

For Users

I. Outline of the 2023 Census of Fisheries

1. Survey Objectives

The 2023 Census of Fisheries reveals the actual situation surrounding the fisheries industry in Japan, including the production structure, employment structure, fishing villages and distribution/processing of fishery products, etc. It is aimed at preparing the basic materials necessary for the promotion of fisheries administration in Japan.

2. Laws and Regulations Supporting the Survey

The 2023 Census of Fisheries was conducted as a fundamental statistics survey based on the Statistics Act (Act No. 53 of 2007), the Order for Enforcement of the Statistics Act (Cabinet Order No. 334 of 2008), the Regulations for Census of Fisheries (No. 39 of Ordinance of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1963), and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Notification No. 776 of May 20, 2003 (providing lakes, etc. specified by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Article 5, paragraph (2), item (i) of the Regulations for Census of Fisheries).

3. Survey Framework

Survey Type		Survey System
Marine Fisheries Survey	Survey for Fishery Management Entities	MAFF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Enumerators - Survey targets
	Community Survey for Marine Fisheries	MAFF - Private businesses - Survey targets
Inland Water Fisheries Survey	Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities	MAFF - Local organizations - (Enumerators) - Survey targets
	Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries	MAFF - Private businesses - Survey targets
Distribution and Processing Survey	Survey for Fish Markets	MAFF - Private businesses - Survey targets
	Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants	MAFF - Local organizations - (Enumerators) - Survey targets

4. Survey Targets

(1) Marine Fisheries Survey

a. Survey for Fishery Management Entities

Fishery management entities concerned with marine fisheries in the area of municipalities along the sea (including Lake Saroma, Lake Noto, Lake Fure, Lake Onneto, Lake Akkeshi, Lake Kamo, Lake Hamana and Lake Nakaumi) and municipalities designated by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries under Article 138, paragraph (5) of the Fishery Act (Act No. 267 of 1949) (hereinafter referred to as “coastal municipalities”), and fishery management entities concerned with marine fisheries located outside of these municipalities as deemed necessary by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

b. Community Survey for Marine Fisheries

Fishery cooperatives in coastal areas (meaning fishery cooperatives provided in Article 2 of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act (Act No. 242 of 1948) (excluding inland water fishing cooperatives provided in Article 18, paragraph (2) of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act; hereinafter the same)) .

(2) Inland Water Fisheries Survey

a. Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities

Fishery management entities for inland water fisheries engaged in capture of aquatic animals/plants in natural lakes or other lakes specified by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries with cooperative fishery rights, and fishery management entities engaged in aquaculture in inland waters.

b. Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries

Inland water fishing cooperatives provided in Article 18, paragraph (2) of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act.

(3) Distribution and Processing Survey

a. Survey for Fish Markets

Fish markets directly landing fishery products by fishing vessels, and fish markets not directly landing fishery products but nonetheless engage in initial-stage trade after receiving fishery products from their production areas via ground transportation.

b. Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants

Business entities that own cold storage/refrigerating facilities with at least 7.5 kW (10 horsepower) in major machines on land (cold storage/refrigerating plants), and freeze or refrigerate fishery products (excluding nori-laver, cold nets). Business entities that purchase aquatic animals/plants from others and process/manufacture them for the purpose of sale. Business entities that own facilities recognized as working places/factories and employ full-time workers in their manufacturing activities even if the raw materials are self-produced materials (referred to as fishery processing plants).

5. Survey Items

(1) Marine Fisheries Survey

a. Survey for Fishery Management Entities

- i. Fishery type, fishing vessels used, aquaculture facilities, and other management status of fishery management entities
- ii. Situation of households in individual management entities, number of working days for fishery by household member, and other employment status

b. Community Survey for Marine Fisheries

- i. Activities for resource management and improvement of fishing grounds
- ii. Status of holding assemblies/meetings, etc.
- iii. Activities for community activation

(2) Inland Water Fisheries Survey

a. Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities

- i. Fishery type, fishing vessels used, aquaculture facilities, and other management status of fishery management entities
- ii. Situation of households in individual management entities and employment status of household members

b. Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries

- i. Number of cooperative members
- ii. Fishing ground environment
- iii. Status of recreational fishing
- iv. Activities for community activation

(3) Distribution and Processing Survey

a. Survey for Fish Markets

- i. Fish market facilities and throughput volume
- ii. Other items necessary for understanding the current situation of fish markets

b. Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants

- i. Business details

- ii. Number of workers
- iii. Other items necessary for understanding the current situation of cold storage/refrigerating plants and fishery processing plants

6. Survey Date

Conducted as of November 1, 2023 (Distribution and Processing Survey was conducted as of January 1, 2024).

7. Survey Methods

(1) Marine Fisheries Survey - Survey for Fishery Management Entities

A self-enumeration survey method (i.e., a method whereby survey targets write down their responses by themselves on the questionnaire) was employed whereby survey enumerators distributed questionnaires to survey targets and then collected them later.

In case that cooperation of survey targets could be obtained, online collection of questionnaires was also permitted.

In addition, an interview and hearing-based survey method (i.e., survey enumerators visited survey targets to interview and hear them) was employed upon request from survey targets.

(2) Marine Fisheries Survey – Community Survey for Marine Fisheries, Inland Water Fisheries Survey – Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries, and Distribution and Processing Survey - Survey for Fish Markets

A self-enumeration survey method was employed whereby private businesses posted questionnaires to survey targets and then collected later either via postal mail or online .

In cases where questionnaires could not be collected via postal mail or online, they were collected by enumerators of private businesses.

(3) Inland Water Fisheries Survey - Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities and Distribution and Processing Survey - Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants

A self-enumeration survey method was employed whereby the MAFF posted questionnaires to survey targets and then local organizations collected later either via postal mail or online.

In cases where questionnaires could not be collected via postal mail or online, they were collected by enumerators or officers.

8. Tabulation Method

(1) Organization of Tabulation

Tabulation of these surveys was conducted by the Statistics Department, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

(2) Tabulation Method

Since these surveys are conducted by complete enumeration, the tabulation was made by a simple accumulation of questionnaires with valid responses.

Among questionnaires with no response to mandatory items, some questionnaires which become valid questionnaires after complementing the following items as necessary were included in the tabulation.

