

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

REPORT ON FOOD PRODUCTION
AND THE
CONSUMPTION OF FOODSTUFFS
AND NUTRIENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

No. 11

1955-56

PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE TREASURER

BY

S. R. CARVER,

ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

STATISTICAL BULLETIN : FOOD PRODUCTION

AND THE

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PREFACE

This Bulletin continues the series of Reports on the production and consumption of foodstuffs and nutrients published annually since the issue made in 1948, which covered the years 1944 to 1946-47, with pre-war comparisons. The statistics published in this Bulletin, No. 11 of the series, refer to the year 1955-56 together with comparative data for the average of the three pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39, the average of the three immediate post-war years 1946-47 to 1948-49, and each of the years 1953-54 and 1954-55.

In addition to these general statistics, Section I of the Bulletin contains a review of food production, exports, and consumption (in terms of farm products), with relevant statistics for the pre-war period (1936-37 to 1938-39), each year 1946-47 to 1955-56, and estimates for 1956-57.

The method employed in this Bulletin in estimating consumption of each of the various foodstuffs is as follows: -

Production.

Minus Net Exports & Ships' Stores	
" Industrial usage	
" Non-food usage	
" Wastage	

Plus or minus changes in factory or in-store (a) stocks	
--	--

Apparent Consumption	
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(a) In-store stocks in general consist of the stocks reported by marketing authorities although for various reasons, such as incomplete coverage, adequate information is not available from all marketing authorities in Australia.

There are three significant features about this calculation.

1. Available production statistics are confined mainly to commercial production and are deficient for the purposes of the calculation to the extent of production by householders for their own use. This applies particularly in the case of vegetables, fruit, eggs, poultry and fish. In all these cases, however, estimates of non-commercial production have been included, based on somewhat inadequate information obtained from a household expenditure survey conducted in 1944 and other investigations conducted by government departments during the war. Similarly in the case of processed foods little up-to date information is available of the quantities of foodstuffs preserved by householders for their own use. To cover this, estimates have been made on the basis of information collected during the war. Further, it is possible that there has been some increase in home production of both processed and unprocessed foods in recent years so that the quantities of foodstuffs consumed as shown in the Bulletin may now be deficient to the extent of the increase.

2. Statistics of stocks refer to in-store (as previously defined) and factory stocks. No details are available of wholesalers', retailers' or householders' stocks. For perishable commodities this point is of little importance since the very nature of the commodity precludes the accumulation of stocks. This is not the case, however, with non-perishable foods, and estimates derived for consumption of such foodstuffs for individual years may not correctly state the position with regard to consumption as ordinarily understood, i.e. foodstuffs consumed by the individual. This difficulty is apparent particularly in the case of canned foodstuffs where in some years it has been necessary to initiate special enquiries from the trade, State Statisticians and other informed sources in an endeavour to take better account of these deficiencies.

3. Allowance is not made in many cases for wastage before the foodstuffs are consumed. The importance of this factor is difficult to estimate but, since, in some seasons, gluts cause considerable destruction of perishable foodstuffs, some importance should be given to this factor when using these statistics. The effect of ignoring wastage is ultimately to overstate the consumption figures. In recent years, however, it is likely that there has been less wastage of foodstuffs than hitherto because of more efficient storage and distribution methods (including refrigerated transport, air freight and a big increase in household refrigeration).

As a result of the last two of the above qualifications, the term "consumption" is used in a specialised sense since the quantities actually measured are broadly the quantities available for consumption at a particular level in the process of distribution i.e. ex-markets, ex-store or ex-factory depending on the method of marketing and/or processing. It is thought that in most cases these foodstuffs will find their way to the ultimate individual consumers with little or no time lag and the collected figures accurately represent total consumption in the year to which they relate. In a few cases the annual figures on this basis required some adjustment and the commodities to which adjustments have been considered necessary are referred to specifically throughout the text.

There is one further point which should be borne in mind when comparing estimates of consumption (and particularly estimates of consumption per head of population) over a number of years. This is the effect of changes in the composition of the population. There have been two significant changes in post war years which have undoubtedly had some effect on the consumption pattern. These are, firstly, the changing age distribution of the population (e.g. the number of children under 10 years in 1947 represented 18.0 per cent of the total population while in 1954 they represented 20.8 per cent) and, secondly, the increasing proportion of the population born overseas and resident for only a comparatively short period in Australia (e.g. the proportion of the population in 1947 which was born overseas was 9.4 per cent and in 1954 it was 13.8 per cent).

In general the statistics in the bulletin are for fiscal years. However, where there is a marked seasonal pattern in the production or marketing of certain crops, the statistics refer to crop years. For example, statistics relating to potatoes are on the basis of years ending in October and for dried vine fruits of years ending in December.

Section 2 of this Bulletin, which deals with the level of nutrient intake in Australia, has been compiled by the Nutrition Section of the Commonwealth Department of Health to whom I extend my thanks. The estimates of nutrient intake included therein are based on the quantities of foodstuffs consumed as calculated by this Bureau.

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CANBERRA. A.C.T. 15TH JULY, 1957.

1. GENERAL REVIEW OF FOOD PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION

(i) SUMMARY: The following table shows the variations which have occurred in post-war years in the main sources from which farm products for food use are derived in Australia.

TABLE I : PRINCIPAL AREAS CROPPED AND LIVESTOCK NUMBERS : AUSTRALIA

Year	Areas sown for Grain			Sugar (Area out for crushing)	Total Area of Crops	Number of Livestock at end of Season		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats			Sheep (incl. Lambs)	Cattle	
	'000 acres	'000 acres	'000 acres	'000 acres	'000 acres	Million	'000	'000
Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	13,466	613	1,572	258.1	22,018	111.6	3,210	9,933
1946-47	13,180	748	1,728	227.0	21,013	95.7	3,013	10,414
1947-48	13,880	839	2,105	222.5	22,199	102.6	3,085	10,700
1948-49	12,583	1,012	1,770	266.3	20,559	108.7	3,159	10,965
1949-50	12,240	1,040	1,748	281.3	20,514	112.9	3,191	11,449
1950-51	11,663	1,079	1,757	271.9	19,811	115.6	3,149	12,080
1951-52	10,384	1,118	2,365	281.7	19,683	117.6	2,973	11,920
1952-53	10,209	1,377	2,764	280.0	20,251	123.1	3,086	12,161
1953-54	10,751	1,803	2,137	340.5	21,013	126.9	3,211	12,390
1954-55	10,673	1,691	2,574	374.2	21,695	130.8	3,236	12,600
1955-56	10,166	1,894	3,354	372.8	22,456	139.1	3,323	13,134
1956-57 (b)	7,794	2,157	3,146	369.9	(c)	151.0	(c)	(c)

(a) In milk and dry. (b) Estimated. (c) Not yet available.

Seasonal conditions during 1955-56 were generally favourable to primary industry throughout most of the producing areas. Rainfall was, however, greatly in excess of normal over parts of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, causing severe flooding, particularly late in the season. On the other hand, some pastoral districts of Western Australia experienced extremely dry conditions.

Wheat yields reached a new record level of 19.2 bushels per acre, 3.4 bushels per acre above the previous year. The yield per acre of barley was 22.0 bushels compared with the previous seasons' 17.4 and the record 1952-53 yield of 25.5 bushels. Maize yields at 28.4 bushels were lower than 1954-55 (29.9 bushels), while rice yields were considerably reduced, from 131.3 to 114.7 bushels per acre. Oat yields were the highest since 1947-48. Milk and meat production both set new records.

The wet conditions experienced in the latter part of 1955-56 continued up till November, 1956 and prevented the sowing of substantial areas, particularly to wheat, in 1956-57. In addition to the substantial reduction in area sown to wheat, mainly in the Eastern States, there was a fall in the yield per acre and production of wheat is estimated to have been only 134,700,000 bushels, the smallest harvest recorded since 1946-47. Stone fruits also suffered from the excessive rainfall, heavy losses of trees occurring. Since November, however, rainfall has been considerably below average over the greater part of the continent and, towards the close of the 1956-57 season, the quality of pastures was deteriorating rapidly although livestock were still generally in good condition.

Index numbers of quantum (i.e. value at constant prices) of farm products for food use are shown in Table 2, for the period 1936-37 to 1938-39 and each year 1946-47 to 1956-57. These index numbers are shown in three series - production, exports and apparent consumption of farm products for food use in Australia - on both a total and per head of mean population basis.

During the years 1947-48 to 1950-51, generally good seasonal conditions were experienced fairly uniformly throughout farming areas of Australia and in those years the index of production of farm products for food use averaged about 12 per cent. more than in the pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39. In 1951-52, the index fell to approximately the same level as in the pre-war period, while in 1952-53, when seasonal conditions were exceptionally good, production rose sharply to 18 per cent. above the pre-war level, followed in 1953-54 by a further increase of 4 per cent. There was a small decline in the index during 1954-55, but in 1955-56 it reached a record level of 28 per cent. above pre-war. It is estimated that the index will fall in 1956-57 to about 19 per cent. above pre-war because of reduced production of wheat, oats, fruit and meats.

The index of farm production of food per head of population during the years 1947-48 to 1950-51 averaged about 3 per cent. less than in pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39. This was followed in 1951-52 by a decline to 19 per cent. less than pre-war production per head. In 1952-53 and 1953-54 the good seasons assisted recovery in production per head of population but it was still about 6 per cent. less than the pre-war level falling again in 1954-55 to 9 per cent. below pre-war. The index rose in 1955-56 to 95 per cent. of the pre-war level but it is estimated to have fallen to 86 per cent. in 1956-57. This comparison is intended to indicate relative growth of total Australian population and of farm production for food use. It is not relevant to the consideration of productivity of farm population.

The index of farm food products exported during the period 1947-48 to 1950-51 averaged about 11 per cent. more than during the pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39, but in 1951-52 lower production with about the same quantities consumed in Australia resulted in a pronounced fall in the index of food exported to approximately 30 per cent. below the pre-war level. Since then with the exception of 1953-54 when the level returned to approximately that of pre-war, the index of exports has been substantially above pre-war. Estimated exports of farm food products in 1956-57 represent about 39 per cent. of total food production, compared with 40 per cent. in 1955-56, 38 per cent. during the period 1947-48 to 1950-51 and 39 per cent. in the pre-war period 1936-37 to 1938-39. The index of farm products exported per head of population has been below pre-war levels in all post-war years, except 1947-48; in 1955-56 it was 96 per cent. and in 1956-57 an estimated 86 per cent. of the pre-war figure.

The index numbers of food (in terms of farm products) consumed* in Australia per head of population indicate that the level of food consumed per head in each post-war year has been somewhat below the level of consumption in the pre-war period 1936-37 to 1938-39. Certain adjustments have been made for unrecorded stock movements in calculating the index numbers for recent years, and the figures for 1955-56 and 1956-57 should be regarded as provisional. The index numbers of food available for consumption per head have been about 3 to 5 per cent. lower in the six years ending 1956-57 than in the preceding four years. While there has been a decrease in the quantity of food available for consumption per head it is possible that this may have been offset in part at least by reduced wastage before ultimate consumption within the home. Factors conducing to this are more efficient distribution methods (e.g. refrigerated transport and airfreight of perishable commodities) and the large increase in household refrigeration. In addition there has possibly been increased home production of vegetables, fruit and eggs. It is extremely difficult to gauge this trend and the calculations in this Bulletin contain a constant allowance for supplies from home production.

While there has been a slight downward tendency in consumption of food per head, the increase in the Australian population has resulted in a continuous rise (except in 1951-52 and 1952-53) in the index of total consumption of food in Australia in each post-war year and in 1956-57, it is estimated at 31 per cent. greater than in the pre-war period. The increase in population over the same period was approximately 39 per cent.

The quantum indexes shown in Table 2 are index of total value at constant prices calculated by revaluing quantities of each farm product included in the indexes at the average unit gross value of each product for the years 1936-37 to 1938-39.

Tests have disclosed that the use of corresponding weights based on post-war prices (or unit values) would not have affected the indexes materially. The items included in each index comprise products in the form in which they are sold from farms in all cases except livestock sold for slaughter for meat, which are included in terms of dressed carcass weight of meat. Quantity data relating to exports include exports of processed food in terms of farm product equivalent, e.g. the quantities of meat exports used in calculating the index include estimated carcass weight equivalents of canned and cured meat exported in addition to the exports of carcass meat as such. The index of production relates basically to gross output of farm products for food use (including crops exported for stock-feeding overseas) and therefore measures the combined effect of many influences such as (a) trends in farming activity (i.e. areas cropped, livestock raised and/or slaughtered, cows milked etc.), (b) variations in yields of crops per unit of area cropped and of livestock products per unit of livestock, (c) the effects of variable seasonal conditions and (d) changes in farming efficiency, labour supply and the level of internal costs in Australia. Data showing trends in farming activity in the case of principal individual types of farming are included in the sub-sections following.

* See the Preface to this Bulletin for an exposition of the method of arriving at apparent Australian consumption together with a statement of the reservations attaching to the consumption estimates.

INDEXES OF QUANTUM^(a) OF PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION^(b) OF FARM PRODUCTS FOR FOOD USE :: AUSTRALIA

BASE IN EACH CASE - AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39=100

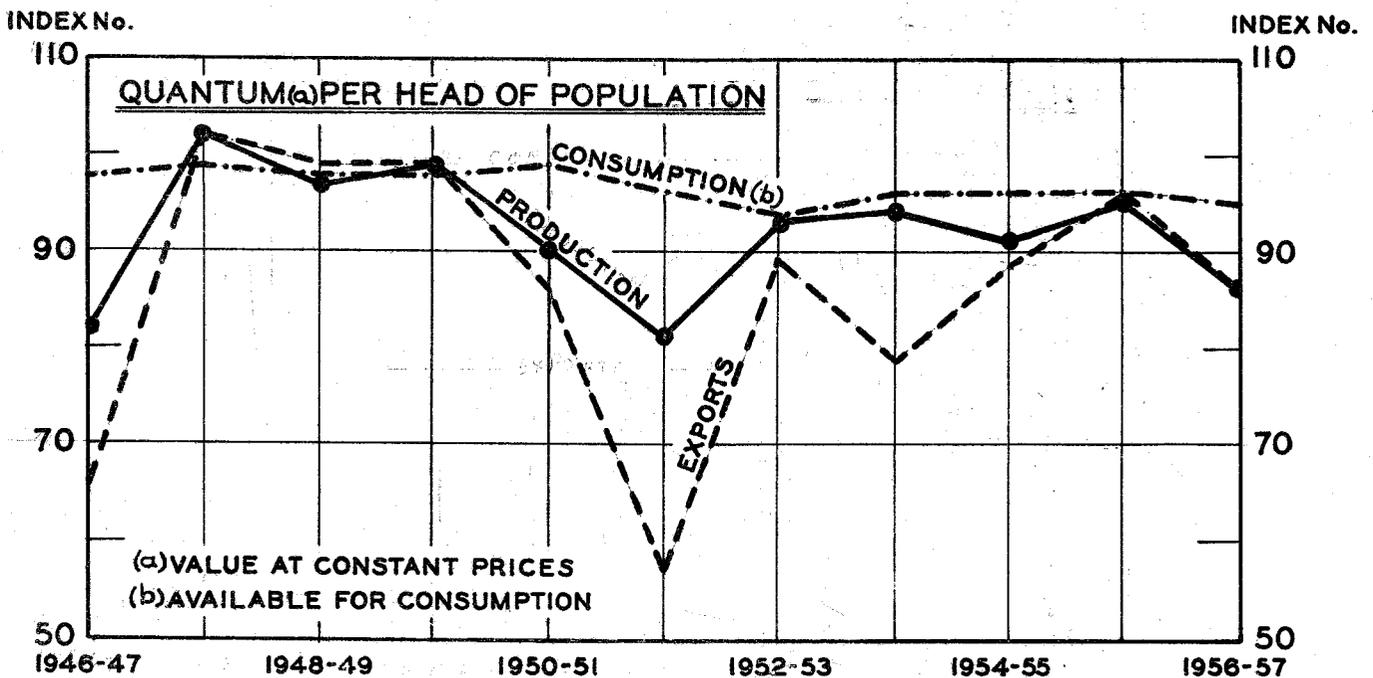
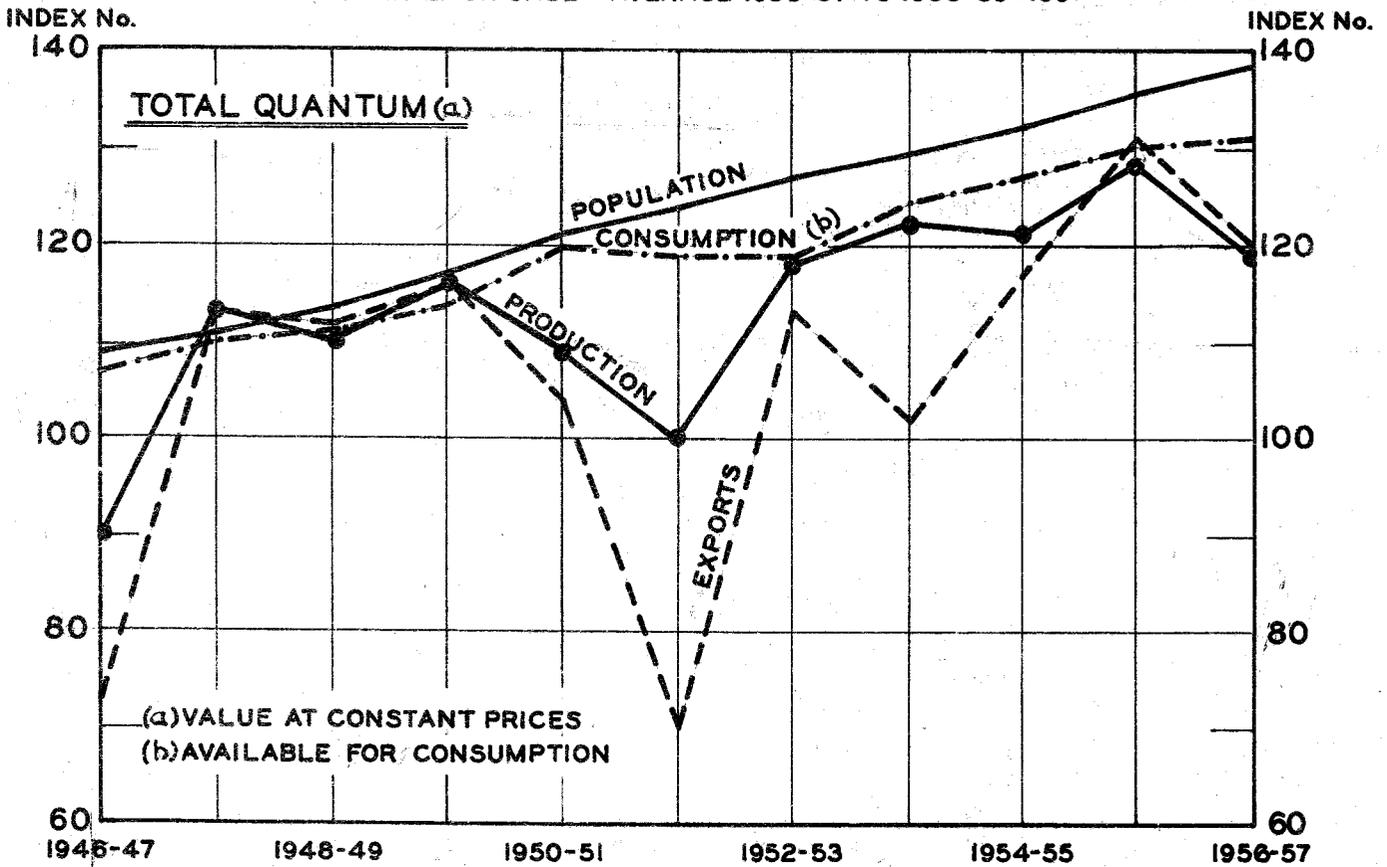


TABLE 2 : INDEXES OF MEAN POPULATION AND OF QUANTUM (a) OF PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF FARM PRODUCTS FOR FOOD USE : AUSTRALIA

(Base in each case - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	Index of mean Population	Indexes of Quantum (a) of Farm Products for Food use					
		Production		Exports		Apparent Consumption	
		Total	Per Head of Population	Total	Per Head of Population	Total	Per Head of Population
Average							
1936-37 to 1938-39	100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100
1946-47	109.4	90	82	73	66	107	98
1947-48	111.2	113	102	113	102	110	99
1948-49	113.5	110	97	112	99	111	98
1949-50	117.1	116	99	116	99	114	98
1950-51	120.9	109	90	104	86	120	99
1951-52	124.1	100	81	70	57	119	96
1952-53	127.1	118	93	113	89	119	94
1953-54	129.5	122	94	102	79	124	96
1954-55	132.3	121	91	117	89	127	96
1955-56(b)	135.6	128	95	131	96	130	96
1956-57(c)	138.8	119	86	120	86	131	95

(a) Value at constant prices; see text preceding table.

