



# Catfish Processing

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## Catfish Processing Down 12 Percent from Last Year

Farm-raised catfish processed during January 2011 totaled 35.1 million pounds round weight, down 12 percent from January 2010. The average price paid to producers was 93.1 cents per pound for January 2011, up 7.0 cents from last month and 16.7 cents above a year ago.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during January 2011 totaled 18.2 million pounds, down 6 percent from the comparable month in 2010. Sales of fresh fish, at 6.32 million pounds, were down 11 percent from January 2010 and represented 35 percent of total sales. Frozen fish sales, at 11.9 million pounds, were down 4 percent from a year ago and accounted for the remaining 65 percent of total fish sales. Sales of whole fish represented 17 percent of the total fish sold, fillets accounted for 60 percent, and the remaining 23 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. The total end of the month inventory decreased 10 percent from last month and was down 20 percent from a year ago.

The total fresh and frozen average price for January 2011 was \$2.84, up 38 cents from a year ago. The January 2011 average price received by processors for total fresh fish was \$2.69 per pound, up 31 cents from last year. Prices for fresh whole fish were \$1.90 per pound, up 35 cents from January 2010. Prices for fresh fillets were up 31 cents from a year ago at \$3.47 per pound. Total frozen fish averaged \$2.93 per pound, up 43 cents from January 2010. Prices for frozen whole dressed fish were up 19 cents at \$2.41 and frozen fillets at \$3.30 per pound were up 40 cents from a year ago.

Freshwater imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes for December 2010 totaled 16.9 million pounds, up 44 percent from the amount imported in December 2009. Imports were from Cambodia, China, Mexico, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The *Ictalurus* spp. imports totaled 1.27 million pounds, which were from China, Mexico and Vietnam.

Fresh, boneless catfish fillet exports totaled 45.7 thousand pounds, with 43.7 thousand pounds going to Canada and the rest going to Colombia. Exports of frozen, boneless catfish fillets reported for December 2010 totaled 1.30 thousand pounds, with all going to the Bahamas.

Import and export data are compiled by the United States Census Bureau.

## 2010 Annual Catfish Processing Up 1 Percent

Farm-raised catfish processed during 2010 totaled 472 million pounds, 1 percent above the 466 million pounds processed in 2009. The average price paid to producers in 2010 was 80.1 cents per pound, 3 cents above the 77.1 cents paid last year.

Net pounds of processed catfish sold in 2010 totaled 232 million pounds, up 1 percent from the 229 million pounds sold last year. The 2010 average price received for processed fish was \$2.50 per pound, down 3 cents from a year ago. Inventory on hand at the end of 2010 totaled 12.3 million pounds, a decrease of 15 percent from the 14.5 million pounds on hand at the close of 2009.

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## Farm-Raised Catfish Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Month – United States: 2010-2011

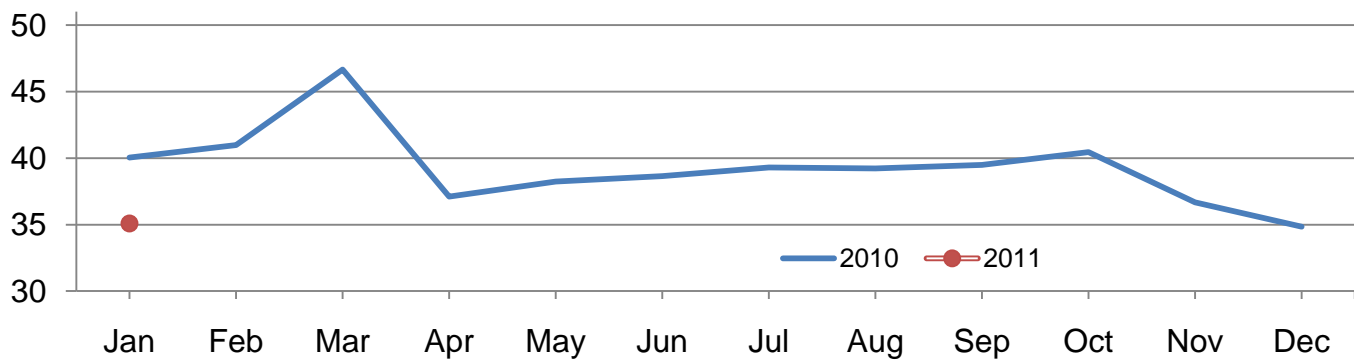
[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun.]

