



FISHERIES FACTS

- ✦ The fisheries sector in the CARICOM/CARIFORUM region employs over 182,000 persons, directly or indirectly (CRFM).
- ✦ A 2012 CRFM *Diagnostic Study to Determine Poverty Levels in CARICOM Fisheries Communities* found that Belize and Guyana, followed by Grenada and Jamaica, were the countries with the highest percentage of poor and vulnerable households. It also revealed that the percentage of non-poor households is above the 75% with the exception of Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, and Grenada.
- ✦ The nature of the fisheries of the region is varied. It ranges from the shrimp and ground fish stocks off Guyana and Suriname to the pelagic stocks off Trinidad and Tobago. The Region also contains the reef species of the Eastern Caribbean, and the conch and lobster stocks of Jamaica, The Bahamas and Belize. The migratory pelagic such as wahoo, tuna, flying fish and dolphin fish typically roam through the area (CRFM).
- ✦ Global total production of fish, crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic animals has been estimated at 148.5 million tonnes in 2010. The increase was driven by a growth in aquaculture production from 34.6 million tonnes in 2001 to 59.9 million tonnes in 2010 (value USD119.4 billion). Capture fisheries production has remained steady around 90 million tonnes since 2001 (FAO).
- ✦ The number of fishermen in Belize increased from 1731 fishermen in 2004 to 2472 fishermen in 2010, representing an increase of 43% (BZ Fisheries Department).
- ✦ Health benefits of eating fish each week include a lower risk of asthma, dementia, depression and inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, stroke and heart disease. Fish consumption also fosters brain development in children and brain health in adults (CRFM).

CAPTURE FISHERIES PRODUCTION	
2010 FAO data	Tonnes
Panama	163488
Belize	114292
St. Vincent	65626
Guyana	45186
Nicaragua	37423
El Salvador	36000
Suriname	34402
Guatemala	21859
Costa Rica	21750
St. Kitts and Nevis	21099
Jamaica	15440
Dominican Republic	14490
Trinidad & Tobago	13931
Bahamas	11611
Honduras	11107
Haiti	8300
Turks & Caicos	5446
Barbados	3269
Grenada	2452
Antigua and Barbuda	2293
St. Lucia	1844
Anguilla	701
Dominica	700
Montserrat	24
TOTAL	652733

DEVELOP

MANAGE

CONSERVE

TODAY!

- ✦ China is the top-ranking major fishing country in terms of quantity followed by Indonesia, India and the United States of America.
- ✦ For the Central American and Caribbean Region, Panama recorded the largest capture fisheries production for 2010 followed by Belize and then St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- ✦ Total capture fisheries production from Central America and Caribbean was 652,733 for 2010. (See table.)

Source: FAO yearbook. Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics. 2010. Published 2012

