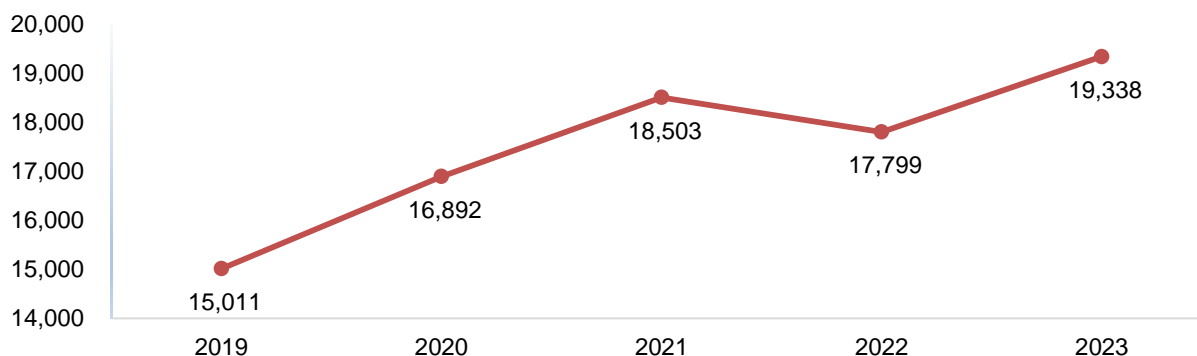


Fishery Statistics 2023

Tirana, 25 June 2024: In 2023, catches in all fish categories was 19,338 tonnes from 17,799 tonnes in 2022, decreasing by 8.65 %.

Fig. 1 Fish catches in total (tonnes)

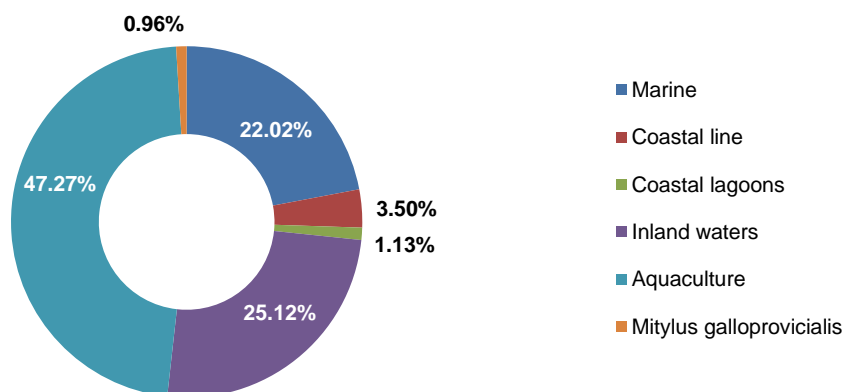


Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

Catches structure by water categories

The fishing water categories include marine, brackish waters, lagoons, inland waters, aquaculture, and mollusks. Among these categories, the highest percentages of fish catches are observed in "Aquaculture" accounting for 47.27 % and "Marine" fishing contributing 25.12 % of the total catches. "Inland waters" follow closely with 22.02 % of the overall catches.

Fig. 2 Catches structure by water categories (%)



Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

For release 27/06/2024

Continues

Annual catch changes by water category

In 2023, the category "Inland waters" faced the largest increase, by 43.39 % compared to the previous year, followed by the catches of the category of "Aquaculture" by 14.46 %. The aquatic category "Mollusks" marked a decrease compared to one year ago, about 79.83 %.

Tab.1 Catches by water category (Tonnes)

Description	2021	2022	2023	
Fishing categories				
I	Total Fishing (1+2+3+4)	9.842	8.891	10.011
1	Marine	5.192	4.319	4.259
2	Coastal line	832	984	676
3	Coastal lagoons	275	200	218
4	Inland waters	3.544	3.388	4.858
II	Aquaculture	8.068	7.986	9.141
III	Mollusks	593	922	186
Total Fish caught (I + II +III)		18.503	17.799	19.338

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

Catches by major species:

In 2023, the "Deep-water rose shrimp" species constituted the largest percentage of catches from marine, coastal line, and coastal lagoon waters, accounting for 19.42 % of the total catches. It was followed by the "European hake" with 15.17 % and the "European pilchard" with 11.51 %. In terms of catches in inland waters, the "Crucian carp" had the highest percentage at 25.77 %, followed by the "Common carp" with 22.07 % and the "Roaches nei" with 14.99 %.

