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Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media release

Annual agricultural industry survey, 2022

Income in agriculture and related services grew by 11,2% between 2021 and 2022, according to the latest *Agricultural survey* released today. Stats SA's *Agricultural survey* for 2022 found that the industry generated R450,2 billion in 2022 compared with R404,8 billion in 2021.

This is an annual survey which measures economic activity in the agricultural industry of the South African economy. The survey is based on a sample of private and public enterprises registered for value-added tax (VAT) operating in the agricultural industry. The survey is used to monitor the performance of the country in terms of economic growth and job creation.

The province with the largest income from the sales of goods and services in the agricultural industry in 2022 was Western Cape with R78,6 billion (or 19,1% of the industry total), followed by Free State (R57,2 billion or 13,9%), Gauteng (R48,7 billion or 11,8%), Mpumalanga (R47,2 billion or 11,5%) and North West (R44,0 billion or 10,7%).

The largest income was reported for the sales of 'animals and animal products' (R172,8 billion), followed by 'horticultural crops and products' (R109,5 billion) and 'field crops' (R95,4 billion).

The purchases incurred in the agricultural industry reflected an increase of 15,1% from R198,6 billion in 2021 to R228,7 billion in 2022. Purchases of 'feed and supplements for livestock, poultry and aquaculture' at 23,7% constituted the largest contributor to total purchases, followed by 'animals' (19,9%), 'fertilisers, both manure and inorganic fertilisers, and lime' (13,7%) and 'seed, seedling and other plant material' (7,7%).

The total employment in the agricultural industry increased by 3,9% from 783 745 in June 2021 to 814 518 in June 2022. Most employees (211 564) were reported in Western Cape (25,9% of the industry total), followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 105 463 (12,9%). The lowest number of employees in the industry, 48 805 (6,0%), were reported in Gauteng.

Capital expenditure in the agricultural industry increased by 17,4% from R33,1 billion in 2021 to R38,9 billion in 2022. 'Motor vehicles, plant, machinery, tractors and other transport' reported the largest increase, namely R3,6 billion (from R20,4 billion in 2021 to R24,0 billion in 2022).

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