



RAINBOW TROUT (*ONCORHYNCHUS MYKISS*)



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BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

- **Species description** ([Read more](#))

The rainbow trout, also known as steelhead trout, belongs to the family of Salmonidae and the genus *Oncorhynchus*.

- **Geographical distribution and habitat** ([Read more](#))

The rainbow trout is native to the cold-water rivers and lakes of the Pacific coasts of North America and Asia. It has been introduced to about 82 countries, practically everywhere the conditions are favorable for its culture, because rainbow trout tolerates a wide range of environmental and production conditions better than other trout species.

RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

- **Stock and resource status/conservation measures**

Rainbow trout catches represent negligible share in global catches.

- **Production methods and fishing gears** ([Read more](#))

The main fishing gears used are driftnets, gillnets and similar nets, hooks and lines, and pots and traps. The aquaculture production is more important than wild catches.

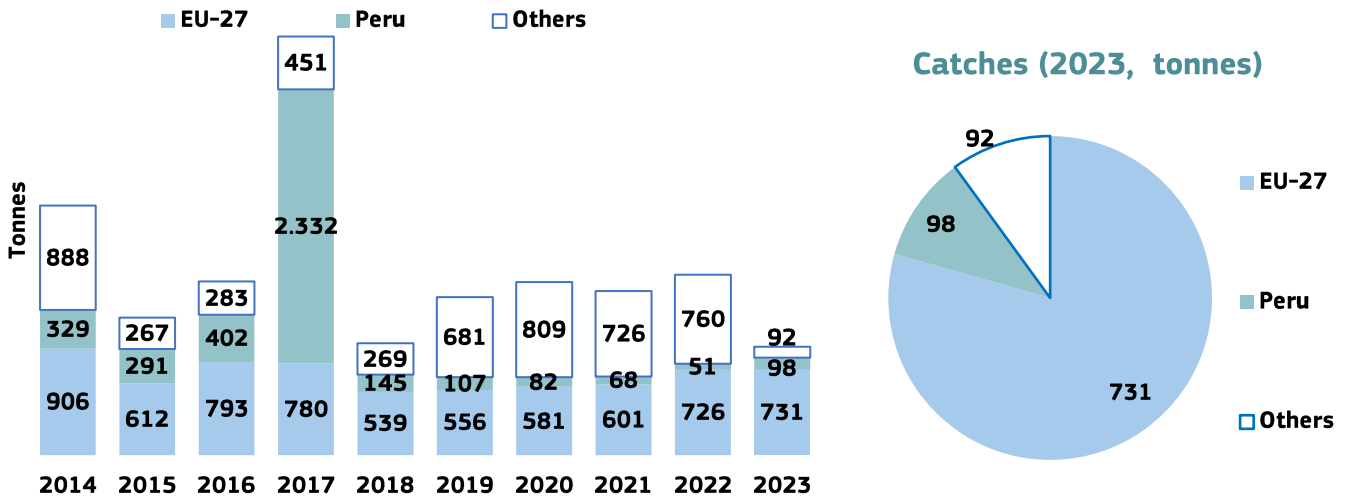
Rainbow trout



CATCHES

Evolution of world catches

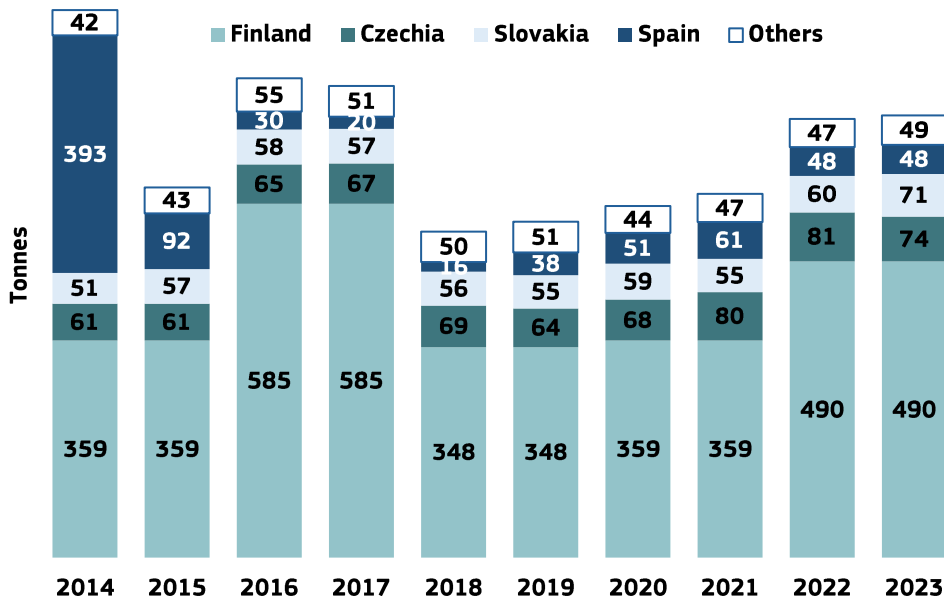
- Rainbow trout catches reached 921 tonnes in 2023, representing a negligible share in the global catches and only **0,1%** of the global trout production (the species is mainly farmed).
- Catches have fluctuated between 2014 and 2023, with an overall downward trend. In 2023, Finland was the main producer, accounting for 53% of global production.



