Piraeus, 25 September 2025

## SEA FISHERY SURVEY BY MOTOR-PROPELLED VESSELS: 2024

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the results of the Sea Fishery Survey by motor-propelled vessels for the year 2024.

The total quantity of catches, caught by open sea and inshore fishery vessels, amounted to 54,708.3 tonnes in 2024, and recorded a decrease of 11.3% compared to 2023. In particular, 35,676.9 tonnes were caught by open sea fishery vessels in 2024, recording a decrease of 12.9% compared to 2023 and 19,031.3 tonnes were caught by inshore fishery vessels, recording a decrease of 8.1% (Table 2, Graph 1).

In tonnes 90,000 81,920.0 77,114.3 76,506.3 80,000 74,372.5 70,182.5 70,000 65,071.1 61,679.0 58.365.1 60,000 54,708.3 52,559.5 48,822.8 47,114.8 50,000 43.085.8 42,761.3 41,161.8 40 967 8 40.000 35,676.9 34.691.6 33.210.7 29,391.6 29,360.5 28,291.5 27,096.7 30,000 23 673 5 22.309.8 20,711.2 19,031.3 20,000 10,000 0 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2022 2023 2024 2021

Inshore fishery

Graph 1. Quantity of catches of open sea and inshore fishery, 2016-2024

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#### **NUMBER OF MOTOR-PROPELLED FISHING VESSELS**

The total number of motor-propelled fishing vessels<sup>1</sup> (open sea and inshore fishery)<sup>2</sup> decreased by 5.2% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, the number of fishing vessels amounted to 11,416 in 2024 and to 12,039 in 2023 (Table 1).

The changes in the number of motor-propelled fishing vessels of open sea and inshore fishery by type of fishing gear are as follows (Table 1):

- Open sea fishery vessels (bottom otter trawls and purse seines): the number of trawls and purse seines decreased by 2.4% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, the number of open sea fishery vessels amounted to 449 (231 trawls and 218 purse seines) in 2024 and to 460 (236 trawls and 224 purse seines) in 2023.
- Inshore fishery vessels (beach seines and other fishing gears): the number of inshore fishery vessels decreased by 5.3% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, the number of inshore fishery vessels amounted to 10,967 (74 beach seines and 10,893 other fishing vessels) in 2024 and to 11,579 (119 beach seines and 11,460 other fishing vessels) in 2023.

Table 1. Number of fishing vessels of open sea and inshore fishery by type of fishing gear, 2023 and 2024

Category of fishery and type of fishing gear	2023	2024	Change (%) 2024/2023
Total	12,039	11,416	-5.2
Open sea fishery	460	449	-2.4
Bottom otter trawls	236	231	-2.1
Purse seines	224	218	-2.7
Inshore fishery	11,579	10,967	-5.3
Beach seines	119	74	-37.8
Other fishing gears	11,460	10,893	-4.9

#### **QUANTITY AND VALUE OF CATCHES**

The total quantity of catches, caught by open sea and inshore fishery vessels, decreased by 11.3% and the corresponding value<sup>3</sup> increased by 0.1% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024 the quantity of catches amounted to 54,708.3 tonnes and the corresponding value to 249,058.7 thousand euro and in 2023 the quantity of catches amounted to 61,679.0 tonnes and the corresponding value to 248,844.0 thousand euro (Table 2).

The changes in the quantity and value of catches, by fishery category are as follows (Table 2, Graphs 2a and 2b):

- Open sea fishery: the quantity and value of catches decreased by 12.9% and 5.1%, respectively, in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, the quantity of catches amounted to 35,676.9 tonnes and value to 107,244.0 thousand euro in 2024 and in 2023 quantity amounted to 40,967.8 tonnes and value to 113,023.7 thousand euro.
- Inshore fishery: the quantity of catches decreased by 8.1%, while the corresponding value increased by 4.4% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, the quantity of catches amounted to 19,031.3 tonnes and value to 141,814.7 thousand euro in 2024 and in 2023 quantity amounted to 20,711.2 tonnes and value to 135,820.3 thousand euro.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The source of these data is the Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The relevant data regarding overseas fishery for years 2023 and 2024 are not published on account of confidentiality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The source of these data (average prices – value) is the Fishing Development Corporation (ETANAL SA), which merged by absorption with the Central Market and Fishery Organisation (CMFO SA).

