

Here to give the UK seafood sector
the support it needs to thrive.



UK Seafood Import statistics 2022: Iceland

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October 2023

Aim

This factsheet highlights the scale and format of seafood products imported to the UK from Iceland. The aim is to identify and evidence trade flows of key seafood products from Iceland into UK ports.

The figures presented in this report are HMRC trade in goods statistics, processed and analysed by Seafish. Details of data source and species groups are provided in the annex.

Overview



Imports to the UK from Iceland in 2022:

£286.3 million (+12%)

42,029 tonnes (-14%)

Iceland was ranked the 2nd highest value seafood supplier to the UK in 2022. Seafood imports from Iceland totalled £286.3 million, making up 8% of the £3.64 billion imported to the UK in 2022. Icelandic imports increased £31.2 million (+12%) compared to 2021.

By volume, Iceland remained the 3rd top supplier of seafood products to the UK in 2022 despite a reduction of 7,062 tonnes (-14%) to 42,029 tonnes. An average price increase of 31% on Icelandic imports follows cuts to Iceland's total allowable catch for whitefish. The greatest volume decrease was in imports of live/fresh haddock salmon and cod while imported volume of prepared/preserved shrimp and prawn products increased.

- The top three imported species by value were cod haddock and shrimp/prawn, totalling 87% of imported seafood from Iceland in 2022.
- The UK imported £118.6million of frozen cod fillets from Iceland in 2022 making up 41% of imports from Iceland.
- By format, frozen fillets made up 62% of imports from Iceland with fresh fillets making 6% and live/fresh whole/gutted making up a further 15%.
- Ports of Immingham and Hull are responsible for over 95% of the seafood imported into the UK from Iceland in 2022 by value and volume.

Note:

Volumes within this document refer to net product volume and are not converted to live weight equivalent.

HMRC trade in goods statistics is provisional for 18 months after being published and subject to change. The 2022 data within this document is provisional.

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UK seafood imported from Iceland in numbers

1. Top UK seafood imports by species and country

The UK imported £3.64bn of seafood in 2022, experiencing a value increase of 16%. Growth was price driven as the average imported seafood price increased 19% while imported volume decreased -2%.

By value, 8% of the seafood imported to the UK in 2022 came from Iceland, making it the 2nd highest value seafood supplier to the UK (figure 1). Consignments from Iceland totalled £286.3 million, increasing by £31.2 million (+12%) compared to 2021. The volume of seafood imported from Iceland decreased 14% as average price increased 31%.

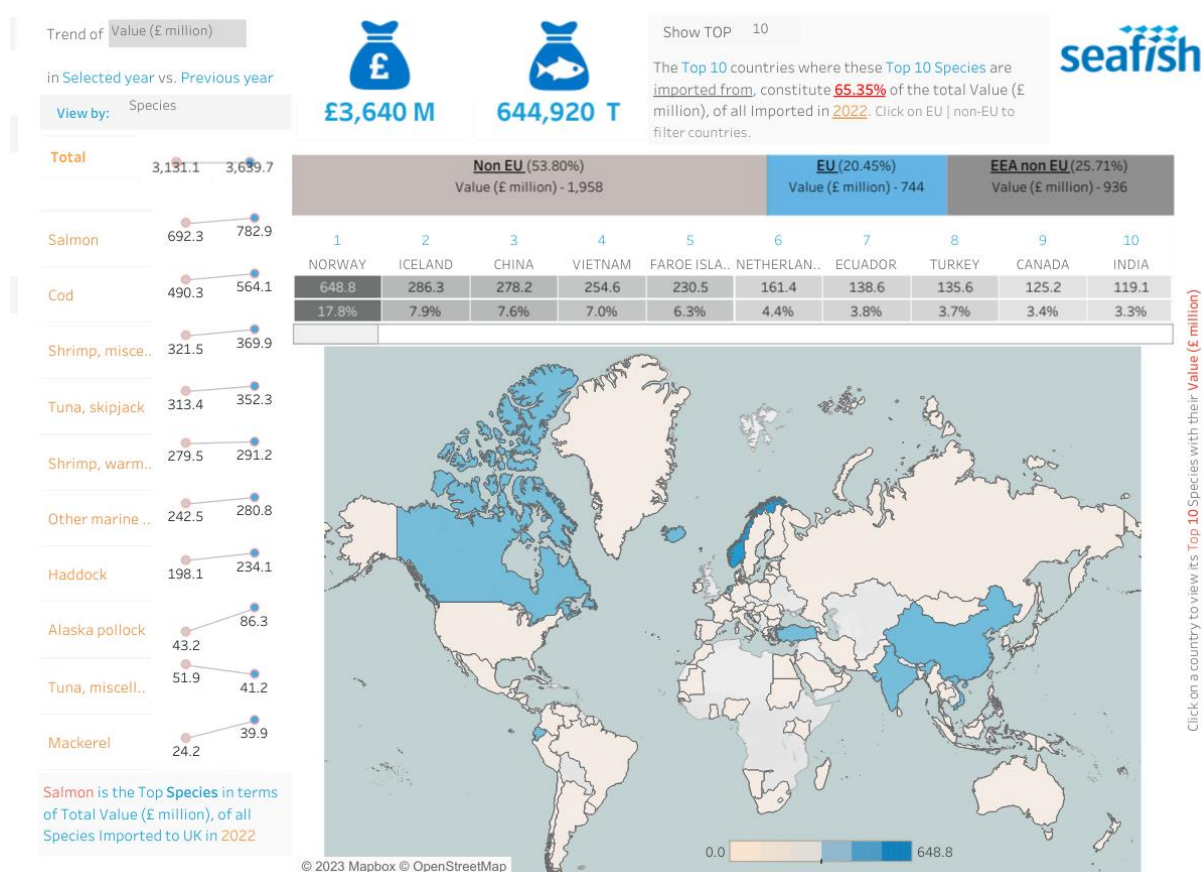


Figure 1 Top 10 countries supplying seafood to the UK and top 10 main commercial species imported by value in 2022 (Trade and Tariff Tool in Tableau extract)

2. Top species imported from Iceland by value

By value, cod made up over half of the seafood (52%) imported from Iceland and experienced a 19% increase compared to 2021. Shrimp and prawns and saithe import value also increased 40% and 238% respectively. Species that experienced a value decline between 2021 and 2022 were haddock (-2%), redfish (-8%) plaice (-9%) and salmon (-31%).

