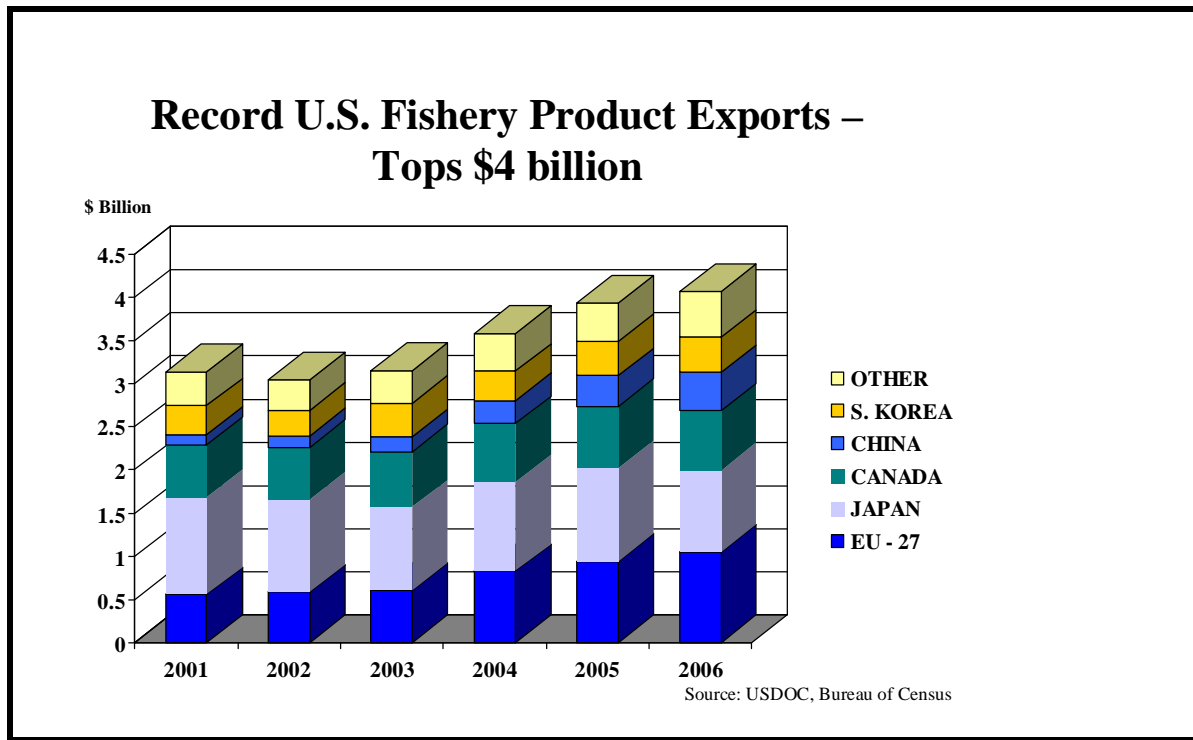


## U.S. FISHERY PRODUCT EXPORTS EXCEED \$4 BILLION IN 2006

U.S. fishery product exports were valued at over \$4 billion in 2006, an increase of 4 percent or \$138 million compared with 2005. Exports increased in three of the five top markets, which account for 87 percent of U.S. fishery product exports.



The European Union – 27 (EU) is now the largest export market for the United States, with 26 percent of total value of exports. Exports climbed to over \$1 billion and 308,198 metric tons (MT) in 2006, jumping 13 percent in value and 5 percent in volume from the previous year. Continued increases in demand for quality whitefish contributed to the surge. Top product exports to the EU include pollock, lobster, salmon, cod and scallops.

Japan ranked second, with exports dropping to \$937 million and 286,257 MT in 2006, a 13 percent decrease in value and 18 percent decrease in volume from the year earlier. Salmon product exports of \$135 million accounted for over two thirds of the decline due to a reduced sockeye salmon harvest. Japan continues to be a major market for U.S. fishery products as competition stiffens and demand increases in other foreign markets. Top product exports include surimi, pollock and salmon.

Exports to Canada dropped to \$695 million and 146,791 MT in 2006, declining 2 percent in value and 12 percent in volume from the previous year. Salmon exports of 28,094 MT accounted for over 40 percent of the decline in volume due to a reduced 2006 U.S. salmon supply. Top products exported to Canada include lobster, salmon and halibut.

U.S. fishery product exports to China increased 25 percent to \$445 million and 13 percent in volume to 229,373 MT in 2006. China is growing both as a market and as a processing center where product is processed and then re-exported to markets such as Japan and the United States. Top products include salmon, cod, sole and squid.

Exports to South Korea increased to \$406 million and 140,567 MT in 2006, increasing 3 percent in value and 7 percent in volume from the previous year. Increased salmon and sole exports contributed to the rise as product is often stored in Korea for further processing in Korea or in other markets such as China. Top products exported to Korea include pollock and surimi.