



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 16-March-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Land preparation for 2021 cropping season underway
- Cereal production in 2020 estimated at above-average level
- Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 estimated slightly below-average level
- Food assistance needed for vulnerable households

Land preparation for 2021 cropping season underway

Seasonal dry weather conditions are prevailing across the country and planting operations for maize, millet and sorghum, to be harvested from September, are expected to begin in May with the onset of the rains. Planting of rice, the major cereal crop produced in the country, is expected to start in June and the harvests are expected to start in October.

Seasonal rains increased water and pasture availability in July and August 2020, improving livestock body conditions and enhancing animal market value in most parts of the country. In March, despite the ongoing pastoral lean season, forage availability was overall satisfactory in the main grazing areas of the country. The health situation remains overall good and stable, with just some localized outbreaks of seasonal diseases, including Peste des petits ruminants, bacterial anthrax and symptomatic anthrax.

Cereal production in 2020 estimated at above-average level

The 2020 aggregate production of cereals, mainly rice, is estimated at 257 000 tonnes, about 16 percent above the five-year average. The good performance mainly reflects favourable weather conditions and adequate supply of inputs provided by the Government with the support of international partner organizations (FAO, PADES, PPRFJ and the Government of Senegal). However, localized production shortfalls were recorded in several areas due to flooding.

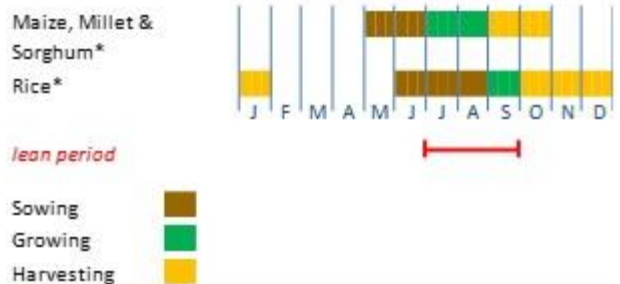
Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 estimated slightly below-average level

Over 45 percent of the national cereal utilization in the country is covered by imports. Rice accounts for about 80 percent of the

Guinea-Bissau

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea-Bissau

Cereal Production

	2015-2019 average	2019	2020 estimate	change 2020/2019
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	177	187	198	6.0
Sorghum	19	22	21	-4.1
Millet	16	20	24	22.4
Others	8	8	14	70.2
Total	221	237	257	8.7

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. Import requirements in the 2020/21 marketing year (November/October) are forecast at an above-average level of 155 000 tonnes as local traders are aiming to replenish their stocks.

Food assistance needed for vulnerable households

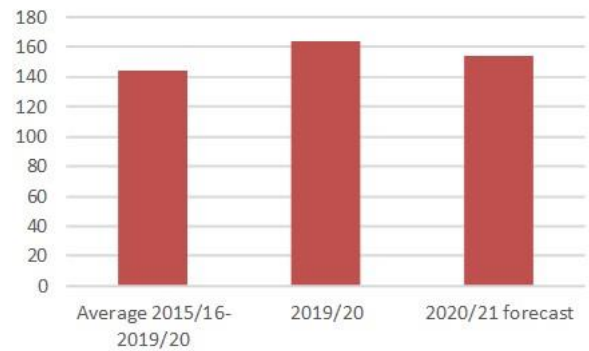
The overall food security situation remains stable and favourable across the country. However, continued assistance is needed for the most vulnerable population. According to the November 2020 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 96 000 people (7 percent of the population analyzed) are estimated to need food assistance up to August 2021, with a substantial increase from the 68 000 food insecure during the June to August 2020 period. The main drivers of food insecurity are the effects of adverse weather events (flooding), Fall Armyworm attacks on maize, millet and sorghum crops across the country and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the value chain.

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Guinea-Bissau

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 06-May-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Timely start of 2020 cropping season
- Above-average cereal production harvested in 2019
- Increasing cereal import requirements in 2019/20 marketing year (November/October)
- Food assistance needed for vulnerable households

Timely start of th 2020 cropping season

Following a timely onset of the seasonal rains in late April, planting operations for maize, millet and sorghum are ongoing and the harvests are expected to start in September 2020. Since the start of the season, adequate rainfall amounts supported soil moisture content for crop development. In most areas, crops are at sprouting and seedling stages, and weeding activities are regularly underway. Planting of rice, the major cereal crop produced in the country, is expected to start in June.

In late April 2020, the Forum of the Agro-Hydro-Climatic Seasonal Forecast in Sudano-Sahelian Africa (PRESASS) released its forecast for the whole rainy season (June/October) across the Sahel and Soudanian zones. The forecast points to above-average rainfall amounts which will continue until October. If this forecast materializes, it will contribute to favourable agricultural production and availability of pasture and water as well as good pastoral conditions.

The conditions of natural pasture coverage are satisfactory and rains are benefiting the development of newly germinated pasture. Due to the abundance and diversification of biomass, the animal body condition is satisfactory. The health situation remains overall good and stable.

Above-average cereal production harvested in 2019

Harvesting of the 2019 major crops, including rice, was completed last December. The 2019 agricultural season was characterized by some localized flooding in July-August 2019 in Gabu Region (Sintchã Benfica, Fulamansa, Camadjaba, Lenquero and in the military cooperative Bidinga Na Nhasse) and by Fall Armyworm attacks on maize, millet and sorghum crops across the country. The 2019 aggregate national cereal production is estimated at 240 000 tonnes, about 17 percent above the five-year average.

Guinea-Bissau

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)

Maize, Millet & Sorghum*
Rice*



lean period

Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea-Bissau

Cereal Production

	2014-2018 average	2018	2019 estimate	change 2019/2018
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	166	176	187	6.4
Sorghum	18	21	22	2.3
Millet	14	18	20	10.7
Others	8	9	11	19.4
Total	206	224	240	6.9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Increasing cereal import requirements in 2019/20 marketing year (November/October)

Over 45 percent of the national cereal utilization in the country is covered by imports. Rice accounts for about 80 percent of the import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. Import requirements in the 2019/20 marketing year (November/October) are forecast at an above-average level of 170 000 tonnes as local traders are aiming to replenish their stocks.

Food assistance needed for vulnerable households

The overall food security situation remains stable and favourable across the country. However, continued assistance is needed for the most vulnerable population. According to the March 2020 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 68 000 people (5 percent of the population analyzed) are estimated to be in need of food assistance up to August 2020, with a substantial increase from the 5 000 food insecure people in June-August 2019. The main drivers of the food insecurity are the effects of adverse weather events (flooding) and Fall Armyworm attacks on maize, millet and sorghum crops. across the country.

COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

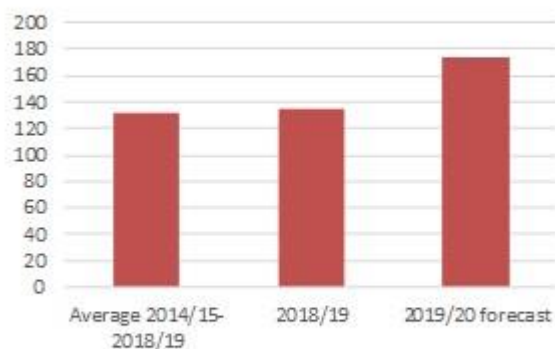
In view of the evolving COVID-19 situation, the Government has decreed a land border closure and a sanitary state of emergency extended until 14 May 2020. The Government has taken some sanitary, social and economic measures. Mandatory restrictions on population movements, combined with heightened levels of fear, have led many people to remain at home. Although these measures have not affected the access to food, further restrictions on population movements could hamper access to land and have a negative impact on the 2020 agricultural production.

