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BULGARIA IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2017, sources: Eurostat and FAO

Bulgaria is a minor EU producer of fishery products. As for aquaculture production, in 2017 it ranked 14th among EU producing countries.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-28	Bulgaria	% world	% EU-28
Catches	93.204	5.253	9	0,01%	0,17%
Aquaculture	111.966	1.372	16	0,01%	1,17%
Total	205.170	6.625	25	0,01%	0,38%

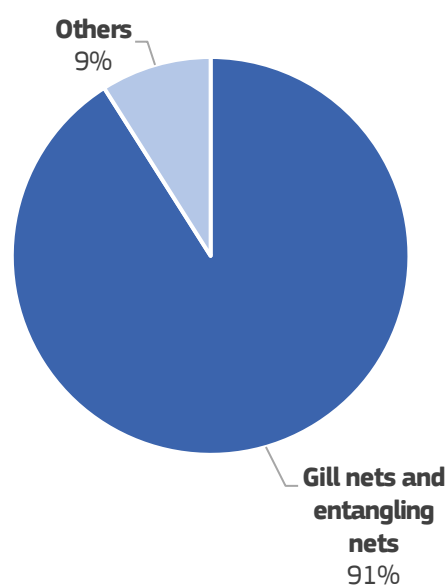
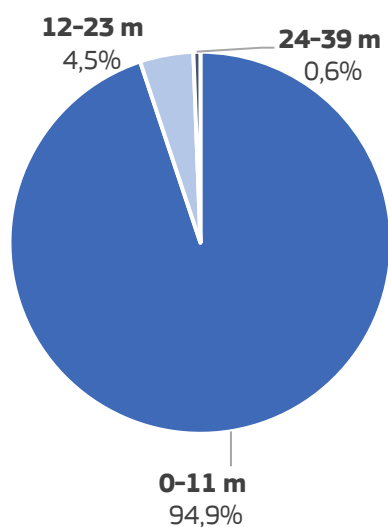
FISHING FLEET

Fleet: 2018, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2017, source: JRC

Vessels (2018)	Capacity (2018)	Power (2018)	
Number: 1.857	Gross Tonnage: 6.086	Kilowatt: 54.491	
TOTAL FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE), 2017: 716			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 70%	Jobs (FTE): 22%	Jobs (FTE): 8%	Jobs (FTE): 0%

The Bulgarian fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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LANDINGS

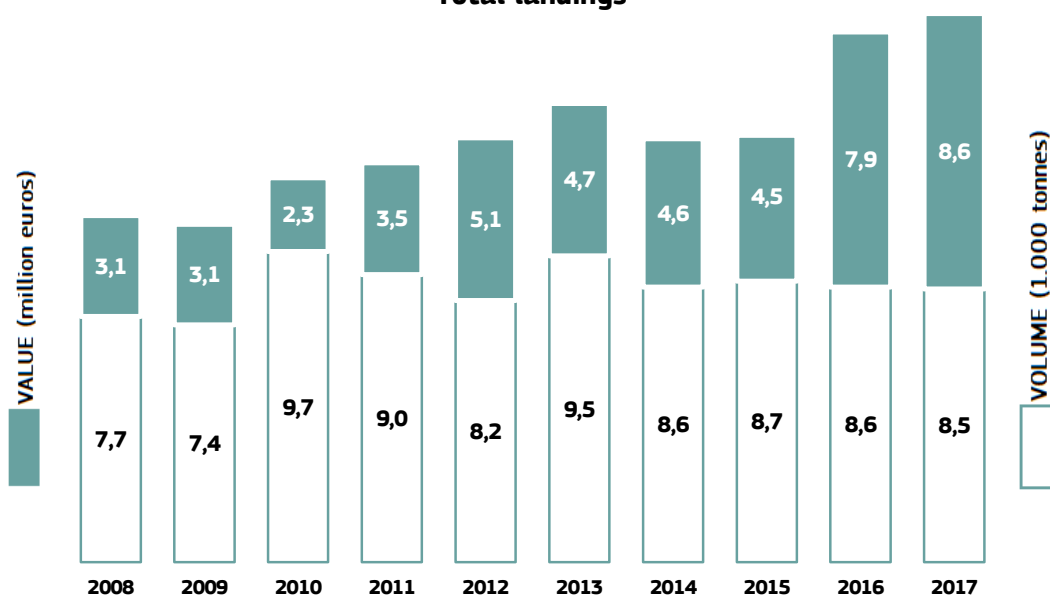
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given EU 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 and Norway. .

