



Jennifer K. Bond
Olga Liefert

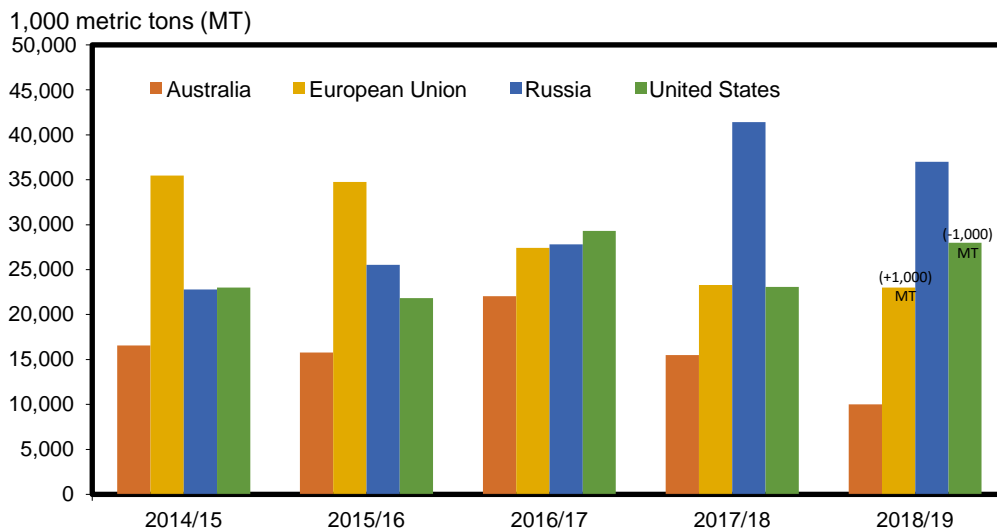
In this report:

- [Domestic Outlook](#)
- [International Outlook](#)

Despite Improving Price Competitiveness, U.S. Exports Are Trimmed

This month, U.S. exports are trimmed by 35 million bushels to 965 million for the 2018/19 marketing year (fig. 1). The cut comes after U.S. Census sales trade data through December 2018 and inspections data through February 2019 reveal sales have not risen to meet earlier expectations, despite recent declines for U.S. wheat futures and export prices. While U.S. exports are still forecast to strengthen in the second half of the marketing year, sales prospects are dampened, relative to the previous forecast, due to a strong dollar and projections of a larger European Union (EU) wheat crop and exports as well as headwinds from sustained robust wheat sales out of the Black Sea region.

Figure 1: U.S. exports outlook lowered on increasing competition from EU



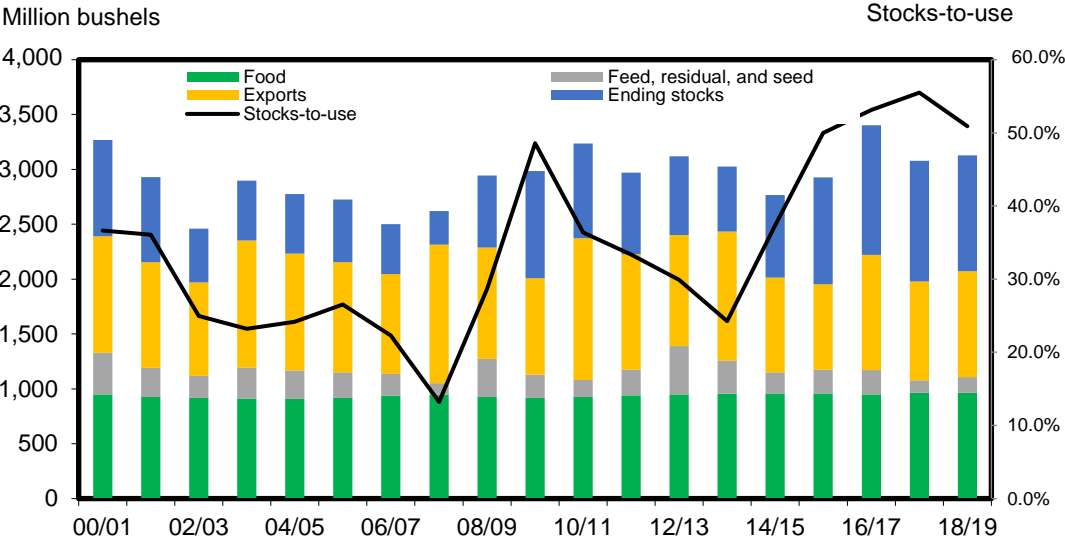
Notes: Data is on a trade year basis. Forecast change, month to month, is in parens ().
Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution database

Domestic Outlook

Domestic Changes at a Glance:

- U.S. all-wheat supplies are raised 5 million bushels to 3,123 million on a 5 million bushel increase in imports of durum (+4 million) and hard red spring (+1 million), largely from Canada.
- On March 1, USDA, National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS) released the *Flour Milling Products* report, providing a clearer picture of wheat food use through December 2018.
 - Through the first 7 months of the 2018/19 marketing year, total wheat food use is approximately 4 million bushels behind the 2017/18 pace, providing support for a 5 million bushel cut to the 2018/19 food use projection.
- U.S. exports are lowered 35 million bushels on increased competitor supplies and tepid U.S. sales.
 - Recent quickening of the export sales pace was expected and attributable to lowered prices; however, the uptick has fallen below initial expectations.
- Ending stocks for 2018/19 are raised 45 million bushels on slightly higher supplies and reduced use. The stocks-to-use ratio is up 3 percentage points to 51 percent, compared to marketing year 2017/18's ratio of 55 percent (fig. 2). This ratio is well above the 10-year average. Recent weakness in cash and futures prices are reflective of slack in the U.S. all-wheat balance sheet.

Figure 2: U.S. all-wheat stocks to use ratio rises on reduced utilization



Sources: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, WASDE and USDA, Economic Research Service calculations.

Table 1 - U.S. wheat supply and utilization at a glance, 2018/19

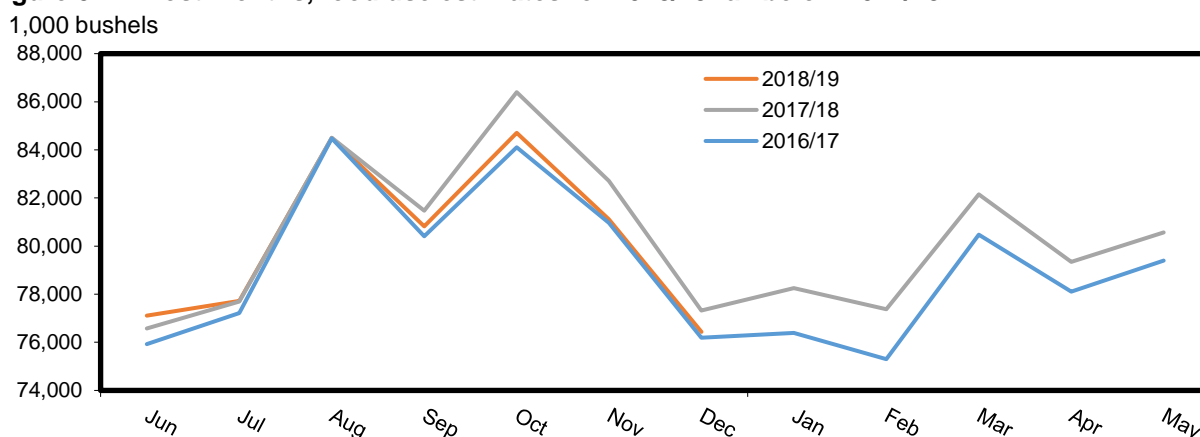
Balance sheet item	2018/19 (February)	2018/19 (March)	Change from previous month	Comments
Supply, total				<i>May-June Marketing Year (MY)</i>
Beginning stocks	1,098.9	1,098.9	0.0	
Production	1,884.5	1,884.5	0.0	
Imports	140.0	145.0	5.0	Raised on strong pace of imports of durum (+4) and hard red spring (HRS) (+1) from Canada.
Supply, total	3,123.3	3,128.3	5.0	
Demand				
Food	970.0	965.0	-5.0	Food use trimmed 5 million bushels on reduced use in calendar year Q4 compared to same time previous year.
Seed	63.0	63.0	0.0	
Feed and residual	80.0	80.0	0.0	
Domestic, total	1,113.0	1,108.0	-5.0	Five million bushel cut to food use lowers domestic use by the same amount.
Exports	1,000.0	965.0	-35.0	Based on the slower-than-expected pace of exports through December, HRS is cut 25 million bushels to 275 million and soft red winter is cut 10 million bushels to 210 million.
Use, total	2,113.0	2,073.0	-40.0	Reductions to food use and exports combine for a 40 million bushels cut to total use.
Ending stocks	1,010.3	1,055.3	45.0	Ending stocks are raised on reduced use (-40 million) and increased supplies (+5 million).

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

All-Wheat Food Use Cut 5 Million Bushels to 965 Million

On March 1, USDA-NASS released its quarterly *Flour Milling Products* report, providing milling data through December 2018. With 7 months of flour milling data for 2018/19 available, estimated wheat food use is down about 4.3 million bushels, relative to the same time in the prior marketing year (fig. 3). So far, June and July 2018 are the only months of the 2018/19 marketing year in which monthly wheat food use was above the 2017/18 monthly use estimates.

