

**Japan's Agricultural,  
Forestry and Fisheries  
Trade in 2010**

**JETRO**

JAPAN EXTERNAL TRADE ORGANIZATION  
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND FOOD DEPARTMENT  
1-12-32 Akasaka Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-6006, JAPAN  
TEL:+81-3-3582-5186  
<http://www.jetro.go.jp/>





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### 1. Overview (Table 1~2)

With the recovery of the global economy in 2010, Japan showed significant increase in the total trade value in both exports and imports compared to the decrease in 2009. The total export value increased by 32.0% to reach USD767 billion, while, the total import value increased by 25.2% to reach USD691 billion. As the recovery in exports was slightly faster than the imports, the surplus in the trade balance increased 2.7 fold.

Due to the appreciation of the yen, the total trade value in 2010 shows discrepancies between dollar based amount and yen based amount. The export value of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products increased by 17.6% y/y amounting to USD5,519.88 million, however, it remained to be JPY484.2 billion with the increase of only 10.7% y/y in Japanese yen terms. The share of the agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products combined in the total export value in USD in Japan increased from the 0.7% in 2009 to 0.8% in 2010.

The import value of the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries products increased by 13.4% y/y amounting to USD78,744.83 million, while the value in yen terms increased by only 6.7% y/y amounting to JPY6,925.5 billion. The share in the total Japanese import value in USD in Japan decreased to 11.4% from the 12.6% of the previous year.

As Japan depends on overseas countries for much of its food supply and as its agricultural products lack price competitiveness in the international market, trade in agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products continues to be in excess of imports. In recent years, the exports of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products are inclined to be on the increase due to the growing popularity and demand in Japanese cuisine worldwide. The exports versus imports ratio were 1:20 in 2004 (hereinafter in USD terms) whereas it changed to be 1:14 due to the major expansion in exports in 2010. The trade imbalance is continuing to show improvement in the agricultural, forestry, and fisheries segment.

A full-scale promotion campaign in the export of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products was launched after the Japanese Prime Minister had set a goal of one trillion yen export in his key policy speech in 2006. A revised goal of increasing the export value to one trillion yen by 2017 was proposed as part of a new cabinet-approved growth strategy in June 2010. The new strategy aims at developing overseas markets as the domestic market is shrinking due to the decreasing population. It also aimed to improve the profitability of the agricultural, forestry, and fisheries industry. It was stated that the goal of the exports will be aimed at attaining one trillion yen by repealing unreasonable overseas import barriers through intensified negotiations with foreign governments and developing new overseas markets. After this statement, the disaster of the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent nuclear power plant accident happened. Hence the environment for the export has become very severe, the time limit of the

goal was postponed to 2019 in June 2011. Despite this adverse situation, the Japanese government is still considering reconstruction of the export strategy in the field of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries and foods in order to increase export.

**Table 1: Exports / Imports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products (in dollar terms)**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Japan's total trade				Agricultural, forestry and fisheries products trade				
	2008	2009	2010(A)	% change 10/09	2008	2009	2010(B)	% change 10/09	(B)/(A) x100
Exports	775,917,548	580,786,594	767,025,011	32.1	4,808,700	4,693,307	5,519,877	17.6	0.7
Imports	756,086,221	552,251,954	691,447,208	25.2	81,741,096	69,456,631	78,744,831	13.4	11.4
Balance	19,831,327	28,534,640	75,577,803	164.9	△76,932,397	△64,763,324	△73,224,953	13.1	/

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 2: Exports / Imports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products (in yen terms)**

(Unit: ¥ billion)

	2008	2009	2010	% change 10/09
Exports	500.5	437.6	484.2	10.7
Imports	8,511.9	6,491.4	6,925.5	6.7
Balance	△ 8,011.4	△ 6,053.9	△ 6,441.3	6.4

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

## 2. Export

### (1) Overview (Table 3)

The export value for agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products was USD5,519.88 million. It comprised of USD3,202.37 million earned by agricultural products whose exports grew by 15.5% y/y, USD2,212.99 million earned by fishery products whose exports grew by 20.5% y/y and USD104.51 million earned by forestry products whose exports grew by 26.1% y/y.

The export value earned by agricultural products and fisheries products has grown steadily since 2003. The exports of fishery products however, turned to be decreasing in 2008 and in 2009 and the decline expanded considerably mainly due to the extraordinary poor catch in tuna and bonito. It revived, however, remarkably in 2010. The forestry products decreased by 12.2% in 2009 due to the impact of the global recession. But, later it turned to be on the increase and grew by 26.1% in 2010.

Since 2011, the share of agricultural products in the total exports has been decreasing gradually, and the exports of fishery products are showing a gradual increase. As the increase rate of the export value in fishery products was rather high in 2010, its share increased from 39.1% to

40.0% in the total export of the agricultural fisheries and forestry products. On the other hand, the share of agricultural products decreased from 59.1% to 58.0% in 2010.

**Table 3: Exports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	2008	2009	2010	% change 10/09
Agricultural, forestry & fisheries products	4,808,700	4,693,307	5,519,877	17.6
Agricultural products	2,734,959	2,773,540	3,202,374	15.5
Fisheries products	1,979,321	1,836,858	2,212,994	20.5
Forestry products	94,420	82,910	104,509	26.1

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

## (2) Category-based Trends

### 1) Agricultural Products (Table 4)

The export value of agricultural products such as cereals, fruits and vegetables, etc. accounting for nearly 90% of the total agricultural exports, increased by 14.8% from the previous year to reach USD2,798.42 million. Among these items the export value of flour and meslin flour, increased by 14.4% in value and 5.8% in volume and the rice and wheat flour preparations (including *udon* and instant noodles) increased by 6.1% in value and 1.5% in volume from the previous year. As a result, the exports of cereals and their preparations in total showed an increase of 14.9% from the previous year amounting to USD238.12 million. The total export value of rice increased almost two fold to USD28.41 million with an increase rate of 96.6% from the previous year. In volume it increased by 125.7% y/y. As far as rice exports are concerned, rice is provided mainly to developing countries in Asia and Africa as in the form of food aid, and it accounted for over 90% of the total rice exports in volume. As for major destinations of rice on a commercial basis, they are Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. The exports to Hong Kong increased by 36% y/y to 654 tons y/y. The exports to Singapore increased by 80.5% y/y to 334 tons. On the other hand, the exports to Taiwan showed a major decrease consecutively in the past two years. The exports in 2010 decreased by 18.6% y/y to 271 tons (hereafter unless it is noted, the growth rate and amount in shares are calculated on USD basis).

The exports of fruits and their preparations increased by 19.3% from the previous year to USD217.77 million. The exports of temperate fruits increased by 14.1% to USD96.57 million, however, in terms of volume it decreased by 5.6% y/y. Apples, whose share was more than 30% of the total export value of fruits and their preparations increased by 23.8% to USD73.14 million

from the previous year. It increased by 0.7% in volume y/y. As for the major export destinations, Taiwan with a share of 83% showed an increase to USD60.88 million with an increase rate of 19.1% from the previous year. The exports to Hong Kong increased by 43.3% in value and 30% in volume from the previous year amounting to USD 6 million. On the other hand, the exports of the *Unshu* mandarins for Canada decreased by 17.2% from the previous year to USD1.66 million. It decreased by 20.2% y/y in volume.

