



Last update: 29-01-2025

## LATVIA IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2022, sources: Eurostat and FAO

Latvia is a minor producer of aquaculture products. As for fishery production, in 2022 it ranked 16<sup>th</sup> among EU producing countries.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Latvia	% world	% EU-27
Catches	92.050	3.466	62	0,067%	1,8%
Aquaculture	130.885	1.089	1	0,001%	0,1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>222.936</b>	<b>4.554</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0,028%</b>	<b>1,4%</b>

## FISHING FLEET

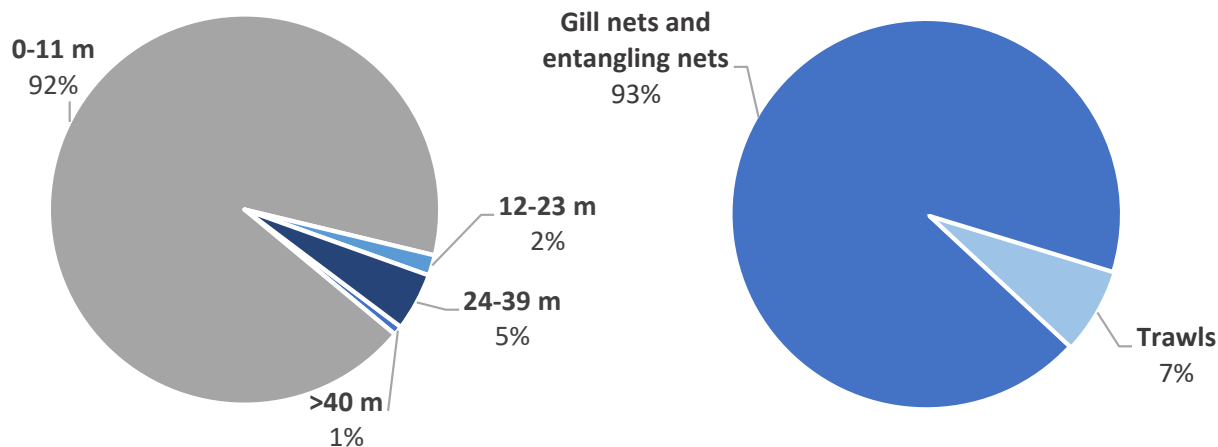
Fleet: 2023, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2022, source: JRC

Vessels (2023)	Capacity (2023)	Power (2023)	
Number: 651	GT: 20.105	KW: 35.961	
TOTAL FTE: 184 (2022, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 29%	Jobs (FTE): 20%	Jobs (FTE): 51%	Jobs (FTE): 0%

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

### The Latvian fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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## LANDINGS

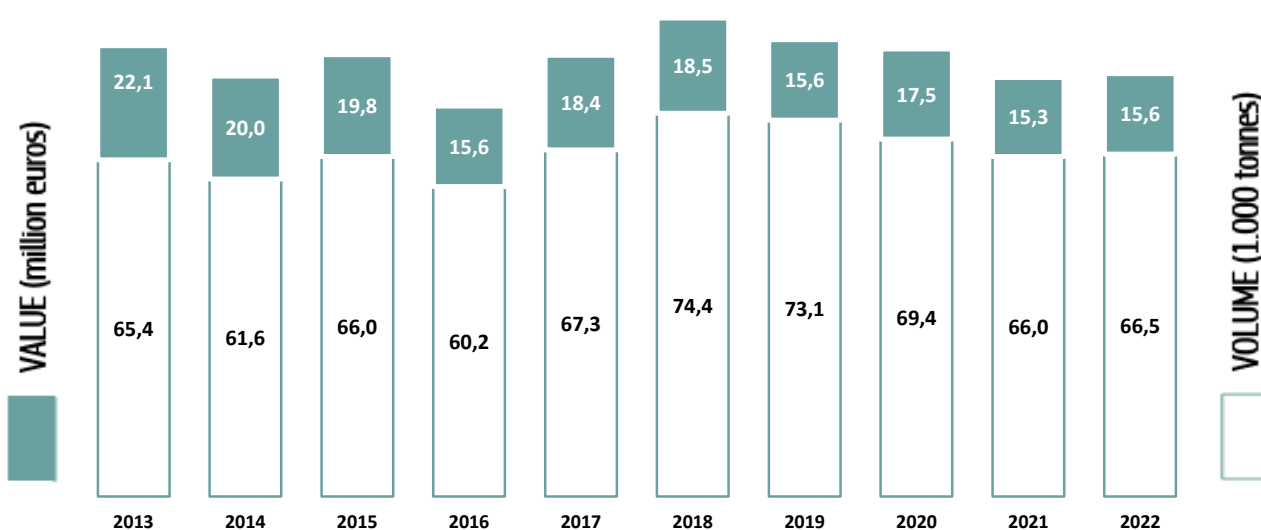
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data.

