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Report Highlights:

Jordan, a Middle Eastern country with limited arable land and severe water scarcity, heavily relies on grain imports to meet domestic consumption needs. Domestic wheat production satisfies only 3 percent of demand, with imports expected to reach 1.15 million metric tons (MT) in marketing year (MY) 2025/2026, primarily from Black Sea suppliers. Barley, essential for livestock feed, is forecast to have stable consumption of 900,000 MT, with imports projected to rise by 10 percent to 1.1 million MT. Corn production is negligible, with imports managed by the private sector, mainly from Argentina, Brazil, and the Black Sea. Due to extreme water scarcity and lack of suitable growing conditions, Jordan does not produce rice and relies entirely on imports, with demand forecasted at 240,000 MT. The government maintains strategic reserves for wheat and barley to ensure food security amid economic and geopolitical challenges.

Disclaimer: Unless stated otherwise, data in this report is based on the views of Foreign Agricultural Service analysts in Jordan and is not official USDA data.

Executive Summary:

Jordan shares borders with Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Israel, and the West Bank. It has a total land area of 89,342 square kilometers (34,495 square miles) and a population of approximately 11.4 million people. With limited arable land and scarce water resources, Jordan relies heavily on imports to meet its food consumption needs, particularly for staple grains such as wheat, barley, corn, and rice. The government of Jordan (GoJ) remains committed to ensuring food security, leveraging global trade opportunities, and maintaining strategic stockpiles to counter economic and geopolitical challenges. The IMF projects Jordan's real GDP growth at 2.9 percent for 2025, with consumer prices expected to rise by 2.4 percent.

Jordan's domestic grain production is constrained by arid conditions, frequent droughts, and water scarcity, necessitating high import dependence. The GoJ plays a strategic role in securing food supplies, particularly for wheat and barley, while the private sector manages the import and distribution of corn and rice. Wheat production remains minimal, supplying only 3 percent of annual domestic consumption, with imports expected to reach 1.15 million MT in marketing year (MY) 2025/2026, primarily from Black Sea suppliers. Wheat consumption is expected to increase due to economic uncertainty and humanitarian needs, while the government continues bread subsidies and maintains strategic reserves covering 10 months of consumption.

Barley is essential for livestock feed, with stable consumption of 900,000 MT forecasted in MY 2025/2026. Imports are projected to rise 10 percent to 1.1 million MT, primarily from the Black Sea region. The government is actively building strategic reserves, increasing ending stocks to 634,000 MT in MY 2025/2026, while the Jordanian government has adjusted barley prices for all livestock breeders.

Jordanian corn production is negligible, with total domestic demand forecasted at 710,000 MT in MY 2025/2026, mainly for livestock feed. Imports are managed by the private sector, with key suppliers including Argentina, Brazil, and the Black Sea region. The GoJ does not regulate or subsidize corn imports.

Jordan does not produce rice due to water scarcity and unsuitable growing conditions, relying entirely on imports to meet demand. Rice consumption is forecasted at 240,000 MT in MY 2025/2026, reflecting increased reliance on affordable staples amid economic uncertainty. Rice is a primary component in Jordanian cuisine, used in dishes like Mansaf and Maqlouba. Jordan imports from the United States for medium grain rice and from India for Basmati rice (long grain), with humanitarian aid shipments to Gaza and the West Bank further impacting import demand.

