

**STATE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS
REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

INFORMATION BULLETIN

**FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY
IF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

№ 3 / 2007

Dushanbe - 2007

Statistical service is one of the effective methods for establishing the order and evaluation of prospects of economic agents activity. Under the conditions of market economy, it is not possible to insure the sustainable development without proper accounting, work analysis and resource planning.

In this respect, and in accordance with legislation, all enterprises, organizations, institutions, and all production and non-production subjects, independently of their form of ownership, have to submit all required complete and accurate reports in due time to the statistical bodies. Thereby, statistical recording is to be indispensable, complete and unexceptional on the whole territory of the republic.

Relevant state authorities have to take required actions to bring accounting system into the line with international standards.

EMOMALI RAHMON

Introduction

In accordance with European Commission Matrix on Policy Reform of Memorandum of Understanding on Food Security Program in the Republic of Tajikistan the decision about preparation and publishing of Quarterly Food Security Bulletin was made to ensure system of reliable operative information and analysis of current food security situation in the Republic of Tajikistan.

“Food security presumes that all people have access, at all time, to sufficient food required for an active and healthy life. Food security also means physical availability of food in sufficient quantities, accessibility of those foodstuffs for households (through the market and other sources, that suppose sufficient purchasing power), as well as consumption of food in quantities required for satisfying of nutritional needs”.

The purpose of the Bulletin is to bring together and systematize available information on food security in Tajikistan; i.e. the availability of food in the republic and outlook for food production, indicators on access to food, food use and utilization. The Bulletin also contains analysis of current food security situation in the Republic.

The base indicators for Food Security Bulletin are production of food, food availability and accessibility, areas under crops, agricultural production and productivity, main climatic conditions, health indicators, water supply, prices, and quantitative indicators reflecting situation on food market.

The Appendices to the Bulletin show indicators of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, information on nutritional status of various socio-economic groups of the population, as well as estimated data on food balance.

The presented Quarterly Food Security Information Bulletin of Tajikistan was prepared by State Committee on Statistics with participation of key Ministries and Departments (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health Care, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Transport and Communication, Hydrometeorological Agency under the Committee for Nature and Forestry Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, etc.). The publication is prepared with technical and financial support of European Commission in the Republic of Tajikistan.

The publication is intended both for specialists and all interested persons.

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OVERVIEW

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for January – September 2007 increased by 7.1% as compared to the corresponding period of 2006 (in constant prices). As compared to the similar period of the previous year production of grain increased by 3,3%, potatoes – by 14,6%, vegetables – by 10,7%, melons – by 22,7%, and grapes – by 5,8%. At the same time, production of raw cotton and fruits decreased by 2,9% and 26,6%, respectively.

During 2007, the highest increase in prices was registered for light wheat flour (59.9%), cotton oil (40,9%), bread made from light wheat flour (32,2%), carrot (25,8%), beef (22,2%), milk (20,2%), mutton (18%), pasta (15.8%), poultry meat (13.5%), semolina (13.4%), chocolate sweets (10.9%), filter-tipped cigarettes (7.9%), semi-smoked sausages (6.7%), margarine (5.5%), condensed milk (5.4%), buckwheat (4.8%), animal oil (3.6%), live fish (2.4%), and apples (1.3%).

By the end of September 2007, the price of flour reached 1.7 somoni per kg increasing by 45.3% as compared to the end of June 2007. In January - September 2007, the imports of wheat increased by 4.3% as compared to the similar period of 2006.

The most important sources of cash incomes of households in January - September of 2007 continued to remain labor incomes - 51.7% and receipts from sales of agricultural products - 11.7%.

Increase of real wages and salaries (deflated by the CPI) in September 2007 made up 10,7% as compared to August 2007, and 6,8% as compared to September 2006.

In September 2007, the lowest wages and salaries in real sector were observed in agriculture and forestry, amounting to 76,35 somoni and 161,33 somoni, respectively.

As of the end of September 2007, total arrears in salary payments for the republic made up 25.5 mln.somoni.

In January - September of 2006 and 2007, average expenditures of population have risen mainly due to increase in prices. In January - September 2007, the average share of expenditures for food all over the republic was 59.2% and increased by 1.5%

In January - September 2007 the average daily calorie intake decreased to 1984.67 Kcal per capita, which is below the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) (2100 Kcal per a day).

In January - September of 2007, in all regions of Tajikistan consumption of bread and

bread products exceeded approved medical norm by 28.7% and on average amounted to 106.2 kg per one household member.

Consumption of food products varies by decile groups of the population. Thus, during nine months of 2007 average per capita consumption of potato in 10% most well-off population group exceeded that in 10% least well-of population group by 100%, meat and meat products – by 4.1 times, eggs – 4 times, milk – by 2.8 times, fruits – by 2.7 times, vegetables and melons – by 2.3 times.

The cost of *consumer's basket*, at actual consumption (according to household survey 2006) amounted to 58.85 somoni per one household member in prices of end of September 2007, while the cost of food basket according to rational nutritional standard would amount to 126.94 somoni.

CHAPTER 1. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The mentioned below socio-economic indicators depict overall economic situation in the country, required for analysis of food security situation.

