

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



# UK seafood trade analysis and insights

A focus on imports of frozen cod and haddock fillets

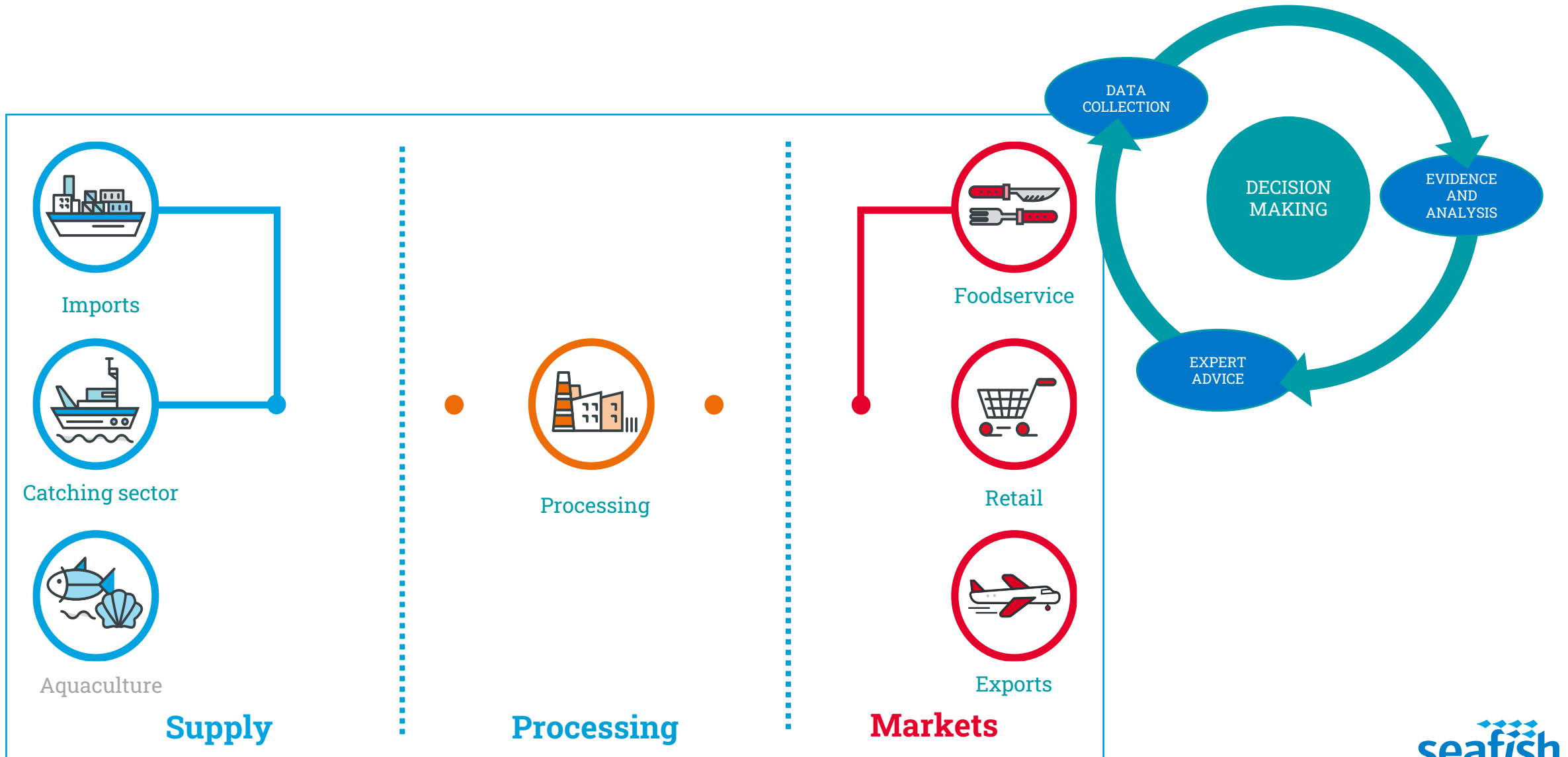
FASFA

May 2023



# Economics Insight and Advice

Finding solutions to the real issues facing seafood businesses



# Meet the Market and Trade Insight team



**Jennifer Robson**

Head of Economics Insight and Advice



**Suzi Pegg-Darlison**

Market Insight Analyst



**Joe Cooper**

Economic Researcher – Trade Analysis

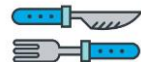


**Richard Watson**

Market Insight Analyst



Trade data and insights



Foodservice data and insights



Retail data and insights

# Seafish Trade Insight and Advice

## Agenda



- [01](#) Introduction to Seafish processed trade data
- [02](#) UK seafood imports 2022 overview
- [03](#) Supply of cod and haddock to the UK

### **Frozen Cod Fillets:**

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### **Frozen Haddock Fillets:**

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- [10](#) Changes to country of consignment
- [11](#) Price tracker by country

# Seafish Trade Data

## Where it comes from and how its processed

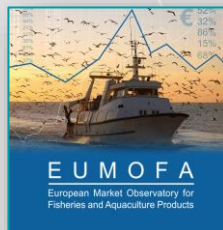
The HMRC's Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics are processed using the EUMOFA methodology, which enables allocation of each product to its corresponding species, species groups, processing and preservation states.

Additionally, it provides conversion of reported weight to live weight, allowing for comparisons between traded species and commercial fleet species landings

Level.3	PS_desc	PR_desc	cn	
Cod	Frozen	Fillet	03047190	
			03047110	
		Other cuts	03049525	
			03049521	
			03049529	
		Whole/Gutted	03036310	
	Live/Fresh		03036390	
			03036330	
		Fillet	03044410	
		Whole/Gutted	03025110	
			03025190	
			03025910	
	Prepared/Preserved	Other cuts		16041992
				03055190
Dried			03055110	
		Whole/Gutted	03055310	
Unspecified	Fillet		03053211	
			03053219	
	Salted	Whole/Gutted	03056200	
			03056910	
Haddock	Frozen	Fillet	03047200	
		Other cuts	03049530	
		Whole/Gutted	03036400	
	Live/Fresh	Whole/Gutted	03025200	
<b>Grand Total</b>				





HM Revenue  
& Customs







# Seafood imports 2022

## Cod and Haddock remain two of the highest value imported species to the UK

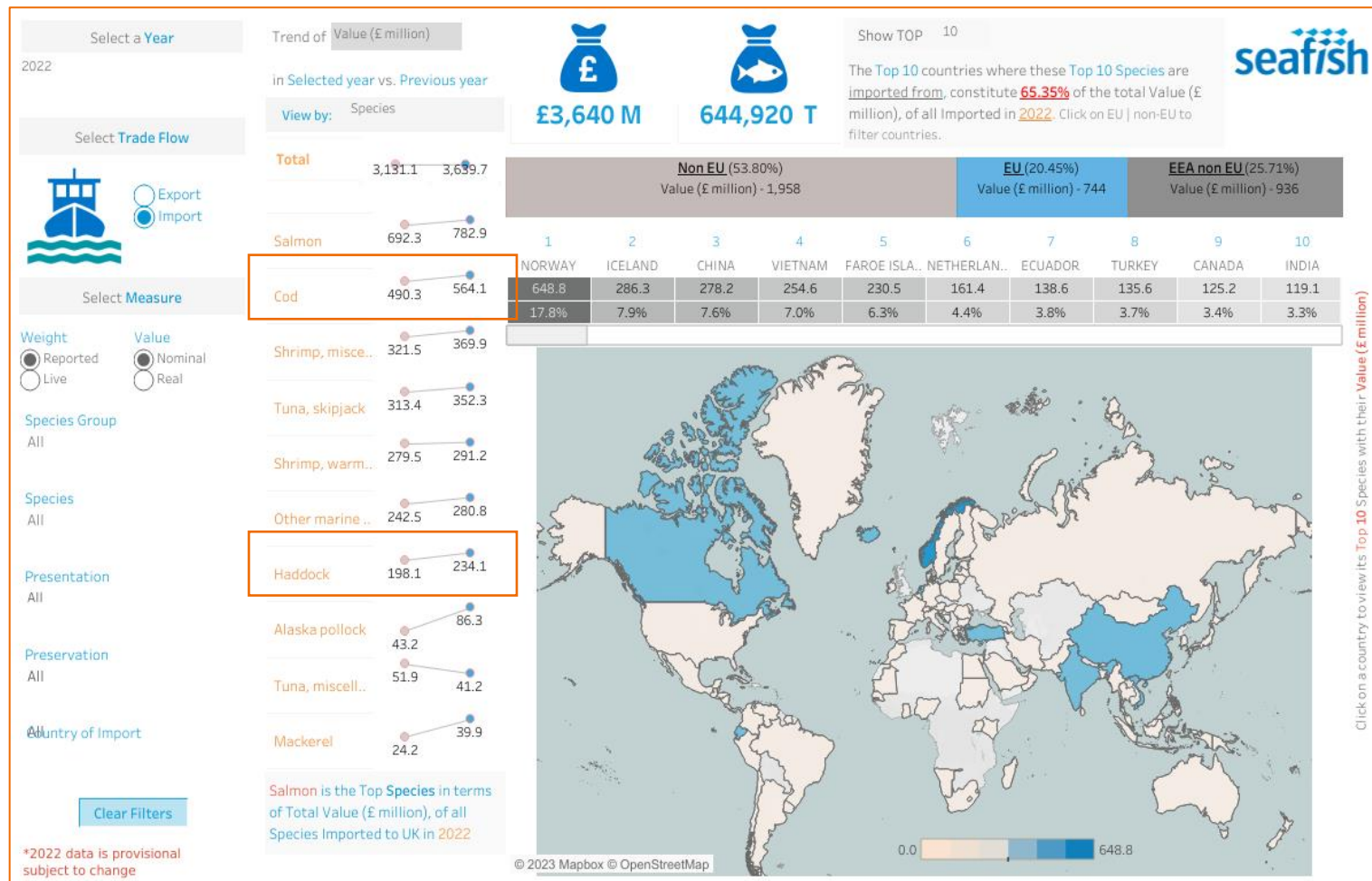
- In 2022 these two species made up around 1/4 of UK import value
- Total seafood import in 2022

  Value increased by 16%

  Volume decreased 2%

  Average price increased by 19%\*

\*UK consumer prices index rose by 10.5% in the 12 months to December 2022



[Click to access T4 Tool](#)



