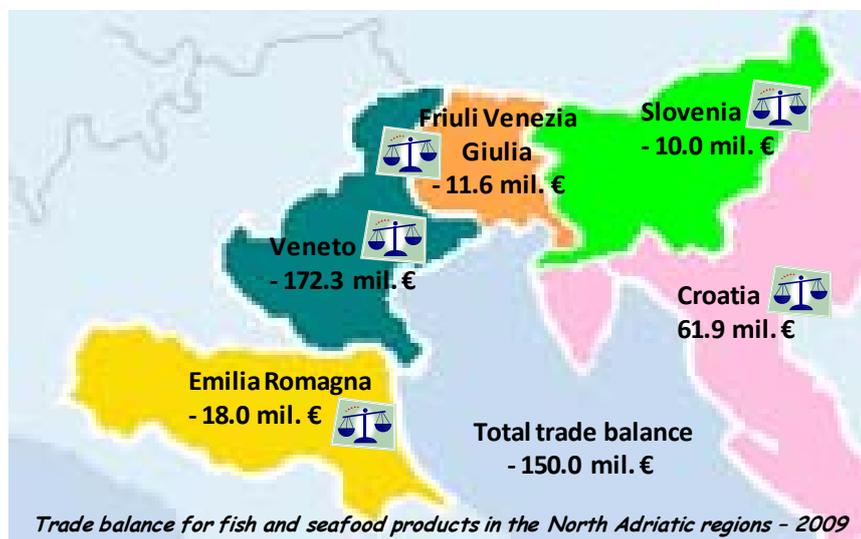


Fishing in Figures

n. 35 September/October 2010



NORTH ADRIATIC TRADE BALANCE FOR FISH AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTS

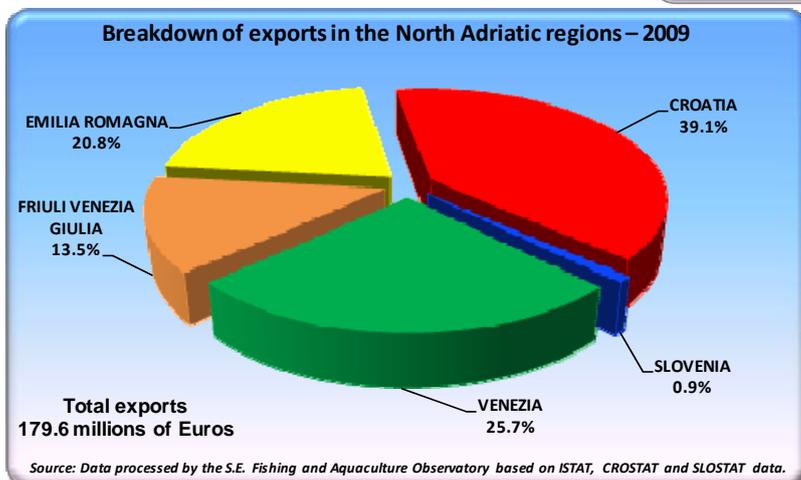
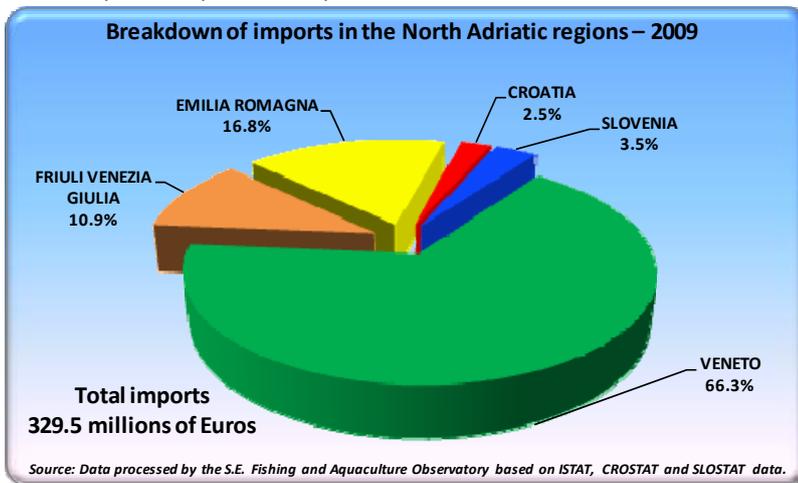


This issue of "Fishing in Figures" provides the most recent data relating to the international trade of fish and seafood products in the North Adriatic regions. The source of data for the Italian regions was the Coeweb database, the "datawarehouse" on the official ISTAT (Italian National Institute of Statistics) website dedicated to foreign trade. For the Balkan regions, the data sources were the respective statistical institutes for each country: the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Croatia (Croatat) and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (Slostat). In 2009, the North

Adriatic regions trade balance for fish and seafood products had a total deficit of 150 million Euros, with Veneto leading the unfavourable trend; only Croatia recorded a surplus (exports - imports) trade balance (62 million Euros).

