

Contents

2016 Ocean Health Index Global Assessment: Samoa Profile	1
Global results	1
Methods and dataset updates	1
Samoa's Results	3

2016 Ocean Health Index Global Assessment: Samoa Profile

This document provides a brief summary of the results for Samoa from the 2016 Ocean Health Index (OHI) Global Assessment.

Global results

As in previous years, this assessment updated datasets and methods to integrate new knowledge and information. The Index Global score for 2016, the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) area weighted average of region (countries and territories) scores, is 71. This value did not vary statistically significantly from 2012 to 2016.

Several goals had significant changes:

Improving scores

- Lasting special places scores increased by an average of 0.5 points per year
- Artisanal opportunities scores increased by just over 0.15 points per year
- Species condition scores improved by a small, but statistically significant, 0.03 points per year

Declining scores

- Natural products declined by over 2.5 points per year on average
- Coastal protection declined by 0.12 points per year on average
- Clean waters declined by 0.15 points per year on average
- Species condition was ranked the goal with the highest score of 92, while mariculture was ranked the goal with the lowest score of 32.

For a detailed summary of global results visit: <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/region-scores>

Methods and dataset updates

For 2016, all goals and subgoals were updated, except for livelihoods and economies and coastal protection (due to data availability limitations).

Additional years of data were available for the following goals/subgoals: artisanal opportunities, species condition, habitat and coastal protection (sea ice), mariculture, clean waters (land-based pollution), iconic species, lasting special places, natural products, tourism and recreation.

Improved data were available for the following goals/subgoals: fisheries, species condition (bird data are now included), clean waters (trash trends are calculated using actual trash data, rather than proxy population data), iconic species (trend is now directly estimated from data).

