Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet, 2022

Reference Metadata for Economic and Transversal Variables

(JRC – Data Collection Team)

1. Contact organisation

Joint Research Centre

Water & Marine Resources (Unit D.02): Fisheries & Aquaculture Sector

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2. Metadata

2.1 Metadata released date	16 December 2022

3. Statistical presentation

3.1 Data description

Transversal variables are provided under three main data sets, segmented by country, supra-region (major fishing area), and fleet segment (main fishing technique and vessel length class), for the years 2008 to 2021*, set out in Table 4 of Commission Decision (EU) 2016/1251. Transversal variables may also be provided further aggregated by a Geographical indicator, Gear and/or Fishery category, where applicable or relevant.

1. **Capacity**: Fleet capacity data for the EU coastal Member States (active and inactive vessels). Number of vessels, *average vessel age*, *length class* (LOA), *engine power* (kW) and *gross tonnage* (GT);
2. **Landings**: *Live weight of landings* (kg) and *value of landings* (euro) by species and sub-region;
3. **Effort**:
   - EU-MAP years (2017 -)
   - For the entire active EU fleet: Fishing effort deployed by fishing vessel measured in *days-at-sea*, *fishing days*, *GT*fishing day* and *kW* fishing day*, by country, supra-region, fleet segment, sub-region and year. *Number of fishing trips* by country, supra-region, fleet segment, sub-region and year.
   - DCF years (2008 - 2016)
   - For the entire active EU fleet: Fishing effort deployed by fishing vessel measured in *days-at-sea*, *fishing days* by country, supra-region, fleet segment, sub-region and year. *Number of fishing trips* by country, supra-region fleet segment, sub-region and year.
   - For the active EU fleet with main gear belonging to the group Trawl and Dredges: Fishing effort deployed by fishing vessels measured in *GT*fishing day* and *kW* fishing day*, by country, supra-region, fleet segment, sub-region and year.

Economic variables are provided segmented by country, supra-region (major fishing area), and fleet segment (fishing technique and vessel length class), and year (2008 to 2020) as detailed in Table 5A and Table 5B of Commission Decision (EU) 2016/1251. Economic variables may also be provided further aggregated by a Geographical indicator, Gear and/or Fishery category, where applicable or relevant.

Economic variables are provided for the active EU fleet. Capital value and costs are also provided for inactive segments. Confidentiality rules may apply and, in some cases, clustering of fleet segments may be applied in order to provide sensitive data (see section 7.2).

1. **Number of fishing enterprises/units:** at national fleet level by size category (1 owned vessel, 2-5 owned vessels and >5 owned vessels);
2. **Employment**: *Engaged crew* (total employed) and *employment in full time equivalents* (FTE). *Total hours worked per year* and *Unpaid labour* from 2017 onwards (EU-MAP);
3. **Effort**: *energy consumption* (in litres);
4. **Income**: *Gross value of landings* (Income from fishing), *other income*, and *income from leasing out quota or other fishing rights*. *Direct income subsidies* from 2008 to 2016 (DCF);
5. **Subsidies**: *Operating subsidies* and *subsidies on investments* from 2017 onwards (EU-MAP)
6. **Labour costs**: *Personnel costs* (crew wage), *value of unpaid labour*, *energy costs*, *repair and maintenance*, *other variables costs*, *other non-variable costs* and *lease/rental payments for quota or other fishing rights;*
7. **Capital costs and value:** For the entire EU fleet (active and inactive vessels): *Consumption of fixed capital*, *value of physical capital* and *value of quotas and other fishing rights*.
8. **Investment:** *Investment in tangible assets;*
9. **Financial position:** *long/short term debt* (gross debt), *total assets* from 2017 onwards (EU-MAP). Financial position from 2008 to 2016 (DCF).

