

2022 AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY DATA

SNAPSHOT

2022 was a year defined by mixed results for the Canadian aquaculture industry. Farmgate value increases/tonne were observed across the major sectors in 2022. Since 2018, the farmed shellfish sector has seen an increase in production volumes over time, with the exception of a significant decrease associated with the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Farm-raised salmon production volumes have generally decreased in that timeframe, despite market indicators showing an increasing demand for farmed salmon, both domestically and internationally. In 2022, Canada retained its place as the 4th largest national producer of farmed salmon (behind Norway, Chile and the U.K.) (refer to graph 4 and 5 below).

Farmgate Production *(Refer to Table 1 and graph 1)*

Total Canadian aquaculture production volume in 2022 was 166,265 mt. This represents a 10.7% decrease in volume from 2021 (186,083 mt) and a 12.6% reduction since 2018.

This decrease from 2021 to 2022 was driven by a 14.6% reduction in farm-raised finfish production volume. The production volume of farm-raised finfish in 2021 was 147,364 mt, and was 125,907 mt in 2022.

Farmed shellfish producers saw production levels move closer to pre-pandemic levels in 2022, with farmed production volumes at 40,358 mt. This represents a 6.6% reduction from a pre-pandemic volume of 43,192 mt in 2019. 2022 farmed shellfish production volumes were 4.2% higher than 2021 (38,720 mt).

In terms of value, total Canadian aquaculture industry production farmgate value rose 0.6% from 2021 to 2022, with the industry generating \$1.335 billion in 2021 and \$1.343 billion in 2022.

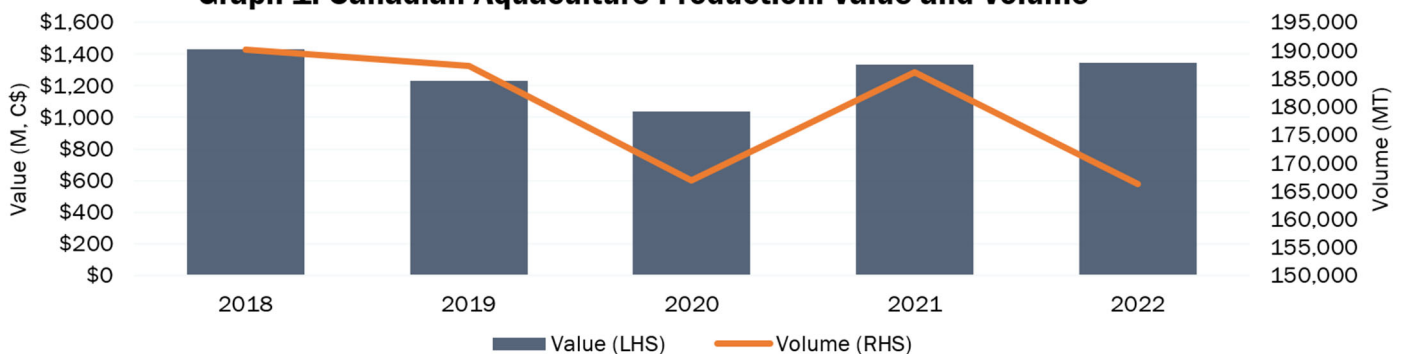
The farm-raised finfish sector saw a decrease in production farmgate value from 2021 to 2022 that was out of step with its decrease in farmgate production volume. This discrepancy was driven by a 16.6% increase in the farmgate value per tonne for their products (2021: \$8299/tonne vs. 2022: \$ 9673/tonne). The price increases per tonne in farmgate value indicate a strong market demand for these products.

The farm-raised salmon sector accounted for 94% of Canada's total farmed finfish production farmgate value, and 92% of the sector's production farmgate volume.

In addition to growth in production volume, the farmed shellfish sector saw a 7% increase in the farmgate value of their products from 2021 to 2022 (2021: \$ 2892/tonne vs. 2022: \$3097/tonne).

Table 1: Production (Farmgate)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Value (M, C\$)					
Total	\$1,432	\$1,232	\$1,037	\$1,335	\$1,343
Finfish	\$1,326	\$1,116	\$957	\$1,223	\$1,218
Shellfish	\$106	\$116	\$80	\$112	\$125
Volume (MT)					
Total	190,184	187,258	166,971	186,083	166,265
Finfish	149,524	144,066	139,507	147,364	125,907
Shellfish	40,661	43,192	27,464	38,720	40,358

Graph 1: Canadian Aquaculture Production: Value and Volume



Employment

In 2022, the Canadian aquaculture industry was responsible for 16,834 jobs. This represents a 15.9% increase from 2020 (14,520). It also, however, represents a 32.1% decrease from 2018 (24,790). The majority of these jobs are in rural, coastal communities. It is expected that these numbers decrease in the face of salmon farm closures in British Columbia when 2023 data becomes available.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Jobs	24,790	21,300	14,520	n/a	16,834
Direct	11,020	9,470	7,030	n/a	6,157
Indirect+ Induced	13,770	11,830	7,490	n/a	10,677

Economic Impact

Some economic statistics for the sector were not available for 2021 due to complications in data collection during the pandemic. In 2022, the Canadian aquaculture industry was responsible for \$4.86 billion in economic activity. This represents a 25.9% increase over 2020 (the closest year for which we have estimates) but a 20% decrease from 2018.

This economic activity generated \$1.87 billion in GDP in 2022. This is a 34.5% increase over 2020, but a 23.7% decrease from 2018.

In 2022, the Canadian aquaculture industry exported 99,137 mt of seafood. These exports were valued at \$1.14 billion. Since 2018, 2022 was the second lowest year in terms of volume exported (2020 was the lowest at 94,229 mt) but it was the highest in terms of value of exports in that timeframe. This indicates a strong international demand for Canadian farmed seafood products.

