

News Release



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Fisheries

Fish Landings - Q3/2006

The volume and wholesale value of fish landings declined by 11.8 and 1.8 per cent respectively.

During the third quarter of 2006, 500,191 kilograms of fresh fish were landed at the local fish market. When compared to the same period last year, fresh fish landings at the local fish market declined by 11.8 per cent. The wholesale value of fresh fish landings declined by 1.8 per cent, to Lm 779,911 in the third quarter of 2006.

Dorado and Swordfish were the dominant species caught in the reference period. Dorado landings by weight at the fresh fish market declined by 3.3 per cent over the comparative period whilst the wholesale value declined by 13.6 per cent. Meteorological conditions that resulted in early catches brought the average price per kilogram down by 10.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2006, in spite of the decline in overall landings for the period.

Swordfish landings declined by 31.8 per cent over the comparable period of last year. The decline in Swordfish landings resulted in an increase in the average price per kilogram of 25.7 per cent in the third quarter this year. As a result, the wholesale value of fresh swordfish landings declined by 6.1 per cent.

Boats owned by persons resident in the main island of Malta landed 60 per cent of fish at the local market during the reference period. The rest was landed by boats owned by persons residing in Gozo, save for 0.8 per cent of catches which involved foreign-owned vessels.

Indices

The fresh fish price index for the month of September stood at 112.72, up by 5.7 per cent in September 2005. The fresh fish volume index also rose by 5.7 per cent during the comparative period ■

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Table 1. Quantity (Kgs) of fish landings

| Administrative area* | Species designation | | July/September | | | January/September | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Maltese | English | 2005 | 2006 | ±% 2006/2005 | 2005 | 2006 | ±% 2006/2005 |
| MALTA | Total | | 567,104 | 500,191 | -11.8 | 1,048,107 | 933,950 | -10.9 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 9,974 | 10,845 | 8.7 | 24,849 | 25,511 | 2.7 |
| | Hanzir/Dott | Stone Bass | 5,944 | 10,298 | 73.3 | 23,095 | 20,919 | -9.4 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 301,330 | 291,477 | -3.3 | 313,150 | 317,945 | 1.5 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 3,111 | 2,868 | -7.8 | 16,618 | 17,055 | 2.6 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 141,116 | 96,192 | -31.8 | 213,073 | 168,518 | -20.9 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 30,813 | 26,946 | -12.5 | 301,444 | 227,008 | -24.7 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 6,397 | 3,075 | -51.9 | 16,040 | 14,581 | -9.1 |
| | Hut lehor | Other Species | 68,419 | 58,490 | -14.5 | 139,838 | 142,413 | 1.8 |
| Malta ¹ | Total | | 374,429 | 298,001 | -20.4 | 788,955 | 651,023 | -17.5 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 6,200 | 3,140 | -49.4 | 16,431 | 11,534 | -29.8 |
| | Hanzir/Dott | Stone Bass | 4,842 | 7,251 | 49.8 | 20,496 | 16,777 | -18.1 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 151,118 | 125,423 | -17.0 | 158,944 | 130,202 | -18.1 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 2,105 | 2,238 | 6.3 | 13,808 | 14,774 | 7.0 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 135,526 | 92,239 | -31.9 | 200,824 | 158,021 | -21.3 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 29,573 | 25,619 | -13.4 | 277,790 | 213,245 | -23.2 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 1,228 | 544 | -55.7 | 3,780 | 3,811 | 0.8 |
| | Hut lehor | Other Species | 43,837 | 41,547 | -5.2 | 96,882 | 102,659 | 6.0 |
| Gozo and Comino ² | Total | | 177,059 | 198,195 | 11.9 | 243,536 | 273,495 | 12.3 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 3,774 | 7,705 | 104.2 | 8,418 | 13,934 | 65.5 |
| | Hanzir/Dott | Stone Bass | 677 | 2,461 | 263.5 | 2,174 | 3,266 | 50.2 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 150,212 | 165,713 | 10.3 | 154,206 | 187,359 | 21.5 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 379 | 452 | 19.3 | 2,183 | 1,691 | -22.5 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 4,894 | 3,953 | -19.2 | 11,553 | 10,054 | -13.0 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 1,240 | 1,327 | 7.0 | 23,654 | 13,763 | -41.8 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 5,169 | 2,531 | -51.0 | 12,260 | 10,770 | -12.2 |
| | Hut lehor | Other Species | 10,714 | 14,053 | 31.2 | 29,088 | 32,658 | 12.3 |
| Foreign Vessels ³ | Total | | 15,616 | 3,995 | -74.4 | 15,616 | 9,432 | -39.6 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | - | - | - | - | 43 | - |
| | Hanzir/Dott | Stone Bass | 425 | 586 | 37.9 | 425 | 876 | 106.1 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | - | 341 | - | - | 384 | - |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 627 | 178 | -71.6 | 627 | 590 | -5.9 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 696 | - | -100.0 | 696 | 443 | -36.4 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Vopa | Bogue | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Hut lehor | Other Species | 13,868 | 2,890 | -79.2 | 13,868 | 7,096 | -48.8 |

