



## Metadata - Yearly simple table

## Supply balance

Last update:  
27-07-2021

# Supply balance

Ref. link: <http://www.eumofa.eu/supply-balance>.

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## Overview of the query

The supply balance is a proxy that allows to follow trend evolutions of internal supply and apparent consumption of fishery and aquaculture products in the EU<sup>1</sup>. In the light of this, the supply balance and apparent consumption should be used in **relative terms** (e.g. analysing trends) rather than in absolute terms.

This predefined query allows to extract yearly sheets on the EU supply balance of fishery and aquaculture products, by selecting the year to be filtered. Data can be downloaded in different formats (xlsx, csv, ods). Data are displayed by Commodity Groups and can be drilled into a more disaggregated level, i.e. at Main commercial species level.

Click [here](#) to consult the User guide for using simple tables.

<sup>1</sup> The United Kingdom is considered part of the EU till 2019. Starting from 2020, the United Kingdom's yearly data are no longer available in tables provided at EU level and, therefore, they are not included in calculations for the supply balance.



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#### Type of data and sources

The supply balance is built on the basis of the following equation, calculated in live weight equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{(catches for food-use + aquaculture}^2 \text{ + imports for food-use) – exports for food-use} \\ & = \\ & \text{apparent consumption} \end{aligned}$$

Data included in the supply balance and the sources used are as follows:

- **Catches:** products caught by fishing vessels of the EU Member States and destined to human consumption. Amounts of catches not destined to human consumption were estimated using proxies based on destination use of landings (as available in EUROSTAT).

Catches data are available in live weight equivalent. Source: EUROSTAT, integrated with FAO data as regards catches in inland areas.

- **Aquaculture:** fish and shellfish farmed in the EU Member States. Aquaculture data are available in live weight equivalent. The main source of data is EUROSTAT. Details on data integrations are available here<sup>3</sup>.
- **Import:** fishery and aquaculture products imported by the European Union from non-EU countries (source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT). Non-food use products are not included.

Import data are available in net weight. For the supply balance purposes, net weight is converted into live weight equivalent in order to have a harmonized supply balance sheet (for conversion to live weight equivalent, please refer to the specific box below).

Through the assessment of origin of imports in terms of production methods, it is possible to estimate the share of imports originating from aquaculture and capture, making use of FAO data (for the method applied, please refer to the specific box below).

- **Export:** fishery and aquaculture products exported by the European Union to non-EU countries (source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT). Non-food use products are not included.

Export data are available in net weight. For the supply balance purposes, net weight is converted into live weight equivalent in order to have a harmonized supply balance sheet (for conversion to live weight equivalent, please refer to the specific section below).

Through the assessment of origin of exports in terms of production methods, it is possible to estimate the share of exports originating from aquaculture and capture, making use of FAO data (for the method applied, please refer to the specific box below).

- **Apparent consumption (and per capita consumption):** total amount of fishery and aquaculture products consumed in the European Union. Per capita consumption indicates the amount of fish (wild + farmed) consumed by each individual person in the EU.

<sup>2</sup> Within available statistics, no detail is provided regarding farmed production that is not destined to human consumption.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.eumofa.eu/sources-of-data#aquacultureTab>.



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#### Assessment of origin of imports and exports in terms of production methods (catches vs aquaculture)

The objective of the assessment of origin in terms of production methods is to quantify the role of aquaculture in the supply balance analysis. For each EU Member State, on the basis of the total imports and exports volumes, the production methods of the countries of origin and destinations of exports is assessed, averaging the latest three years of production volumes in terms of catches and aquaculture. Further assessment provides an estimate of a weighted average share of aquaculture in the total production (aquaculture + capture) and it is expressed as a coefficient.

Through this proxy, the origin of imports and destinations of exports in terms of production methods, i.e. if imports/exports of a given Member State derive from farming or fishery activities, is determined.

