

PNA Purse Seine Monthly Update

July 2023

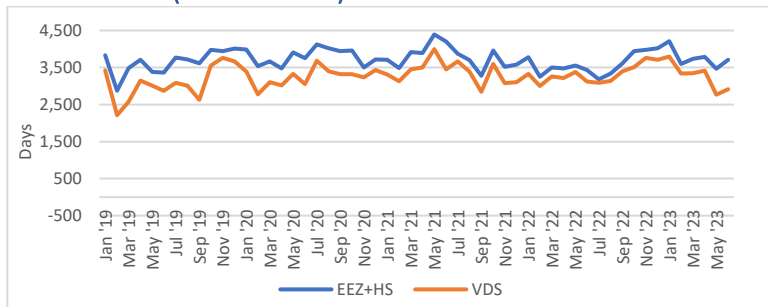


Key trends:

- Preliminary figures indicate that overall purse seine fishing effort moderately rose 7% in June as did fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day). Note that monthly figures get adjusted as NFDs are processed.
- Total purse seine catch (EEZs+HS) also rose in June, 31% on May catch. Effort and catch continued to shift east, largely to KI EEZ and eastern HS. KI EEZ accounted for 57% of total effort and 61% of total catch and eastern HS 22% and 17% respectively.
- Based on preliminary figures, fishing conditions improved in June with overall catch rate up 23% on May. Against the mix of performances across the zones, the higher catch rates were in PG, NR, KI and HS at between 23t-42t. Catch rates in other EEZs were considerably lower. The overall catch rate in June was 28% below June '22.
- Reported total transhipped volume was up 25% in June as volumes in KI rose more than five-fold and in MH 36%. Transhipped volumes in FM and PG decreased substantially. Note that transshipment volumes are not available for all vessels.
- Bangkok SKJ prices in June sustained at the April and May levels at \$2,000/mt, according to Thai Union figures. This was against supply issues affected also by the 3-month FAD closure to be effective 1st July. The Singapore MGO price increased only slightly to an average \$700/mt and the differential between the prices remained broadly the same.
- Weak El Nino conditions prevailed in the Apr-Jun period with sea surface temperatures averaging +0.5°C relative to long-term average, compared to the Neutral conditions during the Mar-May period of +0.1°C above average. El Nino conditions are forecast to persist in the seasons over the period June '23 – March '24 with 90% chance for the most part.

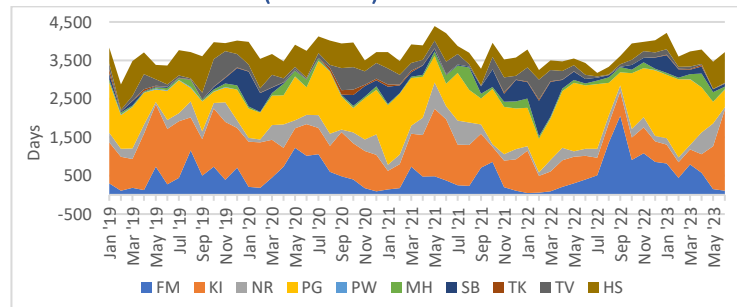
Fishing effort

Overall effort (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Overall fishing effort (EEZ+HS) moderately rose in June, up 7% on May (3,712 vs 3,468) and slightly higher compared to the same month last year. Monthly overall effort levels in first half of '23 broadly consistently were higher than last year's however, although overall trend since last quarter of '22 remains down. Fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day) rose in June (+11%) as intensity in EEZs and HS increased. VDS usage at 2,910 days was 5% higher than in May but the last two months data shows lower usage than same months last year.

