An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

Standard SIMS Report:

Fish Landings

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) Report

For

Fish Landings

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
2021

Last edited: 25 August 2022

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2. Introduction

The statistics on fish landings are compiled from administrative microdata obtained from the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA). The statistical release on fish landings contains data on landings by: Irish vessels to Irish ports; Irish vessels to foreign ports; and foreign vessels to Irish ports.

Data on fish landings are important for environmental, social and economic purposes. The data are classified according to vessel registration nationality, geographical location of landings and species. The data provide insights into: trends in catches of total fish biomass, the volume of different species landed, and the economic value of fish landings. The CSO previously published an annual fishery statistics release. Fish landings by Irish vessels covering the period 1990 to 2004 were included in these releases, see:
https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/agriculture/fisherystatistics-discontinued/

3. Contact

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4. Metadata Update

4.1. Metadata last certified

25 August 2022

4.2. Metadata last posted

25 August 2022

4.3. Metadata last update

25 August 2022

5. Statistical Presentation

5.1. Data Description

The SFPA is responsible for collating all sea-fisheries data, particularly domestic and foreign landings by Irish vessels. Irish fishing vessels of 10 metres or longer are required to complete a logbook. Fishing vessels of less than 10 metres are not generally required to complete a fishing logbook, so landing statistics are gathered using sales notes and gatherers documents.

Aquaculture and angling are not included in this release.

5.2. Classification System

The data have been classified into landings by Irish and foreign vessels, to Irish and foreign ports, with a breakdown by country and county.

Additionally, International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) standardise the division of sea areas for statistical analysis. Each ICES statistical rectangles is '30 min latitude by 1 degree longitude' in size, which is approximately 30 nautical miles by 30 nautical miles. A number of rectangles are amalgamated to create ICES areas. For 2007-2020, the ICES areas were further aggregated by the CSO to show meaningful areas for fish landings relating to Ireland. ICES regions information was not included in the 2021 data provided by Sea Fisheries Protection Authority. Therefore the 2021 release does not include statistics for catch zones.

5.3. Sector Coverage

Domestic and foreign landings by Irish vessels, and landings to Irish ports by foreign vessels.

5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions

Live weight equivalent, value and species.

5.5. Statistical Unit

The basic statistical units are the individual fishing vessels.

5.6. Statistical Population

Domestic and foreign landings by Irish vessels, and landings to Irish ports by foreign vessels.

5.7. Reference Area

The SFPA microdata included the name of the harbour that the fish were landed into. The CSO has grouped these together to show data for the main harbours in Ireland. Irish ports have also been aggregated at county level. Landings by Irish vessels into foreign ports have been aggregated to country level.

The release presents data at port level within Ireland and aggregated to country level for foreign ports.

5.8. Time Coverage

2007-2021

5.9. Base period

Not applicable.

6. Unit of Measure

Live weight equivalent is provided in tonnes and value in thousand euro.

7. Reference Period

2021

8. Institutional Mandate

8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements

National reporting of fish landings data is done on a voluntary basis. The data are compiled by the SFPA on the basis of a legal reporting obligation to Eurostat on fish landings.

8.2. Data Sharing

Data were provided to the CSO under Section 30 of the Statistics Act, 1993.

9. Confidentiality

9.1. Confidentiality – policy

All information supplied to the CSO is treated as strictly confidential. The Statistics Act, 1993 sets stringent confidentiality standards: Information collected may be used only for statistical purposes, and no details that might be related to an identifiable person or business undertaking may be divulged to any other government department or body.

These national statistical confidentiality provisions are reinforced by the following EU legislation: Council Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics for data collected for EU statistical purposes. Further details are outlined in the CSO's Code of Practice on Statistical Confidentiality.

For more information on the CSO confidentiality policy please visit:
https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/statisticalconfidentiality/

9.2. Confidentiality – data treatment

The release presents only aggregated data.

10. Release Policy

10.1. Release Calendar

The date of dissemination of all statistics released by CSO can be found in the Release Calendar published in CSO.ie. This calendar is regularly updated.

