

Agricultural Production Volume

Metadata

National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova (NBS)

1. Contact Information

1.1. Responsible subdivision within NBS

Agriculture and Environment Statistics Division

1.2. Contact person

Elena Orlova, Head of Division

tel.: +373 22 40 30 22

e-mail: elena.orlova@statistica.gov.md

Aurora Garabagiu, Head of Section

tel.: +373 22 40 30 23

e-mail: aurora.garabagiu@statistica.gov.md

2. Metadata Update

2.1. Last certification of metadata

14.02.2019

2.2. Last update of metadata

14.02.2019

3. Statistical Presentation

3.1. General description

Agriculture represents the main branch of Moldova's national economy, having a significant share in GDP. It represents a complex and specific activity, which includes two branches: plant growing and livestock breeding.

To study the trends of agricultural production development, to determine the structures by categories of households, ownership forms, branches, and to develop the macroeconomic calculations for the country, the agricultural production is calculated in value expression (in comparable and current prices).

These calculations are performed for global agricultural production: total, plant and animal production, by categories of households, by regions of the country.

The information source for developing the agricultural production calculations in comparable and current prices derives from the natural indicators on plant and animal production, and comparable and current prices. The annual natural indicators regarding the plant production are presented in the statistical report "Production obtained on sown areas"; and those regarding the animal production – in the statistical report "Livestock sector status" (annual).

Data on quarterly natural indicators regarding the plant production are presented in the statistical survey "Crop harvesting, winter crops sowing and winter tillage"; and regarding the animal production – in the statistical survey "Livestock sector status" (quarterly).

Source of quarterly data on crop and livestock prices are quarterly surveys for different categories of farmers:

- Large producers - exhaustive survey data regarding the quantity and value of agricultural production sold;
- For small producers – sample survey data.

To estimate the value of agricultural production there are used:

- Current prices;
- Comparable prices.

Current prices - are the average prices of sale of agricultural production in the reporting year.

Comparable prices - are the average prices of sale of agricultural production in the previous year.

Data on agricultural enterprises are presented on all enterprises, organizations, unions of enterprises producing agricultural products and serving the agriculture, as well as enterprises and organizations with a non-agricultural main activity.

Data on households include data on population auxiliary households, horticultural associations and privatized horticultural groups.

Data on farms include data on agricultural activity of persons who have been assigned land parcels instead of land shares.

3.2. Concepts and definition

3.2.1. Definitions

Agricultural production in value expression is calculated in current prices, also in prices of 2005 - for comparability at the calculation of relative indicators, and it is determined as the sum of plant and animal production.

Volume of plant production is determined by the size of global yield of agricultural crops, and is expressed in current and comparable prices.

Volume of animal production is determined by the quantity of live weight, the increase received and the growth of young animals for year, the increase in weight of mature animals, in the result of fattening, and also the quantity of milk, wool, eggs and other animal products obtained in the result of use of animal and poultry, having no relation with their slaughtering. The volume of animal production is expressed in current and comparable prices.

Gross output in current prices includes also the value of market services (for payment) provided by enterprises serving agriculture and agricultural enterprises, households producing agricultural production and non-market services, provided by budgetary institutions and organizations.

3.2.2. Unit of measure

Data expressed in **absolute** values: global yield, quantity of milk and meat – in quintals, area of land – in hectares, population of animals and poultry – in heads, quantity of eggs – thousand pieces, volume of agricultural production – thousand lei. Indicators on: rhythm of growth/decrease of agricultural production as a total, by branches, categories of households, separately by crops, structure of agricultural production by ownership forms, by branches are expressed in **percentages (%)**.

3.2.3. Computation formula

Volume of agricultural production (VP) in comparable prices = Volume of plant production (VPp) in comparable prices + Volume of animal production (VPa) in comparable prices

Volume of plant production (VPp) in comparable prices = natural indicators (quantity) x comparable prices

Volume of animal production (VPa) in comparable prices = natural indicators (quantity) x comparable prices

Volume of agricultural production (VP) in current prices = Volume of plant production (VPp) in current prices + Volume of animal production (VPa) in current prices + Volume of services (VS) in current prices

Volume of plant production (VPp) in current prices = natural indicators (quantity) x current prices

Volume of animal production (VPa) in current prices = natural indicators (quantity) x current prices