Source: FAO

Evolution of EU catches

- The EU provided **79%** of the global rainbow trout catches in 2023 (731 tonnes).
- Finland is the main EU producer. It contributed to 67% of the EU production in 2023.



Source: FAO



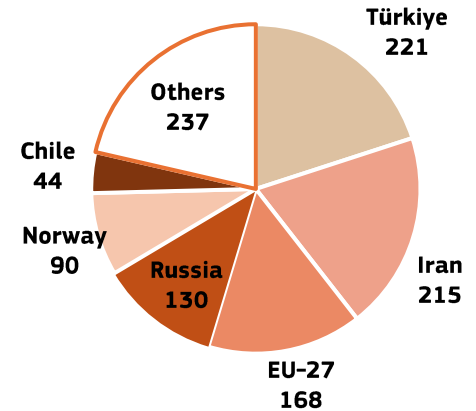
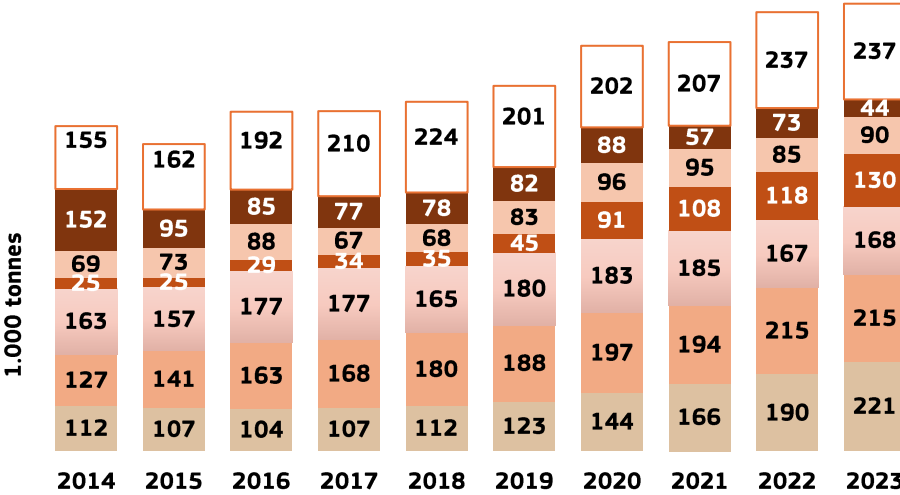
AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

Evolution of world production

- Over the last decade (2014-2023), the world production of farmed rainbow trout has increased by 38%. The main producers are Türkiye, Iran, and the EU. While EU production slightly increased (+3%) in the last ten years, the production of Türkiye and Iran increased significantly over the same period (by respectively 97% and 70%).

■ Türkiye ■ Iran ■ EU-27 ■ Russia ■ Norway ■ Chile ■ Others

Production (2023, 1.000 tonnes)



