



Banana Certification Data Report 2020

Rainforest Alliance program

August 2021

Introduction

The main goal of this report is to present the scope and scale of the Rainforest Alliance banana certification program in 2020 – calendar year. The report is created to inform our stakeholders and is part of our commitment to transparency.

The report focuses on the key indicators related to:

- **Program reach:** estimated Rainforest Alliance Certified banana production and multi-certification of this production.
- **Market uptake:** sales of Rainforest Alliance Certified bananas;

This report is part of the Rainforest Alliance monitoring and evaluation system. Most of the data in this report is collected via our online certification and traceability systems.

We do our best to ensure that all the information in this report is accurate and reliable. As much of the data is collected by third parties, we indicated where data is estimated.

Summary

In 2020, the banana sector had to deal with the shocks of COVID-19, the spread of TR4 disease to Latin America and several severe climate disasters in Guatemala and Honduras.

Despite those challenges, the Rainforest Alliance banana program continued to see an increase in the estimated certified volume, getting close to 9,5 million MT, produced by a steady number of over 2000 farms, on near to 190,000 hectares.

The global producer sales increased as well, to 2,7 million MT sold (+22%) in 2020.

Geographical program reach



Latin America

Belize
Brazil
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Guatemala
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Peru
Suriname

Africa

Cameroon
Côte d'Ivoire
Ghana
Tanzania

Asia

Philippines
Sri Lanka

In 2020, the number of countries with Rainforest Alliance Certified banana producers increased to 19.

Program reach



189,227

Area (hectare)

Relative growth
2019-2020:
+2%



2,123

Number of farmers

Relative growth
2019-2020:
-3%



9,462,755

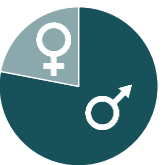
Estimated production (MT)

Relative growth
2019-2020:
+2%



184,954

Number of workers
(seasonal and permanent)



Relative growth
2019-2020:
+2%

Program reach



In 2020, estimated production area increased by 2% vs. 2019. We saw an increase in all regions, but predominantly in Latin America, mainly due to gains in Guatemala (+15%) and Ecuador (+12%).

Area (hectare)



In 2020, the estimated certified volume increased by 2% compared to 2019, with the largest absolute increases in Latin America. The top 3 producing countries are Colombia, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.

Estimated production (MT)



In 2020, the number of farmers decreased by 3% vs. 2019, primarily due to a decrease in Latin America. In Africa, the number of farmers almost doubled, mainly due to an increase in Tanzania. Asia also saw a decrease in the number.

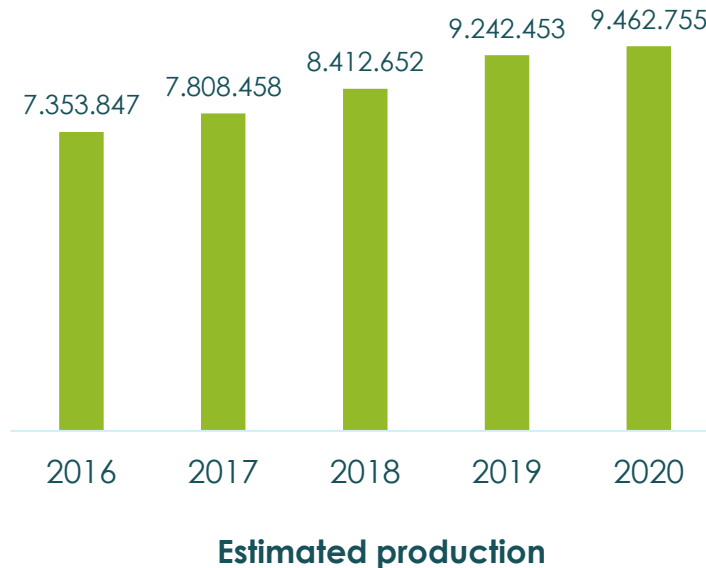
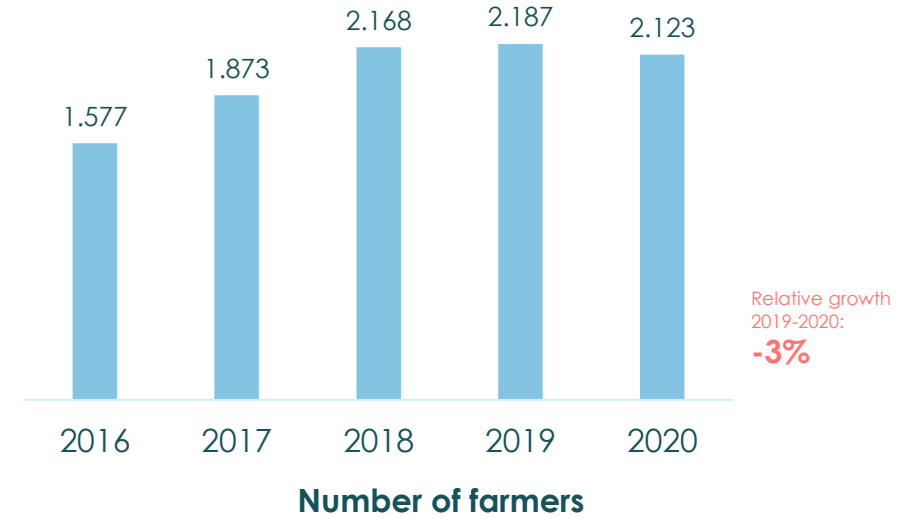
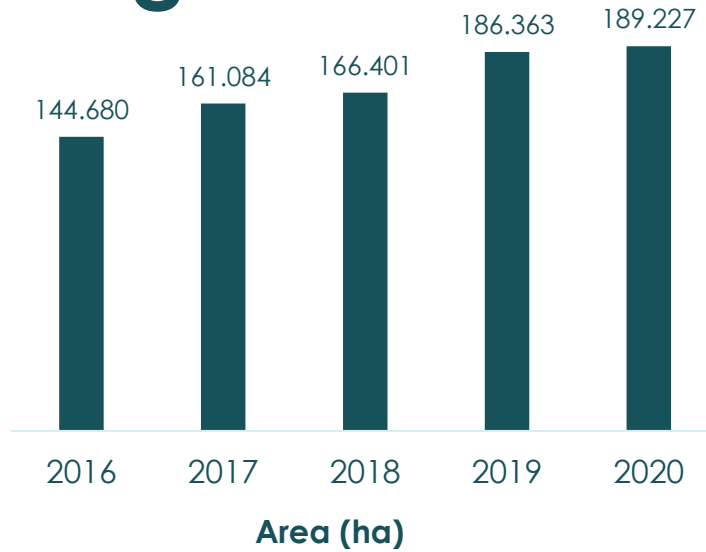
Number of farmers