1.1 GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

According to preliminary estimates, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for January – September 2007 was valued at 8929302,5 thsd.somoni, and increased by 7.1% as compared to the corresponding period of 2006 (in constant prices).

The biggest impact was due to increase of production in industry, trade, agriculture, and services.

Table 1: Main socio-economic indicators

	2005	2006	9 months of 2006	9 months of 2007
Population, as of the end of period (million)	6,9	7,1	7,0	7,2
Nominal GDP (mln.somoni)	7206,6	9335,2	6519,8	8929,3
of which (in %):				
agriculture	21,4	21,5	20,3	19,2
industry	18,5	21,3	17,7	15,4
services	43,8	40,6	46,2	46,3
GDP per capita (somoni)	1051,2	1335,1	x	x
GDP growth , in % to the corresponding period of the previous year	6,7	7,0	7,6	7,1
State budget deficit / surplus (as percentage of GDP)	0,1	0,4	0,3	2,7 ¹
Consumer Price Indices, in % to the corresponding period of the previous year	107,8	111,9	110,8	119,2
Price Indices for foodstuffs	108,9	113,6	112,1	121,7
Price indices for services	109,8	118,6	118,4	127,9
Exchange rate of somoni (per 1 US Dollar)	3,1175	3,2983	3,2649	3,4391
Officially registered unemployment rate	2,0	2,3	2,4	2,5
Number of registered unemployed, thsd.persons	43,6	47,7	47,2	54,4
in % to the corresponding period of the previous year	112,4	112,2	105,2	115,3

	2005	2006	9 months of 2006	9 months of 2007
Monthly average wages and salaries (somon)	83,58	116,81	108,31	150,69
in % to the corresponding period of the previous year	135,2	135,8	128,8	139,1
Trade balance (mln.USD)	-421,3	-326,4	-214,5	-577,4
Share of food in total imports, %	11,7	11,3	10,7	11,3
Share of food in total exports, %	3,3	2,7	2,4	3,2

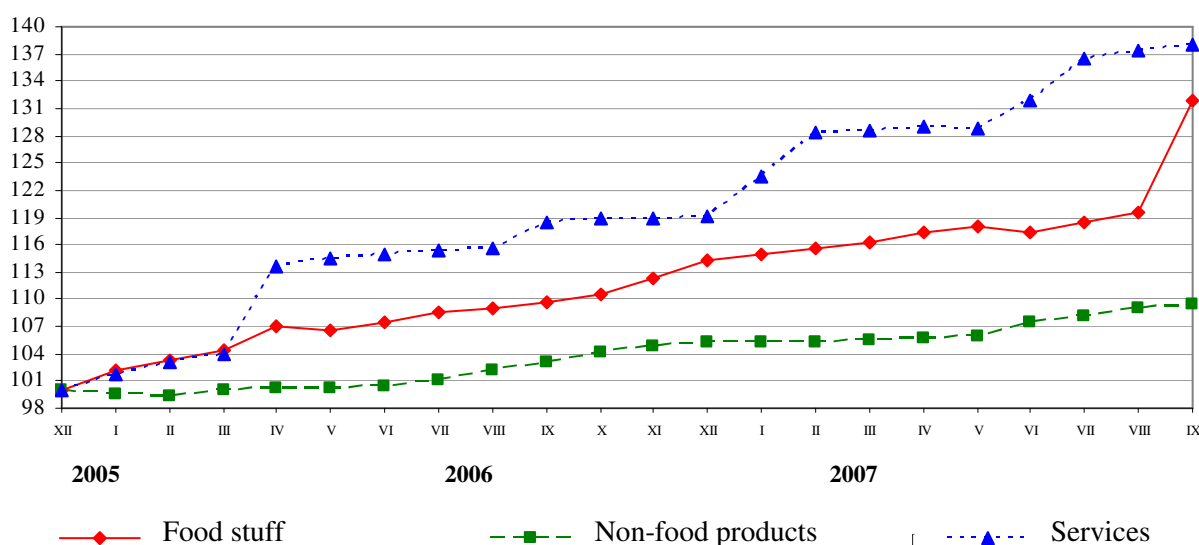
¹ - with taking into account all the sources

Source: State Committee on Statistics

1.2 Price and Tariff Indices

In nine months of 2007, consumer price index constituted 112,4%, of which for foodstuff – 115,2%, non-food products – 103,8%, and paid services to population – 115,9%. Monthly inflation rate in consumer’s sector made up 1,38% (against 1,0% in the corresponding period of the previous year).

Graph 1: Consumer price indices for foodstuff, non-food products and paid services (at the end of each month, in % to December 2003).



During nine months of 2007, the increase of prices of foods outpaced those of non-foods. More detailed information on prices of food is available in the section 3 “Access to food”.

1.3 Foreign trade

In January-September 2007, foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Tajikistan including electric power and natural gas was valued at 2766,1 million USD, which is higher by 537,5 mln.USD (or 24,1%) than in January-September 2006. The gap between exports and imports determined the deficit of trade balance valued at 577,4 million USD. Tajikistan had foreign trade operations with 88 countries, of which 11 CIS countries and 77 far abroad countries.