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Guinea-Bissau

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 5-August-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Late arrival of rains delayed planting of 2019 cereal crops
- Slightly above-average production gathered in 2018
- Increasing cereal import requirements
- Overall satisfactory food security situation

Late arrival of rains delayed planting of 2019 cereal crop

Seasonal rains started late in June, delaying planting operations of maize, millet and sorghum, for harvesting from September. However, abundant rains since mid-June contributed to replenish soil moisture and favoured seed germination and plant establishment. Planting operations for rice, the major cereal crop produced in the country, are underway and will be completed by August. The harvest is expected to be completed in January.

The conditions of natural pasture coverage are satisfactory and rains have filled the main water points at optimal levels across the country. Due to the abundance and diversification of biomass, the animal body condition is satisfactory. The health situation remains overall stable.

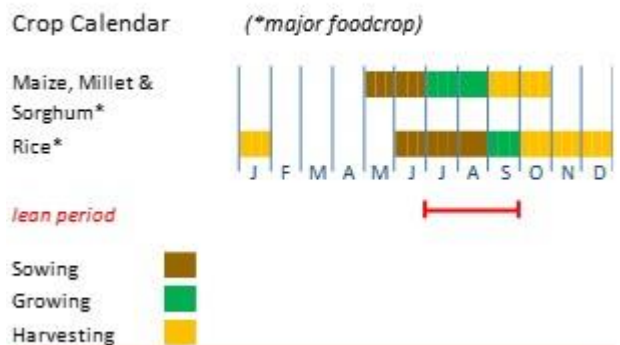
Slightly above-average production gathered in 2018

Despite some localized flooding in June 2018 and Fall Armyworm attacks on the maize crop, the 2018 national cereal production was estimated at 224 000 tonnes, about 5 percent above the five-year average. Production has been increasing steadily over the past few years due to the support from the Government and its development partners, including PADES (South Economic Development Support Project) in the south and PDCV (Rice Value Chain Development Project) in the east of the country, that contributed to increase the area cultivated with cereals.

Increasing cereal import requirements

Over 45 percent of the national cereal utilization in the country is covered by imports. Rice accounts for about 80 percent of the import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. Despite the above-average domestic production obtained in 2018, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 140 000 tonnes, allowing traders to replenish their food stocks.

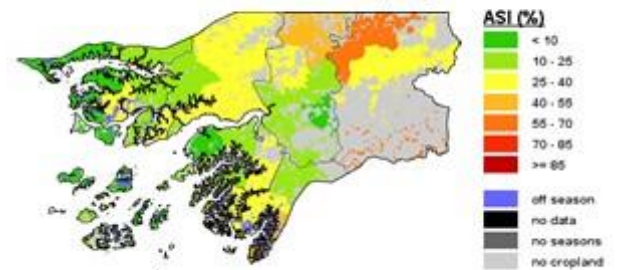
Guinea-Bissau



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea-Bissau - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

From start of season 1 to dekad 2, July 2019



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

Guinea-Bissau

Cereal Production

	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	173	165	176	6.5
Sorghum	19	20	21	7.1
Millet	15	16	18	8.0
Others	8	9	9	8.0
Total	214	210	224	6.7

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Satisfactory food security situation

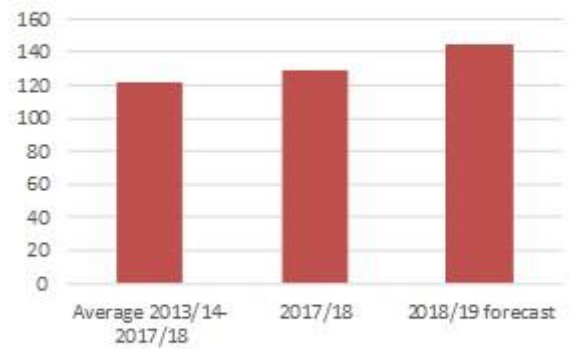
The overall food situation is satisfactory across the country. However, continued assistance is needed for the most vulnerable population. According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 2 500 people (out of 1.07 million) are estimated to be in need of food assistance up to August 2019, with a decrease from 5 000 food insecure in June-August 2018.

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Guinea-Bissau

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 19-March-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Slightly above-average production gathered in 2018
- Increasing cereal import requirement
- Continued assistance still needed for vulnerable people

Slightly above-average production gathered in 2018

The planting of the 2019 cereal crops will start in May with the arrival of the seasonal rains, for harvesting from September.

Despite some localized flooding in June 2018 and Fall Armyworm attacks on the maize crop, the 2018 national cereal production was estimated at 224 000 tonnes, about 6 percent higher than last season's output and 5 percent above the five-year average.

Concerning the pastoral situation, the natural pasture coverage is satisfactory and rains have filled the main water points at optimal levels across the country. Due to the abundance and diversification of biomass, the animal body condition is satisfactory. The health situation remains overall stable.

Increasing cereal import requirement

Over 45 percent of the national cereal utilization in the country is fulfilled by imports. Rice accounts for about 80 percent of the import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. Despite a slight increase in total domestic production compared to the previous year, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 150 000 tonnes, about one-fourth above the previous year and the average. The increase will allow traders to replenish their food stocks.

Moderate economic growth projected, food price inflation decreasing

According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economic growth is forecast to remain strong, at about 5.1 percent in 2019 due to the recent high international cashew nut prices (the main driver of economic activity) and high public investment in infrastructure and social services. The year-on-year inflation rate in 2019 is forecast at about 1.9 percent, slightly up from 1.5 percent in 2018 as a result of strong domestic demand.

Continued assistance still needed for most

Guinea-Bissau

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)

Maize, Millet &
Sorghum*
Rice*



lean period

Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea-Bissau

Cereal Production

	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	173	165	176	6.6
Sorghum	19	20	21	7.1
Millet	15	16	18	8.0
Others	8	9	9	8.0
Total	214	210	224	6.6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

vulnerable people

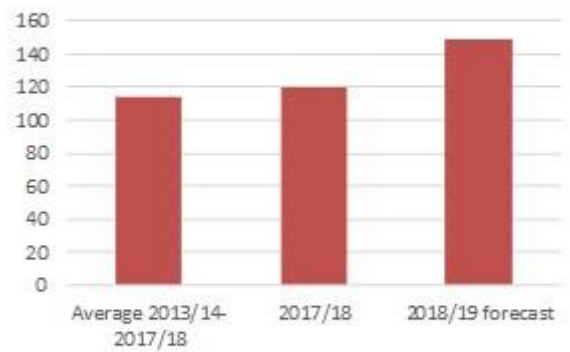
The overall food situation is satisfactory across the country. However, continued assistance is still needed for the most vulnerable population. According to the November 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 14 000 people (out of 1.9 million) are estimated to be in need of food assistance up to August 2019, with a slight increase from 12 000 food insecure in March-May 2018.

