

Monthly Highlights

No. 3 / 2024

E U M O F A

European Market Observatory for
Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

In January 2024, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland and the United Kingdom recorded an increase in both first-sales value and volume compared to January 2023.

At Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS) level in January 2024, blue shark (4%) and John Dory (8%) together made up 12% of total reported first-sales value within commodity group "Other marine fish".

Over the 36-month observation period (February 2021 – January 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of John Dory in Italy was 17,11 EUR/kg, 15% higher than in France (14,82 EUR/kg), and 45% above the average price in Spain (11,82 EUR/kg).

Between weeks 09/2021 and 08/2024, the price of fresh or chilled monkfish from Norway showed an increase, fluctuating between 2,86 EUR/kg and 12,95 EUR/kg.

In the last three years, average monthly consumption of miscellaneous shrimps in Portugal was 440 tonnes/month, with an average price of 10,33 EUR/kg.

The estimated fisheries production of Hong Kong in 2023 amounted to 87.000 tonnes at a value of EUR 2,8 billion, a 24% decrease in capture volume compared to 2021.

Over the last decade (2012-2021), the global production of albacore tuna decreased by 21%, though with some interannual fluctuations.

Women occupy just under a third of all fishing-related jobs in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.



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Blue shark (Spain, France, Portugal) and John Dory (France, Spain, Italy)



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1. First sales in Europe

In **January 2024**, 15 EU Member States (MS), Norway and the United Kingdom reported first-sales data for 10 commodity groups¹. 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 EUMOFA².

1.1. January 2024 compared to January 2023

Increases in value and volume: Bulgaria, Italy, Latvia and the United Kingdom recorded an increase in both first sales value and volume. Highest increases were observed in Bulgaria mainly due to clam and sprat, and in Italy mainly owing to anchovy and warmwater shrimp.

Decreases in value and volume: Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Norway recorded decreases in first-sales value and volume. Lithuania stood out with the most significant drops in absolute terms, due to lower first sales of sprat, pike and herring.

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

Country	January 2022		January 2023		January 2024		Change from January 2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Belgium	1.474	6,7	1.472	7,1	1.359	5,7	-8%	-20%
Bulgaria	27	0,1	1	0,004	12	0,016	1.043%	316%
Cyprus	22	0,2	22	0,2	16	0,1	-24%	-28%
Denmark	51.931	33,7	57.636	37,8	55.612	43,1	-4%	14%
Estonia	6.364	1,6	6.563	1,9	6.139	3,0	-6%	59%
Finland	6.808	1,5	7.200	2,0	4.430	1,7	-38%	-16%
France	16.775	62,2	15.721	63,9	14.758	48,0	-6%	-25%
Germany	5.489	4,6	6.193	8,4	5.892	7,4	-5%	-12%
Italy	4.802	21,3	4.698	20,9	5.533	25,2	18%	20%
Latvia	2.524	0,6	3.435	0,8	3.599	1,2	5%	46%
Lithuania	183	0,114	60	0,332	15	0,082	-75%	-75%
Netherlands	2.669	14,2	1.935	11,7	1.322	8,8	-32%	-25%
Portugal	5.608	23,3	4.762	20,9	4.306	18,3	-10%	-12%
Spain	23.605	94,5	24.446	99,9	21.397	90,6	-12%	-9%
Sweden	23.865	9,9	1.228	2,7	1.045	2,9	-15%	8%
Norway	204.763	216,8	209.195	188,2	182.525	172,2	-13%	-8%
United Kingdom	44.186	77,6	50.535	85,6	52.338	110,3	4%	29%

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. Data for Denmark are subject to confidentiality measures, so they may not fully correspond to total first sales in the country

The most recent weekly first-sales data are available via the EUMOFA website and can be accessed [here](#).
The most recent monthly first-sales data are available via the EUMOFA website and can be accessed [here](#).

¹ Bivalves, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, Other marine fishes, crustaceans, flatfish, freshwater fish, groundfish, other marine fish, salmonids, small pelagics, tuna and tuna-like species.

² First sales data updated on 15.03.2024

1.3. First sales in selected countries

First sales data analysed in this section are extracted from EUMOFA³.

Table 2. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM**


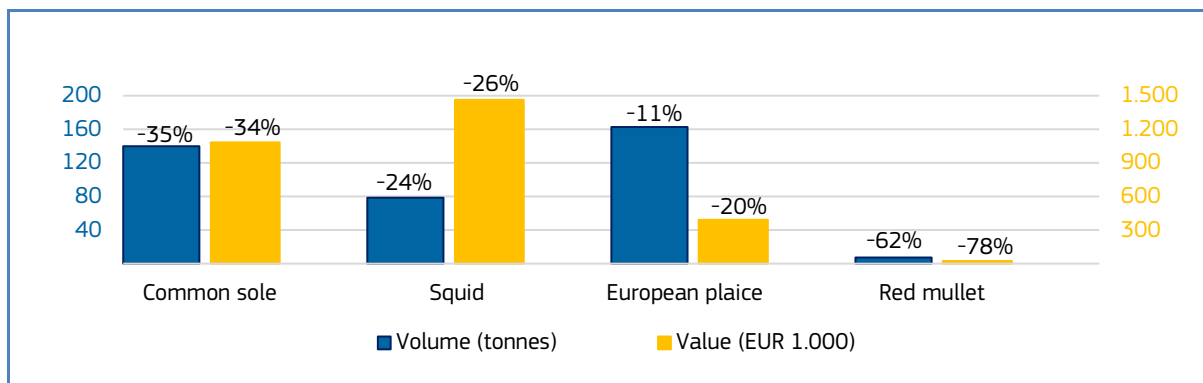
 Belgium	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 5,7 million, -20%	1.359 tonnes, -8%	Squid, common sole, European plaice, red mullet.

Figure 1. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

Table 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA**


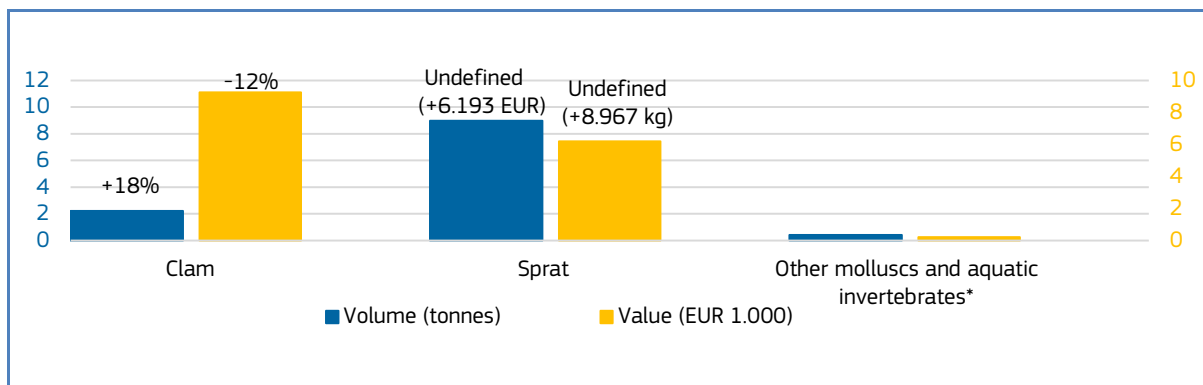
 Bulgaria	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 0,02 million, +316%	12 tonnes, +1043%	Clam, sprat, other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates*.

Figure 2. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BULGARIA, JANUARY 2024**



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

³ First-sales data updated on 15.03.2024.

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


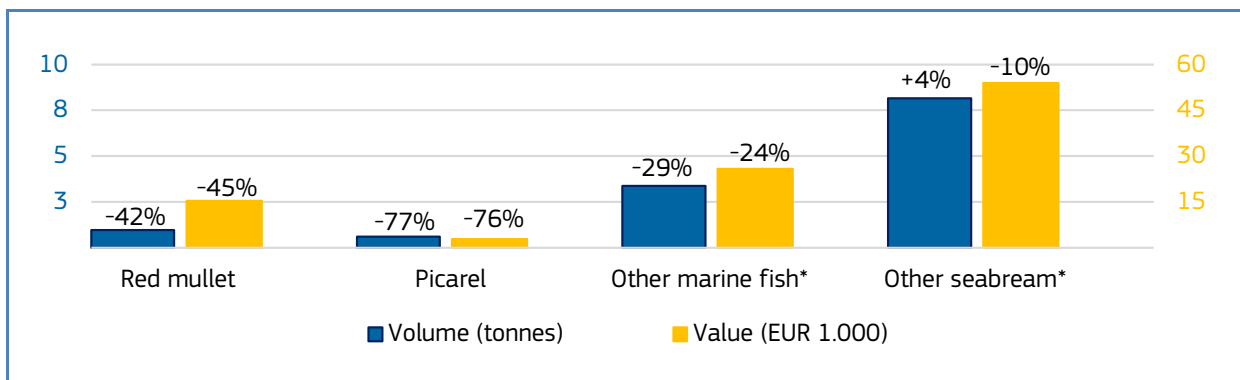
 Cyprus	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 0,1 million, -28%	16 tonnes, -24%	Red mullet, picarel, other marine fish*, other seabream*.

Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN CYPRUS, JANUARY 2024**



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

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


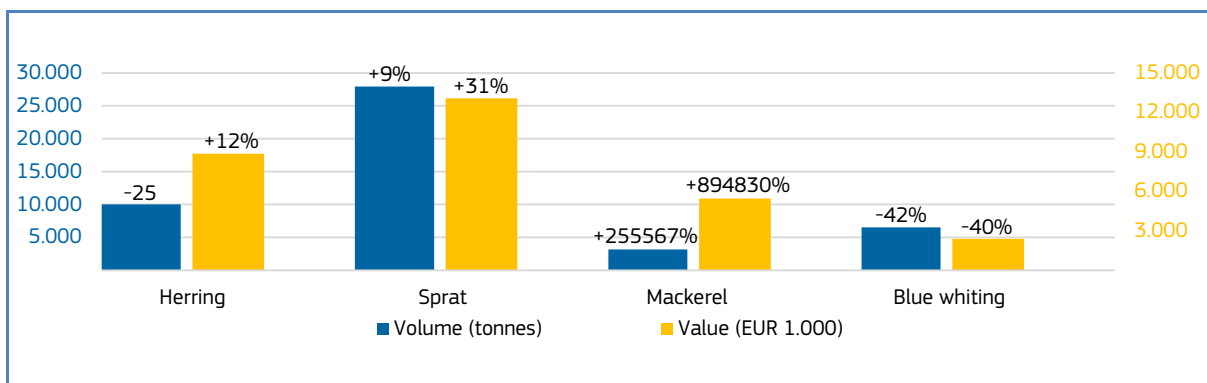

 Denmark	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 43,1million, +14%	55.612 tonnes, -4%	Herring, sprat, mackerel, blue whiting.

Figure 4. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

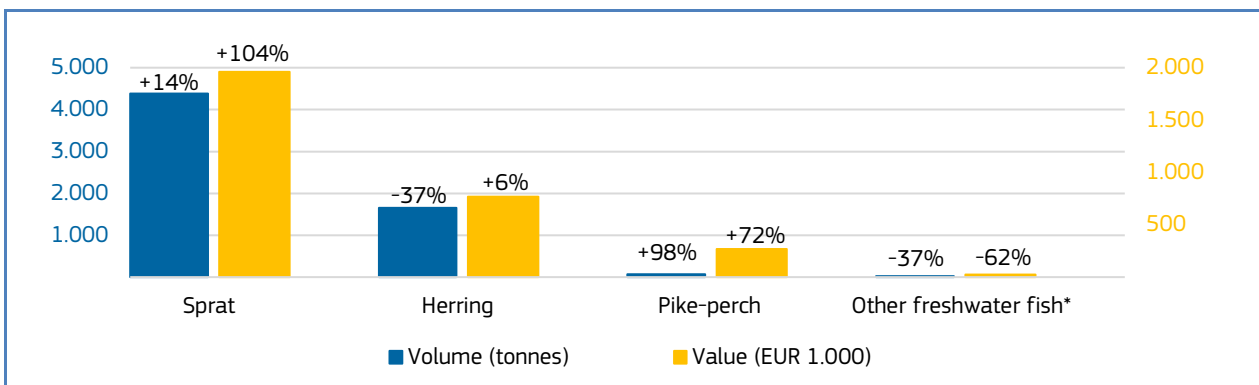
Table 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA**

 Estonia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Notes
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 3,0 million, +59%	6.139 tonnes, -6%	Value: sprat, herring, pike-perch. Volume: herring, other freshwater fish*, carp.	In January 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of sprat compared to January 2023. Most of the sprat is for production of fish oil and fishmeal. From

Autumn 2023, the price of fish oil increased along with increased demand for sprat. As a result, the price of sprat also increased significantly. Additionally, fish prices are higher in the autumn and winter months when the fish contain more oil.

In January 2024, there was a substantial increase in first sales of **pike-perch** compared to January 2023. Pike-perch is a freshwater species, not covered by TAC, and catches are not regulated. In the Baltic Sea, the stock is concentrated in the coastal areas and is caught by the small-scale fisheries segment. Existing resources in fishing capacity and fish stock availability allowed a significant increase in the volume of landings and supplies to the market, leading to a 13% price reduction when comparing January 2024 with January 2023.

Figure 5. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA, JANUARY 2024**



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

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


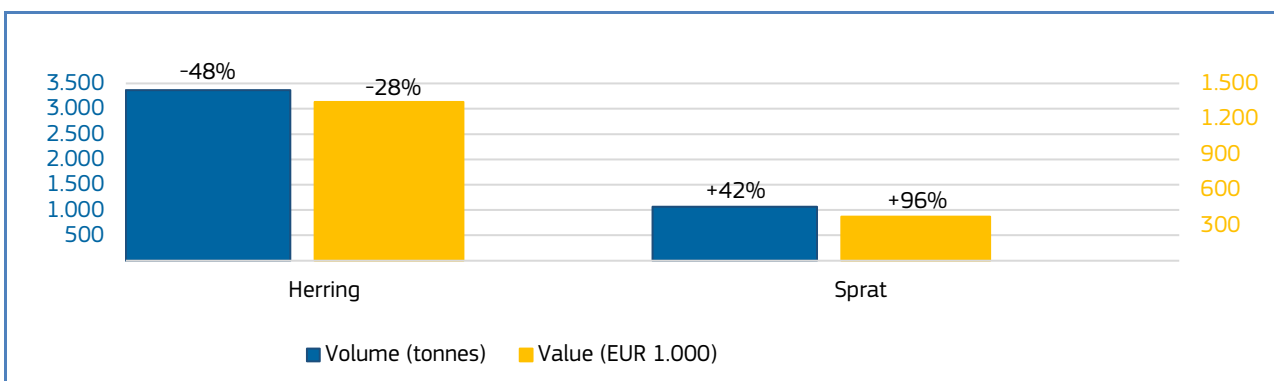
 Finland	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 1,7 million, -16%	4,430 tonnes, -38%	Herring, sprat.

Figure 6. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FINLAND, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


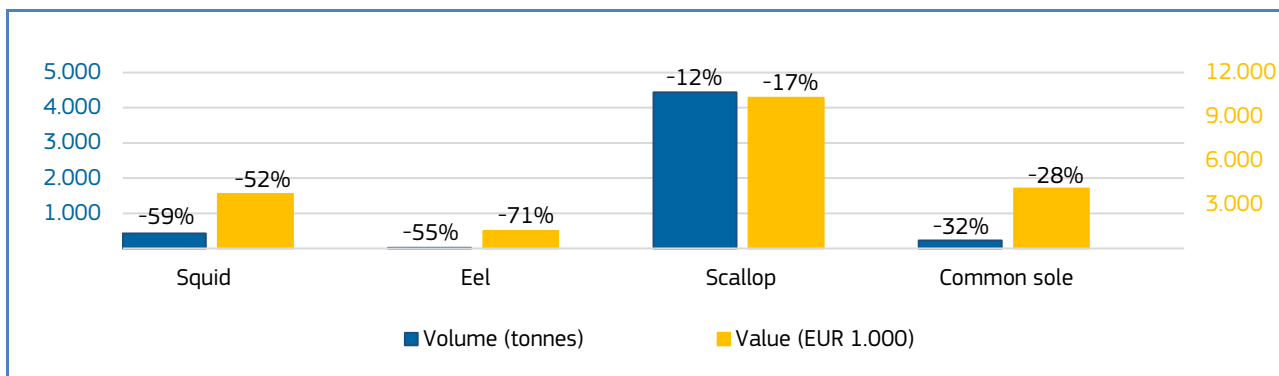
 France	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 48,0 million, -25%	14.758 tonnes, -6%	Squid, eel, scallop, common sole.

Figure 7. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


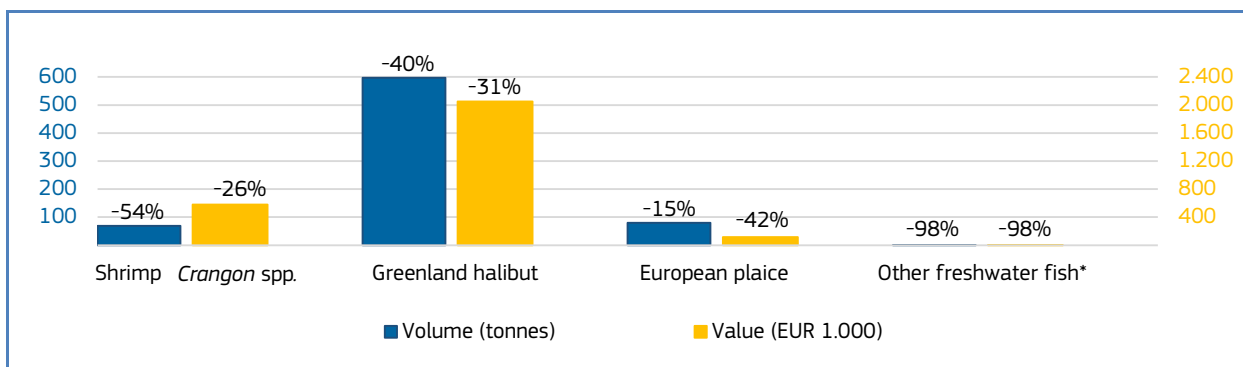
 Germany	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 7,4 million, -12%	5.892 tonnes, -5%	Greenland halibut, European plaice, shrimp <i>Crangon</i> spp., other freshwater fish*.

Figure 8. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN GERMANY, JANUARY 2024**



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

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


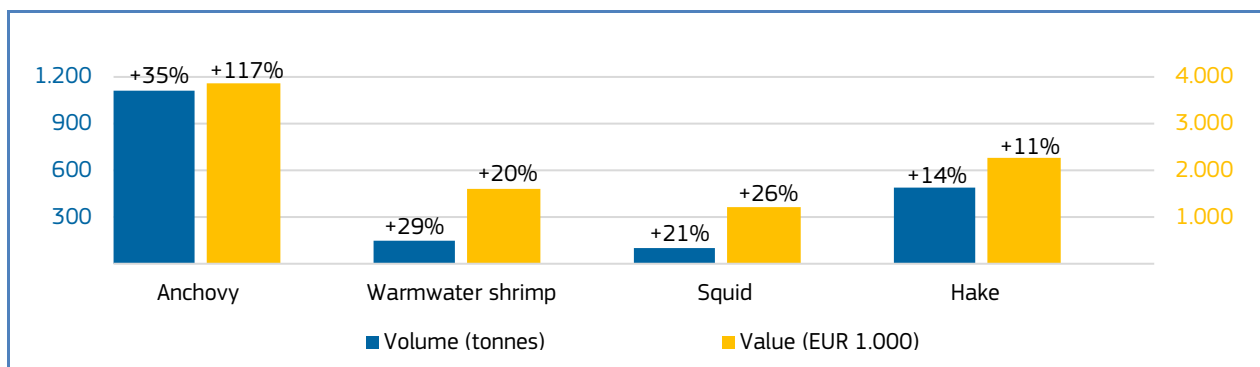

 Italy	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 25,2 million, +20%	5,533 tonnes, +18%	Anchovy, warmwater shrimp, squid, hake.	In January 2024, there was a significant increase in first sales of anchovy compared to January 2023. The primary source of anchovy production in Italy is the Adriatic Sea, where landings represent approximately 80% of the total Italian catch. According to the latest stock assessment conducted within the framework of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean ⁴ , the stock is being overexploited and is in a state of overexploitation. However, the assessment also reveals relatively good recruitment (age 0) in 2022. Therefore, the lower value observed in 2023 compared to 2024 may be due to a higher abundance of smaller individuals, which generally have lower commercial value. The 35% increase in weight is also probably due to a significant recruitment observed in 2022.

Figure 9. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY, JANUARY 2024**



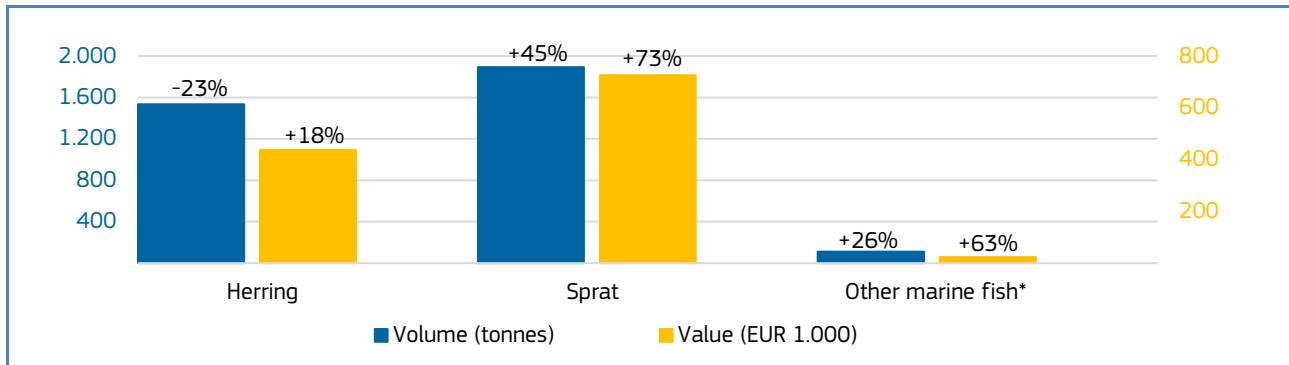
Percentages show change from the previous year.

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

 Latvia	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume/ trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 1,2 million, +46%	3,599 tonnes, +5%	Herring, sprat, other marine fish*.

⁴ https://gfcmsitestorage.blob.core.windows.net/website/5.Data/SAFs/SmallPelagics/2022/SAF_ANE_17_18_RefY2022.pdf

Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA, JANUARY 2024**



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

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


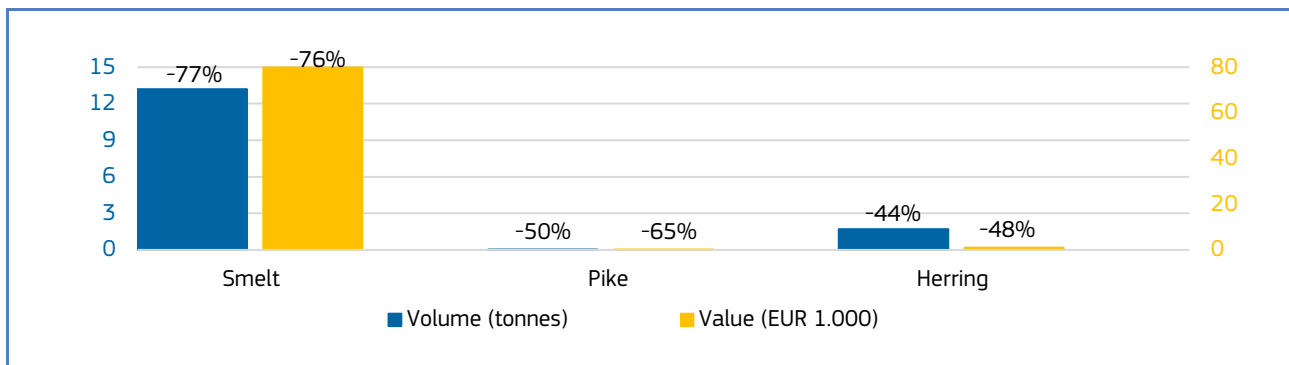
 Lithuania	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 0,08 million, -75%	15 tonnes, -75%	Sprat, pike, herring.

Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


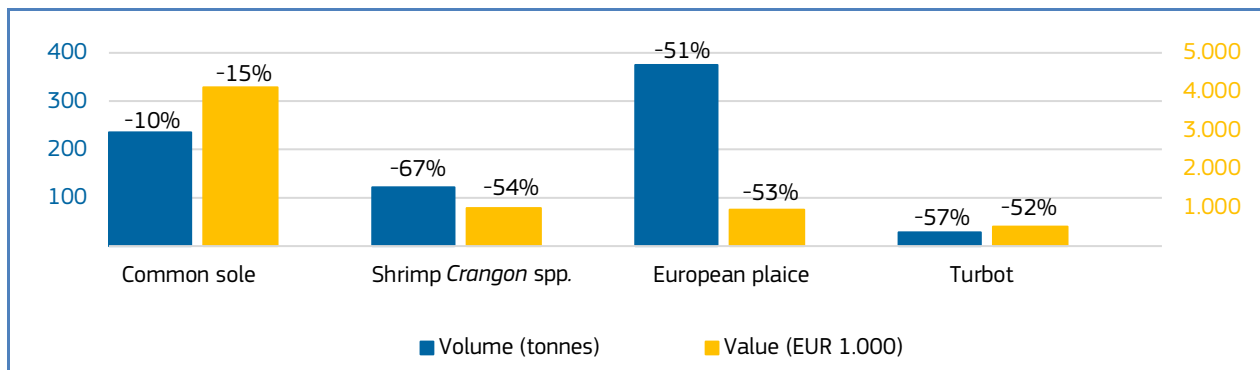
 the Netherlands	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 8,8 million, -25%	1.322 tonnes, -32%	Common sole, shrimp <i>Crangon</i> spp., European plaice, turbot.

Figure 12. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE NETHERLANDS, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


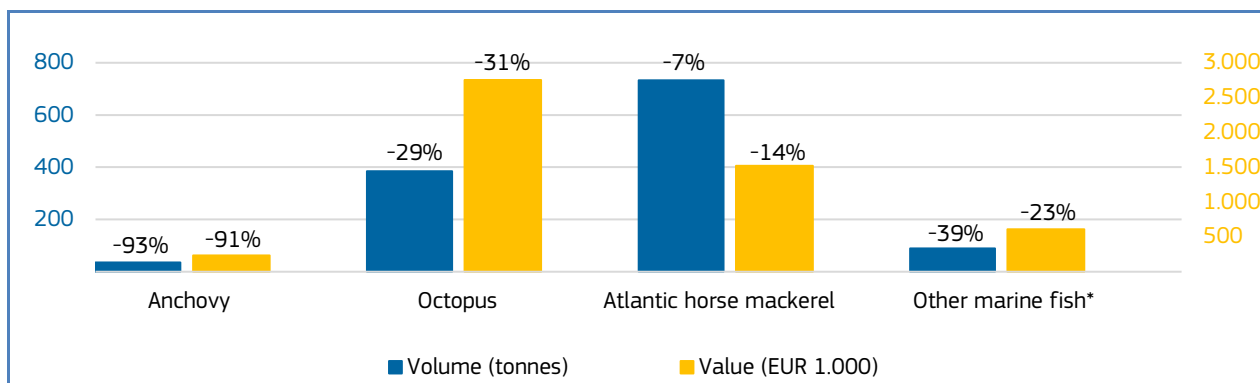
 Portugal	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species	Note
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 18,3 million, -12%	4.306 tonnes, -10%	Anchovy, octopus, Atlantic horse mackerel, other marine fish*	In January 2024, there was a dramatic decrease in first sales of anchovy compared to January 2023. This large decreasing trend is in line with the latest ICES report ⁵ that the anchovy stock on the Portuguese west coast is experiencing a decrease. The ICES working group has observed a general trend of decreasing weight and mean length of the anchovy together with a reduction in abundance and biomass in western Portugal. The natural variability of this species could thus be the cause of the fluctuations noted in January, as it is a species highly conditioned by environmental factors and food availability, especially in the initial stages of its growth (larvae and juveniles), thus affecting recruitment of the species.

Figure 13. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, JANUARY 2024**



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

⁵ https://ices-library.figshare.com/articles/report/Anchovy_Engraulis_encrasicolus_in_Division_9_a_Atlantic_Iberian_waters_/21907911

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


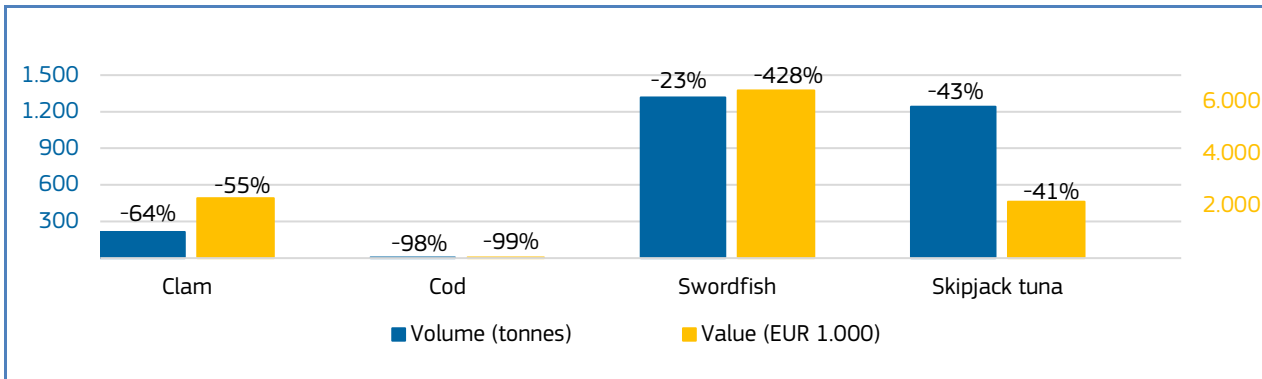
 Spain	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 90,6 million -9%	21.397 tonnes, -12%	Clam, cod, swordfish, skipjack tuna.

Figure 14. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SPAIN, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


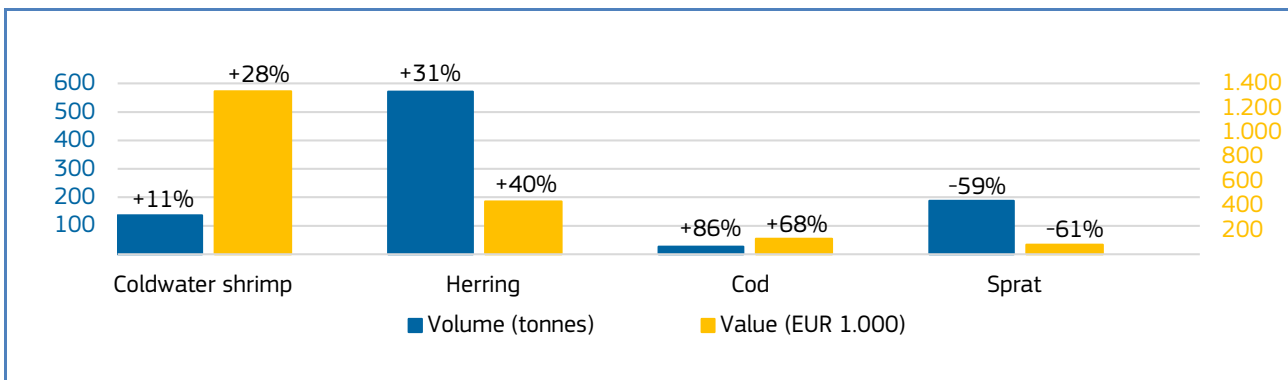
 Sweden	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 2,9 million, +8%	1.045 tonnes, -15%	Coldwater shrimp, herring, cod, sprat.

Figure 15. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, JANUARY 2024**



Percentages show change from the previous year.

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


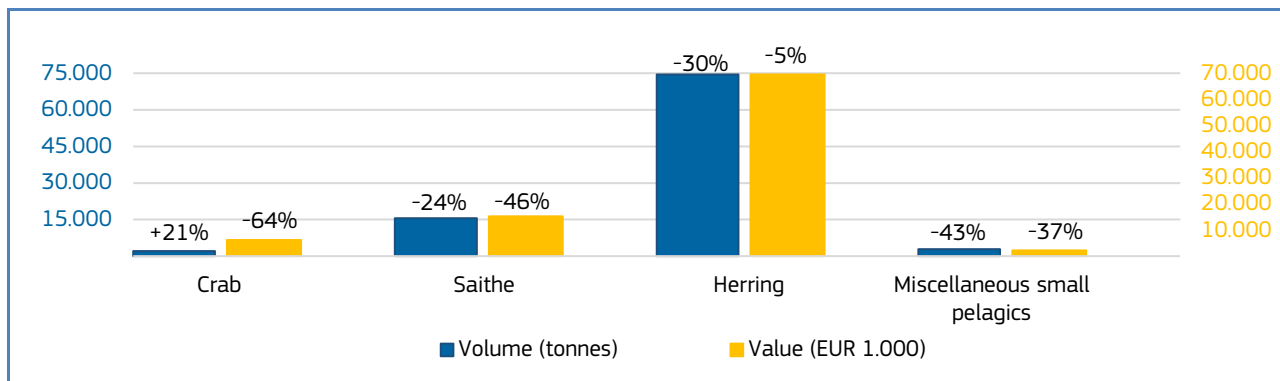
 Norway	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 172,2 million -8%	182.525 tonnes, -13%	Crab, saithe, herring, miscellaneous small pelagics.

Figure 16. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, JANUARY 2024**



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

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


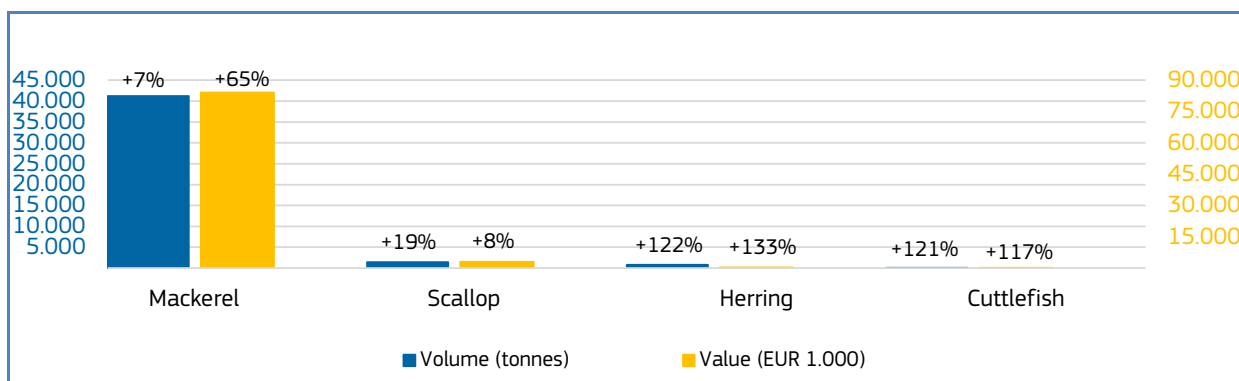
 The United Kingdom	First-sales value / trend %	First-sales volume / trend %	Main contributing species
Jan 2024 vs Jan 2023	EUR 110,3 million, +29%	52.338 tonnes, +4%	Mackerel, scallop, herring, cuttlefish.

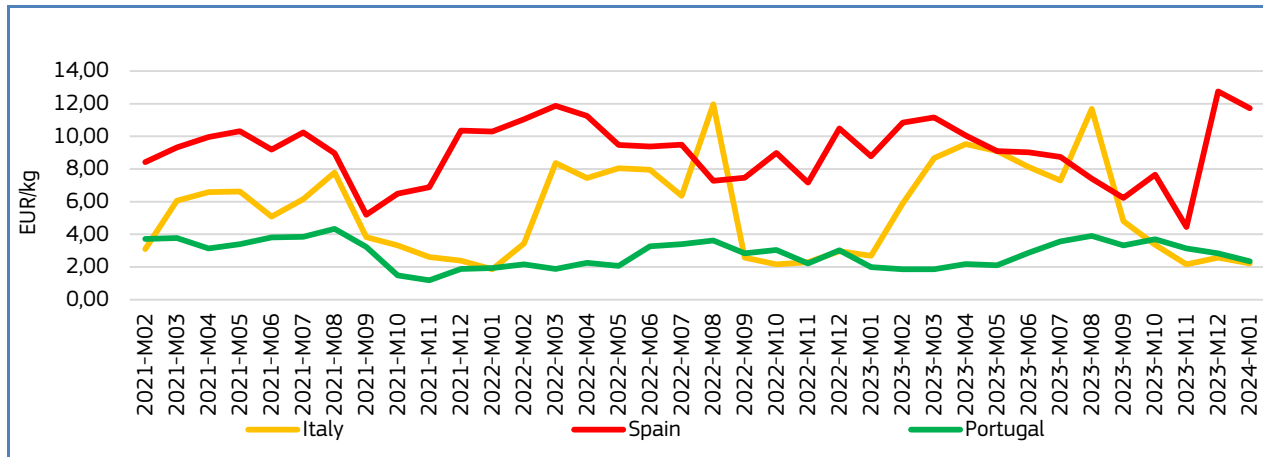
Figure 17. **FIRST SALES OF THE MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, JANUARY 2024**



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

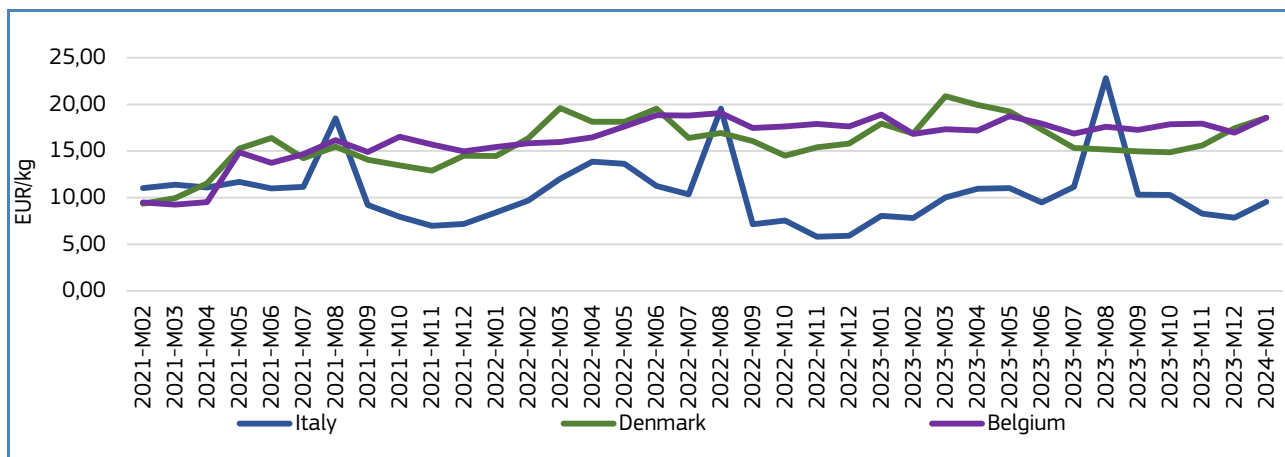
1.4. Comparison of first sales prices of selected species in selected countries⁶

Figure 18. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF SPINOUS SPIDER CRAB IN ITALY, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL**



EU first sales of **spinous spider crab** occur in several countries including **Italy, Spain** and **Portugal**. In January 2024, the average first-sales prices of spinous spider crab were 2,21 EUR/kg in Italy (down by 14% from the previous month and by 18% from the previous year); 11,73 EUR/kg in Spain (down from December 2023 by 8% and up from January 2023 by 34%); and 2,34 EUR/kg in Portugal (down from the previous month by 17% and up from the previous year by 18%). In January 2024, supply compared to the previous year increased in Italy (+40%) while it decreased in Portugal (-11%) and Spain (-11%). In the three countries analysed, volume peaks in March in Italy, in May in Spain, and between January-March in Portugal. Between months 02/2021 to 01/2024, prices decreased in Italy and Portugal, while they increased in Spain showing high fluctuations during the period analysed. Prices seem to follow supply with peaks in prices in August in Italy and in Portugal. In Spain seasonal falls in price occur between September and November.

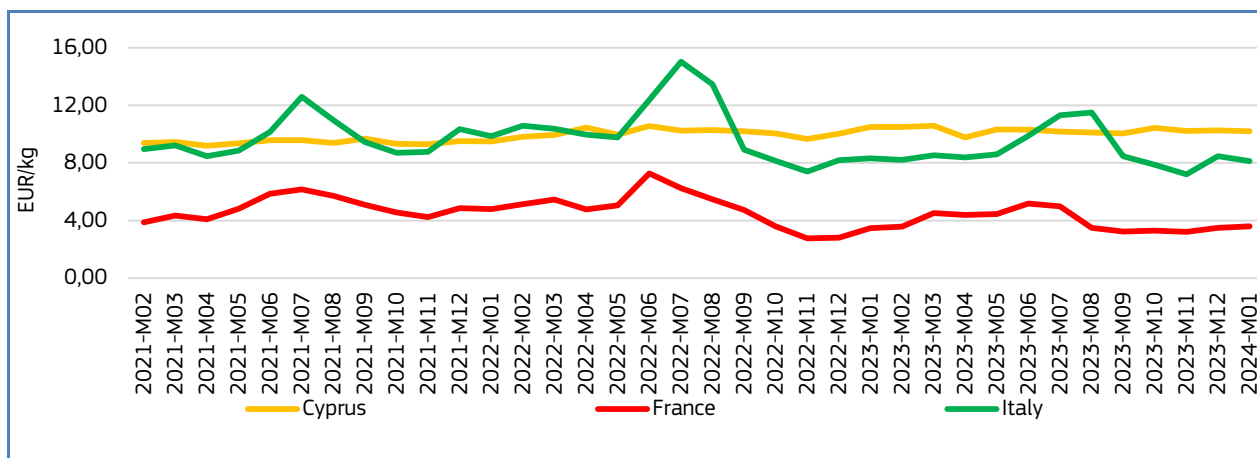
Figure 19. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF COMMON SOLE IN DENMARK, ITALY AND BELGIUM**



EU first sales of **common sole** occur in **Denmark, Italy** and **Belgium** among others. In January 2024, average first-sales prices of common sole were: 18,56 EUR/kg in Denmark (up by 6% from the previous month and by 3% from January 2023); 9,55 EUR/kg in Ireland (up by 22% from the previous month and by 18% from January 2023) and 18,58 EUR/kg in Belgium (up by 10% from the previous month and down by 2% from the previous year). In January 2024, supply decreased in Italy (-2%) and Belgium (-24%), while it increased in Denmark, (+31%). Supply shows strong seasonality and fluctuates strongly in the three countries analysed, peaking in August and January in Denmark, November-December in Italy, while no specific seasonality was detected in Belgium. Between months 02/2021 to 01/2024, prices increased in Belgium and Denmark with peaks in March and June. In Italy prices decreased, showing strong fluctuations with highest peaks in prices occurring in August.

⁶ First sales data updated on 13.03.2024.

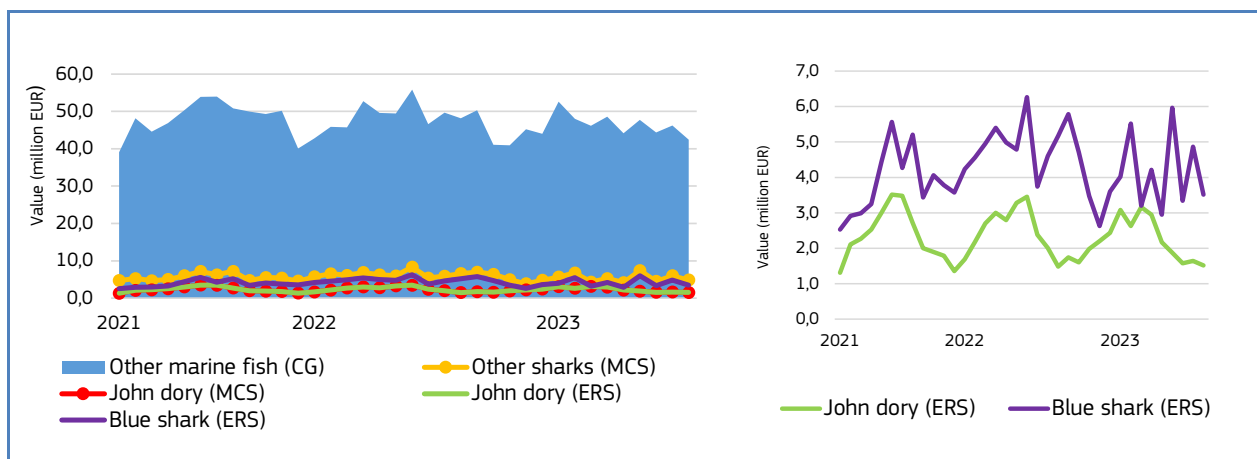
Figure 20. **FIRST SALES PRICES OF COMMON CUTTLEFISH IN CYPRUS, FRANCE AND ITALY**



EU first sales of **common cuttlefish** occur in several countries as well as **Cyprus, France and Italy**. In January 2024, average first-sales prices of common cuttlefish were 10,20 EUR/kg in Cyprus (down from the previous month by 1% and from the previous year by 3%); 3,60 EUR/kg in France (up from the previous month by 3% and from January 2023 by 4%); and 8,12 EUR/kg in Italy (down by 4% from December 2023, and by 2% from January 2023). In January 2024, supply decreased in Cyprus (-66%) and France (-14%), while it increased in Italy (+5%), relative to the previous year. Supply is strongly seasonal and fluctuates highly. The highest peaks occur between September and October in France, December-February in Cyprus, and between March-April and November-December in Italy. Between months 02/2021 to 01/2024, prices fluctuated strongly, increasing in Cyprus while decreasing in Italy and France. In France and Italy peaks in prices seem to follow supply occurring between June-July.

1.5. Commodity group of the month: Other marine fish⁷

Figure 21. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVELS FOR REPORTING COUNTRIES⁸, FEBRUARY 2021 - JANUARY 2024**



In January 2024, the “**Other marine fish**” commodity group (CG⁹) recorded the 2nd highest first-sales value and 3rd highest volume out of the 10 CGs in the countries monitored by EUMOFA¹⁰. In the reporting countries covered by the EUMOFA database, first sales of this group of species in January 2024 totalled EUR 42,4 million and 14.061 tonnes, representing a 3% increase in value and a

⁷ First sales data updated on 15. 03. 2024.

