



The Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Risk Index

NOVEMBER 2025



**GLOBAL
INITIATIVE**
AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL
ORGANIZED CRIME

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The Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Risk index 2025 Update

NOVEMBER 2025





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Acronyms

- EEZ** - Exclusive economic zone
- FAO** - Food and Agriculture Organization (of the UN)
- FAOCA** - FAO Compliance Agreement
- FMC** - Fisheries monitoring centre
- IUU** - Illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing)
- MCS** - Monitoring, control and surveillance
- MSC** - Marine Stewardship Council
- NEAFC** - North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
- NOAA** - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- NPOA-IUU** - National plan of action (to prevent deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing)
- PSMA** - Port State Measures Agreement
- RAV** - Record of authorized vessels
- RFMO** - Regional fisheries management organization
- SDG** - Sustainable Development Goal
- UNCLOS** - United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- UNFSA** - United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
- VMS** - Vessel monitoring system

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Executive summary

About the IUU Fishing Risk Index

In early 2019, the IUU Fishing Risk Index was launched as a way of benchmarking and ranking countries based on their vulnerability to, prevalence of and response to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The IUU Fishing Risk Index website (www.iuufishingindex.net) provides maps that visualize scores by indicator type and responsibility. Individual country profiles provide scores for each indicator for the country concerned and show how the country's scores compare with the average scores for the region and the ocean basin(s) in which the country is located.

Since its launch the Index has been widely used by:

- Donors, to inform the allocation of spending on projects to combat IUU fishing.
- Seafood buyers, to assess the risk that their purchases of seafood are from legal sources.
- Trade agencies, to incorporate the risk of fish from IUU sources entering national markets.
- Aquaculture certification standards, as part of the risk assessment of the origin of raw material being used in aquaculture feed.
- Countries and regional fisheries organizations, in assessing IUU risk, benchmarking country performance and tracking change in indicators used in the Index.
- Academics, as part of research projects and as a data source for publications on fisheries sustainability and IUU fishing, as well as on wider issues, such as human trafficking and security threats, where risks of IUU fishing may also increase risks in these other areas.
- Civil society in advocacy work, to highlight and combat IUU fishing.

The Index's usefulness is enhanced when indicator scores remain up to date. Therefore, the Index was updated in 2021, 2023 and again in 2025. This report provides the results of the 2025 update, while the website contains the results from 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025. The report and the website allow country scores and performance to be compared across the four iterations.

Now in its fourth iteration, the Index consolidates six years of data, enabling robust longitudinal analysis and comparative insights.

The 2025 iteration highlights key issues in combatting IUU:

- There continues to be a lack of reliable estimates of IUU fishing that cover all countries and use a standardized methodology to generate comprehensive and reliable volumes and values for IUU fish catches. Although the Index scores do not provide a measure of these volumes or values, they do provide a standardized measure of the degree to which states are vulnerable to and effectively engage in combatting IUU fishing, thus providing measure of the risk that IUU fishing may be occurring.
- Despite many recent actions taken internationally, regionally and nationally to combat IUU fishing, malpractice remains a serious concern. The target to eliminate IUU fishing by 2020, associated with indicator 14.6.1 of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14: 'Life Below Water', was not achieved. Therefore, it remains important to have an up-to-date assessment that tracks the current risk of IUU fishing, and how the level of risk is changing over time.
- Incentives for IUU fishing are considerable, given the potential financial benefits for both large- and small-scale fishing operations in both developed and developing countries. The many negative consequences of IUU fishing include the environmental impact of depleting fish stocks, and the profound social and economic impacts on communities, the fisheries sector as a whole and consumers. Additionally, IUU fishing undermines scientific research by distorting data, disrupting monitoring efforts, and weakening evidence-based management.

The IUU Fishing Risk Index covers all 152 coastal countries of the world and, for each country, a score is calculated based on a suite of 40 indicators. These relate to the prevalence of IUU fishing in each country, and the country's vulnerability and response to it, as assessed according to the country's coastal, flag, port and general state responsibilities. The database underpinning the IUU fishing scores in 2025 contained 5 706 separate data entries, based on both publicly available data and expert opinion, with a high (98.48%) completion rate across all indicators and countries.

The methodology used for the 2025 version of the Index remains the same as for the 2023 version and so allows for direct comparability.¹

¹ Note that indicator 7 'Authorized vessel data provided to FAO high seas vessel authorization record (HSVAR)' in 2019 was changed to 'Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership' in the 2021 update for reasons explained in the 2021 report. In 2025, a minor additional change to the methodology was (for indicators 4, 5, 15, 20 and 21) to use responses from observers and MCS practitioners provided during the survey conducted for the 2023 and 2025 Index. This was to avoid swings in the performance of individual countries based on who responded to the survey (the anonymity in responses means that it is not known which individuals respond and if they are the same between iterations), and to increase comparability across iterations.

The 2025 Index scores and their implications

In 2025, the global score across all state responsibilities and types of indicators was 2.27 compared to 2.28 in 2023, 2.24 in 2021 and 2.29 in 2019. The global score has remained essentially unchanged since 2023, indicating no relevant increase or decrease in global IUU fishing risk. However, there are changes in specific indicators and in the performance of individual countries.

Global indicator scores improved for 16 indicators, got worse for 15 indicators and remained unchanged for nine indicators.

- Indicators that improved: 1,2, 4, 8, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 35, 36, 37.
- Indicators that got worse: 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 20, 21, 24, 26, 30, 31, 32, 38, 39, 40.
- Indicators that remained unchanged: 3, 6, 9, 10, 12, 16, 27, 33, 34.

Indicators that improved the most were ‘Designated ports specified for entry by foreign vessels’, ‘Mentions in media reports to combatting IUU fishing’ and ‘Compliance with RFMO flag state obligations’.

Individual country scores ranged from 1.46 for Romania (the best-performing country) to 3.60 for China (the worst-performing country since 2019 but consistently improving its score in each iteration of the Index). Between 2023 and 2025, 68 countries improved their scores (i.e. lower risk), eight countries retained the same score, and 76 countries had a worse score.

Between 2023 and 2025, the countries that most improved their ranking were Ukraine, Saint Lucia and Cuba, while the countries that showed the greatest drop in overall ranking were Brunei Darussalam, Seychelles and Malaysia.

The tables below highlight the regions and ocean basins of most concern for IUU fishing risk, for different combinations of indicators related to state responsibilities and indicator types in 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2023.

In 2019 when the Index was first launched, Asia was the region of special concern, with the highest (i.e. worst) scores overall for the four state responsibility indicators and the prevalence indicators. The 2019 Index scores also implied the need for action in the Western Pacific and the East Indian Ocean basins.

In the 2021 Index, a more diverse picture emerged of the regions and ocean basins that were of concern. Although Asia remained the region of most concern based on all indicators aggregated by responsibility and type, Africa became more prominent for indicators related to coastal state responsibility. The Eastern Pacific (high vulnerability) and the West Atlantic (poor response) ocean basins were of greater concern compared to 2019. The Middle East remained a region of concern for response indicators, potentially because its countries attribute low importance to the fisheries sector, signalling a weak policy focus.

In the 2023 Index, North America remained of most concern in terms of vulnerability, and the regions and ocean basins showing the highest risk for prevalence indicators had few changes. For the response indicators, the Middle East was the worst-performing region, while the West Indian Ocean became more prominent as an ocean basin of concern compared to 2021. For all indicators combined, Asia continued to be the region with the highest risk, and the West Indian Ocean was the ocean basin of most concern.

In the 2025 Index, the worst-performing regions and ocean basins of most concern for vulnerability remained unchanged from 2023. For prevalence, the East Indian Ocean replaced the Western Pacific as the ocean basin of most concern for flag and overall state indicators, and replaced the Eastern Pacific for general indicators. For the response indicators, the only change was that the West Indian Ocean replaced the East Indian Ocean as the ocean of most concern. For all types of indicators combined, the Indian Ocean remained the ocean basin of most concern with the East Indian Ocean of most concern for flag state indicators and for indicators, while the West Indian Ocean ranked as worst-performing for port state indicators. These changes suggest that IUU fishing risks are becoming more pronounced in the Indian Ocean relative to other oceans.

Worst-performing regions and ocean basins by indicator group in 2019

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• Oceania / Western Pacific	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• Caribbean and Central America / East Indian Ocean	• Asia / Western Pacific
	Flag	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / Western Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific
	Port	• North America / East Indian Ocean	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / Western Pacific
	General	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / East Indian Ocean
	Overall	• North America / Western Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / East Indian Ocean

Worst-performing regions and ocean basins by indicator group in 2021

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• Oceania / Western Pacific	• Africa / Eastern Pacific	• Caribbean and Central America / West Atlantic	• Africa / West Indian Ocean
	Flag	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / Western Pacific
	Port	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / Western Pacific
	General	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Middle East / West Atlantic	• Asia / East Indian Ocean
	Overall	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Atlantic	• Asia / Western Pacific

Worst-performing regions and ocean basins by indicator group in 2023

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• North America / Western Pacific	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Africa / West Indian Ocean
	Flag	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / East Indian Ocean	• Asia / Western Pacific
	Port	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / Western Pacific
	General	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean
	Overall	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / West Indian Ocean

² It is noted that while Index scores do improve for countries signing up to international agreements or adhering to best practice, real-world reductions in the levels of IUU fishing also require the actual and practical implementation of such agreements and the fulfilment of obligations incumbent upon countries committing to them.

Worst-performing regions and ocean basins by indicator group in 2025

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• North America / Western Pacific	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Africa / West Indian Ocean
	Flag	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / East Indian Ocean
	Port	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean
	General	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• North America / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean
	Overall	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / West Indian Ocean

Aggregated scores for all countries in a region or ocean basin can obscure the risk of IUU fishing in or by specific countries, and thus where action is needed. The tables show the countries that had the worst scores for different indicator groups in 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025. The maps, ranking tables and country profiles on the IUU Fishing Risk Index website provide indicator scores for all individual countries for different combinations of indicator groups. Several countries including China, Taiwan, Russia, South Korea, and Yemen have been in the ten worst-performing countries since 2019. Others like Eritrea have dropped out of the worst-performing list one iteration to rejoin the next. This shows that while country scores change, the countries of concern have remained largely the same over the past 6 years.

Worst-performing countries by indicator group in 2019

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• Japan	• Ecuador	• Timor Leste	• Cambodia
		• Kiribati	• Philippines	• Cambodia	• Somalia
		• Seychelles	• Sierra Leone (+ 3 others)	• Cameroon (+ 6 others)	• Vietnam
	Flag	• China	• China	• Singapore	• China
		• France	• Taiwan	• China	• Taiwan
		• Japan (+ 4 others)	• Panama	• Libya/Russia	• Panama
	Port	• Canada	• China	• Bahrain	• China
		• China	• Taiwan	• Benin	• Russia
		• France (+ 9 others)	• Vietnam	• Brunei (+ 19 others)	• Cambodia
	General	• India	• Thailand	• Singapore	• Vietnam
		• Vietnam	• Vietnam	• Grenada	• Comoros
		• Indonesia	• Mexico	• Yemen	• Cambodia
	Overall	• China	• China	• Singapore	• China
		• Japan	• Taiwan	• Cambodia	• Taiwan
		• Russia	• Vietnam	• Yemen	• Cambodia

Notes: Countries with the same scores in rankings are listed alphabetically. Where more countries than shown in the table have the same score, the number of additional countries is provided in brackets.

Worst-performing countries by indicator group in 2021

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• Japan	• Seychelles	• Congo, R. of.	• Congo, R. of.
		• China	• Ecuador	• Argentina	• Seychelles
		• France	• Guinea-Bissau (+ 4 others)*	• Jamaica (+ 2 others)	• Equatorial Guinea (+ 3 others)
	Flag	• China	• China	• Russia	• China
		• France	• South Korea	• Libya	• Taiwan
		• Japan (+ 4 others)	• Taiwan	• Guinea-Bissau	• Russia
	Port	• Canada	• China	• Bahrain	• China
		• China	• Thailand	• Brunei Darussalam	• South Africa
		• France (+ 9 others)	• Uruguay	• China (+ 6 others)	• Singapore
	General	• Vietnam	• Mexico	• Singapore	• Somalia
		• India	• China	• Eritrea	• Eritrea
		• Indonesia	• Ecuador	• Israel	• China (+ 1 other)
	Overall	• China	• China	• Eritrea	• China
		• Japan	• South Korea	• Singapore	• Russia
		• USA	• Taiwan	• Yemen	• South Korea

Note: Countries with the same scores in rankings are listed alphabetically. Where more countries than shown in the table have the same score, the number of additional countries is provided in brackets

Worst-performing countries by indicator group in 2023

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• Japan	• Somalia	• Benin	• Yemen
		• China	• Indonesia	• Congo, R. of.	• Congo, R. of.
		• France	• Vietnam	• Jamaica (+ 4 others)	• Somalia
	Flag	• China	• China	• Guinea Bissau	• Russia
		• France	• Taiwan	• Libya	• China
		• Japan (+ 5 others)	• South Korea (+ Russia)	• Russia	• Taiwan
	Port	• Canada	• China	• Jamaica	• China
		• Chile	• South Korea	• North Korea	• Spain
		• China (+ 13 others)	• Spain (+ 2 others)	• Kuwait (+ 3 others)	• North Korea
	General	• India	• Mexico	• Israel	• Comoros
		• Indonesia	• China	• Lebanon	• India
		• Myanmar + Peru	• Vietnam	• United Arab Emirates	• Yemen
	Overall	• China	• China	• United Arab Emirates	• China
		• Japan	• Taiwan	• Yemen	• Russia
		• Russia	• Indonesia	• Kuwait (+ Qatar)	• Yemen

Note: Countries with the same scores in rankings are listed alphabetically. Where more countries than shown in the table have the same score, the number of additional countries is provided in brackets

Worst-performing countries by indicator group in 2025

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• China	• Somalia	• Benin	• Yemen
		• Japan	• Indonesia	• Congo, R.	• Ghana
		• Marshall Islands	• Philippines (+ 2 others)	• Eritrea (+ 4 others)	• Congo, R.
	Flag	• China	• China	• Comoros	• Taiwan
		• France	• Taiwan	• Libya	• Russia
		• Japan (+ 2 others)	• Russia	• Russia (+1 other)	• China
	Port	• Canada	• China	• Bahrain	• China
		• Chile	• South Korea	• Brunei Darussalam	• Taiwan
		• China (+ 14 others)	• Uruguay	• North Korea (+ 2 others)	• South Korea
	General	• India	• Mexico	• United Arab Emirates	• India
		• Indonesia	• China	• Eritrea	• Comoros
		• Myanmar	• Ghana	• Israel	• China (+ 1 other)
	Overall	• China	• China	• United Arab Emirates	• China
		• Japan	• Indonesia	• Yemen	• Iran
		• Russia	• Taiwan	• North Korea (+ 1 other)	• Indonesia

Note: Countries with the same scores in rankings are listed alphabetically. Where more countries than shown in the table have the same score, the number of additional countries is provided in brackets

Developing countries are often especially vulnerable to IUU fishing and often lack the resources to fully respond to the challenges of combatting IUU fishing. This means that there is a need to pursue more vigorously many of the established mechanisms to support developing countries in their drive to combat IUU fishing across applicable state responsibilities. The strengthening of human resources through training alone, especially in the domain of port state measures, could lead to immediate and improved outcomes in many countries.

Nations that remain particularly problematic are those that operate distant-water fishing fleets and have poor scores for flag/prevalence and flag/response indicators. Solving their poor performance would go a long way to eliminating IUU fishing globally, and there is a pressing need to hold these countries to account for their actions (or lack thereof), to monitor progress and to take remedial action where appropriate.

The summary insights from this fourth iteration of the Index underline that the risks of IUU fishing remain dynamic, without the overall global Index score changing much. The insights from the 2025 iteration can be used by countries, regions and ocean basins to make targeted changes on the risks they encounter with IUU fishing. The updates of the IUU Fishing Risk Index will help to track dynamics in a meaningful way at the global scale..





Introduction

1

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Since the 1990s, the annual global production from capture fisheries has remained largely unchanged at around 90 million tonnes, with annual differences driven mostly by variations in catches of anchoveta (*Engraulis ringens*).² Marine fisheries account for around 88% and inland fisheries for around 12% of capture fisheries production.³

In 2020, capture fishing employed about 34 million people (of which 15.7 million in marine capture fisheries),⁴ with millions of other people working in upstream businesses supplying inputs and downstream marketing and processing. Activities range from individual entrepreneurs operating small, unmotorized dugout canoes, mainly for sustenance, to large, vertically integrated fishing companies, with single vessels valued at many millions of dollars that move between fishing zones globally.

Fish is a highly traded commodity and one of the most traded and valuable segments of the world food sector. In 2022, world exports of aquatic products (excluding algae) were valued at US\$192 billion.⁵ Different fish species have very different values – some individual tuna sell for tens of thousands of dollars to sashimi markets, while small pelagic species, such as sardine and mackerel destined for canneries, sell for as little as US\$100–200 per tonne. But even for low-value species, the large volumes of fish caught by larger vessels mean that the value of fish landed from a single fishing trip can run into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Therefore, incentives for non-compliance and crime in the sector are considerable, given the financial benefits that can accrue across fishing operations of

all scales and within the context of weak management and enforcement of regulations in many countries. The motivation for larger industrial-scale vessels to engage in illegal activities comes from being able to catch large volumes of fish with a high first-sale value and needing to cover high investment and operational costs. For small-scale fishing operations, motivations include the relative financial benefits of illegal activity for those with low incomes and increasing levels of trade to high-value overseas markets. In addition, the sector often serves as an ‘activity of last resort’, attracting people when income-earning activities and ways to ensure food security in other sectors are limited.

As recognized in the SDGs,⁶ Sustainable management of the world’s marine resources is vital for food security, poverty alleviation and economic growth. However, between 1974 and 2021, global fisheries stocks within biologically sustainable levels decreased from 90% to 62.3%.⁷ Weak fisheries governance and IUU fishing have certainly contributed to this decline. The negative impacts of IUU fishing are not just environmental but also have profound social and economic impacts on communities, the wider supply chain and seafood sector and, ultimately, consumers.

Since the mid-1990s, many actions have been undertaken internationally, regionally, nationally and locally to eliminate IUU fishing. These include international and regional agreements (voluntary and binding); improvements in monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS); sharing of intelligence; and the use of innovative technologies to identify and track fishing vessel activity. Yet despite these actions, IUU fishing remains a significant problem, as highlighted in this Index.

1.2 Why have an IUU Fishing Index?

Several studies have attempted to measure and report on the extent of IUU fishing. A 2009 study, ‘Estimating the worldwide extent of illegal fishing’,⁸ found that in 2003, the volume of IUU-caught fish was equivalent to between 11% and 19% of reported catches, or 10–26 million tonnes of fish with a value of between US\$10 billion and US\$23 billion. Although the study was of little practical use given its age (and use of 2005 data) and lack of country-specific estimates needed to generate global estimates, it provided a much-needed wake-up call about the magnitude of the problem. Later studies of IUU fishing tended to focus on specific regions, countries or even fisheries, and used different methodologies, which did not allow for meaningful global comparisons.

Therefore, in 2019, the IUU Fishing Risk Index was established to address the lack of reliable global estimates of IUU fishing and data that allowed comparison between countries. The Index fills a critical gap, as it allows the benchmarking of countries for their exposure to and performance in combatting IUU fishing.

The Index measures and maps the prevalence of IUU fishing in 152 coastal states and their capacity to respond to and counter the threat of IUU fishing, as well as their exposure and vulnerability to the phenomenon. It also compares the degree to which states are exposed to and combat IUU fishing risk in four key ‘responsibility’ domains: coastal, flag, port and general. Each coastal state has its own strengths, weaknesses, challenges and vulnerabilities when it comes to IUU fishing risk. Therefore, combining these indicators into one comprehensive, comparative global index provides a tool for practitioners and policymakers to identify risk and determine where to prioritize interventions.

Having been launched in 2019 and updated in 2021 and 2023, the 2025 update of the Index presented in this report provides an assessment of the current state of affairs, as well as recent changes in global IUU fishing risk dynamics.

² Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture: Blue Transformation in Action, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0683en>

³ This paper focuses only on definitions and measurements of IUU fishing in capture fisheries. In 2022, the aquaculture sector produced an additional 95 million tonnes.

⁴ Africa accounts for 15% of total employment, and for 15% of the world’s fleet of 4.6 million fishing vessels

⁵ FAO, 2024, op cit.

⁶ SDG 14 is to ‘Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development’. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg14>

⁷ FAO, 2024, op. cit

⁸ DJ Agnew et al., Estimating the Worldwide Extent of Illegal Fishing, *PLOS ONE*, 4, 2, 2009, e4570, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0004570.



1.3 Methodology

The IUU Fishing Risk Index uses 40 indicators that are applied to 152 countries with a maritime coastline. The indicators provide a reliable and robust basis for an Index of IUU fishing risk and for assigning scores to countries. The scores provide the basis for comparing countries, regions and ocean basins, and serve to identify where action to combat IUU fishing is most needed.

Each country is given a score of between 1 (good/strong) and 5 (bad/weak), based on weighted indicators belonging to different ‘indicator groups’ related to responsibilities and types.

I. RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coastal – indicators related to things that states should do and their IUU fishing obligations specific to managing their exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
- Flag – indicators related to things that states should do and their IUU fishing obligations specific to vessels they flag (i.e. that are on their vessel register).
- Port – indicators related to things that states should do and their IUU fishing obligations specific to managing their ports.
- General – indicators that are not specific to flag, coastal or port state responsibilities.

II. TYPES

- Vulnerability – indicators related to risks that IUU fishing may occur.
- Prevalence – indicators related to known/suspected IUU incidents.
- Response – indicators related to actions aimed at reducing IUU fishing.

The indicators are listed in tables 1 and 2.

Table 1
Indicator groups and names

Indicator Group	Indicator Number	Indicator Name
Coastal state/ Vulnerability	10	Size of EEZ
	11	Agreement over all maritime boundaries
	13	Authorized foreign vessels to operate in EEZ
	12	Dependency on fish for protein
Coastal state/ Prevalence	14	Has MSC-certified fisheries
	15	Views of MCS practitioners on coastal compliance incidents ⁵
Coastal state/ Response	16	Coastal state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs)
	17	Operate a national vessel monitoring system (VMS) or fisheries monitoring centre (FMC)
Flag state/ Vulnerability	1	Distant-water vessels on RFMO records of authorized vessels (RAVs)
	2	Distant-water vessels under several RFMOs
Flag state/ Prevalence	3	Vessels on IUU lists
	4	View of fisheries observers on flag state compliance incidents
	5	Views of MCS practitioners on flag state compliance incidents
Flag state/ Response	6	Accepted Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Compliance Agreement
	7	Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership
	8	Provision of vessel data for inclusion in Global Record
	37	Compliance with RFMO flag state obligations
	40	Flag state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs
Port state/ Vulnerability	18	Number of fishing ports
	19	Port visits by foreign fishing or carrier vessels
Port state/ Prevalence	20	Views of MCS practitioners on port compliance incidents
	21	View of fisheries observers on port compliance incidents
Port state/ Response	22	Party to the Port State Measures Agreement
	23	Designated ports specified for entry by foreign vessels
	38	Compliance with RFMO port state obligations
General/ Vulnerability	27	Perception of levels of corruption
	28	Gross national income per capita
	29	Volume of catches
	21	Trade balance for fisheries products
	25	Share of global imports
General/ Prevalence	30	‘Carded’ under the EU IUU Regulation
	31	Identified by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for IUU fishing
	32	Mentions of IUU fishing in media reports
General/ Response	9	Mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet
	33	Ratification/accession of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
	34	Ratification of UN Fish Stocks Agreement
	35	Mentions in media reports on combatting IUU fishing
	36	Have a national plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (NPOA-IUU)
	26	Demand for MSC products
	39	Market state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to relevant RFMOs

Table 2
Number of indicators in different indicator groups and subgroups

Responsibilities	Number	% of total
Flag	10	25.0%
Coastal	8	20.0%
Port	7	17.5%
General	15	37.5%
Total	40	

Types	Number	% of total
Vulnerability	13	32.5%
Prevalence	10	25.0%
Response	17	42.5%
Total	40	

Subgroups	Number	% of total
Flag vulnerability	2	5.0%
Flag prevalence	3	7.5%
Flag response	5	12.5%
Coastal vulnerability	4	10.0%
Coastal prevalence	2	5.0%
Coastal response	2	5.0%
Port vulnerability	2	5.0%
Port prevalence	2	5.0%
Port response	3	7.5%
General vulnerability	5	12.5%
General prevalence	3	7.5%
General response	7	17.5%
Total	40	

Individual scores are assigned to all countries and also allocated to both a region and relevant ocean basin(s), allowing Index scores to be analysed by individual country, region and ocean basin. Scores for any region or ocean basin are the average scores of all countries in that region/ocean basin. Scores of countries with a coastline bordering two ocean basins are included in the averages of both ocean basins.