More information on definitions can be found at: https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/wordef

* data may be provisional

3.2 Statistical concepts, definitions and classification system

1. **Fleet segment** – a group of vessels with the same length class (using the Length Overall measurement, LOA) and predominant fishing technique during the year, according to the Appendix III of Com Dec. 2010/93(EU) and Annex, Chapter I (Com Dec. (EU) 2016/1251).
   a. **Supra-region:** Higher aggregation level of FAO fishing areas, classification according to Appendix II of Com Dec. 2010/93/EU and Table 5C of Com Dec. (EU) 2016/1251.
   b. **Fishing technique:** fishing gear used for fleet segmentation according to the classification set out in Com Dec. (EU) 2016/1251 (Com Dec. 2010/93/EU of 18 December 2009).
   c. **Vessel length class:** vessel length class used for fleet segmentation; six length classes (using the 'overall length' measurement - LOA) defined according to the Appendix III of Com Dec. 2010/93/EU and Table 5B of Com Dec. (EU) 2016/1251.
2. **Optional fleet segment dimensions** – fleet segments may be further defined by:
   a. **Geographical indicator:** to further distinguish fleet segments operating in EU Outermost Regions and fleet segments operating exclusively in non-EU waters (international waters + third country – fishing partner agreements).
   b. **GEAR:** to further distinguish fleet segments operating predominately with a certain gear type within a Fishing Technique, for example, distinguish longliners from pole and line vessels within the HOK category.
   c. **FISHERY:** to further distinguish fleet segments operating predominately in a given fishing region, Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) or Sustainable Fisheries Partner Agreement (SFPAs).
3. **Vessels activity level** – as described in Annex, Chapter I of the Com Dec. 2010/93(EU) and Annex, Chapter I of Com Dec. (EU) 2016/1251.

a. **Active vessel** – A vessel that has been engaged in any fishing operation (one day or more) during a calendar year.

b. **Inactive Vessel** - A vessel that was not been engaged in a fishing operation during a calendar year.

4. **Sub-region** – identifies the fishing area according to FAO area level 4 for the Baltic and FAO area level 3 for all other regions.

5. **Species** – Species or group of species identified by its common (English) name as defined by FAO *ASFIS nomenclature*.

6. **Dominance Criteria:** used to allocate each vessel to a segment based on the number of fishing days used with each gear. If one fishing gear is used by more than the sum of all the other gears used, i.e., a vessel spends more than 50% of its fishing time using that gear the vessel shall be allocated to that segment. If not, the vessel shall be allocated to the following fleet segment:

   (a) Vessels using Polyvalent active gears' if it only uses active gears;
   (b) Vessels using Polyvalent passive gears' if it only uses passive gears;
   (c) Vessels using active and passive gears.

   In cases where a vessel operates in more than one supra region as defined in **Appendix II**, Member States shall decide to which supra region the vessel is allocated and report their option in their national programme.

More information on definitions can be found at: https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/wordef and Commission Decision (EU) 2016/1251 at http://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/legislation/current/obligations

3.3 Coverage

Full coverage of Member State fishing activity, either by census or by sampling approach.

3.4 Statistical unit

- **Capacity:** Fishing vessel in the Community Fishing Fleet Register.
- **Landings:** Landing operation, at port or sea, including transhipments.
- **Effort:** Fishing operation deployed by EU fishing vessels.

3.5 Statistical population

- **Capacity:** All fishing vessels registered in the Community Fishing Fleet Register as defined in Commission Regulation (EC) N. 26/2004 of 30 December 2003.
- **Landings:** Total live weight of fish products landed by EU fishing fleet regardless of the nationality of the landing port.
- **Effort:** Fishing effort exerted by EU fishing vessels.

3.6 Reference area

EU countries; covers the 23 coastal member states

3.7 Time coverage

Transversal data sets cover the years 2008 to 2021* and the economic data sets cover the years 2008-2020.
* data may be provisional

4. Unit of measure

- **Capacity:** number of vessels; meter; kW; GT.
- **Landings:** kg and euro;
- **Effort:** day; GTday and kWday;
- **Employment:** number of persons, FTE;
- **Fishing enterprises:** number
- **Fuel consumption:** litre
- **Income, expenditure and capital value:** euro, %;

5. Reference period

Calendar year

6. Institutional mandate

6.1 Legal acts and other agreements

1. **Legal frameworks:**

EU-MAP (current)

Council Regulation (EC) No 2017/1004 of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 (Recast).

DCF (2008-2016)

Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy. [corrigendum]

2. **JRC Mandate:**

Transversal and economic data provided during the Call for fleet economic scientific data concerning 2008-2020 are the result of data processing and analyses undertaken by JRC and STECF experts to produce the "2022 Annual Economic Report on the EU fishing fleet" and to provide scientific data support to the FIRMS project managed by FAO.