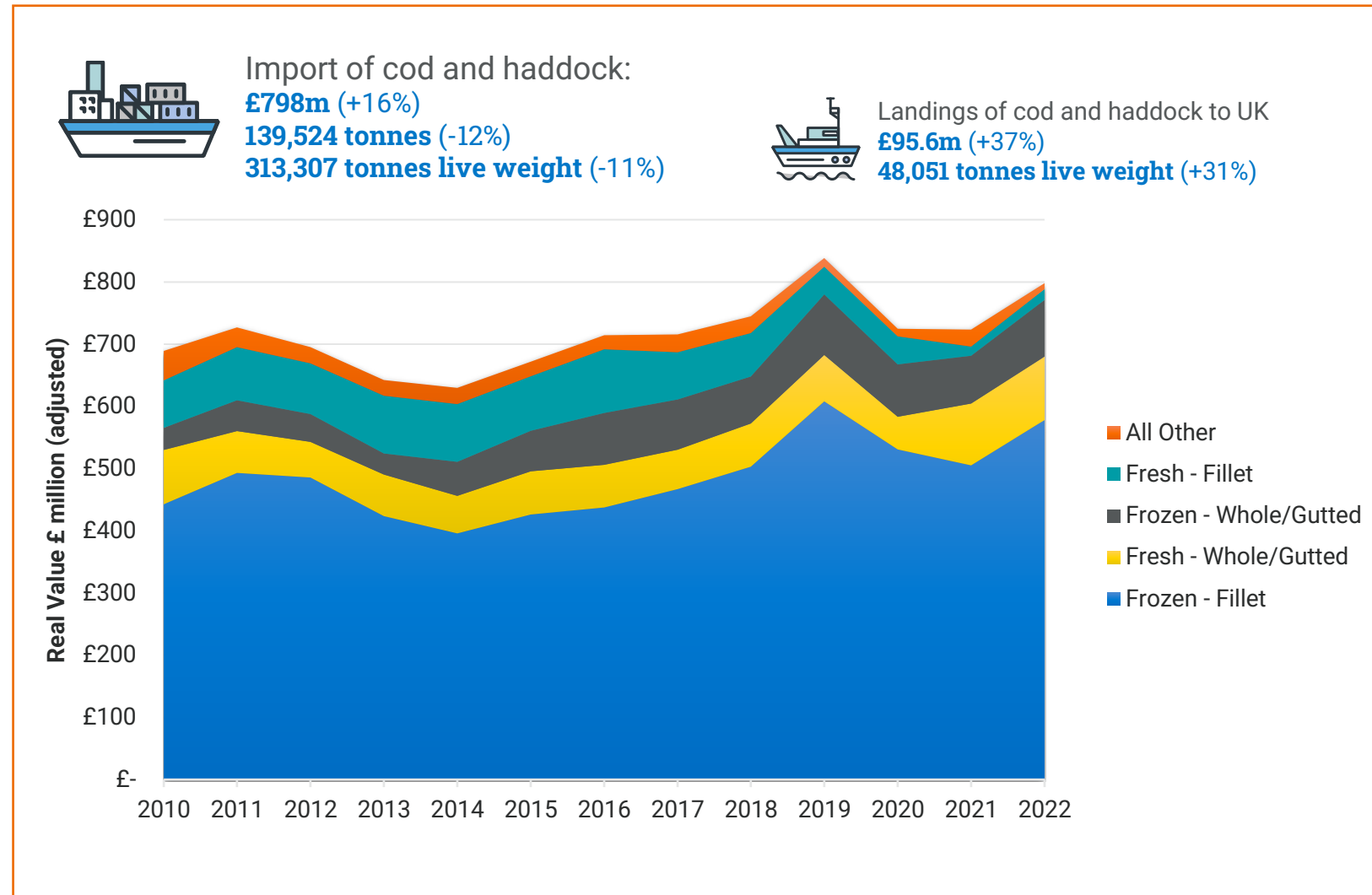
# UK Supply of Cod and Haddock (2022)

## By Volume

- In 2021, the UK relied on imports for 90% of its supply of cod and haddock.
- Increased landings by the commercial fleet in 2022 and reduced imports led to imports accounting for 85% of the UK's supply of cod and haddock.

## By Value

- Frozen fillets made up 72% of cod and haddock imports in 2022 up from 70% in 2021 (Value)



Note that landings data (source MMO) and trade data (Source HMRC) come from separate sources and so not directly comparable – in some cases different conversion factors used may affect results

# Frozen cod fillets import 2022 overview



**£461 million (+18%)**



**63,330 tonnes (-10%)**  
**180,491 tonnes live weight (-10%)**



**£7.28/kg (+32%)**

Proportional share compared to 2021

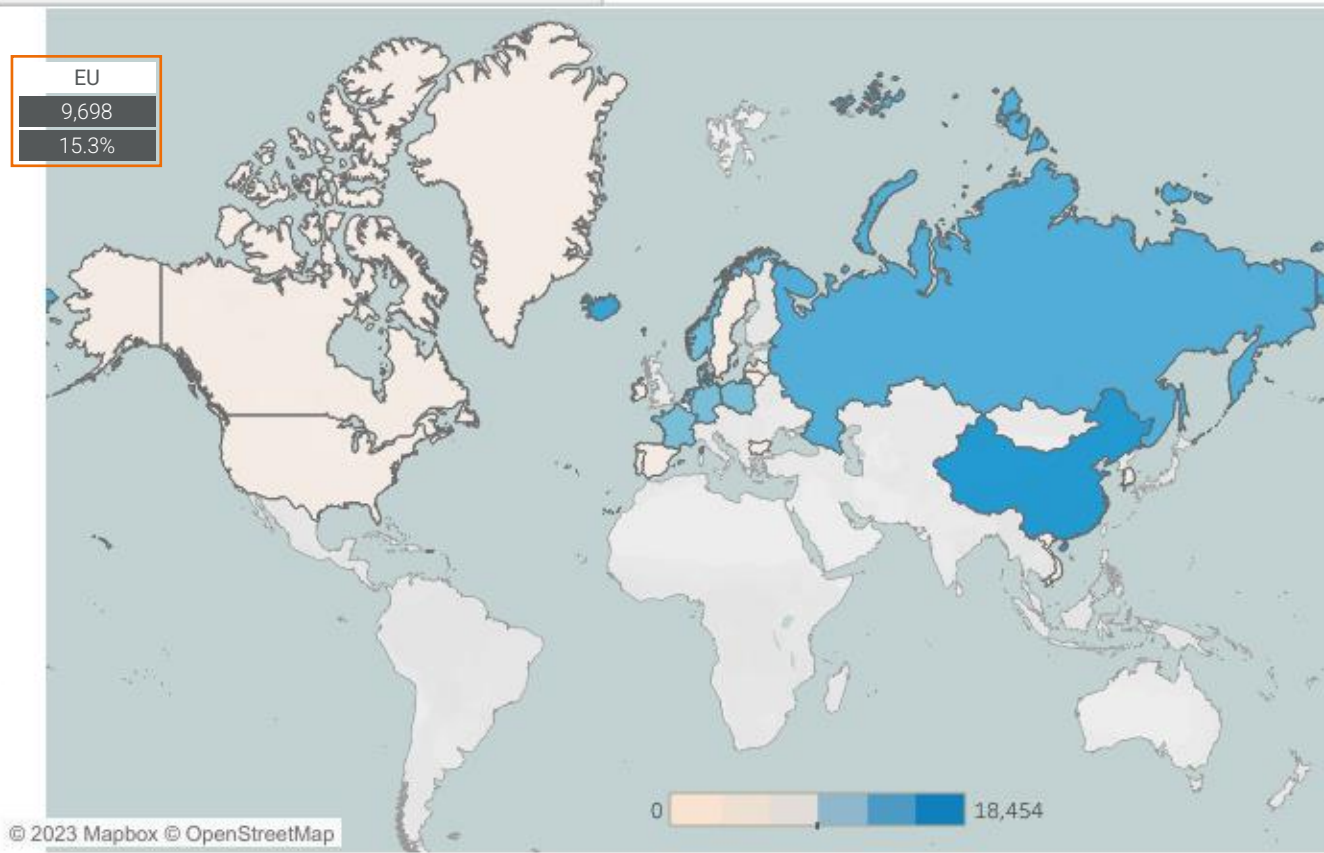
- ↑ China up from 25.3%
- ↑ Iceland up from 20.2%
- ↓ Russia down from 18.2%
- ↑ Norway up from 6.7%
- ↓ EU down from 17.2%

76%

22%

2%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CHINA	ICELAND	RUSSIA	NORWAY	FAROE ISLA..	NETHERLAN..	GERMANY	DENMARK	FRANCE	POLAND
18,454	14,055	10,156	5,568	4,714	4,217	1,852	1,238	904	697
29.1%	22.2%	16.0%	8.8%	7.4%	6.7%	2.9%	2.0%	1.4%	1.1%



Click on a country to view its Top 10 Species with their Weight (tonnes)