In January-September 2007, volume of exports amounted to 1094,3 mln.USD, which is higher by 8,7% or 87,3 mln.USD than in the similar period of 2006. Volume of imports amounted to 1671,8 mln.USD, which is higher by 36,9% or 450,2 mln.USD than in January-September 2006.

In September 2007 as compared to August 2007 volume of exports decreased by 6,9%, and volume of imports decreased by 5,5%.

Major plant products in exports were fruits (15425 thsd.USD) and vegetables (14047 thsd.USD), while in imports it were wheat (24237 thsd.USD) and flour (49865 thsd.USD).

1.4 Labor market

According to preliminary estimates, the number of economically active population (employed and officially registered unemployed) in September 2007 was 2112,8 thsd.persons, of them 2058,4 thsd.persons (97.4%) were occupied in the economy, and 54.4 thsd.persons (2.6% of economically active population) had official status of unemployed. Females accounted for 54.5% of total number of unemployed (29,7 thsd.persons), and persons aged 15-29 accounted for 52.9% (28.8 thsd.persons). As of the end of September 2007, the majority of officially registered unemployed were the persons without professional qualifications or those who lost their skills due to long idle period (49.9 thsd.persons or 91.7% of total number of registered unemployed). Besides, about 67,6% of total number of registered unemployed have general secondary education and incomplete secondary education (36.8 thsd.persons).

Hidden unemployment means underemployment, when a part of workers are on forced leave or work during incomplete working week / working day due to downtime. In January - September 2007, 15,9 thsd.persons were on leave on initiative of administration, of them 11,8 thsd.persons (74,6%) were on leave without pay. 2,3 thsd.persons were working during incomplete working week / working day. Unemployment rate, including hidden unemployment, amounted to 3,4% of economically active population.

In September 2007, 5.2 thsd.persons applied to employment offices for a job (which is more by 140% than in the corresponding period of 2006); 2.3 thsd.persons (44,6% of

total number of unemployed applied) were provided with employment assistance (more by 3,5% than in the corresponding period of the previous year).

As of the end of September 2007, the number of vacancies, offered by enterprises through employment offices decreased by 10,9% as compared to the similar period of 2006, and amounted to 15,5 thsd places. At the same time, the number of vacancies for blue-collar job increased by 11,7% and amounted to 7.5 thsd (48.2% of total number of vacancies).

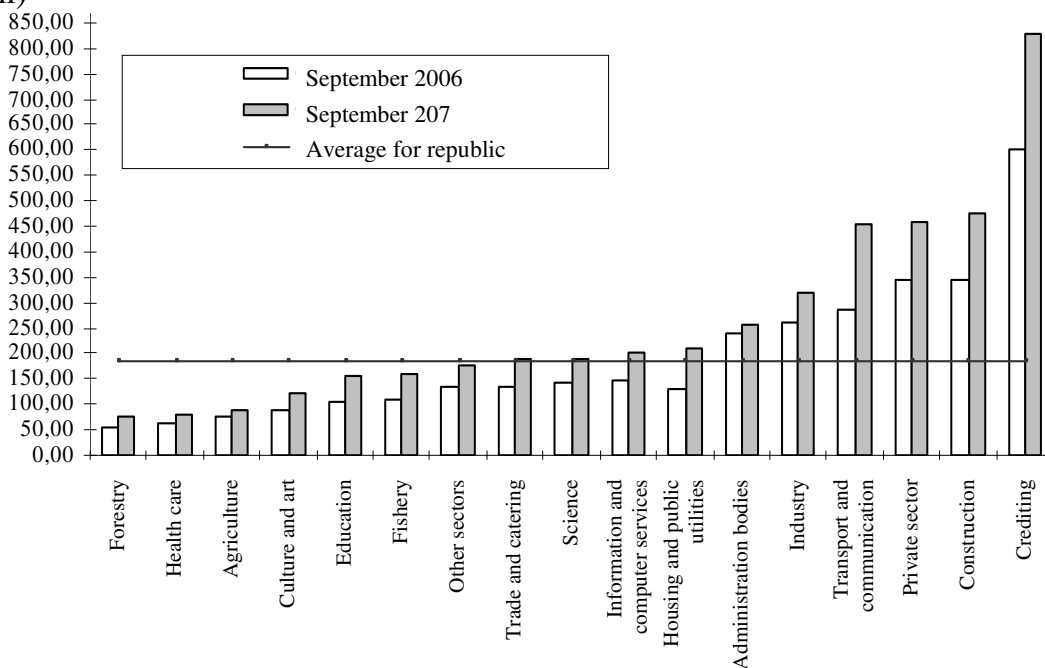
Increase of real wages and salaries (deflated by the CPI) in September 2007 made up 10,7% as compared to August 2007, and 6,8% as compared to September 2006.

In September 2007, the lowest wages and salaries in real sector were observed in agriculture and forestry, amounting to 76,35 somoni and 161,33 somoni, respectively. The highest wages and salaries were observed in construction (473,37 somoni), communication (460,97 somoni), transport (448,83 somoni), and industry (321,52 somoni). Average monthly salary in real sector in September 2007 was 173,00 somoni, increasing by 29,7% as compared to September 2006.

