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UK Seafood Import statistics 2022: The Faroe Islands

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Aim

This factsheet highlights the scale and format of seafood products imported to the UK from the Faroe Islands. The aim is to identify and evidence trade flows of key seafood products from the Faroe Islands 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 the Faroe Islands in 2022:

£230.5 million (+36%)

28,826 tonnes (+5%)

In 2022, the Faroe Islands ranked fifth among the leading seafood suppliers to the UK in terms of value and seventh in terms of volume. The UK's seafood imports totalled £3.64 billion, with products from the Faroe Islands accounting for £230.5 million. Faroese imports increased by £60.8 million compared to 2021(+36%) making up 6.3% of UK's total seafood import value, up from 5.6%.

The volume of seafood imported from the Faroe Islands grew by 5% in 2022, despite rising inflation, reaching a total of 28,826 tonnes by the end of the year. This was an increase of 1,437 tonnes compared to 2021 with the largest growth in fresh salmon fillets, frozen haddock fillets, frozen and live/fresh haddock and cod.

- Salmon, cod and haddock made up 98% of the value of seafood imported from the Faroe Islands in 2022 and 96% by volume.
- By format, live/fresh seafood made up 75% of imports from the Faroe Islands followed by frozen fillets making up 21%.
- Immingham and Inverness are the two top ports of import in 2022 making up over 99.9% of imports from the Faroe Islands.
- Live/fresh salmon was the highest value imported product, accounting for 50% of imports from the Faroe Islands in 2022.

Note:

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

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UK seafood imported from the Faroe Islands 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 average imported seafood price increased 19% and imported volume decreased -2%.

By value, 6.3% of the seafood imported to the UK in 2022 was from The Faroes (figure 1) making it the 5th highest value seafood supplier to the UK. Consignments from the Faroes totalled £230.5 million increasing £60.8 million (36%) compared to 2021.

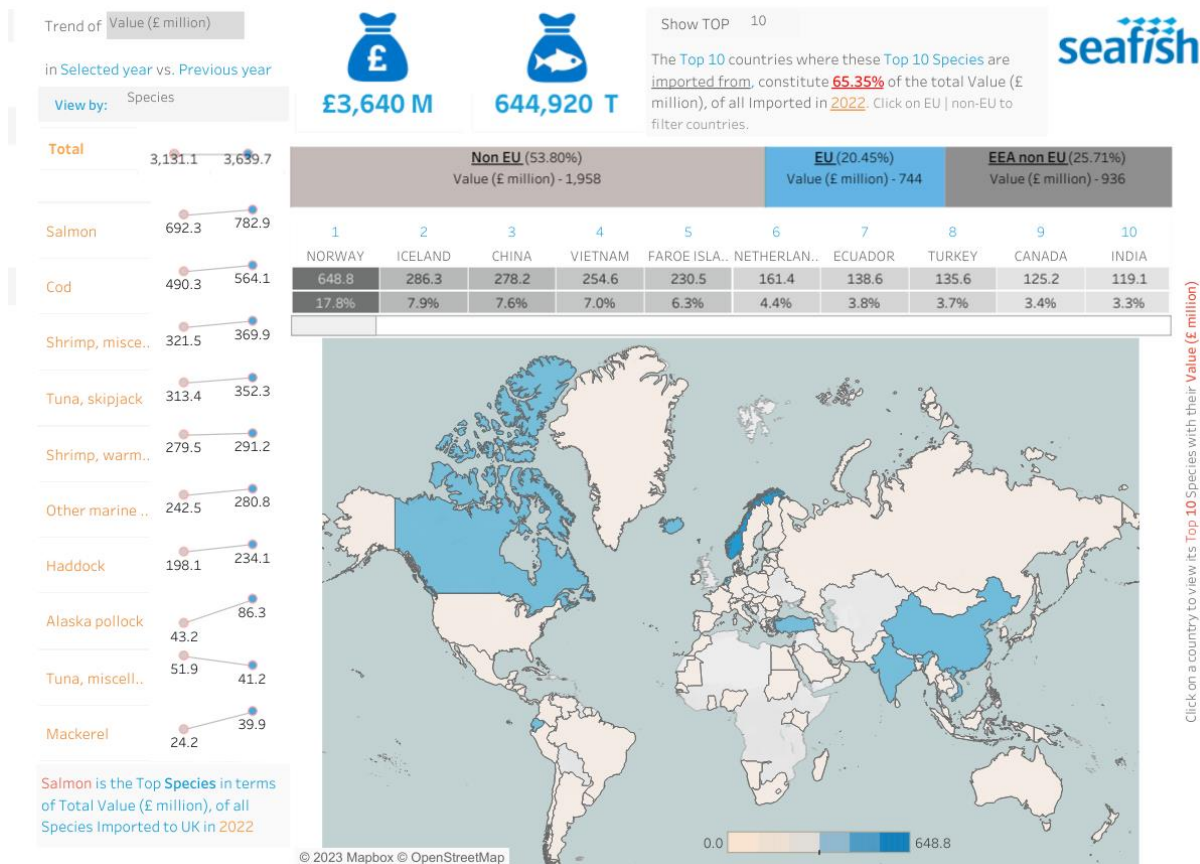


Figure 1 Top 10 countries supplying seafood to the UK and top 10 main commercial species imported by value in 2022 (Trade and Tariff Tool in Tableau extract)

2. Top species imported from Faroe Islands by value

Salmon made up 68% of total seafood value imported from the Faroe Islands in 2022, an increase of £39.7 million (+34%) when compared to 2021. The import value of cod and haddock in 2022 was 21% and 9% respectively. Both species saw an increase from 2021 levels, with cod up 45% and haddock 40%.

