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VALUE OF FISH AND SHELLFISH LANDINGS
INTO LEADING IRISH PORTS 1962 — 1971.

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Value of fish and shellfish landings into
the leading Irish ports from 1962 to 1971.

Landings of seafish are recorded under three broad headings, namely, demersal fish, pelagic fish and shellfish. The term demersal is applied to fish which live the greater part of their lives at or relatively near the sea bed. Demersal fish include roundfish such as whiting, cod, haddock, pollock and hake; flatfish such as plaice, sole, dabs, flounder, and also commercially valuable shark type fish such as skate and ray. The term pelagic is applied to fish which live the greater part of their lives in the upper layers of water and includes herrings, sprats, pilchards and mackerel. Shellfish include crawfish, lobsters, Nephrops (Dublin Bay prawns), crabs, shrimps and prawns all of which are known collectively as crustacea; and escallops, mussels, oysters, periwinkles and various clams, which are ~~known~~ collectively as molluscs.

The annual statistics published by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries give landings (by value) of approximately the leading 36 ports around the Irish coast. Of these, from 1962 to 1971, the leading 10 ports have included the following: - Killybegs, Dunmore East, Howth, Castletownbere, Galway/Aran Islands, Dingle, Burtonport, Kilmore Quay, Skerries, Dun Laoghaire, Cahirciveen, Cobh, Greencastle and Mornington. From 1964 to 1971, Killybegs has been the top Irish port for value of fish landed (Appendix 1). Castletownbere, top port in 1962 and 1963, has steadily fallen since then, being 5th port from 1969 to 1971 (Appendix 1). Dunmore East, has steadily improved its position since 1965 and remained 2nd port on the coast from 1966 to 1967 and from 1969 to 1971. (Appendix 1). Throughout the period 1962 to 1971, Howth was either 2nd or 3rd port on the coast. As can be seen from Appendix 1, the other ports in the top 10 have changed their positional ratings considerably, but attention is drawn to the improvement of Kilmore Quay from No. 8 in 1969, to No. 4 in 1971, and also the appearance of Mornington in 9th position in 1970 and 1971, which is attributed to the operations of the fishmeal factory there.

It would be impracticable, for the purpose of this Leaflet, to attempt to analyse the value of fish and shellfish landed into all the leading Irish

ports and therefore the ports have been grouped according to the maritime counties within which they are located, the following representing their coastal distribution:

<u>County</u>	<u>Representative ports</u>
Co. Louth/Meath	Clogherhead, Mornington.
Co. Dublin	Balbriggan, Skerries, Howth, Dun Laoghaire.
Co. Wicklow	Arklow, Wicklow.
Co. Wexford	Wexford, Rosslare, Kilmore Quay, Duncannon.
Co. Waterford	Passage East, Dunmore East, Helvick.
Co. Cork	Ballycotton, Cobh, Kinsale, Baltimore Union Hall, Castletownhere, Schull, Crookhaven.
Co. Kerry	Portmagee, Ballinskelligs, Valentia, Cahirciveen, Dingle, Cromane, Fenit.
Co. Galway	Galway/Aran Is., Carna, Lettermullen, Clifden/Cleggan.
Co. Mayo	Achill, Blacksod, Rossmore/Roscahill.
Co. Sligo	Sligo.
Co. Donegal	Inver, Teelin, Killybegs, Burtonport, Greencastle.

The breakdown of the landed values of demersal, pelagic, shellfish and their total value, by maritime county is made for each year from 1962 to 1971 in Appendix 2. This 10-year period can be further broken down to two 5-year periods from 1962 to 1966 and from 1967 to 1971, (see Appendix 3 and Fig. 1). Throughout the period (1962 to 1971), the leading ports have accounted for 75% or more of the total value of the Irish sea fish and shellfish landings. Fig. 1 and Appendix 3, show that the value of fish and shellfish landed into these ports by maritime county, was in the following order of importance:-