In 2020, the number of workers increased by 2% compared to 2019. This growth is reflected in Latin America and Asia, while we see a decrease in the number of workers in Africa (-10%), mainly due to nearly a halving of workers in Cameroon (-46%).

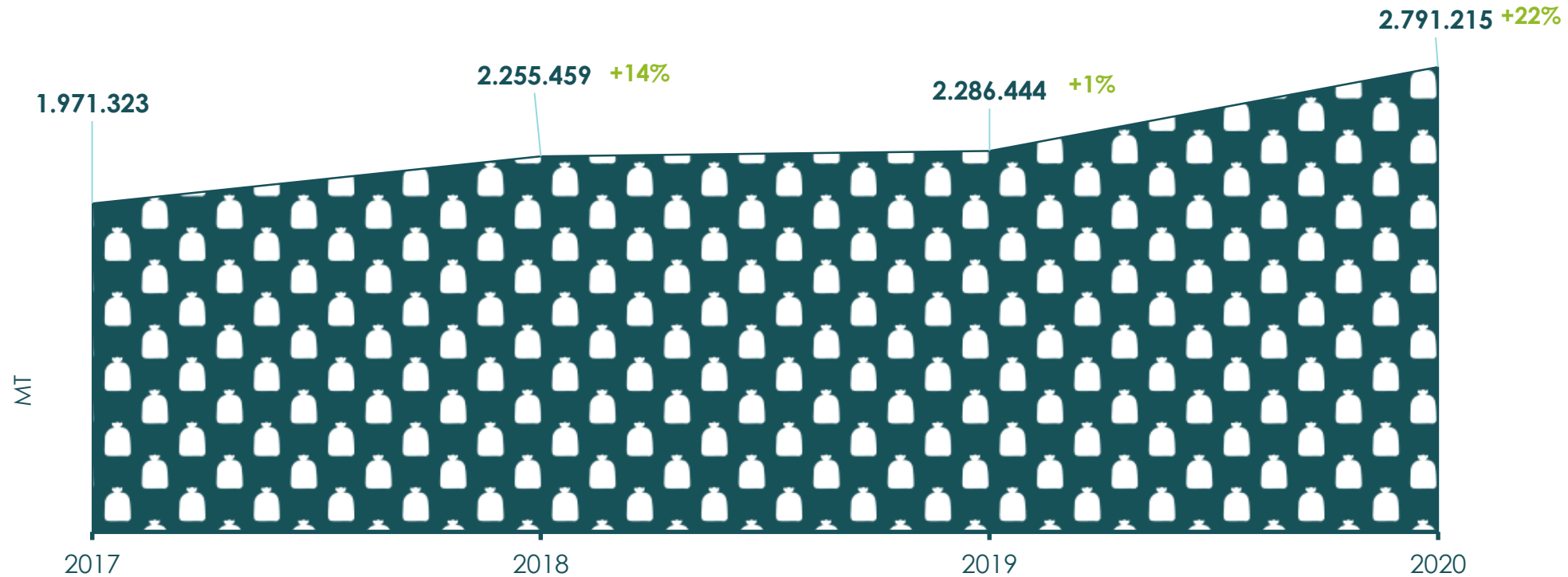
Number of workers
(seasonal and permanent)