¹ World Bank - https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=JO

Wheat

Table 1 – Production, Supply and Distribution

Wheat	2023/2024		2024/2025	2024/2025		2025/2026	
Market Year Begins	Jul 2023		Jul 2024		Jul 2025		
Jordan	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	30	30	30	30	0	30	
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	620	620	757	757	0	877	
Production (1000 MT)	30	30	32	30	0	30	
MY Imports (1000 MT)	1138	1138	1200	1200	0	1150	
TY Imports (1000 MT)	1138	1138	1200	1200	0	1150	
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Supply (1000 MT)	1788	1788	1989	1987	0	2057	
MY Exports (1000 MT)	36	36	75	75	0	75	
TY Exports (1000 MT)	36	36	75	75	0	75	
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	15	15	15	15	0	15	
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	980	980	1020	1020	0	1050	
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	995	995	1035	1035	0	1065	
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	757	757	879	877	0	917	
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	1788	1788	1989	1987	0	2057	
Yield (MT/HA)	1	1	1.0667	1	0	1	
Tiota (WI/IIA)	1	1	1.0007	1		1	

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Wheat begins in July for all countries. TY 2025/2026 = July 2025 - June 2026

Production:

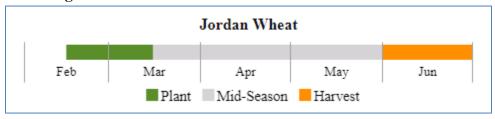
In general, Jordan's wheat production is negligible. FAS Amman forecasts wheat production in MY 2025/2026 to remain steady at 30,000 MT, which accounts for approximately 3 percent of Jordan's annual consumption, unchanged from MY 2024/25 estimates, due to no change in area or yield forecasts, and continued drought conditions in the country.

The 2024 rainy season (September 2024 – February 2025) in Jordan has been marked by insufficient rainfall, with current precipitation at only 11 percent of the average, furthering concerns about water scarcity. Experts warn that if the trend continues, the country could face a challenging dry season further exacerbated by regional water-sharing issues.²

Jordan's wheat planting season is from February until mid-March while the harvest lasts through June.

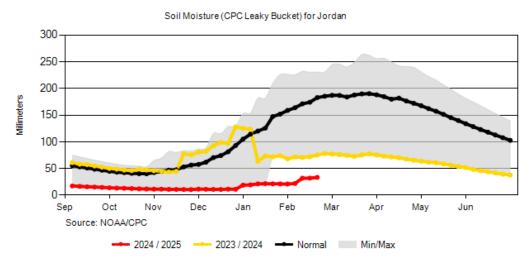
 $^{^2\} The\ Jordan\ Times - \underline{https://jordantimes.com/news/local/though-wet-season-not-over-yet-water-received-so-far-modest-worrying-\%E2\%80\%93-officials}$

Figure 1: Jordan's Wheat Production and Harvest Season



Source: USDA Crop Explorer

Figure 2: Jordan's Soil Moisture



Source: USDA Crop Explorer

Locally-produced wheat is sold to the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply (MOITS), the Jordanian authority responsible for regulating and monitoring internal and external trade. The bulk of Jordan's wheat production occurs in the northern and western part of the country, spanning the governorates of Irbid, Amman, Karak, Tafilah, and Ma'an.

Months Australia

Section According Concepts

Figure 3: Jordanian Wheat Production

Source: USDA Crop Explorer

Consumption:

Post anticipates that Jordan's wheat consumption for MY 2025/2026 will increase to 1.065 million metric tons (MMT) of wheat grain equivalent (WGE), representing a 2.9 percent increase compared to MY 2024/2025. This growth is driven by several factors, including the prevailing economic conditions, regional instability, etc. The political and security uncertainties have heightened concerns among the population, prompting individuals to focus on saving more, with bread—due to its cultural and dietary significance—remaining a key staple in their daily diet. The GoJ estimates that the average per capita bread consumption is 90 kg annually; Jordanians typically consume 1-2 bread-based meals per day, with bread being a central part of their breakfast.³

Moreover, Jordan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the West Bank and Gaza via the Jordan Corridor.⁴ This aid, which includes both food and medical supplies, is currently administered by the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF). Since the aid is not officially declared as an export, it does not appear in the country's export statistics. Flour is a primary component of the aid packages, and while this contributes to the overall wheat import needs, it is considered part of domestic consumption rather than an export.

