

# SPECIAL RELEASE

## ILOCOS REGION'S COMMERCIAL FISHERIES SITUATION FIRST QUARTER 2023

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The commercial fisheries production in the Ilocos Region was at 595.77 metric tons in the first quarter of 2023. This output was lower by 4.58 percent over the 2022 production of 624.36 metric tons. Pangasinan has the highest contribution at 64.22 percent, while La Union and Ilocos Sur contributed 34.40 and 1.38 percent, respectively.

Table 1. Volume of Commercial Fisheries Production by Province  
Ilocos Region: First Quarter 2022 and 2023P

Item	First Quarter 2023P		First Quarter 2022		Growth Rate (%)
	Production In metric tons	Percent Distribution	Production In metric tons	Percent Distribution	
<b>Ilocos Region</b>	<b>595.77</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>624.36</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>(4.58)</b>
Ilocos Sur	8.25	1.38	38.92	6.23	(78.80)
La Union	204.93	34.40	203.29	32.56	0.81
Pangasinan	382.59	64.22	382.15	61.21	0.12

2023P – Preliminary

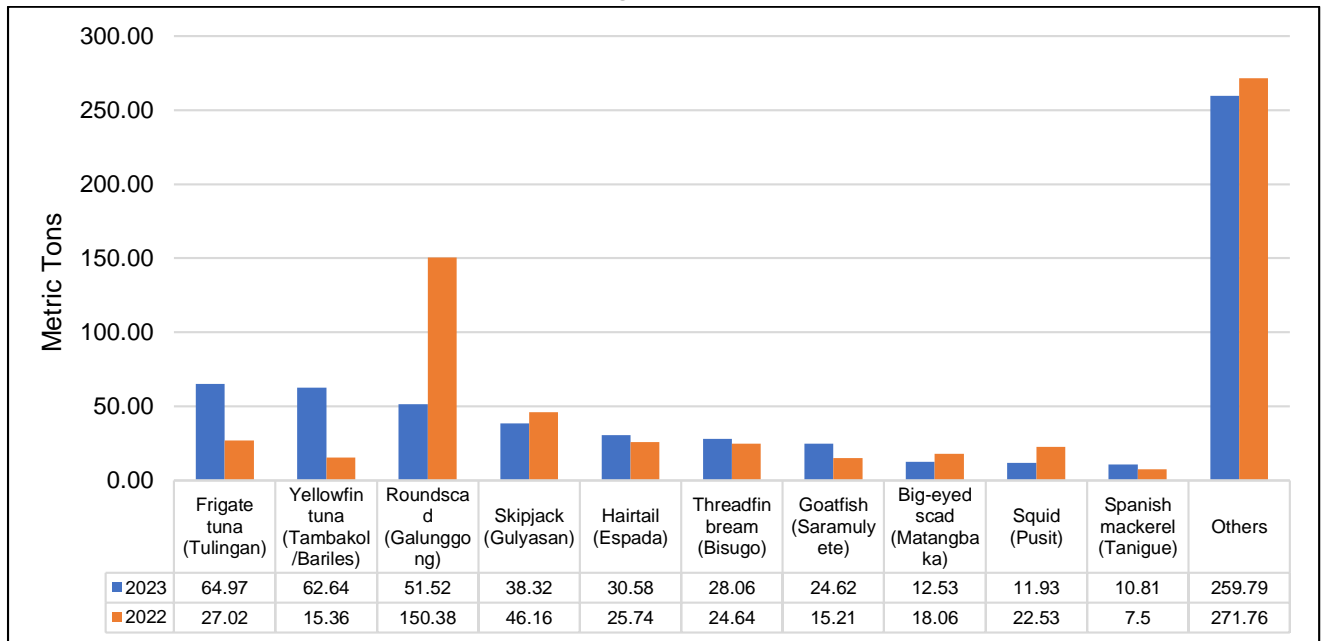
Total may not be exact due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, First Quarter 2023 Commercial Fisheries Production Survey

### Ilocos Sur Recorded a Drop in Commercial Fisheries Production

The province of Ilocos Sur pulled down the overall output of the region. The province posted drop in commercial fisheries production of about 78.81 percent from 38.92 metric tons in 2022 to 8.25 metric tons in first quarter 2023. Meanwhile, both La Union and Pangasinan accounted increases in production at 0.81 percent and 0.12 percent, respectively.

