

Crops

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2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	March 25, 2024
2.2. Metadata last posted	March 25, 2024
2.3. Metadata last update	March 25, 2024

3. Statistical presentation	
3.1. Data description	
<p>The main source of statistical data about annual and permanent crops is Survey of Agricultural Holdings. Final results of the survey provide information on crops by country and regional level, including sown and harvested area of annual crops, production and average yield of annual crops, as well as production of permanent crops.</p> <p>Data about melons production are obtained through the interviewing of the Mayors' representative in administrative units.</p> <p>Information about production of tea leaves is obtained from the annual surveying Tea Leaf Processing Enterprises.</p>	
3.2. Classification system	
<p>Classification of crops. Version 1.1 (ICC) (UN Food and Agriculture Organization) – Classification of Crops // World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020. Volume 1: Programme, Concepts and Definitions / Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. – Rome, 2017, pp. 163-169.</p> <p>http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4913e.pdf</p>	
3.3. Sector coverage	
Agricultural holdings: family holdings and agricultural enterprises.	
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	
<p>Temporary crop – a crop with complete growing cycle less than one year. Sown perennial grasses (alfalfa, trefoil, sainfoin, etc.) also belong to this category.</p> <p>Permanent crop – a crop with complete growing cycle more than one year.</p> <p>Sown area – area of arable land where temporary crops were sown during a reference year.</p> <p>Harvested area – the part of the sown area which has been harvested during the reference year (the difference between the sown area and the lost area).</p> <p>Production of annual and permanent crops – production obtained from arable land, as well as permanent crops during the reference year.</p> <p>Average yield – crop production per hectare. Calculated as the ratio of the harvest and the harvested area.</p>	
3.5. Statistical unit	
<p>Agricultural holding – economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form or size in which agricultural activities are conducted by the supervision of a holder, who is responsible for making decisions and takes all economic risks and expenses related to agricultural activities.</p>	
3.6. Statistical population	
<p>Survey sampling frame includes about 642 000 agriculture holdings (households and agricultural enterprises) operated in country. The Agricultural Census 2014 is the main source of the sample frame. Sampling frame is updated on a permanent basis in according to the results of survey of agricultural holdings, business register and different administrative sources.</p>	
3.7. Reference area	

Entire country (Georgia), excluding occupied regions.
3.8. Time coverage
Since 2006.
3.9. Base period
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4. Unit of measure
Thousand tons, thousand hectares, %.
5. Reference period
Year.
6. Institutional mandate
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements
The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics; https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf Statistical Work Programme (annual); https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/307/statistical-work-programme Charter of the National Statistics Office of Georgia. https://www.geostat.ge/media/20845/10%2Csaqstatis-konsolidirebuli-debuleba.pdf
6.2. Data sharing
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7. Confidentiality
7.1. Confidentiality – policy
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the article 5 of the law Statistical confidentiality and exclusive use for statistical purposes – individual data collected or received by the producer of official statistics, relating to natural or legal persons, must be strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes. According to the article 34 (Observing Confidentiality of Statistical Data) of the law 1. Data collected, processed, and stored to produce official statistics are confidential if they enable the direct or indirect identification of a statistical unit. In addition, aggregated data are subject to statistical confidentiality: a) Aggregates composed of 1 to 3 units, when the unit is a natural or legal person if one of these units could be identified indirectly, thereby disclosing individual data about this unit. Aggregates composed of more than 3 units may be declared confidential by the Executive Director if required to ensure statistical confidentiality; b) Information declares as a state secret on the basis of the „Law of Georgia on State Secrets“. 2. Confidential data shall be used exclusively for the purposes of producing statistics in accordance with this law. 3. Statistical data about the administrative body cannot be considered confidential information, except for the information determined by the Law of Georgia „On State Secrets“. 4. Individual data obtained from publicly available sources, which are defined as public information in accordance with the legislation of Georgia, shall not be considered confidential information. 5. Confidential (individual) data may be published if there is written consent from the statistical unit regarding the publication of such data. 6. It is not allowed to disseminate and distribute confidential data or use it for non-statistical purposes. According to the article 38 (Confidentiality commitments) of the law the confidential statistical data collected and processed for statistical purposes shall not be used or disseminated either for personal, academic, research or any other activities, by the employees of the producers of Official Statistics. https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf Data Confidentiality Policy at Geostat https://www.geostat.ge/media/20860/Data-Confidentiality-Policy-at-Geostat_En.pdf Procedure for providing access to confidential data for research purposes (in Georgian) https://www.geostat.ge/media/58983/დაცვენილება--3.pdf The Law of Georgia on Personal Data Protection https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/1561437?publication=9
7.2. Confidentiality – data treatment