Trade:

MY 2025/2026 wheat imports are forecast to reach 1.15 MMT of WGE, reflecting a slight decrease from MY 2024/2025. The GoJ aims to maintain wheat stocks sufficient for 10 months of the domestic consumption as part of its strategy to enhance food security. Jordan remains a significant importer of

³ Roya News – Bread Consumption Estimate

⁴ The Jordan Times – https://jordantimes.com/news/local/jhco-says-jordan-sole-humanitarian-corridor-gaza

hard and soft wheat, primarily sourced from Black Sea countries like Romania, Ukraine, and Russia. Jordan primarily imports more hard wheat than soft wheat. Hard wheat's high protein and gluten content make it ideal for producing various types of popular bread. Soft wheat is imported for baked goods, including pastries.

To mitigate supply risks posed by Red Sea shipping challenges—such as delays, longer transit times, and higher freight costs—Jordan is diversifying its supply origins. The GoJ issues a monthly tender for 120,000 MT, open to all traders and participants; typically, the GoJ places orders when prices are lower.⁵ Post projects no U.S. wheat imports due to price sensitivity and price competition from the Black Sea.

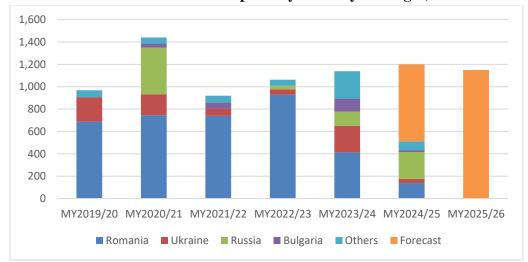


Figure 4: Volume of Jordanian Wheat Imports by Country of Origin, Thousand MT, WGE

Source: Trade Data Monitor

The Jordanian milling industry relies on its wheat supply from MOITS. The milling industry distributes the flour directly to the end customer.

 $^{{}^{5} \} Zawya - \underline{https://www.zawya.com/en/business/commodities/jordan-issues-tender-to-buy-up-to-120-000-t-wheat-traders-say-\underline{sf77g5ek}}$

Black Sea Wheat (milling, 12.5%), USD/ton 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 0 12/01/2024 01/01/2025 01/01/2023 03/01/2023 04/01/2023 05/01/2023 06/01/2023 07/01/2023 08/01/2023 09/01/2023 10/01/2023 11/01/2023 12/01/2023 05/01/2024 07/01/2024 01/01/2024 02/01/2024 03/01/2024 04/01/2024 06/01/2024 08/01/2024 09/01/2024 0/01/2024 11/01/2024

Figure 5: Black Sea Wheat Monthly Prices

Source: International Grains Council via <u>United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Food</u>

Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool

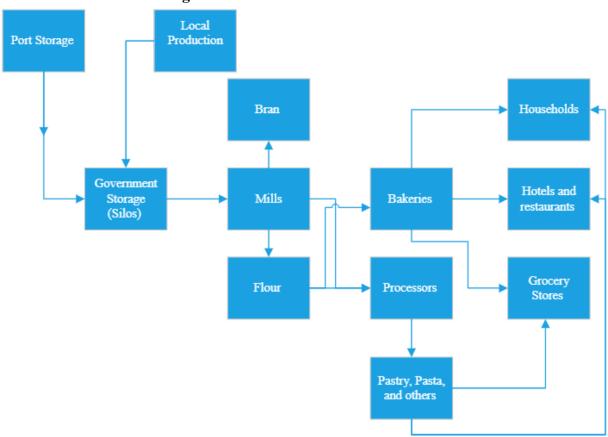


Figure 6: Wheat Value Chain in Jordan

Source: FAS Amman

As of March 2025, more than 150 humanitarian convoys from Jordan carrying humanitarian aid have arrived in Gaza, as reported by Jordanian news outlets. According to the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO), the March 2025 convoy included essential food supplies, among other items.⁶

Exports:

In MY 2025/2026, Post estimates that exports will stabilize at 75,000 MT following the reopening of the Jordan-Syrian border, which is expected to boost exports. In December 2024, the Assad regime in Syria fell, and Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) assumed control over much of Syria. The Jaber Point of Entry, the main border crossing between Jordan and Syria, continues to witness increasing traffic and operational enhancements as the GoJ works to streamline cargo movement and improve procedures. Also, the GoJ's humanitarian aid to Gaza is expected to continue; however, as noted, since the aid is not officially declared as an export, it does not appear in the country's export statistics.

