

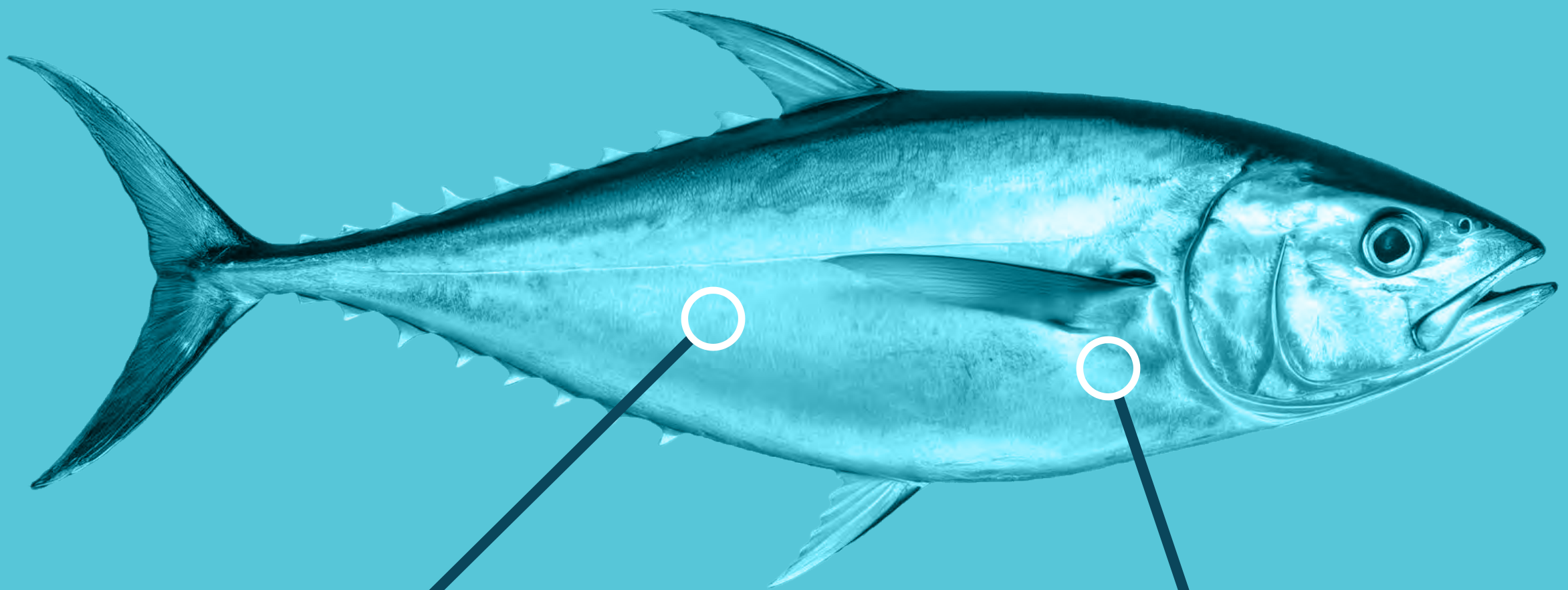
The *Species* of

SEA2SEE



Skipjack Tuna

Katsuwonus Pelamis



Aka "striped belly bonito"

The most fished tuna species in the world

Fishing

An average of **2.6 million** tons of Skipjack tuna fished per year have been reported **since 2000**, which is only half of the total tuna landings worldwide.

It is primarily caught using **purse seines** – a highly unselective method.