[1] Items that could be complemented based on the relationship with other items in the questionnaire

[2] Items other than [1] above that are multiple-choice items and would not cause any inconsistencies with other items when complemented by applying certain choices

The number of valid responses were as follows.

Unit: Questionnaires

Classification	Number of questionnaires distributed	Number of valid responses
Marine Fisheries Survey		
Survey for Fishery Management Entities	67,067	65,662
Community Survey for Marine Fisheries	2,134	2,134
Inland Water Fisheries Survey		
Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities	4,178	4,076
Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries	1,053	1,052
Distribution and Processing Survey		
Survey for Fish Markets	759	759
Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants	7,989	7,325

Note: 1. "Number of questionnaires distributed" is the number of questionnaires distributed to the survey targets. The survey objects list was prepared based on the list of 2018 Census of Fisheries with correction by using administrative records, hearing from relevant organization such as fishery cooperatives, local governments, and judgement by enumerators in enumerator survey.

2. "Number of valid responses" is the number of questionnaires with appropriate responses for all items and questionnaires with all mandatory items completed after complementing no-response items.

9. Target Precision

Target precision was not set as these surveys are complete enumeration.

II. Notes for Using the Report

1. Structure of the Report

This report summarizes main results of the 2023 Census of Fisheries.

2. Definition of Terminology

(1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities



Marine fisheries	The business of capturing or culturing aquatic animals/plants in marine areas (including Lake Saroma, Lake Notoro, Lake Furen, Lake Onneto, Lake Akkeshi, Lake Kamo, Lake Hamana, and Lake Nakaumi).
Survey date	November 1, 2023
Fishery management entity	<p>A household or business entity, etc. that engaged in marine fisheries with intent to sell products for the purpose of earning a living or profit during the year prior to the survey date.</p> <p>However, individual management entities engaged in marine fisheries for less than 30 days during the year prior to the survey date are excluded.</p>
Management organization	Classification of fishery management entities by type of organization.
Individual management entity	An individual or household that is not a corporate entity among fishery management entities.
Organized management entity	A fishery management entity other than individual management entity.
Company	<p>A company (stock company, general partnership company, limited partnership company, or limited liability company) provided in Article 2, paragraph (1) of the Companies Act (Act No. 86 of 2005).</p> <p>It should be noted that special limited companies are included in “stock company.”</p>
Fishery cooperative	<p>A fishery cooperative and federation of fishery cooperatives (hereinafter referred to as “fishery federation”) provided in Article 2 of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act (Act No. 242 of 1948).</p> <p>Inland water fishing cooperatives provided in Article 18, paragraph (2) of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act are excluded.</p>
Fishery production cooperative	A fishery production cooperative provided in Article 2 of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act.
Joint management	Two or more fishery management entities (individual or corporate) manage fishery together by sharing main production means such as fishing vessels, fishing nets, etc. and provide capital or invest such means.
Others	Other entities not classified in the above classifications such as Stock Enhancement Centers and Breeding Centers in prefectures, etc.
Class of management entity	<p>Based on the fishery type with the highest sales amount among the engaged-in fishery types and the total tonnage of used fishing vessels during the year prior to the survey date, fishery management entities are classified as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Management entities of which fishery type with the highest sales amount during the year prior to the survey date was large set net, salmon set net, small set net, or marine aquaculture are classified into those classes.Management entities that do not fall under a. above are classified by type of fishing vessels used during the year prior to the survey date and total tonnage of powered fishing vessels into 16 classes, from “without using fishing vessel,” “non-powered fishing vessel,” “fishing vessel with outboard motor,” and “powered fishing vessel” of “less than 1 ton” to “3,000 tons or more.” <p>However, fishing vessels used during the year prior to the survey date do not include vessels used only for recreational fishing or fresh fish transport-vessels for procurements, etc.</p>
Fishery class	

Coastal fishing class	Collective term for classes of “without using fishing vessel,” “non-powered fishing vessel,” “fishing vessel with outboard motor,” “powered fishing vessel of less than 10 tons,” “set net,” and “marine aquaculture” of class of management entity.
Marine aquaculture class	Collective term for classes of marine aquaculture of class of management entity.
Small/mid-scale fishing class	Collective term for classes of powered fishing vessels of 10 tons or more but less than 1,000 tons of class of management entity.
Large-scale fishing class	Collective term for classes of powered fishing vessels of 1,000 tons or more of class of management entity.
Fishery type	Classified types of fisheries that a fishery management entity engaged in (54 types; specific types are given as header items of the statistical table I. 2. (1) c. “Number of Management Entities by Engaged-in Fishery type”).
Engaged-in fishery type	All types of fisheries that a fishery management entity engaged in during the year prior to the survey date.
Sales amount of catches/harvests	Sales amount (including consumption tax) of catches/harvests of marine aquaculture during the year prior to the survey date. However, sales amount for self-consumption (household consumption) is not included.
Shipping destination	A client to which a fishery management entity directly shipped catches/harvests during the year prior to the survey date. However, in cases where no shipment was made during the year prior to the survey date, it was set to the client to which shipment was planned.
Market or cargo handling facility of fishery cooperative	Shipment was made to a wholesale market operated by a fishery cooperative or a cargo handling facility of a fishery cooperative.
Wholesale markets outside fishery cooperative	Shipment was made to a wholesale market (including a central wholesale market) operated by a non-fishery cooperative.
Distributor/processor	Shipment was made to a distributor such as a wholesale dealer, processor. In addition, cases where self-processed products using self-produced aquatic animals/plants were shipped by methods other than “direct sales to consumers” are also covered here.
Retailer/co-op	Shipment was made to a supermarket (including a mass retailer), a retailer such as fresh fish store, or co-op, etc.
Food service industry	Shipment was made to the food service industry, including restaurants, etc.
Direct sales to consumers	Self-produced aquatic animals/plants or self-processed products using them were shipped directly and sold to customers.
Own fisherman's market	Products were sold in an own fisherman's market by obtaining a distribution license for fishery products under the Food Sanitation Act (Act No. 233 of 1947).
Other fisherman's markets	Products were sold in a fisherman's market operated jointly or by others.
Other methods	Products were sold by mobile sales (peddling), etc. or by directly receiving orders from customers through the Internet, telephone, postal mail, etc.
Others	Any other shipment cases not classified in the above classifications.
Household member engaged in fishery (family member)	A household member of an individual management entity who was engaged in fishery activity during the year prior to the survey date. This includes cases where the household member engaged in fishery activities as a member of joint management or an employee of another fishery management entity.
Executive engaged in	A person in an organized management entity responsible for work at sea or on

