



# Salmon Farming Industry Handbook

2023

# Forward-looking Statements

This handbook includes forward-looking statements that reflect Mowi's current expectations and views of future events. These forward-looking statements use terms and phrases such as "anticipate", "should", "likely", "foresee", "believe", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "could", "may", "project", "predict", "will" and similar expressions.

These forward-looking statements include statements related to population growth, protein consumption, consumption of fish (including both farmed and wild), global supply and demand for fish (and salmon in particular), aquaculture's relationship to food consumption, salmon harvests, demographic and pricing trends, market trends, price volatility, industry trends and strategic initiatives, the issuance and awarding of new farming licenses, governmental progress on regulatory change in the aquaculture industry, estimated biomass utilisation, salmonid health conditions as well as vaccines, medical treatments and other mitigating efforts, smolt release, development of standing biomass, trends in the seafood industry, expected research and development expenditures, business prospects and positioning with respect to market, and the effects of any extraordinary events and various other matters (including developments with respect to laws, regulations and governmental policies regulating the industry and changes in accounting policies, standards and interpretations).

The preceding list is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all our forward-looking statements. These statements are predictions based on Mowi's current estimates or expectations about future events or future results. Actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements as the realisation of those results, the level of activity, performance or achievements are subject to many risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to changes to the price of salmon; risks related to fish feed; economic and market risks; environmental risks; risks related to escapes; biological risks, including fish diseases and sea lice; product risks; regulatory risks including risk related to food safety, the aquaculture industry, processing, competition and anti-corruption; trade restriction risks; strategic and competitive risks; and reputation risks.

All forward-looking statements included in this handbook are based on information available at the time of its release, and Mowi assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement.

# Mowi Salmon Farming Industry Handbook



The purpose of this document is to give investors and financial analysts a better insight into the salmon farming industry, and what Mowi considers to be the most important value drivers.

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# 1 Introduction

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## Introduction

Salmon is the common name for several species of fish of the family Salmonidae (e.g. Atlantic salmon, Pacific salmon), while other species in the family are called trout (e.g. brown trout, seawater trout). Although several of these species are available from both wild and farmed sources, most commercially available Atlantic salmon is farmed. Salmon live in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, as well as the Great Lakes (North America) and other landlocked lakes.

Typically, salmon are anadromous: they are born in freshwater, migrate to the ocean, then return to freshwater to reproduce.

About 80% of the world's salmon harvest is farmed. Farming mainly takes place in large nets in sheltered waters such as fjords or bays. Most farmed salmon come from Norway, Chile, Scotland and Canada.

Salmon is a popular food. Salmon consumption is considered to be healthy due to its high content of protein and omega-3 fatty acids and it is also a good source of minerals and vitamins.



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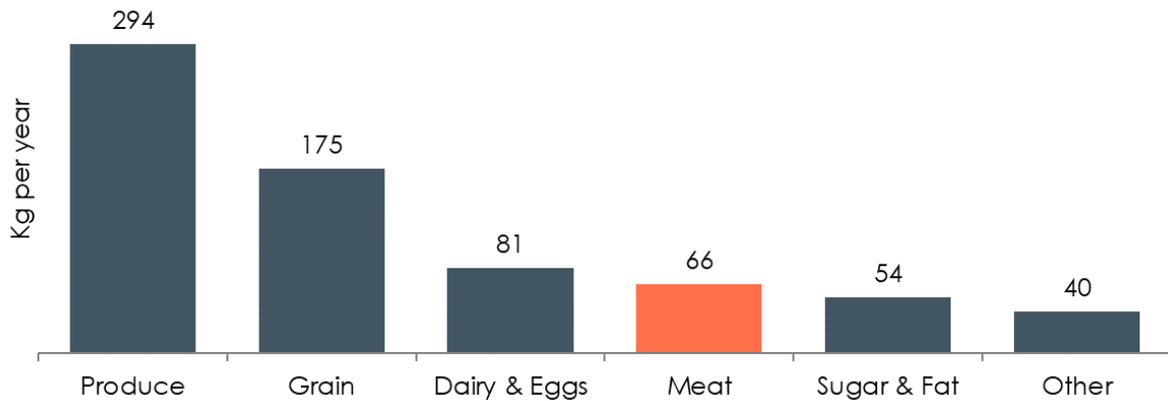
## 2 Positioning of Salmon

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# Positioning of Salmon

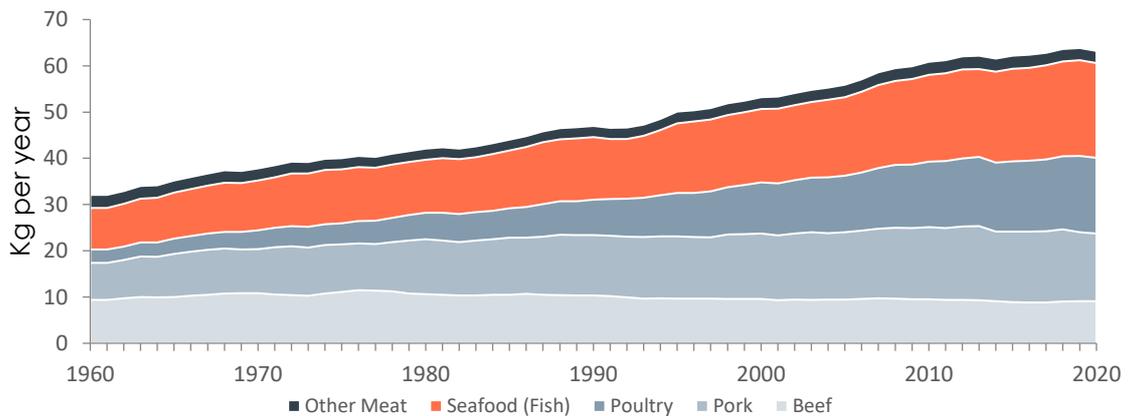
## 2.1 Seafood as part of global food consumption

### Per capita Food Consumption (2020)



The average human ate around 710 kg of food in 2020. Most of this food is produce such as vegetables, fruits, and starchy roots. Animal protein, such as seafood, poultry, pork, and beef, amounts to 9% of the total diet.

### Per capita Meat Consumption (2020)

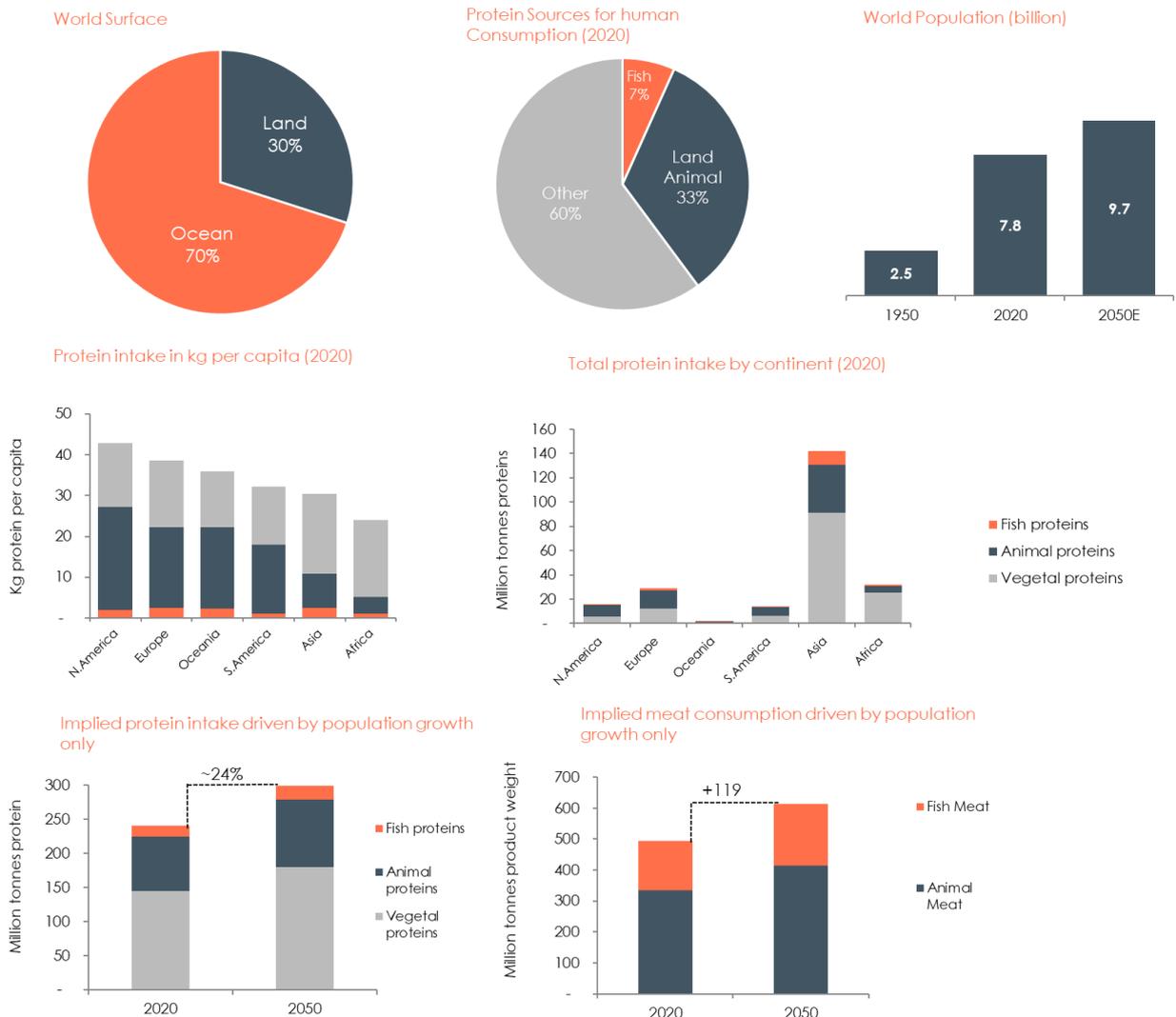


Meat as a food source has gradually become more important. Global per capita supply has more than doubled since 1960, and the seafood segment is a big contributor to this increase.

Source: FAO (2020) FAOstat Food Balance Sheets

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.2 Seafood as part of overall protein consumption



Although 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by the oceans, fish accounts for only 7% of all protein sources produced for human consumption. The UN estimates that the global population will grow to approximately 9.7 billion by 2050.

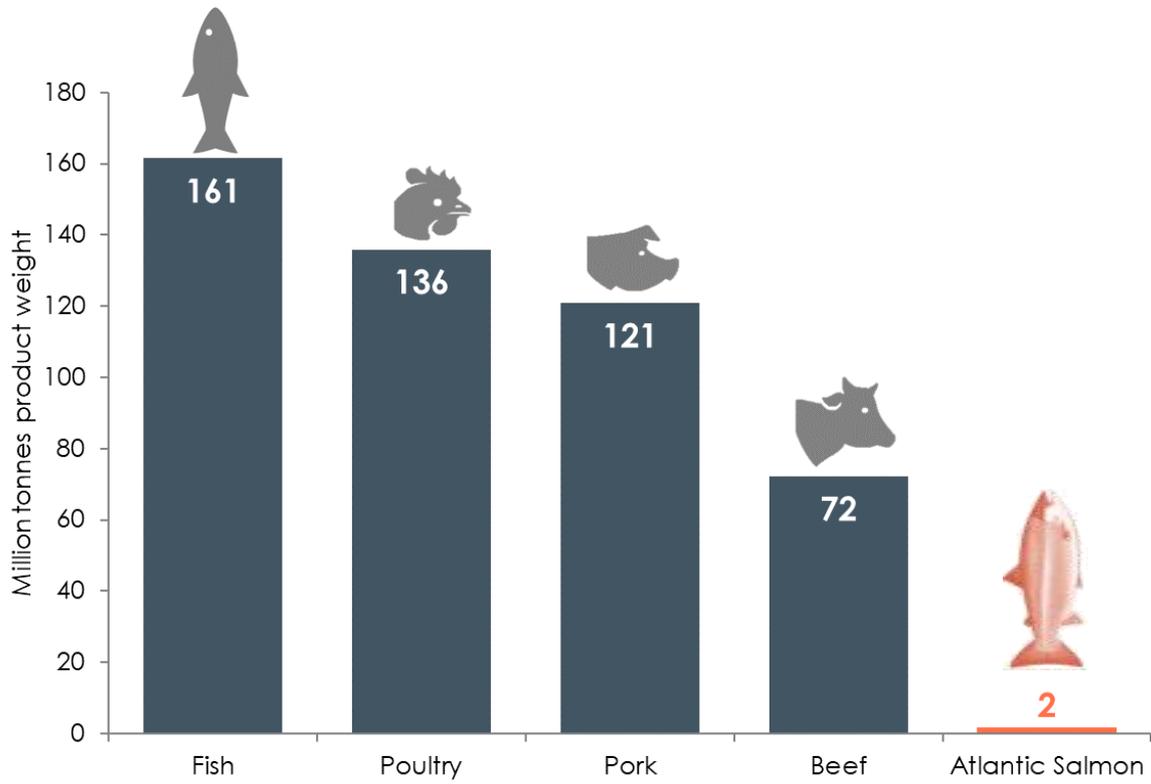
Assuming consumption per capita stays constant, this implies a 24% increase in demand for protein. In product weight that means an increased consumption of 119 million tonnes of meat of which 39 million tonnes of fish meat. The UN however, estimates that demand will actually double. We know that resources for increased land-based protein production will be scarce, so a key question is how the production of protein sources from the sea can be expanded.

Source: FAO (2020) FAOstat Food Balance Sheets, UN (2022) World Population Prospects 2022

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.3 Atlantic Salmon as part of global protein consumption

### Global protein consumption



Most animal protein in our diets comes from fish, poultry, pork and beef, with salmon consumption representing a small portion of global protein consumption.

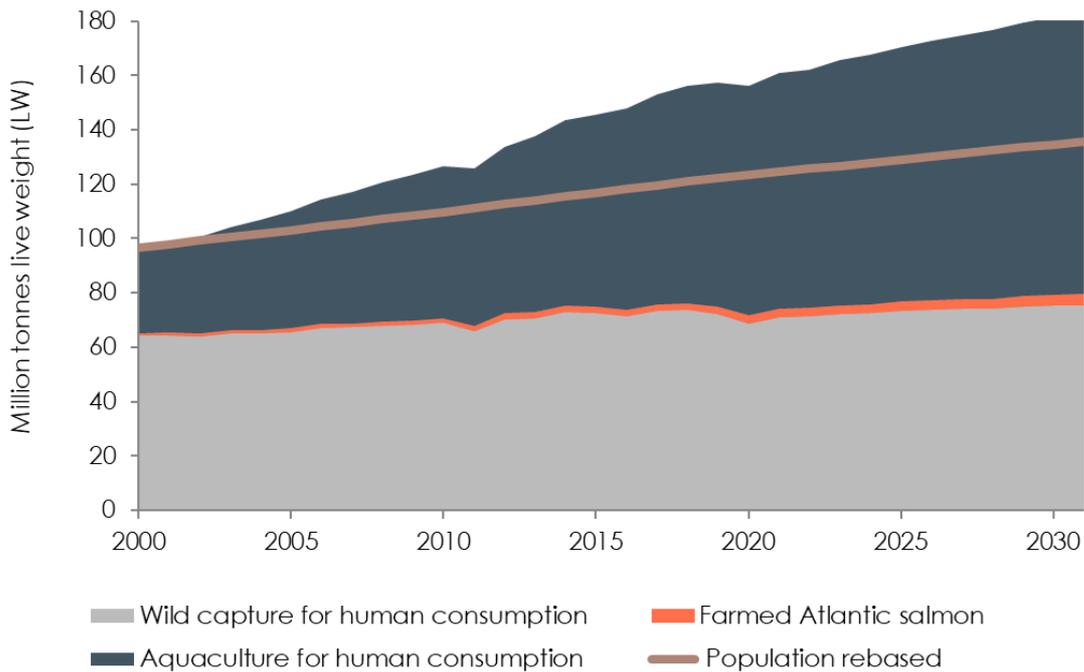
In 2022, FAO estimated consumption of 161 million tonnes of fish, 136 million tonnes of poultry, 121 million tonnes of pork, and 72 million tonnes of beef and veal.

In contrast, the total consumption of farmed Atlantic salmon was around 2.6 million tonnes (GWT). This corresponds to about 1.8 million tonnes in product weight. If we combine all salmonids (both farmed and wild) it amounts to 3.4 million tonnes (GWT) in 2022.

Source: OECD-FAO (2022) *Agricultural Outlook 2022-2031*, Kontali Analyse

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.4 Stagnating wild catch – growing aquaculture



Over the past few decades, there has been a considerable increase in total and per capita fish supply. As the fastest growing animal-based food producing sector, aquaculture is a major contributor to this, and its growth outpaces population growth.

Aquaculture has expanded fish availability to regions and countries with otherwise limited or no access to the cultured species. At the global level, since 2016, aquaculture has been the main source of fish available for human consumption. In 2022, this share was 56%, a figure that can be expected to continue to increase in the long term.

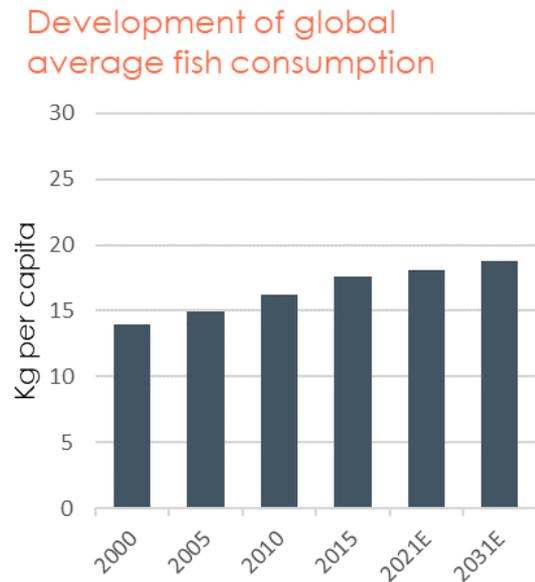
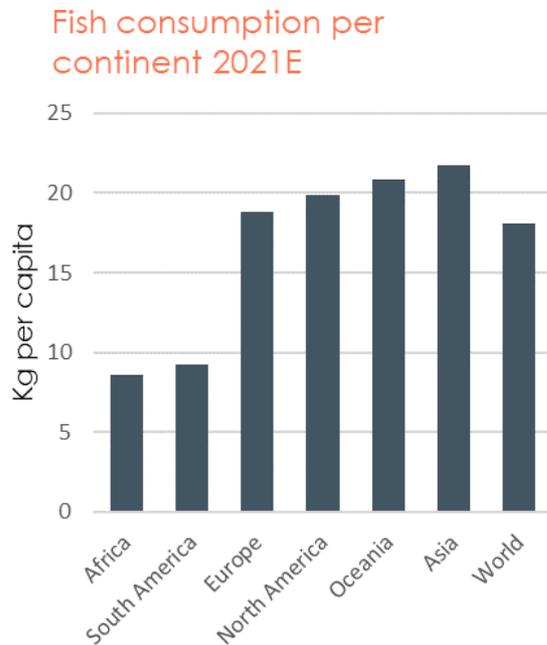
In 2022, aquaculture accounted for 88 million tonnes (LW) destined for direct human food consumption, while wild capture accounted for 71 million tonnes (LW). However, fish has been estimated to account for only 7% of global protein consumption (and about 17% of total fish and animal protein supply).

World aquaculture production of farmed aquatic animals has been dominated by Asia, with an 88% share in the last two decades.

Sources: FAO (2022) *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022*, OECD-FAO (2022) *Agricultural Outlook 2022-2031*, Kontali Analyse

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.5 Fish consumption



Given the expected *production* growth of 11% during 2021–2031 and the projected world *population* growth of 9% over the same period, we will most likely see a global increase in the average fish consumption level.

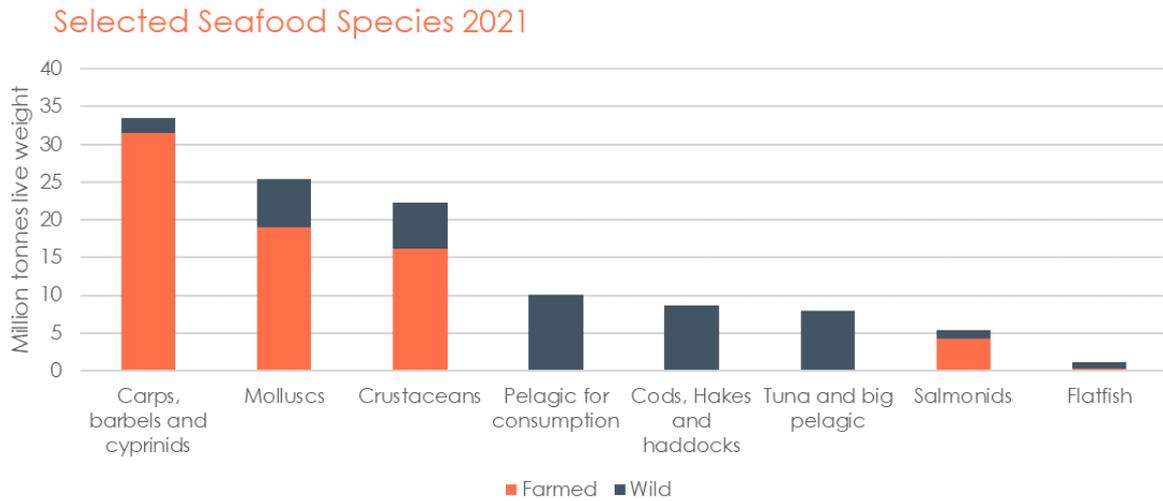
By 2031, per capita fish consumption is estimated to be 18.8kg (vs. 9.9kg in the 1960s and 18.1kg in 2021). This is equivalent to another 20 million tonnes of seafood supply, which aquaculture is estimated to provide.

According to FAO, per capita consumption is expected to increase by 4% in the period 2021-2031. Latin America and Asia are expected to have the highest growth, whilst negative growth is anticipated in Africa. In general, per capita fish consumption is likely to grow faster in developing countries. However, more developed economies are expected to have the highest per capita consumption.

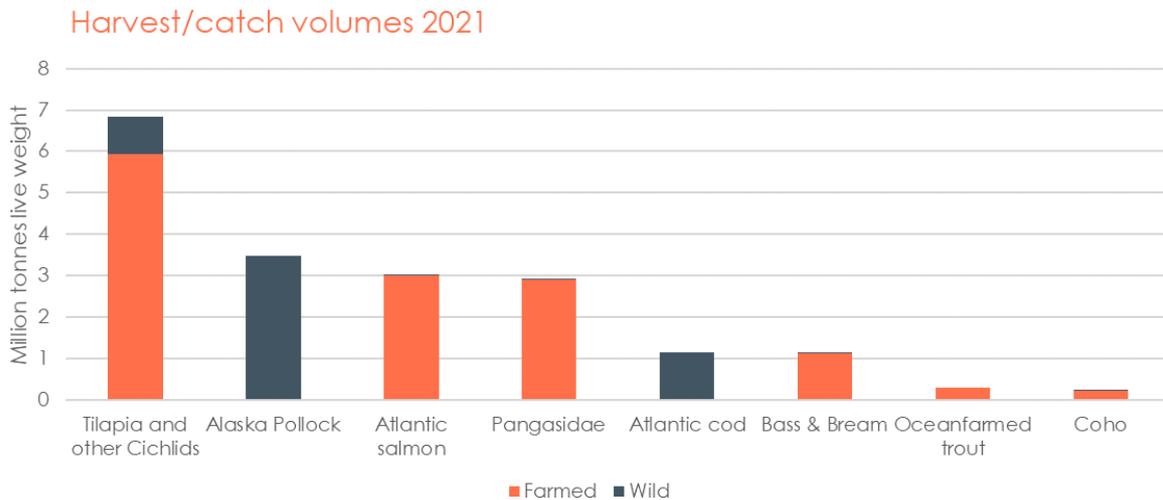
Sources: FAO (2022) The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture, OECD-FAO (2022) Agricultural Outlook 2022-2031

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.6 Salmonids contribute 4.5% of global seafood supply



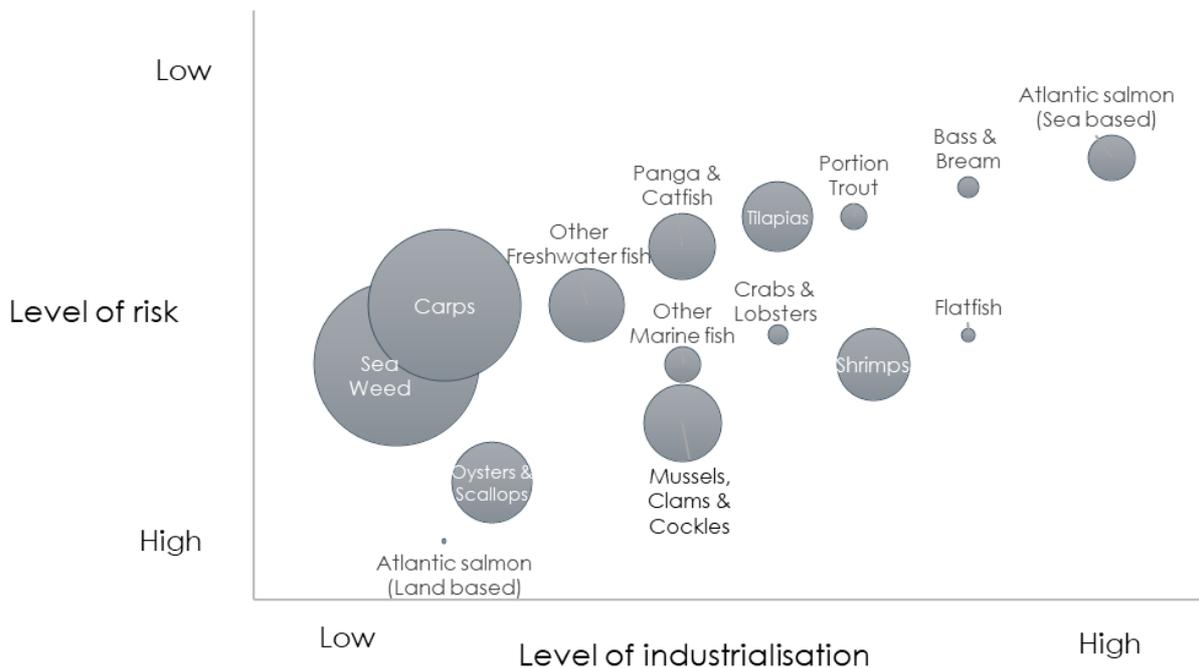
Although several salmon species are available from both wild and farmed sources, almost all commercially available Atlantic salmon is farmed. Even with an increase in production of Atlantic salmon of more than 1,000% since 1990, the total global supply of salmonids is still marginal compared to most other seafood categories (4.7% of global seafood supply). Whitefish is about ten times larger and comprises a much larger number of species.



In 2021, more Atlantic salmon was harvested than Atlantic cod. However, the harvest of Atlantic salmon was only about 29% of that of two of the largest whitefish species, tilapia and Alaska pollock.

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.7 Considerable opportunities within aquaculture

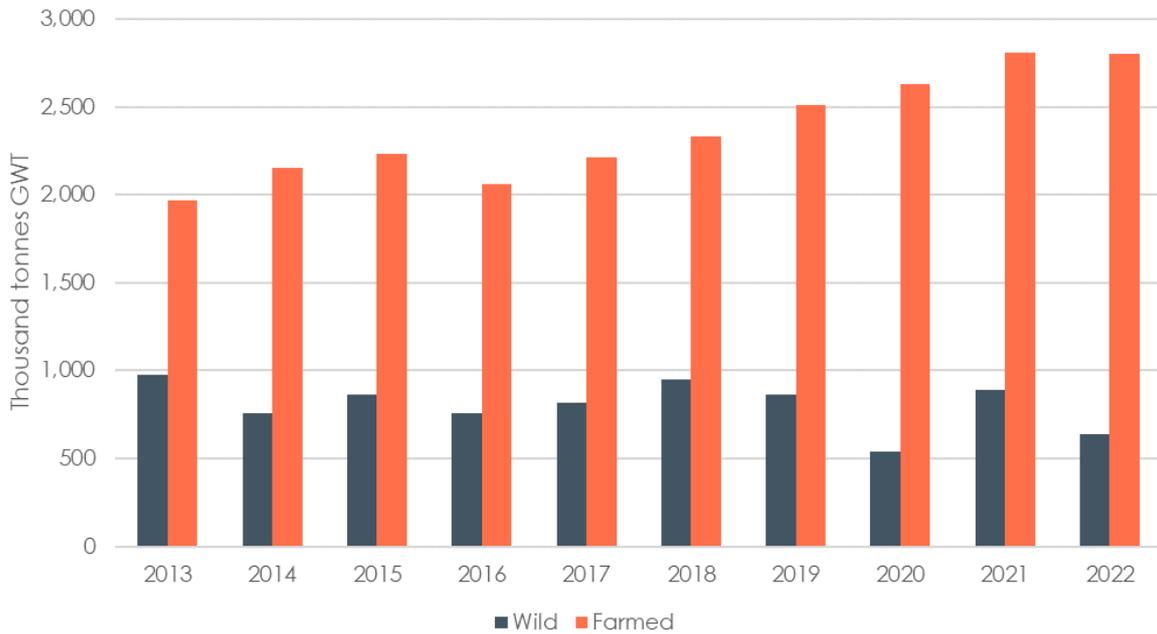


The illustration above shows that Atlantic salmon (sea based) has the highest level of industrialisation and the lowest level of risk compared to other aquaculture species. Atlantic salmon (land based), on the other hand, has proven risky with a low level of industrialisation (scale) to date. The size of the circles indicates volume harvested.

Although Atlantic salmon is relatively small in harvest volume compared to other species, it is a very visible product in many markets due to the high level of industrialisation.

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.8 Supply of farmed and wild salmonids



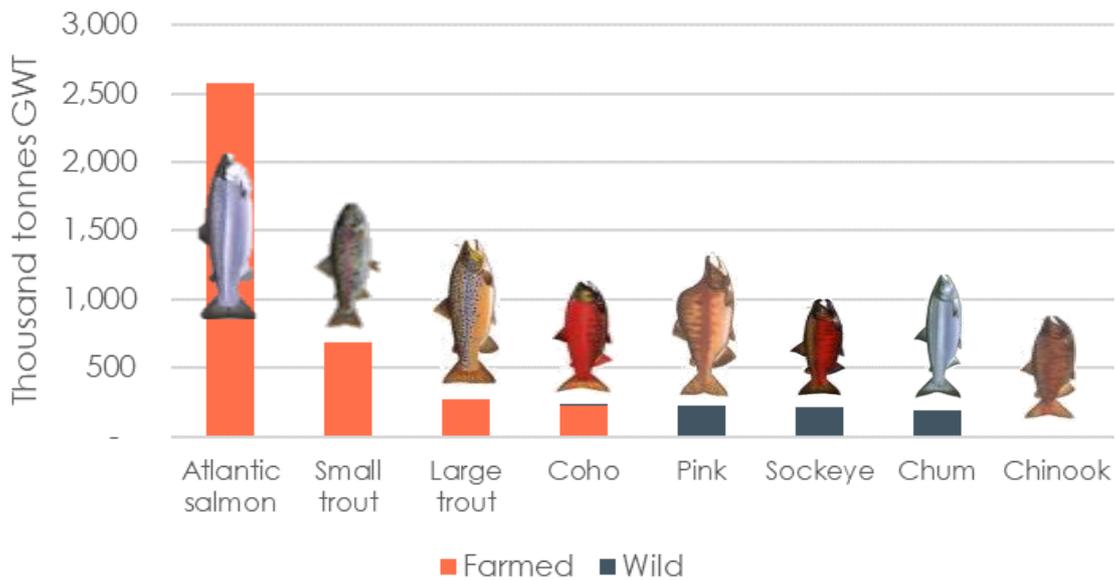
The general supply of seafood in the world is shifting more towards aquaculture as the supply from wild catch is stagnating in several regions and for many important species. Wild catch of salmonids varies between 500,000 and 1,000,000 tonnes GWT, whereas farmed salmonids are increasing. The total supply of salmonids was first dominated by farmed in 1999. Since then, the share of farmed salmonids has increased and farmed salmonids has been dominant.

The total supply of all farmed salmonids exceeded 2.81 million tonnes (GWT) in 2022. The same year, the total catch volume of wild salmonids was approx. one quarter of farmed, with pink, sockeye and chum being the most common species.

Historically, the supply of pink, chum and sockeye have accounted for 97% of the total wild catch volume, whereas pink being the dominated one with approx. 50%.

# Positioning of Salmon

## 2.9 Salmonids harvest 2021



**Atlantic salmon:** By quantity, the largest species of salmonids. Farmed Atlantic salmon is a versatile product, which can be used for a variety of categories such as smoked, fresh, sushi, as well as ready-made meals. The product is present in most geographies and segments. Due to biological constraints, seawater temperature requirements and other natural constraints, farmed salmon is mainly produced in sea in Norway, Chile, UK, North America, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Ireland, New Zealand and Tasmania.

**Small trout:** Produced in many countries and most often consumed locally as a traditional dish as hot smoked or portion fish. Small trout is not in direct competition with Atlantic salmon.

**Large trout:** Produced in Norway, Chile and the Faroe Islands, the main markets are Japan and Russia. Trout is mainly sold fresh, but is also used for smoked production.

**Coho:** Produced in Chile and is mostly used for salted products. It is a competitor of trout and sockeye in the red fish market. Although Russia has increased its import of this fish over the last few years, Japan remains the largest market.

**Pink:** Caught in USA and Russia and used for canning, pet food and roe production. Since quality is lower than the other species it is a less valued salmonid. The fish is small in size (1.5-1.7 kg) and is caught over a very short time period.

**Sockeye:** Caught in Russia and Alaska. It is mostly exported frozen to Japan, but some is consumed locally in Russia and some canned in Alaska. Sockeye is seen as a high quality salmonid and is used for salted products, sashimi and some is smoked in the EU.

**Chum:** Caught in Japan and Alaska. Most is consumed in Japan and China. In Japan, it is available as fresh, while in China it is processed for local consumption and re-exported. Little chum is found in the EU market. The catch varies in quality and part of the catch is not fit for human consumption.