Figure 1. Total Commercial Fisheries Volume of Production by Species (Metric Tons) Ilocos Region: First Quarter 2023P VS 2022



2023P – Preliminary

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, First Quarter 2023 Commercial Fisheries Production Survey

## Frigate Tuna was the Top Fish Species in Ilocos Region during First Quarter 2023

By species, Frigate tuna was the top contributor to the region’s commercial fisheries production. It posted 64.97 metric tons covering 10.91 percent of the region’s production. Yellowfin tuna followed at 10.51 percent and roundscad at 8.65 percent. Other species shared 69.93 percent.

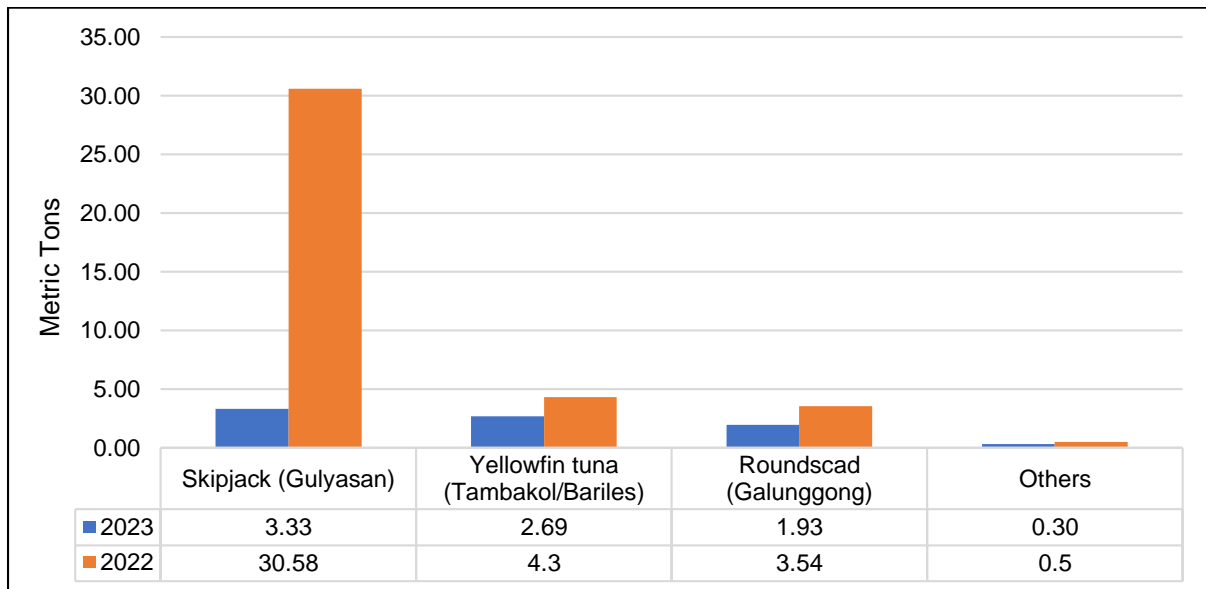
## Only Six of the Top Commercial Fish Species Posted Increased Output in First Quarter 2023

Among the top species caught in commercial waters, there were only six species that posted increases in production which include yellowfin tuna , frigate tuna, goatfish, spanish mackerel, hairtail, and threadfin bream .



