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NAUTICAL TOURISM – Capacity and Turnover of Ports, 2024

In 2024, the survey included 226 nautical ports on the Croatian coast, as follows: 85 marinas (of which 20 land marinas), 81 anchorages, 16 berths and 44 boat storages. Their total water surface area was **4 949 829 m²** and there were **19 073** moorings.

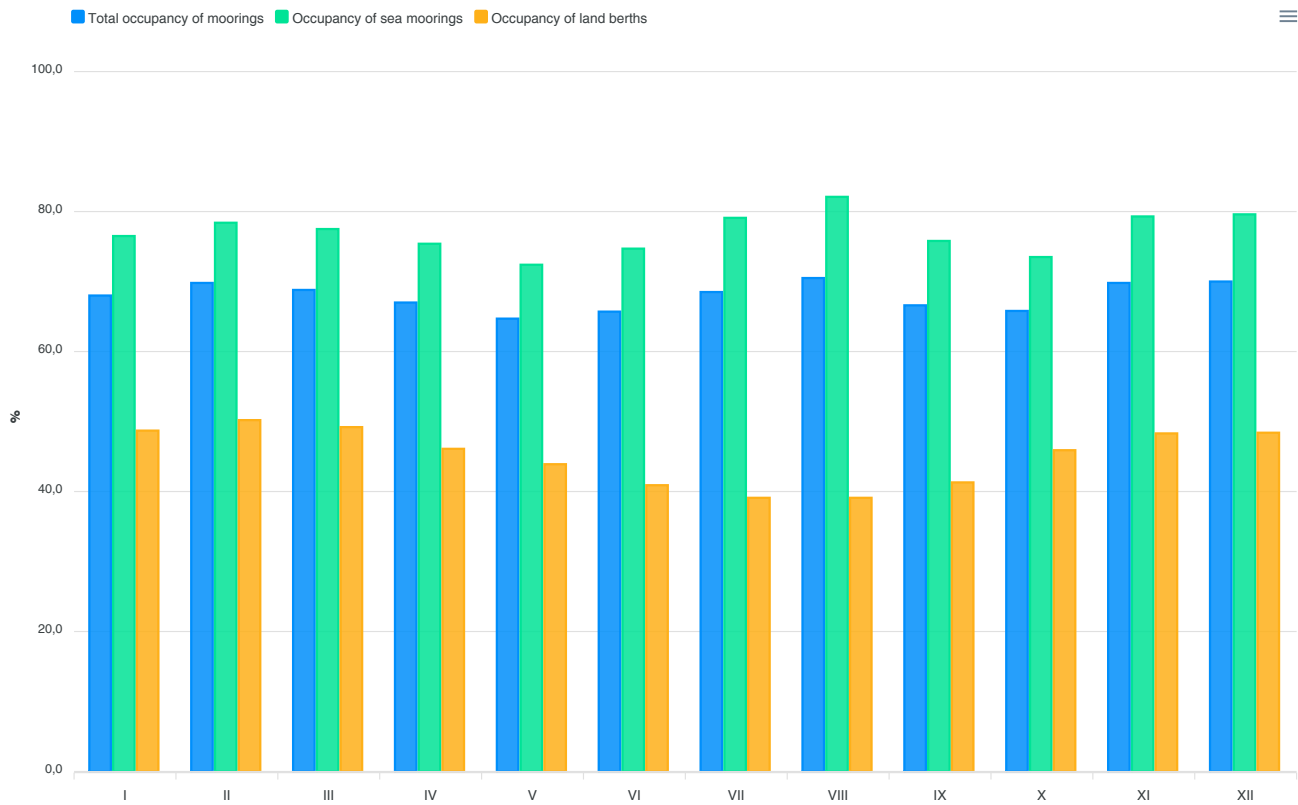
1 CAPACITY OF NAUTICAL PORTS AND PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, SITUATION AS ON 31 AUGUST 2023 AND 2024