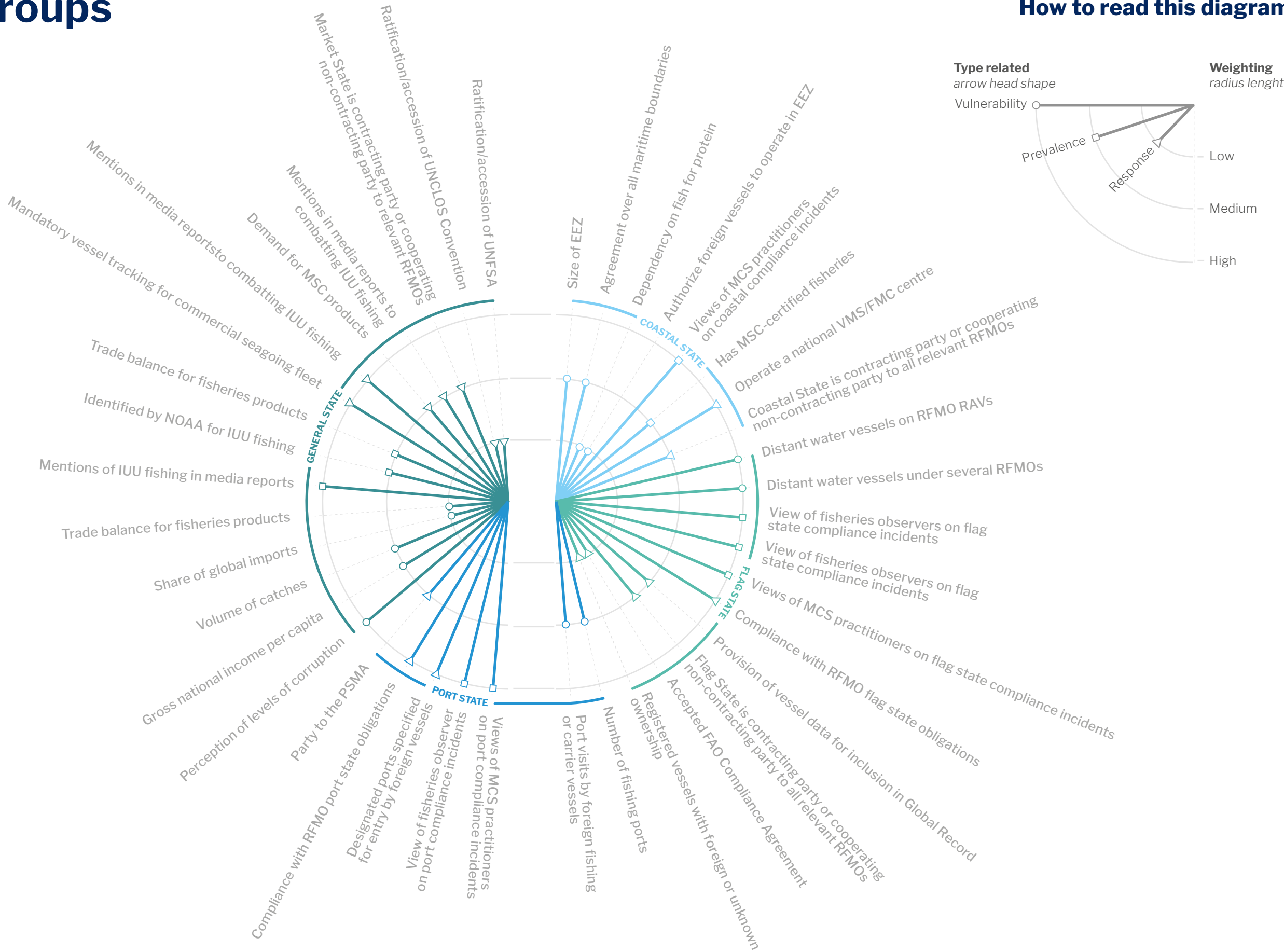
The database underpinning the IUU fishing scores for 2025 contains 5 706 separate data entries, with a high (98.48%) response/completion rate across all indicators/countries. Data sources for the indicators include a mix of publicly available sources, country correspondents for certain indicators that require factual data at country level, and expert opinions. A full methodological description is provided on the IUU Fishing Risk Index website at (www.iuufishingindex.net/methodology). The methodology paper describes the basis for selecting indicators, sources of data, thresholds used for scores between 1 and 5 for the values associated with each indicator, strengths and weaknesses of each indicator, weightings of different indicators and other technical considerations.

The methodology paper acknowledges and discusses weaknesses of the Index and its indicators. No composite indicator, or index, can ever be ‘perfect’ and render through a score – or series of scores – a comprehensive and unfailingly accurate picture of a complex real-world situation. An index always remains an approximation and will resonate more with the real-world situation on the ground in some instances and less in others.



Indicator groups and names

How to read this diagram





**Introduction
to the results**

2

2. Introduction to the results

2.1 Structure of this report

For ease of comparison, the results of this 2025 update of the Index are presented using the same structure as the 2019, 2021 and 2023 reports. The report is organized into the following sections:

Section 3 provides overall results for the combined flag, coastal, port and general indicators, highlighting the best- and worst-performing countries and exploring differences in scores between regions and ocean basins.

Section 4 provides results pertaining to **coastal** states, presenting scores by type (i.e. vulnerability, prevalence and response) and highlighting geographical differences.

Section 5 provides results for **flag** states, presenting scores by type and highlighting geographical differences.

Section 6 provides results for **port** states, presenting scores by type and highlighting geographical differences.

Section 7 provides results for **general** indicators not specific to other responsibilities, presenting scores by type and highlighting geographical differences.

Section 8 highlights key findings arising from the 2025 results.

Section 9 contains an introduction to the IUU Fishing Risk Index website (www.iuufishingindex.net).

2.2 Comments on interpretation of scores

The main use of the scores is to allow IUU fishing risk to be compared between countries, regions and ocean basins for single indicators or for different indicator groups. This enables users of the Index to identify more/less affected countries/regions/ocean basins and to determine where the risk is (not levels of IUU fishing) and, therefore, where action to combat IUU fishing is most needed. The scores in 2025 are also useful for assessing any changes that may have occurred since 2019, 2021 and 2023.

Scores of indicator groups are not directly comparable because the specification thresholds and weightings differ across indicator groups. For example, a score of 2.5 for coastal state indicators and a score of 2.2 for port state indicators are not directly comparable, and so they do not imply that coastal state performance is worse than port state performance, or that the focus needs to be on coastal states rather than on port states.

The country scores are not a proxy for the volumes and values of IUU harvests but represent a standardized risk score derived from the 40 indicators included in the Index. Therefore, they represent a unified measure of vulnerability, prevalence and response across different state responsibilities. The IUU fishing country scores cannot – and should not – be used with any algorithm to generate estimated volumes and values of IUU fish catch for different countries. A score of 1 for vulnerability, prevalence and response indicators does not imply that a country has no IUU fishing, although it certainly implies low risk and very good performance. Likewise, a score of 5 for response indicators does not imply that a country is doing nothing to combat IUU fishing, but it does clearly indicate that the country could/should consider unexplored actions for tackling IUU fishing.



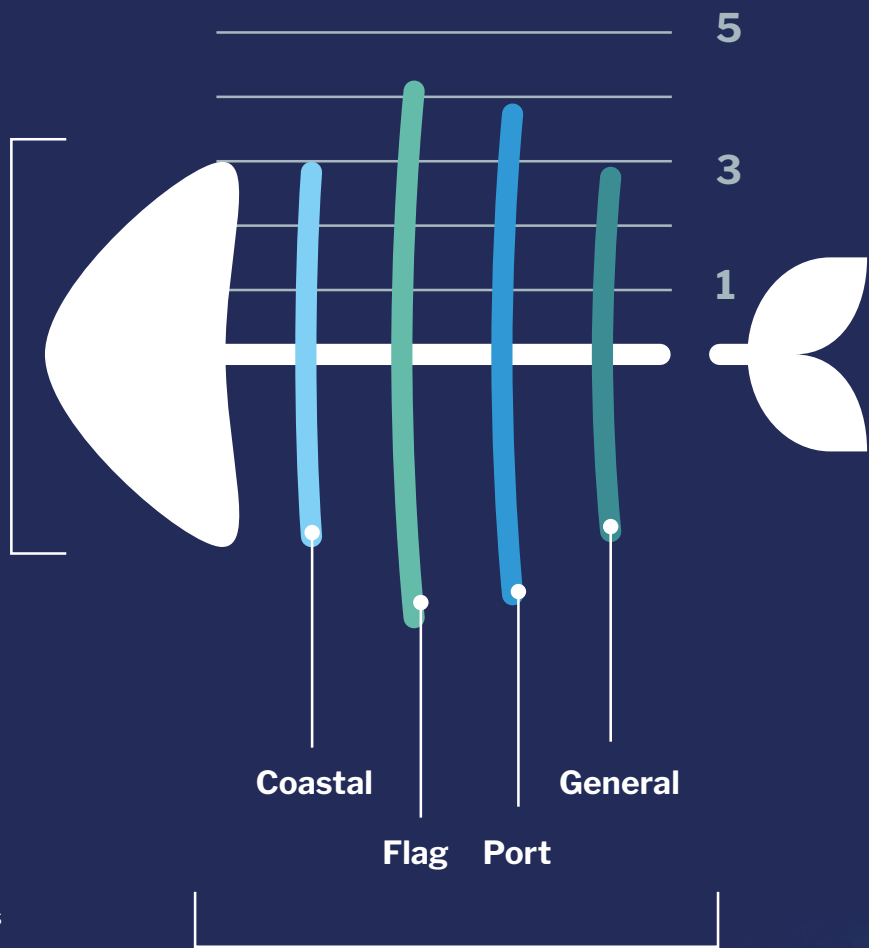
How to read the fishbone graphics used in this report

Skull and tail

Represents the overall IUU Fishing score, larger fish skull and tail showing high/poor scores

Fishbones

The fishbones represent the coastal, flag, port, and general state responsibilities, with larger fishbones showing high/poor scores.





**IUU fishing risk
scores combined
across coastal,
flag, port and
general state
responsibilities**

3



landlocked countries

2.27 ↘ **0.01**

World overall 2025
IUU score

3. IUU fishing risk scores combined across coastal, flag, port and general state responsibilities

3.1 Introduction and distribution of scores

When the individual country scores were aggregated by responsibility (Table 3, column 2), no country had a score above 4.0, but one country moved below 1.49. The countries (126 or 83%) that fell within the 2.00 to 2.99 range were the same as in 2023. When the scores were broken down by indicator type (vulnerability, prevalence and response), country scores were more widely distributed for response and vulnerability indicators than for prevalence, with a high percentage (83%) of countries scoring between 1.00 to 1.99 for prevalence.

Table 3
Number of countries within score ranges for IUU fishing risk scores by type, aggregated across all responsibilities, 2025

Range	IUU Score Distribution	Vulnerability Score Distribution	Prevalence Score Distribution	Response Score Distribution
4.50—5.00	0	0	0	0
4.00—4.49	0	4	1	1
3.50—3.99	1	13	0	10
3.00—3.49	4	36	2	23
2.50—2.99	20	53	8	28
2.00—2.49	106	38	14	44
1.50—1.99	20	7	57	44
1.00—1.49	1	1	70	2

Notes: * 30 countries had no prevalence scores because of missing data; ** 9 countries had no response scores because of missing data.

3.2 Key findings

In 2025, the global total score, aggregated across all state responsibilities and types of indicator, was 2.27. This score has remained relatively stable since 2019, with a slight improvement to 2.24 in 2021 and then a return to 2.28 in 2023. There has been no significant shift or improvement in overall global IUU fishing risk.

Individual country scores, aggregated across all state responsibilities and types of indicators, ranged from 1.46 for Romania (the best-performing country) to 3.60 for China (the worst-performing country in 2025 and since 2019). A full list of scores for all 152 countries aggregated across responsibilities can be found in the Annex at the end of this report. The reasons underlying these scores are more fully discussed in later sections, which consider coastal, flag, port and general state responsibilities and the indicators associated with them.

Between 2023 and 2025, countries that most improved their ranking were Ukraine, Saint Lucia and Cuba, while the countries with the biggest drop in ranking were Brunei Darussalam, Seychelles and Malaysia.

Tables 4 and 5 show the 10 countries with the highest (worst-performing) and lowest (best-performing) scores for aggregated responsibilities and all types of indicators, as well as for indicators broken down by vulnerability, prevalence and response.

In 2025, the 10 worst-performing countries for aggregated responsibilities and types of indicators remained China, Iran, Indonesia, Russia, Yemen, India, Taiwan, Comoros, South Korea and were joined by Eritrea, while Ukraine dropped off the list. .

Between 2023 and 2025, the 10 top-scoring countries for vulnerability were largely unchanged, except Myanmar replaced Norway (Table 4). Two countries (Senegal and Angola) entered the list of worst-performing countries for prevalence, joining China, Indonesia, Taiwan, India, South Korea, Russia, Ecuador and Ghana. The United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Kuwait, Qatar and North Korea remained on the list of the 10 worst-performing countries for response indicators and were joined by Eritrea, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Iraq and the Dominican Republic.

In 2025, European countries continued to dominate the list of the 10 best-performing countries for scores aggregated across responsibilities and types of indicators, as they had in 2023 (Table 5). The list included five countries (Romania, Finland, Belgium, Monaco and Sweden) from 2023 and five countries (Bulgaria, Germany, Latvia, Poland and Togo) that entered the top 10 for the first time..

Tables 6 and 7 show scores by region and ocean basin, again aggregated by responsibility and then broken down into vulnerability, prevalence and response.

In 2025, three regions slightly improved their scores aggregated across responsibilities: Europe, Oceania and the Caribbean & Central America. After having improved in 2023, North America’s score worsened in 2025. Africa’s scores were the same as in 2023 and 2021, while all other regions saw a slight worsening of their scores. Regional scores for vulnerability aggregated for all types of state responsibility, changed very little in 2025 compared to previous years, with scores moving closer together in range but overall improving only for North America, Africa and the Caribbean & Central America. Prevalence scores worsened for all regions, with the biggest change in North America, while response scores improved in the European and Oceania regions but slightly worsened overall.

In 2025, the East and West Indian Oceans had the worst overall rank and score aggregated across all responsibilities for ocean basins, while the East Atlantic remained the best-performing ocean basin. The prevalence scores for all ocean basins combined worsened compared to 2023, continuing a trend since 2021, with the exception of the Mediterranean & Black Sea, which maintained its score and remained the best-performing ocean basin. For response indicators, the West Indian Ocean remained the worst-performing region, continuing a trend of worsening scores, while the East Atlantic improved its score, becoming the best-performing ocean basin in 2025.

TABLE 4
Ten worst-performing countries
for IUU fishing risk scores by type, for all types of state responsibility, 2025



Vulnerability

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	4.36	China	4.32	China	4.32	China	4.44
#2	Japan	4.28	Japan	4.28	Japan	4.28	Japan	4.28
#3	Russia	4.13	Russia	4.26	USA	4.12	Russia	4.22
#4	USA	4.00	USA	4.12	Russia	4.09	USA	3.96
#5	Indonesia	3.96	Indonesia	4.08	Indonesia	4.08	France	3.92
#6	France	3.84	France	3.92	South Korea	4.00	Indonesia	3.92
#7	Morocco	3.84	South Korea	3.88	France	3.92	Philippines	3.92
#8	South Korea	3.76	Morocco	3.84	Morocco	3.72	South Korea	3.91
#9	Peru	3.68	Norway	3.68	Peru	3.68	Spain	3.91
#10	Myanmar	3.64	Peru	3.68	Italy	3.64	Morocco	3.84

Prevalence

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	4.19	China	4.30	China	4.19	China	4.44
#2	Indonesia	3.11	Taiwan	3.41	South Korea	3.15	Taiwan	4.28
#3	Taiwan	3.07	Indonesia	3.22	Taiwan	3.11	Vietnam	4.22
#4	India	2.96	South Korea	3.19	Thailand	2.74	Thailand	3.96
#5	South Korea	2.78	Vietnam	3.11	Seychelles	2.52	Panama	3.92
#6	Senegal	2.70	India	2.95	Vietnam	2.48	Russia	3.92
#7	Russia	2.63	Russia	2.78	Ecuador	2.44	Cambodia	3.92
#8	Ecuador	2.59	Ecuador	2.70	USA	2.33	Sierra Leone	3.91
#9	Ghana	2.56	Ghana	2.56	Senegal	2.30	Ecuador	3.91
#10	Angola, Sri Lanka	2.52	Cameroon	2.48	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines ⁷	2.19	Indonesia	3.84

Response

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	United Arab Emirates	4.04	United Arab Emirates	3.96	Eritrea	3.94	Singapore	4.29
#2	Yemen	3.87	Yemen	3.86	Singapore	3.87	Cambodia	4.00
#3	North Korea	3.80	Kuwait	3.80	Yemen	3.83	Yemen	4.00
#4	Kuwait	3.80	Qatar	3.80	United Arab Emirates	3.82	Sant Lucia	3.81
#5	Eritrea	3.77	North Korea	3.70	N Korea	3.80	Haiti	3.80
#6	Bahrain	3.70	Jamaica	3.69	Dominican Republic	3.80	N Korea	3.75
#7	Qatar	3.70	Lebanon	3.48	Brunei Darussalam	3.80	Iraq	3.73
#8	Brunei Darussalam	3.60	Congo, DRC	3.48	Georgia	3.59	Cameroon	3.71
#9	Iraq	3.59	Israel	3.44	Bahrain	3.50	Jamaica	3.71
#10	Dominican Republic	3.58	Iran	3.43	Congo, R. (+ 1 other) ⁸	3.50	Grenada	3.71

7 Somalia also scores 2.19 for prevalence indicators.

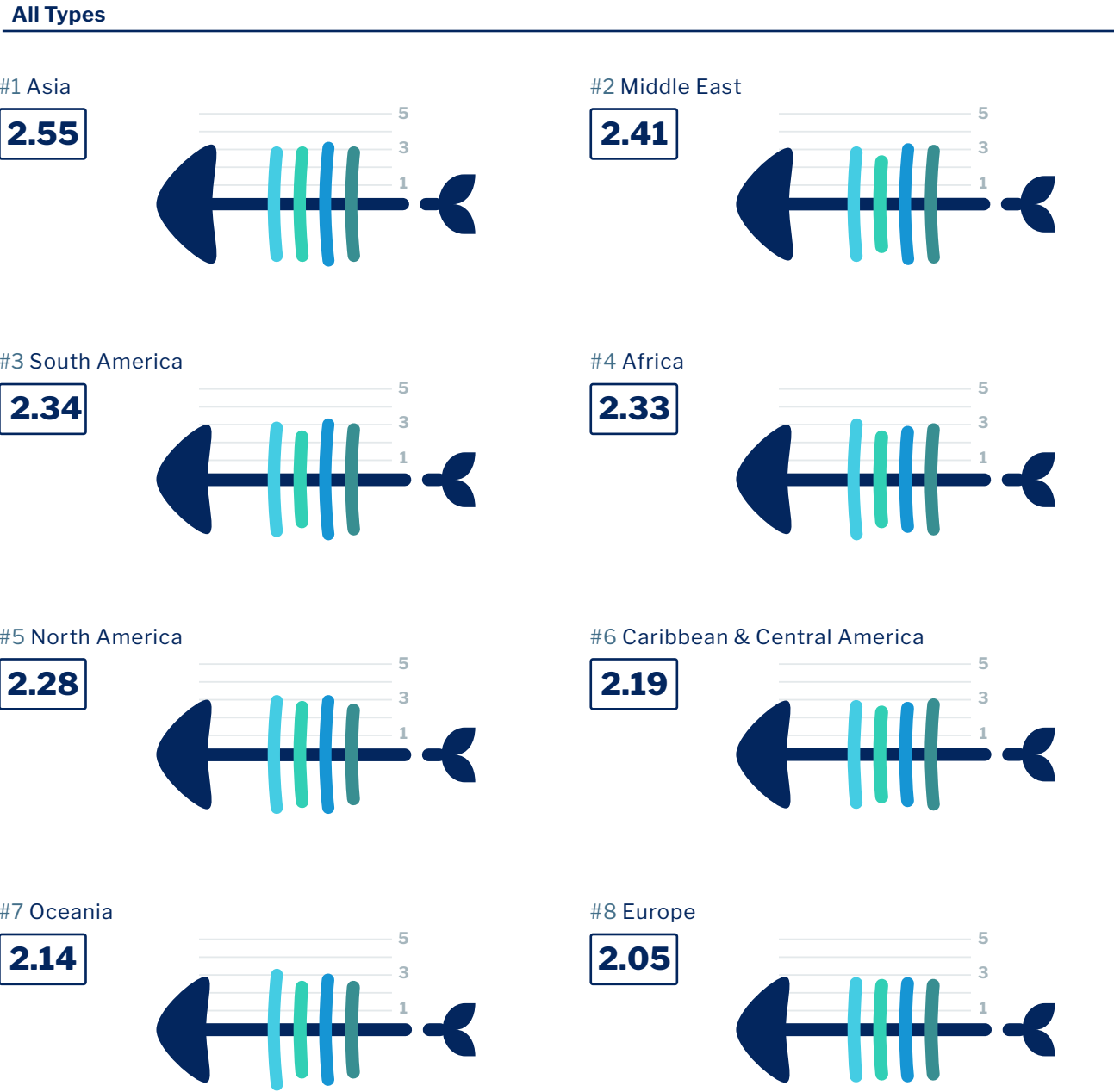
8 Dominica also scores 3.50 for response indicators.