fishery	<p>land who is a manager, an executive, a director, or a substitute for them and engaged in own fishery during the year prior to the survey date.</p> <p>However, those not engaged in own fishery who only attend executive committee meetings are not included.</p>
Responsible person	<p>A manager and a household member who is involved in decision making on management policy of an individual management entity, and an executive in an organized management entity engaged in fishery.</p>
Manager	<p>A responsible person for the management of own fishery or a person who makes management decisions.</p>
Person participating in decision making on management policy (excluding manager)	<p>A household member of an individual management entity who has participated in making decisions on the management of own fishery with the manager during the year prior to the survey date.</p>
Chief fisherman	<p>A person who has full control over providing directions/instructions in fishery activity of an organized management entity, and determines the selection or moving fishing ground and the timing of casting fishing nets, etc. and gives instructions to the master of the vessel and other fisherman.</p>
Master of the vessel	<p>A person responsible for the operation of the fishing vessel of an organized management entity, who is in command of the fishing vessel and has obtained a qualification provided in the Act on Ships' Officers and Vessels' Operators (Act No. 149 of 1951) according to the size of fishing vessel.</p>
Chief engineer	<p>A person responsible for the engine department, including engines and boilers of vessel of an organized management entity.</p>
Head of aquaculture site	<p>A person responsible for the operation of aquaculture sites in aquaculture facilities at sea or on inland of an organized management entity.</p>
Others	<p>Persons responsible for work at sea of each department of an organized management entity such as chief radio operator, boatswain, and chief steward (chief cook).</p> <p>This also includes executives who are not in a managerial position.</p>
Responsible person for land work	<p>A person responsible for land work, including management/operational work, etc.</p>
Person mainly engaged in fishery	<p>A person aged 15 years or older engaged in work at sea in own fishery for 30 days or more annually during the year prior to the survey date.</p>
Own fishery of individual management entity only	<p>A household member of an individual management entity mainly engaged in fishery who engaged only in own fishery and not in joint management fishery or hired in fishery (regardless of whether engaged in job other than fishery or not).</p>
Executive engaged in fishery	<p>Same as “executive engaged in fishery” above.</p>
Hired in fishery	<p>Persons mainly engaged in fishery not classified in the above classifications (regardless of whether they engaged in work other than fishery or not).</p>
New fishery worker	<p>A person who, [1] newly began fishery, [2] had been primarily engaged in another job previously but switched to fishery, or [3] had not been engaged in a job on an ordinary basis previously but became primarily engaged in fishery, during the year prior to the survey date.</p> <p>For household members engaged in fishery of an individual management entity, among those covered in “own fishery of individual management entity only” above, a person who primarily engaged in fishery during the year prior to the survey date for the purpose of obtaining regular income from marine fishery , and who is covered in any of [1] through [3] above, is considered a new fishery worker.</p>
Number of fishery workers at sea as of November 1	<p>A person aged 15 years or older engaged in fishery work at sea as of the survey date.</p> <p>This also includes those of a fishery management entity, which did not engage in</p>

	fishery work at sea on the survey date, but engaged in work at sea in own fishery on a day that is considered normal during a period of about 10 days prior to the survey date.
Fishing vessel	<p>Vessels that are used for fishery production by a fishery management entity during the year prior to the survey date, including auxiliary vessels (light vessels for purse seine, fish detection vessels, net vessels, etc.) as well as main vessels.</p> <p>However, vessels that are not directly participating in fishery production (those used for recreational fishing only and fresh fish transport-vessels for procurements, etc.) are excluded even if they are registered as a fishing vessel.</p> <p>It should be noted that, in order to avoid double-counting, calculation of the number of fishing vessels used for fishery production during the year prior to the survey date is limited to those owned as of the survey date.</p> <p>A fishing vessel without propulsion machinery.</p>
Non-powered fishing vessel	
Fishing vessel with outboard motor	<p>A non-powered fishing vessel attached with outboard motors (propulsion machinery that can be removed). In case that one outboard motor is used for multiple non-powered vessels, one of these vessels is considered a fishing vessel with outboard motor and others are considered non-powered fishing vessels.</p>
Powered fishing vessel	<p>A fishing vessel with propulsion machinery fixed to the hull.</p> <p>A vessel with an inboard motor installed in the hull and a propulsion unit (propeller, etc.) attached outside the hull is considered a powered fishing vessel.</p>
Fishery work at sea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In fishing vessel fishery, fishery work refers to all works to be carried out at sea including navigation, operation of machinery, fish catching (work of capturing aquatic animals/plants in fishing grounds), onboard processing, etc. (work of all crew members on a vessel needed for fishery is included such as crew of transport vessels; doctors, cooks, etc. who are not engaged in fishery operations are also included in fishery workers at sea). In set net fishery, fishery work refers to all works at sea, including net setting (installation of nets), net changing, vessel navigation, and fish catching as well as spotting (observing fish to enter set nets) from the land. In beach seine fishery, fishery work refers to all works at sea, including vessel navigation, working nets, and fish catching, and work of hauling in nets on land. In fishery that does not use fishing vessels, fishery work refers to shellfish/seaweed collecting (including seaweed washed on shore), diving, etc. In aquaculture, fishery work refers to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aquaculture at a marine facility <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Travel to and from the aquaculture facility using a fishing vessel Installation and removal of the aquaculture facility such as rafts, brushwood rack (bamboo with branches, tree branches), nets, etc. All works at sea, including seedling collection, feeding, watching aquaculture facility, collecting products, etc. Aquaculture at an inland facility <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All works at an inland facility (breeding pond, rearing pond, water tank, etc.) concerning seed collection and feeding Cleaning of aquaculture facilities (breeding pond, rearing pond, water tanks, etc.) Watching ponds or tanks Feeding (however, the work of feed mixing [feed preparation] is considered land work) Collecting products
Fishery work on land	<p>Fishery work other than fishery work at sea, specifically refers to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Repair/maintenance of production means such as fishing vessels, fishing nets, etc. (including those works carried out on a fishing vessel in a port) Loading of fishing tools, fishing nets, and food Pulling down/up of fishing vessels at the time of leaving/entering port (returning to port)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Waiting to leave port at the time of bad weather e. Purchase and preparation of feed f. Inserting nuclei into pearl shells, extracting pearls, shell cleaning, handling of clam meat, and drying nori laver and wakame seaweed g. Transportation, box packing, etc. of catches until shipment h. Production/processing of processed fishery products using self-produced materials as main raw materials <p>However, in cases where it is carried out in an area acknowledged as a factory or workspace in the same premises (house) using full-time workers for the production, it is not deemed fishery work on land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Management/operational work of own fishery (control/supervision, technical training, accounting/calculation, book-keeping)
Full-time/part-time status of individual management entity	
Full-time	Case where income of an individual management entity (household) for the year prior to the survey date came from the household's own fishery only.
Part-time type 1	Case where an individual management entity (household) that had income from jobs other than its own fishery during the year prior to the survey date, and income from its own fishery exceeded the total of its income from other jobs.
Part-time type 2	Case where an individual management entity (household) that had income from jobs other than the household's own fishery during the year prior to the survey date, and whose total income from other jobs exceeded that from its own fishery.
Types of part-time Fishery products processing	<p>A business of processing/producing products mainly by using fishery products as raw materials.</p> <p>This includes processing products by purchasing fishery products from others, and processing products, even by using self-produced products as raw materials, in an area acknowledged as a factory or workspace in the same premises (house) using full-time workers (including family members) for the production.</p> <p>However, producing dried seaweed products alone is not included in fishery processing.</p>
Fisherman's inn	Business entities that have permission to operate a hotel based on the Inns and Hotels Act (Act No. 138 of 1948), accommodate third parties such as tourists, and serve meals using self-produced aquatic animals/plants and local food ingredients, regardless of the rate of use, to make profits.
Fisherman's restaurant	Business entities that have permission to operate a restaurant or coffee shop based on the Food Sanitation Act, provide aquatic animals/plants produced by themselves to unspecified persons regardless of the rate of use to make profits.
Recreational fishing vessel operation	<p>Business to provide service for recreational fishers by collecting fees to guide them to a fishing ground to catch fishes or other aquatic animals/plants by fishing or other methods (vessel fishing, ferry, etc.) using fishing vessels or recreational fishing vessels.</p> <p>However, business of introducing recreational fishers to other recreational fishing vessel operators is not included in recreational fishing vessel operation.</p>
Agriculture Retailing	<p>Agriculture conducted in order to sell products.</p> <p>Business to retail self-produced aquatic animals/plants or processed products using them.</p> <p>This also includes cases where business entities that do not have stores and sell products through the Internet or peddling, etc.</p>
Others	Any other cases not classified in the above classifications.
Core person mainly engaged in fishery	A person who is aged 15 years or older and works the most days at sea in own fishery during the year prior to the survey date among household members of an individual management entity.
By generation structure	view

