European Commission

Monthly Highlights

No. 7 / 2024

EUMOFA

European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

In May 2024 compared to May 2023, first sales value and volume increased in Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain. Sales decreased in Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Portugal, Sweden and the UK.

Over the 36-month observation period (June 2021 to May 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of Northern pike in Sweden was 2,34 EUR/kg, 22% higher than in Estonia (1,92 EUR/kg).

Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024, prices of frozen fillets of catfish from Viet Nam fluctuated between 1,83 EUR/kg (week 51/2023) and 3,95 EUR/kg (week 33/2022).

In 2024, the average monthly household consumption of fresh monk was 283 tonnes in France and 804 tonnes in Spain. Households paid an average of 19,29 EUR/kg and 13,72 EUR/kg in the two countries respectively.

In 2023, the USA produced 478.824 tonnes of aquaculture products to a value of EUR 1,46 billion.

In 2022, the EU-27 catches of flatfish species dropped to 93.624 tonnes from 120.377 tonnes in the previous year.

On 23 July 2024, the EU and Cabo Verde signed a new protocol for the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) allowing access by EU vessels to Cabo Verdean waters for a period of 5 years.

Contents

Find all data, information, and more at:
www.eumofa.eu
@EU_MARE #EUMOFA

1. First sales in Europe

During **January–May 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-May 2024 compared to the same period in 2023

Increases in value and volume: Bulgaria 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 and aquatic invertebrates.

Decreases in value and volume: Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Norway recorded decreases in first-sales value and volume. Regarding volumes the Netherlands stood out with the most significant drops in absolute terms, due to lower first sales of common sole, European plaice and turbot. Decreases in first sales were also significant in Sweden, due mainly to falls in first sales of sprat, herring and other groundfish.

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

	January – May 2022		January – May 2023		January – May 2024		Change from January – May 2023	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	5.724	33,66	6.821	39,47	5.393	30,61	-21%	-22%
Bulgaria	1.041	0,59	843	0,41	1.378	0,73	64%	79%
Cyprus	139	0,96	143	1,03	134	1,01	-7%	-2%
Denmark	353.082	185,98	406.193	210,33	368.495	207,69	-9%	-1%
Estonia	35.129	8,77	40.988	13,44	40.145	19,19	-2%	43%
Finland	34.348	7,60	37.737	10,60	33.301	12,29	-12%	16%
France	101.847	312,03	92.433	298,95	87.911	275,96	-5%	-8%
Germany	13.658	22,00	19.358	23,47	16.471	23,53	-15%	0%
Italy	29.625	141,96	30.921	145,17	23.445	108,52	-24%	-25%
Latvia	19.683	4,35	23.374	6,57	21.057	7,66	-10%	17%
Lithuania	722	0,46	232	0,54	244	0,34	5%	-37%
Netherlands	43.984	67,02	39.259	60,29	6.878	49,94	-82%	-17%
Poland	52.120	12,68	45.357	16,05	37.109	18,23	-18%	14%
Portugal	31.962	115,04	34.699	116,24	29.590	101,81	-15%	-12%
Spain	190.730	638,19	180.130	587,32	173.481	587,42	-4%	0%
Sweden	88.867	38,31	35.662	25,12	12.223	16,56	-66%	-34%
Norway	1.404.227	1.597,61	1.476.357	1.497,22	1.430.364	1.341,67	-3%	-10%
United Kingdom	120.752	242,15	142.803	259,68	145.745	269,37	2%	4%

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] Freshwater fish, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, cephalopods, crustaceans, Freshwater fish, freshwater fish, Freshwater fish, other marine fish, salmonids, freshwater fish, tuna and tuna-like species.
[2] First sales data updated on 17. 7. 2024

1.2. May 2024 compared to May 2023

Increases in value and volume: First sales increased in Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain. In absolute terms the highest increase was observed in Lithuania, due mainly to smelt, herring and turbot.

Decreases in value and volume: First sales decreased in Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Portugal, Sweden and the UK. Sweden and Belgium experienced the most significant falls in absolute terms in volume and value. The decrease was mainly due to falls in first sales of other groundfish, saithe and sprat in Sweden, and of common sole, ray and shrimp *Crangon* spp. in Belgium.

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

	May2022		May 2023		May 2024		Change from May 2023	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	991	6,6	1.126	7,6	671	4,9	-40%	-36%
Bulgaria	658	0,3	466	0,192	486	0,209	4%	9%
Cyprus	23	0,2	32	0,2	25	0,2	-21%	-17%
Denmark	95.272	48,6	86.314	46,5	61.056	34,4	-29%	-26%
Estonia	8.633	2,4	8.772	3,4	9.341	4,3	6%	27%
Finland	10.030	2,1	9.059	2,5	7.717	2,5	-15%	-1%
France	30.657	61,9	24.814	57,5	21.670	54,2	-13%	-6%
Germany	4.444	6,3	2.582	3,3	2.591	6,6	0%	101%
Italy	7.650	36,9	8.031	37,7	5.933	26,6	-26%	-29%
Latvia	3.211	0,9	3.626	1,1	2.671	1,3	-26%	12%
Lithuania	82	0,062	99	0,095	161	0,170	63%	79%
Netherlands	1.862	11,1	1.778	9,2	1.898	13,3	7%	44%
Poland	1.053	0,4	1.119	0,657	1.385	1,0	24%	50%
Portugal	11.727	29,5	13.135	28,2	11.121	24,7	-15%	-12%
Spain	48.168	161,7	45.605	140,3	46.540	149,2	2%	6%
Sweden	14.571	6,0	15.359	8,1	8.274	5,4	-46%	-33%
Norway	255.976	247,3	176.812	163,9	184.237	150,8	4%	-8%
United Kingdom	14.651	42,0	16.754	47,1	14.179	39,5	-15%	-16%

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**.

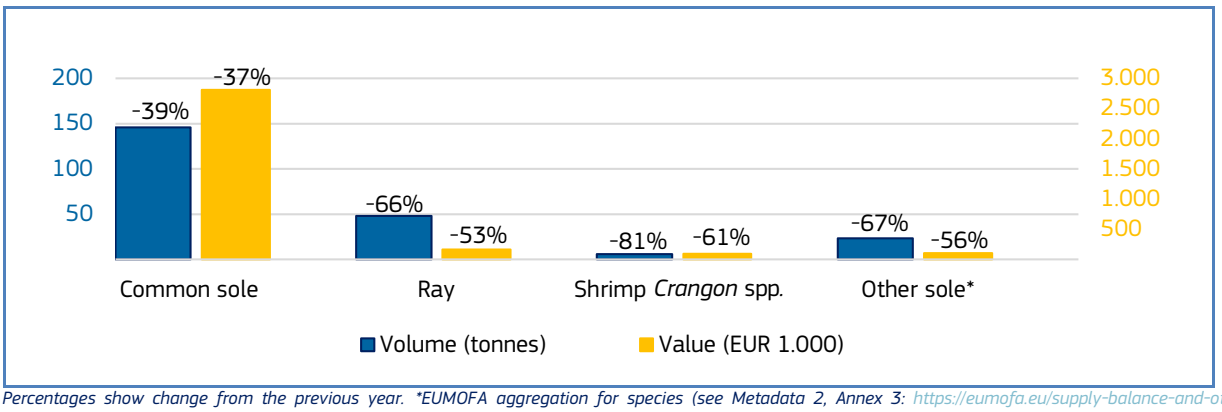
1.3. First sales in selected countries

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-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 30,6 million, -22%	5.393 tonnes, -21%	Common sole, squid, ray, shrimp *Crangon* spp..
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 4,9 million, -36%	671 tonnes, -40%	Common sole, ray, shrimp *Crangon* spp., other sole*.

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

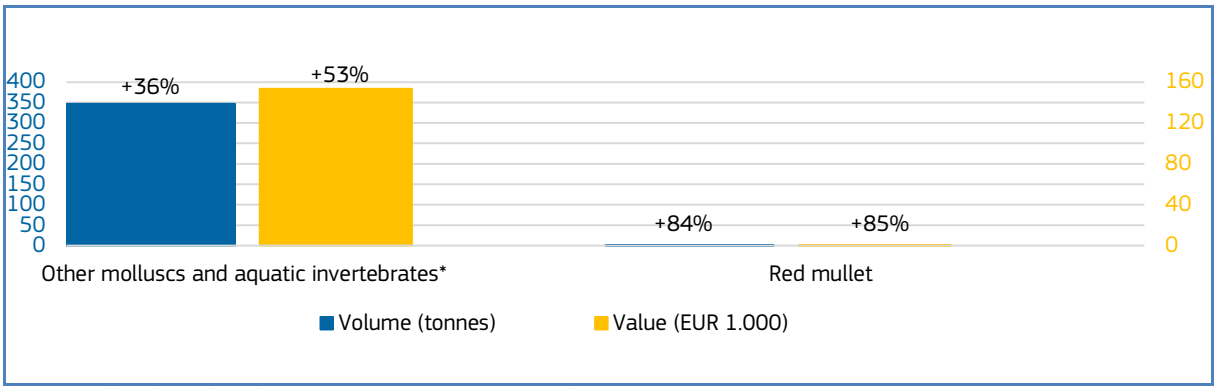


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species (see Metadata 2, Annex 3: https://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other methodologies).*

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

Bulgaria	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 0,7 million, +79%	1.378 tonnes, +64%	Sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 0,2 million, +9%	486 tonnes, +4%	Other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, red mullet.

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



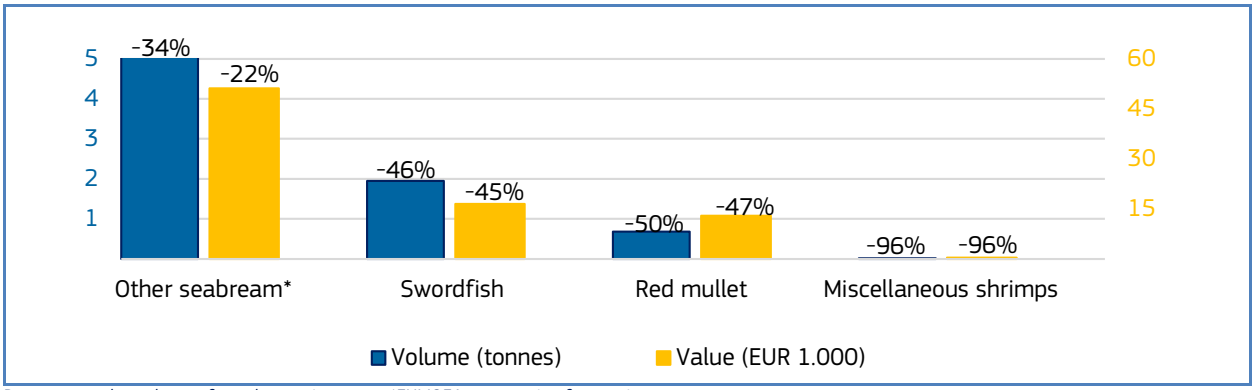
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

[3] First-sales data updated on 17. 7. 2024.

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

Cyprus	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 1,0 million, -2%	134 tonnes, -7%	Picarel, squid, swordfish, red mullet.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 0,2 million, -17%	25 tonnes, -21%	Other seabream*, swordfish, red mullet, miscellaneous shrimps.

Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN CYPRUS, MAY 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
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 207,7 million, -1%	368.495 tonnes, -9%	Other groundfish*, Norway lobster, saithe, sprat, European plaice.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 34,4 million, -26%	61.056 tonnes, -29%	Other groundfish*, herring, saithe, Norway lobster.

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

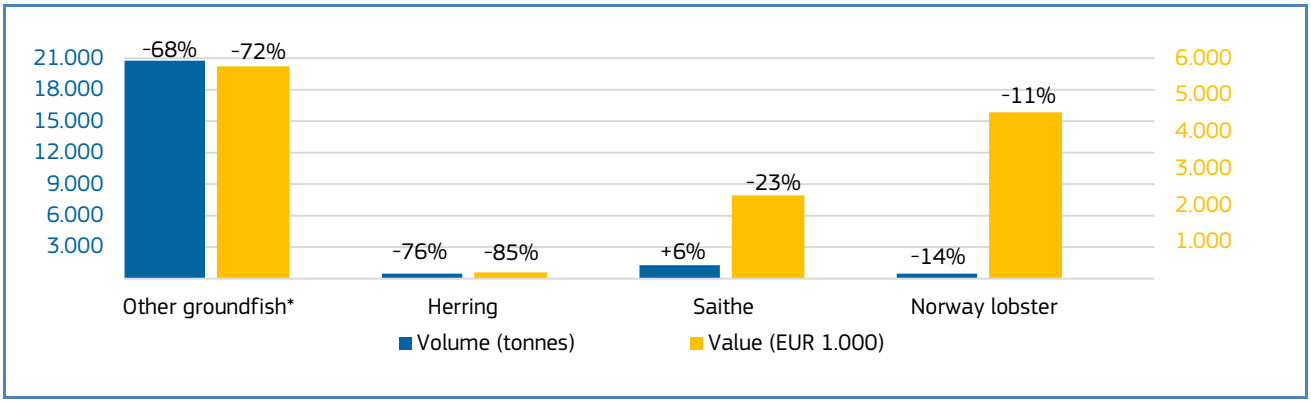
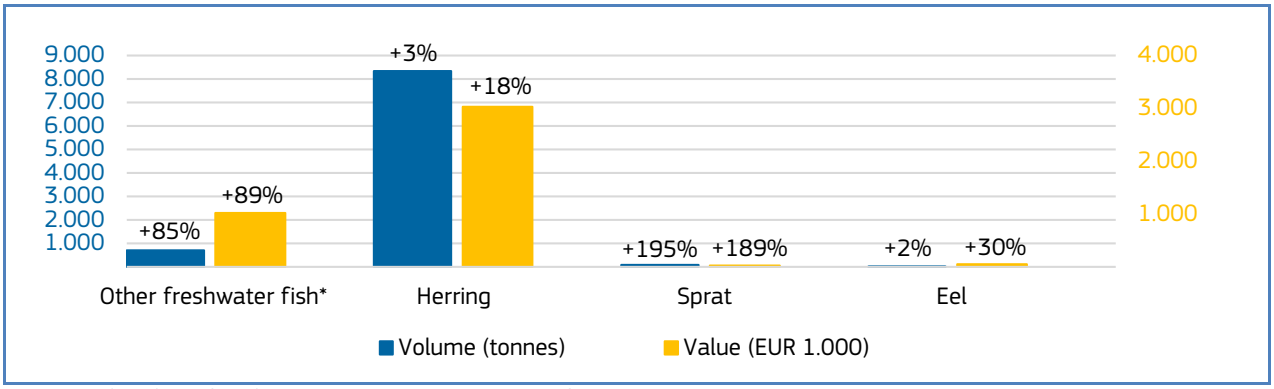


Table 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA**

Estonia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 19,2 million, +43%	40.145 tonnes, -2%	**Value:** sprat, herring, smelt. **Volume:** herring, European flounder, other salmonids*.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **pike-perch** compared to May 2023. Pike-perch is a freshwater species and the largest supply comes from inland freshwaters. The species is not covered by TAC and catches are not regulated. Existing resources in fishing capacity, weather conditions and fish stock availability allowed an increase in the volume of landings in May 2024 compared to May 2023. Slight increases or decreases in quantities show noticeable differences in percentages. Pike-perch is popular for local consumption and its reasonable price raised consumption levels. It was also observed that in May 2024 fuel prices in Estonia increased by 9% compared with May 2023.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 4,3 million, +27%	9.341 tonnes, +6%	Other freshwater fish*, herring, sprat, eel,	

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

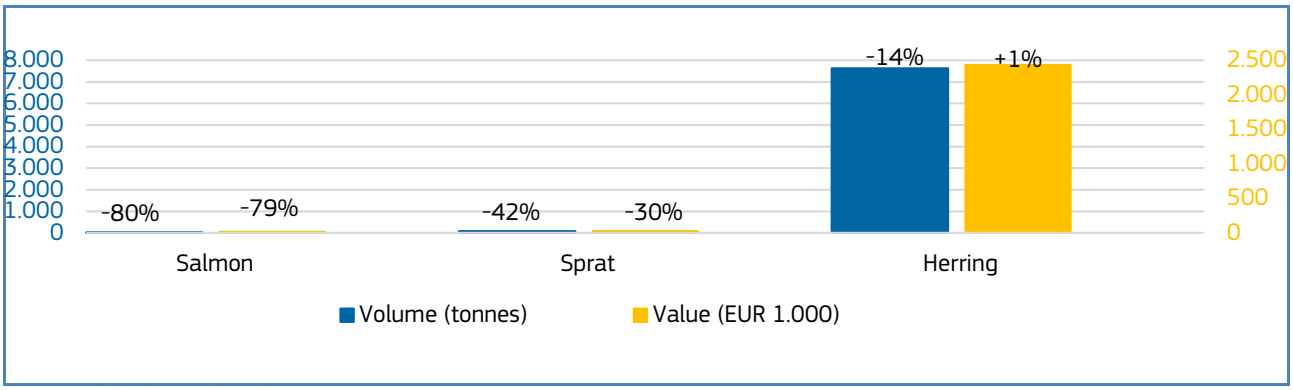


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

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

Finland	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 12,3 million, +16%	33.301 tonnes, -12%	**Value:** Herring, sprat. **Volume:** herring sprat.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 2,5 million, -1%	7.717 tonnes, -15%	Salmon, sprat, herring.

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

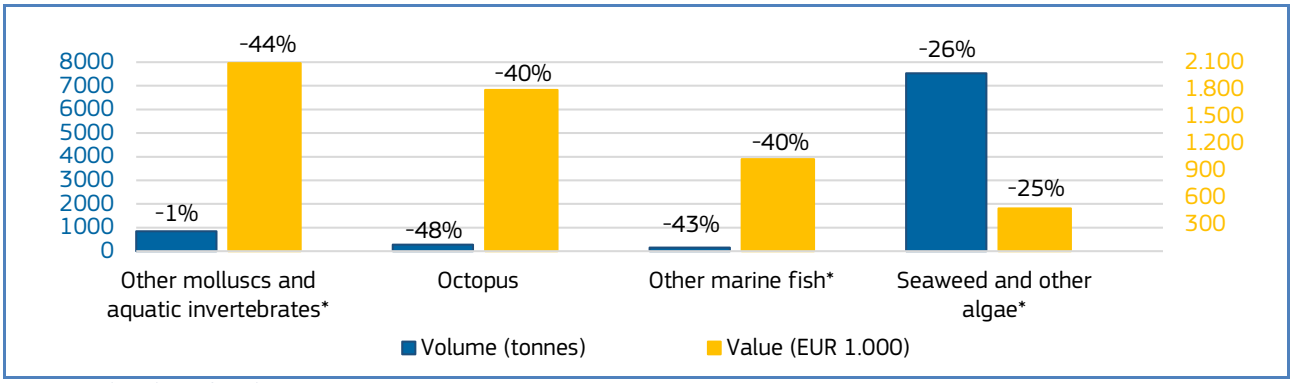


Percentages show change from the previous year.

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

France	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 276,0 million, -8%	87.911 tonnes, -5%	Squid, eel, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, blue whiting.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 54,2 million, -6%	21.670 tonnes, -13%	Other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, octopus, other marine fish* seaweed and other algae*.

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



Percentages show change from the previous year.

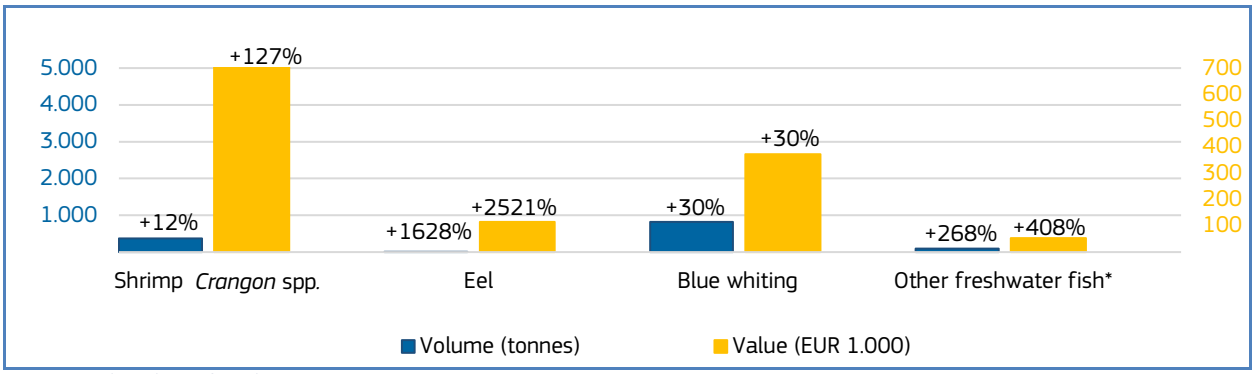
Table 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GERMANY**

Germany	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 23,5 million, 0%	16.471 tonnes, -15%	Shrimp *Crangon* spp., mackerel, sprat, Greenland halibut.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in total first sales in Germany compared to May 2023. The increase is explained by a change in the composition of landings, with an increase in landings of high value species (coldwater Shrimp: 3,92 €/kg, shrimp *Crangon*: 12,33 €/kg) and a decrease in landings of low value species (especially sprat: 0.24 €/kg). The increase in landings of coldwater shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) might mostly involve foreign landings due to the following: 1) EU fishing opportunities, especially in
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 6,6 million, +101%	2.591 tonnes, 0%	Shrimp *Crangon* spp., eel, blue whiting, other freshwater fish*.	

Greenland waters, are mostly allocated to Danish and French fleets, except for a reserve of 150 tonnes[4]; 2) landings recorded in the EUMOFA database fluctuate a lot, with 136 tonnes and 106 tonnes in April and October 2021, 280 tonnes in October 2022 and 220 tonnes in May 2024; 3) for the corresponding months, no landings were reported in the German data reports[5].
In general, the stock of coldwater shrimp is considered to be in a rather good state[6].

In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **shrimp *Crangon* spp**. compared to May 2023. The shrimp *Crangon* spp. or North Sea "brown" shrimp stock (*Crangon crangon*) appears to be trending above lower reference limits or proxies and has shown a tendency to recover quickly from periods of lower abundance[7]. German production of shrimp *Crangon* spp. increased from around 332 tonnes to 372 tonnes (+12%), but the increase in value was even greater, from EUR 2 million to EUR 4,6 million, due to a doubling in price (from 6,10 €/kg in May 2023 to 12,34€/kg in May 2024).

