

# EEA Fishing Fleet in 2000

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## Statistics in focus

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

THEME 5 – 20/2001

#### FISHERIES

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### Changes in the EEA fleet.

In 2000 there were 111 thousand fishing vessels in the European Economic Area (EEA) fishing fleet with a total tonnage of 2.6 million tonnes and a total power of 10.6 million kw (Table 1). Compared with the data for 1998 this is a 4% decrease in the number of vessels, a 4% increase in the total tonnage\* and a 0.4% increase in total power.

In 2000 96 000 (86%) of the vessels were from EU-15 countries. Since 1998 the number of EU vessels has decreased by 4%, the total tonnage increased by 5% and the total power decreased by 2%.

Year	EU-15			EEA		
	Total number	Total tonnage (tons)	Total power (kw)	Total number	Total tonnage (tons)	Total power (kw)
1998	100 035	1 937 178	7 797 787	115 218	2 496 445	10 590 377
1999	97 801	2 021 155	7 734 400	112 967	2 586 857	10 627 534
2000	95 967	2 028 554	7 656 886	110 978	2 601 038	10 628 742

Table 1: EEA fishing fleet: 1998-2000

### The fishing fleets of member countries.

In number, Greece has the largest fleet in the EEA, with 19 730 vessels (18% of the total) followed by Italy (17 664,) and Spain (16 676) (Table 2). However, in terms of the total tonnage, Spain (518 000 tonnes, 20% of the EEA total) has the largest fleet, followed by Norway (392 000 tonnes, 15%). Norway's fleet has the highest total power (2.4 million kw, 23% of the total, followed by Spain (1.3 million kw, 13%), France (1.1 million kw, 10%) and the United Kingdom (1.1 million kw, 10%).

Belgium has the smallest fleet with only 127 vessels.

### The size of EEA fishing vessels.

Ignoring the vessels for which the length have not been recorded (largely from Italy and Portugal), 82% of EEA fishing vessels are of less than 12 metres in length (Table 2). However the structure of the EEA fleet is very variable with, on the one hand, Belgium having no vessels of less than 12 metres in length and the Netherlands only 31%. On the other hand, Finland and Greece have 94% and 93% of their vessels of less than 12 metres in length.

The outstanding characteristic of the Belgian and Netherlands fishing fleet is the high average power of their vessels (499 and 469 kw respectively). The average power of the EEA fleet is only 96 kw per vessel and the contrast is highlighted by the fact that vessels in the Greek and Portuguese fleets have only powers of 31 and 37 kw on average respectively.

\* See the Methodological notes (page 3) regarding comparisons of the fleets based on tonnage measures.



