

Norway's seafood exports reach NOK 18.3Bn in October despite drop in pelagic volumes

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Norway exported seafood worth NOK 18.3 billion in October, a slight decline of NOK 122 million (1 per cent) compared with the same month last year, according to the Norwegian Seafood Council. Despite the dip, October marked the second-highest month ever for Norwegian seafood exports.

“The main reason for the decline was a sharp fall in the export volume of mackerel and herring,” said Christian Chrøner, CEO of the Norwegian Seafood Council. “Most other major species saw an increase in value, with salmon reaching record highs both in volume and value.”

Salmon continued to dominate exports, with 148,729 tonnes worth NOK 12.6 billion, up 7 per cent in value and 4 per cent in volume year-on-year. This is the highest monthly export value ever recorded for salmon, surpassing the previous record set in November 2024 by NOK 696 million. Poland, the USA, and France were the largest markets in October, while Asia increased its share to 20 per cent of Norwegian salmon exports, driven by strong demand in China, Japan, Thailand, and Taiwan.

China recorded the largest value growth, up 92 per cent to NOK 332 million, with export volumes nearly doubling. “The Chinese salmon market has grown by 44 per cent this year, and Norway’s market share has increased,” noted Sigmund Bjørnsgaard, the Council’s envoy to China.

Trout exports also performed strongly, totalling 8,306 tonnes worth NOK 712 million, up 16 per cent in value. The average trout price (NOK 80.09) surpassed the salmon price for the first time in a year, with Poland emerging as the biggest growth market, seeing a 295 per cent increase in export value.

So far in 2025, Norway’s seafood exports have reached NOK 149 billion, up 4.2 per cent from last year, driven primarily by gains in salmon, snow crab, trout, cod, saithe, and haddock.