

What are fish, and fish health?

Fish are one of the most important social, economic and ecological resources in Gladstone Harbour. They play a multitude of roles in aquatic ecosystems including nutrient cycling and ecosystem regulation.

Fish were identified as a community concern at workshops conducted by GHHP in 2013 to develop a community vision for the Gladstone Harbour Report Card.

2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

In 2024, Fish Health was graded Good (B), based on the average scores for Fish condition (0.78) and the Fish Health Assessment Index (0.90, from 2021).

Surveyed fish species generally showed few or no external health issues with skin, eyes, or fins.

Key species: yellowfin bream, pikey bream, barramundi, barred javelin, and dusky flathead

How is it measured?

Fish Health grades and scores come from two monitoring projects:

Fish condition: Images recevied from the Trackmyfish app, and assessed via automated machines and human assessors to see fins, skin, eyes, parasites, and deformities. Fish body condition (length and weight) are also assessed at the annual Boyne Tannum Hookup, using live fish brought in by citizen scientists.

Fish Health Assessment Index: Detailed health assessment of individual fish based on visual condition and organ/tissue health, including an assessment of skin, eyes, fins, gills, spleen, kidney, liver, hindgut, and parasite load.