

# Producer price indices of agricultural products in the Slovak Republic

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<b>2 Metadata update</b>	
<b>2.1 Date of last update</b>	09.11.2023
<b>3 Statistical presentation</b>	
<b>3.1 Data description</b>	
<p>Price index of agricultural products. The monthly report contains information about prices of selected types of agricultural products paid to the producer. Prices of agricultural products are monitored without VAT.</p>	
<b>3.2 Classification system</b>	
<p>Statistical classification of economic activities (SK NACE Rev. 2) Statistical classification of products by activity — SK CPA 2015 division 01 and 03</p>	
<b>3.3 Sector coverage</b>	
<p>The price index of agricultural products contains information about development of the price level for 85 main products agricultural products (plant, animal, fruit and vegetables) and fish included into Divisions 01 and 03 of the CPA 2015.</p>	
<b>3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions</b>	
<p>The price index of agricultural products is calculated from the determined prices of products intended for further processing or sale. The prices of agricultural products are determined at the selected producers when selling to their first customer (the so-called primary market) without value added tax. Average prices data for plant and animal products are average of selected qualities (without non-standard) and for fruits and vegetables only for 1st quality.</p>	

### 3.5 Statistical unit

Legal entities and natural persons, regardless of the number of employees, which are kept in the register organizations of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic, with the main activity according to Statistics classification of economic activities established by a special regulation: <sup>1)</sup>  
01 - Cultivation of crops and animal husbandry, hunting and related services  
03 - Fishing and aquaculture

1) Decree of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic no. 306/2007 Coll., by which it is issued Statistical classification of economic activities.

### 3.6 Statistical population

Entities that are residents of the Slovak Republic have a reporting obligation - this means that the reporting unit reports data for business activities carried out on the territory of the Slovak Republic, but also for activities carried out abroad for which it incurs tax and other levies in relation to the Slovak Republic obligations in accordance with applicable legislation.  
A selected set of agricultural producers (approx. 500) regardless of the form of ownership (cooperative, state and private organizations).

### 3.7 Reference area

Data collection applies to all the regions of Slovak Republic.

### 3.8 Time coverage

1993 — 2022

In the Datacube database, data are available from the reference year 2020.

### 3.9 Base period

The base period is 2015 = 100, implemented from January 2018.

## 4 Unit of measure

Index, Euro.

## 5 Reference period

A month.

## 6 Institutional mandate

### 6.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The reporting obligation to submit statistical questionnaires is laid down in Act no. 540/2001 Coll. on state statistics as amended (§ 18, paragraph 3) and cannot be refused (§ 18, paragraph 8). The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is responsible for the protection of confidential data obtained and guarantees their use exclusively for statistical purposes. The statistical surveys are part of the [Program of State Statistical Surveys](#) issued for a three-year period in the Collection of Laws of the Slovak Republic.

## 6.2 Data sharing

Statistical information from SOSR's surveys is a source for fulfilling the obligations of the Slovak Republic resulting from the requirements of the European statistical system, the requirements of international institutions, to ensure the needs of the information system of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Statistical information are regularly provided to international and national organizations (National Bank of SR) or irregularly to other users.

## 7 Confidentiality

### 7.1 Confidentiality - policy

The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is responsible for the protection of confidential data obtained and guarantees their use exclusively for statistical purposes. In accordance with the Act on State Statistics No. 540/2001 Coll. §2g and §30, the SOSR may not publish confidential statistical data, but only information resulting from the aggregation of confidential statistical data, which does not allow direct or indirect identification of the reporting unit. The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic has introduced principles and procedures for the protection of confidential data in internal directives and instructions. The directive on the protection of confidential statistical data regulates the method of management and implementation of activities related to ensuring the protection of confidential statistical data in the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. The internal methodological instruction of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic regulates specific methods and parameter values used in the protection of confidential statistical data of individual statistical surveys and data sets.

### 7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

SOSR ensures the protection of confidential statistical data in disseminated data. SOSR applies in all cases the rule of minimum frequency for  $n = 3$  and dominance of 90%. Values in sensitive cells are marked with a flag ("D"), as are others values in other cells that are not sensitive and are chosen to replace as little as possible the number of cells in order to prevent an accurate calculation of the values of sensitive cells. From the shape and format of the published table makes it unclear which of the obscured cells are sensitive and which are not.

