Tonga - Niua (TONI56)

surveyed 2013-09-29

0 — 5

Coral Health Index: TBD

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 5 transects — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is drawn from the author's sampling sheet and the expedition's survey records, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

44%

Benthic transects+photo-quadrats

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

26.2°C **0.0°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · -2.2°C vs the past-365-day mean (28.4°C) · NOAA No heat stress

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

5.2°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 4–8°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

16.2 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

27.8°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 27.8–27.9°C

-0.6°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (28.4°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

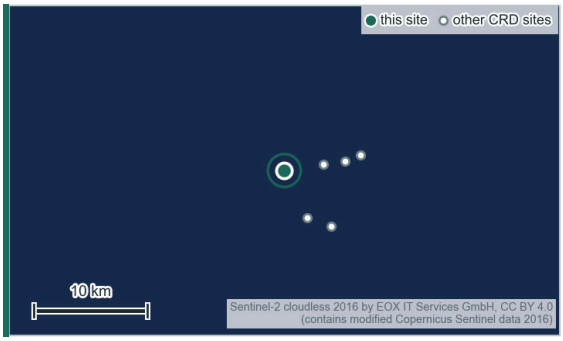
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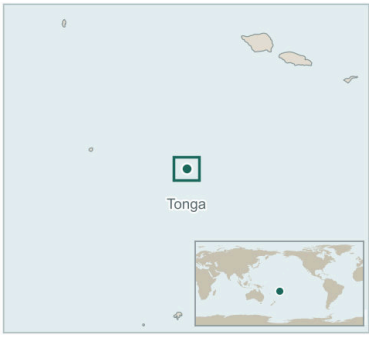
none on file

POSITION

-15.9380, -173.8299

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





No photographs exist for this west-coast fringing reef; the survey describes a long ridge rising from sand and rubble with 30-50% cover of *Porites*, *Astreopora*, *Montipora*, and *Turbinaria* but very few *Acropora*. Giant clams, white *Linckia* sea stars, and dozens of spider conch were abundant, while 10-20% of the *Pocillopora* were sick. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. ‘Oku ‘ikai ha tā ‘o e hakau matafonua (fringing reef) ko ‘eni ‘i he matātahi hihifo; ‘oku fakamatala‘i ‘e he savea ha ‘afungi (ridge) loloa ‘oku hake mei he ‘one‘one mo e maka momoa (rubble) mo e ‘ufi‘ufi ‘o e 30-50% ‘e he *Porites*, *Astreopora*, *Montipora*, mo e *Turbinaria* ka ‘oku si‘isi‘i ‘aupito ‘a e *Acropora*. Na‘e lahi ‘a e vāsuva (giant clams), ‘a e ngaahi fetu‘u tahi *Linckia* hinehina, mo e ngaahi kalea (spider conch) ‘e hongofulu tupu, lolotonga na‘e puke ‘a e 10-20% ‘o e *Pocillopora*. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*

Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-niua-toni56.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 (Northern Tonga) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.