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GERMANY IN THE WORLD AND IN THE EU

2023, sources: Eurostat and FAO

In 2023, Germany was the EU's 6th largest producer of fishery products and the 7th largest for aquaculture products.

(1.000 tonnes)	World	EU-27	Germany	% world	% EU-27
Catches	91.681	3.555	182	0,20%	5%
Aquaculture	136.140	1.043	35	0,03%	3%
Total	**227.821**	**4.598**	**217**	**0,10%**	**5%**

FISHING FLEET

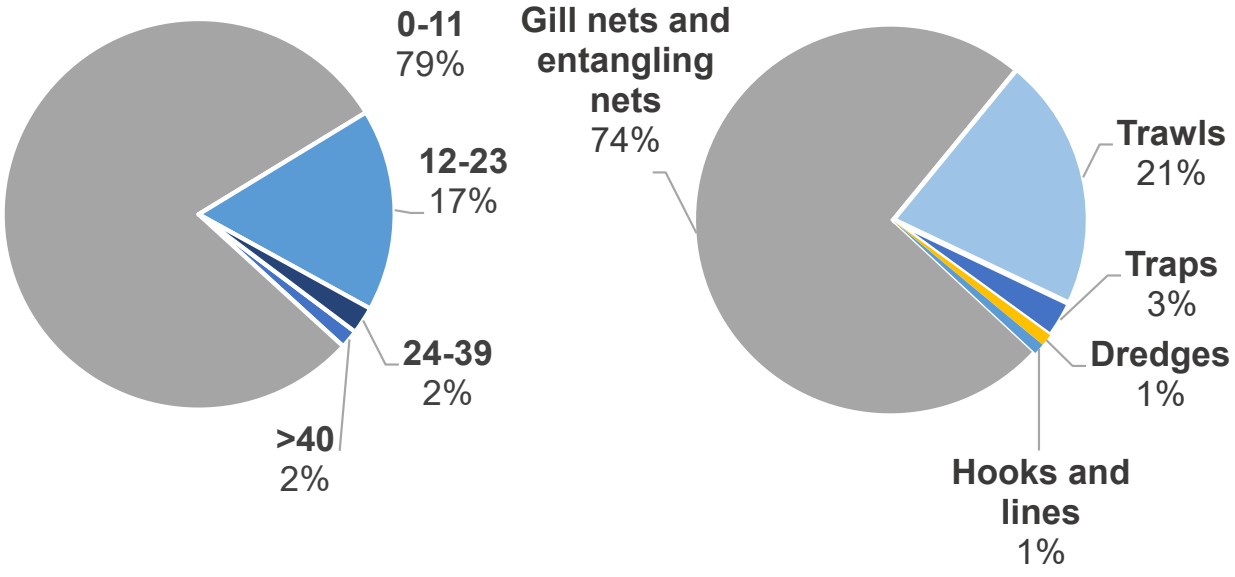
Fleet: 2023, source: EU fishing fleet register - Eurostat Employment: 2024, source: JRC

Vessels (2024)	Capacity (2024)	Power (2024)	
Number:1.110	GT: 59.215	KW: 128.410	
TOTAL FTE: 702 (2023, source: JRC)			
0-11 m	**12-23 m**	**24-39 m**	**>40 m**
Jobs (FTE): 34%	Jobs (FTE): 21%	Jobs (FTE): 9%	Jobs (FTE): 36%

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

The German fishing fleet by length and gear

(% of total number of vessels)