(b) Subject to revision.

(c) Estimated.

A comparison in trends in food production in Australia and selected oversea countries is provided by the following "Index Numbers of Agricultural Production - Food" published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

TABLE 3 : INDEX NUMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - FOOD

(Source : Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations)

(Base in each case : - Pre-war = 100) (a)

Country	Pre-war (a)	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
Argentina	100	108	92	122	116	121
Australia (c)	100	100	118	122	121	128
Canada	100	147	179	165	118	152
New Zealand	100	113	119	120	117	122
Union of South Africa	100	146	140	157	173	170
United Kingdom	100	123	127	135	137	130
United States of America	100	136	146	147	147	150

(a) Pre-war base periods used are: Australia, Average 1936-37 to 1938-39.

United Kingdom, Average 1934-38; other countries, Average 1935-39.

(b) Preliminary figures. (c) These are the index numbers of quantum (i.e. value at constant prices) compiled in this Bureau for Australian purposes (see Table 2), due to a different method of compilation they differ slightly from the index numbers for Australia compiled by F.A.O.

(ii) WHEAT: Particulars of the area sown to wheat for grain and the production, exports and consumption of wheat are shown below for the pre-war period and each year since 1946-47. The area sown for grain has declined continuously from 1947-48 to 1956-57 with the exception of the two years 1953-54 and 1954-55 when there was a small recovery. The decrease in 1956-57 was considerable, sowings being 42 per cent. below average sowings during the years 1936-37 to 1938-39 and the lowest for 43 years. The decline in sowings since the war has been offset by very good yields, every year having been in excess of 15 bushels per acre compared with an average of about 12 bushels pre-war. Consequently production up to 1955-56 remained high, generally around 200 million bushels. In 1956-57, the average yield was 17.3 bushels but the greatly diminished sowings reduced production to the lowest level since the drought year of 1946-47.

In 1955-56 (cereal year ended 30th November, 1956), exports of wheat (including wheat equivalent of flour and breakfast foods), at 132 million bushels, reached their highest level since pre-war. The available supply of wheat (including wheat equivalent of flour) for export in 1956-57 amounted to about 130 million bushels after allowing for 20 million bushels as normal carry-over.

The wheat equivalent of flour consumed in Australia has risen at approximately the same rate as the Australian population and in 1956-57 is estimated to have exceeded pre-war consumption by 35 per cent. Considerably larger quantities of wheat have been fed to stock in Australia in recent years than before the war.

TABLE 4 : WHEAT : AREA SOWN, PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA

(Base of Indexes - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	Area Sown for Grain		Production of Wheat (a)		Exports of Wheat (b)		Human Consumption of Wheat Products (in terms of Wheat) (c)		
	'000 Acres	Index	Million Bushels	Index	Million Bushels	Index	Million Bushels	Index	
								Total	Per Head of Population
Average									
1936-37 to 1938-39	13,466	100	164.7	100	105.6	100	30.9	100	100
1946-47	13,180	98	117.3	71	46.0	44	36.4	118	108
1947-48	13,880	103	220.1	134	131.8	125	35.3	114	103
1948-49	12,583	93	190.7	116	120.7	114	35.9	116	102
1949-50	12,240	91	218.2	133	120.5	114	37.7	122	104
1950-51	11,663	87	184.2	112	129.6	123	39.5	128	106
1951-52	10,384	77	159.7	97	82.9	79	40.1	130	105
1952-53	10,209	76	195.2	119	102.9	97	39.9	129	102
1953-54	10,751	80	198.0	120	67.2	64	39.1	127	98
1954-55	10,673	79	168.6	102	100.5	95	40.0	129	98
1955-56	10,166	75	195.4	119	132.3	125	41.5	134	99
1956-57(d)	7,794	58	134.7	82	(e)	(e)	41.8	135	97

(a) Includes quantities used for stock-feeding and for seed. (b) Includes exports of flour and breakfast foods in terms of wheat. (c) Flour and breakfast foods.

(d) Estimated. (e) Not yet available.

(iii) SUGAR: Following reductions during the war years, the area of sugar cane cut for crushing increased to 374,200 acres by 1954. It has declined slightly since then. Production of raw sugar has also risen substantially, the three seasons 1952 to 1954 each setting new records. Production declined from 1,327,500 tons in terms of 94 net titre in 1954-55 to 1,171,700 tons in 1955-56 but is estimated to have recovered to 1,212,000 tons in 1956-57.

Exports of sugar (including sugar exported in manufactured products) have varied considerably since the war, being 215,200 tons in 1951-52 and 790,600 tons in 1954-55. During 1955-56, exports fell to 631,200 tons but are estimated to have risen substantially in 1956-57.

Sugar consumption per head has receded from the high post-war level recorded up to 1951-52 and has since been at from 3 to 7 per cent. above the pre-war average.

Particulars of the area of sugar cane cut for crushing, and the production, exports and consumption of raw sugar are shown in the table below.

TABLE 5 : RAW SUGAR : AREA CUT FOR CRUSHING, AND PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA

(Base of Index Numbers - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	Area of Sugar Cane Cut for Crushing		Production of Raw Sugar (94 net titre)		Exports of Sugar (a)		Apparent Consumption of Sugar (a)		
	'000 Acres	Index	'000 Tons	Index	'000 Tons	Index	'000 Tons	Index	
								Total	Per Head of Population
Average									
1936-37 to 1938-39	258.1	100	804.4	100	450.0	100	348.6	100	100
1946-47	227.0	88	551.9	69	161.0	36	418.5	120	110
1947-48	222.5	86	605.3	75	147.9	33	462.5	133	119
1948-49	226.3	103	943.1	117	477.1	106	436.4	125	110
1949-50	281.3	109	937.1	116	502.2	112	441.7	127	108
1950-51	271.9	105	921.1	115	447.8	100	478.6	137	114
1951-52	281.7	109	745.4	93	215.2	48	483.1	139	112
1952-53	280.0	108	948.9	118	519.4	115	456.8	131	103
1953-54	340.5	132	1,254.4	156	763.9	170	477.4	137	106
1954-55	374.2	145	1,327.5	165	790.6	176	500.7	144	106
1955-56(b)	372.8	144	1,171.7	146	631.2	140	508.2	146	107
1956-57(c)	369.9	143	1,212.0	151	736.8	164	509.0	146	105

(a) Raw and refined sugar and sugar in manufactured products all in terms of raw sugar (94 net titre). (b) Subject to revision. (c) Estimated.

(iv) **MILK:** The number of dairy cows (in milk and dry) rose continuously from the low war-time levels until March, 1950, but declined in the two years following. In March, 1952, when some major dairying districts were affected by severe drought, the numbers were about 7 per cent. less than the average number for the three years 1937 to 1939. Numbers have increased, however, in each year since and the total of 3,323,000 recorded at March, 1956 was the highest ever, 31,000 more than the previous record in 1936. Following the substantial decline in milk production during 1951-52 due to dry conditions experienced in northern New South Wales and Queensland, there was an increase in 1952-53 of 16 per cent. Further adverse weather conditions in 1953-54 again affected production but the 1954-55 and 1955-56 seasons were excellent and milk production reached the record level of 1,405 million gallons, 23 per cent. above pre-war, in the latter year. The dry summer and autumn of 1956-57 has resulted in an anticipated reduction to 1,380 million gallons.

Exports of butter, cheese and other milk products (expressed in terms of milk equivalent) fell sharply to 76 per cent. of the pre-war level in 1950-51 mainly because of increased consumption resulting from the lifting of butter rationing on 16th June, 1950. The further sharp drop in the following season was a result of the decline in production mentioned above. Since 1952-53 exports have risen considerably and in 1955-56 exceeded the pre-war level for the first time since 1949-50.

The apparent consumption of milk (including the milk equivalent of milk products) per head of population since the lifting of butter rationing in June, 1950 has been slightly higher than before the war with the exception of 1952-53 and 1956-57. With the rise in population total quantities of milk and milk products consumed in Australia have risen in the last three years to about 35 per cent. above pre-war.

Relevant particulars of dairy cow numbers and production, exports and consumption of milk are shown below.

TABLE 6 : DAIRY COW NUMBERS AND PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF MILK : AUSTRALIA

(Base of Indexes - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	Number of Dairy Cows (In milk & Dry) at March		Production of Milk (All Purposes)		Exports of Milk (a)		Apparent Consumption of Milk (a)		
	'000	Index	Million Gallons	Index	Million Gallons	Index	Million Gallons	Index	
								Total	Per Head of Population
Average									
1936-37 to 1938-39	3,211	100	1,142	100	452.2	100	689.4	100	100
1946-47	3,013	94	1,079	94	370.4	82	725.2	105	96
1947-48	3,085	96	1,172	103	477.7	106	726.9	105	95
1948-49	3,159	98	1,209	106	486.1	107	733.3	106	94
1949-50	3,191	99	1,238	108	476.4	105	760.9	110	94
1950-51	3,149	98	1,198	105	342.4	76	885.0	128	106
1951-52	2,973	93	1,047	92	132.6	29	901.2	131	105
1952-53	3,087	96	1,215	106	335.8	74	868.0	126	99
1953-54	3,211	100	1,190	104	275.3	61	929.3	135	104
1954-55	3,236	101	1,326	116	373.8	83	931.9	135	102
1955-56(b)	3,323	103	1,405	123	460.0	102	932.6	135	100
1956-57(c)	(d)	(d)	1,380	121	460.0	102	936.0	136	98

(a) Includes milk products in terms of milk. (b) Subject to revision. (c) Estimated. (d) Not yet available.

(v) **BEEF AND VEAL:** Numbers of cattle (other than dairy cows) have risen continuously in each post-war year except for 1951-52 when owing to the effects of drought in northern beef-producing areas there was a slight decrease. At March, 1956, numbers stood at the record level of 13.1 million.

Beef and Veal production, following the decline in 1951-52, has risen continuously to an estimated 770,000 tons during 1956-57, the highest production ever achieved.

Exports of beef and veal (including carcass equivalent weight of canned meat exports) have increased greatly since 1951-52 and in 1955-56 were 86 per cent. above pre-war. It is anticipated that they will fall somewhat in 1956-57.

Apparent consumption of beef and veal per head of population in Australia has been lower in all post-war years than in the pre-war period. In 1955-56 consumption per head was 14 per cent. below pre-war but in 1956-57 it is estimated to have risen considerably to only 7 per cent. below. Owing to the increase in population, total supplies consumed exceeded pre-war consumption by an estimated 29 per cent. in 1956-57.

Particulars of cattle numbers and production, exports and consumption of beef and veal are shown in the following table.

TABLE 7 : CATTLE NUMBERS AND PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF

BEEF AND VEAL : AUSTRALIA

(Base of Indexes - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	No. of Cattle (other than Dairy Cows) at March		No. of Cattle Slaughtered for Meat		Production of Beef and Veal		Exports of Beef and Veal (a)		Apparent Consumption of Beef and Veal		
	'000	Index	'000	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	
										Total	Per Head of Population
Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	9,933	100	3,605	100	569.1	100	133.6	100	435.5	100	100
1946-47	10,414	105	3,164	88	487.8	86	153.3	115	333.5	77	70
1947-48	10,700	108	3,378	94	562.0	99	164.3	123	386.8	89	80
1948-49	10,965	110	3,494	97	577.3	101	152.9	114	432.4	99	87
1949-50	11,449	115	3,608	100	606.5	107	153.4	115	462.9	106	91
1950-51	12,080	122	3,735	104	651.5	114	138.0	103	503.2	116	96
1951-52	11,921	120	3,686	102	581.9	102	114.3	86	468.6	108	87
1952-53	12,160	122	3,966	110	674.8	119	198.0	148	480.2	110	87
1953-54	12,390	125	4,416	122	704.3	124	249.5	187	459.8	106	82
1954-55	12,600	127	4,485	124	719.9	126	234.7	176	476.3	109	82
1955-56 (c)	13,134	132	4,612	128	749.7	132	247.9	186	511.1	117	86
1956-57 (d)	(e)	(e)	4,650	129	770.0	135	210.0	157	560.0	129	93

(a) Includes exports of canned meat in terms of carcass weight. (b) Carcass weight.
(c) Subject to revision. (d) Estimated. (e) Not yet available.

(vi) MUTTON AND LAMB: Particulars of sheep and lamb numbers and mutton and lamb production exports and apparent consumption are shown in the following table.

Numbers of sheep and lambs have risen each year since 1947. It is estimated that the increase of 6.3 per cent. recorded between 1955 and 1956 will be exceeded by an 8.6 per cent. increase between 1956 and 1957. Estimated numbers at March, 1957 are 150.6 million.

Mutton and lamb production has declined from the peak reached in 1952-53, due partly to high average wool prices and partly to increased carrying capacity of farms which has resulted in a substantial reduction in slaughterings. Production during the first nine months of 1956-57 was 11 per cent. below the corresponding period of 1955-56, but it is anticipated that slaughterings will be at an increased rate during the final three months.

Exports of mutton and lamb (including carcass equivalent of canned meat exports) have exceeded the pre-war level in only two years, 1949-50 and 1952-53. In 1955-56, they were 27 per cent. below pre-war and current estimates indicate they will be much lower in 1956-57.

Apparent consumption of mutton and lamb per head has fluctuated considerably since the war. Up to 1951-52 it was lower than pre-war, but in the following four years it was at or slightly above the pre-war level. Consumption per head in 1956-57 is estimated to have fallen again to about 7 per cent. below pre-war.

**TABLE 8 : SHEEP NUMBERS AND PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION
OF MUTTON AND LAMB : AUSTRALIA**

(Base of Indexes - Average 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100)

Year	No. of Sheep and Lambs at March		No. of Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered for Meat		Production of Mutton and Lamb		Exports of Mutton and Lamb (a)		Apparent Consumption of Mutton and Lamb		
	Mill-ion	Index	Mill-ion	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	'000 tons (b)	Index	
										Total	Per Head of Population
Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	111.6	100	18.9	100	319.0	100	88.8	100	230.2	100	100
1946-47	95.7	86	17.9	95	302.6	95	80.3	90	231.4	101	92
1947-48	102.6	92	16.6	88	295.3	93	59.0	66	241.5	105	94
1948-49	108.7	97	18.3	97	320.4	100	54.3	61	256.7	112	98
1949-50	112.9	101	20.3	107	358.1	112	101.6	114	264.5	115	98
1950-51	115.6	104	15.7	83	274.3	86	34.2	39	236.4	103	85
1951-52	117.6	105	16.0	85	282.4	89	23.8	27	248.3	108	87
1952-53	123.1	110	21.8	115	395.1	124	93.3	105	306.1	133	105
1953-54	126.9	114	21.0	111	364.8	114	59.1	67	315.1	137	106
1954-55	130.8	117	22.2	117	388.2	122	68.9	78	320.0	139	105
1955-56 (c)	139.1	125	20.8	110	375.9	118	65.0	73	311.6	135	100
1956-57 (d)	150.6	135	19.3	102	335.0	105	38.5	43	296.5	129	93

(a) Includes exports of canned meat in terms of carcass weight. (b) Carcass weight.
(c) Subject to revision. (d) Estimated.

(vii) OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS: Particulars of production, exports and consumption of other food products for 1955-56 in comparison with earlier years are shown in detail in later sections of this Bulletin.

(viii) CONSUMPTION OF FOODSTUFFS: Details of the apparent consumption of foodstuffs and beverages expressed in pounds per head of population per annum are shown in fourteen commodity groups in the following table for the average of the three years 1936-37 to 1938-39, the average of the three years 1946-47 to 1948-49 and for each year 1953-54 to 1955-56. Apparent consumption per head of population for several commodities during 1955-56 was slightly lower than in the previous year, these items being meat, eggs, butter, potatoes, vegetables and grain products. Small increases were registered in the other commodity groups. The increase in the consumption of beverages was due to a 2 per cent. increase in beer consumption and small increases in coffee and wine.

The estimated quantities of foodstuffs entering consumption shown in the various tables throughout this Bulletin are over-stated by the inclusion of food which has been exported in the form of individual gifts forwarded by parcel post. Further reference to these exports will be found in earlier issues of this Bulletin. For details of the method of calculating consumption and the deficiencies in the various statistics see the Preface to this Bulletin.

TABLE 9 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES OF FOODSTUFFS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity Group	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
1. Milk and Milk Products (excluding Butter) : Total Milk Solids (Fat and Non-Fat)	39.3	49.1	47.8	46.6	47.4
2. Meats including cured and canned and edible offal (as carcass weight)	253.0	215.7	223.5	228.7	228.4
3. Poultry, Game and Fish (edible weight)	16.8	18.5	18.6	19.2	19.1
4. Eggs and Egg Products (Fresh equivalent)	26.6	27.9	22.3	22.8	22.2
5. Oils, and Fats, including Butter (Fat content)	37.6	30.9	36.8	36.8	35.8
6. Sugar and syrups (sugar content)	112.0	125.3	117.3	118.4	119.7
7. Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes	106.2	125.7	123.6	104.2	91.2
8. Pulse and Nuts (edible weight)	5.3	9.2	10.1	9.8	8.2
9. Tomatoes and Citrus Fruit (fresh fruit equivalent)	47.6	62.5	56.3	60.1	65.4
10. Other Fruit and Fruit Products (fresh fruit equivalent)	141.7	140.7	127.5	127.8	133.5
11. Leafy, Green and Yellow Vegetables	(b)69.1	53.0	44.6	43.2	44.0
12. Other Vegetables	(b)58.9	79.2	63.9	60.3	56.3
13. Grain Products	205.3	218.1	208.8	204.0	200.4
14. Beverages (Tea, Coffee, Beer and Wine)	130.5	189.9	252.7	261.1	266.7

(a) Subject to revision. (b) These figures relate to 1943; in the absence of data for the pre-war period, consumption is assumed to be the same as in 1943 for the purpose of nutrient calculations.

2. LEVEL OF NUTRIENT INTAKE, 1955-56

NOTE: The Analysis in this Section is based on the statistics collected by the Commonwealth Statistician as set out elsewhere in this Bulletin and is therefore subject to the same qualifications. See the Preface for a statement of these qualifications.