Month	Round weight processed								
	Monthly			Cumulative			Price per pound <sup>1</sup>		
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010	2010	2011	Change from 2010
(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	
January .....	40,042	35,076	88	40,042	35,076	88	0.764	0.931	0.167
February .....	40,977			81,019			0.765		
March .....	46,650			127,669			0.785		
April .....	37,111			164,780			0.804		
May .....	38,244			203,024			0.796		
June .....	38,656			241,680			0.786		
July .....	39,302			280,982			0.788		
August .....	39,231			320,213			0.790		
September .....	39,494			359,707			0.816		
October .....	40,455			400,162			0.832		
November .....	36,683			436,845			0.841		
December .....	34,838			471,683			0.861		

<sup>1</sup> Quantity processed by major processors and the prices paid for fish delivered to the processing plant's door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling. Price also includes any discounts or premiums for size or quality, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

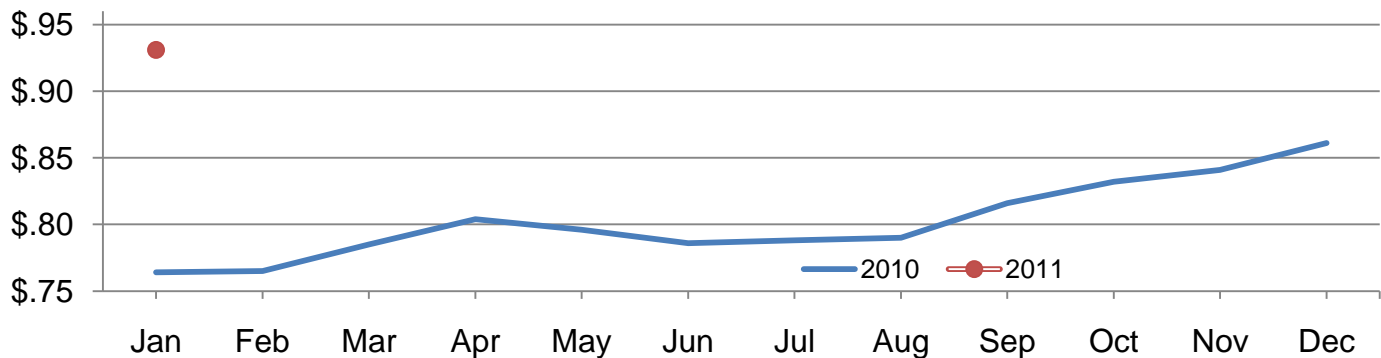
### Catfish Processed - United States

Million pounds



### Average Catfish Grower Price - United States

Price per pound



**Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Sales Volume and Average Price by Month –  
United States: 2010 and 2011**

Item <sup>1</sup>	Sales volume			Average price <sup>2</sup>		
	January 2010	December 2010	January 2011	January 2010	December 2010	January 2011
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
<b>Fresh fish</b>						
Whole						
Round and gutted .....	1,360	1,134	1,119	1.08	1.28	1.49
Whole dressed .....	1,451	1,300	1,369	1.93	2.01	2.15
Total .....	2,811	2,434	2,488	1.55	1.71	1.90
Other						
Steaks .....	99	75	80	2.41	2.49	2.56
Nuggets .....	551	439	497	1.36	1.42	1.48
Other .....	45	50	38	3.62	3.53	3.90
Total .....	695	564	615	1.66	1.75	1.77
Fillets .....	3,607	3,045	3,220	3.16	3.32	3.47
Total fresh .....	7,113	6,043	6,323	2.38	2.52	2.69
<b>Frozen fish</b>						
Whole dressed .....	654	548	593	2.22	2.34	2.41
Other						
Steaks .....	52	50	74	2.34	2.35	2.16
Nuggets .....	3,056	2,110	2,052	1.19	1.16	1.32
Other .....	1,179	614	1,477	3.57	2.96	3.46
Total .....	4,287	2,774	3,603	1.86	1.58	2.21
Fillets .....	7,411	7,486	7,685	2.90	3.06	3.30
Total frozen .....	12,352	10,808	11,881	2.50	2.64	2.93
<b>Fresh and frozen fish</b>						
Whole						
Round and gutted .....	1,360	1,134	1,119	1.08	1.28	1.49
Whole dressed .....	2,105	1,848	1,962	2.02	2.11	2.23
Total .....	3,465	2,982	3,081	1.68	1.82	2.00
Other						
Steaks .....	151	125	154	2.39	2.43	2.37
Nuggets .....	3,607	2,549	2,549	1.22	1.20	1.35
Other .....	1,224	664	1,515	3.57	3.00	3.47
Total .....	4,982	3,338	4,218	1.83	1.61	2.15
Fillets .....	11,018	10,531	10,905	2.99	3.14	3.35
Total fresh and frozen fish .....	19,465	16,851	18,204	2.46	2.60	2.84

<sup>1</sup> For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report.