Table 2. Quantity and value of catches of open sea and inshore fishery, 2023 and 2024

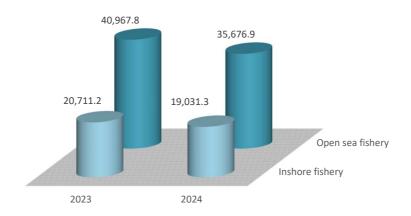
Quantity in tonnes, value in thousand euro

	2023		2024		Change (%) 2024/2023	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Total	61,679.0	248,844.0	54,708.3	249,058.7	-11.3	0.1
Open sea fishery	40,967.8	113,023.7	35,676.9	107,244.0	-12.9	-5.1
Inshore fishery	20,711.2	135,820.3	19,031.3	141,814.7	-8.1	4.4

Note: Any differences between totals and sums, as well as percentages are due to rounding.

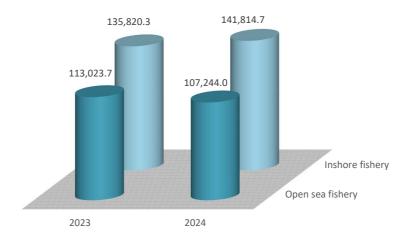
Graph 2a. Quantity of catches by category of fishery (open sea and inshore), 2023 and 2024

In tonnes



Graph 2b. Value of catches by category of fishery (open sea and inshore), 2023 and 2024

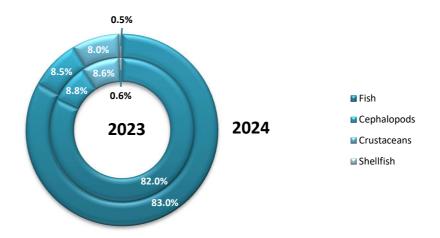
In thousand euro



## **QUANTITY OF CATCHES BY MAIN SPECIES**

In the reference year 2024, 83.0% of the total quantity of 54,708.3 tonnes caught by open sea and inshore fishery vessels were fish, 8.5% were cephalopods, 8.0% were crustaceans and 0.5% was shellfish. In 2023, 82.0% of the total quantity of 61,679.0 tonnes caught by open sea and inshore fishery vessels were fish, 8.8% were cephalopods, 8.6% were crustaceans and 0.6% was shellfish (Table 3, Graph 3).

Graph 3. Percentage (%) distribution of catches by taxonomic group, 2023 and 2024



The changes in the quantity of catches of open sea and inshore fishery, by main taxonomic group (fish, cephalopods, crustaceans and shellfish), are as follows (Table 3, Graph 4):

- The total quantity of **fish** decreased by 10.3% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024 the quantity of fish caught amounted to 45,404.7 tonnes and to 50,603.8 tonnes in 2023.
- The total quantity of **cephalopods** decreased by 13.9% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024 the quantity of cephalopods caught amounted to 4,652.4 tonnes and to 5,405.0 tonnes in 2023.
- The total quantity of **crustaceans** decreased by 17.5% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024 the quantity of crustaceans caught amounted to 4,351.9 tonnes and to 5,276.7 tonnes in 2023.
- The total quantity of **shellfish** decreased by 23.9% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024 the quantity of shellfish caught amounted to 299.4 tonnes and to 393.5 in 2023.