TABLE 5
Ten best-performing countries
for IUU fishing risk scores by type, for all types of state responsibility, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Monaco	1.33	Monaco	1.33	Germany	1.00	Monaco	1.56
#2	Romania	1.64	Bahrain	1.55	Monaco	1.67	Belgium	1.80
#3	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.73	Brunei Darussalam	1.76	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.76	Slovenia	1.80
#4	Dominica	1.80	Saudi Arabia	1.77	Dominica	1.80	Uruguay	1.87
#5	Saint Lucia	1.86	Dominica	1.80	Estonia	1.80	Barbados	1.95
#6	Finland	1.91	Slovenia	1.84	Saint Kitts & Nevis	1.89	Dominica	2.00
#7	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.95	Romania	1.88	Djibouti	1.91	Estonia	2.00
#8	Singapore	1.96	Antigua & Barbuda	1.89	Barbados	1.95	Latvia	2.00
#9	Antigua & Barbuda	2.00	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.91	Finland	1.95	Finland	2.05
#10	Bahrain (+ 2 others)	2.00	Singapore	1.92	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 3 others)	2.00	Israel	2.05
Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Denmark	1.11	Denmark	1.00	Denmark	1.00	Canada	1.00
#2	Germany	1.11	Germany	1.00	Germany	1.00	Denmark	1.00
#3	Iceland	1.11	Netherlands	1.00	New Zealand	1.07	Iceland	1.00
#4	Sweden	1.19	Sweden	1.07	Solomon Isl.	1.07	New Zealand	1.00
#5	Estonia	1.22	Argentina	1.10	Sweden	1.07	Norway	1.00
#6	Guyana	1.22	Canada	1.11	Canada	1.11	Sweden	1.00
#7	Latvia	1.22	Iceland	1.11	Netherlands	1.11	Ireland	1.07
#8	Tuvalu	1.22	Estonia	1.15	Latvia	1.15	Estonia	1.15
#9	Argentina	1.24	Ireland	1.19	Australia	1.22	Finland	1.22
#10	Finland, Jamaica	1.29	Latvia (+ 3 others)	1.22	Finland (+ 5 others)	1.22	France	1.22
Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Romania	1.39	Canada	1.22	Canada	1.22	Belgium	1.28
#2	Bulgaria	1.42	Australia	1.36	Ghana	1.36	Poland	1.50
#3	Belgium	1.56	USA	1.39	Australia	1.39	Latvia	1.53
#4	Canada	1.56	Ghana	1.44	Chile	1.39	Bulgaria	1.53
#5	Sweden	1.61	Ecuador	1.50	New Zealand	1.39	Ghana	1.56
#6	Morocco	1.64	Thailand	1.56	Bulgaria	1.48	USA	1.56
#7	Thailand	1.64	Japan	1.58	Sri Lanka	1.53	Australia	1.58
#8	Germany	1.67	Romania	1.58	USA	1.53	Belize	1.61
#9	Japan	1.69	Iceland	1.61	Iceland	1.56	Iceland	1.62
#10	Sri Lanka	1.69	Vietnam	1.63	Romania	1.56	Canada	1.64

TABLE 6
Scores for regions
by type, for all types of state responsibility, 2025



The fishbone colours, by responsibility:

Coastal

Flag

Port

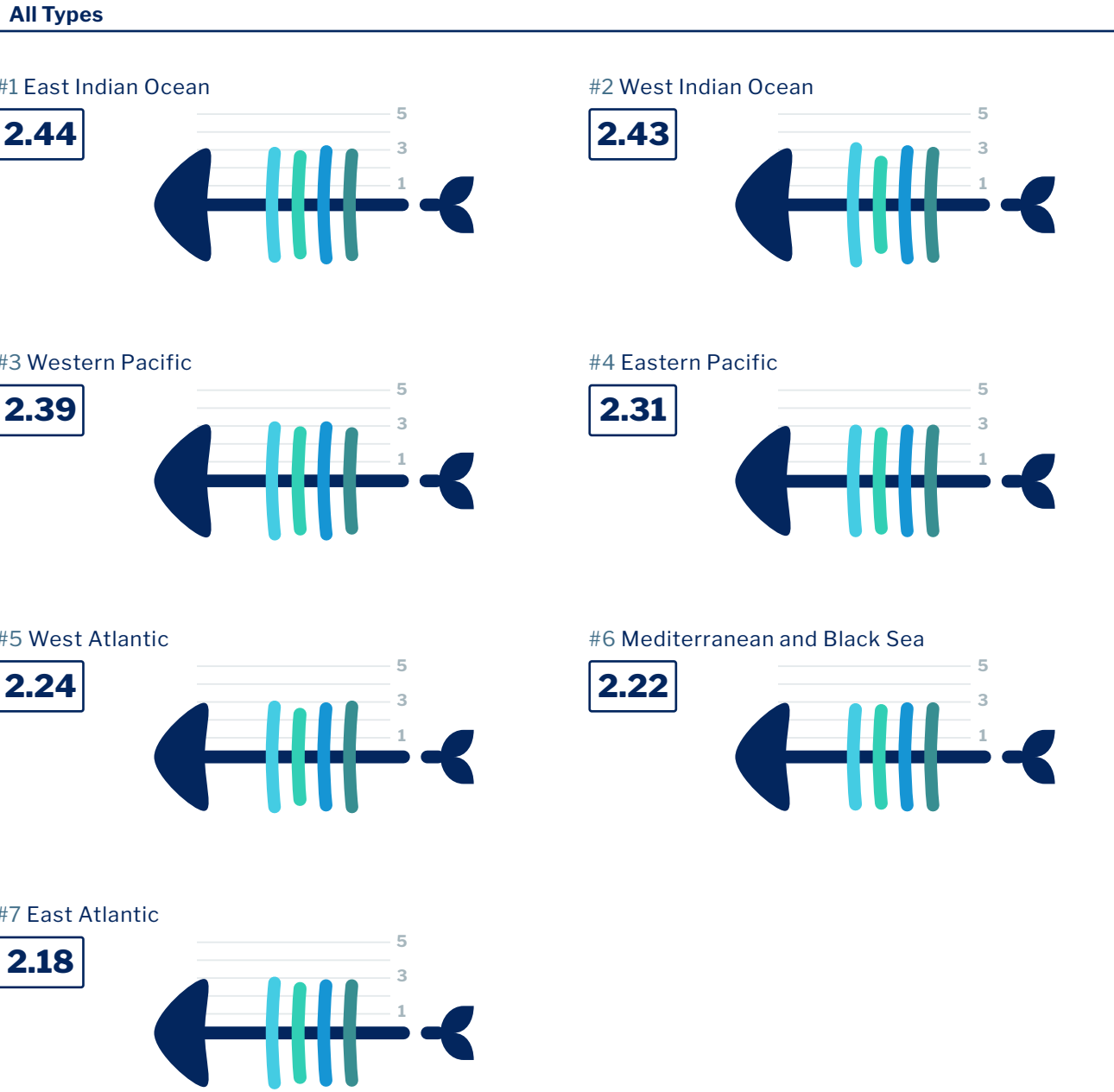
General

Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	North America	3.78	North America	3.84	North America	3.84	North America	3.71
#2	Asia	3.15	Asia	3.13	Asia	3.16	Asia	3.32
#3	South America	3.01	South America	2.99	South America	2.97	Oceania	3.06
#4	Africa	2.90	Africa	2.95	Africa	2.93	Africa	3.05
#5	Oceania	2.88	Oceania	2.87	Oceania	2.84	South America	2.90
#6	Europe	2.71	Europe	2.71	Europe	2.70	Europe	2.75
#7	Middle East	2.47	Caribbean & Central America	2.54	Caribbean & Central America	2.53	Middle East	2.60
#8	Caribbean & Central America	2.40	Middle East	2.36	Middle East	2.51	Caribbean and Central America	2.58
	World overall	2.80	World overall	2.82	World overall	2.82	World overall	2.91

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Asia	2.18	Asia	2.18	Asia	1.97	Asia	2.05
#2	Africa	1.70	Africa	1.70	North America	1.72	Africa	1.57
#3	North America	1.61	North America,	1.61	Africa	1.63	South America	1.15
#4	South America	1.61	South America	1.61	South America	1.56	Caribbean and Central America	1.48
#5	Caribbean & Central America	1.58	Caribbean & Central America	1.58	Oceania	1.46	Oceania	1.44
#6	Oceania	1.55	Oceania	1.55	Caribbean & Central America	1.45	North America	1.43
#7	Europe	1.46	Europe	1.46	Europe	1.35	Europe	1.37
#8	Middle East	1.46	Middle East	1.45	Middle East	1.35	Middle East	1.33
	World overall	1.62	World overall	1.65	World overall	1.55	World overall	1.54

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Middle East	3.24	Middle East	3.16	Middle East	3.12	Middle East	3.24
#2	Caribbean & Central America	2.55	Caribbean & Central America	2.65	Caribbean & Central America	2.73	Asia	2.77
#3	South America	2.43	Africa	2.43	Asia	2.47	Caribbean and Central America	2.70
#4	Africa	2.42	South America	2.36	Africa	2.46	Africa	2.60
#5	Asia	2.41	Asia	2.33	South America	2.25	South America	2.27
#6	Oceania	2.11	Oceania	2.23	Oceania	2.03	Oceania	2.15
#7	Europe	2.04	Europe	2.17	Europe	1.95	Europe	2.10
#8	North America	1.75	North America	1.31	North America	1.38	North America	1.60
	World overall	2.38	World overall	2.41	World overall	2.36	World overall	2.48

TABLE 7
Scores for ocean basins
by type, for all types of state responsibility, 2025



The fishbone colours, by responsibility:

Coastal

Flag

Port

General

Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Eastern Pacific	3.15	Eastern Pacific	3.23	Eastern Pacific	3.24	Western Pacific	3.27
#2	Western Pacific	3.13	Western Pacific	3.08	Western Pacific	3.09	East Indian Ocean	3.20
#3	East Indian Ocean	3.10	East Indian Ocean	3.03	East Indian Ocean	3.03	Eastern Pacific	3.14
#4	East Atlantic	2.88	East Atlantic	2.91	East Atlantic	2.88	East Atlantic	2.96
#5	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.72	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.72	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.79	West Indian Ocean	2.87
#6	West Indian Ocean	2.71	West Indian Ocean	2.70	West Indian Ocean	2.71	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.86
#7	West Atlantic	2.60	West Atlantic	2.68	West Atlantic	2.67	West Atlantic	2.70
	World overall	2.80	World overall	2.82	World overall	2.82	World overall	2.91

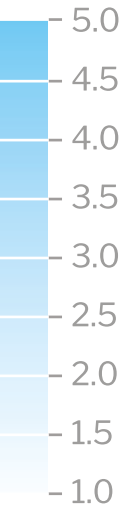
Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	East Indian Ocean	2.10	Western Pacific	1.94	Western Pacific	1.85	Western Pacific	1.88
#2	Western Pacific	1.95	East Indian Ocean	1.92	East Indian Ocean	1.67	East Indian Ocean	1.76
#3	Eastern Pacific	1.74	Eastern Pacific	1.76	Eastern Pacific	1.57	Eastern Pacific	1.60
#4	West Indian Ocean	1.64	West Indian Ocean	1.60	West Indian Ocean	1.54	West Indian Ocean	1.50
#5	East Atlantic	1.63	West Atlantic	1.57	East Atlantic	1.50	East Atlantic	1.47
#6	West Atlantic	1.57	East Atlantic	1.56	West Atlantic	1.48	West Atlantic	1.47
#7	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.48	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.48	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.40	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1.42
	World overall	1.65	World overall	1.62	World overall	1.55	World overall	1.54

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	West Indian Ocean	2.86	West Indian Ocean	2.81	West Indian Ocean	2.72	West Indian Ocean	2.78
#2	West Atlantic	2.51	West Atlantic	2.51	West Atlantic	2.58	West Atlantic	2.57
#3	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.44	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.47	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.37	East Indian Ocean	2.51
#4	Western Pacific	2.25	Western Pacific	2.26	Western Pacific	2.28	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.51
#5	East Indian Ocean	2.23	East Atlantic	2.21	East Atlantic	2.14	Western Pacific	2.41
#6	Eastern Pacific	2.16	East Indian Ocean	2.17	Eastern Pacific	2.14	East Atlantic	2.28
#7	East Atlantic	2.11	Eastern Pacific	2.12	East Indian Ocean	2.11	Eastern Pacific	2.07
	World overall	2.38	World overall	2.41	World overall	2.36	World overall	2.48



**IUU scores on
coastal state
responsibilities**

4



landlocked countries

2.49 **↗ 0.03**

World overall 2025
Coastal score

4. IUU scores on coastal state responsibilities

4.1 Introduction and distribution of scores

Table 8 lists the indicators included under coastal state responsibilities. The risk of IUU fishing tends to increase in countries that have large EEZs, do not have agreed maritime boundaries, authorize foreign vessels to fish in their EEZ and have high dependency on fish for protein. Having MSC-certified fisheries is an indication that actual levels of IUU fishing may be low, given the criteria associated with MSC certification. And the views of those working in MCS also provide a good indication of the countries most commonly associated with IUU fishing incidents. States can contribute to reduced levels of IUU fishing in their EEZs by becoming a contracting party or a cooperating non-contracting party to the RFMOs in the ocean basins where they are located and establishing an FMC capable of monitoring fishing vessel location using a VMS.

TABLE 8
Coastal state indicators

Indicator Group	Indicator Name
Coastal state/ Vulnerability	• Size of EEZ
	• Agreement over all maritime boundaries
	• Authorized foreign vessels to operate in EEZ
	• Dependency on fish for protein
Coastal state/ Prevalence	• Has MSC-certified fisheries
	• Views of MCS practitioners4 on coastal compliance incidents
Coastal state/ Response	• Coastal state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs
	• Operate a national VMS/FMC centre

As Table 9 shows, when all indicators for coastal state responsibilities are combined, 108 countries (71%) in the Index scored between 2.00 and 2.99. The scores for vulnerability were most evenly distributed across the entire range, while for prevalence and response indicators, over 50% of countries scored within a single score range (2.50 to 2.99 for prevalence and 1.00 to 1.49 for response).

TABLE 9
Number of countries within score ranges for coastal state IUU fishing risk scores, 2025

Range	Coastal	Coastal by Vulnerability	Coastal by Prevalence	Coastal by Response
4.50—5.00	0	10	1	0
4.00—4.49	1	30	4	7
3.50—3.99	3	17	8	0
3.00—3.49	19	27	23	21
2.50—2.99	54	23	75	9
2.00—2.49	54	22	21	0
1.50—1.99	21	15	10	34
1.00—1.49	0	8	10	81

4.2 Key findings

Tables 10 and 11 show the 10 best- and 10 worst-performing countries in terms of coastal state responsibilities, by indicator type and by region and ocean basin.

In 2025, the average IUU fishing score for coastal state responsibilities, aggregated for all types of indicators, was 2.49, down from 2.46 in 2023. Between 2023 and 2025, vulnerability and prevalence scores remained almost the same, with a slight worsening.

Indicators with improved scores in 2025:

- ‘Has MSC-certified fisheries’. In 2025, 50 countries had at least one MSC-certified fishery, compared to 45 in 2023. Although developed countries continued to dominate the list of MSC client countries, in 2025, five new countries had MSC-certified fisheries: Jamaica, Senegal, Vanuatu and Vietnam, demonstrating results of the MSC’s developing world programme. Since 2021, the number of certified fisheries have increased slowly, reaching 269 in 2025. Fisheries were either suspended or cancelled in Estonia (herring and sprat fishery), Kiribati (albacore, bigeye and yellowfin tuna longline fishery) Poland (flatfish trawl fishery) and Suriname (Atlantic seabob fishery).

- ‘Operate a national VMS/FMC centre’. Changes in country scores, such as the lower score for Ghana and improved scores for Nigeria and Ukraine, could reflect VMS centres coming on stream or falling into disuse since the 2023 report.

Indicators with worse scores in 2025:

- ‘Agreement over all maritime boundaries’. The lower scores in 2025 compared to 2023 were caused by countries’ changing responses or boundary agreements falling apart again. Improved scores were noted for Cambodia, Colombia, Guinea, Liberia, Saint Lucia and South Africa without clear indication if this was due to actual resolution of disputes noted in the previous reports.
- ‘Authorize foreign vessels to operate in EEZ’. In 2025, the overall score worsened slightly due to additional answers (Cuba, Colombia and Guatemala) and amended answers (Australia, Cambodia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ireland, Namibia, Romania and Togo) to the question in the survey compared to previous years.

- ‘Views of MCS practitioners on coastal compliance incidents’. The number (and variety) of countries highlighted as being of concern have increased since 2021, from 31 to 48 countries in 2023, reaching 54 countries in 2025. This can be attributed to the questionnaire being circulated to a wider audience and/or MCS practitioners noting a higher number of incidents as of concern. Countries with a marked worsening in performance included Argentina, Cambodia, Madagascar, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Seychelles, while Indonesia, China, Ecuador, Gabon and Sierra Leone showed an improved score compared to 2023.

Indicators with scores unchanged in 2025:

- ‘Coastal state is a contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs’.
- ‘Size of EEZ’. This indicator score did not change, which was expected, as the same data source was used as in earlier updates.
- ‘Dependency on fish for protein’. In 2025, this indicator did not change overall because four countries slipped into a lower band, while four slipped into a higher fish-consumption band. All other changes were from one band to another except for Nauru, which improved by two score bands. The significant change for Nauru can be explained by its relatively small population size, and so any change in consumption shows faster than for larger countries..

Individual country scores, aggregated across indicator types for coastal responsibilities ranged from 1.50 for Romania (the best-performing country) to 4.00 for Yemen (the worst-performing country). Eritrea, Ghana and the United Kingdom joined the top 10 worst-performing countries in 2025.

In 2025, the 10 worst-performing countries for combined indicator types were largely developing states (as was the case in previous iterations), highlighting the generally heightened risk of IUU fishing in developing coastal states. Conversely, European countries dominated the list of best coastal state performers across all types (as was the case in previous iterations). In 2025, six of the 10 best-performing countries remained the same, while Lithuania, Romania, Albania and Singapore joined the list, replacing Latvia, Slovenia, Belize and Denmark.

The most vulnerable coastal states included mostly developing countries. In 2025, eight countries were the same (albeit in a different order) as in 2023, while Ukraine and Nigeria dropped off the list to be replaced by Ghana as well as Indonesia and the United Kingdom, the latter two sharing an equal score and thus entering the list together. The best-performing coastal countries in terms of vulnerability included six new additions, with Romania, Syria, Lithuania, Singapore, Qatar and Saint Lucia joining the top 10.

Developing countries featured strongly on the list of countries with the worst scores for coastal prevalence and response, underlining the combination of two factors that are often correlated: strong exposure to risk and weaker governance.

The coastal countries that had the best and worst scores for prevalence indicators remained the same apart from Argentina, which dropped from the top 10 best-performing countries, and Gabon, which improved its score and was replaced by Senegal. As in 2023, many countries (81) performed well, scoring 1.00, because the Index includes only two coastal prevalence indicators and two coastal response indicators.

When examined by region (Table 12), Africa continued to be the worst-performing region and Europe remained the best-performing region since 2021. Only Africa, North America and the Caribbean & Central America maintained their score, while the other countries had a lower score compared to 2023.

Among the ocean basins, the West Indian Ocean was the worst-performing basin, continuing a trend since 2021. The Mediterranean & Black Sea maintained its best-performing position and improved its score.

Between 2023 and 2025, vulnerability and prevalence scores worsened very slightly, while response scores improved slightly. The East Atlantic and the Mediterranean & Black Sea maintained their vulnerability score, whereas all other ocean basins worsened. The West Indian Ocean maintained its position as the worst-performing ocean basin for response, with a lower score than in 2023, while the Mediterranean & Black Sea was the only ocean basin to improve noticeably, moving into second position behind the Eastern Pacific.



TABLE 10
Ten worst-performing countries
for coastal state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	5.00	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00
#2	Japan	5.00	China	4.83	China	4.83	Kiribati	5.00
#3	Marshall Isl.	5.00	France	4.83	France	4.83	Seychelles	5.00
#4	France	4.83	Canada	4.67	Canada	4.67	China	4.83
#5	Canada	4.67	South Korea	4.67	South Korea	4.67	Fiji	4.83
#6	Korea (Rep. South)	4.67	Mauritius	4.67	Mauritius	4.67	France	4.83
#7	Mauritius	4.67	USA	4.67	USA	4.67	Philippines	4.83
#8	USA	4.67	Russia	4.50	Russia	4.50	Vietnam	4.75
#9	Russia	4.50	United Kingdom	4.50	United Kingdom	4.50	Denmark	4.67
#10	United Kingdom	4.50	Cook Islands	4.33	Vanuatu	4.50	Mauritius	4.67

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Somalia	5.00	Somalia	5.00	Seychelles	5.00	Ecuador	5.00
#2	Indonesia	4.00	Indonesia	4.60	Ecuador	4.40	Philippines	4.40
#3	Philippines	4.00	Vietnam	4.40	Guinea-Bissau	4.40	Sierra Leone	4.40
#4	Senegal	4.00	Philippines	4.00	Mozambique	4.40	Somalia	4.40
#5	Viet Nam	4.00	Angola	3.80	Somalia	4.40	Taiwan	4.40
#6	Angola	3.80	Gabon	3.80	Tanzania	4.40	Thailand	4.40
#7	Ghana	3.80	Ghana	3.80	Thailand	4.40	Cambodia	3.80
#8	Guinea	3.80	Guinea	3.80	Vietnam	4.00	China	3.80
#9	Guinea-Bissau	3.80	Guinea-Bissau	3.80	Cote d'Ivoire	3.80	Colombia	3.80
#10	India (+3 others)	3.80	India	3.80	Ghana (+ 5 others)	3.80	Gabon	3.80

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Benin	4.20	Congo, R. of	5.00	Argentina	5.00	Timor-Leste	4.60
#2	Congo, R. of	4.20	Argentina	5.00	Congo, R.	5.00	Cambodia	4.20
#3	Eritrea	4.20	Jamaica	4.20	Benin	4.20	Cameroon	4.20
#4	Jamaica	4.20	Benin	4.20	Jamaica	4.20	Haiti	4.20
#5	Saint Kitts & Nevis	4.20	Saint Kitts & Nevis	4.20	Saint Kitts & Nevis	4.20	Jamaica	4.20
#6	Saudi Arabia	4.20	Equatorial Guinea	3.40	Equatorial Guinea	3.40	Myanmar	4.20
#7	Yemen	4.20	Eritrea	3.40	Eritrea	3.40	Saint Kitts and Nevis	4.20
#8	Equatorial Guinea	3.40	Greece	3.40	Greece	3.40	Saint Lucia	4.20
#9	Ghana	3.40	Guyana	3.40	Guyana	3.40	Togo	4.20
#10	Greece (+ 4 others)	3.40	Iraq (+ 7 others)	3.40	Iraq (+ 7 others)	3.40	Albania	3.40

TABLE 11
Ten best-performing countries
for coastal state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Congo (DRC)	1.00	Djibouti	1.00	Djibouti	1.00	Djibouti	1.00
#2	Romania	1.00	Monaco	1.00	Monaco	1.00	Monaco	1.00
#3	Syria	1.00	Poland	1.17	Cameroon	1.17	Slovenia	1.17
#4	Cameroon	1.17	Slovenia	1.17	Poland	1.17	Bahrain	1.25
#5	Poland	1.17	Cameroon	1.17	Slovenia	1.17	Belgium	1.33
#6	Dominica	1.33	Bahrain	1.25	Bahrain	1.25	Latvia	1.33
#7	Lithuania	1.33	Latvia	1.33	Congo (DRC)	1.33	Belize	1.50
#8	Singapore	1.33	Uruguay	1.33	Dominica	1.33	Estonia	1.50
#9	Bahrain	1.50	Dominica	1.33	Latvia	1.33	Germany	1.50
#10	Qatar (and Saint Lucia)	1.50	Congo, DRC	1.33	Uruguay	1.33	Lithuania	1.50

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Denmark	1.00	Denmark	1.00	Canada	1.00	Australia	1.00
#2	France	1.00	France	1.00	Denmark	1.00	Canada	1.00
#3	Germany	1.00	Germany	1.00	Germany	1.00	Denmark	1.00
#4	South Korea	1.00	Netherlands	1.00	Netherlands	1.00	France	1.00
#5	Netherlands	1.00	Russia	1.00	Russia	1.00	Germany	1.00
#6	Russia	1.00	Spain	1.00	United Kingdom	1.00	Iceland	1.00
#7	Spain	1.00	Argentina	1.40	Argentina	1.40	Netherlands	1.00
#8	Ireland	1.40	Ireland	1.40	Chile	1.40	New Zealand	1.00
#9	Sweden	1.40	South Korea	1.40	Mexico	1.40	Norway	1.00
#10	Taiwan	1.40	Sweden (and Taiwan)	1.40	New Zealand (+ 3 others)	1.40	Russia	1.00

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Algeria	1.00
#2	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Angola	1.00
#3	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00	Australia	1.00
#4	Australia	1.00	Australia	1.00	Australia	1.00	Bahrain	1.00
#5	Bangladesh	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Barbados	1.00
#6	Barbados	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Belgium	1.00
#7	Belgium	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Belize	1.00
#8	Belize	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.00
#9	Bulgaria	1.00	Belize	1.00	Belize	1.00	Brazil	1.00
#10	Canada (+ 71 others)	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 69 others)	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 89 others)	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00

TABLE 12
Coastal state scores for region
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	North America	4.67	North America	4.67	North America	4.67	Oceania	4.28
#2	Oceania	4.03	Oceania	3.92	Oceania	3.91	North America	4.20
#3	Africa	3.23	Africa	3.28	Africa	3.30	Asia	3.48
#4	Asia	3.18	Asia	3.05	Asia	3.08	Africa	3.37
#5	South America	3.10	South America	3.02	South America	3.08	South America	3.00
#6	Europe	2.81	Europe	2.69	Europe	2.68	Europe	2.70
#7	Caribbean & Central America	2.51	Caribbean & Central America	2.50	Caribbean & Central America	2.59	Caribbean and Central America	2.67
#8	Middle East	2.28	Middle East	2.25	Middle East	2.49	Middle East	2.44
World overall		3.05	World overall	3.00	World overall	3.05	World overall	3.17

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Africa	3.05	Africa	3.03	Africa	2.99	Asia	3.00
#2	Asia	2.83	Asia	2.86	Asia	2.90	South America	2.90
#3	Middle East	2.80	Middle East	2.76	Middle East	2.60	Africa	2.83
#4	South America	2.58	Caribbean & Central America	2.53	South America	2.58	Caribbean and Central America	2.60
#5	Caribbean & Central America	2.50	South America	2.50	Caribbean & Central America	2.54	Middle East	2.60
#6	Oceania	2.27	Oceania	2.32	Oceania	2.39	Oceania	2.40
#7	Europe	2.08	Europe	2.04	Europe	2.15	Europe	1.99
#8	North America	1.60	North America	1.60	North America	1.30	North America	1.80
World overall		2.60	World overall	2.41	World overall	2.36	World overall	2.58

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Middle East	2.33	Middle East	2.26	Caribbean & Central America	1.90	Caribbean and Central America	2.28
#2	Caribbean & Central America	1.87	Caribbean & Central America	1.89	Middle East	1.71	Asia	2.14
#3	Africa	1.84	Africa	1.82	Africa	1.70	Africa	1.64
#4	South America	1.80	South America	1.80	South America	1.60	Oceania	1.48
#5	Oceania	1.53	Oceania	1.53	Oceania	1.48	Middle East	1.33
#6	Asia	1.43	Asia	1.43	Asia	1.34	South America	1.20
#7	Europe	1.30	Europe	1.37	Europe	1.27	Europe	1.18
#8	North America	1.00	North America	1.00	North America	1.00	North America	1.00
	World overall	1.66	World overall	1.67	World overall	1.00	World overall	1.60

TABLE 13
Coastal state scores for ocean basin
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Western Pacific	3.74	Western Pacific	3.62	Western Pacific	3.63	Western Pacific	4.13
#2	Eastern Pacific	3.35	Eastern Pacific	3.31	Eastern Pacific	3.31	West Indian Ocean	3.37
#3	East Atlantic	3.14	East Atlantic	3.14	West Indian Ocean	3.13	East Atlantic	3.17
#4	West Indian Ocean	3.09	West Indian Ocean	3.04	East Atlantic	3.09	Eastern Pacific	3.14
#5	East Indian Ocean	3.04	West Atlantic	2.79	West Atlantic	2.87	East Indian Ocean	3.02
#6	West Atlantic	2.82	East Indian Ocean	2.74	East Indian Ocean	2.76	West Atlantic	2.87
#7	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.44	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.44	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.58	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.60
World overall		3.05	World overall	3.00	World overall	3.05	World overall	3.17

Prevalence

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	East Indian Ocean	3.04	East Indian Ocean	2.98	West Indian Ocean	2.99	East Indian Ocean	2.78
#2	West Indian Ocean	3.03	West Indian Ocean	2.93	East Indian Ocean	2.98	West Indian Ocean	2.72
#3	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.51	Western Pacific	2.51	Western Pacific	2.61	Eastern Pacific	2.67
#4	East Atlantic	2.46	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.51	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.52	Western Pacific	2.63
#5	West Atlantic	2.44	East Atlantic	2.46	Eastern Pacific	2.45	West Atlantic	2.61
#6	Western Pacific	2.42	West Atlantic	2.43	West Atlantic	2.40	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.48
#7	Eastern Pacific	2.35	Eastern Pacific	2.40	East Atlantic	2.40	East Atlantic	2.28
World overall		2.60	World overall	2.59	World overall	2.60	World overall	2.58

Response

Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	West Indian Ocean	2.18	West Indian Ocean	2.10	West Atlantic	1.83	East Indian Ocean	2.28
#2	West Atlantic	1.88	West Atlantic	1.89	West Indian Ocean	1.67	West Atlantic	1.99
#3	East Atlantic	1.53	East Atlantic	1.53	East Atlantic	1.51	Western Pacific	1.62
#4	Western Pacific	1.52	Western Pacific	1.52	Western Pacific	1.43	West Indian Ocean	1.52
#5	East Indian Ocean	1.44	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.50	East Indian Ocean	1.36	East Atlantic	1.42
#6	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.40	East Indian Ocean	1.44	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.30	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1.21
#7	Eastern Pacific	1.32	Eastern Pacific	1.34	Eastern Pacific	1.20	Eastern Pacific	1.14
World overall		1.66	World overall	1.67	World overall	1.54	World overall	1.60



**IUU scores
for flag state
responsibilities**

5



landlocked countries

2.01  **0.03**

World overall 2025

5. IUU scores for flag state responsibilities

5.1 Introduction and distribution of scores

Table 14 shows the indicators included within the flag state responsibilities. Having vessels fishing outside a state’s own waters increases vulnerability to the risk of IUU fishing. Having vessels on IUU lists indicates that vessels flagged to the given countries are engaging in illegal fishing, while views of observers and MCS practitioners also provide an indication of IUU fishing and faltering flag state responsibility. To combat IUU fishing, flag states can respond by adhering to relevant international instruments and initiatives, actively engaging with relevant RFMOs, and honouring flag state obligations, as specified in the conservation and management measures of those RFMOs.

