European Commission

Monthly Highlights

No. 5 / 2024

EUMOFA
European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

Compared to March 2023, first sales in March 2024 increased in Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France and Poland, while decreases were registered in Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Norway and the UK.

Over the 36-month observation period (April 2021 – March 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of European conger in Portugal was 2,64 EUR/kg, 20% higher than in Spain (2,20 EUR/kg), and 82% more than in France (1,45 EUR/kg).

Between weeks 14/2021 and 13/2024 prices of fresh or chilled southern hake from Chile fluctuated between 5,51 EUR/kg (week 20/2021) and 8,30 EUR/kg (week 45/2022).

In 2023, the average monthly consumption of Alaska pollock in Germany was 191 tonnes, and consumers paid an average of 13,83 EUR/kg.

In 2022, the New Zealand aquaculture sector produced 106.152 tonnes of aquaculture products at a value of EUR 842 million, which represented 23% of total production volume.

The EU market for carp is estimated at almost 89.000 tonnes LWE in 2021, which represented only 1% of total EU consumption of FAPs.

The EU welcomed important decisions made during the 28th annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), and which will make fisheries in the Indian Ocean more sustainable.

Contents

Find all data, information, and more at:
www.eumofa.eu
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1. First sales in Europe

During **January–March 2024**, 16 EU Member States (MS), Norway and the United Kingdom reported first-sales data for 10 commodity groups[1]. First-sales data are based on sales notes and data collected from auction markets. First-sales data analysed in the section "*First sales in Europe*" are extracted from EUMOFA[2].

1.1. January-March 2024 compared to the same period in 2023

Increases in value and volume: Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Poland and the UK recorded an increase in both first-sales value and volume. In absolute terms, the highest increase was observed in Bulgaria due to sprat and other molluscs.

Decreases in value and volume: Belgium, Cyprus, France, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Norway recorded decreases in first-sales value and volume. Lithuania, Sweden and the Netherlands stood out with the most significant drops in absolute terms, due to lower first sales of smelt and pike in Lithuania, sprat and herring in Sweden, and blue whiting and common sole in the Netherlands.

Table 1. **JANUARY-MARCH OVERVIEW OF FIRST SALES FROM THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR) ***

	January – March 2022		January – March 2023		January – March 2024		Change from January – March 2023	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	3.665	19,65	4.536	23,89	3.926	19,75	-13%	-17%
Bulgaria	99	0,21	83	0,09	609	0,38	636%	344%
Cyprus	82	0,54	79	0,56	72	0,55	-8%	-2%
Denmark	183.435	101,02	226.543	119,84	234.048	137,18	3%	14%
Estonia	21.876	4,93	24.195	7,11	24.402	11,51	1%	62%
Finland	19.606	4,34	22.346	6,37	17.127	6,80	-23%	7%
France	52.538	188,36	51.179	186,30	50.207	163,24	-2%	-12%
Germany	7.247	7,70	10.990	13,14	13.078	13,09	19%	0%
Italy	15.711	72,81	17.191	78,70	13.126	64,58	-24%	-18%
Lithuania	462	0,35	96	0,43	49	0,15	-49%	-65%
Netherlands	40.539	45,41	20.681	36,65	3.928	27,64	-81%	-25%
Poland	37.931	9,24	30.835	10,91	32.996	16,18	7%	48%
Portugal	14.483	64,14	15.535	66,03	11.972	53,77	-23%	-19%
Spain	92.213	318,00	95.210	321,69	80.816	291,88	-15%	-9%
Sweden	66.725	27,44	18.695	13,72	3.604	8,82	-81%	-36%
Norway	914.422	1.039,80	1.038.464	1.063,21	1.020.482	949,47	-2%	-11%
United Kingdom	88.337	160,91	104.722	173,80	108.834	191,68	4%	10%

Possible discrepancies in % changes are due to rounding.
** Volumes are reported in net weight for EU Member States, and in live weight equivalent (LWE) for Norway. Prices are reported in EUR/kg (without VAT). For Norway, prices are reported in EUR/kg of live weight. Data for Denmark are subject to confidentiality measures, so they may not fully correspond to total first sales in the country.*

[1] Groundfish, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, cephalopods, crustaceans, Groundfish, freshwater fish, groundfish, other marine fish, salmonids, small pelagics, tuna and tuna-like species.
[2] First sales data updated on 20. 05. 2024

1.2. March 2024 compared to March 2023

Increases in value and volume: First sales increased in Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France and Poland. In absolute terms the highest increase was observed in Bulgaria, due mainly to sprat and other molluscs.

Decreases in value and volume: First sales decreased in Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Norway and the UK. Sweden and the Netherlands experienced the most significant falls in absolute terms in both volume and value. The decrease was mainly due to falls in first sales of sprat and herring in Sweden, and of common sole and red mullet in the Netherlands.

Table 2. **MARCH OVERVIEW OF FIRST SALES FROM THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR) ***

	March 2022		March 2023		March 2024		Change from March 2023	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	1.150	7,2	1.511	8,8	1.217	7,3	-19%	-16%
Bulgaria	31	0,1	78	0,069	370	0,202	377%	191%
Cyprus	39	0,2	33	0,2	32	0,2	-3%	5%
Denmark	85.931	43,0	97.156	46,4	90.610	47,0	-7%	1%
Estonia	9.447	2,0	9.889	2,9	10.089	4,7	2%	59%
Finland	6.849	1,5	7.091	2,0	8.359	3,3	18%	61%
France	20.281	65,4	17.384	57,4	19.933	63,7	15%	11%
Germany	710	2,6	3.130	2,7	1.941	1,5	-38%	-43%
Italy	5.721	27,2	6.858	31,8	4.017	23,1	-41%	-28%
Lithuania	209	0,155	11	0,023	22	0,020	95%	-14%
Netherlands	27.793	20,4	17.243	15,6	1.317	9,4	-92%	-40%
Poland	19.328	4,7	14.998	5,219	16.607	8,1	11%	55%
Portugal	4.360	20,0	5.991	24,9	3.782	18,0	-37%	-28%
Spain	40.585	122,4	46.398	131,4	38.256	116,2	-18%	-12%
Sweden	18.422	9,6	15.986	8,2	1.322	3,1	-92%	-63%
Norway	373.271	454,5	472.830	472,7	411.559	366,2	-13%	-23%
United Kingdom	26.484	45,8	34.226	45,7	30.413	37,5	-11%	-18%

Possible discrepancies in % changes are due to rounding.
** Volumes are reported in net weight for EU Member States and the UK, and in live weight equivalent (LWE) for Norway. Prices are reported in EUR/kg (without VAT). For Norway, prices are reported in EUR/kg of live weight. Data for Denmark are subject to confidentiality measures, so they may not fully correspond to total first sales in the country.*

The most recent weekly first-sales data are available via the EUMOFA website and can be accessed **here**.
The most recent monthly first-sales data are available via the EUMOFA website and can be accessed **here**.

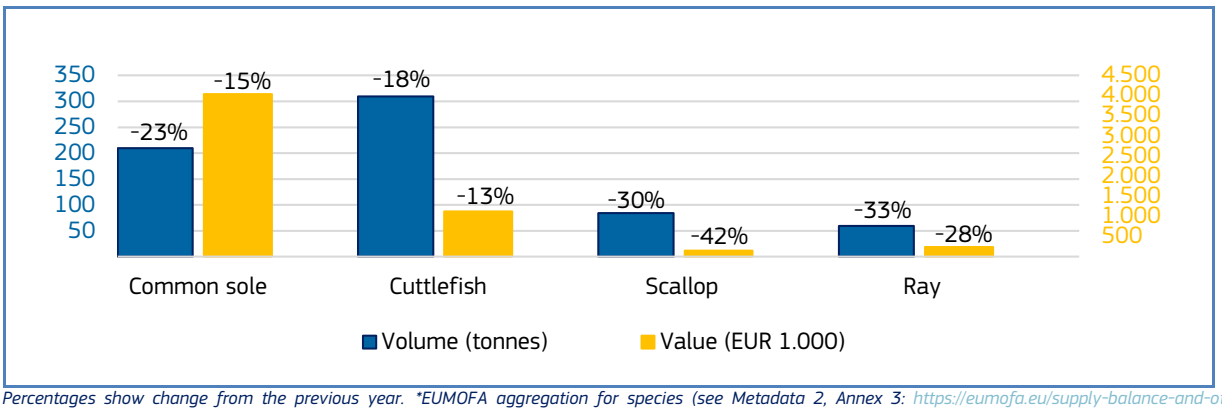
1.3. First sales in selected countries

First sales data analysed in this section are extracted from EUMOFA.[3]

Table 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM**

Belgium	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 19,7 million, -17%	3.926 tonnes, -13%	Common sole, squid, European plaice, shrimp *Crangon* spp..
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 7,3 million, -16%	1.217 tonnes, -19%	Common sole, cuttlefish, scallop, ray.

Figure 1. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM, MARCH 2024**



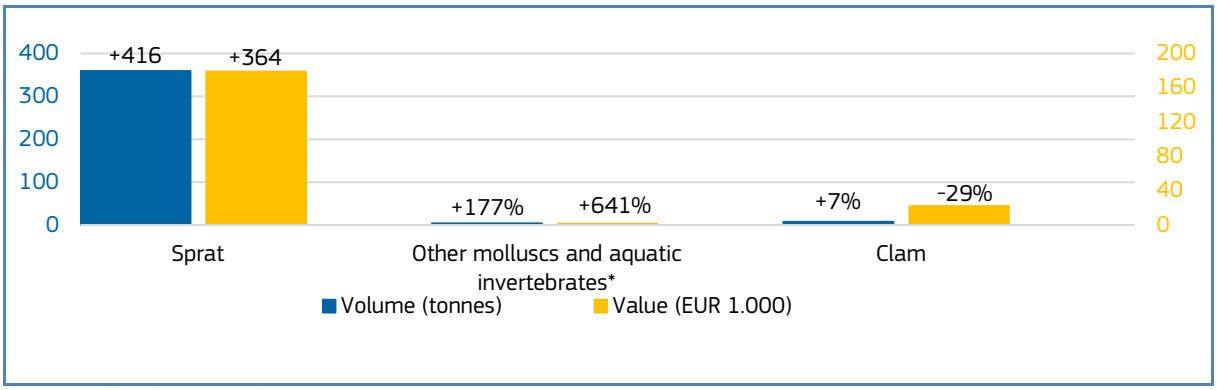
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species (see Metadata 2, Annex 3: https://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other methodologies).*

Table 4. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA**

Bulgaria	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 0,4 million, +344%	609 tonnes, +636%	Sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*.	In March 2024, there was a high increase in first sales of **sprat** compared to March 2023. From Autumn 2023, the price of fish oil increased along with increased requirements for sprat. As a result, the price of sprat also increased significantly. Market demand was higher than usual. Due to market demand, sprat suppliers shifted their activities from the United Kingdom. Better weather conditions in March 2024 compared to March 2023 enabled an increase in fishing effort. Existing resources in fishing capacity, favourable weather and sprat TAC availability allowed a significant increase in the volume of landings when comparing March 2024 to March 2023. It is noticeable that significant increases in volumes of sprat supplied to the market led to a 10% price reduction when comparing March 2024 with March 2023.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 0,2 million, +191%	370 tonnes, +377%	Sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, clam.	

[3] First-sales data updated on 17. 05. 2024.

Figure 2. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA, MARCH 2024**

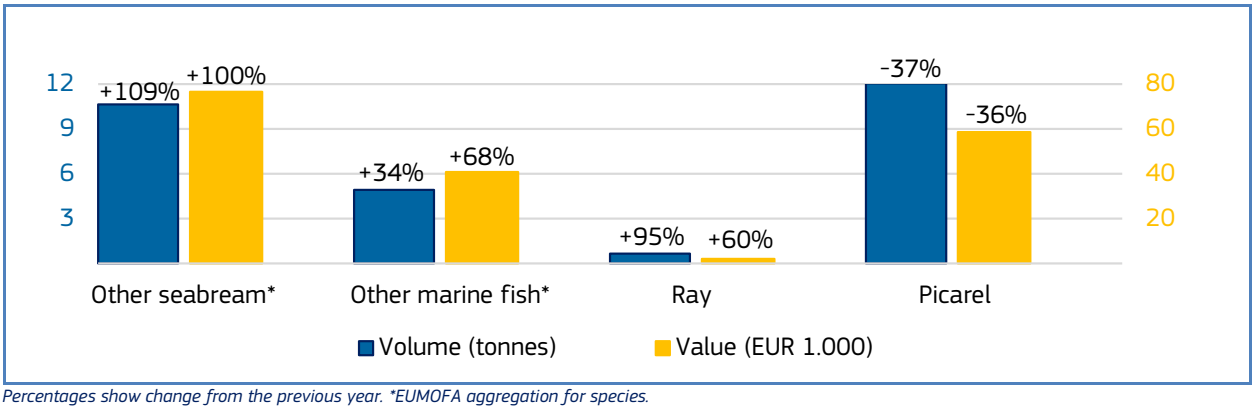


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 5. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN IN CYPRUS**

Cyprus	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 0,6 million, -2%	72 tonnes, -8%	Picarel, cuttlefish, squid, bluefin tuna.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 0,2 million, +5%	32 tonnes, -3%	Ray, picarel, other marine fish*, other seabream*.

Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN CYPRUS, MARCH 2024**



*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK**

Denmark	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 137,2 million, +14%	234.048 tonnes, +3%	Mackerel, herring, sprat, blue whiting.	In March 2024, there was a moderate increase in **herring** first sales compared to March 2023. Herring is a pelagic species, whose abundance can vary a lot from one year to another. The production levels recorded for the month of March are the following: March 2019 15.000 tonnes, March 2020 9.700 tonnes, March 2021 4.600 tonnes, March 2022 5.800 tonnes, March 2023 3.000 tonnes, March 2024 6.700 tonnes (117% increase). The
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 47,0 million, +1%	90.610 tonnes, -7%	**Value:** Herring, sprat, Norway lobster. **Volume:** blue whiting, mussel *Mytilus* spp., clam.	

				production in March 2023 appears to be particularly low, with some elements suggesting that herring fishing stated later in 2023 compared to 'usual' years. The increase observed in March 2024 can also be explained by the fact that that on the 31st of May 2023, ICES published an advice for Autumn spawning North Sea[4] Herring for 2024[5], recommending a 28,3 % increase of the TAC, since the herring stock is consider in good shape.

Figure 4. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK, MARCH 2024**

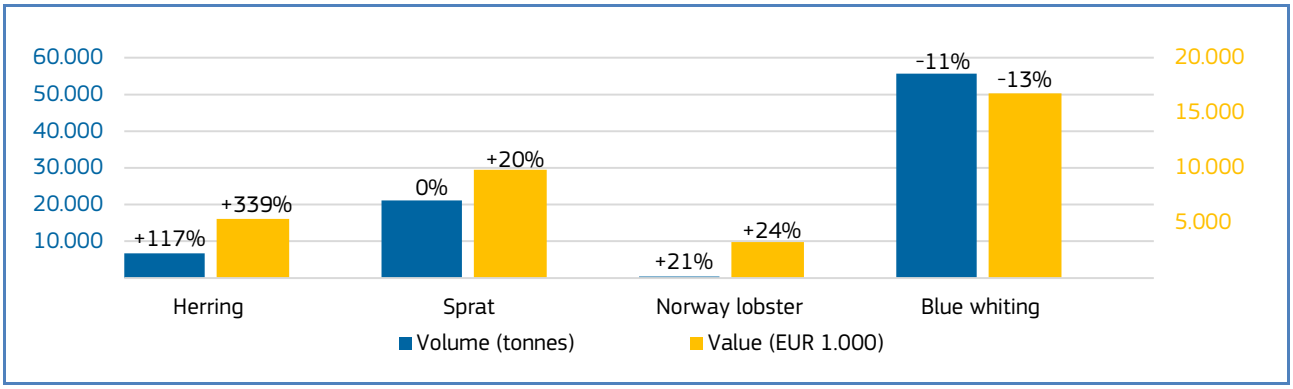
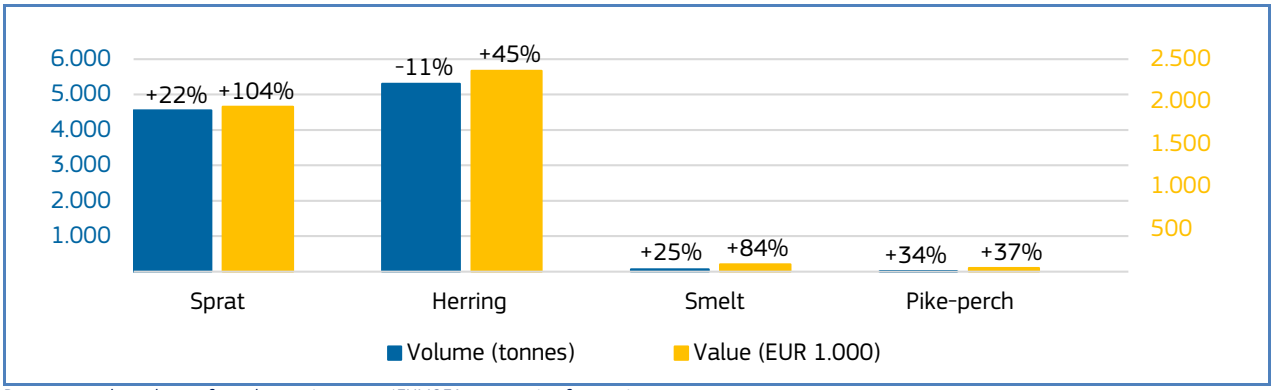


Table 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA**

Estonia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 11,5 million, +62%	24.402 tonnes, +1%	Herring, sprat, pike-perch, smelt.	First sales of **sprat** in increased in both value and volume in March 2024 compared to March 2023. The majority of sprat is used for production of fish oil and flour. From Autumn 2023, the price on fish oil increased along with an increased requirements for sprat. As such, the price of sprat also increased significantly., The prices of fish are higher in the autumn and winter months when the fish contain more oi.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 4,7 million, +59%	10.089 tonnes, +2%	Herring, sprat, smelt, pike-perch.	

Figure 5. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA, MARCH 2024**



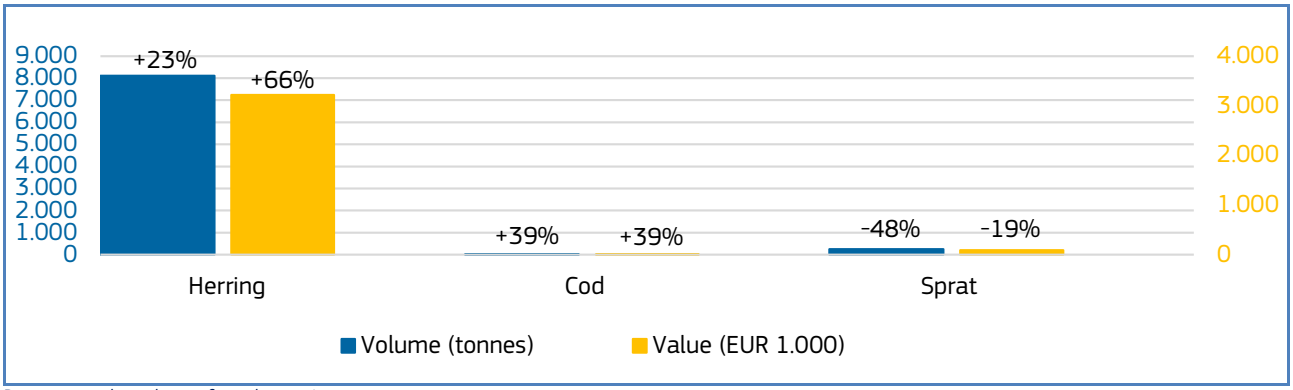
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

[4] North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel. ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d
[5] ICES Advice 2023 – her.27.3a47d – https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21907947

Table 8. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FINLAND**

Finland	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 6,8 million, +7%	17.127 tonnes, -23%	**Value:** Herring, sprat. **Volume:** herring sprat.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 3,3 million, +61%	8.359 tonnes, +18%	Herring, cod, sprat.

Figure 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FINLAND, MARCH 2024**

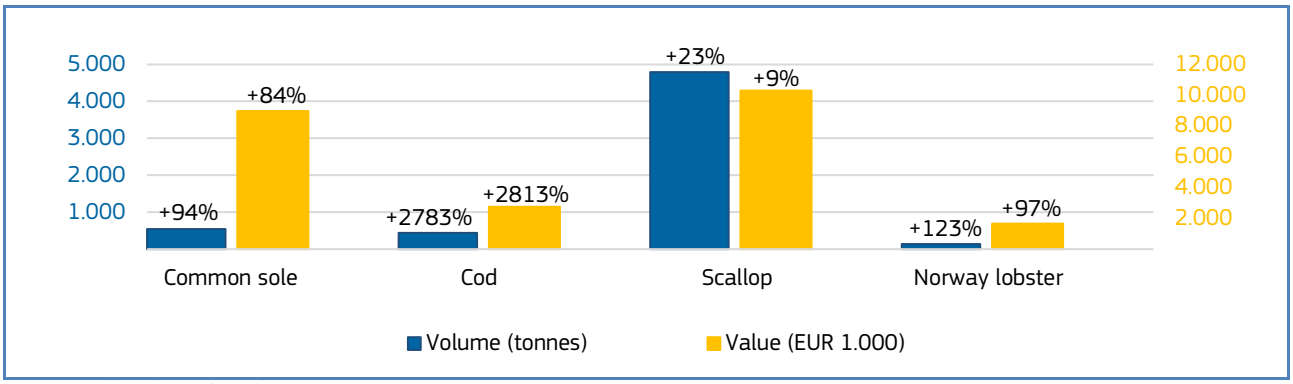


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 9. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE**

France	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 163,2 million, -12%	50.207 tonnes, -2%	Squid, eel, hake, scallop.	In March 2024, there was an extremely high increase in **cod** first sales compared to March 2023. Part of the French fleet is fishing off the Norwegian waters, where the cod stock status is considered in very good[6]. The change results from a production strategy, with the first landing of the year taking place in March in 2024 (437 tonnes), instead of April in 2022 (447 tonnes) and in 2023 (414 tonnes).
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 63,6 million, +11%	19.933 tonnes, +15%	Common sole, cod, scallop, Norway lobster.	