The export value of vegetables and their preparations increased by 1.9% from the previous year to USD62.44 million. Of these, fresh vegetables, which are the main products, the exports in volume decreased by 21.5% from the previous year, however, with the price appreciation of vegetables in Taiwan, there was an increase in value to USD29.01 million, with an increase of 9.6% from the previous year. The major export items among vegetables and their preparations were fresh arrowroot and girasole, which consist 36% of the total value. Taiwan, which is the largest destination where these vegetables are being used in traditional medicinal cooking, showed an increase to USD15.84 million with an increase of 11.5% from the previous year. In volume, however, it decreased by 18.5% y/y. As for the export volume of fresh mushrooms, Taiwan was the second largest destination for Japan's fresh mushrooms in 2009. The exports to Taiwan in volume, however, decreased by 92.8% y/y to only 12 tons. As a result, the total exports of fresh mushrooms in volume decreased by 23.5% from the previous year and the export value was USD1.63 million with a decrease of 43.7% from the previous year.

In recent years, the exports of livestock products, which were showing an upward trend, increased by 10.7% from the previous year to USD401.6 million. The milk powder products in particular increased by 21.0% in value from the previous year to USD160 million. It increased by 11.1% in volume due to the increased demand in Hong Kong. The exports to Hong Kong increased 3.4 fold in 2009 from the previous year. The export value was USD140.57 million in 2010 with an increase of 30.7% from the previous year. It increased by 30.9% in volume y/y. With the occurrence of the safety issue regarding milk powder products in China in 2008, the exports particularly to Hong Kong and China rose drastically in 2009. In Japan, however, with the outbreak of the foot and mouth disease in April 2010, the Chinese government banned import of Japanese dairy products, and the exports to China decreased in 2010. The exports of beef were USD 38.72 million with a decrease of 4.6% from the previous year. The exports decreased by 4.2% in volume y/y. The exports to Vietnam, the largest export destination, decreased significantly to USD13.35 million with a decrease of 46.1% from the previous year. It decreased by 46.2% in volume y/y. As for the beef export from Japan that were temporarily suspended due to the outbreak of the foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), there was a significant increase of exports to Hong Kong. The exports resumed in 2007. The exports to Hong Kong amounted to USD13.07 million in 2010. It increased by 85.7% in value and by 82.6% in volume y/y. Exports to Macau, which had no export record in 2008, increased

considerably from USD70,000 in 2009 to USD5.29 million in 2010. On the other hand, exports to Canada and to the U.S.A. that resumed in December 2005 decreased by 31.8% in 2009 from the previous year, and as the exports were suspended in 2010 due to the foot and mouth disease, it continued to show significant decrease to USD2.3 million with a decrease by 62.6% from the previous year. It decreased by 63.8% in volume y/y.

**Table 4: Exports of agricultural products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	All agricultural products	Farm products			Livestock products	Silk threads	
		Grains*	Fruits*	Vegetables*			
2008	2,734,959	2,433,484	232,130	194,974	68,548	299,601	1,874
2009	2,773,540	2,437,328	207,219	182,503	61,255	335,496	716
2010	3,202,374	2,798,424	238,121	217,773	62,435	401,597	2,353
% change 10/09	15.5	14.8	14.9	19.3	1.9	19.7	228.5

(Note) \* Grains, Fruits and Vegetables include respectively their preparations.

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

## 2) Fisheries products (Table 5)

The share of fresh, chilled, frozen and live fish combined is approximately 45% of the total exports of fishery items in volume. The exports of these items increased in value to USD974.49 million with an increase of 18.6% from the previous year. The export growth reflects the recovery of fishing in such items as tuna, bonito and mackerel from the record breaking poor haul in 2009. The exports of tuna and bonito increased by 19.1% in value to USD155.86 million and increased by 48.7% in volume from the previous year. The exports of mackerel reached to USD115.89 million, increasing by 44.9% in value and 43.3% in volume from the previous year. On the other hand, the exports of salmon and trout amounted to USD210.81 million with an increase of 47.1% in value and 17.2% in volume from the previous year. Salmon and trout, destined to China mainly as materials for processing showed a major growth. It amounted to USD185.69 million with 49.8% increase in value and 19.4% increase in volume from the previous year. The exports to Thailand also increased to USD 14.71 million with an increase of 44.7% in value and 18.3% in volume from the previous year. The exports of cod fish amounted to USD101 million decreasing by 12.7% in value and 11.9% in volume from the previous year. The exports of cod fish excluding the fish paste to China amounted to USD33.01 million with a decrease of 12.2% in value and 3.0% in volume from the previous year. The exports of the same item to South Korea were USD55.6 million with a decrease of 9.5% and 17.4% decrease in volume from the previous year. The mackerel catch by Japan showed recovery from the decrease in 2009 and the export value amounted to USD115.89 million with an increase of 44.9% from the

previous year. In volume, it increased by 43.3% y/y. While the exports of mackerel for processing destined to Thailand, China, and South Korea are on the increase, the exports to Egypt, where the local consumer demand is growing, are also on the increase. The export value of mackerel to Egypt was USD38.11 million with an increase of 42.8% from the previous year. The increase in volume was 21.5% y/y. As in 2009, the Egyptian share of the export value for mackerel made up approximately one third of the total exports.

In the field of crustaceans and mollusks, the exports amounted to USD349.69 million showing an increase of 18% from the previous year. The exports to Hong Kong which is the main market for dried sea cucumbers amounted to USD146 million with an increase of 40.3% in value and 16.0% in volume from the previous year. This has contributed to the growth of the exports in this group of items. As for scallops, while the exports to the U.S.A. decreased significantly, the exports to China and Vietnam increased. The exports to the U.S.A., the main export destination, amounted to USD 24.45 million showing a decrease of 70.8% in value and a 75.1% in volume from the previous years. The exports to China, where the consumer demand is rapidly growing were USD22.89 million, with three fold increase in value and 5.3 fold increase in volume from the previous year. The exports to Vietnam were USD7.71 million, with three fold increase in value and 6.5 fold increase in volume from the previous year. The exports of scallop preparations (adductors) increased further to USD143.6 million, showing an increase of 28.7% and 12.6% in volume from the previous year. The main market was Hong Kong where the export value was USD 107.75 million, showing an increase of 24.4% in value and decreasing by 4.3% in volume from the previous year in volume. This is a continuous increase from 2009 when the exports grew by 49.0% in volume from the previous year. The exports of abalone preparations were USD26.01 million with 34.4% increase and 12.7% increase in volume from the previous year. The exports to Hong Kong amounted to USD25.31 million with an increase of 36.6% from the previous year. It increased by 14.4% in volume from the previous year.

The total exports of fisheries preparations such as canned products increased to USD643 million, with an increase of 31.0%. The exports of mackerel to Saudi Arabia, however, decreased to USD12.17 million, with 9.7% decrease in value and 15.6% in volume from the previous year. The exports of crab preparations to Namibia grew to USD5.55 million, with an increase of 40.6% in value and increase of 21.3% in volume from the previous year.

The exports of pearls to the U.S.A. amounted to USD38.03 million with an increase rate of 18.0% from the previous year. In volume it decreased by 14.6% y/y, however, due to the impact of the recession to the jewelry business, the exports to Hong Kong, the major market, decreased in 2009 by 31.9% from the previous year, and similarly in 2010 it continued to diminish to USD107.08 million, decreasing by 2.1% from the previous year. In volume it increased by 2.1% y/y. The total exports of pearls in total value was USD187.18 million. It decreased by 2.0% from the previous year. In volume, it decreased by 8.8% y/y.

