

GreenPath
Alliance

BEYOND TRENDS. TOWARD STANDARDS.

GREEN PATH PUBLICATIONS

Publication No. GP-001

SEDI Destination Assessment Report

Pilot Assessment No. 001 · Split, Croatia

Seasonal Ecological Debt Index (SEDI)

PREPARED BY

Green Path Alliance

Brno, Czech Republic · www.green-path.org

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01 · Foreword

Tourism has always been one of humanity's greatest opportunities for cultural exchange, economic development and international cooperation. Yet every destination experiences a different reality once visitor numbers begin to exceed the rhythms of everyday life.

- Roads become busier.
- Water demand increases.
- Waste generation accelerates.
- Protected landscapes receive more visitors.
- Public services experience seasonal pressure.

These changes are rarely visible within annual statistics alone.

The Seasonal Ecological Debt Index (SEDI) was developed to better understand these seasonal dynamics through transparent, evidence-based assessment.

Rather than asking whether sustainability policies exist, SEDI asks an equally important question: What is happening within the destination during periods of highest tourism demand?

The framework combines environmental, social, infrastructure and governance indicators into a transparent assessment methodology that supports continuous improvement while openly communicating the confidence and limitations of available data.

This publication represents the first official application of the Seasonal Ecological Debt Index. As a pilot assessment, it establishes the methodological foundation for future destination assessments while demonstrating Green Path Alliance's commitment to transparency, scientific integrity and practical implementation.

We hope this report contributes to a broader conversation about how tourism destinations can better understand seasonal ecological pressures and transform measurement into informed action.

Green Path Alliance · Brno, Czech Republic · August 2026

02 • About Green Path Alliance

Green Path Alliance is an independent sustainability organisation dedicated to advancing responsible tourism through practical implementation, transparent assessment methodologies and continuous knowledge sharing.

The organisation operates at the intersection of tourism, sustainability, governance and digital innovation, supporting destinations and tourism businesses through evidence-based frameworks rather than one-size-fits-all solutions.

Three complementary methodologies

Green Path Alliance has developed three complementary sustainability methodologies:

GRAIL

Organisational sustainability assessment.

Digital GRAIL

Digital sustainability assessment.

SEDI

Seasonal Ecological Debt Index for tourism destinations.

Together these frameworks provide organisations and destinations with practical tools for measuring sustainability performance, identifying improvement opportunities and supporting long-term resilience.

Green Path Alliance believes that sustainability should be understandable, measurable and continuously improved through transparent collaboration rather than assumptions.

03 · About Green Path Publications

Green Path Publications is an independent publication series dedicated to sustainability research, destination assessments and practical implementation within tourism.

The publication series has been established to make sustainability knowledge openly accessible to governments, tourism organisations, businesses, researchers, students and local communities.

Every publication follows four guiding principles:

■ ◆ **Transparency** — Methodologies, data confidence and evidence sources are openly documented.

■ ◆ **Scientific Integrity** — Assessments are based upon recognised methodologies and publicly available evidence.

■ ◆ **Practical Application** — Every publication seeks to transform research into practical decision-making.

■ ◆ **Continuous Improvement** — Methodologies evolve through documented experience, pilot assessments and feedback.

Green Path Publications are intended to encourage collaboration rather than competition, recognising that sustainability improves when knowledge is openly shared.

04 · Reading Guide

This publication has been designed for multiple audiences.

Destination Managers

Focus on the Executive Summary, Dimension Results and Opportunities for Improvement.

Municipal Decision-Makers

Review the Overall Results, Drivers of Ecological Debt and Strategic Roadmap.

Tourism Organisations

Explore the Mobility, Waste & Water and Socio-cultural chapters to identify opportunities for destination management.

Researchers and Students

Consult the SEDI methodology overview, dimension assessments and references for assessment criteria and evidence sources. Detailed technical methodology is published separately.

Tourism Businesses

Use the findings to better understand the environmental and social pressures influencing the destination in which they operate.

05 · Executive Summary

Measuring Seasonal Ecological Pressure

The Seasonal Ecological Debt Index (SEDI) evaluates the extent to which tourism creates measurable environmental, infrastructure and social pressure during periods of highest visitor demand.

Unlike traditional sustainability assessments that primarily examine organisational commitments or policy frameworks, SEDI measures the practical consequences of tourism using transparent indicators supported by publicly available evidence.

The pilot assessment of Split demonstrates that seasonal ecological debt is not determined solely by visitor numbers. Rather, it emerges through the interaction between tourism demand, infrastructure capacity, environmental resilience and governance effectiveness.

