



Last update: 21-3-2022

LATVIA IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2019, sources: Eurostat and FAO

Latvia is a minor producer of aquaculture products. As for fishery production, in 2019 it ranked 13th among EU producing countries (UK included).

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-28	Latvia	% world	% EU-28
Catches	93.519	4.824	107	0,114%	2,22%
Aquaculture	120.104	1.367	1	0,001%	0,05%
Total	213.623	6.191	108	0,050%	1,74%

FISHING FLEET

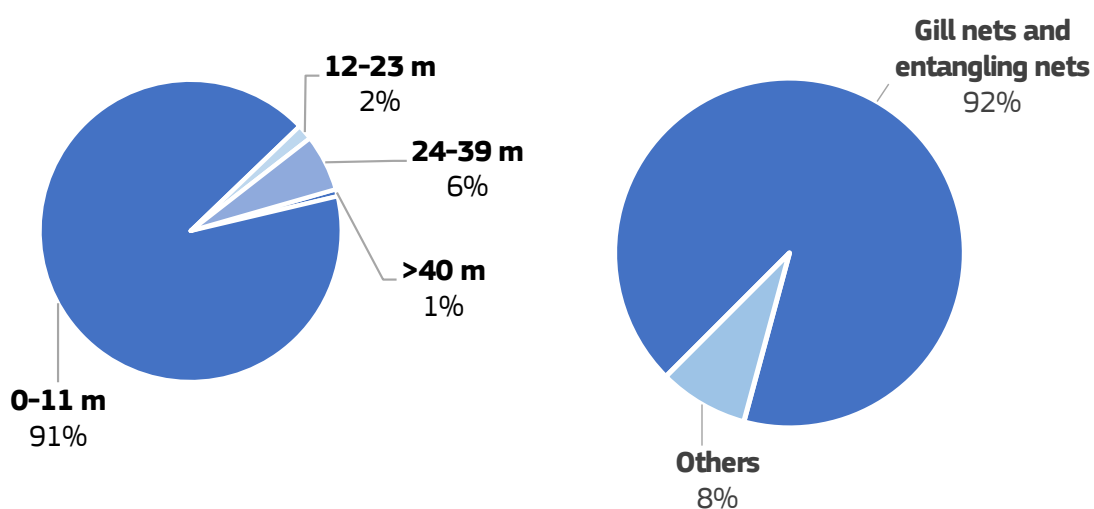
Fleet: 2019, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2018, source: JRC

Vessels (2019)	Capacity (2019)	Power (2019)	
Number: 663	GT: 16.064	KW: 32.771	
TOTAL FTE: 288 (2018, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	12-23 m	24-39 m	>40 m
Jobs (FTE): 41%	Jobs (FTE): 15%	Jobs (FTE): 44%	Jobs (FTE): 0%

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

The Latvian fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)





