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World Food Day 2008

In 2007, households spent an estimated €560.8 million on food.

World Food Day is celebrated worldwide every year on 16 October. To observe this event the National Statistics Office has, for the past few years, published a set of statistics on the production and consumption of food in Malta. This year, the theme devised by the United Nations to mark the Day is: World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy.

Table 1 presents estimated consumption expenditure on food incurred by private households these past five completed years. In 2007, these spent €560.8 million on foodstuffs. Major items included fruit and vegetables - €125.5 million; bread and cereals - €123.6 million; meat - €115.5 million; dairy products - nearly €80 million; and fish - €43.3 million. Last year, food consumption expenditure was estimated at 15.0 per cent of total private expenditure by final consumers in the local market. In the previous year, this share had been estimated at 14.3 per cent.

In 2007, Maltese farmers took €20.2 million worth of vegetables and fruit to the organised markets, from the perspective of producer value. Of this, 14.6 per cent was in respect of the tomato crop. Increases in producer value were recorded for potatoes, onions and water melons. For potatoes, producers acquired 42 per cent more than in the preceding year while the onion crop yielded 57 per cent more value than in 2006. A downturn of 56 per cent was recorded in the producer value of peaches when compared to 2006. More details are presented in Tables 2 and 3.

The main fish species taken to the fish market in 2007 included swordfish, dorado, blue fin tuna and shrimp, which contributed to a total producer value of nearly €5 million, as can be seen in Table 4. Pork and beef production amounted to 9.4 thousand tonnes, dominated by the production of the former and supplemented by 4.6 thousand tonnes of broiler meat. In addition, producers sold 39.4 million litres of milk (Tables 5 and 6).

Imported goods constituted a major source of food for Malta in 2007, with food imports being estimated at €427.4 million. Meat, fish, cereals and prepared foods dominated imports of edible items, as seen in Table 7. In the same year, food inflation measured by means of the 12-month moving average rate was 4.35 per cent, while the annual rate as at December 2007 was 8.05 per cent (Table 9). Indices of food prices by item can be seen in Table 8 ■

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Table 1. Final consumption expenditure of households on food in the domestic market

Value € 000s

Item	Food type	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1.1	FOOD:					
01.1.1	Bread and cereals	106,273	105,899	107,519	109,845	123,590
01.1.2	Meat	110,820	110,835	111,052	114,734	115,544
01.1.3	Fish	34,654	31,374	34,092	35,167	43,290
01.1.4	Milk, cheese and eggs	73,340	75,003	72,194	74,339	79,893
01.1.5	Oils and Fats	14,095	15,053	14,403	15,019	15,337
01.1.6	Fruit	38,691	42,302	47,738	42,097	50,264
01.1.7	Vegetables	63,047	62,663	62,758	67,703	75,278
01.1.8	Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	30,892	33,577	34,104	37,700	39,625
01.1.9	Food products	19,264	15,425	16,645	17,428	18,026
	Food category of expenditure incurred by households in the local market	491,076	492,131	500,505	514,032	560,847
	Private final expenditure in the domestic market	3,286,928	3,400,364	3,512,053	3,582,712	3,732,831

Note: Data are in line with News Releases 96/2007, 159/2008.

Source: National Accounts.

