



Availability of statistical data to address the COVID-19 pandemic

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1 / Editorial

Today, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, countries are facing a health, economic and social crisis unprecedented in recent history. A crisis of such scope and depth calls for actions in response to the many challenges that arise.

Our region is facing, and will continue to face, this pandemic by taking care of both, the health security of its citizens and its economic development. The most vulnerable population, who has been particularly affected by the pandemic, must not be neglected.

We have known for a long time that it is not possible to develop effective and efficient measures and policies without evidence, and in particular without quantitative

statistics. The data allows to carry out a series of analyses. They make it possible to compare, project and anticipate. In this case, they make it possible to measure the magnitude of the pandemic, to plan possible scenarios and to anticipate them.

Unfortunately, countries do not always have the ideal data infrastructure to compare, project and anticipate. Correcting this deficiency right away will not be easy: restrictive measures to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus also weigh on data collection officials.

Given the difficulties, we provide decision-makers with sources of information that can be useful in their work.

2 / Key Messages

- Many websites systematise and disseminate statistical information, but few collect it.
- Sources can be public, private, academic or non-profit institutions, so collaboration is critical in this area.
- The food availability and stock dimension has the lowest data available, probably because this information is not easily accessible.
- In contrast, information on exports and imports abounds.
- The Caribbean is the sub-region with the most outdated information.
- The current situation requires fresh, updated and disaggregated data at the shortest possible periods (ideally months or quarters); although these are not always available.
- However, less up-to-date data can also provide relevant information, as it can describe the context in which the crisis occurs and thus define vulnerability or capacity to respond.

3 /Availability of statistical data on LAC region

We provide you below with websites and platforms that disseminate statistical information about the region. Only the websites or platforms that meet the following criteria belong to this list:

Publish statistical data that allow the **impact of COVID-19** on the agrifood sector to be analysed.

Publish statistical data that allows for the analysis of **responses to the impact of COVID-19** on the agrifood sector.

Provide statistical data for at **least two countries** in Latin America and the Caribbean.

According to these criteria, we were able to identify 28 sources of information, which we organized according to thematic areas in order to facilitate reading.

Most of the websites or platforms considered are not limited to disseminating statistical information on one or another indicator or a single dimension (food prices, for example), but report on several indicators and dimensions (for instance, FAOSTAT and CEPALSTAT). It should also be noted that data collection sources are often scarce, whereas those that disseminate such data are abundant. Therefore, some of these sources are repeated.



3.1. Food availability and stocks

The following sources present data related to production, crop prospects and food calendars¹. This information allows to plan future scenarios of food availability and to take early action if necessary.

Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS)

Description

Website with statistical information on food supply and demand, and other key indicators

Coverage

Global by region and main producers

Available years

2006 onwards

Observations

Quarterly reports
Annual estimates



FAOSTAT

Description

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) database providing free access to data on food and agriculture

Coverage

245 countries and 35 regions

Available years

From 1961 onwards

Observations

Annual data, and some monthly data, such as the Consumer Price Index



Agricultural Market Information System (SIMA)

Description

Information system that assesses global food supplies since 2011 (such as wheat, corn, rice and soybeans, among others).

Coverage

Global (G-20 countries)

Available years

Since 2000country

Observations

Annual data and forecasts for the next period



International Production Assessment Division (IPAD) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Description

Cultivation calendar charts

Coverage

Global

Available years

Harvest months by crop and country

Observations

Disaggregated data for selected countries (including Mexico, Chile, Nicaragua and Cuba)



¹ If you wish to access the websites and platforms referred to below, just click once on the name of the source.



3.2. Prices

These sources allow to monitor national and international prices of staple foods – grains, fruits and vegetables, legumes, dairy and meat – and to make informed decisions.