**Chinook/King:** Small volumes, but highly valued. Alaska, Canada and New Zealand are the main supplying countries. Most quantities are consumed locally. Chinook is more in direct competition with Atlantic salmon than the other species and is available most of the year.



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## 3 Salmon Demand

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# Salmon Demand

## 3.1 Global macro trends



The industry is a good fit with the global macro trends, as Atlantic salmon is a healthy, resource-efficient and climate-friendly product produced in the sea.

The global population is growing, resulting in increased global demand for food. The world's population is expected to grow to almost 10 billion by 2050.

The health benefits of seafood are increasingly being promoted by global health authorities. The EAT-Lancet Commission recommends increased consumption of fish, dry beans and nuts as sustainable, healthy protein sources. Farm-raised salmon is rich in omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins and minerals.

Global fisheries are to a large extent fully exploited, meaning the supply of wild fish has limited potential to meet the growing demand for marine protein.

The middle class is growing in large emerging markets, allowing more people to eat different, and more nutritious, protein rich foods, such as fish, meat and eggs. Consumption of high-quality proteins is expected to increase.

Another demographic trend driving shifts in demand is the aging population. Healthy eating becomes especially important as you grow older.

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge the world has ever faced. Soil erosion is a growing issue for food production, challenging the world to investigate new ways of feeding the population. Concerns about climate change are influencing dietary choices. Increased consumption of fish can reduce global GHG emissions and improve human health.

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Source: Ocean Panel (2019) The Ocean as a Solution to Climate Change: Five Opportunities for Action, UN (2022) World Population Prospects, FAO (2022) The state of the world fisheries and aquaculture.

# Salmon Demand

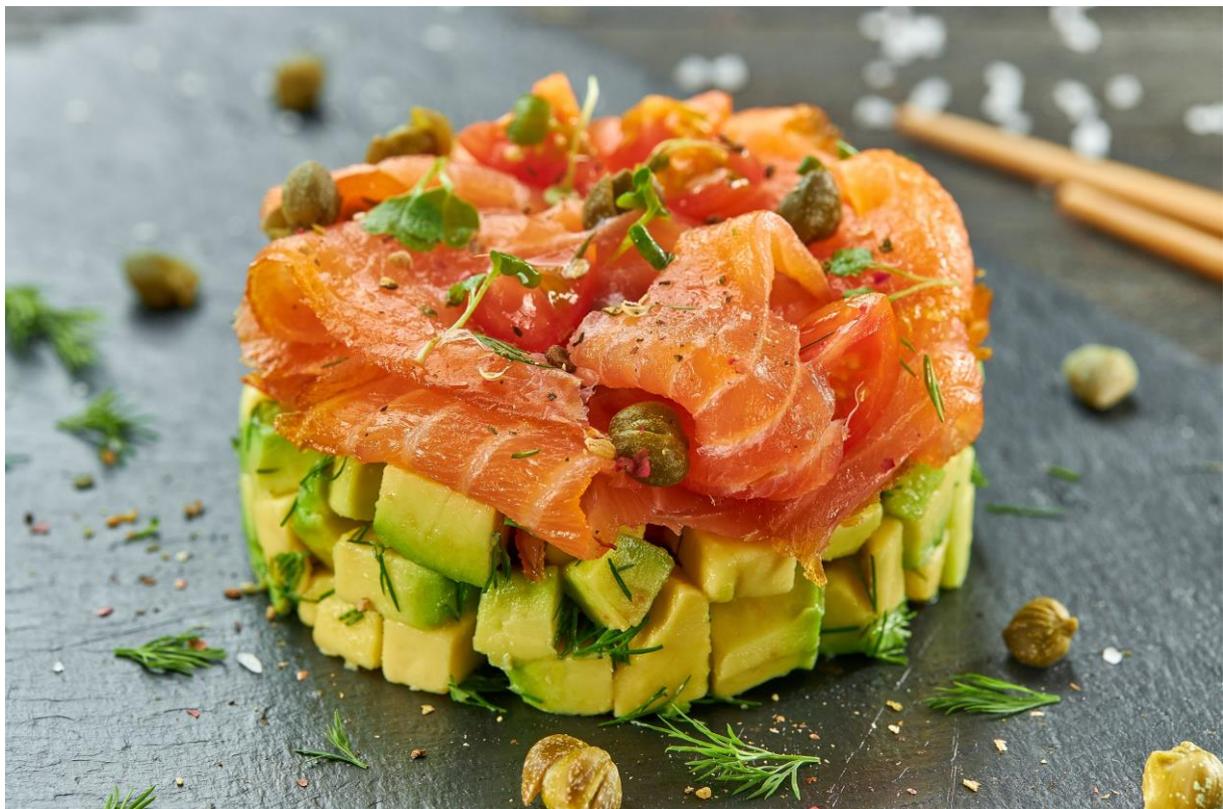
## 3.2 Favourable attributes of salmon

Demand is partly driven by supportive megatrends, but of even greater importance are the characteristics of the product itself.

Salmon is a healthy product and scientifically proven natural superfood. It is nutritionally dense and has a favourable nutritional content.

Salmon appeals to the consumer with its top appetising taste, look, texture and colour. Furthermore, salmon is a versatile product suitable for both traditional and evolving food occasions. It is a good choice for Sunday dinner with the family or at the restaurant, but also a great product for food festivals or just as a snack. Another feature that makes salmon relevant for multiple occasions is that it can be served in many forms - raw, grilled, cooked and smoked. It appeals to people of all ages as it addresses the health needs of the elderly, while being equally attractive to youngsters.

There is a rising demand for more sustainable food and a willingness to pay for it. The sustainable properties of salmon therefore make the product attractive to consumers.



## Salmon Demand

### 3.2.1 A healthy product



Atlantic salmon is rich in long-chain omega-3, EPA and DHA, which reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease. Data also indicates that EPA and DHA reduce the risk of a large number of other health issues.

Salmon is nutritious, rich in micronutrients, minerals, marine omega-3 fatty acids, high-quality protein and several vitamins, and represents an important part of a varied and healthy diet. FAO highlights that: “Fish is a food of excellent nutritional value, providing high quality protein and a wide variety of vitamins and minerals, including vitamins A and D, phosphorus, magnesium, selenium and iodine in marine fish”.

The substantial library of evidence from multiple studies on the nutrients present in seafood indicates that including salmon in your diet will improve your overall nutrition and may even yield significant health benefits. Considering global obesity rates, governments and food and health advisory bodies around the world are encouraging people of all ages to increase their seafood intake, with particular focus on the consumption of oily fish, such as salmon. The U.S. Department of Health and the US Department of Agriculture recommend an intake of at least 237 grams of seafood per week for Americans in general. The UK National Health Service, the Norwegian Directorate of Health and several other national health organisations recommend eating fish at least twice a week.

## Salmon Demand

### 3.2.2 Resource-efficient production



Protein retention	28 %	37 %	21 %	13 %
Calorie retention	25 %	27 %	16 %	7 %
Edible Yield	73 %	74 %	73 %	57 %
Feed conversion Ratio (FCR)	1.3	1.9	3.9	8.0
Edible Meat per 100 kg fed	56 kg	39 kg	19 kg	7 kg

To optimise resource utilisation, it is vital to produce animal proteins in the most efficient way. Protein resource efficiency is expressed as “Protein retention”, which is a measure of how much animal food protein is produced per unit feed protein fed to the animal. Salmon has a protein retention of 28%, which is more efficient than pork and cattle (see table above).

Calorie retention is measured by dividing calories in edible portion by calories in feed. Salmon has a high calorie retention of 25%.

The main reason why salmon convert protein and energy to body muscle and weight so efficiently is that they are cold-blooded and therefore do not have to use energy to heat their bodies. Furthermore they do not expend energy on standing up like land animals do.

- Edible yield is calculated by dividing edible meat by total body weight. Atlantic salmon has a high edible yield of 73%.
- Feed conversion ratios measure how efficiently the different animal proteins are produced. In short, this tells us the kilograms of feed needed to increase the animal's bodyweight by one kg. Feed for Atlantic salmon is high in protein and energy which accounts for Atlantic salmon's feed conversion ratio being even more favourable than its protein and energy retention when compared with the production of other land animal proteins.
- Edible meat per 100kg of feed fed is the combination of the FCR ratio and edible yield and presents salmon as giving a favourably high quantity of edible meat per kg of feed fed.

## Salmon Demand

### 3.2.3 Climate friendly production

In addition to its resource-efficient production, farmed fish is also a climate-friendly protein source. It is expected to become an important solution to providing the world with vitally important proteins while limiting the negative effect on the environment.

According to Blue Food Assessment and SINTEF the carbon footprint of farm-raised salmon is 5.1 kg of carbon equivalent per kg of edible product, compared with 8.4 kg, 12.2 kg and 39.0 kg carbon equivalent per kg of edible product of chicken, pork and beef, respectively. For the consumer, replacing land-based proteins with fish would significantly reduce their personal carbon footprint (daily greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions).

Freshwater is a renewable but limited natural resource, and human activities can cause serious damage to the surrounding environment. Production of farmed Atlantic salmon requires 2,000 litres of freshwater per kg of edible meat, which is significantly less than other proteins.

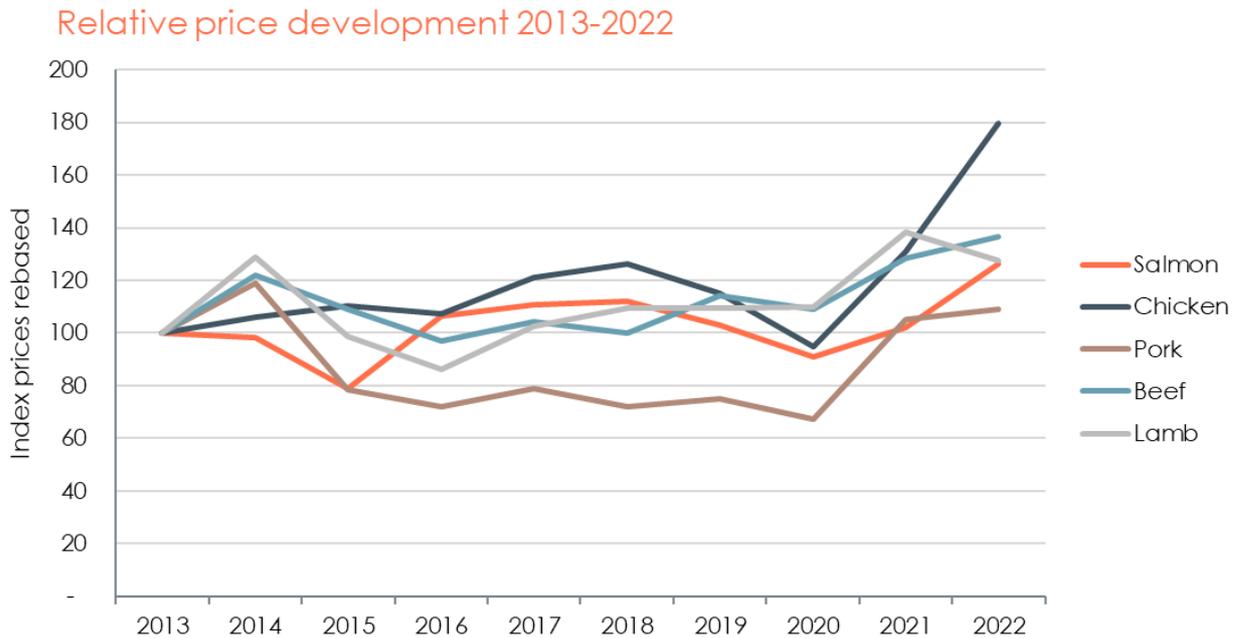


	Salmon	Chicken	Pork	Beef
<b>Carbon Footprint</b>				
<i>Kg CO<sub>2</sub> / Kg edible meat</i>	5.1 kg	8.4 kg	12.2 kg	39.0 kg
<b>Water consumption</b>				
<i>Litre / Kg edible meat</i>	2,000*	4,300	6,000	15,400

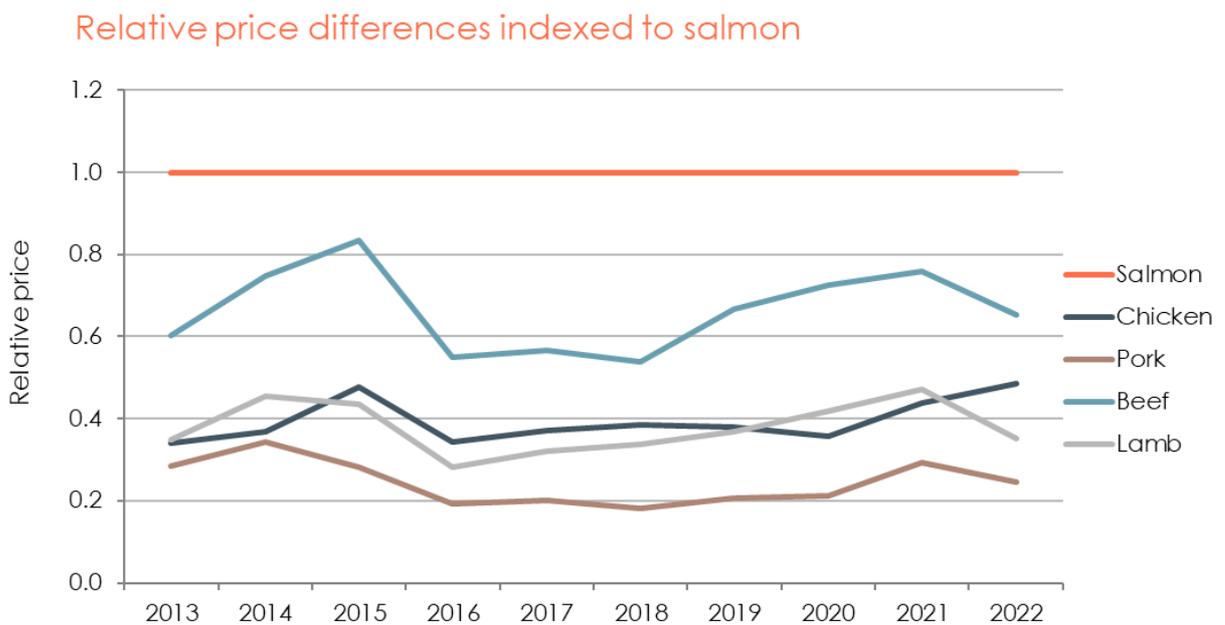
*\*Total water footprint for farmed salmonid fillets in Scotland, in relation to weight and content of calories, protein and fat.*

# Salmon Demand

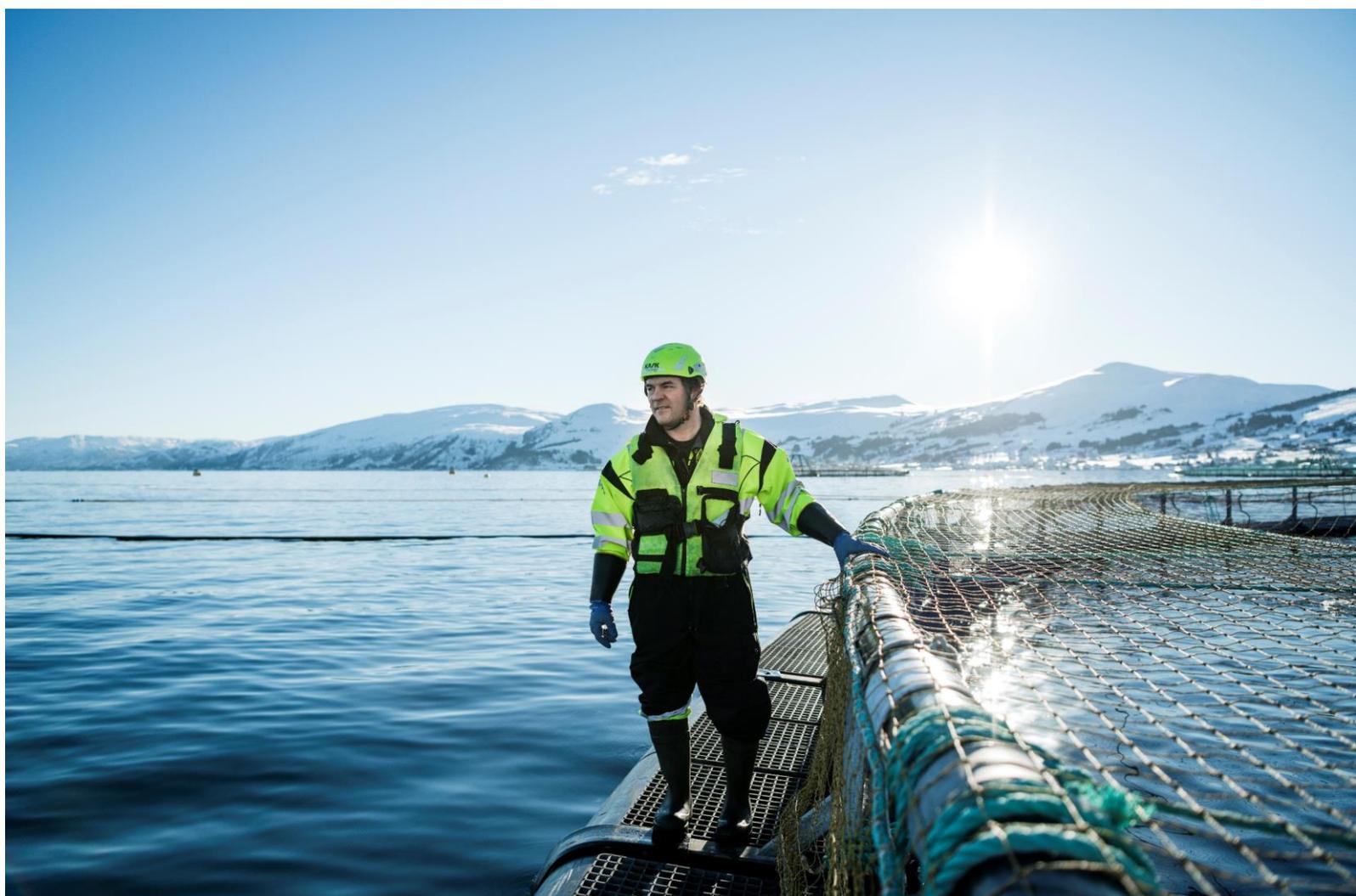
## 3.3 Relative price development of protein products



Prices for all proteins have increased over the past decade, with a particular rise during 2021 and 2022.



Salmon has historically always been a rather expensive product on the shelves.



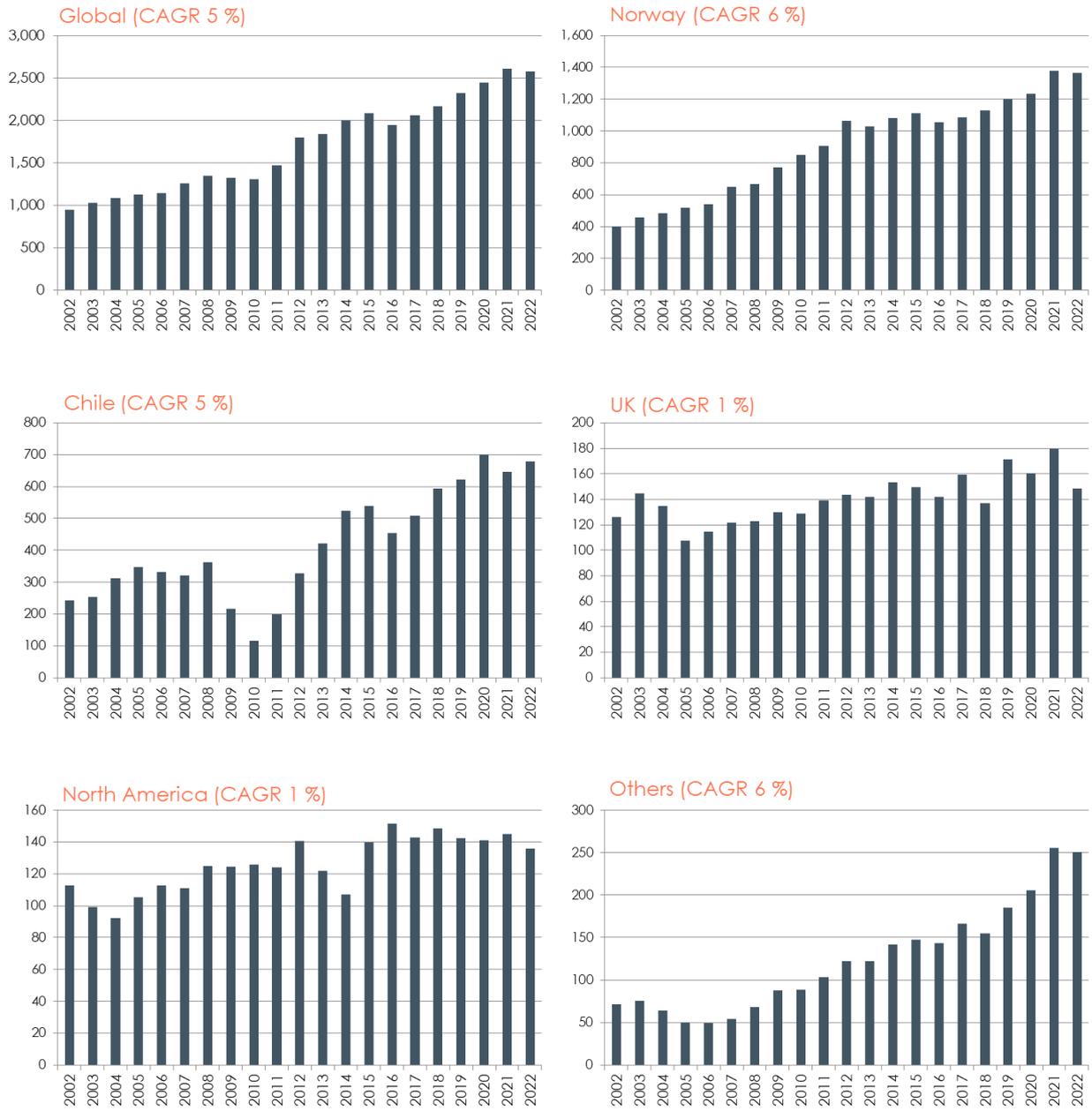
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## 4 Salmon Supply

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# Salmon Supply

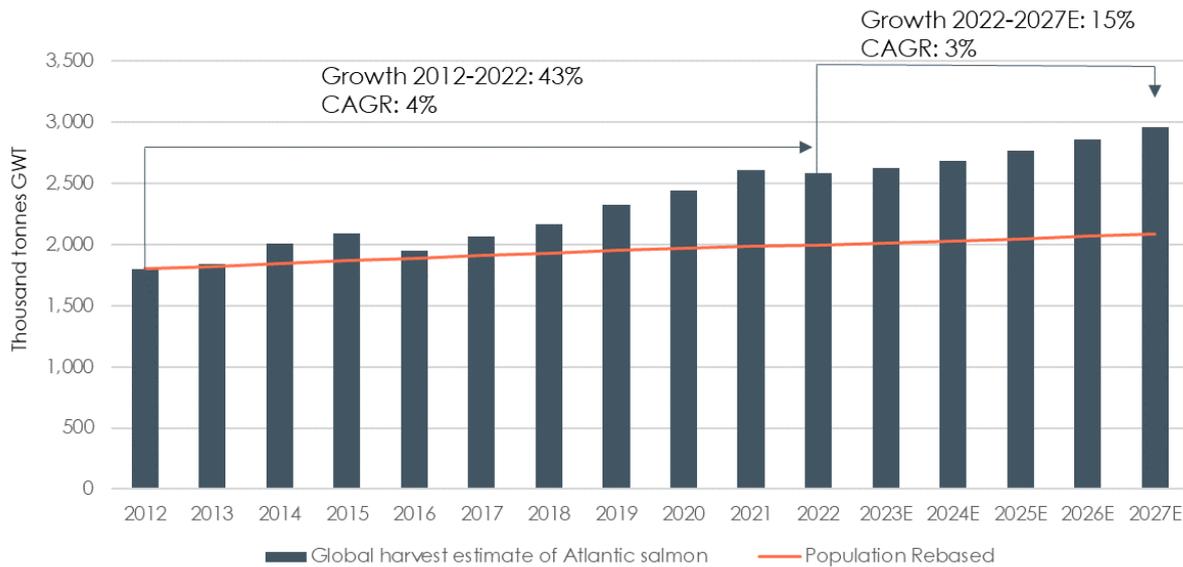
## 4.1 Total harvest of Atlantic salmon 2002-2022



CAGR	Global	Norway	Chile	UK	North America	Others
2002-2022	5%	6%	5%	1%	1%	6%
2012-2022	4%	3%	8%	0%	0%	7%
2022-2027E	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%	6%

# Salmon Supply

## 4.2 Diminishing growth expectations



Supply of Atlantic salmon has increased by 543% since 1995 (annual growth of 7%). Annual growth in the period 2012-2022 was 4%. Mowi expects growth to remain relatively stable at 3% from 2022 to 2027.

The background for this trend is that the industry has reached a production level where biological boundaries are being pushed. It is therefore expected that future growth can no longer be driven only by the industry and regulators as measures are implemented to reduce its biological footprint. This requires progress in technology, development of improved pharmaceutical products, implementation of non-pharmaceutical techniques, improved industry regulations and intercompany cooperation.

Too rapid growth without these measures in place adversely impacts biological indicators, costs, and in turn output.

## Salmon Supply

### 4.3 Few coastlines suitable for salmon farming



The main coastal areas adopted for salmon farming are depicted on the above map. The coastlines are within certain latitude bands in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

A key condition is a temperature range between zero and 20°C. The optimal temperature range for salmon is between 8 and 14°C.

Salmon farming also requires a certain amount of current to allow a flow of water through the farm. The current must however be below a certain level to allow the fish to move freely around in the sites. Such conditions are typically found in waters protected by archipelagos and fjords and this rules out many coastlines. However, offshore farming is an emerging approach. Offshore farms are positioned in deeper and less sheltered waters, where ocean currents are stronger than they are inshore, and they therefore require more robust cages.

Certain biological parameters are also required to allow efficient production. Biological conditions vary significantly within the areas adopted for salmon farming and are prohibitive in certain other areas.

Political willingness to permit salmon farming and to regulate the industry is also required. License systems have been adopted in all areas where salmon farming is carried out.

Land based salmon farming (full-cycle) has attracted increased investments in the past years. To date, only limited volumes have been harvested on land, however, this could change going forward as new production technologies continue to mature.



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## 5 Sustainable production

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# Sustainable production

## 5.1 UN's Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs, which were agreed by all 193 UN member states in 2015, guide governments, civil society and the private sector in a collaborative effort for change towards sustainable development. Out of the 17 SDGs, the industry can contribute significantly to at least ten: good health and well-being; gender equality; decent work and economic growth; reduced inequalities, sustainable cities and communities; industry, innovation and infrastructures; responsible consumption and production; climate action; life below water and partnerships for the goals.



# Sustainable production

## 5.2 Environmental impact of aquaculture

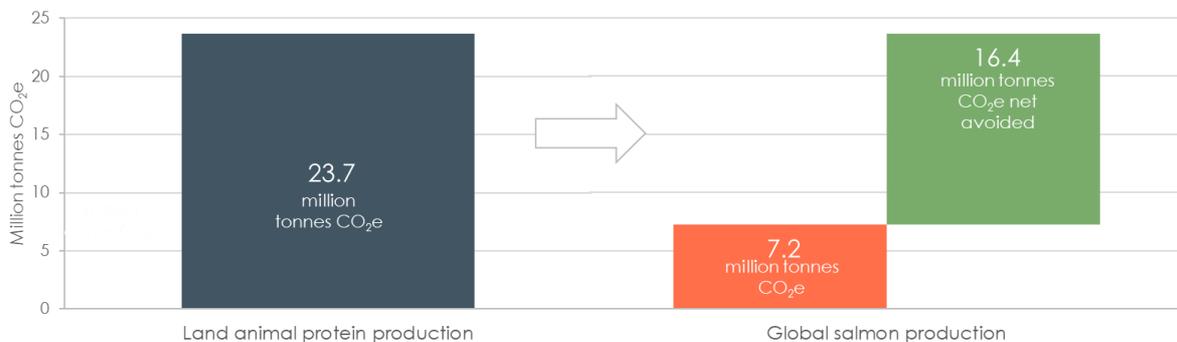
It is important first to understand the impact of aquaculture on the environment in order to become even more sustainable.

### Carbon footprint

Fish farming is among the most climate-friendly forms of animal husbandry. According to the Blue FoodAssessment (Environmental performance of blue foods, Gephart et al., 2021) the carbon footprint is only 5.1 kg of carbon equivalent per kg of edible product, compared with 8.4 kg of carbon equivalent per edible kg of poultry, 12.2 kg per edible kg of pork and 39.0 kg per edible kg of beef.

By replacing land animal protein production with farmed salmon, significant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are avoided. Assuming that global salmon production replaced a mix of poultry, pork and beef production in 2022, 16.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were avoided.

Net avoided carbon emissions 2022



### Genetic changes in wild salmon

Most escaped farmed salmon disappear into the open sea. They are likely to die from starvation or disease, or be eaten by predators. Still, some survive after escaping, and migrate into the rivers each year, posing a risk of genetic changes in a river's wild salmon population.

The Institute of Marine Research considered seven out of 13 production areas in Norway to be at high risk for further genetic changes. Three production areas are considered to be at moderate risk and three production areas are considered to be at low risk.

### Environmental effects of discharges of dissolved nutrients

Dissolved nutrient salts are released into coastal waters by population (sewage), industry, agriculture and aquaculture. In aquaculture, when salmon eat, dissolved nitrogen and phosphorus will be released via the gills and also a smaller proportion in the form of urea. Even though increased concentrations of dissolved nutrients in coastal waters may cause adverse ecosystem changes, the risk of regional environmental impacts as a result of dissolved nutrients from fish farming is considered low in all production areas according to the Institute of Marine Research.

### Environmental impact on the seabed as a result of particulate organic emissions

## Sustainable production

Open pens release organic particles directly into the environment in the form of faeces from the fish and feed that is not eaten. Such discharges can affect the environment to a greater or lesser extent around the fish farm. However, the emissions mainly consist of easily degradable compounds, the impact is reversible, and the seabed can fully regenerate over a few months to a few years. Farmers are obliged by law to monitor the seabed continuously in accordance with NS 9410 or other national regulations, so that the environmental impact of aquaculture is within acceptable limits. If the environmental impact on the seabed is not acceptable, the site may be followed, production reduced or the site reallocated to a different location.

Based on reporting made through today's monitoring system, the condition of soft-bottom sites is considered to be good in all production areas in Norway and the risk of unacceptable environmental impacts due to particulate organic emissions is low. As of today, there is no good monitoring of hard-bottom sites and this has therefore not been evaluated.

Mowi measures the potential impact of organic loading on the seabed according to national seabed quality standards. Results show that, on average, 92% of its sea sites surveyed in 2022 have a minimal impact on faunal communities and/or sediment chemistry near to the fish pens.

### **Environmental effects on non-target species when using medicine**

Sea lice belong to the animal group of crustaceans, and medicines that treat sea lice can potentially affect other species.

There are differences in the way treatments may affect non-target species. Bath treatments may have a short-term effect, while oral treatments may affect non-target species over a longer period of time. Bath treatments include hydrogen peroxide, azamethiphos, cypermethrin and deltamethrin, and the treatment takes place either directly in the pen or in a well boat. If treatment is done in pens, the bath treatment is released directly into the sea. When the treatment takes place in a well boat, the bathing agent is released while the vessel is in motion. However, purification systems that remove the medicine used in well boat-delivered bath treatments have are being introduced to the market. The oral treatments considered are diflubenzuron, teflubenzuron and emamectin, and a proportion of these can be released to the environment via feed and faeces.

The Institute of Marine Research's risk assessment is a comprehensive assessment and emphasises, among other things, total consumption, toxicity and occurrence in the environment in Norway. Of the treatments considered, azamethiphos is considered to have low risk, while hydrogen peroxide, cypermethrin, deltamethrin, diflubenzuron, teflubenzuron and emamectin are considered to have moderate risk. However, the number of prescriptions was highest in the years 2014 and 2015, respectively 3,477 and 3,285, whereas for 2018 this was reduced to 501. Overall, this presents a significant reduction in the environmental risk.

Mowi only uses licensed medicines when other measures are not sufficient or when fish welfare may be compromised. In 2022, 60% of sea lice treatments were non-medicinal, compared with 12% in 2015, showing the significant reduction in the use

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Source: Institute of Marine Research (2023) Risk assessment of Norwegian fin fish aquaculture 2023, Mowi

## Sustainable production

of medicines to manage sea lice, itself made possible by the increased use of non-medical tools.

### Fish welfare

In Norwegian farm pens, there is a maximum of 200,000 fish per pen at any given time. These are individuals which, according to the Animal Welfare Act, have the right to be kept in an environment that provides good welfare based on species and individual needs, and the opportunity for stimulating activity, movement, rest and other natural behaviour. Farmers must also ensure that feed is of good quality and meets the fish's needs, and that the farmed fish is protected against injury, disease and other hazards. The farmed fish must be robust enough to withstand farming conditions, and they should not be subjected to unnecessary stress.

The challenges in the north of Norway are primarily related to low temperatures and bacterial wound infections, while Western Norway has challenges with PD and injuries in connection with lice treatment.

Survival rate is commonly used as a measure of animal health and welfare. Improved survival can be achieved through good husbandry and management practices, vaccination etc. In 2022, the average monthly survival rate of farmed salmon in Norway was 99.2%. The monthly survival rate for poultry was 98.8%, for pork 99.5% and for beef 99.8% on a global basis.



Monthly survival rate*	99.2 %	98.8 %	99.5 %	99.8 %
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\* Average monthly survival (Individuals) / Inventory beginning of year (Individuals)  
Source: Institute of Marine Research (2023): Risk Assessment of Norwegian fin fish aquaculture 2023, Mowi

# Sustainable production

## 5.3 Material sustainability efforts

### **Carbon footprint**

The industry is constantly working to make the value chain more energy efficient and has set targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Sourcing of feed raw materials is the largest contributor of GHG emissions in salmon farming.

### **Plastic management**

The presence of microplastic in the world's ocean is an emerging issue that fish farmers have started to focus on. Fish farmers are undertaking various initiatives to reduce plastic waste, such as improving waste management, engaging in beach clean-up events around the world, using improved packaging and monitoring the presence of microplastics and plastic-related contaminants in fish.