Program reach



Global sales

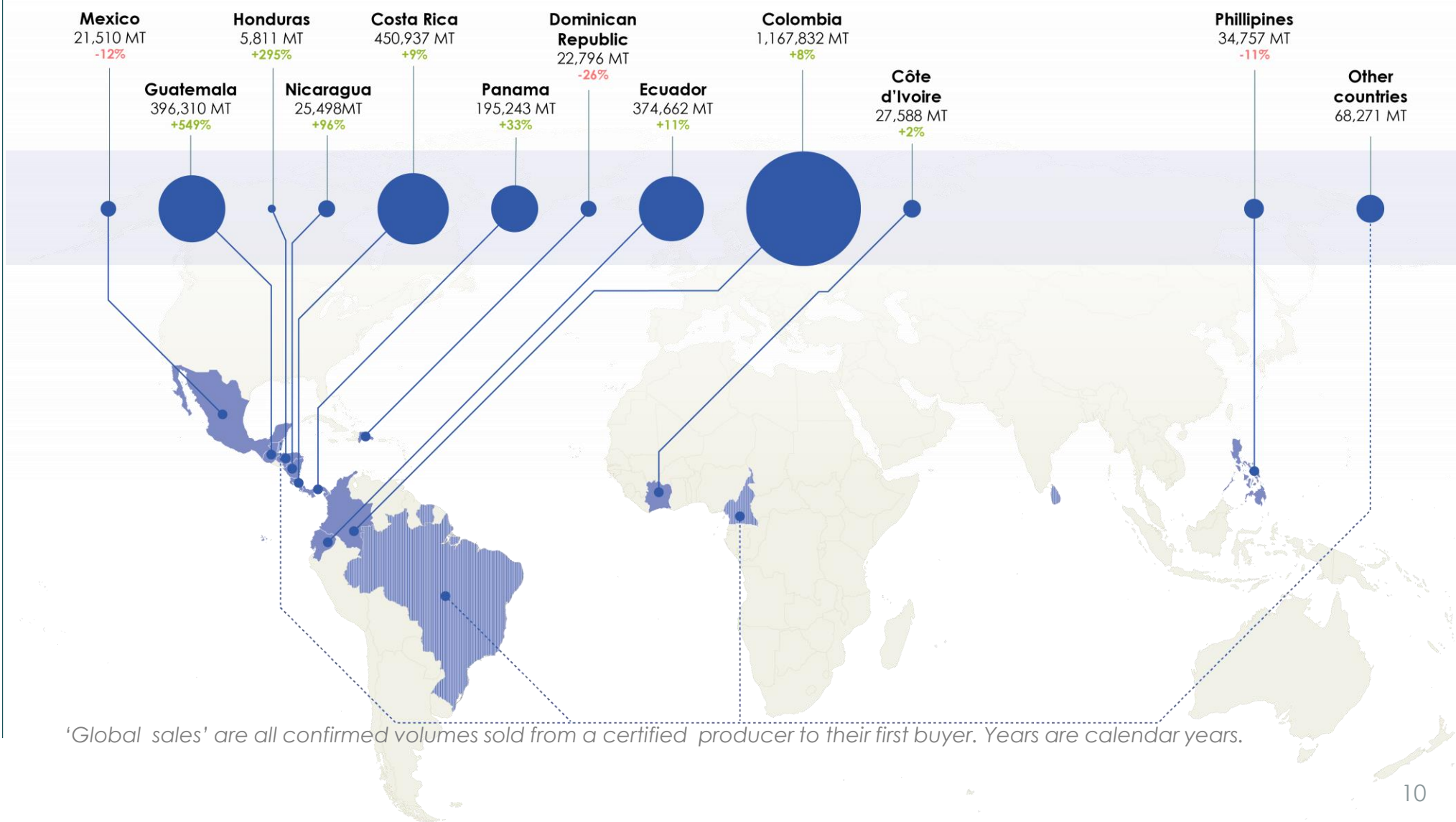
Global banana sales



In 2020, The global Rainforest Alliance banana sales saw an increase by 22% to 2,791,215 MT.

'Global sales' are all confirmed volumes sold from a certified producer to their first buyer. Years are calendar years.