Rhythm of agricultural production growth/decrease as total, by categories of households, by branches

and elements of structure = Volume of agricultural production in comparable prices for the respective period of the current year / Volume of agricultural production in comparable prices for the respective period of the previous year

3.3. Used classifications

Classifier of Activities in Moldova Economy (CAEM - *Clasificatorul Activităților Economice a Moldovei in Romanian*), harmonized with NACE ver.1, approved via Moldova-Standard Decision no. 694-ST dated 09.02.2000, including the modification no. 1 approved via Decision no. 1444-ST dated 04.01. 2004; in force since 01.02.2004; edition 2005;

Classifier of Ownership Forms in the Republic of Moldova (CFP - *Clasificatorul formelor de proprietate din Republica Moldova, in Romanian*): approved via the Decision of the Standards, Metrology, and Technical Supervision Department No. 276-st dated 04.02.1997;

Classifier of Organizational-Legal Forms (CFOJ – *Clasificatorul formelor organizatorico-juridice din Republica Moldova in Romanian*), approved via the Moldova-Standard Decision No. 1607-ST dated 09.11.2004, in force since 01.01.2005

Classifier of Administrative-Territorial Units of the Republic of Moldova (CUATM - *Clasificatorul unităților administrativ-teritoriale al Republicii Moldova in Romanian*), approved via the Moldova-Standard Decision No. 1398-ST dated 03.09.2003; in force since 03.09.2003.

3.4. Scope

3.4.1. Sector coverage

All the enterprises, organizations and other legal entities and natural persons producing agricultural products, which possess or holds in use agricultural land plots and perform agricultural activities, regardless of the organizational-legal forms and ownership type.

3.4.2. Statistical population

The scope of the exhaustive surveys covers:

- agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land plots of 10 or 50 ha and over (included in the exhaustive surveys, depending on the survey),
- farms with agricultural land plots of up to 10 ha and individual households (included in the sample surveys).

3.4.3. Geographical coverage

Information is developed and disseminated without the data of the enterprises and organizations from the left part of the River Nistru and Bender municipality.

3.4.4. Time coverage

Time series are available starting with 1990.

3.5. Disaggregation level

Statistical data regarding the volume of agricultural production are developed and presented by:

- total for the country;
- categories of households;
- main branches of agriculture (plan growing, livestock, and services).
- regions of the country.

3.6. Dissemination frequency

Quarterly, annually.

3.7. Timeliness

Quarterly – the 27th day after the reported quarter;

Annually – January 27 after the reported year.

3.8. Revision

Disseminated data are preliminary for the reported period and final for quarterly data – the 63rd day after

the reported period, for annual data – September 24 after the reported year.

3.9. Period of reference

The period of reference is the cumulative period from the beginning of the year.

4. Data Collection and Processing

4.1. Data source

4.1.1. Statistical surveys

Name of the statistical survey	Statistical report form	Survey objective	Statistical unit	Circle of units	Survey frequency
Production obtained for yield of crops from sown areas	29-agr.	global yield by types of crops	Enterprise, household	5200	quarterly
Livestock sector status	24-agr.	quantity by types of products	Enterprise, household	410	annually, quarterly
Consumption and expenditures in production (works and services)	14-agr	expenditures in production (works, services)	Enterprise, household	1990	annually
Sale of agricultural production by agricultural enterprises	21-vînz.	Sale prices for agricultural production, agricultural price indices	Enterprise, household	2100	annually, quarterly
Activity of Small Agricultural Producers (SSAP)	Questionnaires A, B, C, D	volume of plant and animal production, sale of agricultural production, consumption and expenditures, revenues	household, natural person	A – 2332 B – 3000 C – 3000 D - 530	annually, quarterly
Prices for goods and services procured by the agricultural enterprises	Surveys 1 PPI , 2 PPI , 3 PPI , 4 PPI, 5 PPI , 6 PPI	Price indices for goods and services procured by the agricultural enterprises	enterprise, organization	173	annually

4.1.2. Administrative sources

Information on provision of agricultural services on the state budget account.

4.1.3. Estimations

Estimations are applied for the preliminary quarterly data on plan and animal production in the sector of small agricultural producers – individual households and farms with agricultural plots of 10 ha.

4.2. Characteristics of the statistical survey

4.2.1. Objective and background

See p.4.1.

4.2.2. Statistical unit

See p.4.1.