The assessment identifies several areas where tourism generates measurable seasonal pressure, particularly within mobility, visitor concentration and seasonal energy demand. At the same time, the destination demonstrates comparatively strong governance transparency, environmental protection and wastewater management, providing an important foundation for future improvements.

Assessment Results

Assessment Indicator	Result
Overall Sustainability Score	48.17 / 100
Seasonal Ecological Debt Index	51.80 / 100
Classification	Moderate Ecological Debt
Assessment Confidence	90.82% (Very High)
Data Coverage	94.44%

Overall Interpretation

Split demonstrates a balanced sustainability profile characterised by strong institutional capacity alongside significant seasonal tourism pressures.

The assessment indicates that ecological debt is driven primarily by visitor concentration rather than systemic governance weaknesses. Most identified pressures are therefore manageable through strategic investment, improved visitor distribution and continued enhancement of destination sustainability planning.

Importantly, the assessment also demonstrates the value of transparent governance and public reporting, which significantly strengthen the destination's ability to respond to future sustainability challenges.

05 · Executive Summary (continued)

Primary Drivers of Ecological Debt

The assessment identifies five principal contributors:

- High overnight stays relative to permanent population.
- Strong seasonal visitor concentration.
- Seasonal electricity demand.
- Limited low-emission visitor mobility.
- Road transport intensity.

These indicators collectively explain the majority of observed seasonal ecological pressure.

Positive Drivers

The assessment also highlights several notable strengths:

- Transparent governance.
- Public sustainability planning.
- High wastewater treatment coverage.
- Healthy ecological condition of protected areas.
- Strong availability of public sustainability information.

These strengths provide a strong institutional platform for continued sustainability improvements.

Looking Ahead

Seasonal ecological debt should not be interpreted as a measure of failure. Rather, it represents an opportunity to understand where tourism creates temporary pressure and how destinations can respond more effectively.

By repeating SEDI assessments over time, destinations can monitor progress, evaluate policy effectiveness and communicate sustainability performance through transparent, evidence-based reporting.

This publication therefore represents not only the first destination assessment within the SEDI framework, but also the beginning of a broader initiative dedicated to improving tourism sustainability through measurable evidence and continuous learning.

PART II

Understanding the Destination

Destination Profile

Split, Croatia — "Where history, community and tourism meet on the Adriatic coast."

Situated on Croatia's central Adriatic coastline, Split represents one of the Mediterranean's most dynamic urban tourism destinations. Built around the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Diocletian's Palace, the city combines more than seventeen centuries of cultural heritage with a rapidly evolving tourism economy that now plays a central role in local development.

Unlike destinations characterised by highly seasonal resort tourism alone, Split functions simultaneously as a regional administrative centre, residential city, transport hub and international tourism gateway. This combination creates a unique sustainability context in which permanent residents and seasonal visitors share many of the same public services, transport infrastructure and environmental resources.

During the summer season, visitor numbers increase substantially, influencing mobility patterns, energy consumption, freshwater demand, waste generation and public space utilisation. These seasonal fluctuations make Split an appropriate pilot destination for applying the Seasonal Ecological Debt Index (SEDI).

The city's continued investment in environmental planning, cultural preservation and public governance provides a valuable foundation for understanding how tourism pressures interact with institutional capacity.

Destination Snapshot

Indicator	Value
Country	Croatia
Assessment Boundary	Municipality of Split
Assessment Year	2025
Permanent Population	~ 161,000
Tourism Economy	Urban & Coastal Tourism
UNESCO Heritage	Diocletian's Palace
Assessment Methodology	SEDI Version 1.0

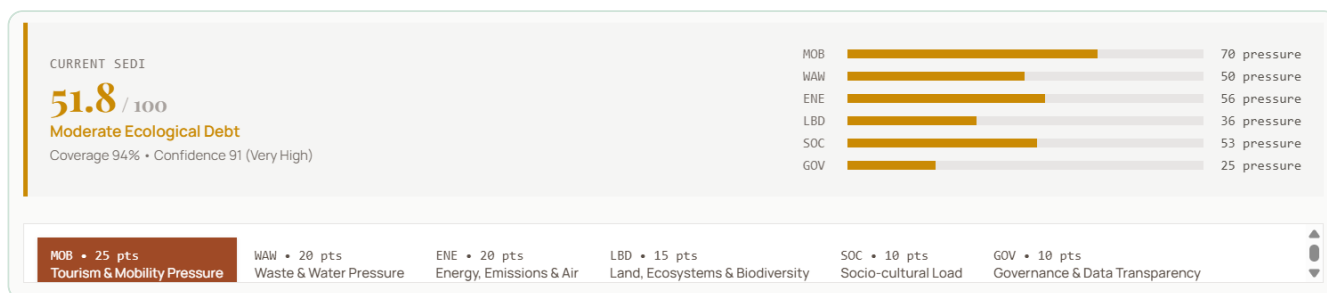


Figure — Split SEDI 2025: Overall Score and Dimension Pressure Profile

Source: Green Path Alliance, SEDI Pilot Assessment – Split, Croatia, 2025. Values shown in the figure are rounded for visual presentation.

