



Gladstone
Healthy Harbour
Partnership

ENVIRONMENT



FIVE FAST FACTS

1. The Environmental component is composed of three indicator groups, water & sediment quality, habitats and fish & crabs.
2. **NINE** indicators are used to calculate the scores for three indicator groups.
3. The Environmental grade was **GOOD** in 2020.
4. The Environmental score (0.66) was the highest score recorded for this component since the first report card in 2015.
5. The addition of the fish health indicator in 2019 completed the community vision of the report card.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRADES

2019	2020	Grading system
		Very good (0.85 - 1.00)
		Good (0.65 - 0.84)
		Satisfactory (0.50 - 0.64)
		Poor (0.25 - 0.49)
		Very poor (0.00 - 0.24)

WHAT DO THE GRADES MEAN?

For the first time since the first full report card all three environmental indicator groups improved when compared with the previous year. This resulted in an overall Environmental grade of B.

1. **Water & sediment quality** — **IMPROVED** although the grade remained the same (A). This was a result from an increase in the water quality score owing to improved nutrient scores when compared to 2019.
2. **Habitats** — **IMPROVED** from a D in 2019 to a C in 2020. This resulted from an improvement in the seagrass grade from a C in 2018 to a B in 2020. The grades for mangroves (C) and corals (E) remained the same as in 2019.
3. **Fish & crabs** — **IMPROVED** owing to a satisfactory fish recruitment grade (C), an improvement on the poor score of the previous year. Fish health received a good grade (B) in both 2019 and 2020. The mud crabs grade has not changed since 2018 and remains poor (D).

From 2020 onwards not all Environmental indicators will be measured in all years. Mangroves were not monitored in 2020 and the 2019 results were used to calculate the overall Environmental score.

CLIMATE

Similar to the previous year, between July 2019 and June 2020, the climate was characterized by lower-than-average rainfall and minimal discharge from the Boyne and Calliope rivers.

The dry and relatively mild weather may have influenced changes in scores for nutrients in water, seagrass and fish.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRADES

2019	2020	
		WATER & SEDIMENT
		HABITATS
		FISH & CRABS