



Last update: 30-01-2025

GERMANY IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2022, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2022, Germany was the EU's 5th largest producer of fishery products and the 10th largest for aquaculture products.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Germany	% world	% EU-27
Catches	92.050	3.466	179	0,19%	5%
Aquaculture	130.885	1.089	27	0,02%	2%
Total	222.936	4.554	206	0,09%	5%

FISHING FLEET

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

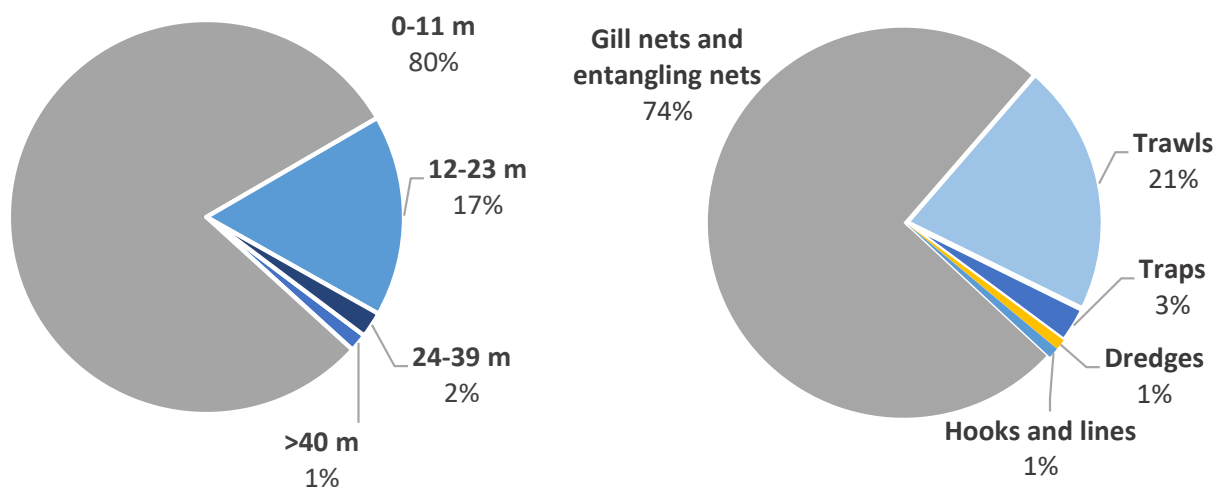
Employment: 2022, source: JRC

Vessels (2023)	Capacity (2023)	Power (2023)	
Number: 1.141	GT: 57.049	KW: 126.770	
TOTAL FTE: 764 (2022, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 33%	Jobs (FTE): 26%	Jobs (FTE): 9%	Jobs (FTE): 32%

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

The German fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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LANDINGS

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data.

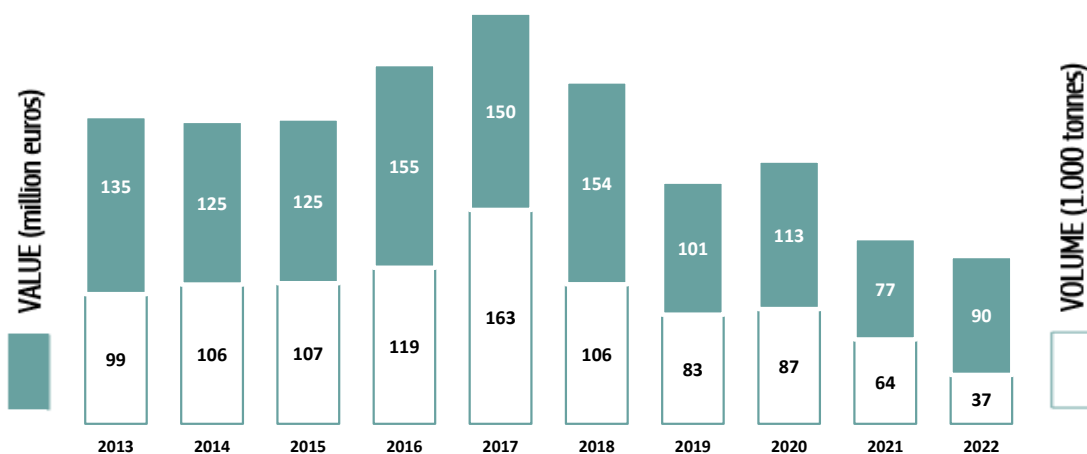
Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given Member State. They also include aquatic plants and species not destined for human consumption. Landings are recorded in net weight and value, and cover landings made by vessels from Member States,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

In 2022, landings in Germany consisted of 19% fresh whole/gutted products and 56% frozen products, of which 70% were whole/gutted, 17% fillets and 13% other cuts. Cooked products accounted for 23% of the total, while no detail is available on the preservation state of the remaining 2%.