## 8 Release policy

### 8.1 Release calendar

The First Release Calendar contains the timetable for the first publication of selected indicators in the next 4 months. The calendar is updated monthly. The Catalogue of Publications contains basic information about published publications, publication dates and language versions. All publications are available on the Internet portal of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. The edition program is available on the website of the SOSR.

### 8.2 Release calendar access

The First Release Calendar is available on the website of the SOSR here:

[First Release Calendar](#)

The SOSR's web portal and the online database Datacube of the SOSR are updated in accordance with the Principles of the policy of publication and provision of statistical information.

### 8.3 User access

Statistical information is published at 9:00 a.m. on the day indicated in the First Publication Calendar

available to all users.

DATAcube: <http://datacube.statistics.sk/>

The policy of dissemination of statistical information

<https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/services/infoservis/policy/>

Principles of publication and provision of statistical information

<https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/services/infoservis/principles/>

## 9 Frequency of dissemination

Monthly.

## 10 Accessibility and clarity

### 10.1 News release

10.1 Press releases

Published monthly as "Informative News" according to the calendar of first publication.

<https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/products/informationmessages/>

### 10.2 Publications

### 10.3 On-line database

Public database DATAcube

<http://datacube.statistics.sk/>

### 10.4 Micro-data access

Aggregated data are provided to users, microdata are not published.

### 10.5 Other

International and national organizations have also defined their own specific data requirements, which are provided mainly for the National Bank of Slovakia under the annually Framework agreement on mutual cooperation in the provision of statistical data and statistical information between the SOSR and the National Bank of Slovakia, ministries, associations and others.

### 10.6 Documentation on methodology

The metadata for the selected indicators are distributed in the SDDS structure. Distributing of metadata of others indicators will be solved by the implementation of the Methodological Directive for the preparation of harmonized metadata.

Metadata of statistical outputs are available independently in an electronic form.

The updating of metadata is carried out by the persons responsible for the respective topic after the change in methodology.

Metadata are updated in public databases according to methodological guidelines for the database DATACUBE.

Updating of metadata disseminated in databases, as well as metadata on the portal performs updates according to annual time tables.

The relevant documents are the Rules and principles of creating and updating the DATACUBE database.

The following are available on the website of the ŠÚ SR SR:

- information about price indices of agricultural products in "economic indicators development" including basic methodological notes;
- forms of statistical reports in the national version, including methodological notes;
- methodology (detailed descriptions of statistical indicators) in the national version.

Samples of statistical forms

Consumer prices and prices of production statistics

## 10.7 Quality documentation

Following internal project documentation exists for the compilation of statistical outputs:

- technical projects within the Integrated Statistical Information System called ISIS
- methodological guidelines for applying mathematical-statistical methods for statistical surveys
- methodological guidelines for quality indicators of statistical outputs and statistical processes.

## 11 Quality management

### 11.1 Quality assurance

The Quality policy is defined and publicly accessible in the Quality Declaration and Quality Policy documents. The Quality Declaration expresses the basic ideas and commitments of the President and top management of the SOSR for the Quality Policy as well as increasing efficiency and effectiveness of the integrated management system of the SOSR.

#### [Quality Declaration](#)

Quality policy is based on the mission of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic: to provide high quality and objective statistical products and services by keeping confidentiality of statistical data and by minimising burden on interested parties using effectively existing resources with the aim to support improvement of the information and intellectual capital of our customers. In this way we want to contribute to reduce risks and improve effectiveness in their decision making processes and so to support the sustainable development of the Slovak Republic as the part of EU.

#### [Quality policy](#)

The Quality manual describes the documented procedures of the quality system that are used for implementation and continuous improvement of the quality management system in SOSR. It contains a description of the quality management system and the fulfillment of requirements ISO 9001 standards. Application of the manual in practice ensures that all activities that have an impact on the quality of the products created are planned, managed, reviewed, evaluated and meet requirements.

