

PNA Purse Seine Monthly Update

June 2023

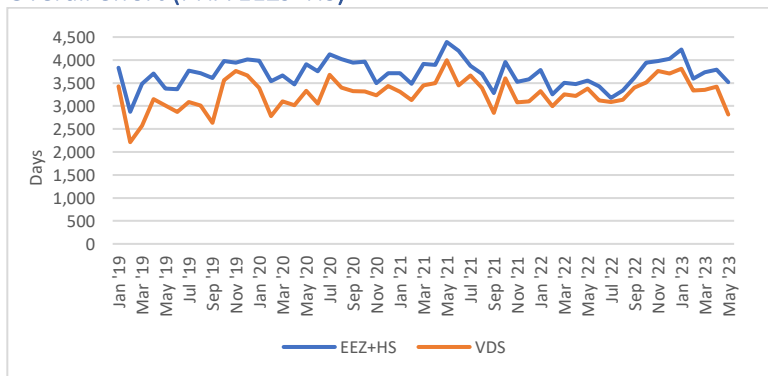


Key trends:

- Preliminary figures indicate that overall purse seine fishing effort moderately declined in May as did fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day). Note that May figures may be adjusted as NFDs are processed.
- Total purse seine catch (EEZs+HS) also declined in May, 5% on the April catch. Catch and effort saw major shifts towards the east with KI, NR and eastern HS combined accounting for 70% of effort as against 38% in April.
- Based on preliminary figures, fishing conditions slightly improved in May with overall catch rate 3% up on April. Biggest improvements in catch rates during May were in KI and TV with NR, PG and HS registering moderate increases. Catch rates in other EEZs declined. However, the overall catch rate in '23 is 34% lower compared to last year's average.
- Reported total transhipped volume was up 30% in May as volumes in MH rose more than fourfold and in PG up more than 70%. Transhipped volumes in FM and KI decreased. Note that transshipment volumes are not available for all vessels.
- Bangkok SKJ prices averaged \$2,000/mt in May, the same as in April, according to Thai Union figures. At the same time the Singapore MGO price reduced to an average \$690/mt. The differential between the prices has further widened.
- ENSO-neutral conditions prevailed into the Mar-May period with sea surface temperatures averaging +0.1°C relative to long-term average, compared to the Feb-Apr period average of -0.1°C. El Nino conditions are forecast with 90% chance in the May-July period onwards.

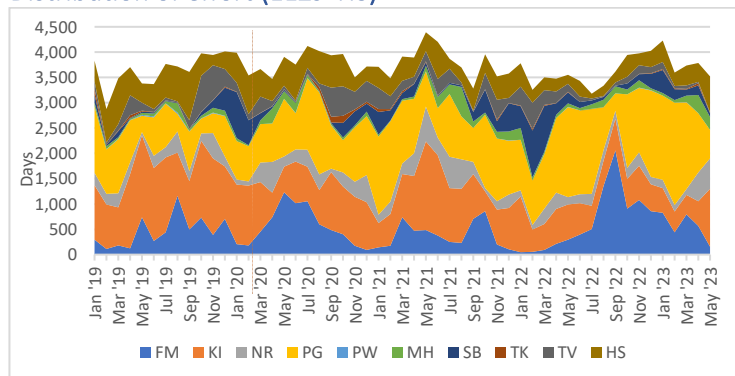
Fishing effort

Overall effort (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Overall fishing effort (EEZ+HS) moderately declined in May, down 7% on Apr (3,519 vs 3,3787) that reversed the marginal increases in the preceding two months but comparable to the level of effort in May '22. Fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day) declined in May (-10%) as intensity in EEZs declined (-20%) as against an upswing in HS (+83%). VDS usage at 2,184 days was 18% lower than in Apr and 13% lower than in May '22.