In order to determine whether the quantities of the various foodstuffs passing into consumption are likely to be sufficient for adequate nutrition, it is necessary to calculate the amount of nutrients the foods provide. The basis for the calculations in this section of the Bulletin have been changed since issue No. 8, and Nos. 9, 10 and 11 are based on conversion factors calculated from "Tables of Composition of Australian Foods" (Osmond and Wilson, Canberra, 1954). Comparisons with years prior to 1952-53 (which has been revised on this basis) are therefore not entirely valid. However, with the exception of the figures shown for vitamin A, which have all been revised on the new basis, the change in conversion factors does not seriously affect comparison with years prior to 1952-53.

The nutritive value of the food passing into consumption during the year 1955-56 is shown in Table 13 following, and comparisons with previous years and with other countries in Tables 14 and 15 respectively.

In Tables 13-15 no allowances are made for losses of nutrients due to the effects of storage and cooking. Such losses may be considerable, but they are so variable that precise allowances cannot be estimated. Losses due to processing have been allowed for in the conversion factors used for processed and preserved foods.

Recommended Dietary Allowances.

The nutritive value of the food passing into consumption may be compared with some arbitrary standard such as quantities of nutrients recommended for consumption. The Recommended Dietary Allowances for Australia formulated by the Nutrition Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council (Medical Journal of Australia, 2:113, 1954) provide such a yardstick. It must be emphasised that these allowances do not necessarily represent nutrient requirements; rather were they devised for the planning of practical diets within the average Australian food pattern. Precise information concerning human requirements of certain nutrients is far from complete; and no conclusion regarding the nutritional status of the community should be drawn from comparisons with these recommended allowances. A deviation from the recommended allowance of the order of 10-15% is not regarded as a serious deficiency. Even if the nutrient intake is more than 15% below the recommended allowance, a nutritional deficiency cannot be assumed without clinical verification.

The calculated figures, being averages, give no information regarding the food consumption of individuals or of specific groups within the population. Also, the figures represent foods available for consumption, which is not strictly the same as food consumed. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations estimates that up to 15% of food available may be wasted in communities with a plentiful food supply.

With these reservations, the nutrients available for consumption are compared in Table 12 with the recommended allowances. The recommended allowances are averages weighted according to the various age groups in the population. Such a comparison is useful as an indication of trends in food consumption even though no inferences of nutritional deficiency are valid.

Losses of Nutrients

As a result of storage and cooking, certain foods, particularly fruit and vegetables, could lose some of their nutritive value. An estimate of possible losses of thiamine and ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) in cooking has been made and the factors applied to the nutrients available for consumption. Losses of other nutrients do occur but not in amounts that are likely to be significant. Losses due to storage have not been estimated.

Losses of vitamin C cover a wide range, from almost nil to 100%. The estimates given in the following two tables are applicable to average conditions and methods, but losses could be reduced to less than these figures by careful cooking.

TABLE 10 : AVERAGE LOSS OF VITAMIN C IN COOKING

Food	Estimated average loss of Vitamin C in cooking
Leafy Green Vegetables	60%
Potatoes	50% (Cooked in skin, negligible loss) (Boiled and mashed, 60% or more)
Other Vegetables	50%
Stewed Fruit	50%

Losses from tomatoes, citrus fruit and other uncooked fruits and vegetables are assumed to be negligible while losses in canning and drying of fruit and vegetables have already been accounted for in the calculations made for the figures in Table 13.

TABLE 11 : ESTIMATED VITAMIN C AVAILABLE AFTER ALLOWANCE FOR COOKING LOSSES, 1955-56
(Per Head per Day)

Food	Calculated Value (See Table No. 13) mg	Amount Available
Milk	4	(a)
Meat	2	(a)
Tomatoes and Citrus Fruit	24	24
Other Fruit -		
Fresh and Canned	5	4
Cooked	4	2
Potatoes	21	10
Leafy Green and Yellow Vegetables -		
Cabbage and Greens	6	2
Lettuce, canned vogs.	1	1
Carrots, legumes	3	1
Other Vegetables	13	6
TOTAL:	83	50

(a) Some vitamin C could be retained in these foods.

The table below shows the quantity of nutrients available for intake in the Australian diet (as shown in Table 13) less estimated cooking losses, compared with the desirable quantities recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

There is a significant loss of Thiamine in the cooking of meat and vegetables, the amount of loss depending on the method and duration of cooking. In a normal mixed diet it is accurate enough to allow 15 per cent. deduction from the total Thiamine available.

TABLE 12 : NUTRIENTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION IN AUSTRALIA, 1955-56, COMPARED WITH
RECOMMENDED ALLOWANCES
(Per Head per Day)

Nutrient	Recommended Allowances	Nutrients available less estimated cooking losses	Nutrients available expressed as a percentage excess (+) or deficiency (-) on recommended allowances
Calories	2260	3276	(+)45.0
Protein, g.	61	88	(+)44.2
Calcium, mg.	930	782	(-)15.9
Vitamin A, I.U.	4480	7047	(+)57.2
Thiamine, mg.	1.13	1.12	(-) 0.9
Riboflavin, mg.	1.5	1.7	(+)13.3
Niacin, mg.	11.3	17.6	(+)55.8
Ascorbic acid, mg.	33	50	(+)51.5

The number of Calories available in 1955-56 measuring the energy-yielding value of the diet, decreased very slightly compared with 1954-55, but still reached the high level of 3275 Calories. This decrease reflected a slightly lower consumption of meat and grain products, potatoes, nuts and pulses, which was not quite offset by the slightly increased consumption of fats, sugar and milk.

The consumption of Protein was slightly lower than the 1954-55 figure, due to a slightly decreased consumption of pulses, nuts and grain products.

The quantities of iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin consumed were not significantly different from those of the previous year.

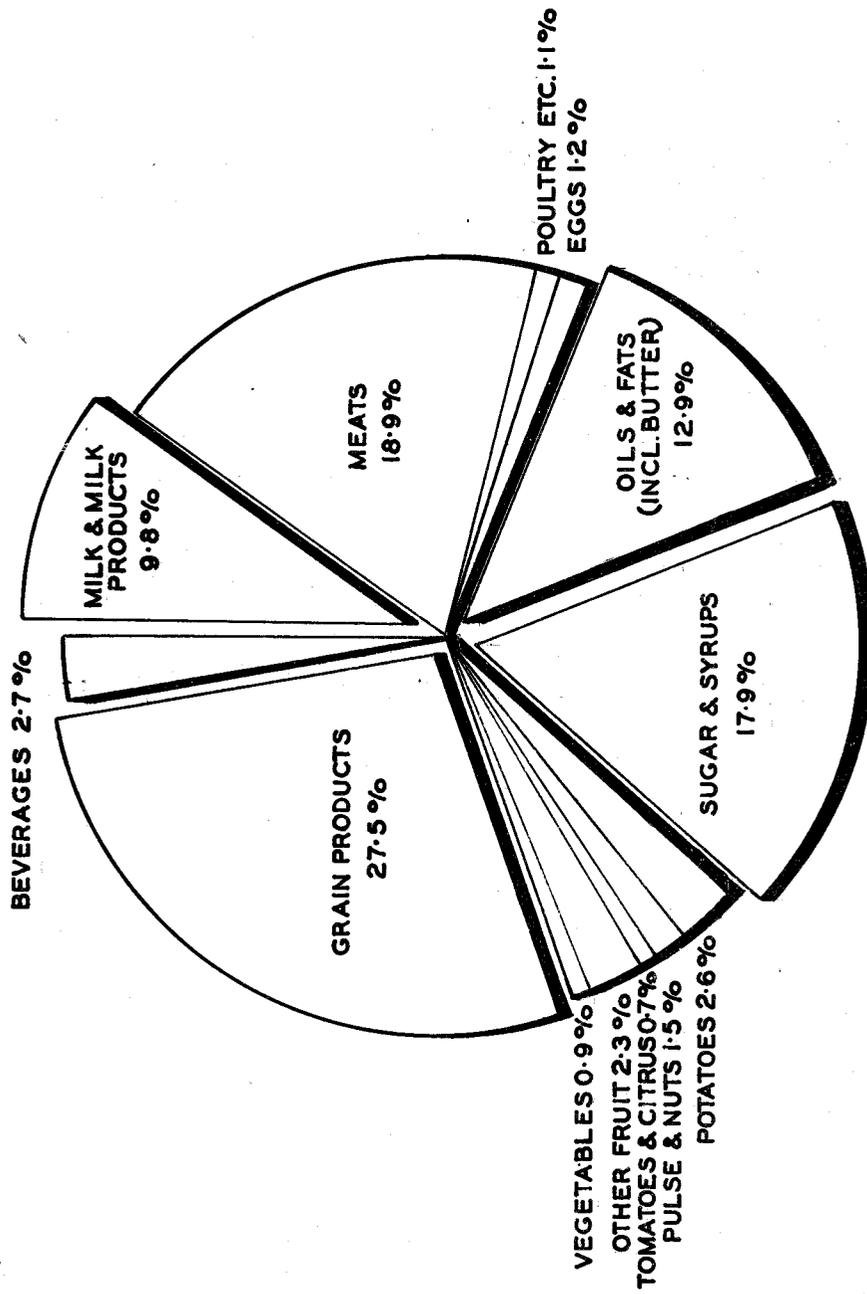
Although the intake of vitamin A was lower, mainly due to the lower consumption of fruits and vegetables, (other than tomatoes and citrus) it was well in excess of the recommended allowances. As a result of our high meat consumption protein and niacin are also well in excess. A satisfactory margin of riboflavin was available.

The intake of calcium increased to 782 mg., a figure lower than the recommended allowance of 930 mg. The consumption of fluid whole milk did not alter, the increased calcium being almost entirely supplied by a higher consumption of skim milk, concentrated milk (used in ice-cream), and infants and invalid foods.

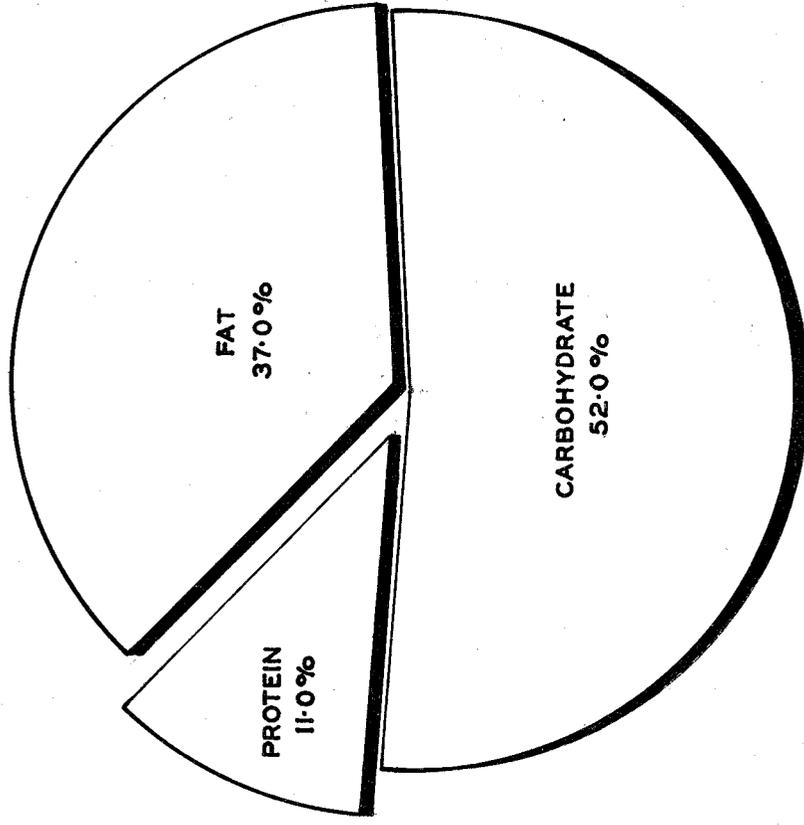
The amount of ascorbic acid available was of a satisfactory level. Even when cooking losses are allowed for, there was a satisfactory margin over the recommended allowances. This margin, however, could easily be reduced if unsatisfactory methods of storage and cooking were used.

The amount of thiamine available for consumption could be marginal unless losses were minimised by conservative cooking methods. Table 13 shows that fats (including butter) and sugars, although providing 30% of the calories, provide no thiamine. It is the relatively high consumption of these foods, particularly sugar, that unbalances the thiamine intake, rather than the lack of specifically thiamine-rich foods.

SOURCE OF CALORIES IN THE AUSTRALIAN DIET, 1955-56



CALORIE INTAKE BY TYPE OF FOOD



CALORIE INTAKE BY TYPE OF NUTRIENT

TABLE 13 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES OF NUTRIENTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA, 1955-56
(Subject to revision)
(Per Head per Day)

Commodity Group	Protein g.	Fat g.	Carbo- hydrate g.	Calcium mg.	Iron mg.	Vitamin A I.U.	Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C) mg.	Thiamine (Vita- min B1) mg.	Ribo- flavin mg.	Niacin mg.	Energy Value- Calories
Milk and Milk Products (excluding butter)	16.8	19.1	20.6	603	0.14	911	4.0	0.180	0.800	0.50	321
Meats, including canned and cured and edible offal (carcass weight)	31.4	53.9	0.4	19	5.27	228	1.7	0.283	0.481	8.57	620
Poultry, Game and Fish (edible weight)	5.2	1.6	-	11	0.56	4	-	0.020	0.032	1.90	37
Eggs and Egg Products (fresh equivalent)	3.0	2.7	0.2	13	0.64	273	-	0.024	0.069	0.02	39
Oils and Fats including butter (fat content)	0.4	46.7	-	6	0.09	1,560	-	-	0.004	0.04	423
Sugar and Syrups (sugar content)	-	-	148.3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	587
Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes	2.0	-	19.8	8	0.70	-	20.8	0.119	0.040	1.19	85
Pulse and Nuts (edible weight)	1.9	3.4	3.0	5	0.49	6	0.1	0.020	0.015	0.48	48
Tomatoes and Citrus Fruit (fresh fruit equivalent)	0.6	0.1	5.8	18	0.27	482	24.2	0.043	0.020	0.21	23
Other fruit and fruit products (fresh fruit equivalent)	0.6	-	20.1	11	0.50	263	9.8	0.045	0.053	0.58	75
Leafy, Green and Yellow Vegetables	0.8	-	2.8	19	0.47	3,092	9.8	0.039	0.038	0.27	14
Other Vegetables	0.7	-	3.2	15	0.32	228	12.6	0.027	0.032	0.26	15
Grain Products	24.7	3.9	189.7	52	3.77	-	-	0.406	0.058	3.15	900
Beverages (Tea, coffee, beer and wine)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.061	0.47	89
TOTAL:	88.1	131.4	413.9	782	13.22	7,047	83.0	1.206	1.703	17.64	3,276

TABLE 14 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES OF NUTRIENTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA
(Per Head per Day)

Nutrients	Unit	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55 (a)	1955-56 (a)
Protein Animal	g.	58.7	57.4	57.6	56.5	57.3	56.8	56.8
Vegetable	g.	30.9	35.3	34.2	33.0	33.8	33.1	31.3
Total	g.	89.6	92.7	91.8	89.5	91.1	89.9	88.1
Fat from all sources	g.	133.5	121.7	125.6	129.5	132.5	133.1	131.4
Carbohydrate	g.	377.4	424.8	414.5	421.1	426.8	416.1	413.9
Calcium	mg.	642	785	784	758	800	758	782
Iron	mg.	15.4	15.1	14.9	14.0	14.2	13.9	13.2
Vitamin A	I.U.	8,457	7,982	8,083	7,200	7,254	7,084	7,047
Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)	mg.	86	96	83	80	90	83	83
Thiamine (Vitamin B1)	mg.	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
Riboflavin	mg.	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
Niacin	mg.	18.7	17.6	19.9	18.1	18.6	18.5	17.6
Energy Value - Calories		3,117	3,245	3,240	3,261	3,338	3,296	3,276

(a) Subject to Revision.

NOTE : As from 1952-53 new conversion factors have been used, based on factors contained in "Tables of Composition of Australian Foods" (Arita Osmond and Winifred Wilson, Canberra, 1954), but the comparison with previous years has not been significantly affected. Vitamin A is on a revised basis for all years shown.

3. PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES(i) Milk and Milk Products (Excluding Butter)

The production of whole milk for all purposes during the year 1955-56 was approximately 1,405.2 million gallons a record. This was 79.4 million gallons more than the previous record established the preceding year.

During the three years ended 1938-39, 78 per cent. of Australia's milk supply was used for butter-making, 5 per cent. for cheese manufacture, 3 per cent. for condensery products and 14 per cent. for fluid consumption and other purposes. Since the war, there has been a considerable decline in the use of milk for butter although in more recent years with increasing production of milk there has been some reversal of this trend. The proportions in 1955-56 were 69 per cent. for butter, 6 per cent. for cheese, 5 per cent. for condensery products and 20 per cent. for other purposes.

Details of the quantity of whole milk produced and used for various purposes in the years 1951-52 to 1955-56 are shown in the following table in comparison with the average for the three years 1936-37 to 1938-39, and the average for the three years 1946-47 to 1948-49.

TABLE 16: WHOLE MILK, PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 Gallons)

Year	Total Whole Milk Produced	Quantity Used for			
		Butter (Factory & Farm)	Cheese (Factory & Farm)	Condensery Products	Other Purposes
Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	1,141,776	891,755	54,933	33,226	161,862
Average 1946-47 to 1948-59	1,153,236	738,370	91,642	78,739	244,485
1951-52	1,047,376	626,560	87,360	76,496	256,960
1952-53	1,215,241	771,522	100,224	83,655	259,840
1953-54	1,189,652	737,474	105,870	75,995	270,313
1954-55	1,325,799	886,652	98,569	64,365	276,213
1955-56 (a)	1,405,177	966,737	83,774	72,631	282,035

(a) Subject to revision.

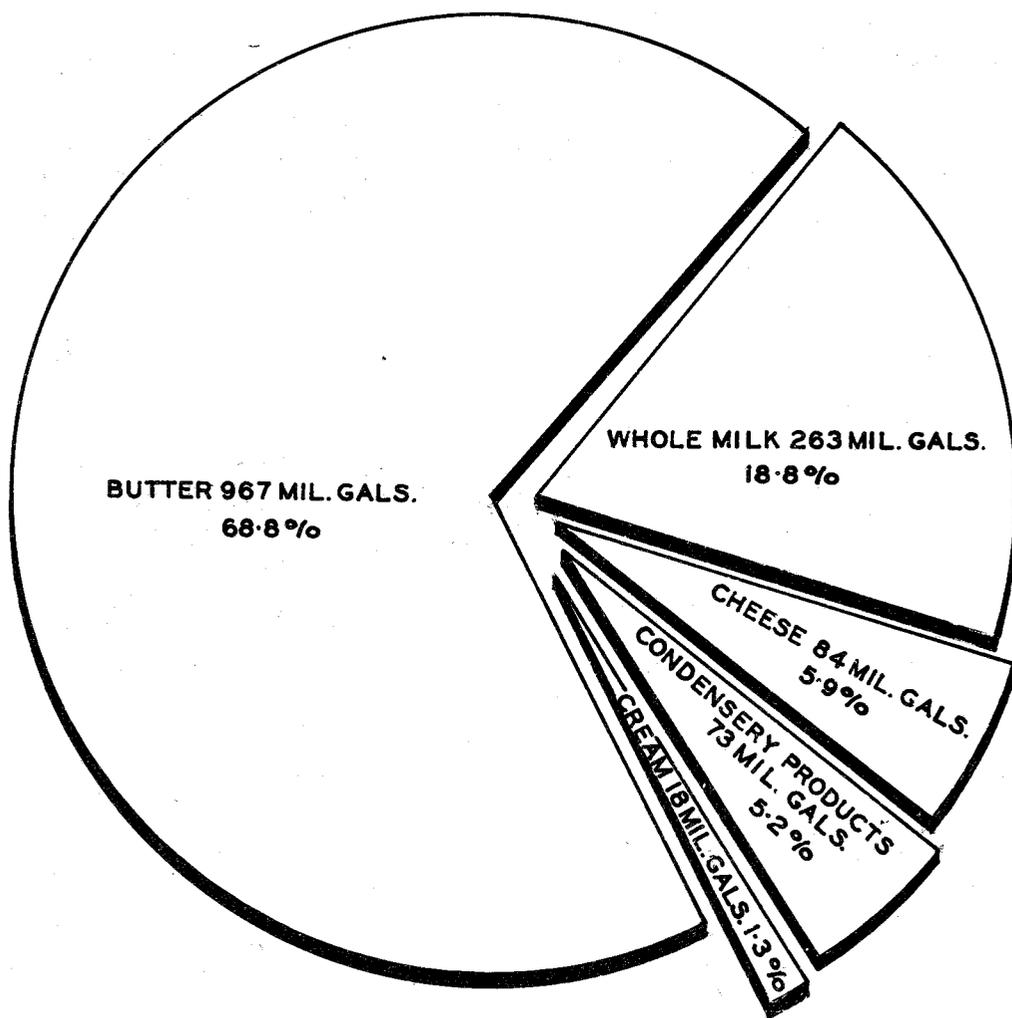
Details of the production and utilization of milk and milk products (excluding butter) are shown in the tables below for the year 1955-56 in comparison with the earlier periods specified.