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



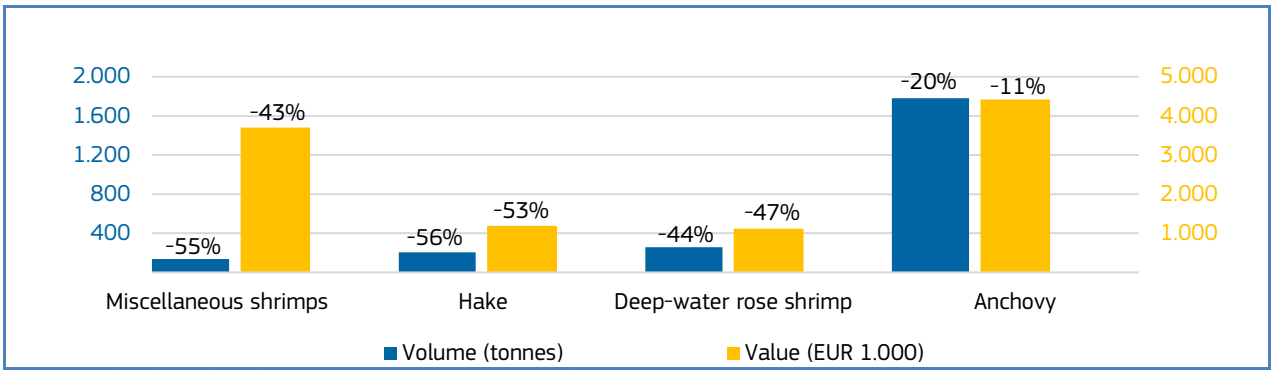
Percentages show change from the previous year.

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

Italy	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 108,5 million, -25%	23.445 tonnes, -24%	Hake, miscellaneous shrimps, clam, deep-water rose shrimps, anchovy.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 26,6 million, -29%	5.933 tonnes, -26%	Miscellaneous shrimps, hake, deep-water rose shrimps, anchovy.

[4] EC, 2024: COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2024/257 of 10 January 2024 fixing for 2024, 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194
[5] Bericht über die Fischerei und die Marktsituation für Fischereierzeugnisse in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland 2021, 2022
[6] ICES Advice 2024 – pra.27.3a4a – https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.25019483
[7] https://www.fishsource.org/stock_page/1207

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

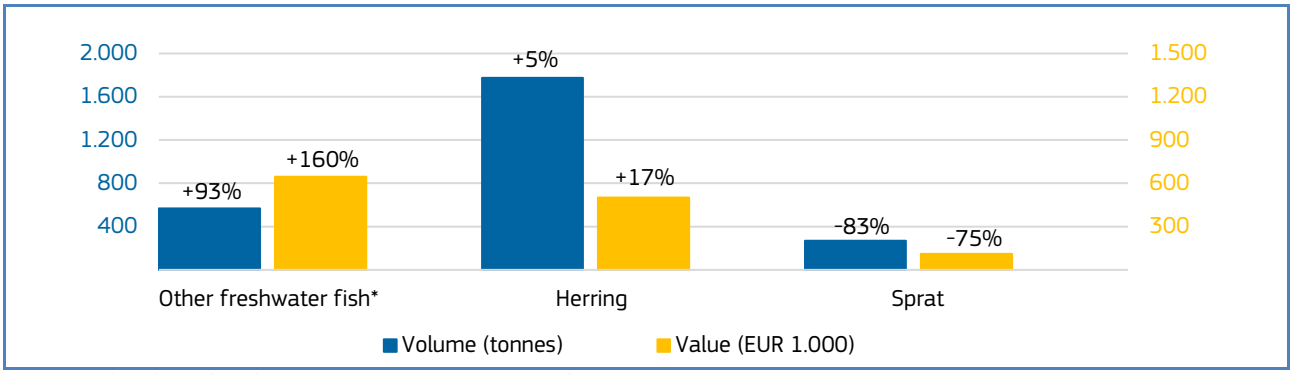


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

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

Latvia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume/ trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 7,7 million, +17%	21.057 tonnes, -10%	**Value:** sprat, other freshwater fish*, herring. **Volume:** sprat, herring, smelt.
May 2024 vs May 2023	1,3 million, +12%	2.671 tonnes, -26%	**Value:** other freshwater fish*, herring, miscellaneous small pelagics. **Volume:** Sprat, European flounder, turbot.

Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA, MAY 2024**



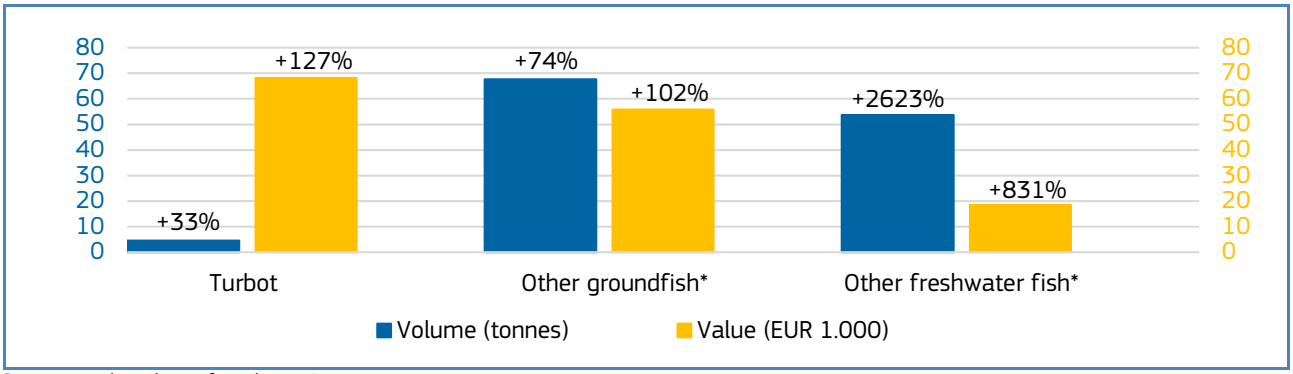
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

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

Lithuania	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume/ trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 0,3 million, -37%	244 tonnes, +5%	**Value:** Smelt, herring, European flounder. **Volume:** other freshwater fish*, other groundfish*, miscellaneous small pelagics.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **freshwater fish species** compared to May 2023. In Lithuania freshwater fish are only fished in coastal areas of the Baltic Sea and the fishery is spreading by seasonal periods. The freshwater stocks flow from the Corunian Lagoon to the Baltic Sea and stay in the coastal areas. Furthermore, in the Baltic Sea region fuel prices were lowest in Lithuania in May 2024. The increases in value and volume were affected by catches of vimba bream and freshwater bream. Weather
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 0,2 million, +79%	161 tonnes, +63%	Turbot, other groundfish*, other freshwater fish*.	

				conditions, fishing capacity and resources allowed an increase in fishing effort so as to increase market supply in May 2024. It is noticeable that due to increased quantities of freshwater bream supplied to the market, significant decreases of around 65% in price were observed. That might show that supply was much higher that demand.

Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, MAY 2024**



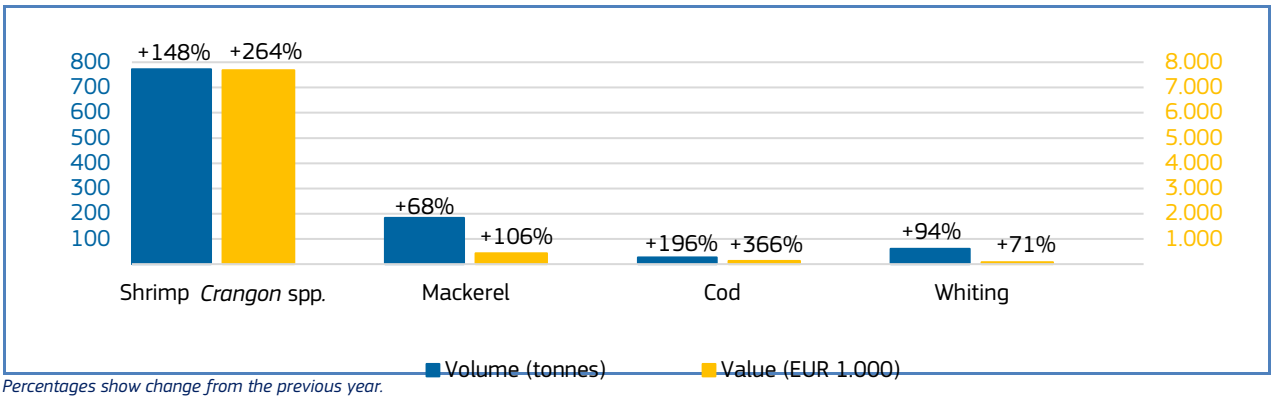
Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 14. **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-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 49,9 million, -17%	6.878 tonnes, -82%	Common sole, European plaice, turbot, Norway lobster.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **cod** compared to May 2023. The cod fishery is not listed in the top 5 Dutch fishing activities in value or volume and represented only 0,14% of the North Sea cod production in May 2024 (27 tonnes compared to 19.300 tonnes). The production of cod in the Netherlands thus depends more on external factors, such as fuel price and weather, rather than on the state of the North Sea stocks which are still in a complicated situation, especially the northwestern and Viking sub-stocks, were the Dutch fleet mostly operates[8]. Although Dutch production increased from 9 tonnes in May 2023 to 27 tonnes in May 2024, production over the 5 first months of the year remained rather stable (+2%). Dutch production is also still affected by the remedial measures adopted for cod in the North Sea[9].
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 13,3 million, +44%	1.989 tonnes, +7%	Shrimp *Crangon* spp, mackerel, cod, whiting.	

[8] ICES Advice 2023 – cod.27.46a7d20 – https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21840765
[9] EC, 2023: COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/194 fixing for 2023 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stock, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, as well as fixing for 2023 and 2024 such fishing opportunities for certain deep-sea fish stocks

Figure 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS, MAY 2024**

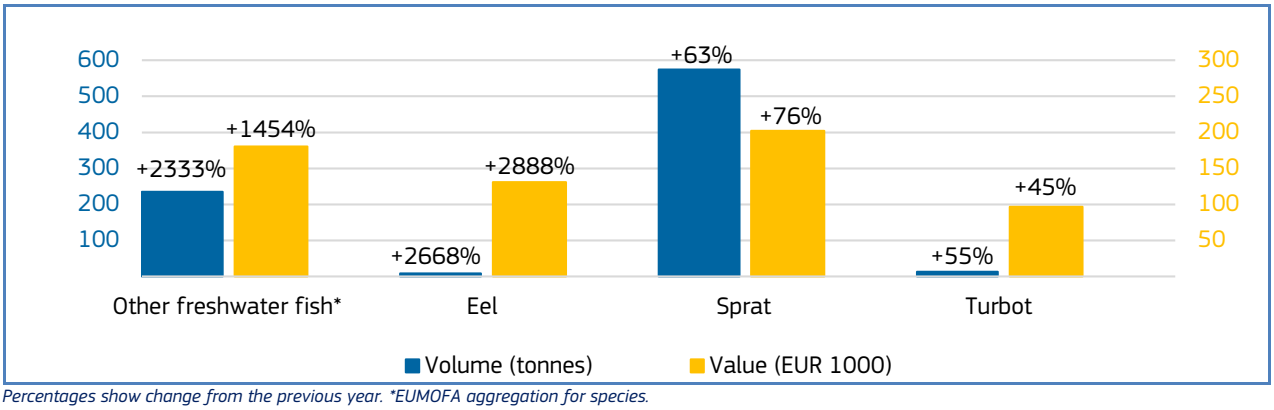


Percentages show change from the previous year.

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

Poland	**First-sales value / trend %**	**First-sales volume / trend %**	**Main contributing species**	**Note**
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 18,2 million, +14%	37.109 tonnes, -18%	**Value:** sprat, other freshwater fish*, pike-perch, eel. **Volume:** sprat, herring, European flounder, European plaice.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **freshwater fish species** compared to May 2023. The species included in the definition of other freshwater fish are not covered by TAC and as such, catches are not regulated. It is noticeable that catches of other freshwater fish decreased by 1,2%, comparing May 2024 with May 2023. Sales in May 2023 were at 3,4% for the Polish landed catches of other freshwater fish, while in May 2024 sales were at 84% of freshwater fish landings. Delays in recording sales notes occurred, and this may have compromised data alignment.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 1,0 million, +50%	1.389 tonnes, +24%	Other freshwater fish*, eel, sprat, turbot.	

Figure 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN POLAND, MAY 2024**

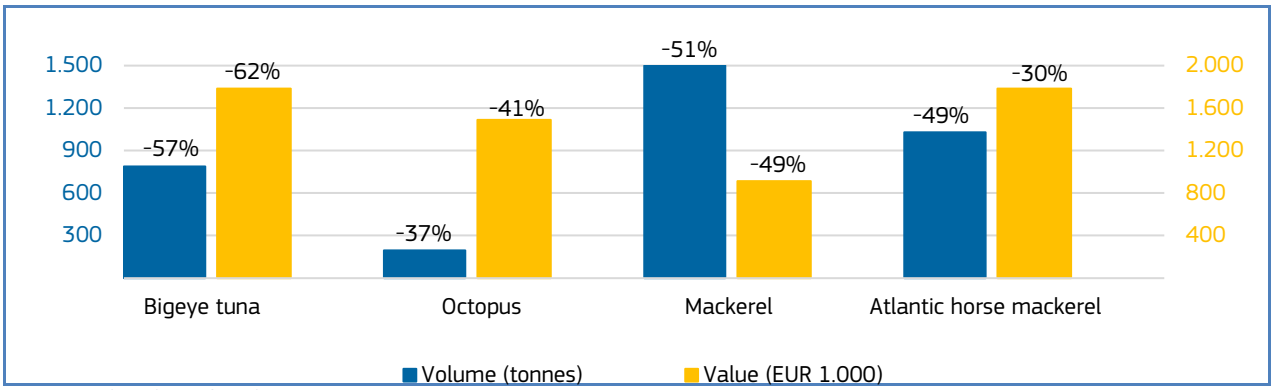


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

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

Portugal	**First-sales value / trend %**	**First-sales volume / trend %**	**Main contributing species**
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 101,8 million, -12%	29.590 tonnes, -15%	Octopus, anchovy, Atlantic horse mackerel, bigeye tuna.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 24,7 million, -12%	11.121 tonnes, -15%	Bigeye tuna, octopus, mackerel, Atlantic horse mackerel.

Figure 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, MAY 2024**

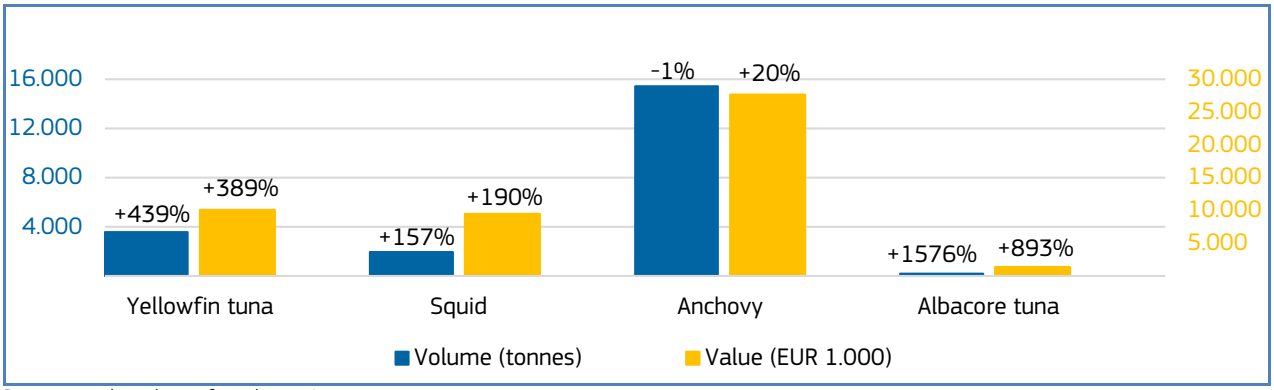


Percentages show change from the previous year.

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

Spain	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 587,4 million, 0%	173.481 tonnes, -4%	Yellowfin tuna, squid, blue whiting, mackerel.	In May 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of **yellowfin tuna** compared to May 2023. According to ICCAT recommendations, the yellowfin tuna catch quotas for Spain have remained stable from 2023 (42.943 tonnes)[10] to 2024 (42.903 tonnes)[11]. While the TAC has been maintained, there is also an improvement in the conservation status of the stock[12]. Fluctuations in supply have been recorded for this species in the last 8 years and the month of May in 2024 is on a par with the records for 2019 and 2022. It can thus be assumed that the detected increase may be normal and that the increase in volume is related to a natural improvement of the species.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 149,2 million +6%	46.540 tonnes, +2%	Yellowfin tuna, squid, anchovy, albacore tuna.	

Figure 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN, MAY 2024**



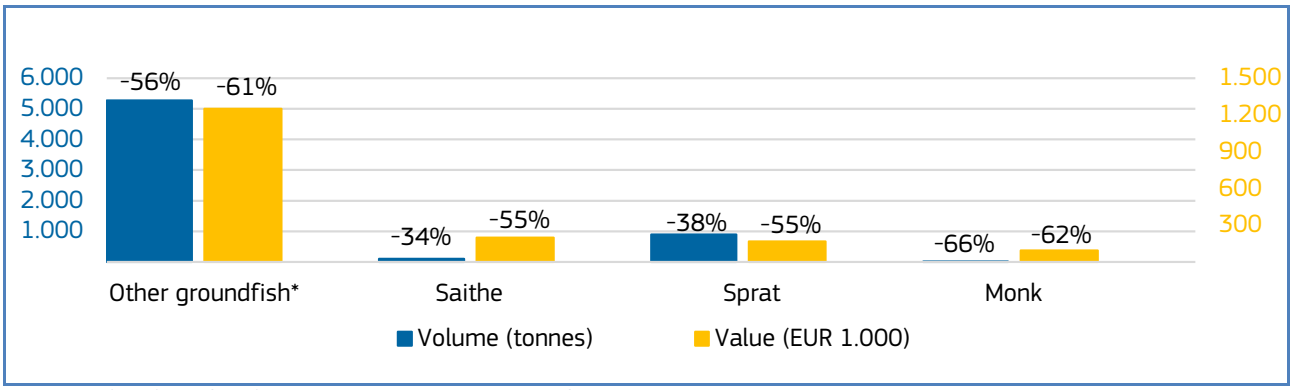
Percentages show change from the previous year.

[10] https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2023-7644
[11] https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2024-6931
[12] https://industriaspesqueras.com/noticia-77773-sec-Portada

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

Sweden	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 16,6 million, -34%	12.223 tonnes, -66%	Sprat, other groundfish*, herring, Norway lobster.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 5,4 million, -33%	8.274 tonnes, -46%	Other groundfish*, saithe, sprat, monk.

Figure 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, MAY 2024**

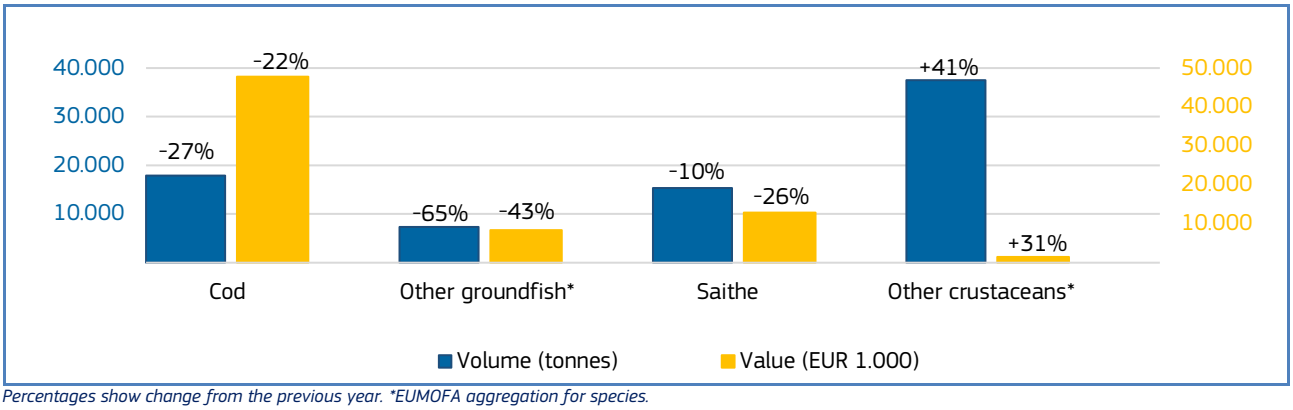


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

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

Norway	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 1.341,7 million, -10%	1.430.364 tonnes, -3%	Cod, saithe, herring, crab.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 150,8 million -8%	184.237 tonnes, +4%	**Value:** cod, other groundfish*, saithe. **Volume:** other crustaceans*, seaweed and other algae*, blue whiting.

Figure 17. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, MAY 2024**

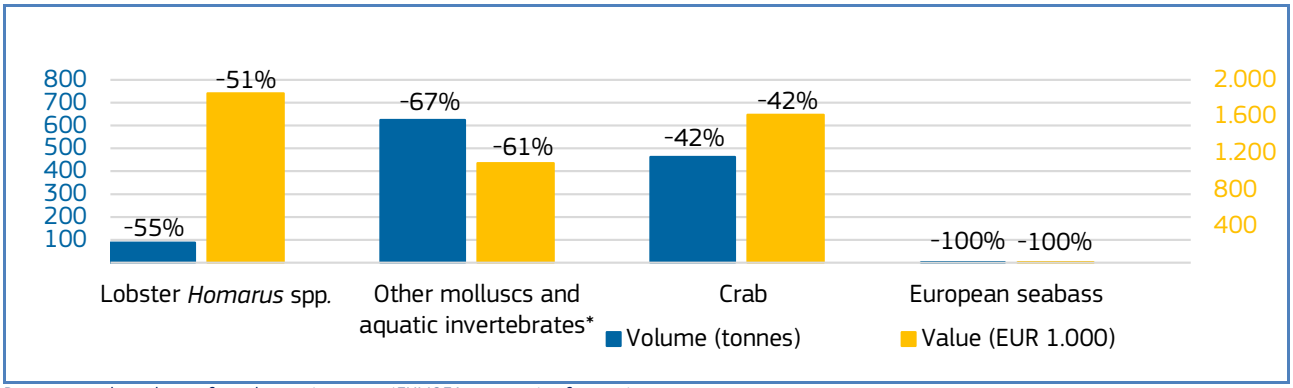


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 20. **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-May 2024 vs Jan-May 2023	EUR 269,4 million, +4%	145.745 tonnes, +2%	Mackerel, blue whiting, cod, haddock.
May 2024 vs May 2023	EUR 39,5 million, -16%	14.179 tonnes, -15%	Lobster *Homarus* spp., other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, crab, European seabass.