Position	Demersal		Pelagic		Shellfish		Total landings	
	1962/66	1967/71	1962/66	1967/71	1962/66	1967/71	1962/66	1967/71
1	Dublin	Dublin	Waterford	Waterford	Kerry	Galway	Donegal	Donegal
2	Donegal	Donegal	Donegal	Donegal	Galway	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin
3	Cork	Cork	Cork	Cork	Cork	Kerry	Cork	Cork
4	Kerry	Wexford	Kerry	Louth	Dublin	Cork	Kerry	Waterford
5	Galway	Kerry	Louth	Sligo	Mayo	Mayo	Waterford	Kerry
6	Wexford	Galway	Mayo	Kerry	Wexford	Wexford	Galway	Galway
7	Louth	Wicklow	Galway	Galway	Waterford	Waterford	Wexford	Wexford
8	Wicklow	Louth	Dublin	Dublin	Louth	Donegal	Louth	Louth
9	Waterford	Waterford	Wexford	Wexford	Donegal	Louth	Mayo	Mayo
10	Mayo	Mayo	Wicklow	Wicklow		Wicklow	Wicklow	Wicklow
11		Sligo		Mayo		Sligo		Sligo

Thus, throughout the decade, Donegal, Dublin and Cork remained the first three counties, in that order and at their chief ports over 50% of the value of the total Irish catch was landed.

Dublin, Donegal and Cork were the top demersal fish counties, accounting for an average 68% of the total landed value.

Waterford, by virtue of the Dunmore East herring fishery remained the top pelagic fish county, and with Donegal and Cork accounted for 85% of all pelagic landings by the end of the decade.

Kerry, Galway, Dublin and Cork, were the top shellfish counties, contributing 76% of the value of the catch. However, shellfish are also landed at a large number of minor ports and landing places along the entire coastline. Many of these small landing places do not appear in the published list of ports and therefore shellfish landed into the named ports form a smaller percentage of the coastal landings than either demersal or pelagic fishes.

The information contained in Appendix 3 and Fig. 1 can be further reduced to large coastal areas as follows:-

East Coast	=	Louth, Dublin, Wicklow
South coast	=	Wexford, Waterford, Cork
West coast	=	Kerry, Galway, Mayo
North coast	=	Sligo, Donegal.

The respective percentage value of all types of fish landed into the main ports within these areas is as follows:-

Coastal Area	1962-1966				1967-1971			
	Demersal	Pelagic	Shell-fish	Total	Demersal	Pelagic	Shell-fish	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
East coast	29.8	2.9	18.3	22.1	36.2	7.2	20.6	23.1
South coast	29.1	51.2	29.6	33.4	19.5	56.3	28.2	35.5
West coast	20.7	5.0	50.7	23.6	12.9	3.7	48.5	18.0
North coast	20.4	40.7	2.4	20.9	29.4	32.8	2.7	24.4

It is worth noting that the value of all fish landed into east coast ports was 22 to 23% of the value for the whole country. Our fishermen share the catch from the Irish Sea area, with the Co. Down fishermen. The latter sustain a heavy fishery, the yield from which, if added to those carried on by the Louth, Dublin and Wicklow fishermen makes the value of the Irish Sea abundantly clear.

Conclusions. During the decade 1962 to 1971 the total value of all types of fish landed at the leading Irish fishing ports was £21,157,660. This is shown in Appendix 3 where the data are divided into two 5-year periods. It is significant that the total value during the 1967 to 1971 period was almost double that for 1962 to 1966, indicating the prudence of building major fishing ports and providing enhanced landing facilities. Demersal fish remain the most valuable landings, their value being £10,574,207 for the decade, with pelagic fish running in second place at £5,983,749, and shellfish following a close third at £4,599,704.

The leading 5 fishing ports on the coast are given in Appendix 4. For both demersal and pelagic species Killybegs and Castletownbere are in the first three places; the ports of Howth and Dunmore East filling the other place for demersal and pelagic fish respectively.

Fenit, Carna and Skerries have figures consistently in the first three ports for the landing of shellfish; Howth was the No. 1 shellfish port in 1970; and throughout the decade, except in 1966, Skerries was either 1st, 2nd or 3rd shellfish port.