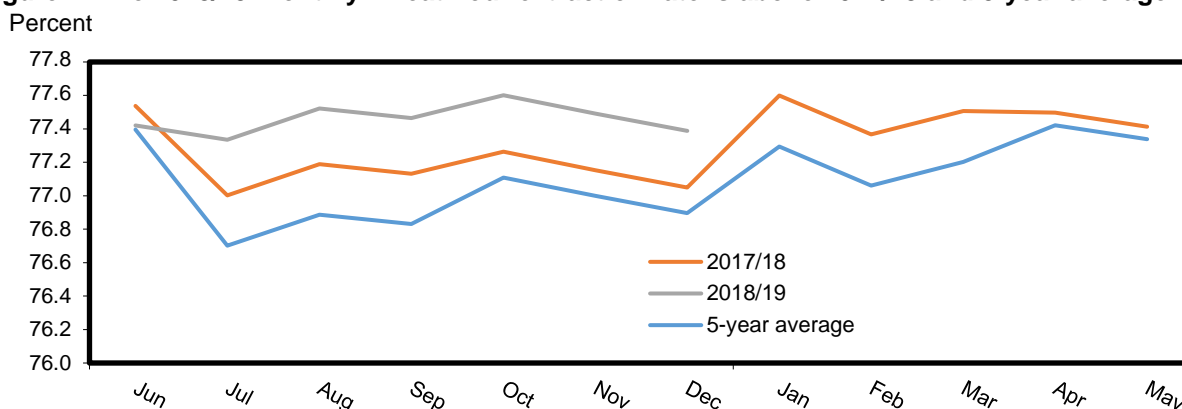
Figure 3: In most months, food use estimates for 2018/19 fall below 2017/18



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service data.

Higher extraction rates are contributing to generally lower food use in the current marketing year. At higher extraction levels, relatively less wheat is required to produce the same volume of flour. The average extraction level through the first 7 months of the marketing year is estimated at 77.5 percent (fig. 4). This compares to 77.3 percent for the previous marketing year and 77.5 percent for 2016/17, when below-average levels of protein in the hard red winter crop and mill grind were supplemented heavily with higher-protein HRS. In general, extraction rates tend to strengthen in the latter months of the marketing year, setting up a situation where 2018/19 rates may exceed the previous average high observed for the 2016/17 crop.

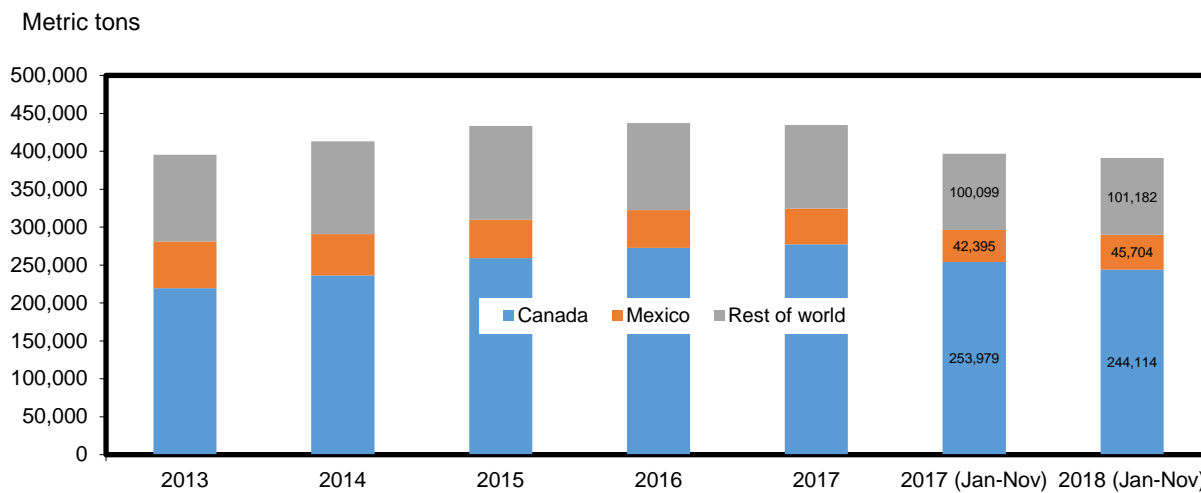
Figure 4: The 2018/19 monthly wheat flour extraction rate is above 2017/18 and 5-year average



Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service data.

The dampening effects of more efficient wheat flour production on the wheat for food use estimate are augmented by reduced export demand. From January to November 2018, U.S. exports of bread and bread products are down more than 2 percent year-to-year, with much of the decline coming via reduced shipments of “bread, other baked” products to Canada and Mexico (down 6 and 22 percent, respectively). Canada typically accounts for up to 64 percent of aggregate U.S. bread and bread products exports. From January to November 2018, that share was down 2 percent, or nearly 10,000 metric tons (fig. 5)

Figure 5: U.S. bread and bread product exports to Canada down from a year ago



Sources: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System and USDA, Economic Research Service.

U.S. All-Wheat Exports Trimmed on Increasing Competition

U.S. all-wheat exports are lowered 35 million bushels this month, following several months of lackluster (though improving) sales, which were insufficient to support the previous 1 billion bushel projection. The most recent weekly export sales report (February 22-28, 2019) showed net sales of 621,700 metric tons, a sizable increase over the same period a year ago. However, strengthening sales in the second and third quarter have been anticipated, and multiple months of record shipments would be required to reach the previous export projection.

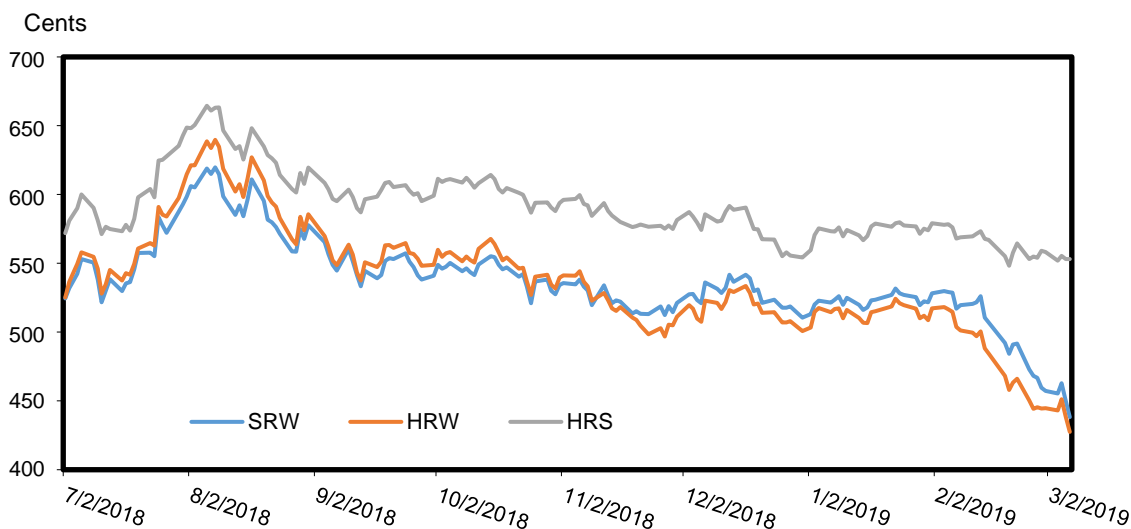
U.S. wheat exports are inhibited to some degree by a strong dollar. In early March, the U.S. dollar index hit a calendar-year high. A strong dollar, combined with the variable storage rate which incentivizes wheat storage, to make it relatively more costly to pull U.S. wheat out of storage into export channels. In addition, the United States faces significant headwinds in the form of still-strong shipments from the Black Sea region, the EU, and Canada. The price margin between EU and Russian soft wheat has weakened in recent weeks, creating more opportunities for the EU to gain inroads into markets that had lately been purchasing Black Sea

wheat. Please see the *Wheat Outlook* International section for more detail as well as the USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) *Grain: World Markets and Trade* circular.

Winter Wheat Futures Prices Flounder in Recent Weeks

Wheat futures prices have trended lower in recent weeks with the May hard red winter contract reaching multi-month lows in recent days. These lows come despite tightening global stocks and last month's report of smaller-than-expected winter wheat sowings. Tepid export sales have weighed on prospects for a wheat price recovery, as has a strengthening U.S. dollar. In contrast, cold and wet conditions in the Northern Plains spring wheat growing region have helped to insulate spring wheat futures from the lows demonstrated by the hard red winter and soft red winter wheat contracts (fig. 6).

Figure 6: Winter wheat May futures prices plunge while spring contract shows only moderate weakness



Notes: Closing price used for all contracts; soft red winter (SRW), hard red winter (HRW), hard red spring (HRS).
Source: CME Group, Inc.

Cash winter wheat prices have also weakened in recent months, though not to the same dramatic degree as the May futures prices. Generally, strengthening prices for spring wheat help to offset the effect of winter wheat price weakness on the U.S. all-wheat, season-average farm price (SAFP). Further, the vast majority of old-crop wheat has been marketed at this point in the 2018/19 marketing year, thus month-to-month price fluctuations have a diminished impact on the average price. The current SAFP is \$5.15 per bushel at the midpoint, unchanged from the February 2019 forecast. The price range is narrowed to \$5.10/bushel on the low end and \$5.20/bushel on the high end. Please see the Wheat Yearbook Tables on the ERS website for more details on wheat by class price movements.

Updated Outyear Projections Available on USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum Website

Revised projections for grains and oilseeds balance sheets for the 2019/20 marketing year were presented at the February 21-22 USDA, Agricultural Outlook Forum. The PowerPoint slides from the presentation and a report that details the changes and provides supply and utilization tables are available on the Agricultural Outlook Forum website. In general, the outlook for U.S. wheat in 2019/20 is for reduced supplies, slightly lower use, and smaller ending stocks. Australia and the EU are expected to provide increasing levels of competition in the out year on the basis of expected returns to normal weather and more robust exportable supplies. While carryout for the 2019/20 marketing year is still currently projected to be smaller than for 2018/19, ending stocks are still burdensome and inhibit significant price recovery. The SAFP for new-crop wheat is currently forecast at \$5.20 per bushel, 5 cents higher than the current 2018/19 SAFP. The May 2019 *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (WASDE) report will feature updated 2019/20 projections for all-wheat supply and utilization. Planting intentions data supplied in the March 20 *Prospective Plantings* report and updated international balance sheets will be reflected in the revised forecasts.

