European Commission

Monthly Highlights

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EUMOFA

European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

In this issue

In January–February 2018, first–sales value and volume increased in Lithuania and Sweden over the same period in 2017. Belgium, Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia, Spain, and the UK saw decreases in both value and volume.

Average first–sales prices of great Atlantic scallop have decreased in Belgium, France, and the UK over the past three years. Average first–sales prices of common edible cockle decreased in Denmark and increased in Portugal and Spain over the same period.

On the EU import side, weekly prices of frozen *Illex* spp. from China more than doubled between 2015 and 2017, nevertheless, in 2018 weekly prices have trended downward. The weekly price of prepared or preserved products of clams, cockles and ark shells from Vietnam fell in early April 2018 but followed an upward trend through the first 15 weeks of 2018.

In January 2018, the average retail prices of fresh carp for household consumption in Germany and Poland were 6,93 EUR/kg and 4,42 EUR/kg, respectively.

In 2016, EU vessels landed 743.000 tonnes of Atlantic herring, representing about 44% of global herring catches.

Almost half of the total seafood consumption in the UK occurs out of home, in particular in fish and chip shops and other quick service restaurants.

From January 2019, based on Act on the Management of Marine Resources of the Faroe Islands, the longliners and trawlers catching demersal fish in Faroese waters will no longer be allocated fishing days as on the previous days-at-sea system. This system will be replaced by a quota system.

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Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

1 First sales: Europe

In January–February 2018, 12 EU Member States (MS) and Norway reported first–sales data for 11 commodity groups[1].

1.1 Compared to the same period last year

Increases in value and volume: Only Poland, Lithuania and Sweden saw growth in first–sales value and volume. In Lithuania sales grew by 3% in value and 33% in volume, whereas in Sweden, they increased by 55% in value and 114% in volume, due mainly to small pelagics.

Decreases in value and volume: First sales dropped in Belgium, Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia, Spain and the UK. The decrease in value and volume was particularly high for Spain (−71% and 74%), Latvia (−27% and −19%), which saw lower first sales of small pelagics, and in the UK (−66% and −70%) due to groundfish and small pelagics as the most important commodity groups in its fisheries.

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

	January–February 2016		January–February 2017		January–February 2018		Change from January–February 2017	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
BE	3.284	11,01	3.380	10,87	2.767	10,21	−18%	−6%
DK	29.224	44,41	42.323	53,52	43.419	53,29	3%	0%
EE	15.771	3,25	11.240	2,32	10.676	2,04	−5%	−12%
FR	30.269	103,64	31.978	109,34	29.286	103,61	−8%	−5%
IT	11.669	43,64	11.186	40,80	10.216	40,14	−9%	−2%
LV	13.106	2,84	12.886	2,63	10.475	1,92	−19%	−27%
LT	316	0,290	321,39	0,428	428	0,44	33%	3%
NO	520.464	462,71	517.664	465,22	576.969	417,98	11%	−10%
PL	21.447	7,38	20.210	6,60	30.012	8,42	48%	27%
PT	8.792	22,58	8.687	28,89	10.603	26,59	22%	−8%
ES	45.769	159,93	48.362	157,77	12.681	46,36	−74%	−71%
SE	31.518	15,01	14.832	9,74	31.766	15,09	114%	55%
UK	94.551	146,45	83.953	133,61	25.398	45,87	−70%	−66%

Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018); volume data is reported in net weight.
**Partial data. First–sales data for Italy covers 229 ports (approximately 50% of the total landings).*

[1] Bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, cephalopods, crustaceans, flatfish, freshwater fish, groundfish, miscellaneous aquatic products, other marine fish, salmonids, small pelagics, tuna and tuna–like species.

1.2 In February 2018

Increases in value and volume: First sales grew in Denmark, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, and Sweden over a year earlier. The increase in value was particularly high for Poland (+37%) while Lithuania experienced a very large volume increase of 84% owing to a high catch of smelt and herring.

Decreases in value and volume: First sales dropped in Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia, Spain, and the UK. The decrease was particularly high in Italy, due largely to low supplies and weak prices of clam, and because of lower catches of anchovy. Strong decreases in the UK occurred due to low supply of mackerel and Norway lobster, among other species.

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

	February 2016		February 2017		February 2018		Change from February 2017	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
BE	1.489	5,29	1.463	5,24	1.042	4,42	−29%	−16%
DK	15.572	21,76	18.593	22,89	19.140	24,18	**3%**	**6%**
EE	8.158	1,64	6.110	1,22	4.858	0,96	−20%	−22%
FR	16.295	54,01	16.063	53,17	14.944	49,56	−7%	−7%
IT	5.626	22,00	5.895	22,36	4.353	17,92	−26%	−20%
LV	6.122	1,30	6.568	1,32	5.375	1,01	−18%	−24%
LT	161	0,17	140	0,19	258	0,24	**84%**	**30%**
NO	298.241	264,34	285.934	258,66	379.893	264,10	**33%**	**2%**
PL	13.156	4,09	11.260	3,39	16.169	4,65	**44%**	**37%**
PT	4.390	10,98	4.309	13,49	4.822	12,64	**12%**	−6%
ES	26.098	80,70	24.973	74,89	5.444	19,27	−78%	−74%
SE	16.501	8,06	7.854	4,94	19.748	7,92	**151%**	**60%**
UK	45.463	71,03	23.412	45,97	11.594	22,71	−50%	−51%

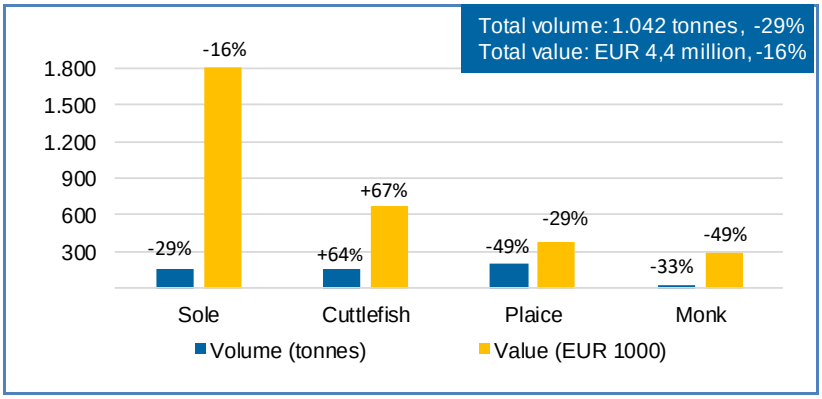
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018); volume data is reported in net weight.
**Partial data. First–sales data for Italy covers 229 ports (approximately 50% of the total landings).*

The most recent first–sales data for **March 2018** available on EUMOFA can be accessed here.

1.3 First sales in selected countries

In **Belgium** in **January–February 2018**, the main species that contributed to the overall decrease in first sales from the same period in 2017 were sole, monk and gurnard (all down in value and volume). The overall decline in **February 2018** was higher than in February 2017. Leading contributors to the decreases in first sales remained primarily flatfish including sole, turbot and plaice, which all recorded decreases in first-sales value and volume. Cuttlefish is an important contributor in a mitigation of the overall negative trends, as it recorded strong positive trends in first sales. Due to a lower supply of the main species, average prices were up by 18%.

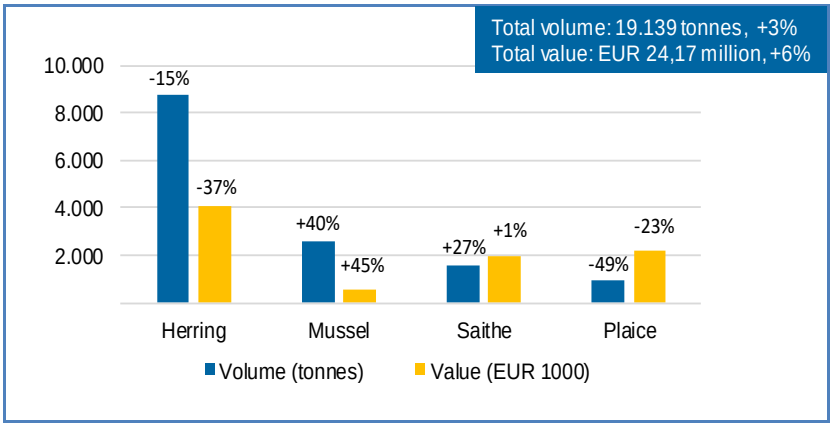
Figure 1. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Denmark**, the balance between lower value of herring, cod and Norway lobster, and higher value of mackerel and monk led to the stable overall value in **January–February 2018** in comparison to the same period in 2017. A slight increase in total volume was mainly the result of the early start of the mackerel fishery season in 2018, which is the third most important species in volume. **February 2018** was a month of slight growth, where first–sales value went up for Atlantic halibut, Northern shrimp and shrimp *Crangon* spp., while higher volumes of blue mussel and saithe drove an overall positive trend in volume. In general, average prices went up, although some important species recorded price decreases such as herring, which experienced a decrease of 27% going down to 0,47 EUR/kg, and mackerel fell by 44% at 1,17 EUR/kg, mainly due to the high supply.

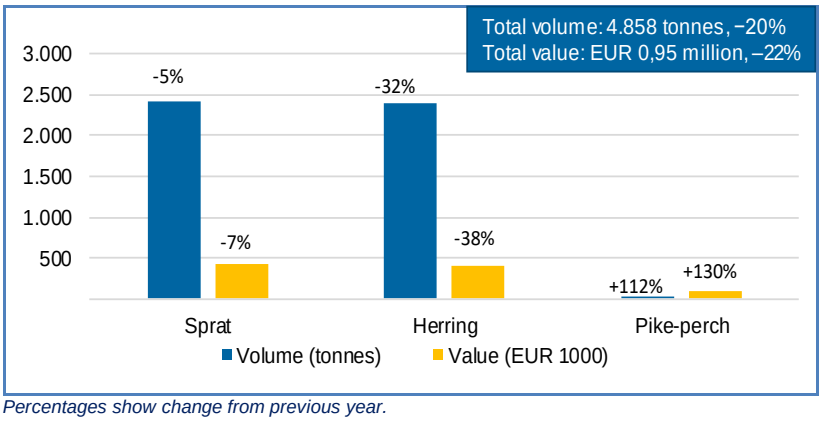
Figure 2. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Estonia** in **January–February 2018,** herring – the second most important species in fisheries of Estonia in terms of value, was the main species behind decreases in overall first–sales value and volume. The same species, together with sprat, was responsible for the continued decline in first sales in **February 2018**. However, total average prices were stable thanks to pike–perch, whose price increased to 4,42 EUR/kg (+9%), while its volume doubled.

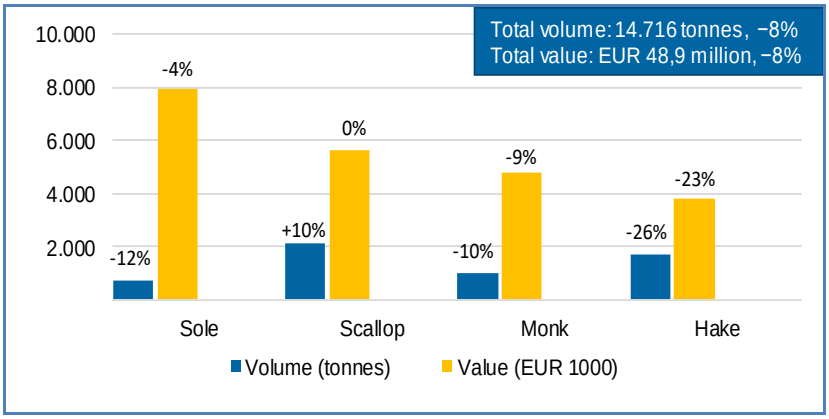
Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In France in **January–February 2018**, first sales decreased by 5% in value and 8% in volume from January–February 2017. Sole was the species most responsible for the first–sales decrease. In **February 2018**, the top four species – sole, monk, squid, and whiting – all recorded decreases in value and volume, but that did not affect overall average prices of all species, which in general, remained stable due to high increase of average prices of some species. Such species is squid, which recorded the highest jump in prices, reaching 9,19 EUR/kg, or 20% up over February 2017.

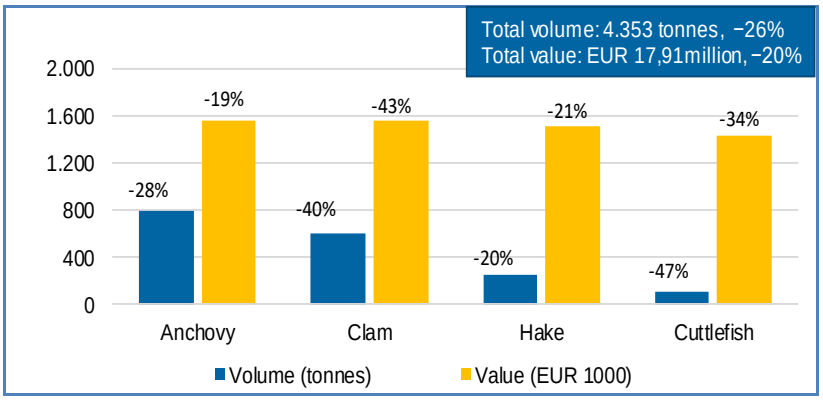
Figure 4. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Italy** in **January–February 2018**, first–sales value and volume went down mainly due to calm (EUR −1 million and −600 tonnes) and cuttlefish (EUR −0,48 million and −242 tonnes). In **February 2018**, the main species responsible for over 20% decreases in first–sales value and volume from a year earlier were clam, deep-water rose shrimp, anchovy and hake and cuttlefish. As the consequence of lower supply in volume, the overall first–sales average prices increased by 9% because of higher prices recorded for anchovy (+12%), octopus (+29%), and cuttlefish (+25%).

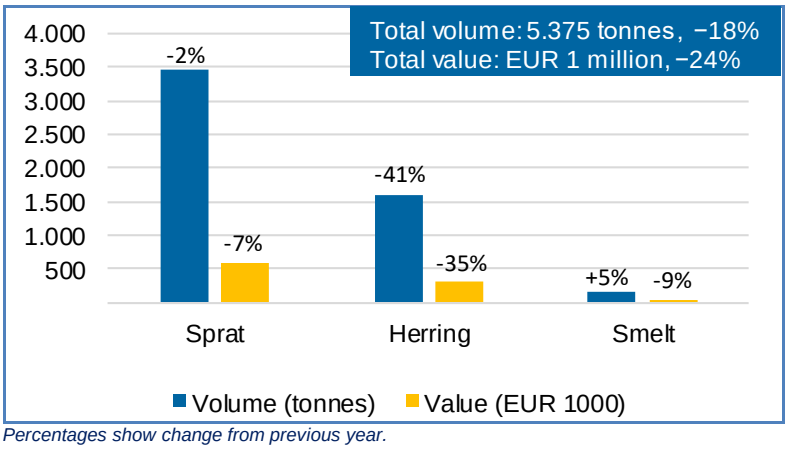
Figure 5. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Latvia** in **January–February 2018**, the primary drivers of the decreases from the previous year included low landings of cod, sprat, and herring, among others, and consequently lower total value. Trends in **February 2018** followed a similar, negative trend, where the same species recorded first–sales decreases. Average prices decreased the most for smelt – down by 13% at 0,18 EUR/kg. Of the top main commercial species reported in Latvia, cod (+3%) and herring (+8%) recorded increase in average prices in February 2018.

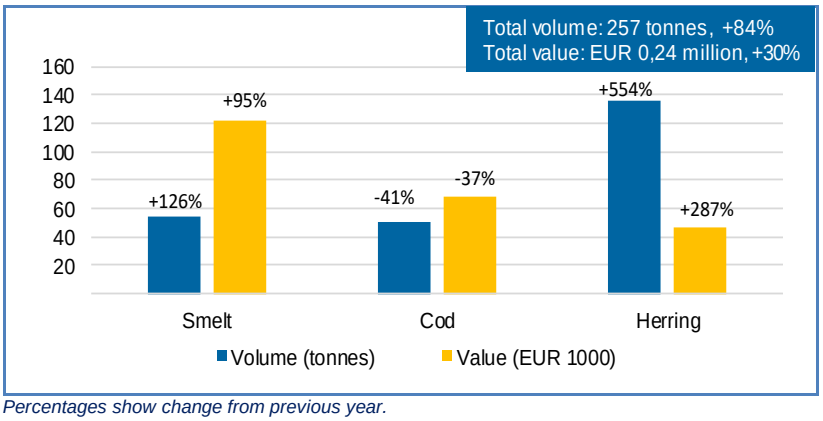
Figure 6. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Lithuania** in **January–February 2018**, first–sales increased moderately over January–February 2017 in value as well as in volume. That was mainly driven by smelt, whose value and volume both rose strongly. A large decrease in cod value and volume did not affect the overall first–sales positive trend. In **February 2018**, herring stands as the main species with highest increase in landings. Due to the high supply of herring, its average price recorded a decrease of 41%, from 0,58 EUR/kg in February 2017 to 0,34 EUR/kg in February 2018.