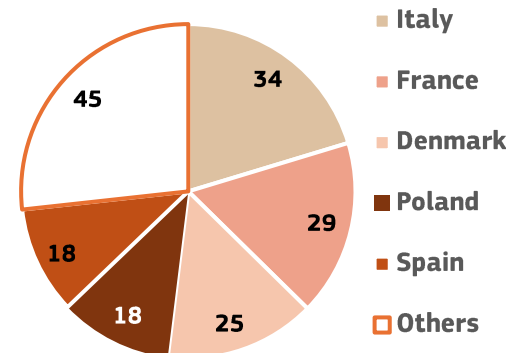
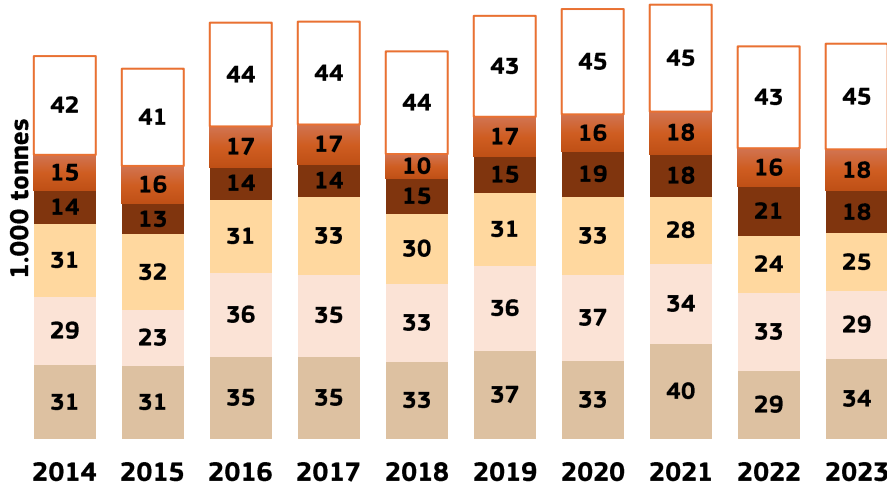
Source: FAO

Evolution of EU production

- The EU provided **15%** of the world production of farmed rainbow trout in 2023 (vs. 19% in 2012). The main producers were Italy (20% of EU production in 2022), France (17%), Denmark (15%), Poland (11%), and Spain (10%).
- The EU production increased by 13% between 2014 and 2021, reaching 185.000 tonnes. It decreased to 167.000 tonnes in 2022 and remained stable during the last two years.

■ Italy ■ France ■ Denmark ■ Poland ■ Spain ■ Others

Production (2023, 1.000 tonnes)



Source: FAO

Rainbow trout

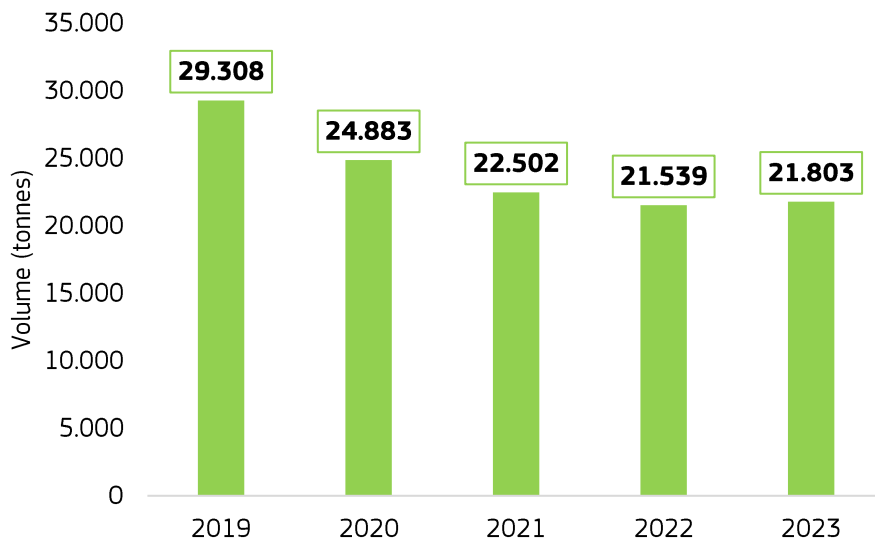


PROCESSING

- A significant smoking activity exists for rainbow trout in the EU.
- Since 2019, there is a specific [PRODCOM](#) code that refers to smoked rainbow trout:

10202470 - Smoked trout (incl. fillets, excluding heads, tails and maws)

EU production of smoked trout



Source: EUROSTAT-PRODCOM

- The EU production of smoked trout reached over 21.800 tonnes in 2023, 1% more than 2022 and 26% less than 2019. Germany, France, Denmark, and Poland were responsible of most of the EU production (83%).