Commodity markets monitoring and outlook

Description

Website that provides users with statistical information on the markets for bananas, citrus fruits, coffee and cocoa, cotton, fruits and vegetables, grains, meats, dairy products, tea and rice, among others

Coverage

Global

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Annual data (for example, sugar and bananas) and monthly data (for example, rice)



Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool (FPMT)

Description

FAO tool that allows you to view and analyse trends in a range of prices quickly, compare countries/markets/commodities and download graphs, data and basic statistics

Coverage

91 countries

Available years

Depends on the products, countries and markets

Observations

Weekly and monthly information



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245 countries and 35 regions

Available years

From 1961 onwards

Observations

Annual data, and some monthly data, such as the Consumer Price Index



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Description

Information system that assesses global food supplies from 2011, (such as wheat, corn, rice and soybeans, among others)

Coverage

Global (G-20 countries)

Available years

From 2000 onwards

Observations

Annual data and forecasts for the next period



Raw material prices

Description

International Monetary Fund (IMF) website which contains up-to-date statistical information on market prices of commodities, a display of these data and a price database

Coverage

182 countries

Available years

From 1962 onwards

Observations

Annual, quarterly and monthly data update



Available in English

Inflation

Description

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) website, with statistical information on inflation, annual growth rates and projections

Coverage

37 countries

Available years

From 2011 onwards

Observations

Annual, quarterly and monthly data update



Available in English and French

Food Systems Dashboard

Description

FAO's tool published this year (2020) that allows for the visualization of statistical information on more than 150 indicators related to food systems

Coverage

Global

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Allows access to cross-country information and country/regional profiles. Annual data



Available in English



3.3. Export and import

These sources make it possible to monitor the region's international trade at both regional and global levels. It is possible to access this information via multiple sources and interactive displays, by type of product traded, volume and prices. This information is available on an annual, quarterly and even monthly basis.

Commodity markets monitoring and outlook

Description

Website that provides users with statistical information on the markets for bananas, citrus fruits, coffee and cocoa, cotton, fruits and vegetables, grains, meats, dairy products, tea and rice, among others

Coverage

Global

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Reports can be accessed for each of the assets



FAOSTAT

Description

FAO database providing free access to data on food and agriculture

Coverage

245 countries and 35 regions

Available years

From 1961 onwards



COMTRADE

Description

Database on international trade in raw materials, including food commodities

Coverage

170 countries

Available years

From 1960 onwards



Disponible en inglés

World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS)

Description

World Bank software providing access to data on international trade in goods, tariffs and non-tariff measures

Coverage

Global

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Compiling data from various information sources



CEPALSTAT

Description

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) database with economic, social and environmental statistics and indicators

Coverage

Latin America and the Caribbean

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Exports and imports (source: COMTRADE)



WTO DATA

Description

World Trade Organization (WTO) data portal providing access to statistical indicators on international trade and tariffs, among other issues related to the work of WTO

Coverage

Global

Available years

From 1948 onwards

Observations

Sources: COMTRADE, IMF, Eurostat and Trade Data Monitor



resourcetrade.earth

Available in English

Description

A platform to explore the rapidly changing dynamics of trade in natural resources, its implications for sustainability and the emerging interdependencies between exporting and importing countries and regions

Coverage

More than 200 countries and territories

Available years

From 2000 onwards

Observations

Source: COMTRADE
Annual updates

**IADB Data****Description**

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) database with trade statistics and economic indicators

Coverage

Latin America and the Caribbean

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Annual data

**Trend Economy**

Available in English

Description

Open data portal offering updated information on trade indicators by country

Coverage

170 countries (same as COMTRADE)

Available years

From 2002 to 2018

Observations

Annual and monthly information

**Central American Trade Statistics System (SEC, by its initials in Spanish)****Description**

Regional information platform on foreign trade for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama

Coverage

Central America

Available years

From 1994 to 2018

Observations

Annual information

**MERCOSUR Foreign Trade Statistics System (SECEM, by its initials in Spanish)****Description**

Public access platform that organizes updated data on trade in goods and allows to know the values of imports and exports of the MERCOSUR countries