International Outlook

World Wheat Production Projected Lower

World wheat production in 2018/19 is projected to reach 733.0 million tons, down 1.7 million this month. The main changes in the wheat production projection for 2018/19 are reductions for Kazakhstan, Iraq, and Turkmenistan, as well as small increases for Argentina and Australia. For specific information about this month's changes in wheat production, see table A.

Table A - Wheat production at a glance (2018/19), March 2019

	Country or region	Crop year	Production	Change from previous month ¹	YoY ² change	Comments
			<i>Million tons</i>			
↑	World	<i>Various</i>	733.0	-1.7	-30.1	
↑	Foreign	<i>Various</i>	681.7	-1.7	-34.0	
	United States	<i>June-May</i>	51.3	No change	+3.9	See section on U.S. domestic wheat.
↓	Kazakhstan	<i>Sep-Aug</i>	14.0	-1.1	-0.8	Kazakh Statistical Agency reported final results for the 2018/19 harvest with lower than expected winter yields.
↓	Iraq	<i>July-June</i>	3.0	-1.0	-1.0	Wheat area is projected sharply lower due to the ongoing conflict. Yields are expected slightly higher as the rest of the country (especially the south) is irrigated. In the conflict areas that are likely to be abandoned, wheat is rained.
↓	Turkmenistan	<i>July-June</i>	0.7	-0.2	-0.3	Local domestic analysis suggests lower wheat yields. No official statistics are available for Turkmenistan.
↓	Tunisia	<i>July-June</i>	1.1	-0.2	Small change	The change is in line with official Government sources.
↑	Argentina	<i>Dec-Nov</i>	19.5	+0.3	+1.0	The wheat harvest is over, and reports indicate higher harvested area.
↑	Australia	<i>Dec-Nov</i>	17.3	+0.3	-4.0	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences published updated estimates for wheat, adjusting expected harvested area up. The wheat harvest in Australia is largely complete.
↑	Russia	<i>July-June</i>	71.7	+0.1	-13.3	Russian Statistical Agency reported final results for the 2018/19 harvest with winter wheat yields slightly higher than earlier projected.

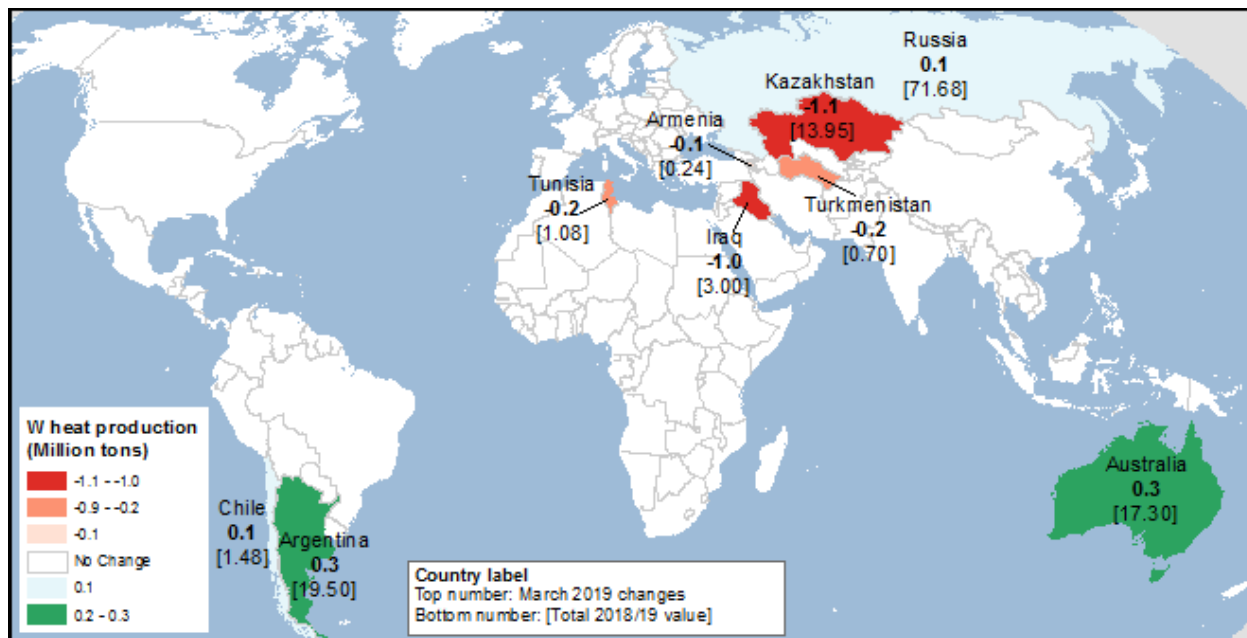
¹Change from previous month's forecast. Changes of 0.1 million tons or less are also made for several countries.

²YoY: year-over-year changes.

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

For a visual display of all changes in wheat production, see map A.

Map A. Wheat production changes for 2018/19, March 2019



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

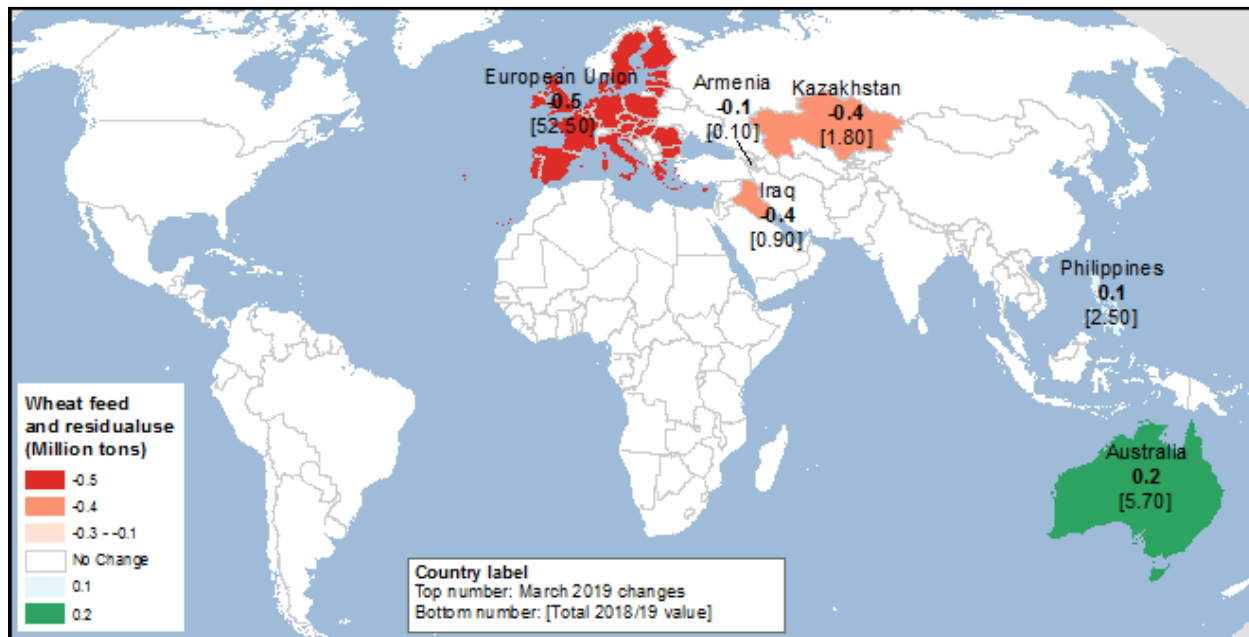
Wheat Use Is Down; Stocks Projected Higher This Month

Global wheat use projections for 2018/19 are down 5.1 million tons this month to 742.1 million. Most changes in wheat use reflect modified production forecasts. Global feed and residual wheat use is down 1.1 million tons, with the lower projected feeding in **Iraq** and **Kazakhstan** consistent with production cuts. Projected wheat feed and residual use is down in the **European Union (EU)**, as the region is expected to feed more competitively priced corn while exporting additional amounts of wheat (see changes in feed and residual use for all countries in map B, below).

A reduction in food, seed, and industrial (FSI) use of wheat this month is driven by **India**, down 3.0 million tons to 90.0 million, which is slightly lower than a year ago. Rising domestic prices for food are expected to affect consumers' purchasing power and limit wheat consumption. Recently issued official Government stocks estimates allow quantification of this reduction. For **Bangladesh**, wheat FSI use is down 0.3 million tons, supplanted by increased rice output and use. Wheat food use is also cut for **Venezuela**, as the country's wheat imports are declining due to political and economic turmoil.

Smaller adjustments in wheat food and industrial use are also made for a number of other countries.

Map B. Wheat feed and residual use changes for 2018/19, March 2019



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Lower projected wheat output and use result in higher wheat ending stocks this month, up 3.0 million to 270.5 million. Foreign wheat stocks are up 1.8 million tons, as U.S. stocks are projected to increase (up 1.2 million tons because of lower projected exports). Higher **Indian** stocks, up 2.9 million tons, drive the change in global stocks. An increase in Indian stocks reflects the country's lower wheat use and corresponds to the published official Indian stocks' estimates. Wheat stocks are also projected higher for **Morocco** (up 0.5 million tons), **Philippines** (up 0.3 million tons), and **Algeria** (up 0.2 million tons), all based on increased wheat imports for these countries.