During 1955-56, production of condensed and concentrated milk was approximately 11,200 tons (23 per cent) more than the quantity produced in the previous year but was still 2,100 tons below 1953-54. Powdered milk production increased substantially by 7,600 tons or 19 per cent. Infants' and invalids' foods also showed a marked production increase of 2,200 tons or 20 per cent. The output of all preserved milk products expressed in terms of whole milk equivalent amounted to 72.6 million gallons, which was 8.3 million gallons (13 per cent) higher than output in the previous year but 16.9 million gallons (19 per cent) less than the record production of 1949-50.

Exports of condensery products in 1955-56 increased with greater production. In the case of powdered milk exports exceeded the previous record shipments of 25,700 tons in 1952-53

Cheese production in 1955-56 fell again for the second successive year to its lowest post-war level, being 6,500 tons (14 per cent) less than 1954-55 and 10,500 tons (21 per cent) less than the record production of 1953-54.

MILK: PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION 1955-56



TOTAL PRODUCTION 1,405 MILLION GALLONS

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. JULY, 1957

TABLE 17 : MILK : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
(Million gallons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Net Change in Stocks	-	-	-	-	-
Production	1,142	1,153	1,190	1,326	1,405
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	1,142	1,153	1,190	1,326	1,405
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Uses (b)	981	920	937	1,068	1,142
Apparent Consumption (c)	161	233	253	258	263

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Used in the manufacture of butter and cheese and condensed etc. milk products and consumed as sweet cream. (c) Includes small quantities of milk consumed as ice cream for miscellaneous manufacturing purposes and fed whole to livestock.

TABLE 18 : MILK PRODUCTS (EXCLUDING BUTTER) : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
(Note: Butter is included with Oils and Fats; see Section v)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
<u>CONDENSED AND CONCENTRATED MILK ('000 Tons)</u>					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (b)	(c)	(-) 1.1	(-) 1.0	(+) 1.3	(+) 0.9
Production	21.7	56.9	61.9	48.6	59.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	21.7	58.0	62.9	47.3	58.9
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	8.5	32.4	27.7	20.4	25.3
Apparent Consumption	13.2	25.6	35.2	26.9	33.6

POWDERED MILK (d) ('000 tons)

Net Change in Factory Stocks (b)	(c)	(-) 0.2	(+) 0.8	(+) 0.1	(+) 0.2
Production	9.5	21.4	38.7	40.2	47.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	9.5	21.6	37.9	40.1	47.6
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	1.4	8.7	23.6	24.8	29.4
Apparent Consumption	8.1	12.9	14.3	15.3	18.2

INFANTS' AND INVALIDS' FOODS (INCLUDING MALTED MILK) (e) ('000 tons)

Net Change in Factory Stocks (b)	(c)	(-) 0.2	(-) 1.7	(-) 0.5	(-) 1.8
Production	3.2	9.3	11.7	10.9	13.1
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	3.2	9.5	13.4	11.4	14.9
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	0.2	5.2	5.8	5.9	6.9
Apparent Consumption	3.0	4.3	7.6	5.5	8.0

CHEESE ('000 Tons)

Net Change in cold Store Stocks (b)	(c)	(-) 1.0	(+) 0.1	(-) 0.9	(-) 1.6
Production	24.9	42.3	49.1	45.1	38.6
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	24.9	43.3	49.0	46.0	40.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	11.5	24.3	22.8	22.2	17.3
Apparent Consumption	13.4	19.0	26.2	23.8	22.9

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Including Imports. (c) Not available.

(d) Excludes Powdered Butter Milk and Whey. (e) Includes small quantities of non-fat malted milk.

In the next table details of the estimated supplies of milk and milk products (excluding butter) available for consumption per head of population are shown for the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 in comparison with the average for the three years ended 1938-39 and the average for the three years ended 1948-49.

**TABLE 19: SUPPLIES OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS (EXCLUDING BUTTER)
AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA**

(lb. per head per annum)

Note : Butter is included with Oils and Fats; see Section v)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Fluid Whole Milk -					
Estimated Weight (b)	240.2	312.6	291.1	291.1	291.5
Actual quantity in gallons	(23.4)	(30.5)	(28.4)	(28.4)	(28.3)
Fresh Cream	6.4	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
Condensed Milk					
Full Cream -					
Unsweetened)					
Sweetened)	3.2	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.5
Skim Sweetened)					
Concentrated Whole Milk (c)	1.1	3.5	4.9	2.5	3.6
Powdered Milk - Full Cream	2.6	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.4
Skim	-	0.6	1.0	1.4	2.0
Infants' and Invalids' Foods (Including Malted Milk) (d)	1.0	1.3	1.9	1.4	1.9
Cheese	4.4	5.6	6.6	5.9	5.5
Total - As Milk Solids (e)	39.3	49.1	47.8	46.6	47.4

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Estimated weight of a gallon of milk, 10.25 lb. (c) Mainly consumed as ice-cream. (d) Includes small quantities of non-fat malted milk. (e) The total figures are in terms of milk solids. Figures for individual commodities are actual net weights.

The apparent consumption per head of fluid milk increased from 240.2 lb. pre-war to a peak of 316.7 lb. in 1948-49, but has since declined to 291.5 lb. in 1955-56. The lowest post-war level was reached in 1952-53 at 285.0 lb. Consumption per head in 1955-56 was 8 per cent. less than the peak in 1948-49, but 21 per cent. greater than pre-war. These trends in fluid milk consumption are largely reflected in consumption of all milk and milk products (excluding butter) which increased from 39.3 lb. (as milk solids) pre-war to 49.5 lb. 1948-49 but subsequently declined to 45.3 lb. in 1952-53. Consumption has fluctuated at a level slightly in excess of this over the three succeeding years, being 47.4 lb. in 1955-56.

(ii) Meat

Production of meat (bone-in weight) in Australia during 1955-56 is estimated at 1,219,000 tons exclusive of approximately 59,200 tons of edible offal. This was 11,500 tons above the previous record level achieved in the preceding year and 30 per cent. above average production over the three years ended 1948-49.

The production of beef and veal was a record at 749,700 tons, being 29,800 tons above the previous record achieved in 1954-55 and 207,300 tons (38 per cent.) above the average for the three years ended 1948-49.

During 1955-56 there was a decline in the production of mutton to 4 per cent. below the previous year. Lamb output also decreased, by 2 per cent.

The production of pork at 42,800 tons declined from the post-war peak reached in 1954-55 by 9 per cent. It is still, however, substantially above average production in the post-war period.

Bacon and Ham production at 37,200 tons was slightly below that for the previous year, and was considerably below the average production of 45,100 tons over the three years 1946-47 to 1948-49.

The production of edible offal, which is not included with the carcass weight, is estimated at 59,200 tons in 1955-56 compared with 60,700 tons in 1954-55 and average production of 48,000 tons during the years 1936-37 to 1938-39.

Comparative details of the production of each class of meat are shown in the table below.

TABLE 20 : PRODUCTION OF MEAT (BONE-IN WEIGHT) : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Class of Meat	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Beef and Veal	569.1	542.4	704.3	719.9	749.7
Mutton	201.4	176.5	237.6	240.6	231.5
Lamb	117.6	129.6	127.2	147.6	144.4
Pork (b)	45.4	31.5	33.4	47.2	42.8
Bacon and Ham (Cured Weight) (c)	32.5	45.1	37.0	38.4	37.2
Total Pigmear (as Pork)	94.1	92.8	83.7	99.4	93.4
Total:	982.2	941.3	1,152.8	1,207.5	1,219.0
Offal (Edible)	48.0	45.9	57.7	60.7	59.2

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Includes estimates for trimmings from baconer carcasses.
(c) Includes pressed and canned bacon and ham converted to bone-in-weight.

Particulars of the production and utilization of meat are shown in the three tables which follow. In the first table, separate details are given for each class of carcass meat, distinguishing between the quantities exported or consumed as fresh or frozen meat and the quantities used for canning and curing. The next table shows particulars of the production and utilization of processed meat, (canned meat and bacon and ham) and total output of processed meat in terms of carcass equivalent weight. Total production and utilization of all meat (excluding offal) expressed in terms of carcass equivalent weight is shown in the third table.

During 1955-56 exports of carcass meat amounted to 217,600 tons. This was higher than for any other post-war year, but was 2.6 per cent below the average for the three years 1936-37 to 1938-39. The increase of 19,800 tons compared with the previous year was due to a 20 per cent. increase in beef and veal exports, the quantity of mutton, lamb and pigmeats exported altering only slightly. Exports of canned meat at 57,500 tons were still at a relatively high level but have fallen for the third successive year from the record of 1952-53.

Total meat exports (including canned and cured meat expressed in terms of carcass meat), are estimated at 320,000 tons in 1955-56, which was slightly below the record exports of 1953-54 but 5,000 tons greater than the previous year.

Apparent Australian consumption of meat (including cured and canned in terms of carcass weight) was a record at 907,700 tons in 1955-56 compared with 884,900 tons in 1954-55 and average consumption for the years 1946-47 to 1948-49 of 706,600 tons.

TABLE 24 : CARCASS MEAT (a) : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons, Bone-in weight)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
BEEF AND VEAL					
Net Change in Meat Board Stocks (c) Production	(d) 569.1	(+) 1.5 542.4	(-) 7.1 704.3	(+) 3.5 719.9	(-) 7.5 749.7
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	569.1	540.9	711.4	716.4	757.2
Exports (including Ships' Stores) For Canning	120.8 18.0	101.6 66.6	154.8 101.4	137.4 107.0	164.6 110.5
Apparent Consumption	430.3	372.7	455.2	472.0	482.1
MUTTON					
Net Change in Meat Board Stocks Production	(d) 201.4	(-) 0.5 176.5	(-) 7.2 237.6	(-) 0.7 240.6	(-) 1.1 231.5
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	201.4	177.0	244.8	241.3	232.6
Exports For Canning	17.3 -	14.8 8.2	24.9 15.5	15.1 14.3	15.4 15.9
Apparent Consumption	184.1	154.0	204.4	211.9	201.3
LAMB					
Net Change in Meat Board Stocks Production	(d) 117.6	(-) 1.5 129.6	(+) 0.7 127.2	(-) 0.4 147.6	(+) 0.1 144.4
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	117.6	131.1	126.5	148.0	144.3
Exports Apparent Consumption	71.6 46.0	45.0 86.1	19.7 106.8	42.4 105.6	36.5 107.8
PIGMEAT (AS PORK)					
Net Change in Meat Board Stocks Production	(d) 94.1	(-) 1.2 92.8	(-) 1.1 83.7	(-) 0.5 99.4	(-) 0.7 93.4
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	94.1	94.0	84.8	99.9	94.1
Exports For Canning and Curing	13.7 48.6	6.3 63.4	1.2 53.1	2.9 55.6	1.1 52.9
Apparent Consumption (e)	31.8	24.3	30.5	41.4	40.1
TOTAL CARCASS MEAT					
Net Change in Meat Board Stocks (c) Production	(d) 982.2	(-) 1.7 941.3	(-) 14.7 1,152.8	(+) 1.9 1,207.5	(-) 9.2 1,219.0
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	982.2	943.0	1,167.5	1,205.6	1,228.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores) For Canning and Curing	223.4 66.6	167.7 138.2	200.6 170.0	197.8 176.9	217.6 179.3
Apparent Consumption	692.2	637.1	796.9	830.9	831.3

(a) Excludes offal. (b) Subject to revision. (c) Includes imports. (d) Not available.
(e) Pork, including smallgoods and estimates for trimmings from baconer carcasses.

TABLE 22 : PROCESSED MEAT : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION (a) : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
CANNED MEAT (Canned Weight)					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c) Production	(d) 12.0	(-) 2.8 49.0	(-) 3.4 69.5	(+) 3.3 75.2	(+) 2.7 70.6
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	12.0	51.8	72.9	71.9	67.9
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores) Apparent Consumption	5.5 6.5	42.8 9.0	65.0 7.9	62.0 9.9	57.5 10.4
BACON AND HAM (Cured Weight)					
Net Change in Factory Stocks Production	(d) 32.5	- 45.1	(+) 0.4 37.0	(-) 0.2 38.4	(+) 0.4 37.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	32.5	45.1	36.6	38.6	36.8
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores) For Canning Apparent Consumption	1.0 - 31.5	3.1 2.1 39.9	1.6 6.5 28.5	0.9 5.5 32.2	0.7 5.1 31.0
TOTAL PROCESSED MEAT (CARCASS EQUIVALENT WEIGHT)					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c) Production	(d) 66.6	(-) 1.6 138.2	(-) 1.2 170.0	(+) 5.7 176.9	(+) 0.5 179.3
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	66.6	139.8	171.2	171.2	178.8
Exports Apparent Consumption	9.0 57.6	70.3 69.5	122.2 49.0	117.2 54.0	102.4 76.4

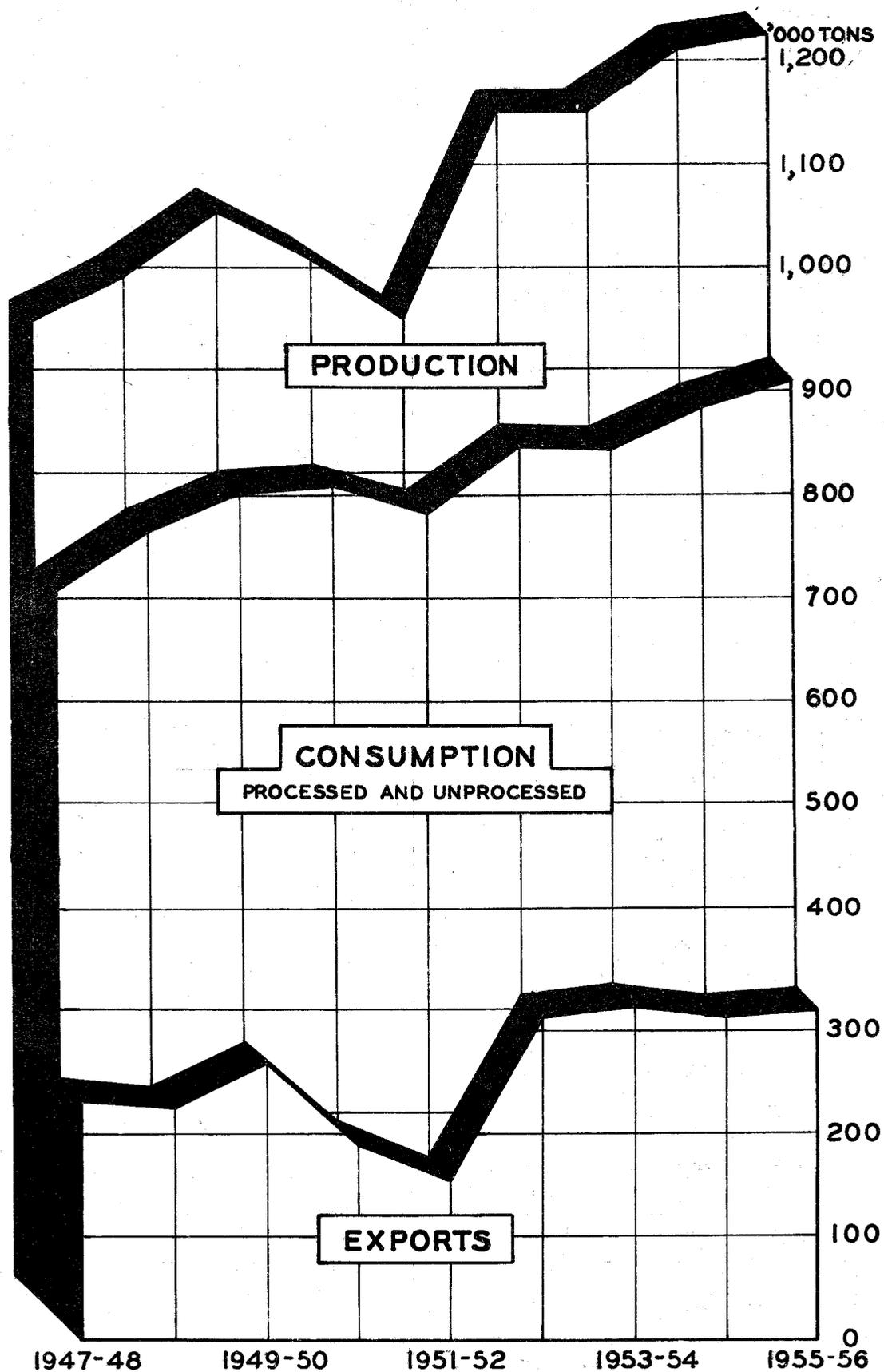
(a) Excluding offal. (b) Subject to revision. (c) Includes imports. (d) Not available.

TABLE 23 : TOTAL MEAT : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : IN TERMS OF CARCASS WEIGHT (a) : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
Net Change in Stocks (c) Production	(d) 982.2	(-) 3.3 941.3	(-) 15.9 1,152.8	(+) 7.6 1,207.5	(-) 8.7 1,219.0
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	982.2	944.6	1,168.7	1,199.9	1,227.7
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores) Apparent Consumption	232.4 749.8	238.0 706.6	322.8 845.9	315.0 844.9	320.0 907.7

(a) Excludes offal. (b) Subject to revision. (c) Includes imports. (d) Not available.

MEAT : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. JULY, 1957

As a result of the rationing of meat, the apparent consumption per head fell during the 1939-45 War and immediate post-war years, and has since remained at a lower level than pre-war. Consumption in 1955-56 was 228.4 lb. per head carcass weight. This is slightly lower than the previous year when 228.7 lb. were consumed and below the post-war record consumption of 232.9 lb during 1949-50.

Beef and veal consumption per head increased continuously from 86.7 lb. (carcass weight) in 1945 to 131.6 lb. in 1950-51. However, in succeeding years, consumption was lower, declining to 116.0 lb. during 1955-56. The consumption of mutton at 48.4 lb. per head carcass weight during 1955-56, while below that for the previous year was still above the general post-war level. Lamb consumption reached a post-war peak during 1952-53 at 28.8 lb. per head, but fell to 26.0 lb. during 1954-55 and again to 25.9 lb. in 1955-56. This was still considerably above the pre-war level.