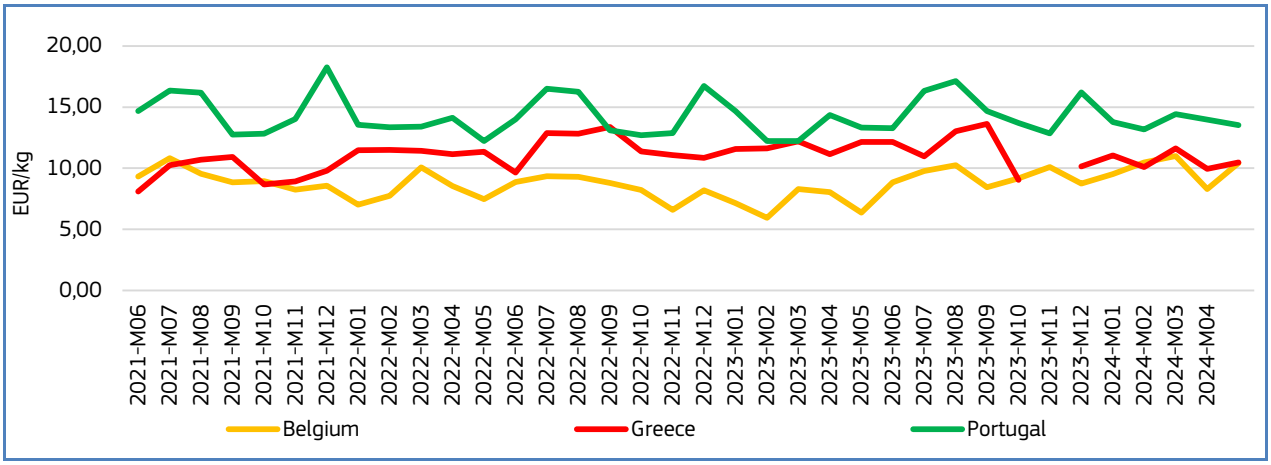
Figure 18. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, MAY 2024**



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

1.4. Comparison of first sales prices of selected species in selected countries[13]

Figure 19. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF JOHN DORY IN BELGIUM, GREECE AND PORTUGAL**

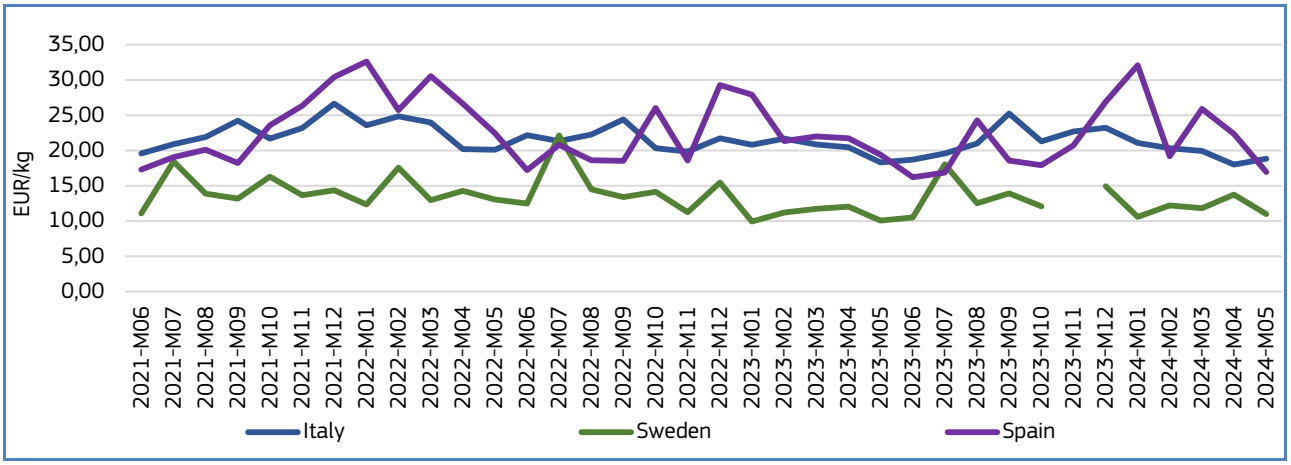


EU first sales of **John Dory** occur in several countries including **Belgium**, **Greece** and **Portugal**. In May 2024, the average first-sales prices of John Dory were 10,42 EUR/kg in Belgium (up by 25% from the previous month and by 64% from the previous year); 10,48 EUR/kg in Greece (up from April 2024 by 5% and down from May 2022 by 14%); and 13,52 EUR/kg in Portugal (down from the previous month by 3% and up from the previous year by 1%). In May 2024, supply relative to the previous year increased in Greece (+10%) and in Portugal (+0%), while it decreased in Belgium (-79%). In the countries analysed, volume seems to peak in April-May in Belgium; October in Greece and July-August in Portugal. Between months 06/2021 to 05/2024, prices increased in Belgium and Greece, while they decreased in Portugal. In Greece prices ranged between 8,08 EUR/kg (M06-2021) and 13,62 EUR/kg

[13] First sales data updated on 23. 7. 2024.

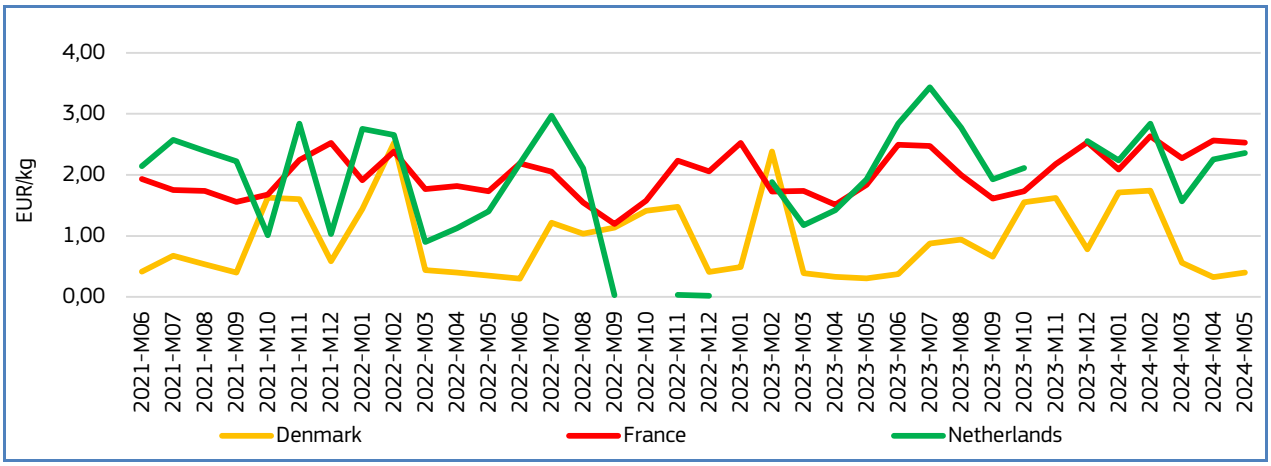
(M09-2023). Highest peaks in prices in Portugal seem to occur in August and December, while they seem to peak in March, July-August and November-December in Belgium.

Figure 20. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF NORWAY LOBSTER IN ITALY SWEDEN AND SPAIN**



EU first sales of **Norway lobster** occur in **Italy**, **Sweden** and **Spain** as well as in several other Member States. In May 2024, the average first-sales prices of Norway lobster were: 18,86 EUR/kg in Italy (up by 5% from previous month and by 3% from May 2023); 11,01 EUR/kg in Sweden (down by 20% from April 2024 and up by 9% from May 2023) and 16,96 EUR/kg in Spain (down by 24% from the previous month and by 13% from the previous year). In May 2024, supply increased in Spain (+16%), while it decreased in Italy (-46%) and in Sweden (-13%). Supply seems to peak between May and June in Italy, in August in Sweden and between June and August in Spain. Between months 06/2021 to 05/2024, prices have been fluctuating strongly, with highest peaks recorded between December and January in Spain, in July in Sweden and in September and December in Italy. The highest price of 32,59 EUR/kg was recorded in Spain in January 2022.

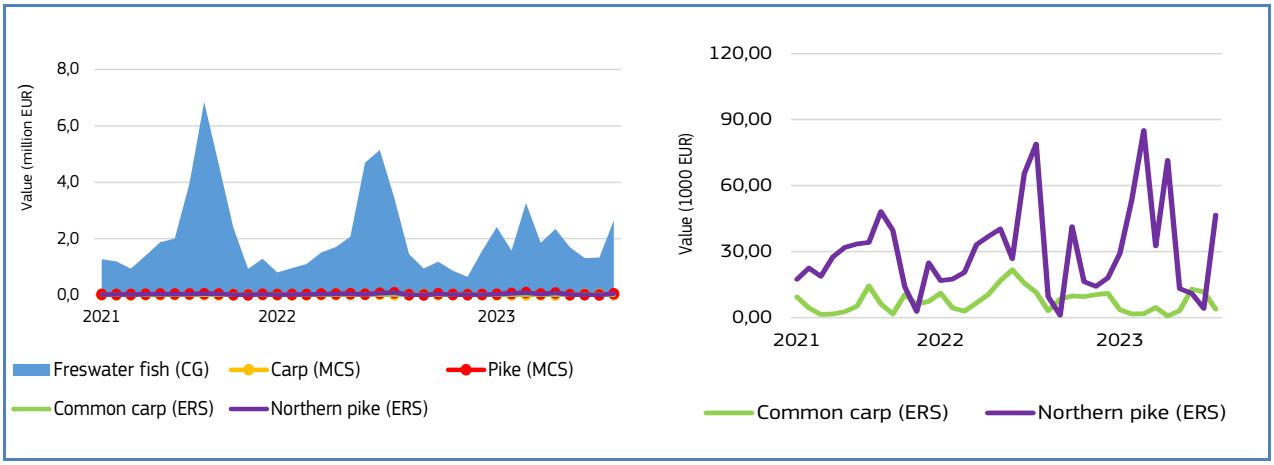
Figure 21. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF MACKEREL IN DENMARK, FRANCE AND THE NETHERLADS**



EU first sales of **mackerel** occur in several Member States as well as in **Denmark**, **France** and **the Netherlands**. In May 2024, the average first-sales prices of mackerel were 0,40 EUR/kg in Denmark (up by 23% from the previous month and up by 32% from the previous year); 2,53 EUR/kg in France (down by 1% from the previous month and up by 38% from May 2023); and 2,36 EUR/kg in the Netherlands (up by 5% from March 2024 and by 22% from the previous year). In May 2024, supply decreased in Denmark (-79%), and France (-15%), while it increased in the Netherlands (+68%), relative to the previous year. The highest supply peaks in Denmark occur in October-November, May and September-October in France, while in the Netherlands supply fluctuated strongly, but did not seem to follow a clear seasonality. Between months 06/2021 to 05/2024, prices increased in France and the Netherlands, with the highest price of 3,43 EUR/kg recorded in July 2023 in the Netherlands. In Denmark seasonal peaks in prices seem to occur in February, while in France seasonal price drops seem to occur in September.

1.5. Commodity group of the month: Freshwater fish[14]

Figure 22. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVELS FOR REPORTING COUNTRIES[15], JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



In May 2024, the "**Freshwater fish**" commodity group (CG[16]) recorded the 9th highest first-sales in value and volume out of the 10 CGs in the countries monitored by EUMOFA.[17] In the reporting countries covered by the EUMOFA database, first sales of this group of species in May 2024 totalled EUR 2,7 million and 1.781 tonnes, representing an increase of 124% in value and 122% in volume compared to May 2023. In the past 36 months, the highest first-sales value of freshwater fish was registered in January 2022 at about EUR 6,8 million.

Freshwater fish includes six main commercial species (MCS): carp, eel, freshwater catfish, pike, pike-perch and the grouping other freshwater fish.[18].

At the Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS) level common carp (0,1%) and Northern pike (1,8%) together accounted for 1,9% of the total first-sales value for "freshwater fish" recorded in May 2024.

1.6. Focus on Northern pike

The northern pike (*Esox lucius*) belongs to the family of Esocidae, and is one of the few species of freshwater fish native to both North America and Eurasia. It has been introduced to other parts of the world, for example Australia, and New Zealand. It is a highly territorial predator which inhabits lakes and rivers of all sizes, before moving into weedy shallows to spawn in spring. Because of its low salinity, the Baltic Sea in northern Europe is home to a brackish-water population of large pike. Throughout the global introduction of this species, pike has been introduced into lakes predominantly as a target for fisheries, and attempts have been made (usually unsuccessful) to introduce it into rivers.[19]

It takes a year for the fish to reach sexual maturity, and full life expectancy ranges from 5 to 30 years, depending on habitat and food availability. It reaches 130 cm in length and up to 34 kg in weight[20]. Pike is one of the most valuable species for fisheries and angling in lakes, rivers, and in the coastal zone of the Baltic Sea. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), this species is currently of relatively low conservation concern and does not require significant additional protection or major management, monitoring, or research action.[21]

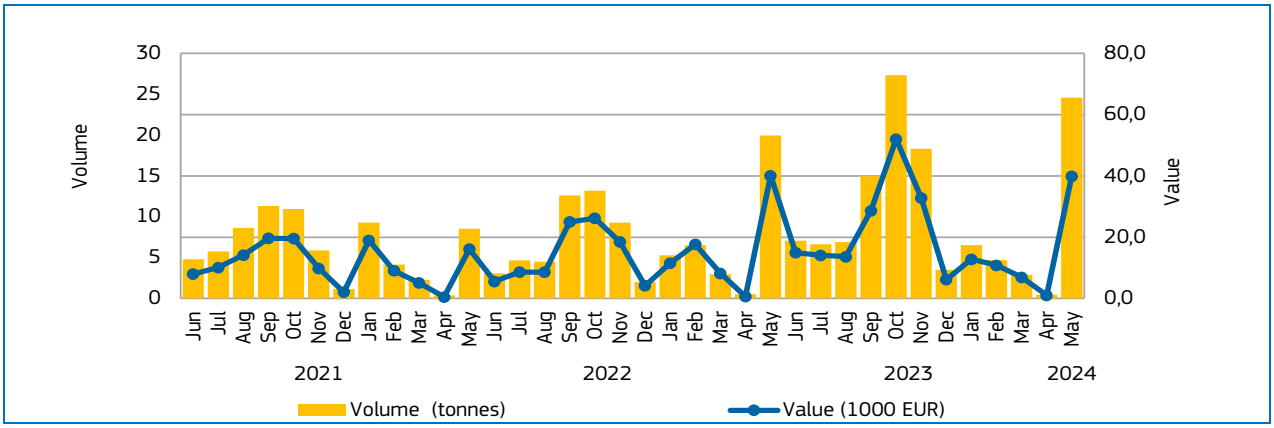
[14] First sales data updated on 18. 07. 2024.
[15] Norway , the Faroe Islands and the UK excluded from the analyses.
[16] Annex 3: http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies
[17] More data on commodity groups can be found in Table 1.2 of the Annex.
[18] European conger accounts for the highest first-sales value and volume within the grouping of „other freshwater fish species".
[19] https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/83118
[20] https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/aqspecies/2942/en
[21] https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/135631/133427422

Selected countries

Table 21. **COMPARISON OF NORTHERN PIKE FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "FRESHWATER FISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

Northern pike		Changes in Northern pike first sales Jan-May 2024 (%)		Contribution of Northern pike to total "Freshwater fish" first sales in May 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale in May 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-May 2023	Compared to Jan-May 2022		
Estonia	**Value**	-9%	+44%	4%	Liiva Meierei, Salinõmme, Puise.
	Volume	+11%	+59%	3%	
Sweden	**Value**	+35%	+76%	2%	NA
	Volume	-3%	+1%	1%	

Figure 23. **NORTHERN PIKE: FIRST SALES IN ESTONIA, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



Over the past 36 months in **Estonia,** the highest first-sales value and volume of Northern pike were in October 2023 when approximately 27 tonnes were sold for EUR 52.000.

Figure 24. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "FRESHWATER FISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN ESTONIA IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2024**

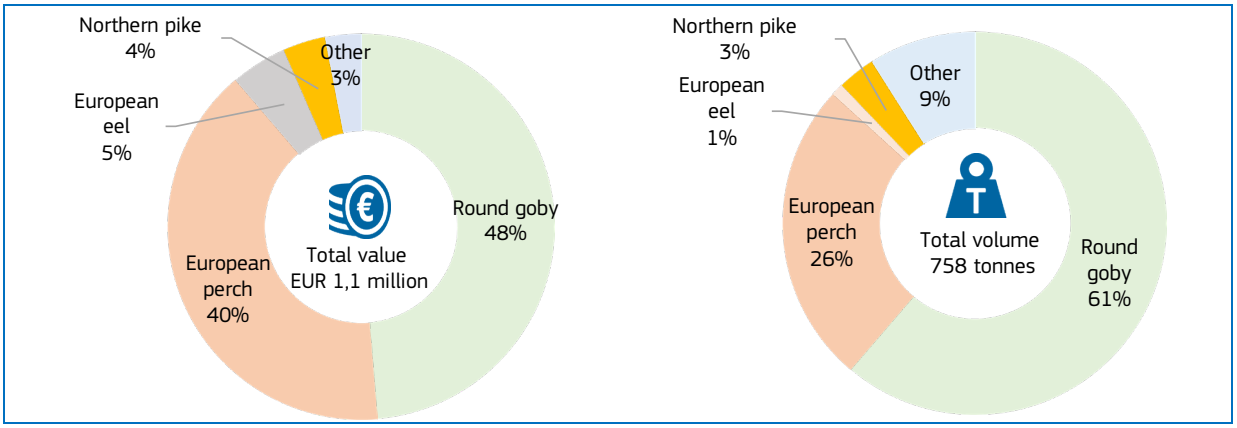
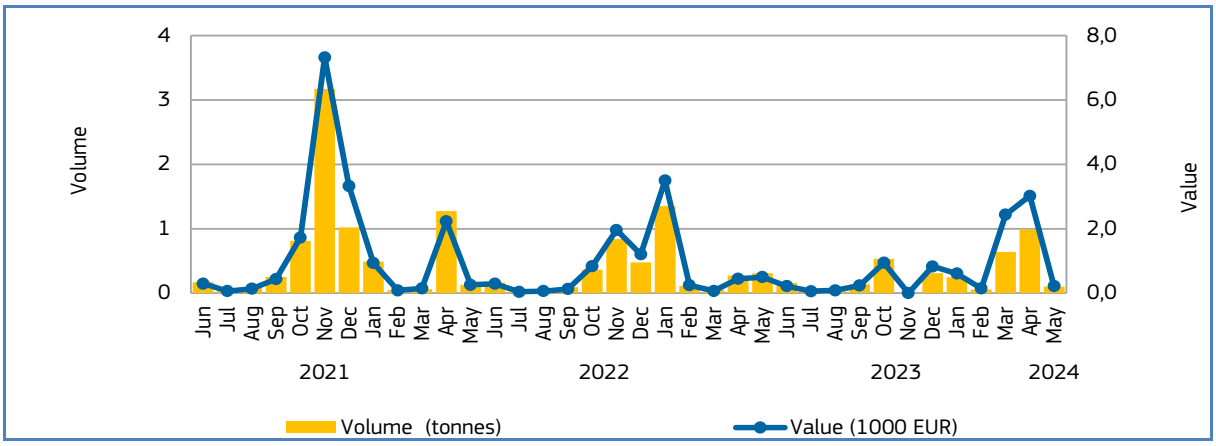
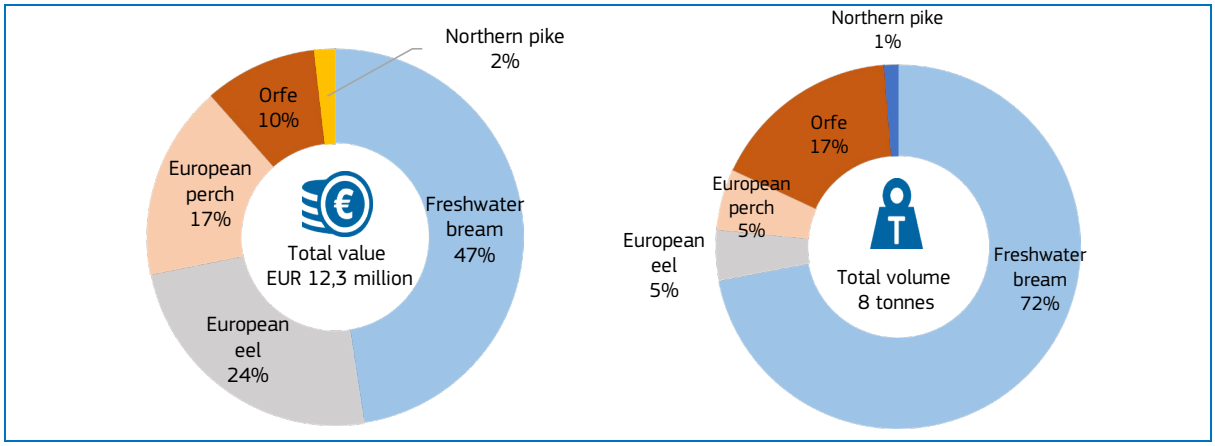


Figure 25. **NORTHERN PIKE: FIRST SALES IN SWEDEN, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



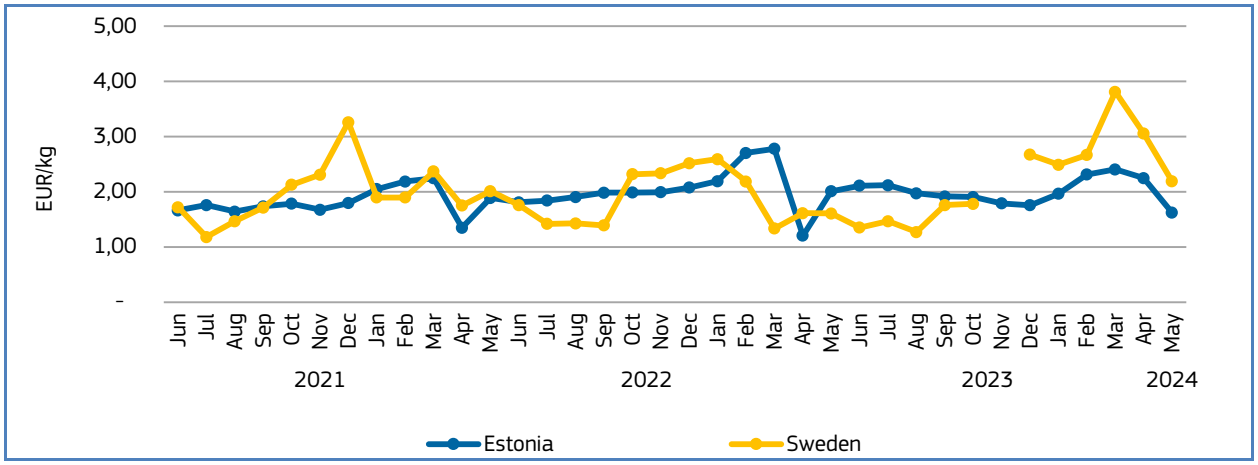
In **Sweden**, over the 36-month observation period from June 2021 to May 2024, the highest first-sales value of Northern pike was registered in November 2021 when 3,2 tonnes were sold for EUR 7.322.

Figure 26. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "FRESHWATER FISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN SWEDEN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2024**



Price trend

Figure 27. **NORTHERN PIKE: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (June 2021 to May 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of Northern pike in **Sweden** was 2,34 EUR/kg, 22% higher than in **Estonia** (1,92 EUR/kg).

In **Estonia** in May 2024, the average first-sales price of Northern pike (1,62 EUR/kg) decreased by 19% compared to May 2023 and by 14% compared to the same month in 2022. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 1,21 EUR/kg for 0,5 tonnes in April 2023 to 2,78 EUR/kg for about 3 tonnes in March 2023.

