956 | Excellent | 100 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-20 | 2 | Green | | 2 | | 20 | | 3 | | 0 |
| 15 | Saunders Rocks Tidal Pool Outside | CN16O | 18.377186 | -33.924225 | Poor | 84 | Sufficient | Poor | 2025-10-27 | 2 | Green | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| 16 | Saunders Rocks Tidal Pool | CN16I | 18.377048 | -33.924335 | Good | 95 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-27 | 0 | Green | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 185 |
| 17 | Clifton Second Beach | CN42 | 18.376607 | -33.937505 | Excellent | 99 | Good | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 0 | Green | | 0 | | 4 | | 3 | | 1 |
| 18 | Clifton Fourth Beach | CN09 | 18.374417 | -33.940619 | Good | 97 | Good | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 11 | Green | | 11 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 2 |
| 19 | Maidens Cove North Sandy Cove | CN10 | 18.37227917 | -33.94353961 | Good | 98 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 10 | Green | | 10 | 2 | 9 | 30 | 28 | | 0 |
| 20 | Maidens Cove Tidal Pool West Inside | CN19I | 18.37335 | -33.944889 | Excellent | 98 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 2 | Green | | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 21 | Maidens Cove Tidal Pool East Inside | CN20I | 18.374671 | -33.945203 | Good | 97 | Sufficient | Good | 2025-10-21 | 0 | Green | | 0 | | 4 | | 1 | | 10 |
| 22 | Glen Beach | CN31 | 18.377192 | -33.947056 | Excellent | 98 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 2 | Green | 2 | 10 | 39 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 4 | 16 |
| 23 | Camps Bay North | CN30 | 18.377445 | -33.948847 | Excellent | 100 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 0 | Green | 0 | 22 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 24 | Camps Bay Central | CN41 | 18.37711225 | -33.95092422 | Excellent | 99 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 5 | Green | 5 | 1 | 25 | 3 | 0 | 121 | 4 | 2 |
| 25 | Camps Bay South | CN11 | 18.37566417 | -33.95262556 | Excellent | 98 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 65 | Green | 65 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 26 | Camps Bay Tidal Pool | CN12A | 18.375176 | -33.955052 | Sufficient | 95 | Good | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 0 | Green | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| 27 | Barley Bay | CN14 | 18.37688167 | -33.95765444 | Sufficient | 93 | Poor | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 0 | Green | | 0 | | 22 | | 21 | | 5 |
| 28 | Bella Beach | CN40 | 18.37450268 | -33.95956009 | Excellent | 98 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 0 | Green | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| 29 | Bakoven Beach | CN21 | 18.37305972 | -33.96549972 | Poor | 86 | Poor | Good | 2025-10-28 | 3 | Green | 3 | 6 | 9 | 48 | 12 | 30 | 72 | 41 |
| 30 | Cosy Bay | CN39 | 18.36154654 | -33.98211535 | Sufficient | 96 | Sufficient | Excellent | 2025-10-21 | 6 | Green | | 6 | | 3 | | 3 | | 16 |
| 31 | Oudekraal | KCN09 | 18.34967472 | -33.987235 | Good | 99 | Good | Good | 2025-10-28 | 0 | Green | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | | | |
| 32 | Llandudno | KCN03 | 18.34031 | -34.007816 | Good | 97 | Excellent | Excellent | 2025-10-28 | 0 | Green | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 1 |

# COASTAL WATER QUALITY: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Coastal Management is responsible for sample collection, reporting and long-term monitoring of a multitude of coastal water quality measurables, which include the faecal indicator bacteria – enterococci.

Health advisories, including signage and media releases are issued by City Health.

# UNDERSTANDING HEALTH RISK CATEGORIES: THE HAZEN PERCENTILE METHOD

The City assesses coastal water quality based on levels of intestinal enterococci, a bacterial indicator for faecal contamination. Public health risk categories are determined using the Hazen percentile method, in line with the World Health Organization's 2021 guidelines.

WHO recommends enterococci as the preferred indicator for marine waters and indicates that *E. coli* is not suitable for this purpose. Using it in conjunction with enterococci introduces unnecessary complexity without improving risk assessment accuracy (WHO, 2021).

The Hazen percentile method:

- ranks all sample results in ascending order for the chosen period (e.g. 12 months, five years, or 20 months as in the case of this report);
- identifies the values that 90% and 95% of samples fall below; and
- assigns a category based on those percentile thresholds (see table 2 below):
  - Excellent: 95% of samples below 100 cfu/100 ml
  - Poor: 90% of values below 185 cfu/100 ml

## TABLE 2: HEALTH RISK CATEGORIES BASED ON HAZEN PERCENTILES

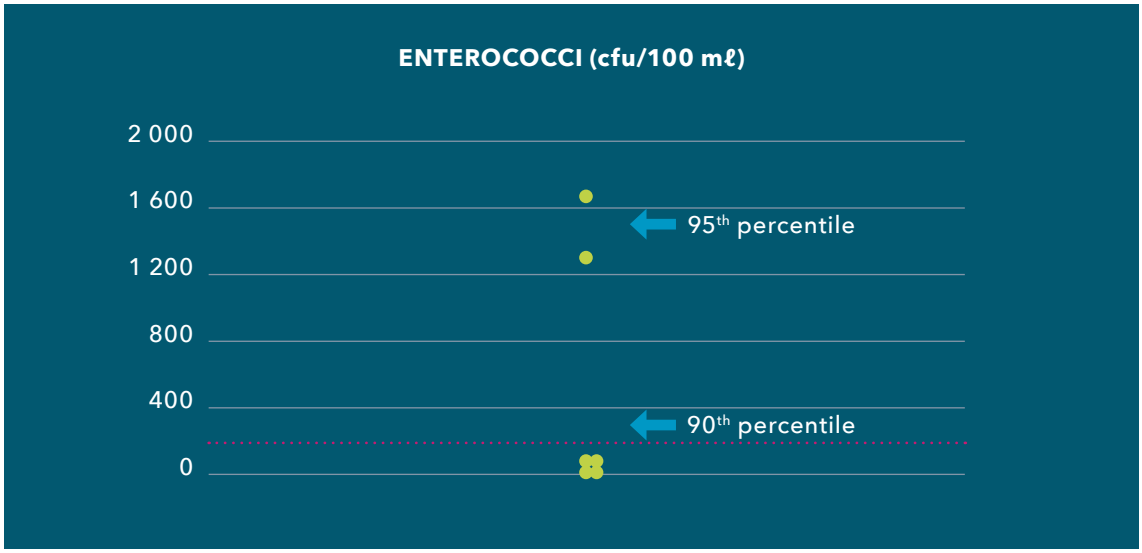
| Grade | Estimated risk of illness per exposure* | Enterococci (cfu/100 mℓ) |
|---|---|---|
| Excellent | <2,9% gastrointestinal (GI) illness risk | <100 (95 percentile) |
| Good | <5% GI illness risk | <200 (95 percentile) |
| Sufficient | <8,5% GI illness risk | <185 (90 percentile) |
| Poor | >8,5% GI illness risk | >185 (90 percentile) |

* Please see chapter 6 of Vol 2: Guidelines for Recreational Use (2012)

**In the example below**, all the data points are ranked from lowest to highest, ranging from 2 to 1700 cfu/100 mL. The 95th percentile is 1 473 cfu/100 ml, meaning 95% of the samples fall below this value.

The 90th percentile is 344 cfu/100 ml, meaning 90% of the samples fall below this value.

These values exceed the thresholds for an "excellent", "good" or even "sufficient" rating, resulting in a "poor" classification for this beach.




Although only a small number of samples were very high, the extreme values significantly influence the percentile calculation, resulting in a "poor" classification and highlighting the potential health risk posed by occasional spikes in contamination. **We would like to reassure the public that a "poor" rating does not necessarily mean the water is always unsafe. Rather, it may reflect a small number of elevated results that generally occur after rainfall.** To support informed decision-making, we encourage readers to also consider the percentage compliance figures provided in the overview sheets below, which offer a broader view of water quality over time and may help individuals assess the level of risk with which they are comfortable. A point to consider to help with understanding el. FIBS and health risk categorisation is that the number of enterococci (cfu/100 ml) present in raw sewage is typically 1 000 000–10 000 000 cfu/100 ml (WHO, 2021) and a single sample result above 240 cfu/100 ml is considered above threshold, and the percentile ranked (long-term data) limit is 185 cfu/100 ml, above which the site is classified as "poor" which has an associated 8,5% risk of gastrointestinal illness.

## AVERAGES OR PERCENTILES?

**The City does not use averages for beach classification** but rather uses a percentile method. Unlike averages, which can mask short-term contamination spikes, the Hazen percentile method highlights how often spikes occur and how severe they are, providing a more accurate and robust representation. The percentile method is commonly used to assess compliance with guidelines, and while using averages can be used to track general trends over time, this method smooths results and would not be used in regulatory compliance. Averages can be used to "reduce noise", which is contrary to what the Hazen percentile method highlights as it specifically highlights how often spikes occur and how bad these spikes are.

The term "rolling" refers to a shifting time window – such as the previous 12 months or previous five years – that is continuously updated as new data is collected. This means a site's health risk category can change over time as new elevated results are added, or as older elevated results (beyond the selected timeframe) fall out of the calculation. This is calculated automatically and not controlled by City officials.

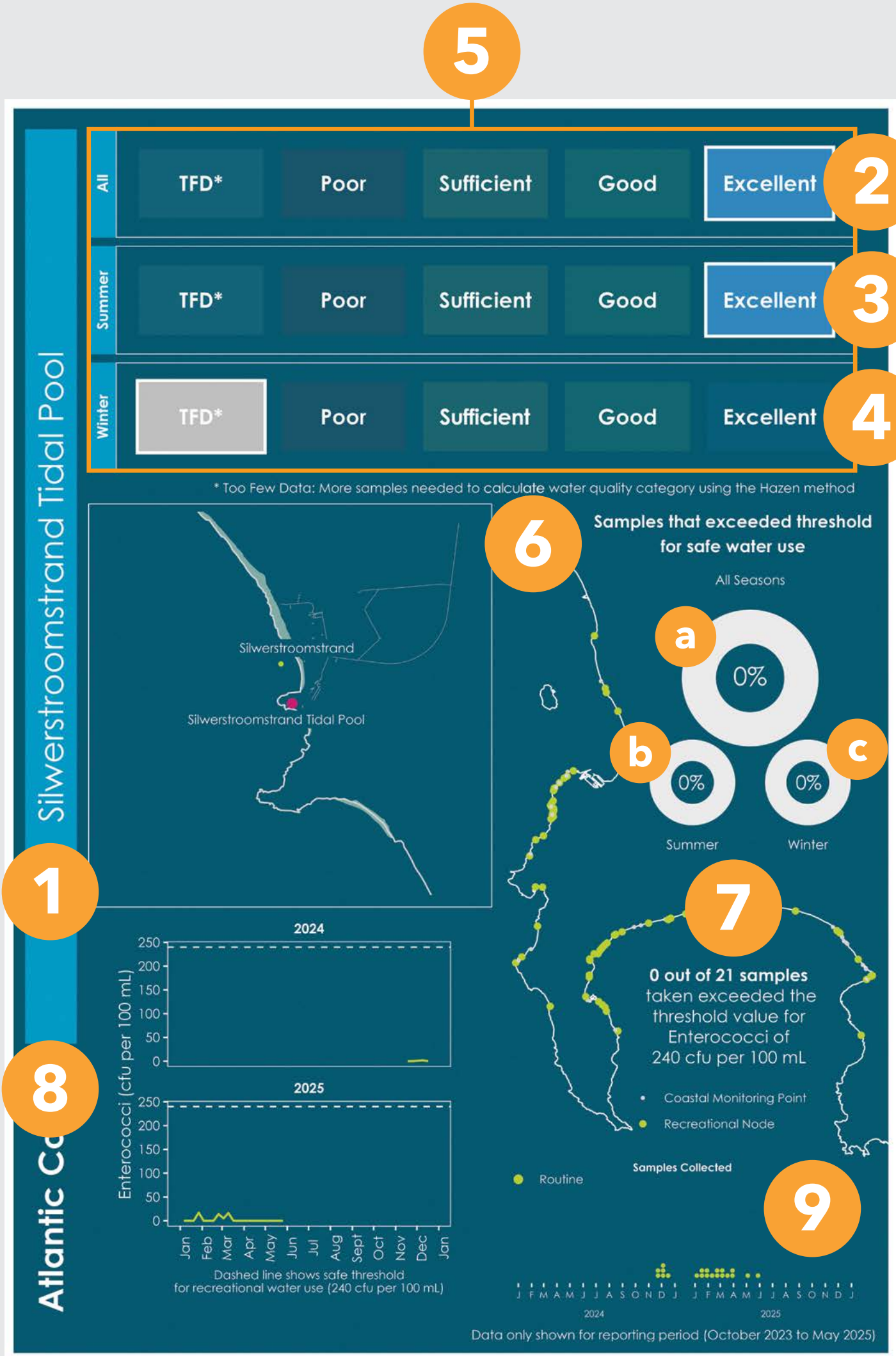
## WINTER AND SUMMER CATEGORIES?

The inclusion of winter/summer categories in this report aims to show that in Cape Town, coastal water quality can be highly variable, depending on weather conditions and catchment outputs. For example, we may see that a beach has excellent water quality through dry, summer, recreational months, but poor results during winter. Examples of this can be seen at Strand, where results are excellent through summer but the elevated results in winter months cause the overall category to be "poor".

# SITE-SPECIFIC LONG-TERM DATA

For several key beaches, we present long-term water quality trends. These sections include:

- A dot plot showing sample distribution over time, with red dots indicating exceedances
- The annual Hazen category over the past 20 years
- Brief interpretation of the long-term trend
- Note: the 2025 category reflects results only from January to May 2025, so it is not necessarily an accurate representation of 2025


5
Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
2
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
3
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
4
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
6
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
a
0%
b
0%
c
0%
Summer
Winter
Silwerstroomstrand
Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool
1
7
0 out of 21 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
9
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
8
Atlantic Co
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# HOW TO READ THE TEMPLATE

1 **Site name**
This is the name of the beach or tidal pool. Each site overview is specific to one location.

2 **Health risk rating – All**
Overall water quality rating for the full 20-month period (including summer and winter), using the Hazen percentile method.

3 **Health risk rating – Summer**
Water quality rating for summer months only, using Hazen percentile method.

4 **Health risk rating – Winter**
Water quality rating for winter months only, giving insight into seasonal variation.

5 **Legend – Health risk categories**
The coloured bar shows all five possible health risk categories:

- TFD (too few data)
- Poor
- Sufficient
- Good
- Excellent

The applicable rating for the site is highlighted.

6 **Percentage of samples that were above the threshold of 240 cfu/100 ml across**
a. all seasons
b. summer months
c. winter months

7 **Number of threshold exceedances**
Indicates the total number of water samples that exceeded the acceptable threshold for enterococci (240 cfu/100 ml) over the 20-month reporting period.

8 **Time series plot of results**
A line graph displaying enterococci concentrations for all water samples from the reporting period:

- The dashed line represents the enterococci threshold for single samples to be considered acceptable for recreational use (240 cfu/100 ml)
- Data points above the threshold indicate exceedances

9 **Time series plot of samples**
This shows the number of samples taken each month and whether samples were part of the routine (green) or daily sampling (blue) programme.

# LONG-TERM DATA

1. **Sample results over time**
   This dot plot shows the results of all water samples taken at the site since 2005. Each dot represents one sample:
   - green dots indicate the sample was within safe limits for recreational use
   - red dots show when a sample exceeded the safety threshold for enterococci

This visual helps illustrate the frequency of sampling and how often exceedances have occurred over time.

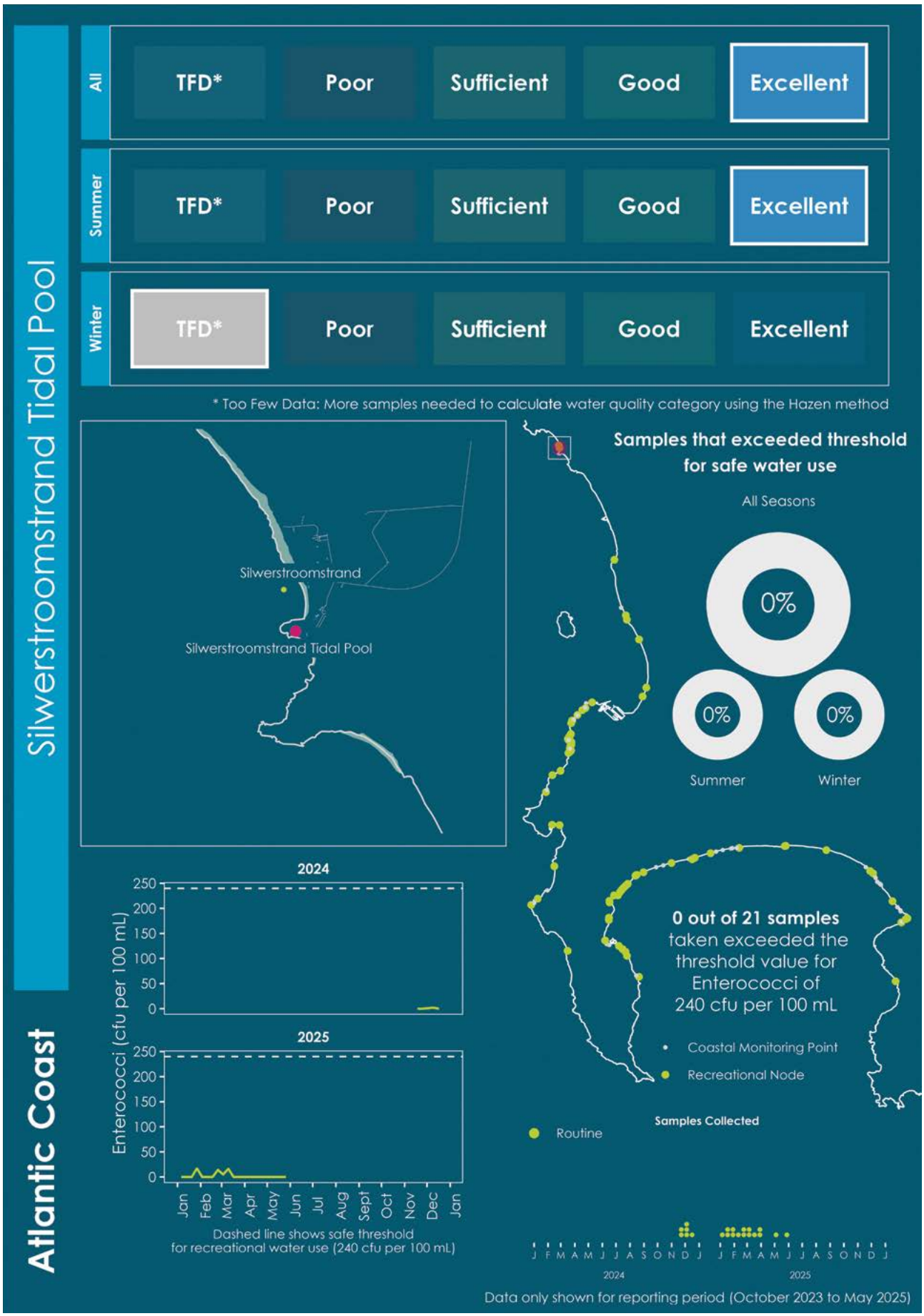
2. **Hazen health risk categories over the long term**
   This plot shows the annual health risk category for the last 20 years, based on the Hazen percentile method.
   The category for 2025 is based on data collected from January to May only and therefore does not represent a full year of results.

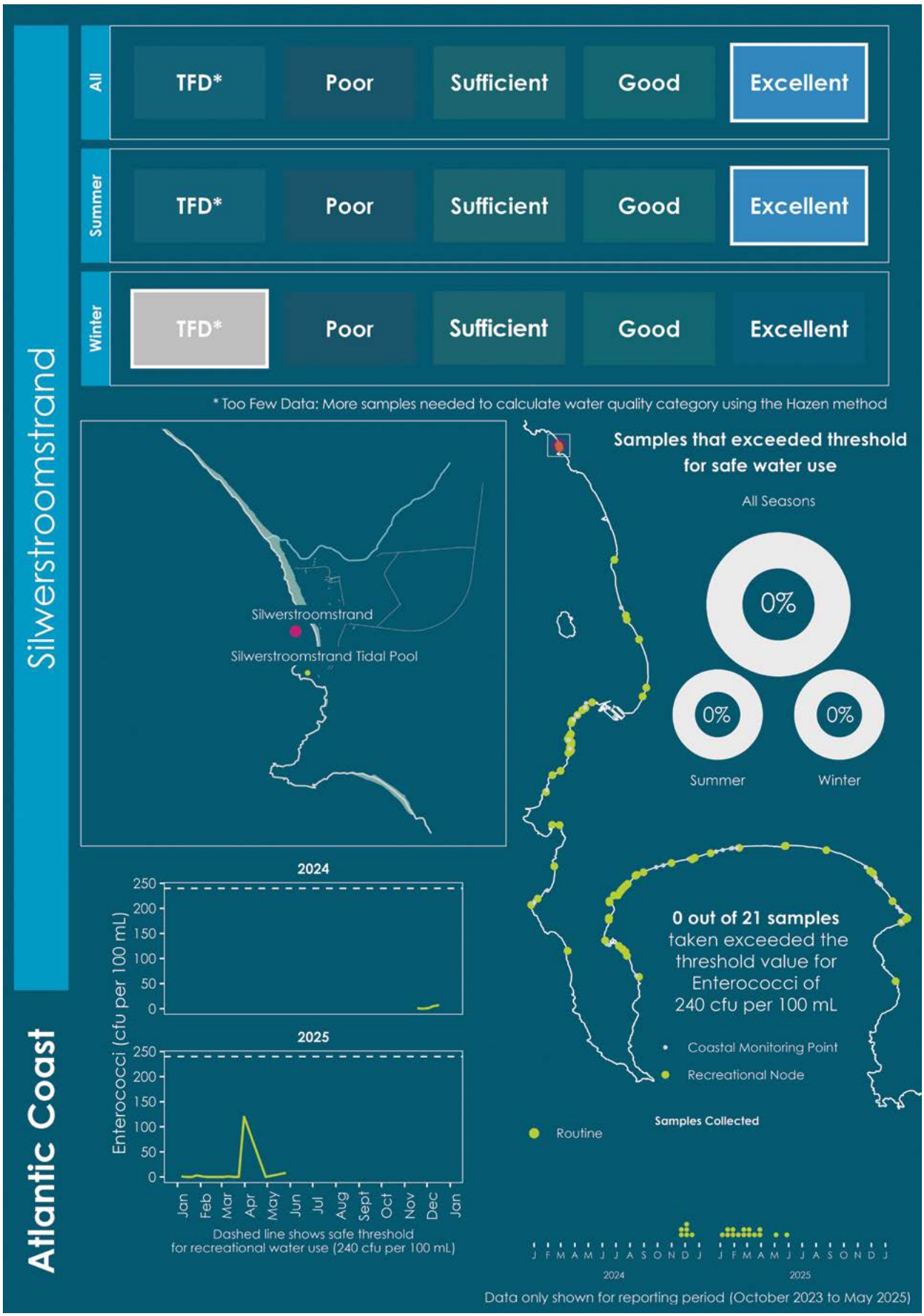
***Note:**

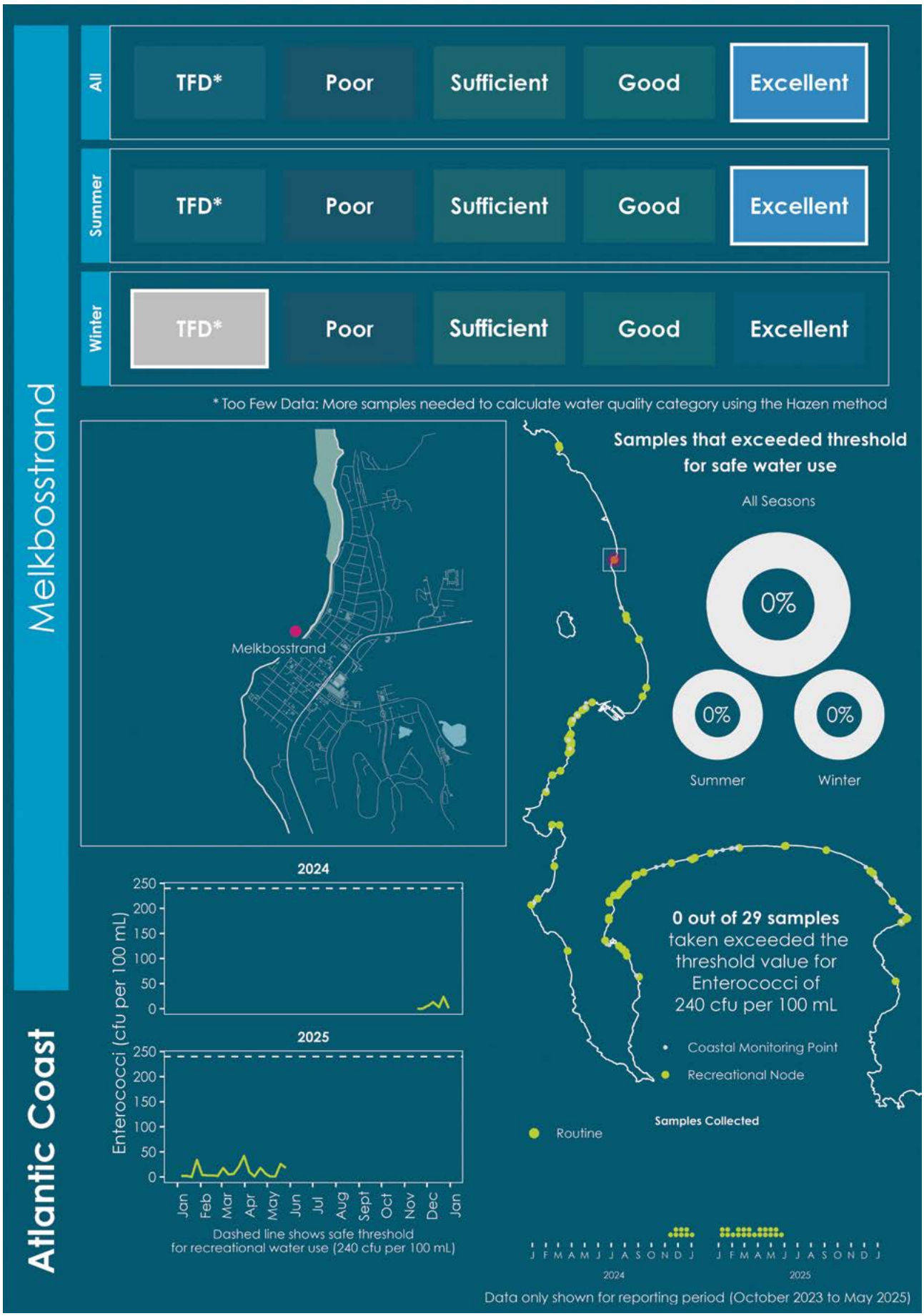
Any gaps in the data are explained in the **KYC 2023** report on page 5.

# ATLANTIC COAST

Data shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Silwerstroomstrand
Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 21 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

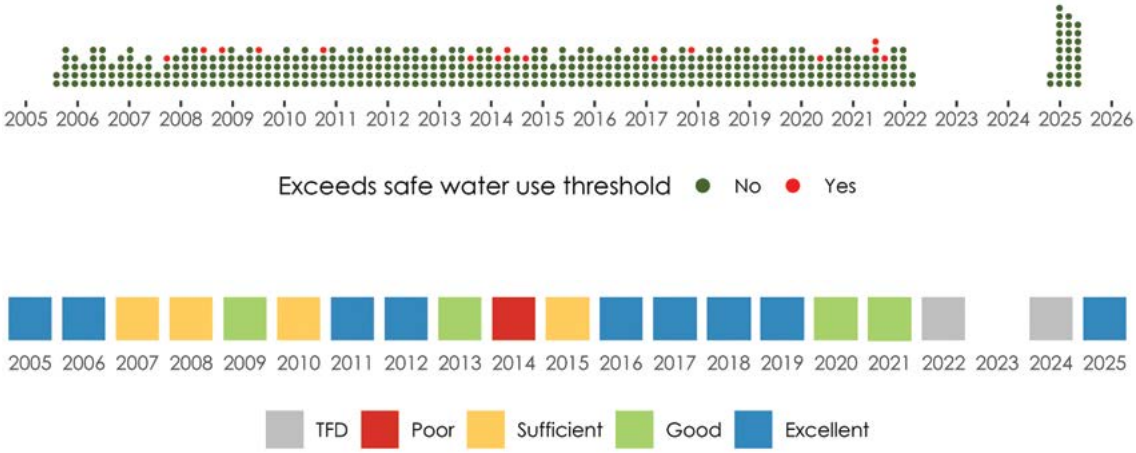

Silwerstroomstrand
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Silwerstroomstrand
Silwerstroomstrand Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 21 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

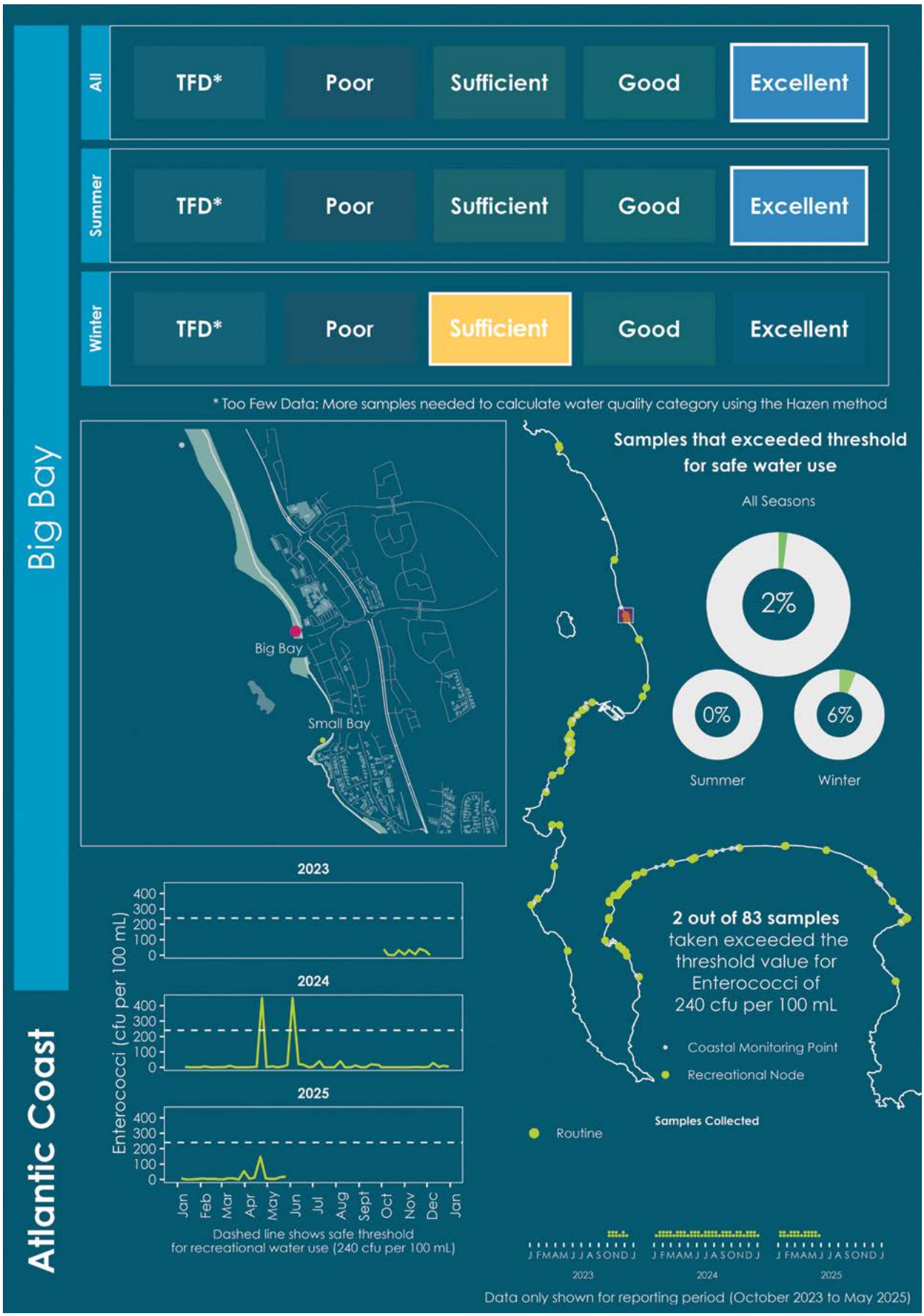

Melkbosstrand
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Melkbosstrand
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

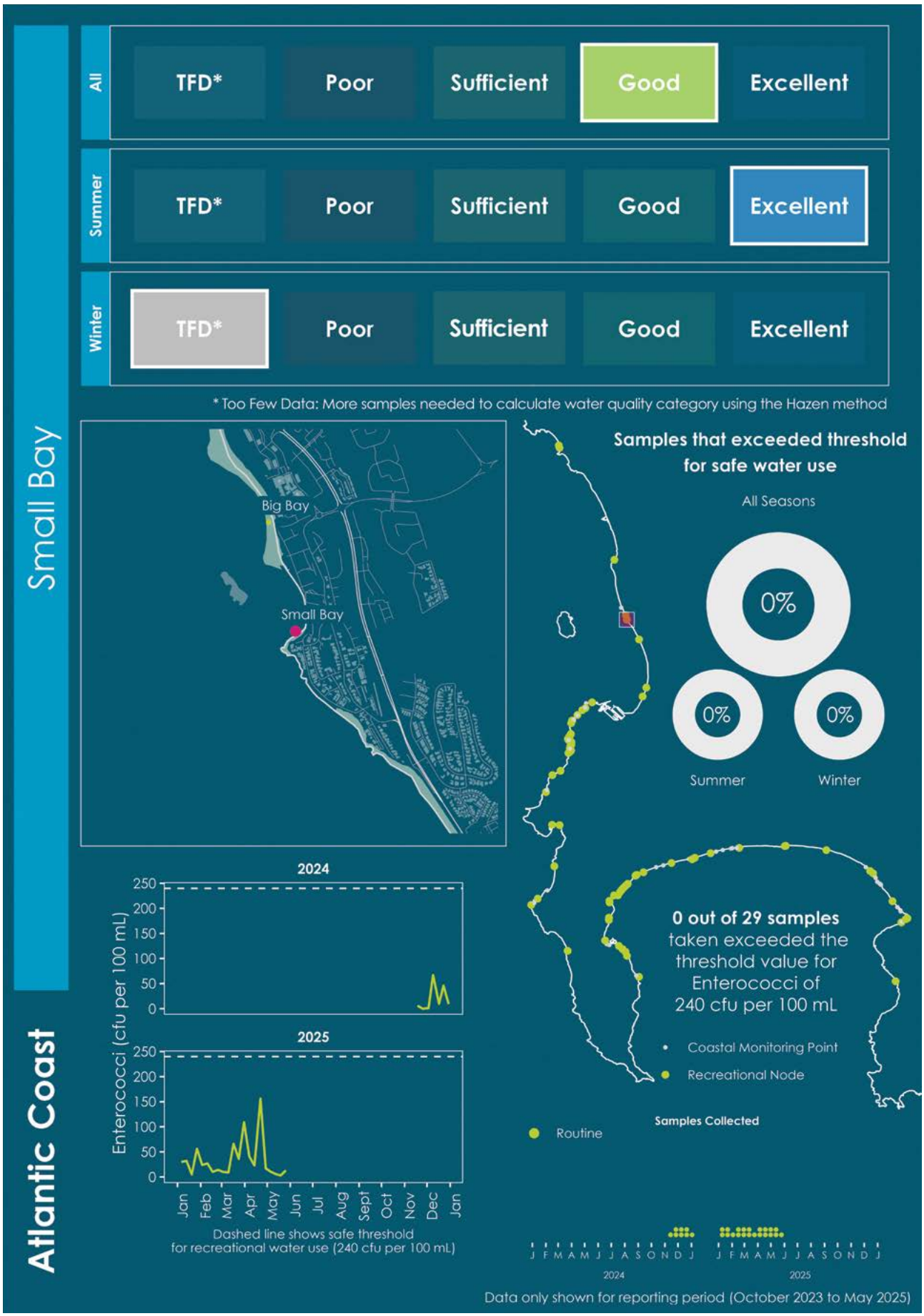
# MELKBOSSTRAND

Sample results over the last 20 years illustrate that Melkbosstrand generally has excellent or good categorisation. However, there has been one year where this beach has not achieved "sufficient" or better categorisation, namely 2014. A closer look shows that just two or three failed results can lead to a "poor" categorisation. These spikes or failed results may be linked to load-shedding, which started again in November 2014. During load-shedding hours, and especially at higher stages, pump stations are without power and can overflow if volumes are high. There are also situations where pumps trip or are damaged by the return of power and ultimately overflow and discharge into receiving coastal and marine environment, typically through stormwater systems.

With our new regime of increased sampling frequency, a clearer understanding of water quality patterns should emerge. Melkbosstrand is a Blue Flag beach and has retained that status – what is important to note is that Blue Flag sampling is done independently by WESSA and only results during the Blue Flag season are relevant to their standards. The City samples throughout the year so variable results may be seen, especially as winter results can fluctuate from rainfall events and associated stormwater discharges.