Figure 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE, MARCH 2024**



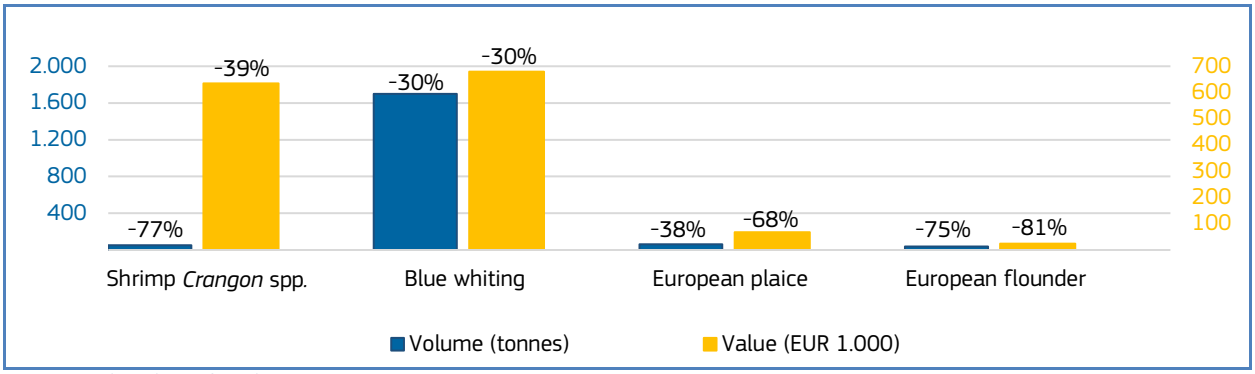
Percentages show change from the previous year.

[6] ICES Advice 2023 – cod.27.1-2.coastN – https://doi.org/ 10.17895/ices.advice.258864526

Table 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GERMANY**

Germany	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 13,1 million, +0%	13.078 tonnes, +19%	**Value:** Shrimp *Crangon* spp., mackerel, Greenland halibut. **Volume:** blue whiting, cod, redfish.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 1,5 million, -43%	1.941 tonnes, -38%	Shrimp *Crangon* spp., blue whiting, European plaice, European flounder.

Figure 8. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GERMANY, MARCH 2024**

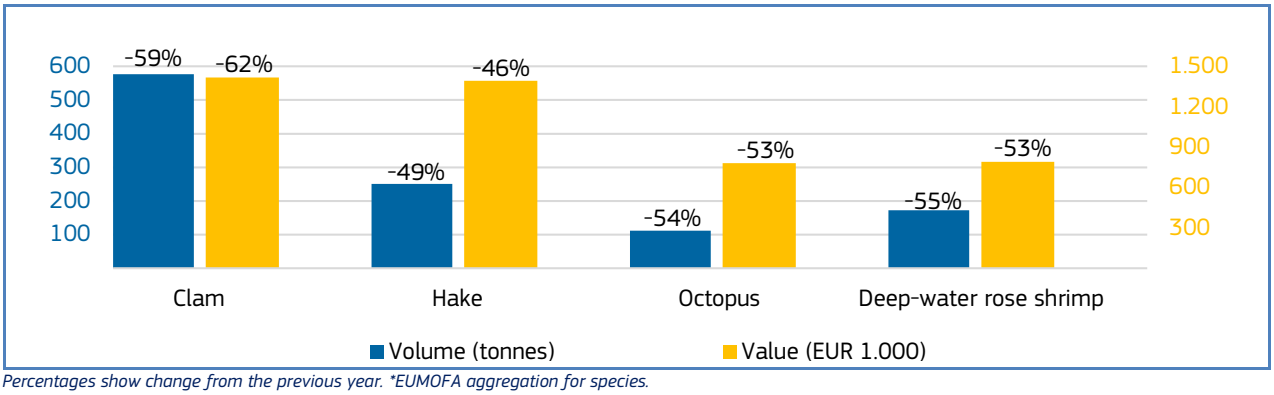


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY**

Italy	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Feb 2024 vs Jan-Feb 2023	EUR 64,6 million, -18%	13.126 tonnes, -24%	Hake, clam, deep-water rose shrimps, octopus.
Feb 2024 vs Feb 2023	EUR 23,1 million, -28%	4.017 tonnes, -41%	Clam, hake, octopus, deep-water rose shrimps.

Figure 9. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY, MARCH 2024**

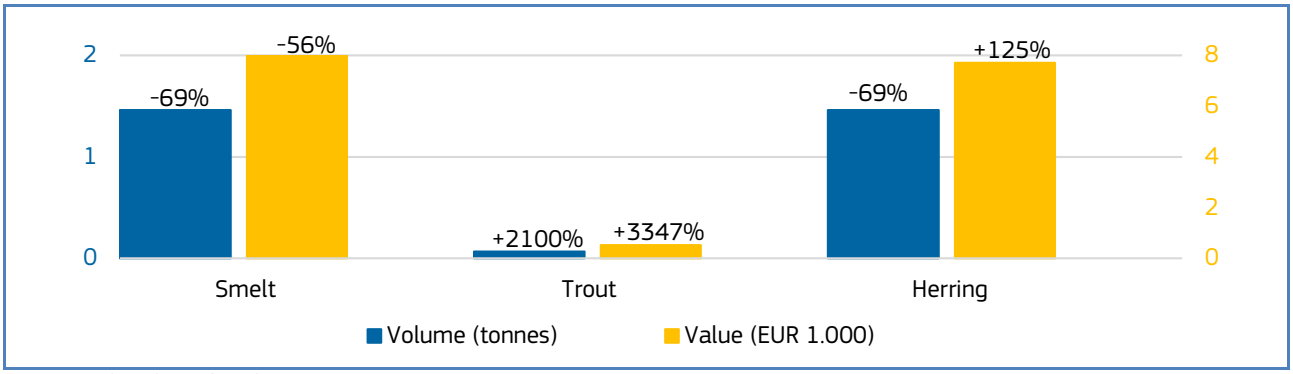


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA**

Lithuania	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume/ trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 0,2 million, -65%	49 tonnes, -49%	Smelt, trout, herring.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 0,02 million, -14%	22 tonnes, +95%	**Value:** smelt, trout. **Volume:** herring, cod.

Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, MARCH 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

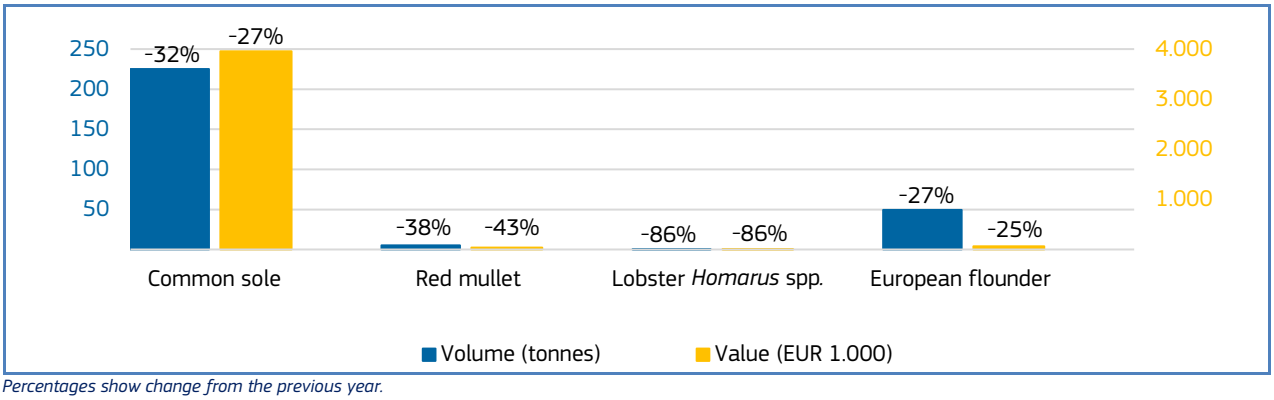
Table 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS**

the Netherlands	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 27,6 million, -25%	3.928 tonnes, -81%	Blue whiting, common sole, European plaice, shrimp *Crangon* spp..	In March 2024, there was a high decrease in first sales of **blue whiting** compared to March 2023. Blue whiting is exploited in the northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters (ICES subareas 1–9, 12, and 14) by large pelagic vessels (freezer trawlers) mostly from Norway, Ireland, Denmark and the Netherlands (by decreasing importance, Norway being by far the main producer). In October 2023, coastal states agreed to a TAC of 1,5 million tonnes for the blue whiting 2024 fishing season, which represents a 13%[7] increase compared to the TAC advice for 2023. The status of the stock is considered to be rather good[8]. The blue whiting fishery mostly occurs at the beginning of the year, with March being the most productive month over the last 5 years. In March 2024, total production reached 227.000 tonnes. Given the context of good stock status and fishing activities taking place "as usual' for the other nations involved, it looks as if the change observed in March 2024 (no production vs. around 16.000 tonnes in March 2023) is
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 9,4 million, -40%	1.317 tonnes, -92%	Common sole, red mullet, lobster *Homarus* spp., European flounder.	

[7] A position paper provided by the European Association of Producers Organizations (EAPO) on the 10 October 2023 indeed states that "*the EU pelagic industry wants to follow the ICES advice +12.5% (TAC of 1 529 754 tonnes) and supports all other recommendations by the PelAC for this stock. The industry is happy to see that, as predicted, spawning biomass remains at some of the highest levels ever and the strong 2021 and 2022 recruitment is still having its effect.*"
[8] ICES Advice 2023 – whb.27.1-91214 – https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21856554

				probably due to a statistical artefact. This is reinforced by the fact that very little production has been reported for the Dutch pelagic fleet since April 2023, including no herring production since January 2023.

Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS, MARCH 2024**

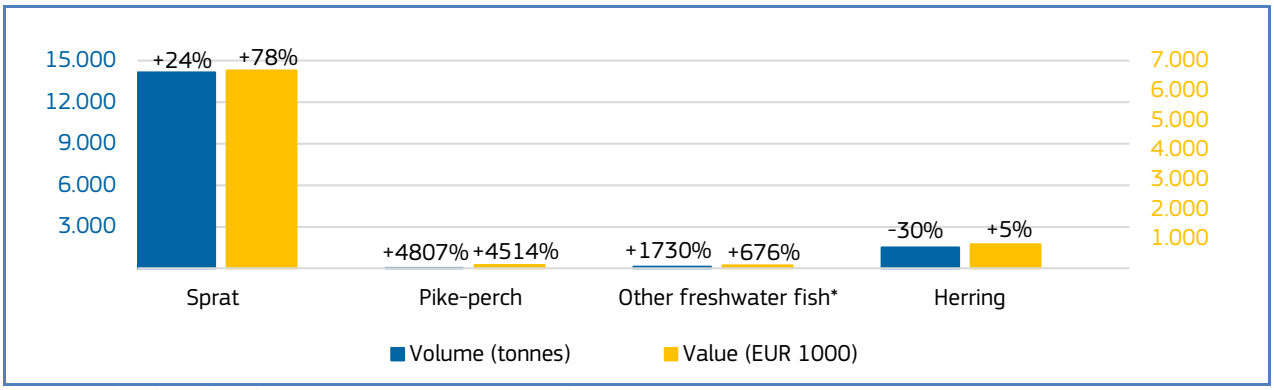


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN POLAND**

Poland	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 16,2 million, +48%	32.996 tonnes, +7%	Sprat, pike-perch, other freshwater fish*, eel.	In March 2024, there was an incredibly high increase in first sales of **pike-perch** compared to March 2023. Pike-perch is a freshwater species. In the Baltic Sea, the stock is concentrated in the coastal areas and is caught by the small-scale fisheries segment. Pike-perch is not covered by TAC and catches are therefore not regulated. Due to the ban on cod fisheries and reduced TACs for other species, the market supplier switched to available species which are popular for consumption. Existing resources in fishing capacity and fish stock availability allowed a significant increase in the volume of landings when comparing March 2024 with March 2023. In March 2023 sales of landed catches by Poland were at 1,7%, while in March 2024 sales were 76%. There was also an approximate 14% increase in landed catches when comparing March 2024 with March 2023. In March 2024, there was a high increase in first sales of **other freshwater fish** compared to March 2023 in terms of value. The species, included in the definition of other freshwater fish, are not covered by TAC, so catches are not regulated. It is noticeable that in March 2023, sales were at 2,6% of Polish landed catches of other freshwater fish, while in March 2024 sales were at 78%. Additionally, an approximate 39% decrease in landed catches was observed when comparing March 2024 with March 2023.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 8,1 million, +55%	16.607 tonnes, +11%	Sprat, herring, pike-perch, other freshwater fish*.	

Figure 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN POLAND, MARCH 2024**

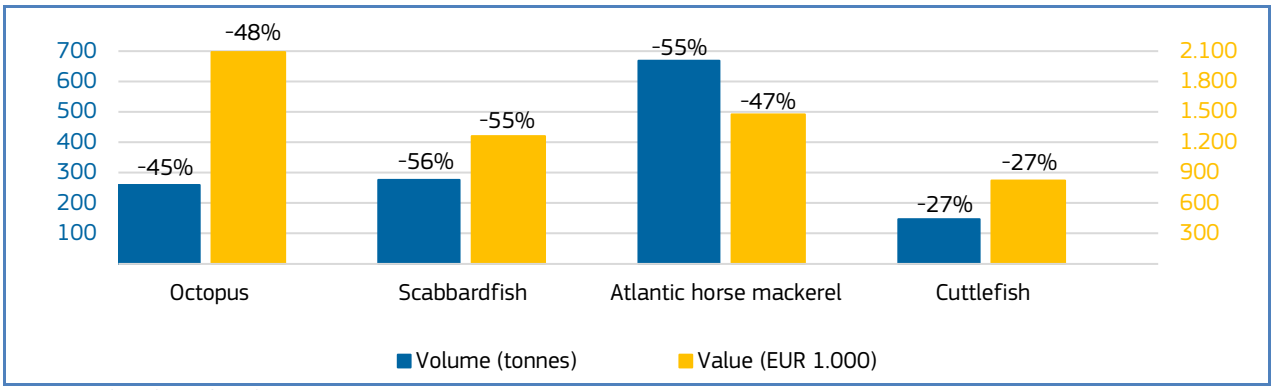


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL**

Portugal	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 53,8 million, -19%	11.972 tonnes, -23%	Anchovy, octopus, Atlantic horse mackerel, scabbardfish.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 18,0 million, -28%	3.782 tonnes, -37%	Octopus, scabbardfish, Atlantic horse mackerel, cuttlefish.

Figure 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, MARCH 2024**

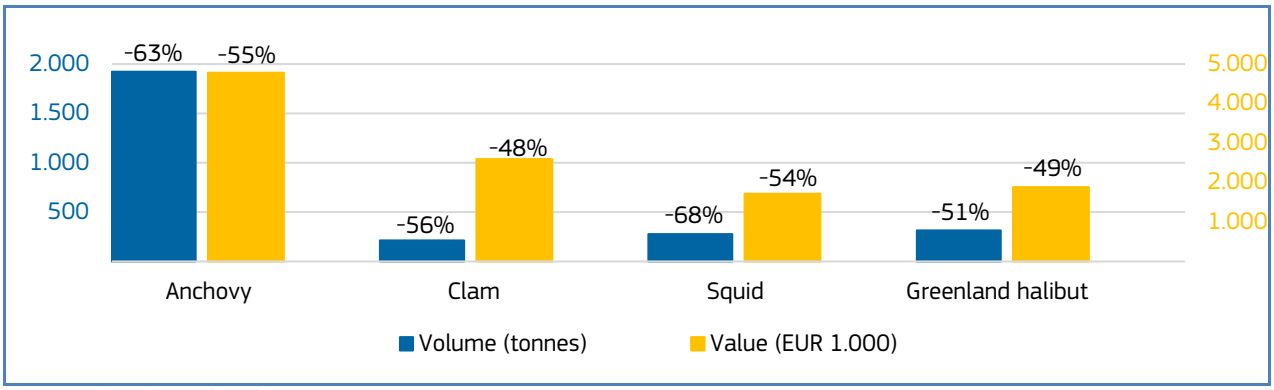


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN**

Spain	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 291,9 million, -9%	80.816 tonnes, -15%	Clam, squid, cod, hake.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 116,2 million -12%	38.256 tonnes, -18%	Anchovy, clam, squid, Greenland halibut.

Figure 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN, MARCH 2024**

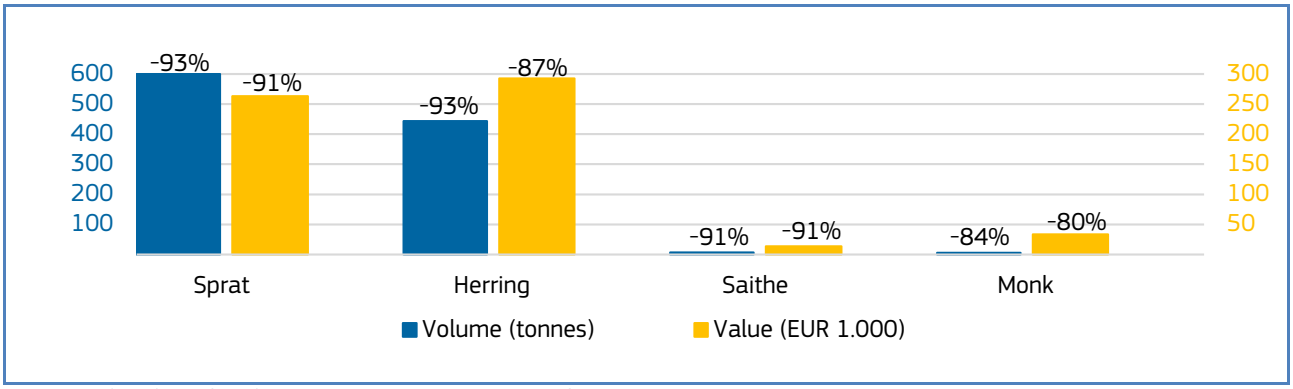


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 17. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN**

Sweden	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 8,8 million, -36%	3.604 tonnes, -81%	Sprat, herring, Norway lobster, saithe.	In March 2024, there was a decrease in first sales of **sprat** compared to March 2023. Sprat sales in March 2024 comprised 8% of total Comparing catches of the fleet in March 2024 with March 2023, it was observed that catches were 2% lower, while sales were 93% lower. From autumn 2023, the price of fish oil increased along with increased requirements for sprat. In March 2024, there was a slight decrease in first sales of **herring** compared to March 2023. Herring sales in March 2024 were only 11% of total herring catches by the Swedish and 15% of the catches were landed in Sweden by the Swedish fleet. In March 2023 herring sales exceeded by 2% total Swedish fleet catches and exceeded by 48% catches landed in Sweden by the Swedish fleet. One of the reasons for decreasing sales could be found in herring TACs in the Baltic Sea that was reduced by 38% compared to 2023. An insufficient supply in March 2024 caused price rises of 80%.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 3,1 million, -63%	1.322 tonnes, -92%	Sprat, herring, saithe, monk.	

Figure 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, MARCH 2024**

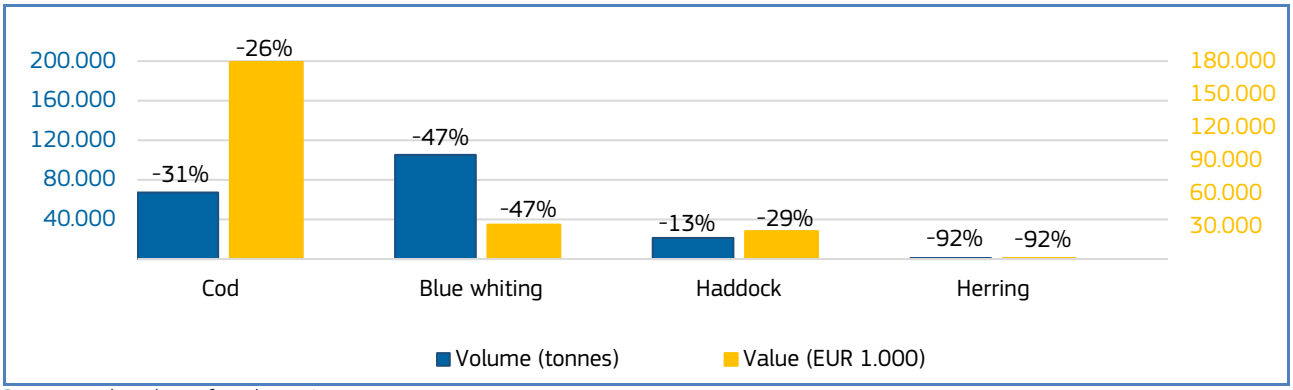


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 18. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY**

Norway	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 949,5 million, -11%	1.020.482 tonnes, -2%	Cod, herring, saithe, crab.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 366,2 million -23%	411.559 tonnes, -13%	Blue whiting, cod, haddock, herring.

Figure 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, MARCH 2024**

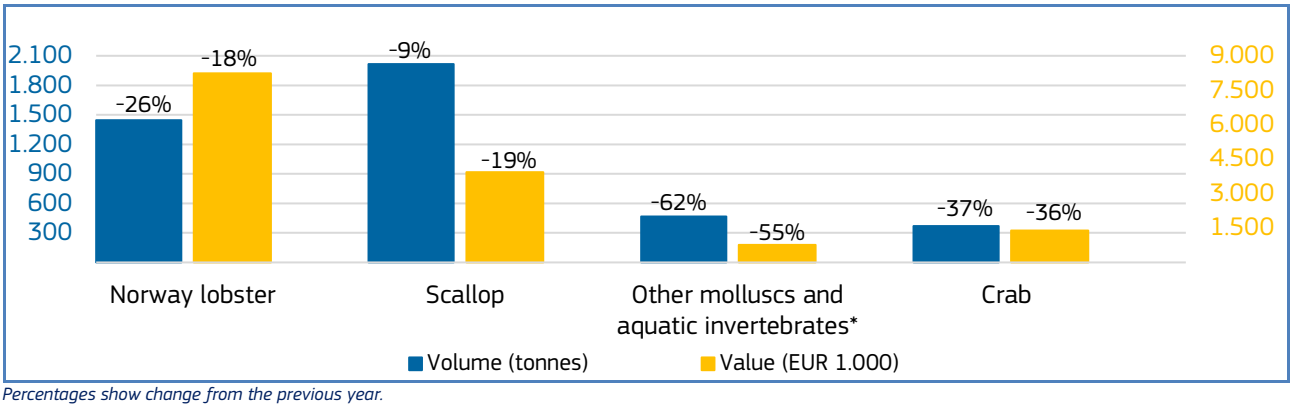


Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 19. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

The United Kingdom	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-Mar 2024 vs Jan-Mar 2023	EUR 191,7 million, +10%	108.834 tonnes, +4%	Mackerel, blue whiting, cod, haddock.
Mar 2024 vs Mar 2023	EUR 37,5 million, -18%	30.413 tonnes, -11%	Norway lobster, scallop, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, crab.

