Tonga - Ha'apai (TOHA19)

surveyed 2013-09-17



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: 1.01/5

What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition over 6 transects — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, the author's sampling sheet, and the expedition's survey records, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER
26%
Benthic transects+photo-quadrats

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD
24.3°C **0.0°C-weeks**
26 Oct 2026 · -2.5°C vs the past-365-day mean (26.8°C) · NOAA No heat stress

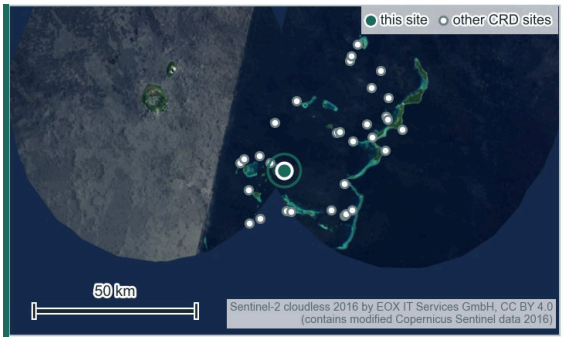
HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)
8.1°C-weeks
NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

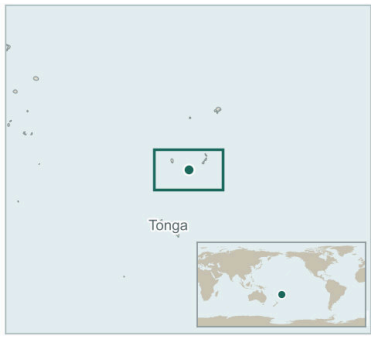
MAX. DEPTH
24.7 m
dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)
25.0°C
CTD-cast midpoint of 24.7–25.3°C
-1.6°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (26.6°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS
8 in the gallery · 44 on file

POSITION
-19.9478, -174.6852
Coordinate from the supporting data of Mayfield et al. (2017, PLoS ONE).





A Ha'apai fore reef that swings between dense patches of staghorn and table acroporids and broad expanses of turf-covered dead framework with scattered small colonies. Its Coral Health Index is 1.01 out of 5; Anderson's sampling sheet records four of the seven colonies sampled as half to fully bleached, and a close frame shows mats of red club-tipped polyps, identified as a brick-red anemone, carpeting the rock. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. Ko ha tafa‘aki tu‘a ‘o e hakau (fore reef) ‘i Ha‘apai ‘oku fetongitongi ai ‘a e ngaahi konga matolu ‘o e acroporid staghorn mo fakatēpile (table) mo e ngaahi feitu‘u fālahi ‘o e hakau mate kuo ‘ufi‘ufi ‘e he limu nounou (turf) mo e ngaahi ki‘i kulupu mavahevahe. Ko hono Coral Health Index ko e 1.01 mei he 5; ‘oku lēkooti ‘e he pepa sampling ‘a Anderson ko e kulupu ‘e fā ‘i he kulupu ‘e fitu na‘e to‘o sīpinga mei ai na‘e hinehina ‘aki ‘a e vaeua ki he kotoa, pea ‘oku fakahā ‘e ha tā ofi ‘a e ngaahi falikiliki ‘o e ngaahi polyp kulokula ‘oku fakatu‘unga hono mu‘a (club-tipped polyps), ‘a ia na‘e ‘ilo‘i ko ha ‘anemone kulokula hangē ha piliki (brick-red anemone), ‘oku nau ‘ufi‘ufi ‘a e maka.
AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)





Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 on this card; 8 in the gallery · 44 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-ha-apai-toha19.html · Heat stress is the mean of the latest five annual maxima of NOAA Coral Reef Watch degree-heating weeks for this reef's NOAA CRW virtual station (Southern Tonga) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.