

# Sector Snapshot 2018: B.C. Seafood

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

- B.C. is consistently ranked as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest farmed Atlantic salmon producer in the world.
- B.C. led the nation in sales of farmed salmon, wild salmon, crabs, wild clams (including geoducks), halibut, wild sablefish, hake, rockfish, tuna, wild sea cucumbers, sea urchins, and skates.

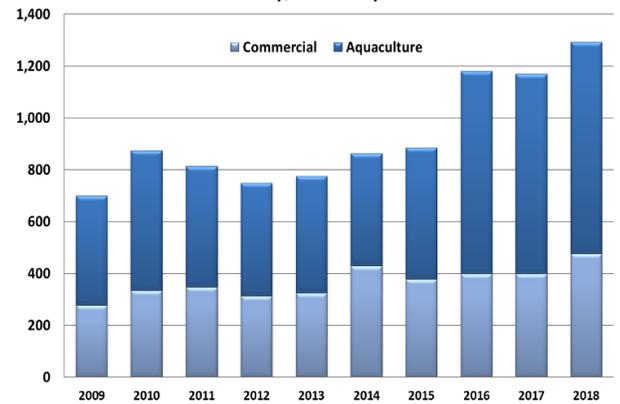
## SEAFOOD KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Sales: \$1.29 billion**
  - ❖ **Harvest: 294,300 tonnes**
  - ❖ **GDP: \$347 million**
  - ❖ **Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.1%**
  - ❖ **International Exports: \$1.4 billion**
  - ❖ **Seafood Jobs: 4,505**
- Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were \$1.29 billion in landed and farm-gate value – an increase of 10.5 percent above 2017.
  - Approximately 2,372 vessels harvested 2.1 percent less wild fish, shellfish and marine plants in 2018 than in 2017.
  - The 196,300-tonne commercial fishery harvest generated a total landed value of \$476.4 million – up 19.7 percent over 2017.
  - The total aquaculture harvest of 98,000 tonnes was up 0.1 percent from the previous year, while the farm-gate value increased 5.8 percent to \$814.6 million.
  - Top 10 seafood commodities in terms of sales were farmed Atlantic salmon, wild salmon, crabs, wild geoducks, halibut, prawns, wild sablefish, hake, rockfish, and herring.
  - Total estimated GDP for seafood was \$347 million and accounted for 0.1 percent of B.C.'s total GDP.

## SEAFOOD INTERNATIONAL EXPORTS

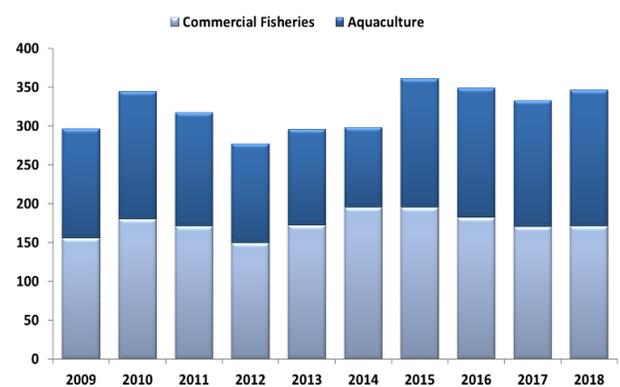
- Exported seafood products include both primary seafood production products and post-vessel and post-farm processed seafood products.
- In 2018, B.C. exported \$1.4 billion in seafood products to 78 markets, an increase of 8 percent in value from 2017.
- **Top Five Seafood Export Markets:** United States \$769 million (55 percent); China \$306 million (22 percent); Japan \$122 million (nine percent); Ukraine \$39 million (three percent); and Hong Kong \$35 million (three percent).
- The fastest growing export markets of the top 10 markets were South Africa (364 percent); Ukraine (109 percent) and Lithuania (39 percent).
- **Top Five Seafood Exports:** \$541 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; \$159 million in crabs; \$103 million in hake; \$56 million in Sockeye salmon; and \$55 million in geoduck clams.

**B.C. Aquaculture and Commercial Fisheries Sales (\$ Millions)**



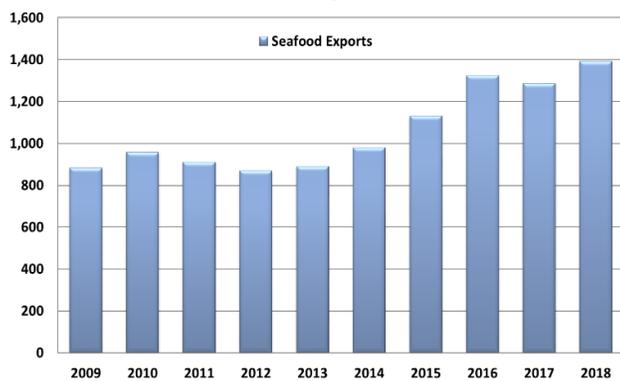
Source: B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, August 2019

**B.C. Seafood GDP (\$ Millions)**



Source: Adapted from Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0402-01

**B.C. Aquaculture and Commercial Fisheries International Exports (\$ Millions)**



Source: Adapted from Agriculture and Agifood Canada, CATSNET Analytics