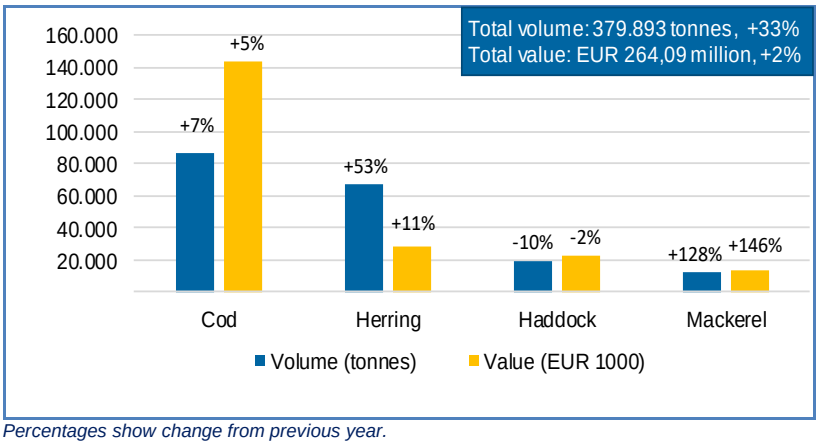
Figure 7. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Norway** in **January–February 2018**, first–sales value decreased, while volume increased compared to 2017. The main contributors to the volume increase were crustaceans, as well as saithe and blue whiting. Herring and mackerel were species whose value decreased over 30%, which affected the first–sales value. In **February 2018**, first–sales volume rose as the result of higher catches of herring, cod, and crustaceans. Total average prices decreased by 22%. Herring prices went down to 0,42 EUR/kg, representing a strong decrease of 27%.

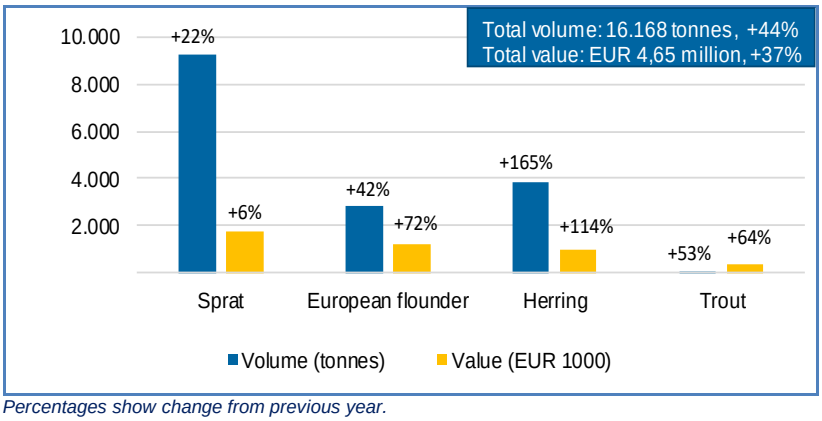
Figure 8. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Poland** in **January–February 2018**, higher first–sales value and volume of sprat, herring, and European flounder were the main contributors to the increase in overall value and volume. In particular, in **February 2018**, the largest growth was in herring value and volume (both doubled). Overall, average prices slightly fell from February 2017, primarily due to price decreases for sprat (–14%, at 0,18 EUR/kg) and herring (–19%, at 0,24 EUR/kg).

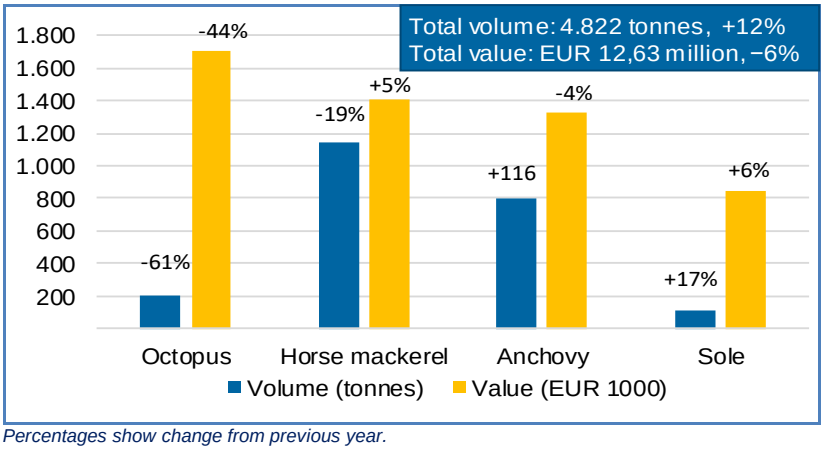
Figure 9. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN POLAND, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Portugal** in **January–February 2018**, first–sales value decreased by 8%, while volume increased by 22% compared to the same period in 2017. The main contributor to the value decrease was octopus, which fell by 54% due to low supply, whereas volume increased thanks to anchovy increase of 173% – the result of fisheries seasonality. In **February 2018**, first–sales recorded similar trends, but with a smaller magnitude. Among the top leading species, octopus prices went up to 8,26 EUR/kg – an increase of 42% – and anchovy prices fell to 1,66 EUR/kg, a decrease of 55%, compared to February 2017.

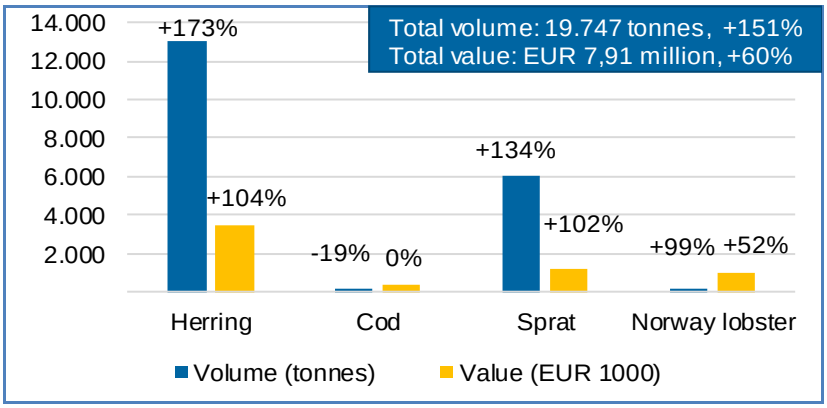
Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Sweden**, first–sales increases in **January–February 2018** were caused mainly by higher supply of herring, sprat, saithe, haddock, and Norway lobster. The positive trend in volume continued in **February 2018**. The added supply of top species drove the average prices down by more than 30%, to 0,40 EUR/kg on average. Among the top species, herring had the largest decrease in average price of 26%, to 0,26 EUR/kg.

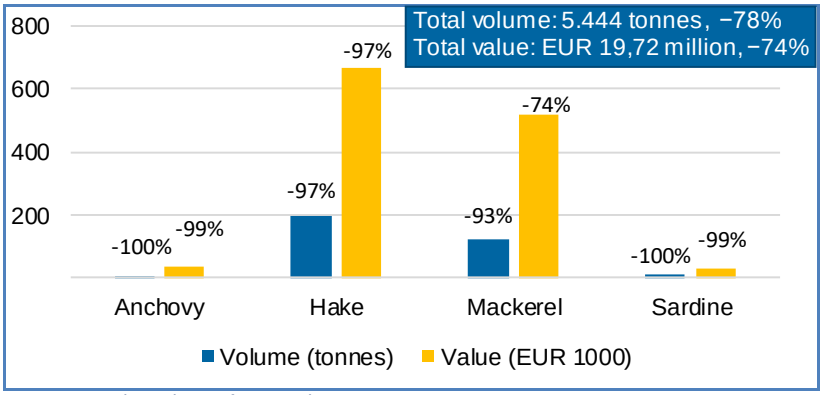
Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **Spain**, the first–sales decline in value and volume in **January–February 2018** was due mainly to anchovy, hake, mackerel, monk, and sardine. In **February 2018**, lower first–sales value of these species contributed to the overall decrease in value and volume of more than 50% compared to February 2017.

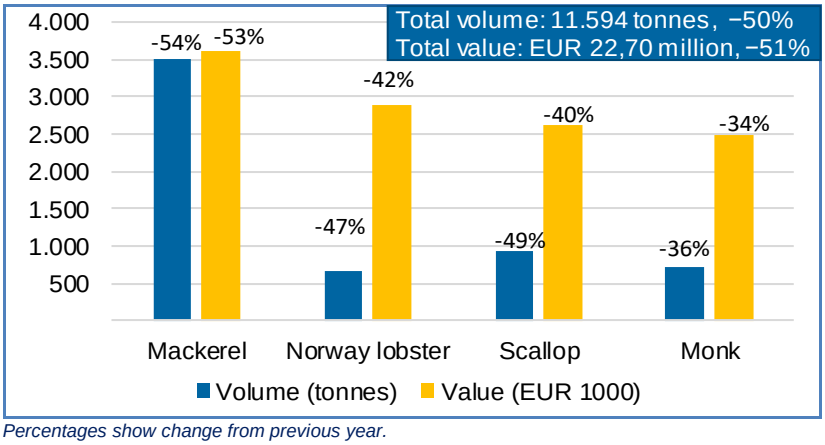
Figure 12. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

In **January–February 2018,** in **the UK**, overall first–sales value and volume fell (−66% and −70%, respectively), as value decreased for several top species including, inter alia, mackerel, scallop, monk, and cod. The main contributors to the lower overall volume were mackerel, haddock, and scallop. In **February 2018**, first–sales value dropped mainly as the result of smaller catches of the same top species. Overall prices remained stable, although species such as scallop (+18% to 2,80 EUR/kg) and monk (+3% to 3,47 EUR/kg) recorded increases. On the other hand, cod (−10%) registered a decrease in average price.

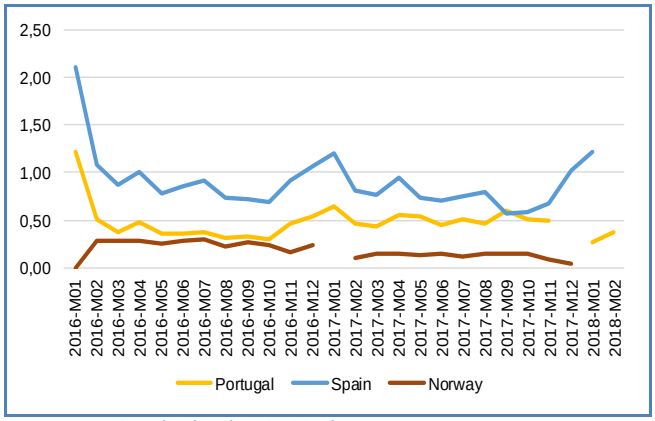
Figure 13. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UK, FEBRUARY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

1.4 Comparison of first–sales prices of selected species in selected countries

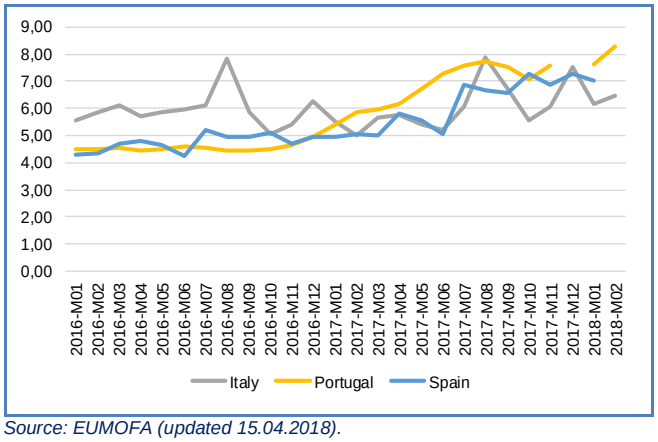
Figure 14. **FIRST–SALES PRICES OF BLUE WHITING IN NORWAY, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

First–sales of **blue whiting** occurs mainly in **Norway**, with 91% of total reported European sales volume in 2017. **Spain** and **Portugal** also transact significant volumes at first–sales level. However, price levels and trends are different in Norway versus other markets, in part because of different end user for the species. In Norway, nearly all blue whiting is destined for reduction into fishmeal and oil, and first–sales prices are lower and steadier than in Spain or Portugal, where a somewhat higher share of landings is for human consumption. In **February 2018**, the first–sales price in Norway (not shown in the figure because no data for the preceding month) was 0,22 EUR/kg, compared with 0,37 EUR/kg in Portugal and 1,21 EUR/kg in Spain (January 2018 price).

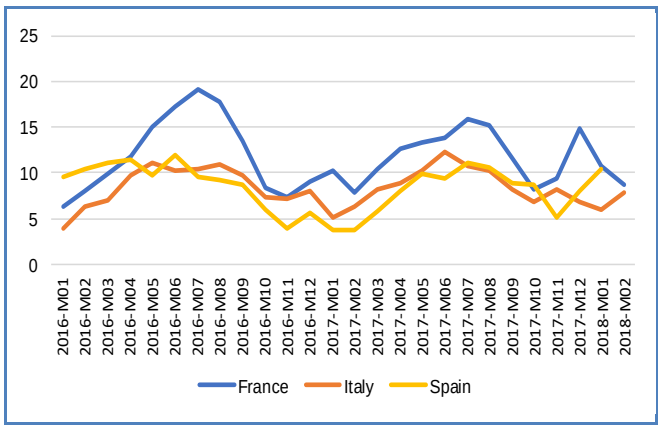
Figure 15. **FIRST–SALES PRICES OF OCTOPUS IN ITALY, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

For **octopus** first–sales volume is highest in **Spain**, **Portugal**, and **Italy**: together accounting for 88% of total 2017 sales by reporting countries. First–sales prices have been generally rising since at least early 2016. The price in Spain in January 2018 (February data not available) was 7,01 EUR/kg, up from 4,95 EUR/kg a year earlier and 4,31 EUR/kg two years earlier. In Portugal and Italy, prices in **February 2018** were 8,26 EUR/kg and 6,44 EUR/kg, respectively, both up from prices in the same month in 2017 and 2016.

Figure 16. **FIRST–SALES PRICES OF GILTHEAD SEABREAM IN FRANCE, ITALY AND SPAIN**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

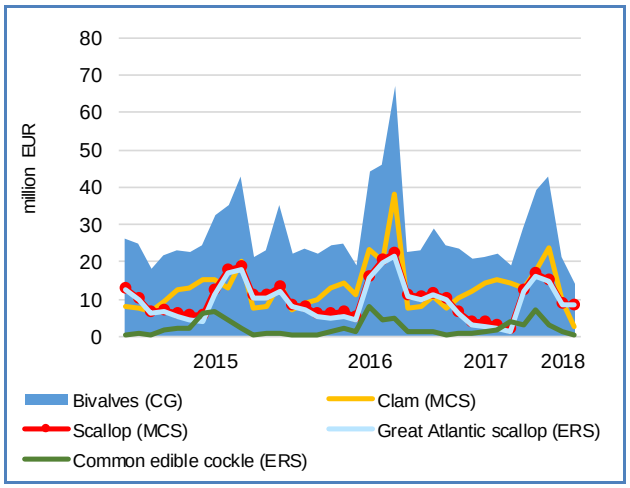
About half (in 2017, 51%) of all first sales of **gilthead seabream** in reporting countries occurs in **Spain**, with additional volumes in **France** (31%) and **Italy** (10%). First–sales prices follow a seasonal pattern, tending to peak in the summer and bottom out in the winter. In **February 2018** the price in France was 8,66 EUR/kg, down from a summertime peak of 15,86 EUR/kg, while in Italy the final price was 7,85 EUR/kg, down from a summer peak of 12,23 EUR/kg. In Spain, the price in January 2018 (the latest available month) was 10,45 EUR/kg, down from 11,05 EUR/kg in July 2017.

1.5 Commodity group of the month: bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates

The bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates[2] commodity group (CG) ranked the 7th highest among the 11 commodity groups in first–sales value and 3rd in volume during **January–February 2018**[3]. First–sales value reached EUR 35 million and 18.103 tonnes during the two–month period, which represent a decline of 23% and 17% in value and volume, respectively, from first sales in 2017. The trend was also decreasing compared to 2016. In **February 2018**, first sales totaled EUR 14 million and 8.352 tonnes, down by 39% in value and 24% in volume from February 2017. In the past 36 months, the highest value of bivalves was registered in December 2016, when it reached more than EUR 67 million.

The bivalves commodity group includes 6 main commercial species (MCS): clam, mussel, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, other mussels, oyster and scallop. Great Atlantic scallop belongs to the MCS Scallop, and common edible cockle belongs to the MCS Clam. Clam and scallop account for 84% of total value of bivalves. At species (ERS)[4] level, great Atlantic scallop and common edible cockle together made up 48% and 4%, respectively, of total first–sales value of bivalves during **January–February 2018**[5].

Figure 17. **FIRST–SALES VALUE COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVEL FOR ALL REPORTING COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

1.6 Focus on great Atlantic scallop

Great Atlantic scallop (*Pecten maximus*) is a northeast Atlantic species of scallop, a marine bivalve mollusc belonging to the family Pectinidae. Great Atlantic scallop occurs along the European Atlantic coast from northern Norway, south to the Iberian peninsula and has also been reported off West Africa, the Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira. Atlantic scallops are hermaphrodite and there is no separate male and female size range or size at maturity. They grow up to 15 cm although specimens of up to 21 cm have been recorded. First maturity occurs at 2 years and full maturity at 3–5 years[6]. Although considered sedentary, scallops are able to swim limited distances propelled by jets of water.