In non-production sphere, the highest salary remains in the area of finance and crediting (826,63 somoni in September 2007). Average monthly salary in non-production sphere in September 2007 was 173,87 somoni, increasing by 39,3% as compared to September 2006.

As of the end of September 2007, total arrears in salary payments for the republic (inclusive of arrears for previous years) amounted to 25484,4 thsd.somoni, of which arrears for September 2007 accounted for 12,3% (3124,8 thsd.somoni).

Graph 2: Average monthly wages and salaries in September 2006-2007 by sectors (somoni)



CHAPTER II. AVAILABILITY OF FOOD

Availability refers to the physical presence of food as a result of domestic production or market operations. On country level availability of food is determined by combination of food stocks, commercial imports, food aid and domestic production. The availability is also determined by the following elements: weather conditions, crop yield, livestock and productivity, producer prices for food, food prices in neighboring countries, as well as national policy defining production, trade, distribution and pricing.

2.1. Growth in agricultural production

The value of gross agricultural output in January - September 2007 in all categories of farms increased by 6.9% as compared to the similar period of the previous year and amounted to 3120,0 mln.somoni (at current prices), of which: plant products – 2152,0 mln.somoni (increased by 7%), and animal products – 968,0 mln.somoni (increased by 6.8%).

The value of gross agricultural output in all categories of farms in Soghd oblast amounted to 852,9 mln.somoni (increased by 8,1%), Khatlon oblast – 1506,6 mln.somoni (by 6.8%), GBAO – 83,9 mln.somoni (by 6,4%), and regions of the republican subordination – 676,6 mln.somoni (by 5,7%).

2.1.1. Outlook for agricultural production

Climate influence on crop production

July. The average monthly air temperature in valleys didn't exceed the norm, in some southern regions it was below the norm by 0.6-2.0 degrees, in mountain regions it exceeded the norm by 0.6-1.9 degrees as follows: 27-31 degrees in valleys, 14-22 degrees in mountain regions, and 10-12 degrees in high mountain areas. In **July**, gradual decrease of water content in rivers of the republic was observed. Average monthly water discharge of the most rivers was below the norm, while in some rivers it exceeded the norm by 60-120%.

Rainfalls were registered during 5-13 days. Total amount of precipitation in Khatlon oblast was 90-333% of the norm, in Soghd oblast – 50-195% of the norm, in RRS – 90-244% of the norm, and in GBAO – 52-278% of the norm.

During the month, the maximum temperature with no rainfalls was observed. Light rains were registered on 11, 14-15 August in mountain regions and high mountain areas. Total amount of precipitation was below the norm by 1-14 mm. During **August**, water content in the rivers of the republic continued to decrease.

September was characterized by dry and warm weather. During the month no rainfalls were observed on the most part of the republic. Amount of precipitations in valleys of RRS was 3 mm, in Soghd oblast (Dehavz) – 11mm, and in GBAO – 2-10 mm.

In **September**, increase of water content in rivers of the republic was observed. Average monthly water discharge of the most rivers was within the norm, while in some rivers it exceeded the norm (95-140%). As compared to the previous years, water content of rivers was within and above the norm (97-140%).

Table 2: Water reservoirs as of 31 September 2007

<i>Water reservoirs</i>	<i>Changes during the month, mln. cubic meters</i>	<i>Volume of water in 2007</i>		<i>Volume of water in 2006</i>	
		<i>mln. cubic meters</i>	<i>in % to total capacity</i>	<i>mln. cubic meters</i>	<i>in % to total capacity</i>
Kayrakkum	-0,202	853	20,5	1180	28,4
Nurek	+0,226	10447	99,5	10441	99,4

2.1.2. Crop production

Table 3: Sown area and gross harvest

	2005	2006	<i>9 months of</i>	
			2006	2007
Sown area (thsd.ha)	901,1	900,2	900,2	889,3
Winter crops	181,2	214,9	214,9	191,6
Cereal crops	181,2	214,9	214,9	191,6
Spring crops	719,9	685,3	685,3	697,7
Cereal crops	214,3	187,0	187,0	205,2
wheat	150,1	121,4	121,4	132,1
barley	31,3	31,7	21,7	36,0
Industrial crops	352,4	294,0	294,0	283,4
Potatoes	27,5	27,9	27,9	29,6
Vegetables	33,5	35,8	35,8	39,1
Melons	9,2	9,1	9,1	10,9
Gross harvest, thsd.tons				
Cereal crops	934,9	912,3	743,9	768,1
Vegetables	718,5	759,7	504,0	558,1
Potatoes	551,1	573,7	314,3	360,1
Melons	170,2	218,2	153,8	188,8
Fruits	148,3	208,8	117,6	86,9
Grapes	90,6	107,1	61,4	65,0

Source: State Committee on Statistics

As of 1 October 2007 farms of all categories produced 768105 tons of grain, 278123 tons of raw cotton, 360079 tons of potato, 558096 tons of vegetables, 188815 tons of melons, 86914 tons of fruits, and 65000 tons of grapes. As compared to the similar period of the previous year production of the following crops has increased: grain by 3,3%, potatoes – by 14,6%, vegetables – by 10,7%, melons – by 22,7%, and grapes – by 5,8%. At the same time, production of raw cotton and fruits decreased by 2,9% and 26,6%, respectively.