- Confidentiality guidelines.
- Written undertakings by an employee of Geostat on ensuring confidentiality of gained/collected data as a result of official duties.

8. Release policy
8.1. Release calendar
Data dissemination dates are defined by the calendar developed on the basis of the Statistical Work Programme, which is published on the website of Geostat and is publicly available.
8.2. Release calendar access
https://www.geostat.ge/en/calendar
8.3. User access
All users have the equal access to the statistical data simultaneously.

9. Frequency of dissemination
Annual.

10. Accessibility and clarity
10.1. News release
The press releases on crops data are not disseminated.
10.2. Publications
Crop statistics data are available in following publications: „Agriculture of Georgia“: https://www.geostat.ge/en/single-categories/102/agriculture-of-georgia . „Statistical Yearbook of Georgia“: https://www.geostat.ge/en/single-categories/95/statistical-yearbook
10.3. On-line database
Online database is available on Geostat’s web page in PC axis format: https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/
10.4. Micro-data access
Anonymised microdata: https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/686/agriculture-holdings-surveys
10.5. Other
Statistical data on Crop additionally are disseminated using social network (Facebook).
10.6. Documentation on methodology
„A System of Integrated Agricultural Censuses and Surveys. V.1-Guidelines for the World Programme of Agriculture Censuses“. FAO Statistical Development Series, No. 11. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Rome, 2005. https://www.geostat.ge/media/19768/WCA2010.pdf „World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020. V.1-Programme, concepts and definitions“. FAO Statistical Development Series, No. 15. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Rome, 2017. https://www.geostat.ge/media/19769/World-Programme-for-the-Census-of-Agriculture-2020.pdf
10.7. Quality documentation
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11. Quality management
11.1. Quality assurance
To ensure the quality of the statistical processes and products Geostat follows Chapter 10 – Quality of official statistics – of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, as well as the European Statistics Code of Practice, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (ESS QAF).
11.2. Quality assessment
Methodology and Quality Management Division of Geostat, along with the sectoral departments, is responsible for the quality of the produced statistical products and processes. The Division carries out quality audit, self-assessment of statistical processes and assesses the risks for the quality of statistical processes and products. Geostat has developed

policy documents, guidelines and standard routine descriptions. These documents ensure the standardization of statistical processes and products and the establishment of a unified quality assurance system.

Quality policy is available on the following link:

https://www.geostat.ge/media/44380/QP_Geostat_EN.pdf

12. Relevance

12.1. User needs

The main stakeholders of data on crops are: governmental institutions, educational institutions, scientific institutions, different business sector representatives, researchers and students, international organizations, media outlets, etc.

They need these data to carry out different types of statistical analysis, to plan a marketing strategy or to evaluate and study the economic situation.

12.2. User satisfaction

In 2021 user satisfaction survey was conducted, the target of the survey was to analyze the assessment of quality of statistical data by users and explore ways to improve user services. The survey report is available on the website of Geostat (in Georgian):

<https://www.geostat.ge/ka/page/customer-service>

12.3. Completeness

The data are comparable to international standards.

13. Accuracy and reliability

13.1. Overall accuracy

Data accuracy is ensured by comparability of survey and calculation methods to international methodology.

13.2. Sampling error

Sampling error of main indicators do not exceed 5% for a country level and 10% for a regional level.

