



Organización Internacional del Café
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Data concepts and variables used in the statistics of the Organization

Background

1. At the meeting of the Executive Board in January 2003 the Executive Director had agreed to circulate a document to all Members giving the basic definitions of all data and variables used in the statistics of the Organization. This initiative was taken in order to clarify the misunderstanding some people had in interpreting the basic data and concepts of the ICO statistical data series.
2. In addition, during the past few months a number of users of the Organization's statistics have contacted us with a view to clarifying the methodology used to derive certain figures published in our statistical documents as they appear to show some differences when compared to data published by other sources.
3. This document details all the data concepts and variables used in the statistical publications of the Organization giving their description under the appropriate category to which they relate.

Action

The Executive Board is requested to examine in detail the information presented in this document and provide suggestions, with appropriate statistical evidence, where they feel these definitions should be revised. It should be noted that this document will also be reviewed in the Statistics Committee.

Data concept/variable		Description
Supply		
1.	Total production	estimates are provided by the Members for current crop year (and revised on a quarterly basis). After the end of the crop year, estimates are replaced by derived production. In the absence of estimates provided by Members alternative sources are used (USDA, F.O. Licht, LMC International, etc).
1a.	Derived production	calculated after the close of the crop year on the basis of change in stocks and total exports during the year.
2.	Domestic consumption	estimates are provided by the Members. In the absence of a recent estimate for the current crop year, the previous year's estimate is used.
3.	Exportable production	calculated as the difference between total production minus domestic consumption.
4.	Arabica/Robusta breakdown	Members that produce more than one type of coffee are requested to provide the percentage of each type produced. Unless a separate breakdown is given for domestic consumption, the same percentage will be used in the calculation for domestic consumption of each type.
5.	Crop percentage distribution	represents the availability of the crop in each quarter so that supply data can be converted from crop to coffee or calendar year basis (request for this information was made in document ED-1840/02).
6.	Gross opening stocks	estimates are provided by Members and they refer to the amount of coffee held at the end of each crop year.
7.	Prices paid to growers	average price paid to the grower at farmgate level, or the minimum price guaranteed by the Government to the grower, by form and weight in national currency in which the coffee is purchased.
8.	Gross availability for export	is the result of total production added to gross opening stocks.
Exports by exporting Members		
1.	Total exports	volume of coffee, in Green Bean Equivalent (GBE), exported in a given month. Information is based on data provided in monthly reports and Certificates of Origin.
1a.	Estimated exports	in the absence of data provided by Members, alternative sources (press stories, F.O. Licht, World Trade Atlas, DTI-UK library and import statistics) are used. In the absence of any data available from any source, estimates are made based on performance in previous years.
2.	Value of exports	value of exports (F.O.B.) of coffee provided in monthly reports. When data are not provided by the Member, estimates are made on the same basis as in item 1a. In the absence of any data, estimates are based on the last month for which data are available – using the unit value to derive the value.
3.	Value of exports of all commodities	data as published by the IMF and UNCTAD.
4.	Unit value of exports	information derived from monthly reports. It is the result of total value divided by total volume expressed in US cents/lb.
5.	Processed coffee information (ratio by type)	for countries that produce/export both Arabica and Robusta coffee, data for roasted and soluble coffee are converted into GBE and classified as Arabica and Robusta using a 50/50 ratio.