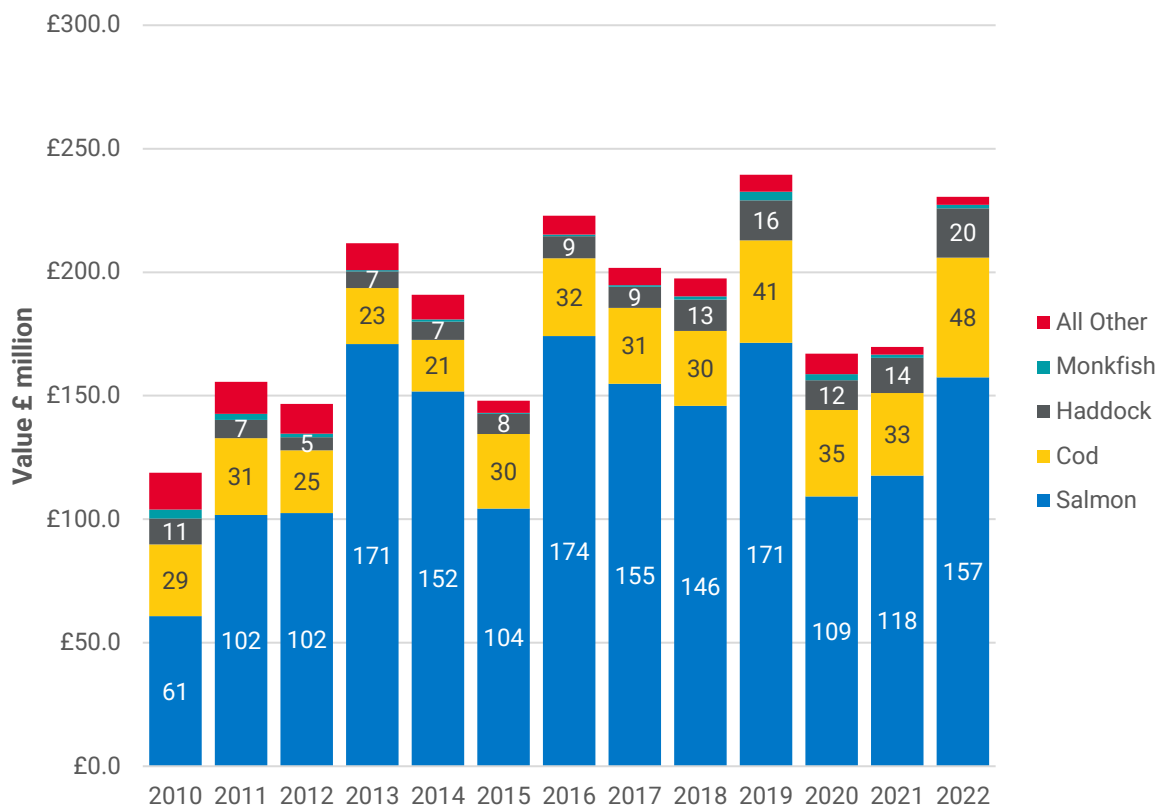


Figure 2 Top species imported to the UK from the Faroe Islands by value 2010-2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

3. Proportion of key imported species consigned directly from The Faroe Islands in 2022

The Faroe Islands supplied 6.3% of the total seafood value imported by the UK in 2022. Most of the monkfish imported to the UK in 2022 was consigned from the Faroe Islands (63%), whereas the Faroes supplied 20% of the total imported salmon value, and 9% of both imported cod and haddock value.