### **Escape prevention**

Because escaped farm-raised salmon may have a negative impact on the environment due to interactions and interbreeding with wild populations, fish farmers have a target of zero escapes.

### **Sea lice**

Effective sea lice management is important for fish welfare and to ensure sea lice on our farms do not negatively impact wild salmonids. Farmers work intensively to improve their approach to sea lice management and to minimise the number of adult female sea lice, especially during the period when wild salmon migrate to sea. A number of non-medicinal tools have been developed over the last years reducing significantly the use of medicines to manage sea lice.

### **Medicine use**

Licensed medicines may have a negative environmental impact if used too frequently. Farmers use antimicrobial medicines only when fish health and welfare are at risk from bacterial infection and only when absolutely necessary. Antimicrobials are not used for growth promotion, prevention of infectious diseases or for control of dissemination.

### **Fish health and welfare**

Caring about fish welfare is an ethical responsibility. The industry works every day to safeguard the health and welfare of fish through effective sea lice management, and to reduce medicine use by optimising fish survival and preventing disease. Operational welfare indicators are also monitored during production.

### **Biodiversity**

The industry needs healthy oceans to drive sustainable salmon farming and farmers must pay attention to the critical and highly sensitive environment they operate in. In all farming countries there are regulations in place to safeguard farming's impact on the seabed by monitoring the physical, chemical and biodiversity characteristics of the benthic environment.

# Sustainable production

## 5.4 Sustainability of fish feed

Fish feed is a key component in ensuring the best possible fish health and performance. In any life cycle assessment (LCA)\* of salmon farming, feed also makes the largest contribution to its environmental footprint. Important parameters for the carbon footprint arising from feed consumption are feed efficiency and feed ingredients.

### Feed efficiency

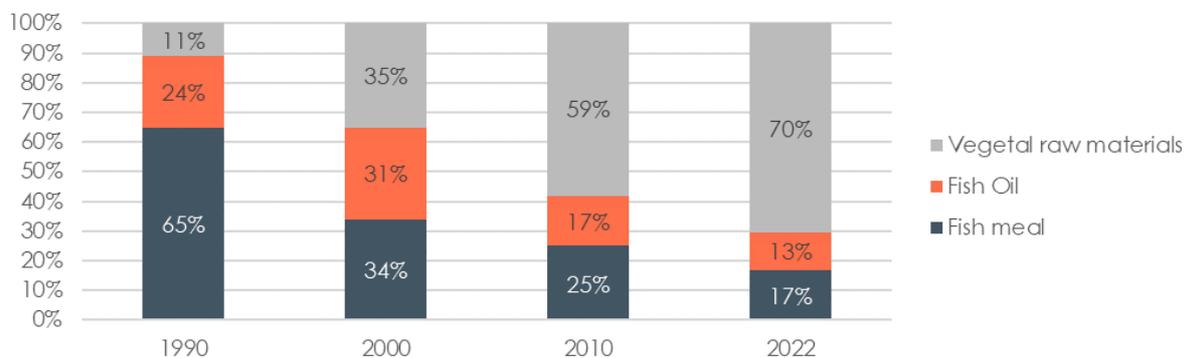
The feed conversion ratio (FCR) describes the amount of feed used to produce a certain amount of salmon. Efficient feeding, that is to say releasing the minimum amount of feed beyond what is actually eaten, is important since the footprint of the feed released dominates the overall carbon footprint of the product. Improvements in feed formulations and in feed manufacture, combined with better on-farm feed management, can hugely reduce the quantity of feed (and thus the feed raw materials) used per kilogram of farmed aquatic food produced.

### Feed ingredients

The current carbon footprint of farmed salmon shows that it is critical to change what the salmon is fed. Simply shifting between existing feed inputs, such as from marine to terrestrial inputs only leads to trade-offs between environmental impact categories.

In 1990 the average Norwegian salmon diet contained 65% fish meal and 24% fish oil. Marine ingredients have been reduced over time and in 2022 Mowi used 17% fish meal and 13% fish oils in its salmon feed. Production of fish meal and fish oils uses species from reduction fisheries and trimmings not suitable for human consumption.

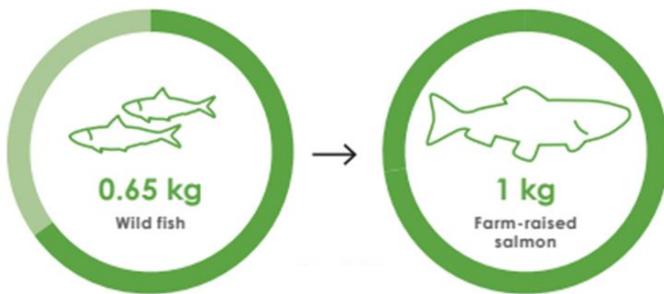
Development of raw materials in salmon feed in Norway



## Sustainable production

### Recaptured Fish in- fish out (rFIFO)

Recaptured Fish in- fish out (rFIFO) express the number of kg of wild fish (excluding trimmings and the fish meal and oil produced from by-products originated from salmon processing) it takes to produce 1 kg of salmon. In 2022 Mowi used 0.65 kg of low consumer preference wild fish (like anchovy and sardine) to produce 1 kg of Atlantic salmon.



Substitution of marine raw materials has not been found to have any negative effect on growth, susceptibility to disease, or quality of the fish if the fish's own nutrient requirements are being covered.

Major reductions in carbon footprint could potentially come from exploring and developing feed ingredients that close the nutrient loop in the salmon industry (that increase overall resource efficiency) and developing ingredients from resources that are not utilised today. For example, products derived from insects, alcohol fermentation, CO<sub>2</sub> capture and forestry are currently being explored.

Traceability is important to make sure that no raw materials originate from illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) catches, or from fish species classified as endangered on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list. Sustainable sourcing of vegetable feed raw materials such as soy is ensured by purchasing from Proterra-certified (or equivalent) deforestation-free suppliers.

# Sustainable production

## 5.5 Global sustainability initiatives

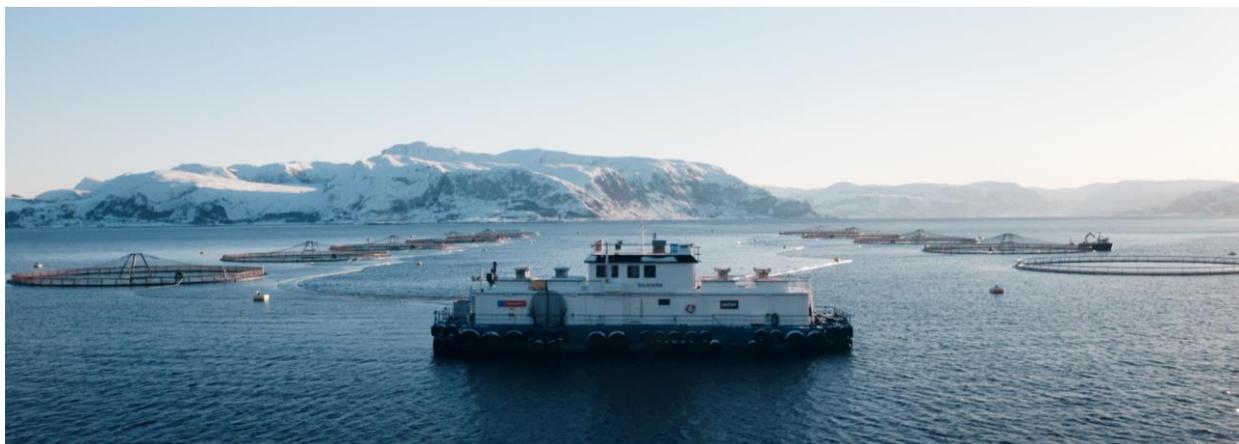
Achieving a sustainable future will require concerted action and new forms of partnership. One example of a key partnership is the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI). GSSI plays an important role in providing clarity on seafood certification. Third-party certifications can give consumers and stakeholders confidence that a product is sustainable. The Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and Global G.A.P. are examples of third-party certifications.

**Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI)** aligns global efforts and resources to address seafood sustainability challenges. Governed by a Steering Board representing the full seafood value chain – companies, NGOs, governments and international organisations, including the FAO – GSSI promotes sector-wide collaboration to drive forward more sustainable seafood for everyone and maintains a benchmarking tool to assess sustainability standards.

**The Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)** is an independent non-profit organisation with global influence. The ASC's primary role is to manage the global standards for responsible aquaculture. The ASC works with aquaculture producers, seafood processors, retail and foodservice companies, scientists, conservation groups and consumers.

**Global G.A.P.** is a recognised standard for farm production. Its goal is safe and sustainable agricultural production to benefit farmers, retailers and consumers throughout the world.

**BAP** (Best Aquaculture Practices), is a third-party certification programme that certifies every step of the production chain. BAP is part of GSA (Global Seafood Alliance), an international, nonprofit trade association dedicated to advancing responsible seafood practices through education, advocacy and third-party assurances.



## Sustainable production

### 5.6 Transparency

Being transparent about environmental, social and product performance is key for building trust and correcting misinformation. The sustainability data is audited by third parties and reported according to global standards such as CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) and FAIRR.

**CDP** is a not-for-profit charity that runs the global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts. CDP supports thousands of companies, cities, states and regions to measure and manage risks and opportunities relating to climate change, water security and deforestation.



**The FAIRR Initiative** is a collaborative investor network that raises awareness of the material ESG risks and opportunities caused by intensive livestock production. The Coller FAIRR Index ranks the largest global meat, dairy and fish producers by looking at risk factors ranging from use of antibiotics to deforestation and labour abuses. The index is the world's only benchmark dedicated to profiling animal protein producers and showcasing critical gaps and areas of best practice in the sector. Mowi is ranked as overall best performer for 4 times in a row, and there are three salmon producers in the top three.



The WBA **Seafood Stewardship Index (SSI)** measures the world's 30 most influential seafood companies and presents an overall ranking based on the results in five measurement areas. These areas reflect where stakeholders expect corporate action, pinpointing where companies can have the most impact; Governance and management of stewardship practices, Stewardship of the supply chain, Ecosystems, Human rights and working conditions and Local communities. Mowi ranks 2nd in the benchmark and demonstrates a strong performance in all measurement areas.



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Source: [www.cdp.net](http://www.cdp.net), [www.fairr.org](http://www.fairr.org), [www.seafood.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org](http://www.seafood.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org)



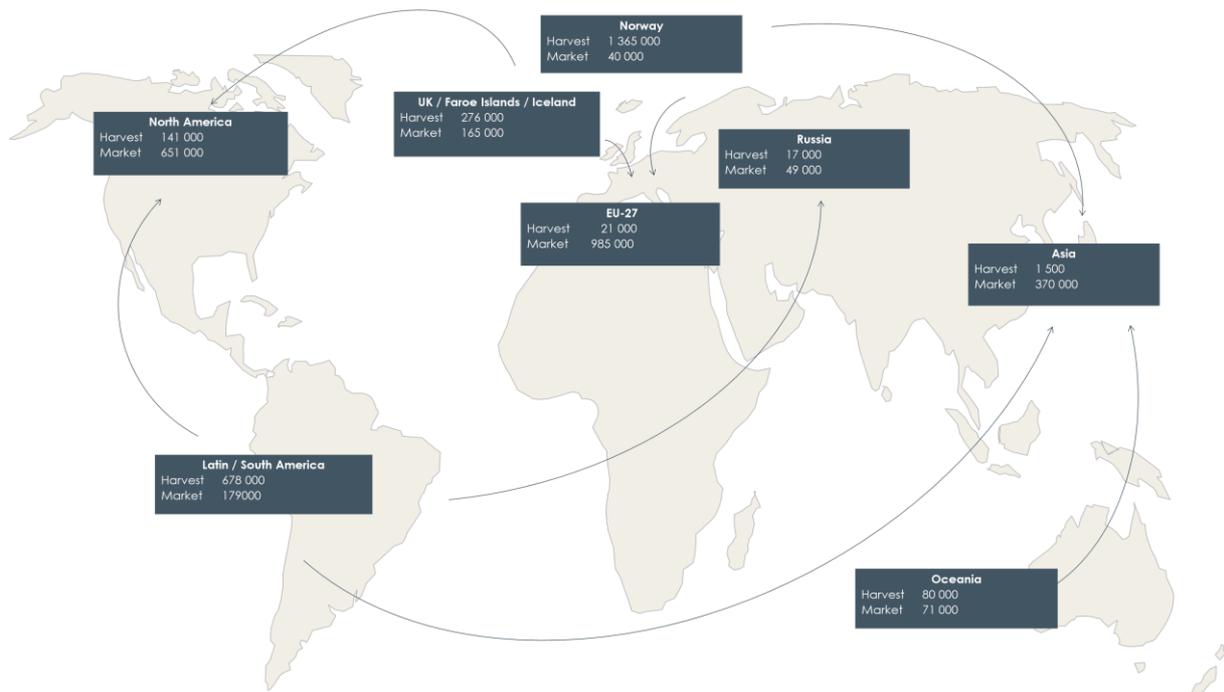
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## 6 Salmon Markets

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# Salmon Markets

## 6.1 Global trade flow of farmed Atlantic salmon



The main markets for each production origin:

- Norway – Europe and Asia
- Chile – USA, South America and Asia
- Canada – USA
- Scotland – Domestic within UK, France

Each producing region has historically focused on developing the nearby markets. As salmon is primarily marketed as a fresh product, time and cost of transportation have driven this trend.

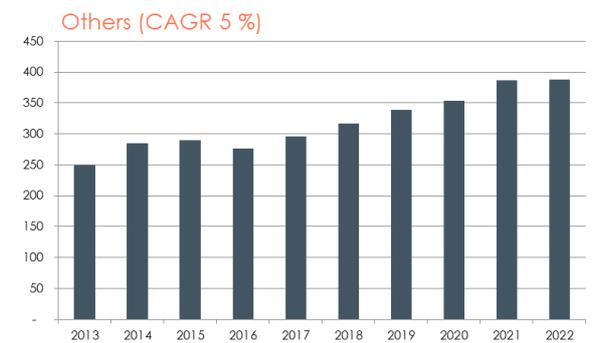
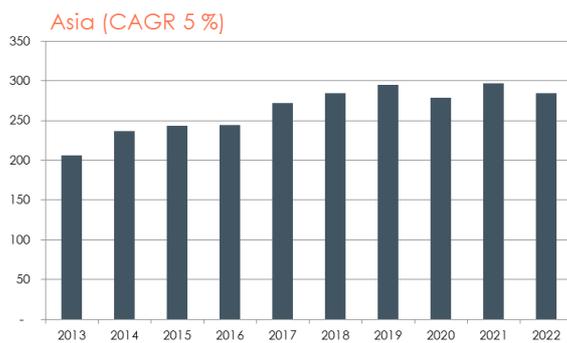
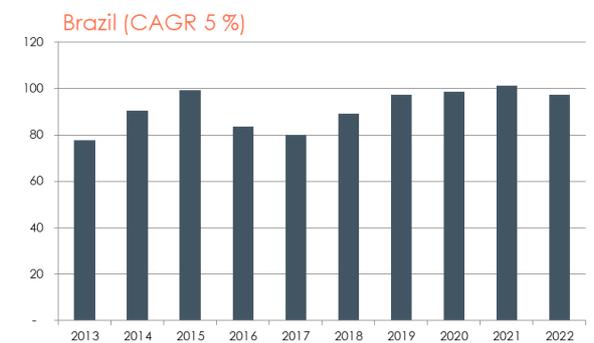
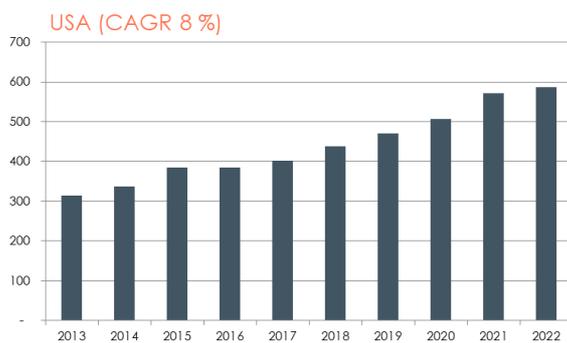
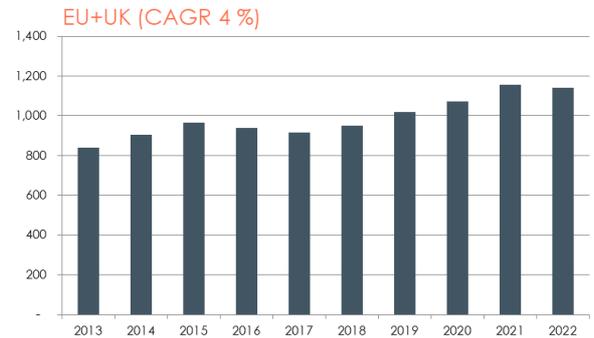
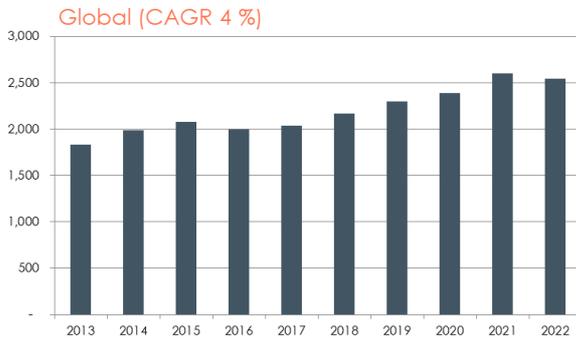
A relatively high price differential is therefore required to justify transatlantic trade as this incurs the cost of airfreight. Such trade varies from period to period and depends on arbitrage opportunities arising from short-term shortages and excess volumes from the various producing countries.

The Asian market is generally shared as transportation costs are broadly similar from all producing regions.

Distribution of frozen salmon is much more straightforward.

# Salmon Markets

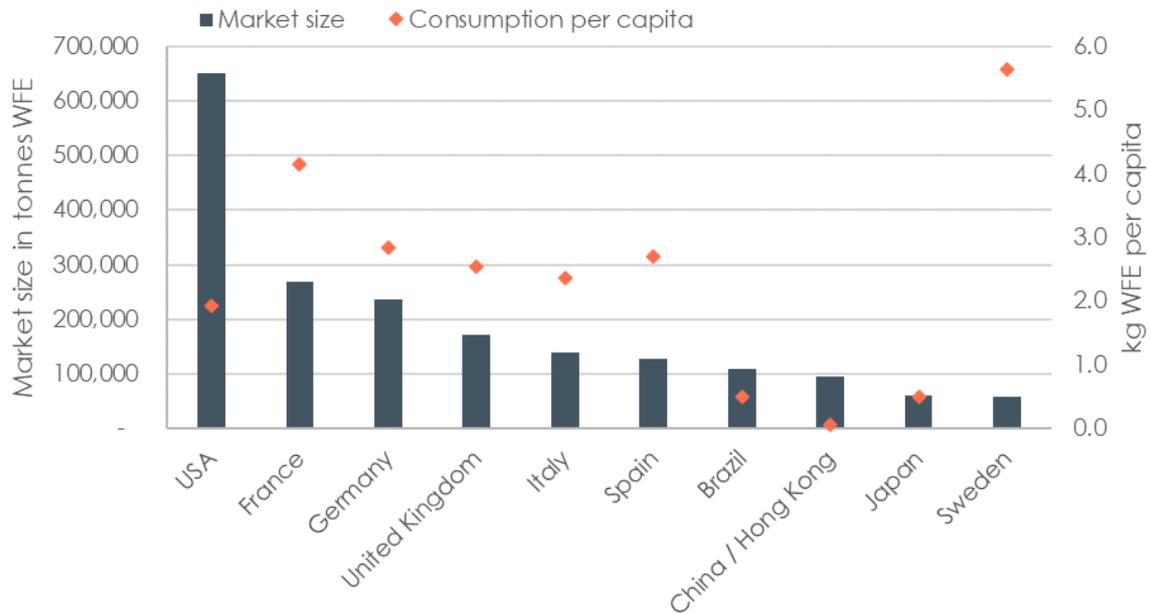
## 6.2 Farmed Atlantic salmon by market



EU+UK and USA are by far the largest markets for Atlantic salmon. Emerging markets such as Brazil and Asia have been growing at significantly higher rates than traditional markets. However, these markets have a higher food service share compared to traditional markets, and growth rates in 2020-2022 were hampered due to Covid-19 restrictions and increased airfreight costs. On average consumption of Atlantic salmon has increased by 4% in all markets over the last 10 years.

# Salmon Markets

## 6.3 Top 10 markets by size (2022E)

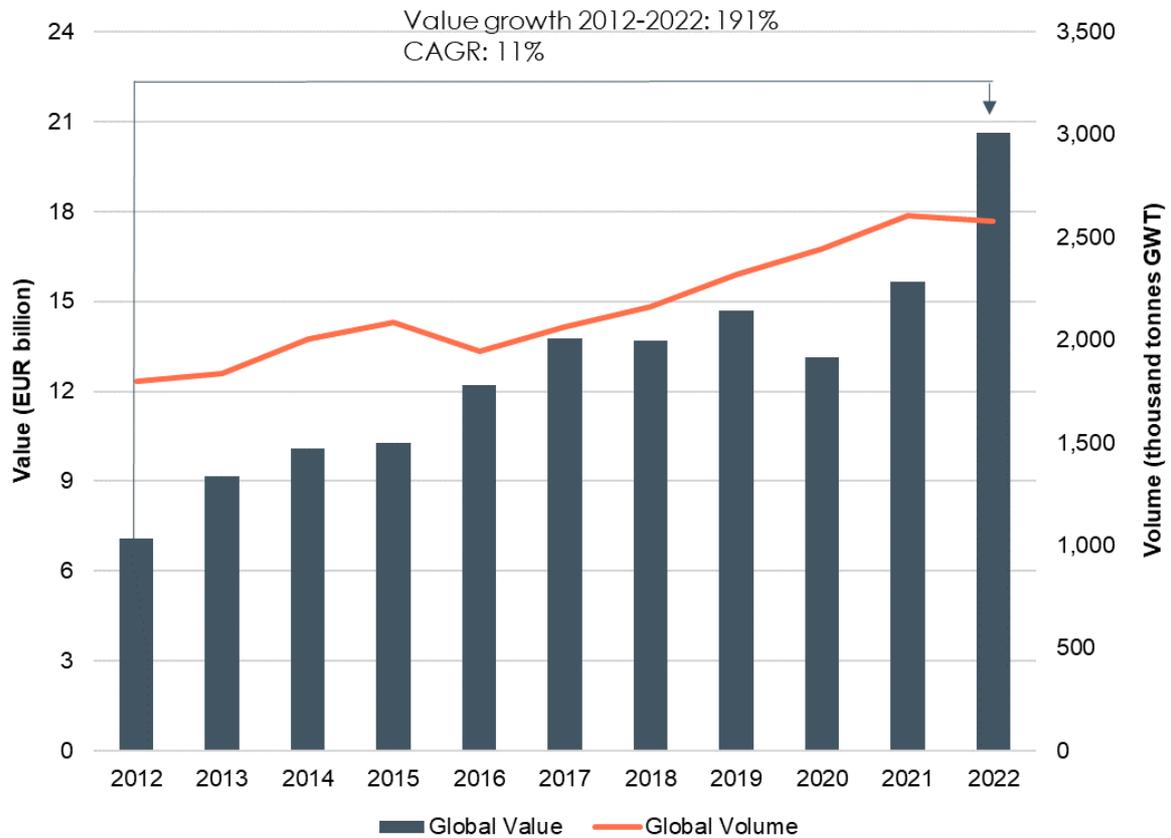


In the 10 largest markets by country, consumption per capita varies from 0.07 kg WFE (China / Hong Kong) to 4.16 kg WFE (France). In Norway, Sweden and Finland, consumption per capita is between 6-8 kg WFE. This means that there is significant growth potential among the largest markets.



## Salmon Markets

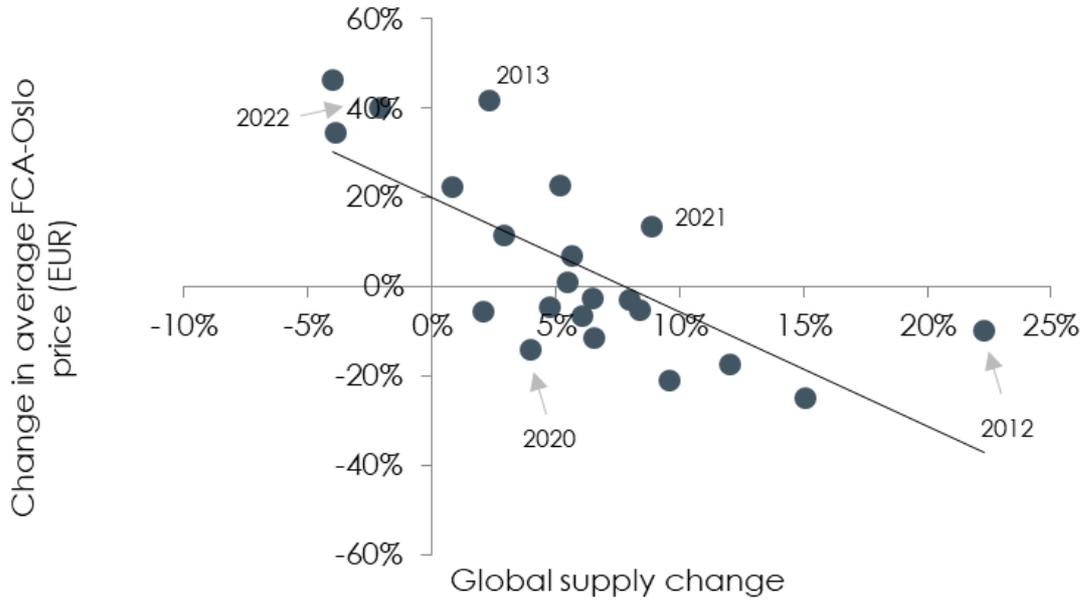
### 6.4 Development of value (CAGR 11%) vs. volume last 10 years



The value of salmon sold has increased by 191% from 2012 to 2022 (CAGR 11%), while volume has increased by 40% (CAGR 4%) in the same period. This illustrates the strong underlying demand for salmon. In 2022, the value of salmon consumed increased 32% on strong prices and continued demand recovery from Covid-19.

# Salmon Markets

## 6.5 Price neutral demand growth – approx. 7% the past 20 years



Year	Global supply growth	Change in avg. price FCA Oslo (EUR)
2001	15%	-25%
2002	8%	-3%
2003	7%	-11%
2004	6%	7%
2005	5%	23%
2006	1%	23%
2007	10%	-21%
2008	5%	1%
2009	3%	12%
2010	-4%	35%
2011	12%	-17%
2012	22%	-10%
2013	2%	42%
2014	8%	-5%
2015	5%	-4%
2016	-4%	46%
2017	2%	-5%
2018	6%	-2%
2019	6%	-6%
2020	4%	-14%
2021	9%	14%
2022	-2%	40%

The correlation between change in global supply and average FCA Oslo price (EUR) is very strong. In the period 2001-2011, change in supply explained 84% of the change in price using linear regression. In 2012 and 2013 demand for salmon significantly overperformed.

Price correlation across regional markets is generally strong for Atlantic salmon.

Growth in global supply of Atlantic salmon was 186% in the period 2001-2022 (CAGR 5%), varying between -4% and 22% annually. Variation in growth rates has been the main determinant for the variation in prices. However, in 2020, demand was impacted by Covid-19 restrictions which reduced foodservice activity. Demand partially recovered in 2021 as the pandemic waned and market conditions improved, and this positive trend continued into 2022 as demand made a significant recovery when the effects of the pandemic further

diminished and market conditions further improved.

Since 2013, prices have varied between EUR 7.87 per kg (2022) and EUR 4.72 per kg (2014). 2023 YTD prices have continued to reach new record-high levels on strong demand and limited supply from key producing regions.

# Salmon Markets

## 6.6 Historic price development



As salmon is perishable and marketed fresh, all production in one period must be consumed in the same period. In the short term, the production level is difficult and expensive to adjust as the planning/production cycle is three years long. Therefore, the supplied quantity is very inelastic in the short term, while demand shifts according to the season. This is the main reason for the price volatility in the market.

Factors affecting market price for Atlantic salmon are:

- Supply (absolute and seasonal variations)
- Demand (absolute and seasonal variations)
- Globalisation of the market (arbitrage opportunities between regional markets)
- Presence of sales contracts reducing quantity available for the spot market
- Flexibility of market channels
- Quality
- Disease outbreaks
- Food scares

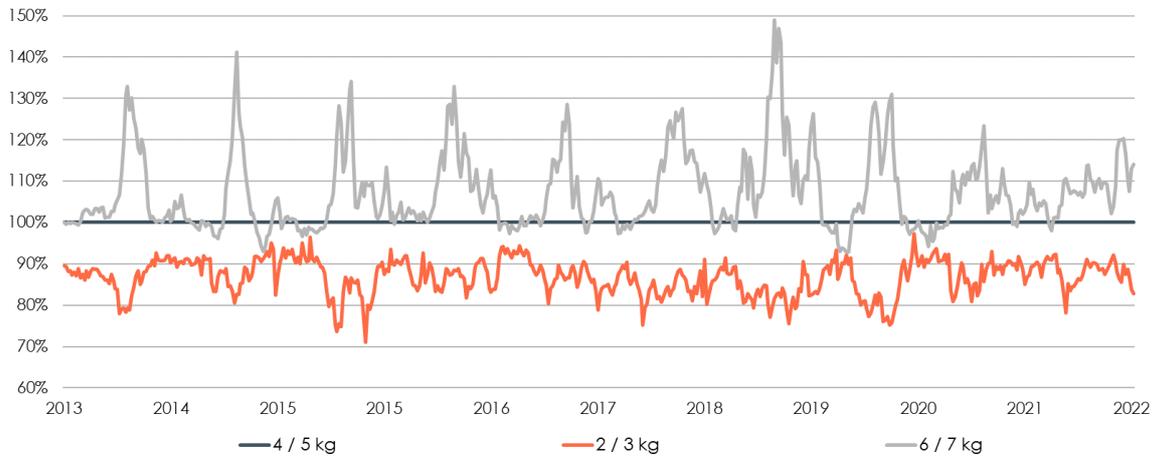
Comparing FCA Oslo, FOB Miami and FOB Seattle, there is a clear indication of a global market as prices correlate to a high degree.

As in most commodity industries, producers of Atlantic salmon experience high volatility in the price achieved for the product. The average price (GWT based) for Norwegian whole salmon since 2013 has been about EUR 5.9/kg, for Chilean salmon fillet (3-4lb) D-trim fillet USD 5.0/lb (USD 11.0/kg), and for Canadian salmon (10-12lb) USD 3.3/lb (USD 7.2/kg). The pricing of Scottish and Faroese salmon is linked to the price of Norwegian salmon. The price of Scottish salmon normally has a premium to Norwegian salmon. Faroese salmon used to trade at a small discount to Norwegian salmon. However, due to geopolitical events in last decade, salmon from the Faroes now trades at a premium over Norwegian salmon in selected markets.

# Salmon Markets

## 6.7 Different sizes – different prices (Norway)

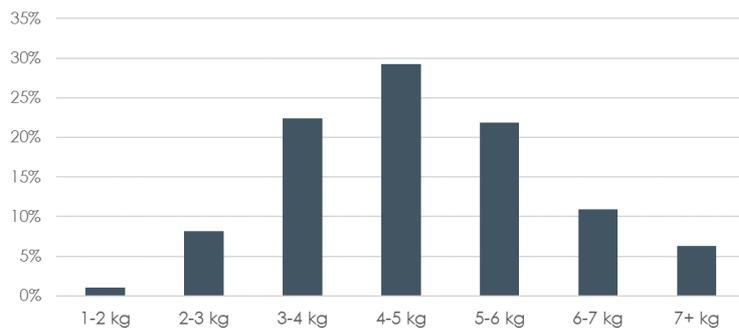
### Relative prices



The main reason for differences in size is the biological production process in which individual fish grow at different speeds. A farm holding fish of harvestable size will show a normally distributed size distribution. This leads to the majority of fish being harvested at 4/5 kg GWT with smaller quantities of smaller and larger fish.

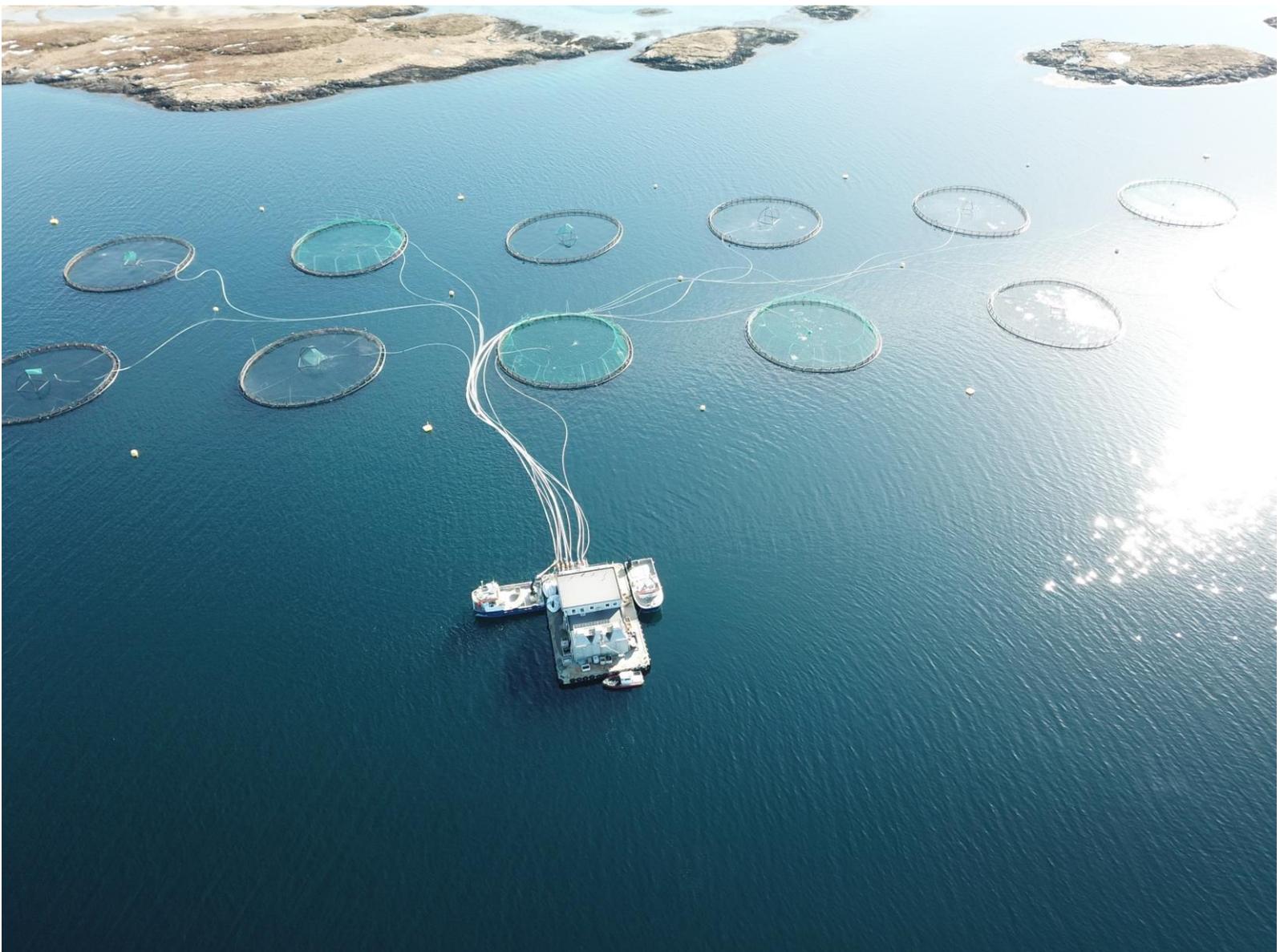
The processing industry in Europe mainly uses 3-6 kg GWT but niche markets exist for smaller and larger fish. As these markets are minor compared to the main market, they are easily disrupted if quantities become too large. Generally, small fish are discounted, and large fish are sold at premium as shown in the graph above.

