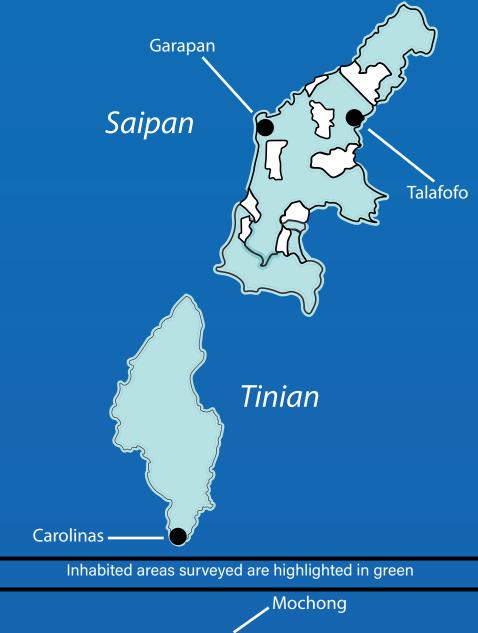
CORAL REEFS & COASTAL COMMUNITIES

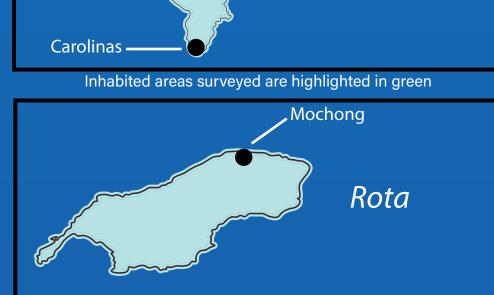
Trends from Socioeconomic Surveying in the CNMI

NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program monitors the biological, socioeconomic, and climate conditions of U.S. coral reefs and communities through the National Coral Reef Monitoring Program (NCRMP). The Socioeconomic Component of the NCRMP collects and monitors knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of coral reefs and coral reef management, human use of coral reef resources, and demographics of the populations living in coral reef areas. The trends shown below are based on survey results between the first (2016) and second (2024) monitoring cycles conducted in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).



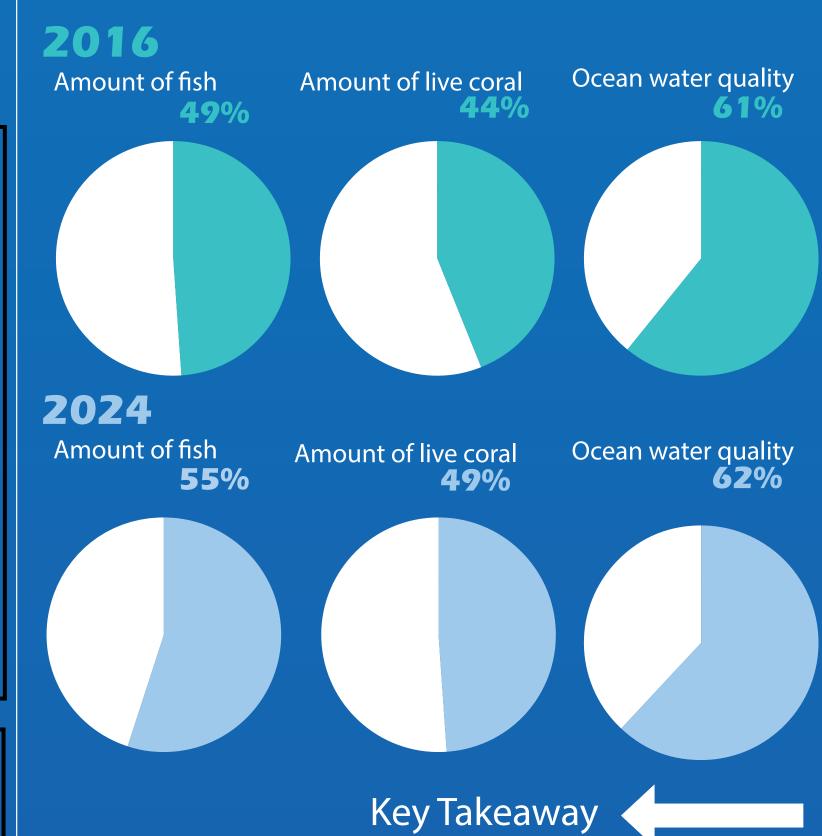
Archipelago





Perceived Current Resource Conditions

Residents were asked how they perceive the current condition of certain marine resources in the CNMI. The percentage of residents who believed the resource was in good condition is shown below.



Importance of Coral Reefs

Residents were asked whether they agreed (2016) or believed (2024) that coral reefs were important to certain items.

Coral reefs are important for protecting the

CNMI from natural disasters.

2024 2016 99% 92%



A majority of residents still believe that coral reefs are important for protecting the CNMI from natural disasters.

> Coral reefs are important for providing food to coastal communities in the CNMI.



