

2015: DEBRIS SNAPSHOT

Dive Against Debris™ is the only global citizen science effort of it's kind that focuses exclusively on marine debris found underwater on the seafloor on a global scale. The data yielded bridges the gap to an issue that has been previously disregarded as out of sight, out of mind. Together, we're changing the way people see rubbish - sharing the data with partners in order to work towards solutions that will ultimately prevent debris entering the ocean in the first place. Here's a data snapshot from the surveys that were conducted in 58 different countries across the globe in 2015.



TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS COLLECTED

Almost ninety thousand marine debris items were removed and reported in 2015 alone - that's almost 20% of all debris items removed since Dive Against Debris was launched in 2011.



WHO'S INVOLVED?

4,209 scuba divers have participated in 454 Dive Against Debris surveys during 2015, spending over 400 hours underwater, surveying dive sites across the globe.

The US, Malaysia, Thailand and the UK were the top reporting countries accounting for 35% of all surveys conducted.



PLASTIC

MATERIAL BREAKDOWN

Plastics account for 56% of all items reported during 2015 followed by Metals then Glass & Ceramics. Among the top items reported, beverage containers are the top items reported - plastic, glass and aluminium. Additionally, fishing line accounts for 7.5% of all debris items.



GLASS



METAL



ENTANGLED ANIMALS

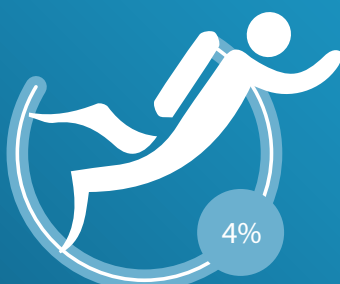
Marine debris wreaks havoc on marine creatures including sea turtles, birds, sharks and rays.

In 2015, divers reported over one thousand marine creatures either entangled or dead.



WEIGHT REMOVED

Over 32,000 kgs / 70,000 lbs of marine debris were hauled from the seabed throughout 2015.



DEBRIS-FREE SITES

4% of all surveys reported in 2015 were for debris-free sites.

Finding no debris during a survey dive is still important information to report as it helps identify when new problems arise.

Don't let your dives go to waste. Take a giant stride and Dive Against Debris.

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*figures as of 25 Jan 2016



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