

## COMMENTARY

In 2021, the **consumption of cereals and bakery products**, in terms of wheat flour, decreased by 4,5 kg (-3,9 %) year-on-year, which was mainly influenced by the reduced consumption of wheat flour by 4.2 kg (-4.5%) and rye flour by 0.5 kg (-6.2%). The consumption of groats, barley semolina and oatmeal increased by 0.2 kg (+11.1%) and the consumption of rice by 0.3 kg (+3.9%). The consumption of bread went up by 1.6 kg (+4.3%), wheat bakery products by 1.1 kg (+2.1%) and preserved bakery products by 1.5 kg (+23.4%).

The **meat consumption in terms of carcass weight equivalent** grew by 2.0 kg (+2.3%), mainly due to an increase in pigmeat consumption by 1.2 kg (+2.8%) and beef by 0.6 kg (+6.8%). Poultrymeat consumption rose slightly by 0.1 kg (+0.2%).

The **consumption of milk and milk products (excl. butter)** rose by 0.4 kg (+0.2%) year-on-year, mainly because of the higher consumption of cow's milk by 0.4 kg (+0.2%). The consumption of cheese grew by 0.1 kg (+0.7%) year-on-year and for other dairy products by 0.9 kg (+2.5%). In case of drinking milk, a year-on-year decrease by 0,9 kg (-1,5%) was recorded.

The **egg consumption** went up by 14 pieces (+5.5%), y-o-y, to 263 pieces.

There was a year-on-year decrease of 0.7 kg (-2.8%) recorded in the **consumption of fats and oils**, caused by the decline in the butter consumption by 0.4 kg (-7.0%) and in the consumption of vegetable edible fats and oils by 0.4 kg (-2.3%).

The **consumption of fruit in terms of fresh** went up by 2.8 kg (+3.2%). Consumption of fruits of temperate zone increased by 1.9 kg (+3.7%) due to higher consumption of apples, pears and grapes. For subtropical and tropical fruits, there was an increase of 0.9 kg y-o-y (+2.5%), mainly due to increased consumption of oranges and tangerines.

The **consumption of vegetables in terms of fresh** rose by 3,6 kg (+3,8 %) year-on-year. The increase in the consumption was recorded for almost all vegetables except for cucumbers, kohlrabi, spinach and parsley.

The **potato consumption** increased by 5 kg (+7.7%).

The **sugar consumption** went up by 0.6 kg (+1.6%).

The **consumption of mineral waters and non-alcoholic beverages** declined by 1.6 litres (-0.6%). The most significant y-o-y drop by 3.0 litres (-3.3%) was recorded for lemonades, whereas the consumption of soda water increased by 1.3 litres (+4.7%).

The **consumption of alcoholic beverages (total)** fell by 3.4 litres (-2.1%). There was a year-on-year decrease of 4.5 litres (-3.2%) in beer consumption, but the wine consumption rose by 1 liter (+5.1%) and spirits by 0.1 liter (+0.7%).

The **consumption of alcoholic beverages converted into pure alcohol** remained constant. The consumption of beer went down by 0.1 litres (-3.3%) and the consumption of wine increased by 0.1 litres (+5.2%). The consumption of spirits in terms of pure alcohol remained also constant.

In 2021, the Czech Republic was **self-sufficient** in the production of beef and veal (100.1%), milk and milk products in terms of milk (120.3%), cheese and curd and cottage cheese (100.7%) and sugar (165.8%). In the other calculated items, self-sufficiency was not achieved and had to be compensated by imports (see Tab. 3). Dependence on food imports has been steadily increasing since the Czech Republic joined the free EU market, even for commodities characteristic for Czech agriculture. For example, **self-sufficiency** in pigmeat production decreased from 94.5% in 2003 to 44.2% in 2021, in poultry production from 92.0% to 61.1%, in case of butter from 126.6% to 72.9 %, in case of apples from 100.2% to 78.5% and cabbage from 77.5% to 58.0%. In general, the lowest level of self-sufficiency is achieved in vegetable production. In 2021, the Czech Republic was only in 17.8% self-sufficient in tomato production.