	2023	2024
Water surface area, m ²	4 823 256	4 949 829
Number of moorings, total	19 131	19 073
Of that for vessels;		
Under 6 m long	854	800
6 – 8 m	1 696	1 623
8 – 10 m	2 315	2 270
10 – 12 m	5 027	5 151
12 – 15 m	5 601	5 657
15 – 20 m	2 648	2 586
Over 20 m	990	986
Length of shoreline equipped for mooring, m	75 118	76 181
Number of berths for land storage	7 102	7 050
Total surface area for land storage, m ²	782 113	765 229
Of that covered area, m ²	27 866	25 936
Number of employed persons, total	2 042	2 136
Of that with seasonal jobs	467	467

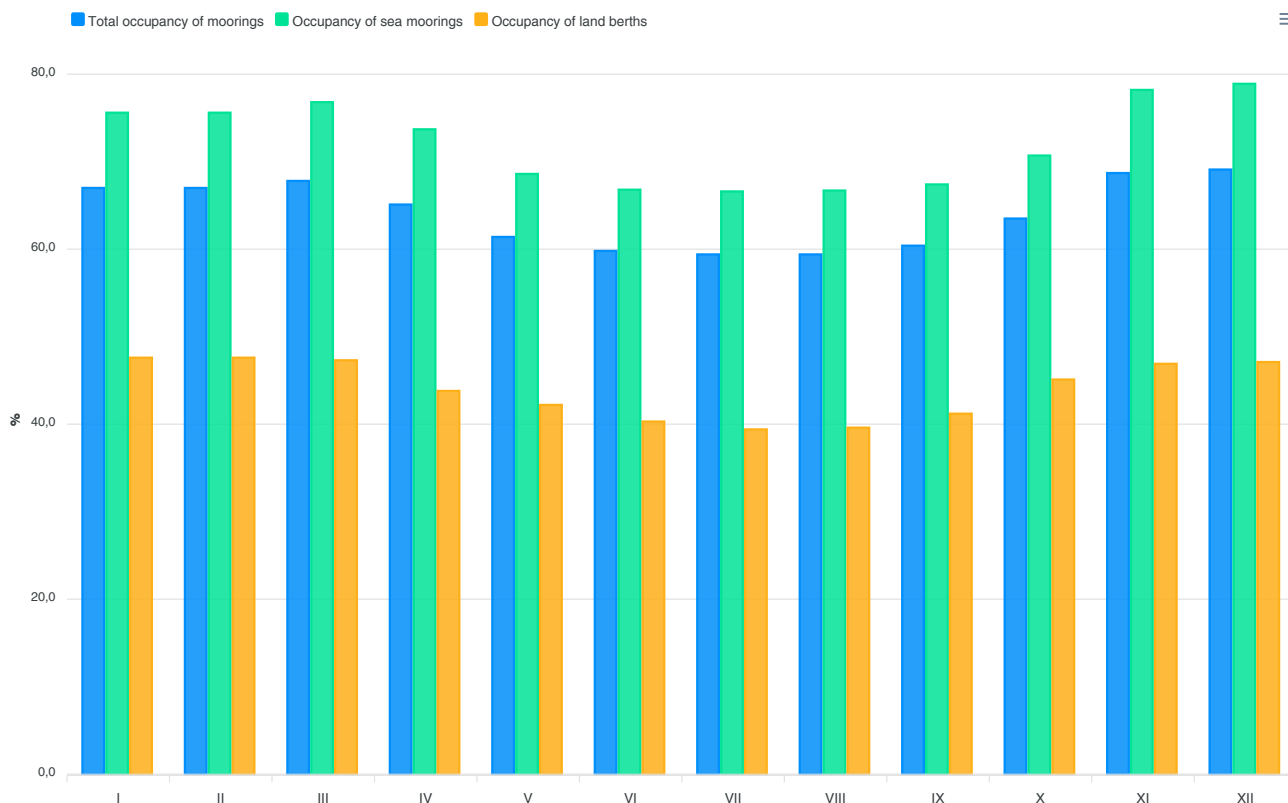
Average total occupancy of mooring capacity in 2024 in nautical ports amounted to 68.0%

In 2024, the average total occupancy of mooring capacity in nautical ports was 68.0%, of sea moorings it was 76.5% and of land berths it was 48.7%. The average total occupancy of mooring capacity on a permanent contract was 67.0%. For vessels on a permanent contract, the average occupancy of sea moorings was 75.6% and of land berths it was 47.6%.

