



Last update: 29-01-2025

ITALY IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2022, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2022, Italy was the 4th largest EU-27 country in terms of aquaculture production, while it ranked 10th in terms on fishery production.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Italy	% world	% EU-27
Catches	92.050	3.466	137	0,1%	4%
Aquaculture	130.885	1.089	130	0,1%	12%
Total	222.936	4.554	267	0,1%	6%

FISHING FLEET

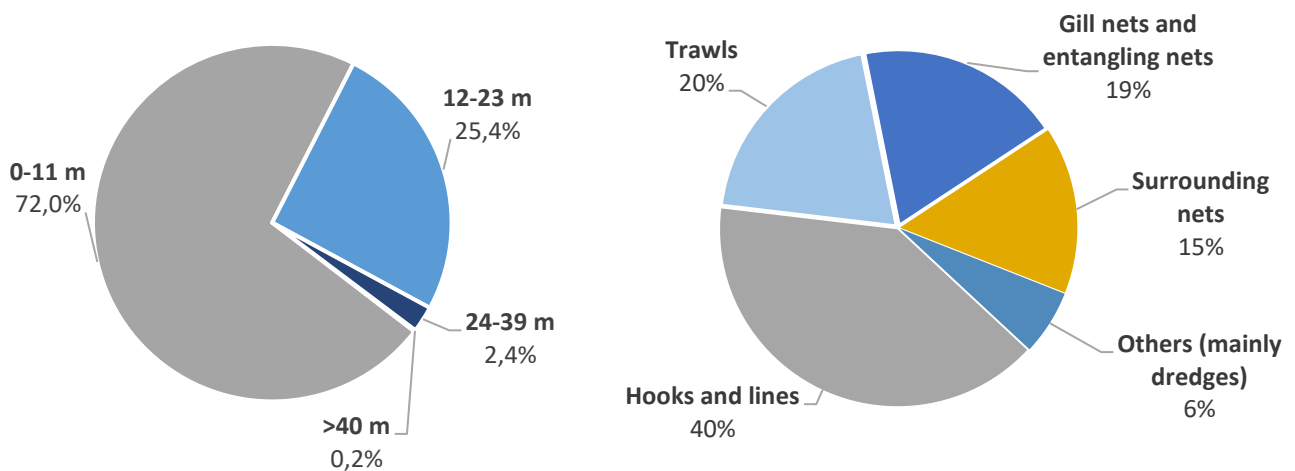
Fleet: 2023, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2022, source: JRC

Vessels (2023)	Capacity (2023)	Power (2023)	
Number: 12.254	GT: 146.032	KW: 946.702	
TOTAL FTE: 13.440 (2022, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 43%	Jobs (FTE): 45%	Jobs (FTE): 11%	Jobs (FTE): 1%

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

The Italian fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





Last update: 29-01-2025

LANDINGS

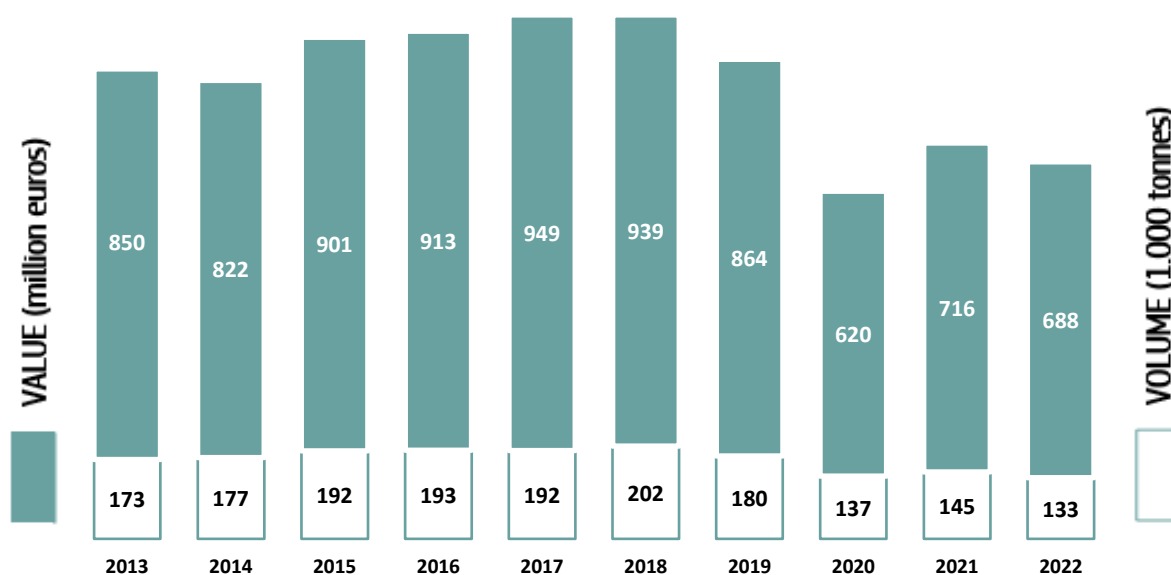
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data.