Coverage

MERCOSUR countries

Available years

From 2007 onwards

Observations

Annual data

**Regional Trade Information System (TradSys Online)**

Available in English and French

Description

Platform with foreign trade statistics of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries

Coverage

CARICOM countries

Available years

From 2012 to 2017

Observations

Annual data



Trade Map

Description

International Trade Centre (ITC) platform providing indicators of export performance, international demand, alternative markets and competitive markets, as well as a directory of importing and exporting companies

Coverage

220 countries and territories

Available years

No information

Observations

Source: COMTRADE
Monthly, quarterly and annual data



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International Monetary Fund (IMF) website which contains up-to-date statistical information on market prices of commodities, a display of these data and a price database

Coverage

182 countries

Available years

From 1962 onwards

Observations

Annual, quarterly and monthly data update

Available in English



3.4. Macroeconomic indicators

These resources provide information on the economic situation of the countries in the region, the real sector of the economy, the consumer price index (CPI), and employment indicators, among others. These data are often useful for building up a general picture of the countries' situation, the food system, markets, consumers and households.

FAOSTAT

Description

FAO database providing free access to data on food and agriculture

Coverage

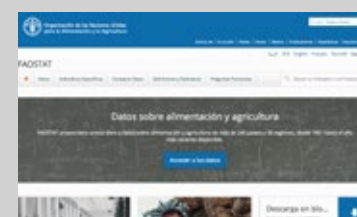
245 countries and 35 regions

Available years

From 1961 onwards

Observations

Annual data, and some monthly data, such as the Consumer Price Index



CEPALSTAT

Description

ECLAC database with economic, social and environmental statistics and indicators

Coverage

Latin America and the Caribbean

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Annual and monthly information (e.g. consumer price index) depending on the indicator



IADB Data

Description

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) database with trade statistics and economic indicators

Coverage

Latin America and the Caribbean

Available years

Depends on the indicator

Observations

Annual data



Food Systems Dashboard

Description

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Coverage

Global

Available years

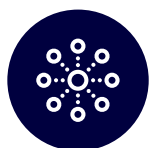
Depends on the indicator

Observations

Allows access to cross-country information and country/regional profiles. Annual data

Available in English





3.5. Political platforms and response measures to COVID-19

The following websites provide updates on the measures that governments have implemented to mitigate the effects of the pandemic in areas such as health, employment, social protection and small and medium enterprises. They are useful for observing what other governments are doing to address the crisis and can serve as examples of response measures.

COVID-19 Observatory

Description

ECLAC website offering information on measures and actions taken by countries due to the pandemic in areas such as health, economy, employment and social protection, among others

Coverage

Latin America and the Caribbean



Social Protection and Jobs Responses to COVID-19

Description

World Bank (WB) "Living Paper" compiling social protection measures undertaken by countries in response to COVID-19

Coverage

171 countries (as of 8 June)

Available in English



Policy Responses to the Coronavirus Pandemic

Description

NGO Our World in Data website compiling information on 17 indicators of national government responses to the pandemic

Coverage

Global

Available in English



Map of SME-Support Measures in Response to COVID-19

Description

World Bank website detailing support measures (by country and type of instrument) for micro, medium and small enterprises (MSMEs) in response to COVID-19

Coverage

Global



FAO's Big Data tool on food chains under the COVID-19 pandemic

Description

Tool that collects, organizes and analyses daily information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food and agriculture, value chains, food prices, food security, and actions taken

Coverage

Global





3.6. Indicators of the evolution of the pandemic

These resources provide information on the progress of the pandemic around the world and monitor its geographical evolution in real time, so that measures can be taken to mitigate the effects of the crisis.