<sup>2</sup> Gross value FOB plant.

## Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Ending Inventory by Month – United States: 2010 and 2011

Item <sup>1</sup>	Ending inventory		
	January 2010 (1,000 pounds)	December 2010 (1,000 pounds)	January 2011 (1,000 pounds)
<b>Fresh fish</b>			
Whole			
Round and gutted .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Whole dressed .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total .....	193	134	213
Other			
Steaks .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets .....	80	88	88
Other .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total .....	86	92	92
Fillets .....	616	290	377
Total fresh .....	895	516	682
<b>Frozen fish</b>			
Whole dressed .....	884	934	1,090
Other			
Steaks .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets .....	1,787	2,050	2,170
Other .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total .....	2,533	3,325	3,011
Fillets .....	9,654	7,550	6,351
Total frozen .....	13,071	11,809	10,452
<b>Fresh and frozen fish</b>			
Whole			
Round and gutted .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Whole dressed .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total .....	1,077	1,068	1,303
Other			
Steaks .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets .....	1,867	2,138	2,258
Other .....	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total .....	2,619	3,417	3,103
Fillets .....	10,270	7,840	6,728
Total fresh and frozen fish .....	13,966	12,325	11,134

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report.

## Catfish Imports by Month – United States: 2009-2010

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau.]

Month	Imports					
	Ictalurus spp.			Total <sup>1</sup>		
	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
January .....	2,344	3,091	132	9,819	14,612	149
February .....	1,225	2,150	176	6,527	10,421	160
March .....	972	1,179	121	8,942	7,608	85
April .....	1,364	1,220	89	8,548	8,804	103
May .....	1,659	656	40	11,592	9,971	86
June .....	1,088	651	60	10,577	10,293	97
July .....	1,849	516	28	10,765	10,268	95
August .....	1,210	70	6	11,711	9,957	85
September .....	1,385	195	14	12,541	11,626	93
October .....	1,584	196	12	13,857	15,046	109
November .....	2,144	586	27	12,783	12,032	94
December .....	2,527	1,269	50	11,718	16,897	144

<sup>1</sup> Includes freshwater imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes.

## Catfish Exports by Month – United States: 2009-2010

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau.]

Month	Exports					
	Fresh			Frozen		
	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
January .....	87.0	90.4	104	-	26.4	(X)
February .....	65.1	58.2	89	-	33.8	(X)
March .....	65.1	165.8	255	50.6	16.5	33
April .....	47.5	39.5	83	12.8	28.8	225
May .....	79.1	47.3	60	14.2	20.5	144
June .....	63.8	34.2	54	21.4	14.9	70
July .....	68.6	39.5	58	20.5	29.7	145
August .....	91.8	45.4	49	12.4	3.3	27
September .....	50.6	38.6	76	17.7	16.4	93
October .....	138.0	72.5	53	43.4	20.3	47
November .....	59.1	40.8	69	30.2	6.6	22
December .....	63.1	45.7	72	56.3	1.3	2

- Represents zero.  
(X) Not applicable.

## Farm-Raised Catfish Round Weight Processed by Month – United States: 1996-2010

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	
1996 .....	38,475	38,004	46,376	38,557	39,517	36,752	
1997 .....	42,409	45,067	48,431	45,721	43,409	42,282	
1998 .....	46,723	47,606	53,761	49,393	45,218	46,244	
1999 .....	48,723	48,891	56,310	46,830	47,703	48,445	
2000 .....	50,552	50,942	56,856	48,781	48,424	48,011	
2001 .....	46,999	50,257	57,766	52,478	51,736	47,883	
2002 .....	52,551	52,856	58,340	50,694	52,902	49,450	
2003 .....	55,523	55,461	65,007	57,105	58,424	52,441	
2004 .....	53,849	54,173	60,272	53,896	52,324	50,155	
2005 .....	53,856	51,720	57,117	50,306	51,552	49,626	
2006 .....	50,703	49,145	56,315	43,126	42,865	41,214	
2007 .....	46,079	44,083	45,477	37,954	38,867	37,275	
2008 .....	45,992	47,634	47,908	45,018	44,326	43,265	
2009 .....	36,406	37,702	44,912	40,768	39,925	39,370	
2010 .....	40,042	40,977	46,650	37,111	38,244	38,656	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
1996 .....	39,025	40,463	38,807	42,070	37,203	36,874	472,123
1997 .....	43,376	44,154	43,472	46,275	40,137	40,216	524,949
1998 .....	46,383	47,739	46,579	47,904	43,224	43,581	564,355
1999 .....	50,074	50,372	50,414	52,407	48,118	48,341	596,628
2000 .....	49,023	53,204	49,422	51,412	45,535	41,441	593,603
2001 .....	47,829	51,690	49,699	52,264	44,670	43,837	597,108
2002 .....	52,363	54,383	53,366	56,576	50,072	47,048	630,601
2003 .....	54,089	54,153	51,885	57,652	51,246	48,518	661,504
2004 .....	51,055	53,295	51,329	52,396	49,536	48,170	630,450
2005 .....	47,241	50,686	47,151	49,034	46,674	45,707	600,670
2006 .....	45,528	51,736	47,296	50,788	45,680	41,735	566,131
2007 .....	39,168	42,626	39,519	45,890	40,307	39,001	496,246
2008 .....	42,583	40,985	39,057	43,344	36,869	32,616	509,597
2009 .....	40,966	39,490	36,408	40,191	36,211	33,751	466,100
2010 .....	39,302	39,231	39,494	40,455	36,683	34,838	471,683



