



GIEWS Country Brief The United Mexican States

Reference Date: 26-September-2023

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Dry weather conditions contributed to below-average plantings of 2023 main maize crop
- Cereal import requirements in 2023/24 marketing year forecast slightly above average
- Prices of white maize sharply decreased in July

Dry weather conditions contributed to below-average plantings of 2023 main maize crop

The 2023 main season maize crop, to be harvested from mid-October, is currently at flowering and grain filling stages. According to official estimates, the area sown up to end-August was 5 percent below the average, as a result of low precipitation amounts between May and mid-July. According to satellite imagery, below-average crop conditions were observed in key producing central areas (NDVI map). Yield prospects remain uncertain on account of mixed weather forecasts. Above-average rainfall amounts are forecast in the centralwestern region in the October to December period, while average to below-average precipitation is expected in the centralsouthern region.

Production of the 2023 minor season maize crop, harvested in the May to July period, is officially estimated at 8.9 million tonnes, 10 percent above the average, due to excellent yields.

The planting of the 2023 minor season sorghum crop was completed in mid-September. Planted area as of end-August is officially estimated to be more than 15 percent below average, owing to dry weather conditions. However, the 2023 aggregate sorghum production is preliminarily forecast to be near average, mostly due to the above-average main season output attained during the second quarter of 2023, on account of large sowings and above-average yields.

Planting of the minor season wheat crop, which accounts only for about 5 percent of the annual production, is ongoing. The 2023 aggregate wheat production is anticipated at an above-average level of 3.46 million tonnes, reflecting the bumper main season harvest gathered in the April to June period.

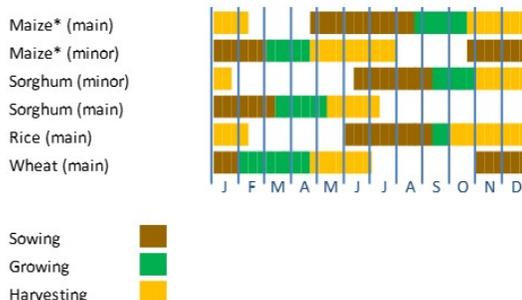
Cereal import requirements in 2023/24 marketing year forecast slightly above average

Cereal import requirements in the 2023/24 marketing year

Mexico

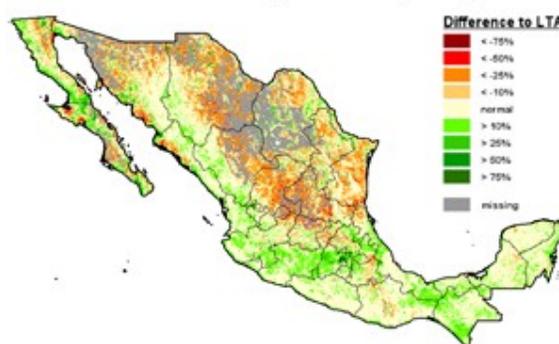
Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Mexico - NDVI anomaly

Relative difference to Long Term Average - August 2023



Mexico

Cereal Production

	2018-2022 average	2022	2023 forecast	change 2023/2022
	000 tonnes			percent
Maize	27 176	26 553	26 905	1.3
Sorghum	4 544	4 763	4 550	-4.5
Wheat	3 212	3 611	3 460	-4.2
Others	1 335	1 349	1 106	-18.0
Total	36 267	36 276	36 021	-0.7

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

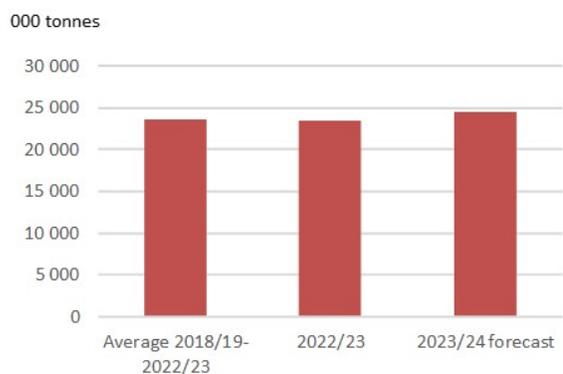
(October/September) are forecast at 24.4 million tonnes, slightly above the five-year average. This is supported by increasing demand for yellow maize by the domestic feed industry.

Prices of white maize sharply decreased in July

Prices of white maize declined sharply in July 2023, as the above-average minor season harvest improved market supplies. Then, prices stabilized in August and they were more than 10 percent below their year-earlier levels. Prices of black beans were mostly stable during the first eight months of 2023, but at higher year-on-year levels, reflecting reduced domestic outputs during the previous two seasons. Prices of rice have been declining since late 2022 due to larger year-on-year imports between September 2022 and May 2023. Additional downward pressure on rice prices was provided by the recent weakening of export prices of the United States of America, the major rice supplier to the country.

Mexico

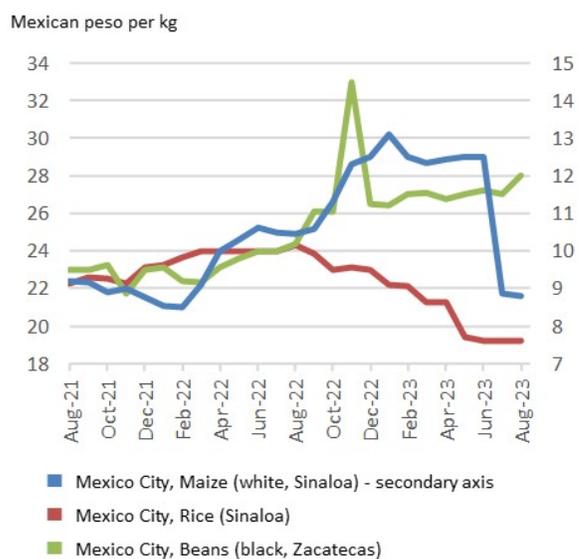
Cereals Imports



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

Mexico

Wholesale prices of selected cereals



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This brief was prepared using the following data/tools:

FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet (CCBS) <https://www.fao.org/giews/data-tools/en/>.

FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool <https://fpma.fao.org/>.

FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation for Crop Monitoring <https://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/>.

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) <https://www.ipcinfo.org/>.