



ATLANTIC HERRING (*CLUPEA HARENGUS*)



Source : [Website on commercial designations](#)

BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

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

The Atlantic Herring belongs to the family of *Clupeidae*.

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

The Atlantic Herring lives in the North-East Atlantic (from the Norwegian waters in the North to the Bay of Biscay in the South) and in the North-West Atlantic (from Greenland to South Carolina in the USA).

RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

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

Minimum conservation sizes are established : 18 cm of Total length in the fishing area Skagerrak and Kattegat and 20 cm in other fishing areas.

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

The main fishing gears used are gillnets and similar nets, pots and traps, seines and trawls.

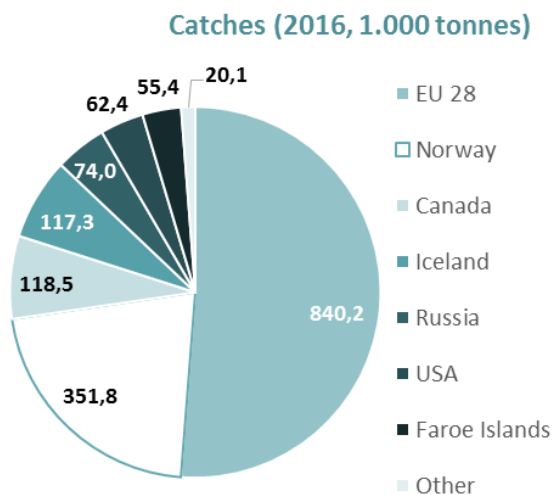
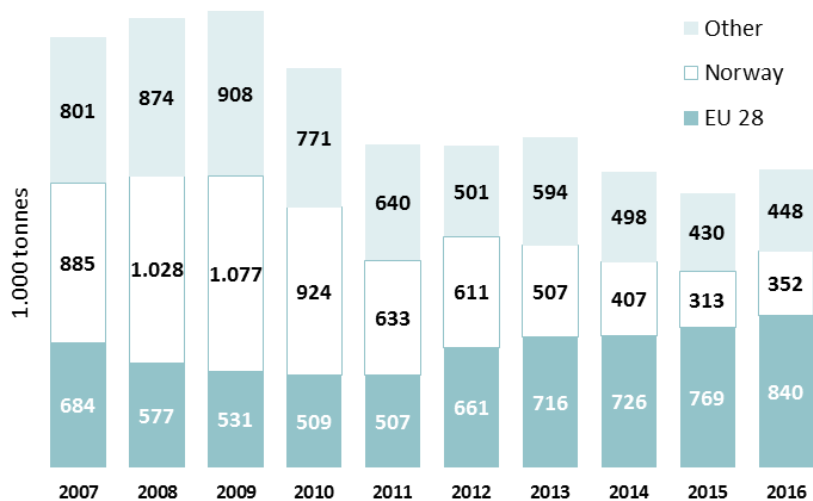


Atlantic herring

CATCHES

- The share of Atlantic herring in the global catches is **14,9%** (FAO, 2016).
- Catches have been decreasing for the last ten years at global level (-31%), but not at the EU level (+23%).

