

Sector Snapshot 2016: B.C. Seafood

Sector Defined: B.C.'s seafood sector comprises primary production from commercial fishing and aquaculture. Seafood does not include post-vessel or post-farm processing.

- B.C. is one of the largest producers of farmed Atlantic salmon in the world.
- B.C. leads the nation in sales of farmed and wild salmon, halibut, rockfish, farmed oysters, tuna, hake and sea urchins.

SEAFOOD KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Sales: \$1.2 billion**
 - ❖ **Harvest: 291,600 tonnes**
 - ❖ **GDP: \$415 million**
 - ❖ **Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.2%**
 - ❖ **Exports: \$1.3 billion**
- Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were \$1.17 billion in landed and farm-gate value from about 100 species – an increase of 31.2 per cent above 2015.
 - Close to 2,400 vessels harvested 22.2 per cent more wild fish, shellfish and marine plants in 2016 than in 2015.
 - The 188,000-tonne commercial fishery harvest generated a total landed value of \$392.8 million – up 2.3 per cent over 2015.
 - In 2016, farmed fish, shellfish and marine plants were produced on 683 aquaculture operations.
 - The total aquaculture harvest of 103,600 tonnes was down 1.5 per cent from the previous year while the farm-gate value rose 52.9 per cent to \$776.8 million.
 - The top 10 seafood commodities in terms of sales were farmed Atlantic salmon, halibut, crabs, wild geoduck clams, wild chum salmon, farmed Pacific salmon, rockfish, wild sablefish, wild chinook salmon and herring.
 - Total estimated GDP for seafood amounted to \$415 million and accounted for 0.2 per cent of B.C.'s total GDP.

SEAFOOD PRODUCTS EXPORT PROFILE

- Seafood products include primary production products and post-vessel and post-farm processed products.
- In 2016, B.C. exported \$1.3 billion in seafood products to 80 markets, an increase of 17 per cent in value from 2015.
- **Top Five Seafood Export Markets:** United States \$799 million (60 per cent), China \$265 million (20 per cent), Japan \$106 million (8 per cent), Ukraine \$31 million (2 per cent), and Hong Kong \$24 million (2 per cent).
- The fastest growing export markets of the top 10 markets were Ukraine (95 per cent), South Korea (61 per cent), Germany (51 per cent) and China (31 per cent).
- **Top Five Seafood Exports:** \$524 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; \$142 million in crabs; \$71 million in hake; \$47 million in shrimp & prawns; and \$45 million in herring.