## Farm-Raised Catfish Prices Received by Producers by Month – United States: 1996-2010

[Quantity processed by major processors and the prices received for fish delivered to the processing plant's door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements]

Year	January (dollars per pound)	February (dollars per pound)	March (dollars per pound)	April (dollars per pound)	May (dollars per pound)	June (dollars per pound)	
1996 .....	0.770	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.790	0.790	
1997 .....	0.730	0.730	0.730	0.730	0.730	0.720	
1998 .....	0.690	0.730	0.780	0.790	0.790	0.780	
1999 .....	0.703	0.714	0.732	0.756	0.777	0.775	
2000 .....	0.744	0.788	0.789	0.789	0.785	0.786	
2001 .....	0.693	0.696	0.697	0.694	0.687	0.669	
2002 .....	0.549	0.555	0.565	0.561	0.574	0.588	
2003 .....	0.529	0.544	0.585	0.630	0.618	0.586	
2004 .....	0.668	0.703	0.723	0.728	0.720	0.689	
2005 .....	0.725	0.731	0.733	0.725	0.722	0.721	
2006 .....	0.727	0.729	0.745	0.785	0.796	0.807	
2007 .....	0.837	0.838	0.838	0.841	0.840	0.817	
2008 .....	0.658	0.688	0.743	0.757	0.776	0.794	
2009 .....	0.810	0.770	0.773	0.763	0.762	0.763	
2010 .....	0.764	0.765	0.785	0.804	0.796	0.786	
July (dollars per pound)	August (dollars per pound)	September (dollars per pound)	October (dollars per pound)	November (dollars per pound)	December (dollars per pound)	Average (dollars per pound)	
1996 .....	0.790	0.780	0.770	0.760	0.750	0.730	0.773
1997 .....	0.710	0.700	0.690	0.690	0.690	0.690	0.712
1998 .....	0.760	0.740	0.730	0.710	0.700	0.700	0.743
1999 .....	0.768	0.743	0.728	0.716	0.713	0.716	0.737
2000 .....	0.760	0.741	0.727	0.710	0.696	0.682	0.751
2001 .....	0.656	0.624	0.610	0.596	0.566	0.554	0.647
2002 .....	0.590	0.582	0.576	0.568	0.560	0.544	0.568
2003 .....	0.564	0.552	0.560	0.567	0.610	0.629	0.581
2004 .....	0.682	0.683	0.683	0.695	0.689	0.690	0.697
2005 .....	0.723	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.726	0.725
2006 .....	0.812	0.811	0.832	0.836	0.837	0.838	0.795
2007 .....	0.762	0.731	0.697	0.682	0.666	0.650	0.767
2008 .....	0.818	0.827	0.827	0.825	0.823	0.821	0.776
2009 .....	0.771	0.769	0.772	0.768	0.765	0.763	0.771
2010 .....	0.788	0.790	0.816	0.832	0.841	0.861	0.801

## Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Sales Volume by Month – United States: 2010