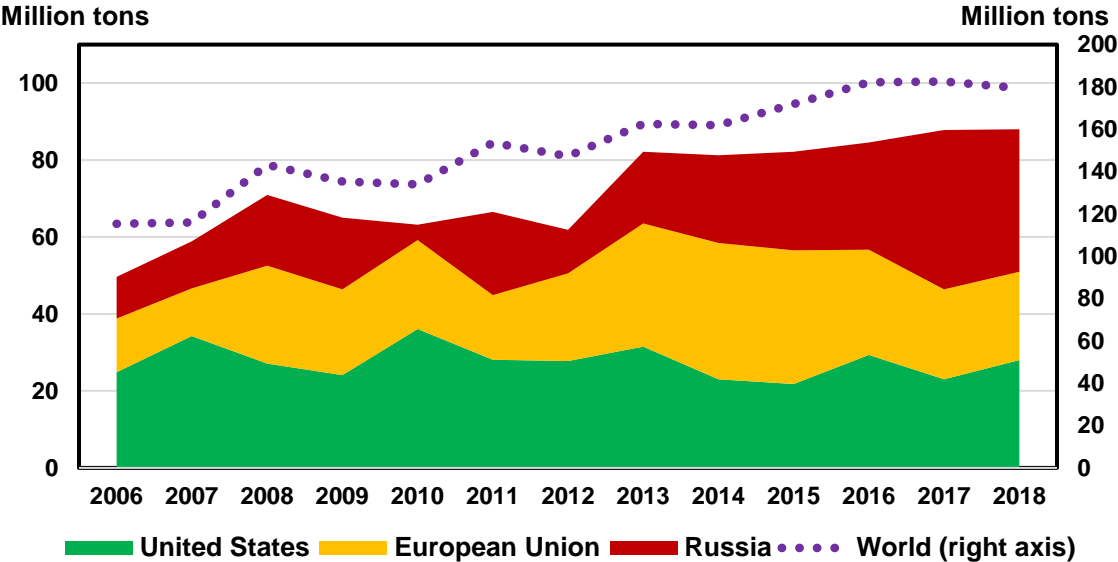
Partly offsetting are reductions for **EU** stocks (down 0.8 million tons mainly from higher exports), **Kazakhstan** (down 0.7 million tons reflecting lower output), **Brazil** (down 0.3 million tons from higher exports), and **Tunisia** (down 0.3 million tons because of lower wheat production). Numerous and largely offsetting smaller revisions of ending stocks are made for a number of countries this month.

EU Wheat Exports Revive, U.S. Exports Dwindle

Wheat trade for the 2018/19 international trade year (July-June) is unchanged this month at 179.5 million, although trade shares of the two major exporters are projected to shift with a boost to the **European Union (EU)** and a reduction of **United States** exports.

For about 5 years, **Russia**, a low-cost grain producer with relatively low land and labor costs, has been competing to capture growth in the world wheat trade, increasingly supplanting other major wheat exporters and boosting its share in the world wheat trade. This competition is most relevant for the **European Union** and the **United States** (see fig. 7). The EU is a natural competitor with Russia in wheat trade, sharing the closest import markets and comparable wheat quality. The United States, on the other hand, is not a direct competitor to Russia, as it grows mainly high-quality wheat and in the opposite part of the globe than Russia. However, the United States is at a comparative disadvantage in wheat compared to corn and soybeans and has seen its wheat area and production fall, followed by a reduction in exports. Both the United States and Russia tend to export wheat and compete in the same destinations in North Africa and the Middle East (e.g., Egypt and Iraq), as well as in African countries (e.g., Nigeria).

Figure 7. Russia captures most in the growth of global wheat trade



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

This year, **Russian** wheat exports are strongly frontloaded. The country has already exported more than 29.0 million tons of wheat since July 2018, with a torrid pace of exports. However, rising Russian domestic grain prices, indicative of low wheat stocks in the major exporting regions (especially in the South District), are limiting the competitiveness of Russian wheat and

reducing the export pace. However, even with the expectation of a slowdown of shipments, the pace of exports is expected to allow Russia to export the projected 37.0 million tons of wheat.

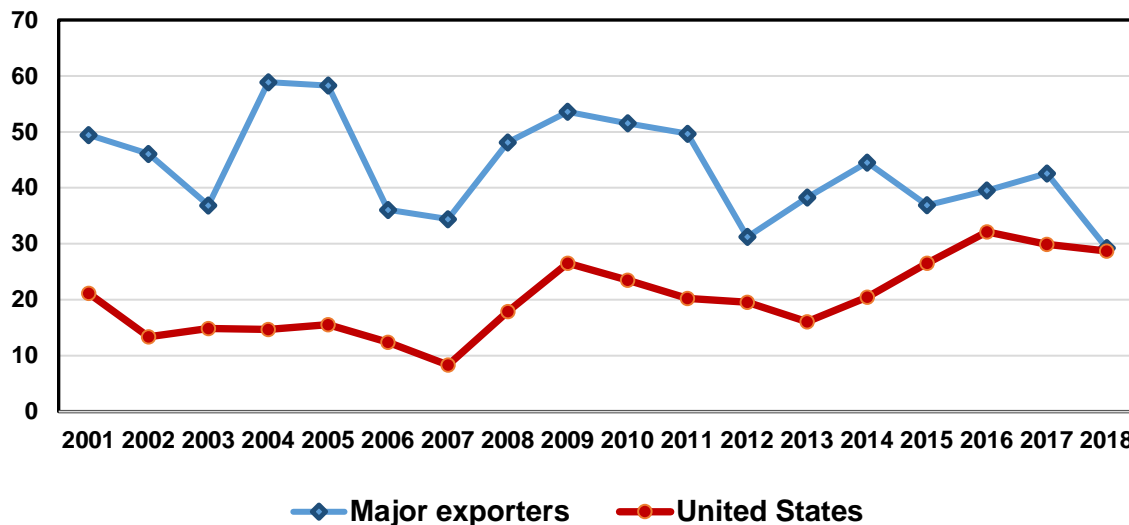
Since January 2019, **European Union (EU)** wheat exports have accelerated, as the region is enjoying a price advantage (especially in **France** and **Germany**) vis-a-vis Russia, with a price spread approaching the one seen in 2015/2016 when the EU exported close to a record amount of wheat. A continuing robust pace of wheat export licensing is taking the region's wheat export commitments to 23.0 million tons, up 1.0 million tons this month. Contrary to Russia, this year's exports from the EU are expected to be strongly backloaded, owing to a lackluster performance in the first half of the year, and wheat exports have to accelerate to reach the forecast. The weakening of the euro since February (which improves the competitiveness of European wheat in global markets), reduces competition from Russian wheat that otherwise would eat into traditional European export markets (Egypt, Kenya, Uganda in Africa, Vietnam in Asia, and many more), and thereby gives a boost to EU wheat exports.

The pace of **U.S.** wheat export sales and shipments is slow and supports a 1.0-million-ton reduction in exports to 28.0 million for the July-June international year (down 35 million bushels to 965 million for the June-May local marketing year). The resurgence of EU wheat exports is delaying the U.S. recovery. However, the pace of U.S. exports will still have to accelerate to reach the current projection, assuming that as the season progresses and competitors deplete their wheat stocks, the United States will pick up the export pace and make use of this year's high supplies. This year U.S. wheat stocks alone are almost as high as the aggregate stocks of all other major exporters (Argentina, Australia, Canada, European Union, and FSU (former Soviet Union)-12) (see fig. 8).

U.S. wheat free on board (F.O.B.) prices have recently become more competitive than Russian prices, and just slightly higher than French and German offers, with outstanding wheat sales much ahead of last year. The recent sales to Egypt are indicative of stronger U.S. export opportunities. However, the recent appreciation of the U.S. dollar vis-à-vis the currencies of all major wheat exporters and rising domestic prices make the United States less competitive in price-sensitive markets.

Figure 8. U.S. wheat stocks are approaching the aggregate for major exporters

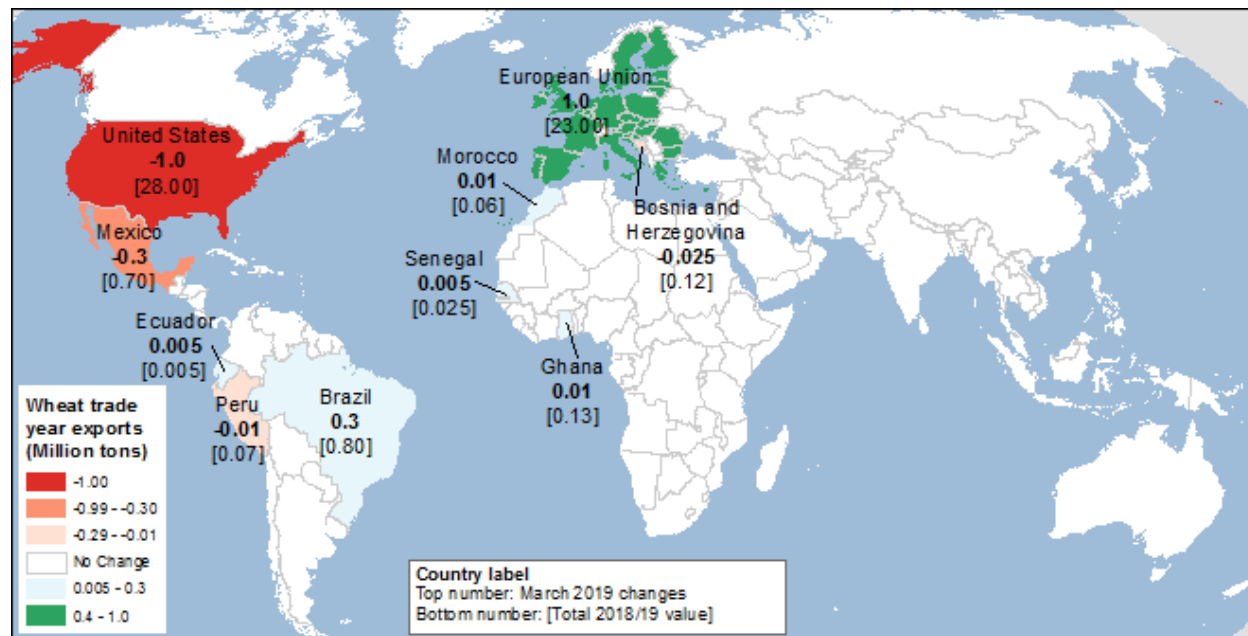
Million tons



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Other wheat export revisions are based mainly on the pace of exports. At-a-glance information for this month's changes in wheat exports is given in map C1.