⁸ Norway, the Faroe Islands and the UK excluded from the analyses.

⁹ Annex 3: <http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies>

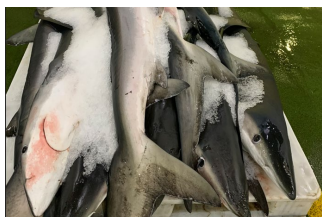
¹⁰ More data on commodity groups can be found in Table 1.2 of the Annex

41% increase in volume compared to January 2023. In the past 36 months, the highest first-sales value of the commodity group “Other marine fish” was registered in August 2022 at about EUR 55,8 million

The “other marine fish” commodity group includes the following main commercial species (MCS): cusk-eel, dogfish, gurnard, John Dory, monkfish, picarel, ray, red mullet, scabbardfish, European seabass and other seabass, gilthead seabream and other seabreams, smelt, weever, other marine fish and other sharks¹¹.

At Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS) level, blue shark (4%) and John Dory (8%) together made up 12% of total reported first-sales value of this commodity group in January 2024.

1.6. Focus on Blue shark



The blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), also known as the great blue shark, belongs to the genus *Prionace* and Family Carcharhinidae. This viviparous species is found worldwide in deep temperate and tropical waters from the surface to about 350 m. The blue shark feeds heavily on relatively small prey, especially bony fishes and squid, though other invertebrates, small sharks, and mammalian carrion are readily taken, and seabirds are occasionally caught at the surface of the water. It can reach over three metres in length.¹²

The blue shark is the most widespread oceanic shark and has great overall abundance. It is a very common bycatch in high-seas longline and driftnet fisheries. It is usually caught with pelagic longlines, but also with hooks and lines, pelagic trawls, and even bottom trawls near coasts. The countries where it is most consumed globally include Spain, Brazil, Italy and France. In 2019, ICCAT introduced blue shark-specific management measures in the form of TACs and quota limits for the north and south Atlantic blue shark populations. It is utilized fresh, smoked, and dried salted for human consumption; its hides are used for leather; fins for shark-fin soup base; as well as for fishmeal and liver oil. This shark is also considered a game fish and taken by sports anglers with rod and reel.¹³

Selected countries

Table 19. **COMPARISON OF BLUE SHARK FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF “OTHER MARINE FISH” IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

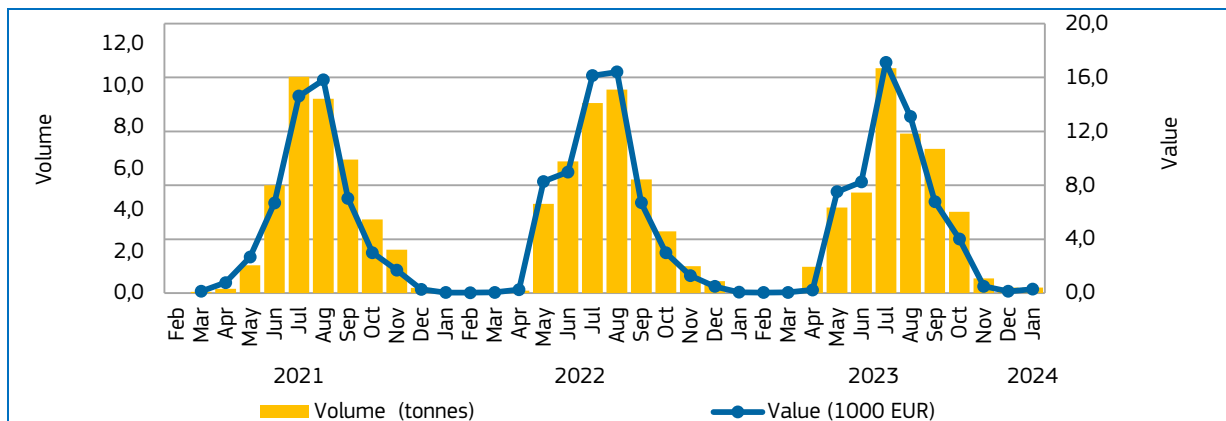
Blue shark		Changes in blue shark first sales Jan 2024 (%)		Contribution of blue shark to total “other marine fish” first sales in January 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale Jan 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan 2023	Compared to Jan 2022		
France	Value	+340%	+464%	0,002%	Saint Quay Portrieux, La Turballe, La Cotinière.
	Volume	+282%	+344%	0,001%	
Portugal	Value	-63%	-173%	0,1%	Peniche, Aveiro, Ribeira Grande.
	Volume	-77%	-341%	0,2%	
Spain	Value	-25%	-1%	20%	La Guardia, Vigo, Burela.
	Volume	-14%	+3%	33%	

¹¹ EUMOFA aggregation for species (Metadata 2, Annex 3: <http://eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies>).

¹² <https://fishbase.mnhn.fr/summary/898>

¹³ FAO Species Fact Sheets *Prionace glauca* (Linnaeus, 1758).

Figure 22. **BLUE SHARK: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



in **France**, from February 2021 to January 2024, the highest first sales value and volume of blue shark were in July 2023 when approximately 11 tonnes were sold for EUR 17,000. Blue shark fishery occurs mainly during the summer.

Figure 23. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF “OTHER MARINE FISH” (ERS LEVEL) IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JANUARY 2024**

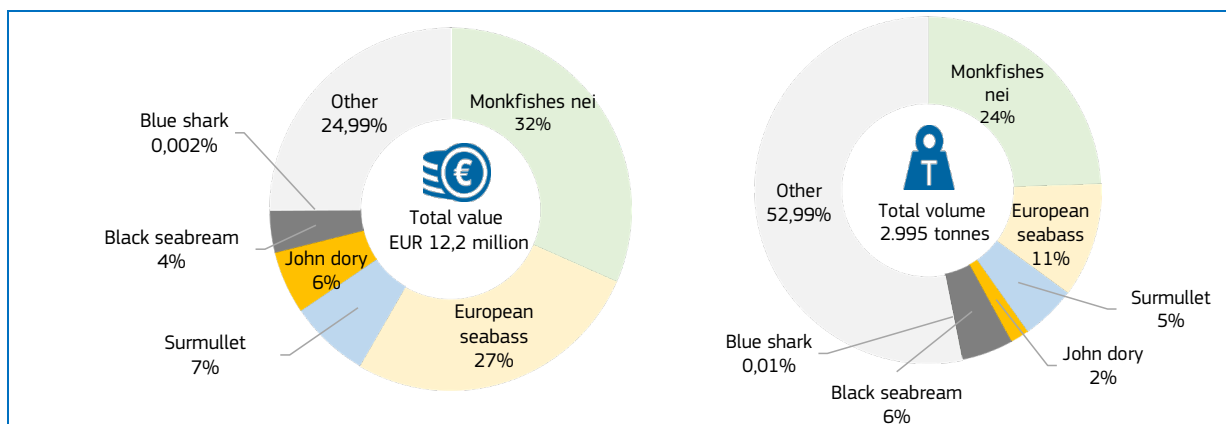
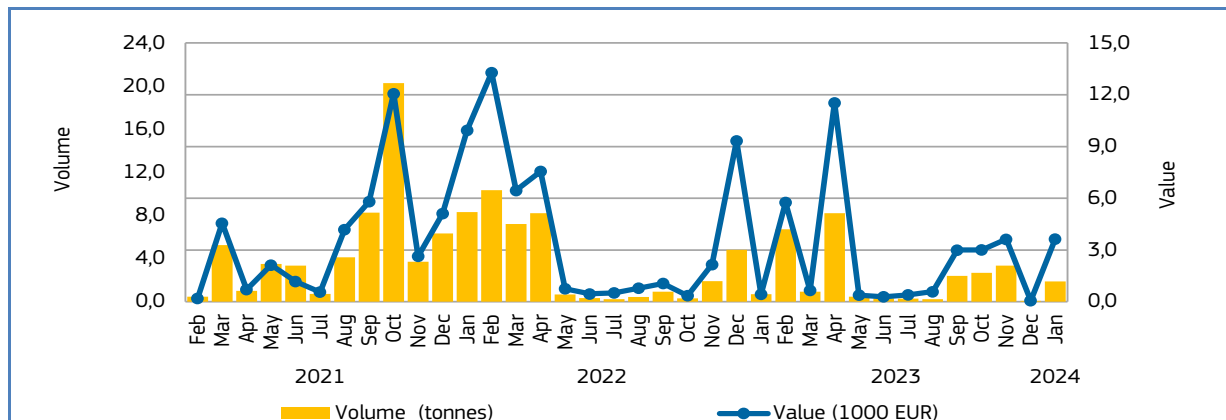


Figure 24. **BLUE SHARK: FIRST SALES IN PORTUGAL, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



Over the observed past 36 months in **Portugal**, the highest first sales value of blue shark were in February 2022 when a supply of 10 tonnes was sold for EUR 13,280. The highest volume was recorded in October 2021 when 20,3 tonnes were sold.

Figure 25. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF “OTHER MARINE FISH” (ERS LEVEL) IN PORTUGAL IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JANUARY 2024**

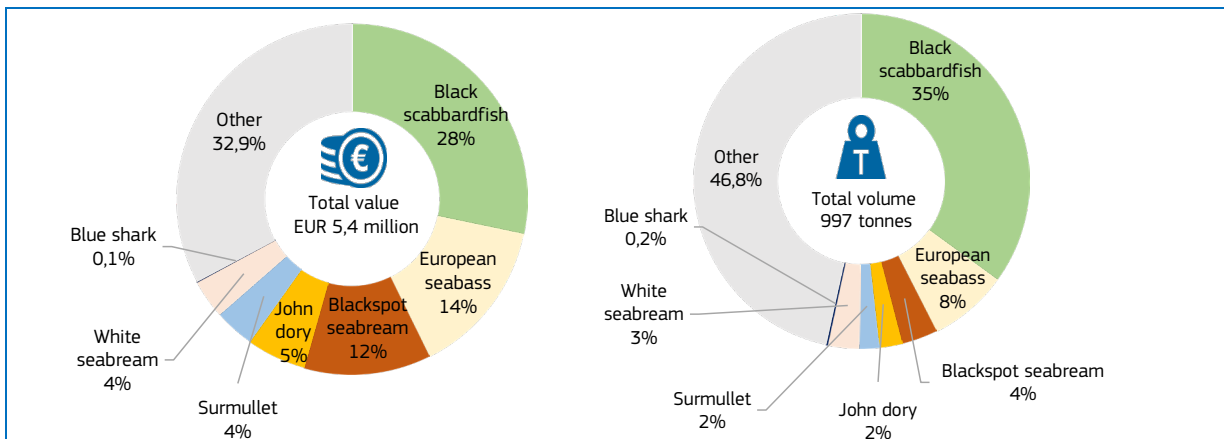
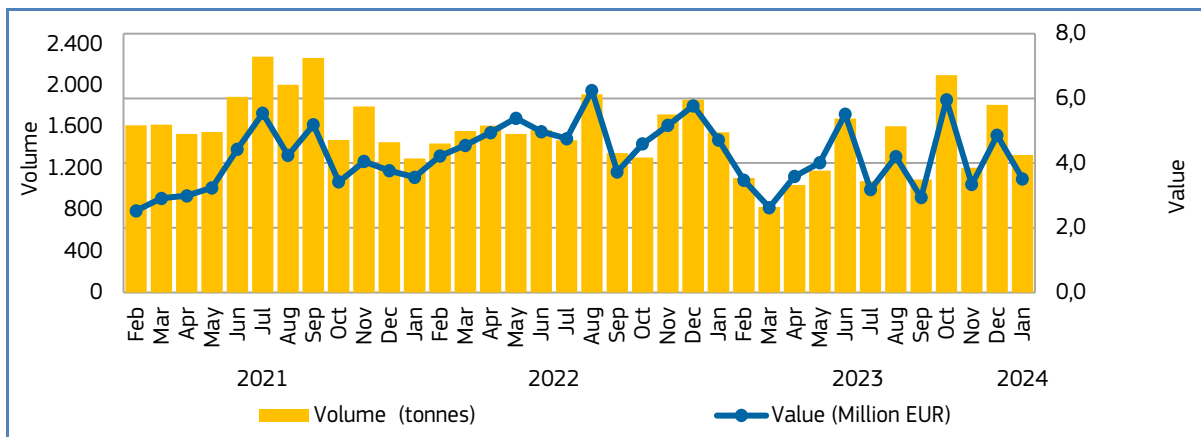
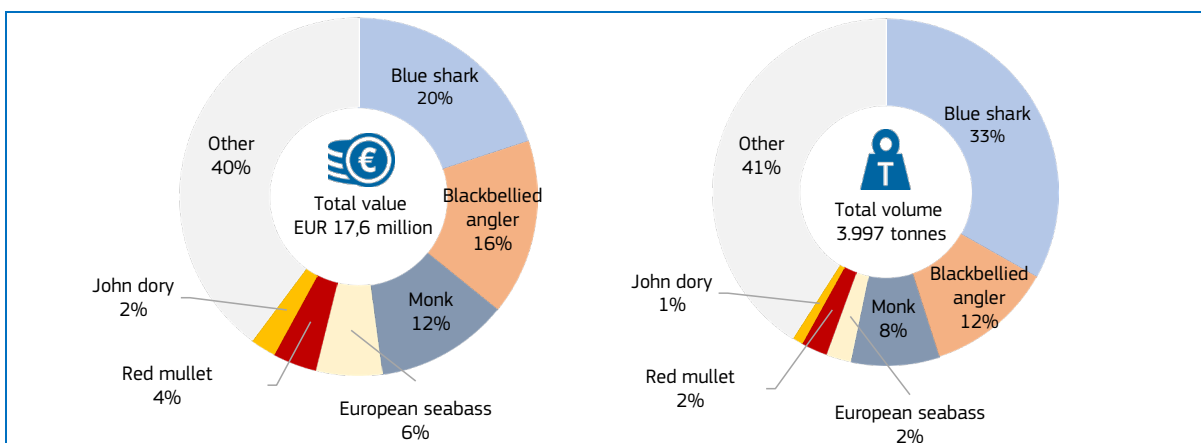


Figure 26. **BLUE SHARK: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



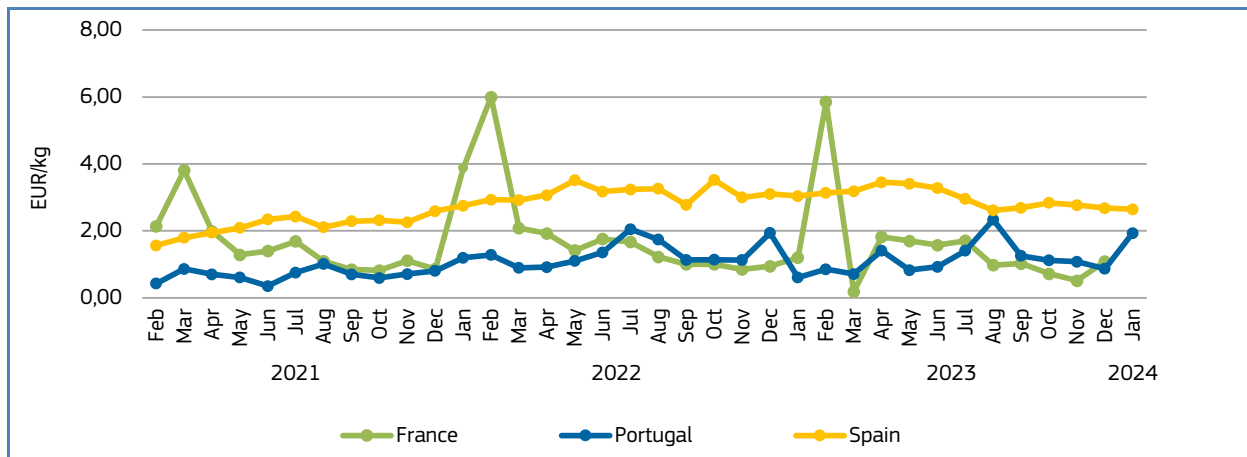
In **Spain**, which has the highest first sales of blue shark in the EU, over the 36-month observation period from February 2021 to January 2024, the highest first sales value of blue shark were registered in August 2022 when 1.914 tonnes were sold for EUR 7,26 million. The highest first sales volume occurred in July 2021 when 2.279 tonnes were sold for EUR 5,5 million.

Figure 27. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF “OTHER MARINE FISH” (ERS LEVEL) IN SPAIN IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JANUARY 2024**



Price trend

Figure 28. **BLUE SHARK: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, FEBRUARY 2021 - JANUARY 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (February 2021 to January 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of blue shark in **Spain** was 2,73 EUR/kg, 182% higher than in **Portugal** (0,97 EUR/kg) and 90% higher than in **France** (1,44 EUR/kg).

In **France** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of blue shark (1,09 EUR/kg) increased by 15% compared to January 2023 and by 27% compared to January 2022. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 0,19 EUR/kg for 1,3 tonnes in April 2023 to 6,00 EUR/kg for about 9 kg in March 2022.

In **Portugal** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of blue shark (1,94 EUR/kg) increased by 219% compared to January 2023 and by 62% compared to January 2022. In the 36-month period observed, the lowest average price at 0,35 EUR/kg for 3,3 tonnes was registered in June 2021, while the highest average price (2,33 EUR/kg for 251 kg) was recorded in August 2023.

In **Spain** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of blue shark (2,65 EUR/kg) decreased by 13% compared to January 2023 and by 4% compared to the same month in 2022. During the period observed, the average price ranged from 1,57 EUR/kg for 1.615 tonnes in February 2021 to 3,52 EUR/kg for 1.304 tonnes in October 2022.

1.7. Focus on John Dory



John Dory (*Zeus faber*) is a highly valued demersal species that belongs to the genus *Zeus*, and family Zeidae. It is olive-yellow and has a large dark spot and long spines on the dorsal fin. John Dory is found in the eastern Atlantic from Norway to southern Africa, as well as in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, and the western Pacific and Indian Oceans. It is a solitary species that lives in soft and muddy areas close to rocks, at depths from 20 m to more than 400 m. However, 99% of catches are made between 20 m and 160 m. It feeds mainly on schooling bony fishes, occasionally on cephalopods and crustaceans.

The species has an average length of 40 cm, and its maximum reported age is 12 years. Reproduction takes place at the end of winter and start of spring in the Northeast Atlantic, and earlier in the Mediterranean¹⁴. John Dory is an important bycatch in various trawl fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic. No management measures are in place, although as the species is mainly caught in mixed fisheries, other measures have an indirect impact on this species¹⁵. European catches originate mainly from the UK, France and Spain¹⁶. It is a highly valued fish for human consumption. The products are marketed fresh, frozen, dried salted and smoked. It is also caught for fishmeal and oil by industrial offshore fishing fleets.¹⁷

¹⁴ http://www.seafish.org/media/Publications/SeafishSpeciesGuide_Johndory_201401.pdf

¹⁵ https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/2251

¹⁶ <https://britishseafishing.co.uk/john-dory/>

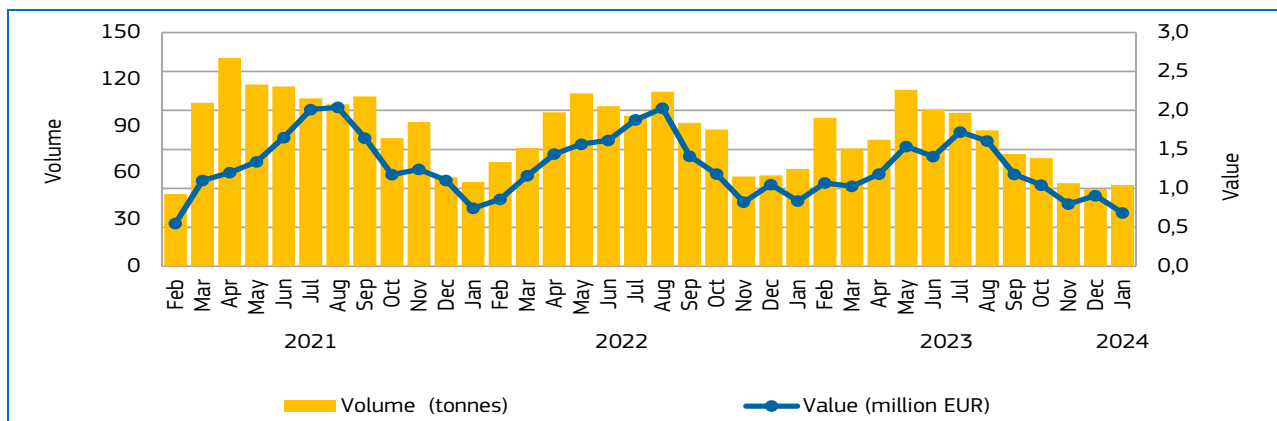
¹⁷ FAO Species Fact Sheets, *Zeus faber* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Selected countries

Table 20. **COMPARISON OF JOHN DORY FIRST-SALES PRICES, MAIN PLACES OF SALE, AND CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SALES OF "OTHER MARINE FISH" IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**

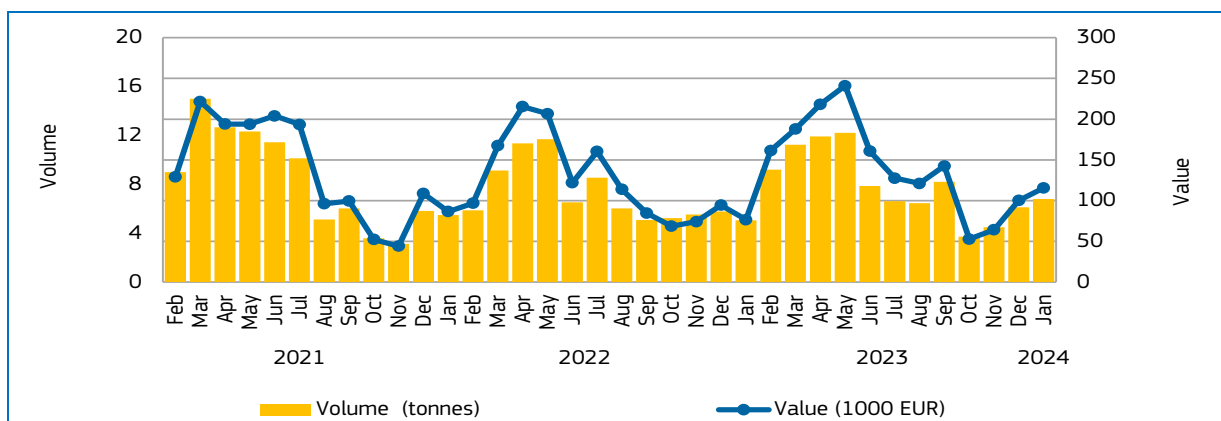
John Dory		Changes in John Dory first sales Jan 2024 (%)		Contribution of John Dory to total "other marine fish" first sales in January 2024 (%)	Principal places of sale Jan 2024 in terms of first-sales value
		Compared to Jan-2023	Compared to Jan 2022		
France	Value	-18%	-8%	6%	Erquy, Saint Quay Portrieux, Guilvinec.
	Volume	-17%	-4%	2%	
Italy	Value	+51%	+33%	4%	Civitanova Marche, Porto Santo Stefano, Livorno.
	Volume	+34%	+24%	1%	
Spain	Value	-1%	+28%	2%	Cadiz, Vigo, Cedeira.
	Volume	-31%	+43%	1%	

Figure 29. **JOHN DORY: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



In **France** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value of John Dory was recorded in August 2021, when about 104 tonnes were sold for about EUR 2 million, while the highest first-sales volume was registered in April 2021, when 134 tonnes were sold for about EUR 1,2 million. The main fishing season for John Dory occurs during the summertime.

