

Coronavirus response

EUMOFA's weekly data and trends analysis

Weeks 12 and 13

Fishery and aquaculture are among the sectors most immediately impacted by the crisis. Over the coming weeks, EUMOFA will release a COVID-19 bulletin in order to inform the sector as quickly as possible on the evolution of the markets along the entire value chain, based on the most recent data on first sales, production and trade of fishery and aquaculture products. The data and analyses proposed are accurate to EUMOFA experts best knowledge, but are of course subject to availability of information in the short-term and to intrinsic volatility of the current situation. In particular, note that weekly data on first-sale are conceived to be disseminated as rapidly as possible. For this reason, they only cover some representative products in a selection of locations in some countries. They do not aim to give complete coverage of the market, and so it is recommended to use them as a mere indication of ongoing trends. For more information on species, countries and locations covered, please see [here](#).

This week, we display the main highlights on weeks 12 and 13, as data are progressively available. From next week, these highlights will be completed with finer-grained analyses and explanations.

Main highlights (weeks 12 and 13)

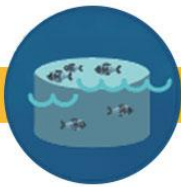


For EU fisheries, the closure of HORECA channels, and in some places the closure of open markets, led to significant impacts on their activities, especially for small scale fisheries selling fresh fish (sharp drops in terms of volumes and prices). The result was that many vessels stayed at ports and some auctions had to close. After a first chaotic week on the market (week 12) the situation in week 13 shows some positive signs in some MS at first sales level. In some MS, the sector put in place temporary solutions (distance selling, vessel rotation, stopping targeting species for which the demand collapsed, etc.) to minimise impacts on the market, especially to maintain reasonable prices. However, volumes are still significantly low.

[In five of the Danish fish auctions](#) (Hansthalm, Hirtshals, Strandby, Skagen and Grenaa), in week 13, total volumes sold were up by 43% compared to the previous week (week 12). However, the offer is concentrated on a smaller range of species than before the crisis: the number of different species sold was 49 on the Monday before restrictions were imposed (9 March) and only 28 on Monday 30 March.

[In France](#), in week 13, we observe again a strong decrease of volumes but a price increase for many species (compared to week 12) to almost reach week 11 levels (before restriction measures). This is the result of the strategy of many fishery companies, producer organisations and auctions to limit the number of vessels at sea and thus the volumes landed, in order to maintain prices at reasonable levels. Many vessels got out fishing only after having the guarantee to sell their catches (contracts with wholesalers or retailers in particular).

To learn more about the situation on the market, [access to most recent weekly data \(up to week 13 of 2020\) for first sales in Europe](#).



AQUACULTURE

Reports from the salmon farming industry in Norway (personal communication) indicate that harvesting and sales are proceeding close to normal. Higher than normal volumes are currently being frozen. Spot prices fresh whole (delivered free carrier Oslo) continued down in week 13 by 11%, to 4,54 EUR/kg. Over the last 4 weeks, spot prices have dropped by 38%.



PROCESSING

In general, the processing industry relying on frozen imports from third countries could experience a shortage in supply in the coming months as processing activities are reduced, there are limitations in freight capacity and some major supplying countries have closed their ports.

