



Last update: 03/04/20

IRELAND IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2017, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2017, Ireland ranked 6th in the EU in terms of fishery production and 7th in terms of aquaculture production.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-28	Ireland	% world	% EU-28
Catches	93.204	5.253	247	0,27%	4,70%
Aquaculture	111.966	1.372	43	0,04%	3,13%
Total	205.170	6.625	290	0,14%	4,38%

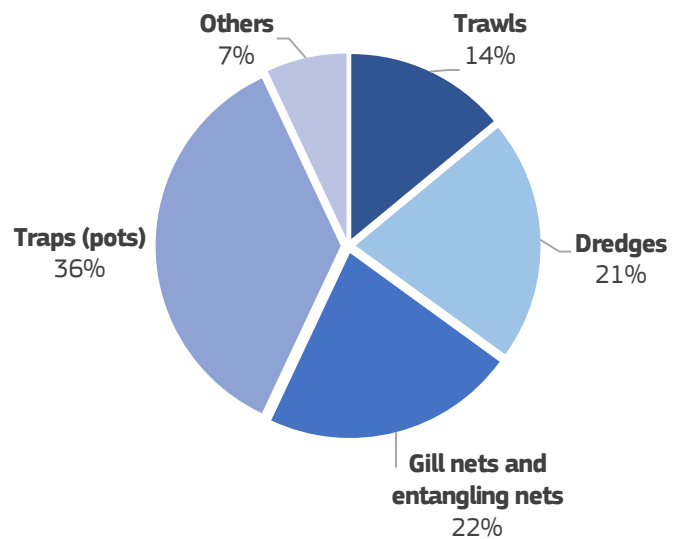
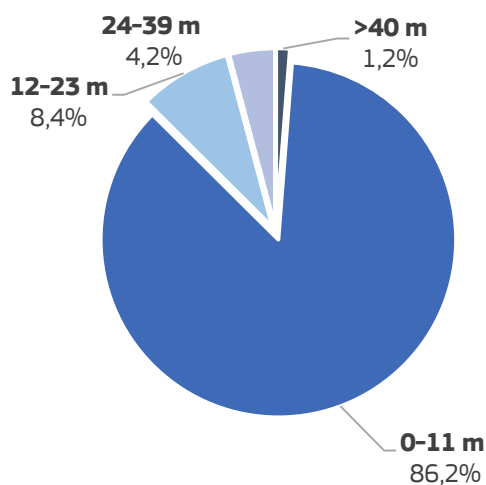
FISHING FLEET

Fleet: 2018, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2017, source: JRC

Vessels (2018)	Capacity (2018)	Power (2018)	
Number: 2.032	Gross Tonnage: 64.455	Kilowatt: 190.015	
TOTAL FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE), 2017: 2.608			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 46%	Jobs (FTE): 27%	Jobs (FTE): 20%	Jobs (FTE): 7%

The Irish fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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LANDINGS

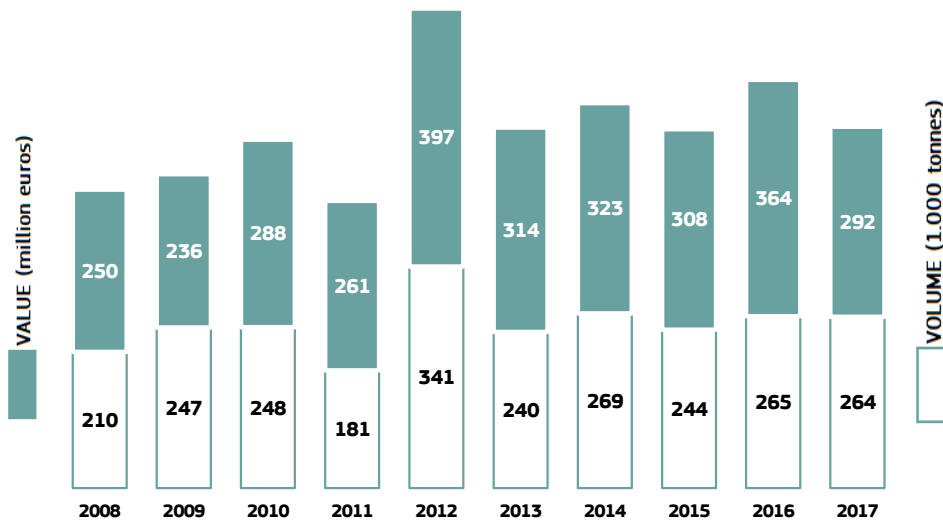
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and SFP data