Split's Seasonal Pressure Profile

The Split pilot assessment produced an overall Seasonal Ecological Debt Index score of **51.8/100**, corresponding to **Moderate Ecological Debt**. The assessment achieved approximately **94% data coverage** and **91% assessment confidence — Very High**, indicating that the overall result is supported by a broad and comparatively reliable evidence base.

The dimension profile demonstrates that seasonal ecological pressure is not distributed equally across the destination.

Tourism & Mobility Pressure (MOB) represents the strongest pressure at **70/100**, followed by Energy, Emissions & Air (ENE) at **56/100** and Socio-cultural Load (SOC) at **53/100**. Waste & Water Pressure (WAW) records a moderate pressure of **50/100**.

Lower pressure is observed within Land, Ecosystems & Biodiversity (LBD) at **36/100**, while Governance & Data Transparency (GOV) records the lowest pressure at **25/100**.

Importantly, the 51.8 SEDI score should not be interpreted as a statement that Split is an unsustainable destination. The result indicates that measurable seasonal pressure exists and that it is concentrated primarily within specific systems — particularly tourism intensity, mobility and energy demand.

The dimension profile therefore moves the assessment beyond a single score by showing where ecological debt is being generated and where the destination already demonstrates resilience.

Key Interpretation

Split's pilot assessment suggests that reducing seasonal ecological debt does not require addressing every sustainability dimension equally.

Targeted interventions within the highest-pressure areas — particularly mobility and seasonal tourism concentration — could have a greater effect on future SEDI performance, while existing strengths in governance and environmental management provide a foundation for continuous improvement.

Why Split?

The first application of any sustainability methodology should demonstrate both its strengths and its capacity for continuous improvement.

Split was selected as the pilot destination because it presents a balanced combination of opportunities and sustainability challenges that are representative of many Mediterranean tourism destinations.

The city experiences significant seasonal tourism intensity while maintaining comparatively strong governance structures and public data availability. This combination provides sufficient evidence to evaluate all six SEDI dimensions while also testing the framework's transparency regarding proxy methodologies and confidence assessments.

The pilot therefore serves two complementary purposes.

- It evaluates the sustainability performance of the destination itself.
- It validates the practical application of the SEDI methodology.

Understanding the Results

Measuring Seasonal Ecological Debt

Tourism sustainability is often discussed through annual averages. However, destinations rarely experience tourism as an annual average. They experience tourism through seasons.

Road networks that operate comfortably throughout much of the year may experience congestion during a few summer months. Water systems designed for resident populations may temporarily support several times their normal demand. Waste collection, public transport and protected natural areas all experience similar seasonal fluctuations.

SEDI has therefore been developed to evaluate these temporary yet significant pressures. Rather than measuring sustainability solely through policies or commitments, the framework focuses on measurable outcomes observed within the destination.

The resulting score represents an integrated assessment of seasonal ecological pressure across environmental, social and governance dimensions.

How to Interpret the SEDI Score

SEDI should not be interpreted as a ranking of good or bad destinations. Instead, it reflects the degree to which seasonal tourism creates measurable pressure on local systems.

- Lower levels of ecological debt generally indicate that destinations possess sufficient environmental capacity, infrastructure resilience and governance mechanisms to accommodate visitor demand.

- Higher levels of ecological debt suggest that seasonal pressures increasingly exceed the destination's capacity to respond sustainably.

Importantly, ecological debt is neither permanent nor inevitable. It can be reduced through improved planning, infrastructure investment, governance transparency and continuous monitoring.

Overall Assessment

SEASONAL ECOLOGICAL DEBT INDEX

51.80 / 100

Moderate Ecological Debt

OVERALL SUSTAINABILITY SCORE

48.17 / 100

Broader destination maturity

The assessment indicates that tourism creates measurable seasonal pressure across several destination systems while remaining within a range that can be effectively addressed through targeted management interventions. The principal contributors relate to mobility, visitor concentration and seasonal energy demand. Conversely, governance transparency, environmental management and wastewater infrastructure provide important institutional strengths that reduce overall ecological risk.