G-1 AVERAGE TOTAL OCCUPANCY OF MOORING CAPACITY IN NAUTICAL PORTS, BY MONTHS, 2024



G-2 AVERAGE OCCUPANCY OF MOORING CAPACITY IN NAUTICAL PORTS ON A PERMANENT CONTRACT, BY MONTHS, 2024



The number of vessels in transit 3.8% lower than in 2023

After a decrease in the number of vessels in transit was recorded in 2023 compared to 2022, the same trend continued in 2024 as well: there were 214 632 vessels in transit recorded, which was a decrease of 3.8% compared to 2023.

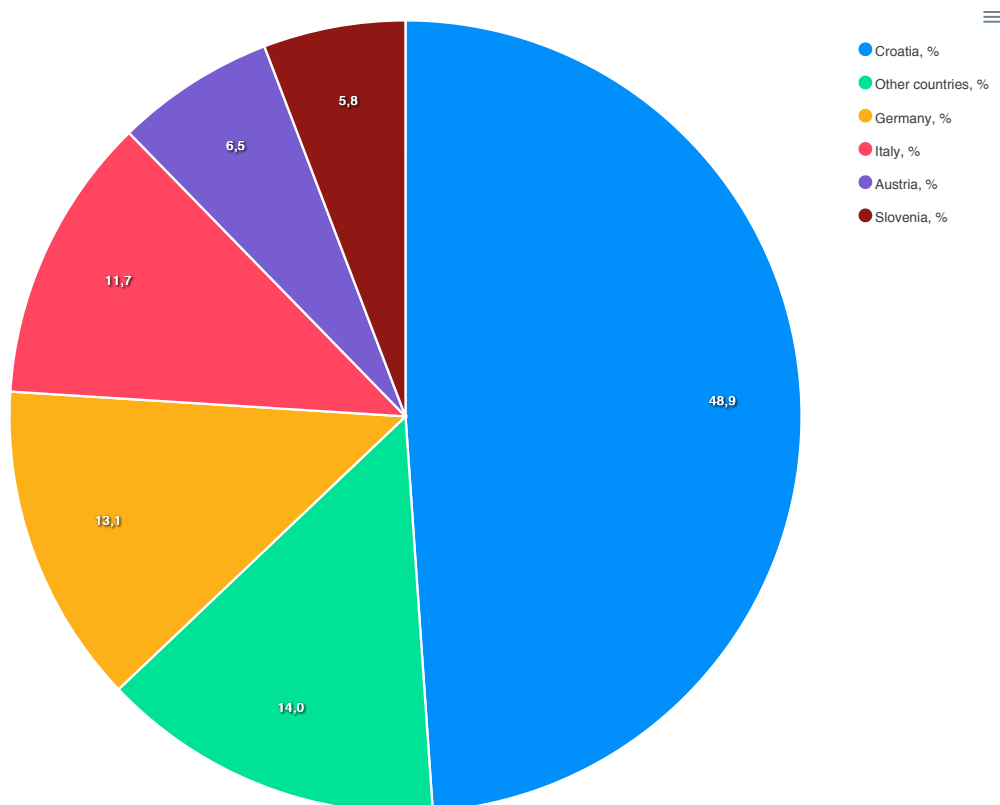
The largest number of vessels in transit in 2024 was under the Croatian flag (48.9%). These were followed by vessels in transit under the flag of Germany (13.1%), Italy (11.7%), Austria (6.5%) and Slovenia (5.8%), which accounted for 86.0% of the total number of vessels in transit. Of the aforementioned countries, only the number of vessels in transit under the flag of Slovenia increased in 2024 compared to 2023, by 4.7%. The number of vessels in transit under the flags of the remaining aforementioned countries decreased in 2024 compared to 2023, as follows: under the flag of Italy by 7.2%, under the flag of Croatia by 6.1%, under the flag of Austria by 6.2% and under the flag of Germany by 3.7%.

By the type of vessels in transit that used sea moorings, the majority were sailboats (58.2%), followed by motor yachts (32.5%) and other vessels (9.3%).

The most vessels in transit that used sea moorings were 12 to 15 meters long (which accounted for 35.5% of the total number of such vessels) and vessels 10 to 12 meters long (which accounted for 27.6% of the total number of vessels in transit that used sea moorings).