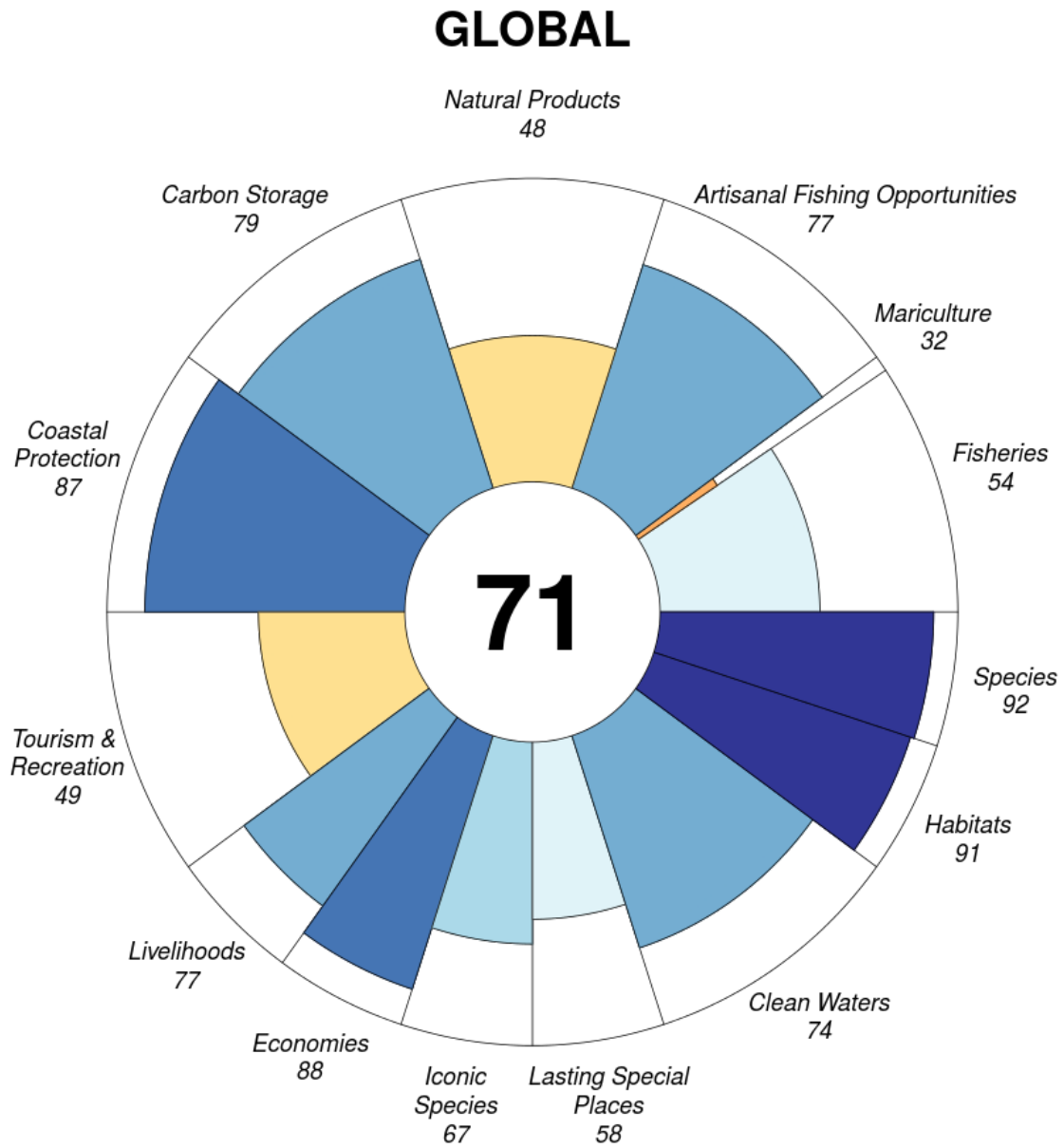


Figure 1: OHI 2016 Global Assessment Flower Plot

Pressures: Of the pressures data sets, 16 of the 20 pressure data layers were updated. Additional years of data for 7 pressures layers were added, and there were major improvements to source data for fisheries related pressures and sea level rise. Data from the Social Progress Index (<http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/global-index/>) was included as a “social” component of the pressure scores. **Resilience:** We restructured the resilience data within the OHI, so the data and calculations are more transparent and easier to understand and update. Data from the Social Progress Index (<http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/global-index/>) was added as a “social” component of resilience scores. Only two resilience data layers were updated: species condition and marine protected areas.

For detailed explanation of methods visit: <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/methodology>

Samoa’s Results

The 2016 Index score for Samoa is of 72. Ranking 67 out of 221 countries and territories assessed.

2012-2016 Scores for Samoa Using 2016 Methods

goal	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Index	62	65	67	69	72
Artisanal Fishing Opportunity	74	74	74	74	74
Species	92	92	92	92	92
Biodiversity	94	94	94	94	94
Habitats	96	96	96	96	96
Coastal Protection	95	95	95	95	95
Carbon Storage	90	90	90	90	90
Clean Waters	84	90	90	90	89
Coastal Economies	70	82	82	82	82
Livelihoods and Economies	36	43	43	43	43
Coastal Livelihoods	3	3	3	4	4
Wild Caught Fisheries	58	65	68	68	49
Food Provision	58	65	68	68	49
Mariculture	0	0	0	0	0
Iconic Species	69	71	71	71	69
Sense of Place	35	36	36	36	35
Lasting Special Places	1	1	1	1	1
Natural Products	0	13	14	17	69
Tourism and Recreation	53	54	64	78	82

Improving scores

- Natural products score increased by 52 points
- Tourism and recreation score improved by 4 points

Declining scores

- Food provision declined by 19 points
- Iconic species declined by 2 points
- Clean waters decreased by 1 point