Graph 4. Percentage (%) change of catch quantity, 2024/2023

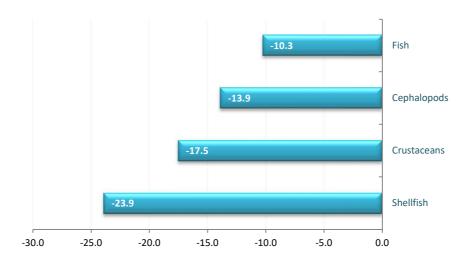


Table 3. Quantity of catches of open sea and inshore fishery by main species, 2023 and 2024 *In tonnes* 

Main Species	2023	2024	Change (%) 2024/2023
Total	61,679.0	54,708.3	-11.3
Fish	50,603.8	45,404.7	-10.3
Albacore	249.3	247.1	-0.9
Amberjacks	440.5	505.3	14.7
Atlantic bonito	795.0	648.9	-18.4
Atlantic chub mackerel	1,860.1	1,231.0	-33.8
Blue whiting (=Poutassou)	675.6	443.1	-34.4
Bogue	2,354.2	2,013.6	-14.5
Common pandora	706.5	733.7	3.8
European anchovy	11,527.1	11,921.2	3.4
European hake	4,062.2	2,825.6	-30.4
European pilchard (=Sardine)	7,997.4	5,569.1	-30.4
European seabass	316.7	284.3	-10.2
Jack and horse mackerels	1,606.8	1,340.4	-16.6
Large-eye dentex	206.2	195.5	-5.2
Monkfishes	615.1	473.4	-23.0
Mullets	1,284.3	1,294.8	0.8
Picarel	613.7	683.5	11.4
Raja rays	338.6	305.6	-9.7
Red mullet	1,646.4	1,474.2	-10.5
Red porgy	734.1	695.9	-5.2
Round sardinella	1,908.8	2,670.5	39.9
Scorpionfishes	451.9	437.6	-3.2
Soles	291.3	246.1	-15.5
Surmullet	986.6	818.5	-17.0
Swordfish	460.0	504.7	9.7
Other Fish <sup>4</sup>	8,475.2	7,841.0	-7.5
Cephalopods	5,405.0	4,652.4	-13.9
Broadtail shortfin squid	738.9	518.9	-29.8
Common cuttlefish	1,414.8	1,310.1	-7.4
Common octopus	2,308.0	2,044.8	-11.4
European squid	676.5	512.0	-24.3
Horned and musky octopuses	266.8	266.5	-0.1
Crustaceans	5,276.7	4,351.9	-17.5
Common spiny lobster	85.4	94.5	10.7
Marine crabs	977.6	889.2	-9.0
Norway lobster	351.7	344.6	-2.0
Shrimps and prawns	3,578.7	2,662.8	-25.6
Other Crustaceans	283.4	360.7	27.3
Shellfish	393.5	299.4	-23.9
European flat oyster	6.4	6.0	-6.7
Great Atlantic scallop	0.5	0.5	3.5
Mediterranean mussel	146.2	94.3	-35.5
Warty venus	76.2	58.2	-23.7
Other Shellfish	164.2	140.4	-14.5

