



## METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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# PRICE INDICES AND PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

Price indices and purchase of agricultural products, Slovenia, monthly (FirstRelease)

Price indices and purchase of agricultural products, Slovenia, annually (FirstRelease)



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Content	
1	PURPOSE..... 3
2	LEGAL FRAMEWORK..... 3
3	UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA..... 3
4	SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT..... 3
5	SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION..... 4
6	DEFINITIONS..... 5
7	EXPLANATIONS..... 6
8	PUBLISHING..... 8
9	REVISION OF THE DATA..... 8
10	OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS..... 9

## 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing the data on the producer price indices of agricultural products is to present monthly, quarterly and annual trends in the prices of agricultural products.

The purpose of publishing the data on the purchase of agricultural products is to present the trend in the quantities, values and average prices of agricultural products purchased directly from private producers or sold by companies selling products from their own production.

Key statistics are:

- Producer price index of agricultural products
- Value of purchased agricultural products
- Quantity of purchased agricultural products
- Average price of purchased agricultural products

## 2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\) \(only in Slovene\)](#)
- [National Statistics Act \(OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01\)](#)
- Gentlemen's Agreement with Eurostat (transmission of data on producer price indices and prices of agricultural products on the basis of partnership)

## 3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The unit described by the published data is the agricultural product grown in the area of the Republic of Slovenia and purchased directly from private producers or sold by companies selling products from their own production.

The agricultural product is monitored as regards the value, quantity and average price. At agricultural products we observe the price at the producer, i.e. price for one unit of individual agricultural product (kg, t, pcs, l), received by the producer at selling the agricultural product grown in the area of the Republic of Slovenia.

## 4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

Observation units are companies, co-operatives and other organizations that sell products from their own production or purchase agricultural products

directly from farmers for further selling or processing. The observation units are legal entities registered in the Republic of Slovenia, selling products from their own production or purchasing agricultural products directly from farmers for sale in the domestic market or for export.

In the survey we strive to achieve full coverage. Covered is therefore a selection of representative companies that purchase agricultural products directly from the private producers or sell products from their own production. The survey covers all larger and most of the smaller companies that purchase agricultural products directly from the farmers as well as agricultural products sold by producers. The survey do not cover some small companies that purchase agricultural products. There is no special activity code for the purchase or sale of agricultural products, so units have registered a variety of activities and some of them are difficult to detect.

In the survey Purchase and sale of agricultural products (KME-OPKP/M) is included about 200 units.

The list of agricultural products observed by the survey on purchase and sale of agricultural products is determined as regards the representativeness of individual products in the production of agricultural products (covered are all important products). The survey covers also the products less represented in the production, because data are important for data users (for example: evaluation of agricultural production in Economic Accounts for Agriculture).

The list of products covered in the calculation of price indices of agricultural products (groups, subgroups, categories) is determined by Eurostat and is also in line with the Economic Accounts for Agriculture. The list of products and groups of products is listed in Eurostat's Handbook for EU Agricultural Price Statistics, Annex 1.

In calculation of producer price indices of agricultural products is included 74 agricultural products.

## **5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION**

Data are collected monthly.

Data are collected by statistical survey:

- Purchase and sale of agricultural products (KME-OPKP/M)

Data are collected by electronic questionnaire. Reporting units are required to send the required data for the last month not later than by the 15th of the next month.

Data are collected by questionnaire:

- Questionnaire for the statistical survey Purchase and sale of Agricultural Products (KME-OPKP/M)

Questionnaires are available only in Slovene.

Data on the purchase of milk from a few smaller units are exceptionally obtained from an administrative source, namely the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development.

## 6 DEFINITIONS

**Producer price of agricultural products** is a price for one unit of individual agricultural product (kg, t, pcs, l) that the producer got at selling the agricultural product. Prices are recorded at the first marketing stage to best indicate the actual producer prices received by farmers. Prices do not include VAT, subsidies and supports that producers obtain for certain products. Manipulation costs related to the delivery of agricultural products, storage, costs of returnable packaging and other payment facilities granted to the buyer are also not included.

**Weights** represent the total value of purchase and sale of individual agricultural products in the base period and give importance to the individual agricultural product in the total value of purchase and sale of agricultural products.

**The base period** is the period where indices are fixed at level 100; in addition, data in the base period are used to define weights and base prices. In observing producer prices of agricultural products the base period is the year ending in "0" or "5". From 2024 on the year 2020 is the base period.

**Base prices** are prices in the base period. The basis for determining the base prices of agricultural products at producers are the data on purchases and sales of agricultural products during the base period.

**Total purchase of agricultural products** covers all data of the monthly statistical survey Purchase and sale of agricultural products.

**Purchase of agricultural products** is the purchase of agricultural products from farmers through organizations authorized for processing or further direct sale of purchased products. Data on the purchase of agricultural products exclude data on products purchased from other organizations.

**Sale of agricultural products** is the sale of agricultural products by companies, co-operatives and other organizations that sell products from their own production. Not considered as sale is the giving of raw materials to own units for processing. In this case only the products of these units are considered as sale (dairy products, alcoholic drinks, etc.).

**Value of purchased agricultural products** is the value that private producers (farmers) get for sold agricultural products. Manipulation costs related to the delivery of agricultural products from farmers with transport to the storage are not included.