Big Bay
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Big Bay
Small Bay
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
2%
0%
6%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
2 out of 83 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Small Bay
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Big Bay
Small Bay
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

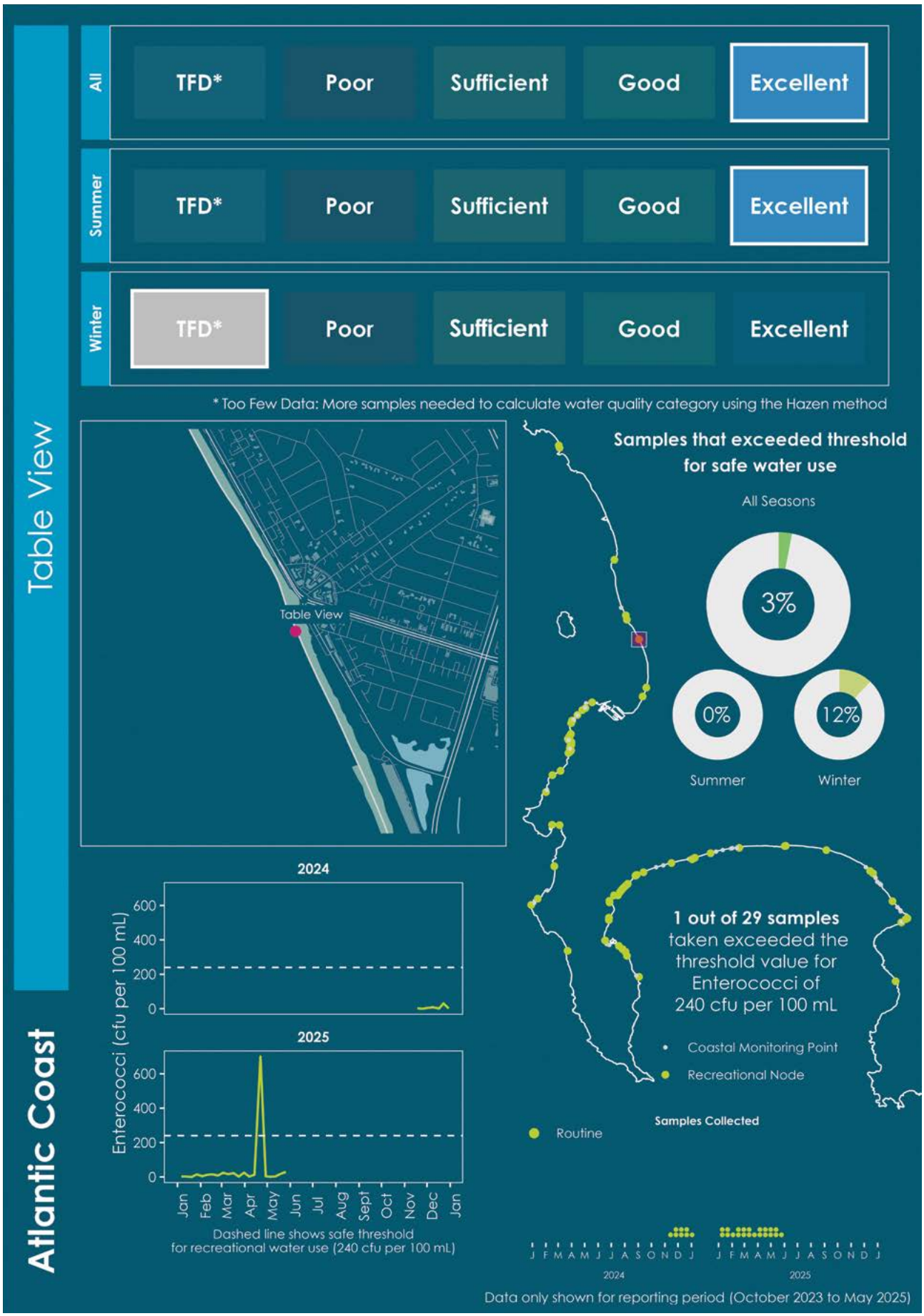
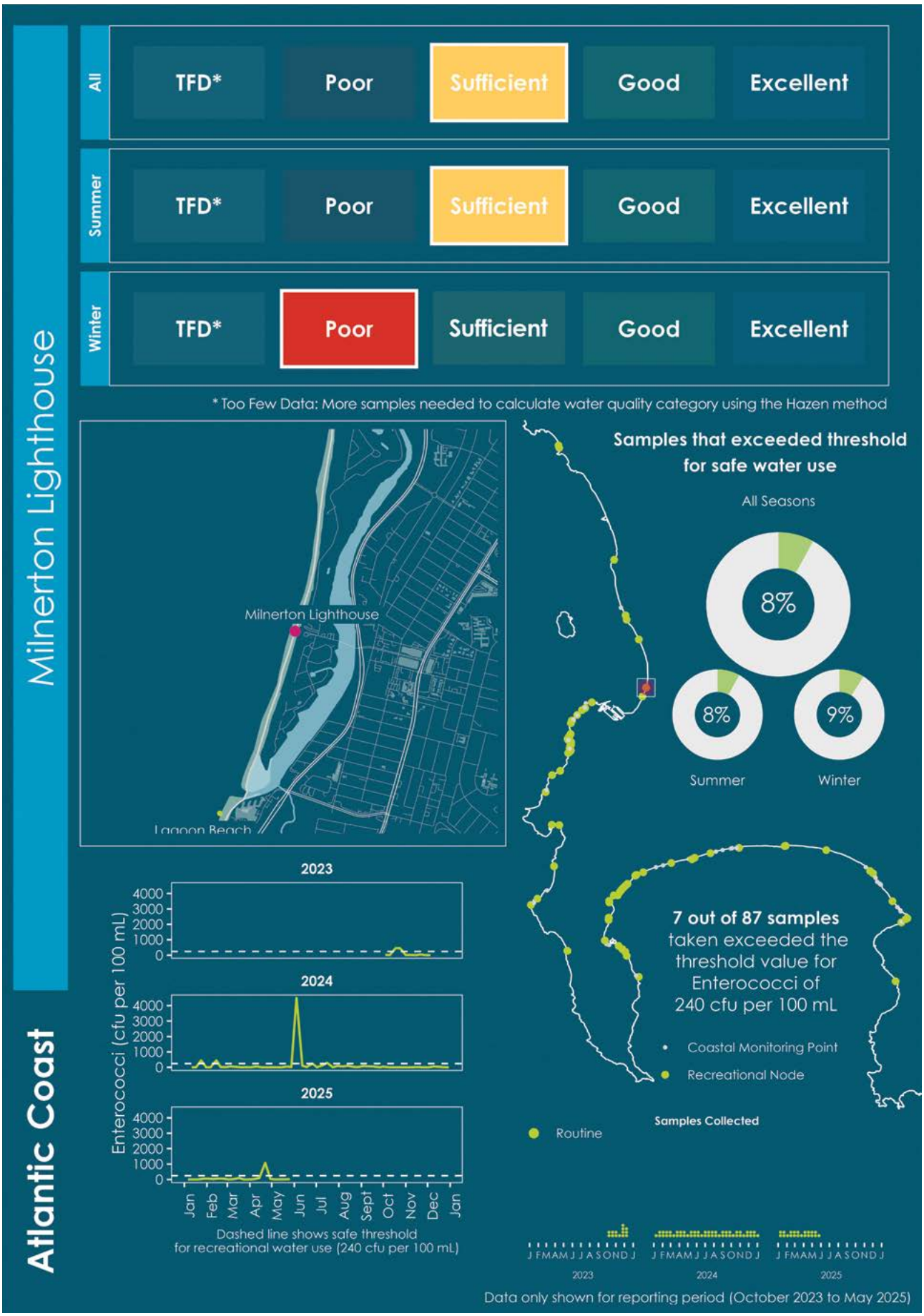
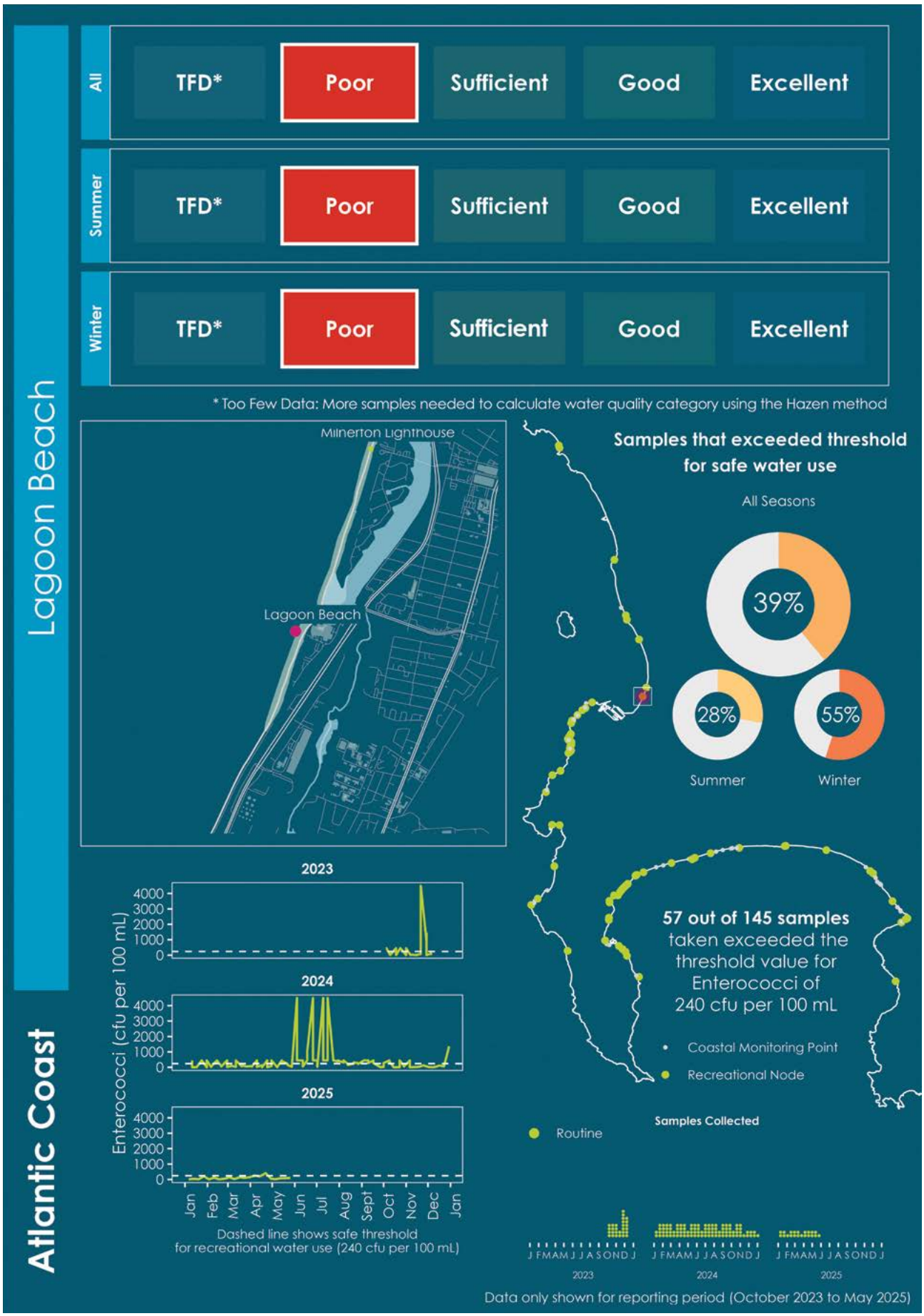


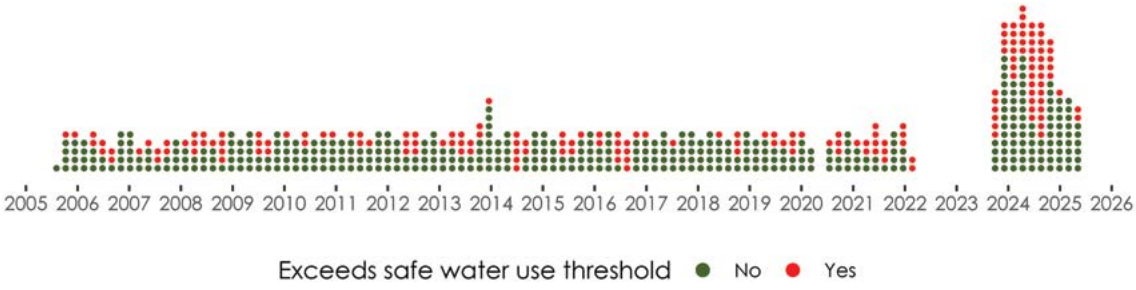
Table View
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Table View
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
3%
0%
12%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Milnerton Lighthouse
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Milnerton Lighthouse
Lagoon Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
8%
8%
9%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
7 out of 87 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Lagoon Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Milnerton Lighthouse
Lagoon Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
39%
28%
55%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
57 out of 145 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# LAGOON BEACH

Consistent sampling over the last 20 years illustrates that Lagoon Beach is consistently rated poor. The graph on the previous page illustrates how many of the failed results are congregated in winter months, however there are failures through dry months as well. The impact of the Diep River discharge is clearly evident at this beach. There are significant efforts under way to address the various pollution sources entering the Diep River as well as programmes to monitor the ecological functioning of the river and lagoon.

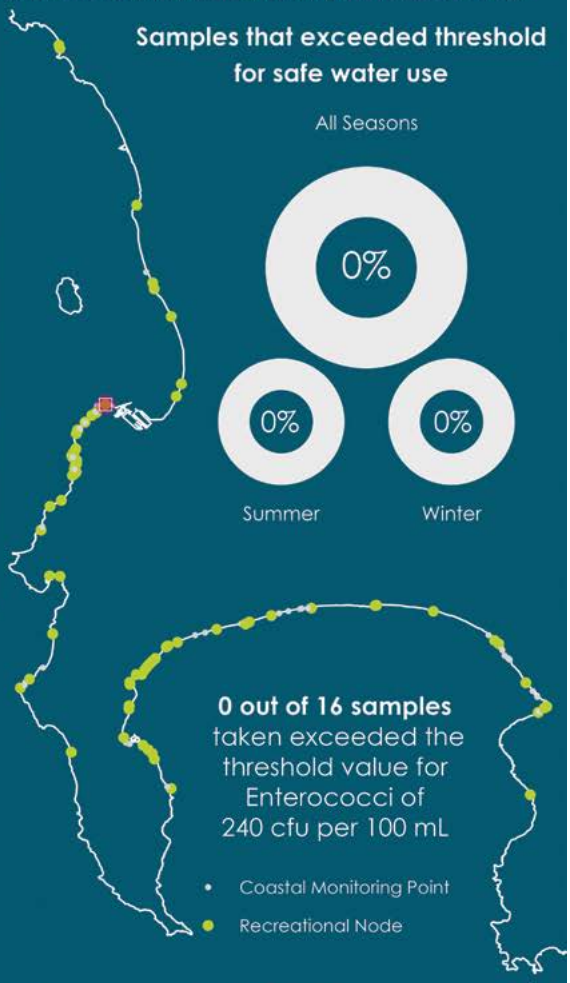


# Mouille Point Beach

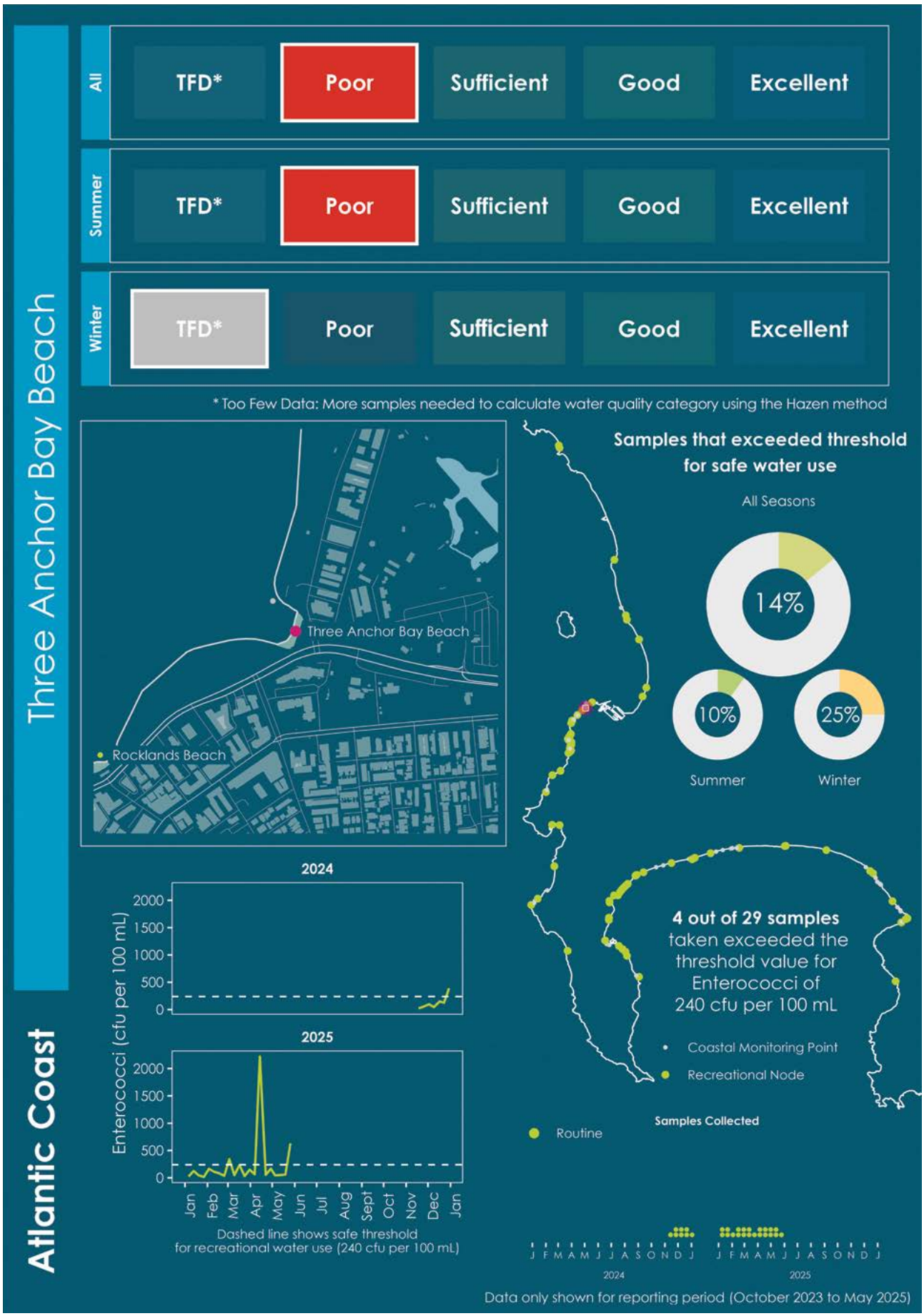
## Atlantic Coast

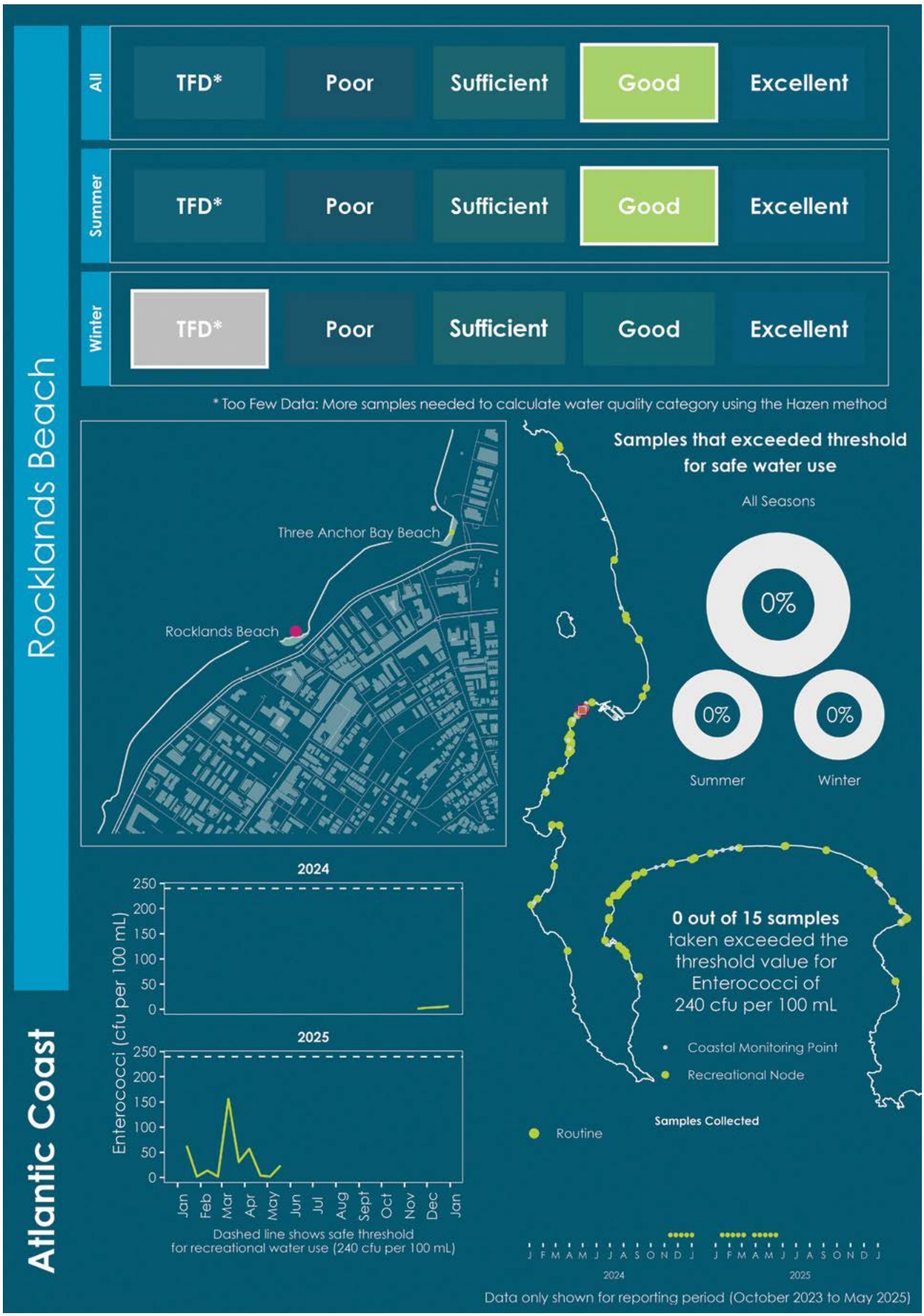
| | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | | | | ■ | |
| Summer | | | | ■ | |
| Winter | ■ | | | | |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Three Anchor Bay Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Three Anchor Bay Beach
Rocklands Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
14%
10%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
4 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

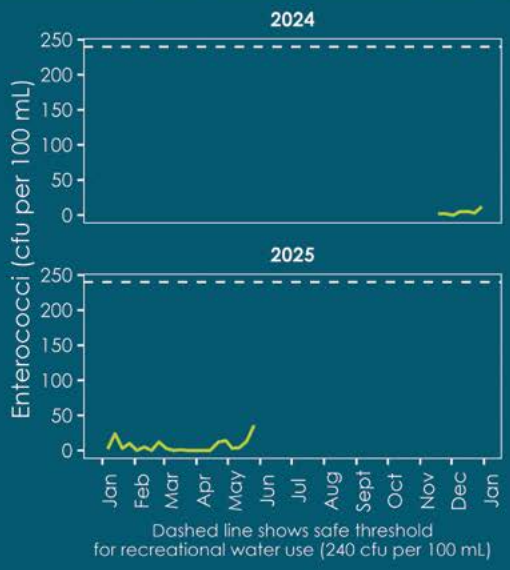

Rocklands Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Three Anchor Bay Beach
Rocklands Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 15 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

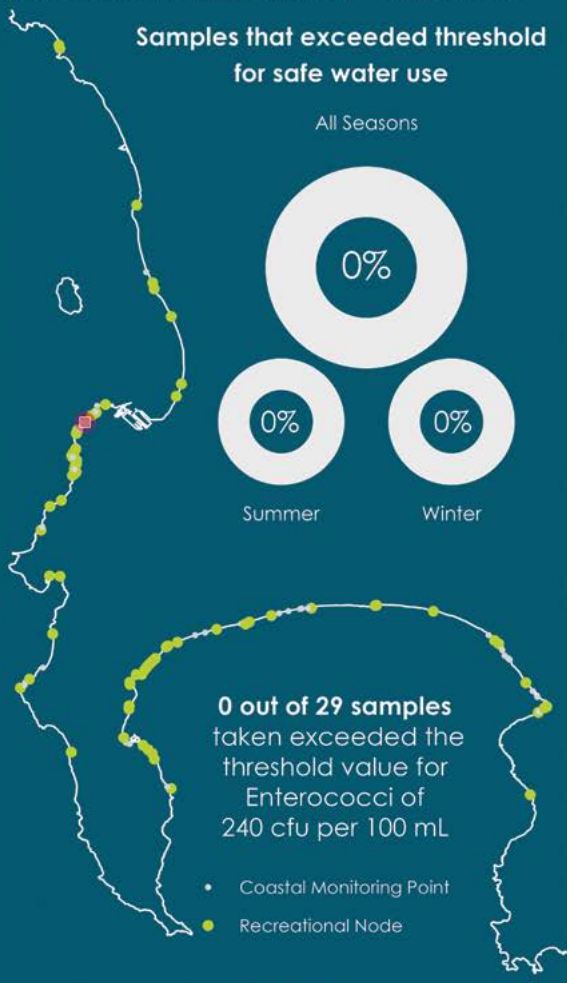
# Milton Beach Tidal Pool

## Atlantic Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



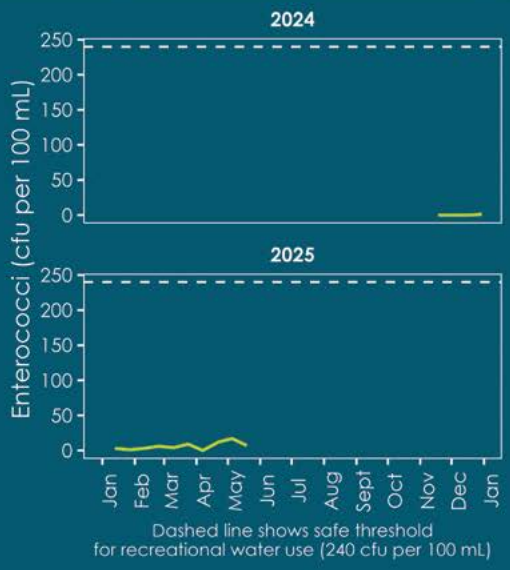
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

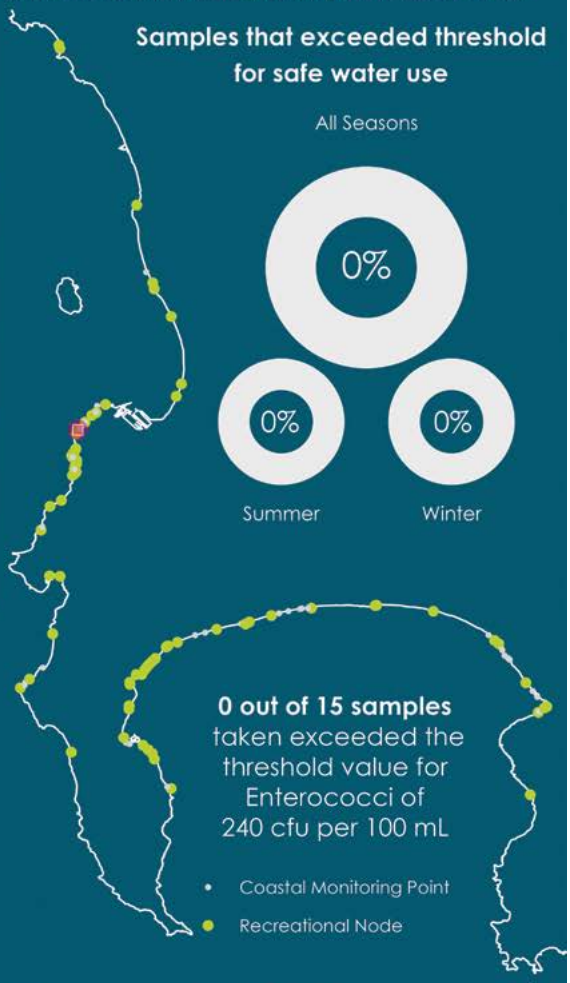
# Queen's Beach Tidal Pool

## Atlantic Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



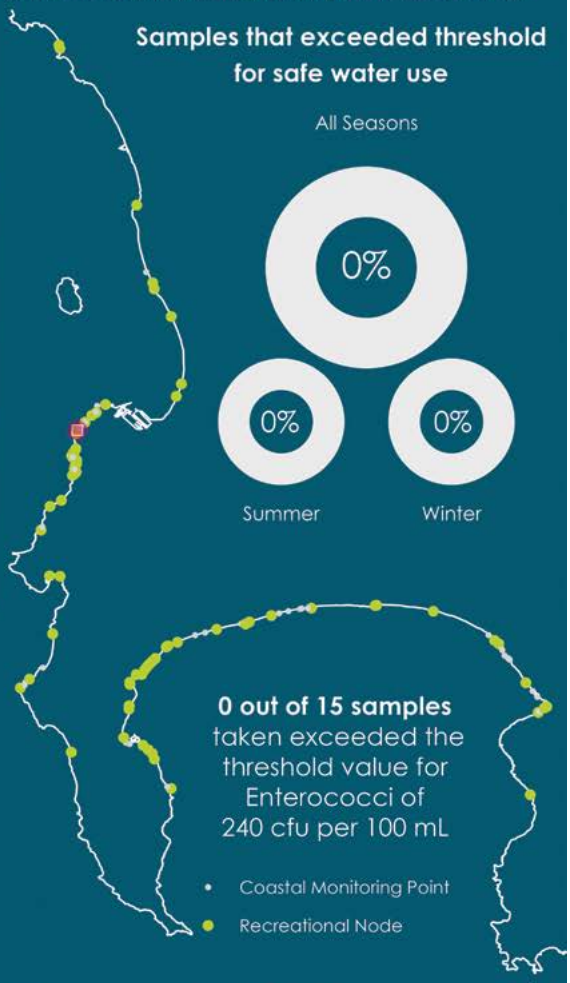
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

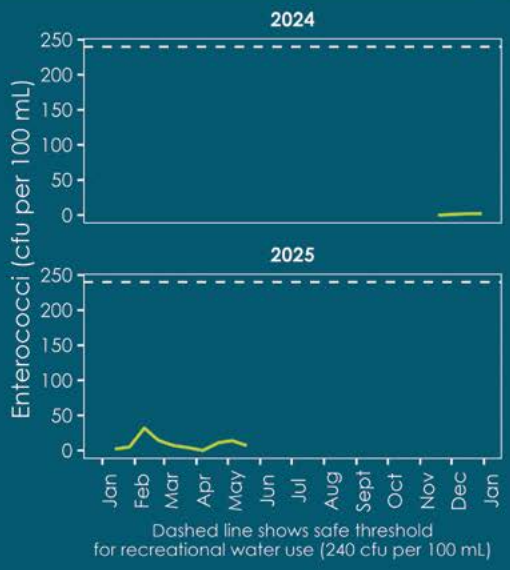
# Queen's Beach Gully

## Atlantic Coast

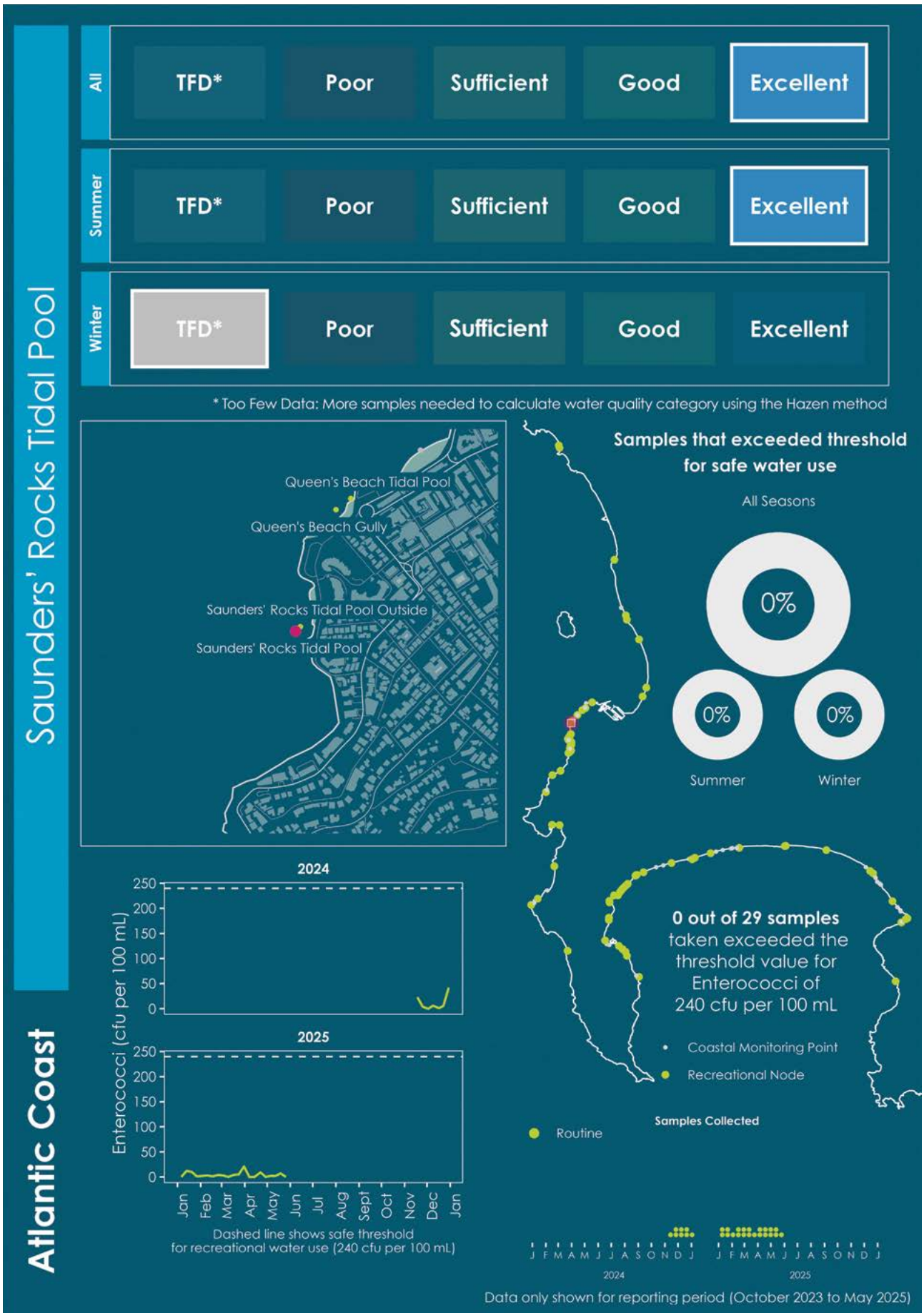
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



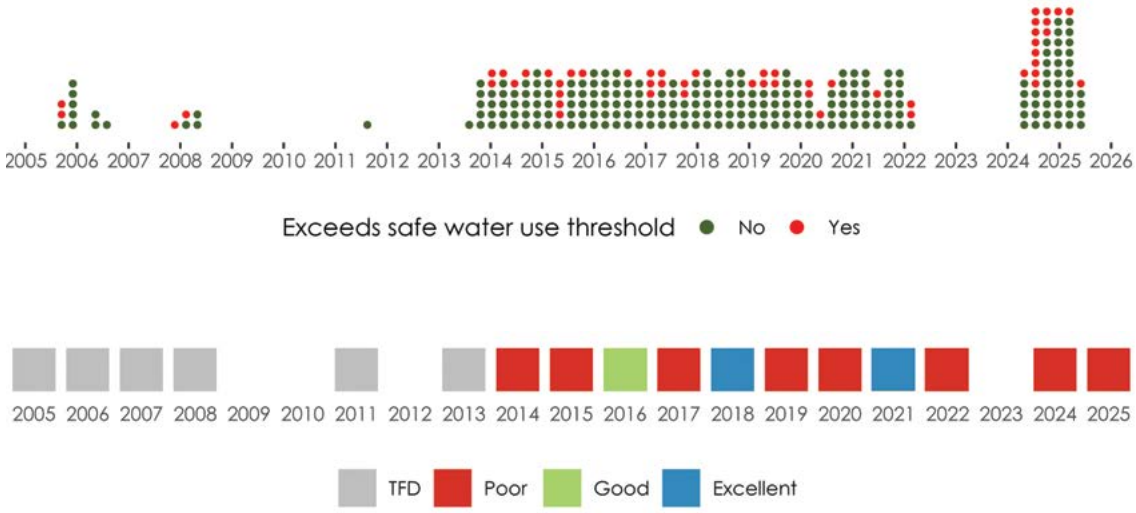



Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Queen's Beach Tidal Pool
Queen's Beach Gully
Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool Outside
Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# SAUNDERS' TIDAL POOL OUTSIDE, I.E. "THE GULLY"

Historically tidal pools had both sample sites within tidal pools and in close proximity "outside" of the tidal pool. Sites located outside tidal pools are categorised as monitoring points as they are generally not recreational. Due to the growing popularity of bathing at Saunders' Rocks, and especially in the "gully" to the side of the tidal pool, this site has now been reclassified as a recreational node. This site was historically linked to the coastal waters adjacent the stormwater outlet, as is generally the case with many historic site selections. This site generally sees poor results, with increased sampling frequency confirming that. What is reassuring to note is that **weekly sampling inside the tidal pool reveal zero sample failures in the reporting period**, even though samples are collected weekly and only minutes apart. This evidence suggests that there is no widespread chronic pollution, but that the outputs from the nearby stormwater drain fluctuate in quality, with periods of contamination. Officials are investigating this stormwater drain, with illegal connections or unknown sewer-to-stormwater ingress being possible causation. The stormwater discharge will continue to be monitored by the City.