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given Member State. They 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, landings in Latvia only include fresh whole/gutted products destined for human consumption.

There are 13 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



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total
SPRAT (= BRISLING)	11,1	53,1%	32,5	48,9%
HERRING	8,9	42,5%	31,7	47,6%
ROUND GOBY	0,2	1,0%	0,6	0,9%
FOURHORN SCULPIN	0,2	0,9%	0,6	0,9%
EUROPEAN FLOUNDER	0,1	0,5%	0,5	0,8%
OTHERS	0,4	2,0%	0,6	0,9%



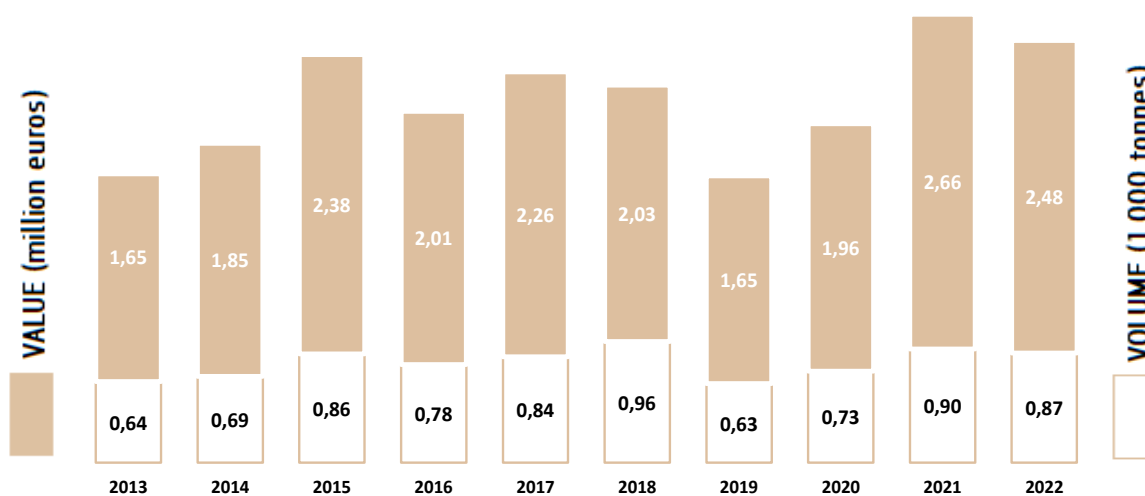
## AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data.

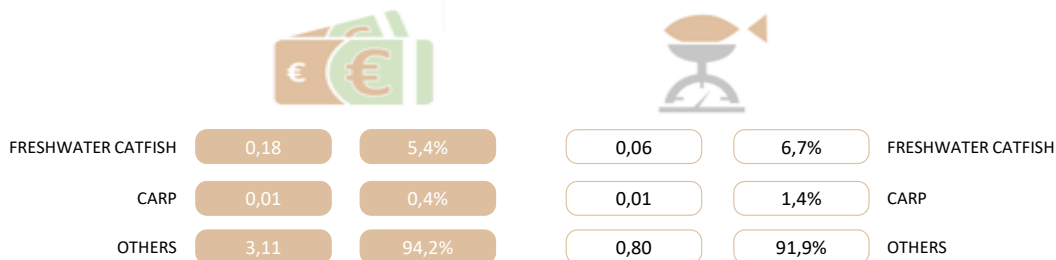
Aquaculture consists in the farming of aquatic (fresh or saltwater) organisms, such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Aquaculture data are reported in live weight equivalent and value.

Aquaculture activity in Latvia is limited to freshwater farming where other methods for which no details are available were used for 98%, while the rest of production was in pond reaching 2%.