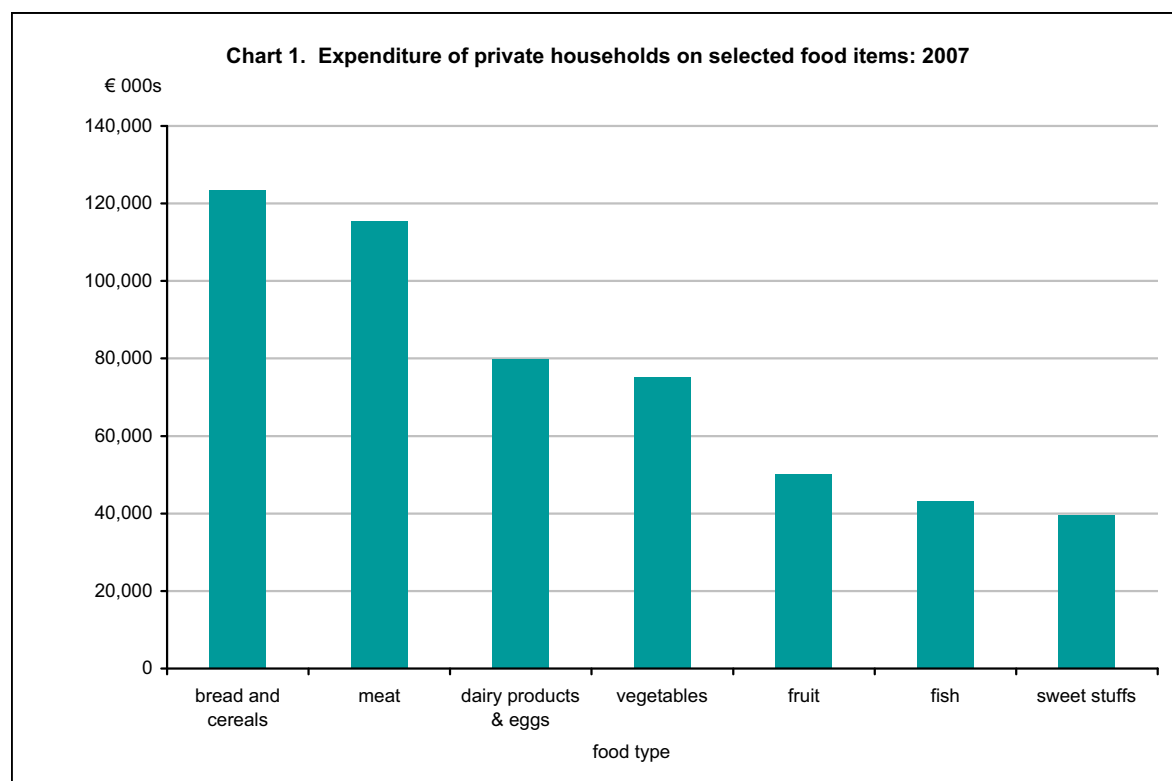


Table 2. Local production of selected vegetables passing through organised markets

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total vegetable produce:					
Producer value €	15,709,510	14,448,563	14,442,647	15,592,007	17,875,073
Quantity kgs	38,057,966	41,911,496	40,439,787	44,811,385	44,587,700
<i>of which:</i>					
Tomatoes:					
Producer value €	2,845,685	2,195,949	2,648,851	2,704,277	2,943,523
Quantity kgs	4,234,834	5,023,442	4,529,637	5,764,162	5,818,087
Potatoes:					
Producer value €	1,469,327	1,325,831	1,136,331	1,500,516	2,125,425
Quantity kgs	5,017,275	6,054,162	4,978,170	5,827,579	5,899,524
Vegetable marrows:					
Producer value €	1,988,981	1,627,824	2,051,955	2,062,488	1,941,904
Quantity kgs	2,351,286	3,046,122	2,818,575	3,374,109	3,269,622
Onions:					
Producer value €	748,651	932,548	745,557	880,002	1,385,127
Quantity kgs	2,607,580	2,254,345	2,427,946	3,288,047	2,726,808
Water melons:					
Producer value €	817,970	962,979	854,802	946,998	1,162,617
Quantity kgs	4,289,986	4,400,273	4,071,457	4,079,350	3,912,392
Sugar melons:					
Producer value €	800,378	1,029,370	613,900	987,794	964,761
Quantity kgs	3,213,861	2,870,737	2,985,271	2,562,875	2,601,313
Lettuce:					
Producer value €	763,711	627,883	742,448	830,548	920,409
Quantity kgs	2,128,979	2,237,281	2,332,769	2,813,973	2,931,302
Cauliflowers:					
Producer value €	922,933	873,738	738,931	812,912	777,066
Quantity kgs	2,446,121	3,186,057	3,770,838	3,722,770	4,030,139
Other vegetables:					
Producer value €	5,351,873	4,872,442	4,909,873	4,866,473	5,654,240
Quantity kgs	11,768,045	12,839,077	12,525,125	13,378,520	13,398,514

Note 1: Although sugar and water melons are fruit, these fall in the vegetables category for statistical purposes.

Note 2: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Agriculture statistics.