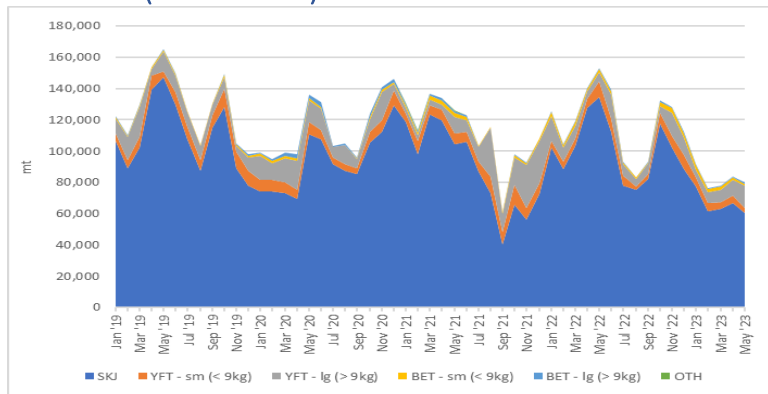
Distribution of effort (EEZs+HS)



- Effort concentration during May saw major shifts to KI EEZ (more than double) and eastern HS (almost double). Activity in NR EEZ moderately rose 5%. Combined, KI (33%) and NR EEZs (17%) and HS (20%) accounted for 70% of overall effort in May. Activity in all other EEZs declined significantly (FM -72%, PG -52%, MH -30%, SB -59%, TK -92% and TV -53%).

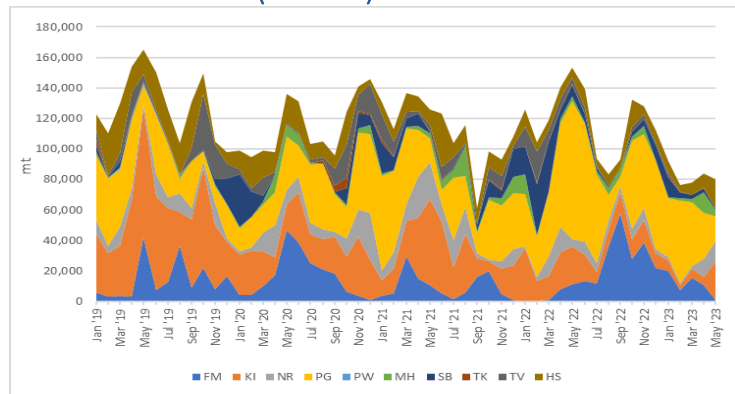
Catch

Total catch (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Total catch (EEZ+HS) decreased by 5% in May (79,779t) compared to Apr when catch rose 8%. The overall decrease came from the declines in SKJ (-10%), small YFT (-40%), small BET (-7%) that more than offset the increases in large YFT (+42%) and large BET (+40%).

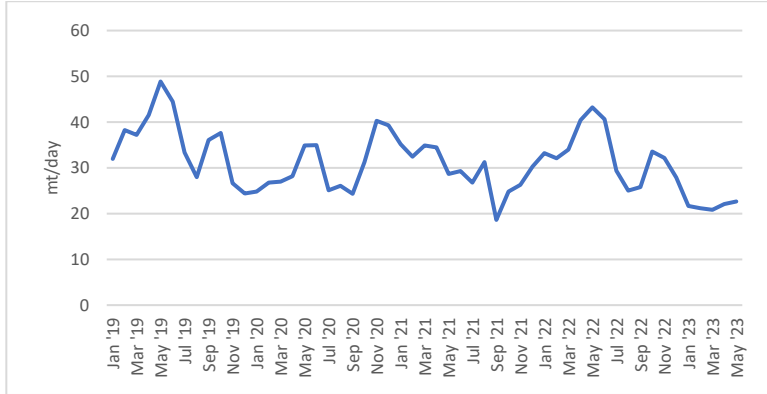
Distribution of catch (EEZs+HS)



- Notable catch increases in May were in KI (almost four-fold) and eastern HS (more than doubled). Catch in NR also increased (+10%). Combined, KI, NR and HS accounted for 72% of total catches. Catches in all other EEZs declined.

