



Last update: 30-01-2025

DENMARK IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2022 sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2022, Denmark was the third largest EU-27 producer of fisheries products and the 7th largest as concerns aquaculture production.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Denmark	% world	% EU-27
Catches	92.050	3.466	459	0,50%	13%
Aquaculture	130.885	1.089	40	0,03%	4%
Total	222.936	4.554	498	0,22%	11%

FISHING FLEET

Fleet: 2023, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat

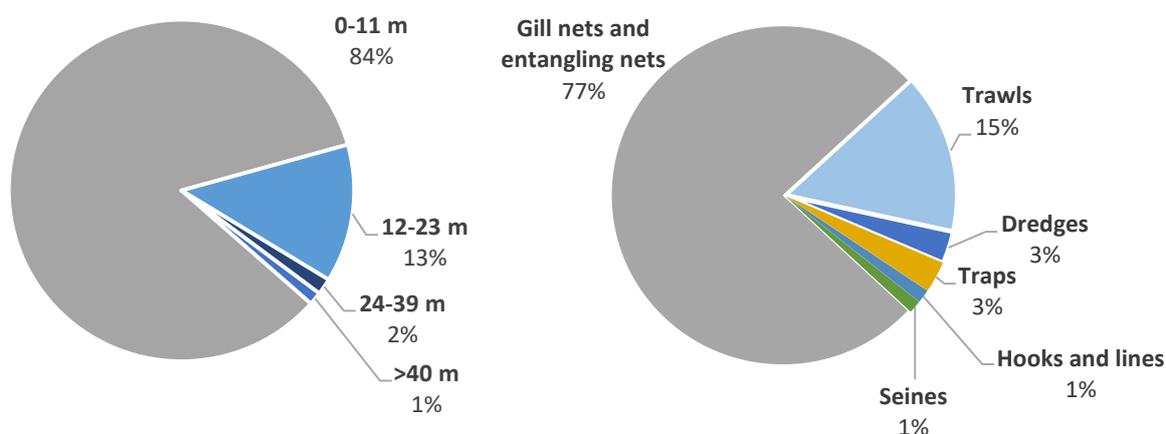
Employment: 2022, source: JRC

Vessels (2023)	Capacity (2023)	Power (2023)	
Number: 1.781	GT: 65.222	KW: 200.146	
TOTAL FTE: 888 (2022, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 15%	Jobs (FTE): 51%	Jobs (FTE): 17%	Jobs (FTE): 17%

GT: Gross tonnage - KW: Kilowatt - FTE: Full Time Equivalent

The Danish fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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LANDINGS

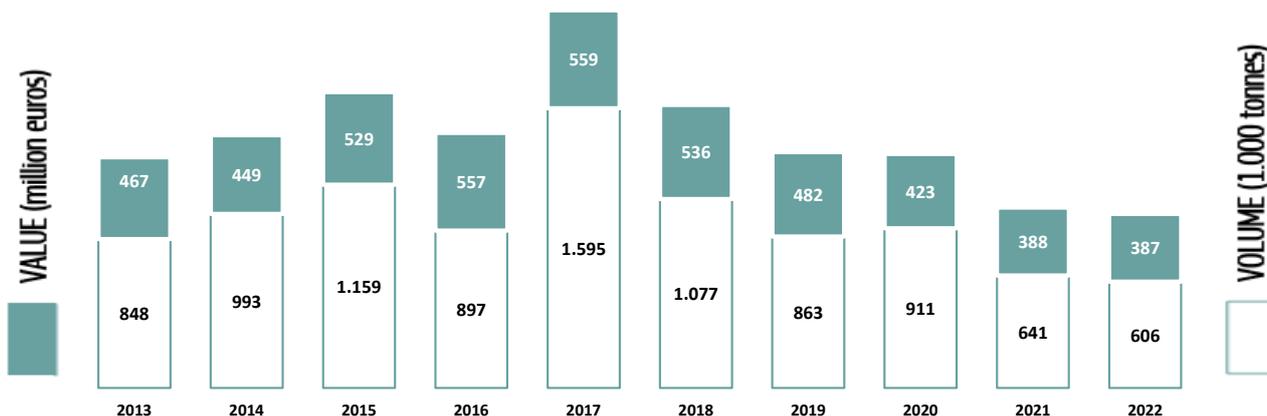
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and Statistics Denmark data.

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in each Member State. They include aquatic plants and species not destined for human consumption. Landings are recorded in net weight and value, and concern landings made by vessels from EU Member States, Iceland, Norway and the UK.