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Guinea-Bissau

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 18-June-2018

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Late arrival of rains delayed planting of 2018 cereal crop
- Abundant but poorly-distributed rainfall adversely affected 2017 cereal crop production
- Cereal import requirement about same as last year
- Increased cashew revenue offsets impact of higher international prices of rice

Late arrival of rains delayed planting of 2018 cereal crop

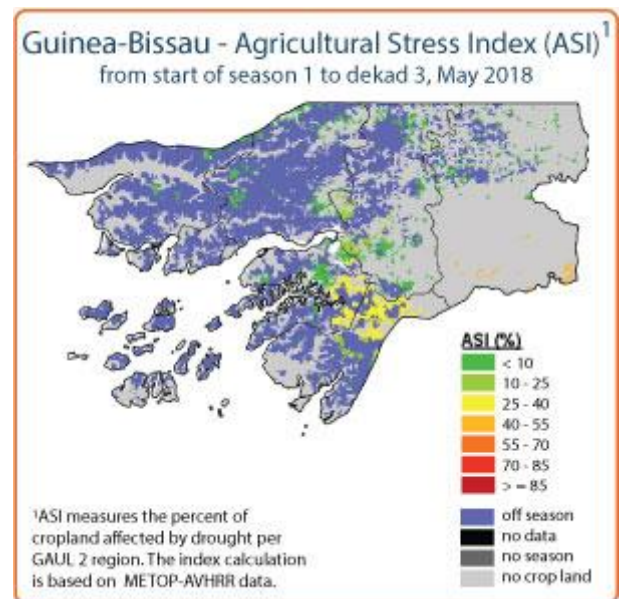
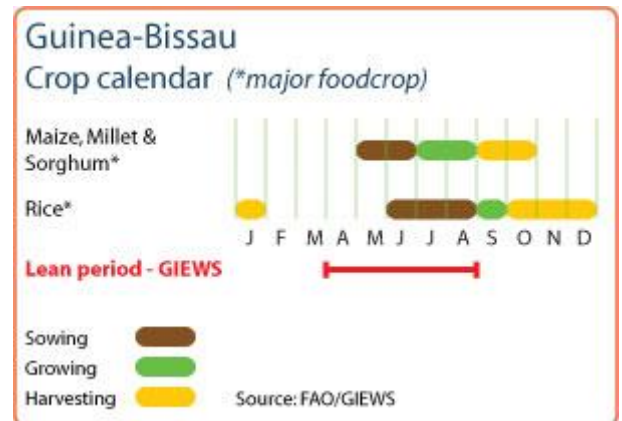
Seasonal rains started two weeks late in May, delaying planting operations of maize, millet and sorghum, for harvesting from September. Abundant rains are expected in the coming weeks replenishing soil moisture and improving planting conditions and crop prospects.

Land preparation for rice, the major cereal crop produced in the country, is ongoing and planting operations are about to start for the harvest to be completed in January.

Cereal import requirements maintained to offset slight decrease in production

The 2017 agricultural season was characterized by near-average rainfall. Due to localized flooding between July and September 2017 that negatively affected crop development and the harvest, the national cereal production was estimated at 210 000 tonnes, about 6 percent lower than the last season's output and 5 percent below the five-year average. The major decline was observed in the production of rice.

Imports account for over 45 percent of the national cereal utilization in the country. Rice accounts for about 80 percent of the import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. Despite a slight decline in total domestic production compared to the previous year, import requirements for the 2017/18 (November/October) marketing year are expected to decrease slightly compared to the previous year, but remain almost one-fourth above the average.



Increased cashew revenue offset impact of higher prices of international rice

The country is the second largest exporter of raw cashew nuts, which accounts for more than 90 percent of its export revenue. It is an important source of income for the most poor rural households as they often barter the product for imported rice supplied by cashew traders. The cashew farmers tend to sell their excess rice bartered from cashew nuts on the local markets to earn income, enabling them to fulfill other food and non-food expenditures. The farmgate price of cashew nuts is relatively stable at XOF 1 000 (USD 1.77) per kg from 2017. The cashew farmers are now earning higher income from 2017 enabling them to purchase imported food products.

Continued assistance still needed for vulnerable people

A political and institutional stalemate has prevailed in the country for more than two years, affecting economic activities and increasing the vulnerability of the local population. However, since the reappointment of the United Nations Integrated Office in Guinea-Bissau (BINUGBIS) on 28 February, some improvements have been reported. Despite the poor port, road and telecommunication infrastructure which hampered the implementation of planned food distribution, WFP assisted about 174 000 people with 300 tonnes of food in April 2018. The stability in the prices of cashew in 2018 has led to a good production that supported the income of producers and improved their access to staple food. The overall food situation has improved compared to previous years and, according to the March 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 12 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2018 compared to 32 500 people from October to December 2017. This number is expected to decline to 5 000 during the June to August period due to good the income from the sales of cashew, stable market prices and favourable cashew/rice terms of trade (1 kg cashew nuts for 4 kg of rice).

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Guinea-Bissau

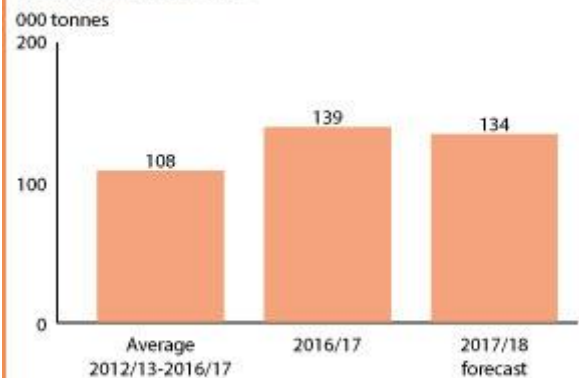
Cereal production

	2012-2016	2016	2017	change
	average		estimate	2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	179	186	165	-11
Sorghum	19	17	20	18
Millet	15	14	16	14
Others	8	7	9	29
Total	221	224	210	-6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea-Bissau

Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 08-November-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Abundant but poorly-distributed rainfall adversely impact cereal crop production
- Cereal imports forecast to increase to offset reduction in total cereal production
- Increased cashew revenue offsets impact higher international rice prices

Poorly-distributed rainfall to adversely impact rice production

Harvesting of millet, sorghum and maize was completed in October, while that of rice, the major crop produced in the country, is underway and will be completed by the end of January 2018. Late arrival of rains in May and June delayed plantings, while abundant but poorly-distributed rainfall in July and August affected crop development in the main producing zones of the country's marshy areas.

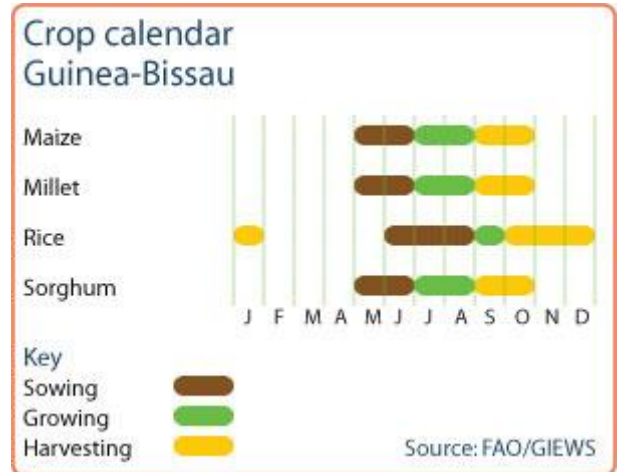
Flooding in the shallows of freshwater rice and in mangroves impacted a number of agriculturally important regions, including Bafata, Gabu and Oio. The presence of local grasshoppers, nymphula moths and Fall Armyworms has also been reported throughout the country, but millet, sorghum and other cereal grain production is expected to be similar to, and above, last year's levels. The aggregate 2017 production is estimated at 210 000 tonnes, about 7 percent lower than last year's bumper level and 5 percent below the five-year average.

Import requirements to increase to offset slight decrease in production

Imports account for over 45 percent of the national cereal requirements in the country, with rice accounting for close to 82 percent of these import requirements, followed by wheat, which accounts for about 15 percent. In response to growing domestic demand and a slight decline in total production compared to the previous year, import requirements for 2017 are expected to increase by 8 percent compared to 2016, reaching 134 000 tonnes.

Increased cashew revenue offset impact of higher international rice prices

The country is the second largest exporter of raw cashew nuts, which accounts for more than 90 percent of its export revenue.



