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المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

## **2.5% the Average increase in Agricultural Producers' Prices during June 2018 Compared with June 2017**

The data issued by the Department of Statistics indicates an increase in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for June 2018 by 2.5% compared with June 2017. (The Price Index reached 113.7 in June 2018 compared with 110.9 in June 2017). The most significant crops that contributed to this increase were cucumber 56.2%, squash 93.9%, tomatoes 54.2%, hot pepper 4.2%, cauliflower 91.9%, cantaloupe 36.5%, eggplants 55.7%, peach 8.4%, onion 28.1% and parsley 153.6% (the total of their relative importance constituted 47.9% of the total indicator value).

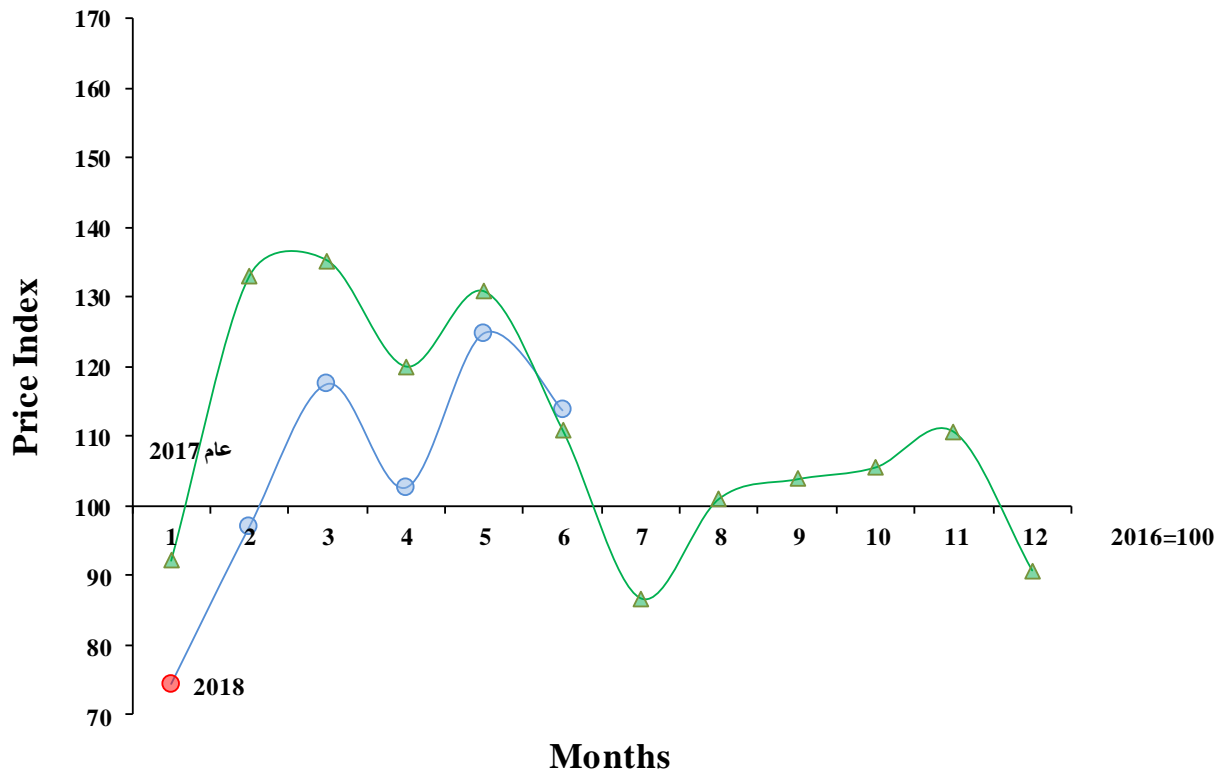
Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of apricot, wheat, potato, okra, carrot, Jews mallow, barley, grape, lettuce and snake cucumber by (8.3%), (19.3%), (11.7%), (16.9%), (45.0%), (30.6%), (5.5%), (4.9%), (19.5%) and (20.6%) respectively (the total of their relative importance constituted 52.1% of the total indicator value).

The report also shows that the Price Index has decreased by 8.9% in June 2018 as compared with May 2018 (the price index reached 113.7 in June 2018 compared with 124.8 in May 2018). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease (the total of their relative importance constituted 57.8%) were apricot (34.0%), peach (27.1%), cucumber (30.8%), grapes (34.1%), nectarine (31.2%), okra (17.7%), plum (22.1%), onion (18.5%), squash (17.7%) and Jews mallow (39.5%). Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of hot pepper, tomatoes, melon, cantaloupe, potato, sweet pepper, carrot, string beans, parsley and cabbage by 17.0%, 27.9%, 17.2%, 9.4%, 4.5%, 20.3%, 18.7%, 15.0%, 31.3% and 41.1% respectively with a relative importance reached 42.2%.

On the accumulative level, the Price Index of Agricultural Producers has decreased by 12.8% for the first half of 2018 as compared with the same period of 2017 (the accumulative price index reached 105.0% for 2018 compared with 120.3 for the same period of 2017). The most significant crops whose Price Index Average contributed to this decrease were tomato by (55.4%), potatoes (20.7%), eggplants (17.8%), hot pepper (13.4%), green sweet pepper (12.3%) and string beans (2.7%), whose their relative importance constituted 66.7%. Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of cucumber, squash, colored sweet pepper, cauliflower and banana by 37.5% ,19.2%, 14.6%, 8.7% and 1.7% with a relative importance of 33.3%.

The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2017 and 2018.

Fig 1: Agricultural Producer Price Index for 2017 & 2018



It is worthy to mention that the Department of Statistics (DOS) had reviewed the methodology of agricultural prices data collection through a specialized technical committee from DOS and the Ministry of Agriculture upon recommendations of the *Permanent Agricultural Statistics Expert Committee* emanating from the *National Agricultural Strategy (2002-2010)*. In order to improve the data quality, we rely on the data on agricultural prices for all corps coming from the central markets each month, (2016 is the base year, 100 = 2016) using (Laspeure) formula to derive the price index.