

# Supply and Demand

World wheat production for the 2020/21 season is estimated at 775.82 million metric tons according to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report 614 of 12 July 2021*, world production for 2021/22 is projected to be 792.40 million metric tons.

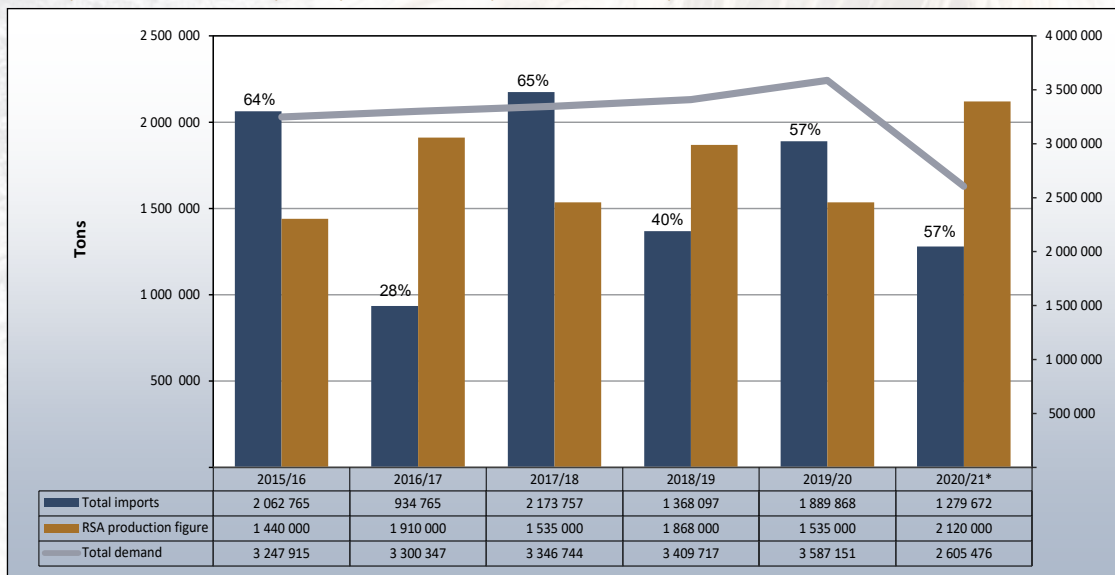
South Africa is a net importer of wheat and relies on imports to supply local demand. Wheat processing demand (human, animal and gristing) in 2019/20 was the highest of the past 22 seasons (3 437 768 tons). Nine months into the 2020/21 season, this figure stands at 2 482 965 tons, 72% of the previous season's figure.

During the 2019/20 season, 1 889 868 tons of wheat were imported. This figure is 38% higher than the amount of wheat imported during 2018/19. The ten-year import average is 1 669 632 tons. 57% of the wheat imported during the 2019/20 season for local use, originated in Poland (29%) and the Russian Federation (28%). Please see pages 84 to 101 for the quality of the wheat imported during 2019/20. 125 342 tons of wheat were exported to countries such as Zambia, Namibia and Eswatini during the corresponding period.

The amount of wheat imported for local consumption during the current marketing season (up to 16 July 2021), amounts to 1 341 727 tons according to SAGIS. The majority of this wheat originated in Australia (31%), Lithuania (19%) and Poland (17%).

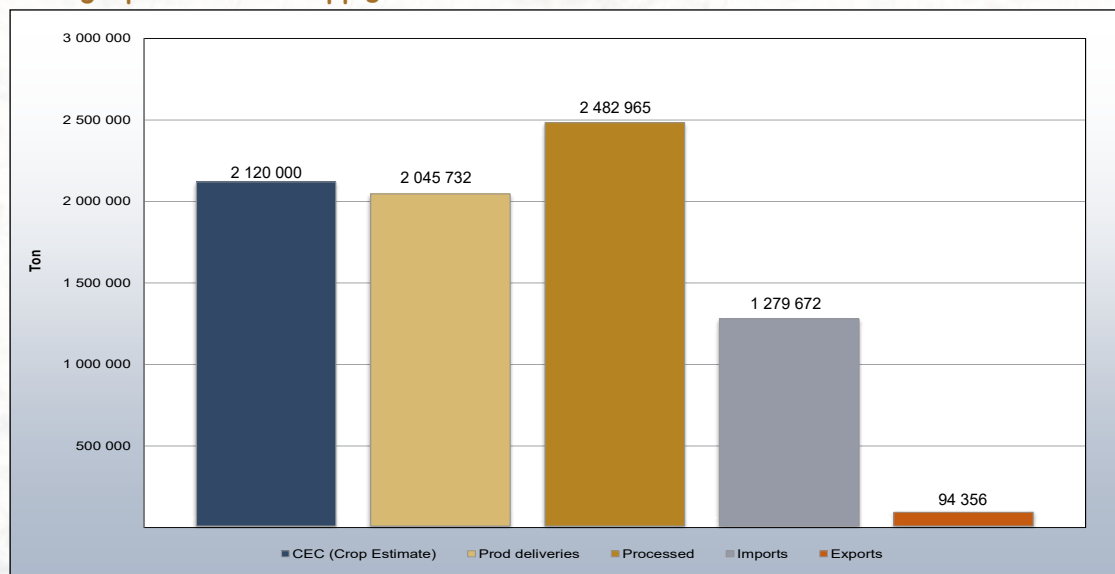
The South African wheat marketing season commences on the 1st of October every year.

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



\*2020/21 season figure includes imports and total demand from October to July.

**Graph 6: Wheat supply and demand overview 2020/21 season (Oct - June)**



Figures provided by SAGIS, (Publication date: 2021-07-27)