The County of Split-Dalmatia had the largest number of vessels in transit that used sea moorings, 54 881 of them, which was 26.3% of the total number of vessels in transit that used sea moorings. It was followed by the County of Šibenik-Knin with 51 056 vessels in transit that used sea moorings (24.4%).

G-3 NUMBER STRUCTURE OF VESSELS IN TRANSIT, BY FLAG, 2024



The number of permanently moored vessels increased by 2.2% compared to 2023

There were 16 845 vessels permanently moored in nautical ports in 2024, which was 2.2% more than in 2023. There were 78.2% of vessels that used sea moorings, while 21.8% of them used land berths only.

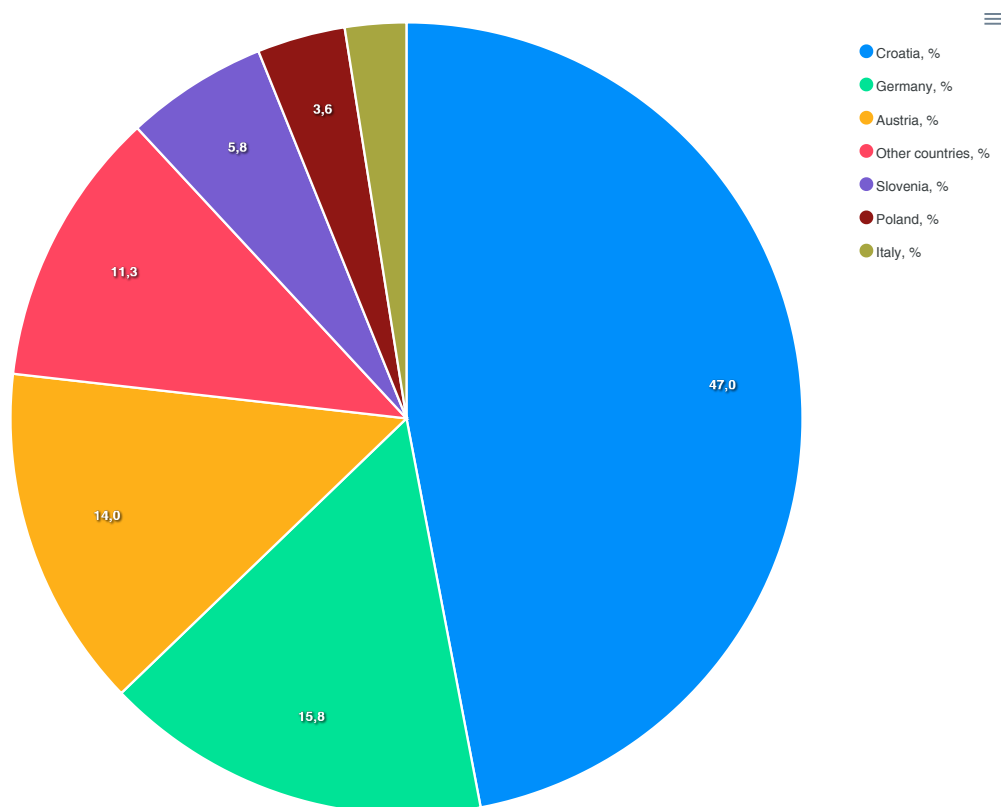
By the type of permanently moored vessels that used sea moorings, the most numerous ones were motor yachts (47.8%), followed by sailboats (45.9%) and other vessels (6.3%).

By the flag of vessel, the largest number of permanently moored vessels that used sea moorings were those under the flag of Croatia, 47.0% of them. These were followed by vessels under the flag of Germany (15.8%), Austria (14.0%), Slovenia (5.8%), Poland (3.6%) and Italy (2.5%). The number of vessels under the flags of Croatia, Poland and Slovenia increased in 2024 compared to 2023, as follows: under the flag of Croatia by 5.8%, under the flag of Poland by 26.5% and under the flag of Slovenia by 7.8%. The number of vessels under the flag of Austria decreased by 6.3%, under the flag of Italy by 10.9% and under the flag of Germany by 3.6%.

