



2025 Country profile

South Africa

World ranking

75 of 152 countries ▼ 46

Africa ranking

25 of 38 countries ▼ 14

East Atlantic ranking

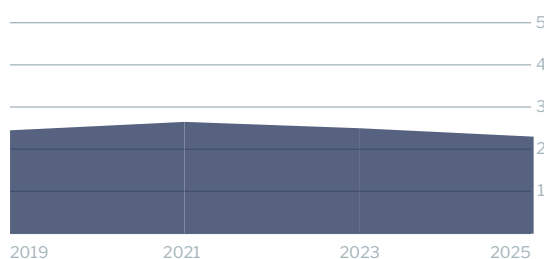
18 of 41 countries ▼ 12

West Indian Ocean ranking

16 of 24 countries ▼ 8

IUU score trends

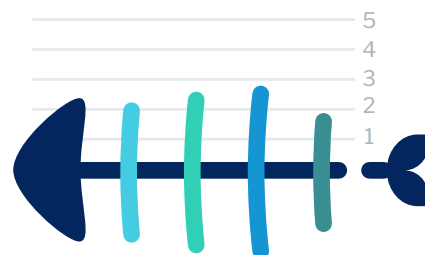
2023 - 2025 change ▼ 0.22



Note: Higher scores closer to 5, and ranks closer to 1, indicate worse/poor performance. Green or red arrows show change in 2025 compared to 2023

2025
IUU
Score

2.28



2.19 2.58 2.78 1.80

Coastal Flag Port General

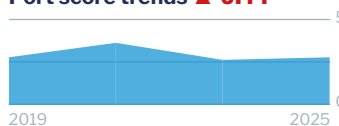
Coastal score trends ▼ 0.37



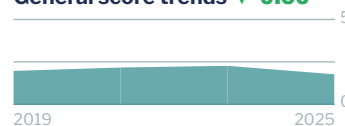
Flag score trends — 0



Port score trends ▲ 0.11



General score trends ▼ 0.50



Coastal score

2.19

▼ 0.37

Coastal score by vulnerability

2.33

▼ 0.67

Related Indicators

	2025	2023	2023-2025 change	2021
Size of EEZ	5.0	5.0	— 0	5.0
Agreement over all maritime boundaries	1.0	5.0	▼ 4.0	5.0
Dependency on fish for protein	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Authorise foreign vessels to operate in EEZ	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0

Coastal score by prevalence

2.40

▼ 0.40

Has MSC-certified fisheries	3.0	4.0	▼ 1.0	4.0
Views of MCS practitioners on coastal compliance incidents	2.0	2.0	— 0	1.0

Coastal score by response

1.80

— 0

Coastal State is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs	3.0	3.0	— 0	3.0
Operate a national VMS/FMC centre	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0

Flag score **2.58** — 0

Flag score by vulnerability **4.00** — 0

Related Indicators	2025	2023	2023-2025 change	2021
Distant water vessels on RFMO RAVs	4.0	4.0	— 0	4.0
Distant water vessels under several RFMOs	4.0	4.0	— 0	5.0

Flag score by prevalence **1.33** — 0

Vessels on IUU lists	2.0	2.0	— 0	1.0
View of fisheries observers on flag state compliance incidents	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Views of MCS practitioners on flag state compliance incidents	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0

Flag score by response **2.89** — 0

Accepted FAO Compliance Agreement	5.0	5.0	— 0	5.0
Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership 	2.0	2.0	— 0	2.0
Provision of vessel data for inclusion in Global Record	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Compliance with RFMO flag state obligations	5.0	5.0	— 0	5.0
Flag State is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0

 Indicator “Authorised vessel data provided to FAO HSVAR” used in 2019 was changed to “Registered vessels with foreign or unknown ownership” from 2021.

Port score **2.78** ▲ 0.11

Port score by vulnerability **4.50** ▲ 0.50

Related Indicators	2025	2023	2023-2025 change	2021
Number of fishing ports	4.0	3.0	▲ 1.0	3.0
Port visits by foreign fishing or carrier vessels	5.0	5.0	— 0	5.0

Port score by prevalence **2.00** — 0

Views of MCS practitioners on port compliance incidents	2.0	2.0	— 0	5.0
View of fisheries observers on port compliance incidents	2.0	2.0	— 0	1.0

**Port score by response** **2.50** — 0

Related Indicators

	2025	2023	2023-2025 change	2021
Party to the PSMA	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Designated ports specified for entry by foreign vessels	1.0	1.0	— 0	5.0
Compliance with RFMO port state obligations	5.0	5.0	— 0	5.0

General score **1.80** ▼ 0.50**General score by vulnerability** **2.33** ▼ 0.11

Related Indicators

	2025	2023	2019-2021 change	2021
Trade balance for fisheries products	1.0	2.0	▼ 1.0	1.0
Share of global imports	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Perception of levels of corruption	3.0	3.0	— 0	3.0
Gross national income per capita	3.0	3.0	— 0	3.0
Volume of catches	2.0	2.0	— 0	2.0

General score by prevalence **1.00** — 0

Carded' under the EU IUU Regulation	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Identified' by NOAA for IUU fishing	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Mentions of IUU fishing in media reports	1.0	1.0	— 0	3.0

General score by response **1.86** ▼ 1.00

Mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Demand for MSC products	4.0	4.0	— 0	3.0
Ratification/accession of UNCLOS Convention	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Ratification/accession of UNFSA	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0
Mentions in media reports to combatting IUU fishing	4.0	5.0	▼ 1.0	2.0
Have a NPOA-IUU	1.0	5.0	▼ 4.0	5.0
Market State is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to relevant RFMOs	1.0	1.0	— 0	1.0