4.2.3. Circle of units covered in the survey
See p.4.1.
4.2.4. Survey frequency
See p.4.1.
4.2.5. Data collection
The data are collected by filling in the statistical forms and submitting filled-in statistical reports to the territorial statistical bodies; the reports are submitted by the economic units covered in the survey.
4.3. Processing and compilation of data
4.3.1. Data validation
Data are verified and analyzed from their quality point of view, especially in relation to their internal coherence, temporal coherence, as well as coherence with other data.
4.3.2. Compilation/extrapolation of data
Data are compiled based on the centralization of information obtained within the statistical surveys.
4.3.3. Adjustments
Seasonal adjustments are made.
4.3.4. Quality assurance
The quality of statistical data is assured by observing the fundamental principles of official statistics approved by the UN Economic Commission for Europe in 1992 (and Statistical Commission/UN in 1994), as well as those set forth in the Republic of Moldova Law on Official Statistics. In its activity of producing statistical information, NBS pays huge importance to ensuring high quality of data. In this respect, a number of measures for quality assurance are carried out at every stage of the statistical process: organization of statistical surveys, collection, processing, and development of statistical information. Important efforts are undertaken to ensure the plenitude and quality of data presentation by the respondents included in the statistical surveys. Errors, inconsistencies, and suspicious data are brought to light so as to be verified and corrected. The primary data are verified and analyzed from internal coherence point of view (within the questionnaire), temporal coherence (with data from previous periods), with data of other similar units, as well as with data available from other statistical surveys and administrative data sources. The missing or inconsistent data are imputed, if needed. To ensure the quality of the primary data, meetings (seminars) are organized with respondents for explaining the definitions, the correct way to fill in the questionnaires, especially when they are modified or implemented.
4.4. Data accuracy
4.4.1. Non-response rate
Not calculated.
4.4.2. Sampling errors
Not applicable.

5. Comparability and Coherence
5.1. International comparability
Information on volume of agricultural production is developed in line with the international standards in the area.
5.2. Comparability over the time
The above-mentioned indicators are comparable with data series from the previous years.
5.3. Coherence with other statistics
Data are not correlated with other statistics.

6. Institutional Mandate (normative-legal basis)

The NBS activity is based on respecting the Republic of Moldova Constitution, the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, other legislative and normative acts, NBS management decisions and orders.

The Law on Official Statistics regulates the organization and operation of the unique system of official statistics, establishing the general principles for collecting, processing, centralizing, diminishing, and stocking statistical information (art.1).

Art. 5 of the Law provides that the production of statistical information is based on respecting the following principles: impartiality, objectiveness, relevance, transparency, confidentiality, cost-efficiency etc.

Being the central statistical body, the National Bureau of Statistics is an administrative authority created under the Government for leading and coordinating the activity in the statistics area.

In accordance with Government Decision 935 of 24.09.2018 on the organization and operation of the NBS, the Bureau exercises the following tasks:

- 1) Coordinates the national statistical system on the development and production of official statistics;
- 2) Elaborates and implements strategies for the development of the national statistical system, annual and multiannual statistical programs;
- 3) Elaborates the normative and institutional framework necessary for the achievement of the strategic objectives in its field of activity, as well as the mechanisms for their implementation in practice;
- 4) Performs the management and control of the achievement in quality conditions of the programs and statistical plans adopted at central and regional level;
- 5) Harmonizes and aligns national statistical indicators, methodologies, methods and techniques with international regulations and standards;
- 6) Promotes the statistical culture in the society.

The legislative and normative acts ruling the activity of the NBS are available on its official page www.statistica.md , under About NBS (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323&>)

7. Confidentiality

7.1. Principles

According to art. 19 of the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, producers of official statistics shall take all regulatory, administrative, technical and organizational measures to protect confidential data and prevent their disclosure.

Chapter VII of the above-mentioned law stipulates that the data collected, processed and stored for the production of statistical information are confidential if they allow the direct or indirect identification of the respondents.) The following shall not be considered confidential:

- a) data that can be obtained from publicly accessible sources according to the legislation;
- b) individual data on address, telephone, name, type of activity, number of employees of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs;
- c) data referring to public enterprises, institutions and organizations funded from the budget, submitted at the request of the public administration authorities.