#### [Quality manual](#)

The European Statistics Code of Practice is the basis of the common quality framework of the European Statistical System. It is a self-regulatory tool and it is based on 16 Principles covering the institutional environment, statistical processes and statistical outputs. A set of indicators of best practices and standards for each of the Principles provides guidelines and benchmarks for

reviewing the implementation of the Code of Practice, thus increasing transparency within the European Statistical System.

[European Statistics Code of Practice](#)

## 11.2 Quality assessment

Coverage, reference period, data collection, control and data processing are in line with the Eurostat methodological guidelines. The data collection process is conducted in the Integrated statistical information system called ISIS. SOSR creates technical projects of the statistical surveys describing data collection and its evaluation, including a description of statistical controls and algorithms within the integrated ISIS. The data collection process is ensured by the regional office in Trenčín during the phase of electronic data collection, ensure using statistical controls and algorithms the data collection process itself. Data validation is performed in the context of the data collection, processing and data validation process. A data comparison is done with previous periods. Statistics are available in the system to evaluate the quality of the completed questionnaires, the number of questionnaires with errors or outliers, the number of reminders etc. SOSR also performs internal methodical audits. Evaluation of statistical surveys and methodical audits including the analysis of the results are integrated into the existing quality management system.

## 12 Relevance

### 12.1 User needs

The requirement to conduct consultations with users of statistical information is stipulated in the Act on State Statistics itself. Consultations during the preparation of state statistical surveys take place within the framework of the preparation of the [Program of state statistical surveys](#) (PSSZ). PSSZ is a generally binding legal regulation compiled by the SOSR in collaboration with ministries, other central authorities and state organizations and contains statistical surveys organized and carried out by the SOSR, ministries, other central authorities and state organizations. SOSR publishes the Program of state statistical surveys by decree in the Collection of Laws of the Slovak Republic. The Coordinating Council for State Statistics ensures the fulfilment of the tasks of the SOSR. Key users of specific statistical products are listed in the Marketing Plan, e.g. international organizations - Eurostat; UN and national institutions, e.g. National Bank of Slovakia, ministries, companies, researchers and students, internal and external users.

### 12.2 User satisfaction

Since the 2009, SOSR carries out satisfaction surveys of customers with their products and services at two-year intervals. The goal of surveys is to determine customer satisfaction with the products and services of the SOSR, to obtain information about users, their interest and opinion on provision and quality of statistical products and services. The facts obtained are a valuable resource for the direction of other activities of the SOSR. One of the main goals defined in the Development Strategy. The goal of the SOSR until 2022 is to systematically increase the value of the institution and its recognition at the national and international level. The office also monitors the fulfilment of the stated goal with the help of indicators of the credibility of the SOSR and the rate of use of the information provided by the public.

SOSR conducts credibility surveys through an external independent organization once every 2 years, with the intention of ensuring the objectivity and indisputability of the results from public view.

[Credibility survey](#)

[Satisfaction survey](#)

### 12.3 Completeness

The scope of determined agricultural price indices in terms of classification codes required by Eurostat is 100% fulfilled.

## 13 Accuracy and reliability

### 13.1 Overall accuracy

Overall accuracy is considered very good. SOSR makes great efforts to prevent from an occurrence of errors and performs rigorous data validation to detect errors. Most of the errors are direct consulted at workplaces with intelligence units.

### 13.2 Sampling error

The coefficient of variation is not calculated.

### 13.3 Non-sampling error

To prevent non-sampling errors, that is, errors in the process of collection and processing of SOSR has integrated logical and data controls in the integrated statistical information system (ISIS) both at the micro-data level and at the level of aggregated data performed during the collection and data processing. The electronic questionnaire provides many arithmetic and logical checks between variables that we distinguish between important and informative. In a case of occurrence of serious errors in the form, the form is not accepted and based on consultation with the reporting unit will be corrected and enter to processing. With the help of these tools we try to minimise errors already in the collection itself and subsequently during data processing. Itemized non-answers do not occur, filling relevant items is ensured by built-in automatic checks during data collection. Rate of return for Monthly report survey for prices of agricultural products for reference year 2022 is 100%.