Landings in Bulgaria are destined for human consumption only, and they almost entirely include fresh products.

There are 74 fishing ports registered in the country (source: EU Master Data Register).

Total landings



Main commercial species landed and % of total

(2017, million euros and 1.000 tonnes)



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total
CLAM	3,4	40%	3,7	43%
OTHER MOLLUSCS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES	2,0	24%	3,2	37%
SPRAT (=BRISLING)	1,6	19%	0,8	10%
HORSE MACKEREL	0,4	4%	0,4	4%
RED MULLET	0,4	4%	0,1	2%
OTHERS	0,8	9%	0,3	4%



AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data

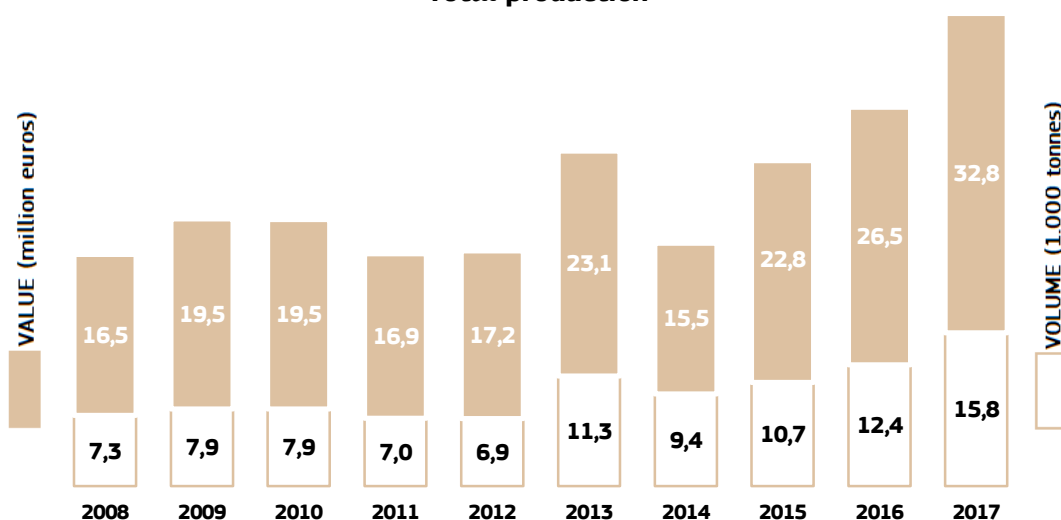
Aquaculture consists in the farming of aquatic (freshwater or saltwater) organisms, such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Aquaculture data are reported in live weight equivalent and value.

In 2017, almost 80% of Bulgarian production occurred in freshwater and the rest in marine waters.

The following main production methods are used in the country:

- Almost 50% of production: in tanks and raceways in freshwater;
- Around 25% of production: off bottom, both in freshwater and in sea and brackish water;
- Around 20% of production: in cages in freshwater;
- The rest is farmed in freshwater in recirculation systems, as well as using other methods for which no detail is available.