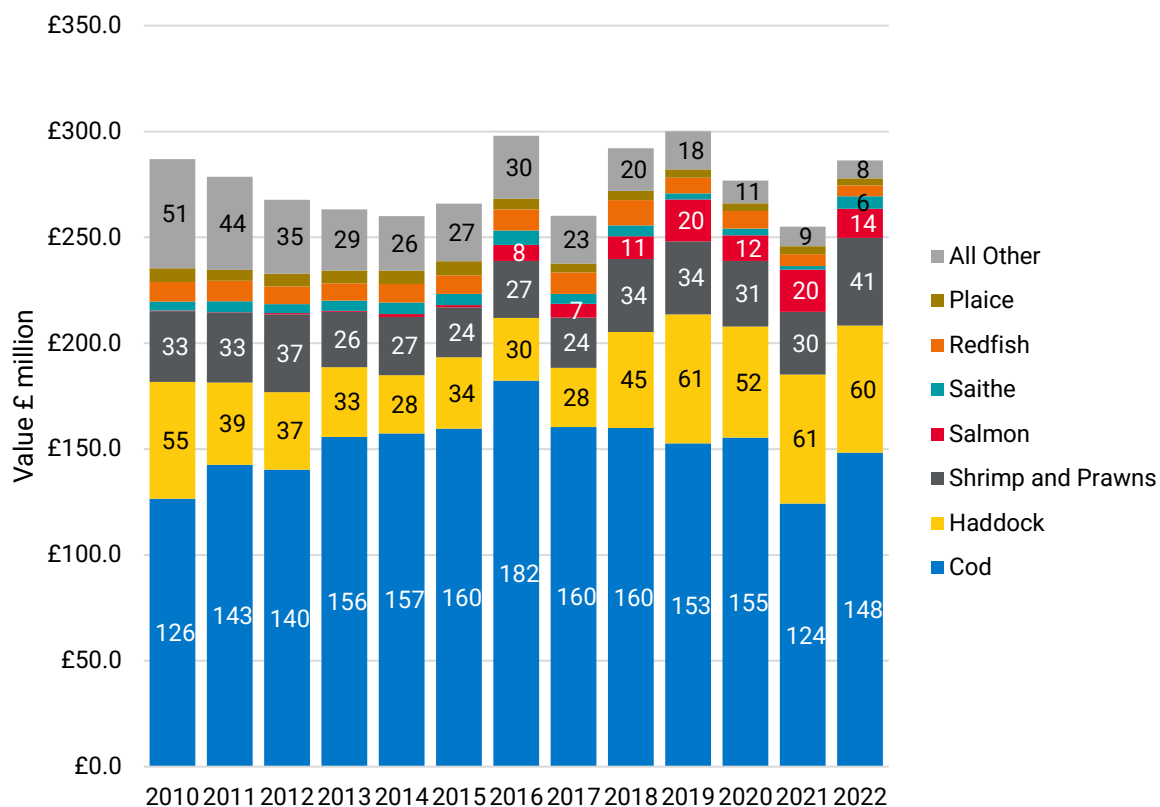


Figure 2 Top species imported to the UK from Iceland by value 2010-2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

3. Proportion of key imported species consigned directly from Iceland in 2022

Iceland supplied 8% of the total seafood imported to the UK in 2022 by value. By species, Iceland supplied the majority of the UK's imported saithe (95%) and redfish (88%). Around a quarter of imported cod (26%) and haddock (26%) value to the UK was consigned from Iceland.

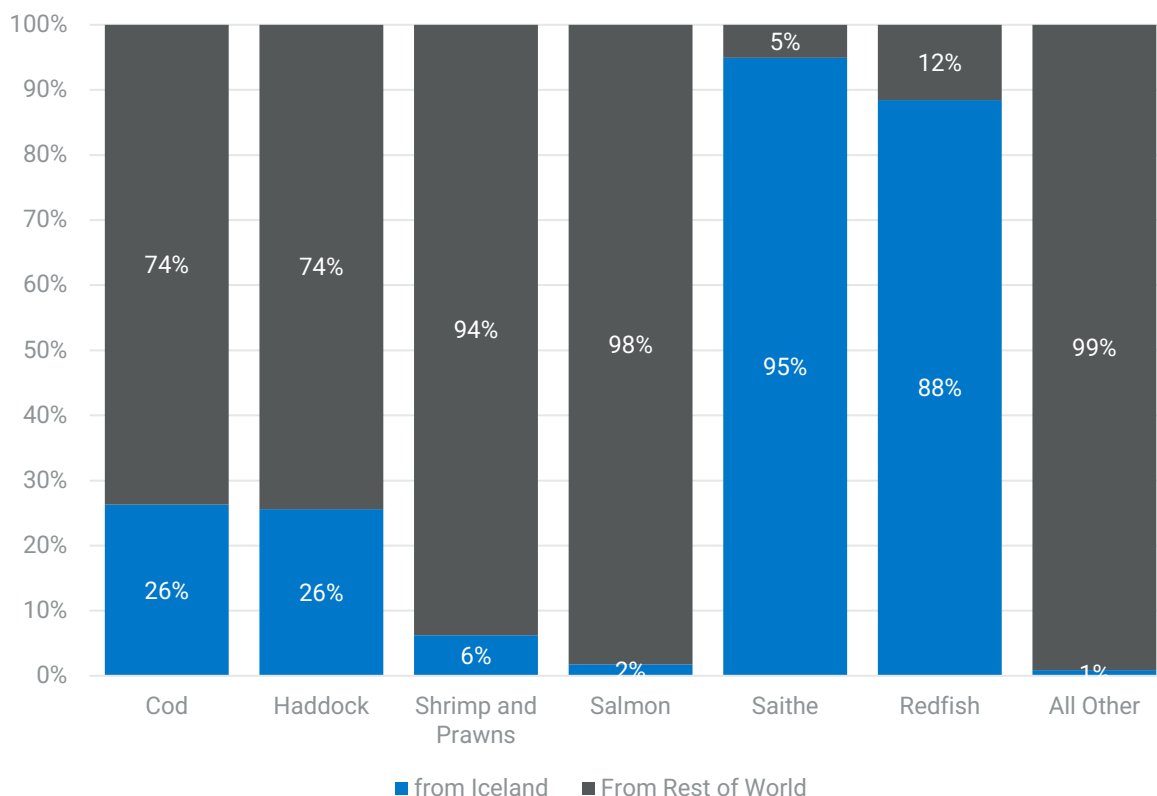


Figure 3 Top imported species from Iceland in 2022 as a proportion of total species import value to the UK.

