

BACKGROUND ...

CURRENT SITUATION

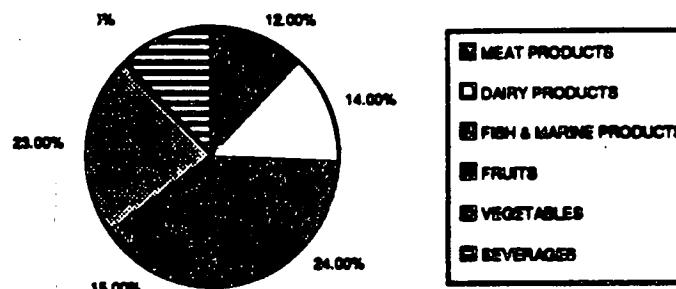
The approximate market size for imported food products for 1988 is estimated at S\$1.7 billion. This represents a 10% growth from its 1985 level of S\$1.3 billion.

APPARENT DOMESTIC MARKET FOR IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS (S\$ MILLION)				
	1988	1987	1986	1985
Total Imports	2293	2490	2219	2047
Less Re-Exports	1245	982	794	720
Net Retained Imports	1748	1508	1425	1327

Source : Singapore Trade Statistics, Census on Industrial Production

A breakdown of total imports by product category indicates that fruits and vegetables make up the largest share (38%) of food imports for 1988. Meat and beverage products had the smallest share amounting to 12%.

IMPORTS OF FOOD PRODUCTS BY PRODUCT CATEGORY (1988)



The fastest growing categories are dairy products, fish and marine products and beverages which grew by 23%, 19%, and 16% respectively from 1985-1988.

The bulk (64-77%) of imports of all food categories except for fish and marine products is consumed locally.

Demand for Meat Products

There are about 33 commodity items listed under meat products, accounting for 66% of total meat product imports. The major items include :

	% Total Meat Imports	% Growth (1985-1988)	Major Country Supplier
Beef boneless frozen	15	2	New Zealand - 31%
Chicken wings fresh chilled or frozen	13	4	USA - 60%
Chicken other parts excluding offals	8	17	USA - 50%
Pork frozen	7	9	China - 39%
Other meat preparations	6	18	China - 88%
Luncheon meat	6	18	China - 94%
Mutton fresh chilled or frozen	6	5	Australia - 63%
Chicken carcass fresh, chilled or frozen	5	-5	Denmark - 32%

Meat products which experienced high growth from 1985-1988 were other meat and edible meat offals (48%), other port salted in brine (45%), beche-de-mer (32%), ham not canned (30%), and meat preparations not canned (28%).