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FISHERY STATISTICS

2025

In 2025, the amount of fish caught from all fish categories was 15,153 tons, decrease by 7.9% compared to the previous year, 16,452 tons. During 2025, 1.2 million Rainbow Trout, 2 million juveniles Koran and 0.6 million juveniles Carp were produced and released into Lake Ohrid.

Structure of fishing catches by water category

- Aquaculture accounts for 43.2 % (6,549 tons)
- Inland waters account for 19.8 % (3,007 tons)
- Marine fishing represents 29.2 % (4,426 tons)

Annual changes in catches by water category

- Mollusks: the largest increase of +158.2 %, (from 213 tons in 2024 to 550 tons in 2025)
- Coastal Lagoons: decrease of -8.2 %, (from 146 tons in 2024 to 134 tons in 2025)
- Aquaculture: decrease of -8.6 %, (from 7,165 tons in 2024 to 6,549 tons in 2025)
- Coastal line: decrease of -12.1 %, (from 554 tons in 2024 to 487 tons in 2025)

Catches by major species

In the marine, coast and lagoon:

- Deep-water rose shrimp: 15.9 % (802 tons)
- European hake: 13.7 % (693 tons)
- European pilchard: 15.2 % (765 tons)

In inland waters:

- Crucian carp: 33.9 % (1,018 tons)
- Roaches nei: 23.6 % (709 tons)
- Common carp: 18.2 % (546 tons)

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Maritime fleet

In 2025, 854 entities are licensed for fishing activity, 21 entities more than in 2024. The fleet operates mainly in Geographical Sub-Area 18 (South Adriatic).

By ports:

- Durrës: 36.3 % of licensed vessels
- Vlorë: 30.6 % of licensed vessels
- Lushnje-Fier: 2.1 % of licensed vessels
- Himarë: 1.6 % of licensed vessels

By type of vessel:

- Gill netters vessels: 73.2 %
- Trawlers (bottom and pelagic): 23.5 %

Note to users:
Detailed annual data by economic activity are available in the INSTAT statistical database: Fishery Statistics as well as in the tables section of the website on the topic: Fishery Statistics

Methodology

Fisheries statistics for 2025, 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:

- Marine,
- Coastal line,
- Coastal lagoons,
- Inland waters,
- Aquaculture,
- Mollusks.

Catches by major species

- European anchovy
- Deep-water rose shrimp
- European hake
- European pilchard
- Etc.

Marine fleets by fishing ports:

- Durrës
- Vlorë
- Saranda
- Shëngjin
- Himara
- Lushnje – Fier

Marine fleet by vessel type:

- Trawlers
- Seiners
- Purse seiners
- Dredgers
- Gill netters
- 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

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