TABLE 14
Flag state indicators

Indicator Group	Indicator Name
Flag state/ Vulnerability	- Distant-water vessels on RFMO RAVs - Distant-water vessels under several RFMOs
Flag state/ Prevalence	- Vessels on IUU lists - View of fisheries observers on flag state compliance incidents - Views of MCS practitioners on flag state compliance incidents
Flag state/ Response	- Accepted FAO Compliance Agreement - Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership - Provision of vessel data for inclusion in Global Record - Compliance with RFMO flag state obligations - Flag state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs

As Table 15 shows, 106 countries (70%) had scores of between 1.50 and 2.50 for all flag indicators, and 17 of countries had a score between 1.00 and 1.49. Country scores were widely distributed for response, while a high percentage scored in the lowest score band for vulnerability (46%) and prevalence (71%).

TABLE 15
Number of countries within score ranges for flag state IUU fishing risk scores, 2025

Range	Flag	Flag by Vulnerability	Flag by Prevalence	Flag by Response
4.50—5.00	0	10	2	0
4.00—4.49	3	10	2	2
3.50—3.99	2	13	0	5
3.00—3.49	5	12	4	40
2.50—2.99	10	5	4	38
2.00—2.49	41	12	12	34
1.50—1.99	65	19	20	16
1.00—1.49	60	71	108	17

5.2 Key findings

Tables 16–19 show the 10 best- and 10 worst-performing countries in terms of flag state responsibilities, by indicator type, and flag state responsibility scores by region and ocean basin.

In 2025, the average IUU fishing score for flag state responsibilities, aggregated for all types of indicators, was 2.01, compared to 2.04 in 2023 and 1.96 in 2021, marking a slightly improved performance and decrease in risk since 2023.

Changes in scores since 2023 for flag state responsibilities reflect the direction of change in the different flag state indicators as shown below:

Indicators with improved scores in 2025:

- ‘Distant-water vessels on RFMO RAVs’. In 2025, the number of vessels on RFMO RAVs dropped overall, equating to decreased vulnerability and risk. Nine countries had fewer vessels on the RAVs, while only seven (Albania, Netherlands, Seychelles, Slovenia, Suriname, Thailand and the United Kingdom) had more.
- ‘Distant-water vessels under several RFMOs’. This indicator is strongly related to the previous indicator and improved overall due to more countries (15) having a lower level of involvement with the number of RFMOs. Ten countries had a worse score in 2025 than in 2023: Angola, Comoros, Grenada, Uruguay, Mozambique, Mauritius, Seychelles, Slovenia, Thailand and the United Kingdom.
- ‘View of fisheries observers on flag state compliance incidents. Two countries had a slightly worse score for this indicator, while four countries (France, Japan, Vietnam and South Korea) improved by one score band.

- ‘Provision of vessel data for inclusion in Global Record’. This indicator improved, as more countries (notably Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Malaysia and Mexico) provided data than in 2023.
- ‘Compliance with RFMO flag state obligations’. Historically, a large number of countries have changing scores for this indicator, but in 2023 the worsening scores were due to a change in compliance reporting, which led to the addition of more incidents of infringements. Therefore, it was encouraging to note that this indicator improved overall in 2025. Forty-four countries improved their scores, while 32 had worse scores than in 2023, with Algeria, Comoros, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Türkiye, USA, Yemen, Seychelles, Taiwan and Suriname worsening by more than one score band. .

Indicators with worse scores in 2025:

- ‘Views of MCS practitioners on flag state compliance incidents’. This indicator worsened slightly overall, as multiple countries moved up one scoring band, while only two countries improved (Ghana and Cameroon).
- ‘Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership’. The overall score of this indicator was slightly worse, which can be partially attributed to the increased number of countries being reported on (only 14 countries were missing in 2025 compared to 17 in 2023). In both 2023 and 2025, 113 countries had at least one vessel with an unknown or foreign owner. The total number of fishing vessels that could be attributed to individual countries and whose owners were either unknown or foreign increased to 5 067 (from 4 148 in 2023). Vietnam and Georgia jumped two score bands, from 1 to 3 and 3 to 5 respectively, while Singapore and Solomon Islands improved from 3 to 1. All other changes were within one score band..
- ‘Flag state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs’. Several flag states with vessels operating in RFMO areas of competence that were not members or cooperating non-members, dropped a score band, while others (such as Mexico, Tanzania and Vanuatu) improved their scores. Overall, this indicator saw a minor worsening in performance.

Indicators with maintained scores in 2025:

- ‘Accepted FAO Compliance Agreement’ (FAOCA). This indicator remained stable with 64 signatory parties to the FAOCA since the UK joined in 2021.
- ‘Vessels on IUU lists’. The number of countries with listed vessels remained stable, with 43 countries compared to 45 in 2023 (and 25 in 2021). Similarly, the total number of vessels on IUU lists remained stable in 2025 (180 vessels) compared to 2023 (173 vessels), following an increase from 60 in 2021..

Individual country scores, aggregated across indicator types for flag state responsibilities, ranged from 1.00 for Romania (the best-performing country), followed closely by Argentina, which maintained its score of 1.10 that had placed it in first place in 2023, to 4.42 for Taiwan (which replaced Russia as the worst-performing country). China continued to have the worst score for vulnerability and prevalence in 2025.

The 10 worst-performing countries across indicator types were largely the same in 2025 as in 2021 (albeit with a slightly different rank and with Ecuador entering the list). The worst performers included developed nations, such as France, Japan, and Spain, which were among the most exposed in terms of vulnerability, chiefly because of the size and activities of their distant-water fleets.

In terms of regional performance, Asia remained the worst-performing region and South America the best-performing region. In 2025, Europe, Caribbean & Central America, Oceania and South America improved their scores compared to 2023.

In 2025, flag state vulnerability and response scores improved, but prevalence scores worsened slightly compared to 2023.

The worst-performing regions by indicator type remained unchanged in 2025. The regions with the worst scores were North America (for vulnerability), Asia (for prevalence) and the Middle East (for response). The Middle East had the best vulnerability score because relatively few distant-water fishing vessels hail from this region.

In 2025, the East Indian Ocean became the worst-performing ocean basin, based on all indicator types or vulnerability, prevalence and response indicators. All ocean basins showed an improvement except for the West Indian Ocean, which consequently was replaced by the West Atlantic as the best-performing ocean basin in 2025. As in 2023, the West Indian Ocean remained the best-performing ocean basin for prevalence and vulnerability, and the Eastern Pacific remained the best-performing ocean basis for response.

The Eastern Pacific and the East Indian Ocean had the worst vulnerability and response scores (respectively), and the West Indian Ocean replaced the East Indian Ocean as the worst-performing ocean basin for response.

TABLE 16
Ten worst-performing countries
for flag state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00
#2	France	5.00	France	5.00	France	5.00	France	5.00
#3	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00
#4	Spain	5.00	South Korea	5.00	South Korea	5.00	South Korea	5.00
#5	Taiwan	5.00	Panama	5.00	Panama	5.00	Panama	5.00
#6	Australia	4.50	Russia	5.00	Spain	5.00	Spain	5.00
#7	South Korea	4.50	Spain	5.00	Taiwan	5.00	Taiwan	5.00
#8	Panama	4.50	Taiwan	5.00	Australia	4.50	Australia	4.50
#9	Portugal	4.50	Australia	4.50	Portugal	4.50	Canada	4.50
#10	Russia	4.50	New Zealand (+ 3 others)	4.50	Russia (+ 2 others)	4.50	Italy	4.50

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00
#2	Taiwan	4.67	Taiwan	4.67	South Korea	4.00	Taiwan	4.00
#3	Russia	4.33	South Korea	4.33	Taiwan	3.67	Panama	3.67
#4	South Korea	4.00	Russia	4.33	Russia	3.33	Spain	3.33
#5	India	3.33	Indonesia	3.33	Spain	2.67	South Korea	3.00
#6	Indonesia	3.33	Panama	3.33	Panama	2.33	Russia	3.00
#7	Panama	3.33	India	3.00	USA	2.33	India	2.67
#8	Sri Lanka	3.33	Sri Lanka	3.00	Indonesia	2.00	Indonesia	2.33
#9	Belize	2.67	Vietnam	3.00	Iran	2.00	Sierra Leone	2.33
#10	Ecuador (+ 2 others)	2.67	Ecuador (+ 2 others)	2.67	Japan (+ 4 others)	2.00	Belize	2.00

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Comoros Isl.	4.11	Guinea-Bissau	4.00	Russia	4.22	Singapore	4.60
#2	Libya	4.00	Libya	4.00	Guinea-Bissau	4.00	China	4.13
#3	Russia	3.89	Russia	3.89	Libya	4.00	Libya	4.00
#4	Ukraine	3.89	Sao Tome & Principe	3.88	Ukraine	3.89	Russia	4.00
#5	Taiwan	3.78	Grenada	3.86	Grenada	3.86	Liberia	3.88
#6	India	3.67	India	3.67	Dominica	3.80	Dominica	3.86
#7	Somalia	3.63	Mauritius	3.67	Comoros Isl.	3.78	Albania	3.67
#8	Bosnia & Herzegovina	3.43	Senegal	3.67	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	3.78	Egypt	3.67
#9	Bahrain	3.40	Ukraine	3.56	Taiwan	3.78	Japan	3.67
#10	Congo (R. of.) (+ 2 others)	3.40	Lebanon (+ Tunisia)	3.44	Tunisia	3.78	Namibia	3.67

TABLE 17
Ten best-performing countries
for flag state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00
#2	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Antigua and Barbuda	1.00
#3	Argentina	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Argentina	1.00
#4	Bahrain	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bahrain	1.00
#5	Bangladesh	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00
#6	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00
#7	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00
#8	Benin	1.00	Benin	1.00	Benin	1.00	Benin	1.00
#9	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.00
#10	Brunei Darussalam (+ 61 others)	1.00	Brunei Darussalam (+ 61 others)	1.00	Brunei Darussalam (+ 59 others)	1.00	Brunei	1.00
Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00
#2	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00
#3	Argentina	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Angola	1.00
#4	Australia	1.00	Australia	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Antigua and Barbuda	1.00
#5	Bahrain	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Australia	1.00	Argentina	1.00
#6	Bangladesh	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bahamas	1.00	Australia	1.00
#7	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bahamas	1.00
#8	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bahrain	1.00
#9	Benin	1.00	Benin	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00
#10	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 67 others)	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 69 others)	1.00	Belgium (+ 105 others)	1.00	Barbados	1.00
Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Bulgaria	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00	Belize	1.00
#2	Romania	1.00	Cameroon	1.00	Croatia	1.11	Argentina	1.11
#3	Argentina	1.22	Argentina	1.22	Estonia	1.11	Belgium	1.22
#4	Belgium	1.22	Belgium	1.22	Greece	1.11	Bulgaria	1.22
#5	Estonia	1.22	Romania	1.33	Peru	1.11	Estonia	1.22
#6	Ireland	1.22	Sudan	1.43	Poland	1.11	Sweden	1.22
#7	Latvia	1.22	Brazil	1.44	Chile	1.22	Finland	1.33
#8	Mexico	1.22	Canada	1.44	Cyprus	1.22	Chile	1.44
#9	Sweden	1.22	Finland	1.44	Ireland	1.22	Guatemala	1.50
#10	Croatia (+7 others)	1.33	Ghana (+ 4 others)	1.44	Latvia (+ 3 others)	1.22	Iceland	1.50

TABLE 18
Flag state scores for region
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	North America	4.00	North America	4.25	North America	4.25	North America	4.50
#2	Europe	2.91	Europe	2.90	Europe	2.97	Europe	2.78
#3	Asia	2.72	Asia	2.72	Asia	2.75	Asia	2.64
#4	South America	2.22	South America	2.29	South America	2.25	Oceania	2.15
#5	Oceania	2.00	Oceania	2.11	Oceania	2.00	South America	2.00
#6	Africa	1.79	Caribbean & Central America	2.03	Caribbean & Central America	1.97	Africa	1.84
#7	Caribbean & Central America	1.71	Africa	1.75	Africa	1.84	Caribbean and Central America	1.84
#8	Middle East	1.45	Middle East	1.50	Middle East	1.73	Middle East	1.57
	World overall	2.22	World overall	2.27	World overall	2.31	World overall	2.23

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Asia	2.22	Asia	2.12	Asia	1.75	Asia	1.85
#2	Caribbean & Central America	1.46	Caribbean & Central America	1.44	North America	1.67	North America	1.50
#3	South America	1.37	South America	1.37	Africa	1.24	Europe	1.30
#4	Europe	1.33	North America	1.33	Caribbean & Central America	1.16	Africa	1.27
#5	North America	1.33	Africa	1.32	Oceania	1.16	Caribbean and Central America	1.24
#6	Oceania	1.31	Europe	1.32	Europe	1.15	South America	1.13
#7	Africa	1.27	Oceania	1.27	Middle East	1.09	Oceania	1.11
#8	Middle East	1.24	Middle East	1.43	South America	1.03	Middle East	1.07
World overall		1.44	World overall	1.00	World overall	1.25	World overall	1.31

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Middle East	2.97	Middle East	2.90	Middle East	2.98	Middle East	3.09
#2	Africa	2.79	Africa	2.77	Caribbean & Central America	2.88	Asia	3.08
#3	Asia	2.65	Asia	2.71	Africa	2.86	Africa	2.95
#4	Caribbean & Central America	2.63	Caribbean & Central America	2.69	Asia	2.74	Caribbean and Central America	2.75
#5	Oceania	2.42	Oceania	2.57	Oceania	2.60	Oceania	2.72
#6	South America	2.17	Europe	2.30	South America	1.94	Europe	2.28
#7	Europe	2.00	South America	2.04	Europe	1.91	South America	2.11
#8	North America	1.94	North America	1.44	North America	1.61	North America	1.72
	World overall	2.50	World overall	2.57	World overall	2.54	World overall	2.69

TABLE 19
Flag state scores for ocean basin
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Eastern Pacific	2.80	Eastern Pacific	3.12	Eastern Pacific	3.12	Eastern Pacific	3.08
#2	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.71	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.67	Mediterranean & Black Sea	3.02	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.71
#3	Western Pacific	2.60	Western Pacific	2.65	Western Pacific	2.60	Western Pacific	2.65
#4	East Indian Ocean	2.53	East Atlantic	2.44	East Atlantic	2.42	East Atlantic	2.38
#5	East Atlantic	2.40	East Indian Ocean	2.40	East Indian Ocean	2.40	East Indian Ocean	2.27
#6	West Atlantic	1.89	West Atlantic	2.12	West Atlantic	2.07	West Atlantic	1.91
#7	West Indian Ocean	1.54	West Indian Ocean	1.51	West Indian Ocean	1.50	West Indian Ocean	1.60
	World overall	2.22	World overall	2.27	World overall	2.31	World overall	2.23

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	East Indian Ocean	2.04	Western Pacific	1.89	Western Pacific	1.68	Western Pacific	1.62
#2	Western Pacific	1.93	East Indian Ocean	1.78	Eastern Pacific	1.31	East Indian Ocean	1.52
#3	Eastern Pacific	1.77	Eastern Pacific	1.77	East Indian Ocean	1.30	Eastern Pacific	1.41
#4	West Atlantic	1.40	East Atlantic	1.41	East Atlantic	1.27	East Atlantic	1.35
#5	East Atlantic	1.37	West Atlantic	1.39	West Atlantic	1.16	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1.24
#6	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.31	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.31	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.15	West Atlantic	1.22
#7	West Indian Ocean	1.29	West Indian Ocean	1.28	West Indian Ocean	1.07	West Indian Ocean	1.19
	World overall	1.44	World overall	1.43	World overall	1.25	World overall	1.31

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	West Indian Ocean	2.93	East Indian Ocean	2.83	West Indian Ocean	2.81	Western Pacific	2.95
#2	Western Pacific	2.55	West Indian Ocean	2.80	Western Pacific	2.76	East Indian Ocean	2.92
#3	East Indian Ocean	2.53	Western Pacific	2.62	West Atlantic	2.60	West Indian Ocean	2.85
#4	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.52	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.58	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.48	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.78
#5	West Atlantic	2.50	East Atlantic	2.56	East Indian Ocean	2.46	East Atlantic	2.55
#6	East Atlantic	2.31	West Atlantic	2.45	East Atlantic	2.39	West Atlantic	2.53
#7	Eastern Pacific	2.12	Eastern Pacific	2.06	Eastern Pacific	2.25	Eastern Pacific	2.29
World overall		2.50	World overall	2.57	World overall	2.54	World overall	2.69



**IUU scores
on port state
responsibilities**

6



landlocked countries

2.37 – **0.00**

World overall 2025
Port score

6. IUU scores on port state responsibilities

6.1 Introduction and distribution of scores

Table 20 shows the indicators for the port state responsibilities. States with large numbers of fishing ports and visits by foreign fishing and carrier vessels to those ports have increased risks of illegally harvested fish passing through their ports. The views of observers and MCS practitioners provide insight into which countries are perceived as being most at risk of IUU-caught fish passing through their ports. However, port states can respond positively to both vulnerability and prevalence dimensions by becoming party to the Port States Measures Agreement (PSMA), implementing the provisions of the PSMA and complying with port state obligations as provided in RFMO resolutions.

TABLE 20
Port state indicators

Indicator Group	Indicator Name
Port state/ Vulnerability	• Number of fishing ports
	• Port visits by foreign fishing or carrier vessels
Port state/ Prevalence	• Views of MCS practitioners on port compliance incidents
	• View of fisheries observers on port compliance incidents
Port state/ Response	• Party to the Port State Measures Agreement
	• Designated ports specified for entry by foreign vessels
	• Compliance with RFMO port state obligations

In 2025, scores for all types of indicators were widely distributed (Table 21), with scores for response indicators being more widely distributed than those for vulnerability and prevalence. Vulnerability scores were highly distributed in the upper score bands, whereas prevalence scores were highly concentrated in lower score bands (with 46% of countries scoring below 1.49).

TABLE 21
Number of countries within score ranges for port state IUU fishing risk scores, 2025

Range	Port	Port by Vulnerability	Port by Prevalence	Port by Response
4.50–5.00	0	47	1	7
4.00–4.49	1	48	2	6
3.50–3.99	0	21	3	22
3.00–3.49	20	2	1	3
2.50–2.99	34	3	7	28
2.00–2.49	46	19	15	8
1.50–1.99	39	6	23	21
1.00–1.49	11	6	70	48

Notes: * 32 countries have no prevalence scores because of missing data; ** 8 countries have no response scores because of missing data.

6.2 Key findings

Table 22–25 list the 10 best- and 10 worst-performing countries in terms of port state responsibilities, by indicator type, and port state responsibility scores by region and ocean basin.

The average IUU fishing score for port state responsibilities, aggregated for all types of indicators, remained at 2.37 in 2025. Between 2023 and 2025, overall scores for prevalence worsened, while scores for vulnerability and response improved.

Indicators with improved scores in 2025:

- ‘Number of fishing ports’. The number of ports are unlikely to have changed since 2023, but the numbers provided by countries changed. Malaysia, Romania, South Africa and Suriname had a worse score, while 13 countries had a better score than in 2023.
- ‘Port visits by foreign fishing or carrier vessels’. Nine countries had a worse score and 11 a better score than in 2023. This probably reflects both changed responses to the survey and changing realities on the ground (shifting dynamics in port/fleet associations).
- ‘Party to the Port States Measures Agreement’. Since the PSMA’s introduction in 2009, ratification by countries has been rapid. Between the 2021 and 2023 iterations of the Index, Angola, Eritrea, Morocco and Nigeria all ratified the PSMA, and since 2023 China, Comoros, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, Tuvalu and Ukraine ratified the PSMA. It should be noted that some new countries are party to the PSMA but are not reported/thought to have foreign vessel visits (e.g. Saudi Arabia and Comoros).



- ‘Designated ports specified for entry by foreign vessels’. An improved score probably represents actual change on the ground, as countries take on board and act on obligations associated with the PSMA and best practice.

Indicators with worse scores in 2025:

- ‘Views of MCS practitioners on port compliance incidents. Five countries (Netherlands, Oman, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) had a worse score, while three countries (Côte d’Ivoire, Russia and Vietnam) improved their score band by one. The overall score (1.52, up from 1.48 on 2023) was also affected by some countries having a score of 1 in 2023 but no score in 2025 (meaning no foreign vessel visits) and other countries having no score in 2023 but a score of 1 in 2025 if they had foreign visits (but weren’t mentioned by practitioners).
- ‘View of fisheries observers on port compliance incidents’. In 2025, a larger number and greater variety of ports/countries were highlighted as being of concern compared to 2023. Senegal and Uruguay had a worse score, and no country had an improved score, reflecting the approach taken in 2025 to include the views/entries from the 2023 iteration as well as those from the 2025 survey.
- ‘Compliance with RFMO port state obligations’. Twenty-nine countries had a worse score, and many countries that scored 1 in 2023 had compliance issues flagged and, therefore, had a higher score in 2025. Eleven countries had a better score.

Countries that are most vulnerable to IUU fishing products being landed in their ports, or IUU transactions taking place in ports, are large industrial fishing nations for which fishing, processing and trading are important sub-sectors. Conversely, small countries with few or no large commercial ports, and which do not receive foreign visits, scored a lot better on the vulnerability scale.

Developed and developing countries featured in the 10 worst-performing countries for prevalence, and countries in the Middle East featured strongly in the 10 worst-performing countries for response indicators.