## 14 Timeliness and punctuality

### 14.1 Timeliness

The publication of data in the public SOSR database "DATACUBE" is in accordance with its schedule updates. Data are published approximately T + 28 days after the reference month.

### 14.2 Punctuality

Publication deadlines were met.

## 15 Coherence and comparability

### 15.1 Comparability - geographical

The same statistical procedures are applied to the entire territory of Slovak Republic.

### 15.2 Comparability - over time

The comparable time series for agricultural prices are available since 2000.

### 15.3 Coherence - cross domain

Comparisson with other statistical surveys is not carried out.

### 15.4 Coherence - internal

No differences are detected.

## 16 Cost and burden

SOSR regularly monitors the cost and burden of reporting units. s. As part of the optimization of statistical surveys, it takes measures aimed at reducing their burden. Cost and workload at the level of European statistical products and its monitoring is in the responsibility of Directorate Group for Resources within Eurostat.

## 17 Data revision

### 17.1 Data revision - policy

The Revision policy regulates the general rules and procedures applied in revisions at the SOSR. In accordance with the Revision policy, the reason of the revision is always indicated. The Revisions policy as well as the Revisions calendar is available to users on the web portal of the ŠÚ SR.

[https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/products/revisions\\_](https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/products/revisions_)

### 17.2 Data revision - practice

Firstly published data are considered definitive and they are not usually subject of revision. In any case of data revision a note is placed in the databases and relevant publications of SOSR. Changes in methodologies are announced after their introduction in the form of methodological explanations or notes to published data.

## 18 Statistical processing

### 18.1 Source data

The statistics of price indices of agricultural products are compiled by survey Ceny Poľ NC 1-12 — Mesačný výkaz o cenách poľnohospodárskych výrobkov.

### 18.2 Frequency of data collection

Monthly.

### 18.3 Data collection

The regional office of the SOSR in Trenčín is responsible for data collection. From January 1, 2016, reporting units (legal entities, natural persons - entrepreneurs) are required to electronically submit statistical reports in accordance with the amendment to Act No. 540/2001 Coll. on state statistics as amended by Act no. 326/2014 Coll. (hereinafter referred to as the law), which contains new rules for submitting statistical reports. The completed statistical questionnaire must be submitted electronically no later than the 26th day after the reference period on the website [www.statistics.sk](http://www.statistics.sk). In the event that the reporting unit has not submitted the electronic report, it is contacted by the relevant regional office of SOSR.

#### **18.4 Data validation**

The data entry, data completeness and statistical control are organised by specialised regional offices of the SOSR in Trenčín.

SOSR distinguishes between two levels of data checks:

1/ Formal checks, which are realised in the process of data entry automatically; (compatible with Validation level 0 and 1)

2/ Informal checks aim of which is to control the complexity and relations among the variables ((compatible with Validation level from 2 to 5).

According to the importance there are classified 2 basic types of checks:

I – Informative checks- this check gives the additional information, which is important for the following process of corrections. It informs also about some inconsistencies in the state of fulfilment of the questionnaire, about item non-response, exceeding stated limits etc.

Z – Check of great importance - it is mostly check indicating the exact error and it must be always corrected or explained.

Most of the errors are directly consulted with the reporting units by our regional offices.

#### **18.5 Data compilation**

The prices of agricultural products are determined monthly by the state statistical Cený Poř NC 1 - 12 in a selected set of agricultural producers. They were selected main agricultural products for pricing in designated quality classes. Plant products are included in the report products including fruits and vegetables and animal products including fishes. Prices are determined as unweighted arithmetic averages of all the organization's major business cases that occur in the monitored period until the statement is sent. Prices are quoted without value added tax. In addition, the report also determines the amount and value of sales of selected representatives for all qualities in total (without non-standards and necessary slaughter) for the entire previous month. Given data are used as a basis for calculation of average values. Average prices of the monitored agricultural products are calculated as the arithmetic mean of individual prices of individual producers for Slovak Republic or regions. Price indices are calculated from the observed prices of 85 selected products — price representatives. Simple indices are aggregated using of permanent monthly weight system into groups and total according to the Laspeyres formula.

#### **18.6 Adjustment**

The index is not seasonally adjusted.

### **19 Comment**