

The Republic of Armenia Food Balance Sheets Presentation



Definition of the Food Balance Sheet

FOOD BALANCE SHEETS present a comprehensive picture of the pattern of a country's food supply and utilisation, reflecting the commodity movement from production to end-use

FOOD BALANCE SHEETS enable evaluating both the food security of the country and the risks associated with food supply and utilisation

Producing FBS in the Republic of Armenia

In the Republic of Armenia, the ***Food Security Statistics Division of the RoA National Statistical Service (NSS)*** is responsible for producing Food Balance Sheets.

FBS are produced ***for calendar years.***

FBS commodity types contain data both for primary commodities and for processed products, estimated in their primary product equivalents.

Food Balance Sheets for the country as a whole are produced since **2001.**

Before the EC/FAO Programme started, the FBS were produced for 14 crop and livestock commodities

Crop production

- ✓ **Wheat**
- ✓ **Potatoes**
- ✓ **Vegetables**
- ✓ **Fruit (excluding grapes)**
- ✓ **Legumes/Pulses**
- ✓ **Vegetable oil**
- ✓ **Sugar**
- ✓ **Grapes**

Livestock

- ✓ **Eggs**
- ✓ **Milk (excluding butter)**
- ✓ **Bovine cattle meat**
- ✓ **Pork**
- ✓ **Mutton and goat meat**
- ✓ **Chicken meat**

Structure of the FBS

The list of 14 commodities, for which FBS were produced, was based on the principle of recording most widely consumed products, obtained from the data of integrated surveys of household living standards. In particular, the mentioned food products constitute **over 80%** of the total dietary energy supply.

Conversion of processed products into equivalent primary commodity

Wheat includes data on wheat, as well as wheat flour, pasta, ethyl alcohol and baked products.

Vegetables include data on fresh, frozen, dried and canned vegetables (cabbage, carrot, turnip, beet, cucumber, tomato, etc.).

Fruit (excluding grapes) include data on fresh, frozen, dried and canned fruit (Pomaceous, Drupaceous, Subtropical and Tropical fruit).

Eggs include data on eggs in shell, without shell, as well as egg-yolk, fresh, powdered, boiled and canned.

Milk includes fresh milk, as well as milk powder, yogurt, sour cream, quark, cheese and other dairy products.

Meat includes meat (carcass weight), as well as sausage, canned meat and other meat products.

Grapes include grapes and raisins.

Structure of Food Balance Sheets

Supply

1. Opening stocks
2. Production
3. Imports
- 4. Total supply**
(4=1+2+3)

Utilisation

5. Food
(5=4-6-7-8-9-10-11)
6. Feed
7. Waste
8. Seed (including eggs for incubation)
9. Exports
10. Other utilisation (non-food)
11. Closing stocks
- 12. Total utilisation**
(12=5+6+7+8+9+10+11)

Self-sufficiency ratio

Per caput food intake (including kilograms per annum, grams per day and dietary energy supply in kilocalories per day)

Information sources for preparing food balance sheets

Production – Official data of the RoA NSS,

Imports and Exports – data from the Customs Service of the RoA State Revenue Committee,

Feed – data estimated on the basis of total supply (opening stocks + production + import), applying coefficients obtained from both Ministry of Agriculture and statistical survey of food producers.

Waste – data estimated on the basis of total supply, by application of waste rates obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Seeds (including eggs for incubation) - data estimated by multiplying the seeding rate with the area (for eggs – as a percentage of total supply), obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Year-end closing stocks – estimated data based on sample farm surveys (implemented by NSS) and data from food-importing enterprises.

Food – estimated as residual balance

FAO support during the last two years

EC/FAO Programme provided assistance in all priority areas regarding improvement of FBS methodology :

- In the recent years FAO played a crucial role in improving methodologies of producing FBS and their harmonisation with international standards and principles.
- Workshops and working discussions were organized to study the FBS producing experience of FAO and Lithuania.

FAO support during the last two years

- For the first time a workshop was organised with participation of government institutions, higher education institutions, national FBS users and NSS, as producer of these FBS. During this seminar, a detailed information on objectives, tasks and correct use of the FBS was provided.
- Technical assistance was provided on improvement of the food security information dissemination system.

FAO Recommendations

❖ ***In utilisation account.***

utilisation as feed and the waste should be estimated based on available supply, in particular, as stock change + production + import

- Re-estimated and published in the next issue

❖ ***In estimation of calories:***

calories for commodity groups “wheat”, “potatoes”, “sugar”, and “grapes” should be estimated with consideration of calories from processed products.

- Re-estimated and published in the next issue.

FAO Recommendations

❖ ***Balance sheets for certain commodities:***

- new food balance sheets for other commodity groups have to be prepared,

- in certain balance sheets the list of included commodities needs to be expanded

- New FBS were additionally prepared for the following commodities:
 - barley
 - maize
 - oats
 - rice
 - rye
 - emmer
 - fish and fish products.
- The published FBS were modified as follows:
 1. ethyl alcohol was included in “other utilisation” of the group “wheat”, instead of “end-year closing stocks”,
 2. some extraction/conversion rates were revised in some of the commodity groups,
 3. new food items were added:
 - *“butter” and “ice-cream” were added to the commodity group “Milk”,*
 - *“flour-based ready products” and “baked goods” were added to the group “Wheat”,*
 - *“potato flour”, “starch” and “potato chips” were added to the group “Potatoes”.*

FAO Recommendations

- ❖ Separate “tomatoes and “apricots” from the balance sheets of “vegetables and “fruit”
- ❖ Create a working group of expert-users, who will make decisions on the list of commodities in the FBS
- ❖ Revise some items of the “FBS methodology” published in the Food Security and Poverty Bulletin.
- ❖ Improvement of access and dissemination of FBS; publish FBS tables also in XLS, CSV formats.
- Based on the results of discussions with users, in particular, the Ministry of Agriculture, it was decided not to prepare balance sheets for “apricots”, whereas those for “tomatoes” will be prepared this year.
- The group of expert-users has been established.
- Relevant changes have been made and will be published in the next issue
- Files in appropriate formats are created and placed in the NSS database, accessible at :
<http://www.armstatbank.am>

Data consistency

FBS published earlier, since 2005 to date, were revised based on recommendations submitted within the EC/FAO Program.

Main Users

- ✓ **state and local government bodies,**
- ✓ **NGOs,**
- ✓ **scientific and educational institutions,**
- ✓ **business sector,**
- ✓ **international organizations,**
- ✓ **mass media.**

Data dissemination

Hard copies

Food Security and Poverty Bulletin for January-June (available in Armenian and English languages)

Electronic version

Accessible in Armenian and English at:

<http://www.armstat.am/am/?nid=82>

<http://www.armstatbank.am>

Publishing frequency – annually, on August 20 of the year following the reporting period.



**Thank you for your
attention!**