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given EU Member State. They include aquatic plants and species not destined for human consumption. Landings are recorded in net weight and value, and concern landings made by vessels from EU Member States, Iceland and Norway.

In 2017, 68% of landings in Ireland included fresh products, while no detail is available on the preservation state of remaining 32%. As for destination use, 68% of landings were for human consumption while no detail is available for the destination use of remaining 32%.

There are 179 fishing ports registered in Ireland (source: EU Master Data Register).

Total landings



Main commercial species landed and % of total

(2017, million euros and 1.000 tonnes)



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total
MACKEREL	70	24%	84	32%
NORWAY LOBSTER	40	14%	53	20%
HAKE	37	13%	22	8%
MONK	26	9%	18	7%
MEGRIM	14	5%	14	5%
OTHERS	105	35%	73	28%



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AQUACULTURE

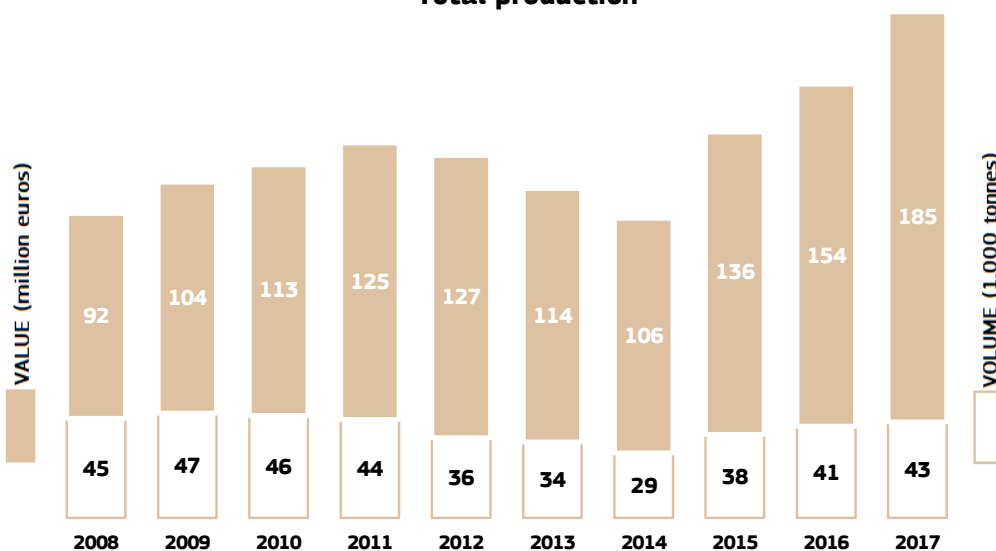
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data

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

In 2017, 99% of Irish production occurred in marine waters and the rest in freshwater. The following main production methods were used:

- 42% of production: in cages in marine waters;
- 38% of production: off bottom in marine waters;
- 19% of production: on bottom in marine waters;
- 1% of production: in recirculation systems in marine waters as well as using other methods for which no detail is available, in both marine and freshwater.

Total production



Main commercial species farmed and % of total

(2017, million euros and 1.000 tonnes)



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total value	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total volume
SALMON	134	72%	18	42%
OYSTER	35	19%	16	38%
MUSSEL MYTILUS SPP.	15	8%	8	19%
TROUT	1	1%	1	1%



PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

2019, source: DG MARE, [link](#)

In Ireland, **5 producer organisations (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 5 POs, 1 operates in aquaculture and 4 in the fishery sector.