Pork consumption (at 5.8 lb. per head) in 1952-53 was at the lowest level recorded for any post-war year, but increased to 10.2 lb. in 1954-55, the highest recorded since the war. It fell slightly to 9.6 lb. in 1955-56. The particulars relating to pork consumption embrace all pigmeats other than bacon and ham and include that used for smallgoods. At 7.5 lb. per head, bacon and ham consumption was 41 per cent. below the 1946-47 peak of 12.7 lb.

Owing to divergent cutting practices by butchers in this country and because of the difficulty of clearly defining the term "retail weight of meat", it is considered impracticable to derive a satisfactory factor for the purposes of expressing estimated meat consumption in terms of retail weight. Depending on cutting practices employed and whether or not bones etc. sold to customers are included in retail weight of meat, the retail weight as a proportion of carcass weight ranges from about 60 per cent. to 75 per cent. for beef, from 80 per cent. to 95 per cent. for mutton and lamb and from 90 per cent. to 95 per cent. for pork. However, approximate estimates of the edible weight of meat consumed have been used for the purpose of calculating nutrient intake.

TABLE 24 : SUPPLIES OF MEAT (INCLUDING CURED, CANNED AND EDIBLE OFFAL) AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Beef and Veal (b)	144.1	109.1	114.6	116.3	116.0
Mutton (b)	59.8	45.1	51.4	52.2	48.4
Lamb (b)	15.0	25.2	26.9	26.0	25.9
Pork (b)	10.4	7.1	7.7	10.2	9.6
Offal	8.4	8.9	10.6	10.7	10.1
Canned Meat (c)	(d)	2.6	2.0	2.4	2.5
Bacon and Ham (e)	10.2	11.7	7.2	7.9	7.5
Total (b) (f)	253.0	215.7	223.5	228.7	228.4

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Carcass weight. (c) Canned weight. (d) Included under fresh meat at its carcass weight. (e) Cured weight. (f) Includes Offal.

(iii) Poultry, Game and Fish

Although details of the quantities of poultry and game entering consumption in Australia cannot be measured precisely*, evidence available suggests that since the lifting of meat rationing on 21st June, 1948 there has been a fall in the consumption of poultry and game per head, which is estimated at 15.1 lb. carcass weight (8.8 lb. edible weight) during each of the years 1948-49 to 1955-56 compared with 16.1 lb. carcass weight (9.3 lb. edible weight) in 1947-48 and average consumption of 9.7 lb. carcass weight (5.6 lb. edible weight) during the three years ended 1938-39.

Although an important foodstuff in many countries, fish is not a staple item in the diet of Australians. During the 1939-45 War, while meat was rationed, the demand for fish increased, but owing to shortage of manpower and equipment, production was at a low level for some time. Production rose again in post-war years, however, to a peak of 81.3 million lb. (fresh round weight) in 1952-53, but has fallen consistently since, being 74.2 million lb. in 1954-55 and an estimated 67.4 million lb. in 1955-56. These figures exclude the catch by fishermen other than commercial fishermen, the production by "amateurs" being estimated as equal to 10 per cent. of commercial production for the purpose of this Bulletin.

Imports of fresh fish rose for the third successive year to 35.0 million lb. The increase in imports over the previous year, 1.4 million lb, was more than offset by the fall in production.

The consumption of fresh fish per head of population at 5.1 lb. edible weight during 1955-56 was 7.2 per cent less than that of the previous year. Consumption of cured fish, 1.0 lb. per head, did not alter from 1954-55.

The production of crustaceans and molluscs in 1955-56 totalled 40.7 million lb. (fresh round weight), a fall of 2.7 million lb. from 1954-55. Consumption fell from 1.1 lb. per head in 1954-55 to 1.0 lb. in 1955-56

Prior to the war, the consumption of canned fish in Australia was almost entirely from imported supplies, but since the war, fish canning in Australia has expanded considerably. Following the substantial reduction in imports during 1952-53 (to only 25 per cent. of the average of the two previous years), there was a return during subsequent years towards the general post-war level, and imports amounted to 23.2 million lb. in 1955-56 compared with 19.7 million lb. during 1954-55. During 1955-56 20% of canned fish consumed was from local supplies, consumption per head being 3.1 lb. (0.6 lb. local and 2.5 lb. imported).

Total consumption of fish (including canned) during 1955-56 is estimated at 94.8 million lb. edible weight (10.2 lb. per head) as compared with 94.2 million lb. edible weight (10.4 lb. per head) in the previous year. This is equivalent to approximately 186.5 million lb. fresh round weight and 185.8 million lb. fresh round weight respectively. Most of the increase in total consumption occurred in canned fish as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the increase more than offsetting the decline in the consumption of fresh fish and crustaceans and molluscs.

* See the preface of this Bulletin for an exposition of the methods of arriving at apparent consumption.

Particulars of the estimated supplies of each commodity included in this group available for consumption during the three pre-war years, the three post-war years and in each year 1953-54 to 1955-56 are shown in the table below.

**TABLE 25 : SUPPLIES OF POULTRY, GAME AND FISH AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION :
AUSTRALIA**

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Poultry (Carcass Weight)	9.7	10.4	9.7	9.7	9.7
Rabbits and Hares (Carcass Weight)		5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Fish (b) - Fresh	6.4	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.1
Cured (incl. Smoked & Salted)	(c)	(c)	0.8	1.0	1.0
Crustaceans & Molluscs	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.0
Canned - Australian Origin	4.1	3.0	0.8	0.6	0.6
Imported			1.7	2.2	2.5
Total Edible Weight:	16.8	18.5	18.6	19.2	19.1

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Edible weight. (c) Included with Fresh.

(iv) Eggs and Egg Products

Statistics of egg production must necessarily be accepted with some reserve. In the absence of a complete census of egg production, which would involve considerable labour and expense, it has been necessary to compute a figure based upon the best data available. The production shown in the following table is based upon the records of Egg Boards of production from areas under their control, plus estimates of production from uncontrolled areas and by "back-yard" poultry-keepers based on data obtained from other sources. On this basis, it is estimated that the level of total egg production in 1955-56 was about 113,200 tons (equivalent to about 193 million dozen) compared with maximum production of 122,000 tons (208 million dozen) in 1946-47 and the pre-war average of just under 90,000 tons or about 154 million dozen. It should be noted that the estimated decline in total egg production since 1946-47 is based very largely on trends in commercial production (controlled by Egg Boards). Data as to the trend in non-controlled production are at present inadequate.

Exports of shell eggs during 1955-56 amounted to 9,900 tons, compared with 12,200 tons during the previous year and average exports of 10,400 tons during the three years ended 1948-49. The post-war peak was during 1949-50 when 14,000 tons were exported.

Since the war, the production of egg pulp expressed in terms of weight of shell eggs has ranged between 14,400 tons and 21,200 tons, 15,900 tons being produced during 1955-56. The quantity of egg pulp exported was negligible prior to the war, but in 1955-56 amounted to 9,600 tons (expressed in terms of weight of shell eggs) which was 7,100 tons or 43 per cent. below the record exports of 1953-54.

The processing of egg powder was introduced during the war to meet the requirements of the Armed Forces and has since continued on a reduced scale. During 1955-56 213 tons (expressed in terms of weight of shell eggs) were produced, 6 tons of which were exported.

Comparative details of the production and utilization of eggs and egg products are shown in the following table : -

TABLE 26 : EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA

('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
<u>SHELL EGGS</u>					
Net Change in Egg Board Stocks	(b)	(+)0.1	(+)0.2	(-) 0.2	-
Production (c)	89.5	119.9	111.8	115.4	113.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	89.5	119.8	111.6	115.6	113.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	7.6	10.4	7.9	12.2	9.9
For pulp and powder and waste	3.2	22.9	20.9	17.5	16.3
Apparent Consumption	78.7	86.5	82.8	85.9	87.0
<u>EGG PULP (Liquid Whole) (d)</u>					
Net Change in Egg Board Stocks	(b)	(-)1.4	(-)1.7	(+) 0.2	(+)0.3
Production	3.2	20.0	20.6	17.1	15.9
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	3.2	21.4	22.3	16.9	15.6
Exports	0.3	12.0	16.7	9.8	9.6
Used for powder	-	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.2
Apparent Consumption	2.9	8.6	5.4	6.5	5.8
<u>EGG POWDER (d)</u>					
Net Change in Egg Board Stocks	-	(-)1.2	-	-	-
Production	-	3.2	0.2	0.6	0.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	-	4.4	0.2	0.6	0.2
Exports	-	4.4	-	0.5	-
Apparent Consumption	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.2
<u>TOTAL EGGS (d)</u>					
Net Change in Egg Board Stocks	(b)	(-)2.5	(-)1.5	-	(+) 0.3
Production	89.5	119.9	111.8	115.4	113.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	89.5	122.4	113.3	115.4	112.9
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	7.9	26.8	24.6	22.5	19.5
Wastage	-	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Apparent Consumption	81.6	95.1	88.4	92.5	93.0

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Not available

(c) Includes estimates for uncontrolled commercial production and production by self-suppliers.

(d) In terms of weight of shell eggs.

Apparent consumption of eggs (shell eggs, powder and pulp expressed as shell eggs) per head was 22.4 lb. (205 eggs) during 1955-56. Supplies of shell eggs and the shell egg equivalent of liquid whole egg per head available for consumption are detailed in the following table: -

**TABLE 27 : SUPPLIES OF EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS IN TERMS OF SHELL EGGS
AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION ; AUSTRALIA**

(Per head per annum)

Commodity		Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Shell Eggs	lb.	25.7	25.4	20.8	21.2	20.9
Egg Powder	lb.	-	-	0.1	-	0.1
Egg Pulp (Liquid Whole)	lb.	0.9	2.5	1.4	1.6	1.4
<u>Total:</u>	lb.	26.6	27.9	22.3	22.8	22.4
	No.(b)	243	255	204	209	205

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) The average weight of an egg in Australia is taken as 1.75 oz.

(v) Oils and Fats (including Butter)

Reference is made in Section 3 (i) to the usage of milk for butter making. Production of butter which was at a relatively high level in pre-war years (an average of 191,000 tons during the three years ended 1938-39) declined considerably after 1940-41 and in 1953-54 amounted to 159,500. During 1954-55, however, there was a marked increase (20 per cent) in production to 191,000 tons followed by a further increase (8 per cent) to 208,600 tons in 1955-56.

With the increase in production during the past two years, exports have risen considerably and in 1955-56 amounted to 83,800 tons or only 7 per cent below the average for the three years ended 1938-39.

The production of table margarine for consumption in Australia is restricted by State legislation. Principally because of the acute shortage of butter during 1951-52, the restrictions were varied by legislation to increase the maximum allowable production of table margarine. As a result, production increased from the post-war low of 3,800 tons during 1950-51 to 7,100 tons during 1951-52 and 1952-53. This increase was further maintained when 9,800 tons were produced in 1953-54 and 1954-55 and 13,000 tons in 1955-56.

The production of margarine other than table, amounted to 19,400 tons in 1955-56, which was somewhat below the level of recent years, but 7,000 tons above the average for the years 1936-37 to 1938-39.

Comparative details of the production and utilization of butter and of both grades of margarine are shown in the following table : -

TABLE 28 : BUTTER AND MARGARINE ; PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 Tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
BUTTER					
Net Change in Cold Store Stocks	(b)	(-) 3.6	(-) 3.0	(+) 4.9	(+) 3.1
Production	191.0	157.1	159.5	191.1	208.6
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	191.0	160.7	162.5	186.2	205.5
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores) (c)	90.0	76.0	40.9	63.7	83.8
Apparent Consumption	101.0	84.7	121.6	122.5	121.7
MARGARINE - TABLE					
Net Change in Factory Stocks	(b)	(-) 0.6	(+) 0.9	(+) 0.4	(+) 0.6
Production	2.8	6.4	9.8	9.8	13.0
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	2.8	7.0	8.9	9.4	12.4
Exports	-	4.0	0.4	0.3	0.1
Apparent Consumption	2.8	3.0	8.5	9.1	12.3
MARGARINE - OTHER					
Net Change in Factory Stocks	(b)	-	-	-	(+) 0.2
Production	12.2	18.9	22.3	22.0	19.4
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	12.2	18.9	22.3	22.0	19.2
Exports	-	0.2	-	-	-
Apparent Consumption	12.2	18.7	22.3	22.0	19.2

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Not available.

(c) Includes dry butter fat, ghee and tropical spread expressed as butter.

The termination of butter rationing in June 1950 was followed by a sharp increase in consumption of butter to a level approaching that of pre-war years (average consumption during the three years ended 1938-39 was 32.9 lb. per head). It has since fluctuated at around 30 lb. per head per annum, some tendency to a decline being evident in the last two years. Consumption per head in 1955-56 amounted to 29.3 lb. compared with 30.2 lb. in 1954-55 and 30.6 lb. in 1953-54.

Margarine consumption, which fell immediately following the termination of butter rationing, rose again in subsequent years and has since been at a higher level than pre-war or during the period of butter rationing. Although the total amount of margarine consumed per head has remained fairly constant at about 7.7 lb. over the last three years, there has been some transfer from other margarine to table margarine. In 1953-54, table margarine consumption amounted to 2.1 lb. per head and other margarine to 5.6 lb per head while in 1955-56 table margarine had risen to 3.0 lb. per head and other margarine had fallen to 4.6 lb. per head.

Details of the estimated supplies of "visible" fats and oils available for consumption per head of population are shown in the following table for the three years ended 1938-39, the three years ended 1948-49 and for each year 1953-54 to 1955-56.

TABLE 29 : SUPPLIES OF "VISIBLE" FATS AND OILS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION -
(AUSTRALIA)
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Butter	32.9	24.8	30.6	30.2	29.3
Margarine - Table	0.9	0.9	2.1	2.3	3.0
Other	4.0	5.2	5.6	5.4	4.6
Lard	1.7	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.2
Vegetable Oils and Other Fats (b)	4.7	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0
Total Fat Content:	37.6	30.9	36.8	36.8	35.8

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Based on consumer survey data of 1944; no data are available as to recent trends in consumption.

(iv) Sugar and Syrups

During the war, due to labour shortages, adverse seasonal conditions, etc. the output of cane sugar fell to levels well below those ruling in the immediate pre-war period. In post-war years, however, the position improved and by 1953-54 production had risen to a record 1,243,600 tons raw (1,283,500 tons at 94. n.t.). During 1954-55, there was a small decline to 1,218,100 tons raw, (1,263,200 tons at 94 n.t.) followed by a further fall to 1,158,000 tons (1,182,400 tons at 94. n.t.). These figures are on a year ending June basis and are not comparable with the figures shown in Section I of this Bulletin, which are on a seasonal basis.

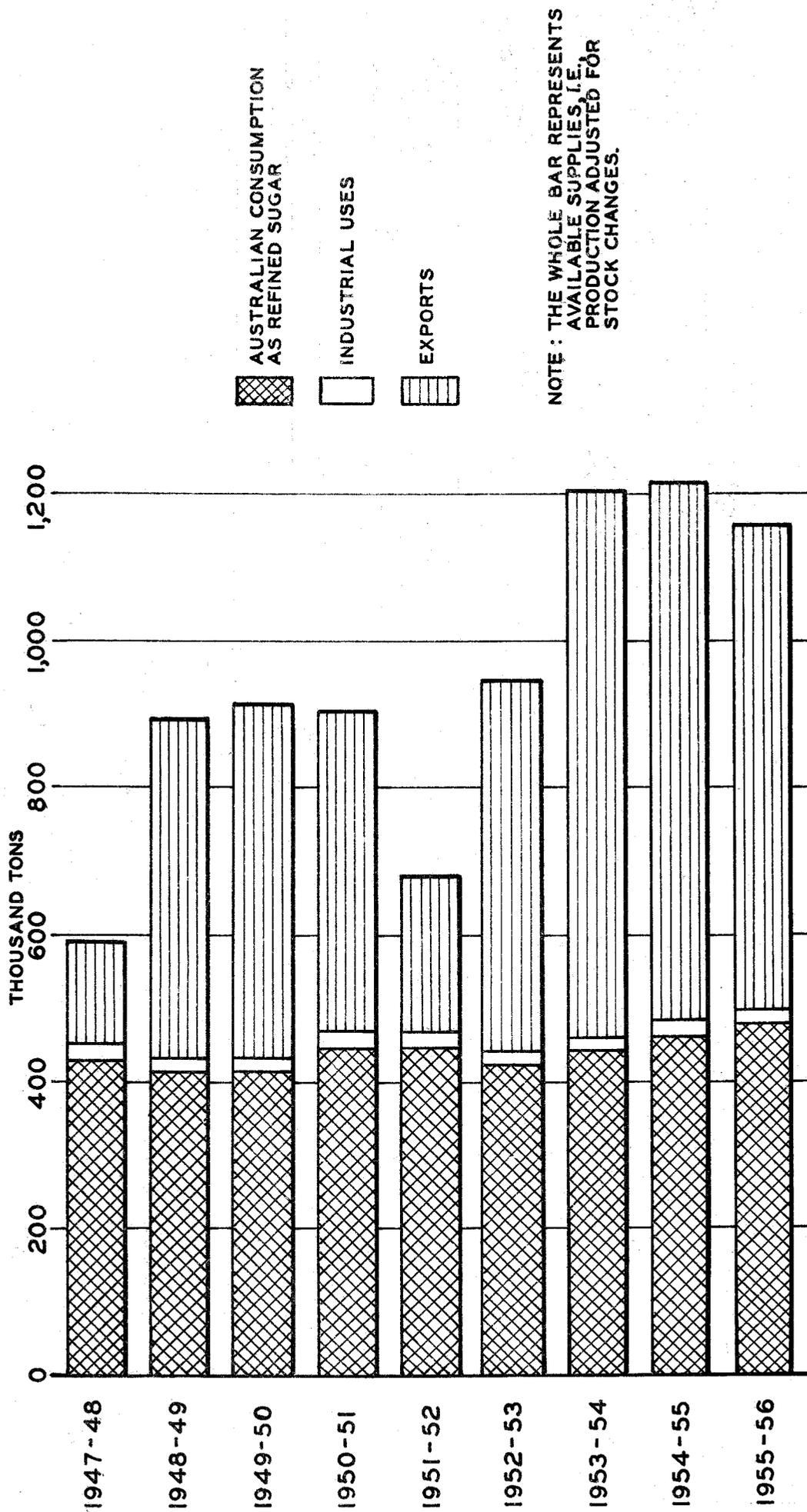
The following table shows details of production and utilization of raw sugar for 1955-56, with comparative details for the previous years indicated. Beet sugar is included.

TABLE 30 : RAW SUGAR : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55 (a)	1955-56 (a)
Net Change in Stocks (b)	(+) 6.2(c)	(+) 2.5	(+) 3.8	(+) 40.8	(-) 27.7	(+) 42.1
Production (raw)	779.3(d)	683.9	948.3	1,243.6	1,218.1	1,158.0
Total Supplies:	773.1	681.4	944.5	1,202.8	1,245.8	1,115.9
Exports (e)(including sugar content of manufactured products exported)	435.3	251.6	500.8	738.7	761.2	617.0
Miscellaneous Uses (f)	11.2	21.0	18.6	17.8	21.7	18.0
Apparent Consumption - (including sugar content of man- ufactured products consumed) (g)	326.6	408.8	425.1	446.3	462.9	480.9

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Stocks of raw sugar at refineries, mills, ports and in transit, and of refined sugar at refineries. Sugar content of imported foodstuffs is included. (c) By balance. (d) Average three seasons, 1936 to 1938. (e) Raw and refined including ships' stores. (f) Including duplication (i.e. Golden Syrup and Treacle), industrial uses and losses in refining; see Table 50. (g) In terms of refined.