Guinea-Bissau
Cereal production

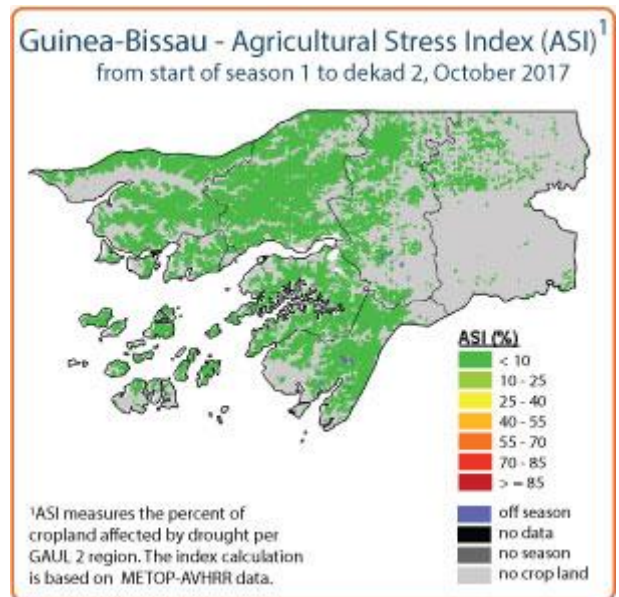
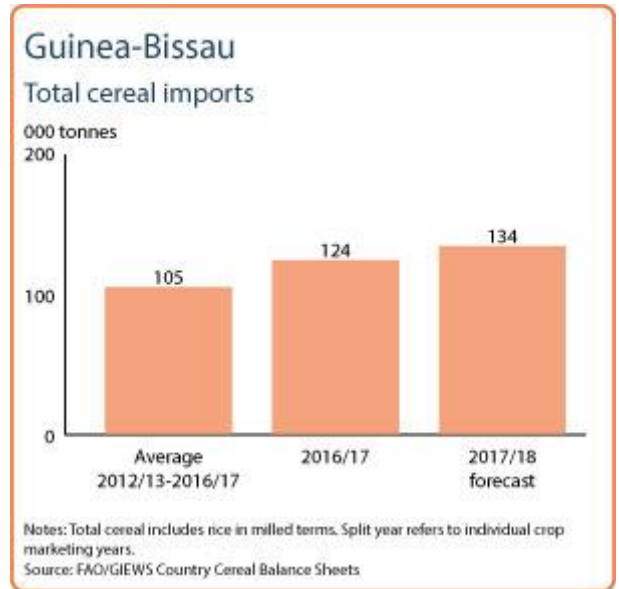
	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 estimate	change 2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	179	186	165	-11
Sorghum	19	17	20	18
Millet	15	14	16	14
Others	9	8	9	12
Total	221	226	210	-7

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

For most poor rural households, cashew nuts are an important source of income and are often bartered for imported rice supplied by cashew traders. Cashew farmers often sell excess rice bartered from cashew nuts on the local markets, earning the income necessary to purchase other goods. In 2017, the Government set the farmgate price of cashew nuts at XOF 1 000 (USD 1.77) per kg, a substantial increase compared to XOF 350 in the previous year. As of early November, 165 000 tonnes of cashew nuts, out of the 175 000 forecasted, were already exported.

Although prices of rice imported from the country's main trading partners in Asia were higher than their year-earlier levels, the favourable cashew campaign has supported the income of producers and rural populations and improved their access to staple foodstuffs. Nevertheless, the number of households requiring humanitarian assistance increased compared to last year. According to the "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in spring 2017, about 32 500 people were estimated to be in Phase 3 "Crisis" and above between June and August 2017, compared to the 25 900 people caseload of the previous year.

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GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 09-March-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Average harvest gathered in 2016
- Food security situation remains difficult for vulnerable populations

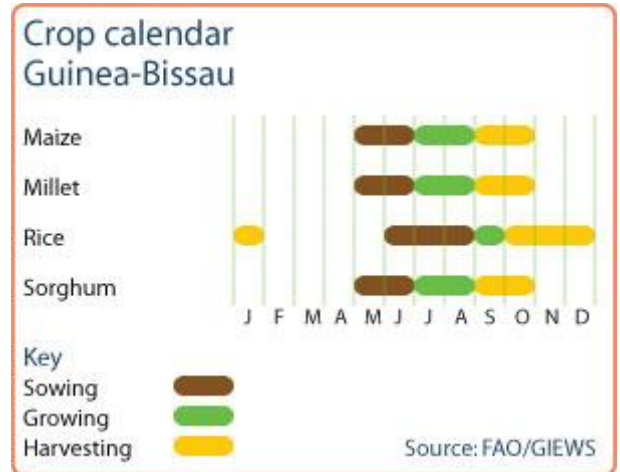
Average harvest gathered in 2016

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2017. An above-average and well-distributed rainfall benefited crop development in the main producing zones of the country. Preliminary estimates put the 2016 aggregate cereals production at about 225 000 tonnes, 8 percent higher than the 2015 output and 3 percent above the average of the past five years. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, increased by 9 percent compared to the previous year's output.

Cereal production had already recovered significantly the previous year following the 2014 reduced harvest. The 2015 aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 209 000 tonnes, 28 percent above the previous year's output.

Food security situation remains difficult for vulnerable people

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The producer price of cashew nuts increased significantly in 2015 and 2016, which resulted in a gain to farmers' income. As a result, larger export volumes are anticipated this year. However, according to the last "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in the country, about 66 000 people are estimated to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above.

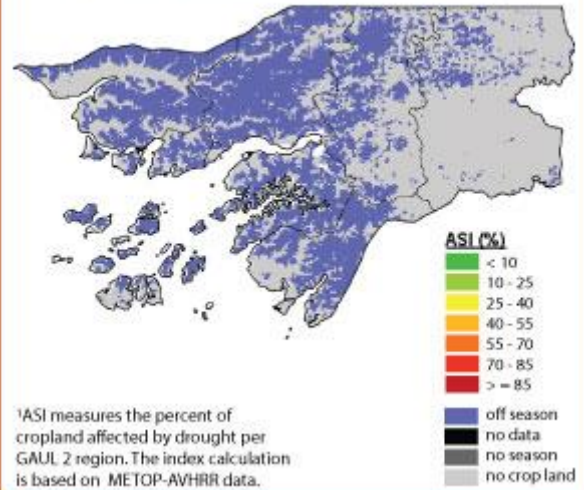


Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 estimate	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	177	170	186	9
Sorghum	20	16	17	6
Millet	15	14	14	0
Others	9	9	8	-11
Total	219	209	225	8

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea-Bissau - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)¹ from start of season 1 to dekad 3, February 2017





GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 03-February-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Average harvest gathered in 2016
- Food security situation remains difficult for vulnerable populations

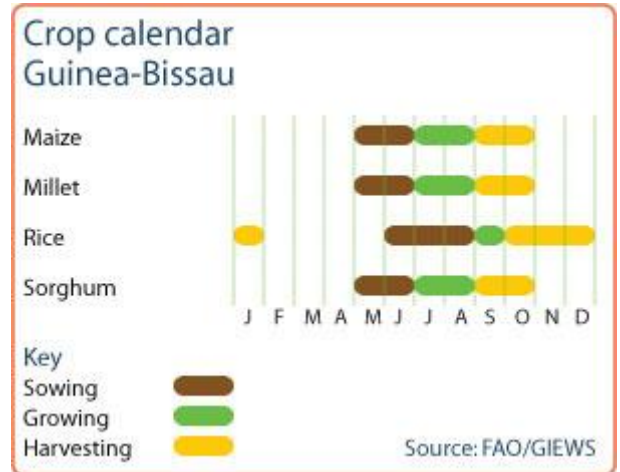
Average harvest gathered in 2016

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2017. Above-average and well-distributed rainfall benefited crop development in the main producing zones of the country. Preliminary estimates put the 2016 aggregate cereals production at about 225 000 tonnes, 8 percent higher than the 2015 output and 3 percent above the average of the past five years. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, increased by 9 percent compared to the previous year's output.

