

29th may 2026
FISHERY STATISTICS
2025

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In 2025 there were 9,358 seafarers on board in the licensed national fishing fleet, an increase of 1.9% compared with the number on board in 2024, equivalent to an additional 177 individuals. The number of licensed gatherers and pedestrian fishermen fell by 5.1%, compared with 2024.

The licensed fishing fleet (3,501 vessels), relatively to the registered fleet, accounted for 51.6% of the total number of vessels (53.1% in 2024), 84.2% of the total capacity (GT) (-3.6 p.p. compared to 2024) and 79.6% of the power engine (81.9% in 2024).

In 2025, 61 vessels left the fleet, 24 fewer than in the previous year (-28.2%). There were 36 new registrations in 2025, i.e. 11 fewer vessels' entries (-23.4%) than in 2024.

In 2025, total catches of the Portuguese fleet led to 166,872 tonnes of fish, representing an increase of 0.7% of the national fishery production. The overall increase in catch volume resulted from the growth in foreign fishing areas (+10.9%), where 42,153 tonnes were caught, whilst catches in national waters fell by 2.4%.

Fresh and chilled fishery caught generated a revenue of 344,585 thousand Euros, an increase of 2.0% compared to 2024, and the average annual price of fresh or chilled fish rose by 4.3%, from €2.62/kg to €2.73/kg in 2025.

In 2025, the trade deficit of the fishery activity widened by 170.6 million Euros, reaching 1,430.1 million Euros. This development resulted from an increase in imports that exceeded the rise in exports, leading to a reduction in the coverage rate to 51.9% (-1.5 p.p. compared to 2024).

Fishery operational program Mar2030 showed, at the end of 2025, an execution rate of 18.9% of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) allocation.

Fishing quota for Portugal in 2025 fell by around 38%, although the utilisation rate reached 47%, an increase of 21.3 p.p. compared with 2024. Of the relevant species subject to catch limits in 2025, the most significant reductions occurred for horse mackerel, red seabream, blue whiting and Atlantic mackerel.



The publication “Fishery Statistics 2025” 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, fishery population, fish and aquaculture processing industry, international trade and fish stocks.

FISHERY POPULATION, ON THE JOB ACCIDENTS AND TRAINING

In 2025 there were 9,358 seafarers on board in the licensed national fishing fleet, an increase of 1.9% compared with the number on board in 2024, equivalent to an additional 177 individuals.

For pedestrian fishing activity without the help of vessels, the number of licensed persons, both gatherers and pedestrian fishermen, fell by 5.1%, compared with 2024.

FOR-MAR carried out 806 actions of training in the Fishery and Sea sector (76 more than in 2024), involving 10,386 trainees, an increase of 5.1% compared with the previous year.

FISHERY STRUCTURES

In 2025 there were 3,501 fishing vessels authorized to operate, 113 fewer than in 2024.

The licensed fleet in 2025, relatively to the registered fleet, accounted for 51.6% of the total number of vessels (53.1% in 2024), 84.2% of the total capacity (GT) (-3.6 p.p. compared to 2024) and 79.6% of the power engine (81.9% in 2024).

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FISHERY PRODUCTS MARKET AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

Fish landings by Producer's Organizations (PO) in 2025 remained stable (+0.1%) compared with 2024, with the decline in mackerel and horse mackerel catches being offset by an increase in sardine catches and those of other species.

POs had 1,831 vessels in 2025 (3 fewer than in 2024), accounting for 52.3% of the total number of licensed vessels in Portugal (50.7% in 2024).

The average annual price of fresh or chilled fish landed in 2025 rose by 4.3%, from €2.62/kg to €2.73/kg.



LANDINGS AND CATCHES

In 2025, total catches of the Portuguese fleet led to 166,872 tonnes of fish, representing an increase of 0.7% of the national fishery production.

The overall increase in catch volume resulted from the growth in foreign fishing areas (+10.9%), where 42,153 tonnes were caught, whilst catches in national waters fell by 2.4%.

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AQUACULTURE AND SEA SALT PRODUCTION

Aquaculture production in 2024 (19,826 tonnes) fell by 5.0% compared with 2023.

Sales in aquaculture created an income of 186.1 million Euros, representing a decrease of 9.6% compared with 2023.

In 2025, sea salt production in the mainland stood at 103.8 thousand tonnes, an increase of 9.9%, compared to the 94.5 thousand tonnes produced in 2024.

FISH AND AQUACULTURE PROCESSING INDUSTRY

In 2024 fish and aquaculture processing industry produced 241 thousand tonnes of overall frozen, salted and dry and canned fish products, a decrease of 8.1% vis-à-vis-2023.

In 2024 the value of sales was 1,633 million Euros, 4.5% less than in the previous year.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

In 2025, exports of 'Fishery products or products related to this activity' reached 1,544.3 million Euros (+6.7% compared with the previous year; +5.6% in 2024), with a growth rate higher than that of total goods exports (+0.6%).

Imports grew by 9.9% in 2025 compared with the previous year (+5.1% in 2024), reaching 2,974.4 million Euros, an increase that exceeded the one observed for total national imports (+4.0%).

In 2025, the trade deficit of the fishery activity widened by 170.6 million Euros, reaching 1,430.1 million Euros. This development resulted from an increase in imports that exceeded the rise in exports, leading to a reduction in the coverage rate to 51.9% (-1.5 p.p. compared to 2024).



FISHERY ECONOMY

Fishery operational program Mar2030 showed, at the end of 2025, an execution rate of 18.9% of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) allocation.

Fisheries and aquaculture accounts in 2023 fell by 8.0% in value terms compared with 2022, due to a combination of a fall in prices (-2.3%) and a decline in volume (-5.9%).

MAIN STOCKS AND RESOURCES EXPLOITATION LEVELS

Fishing quota for Portugal in 2025 fell by around 38%, although the utilisation rate reached 47%, an increase of 21.3 p.p. compared with 2024.

Of the relevant species subject to catch limits in 2025, the most significant reductions occurred for horse mackerel, red seabream, blue whiting and Atlantic mackerel.

2025

FISHERY POPULATION ON THE JOB ACCIDENTS AND TRAINING

LICENSED PEDESTRIAN FISHERMEN AND GATHERERS



1 577

SEA FARERS ON BOARD



9 358

VICTIMS OF ON THE JOB ACCIDENTS



645

ENROLLED IN TRAINING ACTIONS



10 386

REGISTERED FLEET

NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS



6 780

CAPACITY (GT)



83 495

POWER ENGINE (KW)



341 206

CATCHES OF FRESH AND CHILLED FISHERY

QUANTITY (tonnes)

119 570

VALUE (thousand euros)

344 585

PRICE OF FISH LANDED



€/ Kg

2,73

SEA SALT PRODUCTION (MAINLAND)

NUMBER OF SALT FLATS WITH PRODUCTION

49

QUANTITY (tonnes)

103 757

INTERNATIONAL TRADE BALANCE

TRADE BALANCE (million euros)

-1 430

COVERAGE RATE (%)

51,9

NATIONAL FISHING QUOTA

INITIAL QUOTA (thousand tonnes)

139

UTILIZATION RATE (%)

47

2025