In **Sweden** in May 2024, the average first-sales price of Northern pike (2,19 EUR/kg) increased by 36% compared to May 2023 and by 9% compared to 2022. During the period observed, the average price ranged from 1,18 EUR/kg for 55 kg in July 2021 to 3,81 EUR/kg for 639 kg in March 2024.

We have covered **Northern pike** in the previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First sales: MH 7/2019 (Estonia, the Netherlands, Sweden)

1.7. Focus on common carp

Common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) is a widespread freshwater fish of eutrophic waters in lakes and large rivers in Europe and Asia. The species originates from Western Asia and Eastern Europe. Known for its longevity (15-20 years), this omnivorous species reaches sexual maturity between 3 and 6 years of age, at a size of 25-36 cm.

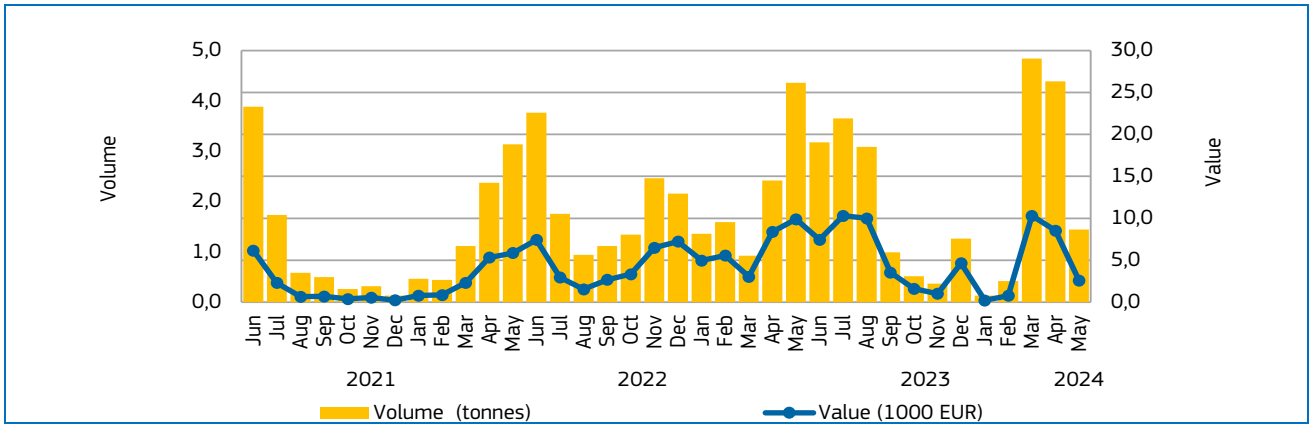
Common carp is primarily a farmed species and is the most important carp species farmed in the EU. Carp fishery constitutes a small share of overall production in the EU. The main EU carp producers in fisheries are Hungary and Czechia. Other significant producers include Romania, Slovakia, and Germany. In fisheries the species is targeted with gillnets, surrounding nets and lift nets and hooks and lines. Carp is mainly consumed live fresh, gutted and filleted.[22]

Selected countries

Table 22. **COMPARISON OF COMMON CARP FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "FRESHWATER FISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

Common carp		Changes in common carp first sales Jan-May 2024 (%)		Contribution of common carp to total "Freshwater fish" first sales in May 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale in May 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-May 2023	Compared to Jan-May 2022		
France	**Value**	-30%	+48%	2%	Le Grau-du-Roi, Deltebre, St Jean-de-Luz.
	Volume	+5%	+49%	11%	
Spain	**Value**	+239%	+126%	2%	Deltebre (100 % of first sales).
	Volume	+22%	-21%	12%	

Figure 28. **COMMON CARP: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



In **France** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value was registered in July 2023 when about 3,7 tonnes of common carp were sold for EUR 10.303. The highest first-sales volume was recorded in March 2024 when 4,8 tonnes were sold for EUR 10.294.

[22] https://fish-commercial-names.ec.europa.eu/fish-names/species/cyprinus-carpio_en?fao-code=FCP#commdes

Figure 29. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "FRESHWATER FISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2024**

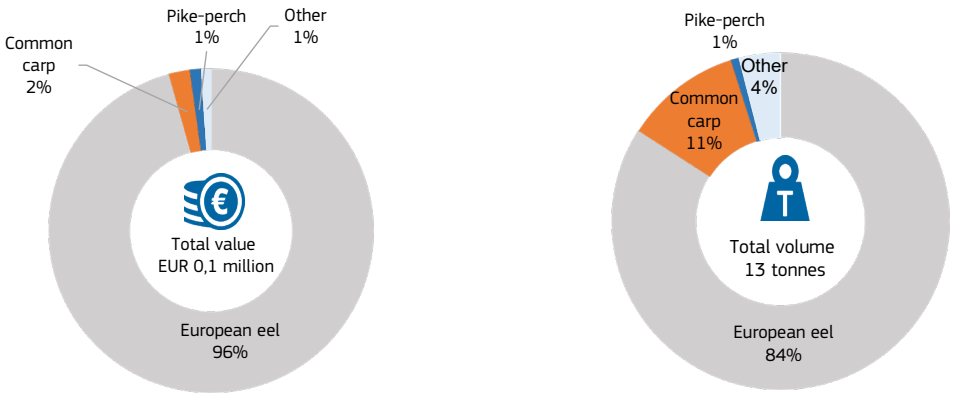
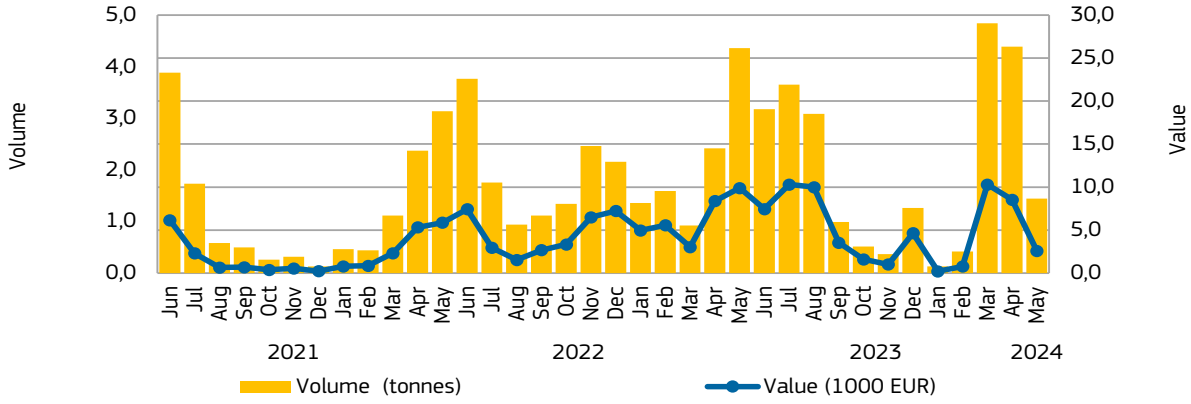
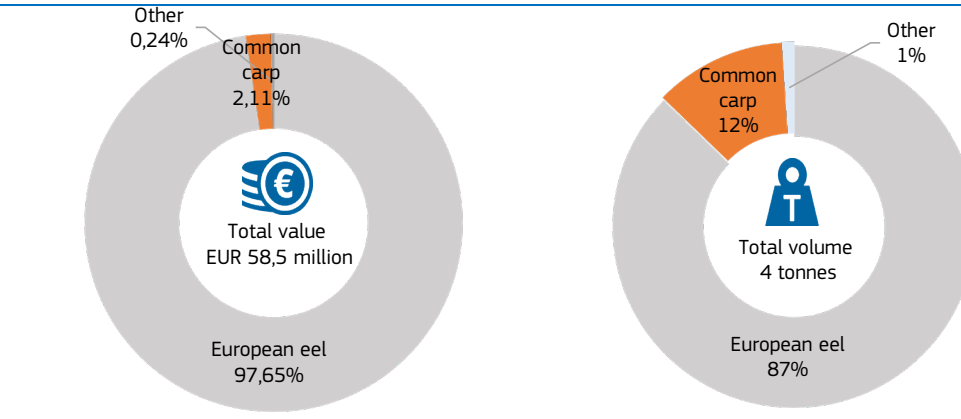


Figure 30. **COMMON CARP: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



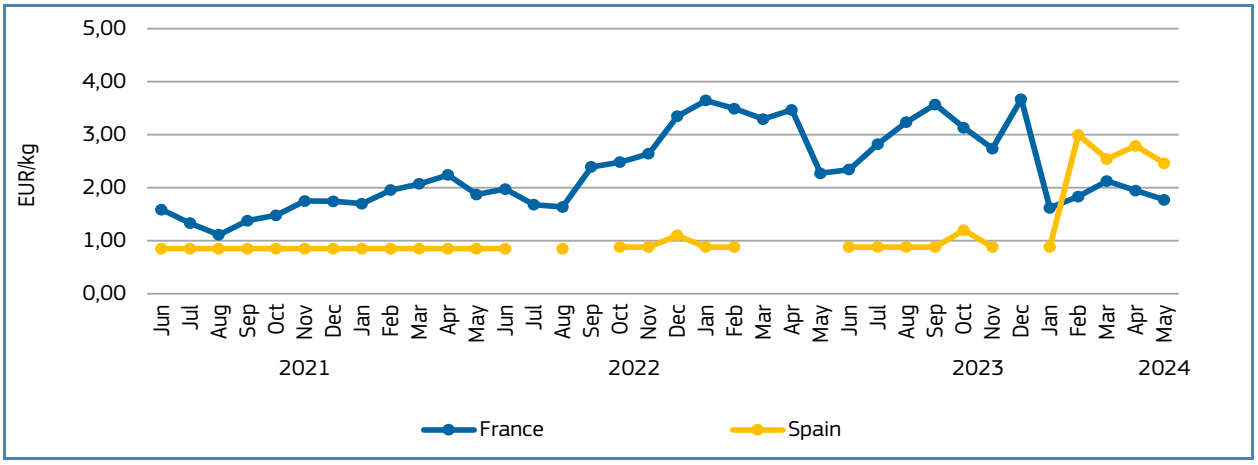
In **Spain** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value was registered in April June 2024 when about 1,1 tonnes were sold for EUR 3.067. The peak in supply was observed in January 2023 when 2,6 tonnes were sold for EUR 2.283.

Figure 31. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "FRESHWATER FISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN SPAIN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2024**



Price trend

Figure 32. **COMMON CARP: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (June 2021 – May 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of common carp in **France** was 2,37 EUR/kg, twice the price than in **Spain** (1,18 EUR/kg).

In **France** in May 2024, the average first-sales price of common carp (1,77 EUR/kg) decreased by 22% compared to May 2023 and by 5% from May 2022. In the 36-month period observed, the lowest average price of 1,11 EUR/kg for 0,6 tonnes was registered in August 2021, while the highest price of 3,67 EUR/kg for about 1,3 tonnes was recorded in December 2023.

In **Spain** in May 2024, the average first-sales price of common carp (2,46 EUR/kg) increased by 190% compared to May 2022. There were no first sales recorded in May 2023. During the period observed, the highest average price of 3,00 EUR/kg was reached in February 2024 when 0,8 tonnes were sold, while the price bottomed out in August 2021 (0,85 EUR/kg) when 65 kg were sold.

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 "Freshwater fish"[23].

Data analysed in the section "Extra-EU imports" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from the European Commission.[24]

Table 23. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THE THREE MOST RELEVANT FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 23/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 23/2023	Notes
Atlantic salmon and **Danube salmon**, excluding liver and roes, fresh imported from **Norway** (*Salmo salar*, *Hucho hucho* CN code 03021400)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	7,29	9,21 (-21%)	8,23 (-11%)	From weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated, showing an increasing trend ranging between 5,09 EUR/kg (week 37/2021) and 11,28 EUR/kg (week 16/2022). The highest peaks occur between weeks 10 and 18, showing a strong seasonality following supply. The highest falls seem to occur between weeks 34 and 37.
	Volume (tonnes)	11.283	13.375 (-16%)	11.997 (-6%)	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 35/39 and 49, while the lowest falls seem to occur in weeks 6/, 13/15 and 51/52.
Frozen **Alaska pollock** fillets imported from **China** (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03047500)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,35	2,55 (-8%)	3,32 (-29%)	Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated ranging between 1,84 EUR/kg (week 48/2022) and 4,03 EUR/kg (week 41/2022).
	Volume (tonnes)	443	915 (-52%)	2.405 (-82%)	Highest peaks in supply seem to occur in the last weeks of the year between weeks 46 and 50. In the period analysed, weekly volumes ranged between 204 tonnes (week 03/2024) to 13.785 tonnes (week 50/2023).
Frozen **tropical shrimp** imported from **Ecuador** (genus *Penaeus*, CN code 03061792)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	5,13	5,16 (-1%)	5,97 (-14%)	From weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices decreased, fluctuating between 4,83 EUR/kg (week 07/2024) and 7,19 EUR/kg (week 41/2022). Highest falls in prices seem to occur between weeks 1 and 8, 26 and 32.
	Volume (tonnes)	3.064	4.718 (-35%)	2.827(+8%)	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 22/27, 30/33 and 45/46.

[23] 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.
[24] Last update: 3. 7. 2024.

Figure 33. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH AND WHOLE ATLANTIC SALMON FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**

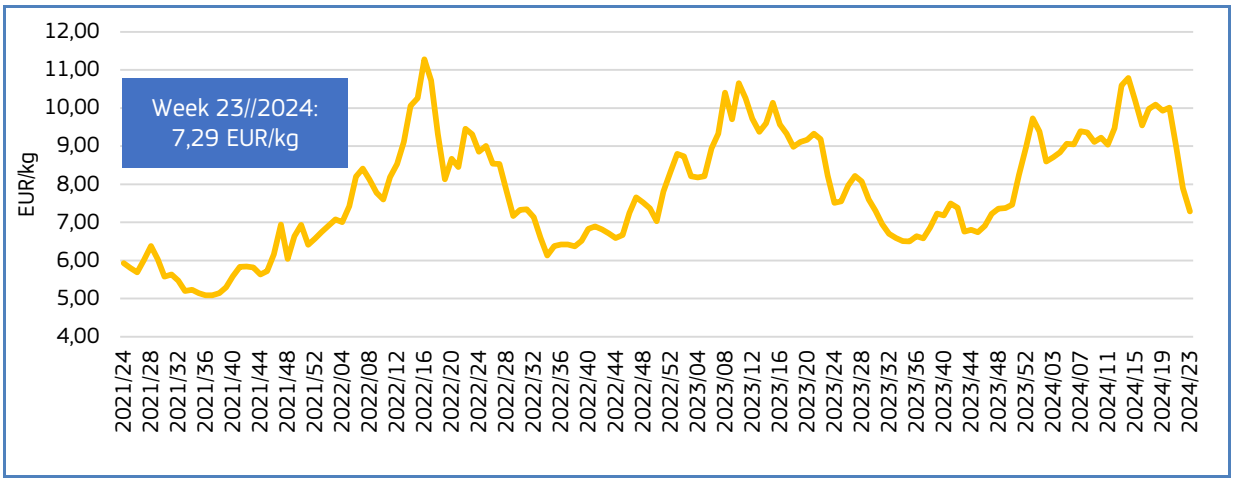


Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN ALASKA POLLOCK FILLETS FROM CHINA, 2021 - 2024**

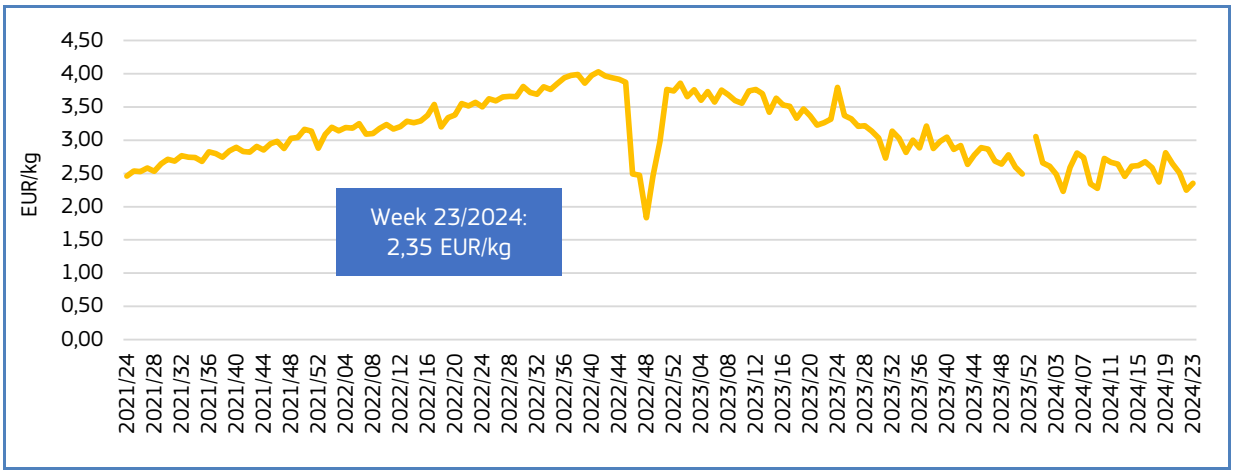


Figure 35. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN TROPICAL SHRIMP FROM ECUADOR, 2021 - 2024**

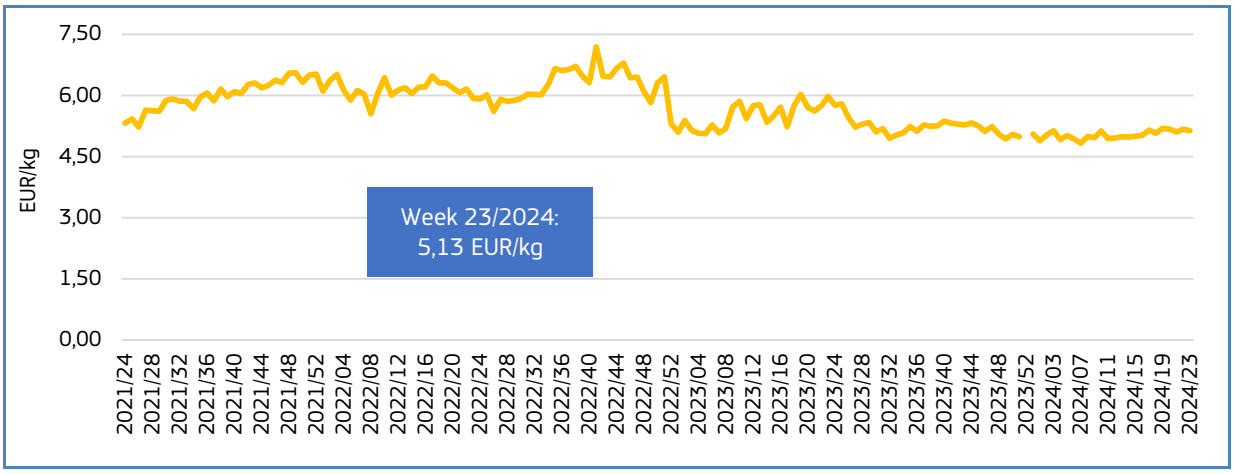


Table 24. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THIS MONTH'S THREE FEATURED COMMODITY PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 23/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 23/2023	Notes
Frozen fillets of **catfish** from **Viet Nam** ("*Pangasius* spp., *Silurus* spp., *Clarias* spp., *Ictalurus* spp."., CN code 03046200)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,85	2,64 (+8%)	3,07 (-7%)	Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated, increasing to a maximum price 3,95 EUR/kg (week 33/2022) to then decrease to a minimum price 1,83 EUR/kg (week 51/2023) and then increase again. 63% of the weekly prices were between 2,00 EUR/kg and 3,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	637	1.145 (-44%)	995 (-36%)	Volumes showed strong fluctuations ranging from 212 tonnes (week 25/2022) to 1.770 tonnes (week 26/2023). 38% of the weekly supply was above 1 tonne. Over the period analysed, the highest peaks in supply seem to occur most often in weeks 3/4, 26, 34, 52.
Fresh or chilled fillets of **Nile perch** from **Uganda** ("*Lates niloticus*", CN code 03043300)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	6,88	7,05 (-2%)	5,15 (+34%)	Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated after reaching the maximum of 8,06 EUR/kg (week 41/2021) followed a decreasing trend to the minimum price of 4,25 EUR/kg (week 45/2022) to follow an increasing trend again. 38% of weekly prices were between 6,00 EUR/kg and 7,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	95	113 (-17%)	137 (-31%)	In the period analysed supply fluctuated strongly but did not seem to follow a clear seasonality. Highest peaks seem to occur in weeks 22/23, 45/49. Volume ranged from 10 tonnes (week 25/2021) to 178 tonnes (week 22/2024). 39% of the weekly supply was less than 80 tonnes.
Frozen fillets of **tilapia** from **China** ("*Oreochromis* spp.", CN code 03046100)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	4,23	3,28 (+29%)	2,95 (+44%)	Prices fluctuated in the period analysed, increasing to the maximum price of 4,74 EUR/kg (week 23/2023) followed by a decreasing trend to the minimum price of 2,09 EUR/kg (week 42/2023) to follow an increasing trend again. 48% of the weekly prices were between 3,00 and 4,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	155	178 (-13%)	152 (+2%)	Very high fluctuations in supply from 340 kg (week 25/2021) to 587 tonnes (week 34/2022). 55% of the weekly supply was below 200 tonnes. Highest peaks in supply seem to occur in weeks 4, 21/22, 34/35 and 43/44/48.

