Tonga - Niua (TONI57)

surveyed 2013-09-30



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 a review of its photographs and of the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

15%

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

27.4 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

27.6°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 27.6–27.7°C

-0.8°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (28.4°C)

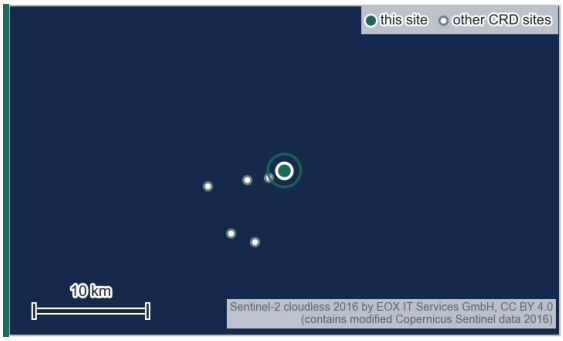
PHOTOGRAPHS

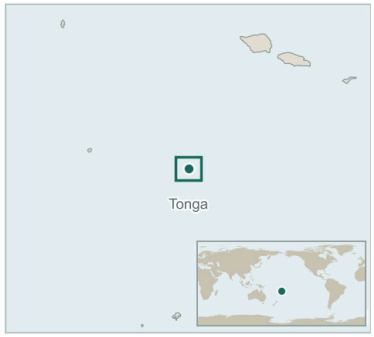
6 in the gallery · 6 on file

POSITION

-15.9256, -173.7670

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





A barrier reef on Niuatoputapu's north coast cut by narrow shallow channels barely wider than a diver, which appears to have suffered extensive damage from the tsunami, leaving much rubble now cemented together by coralline algae. Recovery was underway through thin plating *Montipora*, but many *Pocillopora* were diseased and large patches of cyanobacteria were present. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. Ko ha hakau fakaā (barrier reef) ʻi he matātahi tokelau ʻo Niuatoputapu, ʻoku vaheʻi ʻe ha ngaahi kiʻi hala vai mamaha ʻoku meimei fālahi pē ʻo hangē ha tokotaha uku, ʻoku hā ngali naʻe maumau lahi ʻi he peau kula (tsunami), ʻo tuku ai ha maka momoa (rubble) lahi kuo pipiki fakataha he taimi ni ʻe he limu feo (coralline algae). Naʻe lolotonga hoko ʻa e fakaakeake ʻi he *Montipora* fakapaleti manifi (thin plating), ka naʻe puke ʻa e *Pocillopora* lahi pea naʻe ʻi ai ʻa e ngaahi konga lalahi ʻo e cyanobacteria. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*





Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 on this card; 6 in the gallery · 6 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-niua-toni57.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.