**Table 5: Exports of fisheries products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Fisheries products in total	Fish (fresh, chilled, frozen, etc.)	Shellfish/ mollusks	Canned and bottled preparations	Pearls	Other fisheries products
2008	1,979,321	887,333	292,580	467,426	294,813	37,169
2009	1,836,858	821,642	296,436	490,593	191,074	37,113
2010	2,212,994	974,493	349,686	643,003	187,179	58,632
% change 10/09	20.5	18.6	18.0	31.1	△ 2.0	58.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

### 3) Forestry Products (Table 6)

The exports of forestry products such as lumber, processed materials, plywood, veneer, and other forestry products amounted to USD104.51 million, showing an increase of 26.1% from the previous year. The exports of lumber materials amounted to USD31.49 million, with 38.2% increase and 38.6% increase in volume from the previous year. The exports to the Philippines, the major export destination reached USD 17.87 million, showing an increase of 39.2% and 43.0% in volume from the previous year. The exports of veneer and plywood to China amounted to USD840,000, with 5.6% increase and 20.4% increase in volume from the previous year. The exports to the U.S.A., the top export destination, however, amounted to USD2.81 million with a decrease of 17.7% in value and 5.0% in volume from the previous year. Thus the total export value decreased to USD7.66 million with a decrease of 7.5% from the previous year. It decreased by 26.7% in volume y/y.

**Table 6: Exports of forestry products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Forestry Products in total	Lumber/ processed lumber	Plywood/ Veneers	Other forestry products
2008	94,420	26,209	16,668	51,543
2009	82,910	23,376	13,754	45,779
2010	104,509	32,621	14,092	57,796
% change 10/09	26.1	39.5	2.5	26.2

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

### (3) Trends in Destinations (Table 7)

As destinations for the exports of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products, since 2005

the top three destinations and economies continued to be in the order of Hong Kong, the U.S.A., and Taiwan. China came fourth in both 2005 and 2006 but in 2007 and in 2008, it went down to fifth place as it was surpassed by South Korea. In 2009 and 2010 with the increase of exports of fisheries products such as salmon, trout, and scallops, China revived to fourth place. With the significant increase in exports to Vietnam of trees, shrubs, and fisheries products such as squid, mackerel and scallops, it gained in rank to seventh place from eighth place in 2009 and replaced Singapore. The exports of frozen saury to Russia increased 2.2 fold since 2009 and it went up in rank from eleventh in 2009 to ninth. The countries and economies which import relatively more from Japan can overall be said to have increased the imports of fisheries products.

The combined share of the top five countries have hardly changed with 72.5% in 2009 and 71.7% in 2010. This shows the export destinations are concentrating to the top five countries and economies.

**Table 7: Exports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products  
(by main destination country/economy)**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank		Country /economy	2008	2009	2010	2010	
2009	2010					% change	Composition ratio
1	1	Hong Kong	1,004,318	1,050,108	1,366,444	30.1	24.8
2	2	USA	793,018	766,324	772,287	0.8	14.0
3	3	Taiwan	661,242	623,072	687,932	10.4	12.5
4	4	China	418,883	488,868	624,498	27.7	11.3
5	5	South Korea	499,341	473,141	502,150	6.1	9.1
6	6	Thailand	266,366	192,031	239,121	24.5	4.3
8	7	Vietnam	120,205	131,926	168,382	35.6	3.1
7	8	Singapore	117,788	124,172	155,610	18.0	2.8
11	9	Russia	54,587	57,616	79,688	51.7	1.4
10	10	Philippines	73,262	53,557	67,138	25.4	1.2
		Total of top 10 countries/economies	3,696,378	4,009,010	4,663,251	17.9	84.5
		World total	4,391,979	4,808,700	5,519,877	17.6	100.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

#### (4) Trend in Major Export Items (in Value) (Table8~ 9-2)

The largest export item is tobacco. Approximately two-thirds of the cigarettes exports and roughly 20% of the same are exported to Taiwan and Hong Kong respectively. The export

value increased to USD305.3 million, with an increase of 7.4% from the previous year. In volume it increased by 0.3% y/y. The exports to countries such as South Korea continued to rise year by year.

The exports of confectionaries, which ranked second, increased by 17.0% and amounted to USD296.63 million. It increased by 7.5% y/y in volume. The exports of candies, sugarplums, and chocolate confectionaries, which are the main products exported, to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea are on the increase. The exports of rice products such as *sembei* and *arare* increased by 14.6% in value and 3.4% in volume from the previous year. The exports to Taiwan and the U.S.A. also showed marginal increase of 1.6% in value and 6.1% in volume y/y.

The exports of shellfish came third. The exports to the U.S.A., the main market for scallops decreased significantly, however, adductors (dried scallops) to Hong Kong and Taiwan increased. The exports to Hong Kong increased by 24.4% in value and decreased by 4.3% in volume. While the exports to Taiwan increased by 53.4% in value and 34.7% in volume. As a result, the exports of shellfish in total increased by 1.3% from the previous year and amounted to USD 293.9 million.

The export value for sauces, ranked fourth, amounted to USD241.67 million, with an increase of 16.6% from the previous year. In volume, it increased by 9.8% y/y. And the exports to destinations excluding China showed an increase in the range of 10% to 20%. This indicates that with the popularity of Japanese food, the Japanese sauces are also finding steady ground.

The exports of salmon and trout came fifth rising from sixth in 2009. The exports to China which is the main export market, Thailand and Vietnam grew considerably. The exports to China increased by 49.8% in value and 19.4% in volume from the previous year. The exports to Thailand increased by 44.7% in value and 18.3% in volume y/y. The exports to Vietnam increased by 11.4% in value but decreased by 12.5% from the previous year. As a result, the total export value amounted to USD210.81 million, with an increase of 47.1% from the previous year. It increased by 17.2% in volume y/y.

The exports of pearls were in sixth place. The export share of Hong Kong in the total exports is slightly less than 60%. Cultured pearls for Hong Kong market decreased by 2.1% from the previous year. It increased by 2.1% in volume y/y, however, with the recovery of the main markets such as the U.S.A. The export to the USA increased by 18.4% in value and 14.6% in volume from the previous year. The total exports of pearls amounted to only USD187.18 million, with a decrease of 2.0% from the previous year. It decreased by 8.8% in volume y/y. Most of the pearls exported from Japan are cultured pearls.

The exports of powdered milk were in seventh place. It decreased significantly due to the ban of importing Japanese dairy products by China. It decreased by 44.1% y/y and the volume decreased by 47.9% y/y, however, exports to Hong Kong, the top export destination increased 3.4 fold from 2009, and increased by 30.7% from the previous year. The exports in

volume increased by 30.9% y/y. The total exports value amounted to USD160 million with an increase of 21.0% from the previous year. It increased by 11.1% in volume y/y.

Tuna and bonito were in eighth place as it recovered from the record-breaking bad catch in 2009. The exports in 2009 reached USD 8,283 million, which is 3.5 times as much as the amount in the previous year. The exports of yellow fin tuna to Thailand decreased by 29.4% from the previous year and the total tuna and bonito exports in value increased by 19.1% from the previous year. It increased by 48.7% in volume y/y.

Sea cucumbers were in ninth place. The exports to Hong Kong, whose share was 95% of the total export volume increased by 39.8% in value and decreased by 17.3% from the previous year. As a result, sea cucumber export value was USD146 million, with an increase of 40.3% and decrease of 16.0% in volume from the previous year.

The tenth-ranked mackerel exports to Egypt increased by 42.8% in value and 21.5% in volume from the previous year. The exports to Thailand also increased by 49.5% in value and 37.2% in volume from the previous year. The exports of mackerel reached USD115.88 million with an increase of 44.9% in value and 43.3% in volume y/y.