Winter cereal crops were planted by agricultural enterprises and dehkan farms on the area of 2759 hectares or 87.0% as compared to the similar period of the previous year. Fall-ploughing was carried out on the area of 2188 hectares (155,0% of the level of the previous year).

As of 1 October 2007, agricultural enterprises and dehkan farms have harvested grain and legumes (excluding maize) from the area of 245236 ha. From the harvested area 410675 tons of grain were threshed (from the area of 238058 ha) with total yield of 17.2 centners from one hectare. 106029 tons of potatoes were harvested from the area of 5687 ha with average yield of 186 centners from one hectare. 183054 tons of vegetables were harvested from the area of 10684 ha, with average yield of 171 centners/ha. 98951 tons of melons were harvested from the area of 6229 ha with average yield of 159 centners/ha. During the reporting period, 23891 tons of fruits and 34143 tons of grapes were produced.

As of 1 October 2007, winter agricultural crops were planted by agricultural enterprises and dehkan farms on the area of 940 hectares, which is more by 430 hectares or 84% as compared to the similar date of the previous year; of them 613 ha are sown to vegetables and 326 ha are sown to feed crops.

As of 1 October 2007, agricultural enterprises and dehkan farms sowed 10350 tons of seeds of cereal crop and leguminous (including 9141 tons of wheat seeds), 145 tons of maize seeds, 63 tons of potato seeds, 9 tons of vegetable seeds, and 21 tons of cotton seeds.

As compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, amount of sowed wheat seeds decreased by 28%, maize seeds – by 73%, potato seeds – by 89%, and vegetable seeds – by 36%.

2.1.3. Livestock production

As of 1 October 2007, number of cattle in farms of all categories increased by 5.4% or 76,5 thsd. as compared to the similar date of the previous year and amounted to 1487,5 thsd.heads. Number of sheep and goats increased by 3,8% or 123,6 thsd., and number of poultry – by 3.2% or 80,9 thsd. 89,6% of cattle and 76,6% of sheep and goats belong to households' plots.

Increase in number of cattle was registered in farms of Khatlon oblast (by 7.5%), Soghd oblast (2.3%), GBAO (1.3%), and RRS (6.8%). Increase in number of poultry was observed in farms of Khatlon oblast (9.7%) and GBAO (5.1%).

In January – September 2007, farms of all categories produced 74296 tons of meat or 106.9% as compared to the similar period of the previous year. Production of meat increased in farms of Khatlon oblast (by 9.8%), GBAO (by 5.8%), Soghd oblast (by 3.5%), Nurobad region (by 26.1%), Rasht region (by 15%), Tursunzade region (by 6.7%), Gissar region (by 5.7%), Varzob region (by 4.5%), Tavildara region (by 1.6%), Rogun region (by 2.2%), and Vahdat region (by 1.9%).

During the reporting period, total production of milk amounted to 391543 tons, increasing by 4.4% as compared to January – September 2006. Production of milk increased in farms of Khatlon oblast (by 10.2%), GBAO (by 6.6%), Tavildara region (by 15.3%), Nurabad region (by 14.3%), Tajikabad region (by 2.6%), Tursunzade region (by 2.1%), and Vahdat region (by 1.4%).

In January – September 2007, total production of eggs amounted to 82068 thsd, increasing by 4.3% as compared to the similar period of the previous year. Production of eggs increased in Khatlon oblast (by 8.8%), Vahdat region (by 39.6%), Nurobad region (by 23.0%), Shahrinav region (by 7.2%), Tursunzade region (by 7.0%), and Tavildara region (by 4.6%).

During the reporting period, 21787 calves were received in agricultural enterprises and dehqan farms. As compared to the similar period of the previous year, increase in number of calves received was observed in farms of Khatlon oblast (by 1.3%), Rogun region (by 13.3%), and Varzob region (by 11.1%).

As of 1 October 2007, the average milk yield per cow was 1080 kg decreasing by 94 kg as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. As compared to January – September 2006 average milk yield per cow decreased by 18.3% in Soghd oblast, by 40.1% in Varzob region, by 39.5% in Tursunzade region, by 11.7% in Faizabad region.

During the reporting period, the average output of eggs from 1 laying hen was 90 pieces (decreasing by 6 pieces as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year). Increase in output of eggs from 1 laying hen was observed in farms of Vahdat region (by 76 pieces), Shahrinav region (by 30 pieces), and Rusaki region (by 4 pieces).