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LANDINGS

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat data

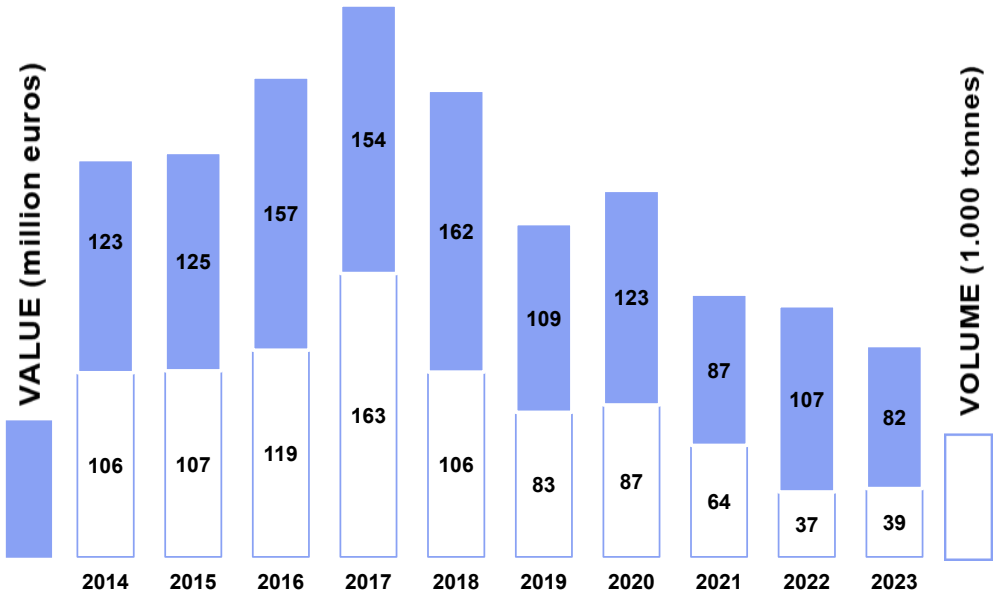
Landings comprise the initial unloading of any fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel in a given Member State. They also include aquatic plants and species not destined for human consumption. Landings are recorded in net weight and value, and cover landings made by vessels from Member States,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

In 2023, landings in Germany consisted of 19% fresh whole/gutted products and 56% frozen products, of which 70% were whole/gutted, 17% fillets and 13% other cuts. Cooked products accounted for 23% of the total, while no detail is available on the preservation state of the remaining 2%.

Moreover, during 2023, 49% of the products were destined for human consumption, 2% for industrial use, while 49% were destined for unknown uses.

There are 203 fishing ports registered in the country (source: EU Master Data Register, 03 December 2025).

Total landings. Values are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2020)



Main commercial species landed and % of total

2023, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes

	€		⚖		
SHRIMP *CRANGON* SPP.	38	46%	14	34%	BLUE WHITING
COD	13	16%	9	16%	SHRIMP *CRANGON* SPP.
GREENLAND HALIBUT	10	12%	4	15%	MACKEREL
BLUE WHITING	5	7%	3	6%	GREENLAND HALIBUT
MACKEREL	5	6%	2	6%	HERRING
OTHERS	11	13%	10	22%	OTHERS