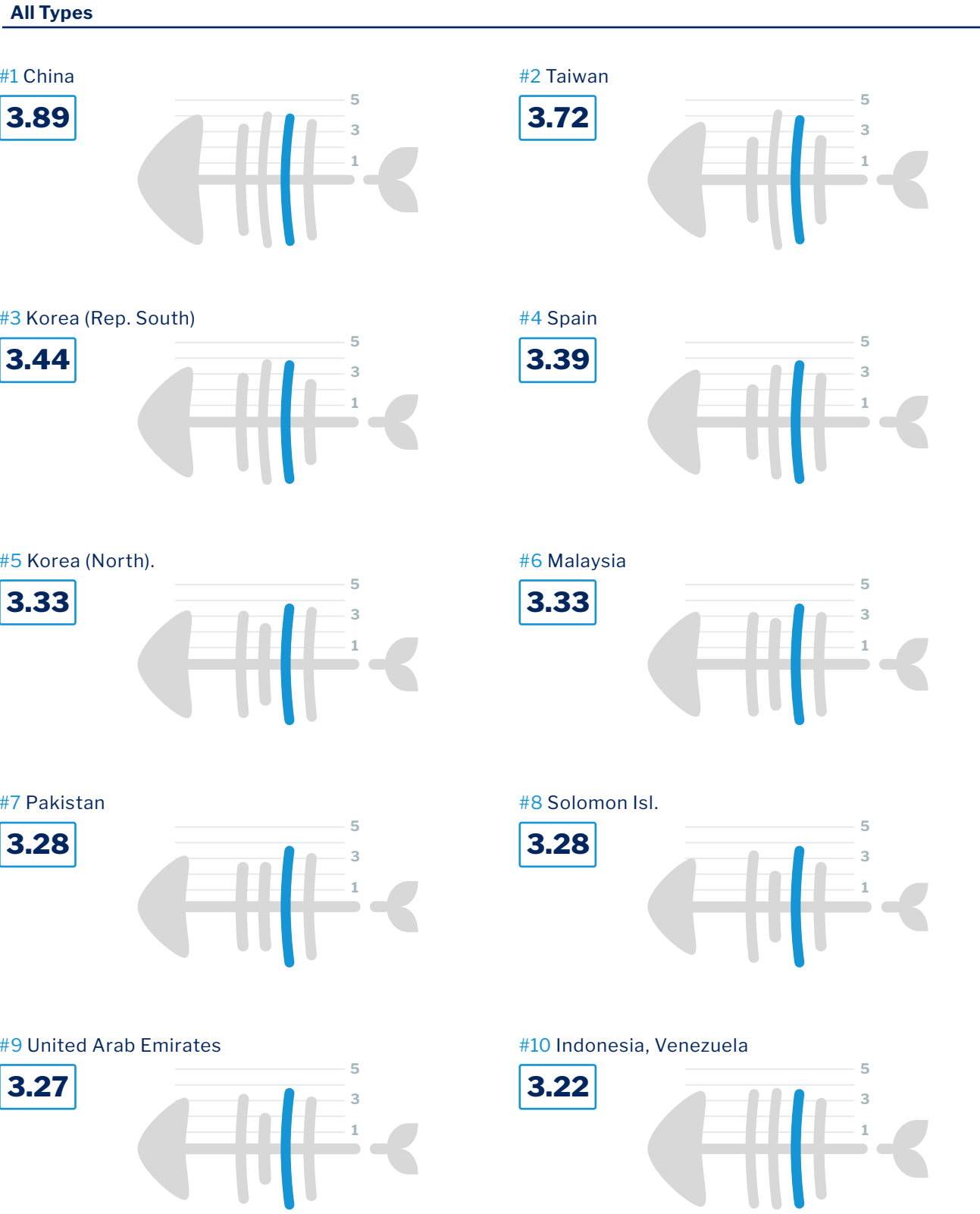
In terms of regional performance when considering all types of indicators aggregated, the Middle East remained the worst-performing region, while North America replaced Europe as the best-performing region in 2025. The worst-performing regions for vulnerability (North America), prevalence (Asia) and response (the Middle East) remained the same as in 2023 and 2021.

In 2025, the Western Pacific remained the worst-performing ocean basin, while the East Atlantic remained the best performer.

China remained the worst-performing port state in 2025. Taiwan, South Korea, Malaysia and Indonesia entered the list of the top 10 worst-performing states in 2025 but were not in the list in 2023.

Overall, only 17.5% of indicators in the Index reflect port state responsibilities (see Table 2). The reason for the limited number of port state indicators (which are fewer than for coastal, flag or general responsibilities) is that binding port state control mechanisms are the latest addition to the arsenal of international fisheries rulemaking, and few data sources are publicly available to easily generate port state indicators.

TABLE 22
Ten worst-performing countries
for port state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025

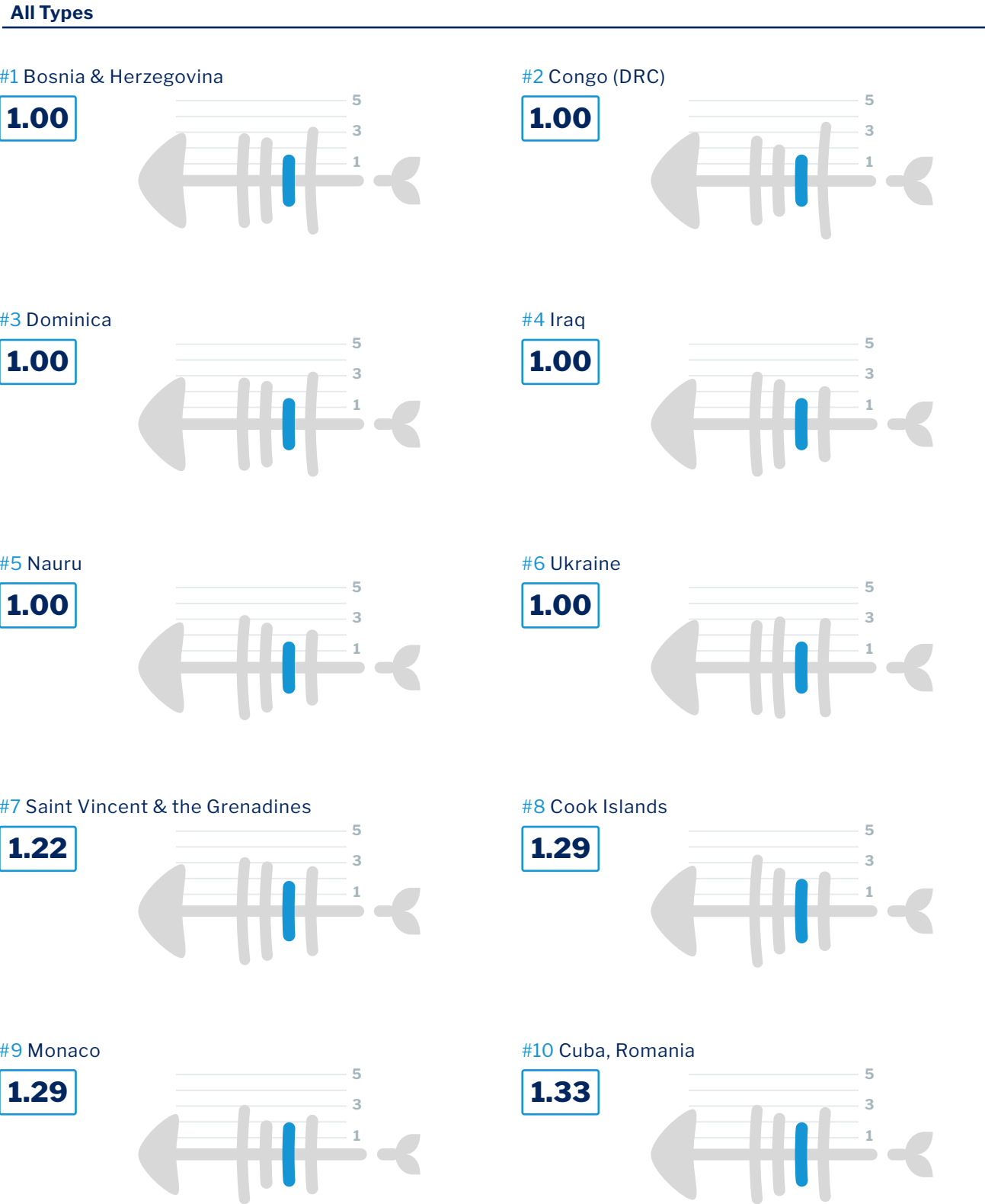


Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Canada	5.00	Canada	5.00	Canada	5.00	Canada	5.00
#2	Chile	5.00	Chile	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00
#3	China	5.00	China	5.00	France	5.00	France	5.00
#4	Croatia	5.00	Croatia	5.00	Germany	5.00	Germany	5.00
#5	Denmark	5.00	Denmark	5.00	Indonesia	5.00	Indonesia	5.00
#6	Germany	5.00	France	5.00	Italy	5.00	Italy	5.00
#7	Greece	5.00	Germany	5.00	Japan	5.00	Japan	5.00
#8	Indonesia	5.00	Greece	5.00	Norway	5.00	Norway	5.00
#9	Japan	5.00	Indonesia	5.00	Philippines	5.00	Philippines	5.00
#10	Malaysia (+ 7 others)	5.00	Japan (+ 6 others)	5.00	Sweden (+ 2 others)	5.00	Sweden	5.00

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00	China	5.00
#2	Korea (Rep. South)	4.00	South Korea	4.00	Thailand	4.50	Taiwan	4.50
#3	Uruguay	4.00	Spain	3.50	Uruguay	4.50	Vietnam	4.50
#4	Senegal	3.50	Taiwan	3.50	Cambodia	4.00	Mauritius	3.00
#5	Spain	3.50	Uruguay	3.50	Taiwan	4.00	Russia	3.00
#6	Taiwan	3.50	Indonesia	3.00	South Korea	3.50	Uruguay	3.00
#7	Indonesia	3.00	Cote d'Ivoire	2.50	Seychelles	3.50	Cambodia	2.50
#8	Fiji	2.50	Fiji	2.50	Cote d'Ivoire	3.00	Madagascar	2.50
#9	Malta	2.50	Malta	2.50	Kiribati	3.00	Micronesia	2.50
#10	Marshall Islands (+ 4 others)	2.50	Marshall Islands (+ 4 others)	2.50	South Africa (+ 1 other)	3.00	Singapore	2.50

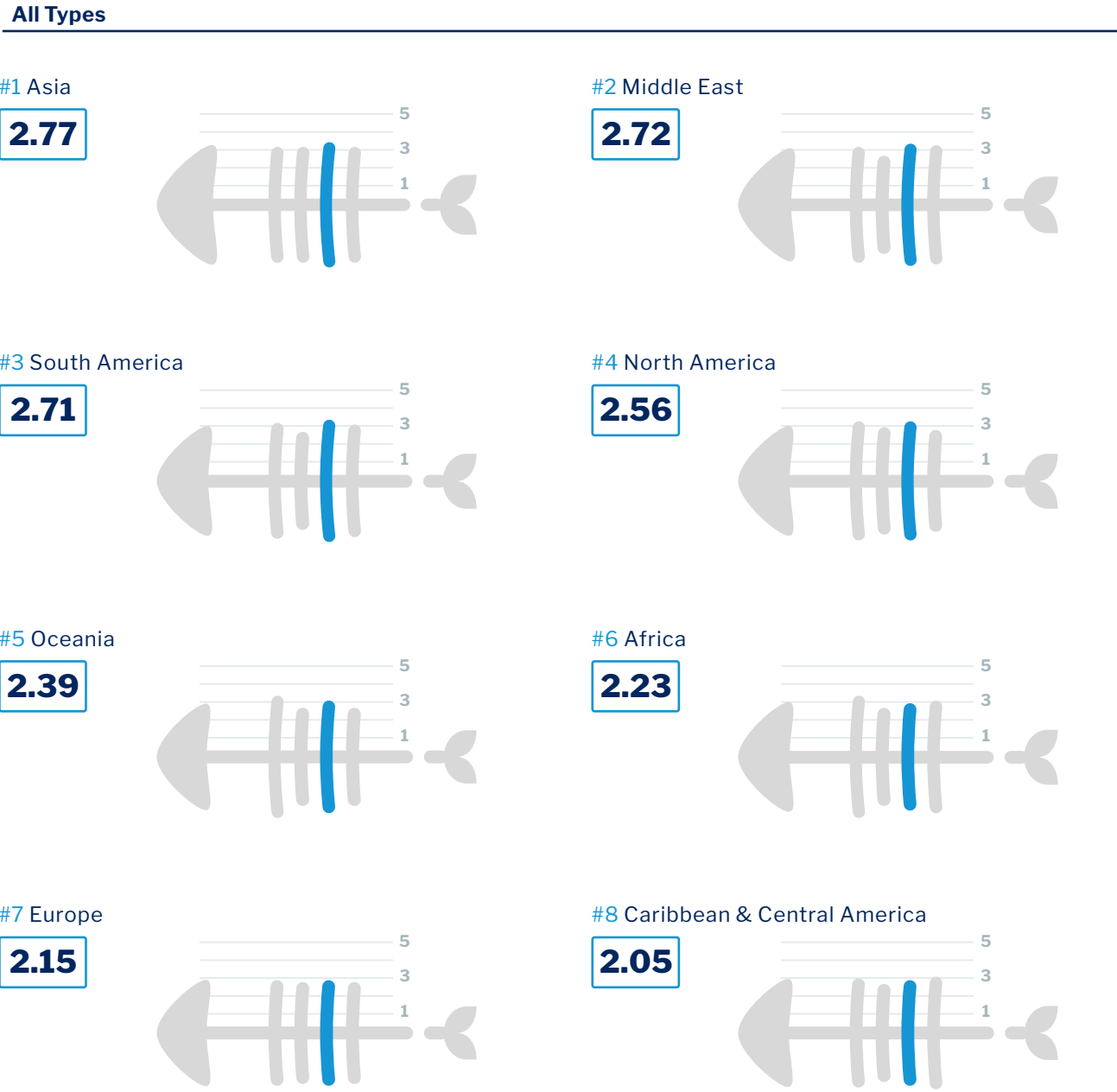
Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Bahrain	5.00	Jamaica	5.00	Bahrain	5.00	Bahrain	5.00
#2	Brunei Darussalam	5.00	North Korea	5.00	Brunei Darussalam	5.00	Benin	5.00
#3	Korea (North)	5.00	Kuwait	5.00	China	5.00	Brunei	5.00
#4	Kuwait	5.00	Qatar	5.00	Dominican Republic	5.00	Cambodia	5.00
#5	Qatar	5.00	Saint Lucia	5.00	North Korea	5.00	Cameroon	5.00
#6	United Arab Emirates	5.00	United Arab Emirates	5.00	Kuwait	5.00	Colombia	5.00
#7	Pakistan	4.63	Pakistan	4.63	Qatar	5.00	Congo (DRC)	5.00
#8	Equatorial Guinea	4.25	Yemen	4.63	Singapore	5.00	Congo, R.	5.00
#9	Malaysia	4.25	Mauritania	3.63	United Arab Emirates	5.00	Dominica	5.00
#10	Tanzania. Venezuela	4.25	Sudan	3.63	Angola (+ 4 others)	4.63	Grenada	5.00

TABLE 23
Ten best-performing countries
for port state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00
#2	Congo (DRC)	1.00	Congo, DRC	1.00	Belize	1.00	Dominica	1.00
#3	Dominica	1.00	Dominica	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Eritrea	1.00
#4	Iraq	1.00	Nauru	1.00	Comoros Isl.	1.00	Haiti	1.00
#5	Nauru	1.00	Cameroon	1.50	Congo (DRC)	1.00	Belize	3.00
#6	Ukraine	1.00	Cook Islands	1.50	Dominica	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	3.00
#7	Cameroon	1.50	Guinea-Bissau	1.50	Haiti	1.00	Comoros	3.00
#8	Cook Islands	1.50	Iraq	1.50	Nauru	1.00	Congo (DRC)	3.00
#9	Dominican Republic	1.50	Jordan	1.50	Benin	1.50	Nauru	3.00
#10	Monaco (+ 2 others)	1.50	Monaco	1.50	Djibouti (+ 6 others)	1.50	Vanuatu	3.00
Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00
#2	Bahamas	1.00	Angola	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00
#3	Bahrain	1.00	Bahamas	1.00	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00
#4	Barbados	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Australia	1.00	Antigua and Barbuda	1.00
#5	Belgium	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Bahamas	1.00	Argentina	1.00
#6	Benin	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Australia	1.00
#7	Brazil	1.00	Benin	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Bahamas	1.00
#8	Brunei Darussalam	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Bahrain	1.00
#9	Bulgaria	1.00	Canada	1.00	Brunei Darussalam	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00
#10	Cambodia (+ 60 others)	1.00	Chile (+ 65 others)	1.00	Bulgaria (+ 79 others)	1.00	Belgium	1.00
Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Belgium	1.00	Angola	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00
#2	Belize	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Antiga & Barbuda	1.00	Australia	1.00
#3	Benin	1.00	Australia	1.00	Australia	1.00	Bahamas	1.00
#4	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Belize	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Barbados	1.00
#5	Bulgaria	1.00	Benin	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Belgium	1.00
#6	Cambodia	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Belize	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00
#7	Cape Verde	1.00	Brazil	1.00	Benin	1.00	Cape Verde	1.00
#8	Cook Islands	1.00	Cambodia	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Costa Rica	1.00
#9	Costa Rica	1.00	Canada	1.00	Bulgaria	1.00	Estonia	1.00
#10	Cuba (+ 38 others)		Cape Verde (+ 43 others)	1.00	Cambodia (+ 55 others)	1.00	Finland	1.00

TABLE 24
Port state scores for region
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	North America	5.00	North America	5.00	North America	5.00	North America	5.00
#2	South America	4.20	Asia	4.10	Asia	3.98	Asia	4.38
#3	Asia	4.10	Europe	4.07	South America	3.95	Europe	4.29
#4	Europe	3.87	South America	3.95	Europe	3.75	South America	4.15
#5	Middle East	3.76	Oceania	3.62	Oceania	3.62	Middle East	4.03
#6	Oceania	3.59	Africa	3.61	Africa	3.40	Oceania	3.80
#7	Africa	3.49	Caribbean & Central America	3.39	Middle East	3.37	Africa	3.74
#8	Caribbean & Central America	3.00	Middle East	3.20	Caribbean & Central America	3.07	Caribbean and Central America	3.50
World overall		3.68	World overall	3.74	World overall	3.58	World overall	3.98

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Asia	2.06	Asia	2.03	Asia	2.03	Asia	1.98
#2	Oceania	1.65	Oceania	1.65	North America	2.00	Oceania	1.43
#3	South America	1.61	South America	1.63	South America	1.72	South America	1.35
#4	Africa	1.44	Africa	1.35	Oceania	1.50	Africa	1.26
#5	Europe	1.31	Europe	1.27	Africa	1.45	Europe	1.16
#6	North America	1.25	North America	1.25	Caribbean & Central America	1.11	Middle East	1.07
#7	Middle East	1.08	Middle East	1.06	Europe	1.04	Caribbean and Central America	1.06
#8	Caribbean & Central America	1.04	Caribbean & Central America	1.03	Middle East	1.00	North America	1.00
World overall		1.45	World overall	1.41	World overall	1.41	World overall	1.31

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Middle East	3.37	Middle East	3.19	Middle East	3.49	Middle East	3.89
#2	South America	2.71	Oceania	2.49	Caribbean & Central America	2.40	Asia	2.75
#3	Asia	2.51	South America	2.46	South America	2.38	Caribbean and Central America	2.63
#4	North America	2.31	Caribbean & Central America	2.42	Asia	2.25	Africa	2.43
#5	Oceania	2.27	Europe	2.11	Africa	2.21	South America	2.13
#6	Africa	2.07	Asia	2.05	Oceania	1.89	Oceania	2.12
#7	Caribbean & Central America	2.00	Africa	2.03	Europe	1.40	Europe	2.02
#8	Europe	1.79	North America	1.00	North America	1.00	North America	1.50
	World overall	2.24	World overall	2.25	World overall	2.12	World overall	2.43

TABLE 25
Port state scores for ocean basin
and indicator type, 2025

All Types



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Eastern Pacific	4.15	Eastern Pacific	4.19	Eastern Pacific	4.23	East Indian Ocean	4.44
#2	Western Pacific	4.09	East Indian Ocean	4.11	East Indian Ocean	4.00	Eastern Pacific	4.23
#3	East Indian Ocean	3.94	Western Pacific	3.96	Western Pacific	3.91	Western Pacific	4.14
#4	East Atlantic	3.85	East Atlantic	3.93	East Atlantic	3.78	Mediterranean and Black Sea	4.13
#5	Mediterranean & Black Sea	3.74	Mediterranean & Black Sea	3.75	Mediterranean & Black Sea	3.41	East Atlantic	4.09
#6	West Indian Ocean	3.38	West Atlantic	3.54	West Indian Ocean	3.38	West Indian Ocean	3.79
#7	West Atlantic	3.35	West Indian Ocean	3.44	West Atlantic	3.37	West Atlantic	3.74
	World overall	3.68	World overall	3.74	World overall	3.58	World overall	3.98

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Western Pacific	1.93	Western Pacific	2.02	Western Pacific	1.90	Western Pacific	1.95
#2	East Indian Ocean	1.85	East Indian Ocean	1.57	East Indian Ocean	1.71	East Indian Ocean	1.33
#3	West Indian Ocean	1.44	East Atlantic	1.34	West Indian Ocean	1.50	West Indian Ocean	1.26
#4	East Atlantic	1.38	West Indian Ocean	1.31	West Atlantic	1.43	East Atlantic	1.20
#5	Eastern Pacific	1.29	Eastern Pacific	1.29	Eastern Pacific	1.23	Eastern Pacific	1.19
#6	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.27	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.26	East Atlantic	1.23	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1.12
#7	West Atlantic	1.24	West Atlantic	1.19	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.06	West Atlantic	1.12
	World overall	1.45	World overall	1.41	World overall	1.41	World overall	1.31

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	West Indian Ocean	2.87	West Indian Ocean	2.70	West Indian Ocean	2.79	West Indian Ocean	2.96
#2	Western Pacific	2.37	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.37	West Atlantic	2.47	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.60
#3	West Atlantic	2.34	West Atlantic	2.33	Western Pacific	2.20	West Atlantic	2.47
#4	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.31	Western Pacific	2.32	Eastern Pacific	2.05	Western Pacific	2.46
#5	Eastern Pacific	2.24	Eastern Pacific	2.20	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.01	East Indian Ocean	2.38
#6	East Indian Ocean	2.22	East Atlantic	1.89	East Atlantic	1.76	East Atlantic	2.10
#7	East Atlantic	1.79	East Indian Ocean	1.55	East Indian Ocean	1.46	Eastern Pacific	1.99
	World overall	2.24	World overall	2.25	World overall	2.12	World overall	2.43



**IUU scores
on general
indicators
not specific
to other
responsibilities**

7



landlocked countries

2.31 – **0.00**

World overall 2025
General score

7. IUU scores on general indicators not specific to other responsibilities

7.1 Introduction and distribution of scores

The Index includes indicators that can be considered as ‘general’ because they cover a range of state responsibilities that are not specific to coastal, flag or port state responsibilities. General vulnerability indicators relate to trade in fish products and the volume of catches made by different countries. They also include indicators for corruption and national income levels, which are considered as likely to increase or result in vulnerability to IUU fishing. For general prevalence indicators, the Index also draws on other assessments of IUU fishing and media reports, to assess various actions taken by countries to combat IUU fishing, such as having developed a national plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (NPOA-IUU), as reflected by the response indicators.

The category ‘general’ also includes indicators that relate specifically to market state responsibilities, as the Index does not include a dedicated group of indicators of market state responsibilities. This is because it is a specific and highly relevant category covering fish trade that has even less publicly available data than the port state domain. It is also the only domain of the four state-type responsibilities that still lacks a dedicated (i.e. fisheries-specific) international regulatory framework, making it difficult to identify a relevant suite of dedicated – and accessible – indicators.

Indicators included within the ‘general’ indicator group are shown in Table 26.

TABLE 26
General indicators

Indicator Group	Indicator Name
General/ Vulnerability	• Perception of levels of corruption
	• Gross national income per capita
	• Volume of catches
	• Trade balance for fisheries products
	• Share of global imports
General/Prevalence	• ‘Carded’ under the EU IUU Regulation
	• Identified by NOAA for IUU fishing
	• Mentions of IUU fishing in media reports
General/ Response	• Mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet
	• Ratification/accession of UNCLOS
	• Ratification of United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
	• Mentions in media reports to combatting IUU fishing
	• Have an NPOA-IUU
	• Demand for MSC products
	• Market state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to relevant RFMOs

As Table 27 shows, individual country scores were well distributed across the score ranges for vulnerability and response indicators, whereas prevalence indicators were concentrated (74% of countries) in one score band (1.00–1.49), reflecting the specific indicators included in this group.

TABLE 27
Number of countries within score ranges for ‘general’ state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, 2025

Range	General	General by Vulnerability	General by Prevalence	General by Response
4.50–5.00	0	0	0	0
4.00–4.49	0	2	0	10
3.50–3.99	0	10	1	19
3.00–3.49	10	41	4	21
2.50–2.99	41	29	3	23
2.00–2.49	61	34	16	53
1.50–1.99	39	26	16	23
1.00–1.49	1	10	112	3

7.2 Key findings

Tables 28–31 list the 10 best-performing and 10 worst-performing countries in terms of general state responsibilities, by indicator type, and general state responsibility scores by region and ocean basin.

The average IUU fishing score for general state responsibilities, aggregated for all types of indicators was 2.31, unchanged from 2023.

However, individual scores for different general state indicators have both improved and worsened, as shown below.

