



# West African Fisheries Profiles



## Côte d'Ivoire

**Total Fish Production:** 55,868 MT (2005)  
**Total Seafood Export Value:** \$103.5 million (2005)  
**Percentage of GDP:** Not available  
**Total Number of Jobs:** 470,000; 70,000 (direct)  
**Percentage of Jobs:** Not available  
*Source: FAO, Fishstat*

### Top 10 Species Exported (Value in millions)

1. Tuna, prepared or preserved (\$96.9)
2. Skipjack tuna, frozen (\$2.1)
3. Fish, smoked (\$1.6)
4. Marine fish, fresh or chilled (\$0.67)
5. Shrimps and prawns, not frozen (\$0.33)
6. Cuttlefish, frozen (\$0.24)
7. Octopus, fresh or chilled (\$0.22)
8. Tuna, frozen (\$0.19)
9. Fish preparations (\$0.12)
10. Yellowfin tuna, frozen (\$0.11)

*Source: Fishstat/2005*

### Top Exports to the U.S. (Value)

**2005:** Fish NSPF smoked (\$2,750)  
 Groundfish smoked: cod, cusk, haddock, hake, pollock (\$11,034)  
 Herring smoked fillet (\$2,400)  
 Shrimp peeled fresh/dried/salted/brine (\$3,600)  
 Shrimp shell-on fresh/dried/salted/brine (\$2,520)  
 Snail (other than sea) prepared/preserved (\$16,031)  
 Tuna yellowfin fresh (\$5,043)  
**Grand total: 2005 (\$43,378)**

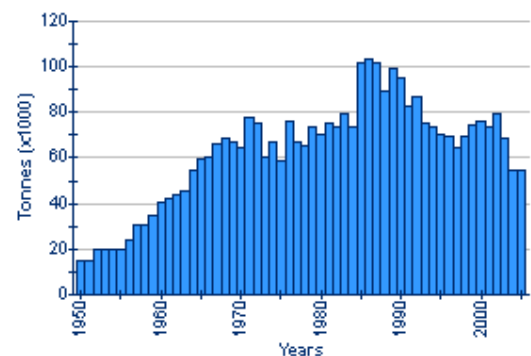
**2006:** Fish NSPF smoked (\$8,420)  
 Groundfish cod NSPF dried (\$4,528)  
 Herring smoked fillet (\$10,503)  
 Marine fish NSPF meat frozen > 6.8 kg (\$2,068)  
 Shrimp peeled fresh/dried/salted/brine (\$4,161)  
 Shrimp shell-on frozen > 70 (\$6,620)  
**Grand total: (\$36,300)**

**2007:** Herring smoked fillet (\$30,552)  
 Shrimp other preparations (\$3,000)  
 Shrimp shell-on frozen 15/20 (\$2,600)  
 Snail other than sea snail live/fresh/frozen/salted (\$23,918)  
**Grand total: (\$60,070)**

*Source: NOAA Fisheries*

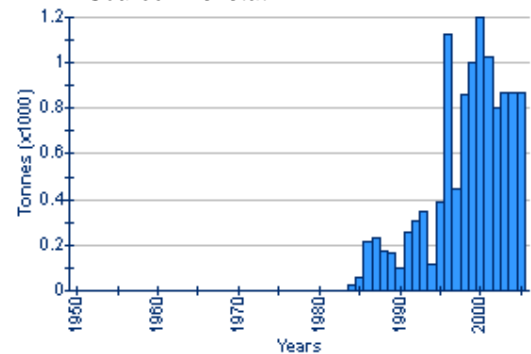
### Wild Capture Production (FAO)

*Source: Fishstat*



### Aquaculture Production (FAO)

*Source: Fishstat*



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## Industry Profile

Côte d'Ivoire's industrial fleet, composed of mostly pelagic trawlers and sardine boats, dominates the marine fishery. There are about 20 trawlers in Ivorian waters. The tuna fleet is entirely foreign-owned.

Artisanal fishermen ply lakes, rivers, lagoons, and some marine areas. Most boats in the marine areas are motorized.

Of the 10,000 artisanal fishermen in Ivorian waters, 90% are Ghanaian. A traditional nighttime fishery to catch marlins, swordfish, sailfish, and sharks exists.

Native Ivorians dominate fishing in lagoons, continental waters, and the nascent aquaculture industry.

## State of Processing and Value-Added Industry

Côte d'Ivoire has three facilities that freeze and can tuna and one that produces fish meal. Abidjan is the second largest tuna landing port in the Atlantic.

Small pelagic fish and sardines caught artisanally are usually sold fresh or smoked. Traditional wood-smoking facilities exist in the suburbs of Abidjan.

*Source: FAO*

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## Challenges and Prospects

Ivorian trawlers use outdated equipment, causing inefficiencies that prevent them from taking full advantage of available resources, leaving foreign vessels to reap large harvests.

Better management would offer the artisanal sector potential for growth in maritime, lagoonal, and continental waters.

Hydrological and climactic conditions are favorable for increased aquaculture production.

The recent conflict in the country limited growth in continental areas and affected the investment climate along the coast.

*Source: FAO*



## Sustainability

The continental shelf off the coast of Côte d'Ivoire is very narrow, so there are few pelagic resources (sardines, anchovies, and mackerel) available. Stocks migrate between Ivorian, Ghanaian, Beninese, and Togolese waters.

*Source: FAO*