Figure 36. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN FILLETS OF CATFISH FROM VIET NAM, 2021 - 2024**

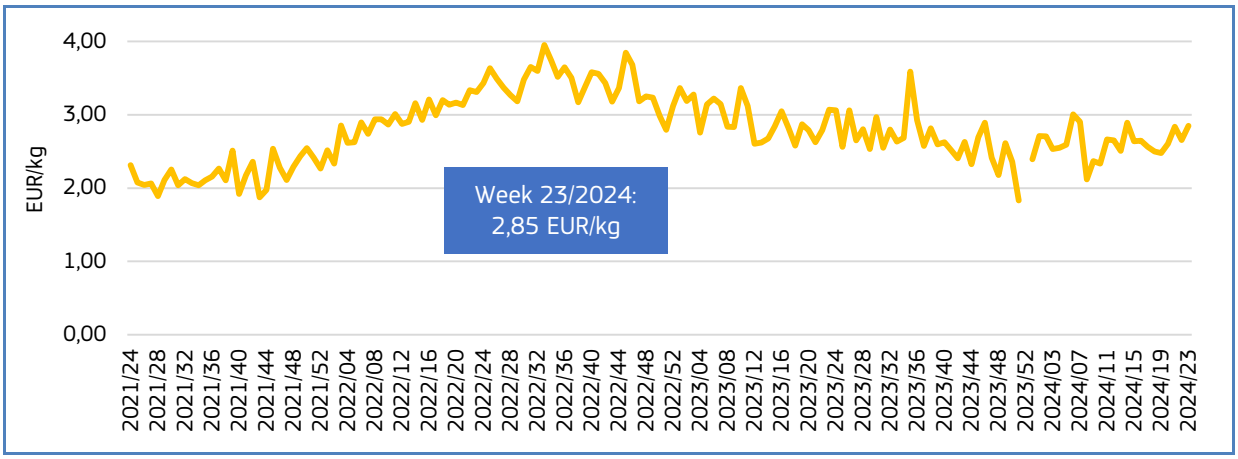


Figure 37. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED FILLETS OF NILE PERCH FROM UGANDA, 2021 - 2024**

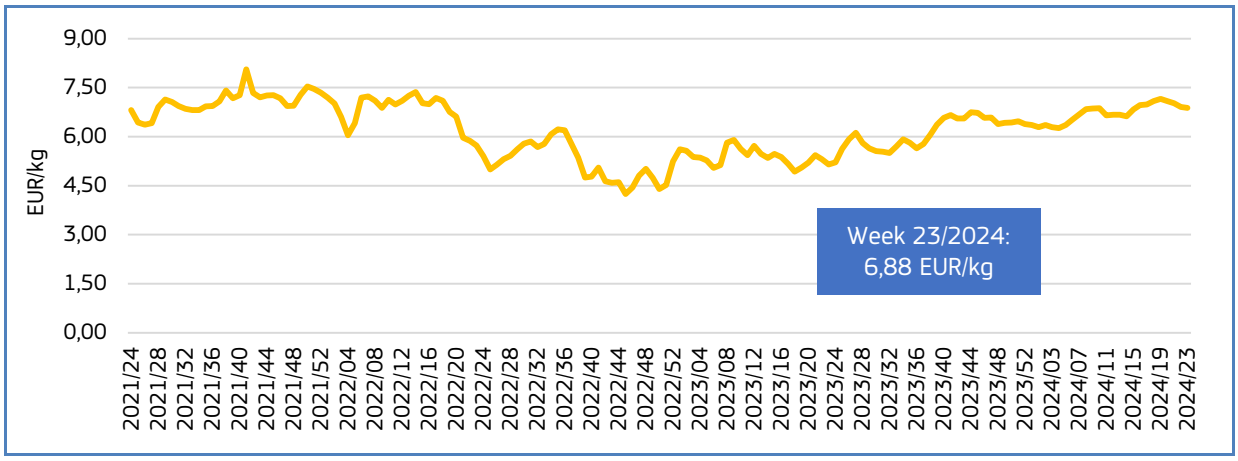
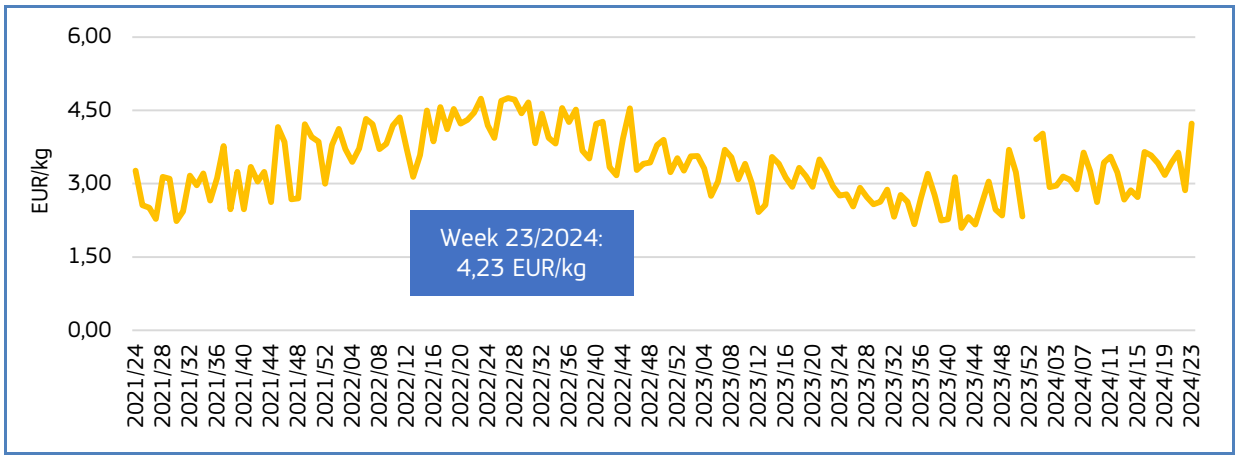


Figure 38. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN FILLETS OF TILAPIA FROM CHINA, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 23/2024, the price of frozen fillets of **catfish** from **Viet Nam** showed some fluctuations and an increasing trend. The price ranged between 2,12 EUR/kg and 3,95 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated ranging between 439 and 1.733 tonnes.

Between weeks 01/2024 and 23/2024, the price of fresh or chilled fillets of **Nile perch** from **Uganda** fluctuated and increased. The price ranged between 6,26 EUR/kg and 7,16 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated between 64 tonnes and 178 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of frozen fillets of **tilapia** from **China** showed some fluctuations and an increasing trend. The price ranged between 2,62 EUR/kg and 4,23 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated strongly between 25 tonnes and 347 tonnes.

Table 25. **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 23/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 23/2023	Notes
Frozen **herrings** from **Norway** (*"Clupea harengus, Clupea pallasii"*., CN code 03035100)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	1,88	1,26 (+49%)	1,71 (+10%)	Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated following an increasing trend ranging between 0,83 EUR/kg (week 41/2021) and 4,43 EUR/kg (week 32/2022). Highest peaks in prices seem to occur between weeks 23 and 32. 76% of the weekly prices were between 1,00 EUR/kg and 1,50 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	1.214	264 (+360%)	1.023 (+19%)	Supply fluctuated strongly ranging between 6 tonnes (week 51/2022) and 4.744 tonnes (week 42/2021). The highest peaks seem to occur most often between weeks 22 and 24, while the highest peaks were recorded in 2021. 47% of the weekly supply was less than 200 tonnes.
Prepared or preserved **anchovies**, whole or in pieces (excl. minced) from **Morocco** (CN code 16041600)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	9,58	9,76 (-2%)	10,09 (-5%)	In the period analysed prices fluctuated following an increasing trend from the minimum price of 6,06 EUR/kg (week 34/2021) to the maximum price of 11,86 EUR/kg (week 49/2023), then decreasing to the last week analysed. 58% of the weekly prices were between 8,00 EUR/kg and 10,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	400	441 (-9%)	258 (+55%)	Volumes showed strong fluctuations ranging between 42 tonnes (week 34/2021) and 774 tonnes (week 22/2024). No clear seasonality is detected. 22% of the weekly supply was above 300 tonnes.
Fresh or chilled **turbot** from **Norway** ("*Psetta maxima*", CN code 03022400)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	9,85	8,71 (+13%)	8,91 (+11%)	Between weeks 24/2021 to 23/2024 prices fluctuated following a decreasing trend ranging between 4,83 EUR/kg (week 34/2021) and 25,31 EUR/kg (week 50/2021). 48% of the weekly prices were between 10,00 and 12,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	2	5 (-56%)	2 (0%)	Volumes showed strong fluctuations ranging from 1 kg (week 52/2021) to 10 tonnes (week 11/2024). No clear seasonality is detected and the highest peaks in supply were recorded in 2024. 42% of the weekly supply was below 2 tonnes.

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

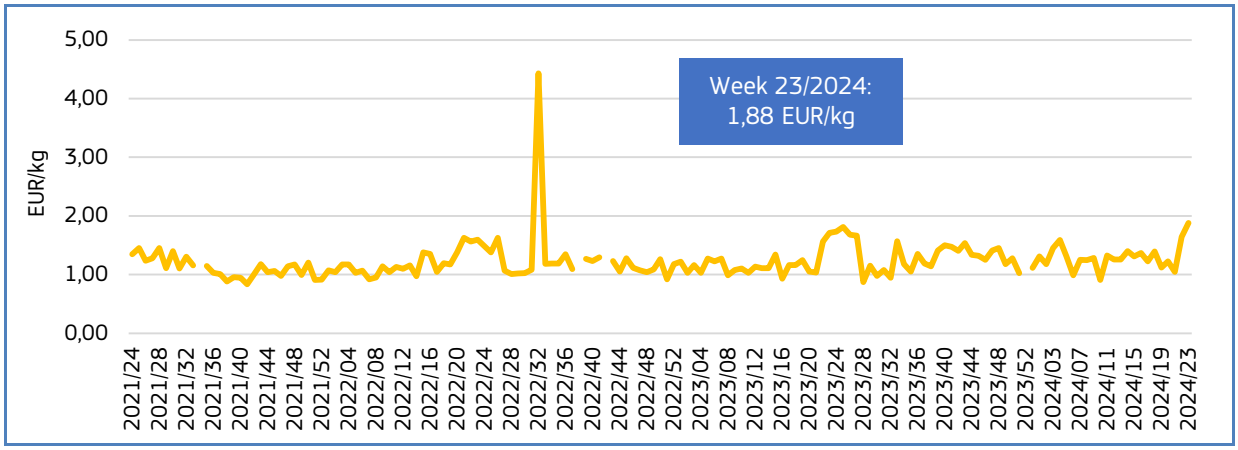


Figure 40. **IMPORT PRICE OF PREPARED OR PRESERVED ANCHOVIES FROM MOROCCO, 2021 - 2024**

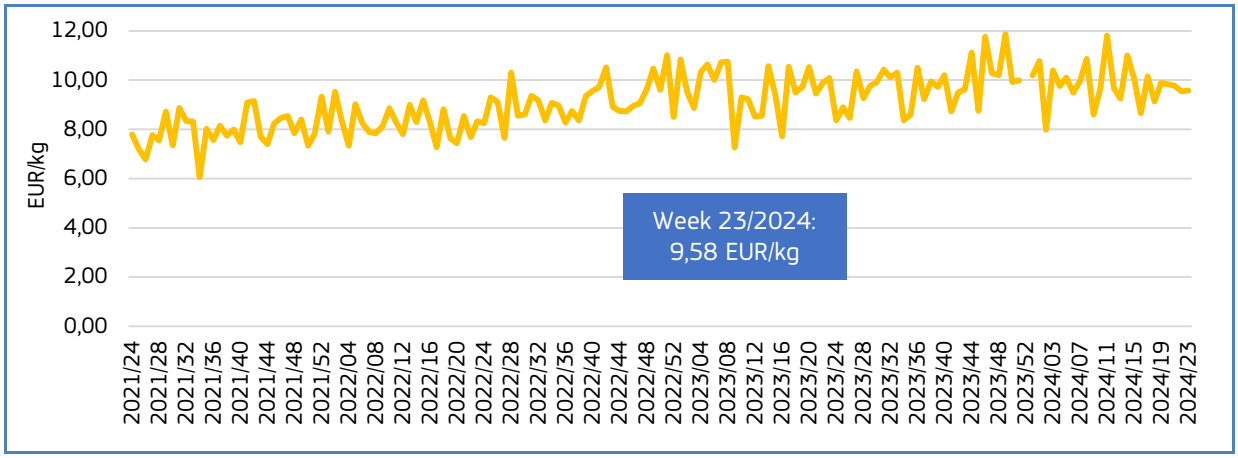
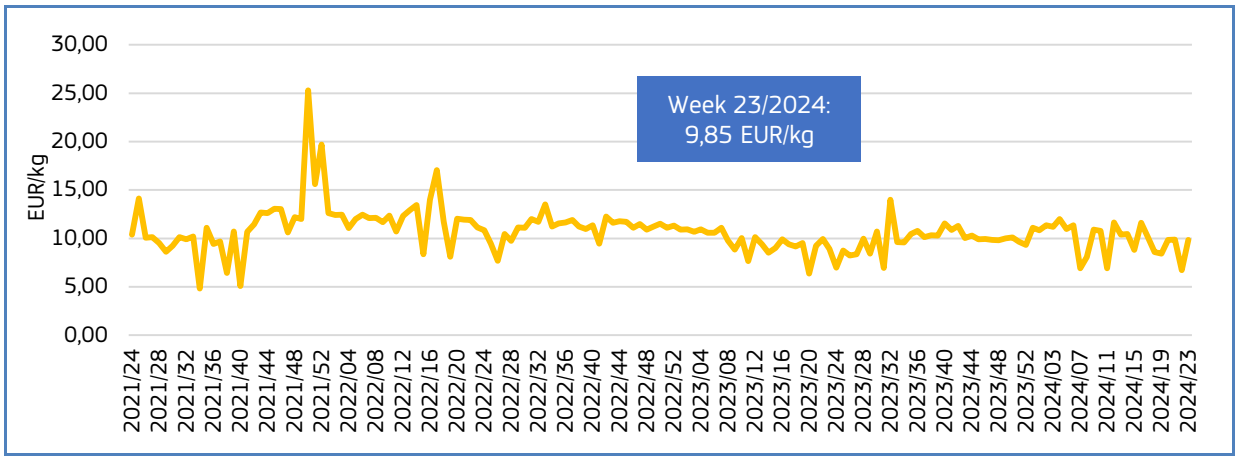


Figure 41. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED TURBOT FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 23/2024, the price of frozen **herring** from **Norway** showed fluctuations and an increasing trend. The price ranged between 0,91 EUR/kg and 1,88 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated ranging between 25 tonnes and 1.214 tonnes.

Between weeks 01/2024 and 23/2024, the price of prepared or preserved **anchovies** from **Morocco** fluctuated and decreased. The price ranged between 7,98 EUR/kg to 11,81 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated between 167 tonnes and 774 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of fresh or chilled **turbot** from **Norway** showed a decreasing trend. Price ranged between 6,71 EUR/kg and 12,00 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated between 2 tonnes and 10 tonnes.

3. Consumption

3.1. HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

Data analysed in the section "Consumption" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from Europanel[25].
In May 2024 compared with May 2023, household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products fell in Ireland, Italy and the Netherlands, while in France, Hungary and Sweden an increase was observed, in both volume and value. In Hungary, the highest increase was observed in absolute terms; in Sweden it was mainly due to haddock (189% in volume and 157% in value), and salmon (24% in volume and 25% in value). The highest decrease was reported in the Netherlands due to lower consumption of plaice (78% in volume and 79% in value) and miscellaneous shrimps (46% in volume and 43% in value).

Table 26. **MAY 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	May 2022		May 2023		April 2024		May 2024		Change from May 2023 to May 2024	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	20,00-25,00	939	16,60	947	19,95	884	16,96	974	18,99	▲ 3%	▼ 5%
France	32,18	13.819	180,45	13.245	187,28	13.245	190,52	13.424	191,39	▲ 1%	▲ 2%
Germany	12,51	3.628	64,52	3.827	73,20	4.001	71,48	3.895	70,82	▲ 2%	▼ 3%
Hungary	6,55	269	1,97	181	1,97	242	2,01	264	2,39	▲ 46%	▲ 21%
Ireland	14,56	879	14,14	877	15,56	863	15,64	855	15,41	▼ 2%	▼ 1%
Italy	30,15	22.297	252,84	18.087	220,56	16.478	210,03	16.417	215,36	▼ 9%	▲ 2%
Netherland	21,08	2.491	48,03	2.233	47,10	2.123	43,46	1.964	42,70	▼ 12%	▼ 9%
Poland	14,26	2.655	19,84	2.695	24,43	2.847	31,49	2.484	28,03	▼ 8%	▲ 15%
Portugal	56,52	4.994	35,41	4.919	37,22	4.353	34,47	4.677	37,23	▼ 5%	● 0%
Spain	42,98	38.491	349,64	40.738	392,97	37.287	374,52	38.368	397,53	▼ 6%	▲ 1%
Sweden	22,71	400	5,96	412	6,45	542	8,39	491	7,22	▲ 19%	▲ 12%

** 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 May has been below the annual average in both volume and value in all reporting countries except for Denmark, where despite the decrease in volume, value has managed to remain relatively stable.

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

[25] Last update: 17. 7. 2024.

3.2. Monk

Habitat: Monk is a predatory, demersal species. It lives partially buried in sand, at a depth from 20 to 1.000 m[26]
Catch area: Eastern Atlantic: south-western Barents Sea to Strait of Gibraltar including the Mediterranean and Black Sea.
Catching countries in the EU: France, Spain, Ireland, Denmark[27]
Production method: Caught.
Main consumers in the EU: France, Spain
Presentation: Whole, headed and gutted, filleted.
Preservation: Fresh, frozen

3.2.1. Overview of household consumption in France and Spain

Based on EUMOFA estimates, per capita apparent consumption of fishery and aquaculture products in France and Spain in 2021 was above the EU average of 23,71 kg LWE. For Spain consumption was estimated to be 42,98 kg LWE in 2021, which was the second highest among EU Member States, while per capita apparent consumption in France was 32,18 kg LWE in the same year, ranking it the third highest among EU Member States.

In 2024, the average monthly household consumption of fresh monk was 283 tonnes in France and 804 tonnes in Spain. Households paid an average of 19,29 EUR and 13,72 EUR for a kg of monk in the two countries respectively. Compared to the same period in 2023, the total volume of consumption in 2024 was 11% higher in France (4.019 tonnes), even though the average price grew by 3%. A similar trend was observed in Spain: the total volume of consumption increased by 3% (to 4.019 tonnes), while the average price increase was 12%. In Spain a clear trend of seasonal fluctuations could be observed with peaks in December, while in France no such trend could be distinguished.

We have covered **monk** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First-sales**: MH 6 2018** (DK, IT, PT); **MH 2 2017** (BE, DK, FR, UK); **MH 8 2016** (BE); **MH 5 2016** (UK); **MH 4 2015** (BE); **MH 1 2015** (FR); **MH 2 2014** (BE); **MH March 2013** (FR); **MH July 2013** (UK).

Consumption**: MH 5 2021** (FR, ES); **MH 3 2019** (FR, ES); **MH 1 2017** (FR, ES).

Extra-EU imports**: MH 3 2024** Norway, Namibia; **MH 10 2023** Namibia; **MH 4 2023**, Norway; **MH 3 2022**, Norway, Namibia; **MH 3 2021**, Norway, Namibia; **MH 3 2020** Namibia; **MH 2 2020** Norway, **MH 8 2019** Norway, Namibia; **MH 6 2018** Norway.

Topic of the month: Monkfish **MH 9 2022**.

[26] https://fishbase.mnhn.fr/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?ID=716&AT=monkfish
[27] MH 5 2021

Figure 42. **PRICES OF FERSH MONK PURCHASED BY FRENCH AND SPANISH HOUSEHOLDS**

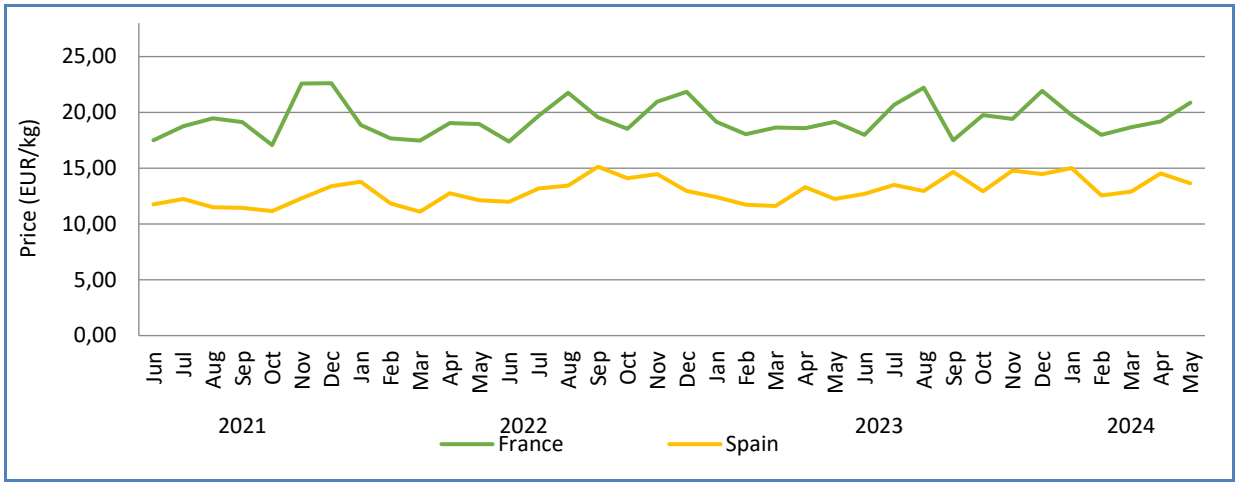
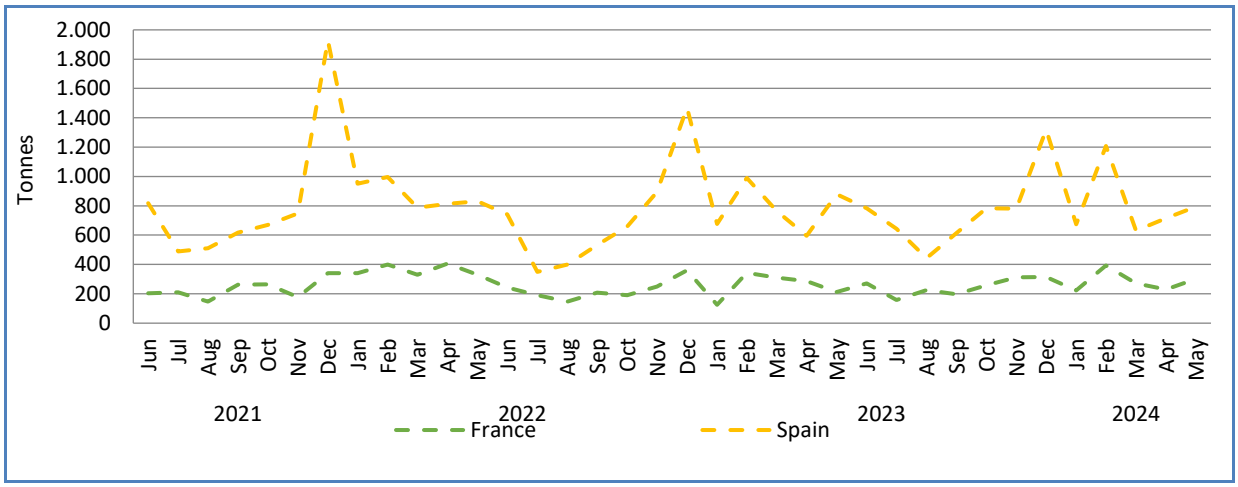


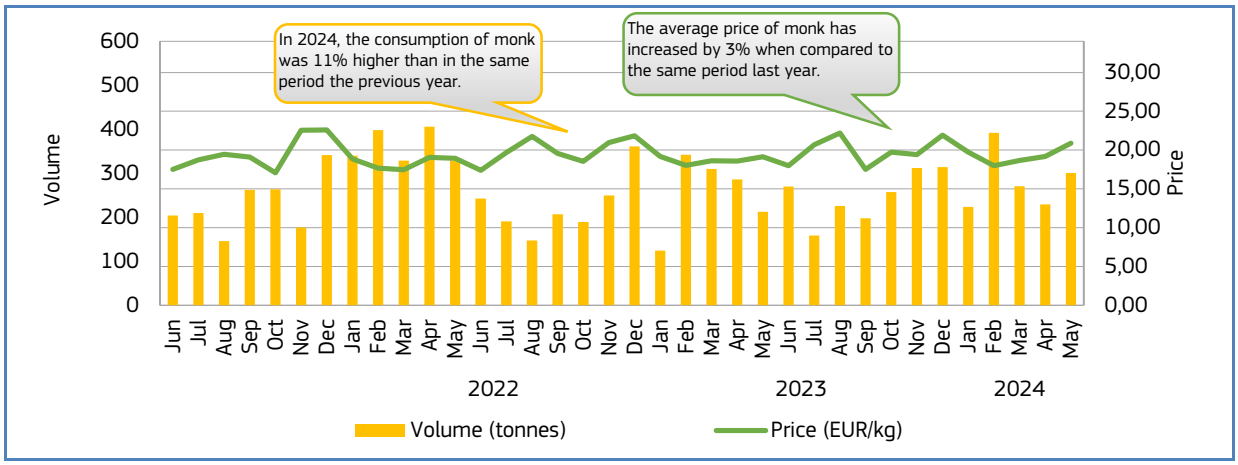
Figure 43. **HOUSEHOLD PURCHASES OF FRESH MONK IN FRANCE AND SPAIN**



3.2.2. Household consumption trends in France

Long-term trend (June 2021 to May 2024): Fluctuating volumes and prices.
Yearly average price: 18,98 EUR/kg (2021), 19,31 EUR/kg (2022), 19,42 EUR/kg (2023).
Yearly consumption: 3.483 tonnes (2021), 3.391 tonnes (2022), 3.012 tonnes (2022).
Short-term trend (January-May 2024): Upward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.
Price: 19,29 EUR/kg.
Consumption: 1.417 tonnes.