Cereal production had already recovered significantly the previous year following the 2014 reduced harvest. The 2015 aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 209 000 tonnes, 28 percent above the previous year's output.

Food security situation remains difficult for vulnerable people

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The producer price of cashew nuts increased significantly in 2015 and 2016, which resulted in a gain to farmers' income. As a result, larger export volumes are anticipated this year. However, according to the last "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in the country, about 66 000 people are estimated to be in Phase: 3 Crisis and above.



Guinea-Bissau
Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 forecast	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	177	170	186	9
Sorghum	20	16	17	6
Millet	15	14	14	0
Others	9	9	8	-11
Total	219	209	225	8

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea-Bissau

Reference Date: 22-September-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Satellite data analysis points to an above-average rice harvest in 2016
- Food security situation remains difficult for large segments of population

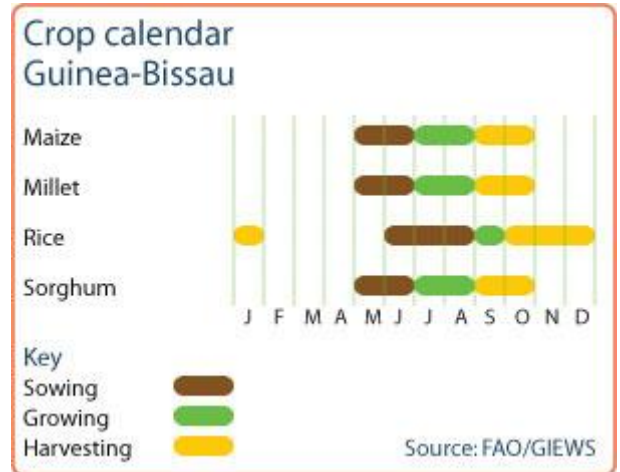
Above-average harvest expected this year, reflecting favourable weather conditions

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, is expected to begin in October. Harvesting of the 2016 maize crop has already started. An above-average production is forecast this year owing to favourable weather conditions and an expansion in rice planted area. Satellite images indicate that rainfall has been adequate since the beginning of the cropping season in July in most parts of the country. These overall favourable conditions permitted satisfactory crop development in main producing zones. Moreover, the country is expected to significantly expand rice area in the framework of a new UEMOA-funded project.

Cereal production already recovered significantly last year following the 2014 reduced harvest. Official estimates put the 2015 aggregate cereal production at about 208 600 tonnes, 28 percent above the previous year's output. However, this level of production is still 9 percent below average. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, also increased by 28 percent compared to the previous year's output.

Food security situation remains difficult for large segments of population

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The producer price of cashew increased by 40-70 percent in 2015, which resulted in a gain to farmers' income. As a result, larger export volumes are anticipated this year. However, about 26 917 people are estimated to be in Phase: 3 "Crisis" and above according to the last "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in the country.

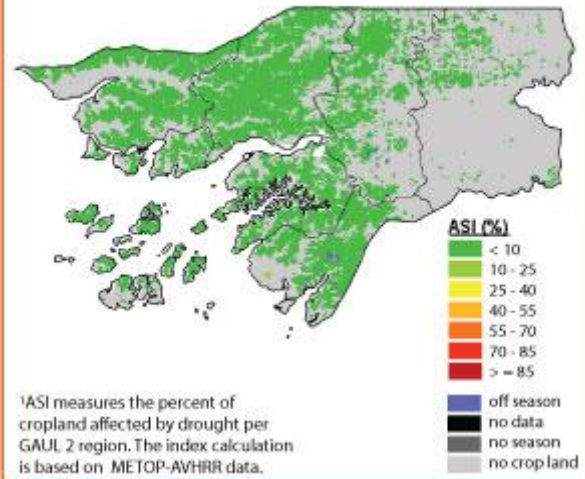


Guinea-Bissau
Cereal production

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 estimate	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	184	133	170	28
Sorghum	20	14	16	14
Millet	17	10	14	40
Others	10	6	9	50
Total	231	163	209	28

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea-Bissau - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)¹ from start of season 1 to dekad 3, August 2016



Reference Date: 07-March-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Rice production estimated to have increased by 28 percent in 2015 from the 2014 reduced output
- Food security situation expected to improve significantly in 2015/16

Adequate rains in 2015 resulted in significant recovery of agricultural production

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2016. There was a slow start of the rainy season; however, precipitation increased significantly from July to October, resulting in widespread planting of cereals. This, combined with increased Government and international support, led to a significant recovery in cereal production after the previous year's reduced crop. According to official sources, aggregate cereal production in 2015 is estimated to have increased by 28 percent (compared to 2014) to about 208 600 tonnes. However, this level of production is still 9 percent below average. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, also increased by 28 percent compared to the previous year's output.

Food security situation expected to improve in 2015/16

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The producer price of cashew was estimated to have increased by 40-70 percent in 2015, which resulted in a gain to farmers' income. The combined effects of higher producer prices and increased domestic production have resulted in an improved food security situation in the 2015/16 marketing year (November/October). About 3 000 people are estimated to be in Phase: 3 "Crisis" and above according to the last "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in the country. This represents a 97 percent decrease compared to last year.



Guinea-Bissau
Cereal production

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 forecast	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	184	133	170	28
Sorghum	20	14	16	14
Millet	17	10	14	40
Others	10	6	9	50
Total	231	163	209	28

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 18-May-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Rice production is estimated to have dropped by 36 percent in 2014 due to insufficient rains
- About 110 000 people need urgent assistance

Seasonably dry conditions prevail

The rains have not yet started and farmers are currently preparing their fields. Planting of the 2015 cereal crops is expected to start in the weeks ahead with the onset of the rains.

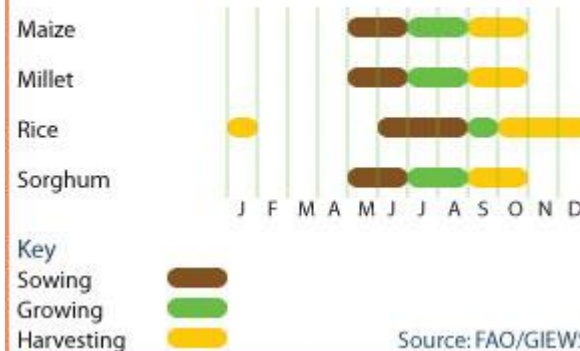
Poor outturn of agricultural production in 2014 due to rainfall deficits

Harvesting of the 2014 cereal crops was completed in January 2015. Growing conditions for cereal crops and pastures have been poor in several parts of the country, due to irregular rains at the beginning of the cropping season in May/June which delayed plantings and subsequent erratic precipitation in July and August. According to official sources, aggregate cereal production in 2014 dropped by 38 percent (compared to 2013) to about 163 000 tonnes. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, declined by 36 percent.

Large segments of population affected by protracted food insecurity

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The combined effects of unstable producer prices, recent Sahel food crises and political instability have eroded vulnerable households' coping mechanisms and resulted in protracted food insecurity in large parts of the country and persisting acute malnutrition. About 110 000 people are estimated to be in Phase 3 (Crisis) and above according to the last "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis conducted in the country.

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau



Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 estimate	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	194	209	133	-36
Sorghum	20	27	14	-48
Millet	20	18	10	-44
Others	11	10	6	-40
Total	245	264	163	-38

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 04-March-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Rice production is estimated to have dropped by 36 percent in 2014 due to insufficient rains
- About 55 000 people need urgent assistance

Poor outturn of agricultural production in 2014 due to rainfall deficits

There is little agricultural activity in this period, except for limited cultivation of some off-season crops. Planting of the 2015 cereal crops are expected to begin with the start of the rainy season from May.