There are three methods that are traditionally used for harvesting scallops: diving, bottom trawling and dredging. France and the UK are the nations which catch the most in terms of value[7].

For scallops, current EU legislation specifies a minimum landing size length of 100 mm, but there are no limits in the form of TACs or quotas[8]. Gear selectivity measures and minimum landing sizes (MLS) are common measures to ensure that scallops are not harvested at too small size for breeding.

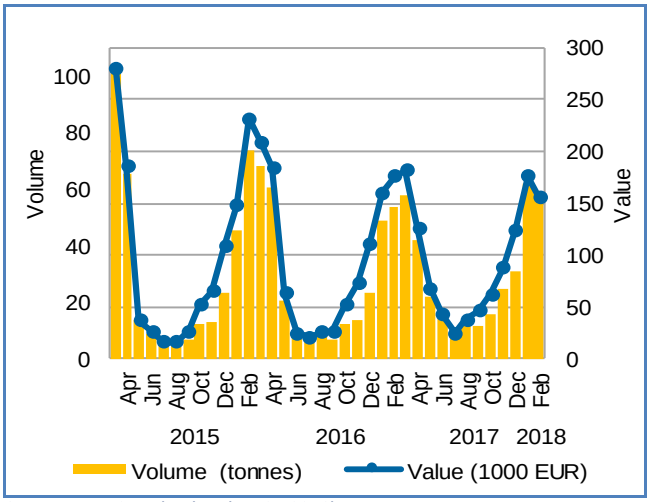
[2] In further text, the term "bivalves" refers to "bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates".
[3] More data on commodity groups can be found in table 1.2 in the Annex.
[4] Species reported at Electronic Reporting System (ERS) level, based on FAO 3-alpha codes.
[5] Ranking of the main commectial species in the bivalves commodity group can be found in table 1.3 in the Annex.
[6] http://www.marlin.ac.uk/biotic/browse.php?sp=4236
[7] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/3516/en
[8] COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 850/98 http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31998R0850&from=EN

Management measures which employ closed areas for periods of several years, to increase yield or protect part of the spawning stock, have been found to be very successful, bringing high returns in terms of increasing yields and spawning stock. In France rotational closures are also used successfully, together with enhancement with cultured juveniles, to improve yields[9].

Selected countries

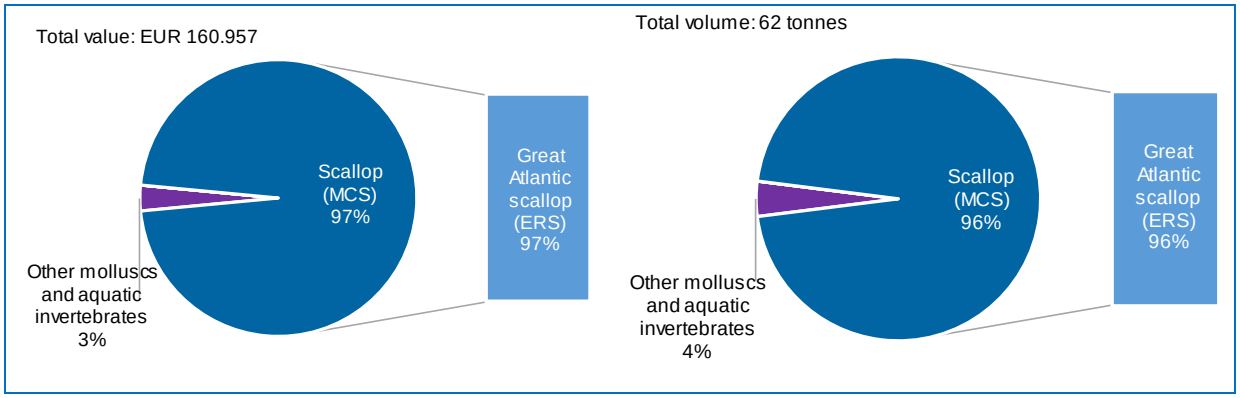
In **January–February 2018** in **Belgium**, first–sales of great Atlantic scallop were stable in value and increased in volume (+18%) over 2017. Value decreased by 13%, and volume increased by 2% compared to 2016. In **February 2018**, first–sales value decreased by 11%, whereas volume increased by 9% over the same month a year earlier. All scallop first sales were registered at ports in the North Sea: Zeebrugge, Oostende and Nieuwpoort.

Figure 18. **GREAT ATLANTIC SCALLOP: FIRST SALES IN BELGIUM**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

Figure 19. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN BELGIUM IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**

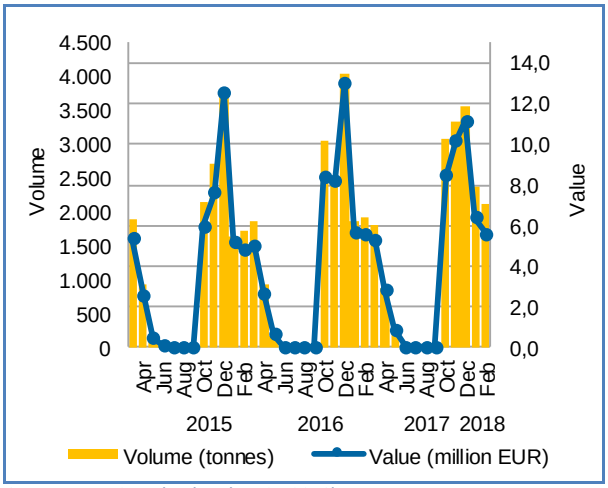


Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

[9] http://www.seafish.org/media/publications/SeafishResponsibleSourcingGuide_Scallops_201301.pdf

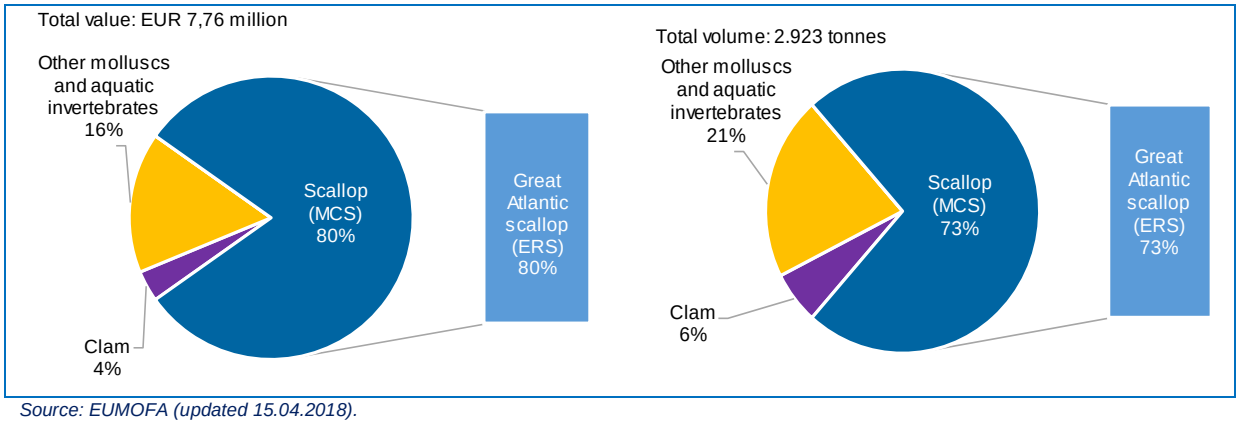
In **January–February 2018** in **France**, first sales of great Atlantic scallop increased in value and volume compared to the same period in the previous two years. Value and volume increased by 19% and 34%, respectively, compared to 2016. In **February 2018**, value remained stable, whereas volume increased by 11% over February 2017. The largest shares of scallops are landed at ports on the English Channel, where the main ports in first–sales are Port-en-Bessin, Dieppe and Saint-Quay Portrieux.

Figure 20. **GREAT ATLANTIC SCALLOP: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

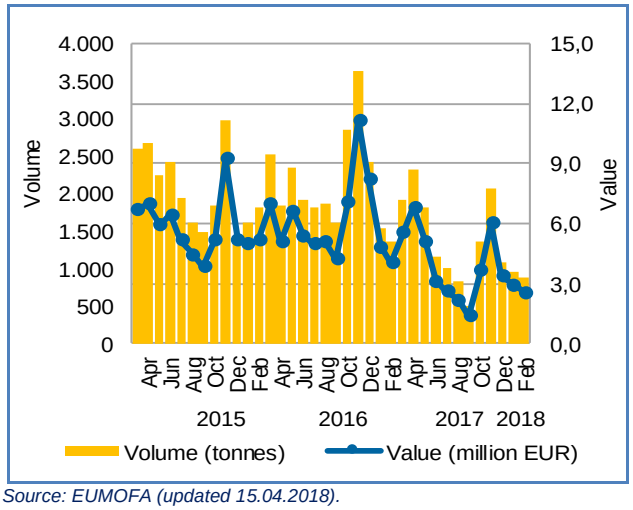
Figure 21. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

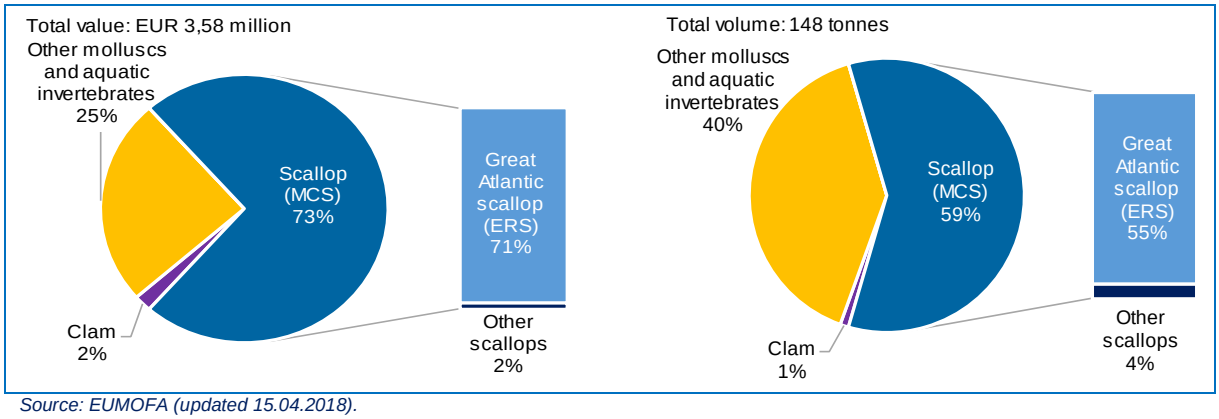
In January–February 2018 in **the UK** first sales of great Atlantic scallop decreased by more than 30% in value and volume compared to levels in 2017 and 2016. The same trends were recorded in **February 2018**, when value and volume decreased by 37% and 35%, respectively, in comparison with February 2017. The main port in first–sales value of scallop is Brixham, followed by Plymouth and Port Saint, Mary. All ports are located on the coastline of the Celtic Sea and English Channel.

Figure 22. **GREAT ATLANTIC SCALLOP: FIRST SALES IN THE UK**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

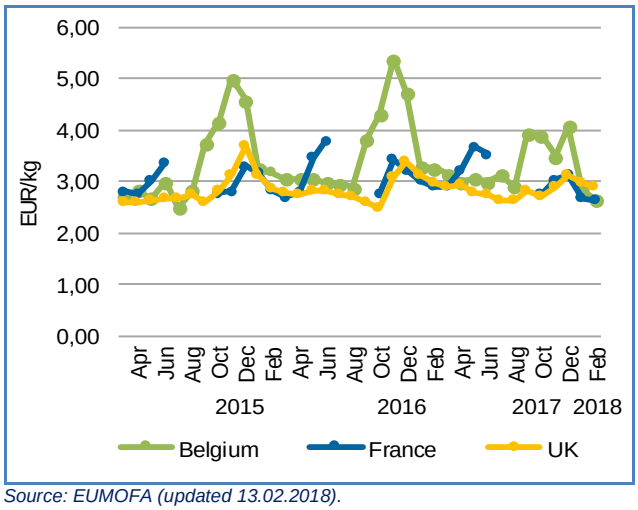
Figure 23. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN THE UK IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

Price trends

Figure 24. **GREAT ATLANTIC SCALLOP: FIRST–SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 13.02.2018).

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

First sales: Belgium (April 2013), France (4/2016, 3/2014), the UK (9/2016, 6/2015, July 2013).

Topic of the month: Scallop in the UK (Nov–Dec 2013).

Trade: Extra–EU Import (09/2015).

Over the past three years, average first–sales prices of great Atlantic scallop generally have decreased in all surveyed countries, with Belgium as the country that recorded the highest decrease of 14%.

In **Belgium** in January–February 2018, the average unit price of great Atlantic scallop at 2,74 EUR/kg, was 16% lower than in the previous year and 14% lower than in 2016. In a three–year period, prices reached a peak in November 2016, when 13 tonnes were sold at price of 5,39 EUR/kg. The lowest price occurred in July 2015, with one of the lowest catches in the observed period, when six tonnes were sold for as little as 2,48 EUR/kg.

In **France** in January–February 2018, the average unit price of great Atlantic scallop was 2,66 EUR/kg (−10% and −11% from 2017 and 2016, respectively). The highest prices were typically registered in May and June, when the supply of scallop is low. During the summer period, from July to September, there are no registered scallop catches due to seasonally closed scallop fisheries. The highest price (3,78 EUR/kg) was in June 2016, corresponding to 5 tonnes, whereas the lowest price was recorded in February 2018, falling at 2,64 EUR/kg for 2.114 tonnes.

Average prices in **the UK** in January–February 2018 at 2,96 EUR/kg were 8% and 11% higher, respectively, than in Belgium and France. Prices do not have extreme fluctuations throughout the year, and in the past 36 months they ranged from 2,47 EUR/kg in October 2016 to 3,68 EUR/kg in December 2015 – the month which saw the highest catch recorded in the observed period.

1.7 Focus on common edible cockle

The common edible cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) is a species of edible saltwater clam, a marine bivalve mollusc in the family Cardiidae. Geographical distribution ranges from the Barents Sea and the Baltic south to Senegal, West Africa. It is also found, although rarely, in the Southwestern Mediterranean. It lives just under the surface of sand, mud and gravel bottoms, to only a few metres deep. The habitats preferred are sandy bays, with some arrival of fresh water. The density of populations can be extremely high – up to 10.000 cockles per square meter. Common cockle can reach a maximum length at 6 cm, but a more common size range is 3 to 4 cm. Main fisheries occur in the area of the British Isles, the Netherlands and France, using bottom trawls and dredges[10].

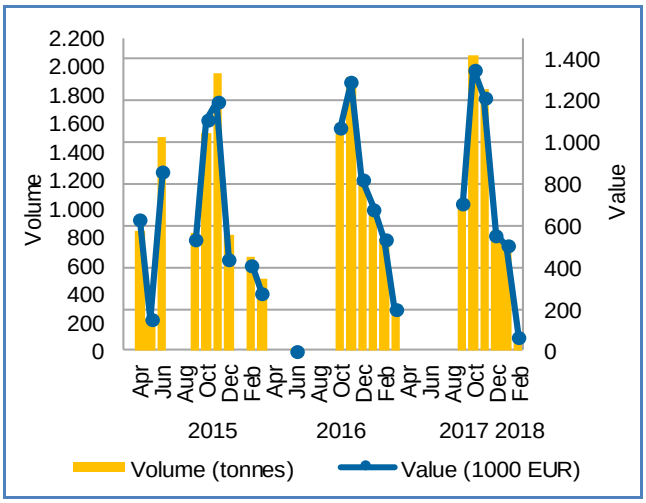
Even though there are no specific designated management measures for the conservation of common cockle at EU level, in some areas local management is based in control of the numbers of cockles harvested and the fisheries methods used. In some parts of the UK, for example, dredging with vehicles is banned, and hand gathering is the only method allowed[11]. In the Netherlands, as well, the Wadden Sea cockle can only be fished manually[12].

Cockles are cooked and eaten pickled or raw in several countries including the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Ireland, Portugal and Spain[13].

Selected countries

In **Denmark**, common edible cockle first–sales value and volume decreased during **January–February 2018** compared to the same period in 2017. **February 2018** first–sales value and volume sharply fell compared to the same month a year earlier (both down 88%). Such decrease could be explained as the result of fisheries seasonality which varies from year to year. All common edible cockle first sales were registered at ports in the North Sea. The main Danish port for cockle is Ørodde, followed by Jegindø.

