



Coronavirus response

EUMOFA's weekly data and trends analysis

Week 18

The fishery and aquaculture sectors are among the most immediately impacted by the crisis. EUMOFA is releasing a weekly COVID-19 bulletin in order to inform the sector as quickly as possible on the evolution of the markets along the entire value chain, based on the most recent data on fish sales, production and trade of fishery and aquaculture products. The data and analyses presented are accurate to EUMOFA experts' best knowledge but are of course subject to availability of information in the short-term and a certain volatility of the current situation.



FISHERIES

LOWER PRODUCTION IN WEEK 18¹

In several Member States, fishing activity and landings decreased in week 18. Impacts on fish sales prices vary across countries.

EU reports a decrease of 80% of the opening Mediterranean fleet and a general drop in first-sale prices (between -20% and -70%). The small-scale coastal fleet is the most affected by the crisis while the large-scale fleet has managed to maintain its activity in a range that varies between 40% and 100%. This reduced fish production by 70% in most countries.

In Italy, the **current situation** is heterogeneous and represents an exception: limited impacts on broader fleet, whereas small-scale fleet can survive through direct sales and local fishmongers. The sector fears that some fishing companies may request support for scrapping of fishing vessels by the end of the year due to economic difficulties.

In France, first sales in Atlantic auctions decreased in week 18. Auction sales data from **FranceAuction** (including the Mediterranean sub-auction) show a 27% decrease in volume and 19% increase in prices for 11 main species over week 17. Tullie, scallop, whelk and sardine show the drop in volume whereas significant price increases were reported for sardine, sea bream and merluccius.

For the third week in a row, the average prices decreased in **sea auctions** in Denmark (mussels, herring, squid), Greece and Sweden. From week 17 to week 18, sales decreased by 17% and their value dropped by 35%. The prices were at their lowest in the beginning of week 18 - mainly caused by large landings of haddock, hake, cod and pollock - then started to increase towards the end of the week, together with lower volumes.

¹ Weekly data on first sales are intended to be disseminated as rapidly as possible. For this reason they only cover some representative products in a selection of locations in some countries. They do not aim to give complete coverage of the market, and so it is recommended to use them as a mere indication of ongoing trends. For more information on species, countries and locations covered, please see [FAQ](#).