The largest number of vessels on permanent sea moorings were 12 to 15 meters long (that is, 33.0% of the total number of such vessels), followed by those that were 10 to 12 meters long (or 27.0% of the total number of vessels on a permanent sea mooring).

In 2024, the County of Šibenik-Knin had the largest number of vessels on a permanent sea mooring, as many as 3 038 vessels, which was 23.1% of the total number of vessels on a permanent sea mooring. These were followed by vessels on a permanent mooring in the County of Istria, with 3 020 vessels (22.9%), the County of Zadar, with 2 688 vessels (20.4%), the County of Primorje-Gorski Kotar with 2 201 vessels (16.7%), the County of Split-Dalmatia with 1 675 vessels (12.7%) and in the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva with 558 vessels (4.2%).

G-4 NUMBER STRUCTURE OF VESSELS ON PERMANENT MOORINGS, BY FLAG, 2024



Income of nautical ports higher in all counties compared to the previous year

In 2024, the total income of nautical ports amounted to 180 million euro, excluding VAT, which was 12.1% more than in 2023.

The largest share in the total income, or 129 million euro, was generated by renting of moorings (which accounted for 71.2% of the total income). Compared to 2023, the income from renting of moorings increased by 11.6%.

All counties generated an increase in the total income of nautical ports in 2024 compared to 2023, as follows: the County of Šibenik-Knin of 13.6%, the County of Zadar of 13.3%, the County of Primorje-Gorski Kotar of 13.2%, the County of Split-Dalmatia of 11.7%, the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva of 11.5% and the County of Istria of 7.9%.

The highest incomes in 2024 were generated in the County of Šibenik-Knin and the County of Split-Dalmatia

In 2024, nautical ports in the County of Šibenik-Knin generated the highest income, of 45 million euro, which was 25.0% of the total income of nautical ports in the Republic of Croatia, and so did the ports of the County of Split-Dalmatia, of 43 million euro, which was 24.0% of the total income of nautical ports in the Republic of Croatia. In both counties the most income was generated by renting of moorings, with 29 million euro generated in the County of Šibenik-Knin, which was 64.4% of the total income generated in that county, and 28.6 million euro generated in the County of Split-Dalmatia, which was 66.1% of the total income generated in that county.

