

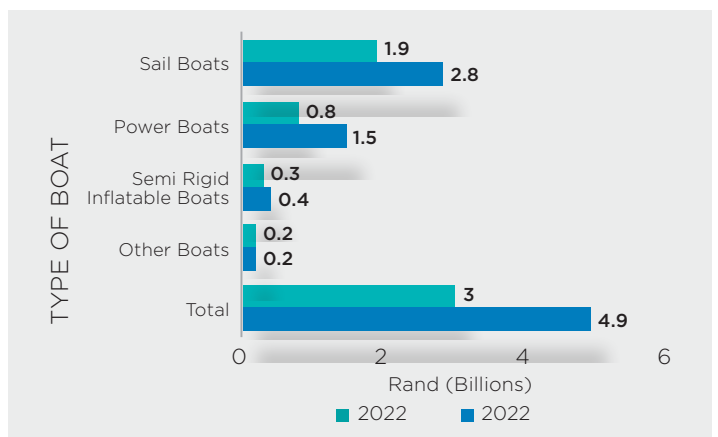
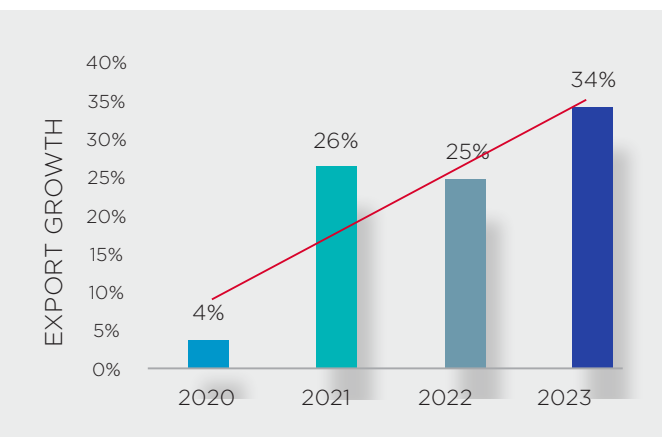


- **Strong global catamaran producer:** South Africa ranks 2nd globally (after France) in catamaran production - one of the commonly manufactured vessel types.
- **Exceptional Growth Trajectory Outpacing Peers:** South Africa's boatbuilding industry has grown at an average annual rate of 22.3% between 2018 and 2023, outperforming its competitors, such as France (2.7%), Italy (7.7%).
- **Premier National Marine Hub:** Cape Town anchors South Africa's catamaran industry, accounting for 70% of the nation's marine manufacturing capacity and driving export-ready

# WESTERN CAPE BOATBUILDING INVESTOR OPPORTUNITY FACTSHEET

## OUR UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- 1 Geographical advantage:** Cape Town's strategic location on the South-South Trade Corridor linking Asia, Africa, and the Americas enables fast fleet access and unlocks global marine market opportunities.
- 2 Skilled workforce:** Western Cape hosts South Africa's only boatbuilding school and superyacht training, offering internationally accredited marine service programmes.
- 3 Growing demand:** South Africa is ranked 18th in global recreational boat exports and specialises in catamarans, of which 95% are exported, with production at capacity, & builders booked three years ahead.
- 4 Eco-friendly:** Cape Town boatbuilders use green materials and energy, tapping into the growing global demand for eco-friendly vessels.



Sources: TMS, LPS, PSA Singapore, Antarakoh, Damen, Port of Rotterdam, Drydocks World, DP World

## WHY INVEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE?

- Growth prospects:** With over 90% of global trade moving by sea, South Africa's boatbuilding industry is valued at more than R5.4 billion in 2024 and has strong export-driven growth potential.
- Superyacht-hub upswing:** V&A Waterfront is ploughing >R1 billion into new berths and a Cape-to-Indian-Ocean superyacht route launching in 2025, opening a steady pipeline of high-margin refit, provisioning and crew-service work for local yards.
- Innovation driven:** Cape Town boatbuilding sector uses advanced technology and R&D, with BlueCape boosting skills, innovation and global competitiveness.
- Freeport Saldanha IDZ:** Locating a boatbuilding yard inside Freeport Saldanha IDZ, brings duty- and VAT-free component imports, fast-track customs and an "Ease-of-Doing-Business" model reducing capex payback times and boosting margins.
- Incentives:** Oceans Economy Programme and the Boatbuilding and Shipbuilding Initiative provide financial incentives and broader support to drive sector growth, while the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition offers 20–45% investment grants through the Enterprise Investment Programme (EIP).
- Economic scale:** Western Cape's boatbuilding industry grew by 96%, from R2.3 billion in 2020 to R4.6 billion in 2024, highlighting a sector that is doubling in value within four years - clear evidence of resilient demand, expanding export pipelines and rising investor confidence.

## WHERE TO INVEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE

- All Clusters in the Western Cape 2024:** Cape Town, St Helena Bay, Saldanha Bay, Swellendam, George, Knysna, Kommetjie & Langebaan.
- Investment opportunities:** Boatbuilding, marine innovation, skills development, and infrastructure.
- Fast fleet access global marine market opportunities:** Western Cape boatbuilding industry is on a clear trajectory for significant expansion, offering diverse and lucrative entry points for investors seeking to capitalise on a globally competitive and rapidly growing marine sector.
- Anchor Your Investment in a Global Leader:** Second-largest global share in catamaran production, R1 billion investment into new berths and a Cape-to-Indian-Ocean superyacht route, and future infrastructure investments set to unlock further growth levers.
- Harbour Private-Public Partnership pipeline:** Hermanus, Hout Bay & Saldanha small-harbour concessions unlock mixed-use waterfront, marine workshops, real-estate upside.
- A Holistic Ecosystem for Growth:** Invest in companies at the forefront of marine technology and R&D, leveraging Cape Town's innovation-driven ecosystem, with organisations like BlueCape fostering skills and global competitiveness.

## KEY INDUSTRY OPERATORS IN THE WESTERN CAPE



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