10.2. Release calendar access

The release calendar can be accessed via the CSO website, www.cso.ie, or directly from this link:
https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/releasecalendar/

10.3. User access

In accordance with Principle 6 of the European Statistics Code of Practice all users of CSO statistics have equal access via the CSO website at the same time of 11 am. Any privileged pre-release access to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicised. In the event that leaks occur, pre-release arrangements are revised so as to ensure impartiality.

The CSO recognises that in very limited circumstances a business need for pre-release access may be substantiated. Any form of pre-release access is a privilege and a strict CSO pre-release access policy is adhered to for these special requests. The full pre-release access policy can be accessed at https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/csopolicyonpre-releaseaccess/

The various results are published nationally in statistical release format as well as on the CSO website (www.cso.ie).

11. Frequency of Dissemination

Data are transmitted on a monthly basis to the SFPA, who then submit annual reports to Eurostat.

The CSO Fish Landings releases are published annually by the CSO.

12. Accessibility and clarity

12.1. News release

Not applicable.

12.2. Publications

The release is available on the CSO website:
https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/fishery/fishlandings/

12.3. On-line database

The data is available in tabular format from the CSO's dissemination database PxStat via this link:
https://data.cso.ie/product/FL

12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables -consultations

Not calculated.

12.4. Micro-data Access

Micro data are accessible to users from SFPA on request via data@sfpa.ie.

12.5. Other

The SFPA also publishes information on fish landings on their website:
https://www.sfpa.ie/Statistics/Annual-statistics/Annual-Statistics.

12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations

From September 2018 to September 2021, the methods page of the release was visited approximately 400 times. Available at: https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/environment/fishlandings/.

In the same time period, the background notes page of the release was visited 270 times. Available at: https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/surveybackgroundnotes/fishlandings/.

12.6. Documentation on Methodology

Background notes are provided with each release on the CSO website. Available at: https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/surveybackgroundnotes/fishlandings/.

Documentation on the methodology used can be found in the CSO's Methods. Available at: https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/environment/fishlandings/.

12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate

Not calculated.

12.7. Quality Documentation

Further information on the quality of this output can be found in the CSO's Methods page: https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/environment/fishlandings/.

13. Quality Management

13.1. Quality Assurance

Quality Management Framework
The CSO avails of an office wide Quality Management Framework (QMF). This framework allows all CSO processes and outputs to meet the required standard as set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCOP). The QMF foundations are based on establishing the UNECE's Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as the operating statistical production model to achieve a standardised approach to Quality Management. All and any changes implemented to CSO processes and outputs require adherence to the QMF.

13.2. Quality Assessment

Not assessed.

14. Relevance

14.1. User Needs

Data on fish landings are important for national environmental, social and economic purposes. The data are classified according to country of vessel registration and geographical location and can be used to evaluate environmental and economic policy over time. Trends in landings of different fish species can also be used to examine the effects of policy and demand on landings, and potentially the effects of fish take (and other, external factors, such as climate change) on fish populations.

14.1.1. Main National Users

National and international users of statistics on fish landings include the government, the media, and the public.

14.1.2. Principal External Users

Eurostat.

14.2. User Satisfaction

Not measured.

14.3. Data Completeness

Not applicable.

14.3.1. Data Completeness rate

Not applicable.

15. Accuracy and reliability

15.1. Overall accuracy

Data received from SFPA are administrative data and therefore deemed to be as accurate as possible. The CSO also reviews the data received from the SFPA and follow up with queries if required.

15.2. Sampling Error

Not applicable.

15.2.1.1. A1. Sampling error indicator

Not applicable.

15.3. Non-sampling Error

Not applicable.

15.3.1. Coverage error

Not applicable.

15.3.1.1. A2. Over coverage rate

Not applicable.

15.3.1.2. A3. Common units – proportion

Not applicable.

15.3.2. Measurement error

Not applicable.

15.3.3. Non-Response Error

Not applicable.

15.3.3.1. Unit non-response rate

Not applicable.

15.3.3.2. Item non-response rate

Not applicable.

15.3.4. Processing error

Not applicable.

15.3.5. Model assumption error

Not applicable.

16. Timeliness and punctuality

16.1. Timeliness

Target dates for releases are approximately six months from the end of the reference period.

16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results

Not applicable.

16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results

Approximately nine months from the end of the reference period. There was a delay in data availability.