Month	Whole fish			Other				Fillets	Total sales
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
<b>Fresh</b>									
January .....	1,360	1,451	2,811	99	551	45	695	3,607	7,113
February .....	1,580	1,576	3,156	106	590	39	735	4,221	8,112
March .....	1,919	1,824	3,743	112	629	66	807	3,905	8,455
April .....	1,591	1,455	3,046	96	511	61	668	3,495	7,209
May .....	1,434	1,410	2,844	91	544	78	713	3,720	7,277
June .....	1,269	1,461	2,730	93	492	56	641	3,475	6,846
July .....	860	1,417	2,277	100	489	42	631	3,411	6,319
August .....	1,260	1,322	2,582	97	496	57	650	3,606	6,838
September .....	1,135	1,383	2,518	85	508	54	647	3,456	6,621
October .....	1,481	1,382	2,863	77	506	38	621	3,343	6,827
November .....	1,095	1,202	2,297	71	406	39	516	2,791	5,604
December .....	1,134	1,300	2,434	75	439	50	564	3,045	6,043
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>16,118</b>	<b>17,183</b>	<b>33,301</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>6,161</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>7,888</b>	<b>42,075</b>	<b>83,264</b>
<b>Frozen</b>									
January .....	(X)	654	654	52	3,056	1,179	4,287	7,411	12,352
February .....	(X)	822	822	58	2,819	1,076	3,953	9,730	14,505
March .....	(X)	935	935	98	2,753	859	3,710	9,338	13,983
April .....	(X)	685	685	60	2,188	717	2,965	7,652	11,302
May .....	(X)	709	709	56	2,743	591	3,390	7,766	11,865
June .....	(X)	773	773	64	2,377	648	3,089	8,355	12,217
July .....	(X)	672	672	66	2,302	617	2,985	8,030	11,687
August .....	(X)	847	847	59	2,912	967	3,938	8,763	13,548
September .....	(X)	759	759	64	3,237	1,195	4,496	8,404	13,659
October .....	(X)	691	691	74	2,442	886	3,402	7,974	12,067
November .....	(X)	597	597	55	2,059	600	2,714	7,026	10,337
December .....	(X)	548	548	50	2,110	614	2,774	7,486	10,808
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>8,692</b>	<b>8,692</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>30,998</b>	<b>9,949</b>	<b>41,703</b>	<b>97,935</b>	<b>148,330</b>
<b>Fresh and frozen</b>									
January .....	1,360	2,105	3,465	151	3,607	1,224	4,982	11,018	19,465
February .....	1,580	2,398	3,978	164	3,409	1,115	4,688	13,951	22,617
March .....	1,919	2,759	4,678	210	3,382	925	4,517	13,243	22,438
April .....	1,591	2,140	3,731	156	2,699	778	3,633	11,147	18,511
May .....	1,434	2,119	3,553	147	3,287	669	4,103	11,486	19,142
June .....	1,269	2,234	3,503	157	2,869	704	3,730	11,830	19,063
July .....	860	2,089	2,949	166	2,791	659	3,616	11,441	18,006
August .....	1,260	2,169	3,429	156	3,408	1,024	4,588	12,369	20,386
September .....	1,135	2,142	3,277	149	3,745	1,249	5,143	11,860	20,280
October .....	1,481	2,073	3,554	151	2,948	924	4,023	11,317	18,894
November .....	1,095	1,799	2,894	126	2,465	639	3,230	9,817	15,941
December .....	1,134	1,848	2,982	125	2,549	664	3,338	10,531	16,851
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>16,118</b>	<b>25,875</b>	<b>41,993</b>	<b>1,858</b>	<b>37,159</b>	<b>10,574</b>	<b>49,591</b>	<b>140,010</b>	<b>231,594</b>

(X) Not applicable.

## Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Average Sales Price by Month – United States: 2010

[Prices are gross value FOB plant]