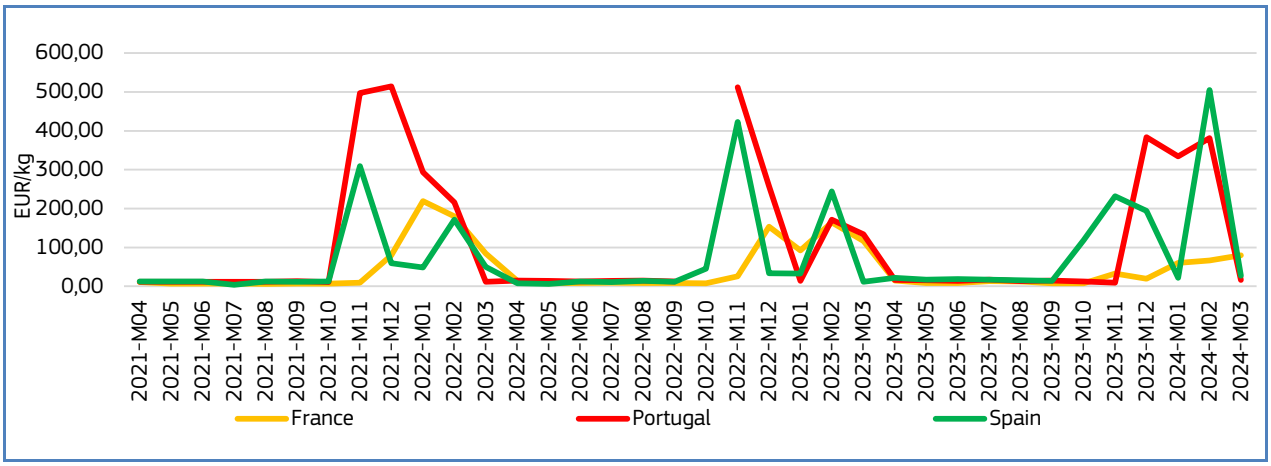
Figure 17. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, MARCH 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

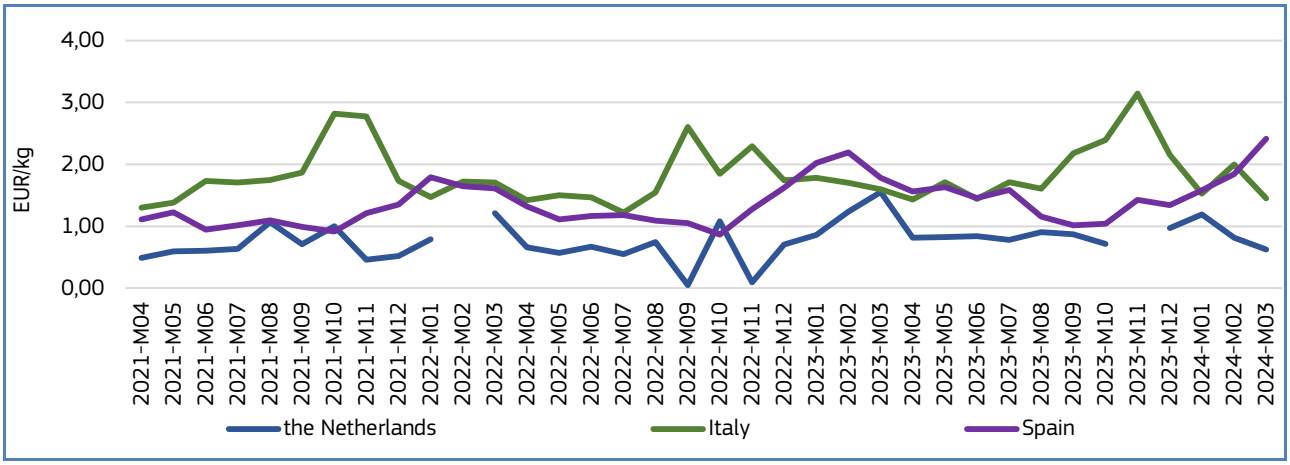
1.4. Comparison of first sales prices of selected species in selected countries[9]

Figure 18. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF EEL IN FRANCE, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**



EU first sales of **eel** occur in several countries including **France**, **Portugal** and **Spain**. The price fluctuates according to the life stage of the species (glass eel, yellow eel, silver eel), making the glass eel stage the most valuable in terms of first sale value. In March 2024, average first sales prices of eel were 79,66 EUR/kg in France (up by 21% from the previous month and down by 31% from the previous year); 15,94 EUR/kg in Portugal (down by 96% from February 2024 and by 88% from March 2023); and 27,53 EUR/kg in Spain (down by 95% from the previous month and up by 142% from the previous year). In March 2024, supply relative to the previous year increased in the three markets analysed: France (+9%), Portugal (+44%) and Spain (+8%). In the three countries analysed, volume seems to peak between November and January in France, March-April in Portugal, in December-January in Spain. Between months 04/2021 to 03/2024, prices fluctuated strongly in the three markets analysed with peaks which seem to occur in similar periods between October and March. The highest price peaks between January and March in France, in November-December in Portugal and November-February in Spain.

Figure 19. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF ATLANTIC HORSE MACKEREL IN THE NETHERLANDS, ITALY AND SPAIN**

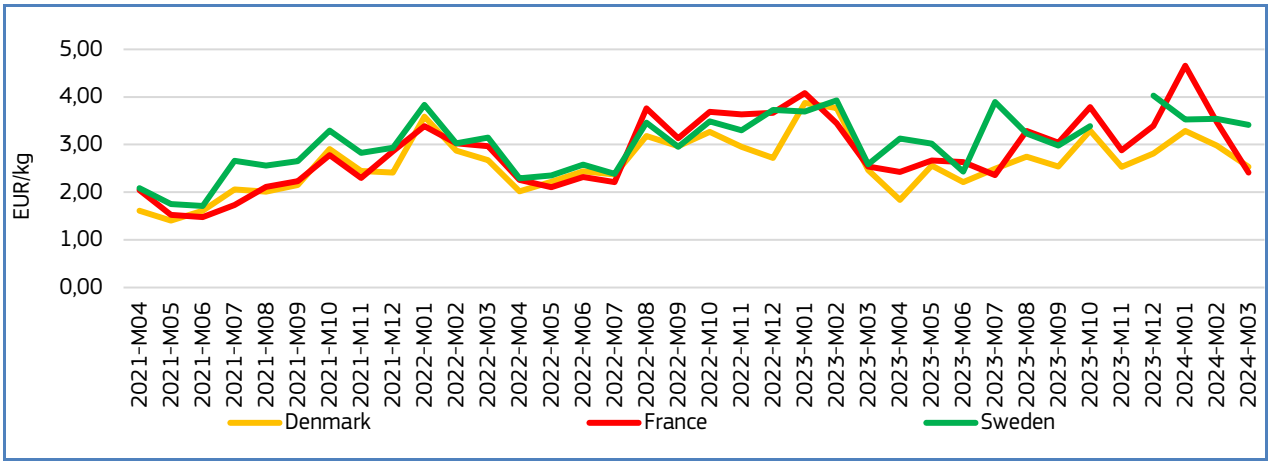


EU first sales of **Atlantic horse mackerel** occur mainly in **the Netherlands**, **Italy** and **Spain**. In March 2024, the average first-sales prices of Atlantic horse mackerel were: 0,63 EUR/kg in the Netherlands (down by 23% from previous month and by 60% from March 2023); 1,45 EUR/kg in Italy (down by 27% from February 2024 and by 9% from March 2023) and 2,41 EUR/kg in Spain (up by 31% from the previous month and by 35% from the previous year). In March 2024, supply increased in the Netherlands (+659%), while it decreased in Italy (-36%) and in Spain (-25%). Supply fluctuates strongly in the three countries analysed. In the Netherlands supply seems to peak between October-November and has been following a decreasing trend. In Italy supply peaks between April and June, while in Spain it seems to peak between June and September-October. Between months 04/2021 to 03/2024, prices

[9] First sales data updated on 16. 05. 2024.

fluctuated and have been increasing in the three markets analysed. Prices fluctuated particularly strongly in the Netherlands. In Italy peaks in prices seem to occur between October and November and between January and March in Spain.

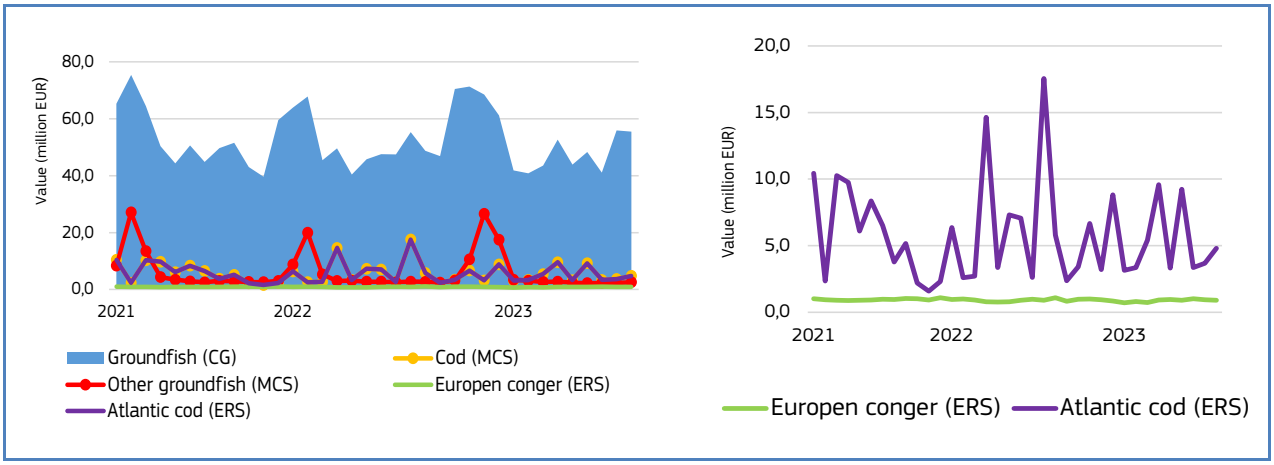
Figure 20. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF LING IN DENMARK, FRANCE AND SWEDEN**



EU first sales of **ling** occur in several countries as well as in **Denmark**, **France** and **Sweden**. In March 2024, the average first-sales prices of ling were 2,53 EUR/kg in Denmark (down by 15% from the previous month and up by 3% from the previous year); 2,41 EUR/kg in France (down by 30% from the previous month and down by 5% from March 2023); and 3,41 EUR/kg in Sweden (down by 4% from March 2023 and up by 32% from the previous year). In March 2024, supply decreased in France (-26%) and Sweden (-59), while it increased in Denmark (+18%), relative to the previous year. Supply is seasonal, with the highest peaks occurring between April and June in Denmark, March and June-July in France, May and September-October in Sweden. Between months 04/2021 to 03/2024, prices increased in the three markets analysed. In Denmark prices seem to peak in January, while the highest price of 4,65 EUR/kg was registered in January 2024 in France. In Sweden seasonal drops in prices seem to occur between April and June.

1.5. Commodity group of the month: Groundfish[10]

Figure 21. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVELS FOR REPORTING COUNTRIES[11], APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



In March 2024, the "**Groundfish**" commodity group (CG[12]) recorded the 2nd highest first-sales in both value and volume out of the 10 CGs in the countries monitored by EUMOFA.[13] In the reporting countries covered by the EUMOFA database, first sales of this group of species in March 2024 totalled EUR 55,5 million and 70.864 tonnes, representing a 21% decrease in value and 28% decrease in volume compared to March 2023. In the past 36 months, the highest first-sales value of groundfish was registered in May 2021 at about EUR 75,4 million.

The groundfish commodity group includes 14 main commercial species (MCS): Alaska pollock, blue whiting, cod, grenadier, haddock, hake, ling, pollack, pouting, redfish, saithe, toothfish, whiting, and the grouping of other groundfish species[14].
At the Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS) level European conger (2%) and Atlantic cod (9%) together accounted for 11% of the total first-sales value for "groundfish" recorded in March 2024.

1.6. Focus on Atlantic cod

Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) is a fish of the family Gadidae. It can be found on the continental shelves and in coastal waters throughout the North Atlantic. It is a benthopelagic species, living at depths of less than 200 m. Fourteen different cod stocks exist in the Northeast Atlantic, of which the largest is the Arctic stock, located off the coast of Norway. There are also two stocks of Baltic cod: the eastern and western Baltic cod. The latter is the smaller of the two.[15] On average, Atlantic cod weighs 5 kg to 12 kg. It can live up to 25 years and usually reproduces for the first time when five or six years old. Atlantic cod reproduce during a one to two-month spawning season annually. Cod has lean, moist meat with a dense, but very flaky texture[16].
Atlantic cod is caught mainly with generic gillnets, bottom trawls and longlines with hooks, usually in mixed demersal fisheries with a bycatch of flatfish and other groundfish species.
Long-term EU management plans concern the stocks in the North Sea, Kattegat, the Skagerrak, the Eastern Channel, the west of Scotland and the Irish Sea, and the eastern and western Baltic. The management plans include the setting of annual TACs, restrictions on fishing effort, minimum mesh size, catch composition rules, minimum landing size, and closed areas/seasons. Since January 2015, the EU landing obligation prohibits discarding of cod above TAC.[17]

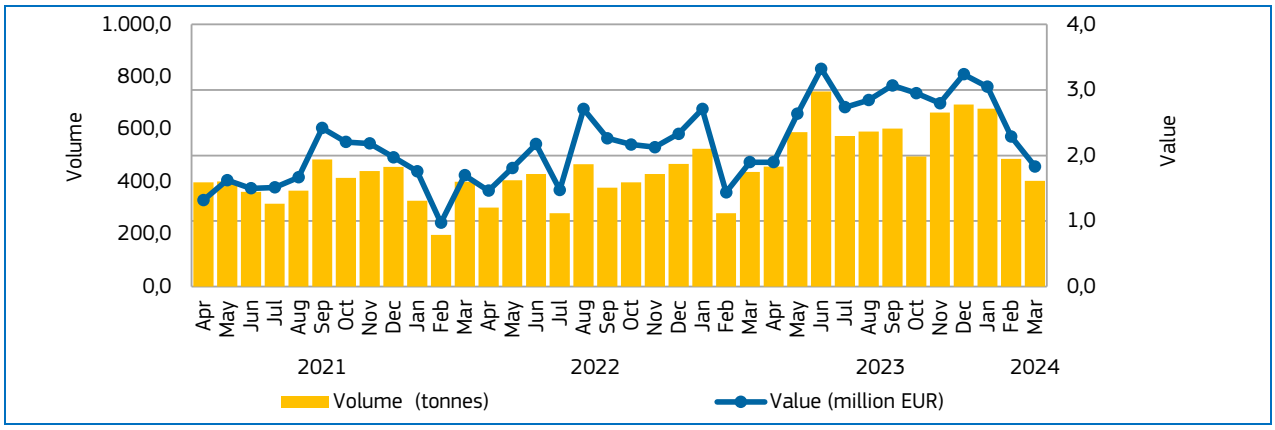
[10] First sales data updated on 24. 05. 2024.
[11] Norway , the Faroe Islands and the UK excluded from the analyses.
[12] Annex 3: http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies
[13] More data on commodity groups can be found in Table 1.2 of the Annex.
[14] European conger accounts for the highest first-sales value and volume within the grouping of „other groundfish species".
[15] http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/marine_species/wild_species/cod/index_en.htm
[16] http://thisfish.info/fishery/species/atlantic-cod/
[17] REGULATION (EU) 2015/812 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32015R0812&from=EN

Selected countries

Table 20. **COMPARISON OF ATLANTIC COD FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "GROUNDFISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

Atlantic cod		Changes in Atlantic cod first sales Jan-Mar 2024 (%)		Contribution of Atlantic cod to total "Groundfish" first sales in March 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale in Jan-Mar 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-Mar 2023	Compared to Jan-Mar 2022		
Denmark	**Value**	+19%	+62%	9%	NA
	Volume	+26%	+70%	1%	
France	**Value**	+788%	+651%	23%	St Malo, Lorient, Brest.
	Volume	+741%	+623%	11%	
Spain	**Value**	-98%	-69%	0,2%	Cangas, Pasajes, Vigo.
	Volume	-95%	-35%	0,1%	

Figure 22. **ATLANTIC COD: FIRST SALES IN DENMARK, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



Over the past 36 months in **Denmark,** the highest first-sales value and volume of Atlantic cod were in June 2023 when approximately 744 tonnes were sold for EUR 3,3 million.

Figure 23. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN DENMARK IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MARCH 2024**

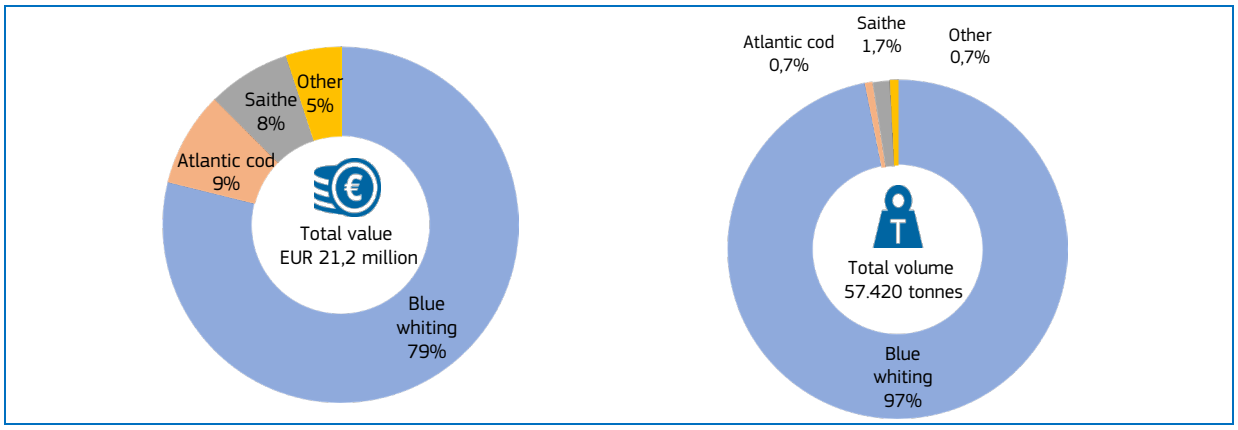
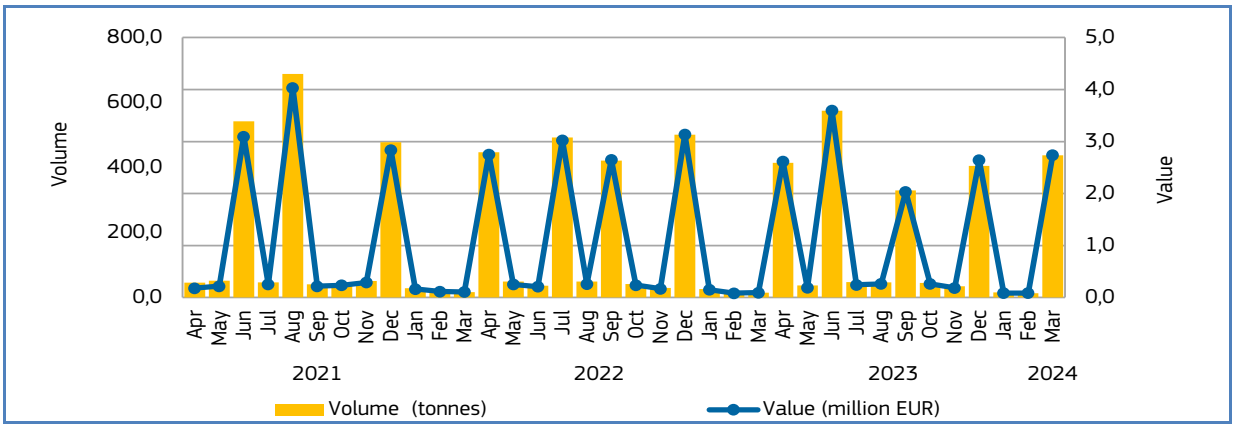


Figure 24. **ATLANTIC COD: FIRST SALES IN THE FRANCE, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



Over the past 36 months in **France**, the highest first-sales value and volume of Atlantic cod was in August 2021 when 688 tonnes were sold for EUR 4 million.

