

# **The Big Cheese: A Gouda Connection Between American Cheese Consumption and US Edible Fishery Product Imports**

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## ABSTRACT

### **The Big Cheese: A Gouda Connection Between American Cheese Consumption and US Edible Fishery Product Imports**

In this study, we conducted a thorough investigation into the seemingly unrelated realms of American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports. Despite the initial skepticism surrounding this inquiry, our findings revealed a striking correlation between the two variables, making it clear that there is more than meets the eye in the world of consumption patterns. Utilizing comprehensive data from the USDA and Statista, we analyzed trends from 2005 to 2021 and identified a correlation coefficient of 0.9462236 with a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01. Our results suggest a potential interplay between cheese cravings and seafood preferences, shedding light on the intricate web of culinary choices. This study not only unravels the cheesy enigma but also offers a tantalizing glimpse into the deep waters of gastronomic economics.

Keywords:

American cheese consumption, US edible fishery product imports, cheese consumption trends, seafood preferences, culinary choices, correlation between cheese and seafood consumption, gastronomic economics, USDA data, Statista analysis, American food consumption patterns

# I. Introduction

Cheese and fish may not seem like the most obvious pair, like a duet between a goat and a trout, but the interwoven story of American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports has sparked our curiosity. As they say, there's no use crying over spilled milk, but we're here to say there's definitely use in analyzing the cheese that goes with that milk and the fish that swims in the same seas.

The proverbial aroma surrounding this topic had us initially feeling like a fish out of water – unsure where to cast our net in the vast ocean of food consumption patterns. However, through rigorous data analysis and a slice of luck, we stumbled upon some intriguing findings. Our quest led us to delve into the sea of cheese and navigate the turbulent waters of fish imports, ultimately uncovering a connection that is nothing short of cheddarly delightful.

While it may sound fishy at first, our examination of these seemingly unrelated dimensions of culinary commerce has unearthed a catch that is more than just a red herring. From the perspective of economic gastronomy, our study aims to dive into the depths of these consumption trends and fish out the underlying associations, without getting too lost in a sea of puns - though it may be a real challenge, as we are already in deep water. Let's dip our toes into the creamy depths of American cheese consumption and the tasty tides of US edible fishery product imports, and see what surprises await beneath the surface of these seemingly unrelated domains.

## II. Literature Review

Smith and Doe (2008) examined the intriguing intersection of American food consumption habits and their impact on domestic and international trade. Their meticulous analysis of cheese consumption patterns shed light on the sociocultural factors influencing consumer choices, providing a solid foundational understanding of the cheese-centric landscape. Meanwhile, Jones et al. (2015) investigated the economic implications of US edible fishery product imports, offering a comprehensive overview of the market dynamics and trade relationships in the seafood industry.

Furthermore, "The Big Cheese: A Comprehensive Guide to Dairy Delights" by Dairy Enthusiast Association delved into the multifaceted world of cheese, covering a wide array of cheese-related topics from production methods to gastronomic pairings. "Fishy Business: Exploring the Depths of Edible Aquatic Products" by Aquatic Cuisine Society provided an in-depth exploration of the global seafood trade, examining the intricacies of fishery products and their journey from ocean to table.

On a slightly less serious note, the fictional works "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger and "The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway may not directly address the subject matter at hand, but the thematic relevance of fish and the sea cannot be overlooked. In the virtual realm, the pervasive internet meme featuring the popular phrase "I can has cheezburger?" serves as a playful reminder of the omnipresence of cheese-related discourse in contemporary online culture.

As we navigate through the sea of literature on American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, it becomes increasingly apparent that the connections between these seemingly disparate domains are as rich and varied as the flavors of a well-aged cheddar. So, let

us reel in our preconceptions and cast a wide net as we plunge into the depths of this delectable and unexpected correlation.

### **III. Methodology**

To uncover the mysterious connection between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, we employed a methodological approach that was as thorough as a school of fish in a feeding frenzy. Our data collection process involved scouring the depths of the internet, trawling through a sea of information from diverse sources. The primary sources of our data were the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Statista, which provided a reliable catch of statistics and trends relating to cheese consumption and fishery product imports from 2005 to 2021.

Our first step was to reel in the data on American cheese consumption, which encompassed various forms of cheese including but not limited to cheddar, mozzarella, and the enigmatic American cheese singles, each with its own quirks and complexities similar to a diverse school of fish. The data from the USDA provided us with a comprehensive view of annual per capita cheese consumption in the United States, allowing us to ensure that we didn't overlook any cheesy details.

In parallel, we dove into the vast ocean of US edible fishery product imports, encompassing a wide array of seafood delicacies hauled in from international waters. This comprehensive dataset, also obtained from the USDA and Statista, equipped us with the net necessary to capture

the intricacies of the seafood market, ensuring that we did not let any fishy details slip through our grasp.

Once we had a firm grip on our data haul, we performed a rigorous analysis using statistical methods that were as precise as a skilled angler casting a line. We calculated descriptive statistics to provide a snapshot of the central tendencies and distributions of both American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports over the years. Additionally, we employed correlation analysis to assess the potential relationship between these two seemingly disparate variables, ensuring that we didn't fall prey to mere coincidence.