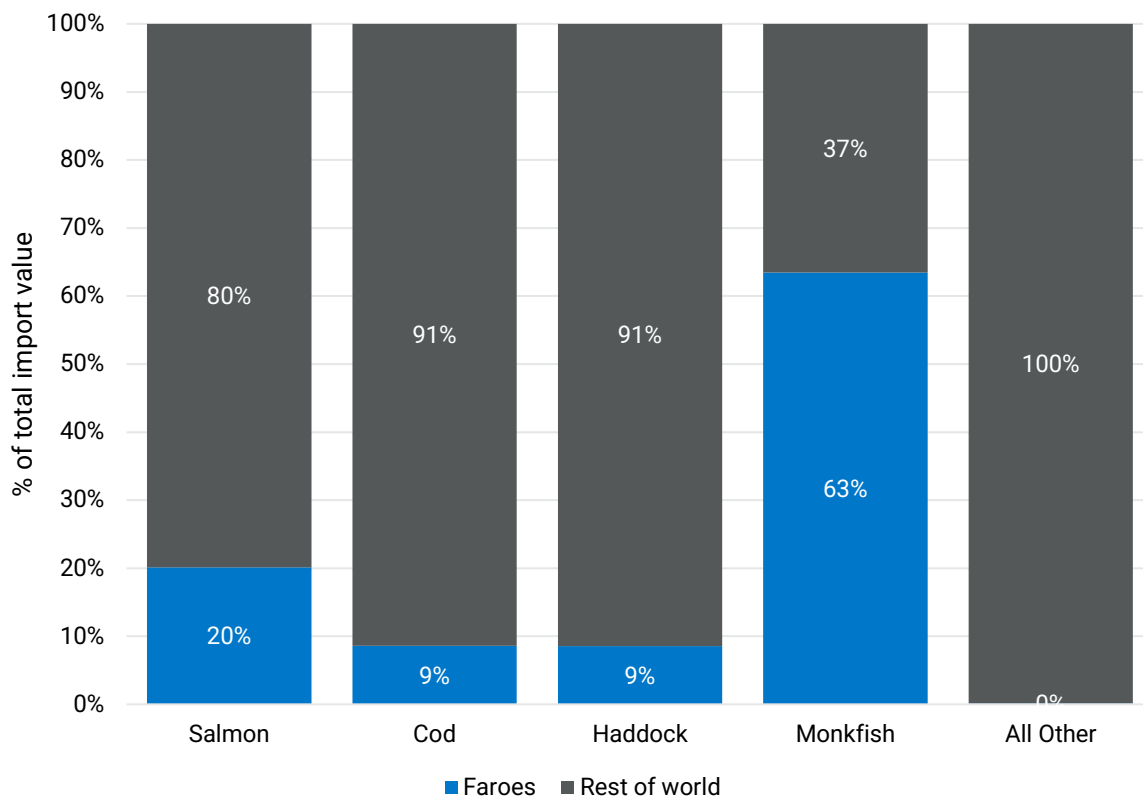


Figure 3 Top imported species from The Faroe Islands in 2022 as a proportion of total species import value to the UK.

4. Top species imported from the Faroe Islands by value

In 2022 the majority of salmon imported from the Faroe Islands was imported as live/fresh and whole/gutted (90%), similar to haddock (72%) and monkfish (96%). Cod imported from the Faroes was mostly in the format of frozen fillets (86%).

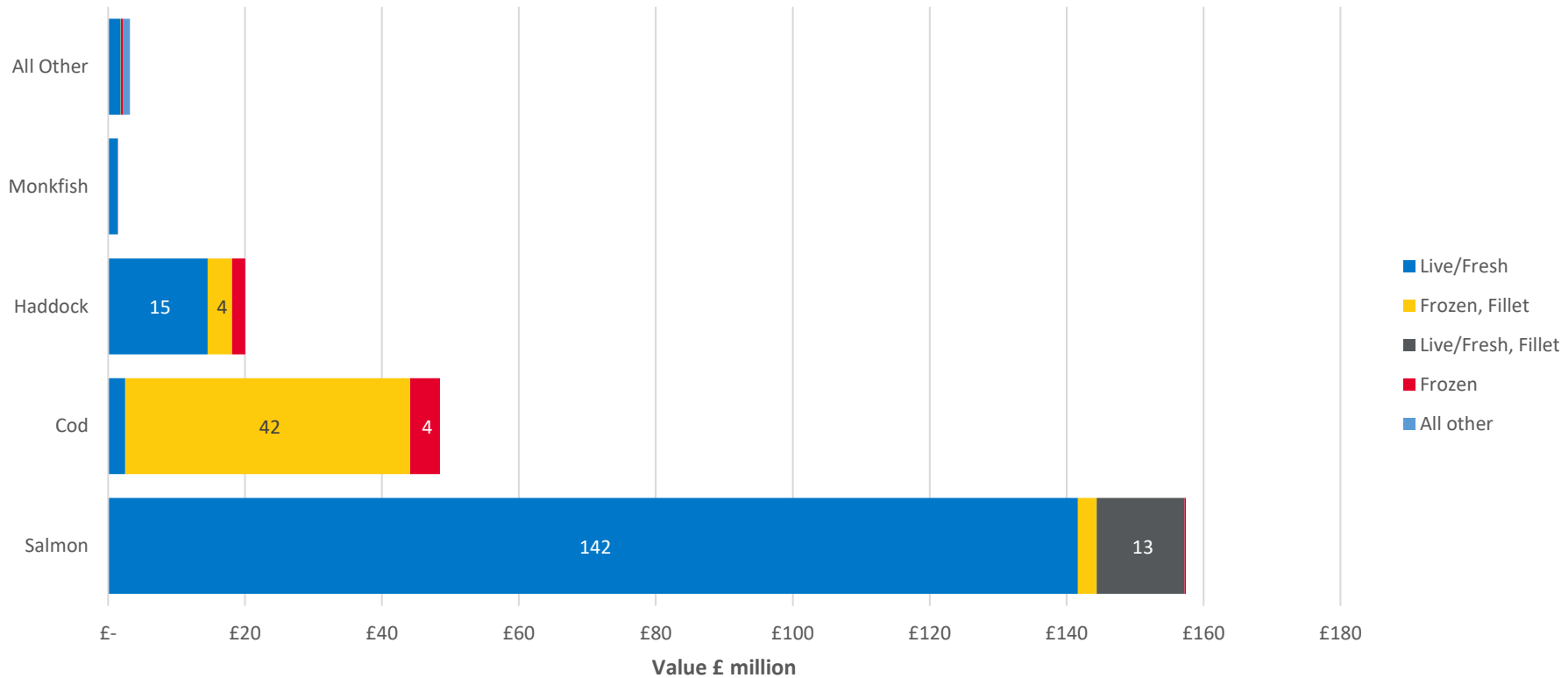


Figure 4. Top value species imported from The Faroe Islands by preservation format. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

5. Top imported seafood products from Faroe Islands 2022 by value

Tables 1-3 state the value volume and average price of imported products from the Faroe Islands in 2022 and the proportion they make up of total seafood imported from the Faroes. The year-on-year percentage change is given to indicate an increase or decline compared to 2021.