Figure 25. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MARCH 2024**

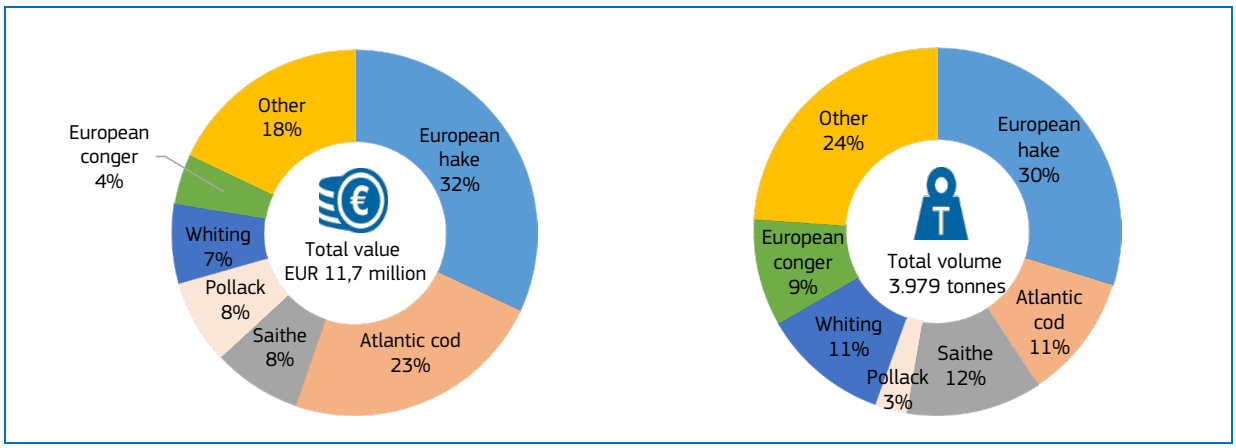
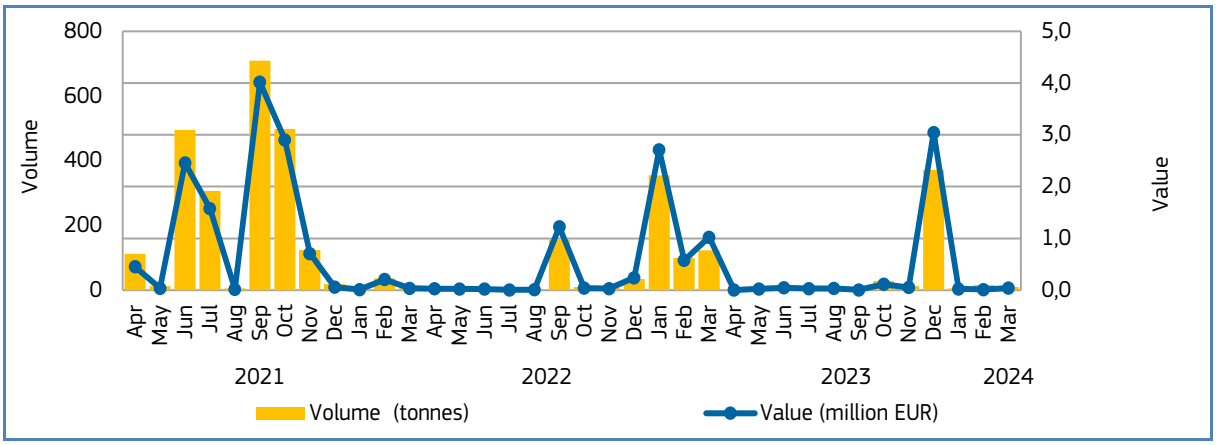
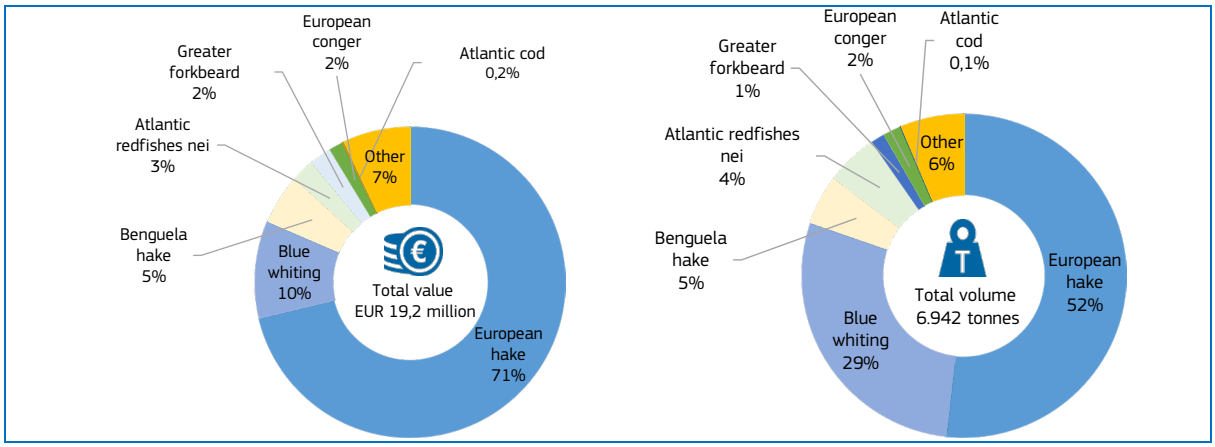


Figure 26. **ATLANTIC COD: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



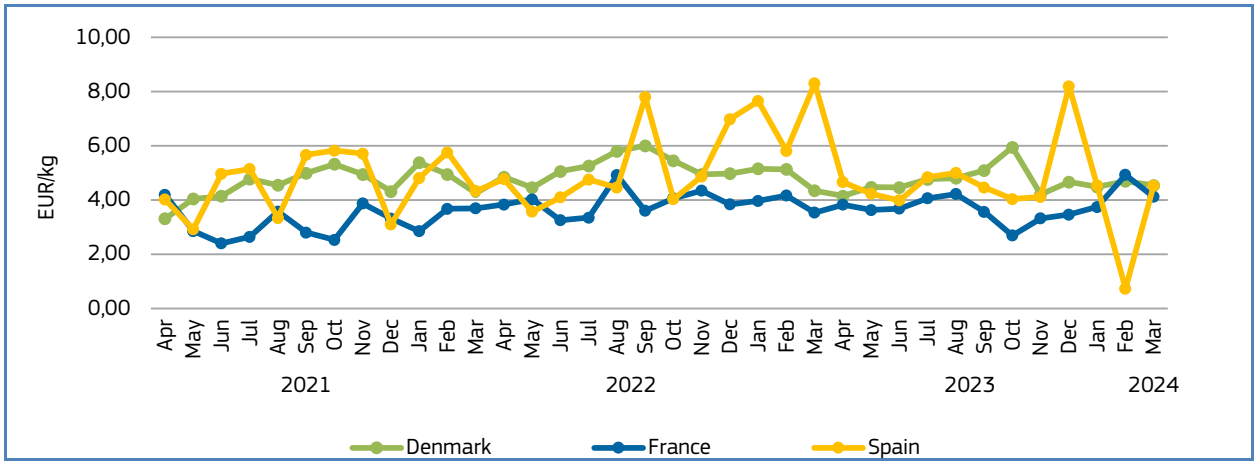
In **Spain**, over the 36-month observation period from April 2021 to March 2024, the highest first-sales value of Atlantic cod was registered in September 2021 when 709 tonnes were sold for EUR 4 million.

Figure 27. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN SPAIN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MARCH 2024**



Price trend

Figure 28. **ATLANTIC COD: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (April 2021 to March 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of Atlantic cod in both **France** and **Spain** was 6,05 EUR/kg, which was 27% higher than in **Denmark** (4,77 EUR/kg).

In **Denmark** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of Atlantic cod (4,54 EUR/kg) increased by 5% compared to March 2023 and by 7% compared to March 2022. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 3,31 EUR/kg for 398 tonnes in April 2021 to 6,00 EUR/kg for about 377 tonnes in September 2022.

In **France** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of Atlantic cod (6,26 EUR/kg) increased by 1% and decreased by 3%, compared to March 2023 and 2022, respectively. In the 36-month period observed, the lowest average price at 3,90 EUR/kg for 46 tonnes was registered in April 2021, while the highest average price of 6,54 EUR/kg for 13,3 tonnes was recorded in February 2024.

In **Spain** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of Atlantic cod (4,53 EUR/kg) decreased by 45% compared to March 2023 and increased by 4% compared to 2022. During the period observed, the average price ranged from 0,73 EUR/kg for 15,7 tonnes in February 2024 to 8,30 EUR/kg for 123,1 tonnes in March 2023.

1.7. Focus on European conger

The European conger (*Conger conger*) is a species of conger of the family Congridae. It is the largest eel in the world and can be found at a depth of 0–500 m in the eastern Atlantic from Norway and Iceland to Senegal, and in the Mediterranean and Black Seas. It is usually present on rough, rocky, broken ground close to the coast when young, moving to deeper waters when adult. It has an average adult length of 1,5 m and average weight of 2,5 kg to 25 kg. The maximum length is 3 m and maximum weight about 65 kg. When it reaches sexual maturity at an age of 5-15 years, it migrates to spawning areas in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic where it reproduces only once in its life. It feeds on fish, crustaceans, and cephalopods.[18]

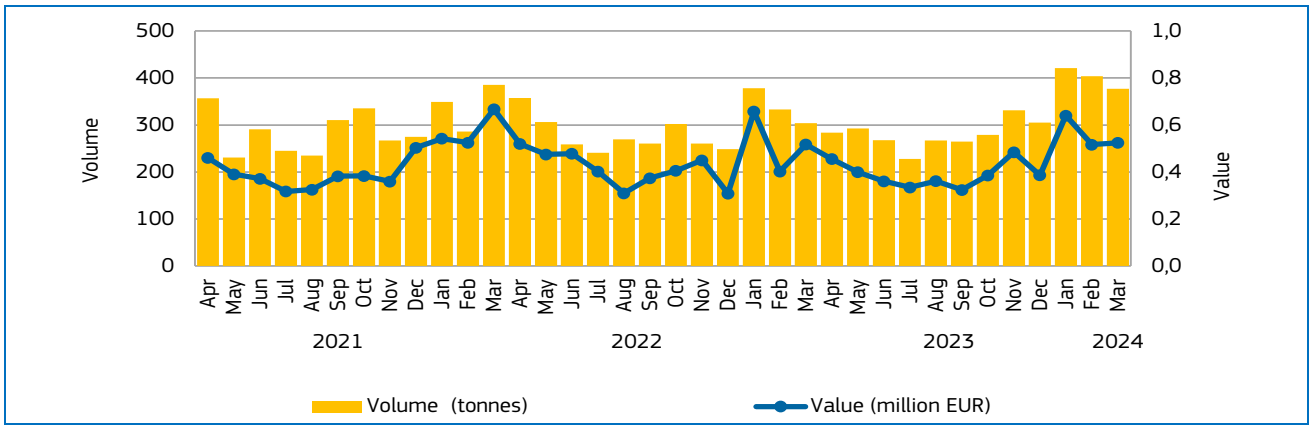
The species is caught by bottom trawls, spears, hooks, and bottom set longlines. These fishing methods produce high by-catch rates, making it a frequent by-catch in fisheries targeting other species. France and Spain have the highest catch of European conger in the EU. At EU level, there are no specific management measures for this species.

Selected countries

Table 21. **COMPARISON OF EUROPEAN CONGER FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "GROUNDFISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

European conger		Changes in European conger first sales Jan-Mar 2024 (%)		Contribution of European conger to total "Groundfish" first sales in March 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale Jan-Mar 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-Mar 2023	Compared to Jan-Mar 2022		
France	**Value**	+7%	-3%	4%	Lorient, La Turballe, Quiberon.
	Volume	+18%	+18%	9%	
Portugal	**Value**	-16%	-32%	13%	Ribeira Grande, Vila Praia da Vitória, in Ilha Terceira, Matosinhos.
	Volume	-10%	-30%	15%	
Spain	**Value**	-9%	+2%	1%	Ondárroa, A Coruña, Vigo.
	Volume	+4%	+12%	2%	

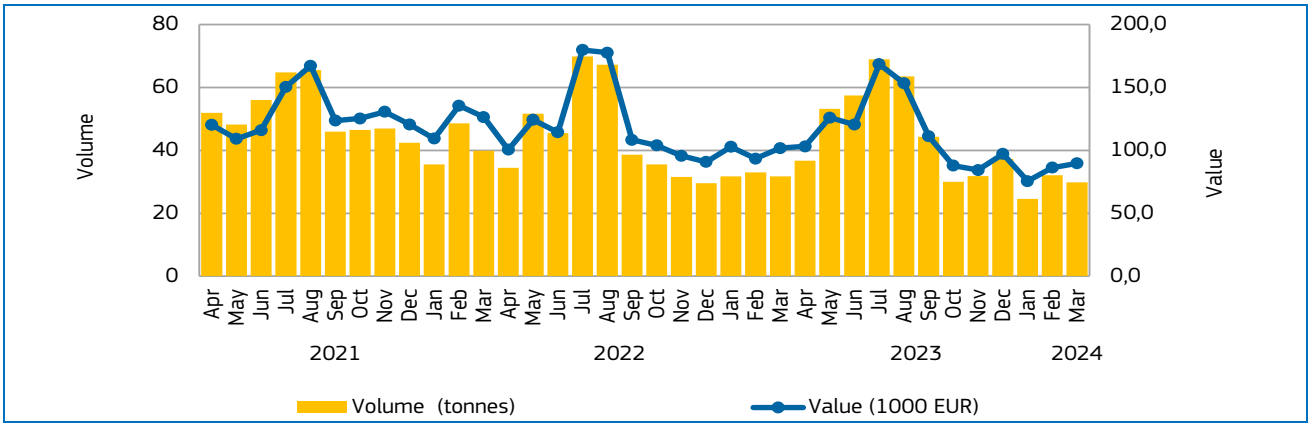
Figure 29. **EUROPEAN CONGER: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



[18] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2994/en

In **France** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value was recorded in March 2022 (EUR 0,7 million), while the highest volume was seen in January 2024 (421 tonnes).

Figure 30. **EUROPEAN CONGER: FIRST SALES IN PORTUGAL, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



In **Portugal** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value and volume were registered in July 2022 when 70 tonnes of European conger were sold for EUR 180.000. The main fishery occurred in the summer.

Figure 31. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN PORTUGAL IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MARCH 2024**

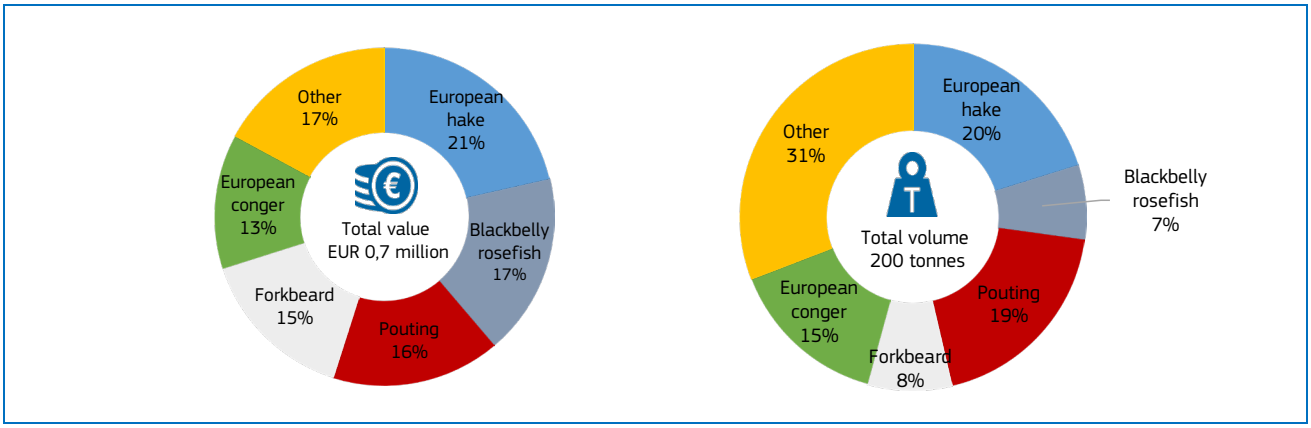
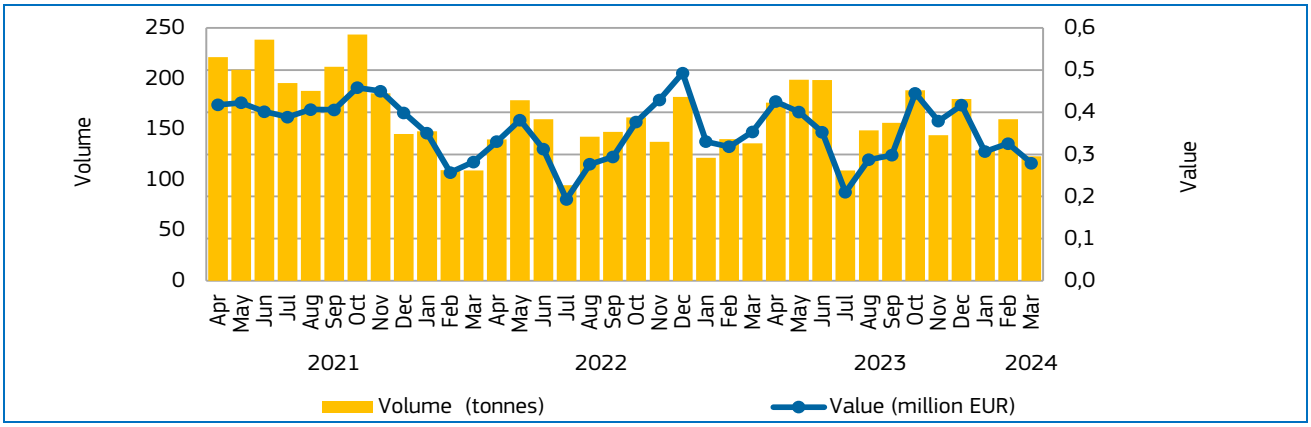


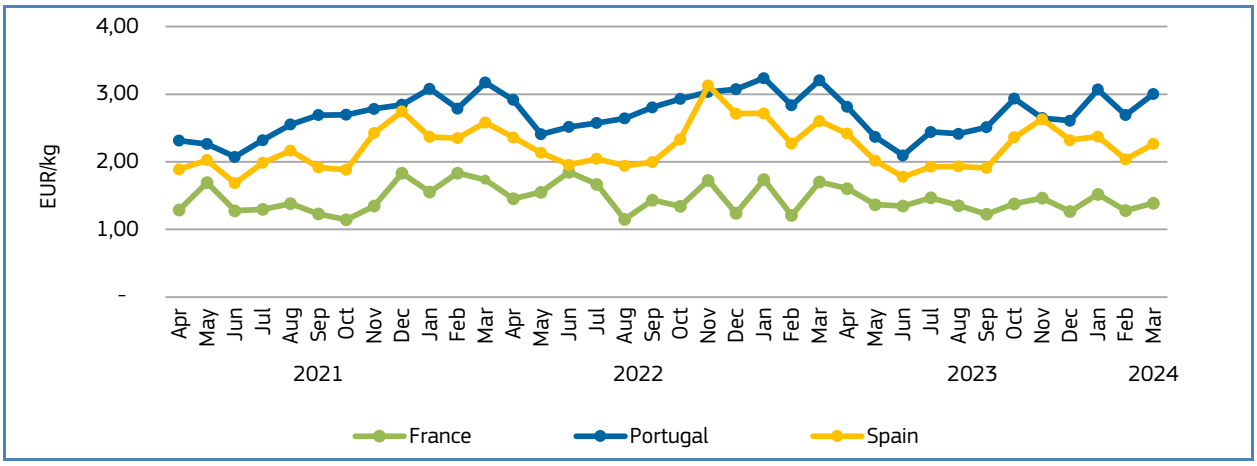
Figure 32. **EUROPEAN CONGER: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



In **Spain** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value was registered in December 2022 when about 182 tonnes were sold for EUR 0,5 million. The peak in first sales volume was reached in October 2021 when 235 tonnes of European conger were sold for EUR 0,5 million.

Price trend

Figure 33. **EUROPEAN CONGER: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (April 2021 – March 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of European conger in **Portugal** was 2,64 EUR/kg, 20% higher than in **Spain** (2,20 EUR/kg), and 82% above the average price in **France** (1,45 EUR/kg).

In **France** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of European conger was 1,39 EUR/kg, representing an 18% decrease compared to March 2023 and 20% down in relation to March 2022. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 1,14 EUR/kg for 335 tonnes in October 2021 to 1,85 EUR/kg for 259 tonnes in June 2022.

In **Portugal** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of European conger (3,00 EUR/kg) decreased by 6% compared to March 2023 and by 6% compared to March 2022. In the 36-month period observed, the lowest average price of 2,07 EUR/kg for 56 tonnes was registered in June 2021, while the highest average price of 3,24 EUR/kg for about 32 tonnes was recorded in January 2024.

In **Spain** in March 2024, the average first-sales price of European conger (2,26 EUR/kg) decreased by 13% compared to March 2023 and by 12% compared to March 2022. During the period observed, the highest average price of 3,13 EUR/kg was reached in November 2022 when 238 tonnes were sold, while the price bottomed out in June 2021 (1,68 EUR7kg) when 238 tonnes were sold.

We have covered **European conger** in the previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First sales: MH 8/2020 (France, Portugal, Spain).

2. Extra-EU imports

The weekly extra-EU import prices (weighted average values per week, in EUR per kg) for nine different species are examined every month. The three most relevant species in terms of value and volume remain consistent: fresh or chilled Atlantic and Danube salmon from Norway, frozen Alaska pollock fillets from China, and frozen tropical shrimp (*Penaeus* spp.) from Ecuador. The other six species change each month; three are chosen from the commodity group of the month, and three are randomly selected. The commodity group for this month is "Groundfish"[19].

Data analysed in the section "Extra-EU imports" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from the European Commission.[20]

Table 22. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THE THREE MOST RELEVANT FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 13/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 13/2023	Notes
Atlantic salmon and **Danube salmon**, excluding liver and roes, fresh imported from **Norway** (*Salmo salar*, *Hucho hucho* CN code 03021400)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	10,62	9,21 (+15%)	9,38 (+13%)	From weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices fluctuated, showing an increasing trend ranging between 5,09 EUR/kg (week 37/2021) and 11,28 EUR/kg (week 16/2022). Prices show a strong seasonality following supply. The highest peaks occur between weeks 10 and 18.
	Volume (tonnes)	6.605	8.853 (-25%)	8.741 (-24%)	Volumes fluctuated strongly ranging between 1.309 tonnes (week 52/2023) and 19.507 tonnes (week 35/2022). Supply is seasonal with peaks occurring most often in weeks 35/37 and 48/49, while the lowest falls seem to occur in weeks 6/8, 13/14 and 51/52.
Frozen **Alaska pollock** fillets imported from **China** (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03047500)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,46	2,58 (-4%)	3,70 (-33%)	Between weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices showed fluctuations, ranging between 1,84 EUR/kg (week 48/2022) and 4,03 EUR/kg (week 41/2022).
	Volume (tonnes)	1.752	898 (+95%)	2.153 (-19%)	In the period analysed, supply fluctuated strongly but did not seem to follow a clear seasonality. Weekly volumes ranged between 204 tonnes (week 03/2024) to 13.785 tonnes (week 50/2023). Highest peaks in supply seem to occur in the last weeks of the year between weeks 46 and 50.
Frozen **tropical shrimp** imported from **Ecuador** (genus *Penaeus*, CN code 03061792)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	4,94	5,00 (-1%)	5,77 (-14%)	From weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices showed a decreasing trend fluctuating between 4,83 EUR/kg (week 07/2024) and 7,19 EUR/kg (week 41/2022).
	Volume (tonnes)	2.988	2.390 (+25%)	1.359 (+120%)	In the period analysed volumes showed high fluctuations ranging between 891 tonnes (week 09/2023) and 4.925 tonnes (week 33/2021). Highest peaks in supply seem to occur most often between weeks 14/17, 21/23, 30/33 and 45/46.

