European Commission

Monthly Highlights

No. 8 / 2021

EUMOFA
European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

In this issue

According to data collected by EUMOFA from 15 EU Member States, in May 2021, pollack and sandeels together accounted for 56% of the total first-sales value of the commodity group "groundfish".

From June 2018 to May 2021, the weighted average first-sales price of pollack in France was 7,06 EUR/kg, 85% higher than in Denmark (3,82 EUR/kg), and 7% greater than in Spain (6,61 EUR/kg).

The extra-EU imports commodity group for this month is "groundfish", and features Alaska pollock from the US, cod from the Russian Federation, and haddock from Norway.

Germany's per capita apparent consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products is below the EU average, which in 2018 amounted to 14,5 kg, a 3% increase compared to the previous year.

Fisheries represent an important economic sector in Morocco, with catches (85% of which consist of small pelagics) totalling 1,48 million tonnes in 2019.

Global aquaculture production of seabass and seabream has steadily risen over the last 20 years, from around 150.000 tonnes in 2000 to over 475.000 tonnes in 2020.

In July, the European Union and the Cook Islands agreed to continue their successful fisheries partnership as part of the sustainable fisheries partnership agreement (SFPA), for a duration of three years.

Contents

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1. First sales in Europe

Between **January** and **May 2021**, 15 EU Member States (MS), Norway, and the United Kingdom reported first-sales data for 10 commodity groups[1]. First-sales data are based on sales notes and data collected from auction markets. First-sales data analysed in the section "*First sales in Europe*" are extracted from EUMOFA[2] as collected from national administrations.

1.1. January-May 2021 compared to the same period in 2020

Increases in value and volume: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, and the United Kingdom all recorded an increase in both first-sales value and volume. A higher supply of sprat in Bulgaria and of sprat and smelt in Lithuania led to the sharp first sales increases in these countries.

Decreases in value and volume: Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Norway recorded decreases. The Netherlands stood out with the most significant relative decrease, which was due to a lower supply of herring and mackerel.

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

	January – May 2019		January – May 2020		January – May 2021		Change from January – May 2020	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	5.684	23,8	4.993	23,3	5.179	22,8	4%	-2%
Bulgaria	1.984	0,9	678	0,4	1.357	0,9	100%	118%
Cyprus	183	1,3	118	0,9	160	1,1	35%	31%
Denmark	498.765	217,7	417.819	187,6	387.866	178,9	-7%	-5%
Estonia	33.455	7,6	31.776	8,1	37.795	9,4	19%	17%
France	75.979	257,5	59.306	197,7	66.775	231,2	13%	17%
Greece	9.769	21,8	9.582	21,0	7.937	21,6	-17%	3%
Italy	35.083	142,7	30.152	113,5	29.256	125,8	-3%	11%
Latvia	26.785	4,6	21.101	4,3	25.068	5,4	19%	26%
Lithuania	645	0,5	1.032	0,5	1.418	0,8	37%	65%
Netherlands	113.527	169,7	101.436	142,7	82.725	114,9	-18%	-19%
Poland	65.646	16,8	60.935	14,0	NA**	NA**	NA	NA
Portugal	36.169	98,0	26.653	77,7	32.130	95,3	21%	23%
Spain	228.262	664,0	204.886	534,7	194.659	545,7	-5%	2%
Sweden	111.862	42,1	70.165	31,7	67.053	29,8	-4%	-6%
Norway	1.426.293	1.264,2	1.499.139	1.286,8	1.474.878	1.209,2	-2%	-6%
United Kingdom	109.235	233,2	110.571	182,0	123.904	189,0	12%	4%

Possible discrepancies in % changes are due to rounding.
** Volumes are reported in net weight for EU Member States, and in live weight equivalent (LWE) for Norway. Prices are reported in EUR/kg (without VAT). For Norway, prices are reported in EUR/kg of live weight.*
*** Country's data for May 2021 are temporarily unavailable.*

[1] Bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, cephalopods, crustaceans, flatfish, freshwater fish, groundfish, salmonids, small pelagics, tuna and tuna-like species, and other marine fish.
[2] First sales data updated on 17.07.2021.

1.2. May 2021 compared to May 2020

Increases in value and volume: First sales increased in Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Sweden, and Norway. Species grouped under "other marine fish" (namely parrotfish, marbled spinefoot, Red Sea goatfish, white grouper) were responsible for the sharp increases in Cyprus, while sprat and clam were the main species responsible for increases in Bulgaria. Gobies nei[3] in Lithuania and sandeels nei in Sweden grouped under "other groundfish" species were responsible for increases in those countries.

Decreases in value and volume: First sales decreased in Greece, the Netherlands, and Spain. Greece recorded the sharpest decreases in relative terms due to lower sales of sardine and anchovy, while the Netherlands experienced a more significant decrease in volume than in value due to a lower supply of blue whiting.

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

	May 2019		May 2020		May 2021		Change from May 2020	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Belgium	1.075	4,4	689	3,1	772	4,8	12%	53%
Bulgaria	823	0,3	352	0,08	637	0,4	81%	349%
Cyprus	43	0,3	20	0,2	33	0,3	67%	67%
Denmark	110.816	48,3	133.215	53,0	117.452	55,1	-12%	4%
Estonia	4.521	1,2	9.205	2,0	8.126	2,3	-12%	17%
France	14.360	51,5	10.781	35,6	10.859	44,1	1%	24%
Greece	3.282	6,4	3.131	5,5	1.999	4,8	-36%	-13%
Italy	9.061	36,1	7.581	27,7	6.844	30,3	-10%	9%
Latvia	4.213	0,8	2.901	0,7	4.256	1,1	47%	62%
Lithuania	120	0,1	74	0,0	132	0,1	78%	172%
Netherlands	23.504	35,8	20.808	28,2	16.891	26,2	-19%	-7%
Poland	11.126	3,0	5.091	1,2	NA**	NA**	NA	NA
Portugal	9.235	21,9	8.035	17,0	9.840	22,6	22%	33%
Spain	59.347	166,0	48.510	125,1	40.426	123,6	-17%	-1%
Sweden	16.328	7,8	11.479	6,5	17.912	8,4	56%	29%
Norway	234.017	178,2	259.229	155,5	267.602	160,5	3%	3%
United Kingdom	17.725	41,9	12.582	22,9	11.552	29,2	-8%	27%

Possible discrepancies in % changes are due to rounding.
** Volumes are reported in net weight for EU Member States and the UK, and in live weight equivalent (LWE) for Norway. Prices are reported in EUR/kg (without VAT). For Norway, prices are reported in EUR/kg of live weight.*
*** Data for May 2021 are temporarily unavailable.*

The most recent weekly first-sales data **(up to week 36 of 2021)** are available via the EUMOFA website, and can be accessed **here**.

The most recent monthly first-sales data **for July 2021** are available via the EUMOFA website, and can be accessed **here**.

[3] not elsewhere included

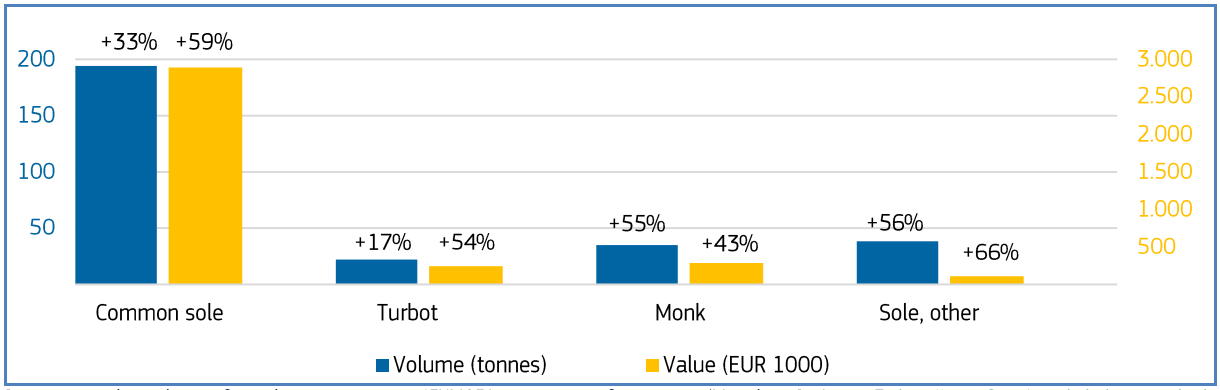
1.3. First sales in selected countries

First sales data analysed in this section are extracted from EUMOFA[4].

Table 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES[5] IN BELGIUM**

Belgium	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 22,8 million, -2%	5.179 tonnes, +4%	**Value**: common sole, squid, cuttlefish, megrim. **Volume**: gurnard, European plaice, other soles* (other than common sole), monk, cod.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 4,8 million, +53%	772 tonnes, +12%	Common sole, turbot, monk, other soles* (other than common sole).

Figure 1. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM, MAY 2021**



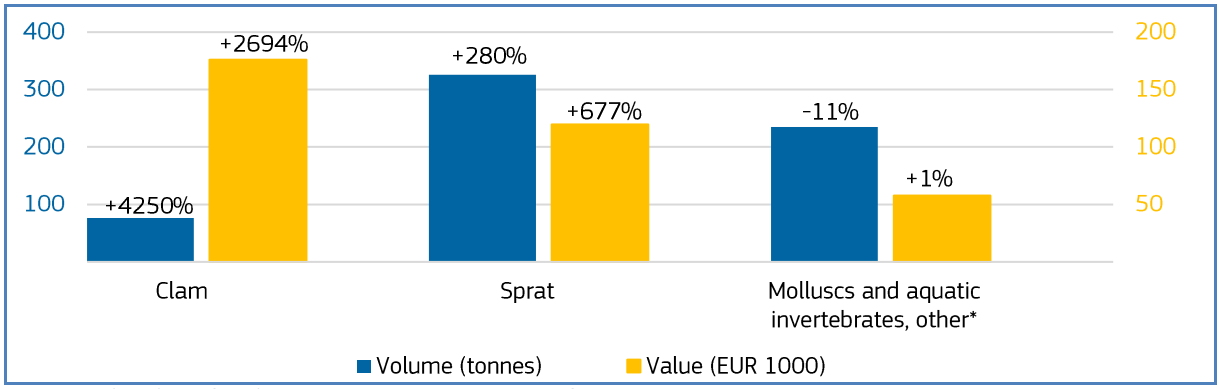
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species. (Metadata 2, Annex 3: http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies).*

Table 4. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA**

Bulgaria	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 0,9 million, +118%	1.357 tonnes, +100%	Clam, sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 0,4 million, +349%	637 tonnes, +81%	Clam, sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*.

[4] First-sales data update on 17.5.2021.
[5] Data on fisheries and aquaculture products harmonised by EUMOFA allow comparisons along the different supply chain stages.

Figure 2. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA, MAY 2021**

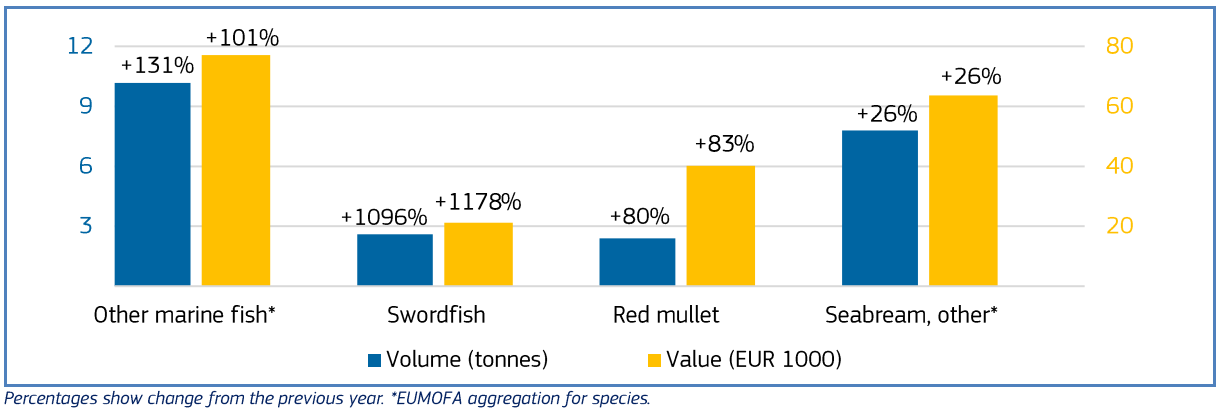


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 5. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN CYPRUS**

Cyprus	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 1,1 million, +31%	160 tonnes, +35%	Other seabream (other than gilthead seabream)*, picarel, swordfish, other marine fish*.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 0,3 million, +67%	33 tonnes, +67%	Other marine fish (parrotfish, marbled spinefoot, Red Sea goatfish, white grouper, etc.),* swordfish, red mullet, other seabream (other than gilthead seabream)*.

Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN CYPRUS, MAY 2021**



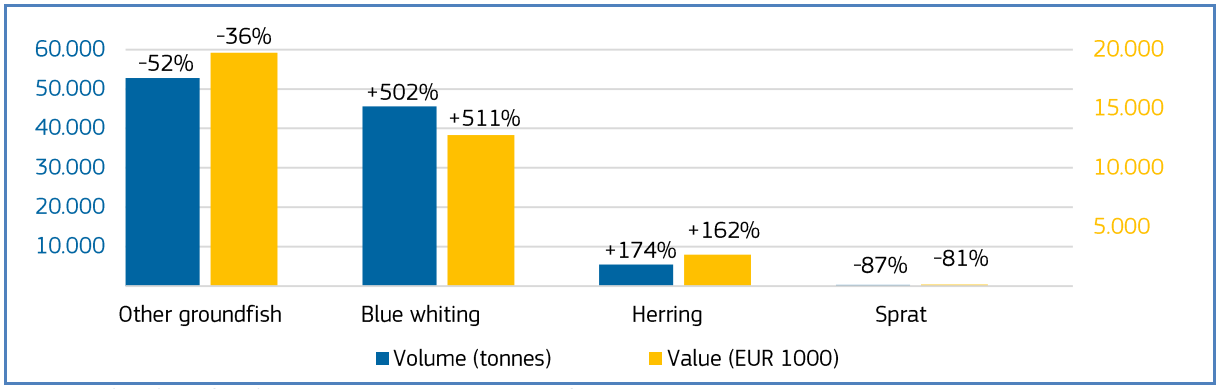
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK**

Denmark	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 178,9 million, -5%	387.866 tonnes, -7%	Other groundfish*, mackerel, cod, European flounder, saithe.	In May 2021 compared to May 2020, there was a significant decrease in first sales of **sprat**. Due to the lack of access to Norwegian waters during the first months of 2021 as a result of post-Brexit negotiations, the Danish pelagic fleets instead targeted North Sea sprat and Norwegian pout during this period, as well as Baltic sprat and herring, and the total 2021 quota for these two species was
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 55,1 million, +4%	117.452 tonnes, -12%	**Value**: blue whiting, herring, Norway lobster, clam. **Volume**: other groundfish*, sprat, coldwater shrimp,	

			mackerel.	reached earlier[6]. The combined sprat production over the first three months of 2021 was around 63.000 tonnes, against approximately 31.000 tonnes for the same period in 2020. Because of this (forced) change in fishing patterns, and despite the decrease registered in May 2021 with respect to May 2020, the cumulative production over the first five months is 50% higher in 2021 compared to 2020 (71.000 tonnes vs. 47.000 tonnes).

Figure 4. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK, MAY 2021**



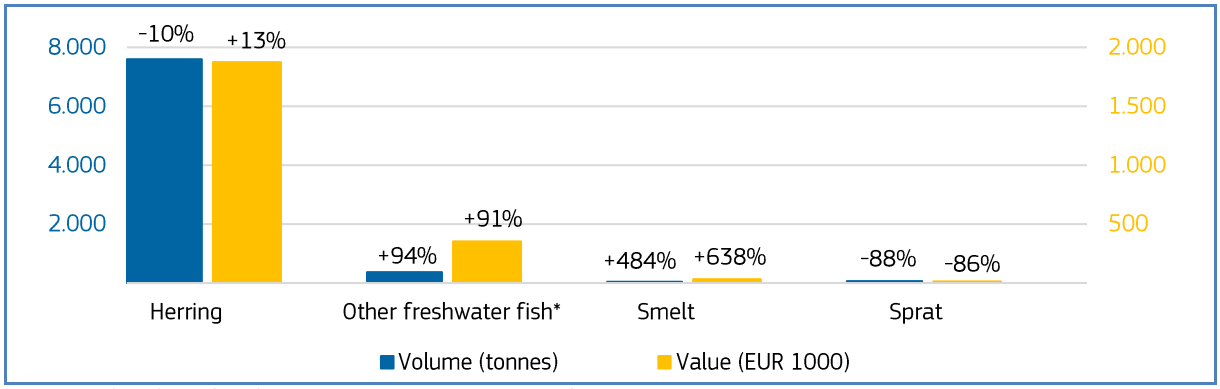
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA**

Estonia	**First-sales value / trend %**	**First-sales volume / trend %**	**Main contributing species**	**Notes**
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 9,4 million, +17%	37.795 tonnes, +19%	Herring, sprat.	The high first sales increase of "**other freshwater fish**" is mainly due to European perch. The stocks of this species concentrate in the Baltic Sea coastal area and are targeted by the small-scale fishing fleet. European perch is not covered by TAC. Existing resources in fishing capacity and fish stock availability allowed a significant increase in catch volumes in May 2021 compared to May 2020.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 2,3 million, +17%	8.126 tonnes, -12%	**Value**: Herring, other freshwater fish*, smelt. **Volume**: herring, sprat.	

[6] The Danish Fisheries Agency' Sales Notes Register: https://fiskeristatistik.fiskeristyrelsen.dk/stat/kvotereng/brsx_eng21.html

Figure 5. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA, MAY 2021**

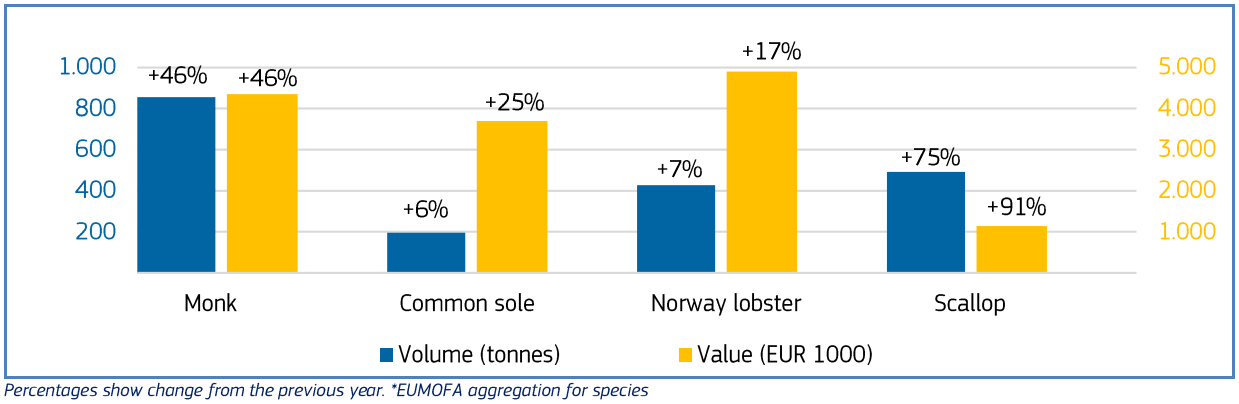


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 8. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE**

France	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 231,2 million, +17%	66.775 tonnes, +13%	Scallop, Norway lobster, monk, John dory, rays, other sharks*.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 44,1 million, +24%	10.859 tonnes, +1%	Monk, common sole, Norway lobster, European seabass, scallop.

Figure 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE, MAY 2021**

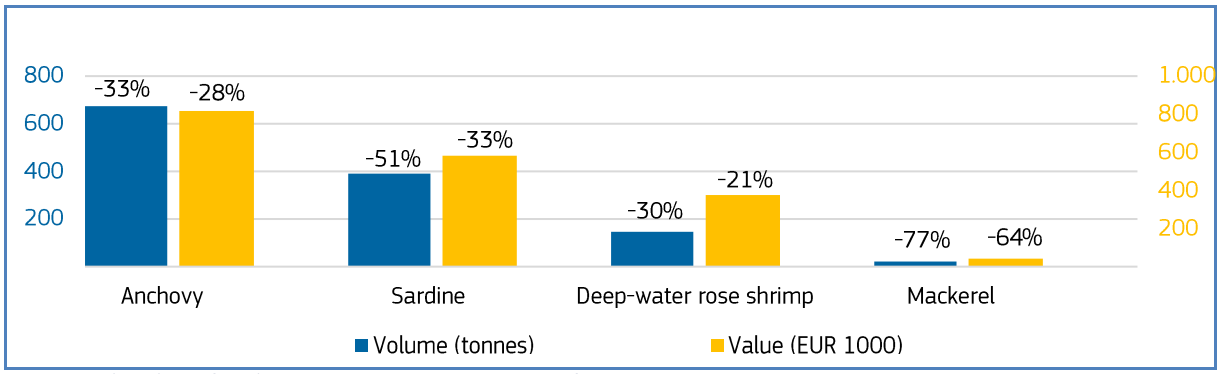


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 9. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GREECE**

Greece	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 21,6 million, +3%	7.937 tonnes, -17%	**Value**: hake, deep-water rose shrimp, red mullet. **Volume**: sardine, anchovy, mackerel.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 4,8 million, -13%	1.999 tonnes, -36%	Anchovy, sardine, deep-water rose shrimp, mackerel, other seabream (other than gilthead seabream)*.

Figure 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GREECE, MAY 2021**

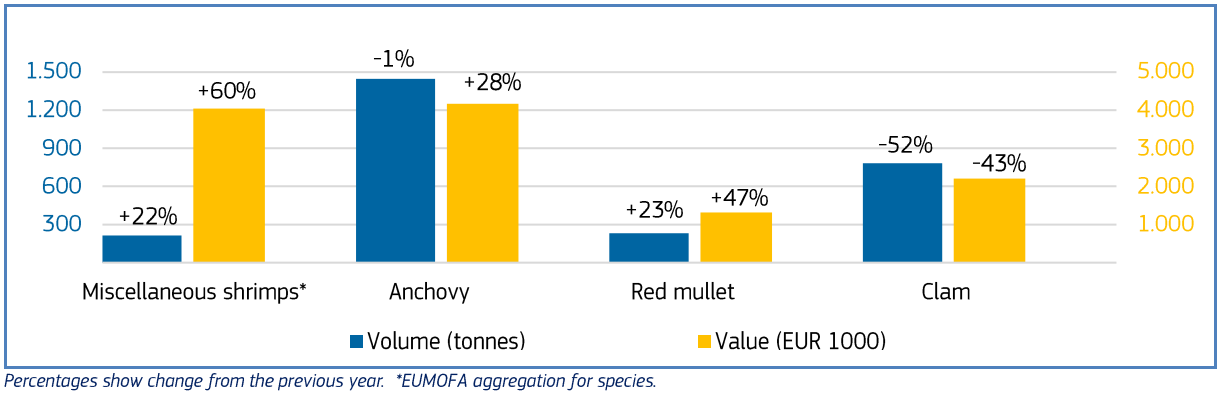


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY**

Italy	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 125,8 million, +11%	29.256 tonnes, -3%	**Value**: anchovy, miscellaneous shrimps*, red mullet, sardine. **Volume**: clam, hake, deep-water rose shrimp.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 30,3 million, +9%	6.844 tonnes, -10%	**Value**: miscellaneous shrimps*, anchovy, red mullet, bluefin tuna. **Volume**: clam, deep-water rose shrimp, whiting, hake.