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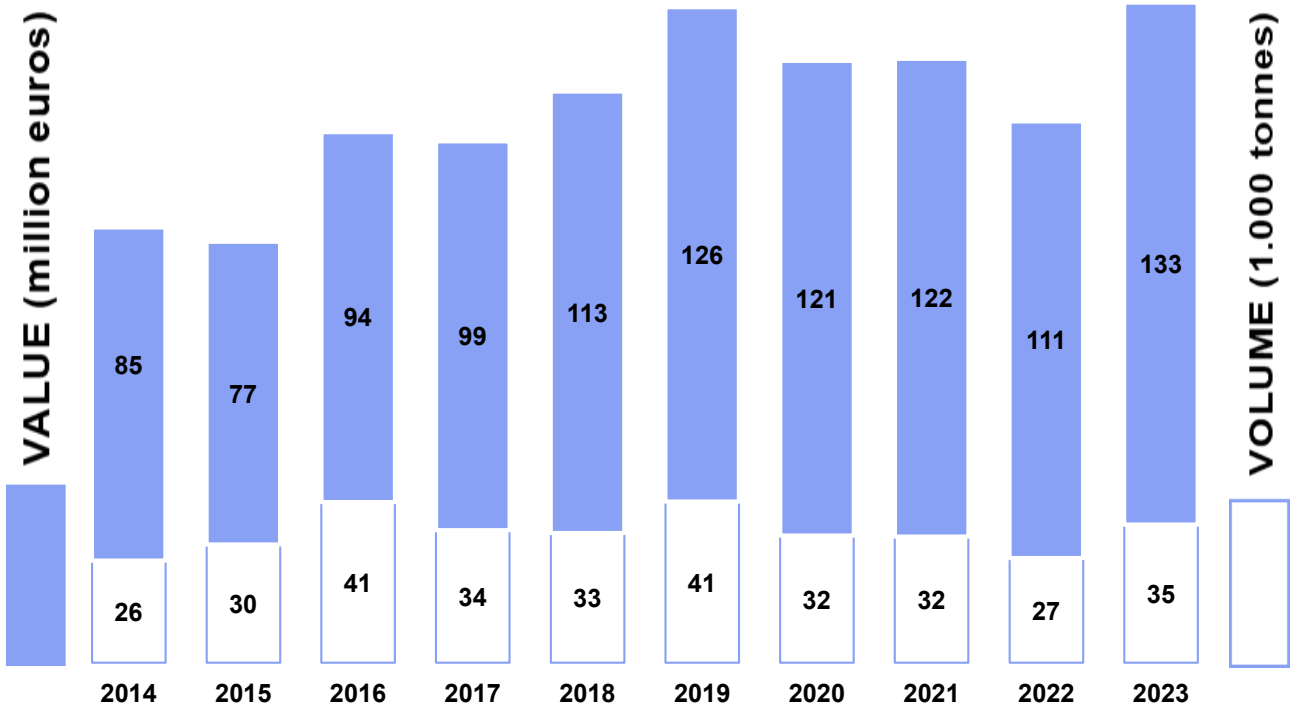
AQUACULTURE

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat, FAO and DESTATIS 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 2023, 30% of German production occurred in on bottom sea and brackish water, while the remaining methods are not specified.

Total production. Values are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2020)



Main commercial species farmed and % of total

2023, million euros (nominal value) and 1.000 tonnes

TROUT	53	40%	18	51%	MUSSEL *MYTILUS* SPP.
MUSSEL *MYTILUS* SPP.	30	22%	9	24%	TROUT
EEL	16	12%	4	12%	CARP
CARP	14	11%	1	3%	EEL
FRESHWATER CATFISH	3	2%	1	1%	FRESHWATER CATFISH
OTHERS	17	13%	3	8%	OTHERS

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PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS

Source: European Commission, List of the recognised producer organisations in the fishery and aquaculture sector

In Germany, **12 producer organisations (POs)** and **1 association 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.

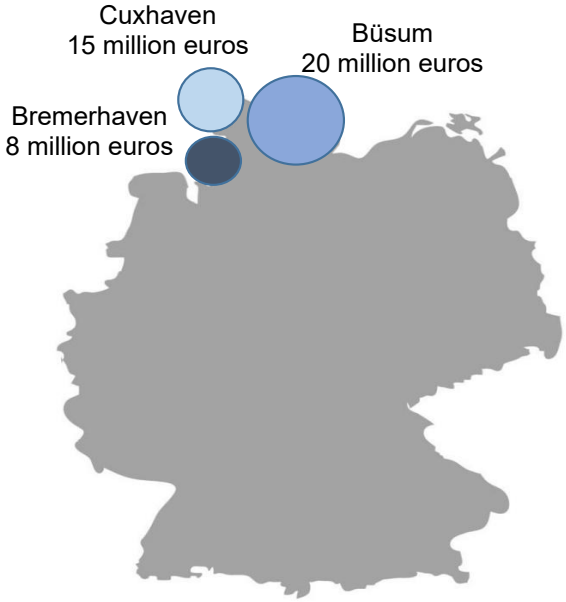
All 12 POs and the association of POs operate in the fishery sector; 1 of the 12 POs is also involved in the aquaculture sector.