Table 3. Local production of selected fruit items passing through organised markets

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total fruit produce:					
Producer value €	2,514,409	2,268,687	2,285,209	2,913,108	2,286,769
Quantity kgs	2,113,016	2,602,135	2,722,514	3,518,219	2,195,438
<i>of which:</i>					
Strawberries:					
Producer value €	612,574	573,275	716,730	762,920	840,256
Quantity kgs	261,177	268,816	315,954	308,036	327,490
Peaches:					
Producer value €	576,587	667,729	465,947	776,228	339,236
Quantity kgs	380,117	761,252	474,258	1,074,077	384,945
Sweet oranges:					
Producer value €	193,378	109,991	190,361	195,913	201,262
Quantity kgs	253,154	176,864	376,032	274,536	279,738
Grapes:					
Producer value €	257,463	276,066	216,392	276,617	198,967
Quantity kgs	256,479	476,853	323,644	594,611	252,759
Figs:					
Producer value €	134,090	138,784	136,226	178,360	127,046
Quantity kgs	155,566	131,842	217,584	197,494	74,121
Other fruit:					
Producer value €	740,321	502,842	559,553	723,068	580,001
Quantity kgs	806,525	786,508	1,015,044	1,069,467	876,386

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Agriculture statistics.

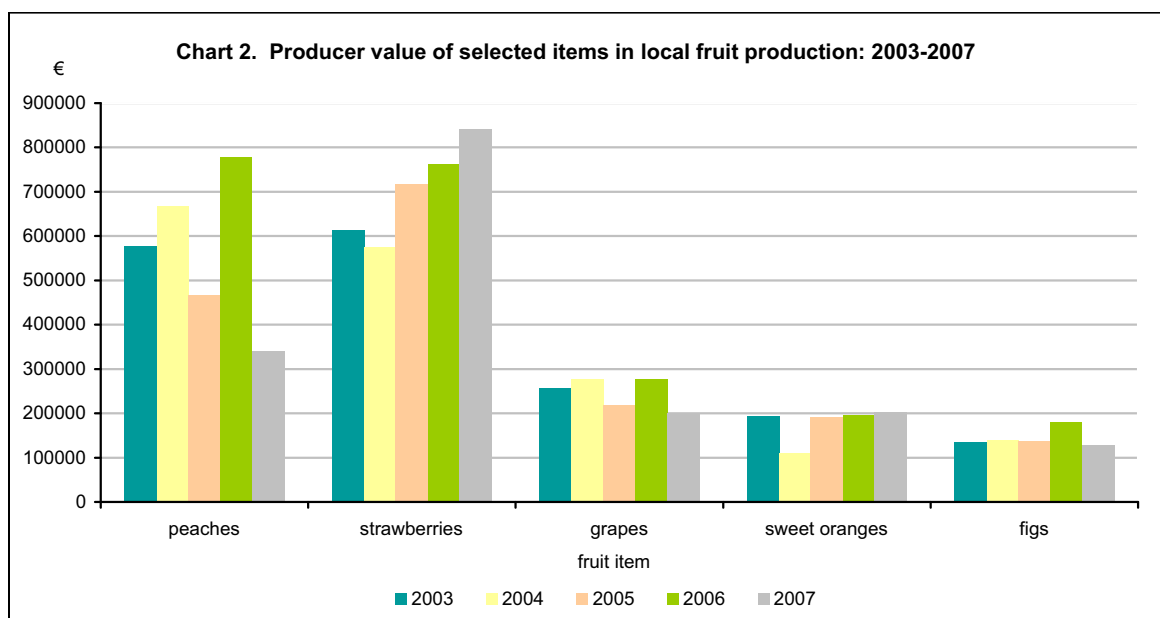


Table 4. Fish landings at the local fish market

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total fish landings at market:					
Producer value €	4,266,534	4,253,671	5,771,847	5,612,318	4,959,168
Quantity kgs	1,070,219	1,067,822	1,336,881	1,296,387	848,682
<i>of which:</i>					
Swordfish (<i>Pixxispad</i>):					
Producer value €	629,271	1,134,363	1,784,151	1,743,357	1,673,834
Quantity kgs	133,517	174,342	323,314	239,181	213,487
Dorado (<i>Lampuki</i>):					
Producer value €	899,099	781,307	844,414	875,106	805,285
Quantity kgs	507,081	472,700	447,095	559,098	264,269
Blue Fin tuna (<i>Tonn</i>):					
Producer value €	1,266,646	1,074,465	1,658,894	1,348,225	803,452
Quantity kgs	220,218	227,774	301,444	227,008	123,814
Shrimp (<i>Gambli</i>):					
Producer value €	612,895	461,686	425,551	482,006	424,945
Quantity kgs	36,753	26,179	30,146	32,123	26,587
Other species (<i>Speći ohrajn</i>):					
Producer value €	858,623	801,850	1,058,838	1,163,625	1,251,652
Quantity kgs	172,650	166,827	234,882	238,977	220,525

Source: Fisheries statistics.