4. Top value species imported from Iceland by format

In 2022, the majority of cod (82%), haddock (79%) and saithe (98%) imported from Iceland came in the format of frozen fillets. Almost all shrimp and prawn products (99%) were imported as prepared/preserved. Salmon was imported mostly in the format of live/fresh and whole/gutted (97%), the same format as 20% of imported haddock and 9% of imported cod. Fresh fillets made up a further 9% of imported cod products.

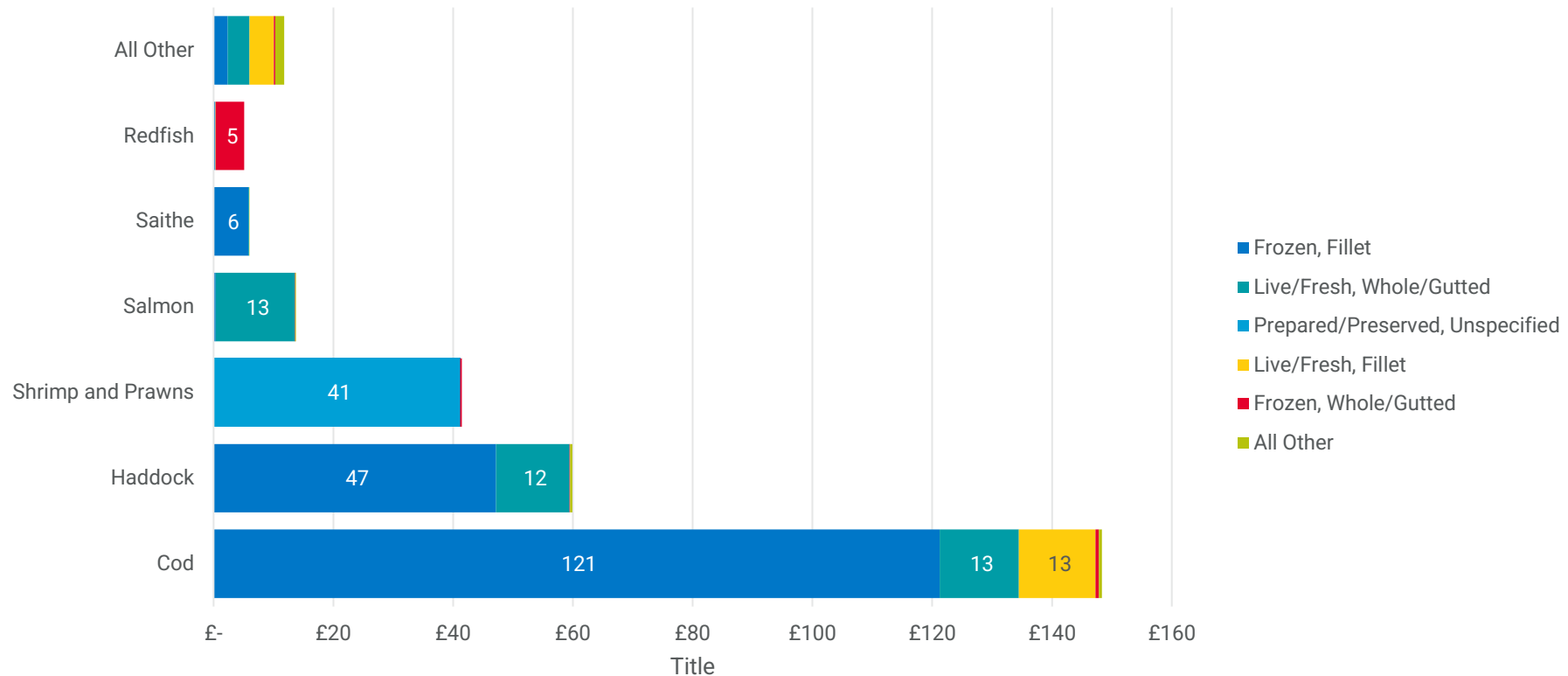


Figure 4 Top value species imported from Iceland by preservation format. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

5. Top imported seafood products from Iceland 2022 by value

Tables 1, 2 and 3 state the value and volume of imported products from Iceland in 2022 and the proportion they make up of total seafood consigned from Iceland. The year-on-year percentage change is given to indicate increase or decline compared to 2021.

UK import from Iceland in 2022 by value <i>(Total: £286.3 million)</i>		<i>£ million</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>Proportion of total %</i>
Species	Cod	148.4	19%	52%
	Haddock	59.9	-2%	21%
	Shrimp and Prawns	41.5	40%	14%
	Salmon	13.7	-31%	5%
	Saithe	5.9	238%	2%
	Redfish	5.1	-8%	2%
	All Other	11.8	-10%	4%
Species group	Demersal	229.3	13%	80%
	Shellfish	41.5	40%	14%
	Salmon	13.7	-31%	5%
	All Others	1.6	-15%	1%
	Pelagic	0.2	359%	0%
Format	Frozen, Fillet	177.2	30%	62%
	Live/Fresh	42.6	-29%	15%
	Prepared/Preserved	41.2	40%	14%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	16.9	-15%	6%
	Frozen	5.9	-12%	2%
	All Other	2.5	-13%	1%
Product	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	118.6	27%	41%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	47.2	23%	16%
	16052190 (Shrimp and Prawns, Prepared/Preserved)	41.1	42%	14%
	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	13.3	-28%	5%
	03044410 (Cod, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	12.8	-5%	4%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	12.3	-45%	4%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	11.9	-20%	4%
	03047300 (Saithe, Frozen, Fillet)	5.8	279%	2%
	03044490 (Other groundfish, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	3.6	-14%	1%
	03038931 (Redfish, Frozen)	3.1	-10%	1%
	All Other	16.7	2%	6%
Total		286.3	12%	100%

Table 1 Highest value imported species, species groups, product formats and products imported from Iceland in 2022. Including percentage change compared to 2021 and the proportion of total imports from Iceland.