As shown in the chart to the right, Veneto was the leading importer of fish and seafood products and their derivatives in 2009.

Of the approximately 330 million Euros total spent on imports, Veneto accounted for 66.3% (218.4 million Euros), followed distantly by Emilia Romagna with 16.8% and Friuli Venezia Giulia with 10.9%. In contrast, the Balkan regions were responsible for only a very small portion of the import spending - approximately 3.0%.

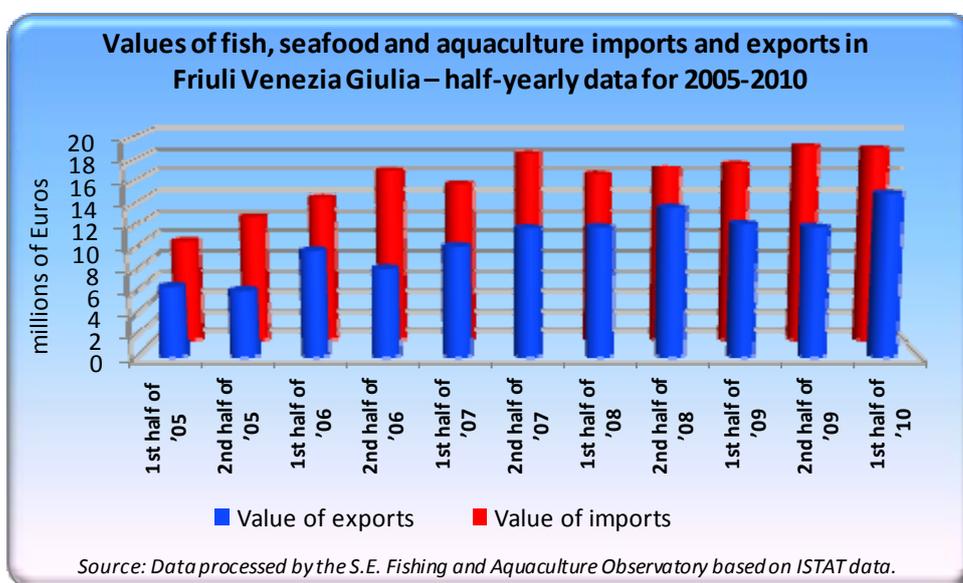
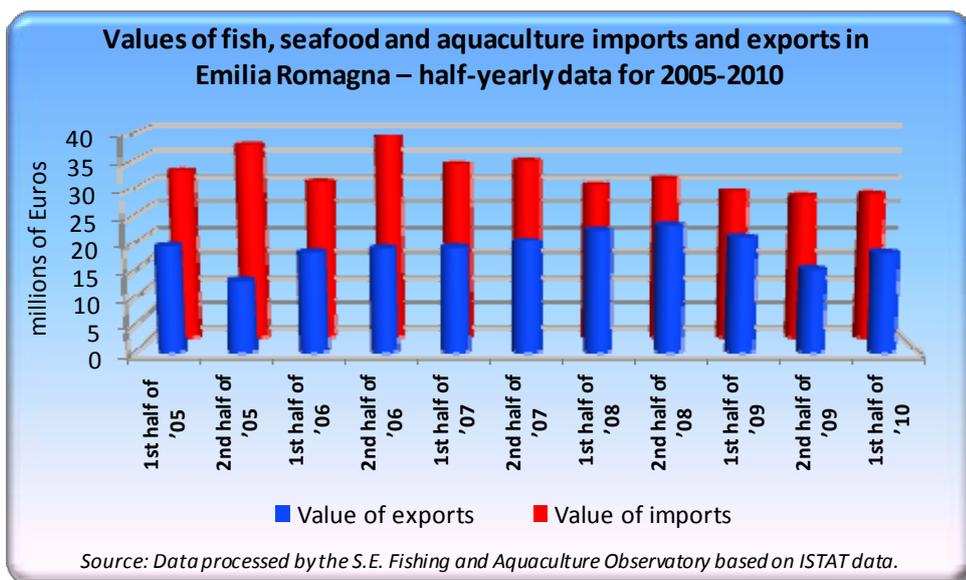


The total value of exports was approximately 180 million Euros, with Croatia alone being responsible for exporting 39.1% of the total for the entire North Adriatic area.