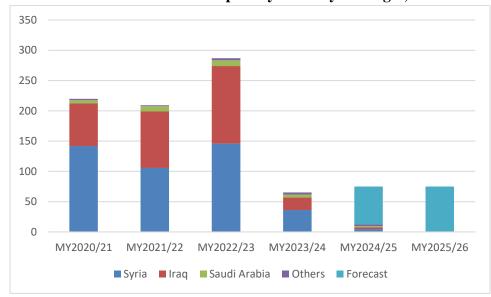


Figure 7: Volume of Jordanian Wheat Export by Country of Origin, Thousand MT, WGE

Source: Trade Data Monitor

Stocks:

With beginning wheat stocks of 877,000 MT in MY 2025/2026, MOITS continues to develop a strategic inventory of wheat, and its ending stocks in MY 2025/2026 are expected to rise to 917,000 MT, five percent higher than MY 2024/2025. In response to the ongoing geopolitical tensions in the region, the GoJ is expected to continue to prioritize strategic reserves and prevent any market shortages. According to MOITS, Jordan has sufficient stocks to cover more than 10 months of consumption.⁷

Policy:

There has been no change in Jordan's bread subsidy program. The government continues to partially subsidize bread, with selling prices set at JD 0.40 (0.56 USD) per kilogram for small pita bread, JD 0.32 (0.45 USD) for large pita bread, and JD 0.35 (0.45 USD) for Arabic bread (Mashrouh).

⁶ The Jordan Times – https://www.jordantimes.com/news/local/jordans-aid-convoys-gaza-surge-ramadan-support-intensifies

⁷ Jordan Daily – https://jordandaily.net/wheat-and-barley-stocks-sufficient-for-up-to-10-months-trade-ministry/

Barley

Table 2 – Production, Supply and Distribution

Barley	2023/2024		2024/2025	2024/2025		2025/2026	
Market Year Begins	Jul 2023		Jul 2024		Jul 2025		
Jordan	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	25	25	25	25	0	25	
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	296	296	284	284	0	409	
Production (1000 MT)	25	25	26	25	0	25	
MY Imports (1000 MT)	863	863	1000	1000	0	1100	
TY Imports (1000 MT)	847	847	800	800	0	900	
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Supply (1000 MT)	1184	1184	1310	1309	0	1534	
MY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	900	900	1000	900	0	900	
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	900	900	1000	900	0	900	
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	284	284	310	409	0	634	
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	1184	1184	1310	1309	0	1534	
Yield (MT/HA)	1	1	1.04	1	0	1	
		Ì	İ				

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Barley begins in October for all countries. TY 2025/2026 = October 2025 - September 2026

Production:

In Jordan, barley is grown on limited rain fed arable lands. Post forecasts MY 2025/2026 barley production at 25,000 MT, unchanged from MY2024/25, based on expected rainfall and constant area and yield.

As mentioned, Jordan is currently grappling with a severe water crisis. Renewable water resources are so scarce that the annual per-person water availability is 61 meters cubed (m³). As a result, water for farms, industry, and households is strictly rationed. In Amman, many households receive water for only 12-24 hours per week, and in the Northern Governorates, water is often supplied for a limited time every second or third week.

Temperature volatility and population growth are expected to reduce water resources by 30 percent by 2040, further straining the availability of water for Jordanian agriculture, businesses, and households.

Jordan's barley planting season starts in May and goes until mid-June, while harvest starts in mid-September and lasts until mid-November.