FIRST SALES

2025, 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 2025, total first sales in German places of sale amounted to 14.585 tonnes and 78 million euros. The top-3 places of sale covered 56% and 56% 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)
Büsum	3.252	20	Shrimp *Crangon* spp., turbot, brill
Cuxhaven	2.223	15	Shrimp *Crangon* spp., cod, Greenland halibut
Bremerhaven	2.691	8	Greenland halibut, mackerel, cod

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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 Germany, auctions have lost their importance, and fishery and aquaculture products are mostly sold directly to the wholesale trade, filleting wholesalers (in fishing harbours) and processors, or processed and sold by fishermen's cooperative trade and filleting units.

In 2016, 445 fish wholesalers were active, with a turnover of 5 billion euros (source: Fischinformationszentrum).

PROCESSING

According to Eurostat-SBS, 6.714 persons were employed in the German fish processing industry in 2023. The sector recorded a value added of 866 million euros, covering only 2% of the value added of total manufacture of food products.

In 2024, the main products sold were "Fish fillets in batter or breadcrumbs including fish fingers (excluding prepared meals and dishes)" and "Prepared or preserved fish (excluding whole or in pieces and prepared meals and dishes)" (source: Eurostat-PRODCOM).

190 companies
Net turnover: 3,5 billion euros
(2024, source: Eurostat - SBS)