Indicators with improved scores in 2025:

- ‘Gross national income per capita’. Improved scores in 2025 reflected increases in a country’s gross national income per capita since 2023, while the scoring threshold bands remained unchanged. This indicator score declined for four countries but improved for 11 countries whose gross national income per capita increased.
- ‘Volume of catches’. Changes in scores for some countries reflected a proportion of global catches sufficient to move them into a different scoring band based on the indicator thresholds. Scores improved for Ecuador, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman and Philippines but got worse for Mexico, Türkiye⁹, and the United Kingdom
- ‘Share of global imports’. This indicator improved slightly, but only four countries had a different score in 2025 compared to 2023. Australia had a worse score, while the Netherlands, Nigeria and Ukraine improved their scores.
- ‘Mentions in media reports to combating IUU fishing’. Fifty-nine countries had a better score, and 26 countries a worse score. Countries with scores worsening by more than one score band were Colombia, Japan, South Korea, Japan, Mexico, Spain, and Thailand. Countries with scores improving by more than one score band were Chile, Madagascar, New Zealand, Peru, Senegal, Solomons, and the United Kingdom. While the indicator scoring bands are based on the percentage of mentions attributed to different countries, the total number of mentions

increased from those in the 2023 update with a larger number of countries mentioned, which had an impact on the overall score.

- ‘Have an NPOA-IUU’. In 2025, Mauritania reported they no longer had an NPOA-IUU, changing their response from 2023. This was presumably because the NPOA-IUU from 2007 is now considered too old to be of implementation use. Bangladesh (dated 2019), Madagascar (dated 2025), South Africa (no date provided) and Suriname (dated 2025) all reported having an NPOA-IUU in 2025, whereas they did not have one in 2023.

Indicators with worse scores in 2025:

- ‘Trade balance for fisheries products’. Between 2023 and 2025, 23 countries had a worse score, while 17 countries had an improved score. The overall worsening of the indicator score also reflects the extent to which countries with different scores in 2025 moved between one or more scoring bands.
- ‘Carded under the EU IUU Regulation’. Senegal was pre-identified (i.e. yellow carded) in 2024, while Trinidad & Tobago was identified and listed (i.e. red carded) in 2023.
- ‘Identified by NOAA for IUU fishing’. Angola, China, Gambia, Grenada, Russia, Taiwan and Vanuatu were all identified in the NOAA report, and China and Russia both had a negative certification. Costa Rica, Guyana and Senegal improved their scores with a positive certification following identification in the previous report, while Ecuador, Japan, Malta and Ukraine, which were of concern in the 2023 report, were not identified in the 2025 report.
- ‘Mentions of IUU fishing in media reports’. Of the 32 countries that had a worse score, countries with a score that dropped by more than one score band were Angola, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Spain, Tanzania and the United Kingdom. Of the 20 countries that had a better score, South Korea, Madagascar, Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam improved their scores by more

than one core band. Although the indicator scoring bands are based on the percentage of mentions attributed to different countries, the total number of mentions increased since 2023, with a larger number of countries mentioned, which had an impact on the overall score.

- ‘Demand for MSC products’. All 11 countries that had a worse score moved by one score band except for Chile, which moved by two bands because between 2022//23 and 2023/24, the volume of MSC product sold fell from over 10 000 tons to under 1 000 tons. All countries that increased their score (Croatia, Dominican Republic, Fiji and Indonesia) did so by one score band, with the last three countries having some volume of sales of MSC product for the first time in 2023/24.

- ‘Market state is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to relevant RFMOs’. This indicator is driven primarily by data and information from the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources on market states importing toothfish on a regular basis but not cooperating with its catch documentation scheme, and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna. The Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles and Trinidad & Tobago all had a worse score than in 2023. Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Lebanon and Thailand had a better score.

Indicators for which scores remained unchanged:

- ‘Perception of levels of corruption’. This reflects changes in the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index.
- ‘Mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet’. This score was unchanged, with Eritrea having a worse score and Trinidad & Tobago a better one.
- ‘Ratification of UNFSA’. No countries have ratified the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement since the 2023 Index.
- ‘Ratification/accession of UNCLOS’. No countries have ratified UNCLOS since the 2023 Index..

Aggregated across types for general state responsibilities, individual country scores ranged from 1.43 for Australia (the best-performing country since 2021) to 3.40 for India (the worst-performing country).

This category of general indicators has a large number of indicators and so provides high differentiation and resolution between countries (as opposed to the limited port state indicators discussed earlier) except for prevalence indicators, which are fewer in number. In this category, the mix of countries from different regions is more diverse, since a more varied mix of indicators is used to calculate the scores.

Developing countries dominated the rankings of countries that are highly vulnerable and have a high prevalence of IUU fishing.

In terms of best response to IUU fishing, many of the top performers were large, developed fishing nations, such as Australia, New Zealand, Portugal, Canada and France. This underscores the inherent weakness of developing countries to effectively combat IUU fishing, despite the social and economic importance of fishing. However, all states can act to reduce IUU fishing risks, as highlighted by developing states being included in the list of best-performing countries for response indicators.

In terms of regions, the Middle East and Asia had the worst scores. Africa and Asia were of most concern in terms of vulnerability. Since 2021, North America and the Middle East have had the worst scores for prevalence and response respectively. Reflecting results from earlier iterations of the Index, the Middle East scored the worst for response indicators by a very wide margin, signalling insufficient policy drive and action on fisheries in the region. Conversely, Oceania and Europe both yielded good scores for different types of indicators compared to other regions, emphasizing the presence of strong action to combat IUU fishing in these regions and signalling the importance that fisheries play in the public sphere, which is reflected in policy, law-making and international collaboration.

The West and East Indian Ocean basins displayed the greatest levels of IUU risk when considering all types of indicators, with the East Indian Ocean the most vulnerable and with the worst prevalence score. Response scores were best for the Western Pacific Ocean, reflecting the strength and dedication of regional institutions in this part of the world.

⁹ In May 2022, ‘the Republic of Türkiye’ was officially recognized as the name replacing the ‘Republic of Türkiye’. This change was not reflected in the 2023 iteration of the IUU Fishing Risk Index report. All data for Türkiye up to and including 2023 remains valid for Türkiye, as the territorial integrity did not change.

TABLE 28
Ten worst-performing countries
for general state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	India	4.00	India	4.00	Vietnam	4.11	India	4.22
#2	Viet Nam	4.00	Indonesia	4.00	India	4.00	Vietnam	4.11
#3	Myanmar	3.89	Myanmar	3.78	Indonesia	4.00	Indonesia	4.00
#4	Peru	3.78	Peru	3.78	Peru	3.78	Myanmar	3.78
#5	Congo (DRC)	3.67	Comoros	3.67	Myanmar	3.78	Russia	3.78
#6	Indonesia	3.67	Syria	3.67	Congo (DRC)	3.67	Eritrea	3.67
#7	Syria	3.67	Vietnam	3.67	North Korea	3.56	Peru	3.67
#8	Yemen	3.67	North Korea	3.56	Haiti	3.56	Syria	3.67
#9	Korea (North)	3.56	Mauritania	3.56	Guinea-Bissau	3.56	China	3.56
#10	Morocco (+ 2 others)	3.56	Morocco (+ 2 others)	3.56	Mauritania	3.56	Mauritania	3.56

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	China	3.86	Mexico	3.86	Mexico	3.14	Thailand	3.29
#2	Mexico	3.43	China	3.57	China	3.00	Vietnam	3.29
#3	Ghana	3.29	Vietnam	3.29	Ecuador	2.86	Mexico	3.00
#4	Cambodia	3.00	Taiwan	3.14	Ghana	2.86	China	2.71
#5	Cameroon	3.00	Ghana	2.86	South Korea	2.71	Comoros	2.57
#6	Angola	2.71	Ecuador	2.71	Cambodia	2.57	Australia	2.29
#7	USA	2.71	Russia	2.71	Vietnam	2.43	Indonesia	2.29
#8	Russia	2.57	USA	2.71	Sierra Leone	2.43	North Korea	2.29
#9	Ecuador	2.43	Cameroon	2.57	Indonesia	2.29	Nigeria	2.29
#10	Liberia (+ 3 others)	2.43	Sierra Leone	2.43	Russia (+ 2 others)	2.29	Russia	2.29

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	United Arab Emirates	4.45	Israel	4.29	Singapore	4.57	Singapore	4.25
#2	Eritrea	4.43	Lebanon	4.27	Eritrea	4.43	Grenada	4.14
#3	Israel	4.43	United Arab Emirates	4.27	Israel	4.43	Yemen	4.14
#4	Dominican Republic	4.29	Comoros	4.14	Yemen	4.14	Eritrea	4.00
#5	Singapore	4.29	Grenada	4.14	Grenada	4.14	Israel	4.00
#6	Grenada	4.14	Singapore	4.14	United Arab Emirates	4.09	North Korea	4.00
#7	Iran	4.14	Yemen	4.14	North Korea	4.00	Libya	4.00
#8	Yemen	4.14	Brunei Darussalam	4.00	Venezuela	4.00	Sudan	4.00
#9	Comoros Isl.	4.00	Libya	4.00	Syria	4.00	Syria	4.00
#10	Korea (North)	4.00	Qatar	4.00	Brunei Darussalam (+ 1 other)	4.00	Venezuela	4.00

TABLE 29
Ten best-performing countries
for general state responsibility IUU fishing risk scores, by indicator type, 2025

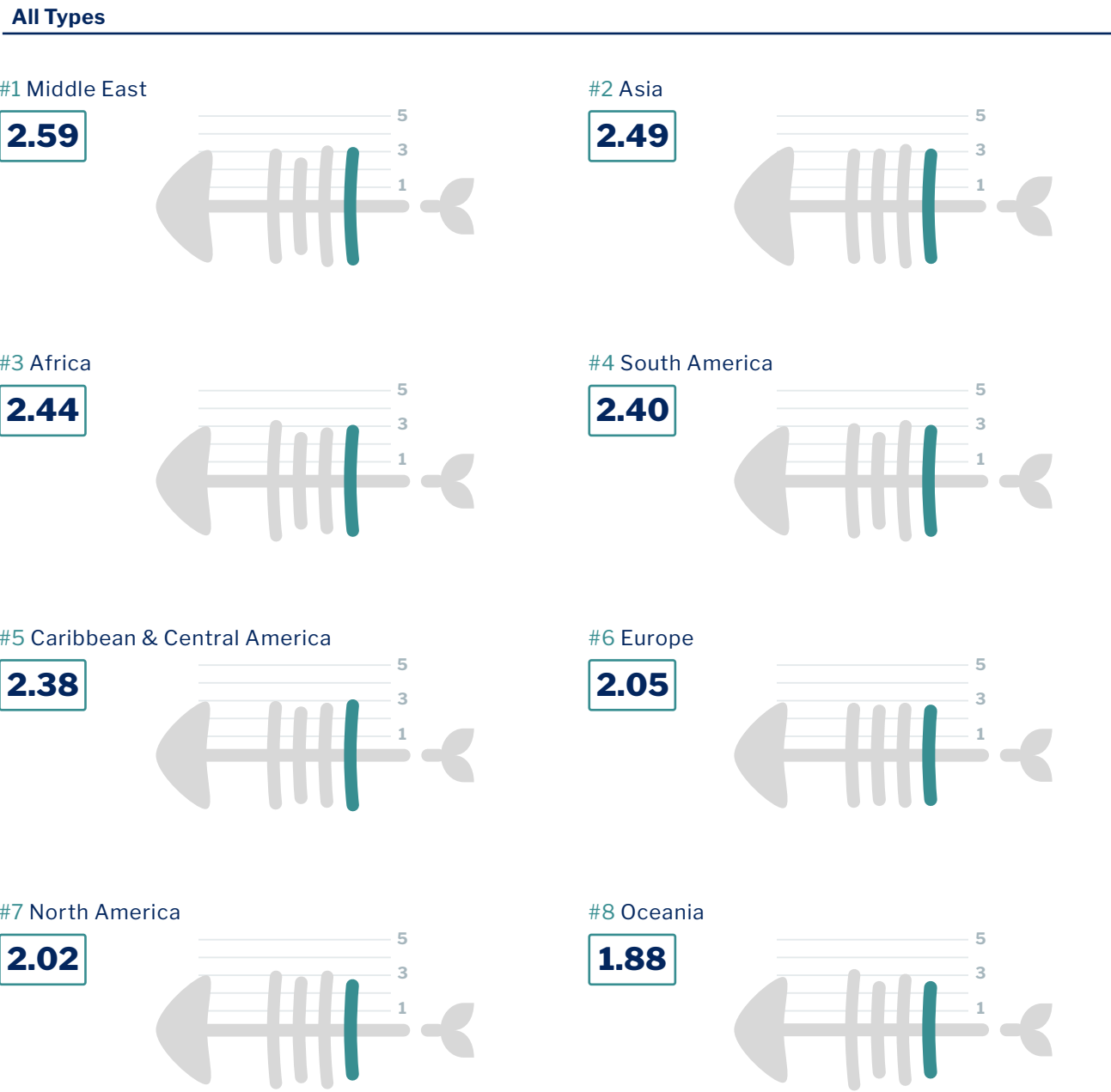


Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Monaco	1.00	Monaco	1.00	Monaco	1.00	Cook Islands	1.00
#2	Finland	1.11	Brunei Darussalam	1.17	Finland	1.22	Monaco	1.00
#3	Brunei Darussalam	1.17	Finland	1.22	Netherlands	1.22	Netherlands	1.22
#4	Estonia	1.33	Estonia	1.33	Singapore	1.33	Singapore	1.33
#5	Lithuania	1.33	New Zealand	1.33	Sweden	1.33	Sweden	1.33
#6	New Zealand	1.33	Sweden	1.33	Denmark	1.44	Denmark	1.44
#7	Bahamas	1.44	Ireland	1.44	Cook Islands	1.50	Finland	1.44
#8	Ireland	1.44	Singapore	1.44	Nauru	1.50	Germany	1.44
#9	Singapore	1.44	United Arab Emirates	1.44	Palau	1.50	Ireland	1.44
#10	United Arab Emirates	1.44	Morocco (+ 2 others)	3.56	Australia (+ 4 others)	1.56	Nauru	1.50

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00	Albania	1.00
#2	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00	Algeria	1.00
#3	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Angola	1.00	Angola	1.00	Antigua and Barbuda	1.00
#4	Argentina	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Antigua & Barbuda	1.00	Argentina	1.00
#5	Bahamas	1.00	Argentina	1.00	Australia	1.00	Bahamas	1.00
#6	Bangladesh	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bahamas	1.00	Bahrain	1.00
#7	Barbados	1.00	Belgium	1.00	Bahrain	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00
#8	Belize	1.00	Benin	1.00	Bangladesh	1.00	Barbados	1.00
#9	Benin	1.00	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.00	Barbados	1.00	Belgium	1.00
#10	Bosnia & Herzegovina (+ 83 others)	1.00	Sierra Leone	2.43	Belgium (+ 94 others)	1.00	Benin	1.00

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Australia	1.29	Australia	1.00	France	1.14	Australia	1.14
#2	Canada	1.29	Canada	1.29	Australia	1.29	UK	1.55
#3	France	1.29	France	1.29	Canada	1.29	Belgium	1.57
#4	New Zealand	1.57	Indonesia	1.57	New Zealand	1.43	Canada	1.57
#5	Portugal	1.57	Japan	1.57	Chile	1.57	France	1.57
#6	Chile	1.71	South Korea	1.57	Benin	1.64	Japan	1.57
#7	Ghana	1.71	Chile	1.71	Ghana	1.71	New Zealand	1.57
#8	Morocco	1.71	Ecuador	1.71	South Korea	1.71	Spain	1.57
#9	Brazil	1.86	Italy	1.71	Mozambique	1.71	Ghana	1.71
#10	Ecuador (+16 others)	1.86	Qatar	4.00	Cook Islands (+ 15 others)	1.86	South Korea	1.71

TABLE 30
General state scores for region
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Africa	3.00	Africa	3.03	Asia	3.06	Asia	3.14
#2	Asia	2.94	Asia	2.96	Africa	3.03	Africa	3.13
#3	South America	2.89	South America	2.93	South America	2.84	South America	2.81
#4	Middle East	2.51	North America	2.50	Middle East	2.53	Middle East	2.52
#5	North America	2.50	Middle East	2.47	Caribbean & Central America	2.52	Caribbean and Central America	2.49
#6	Caribbean & Central America	2.42	Caribbean & Central America	2.43	North America	2.50	North America	2.33
#7	Oceania	2.22	Oceania	2.17	Oceania	2.17	Oceania	2.27
#8	Europe	2.00	Europe	2.01	Europe	2.07	Europe	2.05
	World overall	2.58	World overall	2.59	World overall	2.63	World overall	2.66

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	North America	2.29	North America	1.86	North America	1.86	Asia	1.70
#2	Asia	1.76	Asia	1.81	Asia	1.55	North America	1.43
#3	Africa	1.46	Caribbean & Central America	1.39	South America	1.40	Africa	1.31
#4	Caribbean & Central America	1.36	South America	1.39	Africa	1.29	Caribbean and Central America	1.31
#5	Europe	1.30	Africa	1.35	Caribbean & Central America	1.25	Europe	1.19
#6	Oceania	1.26	Europe	1.12	Europe	1.22	Oceania	1.18
#7	South America	1.23	Oceania	1.06	Oceania	1.14	South America	1.13
#8	Middle East	1.03	Middle East	1.03	Middle East	1.00	Middle East	1.00
	World overall	1.39	World overall	1.32	World overall	1.28	World overall	1.28

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	Middle East	3.61	Middle East	3.61	Middle East	3.48	Middle East	3.55
#2	Caribbean & Central America	2.95	Caribbean & Central America	3.01	Caribbean & Central America	3.07	South America	2.90
#3	South America	2.67	South America	2.74	Asia	2.81	Africa	2.82
#4	Africa	2.58	Africa	2.67	South America	2.66	Caribbean and Central America	2.82
#5	Asia	2.57	Asia	2.57	Africa	2.62	Asia	2.81
#6	Europe	2.46	Europe	2.42	Europe	2.52	Europe	2.37
#7	Oceania	2.03	Oceania	2.12	Oceania	1.93	Oceania	2.08
#8	North America	1.57	North America	1.50	North America	1.57	North America	1.79
	World overall	2.62	World overall	2.65	World overall	2.67	World overall	2.68

TABLE 31
General state scores for ocean basin
and indicator type, 2025



Vulnerability								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	East Indian Ocean	3.07	East Indian Ocean	3.10	East Indian Ocean	3.14	East Indian Ocean	3.26
#2	Eastern Pacific	2.79	Eastern Pacific	2.81	Eastern Pacific	2.83	West Indian Ocean	2.84
#3	West Indian Ocean	2.76	West Indian Ocean	2.75	West Indian Ocean	2.76	Eastern Pacific	2.75
#4	Western Pacific	2.55	East Atlantic	2.57	Western Pacific	2.60	Western Pacific	2.70
#5	East Atlantic	2.55	Western Pacific	2.54	East Atlantic	2.60	East Atlantic	2.63
#6	West Atlantic	2.49	West Atlantic	2.50	West Atlantic	2.54	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.53
#7	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.45	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.47	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.48	West Atlantic	2.52
World overall		2.58	World overall	2.59	World overall	2.63	World overall	2.66

Prevalence								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	East Indian Ocean	1.67	Eastern Pacific	1.66	Eastern Pacific	1.57	East Indian Ocean	1.78
#2	Western Pacific	1.66	East Indian Ocean	1.57	Western Pacific	1.50	Western Pacific	1.55
#3	Eastern Pacific	1.64	Western Pacific	1.56	East Atlantic	1.34	Eastern Pacific	1.43
#4	East Atlantic	1.55	West Atlantic	1.40	West Atlantic	1.27	East Atlantic	1.28
#5	West Atlantic	1.36	East Atlantic	1.28	East Indian Ocean	1.19	West Atlantic	1.26
#6	West Indian Ocean	1.23	West Indian Ocean	1.26	West Indian Ocean	1.12	West Indian Ocean	1.23
#7	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.10	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.09	Mediterranean & Black Sea	1.12	Mediterranean and Black Sea	1.14
	World overall	1.39	World overall	1.32	World overall	1.28	World overall	1.28

Response								
Rank	Country	2025	Country	2023	Country	2021	Country	2019
#1	West Indian Ocean	3.03	West Indian Ocean	3.11	West Indian Ocean	3.00	West Indian Ocean	3.06
#2	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.81	West Atlantic	2.86	West Atlantic	2.91	West Atlantic	2.85
#3	West Atlantic	2.80	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.79	Mediterranean & Black Sea	2.87	Mediterranean and Black Sea	2.71
#4	Eastern Pacific	2.45	East Atlantic	2.42	East Indian Ocean	2.48	East Atlantic	2.53
#5	East Atlantic	2.37	Eastern Pacific	2.40	Eastern Pacific	2.45	East Indian Ocean	2.40
#6	East Indian Ocean	2.33	East Indian Ocean	2.33	East Atlantic	2.43	Western Pacific	2.35
#7	Western Pacific	2.25	Western Pacific	2.26	Western Pacific	2.32	Eastern Pacific	2.30
	World overall	2.62	World overall	2.65	World overall	2.67	World overall	2.68



Key conclusions and implications from the 2025 update

8

8. Key conclusions and implications from the 2025 update

The fourth edition of the Index has enabled a longitudinal analysis of the risks of IUU fishing, tracking changes in the listings of best- and worst-performing countries, regions and ocean basins at the global scale and highlighting that the risk of IUU fishing is a dynamic issue.

In 2025, the global score across all state responsibilities and types of indicators was 2.27, up from 2.24 in 2019, but essentially unchanged from the 2021 and 2023 iterations, showing constant and continued risks of IUU fishing.

Using the results presented in earlier sections, Table 32 highlights the worst-performing regions and ocean basins for different combinations of indicators related to state responsibilities and indicator types. It serves as a call to action in specific regions and ocean basins.

TABLE 32
Worst-performing regions and ocean basins by indicator group, 2025

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• North America / Western Pacific	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Africa / West Indian Ocean
	Flag	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• <i>Middle East / East Indian Ocean</i>	• Asia / East Indian Ocean
	Port	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean
	General	• Africa / East Indian Ocean	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean
	Overall	• North America / Eastern Pacific	• Asia / Western Pacific	• Middle East / West Indian Ocean	• Asia / East Indian Ocean

Note: Regions and oceans entering this table in 2021 that were not the worst performing in 2019 are shown in italic.

Of note is that the aggregated scores for all countries in a region or ocean basin do not reveal the need for action in or by specific countries. Table 33 draws from earlier tables to highlight the countries with the worst scores for different indicator groups, implying that specific action may be most required by and in these countries (although not limited to them).

TABLE 33
Worst-performing countries by indicator group, 2025

		Type			
		Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall
Responsibility	Coastal	• China • Japan • Marshall Islands	• Somalia • Indonesia • Philippines (+ 2 others)	• Benin • Congo, R. • Eritrea (+ 4 others)	• Yemen • Ghana • Congo, R.
	Flag	• China • France • Japan (+ 2 others)	• China • Taiwan • Russia	• Comoros • Libya • Russia (+ 1 other)	• Taiwan • Russia • China
	Port	• Canada • Chile • China (+ 14 others)	• China • South Korea • Uruguay	• Bahrain • Brunei Darussalam • North Korea (+ 2 others)	• China • Taiwan • South Korea
	General	• India • Vietnam • Myanmar	• China • Mexico • Ghana	• United Arab Emirates • Eritrea • Israel	• India • Comoros • China (+ 1 other)
	Overall	• China • Japan • Russia	• China • Indonesia • Taiwan	• United Arab Emirates • Yemen • North Korea (+ 1 other)	• China • Iran • Indonesia

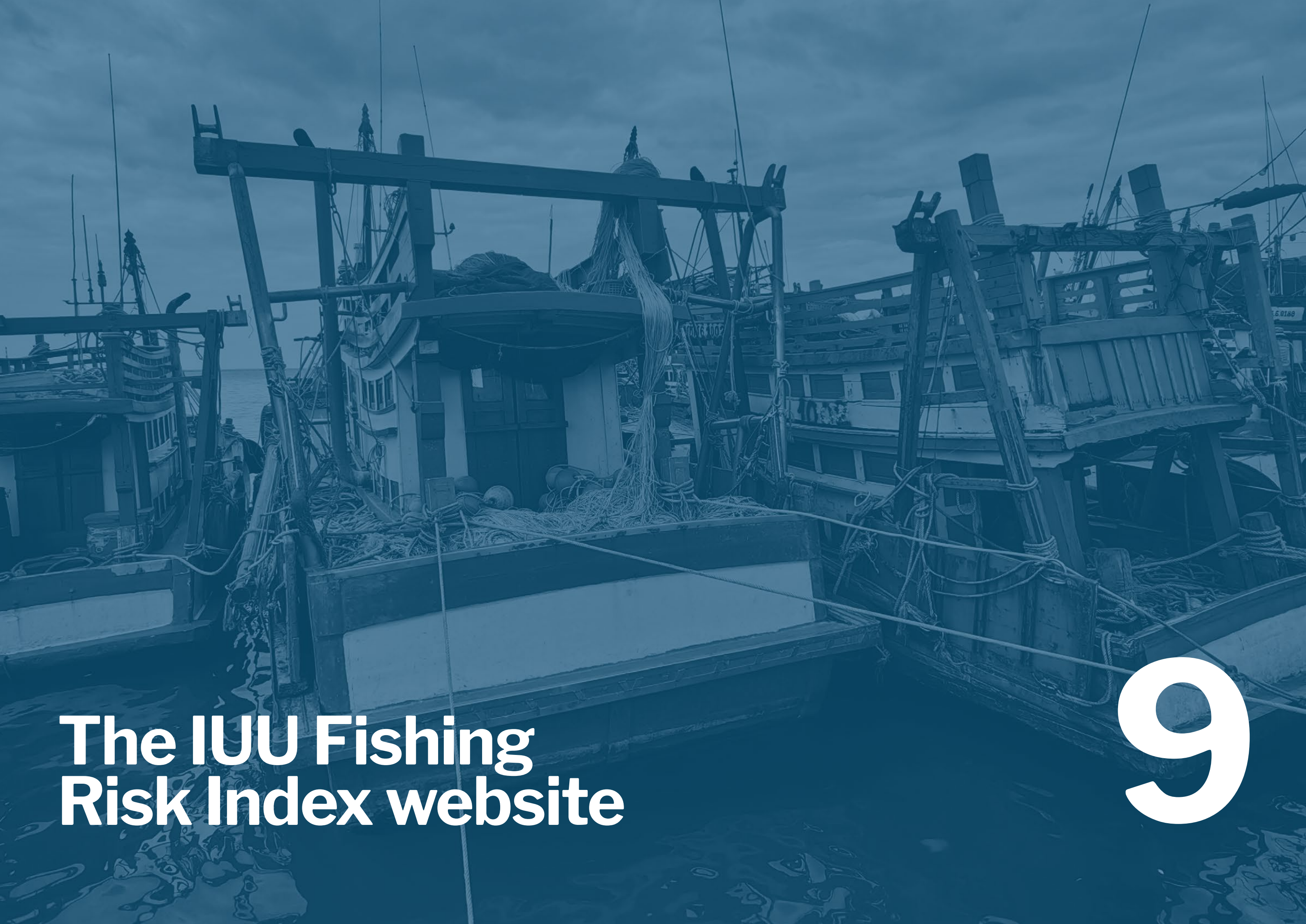
Note: Countries with the same scores in rankings are listed alphabetically. Where more countries than shown in the table have the same score, the number of additional countries is provided in brackets

Steps to reduce the risks of IUU fishing are possible, and many countries are indeed taking such steps. Given that improvements can be made to reduce IUU fishing risk, the failure to improve Index scores in many countries remains a cause for great concern.

