

COMMENTARY

The **consumption of cereals and bakery products** in 2020 was characterized by a year-on-year increase in the consumption of rye flour by 0.3 kg (+0.4%) and the consumption of groats, barley semolina and oatmeal by 0.2 kg (+10.3%). The consumption of wheat flour decreased by 2.1 kg (-2.2%). The total consumption of cereals in terms of flour weight went down by 0.2 kg (-0.2%). The bread consumption declined by 0.9 kg (-2.3%), the consumption of wheat bakery products by 0.4 kg (-0.8%), and the consumption of preserved bakery products by 1.4 kg (-18.5%).

The **total meat consumption in terms of carcass weight** grew by 0.8 kg (+1.0%). The consumption was higher by 0.3 kg (+0.8%) for pigmeat and by 0.8 kg (+2.7%) for poultrymeat. On the contrary, the consumption of beef declined by 0.2 kg (-2.5%). The consumption of fish decreased by 0.3 kg (-4.3%).

The **consumption of milk and milk products (excl. butter)** rose by 13.5 kg (+5.4%) mainly due to the consumption of cow's milk increased by 13.5 kg (+5.4 %). The consumption of cheese went up by 0.5 kg (+3.6%) and that of other milk-based products by 1.1 kg (+3.1%). A year-on-year increase by 0.5 kg (+0.8%) was recorded for drinking milk.

The **consumption of eggs** declined by 12 pieces (-4.6%), y-o-y, to 249 pieces.

The **total consumption of fats and oils** went down by 0.8 kg (-2.8%), year-on-year, due to the consumption of butter lower by 0.4 kg (-7.4%). The consumption of vegetable edible fats and oils decreased by 0.2 kg (-1.1%) and the consumption of lard by 0.2 kg as well (-3.7%).

The **consumption of fruit in terms of fresh** increased by 1.3 kg (+1.5%). The consumption of fruits of temperate zone went up by 0.3 kg (+0.6%) and the consumption of subtropical and tropical fruits by 1.0 kg (+2.7), y-o-y, mainly due to higher consumption of lemons, grapefruits, and bananas.

The **consumption of vegetables in terms of fresh** distinctly rose compared to 2019 by 6.2 kg (+7.1%). Increases were recorded in all kinds of vegetables except garlic, lettuce, and tomatoes.

The **consumption of potatoes** decreased by 4.4 kg (-6.3%).

The **sugar consumption** went up by 0.8 kg (+2.2%).

The **consumption of mineral waters and non-alcoholic beverages** decreased by 8.7 litres (-3.5%). The largest declines, y-o-y, were recorded for mineral waters (by 2.5 litres; -4.4%) and for lemonades (by 3.1 litres; -3.3%).

The **consumption of alcoholic beverages, total**, went down by 6.7 litres (-3.8%). The beer consumption decreased by 6.1 litres (-4.2%) and the consumption of wine by 0.5 litres (-2.7%).

The **consumption of alcoholic beverages in terms of pure alcohol** declined by 0.3 litres (-2.6%) due to lower consumption of beer (by 0.2 litres; -4.2%) and spirits (by -0.3%).

The **consumption of cigarettes** declined by 64 pieces (-3.3%).

In 2020, the Czech Republic was **self-sufficient** in the production of beef and veal (105.0%), milk and milk products in terms of milk (116.7%), and in sugar (134.7%). As for other items calculated (see Table 3), we did not achieve self-sufficiency and were dependent on their imports. Our dependence on food imports is increasing since the Czech Republic joined the European Union, or the free EU market, even for commodities that are characteristic for our agriculture. **Self-sufficiency** in pigmeat production dropped from 94.5% in 2003 to 43.2% in 2020, in poultrymeat production from 92.0% to 59.8%, for butter from 126.6% to 71.6%, for apples from 100.2% to 79.9%, for cabbage from 77.5% to 56.7%. In general, in vegetables we are self-sufficient the least (16.6% for tomatoes in 2020). Examples of commodities with a positive balance of cross border movements in raw materials and a negative balance in products made from them are: wheat x wheat flour, milk x cheese.