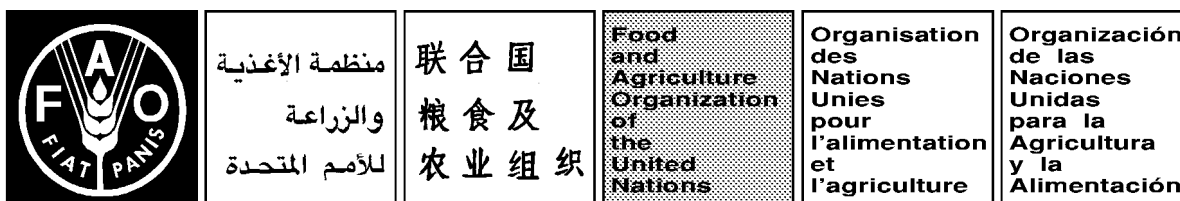


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FAO CAPTURE FISHERY STATISTICS FOR THE CIFA REGION (FAO FISHING AREA 01: AFRICA – INLAND WATERS)

1. According to FAO Statistics (Table 1), based on data reported to FAO by official national correspondents and on FAO estimates for missing data, total annual capture fishery production in the CIFA area (African inland waters) has remained fairly stable at around 1.9 million tonnes in the last three years (1996-98). Five major producer countries (i.e. Tanzania, Egypt, Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Kenya) account for about 56% of the total inland capture fishery production of the continent.
2. For the 1998 statistics, 6% of the total capture production had to be estimated by FAO ("F" symbol in Table 1) as no information was provided by several countries through the FAO statistical inquiry or other means. However, although this percentage had a slight increase in respect to previous years, the fraction of catches reported to FAO had a significant improvement, compared to the 1980s when the percentage of estimates was much higher (see Table 2). The remarkable drop in estimates between 1988 and 1992 was due to some countries with constant catches (e.g. Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria) reporting their catches to FAO in that period.
3. Despite the high number of countries supplying official fisheries statistical data, the breakdown by species of reported capture statistics continues to be very poor. In fact, about 45% of the total production of CIFA countries is classified with the generic term of "Freshwater fishes nei" which includes all inland fishes without any distinction. Only about one third of the total capture production is reported at the species level (Table 3). This lack of detailed information on the inland capture fishery statistics in the area is an obvious constraint when management decisions have to be taken.