#### Conversion of net weight into Live weight equivalent

Since EUROSTAT provides production data in live weight, import/export net volumes are converted by using conversion factors (CF) for the purpose of building a harmonized supply balance sheet. Taking the example of CF for cod, or more specifically for the item whose CN8 code is 0304 44 10: this item corresponds to the following description: "Fresh or chilled fillets of cod 'Gadus morhua, Gadus ogac, Gadus macrocephalus' and of fish of the species "Boreogadus saida"". The CF is set at 2,85, representing an average of those found for skinned and boned fillets for this species in Eurostat/FAO publications. For the complete list of CFs used for the EUMOFA purposes, please refer to the Metadata published within the EUMOFA website at the link: [http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/24415/Metadata+2+-+DM+-+Annex+8+CF+per+CN8\\_%252707-%252714.pdf/7e98ac0c-a8cc-4223-9114-af64ab670532](http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/24415/Metadata+2+-+DM+-+Annex+8+CF+per+CN8_%252707-%252714.pdf/7e98ac0c-a8cc-4223-9114-af64ab670532).

#### Products specifications

Data on the species produced, imported, exported and consumed in the EU are disseminated in this query aggregated into the related Main commercial species and Commodity groups. Possible discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

For details on the correlation carried out for aggregating raw data on production (at FAO 3-alpha code level) and raw data on trade (at CN-8 code level) to the EUMOFA Main commercial species and Commodity groups, please consult the "Data management" Metadata and its Annexes available [here](#)<sup>4</sup>.

#### Reference period

Data in the resulting table are displayed for the year selected by the user. For details on the frequency and the time lag of data submissions from each source, click [here](#)<sup>5</sup>.

For checking the state of update of data included in the query, consult the [Data supply monitoring](#)<sup>6</sup>.

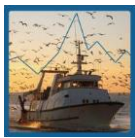
#### Unit of measure

Volumes are expressed in Tonnes (for Production, Import, Export and Apparent consumption) and Kilograms (for Per capita consumption).

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/24415/Metadata+1+-+DATA+COLLECTION.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.eumofa.eu/data-supply-monitoring>



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In order to have a harmonised Supply balance sheet, import/export net volumes are converted into live weight equivalent by using conversion factors, applied to each CN-8 code since 2004. For details on such conversion factors, please consult the “Data management” Metadata and its Annexes available [here](#)<sup>7</sup>.

### Quality assurance

All data published on EUMOFA are subject to regular and in-depth quality checks, performed both at the entry stage and after the harmonisation of raw figures to EUMOFA’s aggregation rationale<sup>8</sup>.

*At the entry stage*, checks are performed i) on the IT side, while uploading data in the EUMOFA database and ii) by EUMOFA analysts, before the release of data on the EUMOFA website for ensuring their accuracy.

- *Quality checks performed while uploading data on the IT system:* incomplete and incorrect files/records are automatically discarded. They regard:
  - file format
  - missing information
  - inclusion of codes not available in EUMOFA codes registers
  - codes format
  - duplicated records
- *Preliminary checks performed on data accuracy before their dissemination on EUMOFA:* datasets from “high risk” providers<sup>9</sup> are subject to ad-hoc checks. These aim to detect abnormal volumes and values/prices’ trends for each main commercial species / country. Trends are analysed three-year backwards.

*After data are made available on EUMOFA*, our analysts continue to perform checks to ensure the highest quality of data. These checks are done regularly, the exact frequency depending on the type of data, or at the request of users, providers, etc.

- *Quality checks regularly performed:* in-dept checks on correctness and accuracy of data are regularly performed on volume and value/price trends for each main commercial species / country. Trends are analysed three-year backwards. Weekly data are checked every four months; monthly data are checked at least once a year; yearly data are checked once a year.
- *Quality checks performed on request:* ad-hoc checks on correctness and accuracy of data are performed each time suspicious figures are detected.

All instances with abnormal data are cross-checked with the provider in order to clarify if they actually reflect market phenomena. In case these turn out to be wrong, they are replaced with correct data. To be noted that EUMOFA only provides with data quality assurance. Once data are confirmed with the provider, they are published on EUMOFA, as any provider is the final responsible of correctness and accuracy of data transmitted.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.eumofa.eu/supply-balance-and-other-methodologies>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.eumofa.eu/harmonisation>

<sup>9</sup> “High risk” is defined based on the outcome of previous quality checks.



**EUMOFA**

European Market Observatory for  
Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

An initiative of the



European  
Commission

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In addition, the timeliness of all data submissions is checked at least once a month and reminders are sent to providers with an overdue delivery.