Catch rates

Overall (PNA EEZs+HS)



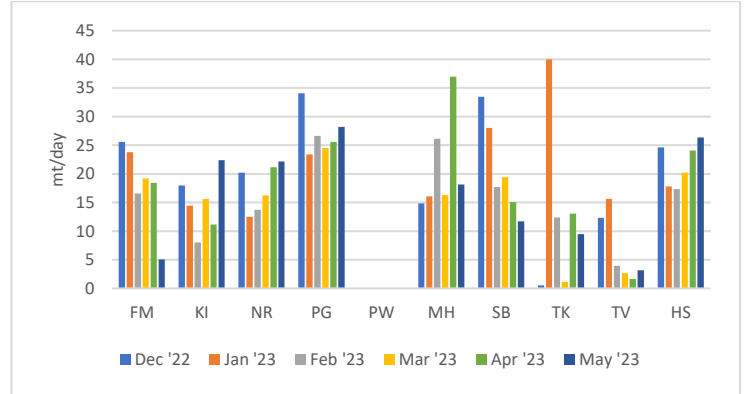
- Overall catch rate in May was a marginal 3% improvement over Apr (22.7t vs 22.1t) but considerably lower by 47% against the May '22 (43.2t) and similarly against the 2019-2022 average (32.1t). Catch rates are adjusted as NFDs are processed and additional e-reporting received.

Skipjack



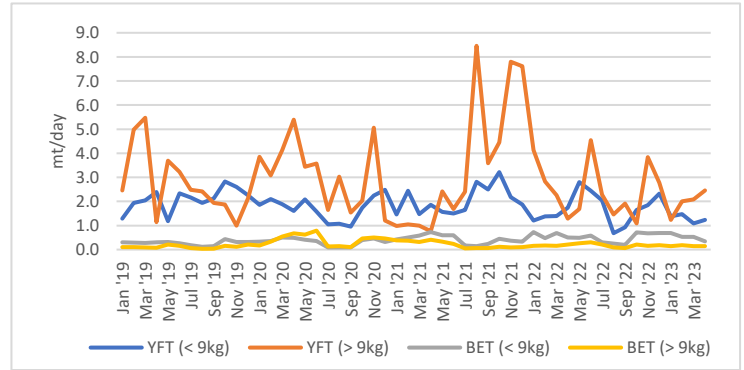
- SKJ catch rate declined marginally (-3%) to 16.5t/day compared to Apr. SKJ catch rate over the first 5 months '23 has averaged 17.4t which is 38% lower than the monthly average of 28.2t in '22 and 25% lower the monthly average of 23.2t in '21.

Catch rate by zone (EEZs+HS)



- The catch rate in May was highest in PG at 28t (+10% on Apr). The biggest improvement in catch rates were in KI that more than doubled to 22t and TV, +90% to 3.2t. Catch rates in HS improved 10% to 26t and in NR EEZ +5% to 22t. Catch rates deteriorated in FM, MH, SB and TK.

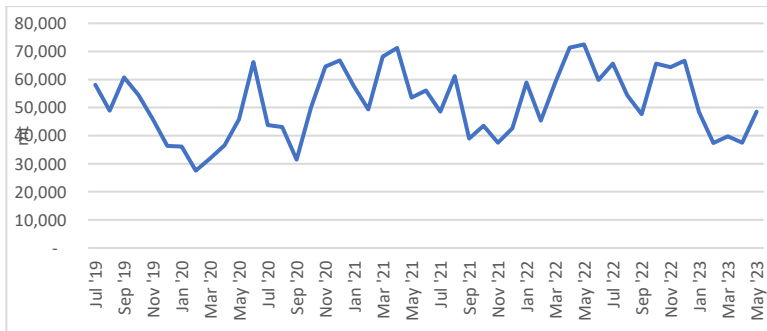
Other species



- Catch rates for large YFT and large BET improved significantly during May, +53% to 4.1t and +50% to 0.2t respectively. Catch rate for small YFT declined 35% to 0.8t while small BET catch rate was stable at 0.4t during the month.

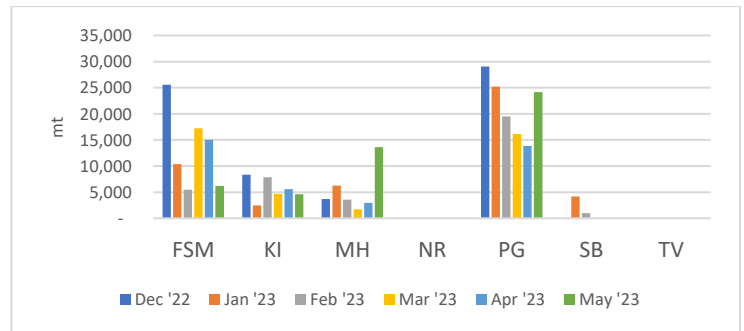
Reported Transhipment

Volume



- Reported transhipment volumes in PNA ports in May was 30% higher than in April (48,517t vs 37,458t). Note that transhipment volumes for some vessels are not available, so the figures reported here represent a sub-set of overall volumes.

