



FAO Capture Fisheries e-Bulletin






Tuna in focus

November 2010

Greetings from FAO in Rome!

This is to let you know about:

- 1) the creation of a new **thematic area on tuna** on the website of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Dept.,
- 2) an update of three **data sets** including tuna data, which are available from FAO and
- 3) updates of **information on tuna** in the Fishery Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS).

We would like to thank all institutions and persons who have contributed to these developments (see below). If you have any suggestions for improvements to and other comments on Items 1 to 3, could you, please, contact (1) Jacek Majkowski , (2) Fabio Carocci  and Sachiko Tsuji  and (3) Marc Taconet , respectively. For technical aspects of the presentation of the tuna information on FAO's web site, please contact Aureliano Gentile . Many thanks in advance.

Best regards,

Fabio Carocci (FIRF), Aureliano Gentile (FIPS), Jacek Majkowski (FIRF), Marc Taconet (FIPS) and Sachiko Tsuji (FIPS).

We have created a new thematic area to facilitate easy access to all the information on tuna on FAO's website. Now, this information can be accessed from the following topics:

- [Tuna resources](#)
- [Tuna fisheries and utilization](#)
- [FAO activities on tuna](#)



The tuna thematic area allows also access to all [publications](#) on tuna which can be obtained from FAO.

Please note on the right-hand side of each topic:

- Related information
- Related topics
- Related activities
- Related documents
- Related links

Update of FAO's three data sets including information on tuna

The top two data sets listed below are specifically for tuna and in the case of the 2nd data set, also for some billfishes. They contain data obtained mostly from the tuna Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). The last data set presents mostly official national statistics for all fish species including tuna and billfishes.

- [Global Tuna Catches by Stock](#)

This data set has been updated up to 2008, the last year for which the tuna RFMOs and SPC have data on nominal tuna catches by species, stock, fishing gear, fishing country and year. Details on the [data set](#) are available together with the [online query panel](#). The data set will be updated every year.

- **Atlas of Tuna and Billfish Catches**

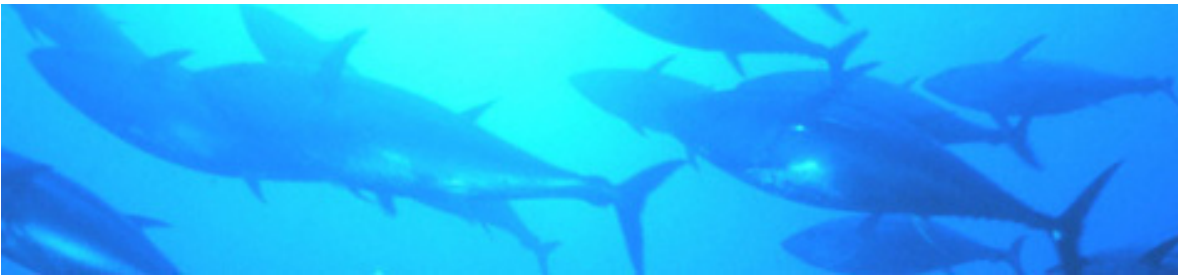
This Atlas presents the 1950 to 2008 global distribution of catches, by fishing gear, the 5° latitude by 5° longitude square, year and quarter for the so-called principal market tunas and some billfishes for which global data are available. Details on the [data set](#) are available together with the [online query panel](#). A new updated version of the Atlas should be available by the end of 2010.

- **Global Capture Production**

This data set contains 1950 to 2008 capture production statistics by country or territory, species or a higher taxonomic level, and FAO Major Fishing Area. Details on the [data set](#) are available together with the [online query panel](#). The data set will be updated every year.

Updates of information on tuna in the **Fishery Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS)**

In line with the decisions of its 6th Steering Committee, FIRMS published its first thematic area page: **FIRMS on tuna**. It provides a global digest of the information available through FIRMS on tuna and billfishes resources. At this stage, CCSBT, FAO, IATTC, ICCAT, ICES, and IOTC are contributing FIRMS reports on families Scombridae, Istiophoridae and Xiphiidae. This page will expand in the future.



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