Figure 8. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY, MAY 2021**

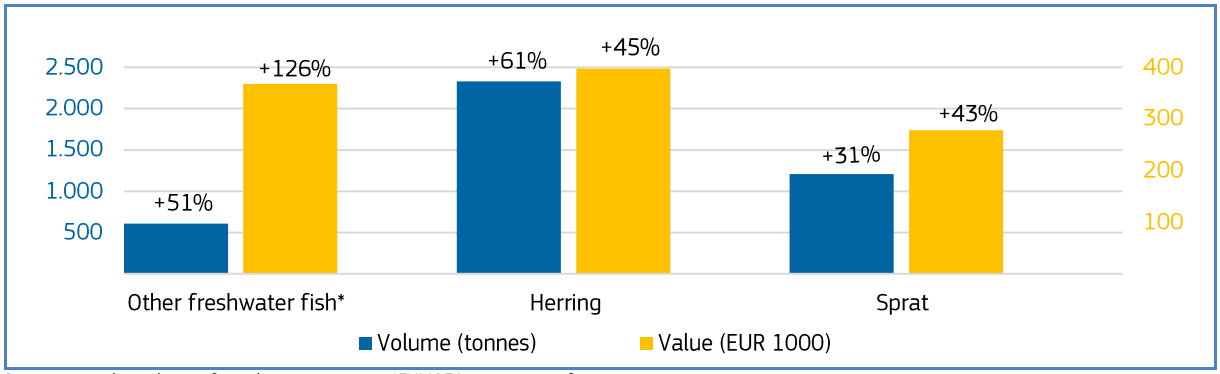


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA**

Latvia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 5,4 million, +26%	25.068 tonnes, +19%	Herring, other freshwater fish*, sprat, other marine fish*.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 1,1 million, +62%	4.256 tonnes, +47%	Other freshwater fish*, herring, sprat.

Figure 9. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA, MAY 2021**

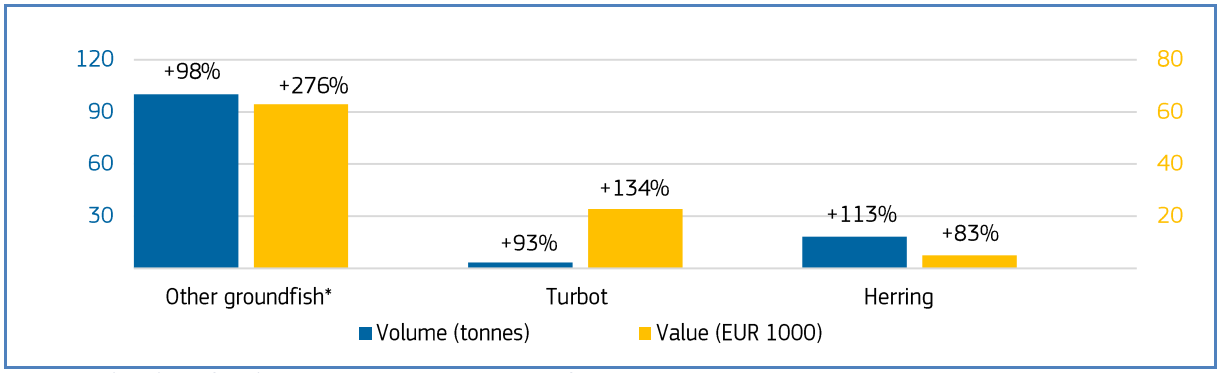


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA**

Lithuania	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume/ trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 0,8 million, +65%	1.418 tonnes, +37%	Smelt, herring, other groundfish*.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 0,1 million, +172%	132 tonnes, +78%	Other groundfish*, herring, turbot.

Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, MAY 2021**

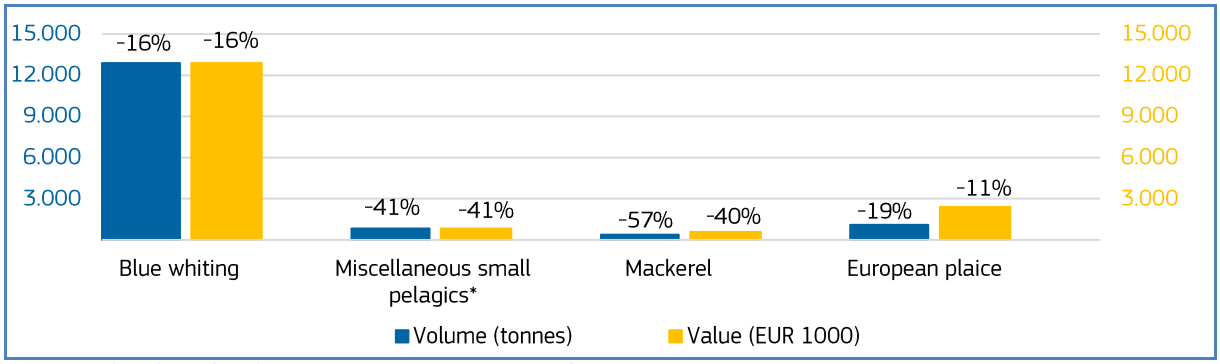


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species.*

Table 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS**

The Netherlands	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 114,9 million, -19%	82.725 tonnes, -18%	Mackerel, herring, blue whiting, European plaice.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 26,2 million, -7%	16.891 tonnes, -19%	Blue whiting, miscellaneous small pelagics*, mackerel, European plaice.

Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS, MAY 2021**



*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN POLAND**

Poland	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021* vs Jan-May 2020	NA	NA	NA
May 2021* vs May 2020	NA	NA	NA

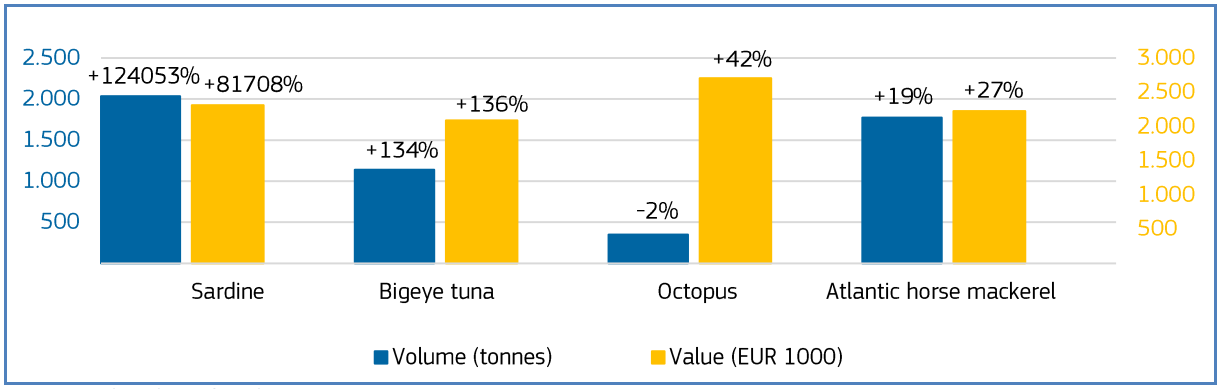
**Data for May 2021 are temporarily unavailable".*

Table 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL**

Portugal	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 95,3 million, +23%	32.130 tonnes, +21%	Octopus, sardine, Atlantic horse mackerel, bigeye tuna, clam, swordfish.	First sales of **sardine** in May 2021 experienced a significant increase compared to May 2020. The main reason for this unusual trend is that in 2020 the sardine fishery in continental Portugal was closed until 31 May[7]. The figures from that month and year correspond to landings from the Outermost Regions (Azores). In 2021, the fisheries in continental Portugal re-opened on 17 May[8]. In fact, the volume in May 2021 (2.321 tonnes) is similar to the average for the same month in the period 2010-2018 (2.459 tonnes). The latest advice from ICES[9] shows a significant improvement in the stock status: a 193% increase in biomass in 2020 compared to 2015, the highest recruitment in 2019 since 2004, and a reduction in fishing mortality of 90% since 2011 due to national quotas and effort limitations.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 22,6 million, +33%	9.840 tonnes, +22%	Sardine, bigeye tuna, octopus, Atlantic horse mackerel.	

[7] Mar - Gabinete da Secretária de Estado das Pescas (2021), Despacho n.º 5713-A/2020, Diário da República n.º 100/2020, 1º Suplemento, Série II de 2020-05-22, available at: https://dre.pt/home/-/dre/134308381/details/maximized
[8] Mar - Gabinete da Secretária de Estado das Pescas (2021), Despacho n.º 4626/2021, Diário da República n.º 88/2021, Série II de 2021-05-06, available at: https://dre.pt/web/guest/pesquisa/-/search/162829981/details/maximized
[9] ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort. Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast ecoregion (2020), Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in divisions 8.c and 9.a (Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian waters) https://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2020/2020/pil.27.8c9a.pdf

Figure 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, MAY 2021**



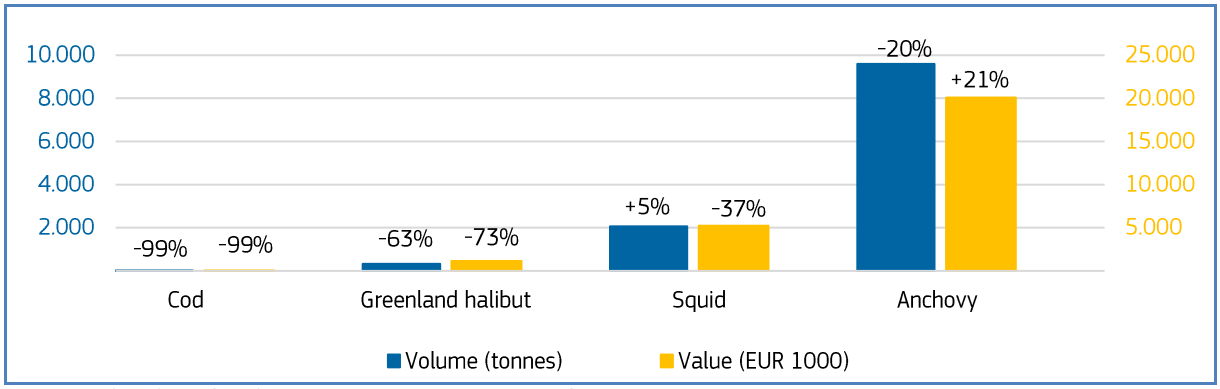
Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN**

Spain	First-sales value / trend in %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 545,7 million, +2%	194.659 tonnes, -5%	**Value**: anchovy, bluefin tuna, miscellaneous shrimps*, deep-water rose shrimp. **Volume**: mackerel, Atlantic horse mackerel, skipjack tuna, hake.	First sales of **cod** experienced significant decreases in May 2021 compared to May 2020. There are several possible explanations for this trend. 1) May 2020 registered the third-highest volume and value of cod for any month since 2015. 2) Changes in quotas[10]. 3) The Spanish fleet no longer has access to some areas due to a ban on cod quota swaps with other Member States. The situation of the stocks has limited this practice. In EU waters, poor stock status has resulted in reductions in fishing opportunities and reservation of TAC for bycatch only, as well as additional remedial measures since 2019. A lower TAC leads to less quota available to swap; while Spain obtained 123,5 tonnes of cod in these areas through quota swaps in 2020 (so far there has been no swapping in 2021). 4) A significant share of the Spanish catches goes to the British market, where cod is a commodity for Britain's fish and chips industry. The Spanish cod fleet has highlighted the impact of Brexit on their activity[11].
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 123,6 million, -1%	40.426 tonnes, -17%	Cod, Greenland halibut, squid, anchovy, swordfish.	

[10] Details about Spanish quotas for 2020 and 2021 are available on the website of the Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación at this link: https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/pesca/temas/cuotas-espanolas
[11] https://www.efeagro.com/noticia/brexit-pandemia-y-precios-marcan-a-las-empresas-espanolas-del-bacalao/

Figure 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN, MAY 2021**

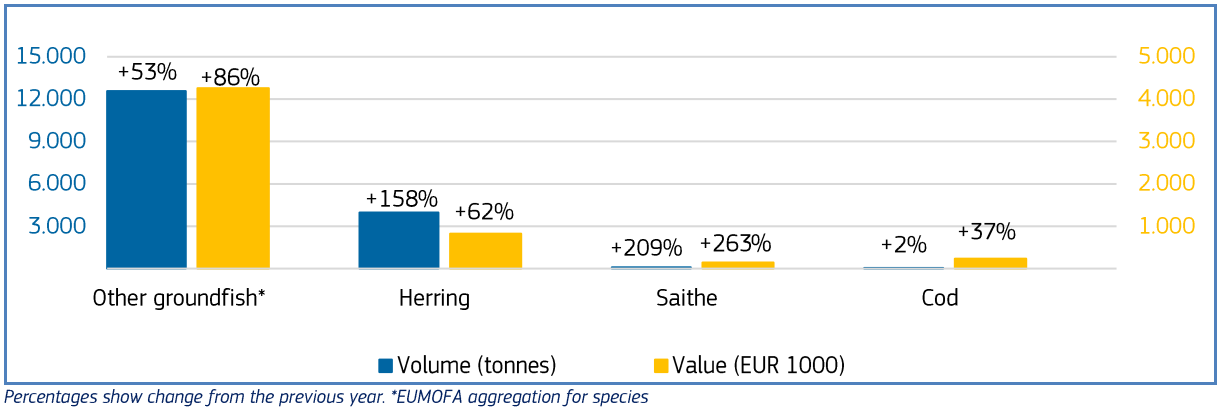


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 17. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN**

Sweden	First-sales value / trend in %	First-sales volume / trend in %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 29,8 million, -6%	67.053 tonnes, -4%	Coldwater shrimp, herring, sprat, cod, other groundfish*.	In May 2021 compared to May 2020, weather conditions, fishing capacity, and available resources allowed an increase in fishing efforts to bring a greater supply of **herring** to the market.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 8,4 million, +29%	17.912 tonnes, +56%	Other groundfish*, herring, saithe, cod.	

Figure 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, MAY 2021**



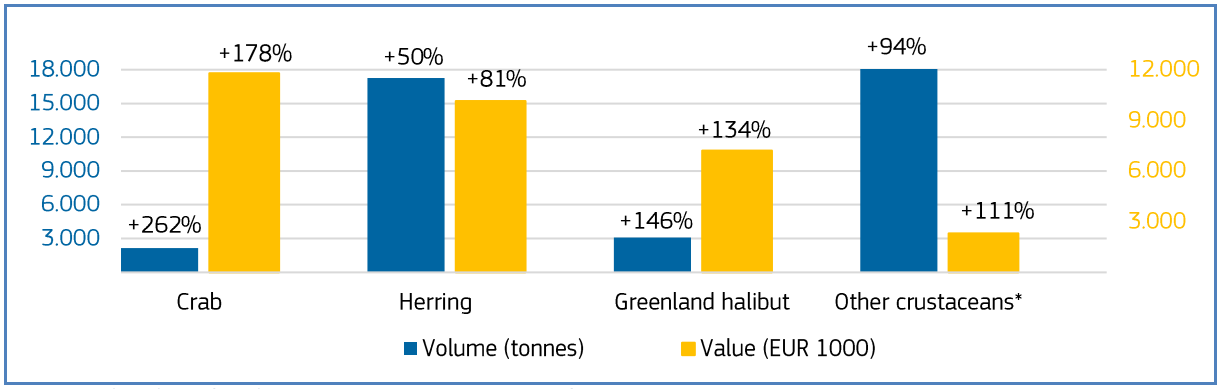
*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 18. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY**

Norway	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume[12] / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 1.2 billion, -6%	1.5 million tonnes, -2%	Cod, blue whiting, mackerel.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 160,5 million +3%	267.602 tonnes, +3%	Crab, herring, haddock, Greenland halibut, other groundfish.

[12] Volume reported in live weight equivalent (LWE)

Figure 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, MAY 2021**

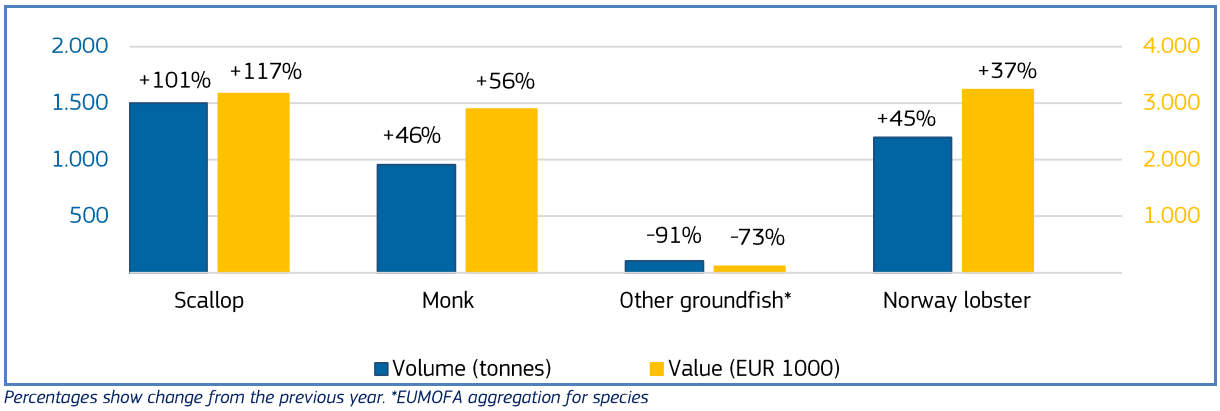


*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

Table 19. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

The United Kingdom	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan-May 2021 vs Jan-May 2020	EUR 189 million, +4%	123.904 tonnes, +12%	Norway lobster, scallop, blue whiting.
May 2021 vs May 2020	EUR 29,2 million, +27%	11.552 tonnes, -8%	**Value**: scallop, monk, Norway lobster, haddock. **Volume**: other groundfish*, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*, saithe.

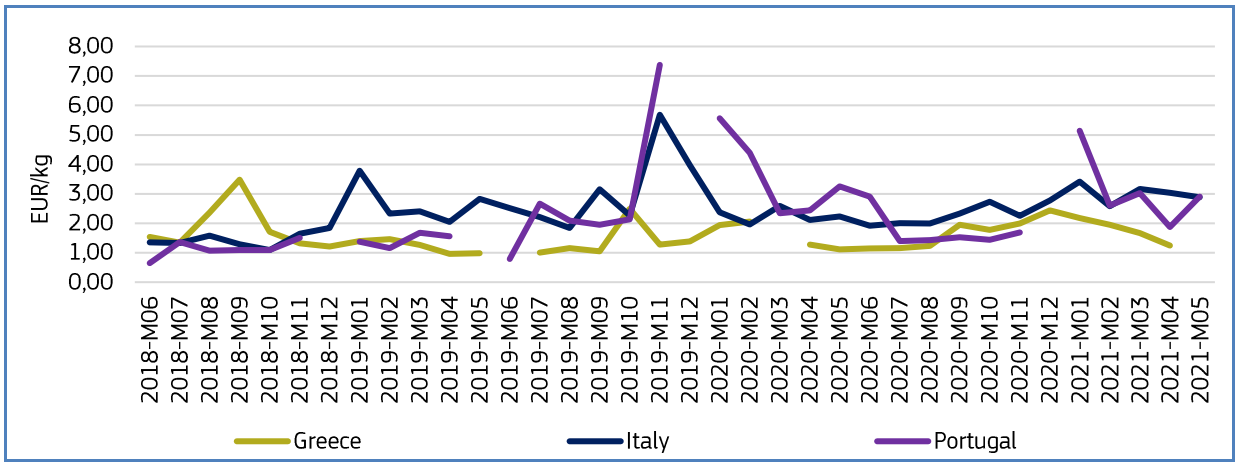
Figure 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, MAY 2021**



*Percentages show change from the previous year. *EUMOFA aggregation for species*

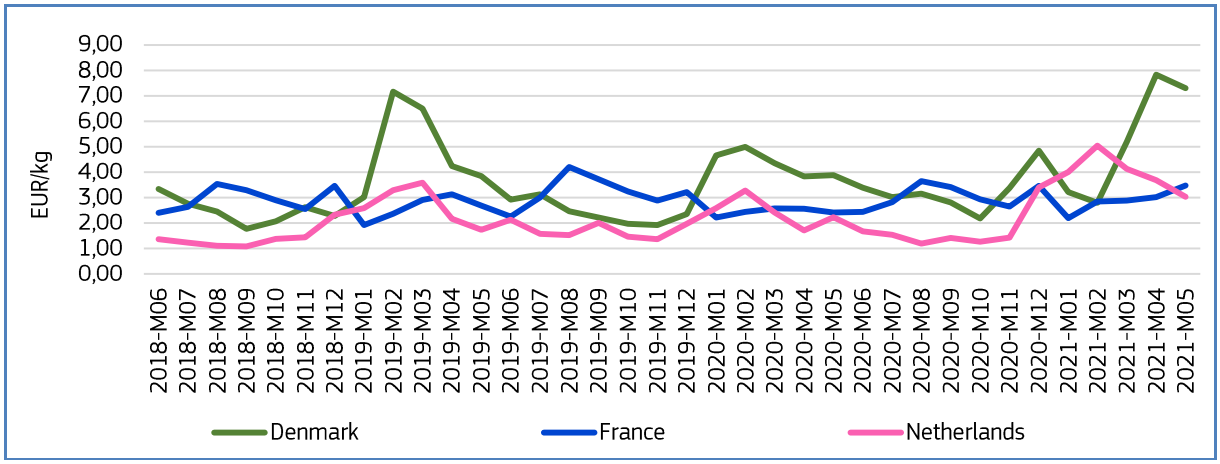
1.4. Comparison of first-sales prices of selected species in selected countries[13]

Figure 17. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF ANCHOVY IN GREECE, ITALY, AND PORTUGAL**



EU first sales of **anchovy** occur in multiple countries, including **Greece**, **Italy**, and **Portugal**. In May 2021 (the most recent available data), the average first-sales prices of anchovy were 1,24 EUR/kg in Greece (down from the previous month by 2%, and up from the previous year by 8%); 2,88 EUR/kg in Italy (5% down from April 2021, and 29% up from May 2020); and 2,91 EUR/kg in Portugal (up from April 2021 by 55%, and down from May 2020 by 11%). In all three nations, the price spikes correlated with drops in supply from the previous month. In May 2021, supply decreased in both Italy and Portugal (–1% and –99%, respectively), and increased in Greece by 34%, relative to the previous year. Volumes sold in the three markets are seasonal, with similar peaks in Greece and Italy from May to July, and from September to October in Portugal. Over the past 36 months, in all three markets, anchovy prices showed an upward trend. At the same time, supply showed a downward trend in Italy and Portugal, and a slight upward trend in Greece.