Harvesting of the 2014 cereal crops was completed in January 2015. Growing conditions for cereal crops and pastures have been poor in several parts of the country, due to irregular rains at the beginning of the cropping season in May/June which delayed plantings and subsequent erratic precipitation in July and August. According to official sources, aggregate cereal production in 2014 dropped by 38 percent (compared to 2013) to about 163 000 tonnes. Production of rice (paddy), the most important staple, declined by 36 percent.

Large segments of population affected by protracted food insecurity

Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports, and cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The combined effects of unstable producer prices, recent Sahel food crises and political instability have eroded vulnerable households' coping mechanisms and resulted in protracted food insecurity in large parts of the country and persisting acute malnutrition. About 55 000 people are estimated to be in Phase 3 (Crisis) and above according to the last Cadre Harmonisé analysis conducted in the country.



Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 estimate	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	194	209	133	-36
Sorghum	20	27	14	-48
Millet	20	18	10	-44
Others	11	10	6	-40
Total	245	264	163	-38

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 07-July-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above-average cereal production gathered in 2013
- Reduced revenues from cashew nuts (main cash crop) due to lower prices and reduced exports volume
- Access to food affected by high prices and lower revenues

The cropping season has started on time

According to satellite imagery, the rainy season started in early June, allowing land preparation and plantings of coarse grains and rainfed rice to start. Coarse grain crops are emerging/tillering. Transplanting of swamp rice from seedbeds will take place in July/August after desalination of swamp rice fields.

Last year, regular and well-distributed rains benefited crop development in the major agricultural producing areas of the country. The official estimate puts the 2013 aggregate cereal production at some 265 000 tonnes, which is about 9 percent above the 2012 harvest and 15 percent above the previous five-year average.

Access to food is constrained by high food prices and lower income for farmers

In spite of the increased cereal production, access to food is being negatively affected by high prices and inflation rates as well as reduced income from cashew nuts, the main source of income for farmers. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports. Following the 2012 coup that disrupted food imports, rice prices increased steeply the following year in several regions across the country and have remained high.

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by plummeting prices and reduced exports volume of cashew nuts. The drop in exports volume was driven by political instability and low demand. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The drop in income combined with increased rice prices has considerably eroded farmers' purchasing power and access to food.



Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 forecast	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	194	210	200	-5
Sorghum	20	27	25	-7
Millet	20	18	17	-6
Others	11	10	10	0
Total	245	265	252	-5

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 12-February-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above average cereal production gathered in 2013
- Reduced revenues from cashew nuts (main cash crop) due to lower prices and reduced exports volume
- Access to food affected by high prices and lower revenues

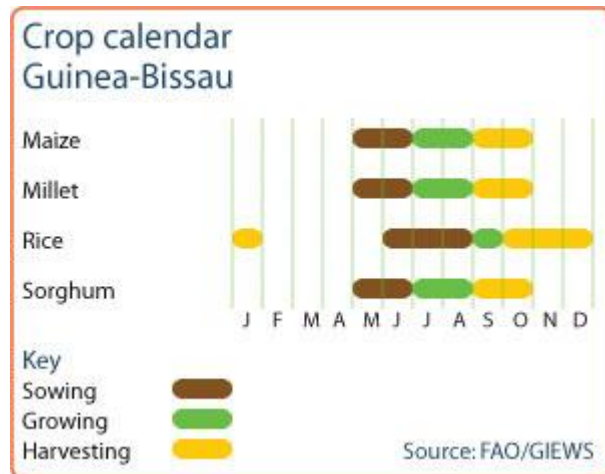
Favourable weather conditions resulted in a satisfactory 2013 harvest

Harvesting of rice, the major cereal crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2013. Adequate rainfall during the growing period has resulted in a satisfactory cereal harvest. Aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 267 000 tonnes, which is about 10 percent above the 2012 harvest and 15 percent above the previous five-year average.

Access to food is constrained by high food prices and lower income for farmers

In spite of the increased cereal production, access to food is being negatively affected by high prices and inflation rates as well as reduced income from cashew nuts, the main source of income for farmers. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports. Following the 2012 coup that disrupted food imports, rice prices increased steeply the following year in several regions across the country.

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by plummeting prices and reduced exports volume of cashew nuts. The drop in exports volume was driven by political instability and low demand. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The drop in income combined with increased rice prices has considerably eroded farmers' purchasing power and access to food.



Reference Date: 14-May-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above average cereal production gathered in 2012
- Reduced revenues from cashew nuts (main cash crop) due to lower prices and reduced exports volume
- Access to food affected by high prices and lower revenues

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. The 2013 cropping season is expected to start in June.

Favourable weather conditions resulted in a satisfactory 2012 harvest

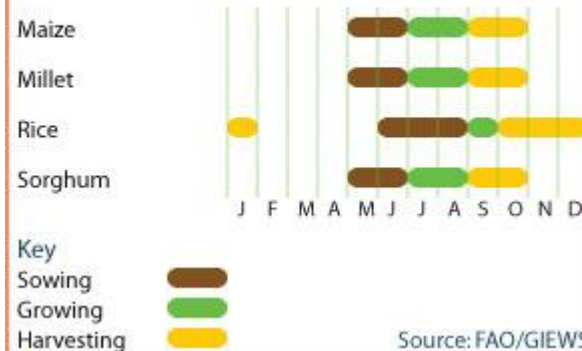
Harvesting of rice, the major cereal crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2013. Adequate rainfall during the growing period has resulted in a satisfactory cereal harvest. Aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 249 000 tonnes, which is about 15 percent above the 2011 harvest and 13 percent above the previous five-year average.

Access to food is constrained by high food prices and lower income for farmers

In spite of last year's good cereal production, access to food is being negatively affected by high prices and inflation rates as well as reduced income from cashew nuts, the main source of income for farmers. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports. Following last year coup that disrupted food imports, rice prices increased by more than 50 percent in several regions across the country.

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by plummeting prices and reduced exports volume of cashew nuts. The drop in exports volume was driven by political instability and low demand. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. The drop in income combined with increased rice prices has considerably eroded farmers' purchasing power and access to food.

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau



Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 estimate	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	168	175	198	13
Millet	23	14	17	21
Sorghum	16	19	24	26
Others	13	8	10	25
Total	220	216	249	15

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 22-March-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Average cereal production gathered in 2011
- Increased revenues from cashew exports due to higher prices on international markets
- Access to food continues to be affected by high prices

Favourable weather conditions resulted in a satisfactory 2011 harvest

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January 2012. Adequate rainfall during the growing period has resulted in a satisfactory cereal harvest in 2011. Aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 216 000 tonnes, which is about 9 percent lower than the bumper 2010 output but similar to the average of the past five years.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of last year's good cereal production, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high prices and inflation rates. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports. In addition to rice, the prices of other imported commodities including wheat, oil and sugar have increased significantly, driven by high international commodity prices. The year-on-year inflation rate accelerated from -1.7 percent in 2009 and 2.5 percent in 2010 to 5.2 percent in 2011. During the previous food price crisis, inflation increased by more than two-fold between 2007 and 2008 to 10.5 percent.

Cashew nut marketing improved since 2009

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address in recent years. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of policy interventions with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing has been better managed since 2009, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources. This, combined with the recent rebound in international cashew prices, resulted in a positive gain to farmers' income.