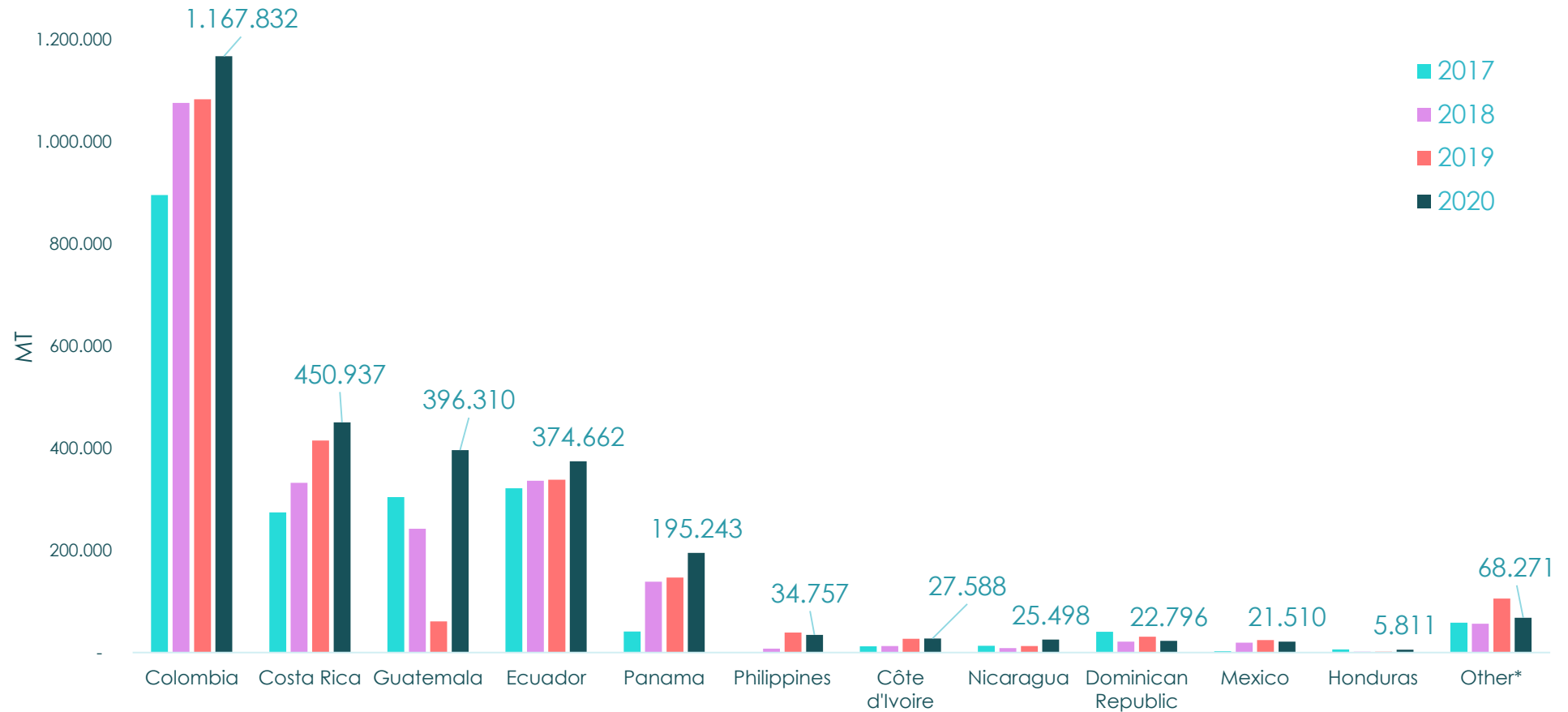
Global sales per origin



The main banana producing countries are in Latin America. The sales per origin follow the top producing countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Guatemala.

'Global sales' are all confirmed volumes sold from a certified producer to their first buyer. Years are calendar years.