Figure 18. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF CRAB IN DENMARK, FRANCE, AND THE NETHERLANDS**

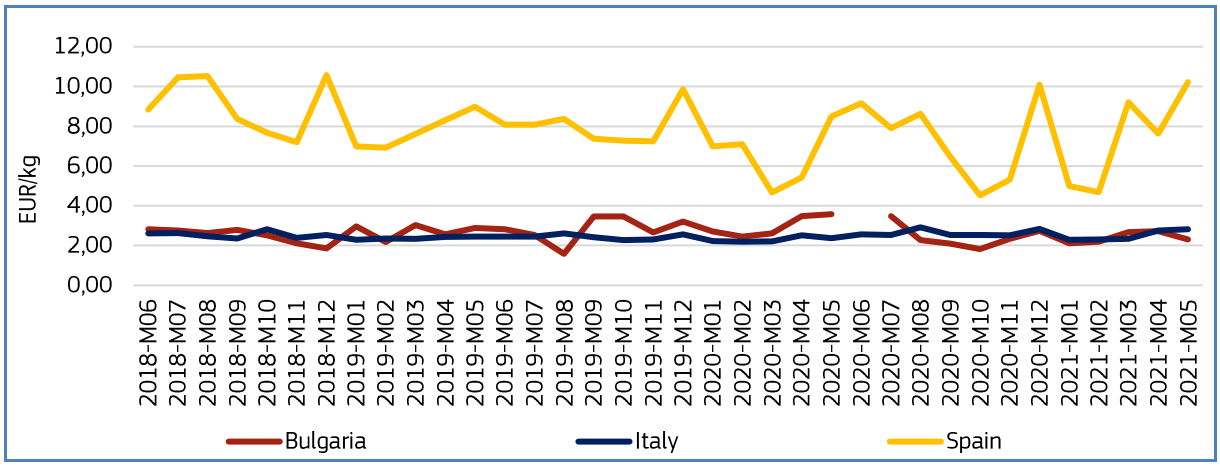


EU first sales of **crab** mainly occur in **Denmark**, **France**, and the **Netherlands**. In May 2021, the average first-sales prices of crab were: 7,30 EUR/kg in Denmark (7% down from the previous month, and 88% up from the previous year); 3,47 EUR/kg in France (up from both April 2021 and May 2020 by 15% and 44%, respectively); and 3,03 EUR/kg in the Netherlands (18% lower than April 2021, and 36% higher than May 2020). Overall, the price spikes did not correlate with drops in supply from the previous month and such trends could be linked with fishery seasonality. In May 2021, supply increased in all three markets: +18% in Denmark, +17% in France, and +226% in the Netherlands, relative to the previous year. Supply is seasonal with peaks from May to July in France, and from September to November in Denmark and the Netherlands. Over the 36-

[13] First sales data updated on 17.7.2021.

month period, crab prices exhibited an upward trend in all three countries. During the same period, supply showed a decreasing trend.

Figure 19. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF CLAM IN BULGARIA, ITALY, AND SPAIN**

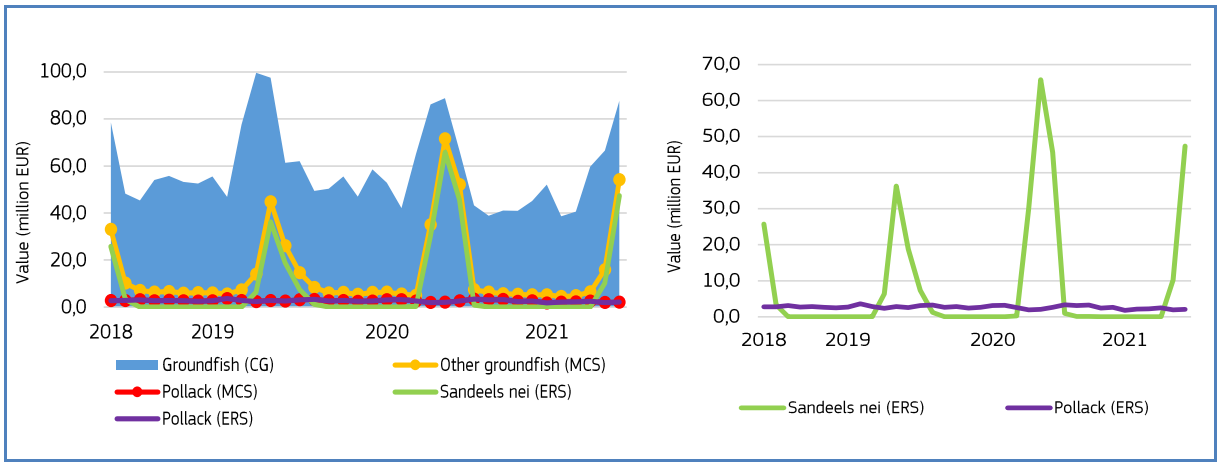


EU first sales of **clam**[14] occur predominantly in **Spain**[15], as well as in **Bulgaria**[16] and **Italy**[17]. First-sales prices differ in each country due to different clam species sold. In May 2021, the average first-sales prices of clam were: 2,30 EUR/kg in Bulgaria (–16% from April 2021, and –36% from May 2020); 2,82 EUR/kg in Italy (up from both the previous month and year, by 2% and 19%, respectively); and 10,22 EUR/kg in Spain (up by 34% from April 2021, and up by 20% from May 2020). In May 2021, supply increased in Bulgaria. At the same time, it decreased in Italy and Spain, by 52%, and 2%, respectively from the previous year. Volumes sold in the three markets are seasonal with different peaks: from October to December in Bulgaria and Spain, and December in Italy. Over the past three years, prices exhibited a stable trend in Bulgaria and Italy, and a downward trend in Spain. At the same time, supply went up in Bulgaria, and had a downward trend in Italy and Spain.

[14] Main commercial species (MCS) of clam consist of many different species at ERS level.
[15] In Spain, the most valuable species included in the clam MSC category are: common edible cockle (COC), grooved carpet shell (CTG), Japanese carpet shell (CLG), pullet carpet shell (CTS), and striped venus clam (SVE).
[16] In Bulgaria, clam first sales concern sand gaper (CLS) species only.
[17] In Italy, the most valuable species included in the clam MCS category is striped venus clam (SVE).

1.5. Commodity group of the month: Groundfish[18]

Figure 20. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVELS FOR REPORTING COUNTRIES[19], JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



The "**groundfish**" commodity group (CG[20]) recorded the highest first-sales in value and volume out of the 10 CGs recorded in May 2021[21]. Of reporting countries covered by the EUMOFA database, first sales of groundfish reached a value of EUR 87,7 million and a volume of 139.503 tonnes, representing a value decrease of 1% and a volume decrease of 12% compared to May 2020. In the past 36 months, the highest first-sales value of groundfish was registered at EUR 99,6 million (April 2019).

The groundfish commodity group includes 14 main commercial species (MCS): Alaska pollock, blue whiting, cod, grenadier, haddock, hake, ling, pollack, pouting, redfish, saithe, toothfish, whiting, and the grouping of other groundfish species[22].

At the Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS) level, pollack (2%) and sandeels nei (54%) together accounted for 56% of "groundfish" total first-sales value recorded in May 2021.

[18] First sales data updated on 22.7.2021.
[19] Norway and the UK excluded from the analyses.
[20] Annex 3: http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies
[21] More data on commodity groups can be found in Table 1.2 of the Annex.
[22] Most sold other groundfish species at ERS level include blackbelly rosefish, European conger, greater forkbeard, sandeels, etc.

1.6. Focus on pollack

Source: Scandinavian Fishing Year Book

Pollack (*Pollachius pollachius*) is green-brown in colour with reflections of bronze and gold. It is a fast-growing groundfish found on hard bottoms at depths of up to 200m. It is distributed throughout the Northeast Atlantic, from Norway and Iceland to the Bay of Biscay. Juveniles are pelagic and live near the coast for up to three years, after which they migrate to the open sea and are found around rocky areas at depths of 40–100 m. The species spawns in March in the Bay of Biscay, in February along the coasts of Spain, and in May in Norwegian waters, mostly at depths of 100 m. It can live for up to eight years and reach 75 cm in length[23].

Pollack is mainly a bycatch in various fisheries (cod, herring, haddock, northern prawn, and saithe) including small-scale fisheries in coastal waters. Pollack is mainly caught with static gears: gillnets, longlines, handlines, and jiggers on rocky ground and wrecks. The species' preference for wrecks and rocky bottoms makes them difficult to catch with trawls[24]. The main EU fishing nations are France, Denmark, and Spain. Pollack is also an important catch in recreational fisheries.

In the EU, pollack is subject to total allowable catches (TACs[25]). There is no minimum landing size for pollack in the EU, while an EU Council Regulation (2406/96) laying down common marketing standards for certain fishery products fixed a minimum size for pollack, which is 30 cm in length and 0,3 kg in weight[26].

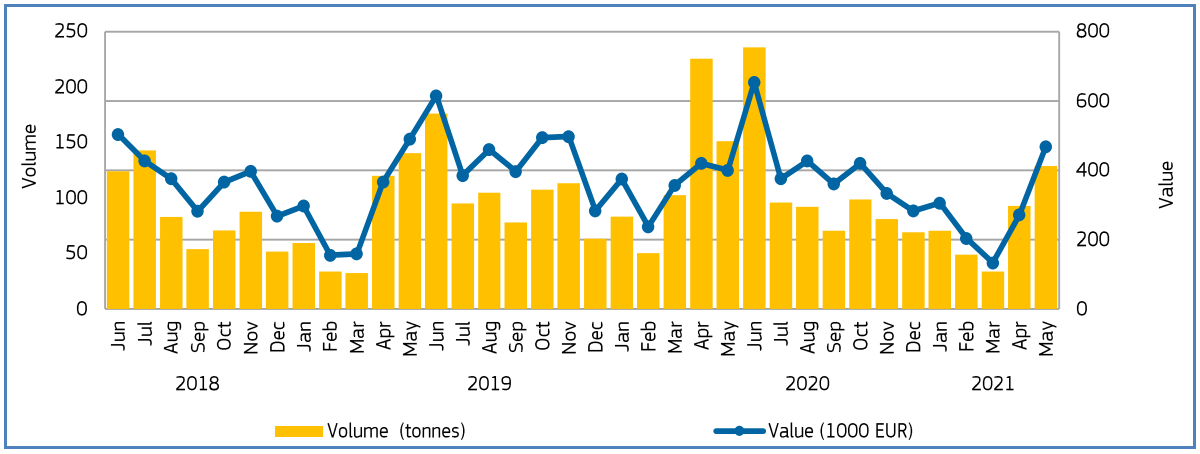
Selected countries

Table 20. **COMPARISON OF POLLACK FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "GROUNDFISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

Pollack		Changes in pollack first sales Jan-May 2021 (%)		Contribution of pollack to total "groundfish" first sales in May 2021 (%)	Principal places of sale Jan-May 2021 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-May 2020	Compared to Jan-May 2019		
Denmark	**Value**	-23%	-6%	0,6%	Hanstholm, Hirtshals, Thyborøn.
	Volume	-39%	-3%	0,1%	
France	**Value**	-18%	-30%	8%	Audierne, Lorient, Roscoff.
	Volume	-26%	-37%	2,1%	
Spain	**Value**	+5%	-7%	0,6%	Santa Eugenia Ribeira, A Coruña, Vigo, Finisterre.
	Volume	-4%	-4%	0,2%	

[23] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2232/en
[24] http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Stock%20Annexes/2016/pol-89a_SA.pdf
[25] Council Regulation (EU) 2021/92 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02021R0092-20210701
[26] Council Regulation (EC) No 2406/96 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31996R2406&from=DA

Figure 21. **POLLACK: FIRST SALES IN DENMARK, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



Over the past 36 months (June 2018 - May 2021), the highest first-sales of pollack in **Denmark** occurred in April and June 2020 when 226 and 236 tonnes, respectively, were sold. Typically, first sales are the highest from April to July when the pollack fishery is at its peak.

Figure 22. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN DENMARK IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2021**

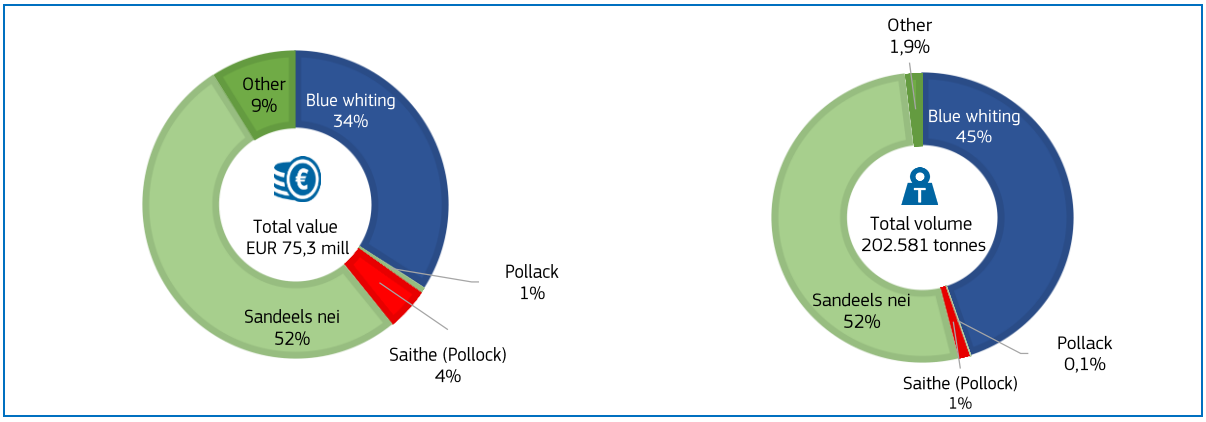
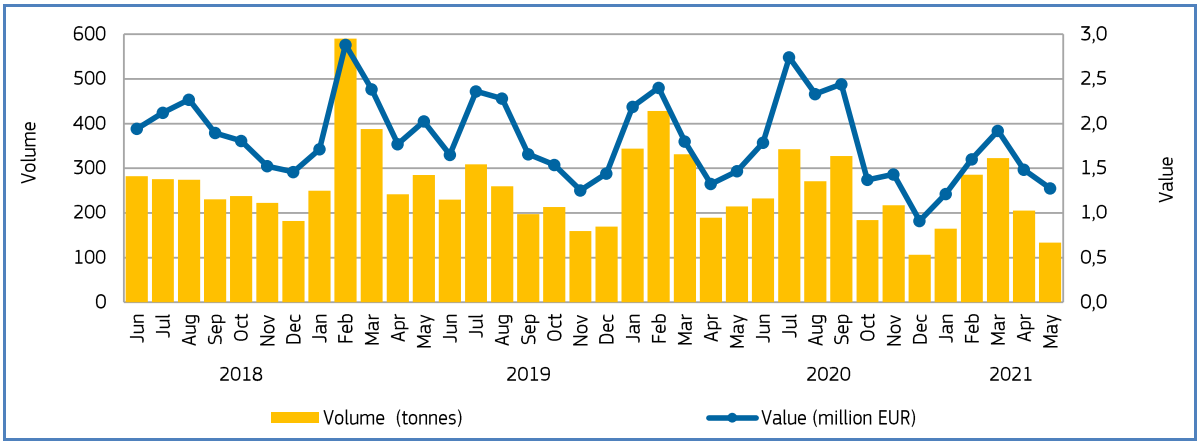


Figure 23. **POLLACK: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



From June 2018 to May 2021 in **France**, the highest first sales of common pollack were in February 2019 and 2020 when 590 tonnes and 428 tonnes were sold, respectively. The pollack fishery is stable throughout the year, with peaks at the beginning of the year, when the fishing season is most active.

Figure 24. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2021**

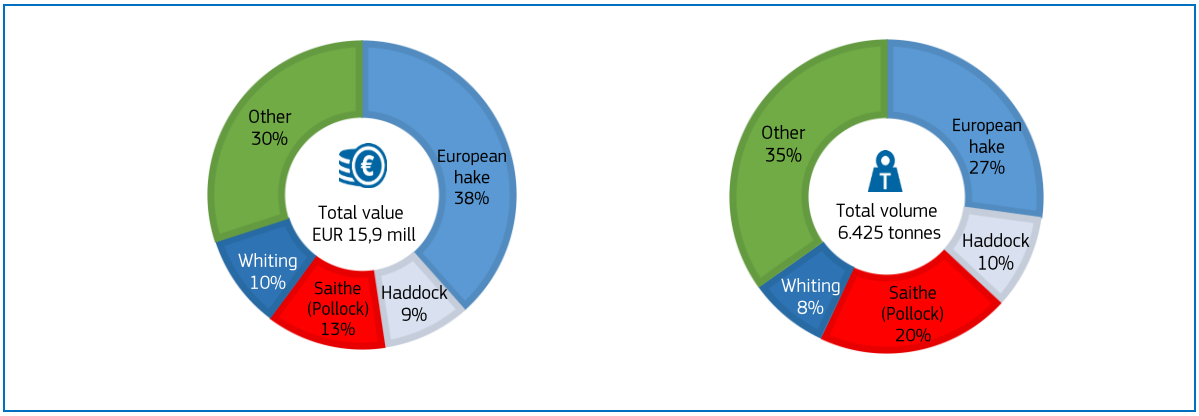
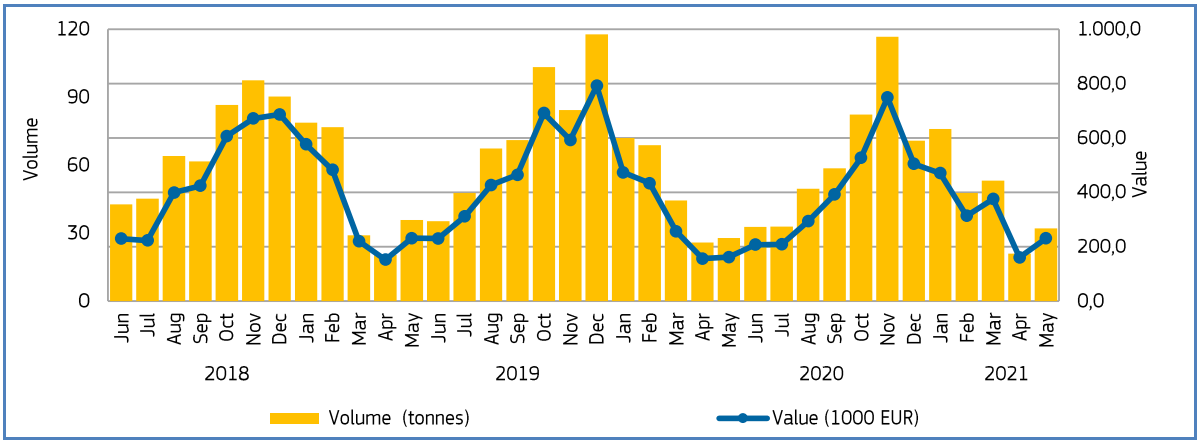
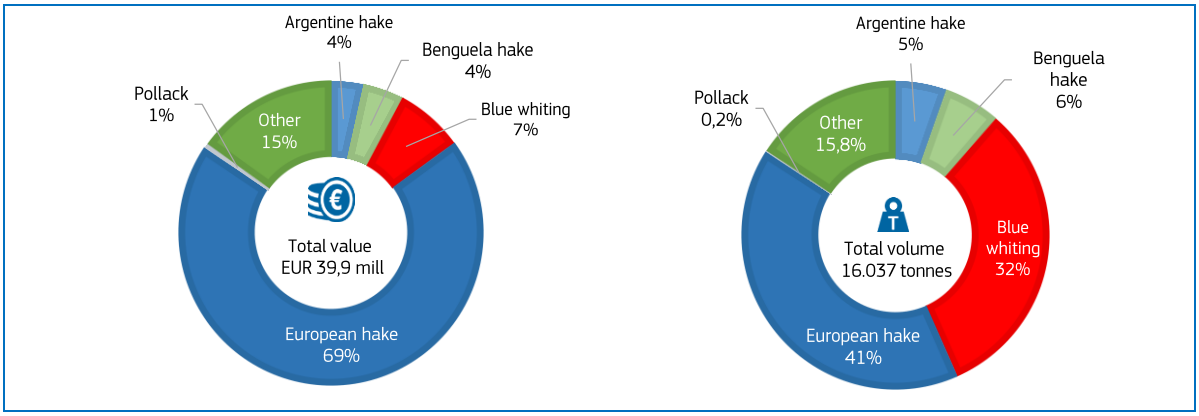


Figure 25. **POLLACK: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



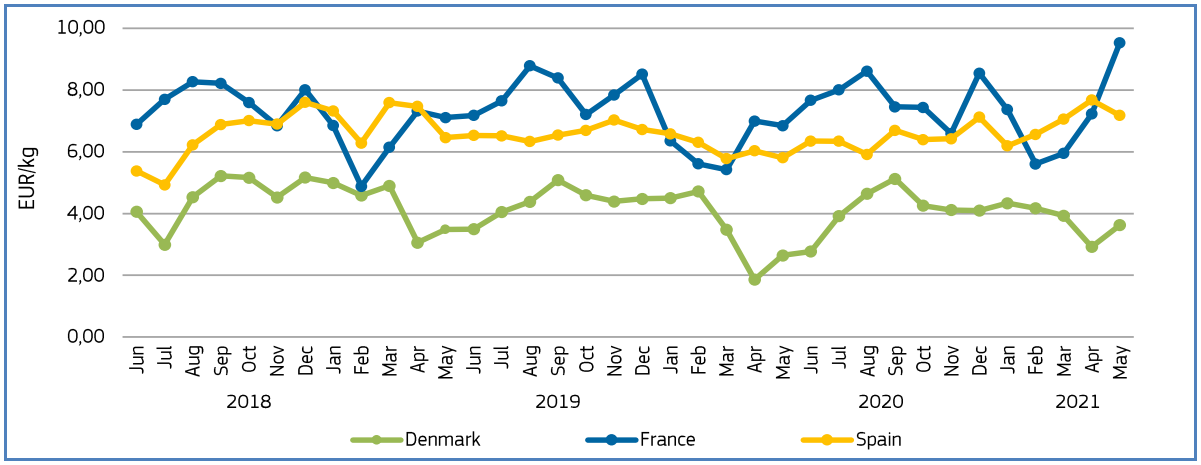
Over the past 36 months (June 2018 - May 2021) in **Spain**, the highest first-sales volume of pollack occurred in December 2019 when 118 tonnes were sold. Sales of pollack have seasonal patterns, as the main fishing season for the Spanish fleet occurs during winter from October to December each year, while activity is low in spring (April-June).

Figure 26. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN SPAIN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2021**



Price trend

Figure 27. **POLLACK: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



Over the 36-month observation period (June 2018 to May 2021), the weighted average first-sales price of pollack in **France** was 7,06 EUR/kg, 85% higher than in **Denmark** (3,82 EUR/kg), and 7% greater than that of **Spain** (6,61 EUR/kg).

