A region’s total population is not relevant to the analysis of some goals, which are instead based on ‘coastal population’ living within a goal-specific distance from the shore. For example, measurement of Pathogen Pollution uses coastal human population within 50 km (31 mi) of the coast; Trash Pollution uses population within 50 km (31 mi) of the coast; and Habitat Destruction of intertidal zones uses population within 1 km (0.6 mi) of the shore. Population within 100 km (62 mi) and and 25 km (15 mi) of the shore are both used in scoring the Mariculture subgroup.

**HOW WAS IT MEASURED?**

Data on coastal human population are based on the Gridded Population of the World (GPW) Population Density Grid Future Estimates, v9. These data were accessed from the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN/Columbia University [CIESIN & CIAT 2006]), where data for population density (number of people per square kilometer) were globally available for 2006, 2010, and 2015. Grid data are at 2.5 arc-min resolution, i.e. squares approximately 5 km x 5 km at the equator, but decreasing at higher latitudes. Years in between those dates were interpolated using methods described in Halpern et al. (2015). For a number of small island regions total population was used as the measure of coastal population.

Coastal population is used as a component for pressure or status of a number of goals, including Clean Waters (Pathogen and Trash components), Habitat Destruction, and Mariculture.