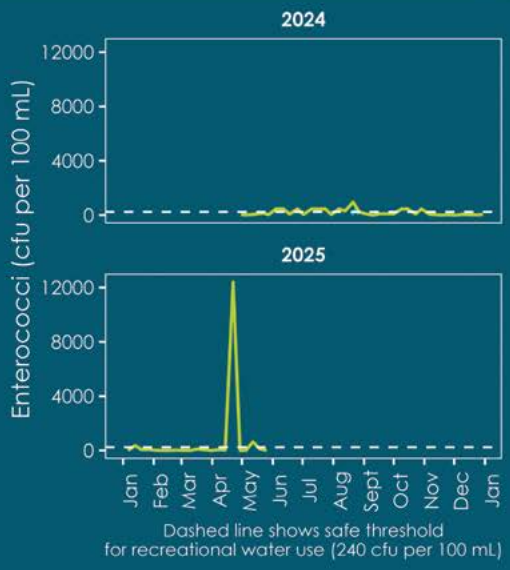


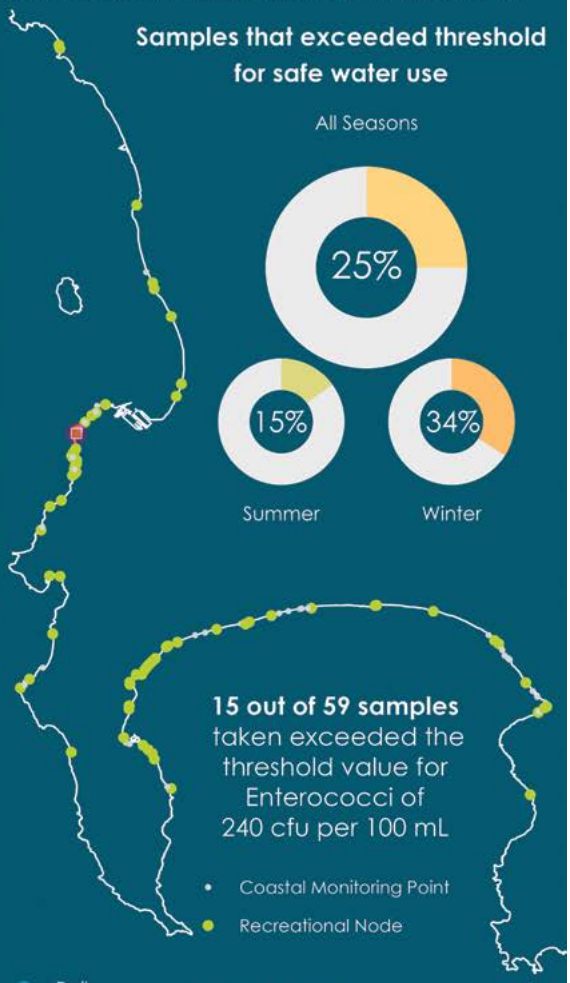
# Saunders' Rocks Tidal Pool Outside

## Atlantic Coast

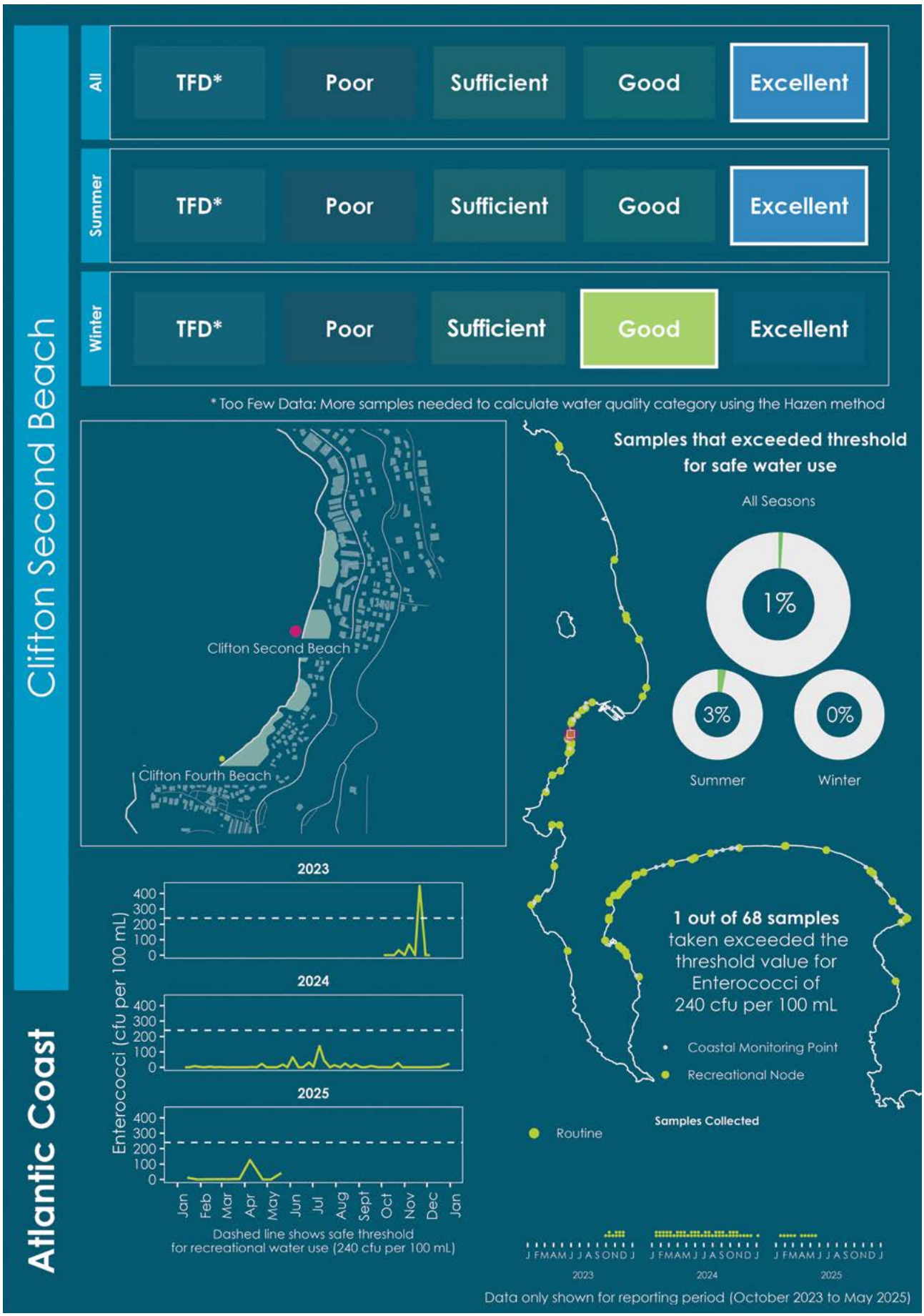
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
| Summer | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
| Winter | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

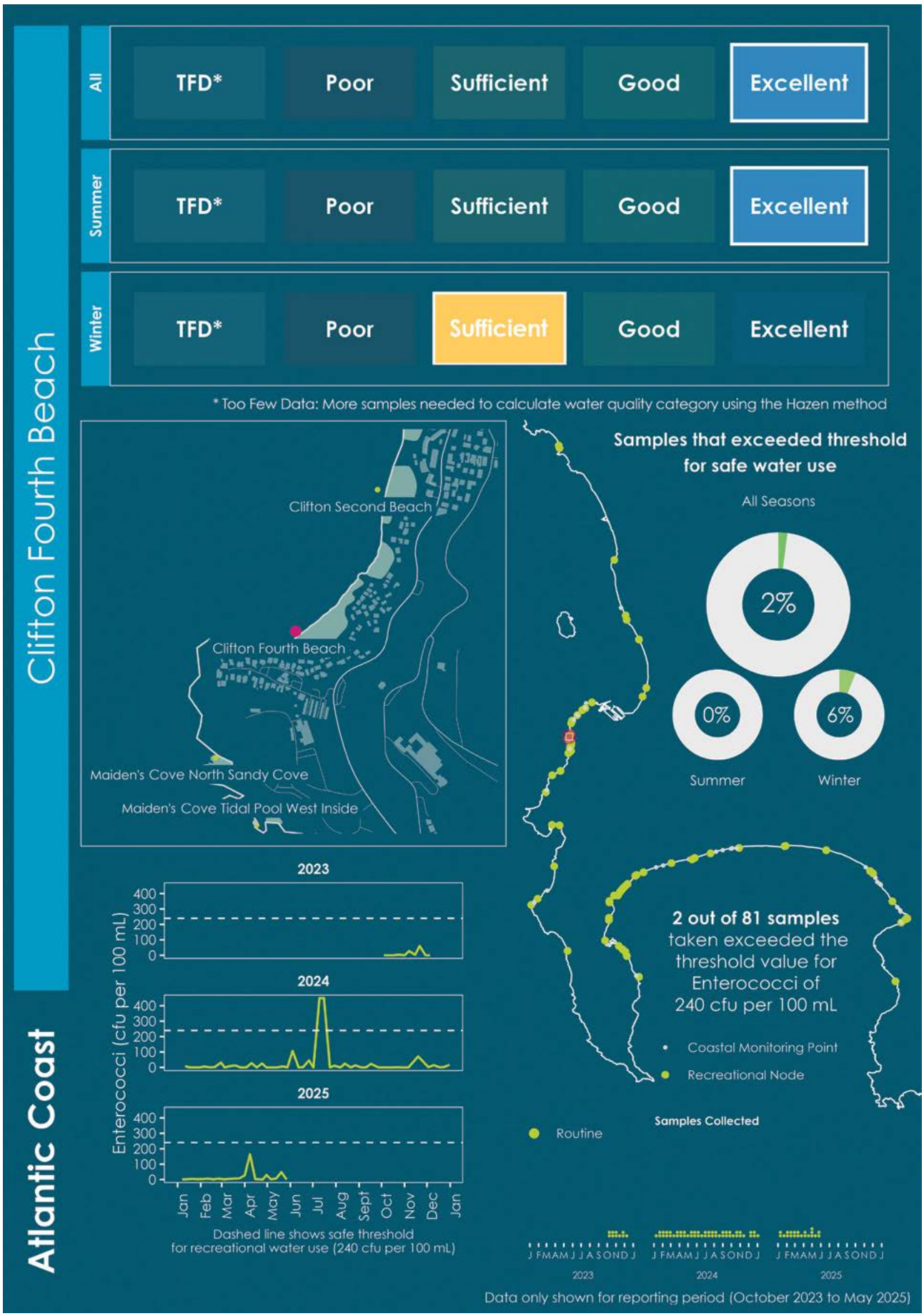
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



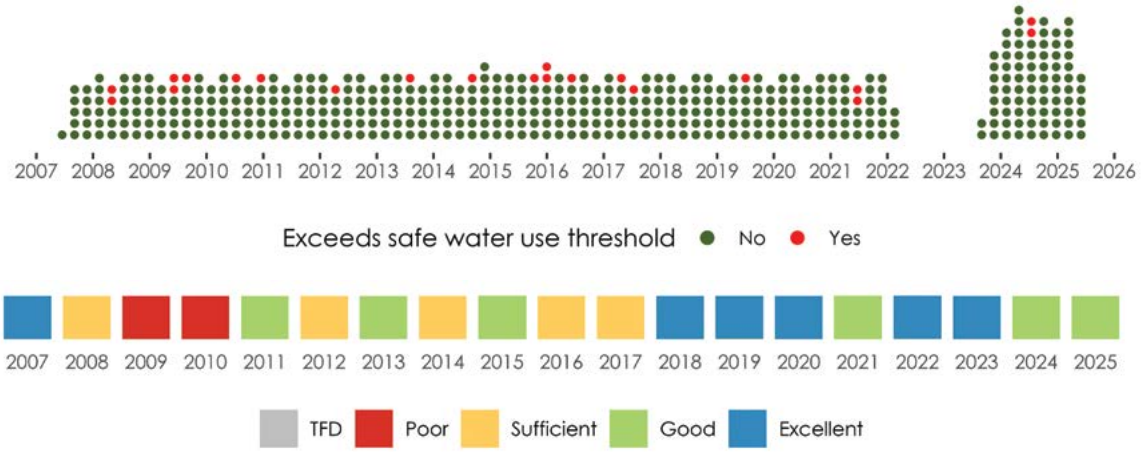
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Clifton Second Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Clifton Second Beach
Clifton Fourth Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
1%
3%
0%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 68 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Clifton Fourth Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Clifton Second Beach
Clifton Fourth Beach
Maiden's Cove North Sandy Cove
Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool West Inside
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
2%
0%
6%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
2 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# CLIFTON 4TH BEACH

Clifton 4th consistently shows sufficient or good water quality categorisation. The typical pattern is one or two failed samples per reporting year. The new regime with more frequent sampling will ensure a greater focus on Clifton 4th. Clifton 4th has experienced challenges with overflowing sewers, and Water and Sanitation (W&S) teams have reported that wet wipes flushed down toilets are contributing to blockages leading to sewer overflows. Listen to a **Cape Talk Consumer Talk** interview with Wendy Knowler on the serious impact that flushing foreign items down the drain can cause (listen from 08:00 min). W&S have attended to more than 1 000 blocked sewer systems in two years in the Camps Bay, Clifton, Bakoven and Sea Point area. These items clog the pumps and cause them to trip, as well as block sewer lines and cause overflows. Despite these challenges, especially during higher visitor periods in summer, Clifton 4th has retained excellent water quality rating through summer and retained its Blue Flag accreditation.

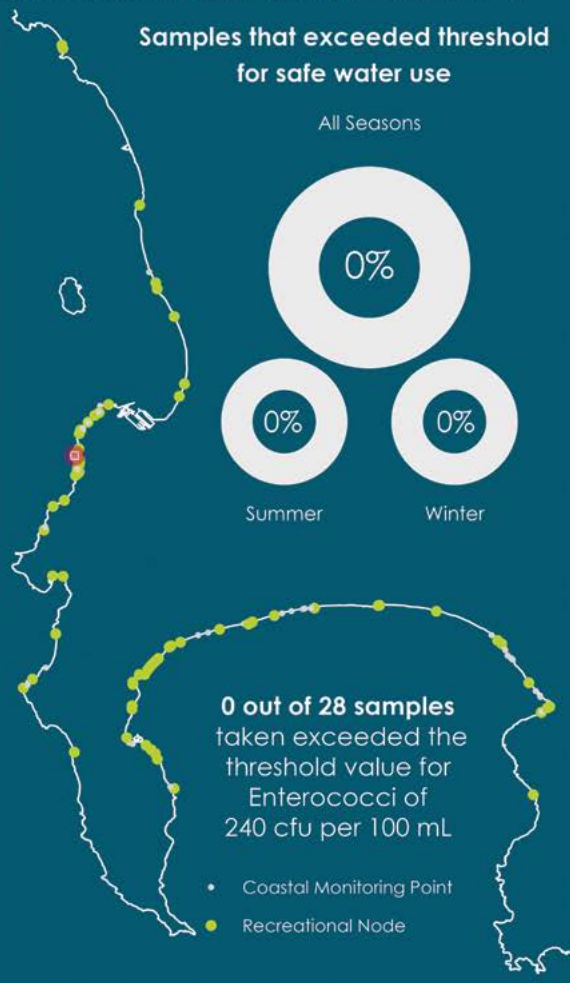


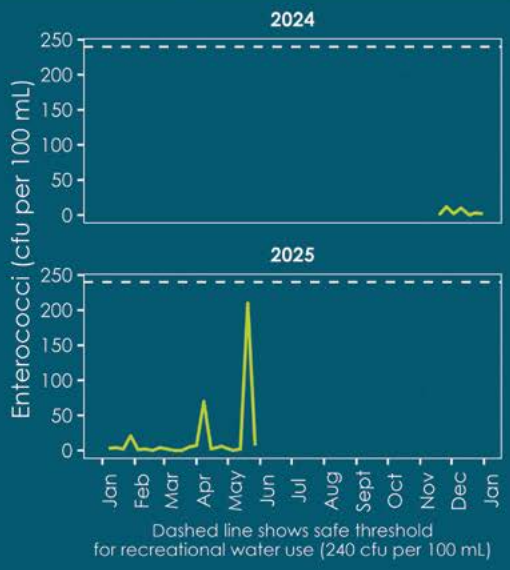
# Maiden's Cove North Sandy Cove

## Atlantic Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool West Inside

## Atlantic Coast

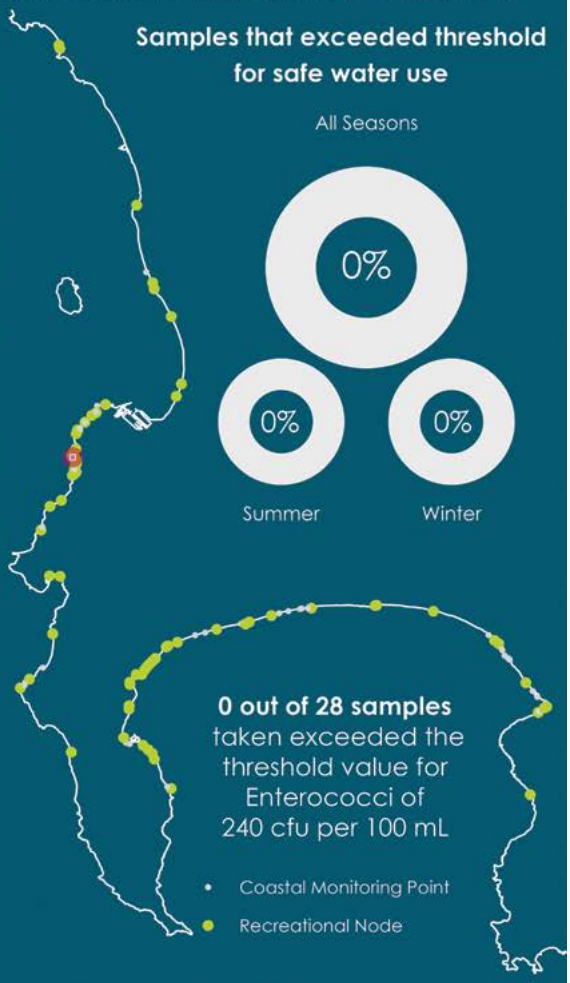
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

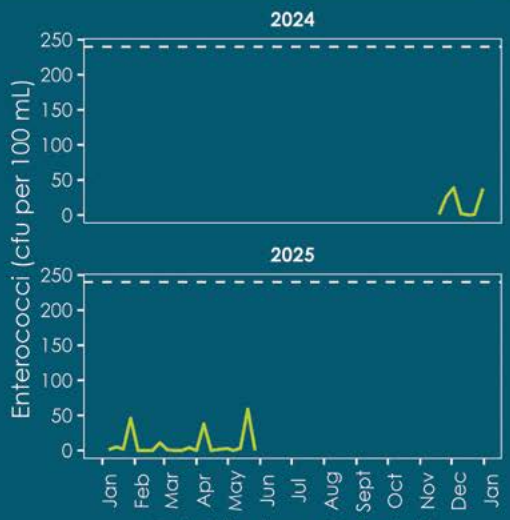
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method

**Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use**

All Seasons

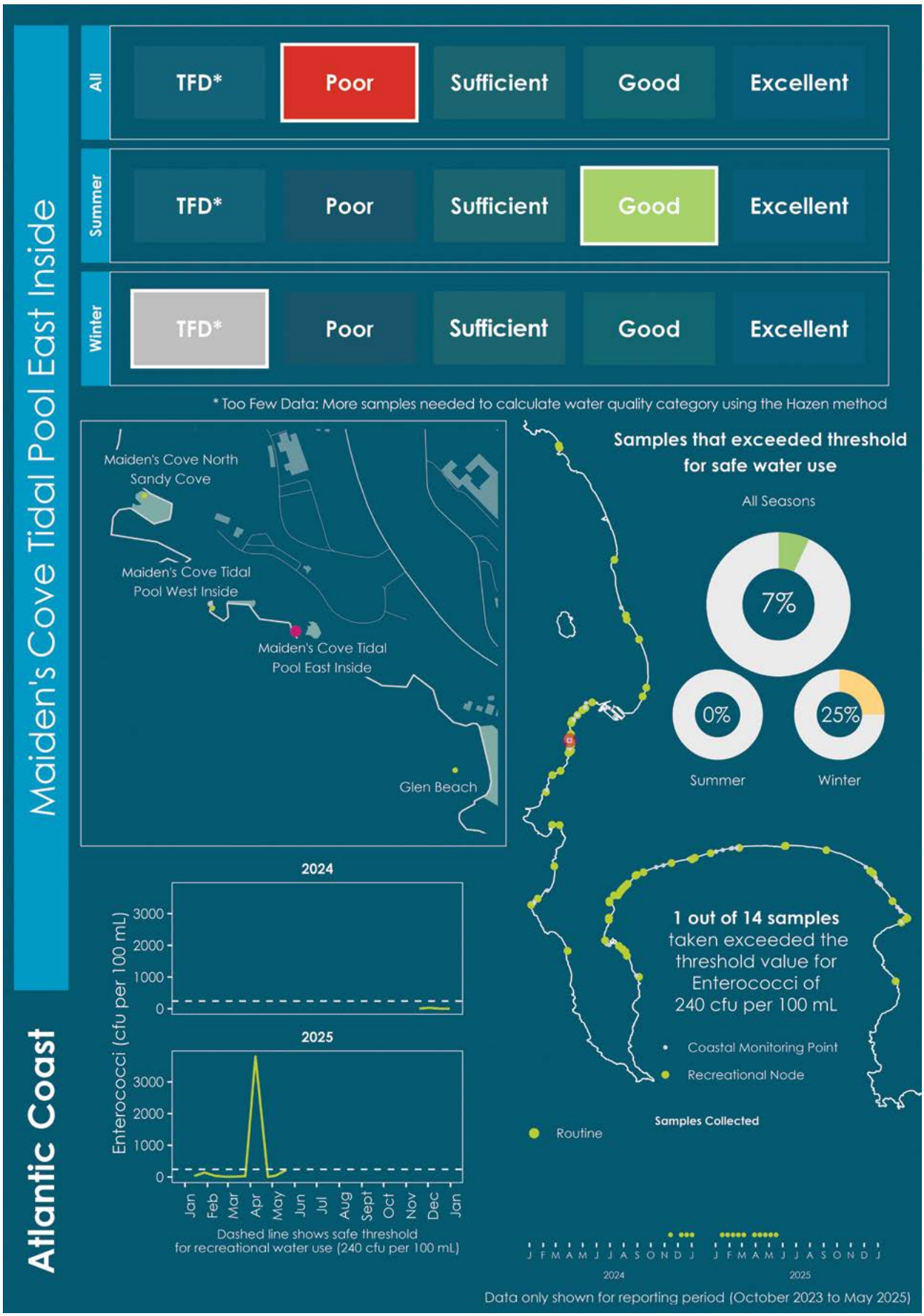


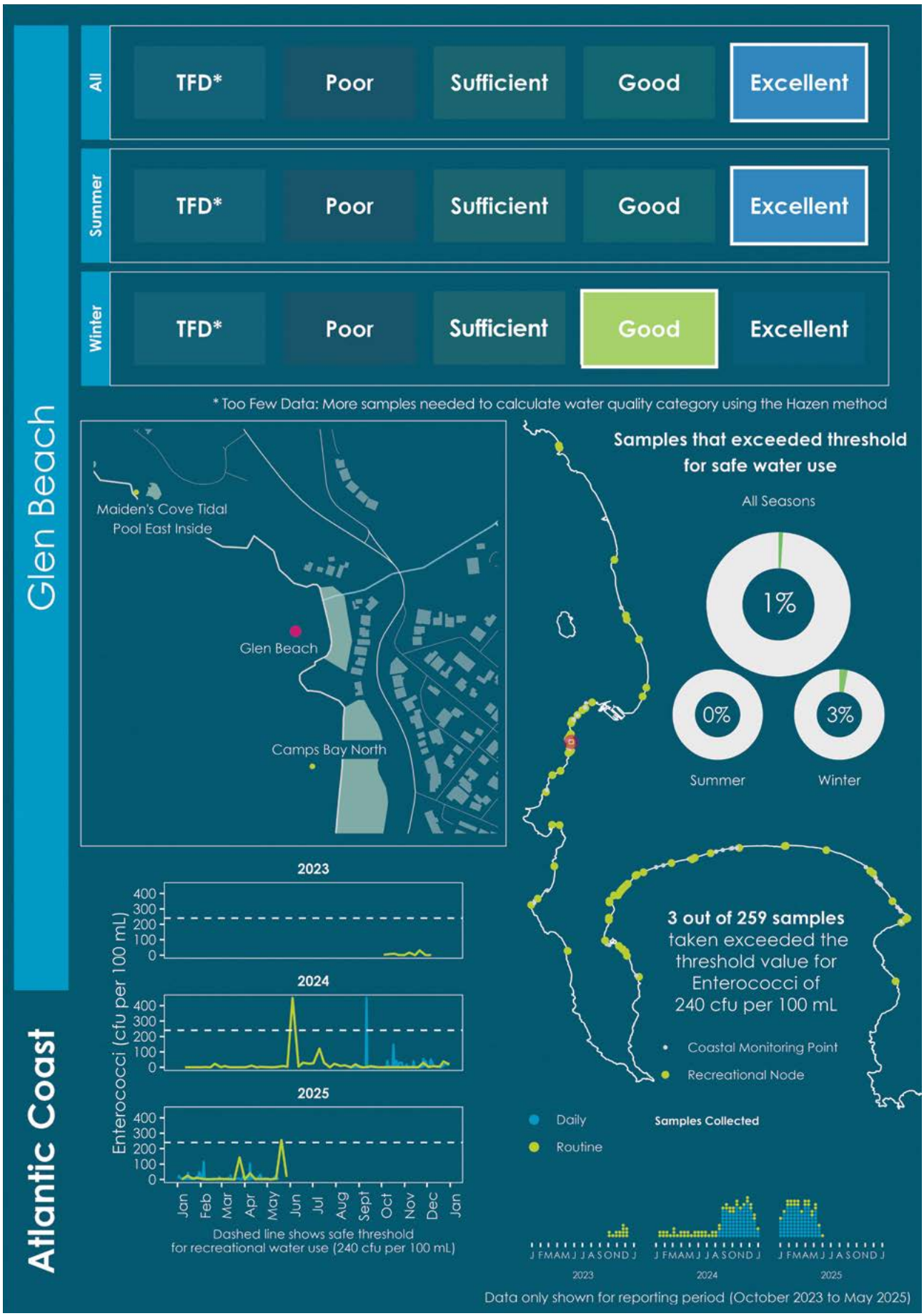




Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)

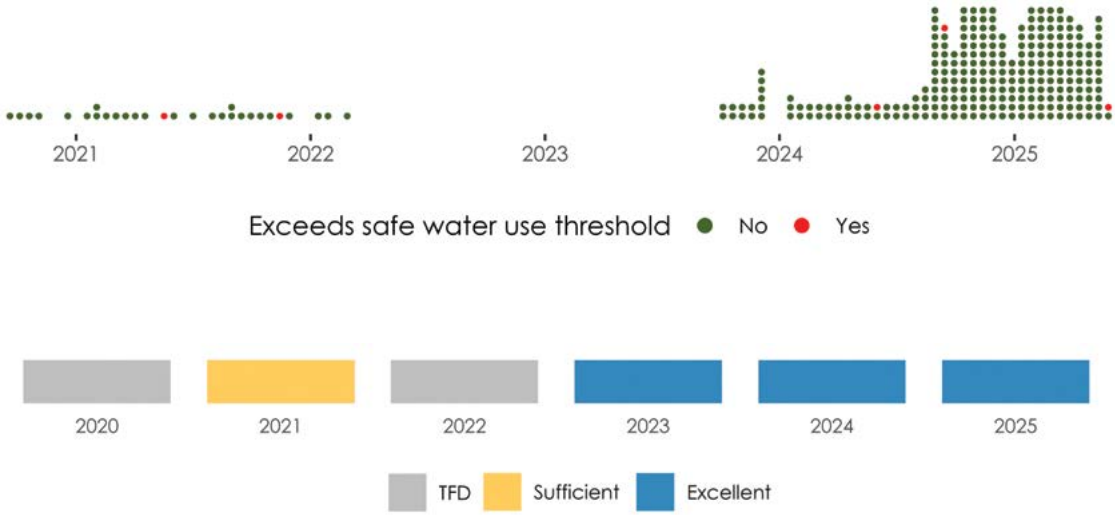
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

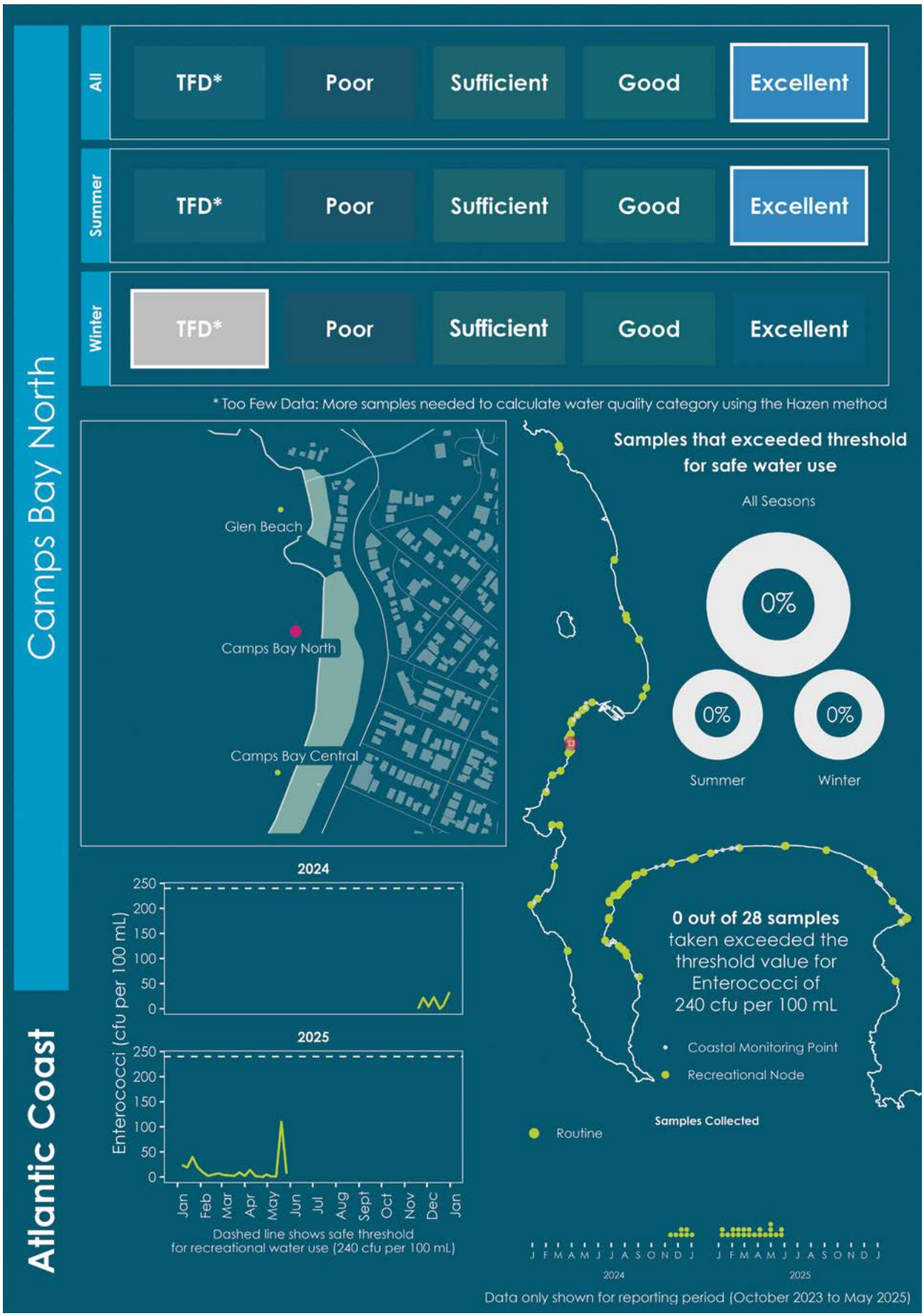

Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool East Inside
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Maiden's Cove North
Sandy Cove
Maiden's Cove Tidal
Pool West Inside
Maiden's Cove Tidal
Pool East Inside
Glen Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold
for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold
for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 14 samples
taken exceeded the
threshold value for
Enterococci of
240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Glen Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Maiden's Cove Tidal Pool East Inside
Glen Beach
Camps Bay North
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
1%
0%
3%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
3 out of 259 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Daily
Routine
Samples Collected
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# GLEN BEACH

Glen Beach was introduced as a new site in 2020. In 2021 there were 11 samples collected, with one failure, resulting in a sufficient categorisation. Since **Glen Beach** was included as a **daily sampling site** in August 2024, we can see that the water quality at this beach is **generally excellent**, with a few discrete spikes (**three elevated results out of 259 samples since October 2023**). The Diepsloot stream runs into the sea at Glen Beach, and if there is a pollution event in the catchment, this could have an impact on the CWQ. The City completed a research **report** based on Glen and Camps Bay data which provides a "deep dive" into water quality at these locations. The City will complete a full year of daily sampling at these sites and produce further detailed reports.



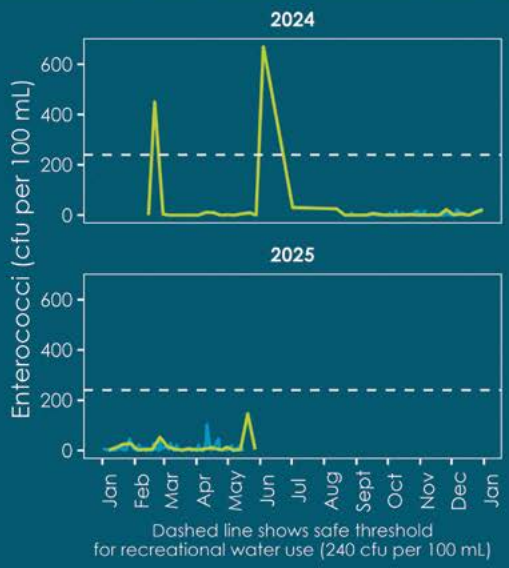

Camps Bay North
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Glen Beach
Camps Bay North
Camps Bay Central
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

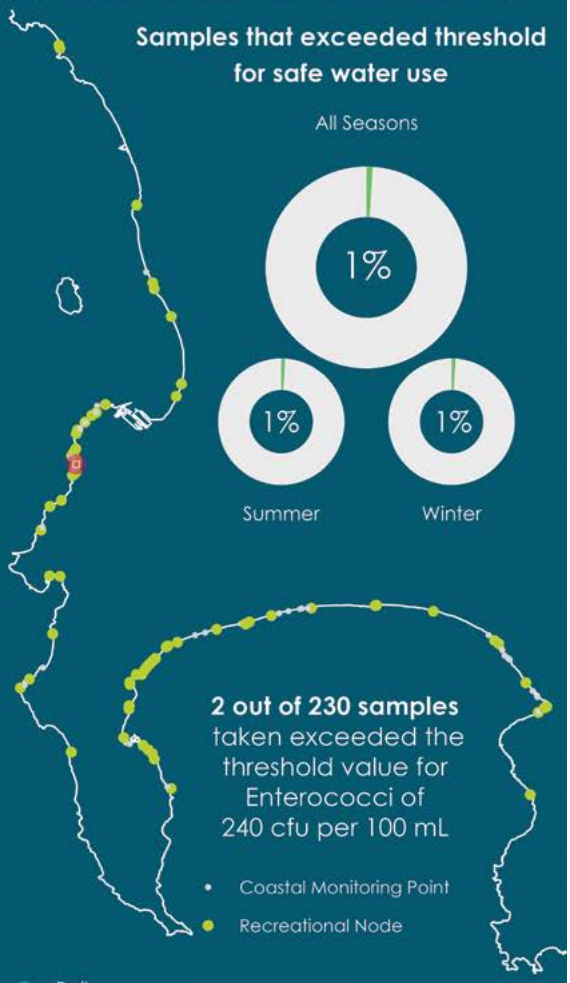
# Camps Bay Central

## Atlantic Coast

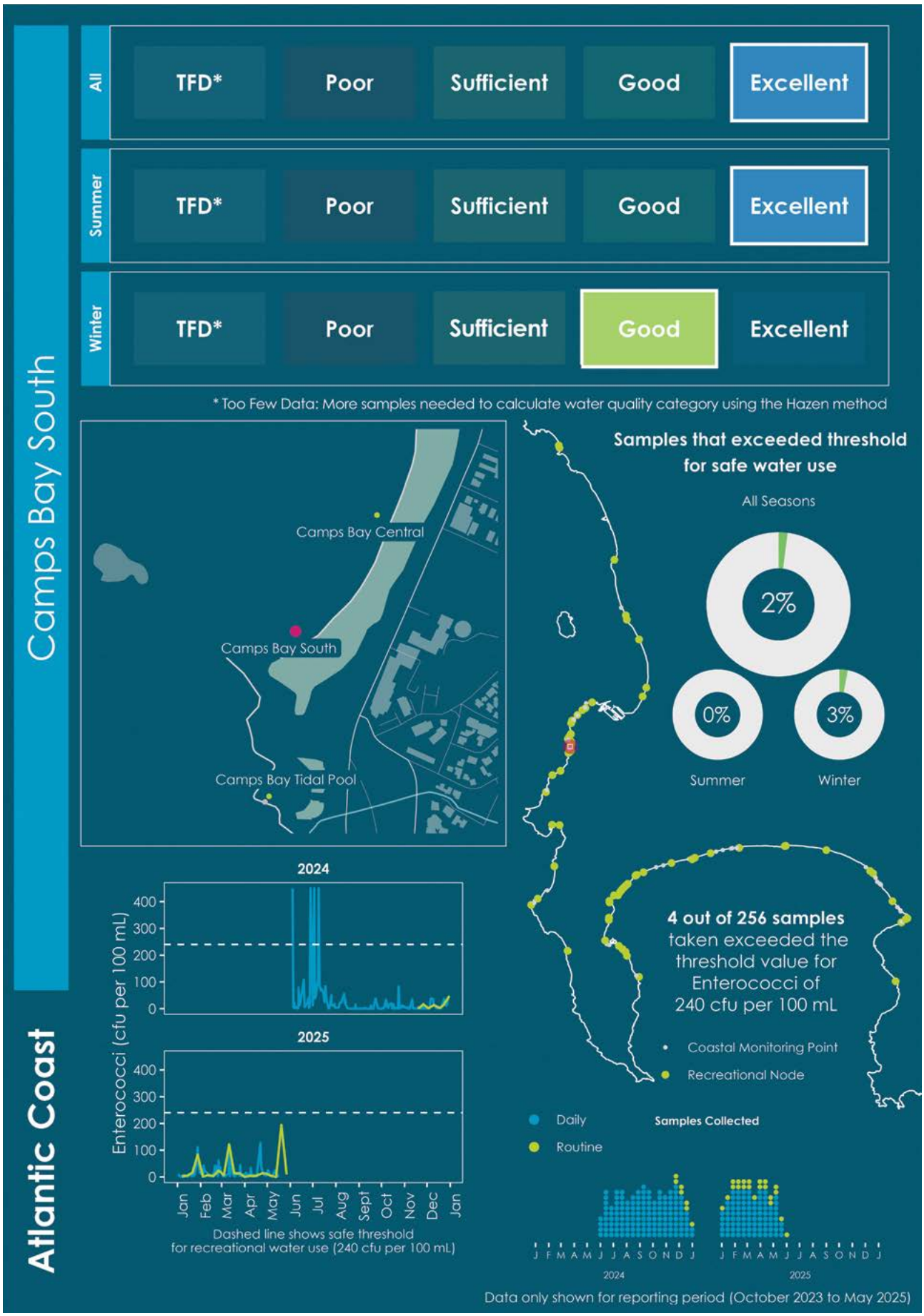
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



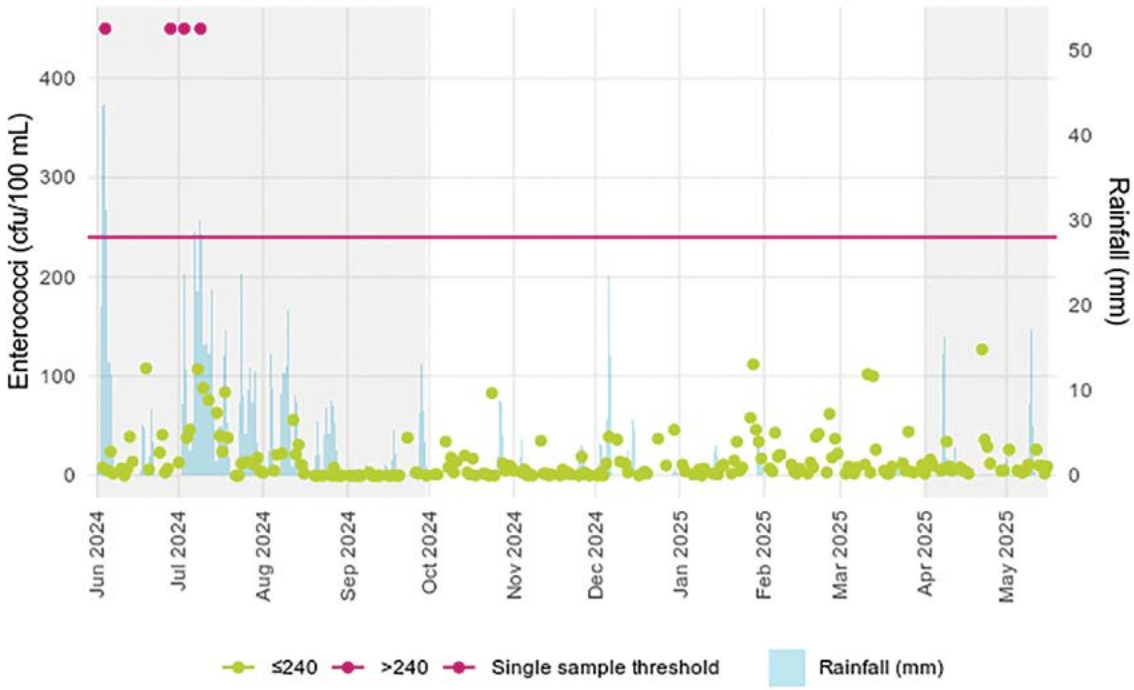
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Camps Bay South
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Camps Bay Central
Camps Bay South
Camps Bay Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
2%
0%
3%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
4 out of 256 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Daily
Routine
Samples Collected
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# CAMPS BAY SOUTH

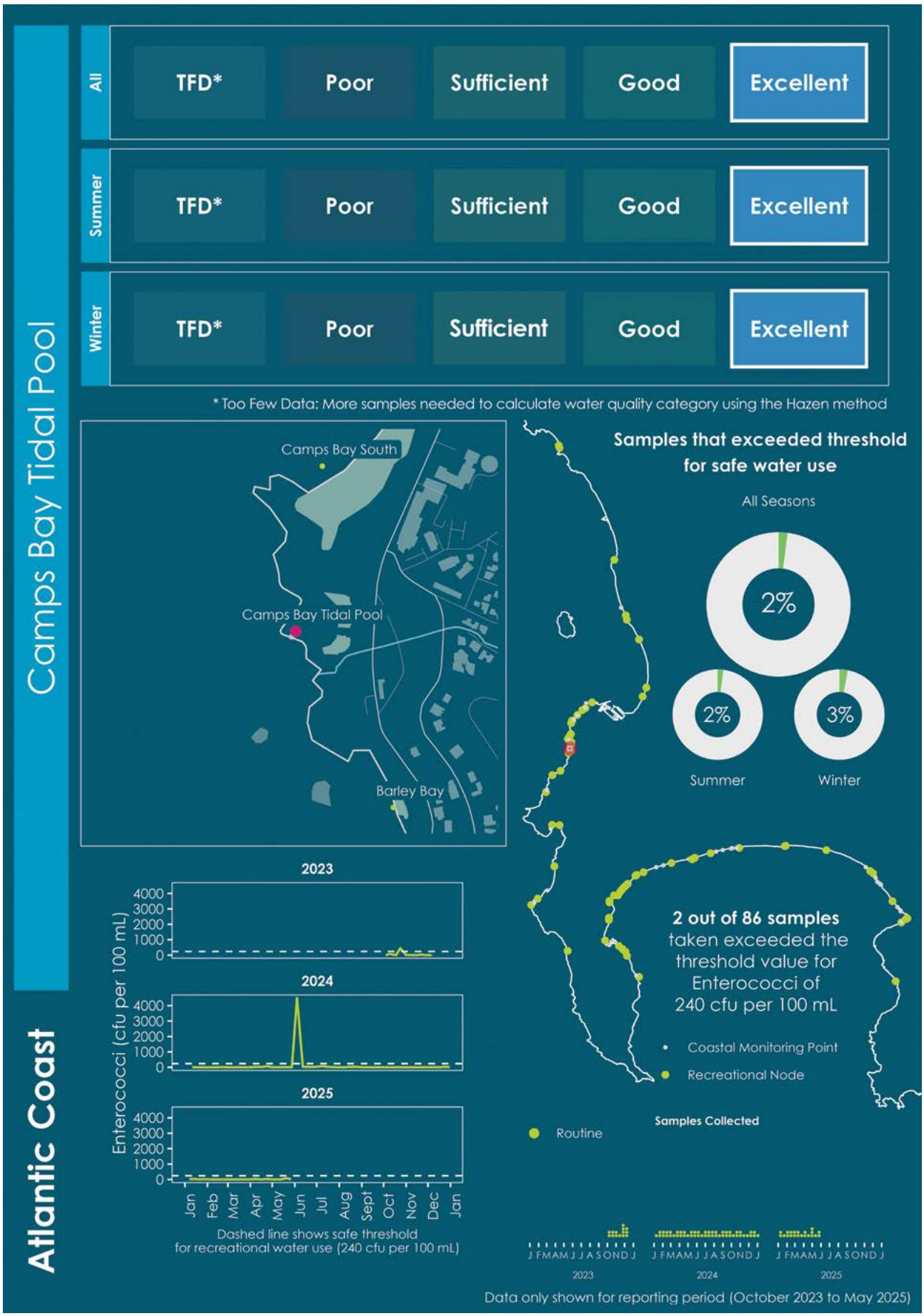
This site is in the designated bathing area of Camps Bay. Daily sampling was initiated in June 2024 (as evidenced by the spike in sampling effort in the chart below and on previous page), and since then there have been four sample failures out of a total 268 samples. All of these failures have taken place in the winter rainfall months. For further information on the impact of rainfall and stormwater discharge on coastal water quality, please see this detailed report using data from daily sampling. The main drivers of poor water quality at this site include overflowing sewer pipes as well as stormwater discharge. This usually occurs during periods of heavy rainfall when there is rainwater ingress into the sewer system, and the pipes cannot handle the increased volumes and thus overflow.