Reference Date: 10-January-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production increased by 12 percent in 2011
- Increased revenues from cashew exports due to higher prices on international markets
- Access to food continues to be affected by high prices

Favourable weather conditions resulted in a record 2011 harvest

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, will be completed by the end of January. Average rainfall during the growing period, combined with increased government and international support, has resulted in a record cereal harvest in 2011. A joint CILSS/FAO Crop Assessment Mission that visited the country recently, estimated 2011 aggregate cereal production at about 281 000 tonnes, about 12 percent higher than the bumper 2010 output and 29 percent above the average of the past five years.

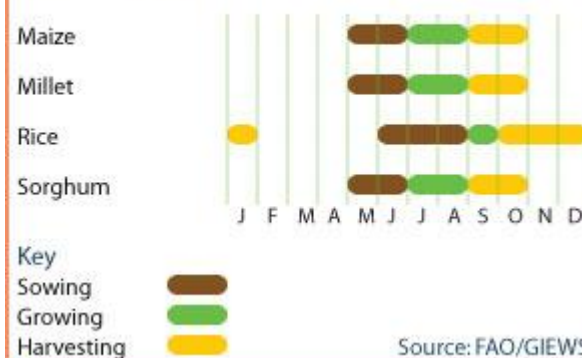
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Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau



Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	151	192	233	21
Millet	31	28	16	-43
Maize	18	12	7	-42
Others	19	20	25	25
Total	219	252	281	12

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

GIEWS Country Brief

Guinea-Bissau



Reference Date: 23-May-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The 2011 cropping season is expected to start with the onset of rains, normally in June
- Cereal production increased by 14 percent in 2010
- Marketing of cashew, the main source of cash income for rural households, has improved
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices

Seasonably dry conditions prevail

The rains have not yet started and farmers are currently preparing their fields. Planting of the 2011 cereal crops is scheduled to start in June with the onset of the rains.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

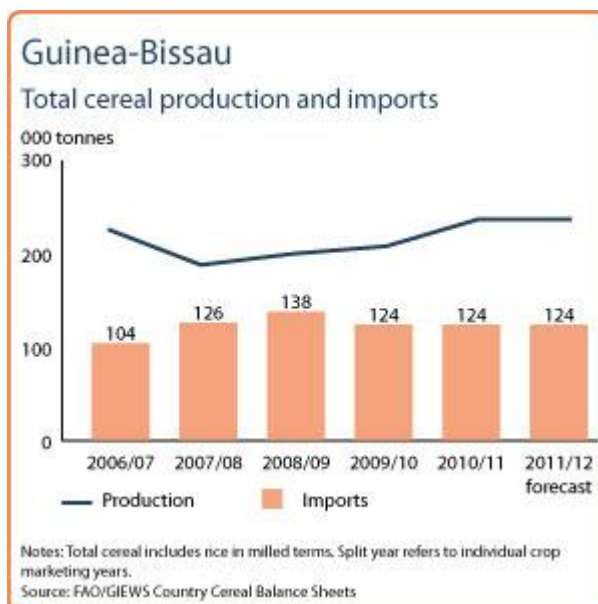
Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, was completed in January. Despite the flooding that occurred in some parts of the country in July and August 2010, the overall rainfall during the cropping season was adequate. This, combined with increased government support, has resulted in a favourable cereal harvest in 2010. Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated at about 237 000 tonnes, about 14 percent higher in 2009 and the average of the past five years.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of last year's good cereal production, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high prices and inflation rates. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied through imports. In addition to rice, the price of other imported commodities including wheat, oil, and sugar have been increasing steeply, driven by high international commodity prices. Last year, the year-on-year inflation rate accelerated from just 0.7 percent in June to 5.6 percent in December. During the previous food price crisis, Inflation increased more than two-fold between 2007 and 2008 to 10.5 percent.

Cashew nut marketing improved since 2009

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address in recent years. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of policy interventions with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing was better managed in 2009 and 2010, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources. This, combined with the recent rebound in international cashew prices, is expected to improve farmers' income in 2011.



Reference Date: 1-February-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production increased by 14 percent in 2010
- However, the food situation during the 2010/11 marketing year will depend on the evolution of international food prices.
- Marketing of cashew, the main source of cash income for rural households, has improved

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

Harvesting of rice, the major crop produced in Guinea-Bissau, is nearly complete. Despite the flooding that occurred in some parts of the country in July and August 2010, the overall rainfall during the cropping season was adequate. This, combined with increased government support, has resulted in a favourable cereal harvest in 2010. A joint CILSS/FAO Crop Assessment Mission that visited the country recently, estimated 2010 aggregate cereals production at about 237 000 tonnes, about 14 percent higher than the 2009 output and the average of the past five years.

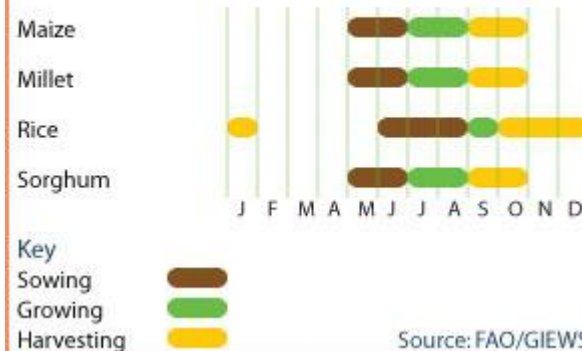
However, in spite of last year's high level of cereal production, the food situation during the 2010/11 marketing year will depend on the evolution of international food prices and actions the Government may take to mitigate their impact on consumers' purchasing power. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on rice imports. Approximately 40 percent of the national cereal requirements are satisfied by imports.

Inflation increased more than two-fold between 2007 and 2008 driven by high international commodity prices. After a sharp drop in 2009, inflation rebounded in 2010 and is forecast to remain high in 2011, driven by new rise in international prices.

Cashew nut marketing improved since 2009

The impact of high food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address in recent years. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of interventions with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing was better managed in 2009 and 2010, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources. This, combined with the recent rebound in international cashew prices, is expected to improve farmers' income in 2011.

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau

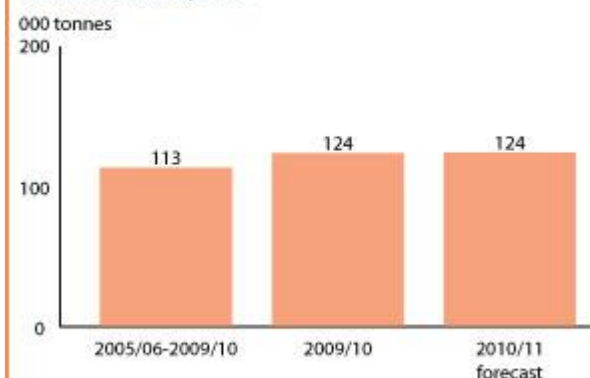


Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 estimate	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	129	154	177	15
Millet	34	26	28	8
Maize	23	10	12	20
Others	20	17	20	18
Total	207	207	237	14

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea-Bissau Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 16-April-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production increased by 4 percent in 2009
- Inflation declined significantly in 2009 thanks to improved food supply
- Marketing of cashew, the main source of cash income for rural households, has improved

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Planting of the 2010 cereal crops is scheduled to start in June with the onset of the rains. Aggregate 2009 cereal production was estimated at a record 207 410 tonnes, an increase of about 4 percent over the previous year's average crop.