According to the Law on Official Statistics, art. 20, access to confidential information is granted to the persons who, according to their official functions, participate in the production of statistical information shall have access to individual data in so far as individual data are necessary for producing this information.

The same article stipulates that the access to individual data, which do not allow the direct identification of respondents, may be given for scientific survey projects, whose expected results do not refer to identifiable individual units, under the regulation approved by the central statistical authority.

Art. 23 (5) of the Law stipulates that the the statistical information cannot be disseminated to users if it refers to 1-3 statistical units.

7.2. Practical assurance of the confidentiality rules

To ensure the protection of confidential statistical data in compliance with the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, the National Bureau of Statistics undertakes all the regulatory, administrative, technical, and organizational measures to protect the confidential statistical information and prevent its disclosure.

In compliance with the above-mentioned law, the employees of producers of official statistics, including temporary employees who, according to their official functions, have direct access to individual data shall be obliged to observe the confidentiality of these data during and after termination of employment.

Before being disseminated, the statistical data are verified if they meet the protection requirements set for confidential data. If the statistical data contain confidential information (see p. 7.1), they are not disseminated, but aggregated at the minimum available level which ensures the protection of data confidentiality.

8. Access to Information and Dissemination Format

8.1. Access to information

8.1.1. Calendar of statistical publications

Annually the Advance release calendar is developed by NBS.

8.1.2. Access to the calendar of statistical publications

The press release calendar is posted on the NBS official page www.statistica.md .

8.1.3. Access to statistical data

According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, art. 23:

- a) Producers of official statistics shall be obliged to disseminate the statistical information within the deadlines specified in the programme of statistical works and in the press-release calendar.
- b) The dissemination of statistical information laid down in the programme of statistical works to all categories of users shall be made free of charge and under equal access conditions in terms of volume, quality and time of dissemination

The program of statistical work may be accessed on the web page www.statistica.md, under About NBS / legislative and normative acts (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323&>)

The NBS web page www.statistica.md represents the most important information source for ensuring users' access to different statistical information and transparency about the NBS activity.

All the operative information, informative notes, time series, as well as the statistical publications developed by NBS are placed on its official web page.

8.2. Dissemination format

8.2.1. Operative information / Analytical notes

The operative information and analytical notes are published on the official page of NBS: <http://www.statistica.md> under Press Releases, according to the Press Release Calendar.

8.2.2. Publications

Statistical publications:

- Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Moldova;
- Statistical pocket-book "Moldova in Figures";
- Periodical publication "Quarterly Statistical Bulletin";

Access to publications:

- in electronic format, on NBS official page www.statistica.md, under Products and services / Publications <http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&nod=1&>)
- in hardcopy format – in NBS library (more details at the address <http://www.statistica.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=340&id=2400>)

- or may be procured at the NBS office (more details at the address www.statistica.md, under Publications <http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&id=2219>)

8.2.3. Databases/time series

- **Statistical databank** <http://statbank.statistica.md> , under Economic statistics / Agriculture
- **NBS official page:** <http://www.statistica.md> under:
 - *Press Releases*
 - *Statistics by themes / Economic statistics / Agriculture*
 - *Products and Services / Publications*

8.2.4. Questionnaires/data sent upon request from international organizations

International questionnaires CIS, FAO, Eurostat, etc.

8.2.5. Requests for additional data

NBS makes available for users additional statistical information beyond the data presented in the statistical publications, informative notes, operative information, as well as the data placed on the official web page in the limits of available information, in line with the Law on Official Statistics. Request can be sent personally, by post, by e-mail moldstat@statistica.gov.md or via online web form – www.statistica.md heading Products and services / Statistical data request http://www.statistica.md/solicitare_informatii_statistice.php?l=en

9. Useful References (links)

9.1. Accessibility of documentation on methodology

The methodology is available on the official page www.statistica.md , under Metadata (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=351&nod=1&>).

9.2. Accessibility of documentation on Evaluation Reports

The NBS assessment reports are available on the official page www.statistica.md , under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / Assessment Reports (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=399&id=2739>).

9.3. Accessibility of information on user surveys

User surveys are available on the official page www.statistica.md , under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / User Surveys (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=399&id=2740>).

9.4. Other useful references

EUROSTAT database	http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database
UNData database	http://data.un.org/Browse.aspx
UN Economic Commission for Europe database	http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/
FAO STAT database	http://faostat.fao.org/default.aspx