### Size distribution



The graph to the left shows Norwegian harvest distribution for 2022, with the harvest size of 4-5 kg (GWT) being the most frequent. In addition to catering for production process and market requirement, another driver behind this size fluctuation is that farmers want to balance out

market risk and biological risk. Drivers behind smaller harvest size can be disease, early harvest when there is a need for cash flow, or early harvest to realise ongoing capacity. Larger fish (6-7kg+) may be a result of economies of scale/lower production costs, production for niche markets or other market requirements.



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## 7 Industry Structure

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# Industry Structure

## 7.1 Top 10 companies in farmed Atlantic salmon 2022

Top 10 - Norway		Top 4 - United Kingdom*		Top 4 - North America*		Top 10 - Chile		Top 3 - Other Europe (Faroes/Iceland/Ireland)	
Company	H.Q. GWT	Company	H.Q. GWT	Company	H.Q. GWT	Company	H.Q. GWT	Company	H.Q. GWT
1 Mowi	294,000	Mowi	48,000	Cooke Aquaculture	58,000	Aquachile (Agrosuper)	138,000	Bakkafrost (FO)	67,000
2 Salmar**	178,000	Scottish Sea Farms	36,000	Mowi	41,000	Multi X (Multiexport)	77,000	Mowi (FO/IS/IE)***	23,000
3 Lerøy Seafood	152,000	Cooke	28,000	Grieg Seafood	20,000	Mitsubishi / Cermaq	77,000	Salmar - Icelandic Salmon	16,000
4 Mitsubishi / Cermaq	78,000	Bakkafrost	24,000	Cermaq	16,000	Australis Seafood (Joyvio)	75,000		
5 Grieg Seafood	68,000					Mowi	66,000		
6 Nordlaks Oppdrett	64,000					Salmones Blumar	48,000		
7 Nav a Sea	44,000					Salmones Camanchaca	45,000		
8 Sinkaberg-Hansen	35,000					Salmones Austral	31,000		
9 Alsaker Fjordbruk	33,000					Salmones Yadrán	25,000		
10 Bremnes Fryseri	29,000					Invermar	24,000		
Top 10	975,000	Top 4	136,000	Top 4	135,000	Top 10	606,000	Top 3	106,000
Others	390,400	Others	12,500	Others	1,000	Others	72,000	Others	37,100
Total	1,365,400	Total	148,500	Total	136,000	Total	678,000	Total	143,100

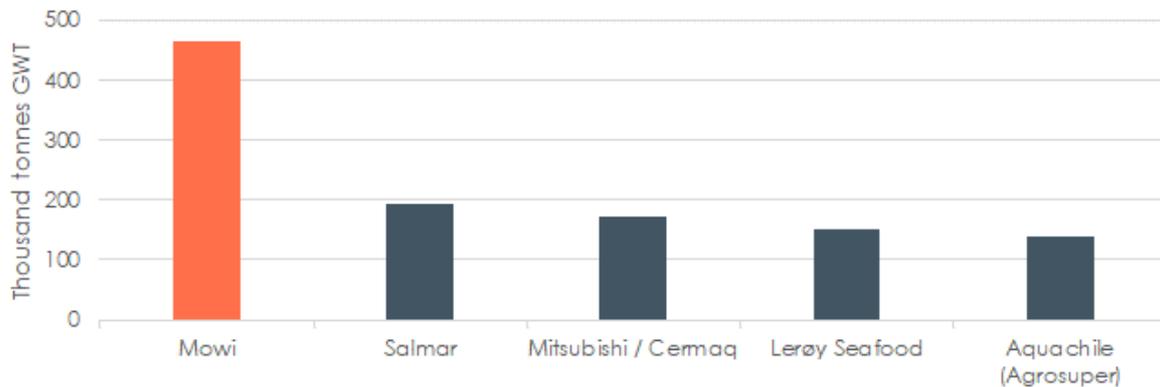
All figures in tonnes GWT

\*The industry in the UK and North America are best described by top 4 producers

\*\*Including Norway Royal Salmon and NTS acquired in 2022.

\*\*\*Including Arctic Fish acquired in 2022.

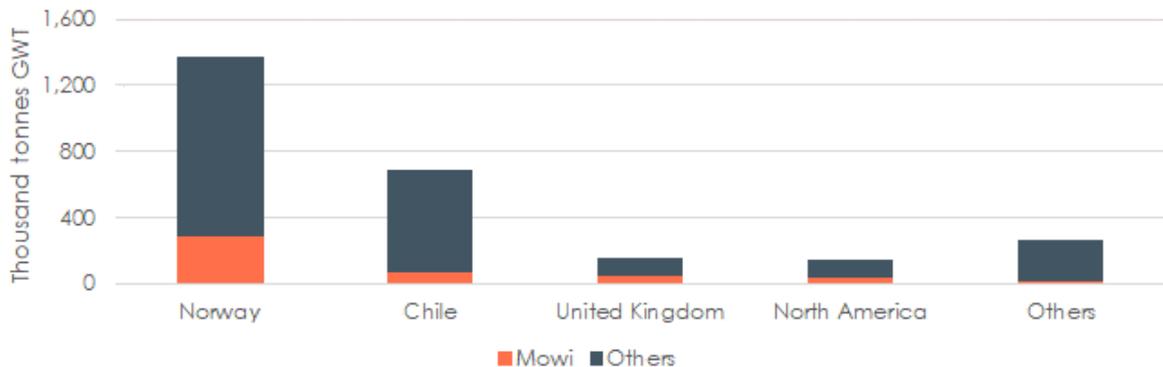
### Top 5 companies by harvest volume 2022



Mowi Group represents the largest total production, harvesting one fifth of the salmon produced in Norway and approx. one third of total production in both the UK and North America.

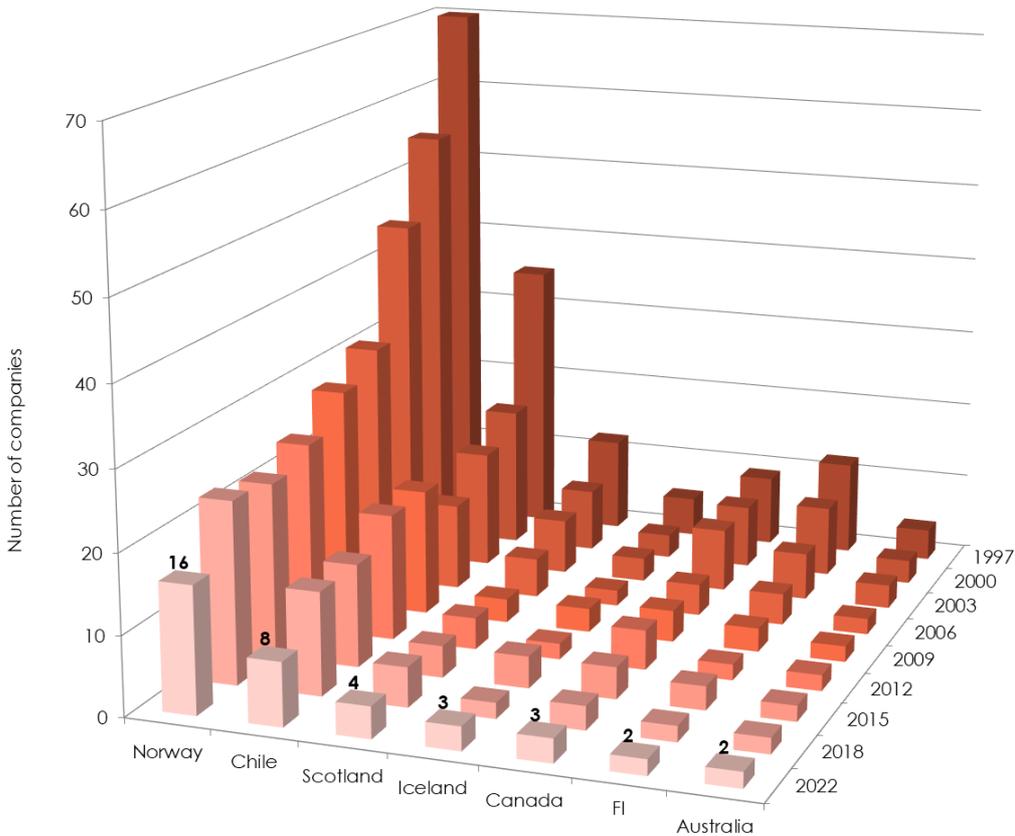
In Norway and Chile there are several other producers of significant size. In Chile, several of the companies also produce other salmonids, such as Coho and large trout.

### Harvest volume - Atlantic salmon 2022



# Industry Structure

## 7.2 Number of companies in producing countries



The graph shows the number of companies producing 80% of the farmed salmon and trout in each major producing country.

Historically, the salmon industry consisted of a larger number of smaller firms. As illustrated above, this was the case in Norway, and to some extent in Scotland and Chile.

During the last decades the salmon farming industry has been through a period of consolidation in all regions and this is expected to continue.

There are approx. 120 companies owning commercial licenses for salmon and trout in Norway, however some of these are controlled by other companies. The total supply is produced by around 90 companies (directly or through subsidiaries).

There are approximately 1,360 commercial licenses for on-growing of Atlantic salmon, trout and coho in Chile, whilst only 385 licenses are in operation. The 10 largest firms account for 82% of total licenses.



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## 8 Salmon Production and Cost Structure

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# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.1 Establishing a salmon farm

The salmon farming production cycle is about 3 years.

During the first year of production eggs are fertilised and fish are grown to approximately 100-250 grams in a controlled freshwater environment. In recent years, the industry has invested in freshwater facilities that can grow the smolt larger, up to 1,000 grams, thus shortening the time at sea.

The fish are then transported to seawater cages where they are grown to around 4-5 kg over a period of 12-24 months. The growth of the fish is heavily dependent on seawater temperatures, which vary by time of year and across regions.

When they reach harvestable size, the fish are transported to processing plants where they are slaughtered and gutted. Most salmon is sold gutted on ice in a box (GWT).

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.2 The Atlantic salmon life/production cycle

### Freshwater 10-16 months

**Eggs**



**Hatchery**



### Seawater 12-24 months

**Growth phase in sea**



### Primary processing & packaging



The freshwater production cycle until smolt takes approximately 10-16 months and the seawater production cycle lasts around 12-24 months, giving a total cycle length of on average about 3 years, including following. Postsmolt will normally have a longer production cycle in freshwater and a shorter production cycle in seawater depending on smolt size. In Chile, the cycle is slightly shorter as seawater temperatures are more optimal with fewer fluctuations.

In autumn, broodstock are stripped for eggs, and ova inlay takes place between September and April. The producer can speed up the growth of the juveniles with light manipulation which accelerates the smoltification process by up to 6 months.

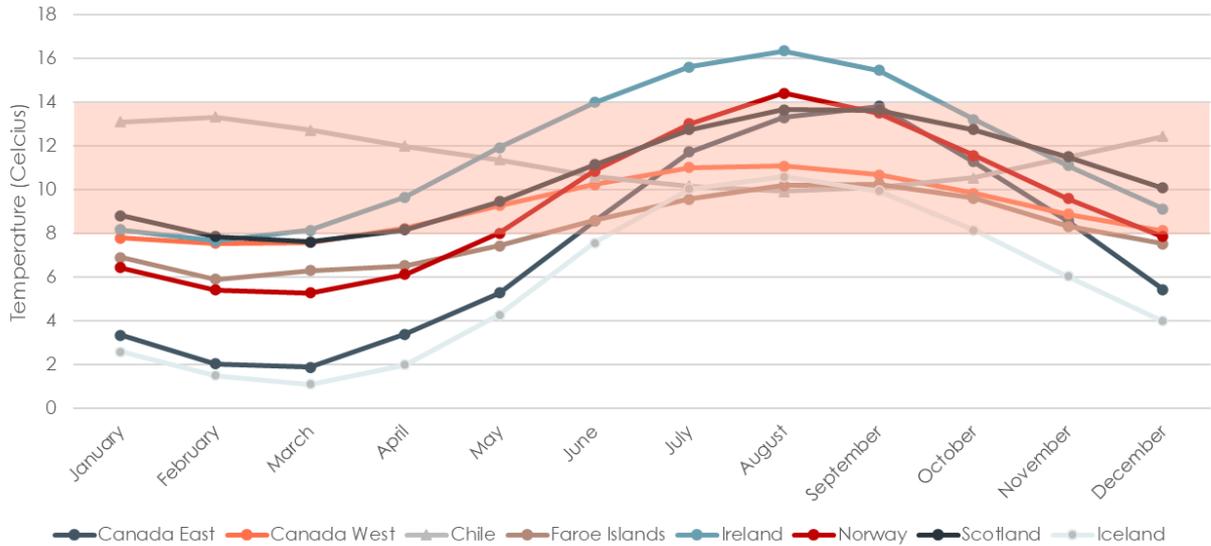
## Salmon Production and Cost Structure

Spring and autumn are the two main periods to release smolt in Norway. However, there are smolt being released in all twelve months of the year. Harvesting is spread across the year, although most harvesting takes place in the last half of the year as this is the period of best growth. During summer the harvesting pattern shifts to a new generation, and consequently weight dispersion between large and small harvested salmon is greater at this time than for the rest of the year.

After a site is harvested, the location is fallowed for between 2 and 6 months before the next generation is put to sea at the same location. Smolts may be released in the same location with a two year cycle.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.3 Influence of seawater temperature



Seawater temperatures vary considerably throughout the year in all production regions. While the production countries in the northern hemisphere see low temperatures at the beginning of the year and high temperatures in autumn varying by as much as 10°C, the temperature in Chile is more stable varying between 10°C and 14°C. Chile and Ireland have the highest average temperature of 12°C, and the four other regions have an average temperature of about 10°C, except from Iceland which have the lowest average temperature of 6°C.

As the salmon is a cold-blooded animal (ectotherm), water temperature plays an important role in its growth rate. The optimal temperature range for Atlantic salmon is 8-14°C, but they thrive well from 4-18°C. Temperature is one of the most important natural competitive advantages that Chile has compared to the other production regions as production time there has historically been shorter by a few months.

With high seawater temperatures the risk of disease increases, and with temperatures below 0°C, mass mortality becomes more likely, both of which cause the growth rate to fall.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.4 Production inputs



### Eggs

There are several suppliers of eggs to the industry. AquaGen, Benchmark Genetics and Rauma Stamfisk are some of the most significant by quantity. In addition to these suppliers, Mowi produces its own eggs based on the Mowi strain.

Egg suppliers can tailor their deliveries through use of broodstock with favourable genetics for different traits desired by customers, and several suppliers are able to produce eggs throughout the whole year. The market for salmon eggs is international, although this can be subject to import/export restrictions imposed by different countries.



### Smolt

The majority of smolt are produced "in-house" by vertically integrated salmon farmers. This production is generally for a company's own use, although a proportion may also be sold to third parties. A smolt is produced over a period of 8-12 months from startfeeding to a mature smolt weighing 100-250 grams. Postsmolt production (250-1,000 grams) has become more common in recent years, accounting for 21% of the Norwegian smolt release in 2022 in terms of individuals. The idea behind larger smolt is to shorten production time at sea, thus reducing exposure to sea lice and fish diseases, and improving fish welfare.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## Labour

According to The Directorate of Fisheries, the Norwegian aquaculture industry directly employed 9,807 people in 2021. According to a MENON publication in 2022, total direct and indirect employment within aquaculture was 19,000 people. Including the processing and supplier industries total employment amounted to 62,500 people.

According to the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO), more than 2,500 people are employed in salmon production in Scotland. The Scottish Government estimates that over 10,000 jobs are generated directly or indirectly by the aquaculture industry.

Estimates on Canadian employment say that around 14,000 people are employed in aquaculture, where Canada's farmed-salmon industry provides more than 10,000 jobs. Direct employment in Chilean aquaculture (including processing) was estimated at around 30,000 people in 2014.

Mowi Group employed 13,726 people (including third-party employees), in 25 countries worldwide as at 31 December 2022.

## Electricity

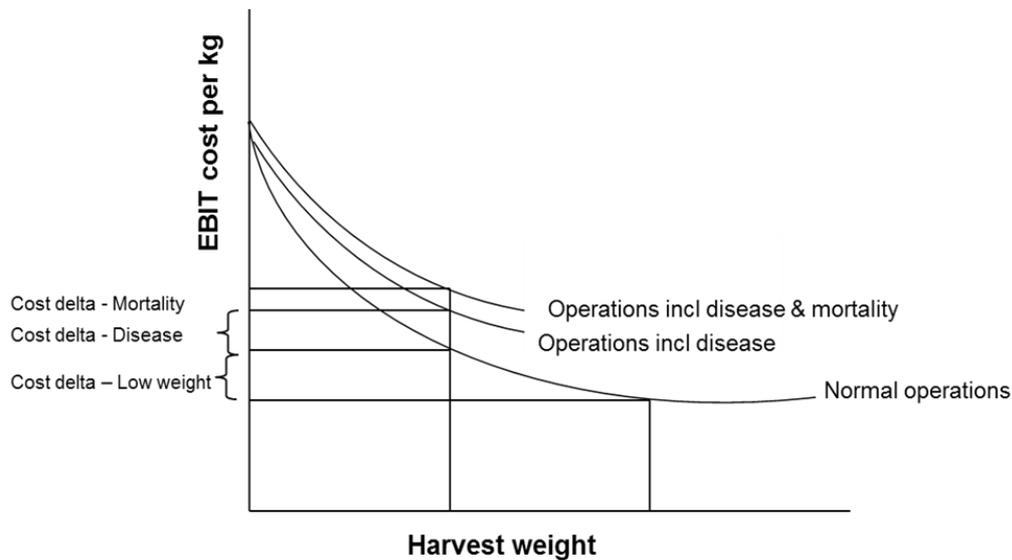
Electricity is mainly used in the earliest and last stages in the salmon's life cycle. To produce a good quality smolt, production normally takes place in tanks on land where the water temperature is regulated and water may be recirculated, which requires energy (accounting for approx. 7% of smolt cost in Norway). The cost of energy consumption will depend on the price of electricity and the temperature. A cold winter will demand more electricity to heat the water used in the smolt facility. The size of the smolt will also influence electricity consumption as a larger smolt has a longer production cycle in the smolt facility. More energy is consumed when the salmon is processed. However, this depends on the level of automation (3-4% of harvest cost in Norway).

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Source: Mowi, Kontali Analyse, Directorate of Fisheries, MENON, SSPO, Government of Canada, Estudio Situación Laboral en la Industria del Salmón", Silvia Leiva 2014

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.5 Cost component – disease and mortality



Production costs per kg decline with increasing harvest weight. If fish is harvested at a lower weight than optimal (caused by diseases for example), production costs per kg will be higher.

During the production cycle, some mortality will occur. Under normal circumstances, the highest mortality rate will be observed during the first 1-2 months after the smolt is put into seawater, while subsequent stages of the production cycle normally have a lower mortality rate.

Elevated mortality in later months of the cycle is normally related to outbreaks of disease, treatment for sea lice or predator attacks.

There is no strict standard for how to account for mortality, and there is no unified industry standard. Three alternative approaches are:

- Charge all mortality to expense when it is observed
- Capitalise all mortality (letting the surviving individuals carry the cost of dead individuals in the balance sheet when harvested)
- Only charge exceptional mortality to expense (mortality, which is higher than what is expected under normal circumstances)

It is not possible to perform biological production without any mortality. By capitalising the mortality cost, the cost of harvested fish will reflect the total cost for the biomass that can be harvested from one production cycle.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.6 Accounting principles for biological assets



Biological assets are measured at fair value less cost to sell, unless the fair value cannot be measured reliably.

Effective markets for the sale of live fish do not exist so the valuation of live fish implies establishment of an estimated fair value of the fish in a hypothetical market. Fair value is estimated by the use of a calculation model, where cash inflows are functions of estimated volume multiplied by estimated price. Fish ready for harvest (4 kg GWT, which corresponds to 4.8 kg LW) is valued at expected sales price with a deduction of costs related to harvest, transport etc. to arrive at back-to-farm prices. For fish not ready for harvest (i.e. below 4 kg GWT), the model uses an interpolation methodology where the known data points are *i)* the value of the fish when put to sea and *ii)* the estimated value of the fish when it has reached harvest size. The valuation reflects the expected quality grading and size distribution.

Broodstock and smolt are measured at cost less impairment losses, as fair value cannot be measured reliably.

The change in estimated fair value is recognised in profit or loss on a continuous basis and is classified separately (not included in the cost of the harvested biomass). On harvesting, the fair value adjustment is reversed on the same line.

### **Operational EBIT**

Operational EBIT and other operational results are reported based on the realised costs of harvested volume and do not include fair value adjustments on biomass.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.7 Economics of salmon farming



The salmon farming industry is capital-intensive and volatile. This is a result of a long production cycle, a fragmented industry, market conditions and a biological production process which is affected by many external factors.

Over time, production costs have been reduced and productivity has increased on the back of new technology and improved techniques. In recent years, costs have trended upwards due to several factors including rising feed costs, biological costs and more stringent regulatory compliance procedures.

**Reported revenues:** Revenues are a gross figure; they can include invoiced freight from reference place (e.g. FCA Oslo) to customer, and have discounts, commissions and credits deducted. Reported revenues can also include revenues from trading activity, sales of by-products, insurance compensation, gain/loss on sale of assets etc.

**Price:** Reported prices are normally stated in the terms of a specific reference price e.g. the Nasdaq price for Norway (FCA Oslo) and UB price for Chile (FOB Miami). Reference prices do not reflect freight, and other sales reducing items mentioned above. Reference prices are for one specific product (Nasdaq price = sales price per kg head on gutted fish packed fresh in a standard box). Sales of other products (frozen products, fresh fillets and portions) will cause deviation in the achieved prices vs. reference price. Reference prices are for superior quality fish, while achieved prices are for a mix of qualities, including downgrades. Reference prices are spot prices, while most companies will have a mix of spot and contract sales in their portfolio.

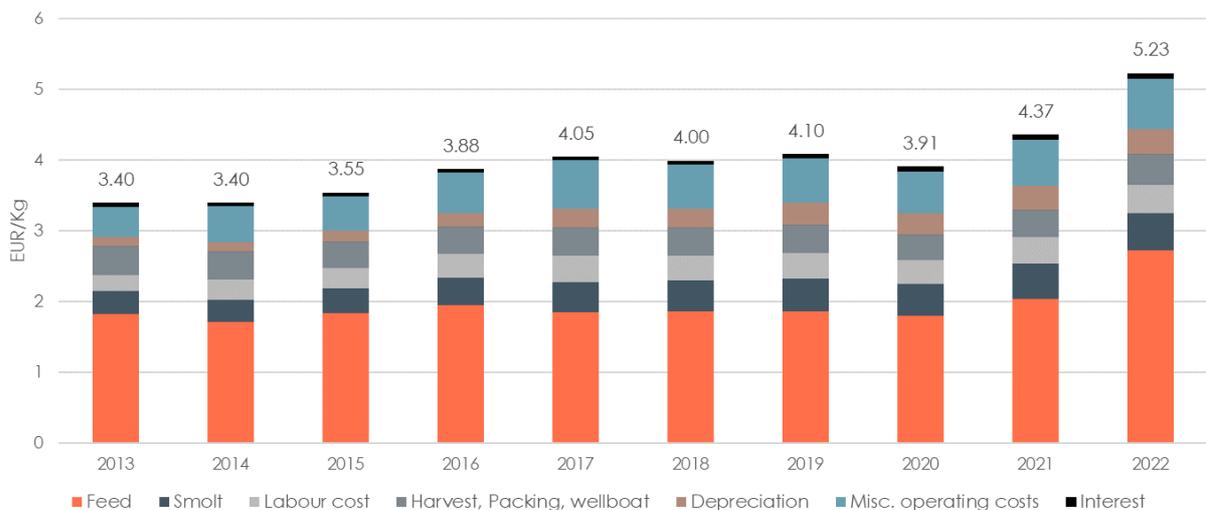
**Quantity:** Reported quantity can take many forms. Quantity harvested = Fish harvested in a specific period in a standardised term; e.g. Gutted Weight Equivalent (GWT), which is the same weight measure as Head-on-Gutted (HOG), or Whole Fish Equivalent (WFE), the difference being gutting loss.

Quantity sold can be reported using different weight scales:

- Kg sold in product weight.
- Kg sold converted to standard weight unit (GWT or WFE).
- Quantity sold could also include traded quantity.

# Salmon Production and Cost Structure

## 8.8 Cost structure industry Norway 2013-2022



**Feed:** As in all animal production, feed makes up the largest share of the total cost. The variation in costs between countries is based on somewhat different inputs to the feed, logistics and the feed conversion ratio. In 2022, feed costs increased significantly due to higher feed prices and inflationary pressures.

**Smolt:** Atlantic salmon smolt is largely produced at land-based hatcheries either in flow-through or RAS systems. Cost per kilo is increasing as farmers increase the size of the smolt in the hatchery before release to sea. The cost is expected to be offset by shorter time in sea, less lice treatment etc.

**Labour cost:** Whilst salmon production is a capital-intensive industry, labour cost only accounts for a minor part of total costs. Labour cost increased in the period 2014-2017, partly because of increased employment in relation to lice issues, however, it has been stable the last few years.

**Harvest/ Packing/ Well boat:** Costs relating to transportation of live fish, slaughtering, processing and packing are all heavily dependent on quantity, logistics and automation.

**Depreciation:** The industry is investing heavily in new technology and automation, but also in equipment used to treat lice, which in turn leads to higher depreciation costs.

**Misc. operating costs:** Other costs include direct and indirect costs, administration, insurance, biological costs (excluding mortality), etc.



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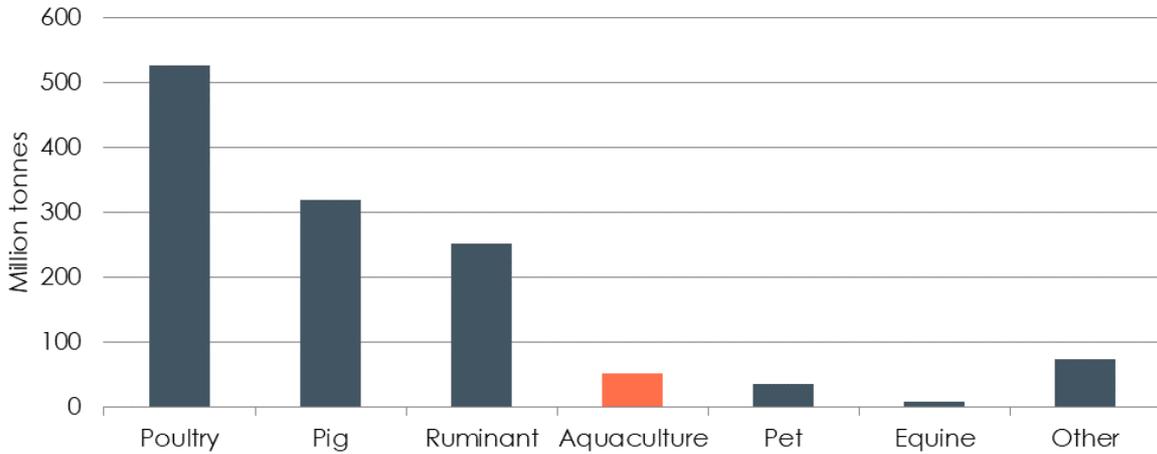
## 9 Feed Production

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# Feed Production

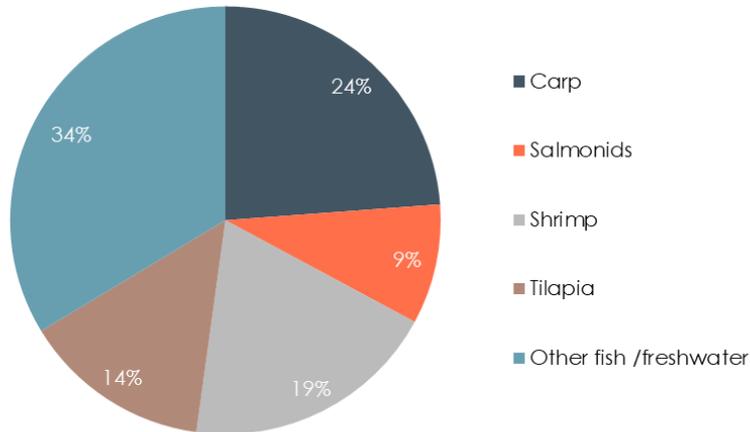
## 9.1 Overview of feed market

Global production of manufactured feed (2022)



Global production of manufactured feed was around 1,266 million tonnes in 2022. The majority was used for land-dwelling animals, where 87% was used in the farming of poultry, pig and ruminants. Only 4%, or 52 million tonnes, of global production of manufactured feed was used in aquatic farming.

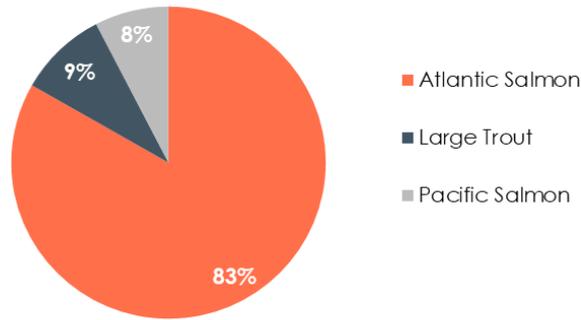
Global production of aquatic feed (2022)



Most aquatic feed produced globally is used for carp as this is the predominant farmed fish species. Feed for salmonids only accounts for 9% of the total production of aquatic feed.

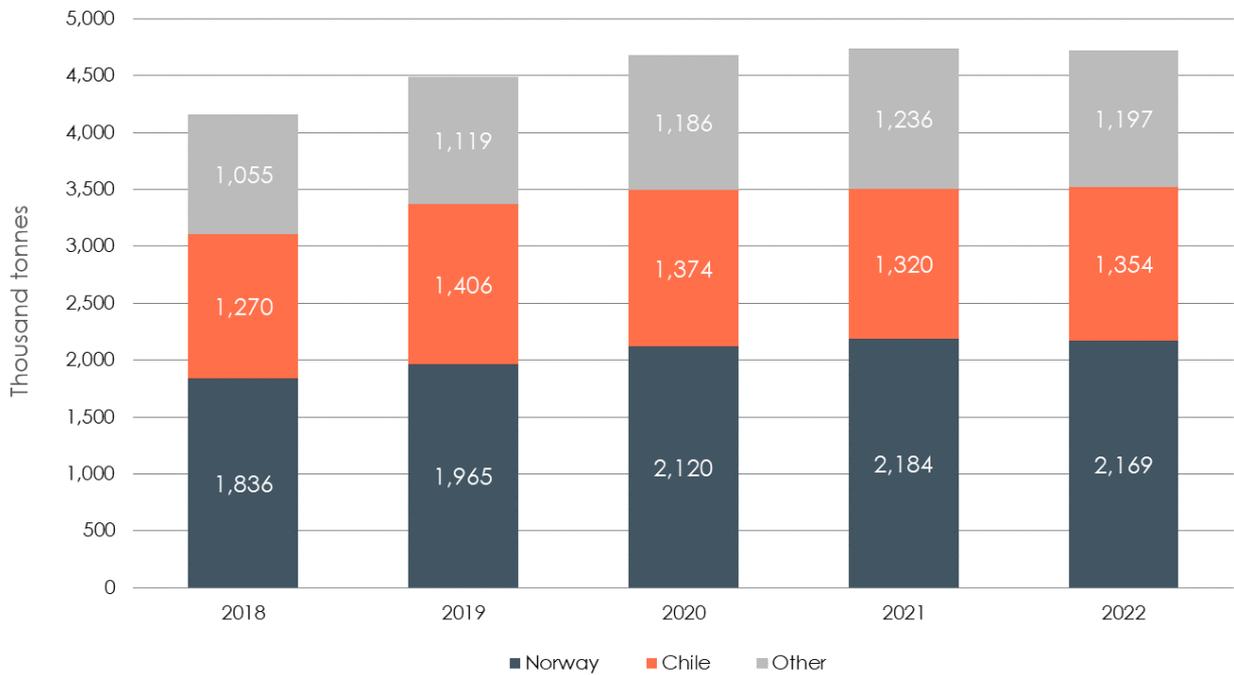
# Feed Production

Global production of feed to salmonids (2022)



Atlantic salmon is the most farmed species of salmonids and is therefore the largest consumer of salmonid feed.

Development in Salmonid feed markets



Most of the feed used in farming of salmonids is produced close to where it is farmed. Norway used 46% of the global feed directed towards the salmonid segment in 2022 and Chile used 29%.

