

# Analyzing Global North vs. Global South: Does GDP Usually Predetermine a Countries Ability to Commercialize Fishing?

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## INTRODUCTION/ BACKGROUND

- Fisheries are a large issue in environmental sustainability.
- The biggest concern is that fish populations won't be able to recover due to overfishing.
- There are different agreements that limit number of catches per country—Notably UN agreement.
- There is still a lot of illegal catching.
- It is a classic Tragedy of the Commons.
- Those with the means and infrastructure are the most successful and end up capitalizing the most.
- These commercialized fishing countries are usually part of the Global North.

## Terms

- EEZ- Can extend to 200 Nautical Miles from shore. A country has the right to use and explore that area for personal economic purposes.
- Global North- countries who are the most industrialized and richest.
- Global South- countries who are newly industrialized or are in the process of industrializing.
- Tragedy of the Commons- happens when there is a shared resource. It's in everyone's self interest to go against the common interest. Causing the good to deplete or spoil.

## QUESTION TO PONDER

- Do Global North Countries have an advantage over Global South Countries when it comes to capture statistics?

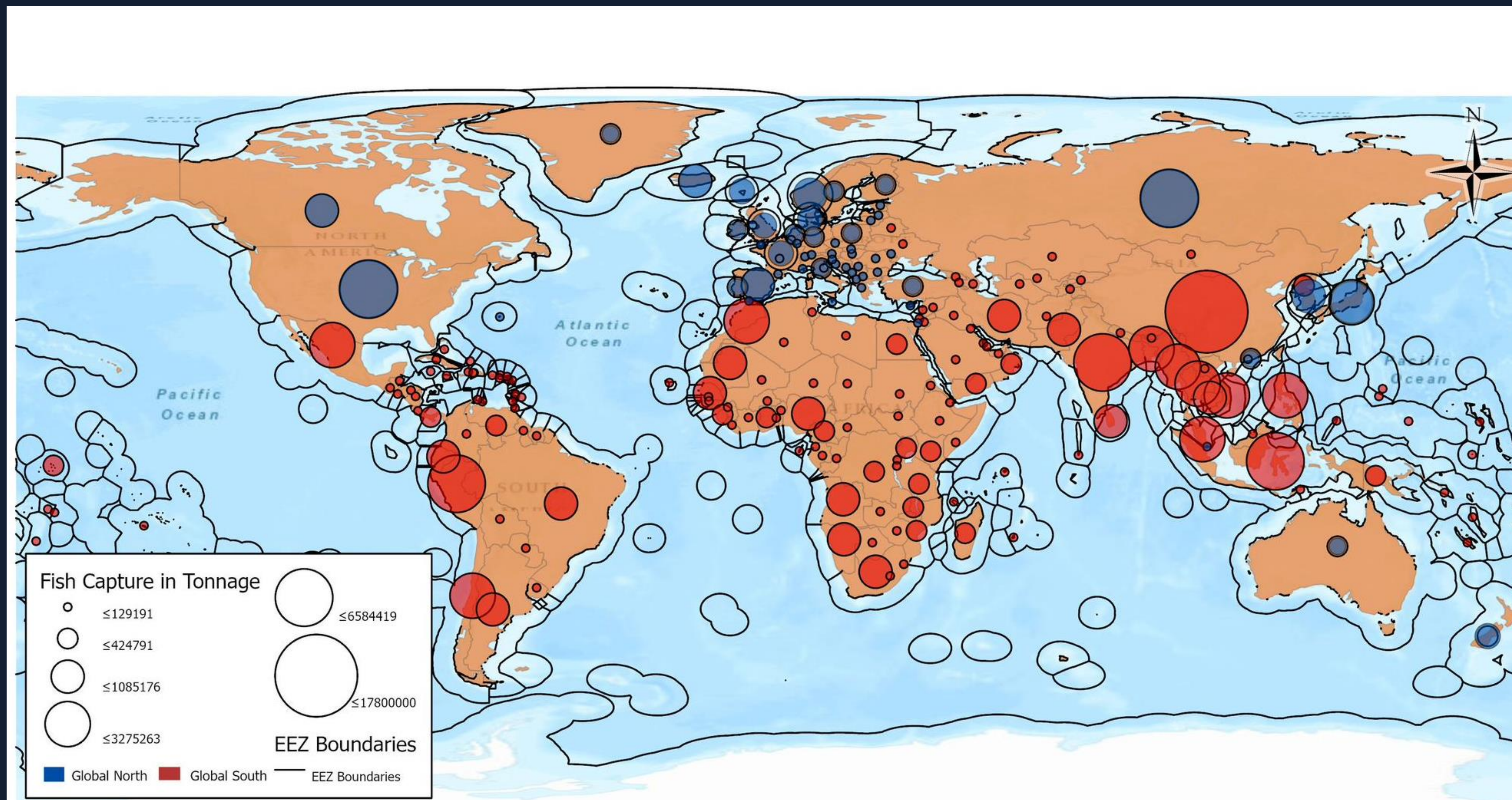


Figure 1: Fish Capture in Tonnage Separated by Global North (Blue) and Global South (Red) Countries