The Overall Sustainability Score reflects the destination's broader sustainability performance across environmental management, governance capacity and long-term resilience. Although closely related, this indicator should not be interpreted as identical to SEDI. Whereas the Overall Sustainability Score considers the destination's general sustainability maturity, SEDI specifically evaluates the seasonal pressures generated during periods of highest tourism demand. Together, these complementary indicators provide a more complete understanding of destination sustainability than either measure alone.

ASSESSMENT CONFIDENCE

90.82%

Very High

DATA COVERAGE

94.44%

Near-complete evidence

One of the distinguishing characteristics of SEDI is the explicit communication of confidence. Rather than presenting results without context, the framework evaluates both the quality and availability of supporting evidence. Confidence is determined through consideration of official statistics, recognised international datasets, methodological transparency and data completeness.

For Split, the overall confidence level is classified as Very High, indicating that the assessment is supported predominantly by official or independently verifiable information. The assessment achieved exceptionally high data coverage, demonstrating that sufficient information was available to evaluate nearly all components of the framework. Where destination-specific information was unavailable, internationally recognised proxy methodologies were applied transparently and clearly identified throughout the assessment.

This approach ensures that methodological transparency is maintained without preventing destinations from being assessed.

o6 · The Six Assessment Dimensions

Seasonal ecological debt emerges through the interaction of multiple systems rather than any single environmental indicator. For this reason, SEDI evaluates destinations through six interconnected dimensions.

Each dimension contributes independently to the overall assessment while also influencing the others. Together they provide a comprehensive picture of how tourism affects destination resilience during periods of highest demand.

■ ◆ Tourism & Mobility Pressure

Evaluates the relationship between visitor intensity, transport systems and seasonal movement.

Focus areas: Visitor concentration · Overnight stays · Transport demand · Sustainable mobility · Road congestion

■ ◆ Waste & Water Pressure

Examines how tourism influences resource consumption and waste management.

Focus areas: Water stress · Seasonal demand · Recycling · Municipal waste · Wastewater treatment

■ ◆ Energy, Emissions & Air

Assesses seasonal energy demand together with environmental quality.

Focus areas: Electricity demand · Renewable energy · Air quality · Visitor transport emissions

■ ◆ Land, Ecosystems & Biodiversity

Measures tourism's interaction with landscapes and ecological resilience.

Focus areas: Land transformation · Green infrastructure · Protected areas · Visitor pressure

■ ◆ Socio-cultural Load

Explores tourism's influence on local communities and quality of life.

Focus areas: Housing pressure · Resident perception · Employment seasonality · Visitor intensity

■ ◆ Governance & Transparency

Evaluates institutional capacity to manage tourism sustainably.

Focus areas: Public reporting · Data transparency · Stakeholder participation · Strategic planning

Transition to Dimension Assessments

No destination experiences seasonal ecological debt for a single reason. Rather, it emerges through the cumulative interaction of transport systems, environmental resources, governance capacity and community resilience.

The following chapters examine each assessment dimension individually, identifying both the pressures contributing to ecological debt and the strengths that support long-term sustainability. Each chapter combines quantitative indicators with evidence-based interpretation, providing practical insights that support informed destination management rather than simple performance scoring.

MOB

DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Tourism & Mobility Pressure

High Pressure

70/100

Seasonal Pressure

70 / 100

0

Moderate

High

100

Visitors



Mobility Demand



Seasonal Pressure

Tourism & Mobility represents the strongest source of seasonal ecological pressure identified in the Split pilot assessment.

The result reflects the combined influence of high visitor intensity, strong peak-season concentration and transport demand within a destination that simultaneously functions as a residential city, regional centre and major Adriatic tourism gateway.

During periods of highest tourism activity, visitor movements are concentrated within a relatively limited geographical area and depend significantly on road-based and conventional transport infrastructure. This increases pressure on urban mobility systems at precisely the time when the destination is experiencing its highest population-equivalent demand.

The result does not suggest that tourism mobility is inherently unsustainable in Split. Rather, it identifies mobility as the area where targeted interventions are likely to generate the greatest reduction in future seasonal ecological debt.

KEY FINDING

Tourism & Mobility is the largest contributor to Split's overall SEDI result and should therefore represent a priority area for destination-level improvement.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Strengthen low-emission visitor mobility, improve public transport integration during peak periods, encourage walking and cycling connections between tourism zones, and continue developing measures that distribute visitor movement spatially and temporally.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- Croatian Bureau of Statistics (DZS) — Tourism Statistics and Population Data
- Eurostat — Tourism Statistics
- City of Split — Strategic Tourism Development Documents

Full references: Section 13, References.

