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Source of information
- Imagery for continents and oceans reproduced from GEBCO.  www.gebco.net

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Part I Statistics and main indicators

Part I of the Fishery and Aquaculture Country Profile is compiled using the most up-to-date information available from the FAO Country briefs and Statistics programmes at the time of publication. The Country Brief and the FAO Fisheries Statistics provided in Part I may, however, have been prepared at different times, which would explain any inconsistencies.

Country brief

Prepared: August 2019

Fisheries are important to the Republic of Sierra Leone, as these contribute to food security and export earnings. Fisheries contributed 9.1 percent of the national GDP in 2010.

Capture production in 2017 is estimated at 202100 tonnes, of which 2100 tonnes are from inland water production. The large increase of marine capture production since 2004 is the consequence of a new frame survey which produced revised raising factors for artisanal fisheries. Waters in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) are also exploited by foreign fleets through fisheries agreements with the Sierra Leone government.

The industrial sector operates mainly from the capital city, Freetown. It consists of an estiated total of 138 decked vessels and includes trawlers or shrimpers which produce fish for the local market but also produce
high-priced export products such as shrimp, cuttlefish, spiny lobster and demersal finfish. A significant portion of the fleet is made up of foreign vessels operating under licence agreements as well as joint-venture arrangements. These vessels exploit pelagic as well as demersal stocks. Artisanal fishing activities are carried out by an estimated 7,395 canoes (2017) and employing about 44,000 fishers all along the coast (2017). The artisanal marine fisheries sector produces about 70 percent of fish consumed on the domestic market.

Inland fisheries are found in rivers, lakes, flood plains and swamps. Inland fishing is mostly undertaken at subsistence level with involvement about 27,000 fishers.

Introduced in the 1970s with fish farming and oyster culture, aquaculture has not well developed despite repeated efforts. Annual production of aquaculture is estimated at 85 tonnes in recent years from about 2,500 small family fish ponds.

In 2017 exports of fish and fishery products were valued at USD 10.4 million and imports at USD 2.8 million. Annual per capita consumption of fish was estimated at 26.6 kg in 2016 - among the highest in the continent.

### Membership in Regional Fishery Bodies
- Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA)
- Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)
- Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation Among African States Bordering the Atlantic (COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO)
- Subregional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)

### General geographic and economic indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country area</td>
<td>72,300 km²</td>
<td>FAOSTAT. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land area</td>
<td>72,180 km²</td>
<td>FAOSTAT. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland water area</td>
<td>120 km²</td>
<td>Computed. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population - Est. &amp; Proj.</td>
<td>7,044 millions</td>
<td>FAOSTAT. 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) area</td>
<td>161,275 km²</td>
<td>VLIZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP (current US$)</td>
<td>4,085 millions</td>
<td>World Bank. 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita (current US$)</td>
<td>533.99 US$</td>
<td>World Bank. 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added</td>
<td>58.93 % of GDP</td>
<td>World Bank. 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FAO Fisheries statistics

**The Profile**

Updated 2019

FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
This country profile provides statistics and indicators produced through FAO’s Statistics programmes, supplemented with information derived from national and other sources and valid at the time of compilation.

Full text of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Country Profile available at
/fishery/docs/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI_CP_SL.pdf

Additional information

FAO Thematic data bases

- FAO Country Profile
- Marine Resources reports (FIRMS)
  - All resources - Southern Areas of the Eastern Central Atlantic (FAO Statistical Area 34)
  - Blue shark - North Atlantic
  - Bobo croaker - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
  - Bonga shad - Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia
  - Bonga shad - Southern Area of Eastern Central Atlantic
  - Caramote prawn - Guinea Bissau
  - Common octopus - Guinea-Bissau
  - Common octopus - Liberia
  - Cunene horse mackerel - Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia
  - Cuttlefishes - Guinea
  - Cuttlefishes - Guinea-Bissau
  - Cuttlefish - Sierra Leone and Liberia
  - Deep-water rose shrimp - Guinea-Bissau
  - European anchovy - Southern Area of Eastern Central Atlantic
  - Grunts (Pomadasys spp) - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
  - Horse mackerel and other carangids - Southern Area of Eastern Central Atlantic
  - Lesser African threadfin - Guinea
  - Lesser African threadfin - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
  - Lesser African threadfin - Liberia
  - Madeiran sardinella and Round sardinella - Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia
  - Madeiran sardinella - Guinea
  - Madeiran sardinella - Guinea Bissau
  - Madeiran sardinella - Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia
  - Marine resources - Northern Area of the Eastern Central Atlantic
  - Penaeus shrimps - Sierra Leone
  - Red pandora, Seabream - Guinea
  - Round sardinella - Guinea
  - Round sardinella - Guinea Bissau
  - Round Sardinella - Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia
  - Sardinellas - Sierra Leone
  - Scads - Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia
  - Seabreams - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
  - Sea catfishes (Arius spp) - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
- Shortfin mako - North Atlantic
- Shortfin mako - South Atlantic
- Sompat grunt - Guinea
- Southern pink shrimp - Guinea
- Southern pink shrimp - Guinea-Bissau
- Southern pink shrimp - Liberia
- Tonguesole - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
- Tonguesole - Guinea
- West African croakers - Guinea
- West African croakers - Guinea-Bissau and Guinea
- West African croakers - Liberia

- Fishery reports (FIRMS)
  - Spain: Freezer bottom trawl shrimp fishery - Guinea Bissau waters: 2011
  - Spain: Freezer bottom trawl shrimp fishery - Guinean waters: 2011
  - Spain: Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinea Bissau waters: 2011
  - Spain: Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinean waters: 2011
  - World: Global Tuna Fisheries: 2009

- FAOLEX legislative database
- Database on Introductions of Aquatic Species
- Regional Fishery Bodies (RFB)
  - Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA)
  - Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)
  - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
  - International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
  - Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation Among African States Bordering the Atlantic (COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO)
  - Subregional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)

- FAO Fishing Vessels Finder (FVF)

Publications

- List of relevant FAO publications

Meetings & News archive

- Meetings archive
- News archive