Tab.2 Catches by major species and water categories

Marine, coastal line, coastal lagoon species	Quantity in tonnes
Deep-water rose shrimp	999
European anchovy	485
European hake	780
European pilchard	592
Surmullets nei	292
Common squids nei	143
Norway lobster	89
Atlantic bluefin tuna	264
Common octopus	146
Eledone spp.	93
Other species	1260
Inland water species	Quantity in tonnes
Crucian carp	1252
Roaches nei	728
Common carp	1072
Mulletts nei	472
Silver carp	325
European perch	294
Other species	715

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

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Marine fleets:

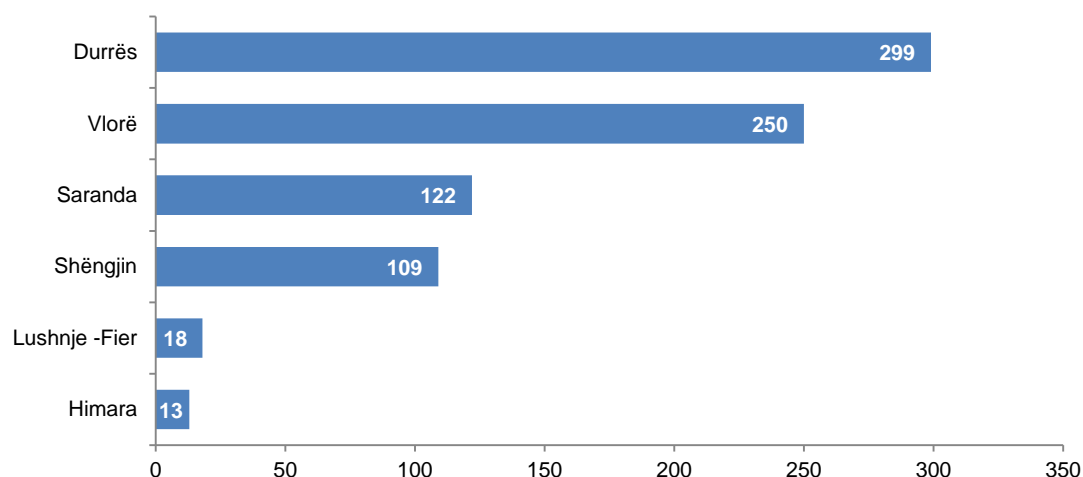
In 2023, there are 811 licensed fishing vessels. The fleet operates almost entirely in Geographic Sub-Area (NSR) 18 (South Adriatic). There was an increase in the number of registered fishing entities, with 27 new entities being recorded compared to the previous year.

Marine fleets by fishing ports:

In 2023, the port with the largest number of licensed vessels was the port of Durrës, with 36.87 % of the total fleet. The port of Vlora has 30.83 % of the total fleet number, followed by the port of Saranda with 15.04 %.

The fishing ports with the smallest percentage of licensed fishing subjects are those of Lushnje-Fier with 2.22 % and Himara with 1.60 %.

Fig. 3 Marine fleet distribution by fishing ports (%)



Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

Marine fleet by vessel type:

The Albanian fishing fleet based on the purpose of the vessel is divided into six different types of fishing vessels. The majority of our fleet is made up of Gill netters vessels with 71.64% of the fleet and Trawlers with 24.54%, which are used for pelagic fishing at different depths, between the surface and the bottom. The rest are multipurpose vessels and ships for other purposes.

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Tab. 3 Marine fleet by vessel type

Description	2021	2022	2023
Distribution of Vessels by Vessel Type			
Trawlers	194	196	199
Seiners	-	-	-
Purse seiners	10	10	10
Dredgers	5	5	5
Gill netters	525	556	581
Multipurpose vessels	18	17	16
Total	752	784	811

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

Production of hatcheries and nurseries (thousand juveniles)

There is a particular emphasis on the production of species like Rainbow Trout, Koran, and Carp, as efforts are being made to promote biodiversity conservation. In 2023, a significant contribution was made by producing and releasing 3.30 million juveniles Rainbow Trout, 1.80 million juvenile Ohrid Trout, and 1.15 million juvenile Common Carp into the wild.