Month	Whole fish			Other				Fillets	Total sales
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
<b>Fresh</b>									
January .....	1.08	1.93	1.55	2.41	1.36	3.62	1.66	3.16	2.38
February .....	1.06	1.87	1.49	2.39	1.33	3.59	1.60	3.10	2.34
March .....	1.04	1.92	1.50	2.38	1.34	3.38	1.65	3.18	2.29
April .....	1.13	1.94	1.55	3.03	1.38	3.45	1.81	3.22	2.38
May .....	1.07	1.97	1.55	2.42	1.38	3.64	1.76	3.25	2.44
June .....	1.09	1.95	1.58	2.41	1.38	3.50	1.71	3.26	2.45
July .....	1.11	1.97	1.67	2.43	1.41	3.69	1.72	3.25	2.53
August .....	1.12	1.95	1.58	2.42	1.37	3.52	1.72	3.22	2.46
September .....	1.15	1.97	1.63	2.43	1.37	3.50	1.69	3.24	2.48
October .....	1.12	1.97	1.57	2.49	1.40	3.70	1.68	3.29	2.42
November .....	1.11	2.00	1.61	2.48	1.42	3.66	1.74	3.32	2.47
December .....	1.28	2.01	1.71	2.49	1.42	3.53	1.75	3.32	2.52
Average .....	1.11	1.95	1.58	2.48	1.38	3.55	1.70	3.23	2.42
<b>Frozen</b>									
January .....	(X)	2.22	2.22	2.34	1.19	3.57	1.86	2.90	2.50
February .....	(X)	2.20	2.20	2.35	1.23	3.13	1.76	2.92	2.56
March .....	(X)	2.22	2.22	2.11	1.21	2.94	1.63	2.87	2.50
April .....	(X)	2.24	2.24	2.34	1.19	2.84	1.61	2.93	2.54
May .....	(X)	2.23	2.23	2.35	1.08	2.98	1.43	2.99	2.50
June .....	(X)	2.20	2.20	2.35	1.14	2.94	1.54	2.94	2.54
July .....	(X)	2.26	2.26	2.17	1.12	2.80	1.49	2.96	2.54
August .....	(X)	2.25	2.25	2.27	1.06	3.25	1.62	2.99	2.54
September .....	(X)	2.25	2.25	2.31	1.08	3.41	1.72	2.97	2.52
October .....	(X)	2.30	2.30	2.25	1.13	3.13	1.68	3.02	2.60
November .....	(X)	2.23	2.23	2.31	1.15	2.97	1.58	3.04	2.61
December .....	(X)	2.34	2.34	2.35	1.16	2.96	1.58	3.06	2.64
Average .....	(X)	2.24	2.24	2.28	1.14	3.13	1.64	2.96	2.55
<b>Fresh and frozen</b>									
January .....	1.08	2.02	1.68	2.39	1.22	3.57	1.83	2.99	2.46
February .....	1.06	1.98	1.64	2.38	1.25	3.15	1.74	2.97	2.48
March .....	1.04	2.02	1.65	2.25	1.23	2.97	1.64	2.96	2.42
April .....	1.13	2.04	1.68	2.76	1.23	2.89	1.65	3.02	2.48
May .....	1.07	2.06	1.69	2.39	1.13	3.06	1.49	3.07	2.48
June .....	1.09	2.04	1.72	2.39	1.18	2.98	1.57	3.03	2.51
July .....	1.11	2.06	1.81	2.33	1.17	2.86	1.53	3.05	2.54
August .....	1.12	2.07	1.74	2.36	1.11	3.27	1.63	3.06	2.52
September .....	1.15	2.07	1.78	2.38	1.12	3.41	1.71	3.05	2.50
October .....	1.12	2.08	1.71	2.37	1.18	3.15	1.68	3.10	2.53
November .....	1.11	2.08	1.74	2.41	1.19	3.01	1.60	3.12	2.56
December .....	1.28	2.11	1.82	2.43	1.20	3.00	1.61	3.14	2.60
Average .....	1.11	2.05	1.72	2.40	1.18	3.15	1.65	3.04	2.50

(X) Not applicable.

## Processed Farm-Raised Catfish, Fresh and Frozen End-of-Month Inventory, by Month – United States: 2010

[For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report]