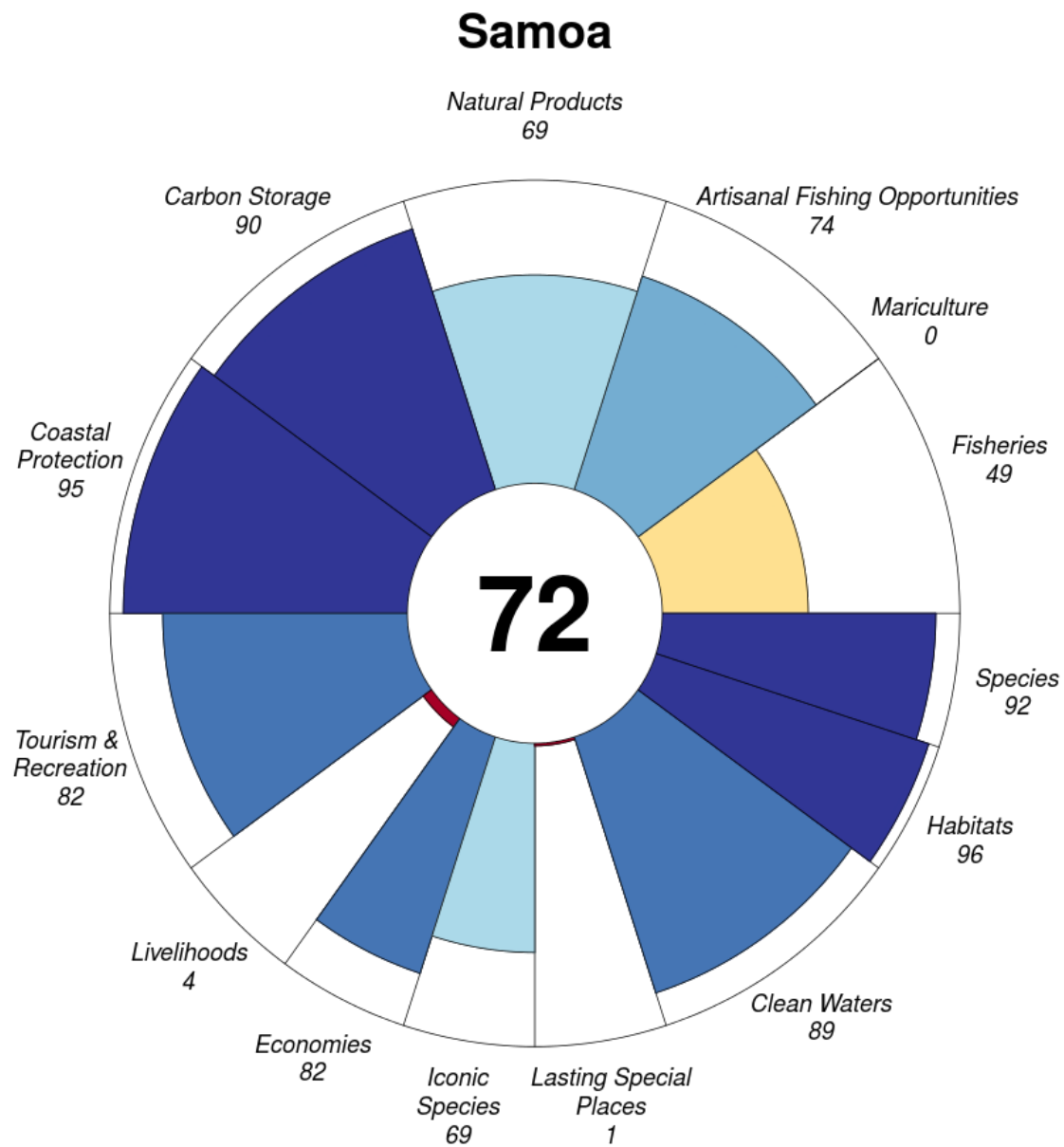


Figure 2: OHI 2016 Global Assessment: Samoa's Flower Plot

Explanation of Samoa's scores

The overall score for Samoa is 72, which is 3 points higher than in 2015. Even though the fisheries score declined by nearly 20 points, indicating issues with overharvesting and sustainability, this decrease is overcompensated by a 52 point increase in natural products. This is due entirely to an increase from 0 to 18 tons in the harvesting of sea shells per year, as reported by the FAO. Because this is within the maximum sustainable yield established, the harvest increase results in positive score increases. Attention should be paid to coastal livelihoods (score of 4), meaning low employment and wages in coastal activities. Also, the mariculture score of 0 implies there is no reported fish farming activities in the country. Lastly, the lasting special places score of 1 means that the country is very far from the target of achieving 30% of the EEZ as protected areas.

For a detailed summary of Country results visit: <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/region-scores/scores/samoa>