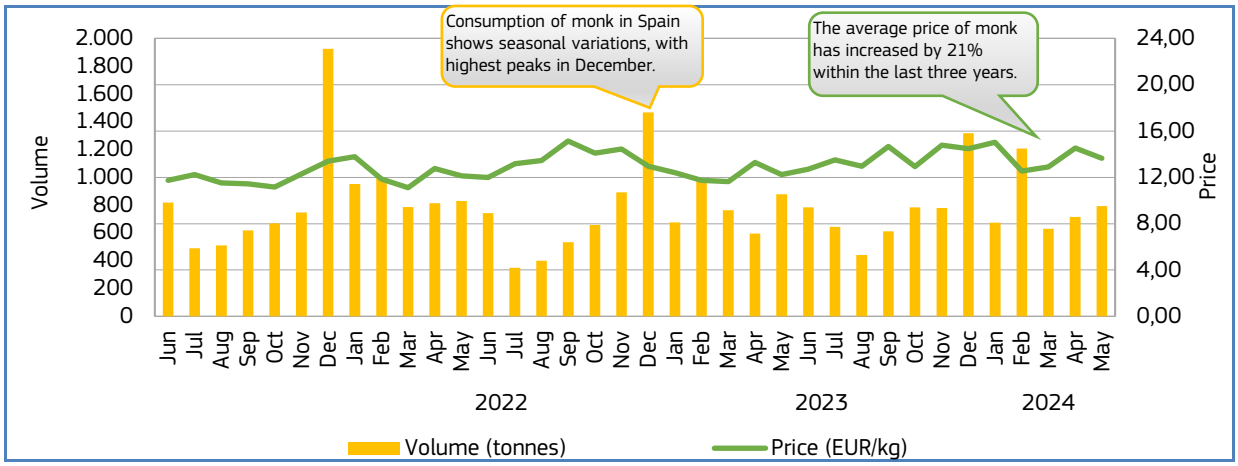
Figure 44. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF FRESH MONK PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN FRANCE, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



3.2.3. Household consumption trends in Spain

Long-term trend (June 2021 to May 2024): Seasonal fluctuations in volume and upward trend in price.
Yearly average price: 11,71 EUR/kg (2021), 13,07 EUR/kg (2022), 13,11 EUR/kg (2023).
Yearly consumption: 10.714 tonnes (2021), 9.422 tonnes (2022), 9.269 tonnes (2023).
Short-term trend (January-May 2024): Fluctuating volumes and prices.
Price: 13,72 EUR/kg.
Consumption: 4.019 tonnes.

Figure 45. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF FRESH MONK PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN SPAIN, JUNE 2021 – MAY 2024**



4. Case study: Fisheries and Aquaculture in the United States

The United States of America (USA) is a federal republic in North America. In addition to the 48 contiguous states situated in the central part of the continent, the country includes Alaska, which lies at the Northwestern tip of North America, and Hawaii, an island state in the mid-Pacific Ocean. The contiguous states border Canada to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the Gulf of Mexico and Mexico to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. By area, the USA is the fourth largest country in the world, after Russia, Canada and China. The capital of the USA is Washington D.C.

Source: Britannica

4.1. Fisheries and aquaculture in the USA

There are several laws regulating fisheries and aquaculture management in the USA. All fisheries and aquaculture farms in federal waters must adhere to federal regulations including those in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries is the body responsible for the management of fisheries within the exclusive economic zone[28]. The US fisheries include commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries. NOAA Fisheries cooperates with eight regional fishery management councils in the USA. Each of these regional councils is responsible for the management of the fisheries within its area. The eight regional fishery management councils are the North Pacific, Pacific, Western Pacific, the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, the South Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic and New England. They were created under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and are responsible for, among other things, developing fishery management plans for their areas, setting annual catch limits based on best available science, and developing and implementing rebuilding plans[29]. NOAA Fisheries also collaborates with three Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions, which cover the Atlantic, the Gulf and the Pacific States.

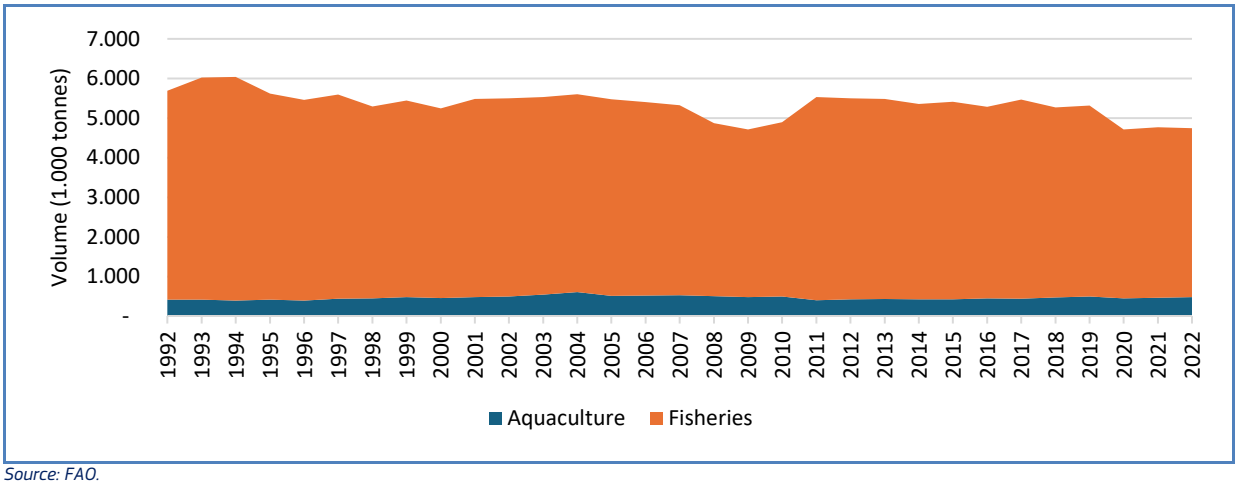
The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act (MSA) seeks to prevent overfishing, restore depleted fish stocks, enhance the long-term economic and social benefits of fisheries, and guarantee a secure and sustainable seafood supply. The fishery management plans must also comply with 10 national standards which address a wide range of principles that foster sustainable fisheries management, such as reducing bycatch, preventing overfishing and ensuring safety at sea. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NOAA Fisheries is tasked with safeguarding marine mammals such as whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals and sea lions. The Act also sets up regulations to manage the interaction of commercial fishing activities with these marine mammals. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) aims to protect species that are at risk of extinction and to conserve the habitats essential for their survival. Regional fishery management councils must consider both the MMPA and ESA when creating fishery management plans.

Aquaculture in the USA is managed by several federal and state agencies and involves a collaborative approach to ensure good aquaculture practices. NOAA Fisheries is responsible for developing policies, providing scientific research, and ensuring that aquaculture practices are sustainable. NOAA Fisheries also works on the development of national aquaculture standards, permitting processes on offshore aquaculture, and conducting research on sustainable aquaculture practices. State Departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection are responsible for the regulation and management of aquaculture operations within their respective states, and issue permits for aquaculture facilities, conduct inspections and enforce state-specific regulations.

[28] NOAA Fisheries. *Understanding Fisheries Management in the United States.* https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/insight/understanding-fisheries-management-united-states
[29] NOAA Fisheries. *Partners: Regional Fishery Management Councils.* https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/partners/regional-fishery-management-councils

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides grants and loans to support aquaculture operations and conducts research on fish health and nutrition and is generally involved in promoting aquaculture as part of the USA agriculture and food production. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for ensuring that aquaculture operations comply with environmental laws, including the Clean Water Act. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ensures that aquaculture products are safe for human consumption and that they meet food safety standards.

Figure 46. **TOTAL PRODUCTION OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE IN THE USA BETWEEN 1992-2022 (volume in 1.000 tonnes)**

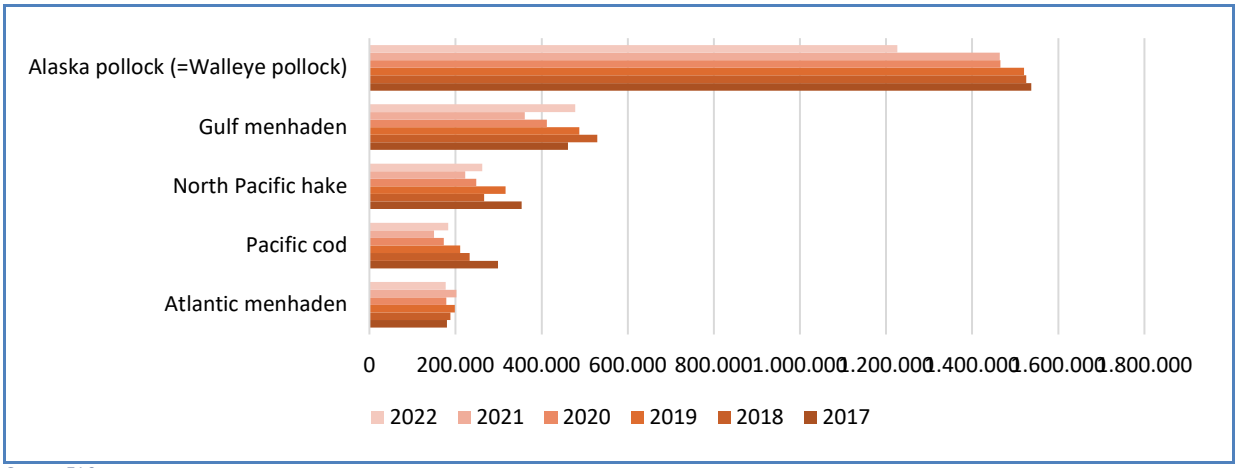


Source: FAO.

Fisheries production

The estimated fisheries production of the USA in 2022 amounted to 4,3 million tonnes. Compared to the 2021 capture statistics from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), this was a 1% decrease in capture volume. Capture volume in the USA has seen a decrease over the past 30 years, dropping by approximately 1 million tonnes since 1992. The decline in capture fisheries is attributed to a general decline for several species, but some of the most noticeable declines between 1992 and 2022 were for Atlantic menhaden (48%), skipjack tuna (46%), Pacific herring (40%), ocean quahog (41%), flatfishes (73%) and Pacific cod (27%). The reduction in catch volume for these species is largely due to stricter regulations and lower quotas.

Figure 47. **TOP FIVE CAPTURED SPECIES IN THE USA BY VOLUME (in tonnes)**



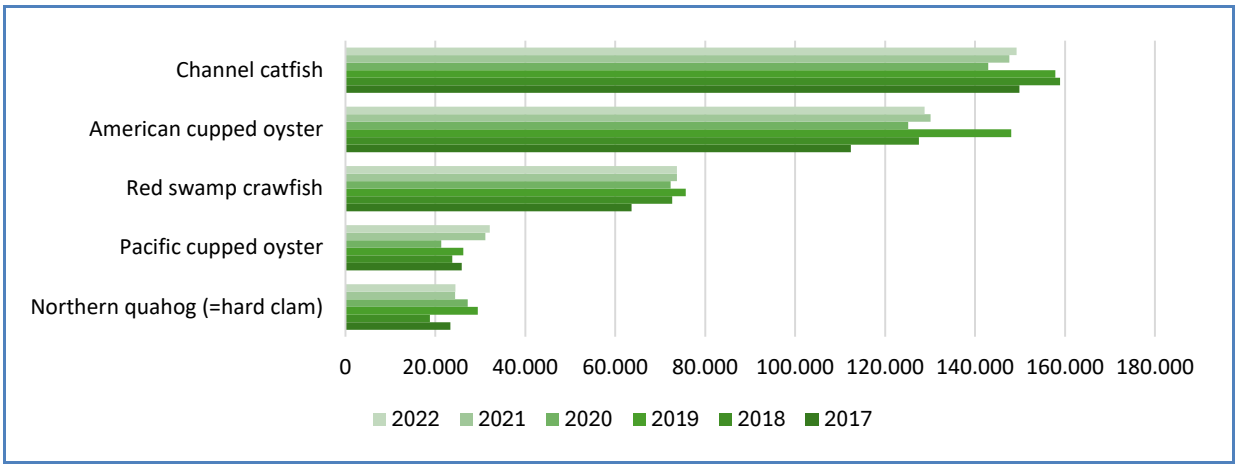
Source: FAO.

The five largest captured species in the USA are Alaska pollock (*Gadus chalcogrammus*), Gulf menhaden (*Brevoortia patronus*), North Pacific hake (*Merluccius productus*), Pacific cod (Gadus macrocephalus) and Atlantic menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*). In 2022, the catch volume for Alaska pollock reached 1,2 million tonnes, a 16% decline from the volume in 2021. Gulf menhaden, North Pacific hake and Pacific cod all saw an increase from 2021 to 2022 by 32%, 18% and 22%, respectively. The catch volume of Gulf menhaden reached 477.980 tonnes, North Pacific hake reached 261.708 tonnes, and Pacific cod reached 182.799 tonnes in 2022. Catches of Atlantic menhaden reached a volume of 177.267 tonnes, 12% lower than in 2021.

Aquaculture production

In 2023, the USA produced 478.824 tonnes of aquaculture products to a value of EUR 1,46 billion. In terms of volume, the largest species produced in the USA are channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), American cupped oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), red swamp crawfish (*Procambarus clarkii*), Pacific cupped oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Northern quahog (*Mercenaria mercenaria).* Most of the production of channel catfish takes place in the southeastern part of the USA, and the country is one of the largest producers of this species. Farmed channel catfish in the USA is normally grown in clay-based ponds filled with fresh water[30]. Oyster farming is also an important industry in the USA: both the American cupped oyster and the Pacific cupped oyster account for a large volume. Mature oysters grow-out is usually done in three different ways: on-bottom (where the farming is directly on the beach bottom in tidal areas), off-bottom (in racks, cages or mesh bags that are submerged and attached to anchored frames in the intertidal zone), or suspended culture (cages or bags that are attached to rafts and floated in the tidal zone). The red swamp crawfish is native to the southeastern part of the country, and Louisiana is a leading producer of this species. Crawfish is often farmed in integrated rice-crawfish systems as this dual-system maximises land productivity and provides an ideal habitat for crawfish. Pond farming (purpose-built farms) is also common for the production of this species. The northern quahog is a hard-shelled clam species that is normally placed in pens, trays, or bags that are secured to the bottom of intertidal or subtidal areas or planted in plots. It is harvested at a size of approximately 50 mm[31].

Figure 48. **TOP FIVE AQUACULTURE SPECIES IN THE USA BY VOLUME (in tonnes)**



Source: FAO.

4.2. International trade

As the largest economy in the world, the United States is an important trading partner globally, both as importer and exporter. The Office of the United States Trade Representative has main responsibility for administering trade agreements for the USA, which includes overseeing how its trading partners adhere to trade agreements with the United States, protecting American interests under those agreements, and negotiating and finalising trade deals that support the President's trade agenda. The USA is a Member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and has comprehensive free trade

[30] U.S. Department of Agriculture. *Catfish From Farm to Table.* https://www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety/safe-food-handling-and-preparation/meat-fish/catfish-farm-table
[31] NOAA Fisheries. *Northern Quahog: Aquaculture.* https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/northern-quahog/aquaculture

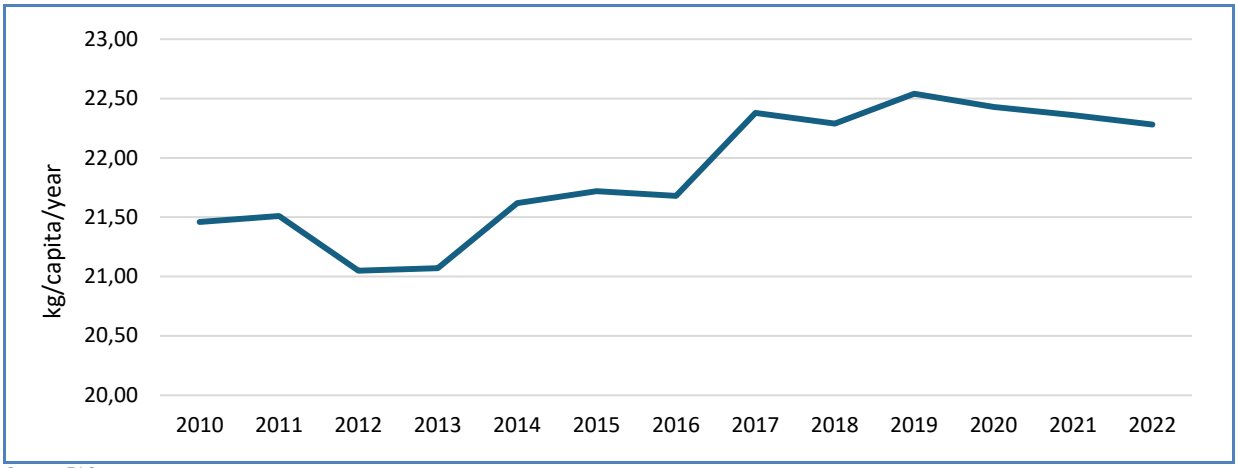
agreements with 20 countries[32], built on the foundation of the WTO agreement. Many of these free trade agreements are bilateral, However, they are also part of multilateral agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement.

Fisheries and aquaculture are an important part of the economy in the USA, and trade thus plays an important role. With the USA being the largest importer of fisheries and aquaculture globally, the country is a net importer of these products[33]. According to NOAA, the seafood trade deficit has been a consistent trend due to higher import volumes compared to exports, and a large share of the seafood consumed in the USA originates from other countries.

Fish and seafood consumption in the USA

The USA fish seafood market is one of the largest markets in the world and is characterised by a wide range of seafood products. In addition to a large domestic fisheries and aquaculture sector, the USA is also a large importer of various types of seafood from a range of different origins. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, fish consumption per capita in the USA in 2022 reached 22,28 kg. Crustaceans, freshwater fish and demersal fish were the most consumed species groups with 6,0 kg/cap, 5,2 kg/cap and 4,3 kg/cap, respectively. This was a small decline from 2021 (0,4%). Seafood consumption per capita per year has seen some fluctuations over the years. However, compared to 2010, seafood consumption per capita has increased by 4%.

Figure 49. **FISH AND SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA PER YEAR IN THE US[34] (kg/cap)**



Source: FAO.

Export of fishery and aquaculture products from the USA

In 2023, the USA exported 2,6 million tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 7,2 billion. In terms of volume, this was an increase of 4% compared to 2022. Over the last five years, exports of fishery and aquaculture from the USA have dropped from approximately 2,87 million tonnes in 2019 to 2,6 million tonnes in 2023. The export volume of several species has declined during that period, such as Alaska pollock, hake, lobster, cod and various types of groundfish. The declining export volumes of several fisheries products are related to declining catch volumes of these species. However, the export value has seen an increase from EUR 6,4 billion to EUR 7,2 billion. In terms of trade partners, China was the largest export market for fishery and aquaculture products from the USA in 2023 with a volume of 507.344 tonnes, 6% higher than in the previous year. The second largest export market for the USA in 2023 was Canada with a volume of 348.348 tonnes, a decline of 8% from 2022.

[32] Office of the United States Trade Representative. *Free Trade Agreements*. https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements
[33] National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Seafood Commerce and Trade: International Trade. Seafood Trade Industry and Sustainable Global Fisheries | NOAA Fisheries
[34] FAO. *Food balances (2010-)*. Items aggregated: fish, seafood. https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FBS

In terms of species, other non-food use[35] made up the largest volume with 1,3 million tonnes in 2023 at a value of EUR 2,1 billion. In volume and value, this was an increase of 5% and 16% from 2022. Other marine fish[36], salmon[37] and Alaska pollock made up the other largest species group in 2023 with 339.839 tonnes, 199.651 tonnes, and 132.451 tonnes respectively. Compared to the volume in 2022, other marine fish and Alaska pollock saw an increase of 10% and 13%, while salmon declined by less than 1%.

In 2023, Mexico, China, South Korea, and Canada were the USA's largest export markets for non-food products. Export volume in 2023 to Mexico and China increased by 105% and 14% from 2022 to 240.954 tonnes and 192.708 tonnes respectively. However, export volume to both South Korea and Canada declined from the year before by 22% and 8% to 170.867 tonnes and 155.933 tonnes respectively. The largest markets for other marine fish in 2023 were Japan, South Korea and China with a volume of 116.721 tonnes, 75.420 tonnes and 38.544 tonnes respectively. While export volume to Japan and South Korea increased from 2022 by 25% and 16%, exports to China declined by 13%. The main export markets for salmon were China, Canada and Thailand with a volume of 58.130 tonnes, 55.364 tonnes and 17.989 tonnes. For Alaska pollock, the Netherlands, China and Germany were the three largest markets with a volume of 62.126 tonnes, 18.861 tonnes and 13.964 tonnes respectively.

Table 27. **TOTAL EXPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM THE USA 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	446.071	918	433.667	809	463.221	917	478.792	1.228	507.344	1.278
Canada	348.467	1.310	344.355	1.188	404.524	1.597	379.426	1.632	348.348	1.517
South Korea	455.026	576	526.278	509	445.125	444	346.690	544	337.021	515
The EU[38]	365.210	1.080	300.016	834	294.818	941	305.083	1.230	293.296	1.074
Mexico	125.256	257	135.338	290	123.011	209	144.304	287	277.871	542
Japan	215.158	793	177.841	561	215.622	638	187.598	757	194.741	705
Trinidad and Tobago	67.678	27	34.254	17	62.637	30	70.717	43	67.661	36
Brazil	15.650	55	15.274	57	15.552	58	19.570	77	63.801	75
Vietnam	72.879	106	62.586	85	76.178	104	82.297	124	51.182	103
Thailand	62.153	143	97.982	151	79.393	147	62.746	174	46.134	127
Other	699.832	1.153	616.818	1.094	560.968	1.131	438.644	1.286	419.707	1.243
Total	**2.873.380**	**6.418**	**2.744.409**	**5.595**	**2.741.049**	**6.216**	**2.515.867**	**7.382**	**2.607.106**	**7.215**

Source: Trade Data Monitor.