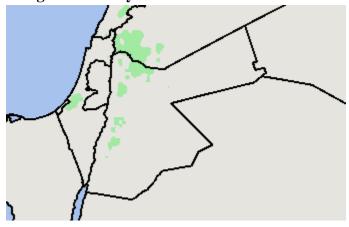
 $^{{}^{8}} World \ Bank - \underline{https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/immersive-story/2024/12/10/resilient-lands-thriving-futures} \\$

Figure 8: Barley Production Cycle



Source: USDA Crop Explorer

Figure 9: Barley Production Areas in Jordan



Source: USDA Crop Explorer

The map highlights the primary regions of barley production in Jordan, showcasing the areas where the crop thrives due to favorable conditions. These regions are primarily located in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

Northern Jordan: The areas shaded in light green along the northern border are critical barley-producing zones. These areas benefit from relatively higher rainfall compared to the rest of the country. The regions around Irbid and Mafraq are especially known for their rain-fed barley farming systems.

Eastern Jordan: Moving towards the eastern regions, including parts of Zarqa and beyond, barley is also grown, albeit in areas that are more arid. These regions depend on limited rainfall. Barley plays a vital role in sustaining livestock, especially during the harsh winter months when pasture availability is low.

Other Smaller Zones: There are smaller barley production areas in the central parts of the country, where rainfall and temperature conditions are marginally favorable for barley growth. These regions contribute to overall production, though on a smaller scale compared to the northern and eastern areas.

Consumption:

Barley continues to be a crucial component of livestock feed in Jordan, particularly for sheep, goats, and cattle. In MY 2025/2026, Post forecasts barley consumption in Jordan to stabilize at 900,000 MT, unchanged from MY 2024/2025 estimates, on higher prices set by the GoJ and economic challenges, as

high unemployment and elevated inflation levels have diminished purchasing power for meat and related livestock feed products.

Trade:

In MY 2025/2026, barley imports are projected to reach 1.1 million MT, up 10 percent from MY 2024/2025. This increase aligns with Jordan's proactive food security strategy, which prioritizes maintaining a strategic reserve of 8-10 months of consumption. At this time, the Jordanian government faces inflationary pressures and is taking advantage of falling barley prices to fill strategic reserves. The Black Sea remains the primary barley supplier in Jordan. Post anticipates no imports from the United States due to higher freight costs compared to the Black Sea.

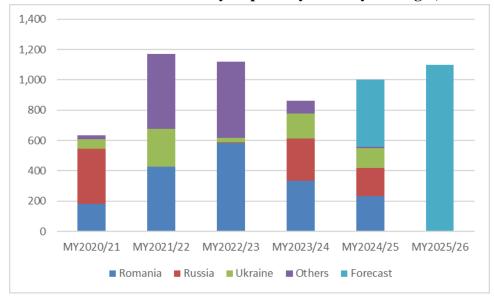


Figure 10: Volume of Jordanian Barley Imports by Country of Origin, Thousand MT

Source: Trade Data Monitor

350 300 250 200 150 100 50 11/01/2023 04/01/2024 06/01/2024 09/01/2024 02/01/2023 07/01/2023 08/01/2023 10/01/2023 12/01/2023 01/01/2024 03/01/2024 05/01/2024 08/01/2024 10/01/2024 1/01/2024 03/01/2023 05/01/2023 06/01/2023 09/01/2023 27/01/2024 04/01/2023 02/01/205 Australia Black Sea

Figure 11: Barley Price Comparison: Black Sea vs. European Union and Australia, USD Per MT

Source: International Grains Council via UN FAO Price Monitoring Analysis Tool

Exports:

Jordan does not export barley.