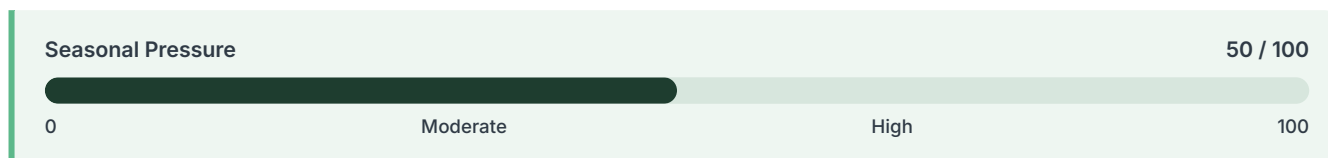


DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Waste & Water Pressure

Moderate Pressure

50/100



Seasonal Demand



Existing Infrastructure Capacity

Waste & Water Pressure represents a balanced but important component of Split's seasonal ecological profile.

Tourism increases temporary demand for freshwater, wastewater treatment and municipal waste services during the same months in which Mediterranean destinations can experience heightened environmental and climatic pressure.

Split benefits from established wastewater infrastructure, which acts as an important resilience factor within this dimension. However, seasonal increases in population-equivalent demand continue to create pressure on water consumption and waste-management systems.

The result therefore reflects neither a critical weakness nor an absence of pressure. It identifies a system that currently demonstrates capacity while requiring continued monitoring as tourism intensity and climate-related water risks evolve.

KEY FINDING

Existing wastewater-management capacity represents an important strength, while seasonal resource demand remains an area requiring continuous monitoring.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Continue strengthening seasonal water-demand monitoring, visitor water-efficiency communication, waste prevention and recycling performance, while integrating tourism demand more explicitly into long-term municipal resource planning.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- European Environment Agency — Environmental Indicators
- Eurostat — Tourism Statistics
- City of Split — Strategic Tourism Development Documents

Full references: Section 13, References.

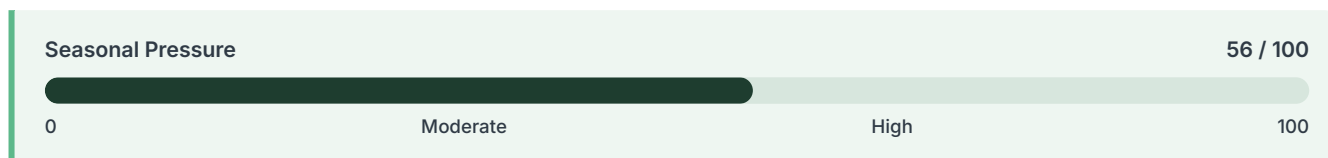


DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Energy, Emissions & Air

Moderate Pressure

56/100



Tourism Activity

+

Summer Cooling

+

Transport

→

Seasonal Energy Pressure

Energy, Emissions & Air represents one of the higher environmental pressures identified within the Split assessment.

Tourism contributes to seasonal electricity demand through accommodation, cooling, hospitality operations, transport and other visitor-related services.

In Mediterranean destinations, this demand frequently coincides with periods of high temperatures, when residential and commercial cooling requirements are already elevated.

The assessment therefore identifies seasonal energy demand as an important contributor to Split's ecological debt.

The result should nevertheless be interpreted within a wider transition context. Improvements in building efficiency, renewable energy deployment, cleaner transport and destination-level energy monitoring provide clear opportunities to reduce this pressure over time.

KEY FINDING

Seasonal electricity demand represents one of the important environmental contributors to Split's SEDI result.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Support renewable-energy adoption, energy-efficiency improvements within tourism infrastructure, improved seasonal energy monitoring and measures that reduce transport-related emissions associated with visitor activity.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- European Environment Agency — Environmental Indicators
- Eurostat — Tourism Statistics
- European Commission — Copernicus Land Monitoring Service

Full references: Section 13, References.

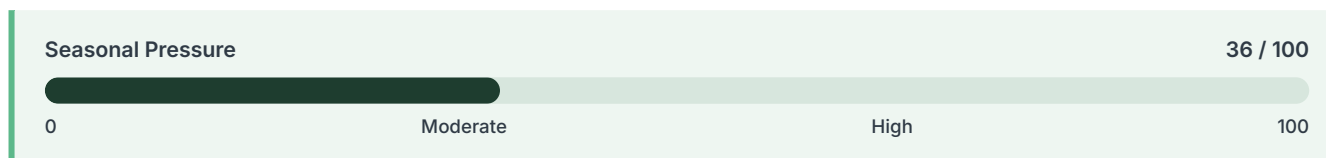


DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Land, Ecosystems & Biodiversity

Lower Pressure / Relative Strength

36/100



Protected Areas

+

Ecosystems

→

Resilience

Land, Ecosystems & Biodiversity represents one of the stronger-performing dimensions within the Split assessment.