13.3. Non-sampling error

Non-sampling error examples during The Survey of Agricultural Holdings are: errors made during a data collection by an interviewer, non-response, under coverage and over coverage, errors during an imputation and data processing.

14. Timeliness and punctuality

14.1. Timeliness

Express data about sown area of winter crops in the current year – 70 th days after the reference time;

Express data about sown area of spring crops in the current year – 60 th days after the reference time;

Preliminary data about the previous year's agriculture indicators (sown and harvested area of annual crops, production and average yield of annual crops, production of permanent crops) – 100 th days after the reference time;

Final results about the previous year's agriculture indicators – 160 th days after the reference time.

14.2. Punctuality

The data is published according to the date specified in the statistical work program. There has not been any violation of publication dates.

15. Coherence and comparability

15.1. Comparability – geographical

The same methodological approaches are used for all regions of Georgia and they are comparable to international standards.

15.2. Comparability – over time

The main source of sample frame for 2006-2015 years of surveys was Agricultural Census 2004. The sample frame for 2016-2018 years of survey has been updated and is based on Agricultural Census 2014. Consequently, in order to ensure comparability of data of 2014-2018 years, reconciliation of the data has been made for the years of 2014 and 2015.

Therefore, the data of 2014-2018 years are not comparable to the data of 2006-2013 years.

15.3. Coherence – cross domain

The data is coherent.

15.4. Coherence – internal

The data is coherent.

16. Cost and burden
The total budget of agriculture holdings survey has been amounted 980 thousand GEL in 2023. Main problem in terms of respondent burden is time required in for complete survey questionnaire. Since 2018 data for Survey of Agricultural Holdings are collected using android based tablets, via CAPI method. Adaptation this method significantly positively influenced on time which was needed for complete questionnaire, as well as respondent burden.
17. Data revision
17.1. Data revision – policy
Statistical data revision policy is available on the website of Geostat: https://www.geostat.ge/media/59824/Data-Revision-Policy-and-Error-Correction-at-Geostat_Eng.pdf
17.2. Data revision – practice
The statistical data revisions and adjustments are made on a regular basis rely on relevant sources. In addition, a large-scale revision is performed once a year to obtain verified data. Main purpose of this procedures to obtain statistically valid data. An unplanned revision (to clarify data) was not carried out in practice.
18. Statistical processing
18.1. Source data
Primary data obtained from Survey of Agriculture Holdings.
18.2. Frequency of data collection
Annual.
18.3. Data collection
From 2006 to 2017 data for the Survey of Agriculture Holdings were collected using paper-based questionnaires, while since 2018 data are collected tablet-based computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) methods. In case of agricultural enterprises data are collected via online questionnaires (CASI- Computer Assisted Self-interviewing).
18.4. Data validation
The primary logical controls are made by algorithms implemented in android based tablets, which notifies an interviewer on logical errors or mismatching of obtained information. Questionnaires filled by interviewers are sent to field work supervisors in order to retrieve and check data errors or arithmetical mistakes. If such cases will be occurred, field supervisors send the questionnaires back to interviewers for farther correction or adjustment. The final data cleaning and harmonization are made by staff of Agriculture and Environment Statistics department of GEOSTAT. During this process the dubious data and outliers are retrieved, checked and adjusted. For the data validation strongly used comparison of obtained data to previous time series on a micro data level or other valid sources. In case of significant outliers, the main reason of it should be detected and analyzed.
18.5. Data compilation
After data cleaning and statistical weight calculation, indicators are calculated using weighted data. For the calculation of production, sown area and harvested area following formula is used: $\sum_{i=1}^n W_i \cdot X_i$ Where n is number of surveyed households, W_i – i agricultural holding weight, while X_i – means data about production/sown area/harvested area within i agricultural holding. Average yield of annual crops is calculated by using the following formula: $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n W_i \cdot X_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n W_i \cdot Y_i}$ Where n is number of surveyed households, W_i – i agricultural holding weight, X_i – data about production within i agricultural holding, Y_i – data about harvested area within i agricultural holding.
18.6. Adjustment
Not applicable.
19. Comment
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