6. Top imported seafood products from Iceland 2022 by net volume

UK import from Iceland in 2022 by volume (Total: 42,029 tonnes)		<i>Volume, tonnes</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>Proportion of total %</i>
Species	Cod	19,355	-8%	46%
	Haddock	10,012	-28%	24%
	Shrimp and Prawns	5,608	29%	13%
	Salmon	2,022	-51%	5%
	Redfish	1,916	-17%	5%
	Plaice	865	-24%	2%
	Saithe	830	44%	2%
	All Other	1,420	-16%	3%
Species group	Demersal	33,862	-16%	81%
	Shellfish	5,609	29%	13%
	Salmon	2,022	-51%	5%
	All Others	441	-2%	1%
	Pelagic	95	163%	0%
Format	Frozen, Fillet	21,035	-2%	50%
	Live/Fresh	10,764	-38%	26%
	Prepared/Preserved	5,564	29%	13%
	Frozen	2,087	-19%	5%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	1,658	-26%	4%
	Frozen, Other cuts	447	-37%	1%
	All Others	474	30%	1%
Product	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	13,733	-4%	33%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	5,753	-6%	14%
	16052190 (Shrimp and Prawns, Prepared/Preserved)	5,553	31%	13%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	4,039	-47%	10%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	3,396	-25%	8%
	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	1,905	-50%	5%
	03044410 (Cod, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	1,225	-13%	3%
	03038931 (Redfish, Frozen)	1,200	-19%	3%
	03047300 (Saithe, Frozen, Fillet)	772	50%	2%
	03022200 (Plaice, Live/Fresh)	738	-21%	2%
	03038939 (Redfish, Frozen)	612	-17%	1%
	All Others	3,102	-10%	7%
	Total	42,029	-14%	100%

Table 2 Highest quantity imported species, species groups, product formats and products imported from Iceland in 2022. Including percentage change compared to 2021 and the proportion of total imports from Iceland.

7. Prices of the top imported seafood products from Iceland 2022 by value

UK import from Iceland in 2022 by value (Average price £6.81)		<i>Price £/kg</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>
<i>Species</i>	Cod	7.66	30%
	Haddock	5.98	37%
	Shrimp and Prawns	7.39	9%
	Salmon	6.79	39%
	Saithe	7.16	135%
	Redfish	2.66	11%
	All Other	5.15	12%
<i>Species group</i>	Demersal	6.77	34%
	Shellfish	7.39	9%
	Salmon	6.79	39%
	All Others	3.66	-13%
	Pelagic	2.00	75%
<i>Format</i>	Frozen, Fillet	8.42	32%
	Live/Fresh	3.96	16%
	Prepared/Preserved	7.40	8%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	10.21	15%
	Frozen	2.82	9%
	All Other	2.75	1%
<i>Product</i>	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	8.63	32%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	8.20	32%
	16052190 (Shrimp and Prawns, Prepared/Preserved)	7.40	9%
	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	6.96	45%
	03044410 (Cod, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	10.47	10%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	3.04	3%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	3.49	7%
	03047300 (Saithe, Frozen, Fillet)	7.54	153%
	03044490 (Other groundfish, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	10.04	22%
	03038931 (Redfish, Frozen)	2.62	11%
	All Other	4.07	15%
Total Average		6.81	31%

Table 3 Price change for the highest value imported species, species groups, product formats and products imported from Iceland in 2022. Including percentage change compared to 2021.

8. Total seafood imports from Iceland by UK port of landing

The highest value of seafood consigned from Iceland in 2022 arrived into the ports of Immingham (55%) and Hull (40%). Compared to 2021, Icelandic imports to Immingham increased by 10% and imports to Hull increased 16%. Imports declined to East Midlands (-8%), Heathrow (-28%) and Inverness (-44%).

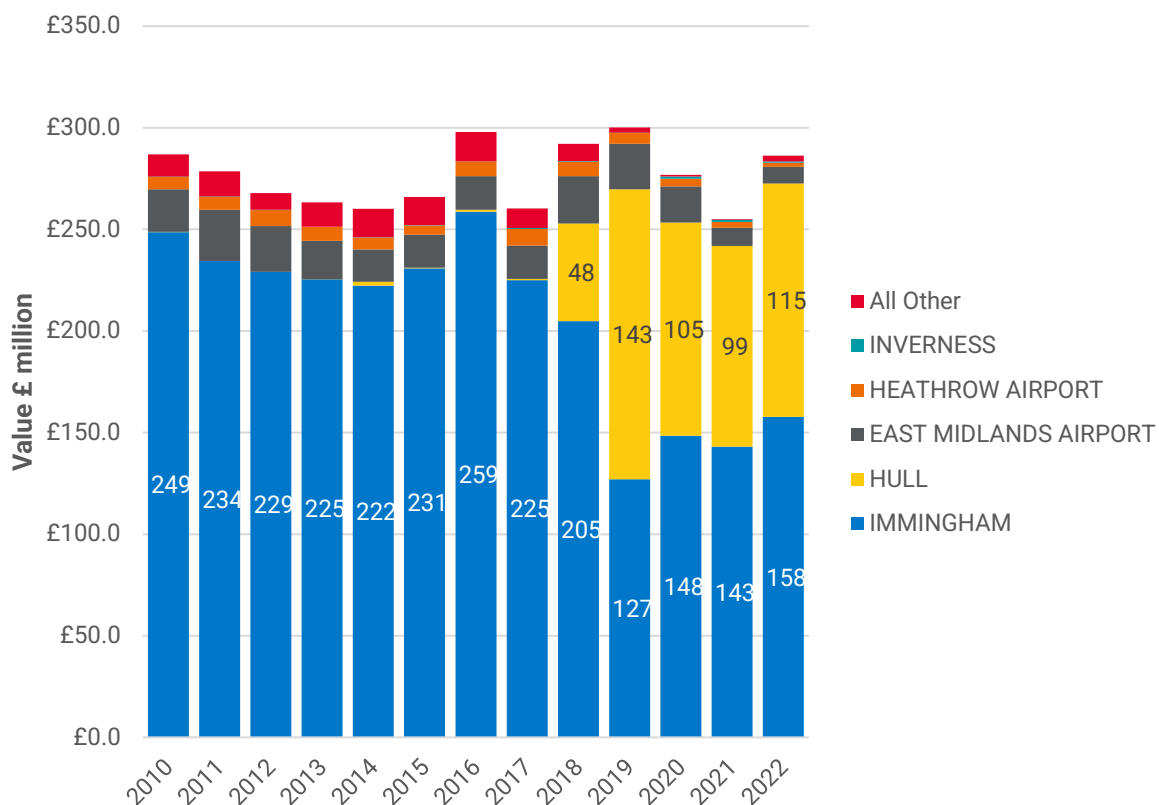


Figure 5 Value of seafood imported from Iceland by UK port of entry 2010-2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

9. Top species imported by UK port of landing

The majority of Icelandic salmon (92%), cod (56%), haddock (57%), plaice (86%) and saithe (79%) were landed to Immingham in 2022. Most Icelandic shrimp and prawn (62%) and redfish (57%) were landed to Hull.

