

31 May 2023 FISHERY STATISTICS 2022

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In 2022 there were 3,875 fishing vessels authorized to operate, 19 less than in 2021. The licensed fleet in 2022 represented, relatively to the registered fleet, 50.9% in total number of vessels, 85.0% in capacity (GT) and 81.2% in power engine.

In 2022 total catches of the Portuguese fleet led to 165,801 tonnes, a decrease of 10.6% of the national fishery production. Fresh and chilled fishery caught in 2022 represented 335,542 thousand Euros reflecting practically a maintenance (+0.1%) relative to the year 2021.

The annual price of fish landed at national level raised by 16.2% in 2022, from 2.28 €/kg in 2021 to 2.65 €/kg.

In 2022, the deficit in the international trade balance of the fishery activity worsened by 312.4 million euros to 1,280.6 million euros. The coverage rate was 50.7% (-3.0 p.p., vis-à-vis 2021).

Fishery operational program, Mar2020 (2014-2020) showed, at the end of 2022, an execution of 499 million Euros, representing 75% of the total Fisheries Fund (EMFF) allocation programmed for this period.

Fishing quota for Portugal in 2022 increased by 8.2%, with a total of 178 thousand tonnes. Of the relevant species subject to catch limitations in 2022, the most significant increases occurred in the quotas for horse mackerel on the mainland coast, megrim, monkfish and cod in the traditional NAFO 3M fishing area.

The publication "Fishery Statistics 2022" is organized into 9 chapters, comprising analysis of the results and corresponding data tables. Data included are related to landings and catches of fish, market and structures, fishery activity, number of fishery workers, fish and aquaculture processing industry, international trade and fish stocks.

FISHERY POPULATION, ON THE JOB ACCIDENTS AND TRAINING

In the 2021 Census, the population employed in fishing and aquaculture was 10,834 individuals, 0.2% of the employed population in Portugal. Employment in this economic activity decreased by 17.0% compared to the 2011 Census, corresponding to 2,218 fewer individuals.

The number of registered fishermen in 2022 stood at 14,159, less 758 (-5.1%) than in 2021. From the total number of fishermen, 69.7% were registered in polyvalent fishing, followed by seine fishing (15.5%), trawl fishing (10.0%) and finally inland fresh waters (4.7%).



For pedestrian fishing activity without the help of vessels, the number of licensed persons, both gatherers of sea animals and pedestrian fishermen, increased by 1.5% when compared to 2021.

FOR-MAR carried out 581 actions of training in the Fishery and Sea sector (44 plus than is 2021), which involved 7,224 trainees, practically the same number as the previous year (-0.3%).

FISHERY STRUCTURES

In 2022 there were 3,875 fishing vessels authorized to operate, 19 less than in 2021.

The licensed fleet in 2022 represented, relatively to the registered fleet, 50.9% in total number of vessels, 85.0% in capacity (GT) and 81.2% in power engine.

There were 88 vessels which left the fleet, 13 units less vis-à-vis 2021, of which 65 were demolished.

There were 53 new entries in 2022, an increase of 5 vessels vis-à-vis 2021.

FISHERY PRODUCTS MARKET AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

Fish landings of Producer's Organizations (PO) in the Mainland decreased 14.0%, when compared to 2021, generalized trend for the main species caught: sardine (-8.9%), mackerel (-10.6%) and horse mackerel (-3.7%).

PO's were associated with 1,908 vessels in 2022 (2,059 in 2021), corresponding to 49.2% of total fishing vessels authorized to operate in Portugal.

The annual price of fish landed at national level raised by 16.2% in 2022, from 2.28 €/kg in 2021 to 2.65 €/kg.

LANDINGS AND CATCHES

In 2022 total catches of the Portuguese fleet led to 165,801 tonnes, a decrease of 10.6% of the national fishery production.

The drop of total catches was justified by less fish captured in national waters (-13.4%), since catches in foreign fishing areas were practically unchanged (+0.1%) when compared to 2021.

Fresh and chilled fishery caught in 2022 represented 335,542 thousand Euros reflecting practically a maintenance (+0.1%) relative to the year 2021.



AQUACULTURE AND SEA SALT PRODUCTION

Aquaculture production in 2021 (17,900 tons), reflected an increase of 5.3%, compared to 2020.

Sales in aquaculture created an income of 162.8 million Euros, higher than in 2020 by 62.9%.

The production of sea salt in the mainland for 2022 reached 117.7 thousand tonnes, 30.3% more than in 2021 (90.3 thousand tons).

FISH AND AQUACULTURE PROCESSING INDUSTRY

In 2021 (most recent information available) fish and aquaculture processing industry produced 258 thousand tonnes (239 thousand tonnes in 2020) of overall frozen, salted and dry and canned fish products, with sales accounting for 94% of national production, as in 2020.

In 2021 the value of sales was 1,329 million Euros, plus 9.9% than in the previous year.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Exports of Fishery products in 2022 reached 1,315.7 million euros, corresponding to an increase of 17.4% over the previous year (+22.3% in 2021). This growth follows the overall exports of goods (+23.0%; +18.3% in 2021). Compared to 2019, exports of these products increased by 20.6%.

Imports of these products increased 24.3% in 2022 (+8.5% in 2021), reaching 2,596.3 million euros. This growth was, however, less significant than in the overall national imports (+31.4%; +22.0% in 2021). Compared to 2019, the increase was 19.0%.

In 2022, the deficit in the international trade balance of the fishery activity worsened by 312.4 million euros to 1,280.6 million euros. This unfavourable development resulted essentially from a more modest increase in exports than in imports. The coverage rate was 50.7% (-3.0 p.p., vis-à-vis 2021).

FISHERY ECONOMY

Fishery operational program, Mar2020 (2014-2020) showed, at the end of 2022, an execution of 499 million Euros, representing 75% of the total Fisheries Fund (EMFF) allocation programmed for this period.

In 2020 fisheries and aquaculture accounts registered a decrease of 7.7% in value and drops of 3.4% in volume and of 4.5% in terms of price, vis-à-vis 2019.



MAIN STOCKS AND RESOURCES EXPLOITATION LEVELS

Fishing quota for Portugal in 2022 increased by 8.2%, when compared with the previous year, with a total of 178 thousand tonnes.

Of the relevant species subject to catch limitations in 2022, the most significant increases occurred in the quotas for horse mackerel on the mainland coast, megrim, monkfish and cod in the traditional NAFO 3M fishing area.