Other items which showed increase are as follows. 13th ranked *sake* and *shochu* increased its export to South Korea. The exports reached USD114.41 million. It increased by 24.8% in value and 15.1% in volume from the previous year. The exports of prepared animal feed, which is ranked 17<sup>th</sup> increased its export to South Korea and Taiwan. The exports grew to USD75.81 million. It increased by 22.6% in value and 17.0% in volume from the previous year. Squids and their preparations, ranked 25<sup>th</sup>, increased its export to China and Vietnam. The exports amounted to USD54.6 million. It increased by 43.9% in value and 12.6% in volume from the previous year. The exports of beer which ranked 31<sup>st</sup> increased to USD36.2 million. It increased by 25.5% in value and 14.6% in volume from the previous year.

Furthermore, there has been an increase in a variety of items in 2010, and among the 113 items stated in this “Details (overview by item)” 55 items showed an increase by more than 10.1% in export value and 42 items showed an increase by more than 10.1 % in export volume. In 2009 the number of items which showed an increase in export value more than 10.1% was 29 and the number of items which showed an increase in volume was 22.

**Table 8: Major export items**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank	Item	Unit	Quantity			Value		
			2009	2010	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
1	Cigarettes	t	23,170	23,242	0.3	284,210	305,295	7.4
2	Confectionary products	t	25,757	27,701	7.5	253,562	296,633	17.0
3	Shellfish	t	15,343	16,989	10.7	290,005	293,895	1.3
4	Sources etc	t	37,930	41,664	9.8	207,272	241,672	16.6

Rank	Item	Unit	Quantity			Value		
			2009	2010	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
5	Salmon/trout	t	55,587	65,166	17.2	143,312	210,807	47.1
6	Pearls	kg	42,180	38,454	△ 8.8	191,074	187,179	△ 2.0
7	Prepared milk powder	t	8,456	9,395	11.1	132,255	160,002	21.0
8	Tuna/bonitos	t	54,021	80,331	48.7	130,885	155,862	19.1
9	Sea cucumbers (dried)	t	249	209	△ 16.0	104,072	146,000	40.3
10	Mackerel	t	84,052	120,416	43.3	79,955	115,883	44.9
11	Cod	t	78,309	69,009	△ 11.9	115,748	100,992	△ 12.7
12	Vegetable seeds	t	1,311	1,406	7.2	86,994	98,145	12.8
13	Sake	kl	11,949	13,770	15.2	77,139	96,944	25.7
14	Rawhide	t	88,694	83,079	△ 6.3	85,607	92,674	8.3
15	Fruits	t	25,699	24,291	△ 5.5	72,127	83,181	15.3
16	Fruits juice	kl	26,138	27,095	3.7	66,346	81,704	23.1
17	Processed feedstuff	t	19,838	23,201	17.0	61,850	75,810	22.6
18	Yellowtail (Filet of fish, fish meat)	t	3,510	4,140	17.9	58,933	74,232	26.0
19	Rice / wheat flour preparations	t	18,959	19,244	1.5	66,318	70,374	6.1
20	Flour, meslin	t	185,403	196,183	5.8	58,242	66,644	14.4
21	Fishcakes	t	6,935	7,321	5.6	58,757	63,838	8.6
22	Sugar, etc.	t	17,475	24,031	37.5	52,805	59,366	12.4
23	Water, ice, snow	kl	17,714	23,159	30.7	44,661	58,257	30.4
24	Samma (Saury),frozen	t	75,436	60,382	△ 20.0	54,210	57,882	6.8
25	Cuttlefish, Squid and their preparations	t	27,844	31,354	12.6	37,947	54,595	43.9
26	Soup, broth	t	6,242	6,756	8.2	48,602	54,506	12.1
27	Green tea	t	1,958	2,232	14.0	36,621	48,386	32.1
28	Coffee	t	3,561	4,355	22.3	40,166	47,377	18.0
29	Soy sauce	kl	18,356	17,682	△ 3.7	42,530	45,134	6.1
30	Beef	t	570	541	△ 5.0	40,650	38,722	△ 4.7
31	Beer	kl	20,925	23,978	14.6	28,834	36,199	25.5
32	Coral	t	32	35	10.1	14,456	35,777	147.5
33	Sesame oil	t	5,089	5,949	16.9	31,131	34,359	10.4
34	Edible seaweed	t	2,228	2,123	△ 4.7	34,032	33,063	△ 2.8
35	Aquarium fish	t	258	269	4.1	24,074	32,344	34.4
36	Lumber	CM	42,890	59,430	38.6	22,791	31,489	38.2
37	Plant extract	t	417	537	28.7	30,250	29,876	△ 1.2
38	Essence of malt, cereal flour and other preparations	t	7,202	6,997	△ 2.8	31,379	29,436	△ 6.2
39	Fresh vegetables	t	9,490	7,452	△ 21.5	26,479	29,010	9.6
40	Vegetables preparations	t	5,157	4,805	△ 6.8	28,440	28,933	1.7
41	Rice	t	16,946	38,242	125.7	14,448	28,408	96.6
42	menthol	t	715	1,743	143.9	11,241	25,782	129.4
43	Sea bream (live)	t	4,145	3,012	△ 27.3	26,080	25,140	△ 3.6
44	Miso (soy bean paste)	t	9,818	10,240	4.3	21,707	23,880	10.0
45	Animal oil and fat	t	2,442	4,237	73.5	14,926	23,277	56.0
46	Dextrin(e)	t	4,258	5,231	22.8	15,023	20,977	39.6
47	Canned or Bottled fish	t	4,585	3,767	△ 17.8	22,839	20,732	△ 9.2
48	Canned or Bottled fruits	t	2,294	2,612	13.8	17,552	20,184	15.0
49	Rosin and resin acids	t	2,732	4,594	68.1	13,374	19,916	48.9
50	Whisky	kl	1,191	1,369	15.0	16,686	19,604	17.5

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 9-1: Export items increase/decrease (on a value basis)**

Increase rate top 10 items

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Item	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Southern bluefin tuna	26	306	1,097.5
2	Potatoes	3	33	1,042.9
3	Skipjack tuna	23,370	82,831	254.4
4	Coffee, other	3,259	10,909	234.8
5	Orange juice	337	1,007	199.2
6	Tomatoes	13	37	175.7
7	Juice of any other single citrus fruit	857	1,940	126.4
8	Powdered cheese	117	264	125.8
9	Rice	14,448	28,408	96.6
10	Salmon (processed)	631	1,176	86.4

Decrease rate top 10 items

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Item	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Garlic	343	3	△99.2
2	Leeks and other alliaceous vegetables	33	4	△86.7
3	Onions and shallots	207	31	△69
4	Coffee (Not roasted)	360	111	△69
5	Swordfish	1,857	661	△64.4
6	Oyster (processed)	1,295	479	△63
7	Edible offal of pork	2,532	1,013	△60
8	Fresh cheese	49	20	△59.5
9	Pearl natural	725	309	△57.4
10	Albacore of longfinned tunas	39,601	16,935	△57.2

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 9-2: Export items increase/decrease (on a quantity basis)**

Increase rate top 10 items

	Item	unit	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Southern bluefin tuna	t	1	29	5,379.7
2	Tomatoes	t	1	5	561.9
3	Skipjack tuna	t	21,830	62,322	185.5
4	Orange juice	t	209	541	158.2
5	Coffee, other	t	439	1,042	137.4
6	Juice of any other single citrus fruit	t	39	92	135.4
7	Salmon (prepared)	t	47	107	130.2
8	Rice	t	16,946	38,242	125.7
9	Powdered cheese	t	7	15	114.3
10	Bluefin tuna	t	37	71	95.2

