Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Observed bleaching as at 2 June 2016

Queensland Government

FAR NORTHERN MANAGEMENT AREA

SEVERE

Bleaching: Aerial and underwater surveys show severe bleaching.
Mortality: High levels of coral mortality on average.
Survey extent: Extensive aerial survey coverage; 359 in-water surveys of 25 reefs (out of 903 reefs) since 1 Feb 2016. Additional surveys completed by science partners.

CAIRNS / COOKTOWN MANAGEMENT AREA

MODERATE TO SEVERE

Bleaching: Severe coral bleaching observed as far south as Cairns. Levels of bleaching are variable around Cairns and further south.
Mortality: Coral mortality rates vary throughout the area. Medium levels of coral mortality on average.
Survey extent: Extensive aerial survey coverage; 1078 in-water surveys of 69 reefs (out of 405 reefs) since 1 Feb 2016. Additional surveys completed by science partners.

TOWNSVILLE / WHITSUNDAY MANAGEMENT AREA

MINOR TO SEVERE

Bleaching: Bleaching ranges from mainly minor to moderate, with some severe bleaching offshore of Ingham/Townsville. Mainly minor bleaching in the Whitsundays.
Mortality: Low levels of coral mortality on average.
Survey extent: Extensive aerial survey coverage; 390 in-water surveys of 33 reefs (out of 802 reefs) since 1 Feb 2016. Additional surveys completed by science partners.

MACKAY / CAPRICORN MANAGEMENT AREA

MINOR TO MODERATE

Bleaching: Mostly minor bleaching. Moderate bleaching observed recently on three inshore reefs around the Keppel Islands.
Mortality: No bleaching-related mortality.
Survey extent: Extensive aerial survey coverage; 211 in-water surveys of 21 reefs (out of 1583 reefs) since 1 Feb 2016. Additional surveys completed by science partners.

Princess Charlotte Bay
Lizard Island
Cooktown
Cairns
QUEENSLAND
Hinchinbrook Island
Magnetic Island
Townsville
Whitsunday Group
Mackay
SWAIN REEFS
Curtis Island
Capricorn Bunker Group
Rockhampton
Bundaberg

Mortality categories

None: 0%
Low: >0.1-9.9%
Medium: 10-29.9%
High: 30-49.9%
Very High: ≥50%

Notes on surveys:

Since 1 December 2015, over 2526 in-water surveys of 184 reefs have been conducted.

Since 1 February 2016, when the high-risk period of bleaching began, over 2055 in-water surveys have been conducted on 152 reefs.

To fully assess coral condition, at least nine different sites on each coral reef are surveyed.

This allows surveys to take into account natural variability such as wave action, depth and different reef habitat.

The in-water reef health and impact surveys are complemented by numerous additional in-water surveys by science partners, comprehensive aerial surveys, and information from a network of tourism industry operators and community members.

N

0 100 200
Kilometres

GD-2016-0040 2 June 2016

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park boundary
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Management Area boundary