



ATLANTIC COD (*GADUS MORHUA*)



Source : [Information system on commercial designations](#)

BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

- Species description ([Read more](#))

The Atlantic cod belongs to the family of *Gadidae*.

- Geographical distribution and habitat ([Read more](#))

In the western Atlantic Ocean, cod has a distribution from north of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and around both coasts of Greenland and the Labrador Sea; in the eastern Atlantic, it is found from the Bay of Biscay north to the Arctic Ocean, including the Baltic Sea, the North Sea, Sea of the Hebrides, areas around Iceland and the Barents Sea.

RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

- Stocks and resource status/conservation measures ([Read more](#))

Minimum conservation sizes are established : 30 cm of total length in the fishing area Skagerrak and Kattegat , 35 cm of total length in the Bay of Biscay area, and 38 cm in the Baltic sea.

- Production methods and fishing gears ([Read more](#))

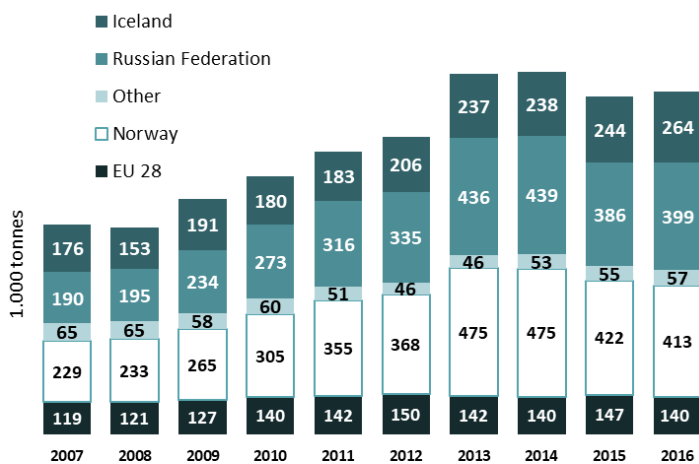
The main fishing gears used are bottom trawls, longline, gillnets and hand line. Cod is also produced in aquaculture in net-cages.



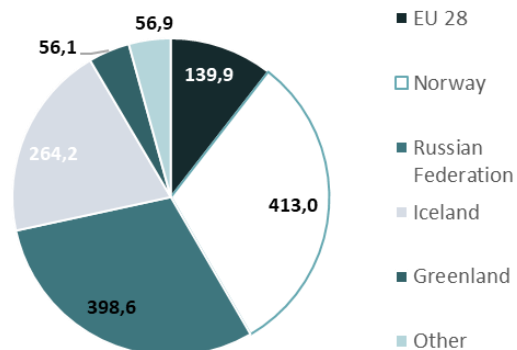
CATCHES

- The share of Atlantic cod in the world catches is **1,1%** (FAO, 2016).
- Catches have been increasing for the last ten years at global level (+66,7%), in EU (+23%), Russia (+109), Iceland (+50%) and Norway (+80%)

Evolution of world catches



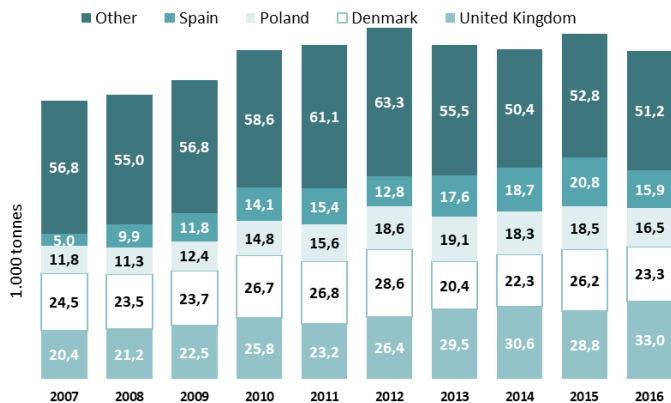
Catches (2016, 1.000 tonnes)



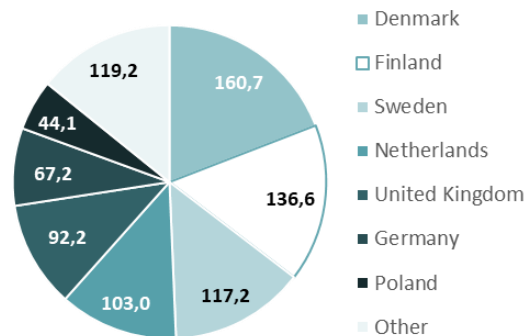
Source: FAO

Evolution of EU catches

- The EU provides **10,5%** of the global Atlantic Cod catches in 2016 (vs. 14,9% in 2007).



