

# In 2001 EU-15 fish catches were 6.7% of world total.

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## Statistics in focus

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

THEME 5 – 31/2003

#### FISHERIES

## Contents

Total catches .....	1
Catches by major fishing regions.....	1
Major species in catches.....	2

### Total catches

In 2001 (the latest year for which complete statistics are available) the current EU Member States (EU-15) reported catches of 6.2 million tonnes of fish and fishery products (see table 1). This was 6.7% of the reported world catch in that year. Almost one quarter of the EU-15 catch was by Denmark (1.5 million tonnes), followed by Spain (1.1 million tonnes), the UK (0.74 million tonnes) and France (0.67 million tonnes).

The 13 Candidate Countries reported catches of only 1.2 million tonnes, less than one quarter of that of the current Member States. 700 thousand tonnes of this was caught by the 10 Acceding (ACC) countries, with the 4 Baltic Sea coastal states (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland) accounting for 87% of the AC catch. Of the three remaining Candidate Countries, Turkey at 528 thousand tonnes registered by far the largest catches.

BE	30 209	CZ	4 646
DK	1 510 439	EE	105 492
DE	211 282	CY	75 803
EL	94 394	LV	125 433
ES	1 098 838	LT	151 931
FR	672 483	HU	6 638
IE	392 409	MT	882
IT	312 403	PL	225 916
NL	518 162	SI	1 827
AT	362	SK	1 531
PT	192 412	<b>AC</b>	<b>700 099</b>
FI	150 096		
SE	311 816	BG	6 530
UK	741 106	RO	7 637
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>6 236 411</b>	TR	527 733
		<b>CC</b>	<b>1 241 999</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>93 670 779</b>		

Table 1: Reported catches of fish and fishery products in 2001 (tonnes live weight)

### Catches by major fishing regions.

The catches by EU-15 Member States are very largely concentrated in the Northeast Atlantic. (See Table 2 and Figure 1). 75% of the catches (4.6 of the 6.2 million tonnes) were taken from that region with the Mediterranean and Black Seas (9%) and the Eastern Central Atlantic (8%) being the only other regions to make a significant contribution to the total.

For the Accession Countries the major catches were from the Northeast Atlantic (and indeed from the Baltic Sea within that region) and the Eastern Central Atlantic.

For the other Candidate Countries their marine fisheries were restricted solely to the Mediterranean and Black Seas.



FAO code	FAO fishing region	EU-15	AC	Other CC
4+5	Inland waters	85 511	35 776	50 179
21	Northwest Atlantic	56 690	24 088	-
27	Northeast Atlantic	4 659 030	356 157	-
31	Western Central Atlantic	4 631	-	-
34	Eastern Central Atlantic	471 643	242 358	-
37	Mediterranean & Black Sea	563 288	4 761	491 721
41	Southwest Atlantic	118 470	2 697	-
47	Southeast Atlantic	22 338	3 100	-
48	Antarctic (Atlantic)	2 098	14 568	-
51	Western Indian Ocean	203 368	-	-
57	Eastern Indian Ocean	-	-	-
58	Antarctic (Indian Ocean)	6 806	-	-
61	Northwest Pacific	-	16 590	-
67	Northeast Pacific	-	4	-
77	Eastern Central Pacific	15 722	-	-
87	Southeast Pacific	26 817	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6 236 412</b>	<b>700 099</b>	<b>541 900</b>

Table 2: Catches by FAO fishing region in 2001 (tonnes live weight)

