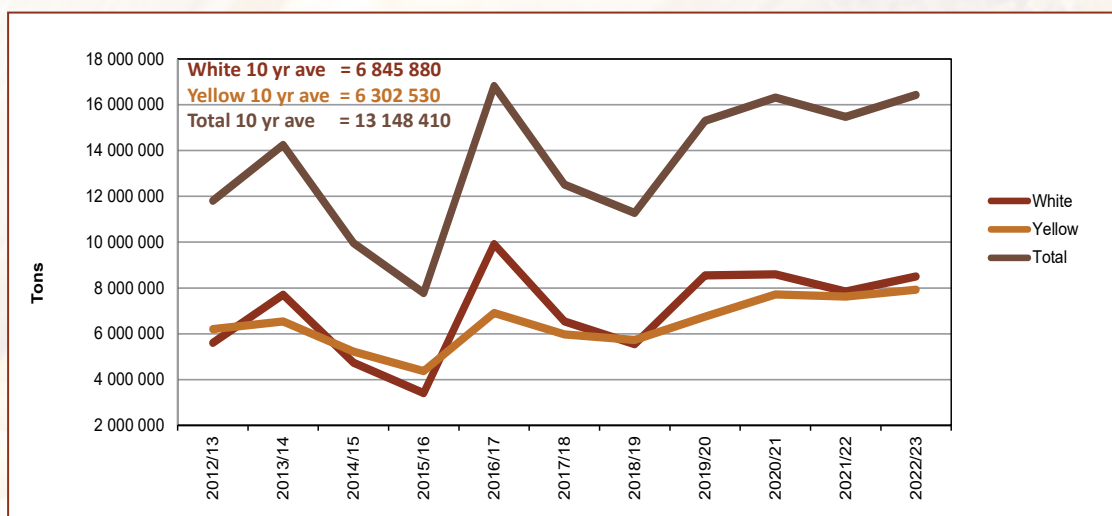


Production

The final figure as shown in Graph 2 for the 2022/23 season's commercial maize crop as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC) is 16 430 million tons and the second largest maize crop on record after the 16 820 million tons of the 2016/17 season. The 2022/23 figure represents a year-on-year increase of just more than 6% and is also 25% higher than the previous 10-year crop average (13 148 million tons). White maize's contribution to the total production was 8 505 million tons (51.8%) and that of yellow maize 7 925 million tons (48.2%).

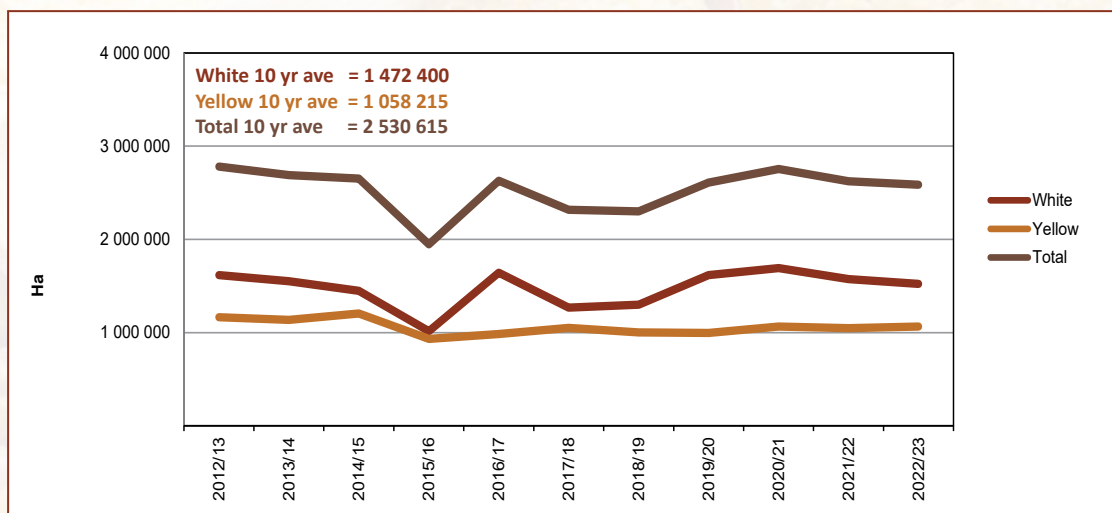
The national Crop Estimates Committee's (CEC) estimated total production figures were revised, using the South African Grain Information Services' (SAGIS) published figures of actual deliveries as basis for the calculations. Figures from the maize utilisation survey, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRD) to determine on-farm usage and retentions as well as the telephonic survey conducted by the National Crop Statistics Consortium (NCSC), were added to the SAGIS delivery figures to calculate the final crop production figures.