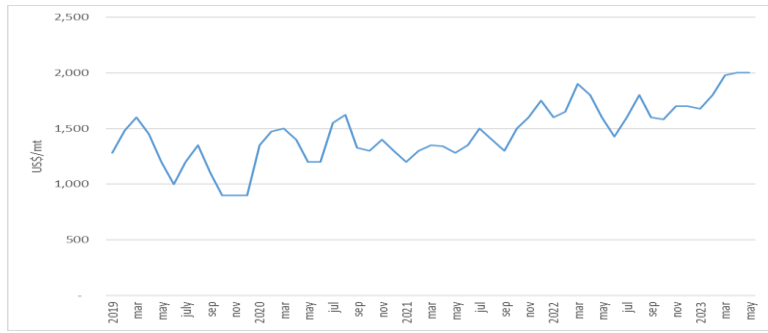
Location



- Reported transhipment during May saw reduced concentration in the west (FM and PG) from 77% in April to 63% as transhipped volumes in MH increased more than four-fold (to a share of 28% of total). Transhipment in PG rose 74% (50%). Transhipment in FM reduced 60% (13%) and in KI, a reduction of 18% (9%).

Prices

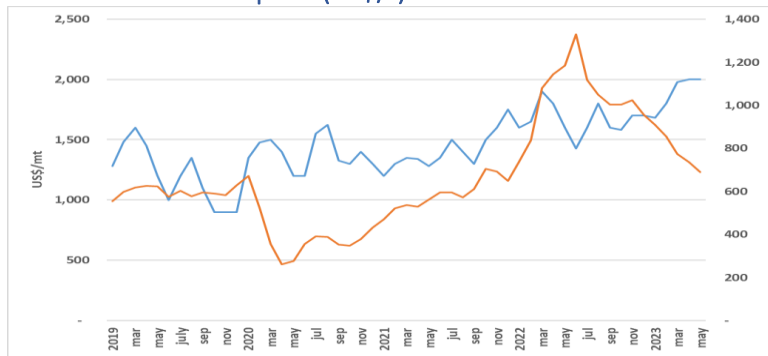
SKJ Price



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

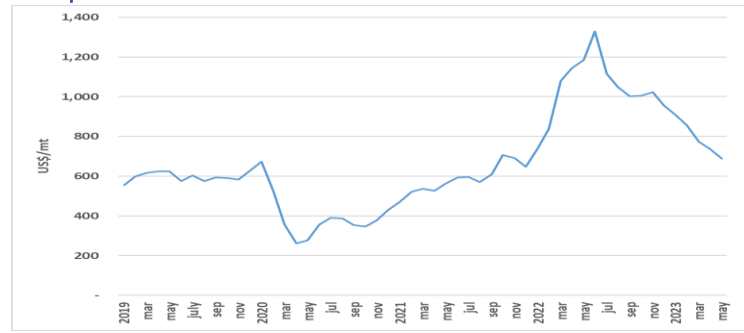
- Bangkok SKJ prices as reported by Thai Union remained at a high of \$2,000/mt in May, which is 25% higher than May '22 price of \$1,600 and 17% higher than the preceding 12-month average of \$1,705. Supply issue is reportedly the cause as WCPO catch remained poor.

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



- In May, the Singapore MGO price line and SKJ price diverged further as fuel price fell while BKK SKJ price steadied relative to Apr prices. Relatively poor catch rates continue to dampen the potential gains to fleets from these trends.