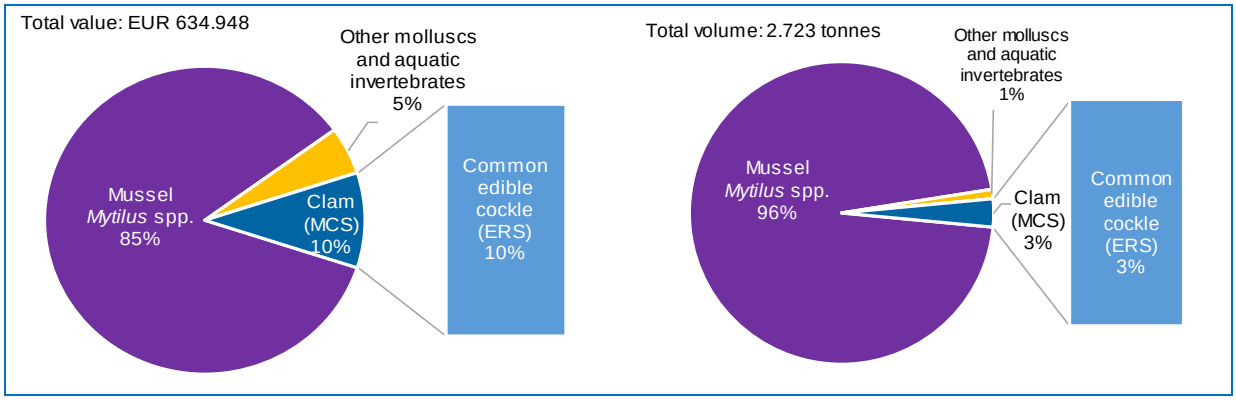
Figure 25. **COMMON EDIBLE COCKLE: FIRST SALES IN DENMARK**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

[10] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/3535/en
[11] http://eol.org/pages/395985/details
[12] http://www.visenseizoen.nl/en/product/kokkel/
[13] The Oxford University Press, https://books.google.dk/books?id=bIIeBQAAQBAJ&pg=PA201&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false

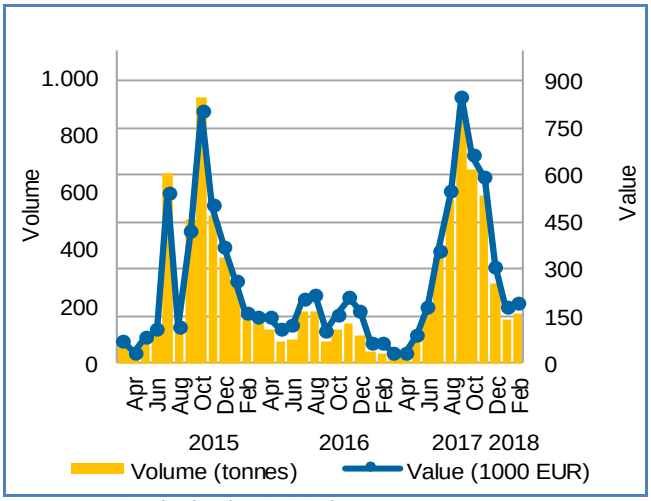
Figure 26. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN DENMARK IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

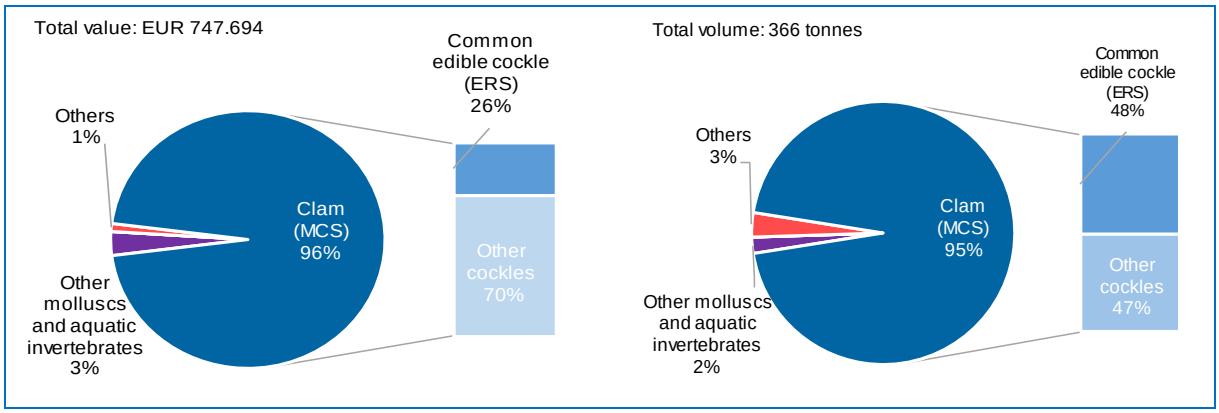
First sales of common edible cockle in **Portugal** increased in both value and volume during **January–February 2018** over the same period in 2017 and decreased from the same period in 2016. February 2018 was a positive month for the cockle fishery compared to the same month in 2017, as cockle catches doubled in value and tripled in volume. The highest values of cockle landed were registered at the port of Aveiro on the Iberian Coast.

Figure 27. **COMMON EDIBLE COCKLE: FIRST SALES IN PORTUGAL**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

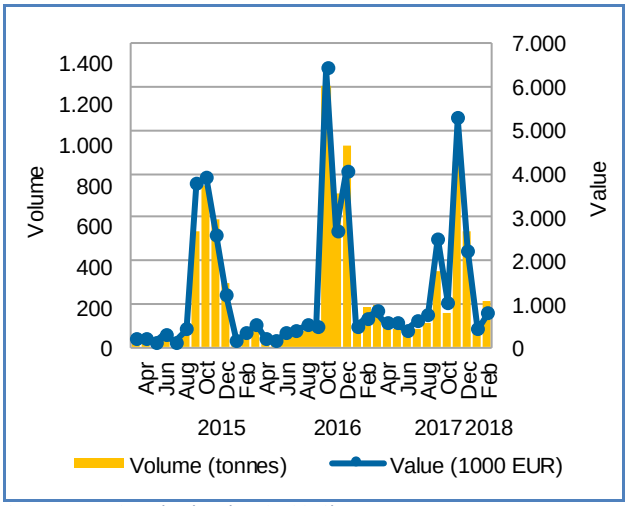
Figure 28. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN PORTUGAL IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

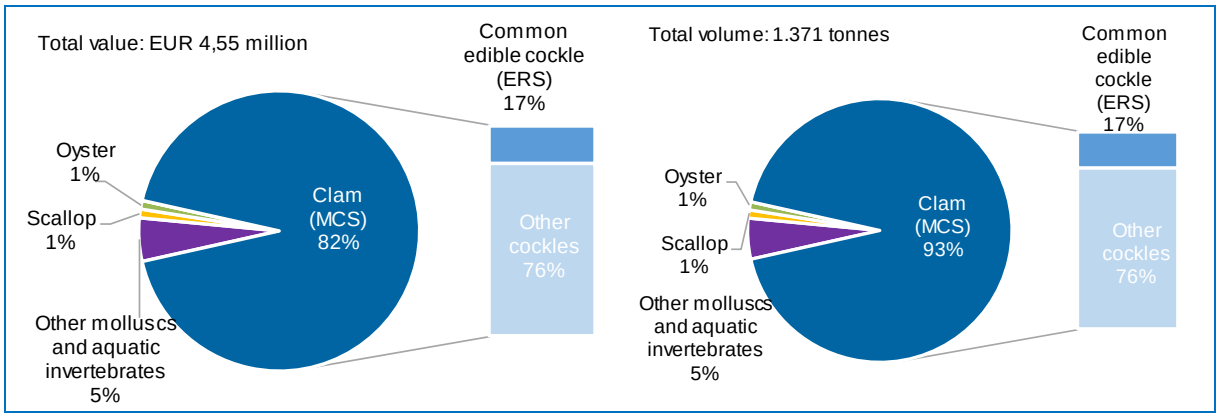
First sales of common edible cockle in **Spain** decreased in volume and increased in value during **January–February 2018** from the same period in 2017. Decreases in volume were linked to a lower supply in first sales. Two thirds of cockle landed value occurred in the port of Noia, located in the northwest part of the country.

Figure 29. **COMMON EDIBLE COCKLE: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

Figure 30. **FIRST–SALES COMPARISON OF BIVALVES IN SPAIN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, FEBRUARY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

Price trends

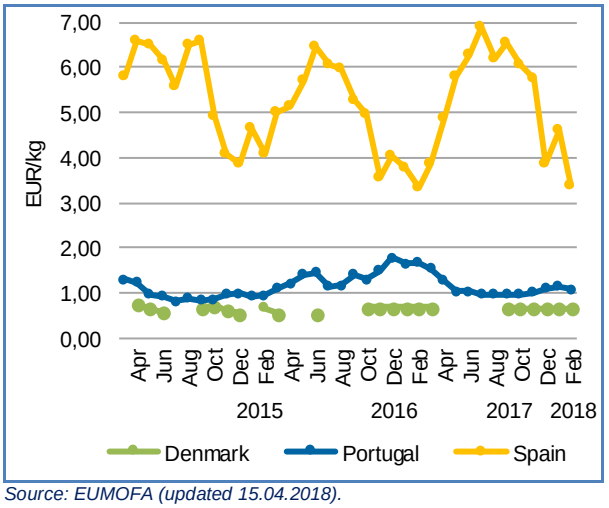
Over the past three years, average first–sales prices of common edible cockle generally decreased in **Denmark** and increased in **Portugal** and **Spain**. In **February 2018** prices were lower only in **Portugal** compared with February 2017.

In **Denmark**, in **January–February 2018**, the average unit price of common edible cockle (at 0,66 EUR/kg) was twice as high as in January–February 2017. In recent years, the highest observed price occurred in April 2015 at 0,74 EUR/kg, with landings of 846 tonnes. The lowest registered price was 0,54 EUR/kg, which occurred in three different months throughout the past three years. Denmark has the lowest average prices among surveyed countries.

For the past three years, common edible cockle prices in **Portugal** were the highest in winter. They peaked in December 2016 at 1,78 EUR/kg, while the lowest first–sales prices occurred in summer, such as in July 2015, when the price was at 0,82 EUR/kg, with volume of 665 tonnes. In **January–February 2018**, prices averaged 1,11 EUR/kg, a sharp decrease from January–February 2017, but an increase of 20% over 2016.

The average price in **Spain** in **January–February 2018** was 3,99 EUR/kg. It was 12% higher over the same period in 2017. However, compared with 2016, the average price decreased 9%. Spain has higher prices of common edible cockle compared to Denmark and Portugal. In the past three years, the peak price of 6,89 EUR/kg occurred in July 2017 when 88 tonnes were landed. Prices are usually lower when the cockle fishery season is in its peak, i.e., from September to April. The lowest price in a three–year period was 3,33 EUR/kg, occurring in February 2017.

Figure 31. **COMMON EDIBLE COCKLE: FIRST–SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**



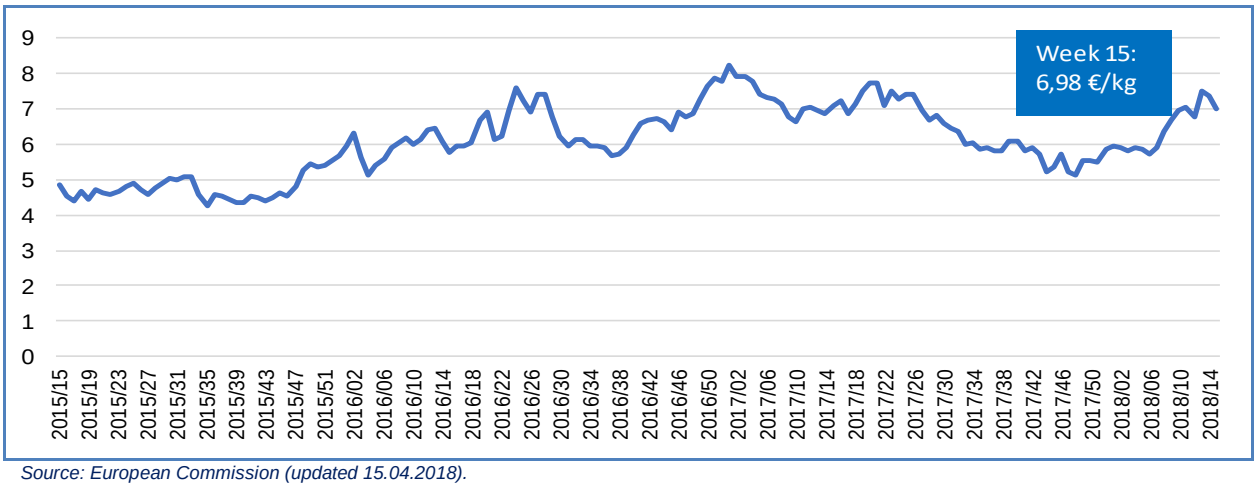
Source: EUMOFA (updated 15.04.2018).

2 Extra–EU imports

Each month, weekly extra–EU import prices (average unit values per week, in EUR per kg) are examined for nine species. Three of them, which are the most relevant in terms of value and volume are examined every month: Alaska pollock from China, Atlantic salmon from Norway, and tropical shrimp (genus Penaeus) from Ecuador. Six other species change every month, and this issue of Monthly Highlights looks at anchovy, shortfin squid (Illex spp.) and sea crawfish, along with three species products that are examined each month as part of the month's selected commodity group, which this month are mussel, coquille St. Jacques (scallop), and products of clams, cockles, and ark shells.

For fresh whole **Atlantic salmon** (*Salmo salar*, CN code 03032200) imported from **Norway** weekly prices in 2018 have continued to increase, albeit irregularly, from a recent low price in late 2017. The price in week 15 (mid-April) of 2018 was 6,98 EUR/kg, down from a peak two-weeks earlier, but still higher than during much of the previous 20 weeks. Industry sources reported strong demand related to the Easter holiday period, as well as tight supplies due to slow winter growth of farmed salmon resulting from colder water temperatures.

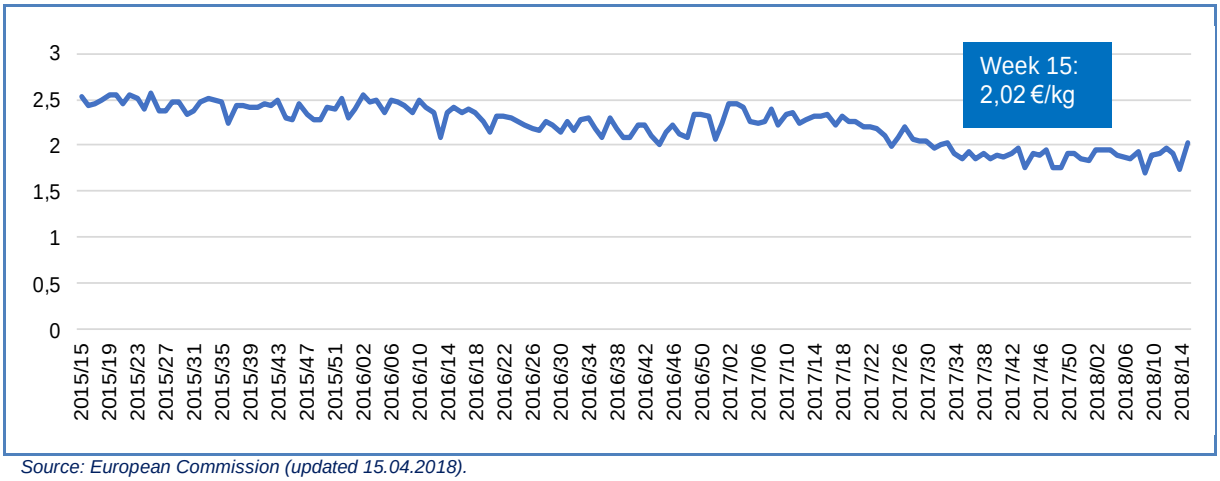
Figure 32. **IMPORT PRICE OF ATLANTIC SALMON, FRESH WHOLE FROM NORWAY**



Source: European Commission (updated 15.04.2018).

The weekly price of frozen fillets of **Alaska pollock** (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03047500) imported from **China** has been quite volatile during the first 15 weeks of 2018, although a general, slight increase is apparent since the beginning of the year. From a recent low of 1,71 EUR/kg in week 9 of 2018, the price rose to 2,03 EUR/kg in week 15, a level not seen since week 33 of 2017, although still below the 2017 average of 2,10 EUR/kg. Weekly average import volumes in 2018 are running just slightly ahead of the same period in 2017 (up 0,2%), which may partly explain the relatively low average weekly price in weeks 1–15 2018 (1,90 EUR/kg) compared with the same period in 2017 (2,32 EUR/kg).

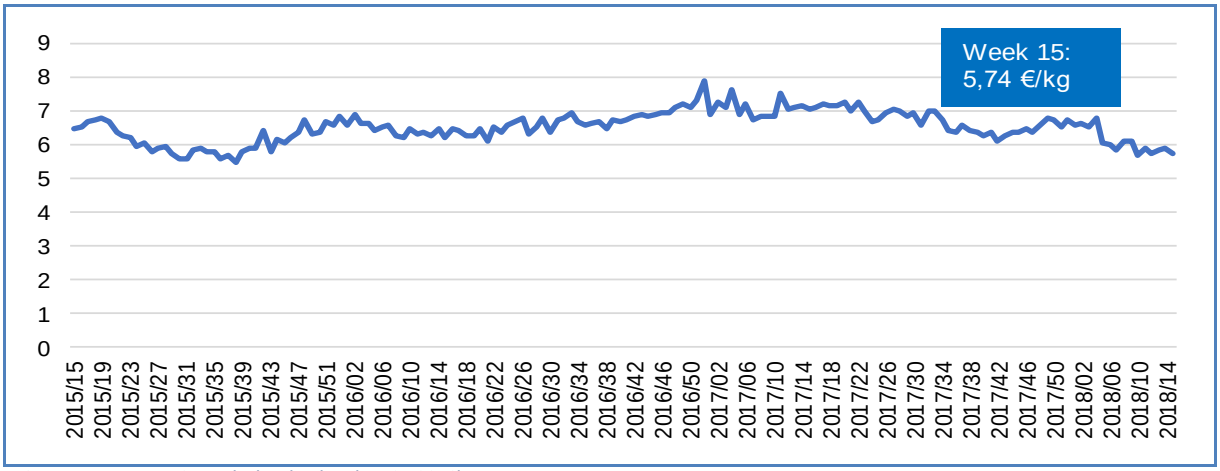
Figure 33. **IMPORT PRICE OF ALASKA POLLOCK, FROZEN FILLETS FROM CHINA**



Source: European Commission (updated 15.04.2018).