Month	Whole fish			Other				Fillet	Total inventory
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
<b>Fresh</b>									
January .....	(D)	(D)	193	(D)	80	(D)	86	616	895
February .....	(D)	(D)	173	(D)	64	(D)	68	340	581
March .....	(D)	(D)	222	(D)	192	(D)	202	788	1,212
April .....	(D)	(D)	153	(D)	72	(D)	79	409	641
May .....	(D)	(D)	183	(D)	73	(D)	83	402	668
June .....	(D)	(D)	162	(D)	100	(D)	107	440	709
July .....	(D)	(D)	156	(D)	92	(D)	96	542	794
August .....	(D)	(D)	164	(D)	115	(D)	119	504	787
September .....	(D)	(D)	225	(D)	111	(D)	118	531	874
October .....	(D)	(D)	159	(D)	64	(D)	72	744	975
November .....	(D)	(D)	161	(D)	99	(D)	103	403	667
December .....	(D)	(D)	134	(D)	88	(D)	92	290	516
<b>Frozen</b>									
January .....	(X)	884	884	(D)	1,787	(D)	2,533	9,654	13,071
February .....	(X)	952	952	(D)	1,587	(D)	2,431	7,716	11,099
March .....	(X)	1,039	1,039	(D)	1,629	(D)	2,425	7,243	10,707
April .....	(X)	943	943	(D)	1,877	(D)	2,521	7,752	11,216
May .....	(X)	952	952	(D)	1,631	(D)	2,296	6,845	10,093
June .....	(X)	892	892	(D)	1,923	(D)	2,808	6,155	9,855
July .....	(X)	873	873	(D)	2,225	(D)	3,248	6,747	10,868
August .....	(X)	806	806	(D)	1,921	(D)	3,235	6,005	10,046
September .....	(X)	645	645	(D)	1,310	(D)	1,917	6,076	8,638
October .....	(X)	693	693	(D)	1,663	(D)	2,396	6,500	9,589
November .....	(X)	768	768	(D)	1,903	(D)	2,906	7,687	11,361
December .....	(X)	934	934	(D)	2,050	(D)	3,325	7,550	11,809
<b>Fresh and frozen</b>									
January .....	(D)	(D)	1,077	(D)	1,867	(D)	2,619	10,270	13,966
February .....	(D)	(D)	1,125	(D)	1,651	(D)	2,499	8,056	11,680
March .....	(D)	(D)	1,261	(D)	1,821	(D)	2,627	8,031	11,919
April .....	(D)	(D)	1,096	(D)	1,949	(D)	2,600	8,161	11,857
May .....	(D)	(D)	1,135	(D)	1,704	(D)	2,379	7,247	10,761
June .....	(D)	(D)	1,054	(D)	2,023	(D)	2,915	6,595	10,564
July .....	(D)	(D)	1,029	(D)	2,317	(D)	3,344	7,289	11,662
August .....	(D)	(D)	970	(D)	2,036	(D)	3,354	6,509	10,833
September .....	(D)	(D)	870	(D)	1,421	(D)	2,035	6,607	9,512
October .....	(D)	(D)	852	(D)	1,727	(D)	2,468	7,244	10,564
November .....	(D)	(D)	929	(D)	2,002	(D)	3,009	8,090	12,028
December .....	(D)	(D)	1,068	(D)	2,138	(D)	3,417	7,840	12,325

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

## Catfish Imports by Month – United States: 1996-2010

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau]

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	
1996 .....	256	304	401	60	373	197	
1997 .....	64	44	44	15	-	71	
1998 .....	91	9	99	82	208	193	
1999 .....	57	53	113	250	541	372	
2000 .....	487	235	309	554	698	791	
2001 .....	862	510	1,201	1,787	1,989	2,114	
2002 .....	1,037	1,048	414	618	1,491	982	
2003 .....	1,322	260	332	272	703	893	
2004 .....	215	204	295	328	248	270	
2005 .....	1,383	1,230	1,161	2,198	2,695	2,538	
2006 .....	2,644	2,491	3,267	3,119	3,306	4,424	
2007 .....	12,056	7,582	6,430	5,097	5,434	5,469	
2008 .....	9,666	9,603	7,884	10,492	10,151	11,299	
2009 .....	9,819	6,527	8,942	8,548	11,592	10,577	
2010 .....	14,612	10,421	7,608	8,804	9,971	10,293	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
1996 .....	219	164	195	188	103	22	2,482
1997 .....	134	235	32	163	121	19	942
1998 .....	195	132	21	92	174	90	1,386
1999 .....	475	479	304	217	285	305	3,451
2000 .....	945	981	674	650	871	1,041	8,236
2001 .....	1,968	1,385	1,536	1,608	1,724	1,395	18,079
2002 .....	957	632	670	572	874	906	10,201
2003 .....	435	135	150	384	331	213	5,430
2004 .....	123	1,637	1,801	1,104	1,579	1,420	9,224
2005 .....	2,048	2,684	2,219	4,062	4,648	3,239	30,105
2006 .....	5,232	8,991	9,091	10,672	12,830	8,897	74,964
2007 .....	5,718	8,839	6,741	7,111	7,248	6,880	84,605
2008 .....	8,674	6,994	6,462	7,188	6,198	7,817	102,428
2009 .....	10,765	11,711	12,541	13,857	12,783	11,718	129,380
2010 .....	10,268	9,957	11,626	15,046	12,032	16,897	137,535

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> Import data by species was not available prior to July 2004. Starting with July 2004, data includes freshwater imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes.