Stocks:

Barley ending stocks in MY 2025/2026 are forecast to reach 634,000 MT. The GoJ is actively working to build and maintain strategic security stocks to mitigate the risk of delayed shipments and avoid potential shortages in the market. Barley is a crucial component of animal feed, making it essential for the livestock sector. By securing these reserves, the GoJ aims to ensure a stable and reliable supply of barley, even in the face of logistical challenges and market disruptions. According to the GoJ, Jordan has 9 months of domestic barley consumption in storage.⁹

Policy:

On February 6, 2025, MOITS increased the price of barley for all livestock breeders, including those who raise cattle, poultry, camels, and horses, with the exception of sheep breeders. Additionally, the new price applies to companies importing livestock. The price per ton of barley has been set at 223.5 Jordanian Dinars (JOD) (315 USD), inclusive of sales tax, reflecting an increase of half a dinar compared to the previous two months.

For sheep breeders, the Ministry of Agriculture has maintained the subsidized barley price at 175 JOD (\$246.75) per MT, consistent with the pricing for the last two months.

The ministry has also kept the price of subsidized bran for livestock breeders at 77 JOD (108.77 USD) per MT for sheep breeders. For other livestock breeders, including those raising cattle, poultry, camels, and horses, the price of bran has been set at 154 JOD (216.98 USD) per MT, as per the ministry's guidelines, including sales tax.¹⁰

⁹ Almamlakatv.com – Jordan's wheat and barley stocks are enough for 9-10 months

¹⁰ Jordan News Agency – https://petra.gov.jo/Include/InnerPage.jsp?ID=303923&lang=ar&name=news

Corn

Table 3 – Production, Supply and Distribution

Corn	2023/2024		2024/2025 Oct 2024		2025/2026 Oct 2025	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2023					
Jordan	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	1	1	1	1	0	1
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	29	29	23	23	0	19
Production (1000 MT)	10	10	11	11	0	11
MY Imports (1000 MT)	809	809	700	700	0	705
TY Imports (1000 MT)	809	809	700	700	0	705
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	848	848	734	734	0	735
MY Exports (1000 MT)	5	5	5	5	0	5
TY Exports (1000 MT)	5	5	5	5	0	5
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	810	810	700	700	0	700
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	10	10	10	10	0	10
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	820	820	710	710	0	710
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	23	23	19	19	0	20
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	848	848	734	734	0	735
Yield (MT/HA)	10	10	11	11	0	11

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Corn begins in October for all countries. TY 2025/2026 = October 2025 - September 2026

Production:

Jordan's domestic corn production remains minimal, with total output forecast at 11,000 MT for MY 2025/2026, unchanged from the previous year. The harvested area is expected to remain steady due to limited arable land and water scarcity. Domestic production accounts for only a fraction of Jordan's total corn consumption, necessitating substantial imports to meet demand.

Consumption:

MY 2025/2026 is projected at 710,000 MT, remaining stable compared to MY 2024/25. The feed and residual consumption is forecast to remain at 700,000 MT, reflecting steady demand from Jordan's livestock and poultry sectors. Food, seed, and industrial (FSI) consumption is projected to remain at 10,000 MT, indicating no major shifts in domestic food or industrial use of corn.

Trade:

Unlike other staple grains, the Jordanian government does not intervene in corn imports, storage, or distribution. Instead, the private sector fully manages the supply chain, importing, storing, and distributing of corn based on market demand. In MY 2025/2026, corn imports are forecast at 705,000 MT, a slight increase from 700,000 MT in MY 2024/2025, ensuring sufficient supply for the livestock industry.

Jordan's primary corn suppliers remain South America (Argentina and Brazil) and Black Sea countries No imports from the United States are expected, as price competitiveness (including freight) favors alternative suppliers.

