



Last update: 21-3-2022

ITALY IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2019, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2019, Italy was the 4th largest EU-28 (i.e. UK included) country in terms of aquaculture production, while it ranked 9th in terms on fishery production.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-28	Italy	% world	% EU-28
Catches	93.519	4.824	185	0,20%	3,8%
Aquaculture	120.104	1.367	154	0,13%	11,3%
Total	213.623	6.191	338	0,16%	5,5%

FISHING FLEET

Fleet: 2019, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat

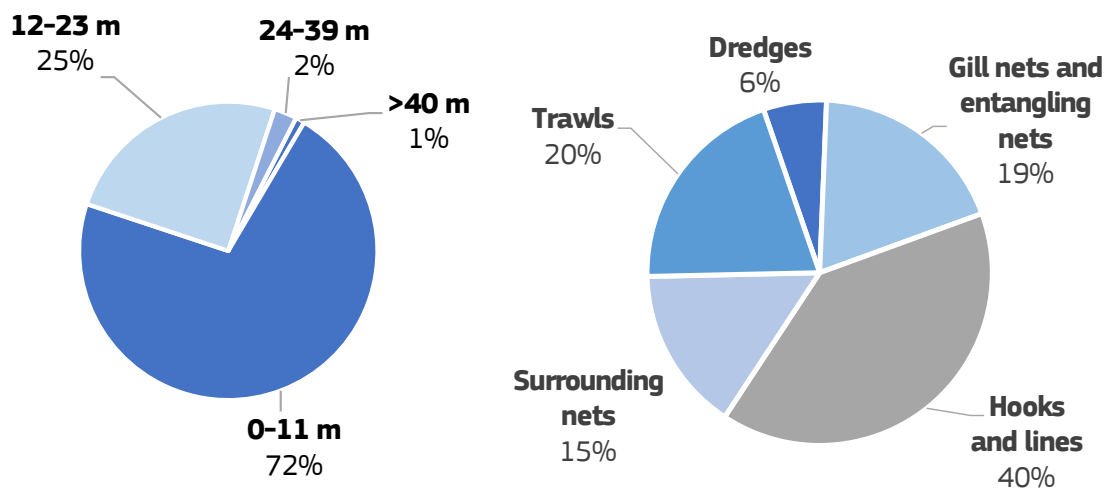
Employment: 2018, source: JRC

Vessels (2019)	Capacity (2019)	Power (2019)	
Number: 12.101	GT: 146.398	KW: 932.377	
TOTAL FTE: 19.841 (2018, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 45%	Jobs (FTE): 46%	Jobs (FTE): 9%	Jobs (FTE): 1%

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

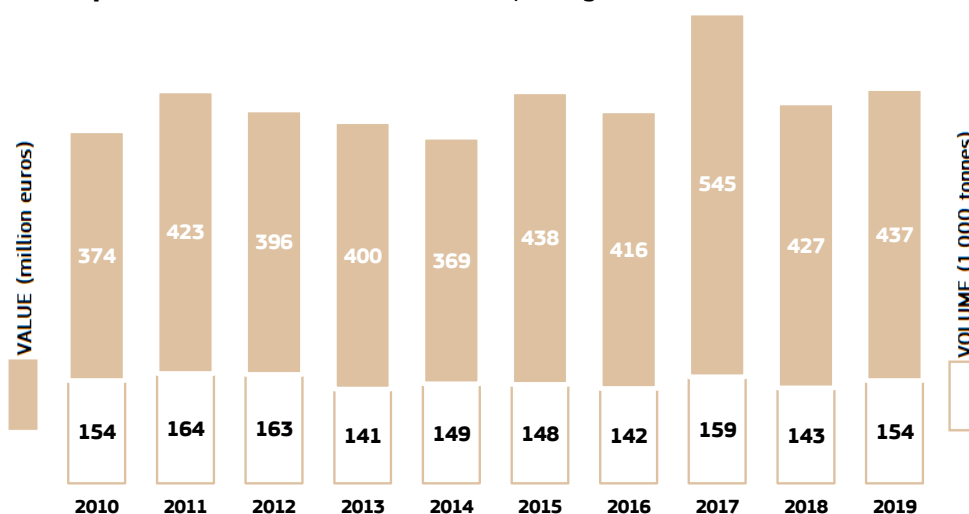
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat and FAO data.

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.

In 2019, 67% of Italian production occurred in sea and brackish water and 33% in freshwater. The following main production methods were used:

- 42% of production: off bottom in sea and brackish water;
- 32% 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;
- 6% of production: in cages, almost entirely in sea and brackish water;
- 3% of production: in ponds in freshwater;
- 1% of production: in enclosures and pens in sea and brackish water;
- The rest was farmed in recirculation systems in freshwater (0,004%).

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



Main commercial species farmed and % of total
2019, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total	Volume (1.000 tonnes)	% of total
CLAM	136	30%	72	47%
TROUT	108	24%	34	22%
GILTHEAD SEABREAM	75	17%	27	18%
EUROPEAN SEABASS	56	12%	10	6%
MUSSEL <i>MYTILUS</i> SPP.	54	12%	7	5%
OTHERS	24	5%	3	2%



PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

Data as of 15-12-2021, source: DG MARE, [link](#)

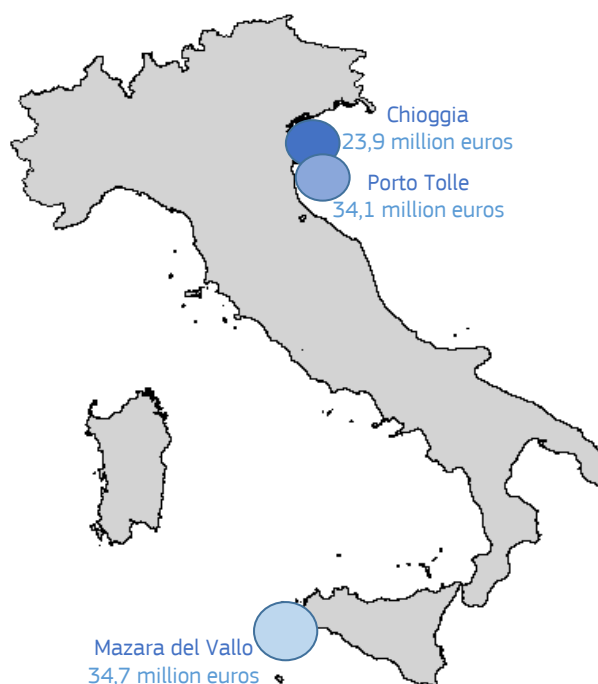
In Italy, **43 producer organisations (POs)** and **2 associations of POs** are formally recognized. Their role is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and of the Common organisation of the markets (CMO) through the collective management of their members' activities. Of the 43 POs, 33 operate in the fishery sector and 10 in aquaculture. The two associations of POs operate in the fishery sector.

FIRST SALES 2021, 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 2021, total first sales in Italian places of sale amounted to 82.593 tonnes and 351 million tonnes.

The top-3 places of sale covered 20% and 27% 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	1.939	34,7	Miscellaneous shrimps, deep-water rose shrimps, Norway lobster
Porto Tolle	5.574	34,1	Anchovy, sardine, squillid
Chioggia	9.189	23,9	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.



PROCESSING

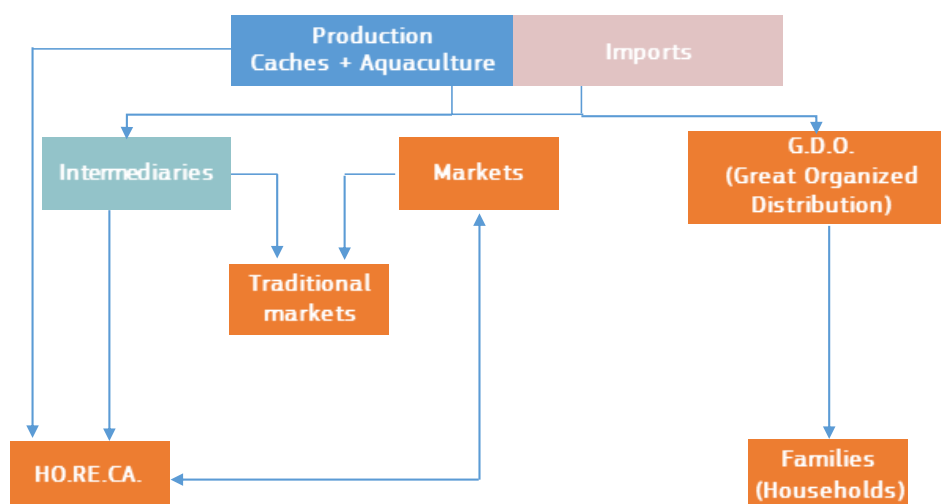
According to Eurostat-SBS, 5.641 persons were employed in the Italian fish processing industry in 2019. The sector recorded a value added of 457,3 million euros, covering 2% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2020, 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 “Prepared or preserved anchovies, whole or in pieces (excluding minced products and prepared meals and dishes)” (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

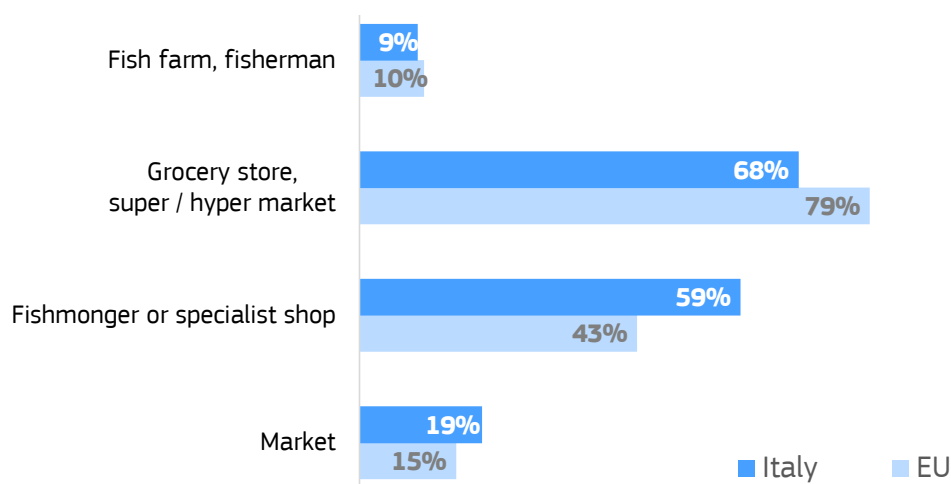
397 companies
Sales: 2,7 billion euros
 (2019, source: Eurostat - SBS)

DISTRIBUTION

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



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



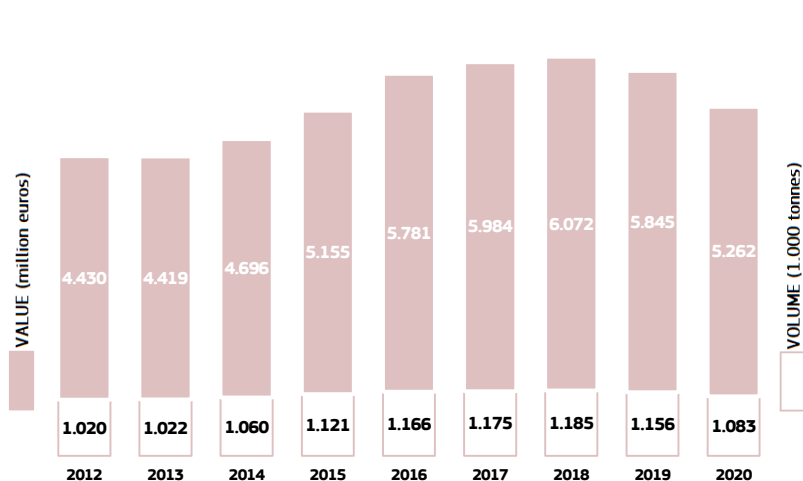


Last update: 21-3-2022

IMPORT – EXPORT

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

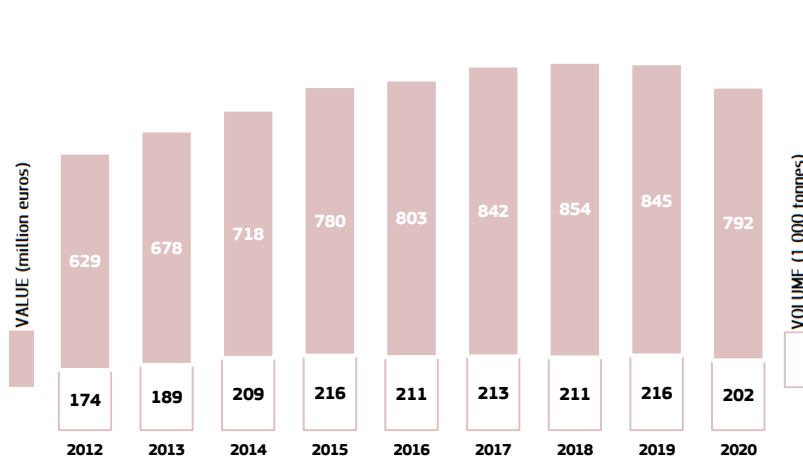
IMPORT



Main commercial species imported and % of total imports 2020, million euros (nominal value)