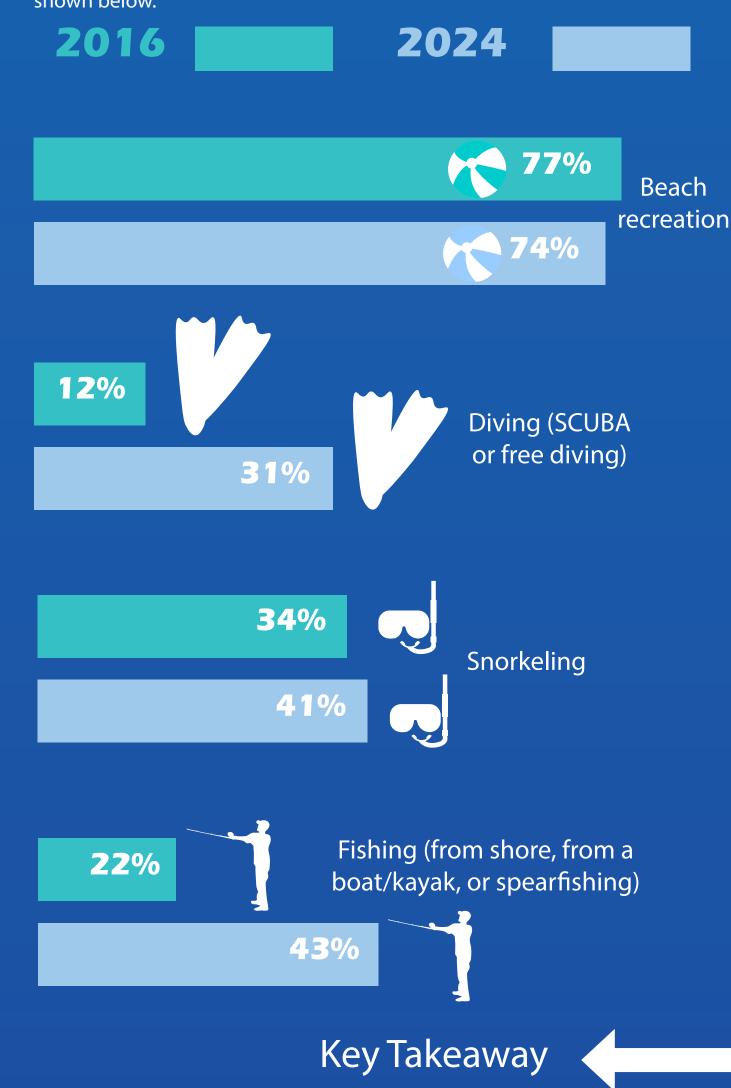
A majority of residents still believe that coral reefs are important for providing food for coastal communities.

Activity Participation Rates

Residents were asked for their participation in certain marine-based recreational activities. Activity participation rates for some of these activities are shown below.

The percentage of residents who believe these marine

resources are in good condition has increased.



Participation in beach recreation remained high, and participation in various marine-based activities increased.

Resident familiarity with marine protected areas and marine preserves increased by 7.5% in 2024

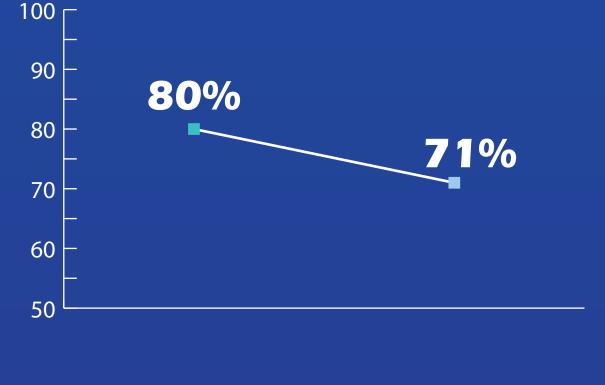
Support for Management

Residents were asked if they opposed or supported various management strategies. The percentage of residents who supported or strongly supported these strategies is shown below. Please note that the y-axis is from 50-100%.

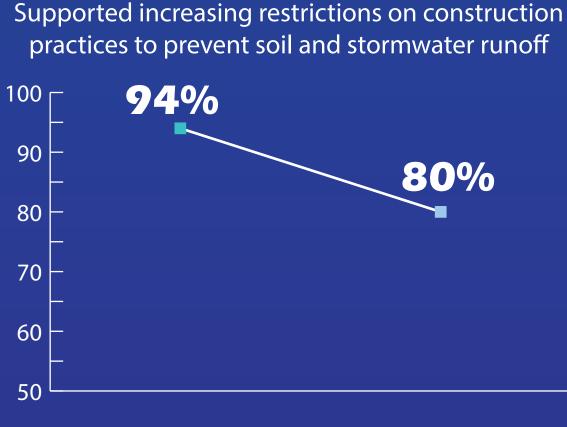
2016

2024

Supported imposing a small fee (\$1-\$5) for tourists visiting locally managed MPAs to fund conservation



practices to prevent soil and stormwater runoff



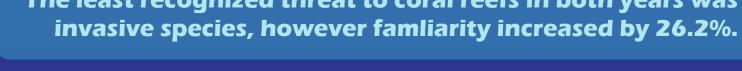
Key Takeaway

Support for management strategies slightly decreased, but remained high overall.

Threat Recognition Residents were asked for their familiarity with potential threats to coral reefs.

High level results of residents who recognized these as threats to coral reefs are shown below.









All percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Surveys of residents aged eighteen and older in the CNMI were conducted in 2016 and 2024. Surveys were offered in English, Chamorro, Carolinian, and Tagalog in 2016 and offered in English, Chamorro, Carolinian, and Tagalog in 2024. A total of 722 surveys were completed in 2016 with a response rate of 20% and a total of 709 surveys were completed in 2024 with a response rate of 24.3%. All survey results

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