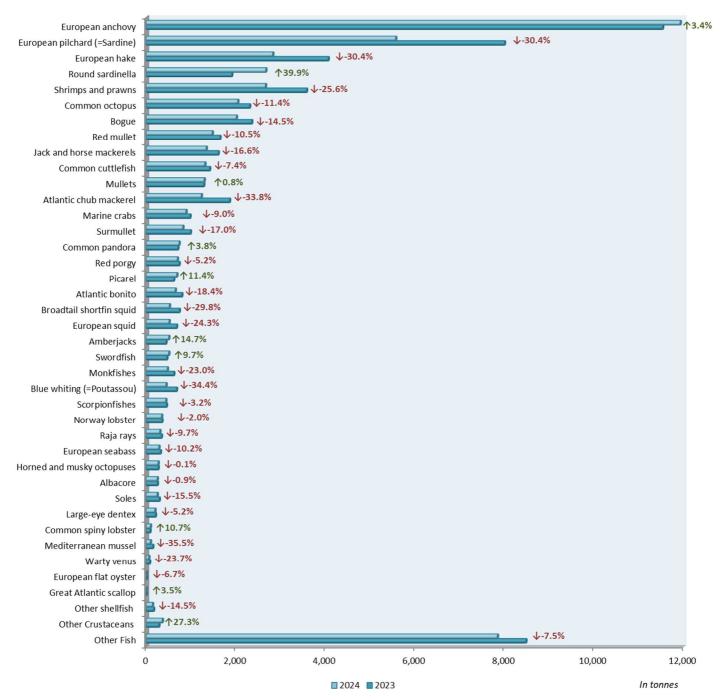
Note: Any differences between totals and sums, as well as percentages are due to rounding.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Other fish include species: annular seabream, atlantic mackerel, axillary seabream, black seabream, blackspot (=red) seabream, blotched picarel, bluefish, brill, catsharks, nursehounds, comber, common dentex, dusky grouper, European eel, European sprat, frigate and bullet tunas, garfish, gilthead seabream, greater weever, gurnards, searobins, jacks, crevalles, John Dory, little tunny (=Atl.black skipj), megrims, seabream, salema, sand smelts, sand steenbras, shi drum, smooth-hounds, white grouper, white seabream, whiting, wreckfish and other fish.

The two species most fished in 2024 were *European anchovy* and *European pilchard*, with 11,921.2 tonnes and 5,569.1 tonnes, respectively, accounting for 21.8% and 10.2% of the total volume of catches. In 2023, 11,527.1 tonnes (18.7% of the total volume of catches) of European anchovy and 7,997.4 tonnes (13.0% of the total volume of catches) of European pilchard were caught (Table 3, Graph 5).

Graph 5. Quantity of catches of open sea and inshore fishery by main species, 2023 and 2024



# **QUANTITY OF CATCHES BY FISHING AREA**

The greater quantities of catches are located at the following fishing areas: a. Strymonikos Gulf, Gulf of Kavala, Coasts of Thasos and Thracian Sea, 13,100.1 tonnes and 23.9% and b. Thermaikos Gulf and Gulf of Chalkidiki, 11,907.9 tonnes and 21.8% (Table 4, Graph 6).