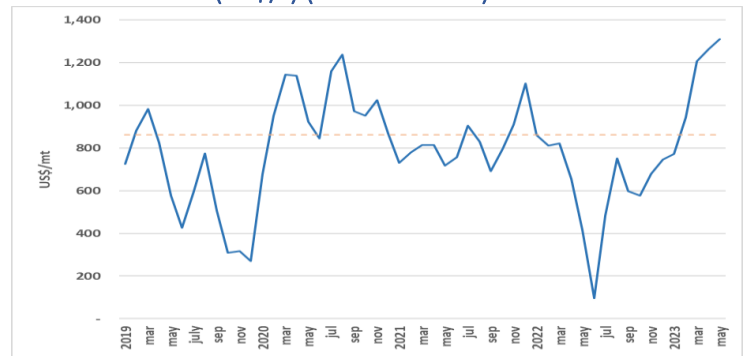
Fuel price



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

- Singapore MGO price declined further in May to \$690/mt from US\$737/mt in Apr as crude oil continue to downtrend since its peak in mid-2022, reportedly pressured by recessionary concerns. The Singapore MGO had slightly edged up to US\$702/mt as at 16th June.

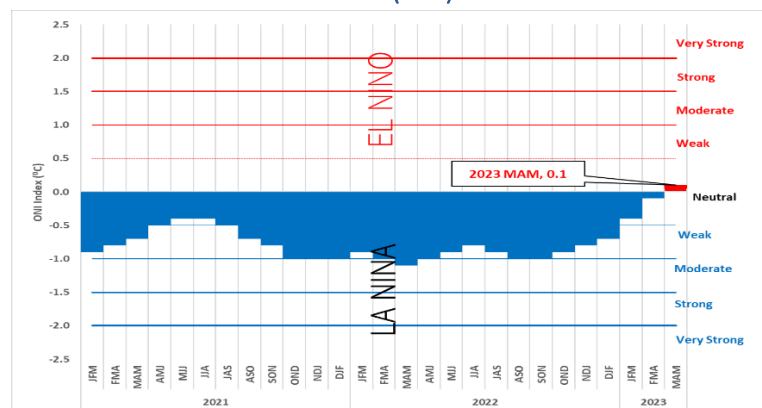
Price differential (US\$/t) (BKK SKJ – Fuel)



- The differential between BKK SKJ price and Singapore MGO increased in May to US\$1,311, up from US\$1,264 in Apr and rose further above the 10-year average of \$862.

ENSO Data

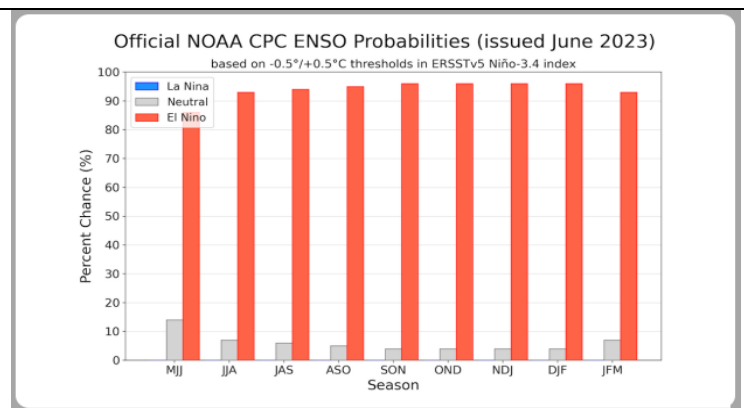
NOAA ENSO Oceanic Nino Index (ONI)



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

- The La Nina conditions that prevailed since around mid-2020 weakened as of Dec '22 and conditions have moved to ENSO-neutral over the Jan-May '23 months. The 3-month mean ONI for the Mar-May showed a departure of +0.1°C from long-term mean SSTs as against -0.1°C in the Feb-Apr period. More recently in the four-week period (14 May-10 Jun), equatorial SSTs were above average across most of the Pacific Ocean.