Global sales per origin



*Other countries are Belize, Brazil, and Cameroon

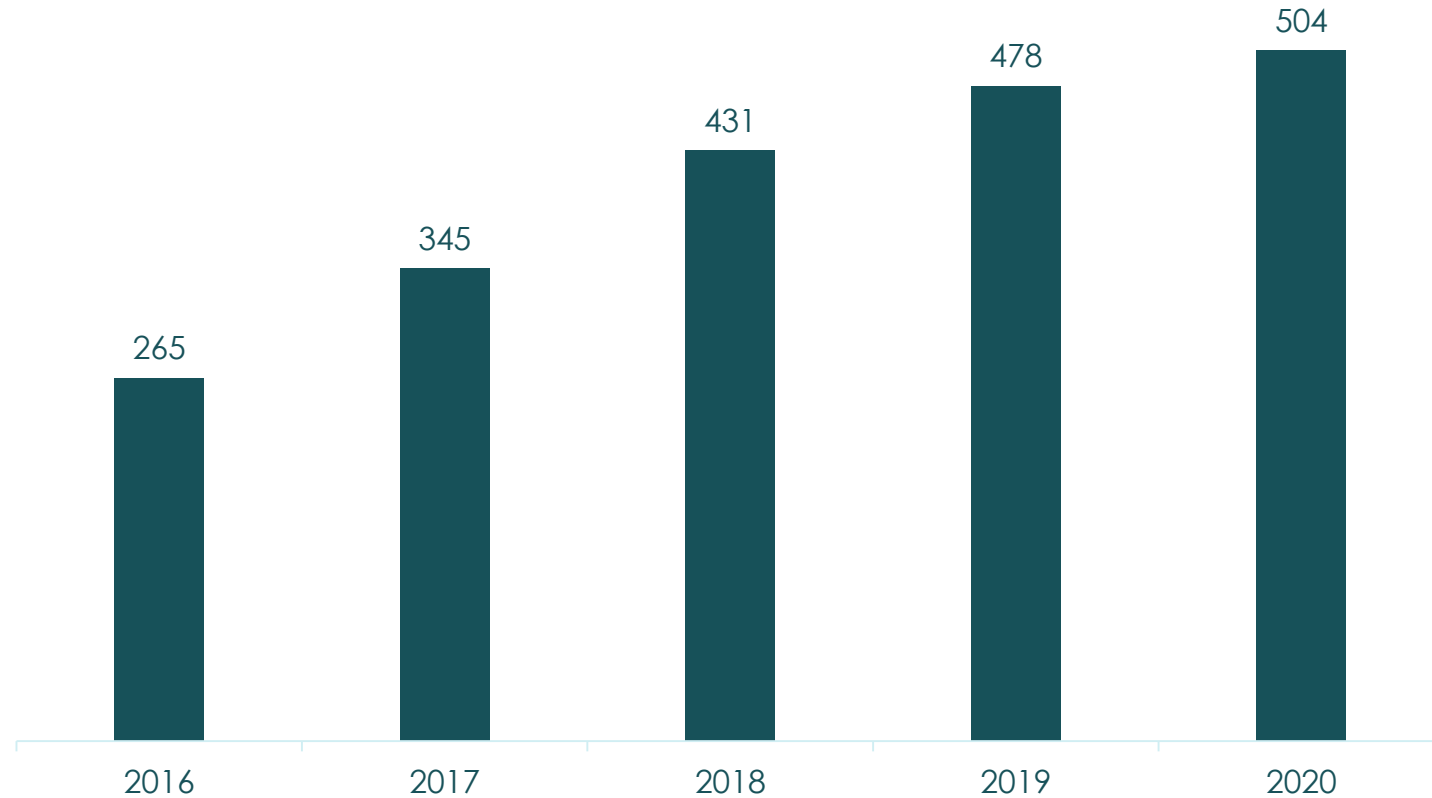
'Global sales' are all confirmed volumes sold from a certified producer to their first buyer. Years are calendar years.

Registered supply chain actors

In 2020, the number of supply chain actors in the banana program increased in all regions. The total number went up with 26 (+5%).

In Europe the number of buyers increased by 4%; in Latin America by 6% and in Asia by 25%. While in North America we saw a decrease of 5%, the United States still accounts for the largest number of registered supply chain actors globally (71).

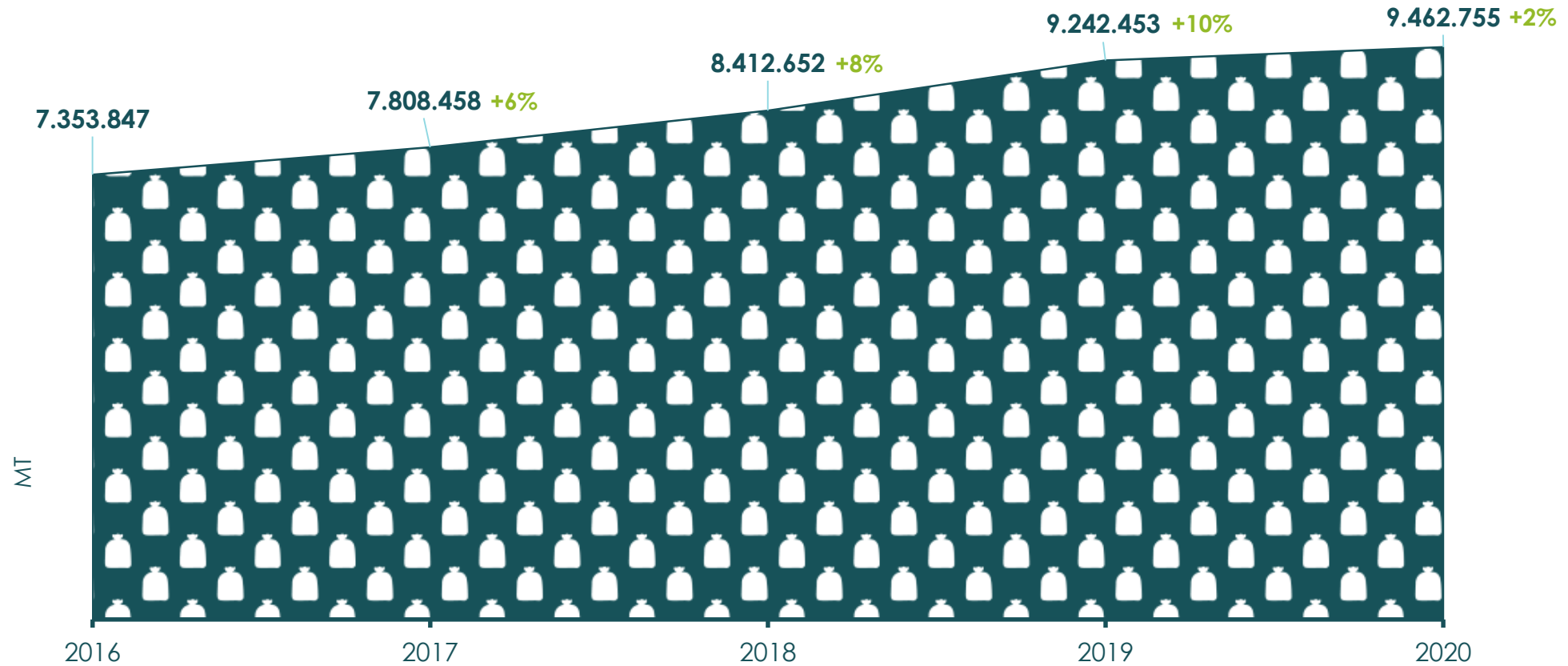
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'Supply Chain Actors' include exporters, importers, traders, and retailers.