TRADE

- Combined nomenclature ([Read more](#))

EU trade of trout products (tonnes - 2024)

Data concern Rainbow trout and other species of trout

CN code	Product	EU imports	EU exports
03 01 91 10	Live trout "Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	0	25
03 01 91 90	Live trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita, Oncorhynchus gilae"	21	623
03 02 11 10	Fresh or chilled trout "Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	119	31
03 02 11 20	Fresh or chilled trout of the species "Oncorhynchus mykiss"	12.448	2.051
03 02 11 80	Fresh or chilled trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita, Oncorhynchus gilae"	2.584	463
03 03 14 10	Frozen trout "Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	45	0
03 03 14 20	Frozen trout "Oncorhynchus mykiss"	2.209	2.433
03 03 14 90	Frozen trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita and Oncorhynchus gilae"	6.349	110
03 04 42 10	Fresh or chilled fillets of trout "Oncorhynchus mykiss"	550	190
03 04 42 50	Fresh or chilled fillets of trout "Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	0	14
03 04 42 90	Fresh or chilled fillets of trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita and Oncorhynchus gilae"	343	357
03 04 82 10	Frozen fillets of trout "Oncorhynchus mykiss"	451	181
03048250	Frozen fillets of trout "Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	0	10
03 04 82 90	Frozen fillets of trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita and Oncorhynchus gilae"	2.722	215
03 05 43 00	Smoked trout "Salmo trutta, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Oncorhynchus clarki, Oncorhynchus aguabonita, Oncorhynchus gilae, Oncorhynchus apache and Oncorhynchus chrysogaster"	3.513	1.079
Total		31.354	7.781

Source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT

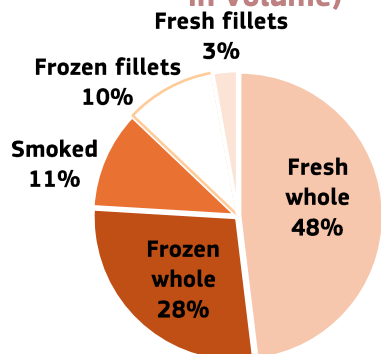


TRADE

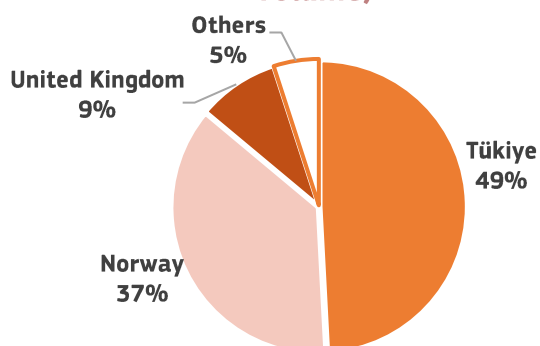
EU-27 trade of trout products (tonnes - 2024)

- Extra-EU imports** reached 31.354 tonnes in 2024. Fresh and frozen whole trout accounted for 76% of EU imports (in volume terms) while smoked trout accounted for 11% of EU imports. Turkey and Norway supplied 86% of EU imports (respectively 15.423 tonnes and 11.573 tonnes). Main importers in the EU were Sweden, Austria, France and Germany (respectively 32%, 12%, 11% and 10% of EU imports in volume terms).

Imports by product type (2024, % in volume)

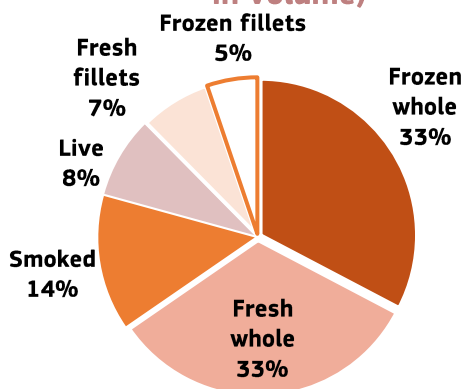


Main EU suppliers (2024, % in volume)

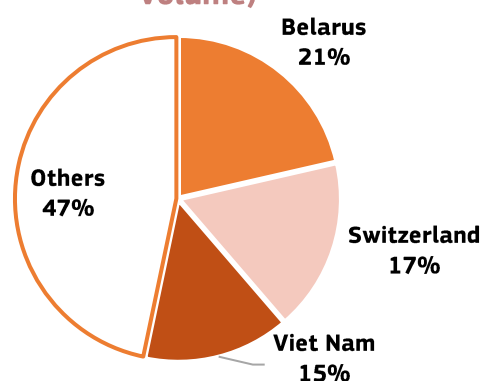


- Extra-EU exports** reached over 7.700 tonnes in 2024. Frozen and fresh whole trout accounted for 66% of EU exports (in volume terms), while smoked trout accounted for 14% of EU exports. Main destinations of EU exports were Belarus, Switzerland, and Vietnam (together they represented 53% of EU exports). Main exporters were Denmark and to a lesser extent Estonia (respectively 40% and 22%).