The comparatively low pressure score indicates that ecological and protected-area conditions currently provide meaningful resilience against tourism-related seasonal pressure.

This result is particularly important because tourism destinations depend heavily on the landscapes, coastal environments and ecosystems that contribute to their attractiveness.

Protecting these assets therefore represents both an environmental responsibility and a long-term tourism-management priority.

A low current pressure score should not, however, be interpreted as justification for reduced monitoring.

Increased visitation, urban development and climate change can gradually alter ecological conditions even where current performance remains comparatively strong.

KEY FINDING

Ecological conditions and protected areas currently represent a relative strength within Split's sustainability profile.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Maintain ecosystem monitoring, protect sensitive coastal and natural areas, manage visitor pressure proactively and integrate biodiversity considerations into future tourism and urban-development decisions.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- European Commission — Copernicus Land Monitoring Service
- European Environment Agency — Environmental Indicators
- Split Tourist Board — Destination Information

Full references: Section 13, References.

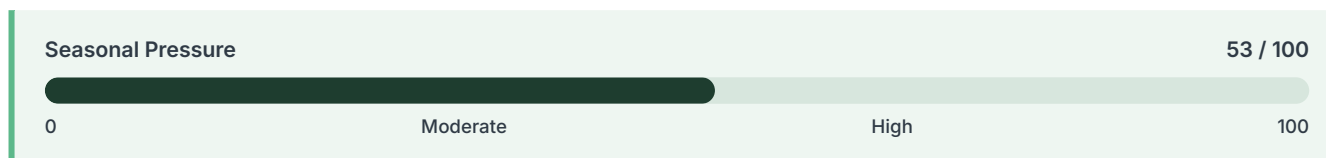


DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Socio-cultural Load

Moderate Pressure

53/100



Tourism sustainability ultimately depends on the relationship between visitors and the communities that host them.

Split records moderate Socio-cultural Load, indicating that seasonal tourism creates measurable pressure on the everyday functioning of the destination and the experience of permanent residents.

Seasonal visitor concentration can influence public-space use, housing conditions, employment patterns, congestion and the balance between residential and tourism activity.

These pressures are particularly relevant in historic urban destinations where tourism activity is concentrated within areas that remain part of everyday community life.

SEDI therefore treats socio-cultural pressure as an integral sustainability consideration rather than as a secondary consequence of tourism growth.

KEY FINDING

Seasonal visitor concentration creates measurable community pressure, but the result remains within a range where proactive destination management can materially influence future performance.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Continue monitoring resident experience, strengthen stakeholder participation, support year-round tourism distribution and ensure that tourism-development decisions consider resident quality of life alongside visitor demand.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- Croatian Bureau of Statistics (DZS) — Tourism Statistics and Population Data
- Eurostat — Tourism Statistics
- City of Split — Strategic Tourism Development Documents

Full references: Section 13, References.

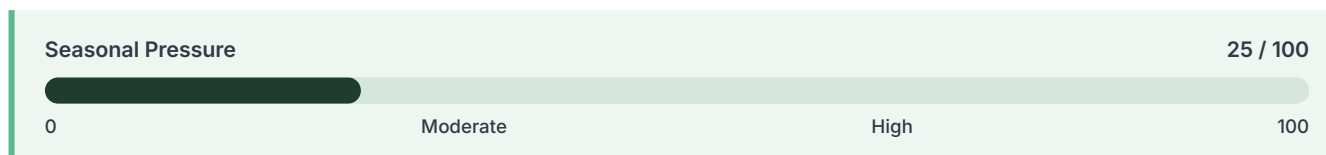


DIMENSION ASSESSMENT

Governance & Data Transparency

25/100

Low Pressure / Strong Relative Performance



Lower pressure is positive — this dimension is a relative strength.



Governance & Data Transparency represents the strongest-performing dimension within the Split pilot assessment.

The low pressure score reflects comparatively strong availability of public information, sustainability planning and institutional transparency.

These characteristics are particularly important within SEDI because effective sustainability management depends not only on environmental performance but also on a destination's ability to understand, communicate and respond to emerging pressures.

Transparent governance does not eliminate ecological debt by itself.

It does, however, significantly improve a destination's capacity to identify problems, evaluate interventions and communicate progress.

For this reason, governance represents an important resilience factor within Split's overall SEDI profile.

KEY FINDING

Governance and data transparency represent a clear strength and provide an institutional foundation from which higher-pressure areas can be addressed.

RECOMMENDED DIRECTION

Maintain transparent public reporting, expand destination-level sustainability datasets where possible and continue integrating measurable environmental and social indicators into tourism planning.