Graph 2: Maize production in RSA from 2012/13 to 2022/23



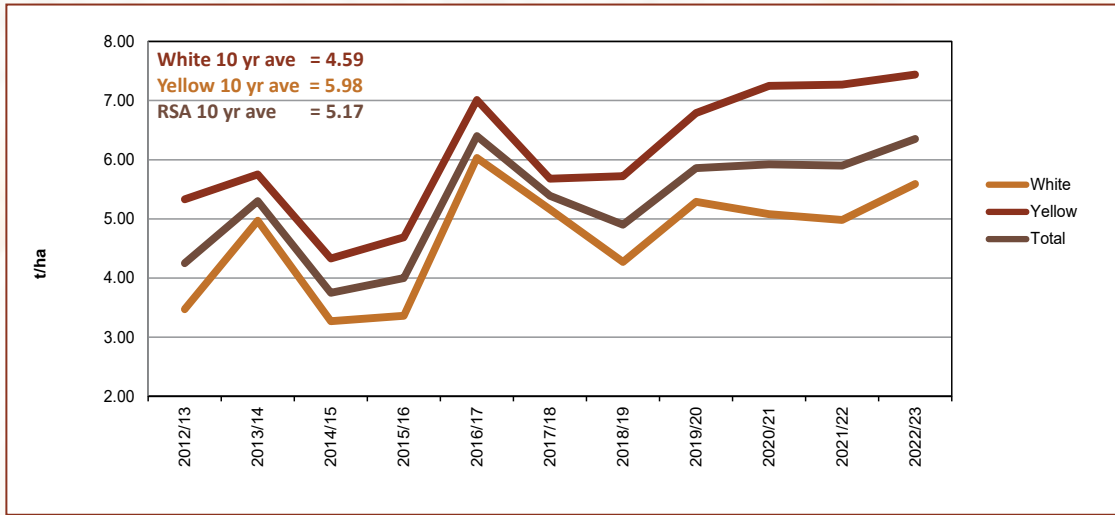
As shown in Graph 3, the total area utilised for maize production in the 2022/23 season was 2 586 100 hectares, representing a decrease of 1.4% compared to the previous season. This was however still 2.1% higher than the average for the previous 10-years. White maize was produced on 1 521 300 hectares and yellow maize on 1 064 800 hectares (1 575 000 and 1 048 000 hectares respectively in the 2021/22 season).

Graph 3: Total RSA area utilised for maize production from 2012/13 to 2022/23



Graph 4 depict the maize yield of 6.35 tons per hectare (t/ha), which was the second highest yield ever reported after the 6.40 t/ha of the 2016/17 season. Last season's yield was 5.90 t/ha and the previous 10-year average 5.17 t/ha. White maize yielded 5.59 t/ha and yellow maize 7.44 t/ha (4.98 t/ha and 7.27 t/ha respectively during the previous season).

Graph 4: RSA Maize yield from 2012/13 to 2022/23



According to the CEC, the maize area planted in the non-commercial agricultural sector is estimated at 358 620 ha, representing a 5.33% decrease compared to the 378 800 ha of the previous season. The expected maize crop is 664 040 tons for this sector, which is 0.44% less than the 667 000 tons of last season. Approximately 48% of non-commercial maize is produced in the Eastern Cape, followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 21%.