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given Member State. They 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.

In 2022, 95% of landings in Italy included fresh whole/gutted products and 5% included frozen products. As for destination use, 96% of landings were for human consumption and 4% for industrial uses.

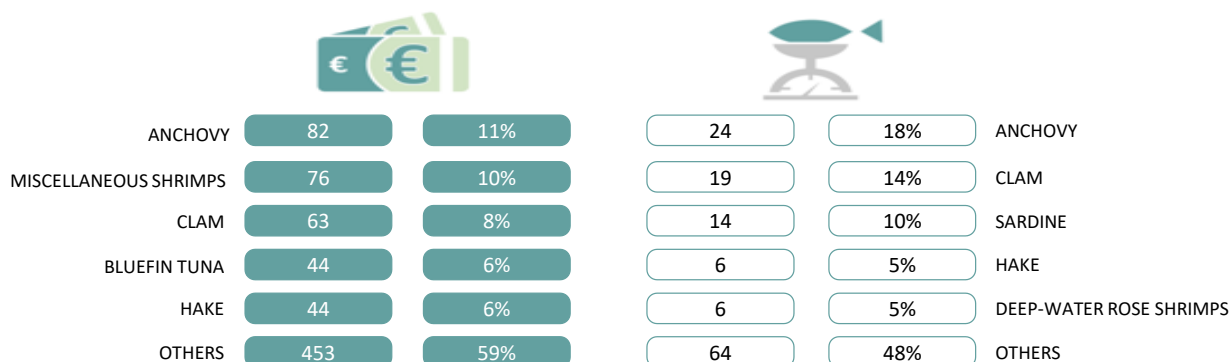
There are 328 fishing ports registered in Italy (source: EU Master Data Register, 31 October 2024).

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





Last update: 29-01-2025

AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data.

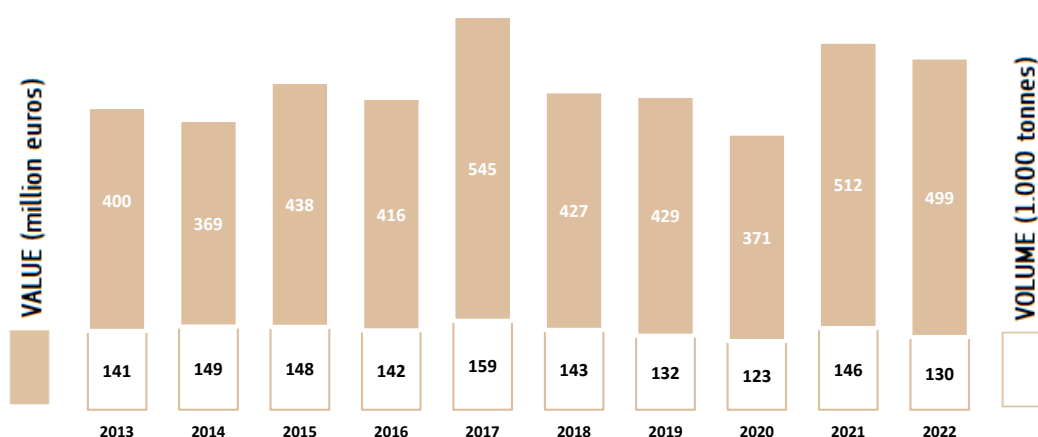
Aquaculture consists in the farming of aquatic (fresh or saltwater) organisms, such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Aquaculture data are reported in live weight equivalent and value.