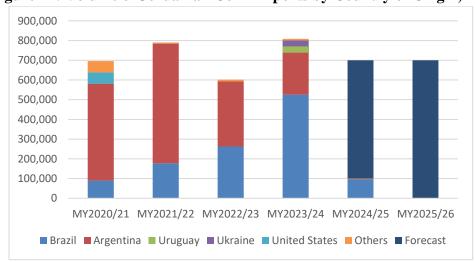


Figure 12: Volume of Jordanian Corn Imports by Country of Origin, MT

Source: Trade Data Monitor

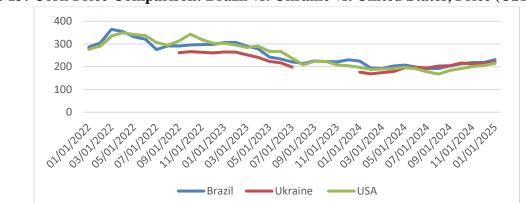


Figure 13: Corn Price Comparison: Brazil vs. Ukraine vs. United States, Price (USD) Per MT

Source: International Grains Council via UN FAO Price Monitoring Analysis Tool; *Note: there is no price index for Ukraine trade from January 2022 to September 2022 and July 2023 to January 2024.

Exports:

Jordan's corn exports are expected to remain minimal, with MY 2025/2026 exports projected at 5,000 MT, consistent with previous years. Jordan primarily imports corn for domestic consumption, and no significant export activity is anticipated.

Stocks:

Beginning stocks for MY 2025/2026 are estimated at 19,000 MT, while ending stocks are forecast to increase slightly to 20,000 MT. The private sector holds a moderate stock level to mitigate potential supply disruptions, ensuring sufficient reserves for the domestic feed industry.

Rice

Table 4 – Production, Supply and Distribution

2023/2024		2024/2025 Jan 2025		2025/2026 Jan 2026	
Jan 2024					
USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
0	0	0	0	0	0
10	10	10	20	0	15
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
225	250	225	235	0	235
225	250	225	235	0	235
69	80	0	70	0	70
235	260	235	255	0	250
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
225	240	220	240	0	240
10	20	15	15	0	10
235	260	235	255	0	250
0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jan 2024 USDA Official 0 10 0 0 0 225 225 69 235 0 0 225 10 235	Jan 2024 New Post 0 0 10 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 225 250 225 250 69 80 235 260 0 0 225 240 10 20 235 260	Jan 2024 Jan 2025 USDA Official New Post USDA Official 0 0 0 10 10 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 225 250 225 225 250 225 69 80 0 235 260 235 0 0 0 225 240 220 10 20 15 235 260 235	Jan 2024 Jan 2025 USDA Official New Post USDA Official New Post 0 0 0 0 10 10 10 20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 225 250 225 235 225 250 225 235 69 80 0 70 235 260 235 255 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 225 240 220 240 10 20 15 15 235 260 235 255	Jan 2024 Jan 2025 Jan 2026 USDA Official New Post USDA Official New Post USDA Official 0 0 0 0 0 0 10 10 10 20 0 0 0

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Rice, Milled begins in January for all countries. TY 2025/2026 = January 2026 - December 2026

Production:

Due to Jordan's limited water resources, there is no domestic rice production. The country's arid climate and scarce water availability make it unsuitable for growing rice, which is a water-intensive crop. As a result, Jordan relies entirely on imports to meet its rice consumption needs, sourcing the commodity from international markets to ensure a steady supply for its population.

Consumption:

Post forecasts MY 2025/2026 domestic consumption to be 240,000 MT, unchanged from MY 2024/2025 and MY 2023/2024 estimates, which are both higher than USDA's official figures. Rice is still considered an affordable commodity and due to the current geopolitical situation and economic uncertainty, Jordanians are preferring to save more money and consume more rice and bread. Rice is a staple food in Jordan, with most households consuming it twice per day, particularly for lunch and dinner, making it a primary source of carbohydrates. Medium-grain rice is traditionally the main component in popular Jordanian dishes such as Mansaf and Maqlouba though there is a growing trend to mix medium-grain with long-grain rice.

Many Jordanian households are increasingly favoring long-grain rice due to its forgiving nature during cooking; it delivers consistent results regardless of the amount of water used. In contrast, medium-grain

rice is more sensitive to water levels, and improper cooking can easily ruin the dish, posing a challenge for some.

