NOAA’s Coral Reef Conservation Program monitors the biological, socioeconomic, and climate conditions of US coral reefs and communities through the National Coral Reef Monitoring Program (NCRMP). The Socioeconomic Component of the NCRMP collects and monitors human use of coral reef resources, knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of coral reefs and coral reef management, and demographics of the populations living in coral reef areas. The takeaways below are based on resident survey results from South Florida’s second monitoring cycle.

### MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

**Most residents support management strategies to protect coral reefs**

- Limits Per Person for Certain Fish Species, such as Size or Quantity Limits: 88%
- Increased Public Education on Sea Level Rise and Climate Change: 90%
- Stricter Control of Sources of Pollution to Preserve Water Quality: 95%
- Efforts to Restore Damaged Coral Reefs: 95%

### ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boating</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach Recreation</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CORAL REEF VALUES

- 92% of residents agree that coral reefs are important to South Florida’s culture, and 82% agree that coral reefs protect South Florida from erosion and natural disasters.

### CORAL COVER

Perceptions of current coral cover:

- Bad: 43%
- Neither: 19%
- Good: 26%
- Not Sure: 12%

### WATER QUALITY

Perceptions of current water quality:

- Bad: 21%
- Neither: 39%
- Good: 36%
- Not Sure: 5%

### SUPPORT FOR MPAS

Support for marine protected areas is relatively high:

- MPAs Help Increase Tourism: 68%
- There should be More MPAs in South Florida: 77%
- I Generally Support the Establishment of MPAs: 85%
- MPAs Help Protect Coral Reefs: 88%

### THREAT FAMILIARITY

There are varying degrees of familiarity with potential threats to coral reefs:

- Climate Change: 86%
- Coral Bleaching: 55%
- Coral Disease: 51%
- Hurricanes: 89%

### SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIORS

Residents were asked how often they engage in the following activities:

- Eat Fish or Seafood: 89% at least once a month
- Eat Locally Harvested Seafood from Coral Reefs: 41% at least once a month
- Coastal or Beach Cleanup: 32% at least several times a year
- Lionfish Derbies: 3% at least several times a year
- Recycling: 95% at least several times a year

All numbers have been rounded to the nearest full number. A telephone survey of residents aged eighteen and older within Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, and Monroe counties was conducted from April to August, 2019 (offered in English and Spanish). A total of 2,201 surveys were completed with a response rate of 13.5%. This survey was conducted for South Florida’s second socioeconomic NCRMP monitoring cycle, and is used in conjunction with the collection of existing secondary data to monitor the socioeconomic conditions of U.S. coral jurisdictions over time.

For more information, please see the NCRMP Socioeconomic Component project page at http://www.corn.noaa.gov/monitoring/socioeconomic.html.