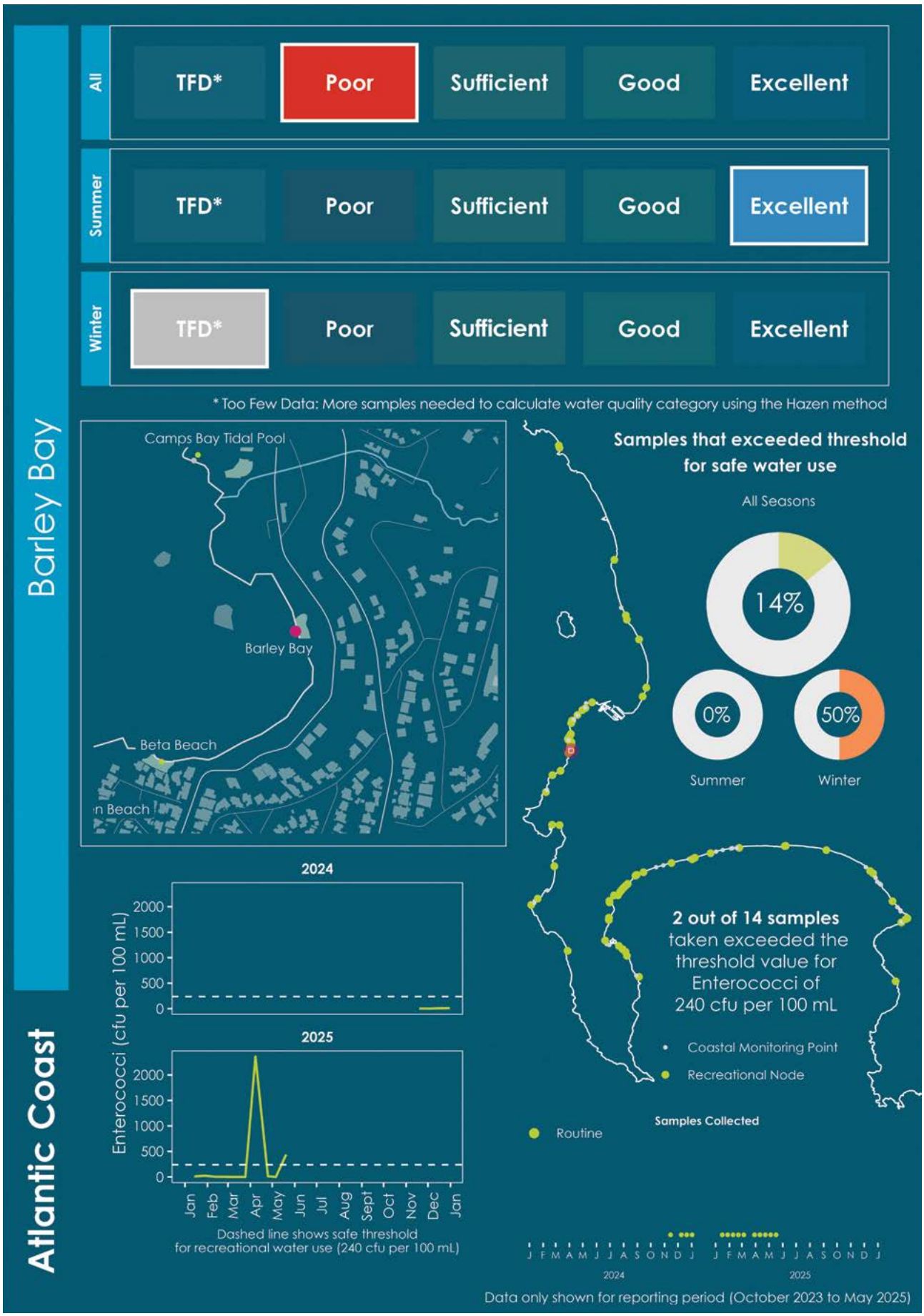
Another key issue for this site includes the amount of FOGs (fats, oils and greases) that block sewer lines and cause overflows. Water and Sanitation staff are constantly clearing blockages, with 487 blockages cleared in Camps Bay, Clifton, Bakoven and Sea Point in the 2024/25 financial year. These FOGs originate primarily from restaurants (and households) disposing of cooking oil and fats down the drains. Water Pollution Control regularly conducts inspections to ensure restaurants are using grease traps, but the amount of FOGs detected in the sewer pipes is still a major concern and an ongoing issue. Please see pages 4–6 of the Know Your Coast, 2020, report for more information on "catchment to coast" impacts as well as page 62–67 about how you can make a difference with correct disposal of items not intended for sewer systems.



# CAMPS BAY SOUTH

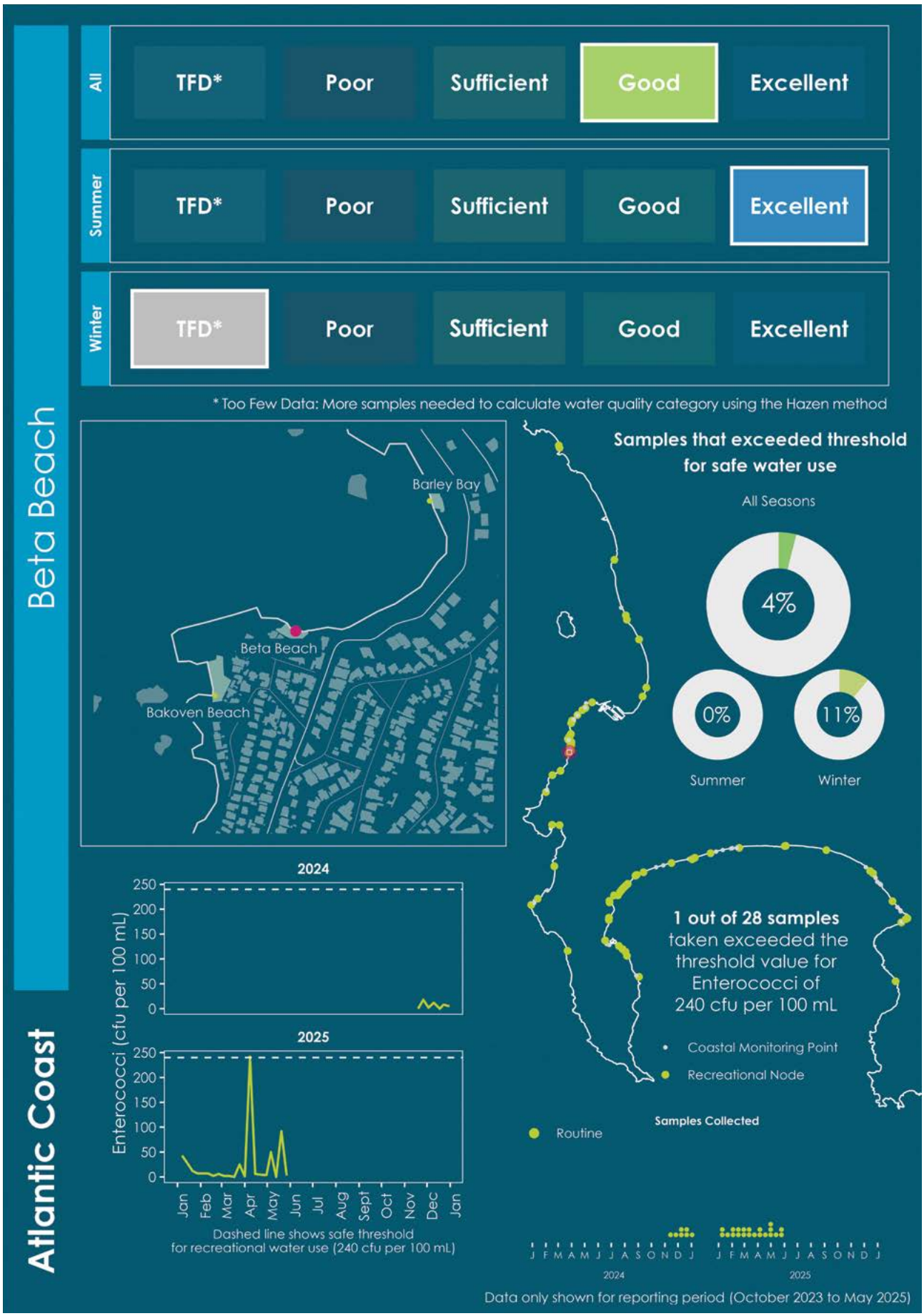
The failed categorisation from 2006–2009 could have been related to the start of load-shedding in South Africa, and the sufficient categorisation from 2015–2019 could also be related to the significant uptick in load-shedding hours in that period. In 2015 and 2019 there were over 500 hours of load-shedding in South Africa.


Camps Bay Tidal Pool
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Camps Bay South
Camps Bay Tidal Pool
Barley Bay
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
2%
2%
3%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
2 out of 86 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Barley Bay
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Camps Bay Tidal Pool
Barley Bay
Beta Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
14%
0%
50%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
2 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# BARLEY BAY

In previous iterations of the Know Your Coast report this site was described as "Horne Bay" and was classified as a coastal monitoring point. Due to the growing popularity of this beach, it has now been reclassified as a recreational node. This site has shown fluctuating categorisation, however since 2012 categorisation has been generally "sufficient" or better. Thus far in 2025 the categorisation is "poor", due to **two sample failures**. These failed results were associated with **heavy rainfall events on 8 April and 20 May where >30 mm of rainfall** was recorded. Similar failures were noted on these days across the Atlantic seaboard/Hout Bay. Notably, Cosy Bay and the Maiden's Cove smaller tidal pool are also categorised as poor due to one sample failure after the heavy rainfall on 8 April 2025.

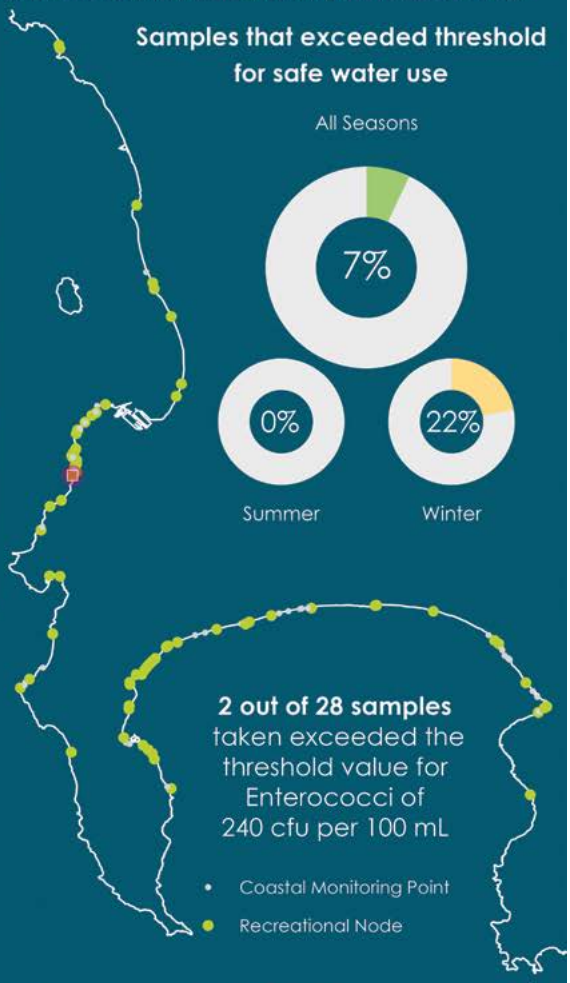

Beta Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Barley Bay
Beta Beach
Bakoven Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
4%
0%
11%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

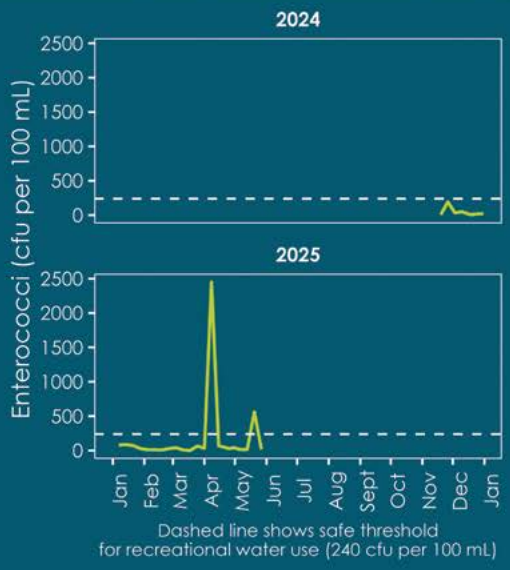
# Bakoven Beach

## Atlantic Coast

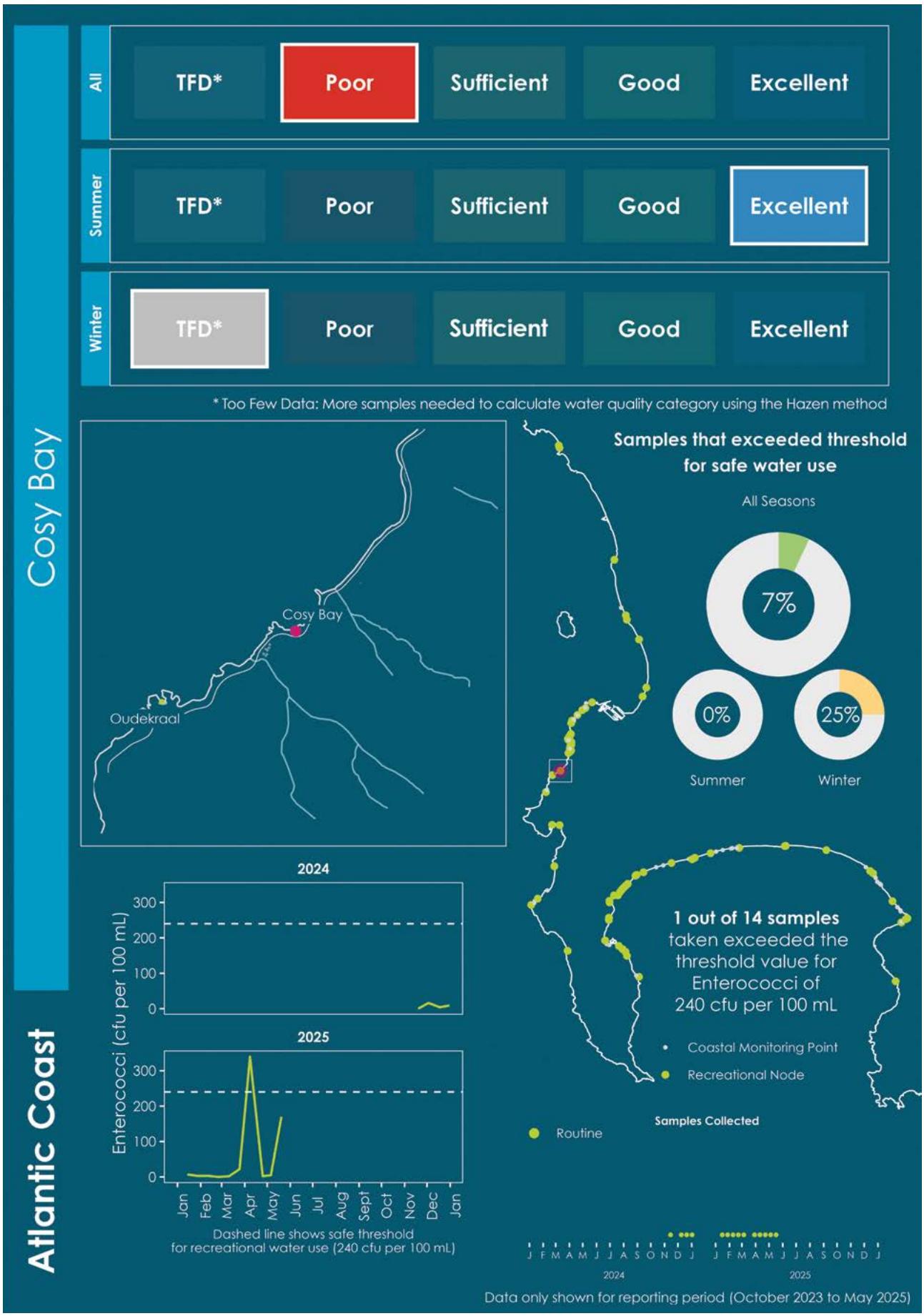
| | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | | | ■ | | |
| Summer | | | | ■ | |
| Winter | ■ | | | | |

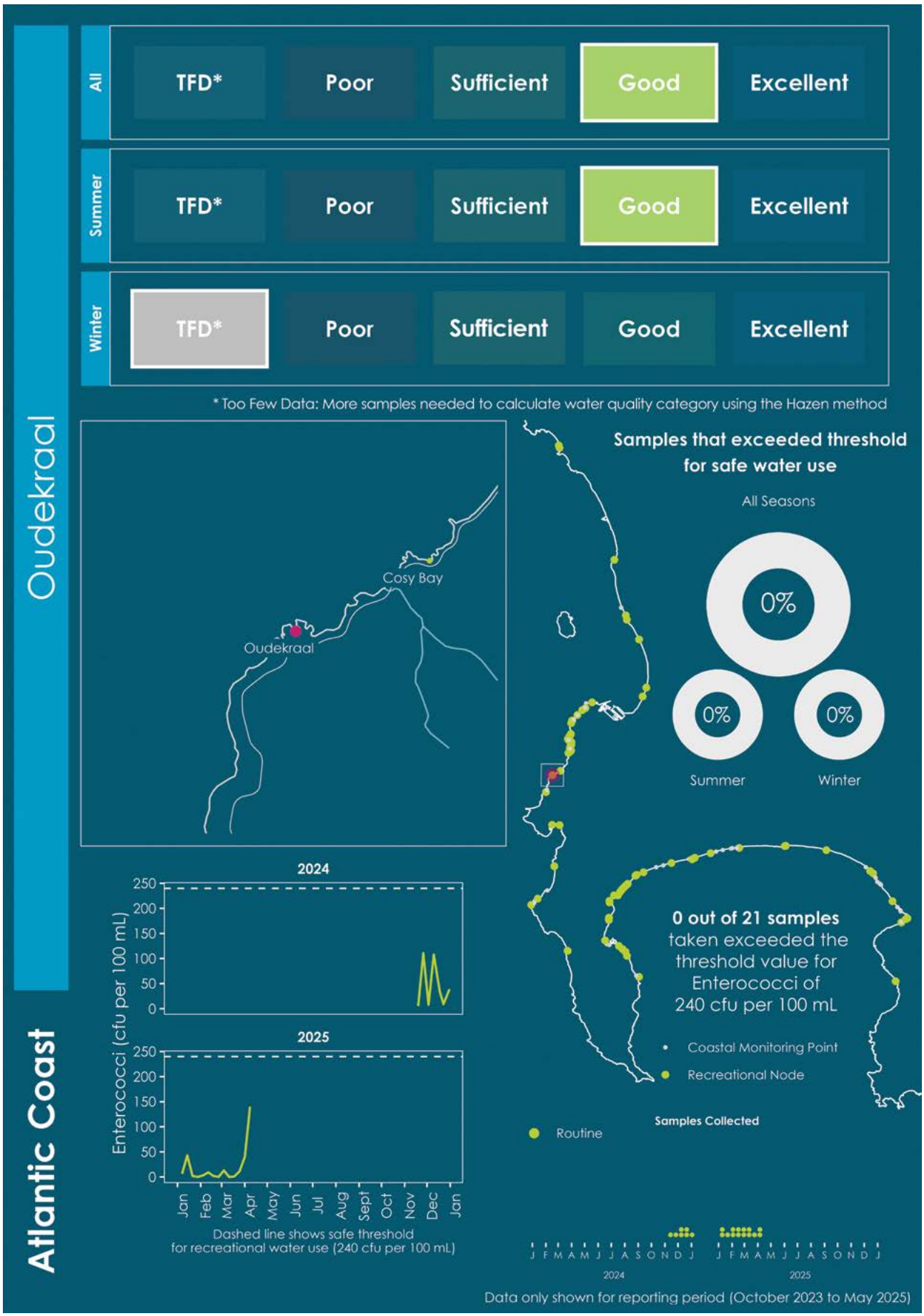
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method

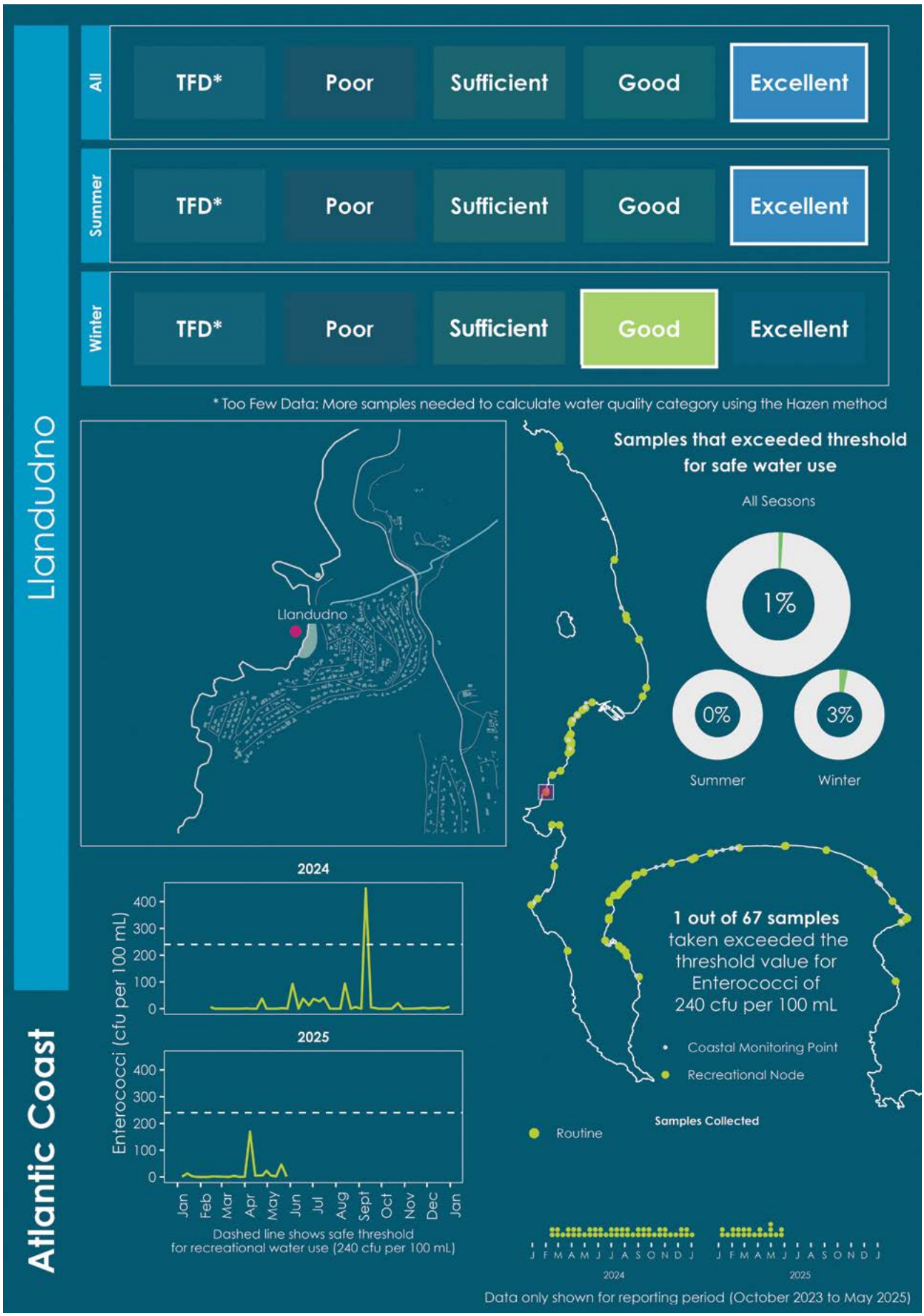


Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Cosy Bay
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Cosy Bay
Oudekraal
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Atlantic Coast
Oudekraal
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Cosy Bay
Oudekraal
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 21 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Llandudno
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Llandudno
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
1%
0%
3%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 67 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# LLANDUDNO

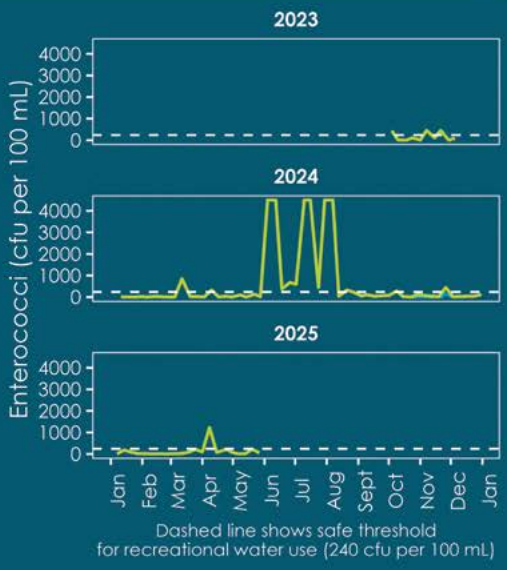
Llandudno generally meets the thresholds for safe recreational use. However, load-shedding and resultant sewer overflows contributed to failed results in previous years. Incorrect usage of the sewage system also contributes to blockages and overflows. Tree roots can also cause issues with the sewer lines by creating cracks in sewer pipes; as they grow underground, the roots then search for the water and can overwhelm a pipe.

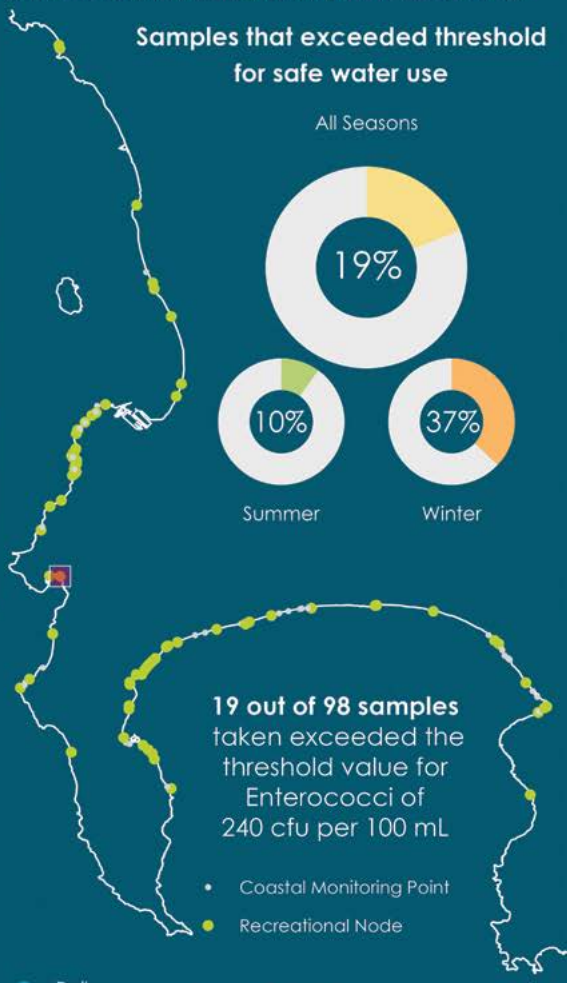
# Hout Bay Chapman's Peak

## Atlantic Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
| Summer | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
| Winter | TFD* | **Poor** | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



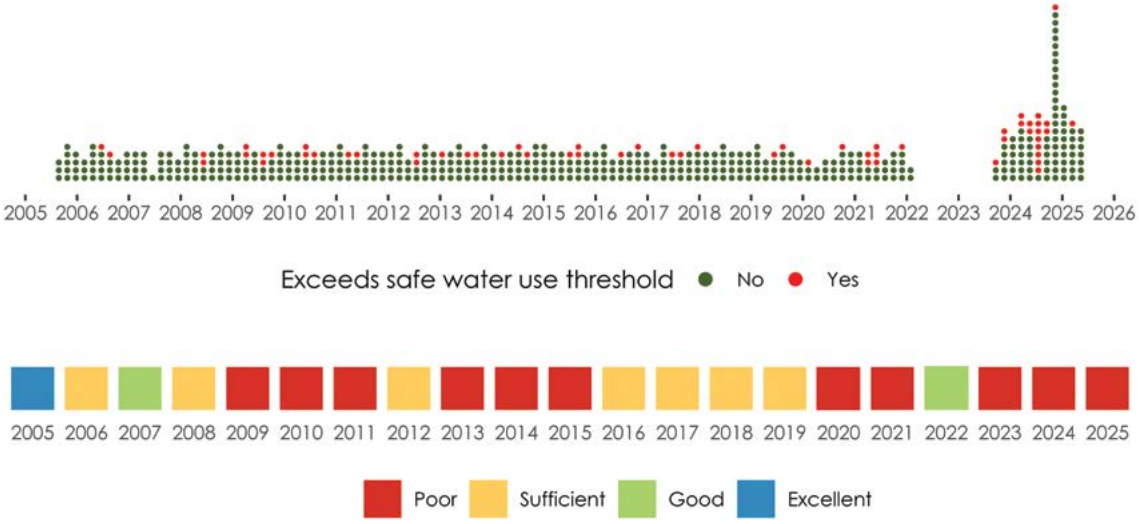



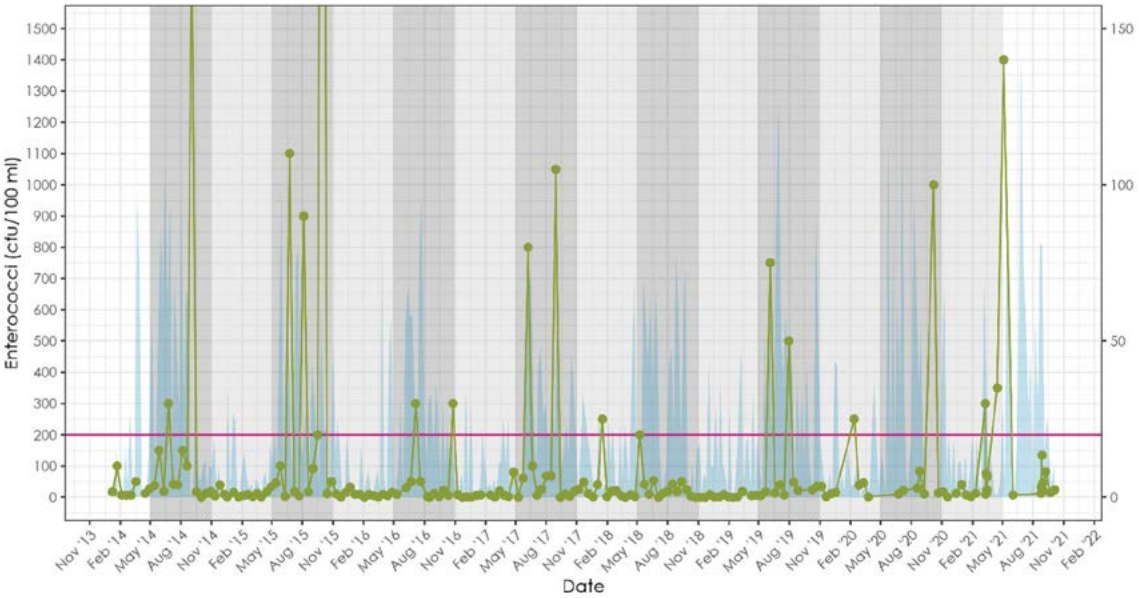

Daily
Routine
**Samples Collected**

Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# HOUT BAY CHAPMAN'S PEAK

The water quality in Hout Bay is highly variable, however failed results tend to occur in winter rainfall months (see detailed **Hout Bay report** for more information). In the figure below, grey columns indicate winter months and lighter columns indicate summer months. The spikes of elevated enterococci results occur generally in winter rainfall months. The Disa River (also referred to as Hout Bay River) receives pollution loads which then ultimately discharge into the receiving marine and coastal environment, especially during winter seasons. More in-depth analysis shows that for the most part the water quality meets recreational guidelines in summer, but poor results in winter ultimately leads to an overall "poor" categorisation. As a consequence of this there are permanent pollution warning signs stationed at the river mouth.



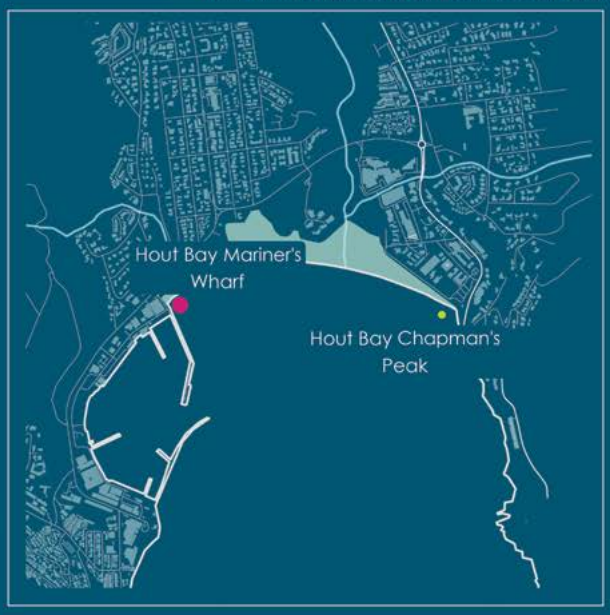



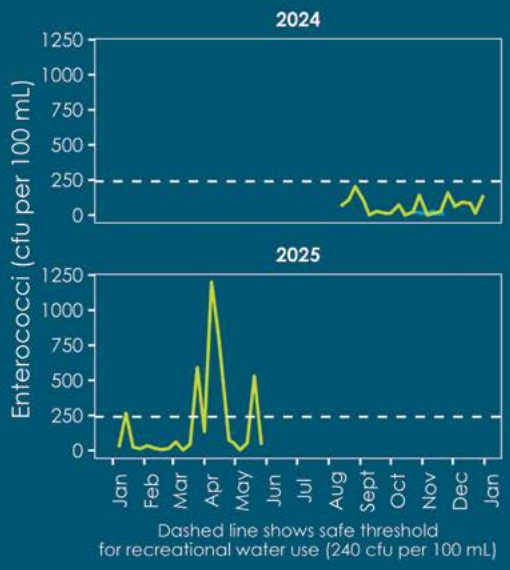
# Hout Bay Mariner's Wharf

## Atlantic Coast

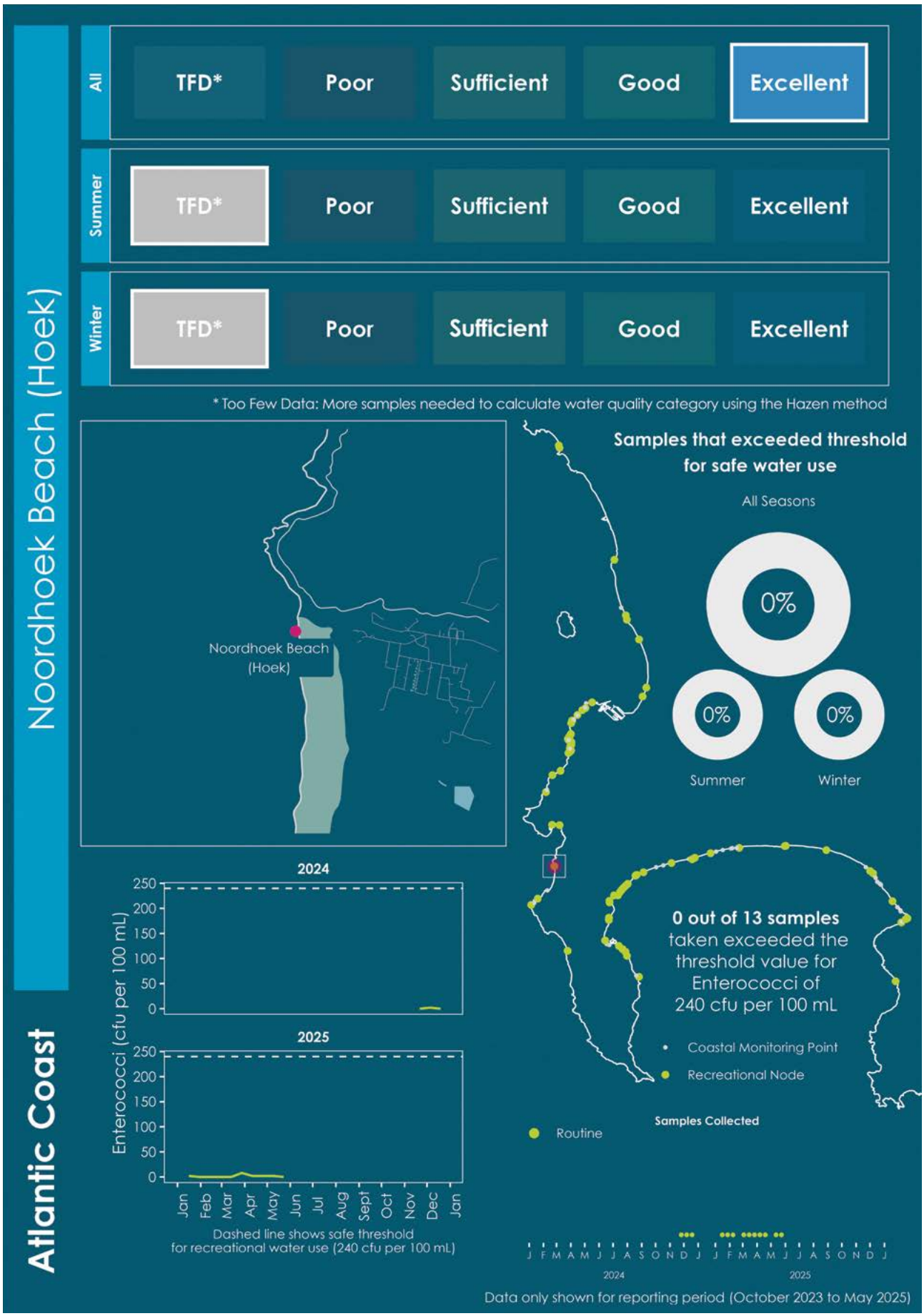
| | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | | **Poor** | | | |
| Summer | | | **Sufficient** | | |
| Winter | | **Poor** | | | |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

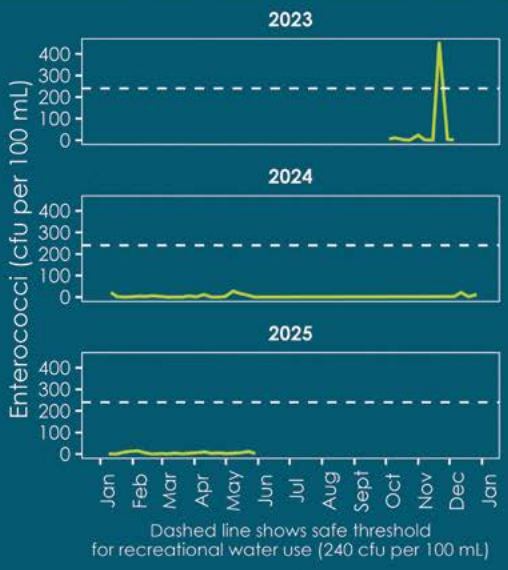

Noordhoek Beach (Hoek)
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Noordhoek Beach (Hoek)
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