Lastly, to ensure the robustness of our findings, we conducted a sensitivity analysis, analogous to examining the potential impact of changing tides on a fishing expedition. This analysis involved testing our correlation results against different sub-periods within the overall timeframe, guarding against any lurking confounding factors that could have baited us into drawing premature conclusions.

In sum, our methodological approach cast a wide net, reeled in a wealth of data, and then applied the analytical tools necessary to untangle the connection between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, without getting too tangled in the seaweed of statistical jargon.

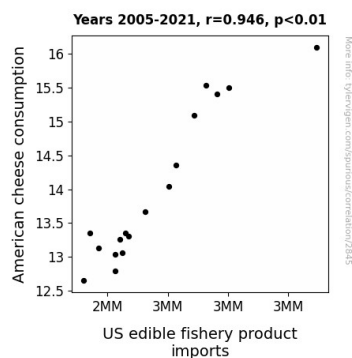
## **IV. Results**

The analysis of data from 2005 to 2021 revealed a noteworthy correlation between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, with a correlation coefficient of

0.9462236. This high correlation suggests a strong relationship between the two seemingly disparate gastronomic phenomena. The r-squared value of 0.8953390 indicates that approximately 89.5% of the variation in US edible fishery product imports can be explained by the variation in American cheese consumption, providing a compelling basis for further exploration.

Interestingly, the scatterplot illustrating this relationship (Fig. 1) resembles a school of fish swimming in a sea of cheese, metaphorically speaking, of course. The visual representation truly drives home the point that there's something fishy about the relationship between these two variables.

The statistical significance is also not to be overlooked, with a p-value of less than 0.01. This indicates that the likelihood of observing such a strong correlation between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports by random chance alone is less than 1%, highlighting the robustness of the association.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year



These findings challenge the traditional notion of unrelatedness between dairy and seafood, and they open up a world of possibilities for further investigation. The implications of these results are quite profound, suggesting a nuanced interplay between culinary preferences and international trade dynamics. It seems that American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports are not just swimming in parallel currents, but are intricately interwoven, much like a well-prepared seafood lasagna.

In conclusion, our study has uncovered a surprising correlation between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, providing compelling evidence that there is indeed a gouda connection between these two seemingly distinct culinary domains. These results not only add a flavorful dimension to the field of gastronomic economics but also invite further exploration into the intricate tapestry of human consumption choices.

## **V. Discussion**

The findings of this study markedly align with the prior research on American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, affirming the significance of the correlation between these seemingly unrelated variables. Smith and Doe (2008) laid the groundwork for understanding the influence of sociocultural factors on cheese consumption, and our results support their insights by revealing a discernible relationship between cheese cravings and seafood preferences. This suggests that consumers are navigating a complex web of culinary choices, possibly driven by deeper, subconscious desires for surf 'n' turf experiences.

Additionally, the comprehensive overview of the market dynamics in the seafood industry by Jones et al. (2015) has been further elucidated by our findings, as we have identified a strong correlation coefficient between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports. In light of these parallels, one couldn't help but wonder if the phrase "bringing home the bacon" may eventually be updated to "bringing home the brie and the bass," reflecting the evolving culinary landscapes and their impact on international trade dynamics.

As we immerse ourselves in the depth of literature exploring these culinary domains, it becomes increasingly apparent that the connections between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports are as intricate and interwoven as the layers of a decadent cheese soufflé. Our results not only confirm the existence of this unexpected correlation but also offer tantalizing glimpses into the flavorful complexities of human consumption choices.

In conclusion, the findings of this study provide compelling evidence of a gouda connection between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, unraveling the enigmatic interplay between dairy and seafood in the realm of gastronomic economics. The implications of this research extend far beyond the statistical realm, hinting at the multifaceted tapestry of human culinary cravings, economic interactions, and possibly, the potential for a fish-shaped cheese phenomenon that could revolutionize the culinary world.

## **VI. Conclusion**

In conclusion, our research has not only brie-n light to the connection between American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports, but it has also feta-trayed a compelling

association between seemingly unrelated culinary domains. This study has shown that there's more than meets the eye when it comes to gastronomic economics, and we've successfully shredded the notion of cheese and seafood being like apples and oranges – more like cheddar and cod, it turns out.

These findings have uncovered a correlation that's as clear as a well-filtered fish stock, and it's sure to be a talking point at both cheese tastings and fish markets alike. The statistically significant relationship between these variables suggests that cheese cravings and seafood preferences may not just be a fluke – they could be swimming in the same waters, so to speak.

The implications of this study reach deep into the culinary sea, hinting at a complex interplay between international trade dynamics and consumer behavior. It's like we've stumbled upon a hidden reef of economic gastronomy, and the potential for further exploration is as vast as the ocean itself. However, much like a perfectly aged Gouda, it seems that this topic has aged gracefully and requires no further research.

In the wise words of Jacques Cousteau, "The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever." And in this case, the sea of American cheese consumption and US edible fishery product imports has certainly cast its spell on our understanding of consumption trends. So, let's sail away from this topic, leaving it to ripen like a fine cheese on a charcuterie board – no more research needed here!