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LANDINGS

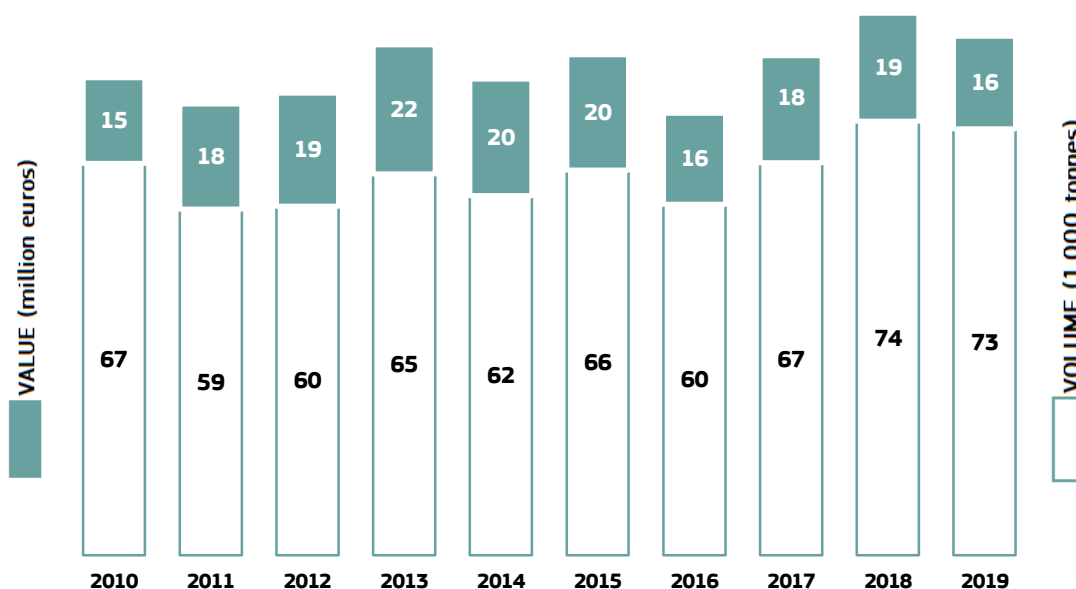
Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data.

Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given 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, Norway and the UK.

In 2019, landings in Latvia only include fresh products destined for human consumption.

There are 13 fishing ports registered in the country (source: EU Master Data Register, 25 November 2021).

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



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



Species	Value (million euros)	% of total
SPRAT (= BRISLING)	9,5	54%
HERRING	6,8	39%
SMELT	0,5	3%
OTHER FRESHWATER FISH	0,2	1%
EUROPEAN FLOUNDER	0,1	1%
OTHERS	0,5	2%



Species	Volume (1,000 tonnes)	% of total
SPRAT (= BRISLING)	40	54%
HERRING	28	39%
SMELT	3,1	4%
EUROPEAN FLOUNDER	0,8	1%
OTHER FRESHWATER FISH	0,8	1%
OTHERS	0,7	1%



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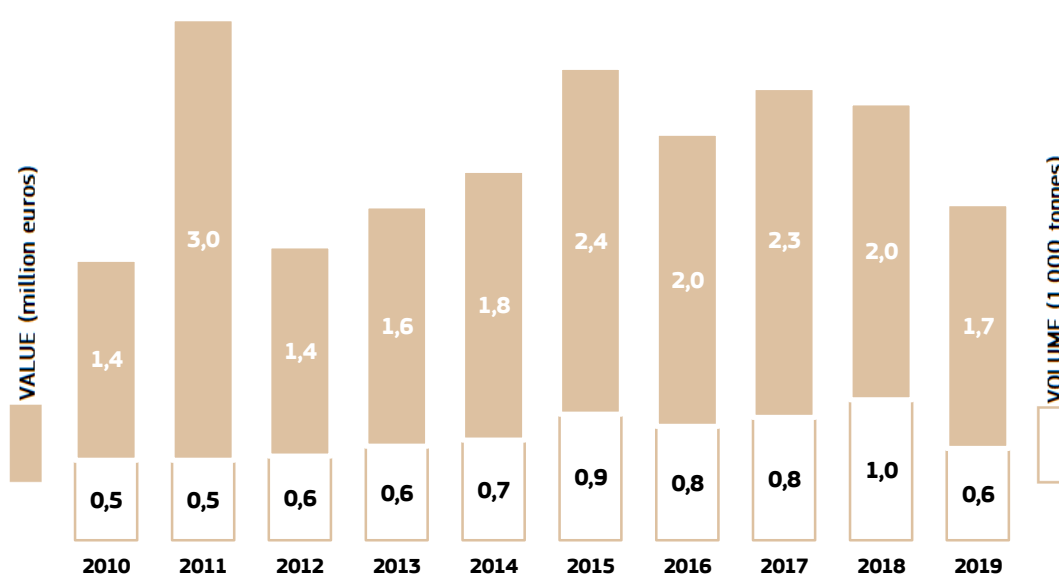
AQUACULTURE

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.