Hunger Map Description A tool developed by the World Food Programme (WFP) that provides real-time visualization of the spread of the pandemic through more than 90 food, economic and social indicators	Coverage Global	
WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard Description Map prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO) showing the geographical evolution over time of the number of people infected with COVID-19	Coverage Global	Available in English 
COVID-19 Dashboard Description Map designed by Johns Hopkins University showing the geographic evolution over time of the number of people infected with COVID-19	Coverage Global	Available in English 
Open Data Catalog Description World Bank page where relevant information can be found on the evolution of the pandemic	Coverage Global	Observations It is possible to compare countries and regions within the same website site 



4 / National resources

Source	Description	Available years	Observations
Argentina			
National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics	From 2002 onwards	Foreign trade in goods consultation system (annual and monthly)
Argentina Data	Public data generated and published by government agencies	Depends on the indicator	Information on agriculture and livestock, fisheries and forestry sector (annual and monthly)
Brazil			
COMEX STAT	Foreign trade statistics	From 1989 onwards	Brazilian foreign trade statistics portal (annual and monthly data)
Plurinational State of Bolivia			
National Institute of Statistics	Statistics on foreign trade, (based on records provided by the National Customs)		You must register to access the information (annual and monthly data)
Bolivian Institute of Foreign Trade (IBCE, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics		Statistics and reports
Chile			
Office of Agricultural Studies and Policies (ODEPA, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics (based on information from the National Customs Service)	From 1990 onwards	You can also access price statistics (annual and monthly data)
COMEX Statistics (Chile Customs)	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Annual and monthly data
Central Bank of Chile	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Annual and monthly data
Colombia			
National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE, by its initials in Spanish)	Internal trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Also, agricultural and economic statistics Annual and monthly data
Statistics. Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism (MINCIT, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics	From 1991 onwards	Monthly information
Costa Rica			
Foreign Trade Statistical Portal	Foreign trade statistics	From 1998 onwards	Annual, monthly and quarterly data
Ecuador			
Central Bank of Ecuador	Foreign trade statistics	From 1990 onwards	Annual, monthly and quarterly data

Source	Description	Available years	Observations
El Salvador			
Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador	Foreign trade statistics	From 1994 onwards	Annual, monthly and quarterly data
Guatemala			
Bank of Guatemala	Foreign trade statistics		Annual and monthly data
National Institute of Statistics	Foreign trade statistics	From 2006 onwards	Annual data
Jamaica			
Bank of Jamaica	Foreign trade statistics	Since 2002	Monthly information
Mexico			
Open Data Mexico	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Monthly information
National Institute of Statistics (INEGI, by its initials in Spanish)	Domestic, foreign trade and agricultural statistics	Depends on the indicator	Monthly information
Nicaragua			
Central Bank of Nicaragua	Foreign trade statistics	Since 1994	Annual and monthly data
Panama			
National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics		Quarterly information
Paraguay			
Centre for the Analysis and Dissemination of the Paraguayan Economy (CADEP, by its initials in Spanish)	OBEI database of the evolution of trade exchange in the country	Depends on the indicator	
Peru			
National Superintendence of Customs and Tax Administration (SUNAT, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade yearbooks	From 2005 onwards	Downloadable annual reports
Integrated Foreign Trade Information System (SIICEX, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Monthly information
Ministry of Production	Foreign trade and economic studies statistics	Depends on the indicator	Source: SUNAT
Dominican Republic			
National Statistics Office	Foreign trade statistics	From 2002 onwards	Annual, monthly and quarterly data
Trinidad and Tobago			
Statistics Central Statistics Office (CSO)	Foreign trade statistics	From 1991 onwards	Annual, monthly and quarterly data

Source	Description	Available years	Observations
Uruguay			
Uruguay XXI: Investment and exports promotion, and country image	Monthly and annual reports, and foreign trade prospects	Depends on the indicator	
Central Bank of Uruguay	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Monthly information
MerComExt	Foreign trade statistics	Depends on the indicator	Source: National Customs Directorate
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela			
Central Bank of Venezuela (BCV, by its initials in Spanish)	Foreign trade statistics		Quarterly and annual information
National Institute of Statistics	Foreign trade statistics		Annual, monthly and quarterly data