Export figures for Veneto (25.7%) and Emilia Romagna (20.8%) were lower, while Slovenia's was minimal (less than 1%). Finally, Friuli Venezia Giulia recorded a figure of 13.5% for exports of fish and seafood products.

The graphs below show the half-yearly import/export figures for the North Adriatic regions from 2005 to the first half of 2010.

The trade balance for Emilia Romagna was negative for the entire period, with peaks between 2004 and 2007. However, the data indicates that the deficit has tended to decrease in recent years. Imports peaked in the second half of 2006, with total spending of 38.6 million Euros. With respect to exports, the figure for this region peaked in the second half of 2008, at 23.8 million Euros.



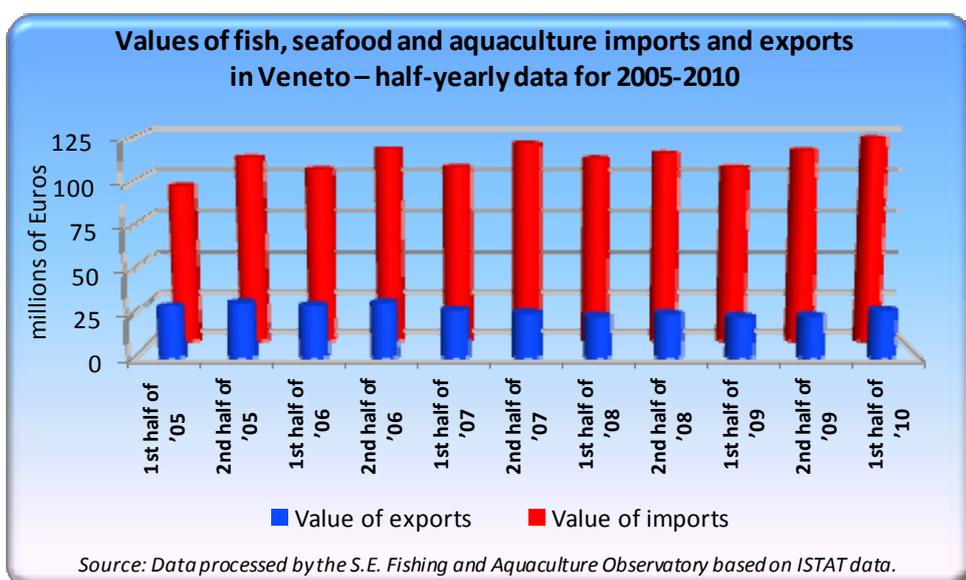
As for Friuli Venezia Giulia, the graph shows a continual foreign trade deficit, with figures that tend to fluctuate.

The worst year was 2006, when a negative balance of 12 million Euros was recorded. The trade gap has decreased somewhat in recent years, with the best performance recorded in 2008 (deficit of 6.8 million Euros).

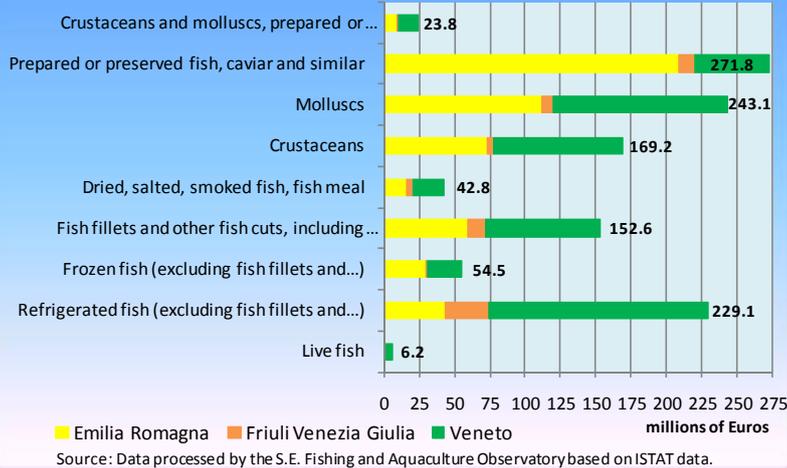
There was an increase in exports from Friuli Venezia Giulia in the first half of 2010, when the value of fish and seafood exports reached 15.1 million Euros.

The North Adriatic region that contributes most to the area's negative trade balance for fish and seafood products is Veneto.

The graph clearly indicates that the half-yearly balance for this region is always negative and that, unlike the other Italian regions, the trade gap peaked in the first half of 2010, with a value of 95.6 million Euros. While exports have remained fairly stable over time, there has been a greater fluctuation in imports.