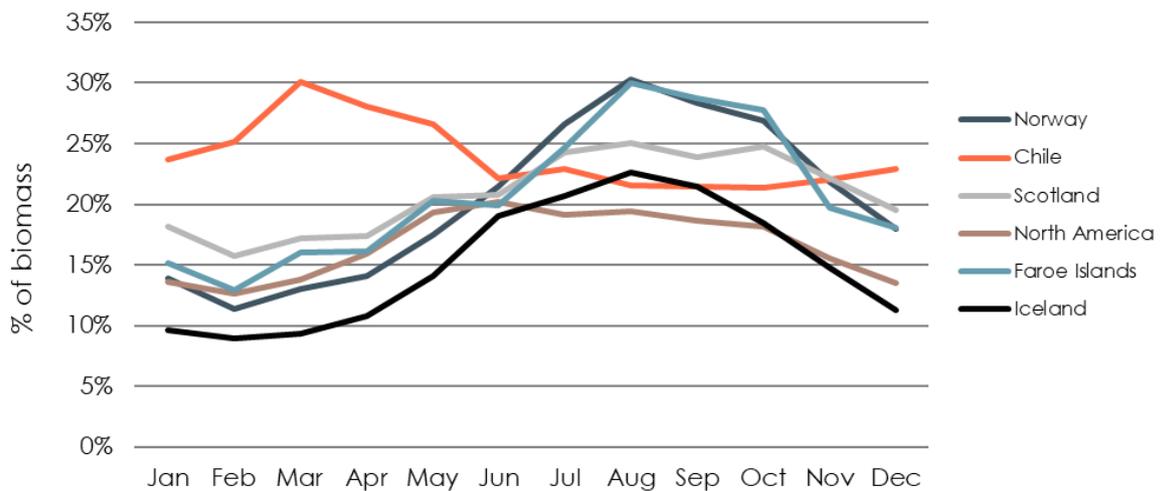
Source: Kontali Analyse

# Feed Production

## 9.2 Relative feeding



Relative feeding - seasonal profile (average 2018-2022)



The production of feed around the world varies as there are large deviations in sea temperature. Norway has the greatest seasonality in production. The low season is from February to April and the high season is from July to October, with the mid-season in between. Production in the low season can be as low as only 30% of the high season's production. Over a year, Chile has the highest relative feeding, measured by feed sold or fed during a month relative to the incoming biomass. Feed is considered a perishable product with limited opportunities to store.

## Feed Production

### 9.3 Salmon feed producers

During the last decade, the salmonid feed industry has become increasingly consolidated. Together with Mowi, three producers now control the majority of salmon feed output; Skretting (subsidiary of Nutreco which has been acquired by SHV), EWOS (Cargill), and BioMar (subsidiary of Schouw). These companies all operate globally.

In mid-2014, Mowi began production of feed from its first new feed plant. In 2019, Mowi completed its second feed plant located in Kyleakin, Scotland. Mowi has a total production capacity of 640,000 tonnes. In 2022 Mowi produced 515,000 tonnes compared with total global salmonid feed production of around 4.7 million tonnes.

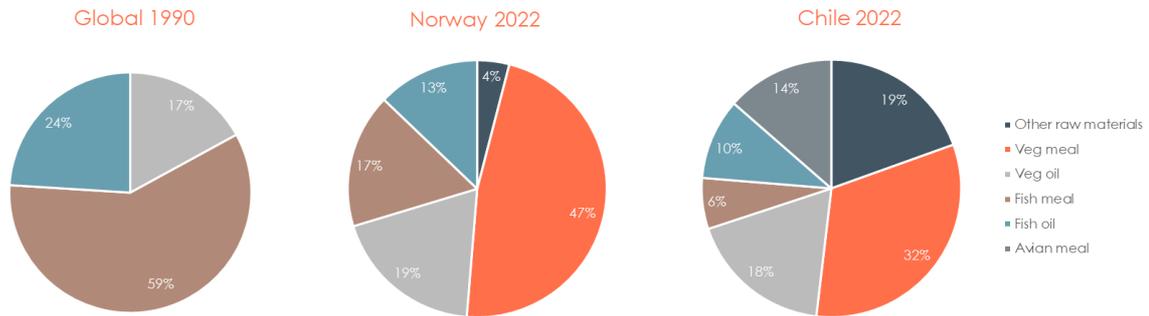
The major cost elements when producing salmonid feed are the raw materials required and production costs.

The feed producers have historically operated on cost-plus contracts, leaving the exposure to raw material prices with the aquaculture companies.



# Feed Production

## 9.4 Salmon feed ingredients



Growth intervals	0.1 - 0.2 kg	0.2 - 1 kg	1 - 2 kg	2 - 3 kg	3 - 4 kg	4 - 5 kg
Feed consumption (Norway)	0.08 kg	0.75 kg	1.00 kg	1.05 kg	1.10 kg	1.20 kg
Time, months	2	4	4	3	2	2

Atlantic salmon feed should provide proteins, energy and essential nutrients to ensure high muscle growth, energy metabolism and good health. Historically, the two most important ingredients in fish feed have been fish meal and fish oil. The use of these two marine raw materials in feed production has been reduced in favour of ingredients such as soy, sunflower, wheat, corn, beans, peas, poultry by-products (in Chile and Canada) and rapeseed oil. This substitution is mainly due to heavy constraints on the availability of fish meal and fish oil.

Atlantic salmon have specific nutrient requirements for amino acids, fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and other lipid- and water-soluble components. These essential nutrients can in principle be provided by the range of different raw materials listed above. Fish meal and other raw materials of animal origin have a more complete amino acid profile and generally have a higher protein concentration compared to proteins of vegetable origin. As long as a fish receives the amino acid it needs it will grow and be healthy and the composition of its muscle protein is the same irrespective of feed protein source. Consequently, feeding salmon with non-marine protein sources results in a net production of marine fish protein.

During the industry's early phases, salmon feed was moist (high water content) with high levels of marine protein (60%) and low levels of fat/oil (10%). In the 1990s, feed typically consisted of 45% protein, made up mostly of marine protein. Today, the marine protein level is lower due to cost optimisation and the availability of fish meal. However, the most interesting development has been the increasingly higher inclusion of fat. This has been made possible through technological development and extruded feeds.

## Feed Production



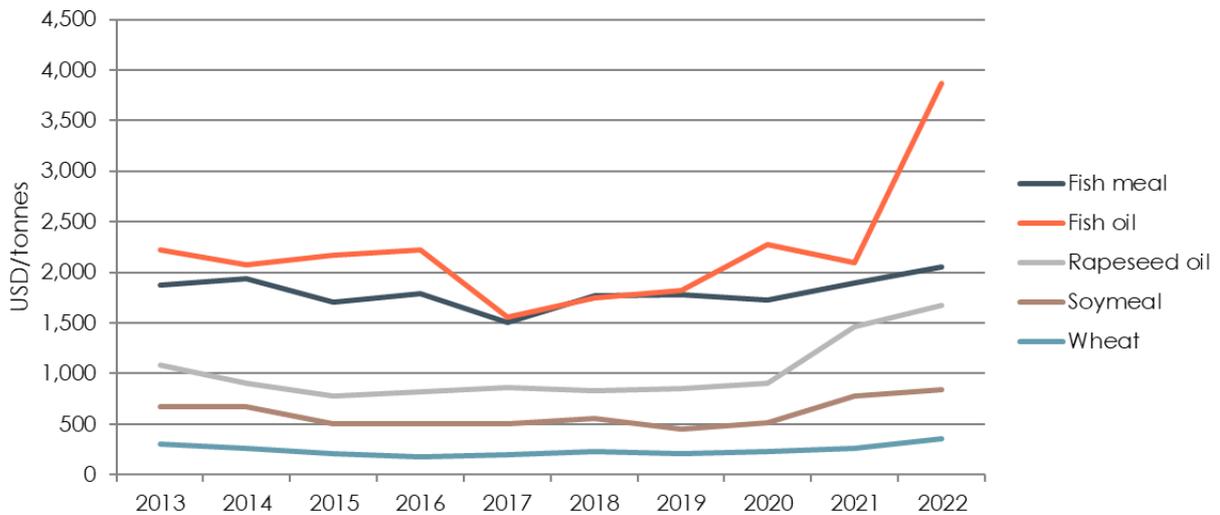
Feed and feeding strategies aim to grow a healthy fish fast at the lowest possible cost. Standard feeds are designed to give the lowest possible production cost rather than maximised growth. Premium diets are formulated to give amongst other things better growth rate and higher survival.

Feeding control systems are used at all farms to control and optimise feeding. Feeding is monitored for each net pen to ensure that fish are fed to maximise growth (measured by the Relative Growth Index - RGI). At the same time systems ensure that feeding is stopped immediately when the maximum feed intake has been provided to prevent feed waste. The fastest growing fish typically also have the best (i.e. lowest) feed conversion ratio (FCR).



# Feed Production

## 9.5 Feed raw material market



**Fish oil:** In general, fish oil prices are more volatile than vegetable sources mainly due to volatile supply as result of the quota systems for fisheries. The average price of fish oil was about USD 3,900 per tonne in 2022 mainly due to low availability of raw material.

**Fish meal:** Fish meal has seen stable price development over the past ten years. Although prices have been stable based on a yearly average, there are large variations within the years. The market for fishmeal is small compared with that for vegetable proteins.

**Rapeseed oil:** Up until 2011, rapeseed oil price development was correlated with fish oil but from 2011 to 2015 prices fell each year and it traded significantly below fish oil. The price has been hovering around USD 800-900 per tonne in recent years, but in 2021 and 2022 the price increased.

**Soy meal:** Soy and corn have traditionally been very important vegetable protein sources in fish feed. Prices have been under pressure in the last few years as a result of increased supply, especially from expanded production in Brazil. However, in 2021 and 2022 soy prices increased in line with other soft commodity prices.

**Wheat:** Prices for wheat have remained stable over the years with generally good production and balanced supply/demand. However, in 2022 wheat prices increased in line with other soft commodity prices..



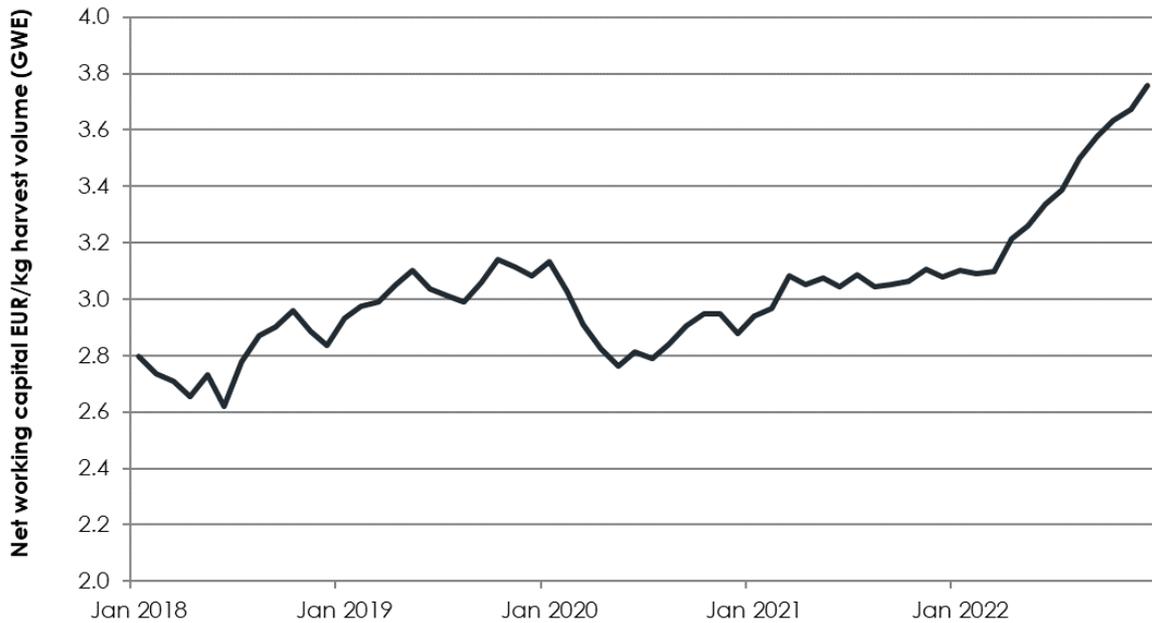
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## 10 Financial Considerations

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# Financial Considerations

## 10.1 Working capital



The long production cycle of salmon requires significant working capital in the form of biomass.

Working capital investments are required for organic growth, as a larger “pipeline” of fish is needed to facilitate larger harvest volumes. On average, a net working capital investment of approximately EUR 3.4/kg is required, split between the year of harvest and the year immediately preceding harvest, in order to obtain an increase in harvest volume of 1 kg. The working capital requirement has increased over time and fluctuates with variations in currency exchange rates and production costs. In 2022 working capital tie-up was impacted by inflation on input costs.

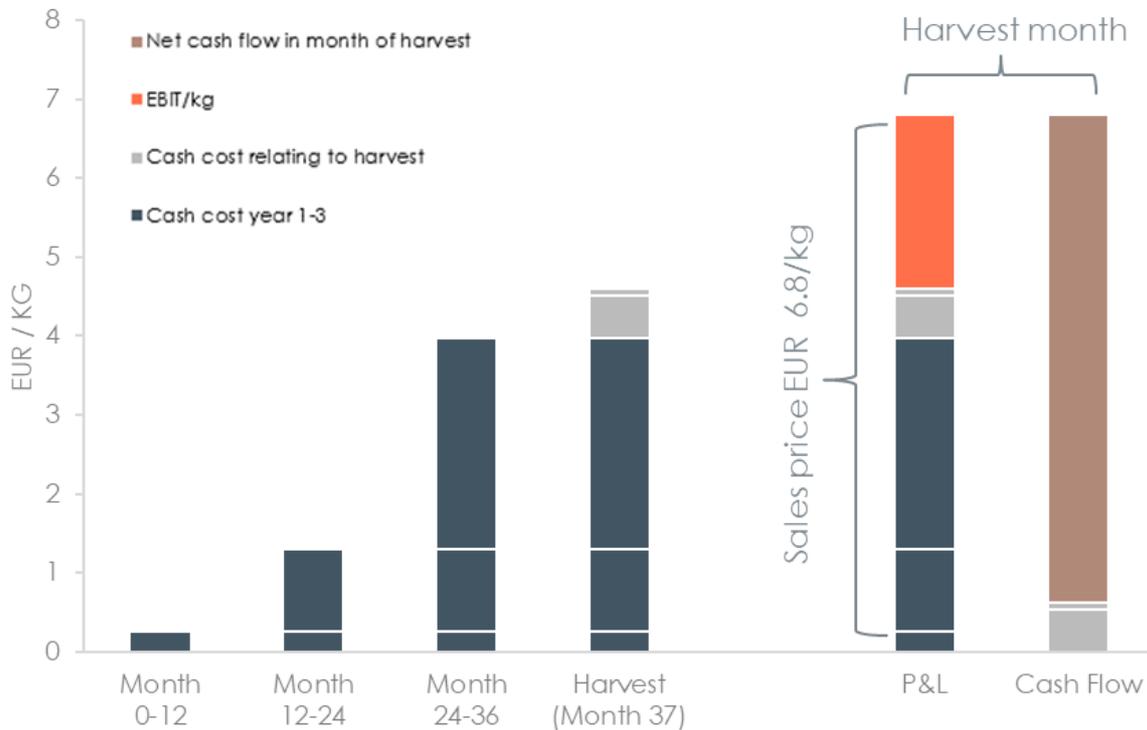
Net working capital varies during the year. Growth of salmon is heavily impacted by changing seawater temperatures. Salmon grows at a higher pace during summer/autumn and more slowly during winter/spring when the water is colder. As the harvest pattern is relatively constant during the year, this leads to large seasonal variations in net working capital. For a global operator, net working capital normally peaks around year-end and bottoms out around mid-summer.

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Source: Mowi

# Financial Considerations

## Cost of building biomass



For illustration purposes, the farming process has been divided into three stages of 12 months. The first 12-month period is from production from egg to finished smolt. 24 months of on-growing in the sea follows this. When the on-growing phase ends, harvest takes place immediately (illustrated as "Month 37"). In a steady state there will always be three different generations at different stages in their life cycle. Capital expenditure is assumed equal to depreciation for illustration purposes. The working capital effects are shown above on a net basis excluding effects from accounts receivable and accounts payable.

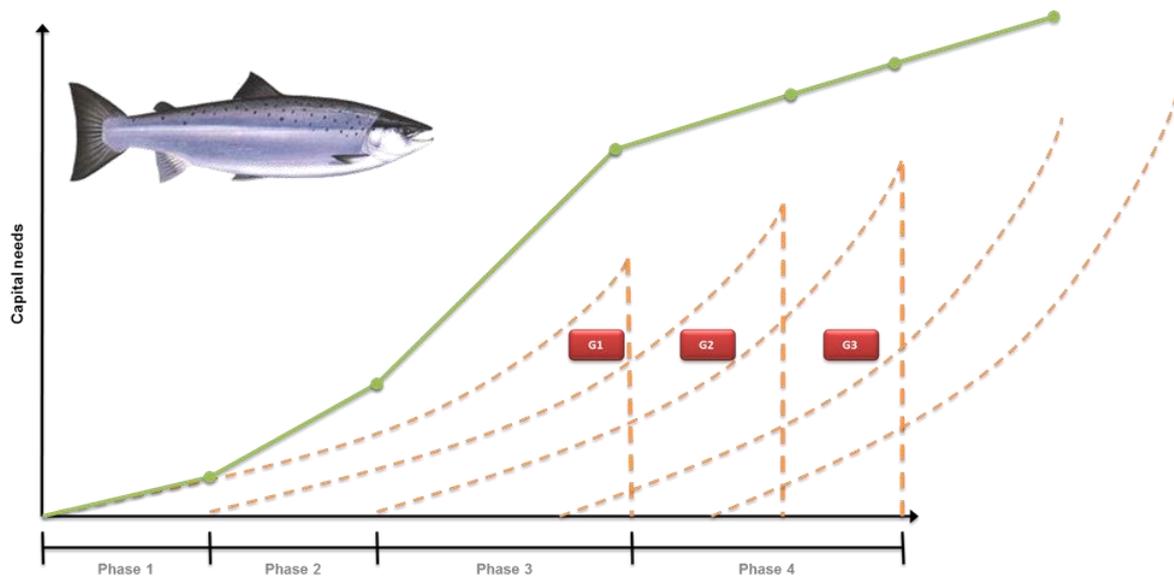
By the point of harvest there have been up to 36 months of costs to produce the fish, comprising the cost of producing the smolt two years ago, further costs incurred to grow the fish in seawater, and some costs related to harvest ("Month 37"). Sales price covers these costs and provides a profit margin (represented by the green rectangle).

Cash cost for the period in which the fish are harvested is not large compared to sales income, creating a high net cash flow. If production going forward (next generations) follows the same pattern, most of the cash flow will be reinvested into salmon at various growth stages. If the company wishes to grow its future output, the following generations need to be larger requiring even more of the cash flow to be reinvested in working capital.

This is a rolling process and requires substantial amounts of working capital to be tied up, both when in a steady state and especially when increasing production.

Source: Mowi

## Financial Considerations



The illustration above shows how capital requirements develop when production/biomass is being built “from scratch”. In phase 1, there is only one generation (G) of fish produced and the capital requirement is the production cost of the fish. In phase 2, the next generation is also put into production, while the on-growing of G1 continues, rapidly increasing the capital invested. In phase 3, G1 has reached its last stage, G2 is in its on-growing phase and G3 has begun to increase its cost base.

At the end of phase 3, the harvest starts for G1, reducing the capital tied-up, but the next generations are building up their cost base. If each generation is equally large and everything else is in a steady state, the capital requirement will peak at the end of phase 3. With growing production, the capital requirement will also increase after phase 3 as long as the next generation is larger than the previous (if not, the capital base is reduced). We see that salmon farming is a capital-intensive industry.

To equip a grow-out facility you need cages (steel or plastic), moorings, nets, cameras, feed barge/automats and workboats.

# Financial Considerations

## 10.2 Capital return analysis

### Investments and payback time (Norway) - assumptions

- Normal site consisting of 4 licenses
- Equipment investment: MEUR 3.5 - 4.5
- Number of licenses: 4
- License cost (second hand market) MEUR: 68 (~MEUR 17 per license)
- Output per generation: ~4,400 tonnes GWT
- Number of smolt released: 1,150,000
  
- Smolt cost per unit: EUR 2.0
- Feed price per kg: EUR 1.8 (LW)
- Economic feed conversion ratio (FCR): 1.3 (to Live Weight)
- Conversion rate from Live Weight to GWT: 0.84
- Harvest and processing incl. well boat cost per kg (GWT): EUR 0.44
  
- Average harvest weight (GWT): 4.5kg
- Survival rate in sea: 85%
  
- Sales price: EUR 6.8/kg

To increase capacity there are many regulations to fulfil. In this model we focus on a new company entering the industry and we have used only one site, for simplicity's sake. Most companies use several sites concurrently, which enables economies of scale and makes the production more flexible and often less costly.

In this model smolts are bought externally, also in the interests of simplicity. Smolts are usually less costly to produce internally, but this depends on production quantity.

The performance of the fish is affected by numerous factors including feeding regime, seawater temperature, disease, oxygen level in water, smolt quality, etc.

The model is based on pre-tax cash flow figures. If taxes are included in the example, and in particular a potential resource rent tax, economics and return levels would be materially impacted. Moreover, the license cost for auction 2020 is used as a basis due to auction 2022 being affected by the proposed resource rent tax in Norway.

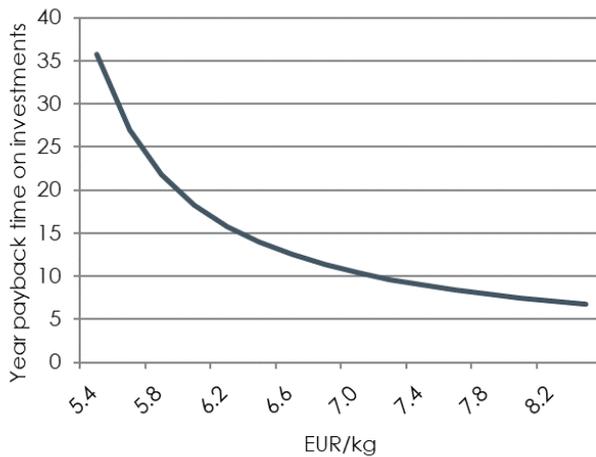
The sales price reflects the average sales price from Norway over the last four years.

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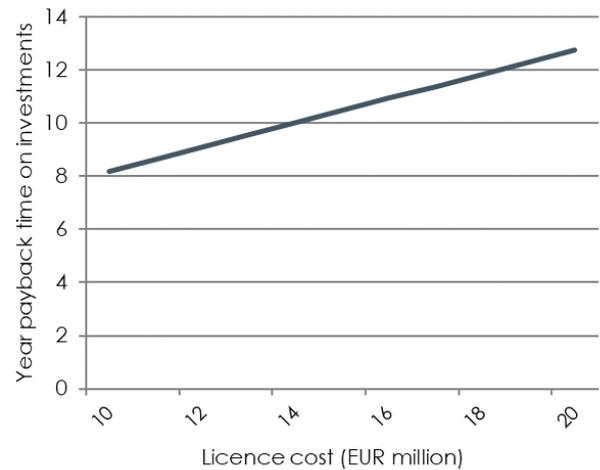
Source: Mowi, Kontali Analyse

# Financial Considerations

Payback time varying sales price



Payback time varying licence cost



## Results

Because of the simplifications in the model and the low, non-optimal production regime, production costs are higher than the industry average. Due to high entry barriers in terms of capital needs, and falling production costs with increasing quantity, new companies in salmon production will experience higher average production costs. During the production of each generation the working capital needed at this farm, given the assumptions, would be peaking at around MEUR 16 (given that the whole of each generation is harvested at the same time).

With a sales price of EUR 6.8/kg the payback time for the original investments would be around 11 years. This result is very sensitive to sales price, license cost and economic feed conversion ratio (FCR).

The sales price of EUR 6.8/kg is based on the average price in Norway in the 5-year period 2019-2023 YTD.

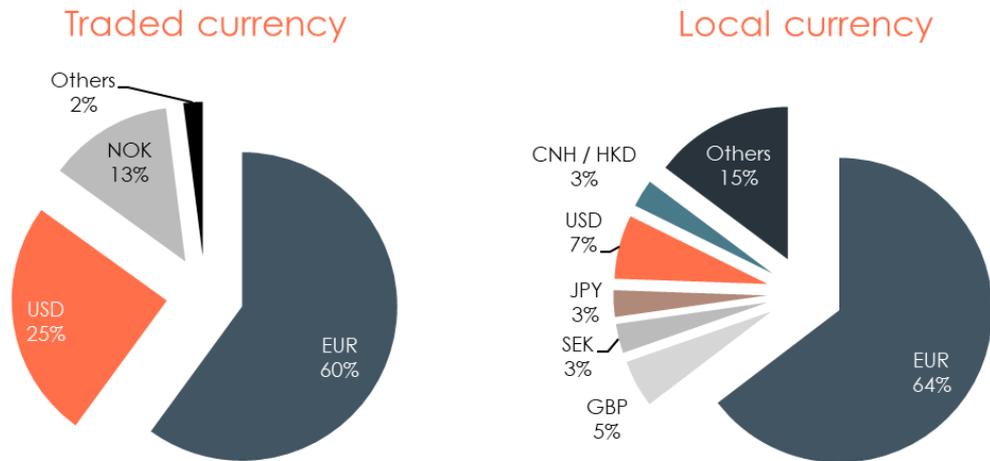
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Source: Mowi

# Financial Considerations

## 10.3 Currency overview

### Norwegian exposure vs foreign currency – average last 5 years<sup>(1)</sup>



Exporters deal in the traded currency, while the customer has an exposure to both traded and local currencies. For example, a French processor may trade salmon in NOK, but sell its products in the local currency (EUR).

Most Norwegian producers are exposed to currency fluctuations as most of the salmon they produce is exported. Most of the salmon is exported to countries within the EU and is traded in EUR. The second largest traded currency is USD. Some players in countries in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and some Asian countries prefer to trade salmon in USD rather than in local currency.

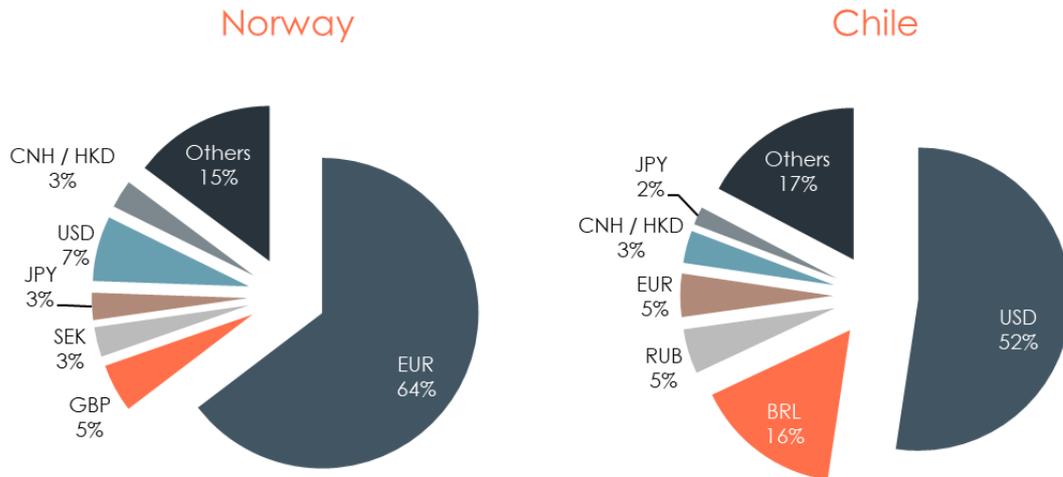
The price of salmon quoted in traded currency will compete with other imported goods, while the price of salmon quoted in local currency will compete with the price to consumers of domestically produced products.

There is a currency risk involved in operating in different currencies, and therefore many of the largest industry players hedge currencies often with back-to-back contracts. The currency risk arising from salmon sales denominated in the traded currency is usually absorbed by the exporter, while the currency risk in local currency is absorbed by the customer.

Note: (1) The table shows exposure against local currency weighted against total export volumes

Source: Kontali Analyse

# Financial Considerations



## Exposure against local currency – 2022<sup>(1)</sup>

Europe is the largest market for Norwegian produced salmon, so EUR is the predominant currency for Norwegian salmon producers.

Key markets for Chilean produced salmon are the USA and Brazil, so exposure to USD and BRL (Brazilian real) in local currency terms is followed closely.

### Feed production: Currency exposure

The raw materials required to produce feed are as a rule of thumb quoted in USD (approx. 70%) and EUR (approx. 30%), based on long term average exchange rates. Raw materials generally account for 85% of the cost of producing feed. The remaining costs, including margin for the feed producer, are quoted in local currency.

### Secondary Processing: Currency exposure

The biggest market for value added products is Europe, hence the vast majority of currency flows are EUR-denominated, both on the revenue and cost side. In the US and Asian processing markets currency flows are denominated largely in USD and EUR on the revenue side whilst costs are denominated in USD, EUR and local currency.

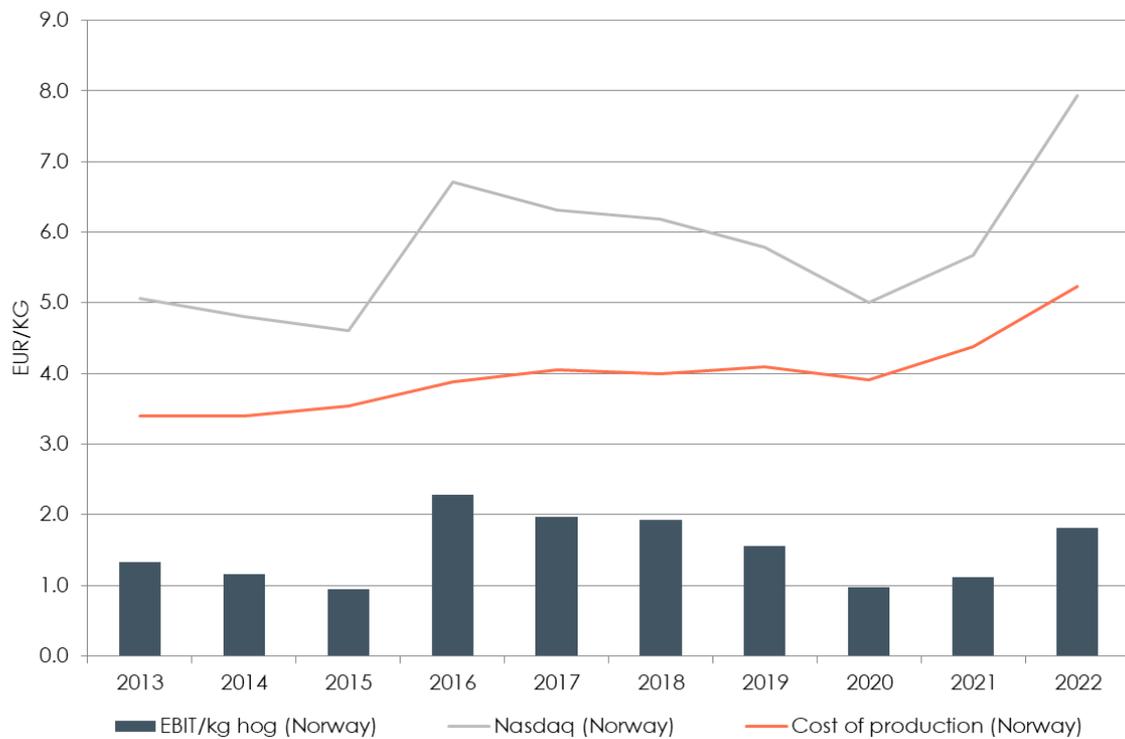
Note (1): The table shows exposure against local currency weighted against total export volumes

Source: Kontali Analyse

# Financial Considerations

## 10.4 Price, cost and EBIT development in Norway

### Norwegian profitability over time



Atlantic salmon is seen as a healthy, resource-efficient, and climate friendly product. On the back of a growing global middle class, an aging population, a global trend towards healthy living, and a focus on carbon footprint, demand has been estimated to grow by 11% per annum the last decade. Product innovation, category management, long-term supply contracts, effective logistics and transportation have stimulated strong demand growth for salmon.

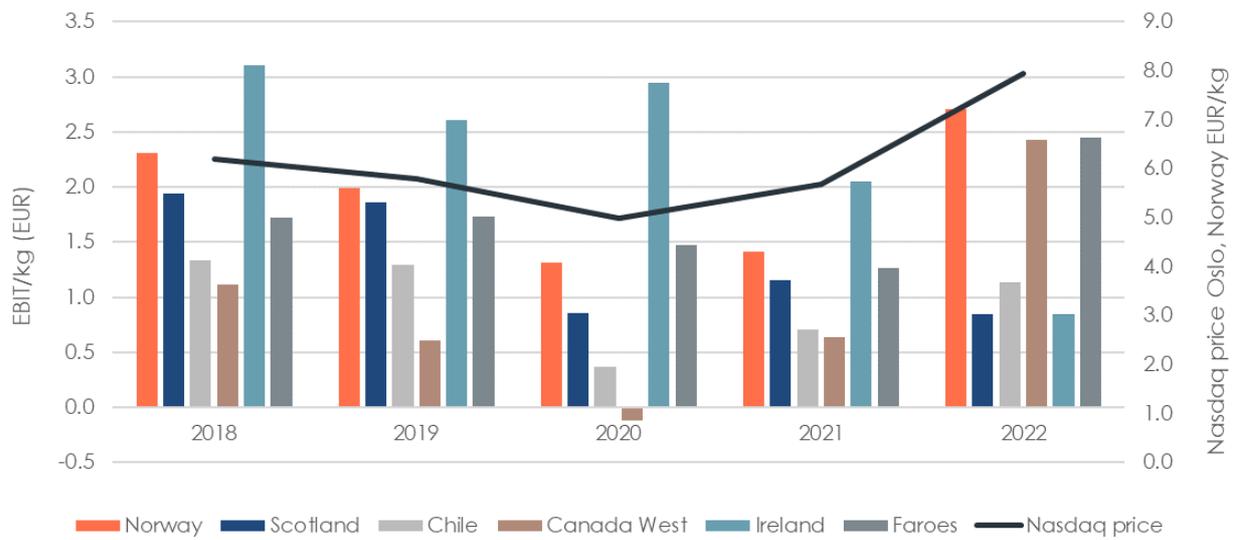
An essential characteristic of the salmon market is that supply is limited due to regulations and biological conditions. However, over the years there have been several supply shocks. In Chile, the ISA virus outbreak which lasted until 2010 and the algae bloom in 2016 caused negative supply shocks which in isolation caused positive price movements. In 2020, a temporary demand shock caused by Covid-19 restrictions, which partly closed the foodservice sector, resulted in negative price development. In 2021, the pandemic waned and markets partially recovered. In 2022 prices increased further on foodservice demand recovery and a slight global supply contraction.