[19] The featured species of the commodity group of the month are fresh or chilled southern hake from Chile, frozen cod from the Russian Federation and frozen haddock from Norway. The three randomly selected species this month are frozen fillets of Argentine hake from Argentina, preparations of surimi from Thailand and frozen coalfish from Norway.
[20] Last update: 14. 05. 2024.

Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH AND WHOLE ATLANTIC SALMON FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**

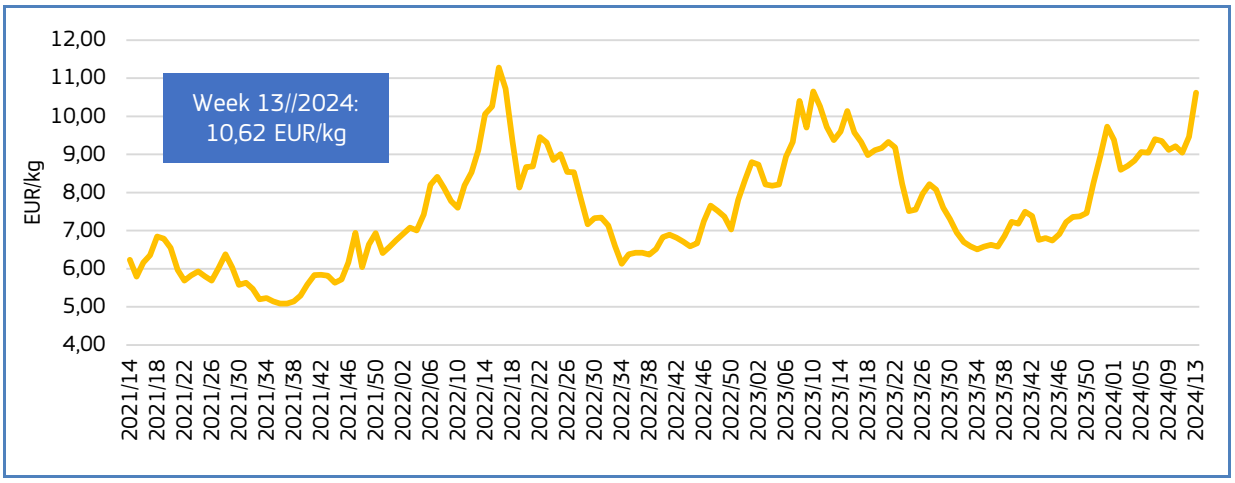


Figure 35. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN ALASKA POLLOCK FILLETS FROM CHINA, 2021 - 2024**

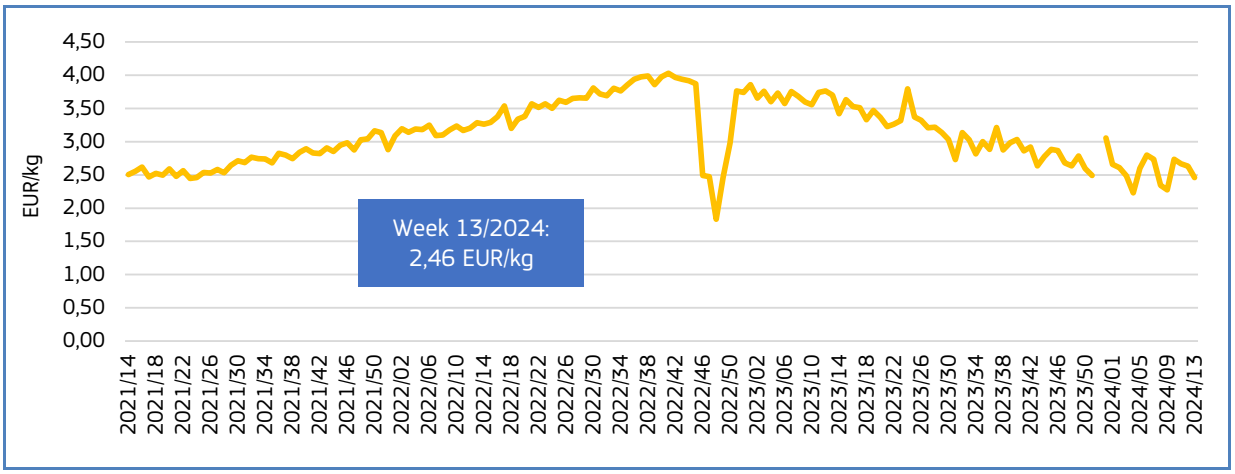


Figure 36. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN TROPICAL SHRIMP FROM ECUADOR, 2021 - 2024**

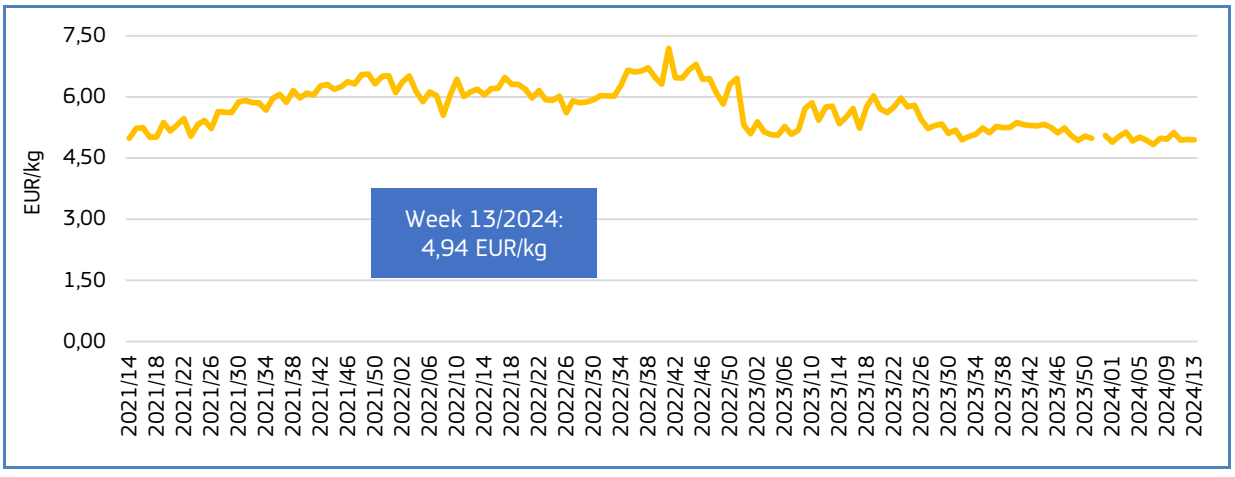


Table 23. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THIS MONTH'S THREE FEATURED COMMODITY PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 13/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 13/2023	Notes
Fresh or chilled **southern hake** from **Chile** (*"Merluccius australis"*, CN code 03025415)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	6,49	6,67 (-3%)	6,96 (-7%)	Between weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices fluctuated following an increasing trend from the minimum price 5,51 EUR/kg (week 20/2021) to the maximum price 8,30 EUR/kg (week 45/2022) to then follow a decreasing trend. 37% of the weekly prices were between 6,50 EUR/kg and 7,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	35	66 (-48%)	53 (-35%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging from 3 tonnes (week 35/2021) to 168 tonnes (week 50/2022). 48% of the weekly supply was less than 50 tonnes. Over the period analysed, the highest peaks in supply seem to occur most often between weeks 49/50.
Frozen **cod** from the **Russian Federation** (*"Gadus morhua"*, CN code 03036310)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	4,27	3,66 (+17%)	4,79 (-11%)	Between weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices fluctuated following an increasing trend ranging between 2,93 EUR/kg (week 01/2024) and 17,15 EUR/kg (week 40/2022). 45% of weekly prices were between 4,00 EUR/kg and 5,00 EUR/kg. The highest peaks in prices occurred in weeks 39,40,41 of 2022.
	Volume (tonnes)	942	876 (+7%)	908 (+4%)	In the period analysed supply fluctuated strongly but did not seem to follow a clear seasonality. Volume ranged from 62 tonnes (week 53/2023) to 2.902 tonnes (week 51/2023). 46% of the weekly supply was more than 1000 tonnes.
Frozen **haddock** from **Norway** (*"Melanogrammus aeglefinus"*, CN code 03036400)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,72	2,32 (+17%)	2,33 (+17%)	Prices fluctuated in the period analysed, ranging between 0,82 EUR/kg (week 29/2023) and 3,99 EUR/kg (week 09/2022). 51% of the weekly prices were between 2,00 and 3,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	112	32 (+248%)	128 (-13%)	Very high fluctuations in supply from 117 kg (week 37/2021) to 457 tonnes (week 17/2022). 65% of the weekly supply was below 100 tonnes. Highest peaks in supply seem to occur between 17/21 and 33/39.

Figure 37. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED SOUTHERN HAKE FROM CHILE, 2021 - 2024**

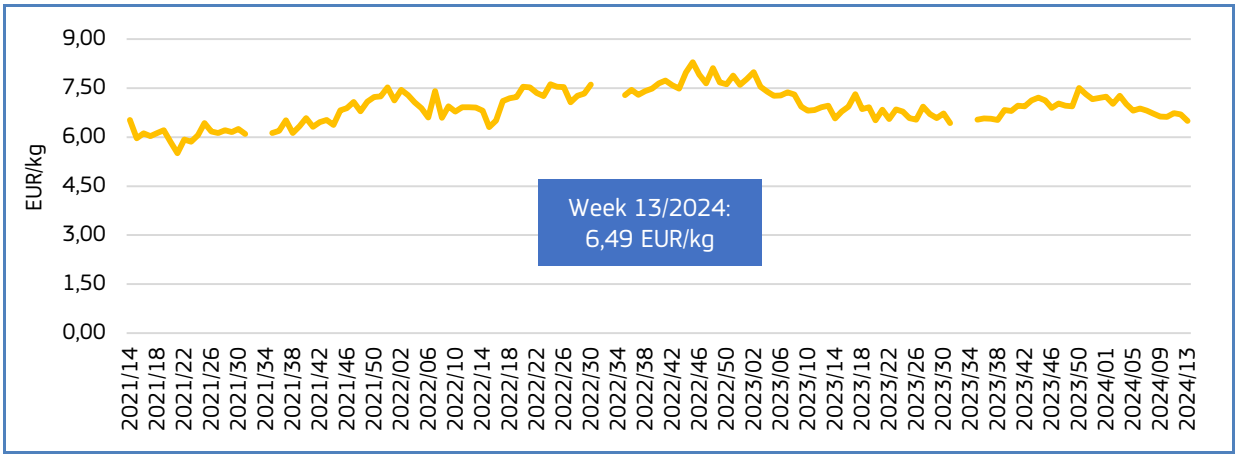


Figure 38. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN COD FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, 2021 - 2024**

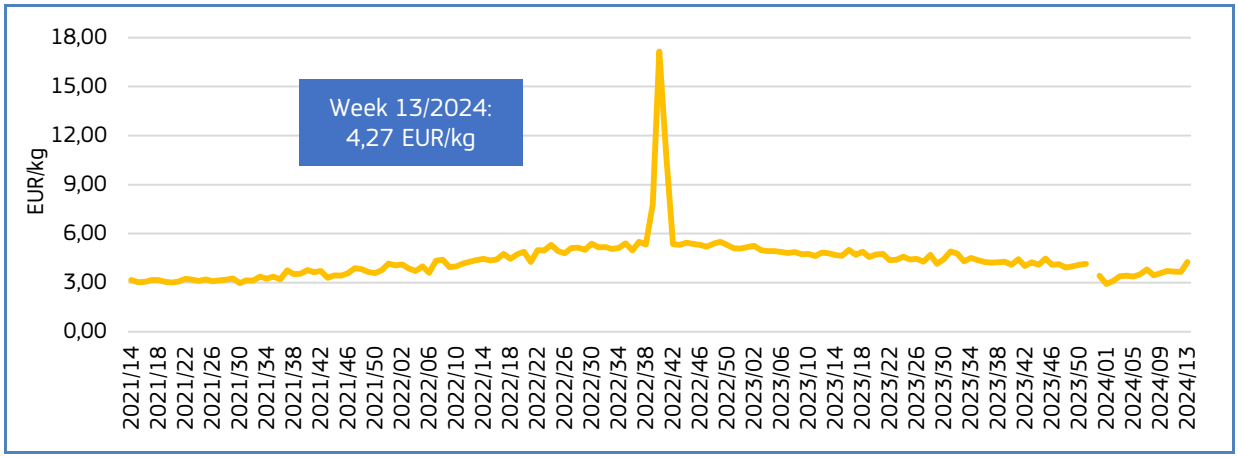
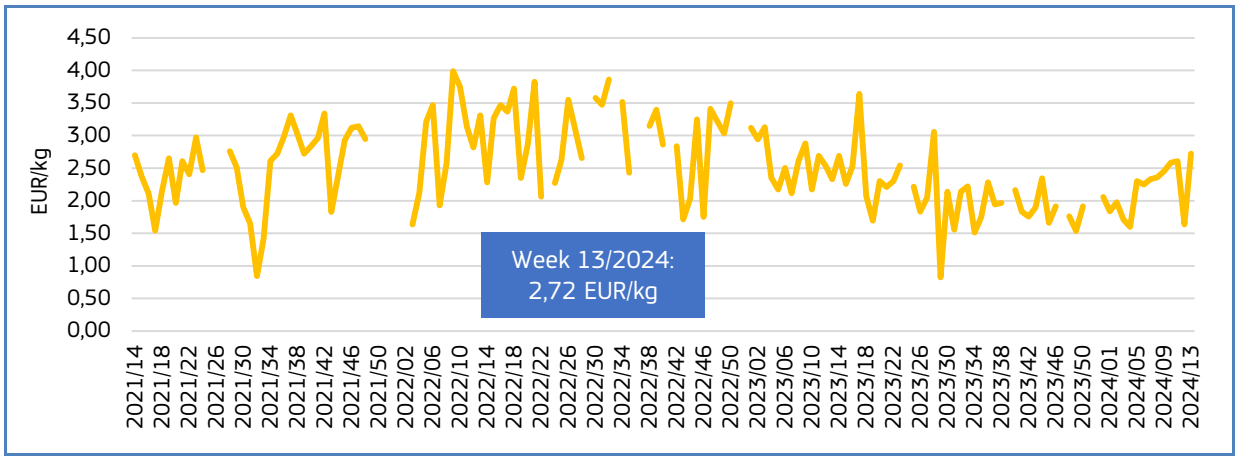


Figure 39. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN HADDOCK FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 14/2024, the price of fresh or chilled **southern hake** from **Chile** showed some fluctuations and a decreasing trend. The price ranged between 6,49 EUR/kg and 7,26 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated ranging between 35 and 109 tonnes.

Between weeks 01/2024 and 14/2024, the price of frozen **cod** from the **Russian Federation** fluctuated and increased. The price ranged from 2,93 EUR/kg to 4,27 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated strongly between 277 tonnes and 1.183 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of frozen **haddock** from **Norway** showed some fluctuations and an increasing trend. The price ranged between 1,60 EUR/kg and 2,72 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated strongly between 5 tonnes and 144 tonnes.

Table 24. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF EU IMPORTS OF THREE OTHER FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS RELEVANT TO THE EU MARKET**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 13/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 13/2023	Notes
Frozen fillets of **Argentine hake** "Southwest Atlantic hake" from **Argentina** ("Merluccius hubbsi."CN code 03047415)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	3,65	3,60 (+1%)	3,77 (-3%)	Between weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices fluctuated following an increasing trend ranging between 2,31 EUR/kg (week 29/2021) and 4,17 EUR/kg (week 39/2022). 46% of the weekly prices were between 3,50 EUR/kg and 4,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	311	268 (+16%)	490 (-37%)	Supply fluctuated greatly ranging from 95 tonnes (week 25/2021) to 986 tonnes (week 43/2022). The highest peaks in supply were registered in 2022. Highest peaks seem to occur most often in weeks 4, 20/23, 42/43. 49% of the weekly supply was less than 400 tonnes.
Preparations of **surimi** from **Thailand** (CN code 16042005)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	3,16	3,40 (-7%)	3,66 (-14%)	In the period analysed prices fluctuated following an increasing trend from the minimum price of 2,19 EUR/kg (week 23/2021) to the maximum price of 5,44 EUR/kg (week 31/2022), and then decreasing up to the latest week analysed. 72% of the weekly prices were between 3,00 EUR/kg and 4,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	71	97 (-27%)	90 (-21%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging between 6 tonnes (week 43/2023) to 294 tonnes (week 03/2022). The highest peaks in supply were recorded between weeks 3 and 7. 38% of the weekly supply was below 80 tonnes.
Frozen **coalfish** from **Norway** ("*Pollachius virens*", CN code 03036500)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	1,78	1,98 (-10%)	2,47 (-28%)	Between weeks 14/2021 to 13/2024 prices followed an increasing trend to the maximum price of 2,90 EUR/kg (week 37/2022), to then decrease to the minimum price of 1,25 EUR/kg (week 40/2023) and then increase again. 37% of the weekly prices were between 2,00 and 2,50 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	423	635 (-33%)	439 (-4%)	Volumes showed strong fluctuations ranging from 15 tonnes (week 30/2021) to 1.220 tonnes (week 21/2022). No clear seasonality is detected, while the highest peaks in supply were recorded in 2022. 43% of the weekly supply was lower than 400 tonnes.

Figure 40. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN FILLETS OF ARGENTINE HAKE FROM ARGENTINA, 2021 - 2024**

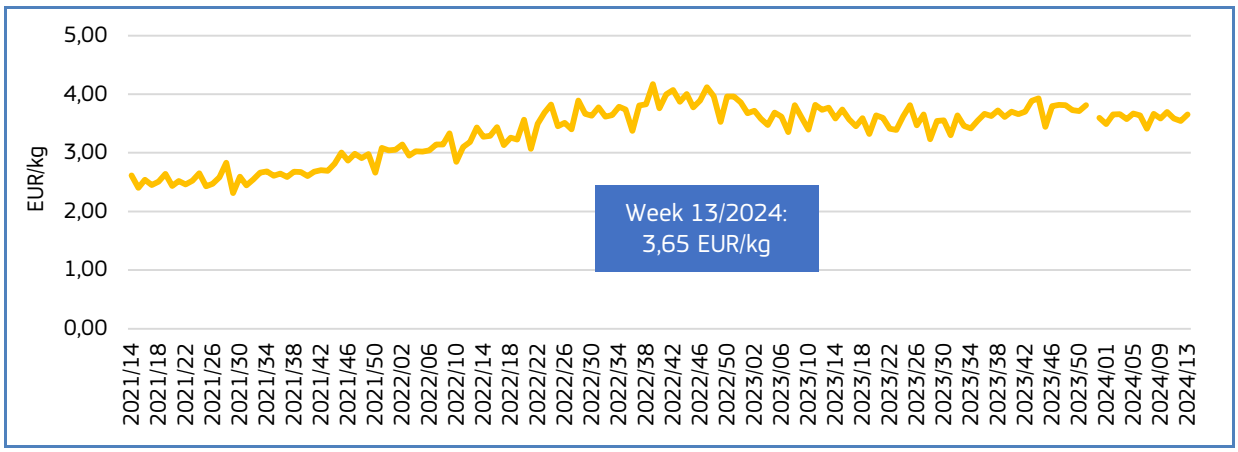


Figure 41. **IMPORT PRICE OF SURIMI FROM THAILAND, 2021 - 2024**

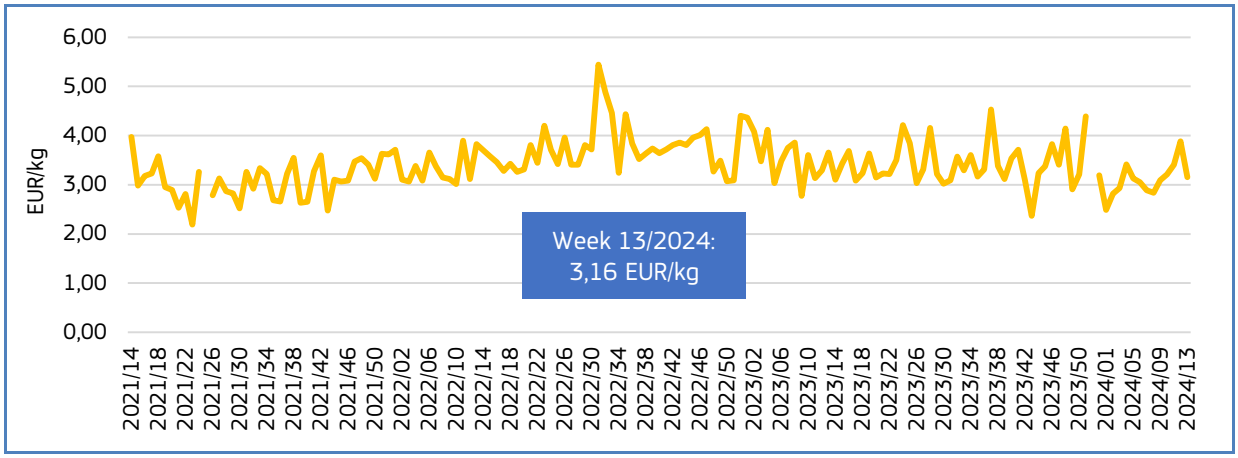
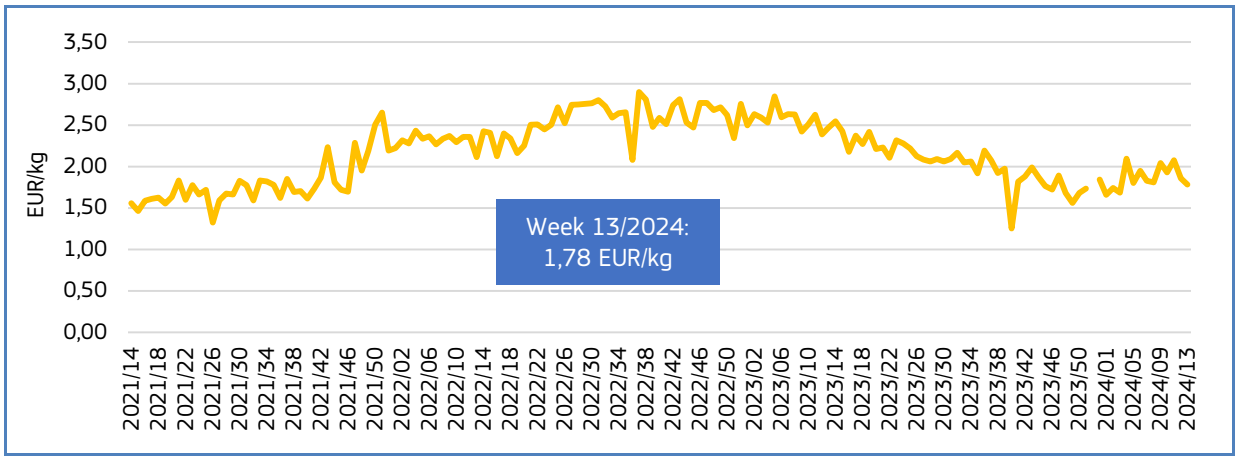


Figure 42. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN COALFISH FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 13/2024, the price of frozen fillets of **Argentine hake** from **Argentina** showed fluctuations and an increasing trend. The price ranged between 3,41 EUR/kg and 3,69 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated highly ranging between 169 tonnes and 546 tonnes.