UK Import from Faroe Islands in 2022 by value (Total: £230.5m)		<i>£ million</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>Proportion of total %</i>
Species	Salmon	157.4	34%	68%
	Cod	48.5	45%	21%
	Haddock	20.0	40%	9%
	Monkfish	1.4	16%	<1%
	Sole	0.5	-15%	<1%
	Plaice	0.5	-24%	<1%
	All Other	2.2	12%	1%
Species group	Salmon	157.4	34%	68%
	Demersal	72.1	41%	31%
	All Others	1.0	12%	<1%
	Pelagic	0.0	-85%	<1%
	Shellfish	0.0	-87%	<1%
Format	Live/Fresh	161.8	30%	70%
	Frozen, Fillet	48.0	40%	21%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	12.8	92%	6%
	Frozen	6.8	132%	3%
	Frozen, Other cuts	0.8	-5%	<1%
	Salted	0.2		<1%
Product	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	141.6	30%	61%
	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	41.6	41%	18%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	14.5	31%	6%
	03044100 (Salmon, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	12.8	105%	6%
	03036310 (Cod, Frozen)	4.3	148%	2%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	3.6	58%	2%
	03048100 (Salmon, Frozen, Fillet)	2.8	9%	1%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	2.5	46%	1%
	All Other	6.8	18%	3%
Total	230.5	36%	100%	

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

6. Top imported products from the Faroe Islands by volume

UK Import from Faroe Islands in 2022 by volume (Total: 28,826 tonnes)		<i>Quantity, tonnes</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>Proportion of total %</i>
Species	Salmon	16,054	2%	56%
	Cod	6,053	3%	21%
	Haddock	5,589	18%	19%
	Monkfish	326	-3%	1.1%
	Plaice	106	-36%	<1%
	Whiting	88	373%	<1%
	All Other	610	6%	2%
Species group	Salmon	16,054	2%	56%
	Demersal	12,482	9%	43%
	All Others	234	28%	1%
	Pelagic	54	21%	<1%
	Shellfish	1	-92%	<1%
Format	Live/Fresh	20,303	1%	70%
	Frozen, Fillet	5,844	6%	20%
	Frozen	1,267	34%	4%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	1,175	66%	4%
	Frozen, Other cuts	171	-5%	<1%
	Salted	66		<1%
Product	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	14,526	-1%	50%
	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	4,714	-1%	16%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	4,362	10%	15%
	03044100 (Salmon, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	1,174	83%	4%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	796	85%	3%
	03036310 (Cod, Frozen)	673	21%	2%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	666	32%	2%
	03036400 (Haddock, Frozen)	431	41%	1%
	03048100 (Salmon, Frozen, Fillet)	320	-5%	1%
	03028950 (Monkfish, Live/Fresh)	320	-4%	1%
	All Other	845	2%	3%
Total	28,826	5%	100%	

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

7. Prices of the top imported seafood products from the Faroe Islands in 2022 by value

Prices of UK Import from Faroe Islands in 2022 by value (Average price £8.00/kg)		<i>Price £/kg</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>
Species	Salmon	9.81	31%
	Cod	8.01	41%
	Haddock	3.59	18%
	Monkfish	4.34	19%
	Sole	5.98	37%
	Plaice	4.53	18%
	All Other	3.59	-16%
Species group	Salmon	9.81	31%
	Demersal	5.77	30%
	All Others	4.27	-12%
	Pelagic	0.54	-88%
	Shellfish	10.41	62%
Format	Live/Fresh	7.97	28%
	Frozen, Fillet	8.21	32%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet	10.92	16%
	Frozen	5.40	74%
	Frozen, Other cuts	4.91	0%
	Salted	2.73	
Product	03021400 (Salmon, Live/Fresh)	9.75	32%
	03047190 (Cod, Frozen, Fillet)	8.83	42%
	03025200 (Haddock, Live/Fresh)	3.33	19%
	03044100 (Salmon, Live/Fresh, Fillet)	10.93	12%
	03036310 (Cod, Frozen)	6.46	106%
	03047200 (Haddock, Frozen, Fillet)	4.52	-15%
	03048100 (Salmon, Frozen, Fillet)	8.59	14%
	03025110 (Cod, Live/Fresh)	3.75	10%
Average total		8.00	29%

Table 2 Average import price for the top value imported seafood products from the Faroe Islands in 2022. Including percentage change compared to 2021.

8. Total seafood imports from Faroe Islands by UK port of landing

By value, 51% of imported seafood from the Faroe Islands arrived into the port of Immingham and 49% to Inverness in 2022.