FIRST SALES

2017, 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 Ireland, first sales are generally done by contract rather than by auction.

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.

There are no structured wholesale markets in Ireland, but a number of companies operate as wholesale distributors. Due to consolidation during the last few years, approximately 80% of the market is now controlled by six wholesalers. The wholesale distributors buy products both from fisheries and aquaculture, but the major bulk of their products is imported. Source: Bord Iascaigh Mhara.

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 2.454 persons were employed in the Irish fish processing industry in 2017. The sector recorded a value added of 122,6 million euros, covering 2% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2018, the main products sold were "Fresh or chilled fish fillets and other fish meat without bones" and "Frozen whole salt water fish" (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

114 companies

Sales: 649 million euros

(2017, source: Eurostat - SBS)

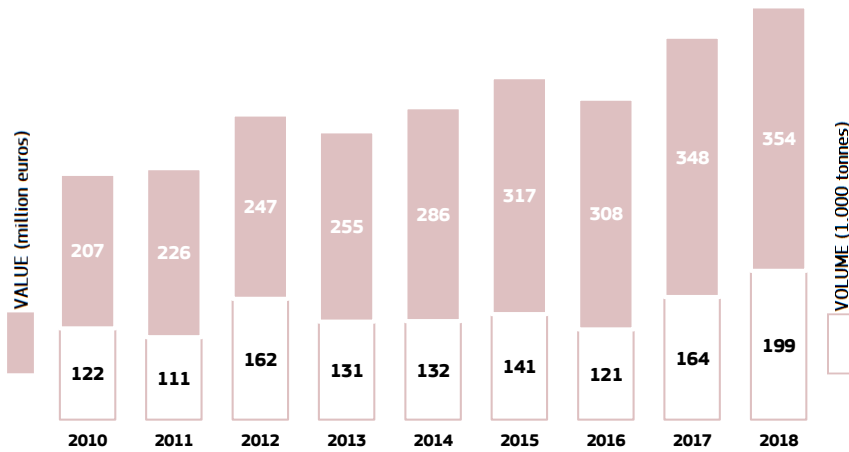


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IMPORT – EXPORT

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat-COMEXT data

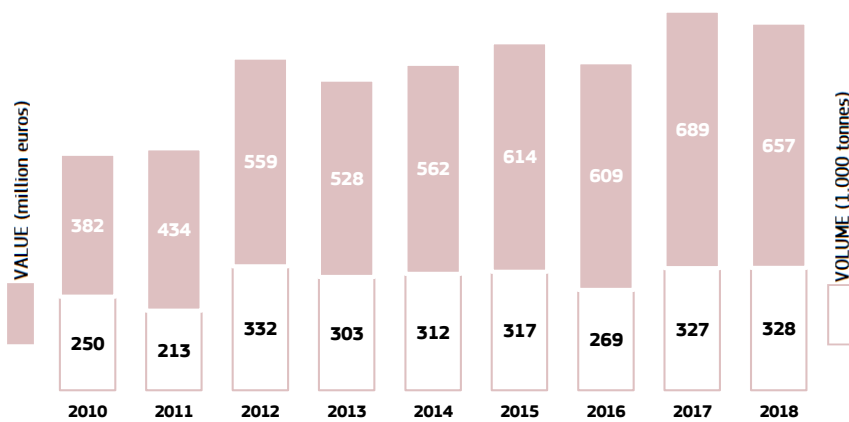
IMPORT



Main commercial species imported and % of total imports (2018, million euros)