Estimated Production

Global estimated banana production

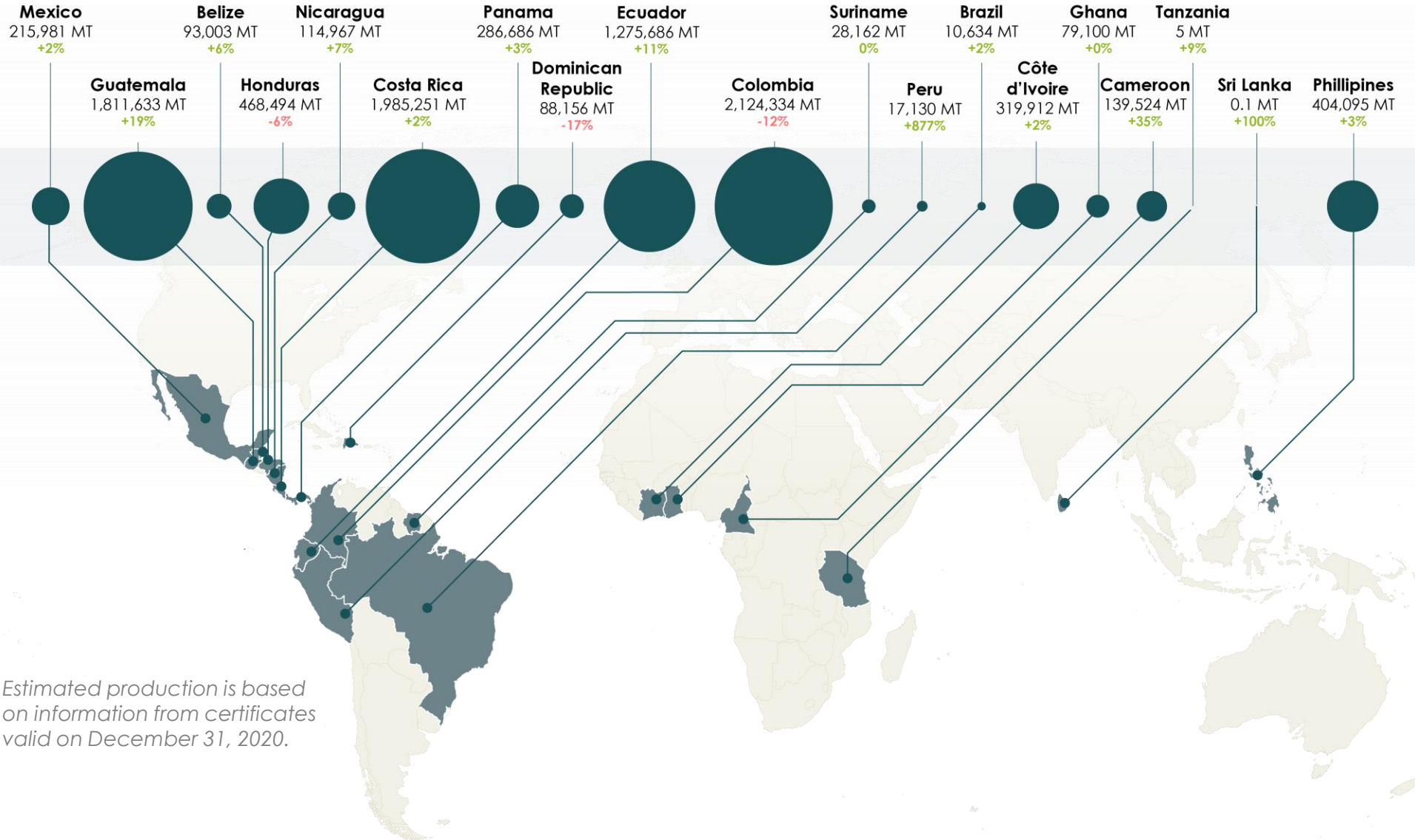


The Rainforest Alliance banana program continued to see an increase in the estimated certified volume, getting close to 9,5 million MT.

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Estimated production is based on information from certificates valid on December 31, 2020.

