

2019 Aquaculture sector review

The aquaculture sector is a major economic contributor for rural, coastal and indigenous communities of the province. Economic impact is primarily generated through jobs created and incomes earned in primary and processing activities. The aquaculture sector in New Brunswick is considered the second largest in the country after British Columbia. The main aquaculture activity in New Brunswick is salmon farming,

representing about 92 per cent of the sector's value. Shellfish aquaculture is also a growing industry, with the main species being American oysters. In 2019, total primary aquaculture sales were approximately \$205 million. During the same year, the aquaculture sector directly generated 690 full-year equivalent jobs in primary production.

Industry at a glance

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Number of salmon sites | 89 |
| Area leased to salmon sites, hectares | 1,693 |
| Number of shellfish sites | 499 |
| Area leased to shellfish sites, hectares | 2,628 |
| Farm gate value ¹ | \$205.5 million |
| Salmon | \$188.4 million |
| Oyster | \$17.1 million |
| Salmon exports | \$314.8 million |
| Oyster exports | \$7.6 million |
| GDP (direct) - primary | \$76.7 million |
| Employment - primary ² | 690 |

Note: 'Sites' refers to commercial grow-out sites.

¹ Estimate.

² Full-year equivalent jobs.

Production volume and value

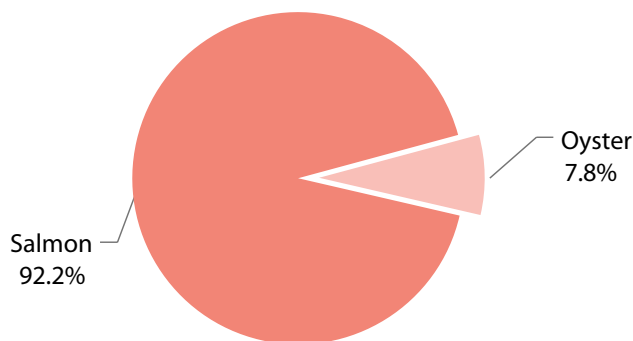
| Species | Volume (Tonnes) | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 |
| Salmon | 28,289 | 22,395 |
| Oyster | 1,869 | 1,898 |
| Other | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 30,158 | 24,293 |

| Species | Value (\$ Million) | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 |
| Salmon | 270.5 | 188.4 |
| Oyster | 17.2 ^r | 17.1 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 287.8 | 205.5 |

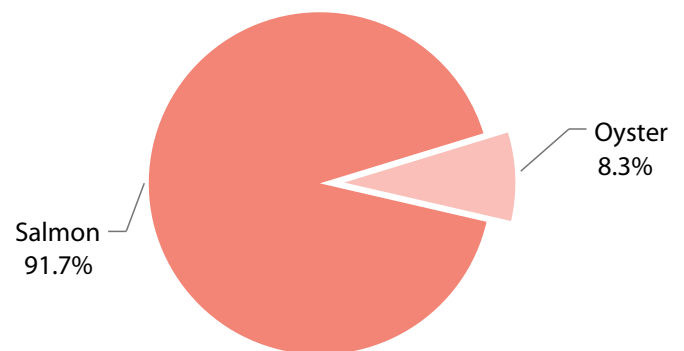
^r revised data.

Note: Due to rounding, numbers in the above tables may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Total volume by species: 24,293 tonnes