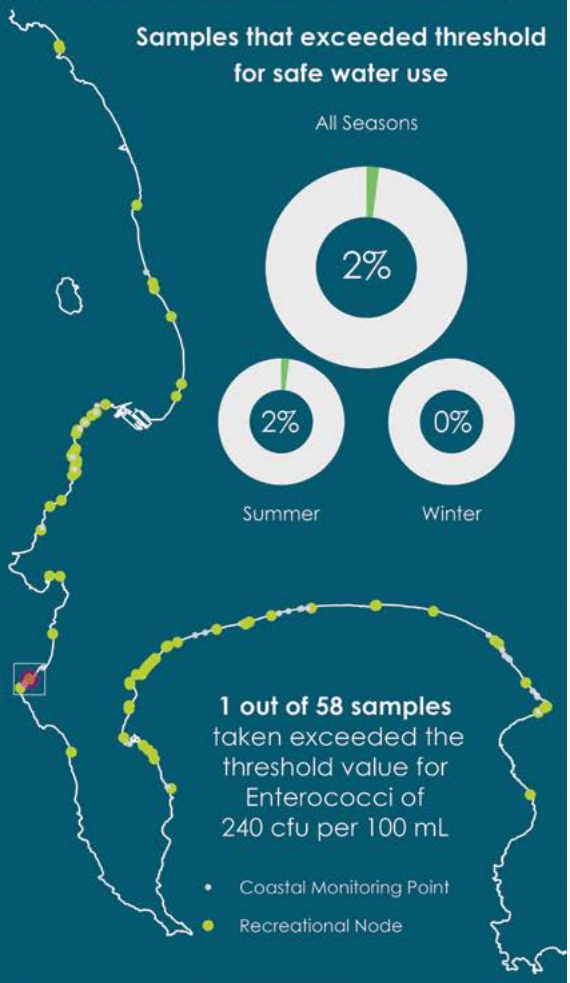
# Long Beach Kommetjie

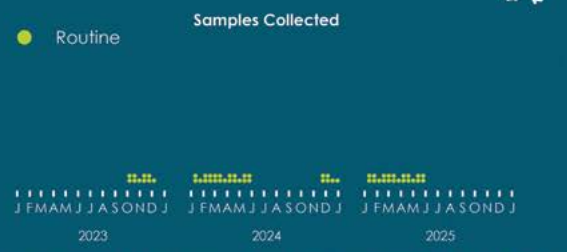
## Atlantic Coast

| | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | | | | | ■ |
| Summer | | | | | ■ |
| Winter | | | | | ■ |

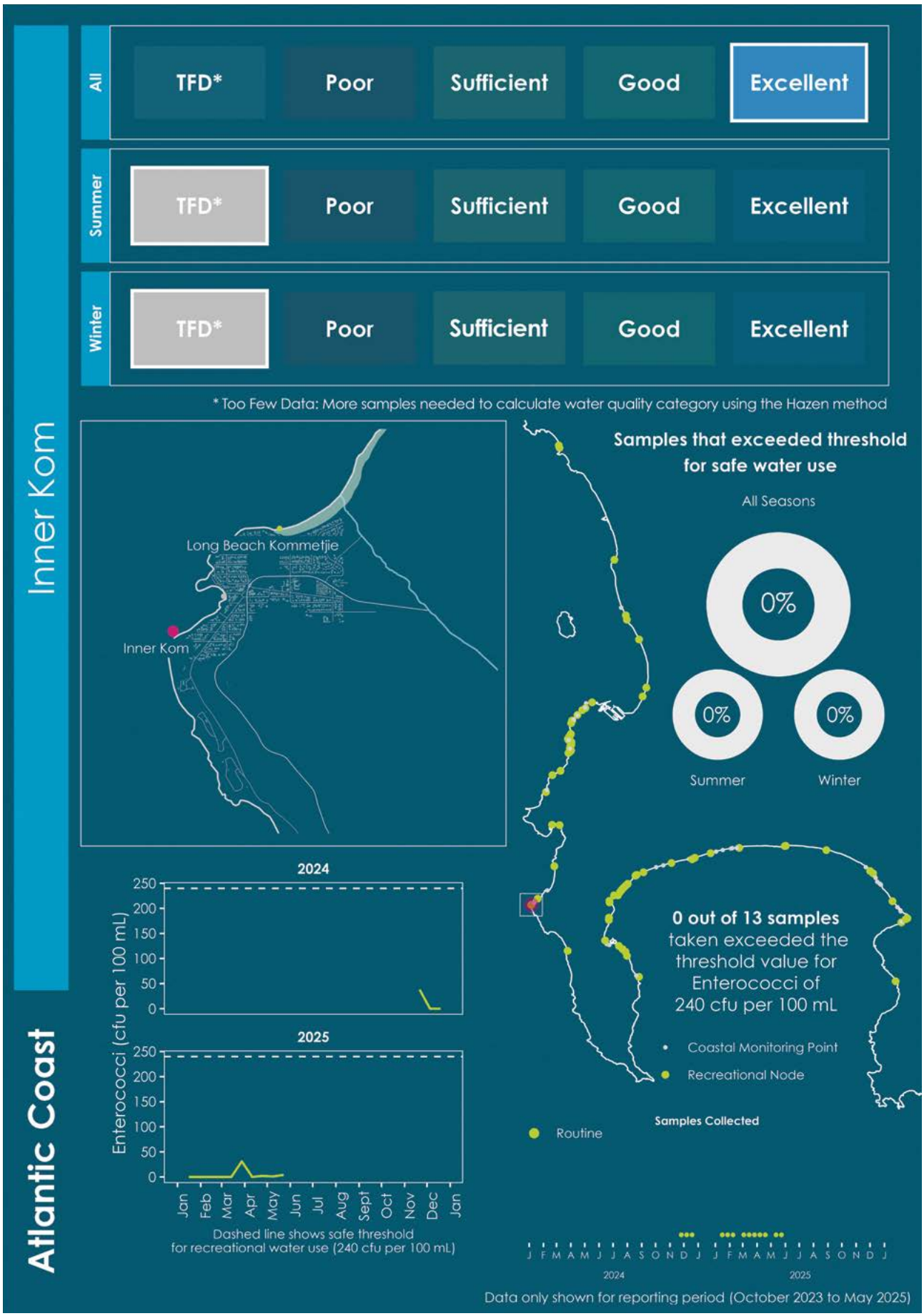
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method

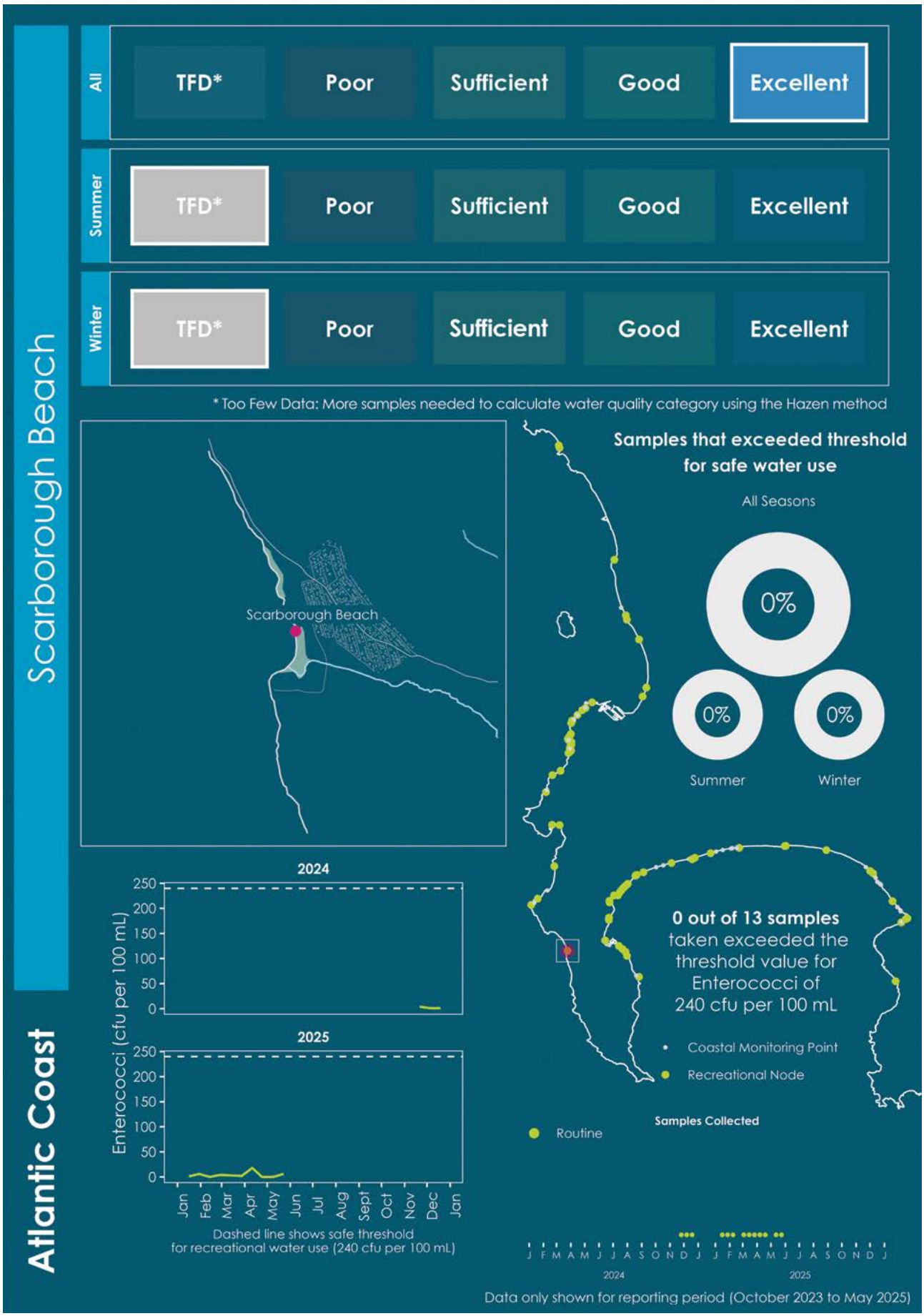


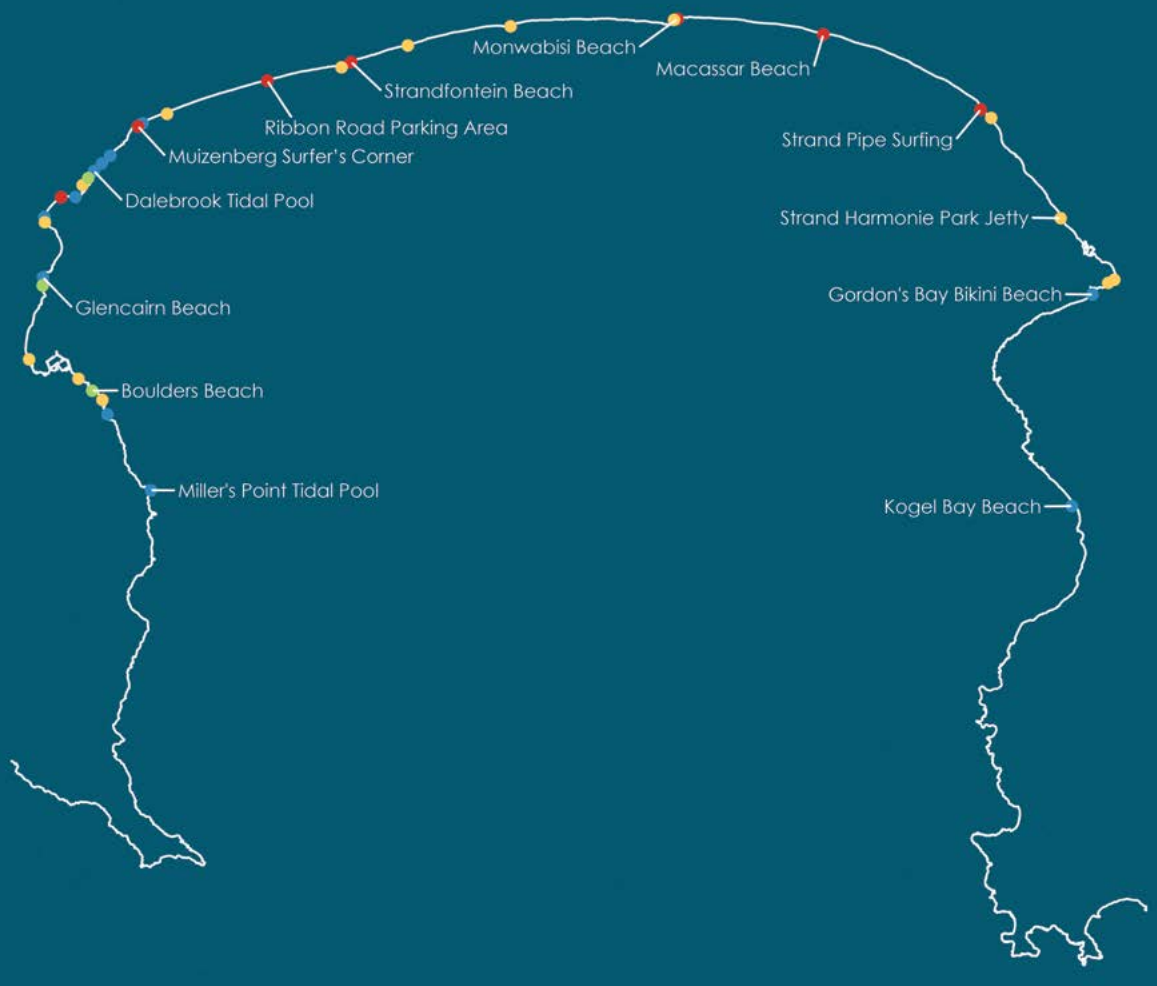




Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Inner Kom
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Long Beach Kommetjie
Inner Kom
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

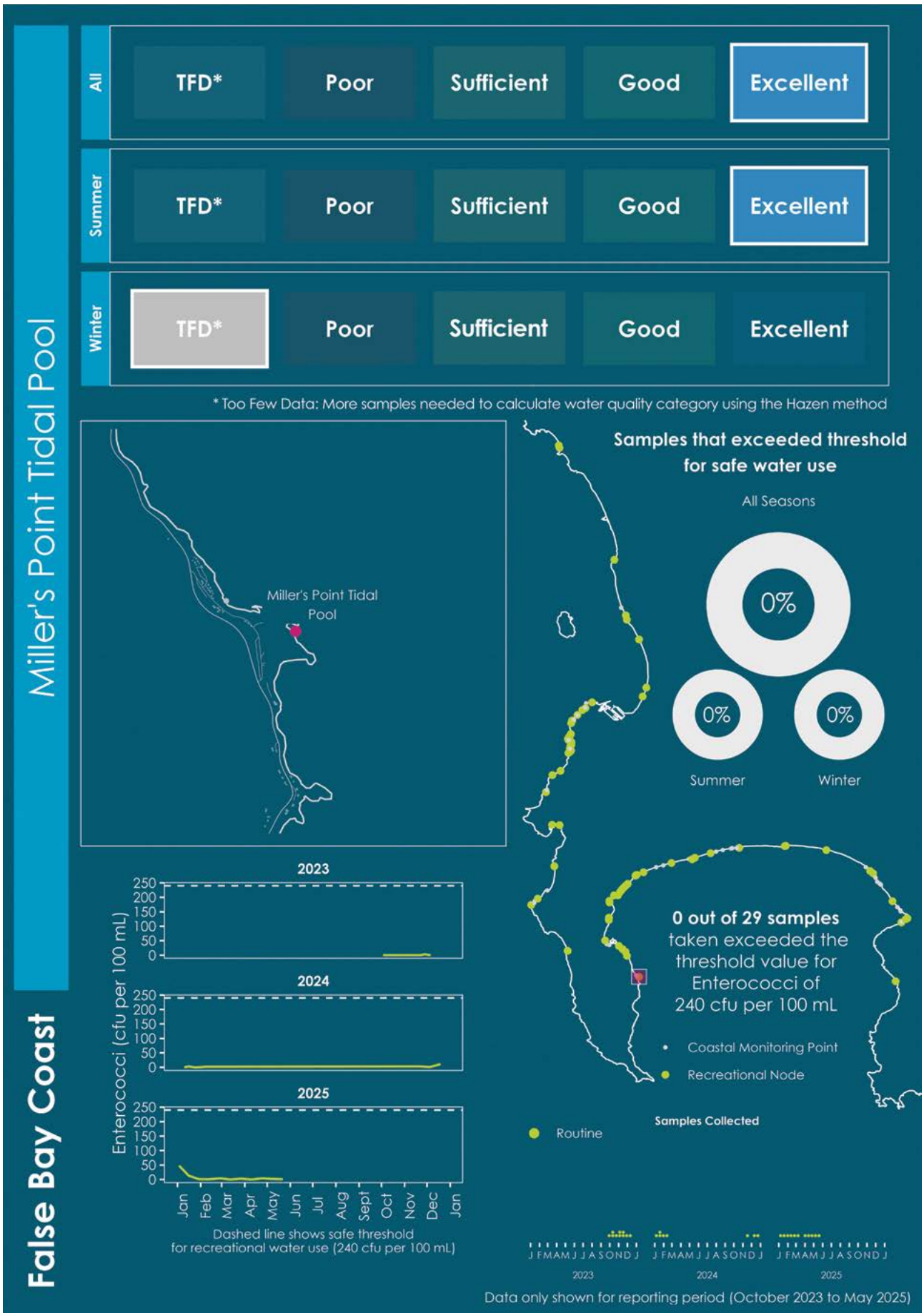

Scarborough Beach
Atlantic Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Scarborough Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

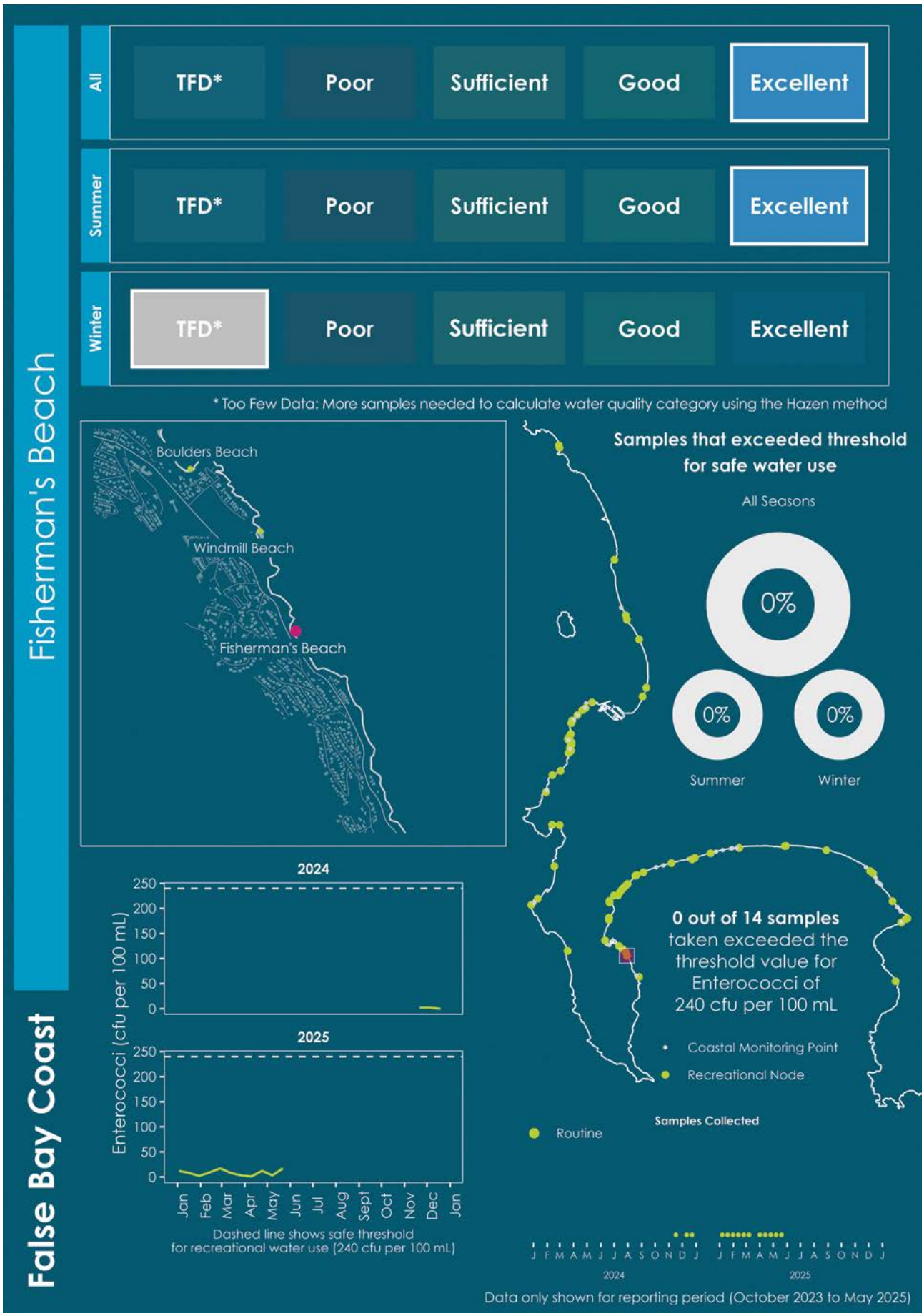
# FALSE BAY

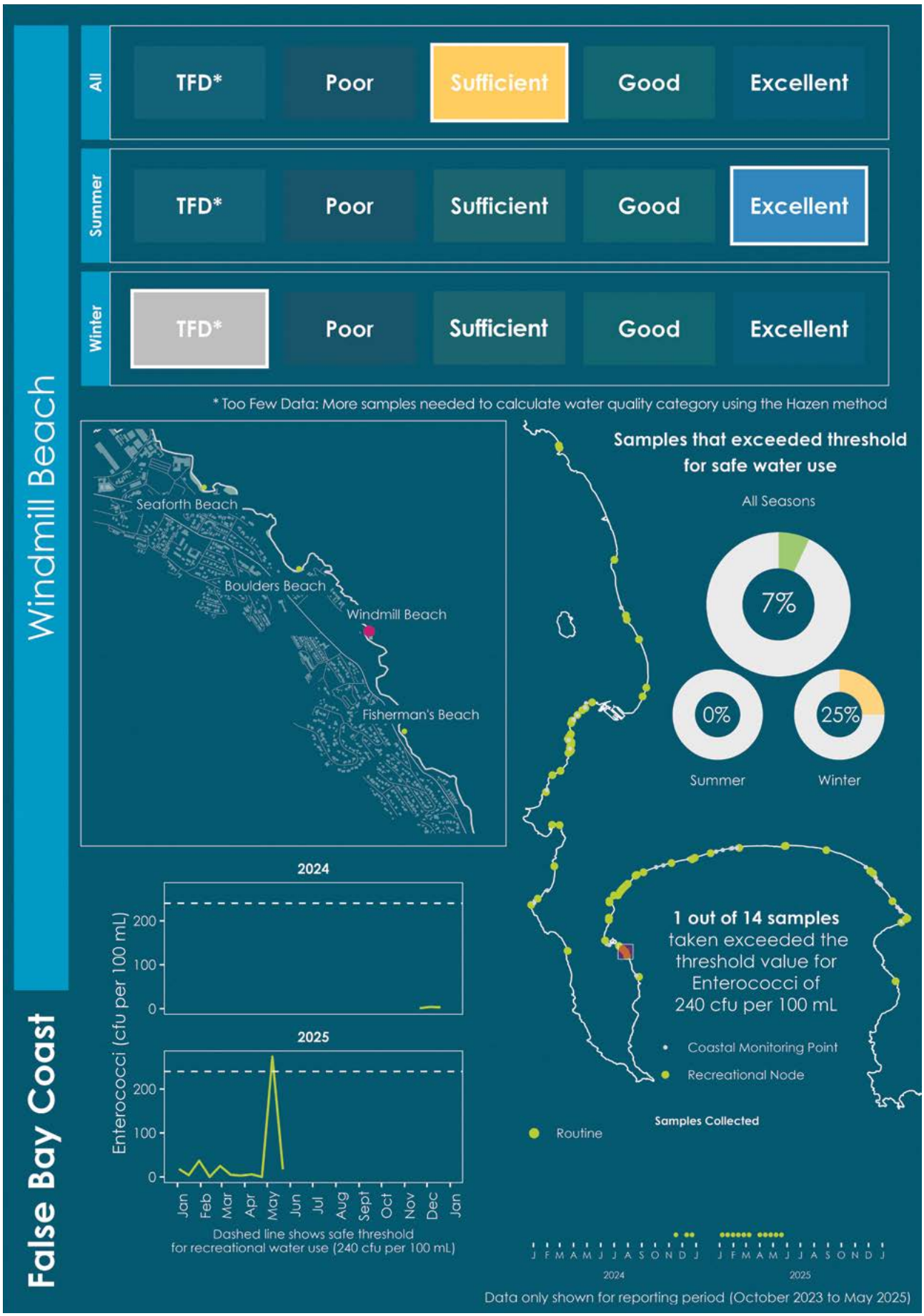


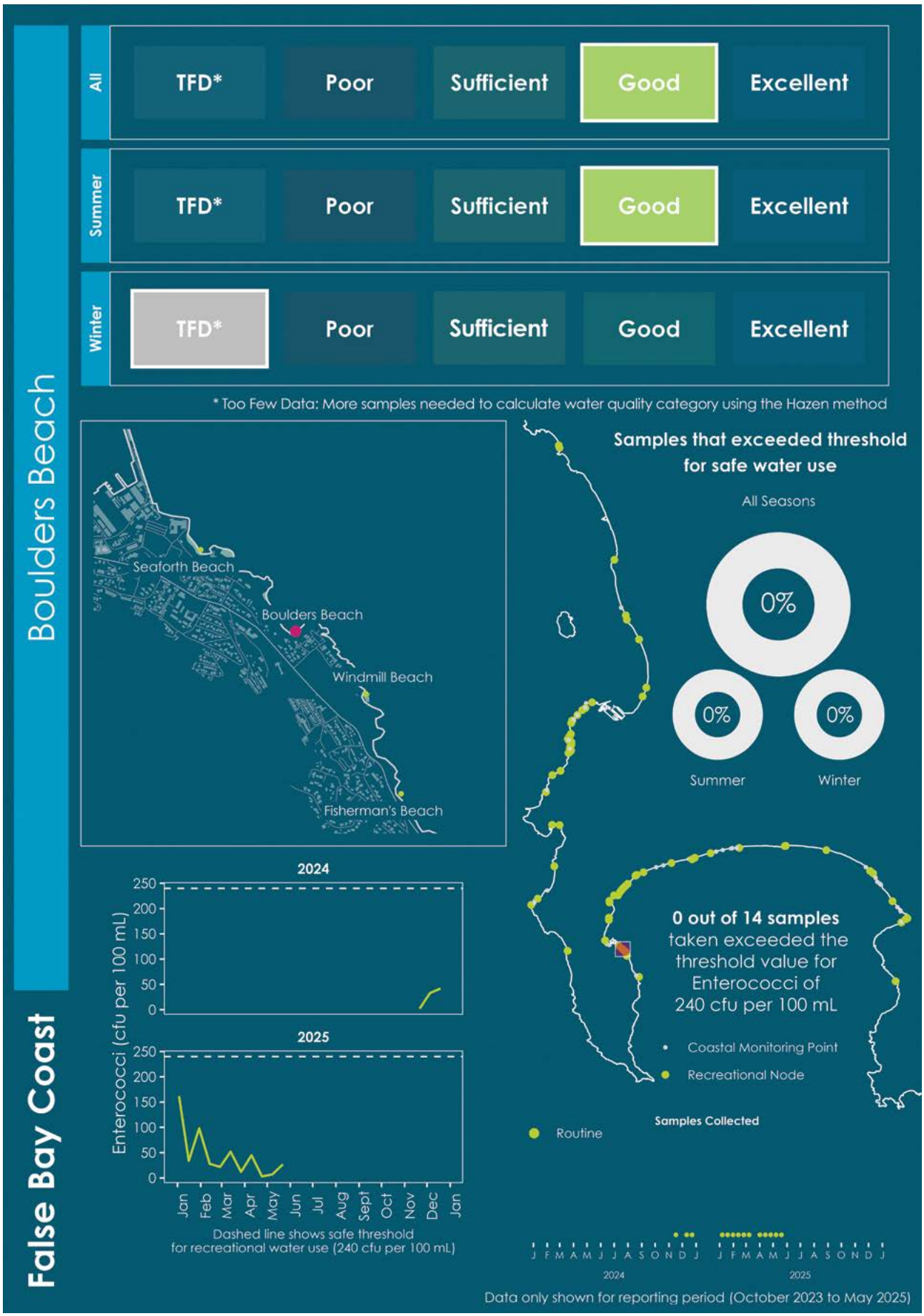

Water Quality Category ● Excellent ● Good ● Sufficient ● Poor

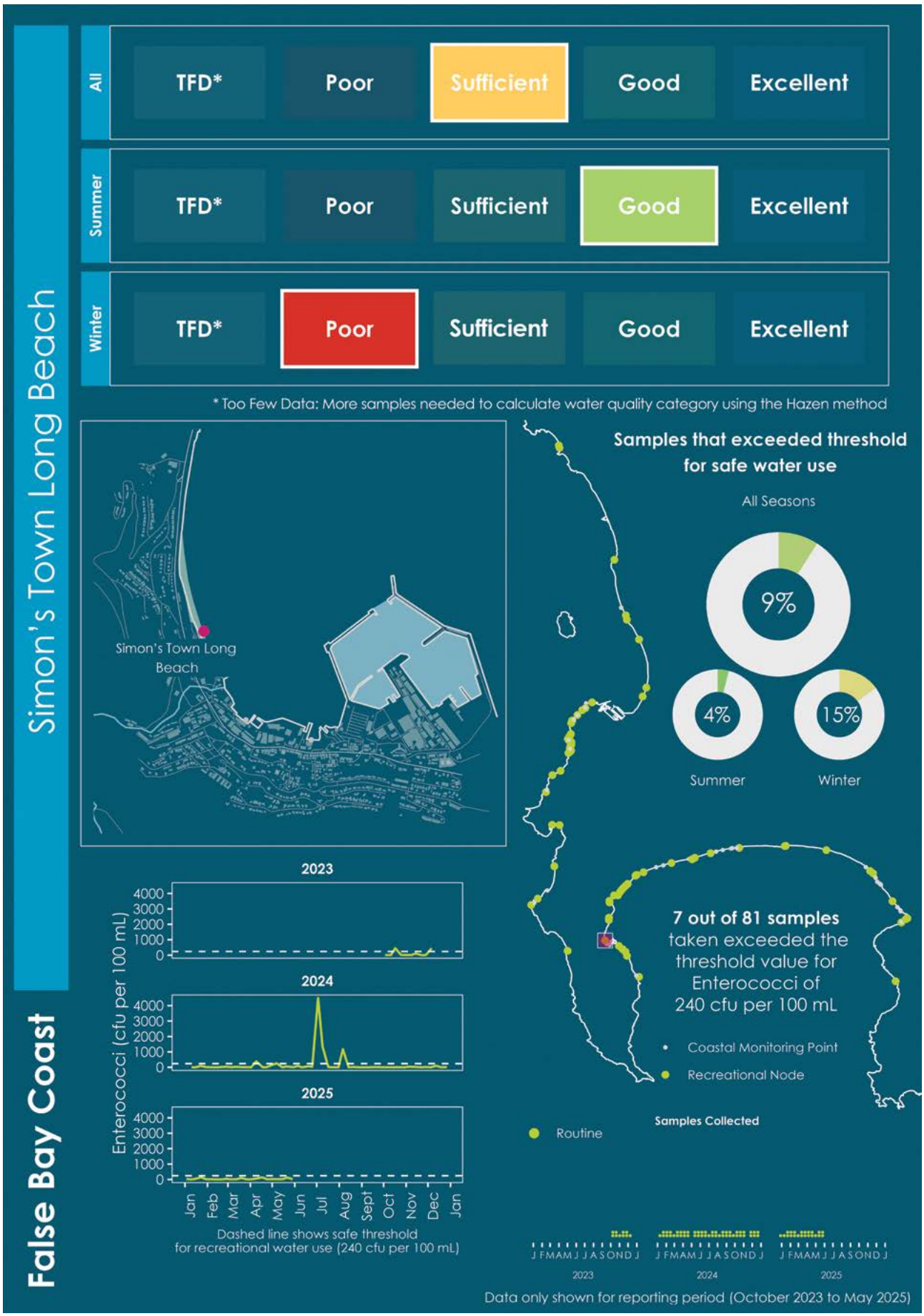
Data shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

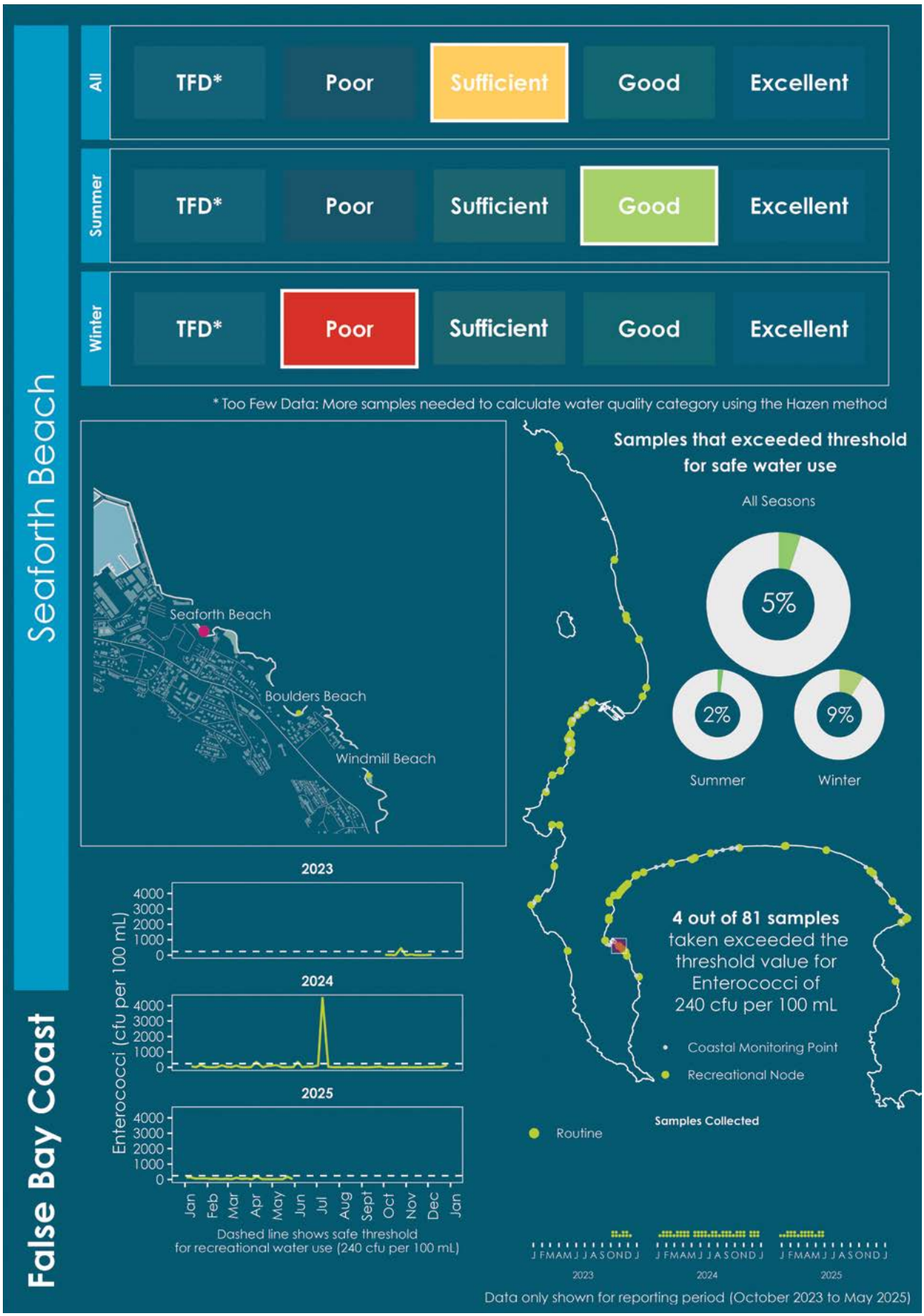

Miller's Point Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Miller's Point Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 29 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Fisherman's Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Boulders Beach
Windmill Beach
Fisherman's Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Windmill Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Seaforth Beach
Boulders Beach
Windmill Beach
Fisherman's Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

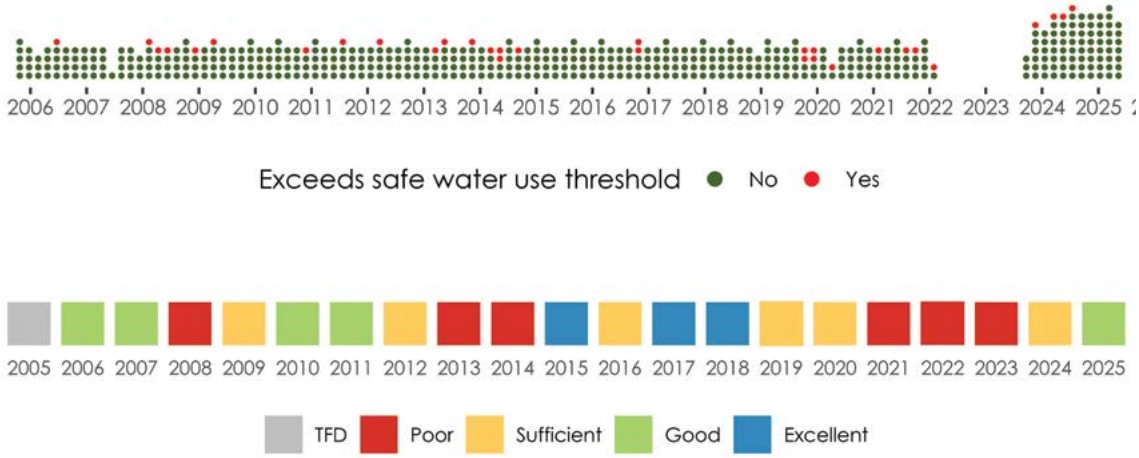

Boulders Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Seaforth Beach
Boulders Beach
Windmill Beach
Fisherman's Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

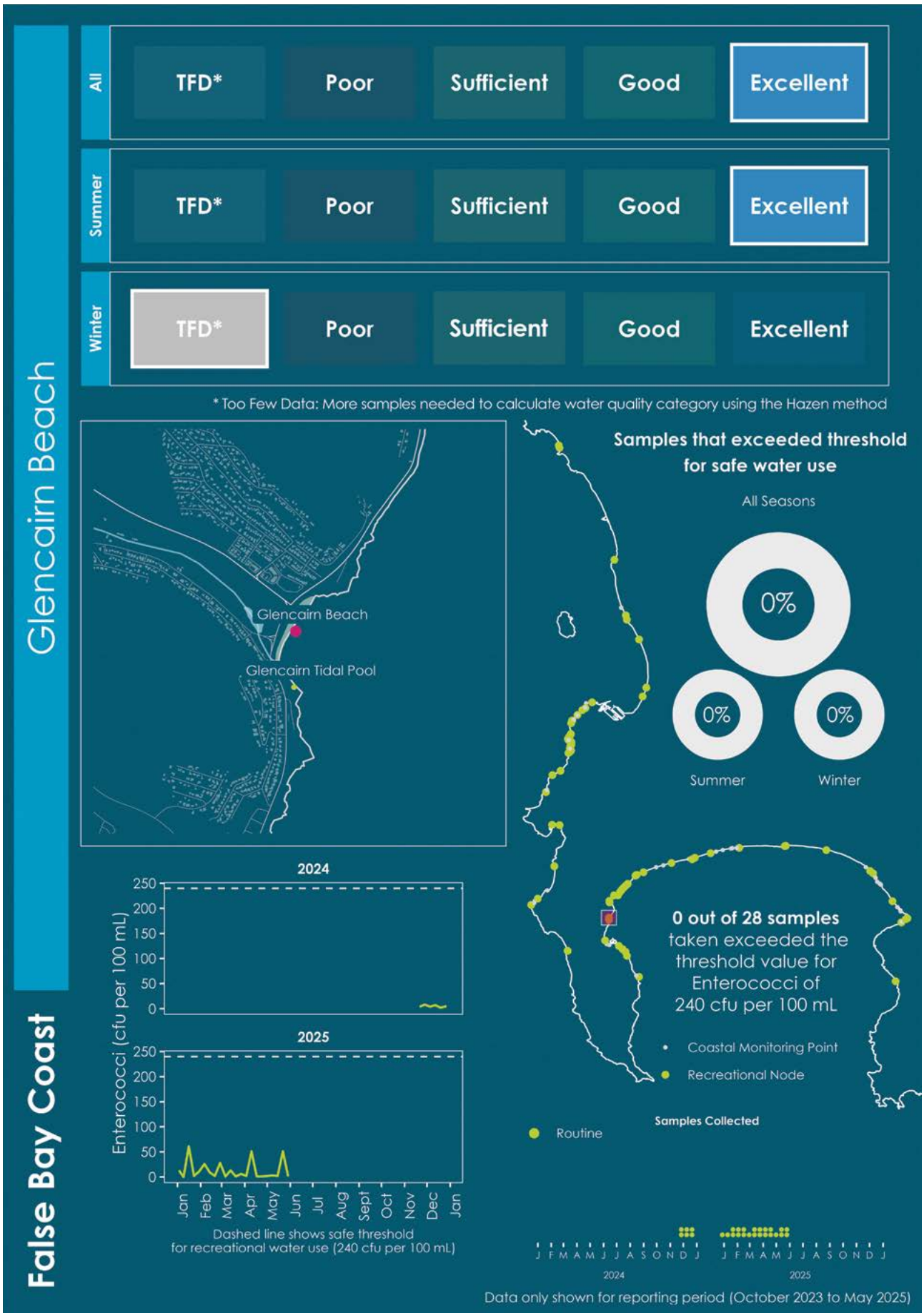

False Bay Coast
Simon's Town Long Beach
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Simon's Town Long Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
9%
4%
15%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
7 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Seaforth Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Seaforth Beach
Boulders Beach
Windmill Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
5%
2%
9%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
4 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# SEAFORTH BEACH

Sampling results over the last 20 years at Seaforth Beach reveal fluctuating water quality, with most years achieving "sufficient" or higher ratings, particularly between 2015 and 2020. However, six out of the 20 years were rated "poor", often due to between one and three results exceeding safe water use thresholds. The most recent data from 2024–2025 has shown an improvement, though exceedances have been recorded. This is likely due to intermittent pollution sources, including stormwater runoff during winter and occasional sewage overflows from the nearby pump station. Periods of more than 500 hours of load-shedding also had an impact on coastal water quality (2019–2023). During load-shedding hours, and especially at higher stages, pump stations are without power and can overflow if volumes are high. There are also situations where pumps trip or are damaged by the return of power and ultimately overflow and discharge into the receiving coastal and marine environment, typically through stormwater systems.