## Commercial Fisheries Production by Province

Figure 2. Commercial Fisheries Production by Species (Metric Tons), Ilocos Sur: 2023P vs 2022

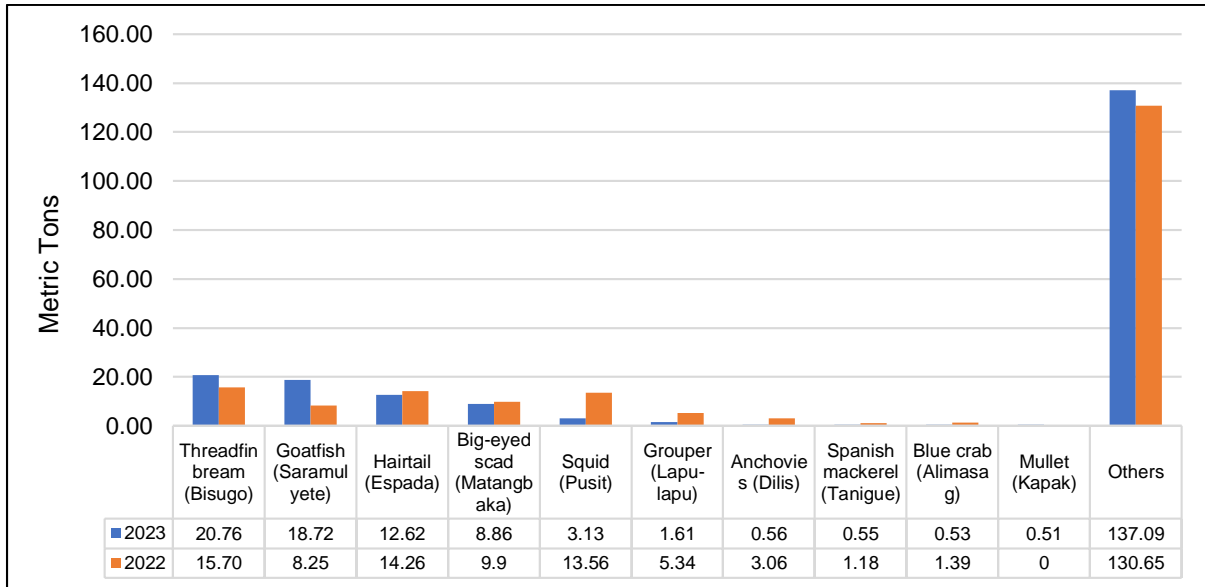


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, First Quarter 2023 Commercial Fisheries Production Survey

Skipjack or *Gulyasan* contributed most of the commercial fisheries production in Ilocos Sur at 3.33 metric tons covering 40.36 percent of the output. yellowfin tuna followed with 2.69 metric tons, equivalent to 32.61 percent of the province’s production. Meanwhile, roundscad accounted for 23.39 percent, and other species covered 3.64 percent.

All species registered lower output compared to their respective levels in the same period of 2022.