Total production



Main commercial species farmed and % of total

(2017, million euros and 1.000 tonnes)



TROUT	12,7	39%	7,2	45%	CARP
CARP	11,9	36%	3,3	21%	MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.
FRESHWATER CATFISH	2,9	9%	3,3	21%	TROUT
MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.	2,5	8%	1,1	7%	FRESHWATER CATFISH
OTHERS	2,8	8%	0,9	6%	OTHERS



PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

2019, source: DG MARE, [link](#)

In Bulgaria, **1 producer organisation (PO)** is formally recognized, operating in the fishery sector. Its 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

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

In Bulgaria, there is no officially registered auction markets. The main landing areas are the ports of Burgas, Sozopol, Varna, Pomorie (source: EAFA, Bulgaria).

WHOLESALE

Wholesale is an intermediary stage in the distribution channel that buys in bulk and sells to resellers (e.g. retailers) rather than to consumers.

In Bulgaria, there is only one wholesale market, namely Bourgas (source: Eurofish).

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 1.663 persons were employed in the Bulgarian fish processing industry in 2017. The sector recorded a value added of 18,9 million euros, covering only 2% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2018, the main products sold were "Prepared or preserved crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates (excl. chilled, frozen, dried, salted or in brine, crustaceans, in shell, cooked by steaming or boiling) excl. prepared meals and dishes" and "Prepared or preserved mackerel, whole or in pieces (excl. minced products and prepared meals and dishes)" (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

44 companies

Sales: 73 million euros

(2017, source: Eurostat - SBS)

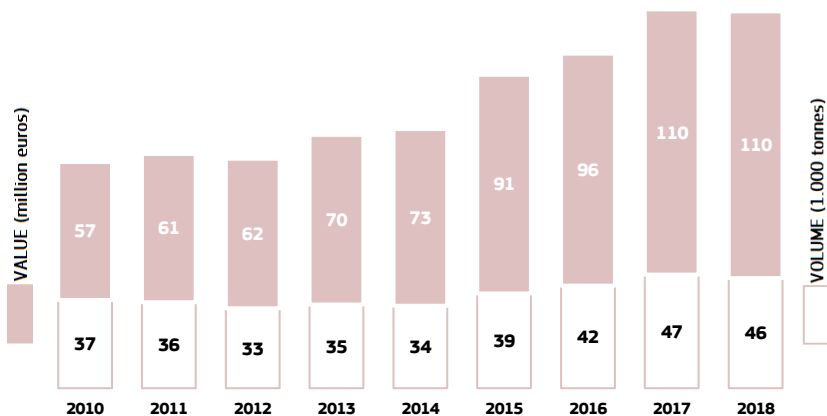


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IMPORT – EXPORT

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat-COMEXT data

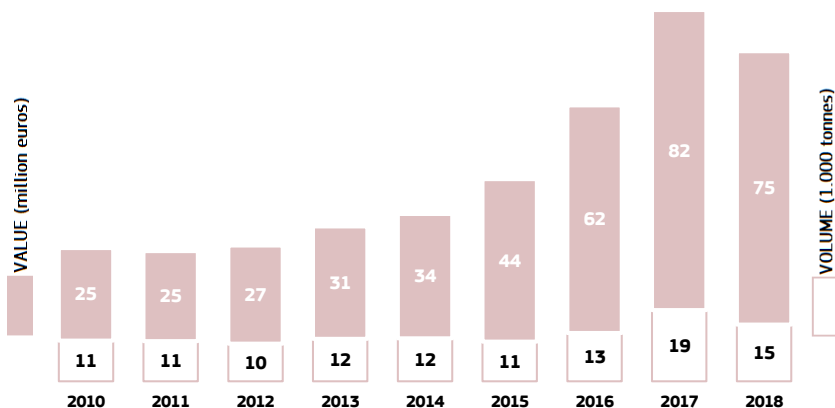
IMPORT



Main commercial species imported and % of total imports (2018, million euros)

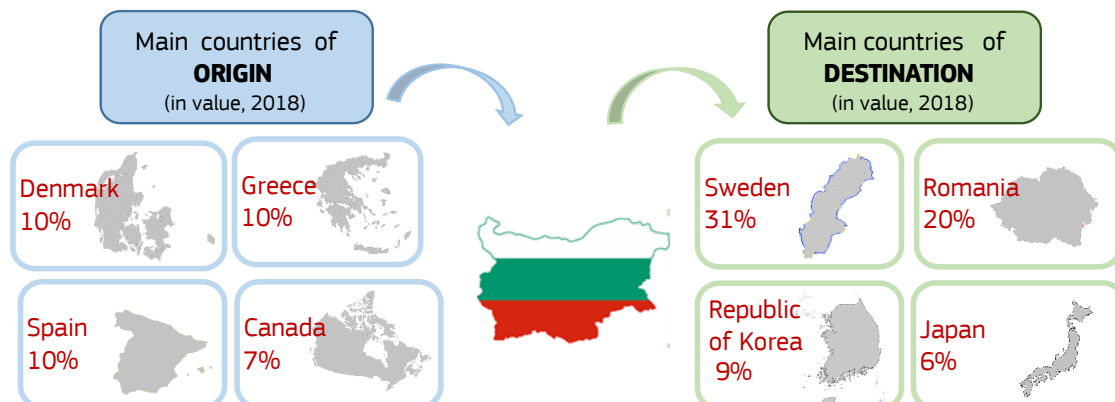
MACKEREL	15	14%
COLDWATER SHRIMPS	15	14%
SALMON	14	13%
OTHER MARINE FISH	7	6%
EUROPEAN SEABASS	6	5%
OTHERS	53	48%

EXPORT



Main commercial species exported and % of total exports (2018, million euros)

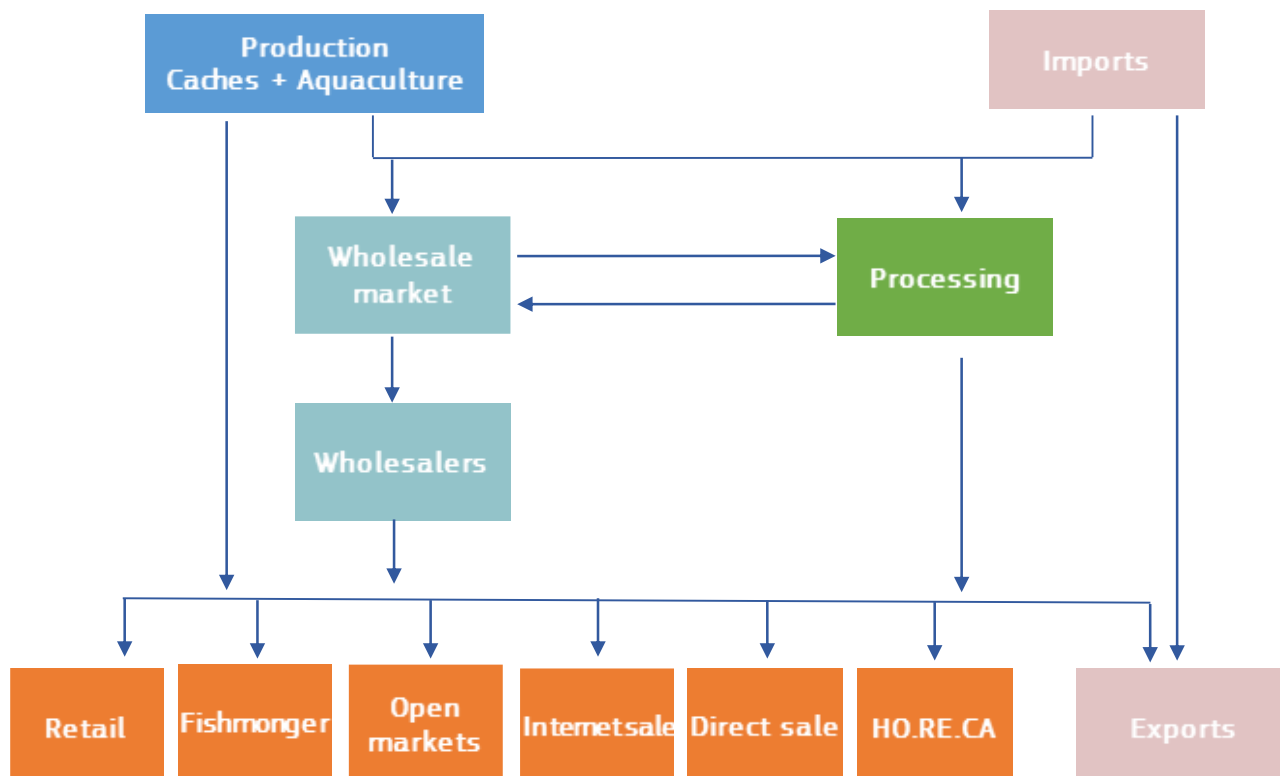
MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS	22	30%
OTHER MOLLUSCS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES	13	17%
SALMON	6	8%
TROUT	4	5%
OTHER MARINE FISH	3	4%
OTHERS	27	36%



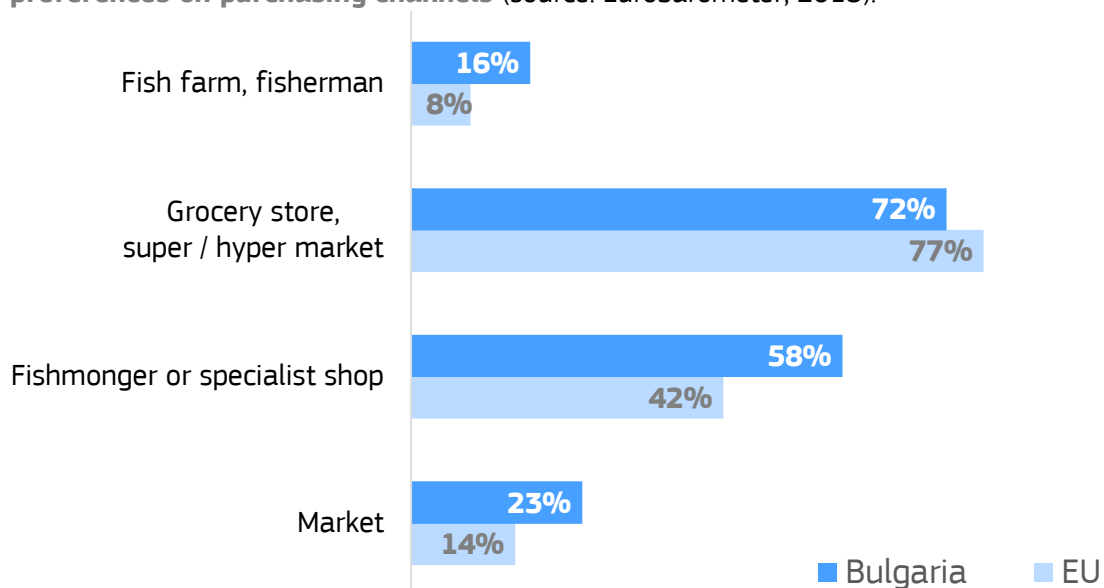


DISTRIBUTION

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



Consumer preferences on purchasing channels (source: Eurobarometer, 2018):





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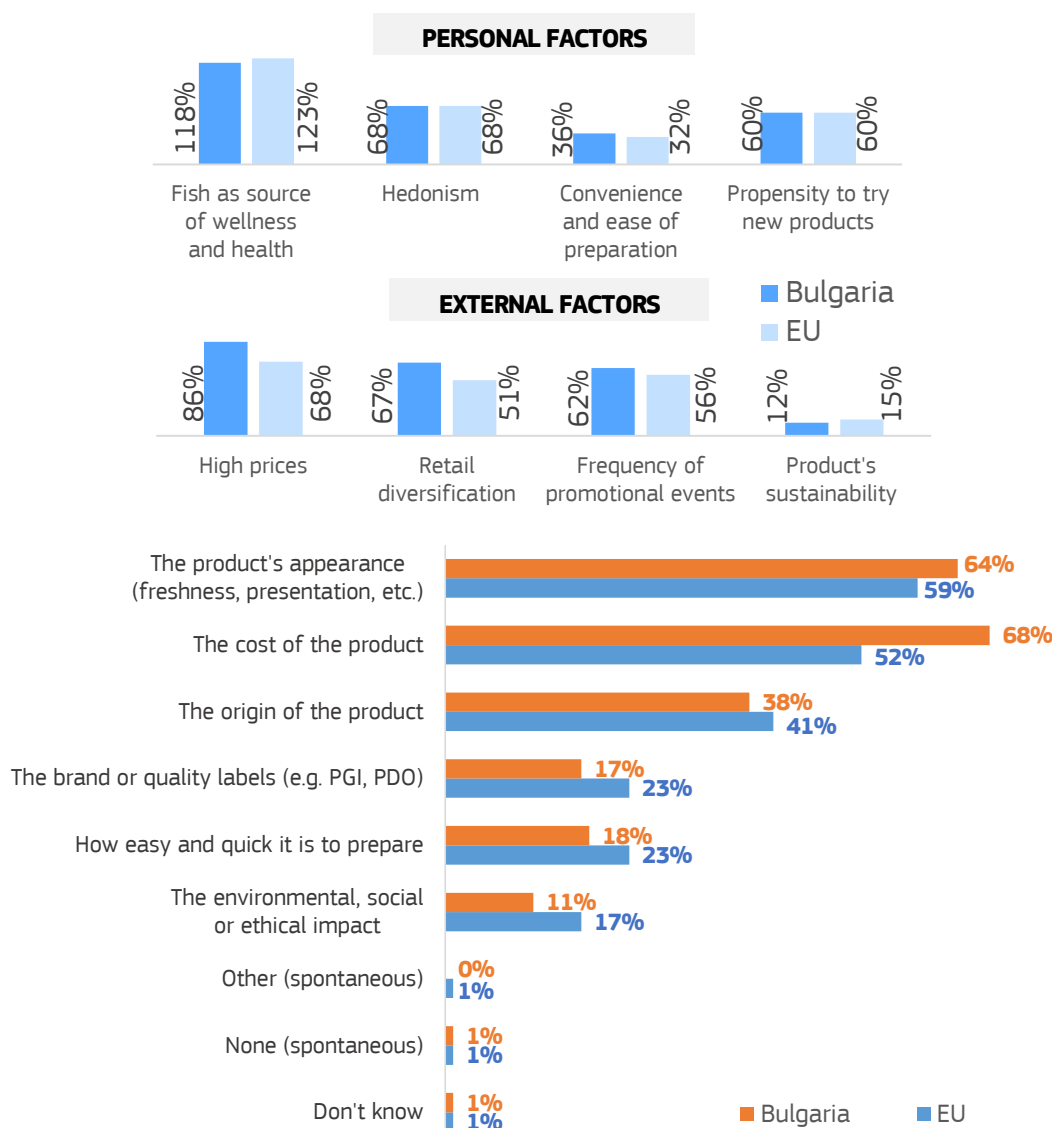
CONSUMPTION

In 2017, apparent consumption was estimated at 7,3 kg per capita, a slight decrease compared with 2016 (-1,4%). The most consumed species were mackerel, coldwater shrimps, carp, sprat and trout (source: EUMOFA).

Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to the age groups 25-39 and 40-54. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to consume fish in Bulgaria, as well as at EU level. In this category, regular consumers cover only 40% of the total, which is much lower than at EU level (67%). Bulgarians consume especially fresh and frozen products; loose fish (69%) is slightly more frequently consumed than at EU level (68%) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

7,3 kg
per capita
(2017, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (sources: up chart: EUMOFA, 2017; down chart: Eurobarometer, 2018)





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THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA



LANDINGS

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery.

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

AQUACULTURE

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

No data available

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

No data available