Estimated production per origin

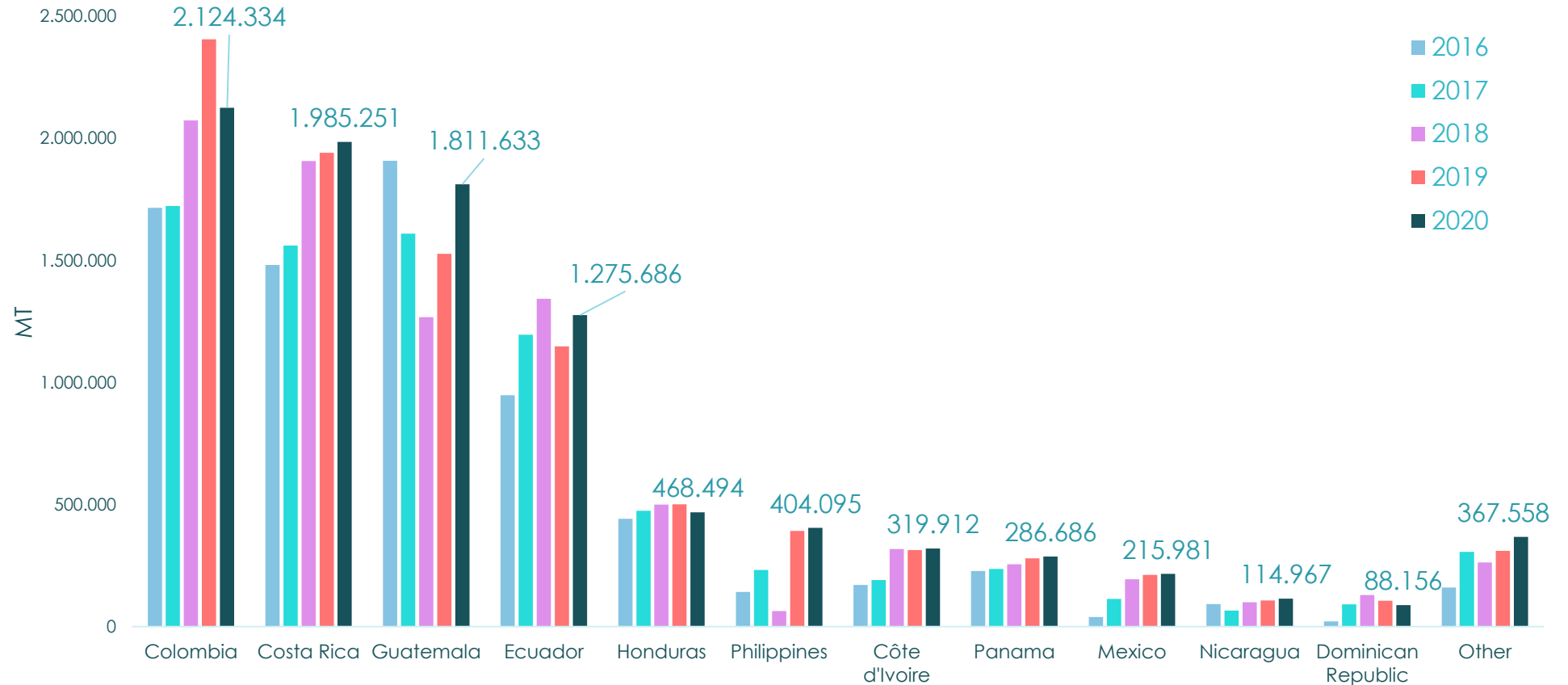


Despite COVID-19, the spread of TR4 disease to Latin America, and several severe climate disasters in Guatemala and Honduras we saw a steady increase across all regions.

While Latin America accounts for the largest absolute increases, Africa saw the largest relative growth (+8%), mainly due to Cameroon (+35%).

Estimated production is based on information from certificates valid on December 31, 2020.