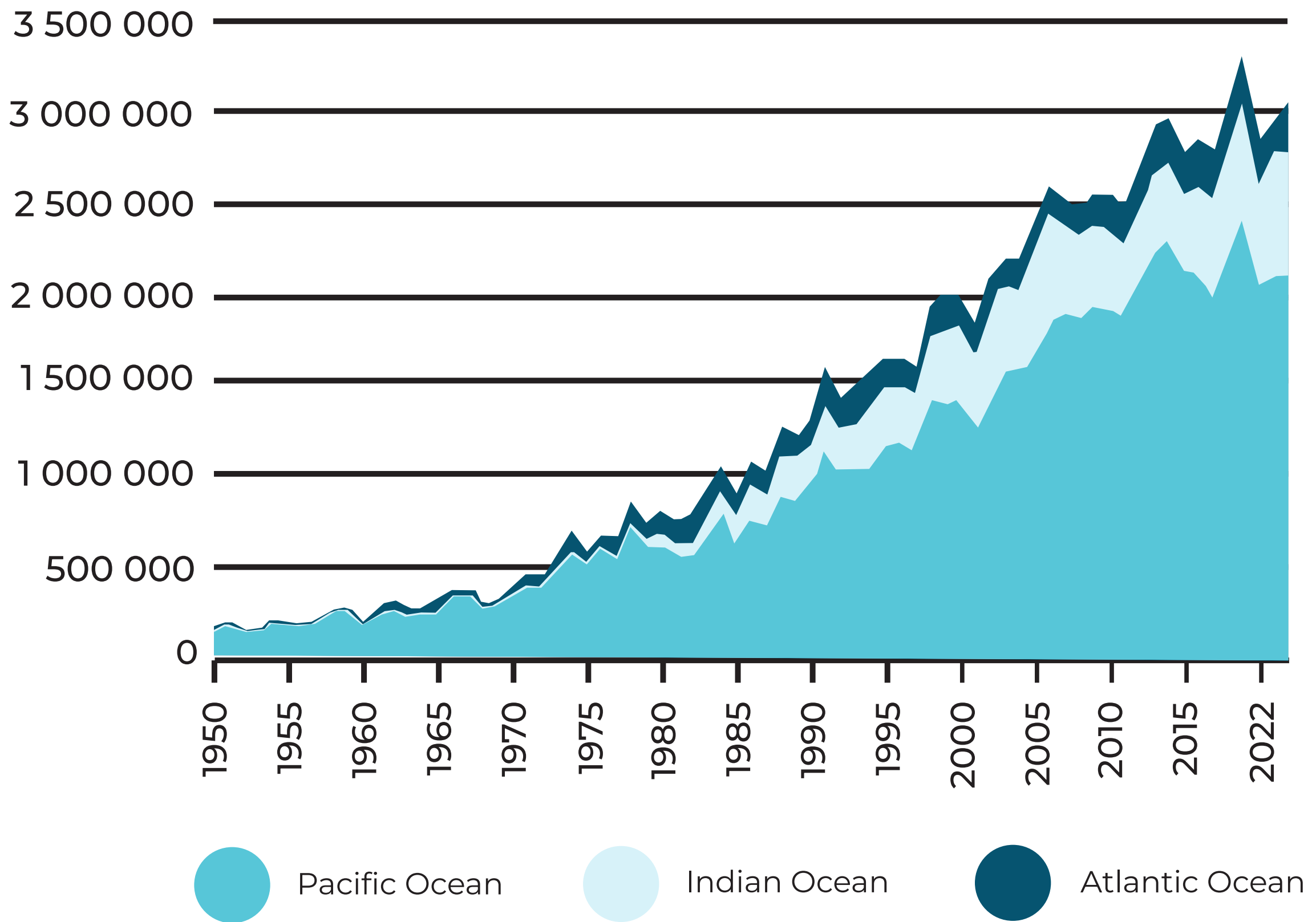
Another fishing method practiced by fisheries in the **Maldives** and **Brazil** is by using **pole-and-line**.

In all three oceans, the majority of skipjack tuna are caught using **Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs)**

- **Fishing with FADs results in high bycatch of juvenile tuna and endangered species.**
- **There is no minimum catch size regulation for this species.**