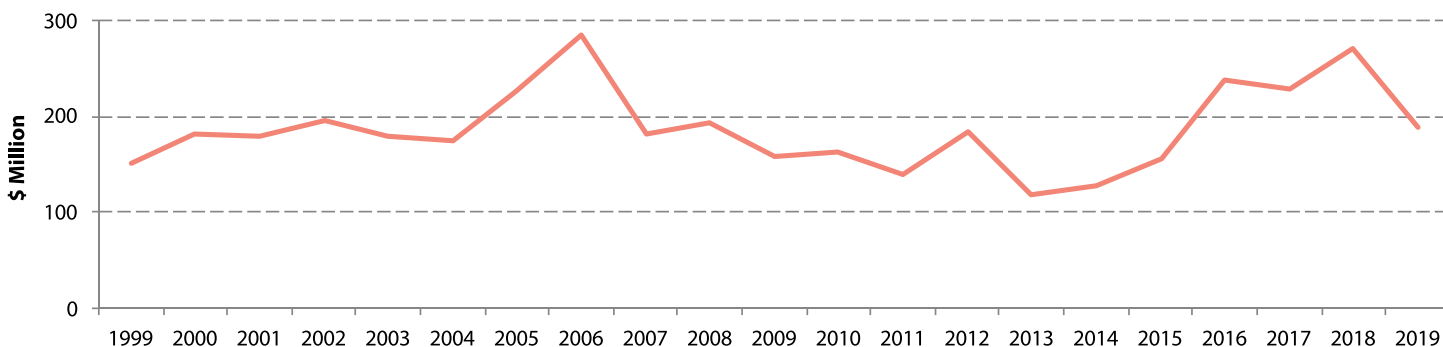
Total value by species: \$205.5 Million



2019 Highlights

- Compared to 2018, the total value of New Brunswick’s aquaculture production fell notably by \$82 million (29 per cent) to \$205 million in 2019, largely due to a decline in salmon production.
- Salmon production was valued at \$188 million in 2019, about 30 per cent (\$82 million) lower than the previous year. This was due to decreases in both production volume and average price. Particularly, the volume of farmed salmon fell by 5,894 tonnes (21 per cent) to 22,395 tonnes, while the average price dropped by \$1.15/kg (12 per cent) to \$8.41/kg.
- The three-year production cycle management system implies that salmon production will fluctuate from year to year. It is therefore necessary to interpret yearly production changes with some caution.
- New Brunswick Atlantic salmon farming companies are leaders in production and processing in the Atlantic Provinces, providing processing and sales support for additional salmon product grown in Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia.
- The value of harvested oysters decreased marginally by \$0.1 million (one per cent) to total \$17.1 million in 2019. Market-sized oysters accounted for 89 per cent of this value and non-market-sized oysters (under 65mm) for the remaining 11 per cent. Although the overall value fell slightly, the value of market-sized oysters rose four per cent, due to a one-per-cent rise in volume (from 1,671 tonnes to 1,687 tonnes) coupled with a three-per-cent price increase (from \$8.84/kg to \$9.08/kg).
- New Brunswick salmon exports fell notably in value by \$101 million (24 per cent) to \$315 million in 2019, largely due to lower export volume and market price of fresh/chilled Atlantic salmon (including fillets). Reduced production combined with increased competition from other suppliers at retail, likely negatively impacted New Brunswick’s salmon exports. The most notable declines were seen in salmon sales to the United States, by \$88 million (23 per cent), and China, by \$14 million (81 per cent).
- The value of oyster exports rose markedly by 24 per cent (\$1.5 million) to reach \$7.6 million in 2019. This growth was primarily driven by an increase in the export volume of live oysters. The majority of New Brunswick oyster exports were destined for the United States.

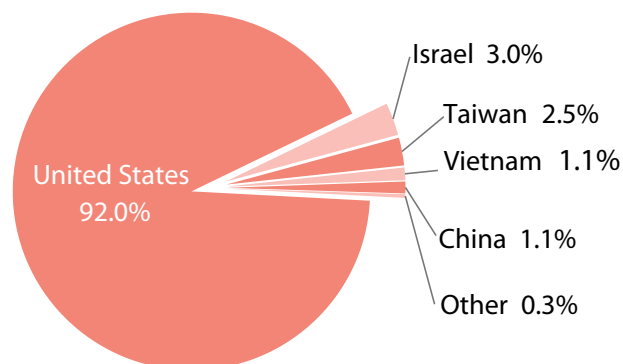
Salmon industry production value



Salmon exports by country

| Country | Value (\$ Million) | |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 |
| United States | 377.2 | 289.6 |
| Israel | 2.6 | 9.3 |
| Taiwan | 12.3 | 7.9 |
| Vietnam | 2.8 | 3.6 |
| China | 17.6 | 3.4 |
| Other | 2.9 | 1.0 |
| Total | 415.5 | 314.8 |

Salmon exports by country: \$314.8 Million



Source: Statistics Canada, CATSNET Analytics (October 2020).

Note: Due to rounding, numbers in the table may not add up precisely to the totals provided.