Aquaculture activity in Latvia is limited to freshwater farming. According Eurostat in 2019, the main production methods was in ponds reaching 85% and the rest of production using other methods for which no detail is available.

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
CARP	1,2	66%	0,5	82%
OTHER FRESHWATER FISH	0,4	21%	0,1	10%
OTHERS	0,2	13%	0,1	8%

PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

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

In Latvia, **3 producer organisations (POs)** are formally recognized, all operating in the fishery sector. 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.

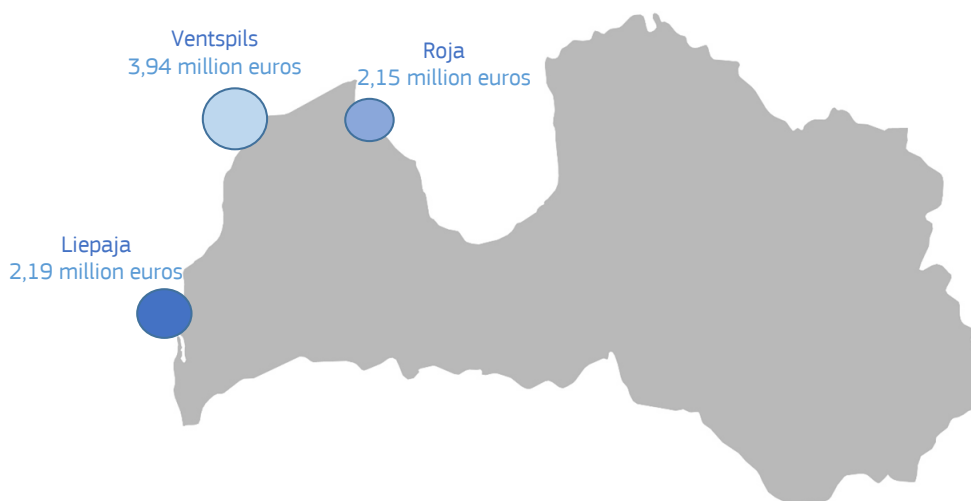


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FIRST SALES 2021, source: EUMOFA

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.

There are no auction markets in Latvia. In 2021, total first sales in Latvian places of sale amounted to 46.642 tonnes and 9,96 million euros. The top-3 places of sale covered 80% and 82% 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)
Ventspils	16.696	3,94	Sprat (=brisling), herring, European flounder
Liepaja	7.818	2,19	Sprat (=brisling), herring, European flounder
Roja	12.738	2,15	Herring, sprat (=brisling), smelt

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 2.888 persons were employed in the Latvian fish processing industry in 2019. The sector recorded a value added of 44,4 million euros, covering 11% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2020, the main products sold were “Prepared or preserved sardines, sardinella, brisling and sprats, whole or in pieces (excl. minced products and prepared meals and dishes)” and “Flours, meals and pellets of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, unfit for human consumption” (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

