

Sector Snapshot: B.C. Seafood – 2015

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

- Over the last decade, B.C. has been one of the very largest producers of cultured Atlantic salmon in the world.
- In 2015, B.C. led the nation in sales of farmed salmon, halibut, wild salmon, wild clams, rockfish, farmed oysters, tuna, hake, farmed clams, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, skate, dogfish, and squid.

SEAFOOD KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Sales: \$867.4 million (Wild \$370.2M/Farmed \$497.2M)**
- ❖ **Harvest: 255,000 tonnes (Wild 159,000t/Farmed 96,000t)**
- ❖ **GDP: \$383 million**
- ❖ **Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.2%**
- ❖ **Exports: \$1.1 billion**

- Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were \$867.4 million in landed and farm-gate value from about 100 species, up by 4.7 per cent from 2014.
- Commercial fishers harvested 159,000 tonnes of wild fish, shellfish and marine plants in 2015, down 4.8 per cent from 2014. The landed value of commercial fisheries decreased by 10.9 per cent to \$370.2 million in 2015 compared to 2014.
- In 2015, aquaculture operations produced 71,400 tonnes of cultured fish, shellfish and marine plants.
- In 2015, cultured seafood production increased 31 per cent over 2014 to 96,000 tonnes, while landed values increased by 20.4 per cent to \$497.2 million.
- The top 10 commodities in terms of sales in B.C. in 2015 were cultured Atlantic salmon, crabs, halibut, prawns, geoduck, cultured Pacific salmon, sablefish, rockfish, wild chum salmon, and herring.
- Total estimated GDP for seafood amounted to \$383 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-farm and post-vessel processed products.
- In 2015, B.C. exported \$1.1 billion in seafood products to 79 markets, an increase of 15 per cent in value from 2014.
- Top Five Export Markets: the United States (61 per cent), China (18 per cent), Japan (8 per cent), Hong Kong (2 per cent), and Vietnam (1 per cent).
- The fastest growing markets of the top 10 export markets in 2015 were the Ukraine (56 per cent), South Korea (52 per cent) and Taiwan (39 per cent).
- Top Five Exports: \$411 million in cultured Atlantic salmon; \$116 million in crabs; \$50 million in shrimp & prawns; \$44 million in hake; and \$44 million in geoduck clams.