Estimated production per origin

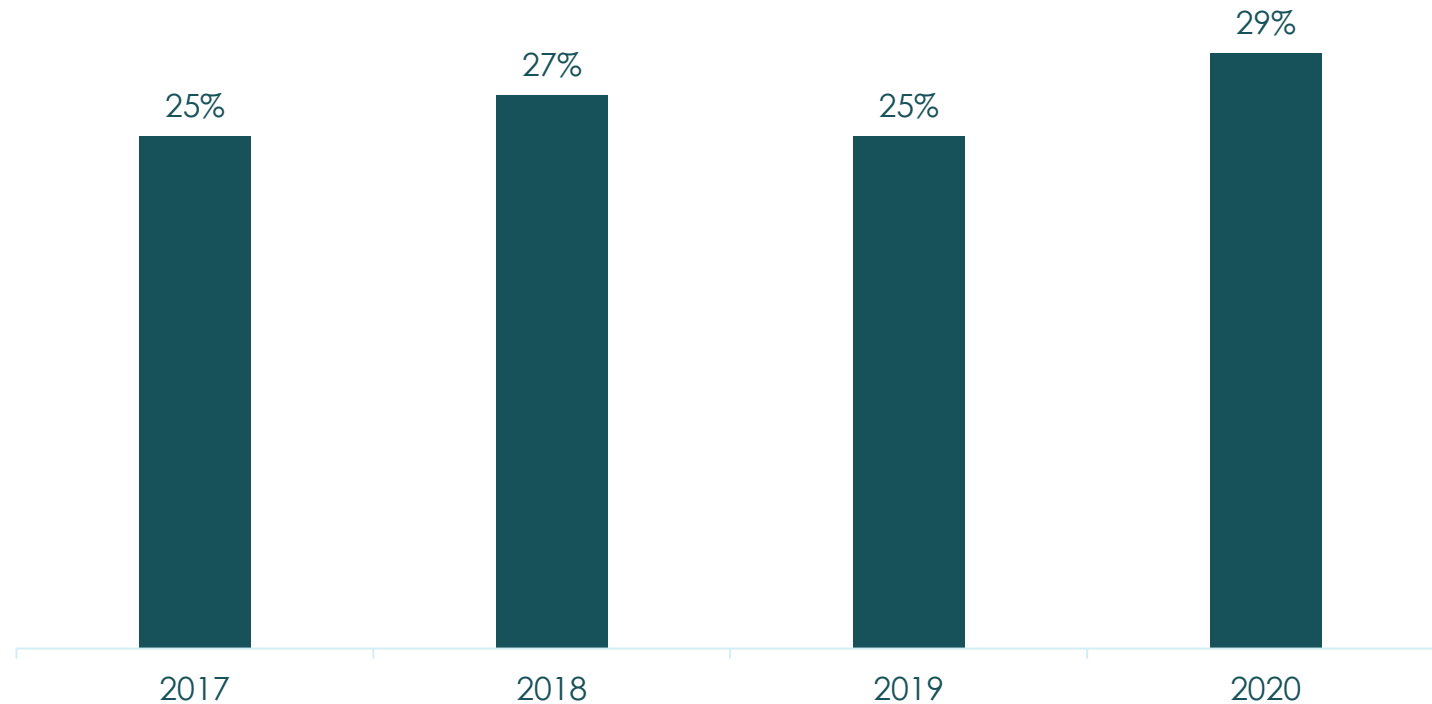


The top 3 producing countries are Colombia, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.

The relatively strong increase in Guatemala is mainly due to seasonal changes which favored growth and productivity.

Supply and Demand ratio

Supply – Demand ratio



Producers sold on average 29% of their estimated certified banana volume as Rainforest Alliance Certified.

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% of estimated production sold as Rainforest Alliance Certified

This is based on producer sales and estimated production. It indicates an estimation, not an absolute number.

Multi-certification

Multi-certification



% Rainforest Alliance producer groups and individual farms that were certified for at least one other standard

6% Organic

10% Fairtrade

79% Global GAP

8% Other

Double-certification Rainforest Alliance and Global GAP is the predominant combination with 79%.

Certification data

Estimated production (MT)

Country	2018	2019	2020
Global	8,412,652	9,242,453	9,462,755
Colombia	2,072,529	2,405,128	2,124,334
Costa Rica	1,906,831	1,941,092	1,985,251
Côte d'Ivoire	318,082	313,961	319,912
Dominican Republic	129,513	105,854	88,156
Ecuador	1,342,580	1,148,185	1,275,686
Guatemala	1,267,606	1,526,768	1,526,768
Honduras	499,451	500,633	468,494
Mexico	194,298	211,980	215,981
Nicaragua	99,707	107,219	114,967
Panama	255,416	279,196	286,686
Philippines	63,670	391,962	404,095
Other*	262,969	310,475	350,428

*Other countries are Belize, Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana, Peru, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Suriname

Global sales (MT)

Country	2018	2019	2020
Global	2,255,459	2,286,444	2,791,215
Colombia	1,076,162	1,083,251	1,167,832
Costa Rica	332,400	415,088	450,937
Côte d'Ivoire	12,819	26,938	27,588
Dominican Republic	21,321	30,985	22,796
Ecuador	336,499	338,281	374,662
Guatemala	242,414	61,032	396,310
Honduras	1,735	1,471	5,811
Mexico	19,528	24,332	21,510
Nicaragua	8,586	12,990	25,498
Panama	138,855	146,991	195,243
Philippines	7,834	39,189	34,757
Other*	56,486	105,897	68,271

*Other countries are Belize, Brazil, and Cameroon

Number of farmers

	2018	2019	2020
Global	2,168	2,187	2,123
Africa	16	21	41
Asia-Pacific	41	51	48
Latin America	2,111	2,115	2,034

Number of workers (permanent & seasonal)

	2018	2019	2020
Global	159,957	181,975	184,954
Africa	18,158	19,155	17,216
Asia-Pacific	3,955	30,884	31,398
Latin America	137,844	131,936	136,340

Area (Hectare)

	2018	2019	2020
Global	166,401	186,343	189,227
Africa	9,827	11,189	11,378
Asia-Pacific	1,636	12,539	12,748
Latin America	154,939	162,635	165,101