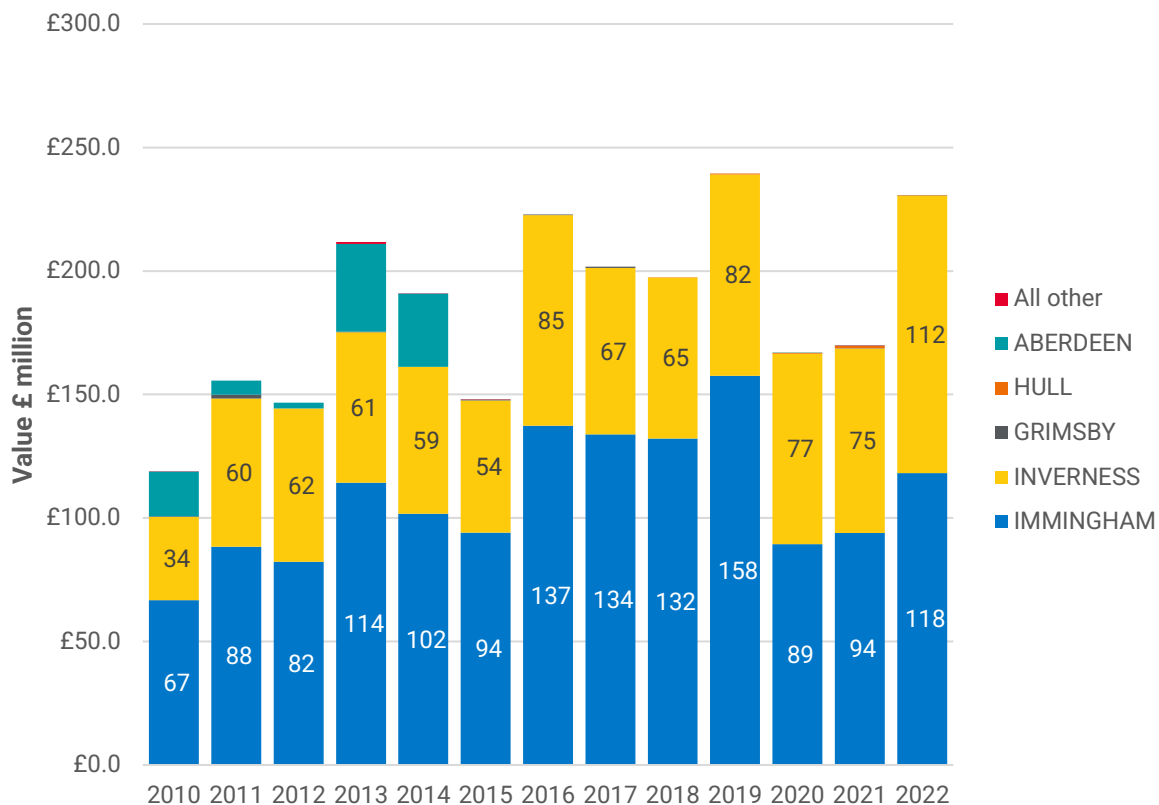


Figure 5 Value of seafood imported from The Faroe Islands by UK port of entry 2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

9. Top value species imported from the Faroe Islands by UK port in 2022

In 2022 most cod and haddock imported to the UK from the Faroe Islands was landed to Immingham with most salmon landed to Inverness.

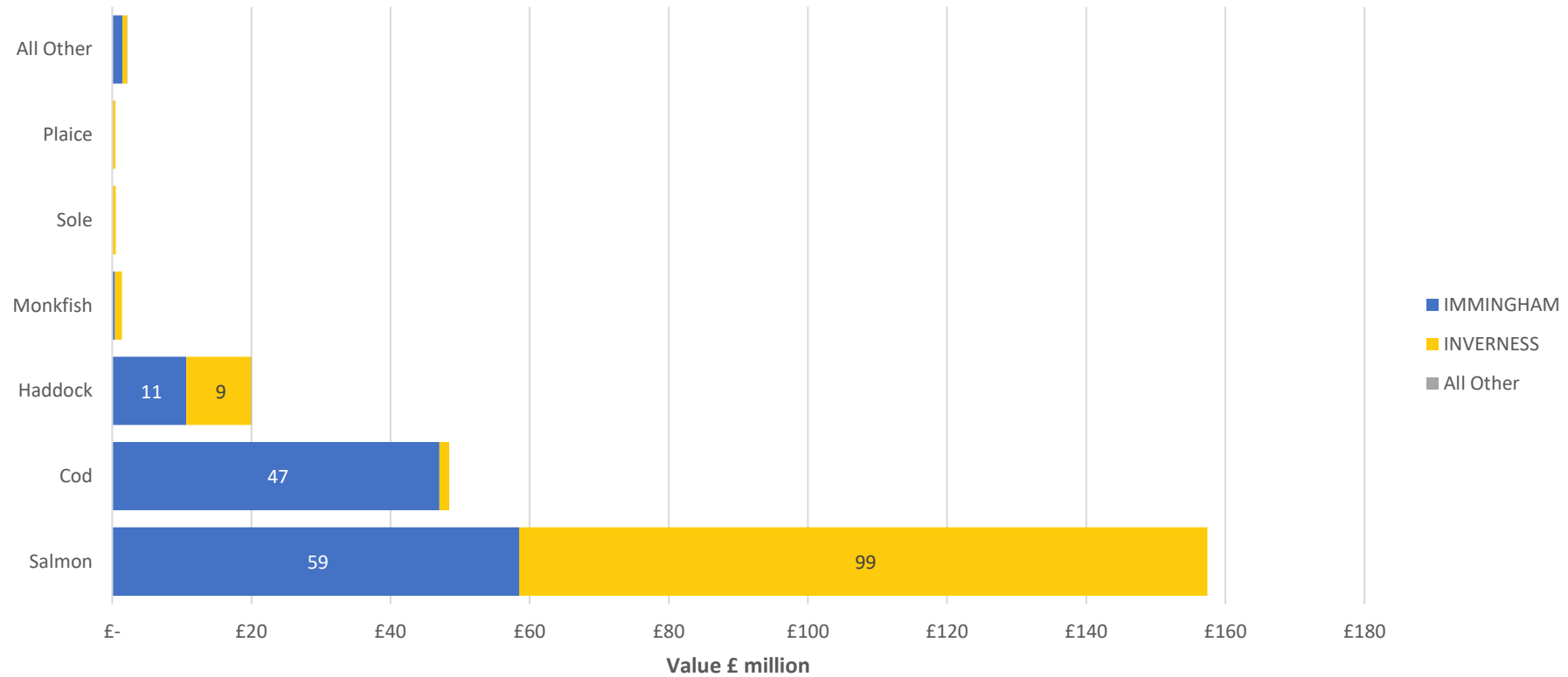


Figure 6 Value of species imported from The Faroe Islands by UK port of entry in 2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

10. Format of seafood imports from Faroe Islands by UK port

The majority of seafood landed to Inverness, consigned from the Faroe Islands, was live/fresh and whole/gutted (92%). In comparison, landings to Immingham were 49% live/fresh and whole/gutted, 40% frozen fillets, 7% frozen whole/gutted and 4% fresh fillets.