Total number																	
Length classes (meters)		Country															
EU-15		B	DK	E	F	FI	GR	I	IRL	NL	P	SW	UK	ISL	N	EEA	
Not known	18 496	-	2	-	-	3	1	12 507	478	-	5 503	-	2	52	-	18 548	
0 - 5.9	26 115	943	1 408	7 249	1 228	1 667	7 701	1 317	63	165	2 096	220	2 058	9	3 339	29 463	
6 - 11.9	36 892	925	1 680	5 333	5 156	1 799	10 735	2 419	371	167	2 295	1 253	4 759	1 438	7 814	46 144	
12 - 17.9	7 241	269	650	1 890	946	146	743	1 024	86	139	438	198	702	132	1 077	8 450	
18 - 23.9	3 588	44	213	1 012	559	45	329	290	84	194	184	70	480	66	316	3 970	
24 - 29.9	1 774	15	45	601	157	21	171	86	53	95	177	34	274	65	111	1 950	
30 - 35.9	871	28	76	316	51	7	25	10	36	82	78	34	101	57	91	1 019	
36 - 44.9	648	30	66	168	17	1	14	8	14	197	6	23	96	55	100	803	
45 - 59.9	194	-	15	63	32	-	10	2	5	20	14	6	26	86	98	378	
60 and over	148	-	5	44	27	-	1	1	3	16	20	-	19	37	68	253	
Total	95 967	2 314	4 160	16 876	8 173	3 689	19 730	17 664	1 193	1 075	10 811	1 838	8 517	1 997	13 014	110 978	
Total tonnage (tons)																	
Length classes (meters)		Country															
EU-15		B	DK	E	F	FI	GR	I	IRL	NL	P	SW	UK	ISL	N	EEA	
Not known	172 465	-	12	-	-	3	6	155 717	11 045	-	5 668	-	14	204	-	172 669	
0 - 5.9	7 587	947	260	1 223	862	342	1 079	1 257	29	185	360	35	1 008	17	-	7 604	
6 - 11.9	186 040	3 350	57 638	16 831	19 725	6 933	36 870	7 997	2 039	751	5 014	5 251	23 641	8 040	41 358	235 438	
12 - 17.9	182 267	7 876	13 779	46 786	30 131	3 591	13 340	22 771	2 910	3 165	8 484	5 797	23 329	3 284	23 549	209 100	
18 - 23.9	270 046	3 397	5 694	12 748	72 033	52 370	17 590	20 469	7 776	10 201	10 670	6 500	47 455	3 928	24 397	298 371	
24 - 29.9	260 867	1 678	6 054	16 750	91 125	20 632	16 383	10 884	8 211	8 925	25 229	5 107	47 208	10 477	21 705	293 049	
30 - 35.9	208 182	6 494	17 568	81 077	12 905	1 520	5 599	2 268	8 055	13 458	17 948	8 852	25 810	14 117	29 047	251 346	
36 - 44.9	234 874	1 988	24 641	63 525	4 926	644	5 341	2 546	5 517	68 648	2 120	9 716	34 239	22 487	50 004	307 365	
45 - 59.9	156 695	-	1 597	10 025	56 599	27 250	5 663	1 189	6 008	11 894	6 086	4 548	25 836	65 032	84 616	306 343	
60 and over	349 531	-	37 419	88 846	49 480	-	2 611	-	8 240	90 939	30 256	-	35 307	52 617	117 605	519 753	
Total	2 028 554	71 419	159 854	518 025	218 281	18 857	104 482	225 098	59 830	208 166	111 835	45 806	263 847	180 203	392 281	2 601 038	
Total power (kw)																	
Length classes (meters)		Country															
EU-15		B	DK	E	F	FI	GR	I	IRL	NL	P	SW	UK	ISL	N	EEA	
Not known	1 086 448	-	93	-	-	177	36	984 269	45 946	-	54 019	-	1 908	1 409	-	1 087 857	
0 - 5.9	263 198	6 500	15 630	41 082	31 837	29 371	62 461	12 542	637	2 376	19 564	4 666	36 532	305	80 857	344 360	
6 - 11.9	1 715 904	27 516	66 967	165 049	418 193	108 896	307 053	120 339	16 592	8 161	63 408	71 807	341 923	139 782	699 744	2 555 430	
12 - 17.9	1 083 358	43 958	98 088	218 080	204 804	28 105	83 044	167 530	12 643	16 366	50 770	38 204	119 488	24 268	352 110	1 459 736	
18 - 23.9	981 972	17 912	52 798	233 335	204 727	14 927	80 585	86 239	25 423	35 103	45 592	24 240	151 664	19 220	191 254	1 192 446	
24 - 29.9	675 167	12 888	20 194	200 252	66 742	10 883	53 230	32 975	26 946	23 564	68 285	17 651	137 505	30 676	108 031	813 874	
30 - 35.9	604 590	15 470	42 677	159 713	33 144	4 044	12 412	6 259	25 948	42 923	47 905	25 837	67 769	32 611	121 611	658 812	
36 - 44.9	523 587	5 601	47 536	115 982	15 648	2 480	10 716	8 342	17 234	240 898	4 119	27 508	100 434	41 437	179 905	844 929	
45 - 59.9	290 430	-	2 427	18 013	80 024	51 822	8 169	2 979	11 252	45 924	10 689	13 474	45 657	138 482	298 421	727 333	
60 and over	432 232	-	34 925	119 651	79 961	-	1 764	3 690	11 334	88 555	33 985	-	47 326	100 521	411 212	943 965	
Total	7 656 886	167 197	373 037	1 333 168	1 106 878	198 863	619 470	1 425 164	193 955	503 870	398 336	223 387	1 050 206	528 711	2 443 145	10 628 742	

Table 2: EEA fishing fleet by length classes in 2000.

	Age (years)
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>21.6</b>
B	15.2
D	21.6
DK	24.7
E	27.1
F	16.2
FI	15.8
GR	19.9
IRL	24.6
I	24.1
NL	19.7
P	23.6
SW	22.1
UK	20.3
ISL	17.8
N	22.3
<b>EEA</b>	<b>21.6</b>

Table 3: Median age of the EEA fishing fleet: 2000.

### Age of the EEA fishing fleet.

The EEA fishing fleet has a median age of 21.6 years (Table 3). However there is a considerable range of values between the member countries. Belgium (15.2 years), France (16.2 years), Finland (15.8 years) and Iceland (17.8 years) have the youngest fleets while Spain (27.1 years), Ireland (24.6 years), Italy (24.1 years) and Portugal (23.6 years) have the oldest.

#### ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Eurostat's Statistical Register of EEA Fishing Vessels is compiled from two sources:

- for the EU member states the data are obtained by an annual up-dating from the administrative file of EU fishing vessels maintained by the Commission's Directorate-General for Fisheries in application of Commission Regulation (EC) No 109/94.
- for Iceland and Norway the data are obtained directly from the national authorities.

Eurostat gratefully acknowledges the assistance it receives from the Directorate-General for Fisheries and the Icelandic and Norwegian authorities in compiling the register.

The data in the register relate to the situation on 31 December of the reference year.

For record for each vessel in the Statistical Register contains information on the length, tonnage, power and year of construction of the vessel.

Under the EU legislation the member countries are obliged to record vessel tonnage using the Gross Tonnage (GT) under the London Convention (1986) as opposed to the previously used Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT) under the Oslo Convention (1946). This change in recording tonnage has taken place over a number of years and at varying rates in different countries. Given that generally the GT is significantly greater than the GRT, great care has to be taken in comparing the tonnages of the various fleet at differing times.

Selected summary statistics from the register are available in the NewCronos domain "FISH". Although the individual records in the register are confidential, Eurostat is ready to meet requests for customised tabulations from the register for the above-mentioned vessel parameters.

The European Economic Area countries are the European Union countries (EU-15) plus Iceland, Norway and Leichtenstein. (NB: Leichtenstein has no fishing fleet.)

# Further information:

## ➤ Reference publications

Title Fisheries: Yearbook 2000  
 Catalogue No KS-31-00-885-3A-C Price EUR 23.50

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New Cronos, Domain FISH

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