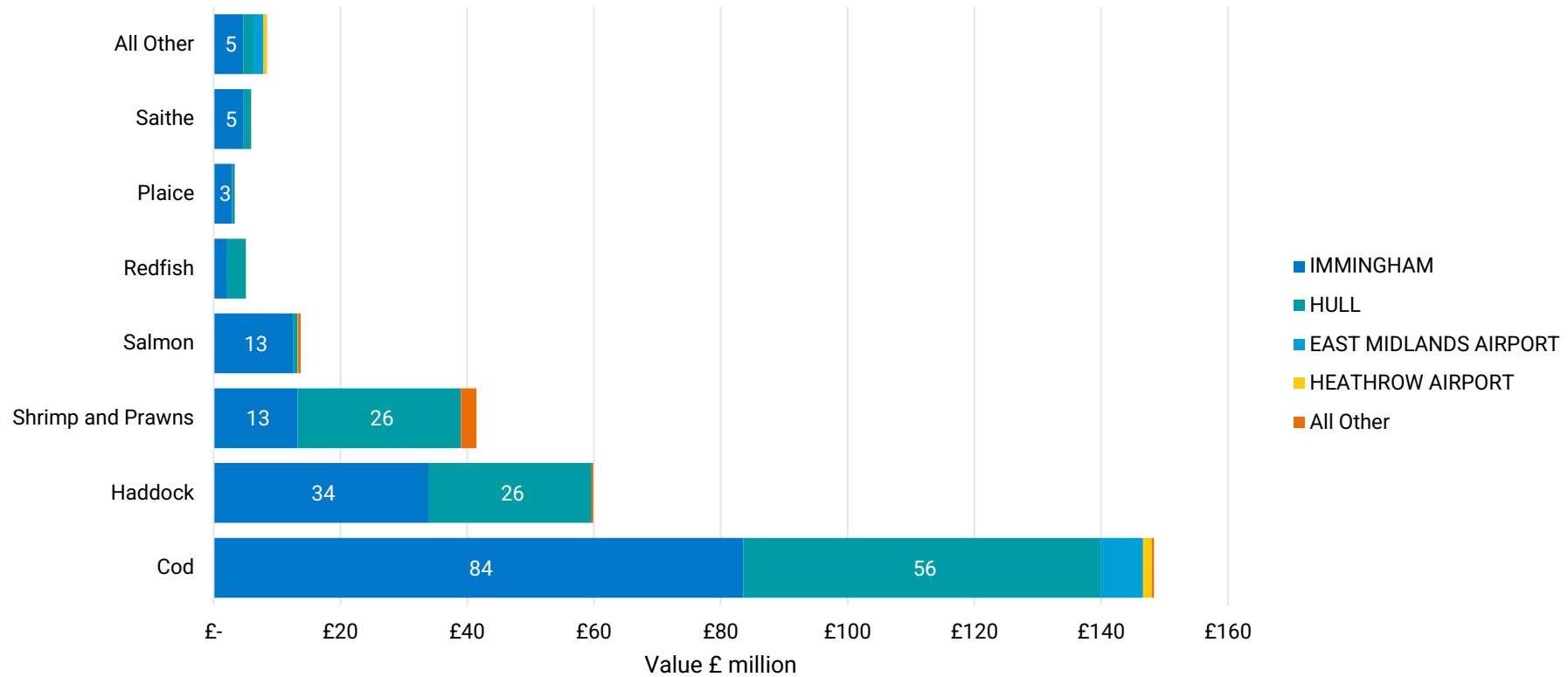


Figure 6 Value of species imported from Iceland by UK port of entry in 2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

10. Format of seafood imports from Iceland by UK port

In 2022, most of the Icelandic seafood imported by air to East Midlands (99%) and Heathrow (92%) arrived as fresh fillets. Frozen fillets were split between Immingham (53%) and Hull (47%). Most of the live/fresh and whole/gutted seafood from Iceland arrived into Immingham (94%). Very little live/fresh seafood from Iceland is landed to Hull.