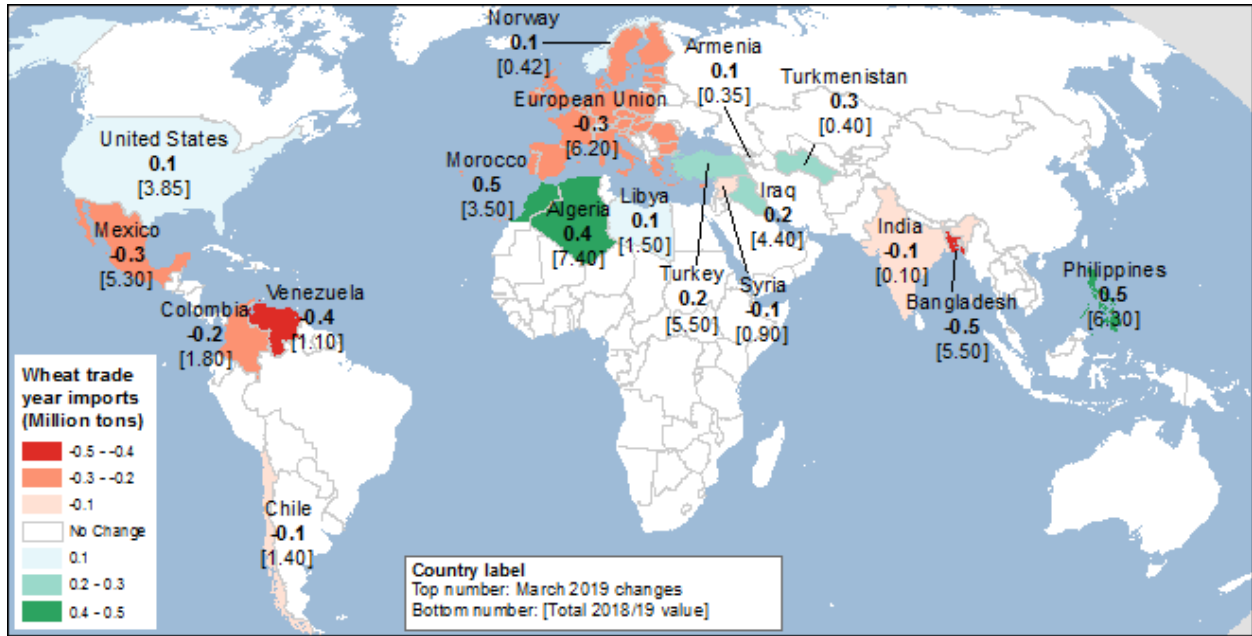
Map C1 – Wheat trade-year export changes for 2018/19, March 2019



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

This month, wheat import revisions are mainly based on the pace of imports. At-a-glance information for this month's changes in wheat exports is given in map C2.

Map C2 – Wheat trade-year import changes for 2018/19, March 2019



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Suggested Citation

Bond, Jennifer K., and Olga Liefert. *Wheat Outlook*, WHS-19c, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, March 12, 2019.

Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by USDA.

To ensure the quality of its research reports and satisfy government-wide standards, ERS requires that all research reports with substantively new material be reviewed by qualified technical research peers. This technical peer review process, coordinated by ERS' Peer Review Coordinating Council, allows experts who possess the technical background, perspective, and expertise to provide an objective and meaningful assessment of the output's substantive content and clarity of communication during the publication's review.

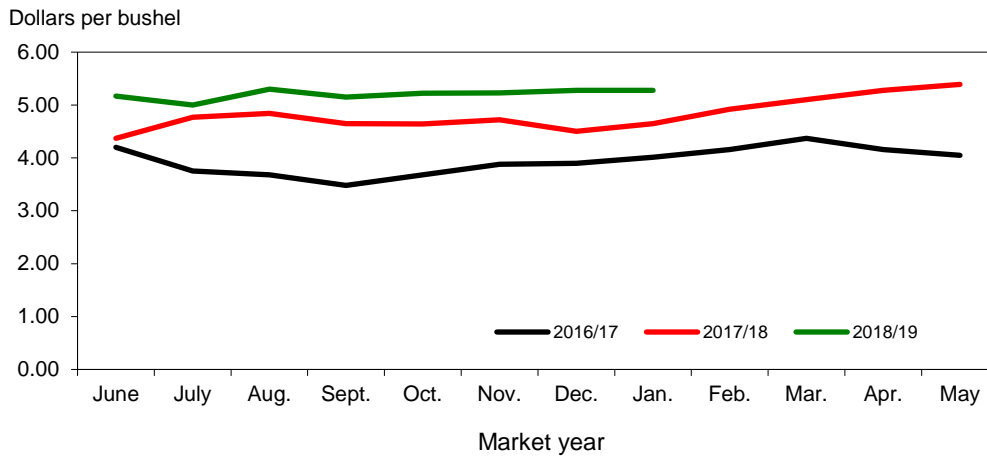
In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

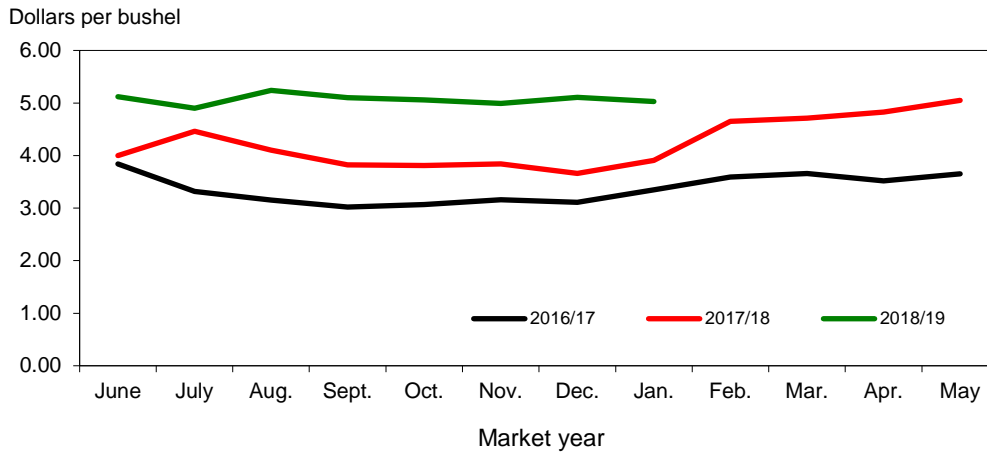
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Figure 1
All wheat average prices received by farmers



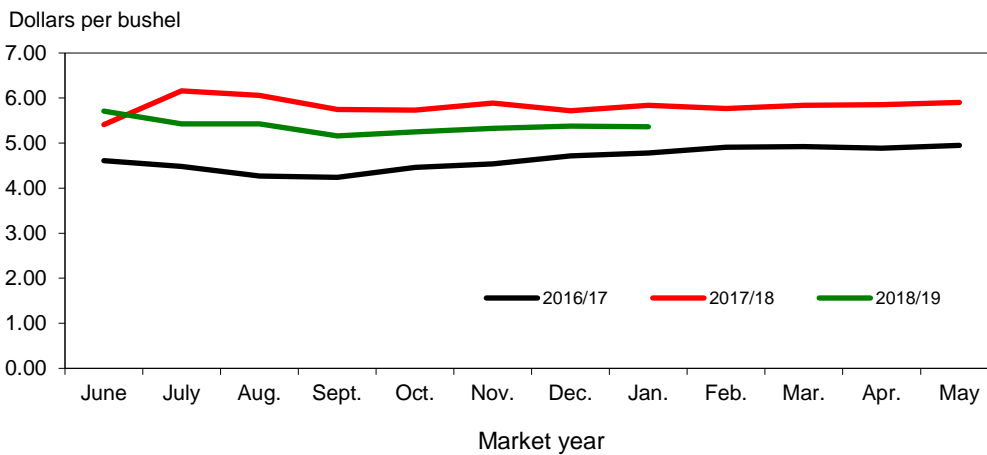
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 2
Hard red winter wheat average prices received by farmers



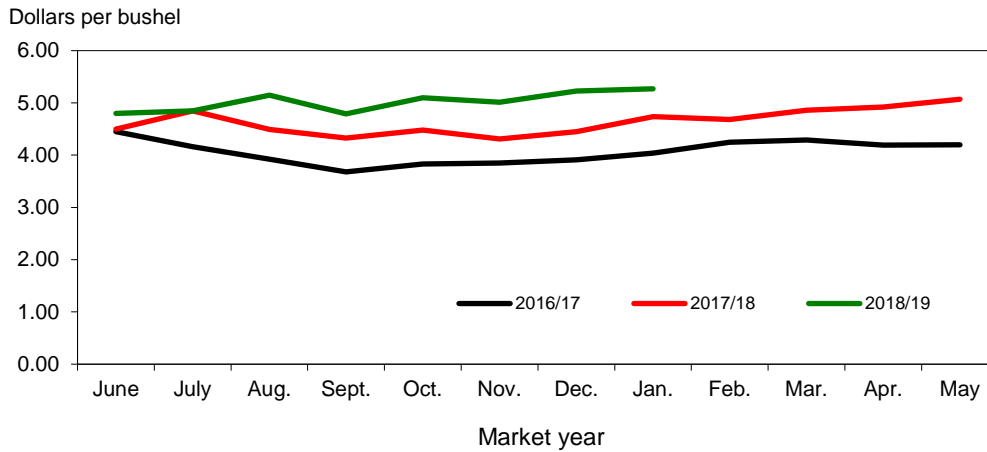
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 3
Hard red spring wheat average prices received by farmers



