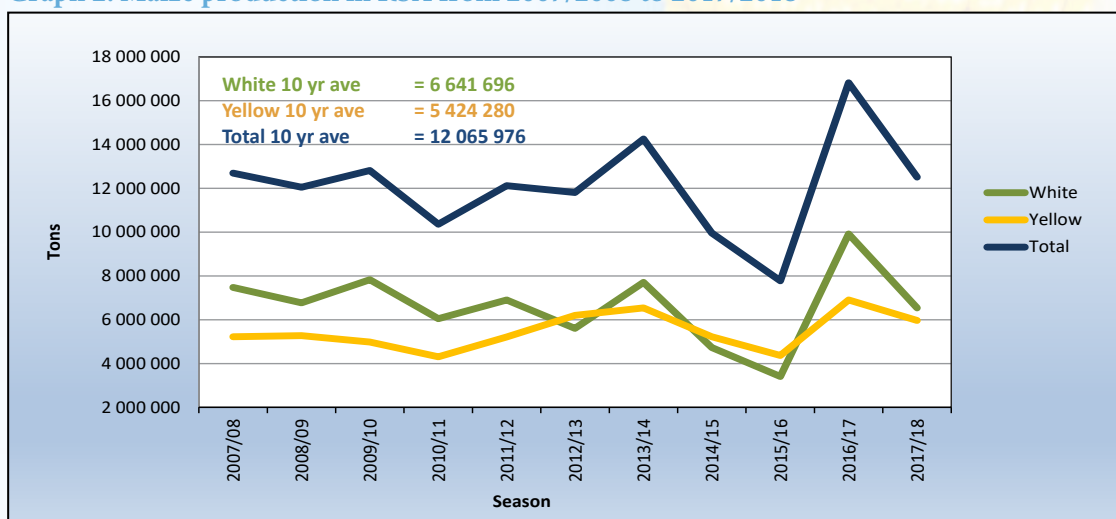


Production

The finalised crop figure for the 2017/2018 season commercial maize as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC) is 12,510 million tons. This figure represents a year on year decrease of 25.6% compared to the all-time high record crop of the previous season, but is however close to the previous 10-year crop average (12,065 million tons). White maize's contribution to the total production was 6,540 million tons (52%) and that of yellow maize 5,970 million tons (48%).

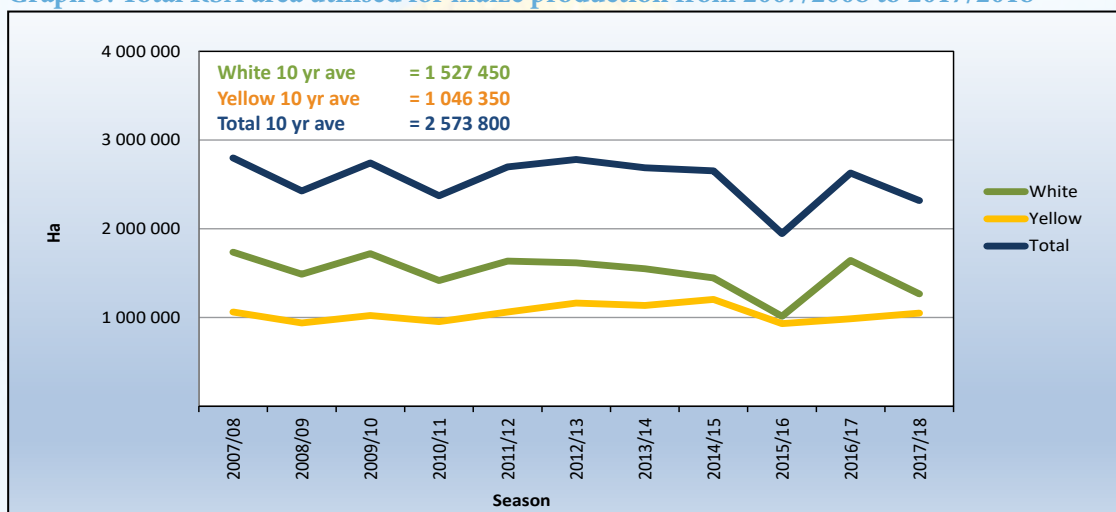
The national Crop Estimates Committee's (CEC) estimated total production figures were revised, using as basis for the calculations, the South African Grain Information Services' (SAGIS) published figures of actual deliveries. Figures to determine on-farm usage and retentions from the maize utilization survey, which was conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and 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 2007/2008 to 2017/2018