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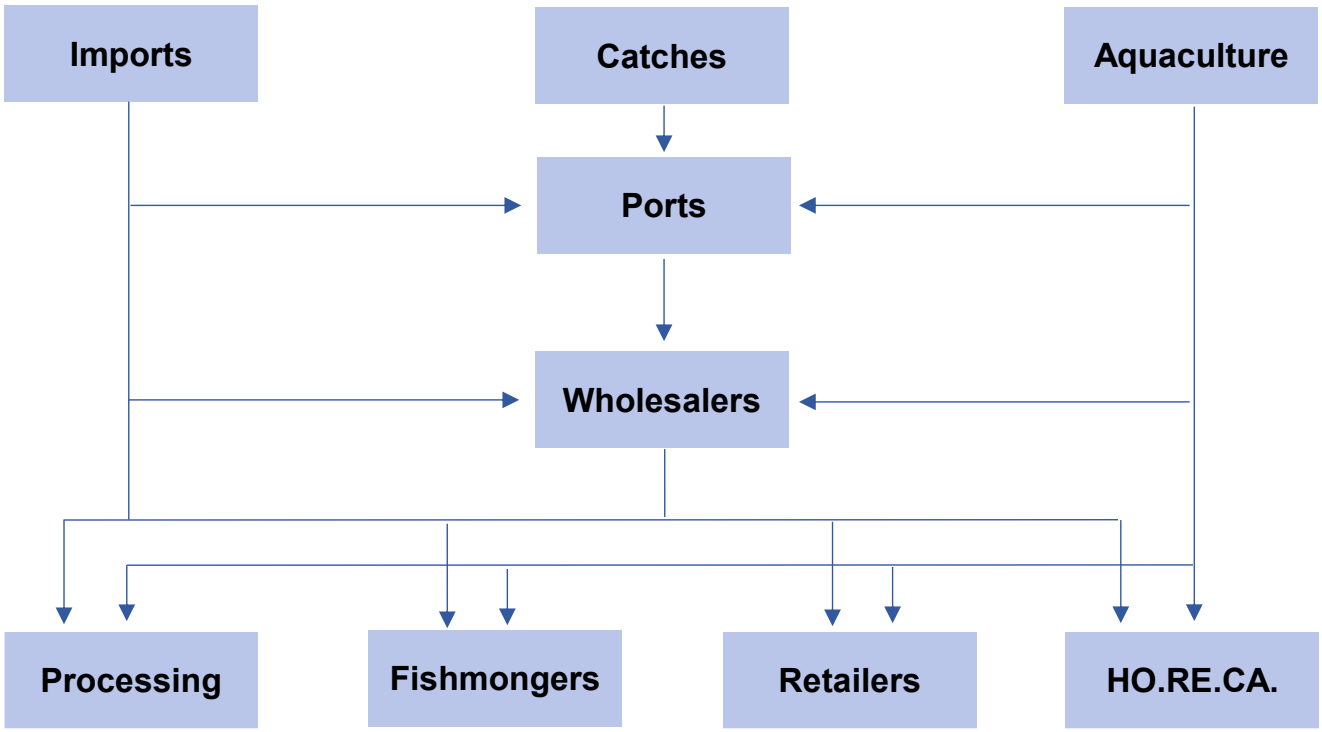
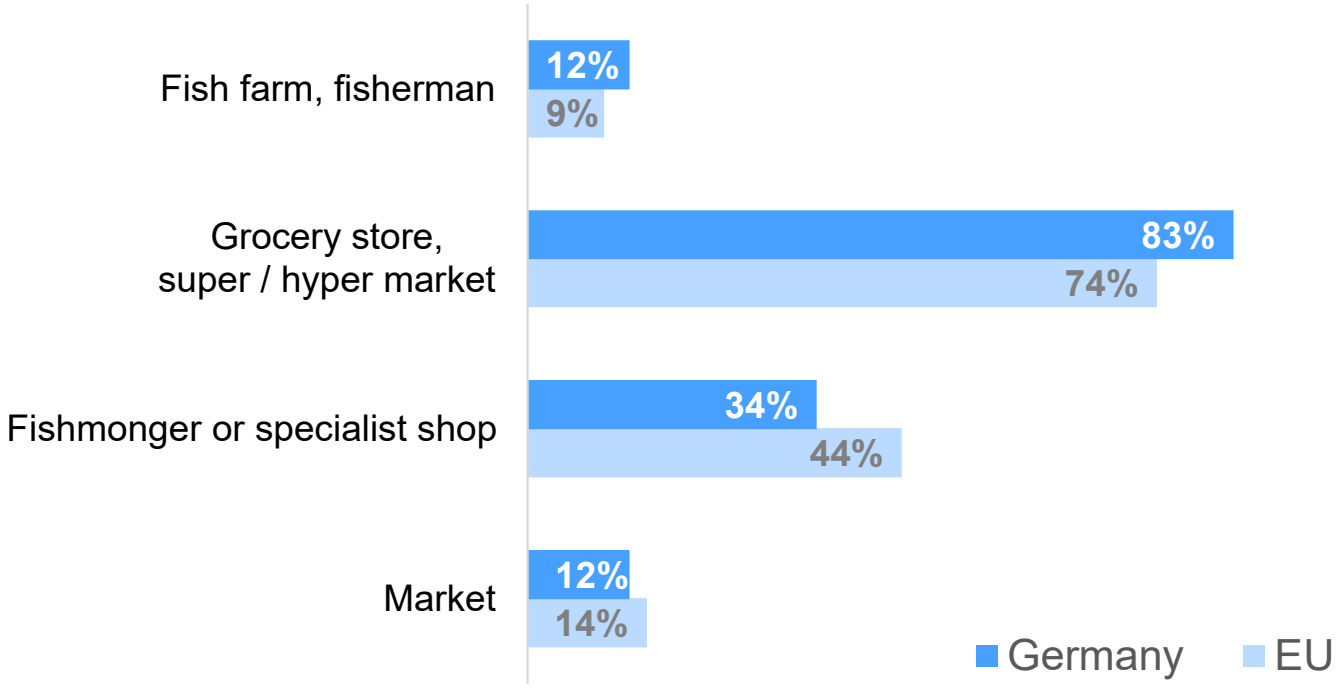
DISTRIBUTION

