



Marine
Stewardship
Council

TUNA MARKET ANALYSIS 2026: FRANCE



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EFFORTS BY TUNA FISHERIES engaged in the MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) certification program continue worldwide, with 51.7% (over 3.1 million tonnes) of global tuna catches MSC-certified and 5.8% (over 150,000 tonnes) under assessment. For MSC-certified tuna volumes globally, these include skipjack tuna (2,373,240 tonnes), yellowfin tuna (596,986 tonnes), albacore tuna (102,221 tonnes), bigeye tuna (71,772 tonnes), and bluefin tuna (6,813 tonnes). In France, the volume of catches from French MSC-certified tuna fisheries in 2026 is around 49,000 tonnes.

There are 4 MSC-certified tuna fisheries, covering a diversity of species and geographic areas: bluefin tuna caught by les métiers de l’hameçon de la SATHOAN in the Mediterranean, skipjack tuna from Compagnie Française du Thon Océanique (CFTO), SAPMER in the Indian Ocean, yellowfin and skipjack tuna from the Orthongel fishery in the Atlantic Ocean and Atlantic albacore tuna from l’Organisation de Producteurs Pêcheurs d’Aquitaine. In total, six fisheries are in the MSC program, including all fisheries under assessment, certified, or suspended.

Spanish fisheries AGAC and ANABAC obtained certification for Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna, with the 2024 scientific advice—revalidated in 2025 by

the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)—indicating that the stock is in good condition. On the French side, the purse seine fishery led by CFTO and SAPMER, as well as the longline fishery of ARIPA, are under assessment for this same stock, as well as for Indian Ocean albacore tuna. The results of these assessments will be available in 2026, covering nearly 23,000 tonnes of yellowfin tuna and 400 tonnes of albacore tuna from the Indian Ocean.

Fishery	Species	Status	Volume (t)
CFTO & SAPMER, Indian Ocean	Skipjack	Certified	31,150
	Yellowfin	Under assessment	22,404
ORTHONGEL, Atlantic	Skipjack	Certified	3,765
	Yellowfin	Certified	13,461
Pêcheurs d’Aquitaine, North Atlantic	Albacore	Certified	200
SATHOAN, Mediterranean	Bluefin	Certified	523
ARIPA, Indian Ocean	Yellowfin	Under assessment	407
	Albacore	Under assessment	534

Table 1: Tuna fisheries engaged in the MSC program in France





From April 2024 to March 2025, more than 300,000 tonnes of tuna products were sold globally with the MSC sustainable fishing label. In Southern Europe and AMESA, MSC-labelled tuna volumes exceeded 35,000 tonnes.

In France, according to FranceAgriMer, at-home tuna consumption reached 63,840 tonnes in 2024 ⁽¹⁾, mainly in cans. France is the 6th largest consumer of MSC-labelled sustainable tuna worldwide, behind Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, and the Netherlands.

Over the past four years, consumption of MSC-labelled tuna in France has increased by +186%, reaching 17,115 tonnes in 2024/2025 ⁽²⁾. This growth has been strongly driven by the development of MSC-certified skipjack tuna canned products, which have quadrupled since 2020.

The canned category dominates, representing 73% of total MSC-labelled tuna products, i.e. more than 12,000 tonnes. The remaining share includes prepared meals containing tuna, frozen products, and pet food.

Among the most engaged downstream partners

in France are retailers such as Aldi, Lidl, E.Leclerc, and Intermarché, as well as brands like Petit Navire, Saupiquet, and Rio Mare, with its range of 100% MSC-certified tuna. Other MSC tuna products are also emerging, such as the Spanish brand Calvo and Dr. Oetker.

With an overall positive trend and major international challenges related to resource preservation, increased commitment from retailers is now essential to support fisheries involved in the MSC program and to offer consumers truly sustainable tuna products.

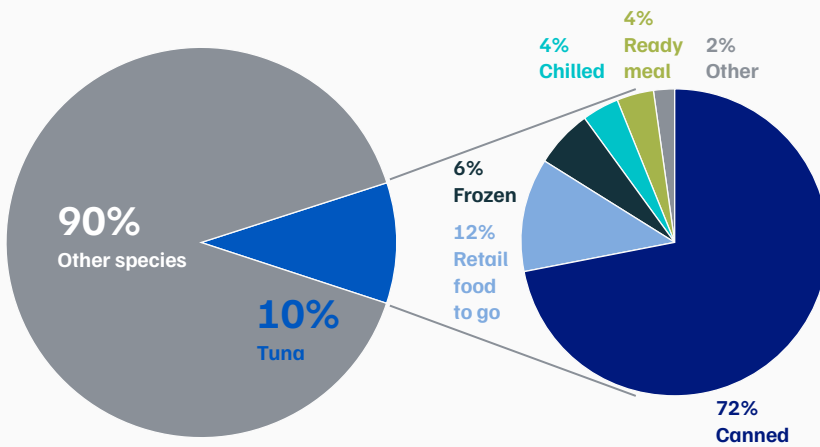
The MSC Improvement Program—designed to address emerging ocean-related challenges and support global fisheries aiming for MSC certification within a maximum of five years—provides a credible pathway and an additional opportunity for the supply chain. Currently, 2.9% of global tuna catches are part of the MSC Improvement Program (over 100,000 tonnes). ●

⁽¹⁾ FranceAgriMer, 2025. "Consumption of fishery and aquaculture products 2024", p.121 <https://www.franceagrimer.fr/chiffre-et-analyses-economiques/consommation-des-produits-de-la-peche-et-de-laquaculture>

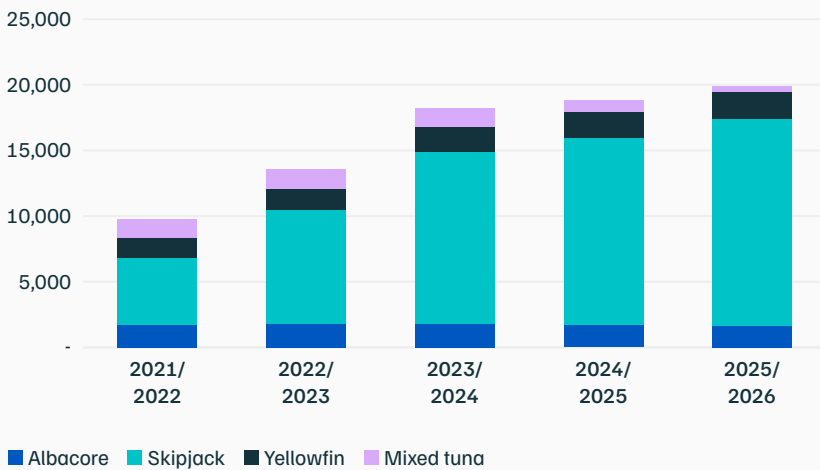
⁽²⁾ Data based on reported sales of MSC-labelled tuna products in France.

MARKET DATA: FRENCH TUNA

MSC labelled tuna by product type - France



MSC labelled tuna by species - France



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