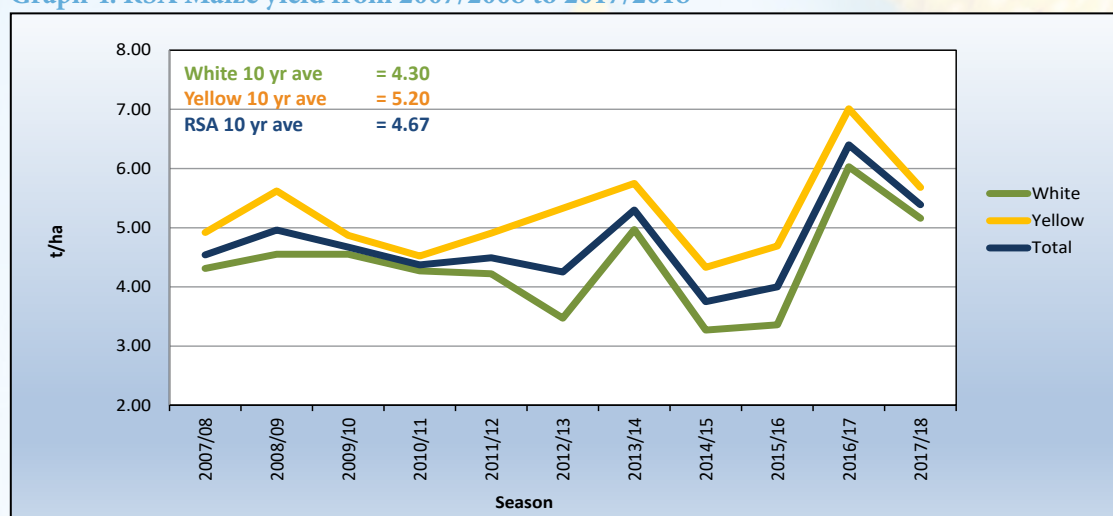
The total area utilised for maize production in the 2017/2018 season was 2 318 850 hectares, almost 12% less than the previous season and 10% lower than the previous 10-year average. White maize was planted on 1 268 100 hectares and yellow maize on 1 050 750 hectares (1 643 100 and 985 500 hectares respectively in the 2016/2017 season).

Graph 3: Total RSA area utilised for maize production from 2007/2008 to 2017/2018



The maize yield this season of 5.39 tons per hectare (t/ha), although 1.0 t/ha lower than the all-time high of the previous season, was still the second highest yield recorded. The previous 10-year average is 4.67 t/ha. White maize yielded 5.16 t/ha and yellow maize 5.68 t/ha.

Graph 4: RSA Maize yield from 2007/2008 to 2017/2018



As with commercial maize production, both the area planted as well as the crop size of maize planted in the non-commercial agricultural sector, decreased compared to the previous season. The expected maize crop for this sector is 593 975 tons. Approximately 40% of non-commercial maize is produced in the Eastern Cape.