The average price of pollack in Denmark is the lowest among surveyed countries mostly because there is no or little domestic demand, so the bulk of the production is exported, mostly to France (around 50% of production in 2020, at a unit value of 4,96 EUR/kg; France being the major market for this species), followed by Spain. This is particularly reflected in the figures observed in April 2020, and to a lesser extent in May / June 2020, when prices strongly decreased due to the closure of the HORECA (hotels, restaurants, catering) sector in Europe and other COVID-related (trade) restrictions.

In **Denmark** in May 2021, the average first-sales price of pollack (3,63 EUR/kg) increased by 37% compared with May 2020, and 4% compared with May 2019. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 1,86 EUR/kg for 226 tonnes in April 2020, to 5,22 EUR/kg for 54 tonnes in September 2018.

In **France** in May 2021, the average first-sales price of pollack (9,53 EUR/kg) increased by 39% and 34%, compared to the same month in 2020 and 2019, respectively. During the observed period, the lowest average price (4,88 EUR/kg for 590 tonnes) was seen in February 2019, while the highest average price was recorded in the latest reporting month (May 2021) at 9,53 EUR/kg for 134 tonnes.

In **Spain** in May 2021, the average first-sales price of pollack (7,18 EUR/kg) increased by 24% compared to May 2020 and by 11% relative to May 2019. During the observed period, the lowest average price of 4,93 EUR/kg for 45 tonnes was seen in July 2018, while the highest average price was recorded in April 2021, at 7,67 EUR/kg for 21 tonnes. In May 2020 there was a lockdown in Spain, which affected fishing activity, seafood supply, and consumption habits. In fact, a remarkable share of pollack catches are made by the small-scale fleet, one of the fleets most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the increase in average prices was relatively gradual, increase in demand for this species (which is highly appreciated by the Spanish consumer) helps to drive this positive trend.

1.7. Focus on sandeels nei[27]

Sandeels, also known as sandlances (*Ammodytes* spp.), is the common name used for a considerable number of species found along the Atlantic continental shelf. While they are not true eels, they are eel-like in their appearance and can grow up to 30 centimetres (12 in) in length[28]. Many species are found off the western coasts of Europe from Spain to Scotland, and in the Mediterranean and Baltic Seas. Sandeels are an important food source for seabirds, including puffins and kittiwakes. The preferential habitat for sandeels is a seabed with a relatively smooth bottom of gravelly sand. Adults feed on zooplankton and some large diatoms. They hibernate in winter, buried in sand at depths of 20-50 cm.

Traditionally, sandeels have been little exploited for human consumption, but are a major target of industrial fishing for animal feed and fertilizer[29]. Sandeels are caught by trawling and are commercially important for the production of fishmeal, making up 4% of global catches for fishmeal production (behind anchovy, capelin and blue whiting) between 1997-2001[30]. There is no minimum conservation reference size for these species. Denmark[31] is the main fishing nation of sandeels, followed by Sweden and Poland.

Increasing fishing for sandeels is thought to be causing problems for some of their natural predators, especially auks, which take them in deeper water. Such concerns led the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) to publish a report linking a population crash of seabirds in the North Sea to fishing for sandeels[32].

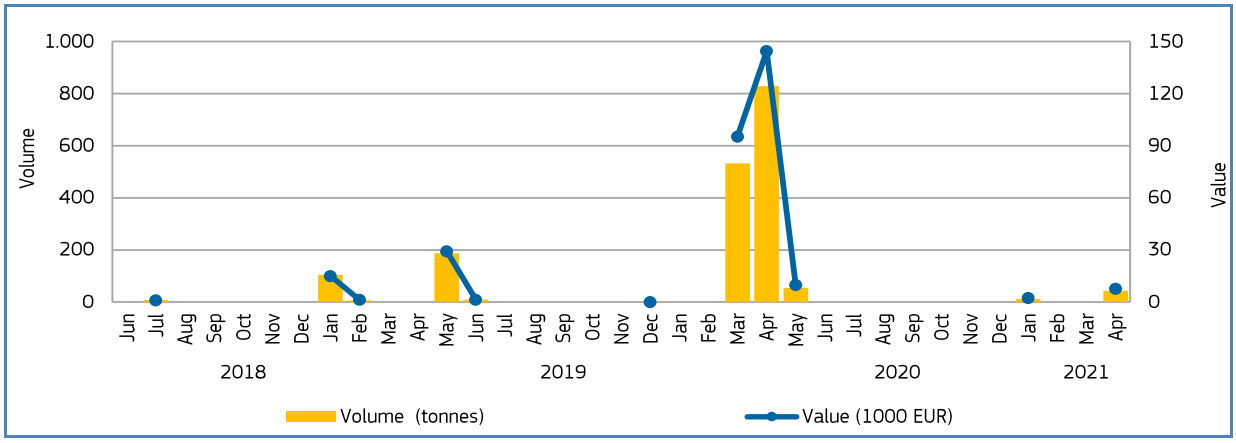
Selected countries

Table 21. **COMPARISON OF SANDEELS NEI FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF GROUNDFISH IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

Sandeels nei		Changes in sandeels nei first sales Jan-May 2021 (%)		Contribution of sandeels nei to total "groundfish" first sales in May 2021 (%)	Principal places of sales in Jan-May 2021 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-May 2020	Compared to Jan-May 2019		
Poland	**Value**	-96%	-78%	*No first sales registered.*	Ustka –100% of first sales.
	Volume	-96%	-81%	*No first sales registered.*	
Sweden	**Value**	+21%	+99%	89%	*Information not available.*
	Volume	-4%	+38%	98%	

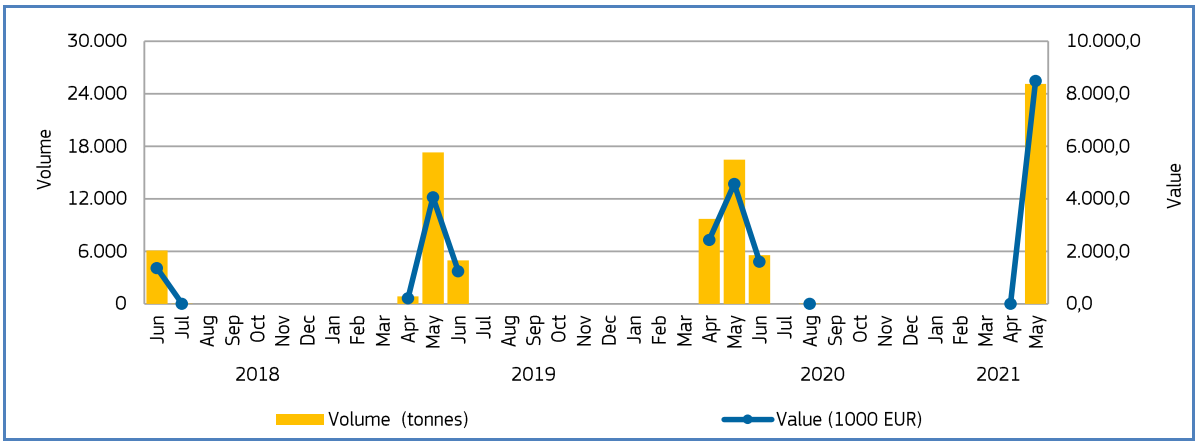
[27] FAO term meaning "not elsewhere included"; when it is not possible to identify the species and more than one species is included in the same group
[28] https://www.nature.scot/plants-animals-and-fungi/fish/sea-fish/sandeel
[29] https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/10.1139/f07-164
[30] https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/positions/Mayine/assessment-of-the-sustainability-of-industrial-fisheries-producing-fish-meal-and-fish-oil.pdf
[31] Not included in our analyses duo to limited first sales data.
[32] https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/aqc.2780 and http://ww2.rspb.org.uk/our-work/rspb-news/news/442657-sandeels-and-seabirds-protecting-our-seas-in-postbrexit-waters

Figure 28. **SANDEELS NEI: FIRST SALES IN POLAND, JUNE 2018 – APRIL 2021**



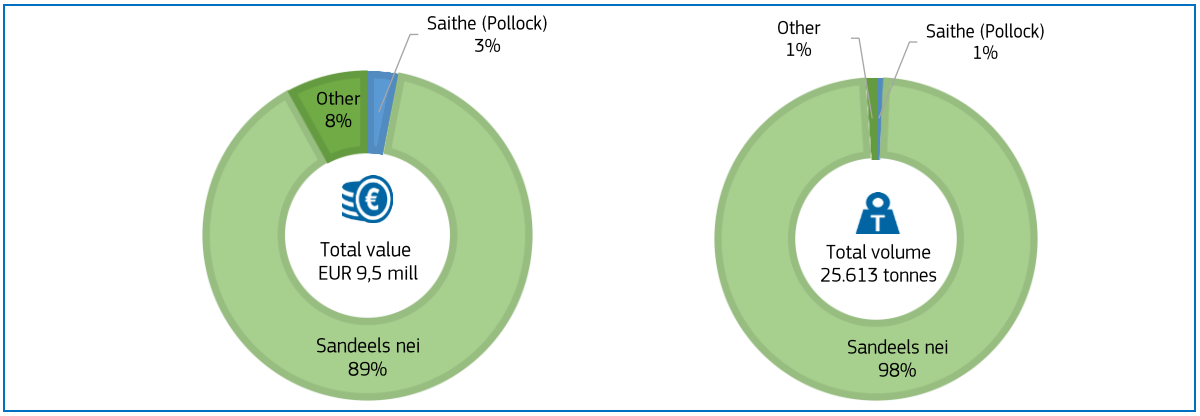
In **Poland**, over the observed 35-month period (June 2018-April 2021), the highest first sales of sandeels nei occurred in March and April 2020 when 532 and 829 tonnes, respectively, were sold. First sales occurred mainly in the first half of year, with fluctuating patterns that occurs due to fishery seasonality, including weather conditions, fishing fleet activity, and also due to by-catch while targeting some other species during the given period. Sandeels nei sales are generally low with a few spikes.

Figure 29. **SANDEELS NEI: FIRST SALES IN SWEDEN, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



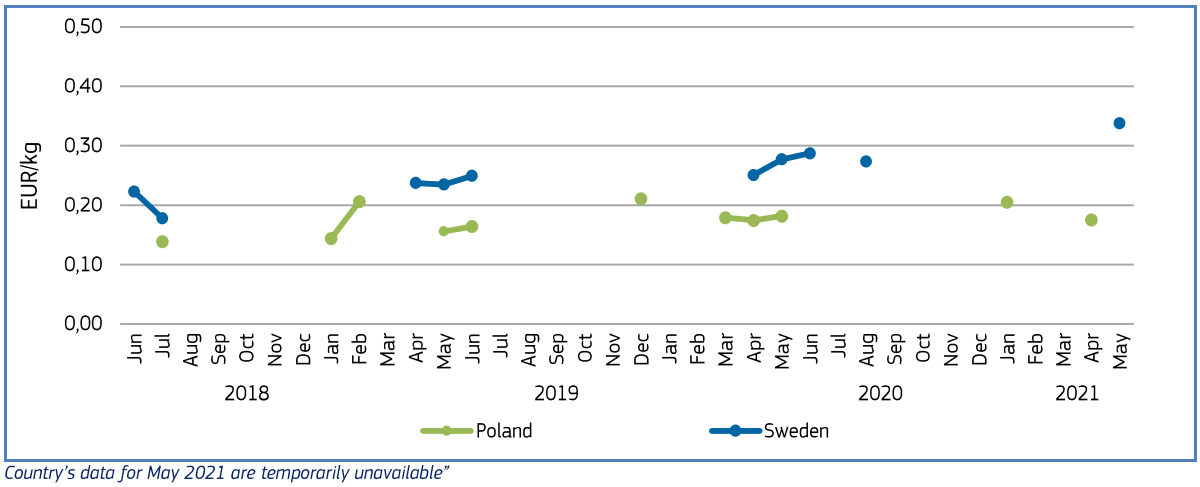
In **Sweden**, over the past 36 months (June 2018-May 2021), the highest first sales of sandeels nei were registered in May 2021, when 25.135 tonnes were sold. In general, first sales of sandeels nei occur only from April to June each year. This seasonality was disrupted in August 2020, which potentially could be linked to bycatch sales. First sales have seasonal patterns due to fishery seasonality and availability of resources. The Swedish sandeels fishery is very dependent on Total Allowable Catches (TAC), which are different on a yearly basis. When TAC are lower, Swedish quota owners usually trade it to Denmark.

Figure 30. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF "GROUNDFISH" (ERS LEVEL) IN SWEDEN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, MAY 2021**



Price trend

Figure 31. **SANDEELS NEI: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN POLAND* (JUNE 2018 – APRIL 2021), AND SWEDEN (JUNE 2018-MAY 2021)**



Country's data for May 2021 are temporarily unavailable"

Over the 36-month observation period (June 2018–May 2021), in **Sweden** the weighted average first-sales price of sandeels nei was 0,28 EUR/kg.

Due to temporarily unavailable data[33] for May 2021, first sales in **Poland** are analysed for the period June 2018-April 2021. In the observed 35-month period, the weighted average price of sandeels nei was 0,17 EUR/kg - 61% lower than in Sweden.

In **Poland**, the lowest price from June 2018 to April 2021 was registered in July 2018, at 0,14 EUR/kg for 8 tonnes, while the highest price at 0,21 EUR/kg was recorded in February 2019 (7 tonnes), December 2019 (2 kg) and January 2021 (12 tonnes).

In **Sweden** in May 2021, the average first-sales price of sandeels nei was 0,34 EUR/kg, 22% and 44% higher than in May 2020 and 2019 respectively. The lowest price in the past 36 months was registered in July 2018, at 0,18 EUR/kg for 6 tonnes, while the highest price (0,34 EUR/kg for 25.135 tonnes) was observed in May 2021.

[33] On 29.07.2021.

2. Extra-EU imports

The weekly extra-EU import prices (weighted average values per week, in EUR per kg) for nine different species are examined every month. The three most relevant species in terms of value and volume remain consistent: fresh whole Atlantic salmon from Norway, frozen Alaska pollock fillets from China, and frozen tropical shrimp (*Penaeus* spp.) from Ecuador. The other six species change each month; three are chosen from the commodity group of the month, and three are randomly selected. The commodity group for this month is "groundfish", and the featured species are fresh or frozen meat, minced or otherwise, of Alaska pollock from the United States, frozen cod from the Russian Federation, and frozen haddock from Norway. The three randomly selected combinations this month are fresh or chilled redfish from Iceland, fresh or chilled Cape hake and deep-water hake from Namibia, and cod, salted and in brine from Norway.

Data analysed in the section "Extra-EU imports" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from the European Commission[34].

Table 22. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THE THREE MOST RELEVANT FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 26/2021	Preceding 4-week average	Week 26/2020	Notes
Fresh whole Atlantic salmon imported from Norway (*Salmo salar*, CN code 03021440)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	5,68	5,81 (–2%)	5,54 (+2%)	In 2021, prices ranged from 4,62 EUR/kg (week 1) to 6,85 EUR/kg (week 18). Since week 19, prices started to drop. Upward trend since the beginning of the year, in contrast with a downward trend over the past aggregate period of three years.
	Volume (tonnes)	13.295	12.190 (+9%)	12.569 (+6%)	In 2021, weekly volumes fluctuated from 6.189 to 15.321 tonnes. Downward trend since the beginning of the year, compared to a slight positive trend over the past three years.
Frozen Alaska pollock fillets imported from China (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03047500)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,51	2,48 (+1%)	2,94 (–15%)	In 2021, prices ranged from 2,40 to 2,62 EUR/kg and had an upward trend, in line with the trend over the past 3-year period.
	Volume (tonnes)	2.150	1.563 (+38%)	2.887 (–26%)	Since week 1 of 2021, volumes ranged from 1.057 to 3.686 tonnes. Downward trend since the beginning of the year following the same trend over the past three years.
Frozen tropical shrimp imported from Ecuador (genus *Penaeus*, CN code 03061792)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	5,12	5,40 (–5%)	5,65 (–9%)	Since the beginning of the year, prices ranged from 4,58 to 5,73 EUR/kg. Upward trend since week 1 of 2021, in contrast with a downward trend over the same period of 2020.
	Volume (tonnes)	3.008	2.352 (+28%)	1.562 (+93%)	In 2021, weekly volumes fluctuated from 1.059 to 4.075 tonnes. Upward trend since the beginning of the year, in contrast with a downward trend over the same period of 2020.

[34] Last update: 19.07.2021

Figure 32. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH AND WHOLE ATLANTIC SALMON FROM NORWAY, 2018 – 2021**

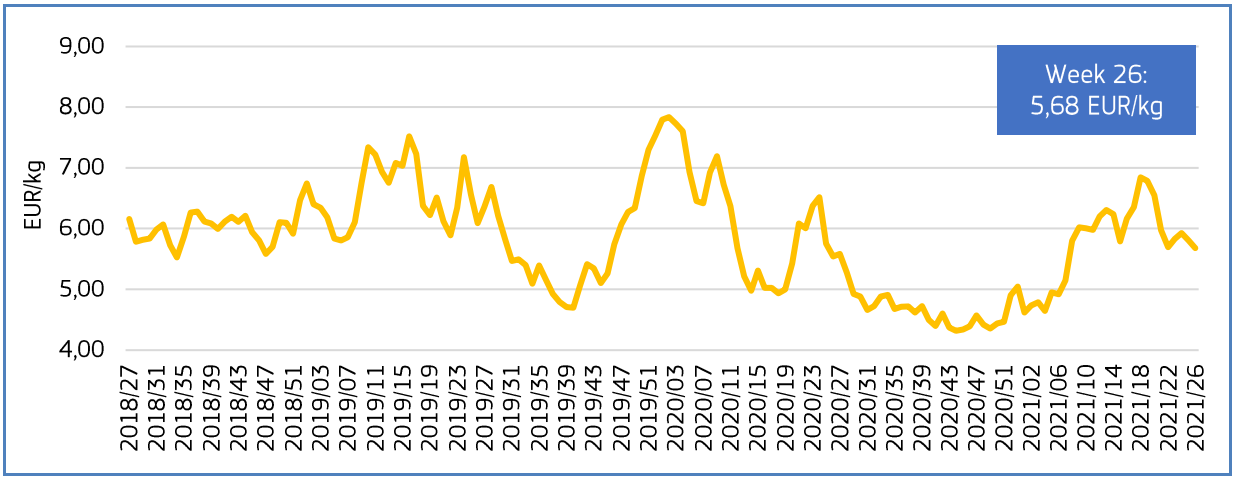


Figure 33. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN ALASKA POLLOCK FILLETS FROM CHINA, 2018 – 2021**

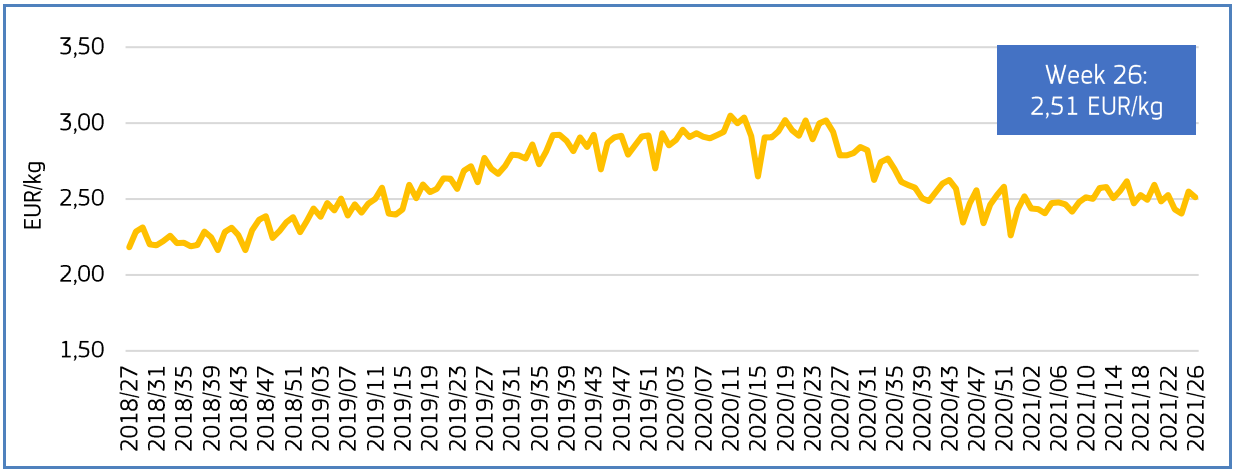


Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN TROPICAL SHRIMP FROM ECUADOR, 2018 – 2021**

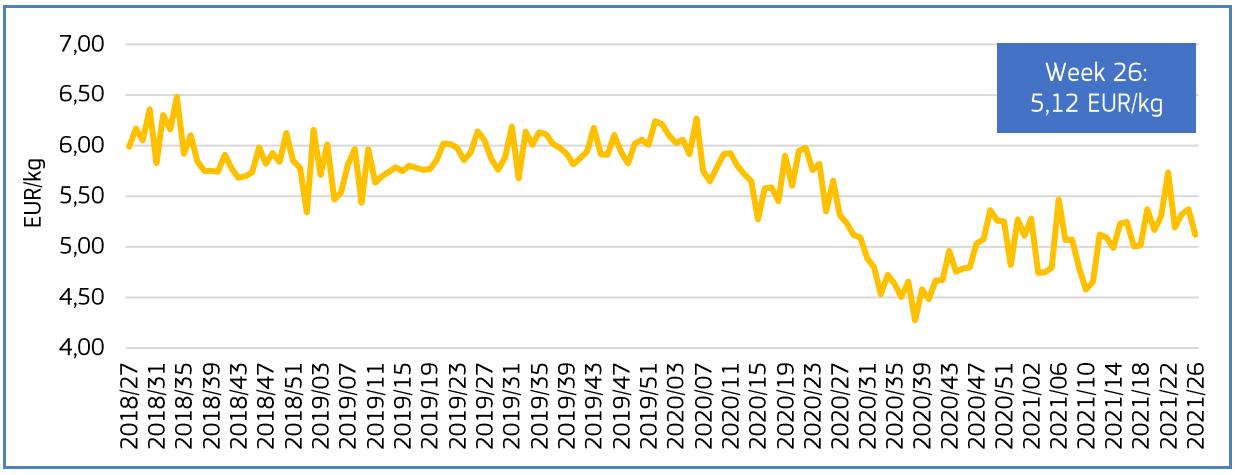


Table 23. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THIS MONTH'S THREE FEATURED COMMODITY PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 26/2021	Preceding 4-week average	Week 26/2020	Notes
Frozen meat, whether or not minced, of Alaska pollock imported from the United States (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03049490)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	1,91*	2,00** (–4%)	1,96*** (–3%)	Upward trend over the past three years. Price ranged from 1,83-2,10 EUR/kg. In week 52 of 2018, prices dropped to 0,46 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	221*	129** (+71%)	373*** (–41%)	Upward trend over the past 3 years. High fluctuations in supply from 7 tonnes (week 39 of 2019) to 665 tonnes (week 2 of 2021).
Frozen cod imported from the Russian Federation (*Gadus morhua*, CN code 03036310)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	3,09	3,19 (–3%)	3,36 (–8%)	Downward trend over the past three years, with price fluctuations from 2,91 to 4,17 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	905	1.486 (–39%)	1.668 (–46%)	Upward trend over the past three years. High fluctuations in supply, from 175 to 2.216 tonnes. Most weekly volumes range from 500 to 1.000 tonnes.
Frozen haddock imported from Norway (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*, CN code 03036400)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	2,38	2,57 (–7%)	2,36 (+1%)	Downward trend from 2018 to 2021, with price ranges from 0,57 to 4,69 EUR/kg. Some price spikes correlate with a drop in supply.
	Volume (tonnes)	178	177 (+1%)	293 (–39%)	Slight downward trend from 2018 to 2021. High weekly fluctuations in supply, from less than one to 1.041 tonnes; most volumes range between 100 and 500 tonnes.