RAW SUGAR: SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION



In the next table, details of supplies of sugar (including sugar contained in manufactured products) and syrups available for consumption per head of population are shown for specified years.

TABLE 31 : SUPPLIES OF SUGAR AND SYRUPS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55 (a)	1955-56 (a)
Refined Sugar - As Sugar	70.6	68.7	65.0	63.3	62.9
In Manufactured Products	35.9	51.0	47.3	50.7	52.8
<u>Total:</u>	106.5	119.7	112.3	114.0	115.7
Syrups, Honey and Glucose (Sugar Content)	5.5	5.6	5.0	4.4	4.0
<u>Total Sugar Content:</u>	112.0	125.3	117.3	118.4	119.7

(a) Subject to revision.

The consumption of sugar (excluding that consumed in manufactured products) during 1946-47, the last complete year of rationing, was 65.9 lb. per head compared with 70.6 lb. per head during the pre-war period. It rose initially following the cessation of rationing but has since fallen and, in recent years, has been at a lower level. Since 1953-54, when 65.0 lb. per head were consumed there has been a decline to 63.3 lb. in 1954-55 and 62.9 lb. in 1955-56.

The consumption of sugar in manufactured products has, however, risen substantially compared with pre-war, and, during the last three years, the increase has more than offset the decline in the consumption of sugar as such. In 1955-56, 52.8 lb. of sugar in manufactured products were consumed compared with 50.7 lb. in 1954-55, 47.3 lb. in 1953-54 and an average of 35.9 lb. in the three years ended 1938-39.

The estimates of sugar consumption given in this Bulletin represent apparent consumption measured in terms of disposals of sugar by refineries and sugar content of disposals of sugar products by manufacturers. In general, the estimates do not take into account stocks in the following categories in respect of which inadequate data are available: -

- (i) Wholesalers', retailers and householders' stocks of sugar.
- (ii) Sugar content of stocks of manufactured products held by producers, wholesalers, retailers and householders.

However, in certain cases, estimates have been made on the basis of the best available evidence of the movement in these stocks and these have been taken into account to avoid marked distortion in annual consumption estimates.

The consumption of syrups (golden syrup and treacle), honey and glucose expressed in terms of sugar content was 4.0 lb. per head in 1955-56 compared with 5.6 lb. per head during the three years ended 1948-49.

The consumption of all sugar and syrups (expressed as sugar content) per head of population, amounted to 119.7 lb. in 1955-56 compared with 118.4 lb. in 1954-55, 125.3 lb. in the immediate post-war period and 112.0 lb. in the pre-war period.

(vii) Potatoes (White and Sweet)

In the following table, details relating to the production and utilization of white and sweet potatoes are shown for the pre-war period the average of the three years 1946-47 to 1948-49 and each of the years 1953-54 to 1955-56. The data relating to white potatoes have been compiled from information supplied by State Potato Marketing Boards, in addition to that collected by State Statisticians, plus an estimate for self-suppliers and in post-war years relate to the season ended October.

Production was expanded considerably during the war years to meet the requirements of the Armed Forces and reached a peak of 686,400 tons of marketable potatoes in 1944-45. Production declined in each succeeding year to 1950-51, when the marketable crop amounted to 408,900 tons. In subsequent years, production fluctuated and in 1955-56 amounted to 426,900 tons, which was 23 per cent. below the high level of 1953-54 and 12 per cent. below 1954-55.

After the war, a small export trade in potatoes was built up, but by 1951 quantities exported to all destinations had fallen to 7,200 tons. During 1951-52 41,000 tons were exported, but in following years smaller quantities were shipped. In 1955-56 only 7,500 tons were exported.

Production of sweet potatoes in 1955-56 is estimated at 5,800 tons compared with the pre-war level of about 7,400 tons.

TABLE 32 : POTATOES : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA

Particulars	('000 tons)				
	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Year ended 31st October			
		Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1954	1955	1956 (a)
POTATOES, WHITE					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(c) (-) 15.8	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production (d)	360.4	506.4	553.0	483.2	426.9
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	360.4	522.2	553.0	483.2	426.9
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	4.9	25.6	7.5	6.1	7.5
Seed and Waste	37.0	(e) 72.3	60.0	60.0	46.0
Apparent Consumption (f)	318.5	424.3	485.5	417.1	373.4
POTATOES, SWEET (g)					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production	7.4	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	7.4	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8
Exports	-	-	-	-	-
Apparent Consumption	7.4	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Not available. (c) Stocks in Potato Committee Store and carry-over on farms. Comparable figures for other periods are not available.
(d) Marketable production. (e) Including quantities used for canning and dehydration.
(f) Fresh potatoes only. (g) Years ended June.

The estimated consumption of potatoes rose continuously from the pre-war level of 106.2 lb. per head (103.8 lb. of white and 2.4 lb. of sweet) until 1946-47, when a total of 134.8 lb. was consumed. It has since fallen and has generally fluctuated around the pre-war level. In 1953-54 however, consumption rose considerably to reach 123.6 lb. (122.2 lb. of white and 1.4 lb. of sweet) falling again to 104.2 lb. (102.8 lb. and 1.4 lb.) during 1954-55. During 1955-56, there was an acute shortage of potatoes in most States towards the latter part of the season. Consumption was consequently at the very low level of 91.2 lb. (89.8 lb. of white and 1.4 lb. of sweet). Comparative details of the consumption of both white and sweet potatoes per head of population are shown in the following table. It should be noted that little information is available concerning recent trends in home growing of potatoes and the estimates of total consumption shown below must therefore be regarded as approximate.

TABLE 33 : SUPPLIES OF POTATOES AND SWEET POTATOES AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION: AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Year ended 31st October				
	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Year ended 31st October			
		Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1954	1955	1956 (a)
White Potatoes (b)	103.8	124.2	122.2	102.8	89.8
Sweet Potatoes (c)	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
<u>Total:</u>	106.2	125.7	123.6	104.2	91.2

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Includes the fresh equivalent of canned potatoes.
(c) Years ended June.

(viii) Pulse and Nuts

Details of the production and utilization of dried pulse (mainly blue peas, split peas and navy beans) and peanuts, the principal locally-produced commodities in this group, are shown in the following table. Prior to the war, Australia's supplies of navy beans were entirely imported, but the development of local production during and after the war has reduced import requirements to some extent. Formerly, large quantities of peanuts were imported from India for oil extraction, but, because of food shortages in that country, exports of these nuts have been withheld since January, 1946. Australia's supplies were then confined mainly to local production, which rose from 7,000 tons pre-war to 22,800 tons harvested in 1947. Production has since varied considerably, being as low as 4,800 tons during 1952 and as high as 18,600 tons in 1954. Production during the 1955 season was 14,500 tons. In recent years imports have fluctuated inversely with Australian production, 4,127 tons being imported in 1952-53 and only 346 tons in 1955-56.

The other commodities included in this group consist of edible tree nuts and cocoa (raw beans). Edible tree nuts consumed in Australia now consist principally of imported coconuts and locally grown almonds and walnuts, while cocoa supplies are obtained entirely from imported beans.

TABLE 34 : PULSE AND PEANUTS : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA

Particulars	('000 tons)				
	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
DRIED PULSE					
Net Change in Stocks (b)	(c)	(-) 3.0	(-) 0.6	-	(+) 0.6
Imports	(c)	1.9	4.2	2.3	3.4
Production	(c)	12.0	14.2	12.4	11.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	(c)	16.9	19.0	14.7	14.6
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	(c)	8.6	3.7	2.8	3.7
Seed and Wastage	(c)	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.6
Apparent Consumption	(d) 4.5	7.2	14.9	11.5	10.3
PEANUTS (IN SHELL)					
Net Change in Stocks	-	(e) 0.4	-	-	-
Imports	4.1	-	3.9	0.8	0.3
Production	7.0	17.3	8.8	18.6	14.5
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	11.1	17.7	12.7	19.4	14.8
Exports	-	0.4	-	-	-
Used for oil extraction and seed	6.9	4.4	1.4	3.2	2.6
Apparent Consumption	4.2	12.9	11.3	16.2	12.2

- (a) Subject to revision
 (b) Held by the Field Peas Marketing Board of Tasmania.
 (c) Not available
 (d) Estimate based on 1936 Survey of household consumption.
 (e) Held by Peanut Board. Comparable figures are not available for later years.

The estimated supplies of the commodities in this group, available for consumption per head of population, are shown in the following table. The apparent consumption of dried pulse per head increased considerably after the war but has declined since 1953-54, being 2.4 lb. in 1955-56. The consumption of peanuts (including salted peanuts and as peanut butter or paste) showed remarkable expansion from 0.9 lb. per head pre-war to an average of 2.5 lb. per head over the three years ended 1948-49, but owing mainly to restricted supplies, the consumption during the subsequent years declined. It rose again however to a level of 2.7 lb. in 1954-55 and 2.0 lb. in 1955-56. The consumption of tree-nuts declined during the war, but in 1950-51 amounted to 2.3 lb. per head compared with 0.8 lb. pre-war. It has since fallen again and in 1955-56 amounted to 1.6 lb. per head. The consumption of cocoa beans declined from an average of 3.4 lb. per head during the three years ended 1948-49 to 2.2 lb. per head during 1955-56.

Apparent consumption of the whole group per head rose from an average of 9.2 lb. during the three years ended 1948-49 to a post-war peak of 11.7 lb. during 1949-50. Consumption in subsequent years has been below this level and during 1955-56 was 8.2 lb. per head.

TABLE 35 : SUPPLIES OF PULSE AND NUTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION :

AUSTRALIA
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Dried Pulse	1.5	2.0	3.7	2.8	2.4
Peanuts (b)	0.9	2.5	1.9	2.7	2.0
Edible Tree Nuts (b)	0.8	1.3	1.7	1.9	1.6
Cocoa (raw beans)	2.1	3.4	2.8	2.4	2.2
Total: Edible Weight	5.3	9.2	10.1	9.8	8.2

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Weight without shell.

(ix) Tomatoes and Citrus Fruit

The estimated total production of fresh tomatoes and citrus fruit is shown in the following table. The figures are based on the output recorded on growers' annual returns together with estimates of production by self-suppliers. Tomato production in the pre-war period is probably under-stated, owing to the lack of complete data at that time.

The table also shows details of the utilization of tomatoes (including tomato products expressed in terms of fresh tomatoes) and citrus fruit (including citrus products in terms of fresh fruit). Allowance for wastage of both products is also shown.

During the post-war years, tomato production has varied from 116,100 tons in 1946-47 to 78,700 tons in 1953-54. Between these limits production has fluctuated considerably. From 1953-54, however, there has been a steady increase, to 91,200 tons in 1955-56. Exports, on the other hand, have been declining since 1952-53, from 12,300 tons in that year to 5,100 tons in 1955-56 the bulk of which (4,287 tons fresh equivalent) comprises tomato juice to the United Kingdom. Exports of tomato paste have fallen to negligible proportions. Imports of concentrated tomato products became significant in 1954-55, when 12,662 tons fresh equivalent were imported. In 1955-56, imports almost doubled to 23,900 tons fresh equivalent. The greater part of the imports consists of tomato paste from Italy.

Citrus fruit production reached a peak of 171,400 tons in 1950-51, fell substantially in the next two years, rose in 1953-54 and 1954-55 and attained a new record of 184,000 tons in 1955-56. Exports fell steadily from 1950-51 (18,700 tons fresh equivalent) to 12,000 tons in 1954-55, rising in 1955-56 to 13,100 tons of which 12,500 tons were exports of fresh citrus fruits.

TABLE 36 : TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUITS : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION :

AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
<u>TOMATOES, FRESH (b)</u>					
Net Change in Stocks (c)	(d)	(-) 4.5	(-) 7.0	(-) 12.7	(+) 1.9
Imports	-	-	0.4	12.7	23.9
Production	(e) 50.0	104.0	78.7	86.4	91.2
Total Supplies:	50.0	108.5	86.1	111.8	113.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	-	17.6	10.1	7.7	5.1
Waste	2.0	4.6	3.0	3.8	4.0
Apparent Consumption	48.0	86.3	73.0	100.3	104.1

TABLE 36 : TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUITS PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION: AUSTRALIA (Cont'd)
(1000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
CITRUS FRUIT (b)					
Net Change in Stocks	(d) 111.0	(d) 144.6	(d) 166.8	(d) 158.6	(d) 184.0
Production					
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	111.0	144.6	166.8	158.6	184.0
Exports	13.2	14.0	13.1	12.0	13.1
Waste	-	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.0
Apparent Consumption	97.8	127.2	150.7	143.6	167.9

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Includes fresh equivalent of manufactured products.
(c) Stocks of tomato products held by factories at fresh equivalent weight. (d) Not available. (e) Probably under-stated because of the absence of complete data.

In the next table, details are given of the estimated supplies of these commodities moving into consumption per head of population. As mentioned above, the figures relating to tomato consumption in the pre-war period are probably understated, owing to the absence of complete data relating to production. There was, however, a distinct upward trend in the apparent consumption of tomatoes per head from 21.9 lb. in 1945 to 30.6 lb. in 1946-47, followed by a slow decline to 18.4 lb. in 1953-54. Consumption rose again to 24.7 lb. in 1954-55 and 25.0 lb. per head in 1955-56.

Consumption of citrus fruit rose to 37.9 lb. per head during 1953-54 from the low level of the two previous years, fell slightly to 35.4 lb. during 1954-55, then rose in 1955-56 to the highest recorded per capita consumption, 40.4 lb.

It should be noted that the figures relating to consumption of citrus fruit are slightly overstated, as no allowance has been made for fruit used in jam which has been exported.

TABLE 37 : SUPPLIES OF TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUIT AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION (a):
AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
Fresh Tomatoes	(c) 15.7	25.3	18.4	24.7	25.0
Fresh Citrus	31.9	37.2	37.9	35.4	40.4
<u>Total Fresh Fruit Equivalent</u>	47.6	62.5	56.3	60.1	65.4

(a) Includes manufactured products in terms of fresh.
(b) Subject to revision.
(c) Probably under-stated owing to absence of complete data.

(x) Fruit and Fruit Products (excluding Tomatoes and Citrus Fruit)

Details of the production and utilization of fresh fruit (other than tomatoes and citrus fruit) and products thereof, namely, jams, dried fruit and preserved fruit, are shown in the table below.

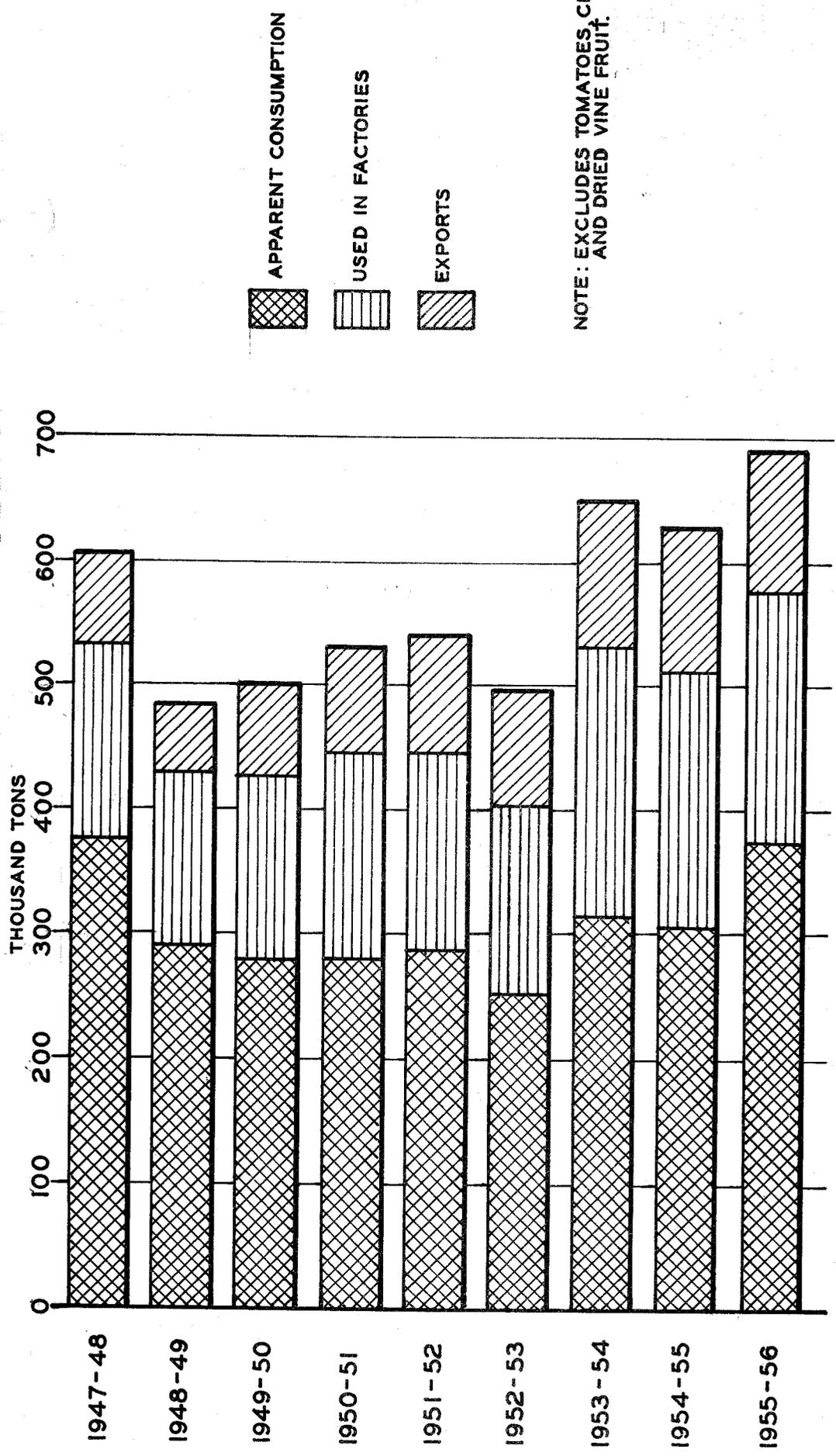
During the post-war period, production of fresh fruit has fluctuated considerably from 499,700 tons in 1952-53 to the record level of 690,800 tons in 1955-56. Large increases in the production of apples, bananas and pineapples compared with previous years were mainly responsible for the record. There was a fall in the production of apricots, peaches and pears. The overall increase in 1955-56 production compared with 1954-55 was 9.8 per cent.

Despite the greater production of fruit, exports fell from the 1954-55 level by 3.6 per cent to 112,600 tons in 1955-56.

Jam production expanded greatly after the pre-war period and the peak of 89,700 tons in 1947-48 was 50,800 tons or more than 130 per cent. above the average production for the three years ended 1938-39. There was a steep drop in 1948-49 and subsequent years and in 1955-56 output amounted to only 37,700 tons. Exports of jam in 1955-56 were 2,200 tons, the lowest recorded in the post-war period.

Production of dried vine fruits since the war has varied between 56,100 tons (in 1951) and 100,700 tons (in 1953). Production has declined since the latter year to 89,900 tons in 1954 and 80,700 tons in 1955. Exports have also declined, being 66,500 tons in 1954 and 65,700 tons in 1955.