Of special concern is the continuing high score of China, given its vast domestic and distant-water fishing fleets. Despite improvements in every iteration of the Index, its score remains very high compared to other countries.

Examining the full ranking tables (see Annex) suggests that developing countries remain the most vulnerable to IUU fishing and may lack sufficient resources to fully respond to the challenges of combatting IUU fishing. This indicates that meaningful mechanisms need to be leveraged or developed that support developing countries in their efforts to combat IUU fishing at all levels.

Nations that remain particularly problematic are those that operate distant-water fishing fleets and have poor scores for flag/prevalence and flag/response indicators. Solving their poor performance would go a long way to eliminating major portions of IUU fishing globally, and there is a pressing need to hold these countries accountable for their lack of action, to monitor progress and to take remedial action where and as appropriate.



The IUU Fishing Risk Index website

9

9. The IUU Fishing Risk Index website

A dedicated website – www.iuufishingindex.net – presents the results of the IUU Fishing Risk Index for 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025.

The website has a home page, which introduces the Index and explains the content of the different webpages.

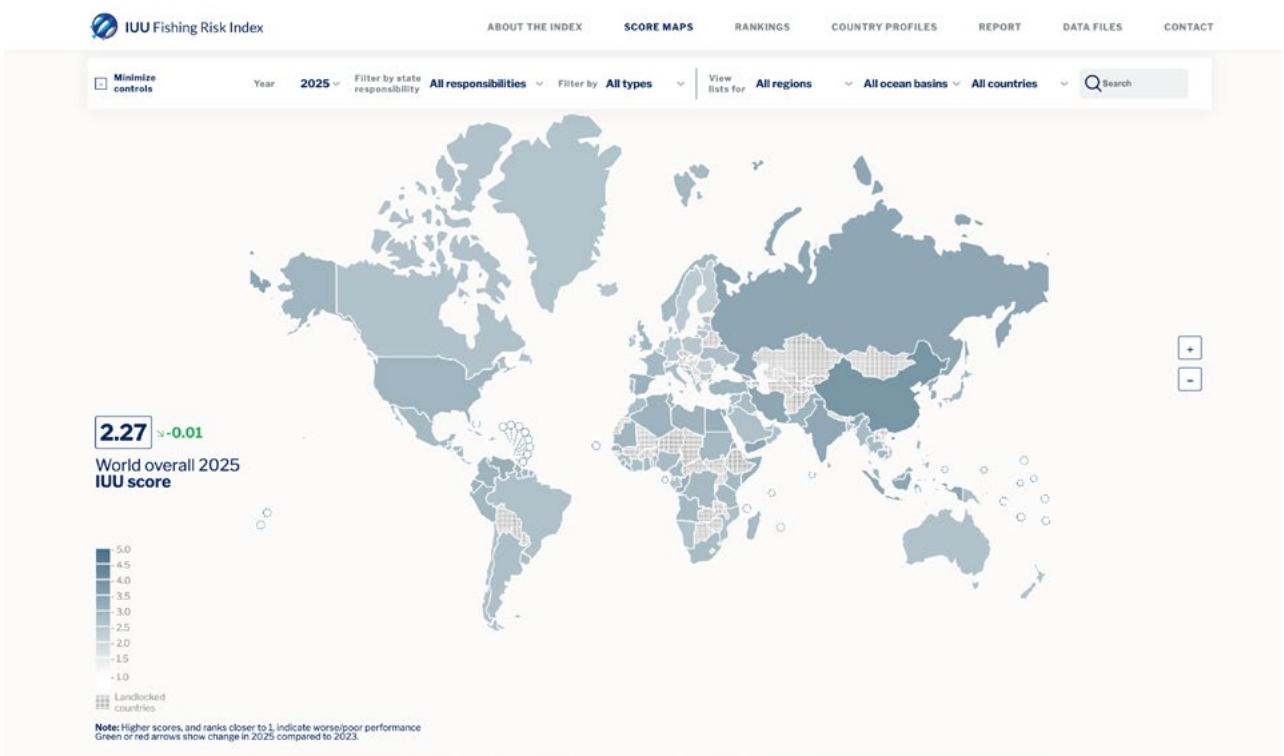
The ‘Maps’ webpage allows users to visualize IUU fishing scores at the global level, either aggregated or filtered for indicators related to state ‘responsibilities’ (coastal, flag, port and general) or indicator ‘types’ (vulnerability, prevalence and response). The maps can also be filtered to show countries in specific regions or ocean basins. Dark colours indicate poor performance, and hovering over an individual country brings up summary country data. Indicator scores are provided for 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025.

The website uses ‘fish-bone’ graphics to present the IUU fishing scores. Individual ‘fish bones’ represent the coastal, flag, port and general state responsibilities, with larger fish bones showing poorer scores.

The ‘Country profiles’ webpage provides complete data for individual coastal states, showing the scores for each indicator for the country concerned, and how the country’s scores compare to the average scores for the region and the ocean basin(s) in which the country is located. Individual country profiles can be downloaded from this webpage. Indicator scores are provided for 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025 and include an indication of whether a country’s scores and ranks have improved.

The ‘Ranking’ webpage shows scores ranked by country and allows users to view these rankings filtered by the type of indicator. Rankings are also provided for regional scores and ocean basin scores. Again, this webpage allows for a comparison across years.

The database webpage provides all individual country indicator scores for 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2025 and allows users to analyse data for and between countries, regions and ocean basins.



IUU Fishing Risk Index									
ABOUT THE INDEX		SCORE MAPS		RANKINGS		COUNTRY PROFILES		REPORT	
Filter by state responsibility		All responsibilities		Filter by type		Country groups by		None	
2025 rank		rank change from 2023		country		2025		2023	
↑↓		↑↓		↑↓		↑↓		↑↓	
#1		- 0		China		3.60		3.69	
#2		+ 3		Iran		3.01		2.93	
#3		+ 3		Indonesia		3.00		2.89	
#3		- 1		Russia		3.00		3.20	
#3		- 0		Yemen		3.00		2.99	
#6		- 2		India		2.99		2.97	
#7		- 0		Taiwan		2.98		2.88	
#8		- 0		Comoros Isl.		2.85		2.81	
#9		- 0		Korea (Rep. South)		2.75		2.76	
#10		+ 16		Eritrea		2.74		2.51	
#11		+ 2		Somalia		2.74		2.68	
#12		+ 3		Venezuela		2.72		2.66	
#13		- 1		Korea (North)		2.71		2.68	
#14		- 0		Egypt		2.70		2.68	
#15		+ 1		Congo, R. of		2.63		2.64	
#16		+ 5		Spain		2.63		2.56	



Annex: Country scores, 2025, 2023, 2021 and 2019

Country scores 2025

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
China	4.36	4.19	2.64	3.60	1	
Iran	3.43	2.07	3.48	3.01	2	▲ 3
Indonesia	3.96	3.11	2.25	3.00	3	▲ 3
Russia	4.13	2.63	2.52	3.00	3	▼ 1
Yemen	3.09	1.67	3.87	3.00	3	
India	2.72	2.96	3.23	2.99	6	▼ 2
Taiwan	3.28	3.07	2.69	2.98	7	
Comoros Isl.	2.68	2.33	3.30	2.85	8	
Korea (Rep. South)	3.76	2.78	2.03	2.75	9	
Eritrea	2.82	1.38	3.77	2.74	10	▲ 16
Somalia	3.27	2.19	2.83	2.74	11	▲ 2
Venezuela	3.20	1.52	3.28	2.72	12	▲ 3
Korea (North)	2.91	1.74	3.80	2.71	13	▼ 1
Egypt	3.52	1.52	3.19	2.70	14	
Congo, R. of	2.77	1.71	3.42	2.63	15	▲ 1
Spain	3.52	2.33	2.22	2.63	16	▲ 5

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Equatorial Guinea	3.27	1.41	3.11	2.61	17	▲ 7
Malaysia	2.88	2.07	2.81	2.60	18	▲ 59
Algeria	3.17	1.63	3.00	2.57	19	
Ecuador	3.48	2.59	1.86	2.55	20	▲ 13
Libya	3.39	1.52	2.81	2.53	21	▼ 2
Pakistan	2.86	1.41	3.17	2.52	22	▲ 12
USA	4.00	1.89	1.94	2.51	23	▲ 40
Colombia	2.80	1.74	2.86	2.50	24	▲ 11
Guinea-Bissau	2.77	1.63	3.00	2.50	24	▲ 16
United Arab Emirates	2.30	1.30	4.04	2.49	26	▲ 5
Georgia	2.35	1.74	3.33	2.48	27	▲ 1
Liberia	3.08	1.89	2.47	2.47	28	▲ 10
Türkyie	3.12	1.41	2.81	2.47	28	▲ 28
Mauritania	3.23	1.52	2.71	2.46	30	▲ 6
Viet Nam	3.59	2.48	1.71	2.45	31	▼ 14
Guyana	3.00	1.22	3.00	2.43	32	▼ 14
Japan	4.28	1.67	1.69	2.42	33	▲ 13
Peru	3.68	1.74	2.06	2.42	33	▼ 10
United Kingdom	3.52	1.67	2.22	2.42	33	▲ 33
Lebanon	2.48	1.30	3.27	2.41	36	▼ 6

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Honduras	2.80	1.52	3.04	2.41	37	▲ 7
Israel	2.00	1.30	3.50	2.40	38	▲ 3
Cambodia	2.95	2.04	2.29	2.39	39	▲ 12
Dominican Republic	2.05	1.38	3.58	2.39	40	▲ 41
Jamaica	2.27	1.29	3.46	2.39	40	▼ 18
Sri Lanka	3.24	2.52	1.69	2.39	42	▲ 35
Sao Tome & Principe	3.00	1.30	2.88	2.38	43	▼ 12
Angola	2.60	2.52	2.14	2.38	44	▲ 29
France	3.84	1.78	1.81	2.38	45	▲ 1
Norway	3.56	1.56	2.17	2.38	45	▲ 21
Tunisia	3.08	1.41	2.58	2.36	47	▼ 10
Brunei Darussalam	2.24	1.52	3.60	2.36	48	▲ 64
Cameroon	2.09	2.48	2.50	2.36	49	▲ 6
Kuwait	2.35	1.30	3.80	2.36	49	▲ 3
Senegal	2.84	2.70	1.75	2.35	51	▼ 24
Singapore	1.96	1.56	3.22	2.35	51	▲ 15
Sudan	2.73	1.38	2.79	2.35	51	▲ 11
Kiribati	3.05	1.56	2.50	2.34	54	▲ 3
Mauritius	2.84	1.78	2.42	2.34	54	▲ 3
Philippines	3.32	2.00	1.92	2.34	54	▼ 1

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Portugal	3.24	1.96	2.00	2.34	54	▲ 29
Mexico	3.48	2.04	1.79	2.34	58	▼ 47
Jordan	2.50	1.30	3.32	2.33	59	▲ 49
Kenya	2.80	1.74	2.44	2.33	60	▲ 26
Suriname	2.92	1.30	2.69	2.33	60	▲ 17
Tanzania	2.68	1.52	2.69	2.33	60	▲ 6
Sierra Leone	3.09	1.89	2.17	2.32	63	▼ 18
Grenada	2.12	1.52	3.06	2.32	64	▼ 21
Seychelles	3.00	1.85	2.19	2.32	64	▲ 62
Myanmar	3.64	1.52	2.07	2.32	66	▲ 18
Nicaragua	2.64	1.81	2.39	2.32	66	▲ 28
Montenegro	2.52	1.30	2.92	2.31	68	▲ 12
Panama	3.00	2.19	1.92	2.31	68	▼ 7
Congo (DRC)	2.20	1.52	3.19	2.31	70	
Micronesia (FS of)	3.05	1.37	2.56	2.31	70	▲ 3
Madagascar	3.08	1.63	2.25	2.30	72	▼ 47
Solomon Isl.	2.88	1.70	2.33	2.30	72	▼ 9
Thailand	3.24	2.30	1.64	2.30	72	▲ 33
Bahamas	2.48	1.33	3.17	2.28	75	▼ 21
Ghana	2.80	2.56	1.72	2.28	75	▲ 30

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Qatar	2.20	1.30	3.70	2.28	75	▼ 10
South Africa	3.08	1.59	2.25	2.28	75	▼ 46
Haiti	2.45	1.38	3.00	2.28	79	▼ 8
Vanuatu	3.56	1.78	1.75	2.27	80	▼ 39
Bahrain	2.00	1.41	3.70	2.27	81	▲ 50
El Salvador	2.56	1.30	2.78	2.26	82	▼ 36
Iraq	2.05	1.38	3.59	2.26	83	▲ 6
Costa Rica	3.00	1.85	2.03	2.25	84	▼ 12
Samoa	2.84	1.41	2.59	2.25	84	▼ 8
Nigeria	3.14	1.96	1.86	2.23	86	▼ 47
Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.95	1.38	3.22	2.22	87	▲ 8
Palau	2.74	1.33	2.60	2.21	88	▲ 3
Syria	2.12	1.38	2.81	2.20	89	▲ 9
Morocco	3.84	1.41	1.64	2.19	90	▼ 4
Uruguay	2.28	1.96	2.31	2.19	90	
Italy	2.84	1.88	1.92	2.18	92	▲ 24
Ukraine	2.30	1.41	2.70	2.17	93	▼ 83
Cote d'Ivoire	2.76	1.74	2.03	2.15	94	▼ 48
Papua New Guinea	2.96	1.74	1.89	2.15	94	▼ 48
Timor Leste	2.55	1.38	2.44	2.15	96	▲ 3

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Fiji	2.92	1.89	1.78	2.14	97	▲ 4
Cyprus	2.80	1.52	2.03	2.13	98	▲ 11
Maldives	2.64	1.43	2.19	2.13	98	▼ 5
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.73	2.19	2.38	2.13	100	▼ 18
Djibouti	2.23	1.46	2.68	2.13	101	▲ 2
Guatemala	2.60	1.41	2.33	2.13	102	▼ 17
Mozambique	3.05	1.41	2.06	2.11	103	▲ 2
Brazil	2.84	1.41	2.11	2.10	104	▲ 33
Argentina	2.55	1.24	2.35	2.10	105	▲ 41
Benin	2.68	1.30	2.41	2.09	106	▲ 9
Bangladesh	2.18	1.52	2.37	2.09	107	▼ 48
Dominica	1.80	1.41	3.30	2.09	107	▲ 6
Saudi Arabia	2.14	1.30	2.66	2.08	109	▲ 29
Netherlands	2.72	1.33	2.19	2.08	110	▲ 8
Oman	2.68	1.74	1.92	2.08	110	▲ 7
Barbados	2.50	1.30	2.52	2.08	112	▼ 13
Marshall Isl.	3.00	1.48	1.94	2.07	113	▼ 40
Albania	2.52	1.30	2.33	2.07	114	▲ 4
Australia	3.36	1.33	1.72	2.07	114	▲ 34
Saint Kitts & Nevis	2.26	1.56	2.40	2.07	116	▼ 25

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Canada	3.56	1.33	1.56	2.06	117	▲ 27
Chile	3.28	1.30	1.78	2.06	117	▼ 21
Greece	3.04	1.30	1.94	2.06	117	▼ 3
New Zealand	2.80	1.63	1.86	2.06	117	▲ 17
Guinea	2.68	1.52	2.00	2.05	121	▲ 11
Antigua & Barbuda	2.00	1.38	2.88	2.04	122	▲ 13
Tuvalu	2.64	1.22	2.28	2.04	122	▼ 18
Malta	2.56	1.63	1.97	2.03	124	▼ 6
Slovenia	2.36	1.30	2.37	2.03	124	▲ 19
Gabon	3.14	1.41	1.78	2.03	126	▼ 25
Denmark	3.08	1.11	1.97	2.02	127	
Namibia	2.92	1.56	1.75	2.02	127	▼ 31
Saint Lucia	1.86	1.38	2.81	2.02	129	▼ 70
Trinidad & Tobago	2.32	1.59	2.11	2.01	130	▼ 9
Cook Islands	2.50	1.81	1.77	2.00	131	▼ 21
Gambia	2.86	1.63	1.71	1.99	132	▼ 3
Cape Verde	2.48	1.52	1.97	1.98	133	▼ 6
Belize	2.00	2.10	1.87	1.97	134	▼ 4
Croatia	2.76	1.30	1.92	1.97	135	▼ 14
Lithuania	2.32	1.30	2.22	1.97	135	▼ 14

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2023
Cuba	2.18	1.38	2.21	1.96	137	▼ 49
Nauru	2.28	1.48	2.10	1.96	138	▼ 14
Tonga	2.36	1.52	1.94	1.92	139	
Estonia	2.36	1.22	2.11	1.91	140	▼ 29
Iceland	2.96	1.11	1.78	1.91	140	▲ 7
Ireland	2.48	1.52	1.72	1.90	142	▼ 1
Togo	2.59	1.30	1.93	1.90	143	▼ 18
Poland	2.40	1.30	1.92	1.86	144	▼ 8
Germany	2.84	1.11	1.67	1.83	145	▼ 13
Latvia	2.32	1.22	1.94	1.83	145	▼ 5
Sweden	2.60	1.19	1.61	1.76	147	▲ 2
Monaco	1.33	1.38	2.22	1.70	148	▼ 3
Belgium	2.27	1.41	1.56	1.69	149	▲ 1
Bulgaria	2.43	1.30	1.42	1.66	150	▼ 8
Finland	1.91	1.29	1.72	1.66	151	
Romania	1.64	1.38	1.39	1.46	152	

Country scores 2023

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
China	4.32	4.30	2.81	3.69	1	—
Russia	4.26	2.78	2.82	3.20	2	—
Yemen	3.41	1.52	3.86	2.99	3	▲ 2
India	2.72	2.95	3.19	2.97	4	▲ 48
Iran	3.39	1.96	3.43	2.93	5	▲ 6
Indonesia	4.08	3.22	1.81	2.89	6	▲ 14
Taiwan	3.28	3.41	2.19	2.88	7	▼ 1
Comoros Isl.	3.05	2.19	3.07	2.81	8	▲ 25
South Korea	3.88	3.19	1.67	2.76	9	▼ 6
Ukraine	3.12	1.48	3.36	2.72	10	▼ 3
Mexico	3.52	2.15	2.58	2.70	11	▲ 4
North Korea	2.91	1.74	3.70	2.68	12	▲ 5
Somalia	3.32	2.19	2.66	2.68	13	▼ 9
Egypt	3.52	1.52	3.11	2.68	14	▼ 5
Venezuela	3.24	1.52	3.11	2.66	15	▼ 1
Congo, R. of	2.91	1.71	3.33	2.64	16	▲ 2

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Vietnam	3.41	3.11	1.63	2.57	17	▲ 39
Guyana	3.00	1.44	3.14	2.56	18	▲ 13
Algeria	3.30	1.63	2.85	2.56	19	▲ 11
Libya	3.39	1.52	2.89	2.56	19	▼ 9
Spain	3.52	2.11	2.22	2.56	21	▲ 3
Jamaica	2.59	1.30	3.69	2.55	22	▲ 18
Peru	3.68	1.74	2.33	2.53	23	▲ 63
Equatorial Guinea	3.27	1.41	2.91	2.52	24	▼ 5
Madagascar	3.04	1.74	2.76	2.52	25	▼ 5
Eritrea	2.77	1.41	3.20	2.51	26	▼ 18
Senegal	2.84	2.30	2.44	2.51	27	▲ 33
Georgia	2.43	1.74	3.33	2.51	28	▲ 16
South Africa	3.20	1.67	2.64	2.50	29	▼ 16
Lebanon	2.40	1.30	3.48	2.47	30	▲ 33
United Arab Emirates	2.30	1.30	3.96	2.46	31	▲ 8
Sao Tome & Principe	3.00	1.41	2.97	2.46	32	▲ 9
Ecuador	3.56	2.70	1.50	2.45	33	▲ 15
Pakistan	2.86	1.41	3.00	2.45	34	▲ 46
Colombia	2.78	1.74	2.83	2.45	35	▲ 38
Mauritania	3.32	1.52	2.60	2.44	36	▲ 7

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Tunisia	3.08	1.52	2.67	2.43	37	▲ 34
Liberia	3.44	1.67	2.28	2.42	38	▼ 22
Nigeria	3.09	1.96	2.28	2.40	39	▼ 4
Guinea-Bissau	2.41	1.67	2.87	2.38	40	▼ 8
Israel	2.00	1.30	3.44	2.38	41	▼ 3
Vanuatu	3.68	1.74	1.94	2.38	41	▼ 21
Grenada	2.36	1.30	3.24	2.37	43	▼ 1
Honduras	2.85	1.52	2.88	2.37	44	▼ 8
Sierra Leone	3.09	2.11	2.11	2.37	45	▼ 20
Cote d'Ivoire	2.88	1.85	2.39	2.36	46	▲ 11
El Salvador	2.76	1.30	2.89	2.36	46	▲ 30
France	3.92	1.78	1.72	2.36	46	▲ 46
Japan	4.28	1.63	1.58	2.36	46	▼ 34
Papua New Guinea	3.00	1.59	2.50	2.36	46	▲ 53
Cambodia	2.59	1.90	2.54	2.36	51	▼ 28
Kuwait	2.35	1.30	3.80	2.36	52	▲ 15
Philippines	3.40	2.11	1.81	2.35	53	▼ 33
Bahamas	2.83	1.44	2.85	2.35	54	▲ 21
Cameroon	2.09	2.48	2.48	2.35	55	▲ 29
Türkyie	2.72	1.67	2.48	2.34	56	▲ 47

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Kiribati	3.05	1.48	2.56	2.34	57	▲ 17
Mauritius	2.76	1.67	2.56	2.34	58	▲ 4
Bangladesh	2.59	1.52	2.80	2.33	59	▲ 26
Saint Lucia	2.45	1.30	3.31	2.33	59	▲ 41
Panama	3.08	2.26	1.86	2.33	61	▼ 1
Sudan	2.91	1.30	2.81	2.33	62	▲ 7
Solomon Isl.	2.84	1.59	2.50	2.32	63	▲ 50
USA	4.12	1.89	1.39	2.32	63	▼ 36
Qatar	2.20	1.30	3.80	2.31	65	▲ 33
Norway	3.68	1.33	2.08	2.31	66	▲ 39
Singapore	1.92	1.44	3.22	2.31	66	▼ 40
Tanzania	2.80	1.30	2.72	2.31	66	▲ 16
United Kingdom	3.20	1.33	2.42	2.31	66	▲ 26
Congo (DRC)	2.05	1.38	3.48	2.31	70	▼ 24
Haiti	2.41	1.38	3.10	2.30	71	▼ 1
Costa Rica	3.00	1.96	2.06	2.30	72	▼ 7
Angola	3.41	1.74	2.03	2.29	73	▼ 36
Marshall Isl.	2.86	1.48	2.56	2.29	73	▼ 5
Micronesia (FS of)	3.00	1.37	2.56	2.29	73	▲ 10
Samoa	2.89	1.41	2.65	2.29	76	▲ 1