** Data refers to week 25 of 2021 (the most recent available); **data refers to weeks 21 to 24 of 2021; ***data refers to week 25 of 2020.*

Figure 35. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN MEAT, WHETHER OR NOT MINCED, OF ALASKA POLLOCK FROM THE UNITED STATES, 2018 – 2021**

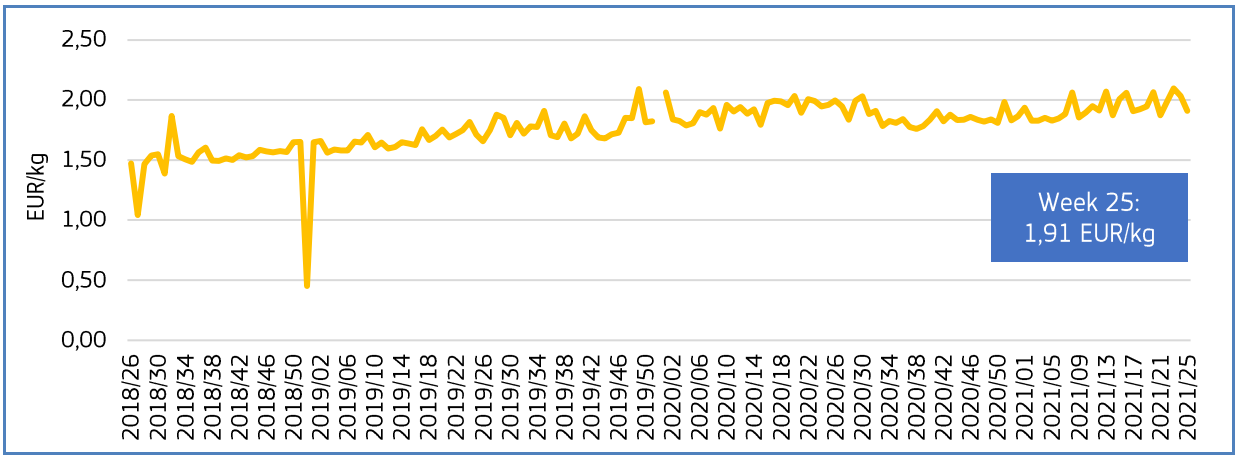


Figure 36. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN COD FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, 2018 – 2021**

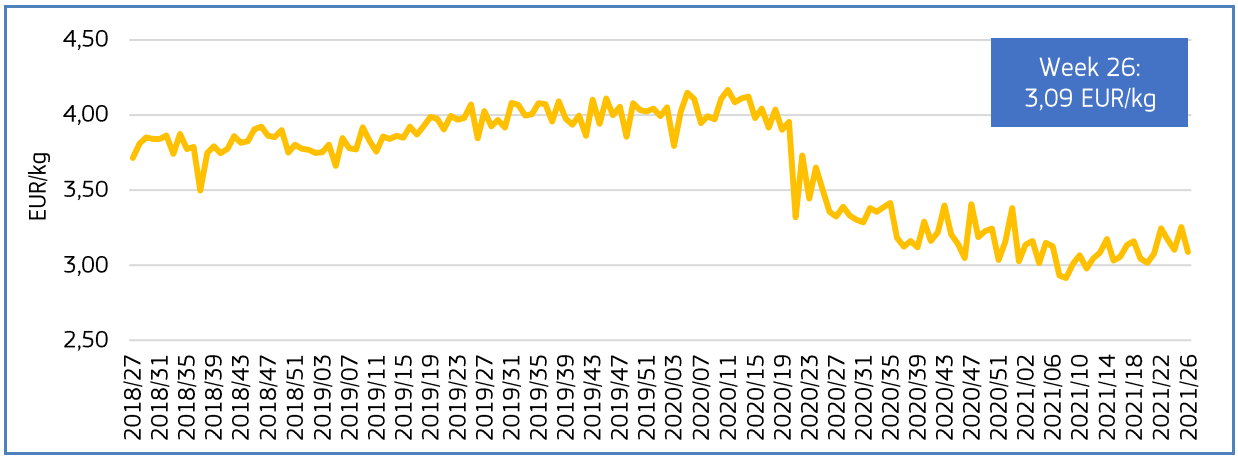
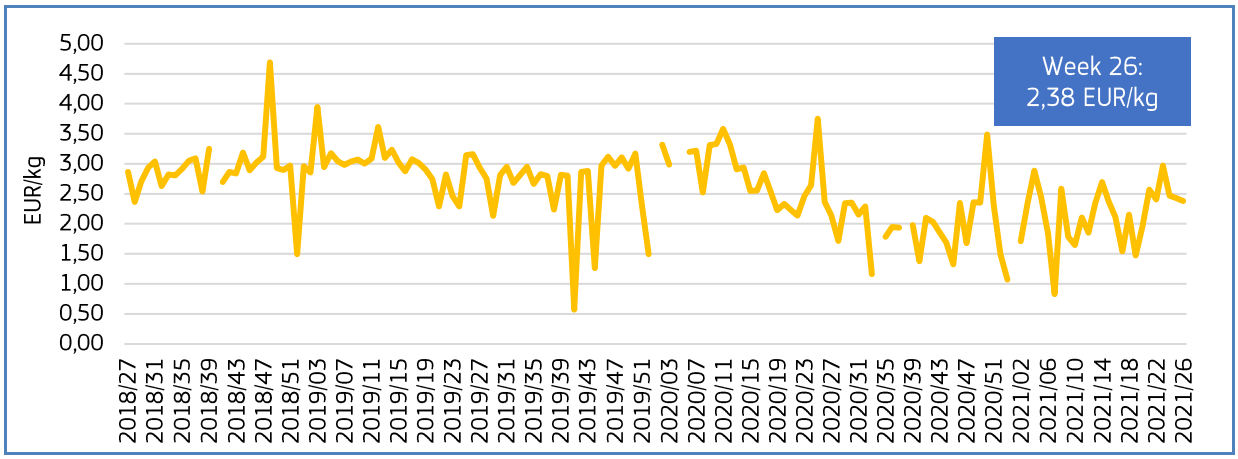


Figure 37. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN HADDOCK FROM NORWAY, 2018 – 2021**



Since week 1 of 2021, price of frozen meat, whether or not minced, of Alaska pollock from the United States showed an upward trend, while volume had an opposite trend. Supply ranged from 19 to 665 tonnes.

Since the beginning of 2021, both price and volume of frozen cod from the Russian Federation showed an upward trend. Price ranged from 2,91 to 3,25 EUR/kg, and volume from 454 to 1.918 tonnes.

Price and volume of frozen haddock from Norway showed an upward trend since the beginning of 2021. Most of the prices were over 2,00 EUR/kg, and most volumes were less than 100 tonnes.

Table 24. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF EU IMPORTS OF THREE OTHER FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS RELEVANT TO THE EU MARKET**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 26/2021	Preceding 4-week average	Week 26/2020	Notes
Fresh or chilled redfish imported from Iceland (*Sebastes marinus*, CN code 03028931)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	1,71	1,68 (+2%)	1,57 (+9%)	Slight downward trend from 2018 to 2021. Price ranged from 1,31 to 4,51 EUR/kg. The price spikes were related to a drop in supply.
	Volume (tonnes)	271	259 (+5%)	289 (–6%)	High fluctuations in supply from 2018 to 2021, varying between 7 and 547 tonnes. Overall upward trend.
Fresh or chilled Cape hake and deepwater hake imported from Namibia (*Merluccius capensis*, and *Merluccius paradoxus*, CN code 03025411)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	5,80	6,10 (–5%)	6,54 (–11%)	Upward trend over the past three years. Most prices ranged from 4,00 to 5,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	36	33 (+10%)	7 (+418%)	Downward trend over the past three years. Fluctuations in supply from 3 to 497 tonnes, with most volumes less than 100 tonnes.
Cod salted and in brine imported from Norway (*Gadus morhua, Gadus ogac, Gadus macrocephalus*, CN code 03056200)	**Price (EUR/kg)**	5,50	5,27 (+4%)	5,72 (–4%)	Downward trend over the past three years, with prices ranging from 4,02 to 6,82 EUR/kg. Since week 1 of 2021, prices averaged around 5,01 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	420	447 (–6%)	179 (+135%)	High weekly fluctuations. Volume ranged between 20 and 2.217 tonnes from 2018 to 2021, with an overall downward trend.

Figure 38. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED REDFISH FROM ICELAND, 2018 – 2021**

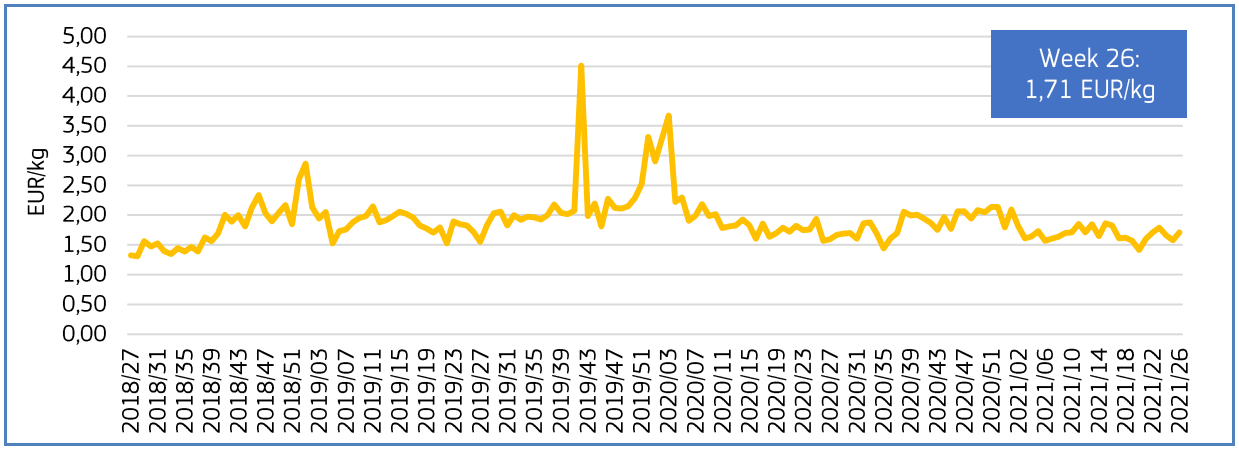


Figure 39. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED CAPE HAKE, AND DEEPWATER HAKE FROM NAMIBIA, 2018 – 2021**

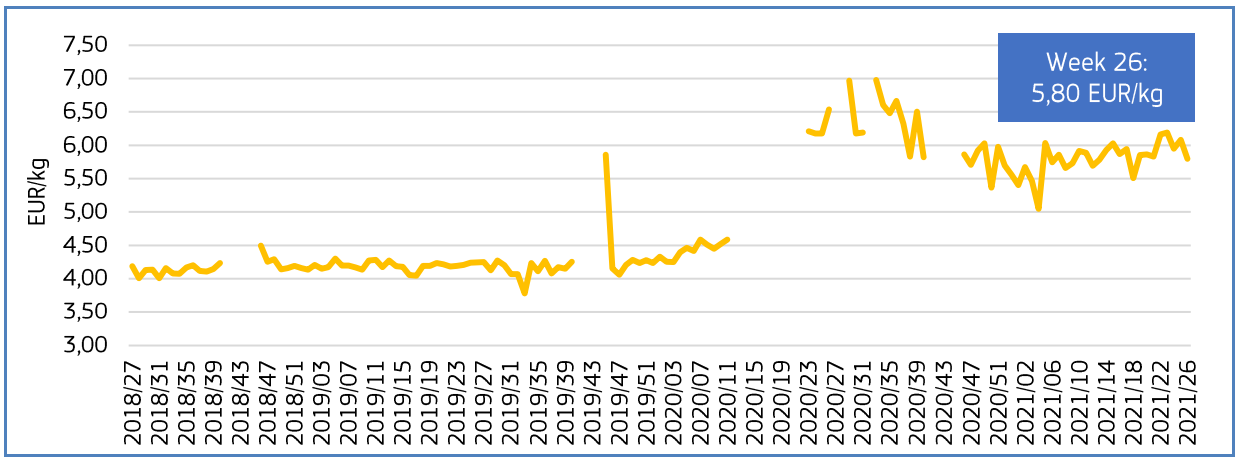
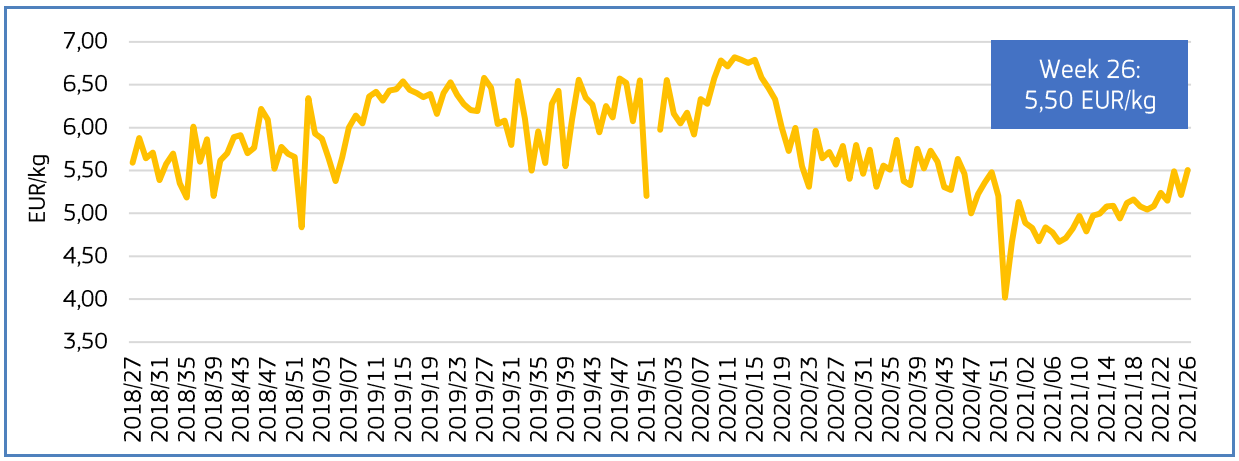


Figure 40. **IMPORT PRICE OF COD SALTED AND IN BRINE FROM NORWAY, 2018 – 2021**



Since the first week of January 2021, both price and volume of fresh or chilled redfish from Iceland have exhibited a downward trend. Price ranged from 1,41 to 1,86 EUR/kg.

Since the beginning of the year, both price and volume of fresh or chilled Cape hake and deep-water hake from Namibia exhibited an upward trend. Volume ranged from 16 to 72 tonnes.

From the beginning of 2021, price and volume of cod salted and in brine from Norway exhibited an upward trend. Volume averaged around 475 tonnes.

3. Consumption

3.1. HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

Data analysed in the section "*Consumption*" are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from Europanel[35].

In May 2021 compared with May 2020, household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products increased in both volume and value in five of the Member States analysed, including Ireland and Poland. In addition to Hungary, for which no detail in terms of species is available, the most significant increase was seen in Ireland, primarily due to haddock (+52% in volume, +43% in value) and salmon (+2% in volume, +5% in value). In Poland, salmon (+20% in volume, +23% in value), was the main species contributing to an increase in household consumption, as well as mackerel, consumption of which grew by 4% in both volume and value. In Germany, shrimps and plaice were the main contributors to an increased consumption volume, while in the Netherlands, salmon and cod were responsible for an overall increase. By contrast, the decreased consumption experienced in Sweden was primarily due to salmon, which fell in both volume and value, by 25% and 29% respectively. Hake (–23% in volume, –10% in value) and sardine (–30% in volume, –17% in value) were the main contributors to decreased consumption in Spanish households, whereas in Portugal this was due to hake (–43% in volume, –38% in value) and mackerel (–42% in volume, –44% in value).

Table 25. **OVERVIEW OF THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

Country	Per capita consumption 2018* (live weight equivalent, LWE) kg/capita/year	May 2019		May 2020		April 2021		May 2021		Change from May 2020 to May 2021	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	39,83	977	20,35	1.183	20,27	1.229	20,16	1.221	19,95	3%	2%
France	33,52	15.145	193,74	15.973	204,64	19.643	246,25	16.186	212,30	1%	4%
Germany	14,50	5.908	69,14	4.492	93,87	7.118	109,21	6.017	91,00	3%	3%
Hungary	6,12	346	2,35	292	1,45	344	1,81	436	2,67	49%	84%
Ireland	23,13	958	14,23	1.009	15,34	1.488	22,32	1.201	18,13	19%	18%
Italy	31,02	26.171	263,69	24.254	251,14	25.332	269,07	23.230	251,01	4%	0%
Netherlands	20,90	2.199	38,01	2.606	45,85	2.689	46,82	2.769	48,61	6%	6%
Poland	13,02	2.978	19,45	3.047	20,49	3.938	27,79	3.464	23,77	14%	16%
Portugal	60,92	5.894	36,31	7.721	51,51	6.441	44,40	6.328	43,73	18%	15%
Spain	46,01	50.336	403,61	60.770	501,03	52.520	461,94	47.787	411,73	21%	18%
Sweden	26,61	725	9,67	1.038	12,83	910	11,78	797	10,26	23%	20%

**Data on per capita consumption of all fish and seafood products for all EU Member States can be found at:*
https://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/415635/EN_The+EU+fish+market_2020.pdf/

Over the past three years, the average volume of household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products in May has been above the annual average in three of the Member States analysed, namely Denmark, Portugal, and Spain. In terms

[35] Last update: 21.07.2021

of value, the May average household consumption was below the annual average in most of the countries analysed, except for Denmark, Germany, Portugal, and Spain.

The most recent weekly consumption data (up to **week 36 of 2021**) are available on the EUMOFA website and can be accessed **here**.

3.2. Alaska pollock

Habitat: Marine non-migratory species, living and feeding in brackish and salt waters, near the bottom as well as in midwaters or near the surface.[36]
Catch area: Throughout the North Pacific Ocean, with largest concentrations being caught in the eastern Bering Sea.[37]
Catching countries: Russian Federation, the United States, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea.[38]
Production method: Caught.
Main consumers in the EU: Germany, France, Poland.[39]
Presentation: Filleted, whole, headed and gutted.
Preservation: Frozen, fresh.[40]

3.2.1. Overview of household consumption in Germany

Germany is one of the EU Member States where the per capita apparent consumption[41] of fisheries and aquaculture products is below the EU average. In 2018, this amounted to 14,50 kg, an increase of 3%, compared with the previous year. It was 83% lower than per capita apparent consumption in Malta[42], the Member State with the highest per capita apparent consumption (85,95 kg LWE), and 40% lower than the EU average (24,36 kg LWE).

See more on per capita apparent consumption in the EU in Table 23.

Over the past three years (June 2018 – May 2021), total German household consumption of Alaska pollock was 11.748 tonnes and German consumers spent on average 12,23 EUR per month for a kilogram of Alaska pollock.

We have covered **Alaska pollock** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

Imports: each issue (Alaska pollock frozen fillets)

Case study: 7 / 2020 (The EU Market for Alaska pollock)

[36] https://www.fishbase.in/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?ID=318&AT=alaska+pollock
[37] https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/alaska-pollock
[38] https://beta.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/137160/Alaska+pollock_31-1.pdf
[39] Eumofa Monthly Highlights no. 7 / 2000.
[40] Over 90% of the Alaska pollock imported volume is frozen fillets.
[41] "Apparent consumption" is calculated by using the supply balance sheet that provides an estimate of the supply of fisheries and aquaculture products available for human consumption at EU level. The calculation of the supply balance sheet is based on the equation: *Apparent consumption = [(total catches – industrial catches) + aquaculture + imports] – exports*. Catches targeted for fishmeal (industrial catches) are excluded. Non-food use products are also excluded from imports and exports. It is worth underlining that the methodologies for estimating apparent consumption at EU and Member State levels are different, the first based on data and estimates as described in the Methodological background, the latter also requiring the adjustment of abnormal trends due to the higher impact of stock changes.
[42] The high per capita apparent consumption in Malta could be due to higher consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products during the tourist season.