KEY EVIDENCE & REFERENCES

- UN Tourism — Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (MST) Framework
- City of Split — Strategic Tourism Development Documents
- Split Tourist Board — Destination Information

Full references: Section 13, References.

07 · Drivers of Seasonal Ecological Debt

Split's overall SEDI score of 51.8/100 does not result from uniformly elevated pressure across all six dimensions.

Instead, the assessment reveals an uneven profile in which several specific pressures contribute disproportionately to the final result.

PRIMARY PRESSURE DRIVERS

Tourism & Mobility Pressure

MOB records the highest dimension score at 70/100, making it the principal contributor to Split's seasonal ecological debt.

Seasonal Visitor Concentration

Tourism activity is heavily concentrated during peak periods, increasing temporary demand across transport, infrastructure and community systems.

Seasonal Energy Demand

ENE records 56/100, reflecting the interaction between tourism activity, electricity consumption, cooling demand and transport.

Socio-cultural Load

SOC records 53/100, demonstrating that seasonal tourism pressure extends beyond environmental resources into the everyday functioning of the destination.

AREAS REQUIRING CONTINUED MONITORING

Waste & Water Pressure

WAW records a moderate 50/100. Existing wastewater capacity is a strength, while seasonal resource demand requires continued monitoring as tourism intensity and climate-related water risks evolve.

EXISTING RESILIENCE

Land, Ecosystems & Biodiversity

36/100 — ecological conditions and protected areas represent a relative strength.

Governance & Data Transparency

25/100 — the strongest-performing dimension, providing an institutional foundation.

Key Interpretation

The assessment therefore suggests that Split does not require equal intervention across every sustainability dimension.

The greatest potential lies in addressing the specific systems responsible for the majority of seasonal pressure while protecting the strengths already contributing to destination resilience.

o8 · From Measurement to Improvement

SEDI is designed to support continuous improvement rather than simply produce a score.

For Split, the assessment suggests a three-stage direction.

Immediate Priorities

0–12 MONTHS

Priority should be placed on improving the understanding and management of peak-season mobility and visitor concentration. This includes strengthening seasonal mobility monitoring, encouraging public and low-emission transport, communicating sustainable visitor-movement options and improving the availability of tourism-specific resource-demand data.

Medium-Term Priorities

1–3 YEARS

The destination can progressively reduce seasonal ecological pressure through stronger integration of tourism demand into energy, mobility, water and waste planning. Particular opportunities include energy-efficiency measures, renewable-energy adoption, improved visitor-flow management and stronger coordination between tourism and municipal sustainability planning.

Long-Term Resilience

3+ YEARS

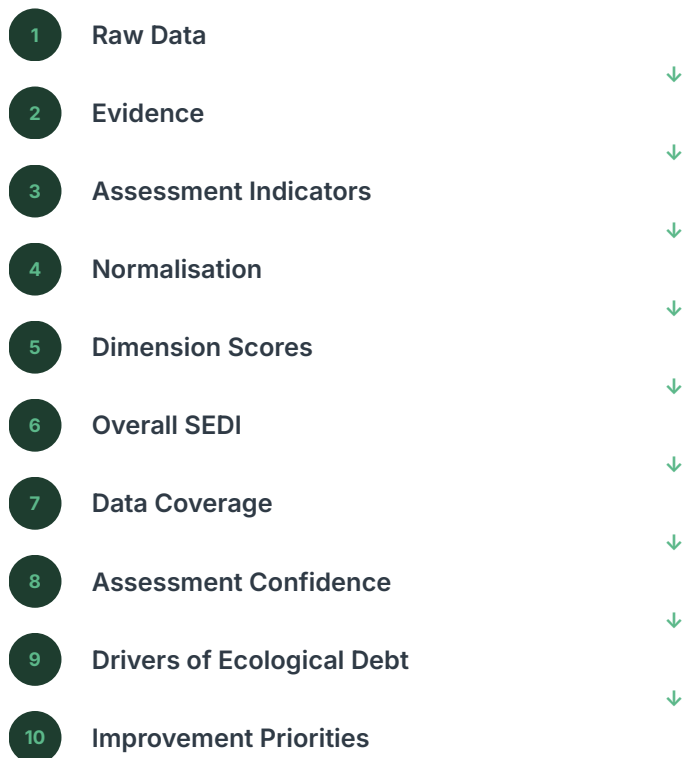
Long-term progress should focus on reducing the structural dependence of tourism activity on a narrow seasonal period. Greater year-round distribution of tourism, continued ecosystem protection, resilient infrastructure and transparent sustainability monitoring can gradually reduce ecological debt while maintaining the economic and cultural benefits associated with tourism.