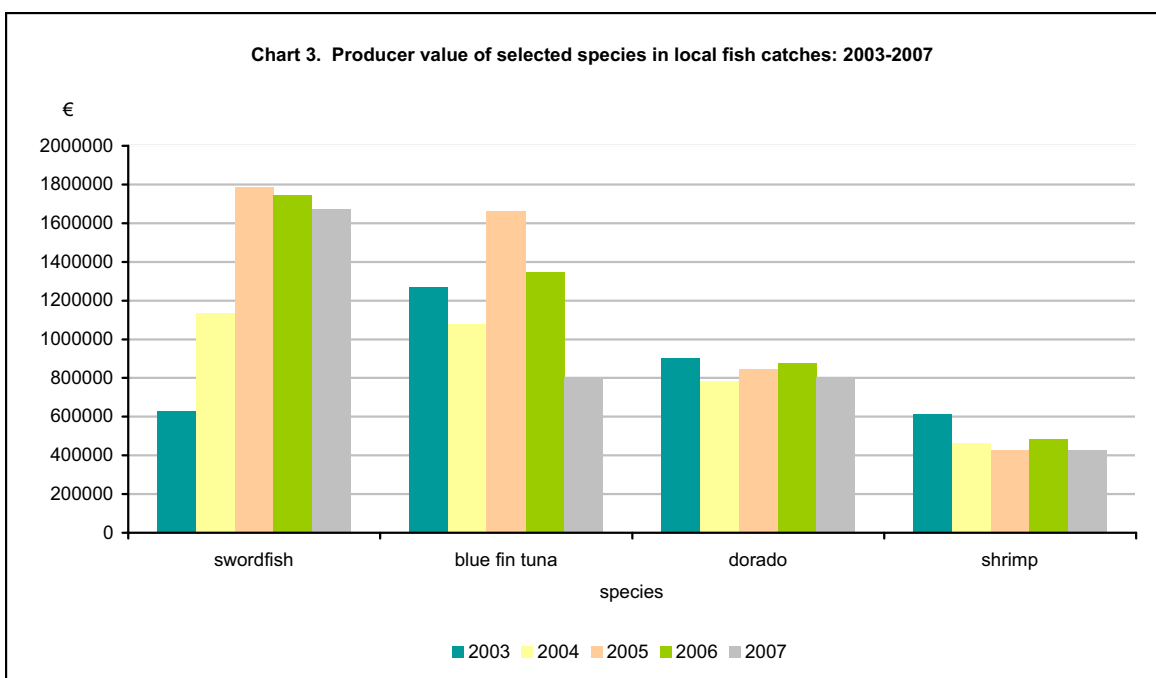


Table 5. Local production of meat

tonnes					
Type of meat	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Beef	1,408	1,290	1,390	1,398	1,386
Pork	9,822	8,470	8,889	8,218	8,018
Broilers	7,405	6,294	4,518	3,935	4,567

Source: Agriculture statistics.

Table 6. Local production of milk and eggs

Produce	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Milk producer sales ('000 litres)	38,854	39,924	40,266	40,049	39,410
Estimated egg production ('000 eggs)	98,355	99,600	103,222	117,500	123,200

Source: Agriculture statistics.

Table 7. Imports of food

Value €						
Item	Food type	2003	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*
1	Meat fresh, frozen or prepared	36,584,652	47,457,408	48,597,246	54,845,027	58,811,011
2	Milk, cheese and eggs	31,030,287	33,672,309	33,195,905	32,779,586	36,254,213
3	Fish fresh, frozen or prepared	24,716,776	32,493,945	34,794,171	46,899,759	90,014,680
4	Cereals and preparations	48,488,747	47,686,331	56,511,780	55,502,156	79,169,513
5	Fruit and vegetables	44,767,345	47,626,339	54,583,424	49,265,926	56,941,902
6	Sugar, jam, honey etc.	12,627,566	16,393,179	14,830,774	17,858,967	20,383,748
7	Oils and fats	9,796,236	11,267,897	10,360,022	11,551,650	12,987,323
8	Other food not elsewhere specified	67,615,099	64,652,762	66,553,414	67,258,146	72,861,533
		275,626,708	301,250,170	319,426,736	335,961,217	427,423,923

* Provisional

Note 1: Includes imports of live and frozen fish used in the aquaculture industry. See Methodological Note (Pg. 9) in respect of Table 7.