106 companies

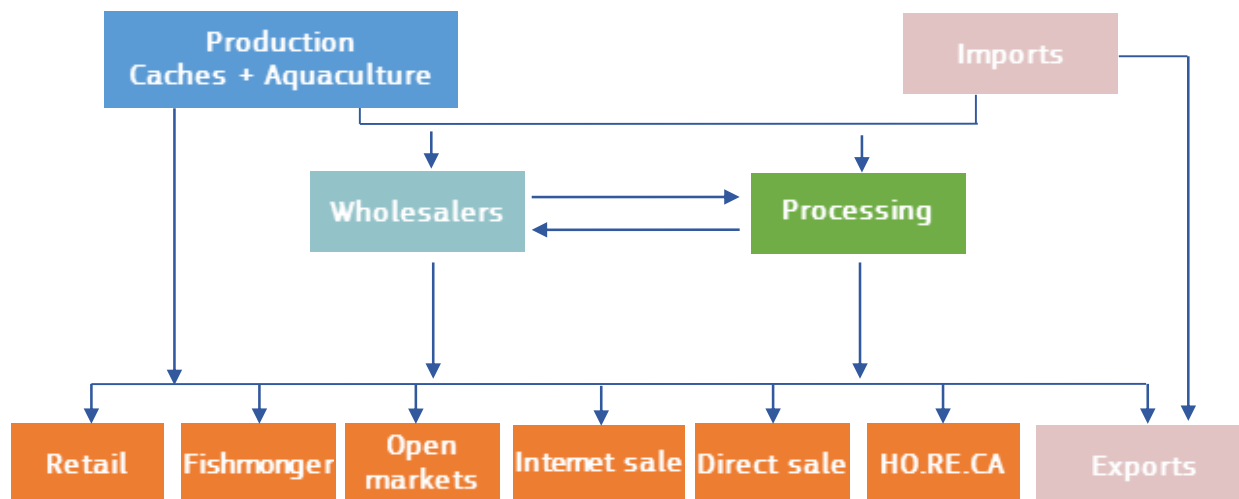
Sales: 209,4 million euros

(2019, source: Eurostat - SBS)

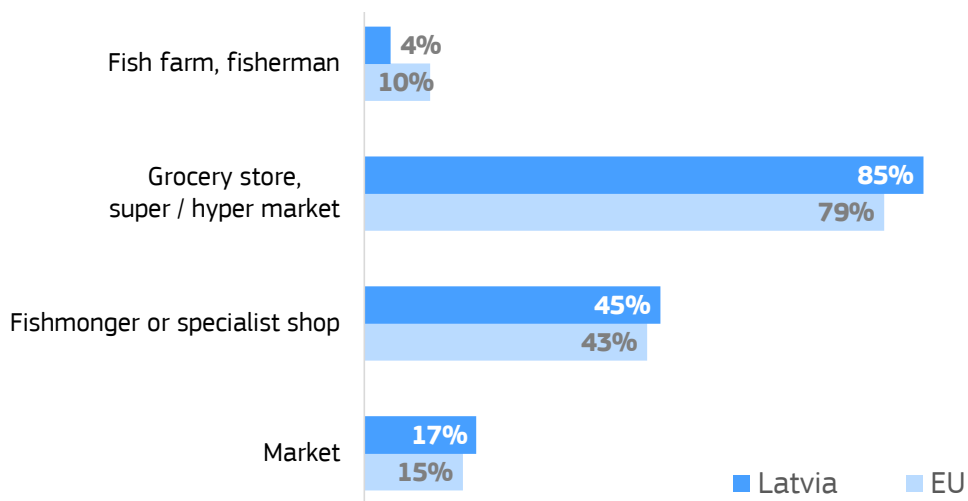


DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Latvia (source: Eurofish):



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





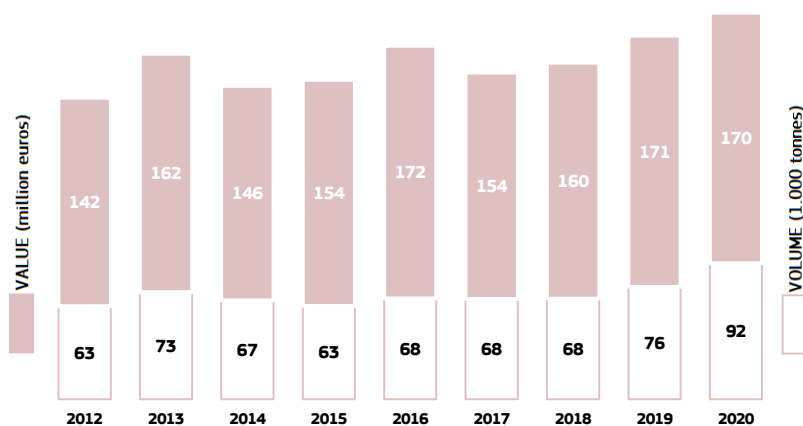
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IMPORT – EXPORT

