



FAO Global Capture Production database updated to 2015

Summary information

Fisheries and Aquaculture Department

Table 1. World capture production in 2014 and 2015

	2014	2015	Variation
	million tonnes	million tonnes	
<i>Inland capture</i>	11.3	11.5	1.1%
Marine capture (excluding anchoveta)	76.7	76.9	0.2%
Anchoveta	3.1	4.3	37.3%
<i>Marine capture</i>	79.8	81.2	1.7%
World total	91.1	92.6	1.6%

Some notes on major changes in the database, this year all on Asian countries. Although in capture fisheries their share is not as predominant as in aquaculture (about 90% of the global production), in 2015 Asian countries produced 53% of global marine catches and 66% of inland catches.

- Reduction of marine catches by China is expected to start with 2016 data but 2015 still marked an increase of 0.5 million tonnes. China reported about 2.2 million tonnes as “Distant water fishery” but details on species and fishing area are provided only for those catches marketed in China (about 45% of “Distant water” catches). In absence of information, the remaining 1.2 million tonnes are entered in the FAO database under “Marine fishes nei” in area “61-Northwest Pacific”, affecting the trend of that area. On the other hand, this discloses that a great quantity of supposedly unreported distant water catches by China are already in the FAO database, although a part of them is not under the correct fishing area.a.
- Marine and inland catches by Myanmar for the last ten years (2006-2015) have been significantly revised downward. Data for this country have been questioned by FAO since 2009 when, even after the cyclone *Nargis* (2008) which caused the worst natural disaster in the recorded history of Myanmar, the average annual increase of reported marine catches remained constant at about 10% per year. Before the revision Myanmar ranked 9th as marine capture producer and 2nd for inland capture, while now it ranks 18th and 4th respectively.
- Tuna catches by the Philippines have been revised after a joint study on catch discrepancies by FAO and tuna RFMOs revealed that data reported to FAO also included catches by foreign vessels landed in the Philippines.
- Viet Nam submitted a decreasing revision of shrimp catches in both marine and inland waters.

Table 2. Marine capture production: major producer countries

Country	2014 tonnes	2015 tonnes	Variation 2014-2015
China	14,811,390	15,314,000	3.4%
Indonesia	6,016,525	6,028,260	0.2%
United States of America	4,954,467	5,019,399	1.3%
Peru	3,548,689	4,786,551	34.9%
Russian Federation	4,004,242	4,172,073	4.2%
India	3,727,088	3,497,284	-6.2%
Japan	3,610,892	3,427,300	-5.1%
Viet Nam	2,513,833	2,607,214	3.7%
Norway	2,301,376	2,293,290	-0.4%
Philippines	2,032,763	1,948,136	-4.2%
Chile	2,175,486	1,786,633	-17.9%
Korea, Republic of	1,727,329	1,639,860	-5.1%
Thailand	1,488,280	1,496,450	0.5%
Malaysia	1,458,126	1,486,050	1.9%
Morocco	1,350,147	1,349,637	0.0%
Iceland	1,076,558	1,317,148	22.3%
Mexico	1,396,176	1,315,787	-5.8%
Myanmar	1,118,020 F	1,090,060 F	-2.5%
Taiwan (Province of China)	1,068,381	987,767	-7.5%
Spain	1,055,496	967,240	-8.4%
Denmark	745,019	868,892	16.6%
Canada	835,196	823,155	-1.4%
Argentina	815,355	795,415	-2.4%
Total 23 major countries	63,830,834	65,017,601	1.9%
Total other 172 countries	15,973,728	16,147,084	1.1%
World total	79,804,562	81,164,685	1.7%
Share 23 major countries	80.0%	80.1%	