Figure 41. **PRICES OF ALASKA POLLOCK PURCHASED BY GERMAN HOUSEHOLDS**

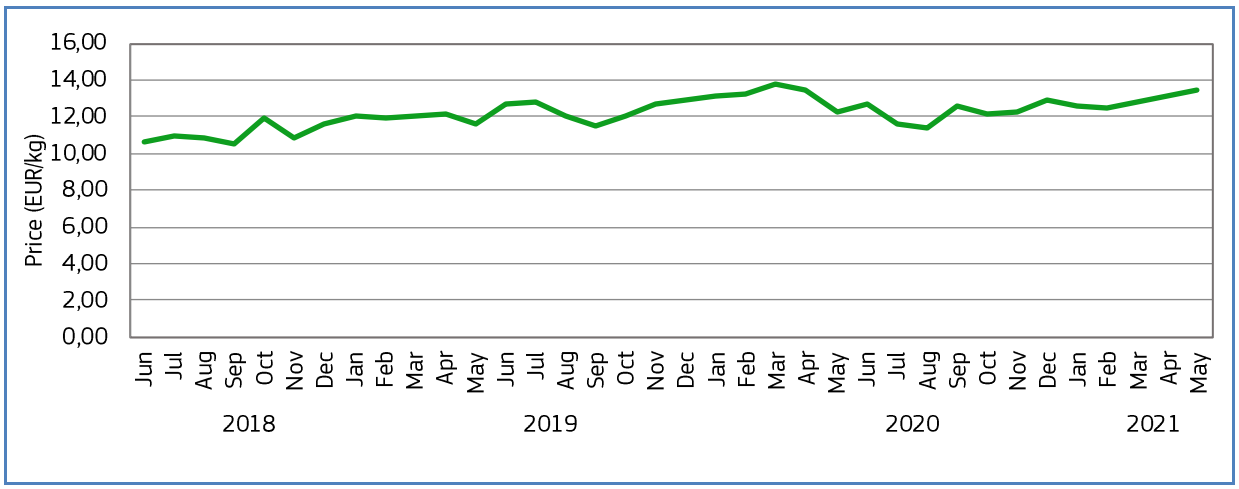
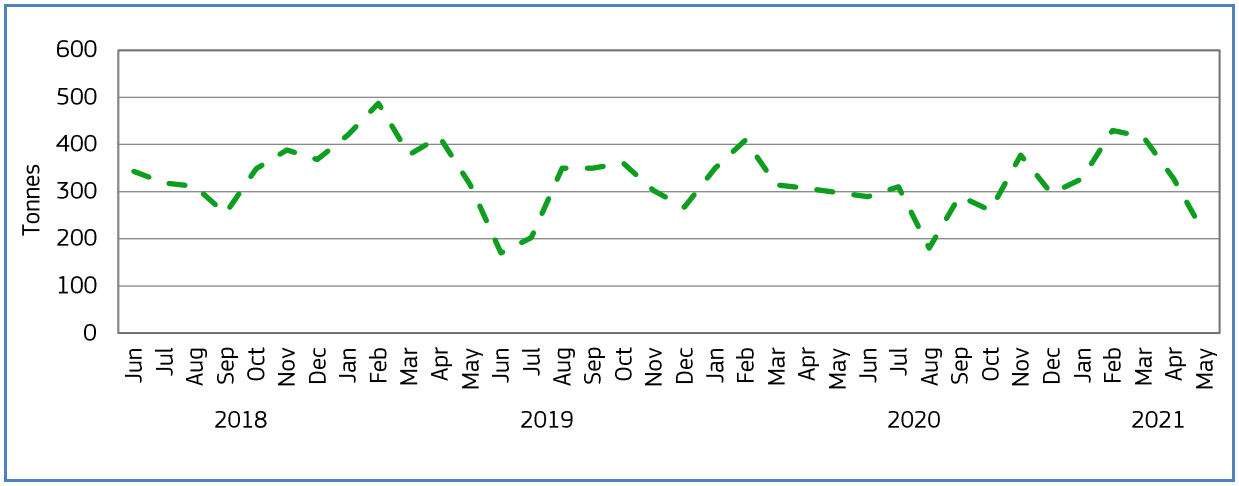


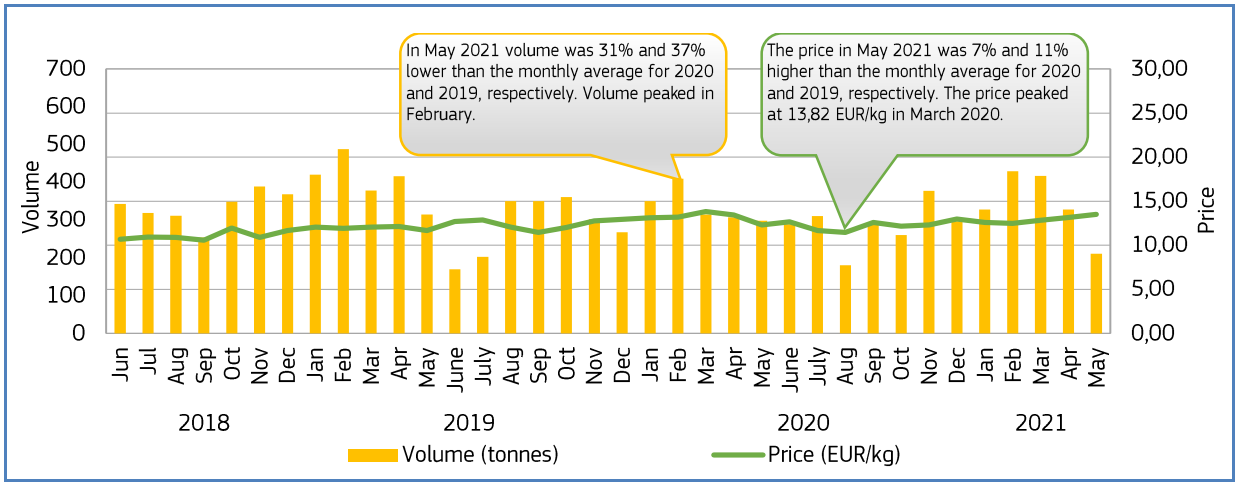
Figure 42. **HOUSEHOLD PURCHASES OF ALASKA POLLOCK IN GERMANY**



3.2.2. Household consumption trends in Germany

Long-term trend (June 2018 to May 2021): Upward trend in price, and downward but fluctuating trend in volume.
Yearly average price: 10,93 EUR/kg (2018), 12,21 EUR/kg (2019), 12,64 EUR/kg (2020).
Yearly average consumption: 4.445 tonnes (2018), 4.019 tonnes (2019), 3.685 tonnes (2020).
Short-term trend (January to May 2021): increase in price (+7% from January), decrease in volume (-36% from January).
Average price (January to May 2021): 12,91 EUR/kg.
Consumption (January to May 2021): 1.712 tonnes.

Figure 43. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF ALASKA POLLOCK PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN GERMANY, JUNE 2018 – MAY 2021**



4. Case study – Fisheries and aquaculture in Morocco

Morocco is located in Northwest Africa with a population of nearly 36,5 million and an area of 446.600 square kilometers. With its 3.500 kilometers of coastlines (500 km on the Mediterranean Sea and 3.000 km on the Atlantic Ocean), Morocco has a strong tradition of maritime fisheries. Its national fisheries production totalled around 1,5 million tonnes in 2019, making it the largest maritime fisheries producer in Africa and the 16th largest in the world (accounting for 1,6% of global fishery production in 2019)[43]. Fisheries activity plays an important role in the economic and social development of the country. In 2017, it contributed to 2,5% of the GDP and the sector created direct employment for 111.214 people[44]. The Moroccan fleet comprised an estimated 19.532 vessels in 2016, of which 90% were under 12m[45]. Similarly, the processing industry and exploitation of fish products occupies a significant place in the Moroccan economy, providing 50% of agro-food exports and 12% of total exports of Morocco[46]. Processing plants in Morocco treat more than 70% of fish landed by the fishing fleet, and the products are distributed to more than 100 destinations around the world. Morocco now has a modern regional platform for the export of fish products to the most demanding markets[47].

Source: iStock, No 543984308, Peter Hermes Furian

It is worth noting that, on the Moroccan market, a significant share of fisheries production is not destined for human consumption (fish oil and fishmeal), while the transformation of fisheries products for human consumption is based on only two types of products, namely frozen and fresh. Similarly, a significant part of the catch is exported without having undergone any processing.

In contrast, despite the Government's willingness and determination to develop aquaculture, this activity remains very small, with an annual production of around 1.500 tonnes, contributing only 0,002% of global aquaculture production[48]. The local consumption of fish products is still limited, due to high retail prices created by long supply chains, in which many intermediaries are involved.

4.1 Fishery production

Fisheries are an economic sector of prime importance in Morocco. Catches totalled 1,48 million tonnes in 2019, most of which were harvested from the Atlantic side. Small pelagics are the main fishery resource in Morocco, accounting for almost 85% of national fisheries production. Their supply is dominated by the European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*), of which Morocco has the largest stock in the world. On the international level, European sardine production was around 1,5 million tonnes, of which Morocco contributed 65%, followed by Mauritania (16%). Moroccan catches of small pelagics supply several markets, from the high-value canning sector to the lower-value fishmeal processing industry that supplies both domestic and foreign markets (over a third of the small pelagic production for each market). The remaining volume of small pelagics is marketed in the domestic market, as fresh or frozen[49].

[43] Based on FAO statistics.
[44] https://www.comunitapmimediterraneo.org/en/news/fishing-industry-in-morocco/
[45] http://www.fao.org/fishery/facp/MAR/fr
[46] https://www.comunitapmimediterraneo.org/en/news/fishing-industry-in-morocco/
[47] Ibidem
[48] Based on FAO statistics.
[49] https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/Moroccan-Canned-Sardines-Value-Chain-Governance-and-Value-Added-Distribution1.pdf

After small pelagics, squids, cuttlefishes, and octopuses - caught with trawlers - are the second most important group of species produced by Morocco, totaling around 90.000 tonnes in 2019.

Red seaweeds are collected during the three-month summer period on a narrow stretch of coastline, and are mainly used to produce "agar-agar", a natural gelling agent popular with cooks and professional chefs. Red seaweeds are also used in pharmacology and cosmetics. In recent years, Moroccan authorities have set prices and quotas to protect this resource. Currently, the annual quota is set at 6.040 tonnes[50]. About 80% of harvested red seaweed is processed into agar-agar in Kenitra, north of Rabat, with almost the entire output being destined for the export market, including the European market (the remaining 20% is exported without any processing)[51]. According to EUROSTAT-COMEXT, Morocco was the largest exporter of agar-agar to the European market in 2019, after China. European buyers consider the quality of Moroccan agar-agar to be very high, and Morocco's close geographical proximity to Europe is also seen as an advantage[52].

Inland fisheries are not economically significant and account only for 15.500 tonnes of total volume, and thus are not taken into account in the table below.

Table 26. **CATCHES BY MAIN SPECIES GROUPS IN MOROCCO (volume in tonnes)**

Major species groups	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Herrings, sardines, anchovies	848.813	621.068	817.078	822.718	921.033	906.053	953.887	985.900	990.061	993.746
Miscellaneous pelagic fishes	100.106	143.692	149.132	195.895	217.852	211.872	257.523	160.291	185.391	241.795
Squids, cuttlefishes, octopuses	54.559	59.620	49.664	95.663	78.978	101.745	101.283	89.729	66.477	89.764
Marine fishes not identified	46.313	45.436	48.429	45.073	46.280	41.801	34.981	33.418	30.919	30.124
Miscellaneous coastal fishes	31.282	32.153	38.824	29.918	33.019	29.932	31.365	34.214	31.491	28.799
Red seaweeds	7.405	19.795	18.394	21.946	9.837	19.071	25.291	24.672	14.828	17.318
Miscellaneous demersal fishes	11.110	10.062	10.293	13.707	14.208	16.653	14.728	13.779	9.254	15.965
Tunas, bonitos, billfishes	11.106	12.023	9.756	8.899	9.249	9.612	8.167	17.163	13.981	13.163
Others	25.732	25.862	25.578	26.668	29.639	32.273	29.587	27.458	32.144	31.474
Total	**1.136.426**	**969.711**	**1.167.148**	**1.260.487**	**1.360.095**	**1.369.012**	**1.456.812**	**1.386.624**	**1.374.546**	**1.462.146**

Source: FAO

4.2 Aquaculture production

Although an increase in production volumes has been recorded in the last years, aquaculture remains a small sector in Morocco, with about 1.598 tonnes produced in 2019. It is likely that Moroccan aquaculture is generally underreported, due to the fact that carp production and algae culture are not always considered as aquaculture.

Moroccan aquaculture is focused on a few species and is sold without substantial value being added (mainly as fresh whole fish, and through a short value chain involving farming, harvest and transport to retail). The only species which appears to be processed is trout, which is generally smoked.

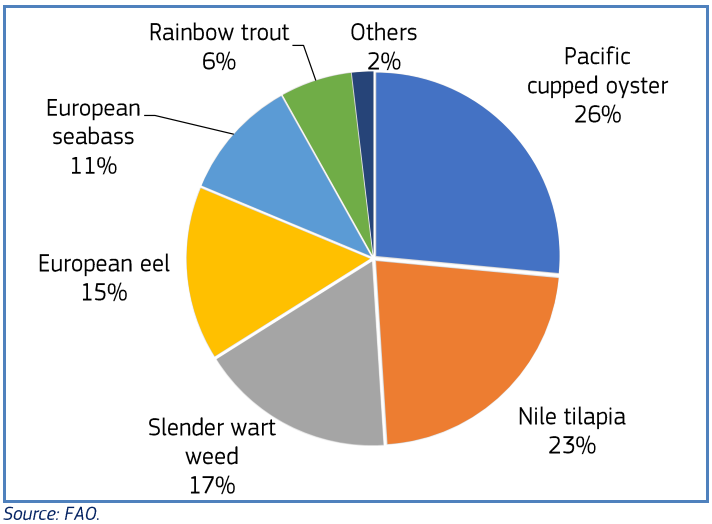
According to available FAO statistics, marine aquaculture has focused to a large degree on three species: oysters, seaweeds, and European seabass, which, combined, totalled 865 tonnes in 2019. Products of marine aquaculture are consumed by the domestic market, with oysters being sold to large retailers or to the HORECA sector, while seaweed is produced mainly for industrial use (agro-food, cosmetic, agriculture, etc.). Freshwater aquaculture reached 703 tonnes in 2019 and was focused on a limited number of species: Nile tilapia, European eel and rainbow trout. Eel is a relatively expensive freshwater fish,

[50] Ibidem.
[51] https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/hard-times-red-gold-divers-moroccos-el-jadida
[52] https://www.cbi.eu/market-information/natural-food-additives/seaweed-extracts-food/market-entry

but it is not usually eaten in Morocco and thus is mainly exported to the Asian market (China, Japan, South Korea)[53]. Carp, which is not included in the official FAO statistics, is reported to be the primary locally-produced freshwater fish in Morocco[54], but little is known about its market and no statistics are available on its production.

According to the National Aquaculture Development Agency (NADA), marine aquaculture in Morocco holds a lot of promise, and the country's potential yield of aquaculture products could be as high as 380.000 tonnes per year[55]. In 2009, the Moroccan government launched the "Halieutis Plan" with the objective to support the development of marine aquaculture. The NADA was created to facilitate the implementation of this plan through supporting companies in obtaining production rights in pre-defined places, supporting pilot projects (seaweed and mussel farming in the Mediterranean), providing tax advantages and simplifying administrative procedures.

Figure 44. **MAIN SPECIES FARMED IN MOROCCO IN 2019**



Source: FAO.

4.3 Processing

The processing industry in Morocco handles more than 70% of fish landed by the local fleet[56]. There are 350 processing plants for fisheries products which focus on the following activities:

- Freezing fish, cephalopods, and crustaceans
- Production of canned fish, especially canned sardine
- Production of fishmeal and fish oil
- Production of dried, salted, and smoked fish
- Processing and packaging of fresh fish for export
- Treatment of algae and production of Agar-agar

There are also some units specialised in peeling shrimps that are not caught in the Moroccan waters (some of them are EU units based in Morocco). Shrimps (mainly brown shrimps) caught in the North Sea by the EU fleet are sent by truck to be peeled by hands in specialised units, where peeling is mainly carried out by women. Due to the health crisis relate to COVID-19, this activity was slowed down, resulting in a shortage of peeled shrimps in EU supermarkets in 2020. This activity has returned to normal, with the end of sanitary measures in Morocco.

According to FAO statistics, the Moroccan processing industry was estimated to produce around 730.000 tonnes in 2019, excluding the packaging of fresh fish for export and the production of Agar-agar, for which no data are reported[57].

The freezing sector is important to the fishing industry. In 2019, 379.293 tonnes of frozen fish were produced. Most freezing companies are concentrated in the southern part of the country due to the importance of cephalopods and small pelagic fisheries in this area. The canning sector in Morocco is the result of a long process of Know-How Capitalisation, producing over 186.000 tonnes in 2019.

[53] https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2018/06/Aquaculture-Business-Opportunities-Morocco.pdf
[54] https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2018/06/Aquaculture-Business-Opportunities-Morocco.pdf
[55] https://www.anda.gov.ma/sites/default/files/EtudeV03012018.pdf
[56] https://www.comunitapmimediterraneo.org/en/news/fishing-industry-in-morocco/
[57] FAO FISHSTAT.

With 50 canning plants, the canning industry focuses primarily on sardine (85%) followed by anchovies (8%) and mackerel (7%)[58]. Canned sardines include the following products: whole round sardines in vegetable oil; whole round sardines in tomato sauce and other ingredients; skinless and boneless sardines in vegetable oil, and other preparations.

The Moroccan sardine industry faces significant challenges related to competition with emerging countries, limited range of products, low levels of innovation, and an insufficiently diversified range of production. For instance, the value-added product of skinless and boneless sardine makes up only a small proportion of canned sardines[59]. The sector of semi-preserved fish focuses on treating and salting anchovies and marinating seafood products and consists of a small sector producing annually around 1.500 tonnes.

Table 27. **PROCESSING PRODUCTION IN MOROCCO (volume in tonnes)**

Product	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Frozen fish, crustaceans and molluscs	232.194	206.661	166.020	215.992	280.708	243.617	301.944	343.517	360.090	379.293
Prepared of preserved fish	141.400	150.895	115.320	140.200	145.200	158.850	163.185	165.555	180.970	186.596
Fishmeal	120.000	112.600	99.100	77.000	90.000	135.000	116.700	123.900	139.500	129.600
Fish oil	42.200	41.512	22.700	29.000	20.700	35.000	55.000	38.500	39.500	33.200
Dried, salted or smoked fish	1.294	609	1.200	1.300	1.700	1.650	1.850	1.400	1.550	1.120
Total	**537.088**	**512.277**	**404.340**	**463.492**	**538.308**	**574.117**	**638.679**	**672.872**	**721.610**	**729.809**

Source: FAO.

4.4 Exports and imports

Morocco is now a key platform for the export of fish products to global markets. In 2020, the commercial balance (balance of trade) reached over EUR 1,9 billion. While exports exceeded EUR 2,1 billion for around 854.000 tonnes, imports totalled at 100.000 tonnes for less than EUR 206 million.

Table 28. **TRADE BALANCE FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN MOROCCO (value in billion EUR)**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Export	1,9	2,0	2,0	2,0	2,1
Import	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2
Balance	**1,7**	**1,8**	**1,8**	**1,8**	**1,9**

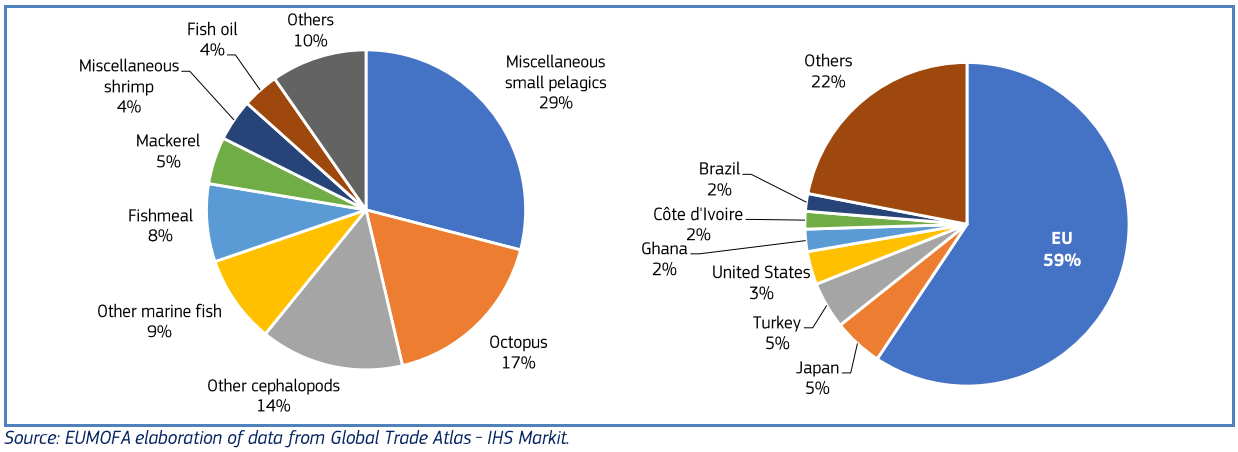
Source: EUMOFA elaboration of data from Global Trade Atlas - IHS Markit.

The EU is the main market for Moroccan exports of seafood, accounting for 59% of the value of Moroccan exports in 2020. Other major destinations include Japan (5% in value in 2020), Turkey (5%) and the United States (3%). Miscellaneous small pelagics[60] (dominated by sardine) are the most important commodity group exported by Morocco. Sardine is mainly exported canned (161.000 tonnes for EUR 157 million in 2020) and frozen (over 181.000 tonnes for EUR 140 million). With regards to international trade, Morocco is by far the largest exporter of canned sardines[61], exported to European, American and some African markets.
Octopus and other cephalopods are also among the species most commonly exported by Morocco and are mainly exported frozen to Italian and Spanish markets. Both markets absorb 78% of the exports of frozen octopus and other cephalopods from Morocco (88 million tonnes for EUR 510 million).

Fishmeal is also an important commodity exported from Morocco. In 2020, 164 million tonnes were exported with a value of EUR 162 million. Turkey is the main destination, accounting for 54% of export volume and 50% of value.

[58] Ibidem.
[59] https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/Moroccan-Canned-Sardines-Value-Chain-Governance-and-Value-Added-Distribution1.pdf
[60] In EUMOFA database, sardine is aggregated with other pelagic species under the category „Miscellaneous small pelagics". In the case of Morocco, this category is mostly made up of sardine products.
[61] https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/Moroccan-Canned-Sardines-Value-Chain-Governance-and-Value-Added-Distribution1.pdf

Figure 45. **MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES EXPORTED FROM MOROCCO (left) AND MAIN DESTINATIONS OF MOROCCAN EXPORTS (right) IN 2020 IN VALUE TERMS**

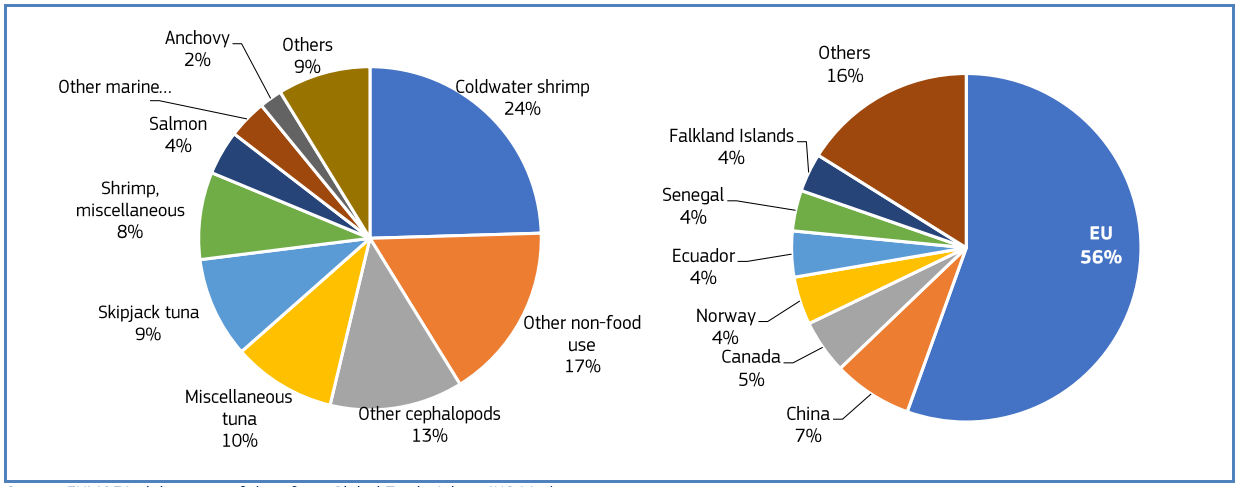


Source: EUMOFA elaboration of data from Global Trade Atlas - IHS Markit.

In Morocco, imports of fisheries products are relatively low, in relation to the small domestic market, and the EU is the country's main supplier. These imports are dominated by a few species, such as coldwater shrimp (33% of the value of Moroccan imports from the EU), products not destined for human consumption other than fish oil and fishmeal (24%), and skipjack tuna (17%).