**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](#)

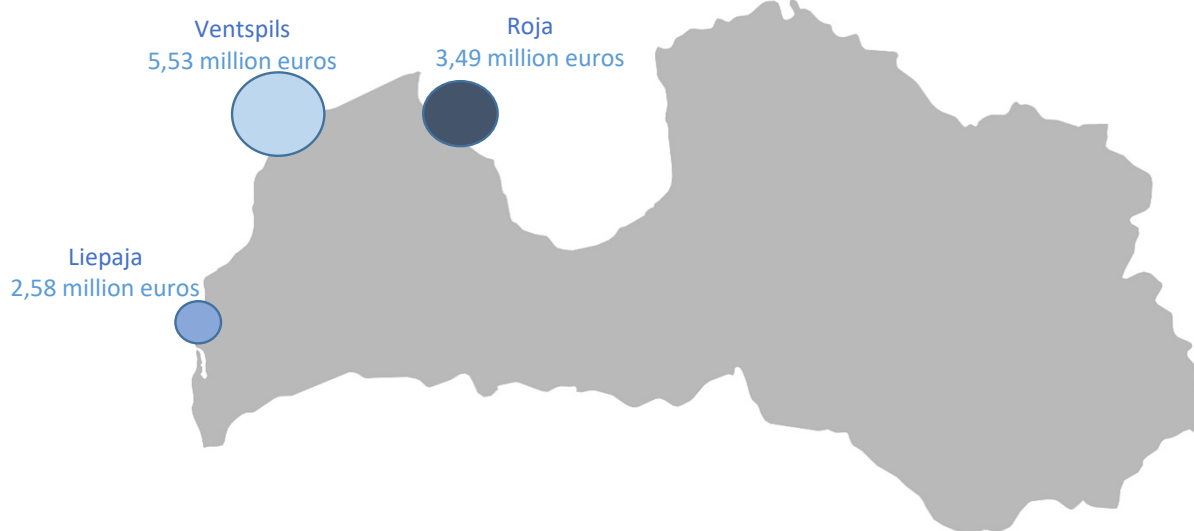
In Latvia, **3 producer organisations (POs)** are formally recognized, all operating in the fishery sector. Their role is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and of the Common organisation of the markets (CMO) through the collective management of their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

There are no auction markets in Latvia. In 2024, total first sales in Latvian places of sale amounted to 39.796 tonnes and 15 million euros. The top-3 places of sale covered 78% and 80% 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)
Ventspils	12.613	5,53	Sprat (=brisling), herring, European flounder
Roja	12.719	3,49	Herring, sprat (=brisling), smelt
Liepaja	5.530	2,58	Sprat (=brisling), herring, cod



## PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 2.685 persons were employed in the Latvian fish processing industry in 2022. The sector recorded a value added of 54 million euros, covering 11,5% 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” and “Prepared or preserved herrings, whole or in pieces (excluding minced products and prepared meals and dishes)” (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

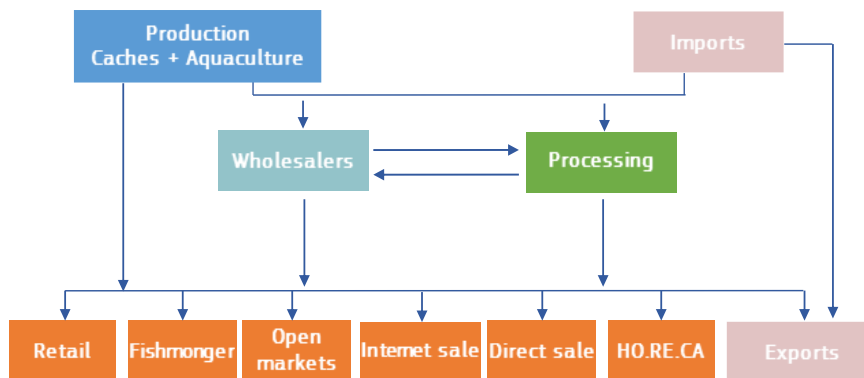
**93 companies**

**Net turnover: 308,5 million euros**

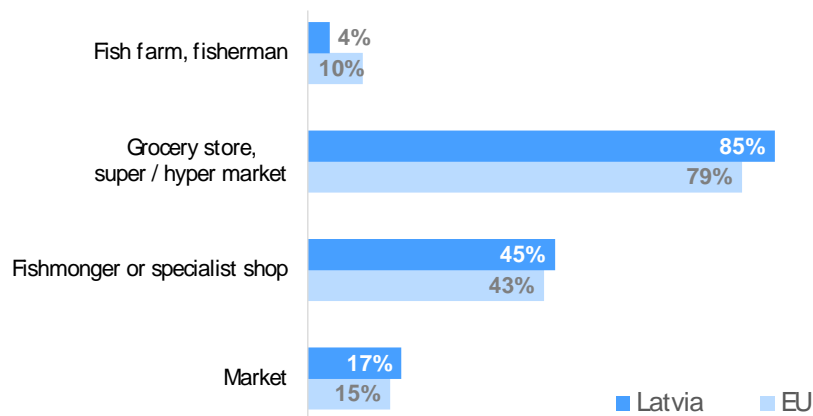
(2023, source: Eurostat - SBS)