Figure 3. Commercial Fisheries Production by Species, La Union: 2023P VS 2022

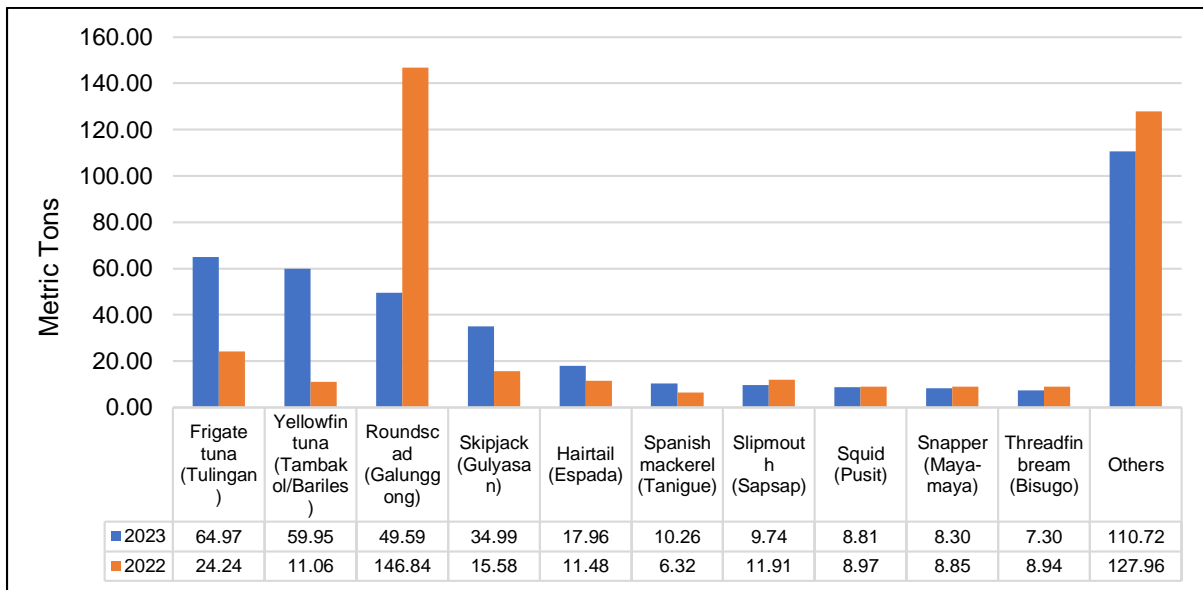


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, First Quarter 2023 Commercial Fisheries Production Survey

In La Union, the commercial fisheries production was 204.93 metric tons in the first quarter of 2023. About 10.13 percent of the production was contributed by threadfin bream at 20.76 metric tons. It was followed by goatfish at 9.13 percent or equivalent to 18.72 metric tons. Hairtail ranked third with the highest contribution in the province's output of about 6.16 percent (12.62 metric tons). Other species contributed to 74.58 percent of the province's commercial fisheries production.

Majority of the species in the commercial fisheries of La Union posted negative growths resulting to lower provincial production.

Figure 4. Commercial Fisheries Production by Species, Pangasinan: 2023P vs 2022



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, First Quarter 2023 Commercial Fisheries Production Survey

About 16.98 percent of Pangasinan’s overall commercial fisheries production was contributed by frigate tuna posted at 64.97 metric tons. Meanwhile, yellowfin tuna and roundscad ranked second and third with the most production at 59.95 and 49.59 metric tons, respectively.

According to rate of production, production on yellowfin tuna more than quintupled its volume as compared to same quarter last 2022 at 442.04 percent. Similarly, frigate tuna posted an increase of 168.03 percent. On the other hand, the production of roundscad, threadfin bream, and slipmouth registered decreases at 66.23 percent, 18.34 percent, and 18.22 percent, respectively.

The increased production of yellowfin tuna, frigate tuna, skipjack, hairtail, and spanish mackerel contributed to the overall positive growth of the province in its commercial fisheries.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

The Fisheries Production Survey of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) is divided into four major fisheries surveys. These are the Quarterly Commercial Fisheries Survey (QCFS), Quarterly Municipal Fisheries Survey (QMFS), Quarterly Inland Fisheries Survey (QIFS) and Quarterly Aquaculture Survey (QAqS). The commercial and municipal fisheries surveys aim to provide quarterly data on volume and value of fish production by species, by region, and by province. The aquaculture survey is intended to generate quarterly data on volume and value of cultured species by environment, by type of aquafarm, by region, and by province.

### Concept and Definitions:

- **Commercial Fishing** is the catching of fish with the use of fishing boats with a capacity of more than three (3) gross tons for trade, business or profit beyond subsistence or sports fishing.
- **Fisheries** composed of all activities relating to the act or business of fishing, culturing, preserving, processing, marketing, developing, conserving and managing aquatic resources and the fishery areas including the privilege to fish or take aquatic resources thereof (RA 8550).
- **Fisheries Sector** is the sector engaged in the production, growing, harvesting, processing, marketing, developing, conserving and managing aquatic resources and fishing areas.
- **Landing Center** is a place where the fish catch and other aquatic products are unloaded and traded. Traditional landing center is a type of landing center where fishermen could unload their catch and/or dock their fishing boats without any obligation or payment for the use of the place.