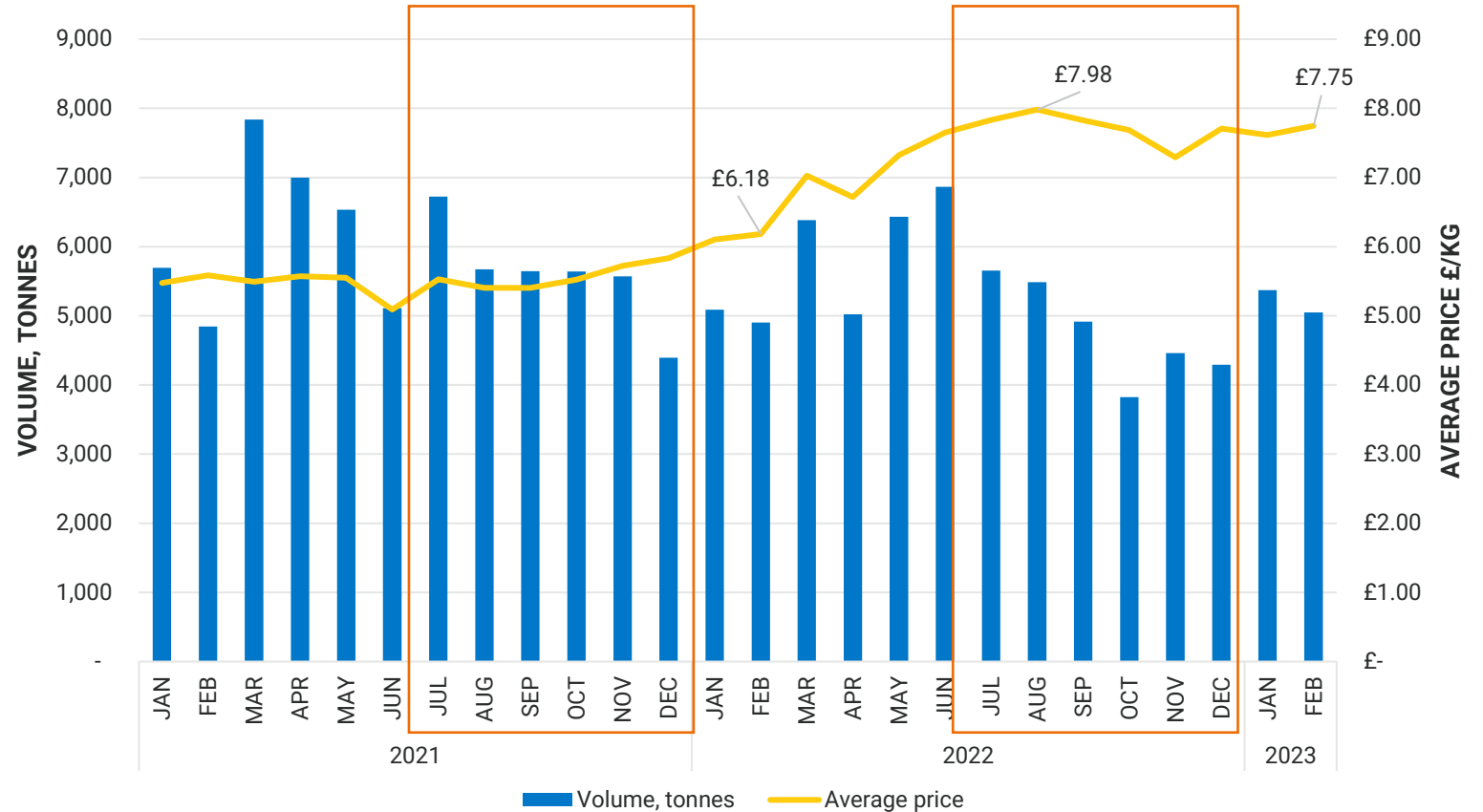
[Click to access T4 Tool](#)



# Frozen cod fillets import

## Monthly volume and price

- Products:
  - 03047110
  - 03047190
- By February 2023 prices were 25% higher than February 2022 reaching £7.75/kg
- The volume of frozen cod fillets imported in the 6 month period July-December in 2022 was 15% lower than the same period in 2021



# Frozen cod fillets import

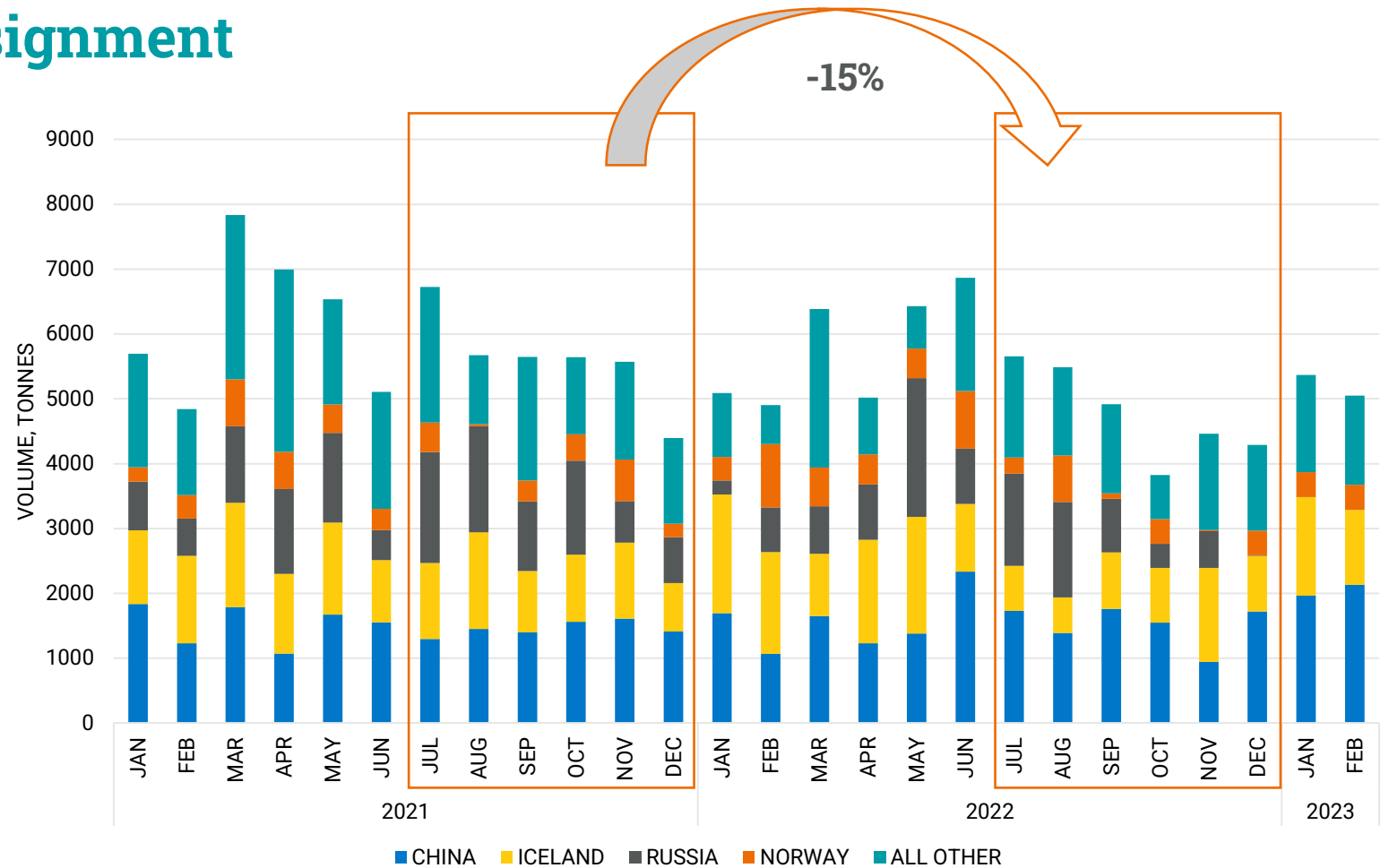
## Changes to country of consignment

Change to total import volume in the 6 month period July-December 2022 vs the same period in 2021:

- ↑ China = 4% increase
- ↓ Iceland = 20% reduction
- ↓ Russia = 35% reduction
- ↓ Norway = 12% reduction

Not shown but significant changes

- ↑ Faroe Islands = 12% increase (+227 tonnes)
- ↑ Netherlands = increase (+2,550 tonnes)
- ↓ Denmark = 76% reduction (-2,112 tonnes)
- ↓ EU = 15% reduction (-961 tonnes)



Annual changes also available on the T4 tool

[Click to access T4 Tool](#)

# Frozen cod fillets import

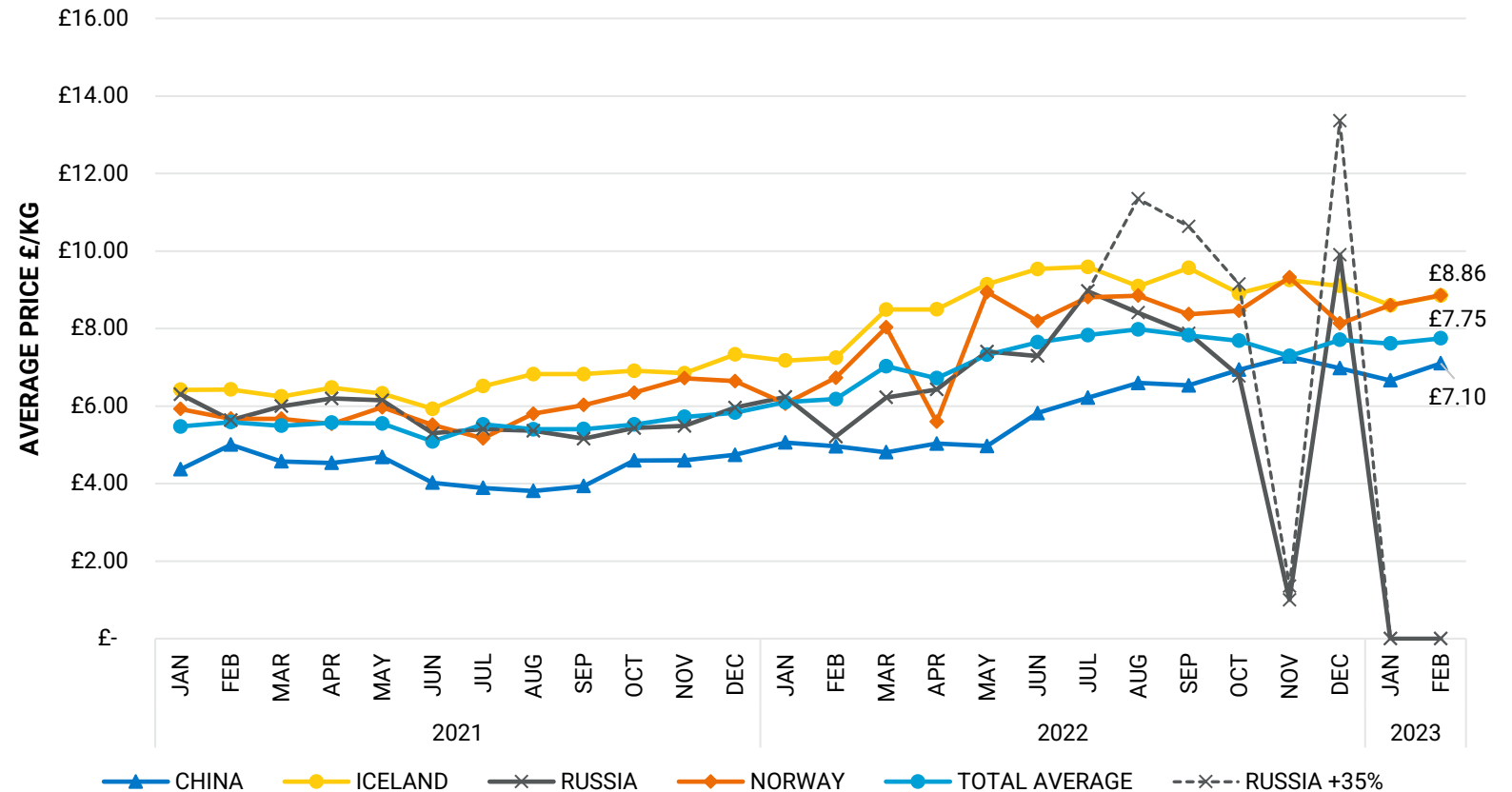
## Price tracker by country

Consignments from China are below the average import price throughout the last year