Table 1: Maize production overview - 2017/2018 season

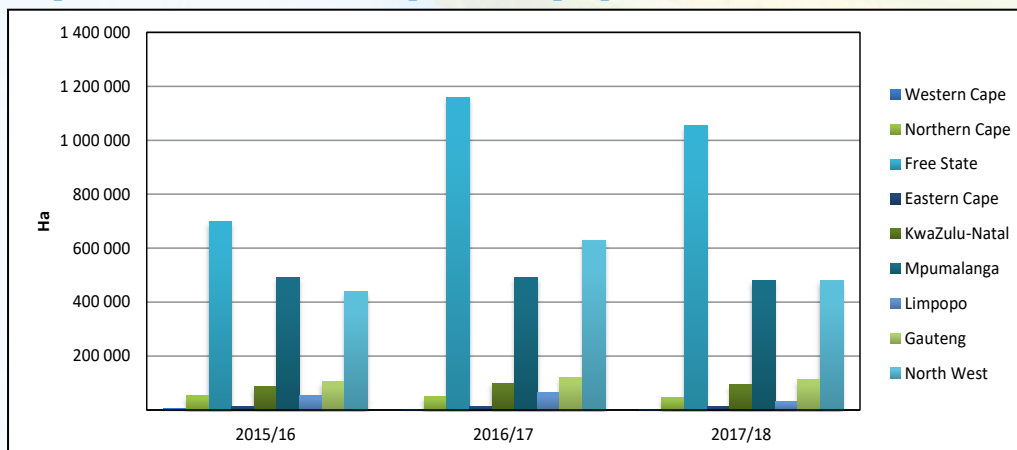
Province	Type of production	White			Yellow		
		Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha	Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha
Western Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	-	-	-	3 750	33 750	9.00
	Total	-	-	-	3 750	33 750	9.00
Northern Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	3 600	41 300	11.47	43 000	628 000	14.60
	Total	3 600	41 300	11.47	43 000	628 000	14.60
Free State	Dryland	622 000	3 119 000	5.01	380 000	1 616 000	4.25
	Irrigation	22 000	231 000	10.50	30 000	309 000	10.30
	Total	644 000	3 350 000	5.20	410 000	1 925 000	4.70
Eastern Cape	Dryland	2 450	10 100	4.12	7 000	26 500	3.79
	Irrigation	1 050	11 600	11.05	4 000	45 000	11.25
	Total	3 500	21 700	6.20	11 000	71 500	6.50
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	38 000	205 100	5.40	34 000	212 000	6.24
	Irrigation	7 000	74 900	10.70	16 000	168 000	10.50
	Total	45 000	280 000	6.22	50 000	380 000	7.60
Mpumalanga	Dryland	133 000	737 000	5.54	322 000	1 817 800	5.65
	Irrigation	7 000	75 000	10.71	18 000	187 200	10.40
	Total	140 000	812 000	5.80	340 000	2 005 000	5.90
Limpopo	Dryland	6 000	27 000	4.50	10 000	31 700	3.17
	Irrigation	6 000	63 000	10.50	11 000	110 000	10.00
	Total	12 000	90 000	7.50	21 000	141 700	6.75
Gauteng	Dryland	48 000	253 600	5.28	53 400	266 800	5.00
	Irrigation	2 000	21 400	10.70	8 600	89 700	10.43
	Total	50 000	275 000	5.50	62 000	356 500	5.75
North West	Dryland	350 000	1 462 000	4.18	102 000	353 350	3.46
	Irrigation	20 000	208 000	10.40	8 000	75 200	9.40
	Total	370 000	1 670 000	4.51	110 000	428 550	3.90
RSA	Dryland	1 199 450	5 813 800	4.85	908 400	4 324 150	4.76
	Irrigation	68 650	726 200	10.58	142 350	1 645 850	11.56
	Total	1 268 100	6 540 000	5.16	1 050 750	5 970 000	5.68

Figures provided by the CEC.

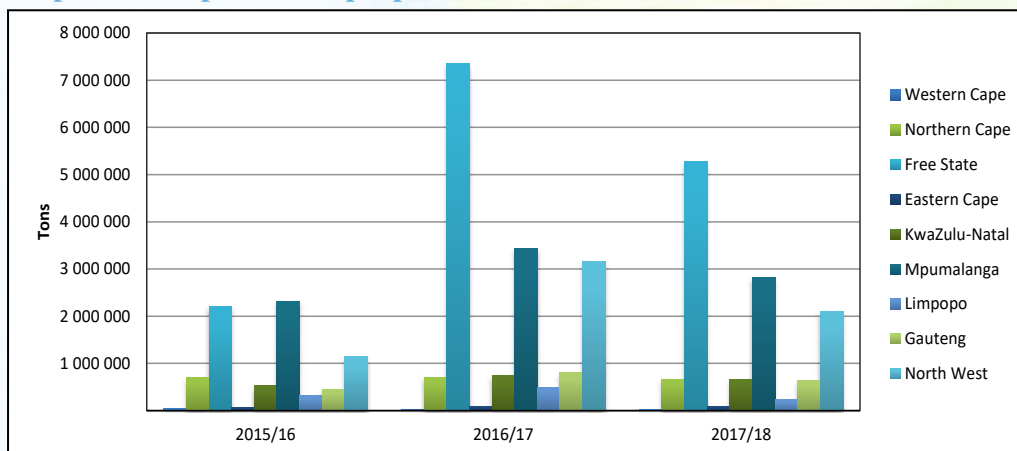
The major commercial maize-producing provinces are the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West, contributing 81% of the total maize production in the RSA. The Free State produced 5 275 000 tons of maize on 1 054 000 hectares with a yield of 5.00 t/ha. Mpumalanga produced 2 817 000 tons of maize on 480 000 hectares with a yield of 5.87 t/ha and North West harvested 2 098 550 tons of maize on 480 000 hectares yielding 4.37 t/ha. Yellow maize contributed 71% of the total maize production in Mpumalanga while the majority of maize produced in the North West (80%) and Free State (64%) was white.