Over the last ten years, costs have trended upwards due to several factors including rising feed costs, biological costs and more stringent regulatory compliance procedures. The average EBIT per kg for the Norwegian industry has been positive with the exception of a few shorter periods. In the last 10 years it has been EUR 1.5 per kg in nominal terms.

# Financial Considerations

## 10.5 Effects of geographical diversification

### Operational EBIT/kg



The illustration above depicts Mowi's performance across different countries over the last 5 years. In all regions, the biological risk is high, and this impacts cost significantly from period to period. The variance in EBIT per kg is high, however, the geographic specific risk can be diversified with production across regions.



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## 11 Barriers to Entry - Licenses

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## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

Due to biological constraints, seawater temperature requirements and other natural constraints, farmed salmon is only produced in Norway, Chile, Scotland, the Faroe Islands, Ireland, Iceland, Canada, USA, Tasmania and New Zealand.

Atlantic salmon farming began on an experimental level in the 1960s and evolved into an industry in Norway in the 1980s and in Chile in the 1990s.

In all salmon-producing regions, the relevant authorities have a licensing regime in place. In order to operate a salmon farm, a license is the key prerequisite. Such licenses restrict the maximum production for each company and the industry as a whole. The license regime varies across jurisdictions.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.1 Regulation of fish farming in Norway

### License and location

Fish farming companies in Norway are subject to a large number of regulations. The Aquaculture Act (17 June 2005) and the Food Safety Act (19 December 2003) are the two most important laws, and there are detailed provisions set out in the various regulations which emanated from them.

In Norway, a salmon-farming license allows salmon farming either in freshwater (smolt/fingerling production) or in the sea. The number of licenses for Atlantic salmon and trout in seawater was limited to 1,135 in 2022. Such limitations do not apply for freshwater licenses (smolt production), which can be applied for at any time. Seawater licenses can use up to four farming sites (six sites are allowed when all sites are connected with the same licenses). This increases the capacity and efficiency of the sites.

Production limitations in Norway are regulated as "maximum allowed biomass" (MAB), which is the defined maximum volume of fish a company can hold at sea at all times. In general, one license sets a MAB of 780 tonnes (945 tonnes in the counties of Troms and Finnmark). The sum of the MAB permitted by all the licenses held in each region is the farming company's total allowed biomass in this region. In addition, each production site has its own MAB and the total amount of fish at each site must be less than this set limit. Generally, sites have a MAB of between 2,340 and 4,680 tonnes.

New seawater licenses are awarded by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries and are administered by the Directorate of Fisheries. Licenses can be sold and pledged, and legal security is registered in the Aquaculture Register. Since 1982, new licenses have been awarded only in certain years and growth in biomass is today regulated on the basis of the new system for growth implemented in 2017.

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The Norwegian coast is divided into 13 geographical areas of production. The level of sea lice in these areas decide if the MAB can increase (6%), stay the same or decrease (6%) in these areas. Every second year the government announces the conditions for growth on existing and new licenses. Growth through the "Traffic Light System" has been sold by the government to the industry based on an auction process since 2018. The purpose of the auction has been to maximise the proceeds through a competitive closed clock auction by tonnes in all green areas. The average price paid for a new standard license in the auction was NOK 153 million and NOK 171 million in 2018 and 2020, respectively. Total proceeds for the government and local communities were approximately NOK 3.9 billion and NOK 6.9 billion in said years. The Traffic Light System has effectively ensured a form of resource rent tax on the industry for growth. In 2022 the average price for a new license was significantly reduced to NOK 120 million due to the proposed additional 40% resource rent tax (details below) whilst also leaving 25% of the available capacity unsold.

Sites complying with very strict environmental standards are offered additional growth. The conditions for this growth are A) below 0.1 lice per fish at every counting for the past two years in the period April 1st to September 30th and B) a maximum of one treatment during the last cycle of production. For sites meeting this standard a maximum of 6% growth is

## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

offered, regardless of the general situation in the different production areas. In “red” areas, companies will need to reduce production by 6%.

In October 2021, the Government appointed a committee to review the licensing system in the Norwegian aquaculture industry. Among other things, the committee will assess the objectives for the license regulations, the entirety of the system and how it can be adapted to existing and new challenges. In its original mandate, the committee was given a deadline to deliver its report by the end of March 2023. That has now been delayed until the end of September 2023.

In September 2022, the Norwegian Government proposed a new 40% resource rent tax on aquaculture in addition to corporate tax. The resource rent tax has been implemented retroactively from 1 January 2023 even though its initial proposal was on hearing until 4 January 2023 and with final approval in late May 2023. In March 2023, the Government presented a revised proposal of 35% resource rent tax. In May 2023, a small majority in [Parliament approved](#) the proposed tax model with a tax rate of 25%. In addition, the production fee introduced in 2021 has been increased to NOK 0.90/kg salmon produced from 1 July 2023. There is a standard deduction of NOK 70 million. The current auction system of licenses, which occurs every second year, will also continue.

The revenues will be based on the market value of when fish are removed from the pen, which the companies themselves will set/determine for 2023. From 2024, the Government's aim is to establish an independent price board.

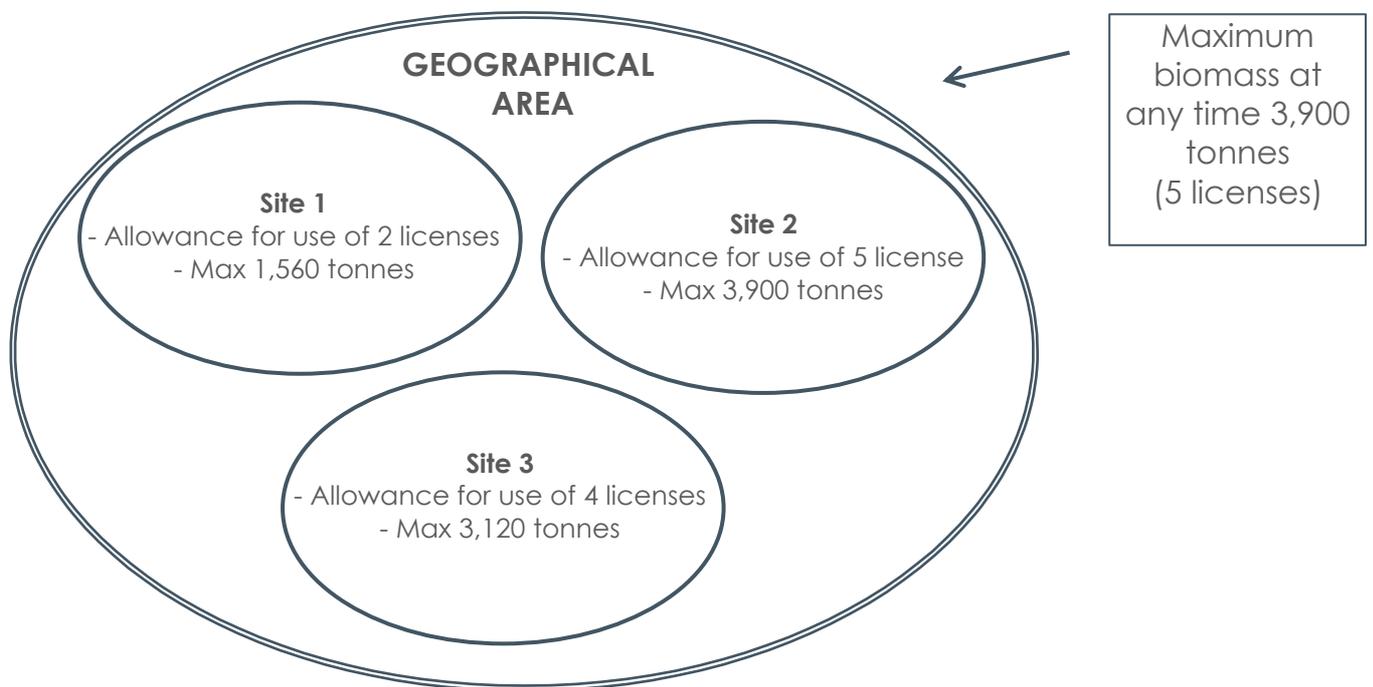
The resource rent tax will apply to sea phase only and thus not cover the industry's long value chain.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## Access to Licenses

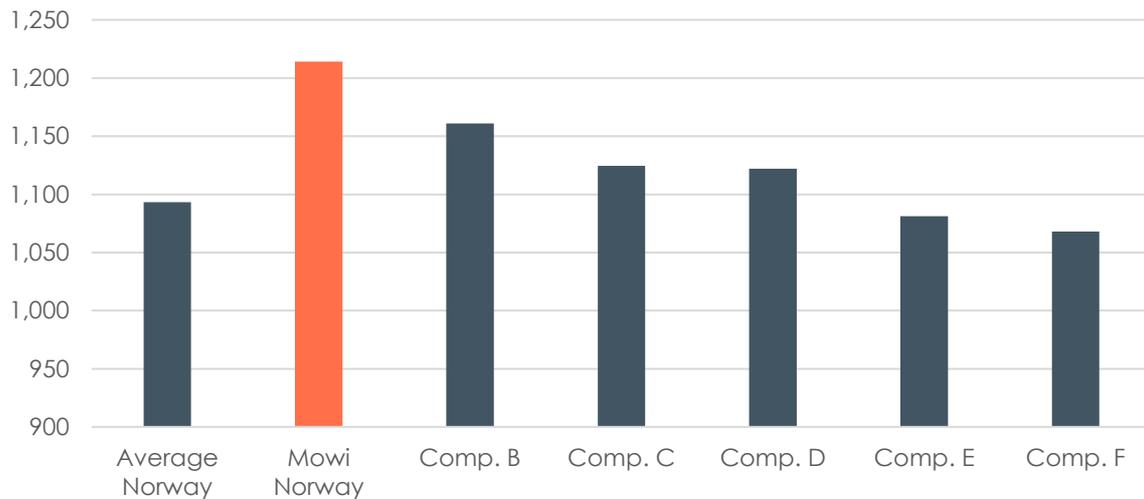
The figure below depicts an example of the regulatory framework in Norway for one company:

- Number of licenses for a defined area: 5
  - Biomass threshold per license: 780 tonnes live weight (LW)
  - Maximum biomass at any time: 3,900 tonnes (LW)
- Number of sites allocated is 3 (each with a specific biomass cap). In order to optimise production and harvest quantity over the generations of salmon, the license holder can operate within the threshold of the three sites as long as the total biomass in sea never exceeds 3,900 tonnes (LW).
- There are also biomass limitations on the individual production sites. The biomass limitation varies from site to site and is determined by the carrying capacity of each site.



## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

### Average harvest per standard license 2022



The graph above shows the harvest per license in 2022 for the Norwegian industry as a whole and for the largest listed companies.

Please note that one standard license equates to 780 tonnes in the comparison above. A standard license of 945 tonnes in the counties of Troms and Finnmark has therefore been recalculated to 780 tonnes to make the overview comparable. In addition, a broodstock license is adjusted to 65% of a standard license for all companies.

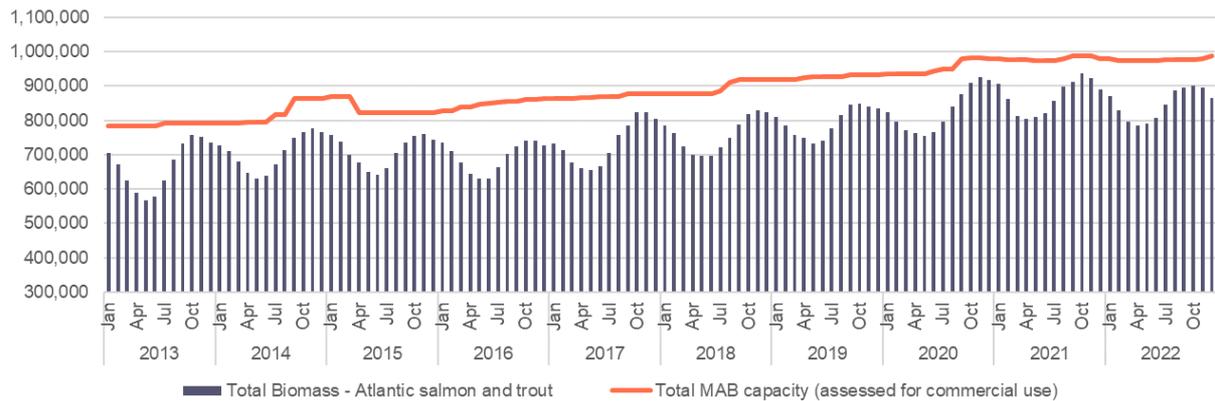
Because of the regulation of standing biomass (maximum allowed biomass - MAB) per license (780 tonnes LW), the production capacity per license is limited. Annual harvest quantity per license in Norway was 1,093 tonnes GWT in 2022. Larger companies typically have better flexibility to maximise output per license which means that the average harvest figure for the industry as a whole is normally lower than the figure for the largest companies.

Number of grow-out seawater licenses for salmon and trout in Norway:

2013: 959  
2014: 973  
2015: 974  
2016: 990  
2017: 1,015  
2018: 1,041  
2019: 1,051  
2020: 1,087  
2021: 1,098  
2022: 1,135

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

Estimated MAB-utilisation in Norway 2013-2022E



Maximum allowed biomass for commercial use by the end of 2022 was 988,165 tonnes of Atlantic salmon and trout. MAB-utilisation is normally at its highest in October-November, because rate of growth is higher than rate of harvest during the summer. It is at its lowest in April-May due to low growth during the cold winter months. Average utilisation of the MAB was 87% in 2022, down from 89% in 2021.

In October 2021 the Norwegian government proposed to establish a new environmental licensing scheme for aquaculture. Such licenses will come in addition to the growth offered through the existing traffic light system. Low emissions and collection of sludge are among the requirements proposed for the possible new licenses. It is still not decided if or when the Government will proceed with the proposal.

The Norwegian Government has also established a committee to review the overall licensing regulations for the aquaculture industry, and explore how they can be adapted to meet both current and future challenges. The committee is expected to conclude their review and report in September 2023.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.2 Regulation of fish farming in Scotland

### Licenses and location

In Scotland, instead of a single aquaculture licence, permissions are required from four organisations before setting up a fish farming site; Planning Permission from the local planning authority, a Marine licence relating to navigational considerations from Marine Scotland; an environmental permit from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and an Aquaculture Production Business authorisation, also from Marine Scotland.

The Maximum Allowed Biomass (MAB) for individual sites is determined based on an assessment of environmental concerns, including the carrying capacity of the local marine environment to be able to accommodate the fish farm. Setting MAB falls within SEPA's regulatory remit. During 2019 SEPA introduced a new regulatory framework for the licensing of marine fish farms in Scotland. This included new limits on the spatial extent of the impact mixing zone around farms, the use of more accurate modelling tools and more enhanced environmental monitoring. MAB is not uniform and varies depending on the site characteristics and location of the fish farm. The combination of the new regulatory standards, the more detailed, accurate modelling approaches supported by enhanced benthic monitoring has enabled the approval of larger farms than would have been traditionally approved previously (i.e., >2,500 tonnes) provided they are appropriately sited in sustainable locations.

The environmental permit from SEPA can be reviewed and MAB reduced in the event of non-compliance with benthic environmental standards and potentially revoked in cases of significant and long-term non-compliance.

The Crown Estate owns and manages most of the seabed around the UK out to a distance of 12 nautical miles. Anyone who develops or operates in UK territorial waters is doing so on Crown Estate property. Because of this, you must apply for a lease from The Crown Estate and pay rent to install, maintain and operate your farm on the seabed. Most existing leases are automatically renewed at the end of their lease period. A Crown Estate lease is generally granted for a period of 25-year period and is dependent on securing Planning Permission.

All new fish farms or alterations to existing fish farms require planning permission. New site applications can take 6 months for planning permission to be granted with the determination period for applications for the environmental licence being 4 months, however both can take significantly longer.

Expansion of existing facilities, subject to environmental suitability can be the most efficient route in terms of cost, time and timeline for securing regulatory changes; new sites will take a greater amount of time, reflective of the need for detailed investigations into the characteristics of locations, including collection of environmental data and will be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to secure planning permission.

An annual rental is levied by the Crown Estate which from 1 January 2023 tracks market price, as 1.0% benchmark of notional business turnover calculated for the harvested production and referenced against the applicable average market price over a 6-month reporting and invoicing period. An increased 1.5% benchmark will apply from January 2026 onwards. A baseline minimum rent, scaled according to licensed MAB, is applied for calendar years where there has been no harvested production. An escalator is applied which doubles the minimum rent after 4 years of no production and then every two years thereafter where these circumstances persist to discourage 'land-banking' with unproductive sites. Nursey sites that yield no harvested production but which are in productive use are liable for an annual rent equivalent to three times the applicable minimum rent to recognise productive value.

## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

The SEPA environmental permit for an existing fish farm attracts an annual charge calculated according to three elements: activity and environmental components, and a compliance factor. The annual charge can in some cases be >30,000 GBP. Applications fees for a new environmental permit from SEPA are assessed according to the type and scale of aquaculture facility with a new marine finfish farm with a MAB >1500 tonnes would attracting the maximum application fee of 34,240 GBP.

The fees for new or modified marine aquaculture site planning applications are set by the Scottish Government and apply across the whole of Scotland. They are based on a combination of the surface area occupied by the surface equipment and the seabed area occupied by the anchors required to maintain the equipment in place. Fee levels are calculated using the following principles: the placing or assembly of equipment in any part of any marine waters for the purposes of fish farming. A fee of 200 GBP for each 0.1 hectare of the surface area of the marine waters to be used in relation to the placement or assembly of any equipment for the purposes of fish farming and a further fee of 75 GBP for each 0.1 hectare of the seabed to be used in relation to such development, subject to a maximum of 25,000 GBP. A reduced fee of 500 GBP applies to certain permitted aquaculture development.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.3 Regulation of fish farming in Ireland

Aquaculture in Ireland is licensed by The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, (MAFM) under the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 and its associated Regulations which have been amended to give effect to various EU environment protection Directives. The licensing process is complex.

The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division, (AFMD) of the Department manages the processing of aquaculture licenses on behalf of the Minister. The Marine Engineering Division (MED) of the Department undertakes site mapping and provides certain technical advice on applications as well as undertaking certain post-licensing inspection duties. The Marine Institute (MI) provides scientific advice on a range of marine environment and aquaculture matters and in the case of applications which require Appropriate Assessment (AA) under EU Birds and Habitats Directives. Advice is also provided by Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) and the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA). The National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) are consulted in relation to habitat protection. Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI), An Taisce, Irish Water, Failte Ireland, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the Marine Survey Office (MSO) and the Commissioners of Irish Lights (CIL) are also consulted. Where relevant, the Local Authority and/or Harbour Authority are consulted. Land based fin fish units also require planning consent from the local authority. All applications are released for public consultation and comment.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is mandatory for marine finfish applications and applicants are required to submit an EIAR with their initial applications. The obligation to carry out an Appropriate Assessment (AA) applies if the application is within a Natura 2000 site or likely to impact on a Natura 2000 site. Decisions of the Minister in respect of aquaculture license applications, including license conditions, may be appealed to the Aquaculture Licenses Appeals Board (ALAB). ALAB can confirm, refuse or vary a decision made by the Minister or issue licenses itself under its own authority.

Licenses are typically issued for 10 years. The 1997 Act provides for license duration of up to 20 years. Foreshore (seabed) leases and licenses are companion consents to Aquaculture Licenses. Foreshore Acts allow for leases and licenses to be granted for terms not exceeding ninety-nine years, respectively. Terms of current licenses vary between harvest output (tons) per annum, smolt number input, maximum number of fish on site or a combination of these. Prior to expiry of a license, an application for renewal of the license must be made.

Currently the processing of a marine fin fish license takes between 87 and 800 weeks. Most licenses will be appealed to ALAB which can take at least a further 272 weeks to determine. The process of renewing expired fin fish licenses takes as long as a new application. However, in the past 12 months there is evidence of licence applications being dealt with by the licencing authority in a more proactive manner with gathering momentum in engagement with licence applicants.

In 2017, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine initiated an independent review of the Aquaculture licencing system in Ireland. The report of this review was published in May 2017 with the overarching conclusion, that a root-and-branch reform of the aquaculture license application processes is necessary which encompasses a further 30 recommendations.

Annual fin fish culture license fees for a marine based fin fish site are €6.35 per tonne for the first 100 tonnes plus €6.35 for each additional tonne. Foreshore rental fees are charged at €63.49 for up to and including 5 hectares of foreshore with each additional hectare up to 10 ha at €31.74 and each additional hectare >10 and up to 20 at €63.49. Annual culture license fee for a land-based site is €127.97 per annum.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.4 Regulation of fish farming in Chile

### License and location

In Chile licensing is based on two authorisations. The first authorisation is required to operate an aquaculture facility and specifies certain technical requirements. It is issued by the Undersecretaries of Fisheries and Aquaculture (under the Ministry of Economy). The second authorisation relates to the physical area which may be operated (or permission to use national sea areas for aquaculture production). This is issued by the Undersecretaries for Armed Forces (Ministry of Defence). The use of the license is restricted to a specific geographic area, to defined species, and to a specified limit of production. The production limits are specified in Environmental and Sanitary Resolutions for the issued license. Under certain conditions, owners can choose to reduce their whole stocking, producing at maximum density (17kg/m<sup>3</sup> for Atlantic salmon), or to maintain or increase their stocking, using a limited density (from 4 to 17 kg/m<sup>3</sup> for Atlantic salmon) determined by productive, sanitary and environmental conditions of each neighbourhood, any increase over previous stocking numbers means going to 4 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Owners can choose only one alternative to stock each semester. From January 2021, all producers have the option to increase the smolt stocking based on a combined score of fish health parameters, related to losses, sea lice treatments and antibiotic use. The individual company's performance on the parameters in the previous period will determine the size of the potential increase in the next smolt stocking. A positive assessment will result in an increase of 9%, 6% or 3%, while a negative assessment will result in a decrease of -3%, -6% or -9%. For example, if antibiotic consumption is below 300 g / tonne, mortality is less than 10% and the indicator related to bath treatments against *Caligus* is below 50%, the model will allow farmer the option to grow by 6% in the next stocking.

### Access to Licenses

The trading of licenses in Chile is regulated by the General Law of Fisheries and Aquaculture (LGPA) and controlled by the Undersecretaries of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Economy. Aquaculture activities are subject to different governmental authorisations depending on whether they are developed in private fresh water inland facilities (i.e. hatcheries) or in facilities built on public assets such as lakes or rivers (freshwater licenses) or at sea (seawater licenses).

To operate a private freshwater aquaculture facility requires ownership of the water-use rights and holding of environmental permits. Environmental permits are issued when operators demonstrate that their facilities comply with the applicable environmental regulations.

Licenses for aquaculture activities in public assets are granted based on an application, which must contain a description of the proposed operations, including a plan for complying with environmental and other applicable regulations. Licenses granted after April 2010 are granted for 25 years and are renewable for additional 25-year terms. Licenses granted before April 2010 were granted for indefinite periods. License holders must begin operation within one year of receiving a license and once the operation has started, the license holder cannot stop or suspend production for a period exceeding two consecutive years. Subject to certain exceptions, license holders must maintain minimum operational levels of not less than 5% of the yearly production specified in the RCA (Environmental Qualification Resolution). Until August 2016, all licenses not used could be kept by the holder if they prepared an official Sanitary Management Plan.

License holders must pay annual license fees to the Chilean government and may sell or rent their licenses. For the moment, no new licenses will be granted in the most concentrated regions, Regions X, XI, and XII (Chile is made up of 16 administrative regions).

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.5 Regulation of fish farming in Canada

### License and location

Fish farming companies in Canada are subject to different regulations depending on the geographical area they operate in. The principal Federal laws are the Fisheries Act, the Canadian Navigable Waters Act, The Health of Animal Acts, and the Species at Risk Act. The Aquaculture Activities Regulations (AAR) are national regulations that apply throughout Canada. Each province has specific Acts and Regulations that also apply. The three primary fish farming areas in Canada are British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick.

To operate a marine fish farm site, provincial and/or federal authorisations are required. In Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick, the Provincial government is the primary regulator and leasing authority. The Province regulates the activity and operations of aquaculture and issues the Aquaculture License, Crown Land lease and Water Use License where fish farms are located. In Newfoundland and Labrador, the Crown Land Lease for the site is issued for 50 years, the Aquaculture License is issued for 6 years, and the Water Use License is issued for 5 years. In New Brunswick, individual sites are typically granted lease for 20 years. All Commercial Aquaculture Licenses are renewable but may be lost or suspended for non-compliance issues and non-payment of fees. Farms in New Brunswick are also issued an Approval to Operate with a 5 year term limit by the provincial department of Environment Department.

In British Columbia, Federal and Provincial authorizations are required to operate a marine fish farm site. The Federal Government regulates the activity and operations of aquaculture while the Provincial Government administers the Crown lands where fish farms are located. The Province grants a license to occupy an area of the ocean associated with the individual fish farming site. The tenured encompasses the rearing pens, ancillary infrastructure and all moorings. Individual site tenures have a specific timeline ranging from five to twenty years. The term of tenure is based upon the provincial policy at the time of offer. In 2023, the annual fee for a typical 35 hectares tenure is \$22,000 CAD per year. This fee is calculated based on the tenure size and a provincially indexed land value. Each tenure license contains a renewal provision once expired. After the tenure term has expired, it becomes a month to month occupancy until it is either renewed or returned to the Crown. It is uncommon for a tenure to not be renewed, however breaches to a tenure agreement can result in non-renewal.

The production limitations in Canada are regulated as either a "Maximum Allowable Biomass" or a fixed number of smolt per cycle. "MAB" is specific to each Aquaculture licensed facility in British Columbia. Smaller farms are typically licensed for 2,200mt. with larger capacity facilities licensed to produce 5,000 mt. per cycle. In Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick, a maximum number of smolt per cycle is given to a farm. Farms are typically licensed for 600,000 to 1,000,000 smolt per cycle in Newfoundland and Labrador, and 250,000 to 600,000 smolt per cycle in New Brunswick.

In British Columbia, the Federal Government grants an Aquaculture License with conditions that a farm must meet. The Aquaculture license conditions are linked to The Fisheries Act. Aquaculture license conditions specify the species being farmed, the Maximum Allowable Biomass (MAB) on the site, the type of rearing equipment and the allowable environmental impact. Production or "MAB" is specific to each site. The annual license fee is calculated at \$2.90 CAD per ton of MAB for operational sites. Facilities that are fallow pay only a \$100 CAD administrative fee. All Aquaculture licenses are renewable but may be lost or suspended for non-payment of fees.

### Access to Licenses

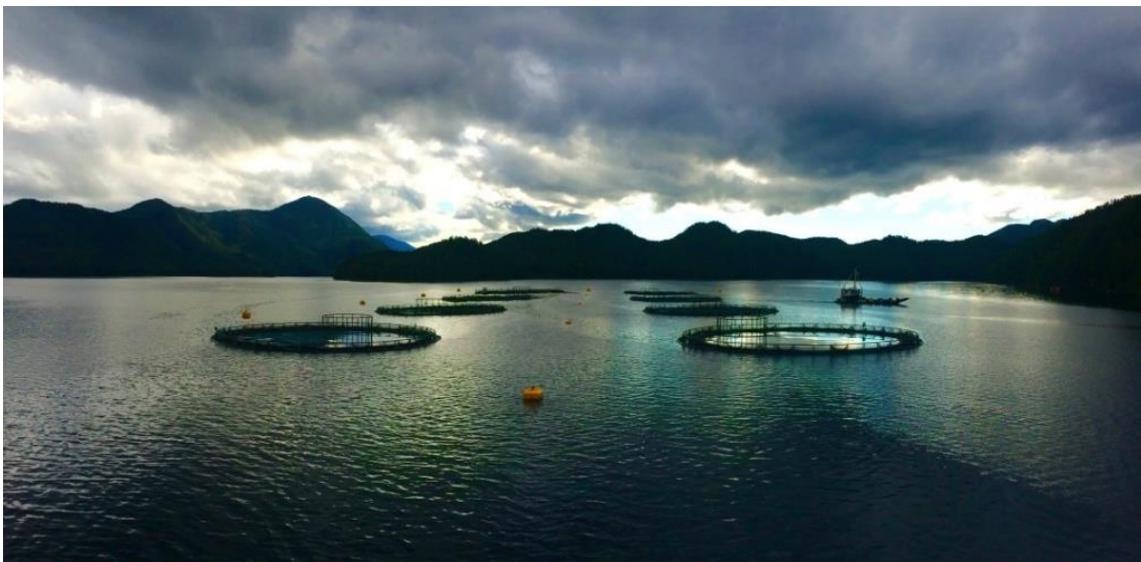
## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

All permits and licenses require consultation with First Nations and local stakeholders. The time taken to acquire licenses for a new farm can vary from one to several years. The cost for preparing a new site license application averages approximately \$350,000 CAD. The location of aquaculture farms is regulated by both the Provincial and Federal governments. The Province regulates the land use and the Federal government sets out site specific requirements to limit impacts to critical species and habitats. Companies with the support of local First Nations can still obtain new tenures.

In December 2020, the Federal Government instituted policy prohibiting the restocking of farms in the Discovery Islands area and removal of all sites by June 2022. A court challenge by all affected operating companies was initiated. On 22 June 2022, DFO Minister Murray announced a new consultation process for the Discovery Island farm licenses and on 17 February 2023, the Minister informed industry that she was continuing the prohibition on farming in the area. This decision is again subject to a judicial review in Federal Court. All other farm licenses have been renewed for a 2-year term to allow for the development of a transition plan for salmon farming in British Columbia. Mowi Canada West continues to work with all levels of Government, including First Nations, to secure a future for sustainable salmon farming in British Columbia. We are anticipating an announcement by the Minister during June 2023 with respect to the *Transition plan*. At this time, we can only speculate what the Minister will propose.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, proponents must submit a sea cage license application to the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture for each new or acquired marine site. In New Brunswick, companies must submit an Aquaculture license Application for Marine Sites to the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (New Brunswick). It takes about nine months to transition an existing site to a new owner, and approximately 18 months for a new application in both places. This includes obtaining all necessary approvals and licenses, and a review from The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Federal). Consultation with residents, towns, development groups and commercial/recreational fishermen is required. In Newfoundland and Labrador, all new sites of the same company must be 1 km apart, 5 km if sites are operated by different companies. Consultations with First nations is now required in both New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador prior to submission of the application.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, Provincial approvals can be assigned to a different operator through a government sub-lease assignment process, however, licenses are not transferable. A company may transfer licenses to another company providing the rationales for the assignment are supported by the government processes in New Brunswick.



# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.6 Regulation of fish farming in the Faroe Islands

### License and location

Fish farming companies in the Faroe Islands are subject to extensive regulation. The most important legislative instruments are the Aquaculture Act (Act No. 83 from 25 May 2009 with latest amendments from 2022), the Environmental Act (Act No. 134 from 29 October 1988 with latest amendments from 2021), the Food Safety Act (Act No. 58 from 26 May 2010 with latest amendments from 2017) and the Parliamentary Act No. 64 from 15 May 2014 on license fees for the fish farming industry with latest amendment in 2021.

In addition to the above-mentioned acts, several Executive Orders with more detailed provisions covering fish farming have been issued under the provisions of the acts.

The right according to a specific licence is provided for a specific geographic area and with a limit of production specified in the individual licence. Production and stocking density limit is specified in an Environmental and Sanitary Resolution issued for each specific licence. The density limit may depend on production conditions as well as sanitary and environmental conditions.

The size of the area and density limits etc. for each of the 20 sea licences vary greatly. Production limitations in the Faroes are not regulated through limits on "maximum allowed biomass", MAB. As a consequence, MAB for salmon farms varies between 1,200 tonnes and 5,800 tonnes a year per licence, depending on site characteristics and the geographic location of the individual farm.

In 2012 and 2018 the Government of the Faroe Islands announced revised aquaculture regulations with the aim of securing sustainable growth in the industry and in order to implement anti-trust regulations.

Mowi Faroes is first and foremost affected by the anti-trust regulations in the Aquaculture Act. These rules set a cap of 20% for either direct or indirect foreign ownership in Faroese fish farming companies. If the limit is exceeded with regard to a fish farming company, the company must adjust its ownership to be within the limit within a short deadline set by the authorities or face possible loss of the right to conduct fish farming activities.

Mowi Faroes is 100% owned by Mowi ASA (NO). This ownership is protected by transitional provisions in the Aquaculture Act, securing that the company can remain owned by a foreign company and nonetheless keep its licences. The consequence for Mowi Faroes of the Anti-trust regulations is that the company cannot expand its business with additional commercial licences to farm fish in the sea. Mowi Faroes can however apply for development licences and licences on land.

It is stipulated in the Aquaculture Act that a fish farming company cannot hold more than 50% of the total sea licences. The new restrictions do not apply to licences held by each individual company today, but the new regulations specify that Mowi Faroes can keep its 3 seawater licences and 1 smolt licence, even though the company does not comply with the new cap on foreign-held capital.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## Access to Licenses

In order to conduct fish farming activities in the Faroe Islands, the fish farming company must obtain authorisation from Heilsufrøðiliga Starvsstovan (The Faroese Food and Veterinary Authority) to operate an aquaculture facility. The authorisation specifies certain technical requirements with regard to conducting fish farming activities.

Fish farming companies with the above mentioned authorisation can apply for licences to conduct fish farming activities from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. New sea licences can be awarded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. There is today a limit of 20 commercial seawater licences and no limit for licences on land. If new licences are to be awarded, they may be awarded through auction.