Exports by product type (2024, % in volume)



Main destinations (2024, % in volume)

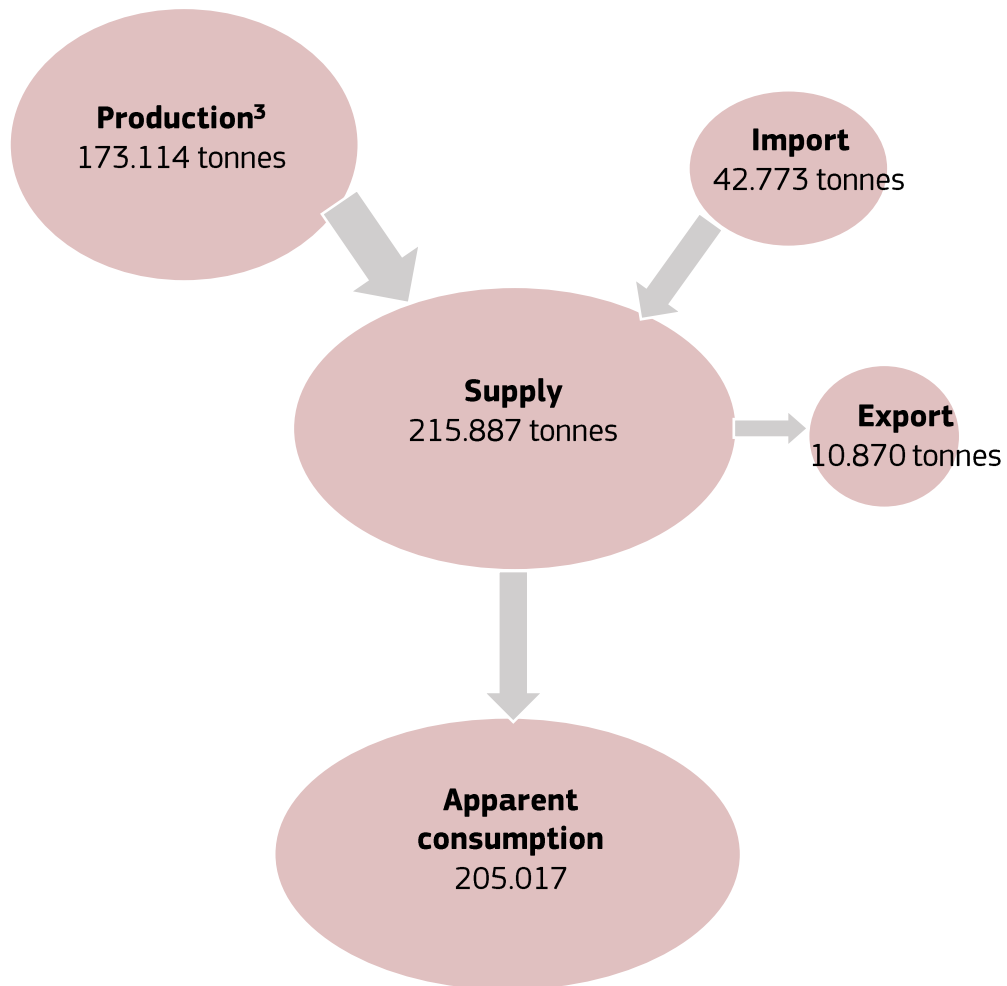




Supply balance

EU supply balance (2023¹) – Tonnes of live weight equivalent² - Trout:

Data concern Rainbow trout and other species of trout



Source: FAO/ EUROSTAT-COMEXT

¹ Supply balance is provided for the year 2023 (trade data for 2023 were taken into account). Detailed trade data provided in the slides 5 and 6 concern the year 2024.

² The [conversion factors](#) were used to convert net weight of imports and exports of fishery and aquaculture products into live weight equivalents.

³ Production figure used in this supply chain is different from the production figure provided in the slide on catches (i.e. slide 2) as production of other trout species has been considered, even though Rainbow trout remains the most produced species.

Rainbow trout



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

Ex-farm (farmed)

Ex-farm prices are provided for France, Denmark and Italy, the main producers of rainbow trout in the EU.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*	Source
France	3,66	3,58	3,74	3,59	3,63	3,66	4,00	4,29	5,04	EUMOFA
Italy	3,08	2,86	2,93	2,87	3,07	2,97	3,34	3,28	5,90	EUMOFA
Denmark	2,96	3,24	3,28	3,34	3,25	3,27	3,38	4,06	4,24	EUMOFA

(*) Latest available year

Wholesale

Wholesale prices refer to prices in France.