Decrease rate top 10 items

	Item	unit	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Garlic	t	107	1	△99.3
2	Onions and shallots	t	1,160	74	△93.6
3	Coffee (Not roasted)	t	137	13	△90.5
4	Leeks and other alliaceous vegetables	t	31	3	△89.5
5	Carrots and turnips	t	58	15	△74.8
6	Other tuna	t	4,019	1,013	△74.8
7	Fresh cheese	t	4	1	△72
8	Swordfish	t	359	110	△69.2
9	Edible offal of pork	t	2,116	776	△63.3
10	Sea mussels	t	16	7	△59.2

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

### 3. Import

#### (1) Overview (Table 10)

Among the total import value of USD78,744.83 million in 2010 for agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products which showed an increase of 13.4% y/y, the imports of agricultural products were USD54,611.13 million with an increase of 12.4% y/y, the imports of fisheries products were USD15,607.18 million with an increase of 12.5% y/y, and the imports of forestry products were USD8,526.52 million with an increase of 21.4% y/y. All three categories showed an increase in 2010 reflecting a recovery from the global recession in 2009. The share of agricultural products was approximately 70.0% of the total agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products. It kept the same level as in the previous year. As for fisheries products and the forestry products, the shares were 19.8% and 10.8% respectively.

**Table 10 : Imports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products**

	2008	2009	2010	(Unit: \$1,000) % change 10/09
Agricultural, forestry & fisheries products	81,741,096	69,456,631	78,744,831	13.4
Agricultural products	57,215,164	48,567,986	54,611,131	12.4
Fisheries products	15,090,309	13,866,902	15,607,182	12.5
Forestry products	9,435,623	7,021,743	8,526,518	21.4

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

#### (2) Category-based Trends (Table 11~12)

##### 1) Agricultural items

Agricultural imports can be divided roughly into three categories. They are agricultural items whose share is approximately three fourth of the import value, livestock products whose share is approximately one fourth of the above, and silk yarn.

The import value of agricultural products in 2010 was USD40,616.31 million with an increase of 11.6% from the previous year. The import value of cereals and their preparations, the major import items amounted to USD7,880.47 million with an increase of 3.9% y/y. The prices of cereals and their preparations were leveling off after 2009, but from the second half of 2010, they went up. Accordingly the prices of such items as flour and oil cakes increased. The prices of soy beans and rape seed increased, thus the import value of vegetable oil products increased by

11.0% amounting to USD5,556.57 million.

As for fruit, nuts, and their preparations, as a result of the export of bananas from the Philippines decreased, its exports decreased by 15.8% in value and 10.7% in volume and the decreased amount of exports from the country reached USD776.17 million. The exports of bananas from the Philippines decreased due to the expand of the domestic consumptions. Thus the total import of the tropical fruits decreased by 9.7% in value and 9.1% in volume and amounted to USD1,129.14 million. The imports of temperate fruit such as kiwi fruit from New Zealand and cherries from the U.S.A., however, increased to USD453.72 million, with an increase of 17.3% in value and 10.7% in volume from the previous year. Overall, the import value for fruits, nuts and the preparations as a whole amounted to USD4,001.61 million with an increase of 6.4% from the previous year.

As for livestock products, the import of pork, beef, and chicken, their imports increased. The total import value was USD13,960.34 million with an increase of 14.8% from the previous year.

Regarding meat and their preparation, demand in imported beef increased with the affordable prices due to the strong yen, thus the import value amounted to USD2,281.98 million with an increase of 14.4% in value and 3.8% in volume from the previous year. The demand in imported pork grew with the decrease of production in Japan and the import value increased to USD4,514.76 million with an increase of 13.6% in value and 7.6% in volume from the previous year. As for imports from the U.S.A, the top import origin was USD1,790.14 million, with an increase of 9.7% in value and 3.2% in volume from the previous year. Chickens are mainly provided by Brazil. Its imports amounted to USD1,001.35 million with an increase of 29.3% in value 23.4% in volume from the previous year. Thus the total imports increased to USD1,090.45 million, with an increase of 31.8% in value and 26.9% in volume y/y. The import value of processed meat was USD2,537.97 million, with an increase of 12.2% in value and 9.8% in volume from the previous year. Although the demand decreased in the end of 2007 due to the impact of the frozen dumpling (*jiazi*) incident and apprehensions to food safety, imports from the main supplier, China, declined drastically in 2008, however, it turned to be increasing in 2009, and in 2010, it increased in both value and volume by more than 20% from the previous year. Since the incident in China happened, Thailand is maintaining a high level of exports to Japan.

Among dairy products and chicken eggs, the import value for cheese, a major item, was USD934.13 million with an increase of 14.6% in value and 8.1% in volume y/y.

**Table 11: Imports of agricultural products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	2008	2009	2010	% change 10/09
Farm products	43,529,335	36,383,735	40,616,309	11.6
Grains and grain preparations	11,265,889	7,587,718	7,880,473	3.9
Fruits and fruits preparations	3,858,975	3,761,095	4,001,613	6.4
Vegetables and vegetable preparations	3,391,940	3,440,067	4,038,793	17.4
Sugars and sugar preparations	776,287	760,066	1,011,785	33.1
Confectionaries	563,903	562,944	619,349	10.0
Coffee & coffee preparations	1,389,916	1,271,489	1,519,253	19.5
Cocoa & cocoa preparations	649,883	645,263	717,637	11.2
Tea & Maté tea	209,793	196,660	227,170	15.5
Spices	217,700	202,381	239,586	18.4
Starches	457,716	365,020	443,648	21.5
Alcohol drinks	2,083,614	1,811,677	2,007,316	10.8
Other foods & beverages	1,944,709	1,851,759	1,945,937	5.1
Vegetable oils	6,721,168	5,005,337	5,556,570	11.0
Tobacco	3,565,323	3,930,648	3,921,172	Δ0.2
Natural rubber	2,376,914	1,179,888	2,416,322	104.8
Cotton	251,784	126,070	177,708	41.0
Other farm products	3,803,821	3,685,653	3,891,977	5.6
Livestock products	13,651,271	12,159,095	13,960,340	14.8
Meat/poultry and their processed products	10,322,031	9,567,995	10,984,550	14.8
Dairy products / bird eggs	2,002,465	1,543,228	1,730,064	12.1
Wool & other animal hair	343,540	209,029	265,356	26.9
Other livestock products	983,236	838,843	980,369	16.9
Silk threads	34,557	25,157	34,481	37.1
Total	57,215,164	48,567,986	54,611,131	12.4

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 12: Imports of agricultural products <by main supplier countries>**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank		Country	2008	2009	2010	2010	
2009	2010					% change 10/09	Composition ratio%
1	1	USA	18,649,243	13,902,623	14,658,584	5.4	26.8
2	2	China	5,313,197	5,372,394	6,196,111	15.3	11.3
3	3	Australia	4,559,712	3,785,909	4,185,859	10.6	7.7
5	4	Thailand	3,627,349	3,001,759	3,823,563	27.4	7.0
4	5	Canada	4,246,380	3,164,401	3,471,576	9.7	6.4
6	6	Brazil	2,391,724	1,837,092	2,390,320	30.1	4.4
7	7	Netherlands	894,007	1,712,719	1,856,096	8.4	3.4

8	8	France	1,849,165	1,536,016	1,611,361	4.9	3.0
12	9	Indonesia	1,517,727	922,414	1,598,624	73.3	2.9
9	10	Germany	1,368,083	1,344,437	1,272,693	Δ5.3	2.3
		Total of the top 10 countries	44,416,587	36,579,764	41,064,787	12.3	75.2
		World total	57,215,164	48,567,986	54,611,131	12.4	100.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

## 2) Fishery Products (Table13~14)

The imports of fishery products have recently been in the range of USD14 billion to USD16 billion, however, with the increase in 2010 in the main items such as fresh, chilled, and frozen fishery products, the combined import value showed an increase of 12.5% from the previous year to USD15,607.18 million.