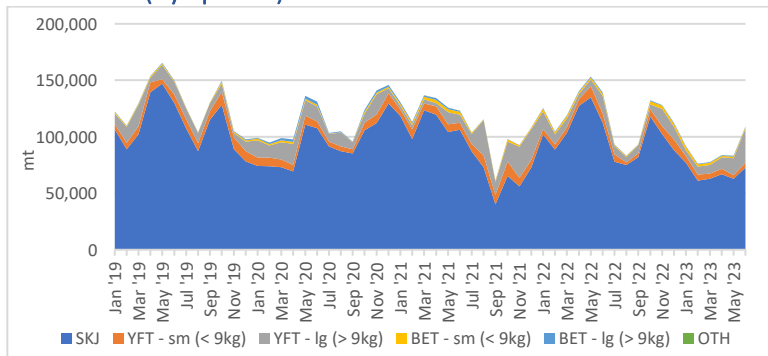
Distribution of effort (EEZs+HS)



- Effort during June continued to shift to KI EEZ that accounted for 57% as well as eastern HS that accounted for 22%. Activities in TK and TV also increased but these accounted for less than 1% combined. Combined effort in all other EEZs (FM, NR, PG, PW, MH and SB) declined during the month and accounted for just over 21% of total. Against the same month last year KI and HS accounted for only 27% while all other EEZs 73%. Such shifts are against the backdrop of the change in ENSO conditions and the onset of the FAD closure as of 1st July.

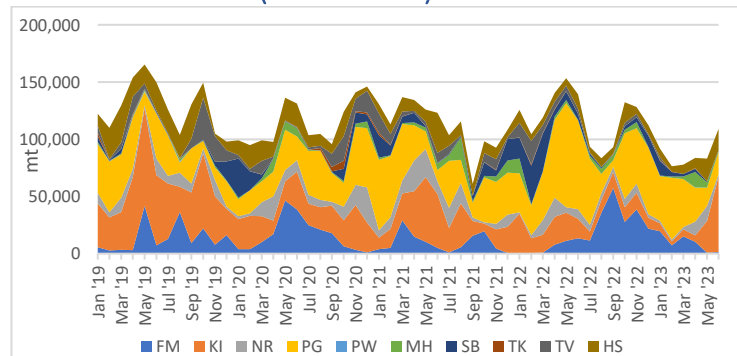
Catch

Total catch (By Species)



- Total catch (EEZ+HS) increased by 31% in June (109,067t) compared to May when catch marginally declined. The sharp increase came largely from large YFT increase of 102% to 30,400t. SKJ and small YFT also rose, 15% to 72,700t and 40% to 4,200t respectively.

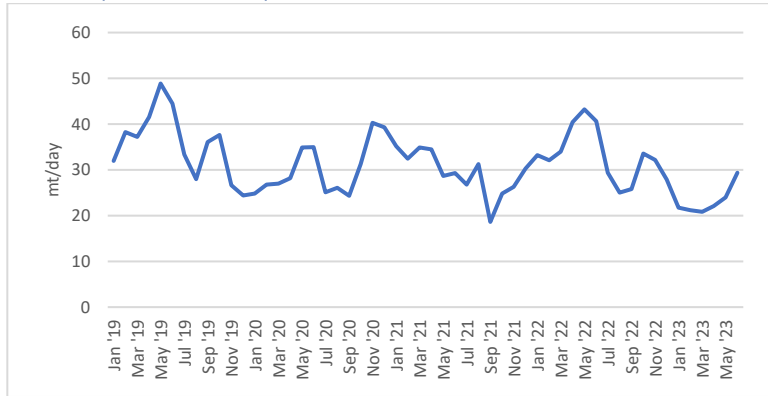
Distribution of catch (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Catch in KI EEZ more than doubled to 66,000t. It was the largest contributor to the increase in total catch and accounted for 61% of total catch in June with PG EEZ and HS accounting for 18% and 17% respectively while other EEZs shares were at < 2%.