## DISTRIBUTION

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



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



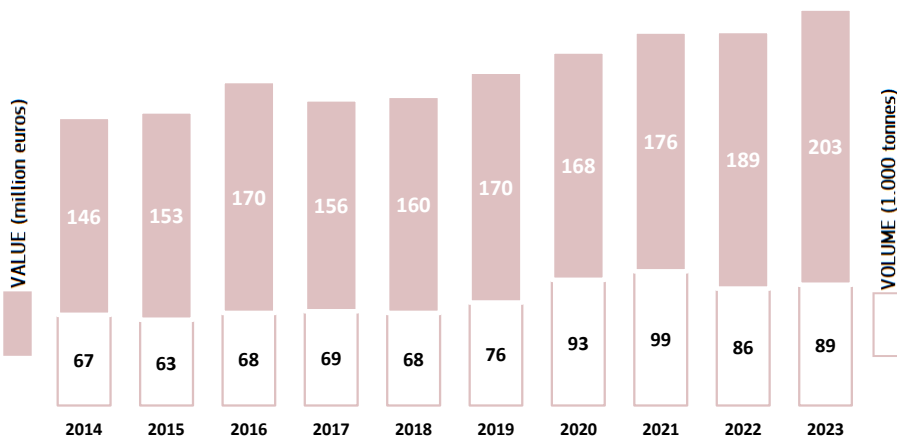


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## IMPORT – EXPORT

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

### IMPORT

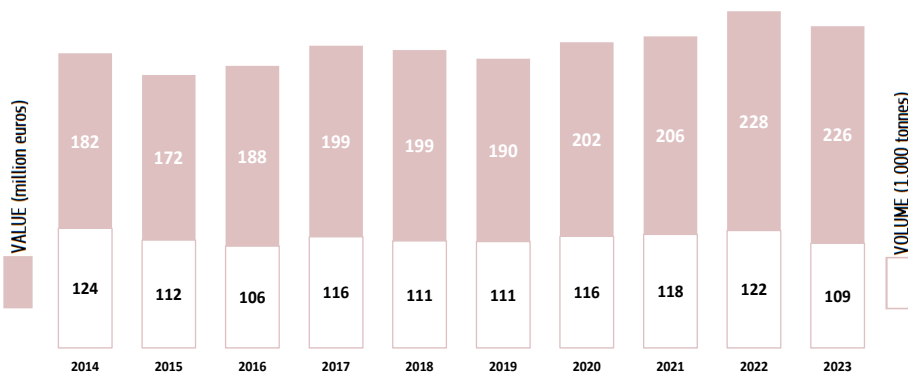


**Main commercial species imported and % of total imports**  
2023, million euros (nominal value)




SALMON	63	24%
COD	41	16%
MACKEREL	21	8%
HERRING	21	8%
TROUT	15	6%
OTHERS	97	38%

### EXPORT



**Main commercial species exported and % of total exports**  
2023, million euros (nominal value)



SALMON	59	19%
SARDINELLA, BRISLING OR SPRAT	49	15%
COD	39	12%
HERRING	36	11%
MACKEREL	24	8%
OTHERS	111	35%

Main countries of **ORIGIN**  
(in value, 2023)

Main countries of **DESTINATION**  
(in value, 2023)





## CONSUMPTION

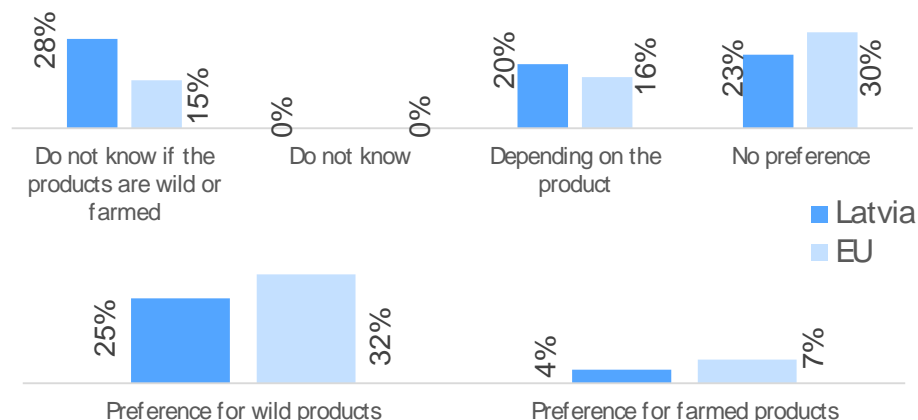
In 2022, apparent consumption was estimated at 15,88 kg per capita, a 35% decrease compared with 2021. The most consumed species were sprat and herring (source: EUMOFA). Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 40-54 and over 55. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to consume fish in Latvia, as well as at EU-28 level. In this category, regular consumers cover 64% of the total, which is slightly lower than at EU level (67%, UK included). Latvians consume especially fresh and smoked products; loose fish (66%) is slightly less frequently consumed than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, “EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products”, 2017).

**15,88 kg**  
**per capita in live weight equivalent**  
 (2022, source: Latvia University of Life Science and Technology and Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia)

### 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.

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 the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries Department) on a weekly and monthly basis.

Weekly data is monitored for a selection of 7 main commercial species and 4 places of sale.

Monthly data cover all species sold in the Latvian places of sale.

Both weekly and monthly data are accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility. As for monthly first sales, 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

Retail prices are collected on a monthly basis from the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries Department).