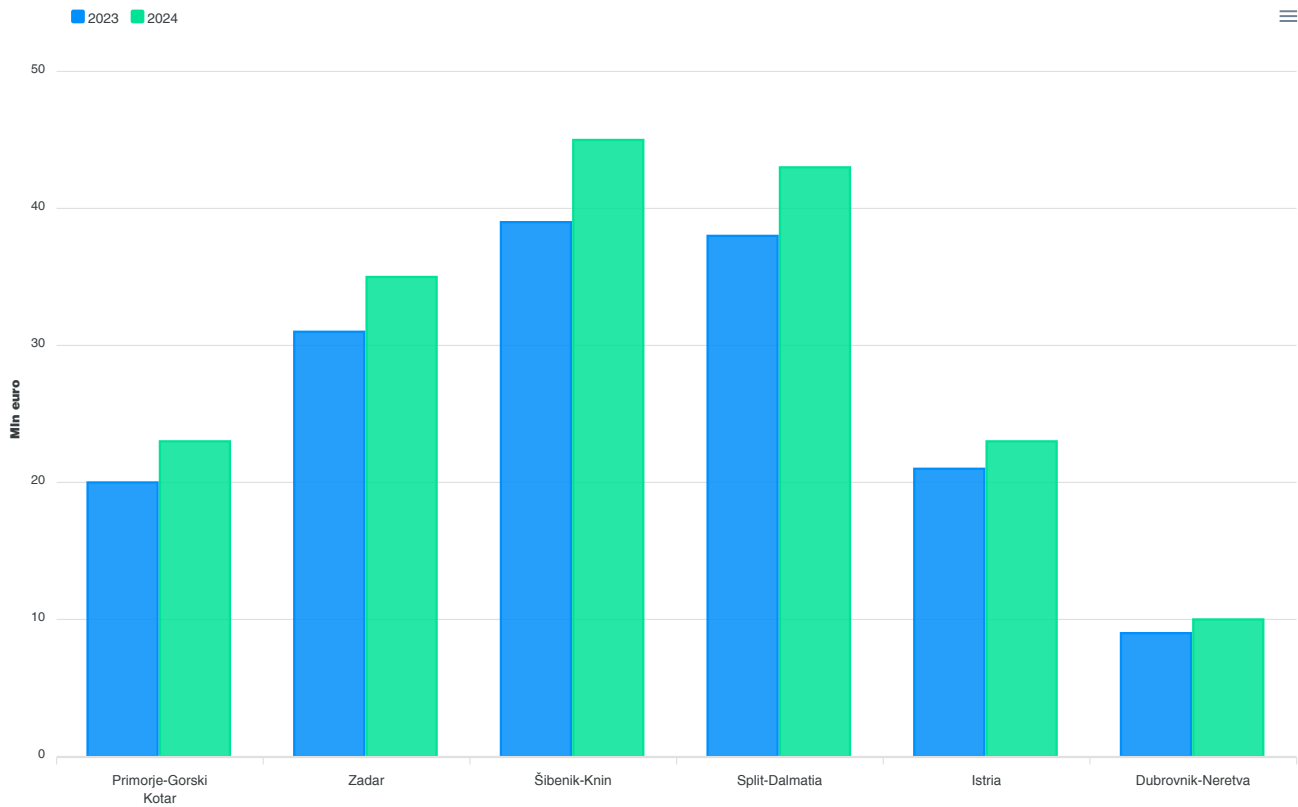
Notice

Detailed data are available on the website of the [Croatian Bureau of Statistics](#), under "PC-Axis databases", where it is possible to browse and print data in various forms. Databases are updated on an annual basis.

2 INCOME GENERATED BY NAUTICAL PORTS, EXCLUDING VAT

	Income, thousand euro		Indices 2024 2023
	2023	2024	
Republic of Croatia	160 924	180 475	112,1
County of Primorje-Gorski Kotar	20 383	23 067	113,2
County of Zadar	31 413	35 586	113,3
County of Šibenik-Knin	39 647	45 034	113,6
County of Split-Dalmatia	38 751	43 303	111,7
County of Istria	21 719	23 441	107,9
County of Dubrovnik-Neretva	9 010	10 043	111,5

G-5 INCOME GENERATED BY NAUTICAL PORTS



NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

Sources and methods of data collection

The data are collected using an online questionnaire, on TU-18 e-form (Report on Capacity and Turnover of Nautical Ports), available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics <https://podaci.dzs.hr/en/>.

Purpose of statistical survey

The purpose of the statistical survey is to monitor the capacity and the number of vessels on a permanent mooring and in transit according to the flag and length of vessels in nautical ports and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels, occupancy and income of nautical ports and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels.

Legal basis

The survey is carried out on the basis of the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20 and 155/23) and the Annual Implementation Plan of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia in 2024 (NN, No. 29/25).

Reporting units and coverage

The reporting units in this survey are nautical ports: anchorages, berths, land marinas, marinas and boat storages.

On 9 December 2019, the new Ordinance on Categorisation of Nautical Ports and Classification of Other Facilities for Rendering Services of Mooring and Storage of Vessels (NN, No. 120/19) entered into force. Pursuant to this Ordinance, the term "nautical port" includes only marinas, while other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels are classified as nautical anchorage, nautical mooring, boat storage and land marina.

In accordance with the new Ordinance, nautical ports and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels are business functional units in which a legal or natural person operates and provides tourist services in nautical tourism and other services for tourists (trade, hospitality, etc.).

Legal or natural persons which on the day of entry into force of this Ordinance have a decision for a nautical port in accordance with the Ordinance on Classification and Categorisation of Nautical Ports (NN, Nos 142/99, 47/00, 121/00, 45/01, 108/01, 106/04 and 72/08) are not obliged to comply with the Ordinance. However, they may, in accordance with the Ordinance, submit a request for classification and categorisation.

The coverage of this survey is complete, which means that the survey covers nautical ports – marinas and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels – anchorage / nautical anchorage, mooring / nautical mooring, land marina and boat storage, in which tourist services in nautical tourism are provided.

This survey does not cover the following special-purpose ports: military ports, ports of interior affairs authorities, industrial ports, sports ports and fishing ports.