APPENDIX 1.

Leading 10 fishing ports, by value of landings
of all kinds of fish from 1962 to 1971

<u>PORT</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>YEAR</u>									
		1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Clogherhead	Co. Louth	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
Morrington	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
Skerries	Co. Dublin	10	7	9	8	9	8	8	7	-	7
Howth	"	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
Dun Laoghaire	"	8	-	10	-	-	9	5	-	8	-
Kilmore Quay	Co. Wexford	7	8	7	7	7	7	10	8	6	4
Dunmore East	Co. Waterford	4	5	6	4	2	2	3	2	2	2
Cobh	Co. Cork	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-
Schull	"	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castletowne	ebere "	1	1	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	6
Caherciveen	Co. Kerry	9	9	8	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Dingle	"	5	4	4	6	5	6	6	-	10	-
Fenit	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Galway/Aran I.	Co. Galway	6	6	5	5	6	5	-	-	7	5
Burtonport	Co. Donegal	-	10	-	9	8	10	9	9	-	8
Kellybegs	"	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Greencastle	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	-	-

Appendix 2.

Total value of demersal fish (£ 000) landed into ports
by maritime counties from 1962 to 1971.

	YEAR									
County.	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Louth	19	15	16	19	19	20	26	30	25	55
Dublin	237	175	233	233	250	295	386	479	329	431
Wicklow	20	19	15	14	21	39	27	20	42	41
Wexford	52	43	72	48	66	68	65	76	151	188
Waterford	17	6	10	14	26	24	28	21	16	29
Cork	221	225	155	184	133	156	133	133	132	114
Kerry	107	116	115	93	103	86	96	72	79	75
Galway	53	67	62	67	86	79	54	53	76	50
Mayo	4	8	8	11	9	10	14	20	21	16
Sligo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Donegal	110	136	171	242	234	228	240	322	488	537

Total value of pelagic fish (£ 000) landed into ports
by maritime county from 1962 to 1971.

	YEAR									
County.	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Louth	0.3	3	11	9	11	2	1	57	116	112
Dublin	2	1	1	4	1	2	4	6	9	10
Wicklow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Wexford	4	3	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.8	1	8	9
Waterford	133	86	56	108	217	235	187	274	535	434
Cork	25	29	28	19	29	43	75	240	350	170
Kerry	4	6	8	7	11	14	14	12	8	47
Galway	2	2	3	4	3	1	2	5	39	26
Mayo	17	2	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	2
Sligo	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	48	17	-
Donegal	91	89	92	146	179	207	208	190	231	488

Appendix 2

Total value of shellfish (£000) landed into main ports
by maritime county from 1962 to 1971.

year

County	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Louth	13	14	6	4	10	11	13	3	14	18
Dublin	39	56	35	40	45	50	61	97	214	163
Wicklow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
Wexford	11	12	18	18	20	20	25	62	60	123
Waterford	10	10	11	8	11	13	19	25	19	45
Cork	45	65	54	61	56	29	92	105	140	115
Kerry	41	46	65	80	88	56	79	107	135	197
Galway	43	50	75	73	77	88	135	148	139	155
Mayo	18	11	17	16	29	21	31	64	66	111
Sligo	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Donegal	11	4	9	5	6	11	17	18	14	21

Appendix 3.

Aggregate values of catches landed into main fishing ports, grouped by maritime county (1962 to 1966, and 1967 to 1971).

1962 to 1966.

