



KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Region

# Statistics on Eggplant Imports State of Hawaii, 2008-2020

Hawaii’s eggplant imports surged to an estimated 916.2 thousand pounds in 2020, the highest level since data reporting was restored in 2014. Likewise, the state’s import proportion of eggplant jumped to 66.3 percent in the same year. In contrast, statewide production of eggplant continued to decline on an annual basis to a historical low of 465,000 pounds in 2020, down 36 percent as compared to the previous year.

In any given period, the total consumption availability of eggplant is the sum of import volume and local production. This means that Hawaii imports more when it produces less locally, and vice versa. In 2020, statewide eggplant production was adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

Across the country, leading state producers of eggplant in 2020 were California (1,089 acres)<sup>I</sup>, New Jersey (680 acres)<sup>II</sup>, Georgia (528 acres), and Florida (246 acres). Hawaii produces one third of its total consumption of eggplant on 60 acres, and imports the remaining, mostly from California and Mexico.

**Table 1: Consumption Availability, Production, and Imports of Eggplant in Hawaii**

Year <sup>1</sup>	Consumption Availability U.S. Per Capita (Pounds)	Consumption Availability in Hawaii <sup>2</sup> (1,000 pounds)	Production in Hawaii (1,000 pounds)	Imports to Hawaii (1,000 pounds)	Import Proportion (Percent)
2008 <sup>3</sup>	0.78	1,634.0	900.0	734.0	44.9
2014	0.85	1,323.2	920.0	403.2	30.5
2015	0.85	1,338.4	790.0	548.4	41.0
2016	0.86	1,361.8	930.0	431.8	31.7
2017	0.97	1,544.4	860.0	684.4	44.3
2018	0.81	1,294.2	780.0	514.2	39.7
2019	0.80	1,273.5	730.0	543.5	42.7
2020	0.96	1,381.2	465.0	916.2	66.3

<sup>1</sup> Sourced from USDA-ERS, USDA-NASS, various years.

<sup>2</sup> Based on annual consumption availability of eggplant (U.S Per Capita) except for 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Sourced from Statistics of Hawaii Agriculture 2011 (HDOA/USDA-NASS). Consistent in-shipment data for eggplant was last published in 2008.

**Chart 1: Hawaii Eggplant Imports by Volume and Proportion for Consumption**



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<sup>i</sup> USDA-NASS California County Agriculture Commissioner Statistics 2020. Available at: [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/California/Publications/AgComm/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/AgComm/index.php) (Accessed 12.27.2022).

<sup>ii</sup> USDA-NASS New Jersey 2020 Annual Vegetable Report, May 21, 2021. Available at: [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/New\\_Jersey/Publications/Principal\\_Vegetables\\_Annual\\_Summary/NJ%202020%20Annual%20Vegetable%20Report.pdf](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Jersey/Publications/Principal_Vegetables_Annual_Summary/NJ%202020%20Annual%20Vegetable%20Report.pdf) (Accessed 12.22.2022).