**Table 1. FAO capture fishery statistics (1996-98) for the CIFA region
(FAO Fishing Area 01: Africa – Inland waters)**

Country	1996 (mt)	% on 1996 total	1997 (mt)	% on 1997 total	1998 (mt)	% on 1998 total
Algeria	0		0		0	
Angola	6,000	0.3%	6,000	0.3%	6,000	0.3%
Benin	34,193 F	1.8%	32,871 F	1.7%	32,792 F	1.7%
Botswana	2,100 F	0.1%	2,000 F	0.1%	2,000 F	0.1%
Burkina Faso	8,000	0.4%	8,000	0.4%	8,335	0.4%
Burundi	3,041	0.2%	20,296	1.0%	32,039	1.6%
Cameroon	28,500 F	1.5%	30,000 F	1.5%	32,000 F	1.6%
Cape Verde	0		0		0	
Cent Afr Rep	12,650 F	0.7%	12,500 F	0.6%	13,000 F	0.7%
Chad	100,000	5.2%	85,000	4.3%	84,000	4.3%
Comoros	0		0		0	
Congo Dem R	159,037	8.3%	158,367	8.0%	174,087	8.8%
Congo Rep	25,872	1.4%	18,987	1.0%	20,000 F	1.0%
Côte d'Ivoire	12,000	0.6%	12,032	0.6%	12,000 F	0.6%
Djibouti	0		0		0	
Egypt	230,660	12.1%	246,070	12.5%	253,020	12.9%
Eq Guinea	900	0.0%	850	0.0%	970	0.0%
Eritrea	0		0		0	
Ethiopia	8,770	0.5%	10,370	0.5%	14,000	0.7%
Gabon	9,433	0.5%	9,441	0.5%	9,000	0.5%
Gambia	2,500	0.1%	2,500	0.1%	2,500	0.1%
Ghana	73,580	3.9%	70,000	3.6%	74,500	3.8%
Guinea	2,780	0.1%	3,600	0.2%	4,000	0.2%
Guinea-Bissau	250 F	0.0%	250 F	0.0%	200 F	0.0%
Kenya	174,692	9.2%	154,955	7.9%	165,992	8.4%
Lesotho	28 F	0.0%	30 F	0.0%	30 F	0.0%
Liberia	4,000	0.2%	4,000	0.2%	4,000	0.2%
Libya	0		0		0	
Madagascar	30,000	1.6%	30,000	1.5%	30,000	1.5%
Malawi	63,569	3.3%	56,340	2.9%	41,111	2.1%
Mali	111,910	5.9%	99,550	5.1%	98,000	5.0%
Mauritania	7,000 F	0.4%	6,000 F	0.3%	6,000 F	0.3%
Mauritius	0		0		0	
Morocco	1,500	0.1%	2,100	0.1%	1,703	0.1%
Mozambique	7,510	0.4%	11,505	0.6%	8,970	0.5%
Namibia	1,195	0.1%	1,495	0.1%	1,495	0.1%
Niger	4,156	0.2%	6,328	0.3%	7,001	0.4%
Nigeria	89,521	4.7%	110,510	5.6%	108,676	5.5%
Réunion	0		0		0	
Rwanda	2,952	0.2%	4,428	0.2%	6,641	0.3%
Sao Tome Prn	0		0		0	
Senegal	47,500	2.5%	80,600	4.1%	42,894	2.2%
Seychelles	0		0		0	
Sierra Leone	14,500 F	0.8%	14,500	0.7%	14,190	0.7%
Somalia	250 F	0.0%	300 F	0.0%	250 F	0.0%
South Africa	850	0.0%	850	0.0%	900	0.0%
Sudan	40,500	2.1%	42,000	2.1%	44,000	2.2%
Swaziland	60 F	0.0%	65 F	0.0%	70 F	0.0%
Tanzania	308,431	16.2%	306,750	15.6%	300,000	15.2%
Togo	5,000	0.3%	5,000	0.3%	5,000	0.3%
Tunisia	706	0.0%	1,010	0.1%	896	0.0%
Uganda	195,088	10.2%	218,026	11.1%	220,628	11.2%
Zambia	61,562	3.2%	65,902	3.3%	68,135	3.5%
Zimbabwe	16,311	0.9%	18,056	0.9%	16,386	0.8%
TOTAL	1,909,057		1,969,434		1,967,411	

Table 2. Percentage of estimated capture production on the total of selected years

	1984	1988	1992	1996	1997	1998
Total Fishing Area 01	1,444,605	1,721,978	1,793,157	1,909,057	1,969,434	1,967,411
Capture production reported by countries	1,091,680	1,436,564	1,752,745	1,812,436	1,885,418	1,849,069
Capture production estimated by FAO	352,925	285,414	40,412	96,621	84,016	118,342
Percentage of estimated production on the total	24.4%	16.6%	2.3%	5.1%	4.3%	6.0%

Table 3. Percentage of capture production not reported at the species level

	1984	1988	1992	1996	1997	1998
Total Fishing Area 01	1,444,605	1,721,978	1,793,157	1,909,057	1,969,434	1,967,411
Capture production reported as "Freshwater fishes nei"	706,473	872,636	816,680	853,215	893,309	841,340
Capture production reported at other taxonomic levels above species	472,704	423,990	445,267	415,750	474,300	491,943
Capture production reported at the species level	265,428	425,352	531,210	640,092	601,825	634,128
Percentage of production reported as "Freshwater fishes nei"	48.9%	50.7%	45.5%	44.7%	45.4%	42.8%
Total percentage of production not reported at the species level	81.6%	75.3%	70.4%	66.5%	69.4%	67.8%