

Sector Snapshot 2021: B.C. Seafood

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

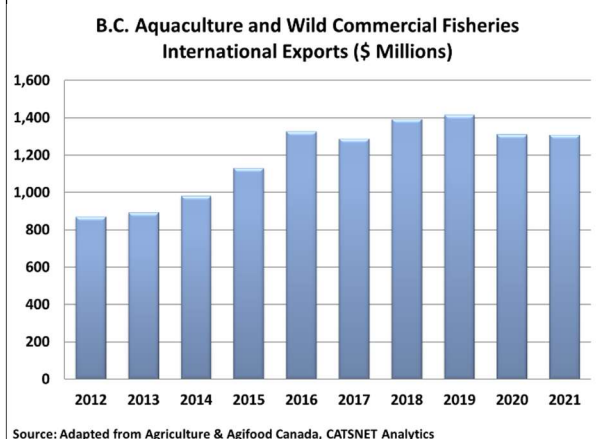
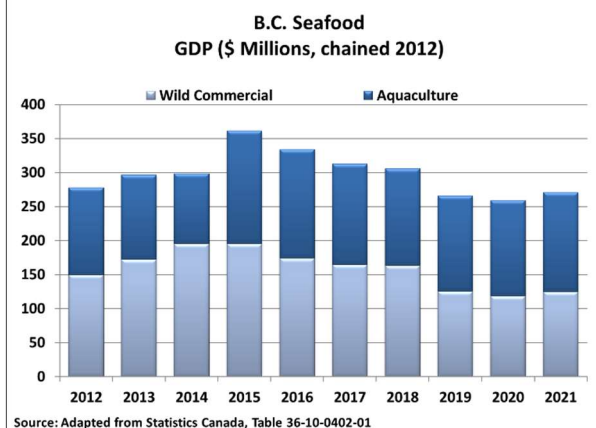
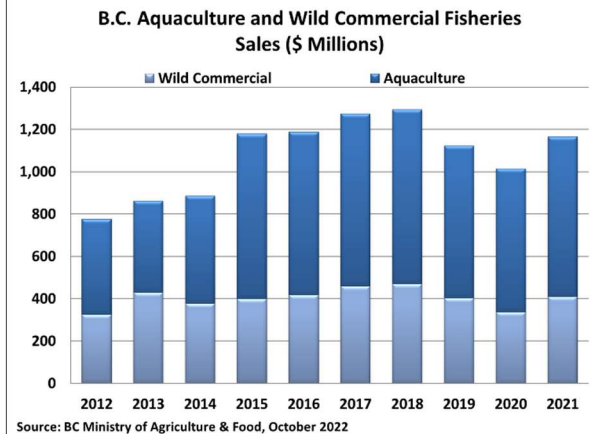
- B.C. consistently ranks as the 4th largest farmed Atlantic salmon producer in the world.
- B.C. led the nation in sales of farmed salmon, crabs (non-queen), wild clams, wild salmon, hake, wild sablefish, rockfish, tuna, farmed clams, sea cucumbers, lingcod, wild sea urchins, and Pacific cod.

SEAFOOD KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Sales: \$1.166 billion**
 - ❖ **Harvest: 256,488 tonnes**
 - ❖ **GDP: \$271 million**
 - ❖ **Share of Provincial GDP¹: 0.12%**
 - ❖ **International Exports: \$1.383 billion**
 - ❖ **Seafood Jobs²: 5,270**
- Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were \$1.166 billion in landed and farm gate value — an increase of 14.9% from 2020.
 - The wild commercial fishery harvest was 147,826 tonnes and generated a landed value of \$409.7 million. While the harvest was down by 16.4% from 2020, the landed value was up by 21.5%.
 - Approximately 2,292 vessels harvested in B.C. waters in 2021, down 0.8% from the previous year.
 - In 2021, 843 aquaculture operations were licensed to produce fish, invertebrates, and algae (14.7% increase).
 - The aquaculture harvest of 108,662 tonnes was up 8.5% from the previous year, while farm gate value increased by 11.6% to \$755.9 million.
 - Total GDP for primary seafood was \$300.9 million and accounted for 0.12% of B.C.'s total GDP¹.
 - Top 10 seafood commodities of sales were farmed Atlantic salmon, crabs, halibut, wild geoducks, farmed Pacific salmon, prawns, wild sablefish, farmed oysters, wild salmon, and tuna, in decreasing order.

SEAFOOD INTERNATIONAL EXPORTS

- Exported seafood products include both primary seafood production and post-vessel and post-farm processed seafood products.
- In 2021, B.C. exported \$1.383 billion in seafood products to 61 markets, an increase of 5.6% from 2020.
- Top five seafood export markets: USA (67.4%); China (16.1%); Japan (5.3%); Hong Kong (2.8%); and Ukraine (2.6%)
- Of the top 10 export markets, the fastest growing in YOY percentage growth in 2021 were Romania (42.5%), Ukraine (14.2%), USA (10.9%), Hong Kong and UK (both at 7.4%).
- Top five seafood exports: \$519 million (+37.6%) in farmed Atlantic salmon, \$255 million (+18.5%) in crabs, \$123 million (+8.9%) in wild salmon, \$73 million (+5.3%) in hake, and \$61 million (+4.4%) in geoduck clams.



Footnotes: 1 Excluding unlicensed cannabis. GDP at chained 2012 dollars. Does not include GDP from seafood processing.
2 Wild commercial fishing and aquaculture jobs only. Excludes seafood processing jobs.