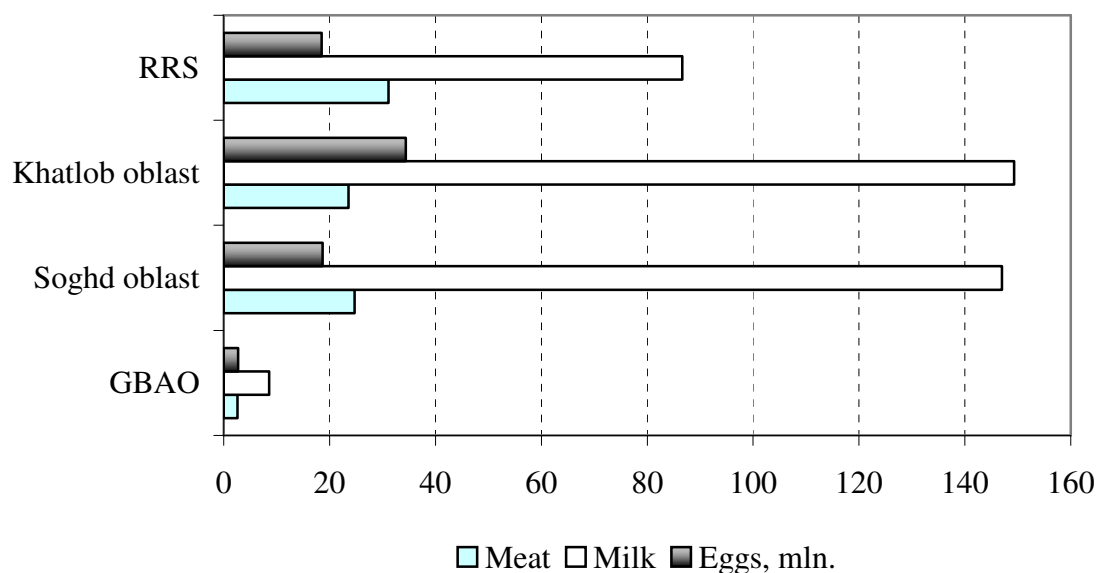
During the reporting period, in average 46 calves were received from every 100 female cows. Below average number of calves was received in Soghd oblast (by 11 calves below the republican average), Tursunzade region (by 24 calves), Rasht region (by 7 calves), Djirgital region (by 4 calves), and Rudaki region (by 4 calves).

Table 4: Main indicators of livestock production in the Republic of Tajikistan

	2005	2006	January - September	
			2006	2007
Production, thsd.tons				
Meat (slaughtered)	53,7	55,9	34,8	37,1
of which:				
Beef and veal	24,3	25,3	15,7	16,8
Mutton and goats meat	26,5	27,6	17,1	18,3
Poultry	0,6	0,6	0,4	0,4
Other meat	2,3	2,4	1,6	1,6
Milk	533,0	544,9	375,1	391,5
Eggs, mln.	98,7	104,7	78,7	82,1
Productivity				
The average milk yield per cow, kg	1597	1502	1174	1080
The average output of eggs per laying hen, pieces	123	122	96	90

Source: State Committee on Statistics

Graph 3. Production of main live-stock products in all categories of farms in January - September of 2007, thsd. tons



2.2. Producer prices

Table 5: Changes in producer prices

(somoni / kg)

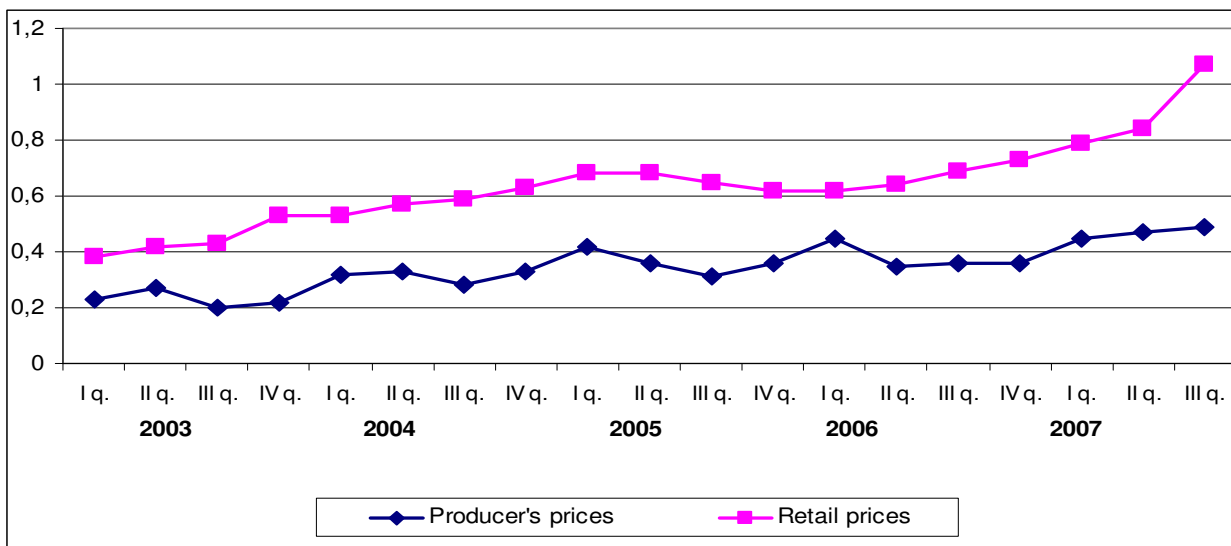
	2005				2006				2007		
	I q.	II q.	III q.	IV q.	I q.	II q.	III q.	IV q.	I q.	II q.	III q.
Wheat	0,42	0,34	0,31	0,36	0,44	0,35	0,39	0,39	0,45	0,47	0,49
Milk	0,42	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,51	0,52	0,51	0,54	0,67	0,70	0,70
Potatoes	0,13	0,19	0,29	0,36	0,28	0,35	0,44	0,49	0,29	0,72	0,67

Source: State Committee on Statistics

In January - September 2007, the imports of wheat increased by 4.3% as compared to the similar period of 2006.