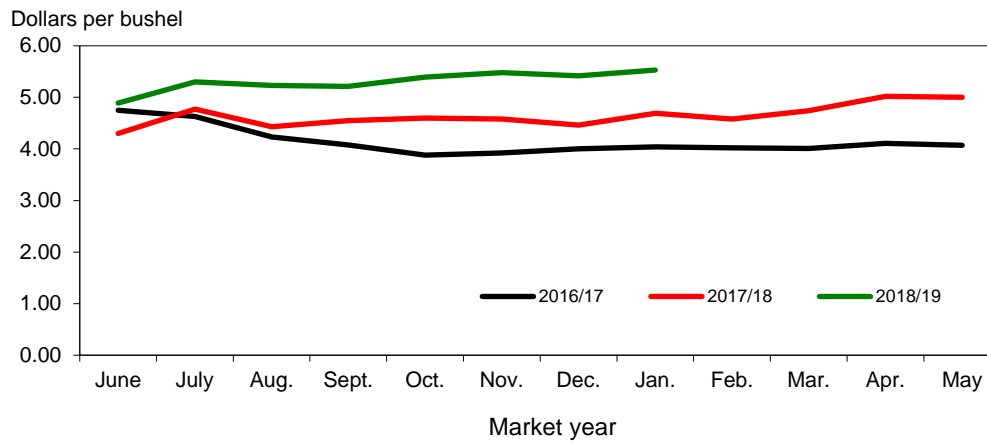
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 4
Soft red winter wheat average prices received by farmers



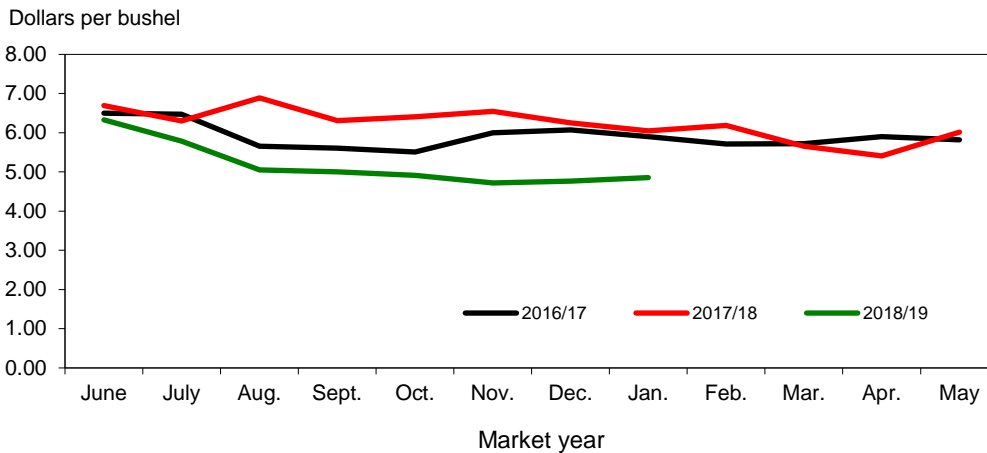
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 5
Soft white wheat average prices received by farmers



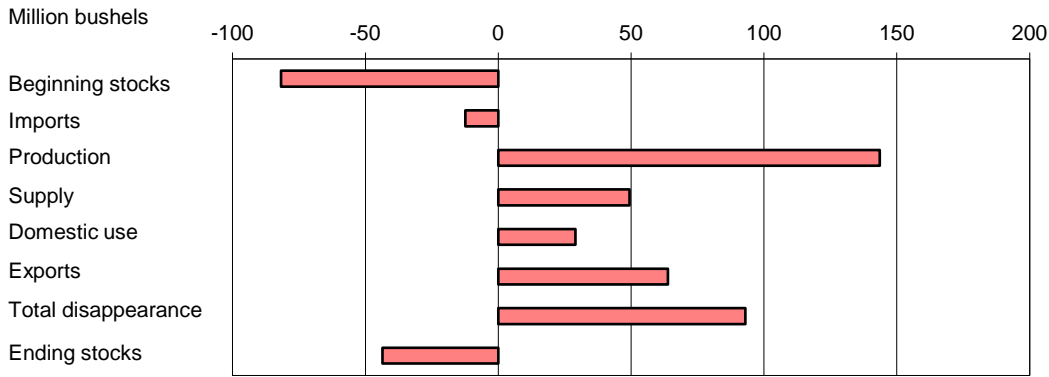
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 6
Durum wheat average prices received by farmers



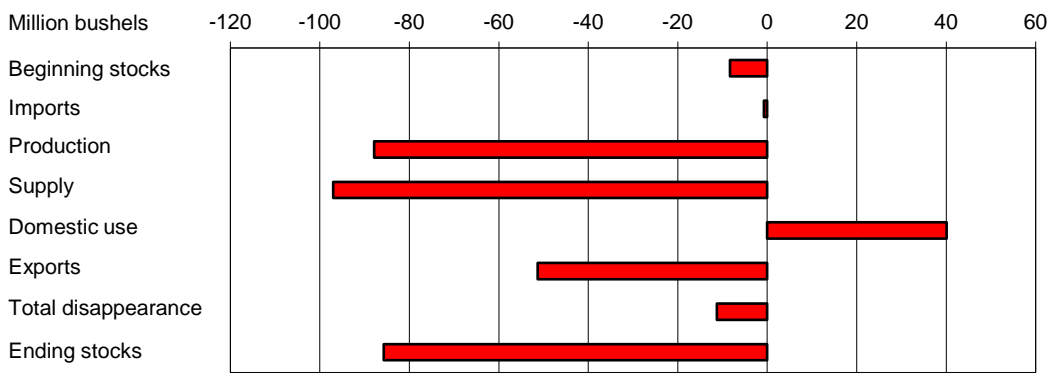
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 7
All wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



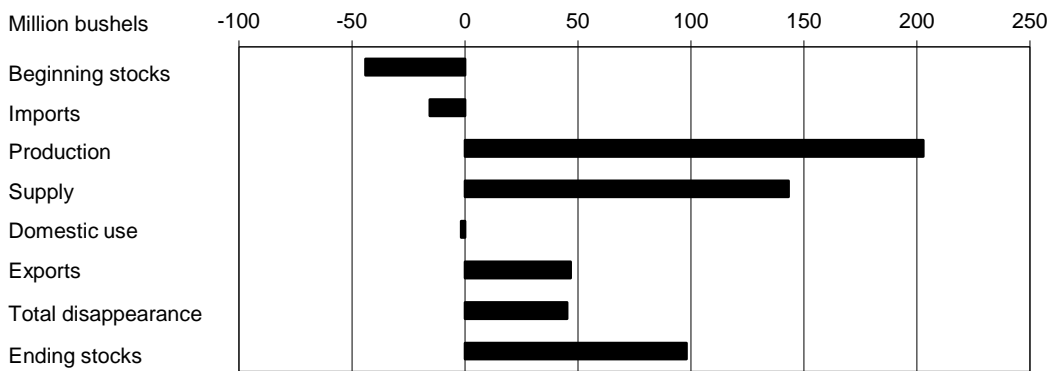
Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 8
Hard red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



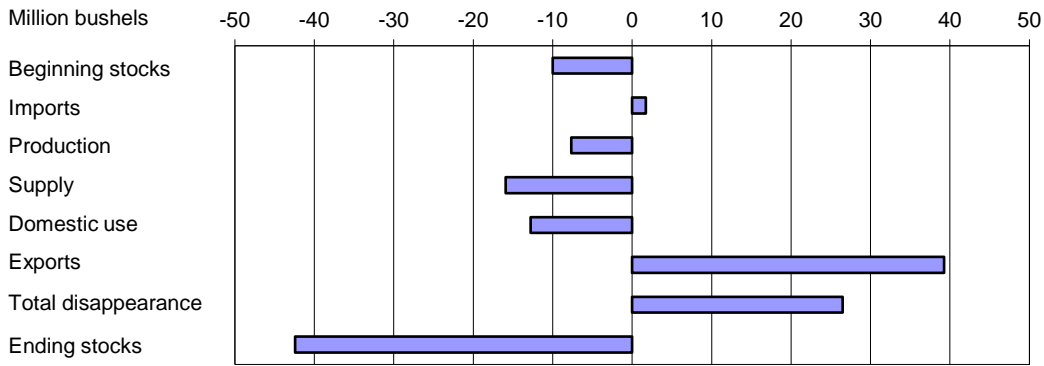
Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 9
Hard red spring wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



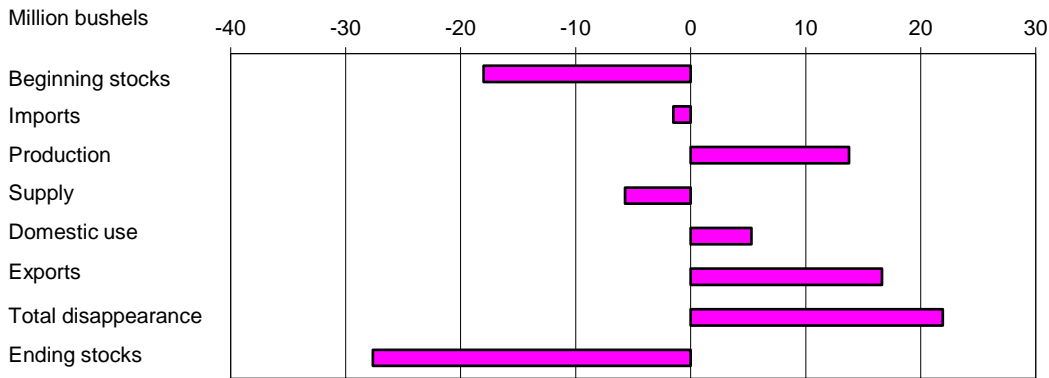
Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 10
Soft red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



