

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



## STATISTICAL POCKETBOOK world food and agriculture 2021

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Required citation: FAO. 2021. World Food and Agriculture - Statistical Pocketbook 2021. Rome. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4478en

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ISSN 2225-7381 [print] ISSN 2706-8781 [online] ISBN 978-92-5-134333-3

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# STATISTICAL POCKETBOOK WORLD FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Rome, 2021



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### FOREWORD

Timely, accurate and high-quality data and statistics are the cornerstone of solid policy design, where decisions are based on hard evidence, and monitoring and evaluation rely on strong statistical systems. This has become all the more critical as governments around the world commit to major sectoral and national development plans, as well as regional and global development agendas. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic, while hampering national capacities to collect data, has emphasized the pressing need for data and statistics to inform timely responses and monitor trends.

Statistical work has been at the core of FAO's activities and mandate since the Organization was founded in 1945, supporting its Members in eliminating hunger, improving nutrition, eradicating rural poverty, and promoting inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems. FAO is a leading provider of internationally comparable data on food, nutrition and agriculture, which are gathered from national statistical offices and its network of partner agencies, and harmonized to paint a global picture. All of these data are summarized in this Statistical Yearbook.

This Pocketbook, prepared by the Statistics Division of FAO, provides quick and easy access to top-level numbers, charts and maps on the many dimensions of food and agriculture – ranging from the characteristics of the sector to production, prices and trade, as well as food security and nutrition, and environmental aspects. More than 50 indicators in 17 thematic domains for around 200 countries and regions are presented in this companion volume to the *World Food and Agriculture Statistical Yearbook 2021*.

In addition to compiling and disseminating data, FAO is also involved in strengthening the statistical capacity of countries in order to produce more and better data; setting standards and methodologies; and leveraging big data innovations. FAO is committed to ensuring free access to current, reliable, timely and trusted data, necessary to chart a course towards a more sustainable agriculture and a world free of hunger.

José Rosero Moncayo Director, Statistics Division

## HOW TO USE THIS POCKETBOOK

#### THE STRUCTURE

*The Statistical Pocketbook 2021* presents selected key indicators related to agriculture and food security that the international community, governments, the private sector and civil society can use to assess current trends and prioritize their actions. It presents a variety of agriculture and food security dimensions along four main focus areas:

- An overview of agriculture, forestry and fishing from an economic standpoint, highlighting the use of the factors of production.
- The outputs of the sector in terms of production and trade of the different commodities and the evolution of prices.
- How some of these outputs are consumed by narrowing the focus on food security and nutrition.
- The impacts of the sector as a whole on the environment, in particular water and greenhouse gas emissions

This publication draws on the latest available data to describe through charts the trends since the early 2000s and show with maps the data for the latest year available.

#### COUNTRY DEFINITIONS AND CLASSIFICATION

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