Data are submitted by national authorities after an official call is launched by the European Commission requesting Member States to provide aggregated scientific data from their National Data Collection programmes, as detailed in Commission Decision (EU) 2016/1251 of 12 July (applies until 31 December 2019) and Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2019/910 of 13 March (applies from 1 January 2020) to support scientific advice in EU fisheries.

http://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/legislation/current/obligations

7. Confidentiality

7.1 Confidentiality - policy

Data collected under the Data Collection Framework (DCF) shall be managed, treated and released without prejudice to the obligations under Directive 95/46/EC, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001, Directive 2003/4/EC, Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006, and Regulation (EU) No 2017/1004.

7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

In cases where a fleet segment has less than 10 vessels:

1) Clustering may be necessary in order to design the sampling plan and to report economic variables;
2) Member States shall report which fleet segments have been grouped at the national level.

Regional Coordination Meetings are the entity in charge to define homogeneous clustering methodology at the level of supra regions so that economic variables are comparable across supra-regions.

8. Release policy

8.1 Release calendar

Due to nature of the data sets, there is no release calendar. Release date depends on the calendar of the relevant STECF working groups. For further information please consult the STECF Calendar at STECF website: http://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/meetings

9. Dissemination format

9.1 Publications: 2022 AER http://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reports/economic

9.2 On-line database: Data Dissemination https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dd/fleet

10. Accessibility of documentation

10.1 Documentation on methodology

The methodological framework is described under each MS national programme. Methodological coherence amongst MS is addressed by Regional Coordination Meetings and guidance is provided under its annual reports. http://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/wp-np-ar

10.2 Quality documentation

Two main levels can be identified in the quality documentation:

- On a national Level - Technical Reports produced by each MS where detailed information on coverage and precision achieved for each collected variable can be found.
- On a Supra national Level – Coverage report produced by JRC that can be found at: https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/coverage

11. Quality management

11.1 Quality assurance

Several procedures are in place to assure quality of data transmitted.

- Checks carried out during the uploading procedure (Syntactic checks)
- Checks carried out after the uploading procedure.

 More details on the procedures can be found in the Coverage and AER reports.

11.2 Quality assessment

The reliability of the data is highly dependent on the quality of the submissions by the national authorities. Assessment is presented in 2022 AER Report.

12. Comparability
12.1 Comparability - geographical
Comparability amongst MS is ensured.
12.2 Comparability - over time
Coherence and comparability within each framework, i.e., Data collection regulation (DCR) data from 2002-2007, Data Collection framework 2008-2016 and Multiannual (EU-MAP) 2017-. Extended
12.3 Comparability across transversal data series
Comparability is not necessarily assured when comparing capacity data series with effort and landings data series. Precaution needs to be taken when comparing effort data aggregated at a supra-region level with data aggregated at a sub-region level. Differences may arise due to the vessel allocation criteria, for example, one vessel exerting fishing effort within specific regions lying in more than one supra-region, under the capacity data series are reported by only one supra-region (the supra-region where most of the effort was deployed), while for the landings and effort data series, the vessel's activity is reported by the region where the activity took place.

13. Data revision
13.1 Data revision - policy
In the event of a new Data Call, when replying to the European Commission, MS are allowed to provide revised data. These revisions will only have an impact on the new STECF Expert Working Group (STECF EWG) meeting; therefore, any data series resultant from previous STECF EWG and previously disseminated on the DCF website would not be revised. Justifications on the revisions are provided under Coverage and AER reports of each STECF EWG.

14. Statistical processing
14.1 Source data
Capacity and landings data have census coverage. Effort data for vessels larger than 10m LOA are derived from logbook/landing declarations and sales notes data. Vessels with LOA less than 10m are either collected on a census approach based on sales notes or by a sampling strategy. For further details please consult the EU Member States Multiannual Work Plans and Annual Reports on the JRC/DCF website https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/wp-np-ar
14.2 Frequency of data collection
Daily, monthly, quarterly or annual collection. However, the current data series is segmented by year.
14.3 Data collection
The data sets are collected by national authorities from fishing fleet registry, logbooks, landing declarations, sales notes and sampling procedures.
14.4 Data validation
Capacity data is cross-checked with information on the EU Fishing Fleet Registry, as it stands on the 31 December of every calendar year.