Catches (2016, 1.000 tonnes)

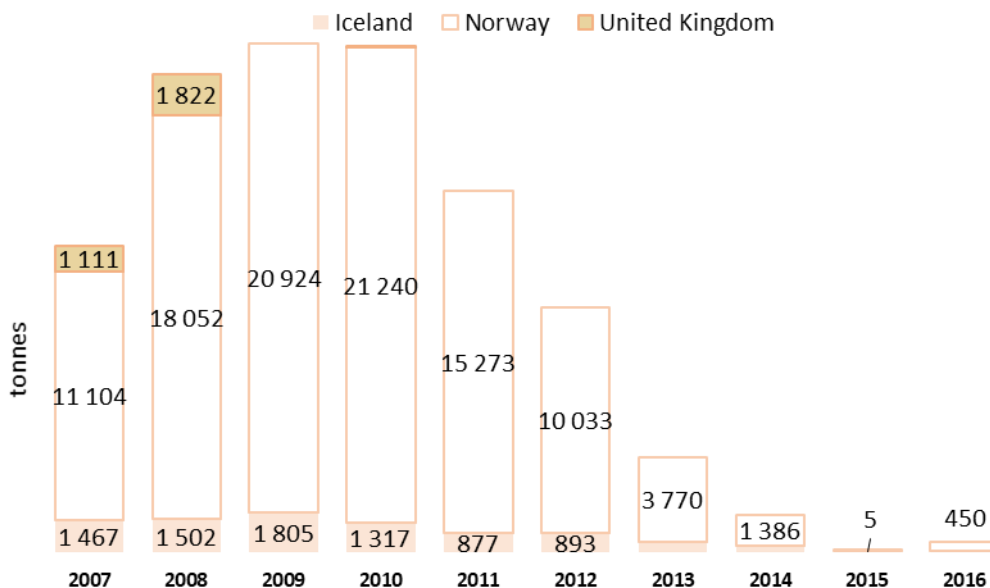


Source: FAO



AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

- UE aquaculture of Atlantic cod has almost stopped since 2009 (-98%). In 2010, Norway lead the world production. In 2017, Norway produced 492 tonnes, including 375 tonnes from wild catches and 117 tonnes from raised juveniles.



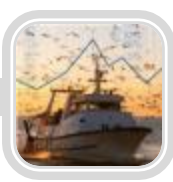
Drop in Finnish farmed cod production :

Cod production, which peaked at 21.240 tonnes in 2010, dropped steadily to 5 tonnes in 2015, before slightly rebounding to 492 tonnes in 2017. The initial optimism for cod farming was based on the trust that the major production challenges were solved and that low quotas and corresponding high prices for wild cod would prevail. But none of these assumptions proved to be true. Because of these issues, the cod farming industry did not have the strength to resist when the financial crises appeared in 2008 together with lower cod prices due to higher quotas for wild cod (source: NOFIMA).



PROCESSING (source: EUROSTAT/PRODCOM)

- Atlantic cod is the main groundfish used by EU processing industry.
- Atlantic cod is mostly used by the processed industry to product fish fillets in batter and fish fingers, dried and salted cod and prepared meals, fresh or frozen.
- Dry and salted cod : the main processing activity is concentrated in Norway almost exclusively for export purposes to Portugal market (72% of exports), Spain (18%) and Greece (2%).



TRADE (source COMEXT)

- Combined nomenclature ([Read more](#))

EU trade of Atlantic cod products (tonnes – product weight - 2017)