One-generation individual management Two-generation individual management Three-generation, etc. individual management	<p>Fishery management with a household structure of “manager only,” “manager and his/her spouse only,” or “manager and brother/sister of manager only.”</p> <p>Fishery management with a household structure of one-generation individual management plus one of the following members: “child,” “parents,” “grandparents,” or “grandchild.”</p> <p>Fishery management with a household structure other than that of one-generation individual management or two-generation individual management.</p>
Successor	<p>A person who is scheduled to become the manager of the own fishery in the future among the persons aged 15 years or older engaged in fishery during the year prior to the survey date.</p>
Major fishing area	<p>Geographic area classification specified as a unit to show statistical value in marine fisheries production statistical survey.</p> <p>It divides Japan's sea areas into nine areas. The boundaries of each area are shown in the Major Fishing Area Classification Chart.</p>
Export of captured/harvested fishery products	<p>Shipment status of catches/harvests in own fishery during the year prior to the survey date, intended for overseas procurement.</p> <p>“Shipping (exporting) products overseas” refers to cases covered in one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Case where captured/harvested fishery products were shipped (exported) directly to overseas wholesalers, restaurants, retailers such as supermarkets, or consumers, etc. by themselves. Case where captured/harvested fishery products were shipped to fishery cooperatives, trading companies, or wholesalers, etc. for the purpose of export (including cases where the shipped products were not intended for export but were confirmed to have been exported at the shipping destinations).
Fishery eco-label certification	<p>Certification for fishery/aquaculture producers that sustainably use fishery resources and implement management that considers environmental and ecological preservation and business operators that process/distribute fishery products from such producers aimed at confirming sustainable use of fishery resources and environmentally friendly fisheries/aquaculture.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <p>MEL (Japan: fisheries/aquaculture) Marine Eco-Label Japan (Example of fishery eco-label certification)</p>  <p>MSC (UK: fisheries) Marine Stewardship Council (Example of fishery eco-label certification)</p>  <p>ASC (Netherlands: aquaculture) Aquaculture Stewardship Council (Example of fishery eco-label certification)</p>



d. BAP (US: aquaculture)
Best Aquaculture Practices
(Example of fishery eco-label certification)



e. Alaska RFM (US: fisheries)
Certified Seafood Collaborative
(Example of fishery eco-label certification)



Fishery mutual aid

“Fishery mutual aid” refers to the following mutual aid services intended to contribute to ensuring fishery reproduction and stabilizing fishery management by compensating for losses that small- and medium-sized fishermen may suffer due to extraordinary events or unforeseen accidents, such as losses when the monetary value of catches is reduced due to poor catches, etc. under the Act on Compensation for Disasters in the Fishing Industry (Act No. 158 of 1964).

- Fish catch mutual aid covering fishing vessel fishery, set net fishery, and some shellfish/seaweed collecting
 - Aquaculture mutual aid and specific aquaculture mutual aid covering cultured fish, etc.
 - Fishery facility mutual aid covering aquaculture facilities and fishing tools
- Cases where it is subscribed by fishery cooperatives or groups are also included if it is related to own fishery.

Tsumitate Plus

“Tsumitate Plus” refers to a budgetary project for fishermen who are engaged in systematic resource management, etc. to compensate for a decrease in their income from a reserve fund contributed by fishermen and a fund created with government funds based on the Guidelines for Granting Subsidies for Fishery Income Stabilization Project (22 FF No. 2323 Notice by Order of Administrative Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries dated March 29, 2011).