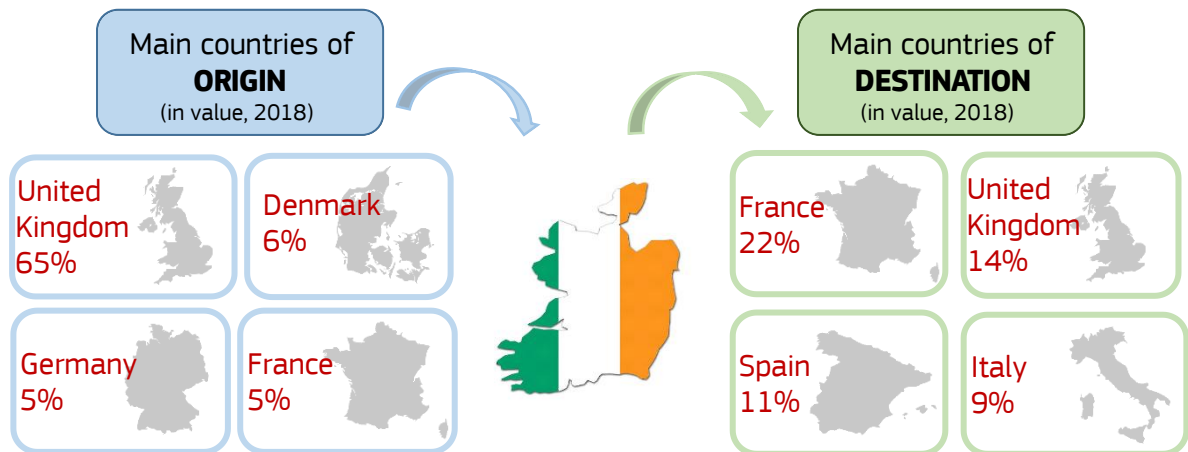
SALMON	72	20%
OTHER PRODUCTS	37	11%
COD	29	8%
OTHER MARINE FISH	26	7%
OTHER NON-FOOD USE	19	6%
OTHERS	171	48%

EXPORT



Main commercial species exported and % of total exports (2018, million euros)

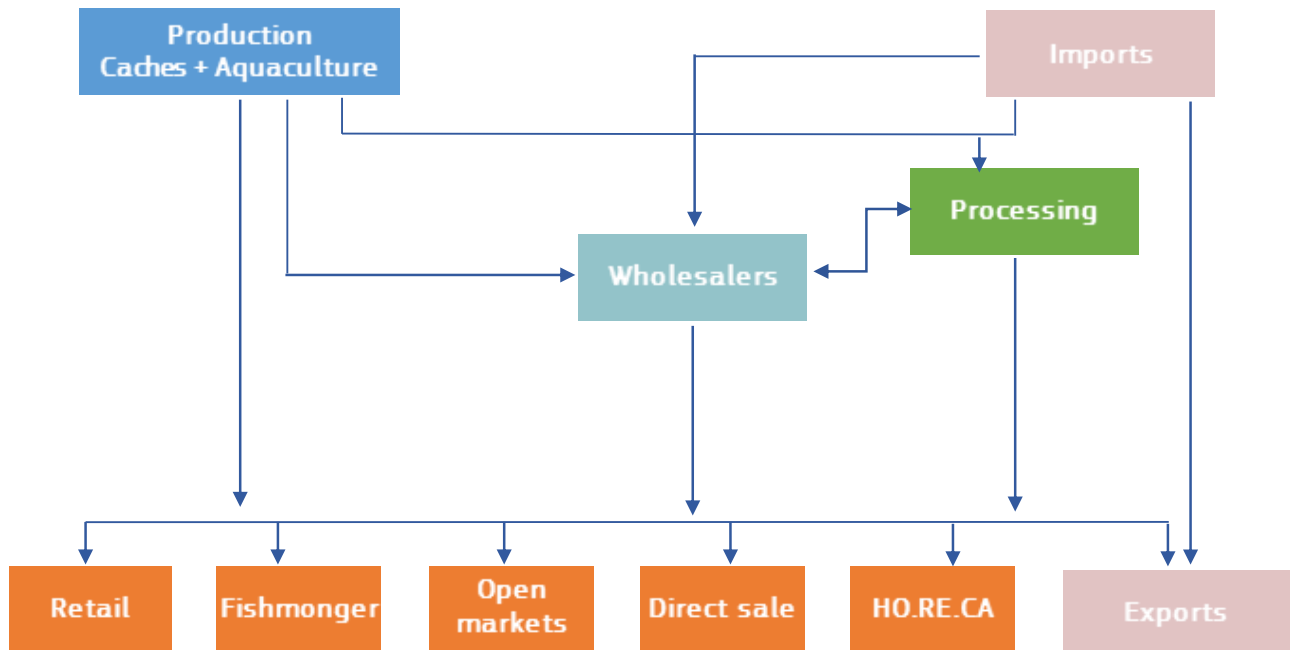
MACKEREL	83	13%
SALMON	82	13%
CRAB	61	9%
NORWAY LOBSTER	57	9%
OYSTER	42	5%
OTHERS	332	51%