Note 2: Items are classified according to the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) as follows:

Item 1 is Division 01 of the SITC

Item 2 is Division 02 of the SITC

Item 3 is Division 03 of the SITC

Item 4 is Division 04 of the SITC

Item 5 is Division 05 of the SITC

Item 6 is Division 06 of the SITC

Item 7 is made up of Divisions 41,42,43 and part of 09 (091)

Item 8 is made up of Divisions 07,08, and part of 09 (098)

Source: International Trade statistics.

Table 8. Indices of food prices
December 2002=100

		Annual average 2005	Annual average 2006	Annual average 2007	December 2005	December 2006	December 2007
1	FOOD	104.32	106.41	111.03	104.37	107.39	116.03
1.001	Fresh bread and fresh pastry	113.34	113.70	116.98	113.48	114.43	123.20
1.002	Cereals	102.52	107.11	110.42	103.11	107.94	113.02
1.003	Flour, bakery products	110.06	118.83	127.53	114.83	120.72	138.56
1.004	Biscuits and rusks	93.49	95.50	101.42	93.07	98.69	105.86
1.005	Pasta	79.81	79.02	81.14	79.58	78.88	89.13
1.006	Beef/Pork	98.20	100.79	103.05	99.29	101.80	103.73
1.007	Frozen meat	114.25	124.11	127.69	118.03	127.05	129.78
1.008	Poultry and Rabbit meat	98.79	99.85	101.17	99.60	100.09	103.36
1.009	Prepared and processed meat	100.49	103.93	107.80	101.79	104.96	110.13
1.010	Fish, fresh or chilled	114.09	104.63	130.00	93.93	105.58	139.93
1.011	Prepared and preserved fish and seafood	92.32	93.91	94.74	92.29	94.58	97.33
1.012	Eggs	100.42	102.79	105.76	102.09	104.18	106.59
1.013	Milk and milk products	100.61	100.83	102.55	100.58	100.93	107.41
1.014	Cheese	106.37	109.22	114.79	107.85	109.19	128.41
1.015	Refined Oils	106.86	115.41	121.07	109.27	118.73	124.12
1.016	Margarine and butter	108.97	114.98	121.14	110.93	118.13	129.10
1.017	Fruits, fresh or chilled	115.61	120.83	128.12	118.93	128.28	133.52
1.018	Preserved and processed fruits	97.69	96.64	97.47	96.59	96.22	98.13
1.019	Ice-cream	106.62	108.34	110.68	107.35	109.47	111.71
1.020	Sugar	105.07	124.53	145.86	110.11	136.67	148.78
1.021	Chocolate	106.28	106.41	107.31	106.28	106.42	107.88
1.022	Unprocessed potatoes	85.13	96.16	114.23	103.07	118.67	115.41
1.023	Processed potatoes	100.98	103.82	111.81	101.71	107.47	115.82
1.024	Vegetables	129.23	127.71	130.34	119.79	117.70	160.00
1.025	Processed vegetables	89.97	93.21	94.96	90.75	93.87	97.16
1.026	Other foods	100.56	103.94	106.23	102.11	105.04	107.21
1.027	Tea	97.50	100.11	104.41	98.33	101.33	109.39
1.028	Coffee	98.04	102.07	103.38	97.84	103.44	102.94
1.029	Cocoa	115.45	118.18	120.36	116.67	118.50	124.83
1.030	Served meals and food	109.25	110.94	116.75	109.38	111.19	118.84
1.031	Take-aways	107.96	109.93	116.13	108.27	109.67	118.78

Source: Consumer Price statistics.