Fishing

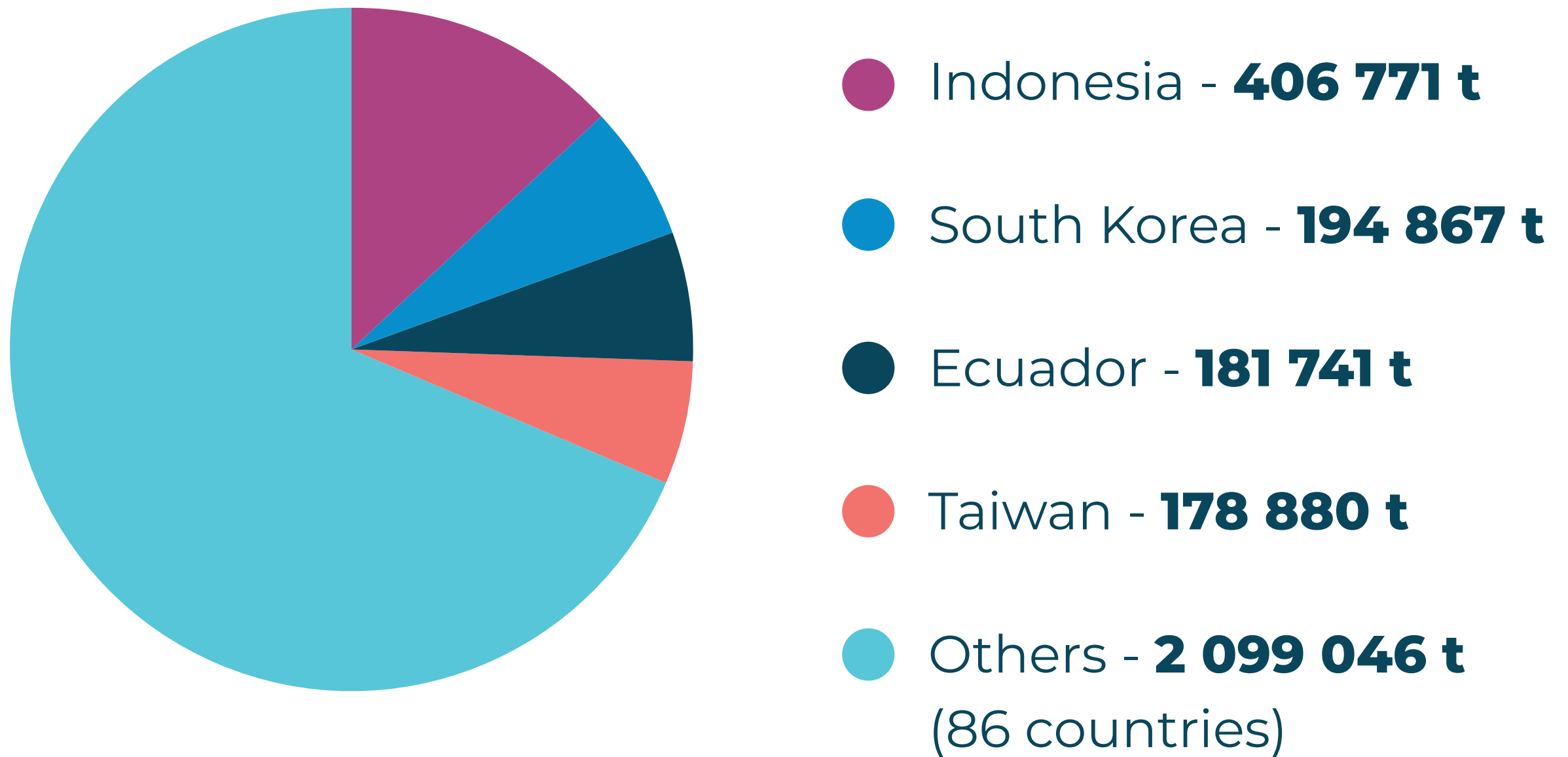
Skipjack tuna landings worldwide (in tons):



Source: FAO 2024

Fishing

Main skipjack tuna fishing countries in 2022 (in tons):



Source: FAO 2024

Consumption

All skipjack tuna stocks are considered to be in good condition although there is significant uncertainty surrounding stock assessments.

Skipjack tuna reaches our tables primarily in canned form. We don't see its name noted on the can as European legislation does not require it. Line-caught fish is marketed as frozen or fresh raw loins.



Interesting fact!

In **2014**, a **Japanese company** opened a processing facility in **Concarneau (France)** to get closer to the European market for the production of dried, fermented, and smoked fish — **Katsuobushi, a staple of Japanese cuisine.**



Consumption Recommendations

Consume in moderation:

Western Atlantic, Eastern Pacific, Western and Central Pacific stocks - considered to be in good condition but with absent or weak management measures or fragile biomass.

Eastern Atlantic stock is in good condition but with high uncertainty around biomass assessment), Indian Ocean stock.

Prioritize individuals with a fork length (FL)

> 42 cm (Indian Ocean stock)

> 45 cm (Atlantic stocks)

> 63 cm (Pacific stocks) or large loins/steaks from mature individuals that have had time to reproduce.

Consumption Recommendations

- Prefer **buying skipjack** from **FAD-free certified fisheries** - a label that can be found on canned products.
- Before buying fresh, frozen, processed, or canned tuna, **research its origin.**



Consumption

Purchase Recommendations

- **Consume in moderation:** Western Atlantic stock, Eastern Pacific stock, Western and Central Pacific stock (stocks considered to be in good condition but with absent or weak management measures or fragile biomass), Eastern Atlantic (stock in good condition but with high uncertainty around biomass assessment), Indian Ocean stock.
- **Prioritize individuals with a fork length (FL) > 42 cm** (Indian Ocean stock), > 45 cm (Atlantic stocks), > 63 cm (Pacific stocks), or large loins/steaks from mature individuals that have had time to reproduce.
- **Avoid skipjack tuna caught using FADs.** Some fisheries are certified **FAD-free** (no FADs); this label can be found on canned products.
- **Research the origin** of fresh, frozen, processed, or canned tuna before making a purchase.

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