A large share of landings in Denmark are destined to industrial uses (62% in 2022), while almost all landings consist of fresh whole/gutted products (95% in 2022).

There are 131 fishing ports registered in Denmark (source: EU Master Data Register, 31 October 2024).

Total landings. Values are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2015)



Main commercial species landed and % of total
2022, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes



HERRING	88	19%
SPRAT (= BRISLING)	55	12%
NORWAY LOBSTER	46	10%
EUROPEAN PLAICE	38	8%
SAITHE (= COALFISH)	26	6%
OTHERS	205	45%



185	30%	SPRAT (= BRISLING)
131	22%	HERRING
85	14%	SANDEELS
70	12%	BLUE WHITING
24	4%	MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.
110	18%	OTHERS



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AQUACULTURE

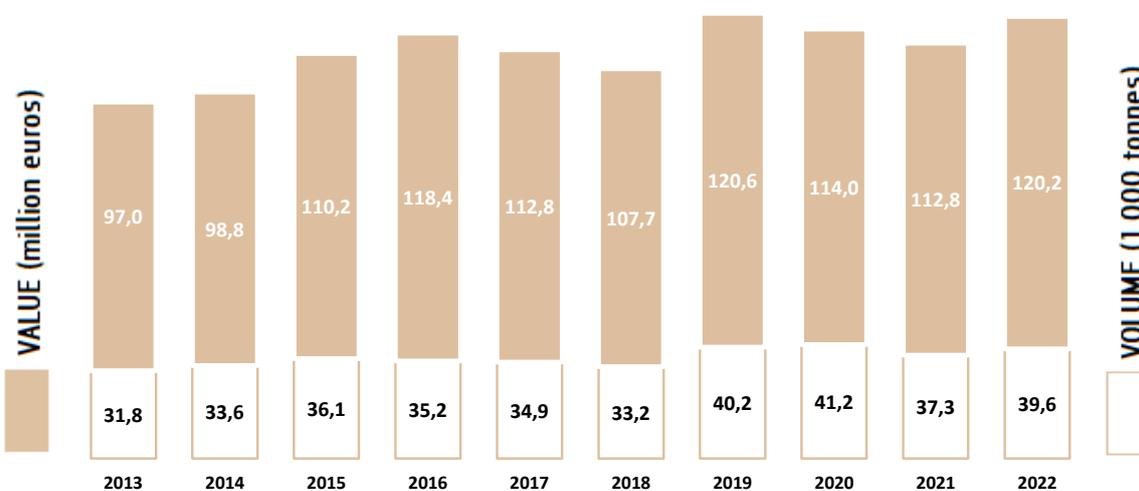
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data.

Aquaculture consists in the farming of aquatic (fresh or saltwater) organisms, such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans, and aquatic plants. Aquaculture data are reported in live weight equivalent and value.

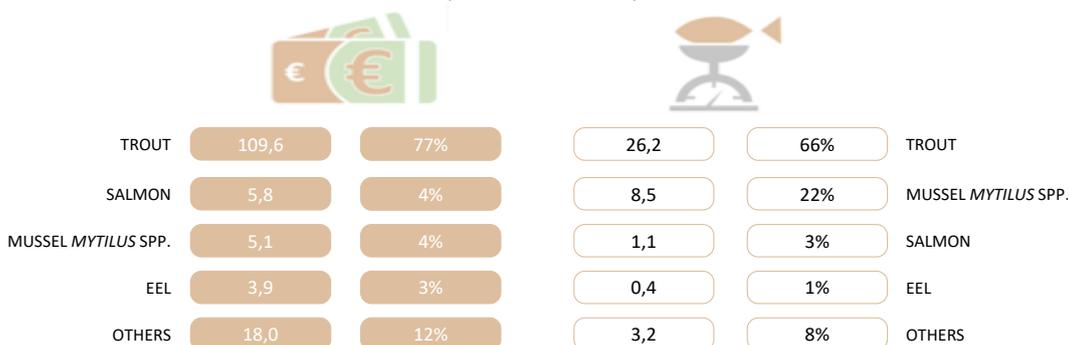
In 2022, around 44% of Danish production occurred in freshwater, 53% in marine waters and the rest has been classified under "not specified" for which no detail is available. The following main production methods were used:

- 38% of production: in recirculation systems, mostly in freshwater (36%) and a small percentage in sea and brackish water and other not specified methods (2%);
- 27% of the production: in cages in sea and brackish water;
- 23% of the production: off-bottom.
- The rest was farmed in ponds (5%), in tanks and raceways (3%) and with other methods for which no detail is available (3%).

