

The aquaculture sector is a major economic contributor in rural coastal communities of the province. Economic impact is primarily generated through jobs created and incomes earned in primary and processing activities. The 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 95 per cent of the sector's value. Shellfish aquaculture is also a growing industry, with the main species being American oysters.

Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) also contributes to pre-commercial production of mussels and kelp on some Atlantic salmon farms. In recent years, the aquaculture sector in the province has undergone significant structural change, resulting in growth. In 2017, total primary aquaculture sales were estimated at \$240 million. During the same year, the aquaculture sector directly generated an estimated 2,140 full-time equivalent jobs in both primary production and processing activities.

Industry at a glance

Number of salmon sites	94
Area leased to salmon sites, hectares	1,725
Number of freshwater finfish sites	117
Area leased to shellfish sites, hectares	2,662
Number of shellfish sites ¹	502
Farm gate value ²	\$240.1 million
Salmon	\$227.8 million
Oyster	\$12.1 million
Clam	\$0.2 million
Salmon exports	\$391.8 million
Oyster exports	\$5.7 million
GDP (direct)-primary	\$67.2 million
Employment (FTEs)-primary ³	760
Employment (FTEs)-processing ⁴	1,380

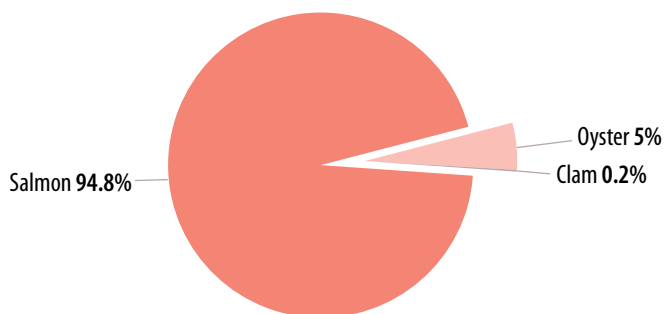
¹ Includes only leased sites, ^{2,3,4} Estimate

Production volume and value

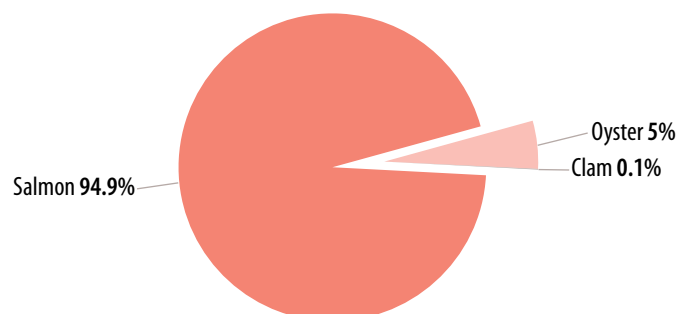
Species	Volume (Tonnes)	
	2016	2017
Salmon	26,999	23,867
Oyster	1,080	1,250
Clam	0	48
Total	28,083	25,164

Species	Value (\$ Million)	
	2016	2017
Salmon	238.9	227.8
Oyster	8.8	12.1
Clam	0	0.2
Total	247.7	240.1

Total volume by species: 25,164 tonnes



Total value by species: \$240.1 million



2017 Highlights

- The value of aquaculture production decreased slightly by \$7.6 million (three per cent) to around \$240 million in 2017, mainly due to lower salmon production volume.
- Salmon production was valued a \$228 million in 2017, about \$11 million (five per cent) lower than the previous year. This drop in value resulted from a 12-per-cent fall in production volume (from 26,999 tonnes to 23,867 tonnes) outweighing an eight-per-cent rise in average price (from \$8.85/kg to \$9.55/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 Nova Scotia.
- The value of oyster production grew by \$3.3 million (38 per cent) to total over \$12 million in 2017. This was due to increases in average price, by \$1.54/kg (19 per cent) to \$9.69/kg, and production volume, by 170 tonnes (16 per cent) to 1,250 tonnes. This reflects better market conditions.
- Salmon exports were valued at \$392 million in 2017, down \$33 million (eight per cent) from 2016. This decline in sales resulted from a decrease in export volume (by 11 per cent) outweighing an increase in market price (by four per cent). The United States accounted for approximately 95 per cent of export share.
- Oyster exports increased by 19 per cent (\$0.9 million) to reach \$5.7 million in 2017, with all exports destined for the United States. This rise in export value resulted mainly from an increase in export volume (by 21 per cent).

Salmon industry production value