16.2. Punctuality

The release is published on time in accordance with the date indicated in the release calendar.

16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication

0 days, the release was published within the timeframe indicated.

17. Comparability

17.1. Comparability – Geographical

Not applicable.

17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics

Not applicable.

17.2. Comparability over time

Data are reviewed in relation to amounts from previous years to assess consistency.

17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series

2003-2004, 2007-2021

17.3. Coherence – cross domain

The release is broadly consistent compared with statistics published by the SFPA. Differences between CSO and SFPA data are primarily due to methodology.

17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics

Data at annual level were obtained for 2007 to 2020. Monthly data for landings by Irish vessels into Ireland were also received in a separate file for 2003 to 2020 but the monthly data are not fully consistent with the annual data. For these years, the CSO made some adjustments to the monthly species codes to improve the consistency between the annual and monthly data.

For 2021, the CSO received a new file from the SFPA in which annual and monthly data were integrated, resulting in improved consistency between annual and monthly data provided.

17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts

Not applicable.

17.4. Coherence – internal

Not applicable.

18. Cost and Burden

Estimates of Cost and Burden can be obtained from the Response Burden Barometer https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/enterprisestatistics/responseburdenbarometer/

Survey specific information is available via CSO's dissemination database PxStat https://data.cso.ie/product/RBB.

19. Data Revision

19.1. Data Revision Policy

Published statistics are subject to correction and revision for a variety of reasons. The most common reasons include the receipt of additional information (for example, late survey responses) and updated seasonal factors. Occasional revisions also occur as a result of changes to definitions, methodology, classifications and general updating of statistical series.

It is recognised internationally that the existence of a sound revisions policy maintains credibility in official statistics. The CSO General Revisions Policy, which details how revisions should be managed and communicated to users, outlines the three main types of revisions:

- Planned Routine Revisions
- Planned Major Revisions
- Unplanned Revisions.

One reason for unplanned revisions occurring can be when errors are detected after publication. The 'CSO Error Correction Policy – How to deal with Publication Errors' outlines the steps taken when these errors are detected. As required under Principle 6.3 of the European Statistics Code of Practice, errors detected in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and users are informed. An important step in the process is the documentation and analysis of errors that have occurred and their causes. This allows the CSO to take measures preventing similar errors from occurring in the future and uniformity in dealing with them when they do.
The data revision policy that CSO statistics adheres to can be found via the following link:
https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/quality/treatmentofrevisions/

19.2. Data Revision Practice

All data are subject to revisions. There are mostly small differences between the official SFPA figures and those published in this release. If the causes of these differences are identified then the CSO will amend these figures as necessary, e.g. estimation method for unusually low or high or missing unit values.

19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size

Not calculated.

20. Statistical processing

20.1. Source Data

The data were obtained by the CSO from the SFPA. Data at annual level were obtained for 2007 to 2021. Monthly data for landings by Irish vessels into Ireland were also received for 2003 to 2021.

The administrative data sources used by the SFPA are: Electronic recording and reporting system (ERS) log data, paper logbook data and sales notes.

20.1.1. Population and sampling frame

Not applicable.

20.1.2. Sampling design

Not applicable.

20.1.3. Survey size

Not applicable.

20.1.4. Survey technique

Not applicable.

20.2. Frequency of data collection

Annual.

20.3. Data Collection

Not applicable.

20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process

Administrative data.

20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations)

Not applicable.

20.3.3. Survey Participation

Not applicable.

20.3.4. Data Capture

The data are based on fishing logbooks, sales notes, and gatherers documents (see Section 5.1 Data Description).

20.4. Data Validation

Not applicable.

20.5. Data Compilation

The quantity figures presented are in live weight equivalent. The landed weight may differ from the weight of the fish as it was taken from the sea due to the processing of the catch on board the vessel (e.g. gutting, filleting, etc). Conversion factors were applied to the landed weight by SFPA to calculate the live weight equivalent.

20.5.1. Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

Where values are missing or far outside of the normal range of values, imputed values are calculated for tonnage, value, and unit value.

20.5.1.1. A7. Imputation rate

Not calculated.

20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting

Not applicable.

20.6. Adjustment

Not applicable.

20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment

Not applicable.

21. Comment