Catch rates

Overall (PNA EEZs+HS)



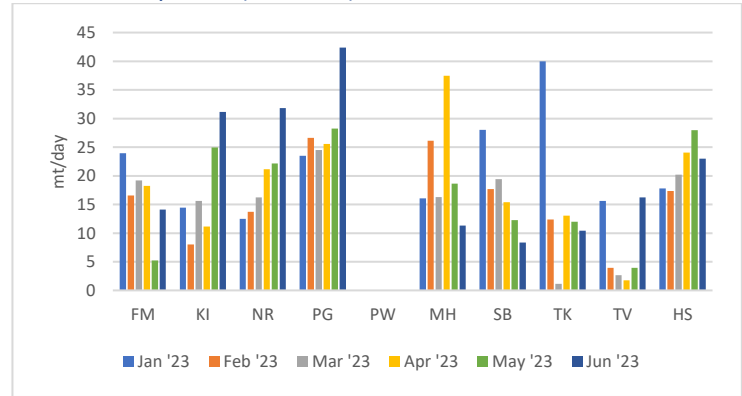
- Overall catch rate in June improved to 29.4t (+23% over May) but lower by 28% against June '22 and 8% against the 2019-2022 average. Overall catch rates were on an uptrend over the June quarter, up from one of the lowest points of 21t in the period 2019-2023. Catch rates are adjusted as NFDs are processed and additional e-reporting received.

Skipjack



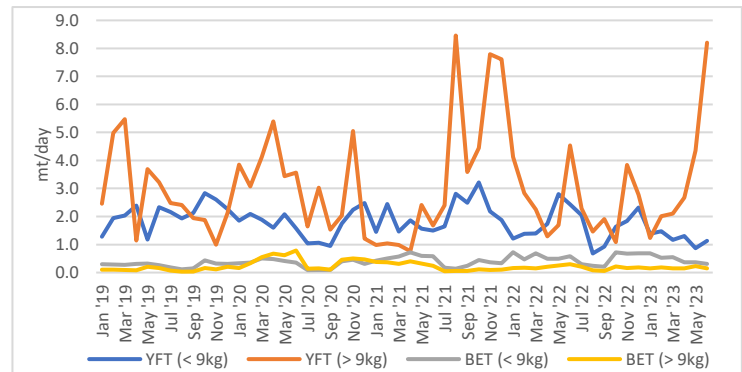
- SKJ catch rate at 20t during June was 8% higher than on May and was at its highest for the year. Nonetheless, it was 40% lower compared to the same month last year. Further, SKJ catch rate was 18t over the first 6 months of '23, at which it was lower by 27% against the previous 6 months and 44% lower against the comparable period last year.

Catch rate by zone (EEZs+HS)



- The catch rate in June was highest in PG EEZ at 42t (+50% on May) while in KI and NR EEZs catch rates were at 31t (+25%) and 32t (+44%) respectively. Other improvements were in FM and TV EEZs to 14t (+171%) and 16t (+311%) respectively. Other EEZs experienced declines with MH at 11t (-39%), SB 8t (-32%), TK 10t (-13%) and HS 23t (-18%).

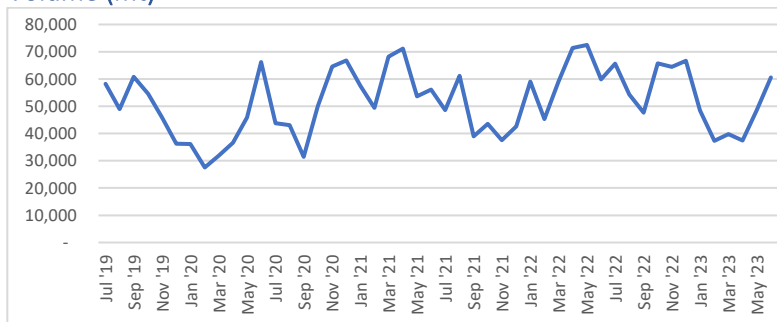
Other species



- The catch rate for large YFT at 8t during the month of June stood out as it was up 88% on May and 81% on June '22. The catch rate is one of the highest over the period 2019-2023 comparable only to the occurrences in Aug, Nov and Dec '21.