Graph 6. Quantity of catches by fishing area, 2024

In tonnes

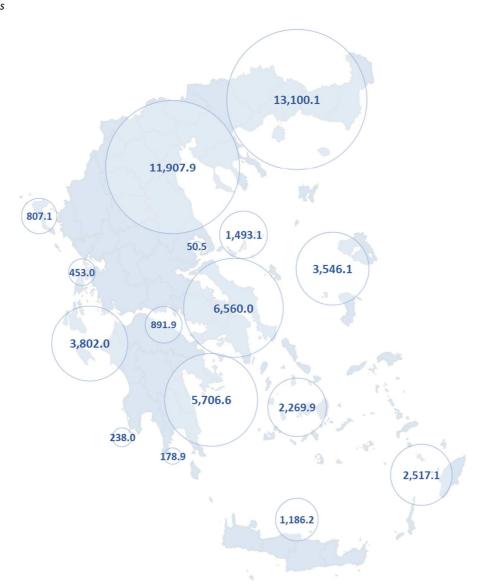


Table 4. Quantity of catches by fishing area, 2024

In tonnes

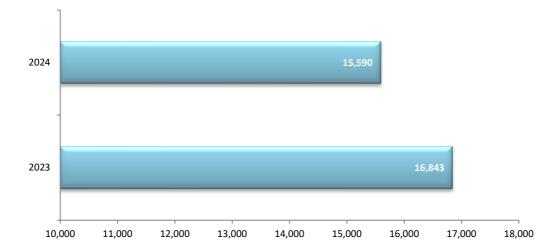
Fishing area	Quantity	Percentage (%)
Total	54,708.3	100.0
Coasts of Epiros and Kerkyra island	807.1	1.5
Amvrakikos Gulf and coasts of Lefkada island	453.0	0.8
Coasts of Kefalonia, Zakynthos and Gulf of Patra	3,802.0	6.9
Gulf of Kyparissia and Gulf of Messinia	238.0	0.4
Gulf of Lakonia	178.9	0.3
Gulf of Argolida and Saronikos Gulf	5,706.6	10.4
Gulf of Korinthia	891.9	1.6
Gulf of South and North Evia	6,560.0	12.0
Pagassitikos Gulf	50.5	0.1
Eastern coasts of Evia and Sporades islands	1,493.1	2.7
Thermaikos Gulf and Gulf of Chalkidiki	11,907.9	21.8
Strymonikos Gulf and Gulf of Kavala, coasts of Thasos and Thracian Sea	13,100.1	23.9
Islands of Lesvos, Chios, Samos and Ikaria	3,546.1	6.5
Dodekanissos islands	2,517.1	4.6
Kyklades islands	2,269.9	4.1
Kriti island	1,186.2	2.2

Note: Any differences between totals and sums, as well as percentages are due to rounding.

## **ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT DATA**

Average annual employment in open sea and inshore fishery recorded a decrease of 7.4% in 2024 compared with 2023. Specifically, in 2024, persons employed in sea fishery amounted to 15,590 and to 16,843 in 2023 (Graph 7).

Graph 7. Average annual employment (number of employed persons), 2023 and 2024



#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**Sea Fishery** 

Survey

The Hellenic Statistical Authority has been conducting a sample survey on sea fishery, since 1964. Until the reference year 2015, the sample of the Sea Fishery Survey included only professional motor-propelled fishing vessels with HP of 20 and over. From the reference year 2016 onwards, survey sample includes all professional motor-propelled fishing vessels, irrespective of their horsepower.

**Purpose** 

The main purpose of the Survey is to compile statistical data and produce results on the number of professional motor-propelled fishing vessels, the quantity of catches by main species, by type of fishing gear and by fishing areas, value of catches, as well as employment data.

**Legal Framework** 

The legal framework of the Survey is set by Regulation (EC) No 1921/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the submission of statistical data on landings of fishery products in Member States and also by Regulation (EC) No 216/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the submission of nominal catch statistics by Member States fishing in certain areas other than those of the North Atlantic.

**Reference Period** 

The Survey refers to the year 2024. For comparability reasons, data on motor-propelled vessels for the year 2023 are also presented.

**Definitions** 

- 1. The statistical unit of this survey is the motor propelled fishing vessel which fishes individually, that is with its own means.
- 2. Fishing vessels are distinguished into three main categories:
- a) overseas fishery vessels,
- b) open sea fishery vessels,
- c) inshore fishery vessels.
- 3. Fishing gears are distinguished into five basic types:
- a) trawls of overseas fishery,
- b) bottom otter trawls,
- c) purse seines,
- d) beach seines,
- e) other fishing gears of inshore fishery.
- 4. Catches are distinguished into four taxonomic groups:
- a) fish,
- b) cephalopods,
- c) crustaceans,
- d) shellfish.
- 5. Fishing area: it is the area where the largest quantity of catches is fished, according to the responsible for filling in the questionnaire fisherman.
- 6. Employment: the total number of persons that have worked on the vessel is considered as employed personnel.

Methodology

For each vessel, a statistical questionnaire is answered by the fishermen, either recording the quantity of fish by species caught in the previous month or declaring that the vessel did not work, as well as the fishing area, the fishing gear used and information about employment. The data are collected every month for each vessel by the local customs authorities.

References

More information on the results of the survey, tabulated data, as well as questionnaire samples etc, are available on the website of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) <a href="https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/">www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/</a> under the link <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/</a> /publication/SPA03/-.