Values of imports by region and by product category – 2009

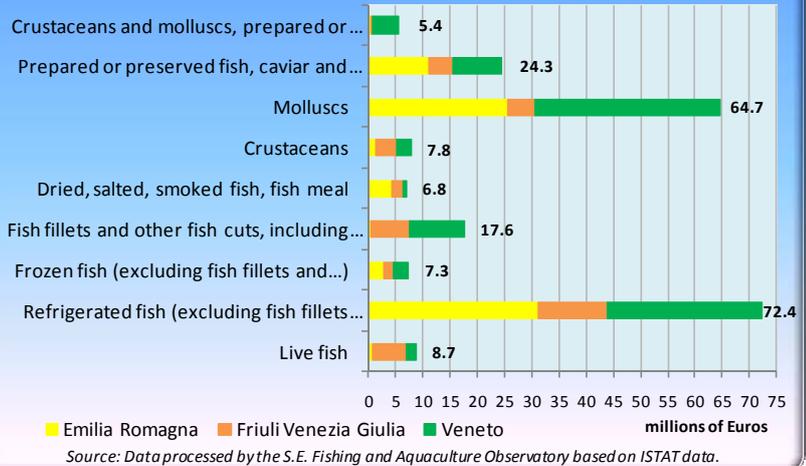


The 2009 values of imports for the Italian North Adriatic regions are shown in this graph, in which fish and seafood products and their derivatives have been categorized by ISTAT according to the international SH4 system. For the three regions being discussed, the product category having the highest total value is *prepared fish products*, reaching approximately 272 million Euros; Emilia Romagna made a significant contribution to this figure. The *molluscs*, *crustaceans* and *refrigerated fish* categories account for a large portion of the imports. The *live fish* category was of minimal importance.

With respect to exports, the North Adriatic regions make a significant contribution to total Italian exports, accounting for approximately 58%. Veneto is the leading exporter, 42.8%, followed by Emilia Romagna (34.7%) and Friuli Venezia Giulia (22.5%).

The two most important categories for exports are *refrigerated fish* and *molluscs*, which together represent 63.8% of the total (approximately 137 million Euros). The export figures for *prepared fish products* and *fish fillets* are moderate, while those for the remaining categories of fish and seafood products are of little significance.

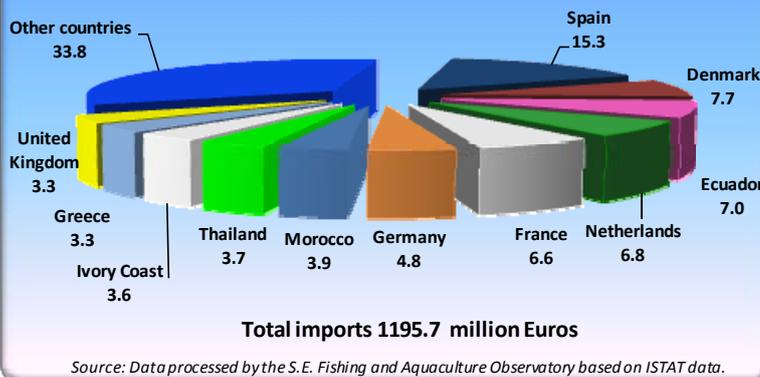
Values of exports by region and by product category – 2009



Taking a closer look at the countries from which fish and seafood products are imported, Spain is the leading exporter to the North Adriatic regions, exporting fresh, refrigerated and processed products valued at more than 183 million Euros, or 15.3% of total imports.

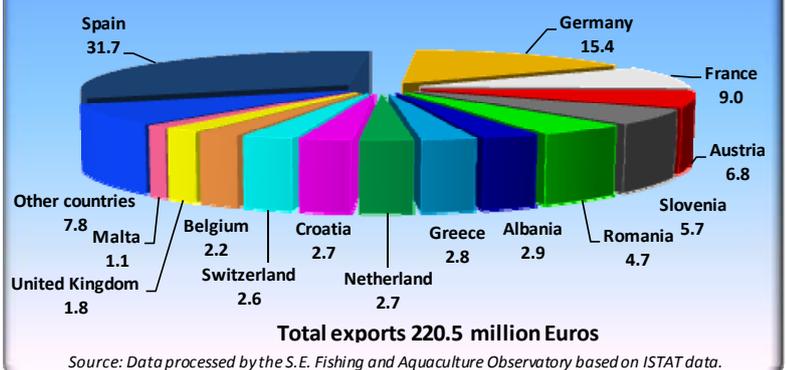
Denmark accounts for 7.7% of fish and seafood imports, followed by Ecuador (7.0%) and the Netherlands (6.8%). The two non-Italian North Adriatic regions export very little to the Italian regions, with Croatia accounting for only 1.7% and Slovenia just over 0.2%.