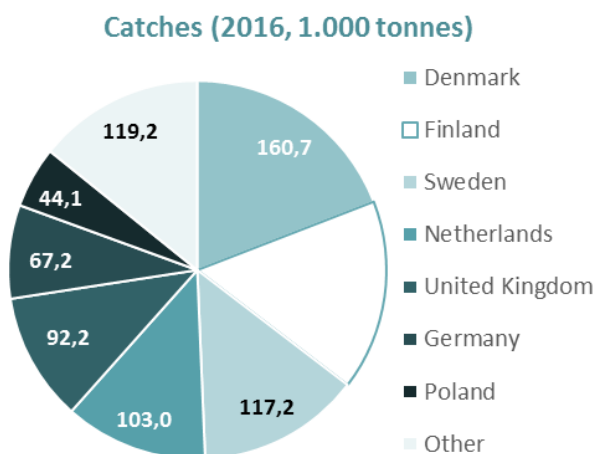
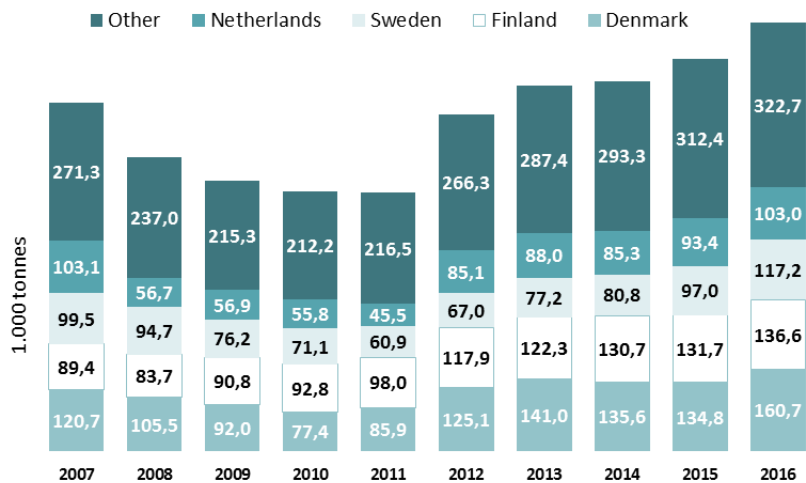
Evolution of world catches



Source: FAO

Evolution of EU catches

- The EU provides **51%** of the global Atlantic herring catches in 2016 (vs. 21% in 2009).



Source: EUROSTAT

Atlantic herring



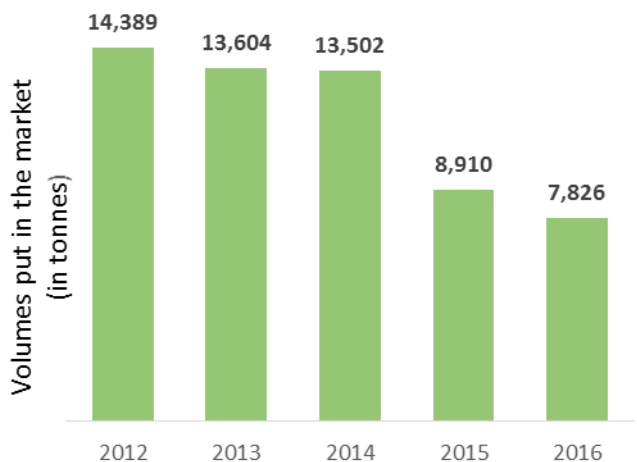
AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

- No aquaculture production has been developed on the Atlantic herring, as it would not be competitive.

PROCESSING (source: EUROSTAT/PRODCOM)

- A significant processing activity for the Atlantic herring exists in the EU.
- 2 [PRODCOM](#) codes directly refer to herring:
 - 10 20 24 55: smoked herrings,
 - 10 20 25 20: preserved or prepared herrings.

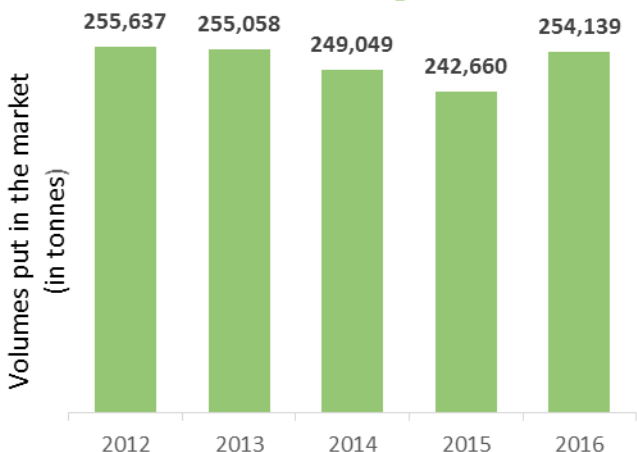
EU production of smoked herrings



- Smoked herrings**

The production of smoked herrings follows a downward trend. UK, France and Poland are the major producers.

EU production of prepared and preserved herrings



- Prepared or preserved herrings**

The production of prepared/preserved herrings has been steady around 250.000 tonnes in the last years. Poland (119.000 tonnes) and Germany (64.000 tonnes) provided 72% of EU production in 2016.