Moreover, during 2022, 49% of the products were destined for human consumption, 2% for industrial use, while 49% were destined for unknown uses.

There are 203 fishing ports registered in the country (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



SHRIMP CRANGON SPP.	49	46%
COD	28	26%
MACKEREL	8	8%
GREENLAND HALIBUT	8	7%
HERRING	2	2%
OTHERS	12	11%



9	25%	MACKEREL
9	24%	SHRIMP CRANGON SPP.
4	10%	COD
3	9%	HERRING
2	5%	SPRAT (= BRISLING)
10	27%	OTHERS



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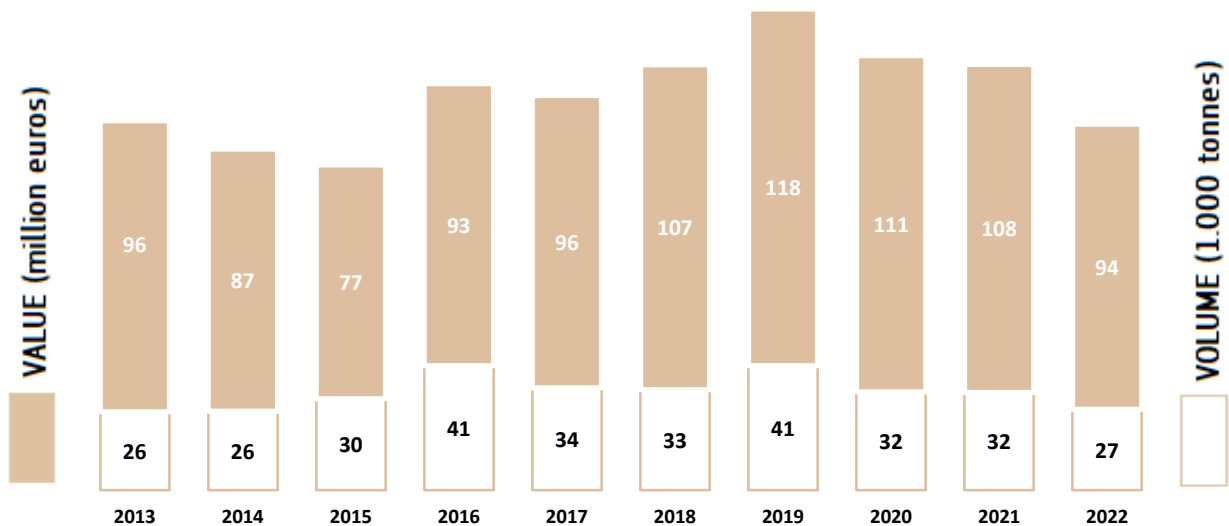
AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat, FAO and DESTATIS 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, 53% of German production occurred in sea and brackish water, and most of the marine production includes on-bottom mussel farming in sea.

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



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total
TROUT	43	39,0%	9	33,6%
EEL	17	15,6%	9	32,3%
CARP	13	12,1%	4	16,0%
MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.	13	11,2%	1	4,3%
FRESHWATER CATFISH	3	2,6%	1	2,4%
OTHERS	22	19,5%	3	11,4%



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PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

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

In Germany, **12 producer organisations (POs)** and **1 association of POs** are formally recognized. 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.

