

Per capita consumption of beer down in 2020/21; potato consumption up

Vienna, 2022-04-29 – During the Corona crisis, in the 2020/21 marketing year, beer consumption per capita in Austria fell by 3.5 litres (l) to 103.6 l compared to 2019/20, the lowest ever. In contrast, per capita consumption of potatoes rose by 3.7 kg to 61.0 kg, the highest value since 1995. This is shown in the latest supply balances from Statistics Austria, which depict the supply and use of the most important plant products for the economic period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 (wine: 1 August to 31 July; sugar: 1 October to 30 September).

In the 2020/21 marketing year, Austria harvested 5.7 million t of cereals (+5%), 2.1 million t of sugar beet (+6%), 886 000 t of potatoes (+18%), 481 000 t of fruit (+21%) and 389 000 t of oilseeds (-5%). Wine production amounted to 2.4 million hl (+3%). No production of vegetables can be reported due to missing harvest data of one of the provinces.

To cover domestic demand, a total of 3.0 million t of cereals (+1%), 743 000 t of fruit (-3%), 723 000 t of oilseeds (+4%), 712 000 hl of wine (-2%), 402 000 t of vegetable oils (+17%) and 268 000 t of potatoes (-4%) were imported.

Domestic use of cereals amounted to 6.0 million t (-2% compared to the same period of the previous year). This quantity (food and non-food) includes domestic and imported food, animal feed from domestic production, as well as the share that goes into industrial processing as raw material. Domestic use of fruit amounted to, 995 000 t (+11%), potatoes 981 000 t (+11%), oilseeds 827 000 t (+3%), vegetable oils 450 000 t (+13%), wine 2.4 million hl (-2%) and beer 9.3 million hl (-3%).

Domestic agriculture thus covered 100% of the demand for wine, 94% for cereals, 90% for potatoes, 48% for fruit, 47% for oilseeds and 25% for vegetable oils.

Positive agricultural trade balance in the 2020/21 marketing year

Compared to the same period of the previous year, the agricultural foreign trade volume for crop and animal products increased from €25.4 billion to €26.3 billion (+3%) in the 2020/21 marketing year. This corresponds to a share of 8.3% of the total foreign trade volume (314.5 billion euros). The value of agricultural imports rose from 12.8 billion euros to 13.1 billion euros (+2%) and that of exports from 12.6 billion to 13.2 billion euros (+5%). An analysis of the still preliminary foreign trade data shows that in the entire 2020/21 marketing year there were higher exports than imports and thus a surplus in agricultural foreign trade, with exports to third countries in particular contributing to this surplus. The main trading partners continued to be the Member States of the European Union, with a share of 82% of imports and 73% of exports.

Detailed results or further information on the supply balances can be found on our [website](#).

Information on methodology, definitions: Supply balances represent a synopsis of quantitative and qualitative information on agriculture and the food sector. In order to capture the totality of a product, the supply balance of a basic agricultural product (e.g. grain and sugar) also takes into account the most important processed products (e.g. flour, starch and sugary goods) – provided that these are not the subject of separate balances. Only in this way is it possible to obtain an overall view of foreign trade and the supply of a product. The supply balances are calculated for the most important food and animal feed products, taking into account national circumstances (production and marketing structures of agriculture and the food sector, differentiated data situation and availability, determination and application of technical coefficients in detailed balances, technical requirements for foreign trade, etc.). They are published in product-specific detailed balances as a statement of supply and use.

Per capita consumption of selected foods

Product	Unit	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Vegetables	kg	113.2	117.9	116.7
Fruits	kg	80.3	75.1	76.2
Wheat and rye flour	kg	73.0	74.7	69.9
Potatoes, potato starch (in potato value)	kg	53.2	57.3	61.0
Sugar	kg	33.4	33.1	29.9
Rice	kg	4.9	5.1	5.2
Oilseeds	kg	7.4	7.4	7.2
Vegetable oils	kg	14.0	13.9	13.1
Wine	Litre	27.7	26.0	25.7
Beer	Litre	107.1	107.1	103.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, supply balances for crop products.

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