CN code	Product	EU imports		EU exports	
		Intra-EU	Extra-EU	Intra-EU	Extra-EU
03 02 51 10	Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i> , excluding livers and roes, fresh or chilled	65.537	69.088	83.794	387
03 03 63 10	Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i> , excluding livers and roes, frozen	59.023	145.134	56.482	45.532
03 04 44 10*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>) and fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , fillets, fresh or chilled	42.736	25.752	39.198	619
03 04 53 00*	Other fish meat (whether or not minced) of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrouridae, Melanonidae, Merlucciidae, Moridae and Muraenolepididae, fresh or chilled	5.159	281	1.282	350
03 04 71 90	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i>), fillets, frozen	73.712	153.039	100.508	3.545
03 04 95 10*	Melanonidae, Merlucciidae, Moridae and Muraenolepididae, other than Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), surimi, frozen	368	14.261	548	40
03 04 95 25*	Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i> , other meat (whether or not minced), frozen	13.804	8.048	13.310	1.693
03 05 32 19*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i>) and fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , fillets, dried, salted or in brine, but not smoked	11.317	13.547	11.378	164
03 05 51 10*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>), other than edible fish offal, dried, unsalted	3.647	2.899	3.310	715
03 05 51 90*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>), other than edible fish offal, dried, salted	35.375	28.866	30.878	3.732
03 05 62 00*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>), other than edible fish offal, salted but not dried or smoked and in brine	47.817	47.463	46.030	167
16 04 19 92*	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>), whole or in pieces, but not minced, prepared or preserved	14.702	4	11.940	2.680

*these categories may include other types of fish

Source: COMEXT

- **Main extra-EU suppliers are:**

- for fresh Atlantic cod : Norway (61.197 tonnes in 2017)
- for frozen Atlantic cod : Norway (50.236 tonnes in 2017) and Russia (67.349 tonnes)
- for frozen filet of Atlantic cod : Iceland (36.069 tonnes) and Russia (38.328 tonnes)

- **Main extra-EU destinations are:**

Exports to non-EU countries account for 13% of total EU exports. 76 % of exports concern frozen cod. The main destination in 2017 was China (37.188 tonnes).



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

First-sale (fresh cod)

First-sale prices are presented at EU level and for the main EU producers (Denmark, and Sweden).

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
EU	2,25	2,33	2,05	2,26	2,26	2,27	2,48	2,86	EUMOFA
Denmark	2,25	2,42	2,30	2,48	2,45	2,49	2,75	3,18	EUMOFA
Sweden	n.a.	1,78	1,50	1,61	1,60	1,49	1,53	1,66	EUMOFA

Wholesale Wholesale prices correspond to Mercamadrid as it is a major wholesale market in the EU.

Most frequent price	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Cod fillet, fresh	n.a.	9,41	9,11	9,07	10,2	9,72	9,84	9,27	Mercamadrid
Cod, frozen	n.a.	5,11	5,11	5,11	5,11	5,38	5,5	5,5	Mercamadrid

Retail/consumption

Retail prices refer to the United Kingdom which is the major consumer country in the EU.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
United Kingdom	n.a.	n.a.	7,40	7,60	8,62	8,30	8,66	9,59	EUMOFA

Import (frozen cod fillet)

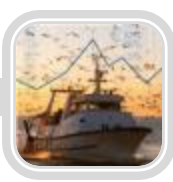
Import prices are presented for the Netherlands and United Kingdom, main cod importers in UE

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Netherlands	3,99	4,34	4,56	3,73	4,06	4,72	5,02	5,03	EUMOFA
United Kingdom	4,24	4,48	4,74	3,91	4,48	5,60	5,21	5,52	EUMOFA

Export (frozen cod fillet)

Export prices refer to Netherlands, Denmark and the Sweden (frozen herring) as they are the main cod exporters in the EU.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Denmark	4,37	4,64	4,56	4,67	4,55	5,30	5,11	5,47	EUMOFA
Netherlands	3,97	4,32	4,95	4,01	4,29	4,30	2,89	3,95	EUMOFA
Sweden	6,75	7,04	5,80	5,56	4,86	5,13	6,49	1,66	EUMOFA



MARKETING ASPECTS

- Commercial designations in all EU official languages ([Read more](#))
- Common marketing standards ([Read more](#))

CONSUMPTION

- Second most consumed species in the EU after tuna (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2018 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Apparent consumption per capita in 2016: **2,33 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2018 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Nutritional value (Cod, North East Atlantic, fresh fillet, values per 100 g – source : NUTRAQUA/AQUIMER)

Nutritional value	Cod
kilo calories (kcal)	78
Kilojoule (kJ)	333
Water (g)	79,7
Ashes (g)	1,1
Proteins (g)	17,9
Carbohydrates (g)	0,8
Lipids (g)	0,4
Cholesterol (mv)	41,5
Omega 6 (mg)	25
Omega 3 (mg)	188
EPA (mg)	52
DHA (mg)	124