(2) Community Survey for Marine Fisheries

Fishery zone

A zone in which fishery is conducted based on commonality of socio-economic activities related to the use of local fisheries centered on common fishery conditions and common fishery rights, etc. within the municipality area.

Survey date

November 1, 2023

Resource management agreement

An agreement that provides resource management targets based on the “Basic Policy on Resource Control” of the government and the “Prefectural Policy on Resource Control” and is approved by prefectures in order to transition the resource management plan under the Fishery Act (Act No. 267 of 1949).

Resource management plan

A plan for resource management to be implemented independently by fish type or fishery type created by relevant persons related to fishery based on the “Resource

Fishing ground improvement plan	Management Guidelines” established as a basic policy on ideal resource management in the future by the government and prefectures.
Others	A plan created by a fishery cooperative, etc. for assuring sustainable aquaculture production and authorized by the governor, etc. under Article 4 of the Sustainable Aquaculture Production Assurance Act (Act No. 51 of 1999).
Management of fishery resources	Voluntary activities by a fishery cooperative aimed at resource management and improvement of fishing grounds other than the resource management plan and the fishing ground improvement plan.
Setting quotas (captures/harvests)	Setting the volume of catches by fish type and fishery type.
Breeding of fishery resources	In case of the marine aquaculture, setting the number of aquaculture facilities.
Others	Release of seeds and seedlings, etc. (including intermediate-bred ones) for the preservation and expansion of fishery resources.
Preservation/management of fishing grounds	Any other activities related to the management of fishery resources that are not classified in the above classifications.
Preservation of fishing grounds	Measures to maintain the fishing ground in an appropriate state for the growth of fishery resources through development of seaweed beds and tidal flats, activities not to use chemicals, etc.
Maintenance and management of seaweed beds and tidal flats	Activities conducted for the maintenance and management of seaweed beds and tidal flats.
Activities not to use chemicals, etc.	Activities such as making rules to disallow use of chemicals such as antifouling agent for fishing nets, etc., among chemicals that are currently permitted, for the reason of high environmental impact.
Development of fishing grounds	Activities not to use synthetic detergent are also included.
Rules on the use of fishing grounds	Activities to improve the values of fishing grounds.
Others	Making rules on the use of fishing grounds.
Management of catches	Any other activities conducted for the purpose of preserving/managing fishing grounds not classified in the above classifications.
Regulation by legal systems	Rules based on the fishery adjustment rules, the content and restrictions or conditions of fishery permission, and the rules for enforced areas of fishery rights, etc.
Regulation on fishing methods (aquaculture methods)	Activities to conduct management of catches through prohibition of specific fishing methods (aquaculture methods).
Regulation on using fishing vessels	The regulation on aquaculture density in aquaculture is also included here.
Regulation on using fishing tools	Activities to conduct management of catches through the regulation on fishing vessels used.
Regulation on fishing periods	Activities to conduct management of catches through the regulation on fishing tools used.
	Activities to conduct management of catches by regulating fishing periods (including suspension/prohibition days of fishing)

Regulation on number of fishing days and operating hours	Activities to conduct management of catches by regulating the number of fishing days and operating hours (including only setting of the starting/ending time of operation).
Regulation on size of catches (captures/harvests)	Activities to conduct management of catches by regulating the size of fishes and seafoods that can be caught/harvested or shipped (length, weight, etc.).
Regulation on the quantity of catches (captures/harvests)	Activities to conduct management of catches by regulating the quantity of catches per management entity or fishing unit per year, fishing period, or day. For marine aquaculture, regulation on harvests per management entity for marine aquaculture.
Others	Any other activities conducted for the purpose of managing catches not classified in the above classifications.
Agenda of assemblies/meetings, etc.	
Change of specific demarcated fishery right/common fishery right	Agenda includes a change of specific demarcated fishery rights (demarcated fishery right licensed preferentially to fishery cooperatives and fishery federations as fishery rights; as “bamboo-installed aquaculture business,” “algae aquaculture business,” “suspension-type aquaculture business (excluding pearl aquaculture),” “fish pen aquaculture business,” and “shellfish aquaculture business as a class 3 demarcated fishery”) and common fishery rights (rights of operating a common fishery (fishery operated in certain commonly utilized waters)).
Entry of company	Agenda includes the entry of companies into fishery/aquaculture in local area.
Waiver of fishery right	Agenda includes the waiver (including only some parts of area) of fishery rights (fixed gear fishery rights, demarcated fishery rights, or common fishery rights) licensed to a fishery cooperative.
Compensation for fishery-related loss	Agenda includes the compensation (compensation of consideration) for fishery right, etc. in case where the fishery right is waived or cannot temporarily be executed.
Management of common property/facility of local area	Agenda includes the management of fishing port facilities or facilities of fishing grounds shared by fishery managers of local area.
Preservation of natural environment	Agenda includes the preservation of the natural environment of local area, including seaweed beds and tidal flats.
Social event/ceremony of local area (festival, event, etc.)	Agenda includes the implementation of festivals (fishery cooperative festivals, fishery product festivals, fish festivals, etc.) and events (outlet to consumers, seine fishing experience, beach opening, etc.) held in local area.
Others	Agenda includes any other matters not classified in the above classifications.
Activities related to fishery cooperative	
Activity to secure new fishery workers/successors	Activity to secure new fishery workers and successors mainly conducted by fishery cooperatives.
Activity to clean waste (on beach, at sea, bottom of the sea)	Activity to clean beach (collecting not only waste that has been washed ashore but also waste left by tourists, etc.) and activity such as collecting/disposing waste mixed with fishing nets or caught in set nets, etc. in an organized manner by each fishery cooperative.
Activity for the sixth industrialization	Activity related to integrated business from production to processing and distribution (sixth industrialization) in which farmers, fishermen, and foresters, etc. to process agricultural, forestry, and fishery products produced by themselves, then