Figure 30. **JOHN DORY: FIRST SALES IN ITALY, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



In **Italy** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value was registered in May 2023 when about 12,2 tonnes were sold for EUR 2,4 million. The peak in volume was reached in March 2021 when 15 tonnes were sold for about EUR 222.000. The John Dory fishery is generally most active during the spring season.

Figure 31. **FIRST SALES: COMPOSITION OF “OTHER MARINE FISH” (ERS LEVEL) IN ITALY IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JANUARY 2024**

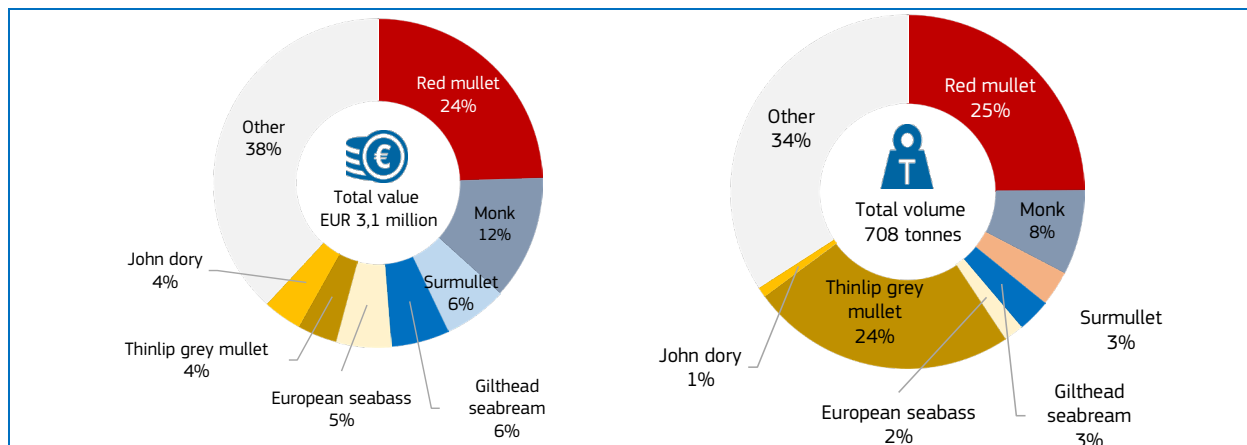
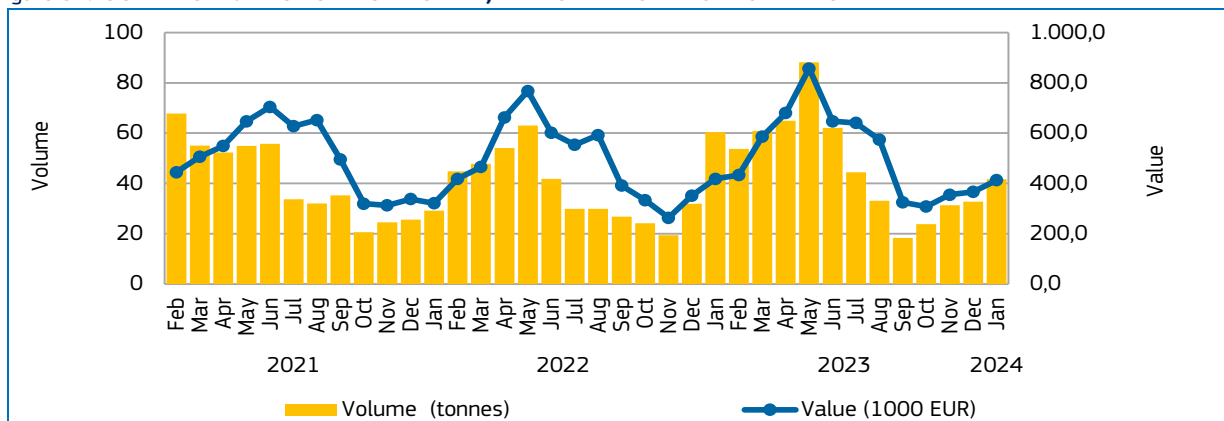


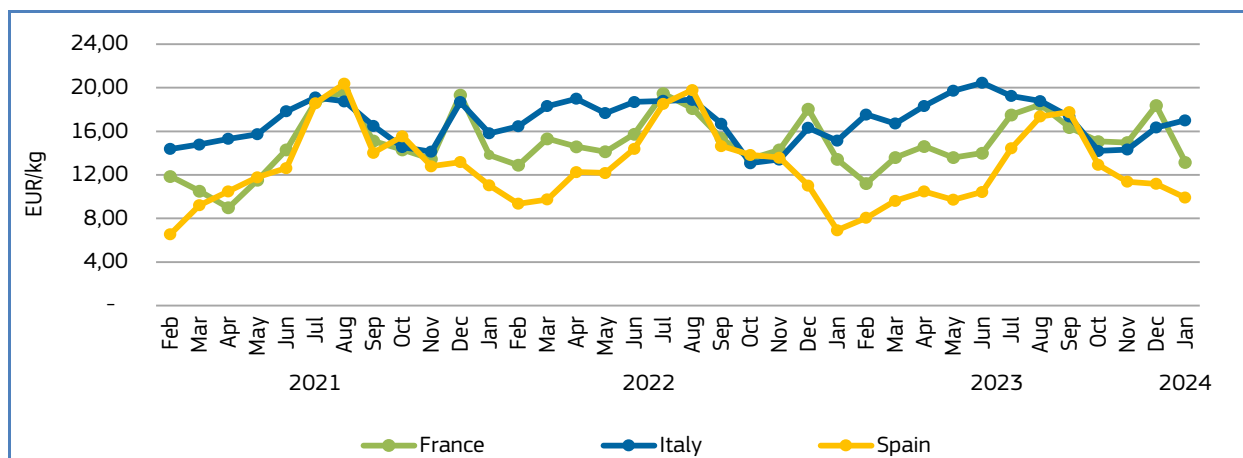
Figure 32. **JOHN DORY: FIRST SALES IN SPAIN, FEBRUARY 2021 - JANUARY 2024**



In **Spain** over the 36-month period observed, the highest first-sales value and volume were registered in May 2023 when 88,2 tonnes were sold at about EUR 857.000.

Price trend

Figure 33. **JOHN DORY: FIRST-SALES PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



Over the 36-month observation period (February 2021 – January 2024), the weighted average first-sales price of John Dory in **Italy** was 17,11 EUR/kg, 15% higher than in **France** (14,82 EUR/kg), and 45% above the average price in **Spain** (11,82 EUR/kg).

In **France** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of John Dory (13,16 EUR/kg) decreased by 2% compared to January 2023, and by 5% compared to January 2022. Over the past 36 months, the average price ranged from 8,98 EUR/kg for 134 tonnes in April 2021 to 19,60 EUR/kg for 104 tonnes in August 2021.

In **Italy** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of John Dory (17,01 EUR/kg) increased by 12% compared to January 2023, and by 8% compared to January 2022. In the 36-month period observed, the lowest average price at 13,08 EUR/kg for 5,2 tonnes was registered in October 2022, while the highest average price at 20,45 EUR/kg for 7,9 tonnes was observed in June 2023.

In **Spain** in January 2024, the average first-sales price of John Dory (9,91 EUR/kg) increased by 43% compared to January 2023 and decreased by 10% compared to January 2022. During the referenced period, the average price ranged from 6,55 EUR/kg for 67,8 tonnes in February 2021 to 20,38 EUR/kg for 32 tonnes in August 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 or chilled Atlantic and Danube 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 “other marine fish”¹⁸.

Data analysed in the section “Extra-EU imports” are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from the European Commission¹⁹.

Table 21. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THE THREE MOST RELEVANT FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 08/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 08/2023	Notes
Atlantic salmon and Danube salmon, excluding liver and roes, fresh imported from Norway (<i>Salmo salar</i> , <i>Hucho hucho</i> CN code 03021400)	Price (EUR/kg)	9,33	9,09 (+3%)	10,40 (-10%)	Over the three-year period analysed from weeks 09/2021 to 08/2024 prices fluctuated, showing an increasing trend. Prices ranged between 5,09 EUR/kg (week 36/2021) and 11,28 EUR/kg (week 16/2022). Prices show seasonality, with the highest peaks occurring between weeks 10 and 18.
	Volume (tonnes)	8.848	8.637 (+2%)	10.359 (-15%)	Volumes fluctuated strongly with values ranging between 1.309 tonnes (week 52/2023) and 19.507 tonnes (week 35/2022). Supply is seasonal with peaks occurring most often in weeks 35/37, 39/42 and 49. Lowest peaks seem to occur in weeks 6/8, 13/15 and 51/52.
Frozen Alaska pollock fillets imported from China (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i> , CN code 03047500)	Price (EUR/kg)	2,29	2,63 (-13%)	3,68 (-38%)	Between weeks 09/2021 to 08/2024 prices showed fluctuations and followed a decreasing trend after reaching the maximum price of 4,03 EUR/kg registered in week 41/2022. The minimum price registered was 1,84 EUR/kg in week 48/2022.
	Volume (tonnes)	1.113	1.040 (+7%)	2.414 (-54%)	In the period analysed, weekly volumes ranged between 204 tonnes (week 03/2024) to 13.785 tonnes (week 50/2023). Supply fluctuated strongly but does not seem to follow a clear seasonality. Highest peaks in supply seem to occur in the last weeks of the year between week 46 and 50.
Frozen tropical shrimp imported from Ecuador (genus <i>Penaeus</i> , CN code 03061792)	Price (EUR/kg)	4,98	4,92 (+1%)	5,19 (-4%)	From week 09/2021 to 08/2024 prices fluctuated, increasing from the minimum price of 4,58 EUR/kg recorded in week 10/2021 to the maximum price of 7,19 EUR/kg (week 41/2022) to then decrease again.
	Volume (tonnes)	2.244	2.235 (0%)	2.261 (-1%)	Volume fluctuated between 891 tonnes (week 09/2023) and 4.925 tonnes (week 33/2021). In the period analysed volumes showed high fluctuations, with peaks in supply most often between weeks 14/17, 21/23, 30/33 and 45/46.

¹⁸ The featured species of the commodity group of the month are fresh or chilled European sea bass from Turkey, fresh or chilled monkfish from Norway and frozen monkfish from Namibia. The three randomly selected species this month are frozen fillets of haddock from Russian Federation, prepared or preserved clams, cockles and arkshells from Viet Nam, and fresh or chilled swordfish from Morocco.

¹⁹ Last update: 13. 03.2024.

Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH AND WHOLE ATLANTIC SALMON FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**

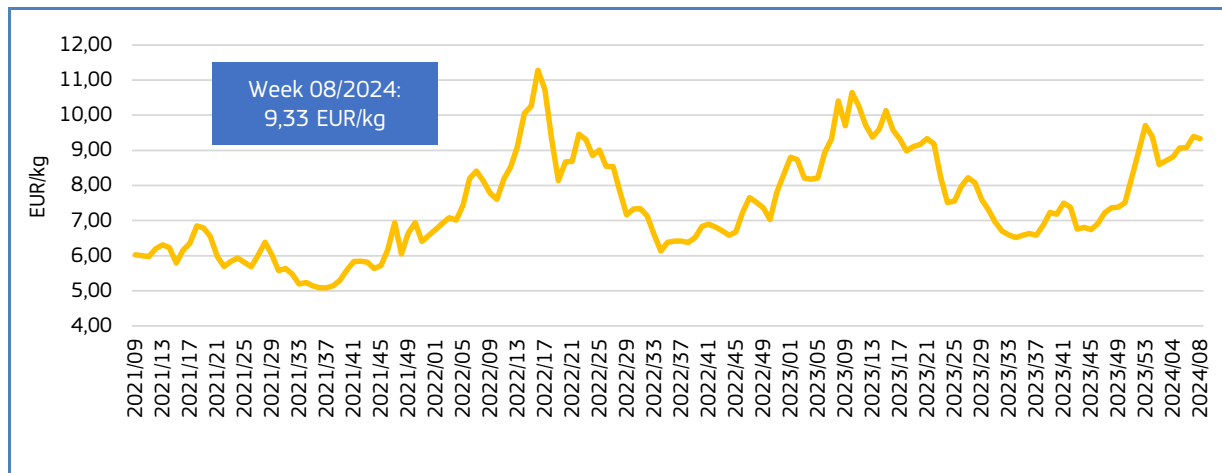


Figure 35. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN ALASKA POLLOCK FILLETS FROM CHINA, 2021 - 2024**

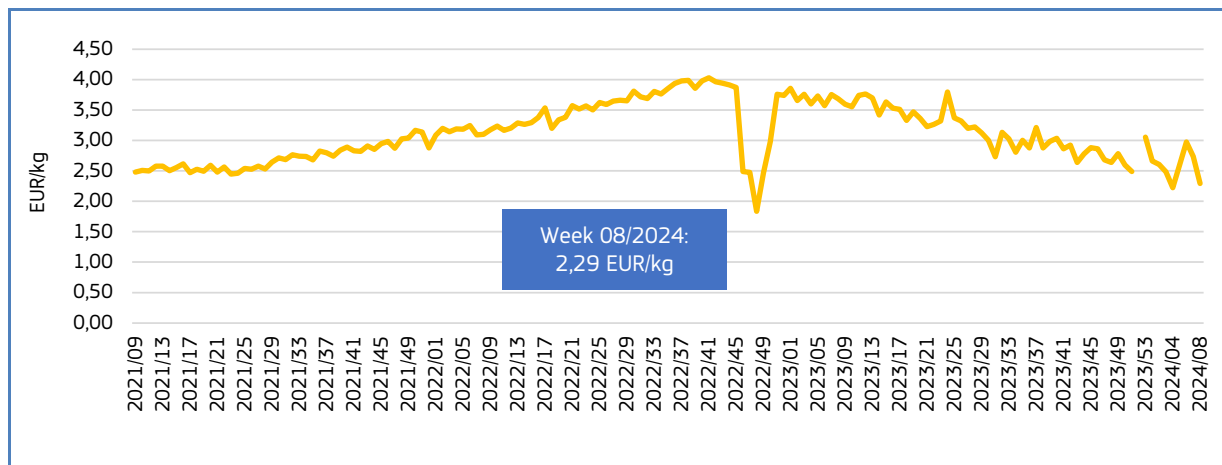
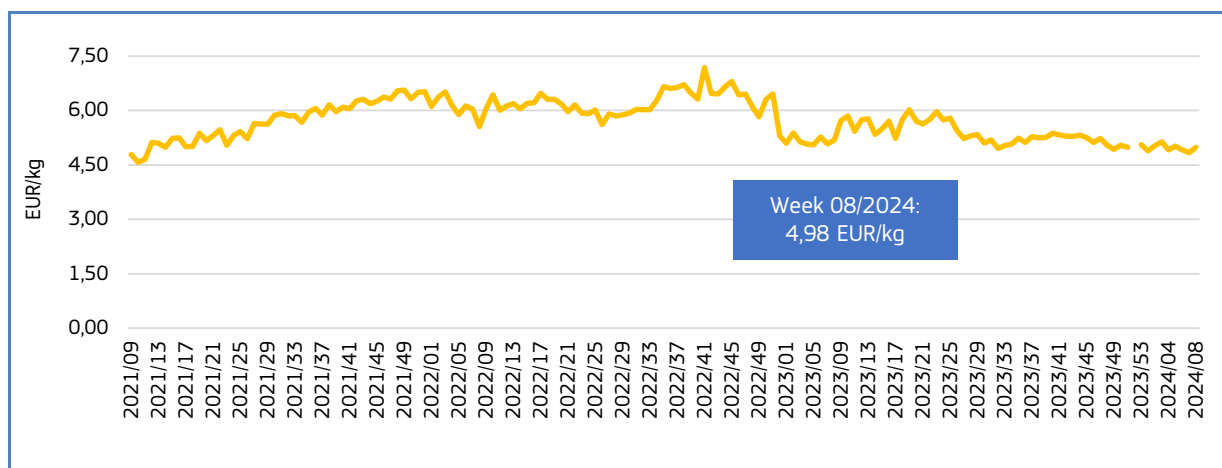


Figure 36. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN TROPICAL SHRIMP FROM ECUADOR, 2021 - 2024**



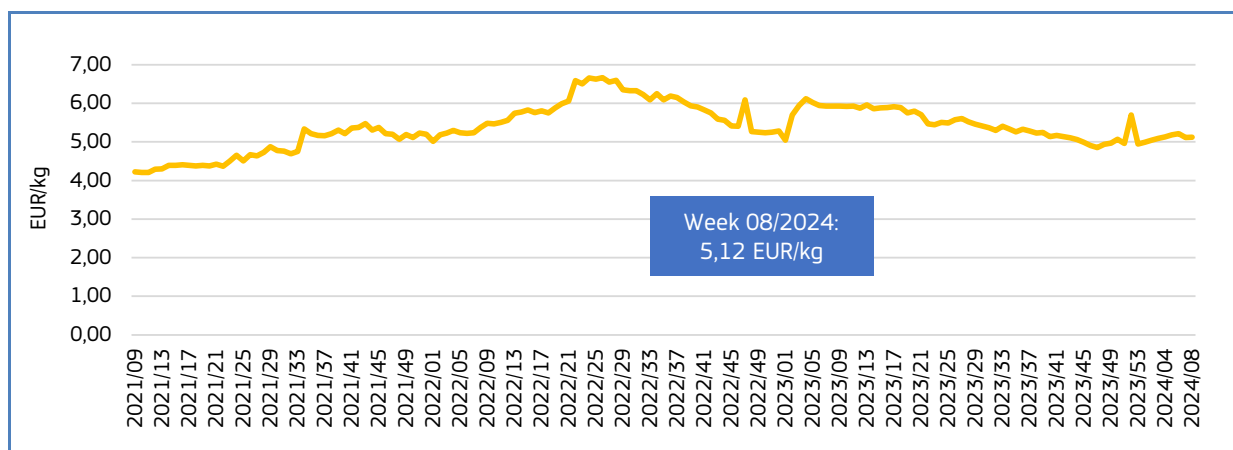
Overview | [1. First sales in Europe](#) | [2. Extra-EU imports](#) | [3. Consumption](#)

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Table 22. **EVOLUTION OF WEEKLY PRICE AND VOLUME OF THIS MONTH'S THREE FEATURED COMMODITY PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO THE EU**

Extra-EU Imports		Week 08/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 08/2023	Notes
Fresh or chilled European sea bass from Turkey ("Dicentrarchus labrax", CN code 03028410)	Price (EUR/kg)	5,12	5,16 (-1%)	5,93 (-14%)	Between weeks 09/2021 to 08/2024 prices fluctuated strongly following an increasing trend overall. The minimum price of 4,21 EUR/kg was registered in week 10/2021 and the maximum price of 6,66 EUR/kg in week 26/2022. 66% of the weekly prices are between 5,00 EUR/kg and 6,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	558	599 (-7%)	267 (+109%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging from 4 tonnes (week 52/2023) to 652 tonnes (week 07/2024). 35% of the weekly supply was more than 400 tonnes. There is no clear seasonality in supply, while an increasing trend in supply was registered since week 01/2024.
Fresh or chilled monkfish from Norway ("Lophius spp.", CN code 03028950)	Price (EUR/kg)	6,17	6,71 (-8%)	10,42 (-41%)	Between weeks 09/2021 and 08/2024 prices showed an increase, fluctuating between 2,86 EUR/kg (week 52/2023) and the maximum price of 12,95 (week 51/2022). Seasonal peaks in prices occur in weeks 50/51. 39% of the weekly prices were higher than 8,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	13	18 (-29%)	7,6 (+65%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging from 88 kg (week 52/2023) to 82 tonnes (week 36/2023). 46% of the weekly supply was less than 25 tonnes. A clear seasonality is registered, with the highest peaks occurring in week 35/36.
Frozen monkfish from Namibia ("Lophius spp.", CN code 03038965)	Price (EUR/kg)	8,33	7,69 (+8%)	7,35 (+13%)	Increasing trend in price over the past three years. Prices ranged between 4,37 EUR/kg (week 14/2021) and 10,56 EUR/kg (week 25 /2021). 48% of the weekly prices were between 7,00 EUR/kg and 8,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	47	52 (-10%)	41 (+15%)	Over the past three years supply fluctuated between 149 kg (week 10/2023) and 221 tonnes (week 45/2022). 50% of the weekly volumes were less than 50 tonnes. Highest peaks in supply seem to occur in weeks 20/21, 44/45 and 49.

Figure 37. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED EUROPEAN SEA BASS FROM TURKEY, 2021 - 2024**



Overview | [1. First sales in Europe](#) | [2. Extra-EU imports](#) | [3. Consumption](#)

| [4. The fish and seafood market in Hong Kong](#) | [5. Albacore tuna in the EU](#) | [6. Global highlights](#) | [7. Macroeconomic context](#)

Figure 38. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED MONKFISH FROM NORWAY, 2021 - 2024**

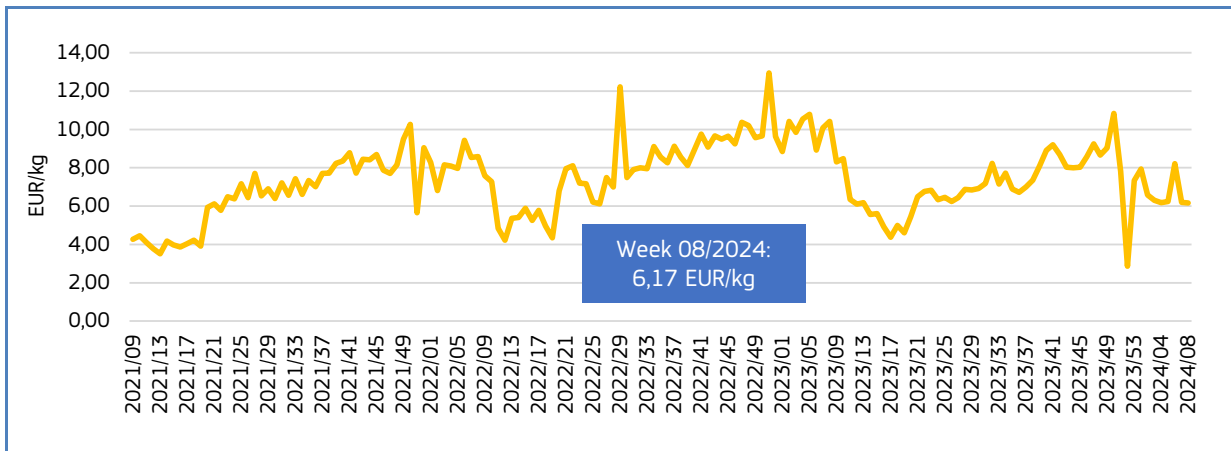
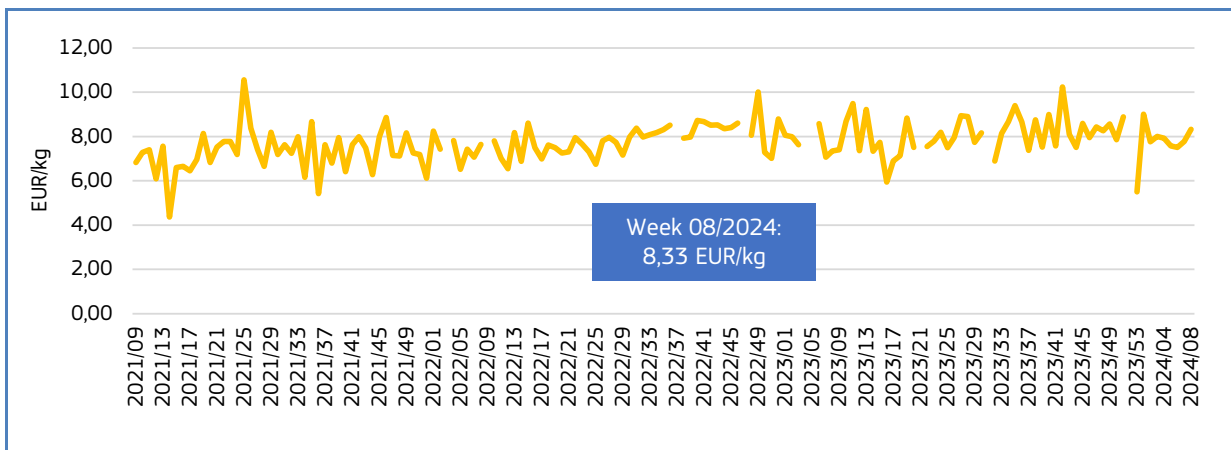


Figure 39. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN MONKFISH FROM NAMIBIA, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 08/2024, the price of fresh or chilled **European sea bass** from **Turkey** showed fluctuations and an upward trend. The price ranged between 4,99 EUR/kg and 5,22 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated between 519 and 652 tonnes.

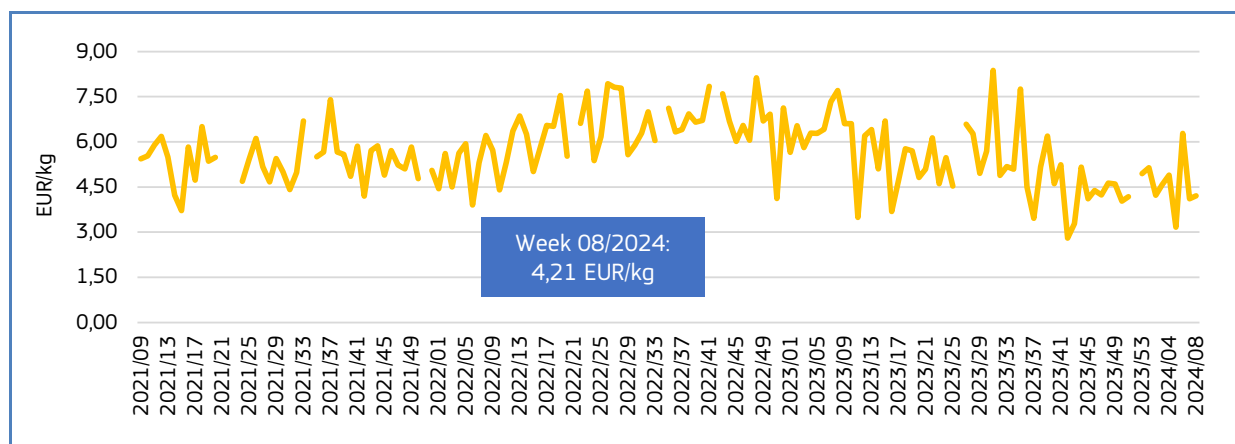
Between weeks 01/2024 and 08/2024, the price of fresh or chilled **monkfish** from **Norway** fluctuated strongly and showed a decreasing trend, ranging from 6,17 EUR/kg to 8,22 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated between 11 tonnes and 26 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of frozen **monkfish** from **Namibia** showed a fluctuating and decreasing trend. Price ranged between 7,50 EUR/kg to 9,01 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated strongly between 338 kg and 97 tonnes.

Table 23. **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 08/2024	Preceding 4-week average	Week 08/2023	Notes
Frozen fillets of haddock from Russian Federation ("Melanogrammus aeglefinus", CN code 03047200)	Price (EUR/kg)	4,21	4,61 (-9%)	7,70 (-45%)	Between weeks 09/2021 and 08/2024 prices fluctuated strongly following a decreasing trend ranging between 2,80 EUR/kg (week 42/2023) to 8,37 EUR/kg (week 31/2023). 34% of the weekly prices were between 5,00 EUR/kg and 6,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	103	33 (+214%)	11 (+873%)	Supply fluctuated greatly ranging from 0,2 tonnes (week 31/2023) to 131 tonnes (week 10/2022). The highest peaks in supply seem to occur between weeks 8 and 12, 24 and 27, and 42/43. 52% of the weekly supply was less than 20 tonnes.
Prepared or preserved clams, cockles and arkshells, (excl. smoked). From Viet Nam (CN code 16055600)	Price (EUR/kg)	1,42	1,48 (-4%)	1,48 (-4%)	In the period analysed prices fluctuated highly increasing to the maximum price of 2,87 EUR/kg in week 44/2022 to then decrease to the minimum price 1,23 EUR/kg in week 20/2023. 31% of the weekly prices were higher than 2,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	748	690 (+8%)	620 (+21%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging from 71 tonnes (week 02/2023) to 2.248 tonnes (week 04/2022). No clear seasonality is registered and the highest peaks in supply were in 2021 in weeks 1,4 and 7. 36% of the weekly supply was above 700 tonnes.
Fresh or chilled swordfish from Morocco ("Xiphias gladius" CN code 03024700)	Price (EUR/kg)	8,42	8,51 (-1%)	7,28 (+16%)	Between weeks 09/2021 and 08/2024 prices ranged between 5,57 EUR/kg (week 43/2021) and 13,72 EUR/kg (week 49/2021). Spikes in prices follow availability of supply, with highest prices occurring in weeks 40/50/51. 47% of the weekly prices were between 8,00 EUR/kg and 10,00 EUR/kg.
	Volume (tonnes)	10	24 (-57%)	14 (-27%)	Volumes showed high fluctuations ranging from 207 kg (week 48/2021) to 169 tonnes (week 20/2022). A clear seasonality is detected, with highest peaks in supply appearing to occur between weeks 18 and 20. 40% of the weekly supply was less than 20 tonnes.

Figure 40. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN FILLETS OF HADDOCK FROM RUSSIAN FEDERATION, 2021 - 2024**



Overview | [1. First sales in Europe](#) | [2. Extra-EU imports](#) | [3. Consumption](#)

| [4. The fish and seafood market in Hong Kong](#) | [5. Albacore tuna in the EU](#) | [6. Global highlights](#) | [7. Macroeconomic context](#)

Figure 41. **IMPORT PRICE OF PREPARED OR PRESERVED CLAMS, COCKLES AND ARKSHHELLS FROM VIET NAM, 2021 - 2024**

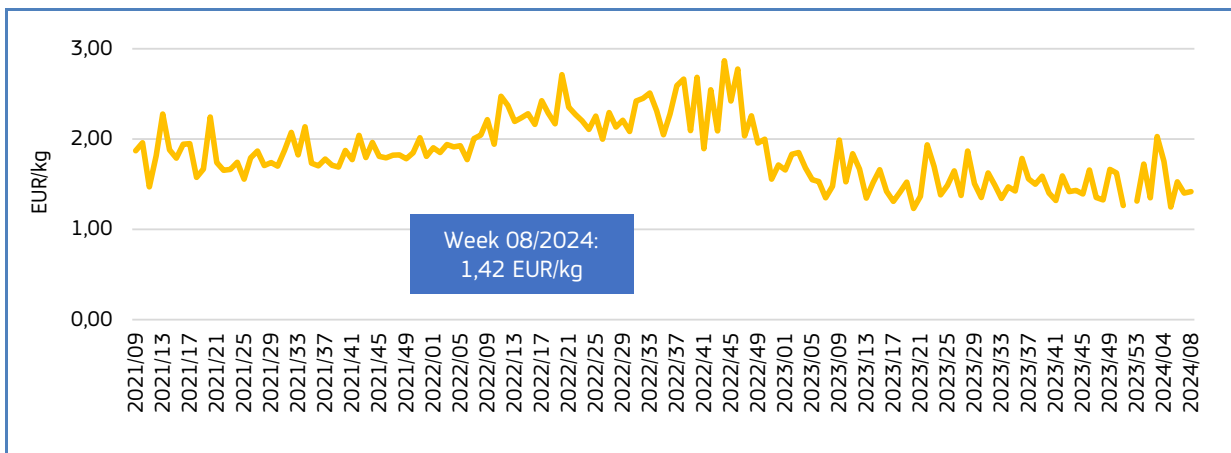
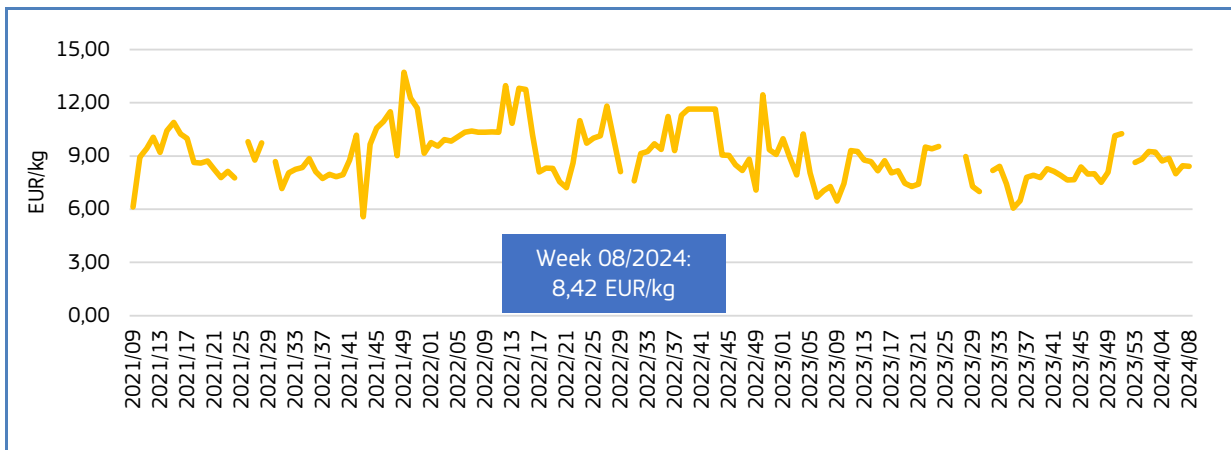


Figure 42. **IMPORT PRICE OF FRESH OR CHILLED SWORDFISH FROM MOROCCO, 2021 - 2024**



Between weeks 01/2024 and 08/2024, the price of frozen fillets of **haddock** from the **Russian Federation** showed fluctuations and a decreasing trend. The price ranged between 3,17 EUR/kg and 6,28 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated highly ranging between 29 tonnes and 109 tonnes.

Between week 01/2024 and week 08/2024, the price of prepared or preserved **clams, cockles** and **arkshells** from **Vietnam** fluctuated and decreased. The price ranged from 1,25 EUR/kg to 2,03 EUR/kg. Supply fluctuated strongly between 353 tonnes and 969 tonnes.

In 2024, the price of fresh or chilled **swordfish** from **Morocco** showed strong fluctuations and a decreasing trend. Price ranged between 8,00 EUR/kg and 9,25 EUR/kg, and volume fluctuated strongly between 10 tonnes and 28 tonnes.

3. Consumption

3.1. HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

Data analysed in the section “Consumption” are extracted from EUMOFA, as collected from Europanel²⁰.

In January 2024 compared with January 2023, household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products decreased in France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden in both volume and value, while in Poland an increase was observed in both parameters. In Poland the increase was largely based on salmon (volume 7%, value 23%), mackerel (volume 7%, value 22%), and some unspecified aquaculture products (volume 6%, value 44%). The highest decrease was observed in Hungary where seafood consumption is rather low and consumed aquatic products are not specified (54% of volume and 45% of value).

Table 24. **JANUARY OVERVIEW OF THE HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION OF FRESH FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

Country	Per capita apparent consumption 2021* (live weight equivalent, LWE) kg/capita/year	January 2022		January 2023		December 2023		January 2024		Change from January 2023 to January 2024	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	20,00-25,00	1.139	18,66	900	15,43	1.109	24,50	904	18,09	0%	17%
France	32,18	15.338	196,60	13.419	193,35	23.450	318,44	12.872	180,26	4%	7%
Germany	12,51	6.175	89,04	5.480	83,34	6.384	99,92	4.590	79,98	16%	4%
Hungary	6,55	270	1,90	232	1,86	1.225	10,76	107	1,00	54%	46%
Ireland	14,56	957	15,17	837	14,76	1.176	22,67	801	14,39	4%	3%
Italy	30,15	25.014	283,66	17.504	221,71	32.157	417,39	15.574	204,81	11%	8%
Netherlands	21,08	3.058	50,80	2.331	43,03	3.709	81,67	2.126	41,60	9%	3%
Poland	14,26	3.449	26,60	2.852	25,01	9.968	92,16	2.938	31,25	3%	25%
Portugal	56,52	5.049	37,40	4.187	33,40	6.020	54,57	3.832	32,21	8%	4%
Spain	42,98	42.530	392,53	37.823	376,63	43.705	480,42	32.784	339,16	13%	10%
Sweden	22,71	621	8,87	448	6,94	1.032	15,94	398	6,12	11%	12%

* EUMOFA estimates. The supply balance is built on the basis of the equation catches + aquaculture production + imports – exports = apparent consumption and is calculated in live weight equivalent. The methodologies for estimating apparent consumption at EU and Member State levels are different, the first based on data and estimates, the latter also requiring the adjustment of abnormal trends due to the higher impact of stock changes. Where EUMOFA estimations on per capita apparent consumption continued to show high annual volatility even with these adjustments, national contact points were contacted to confirm these estimates or to provide their own figures. For the Netherlands and Poland, sources are the Dutch Fish Marketing Board and Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics - National Research Institute, respectively. The estimate for Denmark was provided by the University of Copenhagen.

Over the past three years, the average household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products in January has been below the annual average in both volume and value in all reporting countries. The highest drop was recorded in Hungary, with a volume of 47% and a value of 42%.

The most recent monthly consumption data (up to **January 2024**) are available on the EUMOFA website and can be accessed [here](#).

²⁰ Last update: 18.03.2024.

3.2. Miscellaneous shrimps

The category 'miscellaneous shrimps' includes various shrimp species such as tropical shrimp, brown shrimp, or coldwater shrimp, among others. The main shrimp species consumed may differ significantly among EU countries, as well as the most popular states of preservation/presentation (raw/cooked, whole/peeled, etc.). These variations may partly explain the strong price differences observed among selected countries²¹.

3.2.1. Overview of household consumption in Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Ireland

Based on EUMOFA estimates, per capita apparent consumption of fishery and aquaculture products in Portugal with 56,52 kg LWE is the highest in Europe, 139% higher than the EU average (23,71 kg LWE). However, per capita apparent consumption values for Germany (12,51 kg LWE), the Netherlands (21,08 kg LWE) and Ireland (14,56 kg LWE) were all below the EU average, with 48%, 11% and 39%, respectively.

Among the four countries of the EU that are reporting on household consumption of miscellaneous shrimps, Portugal had the highest average monthly consumption in the last three years (440 tonnes/month), and the average price of different shrimp species was significantly the lowest (10,33 EUR/kg). It was 46% lower than the second lowest price in Germany and 56% lower than the highest price in the Netherlands. Although the average price of miscellaneous shrimps was highest in the Netherlands, lowest volumes of consumption were observed in Ireland, where 63 tonnes of average monthly consumption over the last three years was 44% lower than that of the Netherlands. In the last three years, the highest increase in prices was observed in Portugal (7%), while consumed volumes have not significantly increased, and in two countries they have even decreased. The highest decline was recorded in Germany, where consumed volume fell by 17%.

We have covered **miscellaneous shrimps** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First sales: MH 4 2022 (ES, IT, PT); MH 4 2020 (ES, IT, PT); MH 10 2019 (DK, ES); MH 5 2018 (IT, PT, ES); MH 1 2017 (IT); MH 11 2016 (SE); MH 3 2015 (SE); MH 4 2014 (DK); MH May 2013 (SE); MH Aug-Sep 2013 (BE).

Consumption: MH 6 2021 (DE, NL, PT, IE).

Extra EU imports: Greenland MH 11 2023; Greenland, Morocco MH 10 2023; Greenland MH 4 2022; Greenland MH 9 2021; Canada MH 6 2021; Vietnam MH 4 2021; Greenland MH 2 2021; Morocco MH 9 2020; Greenland, Ecuador MH 4 2020; Vietnam MH 1 2020; Greenland MH 6 2019; Morocco MH 5 2019; Canada MH 2 2019; Vietnam MH 8 2018; Morocco MH 5 2018.

Topic of the month: Warmwater shrimp in the EU MH 8 2023; Species profile on deep-water rose shrimp MH 7 2021; Coldwater shrimp in the EU MH 1 2021; Brown shrimp in the EU MH 10 2020; Tropical shrimp in the EU market MH 4 2020; Brown shrimp in the Netherlands

²¹ EUMOFA MH 6 2021

Figure 43. **PRICES OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS PURCHASED BY GERMAN, DUTCH, PORTUGUESE, AND IRISH HOUSEHOLDS**

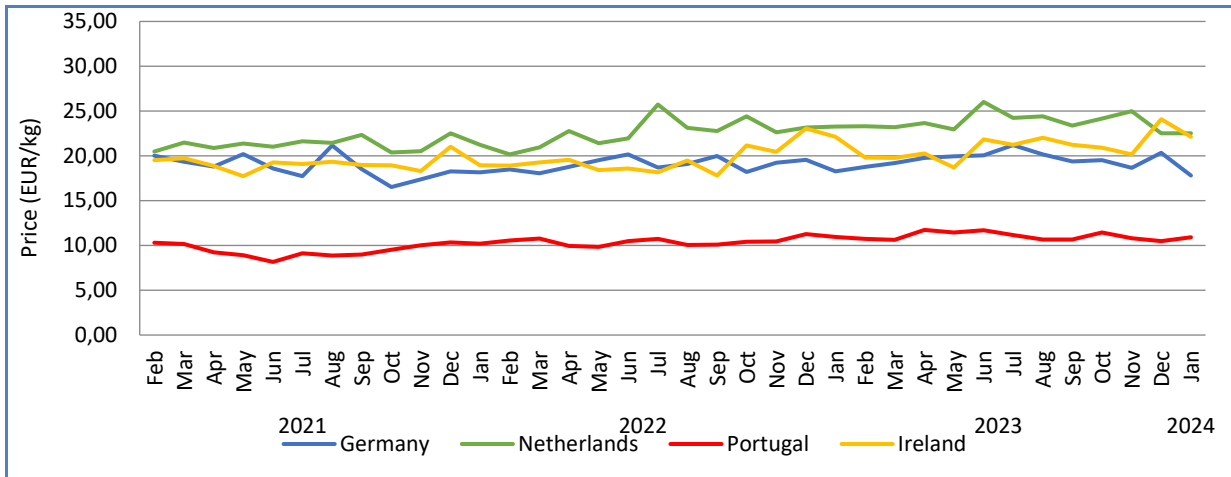
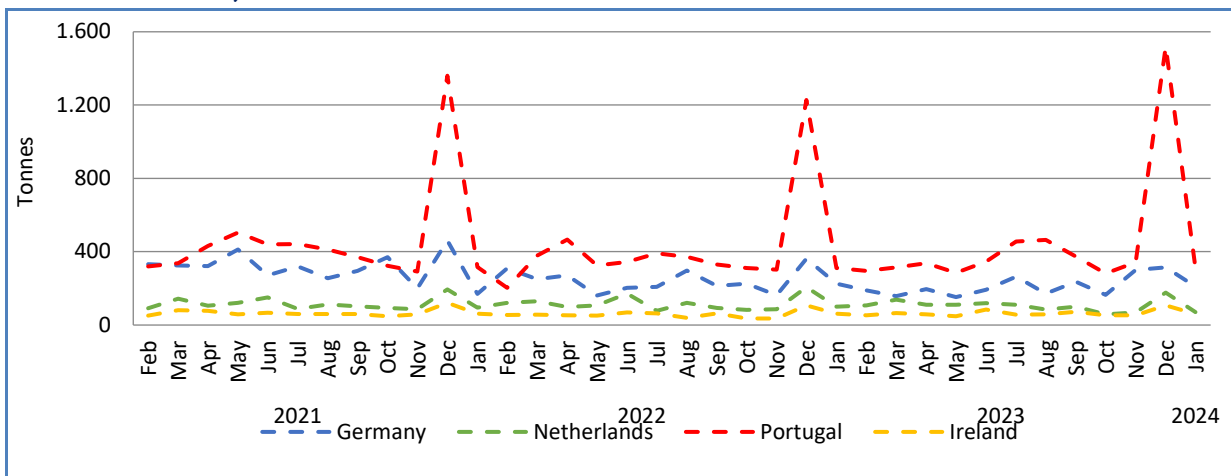


Figure 44. **HOUSEHOLD PURCHASES OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS IN GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL, AND IRELAND**



3.2.2. Household consumption trends in Germany

Long-term trend (February 2021 to January 2024): Downward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.

Yearly average price: 18,81 EUR/kg (2021), 18,99 EUR/kg (2022), 19,58 EUR/kg (2023).

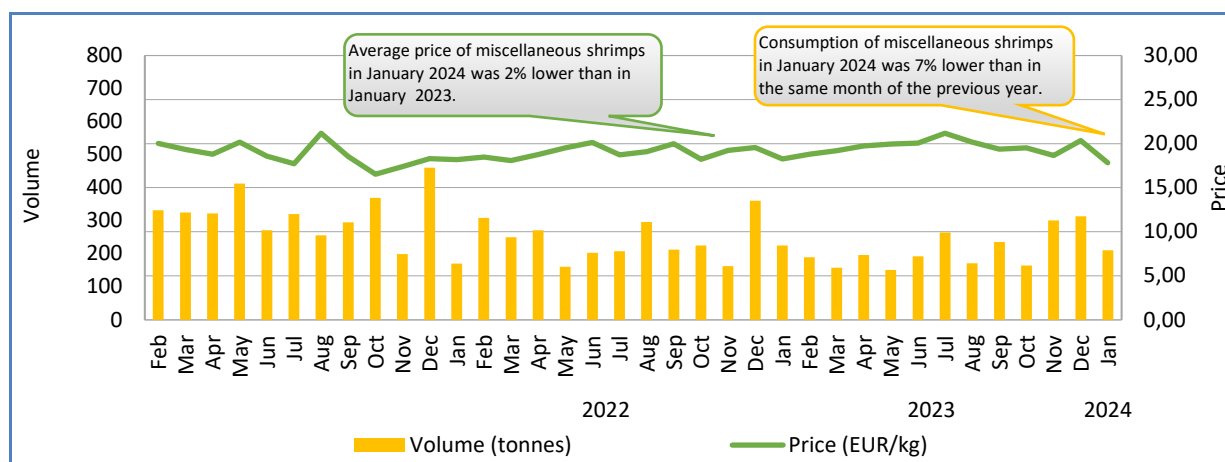
Yearly consumption: 3.797 tonnes (2021), 2.830 tonnes (2022), 2.587 tonnes (2023).

Short-term trend (January 2024): Upward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.

Price: 17,82 EUR/kg.

Consumption: 210 tonnes.

Figure 45. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN GERMANY, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



3.2.3. Household consumption trends in the Netherlands

Long-term trend (February 2021 to January 2024): Slight downward trend in volume and slight upward trend in price.

Yearly average price: 21,22 EUR/kg (2021), 22,52 EUR/kg (2022), 23,83 EUR/kg (2023).

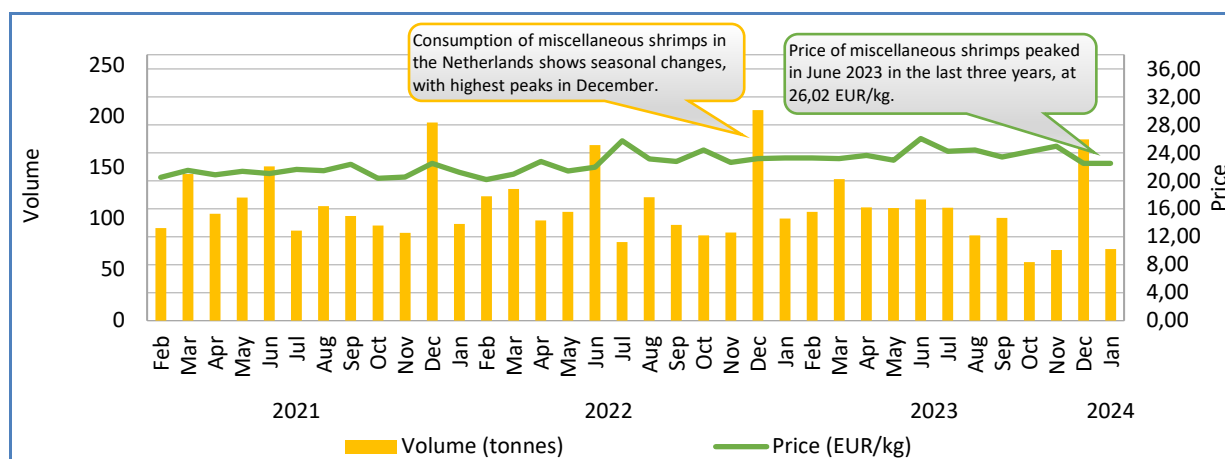
Yearly consumption: 1.392 tonnes (2021), 1.388 tonnes (2022), 1.283 tonnes (2023).

Short-term trend (January 2024): Downward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.

Price: 22,50 EUR/kg.

Consumption: 70 tonnes.

Figure 46. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN THE NETHERLANDS, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



3.2.4. Household consumption trends in Portugal

Long-term trend (February 2021 to January 2024): Fluctuating volumes and upward trend in price.

Yearly average price: 9,40 EUR/kg (2021), 10,41 EUR/kg (2022), 11,04 EUR/kg (2023).

Yearly consumption: 5.560 tonnes (2021), 4.965 tonnes (2022), 5.324 tonnes (2023).

Short-term trend (January 2024): Upward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.

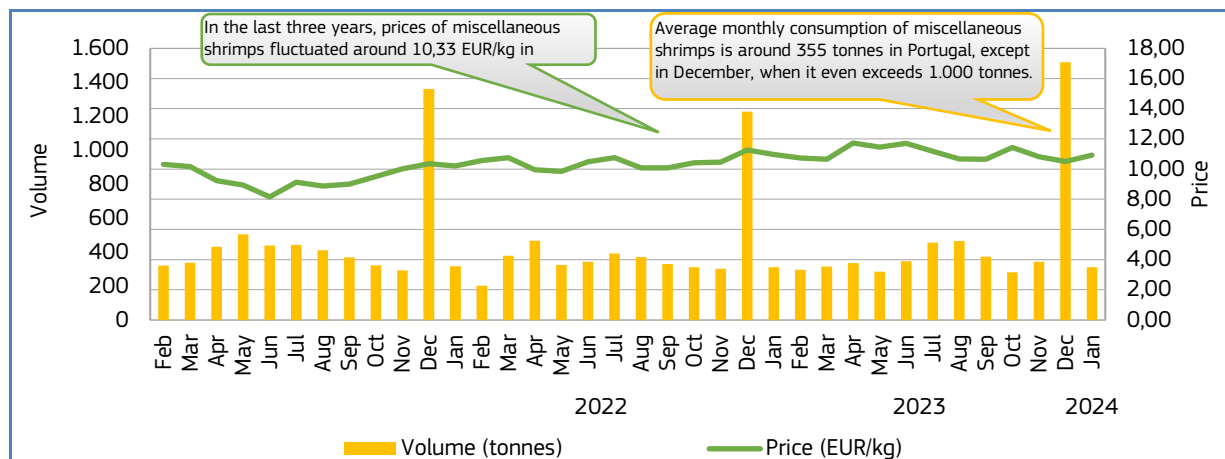
Price: 10,93 EUR/kg.

Overview | [1. First sales in Europe](#) | [2. Extra-EU imports](#) | [3. Consumption](#)

| [4. The fish and seafood market in Hong Kong](#) | [5. Albacore tuna in the EU](#) | [6. Global highlights](#) | [7. Macroeconomic context](#)

Consumption: 310 tonnes.

Figure 47. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN PORTUGAL, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



3.2.5. Household consumption trends in Ireland

Long-term trend (February 2021 to January 2024): Fluctuating volumes and prices.

Yearly average price: 19,27 EUR/kg (2021), 19,48 EUR/kg (2022), 21,01 EUR/kg (2023).

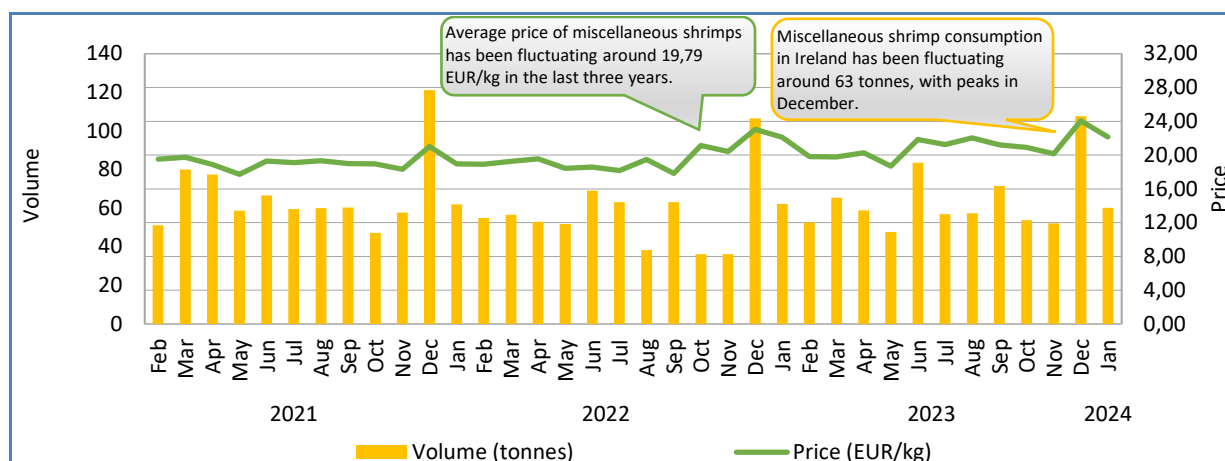
Yearly consumption: 804 tonnes (2021), 691 tonnes (2022), 769 tonnes (2023).

Short-term trend (January 2024): Slightly upward trend in volume and fluctuating prices.

Price: 22,14 EUR/kg.

Consumption: 60 tonnes.

Figure 48. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME OF MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS PURCHASED BY HOUSEHOLDS IN IRELAND, FEBRUARY 2021 – JANUARY 2024**



Overview | [1. First sales in Europe](#) | [2. Extra-EU imports](#) | [3. Consumption](#)

| [4. The fish and seafood market in Hong Kong](#) | [5. Albacore tuna in the EU](#) | [6. Global highlights](#) | [7. Macroeconomic context](#)

4. Case study: The fish and seafood market in Hong Kong

Hong Kong is a special administrative region of China, located on the south coast of China, east of the Pearl River²². The region is bordered by the Guangdong province to the north and extends into the South China Sea. It consists of three districts: the Hong Kong Island, the Kowloon Peninsula and the New Territories, which encompasses some of the mainland and about 230 islands.



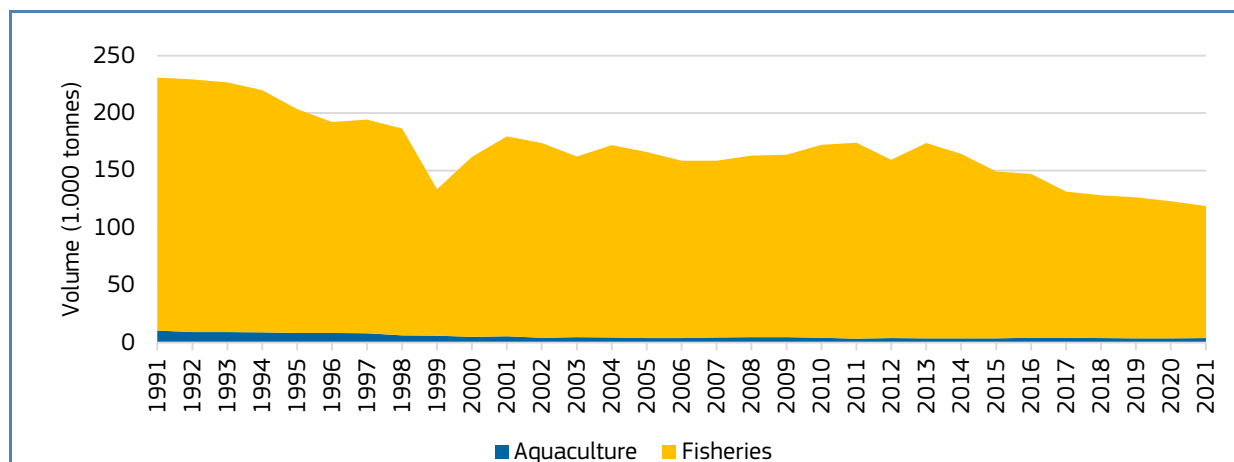
Source: CIA, the world factbook

4.1. Fisheries and aquaculture in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, capture fisheries are regulated by the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171)²³ and the Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Ordinance²⁴, which aim to promote the conservation of fish and other forms of aquatic life within the waters of Hong Kong, regulate fishing practices and prevent activities detrimental to the fishing industry. For culture fisheries (aquaculture production), the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap. 353)²⁵ was adopted to regulate and protect marine fish culture and related activities. In addition to these two pieces of legislation, the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586)²⁶ and the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)²⁷ are of relevance to fisheries regulations and policies.

In 2012, the legislative council adopted a ban on trawling, which came into effect on 31 December, in Hong Kong waters to protect marine resources and ecosystems from further depletion and to allow them to regenerate²⁸. The government introduced a one-off assistance scheme to alleviate the impact on the fishers affected by the trawl ban, where one of the measures was to buy out affected trawlers. Some of these trawlers were then subsequently used as artificial reefs to improve the marine habitat in Hong Kong waters.

Figure 49. TOTAL PRODUCTION OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS IN HONG KONG



Source: FAO.

²² Leung, C-K. (2024). Hong Kong. [Britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com)

²³ Hong Kong e-Legislation. Cap. 171 Fisheries Protection Ordinance. [Elegislation.gov.hk](https://www.elegislation.gov.hk)

²⁴ Hong Kong e-Legislation. Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Ordinance 2020. [Elegislation.gov.hk](https://www.elegislation.gov.hk)

²⁵ Hong Kong e-Legislation. Cap. 353 Marine Fish Culture Ordinance. [Elegislation.gov.hk](https://www.elegislation.gov.hk)

²⁶ Hong Kong e-Legislation. Cap. 586 Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance. [Elegislation.gov.hk](https://www.elegislation.gov.hk)

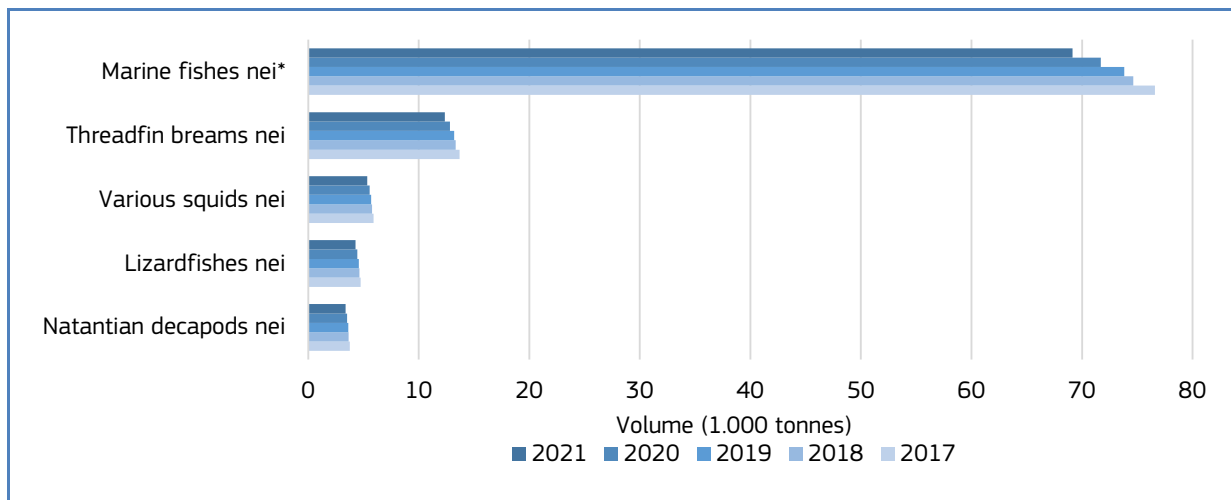
²⁷ Hong Kong e-Legislation. Cap. 499 Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. [Elegislation.gov.hk](https://www.elegislation.gov.hk)

²⁸ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (2024). Conservation of fisheries resources. [Afcd.gov.hk](https://www.afcd.gov.hk)

Fisheries production

The estimated fisheries production of Hong Kong in 2023 amounted to 87.000 tonnes at a value of EUR 2,8 billion²⁹. Compared to the 2021 capture statistics from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), this was a 24% decrease in capture volume. Capture volume has generally decreased over the past 30 years, dropping by more than 100.000 tonnes since 1991. However, species composition of captures has remained largely the same over the period. Note that most catches in Hong Kong are not identified according to species but registered under the collective category “marine fishes nei”. According to a survey on fishing operation and production of local fishing vessels conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2021, the most common capture species in Hong Kong are sardines, shads, mullets and croakers³⁰.

Figure 50. TOP FIVE CAPTURED SPECIES IN HONG KONG BY VOLUME



Source: FAO. *No detail available in terms of species, “nei” stands for “not elsewhere identified”.

The fishery industry in Hong Kong consists of about 5.100 fishing vessels, most of which are family-owned sampans³¹ (86%) or other small vessels such as gill netters (7%), purse seiners (2%) or long liners (2%)³². The Hong Kong fleet employs more than 10.000 local fishermen, as well as hired deckhands from mainland China and people in ancillary sectors such as wholesale and retail marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, fuel and fishing gear supply and ice manufacturing.

Aquaculture production

In 2023, the Hong Kong aquaculture sector produced 1.647 tonnes of aquaculture products at a value of EUR 103 million, which represented 2% of total production volume and 4% of total production value of fishery and aquaculture products³³. Aquaculture in Hong Kong includes marine fish culture, pond fish culture and oyster culture. Pond fish cultures accounted for 64% of the aquaculture production volume, while marine fish cultures and oyster cultures produced 30% and 6% of the volume, respectively. On the other hand, marine fish cultures accounted for 64% of the aquaculture value, followed by pond fish cultures (29%) and oyster cultures (14%).

Culturing of marine fish species is usually done in cages suspended from floating rafts in sheltered coastal areas, where the fish are reared from fry or fingerlings to marketable size³². Orange-spotted grouper, brownspotted grouper, giant grouper, Russell’s snapper, grey snapper, goldlined seabream and star snapper are commonly cultured marine fish species, with cultured stocks varying depending on the availability of imported fry. Fry is imported from mainland China, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines or Indonesia.

²⁹ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (2024). Capture fisheries, overview. afcd.gov.hk

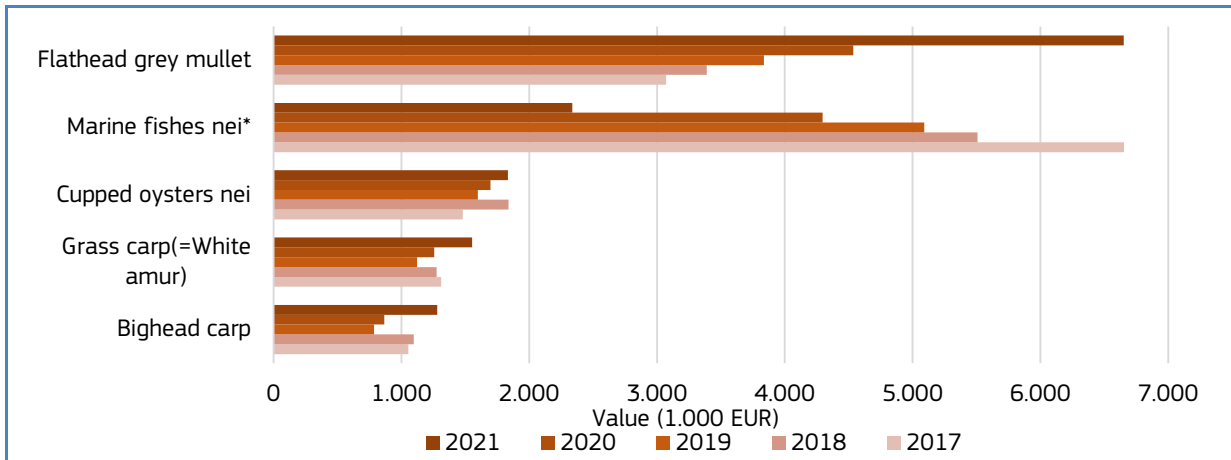
³⁰ Other common fish species in catches include scads, jack mackerels, rabbitfish, seabream, crab, squid, threadfin, scorpionfish and common rockfish.

³¹ Small, flat-bottomed wooden fishing boat with flexibility in fishing methods.

³² Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (2022). *Port survey, 2021*. afcd.gov.hk

³³ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (2024). *Marine fish culture, pond fish culture and oyster culture*. afcd.gov.hk

Figure 51. **TOP FIVE AQUACULTURE SPECIES IN HONG KONG BY VOLUME**



Source: FAO. *No detail available in terms of species, "nei" stands for "not elsewhere identified".

The Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap. 353) regulates and protects marine fish culture and requires all marine fish culture activity to operate under licence in one of the 28 designated fish culture zones. There are currently more than 900 licensed operators occupying a total sea area of about 6,5 million m². Most of the licensed farms are small, family-owned farms, with one or two rafts covering an average total area of approximately 300 m².

Figure 52. **MARINE FISH CULTURE ZONES, POND FISH CULTURE AREA AND OYSTER CULTURE AREA IN HONG KONG**



Source: Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department of the Government of Hong Kong

The pond fish aquaculture industry in Hong Kong takes place in the brackish or fresh water in northwestern area of the New Territories, close to the border of mainland China. Most of the farms (92%) have polycultures with different types of carps³⁴ together with tilapia or grey mullet, the remaining farms breed monocultures of carnivorous species such as giant grouper, seabream and spotted scat. Fry and fingerlings are imported from mainland China and Taiwan, but some of the grey mullet fry can also be caught locally in coastal waters. Most species are stocked in early spring and reach marketable size after eight to twelve months.

The culturing of oysters along the intertidal mud flat of Deep Bay has deep traditional roots in Hong Kong. For the past 200 years, oyster spats have been collected by means of the bottom culture method, where rocks or concrete tiles are placed on the bottom and spats are allowed to settle. The spats are left to grow for four to five years before they reach marketable size. In recent years, farmers have begun importing medium sized oysters from mainland China that they rear in baskets suspended from rafts. These oysters reach marketable size in six to twelve months.

Fish and seafood markets in Hong Kong

Fresh food wholesale markets have a long history in Hong Kong and are an integral part of the supply chain for distributing vegetables, fruits, eggs, live and fresh fish, and live poultry. In addition to meeting the consumer demand for fresh food, these markets influence urban development and have a vital role in the daily lives of people in Hong Kong³⁵.

All fresh marine fish (except live fish) caught in Hong Kong must be landed and sold wholesale at one of the seven wholesale fish markets³⁶ operated by the Fish Marketing Organization (FMO)³⁷. The FMO is a self-financing, non-profit marketing organisation established under the Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance (Cap. 291)³⁸ and is administered by the AFCD. The FMO aims to secure orderly and efficient marketing of marine fish and to maintain a reliable and steady supply of marine fish to the public and support the development of local fisheries.

In addition to the wholesale fish markets operated by the FMO, most neighbourhoods in Hong Kong have a local wet market which forms the heart of the neighbourhood³⁹. In this context, "wet" is synonymous with "fresh" and the wet markets are places where people can both sell and buy fresh produce, fish and poultry. Hong Kong has hundreds of wet markets, some operated by the government and others run by private enterprises. Most stalls in the wet markets sell fresh food with an astounding variety not found elsewhere: seasonal fruits and vegetables grown locally or in Guangdong province, tropical fruits from Thailand, roots, herbs, spices, and a wide variety of live seafood such as mantis shrimps, flower crabs, and various types of fish kept in Styrofoam tanks.

Most people living in Hong Kong prefer to buy their fresh food at wet markets, which is why it is possible to maintain such a wide variety of fresh food at these markets³⁹. Supermarkets have gained significant market shares over the past few decades, but traditional wet markets remain popular among consumers, both because of the quality of goods and due to the social aspect of these markets. The stalls are usually family owned, with the same hawkers often operating them for decades. This creates a close-knit community among the hawkers, but also among the hawkers and locals living in the area who frequent the wet market often.

In 2022, the average person in Hong Kong consumed 55 grammes of fresh fish daily, which constituted an 8% decrease in consumption compared to 2021⁴⁰. Marine fish made up around 70% of consumption, while freshwater fish made up about 30% of consumption. Since 2015, consumption has on average decreased by 5% annually, but the ratio of consumption between marine and freshwater fish has remained stable over the period, between 30-40% for freshwater fish and 60-70% for marine fish.

³⁴ Bighead carp, grass carp, common carp and silver carp.

³⁵ Gerlofs, B.A., et al. (2024). *Tank to table: Hong Kong's wet markets and the geographies of lively commodification beyond companionship*. Tandfonline.com

³⁶ Aberdeen wholesale fish market, Shau Kei Wan wholesale fish market, Kwun Tong wholesale fish market, Cheung Sha Wan wholesale fish market, Castle Peak wholesale fish market, Tai Po wholesale fish market and Sai Kung wholesale fish market.

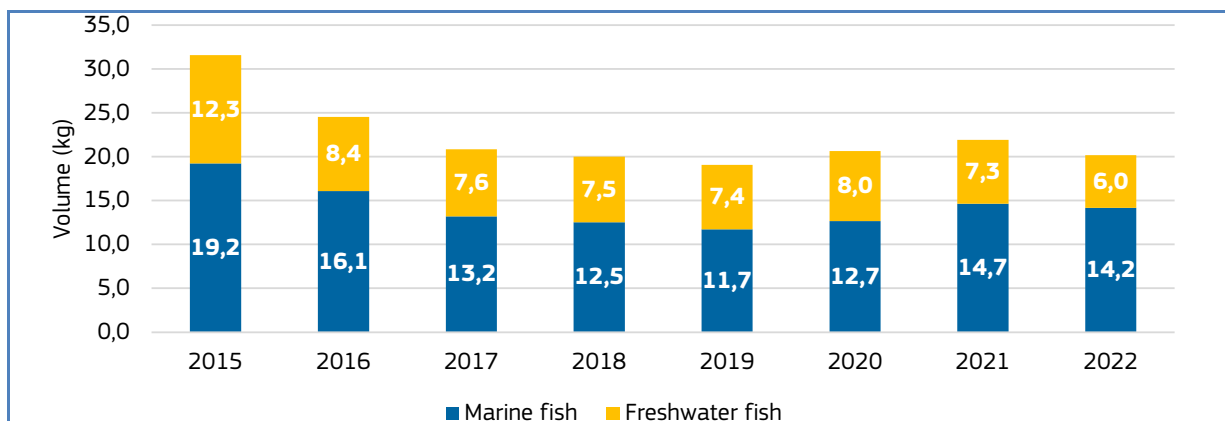
³⁷ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. *Marine fish wholesale marketing*. Afcd.gov.hk

³⁸ Hong Kong e-Legislation. *Cap. 353 Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance*. E legislation.gov.hk

³⁹ Cheung, J. (2020). *Inside wet markets, the heart of neighbourhood life in Hong Kong*. Zolimacitymag.com

⁴⁰ Statista (2024). *Average daily consumption of fresh fish in Hong Kong from 2015 to 2022*. Statista.com

Figure 53. **AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF FRESH FISH IN HONG KONG, 2015-2022**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Statista data.

4.2. International trade

Hong Kong is considered a separate customs territory from mainland China, with constitutional rights to take part in certain international organisations as a member on its own⁴¹. Hong Kong is a founding member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). In addition, Hong Kong has signed Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with 20 economies⁴².

Export of fishery and aquaculture products from Hong Kong

In 2023, Hong Kong exported 46.238 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 740 million⁴³. Compared to 2022, this was an 8% increase in terms of volume and a 49% increase in terms of value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 45% decrease in traded volume but a 24% increase in traded value.

In terms of volume, most exports from Hong Kong went to South Korea (41%), Macao (33%) and mainland China (10%) in 2023. Based on the pre-pandemic three-year average (2017-2019), the distribution of exported fishery and aquaculture products among trade partners was similar before the pandemic, with South Korea (23%), Macao (15%) and mainland China (10%) among the top five trade partners. However, a large share of the exported products went to Vietnam (33%) and Taiwan (9%).

Other marine fish (48%, mostly frozen species, the details of which are not available) and other products (10%), followed by sea cucumber (7%), other non-food use (6%) and miscellaneous shrimp (4%) made up most of the export volume (76%) from Hong Kong in 2023. Other products (35%), other marine fish (13%), sea cucumber (13%) and eel (12%) accounted for 74% of export value. The export volume of other marine fish mainly consisted of frozen unidentified⁴⁴ fish (81%), while most exports of other products were made up of fish heads, tails and maws (56%) and shark fins (27%). Frozen unidentified fish accounted for 77% of the export value of other marine fish, while fish heads, tails and maws and shark fins represented 78% and 20% of the value of other products, respectively.

⁴¹ Commerce and Economic Development Bureau. *Participation in international organisations*. [Cedb.gov.hk](http://cedb.gov.hk)

⁴² Mainland China, New Zealand, EFTA Member States (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), Chile, Macao, ASEAN Member States (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Georgia and Australia.

⁴³ Trade Data Monitor statistics.

⁴⁴ No detail available in terms of species.

Table 25. **TOTAL EXPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM HONG KONG BY TRADE PARTNER (VOLUME IN TONNES, VALUE IN MILLION EUR)**

Trade partner	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
South Korea	21.146	87	14.769	76	15.645	68	14.586	69	18.727	142
Macao	12.536	122	8.316	70	9.250	82	11.645	202	15.060	408
China	9.306	84	5.279	53	7.645	69	2.054	101	4.784	74
Taiwan	7.908	25	4.293	20	3.382	15	436	9	1.158	13
Vietnam	13.354	132	812	22	1.105	27	734	7	1.083	7
Philippines	486	3	38	0	223	2	5.933	8	986	3
The USA	1.545	28	1.315	20	1.465	28	2.297	28	936	19
Singapore	850	17	471	11	441	12	347	16	916	13
Malaysia	2.716	24	1.475	12	860	7	1.763	16	779	9
Canada	1.760	15	1.935	12	1.561	15	733	16	621	15
Other	1.876	48	1.627	39	8.022	47	2.324	24	1.187	37
Total	73.485	586	40.331	335	49.598	372	42.852	497	46.238	740

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Trade Data Monitor data.

Import of fishery and aquaculture products to Hong Kong

In 2023, Hong Kong imported 393.577 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 3,4 billion⁴⁵. Compared to 2022, this was a 5% increase in volume and a 1% increase in value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 4% decrease in import volume but a 6% increase in import value.

In terms of volume, most imports to Hong Kong came from mainland China (50%), followed by Vietnam (8%), Taiwan (5%), the USA (5%) and Japan (5%) in 2023. Based on the pre-pandemic three-year average (2017-2019), the origin of imported fishery and aquaculture products was similar to that before the pandemic, with mainland China (47%), Vietnam (8%), the USA (7%), Japan (4%) and Taiwan (4%) among the top ten trade partners. Other marine fish (38%), other non-food use (12%) and miscellaneous shrimp (12%) made up most of the import volume (61%) to Hong Kong in 2023. Other marine fish (24%) and miscellaneous shrimp (11%), together with other products (10%) and sea cucumber (6%), made up most (52%) of the import value.

Most of the import volume of other marine fish consisted of live unidentified fish (26%), fresh or chilled unidentified fish (22%), prepared or preserved unidentified fish (18%) and frozen unidentified fish (15%). Fish or marine mammal solubles made up 97% of the other non-food use import volume, while frozen shrimps and prawns and fresh or chilled shrimps and prawns made up 62% and 32% of the import volume of miscellaneous shrimp, respectively. The same products also made up most of the value within their respective main commercial species. For other products, fish heads, tails and maws (67%) and shark fins (26%) accounted for most of the value, while sea cucumbers neither frozen, fresh, chilled, prepared or preserved made up 94% of import value.

⁴⁵ Trade Data Monitor statistics.

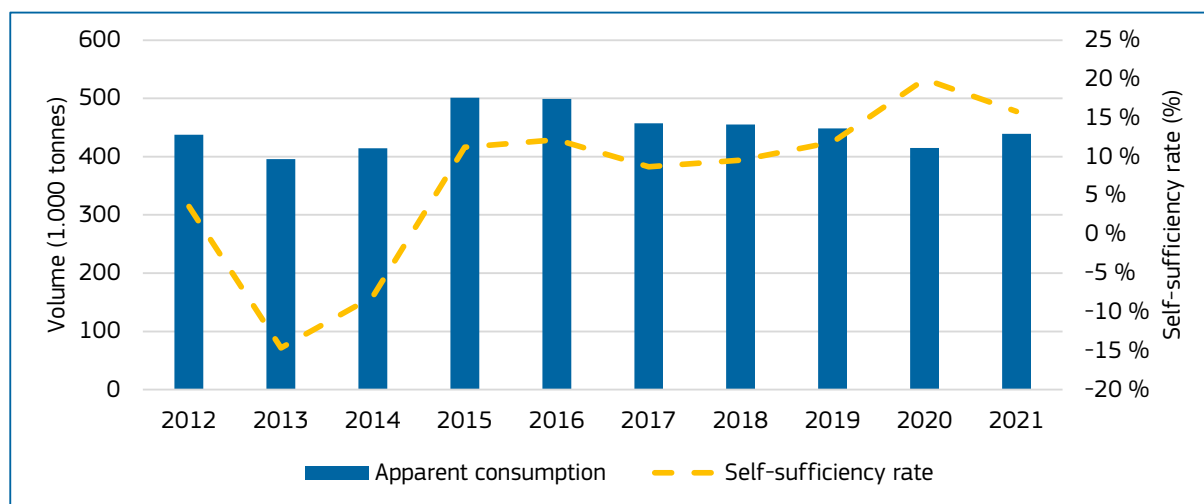
Table 26. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO HONG KONG BY TRADE PARTNER (VOLUME IN TONNES, VALUE IN MILLION EUR)**

Trade partner	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
China	184.282	912	186.746	915	207.542	1.080	205.892	1.162	195.080	1.162
Vietnam	34.343	148	27.816	112	29.208	119	30.304	157	31.807	151
Taiwan	15.139	71	10.931	64	10.588	73	13.598	104	21.306	143
The USA	28.499	129	4.287	72	3.940	77	3.905	81	19.005	92
Japan	17.077	450	17.293	395	19.454	420	20.671	450	17.804	423
Norway	15.156	116	12.597	99	15.830	121	15.060	155	14.860	158
Thailand	19.173	98	11.735	69	11.859	74	14.781	102	14.594	88
India	4.993	54	3.534	49	3.396	53	4.189	60	10.856	62
Indonesia	9.497	88	7.524	73	7.963	82	7.211	81	6.929	83
Malaysia	8.059	40	5.620	28	5.723	34	6.749	45	6.571	36
Other	59.192	1.021	43.911	723	54.425	891	52.205	998	54.764	1.018
Total	395.411	3.127	331.993	2.597	369.926	3.025	374.565	3.397	393.577	3.416

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Trade Data Monitor data.

Hong Kong is a net importer of fishery and aquaculture products, and the self-sufficiency rate of the country is quite low with an average rate of 13% from 2017-2021. The self-sufficiency rate increased to 20% in 2020 as exports fell by 45% this year. Exports have remained stable at around 45.000 tonnes since 2020, but imports have steadily increased by 4% annually causing the self-sufficiency rate to drop. In addition, fisheries production has decreased in recent years (reported at 87.000 tonnes in 2023⁴⁶) which further reduced the self-sufficiency rate of Hong Kong.

Figure 54. **DEVELOPMENT OF APPARENT CONSUMPTION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY RATE IN HONG KONG, 2012-2021**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Trade Data Monitor data, FAO.

⁴⁶ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (2024). Capture fisheries, overview. afcd.gov.hk

4.3. Trade flows with the EU

The EU currently has no trade agreements with Hong Kong⁴⁷, but enjoys a stable trade relationship, characterised by few occurrences of trade irritants. In 2018, Hong Kong was the EU's 20th largest trading partner in goods and was ranked as the EU's 8th trading partner in Asia⁴⁸. The EU mainly imports machinery, transport equipment and telecommunication equipment from Hong Kong, while exports are dominated by machinery, transport equipment, telecommunication equipment, chemicals and other semi-finished products. Trade in fishery and aquaculture products between the EU and Hong Kong represents a very minor part of both the EU's and Hong Kong's total trade in fishery and aquaculture products.

EU exports of fishery and aquaculture products to Hong Kong

In 2023, the EU exported to Hong Kong 5.543 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 67.8 million⁴⁹. Compared to 2022, this was a decrease of 26% in terms of volume, but an increase of 4% in terms of value. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 39% decrease in export volume and a 2% decrease in export value.

Oyster (24%) and other products⁵⁰ (22%) accounted for the biggest volumes exported to Hong Kong from the EU in 2023, followed by fishmeal (6%), Greenland halibut (6%) and salmon (5%). Oyster (21%) and other products (18%) were also among the most valuable products exported, followed by rock lobster and sea crawfish (9%) and salmon (8%).

In 2023, fresh whole oyster made up 97% of all oyster exports to Hong Kong, most of which were exported from France (73%) followed by Ireland (21%). Prepared/preserved other products, mainly exported from France (67%) and Spain (21%), made up 91% of the export volume of other products to Hong Kong. Fishmeal and frozen whole Greenland halibut were exported from Denmark, while salmon was mainly exported frozen whole (84%) and fresh whole (6%) from the Netherlands. Rock lobster and sea crawfish were mainly exported fresh whole from Ireland, followed by boiled/cooked other cuts from the Netherlands (14%).

Table 27. **TOTAL EXPORTS OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM THE EU TO HONG KONG BY MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES (VOLUME IN TONNES, VALUE IN 1.000 EUR)**

MCS	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Oyster	1.503	12.359	1.109	9.291	1.602	13.629	1.546	14.309	1.345	14.549
Other products	1.211	13.879	2.316	9.632	2.433	9.207	2.525	6.455	1.243	12.160
Rock lobster and sea crawfish	15	387	26	895	76	2.845	207	7.335	180	6.121
Salmon	407	3.145	520	6.715	573	8.171	560	8.625	300	5.107
Other marine fish	300	4.402	228	2.989	231	3.235	197	2.978	155	3.168
Other	3.859	28.932	3.324	24.220	2.843	30.984	2.491	25.395	2.320	26.675
Total	7.295	63.105	7.524	53.742	7.758	68.072	7.526	65.097	5.543	67.780

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

⁴⁷ European Commission. *Non-EU markets – Hong Kong*. [Trade.ec.europa.eu](https://trade.ec.europa.eu)

⁴⁸ European Commission. *Hong Kong SAR*. [Policy.trade.ec.europa.eu](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu)

⁴⁹ EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

⁵⁰ EU exports of other products mainly consisted of HS item 21041000 (soups and broths, 77%), followed by HS item 21042000 (food preparations consisting of finely homogenised mixtures of two or more basic ingredients, 12%).

EU imports from Hong Kong

In 2023, the EU imported from Hong Kong 50 tonnes of fishery and aquaculture products at a value of EUR 99.362⁵¹. Compared to 2022, this was a decrease in import volume and value of 25% and 63%, respectively. Compared to the three-year average before the pandemic (2017-2019), this was a 55% decrease in import volume and an 85% decrease in import value.

The EU mainly imported seaweed and other algae⁵² (83%) and prepared/preserved other products⁵³ (16%) from Hong Kong in 2023. These main commercial species also accounted for most of the value (90%), followed by miscellaneous shrimp (6%) and other non-food use (3%). Shrimp (98%) was mainly imported fresh whole to the EU, while imports of other non-food use (66%) predominantly consisted of live ornamental freshwater fish⁵⁴ (60%).

Bulgaria was the point of entry for most of the seaweed and other algae (97%), while the Netherlands was the main entry point for other products (91%). Shrimp (98%) and other non-food use (60%) mainly entered the EU through Germany and Portugal (40%, other non-food use).

Table 28. **TOTAL IMPORT OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO THE EU FROM HONG KONG BY MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES (VOLUME IN TONNES, VALUE IN EUR)**

MCS	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Seaweed and other algae	3	38	3	38	5	60	34	104	42	71
Other products	19	38	12	28	9	33	7	24	8	18
Miscellaneous shrimp	0,03	8	0,01	1	0,002	3	0,02	0,2	0,02	6
Other non-food use	3	189	25	94	0,1	18	4	88	0,01	3
Cod	25	113			0,03	0,1	0,2	1	0,1	1
Other	85	247	74	340	51	209	21	50	0,1	1
Total	135	634	114	501	65	323	67	268	50	99

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

⁵¹ EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-Comext data.

⁵² No detail available in terms of species, presentation or preservation state of the products.

⁵³ Other products mainly consisted of HS item 21041000 (soups and broths, 93%).

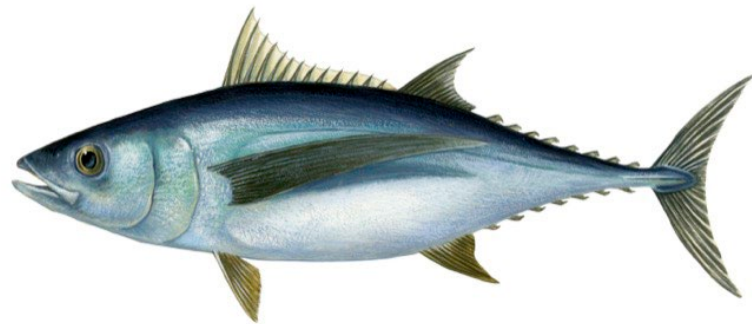
⁵⁴ No detail available in terms of species.

5. Case study: Albacore tuna in the EU

Albacore tuna is a seasonal species caught by the EU fleet (mainly Spanish and French vessels), mostly in the Bay of Biscay. Although it is largely destined for the canning industry, it is also marketed fresh and frozen. In 2021, landings of albacore tuna in the EU reached 26.885 tonnes at a value of EUR 94,8 million, with catches by Spain accounting for more than 55% of the total volume. Intra-EU exchanges mainly include fresh products, whereas EU imports from third countries consist mostly of frozen products.

5.1. Biology exploitation and management

The albacore tuna (*Thunnus Alalunga*)⁵⁵ is a member of the family Scombridae, which includes “true tuna” such as the yellowfin tuna, and other members of the genus *Thunnus*. It is generally similar in appearance to the other species of tuna, albeit with remarkably long pectoral fins, around 30% of fork length or more.



The albacore tuna is a pelagic and highly migratory species, able to cover very great distances during its life, especially between 2 and 5 years of age. It can reach a maximum age of ten years. Albacore tuna can grow to 30 kg in weight and 1,40 m in length. It reaches sexual maturity at around 4 or 5 years of age, when it reaches a length of about 85 cm and weighs around 15 kg. It is found in the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans, as well as the Mediterranean. The Atlantic albacore tuna population consists of two main stocks, one north and one south of the fifth parallel⁵⁶. There is a separate stock in the Mediterranean. In the Pacific Ocean, two stocks (North and Southeast) are present. In the Indian Ocean, there is probably only one southern stock.⁵⁷

The main source of albacore tuna in the EU market is that from the northeast Atlantic stock. The fish are caught in the summer as juveniles, when they pass the French and Spanish coasts (Bay of Biscay), as well as in the waters of the Azores. Thus, EU production is extremely seasonal, with most landings recorded between July and October.⁵⁸ Historically, albacore was caught with rods using live bait, but this fishery decreased in the late 1980s to be replaced by more productive techniques. Now there are several methods used for harvesting albacore tuna: pelagic trawls, hooks and line, and purse seines. Surface fishing of juveniles and pre-adults is carried out by French and Irish pelagic trawlers, as well as by Spanish liners and pole-and-line vessels. Hooks and line account for 70% of the total catch of albacore in the North Atlantic stock. The adult albacore population, with a more pelagic behaviour, is exploited by Asian longliners off African coasts.

EU fisheries catching albacore tuna are managed through TACs and quotas set according to the ICCAT agreements for three stocks: Northern albacore, Southern albacore and Mediterranean albacore. Moreover, a limited number of vessels by MS is allowed to specifically target this species and fishing closures are implemented in the Mediterranean⁵⁹.

⁵⁵ https://fish-commercial-names.ec.europa.eu/fish-names/species/thunnus-alalunga_en

⁵⁶ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/B012227055X004703>

⁵⁷ <http://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/thon-germon>

⁵⁸ Total Allowable Catch

⁵⁹ COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2024/257

5.2. Production

Global production

In 2021, global production of albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) reached 206.012 tonnes. It was mostly caught in the Asian Pacific (59%) and to a lesser extent in the East of Atlantic (14%). The main producers were Taiwan (21%), China (19%), EU-27(15%) and Japan (14%). Other major producers were Indonesia, USA, Fiji and Namibia. Albacore tuna is not farmed in aquaculture.

Over the last decade (2012-2021), global production of albacore tuna decreased by 21%, though with some interannual fluctuations. There were two slight increases in catch from 2016 to 2017 and from 2019 to 2020, but the trend remains downward.

Table 29. **WORLD CATCHES OF ALBACORE TUNA (VOLUME IN TONNES LIVE WEIGHT)**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Taiwan	48.754	52.148	41.756	43.254	51.344	54.685	54.436	56.519	53.680	44.018
China	32 571	33.134	29.002	26.990	27.971	45.038	39.351	30.684	24.811	38.635
EU-27	30.044	24.743	33.226	28.790	32.942	29.266	32.332	36.716	31.265	31.712
Japan	69.851	63.968	57.950	49.506	39.211	44.216	40.504	27.364	58.401	29.593
Indonesia	9.663	6.205	7.654	8.687	7.026	7.472	2.251	2.568	10.569	8.897
USA	15.078	13.974	12.925	12.473	11.153	7.903	8.278	8.993	8.901	3.980
Others	53.450	52.410	55.162	54.679	42.034	44.070	48.308	49.817	42.737	49.178
Total	259.411	246.582	237.675	224.379	211.681	232.650	225.460	212.660	230.364	206.012

Source: FAO.

EU production

In 2021, the EU-27 catches of albacore tuna reached 31.712 tonnes. Most of these catches occurred in the Northeast Atlantic (86%) and in the Mediterranean (8%). The East Atlantic accounted for 5% of total EU catches. The main EU producers were by far Spain (56% of the total EU catch) and France (27%). Other significant producers were Ireland and Italy (9% and 4% respectively).

Table 30. **EU CATCHES OF ALBACORE TUNA (VOLUME IN TONNES LIVE WEIGHT)**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Spain	14.935	11.390	12.470	14.889	17.532	14.654	16.946	16.700	16.349	17.604
France	8.550	9.254	11.354	7.836	8.505	7.021	9.477	11.958	8.153	8.698
Ireland	3.575	2.231	2.485	2.390	2.337	2.492	3.102	3.213	2.938	2.879
Italy	1.117	615	1.353	1.638	1.496	1.348	1.044	1.287	1.425	1.192
Cyprus	315	350	377	495	542	568	624	714	632	513
Portugal	1.395	688	4.808	952	1.136	2.570	512	2.469	1.597	505
Greece	126	165	287	541	1.332	608	522	297	158	182
Malta	19	29	62	37	56	4	104	77	13	137
Croatia	12	20	30	11	7	2	2	1	1	0
Total	30.044	24.743	33.226	28.790	32.942	29.266	32.332	36.716	31.265	31.712

Source: FAO.

In 2021, landings of albacore tuna in the EU-27 amounted to 26.885 tonnes⁶⁰ at a value of EUR 98 million, almost exclusively including fresh tuna. Most of these landings occurred in Spain (70%). Other main landing countries were France (21%) and Italy (5%). Over the 2012-2021 period, EU landings increased by 30%, mostly thanks to increased landings in Spain (+94%) and France (+19%). However, landings have been declining slightly since the peak reached in 2019.

Table 31. **LANDINGS OF ALBACORE TUNA IN THE EU (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT)⁶¹**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Spain	9.644	10.927	11.545	14.541	16.875	14.440	16.320	17.423	16.887	18.805
France	4.666	5.815	7.151	3.687	4.181	4.016	5.958	8.967	6.095	5.533
Italy	1.154	615	1.353	1.630	1.491	1.364	1.044	1.320	1.423	1.234
Cyprus	318	359	398	511	573	571	628	655	570	513
Ireland	3.660	2.231	2.485	2.362	1.779	19	263	323	3.103	5
Portugal	1.217	562	2.614	917	1.099	2.542	495	2.517	1.579	479
Malta	19	29	62	37	56	3	104	75	14	141
Others	-	20	29	531	1.236	641	547	287	156	174
Total	20.676	20.559	25.637	24.216	27.291	23.595	25.359	31.568	29.826	26.885

Source: EUROSTAT.

Most of the landings are used as raw material by the EU processing industry for canning. These canned products are well appreciated as traditional products in fishing countries, especially in Spain, the main EU market for albacore tuna, where it is marketed as bonito del Norte. However, there are no statistics for this specific production as all tuna species are grouped into one “canned tuna” category. Lesser volumes of albacore tuna can also be consumed fresh or defrosted, for example in the sushi/sashimi sector.