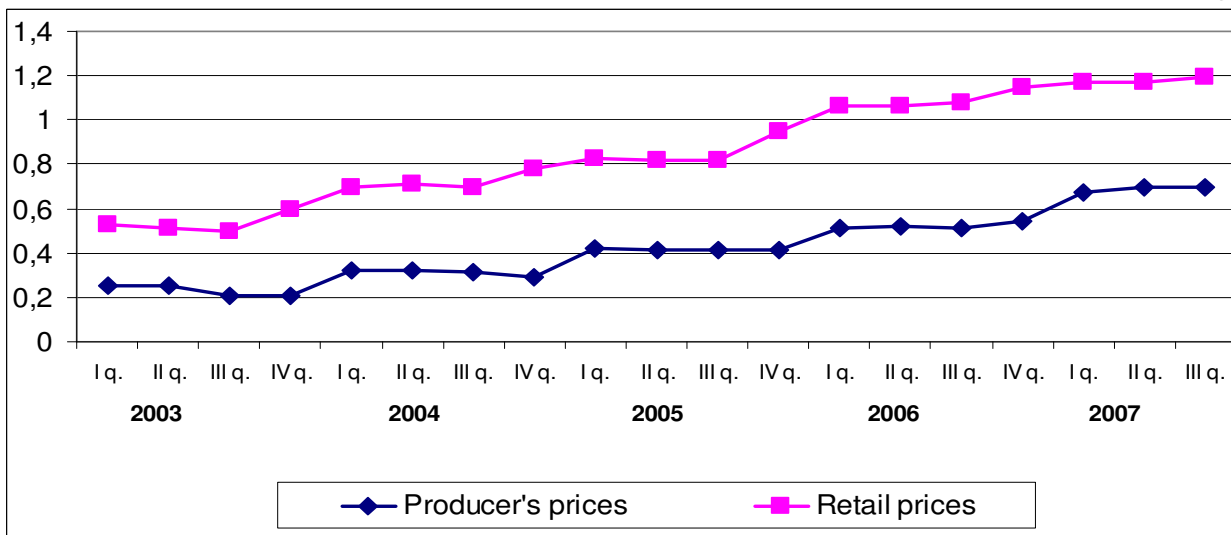
Graph 4. Trends in producer and retail prices of wheat

(somoni/kg)



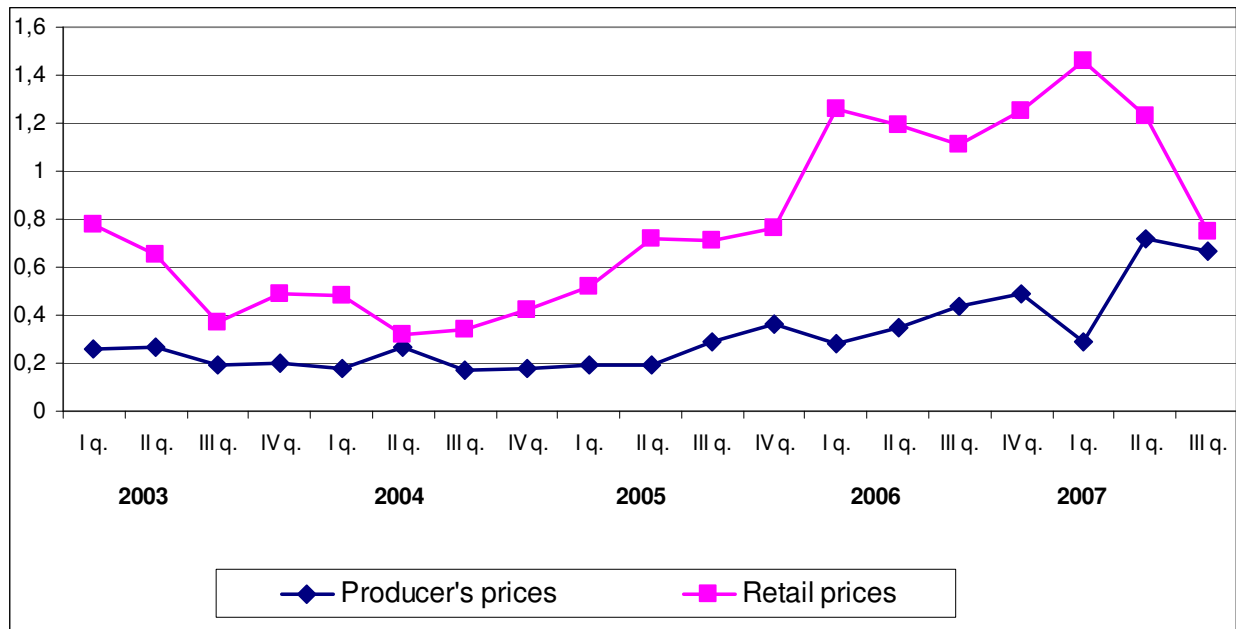
Graph 5. Trends in producer and retail prices of milk

(somoni/kg)



Graph 6. Trends in producer and retail prices of potatoes

(somon/kg)



The given graphs show that change in retail prices is higher than in producer's ones. This trend is specific for all types of agricultural products (see Appendices 3 and 4).