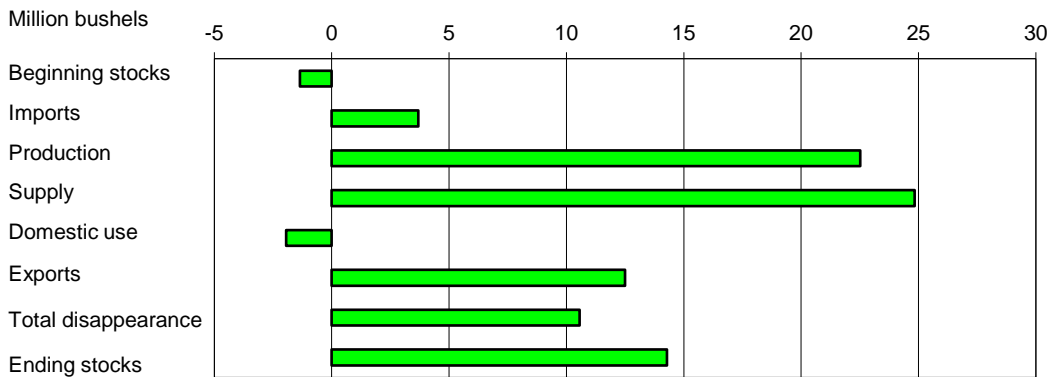
Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 11
White wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 12
Durum: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Table 1--Wheat: U.S. market year supply and disappearance, 3/12/2019

Item and unit		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Area:								
Planted	Million acres	55.3	56.2	56.8	55.0	50.1	46.1	47.8
Harvested	Million acres	48.8	45.3	46.4	47.3	43.8	37.6	39.6
Yield	Bushels per acre	46.2	47.1	43.7	43.6	52.7	46.4	47.6
Supply:								
Beginning stocks	Million bushels	742.6	717.9	590.3	752.4	975.6	1,180.6	1,098.9
Production	Million bushels	2,252.3	2,135.0	2,026.3	2,061.9	2,308.7	1,740.9	1,884.5
Imports ¹	Million bushels	124.3	172.5	151.2	112.8	118.0	157.4	145.0
Total supply	Million bushels	3,119.2	3,025.3	2,767.8	2,927.1	3,402.3	3,078.9	3,128.3
Disappearance:								
Food use	Million bushels	950.8	955.1	958.3	957.1	949.0	964.4	965.0
Seed use	Million bushels	73.1	73.7	79.4	67.2	61.3	63.4	63.0
Feed and residual use	Million bushels	365.3	230.1	113.4	149.5	160.5	51.2	80.0
Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,389.3	1,258.8	1,151.1	1,173.8	1,170.8	1,079.0	1,108.0
Exports ¹	Million bushels	1,012.1	1,176.2	864.3	777.8	1,050.9	901.1	965.0
Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,401.4	2,435.1	2,015.4	1,951.5	2,221.7	1,980.1	2,073.0
Ending stocks	Million bushels	717.9	590.3	752.4	975.6	1,180.6	1,098.9	1,055.3
CCC inventory	Million bushels					.0		
Stocks-to-use ratio		29.9	24.2	37.3	50.0	53.1	55.5	50.9
Loan rate	Dollars per bushel	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94
Contract/direct payment rate	Dollars per bushel	73.70	72.80	56.40	56.40	56.50	56.50	56.50
Farm price ²	Dollars per bushel	7.77	6.87	5.99	4.89	3.89	4.72	5.10-5.20
Market value of production	Million dollars	17,383	14,604	11,915	10,203	8,981	8,217	9,705

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

² U.S. season-average price based on monthly prices weighted by monthly marketings. Prices do not include an allowance for loans outstanding and Government purchases.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* and supporting materials.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 2--Wheat by class: U.S. market year supply and disappearance, 3/12/2019

Market year, item, and unit			All wheat	Hard red winter ¹	Hard red spring ¹	Soft red winter ¹	White ¹	Durum
2017/18	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	46.05	23.43	10.51	5.76	4.05	2.31
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	37.56	17.64	9.65	4.33	3.83	2.11
	Yield	Bushels per acre	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	1,180.60	589.30	235.00	215.00	105.00	36.30
	Production	Million bushels	1,740.91	750.13	384.19	293.22	258.59	54.78
	Imports ²	Million bushels	157.43	6.75	87.59	4.28	7.50	51.31
	Total supply	Million bushels	3,078.94	1,346.19	706.78	512.50	371.08	142.39
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	964.39	391.71	254.00	154.00	85.00	79.68
	Seed use	Million bushels	63.35	25.58	17.98	11.58	5.26	2.96
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	51.22	-23.36	15.62	51.18	.47	7.31
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,078.95	393.93	287.60	216.77	90.72	89.94
	Exports ²	Million bushels	901.10	371.31	228.18	90.74	193.36	17.51
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	1,980.05	765.24	515.78	307.50	284.08	107.44
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	1,098.89	580.94	191.00	205.00	87.00	34.95
2018/19	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	47.80	22.92	12.69	6.08	4.05	2.07
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	39.61	16.95	12.40	4.47	3.82	1.97
	Yield	Bushels per acre	47.58	39.08	47.33	63.90	71.32	39.29
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	1,098.89	580.94	191.00	205.00	87.00	34.95
	Production	Million bushels	1,884.46	662.25	587.01	285.56	272.36	77.29
	Imports ²	Million bushels	145.00	6.00	72.00	6.00	6.00	55.00
	Total supply	Million bushels	3,128.35	1,249.19	850.01	496.56	365.36	167.23
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	965.00	389.00	258.00	153.00	85.00	80.00
	Seed use	Million bushels	63.00	25.00	18.00	11.00	6.00	3.00
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	80.00	20.00	10.00	40.00	5.00	5.00
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,108.00	434.00	286.00	204.00	96.00	88.00
	Exports ²	Million bushels	965.00	320.00	275.00	130.00	210.00	30.00
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,073.00	754.00	561.00	334.00	306.00	118.00
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	1,055.35	495.19	289.01	162.56	59.36	49.23

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Area and yield data are unpublished National Agricultural Statistics Service data. Supply and disappearance data, except production, are approximations.

² Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production* and unpublished data; and USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* and supporting materials.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 3--Wheat: U.S. quarterly supply and disappearance (million bushels), 3/12/2019

Market year and quarter		Production	Imports ¹	Total supply	Food use	Seed use	Feed and residual use	Exports ¹	Ending stocks
2010/11	Jun-Aug	2,163	27	3,166	235	1	215	265	2,450
	Sep-Nov		24	2,473	242	51	-63	311	1,933
	Dec-Feb		23	1,956	221	1		308	1,425
	Mar-May		22	1,448	228	16	-67	407	863
	Mkt. year	2,163	97	3,236	926	71	85	1,291	863
2011/12	Jun-Aug	1,993	21	2,877	230	5	201	295	2,147
	Sep-Nov		32	2,179	244	51	-16	238	1,663
	Dec-Feb		30	1,693	231	1	44	217	1,199
	Mar-May		30	1,229	236	19	-70	301	743
	Mkt. year	1,993	113	2,969	941	76	159	1,051	743
2012/13	Jun-Aug	2,252	26	3,020	238	1	403	264	2,115
	Sep-Nov		33	2,148	247	55	-22	198	1,671
	Dec-Feb		35	1,705	229	1	5	235	1,235
	Mar-May		31	1,266	238	15	-20	315	718
	Mkt. year	2,252	124	3,119	951	73	365	1,012	718
2013/14	Jun-Aug	2,135	36	2,889	235	4	422	358	1,870
	Sep-Nov		48	1,918	249	53	-168	309	1,475
	Dec-Feb		42	1,517	231	2	-1	228	1,057
	Mar-May		47	1,104	240	15	-24	282	590
	Mkt. year	2,135	172	3,025	955	74	230	1,176	590
2014/15	Jun-Aug	2,026	44	2,661	239	6	256	253	1,907
	Sep-Nov		35	1,942	248	49	-93	208	1,530
	Dec-Feb		37	1,566	231	2	8	185	1,140
	Mar-May		36	1,176	240	22	-58	219	752
	Mkt. year	2,026	151	2,768	958	79	113	864	752
2015/16	Jun-Aug	2,062	27	2,841	240	1	298	205	2,097
	Sep-Nov		27	2,124	249	44	-107	192	1,746
	Dec-Feb		34	1,780	230	2	2	175	1,372
	Mar-May		25	1,397	239	20	-43	205	976
	Mkt. year	2,062	113	2,927	957	67	149	778	976
2016/17	Jun-Aug	2,309	33	3,317	238	1	266	268	2,545
	Sep-Nov		29	2,575	245	41	-30	239	2,079
	Dec-Feb		25	2,104	228	1	-13	229	1,659
	Mar-May		31	1,690	238	19	-62	315	1,181
	Mkt. year	2,309	118	3,402	949	61	160	1,051	1,181
2017/18	Jun-Aug	1,741	42	2,964	239	1	165	292	2,267
	Sep-Nov		36	2,303	251	40	-55	194	1,874
	Dec-Feb		37	1,911	233	2	-14	195	1,495
	Mar-May		42	1,537	242	21	-45	221	1,099
	Mkt. year	1,741	157	3,079	964	63	51	901	1,099
2018/19	Jun-Aug	1,884	42	3,025	239	2	190	203	2,390
	Sep-Nov		31	2,420	247	37	-68	206	1,999
	Mkt. year	1,884	145	3,128	965	63	80	965	1,055

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* and supporting materials.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 4--Wheat: Monthly food disappearance estimates (1,000 grain-equivalent bushels), 3/12/2019