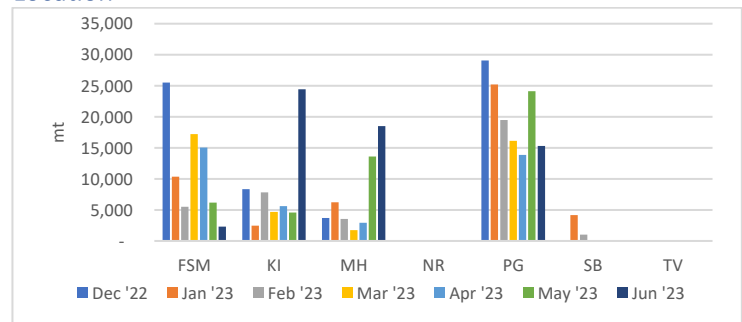
Reported Transshipment

Volume (mt)



- Reported transshipment volumes in PNA ports in June was 25% higher than in May (60,541t vs 48,517t). Note that transshipment volumes for some vessels are not available, so the figures reported here represent a sub-set of overall volumes.

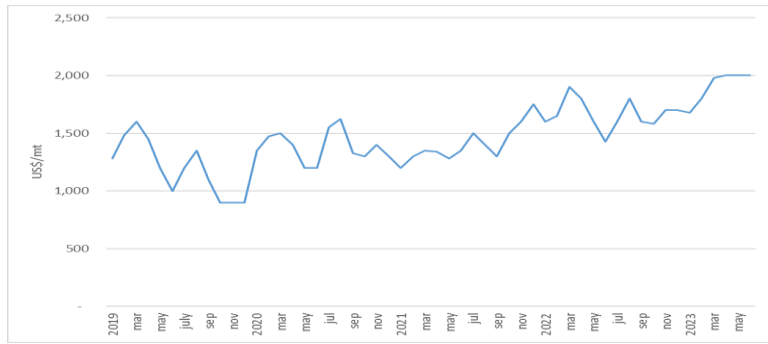
Location



- Reported transhipped volumes during June saw major shifts to KI and MH ports, accounting for 40% (+fivefold on May) and 31% (+36%) of total. FM and PG ports accounted for 4% (-63%) and 25% (-37%) respectively.

Prices

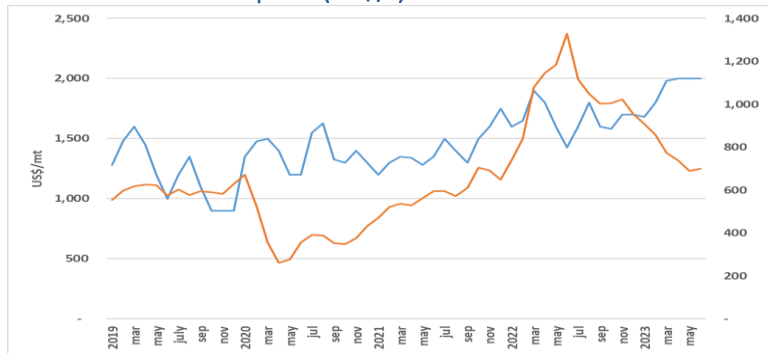
SKJ Price



https://investor.thaiunion.com/raw_material.html

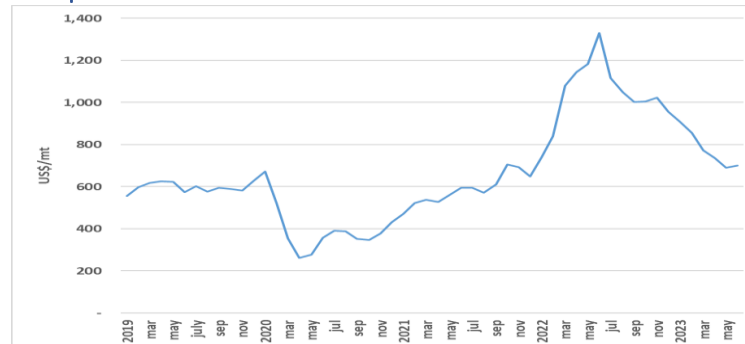
- Bangkok SKJ prices as reported by Thai Union remained at a high of \$2,000/mt in June, which is 40% higher than June '22 price of \$1,425/mt and 15% higher than the preceding 12-month average of \$1,739. The high prices have been sustained by supply issue as well as the 3-month FAD closure to commence 1st July.

