

(8) Per capita annual supply(KG) 35.9 37.1 -3.2%
 (Note: For the conversion of crude to net foods, a yield rate of 53.8% was used by the Agency.)

- In 1992, especially during the latter half, the fish market in Japan saw various adverse effects of the economic slowdown which is referred to as the "bursting of the bubble economy".
- The first effects of the economic slow down were seen in the decreased entertainment budgets for Japanese companies. As a result, sales quantity and selling prices of expensive fish items which are served mainly at expensive restaurants, hotels, and sushi bars have been seriously affected.
- The reduction in overtime work due to the economic slow down has caused a decrease in sales of foods supplied to overtime workers and sales at late night family restaurants and convenience stores.
- The decrease in dining out, including business entertaining, has led to an increase in eating at home and, as a result, has increased sales of traditional items for home consumption such as ingredients for hot fish pot, and other popular, less expensive fish. (Sales of basic food items for Japanese home consumption such as soybean paste, soybean sauce, oil, and rice have increased significantly as well as a result of this change.)
- While the recent strong yen situation is expected to work in favour of imported fisheries products, it is generally accepted that it will take longer than expected to recover from the current economic slow down and imports of fish in 1993 will also be affected by such delay in economic recovery.

Household Food Consumption Patterns

- The Management and Coordination Agency of the Japanese Government announced data on Japanese household spending on foods in 1992. The average spending per household in 1992 was (unit: Yen):

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	Increase/ decrease (%)
Total foods	1,081,188	1,076,325	0.5
Total fish & shellfish	143,455	139,992	2.5
Fresh fish & shellfish	83,722	80,949	3.4
Fresh fish	76,448	74,154	3.1
Tuna	9,416	8,736	7.8
Sardine	1,385	1,425	-2.8
Skipjack tuna	2,432	2,285	6.4
Salmon	3,159	2,798	12.9
Mackerel	607	532	14.1