Import of fishery and aquaculture products to the USA

In 2023, the USA imported 3,5 million tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 24,3 billion. This was an 8% decrease in volume and a 17% decline in value compared to 2022. The largest supplier to the USA in 2023 was Canada, with a volume of 431.908 tonnes, followed by Indonesia and China, with 361.355 tonnes and 357.371 tonnes respectively. While imports from Canada and Indonesia increased by 1% and 2% from 2022, imports from China declined by 13%.

[35] Non-food use: fish oil, fishmeal and non-food use. EUMOFA. List of commodity groups and main commercial species.
[36] The MSC "Other marine fish" include the following species: cobia, cusk-eel, dogfish, other sharks, gilthead seabream, other seabream, gurnard, John dory, monk, picarel, ray, ray's bream, red mullet, scabbardfish, European seabass, other seabass, smelt, weever, and other marine fish. EUMOFA. List of commodity groups and main commercial species.
[37] Salmonids.
[38] Please note that discrepancies in trade data may occur due to differences in data sources. The total export/import figures for the EU as a single market may differ from direct trade statistics between the EU and the USA presented later in the report.

The largest species groups imported by the USA in 2023 were miscellaneous shrimp, salmon, other marine fish and crab. Shrimp accounted for a total volume of 785.395 tonnes, a 6% decline in volume and a 20% decline in value compared to 2022. The import volume of salmon remained at similar levels as in 2022 at 494.813 tonnes, but a slight decline of 3% in value. Other marine fish reached an import volume of 282.666 tonnes, a 7% decline in volume and a 12% decline in value from the previous year. Crab saw a small increase of 3% in volume to 112.212 tonnes. However, the import value declined by 46%.

In 2023, India, Ecuador, and Indonesia were the largest suppliers of shrimp to the USA, with a volume of 296.392 tonnes, 205.628 tonnes, and 146.189 tonnes respectively. While imports from India and Indonesia saw a 3% and 12% fall from 2022, imports from Ecuador increased by 3%. Chile, Canada and Norway were the three largest suppliers of salmon to the USA market in 2023 with a volume of 244.933 tonnes, 72.283 tonnes and 69.092 tonnes, respectively. Of other marine fish, the USA imported most from China, Canada and Vietnam with 42.798 tonnes, 25.651 tonnes, and 22.681 tonnes. Crab imports came mainly from Canada, which supplied 57% of the total volume with 64.067 tonnes, followed by Indonesia with 12.542 tonnes and China with 5.717 tonnes.

Table 28. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO THE USA 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
Canada	418.768	3.183	397.692	2.799	450.159	4.269	425.755	4.141	431.908	3.517
Indonesia	225.338	1.678	256.946	1.846	306.089	2.113	355.603	2.569	361.355	1.976
China	451.891	1.746	431.236	1.495	449.367	1.528	411.442	1.921	357.371	1.472
India	346.591	2.455	317.831	2.166	396.408	2.717	349.454	2.898	333.642	2.370
Vietnam	205.536	1.149	226.393	1.207	278.881	1.572	304.527	2.100	317.548	1.514
Chile	229.636	1.944	268.250	1.878	284.609	2.351	307.353	3.227	313.534	3.076
Ecuador	131.611	727	196.634	890	272.926	1.392	278.131	1.773	253.898	1.560
Thailand	191.382	1.110	223.597	1.184	184.213	1.001	208.389	1.292	175.011	1.041
The EU[39]	133.209	711	157.752	752	188.360	997	267.705	1.428	164.699	1.346
Norway	96.299	815	93.012	747	112.559	956	122.346	1.326	127.430	1.359
Other	757.453	4.788	737.563	4.546	886.672	5.775	811.264	6.775	691.432	5.083
Total	**3.187.714**	**20.306**	**3.306.906**	**19.510**	**3.810.243**	**24.671**	**3.841.969**	**29.450**	**3.527.828**	**24.314**

Source: Trade Data Monitor data.

4.3. Trade flows with the EU

The EU and the USA are major trading partners, with substantial trade in goods and services. When services and investment are included, the USA is the EU's largest trading partner. However, despite this, there is no dedicated free trade agreement between the EU and the USA. Negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) began in 2013 but were not concluded by the end of 2016 and were officially closed in 2019. Despite this, trade between the USA and the EU benefits from some of the world's lowest average tariffs, under 3%, and is regulated under World Trade Organization (WTO) rules. In 2023, the EU imported goods from the USA to a value of EUR 346,5 billion and exported goods to the USA to a value of EUR 502,3 billion[40].

[39] Please note that discrepancies in trade data may occur due to differences in data sources. The total export/import figures for the EU as a single market may differ from direct trade statistics between the EU and the USA presented later in the report.
[40] European Commission. *United States*. https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/united-states_en?prefLang=it

In terms of trade of fisheries and aquaculture products between the EU and the USA, the EU is a net importer of seafood from the USA with regard to volume[41]. In 2023, the EU exported 129.029 tonnes to the USA, while it imported 162.767 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products from the USA. In 2023, USA was the fifth largest market for EU exports after Norway, Nigeria, the United Kingdom and China. However, in terms of value, the EU exported to a value of EUR 1,2 billion, while only importing to a value of EUR 759 million. This has largely to do with a high volume of higher-priced products, such as salmon, being exported from the EU to the USA market.

EU export of fishery and aquaculture products to the USA

In 2023, the EU exported 129.029 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products to the USA, worth EUR 1,2 billion. Compared to 2022, this was a decrease of 4% in terms of volume but an increase of 5% in terms of value. Compared to the three-year average before the COVID-19 pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 63% increase in export volume and a 116% increase in export value. The reason for the increase has largely to do with an increasing demand for several products such as salmon, other non-food use, European seabass, and sardines. Several species groups have seen a rise in volume since 2017.

Salmon accounted for the largest export volume from the EU to the USA market in 2023 with a volume of 37.107 tonnes, a 6% increase in volume and a 12% increase in value. The largest suppliers of salmon to the USA market from the EU in 2023 were the Netherlands, Poland and Denmark which accounted for 87% of the exported volume. For other non-food use, export volume reached 23.669 tonnes, with Ireland, Poland and the Netherlands being the three largest suppliers with 70% of the volume. Exports of octopus to the USA market reached 11.487 tonnes in 2023 and were largely dominated by Spain, which accounted for 10.557 tonnes. European seabass exports from the EU to the USA in 2023 were at 7.074 tonnes, with Greece and Spain being the two largest suppliers with a volume of 4.121 tonnes and 2.297 tonnes, respectively.

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

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
MCS	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Salmon	21.552	268.010	25.061	303.648	30.863	393.521	35.071	549.190	37.107	616.087
Other non-food use	10.144	8.657	20.480	11.455	16.900	14.049	18.249	20.335	23.669	32.955
Octopus	9.013	80.703	5.411	44.309	12.836	126.185	11.543	141.133	11.487	130.802
Other products	6.672	15.593	10.743	27.163	9.023	26.637	8.953	26.381	8.772	26.815
European seabass	3.582	21.816	3.275	20.902	4.937	34.305	7.424	61.752	7.074	60.655
Other	35.419	231.171	38.454	230.510	46.061	301.723	53.123	377.787	40.920	369.858
Total	**86.382**	**625.951**	**103.424**	**637.986**	**120.621**	**896.420**	**134.362**	**1.176.578**	**129.029**	**1.237.172**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

EU imports from the USA

In 2023, the EU imported 162.767 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products from the USA at a value of EUR 759 million. Compared to 2022, this was a decrease in import volume and value of 15% and 18% respectively. Compared to the three-year average before the COVID-19 pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 37% decrease in import volume and a 15% decrease in import value. The decline can be attributed to a noticeable decline in imports of Alaska pollock, fish oil and cod, as well as declined for some other species groups, too.

The main commercial species groups imported by the EU from the USA in 2023 were Alaska pollock, surimi, hake, salmon and cod. Imports of Alaska pollock reached 194.565 tonnes in 2023, a 19% decline from the previous year. Imports of

[41] EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

surimi and salmon also declined in volume between 2022 and 2023 by 7% and 15%, while imports of hake remained steady and imports of cod increased by 49%.

France was the largest import market for fishery and aquaculture products from the USA in 2023 with 31.237 tonnes, followed by Spain and the Netherlands with 24.340 tonnes and 22.389 tonnes. The largest species group imported by France was by far surimi with 13.687 tonnes, followed by Alaska pollock and salmon at a volume of 6.245 tonnes and 3.548 tonnes. Despite being the largest market in the EU for seafood products from the USA, imports to France dropped by 23% from 2022. Surimi, hake and squid were the three largest imported species groups in Spain in 2023, reaching 13.057 tonnes, 5.454 tonnes and 1.708 tonnes, respectively. Finally, the Netherlands imported mostly Alaska pollock, other flatfish and salmon from the USA at a volume of 10.899 tonnes, 3.394 tonnes and 2.132 tonnes.

Table 30. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO THE EU FROM THE USA BY MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES (volume in tonnes, value in EUR)**

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
MCS	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Alaska pollock	90.034	266.321	101.820	308.513	87.022	256.840	59.496	223.540	48.372	194.565
Surimi	44.442	114.259	48.691	123.753	46.821	119.259	43.102	146.235	40.115	123.817
Hake	23.377	60.613	19.278	54.269	19.328	53.654	20.918	73.925	20.878	78.017
Salmon	22.592	170.466	18.458	126.847	19.619	161.697	19.652	190.076	16.617	113.506
Cod	12.543	46.823	10.533	34.399	5.697	15.995	4.423	18.331	6.581	27.808
Other	60.137	251.096	46.881	191.138	37.021	201.135	43.527	271.321	30.204	221.046
Total	**253.125**	**909.577**	**245.662**	**838.902**	**215.509**	**808.581**	**191.118**	**923.427**	**162.767**	**758.758**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

5. Flatfish species in the EU – recent trends

Flatfish species, such as plaice, sole, megrim, dab, flounder or turbot, are commercially important for EU fisheries, especially along the North Sea seaboard. In addition, a few EU companies are farming turbot and tropical sole, mostly in Spain and Portugal, to complement the EU supply. However during the past five years, strong decreases of catches and first-sales volumes were reported for most of the main flatfish species due to reduced fish availability and supply. This resulted in increased prices and reduced intra-EU trade flows and household consumption in the main EU markets for most of these species. The slight increase in extra-EU imports did not compensate for the drop in domestic supply.

5.1. EU production

EU catches

In 2022, the EU-27 catches of flatfish species dropped to 93.624 tonnes. The main EU producer was the Netherlands (20% of the total EU catch), followed by France (13%), Denmark (12%), Spain (12%), Poland (11%) and Germany (10%). Over the 2012-2021 period, EU catches of flatfish species had already been following a strongly decreasing trend (-47%), driven mostly by the decreases reported by the main fishing countries: -63% in the Netherlands, -43% in France, and -62% in Denmark.

The main caught flatfish species were European plaice (26% of the total EU catches), Greenland halibut and common sole (15% each), European flounder (14%) and megrims (12%). Over the 2013-2022 period, most of the main species experienced significant decreases in their catches, especially plaice (-66%), common sole (-47%) and European flounder (-40%). The reasons behind reduction on availability and supply are diverse: intense fishing pressure, low recruitment, reduction of quotas, or other environmental factors. Only Greenland halibut experienced a slight increase over the period (+7%).

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

Country	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Netherlands	51.877	45.279	49.189	50.923	48.986	42.020	39.007	32.910	29.227	19.056
France	20.883	20.213	18.563	17.358	16.513	16.678	15.447	13.803	13.722	11.988
Denmark	30.630	28.490	31.560	33.688	28.847	23.973	21.108	19.950	15.683	11.625
Spain	14.481	11.894	12.081	11.580	11.793	11.657	12.705	12.029	12.199	11.393
Poland	12.024	12.792	9.645	15.299	11.603	16.381	17.823	15.721	15.623	10.715
Germany	15.231	14.098	15.546	15.724	10.715	13.960	13.590	12.482	10.542	9.160
Belgium	14.614	15.609	13.572	14.822	12.622	11.748	10.656	9.005	8.522	7.219
Portugal	4.488	4.270	3.751	3.843	5.093	4.210	4.757	5.505	4.064	3.979
Ireland	5.314	4.687	4.848	5.575	5.350	4.730	5.092	3.867	4.454	3.317
Italy	2.342	3.134	3.493	3.385	2.954	2.927	2.943	2.239	2.721	2.206
Estonia	1.518	2.567	1.525	2.482	2.759	3.227	2.401	2.330	1.683	1.091
Others	4.880	4.622	4.441	4.148	3.876	4.050	3.325	3.021	1.937	1.874
Total	**178.282**	**167.655**	**168.214**	**178.827**	**161.111**	**155.562**	**148.853**	**132.862**	**120.377**	**93.624**

Source: FAO

In terms of landing value, total flatfish landings amounted to EUR 517 million in 2022, slightly increasing compared to 2013 (+3%). Despite the strongly decreasing volumes caught and landed, increasing landing unit values have maintained or even increased the landing values for some species[42].

EU aquaculture production

In the EU, flatfish farming mostly concerns turbot farming in on-land ponds and to a lesser extent, sole species. In 2022, EU production of farmed flatfish species amounted to 14.183 tonnes for an estimated value of EUR 131 million, of which turbot (*Psetta maxima*) represented 89% of the total and Senegalese sole *(Solea senegalensis*) 10%. EU production has been increasing (+39%) while total value soared (+75%) over the 2013-2022 period. This is mostly due to increasing volumes, strongly increasing ex-farm prices (+35% for sole and +28% for turbot) and an increasing share of sole in the total flatfish production, which is more expensive than turbot. In 2022, the main producing countries were by far Spain and Portugal, accounting for 68% and 28% of the total EU volume produced, respectively. Increasing prices could be linked with inflation of production costs in recent years as well as increased market prices due to the reduction of the wild-caught supply for these species.

Table 32. **EU FARMED FLATFISH PRODUCTION (volume in tonnes net weight)[43]**

Country	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Spain	7.340	8.573	8.055	8.053	9.783	8.759	8.957	8.285	9.500	9.894
Portugal	2.507	3.671	2.432	2.535	2.896	2.784	3.814	3.615	3.591	4.130
Netherlands	100	100	100	100	100	-	120	120	120	120
Italy	9	7	6	4	4	8	11	9	38	38
Greece	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	1
Others	262	556	587	581	560	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**10.222**	**12.910**	**11.182**	**11.275**	**13.344**	**11.553**	**12.904**	**12.031**	**13.132**	**14.183**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat and FAO data.

5. 2. First sales in the EU

In 2023, reported first sales of flatfish species in EU countries transmitting data to EUMOFA[44] amounted to a volume of 62.911 tonnes and a value of EUR 378 million[45]. The main countries in terms of first sales volume and value were Denmark (20% of total volume), Spain (19%), the Netherlands (16%), France (11%), Poland and Belgium (9% each). The main species in volume terms were European plaice (28% of the total), common sole (16%), megrim (15%) and European flounder (12%). In value terms common sole was by far the main species (44% of the total value).

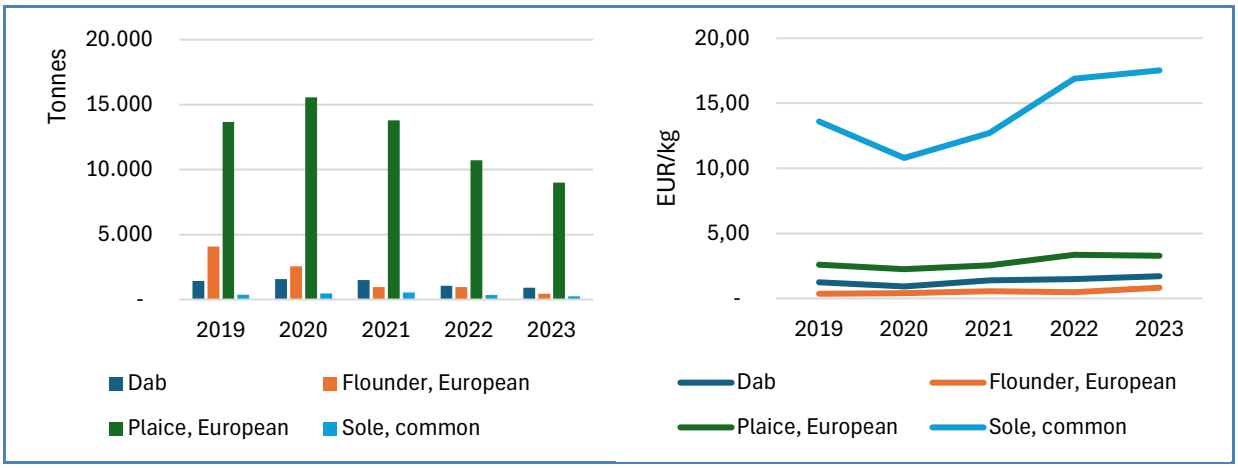
Over the period 2019-2023, total flatfish first-sales volume experienced a strong decrease (-41%) which increasing first-sale prices could not totally offset. The total value then decreased by 16% over the period. Most of the main species followed that trend. Only Greenland halibut saw its first-sales volume and value increase significantly over the period (9% in volume and 41% in value). This general trend was observed in all main producing countries:

- In **Denmark**, volumes of European plaice and common sole decreased by 34% while average prices increased by 26% and 29% respectively. European flounder experienced the strongest decrease with 89% in volume, causing a 132% price increase. Dab first-sales volume decreased by 36% while average price increased by 36%.
- In **Spain**, over the 2019-2023 period, monthly first sales volumes of megrim decreased by 29%, which was not offset by the increase in prices (only 3%). European flounder also experienced a strong decrease in volumes sold (-44%), causing a 38% price increase.

[42] Source: EUROSTAT
[43] Totals do not correspond exactly to actual sums because of roundings.
[44] Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.
[45] Source: EUMOFA (providers by country are listed at https://eumofa.eu/sources-of-data#firstSaleTab).

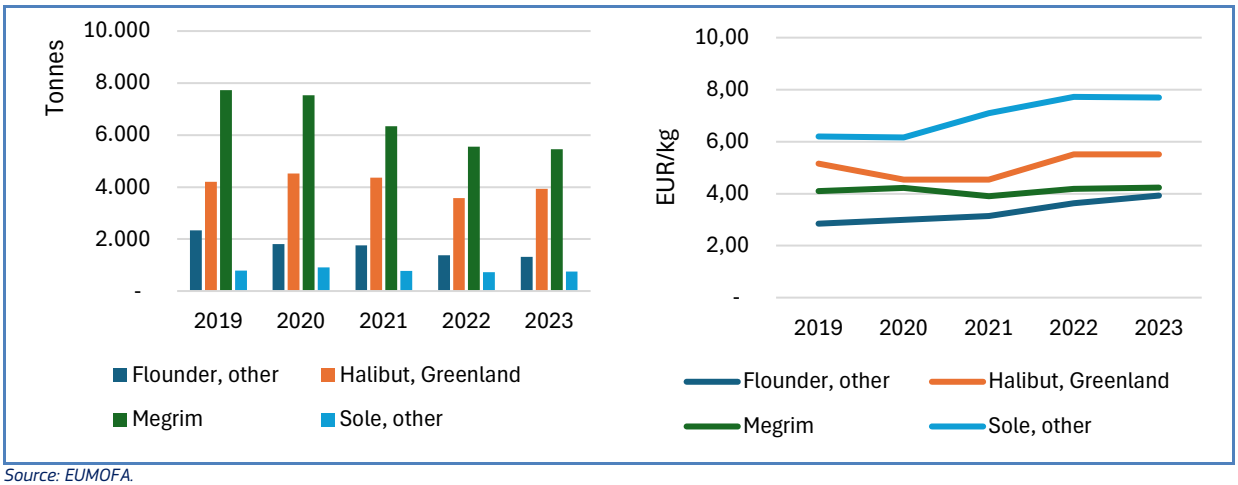
- In **the Netherlands**, the decrease in volumes of flatfish over the 2019-2023 period was the most spectacular. All main species experienced significant decreases: -63% for European flounder, -58% for European plaice, -56% for common sole and -61% for turbot. The corresponding price increases resulting from these falls were 52%, 17%, 44% and 42%, respectively.

Figure 50. **FIRST SALES: RECENT EVOLUTION OF VOLUMES AND PRICES OF SELECTED SPECIES IN DENMARK (volume in tonnes net weight and price in EUR/kg)**



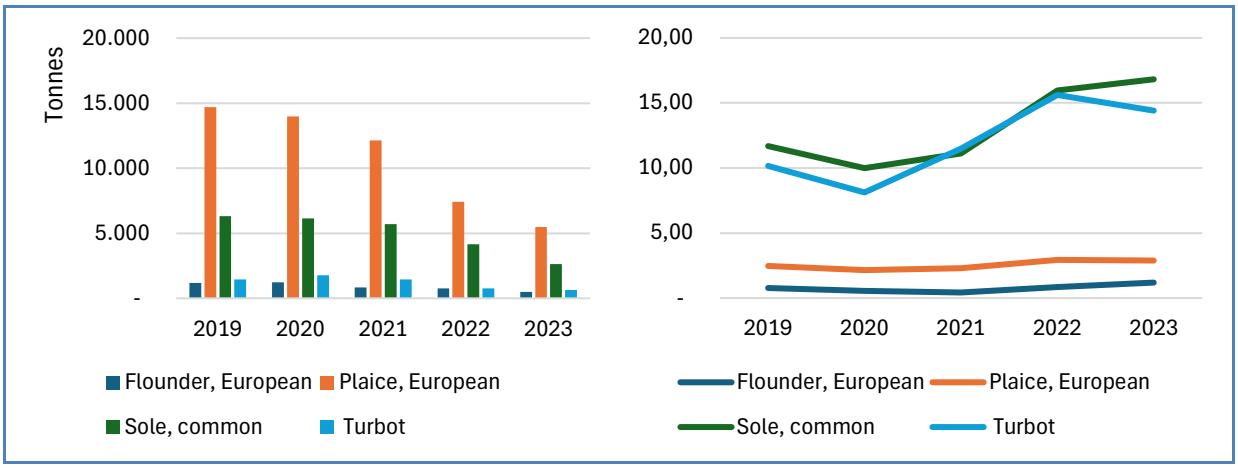
Source: EUMOFA.

Figure 51. **FIRST SALES: RECENT EVOLUTION OF VOLUMES AND PRICES OF SELECTED SPECIES IN SPAIN (volume in tonnes net weight and price in EUR/kg)**



Source: EUMOFA.

