

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS IN ISRAEL

DEFINITIONS, EXPLANATIONS AND SOURCES

Marketing of Domestic Agricultural Products (Tables 1–6)

This is a monthly series of data, which includes only finished domestic produce (From January 2008 includes transfers to Judea, Samaria and Gaza Areas) (i.e., after growing, picking, sorting and packing) for the surveyed month. The produce was marketed to the domestic market, export, and manufacturing.

The data include produce sold (marketed) through the following marketing and collecting bodies:

- (1) Production boards
- (2) Agricultural organizations (including estimation)
- (3) Vegetables and fruits wholesalers
- (4) Exporters
- (5) Manufacturing enterprises and slaughterhouses

In some cases (e.g., cotton), data refer to produce stored prior to marketing.

The series does not include agricultural produce that is not marketed through these bodies, e.g., private sales, nor does it include private consumption or intermediate produce.

Since 2006, as a result of changes in the Plants Board, data on fruits for local consumption are based on the Board's estimations. From June to December 2006, data on vegetables are also based on estimations. From January 2008, the data on fruits are based on quarterly estimations of the Plants Board.

The Value of Produce

The value of produce is computed according to prices estimated during the surveyed month (at current prices) at the point where the produce is released from the agriculture industry (the stage where the produce is conveyed to manufacturing – upon entry to the enterprises; to local marketing – when entering the wholesale market; or to export – with transfer to the ports). The annual summary of the value is calculated by adjusting monthly values to the annual average, according to the Consumer Price Index.

It should be pointed out:

- (1) The field crops group includes only: wheat, cotton, groundnuts, maize and peas. These crops are the bulk (about 70 percent) of the quantity (in tonnage) and value (in NIS) of the field crops.
- (2) Data of cattle, sheep and goats (in tons) are estimated according to the number of heads slaughtered at slaughterhouses. The weight is estimated for each type of cattle by groups.

Export of Agricultural Produce (Tables 7–8)

Canned vegetables and fruits are not included in this series, because they pertain to the definition of manufacturing rather than of agriculture.

Month of Export (period of export)

The data in this series refer to the actual month of export, which in certain cases may be later than the month in which the produce was collected. Consequently, there may be discrepancies between the data of produce collected for export and the data of actual exports.

f.o.b.: free on board – the rates charged at the port, i.e., the value of exports before deducting discounts and fees charged by foreign entities.

Average Prices (Tables 9–10)

- Selected products (Table 9): For some of the vegetables, fruits and livestock products, consumer prices are presented.
- Selected inputs in Agriculture (Table 10): Average prices as paid by farmers are presented for main inputs in Agriculture.

The average prices are intended to serve as indicators of the price range. They should not be used for computing indices.

Input Price Index in Agriculture (Table 11)

(1) The indices measure the influence of price changes on the income from agricultural products, and on the expenditure for products, materials and services used for producing agricultural output.

(2) The agriculture industry is defined according to the *Standard Classification of All Economic Activities, 1993*.¹

According to this definition, the agriculture industry includes farms engaged in agricultural production, e.g., field crops and vegetables, animal husbandry and fruit plantations, offshore fishery and pond fisheries as well as enterprises that supply services solely to the agriculture industry, such as packing of fruits, spraying, and preparation of seed.

(3) The input and output "baskets", whose prices have been measured since January 2001, represent the income and expenditure components of Agriculture in the base period of the index, which is: 2000 = 100.0.

(4) For full details on the definitions of indices, their principles and methods of compilation – see *Input and Output Price indices in the Agricultural Branch*.²

Sales of Feed Mix (Table 12)

The data are an estimate of quantities produced in feed mix enterprises and exclude feed concentrates that are not included in the mix supplied by feeding centres to cattle farming. Data are based on enumeration of all active feed mix enterprises.

¹ CBS, *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities 1993*, Second Edition, Technical Publication No. 63, Jerusalem, 2003.

² CBS, *Input and Output Price Indices in the Agricultural Branch 1986*, Technical Publication No. 58, Jerusalem, 1991.