To note these prices are based on Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) values before duties and tariffs

Average price in 2022 compared to 2021

- China = £5.93 (+35%)
- Iceland = £8.63 (+32%)
- Russia = £7.08 (+24%) (without tariff)
- Norway = £7.76 (+31%)
- Total average = £7.28 (+32%)



# Frozen haddock fillets import 2022 overview



**£117 million (+28%)**



**18,604 tonnes (-6%)**  
**56,929 tonnes live weight (-6%)**



**£6.29/kg (+36%)**

Proportional share compared to 2021

- ↑ China up from 33.8%
- ↓ Iceland down from 31.1%
- ↓ Russia down from 15.9%
- ↓ Norway down from 6.6%
- ↓ EU down from 8.8%

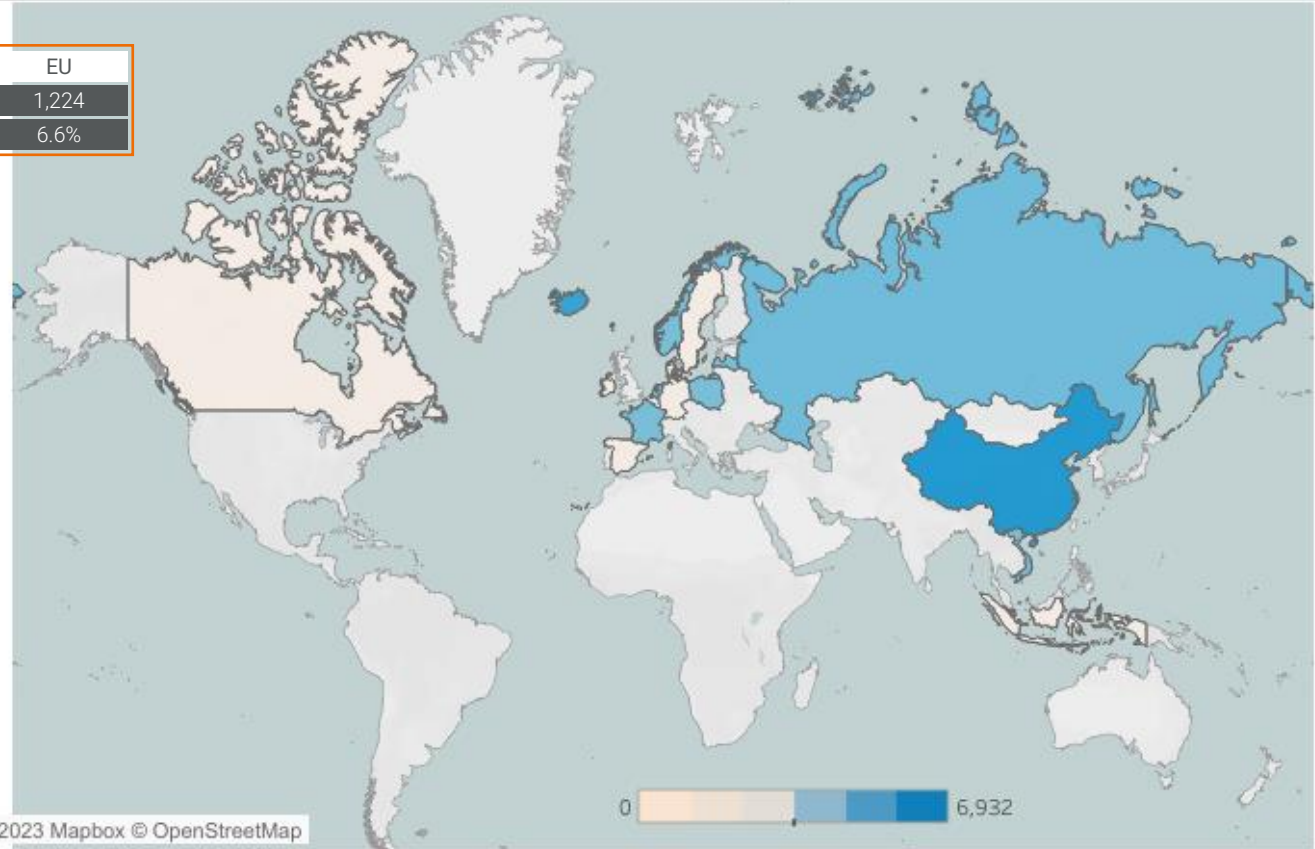
88%

11%

1%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CHINA	ICELAND	RUSSIA	NORWAY	FAROE ISLA..	NETHERLAN..	POLAND	VIETNAM	FRANCE	LATVIA
6,932	5,753	2,471	1,153	796	591	341	207	82	72
37.3%	30.9%	13.3%	6.2%	4.3%	3.2%	1.8%	1.1%	0.4%	0.4%

EU
1,224
6.6%



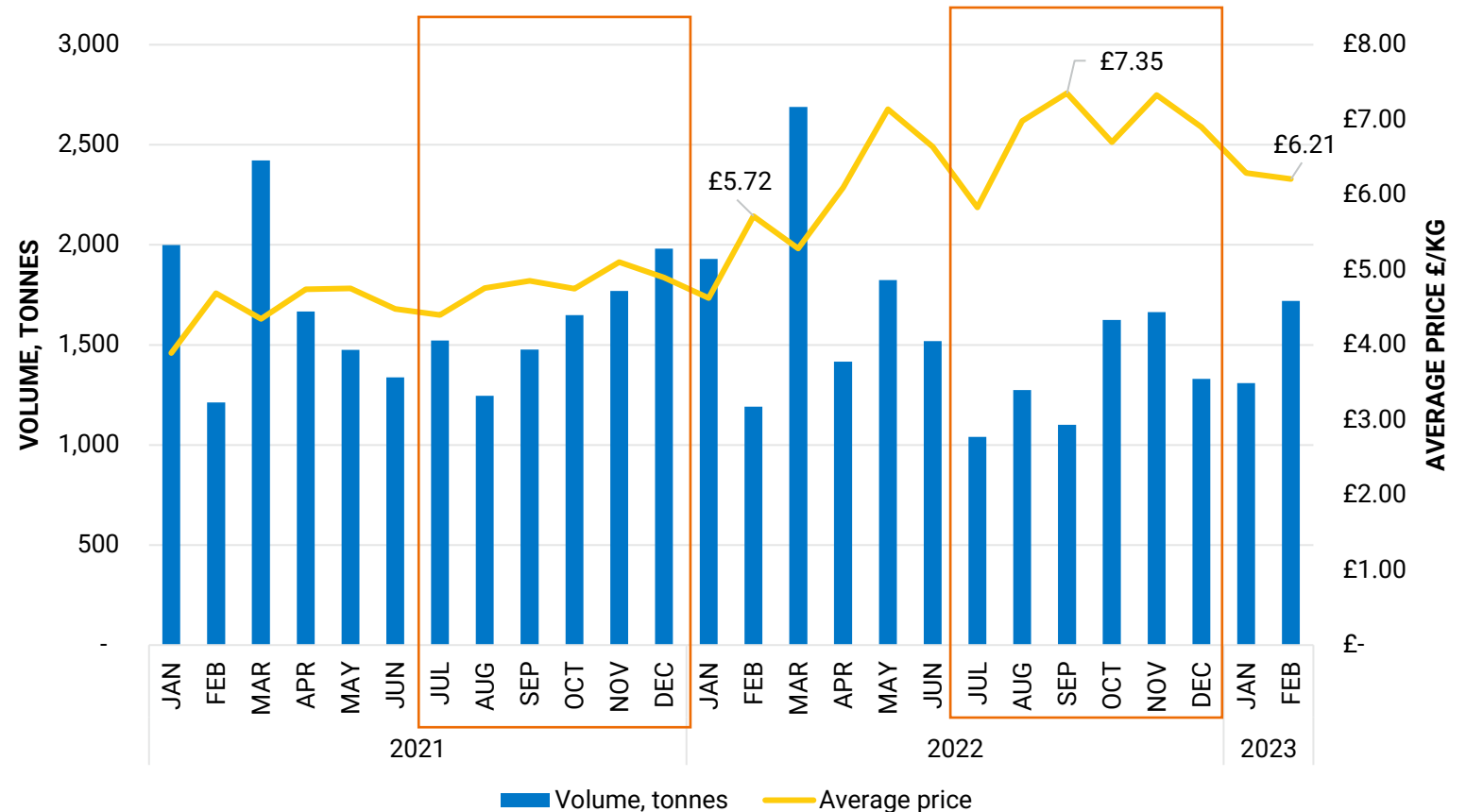
Click on a country to view its Top 10 Species with their Weight (tonnes)

© 2023 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

# Frozen haddock fillets import

## Monthly volume and price

- Haddock products
  - 03047200
- By February 2023 prices were 9% higher than February 2022 reaching £6.21/kg
- The volume of frozen haddock fillets imported in the 6 month period July-December in 2022 was 17% lower than the same period in 2021



