

# Canada's Fisheries

# Fast Facts 2021



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

seas  
statistical and economic  
analysis series

Canada 

# National Overview

## Principal statistics 2020

### Gross Value of Outputs ( CAD \$'000)

Commercial sea and freshwater fisheries landings	2,536,120
Aquaculture production <sup>1</sup>	1,043,123
Seafood product preparation & packaging revenues <sup>2</sup>	5,936,747

### Employment (number of persons)

Commercial fish harvesters and crew <sup>3</sup>	44,450
Aquaculture	3,934
Seafood product preparation & packaging	19,716

### Commercial seafisheries

Total volume of landings (metric tonnes)	719,249
Total value of landings (CAD \$'000)	2,478,539

### Commercial freshwater fisheries

Total volume of landings (metric tonnes)	22,021
Total value of landings (CAD \$'000)	57,581

### International trade statistics (\$'000)<sup>4</sup>

Total value of fish and seafood exports (2020)	6,438,802
Total value of fish and seafood imports (2020)	3,973,609
Trade balance	2,465,193

1. Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0107-01 Aquaculture, production and value.

2. Statistics Canada. Table 16-10-0117-01 Principal statistics for manufacturing industries, by North American Industry Classification System NAICS (x 1,000)

3. Employment is estimated based on number of registered fishers and number of personal commercial licenses granted.

4. Department of Fisheries and Oceans (2021), EXIM [database], Ottawa.

# Regional Overview<sup>1</sup>

## Landings and production statistics, 2020

<b>Commerical sea and freshwater fisheries</b>	<i>Pacific</i>	<i>Inland</i>	<i>Atlantic</i>	<i>Canada</i>
Number of registered fishing vessels <sup>2</sup>	2,292	150	14,599	17,041
Total volume of landings (metric tonnes)	171,128	22,021	526,100	719,249
Total value of landings (CAD \$'000)	298,125	57,581	2,180,414	2,536,120

## Aquaculture

Number of aquaculture establishments <sup>3</sup>	213	135	533	881
Total volume of production (metric tonnes) <sup>4</sup>	100,279	7,434	63,092	170,805
Total value of production (CAD \$'000) <sup>4</sup>	665,748	42,448	334,927	1,043,123

## Recreational fisheries statistics, 2015

	<i>Pacific</i>	<i>Inland</i>	<i>Atlantic</i>	<i>Canada</i>
Number of active adult anglers	555,908	1,800,460	884,044	3,240,413
Fishing effort ('000 days fished)	6,270	27,637	13,531	47,438
Harvest ('000 fish kept)	10,443	20,858	27,345	58,647
Direct expenditures (CAD \$'000)	600,521	1,456,907	487,538	2,544,967
Direct investments (CAD \$'000)	440,024	1,566,397	582,522	2,588,943

1. Atlantic: Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec; Inland: Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nunavut; Pacific: British Columbia and Yukon

2. Inland vessel count is for Ontario Great Lakes only.

3. Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Aquaculture Industry, unpublished data.

4. Inland totals include Ontario, Territories, and suppressed values for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Quebec

*Totals may not add up due to rounding*

# Species Highlights

## Commercial seafisheries landings by species groups and region, 2020

	<i>Atlantic</i>	<i>Pacific</i>	<i>Canada</i>
<b>Total volume of landings (metric tonnes)</b>	<b>548,121</b>	<b>171,127</b>	<b>719,248</b>
Groundfish	84,446	134,586	219,032
Pelagics	121,245	22,119	143,364
Shellfish	330,130	14,422	344,552
Other	12,300	0	12,300
	<i>Atlantic</i>	<i>Pacific</i>	<i>Canada</i>
<b>Total value of landings (\$'000)</b>	<b>2,180,414</b>	<b>298,125</b>	<b>2,478,539</b>
Groundfish	210,371	99,884	310,255
Pelagics	105,663	40,415	146,078
Shellfish	1,856,721	157,826	2,014,547
Other	7,659	0	7,659

*Totals may not add up due to rounding*

# Species Highlights

## Aquaculture production, 2020

	<i>Volume (metric tonnes)</i>	<i>Value (\$'000)</i>	<i>Main producing province</i>
Salmon	120,427	822,133	British Columbia
Trout	10,511	60,225	Ontario
Steelhead	x	x	n/a
Other finfish	1,409	16,501	British Columbia
Clams	2,076	7,680	British Columbia
Oysters	10,643	41,737	British Columbia
Mussels	16,985	30,700	Prince Edward Island
Scallops	123	1,177	British Columbia
Other shellfish	204	7,155	Nova Scotia
<b>Total aquaculture</b>	<b>170,805</b>	<b>1,043,123</b>	

Aquaculture production statistics are sourced from Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0107-01 Aquaculture, production and value

*Totals may not add up due to rounding*

# International Trade Statistics<sup>1</sup>

## International trade in fish and seafood products, 2020 and 2021

	Volume (metric tonnes)		Value (\$'000)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
<b>Top product exports, by species</b>				
Lobster	83,103	103,989	2,090,566	3,257,353
Snow/Queen crab	42,383	48,049	957,459	1,603,111
Atlantic salmon	80,767	90,151	808,090	928,550
Crab, other	19,460	23,339	365,577	572,234
Shrimp	51,624	52,184	373,013	387,534
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>565,959</b>	<b>619,381</b>	<b>6,438,802</b>	<b>8,785,453</b>
	Volume (metric tonnes)		Value (\$'000)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
<b>Top product imports, by species</b>				
Salmon, all species	62,054	75,304	770,953	924,810
Shrimp	54,873	60,077	664,569	719,662
Lobster	18,996	25,370	288,495	550,239
Crab, all species	9,520	10,643	162,509	205,643
Skipjack/Bonito tuna	37,324	31,688	231,363	202,223
<b>Total imports</b>	<b>518,476</b>	<b>572,764</b>	<b>3,973,609</b>	<b>4,609,904</b>

1. Source: Department of Fisheries and Oceans (2021), EXIM [database], Ottawa.

Prepared by Statistical Services, Economic Analysis and Statistics, February, 2022

Data revisions and/or updates are available on Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Statistical Services website:  
[www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/stats-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/stats-eng.htm).

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