The supply chain of fisheries and aquaculture products in Germany:



Consumer preferences on purchasing channels (source: Eurobarometer, 2024):



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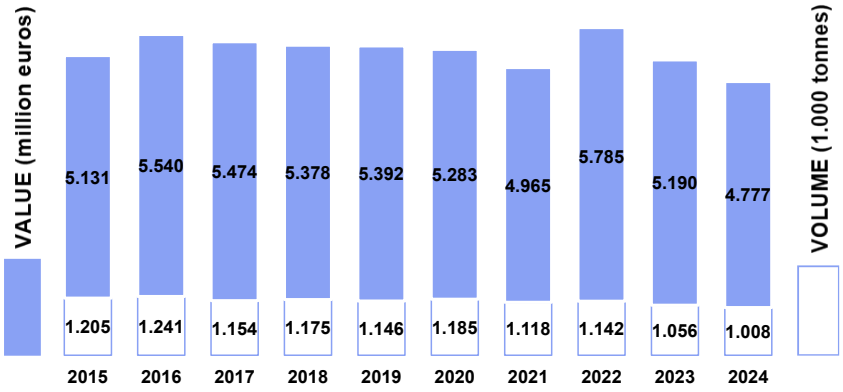
IMPORT – EXPORT

Source: EUMOFA, based on Eurostat-COMEXT data

Values in the bar charts are deflated by using the GDP deflator (base=2020)

IMPORT

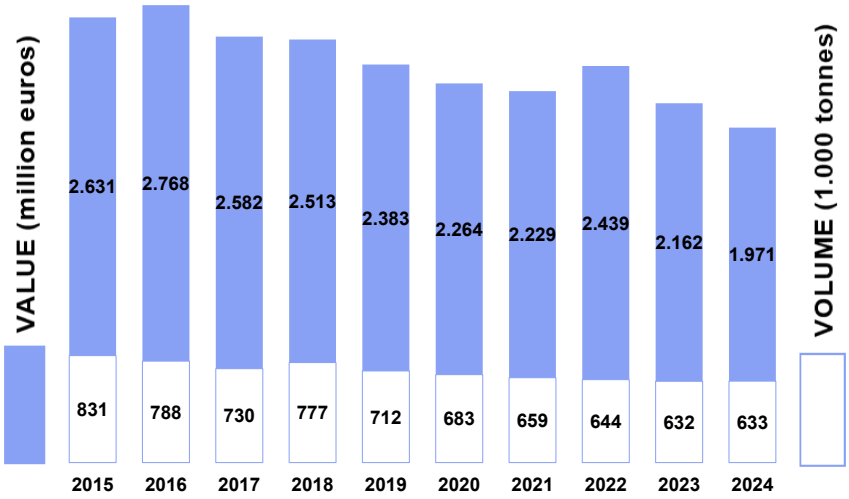


Main commercial species imported and % of total imports

2024, million euros (nominal value)