Total production. Values are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2015)



Main commercial species farmed and % of total
2022, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes





PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

Data as of 11-12-2024, source: DG MARE, [link](#)

In Denmark, **4 producer organisations (POs)** are formally recognized, 3 operating in fishery and 1 in aquaculture sector. Their role is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and of the Common organisation of the markets (CMO) through the collective management of their members' activities.

FIRST SALES

2024 source: EUMOFA

First sales concern the fish that is sold or registered at an auction center or to registered buyers or to producer organizations (PO). First sales may differ from landings since the former do not cover fish that is landed by vessels owned by processing companies or direct sales to processors.

In Denmark, there are nine fish auction centres, the largest in Hanstholm on the West coast. "Danske Fiskeauktioner" in Thyborøn is the second largest which sells on an Internet auction system the fish from the harbours of Thyborøn, Hvide Sande and Thorsminde.

In 2024, total first sales in Denmark amounted to 681.455 tonnes and 502 million euros. Five main commercial species covered 76% and 61% of total first sales, respectively in volume and value terms.

Top-5 main commercial species	Volume (tonnes)	Value (million euros)
Herring	117.752	97
Blue whiting	224.423	66
Sprat (=Brisling)	151.897	66
Norway lobster	4.823	43
Mackerel	19.023	35

WHOLESALE

Wholesale is an intermediary stage in the distribution channel that buys in bulk and sells to resellers (e.g. retailers) rather than to consumers. In Denmark, there is only one wholesale market involved in sales of fishery and aquaculture products: "Københavns Fisketorv". It is situated in the Northern harbour area of Copenhagen (Source: Eurofish).



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PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 2.684 persons were employed in the Danish fish processing industry in 2022. The sector recorded a value added of 233,1 million euros, covering 5,2% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2023, the main products sold were "Flours, meals and pellets of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, unfit for human consumption", "Other inedible products of fish, crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates or seaweed (including fish waste; excluding whalebone and whalebone hair, coral or similar materials, shells an cuttle-bone, unworked or simply prepared/natural sponges)" and "Fats and oils and their fractions of fish or marine mammals (excluding chemically modified)"

(source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

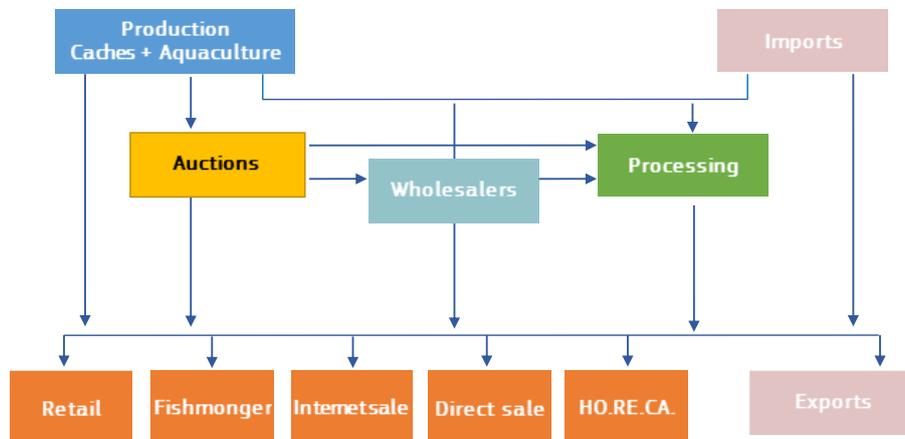
83 companies

Net turnover: EUR 2,29 billion

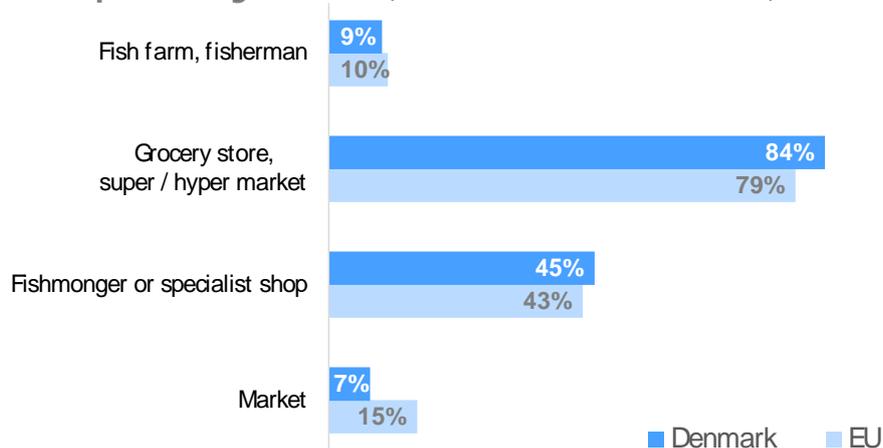
(2023, source: Eurostat - SBS)

DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Denmark (source: Eurofish):



Consumer preferences on purchasing channels (source: Eurobarometer, 2021):



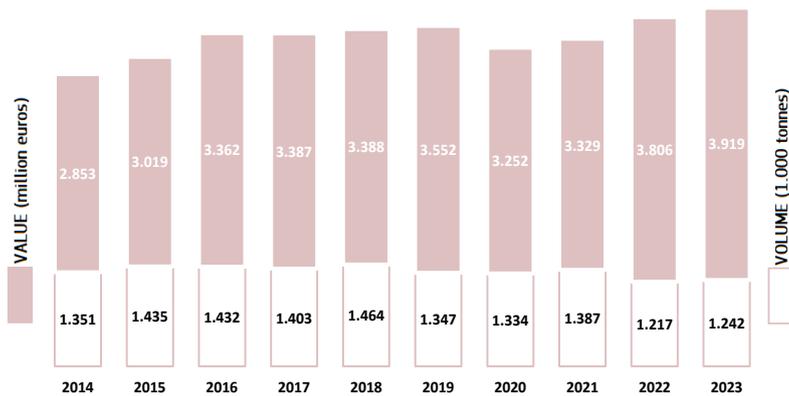


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IMPORT – EXPORT

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat-COMEXT data. Values in the bar charts are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2015).

IMPORT



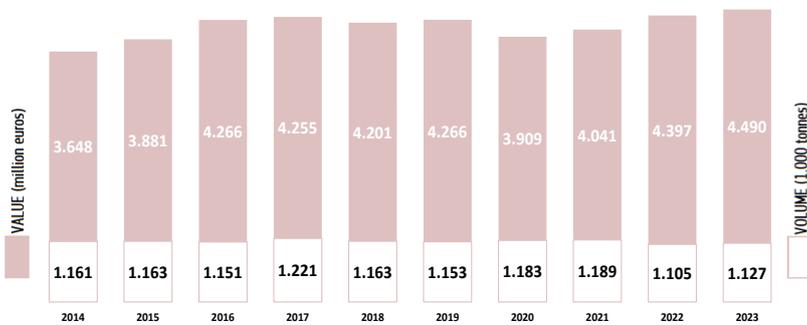
Main commercial species imported and % of total imports

2023, million euros (nominal value)



SALMON	1857	41%
SHRIMPS (MOSTLY COLDWATER)	556	12%
COD	479	11%
FISH OIL	282	6%
GREENLAND HALIBUT	199	4%
OTHERS	1152	26%

EXPORT



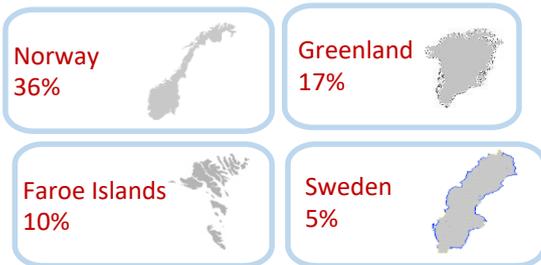
Main commercial species exported and % of total exports

2023, million euros (nominal value)

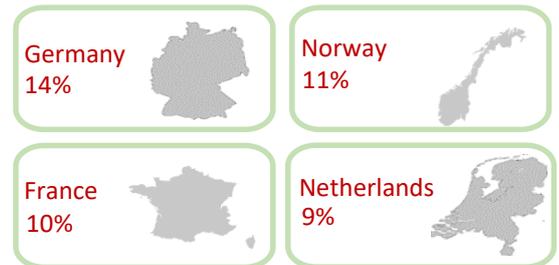


SALMON	1738	34%
SHRIMPS (MOSTLY COLDWATER)	610	12%
COD	482	9%
FISH OIL	353	7%
FISHMEAL	296	6%
OTHERS	1646	32%

Main countries of ORIGIN (in value, 2023)