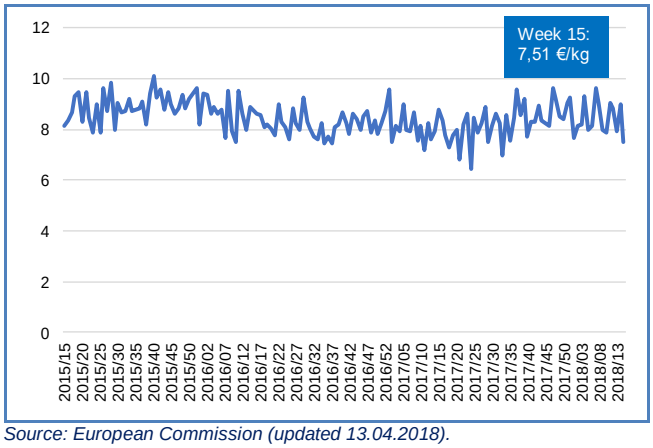
The weekly price of frozen **tropical shrimp** (genus *Penaeus*, CN code 03061792) imported from **Ecuador** continued its irregular decline in week 15 of 2018, to 5,74 EUR/kg. This represented a 15% drop from a recent high price of 6,75 EUR/kg in week 4 of 2018. Prices in 2018, through week 15, are much lower than during the same period in 2017 (6,09 EUR/kg in 2018 compared with 7,06 EUR/kg in 2017), despite a nearly identical volume of average weekly imports. Industry sources report that a general worldwide glut in shrimp markets has "softened" market demand and prices.

Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF TROPICAL SHRIMP, FROZEN FROM ECUADOR**



Source: European Commission (updated 15.04.2018).

Figure 35. **PREPARED OR PRESERVED ANCHOVY FROM MOROCCO**

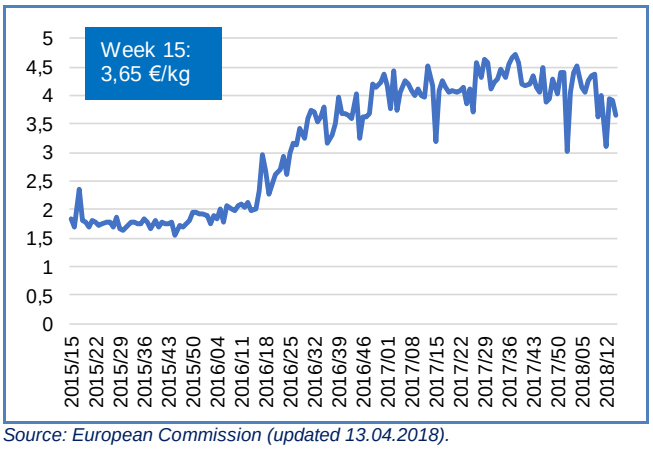


Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

The weekly price of prepared or preserved **anchovies** (CN code 16041600) from **Morocco** is erratic from one week to the next but, viewed over a longer term 157–week span since week 15 of 2015, shows no significant up/down change. This is despite a wide range in weekly import volume: in 2017, such imports ranged from a high of 374 thousand tonnes in week 32 to a low of 97 thousand tonnes in week 38. In 2018, import volume has been just as variable, peaking at 296 thousand tonnes, at a price of 8,17 EUR/kg, in week 6, dropping to 73,5 thousand tonnes in week 15, when the price was 7,51 EUR/kg.

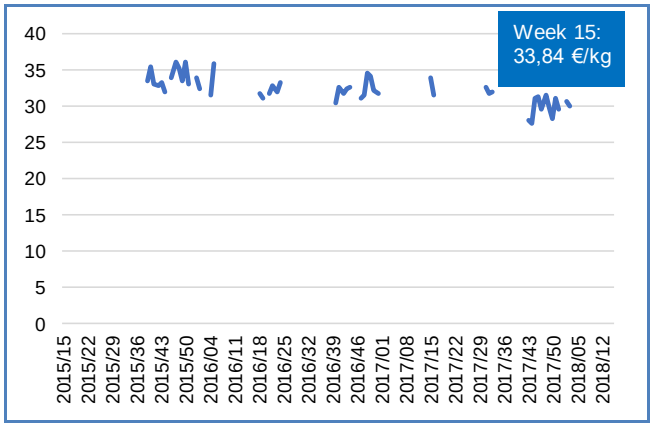
EU import prices for frozen ***Illex* spp.** (CN code 03074392) from **China** more than doubled between 2015 and 2017 (from a weekly average of 1,76 EUR/kg to 4,19 EUR/kg), but in 2018 weekly prices have trended downward, averaging 3,65 EUR/kg in week 15. During the 157–week period ending in week 15 of 2018, import volume showed little trend up or down, averaging 465 thousand tonnes in 2015 and 486 thousand tonnes in 2017, despite the immense difference in average prices between those years. It averaged 391 thousand tonnes during weeks 1–15 in 2018.

Figure 36. **FROZEN *ILLEX* SPP. FROM CHINA**



Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

Figure 37. **FROZEN SEA CRAWFISH TAILS FROM THE BAHAMAS**

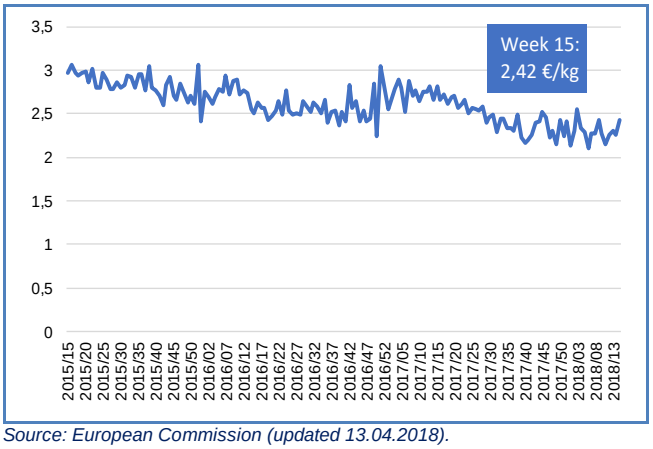


Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

EU imports of frozen **sea crawfish tails** (CN code 03061110) from the **Bahamas** come from a highly seasonal fisheries and are concentrated (30% of total volume per year since 2015) in the period beginning week 46 of one year and ending in week 1 of the following year. Average weekly import prices have slowly declined over the 157–week period ending week 15 of 2018, from a high of 35,43 EUR/kg in week 14 of 2015 to 29,62 EUR/kg in week 12 of 2018, the latest recorded price in 2018. Weekly volumes have likewise declined, averaging 27.991 tonnes in 2017/18, down by 37% from 44.382 during the same eight–week period in 2016/17. The volume during the latest recorded week 14 of 2018 was only 635 tonnes.

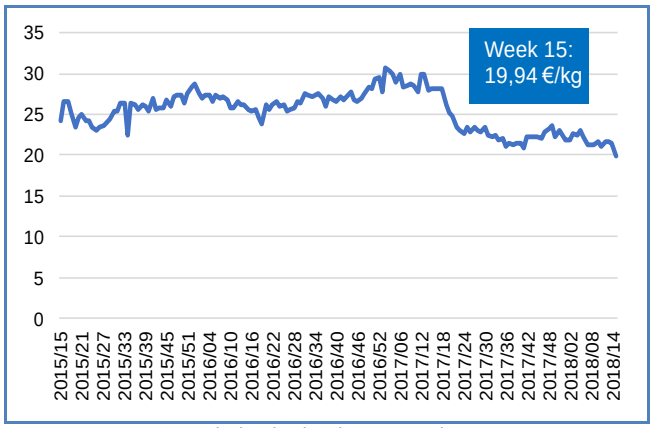
The weekly price of prepared or preserved **mussels** (*Mytilus* spp., CN code 16055390) in airtight containers from **Chile** has exhibited a slow decline during the three years ending in week 15 of 2018. From a peak of 3,06 EUR/kg in week 16 of 2015, prices declined irregularly to a low of 2,10 EUR/kg in week 6 of 2018. In week 15 of 2018 the price was 2,42 EUR/kg. Weekly volumes during the year are highly seasonal, peaking between weeks 15-30 and reaching lows around the last week of December. As prices in the longer-run are more stable than volumes, total weekly value follows a similar trend as volume. There are a number of alternatives to Chilean mussels in airtight containers in the EU market, and therefore EU prices for this product are less affected by changes in Chilean supply as by supplies and prices for competing products from elsewhere.

Figure 38. **PREPARED OR PRESERVED MUSSEL FROM CHILE**



Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

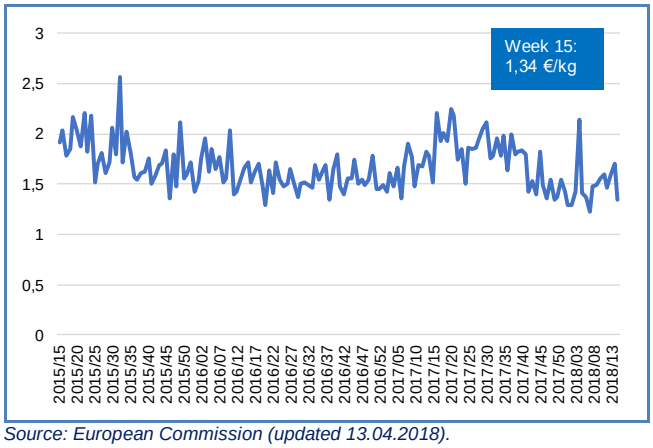
Figure 39. **FROZEN SCALLOP FROM CANADA**



Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

EU imports of frozen **coquilles St. Jacques** (scallops, *Pecten maximus*, CN code 03072210) from **Canada** have also exhibited sharp spikes in weekly prices, notably during week 24 of 2016 and during week 31 of 2017. In both cases import volume was much lower than the weekly average for the respective years. Such imports are sporadic and may not occur for several weeks at a time: in 2017, imports entered the EU in only 14 out of 52 weeks, and in only two weeks during the first 15 weeks of 2018. The average price during weeks 1–15 of 2018 was 28,02 EUR/kg, up by 3% from an average 27,27 EUR/kg during the same period in 2017. Weekly volumes during this 15–week period in 2018 and a year earlier were 730 tonnes and 1.171 tonnes, respectively.

Figure 40. **PREPARED OR PRESERVED PRODUCTS OF CLAM, COCKLE AND ARK SHELL FROM VIETNAM**



Source: European Commission (updated 13.04.2018).

The weekly price of prepared or preserved products of **clams, cockles** and **ark shells** (CN code 16055600) from **Vietnam** fell in week 15 of 2018 but the longer–term upward trend through the first 15 weeks of 2018 was still in place. The average price of this assortment of mollusc products follows a wave–like pattern over the course of a year, and over the last 52 weeks ranged from a high of 2,21 EUR/kg in week 16 of 2017 to a low of 1,29 EUR/kg in week 1 of 2018. The long–run trend in weekly volume was strongly upward through 2017 (the average weekly volume was 354 thousand tonnes in 2015, 490 thousand tonnes in 2016, and 581 thousand tonnes in 2017), but has reversed itself thus far in 2018, perhaps explaining in part the upward price trend in the first 15 weeks of 2018.

3 Consumption

3.1 HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

In January 2018, the consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products increased over January 2017 in both volume and value in Germany (+7% and +15%, respectively), Hungary (+121% and +85%), Italy (+6% and +8%), Poland (+3% and +12%), and Sweden (+46% and +23%). In France, volume increased by 1% and value decreased by 1%. In Ireland, Spain and the UK the opposite occurred: value increased, and volume decreased.

Decreases in consumption in both volume and value happened in Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal. The largest drop in both volume and value in January 2018 occurred in Denmark (−7% and −9%, respectively).

Compared with December 2017, among the Member States surveyed, only Denmark and Sweden registered increases in volume (+32% and +3%, respectively) in January 2018. Value increased only in Denmark (+11%). In the rest of the analysed Member States both volume and value decreased.

Table 3. **JANUARY OVERVIEW OF THE REPORTING COUNTRIES** (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)

Country	Per capita consumption 2015* (live weight equivalent) kg/capita/year	January 2016		January 2017		December 2017		January 2018		Change from January 2017 to January 2018	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	22,9	881	12,81	736	11,25	518	9,21	683	10,22	7%	9%
Germany	13,4	6.119	83,46	6.129	78,50	8.412	113,66	6.544	89,97	7%	15%
France	33,9	16.866	186,73	15.747	184,43	29.561	326,42	15.842	181,68	1%	1%
Hungary	4,8	280	1,20	153	0,92	1.943	10,45	338	1,70	121%	85%
Ireland	22,1	1.186	15,66	974	13,94	1.215	19,50	968	14,09	1%	1%
Italy	28,4	26.846	240,80	28.955	265,02	39.187	358,85	30.576	285,41	6%	8%
Netherlands	22,2	2.263	31,27	2.233	31,85	3.215	55,88	2.165	30,86	3%	3%
Poland	13,6	4.435	22,57	3.795	20,42	14.497	69,27	3.912	22,87	3%	12%
Portugal	55,9	4.678	28,87	4.005	27,54	4.251	32,76	3.875	26,58	3%	3%
Spain	45,2	52.906	402,78	50.810	397,15	57.807	515,78	49.964	405,96	2%	2%
Sweden	26,9	773	10,13	609	9,31	866	11,88	889	11,46	46%	23%
UK	24,3	26.619	292,12	25.884	262,51	27.748	329,08	25.546	264,37	1%	1%

Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 16.04.2018).
**Data on per capita consumption of all fish and seafood products for all EU Member States can be found at:*
http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/108446/The+EU+fish+market+2017.pdf

Generally, since 2015, the consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products in January has followed an increasing trend in both volume and value in Germany, Hungary, Italy, and Sweden. In Denmark, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, and the UK the opposite trend occurred. In Poland and Spain, volume fell and value increased.

In January for the past three years, household consumption of fresh fish products has been above the annual average in both volume and value in Denmark (+14% and +16%, respectively), Germany (+10% and +9%), Ireland (+2% and +2%), and Italy (+3% and +13%). In Spain, volume decreased (−7%) and value increased (+2%). In the UK, the opposite was observed. In the rest of the Member States analysed, household consumption in January was below the average.

The most recent consumption data available on EUMOFA for **February 2018** can be accessed **here**.

3.2 FRESH CARP

Habitat: A freshwater fish living in warm, deep, slow–flowing, and still waters, such as rivers and lowland lakes[14].
Catch area: Rivers draining to the Black, Caspian, and Aral seas[15].
Main producing countries in Europe: Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary[16].
Production method: Farmed (98%), caught (2%).
Main consumers in the EU (per capita consumption): Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Lithuania.
Presentation: Whole.
Preservation: Live, fresh.
Ways of preparation: Cooked, baked and fried; also smoked.

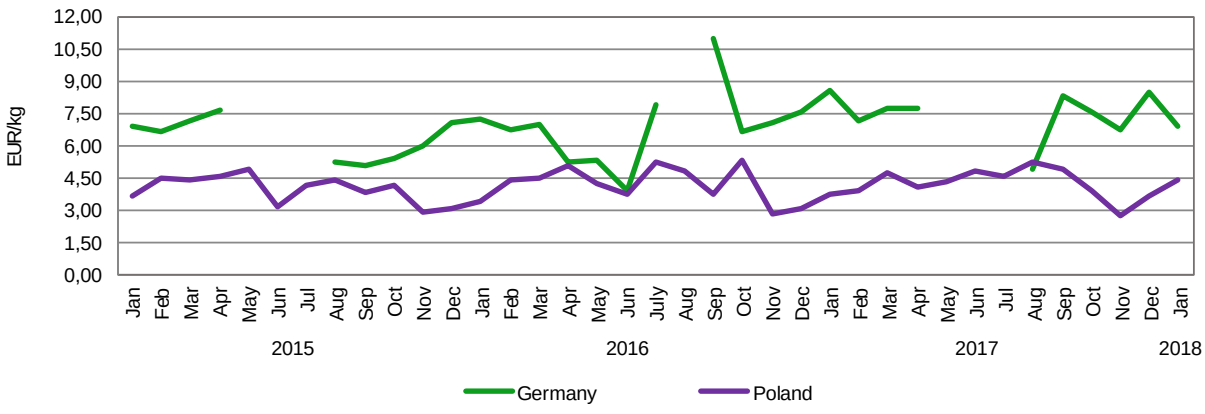
3.2.1 General overview of household consumption in Germany and Poland

Per capita consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products in Germany and Poland was below the EU average in 2015 and decreased 1% and 2%, respectively, from the previous year. In Germany, per capita consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products was 13,4 kg, 47% below the EU average in 2015 (25,1 kg), and 1% lower compared with Poland. Per capita consumption in Poland was 13,6 kg in 2015, more than four times lower than Portugal, the Member State with the highest per capita consumption in the EU in 2015 (55,9 kg). See more on EU per capita consumption in Table 3.