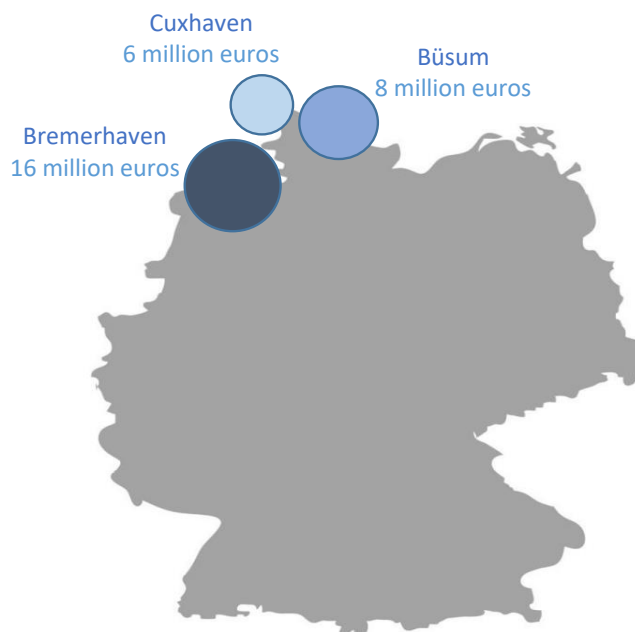
All 12 POs and the association of POs operate in the fishery sector; 1 of the 12 POs is also involved in the aquaculture sector.

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 2024, total first sales in German places of sale amounted to 26.060 tonnes and 52 million euros. The top-3 places of sale covered 69% and 57% of total first sales, respectively in volume and value terms.



Top-3 places of sale	Volume (tonnes)	Value (million euros)	Top-3 main commercial species (in value)
Bremerhaven	15.878	16	Greenland halibut, blue whiting, cod
BÜsum	915	8	Shrimp <i>Crangon</i> spp.
Cuxhaven	1.089	6	Shrimp <i>Crangon</i> spp., cod, coldwater shrimps



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 Germany, auctions have lost their importance, and fishery and aquaculture products are mostly sold directly to the wholesale trade, filleting wholesalers (in fishing harbours) and processors, or processed and sold by fishermen’s cooperative trade and filleting units. In 2016, 445 fish wholesalers were active, with a turnover of 5 billion euros (source: Fischinformationszentrum).

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 5.542 persons were employed in the German fish processing industry in 2022. The sector recorded a value added of 319 million euros, covering only 1% of the value added of total manufacture of food products. In 2023, the main products sold were “Fish fillets in batter or breadcrumbs including fish fingers (excluding prepared meals and dishes)” and “Prepared or preserved fish (excluding whole or in pieces and prepared meals and dishes)” (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

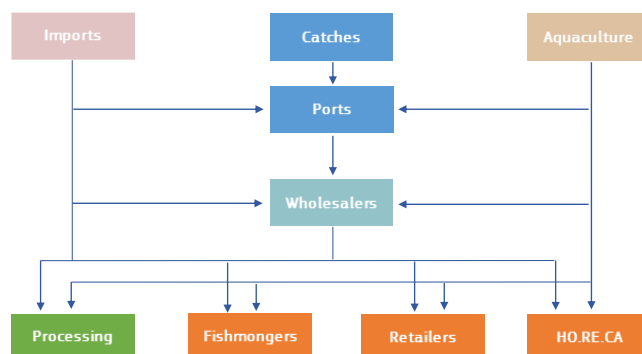
192 companies

Net turnover: 3 billion euros

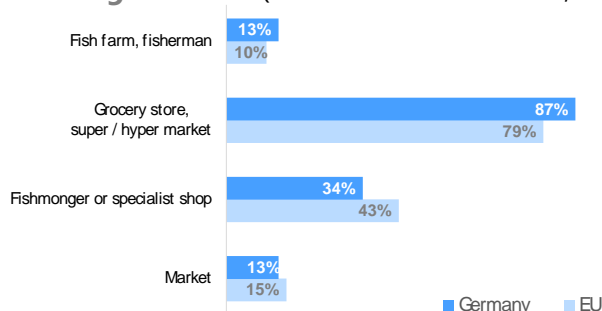
(2023, source: Eurostat - SBS)

DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Germany:



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



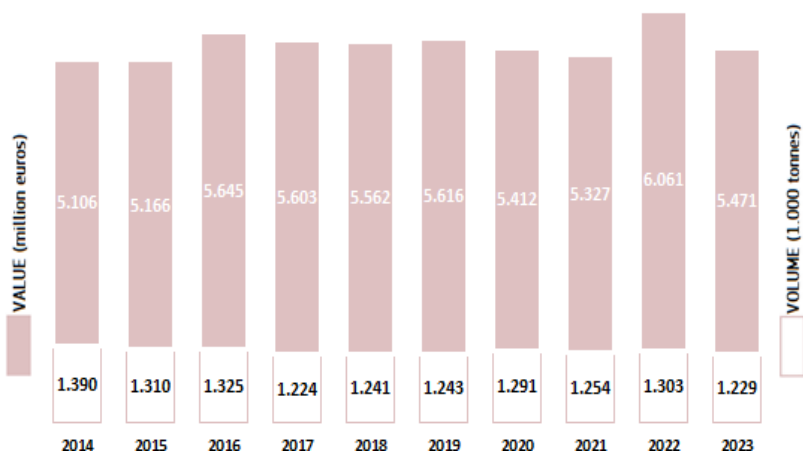


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IMPORT – EXPORT

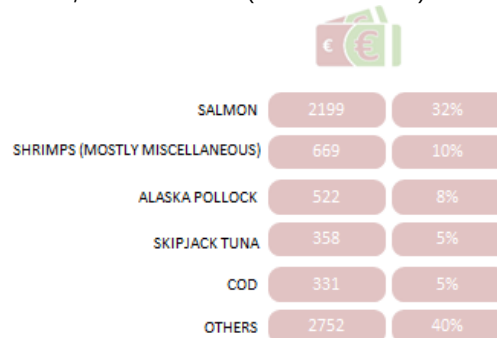
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat-COMEXT data. Values in the bar charts are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2015).

IMPORT

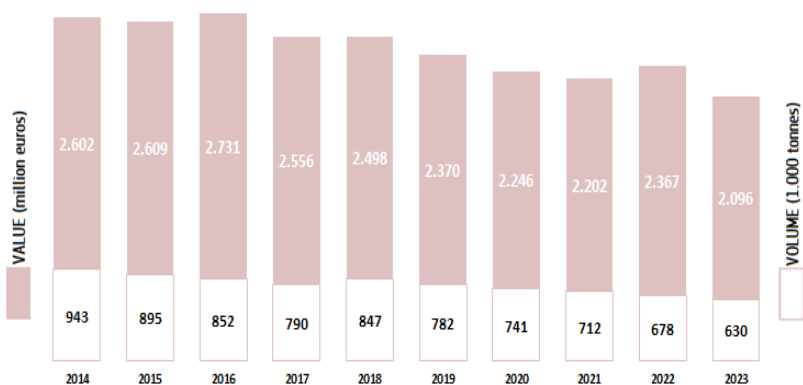


Main commercial species imported and % of total imports

2023, million euros (nominal value)

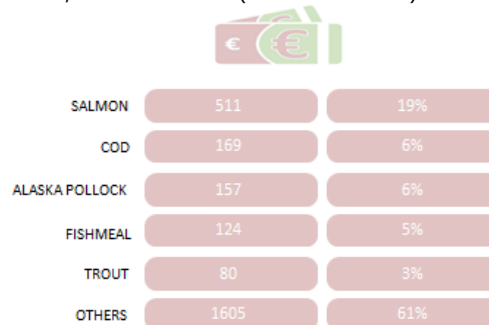


EXPORT

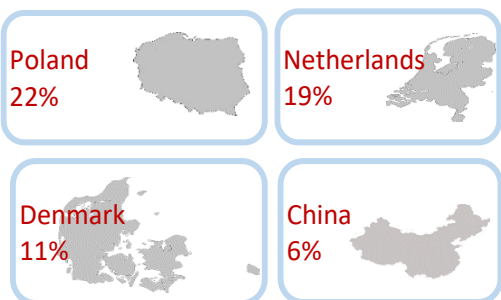


Main commercial species exported and % of total exports

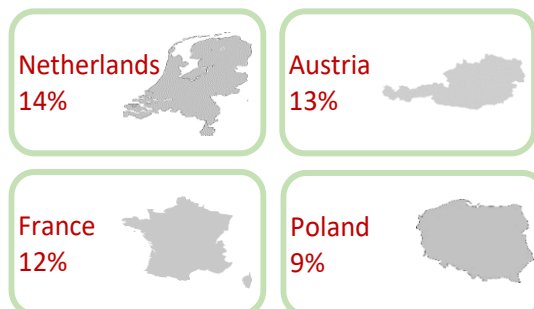
2023, million euros (nominal value)