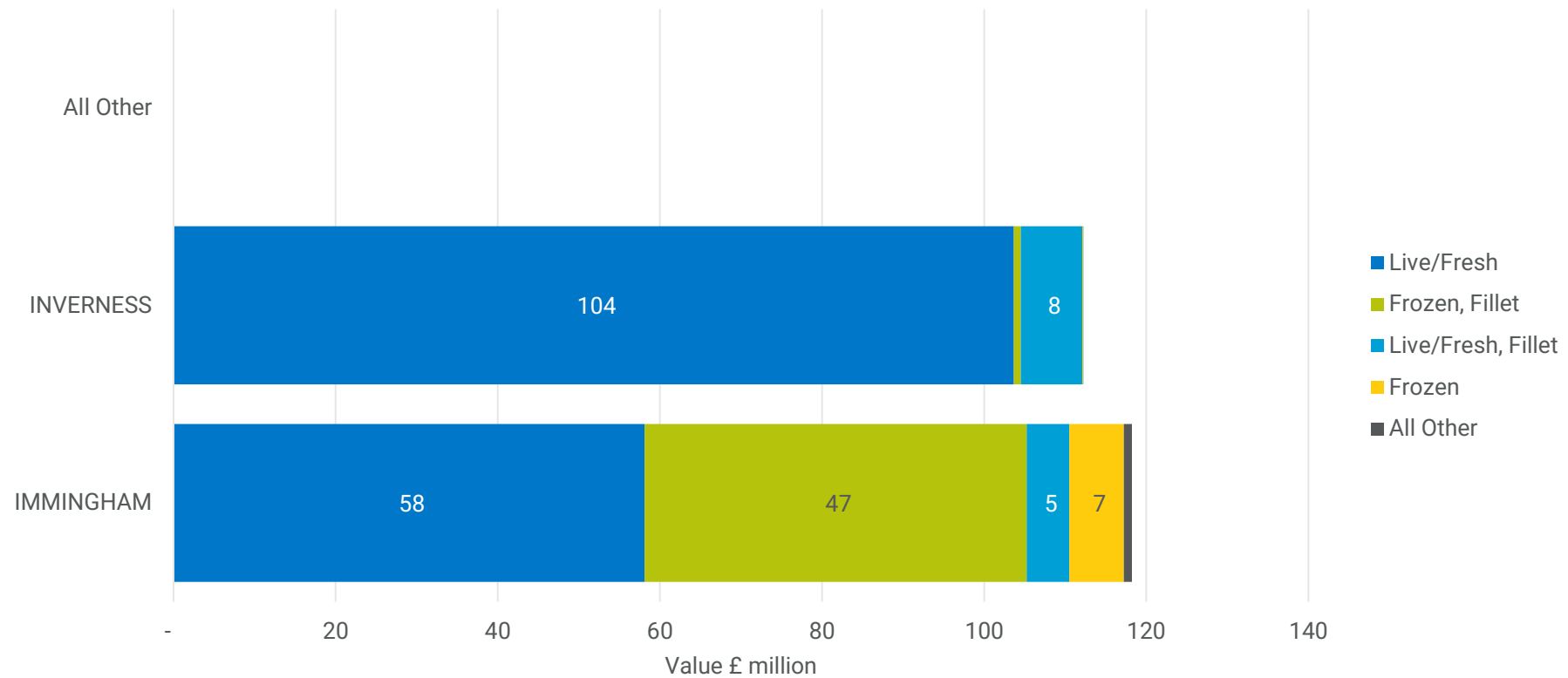


Figure 7 Format of seafood imported from The Faroe Islands to UK port of entry by value 2022. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

11. Format of species imported from Faroe Islands by UK port

Figure 8 shows the top imported species from the Faroe Islands by UK port of arrival. Salmon arrives mostly live/fresh both to Inverness and to Immingham while frozen fillets of cod arrive to Immingham.