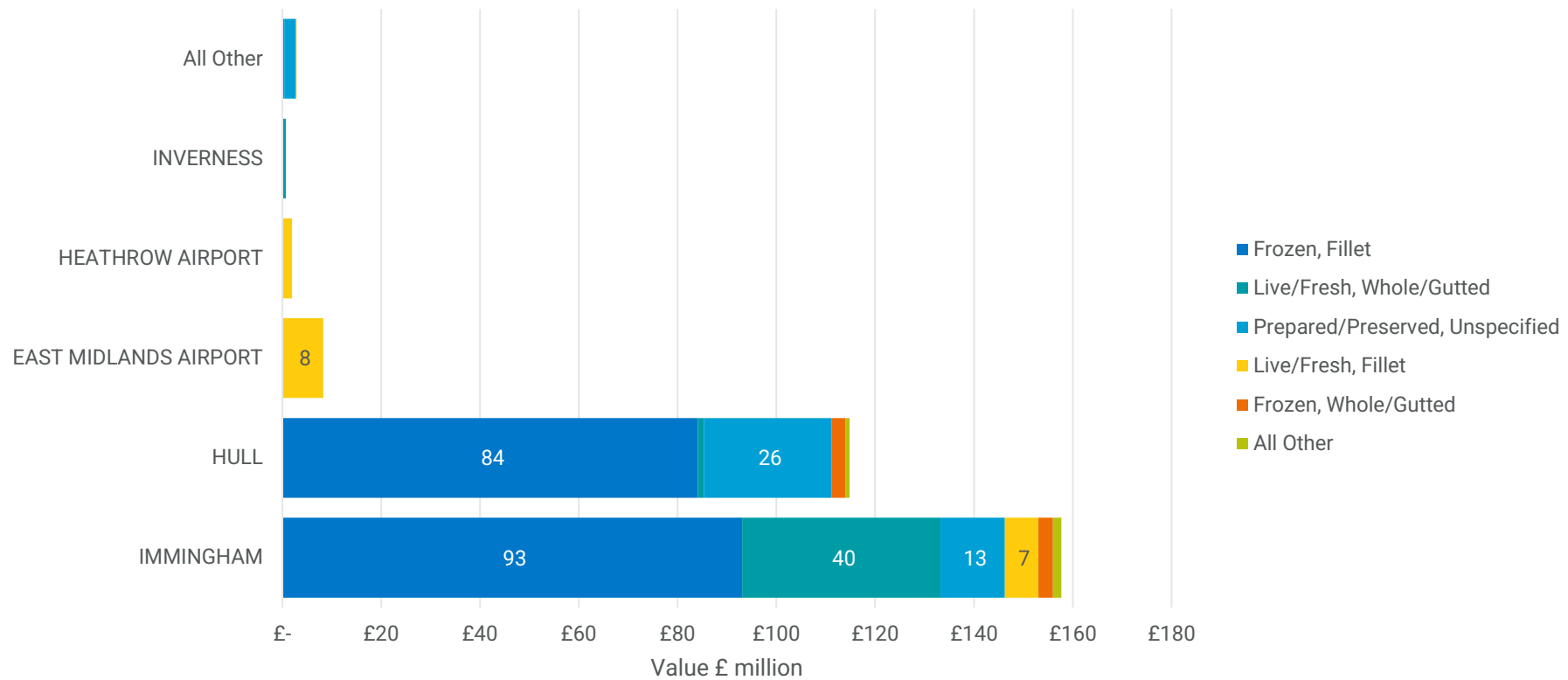


Figure 7 Format of seafood imported from Iceland to UK port of entry by value 2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

11. Format of species imported from Iceland by UK port

Figure 8 shows the top imported species from Iceland by the UK port it arrives at. Cod and haddock mostly arrives as frozen fillets into Immingham and Hull. A higher value of fresh fillets of cod (£1.9 million) are landed to East Midlands airport than to Immingham.

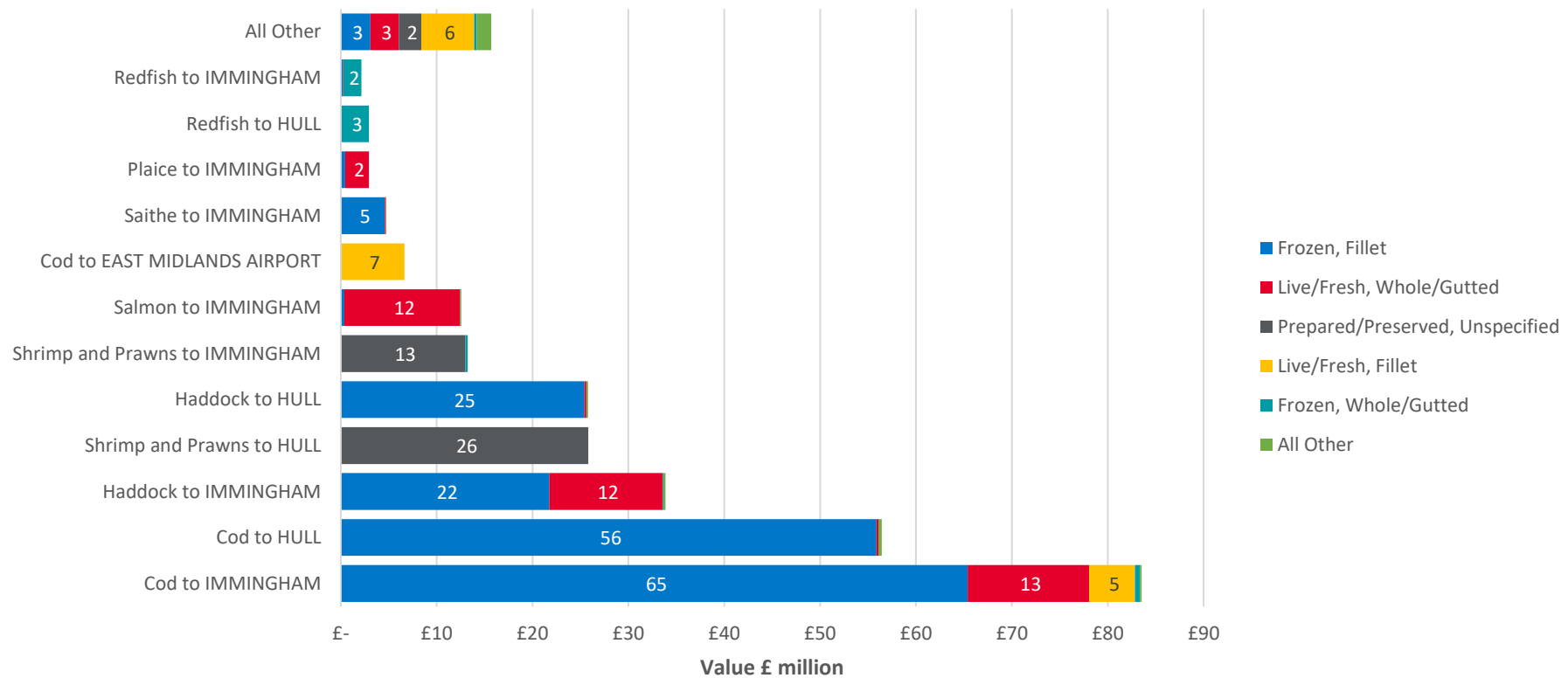


Figure 8 Top value species imported to UK from Iceland to top UK ports of entry by value and format. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

12. Port level import from Iceland by value

Details of the highest value trade flows to the UK ports consigned from Iceland in 2022 by value, volume and average price. Year on year percentage change is given to indicate increase or decline compared to 2021.