FRUIT: SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION



The production of dried tree fruit in 1955-56 (5,200 tons) declined for the second successive year but was comparable with output in most post-war years. Imports (4,000 tons), however, were considerably below 1954-55 (5,900 tons) and rather lower than the post-war average.

The output of preserved fruit declined in both 1954-55 and 1955-56 from the record of 151,600 tons in 1953-54. It was however still considerably higher than the years prior to the record year. The fall occurred in the main pack (apples, peaches and pears). Exports also fell slightly.

TABLE 38 : FRUIT AND FRUIT PRODUCTS (EXCLUDING TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUIT) : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
FRESH FRUIT (EXCLUDING TOMATOES AND CITRUS)					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production	(c) 509.5	533.9	650.1	629.1	690.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	509.5	533.9	650.1	629.1	690.8
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	116.6	50.7	116.9	116.8	112.6
For Jam, Preserved Fruit and Dried Tree Fruit	104.7	(d) 185.7	216.9	205.6	201.9
Apparent Consumption	288.2	297.5	316.3	306.7	376.3
JAMS					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c)	(b)	(+)	(+)	(-)	(-)
Production	38.9	4.9	0.2	3.2	4.0
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	38.9	74.2	39.2	37.5	37.7
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	3.8	69.3	39.0	40.7	41.7
Apparent Consumption	35.1	26.8	2.9	3.2	2.2
		42.5	36.1	37.5	39.5
DRIED VINE FRUIT (e)					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production	80.5	74.6	100.7	89.9	80.7
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	80.5	74.6	100.7	89.9	80.7
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	63.0	48.5	78.1	66.5	65.7
For Winemaking	1.7	(d) 4.4	3.0	-	-
Apparent Consumption	15.8	21.7	19.6	23.4	15.0
DRIED TREE FRUIT					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(f)(-)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Imports	5.5	0.4	5.2	5.9	4.0
Production	5.3	4.5	7.4	5.5	5.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	10.8	5.9	12.6	11.4	9.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	1.8	10.8	3.0	2.8	1.7
Apparent Consumption	9.0	2.1	9.6	8.6	7.5
		8.7			
PRESERVED FRUIT					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c)	(b)	(-)	(+)	(-)	(-)
Production	66.6	0.7	14.2	9.6	14.6
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	66.6	80.2	151.6	143.2	135.0
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	34.7	80.9	137.4	152.8	149.6
Apparent Consumption	31.9	43.6	89.1	96.5	93.7
		37.3	48.3	56.3	55.9

- (a) Subject to revision.
 (b) Not available.
 (c) Includes imports.
 (d) Includes wastage.
 (e) Data for post-war years relate to years ended December.
 (f) Packing house stocks; comparable information is not available for other periods.

Details of the supplies of the commodities included in this group moving into consumption per head of population are shown in the following table. The apparent consumption of fresh fruit per head during 1955-56 was 90.5 lb. This was 20 per cent. above the previous year and 4 per cent. above average consumption over the three years ended 1948-49. There has been a decline in the consumption of Jam per head since the war, but it has been increasing since 1952-53 and stood at 9.5 lb. in 1955-56.

Available statistics indicate that the consumption of preserved fruit was 13.4 lb. per head during 1955-56. This was 1 lb. per head less than the record consumption of 1951-52 and slightly below 1954-55. It must be emphasised, that, as mentioned in the preface to this Bulletin, data used in calculating consumption are deficient to the extent that no information is available on changes in wholesalers' or retailers' stocks. Estimates have, however, been made on the basis of the best available evidence of changes in these stocks and taken into account in certain cases to avoid marked distortion of the annual consumption estimates.

Estimated consumption of the whole group, expressed in terms of fresh fruit per head of population, was 133.5 lb. in 1955-56, compared with the post-war peak of 145.0 lb. reached in 1947-48 and an average of 140.7 lb. in the three years ended 1948-49.

TABLE 39 : SUPPLIES OF FRUIT (EXCLUDING TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUIT)
AND FRUIT PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Fresh Fruit	94.0	87.1	79.6	75.6	90.5
Jam	11.4	12.4	9.1	9.2	9.5
Dried Fruit - Vine (b)	5.2	6.3	4.9	5.8	3.6
Tree	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.1	1.8
Preserved Fruit	10.4	10.9	12.2	13.9	13.4
<u>Total : (Fresh Fruit Equivalent)</u>	141.7	140.7	127.5	127.8	133.5

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Data for post-war years relate to year ended December.

(xi) Leafy, Green and Yellow Vegetables

Data relating to production of vegetables included in this and the following group are obtained from commercial output as returned by growers at the annual census of farm production, to which have been added allowances for production by self-suppliers. The vegetables included in these groups do not include potatoes which are shown in Section 3 (vii); Pulse, shown in Section 3 (viii); and Tomatoes, shown in Section 3(ix).

It should be pointed out that the annual census returns make provision for growers to record their production in units in which they are normally marketed, e.g. details of potatoes and other root crops are collected in tons; cabbages, cauliflowers, etc. in dozens, whilst others are obtained in such units as bushels, bags, bunches, cases, etc. In expressing these items in terms of tons of 2,240 lb. in this Bulletin, care has been taken to obtain appropriate factors from official sources, and while their precision has not been wholly established, it is reasonably certain that any error is not sufficient to impair significantly their reliability.

The production of vegetables was considerably expanded during the war years to provide increased supplies in fresh and processed form for the Armed Forces. Since the war, curtailment of production has taken place and there has been a downward trend in consumption, but this may be offset to some extent in more recent years by increased home growing of vegetables. However, data concerning recent trends in "back-yard" vegetable production are not at present available and no change has been made to the allowance for this production.

Following the end of the war, the production of canned vegetables included in groups (xi) and (xii) declined from 41,000 tons in 1945 to 23,000 tons in 1955-56. Green peas are the principal vegetables now being preserved.

Attention is directed to the qualification relating to stocks (viz. lack of data on retailers' and wholesalers' stocks), mentioned in the preface to this Bulletin. As a result of the deficiency in stock data, the actual consumption of preserved vegetables may possibly vary somewhat from the official figures. In certain cases, however, estimates have been made on the basis of the best available evidence of the movement in wholesalers' and retailers' stocks, and these have been taken into account to avoid marked distortion in annual consumption estimates.

Particulars relating to the production and utilization of leafy, green and yellow vegetables in the fresh and preserved form are shown in the following table: -

TABLE 40 : VEGETABLES, LEAFY, GREEN AND YELLOW : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
(¹000 Tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
FRESH					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production	(b)	204.5	188.9	186.5	203.2
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	(b)	204.5	188.9	186.5	203.2
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	(b)	4.4	3.0	2.7	2.8
For Preserving and Waste	(b)	27.7	19.4	21.5	32.0
Apparent Consumption	(b)	172.4	166.5	162.3	168.4
PRESERVED					
Net Change in Factory Stocks	(b)	(-) 1.3	(-) 6.1	(-) 5.9	-
Production	(b)	12.0	6.3	7.9	14.8
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	(b)	13.3	12.4	13.8	14.8
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	(b)	4.5	2.1	0.7	0.3
Apparent Consumption	(b)	8.8	10.3	13.1	14.5

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Not available.

In the next table, details are shown of the apparent consumption per head of population, of the items included in this group. Consumption of the group as a whole has declined somewhat since 1943, owing principally to the reduced supplies of fresh legumes and cabbages and greens available.

TABLE 41 : SUPPLIES OF LEAFY, GREEN AND YELLOW VEGETABLES AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Cabbages and Greens	(b) 25.9	24.7	17.4	16.3	15.8
Lettuce	(b) 7.9	4.2	4.2	3.7	3.9
Carrots	(b) 10.8	9.9	8.3	7.8	8.0
Fresh Legumes	(b) 24.5	11.6	12.1	12.2	12.8
Preserved	-	2.6	2.6	3.2	3.5
Total:	(b) 69.1	53.0	44.6	43.2	44.0

(a) Subject to revision. (b) These figures relate to 1943. In the absence of data for the pre-war period, consumption is assumed to be the same as in 1943, for the purpose of nutrient calculations.

(xii) Other Vegetables

The vegetables included in this group are pumpkins, white and swede turnips, beetroot, onions, parsnips, cauliflowers, cucumbers, marrows, squashes and sweet corn.

The comments included above in respect of group (xi) apply also to this group of vegetables. The relevant details relating to production, utilization and consumption per head of population are shown in the two tables following. Consumption of this group per head has decreased by 29 per cent. since the three immediate post-war years.

TABLE 42 : "OTHER VEGETABLES" (a) : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
('000 Tons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (b)
<u>FRESH</u>					
Net Change in Stocks	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)
Production	(c)	302.7	262.3	255.1	252.6
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	(c)	302.7	262.3	255.1	252.6
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	(c)	14.8	4.8	4.2	2.5
Preserving and Waste	(c)	20.4	11.6	13.5	14.8
Apparent Consumption	(c)	267.5	245.9	237.4	235.3
<u>PRESERVED</u>					
Net Change in Factory Stocks	(c)	(-)0.3	(-)3.0	(-)0.7	(+)1.0
Production	(c)	3.3	5.3	6.8	8.3
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	(c)	3.6	8.3	7.5	7.3
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	(c)	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Apparent Consumption	(c)	3.1	7.9	7.0	6.8

- (a) Vegetables other than leafy, green and yellow vegetables, potatoes (white and sweet), pulse and tomatoes.
 (b) Subject to revision.
 (c) Not available.

TABLE 43 : SUPPLIES OF "OTHER VEGETABLES" AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION : AUSTRALIA
(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Other Fresh Vegetables	(b)58.9	78.3	61.9	58.6	54.7
Other Preserved Vegetables	-	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.6
<u>Total:</u>	(b)58.9	79.2	63.9	60.3	56.3

- (a) Subject to revision.
 (b) This figure relates to 1943. In the absence of data for the pre-war period, consumption is assumed to be the same as in 1943, for the purpose of nutrient calculations.

(xiii) Grain Products

Wheat production in 1955-56, 195,443,000 bushels, moved back to the high level of 1952-53 and 1953-54 and was 16 per cent. above production in 1954-55. It was also in excess of the average production of 179,447,000 bushels for the ten seasons 1946 to 1955. The yield per acre was the highest yet recorded.

The barley harvest was a record at 41,655,000 bushels, which was slightly in excess of the previous record production in 1953-54 though the yield per acre was slightly less. Maize production dropped by 6 per cent. on 1954-55 production, both acreage sown and yield per acre being reduced. The production of oats at 56,487,000 bushels was easily a record, the previous highest production being 43,623,000 bushels in 1952-53. Rice production dropped from the previous year's record by 7 per cent.

Details of the production of the principal cereals for grain during each of the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 in comparison with average production during the five years ended 1938-39 and the three years ended 1948-49 are shown in the following tables:-

TABLE 44 : PRODUCTION OF CEREALS FOR GRAIN : AUSTRALIA
('000 Bushels)

Crop	Average	Average	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
	Five Years Ended 1938-39	Three Years Ended 1948-49			
Barley - 2 row	8,459	15,141	35,923	25,622	35,469
6 row	1,293	1,604	5,349	3,778	6,186
Maize	7,338	5,721	5,079	5,076	4,755
Oats	17,002	26,621	32,961	32,834	56,487
Rice	2,274	2,798	4,069	5,080	4,725
Wheat	154,325	176,027	197,961	168,617	195,443

(a) Subject to revision.

Details of the production and utilization of wheat are given in cereal years in the following table for the average of the three years ended 1938-39, the average for the three years ended 1948-49 and each year 1953-54 to 1955-56.

TABLE 45 : WHEAT : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA
(Million Bushels)

Particulars	Average Three Years Ended 30th Nov. 1939	Average Three Years Ended 30th Nov. 1949	Year ended 30th November		
			1954	1955 (a)	1956 (a)
Opening Stocks (including Flour as Wheat)	10.2	19.9	37.7	94.9	95.0
Production	164.7	176.0	198.0	168.6	195.4
Total Available Supplies:	174.9	195.9	235.7	263.5	290.4
Exports - Wheat	75.0	60.5	38.5	64.8	95.4
- Flour as Wheat	30.6	37.1	27.9	35.0	33.6
- Breakfast Foods and other products	(b)	2.1	0.8	1.0	1.4
Local Consumption -					
Flour as Wheat	30.9	33.9	34.4	38.0	39.8
Stock Feed Wheat Sales	9.3	21.8	17.6	16.5	15.3
Seed	14.6	12.8	10.8	10.9	10.1
Retained on Farm for Stock Feed	(c)	4.3	4.0	5.0	4.5
Breakfast Foods and other uses	(b)	2.1	1.6	2.0	1.7
Closing Stocks (including Flour as Wheat)	14.5	19.5	94.9	95.0	84.2
Total Disposals:	174.9	194.1	230.5	268.2	286.0
Excess (+) or Deficiency (-) of Disposals over total available supplies (d)	--	(-)1.8	(-)5.2	(+)4.7	(-)4.4

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Included with Flour. (c) Included with stock feed.
(d) Includes allowances for unrecorded movements in stocks, grain or loss in out-turn, etc.

Details of the production and utilization of the principal products from wheat and other cereals are shown in the table on page 45.

In 1955-56 the production of flour fell for the fourth successive year from the record production of 1,545,000 long tons in 1951-52. At 1,359,000 long tons it was 2 per cent. below 1954-55.

The quantity of flour exported between 1946-47 and 1953-54 was at a level of about 700,000 to 800,000 long tons a year. In 1954-55, however, exports dropped to 612,000 tons and rose only 2,600 tons in 1955-56.

The production of milled rice has increased steadily since the war with the exception of a temporary fall in 1951-52. In 1955-56 it is estimated that 48,100 tons were milled.

Restrictions on the free sale of rice to the public were lifted on 3rd. October, 1950, and, in conjunction with this, increased quantities were made available for Australian consumption.

During 1954-55 Australian consumption accounted for 14,200 tons and in 1955-56 for 15,400 tons. Exports reached a post-war peak of 35,700 tons in 1953-54, declining in 1954-55 to average post-war levels of 28,700 tons, but increasing again to 34,600 tons in 1955-56.

The production of oatmeal (including rolled or crushed oats) reached the record level of 34,000 tons in 1947-48. Output during subsequent years was considerably less, standing at 14,300 tons in 1955-56.

The output of other grain breakfast foods amounted to 43,400 tons in 1955-56. Consumption at 40,600 tons was considerably above the immediate post-war average of 28,200 tons.

TABLE 46 : GRAIN PRODUCTS : PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA

('000 tons of 2,240 lb.)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
FLOUR (INCLUDING WHEATMEAL FOR BAKING AND SHARPS) (b)					
Net Change in Millers' Stocks (c)	(d)	(+) 19.5	(-) 21.6	(+) 20.9	(-) 14.5
Production	1,149.0	1,430.4	1,436.7	1,386.6	1,359.0
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	1,149.0	1,410.9	1,458.3	1,365.7	1,373.5
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	575.0	721.2	703.5	612.9	615.5
Apparent Consumption	574.0	689.7	754.8	752.8	758.0
RICE (MILLED)					
Net Change in Millers' Stocks (c)	(d)	(+) 1.0	(-) 5.2	(+) 5.0	(-) 1.9
Production	28.1	32.2	45.2	47.9	48.1
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	28.1	31.2	50.4	42.9	50.0
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	14.3	28.2	35.7	28.7	34.6
Miscellaneous Uses	1.6	-	-	-	-
Apparent Consumption	12.2	3.0	14.7	14.2	15.4
BREAKFAST FOODS FROM OATS (OATMEAL AND ROLLED OATS)					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c)	(d)	(-) 0.1	(+) 0.1	-	-
Production	17.2	27.0	20.0	16.7	14.3
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	17.2	27.1	19.9	16.7	14.3
Exports	1.9	13.5	8.5	5.3	3.5
Apparent Consumption	15.3	13.6	11.4	11.4	10.8
OTHER BREAKFAST FOODS FROM GRAIN (e)					
Net Change in Factory Stocks (c)	(d)	-	-	(-) 0.1	(+) 0.1
Production	17.2	28.5	42.6	43.6	43.4
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	17.2	28.5	42.6	43.7	43.3
Exports	-	0.3	2.3	2.0	2.7
Apparent Consumption	17.2	28.2	40.3	41.7	40.6

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Sharps are included as from 1952-53 only.

(c) Includes imports.

(d) Not available.

(e) Prior to 1951-52 wheatmeal for porridge only. From 1951-52 includes also invalid and health foods, semolina and wheat germ.

The next table shows details of the supplies of grain products entering consumption per head of population. Total consumption of the group per head in 1955-56 was 200.4 lb. compared with 204.0 lb. in 1954-55 and an average of 218.1 lb. during the three years ending 1948-49. The decline in 1955-56 was due principally to a decrease in the consumption of flour which fell to 182.3 lb. per head from 185.5 lb. in the previous year and average consumption of 201.9 lb. in the three immediate post-war years. Since the pre-war period, there has been a decline in the consumption of oatmeal which has been offset by increased consumption of breakfast foods from other grains, mainly prepared foods. The consumption of rice per head increased from 1.1 lb. in 1949-50 to the record level of 4.7 lb. in 1951-52, an increase which is directly attributable to the lifting of restrictions on sale to the public from 3rd October, 1950. There has since been a decrease of 21 per cent. to 3.7 lb. in 1955-56.

TABLE 47 : SUPPLIES OF GRAIN PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION :

AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Flour	187.1	201.9	190.0	185.5	182.3
Rice (milled)	4.0	0.9	3.7	3.5	3.7
Breakfast Foods -					
From Oats (Oatmeal and Rolled Oats)	5.0	4.0	2.9	2.8	2.6
From Other Grains	5.6	8.2	10.1	10.3	9.8
Pearl Barley	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Barley Meal and Polished Wheat (Rice substitute)	-	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1
Edible Starch (Cornflour) (b)	1.4	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.0
Tapioca and Sago	1.2	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.4
Total:	205.3	218.1	208.8	204.0	200.4

- (a) Subject to revision.
(b) Of maize origin.

(xiv) Beverages

The items included in this group comprise tea, coffee, beer and wine. Particulars of the production and utilization of beer and wine are shown in the following table.

The production of beer in 1955-56 was a record at 233.0 million gallons, and exceeded the average output for the three years ended 1938-39 by 149.6 million gallons (179 per cent.), and for the three years ended 1948-49 by 99.5 million gallons (74 per cent.). As the quantity of beer exported is small, most of this increase was consumed in Australia.

Beverage wine production during 1955-56 is estimated at 11.0 million gallons. This was 6.0 million gallons (35 per cent.) below the record production of 1951-52, but 2.6 million gallons (31 per cent.) greater than the average production during the three years ended 1938-39. Exports have declined by 68 per cent. since the pre-war years.

TABLE 48 : BEER AND WINE PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION : AUSTRALIA

('000 Gallons)

Particulars	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
<u>BEER</u>					
Net Change in Stocks	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Production	83,467	133,553	213,509	228,794	233,045
Imports	126	258	95	96	65
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	83,593	133,811	213,604	228,890	233,110
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	553	719	1,590	1,954	1,740
Miscellaneous Uses (c)	2,963	3,619	6,836	6,452	6,305
Apparent Consumption	80,077	129,473	205,178	220,484	225,065
<u>WINE</u>					
Net Change in Stocks (d)	(+)328	(+)1,887	(+)1,453	(-)323	(-)1,107
Production (e)	8,442	14,134	15,196	11,060	11,030
Imports	42	22	40	46	48
<u>Total Supplies:</u>	8,156	12,269	13,783	11,429	12,185
Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	3,911	2,439	1,428	1,304	1,251
Apparent Consumption	4,245	9,830	12,355	10,125	10,934

- (a) Subject to revision.
 (b) Not available - See footnote (c)
 (c) Balance figure; includes beer waste and allowance for net change in brewery stocks.
 (d) Movements in stocks of Australian fortified wine in Bond.
 (e) Production of beverage wine.

