

West African Fisheries Profiles



Cameroon



Total Fish Production: 142,682 MT (2005)
Total Seafood Export Value: \$102,000 (2005)
Percentage of GDP: n.d
Total Number of Jobs: n.d
Percentage of Jobs: n.d.

Source: FAO, ENDA

Top 10 Species Exported (Value)

1. Mackerels, frozen (\$75,000)
2. Mackerels, fresh or chilled (\$9,000)
3. Marine fish, frozen (\$7,000)
4. Shrimps and prawns, not frozen (\$4,000)
5. Fish preparations (\$2,000)
6. Cod, frozen (\$2,000)
7. Sardines, frozen (\$1,000)
8. Oily fish meal (\$1,000)
9. Fish, smoked (\$1,000)

Source: Fishstat/2005

Top Exports to the U.S. (Value)

2003: No exports

2004: Crustaceans NSPF live/fresh/dried/salted/brine (\$6,500)
 Grand total: (\$6,500)

2005: Fish NSPF dried (\$9,150)
 Grand total: (\$9,150)

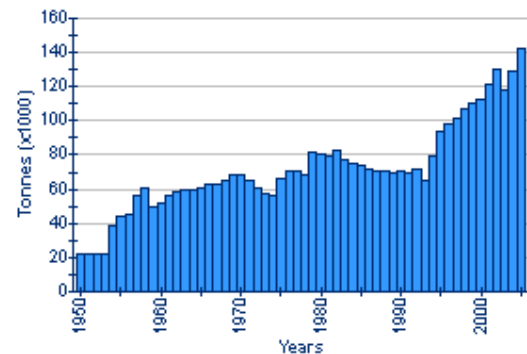
2006: No exports

2007: Marine Fish NSPF frozen (\$2,426)
 Shrimp Shell on frozen (\$2,013)
 Tilapia Fillet Frozen (\$44,200)
 Waxes NSPF, may include spermaceti (\$302,084)
 Grand total: (\$350,723)

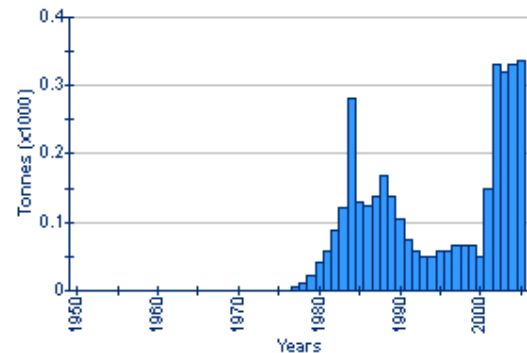
Source: NOAA Fisheries

Wild Capture Production (FAO)

Source: Fishstat



Aquaculture Production (FAO)



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Industry Profile

Cameroon's industrial marine fleet was 40 vessels in 2002; however, ship capacity is increasing.

The artisanal fleet is 30% motorized and uses a variety of lines, seines, and nets to capture mainly bonga, sardines, and shrimp.

Inland fisheries stretch across Cameroon's numerous inland waterways to Lake Chad.

Aquaculture has been the subject of interest for the government and elites. Government has shared its intentions to privatize the industry.

Source: FAO

State of Processing and Value-Added Industry

Good condition of cold-storage infrastructure along the coast allows most of the industrial fish catch to be marketed in either frozen or fresh form.

Most shrimp are frozen and exported whole.

The artisanal fish harvest is generally smoked or dried before being distributed for sale.

Source: FAO

Challenges and Prospects

Catch-limit violations, illegal fishing, and transshipment are significant problems in Cameroon.

The introduction of new economic actors and a restructuring of the existing fleet would lead to greater economic gains in the fishing sector. Improving fishing gear technology would also increase efficiency. A project is currently underway to reduce post-capture waste.

Source: FAO



Sustainability

Cameroon has limited marine resources because its EEZ is interrupted by the Equatorial Guinean island, Bioko, resulting fewer strong ocean currents.

Inland fisheries have recently experienced diminished productivity after years of exploitation.

Source: FAO