The combined import value of fresh, chilled, and frozen fishery products was USD10,747.19 million, with an increase of 9.1% from the previous year. In 2010, mainly due to the increased import of shrimp, Thailand became the second largest the exporter to Japan after China. Thailand was in fourth in 2009 in terms of the import value of fishery products. Among the fresh, chilled, and frozen fishery products, tuna and bonito, main items in the fish category decreased significantly due to the impact of the international regulations against the haul of bluefin tuna, the import value was USD2,032.77 million with a decrease of 1.1% in value and 5.6% in volume y/y. (The catch of bluefin tuna decreased by 48.1% in value and 37.8% in volume and as a result the drop of catch amounted to USD317 million.) For salmon and mackerel, with the increase of red salmon and filet of salmon, the import value was USD1,645.91 million, an increase of 14.8% in value and 2.1% in volume y/y.

As for fish and their preparations such as canned foods, with the increase of the main shrimp preparations and eel processed in China, the total import value increased by 13.2% from the previous year and amounted to USD2,739.7 million.

The import value of live fish was USD571.79 million with a large increase of 78.8% from the previous year. Among the total import of live fish, the import value for the major item, eel amounted to USD261.03 million. It increased by 48.0% in value and 22.8% in volume y/y. With the poor catch of young fish for eel farming during 2009 to 2010, the shipping of eel in Japan decreased significantly. Thus eel from Taiwan increased almost twofold to USD147.7 million with an increase of 92.0% in value and 64.3% in volume from the previous year.

**Table 13: Imports of fisheries products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	Fisheries Products in total	Live fish	Fresh, chilled, frozen fisheries products	Salted and dried fisheries products	Canned or bottled fisheries products and other preparations	Pearls	Other fisheries products
2008	15,090,309	492,526	10,722,165	578,094	2,392,447	401,116	503,961
2009	13,866,902	319,862	9,853,166	527,004	2,419,466	318,073	429,331
2010	15,607,182	571,792	10,747,187	532,550	2,739,700	360,124	655,829
% change 10/09	12.5	78.8	9.1	1.1	13.2	13.2	52.8

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 14: Imports of fisheries products <by main supplier countries>**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank		Country	2008	2009	2010	2010	
2009	2010					% change 10/09	Composition ratio
1	1	China	2,527,776	2,365,215	2,747,517	16.2	17.6
4	2	Thailand	1,113,866	1,108,170	1,283,888	15.9	8.2
2	3	USA	1,530,658	1,230,100	1,274,183	3.6	8.2
3	4	Chile	1,044,353	1,179,889	1,246,737	5.7	8.0
5	5	Russia	1,275,111	1,028,711	1,173,540	14.1	7.5
		Total of the top 5 countries	7,491,764	6,912,085	7,725,865	11.8	49.5
		World total	15,090,309	13,866,902	15,607,182	12.5	100.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

### 3) Forestry Products (Table 15~16)

The import value increased in every category. The imports of logs increased by 22.0% y/y to USD995.95 million. The imports of lumber and processed materials increased by 21.8% y/y and amounted to USD2,579.19 million. The imports of forestry products including plywood and veneer increased by 21.1% y/y to USD4,951.38 million. Thus, the total import value increased by 21.4% from the previous year to USD8,526.52 million.

With the growth in housing demand in Japan due to the recovery of the global recession, the imports of materials and lumber rebounded from the drastic slump in 2009 and showed an increase in both value and volume. As for other forestry products, the import value of wood chips (the main material for paper), increased by 15.7% in volume and by 17.7% in value from the previous year and amounted to USD2,493.64 million. The increase of the imports from the

leading suppliers as Australia, Vietnam, and the U.S.A. was noticeable.

**Table 15: Imports of forestry products**

(Unit: \$1,000)

	2008	2009	2010	% change 10/09
Forestry Products in total	9,435,623	7,021,743	8,526,518	21.4
Log	1,370,123	816,463	995,949	22.0
Lumber/worked timber	2,622,137	2,117,871	2,579,186	21.8
Other forestry products	5,443,363	4,087,409	4,951,383	21.1

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 16: Imports of forestry products <by main supplier countries>**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank		Country	2008	2009	2010	2010	
2009	2010					% change 10/09	Composition ratio
2	1	Canada	1,204,011	852,327	1,158,372	35.9	13.6
1	2	Malaysia	1,325,663	921,495	1,054,960	14.5	12.4
3	3	Australia	1,155,407	790,959	985,424	24.6	11.6
4	4	China	768,737	624,887	805,791	28.9	9.5
5	5	USA	854,400	600,847	727,879	21.1	8.5
		Total of the top 5 countries	5,308,218	3,790,515	4,732,426	24.8	55.5
		World total	9,435,623	7,021,743	8,526,518	21.4	100.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

### (3) Trend of Trade Partner and Area (Table 17)

There are no changes in the order of importing origins since 2009. The U.S.A. was in first place, China was in second place and Australia was in third place. Thailand has jumped from fifth place in the previous year to fourth place and Brazil jumped from eighth to seventh place. The imports from the U.S.A. as a total ranked first, however, the imports of feed corn, which was the major export item from the U.S.A. decreased by 6.5% from the previous year. The imports of soy beans, flour, pork (fresh and chilled) and pork(frozen) from the U.S.A. increased by 5.6%, 14.7%, 5.1%, 16.4% respectively y/y. Thus, the total import value from the U.S.A. has increased by 5.9% from the previous year to USD16,660.65 million. The share of the U.S.A. in terms of import value for agricultural and fisheries products declined by 1.5 point from the

previous year to 21.2%.

China, in second place, was on the decline for three consecutive years from 2007 to 2009 due to the issue of food safety. In 2010, however, fishery products such as processed eel and other items have increased. As a result, the total import value increased by 16.6% from the previous year to USD9,749.42 million. The share increased by 0.5 points to 12.4% from the previous year.

Australia, in third place, increased its export value by 24.6% from the previous year due mainly to the increase in wood chips, their top import item, whose demanding the paper industry grew highly. Other main export items such as beef, cheese, and wheat recovered from the significant decrease in 2009 and the total imports from Australia increased by 12.3% from the previous year to USD5,548.53 million.

Thailand became the fourth largest exporter to Japan with the increase in its main export item of natural rubber. The total import value increased by 24.8% from the previous year to USD5,226.88 million. Thailand jumped to fourth place from fifth place in 2009.

Canada came fifth with the increase in rape seed, their top export item. The exports of rapeseed decreased by 40.6% in 2009, however it showed an increase of 20.1% in 2010. Other Canadian major items such as pork, wheat, and lumber declined and the total import value has increased by 16.0% from the previous year to USD5,100.26 million.