Activity of blue tourism	<p>directly sell them to consumers and provide them in fisherman's inn and/or fisherman's restaurants, etc.</p> <p>Activity of blue tourism (recreational activities to enjoy nature, culture and interaction with people in fishing area) mainly conducted by fishery cooperatives to accept urban residents, etc.</p> <p>Regardless of the duration of stay if the activities are conducted for the purpose of accepting recreational activities.</p>
Preservation of fishery-related traditional festival/culture/art	Activity to preserve historical festivals associated with the sea and fisheries (water god festival, sea god festival, etc.), cultures (dietary cultures, fishing methods from ancient era, etc.), and public arts (Kagura dances to celebrate bountiful catches, etc.).
Holding of various events	Activity to hold various events other than the above for the purpose of community activation.
Fishery experience	Activity to allow actual experience of fishery such as using a beach seine, set net, or trawl.
Fishery food promotion activity	Activity to implement events such as lectures/lessons of fish cooking, exhibit of fish dishes and panel display at local events, etc. for the purposes of expanding consumption of fishery products (including promotion of their nutritional properties and as a health food) and deepening understanding of fisheries.
Fisherman's market	A business entity that owns a facility (structure with adequate durability such as steel construction, reinforced concrete or timber construction with a refrigerating facility, water supply, waste treatment facility, etc.) to sell fresh seafood and processed fishery products, etc. directly to consumers on a regular basis by obtaining a fish and seafood sales business license based on the Food Sanitation Act (Act No. 233 of 1947) and employs its own full-time workers for sales activities.

(3) Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities

Inland water fisheries	Fisheries conducted in inland water (excluding Lake Saroma, Lake Notoro, Lake Furen, Lake Onneto, Lake Akkeshi, Lake Kamo, Lake Hamana, and Lake Nakaumi; hereinafter the same).
Survey date	November 1, 2023
Inland water fishery management entity	<p>A household or business entity that engaged in capture of aquatic animals/plants in natural or other lakes with cooperative fishing rights (hereinafter referred to as "lakes") and/or engaged in aquaculture in inland waters in order to sell products to gain profit or income during the year prior to the survey date.</p> <p>Aquaculture in inland waters refers to systematically and continually feeding or applying fertilizer in inland waters to cultivate seeds and seedlings or adult fishes for culture/release.</p>
Management organization	Classification of fishery management entities by type of organization.
Individual management entity	Same as "individual management entity" in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Organized management entity	Same as "organized management entity" in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Company	Same as "company" in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Fishery cooperative	A fishery cooperative and a fishery federation established under the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act.
Fishery production cooperative	Same as "fishery production cooperative" in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Joint management	Same as "joint management" in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.

Others	Same as “others” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Full-time/part-time status of individual management entity	Same as “full-time/part-time status of individual management entity” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Fishery type	<p>Fishery types conducted by lake fishery management entities (11 types).</p> <p>a. Net fishery (5 types): trawl/vessel seine, gill net, set net, cast net, other net fisheries</p> <p>b. Other fishery (4 types): angling/long-line, shellfish/seaweed collecting, cages, other fisheries</p> <p>c. Aquaculture (2 types): fishes culture, other aquacultures</p>
Engaged-in fishery type	All fishery types practiced during the year prior to the survey date.
Aquaculture type	<p>Aquaculture types conducted by inland water aquaculture management entities (18 types).</p> <p>a. For food (11 types) : rainbow trout, other salmons/trouts, sweetfish, common carp, crucian carp, eel, softshell turtle, saltwater fishes (rainbow trout, other salmons/trouts, others), others</p> <p>b. For seed (4 types) : salmons/trouts, sweetfish, common carp, others</p> <p>c. For ornamental (2 types) : nishikigoi carp, others</p> <p>d. Pearl (1 type) : pearl</p>
Engaged-in aquaculture type	All aquaculture types practiced during the year prior to the survey date.
Fishery work on lake	<p>Fishery work conducted on lake</p> <p>a. In fishing vessel fishery, works of vessel navigation, fish catching, etc.</p> <p>b. In set net fishery, all fishery works of net setting/changing, vessel navigation, fish catching, and others on a lake as well as spotting (observing fish entering set nets) from the land.</p> <p>c. In beach seine fishery, all fishery works of vessel navigation, working nets, and all other fish catching work on lake as well as hauling in nets on land.</p> <p>d. Shellfish/seaweed collecting without using fishing vessels, collecting shellfish, etc. by diving.</p> <p>e. In aquaculture, all fishery works of round trip to aquaculture site, installation and removal of aquaculture facilities (rafts, preserves, etc.), seed collection, watching aquaculture facility, harvesting, etc. on lake (except for engaging in works only of practices of pearl culture, shell cleaning and handling of clam meat).</p>
On-lake fishery worker	A person aged 15 years older who engaged in fishery work on lake during the year prior to the survey date, regardless of number of days, including persons who worked temporarily to perform a specific task.
Aquaculture work	Works necessary in aquaculture such as feeding (including preparation of feed), sorting, landing, cultivation pond management, installation of aquaculture facilities and other necessary for management (including cultivation work in lake fishery).
Aquaculture worker	A person aged 15 years or older engaged in aquaculture work during the year prior to the survey date, regardless of number of days, including persons who worked temporarily to perform a specific task.
New aquaculture	Of the individual management entities, a person who primarily engaged in fishery

worker	during the year prior to the survey date for the purpose of obtaining regular income from fishery and fall under the following categories: [1] newly began fishery, [2] had been primarily engaged in another job previously but switched to fishery, or [3] had not been engaged in a job on an ordinary basis previously but became primarily engaged in fishery.
Owned fishing vessel	A fishing vessel that a fishery management entity manages and operates as of the survey date among all fishing vessels used during the year prior to the survey date (includes fishing vessels borrowed from other entities, but does not include fishing vessels lent to other entities).
Non-powered fishing vessel	Same as “non-powered fishing vessel” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Fishing vessel with outboard motor	Same as “fishing vessel with outboard motor” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Powered fishing vessel	Same as “powered fishing vessel” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Successor	Same as “successor” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Number of cultivation ponds	<p>The number of cultivation ponds used in aquaculture (rearing ponds, fry ponds, auxiliary ponds for harvest, etc.; does not include sedimentation ponds for water purification, filtration ponds, etc.).</p> <p>Sections demarcated by concrete or other fixed items are counted for each section (Removable separations such as fishing nets are not included).</p> <p>Moreover, in case of the net preserve culture, the number is the number of preserves net, and in case of the pearl culture, the number is the demarcated fishery rights.</p>
Aquaculture area	<p>The area of cultivation ponds.</p> <p>Moreover, in case of the net preserve culture, the area is water surface enclosed by preserve nets, and in case of the pearl culture, the area is the installed section area of the aquaculture facility.</p>
Sales amount of catches	Sales amount (including consumption tax) of catches in lake fishery during the year prior to the survey date. It includes harvests in lake aquaculture.
Sales amount of harvests	Sales amount (including consumption tax) of harvests in inland water aquaculture during the year prior to the survey date.