* see methodological notes

¹ landings of vessels owned by persons residing on the main island of Malta² landings of vessels owned by persons residing on the islands of Gozo and Comino³ landings of foreign flagged vessels

Table 2. Wholesale value (Lm) of fish landings

| Administrative area* | Species designation | | July/September | | | January/September | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Maltese | English | 2005 | 2006 | ±% 2006/2005 | 2005 | 2006 | ±% 2006/2005 |
| MALTA | Total | | 794,346 | 779,911 | -1.8 | 1,993,698 | 1,913,545 | -4.0 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 66,580 | 60,694 | -8.8 | 153,006 | 163,265 | 6.7 |
| | Ħanżir/Dott | Stone Bass | 18,788 | 34,233 | 82.2 | 70,640 | 67,724 | -4.1 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 229,510 | 198,282 | -13.6 | 243,133 | 220,715 | -9.2 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 3,139 | 2,125 | -32.3 | 17,355 | 18,005 | 3.7 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 309,039 | 290,186 | -6.1 | 507,990 | 533,569 | 5.0 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 49,377 | 74,098 | 50.1 | 712,163 | 578,793 | -18.7 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 5,381 | 2,406 | -55.3 | 14,724 | 12,876 | -12.6 |
| | Ħut leħor | Other Species | 112,532 | 117,887 | 4.8 | 274,687 | 318,598 | 16.0 |
| Malta ¹ | Total | | 605,248 | 571,879 | -5.5 | 1,659,185 | 1,526,587 | -8.0 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 41,963 | 23,698 | -43.5 | 106,548 | 87,679 | -17.7 |
| | Ħanżir/Dott | Stone Bass | 15,495 | 24,281 | 56.7 | 62,941 | 54,145 | -14.0 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 121,211 | 89,320 | -26.3 | 131,411 | 95,461 | -27.4 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 2,037 | 1,568 | -23.0 | 14,407 | 15,421 | 7.0 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 296,373 | 276,779 | -6.6 | 476,610 | 496,467 | 4.2 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 47,311 | 70,720 | 49.5 | 655,560 | 542,863 | -17.2 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 940 | 427 | -54.6 | 4,058 | 4,428 | 9.1 |
| | Ħut leħor | Other Species | 79,918 | 85,086 | 6.5 | 207,650 | 230,123 | 10.8 |
| Gozo and Comino ² | Total | | 169,896 | 198,770 | 17.0 | 315,311 | 364,796 | 15.7 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | 24,617 | 36,996 | 50.3 | 46,458 | 75,218 | 61.9 |
| | Ħanżir/Dott | Stone Bass | 1,950 | 8,198 | 320.4 | 6,356 | 10,767 | 69.4 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | 108,299 | 108,689 | 0.4 | 111,722 | 124,937 | 11.8 |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 376 | 435 | 15.7 | 2,222 | 1,991 | -10.4 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 10,234 | 13,407 | 31.0 | 28,948 | 35,428 | 22.4 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | 2,066 | 3,378 | 63.5 | 56,603 | 35,930 | -36.5 |
| | Vopa | Bogue | 4,441 | 1,979 | -55.4 | 10,666 | 8,448 | -20.8 |
| | Ħut leħor | Other Species | 17,913 | 25,688 | 43.4 | 52,336 | 72,077 | 37.7 |
| Foreign Vessels ³ | Total | | 19,202 | 9,262 | -51.8 | 19,202 | 22,162 | 15.4 |
| | Gamblu | Shrimp | - | - | - | - | 368 | - |
| | Ħanżir/Dott | Stone Bass | 1,343 | 1,754 | 30.6 | 1,343 | 2,812 | 109.4 |
| | Lampuka | Dorado | - | 273 | - | - | 317 | - |
| | Mazzola | Dog-Fish | 726 | 122 | -83.2 | 726 | 593 | -18.3 |
| | Pixxispad | Swordfish | 2,432 | - | -100.0 | 2,432 | 1,674 | -31.2 |
| | Tonna | Blue Fin Tuna | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Vopa | Bogue | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Ħut leħor | Other Species | 14,701 | 7,113 | -51.6 | 14,701 | 16,398 | 11.5 |

