Marine Management Organisation

Ad hoc statistical release
Landings by non-UK EU Member States' fishing vessels from the UK's Territorial Waters and Exclusive Economic Zone: 2012 - 2016.

This release contains estimates of the total quantity and value of fish landed by non-UK EU member states' fishing vessels from the UK's territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zone (jointly abbreviated here to the UK EEZ). Equivalent statistics for UK vessels' landings from non-UK EU member state EEZs are available here[1]. These estimates were created for use as internal management information. We are releasing them now to allow for their inclusion in future fisheries policy related publications.

Table 1: Quantity and value of landings by non-UK EU vessels from the UK EEZ (2012 – 2016)

Year	Quantity (thousand tonnes)			Value (£ millions)		
	Low Limit	Spatial Estimate	High Limit	Low Limit	Spatial Estimate	High Limit
2012	425	603	763	280	500	730
2013	587	783	957	340	590	850
2014	621	805	974	340	560	780
2015	649	818	997	280	480	680
2016	630	798	973	350	590	850
Average	580	**760**	930	320	**540**	780

Data Source: Data by Quarter-Rectangle, JRC Fisheries Dependent Information (2017 Edition)[2]; JRC Fleet Economic Performance (2017 Edition)[3].

Data Sources and Methodology:

Landings by EU member states are published annually by the EU Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) as part of the Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) data call. This analysis made use of the 2017 version of those data. The FDI data do not contain the monetary values for the landings reported. So this analysis used the JRC's Fleet Economic Performance dataset (2017 edition) to calculate average prices by year, member state and species, which were converted to British Pound Sterling using the average annual exchange rate each year. These are nominal prices and are not adjusted for inflation. The MMO do not control the quality

---

[1]
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/647579/United_Kingdom_commercial_sea_fisheries_landings_by_Exclusive_Economic_Zone_of_capture_2012___2016.pdf
[2] https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dd/effort (data by Quarter-Rectangle)
[3] https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dd/fleet

of the data sources used in this analysis and as such cannot guarantee the accuracy of the statistics presented should the input data be of poor quality. The MMO notes that the FDI and fleet economic performance data calls are compulsory for member states and that the JRC follows a pre-and-post submission QA process involving data format checks with business rules and expert working group review and analysis. Nonetheless there is still room for deficiencies in the data provided to the JRC by individual member states in terms of completeness and accuracy. Some of the known coverage issues in the data are highlighted in the JRC data coverage dataset[4].

As the FDI data were aggregated to the ICES statistical rectangle level and did not specify EEZ of capture, a spatial apportioning method was used to allocate landings to the UK EEZ in rectangles jointly spanning the UK and other EEZs. To spatially apportion landings the total quantity and value of fish landed from a given rectangle was multiplied by the fraction of the sea surface area of the rectangle falling within the UK EEZ. For example if a rectangle was 50% in the UK EEZ and 50% in other nations' EEZs then 50% of the quantity and value landed from that rectangle would be apportioned to the UK EEZ. More detail on this method can be found in the MMO's UK Landings by EEZ publication[5].

As mentioned above, fleet economic performance data published by the JRC, were used to calculated average prices (in Euros) per tonne landed were calculated for each member state, species and year combination. Prices were calculated at this detailed level to ensure differences in average market prices between member states were not ignored. To calculate an average price at least one tonne of fish had to be reported for each combination. This limit was set to avoid the average price being biased by low volume landings, which often have prices very different to the price given to high volumes of the same species. Should a combination have less than one tonne then a hierarchy approach was taken to find a combination with at least one tonne landed (see table below). In addition, records that were lacking data on quantity and/or value were excluded when calculating the average prices. This issue was most prevalent in 2016, where the JRC noted in their commentary report that the data were in some cases "provisional, incomplete and/or subject to revision".

Hierarchy of average price calculations

Order of Preference	Average by:
1st	Species, year, member state
2nd	Species, year
3rd	Species
4th	All fish, year

Starting at the 1st preference whichever combination had at least one tonne of fish reported in it would be taken to calculate the average.

The estimates in table 1 have been set out alongside their extreme limits. These limits are not confidence ranges, instead they represent the maximum and minimum value possible based on reported landings by rectangle. They are intended only to give a sense of the precision of the spatial estimate, by showing its extreme bounds. The low limit assumes that only fish landed from rectangles 100% inside the UK EEZ were caught in the UK EEZ. This limit is almost certainly too low as it will discount all fish from rectangles less than 100% inside the UK EEZ even if the rectangle is almost entirely inside the UK EEZ. The high limit assumes that all fish landed from rectangles even only slightly inside the UK EEZ were caught in the UK EEZ. This limit is almost certainly too high as it will apportion to the UK all landings from rectangles that are almost entirely outside the UK EEZ. So the spatial estimate is considered the most reliable as it is linked to the sea surface area (i.e. the area within which fishing can occur); the limits simply show the absolute range over which the true value could lie.

---

[4] https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/coverage/graphs-effort

[5] See footnote 1.

Statisticians:

Kevin Williamson, James Pilkington, Jonathan Holden and Simon Dixon
Email: accesstoinformation@marinemanagement.org.uk
Telephone: 0300 123 1032