County	Total value	%	Dermesal	%	Pelagic	%	Shellfish	%
Co. Louth.	167,557	2.3	87,260	2.0	33,524	2.3	46,773	3.3
Co. Dublin	1,352,892	18.6	1,129,081	25.8	8,794	0.6	215,017	15.0
Co. Wicklow	88,050	1.2	86,778	2.0	1,272	0.1	-	
Co. Wexford	369,447	5.1	281,017	6.4	8,742	0.6	79,688	5.5
Co. Waterford	724,894	10.0	73,242	1.7	601,340	41.7	50,312	3.5
Co. Cork	1,327,213	18.3	917,550	21.0	128,550	8.9	281,113	19.6
Co. Kerry	889,509	12.3	533,940	12.2	35,282	2.4	320,287	22.3
Co. Galway	666,236	9.2	334,544	7.6	13,432	0.9	318,260	22.1
Co. Mayo	154,902	2.1	39,929	0.9	24,074	1.7	90,899	6.3
Co. Donegal	1,514,547	20.9	893,464	20.4	586,406	40.7	34,677	2.4
Total	7,255,247	100.0	4,376,805	100.0	1,441,416	100.0	1,437,026	100.0

1967 to 1971

Co. Louth	501,804	3.6	155,299	2.5	288,569	6.4	57,936	1.8
Co. Dublin	2,534,848	18.2	1,919,317	31.0	31,535	0.7	583,996	18.5
Co. Wicklow	182,408	1.3	169,431	2.7	3,477	0.1	9,500	0.3
Co. Wexford	857,341	6.2	547,613	8.8	19,223	0.4	290,505	9.2
Co. Waterford	1,902,959	13.7	118,016	1.9	1,663,882	36.6	121,061	3.8
Co. Cork	2,024,647	14.6	667,354	10.8	876,645	19.3	480,648	15.2
Co. Kerry	1,077,787	7.8	407,817	6.6	94,933	2.1	575,037	18.2
Co. Galway	1,049,480	7.5	311,317	5.0	73,049	1.6	665,114	21.0
Co. Mayo	378,841	2.7	82,310	1.3	3,139	0.1	293,392	9.3
Co. Sligo	121,830	0.9	4,276	0.1	113,810	2.5	3,744	0.1
Co. Donegal	3,270,468	23.5	1,814,652	29.3	1,374,071	30.3	81,745	2.6
Total.	13,902,413	100.0	6,197,402	100.0	4,542,333	100.0	3,162,678	100.0
Sum total (1962-1971).	21,157,660		10,574,207		5,983,749		4,599,704	

Appendix 4

Leading 5 fishing ports by value of demersal, pelagic and shellfish landed from 1962 to 1971.

<u>Port</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Year</u>									
<u>Demersal fish</u>		1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Howth	Co. Dublin	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Dunlaoghire	Co. Dublin	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	5	4
Kilmore Quay	Co. Wexford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Castletownbere	Co. Cork	1	1	3	3	3	4	-	4	4	-
Dingle	Co. Kerry	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	-	-	-
Galway/Aran Is.	Co. Galway	5	4	4	4	4	3	-	5	-	-
Burtonport	Co. Donegal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Killybegs	Co. Donegal	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1
<u>Pelagic fish</u>											
Clogher Head	Co. Louth	-	-	3	4	5	-	-	-	-	-
Mornington	Co. Louth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	3
Dunmore East	Co. Waterford	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Passage East	Co. Waterford	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cobh	Co. Cork	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	3	4
Castletownbere	Co. Cork	4	4	5	3	4	4	-	-	5	5
Westport	Co. Mayo	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sligo	Co. Sligo	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-
Teelin	Co. Donegal	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Burtonport	Co. Donegal	3	3	4	5	3	5	5	-	-	-
Killybegs	Co. Donegal	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1
<u>Shellfish</u>											
Skerries	Co. Dublin	1	1	1	2	-	2	3	3	3	2
Howth	Co. Dublin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Kilmore Quay	Co. Wexford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	3
Castletownbere	Co. Cork	4	4	2	-	2	-	4	5	2	-
Dingle	Co. Kerry	5	-	4	4	5	-	-	-	5	-
Fenit	Co. Kerry	3	-	5	1	3	3	5	1	-	1
Galway/Aran Is.	Co. Galway	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	4	4
Carna	Co. Galway	2	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	-	-
Clifden/Cleggan	Co. Galway	-	2	-	5	4	4	2	-	-	-
Blacksod	Co. Mayo	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