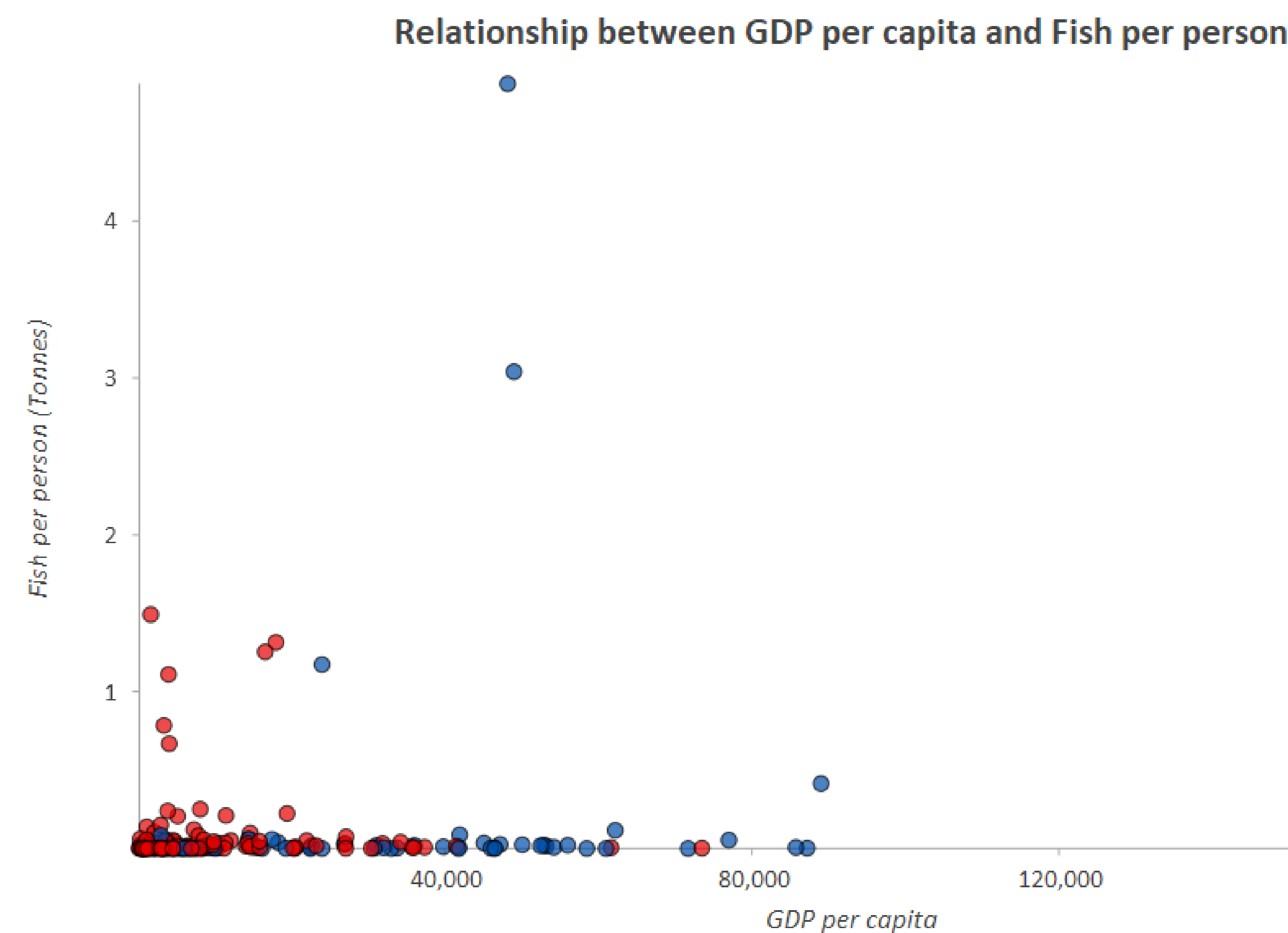


Figure 2: Relationship Between GDP Per Capita and Fish Per Person in Tonnage- Global North Countries (Blue) and Global South Countries (Red)

## Methods

- Colorize countries for Global North and Global South to compare the two- blue for global north and red for Global South.
- Graduated symbology to compare fish catch size between all the countries.
- Scatter plot to compare GDP with fish per capita to see if countries with higher GDP actually do catch more fish.

## CONCLUSION/FINDINGS

- When dividing the fish catch size of tonnage by the population size of each country, we get to see just how much fish each person would be able to consume. When comparing that to GDP and coloring of Global North vs. Global South we would be able to see if first of all the definition of each region lines up with the country's classification dependent on their GDP as well as if wealth actually would present more opportunity to increase fish catch size. The findings are that no, there is no way to confidently confirm that Global North countries are better off and able to commercialize their fishing than global south

## References

- Wikipedia
- Flanders Marine Institute
- World Bank
- NOAA