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

IMPORT

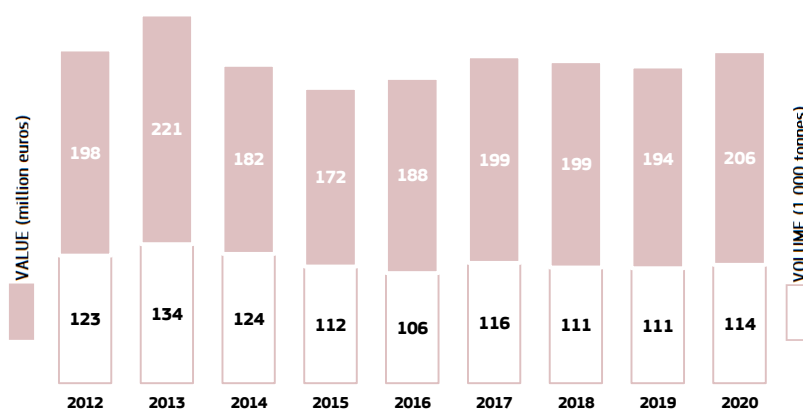
Main commercial species imported and % of total imports 2020, million euros (nominal value)



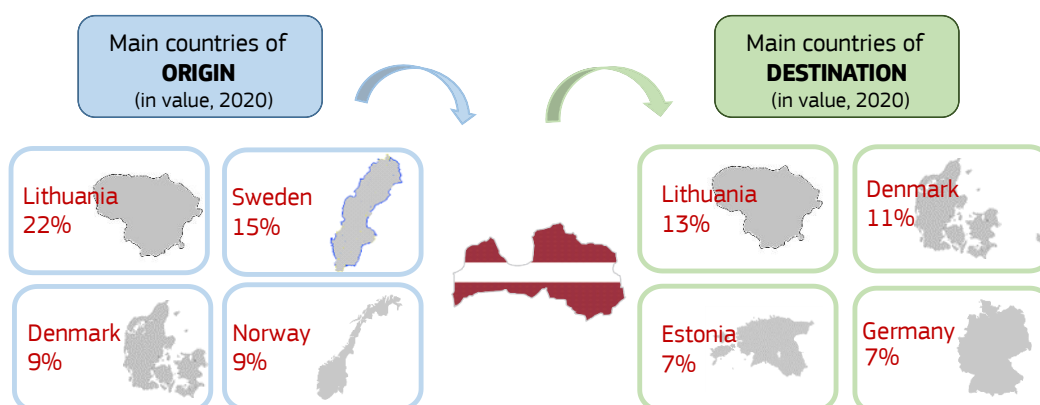
SALMON	36	23%
COD	19	12%
MACKEREL	18	11%
HERRING	8	5%
OTHER NON FOOD USE	7	4%
OTHERS	70	45%

