

## Supply and Demand

World wheat production for the 2018/2019 season is estimated at 730.90 million metric tons according to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report 590 of 11 July 2019*, world production for 2019/2020 is projected to be 780.83 million metric tons.

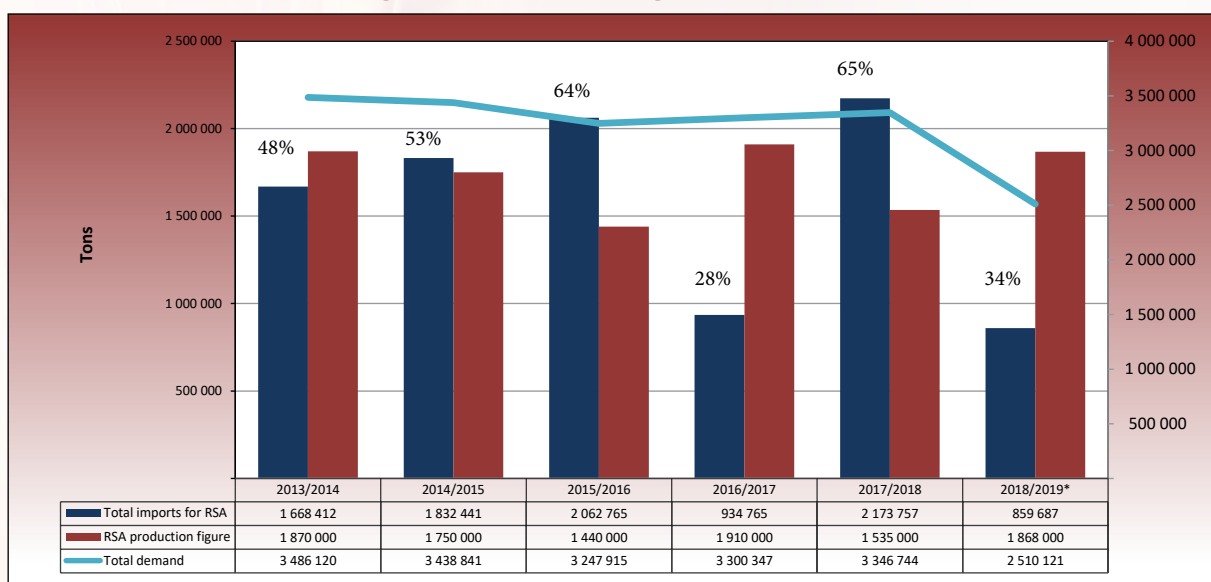
South Africa is a net importer of wheat and relies on imports to supply local demand. Demand for wheat processing (human, animal and gristing) in 2017/2018 was the highest of the past 20 seasons (3 229 861 tons). Nine months into the 2018/2019 season, this figure stands at 2 409 539 tons, 75% of the previous season's figure.

During the 2017/2018 season, 2 173 757 tons of wheat were imported. This figure is 132% higher than the amount of wheat imported during 2016/2017 and 5% lower than the amount imported during the severe drought stricken 2015/2016 season. 44% (955 697 tons) of the wheat imported during the 2017/2018 season, originated in the Russian Federation. Please see pages 88 to 109 for the quality of the wheat imported during 2017/2018. 90 780 tons of local wheat were exported to countries such as Zambia, Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland during the corresponding period.

The amount of wheat imported for local consumption during the current marketing season (up to 26 July 2019), amounts to 945 668 tons according to SAGIS. Almost 33% of this wheat originated in Germany.

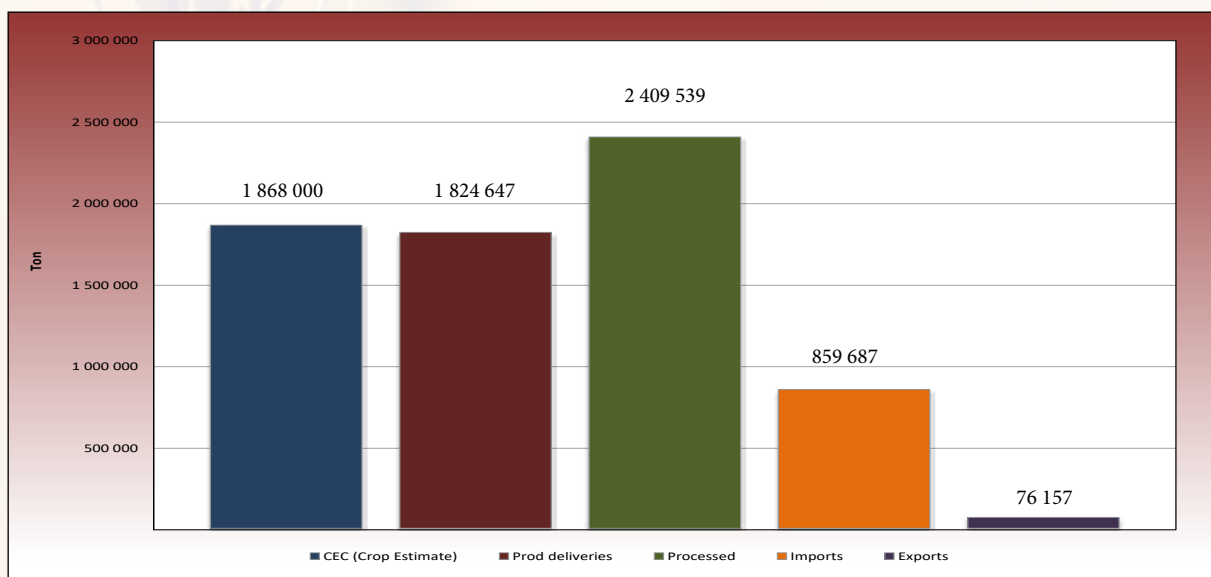
The RSA wheat marketing season commences on the 1st of October every year.

**Graph 5: Wheat import figures as a percentage of the total demand over six seasons**



\*2018/2019 season figure includes imports and total demand from October to June.

**Graph 6: Wheat supply and demand overview 2018/2019 season (Oct - June)**



Figures provided by SAGIS, (Publication date: 2019-07-25)