

Mercury Levels in Fish and Shellfish

Recent Survey

SPECIES	MEAN (MG/KG)	RANGE	NO. OF SAMPLES
Fish			
Halibut	0.290	0.038-0.617	2
Hoki	0.186	0.065-0.307	8
Monkfish	0.198	0.096-0.300	2
Orange Roughy	0.595	0.527-0.647	6
Other	0.105	0.006-0.664	12
Pollack	0.012	0.007-0.020	4
Salmon	0.050	0.029-0.079	14
Sea Bass	0.065	0.030-0.094	4
Sea Bream	0.053	0.051-0.056	4
Shark	1.521	1.006-2.200	5
Marlin	1.091	0.409-2.204	4
Swordfish	1.355	0.153-2.706	17
Trout	0.060	0.014-0.103	14
Tuna	0.401	0.141-1.500	34
Shellfish			
Exotic prawns	0.025	0.006-0.047	14
Lobster	0.075	0.009-0.231	4
Mussels	0.030	0.017-0.041	4
Other	0.038	0.003-0.186	9
Prawns	0.048	0.013-0.249	14
Squid	0.011	0.003-0.036	9

Previous Survey

SPECIES	MEAN (MG/KG)	RANGE	NO. OF SAMPLES
Marine Fish			
Cod	0.066	0.029-0.098	10
Haddock	0.043	0.023-0.072	25
Herring	0.091	0.044-0.13	9
Mackerel	0.054	0.024-0.10	14
Plaice	0.056	0.029-0.086	15
Red Fish	0.12	0.12-0.12	2
Whiting	0.14	0.029-0.26	15
Cod fish fingers	0.016	0.006-0.025	3
Shellfish			
Brown shrimps	0.065	0.061-0.068	2
Cockles	0.026	0.013-0.046	3
Crab	0.092	0.051-0.13	2
Lobsters	0.29	0.15-0.49	4
Mussels	0.063	0.028-0.11	4
Pink Shrimps	0.089	0.079-0.099	2
Queen Scallops	0.017	0.016-0.018	2
Squid	0.040	0.016-0.058	3
Scallops	0.010	0.008-0.011	3
Scampi	0.11	0.11-0.12	2
Winkles	0.037	0.026-0.049	4

Source: University of Bristol Survey 'Mercury in imported fish and shellfish and UK farmed fish and their products' Unpublished.

Source: FSIS 151 'Concentrations of metals and other elements in marine fish and shellfish' May 1998.