An application for a seawater licence must contain a description of the proposed operations, including a plan for complying with environmental and other applicable regulations.

The government of the Faroe Islands in April 2018 announced a new category of licences, i.e. development licences. Development licences are intended to motivate investment in new fish farming technologies. Due to the anti-trust regulations, Mowi Faroes can only obtain development licences, as the limits regarding foreign ownership do not apply to such licences.

Licences are granted for 12 years and are renewable for additional 12-year term. Licence holders must pay an annual fee of DKK 12,000 for each individual licence.

Fish farming companies must also pay a harvesting fee based on the harvesting of farmed fish. The fee is based on the weight of gutted fish harvested in a month, multiplied by the average international market price in the same month.

If the average international market price is DKK 36 per kilogramme or higher, the fee is 5%. If the average international market price is DKK 32 per kilogramme or higher, but lower than DKK 36 per kilogramme, the fee is 2.5%. If the average international market price is DKK 32 per kilogramme or lower, the fee is 0.5%.

From 1 August 2023 the harvesting fee has been amended from the above mentioned system to the system below:

The payment will be set as follows:

P = average international market price in DKK per kilogramme.

K = average weight of gutted fish harvested in a month.

- If P is lower than K, the payment is 0.5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K, but lower than K + DKK 5, the payment is 2.5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 5, but less than K + DKK 15, the payment is 5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 15, but less than K + DKK 20, the payment is 7.5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 20, but less than K + DKK 25, the payment is 10%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 25, but less than K + DKK 30, the payment is 12.5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 30, but less than K + DKK 35, the payment is 15%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 35, but less than K + DKK 40, the payment is 17.5%.
- If P is higher than or the same as K + DKK 40, the payment is 20%.

## Barriers to Entry - Licenses

No fee is payed in connection with harvesting of fish, ordered by the Chief Veterinary Officer, and which cannot be sold at market price.

Information on the monthly harvesting of fish shall be reported to the tax authorities not later than on the 15<sup>th</sup> day in the month following the harvest. If information on harvesting is submitted to late, a fine of DKK 1.000 will be added to the fee for the relevant month.

The harvesting fee falls due for payment in 4 installments on 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 October and must be paid no later than on the 20<sup>th</sup> day in the relevant month.

Licences can be sold and pledged, and legal security is perfected by registration with the Land Registry. Licences may be withdrawn in cases of material breach of conditions set out in the individual licence or in the aquaculture or environmental legislation.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## 11.7 Regulation of fish farming in Iceland

### Licenses and location

Aquaculture in Iceland is licensed by The Minister of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and is subject to extensive regulation. The most important laws and regulations include the Aquaculture Act (Act 71/2008 with later amendments, most importantly Act 101/2019, as well as regulation on Aquaculture, reg. 540/2020. Other relevant laws and regulations include: Regulation 550/2018 on Environmental Impact of Industry, the Control of Water Bodies Act 36/2011, the Protection of Ocean and Coastal Bodies Against Contamination Act 33/2004, Laws on the Taxation of Aquaculture for Ocean Aquaculture and the Aquaculture Fund Act 89/2019, and the Environmental Assessment Act 106/2000.

Licenses are managed by the Food and Veterinary Authority of Iceland (MAST) on behalf of the Minister. Fish farms in Iceland must have work licenses issued by MAST and the Icelandic Environmental Agency (UST). Farming companies apply for both permits simultaneously and the process is overseen by MAST, with licenses valid for 16 years. All applications are released for public consultation and comment during the licensing process.

### Access to licenses

Licensing of aquaculture in Iceland has traditionally been complex and the application process can take up to 7-10 years. Historically a company could start the licensing process once the Icelandic Maritime Agency (i. Hafrannsóknunarstofnun) had produced an estimate of the biological load bearing capacity (i. Burðarþolsmat) of the designated farming area, usually an individual fjord. The Icelandic Maritime Agency is also responsible for performing a risk assessment (i. Áhættumat) for genetic mixing of farmed salmon. This was a lengthy process involving thorough and time-consuming environmental risk assessments with multiple government agencies involved at various stages of the process where new demands were brought to bear as the process evolved.

In a major amendment to the Aquaculture Act 71/2008 in 2019, Act 101/2019, critical changes were made to Icelandic Aquaculture's legal environment. Previously, the Icelandic Maritime Agency could in theory perform load bearing capacity assessments at their own prerogative, with companies able to apply for licenses based on available biomass after the publication of each assessment, however, after the amendment, the power to decide on load bearing assessments was transferred to the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. Another critical change affected how licenses would be issued going forward; all future available biomass would be sold directly by the government via auction and consequently all license applications that had not finished preliminary environmental assessments at the time of Act 101/2019 were rejected.

As of May 2023, the load bearing capacity assessment for Iceland stands at 144,500 tonnes and the risk assessment for genetic mixing stands at 106,500 tonnes. Issued licenses amount to 103,100 tonnes. Additional available locations within allowed farming areas are awaiting load bearing assessments in accordance with Act 101/2019, however, no load bearing capacity assessments have taken place in Iceland since the enactment of the amendment in 2019.

Farming areas in Iceland are limited as few regions allow salmon farming. Farms are concentrated in the Western- and Eastern Fjords with possible expansion into a single fjord (Eyjafjörður) in the north-east of the country.

Farming areas as defined by the load bearing capacity assessment can contain multiple license holders. Each license is fixed to a pre-determined location within the area, defined by GPS co-ordinates. Farming locations are fixed within license boundaries and the total biomass farmed in the designated area cannot exceed the load bearing capacity of that area. Farmers are also subject to rules regarding minimum distances between farm sites. License holders are subject to regular audits by both MAST and UST.

# Barriers to Entry - Licenses

## Taxes and Fees

Prior to the amendment of Act 71/2008 in 2019, no direct fee was taken for licenses other than to cover administrative costs. A production tax is instead charged per kg of harvested fish in accordance with laws 89/2019 (see details below).

The current tax system is:

0.5% of Nasdaq price when prices are lower than 4.3 EUR/kg;

2.0% of Nasdaq price when prices are between 4.3 EUR/kg and 4.8 EUR/kg;

3.5% of Nasdaq price when prices are above 4.8 EUR/kg.

- As it stands, the whole year calculations are based on average prices Aug-Oct (low-price months)
- It has been proposed to use the average for the whole year instead of Aug-Oct, which would be approx. 9% higher than what is used now.
- The tax system is being phased in over a 7-year period. We are now in year 4.
- This year farmers pay 4/7 of 3.5% of Nasdaq or approx. 2% of Nasdaq ≈32 ISK/kg ≈2 NOK/kg harvested.
- In addition, farmers pay 0.79% harbour fee and a fee to the environmental fund, equivalent to approx. 3,500 ISK per tonne licenses. All this adds up to some 5%-6% of turnover when fully implemented.
- The Minister proposed last year to increase the highest tax level from 3.5% to 5% of Nasdaq. She is aiming for another try this year.

The Fishery Directorate (i. Fiskistofa) is responsible for collecting the fee by two instalments per year. As mentioned above, all new licenses will be auctioned off, however details of the auction process remain unclear as of now.



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## 12 Risk Factors

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## Risk Factors

### 12.1 Salmon health and welfare

Maximising survival and maintaining healthy fish stocks are primarily achieved through good husbandry and health management practices and policies, which reduce exposure to pathogens and the risk of health challenges. The success of good health management practices has been demonstrated on many occasions and has contributed to an overall improvement in the survival of farmed salmonids.

Fish health management plans, veterinary health plans, biosecurity plans, risk mitigation plans, contingency plans, disinfection procedures, surveillance schemes, as well as coordinated and synchronised zone/area management approaches, all support healthy stocks with an emphasis on disease prevention.

Prevention of many diseases is achieved through vaccination at an early stage and while the salmon are in freshwater. Vaccines are widely used commercially to reduce the risk of health challenges. With the introduction of vaccines a considerable number of bacterial and viral health issues have been effectively controlled, with the additional benefit that the quantity of licensed medicines prescribed in the industry has been reduced.

In some instances medicinal treatment is still required to avoid mortality and for the well-being and welfare of the fish. Even the best managed farms may have to use licensed medicines from time to time, if other measures are not sufficient. For several viral diseases, no effective vaccines are currently available.

## Risk Factors

### 12.2 Most important health risks to salmon

**Sea lice:** There are several species of sea lice, which are naturally occurring seawater parasites. They can infect the salmon skin and if not controlled they can cause lesions and secondary infection. Sea lice are controlled through good husbandry and management practices, the use of lice prevention barriers (e.g. skirts), by submerging the salmon using Tubenet, cleaner fish (different wrasse species and lumpsuckers, which eat the lice off the salmon), mechanical removal systems and when necessary licensed medicines.

**Cardiomyopathy syndrome (CMS):** CMS is a chronic disease that can develop over several months and is caused by the piscine myocarditis virus (PMCV). Mortality typically occurs in large seawater fish. A typical disease event can last one to six months. Control is achieved mainly by good husbandry and management practices and keeping the fish in conditions that satisfy their biological needs for food, clean water, space and habitat.

**Salmonid Rickettsial Septicaemia (SRS):** SRS is caused by intracellular bacteria. It occurs mainly in Chile but has also been observed, albeit to a much lesser extent, in Norway, Ireland and the UK. It causes lethargy and appetite loss, and can result in elevated mortality. SRS is to some extent controlled by vaccination, but medicinal intervention may also be required.

**Heart and Skeletal Muscle Inflammation (HSMI):** HSMI is currently reported in Norway and to a lesser extent Scotland. Symptoms of HSMI are reduced appetite, abnormal behaviour and in most cases low mortality. HSMI generally affects fish in their first year in sea and control is achieved mainly by good husbandry and management practices.

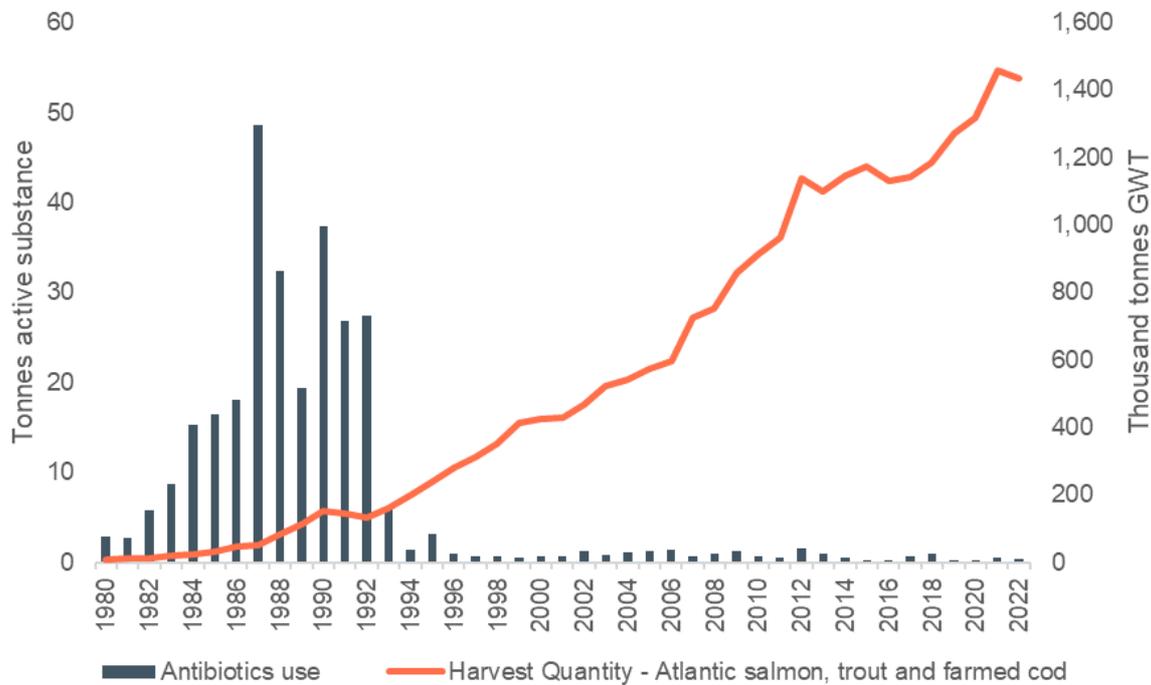
**Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA):** ISA is caused by the ISA virus and is widely reported. It is a contagious disease that causes lethargy and anaemia and may lead to significant mortality in seawater if not appropriately managed. Control of ISA is achieved through culling or harvesting of affected fish and the application of stringent biosecurity and mitigation measures. Vaccines are available and are in use in areas where ISA is considered to represent a risk.

**Gill Disease (GD):** GD is a general term used to describe gill conditions occurring in sea. The changes may be caused by different infectious agents; amoeba, virus or bacteria, as well as environmental factors including algae or jellyfish. Little is known about the cause of many of the gill conditions and to what extent infectious or environmental factors are primary or secondary, how they interact, and causes of disease.

## Risk Factors

### 12.3 Fish health and vaccination (Norway)

#### Production and use of antibiotics in Norway



The incidence of bacterial disease events increased in the 1980s. In the absence of effective vaccines, the use of approved antimicrobial medicines reached a maximum of almost 50 tonnes in 1987. Following the introduction of effective vaccines against the main bacterial challenges at the time, the quantity of antimicrobials used in the industry declined significantly to less than 1.4 tonnes (by 1994) and has since then continued to be very low. These developments, along with the introduction of more strict biosecurity and health management strategies, allowed for further expansion of the industry and an increase in production.

During the last two decades there has been a general stabilisation of mortality in Norway, Scotland and Canada, which has been achieved principally through good husbandry, good management practices and vaccination. The trend in the Chilean industry stems from infection pressure from SRS, which has declined in recent years.

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Source: Kontali Analyse, Norsk medisinaldepot, Norwegian Institute of Public Health

# Risk Factors

## 12.4 Research and development focus

### **Fish Welfare and Robustness**

- Development of better solutions for prevention and control of infectious diseases
- Minimisation of production-related disorders
- Optimisation of smolt quality
- Monitoring of fish welfare

### **Product Quality and Safety**

- Continuously develop better technological solutions for optimised processing, packaging and storage of products, while maintaining consistently high quality.

### **New Growth**

- Development of methods to reduce production time at sea
- Production in more exposed areas
- Production in closed sea-going units

### **Production Efficiency**

- Development of cost effective, sustainable and healthy salmon diets which ensure production of robust fish
- Identify the best harvesting methods, fillet yield optimisation and the most efficient transport and packaging solutions
- Net solutions and antifouling strategies
- Development of AI-based tools for value chain optimisation and accelerating seawater-phase production efficiency

### **Footprint**

- Develop, validate and implement novel methods for sea lice control
- Reduce dependency on licensed medicines and limit the discharge of medicinal residues
- Escape management and control
- ASC implementation; R&D projects that facilitate and make ASC implementation more efficient

According to Zacco and Hamsø (Norwegian patent offices), the rate of patenting in the salmon farming industry has grown rapidly in the last two decades. Considerable R&D is being undertaken in several areas and the most important developments have been seen in the feed, sea lice control and vaccine sectors, carried out by large global players. In this industry most producers are small and do not have the capital to undertake and supervise major R&D activities. This is expected to change as consolidation of the industry continues.

### **Smolt, on-growing production and processing**

The technology used in these phases can be bought "off-the-shelf" and very few patents are granted. Technology and producers are becoming increasingly more advanced and skilled.



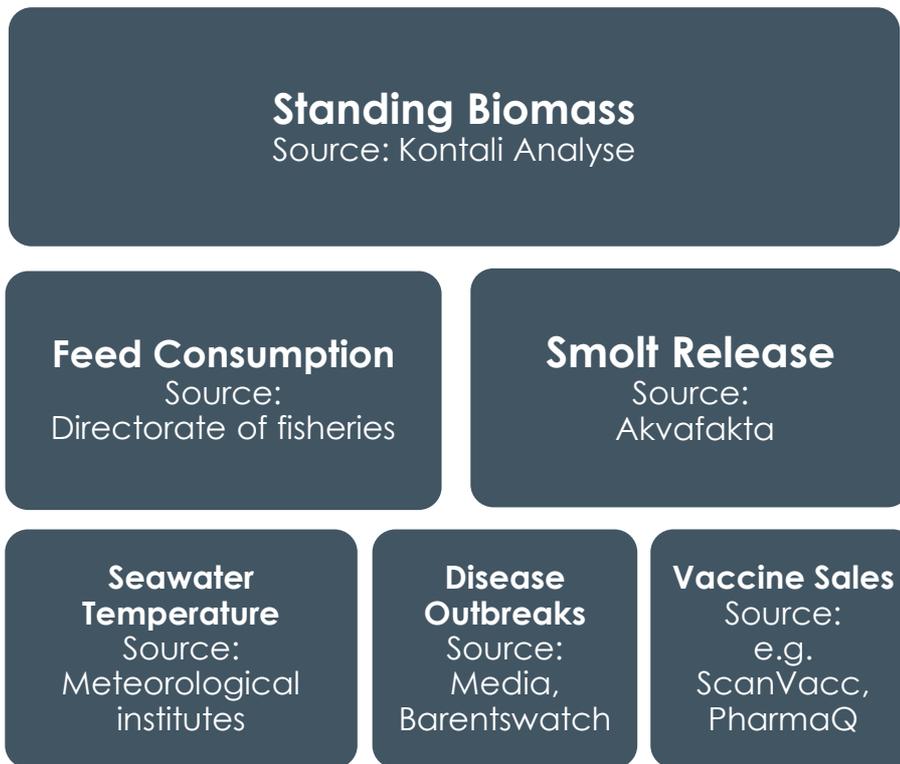
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## 13 Indicators Determining Harvest volumes

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# Indicators Determining Harvest volumes

## 13.1 Projecting future harvest volumes



The three most important indicators for future harvest volumes are standing biomass, feed consumption and smolt release. These are good indicators for medium- and long-term harvest, while the best short-term indicator is standing biomass categorised by size. As harvested size is normally above 4 kg, the available biomass of this size class is therefore the best estimate of short-term supply.

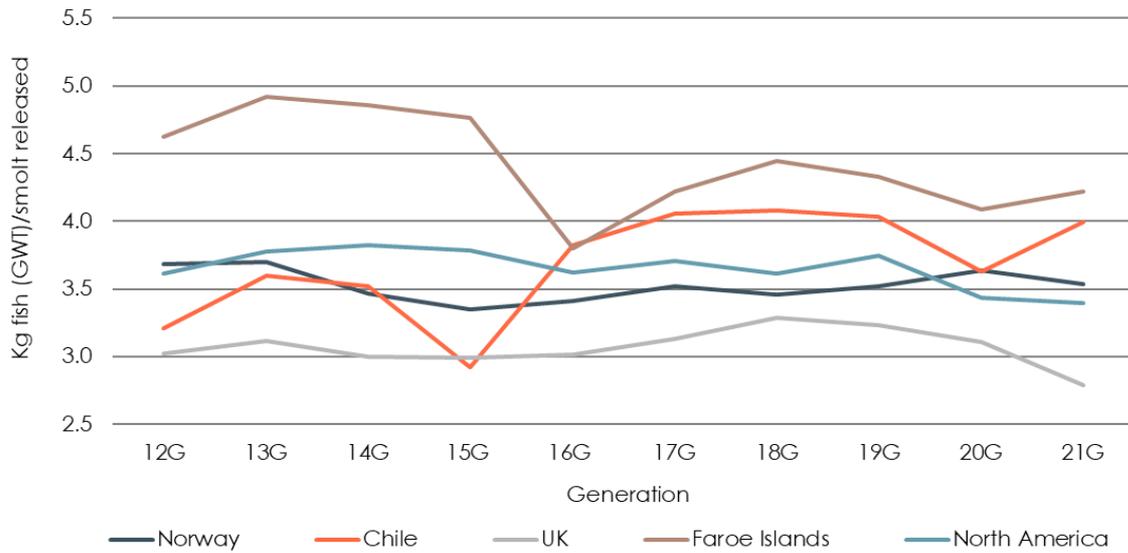
If no actual numbers on smolt releases are available, vaccine sales could be a good indicator of number of smolt releases and when the smolt is put to sea. This is a good indicator of long-term harvest volumes as it takes up to 2 years from smolt release to harvest.

Variation in seawater temperature can materially impact the length of the production cycle. A warmer winter can for example increase harvest volumes for the relevant year, partly at the expense of the subsequent year.

Disease outbreaks can also impact harvest volume due to mortality and growth slowdown.

# Indicators Determining Harvest volumes

## 13.2 Yield per smolt



Yield per smolt is an important indicator of production efficiency. Due to the falling cost curve and the discounted price of small fish, the economic optimal harvest weight is in the area of 4-5 kg (GWT). The number of harvested kilograms yielded from each smolt is impacted by disease, mortality, temperatures, growth attributes and commercial decisions.

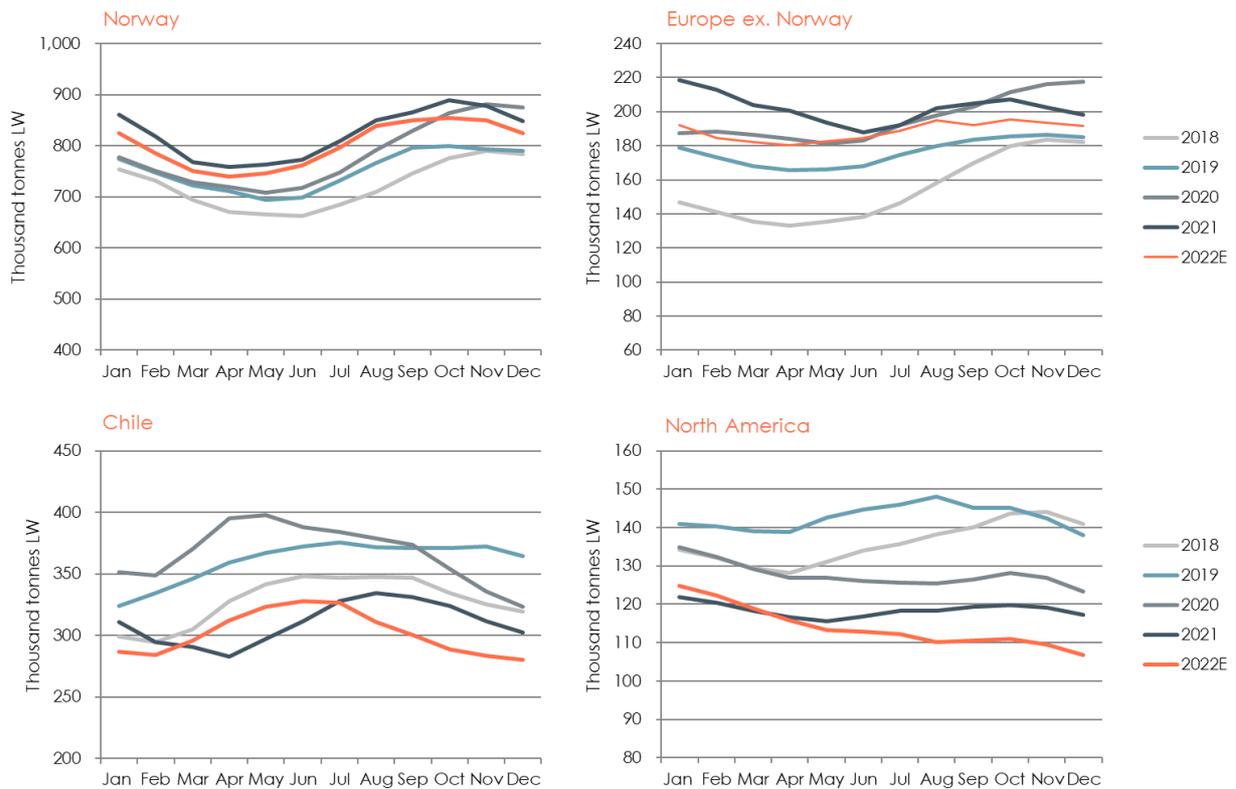
The average yield per smolt in Norway is estimated at 3.53 kg (GWT) for the 21 Generation.

In 2010 and 2011 the Chilean salmon industry performed well on fish harvested, due to the low density of production (improved yield per smolt). In line with increased density in subsequent years, biological indicators deteriorated. In 2016, an algae bloom caused high mortality, and the Chilean salmon industry started to rebuild its biomass once again and improved yield per smolt. The yield per smolt increased in Chile for 21G to 4.00 kg (GWT) from 20G's 3.63 kg (GWT).

Average yield in the UK, North America and Faroe Islands for 21G is estimated at 2.79 kg, 3.39 kg and 4.22 kg, respectively.

# Indicators Determining Harvest volumes

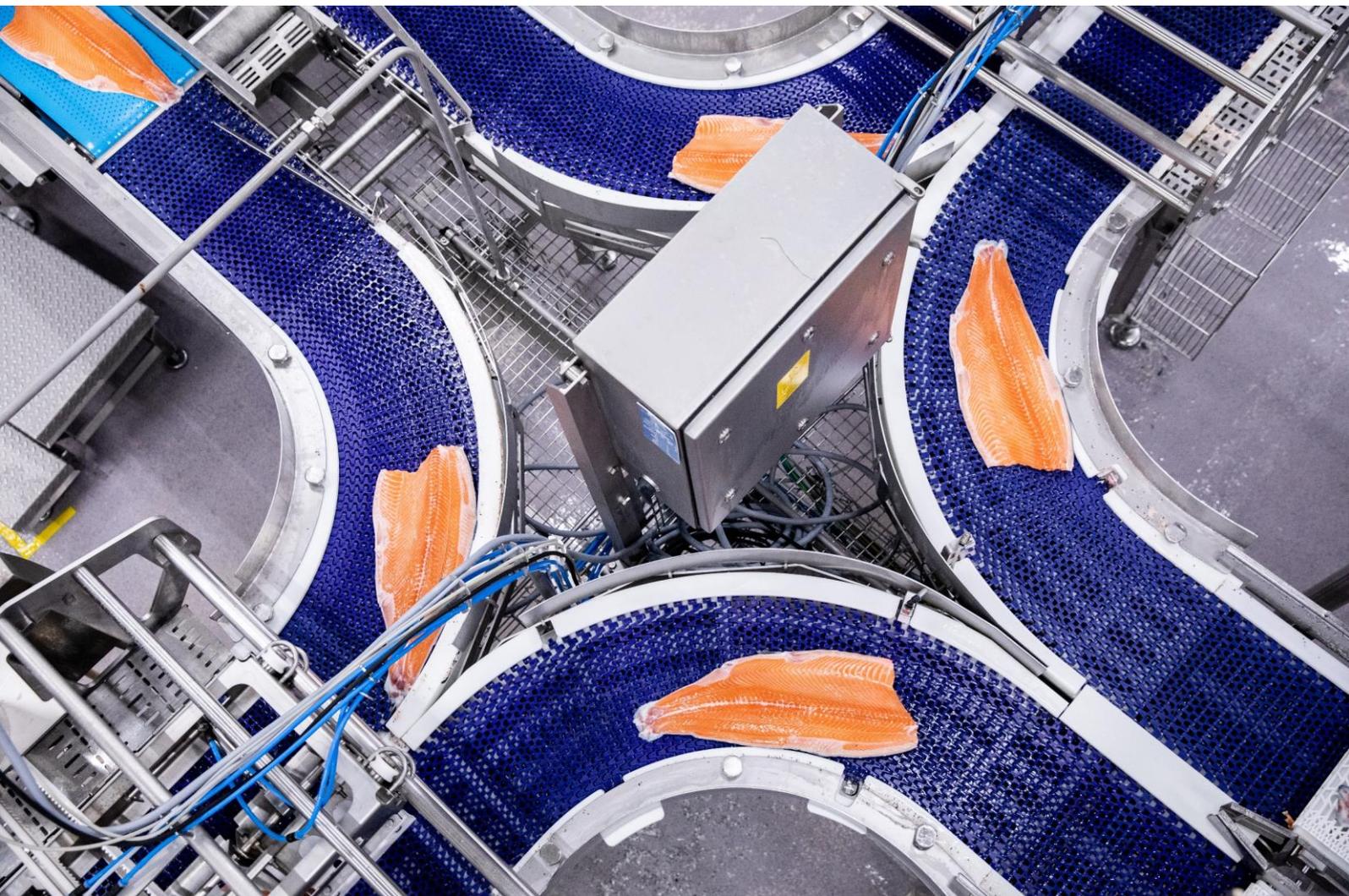
## 13.3 Development in biomass during the year



Due to variations in seawater temperature during the year, the total standing biomass in Europe has a S-curve, which is at its lowest in May and at its peak in October. The Norwegian industry is focused on minimising natural fluctuations as license constraints put a limit on how much biomass can be in sea at the peak of the year.

In Chile the situation is different due to its more stable seawater temperature and opposite seasons (being in the Southern hemisphere). A more consistent water temperature allows for smolt release throughout the year and enables more uniform utilisation of facilities.

Source: Kontali Analyse



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## 14 Secondary Processing (VAP)

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## Secondary Processing (VAP)

In processing we distinguish between primary and secondary processing.

*Primary processing* is slaughtering and gutting. This is the point in the value chain at which standard price indexes for farmed salmon are set.

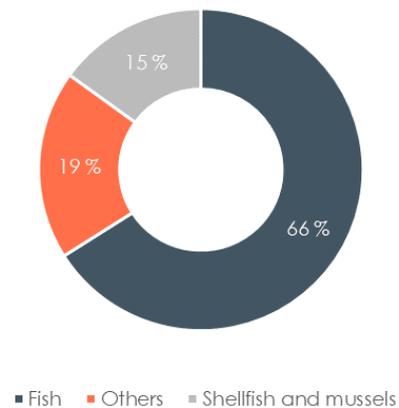
*Secondary processing* is filleting, fillet trimming, portioning, producing different fresh cuts, smoking, marinating or breading. Depending on the setup of the processing plant, products are fresh packed with Modified Atmosphere (MAP), vacuum packed or frozen and stored for distribution.

Products that have been secondary processed are called value-added products (VAP), as they represent an additional value to the retailer and foodservice operator but most of all to the final consumer.

## Secondary Processing (VAP)

### 14.1 European value-added processing (VAP) industry

- A total value of > EUR 25 billion
- Employees > 135,000
- Extremely fragmented – more than 4,000 companies
- About 50% of all companies have fewer than 20 employees
- Traditionally EBIT-margins have been between 2% and 5%
- The average company employs 33 people and has a turnover of EUR 4.2 million



The seafood industry in Europe is fragmented with more than 4,000 players. Most of the companies are fairly small, but there are also several companies of significant size involved in the secondary processing industry: Mowi, Icelandic Group, Deutsche See, Caladero, Royal Greenland, Labeyrie, Parlevliet & van der Plas and Lerøy Seafood. Some of these companies are integrated into fish farming or wild catch, others are buying external and processing.

Most of the largest players base their processing on Atlantic salmon, producing smoked salmon, salmon portions or ready meals with different packing techniques. Others are into white fish processing.

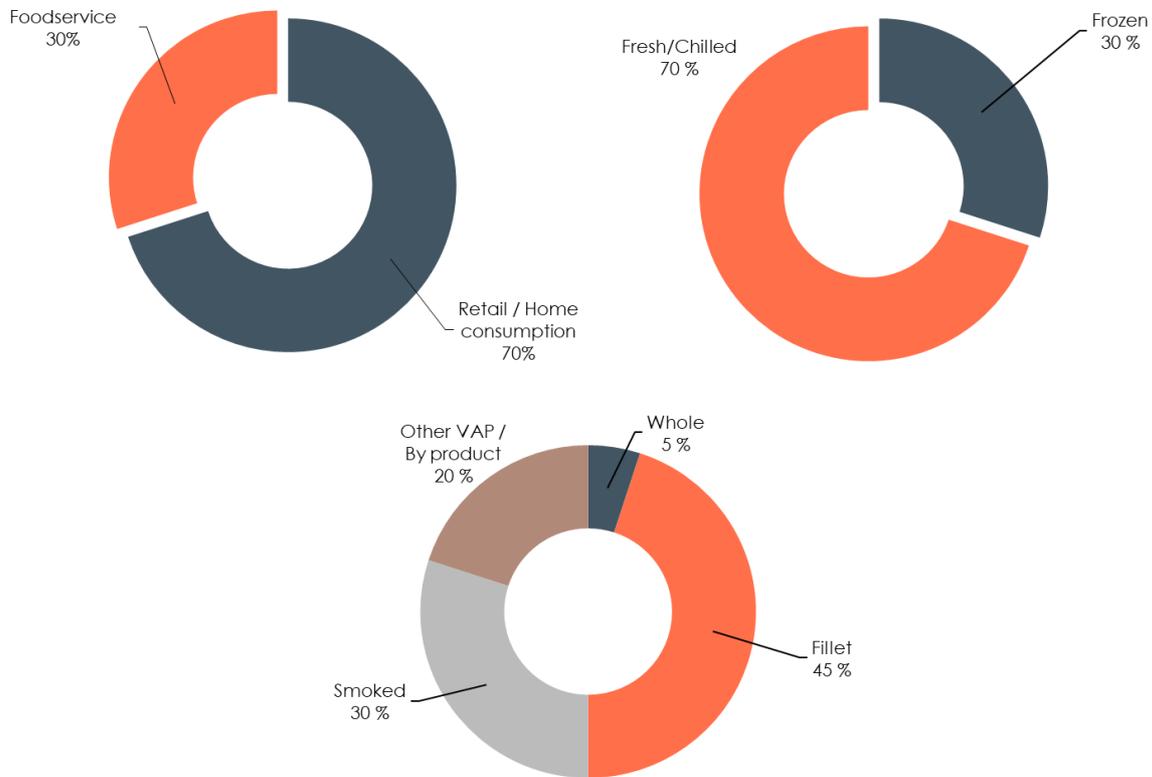


Consumers are willing to pay for quality and added value. This means that we expect to see an increase in demand for healthy convenience products such as ready-to-cook fish, together with a packing trend towards MAP as this maintains the freshness of the product longer for than fish sold in bulk.