Figure 52. **FIRST SALES: RECENT EVOLUTION OF VOLUMES AND PRICES OF SELECTED SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS (volume in tonnes net weight and price in EUR/kg)**



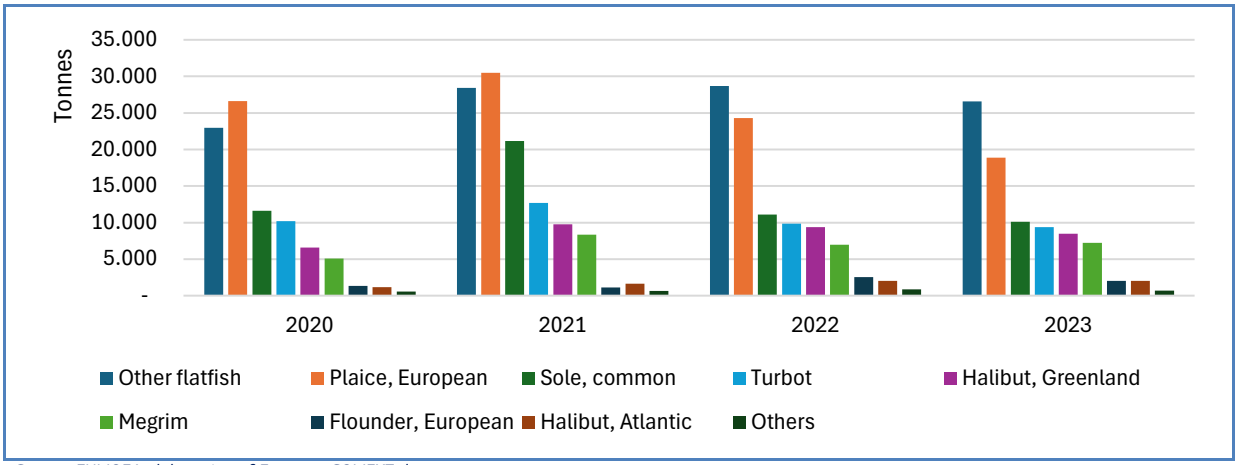
Source: EUMOFA.

5. 3. Impact on international trade

Because of the strong decreases observed in the flatfish landings over the last years, decreases in intra-EU exports and increases in extra-EU imports could be expected over the 2019-2023 period.

For **intra-EU exports**, total volumes of flatfish reached 85.367 tonnes in 2023, almost stable compared to 2020 (-1%), but significantly lower compared to 2021 (25%). The decreasing trend was mostly due to decreased exports from the Netherlands (-41% compared to 2021), Denmark (-22%), France (-33%) and Belgium (-34%). The decreasing trend was mostly attributable to plaice (-38%), common sole (-52%) and turbot (-26%). In value terms, intra-EU exports of flatfish amounted to EUR 711 million, a 32% increase compared to 2020 but stable compared to 2021 (+1%).

Figure 53. **EVOLUTION OF FLATFISH INTRA-EU EXPORT VOLUMES BY MAIN SPECIES (in tonnes)**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

In the meantime, extra-EU imports of flatfish from third countries remained relatively stable, reaching 99.297 tonnes in 2023, representing a 6% increase compared to 2020 and a 4% decrease compared to 2021. In 2023, the main reported changes were an increase of other flatfish[46] imports (29% compared to 2020) and turbot (76%) and the decrease in sole

[46] 03022980 - Fresh or chilled flat fish "Pleuronectidae, Bothidae, Cynoglossidae, Soleidae, Scophthalmidae and Catharidae" (excl. lesser or Greenland halibut, Atlantic halibut, Pacific halibut, plaice, sole, turbot and megrim)

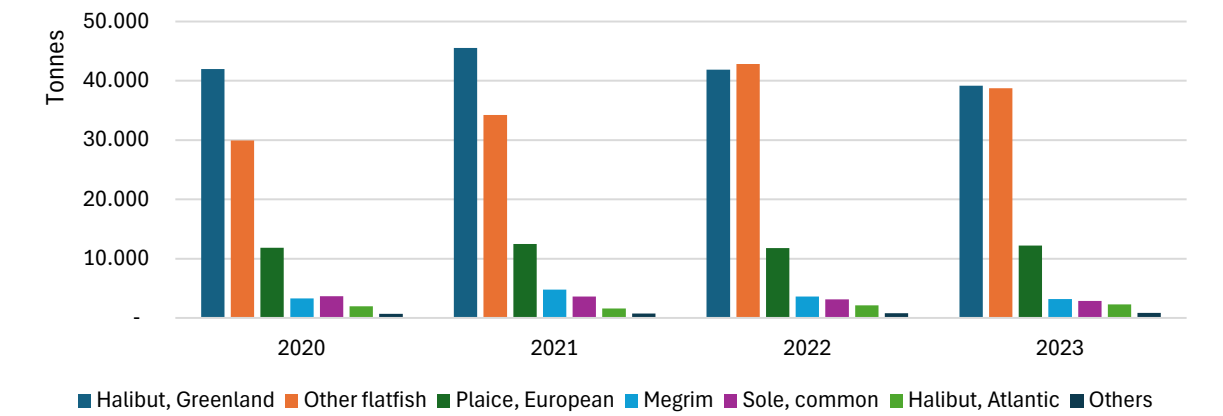
imports (-23%). The increases were mostly attributable to a few origins: China, Iceland, the USA and Namibia, whereas imports from the UK and Canada decreased. In the meantime, the value of extra-EU imports of flatfish amounted to EUR 524 million, a 22% increase compared to 2020 and 16% compared to 2022. This can be explained by the general increase in fish prices in recent years.

Table 33. **EXTRA-EU IMPORTS OF FLATFISH BY ORIGIN (volume in tonnes net weight)**

Country	2020	2021	2022	2023
Greenland	33.652	35.361	33.350	34.519
China	14.689	18.682	16.963	17.924
United Kingdom	16.277	14.726	12.571	11.542
Iceland	5.420	7.488	7.313	7.350
United States	271	1.321	6.008	5.511
Norway	4.783	4.970	5.107	5.106
Canada	6.859	8.184	11.501	3.574
Russian Federation	2.396	2.178	2.492	2.713
Morocco	3.245	2.739	2.091	2.506
Senegal	2.534	2.776	2.575	2.359
Mauritania	1.350	1.743	2.209	1.852
Faroe Islands	1.456	1.672	1.367	1.834
Namibia	23	434	1.342	1.336
Others	404	694	1.211	1.171
Total	**93.360**	**102.968**	**106.101**	**99.297**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

Figure 54. **EVOLUTION OF FLATFISH EXTRA-EU IMPORTS VOLUMES BY MAIN SPECIES (in tonnes)**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

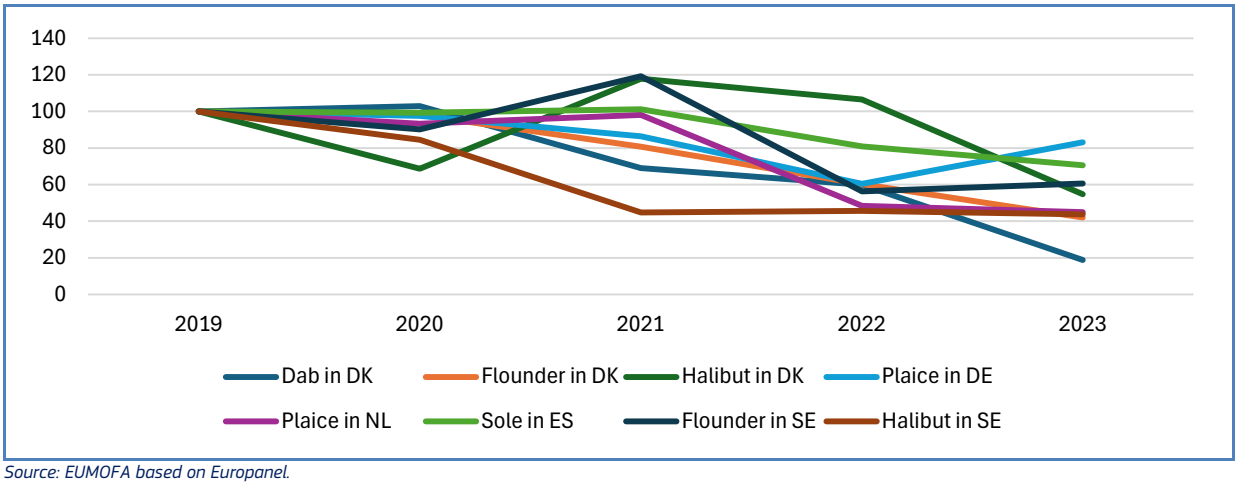
03033985 - Frozen flat fish "Pleuronectidae, Bothidae, Cynoglossidae, Soleidae, Scophthalmidae and Citharidae" (excl. halibut, plaice, sole, turbot, flounder, Rhombosolea spp., Pelotreis flavilatus and Peltorhamphus novaezelandiae)
03044300 - Fresh or chilled fillets of flat fish "Pleuronectidae, Bothidae, Cynoglossidae, Soleidae, Scophthalmidae and Citharidae"
03048390 - Frozen fillets of flat fish "Pleuronectidae, Bothidae, Cynoglossidae, Soleidae, Scophthalmidae and Citharidae" (excl. plaice, flounder and megrim)

5. 4. Impact on household consumption

Due to the reported decreasing supply from EU fisheries and a limited increase in extra-EU imports, significant decreases were reported in household consumption of fresh flatfish in several main consuming countries. Over the 2019-2023 period, household consumption volumes of fresh flatfish species dropped significantly:

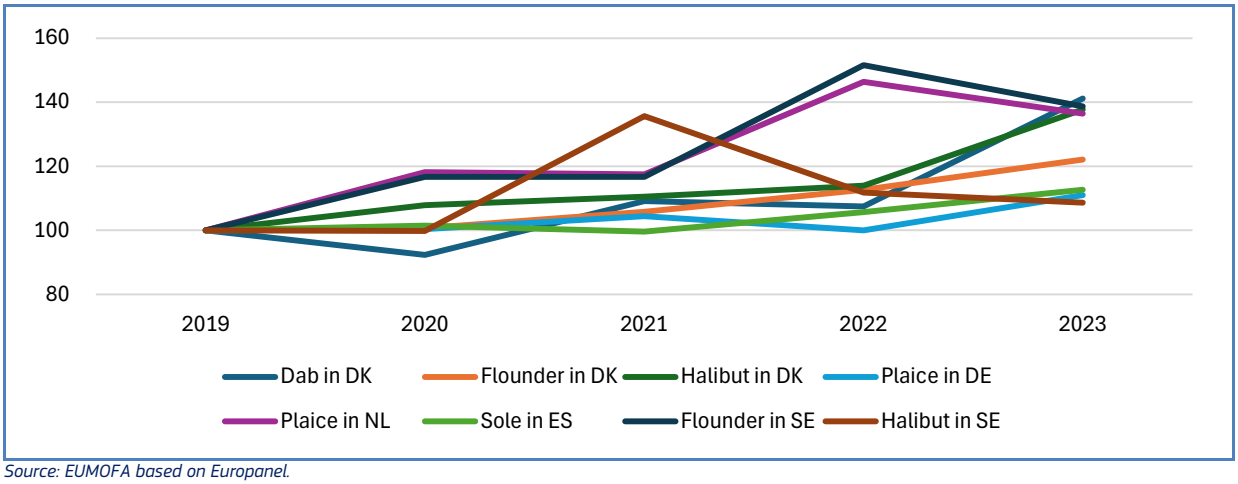
- Fresh flounder consumption decreased strongly in Denmark and in Sweden (-58% and -39%, respectively).
- Fresh plaice consumption decreased in Germany (-17%) and to a greater extent in the Netherlands (-55%).
- Fresh sole consumption in Spain fell (-29%), with a 10% average price increase.
- Fresh dab consumption in Denmark was drastically reduced (-81%).

Figure 55. **HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION VOLUMES INDEXES OF FRESH FLATFISH SPECIES IN SELECTED EU COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA based on Europanel.

Figure 56. **HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION PRICE INDEXES OF FRESH FLATFISH SPECIES IN SELECTED EU COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA based on Europanel.

6. Global highlights

EU / Cabo Verde / Fishery: On 23 July 2024, the EU and Cabo Verde signed a new protocol for the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) allowing access by EU vessels to Cabo Verdean waters for a period of 5 years, while preserving the development of the fisheries sector in Cabo Verde. The protocol will also strengthen fisheries governance and the protection of the marine environment and support the creation of jobs and activities in the fisheries sector[47].

EU / Black Sea / Fishery: On 4 July, the European Commission and the European External Action Service adopted **the 4th implementation report of the Black Sea Synergy**, offering a review of this regional cooperation initiative for the 2019-2023 period. The report shows that good progress was made on maritime affairs and fisheries, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its far-reaching consequences. The results of the 4th report on the Black Sea Synergy provide a good basis for reflection and planning for future EU policy in the region. The added value of the bottom-up approach to project development and of the inclusive and voluntary nature of the Black Sea Synergy and its implementation was confirmed, together with the wide range of EU activities in the Black Sea which have sought to address existing and new challenges in the region such as those in the fields of environmental protection and climate change, cross-border cooperation, democracy and human rights, energy, and transport[48].

EFSA / Seafood: The prevalence of *Vibrio* bacteria in seafood is expected to rise globally and in Europe due to climate change, especially in low-salinity waters. These bacteria thrive in warm, brackish waters and can cause gastroenteritis or severe infections in humans who consume raw or undercooked seafood. The main species posing health risks are *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, *Vibrio vulnificus*, and *Vibrio cholerae*. Increased antimicrobial resistance in these bacteria is also a concern. Climate change will likely expand the habitats where *Vibrio* can thrive, increasing the risk of infection. To control *Vibrio* in seafood, it is crucial to maintain the cold chain, use methods such as high-pressure processing and freezing, and ensure proper handling and cooking, especially of raw or undercooked products[49].

FAO / Fishery: The 36th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI36) took place between July 8 and 12 2024 at the FAO headquarters in Rome, focusing on the role of fisheries and aquaculture in addressing food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty. Among the main achievements COFI adopted new **Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture**, aimed at addressing the challenges and supporting the sustainable growth of the rapidly expanding aquaculture sector. These guidelines provide a comprehensive framework to help countries develop and implement sustainable aquaculture practices, crucial for addressing global hunger and malnutrition. The guidelines are part of FAO's Blue Transformation roadmap and were developed through an inclusive consultation process, focusing on sustainability, climate adaptation, and circularity in aquaculture practices[50].

Norway / Fishery: In the first half of 2024, Norway's seafood exports totalled NOK 80,6 billion, a 2% decrease from the same period last year, although it remains the second highest on record. This decline is attributed mainly to a sharp drop in salmon prices in June, despite earlier boosts from high cod and salmon prices and a weak krone. June saw an 18% drop in seafood export value compared to the previous year, marking a historic decline, due primarily to reduced salmon prices. In addition, there were notable decreases in export values of mackerel, herring, and king crab, while trout and snow crab saw significant growth. The seafood industry is facing challenges from weakened purchasing power in key markets, increased competition, and lower quotas for several species[51].

Iceland / Fishery: In June, Icelandic vessels landed 28.000 tonnes of fish, a 21% decrease from June 2023, due primarily to reduced catches of demersal species and no pelagic catches. Over the year from July 2023 to June 2024, the total catch was just under 1,1 million tonnes, marking a 24% decline from the previous year, largely because there were no capelin catches[52].

[47] https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/european-union-and-cabo-verde-renew-their-sustainable-fisheries-partnership-2024-07-23_en
[48] https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/good-progress-black-sea-regional-cooperation-maritime-affairs-and-fisheries-2024-07-04_en
[49] https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/vibrio-bacteria-seafood-increased-risk-due-climate-change-and-antimicrobial-resistance
[50] https://www.fao.org/americas/news/news-detail/cofi-36-adopto-directrices/en
[51] https://en.seafood.no/news-and-media/news-archive/weak-june-resulted-in-a-decline-in-seafood-exports-in-the-first-half-of-the-year-/
[52] https://statice.is/publications/news-archive/fisheries/fish-catch-in-june-2024/

7. Macroeconomic Context

7.1. Marine fuel

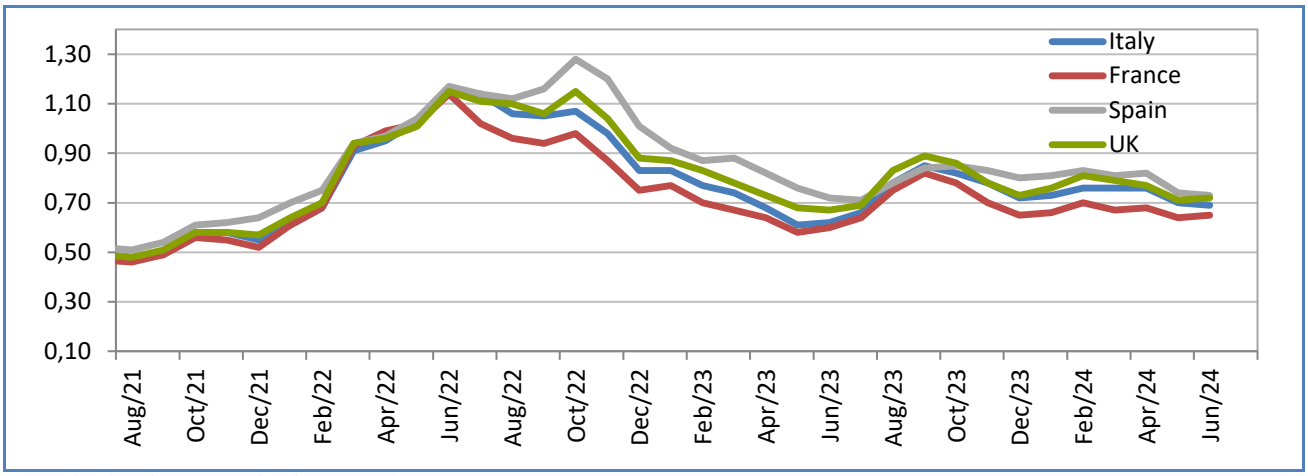
Average prices for Marine fuel in **July 2024** ranged between 0,64 and 0,74 EUR/litre in ports in **France, Italy, Spain** and the **UK**. Prices increased by an average of 0,7% compared with the previous month and increased by an average of 4,1% compared with the same month in 2023.

Table 34. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	July 2024	Change from June 2024	Change from July 2023
France *(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)*	0,64	-2%	0%
Italy *(ports of Ancona and Livorno)*	0,70	1%	6%
Spain *(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)*	0,73	0%	3%
The UK *(ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)*	0,74	3%	7%

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

Figure 57. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

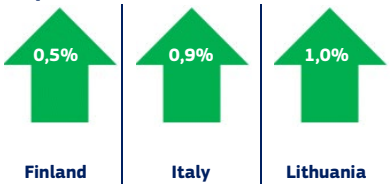


Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

7.2. Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate was 2,6% in June 2024, down from 2,7% in May 2024. A year earlier, the rate was 6,4%.

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



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

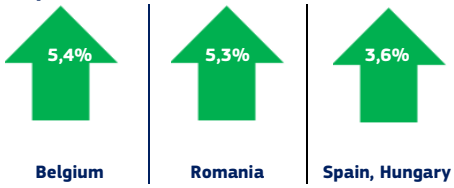


Table 35. **HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU (2015 = 100)**

	Jun 2022	Jun 2023	May 2024	Jun 2024	Change from May 2024		Change from Jun 2023	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	123,88	140,99	143,08	143,17	↑	0,1%	↑	1,5%
Fish and seafood	126,78	139,18	141,87	141,47	↓	0,3%	↑	1,6%

Source: Eurostat.

7.3. Exchange rates

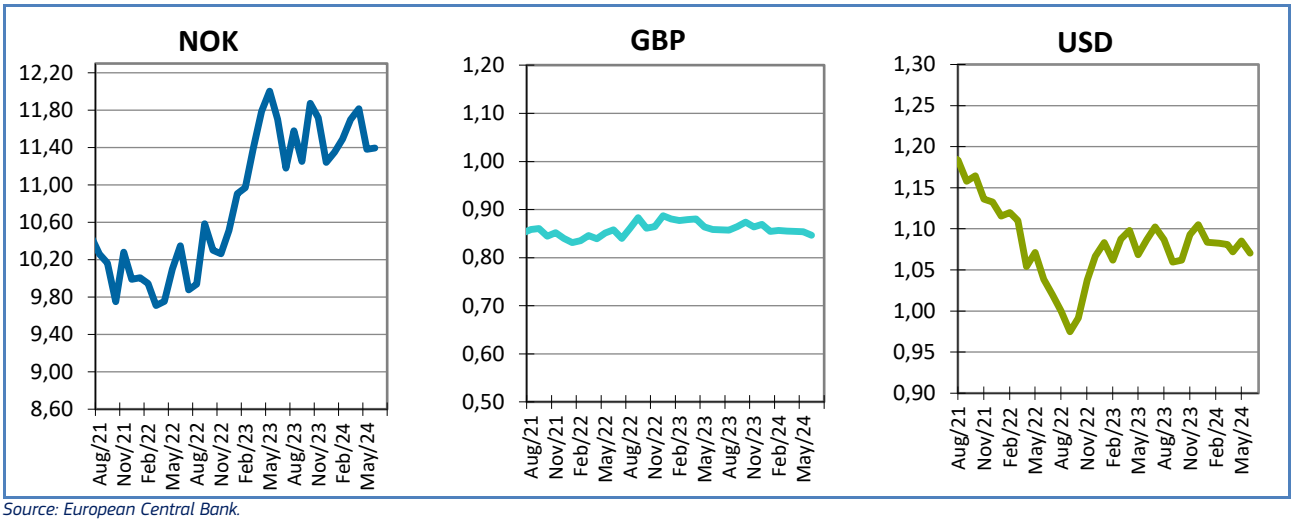
Table 36. **EURO EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES**

Currency	Jul 2022	Jul 2023	Jun 2024	Jul 2024
NOK	9,8773	11,1805	11,3965	11,8175
GBP	0,8399	0,8577	0,8464	0,8438
USD	1,0198	1,1023	1,0705	1,0828

Source: European Central Bank.

In July 2024, the euro depreciated against the British pound sterling (0,3%) and appreciated against the Norwegian krone (3,7%) and the US dollar (1,1%) relative to the previous month. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 11,6005 against the Norwegian krone. Compared with July 2023, the euro has depreciated 1,8% against the US dollar and 1,6% against the British pound sterling and appreciated 5,7% against the Norwegian krone.

Figure 58. **TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES**



Source: European Central Bank.

Manuscript completed in September 2024
The European Commission is not liable for any consequence stemming from the reuse of this publication.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2024

PDF ISSN: 2314-9671 KL-AK-24-007-EN-N
ISBN: 978-92-68-11480-3 DOI: 10.2771/30636

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND COMMENTS:
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail: contact-us@eumofa.eu

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

First sales: European Commission, FAO, CABI Compendium, IUCN, ICES, Fishsource, Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung, Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación – Gobierno de España, Industrias pesqueras.

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

Case studies: NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the United States Trade Representative, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, FAO, European Commission, Europanel.

Global highlights: European Commission, EFSA, FAO, Norwegian Seafood Council, 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.

The EUMOFA website is publicly available at the following address: www.eumofa.eu.

EUMOFA **Privacy Policy**

Publications Office of the European Union