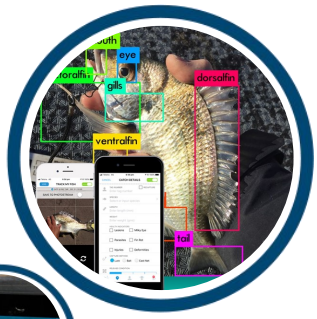
Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership

FISH HEALTH



FIVE FAST FACTS

1. Fish health is an indicator for the Environmental component of the Gladstone Harbour Report Card.
2. Fish are one of the most important social, economic and ecological resource in Gladstone Harbour.
3. Fish were identified as a major community concern at workshops conducted by GHHP in 2013 to develop a community vision for the Gladstone Harbour Report Card.
4. Fish play a multitude of roles in aquatic ecosystems including nutrient cycling and ecosystem regulation.
5. The overall score calculated for fish health in 2021 was 0.82 (B).

THE GRADES

2020	2021	Grading system
B	B	A Very good (0.85 - 1.00) B Good (0.65 - 0.84) C Satisfactory (0.50 - 0.64) D Poor (0.25 - 0.49) E Very poor (0.00 - 0.24)

HOW IS FISH HEALTH MEASURED?

The fish health grades and scores are generated from two separate fish health monitoring projects:

1. **Visual Fish Condition:** An automated visual assessment is made from images captured by fishers using a mobile phone app. Length and weight data are also recorded at the time of capture.
2. **Fish Health Assessment Index**: A thorough assessment of the health of individual fish based on visual condition and the condition of several organs and tissues.

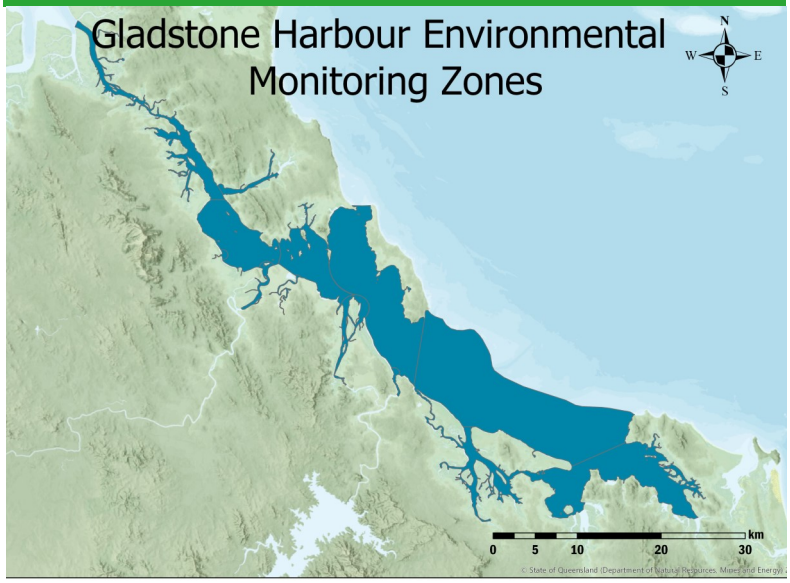
Data for Visual Fish Condition was collected by fishers at the ABT Tournament, members of the Gladstone Sports Fishing Club, members of the public reporting recaptures of tagged fish and Infofish Australia.

WHAT DO THE GRADES MEAN?

Fish health in 2021 was graded as **GOOD**, an average of the scores for Visual Fish Condition 0.73 (B) and the Health Assessment Index 0.90 (B).

In general the surveyed fish species showed very few or no signs of external health issues with Skin, Eyes or Fins.

FISH HEALTH MONITORING BY GHHP



GHHP Partner, Central Queensland University was a direct contributor to this indicator.

For more information on GHHP social indicators monitoring in Gladstone Harbour visit www.ghhp.org.au or visit our Facebook page.