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Malaysia	2.60	1.41	2.72	2.28	77	▼ 30
Sri Lanka	3.04	2.19	1.83	2.28	77	▲ 54
Suriname	2.60	1.22	2.86	2.28	77	▲ 19
Montenegro	2.52	1.30	2.83	2.27	80	▲ 11
Dominican Republic	2.14	1.38	3.29	2.27	81	▼ 53
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.91	2.33	2.44	2.25	82	▼ 4
Portugal	3.12	1.96	1.86	2.25	83	▲ 30
Myanmar	3.59	1.30	2.10	2.24	84	▼ 50
Guatemala	2.61	1.41	2.70	2.24	85	▼ 30
Kenya	2.80	1.74	2.17	2.22	86	▲ 27
Morocco	3.84	1.41	1.69	2.22	86	▼ 21
Cuba	2.85	1.30	2.62	2.19	88	▼ 25
Iraq	2.05	1.38	3.20	2.19	89	▼ 36
Uruguay	2.41	1.85	2.28	2.18	90	▲ 36
Saint Kitts & Nevis	2.26	1.44	2.79	2.17	91	▲ 15
Palau	2.68	1.33	2.54	2.17	92	▼ 3
Maldives	3.08	1.33	2.17	2.17	93	▼ 1
Nicaragua	2.88	1.81	1.85	2.16	94	▼ 23
Bosnia & Herzegovina	1.95	1.38	2.96	2.16	95	▲ 2

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Chile	3.40	1.30	1.94	2.16	96	▲ 32
Namibia	2.84	1.44	2.22	2.16	96	▲ 24
Syria	2.12	1.38	2.71	2.16	98	▼ 69
Timor-Leste	2.64	1.38	2.36	2.15	99	▼ 20
Barbados	2.50	1.41	2.62	2.15	100	▲ 25
Fiji	2.88	1.78	1.89	2.14	101	▲ 6
Gabon	3.14	1.63	1.88	2.14	102	▼ 13
Djibouti	2.00	1.52	2.76	2.13	103	▲ 32
Tuvalu	2.64	1.22	2.50	2.13	104	▲ 7
Ghana	2.64	2.56	1.44	2.13	105	▲ 16
Mozambique	2.92	1.41	2.11	2.13	105	▲ 12
Thailand	3.00	2.07	1.56	2.13	105	▼ 57
Jordan	2.10	1.38	2.90	2.11	108	▼ 27
Cyprus	2.84	1.41	2.11	2.10	109	▲ 24
Cook Islands	2.59	1.67	2.03	2.09	110	▲ 20
Estonia	2.36	1.15	2.61	2.09	111	▲ 40
Brunei Darussalam	1.76	1.38	3.40	2.08	112	▼ 67
Dominica	1.80	1.41	3.09	2.07	113	▼ 9
Greece	3.08	1.30	1.94	2.07	114	▲ 2

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Benin	2.68	1.30	2.33	2.07	115	▼ 6
Italy	2.84	1.57	1.81	2.06	116	▼ 57
Oman	2.48	1.71	1.97	2.05	117	▼ 25
Albania*	2.52	1.30	2.25	2.03	118	▲ 9
Malta	2.56	1.70	1.92	2.03	118	▲ 13
Netherlands	2.80	1.00	2.28	2.03	118	▲ 3
Croatia	2.72	1.30	2.08	2.02	121	▲ 20
Lithuania	2.44	1.30	2.28	2.02	121	▼ 2
Trinidad & Tobago	2.32	1.44	2.25	2.02	121	▼ 70
Nauru	2.39	1.57	2.10	2.01	124	▲ 5
Togo	3.00	1.30	1.93	2.01	125	▼ 17
Seychelles	2.72	1.74	1.72	2.01	126	▼ 72
Cape Verde	2.72	1.41	1.94	2.00	127	▼ 10
Denmark	2.76	1.00	2.22	2.00	127	▲ 20
Gambia	2.86	1.63	1.71	1.99	129	▼ 42
Belize	1.95	2.10	1.94	1.99	130	▲ 18
Bahrain	1.55	1.38	3.40	1.98	131	▼ 43
Germany	2.84	1.00	2.11	1.98	132	▲ 6
Guinea	2.68	1.52	1.83	1.98	132	▼ 31
New Zealand	2.92	1.41	1.72	1.97	134	▲ 15

Note: *Albania’s ranking in the 2023 iteration was 118 rather than 120 due to a rounding error in the third decimal. This error was rectified in the tables contained in the 2025 iteration of the index as well as on the webpage for the country profile of Albania.

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2021
Antigua & Barbuda	1.89	1.38	2.60	1.95	135	▼ 11
Poland	2.40	1.22	2.17	1.94	136	▲ 8
Brazil	2.52	1.67	1.65	1.94	137	▼ 35
Saudi Arabia	1.77	1.38	2.43	1.93	138	▼ 28
Tonga	2.36	1.41	2.00	1.91	139	▲ 4
Latvia	2.12	1.22	2.25	1.90	140	▲ 1
Ireland	2.64	1.19	1.89	1.89	141	▼ 8
Bulgaria	2.43	1.30	1.97	1.88	142	▼ 2
Slovenia	1.84	1.30	2.31	1.86	143	▼ 6
Canada	3.56	1.11	1.22	1.85	144	▼ 8
Monaco	1.33	1.38	2.61	1.85	145	▼ 33
Argentina	2.55	1.10	1.86	1.85	146	▼ 96
Iceland	2.96	1.11	1.61	1.84	147	▼ 26
Australia	3.00	1.33	1.36	1.82	148	▼ 10
Sweden	2.48	1.07	1.86	1.80	149	▲ 1
Belgium	2.27	1.30	1.78	1.75	150	▼ 5
Finland	1.95	1.29	1.83	1.72	151	—
Romania	1.88	1.38	1.58	1.62	152	▼ 7

Country scores 2021

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
China	4.32	4.19	3.31	3.86	1	—
Russia	4.09	2.11	3.06	3.04	2	▲ 2
South Korea	4.00	3.15	1.97	2.91	3	▲ 33
Somalia	3.32	2.19	3.21	2.90	4	▲ 7
Yemen	3.36	1.30	3.83	2.89	5	▲ 2
Taiwan	3.20	3.11	2.47	2.88	6	▼ 4
Ukraine	2.84	1.67	3.42	2.75	7	▲ 26
Eritrea	2.64	1.30	3.94	2.75	8	▲ 61
Egypt	3.48	1.52	3.22	2.70	9	▲ 15
Libya	3.43	1.52	3.22	2.69	10	▲ 7
Iran	2.91	1.63	3.43	2.68	11	▲ 26
Japan	4.28	1.59	2.36	2.67	12	▲ 8
South Africa	3.28	1.89	2.75	2.64	13	▲ 32
Venezuela	3.13	1.41	3.33	2.63	14	▲ 32
Mexico	3.52	1.74	2.70	2.61	15	▼ 7
Liberia	3.56	1.78	2.53	2.59	16	▼ 6

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
North Korea	2.91	1.41	3.80	2.58	17	▲ 13
Congo, R. of	2.68	1.38	3.50	2.56	18	▲ 26
Equatorial Guinea	3.27	1.52	2.91	2.56	19	▲ 56
Indonesia	4.08	2.11	1.81	2.55	20	▼ 6
Philippines	3.56	1.96	2.28	2.55	21	▼ 7
Vanuatu	3.52	1.96	2.31	2.55	22	▲ 8
Cambodia	2.68	2.17	2.76	2.54	23	▼ 20
Spain	3.40	2.07	2.28	2.53	24	▲ 3
Sierra Leone	3.18	2.11	2.44	2.53	25	▼ 19
Singapore	2.00	1.52	3.87	2.52	26	▲ 14
USA	4.12	2.33	1.53	2.51	27	▲ 38
Dominican Republic	2.85	1.30	3.80	2.51	28	▲ 36
Syria	2.91	1.30	3.37	2.51	29	▼ 4
Algeria	3.35	1.30	2.85	2.45	30	▲ 26
Guyana	2.68	1.29	3.06	2.45	31	▲ 35
Guinea-Bissau	3.14	1.85	2.49	2.45	32	▲ 25
Comoros Isl.	2.52	1.76	2.89	2.45	33	▼ 4
Myanmar	3.59	1.41	2.53	2.44	34	▼ 22
Nigeria	3.09	1.63	2.66	2.44	35	▲ 15
Honduras	2.85	1.52	3.04	2.42	36	▲ 50

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Angola	2.92	1.52	2.75	2.42	37	▲16
Israel	2.08	1.38	3.29	2.41	38	▲36
United Arab Emirates	2.35	1.30	3.82	2.41	39	▲71
Jamaica	2.27	1.38	3.42	2.40	40	▼21
São Tomé & Príncipe	2.73	1.38	2.90	2.40	41	▼10
Grenada	2.45	1.30	3.24	2.40	42	▼10
Mauritania	3.23	1.52	2.56	2.40	43	▲71
Georgia	2.26	1.30	3.59	2.39	44	▲26
Brunei Darussalam	2.45	1.30	3.80	2.39	45	▲49
Congo (DRC)	2.30	1.38	3.48	2.39	46	—
Malaysia	2.60	2.07	2.47	2.39	47	▼13
Ecuador	3.40	2.44	1.61	2.38	48	▲1
Thailand	3.00	2.74	1.67	2.38	49	▲7
Argentina	2.85	1.52	2.92	2.37	50	▲67
Trinidad & Tobago	2.45	1.89	2.67	2.36	51	▲39
India	2.64	1.38	2.81	2.36	52	▼36
Iraq	2.55	1.38	3.00	2.36	53	▼10
Seychelles	2.84	2.52	1.86	2.34	54	▲57
Guatemala	2.96	1.30	2.80	2.34	55	▲62

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Vietnam	3.14	2.48	1.69	2.33	56	▼51
Côte d'Ivoire	3.00	2.07	2.06	2.33	57	▲19
Madagascar	3.12	1.30	2.56	2.33	58	▲11
Italy	3.64	1.44	2.06	2.32	59	▼36
Panama	3.20	1.85	2.03	2.31	60	▼34
Senegal	2.84	2.30	1.94	2.31	61	▲17
Mauritius	2.84	1.63	2.42	2.30	62	▲39
Cuba	2.75	1.30	2.96	2.29	63	▲9
Lebanon	2.56	1.38	2.74	2.29	64	▼11
Costa Rica	2.92	1.30	2.58	2.28	65	▲69
Morocco	3.72	1.30	2.03	2.28	66	▼6
Kuwait	2.50	1.30	3.40	2.28	67	▲35
Marshall Isl.	2.73	1.70	2.42	2.27	68	▲40
Sudan	2.77	1.38	2.52	2.27	69	▼60
Haiti	2.32	1.38	3.10	2.27	70	▼32
Nicaragua	3.16	1.30	2.36	2.26	71	▲29
Tunisia	3.00	1.30	2.47	2.26	72	▲34
Colombia	2.74	1.30	2.73	2.25	73	▼13
Kiribati	3.05	1.67	2.19	2.25	74	▼33

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Bahamas	2.65	1.30	2.85	2.25	75	▲ 46
El Salvador	2.56	1.30	2.72	2.24	76	▲ 40
Samoa	2.89	1.30	2.62	2.24	77	▼ 6
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1.76	2.19	2.61	2.23	78	▲ 21
Timor-Leste	2.68	1.38	2.57	2.23	79	▼ 58
Pakistan	2.86	1.30	2.54	2.23	80	▼ 8
Jordan	2.50	1.30	3.09	2.22	81	▲ 22
Tanzania	2.76	1.85	2.11	2.22	82	▼ 64
Micronesia (FS of)	3.05	1.67	2.11	2.21	83	▼ 1
Cameroon	2.18	1.52	3.00	2.21	84	▼ 69
Bangladesh	2.68	1.30	2.60	2.20	85	▼ 37
Peru	3.68	1.63	1.58	2.19	86	▼ 1
Gambia	2.86	1.74	2.11	2.19	87	▼ 9
Bahrain	2.05	1.30	3.50	2.18	88	▲ 32
Gabon	3.18	1.30	2.22	2.17	89	▼ 28
Palau	2.63	1.78	2.23	2.17	90	▲ 24
Montenegro	2.60	1.38	2.33	2.17	91	▲ 4
France	3.92	1.22	1.67	2.17	92	▼ 25
Maldives	3.16	1.44	2.03	2.17	93	▼ 12

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Oman	2.64	1.30	2.50	2.17	94	▲ 40
United Kingdom	3.20	1.22	2.17	2.17	95	—
Suriname	2.68	1.22	2.59	2.16	96	▲ 11
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2.00	1.38	3.00	2.16	97	▼ 9
Qatar	2.05	1.30	3.40	2.15	98	▲ 24
Papua New Guinea	3.00	1.26	2.19	2.14	99	▼ 1
Saint Lucia	2.32	1.30	2.85	2.13	100	▼ 65
Guinea	3.14	1.74	1.80	2.13	101	▼ 79
Brazil	2.91	1.41	2.13	2.11	102	▲ 10
Türkyie	2.80	1.52	1.97	2.11	103	▼ 49
Dominica	1.80	1.30	3.50	2.10	104	▼ 25
Norway	3.56	1.22	1.75	2.10	105	▼ 14
Saint Kitts & Nevis	1.89	1.57	2.63	2.09	106	▼ 13
Fiji	2.95	1.67	1.86	2.08	107	▼ 18
Togo	2.59	1.52	2.23	2.08	108	▼ 69
Benin	2.32	1.38	2.44	2.07	109	▼ 58
Saudi Arabia	2.00	1.38	2.71	2.06	110	▼ 23
Tuvalu	2.64	1.44	2.11	2.04	111	▼ 5
Monaco	1.67	1.41	2.92	2.03	112	▲ 23

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Kenya	2.72	1.63	1.83	2.02	113	▼17
Portugal	3.20	1.30	1.75	2.02	114	▼71
Solomon Isl.	2.84	1.07	2.17	2.02	115	▼4
Greece	2.96	1.41	1.75	1.99	116	▼12
Cape Verde	2.60	1.30	2.06	1.98	117	▲2
Mozambique	2.88	1.63	1.61	1.98	118	▼34
Lithuania	2.28	1.38	2.11	1.98	119	▲5
Namibia	2.96	1.22	1.83	1.97	120	▼23
Ghana	2.64	2.11	1.36	1.95	121	▼6
Iceland	3.08	1.44	1.56	1.95	122	▲21
Netherlands	2.76	1.11	2.03	1.95	123	▲3
Antigua & Barbuda	2.05	1.38	2.39	1.95	124	▼61
Barbados	1.95	1.38	2.42	1.94	125	▲16
Uruguay	2.05	2.07	1.75	1.93	126	▲13
Albania	2.64	1.30	1.89	1.92	127	▼43
Chile	3.32	1.30	1.39	1.91	128	▼1
Nauru	2.39	1.29	2.03	1.90	129	—
Cook Islands	2.64	1.38	1.74	1.90	130	▼69
Malta	2.44	1.41	1.83	1.88	131	▼5
Sri Lanka	3.00	1.30	1.53	1.88	132	▼73

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)	Change in country rank compared to 2019
Cyprus	2.52	1.30	1.83	1.86	133	▼5
Ireland	2.76	1.37	1.61	1.86	134	▲10
Djibouti	1.91	1.38	2.27	1.86	135	▼54
Canada	3.56	1.11	1.22	1.85	136	▼3
Slovenia	2.00	1.38	1.94	1.81	137	—
Australia	3.00	1.22	1.39	1.80	138	▼1
Germany	2.84	1.00	1.67	1.80	139	▲2
Bulgaria	2.74	1.30	1.48	1.77	140	▲4
Croatia	2.20	1.30	1.75	1.74	141	▼18
Latvia	2.24	1.15	1.83	1.74	142	▲10
Tonga	2.36	1.30	1.67	1.73	143	▲3
Poland	2.40	1.30	1.58	1.73	144	▲5
Belgium	2.27	1.30	1.70	1.72	145	▲7
Romania	2.24	1.38	1.56	1.72	146	▼16
Denmark	2.48	1.00	1.72	1.72	147	▼11
Belize	2.05	1.38	1.65	1.69	148	▼3
New Zealand	2.76	1.07	1.39	1.68	149	▼18
Sweden	2.36	1.07	1.61	1.66	150	▼2
Estonia	1.80	1.29	1.69	1.62	151	▼1
Finland	1.95	1.22	1.73	1.62	152	▼4

Country scores 2019

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
China	4.44	4.19	3.37	3.93	1
Taiwan	3.56	3.56	3.03	3.34	2
Cambodia	3.32	2.37	4.00	3.23	3
Russia	4.22	2.44	3.00	3.16	4
Vietnam	3.75	3.11	2.68	3.16	5
Sierra Leone	3.14	2.33	3.46	3.01	6
Yemen	3.41	1.30	4.00	2.96	7
Sudan	3.14	1.30	3.71	2.77	8
Liberia	3.72	1.89	2.74	2.76	9
Somalia	3.36	2.19	2.82	2.75	10
Myanmar	3.59	1.30	3.40	2.73	11
Libya	3.43	1.52	3.43	2.73	12
Philippines	3.92	2.19	2.26	2.71	13
Mexico	3.48	1.93	2.83	2.71	14
Indonesia	3.92	2.30	2.14	2.70	15
Cameroon	3.09	1.30	3.71	2.69	16

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
India	3.39	2.07	2.70	2.68	17
Tanzania	3.00	1.74	3.11	2.65	18
Japan	4.28	1.63	2.22	2.63	19
Comoros	3.09	1.81	2.97	2.61	20
Timor-Leste	3.14	1.41	3.36	2.61	21
Syria	3.00	1.30	3.71	2.61	22
Guinea	3.09	1.74	3.00	2.60	23
North Korea	2.77	1.74	3.75	2.58	24
Egypt	3.22	1.52	3.17	2.58	25
Jamaica	2.68	1.30	3.71	2.57	26
Panama	3.24	2.48	2.14	2.56	27
Spain	3.91	2.22	1.94	2.56	28
Vanuatu	3.64	1.96	2.23	2.55	29
Grenada	2.37	1.30	3.71	2.53	30
Ukraine	3.13	1.74	2.79	2.53	31
Malaysia	3.09	1.52	3.13	2.52	32
São Tomé & Príncipe	2.95	1.30	3.26	2.51	33
Congo, R. of	3.05	1.52	3.50	2.51	34
Italy	3.76	1.70	2.17	2.50	35
Saint Lucia	2.36	1.30	3.81	2.50	36

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
South Korea	3.91	2.30	1.67	2.49	37
Iran	3.22	1.41	3.04	2.49	38
Haiti	2.30	1.38	3.80	2.48	39
Togo	2.64	1.63	3.24	2.47	40
Singapore	2.09	1.63	4.29	2.46	41
Kiribati	3.50	1.81	2.29	2.45	42
Portugal	3.36	1.74	2.33	2.45	43
Iraq	2.55	1.30	3.73	2.44	44
South Africa	3.52	1.78	2.17	2.43	45
Congo (DRC)	2.50	1.30	3.56	2.42	46
Bangladesh	2.73	1.30	3.09	2.41	47
Ecuador	2.96	2.30	2.06	2.39	48
Nigeria	3.05	2.19	2.12	2.39	49
Benin	3.00	1.30	3.22	2.37	50
Lebanon	2.44	1.30	3.31	2.37	51
Angola	3.12	1.41	2.63	2.37	52
Venezuela	2.83	1.41	2.92	2.36	53
Türkyie	3.13	1.74	2.28	2.34	54
Thailand	2.92	2.67	1.66	2.33	55
Algeria	3.35	1.30	2.52	2.33	56

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
Guinea-Bissau	2.91	1.52	2.61	2.33	57
Sri Lanka	3.00	1.96	2.11	2.32	58
Morocco	3.84	1.30	2.03	2.32	59
Colombia	2.74	1.52	2.90	2.31	60
Eritrea	2.50	1.38	3.24	2.31	61
Cook Islands	3.15	1.30	2.58	2.30	62
Gabon	3.00	1.74	2.29	2.30	63
Antigua and Barbuda	2.89	1.30	2.86	2.30	64
Dominican Republic	2.85	1.30	3.24	2.30	65
USA	3.96	1.85	1.56	2.29	66
Guyana	3.14	1.30	2.53	2.29	67
France	3.92	1.22	1.94	2.28	68
Madagascar	3.08	1.63	2.19	2.27	69
Honduras	2.85	1.52	2.65	2.27	70
Georgia	2.35	1.30	3.29	2.27	71
Samoa	2.89	1.30	2.68	2.26	72
Cuba	2.43	1.30	3.22	2.26	73
Pakistan	2.78	1.30	2.87	2.26	74
Israel	2.05	1.30	3.57	2.25	75
Equatorial Guinea	3.10	1.30	2.64	2.25	76

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
Cote d'Ivoire	2.92	1.52	2.31	2.24	77
Senegal	3.04	1.74	2.06	2.24	78
Gambia	2.82	1.41	2.57	2.23	79
Dominica	2.00	1.38	3.42	2.23	80
Maldives	3.16	1.22	2.34	2.23	81
Papua New Guinea	3.00	1.67	2.11	2.23	82
Djibouti	2.41	1.30	3.08	2.23	83
Micronesia (FS of)	3.05	1.56	2.23	2.23	84
Brunei Darussalam	2.35	1.30	3.63	2.22	85
Mozambique	3.04	1.52	2.17	2.22	86
Albania	2.72	1.30	2.56	2.22	87
Peru	3.52	1.52	1.83	2.21	88
Saudi Arabia	2.60	1.30	3.25	2.21	89
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2.32	1.30	3.08	2.20	90
Fiji	3.09	1.56	2.14	2.20	91
Trinidad & Tobago	2.28	1.44	3.00	2.20	92
Norway	3.68	1.00	2.06	2.19	93
United Kingdom	3.13	1.44	2.15	2.19	94
Montenegro	2.48	1.30	2.85	2.18	95
Kenya	2.72	1.41	2.40	2.18	96

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
Namibia	3.04	1.30	2.25	2.18	97
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	2.36	1.81	2.35	2.18	98
Jordan	2.50	1.30	3.25	2.17	99
United Arab Emirates	2.35	1.30	3.38	2.16	100
Mauritius	2.84	1.74	1.97	2.15	101
Kuwait	2.50	1.30	3.13	2.14	102
Greece	2.92	1.41	2.13	2.13	103
Brazil	2.91	1.41	2.19	2.13	104
Argentina	3.05	1.30	2.29	2.13	105
Tunisia	2.96	1.30	2.17	2.13	106
Seychelles	3.12	1.85	1.64	2.13	107
Tuvalu	2.64	1.56	2.23	2.12	108
Suriname	2.65	1.30	2.64	2.12	109
Marshall Islands	2.91	1.44	2.11	2.11	110
Solomon Islands	3.08	1.26	2.06	2.10	111
Bahamas	2.52	1.30	2.58	2.09	112
Nicaragua	2.96	1.30	2.09	2.09	113
Bahrain	2.20	1.30	3.25	2.08	114
Palau	2.95	1.33	2.18	2.08	115
Mauritania	3.23	1.41	1.85	2.07	116

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
El Salvador	2.68	1.30	2.23	2.07	117
Guatemala	2.83	1.30	2.22	2.07	118
Cape Verde	2.64	1.52	2.06	2.06	119
Nauru	2.76	1.22	2.35	2.05	120
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2.09	1.56	2.47	2.05	121
Qatar	2.05	1.30	3.25	2.03	122
Croatia	2.91	1.30	2.00	2.03	123
Lithuania	2.44	1.41	2.19	2.02	124
Netherlands	2.64	1.22	2.19	2.02	125
Malta	2.83	1.30	2.03	2.01	126
Chile	3.35	1.30	1.69	2.01	127
Cyprus	2.52	1.30	2.19	2.01	128
Romania	2.43	1.74	1.90	2.00	129
New Zealand	3.36	1.00	1.78	1.99	130
Oman	2.48	1.30	2.26	1.99	131
Monaco	1.56	1.30	3.04	1.99	132
Ghana	2.96	1.63	1.56	1.98	133
Canada	3.48	1.00	1.64	1.97	134
Costa Rica	2.80	1.48	1.74	1.97	135
Denmark	2.84	1.00	2.03	1.94	136

Country	Vulnerability	Prevalence	Response	Overall IUU Score (worst to best)	Overall rank (worst to best)
Barbados	1.95	1.38	2.48	1.94	137
Australia	3.00	1.33	1.58	1.91	138
Slovenia	1.80	1.30	2.44	1.91	139
Uruguay	1.87	1.74	2.08	1.89	140
Germany	2.40	1.22	2.03	1.89	141
Iceland	3.08	1.00	1.62	1.86	142
Ireland	2.65	1.07	1.93	1.85	143
Tonga	2.68	1.30	1.69	1.82	144
Belize	2.09	1.74	1.61	1.78	145
Bulgaria	2.52	1.30	1.53	1.74	146
Sweden	2.55	1.00	1.78	1.73	147
Poland	2.32	1.30	1.50	1.68	148
Finland	2.05	1.22	1.80	1.67	149
Estonia	2.00	1.15	1.83	1.67	150
Latvia	2.00	1.22	1.53	1.57	151
Belgium	1.80	1.30	1.28	1.43	152