CLOSING PRINCIPLE

The objective is not to eliminate tourism pressure entirely. It is to ensure that seasonal demand remains within the destination's capacity to respond sustainably.

09 • How SEDI Works

SEDI follows a traceable assessment process designed to connect evidence directly with the final result.



Each indicator is assessed using publicly available evidence where possible.

Data quality is evaluated alongside the indicator result so that the final score is not presented independently of the evidence supporting it. Where direct destination-level information is unavailable, SEDI may use a transparently documented proxy methodology. Such cases are identified within the assessment rather than being presented as equivalent to complete direct data.

SEDI communicates three complementary questions

What level of seasonal ecological pressure exists?

SEDI Score

51.80 / 100

How much of the destination could be assessed?

Data Coverage

94.44%

How reliable is the supporting evidence?

Assessment

Confidence

90.82% — Very High

10 · How to Read the SEDI Score

A SEDI score should never be interpreted in isolation.

Split's 51.8/100 indicates Moderate Ecological Debt, but the result becomes meaningful only when considered together with:

- 94.44% Data Coverage
- 90.82% Assessment Confidence
- Six Dimension Results
- Drivers of Ecological Debt
- Underlying Evidence

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE

SEDI does not ask readers to trust a score. It provides the information required to understand it.

A higher SEDI score indicates greater seasonal ecological pressure. It does not automatically mean that a destination is unsustainable. Likewise, a lower score does not mean that sustainability management is complete.

SEDI is intended to identify where pressure exists, understand what is driving it and provide a transparent baseline against which future progress can be measured.

SEDI Score	51.80
Data Coverage	94.44%
Assessment Confidence	90.82%
Drivers	Six dimensions
Evidence	Technical references

= An Understandable Assessment

11 · Data Coverage & Assessment Confidence

Transparency Beyond the Score

A sustainability score becomes substantially more useful when readers understand the evidence behind it.

For this reason, SEDI reports two additional measures alongside the final score.

DATA COVERAGE

94.44%

How much of the assessment could be completed using available evidence

ASSESSMENT CONFIDENCE

90.82%

Very High — reliability of the evidence used

Split's 94.44% coverage means that the pilot assessment represents a near-complete picture of the destination within the SEDI methodology.

Split's 90.82% confidence indicates that the pilot assessment is predominantly supported by evidence considered sufficiently reliable for destination-level interpretation.

Why Both Matter

A score without coverage can hide missing information.

A score without confidence can hide weak evidence.

SEDI therefore presents all three together:

SEDI

51.80

Coverage

94.44%

Confidence

90.82%

This allows the reader to understand not only the result, but also the strength of the evidence supporting it.

12 · Assessment Transparency Statement

This pilot assessment was developed using publicly available official statistics, recognised international datasets and transparently documented assessment methodologies.

Where destination-specific information was unavailable, proxy data were used only where an appropriate and explainable methodological relationship could be established.

The assessment achieved **94.44% data coverage** and **90.82% assessment confidence**, providing a high level of evidence completeness and reliability for the first application of the SEDI methodology.

SEDI assessments remain open to improvement when newer, more geographically precise or methodologically stronger evidence becomes available.

Updating evidence should therefore be understood as part of the methodology's continuous-improvement principle, rather than as a weakness of the assessment process.

"Transparency does not mean pretending that every dataset is perfect. It means showing the reader exactly what evidence was available, how it was used and how confident we are in the result."

13 · References

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14 · How to Cite This Report

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15 · Assessment Disclaimer

The Seasonal Ecological Debt Index (SEDI) is an evidence-based sustainability assessment framework designed to support destination understanding, planning, transparency and continuous improvement.

Assessment results depend on the availability, geographic relevance, reporting period and methodological quality of the underlying evidence.

SEDI results should therefore always be interpreted together with the reported Data Coverage, Assessment Confidence, dimension results and evidence sources.

The assessment is not intended to classify destinations as sustainable or unsustainable, nor does it constitute a regulatory determination, legal assessment or certification of destination sustainability.

Its purpose is to identify measurable seasonal pressures, recognise existing resilience and support informed discussion about opportunities for improvement.

Beyond Trends. Toward Standards.

The first SEDI pilot demonstrates that seasonal ecological pressure can be measured without reducing destination sustainability to a single unexplained number.

Split's result tells a more complete story.

It identifies pressure.

It identifies resilience.

It communicates confidence.

It shows evidence.

The Split pilot establishes a transparent baseline from which future assessments can monitor change over time and contribute to a growing evidence base for understanding seasonal ecological pressure across tourism destinations.

This is not the end of an assessment.
It is the beginning of measurement over time.

GREEN PATH ALLIANCE

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