Tab. 4 Production of hatcheries and nurseries (million juveniles)

Species	2021	2022	2023
Ohrid Trout	1.4	1.6	1.8
Common Carp	1.0	1.6	1.2
Silver Carp	1.3	0.5	0.4
Big Head	0.2	0.2	0.1
White Amur	0.5	0.2	0.2
Rudd	0.1	0.0	0.0
Rainbow trout	0.0	9.0	3.3

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Calculations INSTAT

Methodology

Fisheries statistics for 2023, rely on administrative information, collected by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Data collection, processing and publication is based on domestic legislation as well as applying classifications and definitions according to the relevant EU regulations:

- Law No.17/2018 on “Official Statistics”
- Law No. 30/2022 "On the approval of the Official Statistics National Program 2022 - 2026";
- Regulation (EC) No. 216/2009 on “Catch statistics by Member States fishing in certain areas other than those of the North Atlantic”
- Regulation (EC) No. 762/2008 on “Aquaculture Statistics”

Fisheries and aquaculture statistical data are collected by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development based on the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) methodology based on fishing fleet segments, collection of logbooks from ships, interviews with aquaculture operators, etc. Data on fish catching are collected by water categories and at country level.

Main variables:

- *Fish catch by water categories:*
 - a. Marine,
 - b. Coastal line,
 - c. Coastal lagoons,
 - d. Inland waters,
 - e. Aquaculture
- *Catches by major species*
 - a. European anchovy
 - b. Deep-water rose shrimp
 - c. European hake
 - d. European pilchard
 - e. Etc.
- *Marine fleets by fishing ports:*
 - a. Durrës
 - b. Vlorë
 - c. Saranda
 - d. Shëngjin
 - e. Himara
 - f. Lushnje – Fier

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- *Marine fleet by vessel type:*
 - a. Trawlers
 - b. Seiners
 - c. Purse seiners
 - d. Dredgers
 - e. Gill netters
 - f. Multipurpose vessels

Definitions:**Fishing**

Fish catch data (fish and aquaculture production) are collected by water categories.

The aquatic fisheries categories are: marine fishing, brackish waters, lagoons, inland waters, aquaculture and mollusks.

Maritime Fishing: Includes all data on fishing fleet activity and production capacity of different fishing areas.

Fishing capacity

The total quantity of fish catch in one fishing area, the catches is sub-divided by the area in which they were taken.

Catches

The catches are sub-divided by the area, in which they were taken.

Aquaculture

It is defined as the farming of aquatic organisms, Include fish, mollusks, crustaceans and aquatic plants,

Fleet

Is total number of fishing vessel which uses fixed resources, The fleet operates almost entirely in Geographic Sub-Area (NSR) 18 (South Adriatic)

Depending on the purpose of the vessel, the Albanian fishery navy is divided into six different types of fishing vessels:

Trawlers - Trawling is the most important and one of the most efficient fishing methods in the world, This method is performed as in shallow waters up to a depth of 2000 m, Trawlers are used for bottom and pelagic fishing, depending on the shape of the used nets, The trawling process is carried out for a certain period of time and for a certain distance until the net is pulled up and emptied, This fishing gear is mainly used to fish demersal fish, However these tools can also be used for pelagic fishing at different depths, between the surface and the bottom, These vessels are provided with engines of sufficient power to tow the gear at the appropriate trawling speed

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Seiners - These vessels use surrounding and seine nets and comprise a large group appearing in all sizes, ranging from open boats, usually at least 10 m in length, to ocean going vessels, Seiners are normally used to catch aggregating pelagic species but there are special applications that target demersal species.

Purse seiners - These vessels comprise a large group appearing in all sizes ranging from small boat to open ocean going vessels, Purse seiners are the most important and most effective vessels to catch aggregating species near the surface, The vessel surrounds the shoal with a deep curtain of netting and then the bottom of the net is pursed (closed) underneath the shoal by hauling a wire which runs from the vessel through rings on the bottom of the net and back to the vessel, Searching for shoals and assessing the size and direction of movement of it are the most important part of the fishing operation.

Dredgers- These are gears which are dragged along the bottom to catch shellfish, They consist of a metal frame to which a holding bag constructed of metal rings or meshes is attached, Dredges can be trawled by boat or by hand, Dredges are gears used near the coast and fish in close contact with the bottom.

Gill netters- The size of the vessels varies depending on the fishing area, Gillnets can be operated from boats on inland waters and inshore, decked small vessels in coastal waters and medium sized vessels fishing offshore, In coastal waters it is very common that gillnetting is used as a second fishing method according to fishing season and targeted species.

Multipurpose vessels- These are vessels which are equipped for alternative use of two or more different fishing gear without major modifications to the vessels.

This data is subject to review, for more information refer to:

http://www.instat.gov.al/media/2940/revision_policy_2016.pdf