# Frozen haddock fillets import

## Price tracker by country

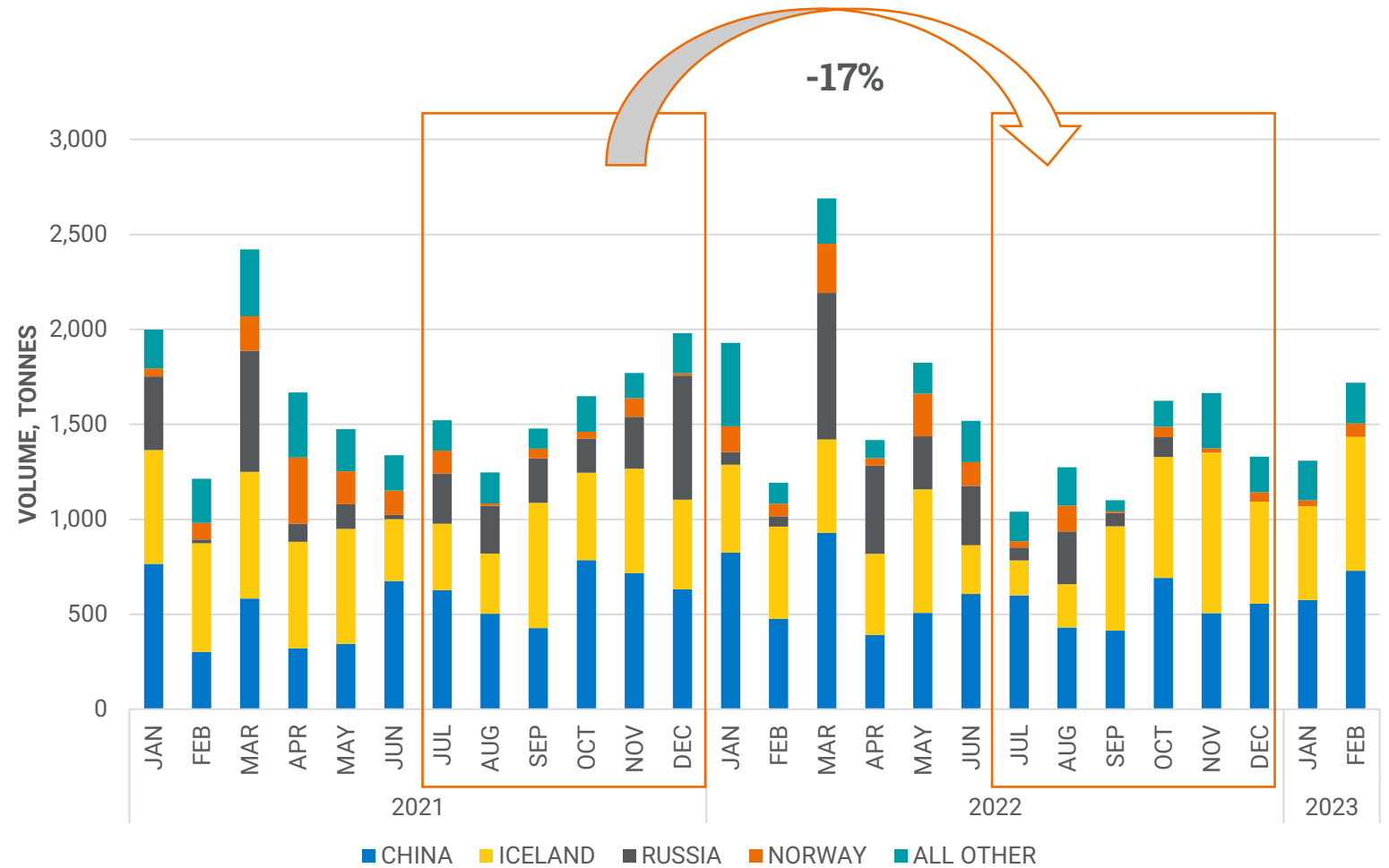
Change to total import volume in the 6 month period July-December 2022 vs the same period in 2021:

- ↓ China = 13% reduction
- ↑ Iceland = 6% increase
- ↓ Russia = 72% reduction
- ↓ Norway = 8% reduction

Not shown but significant changes

- ↑ Netherlands = increase (+406 tonnes)
- ↑ Poland = increase (+186 tonnes)
- ↑ EU = 14% increase (+88 tonnes)

Annual changes also available on the T4 tool



[Click to access T4 Tool](#)

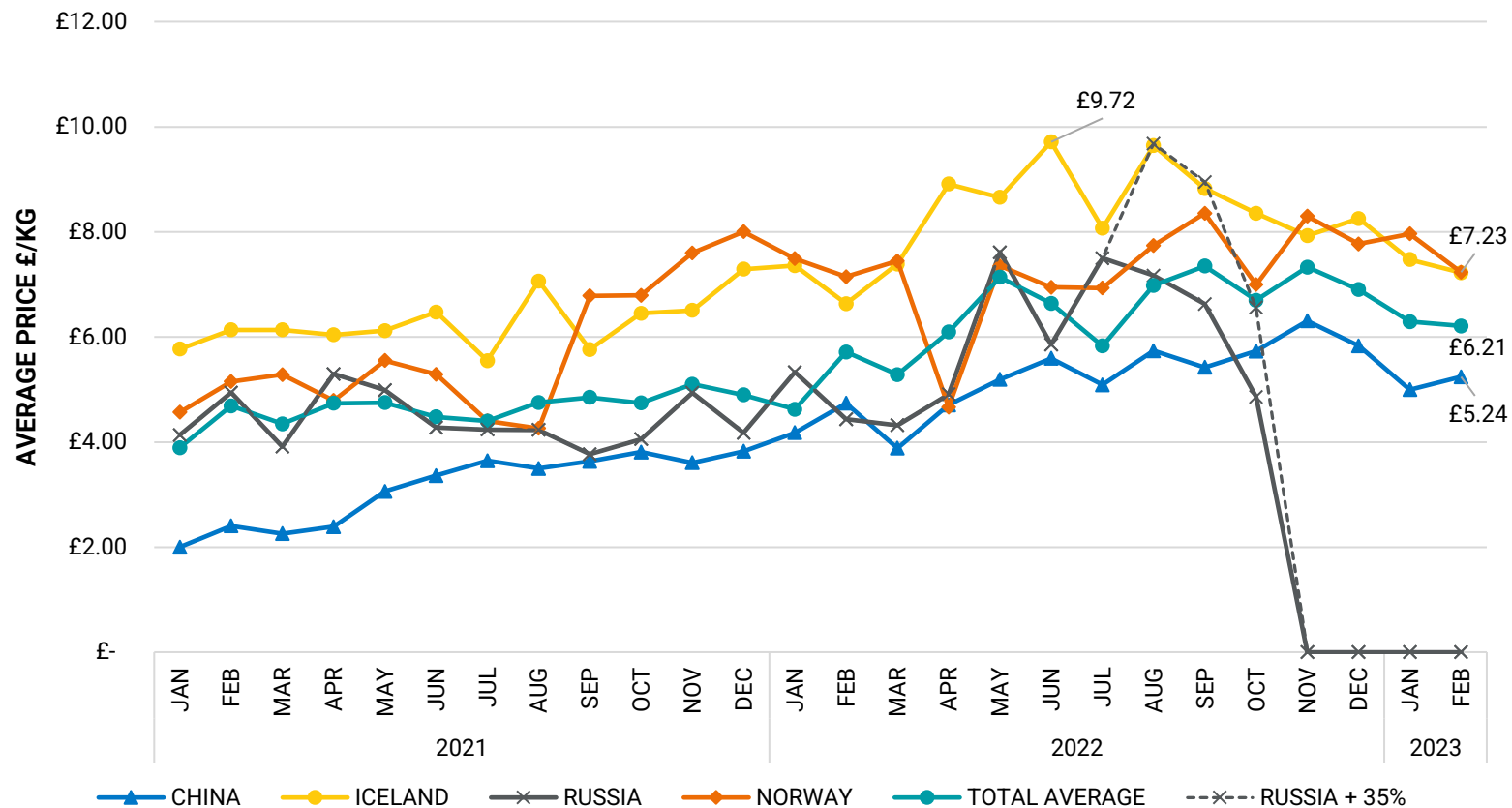
# Frozen haddock fillets import

## Price tracker by country

To note these prices are based on Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) values before duties and tariffs

Average price in 2022 compared to 2021

- China = £5.10 (+60%)
- Iceland = £8.20 (+32%)
- Russia = £5.52 (+36%) (without tariff)
- Norway = £7.31 (+36%)
- Total average = £6.29 (+36%)





# Fish and chips in foodservice

Suzi Pegg-Darlison

Circana GB Foodservice Panel Data

Data to 52 week ending December 2022 and 2 year ending September 2022



# Agenda

## GB fish and chips consumption out of home (OOH)

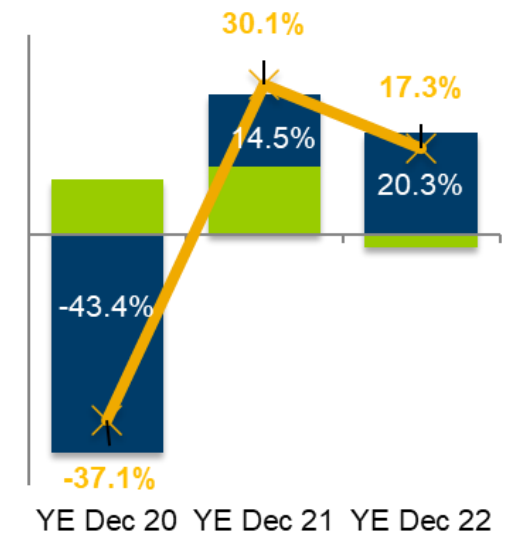
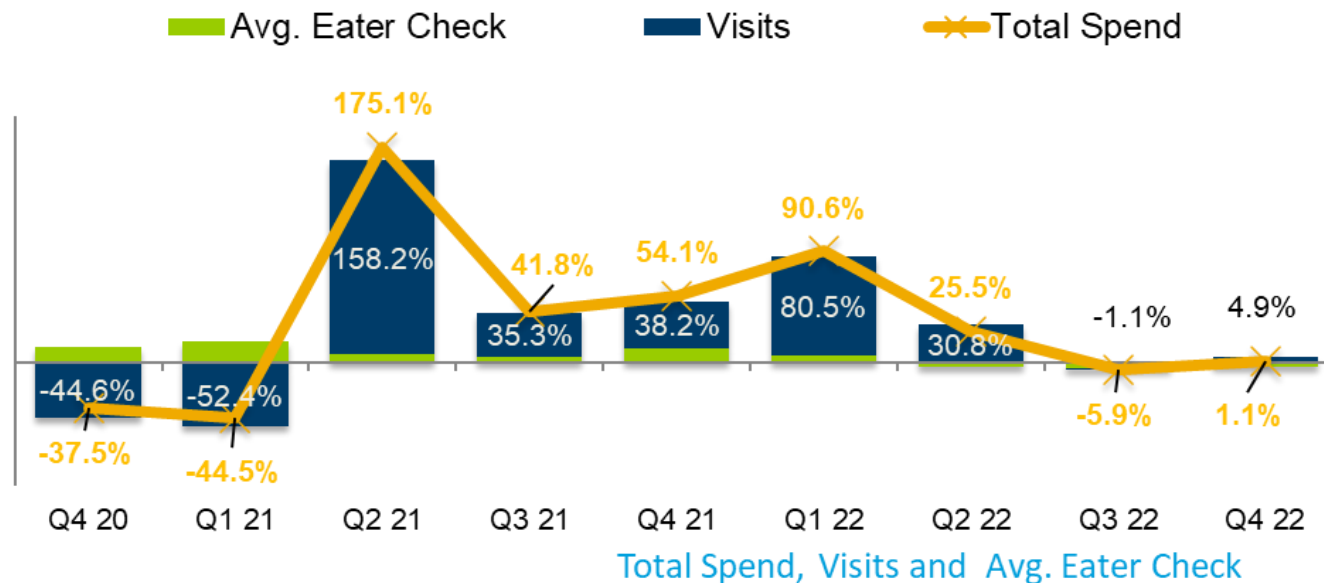
- [01](#) How is the foodservice market performing?
- [02](#) How is seafood OOH performing?
- [03](#) How is seafood OOH performing in each channel?
- [04](#) How is Cod and Haddock performing OOH?
- [05](#) How are fish and chips performing?
- [06](#) Where are fish and chips purchased?
- [07](#) Who is the fish and chips consumer?
- [08](#) When are fish and chips consumed?
- [09](#) Why do consumers choose fish and chips?
- [10](#) What is the main motivation for purchases?
- [11](#) Key opportunities
- [12](#) Key takeaways
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# How is the foodservice market performing?