NOAA ENSO ONI Probabilities

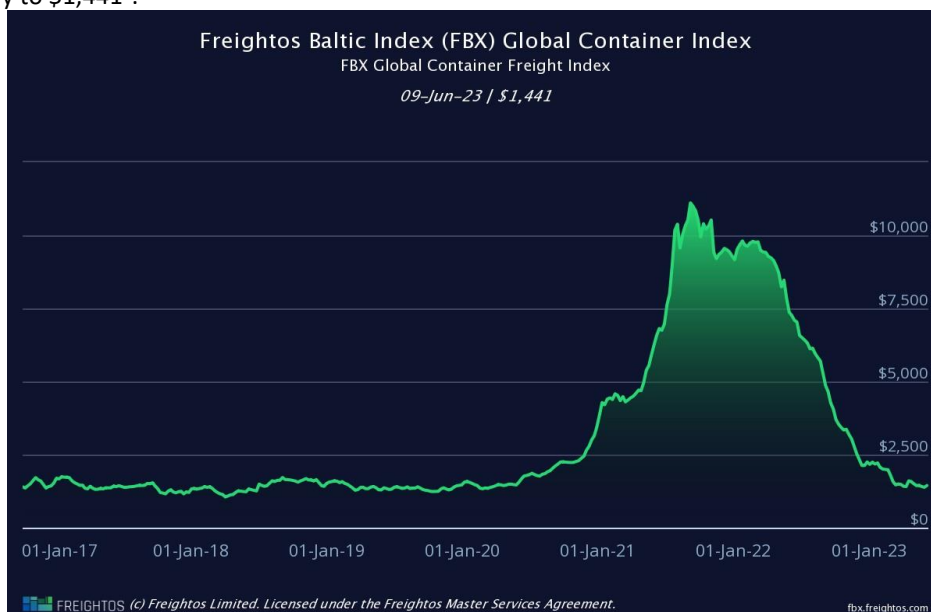


https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/lanina/enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf

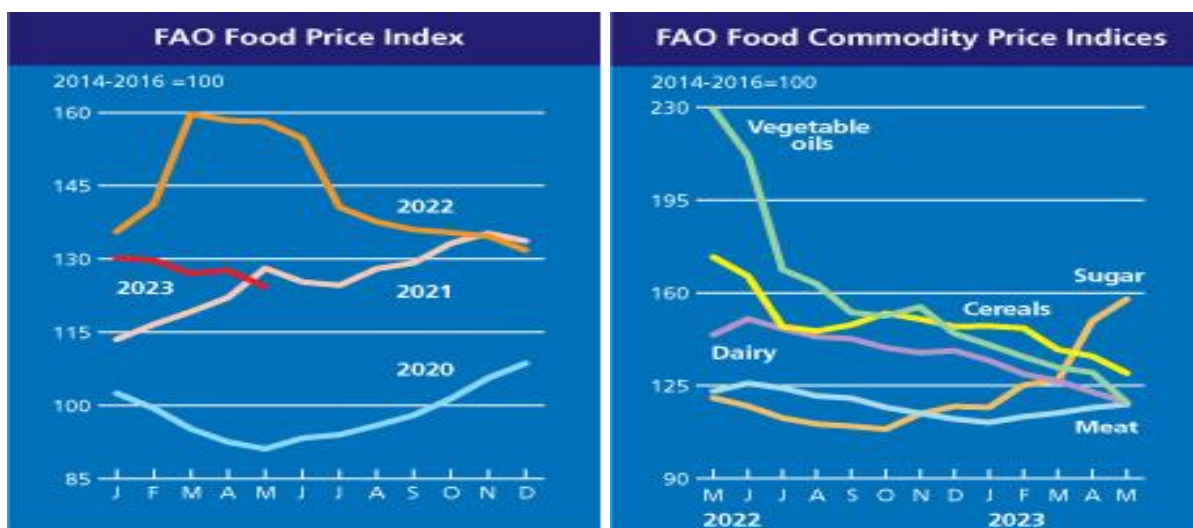
- A transition from ENSO-neutral to El Niño is projected during May-July 2023, with chances of El Niño increasing to greater than 90%. With the forecast of El Niño, the PS catch/effort distribution is expected to expand further to the east and this has already reflected in the April and May data.

Other issues:

- The FBX global container freight index for a 40ft container trended down 11% to \$1,407 at end May from \$1,576 at end April. As at 9th June it edged up slightly to \$1,441¹.



- The FAO Food Price Index, following a slight 0.6% rebound in April 2023, was down 2.6% in May and a significant 22% from the peak record in March of 2022. The decline in the May '23 index was driven largely by the significant declines in the price indices for vegetable oils, cereals and dairy with some offsetting by increases in the price indices for sugar and meat.²



Notes:

- Data on catch, effort, catch rates and transshipment is based on electronic reporting through iFIMS as at 16th May, 2023. Updates to previous monthly catch and effort data were made and some data therefore may have changed due to more information having been added over time. Figures for May 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/>