Mkt year and month ¹	Wheat ground for flour	+	Food imports ²	+	Nonmilled food use ³	-	Food exports ²	=	Food use ⁴
2016/17	Jun	73,149		2,933		2,000		2,150	75,932
	Jul	74,237		2,637		2,000		1,666	77,208
	Aug	81,136		3,198		2,000		1,855	84,479
	Sep	78,018		2,533		2,000		2,142	80,409
	Oct	81,469		2,966		2,000		2,325	84,109
	Nov	77,978		3,189		2,000		2,201	80,967
	Dec	73,195		2,860		2,000		1,862	76,192
	Jan	73,561		2,858		2,000		2,026	76,393
	Feb	72,977		2,296		2,000		1,974	75,299
	Mar	77,425		2,830		2,000		1,803	80,452
	Apr	74,812		2,822		2,000		1,548	78,085
	May	76,492		2,809		2,000		1,973	79,328
2017/18	Jun	73,183		3,242		2,000		1,849	76,576
	Jul	74,520		2,964		2,000		1,794	77,689
	Aug	81,444		3,148		2,000		2,088	84,505
	Sep	78,315		2,620		2,000		1,462	81,473
	Oct	82,325		3,239		2,000		1,167	86,397
	Nov	78,798		3,218		2,000		1,301	82,714
	Dec	73,964		2,934		2,000		1,569	77,329
	Jan	74,607		3,075		2,000		1,423	78,259
	Feb	74,014		2,948		2,000		1,589	77,374
	Mar	78,526		3,197		2,000		1,571	82,152
	Apr	75,525		3,259		2,000		1,432	79,351
	May	77,221		3,087		2,000		1,742	80,566
2018/19	Jun	73,881		2,921		2,000		1,689	77,113
	Jul	74,093		2,968		2,000		1,346	77,716
	Aug	80,978		3,103		2,000		1,584	84,497
	Sep	77,867		2,626		2,000		1,675	80,818
	Oct	81,125		3,361		2,000		1,779	84,707
	Nov	77,650		3,060		2,000		1,602	81,108
Dec	72,886		3,212		2,000		1,664	76,434	

¹ Current year is preliminary. Previous year is preliminary through August of current year, estimated afterwards.

² Food imports and exports used to calculate total food use. Includes all categories of wheat flour, semolina, bulgur, and couscous and selected categories of pasta.

³ Wheat prepared for food use by processes other than milling.

⁴ Estimated food use equals wheat ground for flour plus food imports plus nonmilled food use minus food exports. See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Wheat/wheatfooduse.htm> for more information.

Source: Data through the 2nd quarter of 2011 was calculated using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census' Flour Milling Products (MQ311A) and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis' Foreign Trade Statistics. Subsequent flour milling calculations are based on data from the North American Millers Association.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 5--Wheat: National average price received by farmers (dollars per bushel) , 3/12/2019

Month	All wheat		Winter		Durum		Other spring	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
June	4.37	5.17	4.11	5.05	6.69	6.33	5.35	5.66
July	4.77	5.00	4.56	4.92	6.30	5.79	6.08	5.41
August	4.84	5.30	4.27	5.23	6.89	5.05	5.86	5.40
September	4.65	5.15	4.11	5.14	6.31	5.00	5.62	5.16
October	4.64	5.22	4.17	5.21	6.41	4.91	5.56	5.26
November	4.72	5.23	4.07	5.20	6.55	4.72	5.78	5.33
December	4.50	5.28	3.89	5.24	6.25	4.77	5.62	5.38
January	4.65	5.28	4.15	5.25	6.05	4.86	5.72	5.37
February	4.92		4.63		6.19		5.66	
March	5.10		4.73		5.66		5.74	
April	5.28		4.90		5.41		5.78	
May	5.39		5.05		6.02		5.84	

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Table 6--Wheat: National average prices received by farmers by class (dollars per bushel), 3/12/2019

Month	Hard red winter		Soft red winter		Hard red spring		White	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
June	4.00	5.12	4.50	4.80	5.41	5.71	4.30	4.89
July	4.46	4.90	4.85	4.85	6.16	5.43	4.77	5.30
August	4.10	5.24	4.49	5.15	6.06	5.43	4.43	5.23
September	3.82	5.10	4.33	4.79	5.75	5.16	4.55	5.21
October	3.81	5.06	4.48	5.10	5.73	5.25	4.60	5.39
November	3.84	4.99	4.31	5.01	5.89	5.33	4.58	5.48
December	3.66	5.11	4.45	5.23	5.72	5.38	4.46	5.42
January	3.91	5.03	4.74	5.27	5.84	5.36	4.69	5.53
February	4.65		4.68		5.77		4.58	
March	4.71		4.86		5.84		4.74	
April	4.83		4.92		5.85		5.02	
May	5.05		5.07		5.90		5.00	

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 7--Wheat: Average cash grain bids at principal markets, 3/12/2019

Month	No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (13% protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Texas Gulf, TX ¹ (dollars per metric ton)	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
June	5.24	6.35	6.65	6.79	4.53	5.58	189.60	213.85
July	5.65	6.20	7.22	6.66	5.12	5.24	203.74	214.58
August	4.80	6.61	6.28	6.86	4.22	6.25	171.41	230.75
September	5.07	6.03	6.52	6.18	4.81	5.93	178.76	212.93
October	5.11	6.11	6.24	6.26	5.03	6.14	175.82	213.66
November	5.30	6.18	6.84	6.38	4.96	6.14	179.49	203.56
December	5.38	6.36	6.72	6.58	4.84	6.44	183.90	211.09
January	5.73	6.26	6.94	6.38	5.03	6.41	192.17	209.62
February	5.93	6.02	6.89	6.16	5.41	6.21	--	218.63
March	6.05	--	6.70	--	5.52	--	--	--
April	6.09	--	6.67	--	5.64	--	213.48	--
May	6.56	--	7.03	--	5.93	--	--	--
Month	No. 1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard amber durum Minneapolis, MN (dollars per bushel)	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
June	--	--	--	--	7.50	6.98	--	--
July	--	--	--	--	8.77	6.58	--	--
August	--	--	--	--	7.74	7.15	--	--
September	--	--	--	--	7.40	6.62	--	--
October	--	--	--	--	7.39	6.76	--	--
November	--	--	--	--	7.52	6.82	--	--
December	--	--	--	--	7.38	6.82	--	--
January	--	--	--	--	7.42	6.67	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	7.29	6.70	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	7.40	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	7.06	--	--	--
May	--	--	--	--	7.51	--	--	--
Month	No. 2 soft red winter St. Louis, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 2 soft red winter Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 2 soft red winter Toledo, OH (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 soft white Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
June	4.66	5.16	4.41	4.92	4.44	5.15	4.91	5.92
July	5.15	5.21	4.96	4.98	4.94	5.20	5.40	5.88
August	4.31	5.34	4.12	5.32	4.20	5.48	5.13	6.18
September	4.30	4.79	4.23	4.81	4.27	5.04	5.19	5.98
October	4.16	4.94	4.22	4.88	4.24	5.04	5.30	6.11
November	4.34	5.18	4.13	5.01	4.18	5.00	5.26	6.25
December	4.28	5.48	4.12	5.24	4.04	5.14	5.22	6.23
January	4.38	5.48	4.27	5.20	4.22	5.12	5.30	6.29
February	4.65	5.32	4.55	4.97	4.54	4.95	5.39	6.36
March	4.76	--	4.69	--	4.75	--	5.64	--
April	4.75	--	4.74	--	4.85	--	5.63	--
May	5.19	--	5.08	--	5.24	--	5.79	--

-- = Not available or no quote.

¹ Free on board.Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *State Grain Reports*.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Table 8--Wheat: U.S. exports and imports for last 6 months (1,000 bushels), 3/12/2019

Item		Jul 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2018	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018
Exports	All wheat grain	65,187	76,846	67,192	70,050	63,452	82,208
	All wheat flour ¹	940	1,097	1,269	1,373	1,188	1,249
	All wheat products ²	452	559	435	432	476	481
	Total all wheat	66,580	78,501	68,896	71,856	65,117	83,937
Imports	All wheat grain	10,363	10,701	7,719	7,455	6,292	9,429
	All wheat flour ¹	1,447	1,452	1,425	1,723	1,456	1,336
	All wheat products ²	1,541	1,672	1,243	1,701	1,650	1,908
	Total all wheat	13,352	13,825	10,387	10,880	9,398	12,674

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Expressed in grain-equivalent bushels. Includes meal, groats, and durum.

² Expressed in grain-equivalent bushels. Includes bulgur, couscous, and selected categories of pasta.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics; and ERS calculations using Census trade statistics.

Date run: 3/11/2019

Contacts & Additional Information

Contacts

Jennifer K Bond, (coordinator, domestic)

Phone

(202) 694-5326

E-mail

jkbond@ers.usda.gov

Olga Liefert, (international)

(202) 694-5326

oliefert@ers.usda.gov

Subscribe to ERS e-mail notification service at [https://www Telephone.ers.usda.gov/subscribe-to-ers-e-newsletters/](https://www.Telephone.ers.usda.gov/subscribe-to-ers-e-newsletters/) to receive timely notification of newsletter availability.

Data

Tables from the *Wheat Yearbook* are available in the Wheat Data Topics at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/wheat-data/>. They contain the latest data and historical information on the production, use, prices, imports, and exports of sugar and sweeteners.

Related Websites

Wheat Outlook <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details/?pubid=87376>

WASDE <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documented=1194>

Wheat Topics <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/crops/wheat/>

E-mail Notification

Readers of ERS outlook reports have two ways they can receive an e-mail notice about release of reports and associated data.

- Receive timely notification (soon after the report is posted on the web) via USDA's Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (which is housed at Cornell University's Mann Library). Go to <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/aboutEmailService.do> and follow the instructions to receive e-mail notices about ERS, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board products.
- Receive weekly notification (on Friday afternoon) via the ERS website. Go to <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Updates/> and follow the instructions to receive notices about ERS outlook reports, *Amber Waves* magazine, and other reports and data products on specific topics. ERS also offers RSS (really simple syndication) feeds for all ERS products. Go to <http://www.ers.usda.gov/rss/> to get started.