		Value £m		Volume, tonnes		Price £/kg	
		2022	Y-o-Y	2022	Y-o-Y	2022	Y-o-Y
				%		%	
				change		change	
2022 UK import from Iceland by UK port							
(% change on 2021)							
Port	IMMINGHAM	157.7	10%	25,575	-17%	6.17	33%
	HULL	114.8	16%	14,962	-10%	7.67	29%
	EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT	8.3	-8%	717	-16%	11.52	9%
	HEATHROW AIRPORT	2.0	-28%	178	-39%	11.15	19%
	INVERNESS	0.7	-44%	158	-60%	4.46	40%
	All Other	2.8	956%	439	859%	6.41	10%
Species by port	Cod to IMMINGHAM	83.6	27%	12,203	-1%	6.85	28%
	Cod to HULL	56.4	13%	6,388	-19%	8.84	40%
	Haddock to IMMINGHAM	33.9	-13%	6,747	-33%	5.02	30%
	Shrimp and Prawns to HULL	25.8	23%	3,463	14%	7.45	8%
	Haddock to HULL	25.8	21%	3,181	-10%	8.11	35%
	Shrimp and Prawns to IMMINGHAM	13.2	58%	1,785	41%	7.42	12%
	Salmon to IMMINGHAM	12.6	-35%	1,854	-54%	6.78	39%
	Cod to EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT	6.6	0%	562	-6%	11.80	6%
	Saithe to IMMINGHAM	4.7	480%	580	116%	8.14	169%
	Plaice to IMMINGHAM	2.9	-1%	786	-22%	3.73	27%
	Redfish to HULL	2.9	-11%	1,108	-18%	2.64	9%
	Redfish to IMMINGHAM	2.1	1%	804	-14%	2.67	18%
	All Other	15.7	7%	2,566	-8%	6.11	16%
Format by port	Frozen, Fillet to IMMINGHAM	93.1	47%	11,365	14%	8.19	29%
	Frozen, Fillet to HULL	84.1	15%	9,670	-15%	8.70	36%
	Live/Fresh to IMMINGHAM	40.2	-31%	10,251	-39%	3.92	14%
	Prepared/Preserved to HULL	25.8	23%	3,463	14%	7.45	8%
	Prepared/Preserved to IMMINGHAM	13.0	55%	1,752	38%	7.42	12%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet to EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT	8.2	-8%	711	-15%	11.55	8%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet to IMMINGHAM	6.8	-21%	782	-34%	8.76	20%
	Frozen to IMMINGHAM	2.9	-4%	951	-13%	3.08	10%
	Frozen to HULL	2.9	-19%	1,124	-24%	2.59	6%
	Prepared/Preserved to UNKNOWN PORT	2.4		349		6.77	
	Live/Fresh, Fillet to HEATHROW AIRPORT	1.8	-20%	161	-25%	11.34	7%
	Live/Fresh to HULL	1.2	429%	261	128%	4.59	132%
	All Other	3.8	-22%	1,188	-26%	3.24	5%
Format of species by port	Frozen, Fillet of Cod to IMMINGHAM	65.4	47%	7,870	17%	8.31	26%
	Frozen, Fillet of Cod to HULL	55.9	14%	6,185	-18%	9.03	39%
	Prepared/Preserved of Shrimp and Prawns to HULL	25.8	23%	3,463	14%	7.45	8%
	Frozen, Fillet of Haddock to HULL	25.4	22%	3,017	-9%	8.42	34%
	Frozen, Fillet of Haddock to IMMINGHAM	21.8	25%	2,736	-3%	7.95	29%
	Prepared/Preserved of Shrimp and Prawns to IMMINGHAM	13.0	55%	1,752	38%	7.42	12%
	Live/Fresh of Cod to IMMINGHAM	12.7	-14%	3,625	-20%	3.50	8%
	Live/Fresh of Salmon to IMMINGHAM	12.1	-32%	1,737	-54%	6.97	46%
	Live/Fresh of Haddock to IMMINGHAM	11.8	-45%	3,869	-46%	3.05	3%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet of Cod to EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT	6.6	0%	562	-6%	11.80	6%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet of Cod to IMMINGHAM	4.8	-6%	541	-18%	8.85	15%
	Frozen, Fillet of Saithe to IMMINGHAM	4.6	681%	525	153%	8.79	208%
	Frozen of Redfish to HULL	2.9	-13%	1,101	-19%	2.61	8%
	Live/Fresh of Plaice to IMMINGHAM	2.5	-1%	704	-23%	3.50	29%
	Prepared/Preserved of Shrimp and Prawns to UNKNOWN PORT	2.4		349		6.77	
	Frozen of Redfish to IMMINGHAM	1.9	-4%	711	-17%	2.67	16%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet of Other groundfish to IMMINGHAM	1.8	-1%	202	-25%	9.13	32%
	All Other	15.0	-17%	3,079	-24%	4.88	9%

Table 4 Top import trade flows from Iceland to UK port in 2022 compared to 2021 by value, volume and price. Including top port of import, species by port, format by port, and format of species by port.

13. Number of UK businesses that import products imported from Iceland

Total number of businesses in the UK that import the 10 commodities that make up the top 10 products imported from Iceland. However, these business totals contain businesses that import these products not from Iceland, but from around the world in 2022.