BKK SKJ Price vs Fuel price (US\$/t)



- In June, the Singapore MGO price and SKJ price lines changed little as fuel price only marginally rose while BKK SKJ price steadied relative to May prices.

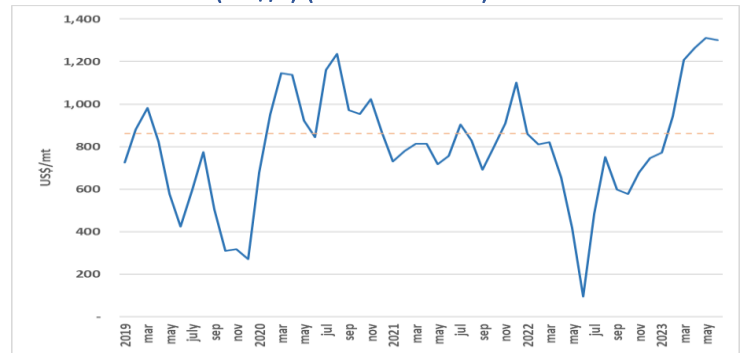
Fuel price



<https://shipandbunker.com/prices/apac/sea/sg-sin-singapore#MGO>

- Singapore MGO price marginally rose 1.5% in June to \$700/mt from US\$690/mt in May with continuing volatility in oil price although still considerably below the peak of around \$752/mt in mid-2022. The Singapore MGO has edged up to US\$769/mt as at 14th July.

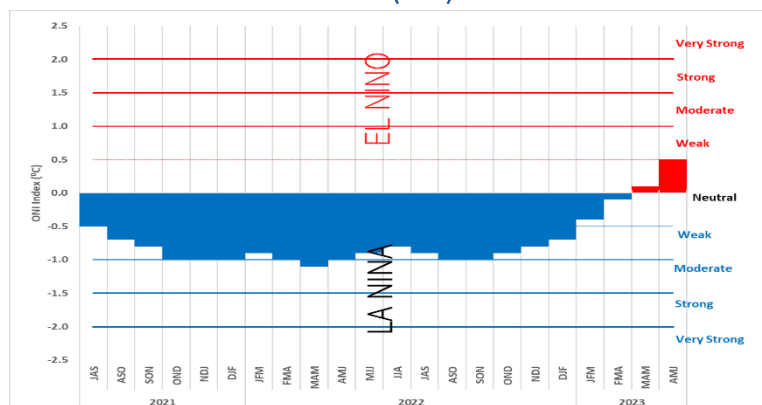
Price differential (US\$/t) (BKK SKJ – Fuel)



- The differential between BKK SKJ price and Singapore MGO marginally decreased in June to US\$1,300 from US\$1,311 in May and remained above the 10-year average.

ENSO Data

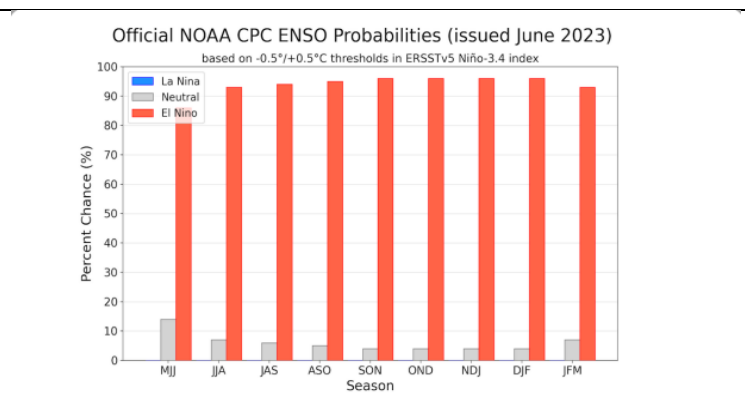
NOAA ENSO Oceanic Nino Index (ONI)



https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/lanina/enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf

- Weak El Niño conditions have prevailed during the Apr-Jun period with the 3-month mean ONI showing a departure of +0.5°C from long-term mean SSTs that replaced Neutral conditions in each of the 3-month seasons over the period Jan-May. More recently in the four-week period (11 Jun-8 Jul), equatorial SSTs were above average across most of the Pacific Ocean with the Western Pacific at near average.