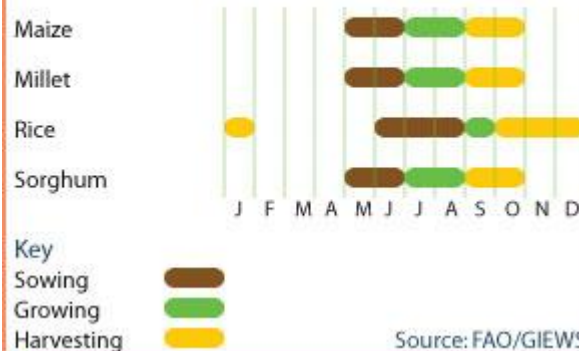
Low inflation in response to more plentiful food supplies

Guinea-Bissau was seriously affected by the rise in world cereals prices due to its high dependence on rice imports. Inflation increased more than two-fold between 2007 and 2008 to 10.4 percent. In 2009, as a result of the good harvests both in Guinea-Bissau and its neighbours and the decline in international market prices, inflation fell sharply, contracting by an estimated 8.2 percent according to the Economist Intelligence Unit. Food prices are anticipated to remain relatively low during most of 2010, reflecting last year good crop in both Guinea-Bissau and neighbouring Senegal.

Cashew nut marketing improved in 2009

The impact of soaring food prices on vulnerable rural populations was exacerbated by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address since 2006. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of interventions with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing was better managed in 2009, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources. The combination of low inflation and better cashew marketing has significantly improved the food situation in the country.

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau

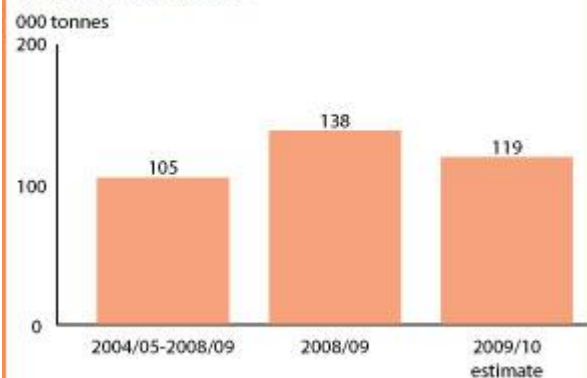


Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 estimate	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	116	154	154	0
Millet	36	23	26	13
Maize	27	10	10	0
Others	21	14	17	21
Total	200	200	207	4

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea-Bissau Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 29-January-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production increased by 4 percent in 2009
- Inflation is estimated to decline significantly in 2009 thanks to improved food supply
- marketing of cashew, the main source of cash income for rural households, has improved

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009

A recent joint CILSS/Government Mission provisionally estimated cereal production in 2009 at a record 207 410 tonnes, an increase of about 4 percent over last year's average crop.

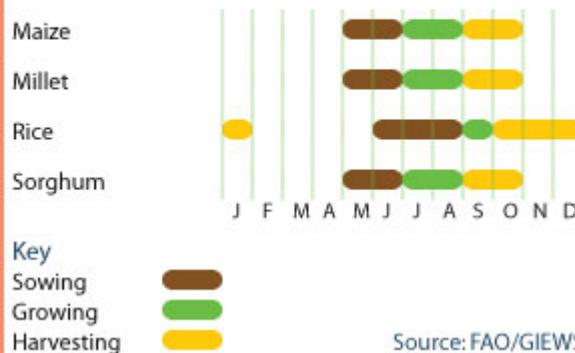
Low inflation in response to more plentiful food supplies

Like all the countries in the subregion, Guinea-Bissau was seriously affected by the rise in world cereals prices due to its high dependence on rice imports. Inflation increased more than twofold between 2007 and 2008 to 10.4 percent. In 2009, as a result of the good harvests both in Guinea-Bissau and its neighbours and the decline in international market prices, inflation fell sharply, contracting by an estimated 8.2 percent according to the Economist Intelligence Unit.

Cashew nut marketing improved in 2009

The impact of soaring prices was exacerbated by the increased vulnerability of the rural populations caused by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address since 2006. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to supplement their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of interventions with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing was better managed in 2009, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources. The combination of low inflation and better cashew marketing significantly improved the food situation in 2009

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau

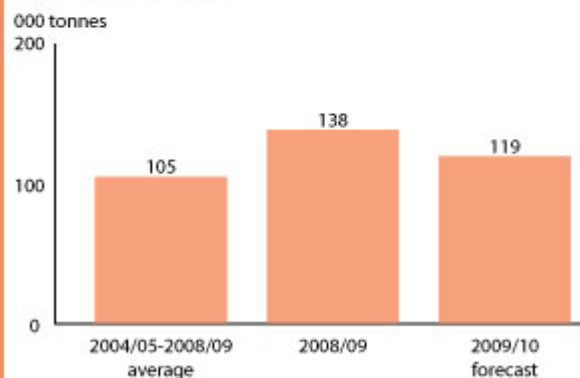


Guinea-Bissau Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice	116	154	154	0
Millet	36	23	26	13
Maize	27	10	10	0
Others	21	14	17	21
Total	200	200	207	4

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 24-September-2009

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Overall favourable crop prospects for 2009
- Inflation is forecasted to decline significantly in 2009 thanks to improved food supply
- marketing of cashew, the main source of cash income for rural households, has improved

Satellite images suggest good harvest prospects

The rainfall and the groundwater reserves since the beginning of the agriculture season in July have been adequate overall, making it possible for crops to develop well, as evidenced from the satellite images. Flooded rice is currently being replanted now that the flooded paddy fields have been desalinated. The harvesting of early maturing maize should already have begun.

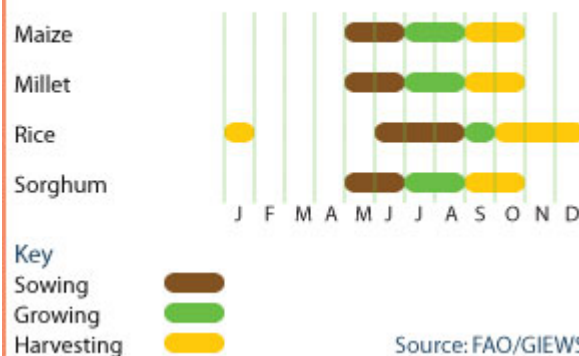
Low inflation in response to more plentiful food supplies

Like all the countries in the subregion, Guinea-Bissau was seriously affected by the rise in world cereals prices due to its high dependence on rice imports. Inflation increased more than twofold between 2007 and 2008 to 10.4 percent, according to estimates by the Economist Intelligence Unit. This year, however, prices fell sharply because of the good harvests both in Guinea-Bissau and its neighbours and the decline in international market prices. Initial estimates predict 2.8 percent inflation in 2009.

Cashew nut marketing improved in 2009

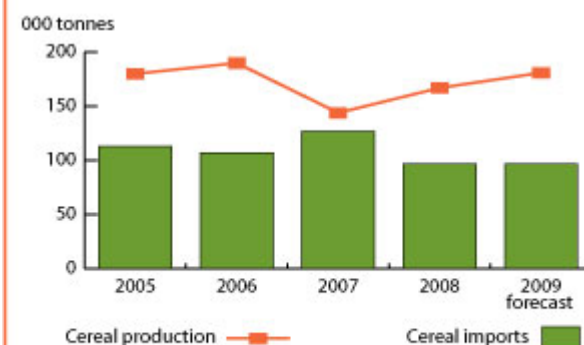
The impact of soaring prices, exacerbated by the increased vulnerability of the rural populations caused by the marketing problems that the cashew nut sector has had to address since 2006. Cashew nut incomes normally permit farmers to complete their food crop production by purchasing imported rice. After several years of interventionism with negative effects on prices and incomes, marketing was better managed this year, leading to a considerable increase in export volumes according to official sources.

Crop calendar Guinea-Bissau



Cereal production and imports Guinea-Bissau

Cereal production	2004-2008	2008	2009	change
	average		forecast	2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (milled)	77	99	99	0%
Millet	37	31	35	12.9%
Maize	29	17	20	17.6%
Other	20	20	27	35%
Total Cereals	165	167	181	8.4%



Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets