



Last update: 18-10-2023

ITALY IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2021, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2021, Italy was the 3rd largest EU-27 country in terms of aquaculture production, while it ranked 10th in terms on fishery production.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Italy	% world	% EU-27
Catches	92.164	3.591	149,6	0,2%	4%
Aquaculture	126.011	1.129	145,9	0,1%	13%
Total	218.175	4.720	295,5	0,1%	6%

FISHING FLEET

Fleet: 2022, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat

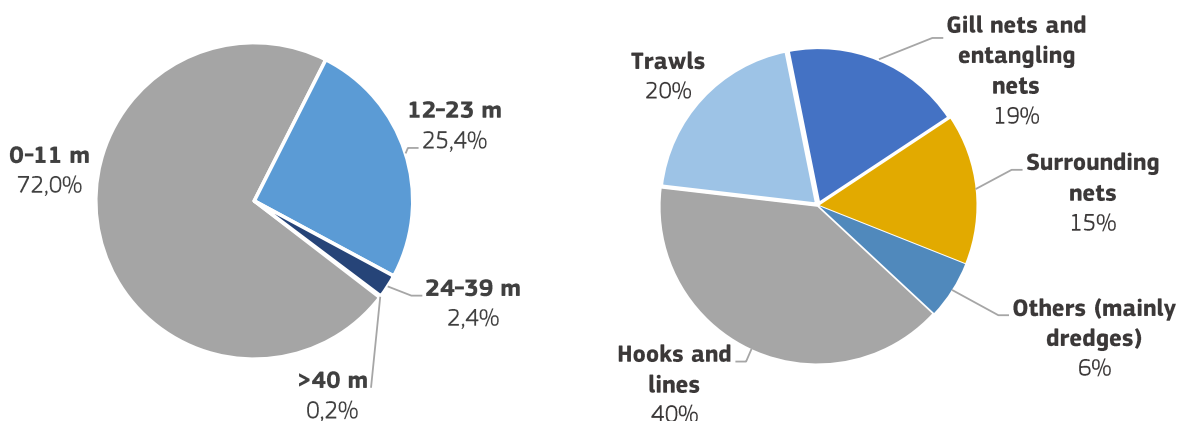
Employment: 2020, source: JRC

Vessels (2022)	Capacity (2022)	Power (2022)	
Number: 12.231	GT: 146.825	KW: 945.379	
TOTAL FTE: 13.193 (2020, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 38%	Jobs (FTE): 49%	Jobs (FTE): 11%	Jobs (FTE): 2%

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

The Italian fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data.

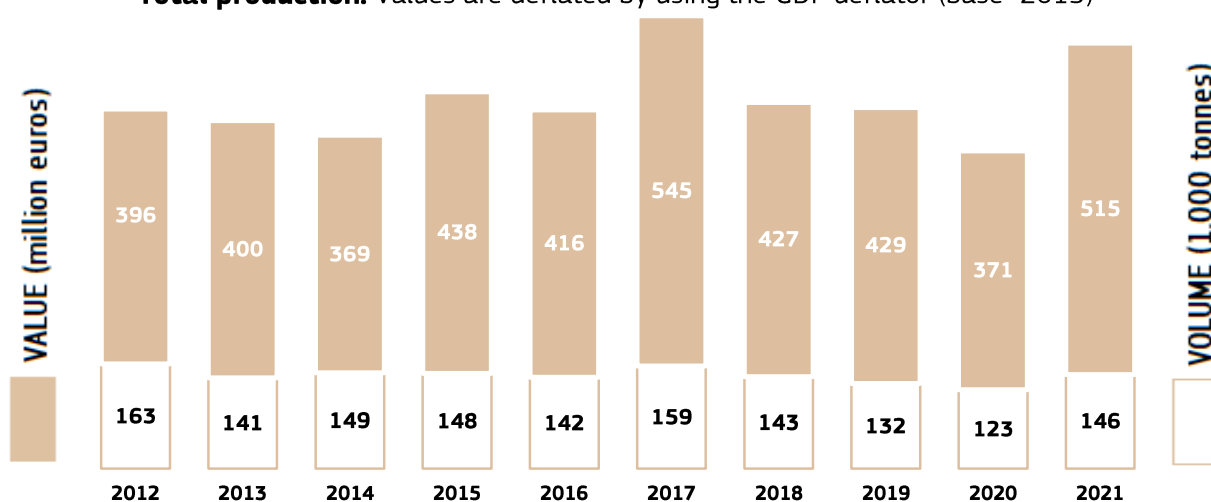
Aquaculture consists in the farming of aquatic (fresh or saltwater) organisms, such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Aquaculture data are reported in live weight equivalent and value.

70% of Italian production occurs in sea and brackish water and 30% in freshwater. In 2022, the following main production methods were used:

- 42% of production: off bottom in sea and brackish water;
- 31% of production: in tanks and raceways, almost entirely in freshwater (slight portion in sea and brackish water);
- 16% of production: on bottom in sea and brackish water;
- 7% of production: in cages, entirely in sea and brackish water;
- 3% of production: in ponds in freshwater;

The rest (1%) was farmed in enclosures and pens in sea and brackish water.

Total production. Values are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2015)



Main commercial species farmed and % of total
2021, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1.000 tonnes)	% of total
CLAM	212	38,8%	62	42,5%
TROUT	143	26,0%	42	28,7%
EUROPEAN SEABASS	59	10,8%	23	15,8%
MUSSEL <i>MYTILUS</i> SPP.	56	10,2%	8	5,5%
GILTHEAD SEABREAM	52	9,5%	7	5,0%
OTHERS	25	4,7%	4	2,5%



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PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

Data as of 11-07-2023, source: DG MARE, [link](#)

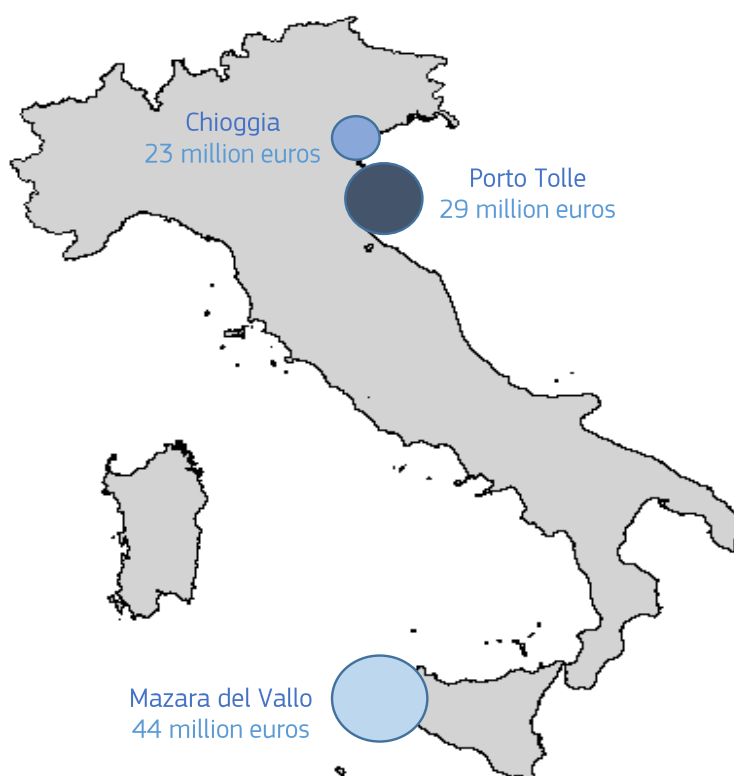
In Italy, **49 producer organisations (POs)** and **2 associations of POs** are formally recognized. Their role is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and of the Common organisation of the markets (CMO) through the collective management of their members' activities. Of the 49 POs, 35 operate in the fishery sector and 14 in aquaculture. The two associations of POs operate in the fishery sector.

FIRST SALES 2022, source: EUMOFA

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

In 2022, total first sales in Italian places of sale amounted to 83.029 tonnes and 374 million euros..

The top-3 places of sale covered 17% and 26% of total first sales, respectively in volume and value terms.



Top-3 places of sale	Volume (tonnes)	Value (million euros)	Top-3 main commercial species (in value)
Mazara del Vallo	1.852	44	Shrimps, deep-water rose shrimps, Norway lobster
Porto Tolle	4.076	29	Anchovy, sardine, squillid
Chioggia	7.823	23	Common sole, clam, cuttlefish

WHOLESALE

Wholesale is an intermediary stage in the distribution channel that buys in bulk and sells to resellers (e.g. retailers) rather than to consumers. In Italy, there are two main wholesale market places involved in sales of fishery and aquaculture products, namely Rome and Milan.



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PROCESSING

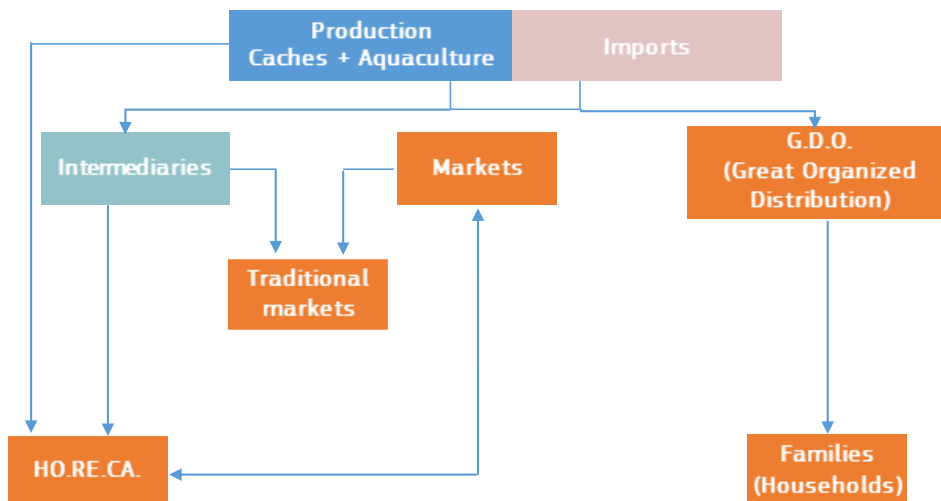
According to Eurostat-SBS, 5.936 persons were employed in the Italian fish processing industry in 2020. The sector recorded a value added of 492,9 million euros, covering 2,1% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2022, the main products sold were “Prepared or preserved tuna, skipjack and Atlantic bonito, whole or in pieces (excl. minced products and prepared meals and dishes)” and “Frozen whole salt water fish” (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

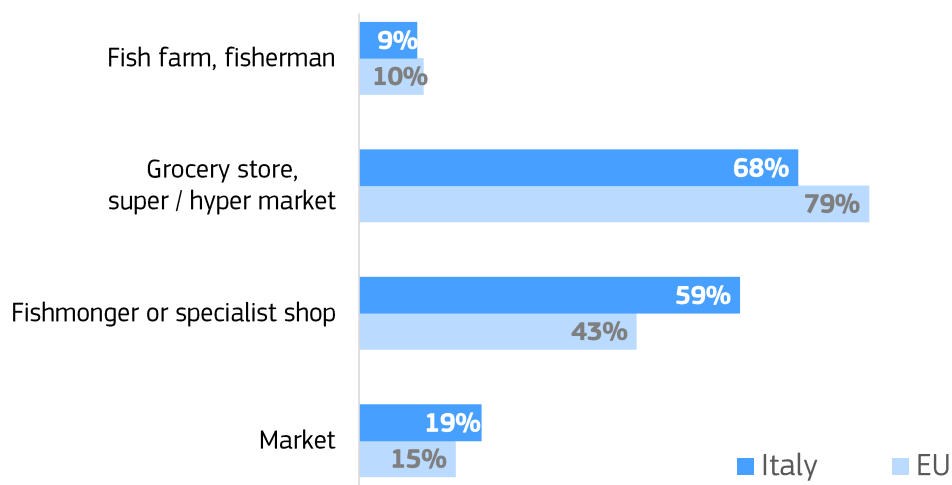
438 companies
Sales: 2,87 billion euros
(2020, source: Eurostat - SBS)

DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Italy (source: Ministero delle Attività Produttive):



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



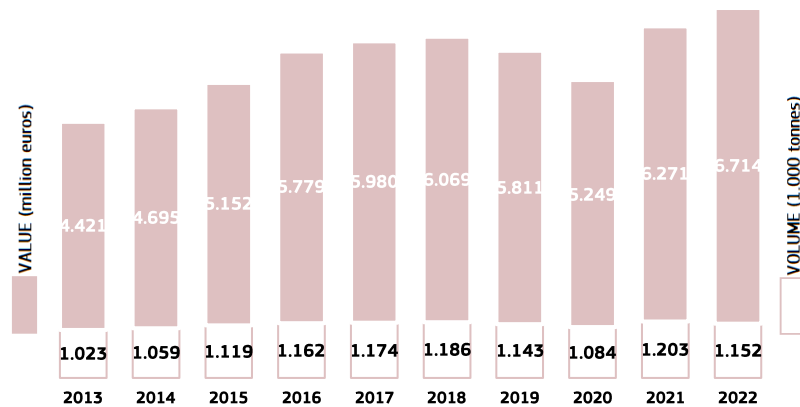


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IMPORT – EXPORT

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

IMPORT



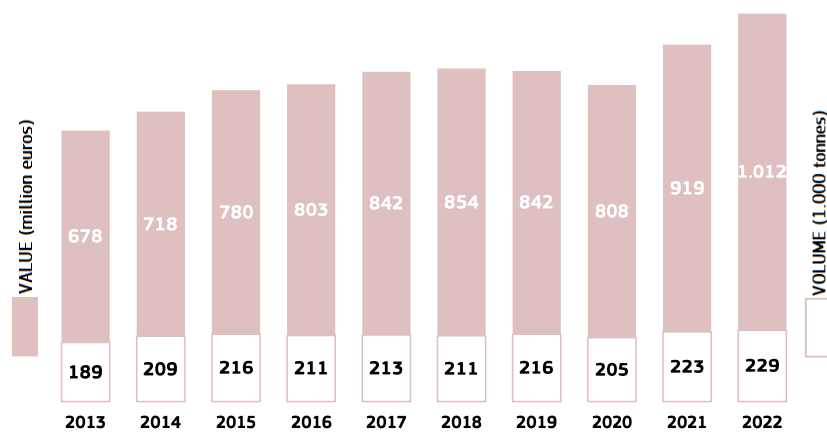
Main commercial species imported and % of total imports

2022, million euros (nominal value)



SALMON	1233	16,4%
SHRIMPS (MOSTLY WARMWATER)	702	9,3%
SQUID	628	8,3%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	460	6,1%
OCTOPUS	450	6,0%
OTHERS	4050	53,9%

EXPORT

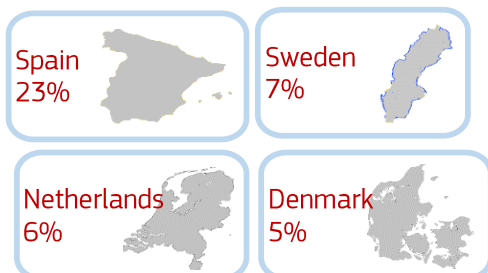
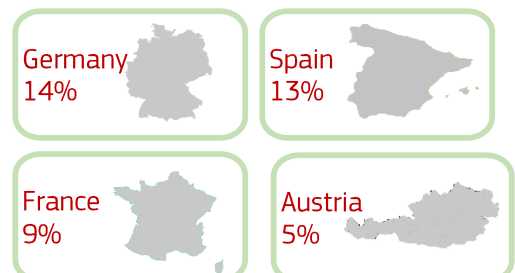


Main commercial species exported and % of total exports

2022, million euros (nominal value)



SKIPJACK TUNA	188	17,0%
FISH SOUPS, PASTA AND PREPARATIONS (ALSO INCLUDING VEGETABLES AND MEAT)	102	9,3%
ANCHOVY	70	6,3%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	57	5,2%
TROUT	49	5,2%
OTHERS	640	57,7%

Main countries of
ORIGIN
(in value, 2022)Main countries of
DESTINATION
(in value, 2022)



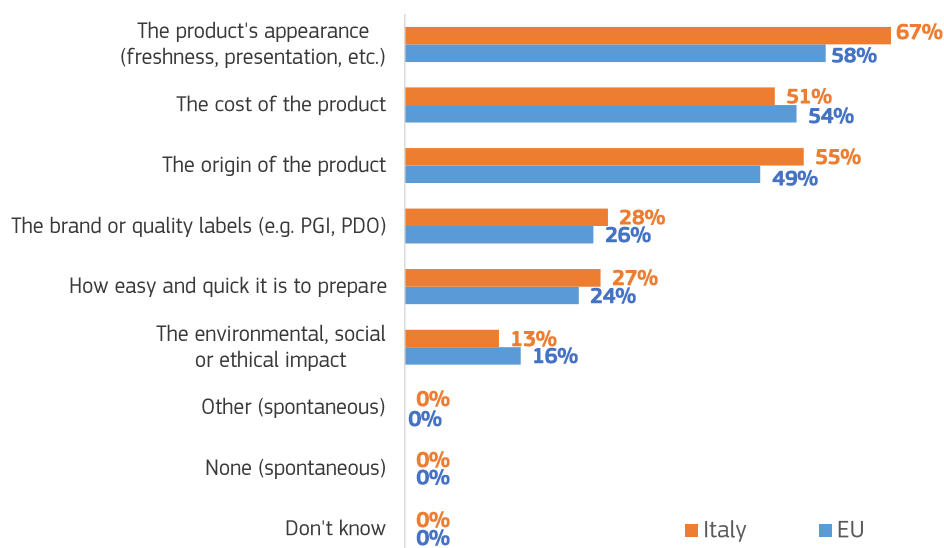
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CONSUMPTION

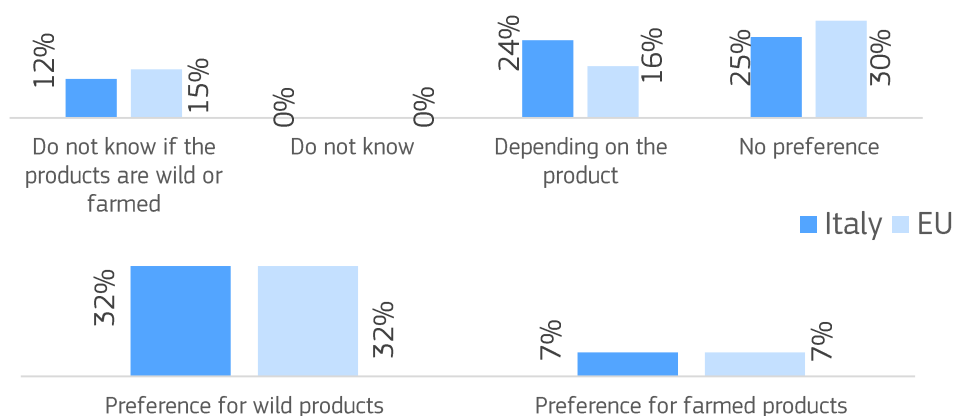
In 2021, apparent consumption was estimated at 30,15 kg per capita, a slight 0,4%-increase compared with 2020. The most consumed species were yellowfin tuna, squid, salmon, mussel, skipjack tuna and cod (source: EUMOFA). Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 25-39 and 40-54. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to eat fish frequently in Italy, as well as at EU-28 level. In this category, regular consumers cover 66% of the total, which is slightly lower than at EU level (67%, UK included). Italians mainly consume fresh fish; loose fish is much more frequently consumed (84%) than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

30,15 kg
per capita in live
weight equivalent
(2021, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)



Preferences regarding wild or farmed product (source: Eurobarometer, 2021)





THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA



LANDINGS

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery. They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.

FIRST SALES

Volumes and values are collected from MASAF on a monthly basis, and cover all species sold in Italian places of sale.

Data are accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility. Data at disaggregated level are also accessible, through a dedicated advanced table and the bulk download facility.

IMPORT - EXPORT

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – COMEXT. Data concern trade flows of all fisheries and aquaculture products as recorded by national customs.

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

AQUACULTURE

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

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

WHOLESALE

No data available

PROCESSING

Data are collected from Eurostat – PRODCOM. They concern ex-farm quantities and values of fisheries and aquaculture products sold in the country after being transformed from raw material into final products.

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

CONSUMPTION

Volumes and values of household consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products are collected from Europanel based on panel reporting. Data are monitored for 11 main commercial species + the item “Others”, aggregating all other species (click [here](#) for the full list).

Data are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through simple tables and the bulk download facility.

Retail prices from online shops are also available [here](#), as collected via price-scraper.