

Kenya - Kilifi Bay (Kilifi)

Kilifi · surveyed 2024-03-26



What was done. The figure is the author's own manual point count, annotated by hand over 134 photographs. 5 further methods were run on the same frames and are reported on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs (131 frames), not a second survey. Fieldwork with 3 Degrees South.

HARD CORAL COVER 25% manual point count (134 photos) · other methods on the site page	TODAY'S HEAT LOAD 26.8°C 0.0°C-weeks 16 Sep 2026 · -1.0°C vs the annual mean (27.8 °C) · NOAA No heat stress	HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW) 4.9°C-weeks NOAA annual peaks averaging 4–8 °C-weeks
MAX. DEPTH 13 m	WATER TEMP. (SURVEY) 31.3°C +3.3°C vs the 2024 mean sea temperature (28.0°C)	PHOTOGRAPHS 4 on file for this site
POSITION -3.6056, 39.8975		

Kilifi Bay is one of the most severely bleached sites in this Kenya survey (87.0% of coral tissue, above the 77.1% average), with whole wide-angle frames reading white from foreground to horizon - branching *Acropora* hit hardest, but massive corals did not escape either, splitting roughly evenly between bleached and pigmented. Foliose plate corals were the most consistent survivors, and only one crown-of-thorns starfish was seen across 131 photographs. Published cover was 25%.

Kiswahili. Mojawapo ya rekodi kamili zaidi za upaukaji katika mkusanyiko wa Kenya, juu ya sakafu ya mwamba na vitobo vilivyotengana katika Ghuba ya Kilifi. Nyota moja tu ya bahari yenye miiba inaonekana hapa, tofauti na Bofa iliyo umbali wa 2 km siku hiyo hiyo, na sahani za *Turbinaria* zilihifadhi rangi vizuri zaidi ilhali matawi na mawe yalipauka. *Tafsiri ya muhtasari huu kwa AI; Kiingereza ndicho kinachotumika rasmi.*