SALMON	1876	33%
SKIPJACK TUNA	406	7%
MISCELLANEOUS SHRIMPS	364	6%
TROUT	335	6%
ALASKA POLLOCK	324	6%
OTHERS	2397	42%

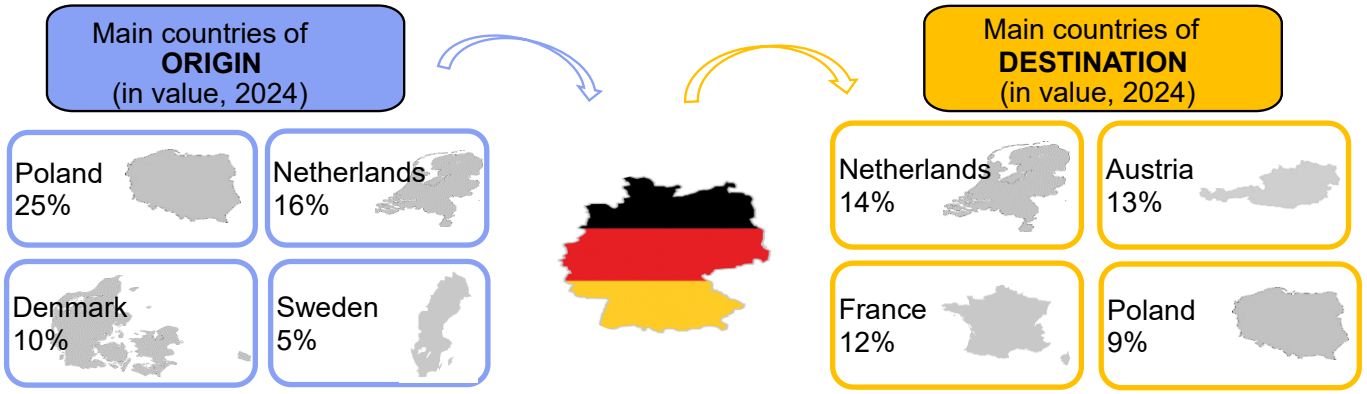
EXPORT



Main commercial species exported and % of total exports

2024, million euros (nominal value)

SALMON	459	20%
COD	163	7%
ALASKA POLLOCK	131	6%
FISHMEAL	1'5	4%
HERRING	78	3%
OTHERS	1417	60%



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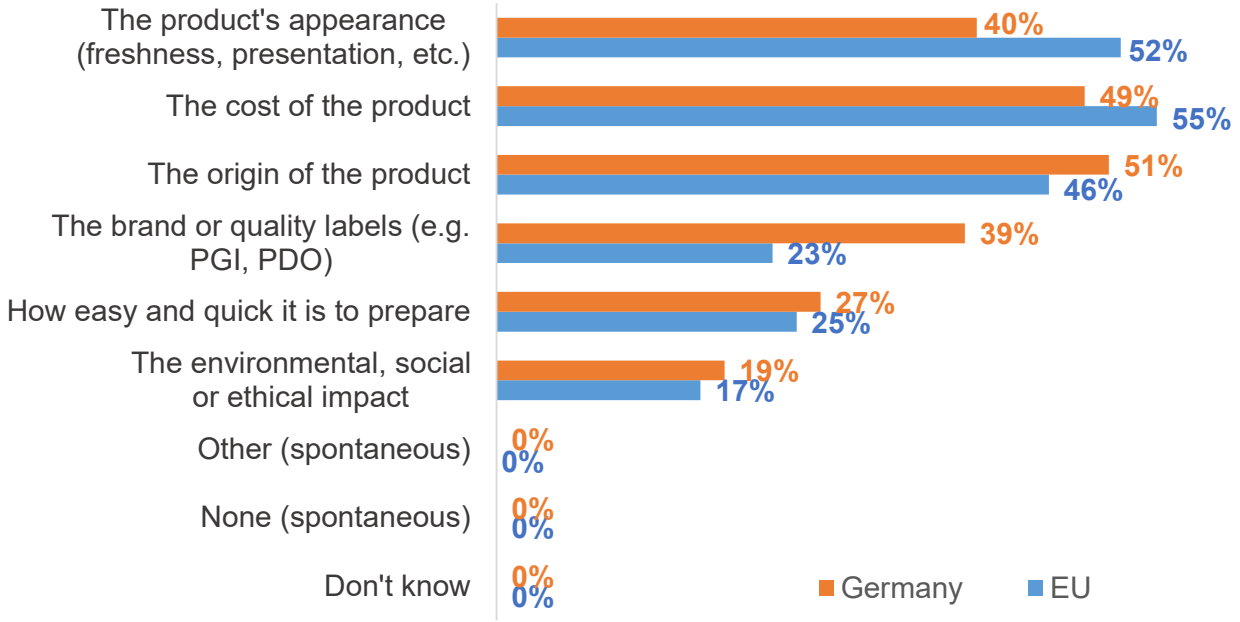
CONSUMPTION