**Table 17: Imports of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products <by main supplier countries>**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank		Country	2008	2009	2010	2010	
2009	2010					% change 10/09	Composition ratio
1	1	USA	21,034,301	15,733,570	16,660,646	5.9	21.2
2	2	China	8,609,710	8,362,495	9,749,419	16.6	12.4
3	3	Australia	6,171,875	4,942,146	5,548,533	12.3	7.0
5	4	Thailand	4,847,443	4,187,527	5,226,877	24.8	6.6
4	5	Canada	5,904,255	4,397,826	5,100,255	16.0	6.5
6	6	Indonesia	3,003,196	2,261,340	3,103,097	37.2	3.9
8	7	Brazil	2,579,014	1,990,243	2,559,512	28.6	3.3
7	8	Chile	1,998,938	2,091,885	2,249,702	7.5	2.9
9	9	Malaysia	2,498,357	1,801,123	2,108,096	17.0	2.7
10	10	Netherlands	943,479	1,757,537	1,898,013	8.0	2.4
		Total of the top 10 countries	57,590,568	47,525,692	54,204,150	14.1	68.8
		World total	81,741,096	69,456,631	78,744,831	13.4	100.0

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

#### (4) Trends in Top Import Items (Table 18~19-2)

As to the trend of the imports of the top 20 items on value basis, the top four items did not change in rank since 2009. With the growing housing demand due to the recovery from the global recession, significant changes were seen in lumber which jumped from seventh place in 2009 to fifth place. It is noticeable that and natural rubber jumped from 15<sup>th</sup> place in 2009 to eighth place.

The imports of Pork which was the largest import item amounted to USD4,514.76 million. It increased by 13.6% in value and by 7.0% in volume from the previous year supplying to the growing demand for imported pork due to the decreased domestic production in Japan. The imports of feed corn in volume, in third place, decreased by 1.7% from the previous year. However, due to the international price increase in the latter half of 2010, the imports in value increased by 3.6% from the previous year. The imports of beef in fourth place increased by 14.3% in value and by 4.2% in volume from the previous year because of the growing demand in relatively lower priced imported beef. The imports of processed meat which are in sixth place grew in both value and volume with the increased imports particularly from China. The imports from China increased by 21.3% in value and 2.2% in volume y/y. Reflecting the economic recovery in Japan, wood chips in seventh place with an import value of USD2,493.64 million, increased by 17.7% from the previous year. In volume, it increased by 15.7% y/y. The imports of natural rubber which is in eighth place increased by 25.2% in volume and by 104.8% in value to reach USD2,416.32 million.

**Table 18 : Major import items**

(Unit: \$1,000)

Rank	Item	unit	Quantity			Value		
			2009	2010	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
1	Meat of swine (pork)	t	715,843	765,610	7.0	3,974,144	4,514,762	13.6
2	Cigarettes	t	157,704	149,398	△5.3	3,930,648	3,921,172	△0.2
3	Corn for feeding purposes	t	11,512,941	11,316,024	△1.7	2,588,483	2,681,840	3.6
4	Meat of bovine animals (beef)	t	519,590	541,294	4.2	2,293,434	2,621,132	14.3
5	Lumber	CM	5,775,591	6,665,976	15.4	2,117,871	2,579,186	21.8
6	Processed meet	t	545,923	599,576	9.8	2,245,782	2,525,093	12.4
7	Wood chips	t	10,477,785	12,118,042	15.7	2,118,938	2,493,637	17.7
8	Natural rubber	t	605,415	758,096	25.2	1,179,888	2,416,322	104.8
9	Prawn & shrimp	t	202,646	210,308	3.8	1,843,608	2,074,956	12.5
10	Tuna, skipjack	t	275,882	291,442	5.6	2,055,410	2,032,769	△1.1
11	Soybeans	t	3,390,080	3,455,633	1.9	1,744,325	1,818,130	4.2
12	Wheat	t	4,702,565	5,475,586	16.4	1,448,201	1,655,446	14.3
13	Salmon & trout	t	240,264	235,207	△2.1	1,433,470	1,645,908	14.8
14	Coffee	t	413,295	432,130	4.6	1,271,380	1,519,139	19.5
15	Plywood	CM	2,461,050	2,655,295	7.9	1,155,017	1,412,626	22.3
16	Frozen vegetables	t	757,537	824,619	8.9	1,112,626	1,263,043	13.5
17	Wine	kℓ	190,184	203,452	7.0	1,089,012	1,182,165	8.6
18	Rapeseed	t	2,072,402	2,344,304	13.1	944,562	1,161,000	22.9
19	Tropical fruits	t	1,442,162	1,311,099	△9.1	1,252,822	1,131,086	△9.7
20	Chicken meat	t	331,096	420,268	26.9	827,052	1,090,453	31.8

Rank	Item	unit	Quantity			Value		
			2009	2010	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
21	Oil-cake	t	2,132,904	2,322,569	8.9	926,482	1,006,587	8.6
22	Log	CM	4,130,183	4,757,235	15.2	816,463	995,949	22.0
23	Cheese	t	184,242	199,080	8.1	815,117	934,126	14.6
24	Fresh vegetables	t	582,496	787,060	35.1	650,654	911,071	40.0
25	Vegetable fats and oils	t	719,047	759,895	5.7	719,511	886,916	23.3
26	Corn (for the use of making corn starch)	t	3,104,939	3,276,782	5.5	758,550	833,693	9.9
27	Pet food	t	339,471	331,811	Δ2.3	778,219	809,009	4.0
28	Crab and their processed products	t	77,800	62,433	Δ19.8	731,748	755,265	3.2
29	Fish roes	t	68,598	70,193	2.3	800,194	725,197	Δ9.4
30	Cocoa	t	231,501	222,966	Δ3.7	645,263	717,637	11.2
31	Raw sugar	t	1,283,443	1,184,848	Δ7.7	496,203	679,802	37.0
32	Eels	t	32,546	37,779	16.1	421,245	674,259	60.1
33	Squid and their processed products	t	126,189	124,897	Δ1.0	577,435	669,655	16.0
34	Confectionery	t	116,134	127,536	9.8	580,668	639,406	10.1
35	Processed prawn/shrimp products	t	64,699	70,650	9.2	554,596	617,860	11.4
36	Salted or prepared vegetables	t	356,412	377,603	5.9	481,738	563,686	17.0
37	Edible nuts, Ground nuts	t	139,267	149,367	7.3	425,009	525,361	23.6
38	Fruit juice	t	275,704	283,812	2.9	493,017	512,783	4.0
39	Rice	t	670,987	664,395	Δ1.0	620,406	503,796	Δ18.8
40	Fish meal	t	278,593	320,939	15.2	276,201	491,336	77.9
41	Dried vegetables	t	180,645	173,513	Δ3.9	391,718	478,369	22.1
42	Plant-origin feedstuff	t	1,613,187	1,573,346	Δ2.5	501,299	468,668	Δ6.5
43	Temperate fruits	t	110,551	122,388	10.7	386,639	453,719	17.3
44	Citrus fruits	t	335,684	350,091	4.3	367,477	423,337	15.2
45	Starch, dextrin	t	576,531	577,331	0.1	332,991	408,430	22.7
46	Cut flower	t	38,519	44,198	14.7	303,640	374,127	23.2
47	Pearls	kg	55,655	58,250	4.7	318,073	360,124	13.2
48	Fruits (canned or bottled)	t	214,166	235,611	10.0	305,254	338,040	10.7
49	Malt	t	512,732	500,336	Δ2.4	390,434	318,783	Δ18.4
50	Cod	t	75,538	82,646	9.4	240,316	303,444	26.3
51	Grain sorghum	t	1,492,025	1,318,347	Δ11.6	309,687	300,294	Δ3.0
52	Octopus	t	56,196	44,682	Δ20.5	297,969	294,060	Δ1.3
53	Vegetables (canned or bottled)	t	150,632	162,589	7.9	255,604	292,811	14.6
54	Shellfish and their processed products	t	57,978	70,940	22.4	215,921	268,409	24.3
55	Rice / wheat flour preparations	t	195,963	203,851	4.0	245,427	266,893	8.7
56	Mutton and Lamb, Sheep casings	t	28,380	22,656	Δ20.2	283,188	266,504	Δ5.9
57	Milk products including less than 30% natural milk	t	230,664	232,311	0.7	221,143	265,457	20.0
58	Mineral water	kℓ	418,972	418,975	0.0	275,723	265,262	Δ3.8
59	Barley for feedstuff	t	1,147,878	1,182,777	3.0	218,964	261,797	19.6
60	Spices	t	71,717	71,376	Δ0.5	210,003	245,629	17.0
61	Processed tomatoes	t	198,776	209,553	5.4	261,592	245,075	Δ6.3
62	Flat fish	t	49,959	55,359	10.8	201,025	233,886	16.3
63	Sesame	t	128,917	161,433	25.2	181,770	231,316	27.3
64	Whisky	kℓ	15,926	19,641	23.3	193,073	226,490	17.3
65	Fillets of herrings, codfish or yellowtails (frozen)	t	45,890	54,630	19.0	194,202	220,379	13.5
66	Pasta and noodles	t	130,219	135,826	4.3	214,385	204,601	Δ4.6
67	Canned or bottled fish	t	36,522	39,007	6.8	188,118	201,449	7.1
68	Sea urchin, Sea cucumbers	t	14,100	13,171	Δ6.6	205,746	192,410	Δ6.5