**Value of sold agricultural products** is the value that market producers (companies) get for sold agricultural products from own production. The costs related to the preparation of products for delivery to the loading station (sorting, packaging, etc.) are included. The price of packaging that is returned and the costs of transport to the loading and unloading station and other facilities of payment granted to the buyer are not included.

## **7 EXPLANATIONS**

### **7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS**

Codes of products, published in the SiStat Database, table Producer price indices of agricultural products, are in line with codes used by Agriculture Price Statistics and Eurostat and are also in line with the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (NewCRONOS).

### **7.2 DATA PROCESSING**

#### **DATA EDITING**

Data were edited by using appropriate individual corrections.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Statistical data editing](#).

#### **WEIGHTING**

Producer price indices of agricultural products at the group level are calculating by using weights. Weights for non-seasonal products are the same for each month of the year, while weights for seasonal products (crop products) are different, depending on the season. Missing prices of seasonal products cannot be substituted with the last recorded price, so in that case we use variable monthly weights which depend on the season.

#### **SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Seasonal adjustment is not applicable.

### **7.3 INDICES**

Base price indices of agricultural products are calculated on the basis of monthly prices of agricultural products, based on the Laspeyres formula (standardized average of the quantity and price of the base period). The basis for calculating monthly prices of agricultural products at producers are the data on purchases and sales of agricultural products (quantities and values of purchased agricultural products).

Monthly base price indices are calculated by comparing monthly prices in reference month with base prices for each agricultural product (individual price indices) and from individual indices, by using the weighting scheme, aggregate price indices. Quarterly and annually base indices are calculated on the basis of monthly price indices of agricultural products. Base indices show price changes compared to the average annual prices in base year.

Chain indices are calculated by comparing reference month with the same month in the previous year, reference quarter with the same quarter in the previous year and reference year with previous year. Comparison the reference month with previous month in the same year and reference quarter with the previous quarter in the same year is not allowed due to variable (seasonal) weights.

From 2024 on the base period is year 2020 (average 2020=100).

For the current year the forecast of annual producer price indices of agricultural products is calculated on the basis of price movement of agricultural products in the period January of the previous year and September of the current year and on the basis of estimations of price movement of agricultural products in the period October–December of the current year. Forecasts of producer price indices of agricultural products for the current year are published in November in the SiStat Database, table Producer price indices of agricultural products, annually. Data are published on the level of groups of products.

#### **7.4 PRECISION**

The survey is not conducted on the basis of a random sample.

#### **7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS**

Data that are statistically protected to respect the confidentiality of reporting units are replaced with the letter »z«.

Published average annual prices of agricultural products are calculated on the basis of the monthly statistical survey on the purchase of agricultural products and sale of agricultural products (quantities and values of purchased and sold agricultural products). Annual producer price indices of agricultural products are calculated on the basis of monthly producer price indices of agricultural products and thus annual prices of agricultural products, calculated on the basis of the annual producer price indices of agricultural products, may differ from published prices of agricultural products.

Data on the quantity of purchased livestock refer to live weight of animals.

## 8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat Database: [Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery](#) – Agriculture Price Statistics – Producer Price Indices of Agricultural Products; absolute data (weights) and base indices published at the level of some individual agricultural product and groups of products.
- SiStat Database: [Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery](#) – Agricultural Price Statistics – Purchase of agricultural products; absolute data, quantities and average prices published at the level of the individual agricultural product and values published at the level of groups of products.
- First Release ([Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing](#), Prices in Agriculture): »Producer price indices of agricultural products, monthly«.
- First Release ([Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing](#), Prices in Agriculture): »Producer price indices of agricultural products, annually«.
- EUROSTAT (Statistical Office of the European Union)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

## 9 REVISION OF THE DATA

### 9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Monthly and quarterly data for the current year are provisional. With each release the data can be corrected and completed with new data. The monthly and quarterly data get the status of final data with the publication of annual data (at the latest at the end of February of the following year).

Annual data are published as final.

Publishing of provisional and final data is planned. Due to the needs of users for timely information, provisional data are published that meet the criteria of the quality of official statistical data but do not meet the quality that can be met with complete coverage. Data are revised when recent, more complete and better data can significantly contribute to the quality of data-based decision-making.

### 9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

In the price indices of agricultural products the time series is broken when the base year is changed. The base year is changed every 5 years, usually in the years ending in 3 or 8 (rebasings to the base year ending in 0 or 5). Indices of two time series are not comparable as indices for each base period are calculated for 5 years ago.

In 2021 the reporting unit who is reporting data on purchase and/or sale of poultry changed methodology of calculating data on chickens. Therefore data until 2021 are not completely comparable with the data before that period.



## 10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURS's website are available at <https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/QuestionnairesMethodologicalExplanationsQualityReports>.

- Questionnaire:
  - Purchase and sale of agricultural products (KME-OPKP/M)

Theme: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, Subtheme: Prices in Agriculture

Questionnaires are available only in Slovene.

- Quality report for the survey:
  - Purchase and sale of agricultural products (KME-OPKP/M)

Theme: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, SubTheme: Prices in Agriculture

- Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure: (ESMS): Price indices of agricultural products (apri\_pi), [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/apri\\_pi\\_esms.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/apri_pi_esms.htm)
- Handbook for EU Agricultural Price Statistics, 2020, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/Annexes/apri\\_pi\\_esms\\_an1.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/Annexes/apri_pi_esms_an1.pdf)