Main countries of DESTINATION (in value, 2023)





CONSUMPTION

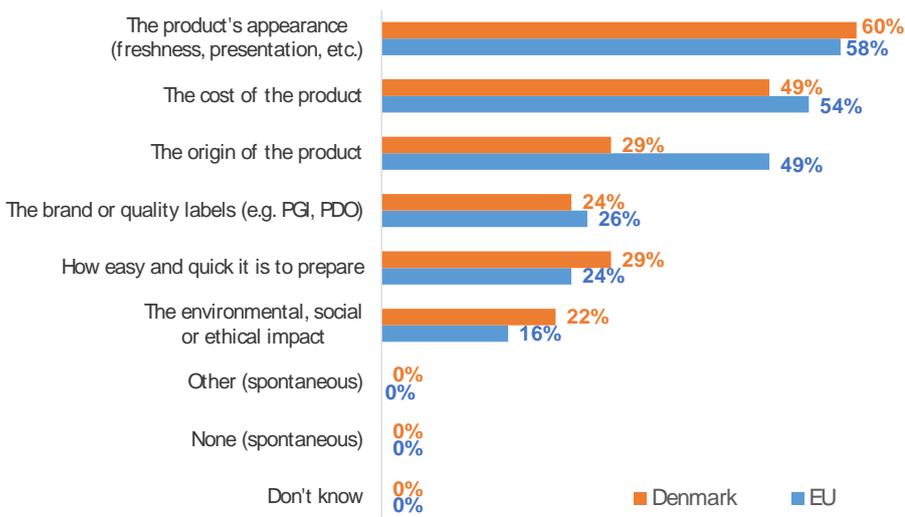
According to the estimates made by the University of Copenhagen for the latest years, per capita apparent consumption in Denmark has been between 20,00-25,00 kg LWE. The most consumed species were herring, salmon and mussel (source: EUMOFA).

Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 40-54 and over 55. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to consume fish in Denmark, as well as at EU-28 level. However, in this category, regular consumers cover 82% of the total, which is much higher than at EU level (67%, UK included). Danes consume especially tinned products and smoked products; loose fish (64%) is slightly less frequently consumed than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

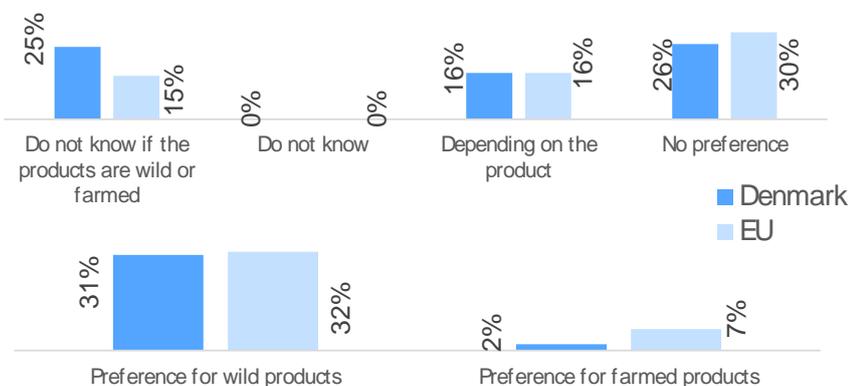
20 - 25 kg per capita in live weight equivalent

(2022, source: University of Copenhagen)

Purchasing factors (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)



Preferences regarding wild or farmed product (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)





THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA



LANDINGS

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery and integrated with Statistics Denmark.

They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.

FIRST SALES

Volumes and values are collected from the Danish Fisheries Agency on a monthly basis and cover all species sold in Danish places of sale.

Data are accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility. Data at disaggregated level are also accessible, through a dedicated advanced table and the bulk download facility.

IMPORT - EXPORT

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – COMEXT. Data concern trade flows of all fisheries and aquaculture products as recorded by national customs.

They are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.

AQUACULTURE

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery and integrated with FAO data.

They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.

WHOLESALE

No data available

PROCESSING

Data are collected from Eurostat – PRODCOM. They concern ex-farm quantities and values of fisheries and aquaculture products sold in the country after being transformed from raw material into final products.

They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through simple tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.

CONSUMPTION

Volumes and values of household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products are collected from Europanel based on panel reporting. Data are monitored for 8 main commercial species + the item "Others", aggregating all other species. Retail prices from online shops are available, as collected via price-scraper. Data are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through simple tables and the bulk download facility.