5.3. First sales in the EU

In 2023, reported first sales of albacore tuna in EU countries⁶² amounted to a volume of 25.442 tonnes and a value of EUR 79 million⁶³. The main countries in terms of first-sales volume and value were in first place Spain (75% of total volume and 81% of the value), followed by France (13% of the total volume and 10% of the total value) and Ireland (6% of the total volume and 3% of total value). Most of first sales consist of whole fresh tuna. In 2023, first sales decreased by 10% in volume and 26% in value compared to 2022. This trend was mostly attributable to declining sales in France (-54% in volume and -62%), aggravated by a decreasing trend in first-sale prices.

In 2023, the most important places of sale⁶⁴ for albacore tuna in volume terms were: Guetaria, Fuenterrabía and Santoña in Spain (22%, 13%, and 10% of the total volume in Spain, respectively); St Jean-de-Luz, la Turballe le Guilvinec and Douarnenez in France (19%, 18%, 15% and 19% of the total volume in France, respectively), Riposto, Messina and Porticello in Italy (31%, 26%, and 14% of the total volume in Italy, respectively).

First-sales data show a significant seasonality pattern with higher volumes sold in summer and almost no volumes in winter. In France, price trends are related to these volume fluctuations with higher prices in winter and lower prices in summer when higher volumes are available. However, this price pattern is not so obvious in Spain and Italy with lesser seasonal fluctuations.

⁶⁰ The difference between the volume of EU catches and EU landings may be explained by the fact that a share of EU catches occur far away from EU waters (especially in Eastern central Atlantic) and are landed in third countries close to fishing grounds.

⁶¹ Totals do not correspond exactly to the actual sums because of roundings.

⁶² France, Spain, Italy, Ireland, Greece, Portugal and Cyprus

⁶³ Source: EUMOFA.

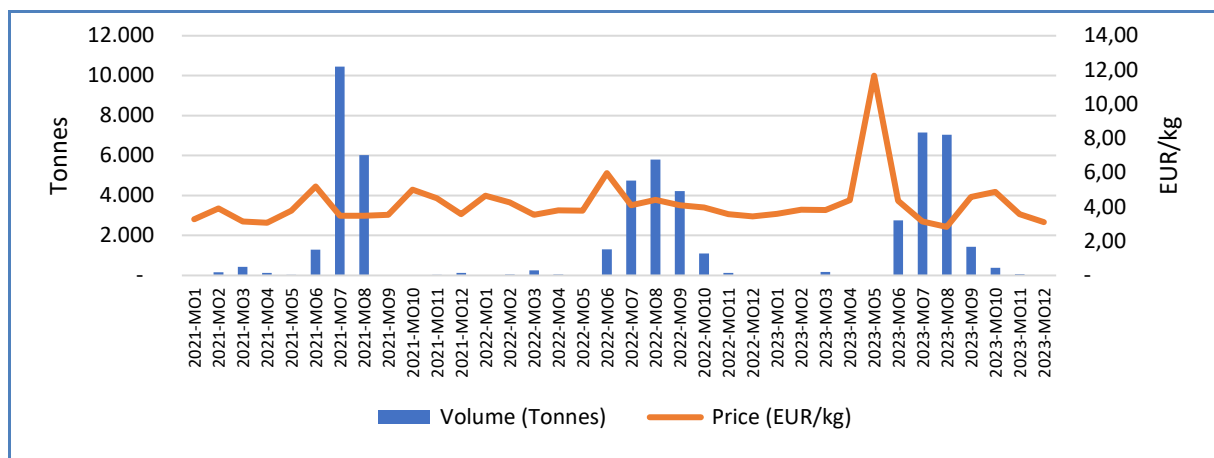
⁶⁴ Places of sale for Ireland are not available.

In **Spain**, over the 2021–2023 period, monthly first sales of albacore tuna peaked at approximately 10.450 tonnes in June 2021, and reached their lowest level at 2 tonnes in May 2022. Monthly prices of albacore tuna fluctuated between 2,83 and 11,66 EUR/kg.

In **France**, over the 2021–2023 period, monthly first sales of albacore tuna peaked at approximately 2.500 tonnes in September 2021, and reached their lowest level at 4 tonnes in April and May 2021. Monthly prices of Albacore tuna fluctuated between 2,05 and 6,37 EUR/kg.

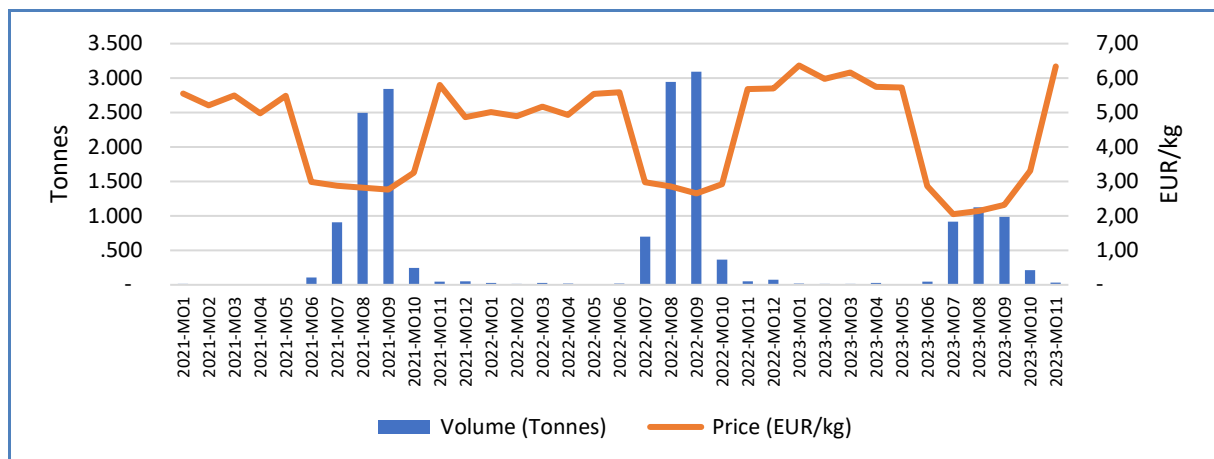
In **Italy**, over the 2021–2023 period, monthly first sales of albacore tuna peaked at approximately 282 tonnes in August 2023, and reached their lowest level at 0 tonne in November 2023. Monthly prices of albacore tuna fluctuated between 2,00 and 18,50 EUR/kg.

Figure 55. **FIRST SALES: ALBACORE TUNA IN SPAIN (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT AND PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



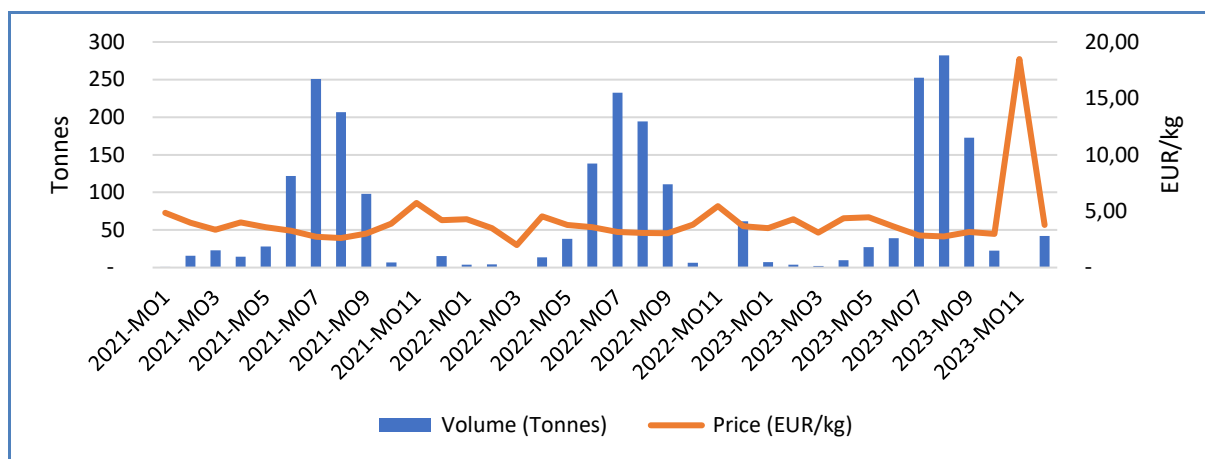
Source: EUMOFA.

Figure 56. **FIRST SALES: ALBACORE TUNA IN FRANCE (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT AND PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



Source: EUMOFA.

Figure 57. **FIRST SALES: ALBACORE TUNA IN ITALY (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT AND PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



Source: EUMOFA.

5.4. Import – Export

In the Combined Nomenclature used for registering EU import-export data, albacore tuna is specifically reported as fresh or chilled and frozen. For both preservation states, a distinct code is specified for products destined for the canning industry⁶⁵. However, for canned albacore tuna, trade data does not provide a specific code and trade flows are included with canned tuna from other different species.

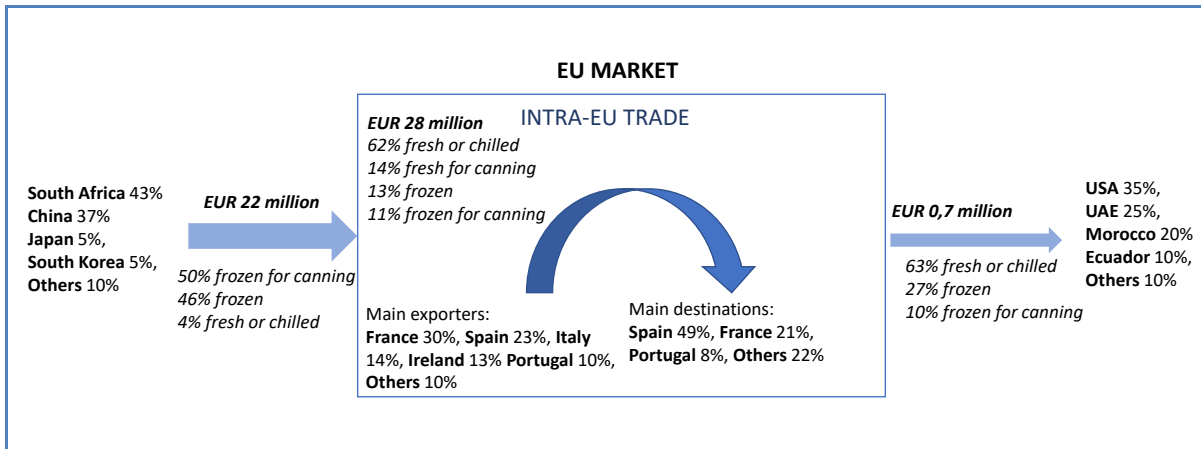
In 2023, the EU-27 imported 6.627 tonnes of albacore tuna at a value of EUR 22 million, mostly frozen destined for the canning industry (50% of the imports total value) and frozen for other purposes (46%). The major providers of albacore tuna to the EU market were by far South Africa, accounting for 43% of the extra-EU import value, and China (37%). They were followed by Japan and South Korea (5% each). Spain was by far the main importer accounting for 86% of the albacore tuna extra-EU imports value, followed by France (8%) and Portugal (5%).

In the same year, EU exports to third countries were much lower and amounted to 82 tonnes at a value of EUR 671.000. Fresh or chilled products destined for other purposes than canning accounted for 63% of the total extra-EU export value. Frozen products destined for other purposes than canning accounted for 27% of the total extra-EU export value. The main destinations in value terms were the USA (35% of the total value), the UAE (25%), Morocco (20%) and Ecuador (10%). Spain (86% of the extra-export value) was by far the main EU exporter of albacore tuna to third countries, followed by France (8%) and Portugal (5%). Exports to Ecuador and Morocco might correspond to landings of EU vessels (likely Spanish) fishing in waters close to those third countries.

In 2023, intra-EU exports amounted to 7.838 tonnes of albacore tuna products at a value of EUR 28 million. The intra-EU trade was dominated by fresh products, which accounted for 76% of the export value (14% destined for canning and 62% for other purposes), whereas frozen products only accounted for 24% of the total export value. The main exporting countries within the EU were France (30% of the intra-EU export value) and Spain (23%), followed by Italy (14%), Ireland (13%) and Portugal (10%). Spain was the main destination of intra-EU exports (49% of intra-EU export value), followed by France (21%).

⁶⁵ 03023110 - Fresh or chilled albacore or longfinned tunas *Thunnus alalunga* for industrial processing or preservation
03023190 - Fresh or chilled albacore or longfinned tunas *Thunnus alalunga* (excl. for industrial processing or preservation)
03034110 - Frozen albacore or longfinned tunas *Thunnus alalunga* for industrial manufacture of products of 1604
03034190 - Frozen albacore or longfinned tunas *Thunnus alalunga* (excl. for industrial processing or preservation)

Figure 58. **THE ALBACORE TUNA TRADE MARKET IN 2023 (IN VALUE)**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

6. Global highlights

GFCM / Women: Women occupy just under a third of all fishing-related jobs in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. These data were revealed by **Women in fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region: roles, challenges and opportunities**, a study released on 8 March 2024 by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) in collaboration with the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division. However, these figures probably still underestimate the true contribution of women to the economies of coastal fishing communities. The publication aims to bring the issue of gender equity in fisheries to the forefront of key discussions and offer policymakers a framework from which to build. The full integration of women's knowledge and experience into key decisions promises to improve their lives, as well as those of their families and community members⁶⁶.



EU / Shark protection: On 12 March, the European Commission published a **questionnaire** seeking feedback from the public on policy options to better protect and manage sharks and related marine ecosystems. The aim of this consultation is to gather the views of the public to ensure an informed follow-up to the 2023 European citizens' initiative "Stop Finning – Stop the Trade". The questionnaire will be available online for a period of twelve weeks, until 4 June 2024. The feedback received will feed into an ongoing impact assessment. Any potential future European Commission action in this respect will be formulated after considering the results of the assessment⁶⁷.

EU / Water resilience: On 11 March the Commission adopted two new measures to enhance the EU's water resilience and to improve water quality and quantity throughout the continent. A standard methodology to measure the presence of microplastics in water and a delegated act to ensure that reusing treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation is safe are also part of the new measures. Across the EU, many different methods for measuring microplastics in drinking water are used, making it very difficult to compare and interpret monitoring results. The harmonised, standard methodology that was adopted would support Member States in gathering information about the presence of microplastics in their water supply chains⁶⁸.

EU / Fishery: Over the last few months, a team of national researchers led by Tetra Tech and partners, a consortium contracted by the European Commission, has consulted about 200 fishers in the EU coastal member states in their local languages to define their habits and incentives. The consultations served as a starting point for the **Fishers of the Future** study, an EU-wide participatory project that will examine the future role of fishers in society up to 2050. The **EU Survey** is still open for feedback in any EU language, also aiming to explore how the profession will evolve over 25 years. Views are welcome until May 2024, and feedback will contribute to defining fishers of the future⁶⁹.

EU / Greenland: On 15 March, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen inaugurated the EU Office in Nuuk, Greenland. The opening of an EU Office in Nuuk is part of the **EU's Arctic strategy**, that will facilitate collaboration between the EU and the government, the private sector and civil society, promote EU public and private investments in Greenland and deepen cooperation across a variety of fields, including education, renewable energy, critical raw materials and biodiversity protection⁷⁰.

Iceland / Fishery: In February 2024, catches by Icelandic vessels were 65.400 tonnes, which is 56% less than in February 2023. In the 12-month period from March 2023 to February 2024 catches came to 1,3 million tonnes, which is a 1% decrease from the previous 12-month period⁷¹.

⁶⁶ <https://www.fao.org/gfcm/news/detail/en/c/1678393/>

⁶⁷ https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-seeks-public-opinion-ways-improve-protection-sharks-2024-03-12_en

⁶⁸ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/better-water-quality-quantity-management-more-sustainable-use-seas-2024-03-11_en

⁶⁹ https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/fishers-future-asking-eu-fishers-2024-03-13_en

⁷⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_1425

⁷¹ <https://www.statice.is/publications/news-archive/fisheries/fish-catch-in-february-2024/>

7. Macroeconomic Context

7.1. Marine fuel

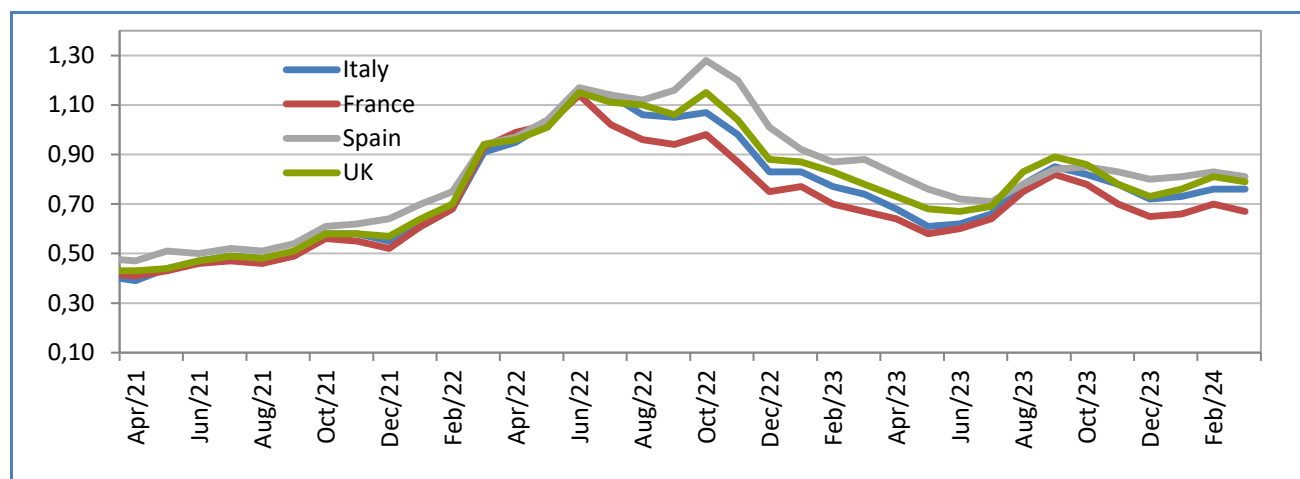
Average prices for Marine fuel in **March 2024** ranged between 0,67 and 0,81 EUR/litre in ports in **France, Italy, Spain** and the **UK**. Prices decreased by an average of about 2,3% compared with the previous month and by an average of 1,3% compared with the same month in 2023.

Table 32. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	March 2024	Change from February 2024	Change from March 2023
France <i>(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)</i>	0,67	-4%	0%
Italy <i>(ports of Ancona and Livorno)</i>	0,76	0%	3%
Spain <i>(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)</i>	0,81	-2%	-8%
The UK <i>(ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)</i>	0,79	-2%	1%

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

Figure 59. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

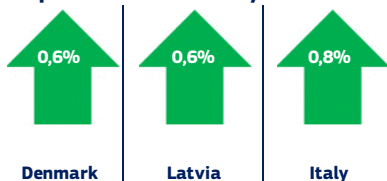


Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

7.2. Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate in February 2024 was 2,8%, down from 3,1% in January 2024. A year earlier, the rate was 9,9%.

Inflation: lowest rates in February 2024, compared with February 2024.



Inflation: highest rates in February 2024, compared with February 2024.

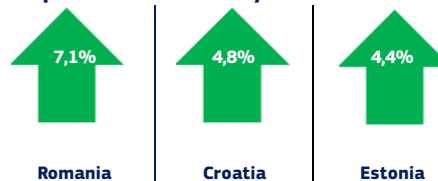


Table 33. HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU (2015 = 100)

	Feb 2022	Feb 2023	Jan 2023	Feb 2024	Change from Jan 2024		Change from Feb 2023	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	116,05	138,20	142,47	142,34	↓	-0,1%	↑	3,0%
Fish and seafood	119,10	136,51	141,31	140,90	↓	-0,3%	↑	3,2%

Source: Eurostat

7.3. Exchange rates

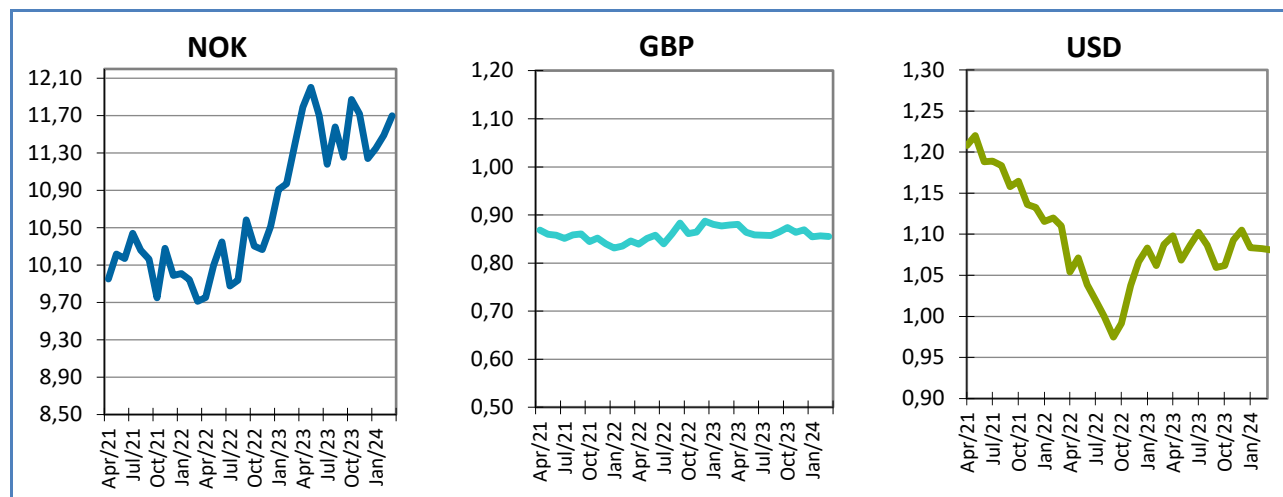
Table 34. EURO EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES

Currency	Mar 2022	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2024
NOK	9,7110	11,3940	11,4920	11,6990
GBP	0,8460	0,8792	0,8566	0,8551
USD	1,1101	1,0875	1,0826	1,0811

Source: European Central Bank

In March 2024, the euro appreciated against the Norwegian krone (1,8%) and depreciated against the British pound sterling (0,2%) and the US dollar (0,1%), relative to the previous month. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 0,86 against the British pound sterling. Compared with March 2024, the euro has appreciated 2,7% against the Norwegian krone and depreciated 2,7% against the British pound sterling and 0,6% against the US dollar.

Figure 60. TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES



Source: European Central Bank

Manuscript completed in March 2024

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PDF ISSN: 2314-9671 KL-AK-24-003-EN-N
ISBN: 978-92-68-11456-8 DOI: 10.2771/038592

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

First sales: GFCM, ICES, FAO, FishBase, Seafish, FishSource, British Sea Fishing.

Consumption: Dutch Fish Marketing Board, Polish Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics - National Research Institute, University of Copenhagen.

Case studies: Britannica, Hong Kong e-Legislation, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department – The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Taylor and Francis online, Zolima city mag, Statista, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau – The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Trade Data Monitor, European Commission, Eurostat-Cornext, Encyclopedia of Food Sciences and Nutrition, Ethic Ocean.

Global highlights: FAO-GFCM, European Commission, Statistics Iceland.

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

The underlying first-sales data are 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].

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