Main countries of ORIGIN (in value, 2023)



Main countries of DESTINATION (in value, 2023)





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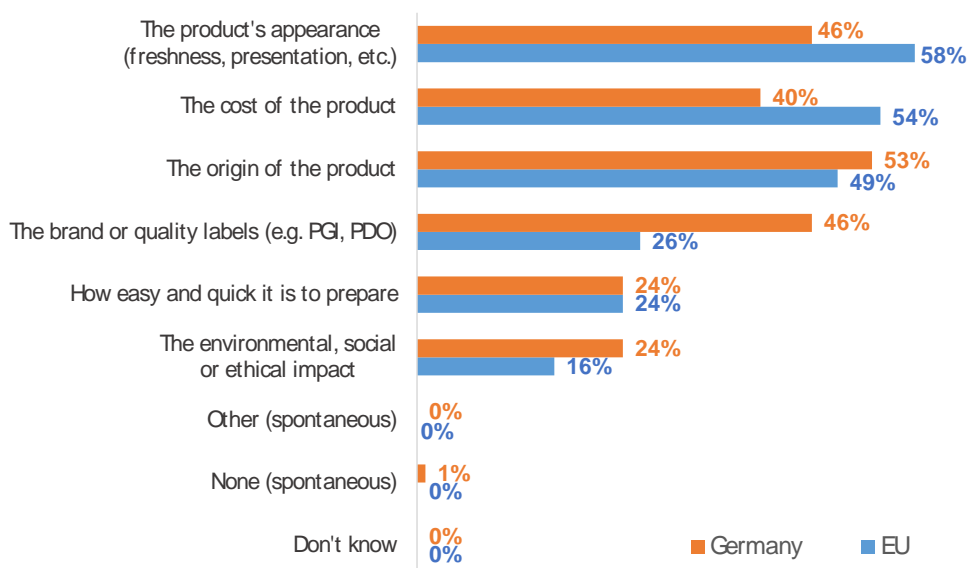
CONSUMPTION

In 2022, apparent consumption was estimated at 12,49 kg per capita, a 0,2% decrease compared with 2021. The most consumed species were Alaska pollock, salmon, skipjack tuna and herring (source: EUMOFA).

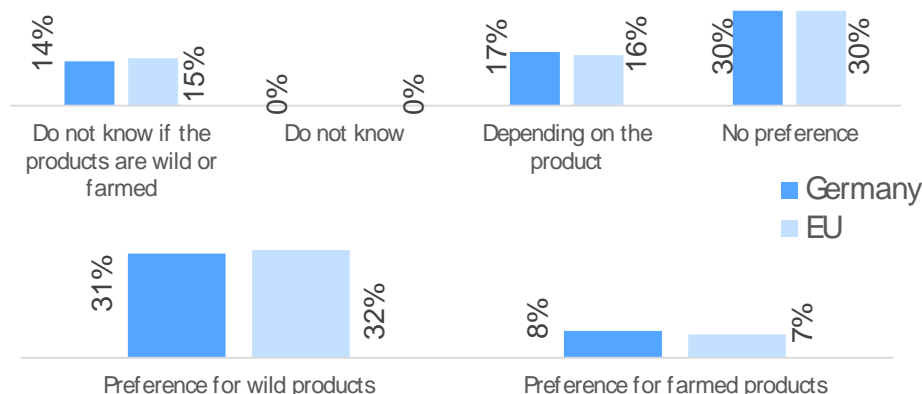
Germany is one of the few countries where regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, are mainly young people belonging to the age groups 15-24 and 25-39. In particular, regular consumers cover 68% of the total of the first category, which is close to the EU level (67%, UK included). Germans prefer frozen products; loose fish is more rarely consumed (54%) than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

12,49 kg
per capita in live weight equivalent
(2022, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)



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





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THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA



LANDINGS

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery. They are available on a 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 and DESTATIS data. 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 Federal Office for Agriculture and Food of Germany on a monthly basis, and cover all species sold in German 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.

WHOLESALE

No data available

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.

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 10 main commercial species + the item "Others", aggregating all other species. Data are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through simple tables and the bulk download facility. Retail prices from online shops are also available, as collected via price-scraper.