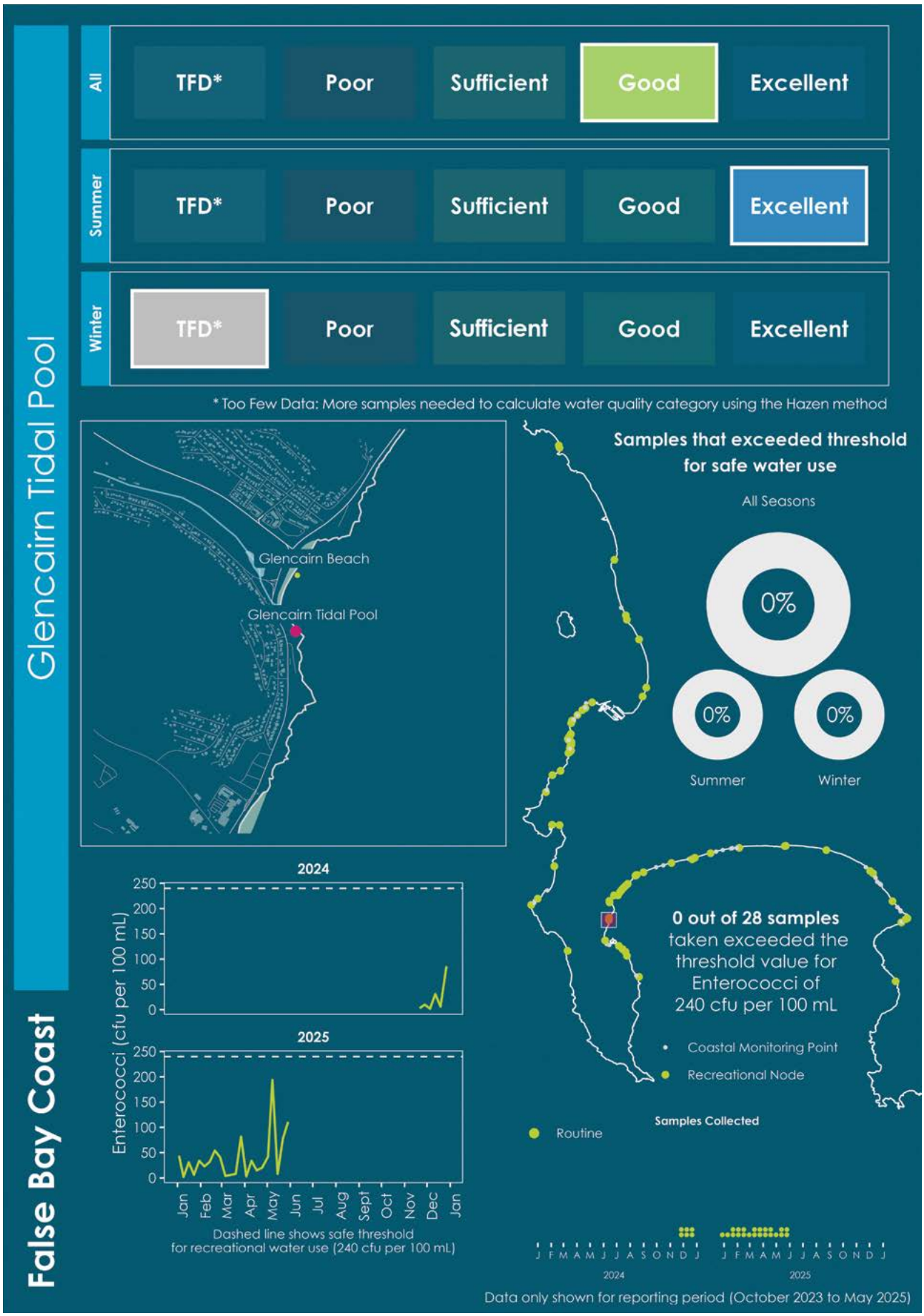

Glencairn Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Glencairn Beach
Glencairn Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# GLENCAIRN BEACH

Sampling over the last 20 years shows that Glencairn Beach consistently achieved "sufficient" or higher water quality ratings, with the majority of years rated as "excellent". There have been no years rated "poor", and only a few exceedances (nine) over the 20-year period. Monitoring at Glencairn Beach resumed in 2024 with weekly sampling, and all results to date have consistently fallen within safe recreational water quality thresholds. This site reflects generally stable conditions, likely due to limited pollution sources in the immediate vicinity.

Exceeds safe water use threshold ● No ● Yes

TFD Sufficient Good Excellent

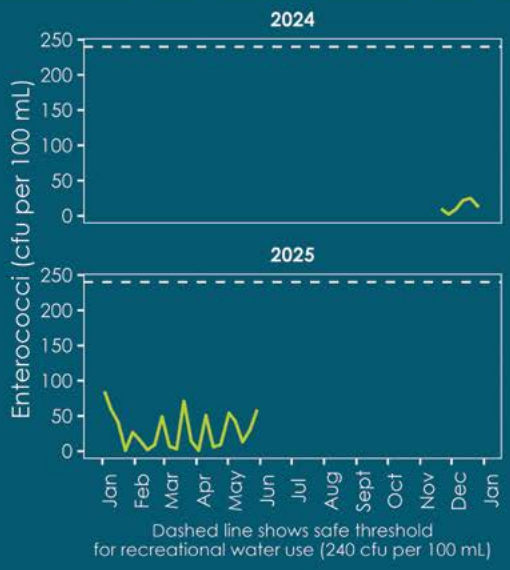

Glencairn Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Glencairn Beach
Glencairn Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# Fish Hoek Beach

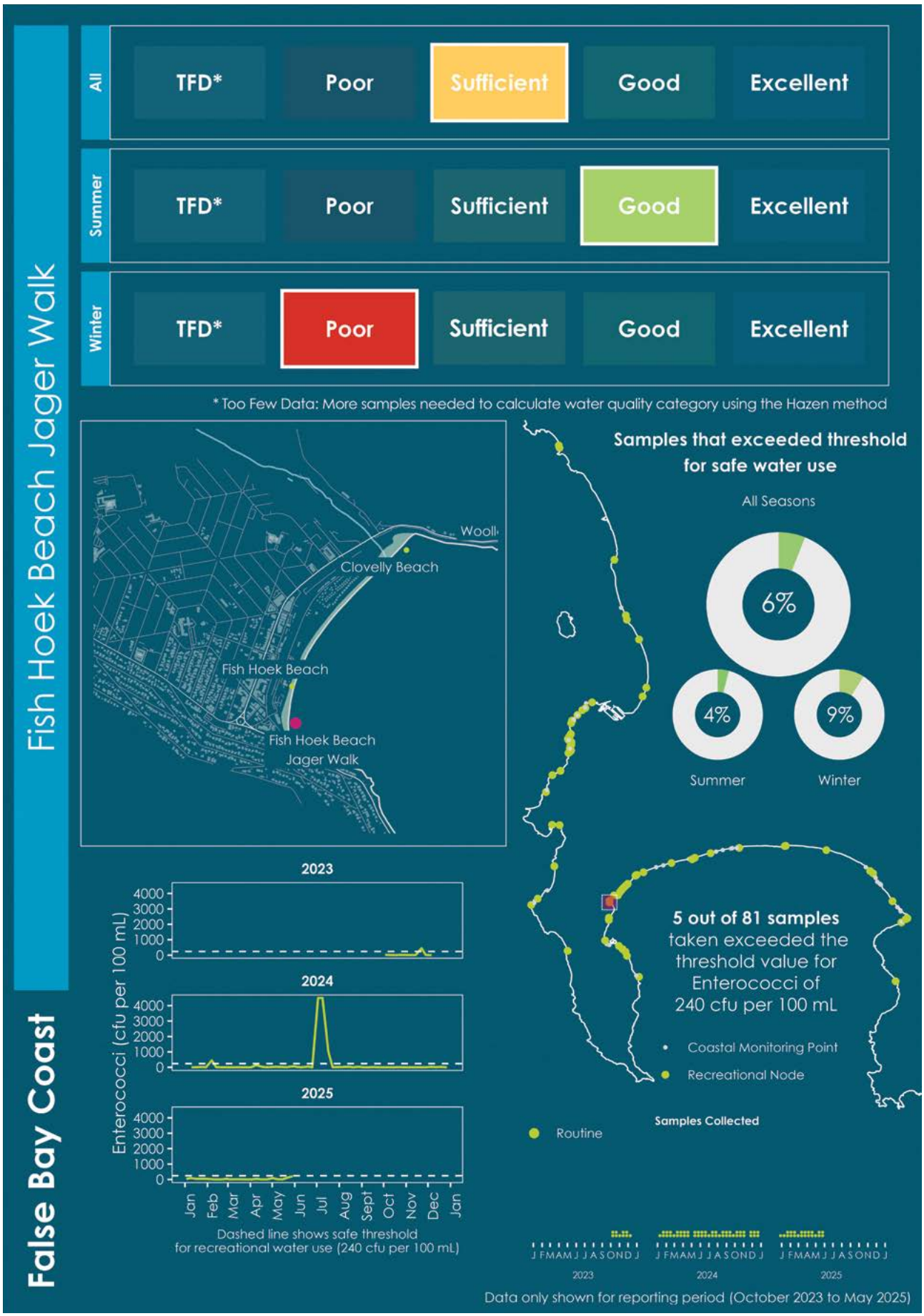
## False Bay Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



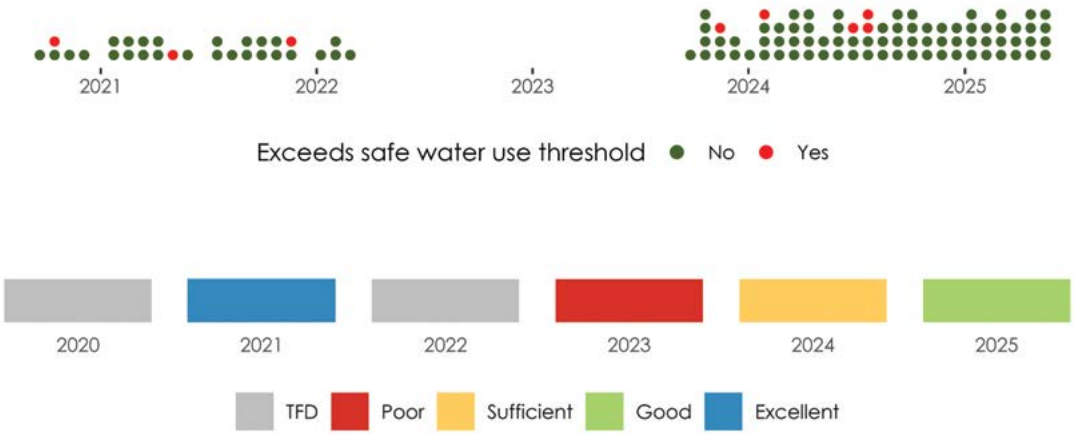
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

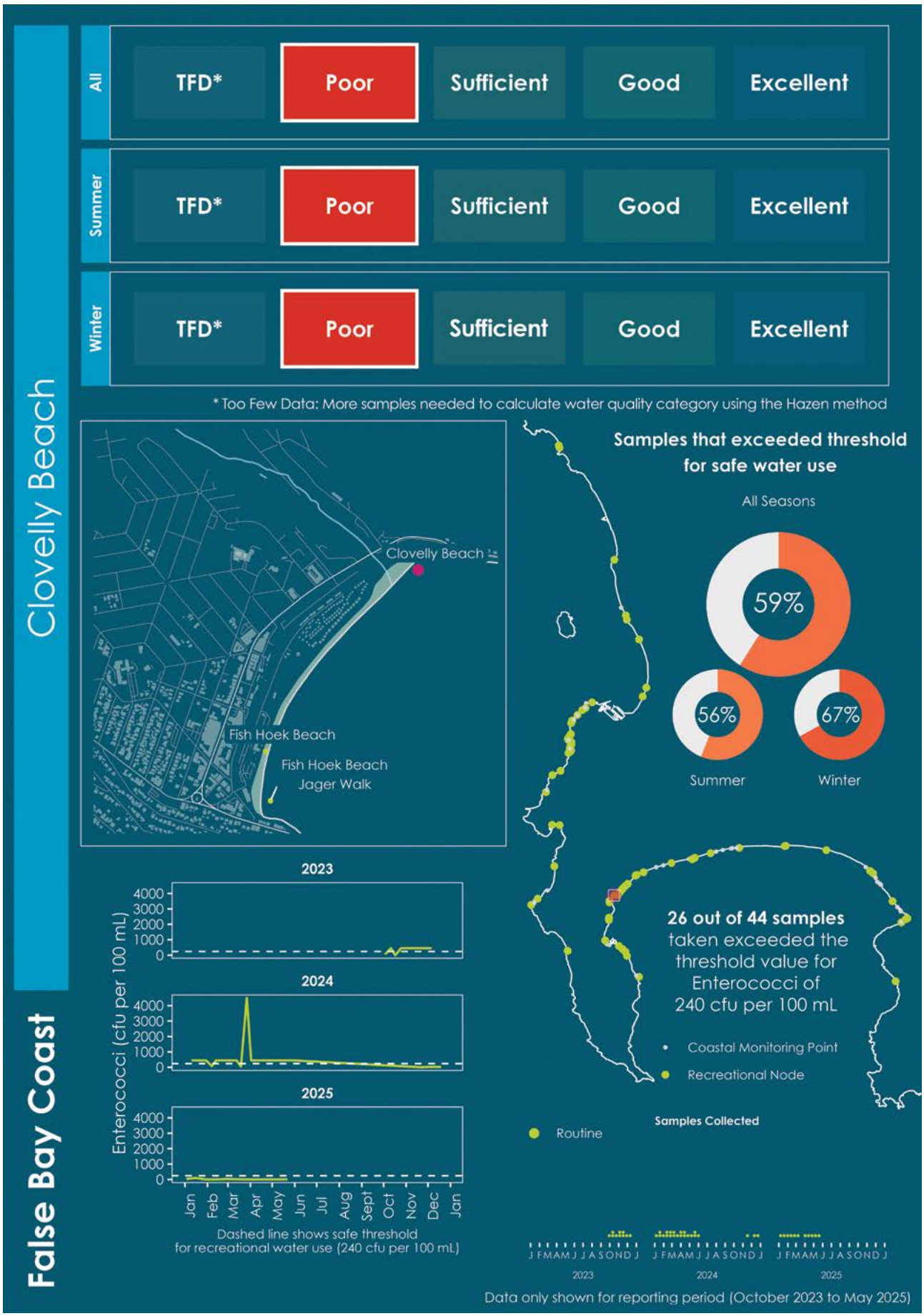

Fish Hoek Beach Jager Walk
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Clovelly Beach
Fish Hoek Beach
Fish Hoek Beach
Jager Walk
Samples that exceeded threshold
for safe water use
All Seasons
6%
4%
9%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold
for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
5 out of 81 samples
taken exceeded the
threshold value for
Enterococci of
240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# FISH HOEK BEACH – JAGER WALK

Fish Hoek Beach – Jager Walk is a newly added monitoring site, established in 2020 following the installation of the shark exclusion net in 2013, which led to increased swimming activity in this area. Since monitoring began, the site has shown variable water quality, with results generally meeting the minimum thresholds for safe water use.

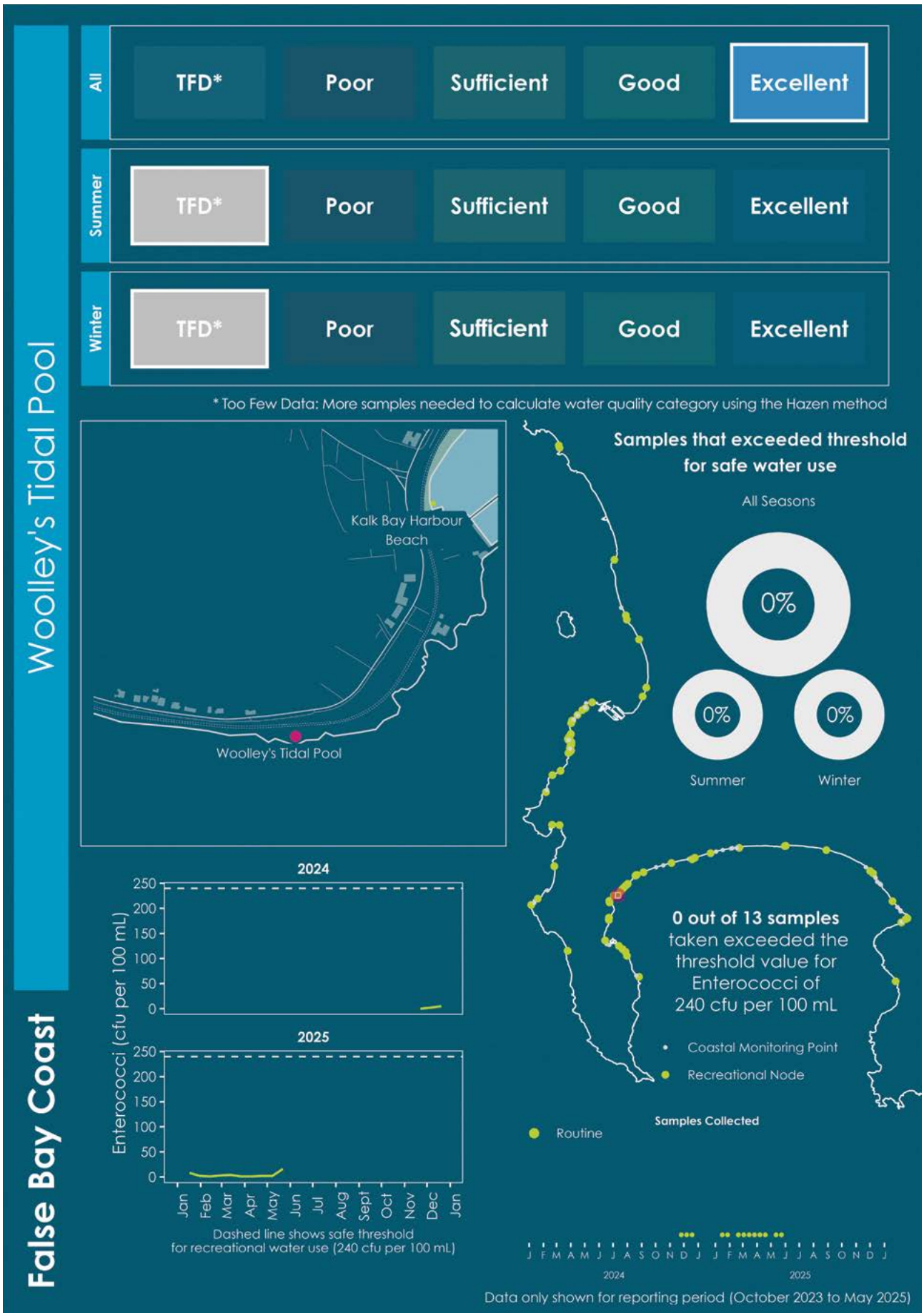
The site's location in a highly urbanised area and in a sheltered embayment, combined with False Bay's circulation patterns, especially during winter, may contribute to occasional pollutant trapping, which will continue to be monitored closely as data accumulates.

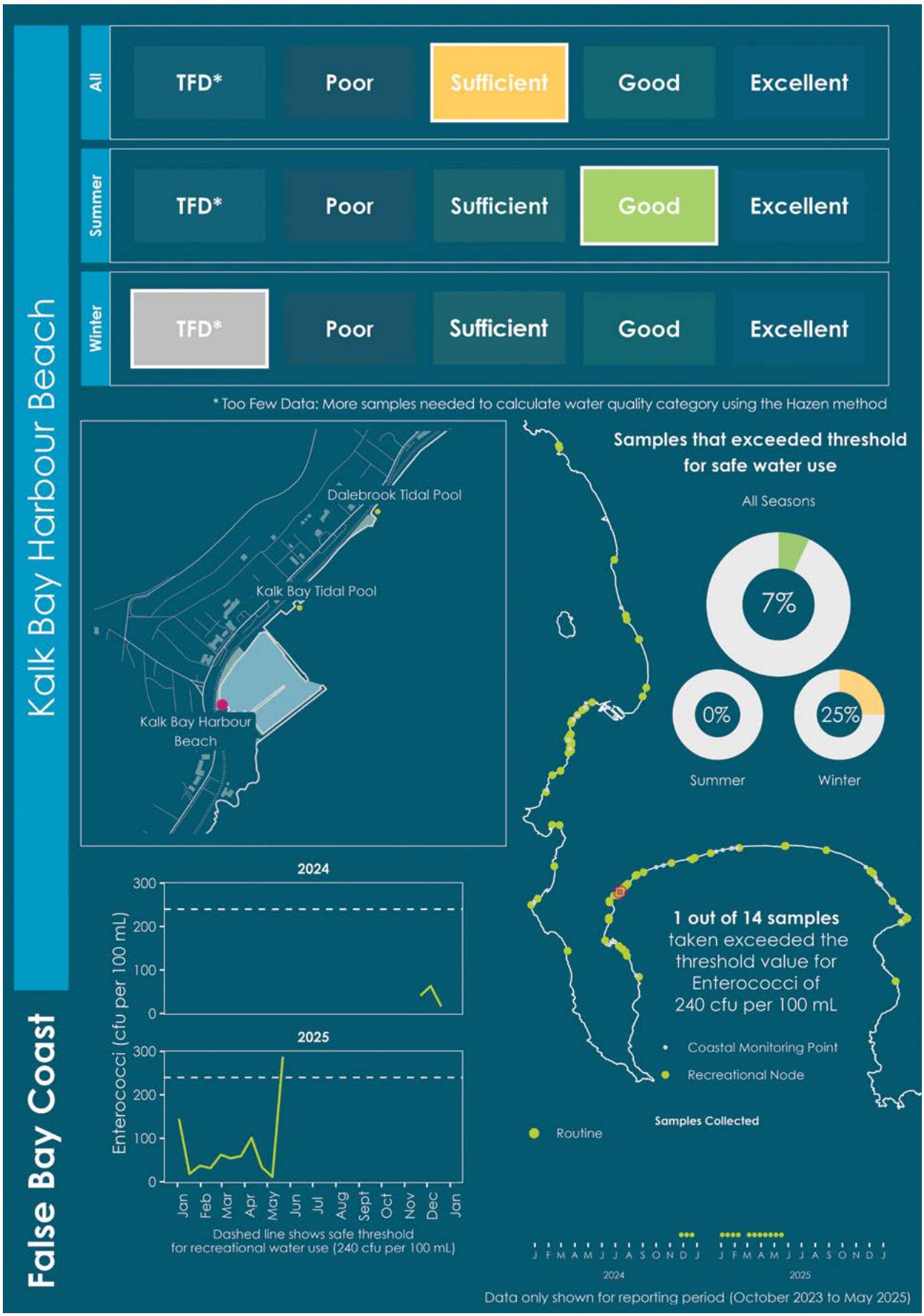


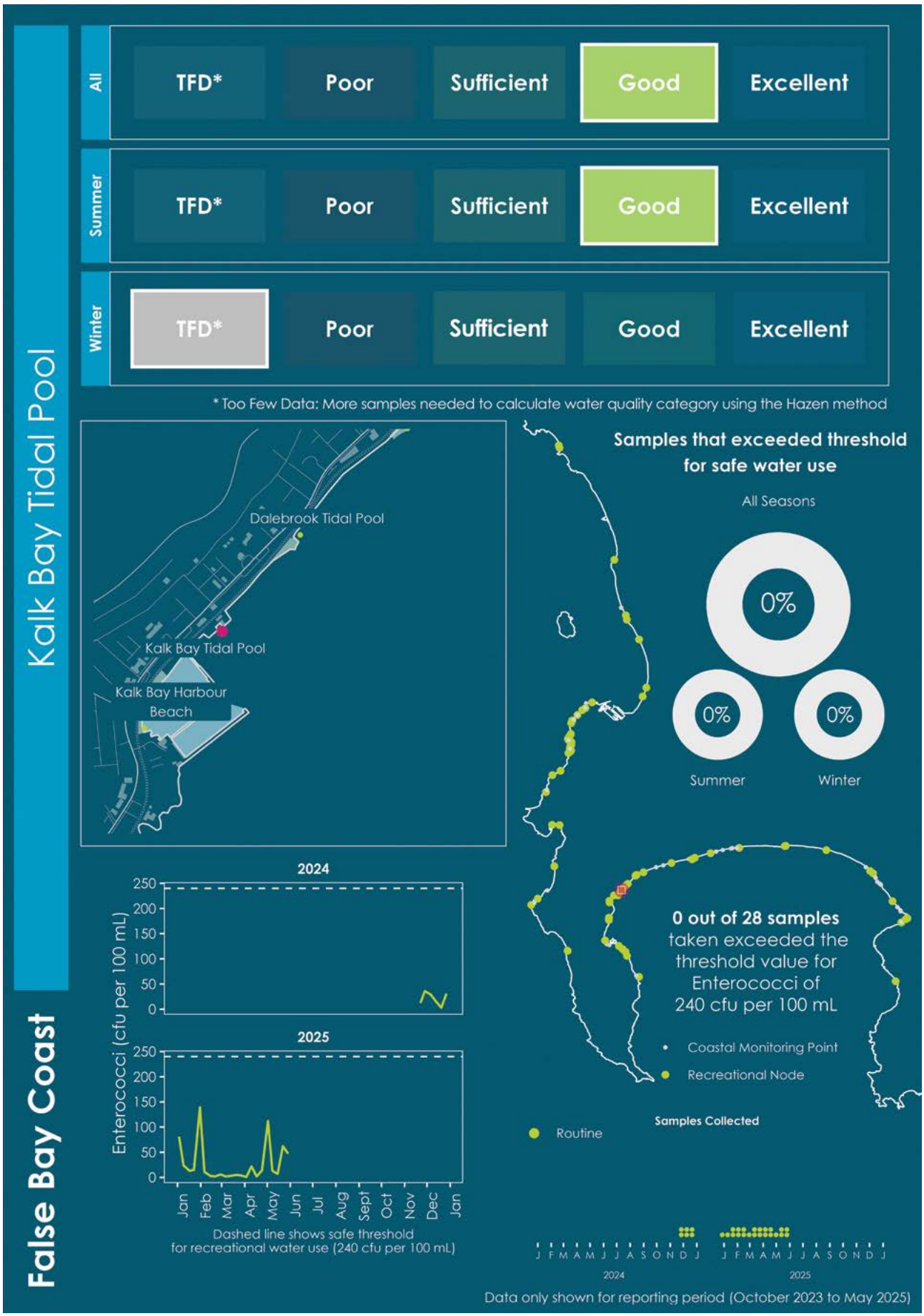

Clovelly Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Clovelly Beach
Fish Hoek Beach
Fish Hoek Beach
Jager Walk
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
59%
56%
67%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
26 out of 44 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

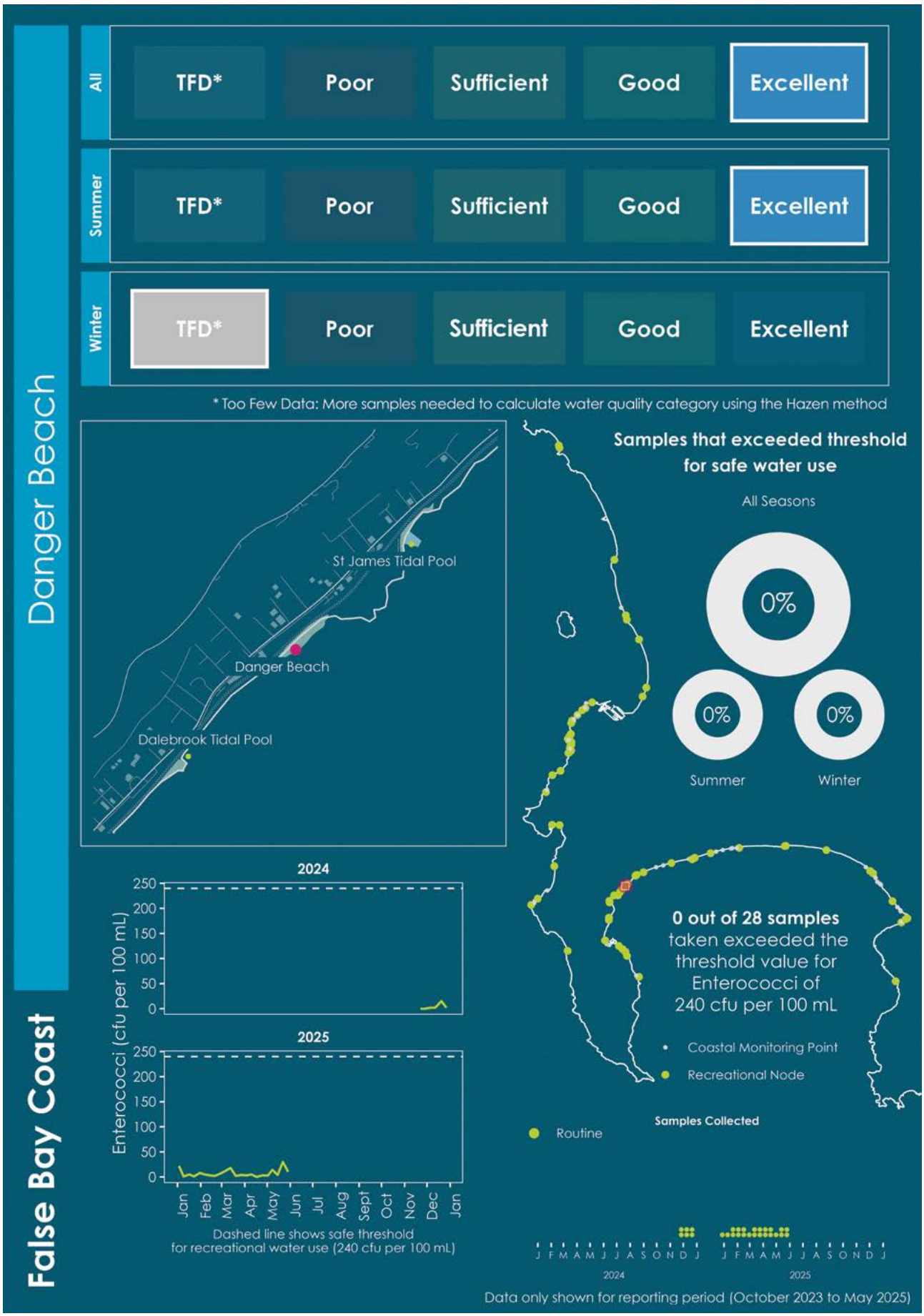
# CLOVELLY BEACH

Clovelly Beach has frequently recorded substandard water quality over the past 20 years, with most years rated "poor" and only brief periods of "good" or "excellent" water quality. Exceedances occur in both wet and dry seasons, suggesting multiple pollution sources. The beach's location near a semi-enclosed embayment, False Bay's weak circulation, and its position at the mouth of the Silvermine River likely contribute to frequent exceedances. Monitoring continues on a weekly basis to track trends and support ongoing management efforts.


Woolley's Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Kalk Bay Harbour Beach
Woolley's Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Kalk Bay Harbour Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Dalebrook Tidal Pool
Kalk Bay Tidal Pool
Kalk Bay Harbour Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Kalk Bay Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Dalebrook Tidal Pool
Kalk Bay Tidal Pool
Kalk Bay Harbour Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

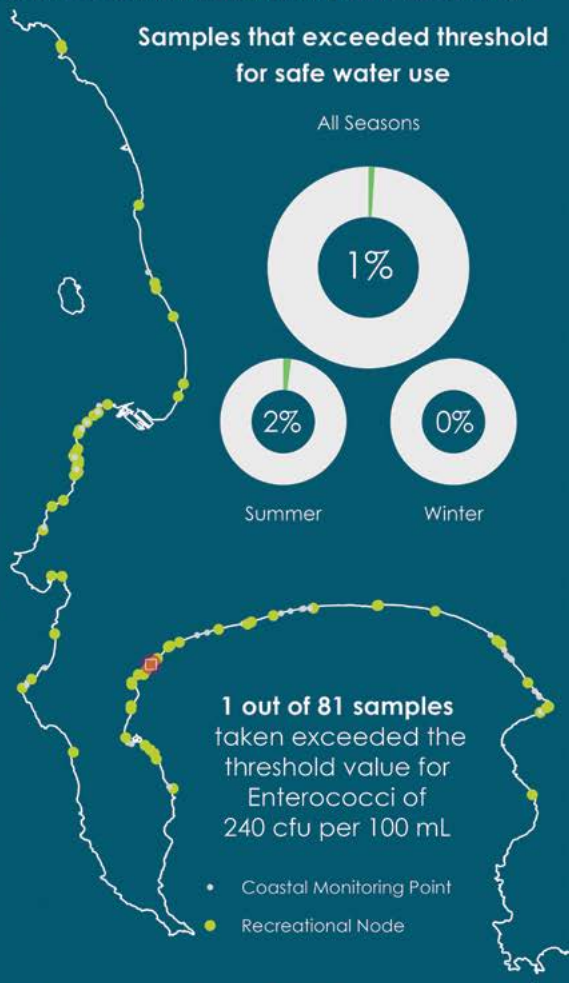

Danger Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
St James Tidal Pool
Danger Beach
Dalebrook Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

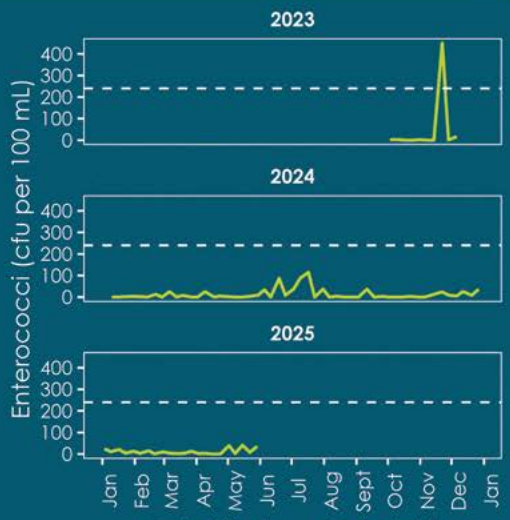
# Dalebrook Tidal Pool

## False Bay Coast

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



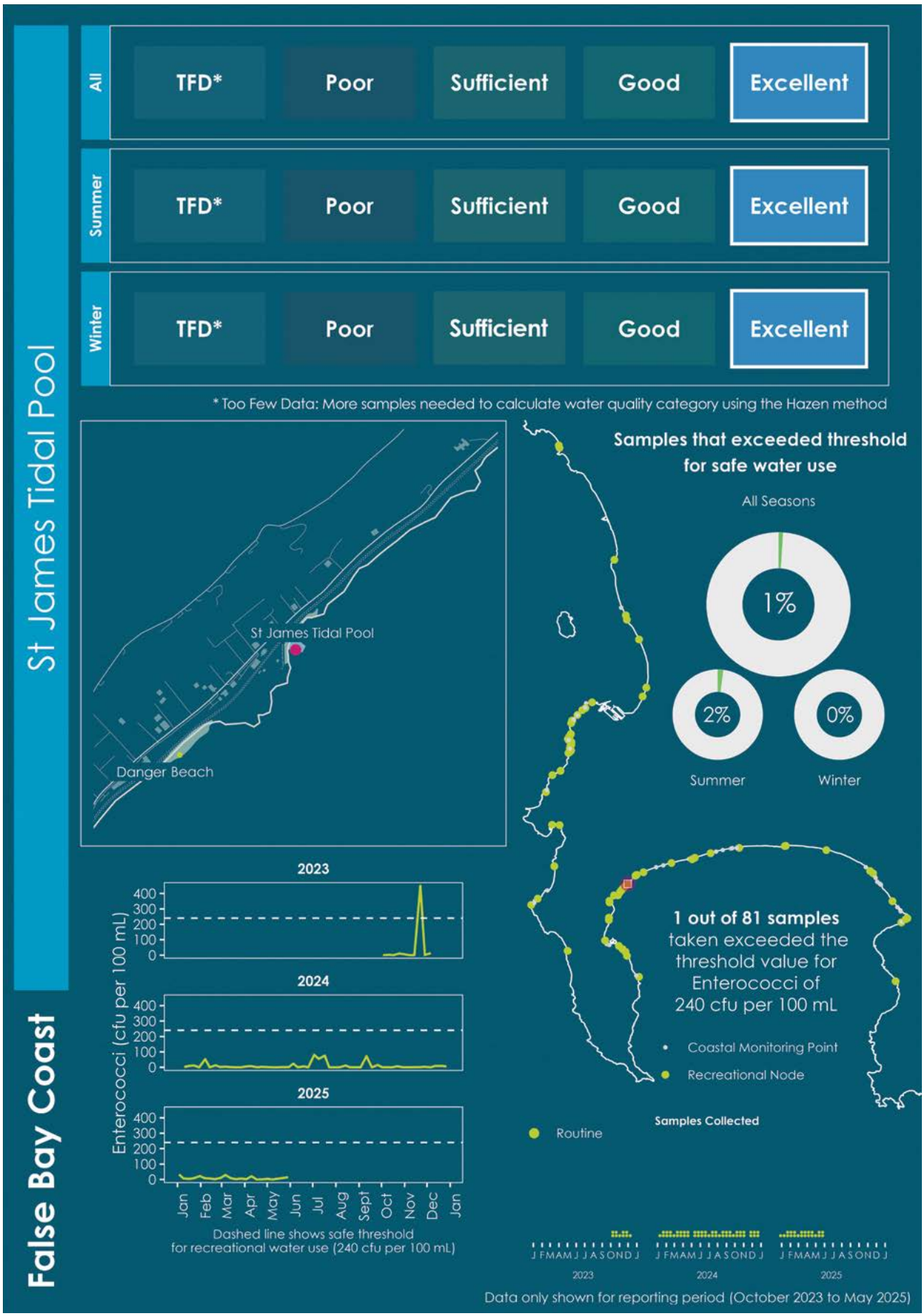

Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)

Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# DALEBROOK TIDAL POOL

Dalebrook Tidal Pool has mostly maintained above "sufficient" water quality over the last 20 years, with most years rated "good" or "excellent". Occasional exceedances have occurred, but they have not significantly affected the overall ratings.

