In the last five years, 83% to 97% of water samples have met swimming standards at Malibu Beach. To meet the standard, a single sample must have Enterococcus* levels of less than 104 counts in 100 milliliters (mL) of a beach water sample. Water samples are collected at Malibu Beach and analyzed in a laboratory to determine the Enterococcus counts. Purple represents the proportion of samples meeting the standard, with less than 104 counts per 100 mL of water; yellow represents the proportion with 104 counts per 100 mL of water or higher.

*Enterococcus is a bacteria used as an indicator of fecal contamination in water.