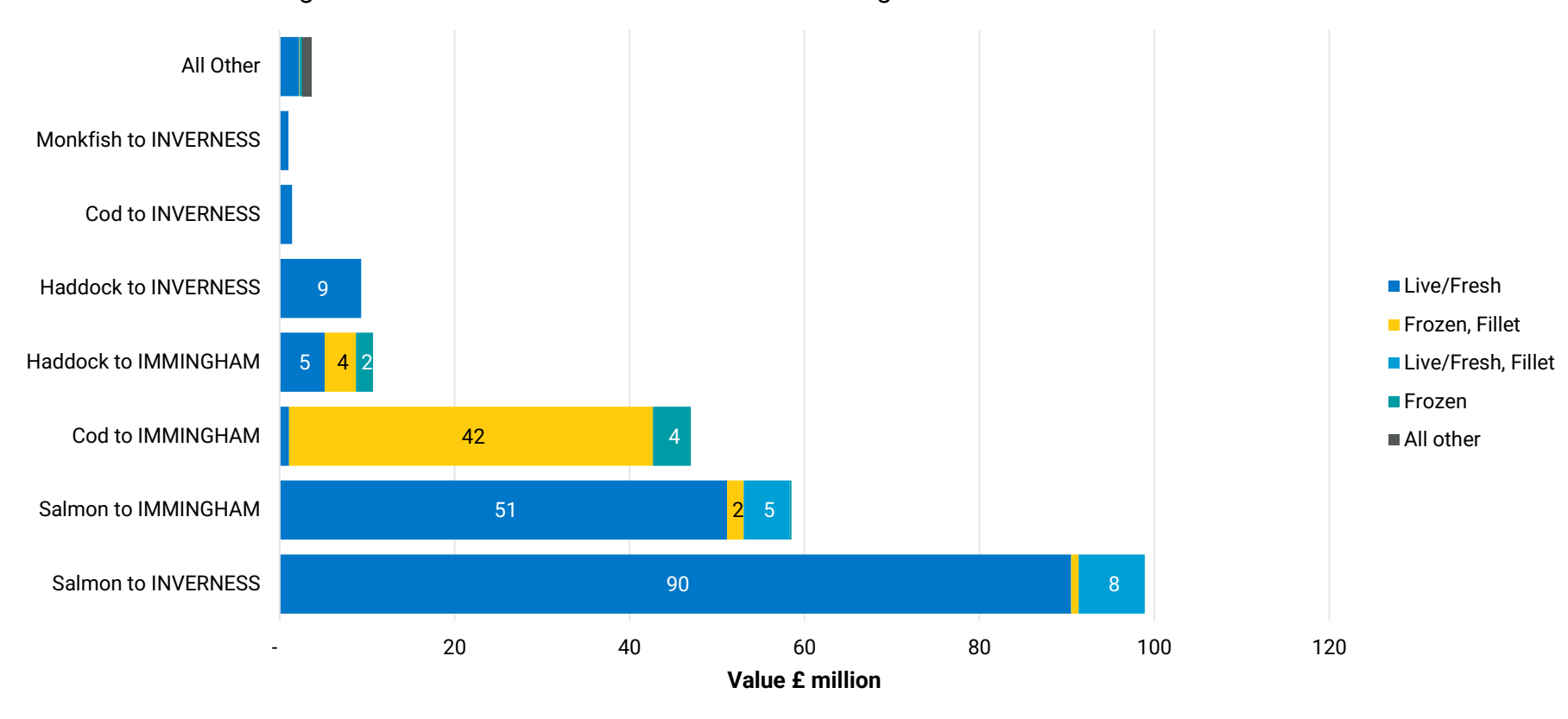


Figure 8 Top value species imported to UK from The Faroe Islands to top UK ports of entry by value and format. Data labels given in millions of pounds.

12. Port level import from Faroe Islands by value

		<i>Value £m</i>		<i>Volume, tonnes</i>		<i>Price £/kg</i>	
		<i>2022</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Y-o-Y % change</i>
2022 UK import from Faroe Islands by UK port.							
(% change on 2021)							
Port	IMMINGHAM	118.2	26%	15,203	8%	7.78	17%
	INVERNESS	112.2	50%	13,557	5%	8.28	43%
	HULL	0.0	-98%	44	-88%	0.36	-88%
	GRIMSBY	0.1	1%	22	-20%	2.90	26%
	ABERDEEN	-	-100%	-	-100%		
	All Other	-	-100%	-	-100%		
Species to port	Salmon to INVERNESS	98.9	61%	9,771	14%	10.12	41%
	Salmon to IMMINGHAM	58.5	4%	6,283	-12%	9.31	18%
	Cod to IMMINGHAM	47.0	50%	5,677	7%	8.28	40%
	Haddock to IMMINGHAM	10.7	115%	2,757	102%	3.87	6%
	Haddock to INVERNESS	9.3	5%	2,810	-12%	3.32	19%
	Cod to INVERNESS	1.4	9%	376	1%	3.80	7%
	Monkfish to INVERNESS	1.0	-10%	246	-21%	4.11	14%
	All Other	3.7	-17%	906	-22%	4.04	6%
Port by format	Live/Fresh to INVERNESS	103.7	48%	12,755	3%	8.13	44%
	Live/Fresh to IMMINGHAM	58.1	7%	7,526	-1%	7.72	7%
	Frozen, Fillet to IMMINGHAM	47.1	39%	5,766	6%	8.17	32%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet to INVERNESS	7.6	97%	691	76%	10.97	12%
	Frozen to IMMINGHAM	6.7	282%	1,197	119%	5.62	75%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet to IMMINGHAM	5.3	86%	484	53%	10.86	21%
	Frozen, Fillet to INVERNESS	0.9	74%	78	19%	11.10	46%
	All Other	1.2	-45%	328	-45%	3.64	1%
Port by species and format	Live/Fresh of Salmon to INVERNESS	90.5	58%	8,998	11%	10.05	43%
	Live/Fresh of Salmon to IMMINGHAM	51.2	-1%	5,528	-16%	9.26	18%
	Frozen, Fillet of Cod to IMMINGHAM	41.6	41%	4,714	-1%	8.83	42%
	Live/Fresh of Haddock to INVERNESS	9.3	5%	2,810	-12%	3.32	19%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet of Salmon to INVERNESS	7.6	97%	690	78%	10.97	11%
	Live/Fresh, Fillet of Salmon to IMMINGHAM	5.3	118%	483	91%	10.87	14%
	Live/Fresh of Haddock to IMMINGHAM	5.1	129%	1,531	91%	3.35	20%
	Frozen of Cod to IMMINGHAM	4.3	287%	673	86%	6.46	108%
	Frozen, Fillet of Haddock to IMMINGHAM	3.6	58%	796	85%	4.52	-15%
	Frozen of Haddock to IMMINGHAM	1.9	334%	431	228%	4.49	32%
	Frozen, Fillet of Salmon to IMMINGHAM	1.9	-7%	243	-10%	7.79	3%
	Live/Fresh of Cod to INVERNESS	1.4	9%	376	1%	3.80	7%
	Live/Fresh of Cod to IMMINGHAM	1.1	166%	289	116%	3.68	23%
	Live/Fresh of Monkfish to INVERNESS	1.0	-10%	246	-21%	4.11	14%
	All other	4.7	-11%	1,018	-21%	4.66	13%