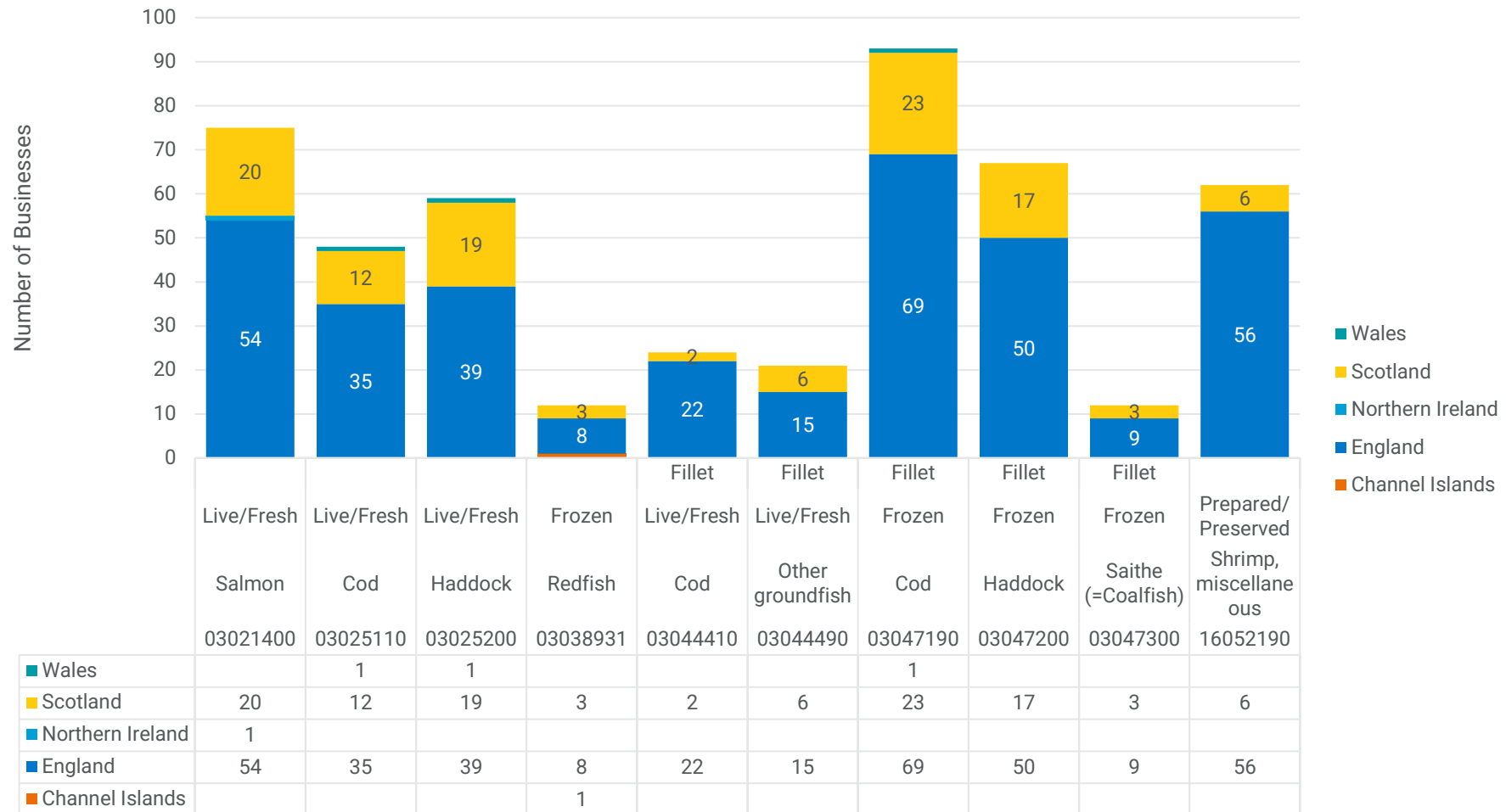


Figure 9 The top 10 products imported from Iceland by value and the total number of UK businesses importing those products from the world in 2022.

Annex

Data

HMRC Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics are processed using EUMOFA (EU Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products) methodology enabling allocation of each product to species, species groups, processing and preservation states as well as converting reported weight to live weight.

Please note that destination and origin countries are as reported and we don't correct the data for so called Rotterdam effect. Published HMRC trade data is provisional for up to 18 months and so can be updated within this time.

Values quoted are based on Cost, insurance and Freight (CIF) delivery terms value for imports to the UK and the Free on Board (FOB) delivery terms value for exports from the UK.

Volumes refer to actual product weight of "goods" without packaging. Live weight conversions may be applied using conversion factors following the EU Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture (EUMOFA) methodology.

As of January 2021, there has been a break in the time series for UK export statistics and for import statistics as of January 2022. Following the ending of the free movement of people and goods and services between the UK and the European Union (EU), HMRC have revised the method of compiling GB to EU trade statistics through customs declarations rather than intrastat records. Record of trade between Northern Ireland and the EU continued to be collected via intrastat records. For further details please see <https://www.uktradeinfo.com/trade-data/help-with-using-our-data/#our-data-sources>.

Country of Consignment/dispatch (COD): The country from which the goods were originally dispatched to the UK without any commercial transaction in any intermediate country (either with or without breaking bulk in the course of transport). This is not necessarily the country of origin, manufacture or the last country from which the goods were shipped to the UK.

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Seafish species groups

Pelagic:

Anchovy, Blue Whiting, Herring, Horse mackerel, Mackerel, Misc. Pelagic, Sardine, Sprat, Swordfish, Tuna.

Demersal:

Alaska pollock, Cod, Coley, Dogfish, Grenadier, Haddock, Hake, Halibut, Ling, Megrin, Monkfish, Other flatfish, Other groundfish, Plaice, Pollack, Ray, Redfish, Seabass, Seabream, Shark, Sole, Toothfish, Turbot, Whiting.

Shellfish:

Clam, Shrimps & Prawns, Crabs, Crayfish, Cuttlefish, Lobster, Mussels, Nephrops, Octopus, Other cephalopods, Other crustaceans, Other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, Oyster, Rock lobster and sea crawfish, Scallops, Sea cucumber, Squid, Whelk.

Salmon: Salmon.

All other:

Carp, Catfish, Caviar, livers and roes Cobia, Eels, Nile Perch, Other freshwater fish, Other marine fish, Other products, Other salmonids, Pink cusk-eel, Ray's Bream, Surimi, Tilapia, Trout.

Format of seafood products

Preservation

Whole/Gutted, Fillet, Other cuts, By-products, Unspecified

Presentation

Frozen, Live/Fresh, Prepared/Preserved, Smoked, Salted, Boiled/Cooked, Dried, Unspecified

UK Ports list

England

Avonmouth, Birmingham Airport, Blyth, Bournemouth Airport, Brize Norton, Channel Fixed Link, Coventry Airport, Doncaster Airport, Dover, Dover/Eurotunnel, East Midlands Airport, Eurotunnel, Felixstowe, Folkestone, Gatwick Airport, Grimsby, Harwich, Heathrow Airport, Heysham, Hull, Humberside Airport, Immingham, Ipswich, Killingholme, Leeds\Bradford Airport, Liverpool, Liverpool Airport, London City Airport, London (Incl Tilbury), London Gateway, Luton Airport, Manchester Airport, Manston Airport, Medway, Middlesbrough, Milford, Newcastle Airport, Newhaven, Penzance, Plymouth, Plymouth Airport, Poole, Portsmouth, Purfleet, Ramsgate, Southampton, Stansted Airport, Thamesport, Tyne, Wisbech

Northern Ireland

Belfast, Belfast Airport

Scotland

Aberdeen, Aberdeen Airport, Ayr, Edinburgh Airport, Fraserburgh, Glasgow, Glasgow Airport, Grangemouth, Greenock, Inverness, Kirkwall, Lerwick, Peterhead, Prestwick Airport, Sumburgh Airport

Wales

Cardiff, Cardiff Airport, Fishguard, Holyhead

Channel Islands

Guernsey, Jersey

Other

Inland Clearance Location, No Port 000, Not Collected, Unknown Port, No Port 500

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Here to give the UK seafood sector
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The Seafish logo features the word "seafish" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. Above the letter "i" is a stylized graphic of a fish's tail, composed of several white diamond shapes arranged in a fan-like pattern.

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