Data concept/variable		Description
Imports and re-exports by importing Members		
1.	Total imports/total re-exports	volume of coffee, in GBE, imported/re-exported from all origins/to all destinations in a given month. Information is provided in monthly reports.
1a.	Estimated imports	in the absence of data from Members, alternative sources (F.O. Licht, Eurostat, DTI-UK library, World Trade Atlas, etc.) are used. In the absence of data available from any source, estimates are made based on performance in previous years.
2.	Value of imports/re-exports	value of imports (C.I.F.) and re-exports (F.O.B.) of coffee provided in monthly reports. In the absence of data provided by Members, estimates are made following procedures similar to those for exporting Members.
3.	Net imports	are equal to gross imports less re-exports.
4.	Unit value of imports/re-exports	information derived from monthly reports. It is the result of total value divided by total volume expressed in US cents/lb.
5.	Wholesale and retail market prices of roasted/soluble coffee	represent the price paid by the consumer to the commercial distributor/outlet.
6.	Inventories and stocks in free ports	refer to the stocks of green coffee held by importers and roasters, and exclude any stocks held in free ports, which are reported separately.
7.	Roastings	refer to the amount of net weight of green coffee which has been processed in the country during the period covered by the report.
8.	Disappearance	level of consumption in importing Members which is measured by deducting re-exports from imports and adjusting the resulting figure for changes in visible inventories.
Imports and re-exports by importing non-members		
1.	Total imports/exports/re-exports (volume and value)	annual data obtained from National Statistics Offices in non-member countries giving total volume/value of imports/exports/re-exports of all forms of coffee imported/exported/re-exported from all sources/to all destinations.
1a.	Estimated imports/exports/re-exports (volume and value)	in the absence of data from non-members alternative sources (FAO, DTI-UK library, World Trade Atlas, F.O. Licht, exports statistics, etc.) are used. In the absence of data available from any source, estimates are made based on performance in previous years.
2.	Net imports	are equal to gross imports less exports + re-exports. In non-member countries, net imports are considered to be the actual consumption of coffee.
3.	Unit value of imports/re-exports	information derived from the annual data received in item 1. It is the result of total value divided by total volume expressed in US cents/lb.
Variable and/or concepts common to all databases		
1.	World consumption	represents the result of disappearance in importing Members added to net-imports in non-members.
2.	Global consumption	is the result of world consumption added to domestic consumption in exporting Members.
3.	World availability	represents the result of adding global availability to inventories in importing Members and total stocks in free ports.
4.	Consumer price index	is the index (provided by the IMF or the UN) used to convert prices and values from current to constant terms.
5.	Exchange rate	is the value of exchange (provided by IMF or the UN) used to convert national currencies to US dollars.

Data concept/variable		Description
6.	Per capita consumption	is the result obtained by dividing disappearance in importing countries (or domestic consumption in exporting countries) by the population in that country (provided by the UN).
7.	Daily prices	represent the spot prices of various growths of coffee traded daily in the New York, German and French physicals markets. These prices are collected by the ICO agent in each market and transmitted to the Organization in accordance with the procedures established in document EB-3776/01 Rev. 1. They are the basis for the calculation of group indicator prices.
8.	Groups of coffee (see note below)	refer to the traditional ICO classification for grouping exporting members in accordance with the coffee they produce. They are: Colombian Milds, Other Milds, Brazilian Naturals and Robustas.
9.	Group indicator prices	represent the price of each group of coffee calculated in accordance with the Rules contained in document EB-3776/01 Rev. 1 and weighted on the basis of the exports of each group to the E.U. and the U.S.A.
10.	ICO composite indicator price	is the price calculated based on the market share of exports of each group of coffee weighted in accordance with Annex I of document EB-3776/01 Rev. 1.
11.	Average of the 2nd and 3rd positions in the futures markets	is the average of the futures prices of the 2nd and 3rd positions in the London (Robustas) and New York (Arabicas) markets.
12.	United Nations index	refers to the U.N. index of unit values of exports of manufactured goods from developed market economies. It is used to convert values/unit values from current to constant terms.
13.	Votes	calculated on the basis of a pro-rata distribution of average gross exports and imports performance in the four preceding calendar years.

Note: Traditionally exporting countries are grouped as follows:

Colombian Milds: Colombia, Kenya and Tanzania.

Other Milds: Bolivia, Burundi, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Malawi, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Rwanda, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Brazilian Naturals: Brazil, Ethiopia and Paraguay.

Robustas: Angola, Congo (Dem. Rep.), Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Liberia, Nigeria, OAMCAF Members – Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo (Rep.) Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Madagascar and Togo –, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Vietnam.

However, countries with dual production may be listed in more than one group in accordance with the method used to process their coffee. These countries are:

Country	Major output grouped under	2nd output grouped under
Brazil	Brazilian Naturals	Robustas
Burundi	Other Milds	Robustas
Cameroon	Robustas	Other Milds
Dem. Rep. of Congo	Robustas	Other Milds
Ecuador	Other Milds	Robustas
Guatemala	Other Milds	Robustas
India	Other Milds	Robustas
Indonesia	Robustas	Other Milds
Madagascar	Robustas	Other Milds
Papua New Guinea	Other Milds	Robustas
Philippines	Robustas	Brazilian Naturals
Tanzania	Colombian Milds	Robustas
Uganda	Robustas	Other Milds