In the last period[17] when data was available, apparent consumption of carp in Poland exceeded 21.000 tonnes, making it the main European market for live carp. Germany registered 8.000 tonnes apparent consumption of carp, lining as the fourth largest market. The two countries are among the main importers of live carp in the EU[18].

In Germany and Poland, carp consumption is seasonal, with highest peaks in December. Prices in Germany were 68% higher than those in Poland. However, the opposite is observed in volume. Volumes sold in Poland were more than three times greater than those in Germany.

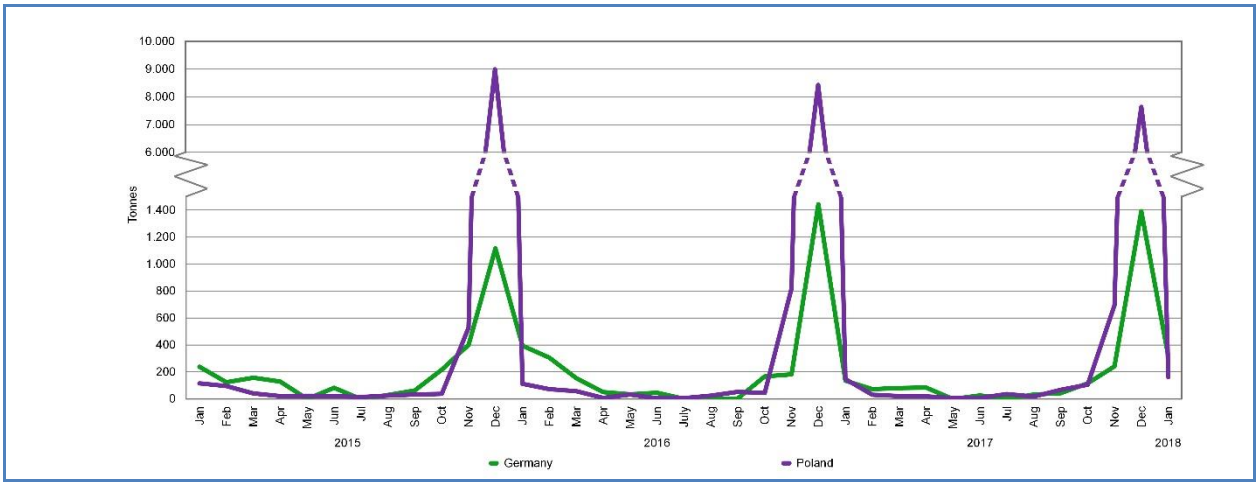
Figure 41. **RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH CARP**



Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 16.04.2018).

[14] http://fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?ID=1450&AT=carp
[15] http://fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?ID=1450&AT=carp
[16] http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/76127/Price+structure+in+the+supply+chain+for+fresh+carp+in+Central+Europe.pdf
[17] 2013.
[18] www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/76127/Price+structure+in+the+supply+chain+for+fresh+carp+in+Central+Europe.pdf

Figure 42. **VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH CARP**

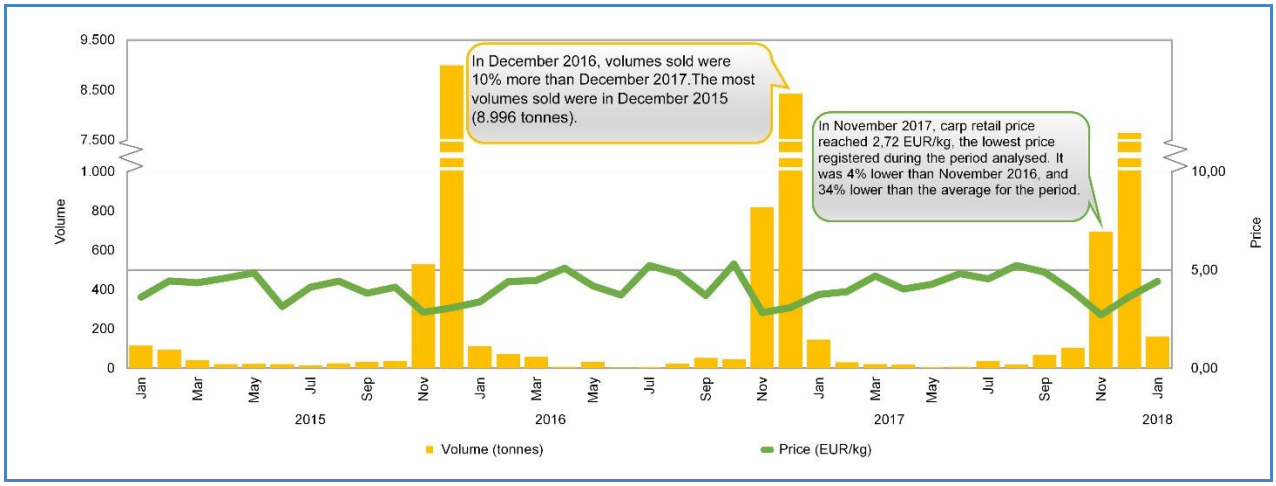


Source: EUMOFA based on Europanel (updated 16.04.2018).

3.2.2 Consumption trend in Germany

Long–term trend, January 2015–January 2018: increasing in both volume and in price.
Average price: 6,23 EUR/kg (2015), 6,86 EUR/kg (2016), 7,74 EUR/kg (2017).
Total consumption: 2.557 tonnes (2015), 2.784 tonnes (2016), 2.220 tonnes (2017).
Short–term, January 2018: decreased in both volume and price, compared with December 2017.
Price: 6,93 EUR/kg.
Consumption: 314 tonnes.

Figure 43. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH CARP IN GERMANY**

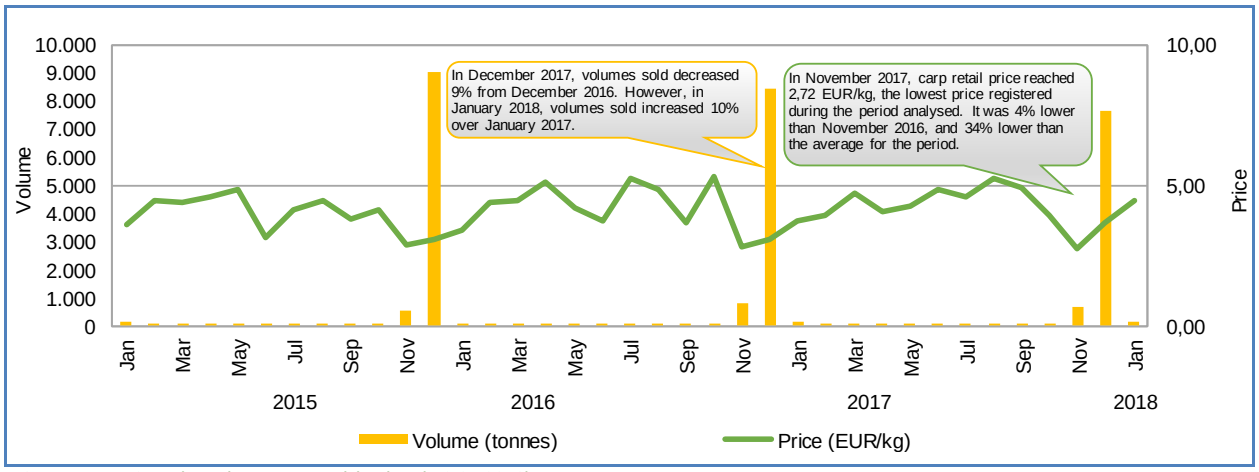


Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 16.04.2018).

3.2.3 Consumption trend Poland

Long–term trend, January 2015–January 2018: decreasing in volume and increasing in price.
Average price: 3,95 EUR/kg (2015), 4,19 EUR/kg (2016), 4,20 EUR/kg (2017).
Total consumption: 9.953 tonnes (2015), 9.668 tonnes (2016), 8.797 tonnes (2017).
Short–term, January 2018: decreased in volume and increased in price, compared with December 2017.
Price: 4,42 EUR/kg.
Consumption: 162 tonnes.

Figure 44. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH CARP IN POLAND**



Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 16.04.2018).

4 Case study – Atlantic herring in the EU

4.1 Introduction

The **Atlantic herring** (*Clupea harengus*) is one of the most abundant fish species in the world. It can be found on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, congregating in large schools. Individuals can grow up to 45 cm in length and weigh up to 1,1 kg. Herring mature between 2-9 years. They feed on copepods, krill and small fish, while their natural predators are seals, whales, cod and other larger fish. Herring schools move between spawning and wintering grounds in coastal areas and feeding grounds in open water by following migration patterns learned from earlier year classes. The most important herring stocks in the East Atlantic are the winter-spawning Norwegian and Icelandic herring, the autumn spawning Icelandic and North Sea herring and the Baltic Sea herring. Herring is mostly utilized fresh, dried or salted, smoked, canned, or frozen. It can be fried, broiled, microwaved and baked[19].

In 2017, global landings of Atlantic herring were estimated at around 1,7 million tonnes[20]. The majority of this was caught in the North Atlantic by the EU fleet, as well as by Norway, Iceland, the Faeroe Islands, Russia and Greenland. In 2016, the EU fleet landed 743.000 tonnes of Atlantic herring.

As a big producer as well as the world's largest importer of Atlantic herring, the EU occupies a special position as a market for frozen herring and especially herring fillet. In 2017, EU herring imports from non-EU suppliers reached EUR 172 million, a 21% decrease from 2016. The largest supplier was Norway, constituting 78% of total EU herring import value.

In 2017, EU herring exports reached EUR 172 million, a 7% increase over 2016. Herring is mainly exported to African markets in whole and frozen forms.

In 2015, herring ranked 5th among fish species consumed in the EU, and 1st within the small pelagics category. Herring consumption is mostly in Germany, Poland and the Netherlands.

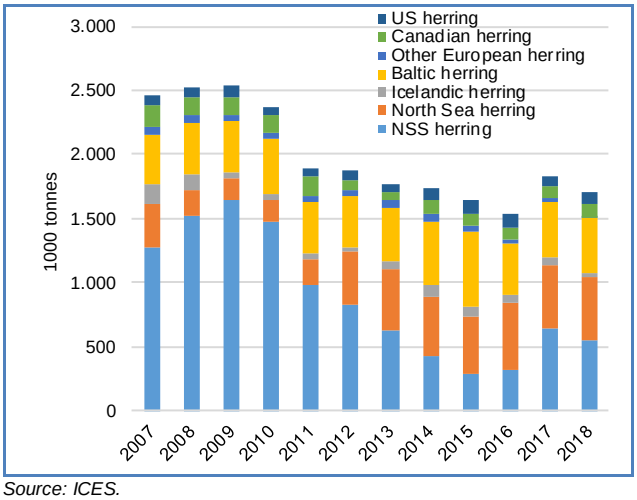
4.2 Quotas

Herring in the various ocean areas differ from each other to a greater or lesser extent and the resource is therefore divided in to different stocks based on spawning grounds.

The combined Atlantic herring quota decreased for several consecutive years until 2017 mainly due to the downward trend seen in the Norwegian spring spawning (NSS herring) quotas. Because of a 100% increase in the NSS herring quota in 2017, combined herring quotas increased by 19% this year. The three main herring stocks, constituting around 85% of the total, are NSS herring, North Sea herring and Baltic herring.

Global herring supply in 2018 is expected to decline due to a decrease in the NSS herring quota[21].

Figure 45. **GLOBAL ATLANTIC HERRING QUOTAS**



Source: ICES.

[19] http://www.fishbase.org/summary/24
[20] Pelagic Fish Forum.
[21] www.ices.dk

Table 4. **TACS OF ATLANTIC HERRING (volume in 1000 tonnes)**

	TAC 2014	TAC 2015	TAC 2016	TAC 2017	TAC 2018
NSS herring	418	283	317	646	546
North Sea herring	470	445	518	482	491
Icelandic herring	87	83	71	63	39
Baltic herring	505	585	394	443	423
Other European herring	59	43	32	25	12
Canadian herring	100	100	100	100	100
US herring	104	105	106	75	101

Source: ICES.

4.3 EU landings (first sales)

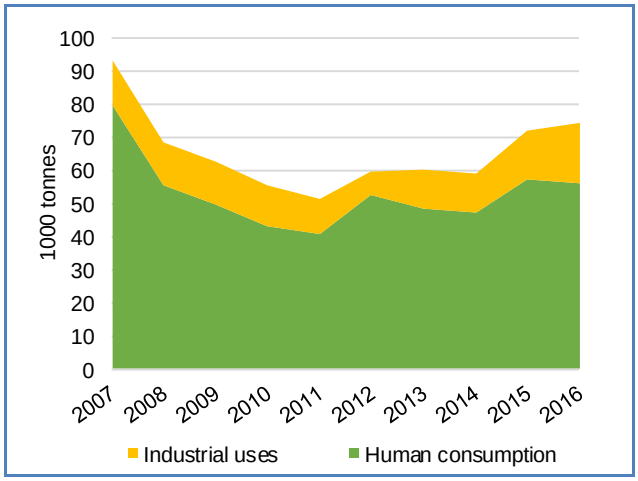
In 2016, herring landed in the EU reached a 9-year peak at 743.000 tonnes, worth EUR 363 million. This was mostly driven by increased Danish landings but also by notable increases in Germany, the UK and Sweden. In total, volumes increased by 3% and value by 34% from 2015. In 2016, 75% of EU herring landings was destined for human consumption, while the rest was mainly used as fishmeal and fish oil.

Table 5. **LANDINGS OF ATLANTIC HERRING BY MAIN EU MEMBER STATES (value in EUR million, volume in 1000 tonnes)**

Catching nation	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Denmark	61	110	80	121	72	143	63	149	74	156	104	185
Netherlands	77	88	102	102	44	90	28	85	77	173	91	127
Germany	30	51	28	56	31	57	20	53	23	56	44	66
UK	23	40	41	63	20	45	16	49	20	42	36	48
Sweden	26	58	26	49	33	73	21	63	28	83	35	104
Finland	12	66	19	94	24	99	19	87	16	88	18	92
Poland	9	25	12	26	8	21	10	27	10	35	12	38
Other	20	74	34	88	49	76	21	77	23	88	23	84
Total	257	512	340	598	280	604	197	591	271	721	363	743

Source: Eurostat.

Figure 46. **TOTAL EU LANDINGS OF HERRING BY USAGE**

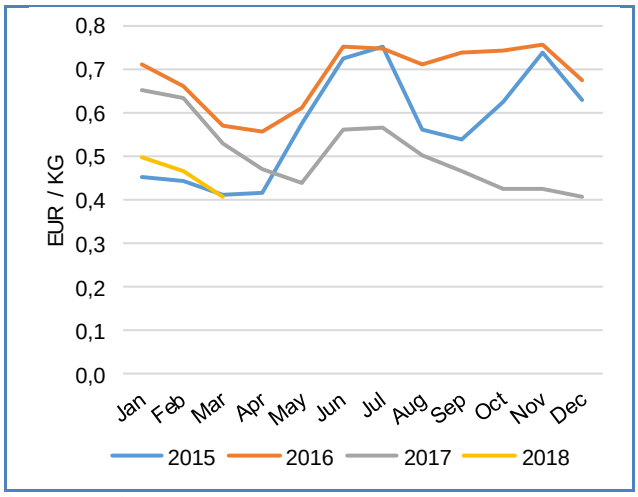


Source: Eurostat.

In Denmark, Atlantic herring first-sales price decreased significantly in 2017 compared to both 2016 and 2015. The average price in 2017 was 0,48 EUR/kg, a 24% decrease from 2016. The downward trend has continued in the first months of 2018, when first sales decreased 32% compared to the same period in 2017. The main Danish port for herring is Skagen.

This downward first-sales price trend was also seen in other supplying nations such as Norway[22]. This can be seen in the light of larger quotas and increased competition for herring globally. The lack of access to the Russian market is also especially noticeable when the supply increases.

Figure 47. **FIRST–SALES PRICE OF ATLANTIC HERRING IN DENMARK**



Source: EUMOFA.

4.4 Trade

Extra-EU imports

In 2017, extra–EU imports of herring reached 182.100 tonnes and EUR 226 million. This was a 6% increase in volume terms and a 21% decrease in value from 2016. The top-three import markets in 2017 were Denmark, Poland and Sweden, representing more than 60% of total value and 65% of volumes.

EU imports from Norway reached 142.000 tonnes worth EUR 178 million in 2017, representing 79% of total EU import value of herring in 2017. This was a 5% increase in volume from 2016 and a 23% decrease in value. The import value of herring from the 2nd largest supplier, Iceland, totalled EUR 29 million in 2017, a 22% decrease over 2016.

In 2017, 80% of herring imports value consisted of frozen products, mainly fillets and whole products from Norway, and fillets from Iceland.