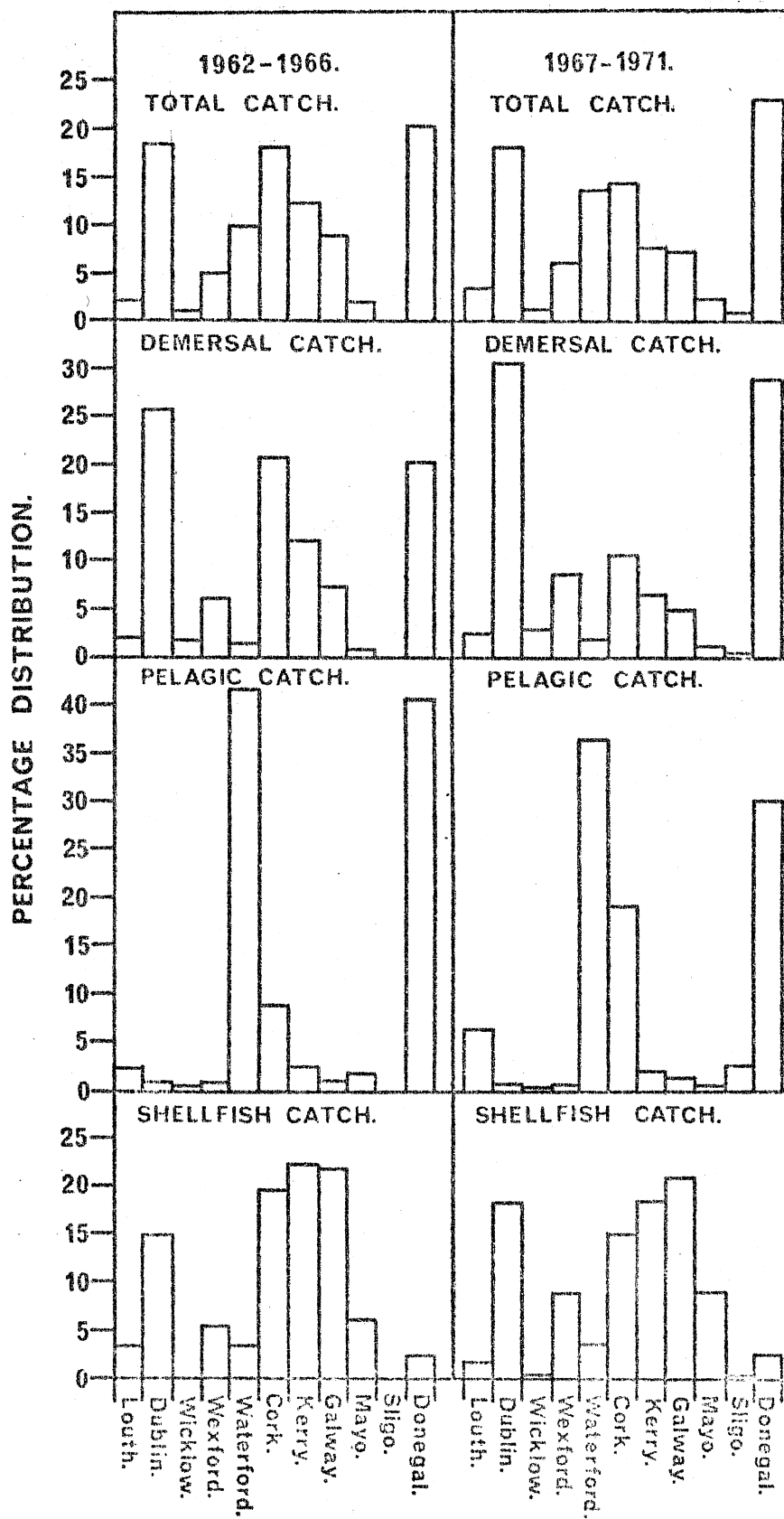


Fig.1. Percentage distribution of landings of demersal, pelagic and shellfish landings for the periods 1962 to 1966 and 1967 to 1971.