Table 1: Maize production overview - 2022/23 season

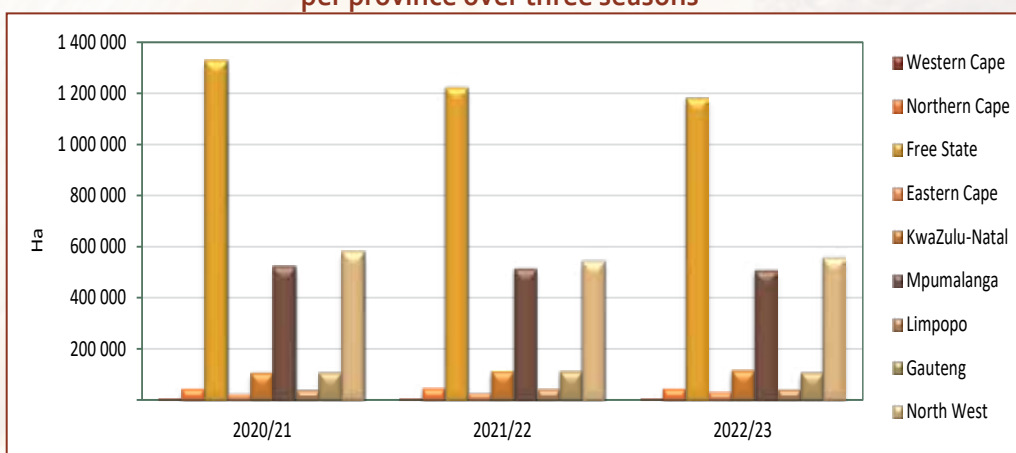
Province	Type of production	White			Yellow		
		Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha	Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha
Western Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	250	2 375	9.50	3 500	33 000	9.43
	Total	250	2 375	9.50	3 500	33 000	9.43
Northern Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	1 000	12 500	12.50	43 500	696 000	16.00
	Total	1 000	12 500	12.50	43 500	696 000	16.00
Free State	Dryland	763 500	4 304 100	5.64	362 000	2 228 000	6.15
	Irrigation	16 500	141 900	8.60	39 000	468 000	12.00
	Total	780 000	4 446 000	5.70	401 000	2 696 000	6.72
Eastern Cape	Dryland	4 000	18 470	4.62	17 000	80 500	4.74
	Irrigation	1 750	21 780	12.45	8 000	112 000	14.00
	Total	5 750	40 250	7.00	25 000	192 500	7.70
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	41 000	223 700	5.46	46 000	324 000	7.04
	Irrigation	8 000	75 200	9.40	19 000	213 000	11.21
	Total	49 000	298 900	6.10	65 000	537 000	8.26
Mpumalanga	Dryland	148 500	956 900	6.44	334 500	2 400 000	7.17
	Irrigation	8 000	76 000	9.50	17 500	196 000	11.20
	Total	156 500	1 032 900	6.60	352 000	2 596 000	7.38
Limpopo	Dryland	8 300	33 300	4.01	10 800	48 040	4.45
	Irrigation	8 500	80 775	9.50	12 000	138 960	11.58
	Total	16 800	114 075	6.79	22 800	187 000	8.20
Gauteng	Dryland	52 500	330 750	6.30	44 000	299 500	6.81
	Irrigation	3 500	33 250	9.50	8 000	93 000	11.63
	Total	56 000	364 000	6.50	52 000	392 500	7.55
North West	Dryland	441 000	2 060 000	4.67	85 000	422 500	4.97
	Irrigation	15 000	134 000	8.93	15 000	172 500	11.50
	Total	456 000	2 194 000	4.81	100 000	595 000	5.95
RSA	Dryland	1 458 800	7 927 220	5.43	899 300	5 802 540	6.45
	Irrigation	62 500	577 780	9.24	165 500	2 122 460	12.82
	Total	1 521 300	8 505 000	5.59	1 064 800	7 925 000	7.44

Figures provided by the CEC.