Table 3 Top import trade flows from The Faroe Islands 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.

12. Number of UK businesses that import products imported from Faroe Islands

Total number of businesses in the UK that import the selected 8 commodities that make up the top 8 products imported from The Faroe Islands. However, these business totals contain businesses that import these products not from The Faroe Islands, but from around the world in 2022.

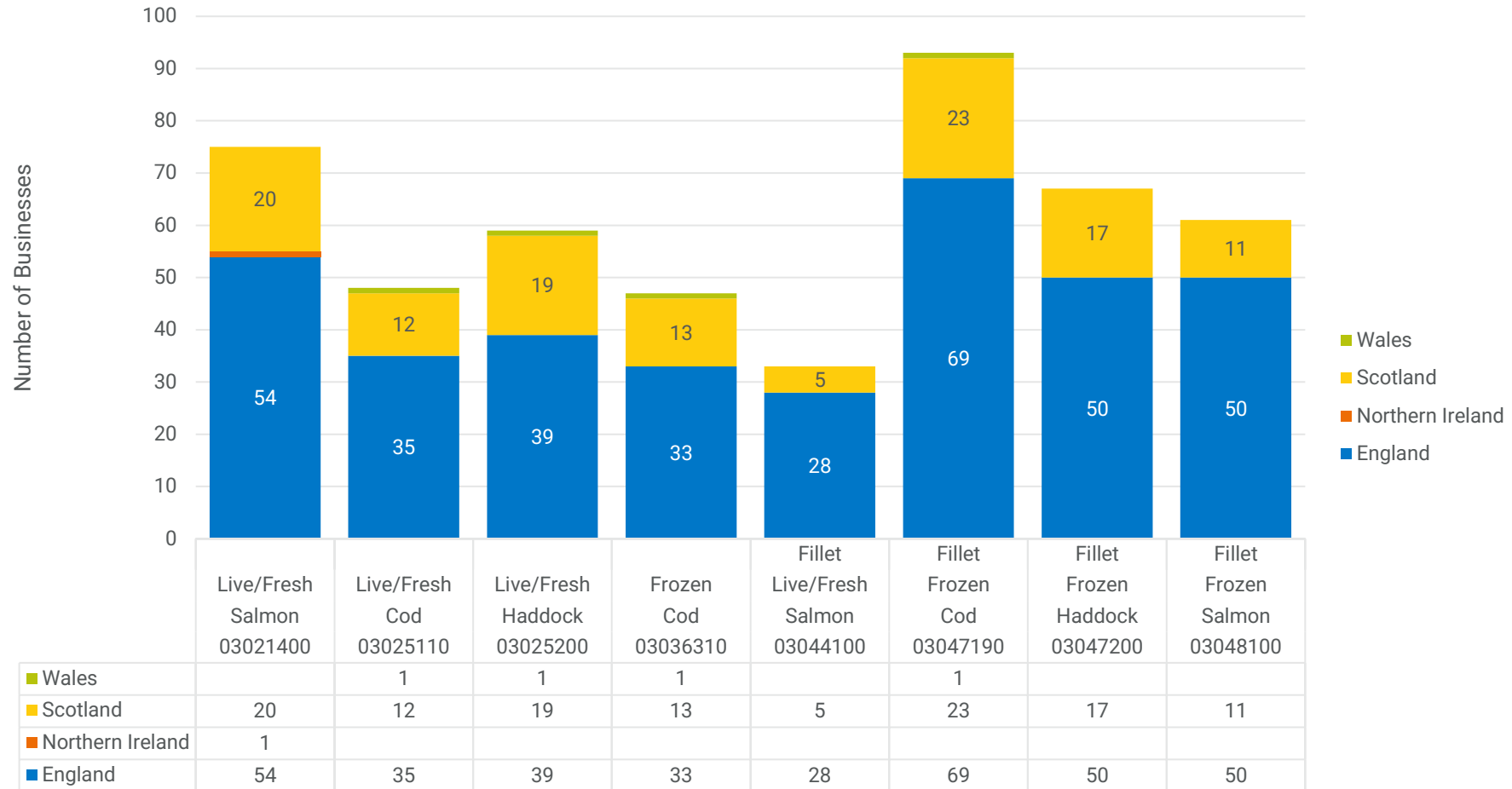


Figure 9 The top 8 products imported from The Faroe Islands by value and the total number of UK businesses importing those products from the world.

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
the support it needs to thrive.

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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