Exports:

Jordan does not export rice. The country requires special permission from local authorities for any rice exports, which are extremely rare. As such, no rice exports are expected in MY 2025/2026. Jordan remains a net importer of rice and relies on imports to fulfill its domestic demand.

Additionally, with ongoing humanitarian aid to the West Bank and Gaza, Jordan uses the Jordan Corridor, ¹¹ managed by the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF), to deliver essential food supplies. According to information from Jordanian authorities, this food assistance is not classified as exports, and therefore, it is not reflected in the country's official export statistics. However, this aid does influence the import volume, as Jordan must supply rice to meet both domestic demand and needs related to humanitarian assistance.

In December 2023, MOITS restricted exports of certain essential foodstuffs, including rice, and intensified market oversight to prevent price gouging, in accordance with recommendations from the Jordan Food Security Council.

Imports:

Jordan will remain entirely dependent on rice imports in MY 2025/2026, with total imports projected at 235,000 MT, unchanged from the previous year, MY 2024/2025. The United States is expected to supply 70,000 MT, maintaining a steady share in Jordan's rice market, while India is a key supplier for long-grain rice that may be favored for its competitive pricing. Jordan's total rice supply is anticipated to reach 250,000 MT, including carryover stocks, ensuring sufficient availability to meet demand for a population that is growing and has stable dietary preferences. Given fluctuating global rice prices and potential trade disruptions, Jordan will likely continue to have a diversified sourcing strategy to maintain a stable supply. Overall, the 2025/26 outlook points to steady import demand with no significant shifts in sourcing patterns.

Post adjusted MY 2023/2024 rice imports to 250,000 MT, 11 percent higher than the USDA official figure, as Jordan's rice imports through November 2024 have exceeded 230,000 MT, according to available trade data in TDM.

 $^{{}^{11}\,} The\, Jordan\, Times - \underline{https://jordantimes.com/news/local/jordan-steps-aid-efforts-gaza-new-partnerships-sends-100-truck-\underline{convoy-war-torn-strip}$

300,000

250,000

150,000

100,000

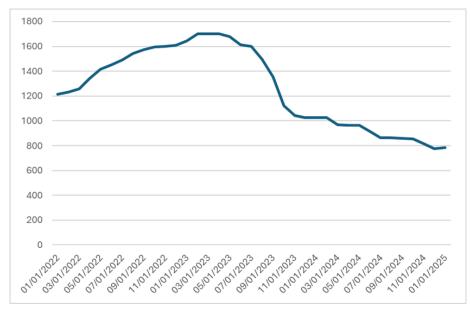
MY2019/20 MY2020/21 MY2021/22 MY2022/23 MY2023/24 MY2024/25 MY2025/26

India United States Portugal Others Forecast

Figure 14: Volume of Jordanian Rice Imports by Country of Origin, MT

Source: Trade Data Monitor





Source: UN FAO, Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool

Stocks:

Ending stocks in MY 2025/2026 are projected at 10,000 MT. Rice is primarily imported by the private sector, but the GoJ is actively encouraging the building of additional stocks to strengthen food security.

Marketing:

In Jordan, rice is imported and distributed primarily by private sector traders, who re-package the product and ensure a steady supply to retailers. These traders play a key role in maintaining the availability of rice in the market. Rice is typically sold in supermarkets and hypermarkets, where it is readily accessible to end consumers. This efficient supply chain helps meet the ongoing demand for rice, a staple in the Jordanian diet.

Policy:

In December 2023, MOITS restricted exports of certain essential foodstuffs, including rice, and intensified market oversight to prevent price gouging, in accordance with recommendations from the Jordan Food Security Council.¹² Despite this policy, the GoJ is facilitating food aid shipments into Gaza.

Attachments:

No Attachments

¹² Ammon – <u>Jordan bans export of rice</u>, sugar, and vegetable oils due to high shipping costs