* see methodological notes

¹landings of vessels owned by persons residing on the main island of Malta²landings of vessels owned by persons residing on the islands of Gozo and Comino³landings of foreign flagged vessels

Table 3. Fresh Fish Indices

| | Fresh Fish Index (1995 = 100) | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Price Index | Volume Index |
| 2004 | | |
| January | 103.17 | 32.63 |
| February | 145.60 | 21.94 |
| March | 118.71 | 20.00 |
| April | 133.11 | 16.69 |
| May | 159.47 | 126.86 |
| June | 128.04 | 84.00 |
| July | 125.56 | 46.07 |
| August | 129.49 | 75.29 |
| September | 117.01 | 97.46 |
| October | 105.69 | 144.92 |
| November | 117.58 | 47.87 |
| December | 115.95 | 36.03 |
| 2005 | | |
| January | 131.33 | 14.99 |
| February | 104.31 | 8.69 |
| March | 114.65 | 21.98 |
| April | 204.96 | 23.55 |
| May | 153.29 | 170.95 |
| June | 149.26 | 97.58 |
| July | 120.45 | 77.02 |
| August | 104.00 | 145.87 |
| September | 106.65 | 175.30 |
| October | 124.31 | 90.44 |
| November | 148.59 | 58.70 |
| December | 119.18 | 53.61 |
| 2006 | | |
| January | 125.63 | 30.42 |
| February | 187.62 | 12.47 |
| March | 121.78 | 15.62 |
| April | 150.32 | 21.01 |
| May | 181.01 | 122.06 |
| June | 153.27 | 102.99 |
| July | 161.04 | 60.16 |
| August | 119.46 | 105.68 |
| September | 112.72 | 185.36 |

Methodological Notes

1. According to the fisheries regulation, fish caught by local fishermen has to be sold through the wholesale fish market and statistical data for fish landings is collected through the daily returns of sales submitted by middlemen at the fishmarket. Aquaculture statistics are provided by the Food and Veterinary Regulation Division of the Ministry of Rural Affairs and Environment.
2. The information is submitted to the NSO on a monthly basis. Fish landings by species, data on volume, average monthly unit prices and total value paid out to fishermen are available to compile the news release.
3. The indices are used to monitor developments in price and volume movements over a particular period. The price and volume indices are fixed weights Laspayres type indices with 1995 as the base year.
4. The data in this release are not normally subject to revision.
5. The news release has been re-designed to include the 7 dominant species landed. No individual species under the heading 'Other species' exceed 10 per cent of the total landings. All species will be made available upon request.
6. The aquaculture statistics are not being published in this release in order to respect confidentiality.
7. These statistics are published and disseminated by the National Statistics Office and can also be found on the NSO website <http://www.nso.gov.mt>.

NUTS classification

The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) is a common classification that is used to provide a single uniform breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics with regard to the European Union. It was adopted on 26 May 2003 by means of a Regulation¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹ (EC) No. 1059/2003

| NUTS levels | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Administrative area | I (National) | II (National) | III (Regional) | IV (District) | V (Locality) |
| MALTA | x | x | x | x | x |
| Malta | | | x | | |
| Gozo & Comino | | | x | | |
| Southern Harbour | | | | x | |
| Northern Harbour | | | | x | |
| South Eastern | | | | x | |
| Western | | | | x | |
| Northern | | | | x | |
| Gozo & Comino | | | | x | |

COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS - NUTS level V

Southern Harbour: Valletta, Birgu, Isla, Bormla, Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xgħajra.

Northern Harbour: Qormi, B'Kara, Gżira, Ħamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pietà, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

South Eastern: Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Ghaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.

Western: Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

Northern: Ghargħur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.

Gozo and Comino: Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.