2.3. Trade in basic foodstuffs

Share of food products in the total value of exports of Tajikistan accounted for 2.4% and 3.2% in January - September of 2006 and 2007, respectively. The share of food products in total volume of imports was well higher and accounted for 10.7% and 11.3%, respectively.

The major food products imported to the Republic of Tajikistan were wheat and flour (the greatest share), as well as sugar, vegetable oil, fruits, flour products (macaroni, noodles, bread, cakes, pastries), eggs, tea and others.

Imports of food products in January - September of 2007 increased by 16% as compared to the similar period of the previous year. Imports of milk and dairy products increased by 78%, vegetable oil - by 23%. Imports of wheat increased by 4.5% amounting to 206.4 thsd.tons (against 197.8 thsd.tons in January - September of 2006), and imports of flour increased by 24% amounting to 329.1 thsd.tons (against 266.4 thsd.tons).

Table 6: Exports and Imports of basic food products*(thsd.tons)*

	<i>January - September</i>			
	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>
	<i>Exports</i>		<i>Imports</i>	
<i>Food products</i>	97	157,5	724,0	843,0
of which				
wheat	-	-	197,8	206,4
flour	-	0,1	266,4	329,1
sugar	-	0,0	114,7	112,3
spaghetti, noodles, elbow and other products	-	0,0	7,7	8,4
vegetable oil	-	0,0	32,8	40,3
milk and dairy products	-	0,1	1,8	3,2
eggs	-	0,0	7,0	3,4
tea	-	0,1	4,8	3,5
vegetables	30,6	84,1	0,4	1,4
fruits and berries	10,6	11,3	6,9	3,2
fruit and vegetable juices	10,3	9,7	1,6	1,5
canned vegetables, tomatoes	1,1	1,4	0,9	0,7
Share of food products in total volume, %	2,4	3,2	10,7	11,3

2.4. Availability of food per capita

The availability of food per capita is calculated using a food balance. A food balance shows for each basic food commodity, the total physical availability and utilization of that foodstuff over a given period of time, usually 1 year. **Total physical availability** is the sum of stocks at the beginning of the period, production and imports of that commodity in a given period of time. **Total utilization** covers use for human consumption + use as animal seed + seed + losses + exports + stocks at the end of the period. In any one period, the availability and utilization of the same commodity must balance. Drawn up over a succession of years, food balances usually reveal a trend in total availability, imports, exports, and the availability of food for human consumption and for feed use. Dividing the annual amount of food available for human consumption by the population gives a key indicator of availability: the average availability of food per capita per year. This measure of food availability is a national average, which takes no account of households' access (i.e. ability to produce, purchase or otherwise obtain) to food.

Table 7: Consumption of foodstuff per capita*(kg / month)*

	January - September of 2006	January - September of 2007
Bread products (expressed in grain)	12,5	11,8
Potatoes	2,4	2,7
Vegetables and melons	10,8	9,8
Fruits and berries	3,5	3,3
Sugar and confectionery items	0,9	0,9
Meat and meat products	0,6	0,7
Milk and dairy products	4,9	5,0
Eggs (pieces)	2	2
Vegetable oil	1,0	0,9
Fish and fish products	0,0	0,0

Source: Household budget survey

The analysis of food balances shows that food availability remains stable during last years.

More detailed information is available in Appendix 5 “Food balance”.

CHAPTER III. ACCESS TO FOOD

Access to food refers to the ability of households to obtain adequate safe and appropriate foods to meet their needs for a healthy and active life. Access can be through production for own consumption, market purchases or donations / transfers.

3.1. Consumer’s prices

In September 2007 retail prices of most basic foodstuffs increased significantly as compared to September 2006, except of prices for sand sugar, potato and carrot (See Table 8, Appendix 4).

**Table 8: Average prices for some food products in consumer’s sector
(average for Republic)**

	2007						2006	
	January	March	June	July	August	September	September	December
Beef	9,93	10,24	11,32	11,53	11,60	12,14	8,94	9,93
Animal oil	13,24	13,09	12,93	13,10	13,13	13,22	12,36	13,14
Cotton oil	3,16	3,26	3,82	4,23	4,34	4,57	2,79	3,22
Milk	1,06	1,15	1,10	1,09	1,08	1,27	1,05	1,03
Eggs (10 pieces)	4,48	4,12	4,25	4,31	4,55	4,66	3,10	4,66
Sand sugar	2,46	2,37	2,33	2,33	2,35	2,37	2,50	2,46
Salt	0,46	0,46	0,46	0,48	0,48	0,48	0,35	0,46
Light wheat flour	1,09	1,16	1,17	1,23	1,29	1,70	0,95	1,06