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

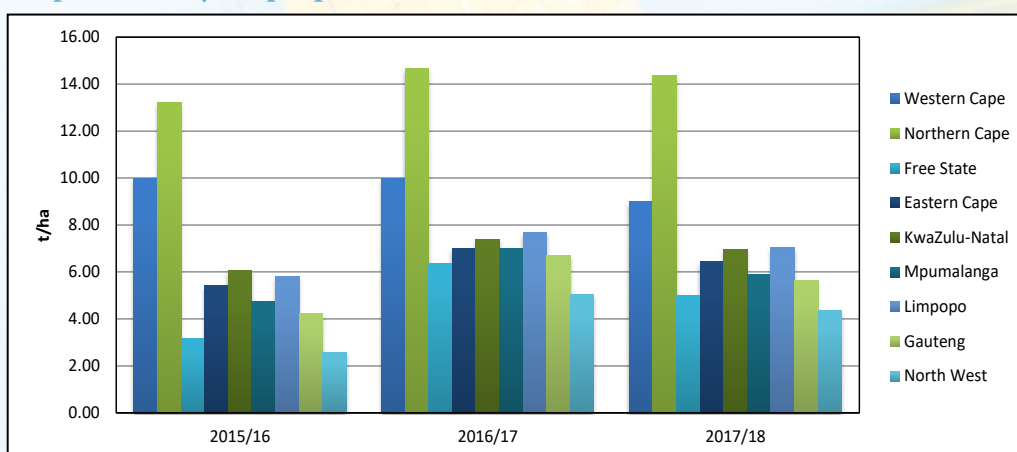
Graph 5: Area utilized for maize production per province over three seasons



Graph 6: Maize production per province over three seasons



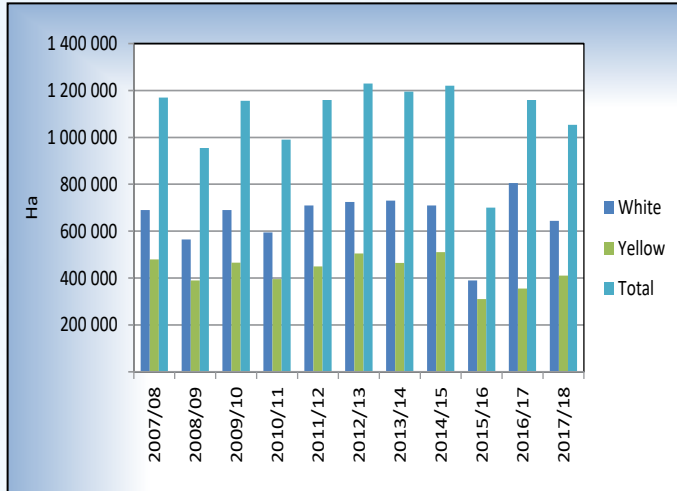
Graph 7: Maize yield per province over three seasons



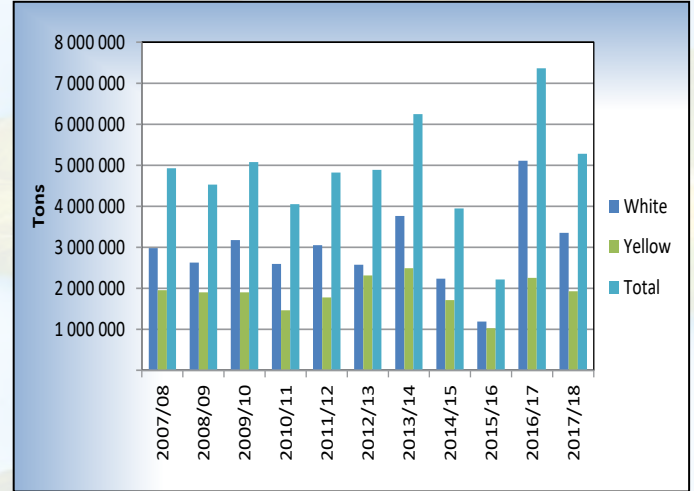
Figures provided by the CEC.

Graphs 8 to 13 provide an overview of the area planted and production figures for the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West from the 2007/2008 to 2017/2018 seasons.

