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 consistently ranked as the 4th largest farmed Atlantic salmon producer in the world.
- B.C. lead the nation in sales of farmed and wild salmon, halibut, rockfish, hake, tuna and farmed oysters and clams.

SEAFood KEY FACTS

- Sales: $1.2 billion
- Harvest: 279,400 tonnes
- GDP: $338 million
- Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.2%
- International Exports: $1.3 billion
- Seafood Jobs: 4,500

- Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were $1.18 billion in landed and farm-gate value – an increase of 0.3 per cent above 2016.
- Approximately 2,400 vessels harvested 1.9 per cent less wild fish, shellfish and marine plants in 2017 than in 2016.
- The 182,900-tonne commercial fishery harvest generated a total landed value of $410.2 million – up 4.1 per cent over 2016.
- In 2017, there were 690 operations licenced to farm finfish, shellfish and marine plants in B.C. waters.
- The total aquaculture harvest of 96,500 tonnes was down 8.5 per cent from the previous year, while the farm-gate value dropped 1.7 per cent to $768.2 million.
- Top 10 seafood commodities in terms of sales were farmed Atlantic salmon, halibut, crabs, wild geoducks, farmed Pacific salmon, prawns, wild sablefish, herring, rockfish, and chum salmon.
- Total estimated GDP for seafood was $338 million and accounted for 0.2 per cent of B.C.’s total GDP.

SEAFood International Exports

- Seafood products include primary production products and post-vessel and post-farm processed products.
- In 2017, B.C. exported $1.3 billion in seafood products to 73 markets, a decrease of 3 per cent in value from 2016.
- Top Five Seafood Export Markets: United States $777 million (60 per cent); China $257 million (20 per cent); Japan $111 million (nine per cent); Hong Kong $33 million (three per cent); and Ukraine $19 million (two per cent).
- The fastest growing export markets of the top 10 markets were Macao (130 per cent), Hong Kong (41 per cent) and Japan (4 per cent).
- Top Five Seafood Exports: $512 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; $131 million in crabs; $72 million in hake; $57 million in geoduck clams; and $55 million in herring.