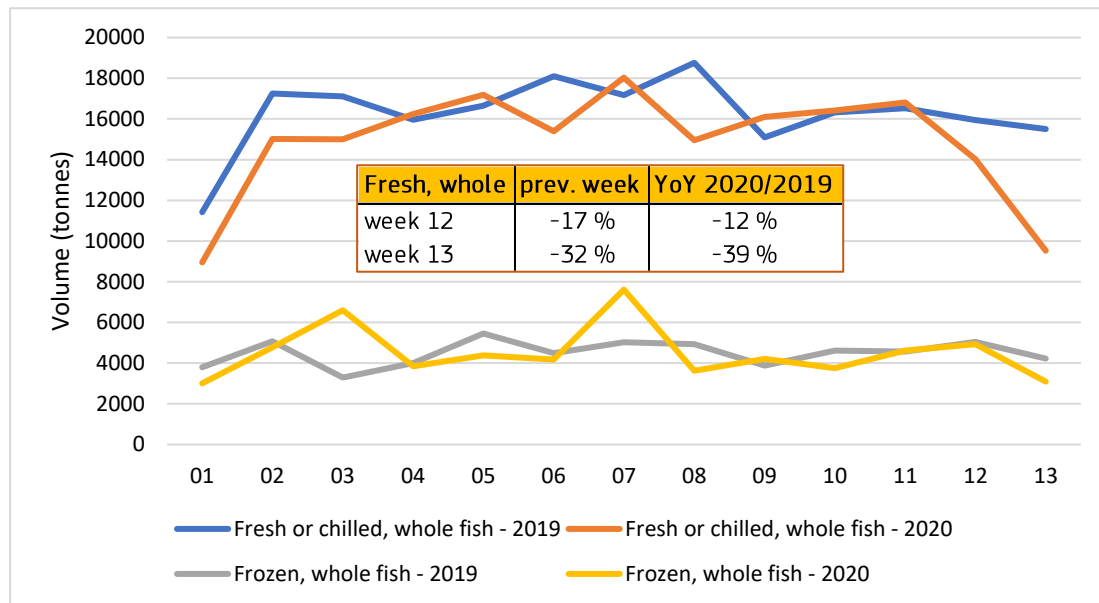


TRADE -EXTRA EU IMPORTS

By grouping the monitored products by CN4/CN5, we can classify them according to the main chapters of the nomenclature (e.g. 0302 Fresh or chilled whole fish and 0303 frozen whole fish). By analysing these groups, weekly extra-EU imports confirms the general market trends explained in the last two reports with a sharp decrease in the sales of fresh fish.

In week 12, the imported volumes of **fresh or chilled whole fish** decreased by 17% compared to week 11 (down 2.800 tonnes from 16.800) and was down 12% year-on-year (YoY). Five products accounted for 89% of the decrease; Atlantic salmon from Norway (46%), cod from Norway (25%), Redfish from Iceland (7%), Gilthead seabream from Turkey (6%) and haddock from Norway (5%).

In week 13, the imports decreased even more, by 32% compared to the previous week and 39% YoY. In week 13, the import of fresh whole fish decreased by 4.500 tonnes to 9.500. Five products accounted for 97% of the decrease; Atlantic salmon from Norway (65%), cod from Norway (14%), Gilthead seabream and European seabass from Turkey (8% and 6% respectively) and haddock from Norway (5%).



Although the volumes are much lower, the imports have decreased substantially for typical “restaurant species”:

- **Atlantic halibut** from Norway decreased by 66% and 55% in week 12 and 13 respectively. From an imported volume of 33,6 tonnes in week 11 to 5 tonnes in week 13.
- **Yellowfin tuna** from the Maldives decreased by 92% and 88% in weeks 12 and 13 compared to the previous weeks. The imported volume in weeks 11, 12 and 13 was 16,2 tonnes, 1,4 tonnes and 0,2 tonnes respectively.
- **Turbot** from Norway decreased 9% and 86% in week 12 and 13 from 3,8 tonnes in week 11 to only 15 kg in week 13.

During week 13, the NOK appreciated against EUR and USD and recovered some of the depreciation of the past weeks but is still weak. The ISK recovered a bit against EUR at the end of week 12 and beginning of week 13 before further depreciation back to about 154 ISK/EUR. The Russian Rouble has depreciated further to about 88 RUB/EUR.

To learn more about the situation on the market, [you can access most recent weekly data \(up to week 12 of 2020\) for extra EU imports in Europe](#)

For any question or comment, do not hesitate to contact EUMOFA (contact-us@eumofa.eu).

ABOUT EUMOFA

The European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA) is a market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector, developed by the European Commission. It aims to increase market transparency and efficiency, analyses EU markets dynamics, and supports business decisions and policy-making. EUMOFA enables direct monitoring of volumes, values and prices of fisheries and aquaculture products, from the first sale to retail stage, including imports and exports. Data are collected from EU countries, Iceland, Norway, United Kingdom and from EU institutions and updated every day.