75% of Italian production occurs in sea and brackish water and 25% in freshwater. In 2022, the following main production methods were used:

- 47% of production: off bottom in sea and brackish water;
- 24% of production: in tanks and raceways, almost entirely in freshwater (slight portion in sea and brackish water);
- 16% of production: on bottom in sea and brackish water;
- 8% of production: in cages, entirely in sea and brackish water;
- 3% of production: in ponds in freshwater;

The rest (2%) was farmed in enclosures and pens in sea and brackish water.

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
CLAM	252	46%	61	46,5%
TROUT	99	18%	30	22,9%
MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.	61	11%	21	16,1%
GILT HEAD SEABREAM	60	11%	8	6,1%
EUROPEAN SEABASS	40	7%	5	3,8%
OTHERS	41	7%	6	4,6%



Last update: 29-01-2025

PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

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

In Italy, **45 producer organisations (POs)** and **2 associations 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.

Of the 45 POs, 34 operate in the fishery sector and 11 in aquaculture. The two associations of POs operate in the fishery sector.

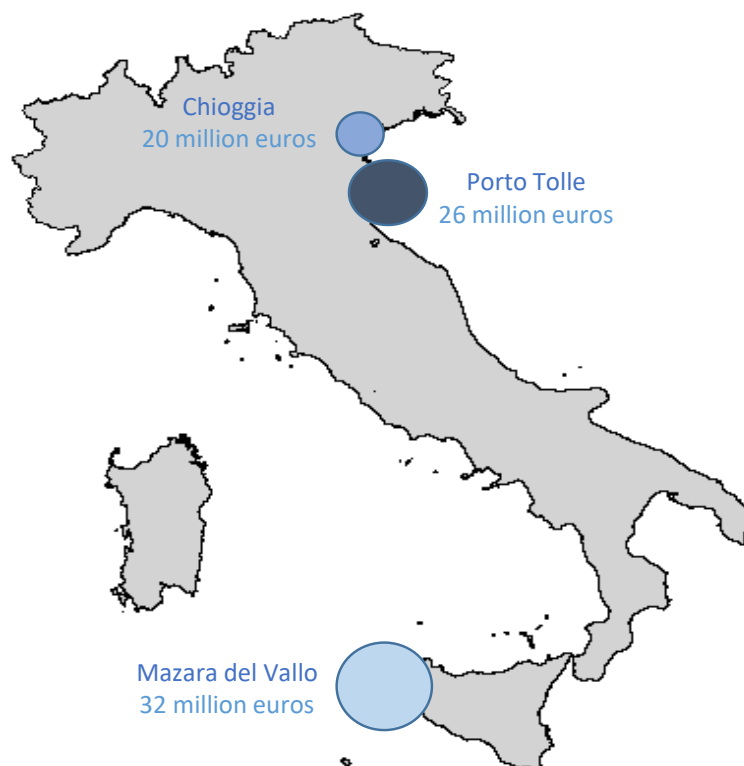
FIRST SALES

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 Italian places of sale amounted to 60.303 tonnes and 274 million euros.

The top-3 places of sale covered 18% and 28% 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)
Mazara del Vallo	1.298	32	Miscellaneous shrimps, Norway lobster, deep-water rose shrimps
Porto Tolle	3.601	26	Anchovy, sardine, squillid
Chioggia	6.064	20	Common sole, clam, anchovy



Last update: 29-01-2025

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 Italy, there are two main wholesale market places involved in sales of fishery and aquaculture products, namely Rome and Milan.