Table 6. **EXTRA-EU IMPORT OF HERRING BY MEMBER STATE (value in EUR 1000, volume in tonnes)**

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Denmark	59.673	37.626	54.449	37.554	60.731	39.623	88.649	47.659	65.319	41.918
Poland	43.404	37.700	35.083	40.016	44.744	41.288	52.373	42.830	40.866	51.260
Sweden	35.321	17.425	26.970	16.694	31.995	19.626	46.764	23.414	33.386	24.810
Netherlands	29.314	19.463	30.419	20.869	37.572	24.333	26.089	13.934	30.755	20.470
Germany	36.942	25.716	38.588	29.584	25.259	18.016	40.270	23.840	25.889	19.280
Lithuania	19.823	14.159	15.519	12.017	15.900	11.310	19.060	11.898	16.919	10.901
Other	15.920	13.084	10.480	10.015	10.178	7.454	12.419	8.273	13.399	13.467
Total EU	240.397	165.173	211.509	166.749	226.378	161.649	285.625	171.847	226.532	182.105

Source: Eurostat/Comext.

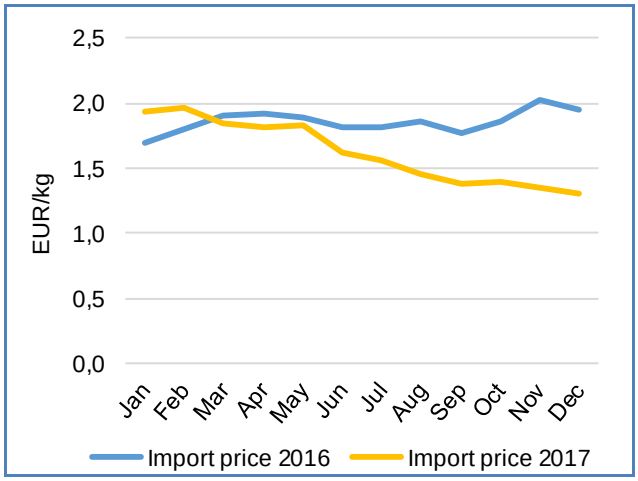
[22] NSSL.

Table 7. **EXTRA-EU IMPORT OF HERRING BY PRESERVATION STATE (value in EUR 1000)**

Product category	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change from 2017 to 2016
Frozen	177.522	166.016	180.122	226.395	182.199	−20%
Prepared-Preserved	37.134	26.064	27.164	39.592	25.463	–36%
Fresh	22.239	16.895	16.937	17.666	16.693	−6%
Dried-Salted-Smoked	3.502	2.533	2.154	1.971	2.177	10%
Total	240.397	211.509	226.378	285.625	226.532	–21%

Source: EUMOFA.

Figure 48. **PRICE OF FROZEN HERRING FILLETS IMPORTED TO THE EU**



Source: Eurostat/Comext.

Due to a general decrease in herring prices (at first-sales level) in 2017, there was a notable drop in the import price of frozen herring fillets. In 2017, the average import price was 1,58 EUR/kg, a 15% decrease from 2016.

Extra-EU exports

Herring is one of the most exported fish products by EU Member States. In 2017, volumes totalled 218.000 tonnes, increasing by 10% from the previous year. Value increased by 7% to EUR 172 million. More than 95% of herrings exported was whole and frozen. About 65% of the herring exported by the EU originated in the Netherlands, home to the largest EU freezer trawler company involved in pelagic fishing[23]. In 2017, exports from the Netherlands reached 141.000 tonnes, worth nearly EUR 100 million, up 3% in volume and down 6% in value from 2016.

[23] The EU fish market – 2017 edition, http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/108446/The+EU+fish+market+2017.pdf

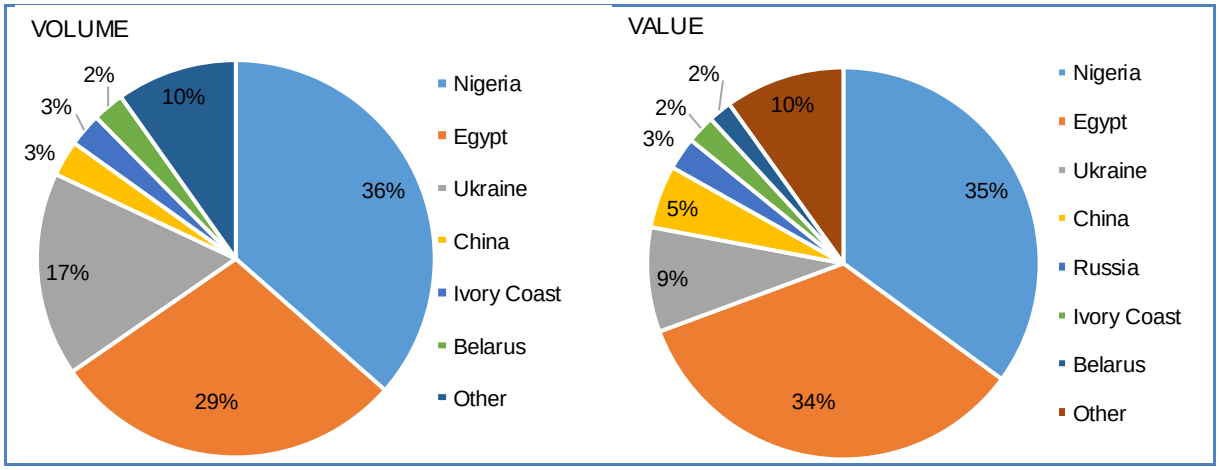
Table 8. **EXTRA-EU EXPORT OF HERRING BY MEMBER STATE (value in EUR 1000, volume in tonnes)**

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Netherlands	104.507	120.014	124.773	197.879	107.583	131.054	106.011	136.763	99.767	141.287
UK	9.732	13.189	17.332	17.747	12.257	13.902	6.956	5.833	17.059	10.135
Germany	11.650	5.533	10.499	5.124	10.243	2.736	8.782	3.056	13.580	8.249
Estonia	8.250	15.765	11.157	24.440	12.498	33.541	9.316	25.794	9.839	28.189
Poland	12.579	3.624	8.560	2.534	8.625	2.728	7.495	2.525	9.167	2.871
Denmark	1.045	277	995	343	6.566	4.320	7.666	4.941	8.480	7.018
Other	19.920	25.200	18.350	24.712	20.395	28.307	14.608	19.809	13.920	20.094
Total EU	167.682	183.603	191.667	272.779	178.167	216.587	160.835	198.721	171.812	217.843

Source: EUMOFA.

In 2017, Nigeria, Egypt and Ukraine were the main markets for EU exports, accounting for 82% of total volume and 78% of total value.

Figure 49. **EXTRA-EU EXPORT OF HERRING BY MAIN DESTINATION, VOLUME AND VALUE IN 2017**



Source:.EUMOFA.

Intra-EU trade

A large share of the herring products traded consists of exchanges between the EU Member States. In 2017, the top three intra-EU exporters of herring in terms of value were Denmark, Poland and Germany. In terms of volume of intra-EU herring exchanges, Sweden ranks as the 2nd largest exporter.

Table 9. **INTRA-EU TRADE OF HERRING BY MEMBER STATE (value in EUR 1000, volume in tonnes)**

Country	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Denmark	152.407	137.669	126.647	133.031	145.844	129.973	159.920	118.713	138.679	103.912
Sweden	58.493	65.353	48.376	59.170	52.669	65.631	64.996	77.755	57.619	83.033
Germany	103.570	79.109	93.328	84.374	78.179	56.951	75.670	54.574	85.733	63.899
Netherlands	24.812	18.542	26.514	27.180	40.901	41.745	38.934	41.274	51.673	52.612
Poland	142.202	54.444	140.916	55.509	140.980	57.775	148.493	58.061	137.601	51.546
Other	90.942	93.577	85.870	104.583	94.543	114.889	96.168	98.747	85.612	94.274
Total EU	572.426	448.693	521.652	463.849	553.116	466.964	584.181	449.124	556.917	449.276

Source: Eurostat.

4.5 Consumption

In 2015, per capita EU consumption of herring reached 1,38 kg, ranking herring 5th after tuna, cod, salmon and Alaska pollock. After a drop in 2014, consumption of herring increased by 16% in 2015. Increased catches in Poland, Estonia, Germany and Sweden may have contributed to the increase in consumption. Herring is the most consumed small pelagic species in the EU followed by mackerel and sardine[24].

4.6 Processing

Human consumption

Most of the herring in the EU is consumed processed and a large share of this processing takes place in the EU. The fish processing industries in Denmark, Sweden, Poland and Germany, among others, import large amounts of raw material for their fish processing facilities[25]. Germany and Poland have leading roles as processing countries for herring.

In 2016, PRODCOM data shows that Germany and Poland were the largest processors of prepared/processed herring, amounting to 176.000 tonnes worth EUR 560 million. France and the UK are the largest processors of smoked herring, with output totalling 4.100 tonnes worth EUR 21 million in 2016.

Table 10. **PREPARED/PRESERVED HERRING PROCESSED BY MEMBER STATE (value in EUR 1000, volume in tonnes)**

Country	2015		2016	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Germany	281.950	68.051	280.075	63.778
Poland	273.374	110.009	279.653	111.841
Lithuania	22.213	7.897	24.011	8.481
Belgium	12.782	3.011	14.138	3.874

Source: PRODCOM.

Table 11. **SMOKED HERRING PROCESSED BY MEMBER STATE (value in EUR 1000, volume in tonnes)**

Country	2015		2016	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
France	10.036	1.720	10.452	1.828
UK	13.940	2.680	10.619	2.310
Germany	6.108	1.298	4.784	881
Poland	2.746	988	2.423	1.013

Source: PRODCOM.

[24] The EU fish market – 2017 edition, http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/108446/The+EU+fish+market+2017.pdf
[25] https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/43805/861045/STECF+14-21+-+EU+Fish+Processing+Industry.pdf

Fishmeal and fish oil

Fishmeal is an important ingredient in feeds for farmed fish and animals. Fish oil has a high content of omega-3 fatty acids. Fish oil is mainly used in the production of fish feeds and refined oils for human consumption.

Fishmeal and fish oil production is based on landings of small, oily, short-lived species such as blue whiting, capelin, sandeel, Norway pout, and sprat as well as by-products (trimmings) from the fish processing sector. In 2016, around 183.000 tonnes of herring from fisheries in the EU were used in the production of fishmeal and fish oil. This was 25% of total EU herring landings.

The total European production is approximately 500.000 metric tonnes of fishmeal and 170.000 tonnes of fish oil a year and the total value of production is approximately 1.000 million EUR/year. Exports go to a large variety of countries[26].

[26] http://www.eufishmeal.org/production/

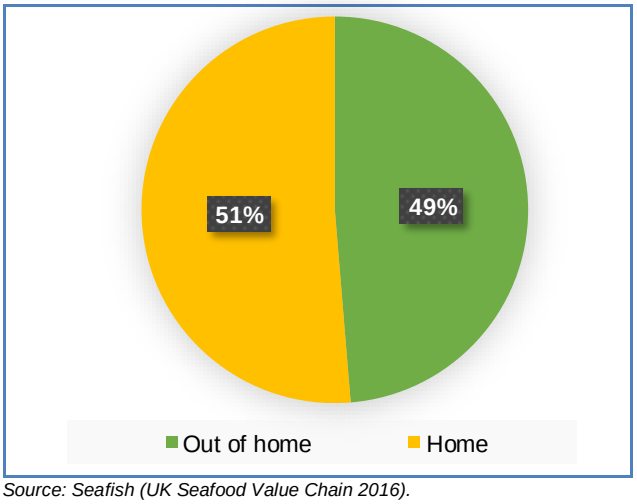
5 Case study – Seafood in food service in the UK

5.1 Out of home consumption

The United Kingdom is the Member State with the highest share of out-of-home consumption in total seafood consumption: 49% of all seafood consumed in the UK is eaten out of home. In comparison, out-of-home consumption represents 13% of total seafood consumption in France[27], 20% in Poland and 35% in Germany[28].

In 2016, UK consumers purchased seafood worth GBP 6,12 billion (EUR 7,50 billion) of seafood, out of which GBP 3,14 billion (EUR 3,85 billion) was in retail outlets and GBP 2,98 billion (EUR 3,65 billion) in food service.

Figure 50. **SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION IN THE UK IN 2016, IN VALUE**



Source: Seafish (UK Seafood Value Chain 2016).

5.2 Type of food service outlets

Quick service restaurants (including fish and chip shops) dominate the food service market and represent almost half of all seafood servings.

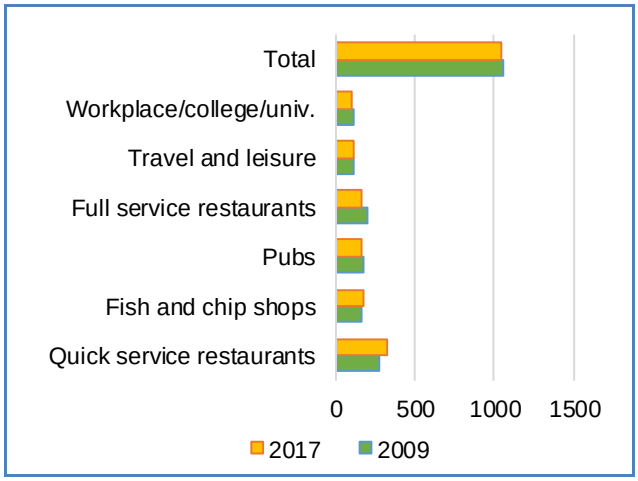
Table 12. **SEAFOOD SERVINGS BY CHANNEL IN 2016 – 2017 (YEAR ENDING IN JUNE 2017)**

	Number of servings (in million)	% of servings
Quick service restaurants*	324	31%
Fish and chip shops	176	17%
Pubs	164	16%
Full service restaurants	164	16%
Travel and leisure	115	11%
Workplaces/colleges/universities	102	10%
Total out-of-home consumption	**1.048**	**100%**

Source: Seafish.
**Excluding fish and chip shops.*

[27] Source: FranceAgriMer
[28] Source: «EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products» (EUMOFA – January 2017).

Figure 51. **SEAFOOD SERVINGS BY CHANNEL – COMPARISON BETWEEN 2009 AND 2017 (in million)**



Source: Seafish.

Over the long term, the foodservice landscape has changed. Immediately after the economic crisis in 2007–2008, a lot of consumers ate out less often and those continuing to eat out switched to cheaper channels, shifting from more expensive full-service restaurants to quick-service restaurants. In the past eight years, from June 2009 to June 2017, seafood servings out of home remained almost stable (–0,8%) but have fallen significantly in most channels, with the exception of quick service restaurants.

Since 2015, seafood has performed quite well in food service. Overall seafood servings increased by 2,3% in 2016 and 4,1% in 2017.

5.3 Type of seafood products consumed in food service

Fried fish[29] is the most popular type of seafood product eaten out of home, representing 35% of total seafood servings, ahead of non-fried fish (25%), fish sandwiches (22%), shellfish sandwiches (7%), fish fingers (5%) and fish burgers (4%).

Over the long term, growth can be observed in the cheaper and convenience-focused seafood formats, such as fish sandwiches, fish fingers and fish burgers.

In the period 2016–2017, the fastest growing seafood dishes on menus were sushi, fish and egg dishes, crab sushi rolls and speciality seafood salads.

Compared to other sources of proteins, seafood is losing ground and ranks fourth in 2017 with a 14,5% share of total out-of-home protein servings, behind pork (28,9%), poultry (28,3%), and beef (22,3%)[30]. In 2015, the share of seafood was 15,7%.

A seafood meal (on average GBP 6,27 or EUR 7,15 in 2017) is still relatively expensive compared to cheaper options such as poultry and pork. Seafood continues to be of greater interest to an older age group with over 60% of servings purchased by consumers aged over 35 (who represent only 56% of the total population). The development of new sushi chains for take-away and home delivery has opened a new growing distribution channel. Younger urban people dominate the sushi market.

5.4 Species consumed

Main species

Cod is the most consumed species in food service (18% of all seafood servings in 2016–2017), ahead of tuna (15%), shrimp (10%), salmon (7%) and haddock (6%).

In terms of white fish, haddock is the second best-selling species after cod in food service.

[29] «Fried fish» refers to any fish that has been prepared by frying, but usually designates fish that has been battered or breaded before being fried. In the typology used by Seafish, fish burgers, fish fingers and fishcakes are not included in «fried fish».
[30] Seafood trends in commercial food service (Seafish – September 2017).

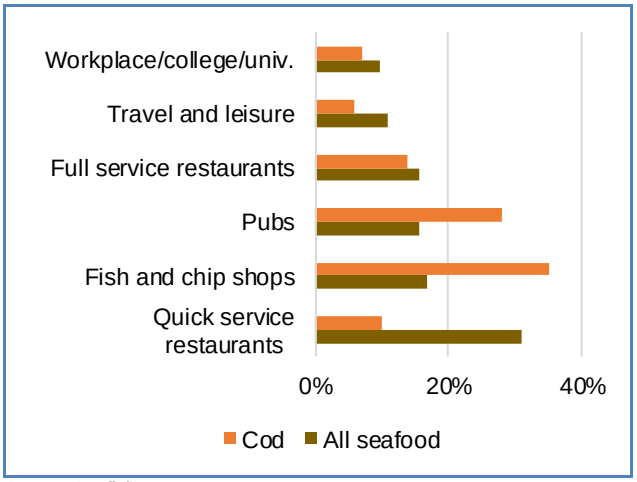
In terms of blue fish, tuna comes first. Small pelagics are little consumed in food service. Mackerel is the small pelagic species most consumed.