EXPORT

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



MACKEREL	36	16%
MISCELLANEOUS SMALL PELAGICS	33	15%
SALMON	32	14%
COD	25	11%
HERRING	19	8%
OTHERS	82	36%





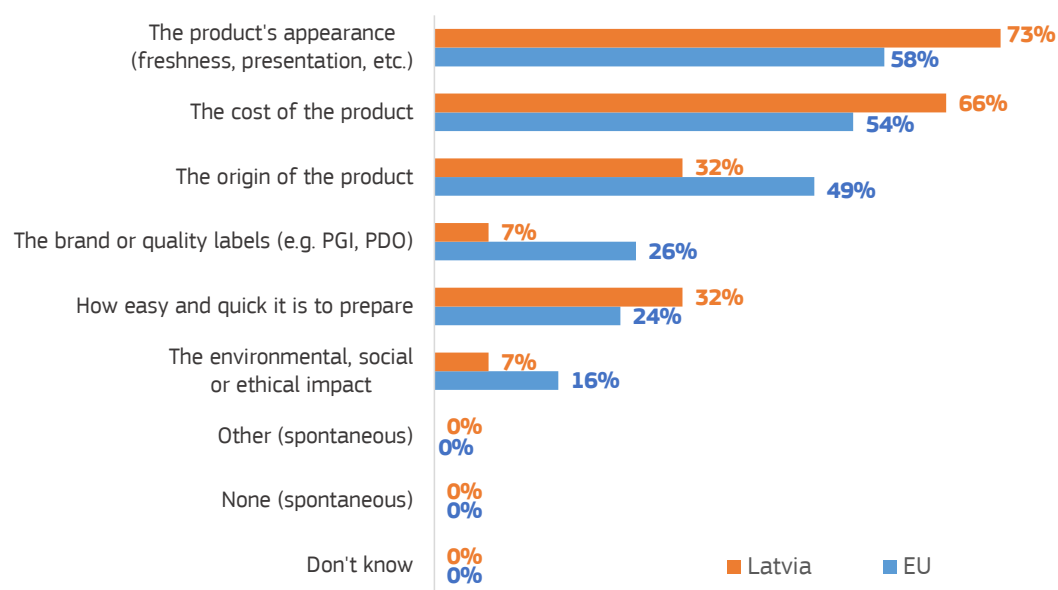
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CONSUMPTION

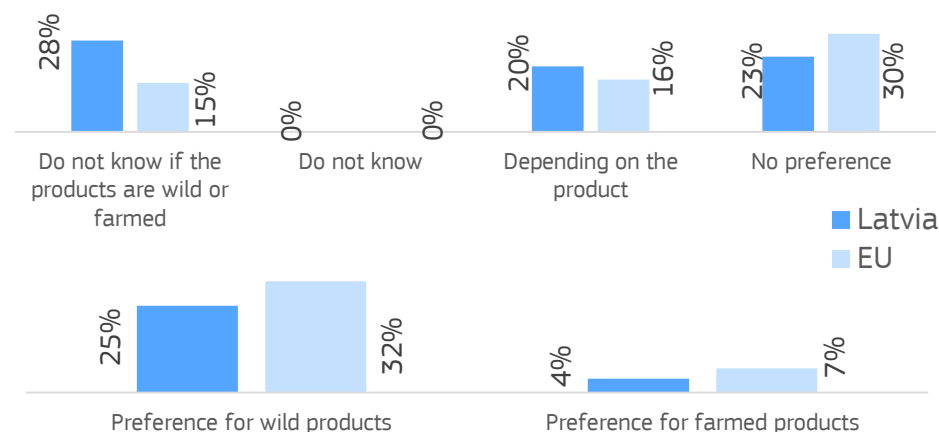
In 2019, apparent consumption was estimated at 10,46 kg per capita, a 54% increase compared with 2018. The most consumed species were sprat and herring (source: EUMOFA). Regular consumers, namely those who eat fishery and aquaculture products at least once a month, mainly belong to age groups 40-54 and over 55. Young people (15-24) are less inclined to consume fish in Latvia, as well as at EU-28 level. In this category, regular consumers cover 64% of the total, which is slightly lower than at EU level (67%, UK included). Latvians consume especially fresh and smoked products; loose fish (66%) is slightly less frequently consumed than at EU level (68%, UK included) (source: EUMOFA, "EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products", 2017).

10,46 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 the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries Department) on a weekly and monthly basis.

Weekly data are monitored for a selection of 6 main commercial species and 3 places of sale (click [here](#) for the full list).

Monthly data cover all species sold in the Latvian places of sale.

Both weekly and monthly data 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

Retail prices of a selection of 7 main commercial species are collected on a monthly basis from the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries Department). Click [here](#) for the full list.

Average weekly prices are accessible through simple and advanced tables, as well as through the bulk download facility.