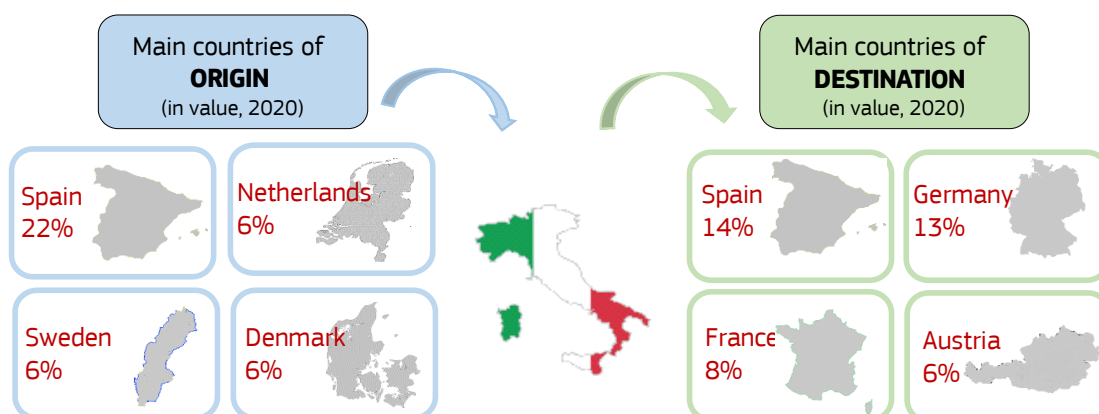
SALMON	773	30%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	463	18%
SQUID	402	15%
OTHER MARINE FISH	371	14%
MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMP	320	12%
OTHERS	281	11%

EXPORT



Main commercial species exported and % of total exports 2020, million euros (nominal value)

SKIPJACK TUNA	160	19%
OTHER PRODUCTS	93	11%
ANCHOVY	54	7%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	50	6%
CLAM	49	6%
OTHERS	426	51%





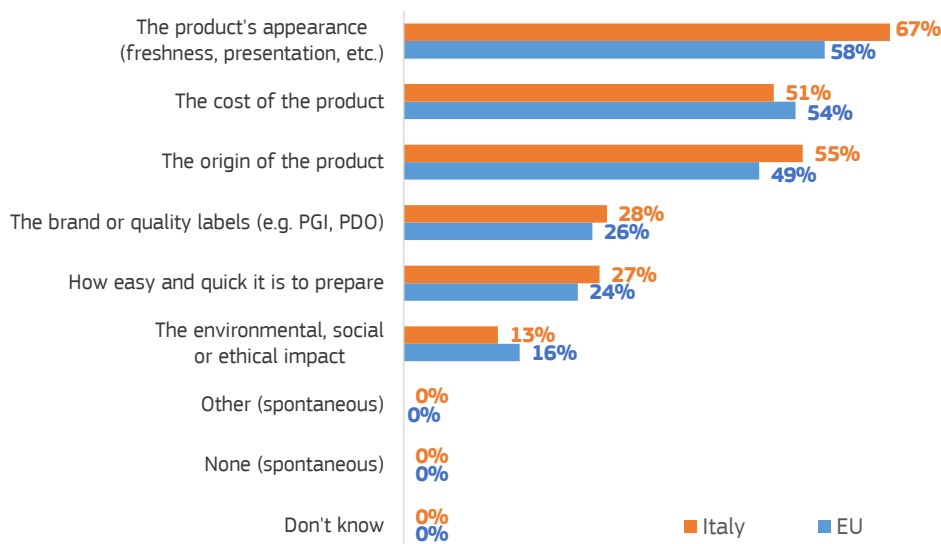
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CONSUMPTION

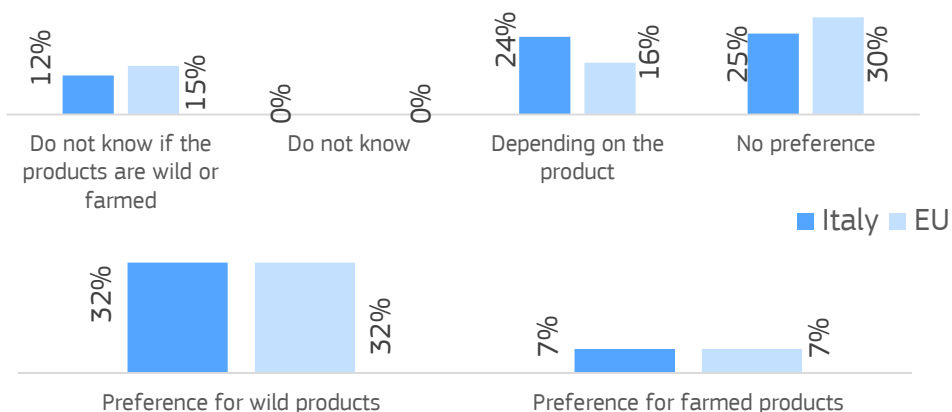
In 2019, apparent consumption was estimated at 31,21 kg per capita, a slight increase compared with 2018 (+1%). The most consumed species were yellowfin tuna, squid, salmon, mussel, skipjack tuna and cod (source: EUMOFA). Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least 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).

31,21 kg
per capita in live
weight equivalent
(2019, 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 MIPAAF 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. Moreover, average weekly prices are accessible through simple and advanced tables, and through the bulk download facility.