

The Employment Journey

Get ahead of the career game.

aerospace agriculture aquaculture bioscience business construction culture education energy finance fishery food & beverage food processing forestry health information technology justice manufacturing public service rec/sport retail technology tourism trades transportation trucking

PEI Aquaculture Sector- 2010

Definition:

The PEI Aquaculture sector can be defined as the science, art, and business of cultivating shellfish (**mussels and oysters**) on cultured water leases and finfish (**rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon and halibut**) in land-based facilities.

Number of people employed and where:

There are approximately 2,500 direct and indirect jobs in aquaculture. In the last year of 2008-2009, PEI's aquaculture industry paid approximately \$11 million in salaries, wages and employer contributions.

- There are 130 cultured mussel growers on PEI.
- There are seven provincially-licensed and federally-registered PEI mussel processing plants where mussels are prepared for sale to local and international markets.
- There are approximately 600 oyster (bottom and off bottom) lease holders
- There are 13 provincially-licensed and federally-registered processors which purchase oysters for export markets as well as some provincially-licensed processors which purchase oysters for in-province and domestic markets.
- Finfish culture (rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon and halibut) on PEI occurs in pond cages and land-based tank systems. There are 6 culture sites on PEI.

Sample jobs and wages:

- Wage information from www.labourmarketinformation.ca and www.aquaculturepei.com

This workforce is composed of individuals with a wide range of skills and competencies such as:

- **Aquaculture & Marine Harvest Labourers:** Wage range: \$9.85 to \$14.80
- **Processing Plant Labourers:** Wage range: \$8.65 to \$13.85
- **Boat Hands:** \$10.00 per hour
- **Line Workers:** \$10.00 per hour

There are also professional service providers such as:

- **Researchers**
- **Accountants/Comptroller**
- **Marketing and Sales**
- **Administrative Employees**

Employment Requirements:

- Some fish farm operations using modern technology may require workers to have college-level training.
- Shellfish harvesting operations require physically fit workers.

Self Employed:

The field of Aquaculture also has many self employed people with family sized or larger farms.

For more information about the industry:

www.aquaculturepei.com PEI Aquaculture Alliance

www.labourmarketinformation.ca click Job Descriptions

www.pei.jobfutures.org click Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing & Utilities