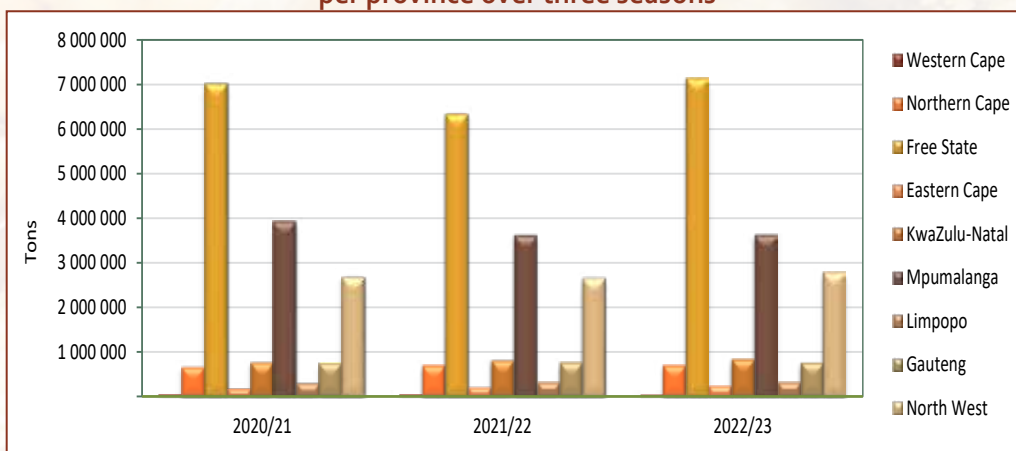
The major commercial maize-producing provinces are the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West, contributing 82.5% of the total maize production in the RSA (Table 1). The Free State produced 7 142 000 tons of maize on 1 181 000 hectares with a yield of 6.05 t/ha. Mpumalanga produced 3 628 900 tons of maize on 508 500 hectares with a yield of 7.14 t/ha and North West harvested 2 789 000 tons of maize on 556 000 hectares yielding 5.02 t/ha. Yellow maize contributed 71.5% of the total maize production in Mpumalanga while the majority of maize produced in the Free State (62.3%) and North West (78.7%) was white.

Please see graphs 5 to 7 for provincial figures of area planted, production and yield over the last three seasons.

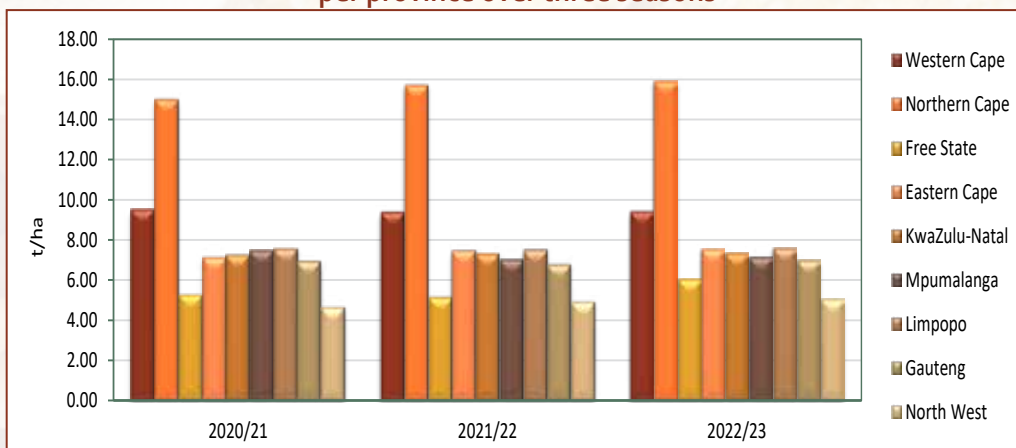
Graph 5: Area utilised for maize production (dryland and/or irrigation) per province over three seasons