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 6.268 persons were employed in the Italian fish processing industry in 2022. The sector recorded a value added of 453,6 million euros, covering 1,8% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2023, the main products sold were "Prepared or preserved tuna, skipjack and Atlantic bonito, whole or in pieces (excl. minced products and prepared meals and dishes)" and "Frozen whole salt water fish" (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

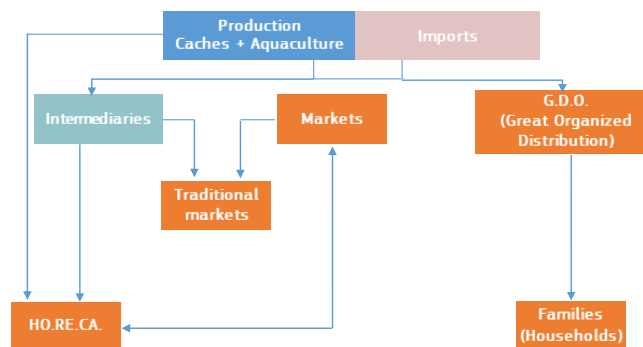
409 companies

Net turnover: 3,21 billion euros

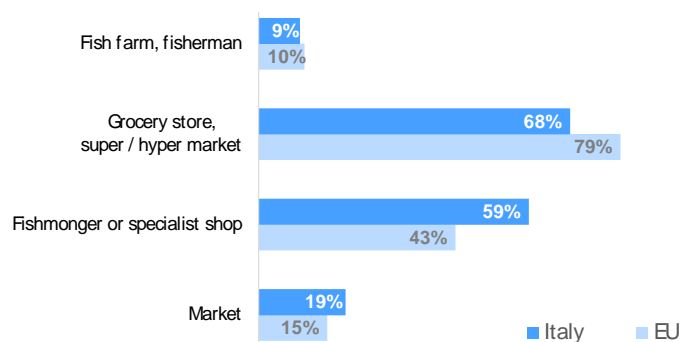
(2023, source: Eurostat - SBS)

DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Italy (source: Ministero delle Attività Produttive):



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





Last update: 29-01-2025

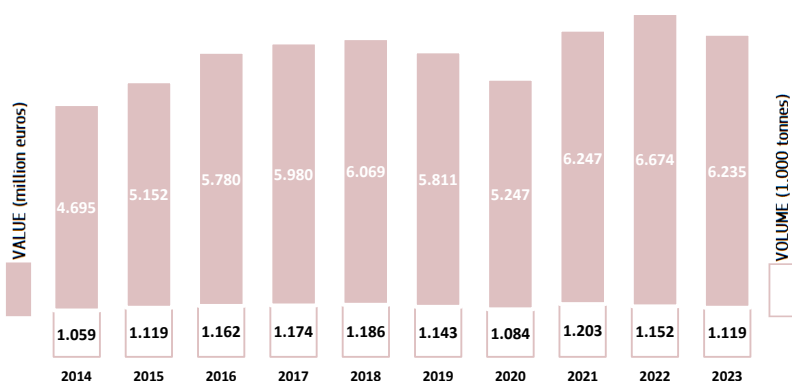
IMPORT – EXPORT

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)

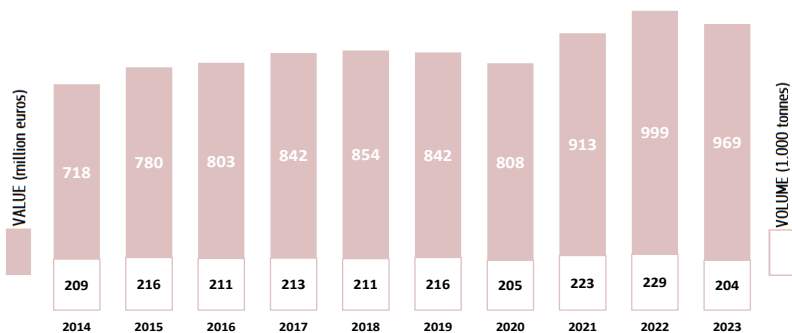


SALMON	1251	17%
TUNA (MOSTLY SKIPJACK)	1084	15%
SHRIMPS (MOSTLY MISCELLANEOUS)	660	9%
SQUID	570	8%
OCTOPUS	392	5%
OTHERS	3411	46%