Other suppliers include China (mainly exporting cephalopods, tuna and shrimps) and Canada (mainly exporting coldwater shrimps).

Figure 46. **MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IMPORTED TO MOROCCO (left) AND MAIN ORIGINS OF MOROCCAN IMPORTS (right) IN 2020 IN VALUE TERMS**



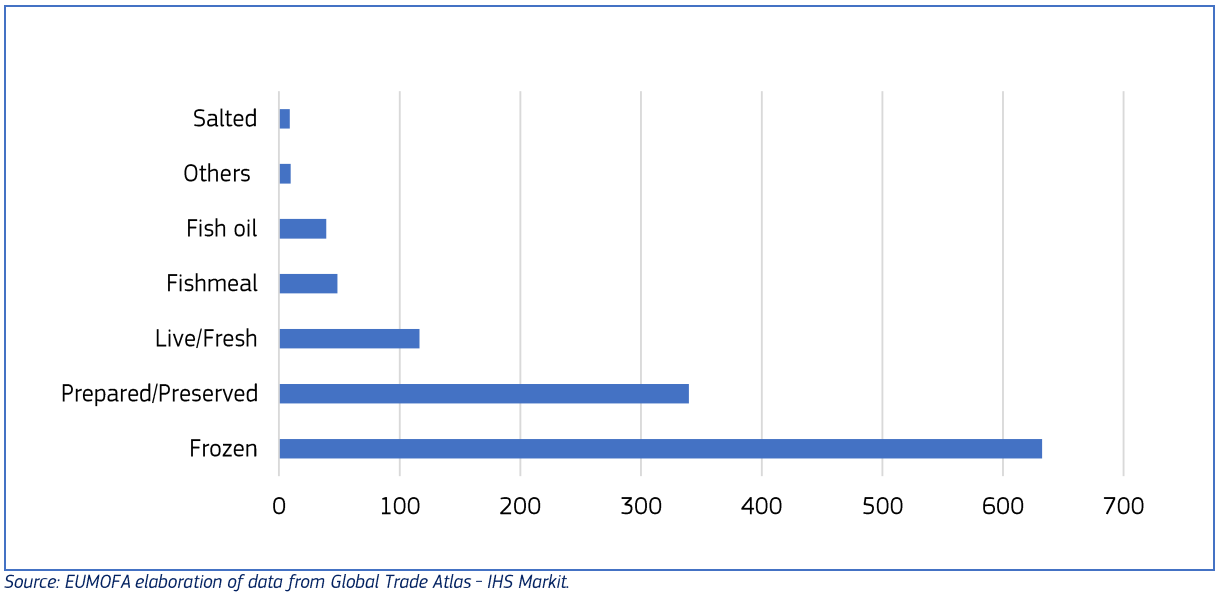
Source: EUMOFA elaboration of data from Global Trade Atlas - IHS Markit.

Focus on trade flows with the EU

The EU is the main commercial partner for Morocco and absorbed 59% of the value of Moroccan exports in 2020. In particular, the EU absorbed 84% of Moroccan exports of fresh products and 46% of Moroccan exports of prepared-preserved products. At the same time, Morocco was the fourth-largest supplier of the EU market with a total value of EUR 1,3 billion in 2020, which represented 5% of the total extra-EU imports.

More than half of EU imports from Morocco are frozen (53% in value terms in 2020). Prepared-preserved products are the next most significant group (28% of value,) followed by fresh products (10% of value).

Figure 47. **MOROCCAN EXPORTS TO THE EU BY PRESERVATION TYPE (value in million EUR)**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of data from Global Trade Atlas - IHS Markit.

Spain is the main commercial partner, accounting for more than half of total EU imports from Morocco. Other major partners within the EU are Italy (accounting for 20% of export value) and to a lesser extent France (8%) and the Netherlands (7%). The main commercial species that are imported to the EU in value term are octopus (22%), squid (14%), sardine (13%), miscellaneous shrimp (12%), cuttlefish (8%), anchovy (8%) and other marine fish (7%).

Table 29. **EU IMPORTS OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES FROM MOROCCO (volume in tonnes, value in billion EUR)**

Main commercial species	2018		2019		2020	
	VOLUME	VALUE	VOLUME	VALUE	VOLUME	VALUE
Octopus	34.155	0,43	36.616	0,33	39.010	0,29
Squid	7.011	0,06	17.660	0,14	27.495	0,18
Sardine	79.503	0,18	85.842	0,18	84.857	0,17
Miscellaneous shrimp	14.435	0,17	17.050	0,18	14.584	0,16
Anchovy	14.610	0,11	15.087	0,12	16.184	0,11
Cuttlefish	16.281	0,10	20.224	0,09	25.716	0,10
Other marine fish	23.747	0,09	26.173	0,10	26.741	0,10
Fishmeal	27.988	0,03	39.522	0,05	46.601	0,05
Others	30.469	0,02	29.203	0,02	40.671	0,04
Total	**248.199**	**1,32**	**287.377**	**1,33**	**321.858**	**1,30**

Source: EUMOFA based on EUROSTAT-COMEXT.

4.5 Other collaboration between Morocco and the EU

On 18 July 2019, the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement (SFPA) between the EU and Morocco came into effect. Covering a period of four years (from July 2019 to July 2023), the agreement allocates fishing opportunities for the EU in exchange for an overall financial contribution of EUR 208 million. It allows a total number of 128 vessels from Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Netherlands, Ireland, Italy, and United Kingdom to fish in the Moroccan Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)[62].

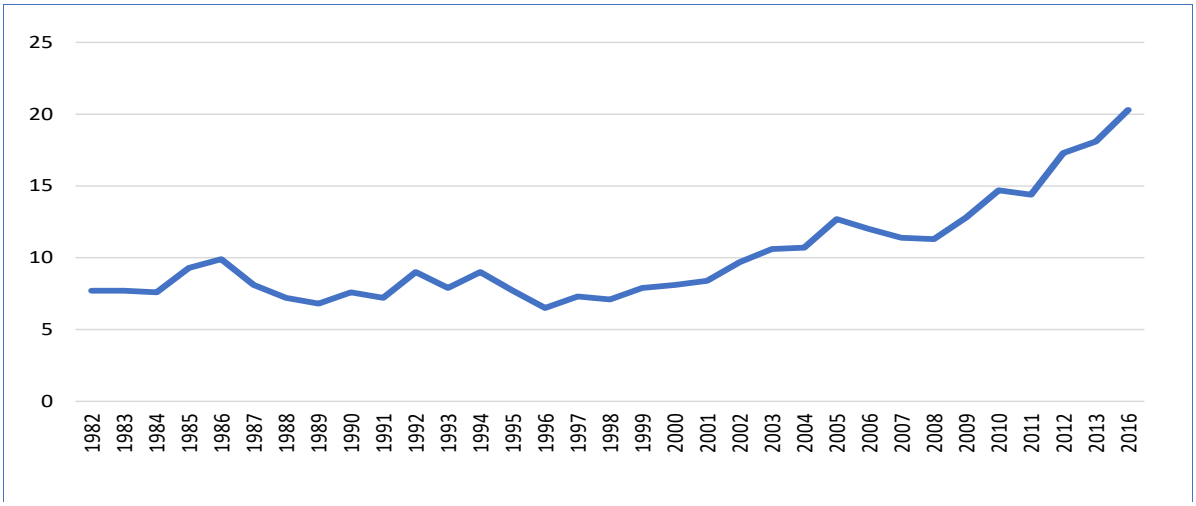
4.6 Consumption

In comparison to the size of the fishing sector in Morocco, domestic consumption of fish is low, due to the relatively high prices of fish. The length of the supply chain (commercial intermediaries between the fisherman and the consumer) weighs heavily on the final price. The vast majority of fisheries products (around 70%) are exported[63].

After several years where the consumption of fish per capita was below 10 kg, it has increased in the last twenty years to reach 20,3 kg in 2016[64]. This increase is related to significant demographic growth and changes in consumer behavior, the development of tourism, the development of large-scale distribution throughout Morocco, and more recently a promotional campaign launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in support of the consumption of fisheries and aquaculture products[65].

Moroccan consumers are familiar with marine fish, thanks to Morocco's strong fishery production. In contrast, freshwater fish is little known and is generally considered to be of inferior quality.

Figure 48. **PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN MOROCCO (VOLUME IN LIVE WEIGHT - KG)**



Source: FAO.

[62] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/fisheries/international-agreements/sustainable-fisheries-partnership-agreements-sfpas/morocco_en
[63] http://www.fao.org/fishery/facp/MAR/fr
[64] FAO statistics.
[65] https://www.anda.gov.ma/sites/default/files/EtudeV03012018.pdf

5. Case study – Farmed Seabass and seabream in the EU

European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) and gilthead seabream (*Sparus aurata*) are both marine fish species of key economic and cultural importance in Southern Europe.

After mass-production techniques were developed in the late 1960s, European seabass became the first non-salmonid marine species to be commercially cultured in Europe. Similarly, gilthead seabream has been the subject of intensive farming since as early as the 1970s. The rearing of seabream larvae is more complex than that of the bass due to the very small size of the larvae at hatching. However, due to its high adaptability to intensive rearing conditions, both are considered to be success stories of aquaculture innovation.

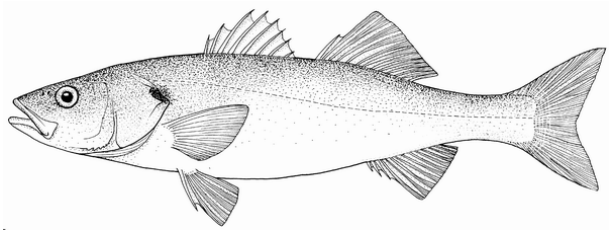
Currently, most farmed bass are grown in floating cages in the sea, while there are a few land-based farms. The fish is normally harvested after 16 to 24 months in size categories below 1 kg.

Gilthead seabream is normally reared in sea cages, but some land-based systems can be found. The fish is normally harvested from about 16 months.

5.1 Biology

European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*)

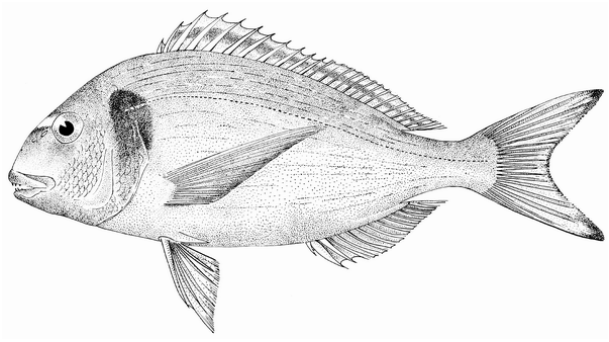
European seabass is a coastal marine fish that lives in shallow waters (<100 m) from the North-eastern Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean and Black Seas. Because of its euryhaline and eurythermal characteristics, the species is often found foraging in estuaries and lagoons from spring to autumn, especially at the juvenile stage. Sometimes they venture upstream into freshwater. There is only one breeding season per year, which takes place in winter in the Mediterranean population (December to March), and up to June in Atlantic populations. Seabass are predators, and their feeding range includes small fish, prawns, crabs, and cuttlefish.



Source: FAO

Gilthead seabream (*Sparus aurata*)

Gilthead seabream is common in the Mediterranean Sea, present along the Eastern Atlantic coasts from Great Britain to Senegal, and rare in the Black Sea. Because of its euryhaline and eurythermal features, the species is found in both marine and brackish water environments such as coastal lagoons and estuarine areas, particularly during the initial stages of its life cycle. As they are very sensitive to low temperatures, juveniles mostly settle along protected coastal waters, where they can find abundant trophic resources and milder temperatures, while adults return to the open sea, on rocky bottoms and seagrass (*Posidonia oceanica*) meadows, to breed. This species is a protandrous hermaphrodite (individuals mature as males but may reproduce as females later in life). In captivity, sex reversal is conditioned by social and hormonal factors.



Source: FAO

5.2 Production

Global aquaculture production of European seabass and gilthead seabream has steadily risen in the last 20 years from around 150.000 tonnes in 2000 to over 475.000 tonnes in 2020. In 2019, total production reached 495.000 tonnes, and it is expected that the milestone of half a billion tonnes will be surpassed within 2 years' time. Although growth has certainly not been constant, the last 20 years were marked by decreased production only in the years 2004, 2010-2011, and 2020. The compound annual growth rate is around 6% for both species. However, growth in volume has mainly come from production outside Europe, specifically in Turkey and North Africa, where the compound average annual growth rates have been close to 10% over the last 20 years.

5.2.1 EU production

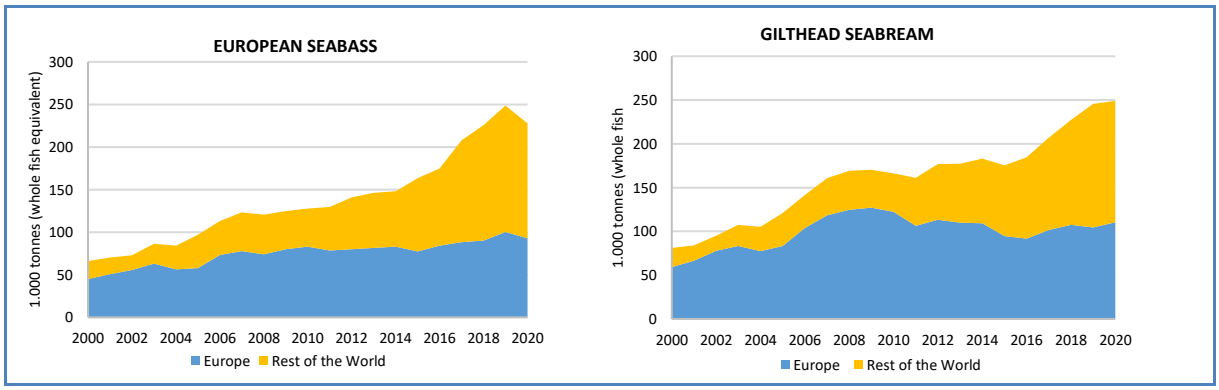
EU aquaculture production of European seabass and gilthead seabream has increased over the last 20 years, doubling from around 100.000 tonnes in 2000 to roughly 200.000 tonnes in 2020. The average annual growth rate has been around 3%. Although there has been overall growth in production of seabass and seabream on a global scale, growth has been more volatile in the EU.

European seabass production in the EU doubled from around 45.000 tonnes in 2000 to circa 90.000 tonnes in 2020. Despite overall growth, production has seen a flat development in the years 2007 to 2015, when harvest volumes fluctuated around 80.000 tonnes. In the last 5 years, seabass production has increased again, although harvest volumes have declined since 2019.

Production of gilthead seabream in the EU has increased from roughly 60.000 tonnes in 2000 to around 110.000 tonnes in 2020. Gilthead seabream production has also seen a stagnation in growth and has not significantly increased since 2006, although peak production was reached in 2009 at around 125.000 tonnes. EU production shows an increasing trend over the past few years, and 2021 could mark a new record year for harvest volumes.

The biggest producers of both seabass and seabream in 2020 in the European Union are Greece (128.000 MT), Spain (30.000 MT), Italy (17.000 MT), and Croatia (14.000 MT).

Figure 49. **AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM (1.000 tonnes)**



Source: Kontali Analyse

5.2.2 Organic aquaculture

As mentioned in EUMOFA's research on EU Organic Aquaculture from 2017[66], the following Mediterranean countries produce organic European seabass and gilthead seabream: Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Croatia.

[66] EU Organic Aquaculture. European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products. 2017
https://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/84590/Study+report_organic+aquaculture.pdf

According to the annual report from the Federation of Greek Maricultures (FGM), production of organic seabass and seabream in Greece seems to be relatively stable, consisting of around 800 tonnes for both species in the recent years. This represents 0,7% of the total harvest volume of both species in the country.[67]

Data from Italy shows that production of gilthead seabream prevails, with 134 tonnes being produced in 2015, 137 tonnes in 2016, and 223 tonnes in 2018, accounting for around 3% of total seabream production. While the organic production of European seabass in Italy had a marginal role in 2015 and 2016, when organic production was around 10 tonnes per year, in 2018 it reached 125 tonnes, representing 2,2% of total seabass production.[68]

5.3 International trade

The EU has a trade deficit for seabass and seabream. In 2020, around 25.000 tonnes of whole European seabass was imported at with a total value of around EUR 105 million**.** Over the last 5 years the trade deficit has increased, although increase in volume (+50%) was much higher than increase in value (+20%). Turkey is by far the biggest supplier to the EU, providing 96% of imported seabass volume. A small number of other countries import to the EU, but at marginal volumes compared to Turkey. For seabream, the volumes and values are higher compared to that of seabass, but the overall picture is similar. Total import to the EU in 2020 was around 40.000 tonnes, with a value of EUR 158 million. Over the last 5 years the trade deficit has increased, and also here increase in volume (+40%) was higher than increase in value (+30%). Turkey is by far the biggest import origin, supplying 94% of the volume. For seabream there are a few additional origin countries, namely Morocco, Tunisia, and Mauritania. Albania is the only other origin country supplying significant volumes (around 2.000 tonnes), accounting for 5% of overall import volume.

Table 30. **IMPORT OF WHOLE EUROPEAN SEABASS TO THE EU (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Turkey	15 831	82	18.861	91	24.190	99	26.604	99	23.588	98
United Kingdom	481	5	399	4	411	4	377	3	400	3
Albania	11	0	80	0	241	1	228	1	458	2
Egypt	56	1	50	1	141	2	219	2	219	2
Others	80	1	19	0	18	0	14	0	10	0
Total	**16.459**	**88**	**19.410**	**96**	**25.001**	**106**	**27.442**	**106**	**24.675**	**105**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data

Table 31. **IMPORT OF WHOLE GILTHEAD SEABREAM TO THE EU (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Turkey	27.639	118	28.500	121	31.323	121	36.314	141	37.774	148
Albania	9	0	780	3	1,155	4	1,474	5	1,894	7
United Kingdom	167	1	179	1	194	1	172	1	200	1
Morocco	219	2	282	3	127	1	79	1	102	1
Others	77	1	49	0	137	1	252	1	72	1
Total	**28.111**	**122**	**29.790**	**128**	**32.937**	**129**	**38.292**	**149**	**40.043**	**158**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data

Total export of seabass from the EU was around 12.000 tonnes in 2020, with a value of roughly EUR 70 million. Main export destinations were non-EU European countries such as the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and some Balkans states. Other important export countries were the USA and Israel. Total export of seabream in 2020 was around 8.000 tonnes, with a

[67] Aquaculture in Greece 2020, annual report. Federation of Greek Maricultures, 2020.
[68] Organic Aquaculture Production in Italy from 2015 to 2018: Species Production and Nutritional Quality Aspects

value of EUR 47 million. Export destinations were similar to those of seabass, with the exception of the United Arab Emirates, which are more significant importers of seabream than of seabass.

Table 32. **EXPORT OF WHOLE EUROPEAN SEABASS FROM THE EU (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
United Kingdom	7.284	40	7.288	44	7.297	43	5.775	28	4.154	21
United States	937	7	1.233	10	1.558	11	3.582	22	3.275	21
Israel	828	5	1.180	7	1.327	8	1.366	8	1.561	9
Switzerland	412	4	498	5	771	4	538	5	570	5
Canada	105	1	87	1	119	1	695	3	594	3
Kuwait	145	1	304	3	138	1	370	3	415	2
Albania	297	1	337	1	209	1	210	0	164	0
Others	607	4	586	4	692	5	1,181	8	1,172	7
Total	**10.615**	**63**	**11.515**	**74**	**12.111**	**75**	**13.716**	**77**	**11.904**	**70**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data

Table 33. **EXPORT OF WHOLE GILTHEAD SEABREAM FROM THE EU (volume in tonnes, value in million EUR)**

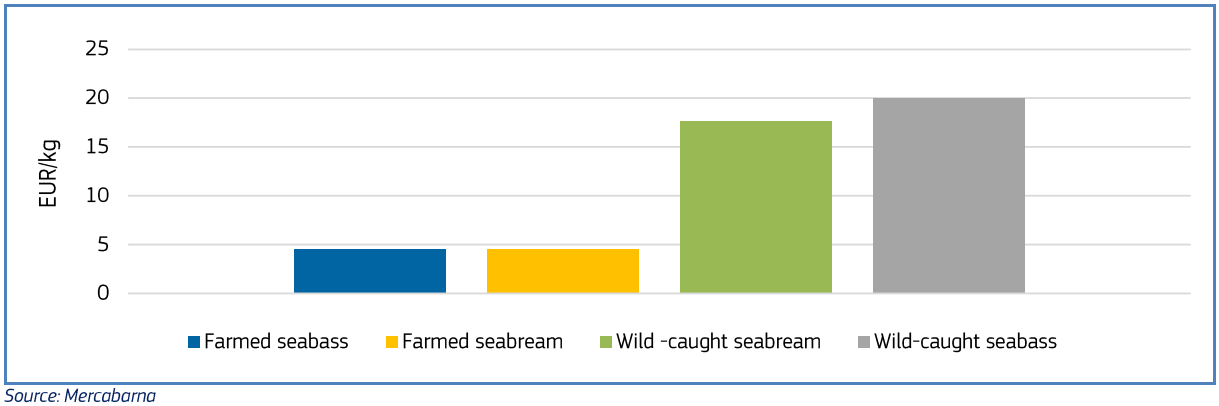
	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Israel	3.093	16	2.665	14	2.611	13	2.274	12	2.226	11
United Kingdom	2.357	11	2.802	13	2.851	12	2.438	11	2.069	9
Switzerland	948	8	948	8	924	8	991	8	1.208	10
United Arab Emirates	210	1	138	1	64	0	254	1	1.270	8
United States	122	1	157	1	232	1	478	3	282	2
Canada	52	0	55	0	64	0	379	2	408	2
Bahrain	160	1	72	0	121	0	231	1	92	0
Kuwait	81	0	175	1	92	0	140	1	120	0
Others	713	3	632	3	721	4	987	5	749	4
Total	**7.734**	**42**	**7.644**	**40**	**7.680**	**39**	**8.172**	**42**	**8.425**	**47**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data

5.4 The wholesale market

Due to the relatively low supply of wild-caught seabass and seabream, there is a significant price difference between farmed and wild fish. In 2020, in the Mercabarna wholesale market in Spain the average wholesale price of wild-caught seabass and seabream was three to four times higher compared with that of farmed fish.

