

Imported Farmed Salmon

Japanese import statistics do not differentiate between farmed and wild salmon, but rather on the basis of the salmon being either fresh or frozen. Nevertheless, it is estimated that in 1988 Japan imported 6 513 metric tons of farmed salmon. This is more than twice the amount imported in 1987 and about six times the amount imported in 1986.

Table 2

Estimated Quantity of Farmed Salmon Imported by Japan (Metric Tons)

	1985	1986	1987	1988
Fresh and Chilled ¹	515	864	1 671	3 825
Frozen — Pacific ²	4	34	75	1 669
— Atlantic	157	240	1 067	1 019
Total	676	1 138	2 813	6 513

¹ Wild salmon is included.

² Statistics for frozen Pacific salmon have been compiled using export statistics from Chile, New Zealand and Europe. Statistics from Canada and the U.S. do not differentiate between farmed and wild salmon.

The 1988 Japanese imports of salmon, by country, are listed in Table 3.

Table 3

Quantity of Salmon Imported by Japan in 1988 (Metric Tons)

Country	Fresh Pacific and Atlantic	Frozen Pacific	Frozen Atlantic
Australia	109	—	—
Britain	94	—	—
Canada	212	11 136	16
Chile	64	1 000	—
China	—	60	—
Denmark	27	35	48
Iceland	—	—	55
Ireland	44	—	—
New Zealand	244	617	—
Norway	2 113	—	843
South Korea	—	14	—
Sweden	—	17	—
U.S.	904	103 687	14
Total	3 825	116 612	1 019

According to these import statistics, which combine wild and farmed salmon, frozen Pacific salmon accounts for over 96 per cent of all imported salmon. Of this amount, Canada provides nearly 10 per cent, thus making Canada the largest supplier of foreign salmon.

Japanese Farmed Salmon Production

Farmed salmon production in Japan, which is limited to Coho salmon, is concentrated in Miyagi prefecture.

Table 4

Japanese Farmed Salmon Production by Prefecture

Prefecture	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989 Estimate
Iwate			350	1 250	1 600
Miyagi	6 300	7 000	10 500	14 200	18 000
Niigata		60	400	700	1 000
Tottori		20	120	150	200
Mie		45	150	200	300
Ishikawa			60	60	100
Fukui		5	30	30	50
Kagawa			18	20	30
Total	6 430	7 200	11 628	16 610	21 280

Source: *Nikkan Hokkai Keizai*.

Because of high water temperatures during the summer months, farmed Coho salmon is harvested before the end of August.

Table 5

Estimated Harvest (Miyagi)

Month	Quantity (Tons)	Per Cent of Total
May	1 800	10
June	6 300	35
July	8 100	45
August	1 800	10

The seasonality of the harvest limits the growth and size of Japanese farmed Coho salmon whose average size is between 2.3 to 2.5 kg. The approximate size distribution is outlined in Table 6.