The pool benefits from its favourable location, regular tidal flushing, and limited nearby pollution sources. In 2023, the site received a "poor" water quality rating, likely due to sewer overflows linked to load-shedding impacts on pump station infrastructure. Water quality has since improved.

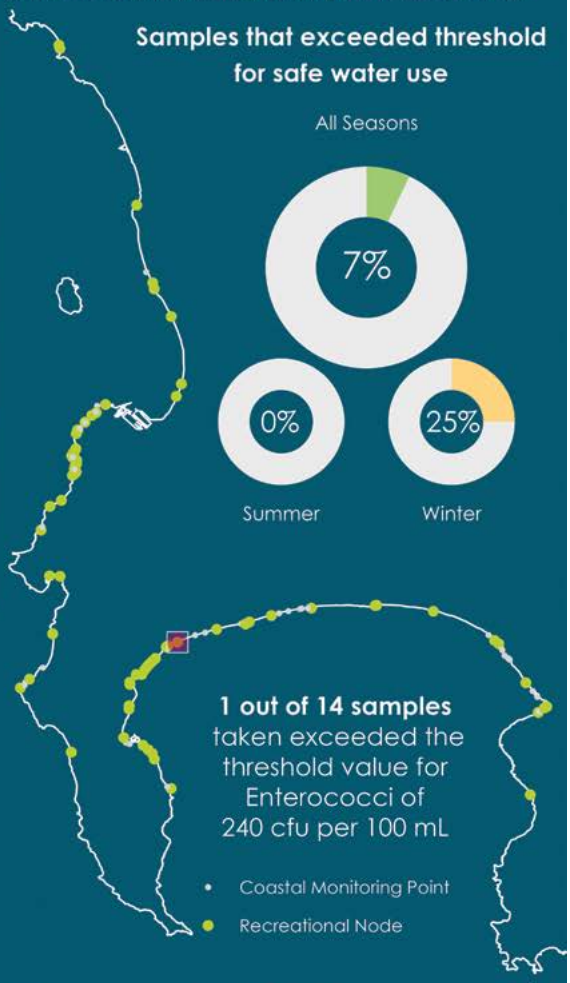

False Bay Coast
St James Tidal Pool
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
St James Tidal Pool
Danger Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
1%
2%
0%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

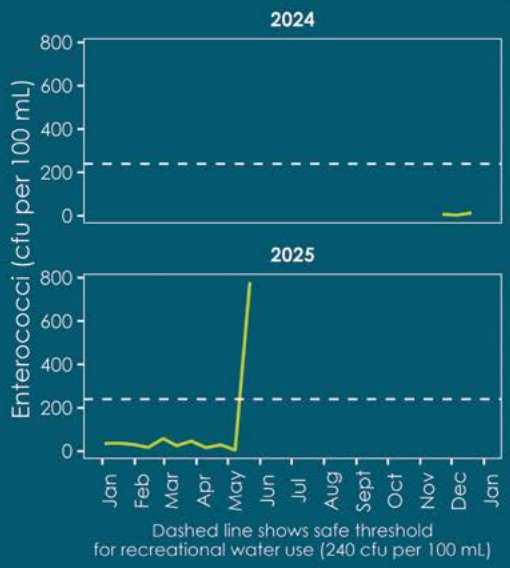
# Sunrise Beach Parking Area

## False Bay Coast

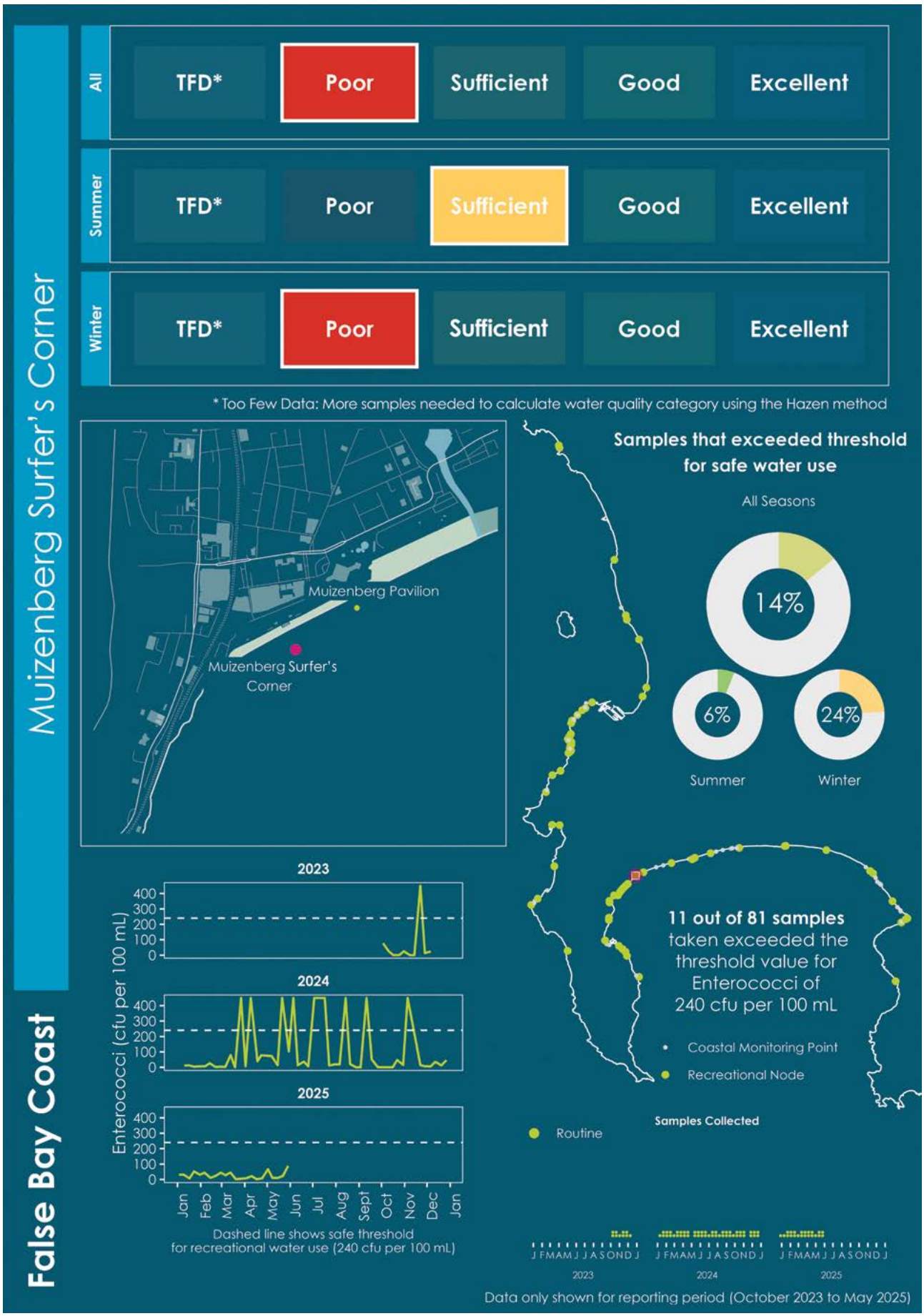
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All | TFD* | Poor | **Sufficient** | Good | Excellent |
| Summer | TFD* | Poor | Sufficient | Good | **Excellent** |
| Winter | **TFD*** | Poor | Sufficient | Good | Excellent |

* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method



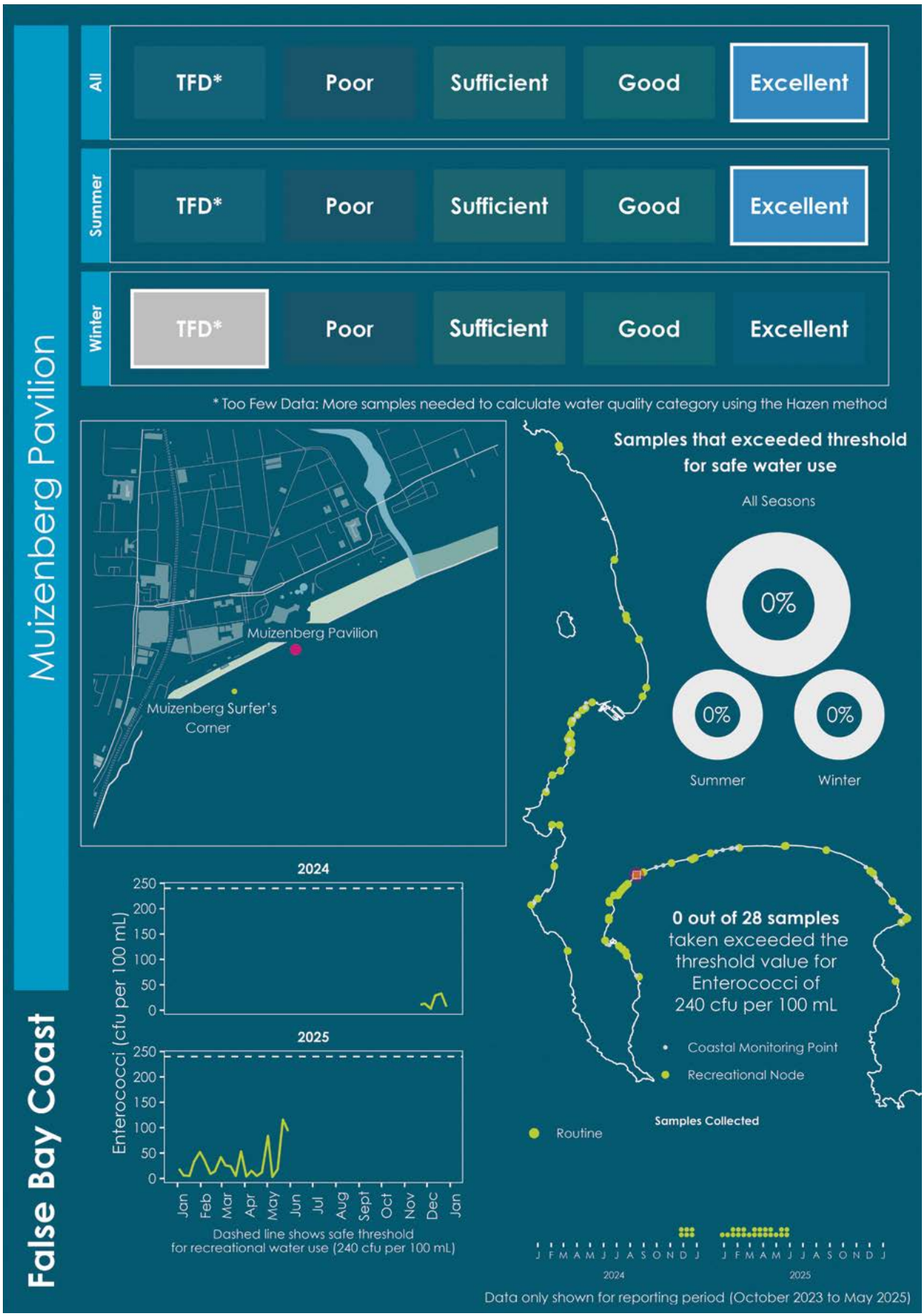
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Muizenberg Surfer's Corner
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Muizenberg Pavilion
Muizenberg Surfer's Corner
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
14%
6%
24%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
11 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# MUIZENBERG SURFER'S CORNER

This site was added as a monitoring site in 2020. Since more frequent sampling (weekly) was initiated at this site in October 2023, there have been 11 sample failures. Data indicates some difference between winter and summer seasons as demonstrated on the previous page, where Surfer's Corner is categorised as "sufficient" in summer and "poor" in winter. The implementation of more consistent weekly sampling should give a clearer understanding of water quality dynamics here.

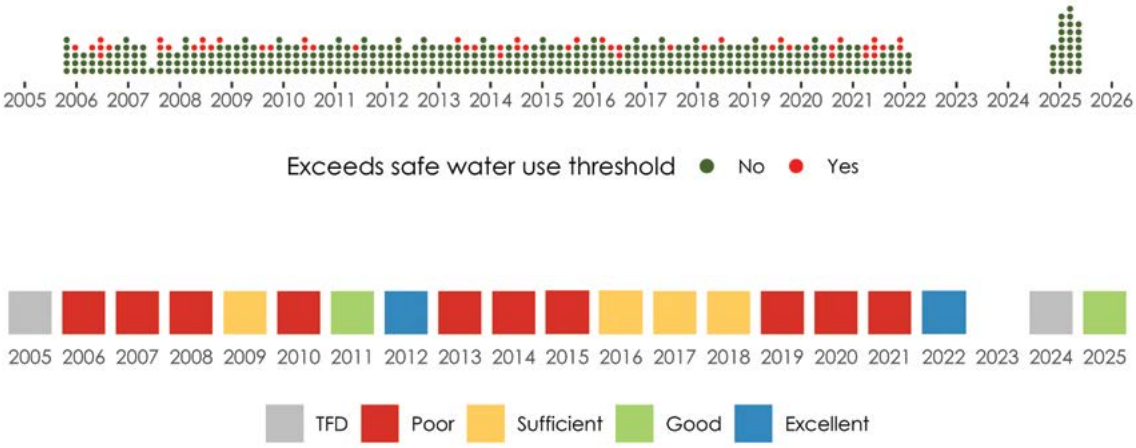
The refurbishment of Surfer's Corner, due to be complete in 2026, includes upgrades of stormwater and sewer networks, and it is anticipated that land-based sources of pollution will be curtailed.

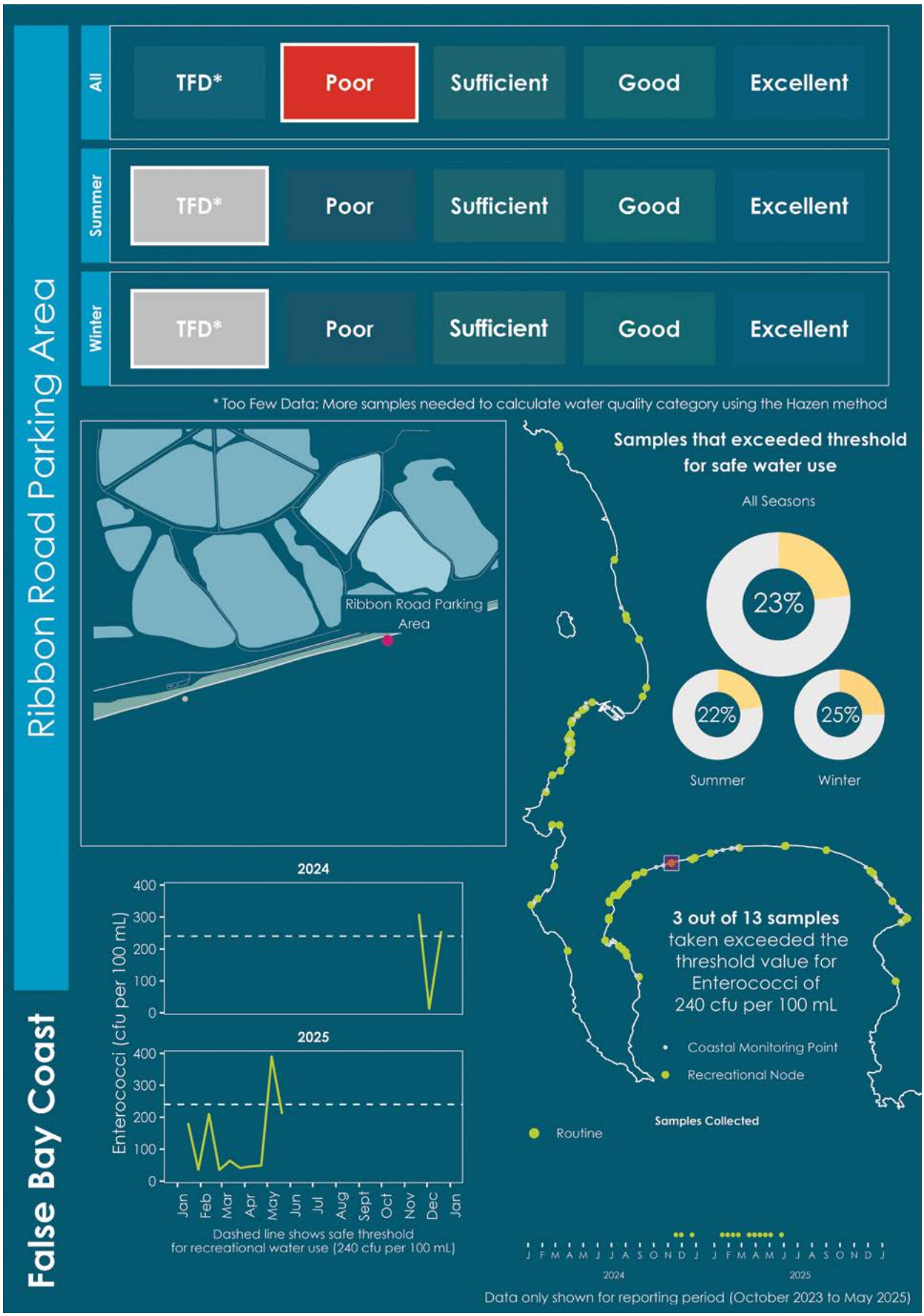

Muizenberg Pavilion
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Muizenberg Pavilion
Muizenberg Surfer's Corner
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

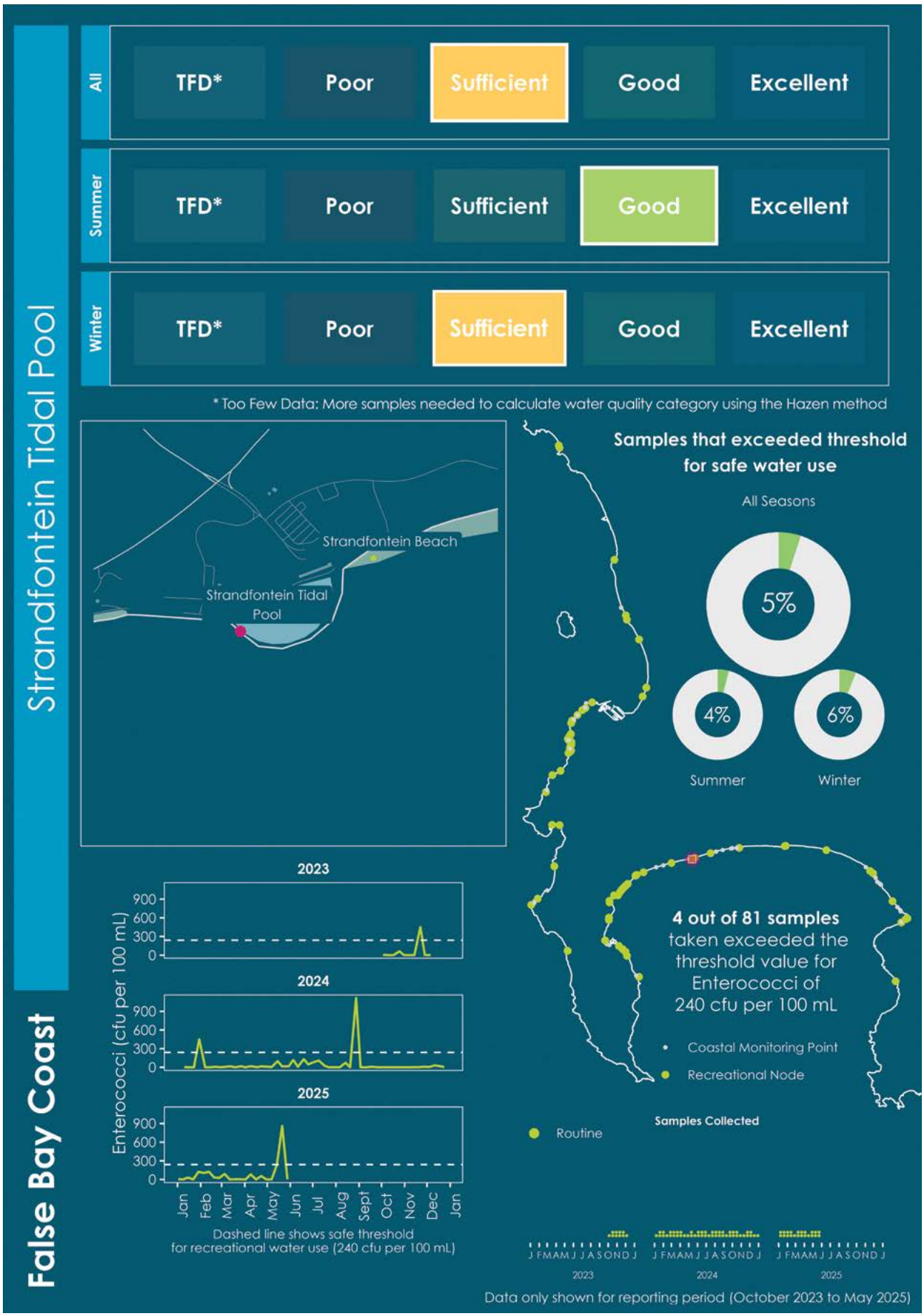
# MUIZENBERG PAVILION

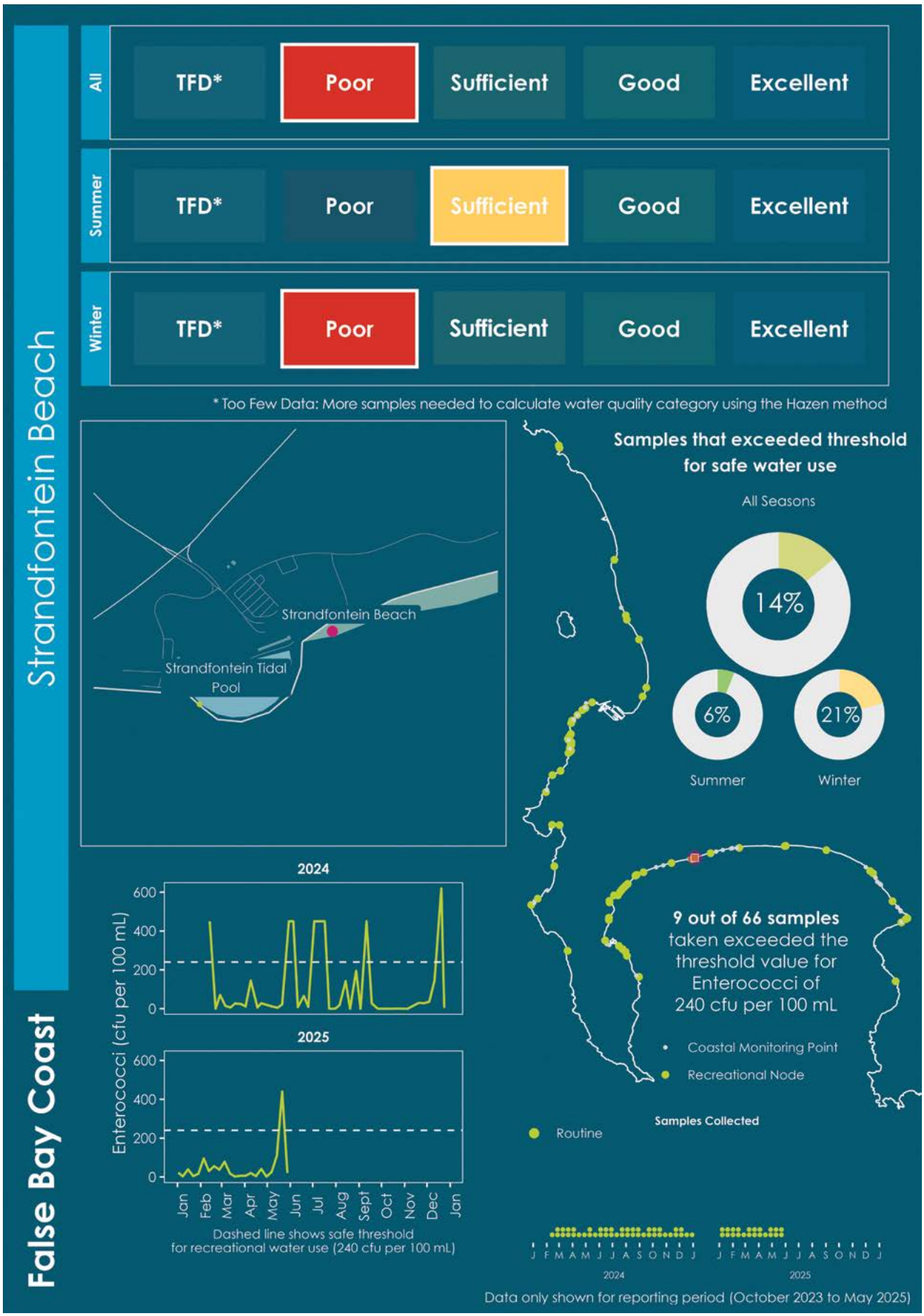
Over the past 20 years, 10 out of 18 years with sufficient data have been classified as poor, generally as a result of a few (two or three) elevated results. It is believed that load-shedding and potential overflows in stormwater or into the Zandvlei estuary were a contributing factor to poor categorisation in years with significant load-shedding. The ocean current and hydrodynamics in this part of False Bay also contribute to an entrapment of contaminants. Please refer to page 28 and 29 in the 2019 Know Your Coast report for more information.

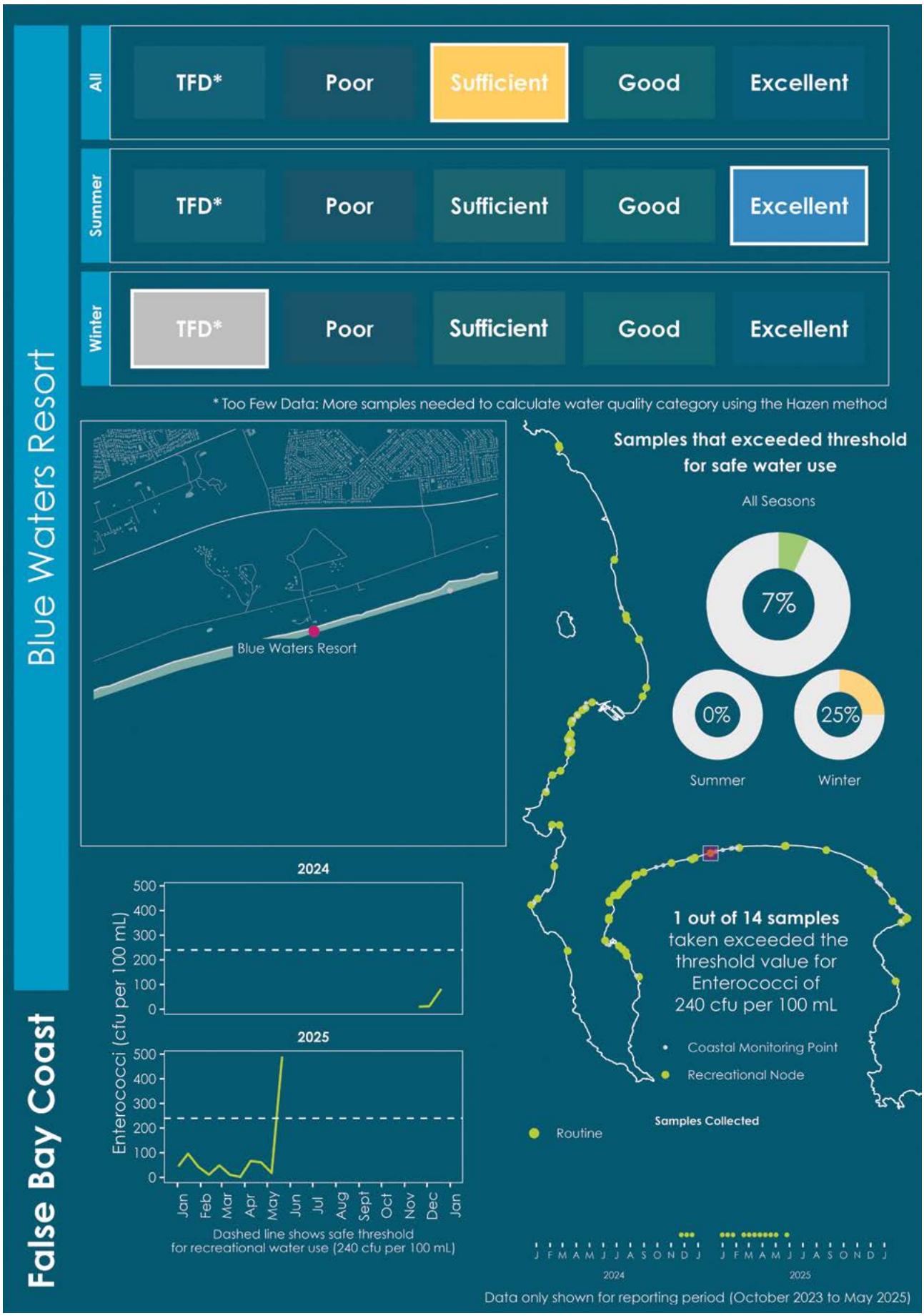
The City has steadily been relining and replacing sewer pipes around Cape Town, including Muizenberg (as well as completing an upgrade of the beachfront area – inclusive of stormwater and sewer networks). Any potential impact from damaged sewer pipes should be mitigated through these initiatives. Weekly bacteriological monitoring at two sites in Muizenberg will continue.

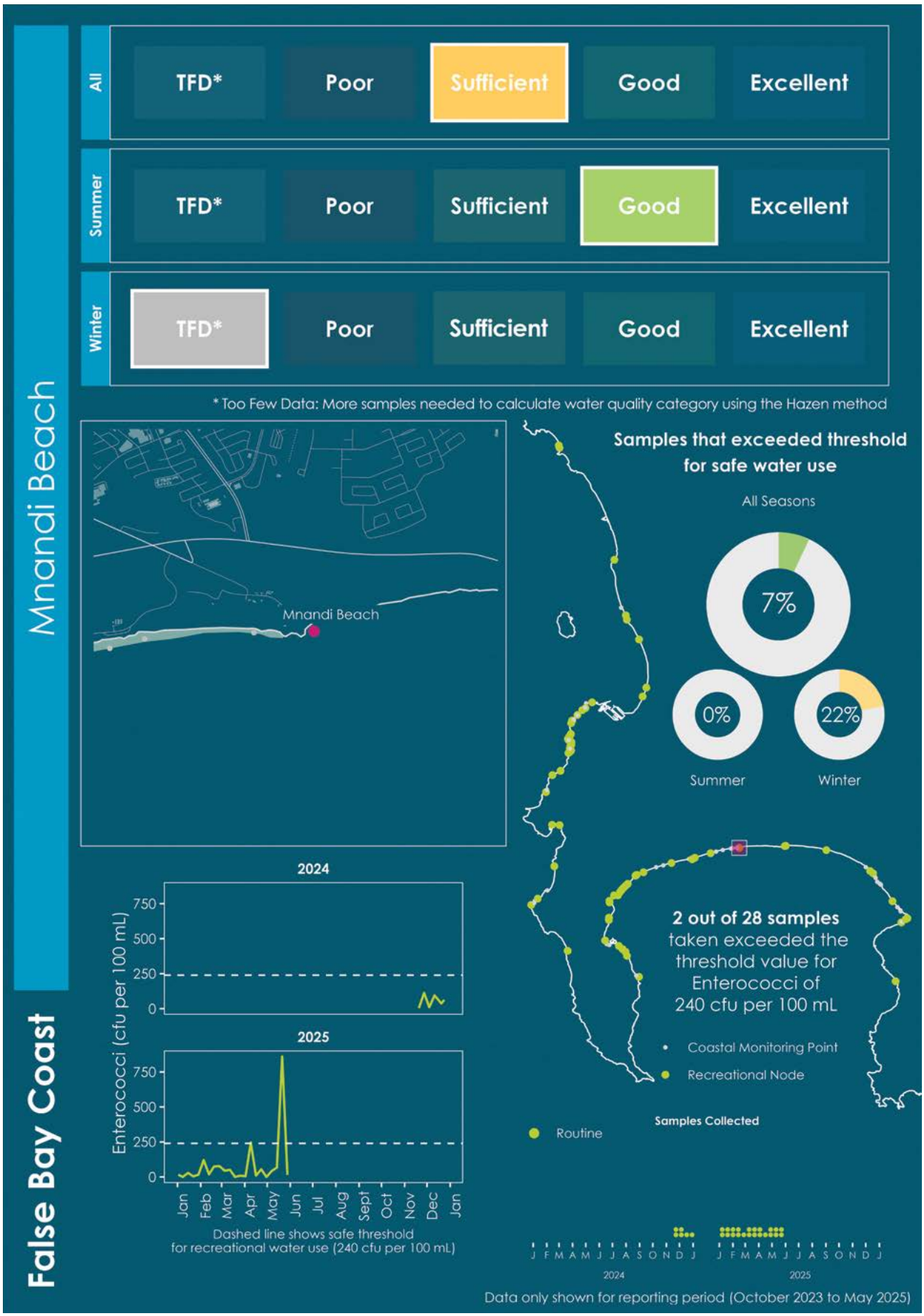


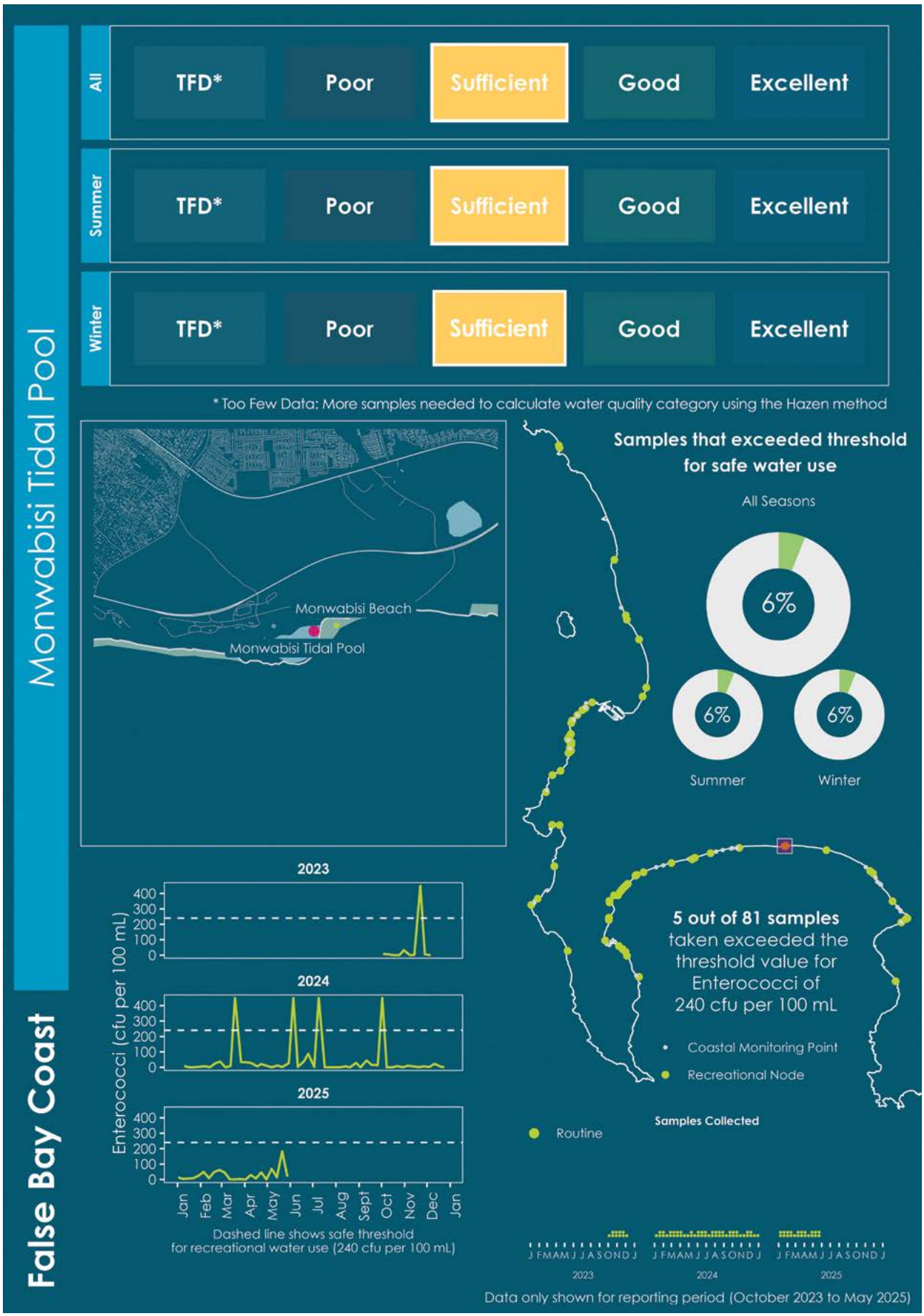

Ribbon Road Parking Area
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Ribbon Road Parking Area
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
23%
22%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
3 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

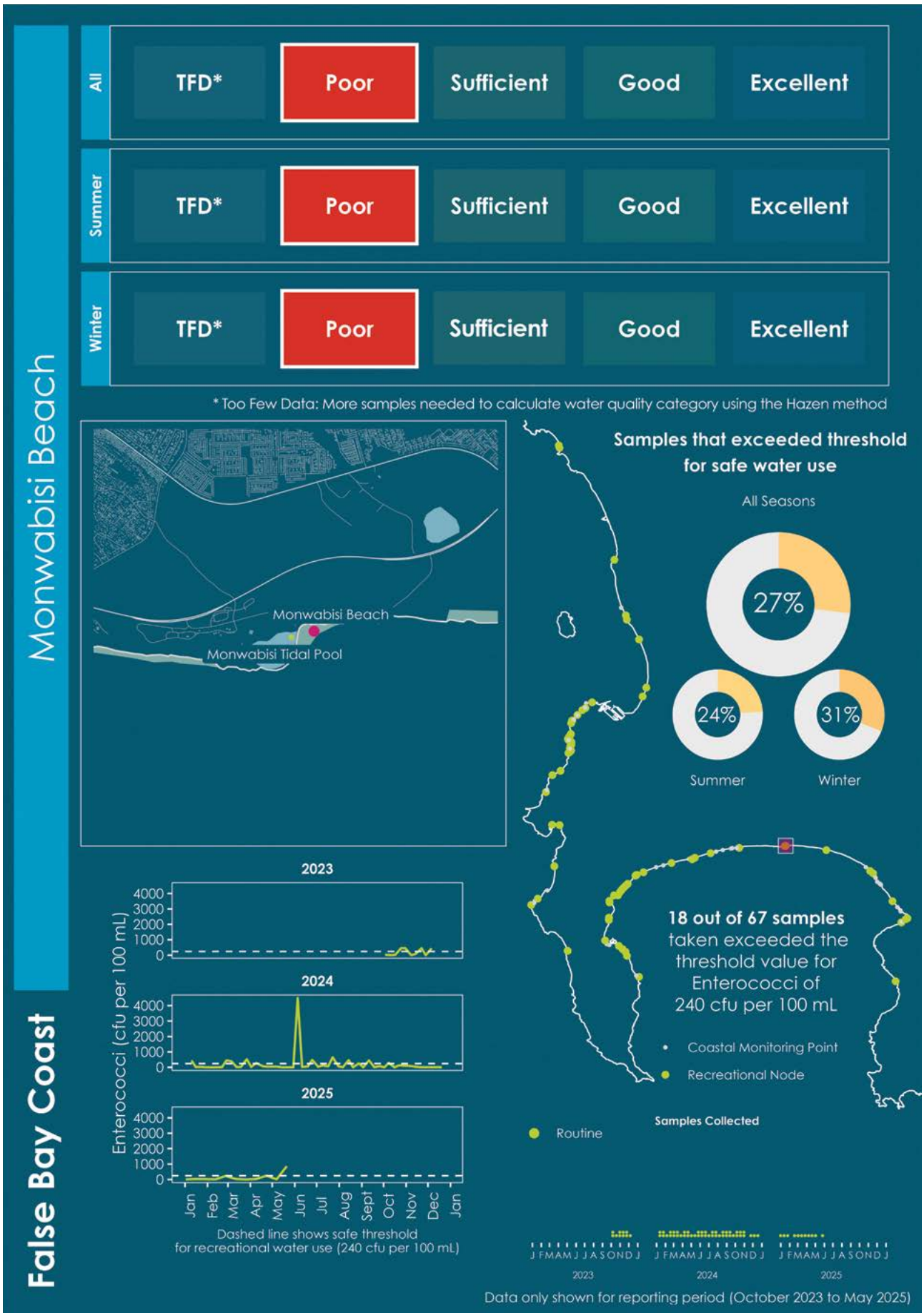

Strandfontein Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Strandfontein Beach
Strandfontein Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
5%
4%
6%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
900
600
300
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
4 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Strandfontein Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Strandfontein Beach
Strandfontein Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
14%
6%
21%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
9 out of 66 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Blue Waters Resort
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Blue Waters Resort
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
25%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 14 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Mnandi Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Mnandi Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
7%
0%
22%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
750
500
250
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
2 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