Graph 6: Maize production (dryland and/or irrigation) per province over three seasons



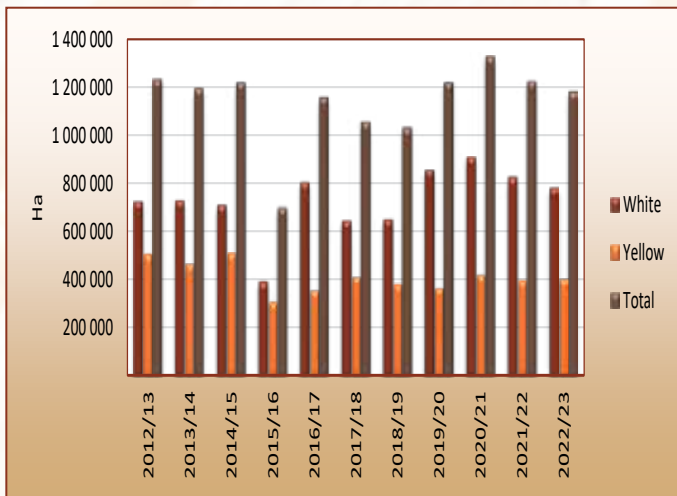
Graph 7: Maize yield (dryland and/or irrigation) per province over three seasons



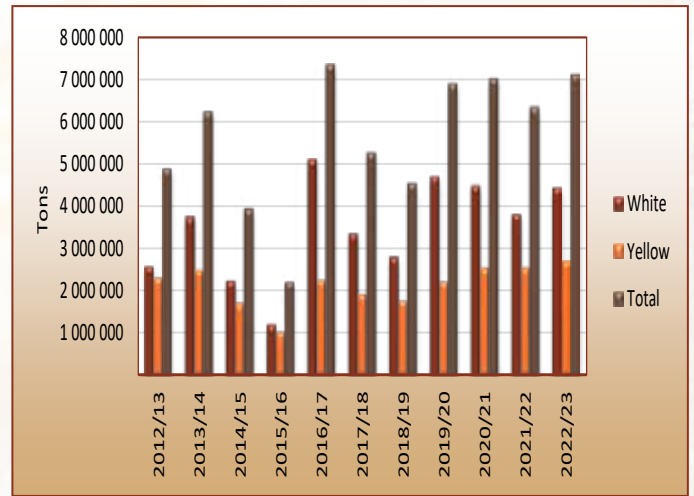
Figures provided by the CEC.

Graphs 8 to 13 provide an overview of the area planted and production figures for the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West from the 2012/13 to 2022/23 seasons.

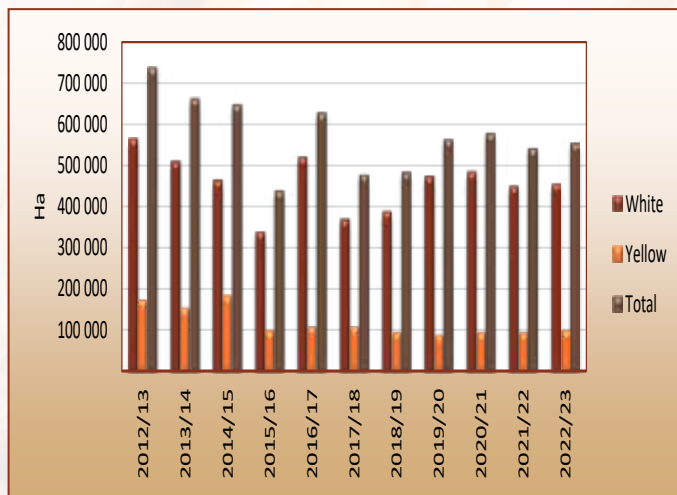
Graph 8: Area utilised for maize production in the Free State since 2012/13