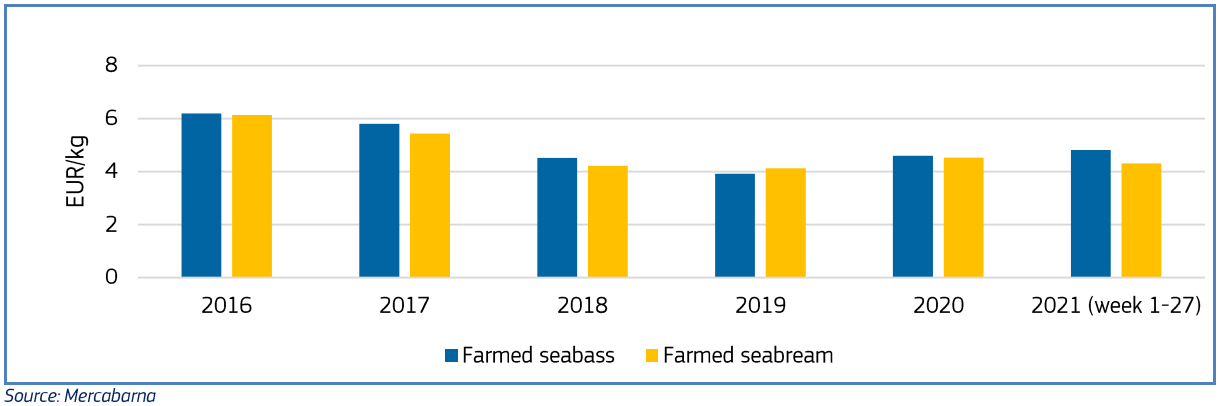
Figure 50. **AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE OF WILD-CAUGHT AND FARMED WHOLE FRESH EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM IN 2020 (EUR/kg)**



Source: Mercabarna

The increase in global production of both European seabass and gilthead seabream over the past five years has had a negative impact on prices. The Mercabarna wholesale prices for the whole, fresh, farmed seabass was 6,20 EUR/kg in 2016 and 3,90 EUR/kg in 2019, a reduction of 37%. Whole, fresh, farmed seabream shows a similar trend with a price drop of 32% from 6,13 EUR/kg 2016 to 4,12 EUR/kg in 2019. In 2020 however, the average price of both species increased slightly, to 4,59 EUR/kg for seabass and 4,53 EUR/kg for seabream. Data for 2021 are incomplete, but the average prices from week 1 to 27 show a continuous positive trend for seabass (4,82 EUR/kg), and a slightly negative trend for seabream (4,31 EUR/kg).

Figure 51. **AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE OF FARMED, WHOLE, FRESH EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM 2016-2020 (EUR/kg)**

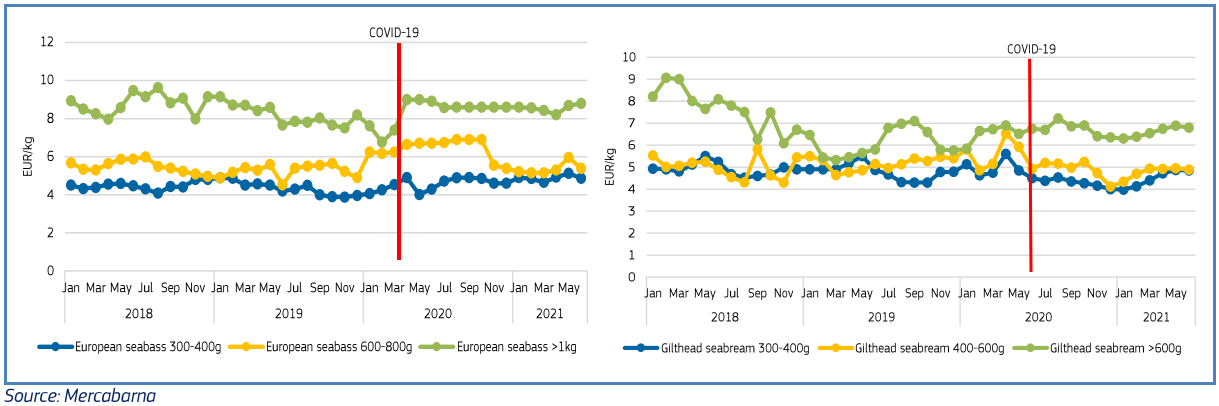


Source: Mercabarna

European seabass and gilthead seabream are sold in various sizes. Normally, larger fish achieve the highest prices. This is especially well represented in the price premiums for the large sizes compared to the smaller ones, and it is the same for both species when farmed.

At the MercaMadrid wholesale market, the average wholesale prices of farmed fish are reported for three different size categories per species. The categories for European seabass are 300-400 grams, 600-800 grams, and more than one kilogram, while for gilthead seabream the categories are 300-400 grams, 400-600 grams, and more than 600 grams.

Figure 52. **AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE OF EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM PER SIZE CATEGORY. (January 2018- July 2021, EUR/kg)**



Source: Mercabarna

Prices for all size categories vary throughout the year. The biggest difference in price is noticeable between the large and small size category for both species. However, it is more significant for seabass than seabream, which could be explained by the significant weight difference in size categories between seabass (>1kg) and seabream (>600g).

Fluctuation of average price is evident, and it seems that the end of the year is generally a weak period for the seabass and seabream sector. Prices usually fall entering the last quarter, and increase towards the summer, which is likely related to the increased demand on the market due to the high tourist season along the Mediterranean coast. High tourist season has a direct impact on the hospitality industry (HoReCa) where the largest size categories are considered to be the most valuable ones (>1 kg for seabass and >600g for seabream).

The average wholesale prices for seabass and seabream seem to be more or less stable after the COVID-19 pandemic, despite the lockdown measures implemented across the EU (see Figure 4.).

5.5 SUPPLY BALANCE AND CONSUMPTION

5.5.1 Supply balance and apparent consumption

The EUMOFA Supply balance sheet is designed to provide an estimate of the supply available for human consumption, both as total consumption and as per capita consumption. The table below, which shows data in tonnes of live weight, provides the supply balance at EU level for the main commercial species (MCS) European seabass, gilthead seabream, and other seabream species. The total supply (aquaculture and fisheries combined) to the EU for these three MCS combined was 278.210 tonnes in 2018.[69]

Apparent consumption of European seabass in 2018 in the EU was around 112.000 tonnes (around 220 grams per capita), whereas consumption of gilthead seabream was around 9% higher at 125.000 tonnes (240 gram per capita). Thus, total consumption of seabass and seabream species was around 540 grams per capita in the EU in 2018.

[69] https://eumofa.eu/supply-balance

Table 14. **APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF SEABASS AND SEABREAM IN THE EU (volume in tonnes)**

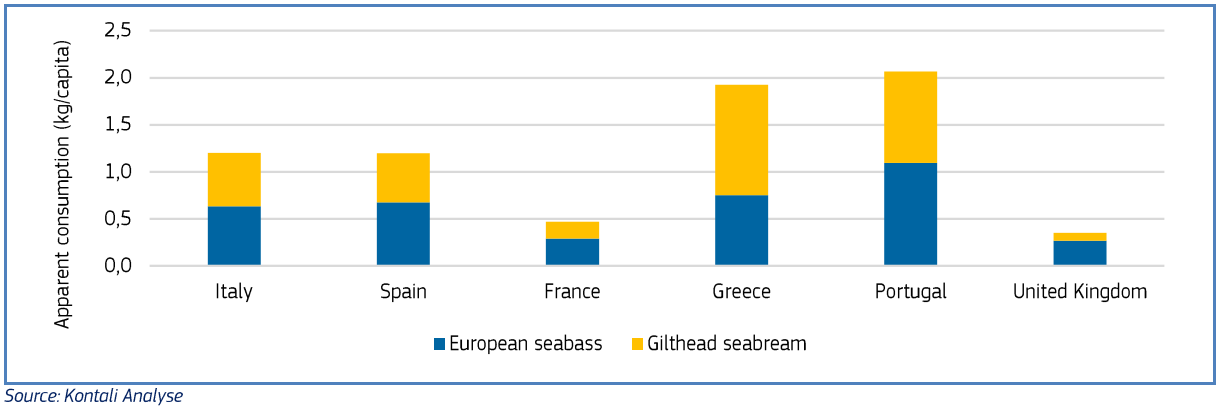
MCS	Production (t)	Import (t)	Export (t)	Apparent consumption (t)	Per capita consumption (kg)
European seabass	90.890	26.365	4,850	112.405	0.22
Gilthead seabream	96.204	34.048	4.868	125.384	0.24
Other seabream	34.118	6.674	371	40.42.0	0.08
Total	**221.212**	**67.087**	**10,090**	**278.209**	**0.54**

Source: EUMOFA

The six major markets for European seabass and gilthead seabream consumption are Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. Apparent consumption of bass and bream in 2018 in these markets was lowest in the UK, with 352 grams per capita, and highest in Portugal with over 2 kg per capita. Apparent consumption in Greece was also high, nearing 2 kg per capita per year. Of these two species, European seabass is the species of choice in most major markets, varying between 53% and 76% of European seabass and gilthead seabream consumption. Gilthead seabream is more popular only in Greece, making up more than 60% of European seabass and gilthead seabream consumption.

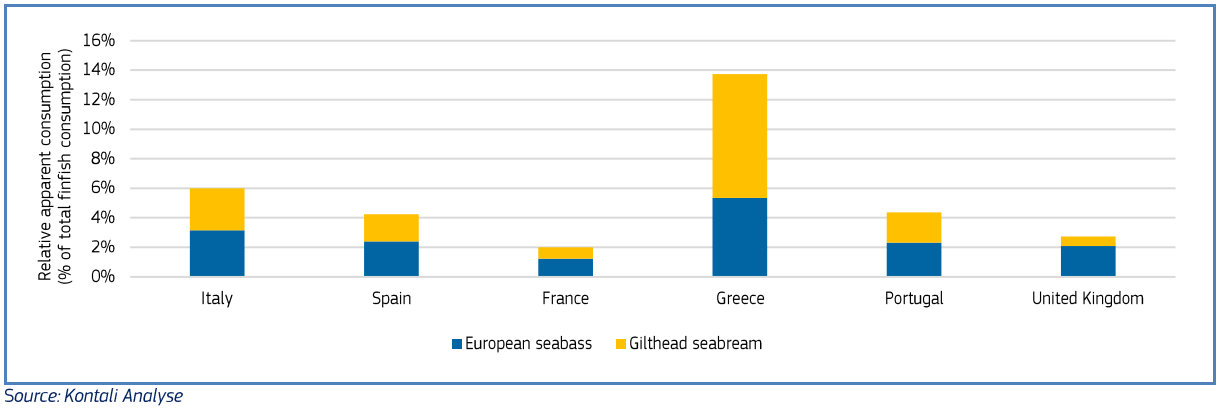
When comparing the relative consumption of European seabass and gilthead seabream, (i.e. the consumption of these two species relative to the total consumption of fish) the picture looks different. Despite having the highest absolute consumption per capita, Portugal's relative consumption of European seabass and gilthead seabream is only just above 4%. In contrast, the high absolute consumption of European seabass and gilthead seabream in Greece also translates into a high relative consumption, with close to 14% of the total Greek fish consumption.

Figure 53. **APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM 2018 (kg/per capita)**



Source: Kontali Analyse

Figure 54. **RELATIVE APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF EUROPEAN SEABASS AND GILTHEAD SEABREAM 2018 (% of total finfish consumption)**



Source: Kontali Analyse

5.6 Recent developments during COVID-19

The harvest of European seabass is estimated to have fallen by around 10% in 2020, compared with 2019[70]. The reason for this fall is likely to be explained by two factors though neither is linked with COVID-19. First, the low European seabass prices in 2019 made the farming of this species less attractive. Farming therefore switched from seabass to seabream, resulting in decreased stocking of seabass and, consequently, lower harvest volumes in the following season. Secondly, storm 'Gloria', which caused significant damage to the Spanish aquaculture industry, led to losses and escapes of seabass and, consequently, lower production volumes in 2020. In contrast, the harvest of gilthead seabream is expected to have marginally increased in 2020[71]. The total bass and bream export revenue in 2020 increased by 5%, to EUR 1,3 billion[72]. Bream export value increased by 9% to EUR 714 million, whereas bass export remained stable compared to the year before at EUR 600 million. Export of bass and bream from Greece increased by 12% to EUR 520 million, whereas export from Turkey increased by 4% to EUR 377 million[73]. The growth in export value is a result of higher prices and additional export volumes due to increased harvest in Greece.

[70] FAO
[71] Ibidem
[72] Ibidem
[73] Ibidem

6. Global highlights

EU / Cook Islands / Fisheries: In July, the European Union and the Cook Islands agreed to continue their successful fisheries partnership as part of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership agreement (SFPA), for a further duration of three years. The agreement allows EU fishing vessels operating in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean to continue fishing in the Cook Islands fishing grounds. In the framework of the new protocol, the EU and ship owners will contribute up to approximately EUR 4 million (NZD 6,8 million) over the next three years, of which EUR 1 million (NZD[74] 1,7 million) will support the Cook Islands' initiatives within the fisheries sector and maritime policy[75].

EU/ WTO / Sustainability: On 15 July, the World Trade Organization (WTO) held a ministerial meeting on fisheries subsidies, which confirmed commitments to set the course for a successful outcome on negotiations before the WTO's Ministerial Conference, starting in November 2021. The EU, in its Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), has long prioritised an approach that ensures that fishing is environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable. Based on positive experience of this approach, the EU has advocated that WTO rules must be based on sustainability[76].

EU / EMFAF: The regulation establishing the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) under the EU's 2021-2027 long-term budget was adopted on 6 July by the European Parliament with an overwhelming majority. The adoption follows a political agreement reached with the Council at the end of 2020. With a total budget of EUR 6,1 billion (2021-2027), the EMFAF will provide financial support to protect, manage and sustainably use the ocean and its resources, thereby contributing to the objectives of the European Green Deal. This is key to promoting biodiversity, the supply of healthy and sustainable seafood (including from aquaculture), the competitiveness of the blue economy, and thriving coastal communities in the EU[77].

EU / CFP: On 5 July, the European Commission adopted the proposal to extend the "access to waters" regime under the current Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) for another ten years, avoiding any disruption to the longstanding arrangements between Member States. The proposal also addresses changes following the withdrawal of the UK from the EU and additional references to access to Greek territorial waters based on a recent agreement between Greece and Italy. Under the CFP, all EU fishing vessels have equal access to waters across the entire of the EU. However, Member States can restrict fishing in their territorial waters to take into account the vulnerability of their coastal zones[78].

Arctic / Fisheries / Sustainability: On 25 June 2021, the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean entered into force. The EU and nine countries signed this international agreement in 2018 after two years of negotiations. The Agreement applies a precautionary and science-based approach to fisheries management by banning unregulated fishing activities in the Central Arctic Ocean, while a joint scientific programme has been set up to improve Parties' understanding of the Central Arctic ecosystems and potential fisheries. Based on the information acquired, Parties may in the future decide to commence negotiations to establish one or more regional fisheries management organisations or arrangements. The Agreement will initially be in force for a period of 16 years, until 2037[79].

Aquaculture / Supply: Aquaculture is expected to be the main driver for the increase of fish production globally, according to a new report by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Per capita fish consumption is expected to increase in Asia, Europe, and the Americas, while it is expected to remain stable in Oceania and decrease in Africa, the continent with the fastest growing population which will outpace growth in its food fish supply. The report can be viewed **here**[80].

[74] New Zealand dollar
[75] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/news/fisheries-eu-and-cook-islands-agree-continue-their-sustainable-fisheries-partnership-2021-07_en
[76] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/news/wto-takes-important-steps-towards-global-trade-rules-sustainable-fishing-2021-07-15_en
[77] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/news/european-maritime-fisheries-and-aquaculture-fund-support-sustainable-oceans-approved-2021-07_en
[78] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/news/commission-adopts-proposal-extend-access-waters-regime-under-common-fisheries-policy-2021-07_en
[79] https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/news/arctic-agreement-prevent-unregulated-fishing-enters-force-2021-06-25_en
[80] http://www.fao.org/publications/oecd-fao-agricultural-outlook/2021-2030/en/

7. Macroeconomic Context

7.1. Marine fuel

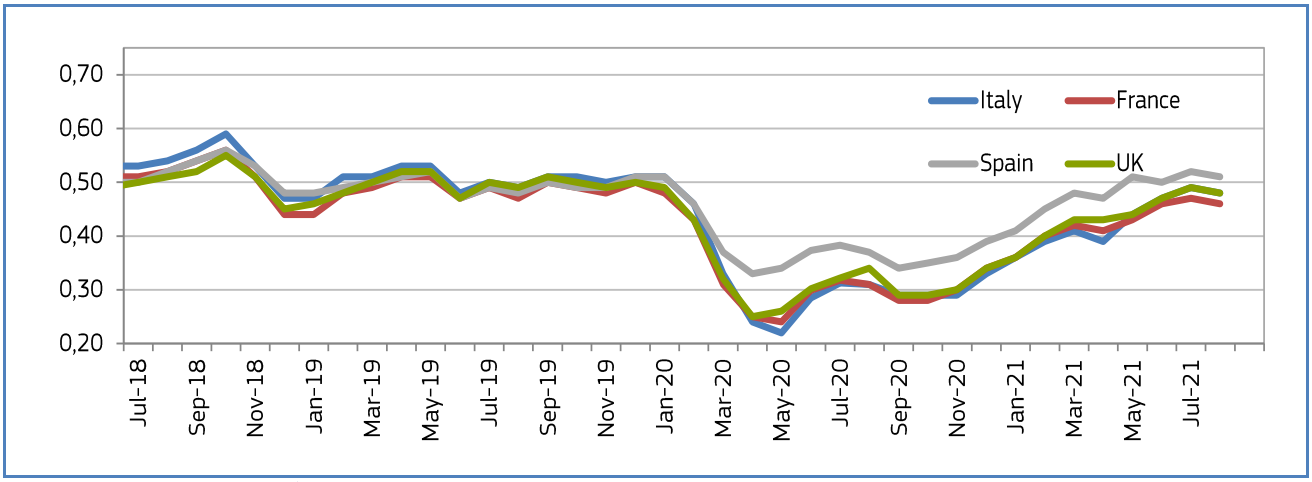
Average prices for marine fuel in **August 2021** ranged between 0,46 and 0,51 EUR/litre in ports in **France, Italy, Spain,** and the **UK**. Prices decreased by an average of around 3,0% compared with the previous month and increased by an average of 45,1% compared with the same month in 2020.

Table 35. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MAYINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	Aug 2021	Change from Jul 2021	Change from Aug 2020
France *(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)*	0,46	-2%	48%
Italy *(ports of Ancona and Livorno)*	0,48	-2%	55%
Spain *(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)*	0,51	-2%	38%
The UK *(ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)*	0,48	-2%	41%

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

Figure 55. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

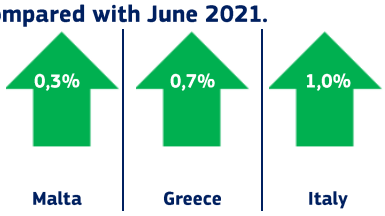


Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

7.2. Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate was at 2,5% in July 2021, up from 2,2% in June 2021. A year earlier, the rate was 0,9%.

Inflation: lowest rates in July 2021, compared with June 2021.



Inflation: highest rates in July 2021, compared with June 2021.

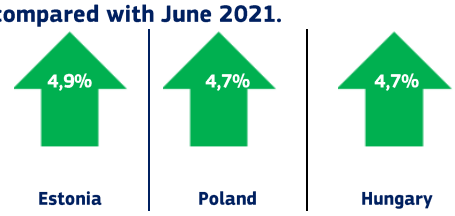


Table 36. **HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU (2015 = 100)**

	Jul 2019	Jul 2020	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Change from Jun 2021		Change from Jul 2020	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	106,97	109,30	111,03	110,98	-	0,0%	↓	1,5%
Fish and seafood	110,82	112,66	114,36	114,90	↓	0,5%	↓	2,0%

Source: Eurostat.

7.3. Exchange rates

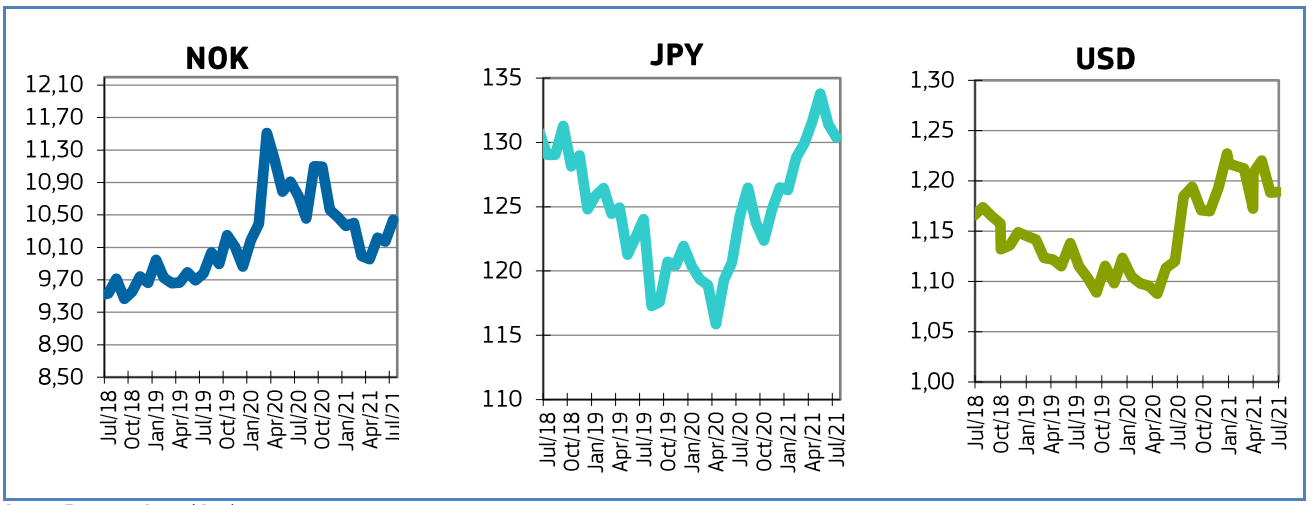
Table 37. **EURO EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES**

Currency	Aug 2019	Aug 2020	Jul 2021	Aug 2021
NOK	9,7915	10,7880	10,4405	10,2600
JPY	121,94	126,47	133,79	133,79
USD	1,1151	1,1940	1,1891	1,4834

Source: European Central Bank.

In August 2021, the euro depreciated against the Norwegian krone (1,7%) and the Japanese yen (0,3%) and appreciated against the US dollar (0,1%), relative to the previous month. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 1,19 against the US dollar. Compared with August 2020, the euro has appreciated 2,8% against the Japanese yen and depreciated 1,9% against the Norwegian krone and 0,9% against the US dollar.

Figure 56. **TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES**



Source: European Central Bank.

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This report has been compiled using EUMOFA data and the following sources:

First sales: EUR-Lex, DG Maye – European Commission,

Consumption: EUROPANEL, FAO, fishbase.org, NOAA.

Case studies: Danish Fisheries Agency, Diario de Republica, ICES, Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; efeagro.com, FAO, seafish.org, EUR-lex, nature-scot, rspb.org.uk, Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Wiley Online Library.

Global highlights: DG Mare - European Commission, FAO

Macroeconomic context: EUROSTAT, Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Ces ena, Italy: DPMA, France: ARVI, Spain: MABUX, European Central Bank.

The underlying first-sales data is in an 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 Highlight, analyses are led in current prices and 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.

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