

Canadian Atlantic Coast Landings

government will, following a request from an importer, examine a lot of fish for export to determine if it meets the requirements of the importing country. The individual requirements of these countries are outlined in a procedural manual for inspection personnel. If the product meets the necessary requirements, a certificate is issued.

This export certification program promotes the international sale of Canadian fish products and assures exporters that their products will be acceptable to the importing country.

Inspection laboratories

The 23 fish inspection laboratories across Canada are situated in major fish-producing areas.

Analyses for product safety involve tests for the presence of harmful bacteria, contaminants such as heavy metals and pesticide residues, and paralytic shellfish poison. Products are regularly tested bacteriologically, chemically and organoleptically (by the senses) for odour, flavour, texture and such defects as bones, bruises, scales, blood spots and foreign material. All fish products must be completely wholesome — free from taint and decomposition.

Laboratory staff regularly check to ensure that products for which grade standards have been established comply with all regulatory requirements and thereby enable the field inspection staff to certify Canadian fish products for the export market.

Canada's fish inspection activities — which cover vessels, plants, unloading, holding and handling sites, and transportation equipment — ensure that only the country's finest products reach international markets.

Average landings
1980 -1984
(tonnes)

GROUND FISH

Cod	471 837
Haddock	46 024
Redfish	62 575
Flatfish	92 213
Pollock	37 001
Turbot	26 864
Halibut	2 457
Hake	16 313
Cusk	4 860
Catfish	5 198
Other	2 795

Sub Total	768 137
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PELAGIC AND ESTUARIAL

Herring	151 290
Mackerel	18 927
Tuna	392
Alewives	5 443
Eels	699
Salmon	1 642
Skate	652
Smelt	1 788
Capelin	31 212
Other	1 992

Sub Total	214 037
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MOLLUSCS AND CRUSTACEANS

Clams	5 412
Oysters	1 595
Scallops	62 766
Lobster	24 187
Squid	13 177
Shrimp	13 638
Queen crab	39 789
Other crab	725
Other	525

Sub Total	161 814
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GRAND TOTAL	1 143 988
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