Breakdown of imports to Italian North Adriatic regions by country of origin – 2009

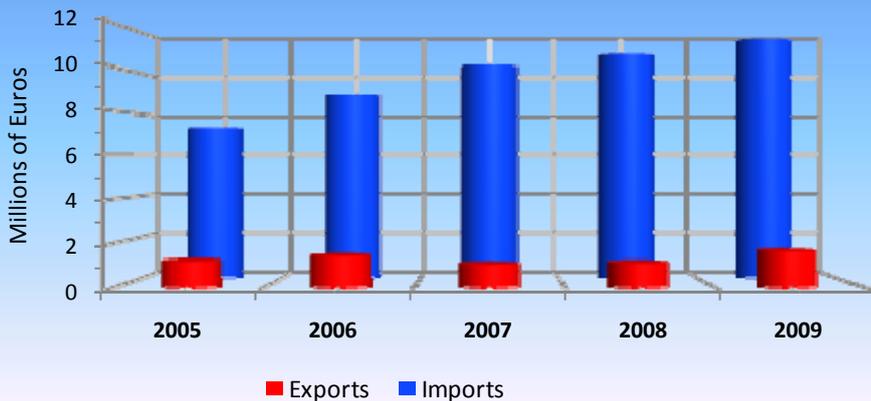


The Italian North Adriatic regions export a total of 220.5 million Euros worth of fish and seafood products and their derivatives, primarily to European countries. Spain imports approximately 70 million Euros worth of products (31.7% of total exports), most of which are refrigerated fish and crustaceans. Germany and France follow, with 15.4% and 9.0% respectively. Slovenia imports approximately 12.5 million Euros (5.7%) worth of products from the Italian North Adriatic regions, while Croatia imports products totalling 5.9 million Euros (2.7%).

Breakdown of exports from Italian North Adriatic regions by country of destination – 2009



Values of fish, seafood and aquaculture imports and exports in Slovenia



Source: Data processed by the S.E. Fishing and Aquaculture Observatory based on SLOSTAT data.

In Slovenia, spending on imported fish, seafood and aquaculture products experienced continual growth during the period 2000-2009.

There has been greater fluctuation in exports, which peaked in 2009 at 1.6 million Euros worth of products sold.

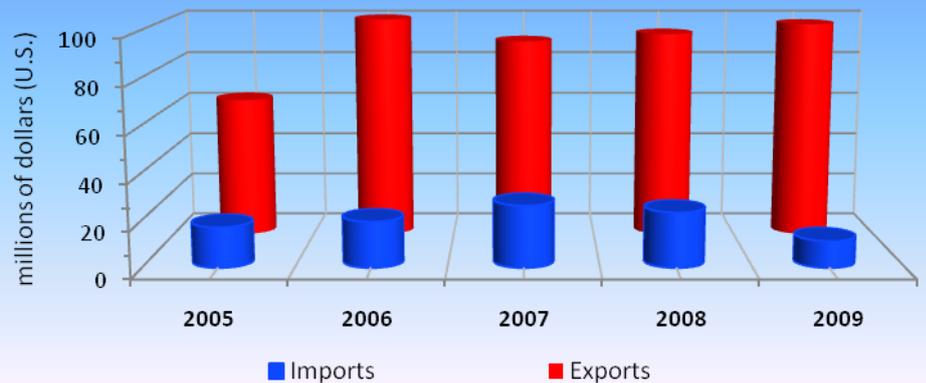
The trade balance was negative for all of the years under discussion and peaked at negative 10 million Euros in 2009.

In contrast to the rest of the North Adriatic area, Croatia has had a positive trade balance for fish, seafood and aquaculture products for the entire period studied (2001-2009).

Imports peaked in 2007, at approximately US\$ 27.2 million, while exports peaked in 2006, at approximately US\$ 106 million.

In Croatia the surplus peaked at similar levels in 2006 and 2009, with a positive balance of approximately US\$ 86 million.

Values of fish, seafood and aquaculture imports and exports in Croatia.



Fonte: Elaborazioni Osservatorio S.E. della Pesca dell'Acquacoltura su dati CROSTAT.



In the near future, the European Commission will make a decision regarding a trade agreement between the European Union and Morocco that includes the fishing sector. There will be gradual deregulation within the next 10 years.

Next issue:
Crustaceans
production in the
Northern Adriatic
Regions

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