## Return to growth helped by first no-restrictions holiday season in three years and by the World Cup

Total Out of Home

Components of Spending vs. Year Ago



Total Spend, Visits and Avg. Eater Check

	Q4 20	Q1 21	Q2 21	Q3 21	Q4 21	Q1 22	Q2 22	Q3 22	Q4 22
Spend in mio. £	9,292	6,799	10,686	15,202	14,320	12,959	13,414	14,299	14,475
Visits in mio	1,620	1,160	1,572	2,412	2,238	2,094	2,057	2,385	2,348
Avg. Eater Check in £	5.74	5.86	6.80	6.30	6.40	6.19	6.52	6.00	6.17

	YE Dec 20	YE Dec 21	YE Dec 22
Total Spend	36,141	47,007	55,147
Visits	6,449	7,382	8,882
Avg. Eater Check	5.60	6.37	6.21

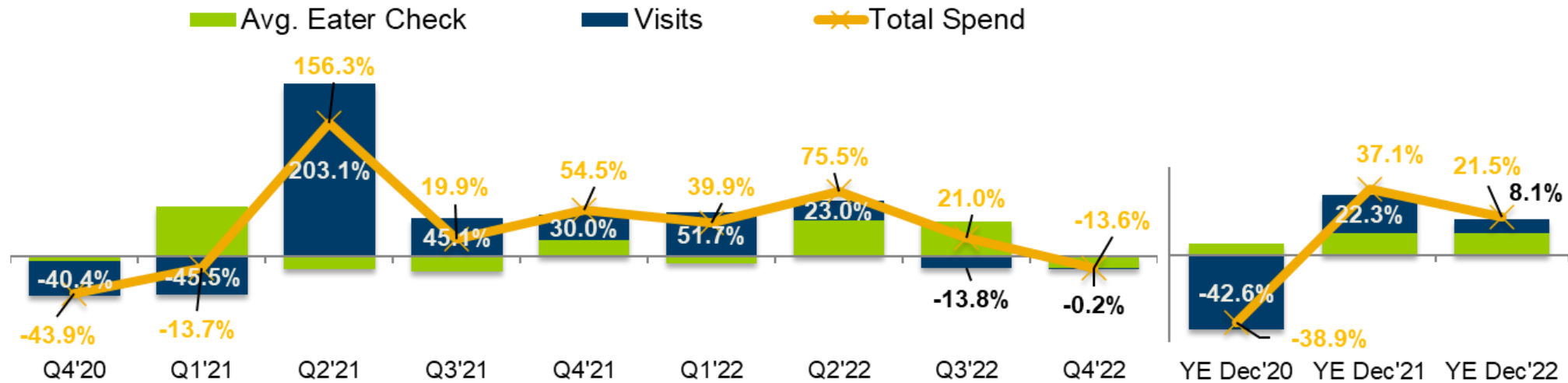
Source: Circana, data to quarter 4 (Q4) 2022 and year end (YE) December 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally*

# How is seafood OOH performing?

## Spend is up, but this is price led as visits and servings are down

Seafood Only

Components of Spending vs. Year Ago



Total Spend, Servings, Visits and Avg. Eater Check

	Q4'20	Q1'21	Q2'21	Q3'21	Q4'21	Q1'22	Q2'22	Q3'22	Q4'22
Visits, m	156	117	155	262	203	177	190	226	203
Servings, m	173	130	179	309	238	207	216	263	242
Total Spend, £m	656	710	692	968	1,013	993	1,213	1,171	875
Avg. Eater Check, £	4.20	6.08	4.47	3.69	4.99	5.61	6.38	5.18	4.32

	YE Dec'20	YE Dec'21	YE Dec'22
Visits, m	602	737	796
Servings, m	686	856	929
Total Spend, £m	2,559	3,509	4,265
Avg. Eater Check, £	4.25	4.76	5.36

Source: Circana, data to quarter 4 (Q4) 2022 and year end (YE) December 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally*

# How is seafood OOH performing in each channel?

## Growth in all channels except QSR and Fish and Chip Shops



Seafood Visits (bn)



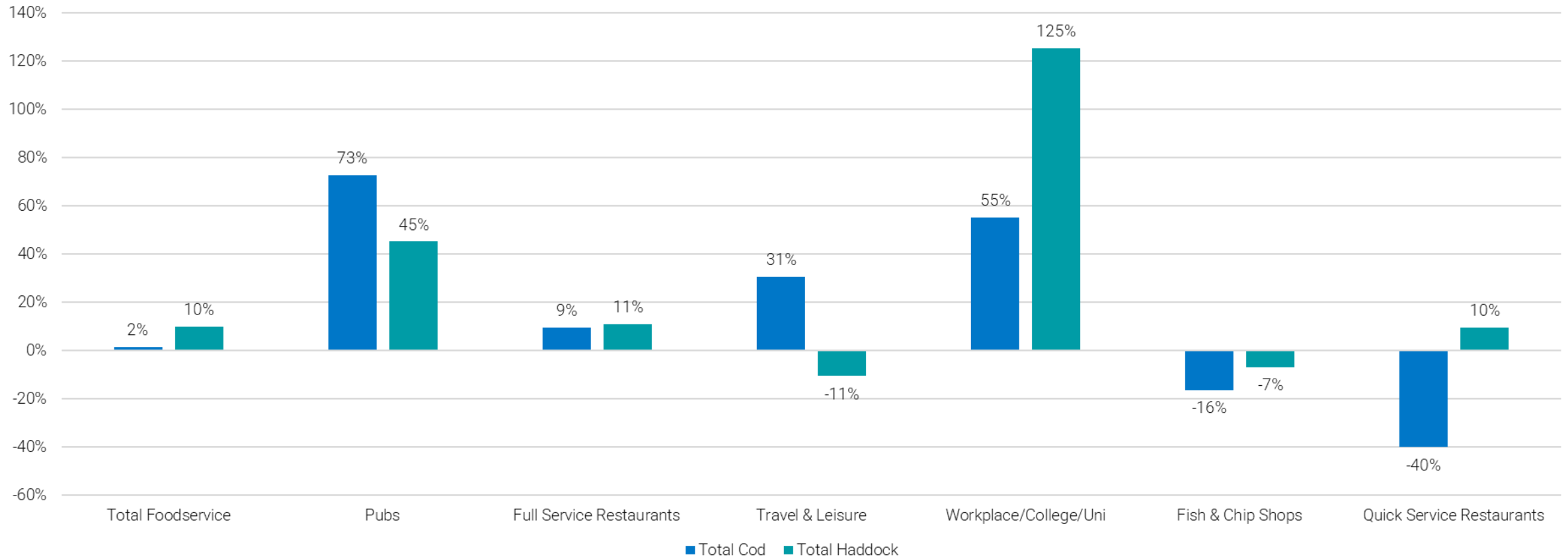
Seafood Servings (bn)

Total Foodservice	0.80	8.1%	0.93	8.6%
Total Quick Service Restaurant (QSR)	0.39	-11.9%	0.43	-12.6%
QSR excl. Fish & Chip Shops	0.24	-11.5%	0.28	-13.1%
Fish & Chip Shops	0.14	-12.6%	0.15	-11.5%
Pubs	0.12	60.3%	0.14	64.1%
Full Service(incl. Cafe/Bistro)	0.13	31.4%	0.16	31.1%
Workplace/College/Uni	0.09	43.8%	0.11	43.3%
Travel & Leisure	0.07	11.6%	0.09	9.7%

Source: Circana, data to year end (YE) December 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally*

# How is Cod and Haddock performing OOH? Both in servings growth in total OOH vs. 2021

Cod and Haddock Servings Share Growth (2022 vs. 2021)