Average price	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
Trout fresh whole gutted (farmed in France)	5,15	5,2	5,52	5,78	6,32	6,2	6,7	7,80	7,92	7,74	Rungis-RNM
Trout fresh fillets (farmed in France)	6,73	6,8	8,05	9,42	8,33	8,2	9,36	11,24	11,20	10,71	Rungis-RNM
Trout smoked fillets (farmed in France)	17	17	19,7	26	26,1	28	25,95	20,04	21,00	21,00	Rungis-RNM

(*) From January to October 2025

Retail

Retail prices are provided for the major producers.

Average price	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
France, fresh whole gutted (farmed)	11,30	11,60	12,00	12,30	12,09	11,77	12,91	14,10	14,07	14,55	RNM Rungis
France, trout fresh (farmed)	12,50	13,50	13,80	14,50	14,80	15,20	16,10	17,80	17,90	n.a.	FranceAgriMer
France, trout smoked (farmed)	29,00	29,40	29,70	30,50	31,80	32,00	34,40	37,60	37,20	n.a.	FranceAgriMer
Poland, retail, smoked	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	6,32	4,74	6,24	10,73	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Rainbow trout



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

Data concern Rainbow trout and other species of trout

Extra-EU import (fresh and frozen)

Extra-EU imports concern mainly fresh whole and frozen whole trout. Prices are provided for the main importers and concern imports from third countries in 2024.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
Austria fresh whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,46	4,12	5,19	5,95	5,46	5,70	EUMOFA
Germany fresh whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	7,05	5,75	7,26	6,84	7,44	7,89	EUMOFA
Sweden fresh whole	5,65	6,73	5,43	5,14	4,66	5,55	7,43	7,30	7,31	5,92	EUMOFA
Sweden frozen whole	4,15	5,55	5,54	5,16	4,1	4,5	6,51	5,78	6,93	7,26	EUMOFA
France, fresh whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	6,50	6,20	6,80	7,12	6,34	12,03	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Extra- EU export (fresh and frozen)

Extra-EU exports mainly concern fresh whole and frozen whole rainbow trout. Prices are provided for Denmark, Estonia and Poland, major EU exporters to third countries in 2024.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
Denmark fresh whole	4,97	5,07	4,28	3,92	11,95	8,88	10,94	11,77	20,76	6,36	EUMOFA
Denmark frozen whole	4,14	5,08	4,9	4,66	3,91	4,13	5,55	6,31	5,30	6,26	EUMOFA
Estonia, fresh whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	12,59	7,81	n.a.	7,87	7,71	7,71	EUMOFA
Poland, fresh whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4,99	4,69	6,30	6,62	7,46	7,84	EUMOFA
Poland, frozen whole	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3,62	4,05	2,67	5,95	10,14	8,02	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Rainbow trout



MARKETING

- National lists of commercial designations ([Read more](#))
- Information system on commercial designations and scientific names in all EU languages ([Read more](#))
- In the EU, there are three names protected under **Protected Geographical Indication** (PGI) for trout:
 - PGI “**Schwarzwaldforelle**” in Germany;
 - PGI “**Escavèche de Chimay**” in Belgium;
 - PGI “**Trote del Trentino**” in Italy.

CONSUMPTION

- In 2023, trout (all species included) ranked 13th among most consumed species in the EU (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2025 edition](#), EUMOFA).
- Apparent consumption per capita of trout (all species) in 2023: **0,45 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [Supply balance - 2023](#), EUMOFA).
- Nutritional value (Rainbow trout France, fresh fillet and smoked fillet, values per 100 g – source : NUTRAQUA/AQUIMER).

Nutritional value	Rainbow trout - fresh fillet	Rainbow trout - smoked fillet
kilo calories (kcal)	136	156
Kilojoule (kJ)	569	657
Water (g)	72,3	65,4
Ashes (g)	1,3	4,2
Proteins (g)	19,1	23,1
Carbohydrates (g)	1,4	0,2
Lipids (g)	6	7
Cholesterol (mv)	52,6	47,1
Omega 6 (mg)	1026	846
Omega 3 (mg)	1718	1997
EPA (mg)	369	502
DHA (mg)	776	831