NOAA ENSO ONI Probabilities



https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/lanina/enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf

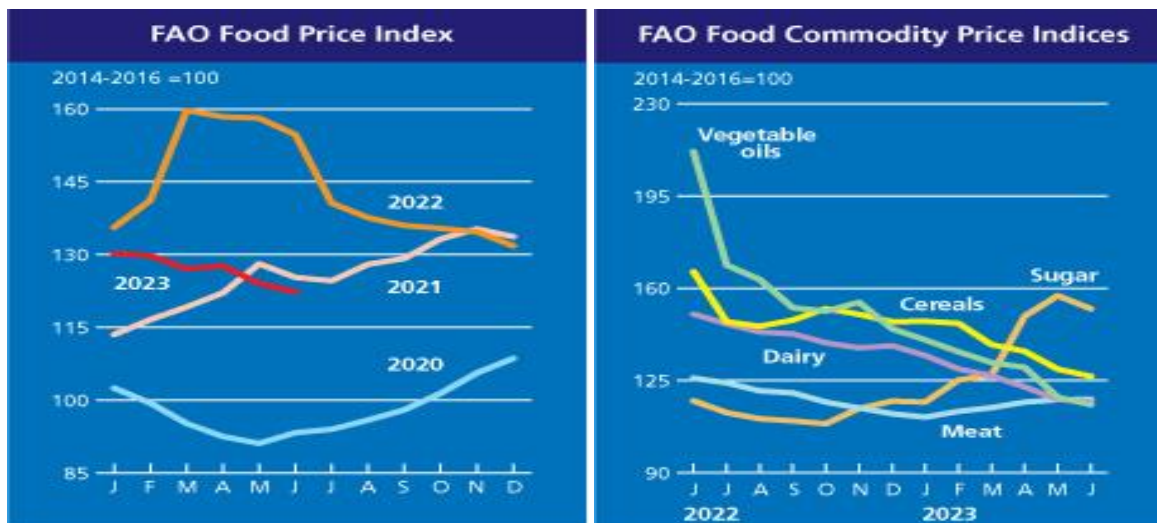
- Chances of El Niño are projected at greater than 90% over the remaining months of 2023 and into early 2024. The impact of the transitions from La Niña to neutral and recent prevailing El Niño conditions that have reflected in the shift of purse seine effort and catch towards the east are expected to intensify over the forecast period.

Other issues:

- The FBX global container freight index for a 40ft container trended down 9% to \$1,277 at end June from \$1,407 at end May. As at 14th July it lowered further to \$1,270¹.



- The FAO Food Price Index, following a 2.6% decline in May 2023, declined further by 1.4% in June and a significant 23.4% from the peak record in March of 2022. The decline in the June '23 index was driven by the declines in the price indices for sugar, vegetable oils, cereals and dairy products with some offsetting by the increase in the price index for meat.²



Notes:

- Data on catch, effort, catch rates and transshipment is based on electronic reporting through iFIMS as at 14th July, 2023. Updates to previous monthly catch and effort data were made and some data therefore would have changed due to more information having been added over time. Figures for June 2023 should be considered preliminary.
- The EEZs+HS effort figures in the fishing effort graph do not include a VDS vessel size adjustment factor. The actual VDS usage figures are adjusted for vessel size. HS days may include some non-fishing time. HS effort figures are those for the eastern high seas and HSPs 4 and 5.
- The Oceanic Nino Index (ONI) measures sea surface temperature (SST) departures from average with thresholds of +/- 0.5°C and El Nino is characterised by a positive ONI >= +0.5°C and La Nina by a negative ONI <= -0.5°C. A full-fledged El Niño or La Niña episode must exceed these thresholds for a period of at least 5 consecutive overlapping 3-month seasons (NOAA).

¹ <https://fbx.freightos.com/>

² <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>