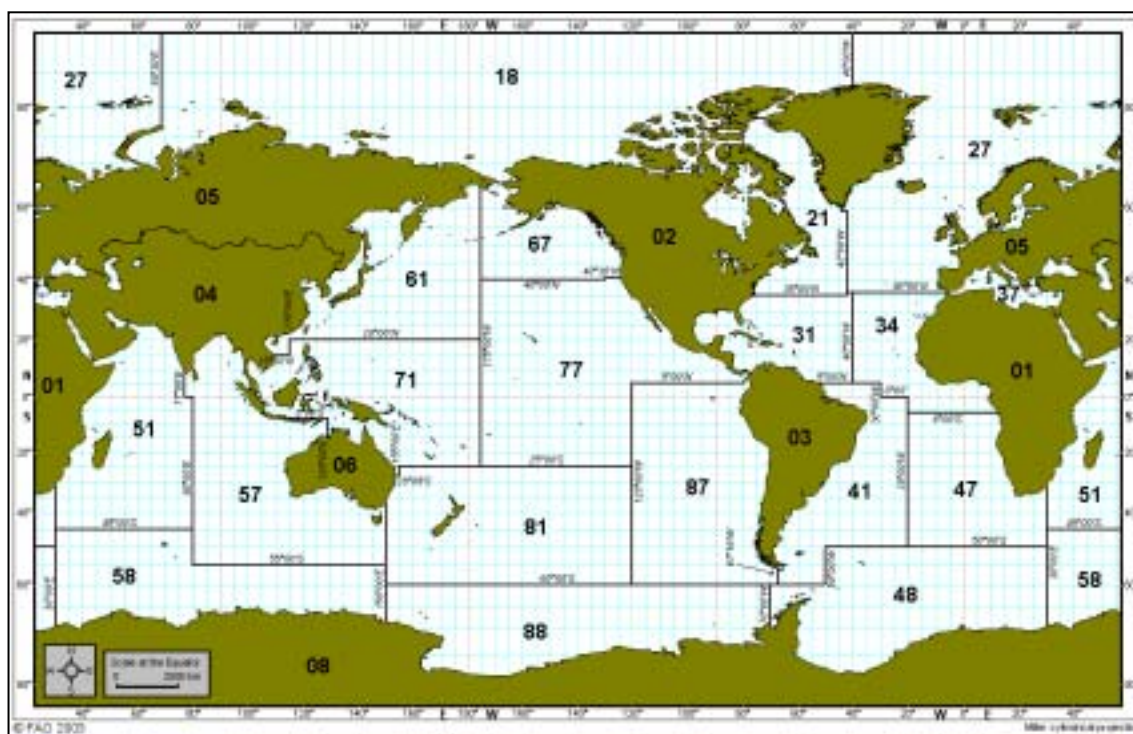


Figure 1: FAO fishing regions

### Major species in catches.

Sandeels (*Ammodytes* spp) and the Atlantic herring (*Clupea harengus*) were the two major species in the EU-15 catches in 2001, yet they contributed only 21% to the total. (See table 3). It is remarkable that traditional food fish such as cods, hakes, haddocks and flatfish do not figure to any great extent in the catches.

For the Acceding Countries the two major species, the European sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) and the Atlantic herring, made up 40% of the total. However the extreme case is with the other Candidate Countries where a single species, the European anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), accounted for 59% of the total catch.

## ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The current European Union Member States (EU-15) are Austria (AT), Belgium (BE), Denmark (DK), Finland (FIN), France (FR), Germany (DE), Greece (EL), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), Luxembourg (but with no fisheries), the Netherlands (NL), Portugal (PT), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK). The Acceding Countries (AC - with EU membership foreseen from May 2004) are Cyprus (CY), Czech Republic (CZ), Estonia (EE), Hungary (H), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Malta (MT), Poland (PL), Slovak Republic (SK) and Slovenia (SI). The Candidate Countries (CC) are the Acceding Countries plus Bulgaria (BG), Romania (RO) and Turkey (TR).

The catch statistics have been submitted by the national authorities in response to EU legislation or FAO's STATLANT questionnaires.

The data are expressed in the live weight equivalent of the landings. They are derived from the landed weight of the fishery products to which a conversion factor has been applied. The data exclude all quantities caught but not landed.

3-alpha identifier	English name	Scientific name	Catch (tonnes)
<b>European Union (EU-15)</b>			
SAN	Sandeels	<i>Ammodytes</i> spp	718 898
HER	Atlantic herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	616 741
MAC	Atlantic mackerel	<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	423 455
SPR	European sprat	<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	367 904
WHB	Blue whiting	<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	288 361
PIL	European pilchard	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	243 539
HOM	Atlantic horse mackerel	<i>Trachurus trachrus</i>	239 227
SIX	Sardinellas	<i>Sardinella</i> spp	203 929
SKJ	Skipjack tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	176 564
COD	Atlantic cod	<i>Gadus morhua</i>	169 594
<b>Acceding countries (AC)</b>			
SPR	European sprat	<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	172 446
HER	Atlantic herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	107 640
MZZ	Marine fishes nei	<i>Osteichthyes</i>	87 920
JAX	Jack & horse mackerels nei	<i>Trachurus</i> spp	74 904
COD	Atlantic cod	<i>Gadus morhua</i>	34 259
ANE	European anchovy	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	30 871
RED	Atlantic redfishes nei	<i>Sebastes</i> spp	20 987
PRA	Northern prawn	<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	19 676
MAS	Chub mackerel	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	19 229
SIX	Sardinellas nei	<i>Sardinella</i> spp	19 187
<b>Other Candidate Countries</b>			
ANE	European anchovy	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	320 288
MUL	Mullets nei	<i>Mugilidae</i>	38 558
WHB	Blue whiting	<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	20 810
HMM	Mediterranean horse mackerel	<i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i>	15 692
FCP	Common carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	13 711
BON	Atlantic bonito	<i>Sarda sarda</i>	13 509
BLU	Bkuefish	<i>Pomatomus saltatrix</i>	13 072
HOM	Atlantic horse mackerel	<i>Trachurus trachrus</i>	10 635
WHG	Whiting	<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	10 314
PIL	European pilchard	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	10 000

Table 3: Major species caught in 2001 (tonnes live weight)

# Further information:

## ➤ Reference publications

Title Fisheries Yearbook 2002 (data 1992-2001)  
Catalogue No KS-AX-02-001-3A-C Price EUR 15

## ➤ Databases

NewCronos, Theme 5, Domain: fish

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