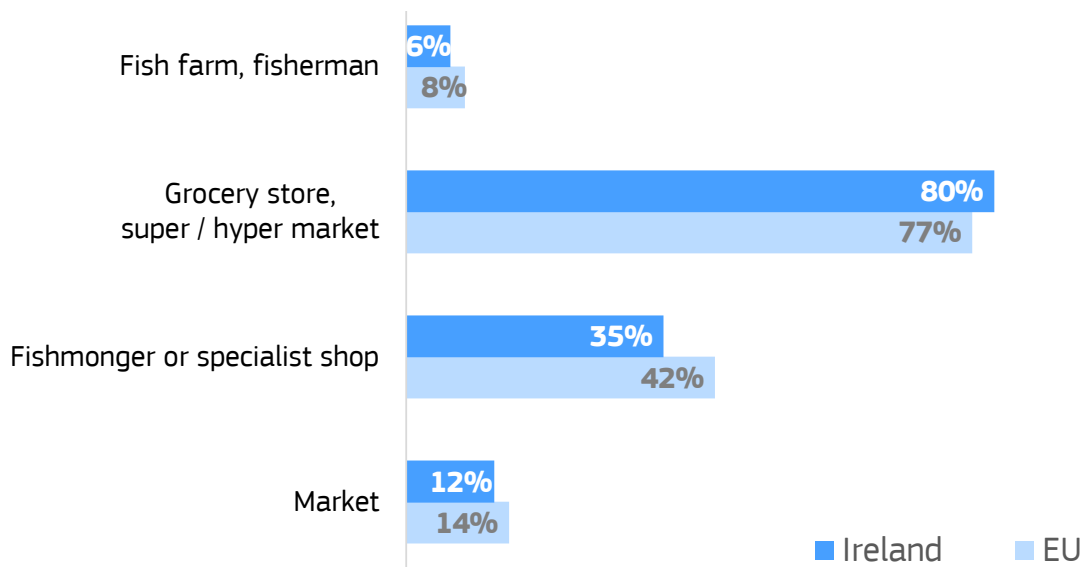


DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Ireland (source: Bord Iascaigh Mhara):



Consumer preferences on purchasing channels (source: Eurobarometer, 2018):