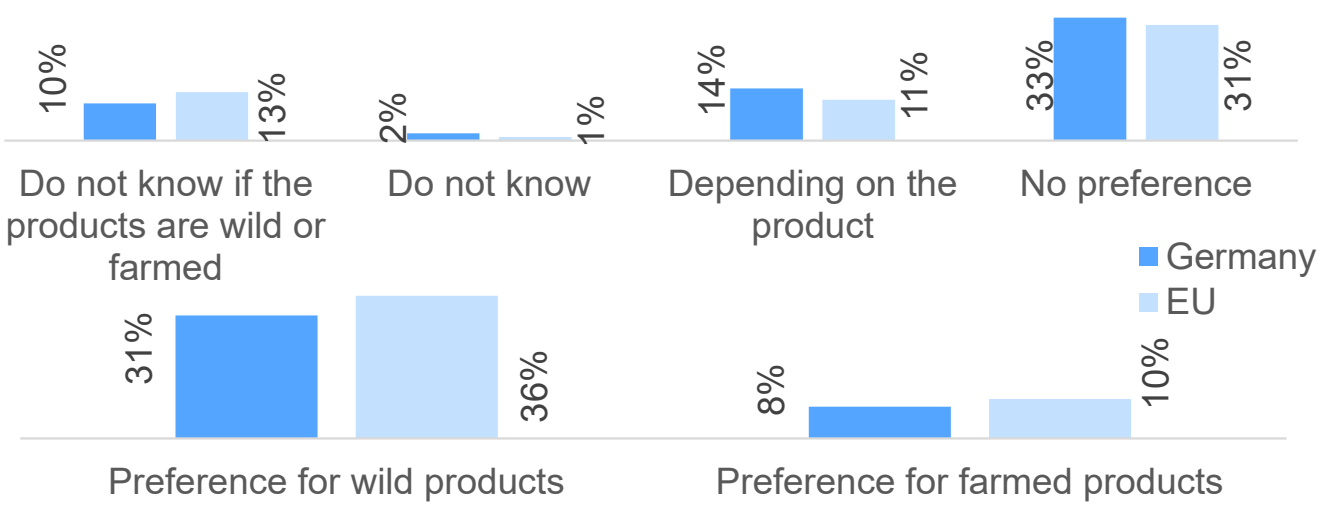
In 2023, apparent consumption was estimated at 12,08 kg per capita, a 3% decrease compared with 2022. The most consumed species were Alaska pollock, salmon, skipjack tuna and herring (source: EUMOFA).

12,08 kg
per capita in live weight equivalent
(2023, source: EUMOFA)

Purchasing factors (source: Eurobarometer, 2024)



Preferences regarding wild or farmed product (source: Eurobarometer, 2024)



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THE COUNTRY IN EUMOFA

LANDINGS

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery. They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through dashboards, as well as through the bulk download facility.

AQUACULTURE

Volumes and values are collected from Eurostat – Fishery and integrated with FAO and DESTATIS data. They are available on a yearly basis and accessible through dashboards, as well as through the bulk download facility.

FIRST SALES

Volumes and values are collected from the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food of Germany on a monthly and weekly basis. Monthly data cover all species sold in German places of sale. Weekly data are monitored for a selection of 14 main commercial species and 51 places of sale. Data are accessible through dashboards, as well as through the bulk download facility. Data at disaggregated level are also accessible, through dashboards and the bulk download facility.

WHOLESALE

No data available

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 dashboards, as well as through the bulk download facility.

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 dashboards, 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 10 main commercial species + the item “Others”, aggregating all other species. Data are available on a monthly and yearly basis and accessible through dashboards and the bulk download facility. Retail prices from online shops are also available, as collected via price-scraper.