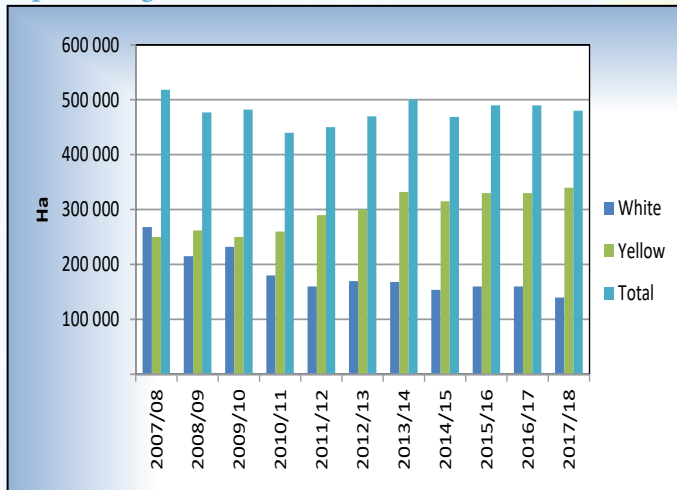
Graph 8: Area utilized for maize production in the Free State since 2007/2008



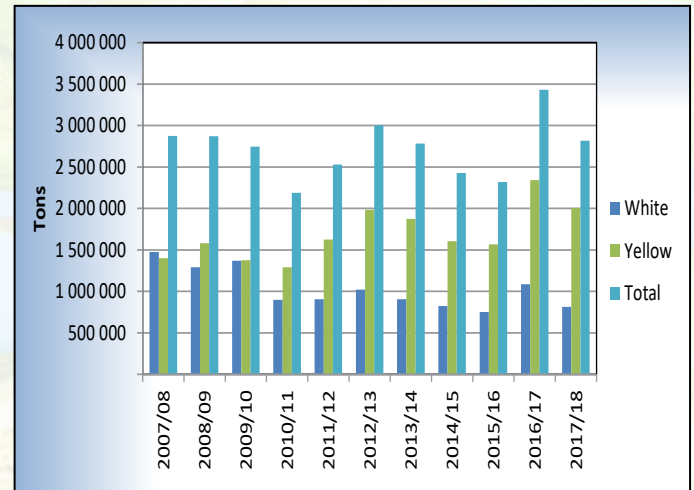
Graph 9: Maize production in the Free State since 2007/2008



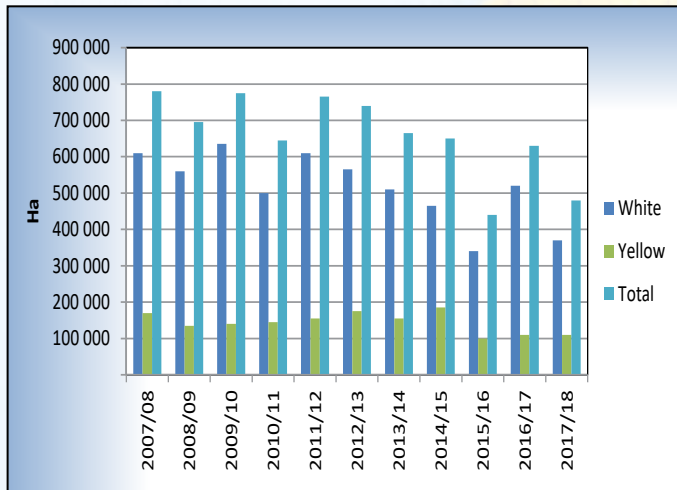
Graph 10: Area utilized for maize production in Mpumalanga since 2007/2008



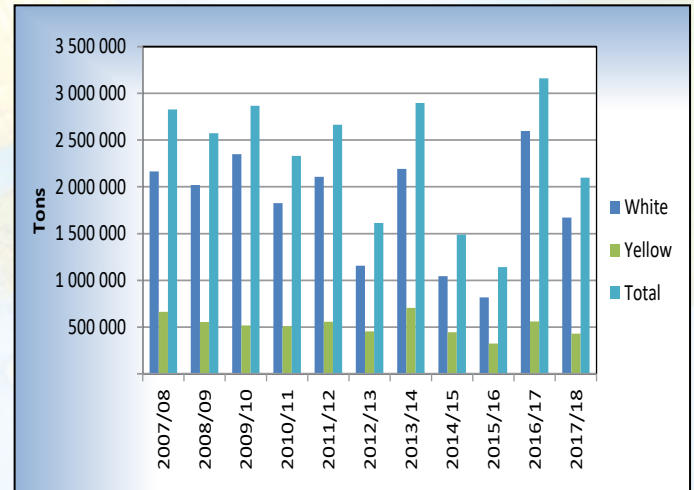
Graph 11: Maize production in Mpumalanga since 2007/2008



Graph 12: Area utilized for maize production in North West since 2007/2008



Graph 13: Maize production in North West since 2007/2008



Figures provided by the CEC.