Atlantic herring



TRADE (source COMEXT)

- [Combined nomenclature](#)

EU trade of herring products in 2017 (tonnes – product weight)

CN code	Product	EU imports		EU exports	
		Intra-EU	Extra-EU	Intra-EU	Extra-EU
03 02 41 00	Herrings, fresh	119.483	32.656	133.786	7.336
03 03 51 00	Herrings, frozen	148.507	37.835	167.284	209.164
03 04 59 50	Flaps of herrings, fresh	8.782	234	7.170	96
03 04 86 00	Filletts of herrings, frozen	16.886	44.387	19.793	1.368
03 04 99 23	Meat of herrings, frozen	17.953	48.182	16.116	986
03 05 42 00	Herrings, smoked	5.635	287	1.831	128
03 05 61 00	Herrings, salted or in brine	5.683	415	5.592	646
16 04 12 10	Filletts of herrings, coated, frozen	5.867	1	3.649	50
16 04 12 91	Herrings, prepared or preserved, in airtight containers	62.728	352	60.091	5.540
16 04 12 99	Herrings, prepared or preserved, other	41.733	18.482	48.567	2.888

Source: COMEXT

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

- for fresh herrings: Norway (32.335 tonnes in 2017),
- for frozen herrings: Norway (26.646 t), Greenland (4.710 t), United Kingdom (1.991 t), and Faroe Islands (1.895 t),
- for frozen filletts: Norway (32.566 t), Iceland (9.167 t), Faroe Islands (1.388 t), and Greenland (1.258 t),
- for frozen meat: Norway (35.832 t), Iceland (9.043 t), and Greenland (1.512 t),
- for prepared/preserved herrings: Norway (17.802 t) and Iceland (728 t).

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

- for fresh herrings : Norway (7.018 t) and Albania (148 t),
- for frozen herrings: Nigeria (72.830 t), Egypt (62.005 t), Ukraine (35.686 t) and China (6.233 t),
- for prepared/preserved herrings: Norway (1.557 t), USA (3.764 t) and Australia (686 t).

Atlantic herring



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

First-sale (fresh herring)

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Source
EU	0,37	0,50	0,57	0,46	0,33	0,38	0,66	EUMOFA
Denmark	0,36	0,55	0,66	0,50	0,42	0,47	0,66	EUMOFA

Wholesale (fresh herring)

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
Spain (Madrid)	2,10	2,10	2,10	2,10	2,10	2,10	2,10	2,10	Mercamadrid

Retail/consumption (fresh herring)

Retail prices refer to Germany and Sweden, which are among the major consumer countries in the EU.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Source
Germany	n.a.	n.a.	9,91	10,45	10,55	10,08	10,7	EUMOFA
Sweden	n.a.	n.a.	6,40	6,42	6,51	6,05	6,11	EUMOFA

Import

Import prices are presented for Germany which is the main herring importer in the EU.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Germany (whole fresh)	0,42	0,56	0,70	0,71	0,60	0,67	0,82	0,62	EUMOFA
Germany (frozen fillets)	1,51	2,08	2,23	2,05	1,86	2,02	2,08	2,16	EUMOFA

Export

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Denmark (whole fresh)	0,47	0,63	0,70	0,53	0,48	0,59	0,73	0,54	EUMOFA
Netherlands (whole frozen)	0,65	0,88	1,04	0,85	0,61	0,78	0,74	0,69	EUMOFA

Atlantic herring



MARKETING ASPECTS

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

CONSUMPTION

- 7th most consumed species in the EU after tuna, cod, salmon, Alaska pollock, shrimps and mussel.
- Apparent consumption per capita in 2016: **1,23 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2018 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Nutritional value (Atlantic herring, North East Atlantic, fresh fillet, values per 100 g – source : NUTRAQUA/AQUIMER)

Nutritional value	Fat herring	Lean herring
kilo calorie (kcal)	174	108
Kilojoule (kj)	727	454
Water (g)	68,3	76,2
Ashes (g)	1,4	1,5
Proteins (g)	18,7	18,3
Carbohydrates (g)	1,1	0,4
Lipids (g)	10,6	3,7
Cholesterol (mg)	54,7	49,9
Omega 6 (mg)	246	110
Omega 3 (mg)	1683	583
EPA (mg)	449	161
DHA (mg)	827	323