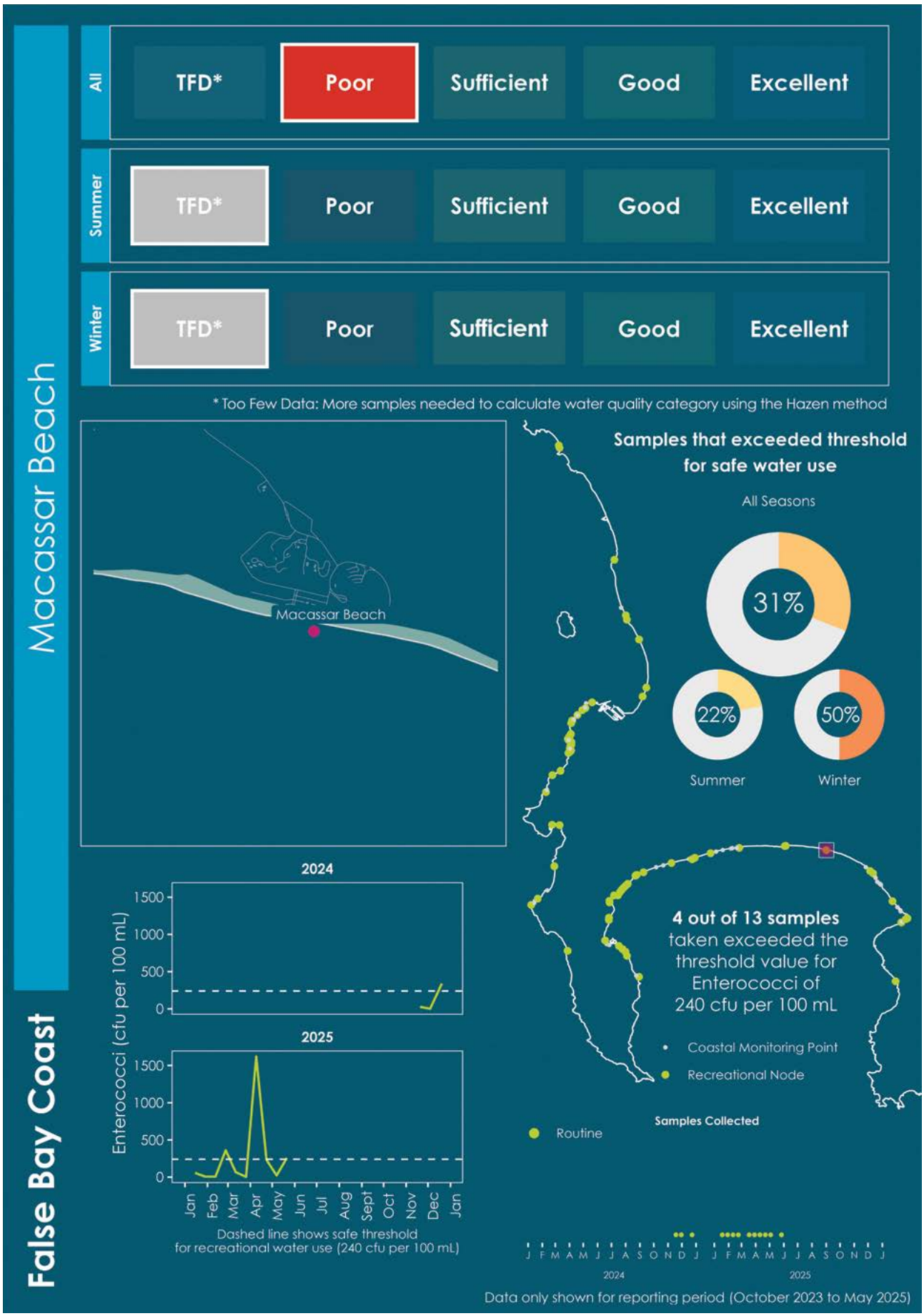

Monwabisi Tidal Pool
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Monwabisi Beach
Monwabisi Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
6%
6%
6%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
5 out of 81 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

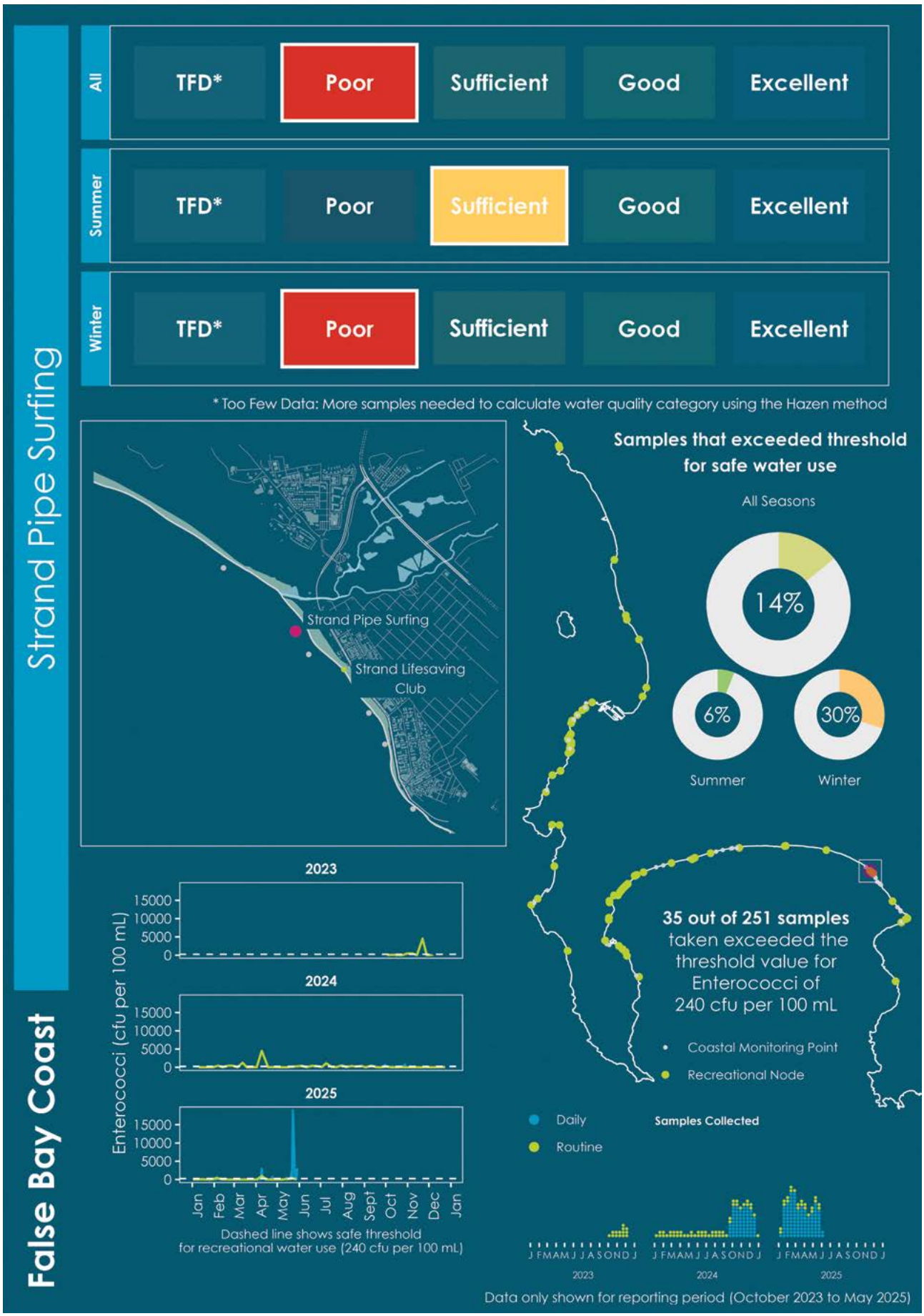

Monwabisi Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Monwabisi Beach
Monwabisi Tidal Pool
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
27%
24%
31%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
18 out of 67 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

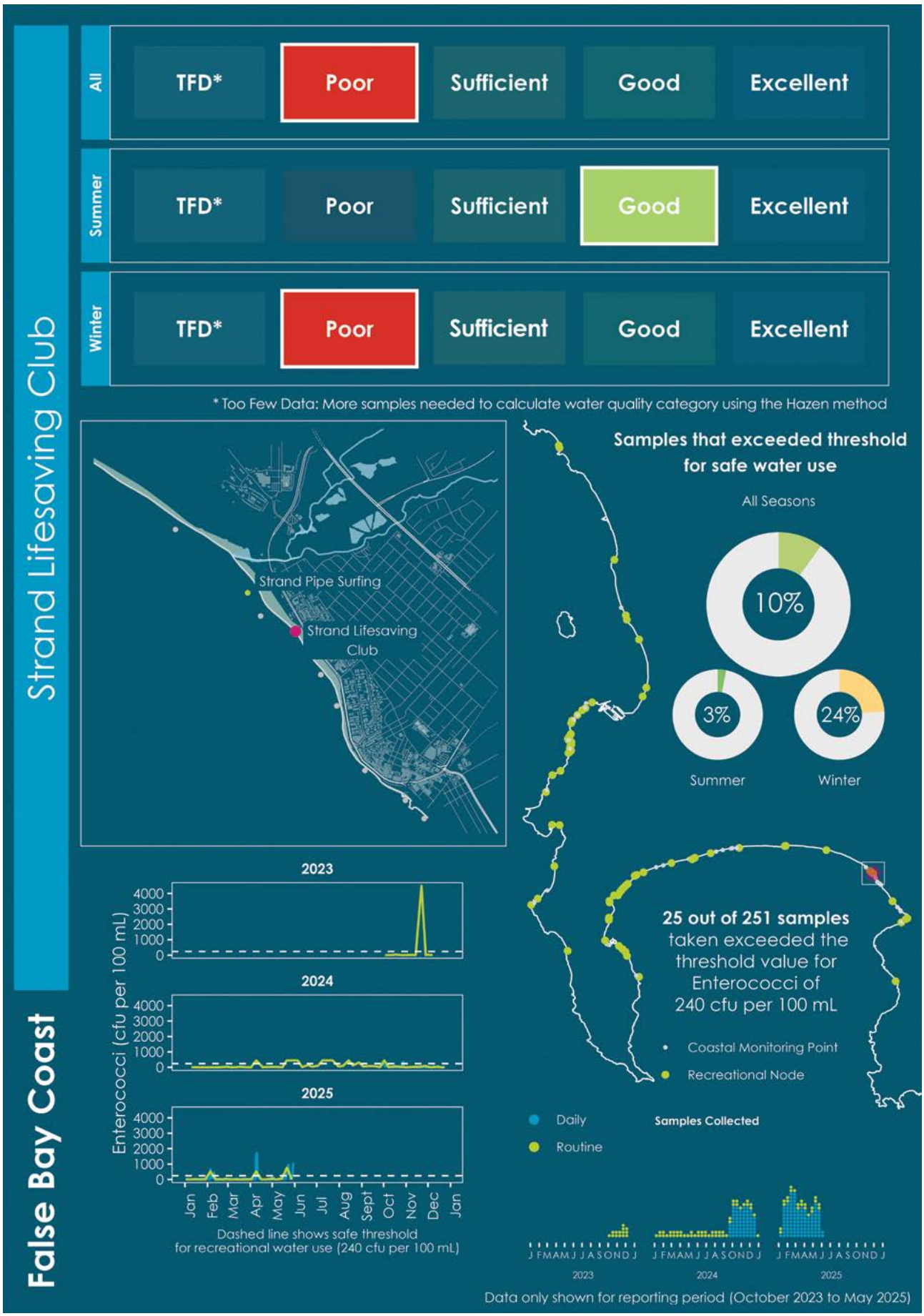
# MONWABISI BEACH

Monwabisi Beach has frequently recorded "poor" water quality ratings over the past 20 years. Stormwater runoff from surrounding informal settlements and the stormwater retention pond nearby likely contribute to persistently poor results.

In contrast, the adjacent Monwabisi Tidal Pool has achieved "sufficient" ratings from 2023 to 2025. Its semi-enclosed structure and calmer water circulation may offer protection from surrounding land pollution, supporting better water quality.

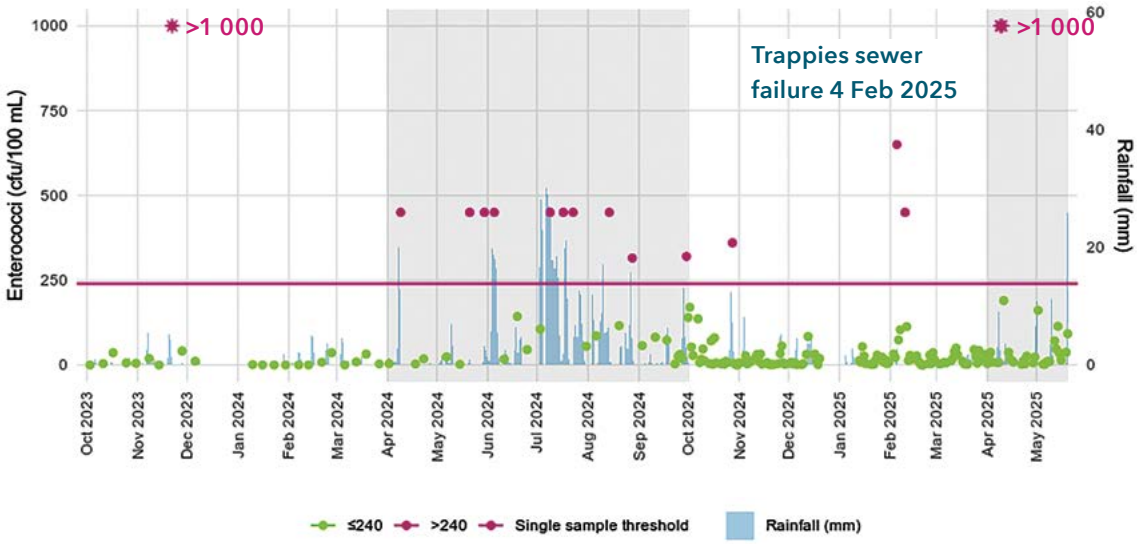

Macassar Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Macassar Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
31%
22%
50%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
1500
1000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
4 out of 13 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Strand Pipe Surfing
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Strand Pipe Surfing
Strand Lifesaving Club
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
14%
6%
30%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
15000
10000
5000
0
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
35 out of 251 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Daily
Routine
Samples Collected
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Strand Lifesaving Club
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Strand Pipe Surfing
Strand Lifesaving Club
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
10%
3%
24%
Summer
Winter
2023
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
25 out of 251 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Daily
Routine
Samples Collected
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2023
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

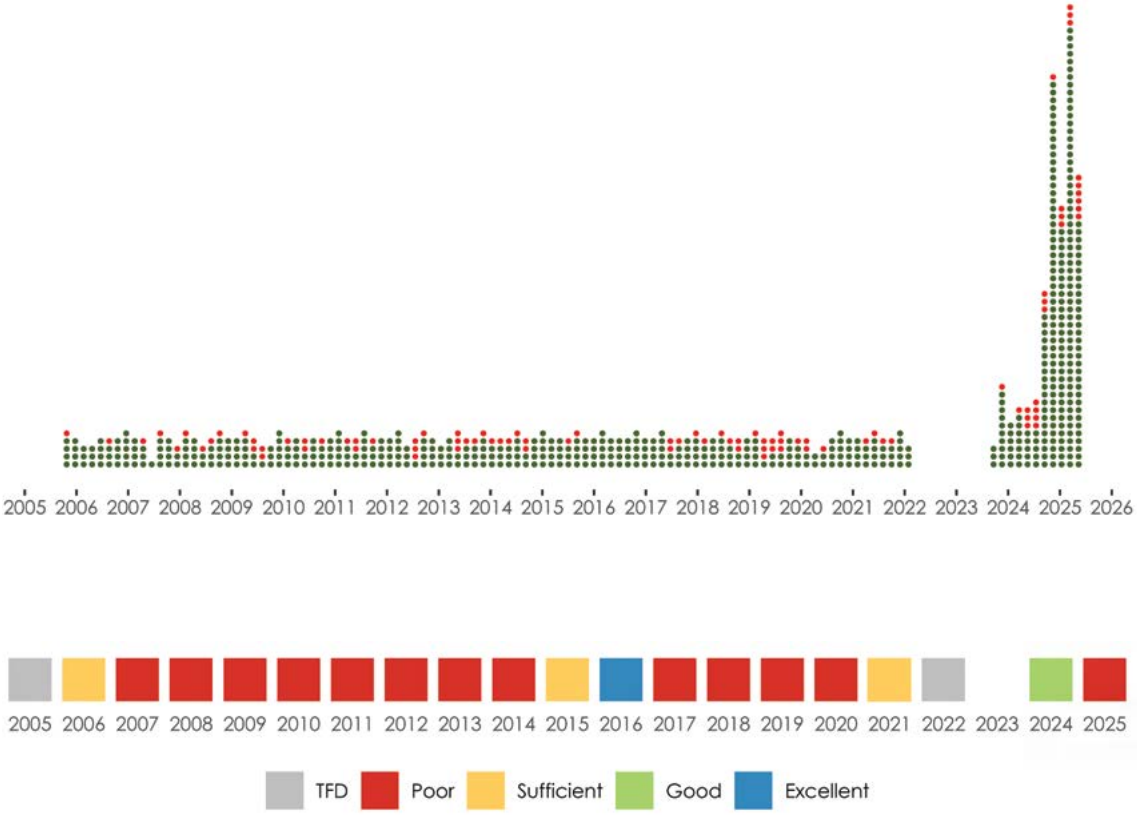
# STRAND LIFESAVING CLUB

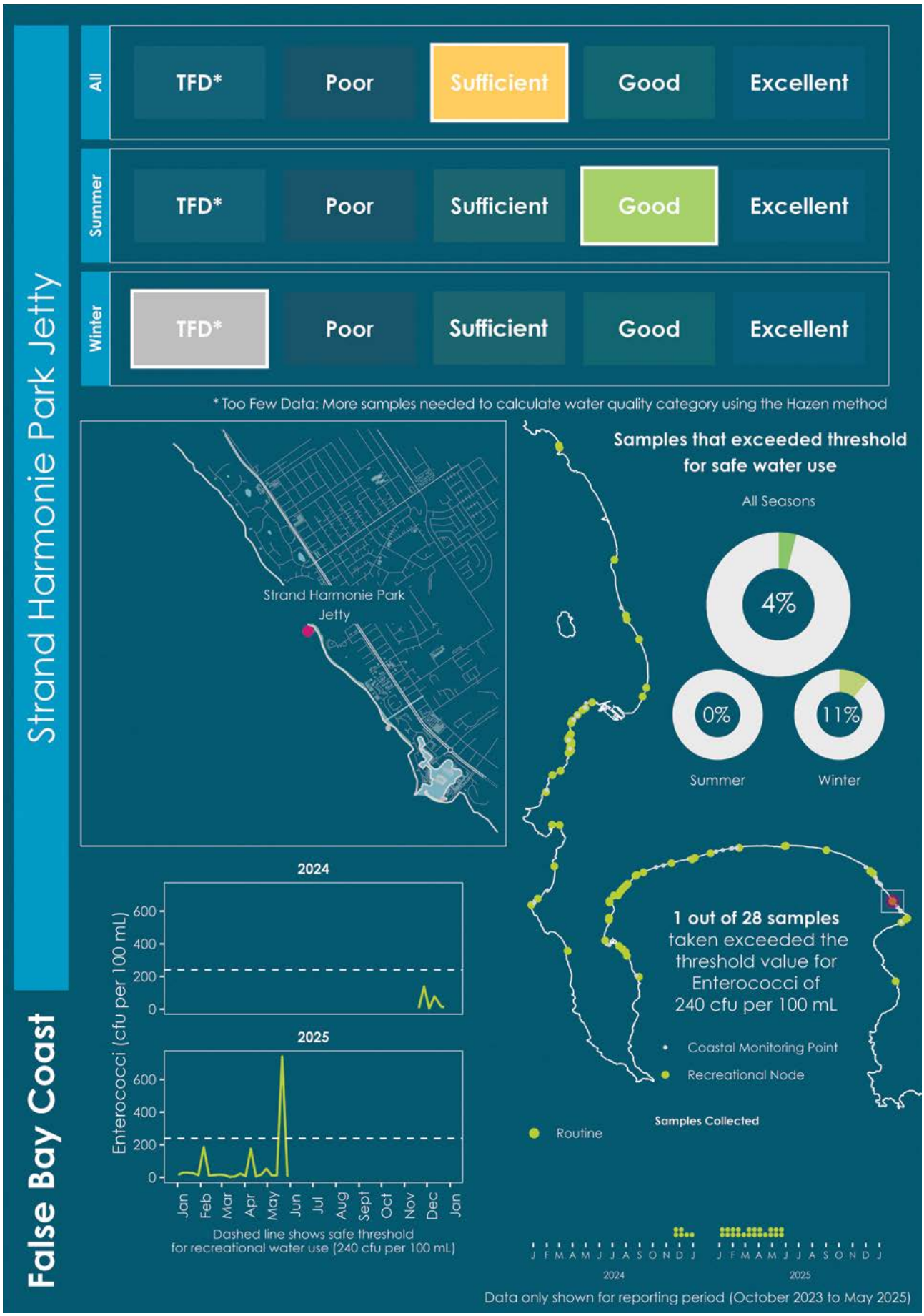
Strand beach (in front of the lifesaving club) has frequently recorded "poor" water quality ratings over the past 20 years, with only brief periods of improvement. Exceedances have occurred in winter and summer (also seen in the graphs on the previous page) and during both routine and daily sampling. The beach is likely affected by stormwater runoff, pump station failures and its proximity to the Lourens River mouth, which has a catchment area with informal settlements present. The poor circulation in this part of False Bay also contributes to an entrapment of contaminants in the shallow, reefed areas with minimal swell. Please refer to page 28 and 29 in the **2019 Know Your Coast report** for more information. More in-depth studies looking at rainfall seems to show an association between rainfall and poor water quality at this site (when there are no known pump stations failures), and daily sampling will continue to provide clearer advisories.

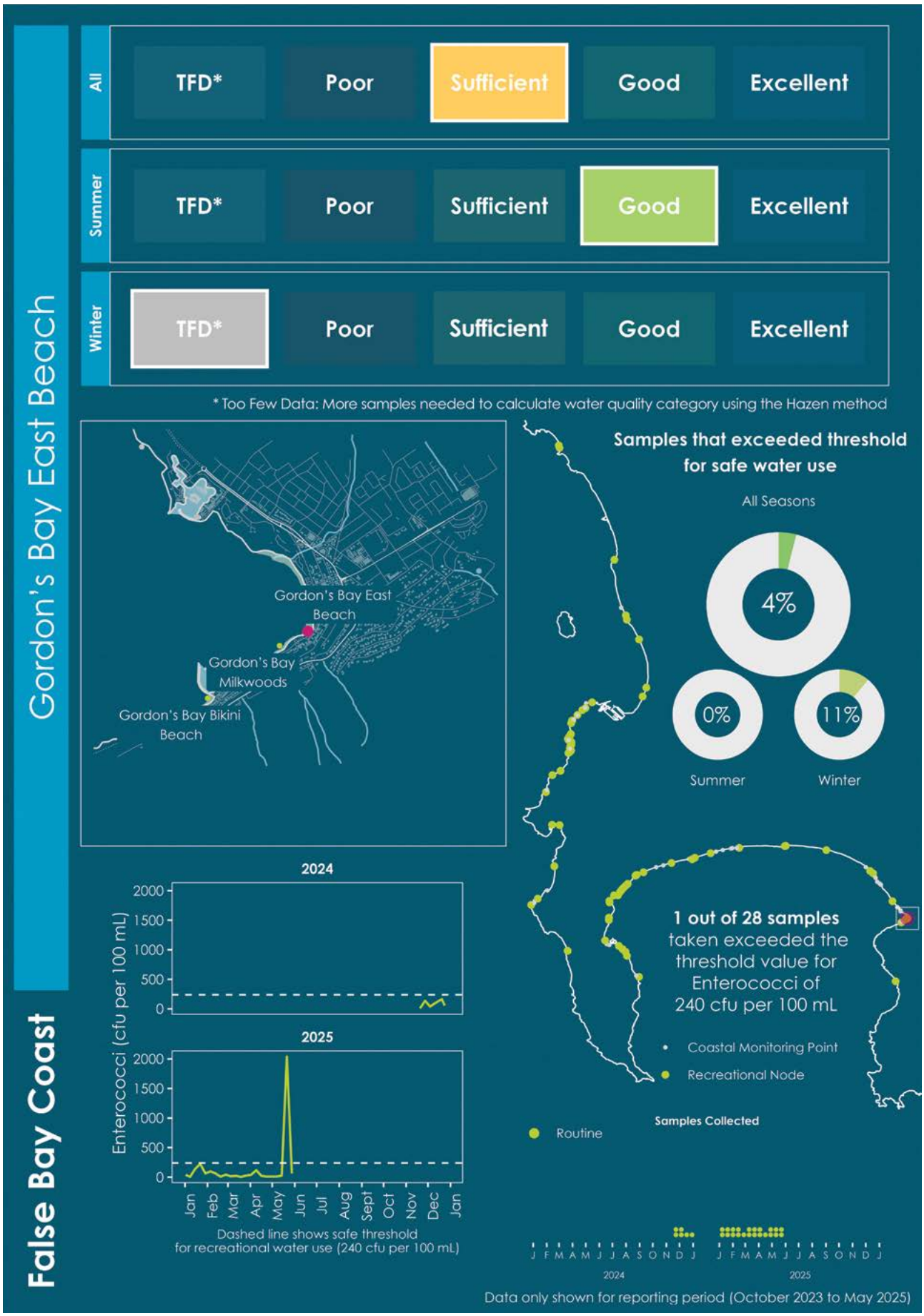


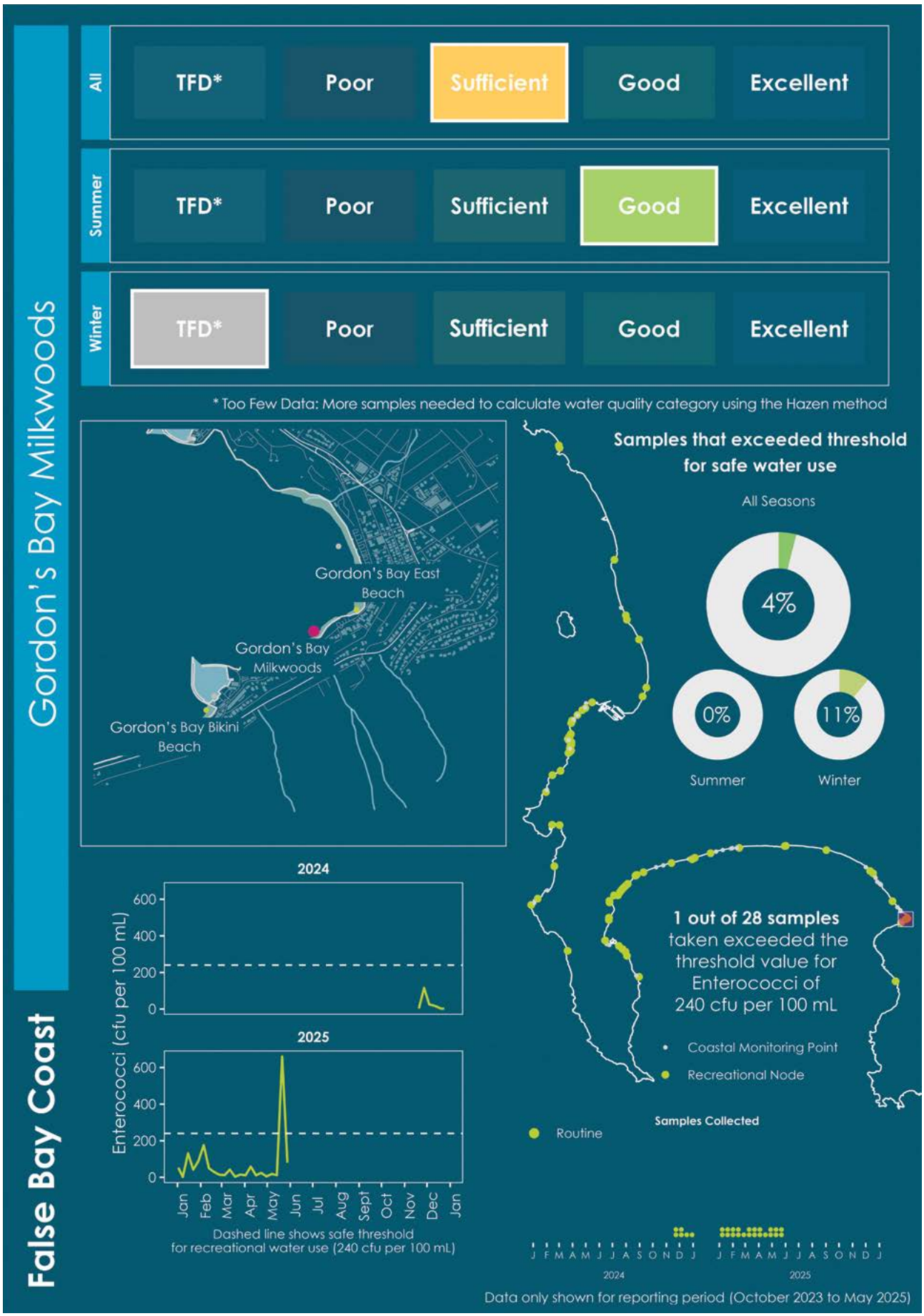

The above graph shows faecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) results from daily sampling, plotted against rainfall. In this graph one can see that generally after a rainfall event there is a decline in water quality, while through summer months water quality is excellent. There are also challenges with sewer systems in the area, with a major sewer line collapse recorded on the 4th of Feb. Failed results associated with that failure are observable on the graph. Values greater than 1 000 cfu/100 ml have been set at 1 000 cfu/100 ml in order to allow the graph to be more visually understandable, but the true values have been used for category calculations.

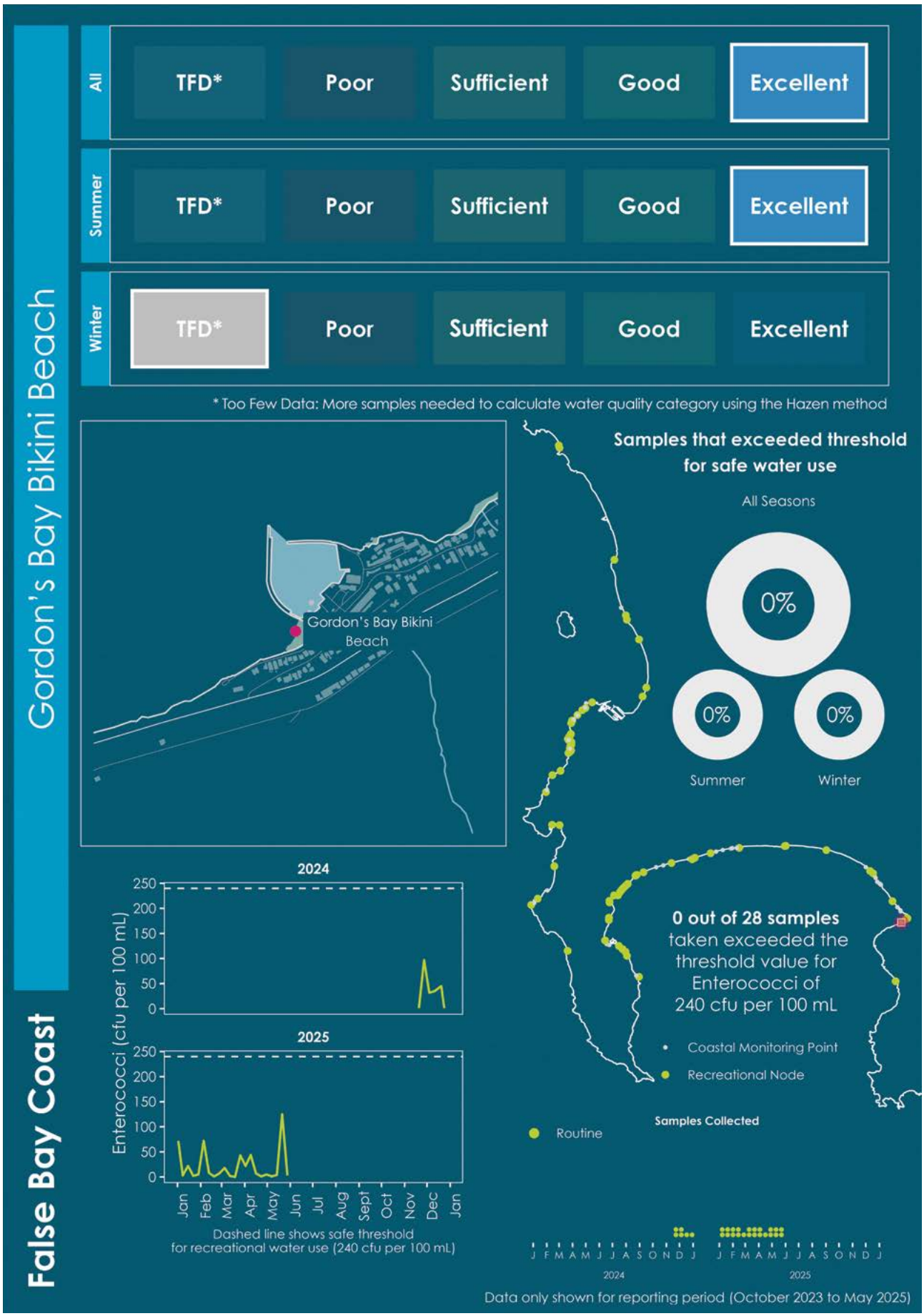
# STRAND LIFESAVING CLUB




Strand Harmonie Park Jetty
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Strand Harmonie Park Jetty
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
4%
0%
11%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

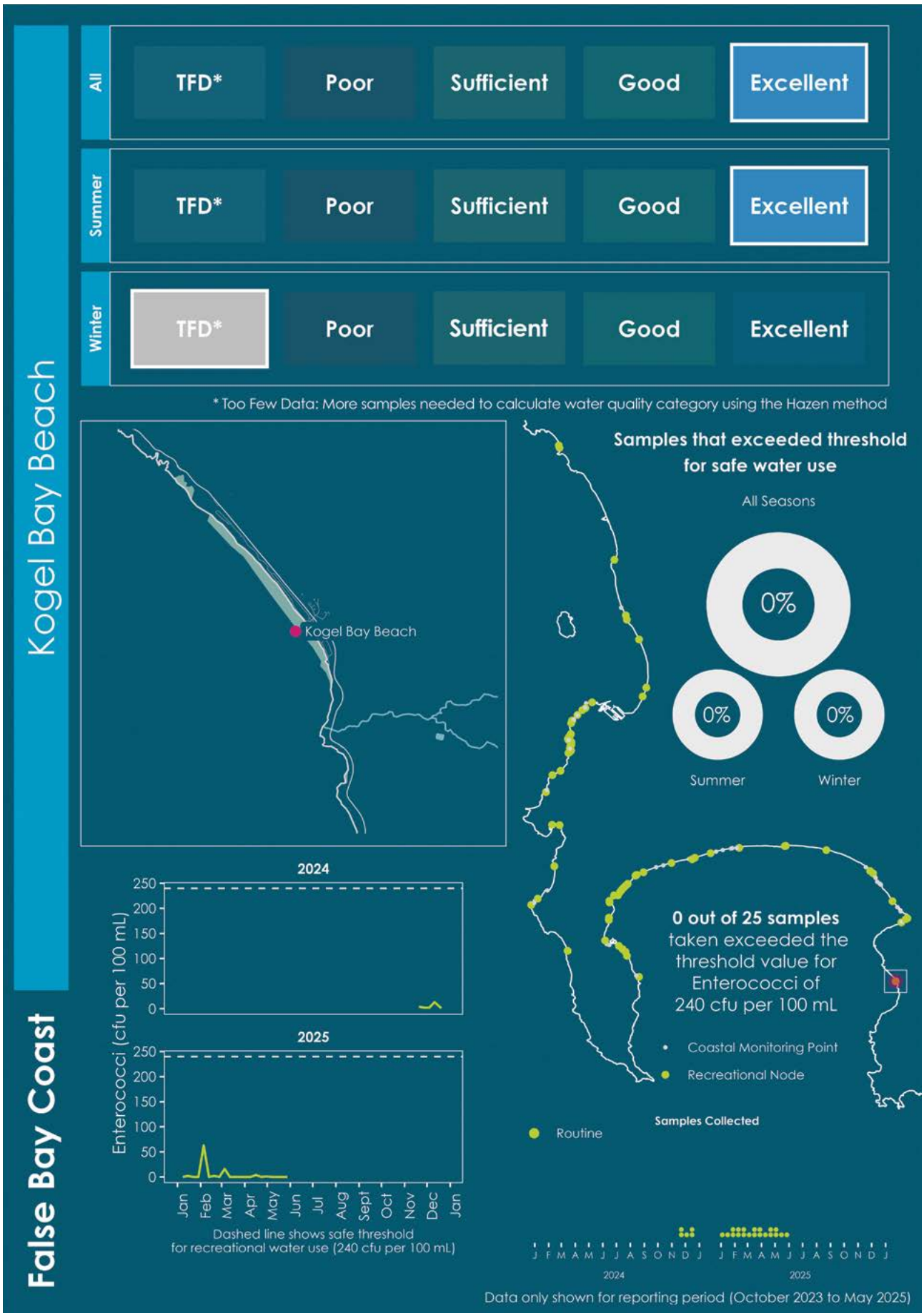

Gordon's Bay East Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Gordon's Bay East Beach
Gordon's Bay Milkwoods
Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
4%
0%
11%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Gordon's Bay Milkwoods
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Gordon's Bay East Beach
Gordon's Bay Milkwoods
Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
4%
0%
11%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
1 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)


Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 28 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

# GORDON'S BAY BIKINI BEACH

Gordon's Bay Bikini Beach has for the most part met safe water use thresholds, with only occasional exceedances over the 20-year sampling period. Bikini Beach is a Blue Flag beach and has retained that status – what is important to note is that Blue Flag sampling is done independently by WESSA and only results during the Blue Flag season are relevant to their standards. The City samples throughout the year so variable results may be seen, especially as winter results can fluctuate from rainfall events and associated stormwater discharges. While the broader Gordon's Bay area is known to act as a depositional zone for pollutants, Bikini Beach itself has shown relatively few exceedance – the last "poor" annual categorisation was recorded in 2017.


Kogel Bay Beach
False Bay Coast
All
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Summer
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
Winter
TFD*
Poor
Sufficient
Good
Excellent
* Too Few Data: More samples needed to calculate water quality category using the Hazen method
Kogel Bay Beach
Samples that exceeded threshold for safe water use
All Seasons
0%
0%
0%
Summer
Winter
2024
2025
Enterococci (cfu per 100 mL)
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Dashed line shows safe threshold for recreational water use (240 cfu per 100 mL)
0 out of 25 samples taken exceeded the threshold value for Enterococci of 240 cfu per 100 mL
Coastal Monitoring Point
Recreational Node
Samples Collected
Routine
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2024
J F M A M J J A S O N D J
2025
Data only shown for reporting period (October 2023 to May 2025)

**Information on Cape Town's coastline, beaches and coastal amenities is available on the City's website.**

**If you wish to report a pollution incident, please visit:** www.capetown.gov.za/ServiceRequests

**If you see pollution or witness it being discharged into the stormwater system:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Emergencies: | Call 107 from a landline, 112 toll free or 021 480 7700 from a cellphone |
| Water and Sanitation: | Call 0860 103 089, select option 2 (24 hours) |
| SMS: | 31373 (max 160 characters) |
| Email: | waterTOC@capetown.gov.za |

**Please help us keep our oceans clean and safe.**

CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

Making progress possible. Together.