Details of the apparent consumption of each commodity included in the group, per head of population, are shown in the following table.

Data covering the consumption of tea and coffee up to the year 1946-47 are based on civilian sales of imported supplies, as recorded by the Tea Control Board. In the case of coffee, control of supplies by the Tea Control Board ceased in October, 1947, and the consumption figures for later periods have been based on imports of coffee cleared during the year. With the ending of tea rationing on 2nd July, 1950, consumption during 1950-51 increased to 7.5 lb. per head, but during 1951-52 and 1952-53 decreased again to the post-war level of 6.5 lb. per head. In 1953-54 there was a slight upward movement to 6.8 lb. followed during 1954-55 and 1955-56 by a fall to 6.0 per head and 5.9 lb. per head respectively. Coffee consumption declined from the level of 1.0 lb. per head during the three years ended 1948-49 to 0.7 lb. per head during 1952-53, but in 1953-54 and 1954-55, due to substantial increases in imports, the quantity available for consumption increased to 1.1 lb. per head with a further increase to 1.3 lb. in 1955-56. Pre-war consumption was 0.6 lb.

Beer consumption statistics are based on the quantity of beer removed from breweries, duty paid, plus the quantity removed free of duty for consumption in Australia, with the addition of small quantities of imports cleared for home consumption. Consumption of beer per head was 24.12 gallons (241.6 lb.) in 1955-56 compared with an average of 16.9 gallons (169.2 lb.) during the three years ended 1948-49 and 11.7 gallons (116.6 lb.) during the three years ended 1938-39.

Wine consumption reached its highest level in Australia during 1951-52 at 1.8 gallons (18.4 lb.) per head. This compares with an average of 1.3 gallons (13.2 lb.) during the three years ended 1948-49 and average consumption of 0.6 gallons (6.4 lb.) during the years 1936-37 to 1938-39. During 1952-53 and 1953-54, consumption was 1.4 gallons per head, falling during 1954-55 to 1.1 gallons and increasing slightly to an estimated 1.2 gallons in 1955-56.

TABLE 49 : SUPPLIES OF TEA, COFFEE, BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION :

AUSTRALIA

(lb. per head per annum)

Commodity	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39	Average 1946-47 to 1948-49	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Tea	6.9	6.5	6.8	6.0	5.9
Coffee	0.6	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3
Beer - Actual in gallons	(11.7)	(16.9)	(23.1)	(24.3)	(24.2)
Estimated wt. in lb. (b)	116.6	169.2	230.5	242.6	241.6
Wine - Actual in gallons	(0.6)	(1.3)	(1.4)	(1.1)	(1.2)
Estimated wt. in lb. (c)	6.4	13.2	14.3	11.4	12.1

- (a) Subject to revision.
(b) Estimated weight of a gallon of beer : 10.0 lb.
(c) Estimated weight of a gallon of wine : 10.3 lb.

4. DETAILED STATISTICAL DATA SHOWING ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION
OF FOODSTUFFS, YEAR 1955-56

The data presented in the previous pages of this Bulletin for the year 1955-56 are based upon the statistics in the following table, which show the supply position in Australia for each item included in the fourteen groups covered, and provide a detailed analysis of distribution, movement in stocks and the apparent quantity consumed for the year ended June, 1956. In cases where production is of a seasonal nature, e.g. tomatoes, citrus and other fresh fruit and vegetables, including potatoes, it is not possible to relate production and distribution strictly to fiscal or calendar years. It has been necessary, therefore, to apply details appropriate to the seasonal period covered by the years specified.

With the exception of fluid whole milk, beer and wine, particulars of which are shown in gallons, all other commodities are recorded in units of tons of 2,240 lb. In those cases where this unit is not appropriate, the consumption per head has been expressed in terms of common usage (e.g. fresh milk is shown in gallons as a footnote to the table).

The data included in the following table, in respect of the year 1955-56 are generally subject to revision.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks			Net Change in Stocks	Production		Imports	Total Supplies	Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	Industrial Use	Waste	Utilization		Apparent Consumption in Australia as Human Food Per Head per Annum
	Opening	Closing	Closing		Commercial	Self-Suppliers						Duplication	Total	
1. MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS:														
Fluid Whole Milk	-	-	-	(a) 1,405	(b)	-	-	(a) 1,405	-	-	-	(a) 1,142	(a) 263	(c) 291.5
Fresh Cream	-	-	-	-	(b)	-	-	8,317	-	-	-	-	8,317	2.0
Condensed Milk - Full Cream	3,787	4,691	(+) 904	44,979	-	7	44,082	25,275	-	-	-	-	18,807	4.5
Sweetened														
Unsweetened														
Condensed Milk - Skim - Sweetened	3	-	(-) 3	14,780	-	-	14,783	-	-	-	-	-	14,783	3.6
Concentrated Whole Milk	557	1,313	(+) 756	17,423	-	-	16,667	6,700	-	-	-	-	9,967	2.4
Powdered Milk - Full Cream Skim	1,921	1,388	(-) 533	30,335	-	-	30,868	22,680	-	-	-	-	8,188	2.0
Infants' and Invalids' Foods (including Malted Milk)	1,362	793	(-) 569	13,125	-	1,250	14,944	6,907	-	-	-	-	8,037	1.9
Cheese	1,887	999	(-) 888	38,571	14	718	40,191	17,289	-	-	-	-	22,902	5.5
2. MEAT:														
Beef and Veal (d)	24,454	16,961	(-) 7,503	749,744	(b)	-	757,247	164,623	-	-	-	110,485	482,139	116.0
Mutton (d)	4,800	3,656	(-) 1,144	231,446	(b)	-	232,590	15,472	-	-	-	15,872	201,246	48.4
Lamb (d)	1,166	1,311	(+) 145	144,405	(b)	-	144,260	36,440	-	-	-	-	107,820	25.9
Pigmeats (as Pork) (d)	1,956	1,228	(-) 728	93,396	(b)	-	94,124	1,104	-	-	-	(e) 52,908	(f) 40,112	9.6
Total Carcass Meat (d)	32,386	23,156	(-) 9,230	1,218,991	(b)	-	1,228,221	217,639	-	-	-	179,265	831,317	199.9
Canned Meat (canned weight)	12,099	14,775	(+) 2,676	70,578	-	-	67,902	57,490	-	-	-	-	10,412	2.5
Bacon and Ham (cured weight)	1,192	1,596	(+) 404	37,227	(b)	-	36,823	720	-	-	-	5,076	31,027	7.5
Total Meat Excluding Offal (carcass equivalent weight)	(g)	(g)	(-) 8,692	1,218,991	-	-	1,227,683	319,983	-	-	-	-	907,700	218.3
Offal	2,843	2,528	(-) 315	59,197	-	-	59,512	14,684	3,000	-	-	-	41,828	10.1

(a) Million gallons. (b) Included with commercial production. (c) Equivalent to 28.3 gallons. (d) Carcass weight. (e) Includes pork used for curing. (f) Consumption as pork including smallgoods and trimmings from baconer carcasses. (g) Not available.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956 (Continued)

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks		Net Change in Stocks	Production			Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	Industrial Use	Waste	Duplication	Apparent Consumption in Australia as Human Food		
	Opening	Closing		Commercial	Self	Imports					Total Supplies	Total	Per Head
3. POULTRY, GAME AND FISH:													
Poultry	(a)	(a)	(a)	41,160	(b)	-	41,160	-	-	-	40,496	9.7	
Game-Rabbits	(a)	(a)	(a)	30,640	(b)	-	30,640	-	-	-	22,457	5.4	
Fish-Fresh (Fresh round weight)	(a)	(a)	(a)	30,073	3,007	15,630	48,710	-	-	5,161	(c) 21,211	(c) 5.1	
Crustaceans and Molluscs (Fresh round or in shell weight)	(a)	(a)	(a)	18,150	-	-	18,150	-	-	24	(c) 3,940	(c) 1.0	
Cured (incl. Salted) (Cured weight)	(a)	(a)	(a)	55	-	4,297	4,352	-	-	-	4,349	1.0	
Canned (Canned weight) Australian	813	724	(-)	2,652	-	-	2,741	-	-	-	2,548	0.6	
- Imported	(a)	(a)	(a)	-	-	10,347	10,347	-	-	-	10,267	2.5	
4. EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS													
Shell	309	281	(-)	61,475	51,698	-	113,201	-	388	(d) 15,916	87,014	20.9	
Powder (e)	14	26	(+)	213	-	-	201	-	-	-	195	0.1	
Pulp (Liquid Whole) (e)	527	793	(+)	15,916	-	-	15,650	-	3	(f) 213	5,837	1.4	
Total Eggs (e)	850	1,100	(+)	61,475	51,698	-	112,923	-	391	-	93,046	22.4	
5. OILS AND FATS													
Butter	(g) 11,710	(g) 12,918	(h) (+)	205,840	2,750	-	205,457	-	-	-	121,672	29.3	
Margarine - Table	(j) 196	(j) 302	(k) (+)	12,981	-	-	12,420	-	-	-	12,307	3.0	
- Other	(j) 844	(j) 1,063	(+)	19,433	-	-	19,214	-	-	-	19,214	4.6	
Lard	-	-	-	4,879	-	-	4,879	-	-	-	4,818	1.2	
Vegetable Oils and Other Fats	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(l) 16,635	(l) 4.0	

(a) Not available. (b) Included with commercial production. (c) Edible weight. (d) For pulp. (e) In terms of weight of shell eggs. (f) For powder manufacture. (g) Stocks held in main cold stores. (h) Includes allowance for change in stocks other than those held in main cold stores. (i) Includes dry butter fat, ghee and tropical spread expressed as butter. (j) Factory Stocks. (k) Includes allowance for stocks other than those held in factories. (l) Based on consumer survey data of 1944.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956 (Continued)

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks		Net Change in Stock	Production		Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	Industrial Use	Waste	Duplication	Apparent Consumption in Australia as human food			
	Opening	Closing		Commercial	Self Suppliers					Imports	Total Supplies	Total	Per head per annum
6. SUGAR AND SYRUPS													
Raw Sugar	(a) 120,072	(a) 138,890	(a) (+) 42,857	1,158,005	-	(b) 786	1,115,934	(c) 617,033	(d)	(e) 11,682	(f) 480,901	(f) 115.7	
Syrups, Honey and Glucose	(g)	(g)	(g)	32,710	-	523	33,233	12,132	-	-	21,101	(h) 5.1	
7. POTATOES													
White (i) Sweet	(g)	(g)	(g)	(j) 401,870	25,000	-	426,870	7,456	-	(k) (l) 46,000	373,414	89.8	
				5,822	-	-	5,822	-	-	-	5,822	1.4	
8. PULSE AND NUTS													
Dried Pulse	200	771	(+)	11,742	-	3,438	14,609	3,726	-	(m) 20	10,323	2.4	
Peanuts (o)	-	-	-	14,482	-	346	14,828	-	-	(n) 538	12,229	2.9	
Tree Nuts (o)	-	-	-	855	-	7,910	8,765	23	-	(p) 2,599	8,742	2.1	
Cocoa (raw beans)	(g)	(g)	(s)(+)	-	-	10,439	9,683	372	-	-	9,311	2.2	

(a) Includes refined sugar stock at its raw equivalent. Net change also includes an allowance for movement in unrecorded stocks. (b) Sugar content of imported foodstuffs. (c) Includes sugar in exported products. (d) Included with waste. (e) Refining losses and industrial use. (f) In terms of refined sugar, including 46,300 tons (11.1 lb. per head) used for making beer. (g) Not available. (h) Sugar content 4.0 lb. (i) Year ended 31st October, 1956. (j) Production marketed. (k) Waste in marketing assumed to be "nil". (l) Seed. (m) Waste in cleaning blue peas. (n) Retained on farms and seed sold. (o) In terms of nuts in shell. (p) Comprises 2,000 tons for oil expression included with oils and fats and 599 tons for seed. (q) Kernel equivalent 2.0 lb. (r) Kernel equivalent 1.6 lb. (s) Balance figure.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956 (Continued)

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks			Net Change in Stocks	Production			Utilization				Apparent Consumption in Australia as human food Per Head per annum lb.	
	Opening	Closing	Net Change in Stocks		Comm-ercial Supplies	Self Supplies	Im-ports Supplies	Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	In-dus-trial Use	Waste	Dupli-cation		Total
													Total
9. TOMATOES AND CITRUS FRUITS													
Tomatoes, Fresh (a)	(b) 7,145	(b) 9,061	(+)	1,916	89,029	2,200	23,852	5,044	-	4,000	-	104,121	25.0
Citrus Fruit (a)	(c)	(c)		(c)	175,146	8,800	-	13,093	-	3,000	-	167,853	40.4
10. OTHER FRUIT AND FRUIT PRODUCTS													
Fresh Fruit	(c)	(c)		(c)	675,830	15,000	(c) 690,830	112,616	-	-	(a) 201,872	376,342	90.5
Jam	(b) 18,960	(b) 15,485	(-)	3,475	36,656	1,000	519	2,136	-	-	-	39,514	(e) 9.5
Dried Fruit, Vine (f)	(c)	(c)		(c)	80,752	-	-	65,727	-	-	-	15,025	3.6
Tree	(c)	(c)		(c)	5,233	-	3,997	1,763	-	-	-	7,467	1.8
Preserved Fruit	(b) 55,679	(b) 41,114	(-)	14,565	134,127	500	390	93,660	-	-	-	55,922	(g) 13.4
11. LEAFY, GREEN AND YELLOW VEGETABLES													
Cabbage and Greens	(c)	(c)		(c)	67,630	3,400	-	(h) 1,744	-	3,400	280	65,606	15.8
Lettuce	(c)	(c)		(c)	15,412	1,500	-	(h) 42	-	700	-	16,170	3.9
Carrots	(c)	(c)		(c)	34,448	1,700	-	(h) 820	-	1,000	994	33,334	8.0
Fresh Legumes	(c)	(c)		(c)	65,955	13,200	-	(h) 184	-	6,600	19,093	53,278	12.8
Total:	(c)	(c)		(c)	183,445	19,800	-	(h) 2,790	-	11,700	20,367	168,388	40.5
Preserved (preserved weight)	(b) 1,855	(b) 1,860	(+)	5	14,787	-	-	248	-	-	-	14,534	3.5

(a) Includes fresh equivalent of manufactured products. (b) Factory stocks only. (c) Not available. (d) For the manufacture of jam, canned fruit and dried tree fruit. (e) Fresh equivalent 3.8 lb.; sugar content included with sugar. (f) Year 1955. (g) Fresh equivalent 17.6 lb; sugar content included with sugar. (h) Partly estimated.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956 (Continued)

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks		Net Change in Stocks	Production			In-ports	Total Supplies	Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	Industrial Use	Waste	Utilization		Apparent Consumption in Australia as human food	
	Opening	Closing		Commercial	Self Suppliers	In-ports						Dupli- cation	Total		Per head per annum
12. OTHER VEGETABLES															
Pumpkins				62,697	3,000			65,697 (b)	82	-	-		65,615	15.8	
Turnips, White and Swede				26,862	1,300			28,162 (b)	493	-	-		27,669	6.7	
Beetroot				12,580	600			13,180 (b)	205	-	-	2,994	9,981	2.4	
Onions				39,855	4,000			43,855 (b)	1,237	-	2,000		40,618	9.8	
Parsnips		(a)	(a)	11,006	550			11,556 (b)	102	-	-		11,454	2.8	
Cauliflowers				70,425	3,500			73,925 (b)	307	-	7,000		66,618	16.0	
Cucumbers				5,205	243			5,448 (b)	42	-	-		5,406	1.3	
Marrows and Squashes				6,070	250			6,320 (b)	82	-	-		6,238	1.5	
Sweet Corn				4,256	200			4,456 (b)	-	-	-	2,792	1,664	0.4	
Total:	(a)	(a)	(a)	238,956	13,643			252,599 (b)	2,550	-	9,000	5,786	235,263	54.7	
Preserved (preserved weight)	(c) 1,692	(c) 2,660	(+) 968	8,240	-			7,272	465	-	-	-	6,807	1.6	
13. GRAIN PRODUCTS															
Flour - white	(d) 57,106	(d) 50,317	(e) (-) 19,616	1,309,115	-			1,328,731	600,799	(f)	-	-	727,932	175.0	
wheatmeal for baking	(d) 1,036	(d) 1,729	(e) (+) 10,927	42,916	-			31,989	3,868	(f)	-	-	28,121	6.8	
sharps	(d) 262	(d) 135	(e) (-) 5,762	7,011	-			12,773	10,825	(f)	-	-	1,948	0.5	
Total:	(d) 58,404	(d) 52,181	(e) (-) 14,451	1,359,042	-			1,373,493	615,492	(f)	-	-	758,001	182.3	
Rice (milled)	(a)	(a)	(e) (-) 1,883	48,099	-			49,982	34,587	-	-	-	15,395	3.7	

(a) Not available. (b) Partly estimated. (c) Factory stocks. (d) Mill stocks only. (e) Includes allowance for change in stocks other than those held by millers. (f) Details are not available.

TABLE 50 : ESTIMATED SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF FOODSTUFFS : AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1956 (Continued)

(Tons of 2,240 lb.)

Commodity	Stocks		Net Change in Stocks	Production		Total Supplies	Exports (incl. Ships' Stores)	Industrial Use	Waste	Duplication	Utilization			
	Opening	Closing		Commercial	Self-Suppliers						Imports	Total	Per head	in Australia as human food
13. GRAIN PRODUCTS (Cont'd.)												lb.		
Breakfast Foods -														
From Oats (Oatmeal and Rolled Oats)	456	474	(+) 18	14,363	-	14,345	3,532	-	-	-	10,813	2.6		
From Other Grains	683	741	(+) 58	43,373	-	43,315	2,728	-	-	-	40,587	9.8		
Pearl Barley	127	116	(-) 11	2,251	-	2,262	159	-	-	-	2,103	0.5		
Barley Meal and Polished Wheat (Rice Substitute)	11	4	(-) 7	524	-	531	-	-	-	-	531	0.1		
Edible Starch (Corn-flour)(a)	513	409	(-) 104	3,882	1	3,987	-	-	-	-	3,987	1.0		
Sago and Tapioca	(b)	(b)	(b)	-	1,641	1,641	-	-	-	-	1,641	0.4		
14. BEVERAGES														
Tea	(b)	(b)	(-) 4,134	-	20,680	24,814	279	-	-	-	(c) 24,535	5.9		
Coffee	(b)	(b)	(d) (-) 28	-	5,481	5,509	19	-	-	-	(e) 5,490	1.3		
Beer (f)	(b)	(b)	(b)	233,045	65	233,110	1,740	-	(g) 6,305	-	(h) 225,065	(i) 241.6		
Wine (f)	(j) 23,769	(j) 22,662	(-) 1,107	(k) 11,030	48	12,185	1,251	-	-	-	10,934	(l) 12.1		

(a) Of maize origin. (b) Not available. (c) Quantity sold in Australia from imported supplies. (d) Balance figure. (e) Imports cleared. (f) Unit : '000 gallons. (g) Balance figure; includes waste beer and allowance for net change in stocks. (h) Quantity of beer removed, duty paid and free of duty for consumption in Australia, and imports cleared. (i) Equivalent to 24.2 gallons. (j) Stocks of fortified wine in bond. (k) Beverage wine. (l) Equivalent to 1.2 gallons.