Table 9. Price inflation by food type
December 2002=100

		12-month moving average rate 2006	Annual rate (Dec 2006)	12-month moving average rate 2007	Annual rate (Dec 2007)
1	FOOD	2.0%	2.9%	4.35%	8.05%
1.001	Fresh bread and fresh pastry	0.3%	0.8%	2.88%	7.66%
1.002	Cereals	4.5%	4.5%	3.09%	4.71%
1.003	Flour, bakery products	8.0%	4.9%	7.32%	14.78%
1.004	Biscuits and rusks	2.1%	5.7%	6.20%	7.27%
1.005	Pasta	-1.0%	-0.9%	2.69%	12.99%
1.006	Beef/Pork	2.6%	2.5%	2.24%	1.90%
1.007	Frozen meat	8.6%	7.1%	2.89%	2.15%
1.008	Poultry and Rabbit meat	1.1%	0.5%	1.31%	3.27%
1.009	Prepared and processed meat	3.4%	3.0%	3.72%	4.93%
1.010	Fish, fresh or chilled	-8.3%	11.0%	24.26%	32.53%
1.011	Prepared and preserved fish and seafood	1.7%	2.4%	0.88%	2.91%
1.012	Eggs	2.4%	2.0%	2.89%	2.31%
1.013	Milk and milk products	0.2%	0.3%	1.70%	6.42%
1.014	Cheese	2.7%	1.2%	5.10%	17.60%
1.015	Refined Oils	8.0%	8.0%	4.91%	4.54%
1.016	Margarine and butter	5.5%	6.1%	5.35%	9.29%
1.017	Fruits, fresh or chilled	4.5%	7.3%	6.04%	4.08%
1.018	Preserved and processed fruits	-1.1%	-0.4%	0.86%	1.99%
1.019	Ice-cream	1.6%	1.9%	2.16%	2.05%
1.020	Sugar	18.5%	19.4%	17.13%	8.86%
1.021	Chocolate	0.1%	0.1%	0.85%	1.37%
1.022	Unprocessed potatoes	13.0%	13.1%	18.79%	-2.75%
1.023	Processed potatoes	2.8%	5.4%	7.70%	7.77%
1.024	Vegetables	-1.2%	-1.8%	2.06%	35.94%
1.025	Processed vegetables	3.6%	3.3%	1.87%	3.50%
1.026	Other foods	3.4%	2.8%	2.21%	2.07%
1.027	Tea	2.7%	3.0%	4.30%	7.95%
1.028	Coffee	4.1%	5.4%	1.28%	-0.48%
1.029	Cocoa	2.4%	1.5%	1.85%	5.34%
1.030	Served meals and food	1.5%	1.6%	5.24%	6.88%
1.031	Take-aways	1.8%	1.3%	5.64%	8.31%

Source: Consumer Price statistics.

Methodological Notes:

Table 1: The classification used is the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose Adapted to the Needs of Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices. The short title of this classification is: COICOP/HICP 2000. This classification may be viewed in full at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_NOM&StrGroupCode=CLASSIFIC&StrLanguageCode=EN.

Tables 2 and 3: Data on vegetable and fruit production are published by NSO every quarter. The information is collected from the four official markets, namely: Pitkali Malta; Pitkali Gozo; Co-op Malta; Co-op Gozo. While the information is compiled on a daily basis, it is forwarded to NSO at monthly intervals.

Table 4: Data on fish landings are published by NSO every quarter. Information on fish landings is acquired from the daily returns of sales submitted by middlemen at the fish market.

Tables 5 and 6: Data on meat production are published by NSO every quarter. The source for monthly statistics on slaughtering of cattle and pigs is the Food and Veterinary Regulation Division of the Ministry for Rural Affairs and the Environment, while private slaughterhouses provide statistics on the production of broiler meat. Malta Dairy Products (MDP) submit information on milk sales, while egg sales are estimated by NSO on the basis of the number of laying hens established through the regular surveys carried out by the Office.

Table 7: The classification used is the Standard International Trade Classification, Third Revision. The short title of this classification is: SITC Rev. 3. This classification may be viewed in full at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_NOM&StrGroupCode=CLASSIFIC&StrLanguageCode=EN.

According to this classification, food items are classified in the food category irrespective of whether this food is meant for human consumption or otherwise.

Table 8: The Retail Price Index shows the average change in the price of a general “basket” of goods and services bought by final consumers. Each item in the index is weighted in proportion to its relative importance in total consumption expenditure.

Table 9: The 12-month moving average rate of inflation compares retail price indices of the immediate past 12 months with the indices of the previous 12 months. Hence, the 12-month average rate measures inflation over a relatively long period when compared to the monthly inflation rate and the annual inflation rate, the latter two rates being more subject to transient changes in prices.