Between weeks 01/2024 and 13/2024, the price of **surimi** from **Thailand** fluctuated and increased. The price ranged from 2,84 EUR/kg to 3,89 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated strongly between 15 tonnes and 181 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of frozen **coalfish** from **Norway** showed an increasing trend. Price ranged between 1,66 EUR/kg and 2,09 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated between 369 tonnes and 747 tonnes.

3. Consumption

3.1. HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

Data analysed in the section "*Consumption*" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from Europanel[21].
In March 2024 compared with March 2023, household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products fell in Ireland, Italy and Spain, while in Denmark, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands and Sweden an increase was observed, both in volume and value. In Sweden, where the highest increase was observed in absolute terms, it was largely based on consumption of salmon (205% of volume and 183% of value) and herring (23% of volume and 44% of value). The highest decrease was reported in Ireland due to lower consumption of saithe (41% of volume and 37% of value) and hake (39% of volume and 43% of value).

Table 25. **MARCH OVERVIEW OF THE HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION OF FRESH FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

Country	Per capita apparent consumption 2021* (live weight equivalent, LWE) kg/capita/year	March 2022		March 2023		February 2024		March 2024		Change from March 2023 to March 2024	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	20,00-25,00	1.042	18,31	883	17,16	920	17,47	1.131	23,80	28%	39%
France	32,18	15.708	207,35	15.710	214,84	13.616	196,13	15.787	220,37	0%	3%
Germany	12,51	5.987	98,29	5.183	93,70	4.650	81,43	6.272	115,08	21%	23%
Hungary	6,55	267	2,06	249	2,27	248	2,33	387	3,41	55%	50%
Ireland	14,56	1.204	18,64	1.343	21,71	994	17,66	1.125	19,96	16%	8%
Italy	30,15	27.793	317,56	23.471	294,88	16.955	216,86	21.348	271,93	9%	8%
Netherland	21,08	3.083	54,61	2.923	59,93	2.040	41,73	2.992	64,12	2%	7%
Poland	14,26	4.186	29,46	4.005	33,98	3.674	36,95	3.925	43,00	2%	27%
Portugal	56,52	5.071	37,96	4.686	35,72	4.241	34,58	4.464	37,78	5%	6%
Spain	42,98	43.698	391,75	43.451	415,57	35.807	371,02	37.926	383,92	13%	8%
Sweden	22,71	457	6,65	483	8,10	504	8,15	977	14,89	102%	84%

** EUMOFA estimates. The supply balance is built on the basis of the equation catches + aquaculture production + imports – exports = apparent consumption and is calculated in live weight equivalent. The methodologies for estimating apparent consumption at EU and Member State levels are different, the first based on data and estimates, the latter also requiring the adjustment of abnormal trends due to the higher impact of stock changes. Where EUMOFA estimations on per capita apparent consumption continued to show high annual volatility even with these adjustments, national contact points were contacted to confirm these estimates or to provide their own figures. For the Netherlands and Poland, sources are the Dutch Fish Marketing Board and Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics - National Research Institute, respectively. The estimate for Denmark was provided by the University of Copenhagen.*

Over the past three years, the average household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products in March has been above the annual average in both volume and value in most reporting countries, except for Hungary, Portugal and Sweden where both volume and value were below, and France, where only volume was 6% below the annual average.

The most recent monthly consumption data (up to **April 2024**) are available on the EUMOFA website and can be accessed **here**.

[21] Last update: 25. 05. 2024.

3.2. Alaska pollock

Habitat: Marine non-migratory species, which mainly lives in a depth range of 30-400 m. Adults usually live near to the sea floor, but sometimes also appear close to the surface[22].
Catch area: Throughout the North Pacific Ocean, but are most common in the Bering Sea[23].
Catching countries: Russian Federation, the United States, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea[24].
Production method: Caught.
Main consumers in the EU: Germany, France, Poland.
Presentation: Filleted, whole, headed and gutted.
Preservation: Frozen.

3.2.1. Overview of household consumption in Germany

Based on EUMOFA estimates, per capita apparent consumption of fishery and aquaculture products in Germany with 12,51 kg LWE was 47% below the EU average (23,71 kg LWE). Compared to Portugal (56,52 kg LWE), which has the highest consumption within the EU, per capita apparent consumption of Germany was 78% lower, but was 91% higher than that of Hungary (6,55 kg LWE) which has the lowest seafood consumption within the EU.

In 2023, the average monthly consumption of Alaska pollock was 191 tonnes in Germany[25]. A year earlier, this value was 11% higher, as well as 18% lower than the three-year average. Average consumption of Alaska pollock in 2024 was 52% lower than in the same period in 2023 and 68% lower than in the same period in 2021. In 2024, German consumers paid an average of 14,92 EUR per kg for Alaska pollock, which remained stable when compared to the same period in 2023 (14,93 EUR).

We have covered **Alaska pollock** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

Consumption: Germany MH 8 2021.

Extra EU imports: each issue (Alaska pollock frozen fillets), USA MH 1 2022, MH 8 2018.

Topic of the month: The EU Market for Alaska pollock **MH 7 2020**.

[22] https://www.fishbase.se/summary/Gadus-chalcogrammus.html
[23] https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/alaska-pollock
[24] Eumoha Monthly Highlights No. 8/2021
[25] It made up 2% of the German market of Alaska pollock.

Figure 43. **PRICES OF FRESH POLLACK PURCHASED BY GERMAN HOUSEHOLDS**

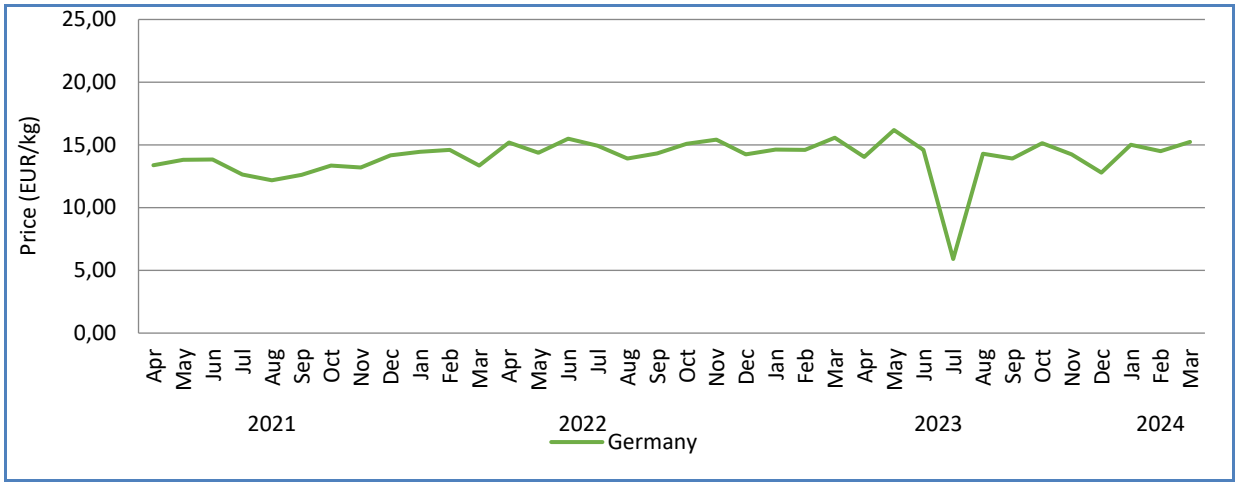
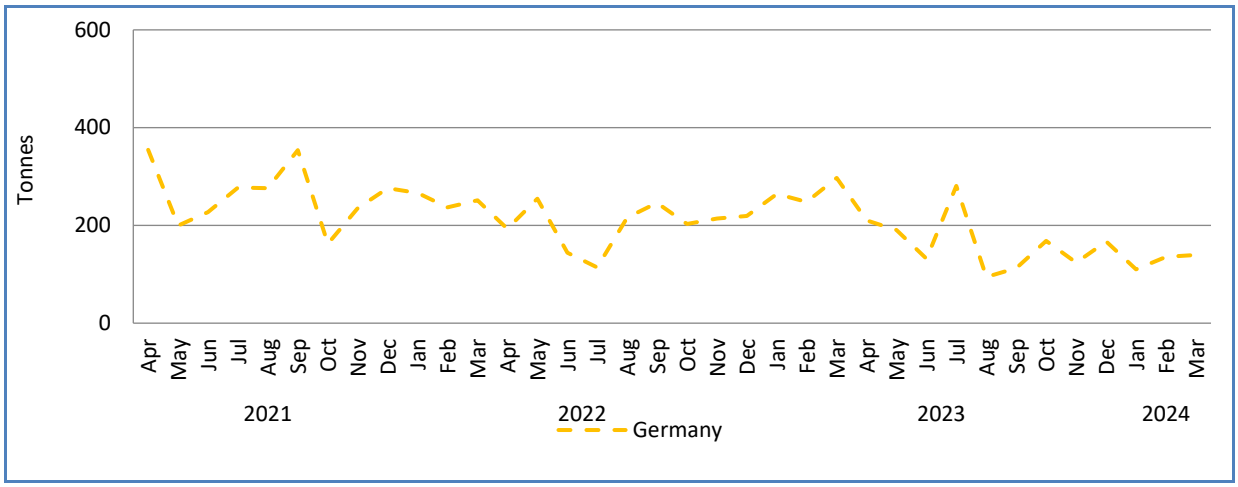


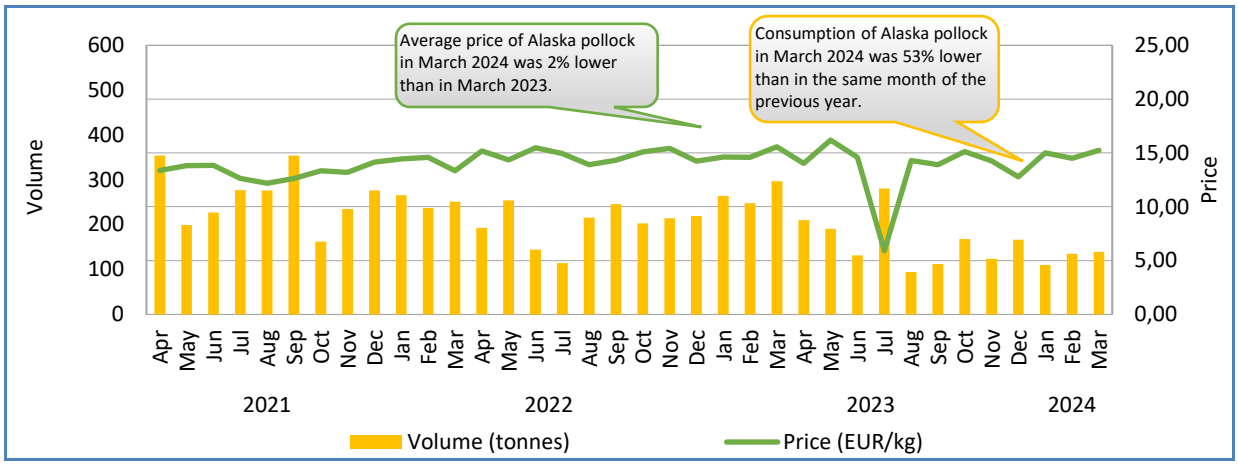
Figure 44. **HOUSEHOLD PURCHASES OF POLLACK IN GERMANY**



3.2.2. Household consumption trends in Germany

Long-term trend (April 2021 to March 2024): Downward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.
Yearly average price: 13,09 EUR/kg (2021), 14,61 EUR/kg (2022), 13,83 EUR/kg (2023).
Yearly consumption: 3.570 tonnes (2021), 2.557 tonnes (2022), 2.287 tonnes (2022).
Short-term trend (January-March 2024): Upward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.
Price: 14,92 EUR/kg.
Consumption: 385 tonnes.

Figure 45. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF POLLACK PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN GERMANY, APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024**



4. Case study: Fisheries and aquaculture in New Zealand

New Zealand is an island country located in the South Pacific Ocean[26]. It consists of two main islands, namely the North Island and the South Island as well as several smaller islands. Wellington and Auckland, which are the capital and the largest urban area of New Zealand, are located on the North Island.

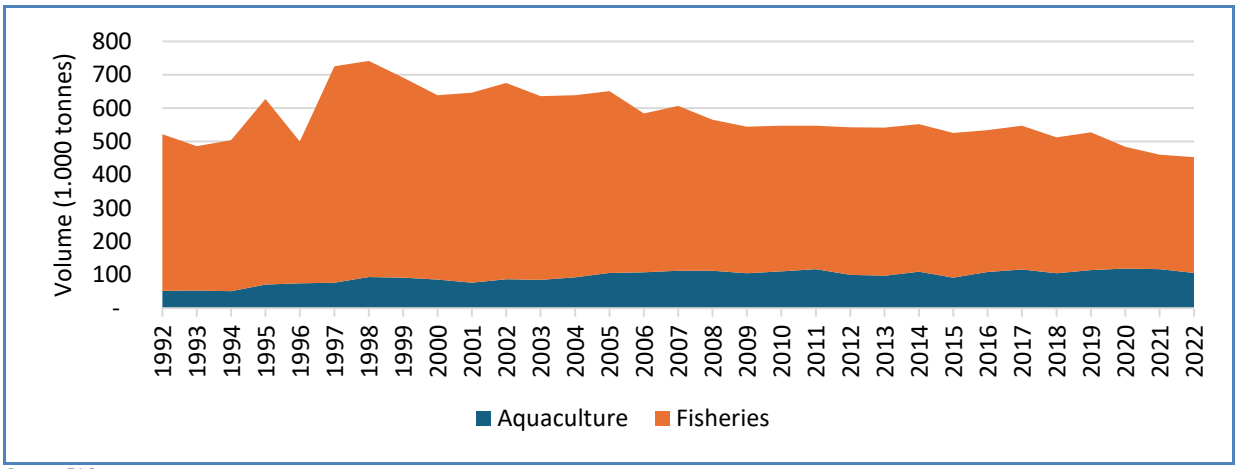
Source: Britannica.

4.1. Fisheries and aquaculture in New Zealand

In New Zealand, fisheries are managed by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). The MPI is responsible for ensuring the sustainable management of New Zealand's fisheries resources, including setting quotas, monitoring fish stocks, enforcing regulations, and supporting the fishing industry. In addition, the Fisheries New Zealand division within the Ministry for Primary Industries specifically focuses on fisheries management, policy development, and research[2]. Most of the fish species crucial to New Zealand's commercial, recreational, and customary fishers are managed under the Quota Management System (QMS). For these species, an annual limit known as the "total allowable catch" (TAC) is established. This TAC is then allocated among commercial, recreational, and customary fishers.

Marine aquaculture in New Zealand is primarily managed under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), which promotes sustainable management of environmental resources. Farmers involved in marine aquaculture must also comply with the Fisheries Act 1996 which enables the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to track who is engaged in farming and ensure stock traceability throughout the aquaculture supply chain. In addition to these two pieces of legislation, the Resource Management Act 1991 holds regional councils responsible for planning and managing aquaculture within their coastal areas, from the high tide mark to the 12 nautical mile limit. It also requires that any new marine farm must obtain a resource consent from the regional council.

Figure 46. **TOTAL PRODUCTION OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN NEW ZEALAND**



Source: FAO.

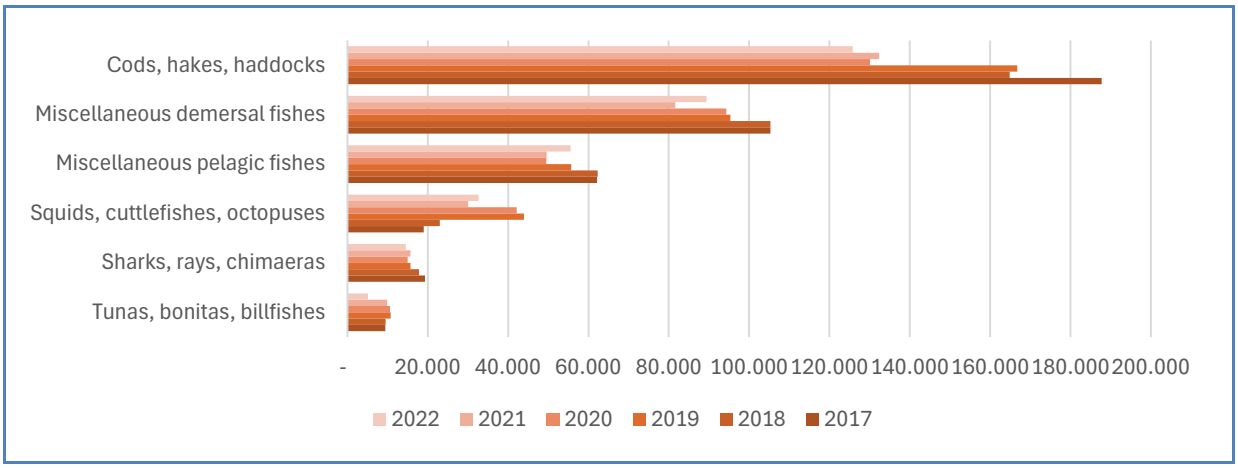
[26] Britannica. New Zealand. https://www.britannica.com/place/New-Zealand

Fisheries production

The estimated fisheries production of New Zealand in 2022 amounted to 346.320 tonnes[27]. Compared to the 2021 capture statistics from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), this was a 1% increase in capture volume. Capture volume has generally decreased over the past 25 years, dropping by more than 300.000 tonnes since 1997. In terms of value, the commercial fishing industry in New Zealand was in 2020 estimated to be worth NZD 5.17 billion (EUR 2.9 billion) to the New Zealand economy[28].

In 2022, the largest species group was cod, hake and haddock, with a volume of 125.766 tonnes, which was a 5% decrease from 2021 in terms of volume. Miscellaneous demersal fishes and miscellaneous pelagic fishes made up the second and third largest species group in terms of capture production with 89.418 tonnes and 55.551 tonnes, which were an increase of 10% and 12% from 2021.

Figure 47. **TOP FIVE CAPTURED SPECIES GROUP IN NEW ZEALAND BY VOLUME**



Source: FAO.

Aquaculture production

In 2022, the New Zealand aquaculture sector produced 106.152 tonnes of products at a value of EUR 842 million[29]. Aquaculture in New Zealand includes marine culture, freshwater culture, and land-based aquaculture.

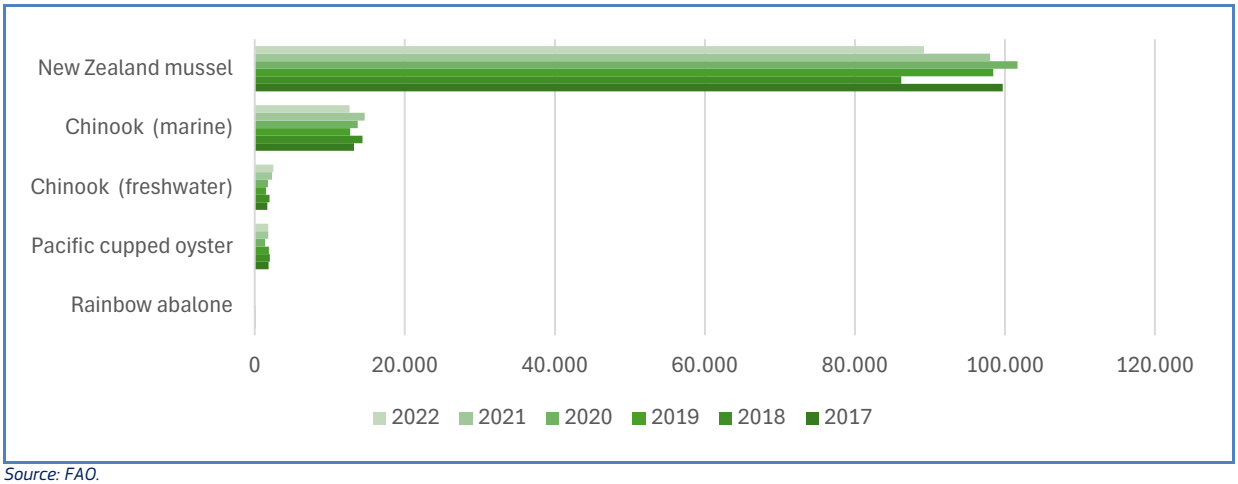
The main farmed species in New Zealand in terms of volume is the New Zealand mussel, also known as the green-lipped mussel, the greenshell mussel, kuku and kutai (*Perna canalicus*). The New Zealand mussel is a bivalve mollusc and is part of the family Mytilidae[30]. In 2022, New Zealand produced 89.203 tonnes of this species at a value of EUR 599 million. The production of the New Zealand mussel declined by 9% from 2021. The production volume reached its peak in 2020 at 101.657 tonnes. The New Zealand mussel is farmed in Marlborough Sounds, Coromandel, Golden Bay and Stewart Island. Mussels are typically farmed on longlines suspended in the water column. Spat (juvenile mussels) are collected from the wild or hatcheries and then grown on ropes in nutrient-rich waters until they reach harvest size.

The second largest farmed species in New Zealand is the Chinook salmon, also known as King Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). In 2022, New Zealand produced 15.118 tonnes of this species, where 12.640 tonnes were produced by marine aquaculture, and 2.478 tonnes were produced by freshwater farming. The volume was 11% down from 2021. The farming of Chinook salmon reached a value of EUR 224 million, an increase of 8% from 2021. The farming of the Chinook salmon primarily takes place in the Marlborough Sounds, Canterbury, and Southland[31]. The freshwater farming of King salmon is

[27] FAO Global Fishery and Aquaculture Production Statistics (2024).
[28] Business and Economic Research (BERL). The economic contribution of commercial fishing to the New Zealand economy. https://deepwatergroup.org/
[29] European Central Bank. Exchange rate.
[30] New Zealand Seafood Industry Council. *New Zealand Mussel.* https://www.seafood.co.nz/
[31] New Zealand Seafood Industry Council. *Chinook salmon.* https://www.seafood.co.nz/

related to a combination of on-growing farming of this species and activities related to broodstock, smolt and hatchery activities.