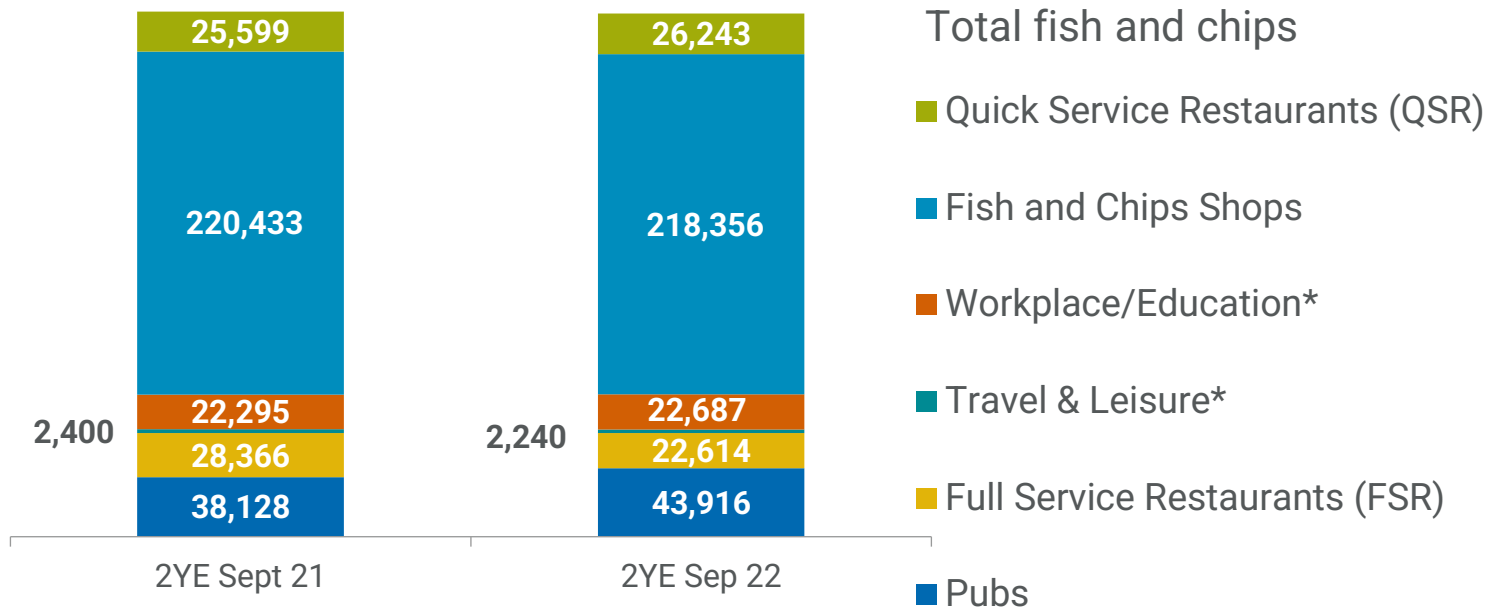


Source: Circana, data to year end (YE) December 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally*

# How are fish and chips performing?

## Total servings of fish and chips OOH are in decline

Total fish and chips  
Servings (000s) by channel



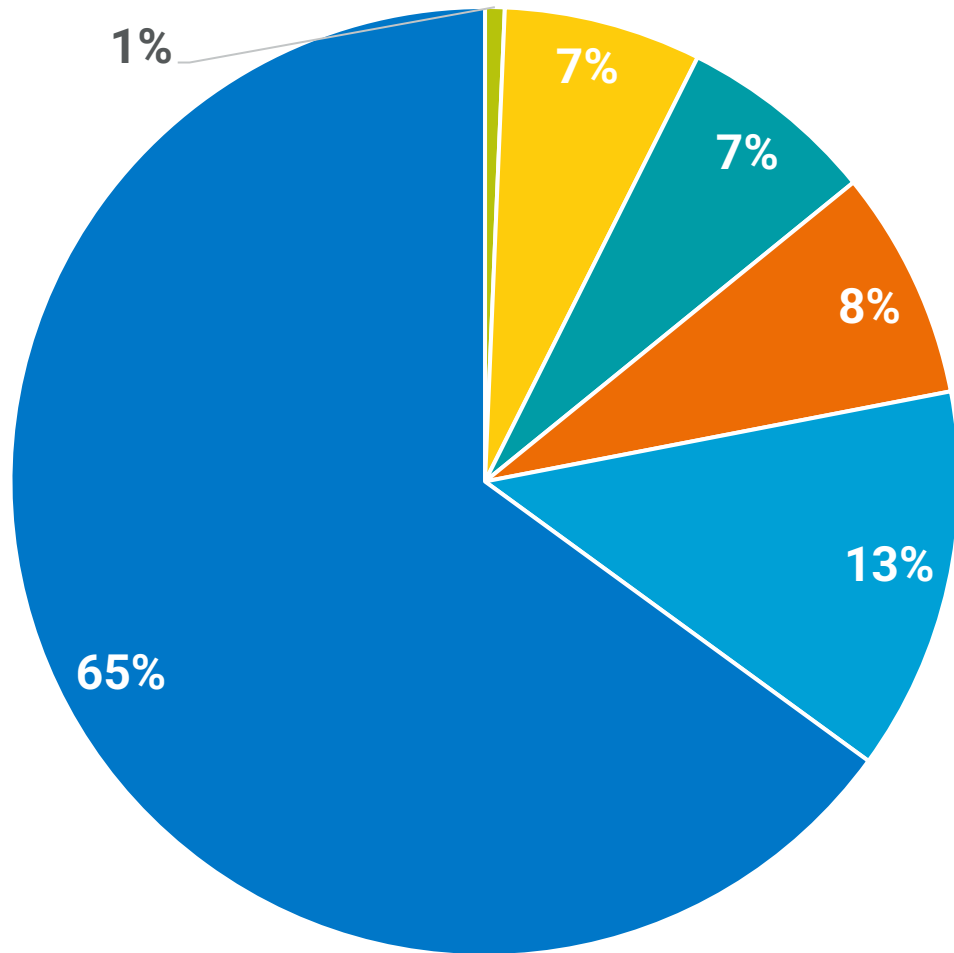
Total fish and chips YOY\*\* change  
Servings (% and actual)

Total fish and chips	-0.3%	-1.2m
Quick Service Restaurants (QSR)	2.5%	+0.6m
Fish and Chips Shops	-0.9%	-2.1m
Workplace/Education*	1.8%	+0.4m
Travel & Leisure*	-6.7%	-0.2m
Full Service Restaurants (FSR)	-20.3%	-5.8m
Pubs	15.2%	+5.8m

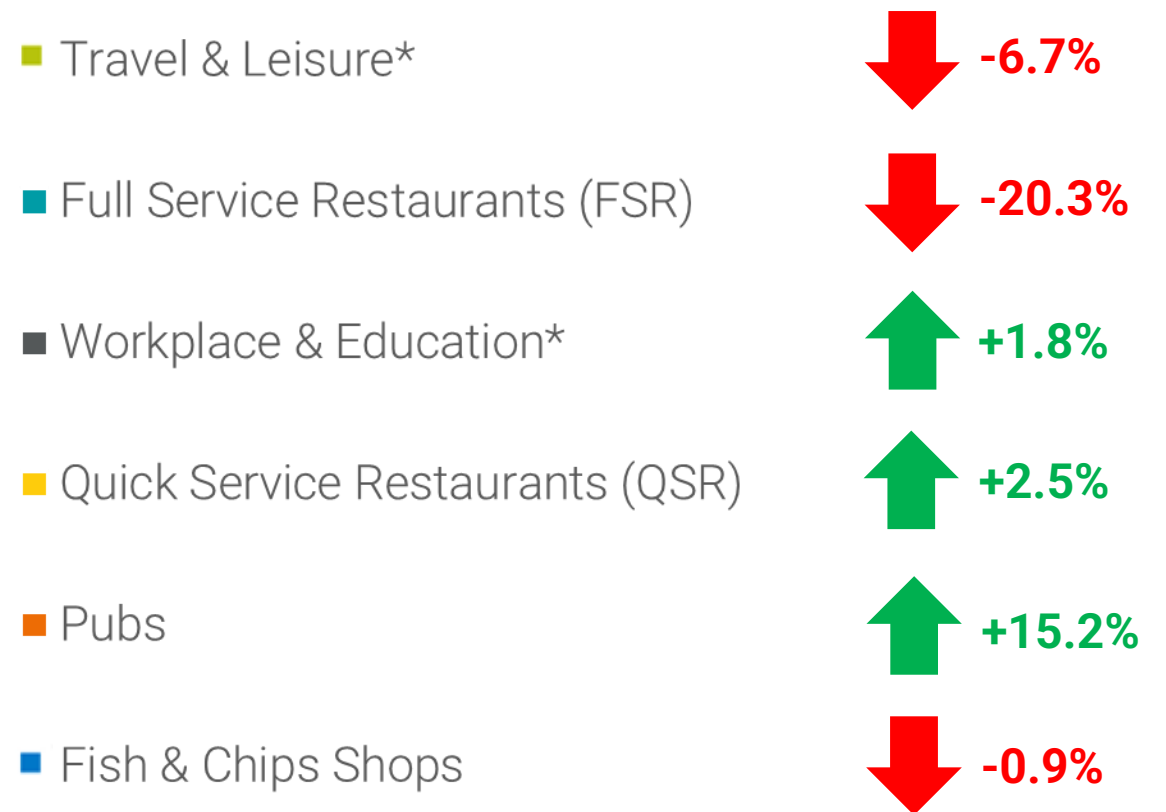
Source: Circana, data to 2-year ending (2YE) September 2022  
\*low sample size – use directionally, \*\*year on year (YOY)

# Where are fish and chips purchased?

## Over two thirds of all fish and chips servings are from Fish and Chip Shops



### Channel share of fish and chip servings with % growth



Source: Circana, data to 2-year ending (2YE) September 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally, \*\*year on year (YOY)*

