



Sectoral Profile

Aquaculture

Atlantic Region

2017



ABSTRACT

Commercial salmon farming in Atlantic Canada began in the 1970s in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Mussel culture also began in the 1970s on the East Coast, and grew rapidly in Prince Edward Island during the 1990s. Between 1990 and 2002, Canada's aquaculture industry expanded by more than four-fold.

This profile provides an overview of recent labour market conditions in Aquaculture in the Atlantic Region, and provides sub-regional analysis on key trends. Trends and outlooks for employment in the Atlantic Region are provided when relevant and sufficient data are available.

The following are some key highlights:

- The Aquaculture sector is a small employer in Atlantic Canada, accounting for just 5.4% of jobs in the Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting subsector and 0.1% of total Atlantic employment in 2016.
- The sector's contribution to Atlantic Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is also small at 0.2% of the total industrial output in 2016.
- In 2015, finfish accounted for 65% of total Aquaculture production and shellfish comprised the remaining 35%.
- Following two years of decline, overall production in the sector rose in 2015. The production of finfish increased 62% while shellfish production saw a decline of 8%.
- The Atlantic Region accounted for 41% of Canadian Aquaculture production in 2015 (by weight) and 50% of all jobs in 2016.
- The export value of aquaculture product from Atlantic Canada reached \$392 million in 2016 and has been rising at an average annual rate of 12% since 2007.

If you would like a pdf copy of the full profile, please contact the Labour Market Analysis Division, Service Canada, Atlantic Region at: ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@hrdc-drhc.net