(4) Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries

Survey date	November 1, 2023
Certificate of approval for recreational fishing	A certificate of approval to be issued for recreational fishers by a cooperative as the right holder of common fishery rights with recreational fishing regulations set from the view point of public characteristics of fishery rights.
Exchange activity with other areas	A hands-on activity intended to deepen understanding of fishery and fishery products for the people visiting from outside of fishing area, etc. implemented by an inland water fishing cooperative during the year prior to the survey date.
Fishery experience	Same as “fishery experience” in (2) Community Survey for Marine Fisheries.
Fishery food promotion activity	Same as “fishery food promotion activity” in (2) Community Survey for Marine Fisheries.

(5) Survey for Fish Markets

Survey date	January 1, 2024
Fish market	A market where fishery products are directly landed by fishing vessels, and a market engaged in initial-stage trade after receiving fishery products from production areas via ground transportation even if fishery products are not landed directly, during the year prior to the survey date.
Quality/hygiene management equipment for fishery products	
Seawater disinfection equipment	Equipment to disinfect/sterilize seawater.
Ice crusher/maker	Equipment to make ice for covering fishery products, etc. used at a fish market. It does not include equipment to make ice only for loading in refrigerator trucks and holds of fishery vessel.
Deodorization equipment, exhaust gas treatment equipment	Equipment to purify air in a building.
Fishery processing equipment	Equipment to conduct initial processing of fishery products, packing work, etc. automatically such as a fillet machine, packing machine, etc.
Others	Any other equipment installed for the purpose of managing the quality or hygiene of fishery products and not classified in the above classifications, such as ozone water generation equipment to clean devices in a hygienic manner.
Fishery product wholesaler	A business operator that receives consignment for sale or purchase of fishery products from shippers.
Fishery product purchaser	A middleman or a participant of trade that purchases from fishery product wholesalers.
Shipping agent in producing area	A business operator that purchases fishery products from fishery product wholesalers and ships them to other wholesale markets.
Processor	A business operator that produces processed products using fishery products purchased from fishery product wholesalers.
Others	Any other fishery product purchasers not classified in the above classifications.

(6) Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Processing Plants

Survey date	January 1, 2024
Cold storage/refrigerating plant	<p>A business entity that owns cold storage/refrigerating facilities with at least 7.5 kW (10 horsepower) in major machines on land, and froze or refrigerated fishery products during the year prior to the survey date.</p> <p>Cold storage of business entities that do not handle fishery products, business entities that store “nori laver” cold nets only, and fish retailers that aim to store fishery products for a short period of time, etc. are not included.</p>

Fishery processing plant	A business entity that purchased aquatic animals/plants from others and processed/manufactured them for the purpose of sale, or a business entity that owned facilities recognized as working places/factories and employ full-time workers in their manufacturing activities even if the raw materials were self-produced materials, during the year prior to the survey date.
Types of business entity	
Individual	A business entity operated personally.
Company	Same as “company” in (1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities.
Fishery cooperative, fishery federation, production cooperative	A fishery cooperative, federation of fishery cooperative associations, and fishery production cooperative under Article 2 of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act.
Fishery processing cooperative, processing federation	A fishery processing cooperative and federation of fishery processing cooperatives under Article 2 of the Fishery Industry Cooperative Act.
Other cooperative	An organization whose name contains “cooperative” or “federation of cooperatives” but which is other than “fishery cooperative, fishery federation, production cooperative” and “fishery processing cooperative, processing federation” mentioned above.
Others	Any other business entities not classified in the above classifications.
Full-time worker	<p>A person falling under any of categories a. to d. below.</p> <p>a. Owner of individual business entity or family member without salary</p> <p>b. Executive with salary (person covered by the executive salary/remuneration system)</p> <p>c. Employee (person with wage or salary [including payment in kind])</p> <p>d. Person received through transfer or dispatch (assigned employee)</p> <p>The above do not include business owners who are not involved in actual duties, or workers or trainees transferred or dispatched to other companies, etc.</p>
Employee (included in the above)	An employee who is a full-time worker (person who receives a wage or salary [including salary in kind])
Others	Persons other than a full-time worker who is employed for a set period of less than one month on a day-to-day basis, etc.

3. Symbols Used

The following symbols appear in the statistical tables.

0: Value that is less than one unit

—: Item for which a correct value is unavailable

...: Item for which the detail is unknown or which is not surveyed

x : Item for which no statistical value is released in order to protect confidential information of individuals, corporations, or other organizations

△: Value that is negative or decreased

nc: Value that cannot be calculated

4. Confidential Measure

In results of the Statistical Survey, if the number of survey targets was 2 or lower, the result is shown as “x” as a confidential measure from the viewpoint of keeping the survey result on an individual, corporation, or other organization confidential.

If the result to which the confidential measure is applied can be estimated by subtracting from the total, figures that do not need to be kept confidential are also shown as “x.”

5. Postings on Websites

The results of various agriculture, forestry and fisheries statistical surveys are available for viewing as statistical information (“Data”-“Statistics”) on the website of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

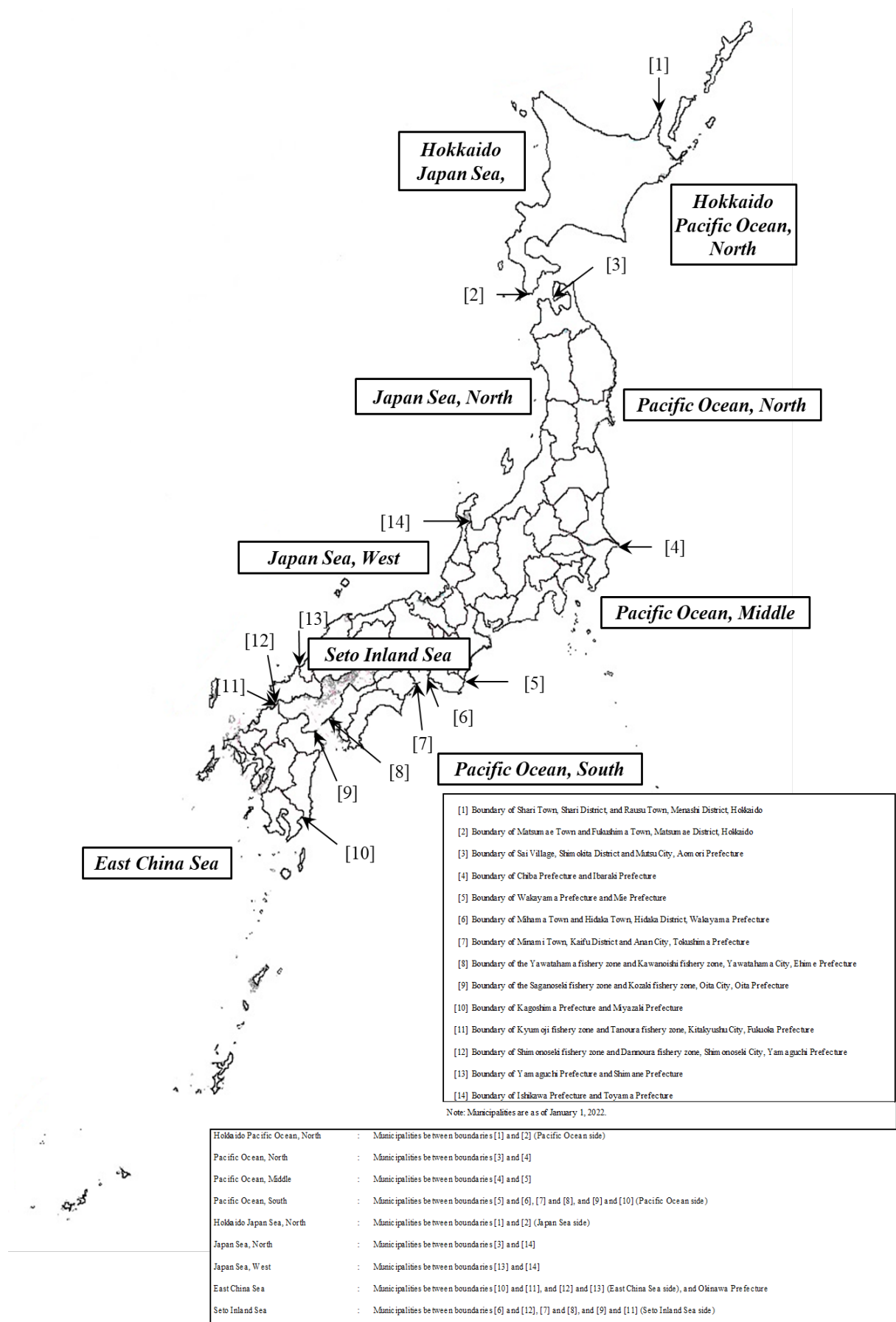
[<https://www.maff.go.jp/e/data/stat/>]

The results of this report are available for viewing at “Fisheries”-“Census of Fisheries.”

In the event of any correction to statistical data, etc., the errata will be posted on the website.

[<https://www.maff.go.jp/j/tokei/kouhyou/gyocen/>]

6. Major Fishing Area Classification Chart



III. Major Amendments of the 2023 Census of Fisheries

In conducting the 2023 Census of Fisheries, the following amendments are made, taking into account the trends in fisheries and fisheries administration in Japan.

1. Marine Fisheries Survey

(1) Survey for Fishery Management Entities

- a. In order to understand the actual export situation, the percentage of the export amount in the sales amount of fishery products was newly identified.
- b. The status of acquisition of fishery eco-label certification for fishery products captured/harvested by methods that sustainably use fishery resources and consider the environment was newly identified.
- c. The status of subscription to fishery mutual aid and fishery income stabilization project (Tsumitate Plus) in fishery management entities was newly identified.
- d. For the types of fishery that fishery management entities engaged in, [1] “skipjack/tuna surrounding net on off-shore water (one-boat operation)” and “other surrounding nets (one-boat operation)” were combined into “other surrounding nets (one-boat operation),” [2] “squid angling on distant water” and “squid angling on off-shore water” were combined into “squid angling on distant/off-shore water,” and [3] “rainbow trout culture” and “other salmon/trouts culture” that had previously been included in “other fishes cultures” were separated.

(2) Community Survey for Marine Fisheries

- a. Due to the revision of the Fishery Act, a new system “resource management agreement” was newly added to the classification of activities and identified.
- b. In order to understand the actual export situation, the sales amount of export conducted by fishery cooperatives in the sales amount of fishery products was newly identified.

2. Inland Water Fisheries Survey

(1) Survey for Inland Water Fishery Management Entities

- a. In order to understand the actual export situation, the percentage of the export amount in the sales amount of fishery products by lake fishery/aquaculture was newly identified.
- b. The status of acquisition of fishery eco-label certification for fishery products captured/harvested by methods that sustainably use fishery resources and consider the environment was newly identified.
- c. For the engaged-in aquaculture types, “rainbow trout” and “other salmon/trouts” that had previously been included in “saltwater fishes (bastard halibut, etc.)” were separated.

(2) Community Survey for Inland Water Fisheries

In order to understand the actual export situation, the sales amount of export conducted by fishery cooperatives in the sales amount of fishery products was newly identified.

3. Distribution and Processing Survey - Survey for Cold Storage/Refrigerating Plants and Fishery Product Processing Plants

- (1) In order to understand the actual export situation, the percentage of the export amount in the sales amount of fishery products was newly identified.
- (2) The status of acquisition of fishery eco-label certification (distribution and processing stage certification) for fishery products captured/harvested by methods that sustainably use fishery resources and consider the environment was newly identified.

IV. List of Reports Issued

The reports on census of fisheries issued are as follows.

2023 Census of Fisheries (Summary)

For other detailed results, reports will not be issued, but those results will be progressively posted on the following website.

[<https://www.maff.go.jp/j/tokei/census/fc/2023fc/2023fc.html>]

V. Inquiries

Census of Fisheries Statistics Team, Census Statistics Office, Management and Structure Statistics Division, Statistics Department, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

TEL: (Main) 03-3502-8111 (Extension) 3660

(Direct) 03-3502-8467

* In addition to the above, the opinions/requests for this report are also accepted on the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries website.

[<https://www.contactus.maff.go.jp/j/form/kanbo/koho/160807.html>]