Confidentiality

The confidentiality of the collected data is guaranteed by the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20 and 155/23). The collected data are used exclusively for statistical purposes, they are presented in aggregate form and may not be used or forwarded to other persons or bodies in order to determine the rights and obligations of reporting units (such as administrative, legal or tax purposes) or to verify reporting units.

Definitions

Nautical tourism is the sailing and stay of tourists (sailors or passengers) on vessels (motor yachts, sailboats, boats, etc.) for personal needs or for economic activity and stay in nautical ports for rest, recreation and cruising.

Marina is a part of a specially built and arranged sea or water area and coast intended for rendering services of mooring, accommodation of tourists on vessels and other services for tourists. Marinas provide the services of preparing and serving drinks, beverages and food.

Marinas and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels are classified by types, while marinas are also categorised.

In accordance with the Ordinance on Classification and Categorisation of Nautical Ports (NN, No. 72/08) and the Ordinance on Categorisation of Nautical Ports and Classification of Other Facilities for Rendering Services of Mooring and Storage of Vessels (NN, No. 120/19), marinas are marked by anchors (two anchors, three anchors, four anchors and five anchors). Marinas that already have decisions in accordance with the former Ordinance (NN, Nos 142/99, 47/00, 121/00, 45/01 and 108/01) are not obliged to comply with the new Ordinance and are categorised as the first, second and third category marinas.

Anchorage (nautical anchorage) is a part of a sea or water area suitable for the mooring of vessels and equipped with installations for safe mooring.

Berth (nautical berth) is a part of a specially built sea or water area, and a part intended for rendering mooring services.

Land marina is a part of a fenced and equipped land intended for rendering the services of dry storage of vessels, as well as the services of transporting a vessel, launching it into the water or lifting it from the water. Land marinas may render the services of tourist stays, preparation of vessels for navigation as well as preparation and serving of drinks, beverages and food.

Boat storage is a part of a fenced and equipped land intended for rendering the services of dry storage of vessels, as well as the services of transporting a vessel, launching it into the water or lifting it from the water. The category of boat storage does not render the services of tourist stays and preparation of vessels for navigation.

Water surface area comprises the sea area of a nautical port with piers (not including the land part).

Sea mooring is an area in the sea where a vessel can be placed.

Shoreline equipped for mooring of vessels is a part of a shore adapted for mooring of vessels (piers with moorings).

Space for land storage is an area adapted for the storage of vessels.

Land area is a part of land where a vessel can be stored.

Stays in nautical ports are divided to permanent and transit ones, depending on whether there has been a contract signed in advance for the sea mooring or land area. In case it has been signed, it is considered a permanent stay, if not, it is considered a transit (temporary, one-day) stay.

Motor yacht is a vessel equipped with an engine intended for entertainment, sport or recreation and having, according to the common maritime usage, a cabin with at least two beds, a toilet and a cooking facility.

Sailboat is a vessel intended for entertainment, sport or recreation whose main power is wind. It is equipped with a cabin with at least two beds, a toilet and a cooking facility.

Other vessels are boats (made of wood, plastic, rubber and the like) 3 or more meters long or less than 3 meters long if they are equipped with an engine. Included are also motorboats if they do not meet the requirements for yachts.

Occupancy of sea mooring capacity is expressed as the ratio of occupied and available sea moorings, taking into account calendar days in the month. The data is expressed as a percentage.

Occupancy of land berth capacity is expressed as the ratio of occupied and available land berths, taking into account calendar days in the month. The data is expressed as a percentage.

Occupancy of sea mooring capacity (vessel days) on a permanent contract is expressed as the ratio of occupied sea moorings on a permanent contract and available sea moorings. The data is expressed as a percentage.

Occupancy of land berth capacity (vessel days) on a permanent contract is expressed as the ratio of occupied land berths on a permanent contract and available land berths. The data is expressed as a percentage.

Income includes only the income (excluding VAT) generated by nautical ports and other facilities for rendering services of mooring and storage of vessels (by renting of moorings and providing other services, such as maintenance services, renting of vessels, selling goods and hospitality services).

Abbreviations

m	metre
m ²	square metre
mil.	million
NN	Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia
VAT	value added tax
'000	thousand

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