# Secondary Processing (VAP)

## 14.2 Market segment

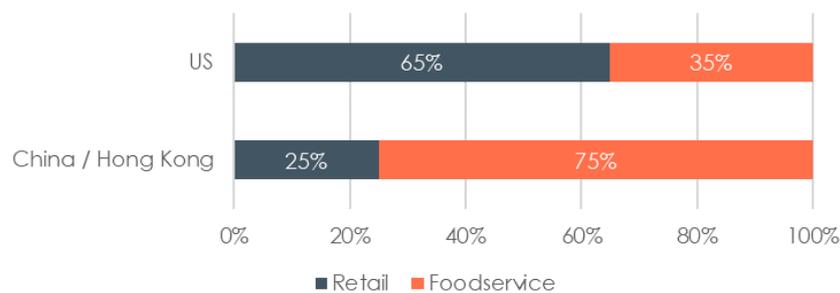
### Market segment in the EU (2022E)



In the EU, around 70% of Atlantic salmon supply went to retailers while the remainder was sold to foodservice establishments. The foodservice share was back to pre-pandemic levels in 2022. Approximately 70% was sold fresh. Of the different products, fillets had the largest market share of 45% followed by smoked. "Other VAP" consists of all value-added processed products, except smoked salmon.

### Market segment other regions (2022E)

#### Market segment - Other regions

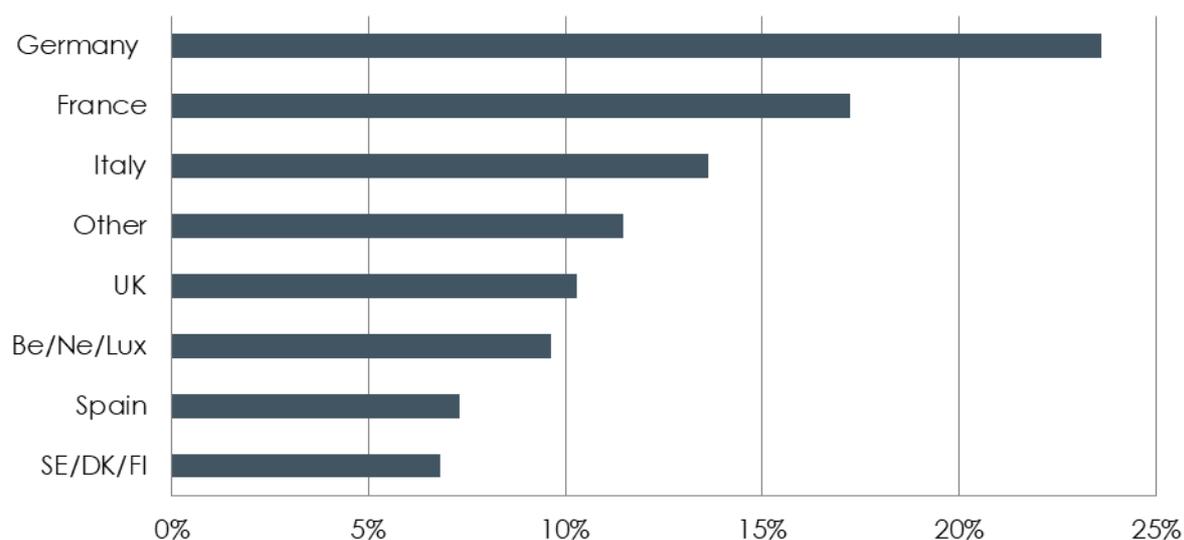


Source: Kontali Analyse

## Secondary Processing (VAP)

### 14.3 The European market for smoked salmon

Est. % share of smoked salmon market, EU+UK, 2022E



Smoked salmon is the most common secondary-processed product after fillets. The European market for smoked salmon was estimated to be 161,000 tonnes GWT in 2022, with Germany and France the largest markets. Assuming 50% yield from gutted weight to product weight, the European market consumed 80,500 tonnes product weight of smoked salmon in 2021.

#### European smoked salmon producers (2022E)

The ten largest producers of smoked salmon in Europe are estimated to have a joint market share of more than 60%. The production is mainly carried out in Poland, France, the UK, the Baltic states and the Netherlands.

Mowi produces its smoked salmon in Poland (Ustka), UK (Rosyth), France (Brittany), Belgium (Oostende) and Turkey (Istanbul), and its main markets are Germany, France, Italy and Benelux. After the acquisition of Morpol in 2013, Mowi became the largest producer of smoked salmon. Labeyrie is the second largest and sells most of its products to France, and has also significant sales to the UK, Spain, Italy and Belgium.

Estimated Annual Raw Material - Tonnes HOG			
70 - 90 000	20 - 40 000	5 - 20 000	
Mowi Consumer Products (PL-FR-BE-UK-TR)	Labeyrie (FR-UK) Milarex (PL)	Norvelita (LT) Mer Alliance (FR-PL) Lerøy (NL-SE-NO) Foppen (NL) Suempol (PL) Delpyrat (FR)	Martiko (ES) Young's Seafood (UK) Moulin de la Marche (FR) Viciunai (LT) Zalmhuys Van Winjen (NL) Krone Fisch (DE)

## Secondary Processing (VAP)

### 14.4 Branding and product innovation

As the world around us is changing, and consumer needs and behaviours are changing with it, we see an increased interest in seafood and salmon. As consumers, we want to buy products and support companies which provide something good for me, my family and the planet – it's about taking greater responsibility through our product choices.

Salmon farming overcomes many of the key barriers our planet faces in terms of climate and biodiversity when it comes to increased food production. This provides an opportunity for farmed salmon as it can be supplied steadily year-round to markets which in the past had less access to seafood.

Mowi's brand strategy is a great example of putting the final consumer at the centre of our innovation strategies. Based on trends in the market and evolving consumer habits, Mowi is developing products ranging from fresh cuts, coated, smoked and specialty products all the way to ready-meals and on-the-go products to suit customer needs. Mowi sees a huge opportunity in driving the creation of new occasions and new uses for salmon, for example by integrating the product into the local cuisine and thus driving higher and more frequent salmon consumption, especially in those markets where salmon is not a "native" ingredient.

Product innovation is key to achieving Mowi's objective of de-commoditising the salmon market.



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## Appendix

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## Appendix

	Atlantic salmon
Live fish	100%
Loss of blood/starving	7%
Harvest weight / Round bled fish (wfe)	93%
Offal	9%
Gutted fish, approx. (HOG)	84%
Head, approx.	7%
Head off, gutted	77%
Fillet (skin on)	56 - 64%
C-trim (skin on)	60%
Fillet (skin off)	47 - 56%

### Net weight

Weight of a product at any stage (GWT, fillet, portions). Only the weight of the fish part of the product (excl. ice or packaging), but including other ingredients in VAP

### Primary processing

Gutted Weight Equivalent (GWT) / Head on Gutted (HOG)

### Secondary processing

Any value added processing beyond GWT

### Biomass

The total weight of live fish, where number of fish is multiplied by an average weight

### Ensilage

Salmon waste from processing with added acid

### BFCR

IB feed stock + feed purchase – UB feed stock  
Kg produced – weight on smolt release

### EFCR

IB feed stock + feed purchase – UB feed stock  
Kg produced – mortality in Kg – weight on smolt release

### Price Notifications

Nasdaq (FCA Oslo) - Head on gutted from Norway (weighted average superior quality)

FOB Miami - fillets from Chile (3-4 lb)

FOB Seattle - whole fish from Canada (10-12 lb)

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Source: Kontali Analyse

# Appendix

## Price indices vs. FOB packing plant

Norwegian NASDAQ-Index - Selling price for superior gutted, fresh salmon iced and packed in boxes - FCA Oslo

<b>NASDAQ Index</b> - Freight to Oslo - Terminal Cost = <b>Selling price farmers FOB packing plant (sup/ord)</b>	} ~1,20 NOK
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Urner Barry FOB Miami - Chilean atlantic salmon fillets, PBO, d-trim delivered FOB Miami

<b>UB</b> - See text below** = <b>Selling price farmers FOB packing plant</b>
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Urner Barry FOB Seattle - West Coast atlantic salmon - whole - fresh delivered FOB Seattle

<b>FOB Seattle</b> - Freight (~7-10 cent/lb) = <b>Selling price farmers FOB packing plant</b>
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Several price indices for salmon are publicly available. The two most important providers of such statistics for Norwegian salmon are Nasdaq/Fish Pool and Statistics Norway (SSB). Nasdaq is a 100% spot-based price, Fish Pool is primarily a forward price, and SSB is a mix of spot and contract prices. Urner Barry in the US provides a spot reference price for Chilean salmon in Miami and Canadian salmon in Seattle and Boston/New York.

In Norway, using Nasdaq, the farmer's FOB packing plant price is found by deducting freight costs from the farm to Oslo and the terminal cost (~1.20 NOK).

Calculating Urner Barry – Chilean fillets, back to GWT plant is more extensive. It can be done by using prices for 3-4 lbs and adjusting for size mix share, trucking, handling and customs (USD 20-30 cent), and market commission (1.0%-3.5%). In addition, there are some adjustments which vary over time; premium fish share (~90%), reduced price of downgraded fish (~30%), airfreight (USD 1.40-1.60/kg) and GWT to fillet yield (60-70%). Airfreight rate to USA has started to reduce following the Covid-19 pandemic.

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Source: Fishpool, Nasdaq, SSB, Norwegian Seafood Council, Urner Barry, Kontali Analyse

# Appendix

## Historic acquisitions and divestments

In Norway there have been 'countless' mergers between companies over the last decade. The list below shows only some of the larger ones in transaction value. In Scotland consolidation has also been very frequent. In Chile, there have been several acquisitions over the last two years. Canada's industry has been extensively consolidated with a few large players and some small companies.

See table on the next page.

# Appendix

Year	Norway	Year	Norway
1999	Hydro Seafoods - Sold from Norsk Hydro to Nutreco Aquaculture	2008	Feøy Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Gjølaks - Sold to PanFish	2008	Salmo Arctica - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Vest Laks - Sold to Austevoll Havfiske	2008	Åmøy Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Torris Products - Sold from Torris to Seafarm Invest	2008	Nor Seafood - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Gjølanger Havbruk - Sold to Aqua Farms	2008	Allafjord Laks - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Alf Lone - Sold to Sjøtroll	2008	Lerøy Seafood Group - Purchased by Austevoll Seafood
2001	Sandvoll Havbruk - Sold to Nutreco Aquaculture	2009	Skjærgårdsfisk - Sold to Lingalaks
2001	Fosen Edelfisk - Sold to Salmar	2009	Brilliant Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2001	Langsteinfisk - Sold to Salmar	2009	Polarlaks II - Sold to Nova Sea
2001	Tveit Gård - Sold to Alsaker Fjordbruk	2009	Fjordfarm - Sold to Blom Fiskeoppdrett
2001	Petter Laks - Sold to Senja Sjøfarm	2009	Fyllingsnes Fisk - Sold to Eide Fjordbruk
2001	Kråkøyfisk - Sold to Salmar	2009	Salaks merged with Rølags
2002	Amulaks - Sold to Follalaks	2009	65 new licenses granted
2002	Kvamsdal Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Rong Laks	2010	Espevær Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Bremnes Fryseri
2002	Matland Fisk - Sold to Bolaks	2010	AL Nordsjø - Sold to Alsaker Fjordbruk
2002	Sanden Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Aqua Farms	2010	Nord Senja Fiskeindustri - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon
2002	Ørsnes Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Aqua Farms	2010	Marøy Salmon - Sold to Blom Fiskeoppdrett
2002	Toftøysund Laks - Sold to Alsaker Fjordbruk	2010	Fjord Drift - Sold to Tombre Fiskeanlegg
2003	Nye Midnor - Sold from Sparebank1 MidtNorge to Lerøy Seafood Group	2010	Henno Laks - Sold to Haugland Group
2003	Ishavslaks - Sold to Aurora to Volden Group	2010	Raumagruppen - Sold to Salmar
2003	Loden Laks - Sold to Grieg Seafood	2010	Stettefisk / Marius Eikremsvik - Sold to Salmar
2003	Finmark Seafood - Sold to Follalaks	2010	Lund Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Vikna Sjøfarm (Salmonor)
2003	Ullsfjord Fisk - Sold to Nordlaks	2010	Sjøtroll Havbruk AS - 50.71% of the shares sold to Lerøy Seafood Group
2003	Henningsværifisk - Sold to Nordlaks	2011	R. Lernes - Sold to Måsøval Fiskeoppdrett
2004	Flatanger Akva - Sold to Salmar	2011	Erfjord Stamfisk - Sold to Grieg Seafood
2004	Naustdal Fiskefarm/Bremanger Fiskefarm - Sold to Firda Sjøfarm	2011	Jøkelfjord Laks - Sold to Morpol
2004	Fjordfisk - Sold to Firda Sjøfarm	2011	Krifo Havbruk - Sold to Salmar
2004	Snekvik Salmon - Sold to Lerøy Seafood Group	2011	Straume Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Marine Harvest Norway
2004	Aure Havbruk / M. Ulfesnes - Sold from Sjøfor to Salmar	2011	Bringsvor Laks - Sold to Salmar
2005	Follalaks - Sold to Cermaq	2011	Nordfjord Havbruk - Changed name to Nordfjord Laks
2005	Aqua Farms - Sold to PanFish	2011	Villa Mijølaks - Sold to Salmar
2005	Aurora Salmon (Part of company) - Sold from DNB Nor to Lerøy Seafood Group	2011	Karma Havbruk - Sold to E. Karstensen Fiskeoppdrett and Mara Havbruk
2005	Marine Harvest Bolga - Sold to Seafarm Invest	2012	Skottneslaks - Sold to Eldsfjord Laks
2005	Aurora Salmon (Part of company) - Sold from DNB Nor to Polarlaks	2012	Villa Arctic - 10 licenses, etc. sold to Salmar
2005	Sjølaks - Sold from Marine Farms to Northern Lights Salmon	2012	Pundslett Laks - Sold to Nordlaks Holding
2005	Bolstad Fjordbruk - Sold to Haugland Group	2012	Strømsnes Akvakultur - Sold to Blom Fiskeoppdrett
2005	Skjervøyfisk - Sold to Nordlaks	2012	Ilsvåg Matfisk - Sold to Bremnes Seashore
2006	Fossen AS - Sold to Lerøy Seafood Group	2013	Morpol - sold to Marine Harvest
2006	Marine Harvest N.V. - Acquired by Pan Fish ASA	2013	Villa Organic - 47.8% of shares sold to Lerøy Seafood Group
2006	Fjord Seafood ASA. - Acquired by Pan Fish ASA	2013	Villa Organic - 50.4% of shares sold to Salmar
2006	Marine Harvest Finnmark - Sold from Marine Harvest to Volden Group	2013	Salmus Akva - Sold to Nova Sea
2006	Troika Seafarms/North Salmon - Sold to Villa Gruppen	2014	Skarven (Sømna Fiskeoppdrett and Vik Fiskeoppdrett) - Sold to Nova Sea
2006	Aakvik - Sold to Hydrotech	2014	Cermaq - sold to Mitsubishi
2006	Hydrotech - Sold to Lerøy Seafood Group	2015	EWOS - 2 licenses, sold to Bolaks
2006	Senja Sjøfarm - Sold to Salmar ASA	2015	Senja Akvakultursenter - Sold to Lerøy Aurora
2006	Halsa Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Salmar ASA	2016	Fjordlaks Aqua - Sold to Hofseth International and Yokohama Reito
2006	Langfjordlaks - Sold to Mainstream	2017	NTS acquired Midt Norsk Havbruk
2006	Polarlaks - Sold to Mainstream	2019	Mowi acquired K.Strømmen Lakseoppdrett
2007	Veststar - Sold to Lerøy Seafood Group	2019	Tombre Fiskeanlegg, Lingalaks and Eidesvik Laks acquired NRS Region South
2007	Volden Group - Sold to Grieg Seafood	2021	Nekton Havbruk - 51% of shares sold to Salmar
2007	Arctic Seafood Troms - Sold to Salmar ASA	2021	Refsnes Laks - 45% of shares sold to Salmar
2007	Arctic Seafood - Sold to Mainstream	2021	Pure Farming sold to Måsøval
2007	Fiskekultur - Sold to Haugland Group	2021	Aqua Farms Vartdal sold to Måsøval
2007	UFO Laks - Sold to Haugland Group	2021	Salmonor and Midt-Norsk Havbruk - Merger and named Salmonor
2007	Anton Misund - Sold to Rauma Gruppen	2021	NTS acquired 65% of Norway Royal Salmon
2007	Mico Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Rauma Gruppen	2021	Erviks Laks og Ørret AS - 33.35% of shares sold to Gåsa Næringsutvikling
2008	Hamneidet - Sold to Eldsfjord Sjøfarm	2022	Salmar acquired 52.96% of NTS and Norway Royal Salmon was merged with Salmar
2008	Misundfisk - Sold to Lerøy Seafood Group	2022	Salmar acquired 51% of Øylaks AS
2008	Henden Fiskeoppdrett - Sold to Salmar ASA	2022	Akvakulturpartner AS acquired 6 development licenses ["Egget"] from MOWI
2008	AS Tri - Sold to Norway Royal Salmon (NRS)		

# Appendix

Year	UK	Year	Chile	Year	North America
1996	Shetland Salmon products - Sold to HSF GSP	1999	Chisal - Sold to Salmones Multiexport	1989	Cale Bay Hatchery - Sold to Kelly Cove Salmon Anchor Seafarms Ltd., Saga Seafarms Ltd., 387106 British Columbia Ltd., and United hatcheries merged into Omega Salmon Group (PanFish)
1996	Straithead Salmon to MH	2000	Salmo America - Sold to Fjord Seafood	1994	
1996	Gigha, Mainland, Tayinlaan, Mull Salmon - All sold to Aquascot	2000	Salmones Tecmar - Sold to Fjord Seafood	1997	ScanAm / NorAm - Sold to Pan Fish
1997	Summer Isles Salmon - Sold to HSF GSP	2000	Salmones Mainstream - Sold to Cermaq	2001	Scandic - Sold to Grieg Seafoods
1997	Atlantic West - Sold to West Minch	2001	Pesquera Eicosal - Sold to Stolt Nielsen	2004	Stolt Sea Farm - merged with Marine Harvest
1998	Marine Harvest Scotland - Sold from BP Nutrition to Nutreco	2003	Marine Farms - Sold to Salmones Mainstream	2004	Atlantic salmon of Maine (Fjord Seafood)- Sold to Cooke Aquaculture
1998	Gaelic Seafood UK - Sold to Stolt Seafarms	2004	Salmones Andes - Sold to Salmones Mainstream	2004	Golden Sea Products (Pan Fish) - Sold to Smokey Foods
1998	Mainland Salmon - Sold to Aquascot	2004	Stolt Seafarm - Merged with Marine Harvest	2005	Heritage (East) - Sold to Cooke Aqua
1999	Hydro Seafood GSP - Initially sold to Nutreco as part of Hydro Seafood deal	2004	Pesquera Chillehue - Sold to GM Tornegaleones	2005	Heritage (West) - Sold to EWOS/Mainstream
1999	Joseph Johnston & Sons - Sold to Loch Duart	2005	Aguas Claras - Sold to Acua Chile	2006	Marine Harvest - Sold to Pan Fish
2000	Aquascot Farming - Sold from Aquascot to Cermaq	2005	Salmones Chiloè - Sold to Aqua Chile	2007	Target Marine - Sold to Grieg Seafoods
2000	Shetland Norse - Sold to EWOS	2005	Robinson Crusoe - Sold to Aqua Chile	2007	Shur-Gain (feed plant in Truro)- Sold to Cooke Aquaculture
2000	Hydro Seafood GSP - Sold to Norskott Havbruk (Salmar & Lerøy Seafood Group) from Nutreco	2006	GM Tornegaleones - change name to Marine Farm GMT	2008	Smokey Foods - Sold to Icycle Seafoods
2001	Laschinger UK - Sold to Hjalldand	2006	Merger Pan Fish - Marine Harvest - Fjord Seafood	2011	Vernon Watkins' Salmon Farming (NFL - Canada East) - Sold to Cooke Aquaculture
2001	Wisco - Sold to Fjord Seafood	2007	Pacific Star - Sold to André Navarro	2012	Ocean Legacy/Atlantic Sea Smolt (NS - Canada East) - Sold to Loch Duart
2002	Wester Sound / Hoganess - Sold to Lakeland Marine	2007	Salmones Cupquellan - Sold to Cooke Aqua	2014	Cermaq - sold to Mitsubishi
2004	Ardvar Salmon - Sold to Loch Duart	2009	Patagonia Salmon Farm - Sold to Marine Farm GMT	2016	Icycle Seafoods sold to Cooke Aquaculture
2004	Henover Salmon - Sold to Johnson Seafarms Ltd.	2010	Camanchaca (salmon division) - Sold to Luksic Group	2016	Gray Aqua sold to Marine Harvest
2004	Bressay Salmon - Sold to Foraness Fish (from adm. Receivership)	2011	Salmones Humboldt - Sold to Mitsubishi	2018	Northern Harvest sold to Marine Harvest
2004	Johnson Seafarms sold to city investors	2011	Pesquera Itata+Pesquero El Golfo - merged into Blumar	2020	Grieg Newfoundland sold to Grieg Seafood
2005	Unst Salmon Company - Sold from Biomar to Marine Farms	2011	Landcatch Chile - Sold to Australis Mar		
2005	Kinloch Damp - Sold to Scottish Seafarms	2012	Salmones Frioaysen & Pesquera Landes' freshwater fish cultivation sold to Salmones Friosur		
2005	Murray Seafood Ltd. - Sold from Austevoll Havfiske to PanFish	2012	Cultivos Marinos Chilè - Sold to Cermaq		
2005	Corrie Mohr - Sold to PanFish	2013	Pacific Seafood Aquaculture - Prod rights&permits for 20 licenses sold to Salmone Friosur		
2006	Wester Ross Salmon - MBO	2013	Salmones Multiexport divest parts of coho and trout prod. Into joint venture with Mitsui		
2006	Hjalldand Seafarm - Sold to Grieg Seafood ASA	2013	Trusal sold to/merged with Salmones Pacific Star, with new name Salmones Austral		
2006	Orkney Seafarms - Sold to Scottish Seafarms	2013	Congelados Pacifico sold to Ventisqueros		
2007	Lighthouse Caledonia - Spin-off from Marine Harvest	2014	Nova Austral sold to EWOS		
2010	Northern Aquaculture Ltd - Sold to Grieg Seafood	2014	Acuinova sold to Marine Harvest Chile		
2010	Lighthouse Caledonia - changed name to Scottish Salmon Company	2014	Cermaq - sold to Mitsubishi		
2010	Meridian Salmon Group - Sold to Morpol	2014	Comercial Mirasol - sold to Salmones Humboldt (Mitsubishi)		
2011	Skelda Salmon Farms Limited - Sold to Grieg Seafood	2015	Landcatch Chile - Sold from Australis Mar to AquaGen		
2011	Duncan Salmon Limited - Sold to Grieg Seafood	2018	Salmones Magallanes & Pesquera Eden acquired by AquaChile		
2012	Uyesound Salmon Comp - Sold to Lakeland Unst (Morpol)	2018	Salmones Friosur, Salmones Frioaysen & Piscicola Hornopiren acquired by Los Fjordos (Agrosuper)		
2013	Lewis Salmon - Sold to Marine Harvest Scotland	2018	AquaChile acquired by Agrosuper		
2013	Morpol sold to Marine Harvest	2018	Australis Seafood acquired by Joyvio Group Co. Ltd		
2014	Part of Morpol/Meridian sold to Cooke Aquaculture	2019	Salmones Ice-Val acquired by Blumar		
2015	Thompson Bros Salmon - Sold to Cooke Aquaculture	2019	Cabo Pilar acquired by Nova Austral (4 licenses)		
2016	Balta Island Seafare - Sold to Cooke Aquaculture				
2019	The Scottish Salmon Company acquired by Bakkafrost				
2021	Grieg Seafood Hjalldand UK Ltd sold to Scottish Sea Farms (owned by Salmar and Lerøy Seafood)				
2022	Mowi aquired Wester Ross Fisheries in Scotland				

# Appendix



## Breeding

### Broodstock

- Bred on selected characteristics, e.g., growth, disease resistance, maturation, colour

### Spawning and fertilization

- Eggs stripped from females and mixed with milt

### Eyed eggs

- After 25-30 days fertilized eggs show "eyes". The development is depending on temp. 5000 eggs/liter

### Alevins:

- Small (<2.5 cm), Yolk sack providing first stage nutrition. When absorbed, the fish start feeding

### Fry par:

- Start feeding of small fish. Temp 12-14 °C. Fish is growing in FW sites to around 60-100g. Vaccination and grading important.



## Smolt

### Smolt:

- The smolt phase is a critical stage in the life cycle for salmon. It refers to the period when salmon undergo physiological changes that enable them to adapt from freshwater to saltwater environments (smoltification)

- A smolt is produced over a period of 8-12 months from startfeeding to a mature smolt weighing 150-250g. In recent years there has been made large investments in postsmolt

- Postsmolt production is referred to as smolt weighing between 250g to 1000g.

- The purpose of postsmolt is to accelerate the growth of salmon and reduce time in sea. This reduces exposure to sea lice, disease, and allows farmers to harvest the fish and bring them to market more quickly.



## Feed

### Feed

- Salmon are fed a specialized diet to promote healthy growth and development.
- The feed consists of a combination of fishmeal, fish oil, and other ingredients that provide essential nutrients such as proteins, fats, vitamins and minerals



## Seawater

### Seawater

- After the smolt phase, the salmon is transferred from freshwater to seawater tanks or pens located in sheltered coastal areas.
- Further, they are acclimated to saltwater conditions and allowed to grow further
- The net pens or tanks are designed to provide a controlled environment while allowing for the circulation of seawater, which provides oxygen and removes waste.



## Harvesting

### Harvesting

- When the farmed salmon reach their desired size (>4.5kg), they are ready for harvesting.
- Harvesting methods can vary but often involve the use of nets or harvesting systems that allow the fish to be efficiently collected from the net pens or tanks.
- The fish are carefully handled to minimize stress and maintain product quality



## Processing

### Processing

- After harvesting, the salmon are transported to processing facilities.
- The processing phase involves several steps, including cleaning, gutting, and removing the fish heads. The fish are then typically filleted and inspected for quality.
- Additional steps may include smoking, freezing or packaging the fish for distribution



## Products & Customer

### Products & customers

- The processed salmon products are packaged and distributed to various customers such as retailers, restaurants, and seafood markets.
- The products can range from fresh or frozen filets to smoked salmon, salmon steaks, or value-added products like salmon burgers or sushi-grade portions.
- Customers may include individual consumers or businesses that incorporate salmon into their menus or sell it directly to end consumers.

## Appendix

### The history of MOWI

<b>2022</b>	MOWI enters Iceland with the acquisition of 51.28% of Arctic Fish
<b>2021</b>	MOWI 4.0 digital strategy is launched
<b>2020</b>	Self-sufficient for feed in Europe
<b>2019</b>	MOWI brand is launched
<b>2018</b>	The company once again becomes Mowi
<b>2017-18</b>	Acquires Gray Aqua Group and Northern Harvest, and establishes Mowi Canada East
<b>2016</b>	Enters into joint venture with Deep Sea Supply to build, own and operate aquaculture vessels
<b>2013</b>	Acquires Morpol
<b>2012</b>	Feed division is established
<b>2006</b>	PanFish acquires Marine Harvest
<b>2005</b>	Marine Harvest and Stolt Sea Farm merge PanFish acquires Fjord Seafood John Fredriksen acquires PanFish
<b>2000</b>	Nutreco acquires Hydro Seafood. New company name: Marine Harvest
<b>1999</b>	Nutreco acquires the Scottish farming operations started by Unilever
<b>1998</b>	Mowi is discontinued as a company name Hydro Seafood has sites in Norway, Scotland and Ireland
<b>1996</b>	Hydro Seafood acquires Frøya holding
<b>1990</b>	Hydro Seafood registered 25 June Restructuring and consolidation of the industry starts
<b>1985</b>	Hydro increases its holding to 100%
<b>1983</b>	Mowi buys GSP in Scotland and Fanad in Ireland
<b>1975</b>	Mowi becomes a recognised brand
<b>1969</b>	Hydro increases its holding to 50%
<b>1965</b>	Mowi starts working with salmon in Norway
<b>1964</b>	The adventure of Mowi begins

# Appendix

## Mowi

Mowi is the world's largest producer of farm-raised salmon measured by both volume and turnover. We offer seafood products to more than 70 countries, are represented in 26 countries and employ 11 500 people. Mowi is organised into three business areas: Feed, Farming and Sales & Marketing.

Total revenue for Mowi in 2022 was MEUR 4,900 and the harvest quantity of Atlantic salmon was 464,000 tonnes (GWT), equivalent to a global market share of approximately 20%.

## Business areas



#4

### Feed



#1

### Farming



#1

### Sales and Marketing

#### Position

515,000 tonnes vs. global salmonid feed production of ~4.7 m tonnes

Clear #1. Approx. two times larger than #2.

Leading position in Consumer products  
Global sales network

#### Operations

Started in Norway in 2014 and Scotland in 2019

Norway, Chile, Scotland, Canada, Ireland, Faroe Islands, Iceland

Operations in 26 countries

#### Volumes

640,000 tonnes capacity

464,000 tonnes harvested

229,000 tonnes product weight

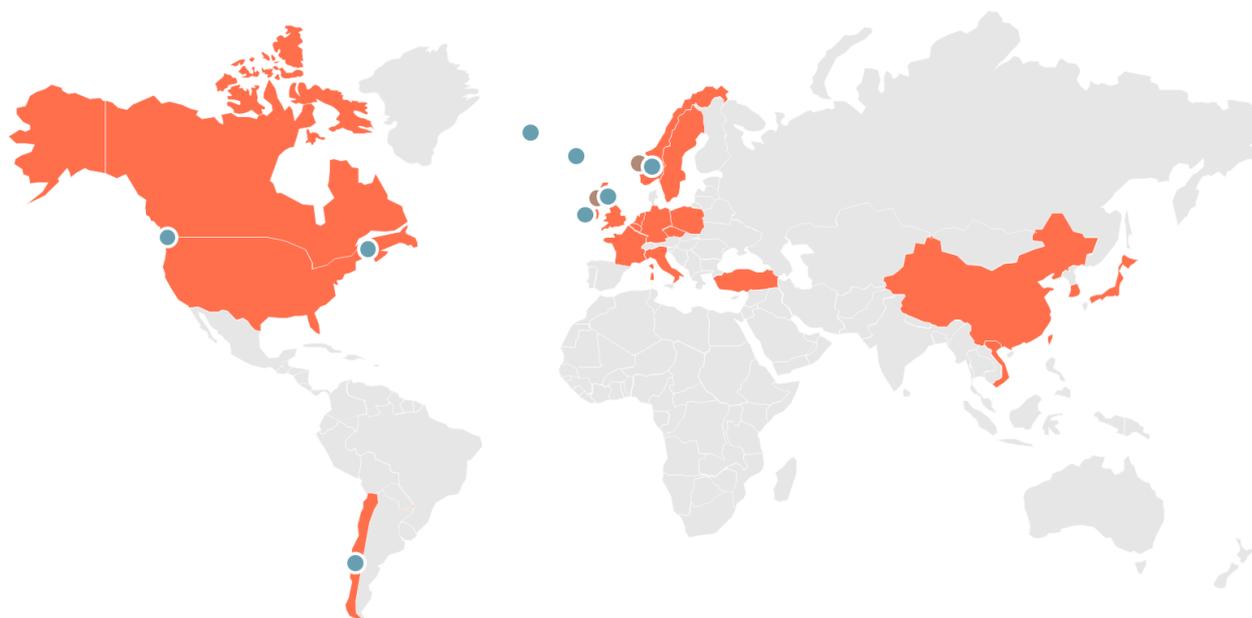
#### Op EBIT 2022

EUR 30.8m

EUR 817.2m

EUR 173.2m

## Appendix



### Feed

(Tonnes)

Country	Capacity		Production			
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	
Norway	400,000	371,876	358,769	389,750	353,310	348,402
Scotland	240,000	143,140	123,133	150,576	51,883	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>640,000</b>	<b>515,016</b>	<b>481,902</b>	<b>540,326</b>	<b>405,193</b>	<b>348,402</b>

### Farming

(Tonnes)

Country	Guidance		Harvest volume GWT			
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Norway	290,000	293,720	273,204	262,016	236,880	230,427
Chile	72,000	65,737	65,958	64,570	65,688	53,165
Canada	28,000	41,095	45,311	43,953	54,408	39,267
Scotland	64,000	48,374	64,405	52,739	65,365	38,444
Ireland	4,500	6,845	6,790	7,961	6,650	6,238
Faroes	10,500	7,864	9,932	8,590	6,913	7,696
Iceland	15,000					
<b>Total</b>	<b>484,000</b>	<b>463,635</b>	<b>465,600</b>	<b>439,829</b>	<b>435,904</b>	<b>375,237</b>

### Consumer Products

(Volume sold, tonnes prod wt)

Country	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Europe	169,071	183,920	179,928	155,673	144,360
Americas	31,317	30,684	29,687	30,633	22,368
Asia	29,046	32,973	29,812	9,965	11,602
<b>Total</b>	<b>229,434</b>	<b>247,577</b>	<b>239,427</b>	<b>196,271</b>	<b>178,330</b>

# Appendix

## Sources of industry and market information

### Mowi:

[www.mowi.com](http://www.mowi.com)

### Other

Kontali Analyse:

[www.kontali.no](http://www.kontali.no)

Intrafish:

[www.intrafish.no](http://www.intrafish.no)

Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries:

[www.fiskeridirektoratet.no](http://www.fiskeridirektoratet.no)

Norwegian Ministry of Trade,

Industry and Fisheries:

[www.fkd.dep.no](http://www.fkd.dep.no)

Norwegian Seafood Council:

[www.seafood.no](http://www.seafood.no)

Norwegian Seafood Federation:

[www.norsksjomat.no](http://www.norsksjomat.no)

Chilean Fish Directorate:

[www.sernapersca.cl](http://www.sernapersca.cl)

FAO:

[www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

International fishmeal and fish oil org.:

[www.iffonet](http://www.iffonet)

Laks er viktig for Norge:

[www.laks.no](http://www.laks.no)

### Price statistics

Fish Pool Index:

[www.fishpool.eu](http://www.fishpool.eu)

Kontali Analyse (subscription based):

[www.kontali.no](http://www.kontali.no)

Uerner Barry (subscription based):

[www.urnerbarry.com](http://www.urnerbarry.com)

Statistics Norway (SSB):

[www.ssb.no/laks\\_en/](http://www.ssb.no/laks_en/)

NASDAQ:

[www.salmonprice.nasdaqomxtrader.com](http://www.salmonprice.nasdaqomxtrader.com)

