



Pennsylvania Aquaculture

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Northeastern Regional Field Office

4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112-2875
(717) 787-3904 · www.nass.usda.gov

Pennsylvania's trout growers produced trout valued at \$20.7 million in 2021. Commercial trout producers sold 1.55 million pounds of trout, valued at \$7.13 million during 2021, ranking third nationally behind Idaho and North Carolina. Pennsylvania farmers also produced trout valued at \$13.5 million for conservation and recreational purposes.

Pennsylvania ranks third for the value of trout distributed for conservation and recreational purposes, behind Washington and Idaho. Pennsylvania accounts for 10% of the nation's distributed trout value. These trout were produced primarily by the state fish commission, cooperative nurseries, and private fishing clubs. These conservation-related producers grew 640 thousand fish 12 inches or longer, 5.73 million 6-12" fish, and 640 thousand 1-6" fish.

Sales of food fish trout 12-inches or longer in Pennsylvania totaled 1.37 million pounds. Averaging \$4.54 per pound, compared to \$4.57 last year and \$2.01 nationally. Total sales of 12-inch and larger trout were valued at \$6.22 million.

Pennsylvania grower's sales of food fish trout 6 to 12 inches long by Pennsylvania growers totaled 410 thousand fish or 172 thousand pounds live weight during 2021. They were sold at an average of \$4.81 a pound, compared to the national

average of \$4.30. Total sales of 6-12" in Pennsylvania were valued at \$827 thousand.

Pennsylvania growers' sales of trout 1 to 6 inches long totaled 175 thousand fish, or 6 thousand pounds live weight, during 2021. These fish were sold at an average of \$498 per thousand, compared to \$241 nationally. Total sales of 1-to-6-inch trout were valued at \$87 thousand. Total losses of all Pennsylvania trout intended for sale were 484 thousand fish during 2021, or 128 thousand pounds of fish.

Data for trout production are collected from all known producers in the sixteen published states and a sample of producers from the remaining states. NASS Regional Field Offices maintain a list of all known trout producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. Operators are mailed a questionnaire as close as possible to January 1 and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond by mail are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person during the middle of January.

Nationally, the total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the United States totaled \$97.3 million for 2021, an increase of 1% from 2020. Idaho accounted for 35% of the total value of fish sold.

Pennsylvania and U.S.: Trout Sales and Value by Size, 2020-2021

Size category	Number of fish		Live weight sold		Total value of sales		Average value	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Pennsylvania								
12" or longer	990	1,280	1,160	1,370	5,301	6,220	4.57/lb.	4.54/lb.
6" - 12"	(D)	410	(D)	172	(D)	827	(D)	4.81/lb.
1" - 6"	(D)	175	(D)	6	(D)	87	(D)	498/thou
Total	(D)	1,865	(D)	1,548	6,106	7,134	-	-
United States								
12" or longer	25,855	26,340	44,513	44,814	88,565	89,956	1.99/lb.	2.01/lb.
6" - 12"	6,775	4,890	1,833	1,431	6,668	6,159	3.64/lb.	4.30/lb.
1" - 6"	4,785	5,025	107	112	1,011	1,209	211/thou	241/thou
Total	37,415	36,255	46,453	46,357	96,244	97,324	-	-

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

Pennsylvania: Trout Sales and Value, 2010-2019

Year	Number of fish	Live weight sold	Total value of sales	Average Value	
	(1,000)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 dollars)	(dollars/lb.)	
2010		2,250	1,585	5,249	3.31
2011		2,455	1,812	6,265	3.46
2012		(D)	(D)	5,068	(D)
2013		1,470	1,235	5,141	4.16
2014		1,740	1,229	5,571	4.53
2015		1,475	1,232	6,122	4.97
2016		1,600	1,290	5,909	4.58
2017		1,615	1,354	6,276	4.64
2018		2,000	1,544	6,685	4.33
2019		1,790	1,413	6,457	4.57

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

AQUACULTURE CENSUS

Pennsylvania aquaculture product producers reported sales totaling \$11.0 million in the 2021 Aquaculture census conducted from February through March 2022.

Sales of trout comprised 65% of the total aquaculture sales. The remainder was made up of non-trout food fish, sport and game fish, baitfish, crustaceans, mollusks, ornamental fish, and other animal aquaculture (tadpoles, frogs, trout eggs, etc.).

Pennsylvania: Aquaculture Products by Type – Number of Operations and Value of Sales, 2015, 2018 and 2021 ¹

Class	Number of Operations with Sales ²			Value of Sales ³			Percent Change from 2018 (percent)
	2015 (number)	2018 ⁴ (number)	2021 (number)	2015 (dollars)	2018 ⁴ (dollars)	2021 (dollars)	
Trout	(D)	38	(D)	6,122,000 ⁵	6,768,000	7,134,000 ⁵	5
Non-trout Foodfish	9	(D)	10	(D)	275,000	311,000	13
Baitfish	11	11	11	492,504	231,000	(D)	(NA)
Ornamental and Aquarium fish	16	8	16	778,403	808,000	(D)	(NA)
Sport/Game fish	11	9	11	243,738	269,000	371,000	38
Mollusks	6	-	5	12,631	-	(D)	(NA)
Crustaceans	-	1	1	-	(D)	(D)	(NA)
Other Aquaculture (including trout eggs)	9	5	7	20,451	(D)	27,000	(NA)
All Aquaculture	55	55	51	8,588,214	8,364,000	11,029,000	32

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

¹ Includes only operations with at least \$1,000 in aquaculture sales during the 2021 calendar year.

² The sum of operations number for specific categories is greater than the number of operations due to some operations producing multiple species in different categories.

³ Total value of sales includes the value of non-disclosed categories.

⁴ Number of operations and sales are from the national 2018 Census of Aquaculture. Species in certain categories may differ between the national Census of Aquaculture and the Pennsylvania Aquaculture Census.

⁵ Trout sales are from the NASS national trout survey.

Food fish – Farm-raised for food, or food or sport such as carp, catfish, hybrid striped bass, perch, salmon, sturgeon, tilapia, and walleye.

Baitfish - Fish used for bait such as fathead minnows, golden shiners, feeder goldfish, suckers, killifish, chubs, and other minnows.

Ornamental/aquarium fish - Various fish raised for water gardens, such as koi, ornamental goldfish, and ornamental catfish. Examples of fish in the Aquarium fish category include angelfish, guppies, and tropical fish. Ornamental fish are divided into two categories: Aquarium species may not be propagated in open-air facilities; Ornamental species can be propagated outdoors.

Sport/game fish - Farm-raised fish for sport or game fishing, such as largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, sunfish, muskie, northern pike, and smallmouth bass.

Mollusks - Invertebrate animals with soft body coverings and shells of 1-18 parts or sections. This category includes the production of clams, mussels, oysters, and snails.

Crustaceans - Invertebrate animals with many jointed legs and a hard external shell, such as crawfish, shrimp, and soft-shell crabs.

Other aquaculture - The production of frogs, tadpoles, turtles, and egg and seed stock is not listed separately.