F = FAO estimate

Table 3. Marine capture production: major species and genera

Scientific name	FAO English name	2014 tonnes	2015 tonnes	Variation 2014-15
<i>Engraulis ringens</i>	Anchoveta (=Peruvian anchovy)	3,140,029	4,310,015	37.3%
<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>	Alaska Pollock (=Walleye poll.)	3,245,082	3,372,503	3.9%
<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Skipjack tuna	2,985,914	2,822,012	-5.5%
<i>Sardinella</i> spp*	Sardinellas nei	2,530,168	2,245,179	-11.3%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Atlantic herring	1,630,629	1,507,586	-7.5%
<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Pacific chub mackerel	1,397,453	1,492,495	6.8%
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting (=Poutassou)	1,160,884	1,414,047	21.8%
<i>Decapterus</i> spp*	Scads nei	1,451,056	1,411,567	-2.7%
<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Yellowfin tuna	1,347,317	1,359,191	0.9%
<i>Engraulis japonicus</i>	Japanese anchovy	1,395,807	1,329,273	-4.8%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Atlantic cod	1,374,279	1,304,433	-5.1%
<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i>	Largehead hairtail	1,259,344	1,265,857	0.5%
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Atlantic mackerel	1,420,763	1,243,534	-12.5%
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	European pilchard (=Sardine)	1,207,802	1,174,611	-2.7%
<i>Illex argentinus</i>	Argentine shortfin squid	862,867	1,011,375	17.2%
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>	Jumbo flying squid	1,161,690	1,003,774	-13.6%
<i>Scomberomorus</i> spp*	Seerfishes nei	936,432	949,985	1.4%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	European sprat	494,607	677,029	36.9%
<i>Nemipterus</i> spp*	Threadfin breams nei	654,312	647,881	-1.0%
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	282,933	631,997	123.4%
<i>Portunus trituberculatus</i>	Gazami crab	605,629	560,811	-7.4%
<i>Acetes japonicus</i>	Akiami paste shrimp	556,316	543,992	-2.2%
<i>Brevoortia patronus</i>	Gulf menhaden	392,285	536,129	36.7%
<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>	Indian mackerel	506,380	506,668	0.1%
<i>Sardinops melanostictus</i>	Japanese pilchard	347,090	492,675	41.9%
Total 25 major species and genera		32,347,068	33,814,619	4.5%
Total other 1627 species items		47,457,494	47,350,066	-0.2%
World total		79,804,562	81,164,685	1.7%
Share 25 major species and genera		40.5%	41.7%	

*Catches for single species have been added to those reported for the genus when genus' catches are at least one third of the total for the whole genus.

- Following a taxonomic split that became well consolidated among people dealing with fishery matters, catches in Atlantic areas under “*Scomber japonicus*-Pacific chub mackerel” have been moved to “*Scomber colias*-Atlantic chub mackerel”.

Table 4. Capture production: major fishing areas

Fishing area code	Fishing area name	2014 tonnes	2015 tonnes	Variation 2014-2015
01	Africa - Inland waters	2,874,913	2,860,131	-0.5%
02	America, North - Inland waters	182,553	208,033	14.0%
03	America, South - Inland waters	364,081	362,482	-0.4%
04	Asia - Inland waters	7,499,114	7,582,037	1.1%
05	Europe - Inland waters ¹	397,847	435,062	9.4%
06	Oceania - Inland waters	18,302	18,030	-1.5%
21	Atlantic, Northwest	1,841,777	1,842,608	0.0%
27	Atlantic, Northeast	8,655,961	9,137,549	5.6%
31	Atlantic, Western Central	1,171,608	1,412,556	20.6%
34	Atlantic, Eastern Central	4,420,711	4,342,492	-1.8%
37	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1,112,901	1,312,920	18.0%
41	Atlantic, Southwest	2,419,529	2,427,725	0.3%
47	Atlantic, Southeast	1,564,481	1,680,827	7.4%
51	Indian Ocean, Western	4,795,993	4,659,209	-2.9%
57	Indian Ocean, Eastern	6,496,545	6,358,707	-2.1%
61	Pacific, Northwest	21,949,674	22,050,596	0.5%
67	Pacific, Northeast	3,148,706	3,164,604	0.5%
71	Pacific, Western Central	12,547,195	12,581,999	0.3%
77	Pacific, Eastern Central	1,903,802	1,695,331	-11.0%
81	Pacific, Southwest	575,152	550,933	-4.2%
87	Pacific, Southeast	6,888,218	7,702,987	11.8%
18,48,58,88	Arctic and Antarctic areas	312,309	243,642	-22.0%
World total		91,141,372	92,630,460	1.6%

¹Includes Russian Federation.

Table 5. Inland waters capture production: major producer countries

Country	2014 tonnes	2015 tonnes	Variation 2014-2015
China	2,295,157	2,277,299	-0.8%
India	1,255,000	1,346,104	7.3%
Bangladesh	995,805	1,023,991	2.8%
Myanmar	852,530 F	863,450 F	1.3%
Cambodia	505,005	487,905	-3.4%
Indonesia	420,190	457,060	8.8%
Uganda	461,196	396,205	-14.1%
Nigeria	354,466	337,874	-4.7%
Tanzania, United Rep. of	278,933	309,924	11.1%
Russian Federation	254,813	285,065	11.9%
Egypt	236,992	241,179	1.8%
Congo, Dem. Rep. of the	225,608	227,700	0.9%
Brazil	235,527	225,000 F	-4.5%
Philippines	213,536	203,366	-4.8%
Thailand	181,755	196,600	8.2%
Kenya	159,212	156,468	-1.7%
Mexico	123,688	151,416	22.4%
Total 17 major countries	9,049,413	9,186,606	1.5%
Total other 134 countries	2,287,397	2,279,169	-0.4%
World total	11,336,810	11,465,775	1.1%
Share 17 major countries	79.8%	80.1%	

F = FAO estimate

To access the database: www.fao.org/fishery/statistics/en

To inquiry: Fish-Statistics-Inquiries@fao.org

Citation: FAO, 2017. FAO Global Capture Production database updated to 2015 - Summary information.