Figure 48. **TOP FIVE AQUACULTURE SPECIES IN NEW ZEALAND BY VOLUME**



Source: FAO.

The Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) is another key species for New Zealand. In 2022, New Zealand produced 1.786 tonnes at a value of EUR 16.2 million. Compared to 2021, this was a decrease of 1.7%. In New Zealand, oysters are primarily farmed in the intertidal zones of the warmer waters around the northern part of the North Island. Traditionally, wild spat was collected on sticks and then placed onto wooden racks. The industry is now evolving to farm selectively bred spat using specialized basket and bag systems which produce higher-value and more desirable oysters[32].

Fish and seafood markets in New Zealand

The seafood and fish sector in New Zealand constitutes a significant component of the national economy, contributing substantially to the country's export revenues. The industry is characterized by its diversity and encompasses various forms of marine resource utilization. Aquaculture represents an expanding segment within New Zealand's seafood industry, and prominent aquaculture products include mussels, King salmon, and oysters. A considerable portion of New Zealand's aquaculture output is destined for export markets, although a significant share supplies the domestic market. New Zealand is globally recognized for its premium seafood products, particularly Greenshell mussels and Chinook salmon, which holds a strong recognition in international markets.

Domestically, New Zealanders consume a wide variety of seafood, including fish such as snapper and hoki, shellfish (e.g., mussels, oysters, and paua), and crustaceans (e.g., crayfish and shrimp). Seafood is distributed through multiple retail channels, including supermarkets, specialty seafood shops, farmers' markets, and online platforms. Many of the major supermarket chains feature extensive seafood sections. Additionally, farmers' markets and fish markets are popular venues for purchasing fresh seafood directly from fishers, often offering a wide range of locally sourced and farmed products.

New Zealand consumers are increasingly conscious of sustainability and environmental impact, showing a strong preference for sustainably sourced and certified seafood products[33][34] The domestic market is regulated by stringent quality and safety standards, ensuring that seafood products are fresh, safe and of high quality. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) oversees these regulatory frameworks, ensuring compliance and maintaining the integrity of the seafood supply chain.

[32] Aquaculture New Zealand. *Pacific oysters.* https://www.aquaculture.org.nz/
[33] Marine Stewardship Council. *New Zealanders Choose Sustainable Seafood for Future Generations.* https://www.msc.org/en-us/media-center/news-media/news/new-zealanders-choose-sustainable-seafood-for-future-generations
[34] Boston Consulting Group. *The Green Economy Represents an Opportunity to Supercharge New Zealand.* https://www.bcg.com/publications/2023/observing-megatrends-new-zealand-green-economy.

4.2. International trade

International trade is an important aspect of New Zealand's economy and makes up approximately 60% of the country's total economic activity[35]. New Zealand has been a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) since it was created in 1995. New Zealand has free trade agreements (FTAs) through both bilateral and multilateral agreements. In terms of bilateral agreements, New Zealand has FTAs with the European Union, the United Kingdom, Australia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Korea and China. Regarding multilateral agreements, New Zealand is part of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA), The Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER), the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), and the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership.

There are also two free trade agreements that have been concluded but are yet to be in force as they await legal verification, signing, and ratification by the governments of the parties involved. These are the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA), and the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP).

New Zealand is also currently in negotiations to settle new, or upgrade already existing, free trade agreements, and establish new rules on arising matters such as the digital economy. The free trade agreements under negotiation are with the United Arab Emirates, India, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, the Pacific Alliance, WTO e-commerce negotiations, and Russia/Belarus/Kazakhstan (RBK). The FTA negotiations with RBK were suspended in 2014 following Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea.

Export of fishery and aquaculture products from New Zealand

In 2023, New Zealand exported 256.281 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 1.2 billion[36]. Compared to 2022, this was a minor decrease of 0.6% in terms of volume and at a similar value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 28% decrease in traded volume but a 1% increase in traded value.

In terms of volume, most exports from New Zealand went to China (21%), Australia (11%), United States (8%), Cameroon (6%), and Japan (6%) in 2023. Based on the pre-pandemic three-year average (2017-2019), the distribution of exported fishery and aquaculture products among trade partners was relatively similar before the pandemic, with China, Australia, the United States and Japan among the top five trade partners. However, a large share of the products went to Indonesia during 2019 (15%), which resulted in Indonesia being one of the top five trade partners between 2017-2019.

Other marine fish[37] (18%), other groundfish (16%), followed by horse mackerel, other (15%), and mussel, other (12%) made up most of the export volume (61%) from New Zealand in 2023. These four categories accounted for 46% of the export value. However, rock lobster and sea crawfish made up the largest export value with 18%. The export volume of other marine fish mainly consisted of fish species not identified. Most exports of other groundfish were made up of other fish of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrouridae, Melanonidae, Merlucciidae, Moridae and Muraenolepididae, fillets, frozen (52%). Frozen mussels accounted for 91% of the overall mussel export volume.

[35] New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade. NZ Trade Policy. https://www.mfat.govt.nz/
[36] Trade Data Monitor statistics.
[37] The export volume of other marine fish consists of fish species not identified. 77% of other marine fish consisted of Other fish (excl. 0303 11 – 0303 84), excluding edible fish offal of subheading 0303 91 – 0303 99, frozen. 12% was made up of Other fish (excl. 0304 61 – 0304 88), fillets, frozen.

Table 26. **TOTAL EXPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM NEW ZEALAND BY TRADE PARTNER (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
Trade partner	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
China	107.359	453	79.971	377	67.505	382	71.519	442	53.515	406
Australia	45.014	170	27.644	129	30.311	146	27.773	156	27.153	147
The USA	36.729	196	15.560	119	22.586	160	17.977	165	20.473	196
Cameroon	4.814	5	8.157	8	11.157	12	10.716	12	15.730	18
Japan	20.849	70	14.674	47	16.002	47	16.881	54	15.404	49
South Africa	8.478	10	9.871	13	12.482	18	9.234	15	10.015	14
Poland	7.687	34	3.686	14	9.042	31	4.787	25	8.033	41
Spain	7.337	36	10.642	37	8.187	31	8.323	35	7.592	30
South Korea	6.537	30	5.457	20	4.142	15	2.358	12	5.134	17
Samoa	3.308	2	3.915	2	4.182	3	3.824	2	5.040	4
Other	214.328	374	102.027	262	101.878	273	84.383	285	88.191	281
Total	**462.439**	**1.379**	**281.603**	**1.027**	**287.473**	**1.115**	**257.777**	**1.204**	**256.281**	**1.203**

Source: Trade Data Monitor

Import of fishery and aquaculture products to New Zealand

In 2023, New Zealand imported 150.870 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 320 million[38]. Compared to 2022, this was a 19% decrease in volume and an 8% decrease in value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 26% decrease in import volume but a 4% increase in import value.

In terms of volume, most imports to New Zealand came from Australia (44%), followed by Thailand (36%), China (6%), and Vietnam (2%) in 2023. Based on the pre-pandemic three-year average (2017-2019), the origin of imported fishery and aquaculture products has seen some changes in the top suppliers in terms of volume. Between 2017 and 2019, Thailand was on average the largest trade partner, followed by Australia, China, the US, Chile, the Netherlands, and the UK. Other non-food use (78%), other marine fish (4.5%) and miscellaneous shrimp (4%) made up most of the import volume (87%) to New Zealand in 2023. These categories also made up the largest share of the value in 2023 (56%).

Most of the import volume of other non-food use consisted of fish or marine mammal solubles (99,8%). Of other marine fish, other prepared or preserved fish made up the largest share (49%), followed by other whole or in pieces, but not minced, prepared or preserved (28%). Frozen shrimps and prawns, others, made up 65% of Miscellaneous shrimp, and prepared or preserved shrimps and prawns (not in airtight container), made up 34%. The same products also made up most of the value within their respective main commercial species. For other products, salmon (9%), miscellaneous tuna (8%), and toothfish (5%) made up a large share of the total value.

[38] Trade Data Monitor statistics.

Table 27. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO NEW ZEALAND BY TRADE PARTNER (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

Trade partner	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Australia	67.656	95	65.329	83	80.464	81	73.003	87	65.908	100
Thailand	79.017	58	76.754	49	81.725	50	72.515	55	54.156	50
China	10.024	42	8.968	37	9.485	40	8.577	45	9.153	45
UK	5.488	8	5.154	7	4.512	6	4.423	7	2.420	4
Vietnam	3.052	17	2.603	14	2.897	16	3.166	21	3.002	17
India	814	5	1.159	8	1.533	9	2.876	21	2.358	15
Malaysia	2.206	4	2.380	4	2.508	5	2.375	6	1.617	4
Netherlands	4.818	8	4.176	7	3.407	6	2.079	5	893	3
USA	21.707	47	2.625	12	2.266	11	1.780	10	1.775	10
Indonesia	215	2	889	2	1.139	2	1.755	4	341	2
Other	36.163	97	15.832	80	14.836	83	13.775	91	9.247	72
Total	**231.161**	**385**	**185.870**	**299**	**204.772**	**305**	**186.324**	**347**	**150.870**	**320**

Source: Trade Data Monitor data.

4.3. Trade flows with the EU

The EU currently has a free trade agreement with New Zealand[39]. This agreement was signed in Brussels on 9 July 2023 and entered into force on 1 May 2024. As with New Zealand's other free trade agreements, the European Union and New Zealand agreement has maintained the unique status of the Treaty of Waitangi[40]. This agreement enhances opportunities and lowers barriers for Māori businesses in the EU market. One of the outcomes of the FTA on fish and seafood was that 99.5% of New Zealand's current trade on fish and seafood can enter the EU market tariff free from the first day. Within five years, this will increase to 99.9%, and then 100% within seven years[41].

In 2022, bilateral trade in goods between New Zealand and the EU accounted for EUR 9.1 billion. Trade in services equaled EUR 3.5 billion in 2021. Exports from New Zealand to the EU are mainly dominated by agricultural products, while exports from the EU to New Zealand are centered around manufactured goods.

Ahead of the FTA between the EU and New Zealand, the two countries entered into a partnership agreement in 2017, which entered into force in July 2022. This agreement comprises several cooperation and economic rules. The EU and New Zealand have a bilateral agreement for the mutual recognition of specific technical certificates, initially implemented in 1998 and revised in 2012. Moreover, a veterinary agreement designed to streamline trade in live animals and animal products, while ensuring the protection of public and animal health, has been in effect since 2003 and was updated in 2015.

EU export of fishery and aquaculture products to New Zealand

In 2023, the EU exported to New Zealand 1.258 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 21 million. Compared to 2022, this was a 49% decrease in volume but a 1,6% increase in value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 74% decrease in export volume but a 20% increase in export value.

[39] New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade. https://www.mfat.govt.nz/
[40] *"As in all of New Zealand's free trade agreements concluded since 2001, the NZ-EU FTA preserves the unique status of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, ensuring the Government's ability to meet its obligations to Māori. The Tiriti o Waitangi exception protects the New Zealand government's ability to adopt policies it considers necessary to fulfil its obligations to Māori.". - New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade.*
[41] New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade. *NZ-EU FTA.* https://www.mfat.govt.nz/

In 2023, salmon (70%) accounted for the biggest volume exported to New Zealand from the EU, followed by other products (10%), Miscellaneous small pelagics (9%) and anchovy (2%). Salmon was the most valuable product exported (88%), followed by miscellaneous small pelagics (3%), other products (3%), and anchovy (2%). Compared to 2022, exports from the EU to New Zealand of both salmon, other products, miscellaneous small pelagics, and anchovy increased. The reason for the 49% decrease in volume compared to 2022 was due to a decline in the export volume of other non-food use (-98%).

In 2023, salmonids made up 100% of the salmon exports to New Zealand, most of which were exported from Germany (49.6%) and Denmark (49.6%). Under other products, miscellaneous aquatic products made up the whole category. These products were mainly exported from Italy (79%), Germany (7%) and Spain (5%). Small pelagics were mainly exported from Latvia (85%) and Poland (10%), and anchovy was largely exported from Spain (50%) and Italy (47%).

Table 28. **TOTAL EXPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM THE EU TO NEW ZEALAND BY MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES (volume in tonnes, value in 1.000 EUR)**

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
MCS	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Salmon	739	11.414	896	13.291	948	14.658	860	17.553	876	18.533
Other products	34	315	34	311	59	391	69	327	121	607
Misc. small pelagics	23	113	33	135	58	341	85	522	113	696
Anchovy	19	275	36	447	30	400	23	380	25	444
Other non-food use	8.763	3.325	773	257	884	533	1.219	604	23	64
Other	167	1.445	475	2.921	373	2.412	222	1.406	101	779
Total	**9.744**	**16.888**	**2.247**	**17.363**	**2.353**	**18.735**	**2.477**	**20.792**	**1.258**	**21.122**

Source: Eurostat-Comext data.

EU imports from New Zealand

In 2023, the EU imported from New Zealand 30.292 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 150 million.[42] Compared to 2022, this was a decrease in import volume and value of 18% and 9%, respectively. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 18% decrease in import volume but a 3% increase in import value.

In terms of volume, Spain (27%), Poland (23%), Germany (11%), and France (10%) were the four largest markets in the EU for fishery and aquaculture products from New Zealand in 2023. In terms of value, these four markets accounted for 70% of the total import value from New Zealand to the EU market in 2023.

The EU mainly imported grenadier (35%), squid (19%), mussel, other (15%), and cusk-eel (8%) from New Zealand in 2023. These main commercial species also accounted for most of the value (82%). Poland was the point of entry for most of the grenadier (61%), followed by France (16%) and Germany (13%). For squid, Greece was the largest importer (51%), followed by Spain (42%). For mussel, other, Spain (22%), Belgium (18%) and France (17%) were the three largest importers.

[42] Eurostat-Comext data.

Table 29. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO THE EU FROM NEW ZEALAND BY MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES (volume in tonnes, value in 1000 EUR)**

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
MCS	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Grenadier	12.835	52.880	8.805	35.436	14.425	49.307	12.567	57.828	10.753	56.608
Squid	6.427	27.441	8.046	27.024	8.539	25.428	9.844	36.818	5.754	24.732
Mussel, other	4.106	24.353	3.250	20.142	2.616	14.700	4.260	28.035	4.490	31.840
Cusk-eel	1.700	8.530	1.949	8.155	2.035	6.433	2.221	8.335	2.552	9.138
Other marine fish	2.372	12.231	2.100	11.097	2.387	11.075	2.200	11.848	2.382	11.648
Other	6.777	24.273	5.502	20.453	6.995	21.690	5.802	21.940	4.360	15.732
Total	**34.218**	**149.708**	**29.652**	**122.306**	**36.996**	**128.633**	**36.893**	**164.804**	**30.292**	**149.699**

Source: Eurostat-Comext data.

5. Case study: Carp in the EU

Carp species are among the most produced freshwater species in the world. In 2021, farmed carp production in the EU reached 88.567 tonnes, with Poland, Czechia and Hungary together accounting for 57% of the total volume. However, the EU market also complements its domestic production by imports of carps from Myanmar (86% of carp extra-EU import volume in 2023), and to a lesser extent Belarus (4%) and Bangladesh (3%). In 2023, these extra-EU imports amounted to 3.939 tonnes at a value of EUR 9,9 million. Carp is mostly consumed in Eastern and Central Europe where it is a traditional dish for the Christmas season. As a result, the consumption of carp is highly seasonal and concentrated in December and to a lesser extent Easter.

5.1. Biology exploitation and management

In this report, various species are grouped together under the name "carp" (*Cyprinus* spp., *Carassius* spp., *Ctenopharyngodon idellus*, *Hypophthalmichthys* spp., *Cirrhinus* spp., *Mylopharyngodon piceus, Catla catla, Labeo* spp., *Osteochilus hasselti, Leptobarbus hoeveni, Megalobrama* spp). However, the main carp species produced in the EU is the common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), accounting for almost 85% of the total carp EU production.

Scandinavian Fishing Year Book

Common carp is a species originating from Western Asia and Eastern Europe. It has been introduced to several countries and now has a global distribution. Belonging to the Cyprinidae family, carp has an elongated, laterally compressed body with a single soft-rayed dorsal fin. Its colour varies greatly, ranging from greenish to brownish with golden reflections on its sides, while its abdomen is yellowish. It is a burrowing animal with barbels. Known for its longevity (15-20 years), this species reaches sexual maturity between 3 and 6 years of age, at a size of 25-36 cm.[43] In aquaculture, the average fish size is 50-60cm, although it can exceed one metre in length and weigh over 30 kg.

It is primarily a farmed species. Common carp is selected for aquaculture because it grows quickly, accepts almost any food, adapts easily to farming conditions, is prolific and disease-resistant, and has good quality flesh. The species was imported from China by the Romans from the 2nd century B.C., but it can also be fished. It is caught using surrounding nets, lift nets, seines, or hooks. It is highly valued in recreational fishing.[44]

5.2. Production

Global catches

The global wild-caught production of carp species[45] reached 1,3 million tonnes in 2021. The main producer was by far India (59%), followed by Uganda (9%), and Iran (6%). The EU-27 ranked 15th, accounting for only 1% of world catches. It is worth noting that most of the world catches are reported under the category "Cyprinids nei", so it is not possible to provide a detailed breakdown by species.

[43] https://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/carpe-et-autres-poissons-deau-douce
[44] https://fish-commercial-names.ec.europa.eu/fish-names/species/cyprinus-carpio_en?fao-code=FCP#commdes
[45] Carp species : *Cyprinus spp., Carassius spp., Ctenopharyngodon idellus, Hypophthalmichthys spp., Cirrhinus spp., Mylopharyngodon piceus, Catla catla, Labeo spp., Osteochilus hasselti, Leptobarbus hoeveni, Megalobrama spp*

Over the last decade (2012-2021), the global production of carp increased by 29%, though with some interannual fluctuations. There was a slight decrease in catches in 2013, but the trend remains upward. In 2022, preliminary data show a 5% decrease in world catches, mostly due to a strong decrease in catches in Uganda (-64%).

Table 30. **WORLD CATCHES OF CARP (volume in tonnes live weight)**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
India	614.927	499.851	511.500	548.500	595.600	648.900	692.715	728.081	731.631	752.527
Uganda	79.042	69.564	63.801	68.346	73.527	74.252	100.884	121.106	154.462	116.379
Iran	42.363	45.551	51.666	55.430	61.391	63.776	63.587	69.404	76.161	77.764
Russian Federation	28.986	32.595	32.527	27.411	35.614	34.945	43.640	38.915	48.241	47.173
Mexico	25.630	31.568	35.011	40.595	45.471	45.061	50.928	39.180	37.378	40.355
Uzbekistan	5.110	6.174	5.451	8.245	10.393	10.794	19.175	24.279	27.982	32.170
Nigeria	18.365	19.984	20.235	15.405	23.497	25.378	24.223	22.804	21.645	22.241
Indonesia	19.066	17.042	18.757	16.322	16.545	18.936	37.314	39.274	20.870	21.057
Philippines	26.808	28.458	32.236	30.688	14.662	16.114	17.671	17.227	14.523	18.100
UE 27	16.195	14.853	16.671	15.196	14.776	14.687	12.330	12.588	13.152	11.973
Other	102.656	138.664	147.752	114.177	115.778	121.398	106.102	126.858	119.770	126.741
Total	**980.698**	**905.877**	**936.704**	**941.351**	**1.007.928**	**1.075.026**	**1.169.360**	**1.240.710**	**1.266.492**	**1.267.246**

Source: FAO.

EU catches

In 2021, the EU-27 catches of carp reached 11.973 tonnes. Over the past ten years, the average unit value of wild carp at first sale level has been 0,47 EUR/kg. Therefore, the estimated value of catches in 2021 is EUR 5,6 million. Most of these catches occurred in Eastern and Central Europe. The main EU producers were by far Hungary (30% of the total EU catch) and Czechia (23%). Other significant producers were Romania (15%), Slovakia (13%) and the Germany (9%). Over the 2012-2021 period, EU catches of carp have followed a decreasing trend (-26%), mostly driven by the decreases reported by Hungary (+37%) and Czechia (+18%).

Table 31. **EU CATCHES OF CARP (volume in tonnes live weight)**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Hungary	5.623	5.377	6.858	4.865	4.267	4.654	3.360	3.466	4.388	3.541
Czechia	3.330	3.041	3.088	3.142	2.820	2.875	2.970	3.037	3.037	2.730
Romania	1.648	1.977	2.307	2.642	3.592	3.111	1.896	2.008	1.860	1.739
Slovakia	1.550	1.594	1.554	1.588	1.492	1.507	1.581	1.510	1.404	1.500
Germany	1.321	1.377	1.385	1.532	1.224	1.197	1.183	1.093	1.074	1.125
Greece	412	412	412	412	412	412	412	412	412	412
Italy	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360
Other	1.951	715	707	655	609	571	568	702	616	566
Total	**16.195**	**14.853**	**16.671**	**15.196**	**14.776**	**14.687**	**12.330**	**12.588**	**13.152**	**11.973**

Source: FAO.

World aquaculture production

In 2021, global aquaculture production of carp reached 31 million tonnes. The main producers were China (65%), India (19%), and Bangladesh (4%). The EU-27 ranked 15th, accounting for less than 1% of world production.

The main farmed species are the common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) (18% in volume of the total farmed carp in 2021), the silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*, 21% in volume of the total farmed carp in 2021), grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idellus*, 25% in volume of the total farmed carp in 2021) and the bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*, 14%). However, this term also includes less represented species such as catla (*Catla Catla*) and nilem carp (*Ostechilus hasselti*).

Over the last decade (2012-2021), global production of carp species increased by 34% mostly due to increases in China and India. In 2022, preliminary data show a slight increase in world farmed production of carp by 5%, mostly due to increases in India (+10%) and China (+2%).