# Who is the fish and chips consumer?

## An older and more affluent adult



### Adults

72% of all fish and chips servings are to parties without children



### Affluence

69% of fish and chips servings are to the A, B and C1 consumer



### Women

52% of all fish and chips servings are to consumers women



### 50+ years old

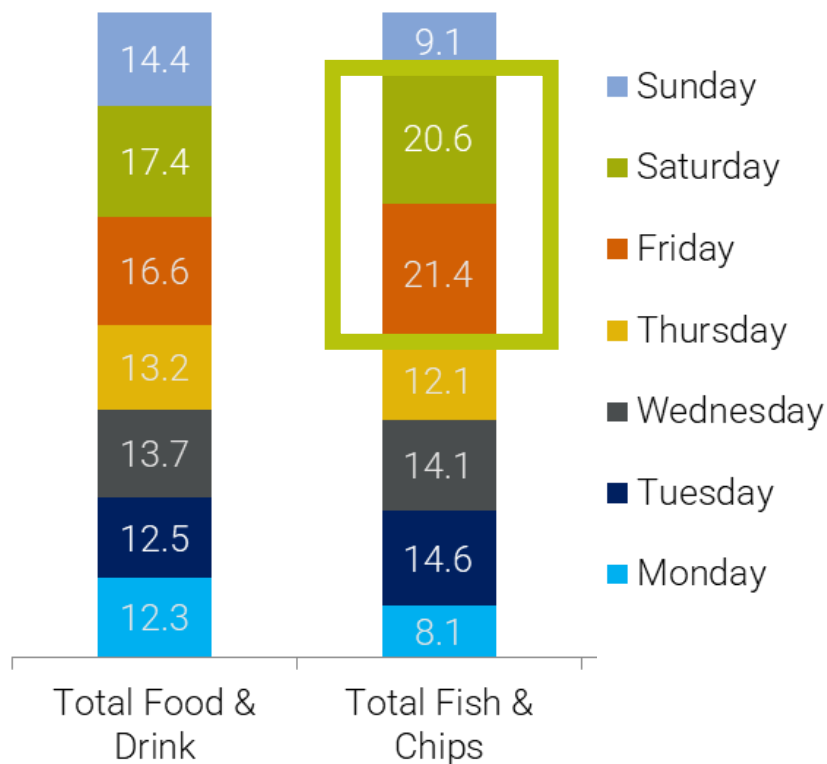
49% of all fish and chips servings are to adults over 50



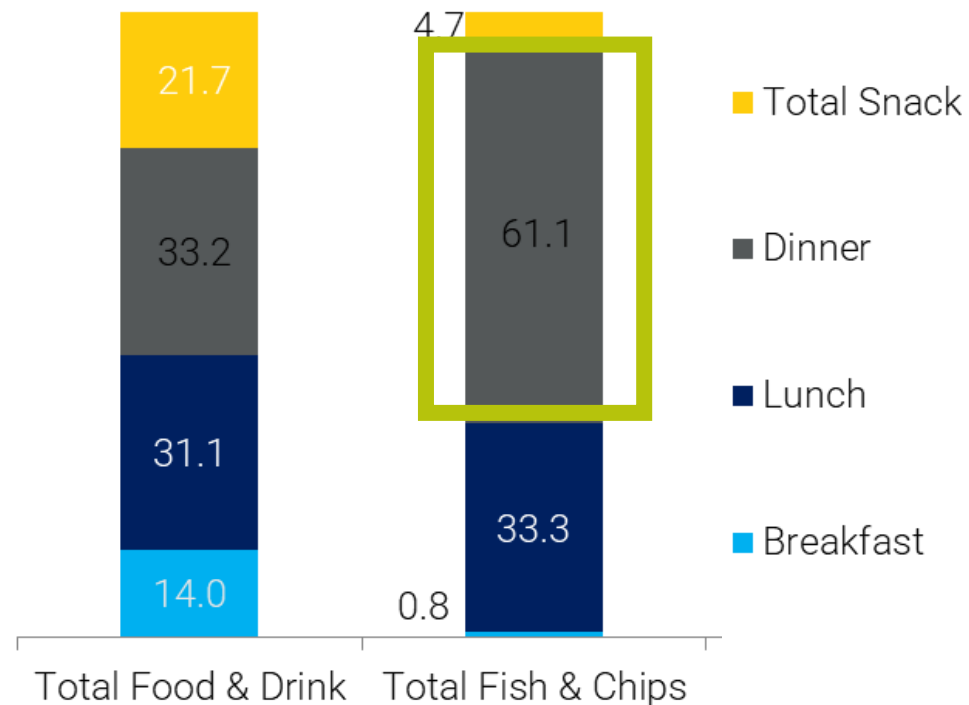
# When are fish and chips consumed?

## Dinner on Fridays and Saturdays is the most popular time for fish and chips

Total fish and chips Servings (%) by day of the week



Total fish and chips Servings (%) by daypart



Source: Circana, data to 2-year ending (2YE) September 2022  
 \*low sample size – use directionally, \*\*year on year (YOY)

# Why do consumers choose fish and chips? Because it is the most popular British dish

## FISH AND CHIPS

Dish



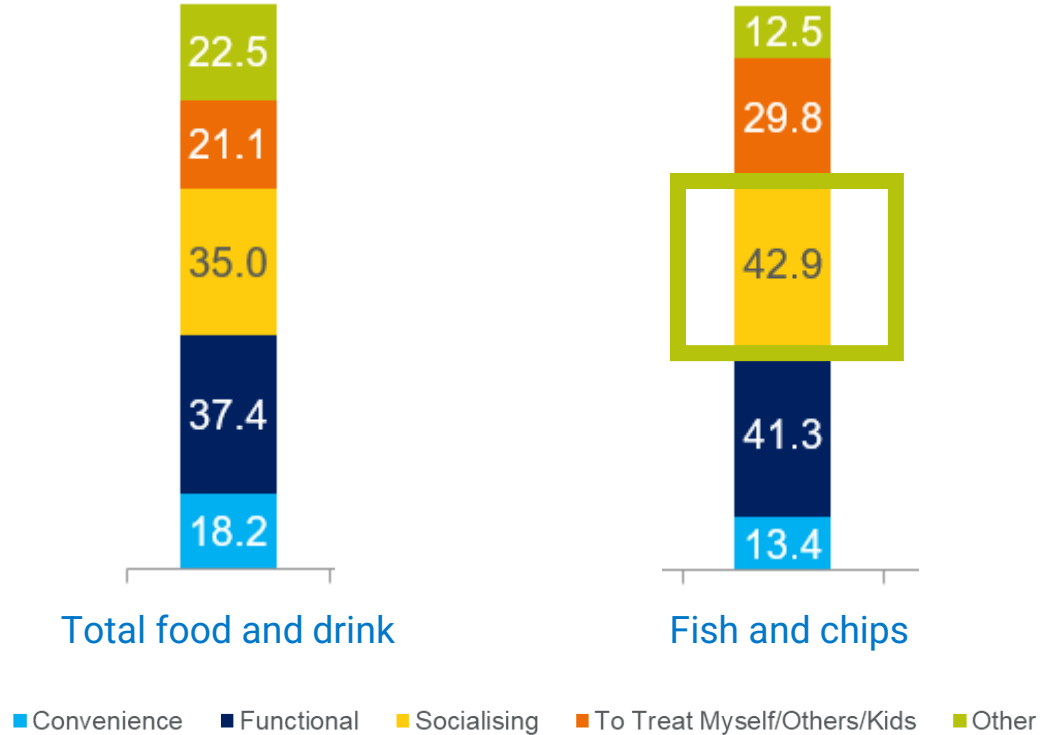
 <b>Fame</b> (have heard of)	<b>99%</b>
 <b>Popularity</b> (liked by)	<b>85%</b>
 <b>Disliked by</b>	<b>5%</b>
 <b>Neutral</b>	<b>9%</b>

### BRITISH DISHES

- 1 Fish and Chips**
- 2 Roast Chicken
- 3 Chips
- 4 Mashed Potatoes
- 5 English Breakfast

# What is the main motivation for purchases? Socialising

Total fish and chips  
Servings (%) by motivation



Source: Circana, data to 2-year ending (2YE) September 2022  
*\*low sample size – use directionally*



# Key opportunities



## Diverse consumer base

Target a younger and less affluent consumer



## Every day of the week

Make fish and chips relevant all week



## Not just for dinner

Target the snacking and breakfast occasions



## Delivery

The service is here to stay



## App-based loyalty platforms

Offer customers deals directly via apps



## Mono-products platform

Offer different products alongside staples

## Key takeaways

- Fish and Chips are the most popular British dish.
- Foodservice recovery has returned to growth with seafood slightly behind the total market.
- Fish and chips servings are in recovery but declines from some channels causing decline.
- Value for money will remain important but loyalty will be key.
- Quick value, on-the go occasions will be instrumental in growth.

# Further reading



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# Reports access

**seafish** Search document

Trade and regulation Promoting seafood Safety and training Responsible sourcing

Insight and research > Market Insight > Market Insight Portal Login

## Market Insight Portal Login

Our detailed Market Insight Portal content is for seafood businesses in the UK. Login on this page.

We provide a range of detailed reports on trade, retail and foodservice which are freely available to seafood businesses. We issue a monthly newsletter letting you know when the latest data is available. If you have already registered to subscribe to the Market Insight Portal, please login below.

[View the Market Data terms of use 2020](#)

## Market Insight Portal

Subscribers only registration required

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Trade and regulation Promoting seafood Safety and training Responsible sourcing

Our review of how Covid-19 has affected the seafood industry in the UK.

### Market supply data and insight

We use HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) data to analyse what seafood species and products are imported from and exported to the UK.

### Foodservice data and insight

We gather and analyse data from the foodservice industry in the UK to find out the latest trends and insights on seafood eaten out of home.

### Aquaculture research and insight

The aquaculture industry in the UK is growing. We've published an economic analysis of the industry and also shared other interesting research.

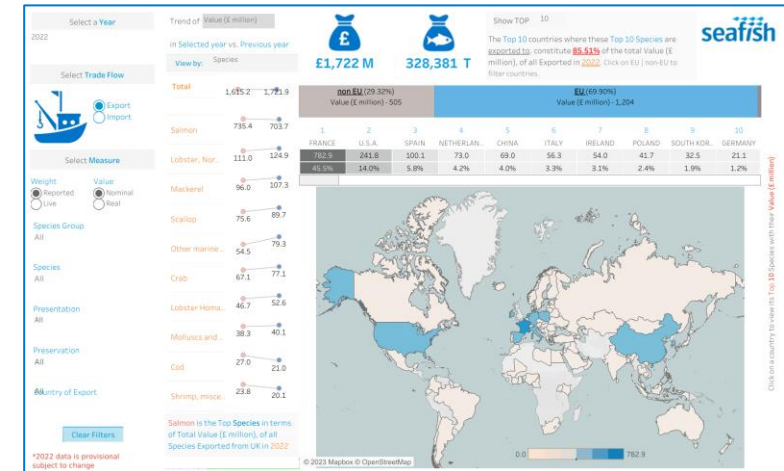
### Consumer research

The first step in changing behaviour is knowing what really drives consumers. We commission research into attitudes towards buying and eating seafood.

## Seafish.org

Subscribers only registration required

[Click to access Seafish.org](#)



## T4 Tool

Publicly Available

[Click to access T4 Tool](#)

# Thank you

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