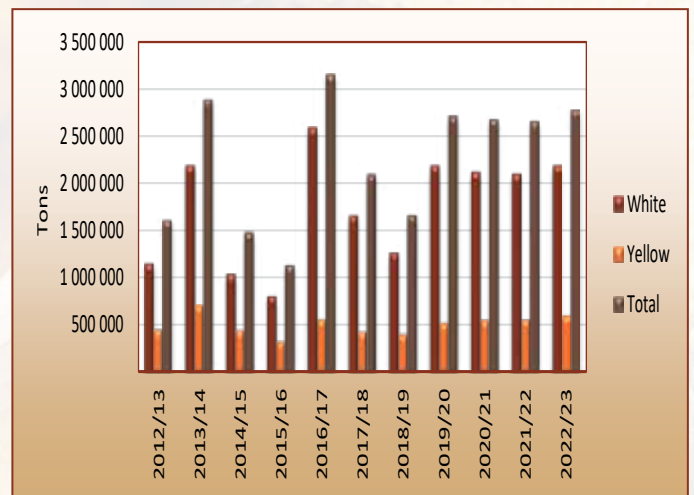
Graph 9: Maize production in the Free State since 2012/13



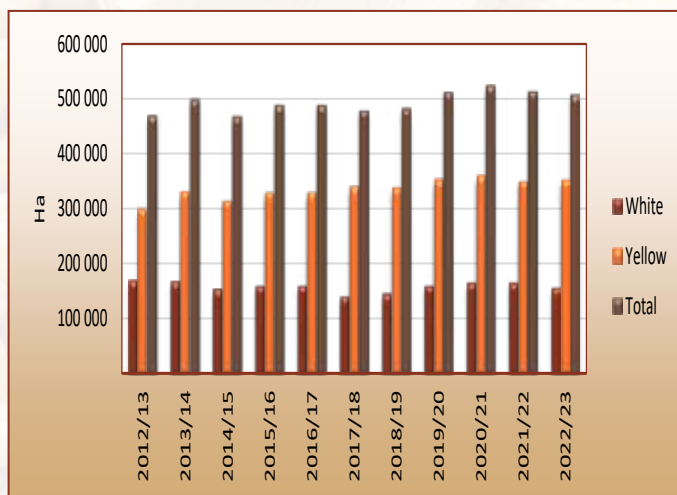
Graph 10: Area utilised for maize production in Mpumalanga since 2012/13



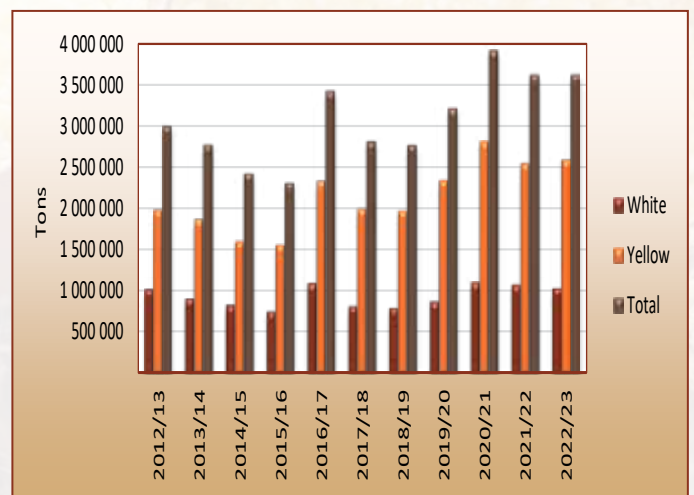
Graph 11: Maize production in Mpumalanga since 2012/13



Graph 12: Area utilised for maize production in North West since 2012/13



Graph 13: Maize production in North West since 2012/13



Figures provided by the CEC.