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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION  
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**

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**WCPFC-SC18-AR/CCM-38**

**VIETNAM**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL  
PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (WCPFC)**

**PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**

**TUNA FISHERIES IN 2021**

**VIET NAM'S ANNUAL FISHERY REPORT**

**DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**



Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 30 April, 2022.	Yes
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

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## SUMMARIES

Since 2020, the statistics of fishing vessels and tuna catches were conducted in 12 provinces with 03 additional provinces: Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Tien Giang.

In 2021, the total number of fishing vessels of the three main fisheries targeting tuna species is 7,088 fishing vessels and a decrease of 4.72% compared to 2020 (decreased 351 vessels), of which was 3,004 longliner/handliner, 1,425 gillnetters and 2,659 purse seiners. The number of fishing vessels has decreased because the gillnets and purse seine of some provinces such as Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Khanh Hoa, and Ninh Thuan have been converted to other types of fishing.

Current fishing effort of Vietnamese tuna fleets is still below the maximum sustainable yield. It is noted that all tuna fisheries vessels are now operating in Vietnamese EEZ.

Total tuna catches in Vietnamese EEZ in 2021 was 127,068 Tons for three gear types which is still below the maximum sustainable yield of more than about 200,000 Tons. Of those, skipjack tuna contributed 68,822 Tons (54.16%); 17,020 Tons of yellowfin tuna (13.39%); 3,176 Tons of bigeye tuna (2.50%); 4,093 Tons of billfish and 33,957 Tons of others. Total tuna catches in 2021 increase by 24.19% compared to 2020.

In general, Viet Nam is attempting to improve its tuna fisheries management system such as establishing and implementing tuna data collection and to enhance effectiveness of fisheries conservation and management measures. The fisheries regulations have been revising towards harmonizing with the common regional and international regulations e.g. WCPFC, UN, FAO.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The marine capture fisheries play an important role in the Vietnamese economy. They provide food security, employments, income, poverty elimination and national economic growth. In the overall development of the country, the fisheries sector in general and tuna fisheries in particular have thus become an important industry.

The potential of the tuna fisheries has been recognized in the general development of fisheries sector. The oceanic tuna fisheries (for catching Skipjack, Yellowfin tuna, and Bigeye tuna) are recognized as the main sector in national key programs in the past three decades. Three fisheries are using for catching oceanic tuna: longline/handline (LL/HL), purse seine (PS) and gillnet (GN). These fisheries are used by local fishermen of 12 coastal provinces: Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Ba Ria - Vung Tau and Tien Giang.

The tuna vessels are small scale and only operated in the Vietnamese waters. Their catches are preserved with the ice onboard, unloaded at the local home ports and sold to the local middlemen.

## **ANNUAL TUNA FISHERIES INFORMATION**

### **A. FLEET STRUCTURE**

Longline/handline fisheries (LL/HL) is the main fishing method used for catching yellowfin and bigeye tuna. They are highly developed in the central provinces (i.e. Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa and Binh Dinh). The number of tuna LL/HL vessels by 2021 was 3,004 vessels (*Table 1*) increased 83 vessels compared to 2020. All of them are licensed to operate in the Vietnamese waters only.

In 2021, Total number of GN vessels registered was 1,425 vessels. It decreased 396 vessels compared to 2020 (*Table 2*). However, it was noted that there may be mixing between coastal gillnetters targeting on small pelagic fishes and neritic tuna with offshore gillnetters targeting on skipjack in registration system. Therefore, some of the coastal gillnetters may be counted as the offshore gillnetters.

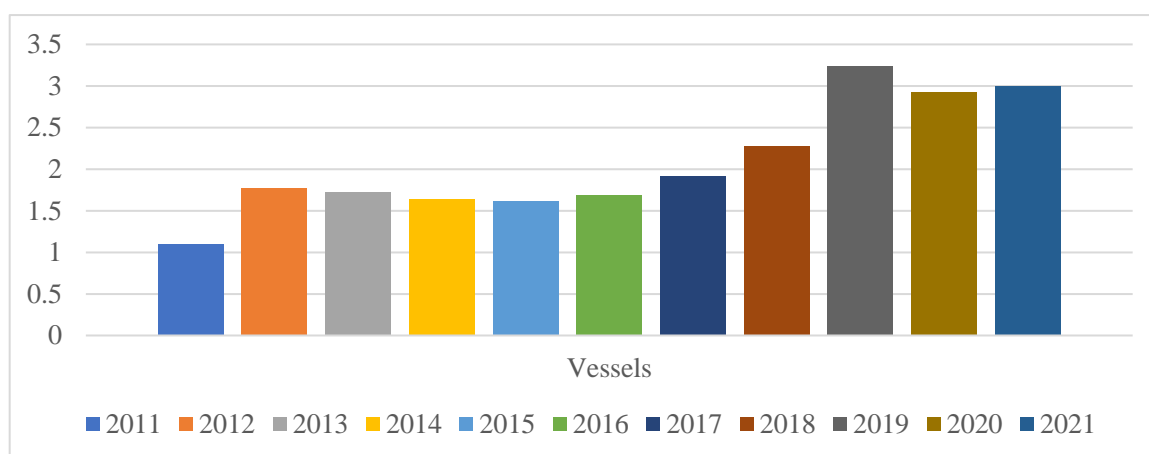
The number of tuna PS vessels by 2021 was 2,659 vessels (*Table 3*), decreased 38 vessels compared to 2020. The number of PS vessels is less volatile, as the number of PS vessels in Da Nang and Quang Ngai decreased, but the number of PS vessels in Ninh Thuan and Ba Ria - Vung Tau increased.

In general, the number of vessels in 2021 decreased of 4.72% compared to 2020 (decreased 351 vessels). The number of fishing vessels has decreased because the gillnets and purse seine of some provinces such as Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Khanh Hoa, and Ninh Thuan have been converted to other types of fishing.

*Table 1: Number of tuna longline/handline in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011 - 2021*

Size class (HP)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
50 - 89	156	173	9	0	1	0	0	3	87	174	23
90 - 149	142	518	169	22	8	9	5	5	244	1,007	11
150 - 249	531	742	399	201	85	89	73	70	45	8	29
250 - 399	240	270	647	687	418	407	391	395	323	115	263
> 400	33	69	505	735	1,111	1,184	1,455	1,804	2,549	1,617	2,678
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>2,277</b>	<b>3,248</b>	<b>2,921</b>	<b>3,004</b>

*Figure 1: Number of tuna longline/handline in Viet Nam*



*Table 2: Number of tuna gillnetters in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011 - 2021*

Size class (HP)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
50 - 89	627	605	212	133	125	94	81	56	317	541	238
90 - 149	261	200	307	60	60	53	48	47	301	463	61
150 - 249	184	174	175	86	93	85	67	56	71	32	59
250 - 399	216	204	132	199	281	273	271	197	297	144	186
> 400	24	21	72	261	414	498	594	662	1,170	641	881
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>2,156</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>1,425</b>

*Figure 2: Number of tuna gillnetters in Viet Nam*

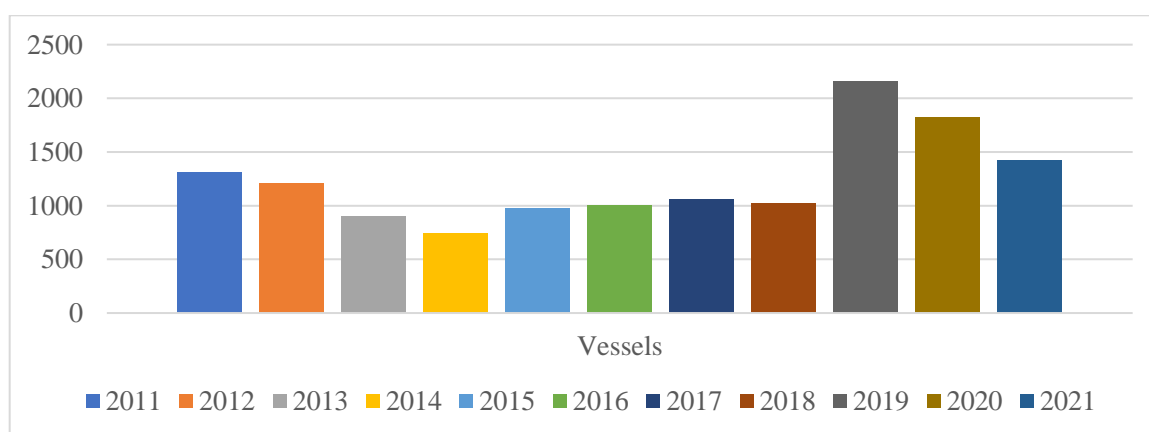
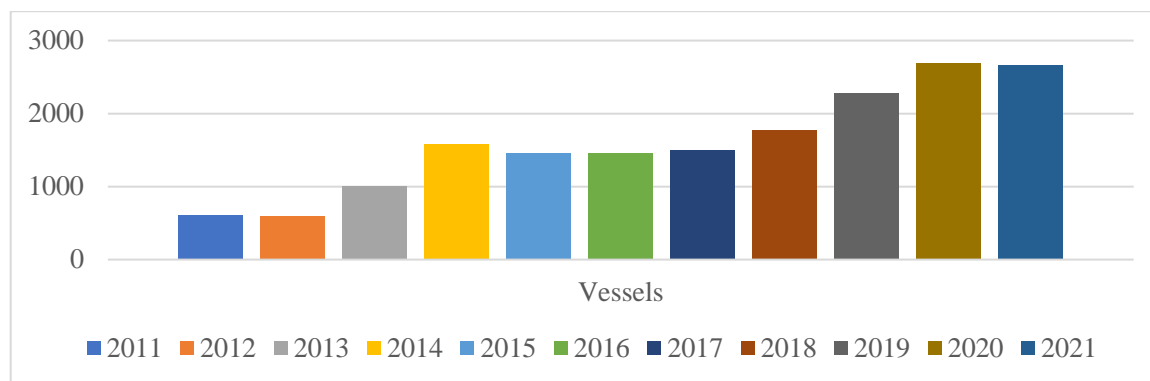


Table 3: Number of tuna purse seine in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011 - 2021

Size class (HP)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
50 - 89	134	136	131	79	64	59	64	78	81	353	108
90 - 149	184	194	118	90	73	58	66	81	185	569	178
150 - 249	44	56	114	154	138	127	120	147	186	69	291
250 - 399	233	206	242	513	456	404	350	423	483	373	420
> 400	20	0	409	750	730	811	893	1,043	1,349	1,333	1,662
<b>Total</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>1,461</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>2,697</b>	<b>2,659</b>

Figure 3: Number of tuna purse seine in Viet Nam



## B. ANNUAL TUNA CATCHES IN THE VIET NAM'S EEZ

The total tuna catches are reported by combination of tuna unloaded by LL/HL, PS, GN at local ports of 12 coastal provinces from Quang Tri to Tien Giang: Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Ba Ria - Vung Tau and Tien Giang in 2021. The total tuna catches by 2021 was 127,068 Tons, increase about 24,752 Tons compared to 2020 (increase 24.19%). It is noted that these catches unloaded by Vietnamese vessels which operated only in the Vietnam's exclusive economic zone.

Although total tuna catches increased, but the number of tuna fishing fleets in 2021 decreased compared to 2020, because the gillnets and purse seine of some provinces such as Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Khanh Hoa, and Ninh Thuan have been converted to other types of fishing.

The total catches of tuna in 2021 increased due to a number of reasons as follows: more complete and accurate statistics; increased fishing time; favorable weather conditions; improved fishing gear and techniques fishing;...

Table 4: Summaries of total tuna catches (Tons) caught in Viet Nam's EEZ in 2021

Gear	Total tuna catch in 2021						2020	2021/2020 (%)
	BET	YFT	SKJ	SWO/Marlin	Others	Total		
Longline/Handline	2,275	13,822	630	1,577	2,097	20,402	16,796	21.47
%	71.65	81.21	0.92	38.52	6.18	16.06	16.42	-2.19
Gillnet	175	528	17,356	2,150	9,478	29,687	28,728	3.34

%	5.51	3.10	25.22	52.53	27.91	23.36	28.08	-16.79
Purse seine	725	2,670	50,836	366	22,382	<b>76,979</b>	<b>56,792</b>	35.55
%	22.84	15.69	73.87	8.95	65.91	<b>60.58</b>	<b>55.51</b>	9.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,176</b>	<b>17,020</b>	<b>68,822</b>	<b>4,093</b>	<b>33,957</b>	<b>127,068</b>	<b>102,316</b>	<b>24.19</b>

Figure 4: Total tuna catches in Viet Nam

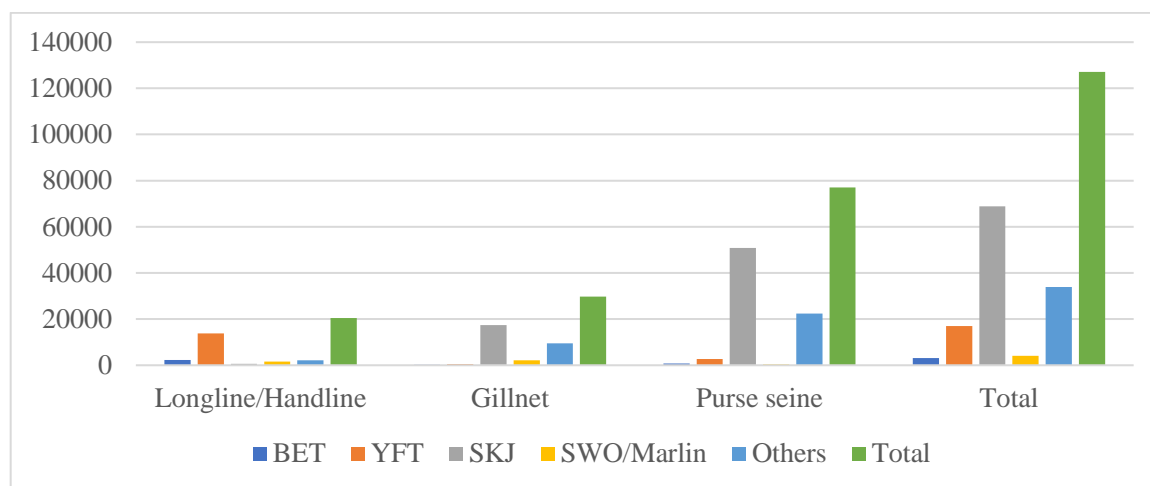


Table 5: Total tuna catches in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna longline/handline by species from 2011 - 2021 (Tons)

Year	BET	%	YFT	%	SKJ	%	ALB	%	SWO	%	OTH	%	Total
2011	2.923	24,4	9.031	75,5	0	0,0	13	0,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>11.967</b>
2012	3.761	23,2	12.456	76,7	0	0,0	13	0,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>16.230</b>
2013	2.260	13,8	13.917	84,7	0	0,0	251	1,5	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>16.428</b>
2014	2.350	16,8	11.603	83,2	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>13.953</b>
2015	2.026	10,2	17.859	89,8	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>19.885</b>
2016	1.115	6,4	16.423	93,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>17.538</b>
2017	1.004	6,0	15.677	94,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>16.681</b>
2018	902	5,2	16.500	94,8	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>17.402</b>
2019	1.554	9,6	14.653	90,4	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>16.207</b>
2020	2.678	15,9	14.118	84,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>16.796</b>
2021	2.275	11,2	13.822	67,8	630	3,1	0	0,0	1.577	7,7	2.097	10,3	<b>20.402</b>
Growth (%)	-2,47		4,35		-		-100		-		-		<b>5,48</b>

Table 6: Total tuna catches in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna gillnet by species from 2011 - 2021 (Tons)

Year	BET	%	YFT	%	SKJ	%	ALB	%	SWO	%	OTH	%	Total
2011	646	4,8	942	7,0	11.866	88,2	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>13.454</b>
2012	363	1,6	1.024	4,6	20.988	93,8	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>22.375</b>
2013	400	1,0	2.823	7,1	36.496	91,9	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>39.719</b>
2014	641	1,9	173	0,5	32.789	97,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>33.603</b>
2015	472	1,5	1.762	5,5	29.730	93,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>31.964</b>
2016	1.671	3,5	771	1,6	44.997	94,9	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>47.439</b>



2017	411	1,0	560	1,4	40.281	97,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>41.252</b>
2018	276	0,8	521	1,5	34.229	97,7	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>35.026</b>
2019	228	0,7	599	1,8	31.977	97,5	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>32.804</b>
2020	199	0,7	637	2,2	27.892	97,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>28.728</b>
2021	175	0,6	528	1,8	17.356	58,5	0	0,0	2.150	7,2	9.478	31,9	<b>29.687</b>
Growth (%)	-12,24		-5,63		3,88		-		-		-		<b>8,24</b>

*Table 7: Total tuna catches in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna purse seine by species from 2011 - 2021 (Tons)*

Year	BET	%	YFT	%	SKJ	%	ALB	%	SWO	%	OTH	%	Total
2011	345	2,0	3.964	23,0	12.926	75,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>17.235</b>
2012	965	3,6	3.336	12,4	22.638	84,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>26.939</b>
2013	805	3,6	2.784	12,4	18.895	84,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>22.484</b>
2014	1.572	4,7	4.229	12,7	27.485	82,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>33.286</b>
2015	1.676	4,3	5.947	15,3	31.279	80,4	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>38.902</b>
2016	2.918	5,0	6.617	11,4	48.564	83,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>58.099</b>
2017	2.508	4,6	6.170	11,3	46.014	84,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>54.692</b>
2018	3.123	4,6	7.683	11,3	57.299	84,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>68.105</b>
2019	676	1,1	4.247	7,0	55.380	91,8	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>60.303</b>
2020	853	1,5	2.832	5,0	53.107	93,5	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	<b>56.792</b>
2021	725	0,9	2.670	3,5	50.836	66,0	0	0,0	366	0,5	22.382	29,1	<b>76.979</b>
Growth (%)	7,71		-3,87		14,68		-		-		-		<b>16,14</b>

### C. COASTAL STATE REPORTING

There are currently no foreign fishing vessels licensed to operate in the Vietnamese waters, and also no Vietnamese vessels are operating in the WCPFC waters and other countries.

### D. OTHER INFORMATION

#### 1. Socio-economic factors

In 2021, the exported value of Viet Nam's tuna products was approximately 759.492 million USD, increased 17.1 percent compared to 2020 (*Table 8*).

The total value of tuna exports in 2021 increased compared to 2020 may be due to the following reasons: increased tuna catch; higher price of tuna;...

*Table 8. Exported value of Viet Nam's tuna products from 2014 - 2021 (mil USD)*

Product code	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021/2020 (%)
<b>Tuna HS16 (1)</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>314.559</b>	<b>-6.9</b>
Canned tuna (HS16)	177	150	153	179	198		214	168.705	-21.7

Other processed tuna (HS16)	55	58	73	91	125		124	145.854	19.2
<b>Tuna HS03 (2)</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>444.933</b>	<b>43.1</b>
Live/fresh/frozen/dried tuna (HS03) (ex.tuna HS0304)	59	43	43	50	51		32	35.179	1.5
Tuna HS0304 (ex.surimi)	193	203	241	273	279		279	409.754	48.3
<b>Total (1 + 2)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>759.492</b>	<b>17.1</b>

## 2. Tuna markets

In 2021, Viet Nam's tuna products were exported to various foreign markets. Of those, there were some main markets including US, EU, ASEAN, Japan, China, etc. The U.S., EU, ASEAN, were still the main markets for Vietnamese tuna products, accounting for a large amount of total tuna export value (*Table 9*).

*Table 9. Export markets of tuna products from Viet Nam in 2021 (mil USD)*

<b>Market</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2021/2020 (%)</b>
US	280	338.300	20.7
EU	135	144.424	6.4
CPTPP	86	91.772	8.4
China&HongKong	3.8	5.578	50.4
Other	194	179.418	-7.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>759.492</b>	<b>17.1</b>