EXPORT

Main commercial species exported and % of total exports

2023, million euros (nominal value)



SKIPJACK TUNA	196	17%
FISH SOUPS, PASTA AND PREPARATIONS (ALSO INCLUDING VEGETABLES AND MEAT)	100	9%
ANCHOVY	77	7%
TROUT	59	5%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	54	5%
OTHERS	643	57%

Main countries of ORIGIN (in value, 2023)

Main countries of DESTINATION (in value, 2023)





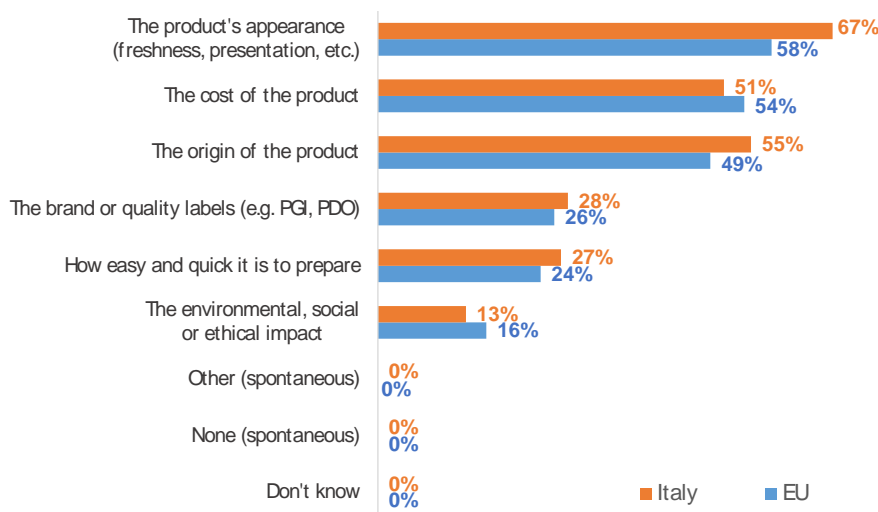
Last update: 29-01-2025

CONSUMPTION

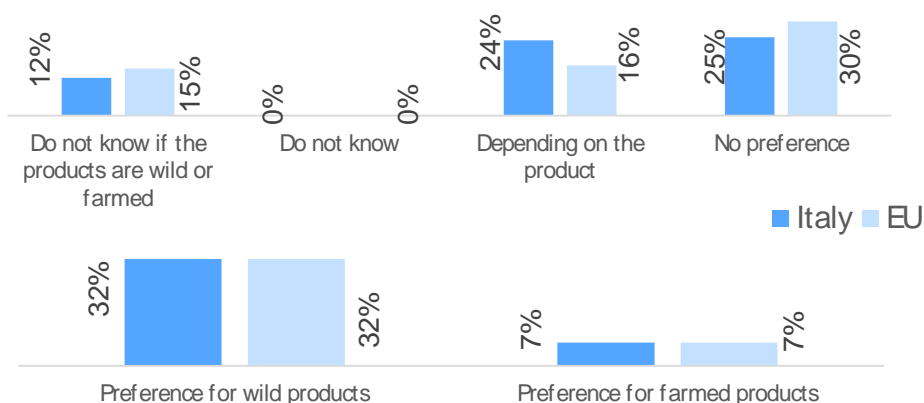
In 2022, apparent consumption was estimated at 30,01 kg per capita, a slight 0,5% decrease compared with 2021. The most consumed species were yellowfin tuna, squid, salmon, mussel, skipjack tuna and cod (source: EUMOFA). Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 25-39 and 40-54. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to eat fish frequently in Italy, as well as at EU-28 level. In this category, regular consumers cover 66% of the total, which is slightly lower than at EU level (67%, UK included). Italians mainly consume fresh fish; loose fish is much more frequently consumed (84%) than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

30,01 kg
per capita in live
weight equivalent
(2022, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)



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





Last update: 29-01-2025

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 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 SIAN on a monthly basis, and cover all species sold in Italian 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. Retail prices from online shops are available, as collected via price-scrapers. Data are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through simple tables and the bulk download facility.