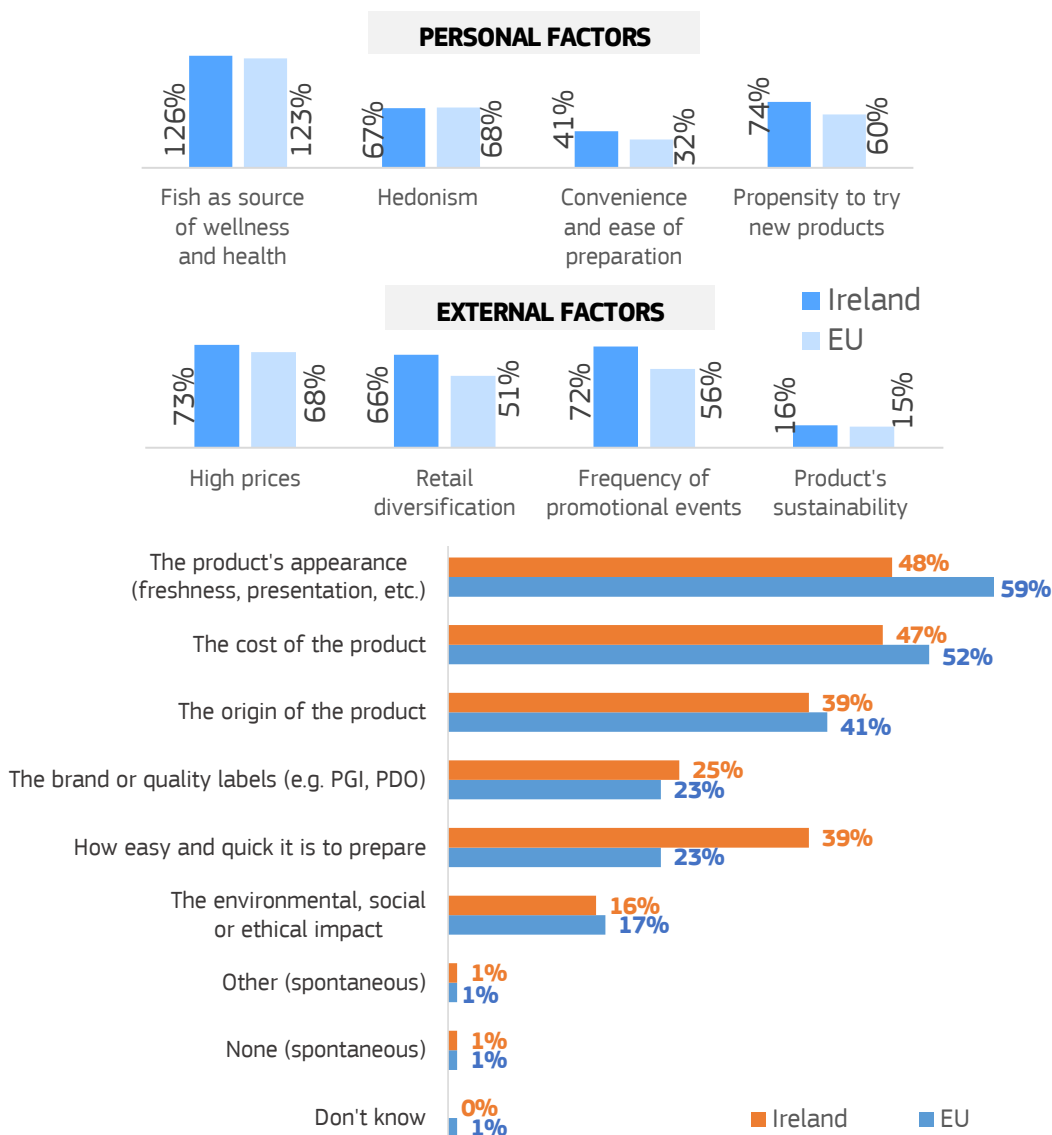
CONSUMPTION

In 2017, apparent consumption was estimated at 23 kg per capita, with no change compared with 2016. The most consumed species were mackerel, horse mackerel, cod, herring and salmon (source: EUMOFA).

Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 40-54 and over 55. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to eat fish frequently in Ireland, as well as at EU level. In this category, regular consumers cover 54% of the total, which is much lower than at EU level (67%). Irish consume especially fresh and smoked, salted or dried products; loose fish (73%) is more frequently consumed than at EU level (68%) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

23 kg
per capita
(2017, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (sources: up chart: EUMOFA, 2017; down chart: Eurobarometer, 2018)





THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA



LANDINGS

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

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 on a monthly basis from Bord Iascaigh Mhara and cover all species sold in Irish places of sale.

They are accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility. As for monthly first sales, 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 7 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. Moreover, average weekly prices are accessible through simple and advanced tables, and through the bulk download facility.