Rank	Item	unit	Quantity			Value		
			2009	2010	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
69	Mackerel	t	50,816	76,369	50.3	133,052	190,956	43.5
70	Pet food (not for retail sale)	t	75,883	83,677	10.3	160,314	184,259	14.9
71	Edible seaweeds	t	34,352	36,414	6.0	160,880	181,598	12.9
72	Cotton	t	88,199	106,588	20.8	126,070	177,708	41.0
73	Medicinal & flavoring plants	t	26,049	27,540	5.7	145,887	168,509	15.5
74	Plant extract, pectin	t	8,948	9,874	10.3	161,302	162,159	0.5
75	Horse (live)	NO	4,514	5,356	18.7	91,501	161,652	76.7
76	Refined vegetable oils	t	15,457	12,278	△20.6	167,239	155,562	△7.0
77	Rosin	t	62,082	67,125	8.1	76,205	151,636	99.0
78	Golden threadfin-bream (Itoyori) , Surimi (frozen)	t	44,920	51,110	13.8	106,073	149,784	41.2
79	Eels(Fry for fish culture)	t	2	15	658.8	13,568	145,372	971.4
80	Cotton wool & stuffing	t	4,017	3,679	△8.4	118,979	142,695	19.9
81	Nuts excluding peanuts	t	28,469	34,157	20.0	108,269	141,244	30.5
82	Liquidized/dried eggs	t	21,404	24,550	14.7	134,980	138,654	2.7
83	Black (or sable) cod (frozen)	t	10,607	9,349	△11.9	132,319	136,456	3.1
84	Casein	t	14,866	14,735	△0.9	134,094	135,698	1.2
85	Sodium glutamates	t	82,681	84,483	2.2	125,094	134,010	7.1
86	English tea	t	18,956	21,279	12.3	114,818	133,500	16.3
87	Dried fruits	t	41,238	47,014	14.0	110,126	133,469	21.2
88	Shochu, etc	kℓ	76,076	76,314	0.3	119,419	127,627	6.9
89	Veneer sheets(including thin plates)	SM	63,376,060	133,318,930	110.4	75,624	125,293	65.7
90	Waters flavored or sweetened	kℓ	68,438	83,866	22.5	122,071	124,125	1.7
91	Rawhide	t	28,001	27,374	△2.2	96,823	122,773	26.8
92	Whey	t	55,503	58,158	4.8	98,658	118,584	20.2
93	Animal fats and oils	t	76,314	95,009	24.5	91,555	115,149	25.8
94	Wood charcoal	t	150,983	154,848	2.6	110,000	110,849	0.8
95	Menuke (frozen)	t	24,456	29,322	19.9	82,951	110,528	33.2
96	Liqueurs & cordials	kℓ	18,714	18,175	△2.9	105,950	103,552	△2.3
97	Natural honey	t	36,919	39,950	8.2	87,446	100,665	15.1
98	Sugar ethers and sugar esters	t	75,487	74,066	△1.9	89,187	94,869	6.4
99	Vegetable seeds	t	5,804	6,295	8.5	84,980	94,328	11.0
100	Prepared salmon(Other than in airtight containers)	t	10,098	11,229	11.2	75,432	89,682	18.9

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 19-1: Import items increase/decrease (on a value basis)**

Increase rates of top 10 items

Decrease rates of top 10 items

(Unit: \$1,000)					(Unit: \$1,000)				
	Item	2009	2010	% change 10/09		Item	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Sea cucumbers	20	161	723.8	1	Peas (canned or bottled)	30	6	△ 81.2
2	Potatoes	176	1,132	541.4	2	Globe artichokes	100	34	△ 65.7
3	Unblended whisky	7,278	24,447	235.9	3	Cucumber and gherkins	144	51	△ 64.8
4	Watermelon	376	1,175	212.8	4	Aubergines (Egg-plants)	640	228	△ 64.4
5	Albacore of longfinned tunas	28,070	78,007	177.9	5	Rapeseeds oil ca	34,676	12,991	△ 62.5
6	Celery	1,674	4,054	142.2	6	Other citrus fruits	11	5	△ 55.1
7	Crab(canned or bottled)	865	1,988	129.9	7	Other skimmed milk	23,444	12,027	△ 48.7

8	Squid (canned or bottled)	118	270	129.1	8	Bluefin tuna	611,305	317,233	△ 48.1
9	Fruit brandy	73	166	128.8	9	Inulin	2,238	1,335	△ 40.3
10	Apples	156	334	114.6	10	Malt (other)	3,196	1,912	△ 40.2

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan

**Table 19-2: Import items increase/decrease (on a quantity basis)**

Increase rates of top 10 items

Decrease rates of top 10 items

	item	unit	2009	2010	% change 10/09		item	unit	2009	2010	% change 10/09
1	Sea cucumbers	t	0	5	898.5	1	Peas (canned or bottled)	t	29	1	△ 97.9
2	Beet(for salad)	t	248	1,469	492.0	2	Bulb	TH	25	4	△ 82.7
3	Potatoes	t	328	1,928	487.8	3	Aubergines (Egg-plants)	t	259	78	△ 69.9
4	Watermelon	t	288	799	177.6	4	Rapeseeds oil cake	t	126,427	39,155	△ 69.0
5	Other mushrooms	t	164	451	175.2	5	Other Skimmed milk	t	9,996	3,353	△ 66.5
6	Albacore of longfinned tunas	t	8,761	23,460	167.8	6	Pineapples (Dried)	t	8	3	△ 66.1
7	Bananas (Dried)	t	205	516	151.1	7	Globe artichokes	t	6	2	△ 63.3
8	Unblended whisky	kl	1,653	4,074	146.4	8	Snails, other than sea snail	t	7	3	△ 63.3
9	Fruit brandy	kl	7	15	116.2	9	Cucumber and gherkins	t	57	23	△ 59.6
10	Apples	t	63	134	110.8	10	Natural pearls	KG	839	362	△ 56.8

(Source) Ministry of Finance, Japan