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المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

4.6% the Average Decrease in Agricultural Producers' Prices during May 2018 Compared with May 2017

The data issued by the Department of Statistics indicates a decrease in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for May 2018 by 4.6% compared with May 2017. (The Price Index reached 124.8 in May 2018 compared with 130.8 in May 2017). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were tomatoes (37.3%), watermelon (21.5%), potato (19.4%), peach (18.3%), apricot (12.0%), cantaloupe (45.0%), green cherry (33.8%), **chive (36.4%)**, nectarine (30.7%) and carrot (31.8%). (the total of their relative importance constituted 68.3% of the total indicator value).

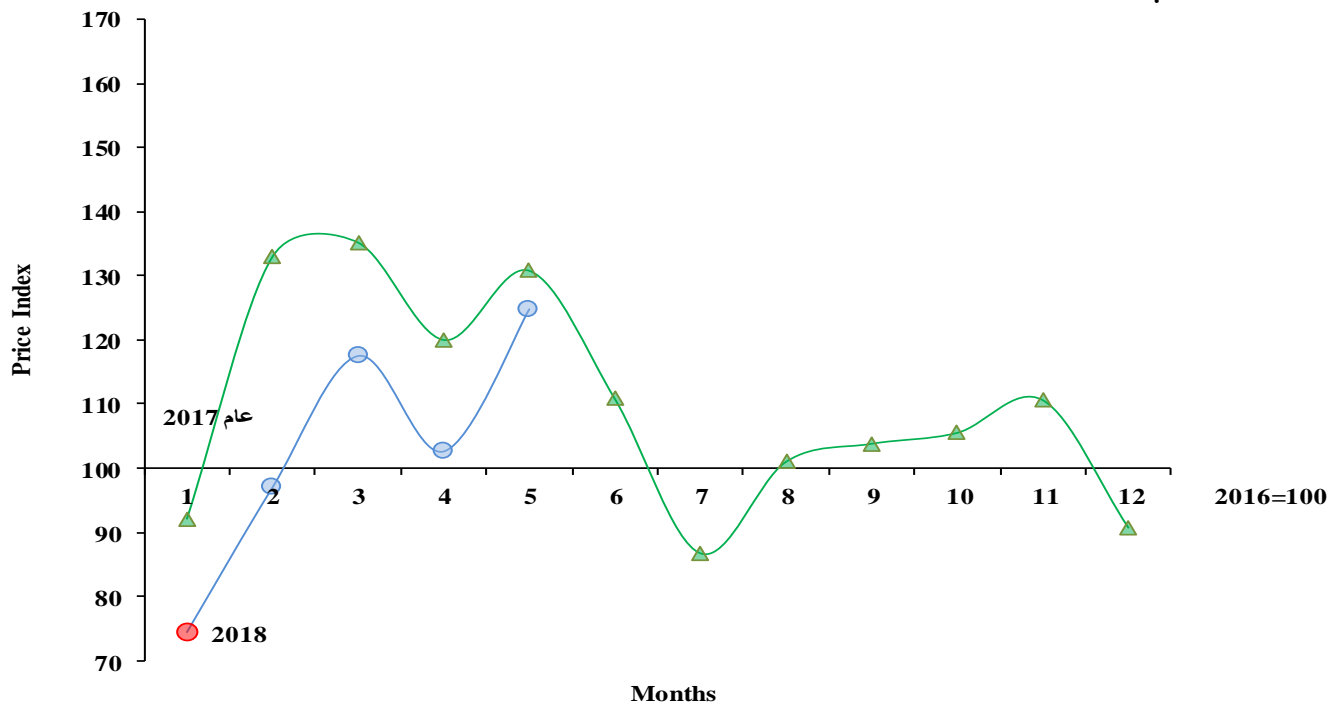
Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of cucumber, onion, cauliflower, Jews mallow leaves, squash, parsley, Jews mallow, strawberry, spinach and loquat by 78.3%, 76.3%, 127.3%, 231.4%, 103.2%, 269.4%, 24.1%, 39.3%, 58.5% and 13.8% respectively (the total of their relative importance constituted 31.7% of the total indicator value).

The report also shows that the Price Index has increased by 21.6% in May 2018 as compared with April 2018 (the price index reached 124.8 in May 2018 compared with 102.6 in April 2018). The most significant crops that contributed to this increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 22.9%) were tomatoes 62.7%, cauliflower 69.1%, garlic 47.3%, eggplants 6.8%, chickpeas 31.5%, carrot 11.9%, **scallion 69.1%**, cherry tomato 43.5%, parsley 44.5% and broccoli 81.2%. Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of apricot, peach, watermelon, onion, potato, cucumber, Jews mallow, grapes, okra and nectarine by (49.9%), (51.2%), (25.8%), (33.9%), (11.7%), (19.1%), (46.6%), (35.5%), (27.6%) and (50.5%) respectively with a relative importance reached 77.1%.

On the accumulative level, the Price Index of Agricultural Producers has decreased by 15.5% for the first five months of 2018 as compared with the same period of 2017 (the accumulative price index reached 103.3% for 2018 compared with 122.2 for the same period of 2017). The most significant crops whose Price Index Average contributed to this decrease were tomato by (65.1%), eggplants (26.8%), potato (22.4%), sweet green pepper (18.5%), hot pepper (18.5%), string beans (10.8%) and cauliflower (9.2%) , whose their relative importance constituted 69.2%. Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of cucumber, squash, colored sweet pepper and banana by 35.0% ,14.6%, 11.1% and 1.7% with a relative importance of 30.8%.

The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2017 and 2018.

Fig 1: Agricultural Producer Price Index for 2017 & 2018



It is worthy to mention that the Department of Statistics (DOS) had reviewed the methodology of agricultural prices data collection through a specialized technical committee from DOS and the Ministry of Agriculture upon recommendations of the *Permanent Agricultural Statistics Expert Committee* emanating from the *National Agricultural Strategy (2002-2010)*. In order to improve the data quality, we rely on the data on agricultural prices for all corps coming from the central markets each month, (2016 is the base year, 100 = 2016) using (Laspeure) formula to derive the price index.