Table 32. **WORLD AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF CARPS (volume in 1.000 tonnes net weight)**[46]

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
China	16.542	17.392	18.533	19.441	19.955	20.031	20.027	19.885	20.003	20.232
India	3.006	3.237	3.326	3.471	3.753	4.034	4.736	5.151	5.573	5.970
Bangladesh	1.052	1.077	1.008	1.010	1.005	1.126	1.192	1.246	1.365	1.385
Myanmar	747	789	789	819	820	857	999	897	1.033	859
Indonesia	422	473	497	519	552	390	606	677	610	695
Vietnam	539	503	550	466	483	509	549	580	605	630
Iran	155	168	170	184	201	196	187	213	224	217
EU-27	83	87	88	89	90	92	89	90	88	83
Others	304	274	296	288	302	295	294	299	300	316
Total	**23.274**	**24.662**	**25.838**	**26.784**	**27.786**	**28.114**	**29.372**	**29.779**	**30.571**	**31.107**

Source: FAO.

EU aquaculture production

In the EU, carp is mainly reared in ponds in extensive or semi-intensive systems. Common carp is the most important carp species reared in the EU, but other carp species are also reared such as bighead carp, silver carp and grass carp. In 2021, aquaculture production of carp species in the EU-27 amounted to 82.918 tonnes. Most of the production occurred in Poland (24%) and in Czechia (23%). Other relevant countries were Hungary (15%), Bulgaria (10%) and France (8%). Over the period 2012-2021, EU production decreased by less than 1%. In 2022, preliminary data show a slight decrease of the EU farmed carp production (-4%), mostly due to decreases reported by Czechia (-8%) and Romania (-10%).

Table 33. **EU AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF CARPS (volume in tonnes net weight)**[47]

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Poland	19.561	20.279	21.429	19.386	20.144	19.941	22.967	23.730	24.980	19.651
Czechia	19.135	17.857	18.763	18.834	19.575	19.861	19.653	19.182	18.500	18.848
Hungary	12.255	11.883	12.305	13.495	11.903	13.911	13.311	12.810	13.302	12.711
Romania	8.612	8.797	9.135	9.098	10.399	10.160	9.530	9.877	9.260	8.346
Bulgaria	2.451	6.490	4.550	5.726	5.858	7.595	7.789	8.254	6.242	6.255
France	7.300	7.300	7.300	7.300	7.100	7.100	2.925	2.694	2.417	2.480
Germany	5.682	5.855	5.431	5.045	5.368	4.731	4.871	4.761	4.909	4.735
Others	8.423	8.539	8.644	9.773	9.672	8.678	7.496	8.404	8.278	9.893
Total	**83.419**	**87.000**	**87.558**	**88.656**	**90.019**	**91.977**	**88.541**	**89.713**	**87.888**	**82.918**

[46] Totals do not correspond exactly to actual sums because of roundings.
[47] Totals do not correspond exactly to actual sums because of roundings.

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat and FAO data.

5.3. Import – Export

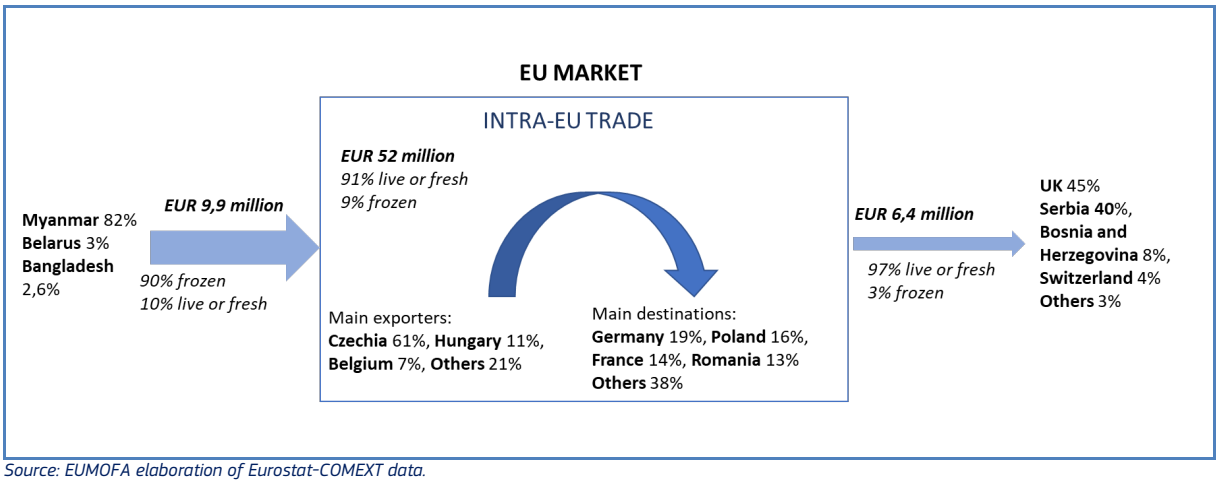
In the Combined Nomenclature used for registering EU import-export data, carp is specifically reported as live, chilled and frozen, either whole or as fillets[48].

In 2023, the EU-27 imported 3.939 tonnes of carp at a value of EUR 9,9 million, mostly frozen (90% of total value of imports) and live or fresh (10%). The major provider of carps to the EU market was by far Myanmar, accounting for 82% of the extra-EU import value, followed by the Belarus and Bangladesh (3% each). Other sources account for less than 0,5% of the total. Italy was by far the main importer accounting for 44% of extra-EU import value, followed by Belgium (31%), Germany and the Netherlands (5% each).

In the same year, EU exports to third countries were lower and amounted to 1.389 tonnes at a value of EUR 6,4 million. Most of these exports included fresh or live carp (97% of total extra-EU export value). Frozen products accounted for 3% of the total export value. The main destinations in value terms were the United Kingdom (45% of the total value), Serbia (40%), the Bosnia and Herzegovina (8%) and Switzerland (4%). Hungary (35% of extra-export value) was by far the main EU exporter of carp to third countries, followed by Croatia (30%) and Poland (12%).

In 2023, intra-EU exports amounted to 15.989 tonnes of carp products at a value of EUR 52 million. Intra-EU trade was dominated by live or fresh carp, accounting for 91% of the total intra-EU export value. Other main trade products were frozen whole carp (9%). The main exporting countries within the EU were Czechia (61% of the intra-EU export value), Hungary and Belgium (11% and 7% respectively). Germany was the main destination of intra-EU exports (19% of intra-EU export value), followed by Poland (16%), France (14%) and Italy (12%).

Figure 49. **THE CARP TRADE MARKET IN 2023, IN VALUE**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

[48] 03019300: live carp (cyprinus carpio, carassius carassius, ctenopharyngodon idellus, hypophthalmichthys spp., cirrhinus spp., mylopharyngodon piceus)
03027300 : fresh or chilled carp (cyprinus carpio, carassius carassius, ctenopharyngodon idellus, hypophthalmichthys spp., cirrhinus spp., mylopharyngodon piceus)
03032500 : frozen carp (cyprinus carpio, carassius carassius, ctenopharyngodon idellus, hypophthalmichthys spp., cirrhinus spp., mylopharyngodon piceus)
03043900 : fresh and chilled fillets
03046900 : frozen fillets

5.4. Consumption and marketing

The EU market for carp is estimated at almost 89.000 tonnes LWE in 2021, which represented only 1% of the total EU consumption of FAPs.

However, the consumption of carp is significant in a few MS. Poland was the largest market for carp in 2021, with an apparent consumption of 20.300 tonnes LWE. Carp was the 12th most consumed species in the country, as in Poland many other species are consumed. The Polish market is primarily supplied by domestic production. Hungary, Czechia and Romania are also large consumer countries where carp consumption represented a significant share of the total FAP consumption, with respectively 22%, 12% and 8%. In 2021, carp was the most consumed species in Hungary and the second most consumed species in Romania and Czechia.

Table 34. **APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF CARP IN THE MAIN EU MARKETS (2021, in tonnes of live weight equivalent)**

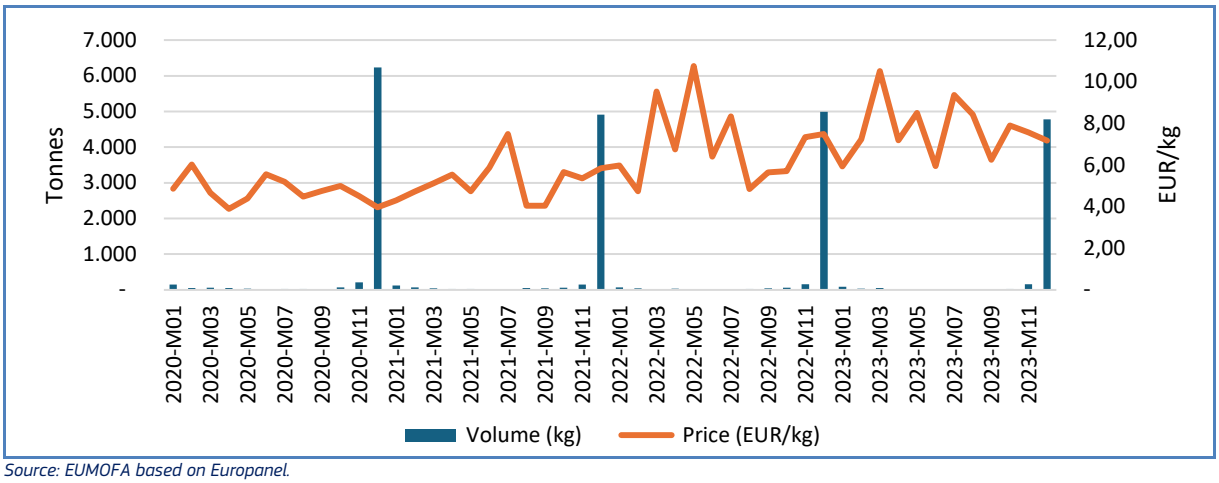
Country	Production	Import	Supply	Export	Apparent consumption	Share in the total FAP apparent consumption
Poland	19.106	1.659	20.765	461	20.304	4%
Hungary	16.108	172	16.280	2.622	13.659	22%
Romania	8.776	4.708	13.484	55	13.429	8%
Czechia	21.422	158	21.580	9.423	12.158	12%
EU-27	86.438	3.106	89.544	986	88.558	1%

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of EUROSTAT-COMEXT and FAO Fish Stat.

Carp consumption is highly seasonal as it is related to Christmas in Hungary, Czechia and Poland. However, it is increasingly consumed at the beginning of spring with the harvest of wintering ponds. Carp tends to be consumed mostly by the older generation as it requires preparation skills that the younger generation lacks.

Europanel data included in EUMOFA database provide monthly household consumption for fresh carp in Poland. It is a good example showing how the carp consumption pattern is strongly seasonal with almost all the volumes (5.000-6.000 tonnes) consumed in December each year. In recent years, the consumption of fresh carp by Polish household has followed a decreasing trend while the average price has been increasing in the meantime.

Figure 50. **MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION OF FRESH CARP IN POLAND**



Source: EUMOFA based on Europanel.

Carp is mainly purchased live, fresh directly from fish farms and fishmongers, and to a lesser extent from large-scale retailers.

In each MS, specific quality schemes are registered: PDO “Akasztói szikiponty”, PGI “Balatoni hal” and PGI “Szegedi tükörponty” registered in Hungary, PDO “Pohořelický kapr” and PGI “Třeboňský kapr” in Czechia, PDO “Karp zatorski” in Poland.

Carp is mainly consumed live fresh, and gutted and filleted to a smaller extent. The demand for carp fillets is increasing because consumers lack the skills to prepare this product.

6. Global highlights

Arctic / Sustainability: The EU Arctic Forum & Indigenous Peoples' Dialogue was successfully organised on 14-15 May in Brussels. From international cooperation to environmental protection or sustainable economic development, an exciting gathering of experts and Arctic communities came together to find solutions to the region's most pressing challenges. Climate change and biodiversity loss present dire threats to the Arctic. From using an ecosystem-based approach, to research and innovation on both policy and business sides, present and future solutions were looked at for Arctic ecosystems. This meeting also saw the very first EU-Arctic Youth Dialogue, which gave a platform to those representing the present and future of the Arctic region, and who will live with the consequences of the decisions made today[49].

EU / CFP: On 20 June 2024, the European Commission launched a consultation to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the common fisheries policy (CFP). This consultation constitutes the first part of a thorough evaluation that will look at how the CFP has achieved its objectives since 2013, including the long-term sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture, the contribution to the protection of the marine environment, the availability of food supplies, and a fair standard of living for fisheries and aquaculture communities.

The consultation aims to gather evidence and different perspectives on the CFP from a range of stakeholders, including individuals, the fisheries and the maritime sectors, non-governmental and other organisations, and national administrations from Member States.

Sustainability / IOTC: The EU welcomed the important decisions reached during the 28th annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), and which will make fisheries in the Indian Ocean more sustainable. After three years of complex negotiations, and based on a proposal from the EU, the members of the IOTC adopted a much-needed resolution for the management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADs). They also agreed on several other measures that are key for the sustainable management of stocks in the Indian Ocean. Based on an EU proposal, the IOTC adopted the most ambitious and stringent management framework for drifting FADs ever adopted in any ocean. Despite good progress, the EU regretted that its proposal to establish a fisheries closure of one month in the Indian Ocean was not adopted. It would have helped the recovery of the yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna stocks, which are currently overfished[50].

Blue economy / BiOceanOr: Leveraging expertise in artificial intelligence (AI) and marine biology, BiOceanOr, a French start-up, is using AI technologies to help manage water quality and promote sustainable practices. They have developed AquaREAL, a unique service predicting water quality. Their mission is to deliver bio-guided services that optimise fish welfare and growth, while supporting sustainable aquaculture practices. Thanks to BlueInvest support, an EU initiative that aims to boost innovation and investment in sustainable technologies for the blue economy, the start-up successfully raised its first round of funding in June 2023, amounting to EUR 2,5 million[51].

Norway / Fishery: Week 18 of 2024 and Norges Sildesalgslag reports continued low activity in sandeel fishing and modest catches of other species, despite some larger blue whiting catches. There have also been reports of smaller catches of several other species, including horse mackerel, coastal sprat, mackerel, and Norwegian spring-spawning herring. There is optimism regarding the weather conditions. With continued fine weather and good temperatures, there is hope that the mackerel will move closer to the coast, which could lead to bigger catches[52].

Iceland / Fishery: Icelandic vessels landed 155.000 tonnes in April 2024, 23% more than in April the year before. There were increased catches of most demersal species. Pelagic catches increased by 24% due to an increase in catches of blue whiting. In the 12-month period from May 2023 to April 2024 the catch was just over 1.1 million tonnes, which is a 21% decrease from the previous 12-month period. This was mainly due to no catches of capelin[53].

[49] https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-arctic-forum-indigenous-peoples-dialogue-2024-mapping-out-together-sustainable-future-region-2024-05-22_en
[50] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2683
[51] https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/bioceanor-revolutionising-aquaculture-ai-and-blueinvest-2024-05-03_en
[52] https://thefishingdaily.com/latest-news/norwegian-pelagic-fishing-report-week-18-of-2024/
[53] https://www.statice.is/publications/news-archive/fisheries/fish-catch-in-april-2024/

6. Macroeconomic Context

7.1. Marine fuel

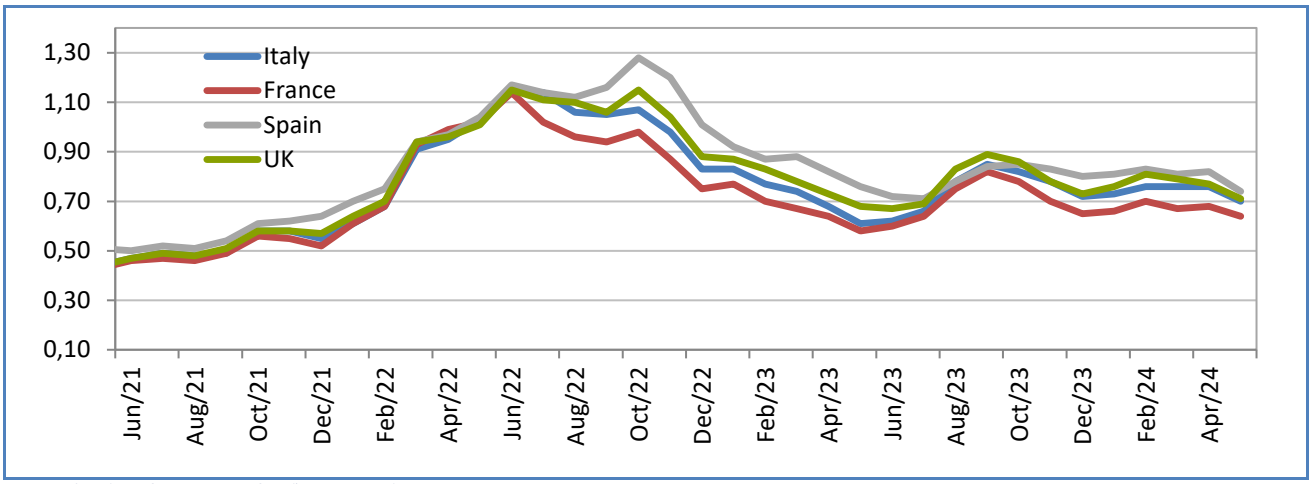
Average prices for marine fuel in **May 2024** ranged between 0,64 and 0,74 EUR/litre in ports in **France**, **Italy**, **Spain** and the **UK**. Prices decreased by 7,9% compared with the previous month and increased by an average of 6,1% compared with the same month in 2023.

Table 35. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	May 2024	Change from April 2024	Change from May 2023
France *(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)*	0,64	-6%	10%
Italy *(ports of Ancona and Livorno)*	0,70	-8%	15%
Spain *(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)*	0,74	-10%	-3%
The UK *(ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)*	0,71	-8%	4%

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

Figure 51. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

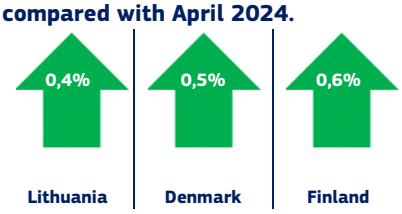


Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

7.2. Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate was 2,6% in April 2024, which is stable compared to March 2024. A year earlier, the rate was 8,1%.

Inflation: lowest rates in April 2024, compared with April 2024.



Inflation: highest rates in April 2024, compared with April 2024.

Table 36. **HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU (2015 = 100)**

	Apr 2022	Apr 2023	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	Change from Mar 2024	Change from Apr 2023
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	120,46	140,23	142,26	142,84	↑ 0,4%	↑ 1,9%
Fish and seafood	122,88	138,90	141,13	141,65	↑ 0,4%	↑ 2,0%

Source: Eurostat.

7.3. Exchange rates

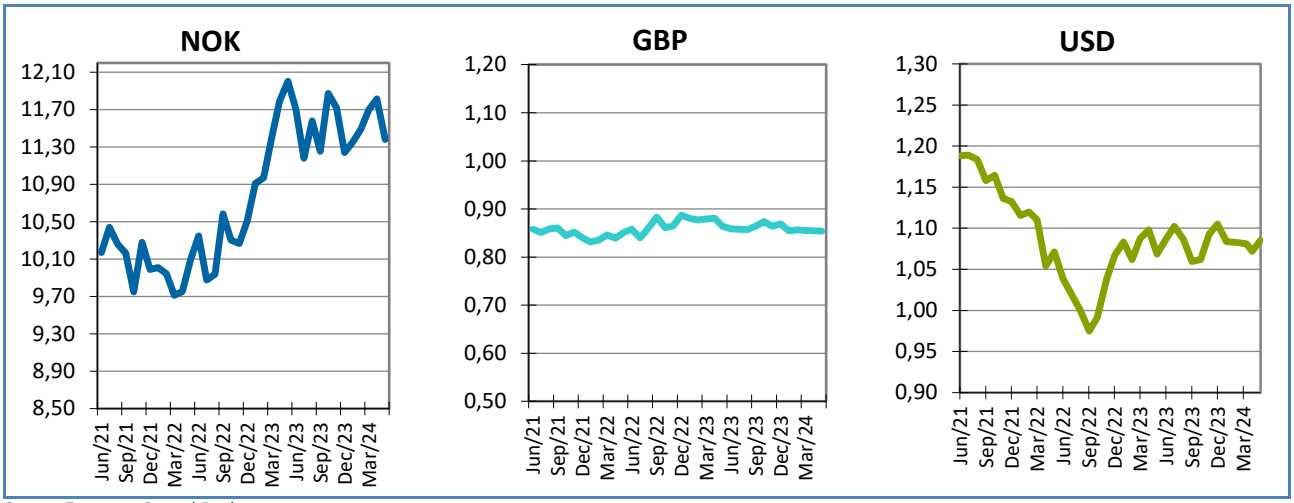
Table 37. **EURO EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES**

Currency	May 2022	May 2023	Apr 2024	May 2024
NOK	10,0983	12,0045	11,8150	11,3830
GBP	0,8514	0,8641	0,8548	0,8537
USD	1,0713	1,0683	1,0718	1,0852

Source: European Central Bank.

In May 2024, the euro appreciated against the US dollar (1,3%) and depreciated against the Norwegian krone (3,7%) and the British pound sterling (0,1%), relative to the previous month. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 1,0849 against the US dollar. Compared with May 2023, the euro has appreciated 1,6% against the US dollar and depreciated 5,2% against the Norwegian krone and 1,2% against the British pound sterling.

Figure 52. **TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES**



Source: European Central Bank.

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This report has been compiled using EUMOFA data and the following sources:

First sales: The Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), EUR-lex, ICES, European Commission, FAO.

Consumption: Dutch Fish Marketing Board, Polish Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics - National Research Institute, University of Copenhagen, FishBase, NOAA Fisheries.

Case studies: European Commission, Britannica, FAO, Business and Economic Research, European Central Bank, New Zealand Seafood Industry Council, Aquaculture New Zealand, New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade, Trade Data Monitor, Eurostat-Comext, guidedesespeces.org.

Global highlights: The Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), The Fishing Daily, Statistics Iceland.

Macroeconomic context: EUROSTAT, Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy: DPMA, France: ARVI, Spain: MABUX, European Central Bank.

The underlying first-sales data are in an annex available on the EUMOFA website. Analyses are made at aggregated (main commercial species) level and according to the EU Electronic recording and reporting system (ERS).

In the context of this Monthly Highlight, analyses are led in current prices and expressed in nominal values.

The **European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products (EUMOFA)** was developed by the European Commission, representing one of the tools of the new Market Policy in the framework of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy. [Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 art. 42].

As a **Market intelligence tool**, EUMOFA provides regular weekly prices, monthly Market trends, and annual structural data along the supply chain.

The database is based on data provided and validated by Member States and European institutions. It is available in 24 languages.

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