## Catfish *Ictalurus* spp. Imports by Month – United States: 2006-2010

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau]

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	
2006 .....	415	417	388	403	356	909	
2007 .....	4,381	3,030	2,101	1,139	1,394	388	
2008 .....	2,944	2,575	2,040	3,040	2,864	1,758	
2009 .....	2,344	1,225	972	1,364	1,659	1,088	
2010 .....	3,091	2,150	1,179	1,220	656	651	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
2006 .....	547	819	391	1,406	2,399	3,421	11,871
2007 .....	401	80	607	1,061	1,199	1,678	17,459
2008 .....	1,202	1,315	987	579	1,374	2,425	23,103
2009 .....	1,849	1,210	1,385	1,584	2,144	2,527	19,351
2010 .....	516	70	195	196	586	1,269	11,779

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Survey data for catfish processing are collected from approximately 18 processors. All participating processors must meet the minimum criteria of having a capacity to process at least 2,000 pounds live weight of catfish per 8-hour shift. The survey is conducted entirely by NASS Headquarters staff in Washington, D.C. However, NASS field offices are responsible for informing Headquarters staff of any new processing operations in their state to ensure complete survey coverage. Processors are contacted either by mail, telephone, fax or internet. Diligent effort is made to ensure that all operations are accounted for in the estimate.

**Estimation Procedures:** The "**Catfish Processing**" report refers strictly to farm-raised fish and excludes wild capture fish. Prior to summarization, questionnaires are compared with the previous month's reports for comparable placement of data, reasonable price levels, and a reasonable inventory carryover given the sales and processing totals reported. Estimates are made for those processors whose reports are not available in time to be included in the release. These plants are identified by an asterisk on page 14 of this release. Estimates are normally based on the processor's previous report and current conditions. Published totals are a straight summation of the individual reports and estimated data. Price items are weighted by the associated volumes to compute weighted average prices. The published price for total whole fish, however, reflects an adjustment to the round and gutted only price to bring it to an equivalent dressed weight price.

If a plant uses a fiscal accounting system, prorating is used to convert reported data to a calendar month basis. Only national level estimates are published due to the limited number of plants involved.

One unique feature of the "**Catfish Processing**" report is the listing of cooperating processors by name on each month's release. This feature originally was used to solicit industry cooperation in maintaining coverage, but it has continued because of the processors' overall acceptance of this policy.

Import and export data for catfish, which are compiled by the United States Census Bureau, are also included in this report.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions may be necessary in the previous month's publication based on late reports received from plants. These revisions are made to improve month to month relationships. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year are reviewed and subject to revision. This review is primarily based on data that may have been received after the original estimates were published.

**Reliability:** Estimates are based on a census of all known active processors and, therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

### Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

America's Catch, Inc.	Harvest Select Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, LLC	Heartland Catfish
Consolidated Catfish Producers, LLC	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Delta Supreme Fish Processors	Pride of the Pond
Fish Breeders of Idaho, Inc.	Prime Line, Inc.
Farm Catch Catfish Processors, Inc.	Seabrook Seafood, Inc.
Freshwater Farms Products, LLC	Simmons Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Guidry Catfish, Inc.	South Fresh Farms
Harings Pride Catfish	Superior Fish Products

## Terms and Definitions Used for Catfish Processing Estimates

**Average Price Paid to Producers:** Refers to the price of fish delivered to the processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include any adjustments based on year-end settlements.

**Fillets:** Boned sides of the fish, cut lengthwise away from the backbone. Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

**Fresh Fish:** Fish intended for immediate consumption. Also referred to as ice-packed.

**Frozen Fish:** Fish which are individually quick frozen and glazed (IQF) or individually bagged and bulk frozen.

***Ictalurus spp.:*** All species under this genus, which includes channel catfish, blue catfish, and other catfish species.

**Nuggets:** Small fillets cuts from below the rib section of the fish and usually includes weight of breading and added ingredients.

**Other Products:** Includes steaks, nuggets, and all other products not separately reported including the weight of breading and added ingredients.

***Pangasius spp.:*** All species under this genus, which includes basa, tra, stuchi catfish, and other catfish species.

**Round & Guttled Only:** Fish with no processing done or viscera only removed.

**Round Weight:** The term for a fish's live weight.

**Siluriformes:** The scientific order which contains all families of catfish.

**Steaks:** Cross-section cuts from larger dressed fish.

**Strips:** Finger size pieces of fish cut from fillets and usually includes breading or added ingredients.

**Whole Dressed:** Weight of whole fish with only head, viscera, and skin removed. Generally, 60 percent of the live weight remains as dressed fish.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section .....	(202) 720-4447
Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 720-3106
David Colwell – Cold Storage .....	(202) 720-8784
Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink .....	(202) 720-0585
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-8632
Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey .....	(202) 720-3244

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- Printed reports may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling toll-free (800) 999-6779, or (703) 605-6220 if calling from outside the United States or Canada. Accepted methods of payment are Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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