The example of cod

Cod is the UK's most popular white fish and is the third top-selling fish after salmon and tuna[31]. It is also the most popular fish eaten out of home, with fish and chips at the top of the list.

In 2016, out-of-home consumption represented 53% of all cod units/servings consumed, with retail representing 47%. The breakdown by channel differs significantly from the general picture, especially as regards the share of fish and chip shops and pubs, where cod is overrepresented compared to the global out-of-home consumption pattern: in fish and chip shops cod represents 35% of seafood servings while it represents only 18% of total seafood servings in the entire food service (all channels included), and in pubs cod represents 28% of seafood servings while it represents only 16% of total seafood servings in the entire food service. At the opposite end, cod has a much lower representation in quick service restaurants (10% vs. 30%), workplaces and universities (7% vs. 9%) and travel and leisure (6% vs. 11%).

Figure 52. **SEAFOOD AND COD SERVINGS BY CHANNEL IN 2016 (IN % OF TOTAL FOOD SERVICE SERVINGS, IN VALUE)**



Source: Seafish.

Table 13. **EVOLUTION OF COD SERVINGS BY CHANNEL IN FOOD SERVICE (YEAR ENDING IN MARCH 2017, COMPARED TO YEAR ENDING IN MARCH 2016)**

Fish and chip shops	+30%
Full service restaurants	+15,6%
Pubs	+8%
Quick service restaurants	+7,8%
Workplaces/colleges/universities	–6,3%
Travel and leisure	–19,8%

Source: Seafish.

In the last year, cod has experienced a very positive trend, with average annual servings increasing by 12% in value. This growth was mainly driven by fish and chip shops.

Cod also continues to appeal to older consumers: 49% of servings go to consumers over 50 years, whose share in the total food and drink out-of-home consumption is only 27%.

The cod consumed in the UK food service is mainly of foreign origin. Ninety percent of the UK's annual cod supply is imported or landed into the UK by foreign vessels. However, in 2016, UK vessels increased their share of the supply.

The main cod suppliers are Iceland (37% of total UK cod imports in value in 2016), China (16%), Germany (10%), Norway (9%) and Russia (8%).

[31] Both out of home and home consumption included.

Total cod imports from EU Member States accounted for just over a fifth of all cod imports into the UK in 2016. In addition to Germany, the main EU suppliers were Denmark (4%), Poland (3%), Lithuania (2%) and Sweden (1%).

Table 14. **UK COD SUPPLY IN 2015 AND 2016**[32]

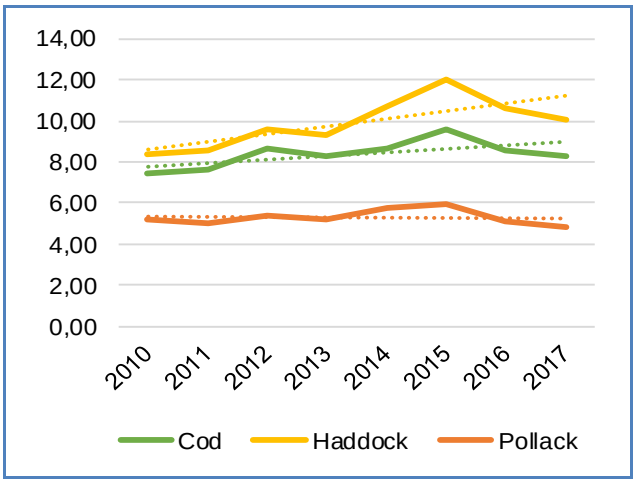
	2015					2016				
	Volume (tonnes)	Value (GBP million)	Value (EUR million)	Price (GBP/kg)	Price (EUR/kg)	Volume (tonnes)	Value (GBP million)	Value (EUR million)	Price (GBP/kg)	Price (EUR/kg)
Cod landings in the UK by UK vessel	15.364	29,51	40,65	1,92	2,65	20.747	38,11	46,53	1,84	2,24
UK imports	115.367	440,14	606,25	3,82	5,25	121.178	493,39	602,43	4,07	4,97
Total UK cod supply	130.731	469,65	646,90	3,59	4,95	141.925	531,5	648,96	3,74	4,57

Source: Seafish.

In recent years, cod has followed the same price trend as other major white fish species. Cod, haddock and pollack followed an increasing trend from 2010 to 2015 and a decreasing trend thereafter.

However, over this period cod prices increased less strongly than haddock, while for pollack they remained stable.

Figure 53. **EVOLUTION OF PRICES OF WHITE FISH SPECIES IN THE UK AT CONSUMPTION/RETAIL LEVEL**



Source: EUMOFA/Europanel.

5.5 The case of fish and chip shops

Fish and chip shops can be considered the pioneers of take-away food in the UK. Thought to have originated around the mid nineteenth century, it remains a hugely popular dish today[33], often considered to be the national dish of the UK.

There are currently around 10.500 specialized fish and chip shops in the UK[34]. They clearly outnumber other fast food outlets: McDonalds has 1.200 outlets, Kentucky Fried Chicken, 900 outlets.

The UK's fish and chip sector is dominated by individual shops. Chains have been developing a little in recent years but remain marginal. The largest chain, Fish'n'chick'n, has 24 franchise restaurants in the South of England.

Traditional fish and chip shops remain the largest outlet for servings of fish and chips as a meal, taking 54% of servings. The other suppliers of fish and chips are mainly pubs (18%), full service restaurants (9%) and quick service restaurants (8%).

The core age demographic for fish and chips remains the 50–64 and 35–49 age group consumers.

[32] Cod landings in the UK by foreign vessels are very low (900 tonnes in 2016, i.e. 0,6% of total UK cod supply). They are not included in the table 14.
[33] Seafish – Market insight factsheet « Fish & Chips in Foodservice », December 2017.
[34] National Federation of Fish Friers.

Fish and chip shops differ from other food service channels in the importance of the dinner servings. Fish and chips as a meal is still mainly eaten for dinner but the importance of this mealtime has declined over the past two years, while both lunchtime consumption and snacking have increased.

Table 15. **FISH AND CHIPS MEAL SERVINGS BY MEALTIME (IN %), IN 2016 AND 2017 (YEAR ENDING IN SEPTEMBER)**

	Total fish & chips	Pubs	Full service restaurants	Fish & chip shops	Quick service restaurants
Breakfast	0,4	0,1	1,2	0,0	2,1
Lunch	37,1	51,7	61,6	22,5	35,0
Dinner	58,3	45,8	34,4	75,5	50,0
Snacking	4,3	2,5	2,8	2,0	12,9

Source: Seafish.

Cod and haddock are the favourite species consumed in the fish and chip shops. But other species are used to a smaller extent, in particular whiting, pollock, plaice, hake, saithe, scampi, blue grenadier and dogfish.

6 Global Highlights

Ireland / Supply: The value of the output of Irish seafood sector surpassed EUR 1 billion (EUR 1,15 billion) for the first time, with exports valued at EUR 666 million. France is Ireland's number one export market for seafood accounting for over one quarter of total exports. In total, wild caught and farmed seafood increased by 12% to EUR 609 million in 2017. A significant 24% value growth in Ireland's aquaculture industry to EUR 208 million predominantly driven by the higher value of Irish organic salmon, up 69% in value[35].

UK / Fisheries / Fleet: In 2017, the total UK fleet's operating profit saw a 6% decrease from 2016. An estimated EUR 283 million in sales revenue was generated last year, EUR 18 million less than in 2016. The number of active fishing vessels increased in 2017 to 4.662, up from 4.637 in 2016. Around 1.700 of these vessels were low activity. The annual landing increased by 10.000 tonnes, reaching 710.000 tonnes. The average price per tonne landed was EUR 1.533. The UK fleet spent EUR 132 million on marine fuel in 2017, a 22% increase over 2016[36].

Norway / Supply: Norway exported 676.000 tonnes of seafood with a value of EUR 2,5 billion in the first quarter of 2018. This is a volume decline of 8% and a decline of 2% or EUR 50,5 million compared with the first quarter last year. Exports of mackerel and herring experienced an increase in volume of 18%, while the value fell by EUR 11,2 million or 13%, whereas export of salted fish increased in both volume (4%) and in value (19%)[37].

Denmark / Supply: Fish landings in the 10 largest Danish fishing ports increased in 2017 compared to 2016. Despite growth in the amount of fish landings, the collective value of the fish has decreased due to a large supply of sand lance fish, which has lowered prices for industrial fish landed in Denmark[38].

Iceland / Supply: In 2017, the total value of the Icelandic catch was EUR 0,9 billion compared with nearly EUR 1,1 billion in 2016, a decrease of 17,3%. At the same time the total catch in tonnes increased by 10%, from 1,07 million tonnes in 2016 to 1,18 million tonnes in 2017. The value of the catch in December 2017 was EUR 60 million compared with EUR 54 million in the previous year. The value of demersal catch and small pelagics in 2017 decreased by 17,7% and 14,6%, respectively, from the previous year[39].

Faroe Islands / Fisheries Reform: The Faroese Parliament passed a bill that represents a major reform of national fisheries management in the Faroe Islands. The Act on Management of Marine Resources states, among other articles, that a long-term strategy for the management and utilization of marine resources is to be designed and implemented for each stock in order to maintain the industry and the fish stocks at sustainable levels. Another highlight of the reform will come into force as of 2019, when the Faroese fleet of longliners and trawlers catching demersal fish in Faroese waters will no longer be allocated fishing days based on the previous days-at-sea system, which will be replaced by a quota system[40].

Nicaragua / Supply: The Central American country exported over 2.600 tonnes of farmed shrimp in the first quarter of this year, 27,4% more than in the same quarter of 2017. These sales abroad generated more than EUR 13 million, a figure that represents a year-on-year growth of 86,4%[41].

35 http://www.bim.ie/news-and-events/content,115286,en.html
36 http://www.seafish.org/about-seafish/news-and-events/news/uk-fleet-sees-highest-fishing-revenues-on-record-despite-fuel-cost-increases
37 http://en.seafood.no/news-and-media/news-archive/all-time-record-quarter-for-norwegian-cod/
38 http://www.maritimedenmark.dk/?Id=19520
39 https://www.statice.is/publications/news-archive/fisheries/value-of-catch-december-2017/
40 http://www.government.fo/en/news/news/the-faroese-parliament-passes-fisheries-reform/
41 http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=10&id=96741&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target

7 The Macroeconomic Context

7.1 Marine fuel

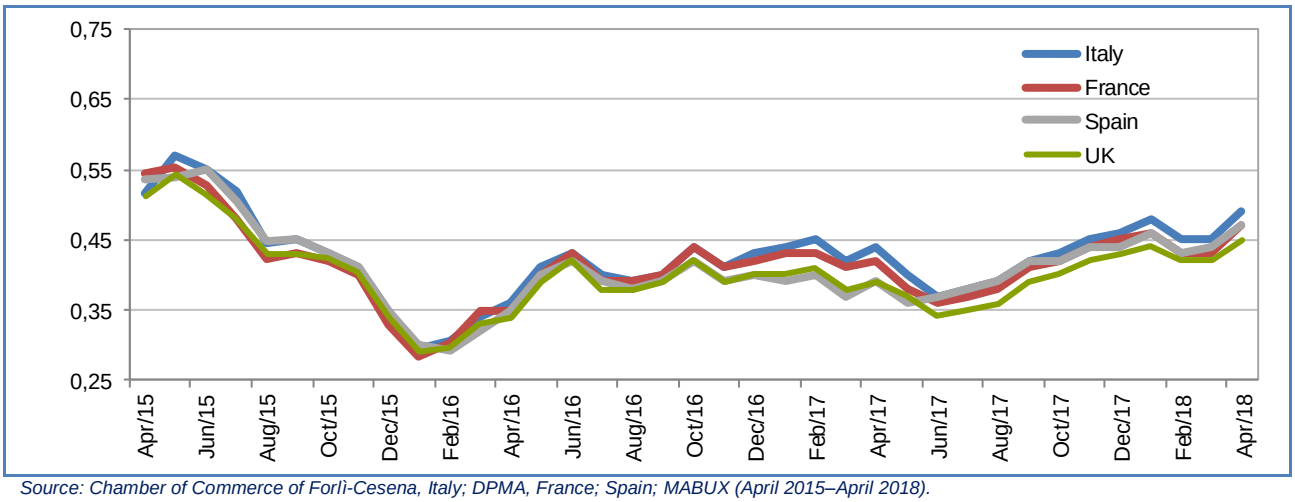
Average prices for marine fuel in **April 2018** ranged between 0,45 and 0,49 EUR/litre, in ports in **France, Italy, Spain,** and the **UK**. These prices were about 8% higher than in the previous month, but from April 2017 the increase was much larger, as much as 21% higher in Spanish ports and 15% higher in the UK.

Table 16. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	April 2018	Change from Mar 2018	Change from Apr 2017
France *(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)*	0,47	9%	12%
Italy *(ports of Ancona and Livorno)*	0,49	9%	11%
Spain *(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)*	0,47	7%	21%
The UK *(ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)*	0,45	7%	15%

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; Spain; MABUX (April 2015–April 2018).

Figure 54. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**



Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; Spain; MABUX (April 2015–April 2018).

7.2 Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate was at 1,5% in March 2018, up from 1,4% in February 2018. A year earlier it was 1,6%.

Inflation: lowest rates in March 2018, compared with February 2018.

Inflation: highest rates in March 2018, compared with February 2018.

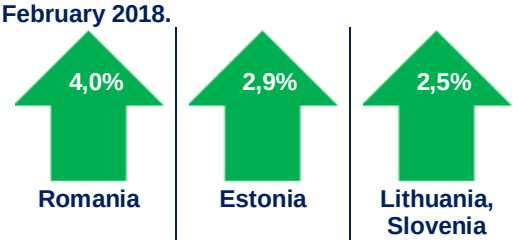


Table 17. **HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU** (2015 = 100)

HICP	Mar 2016	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Change from February 2018	Change from March 2017
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	100,21	102,08	103,86	103,97	↑ 0,11%	↑ 1,85%
Fish and seafood	101,42	105,55	108,01	108,22	↑ 0,19%	↑ 2,53%

Source: Eurostat.

7.3 Exchange rates

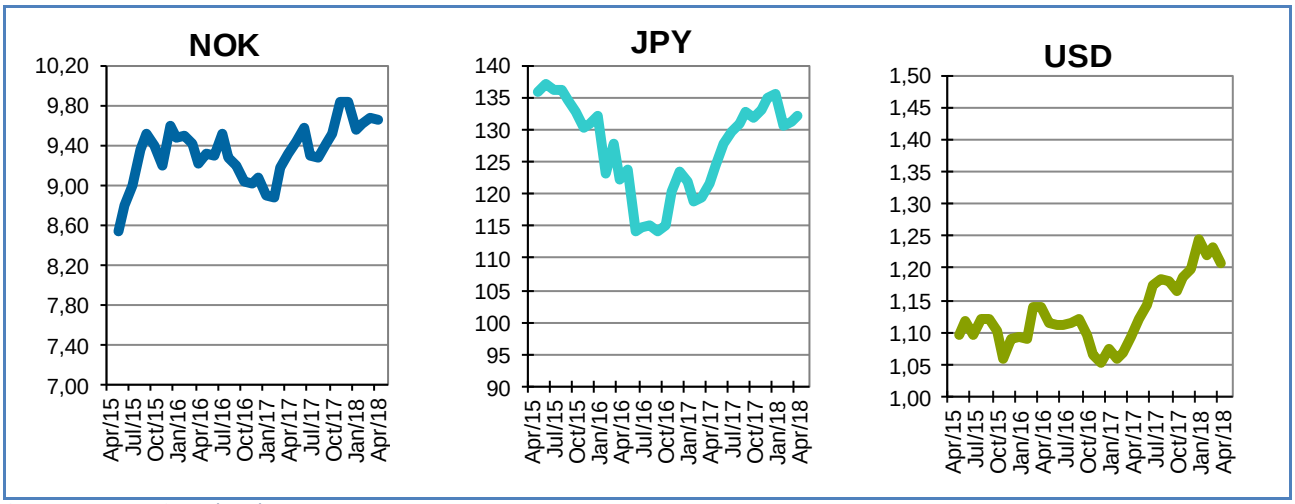
Table 18. **EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES**

Currency	Apr 2016	Apr 2017	Mar 2018	Apr 2018
NOK	9,2150	9,3243	**9,6770**	9,6620
JPY	122,34	121,76	**131,15**	132,12
USD	1,1403	1,0930	**1,2321**	1,2079

Source: European Central Bank.

In April 2018, the euro appreciated against Japanese yen (+0,7%), and depreciated against the US dollar (–2,0%), and the Norwegian krone (–0,2%) over March 2018. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 1,22 against the US dollar. Compared with a year earlier (April 2018), the euro has appreciated 3,6% against the Norwegian krone, 8,5% against the Japanese yen, and 10,5% against the US dollar.

Figure 55. **TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES**



Source: European Central Bank.

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The underlying first–sales data is in a separate 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 Highlights, analyses are led in current prices, 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.

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