

AAGWa Crop Production Forecasts Brief Series

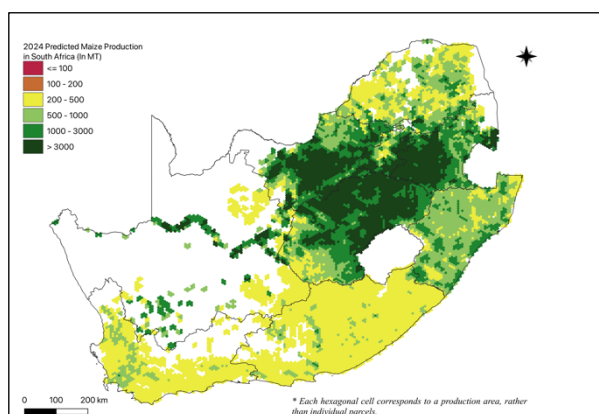
South Africa – Maize

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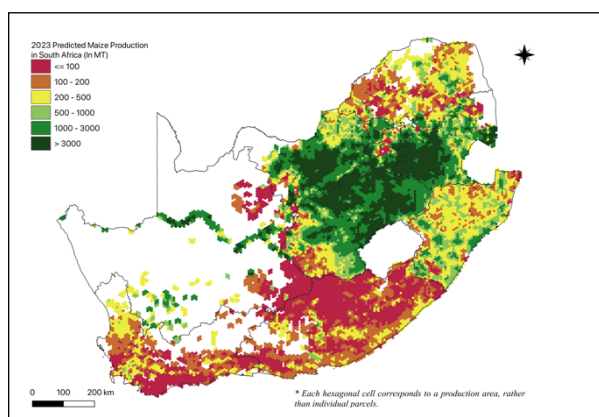
The crop production forecast brief series by AKADEMIYA2063's Africa Agriculture Watch (AAGWa) aims to provide more accurate and timely data on harvest and yields for ten major crops across nearly 50 African countries. The timeliness, wide availability, and easy access to this type of data will allow stakeholders across the value chain to better plan and execute policy and business actions more efficiently. The data published in the briefs are generated through the Africa Crop Production (AfCP) model, an Artificial Intelligence (AI-based) model applied to remotely sensed geo-biophysical data to produce estimates at pixel as well as administrative levels as early as the beginning of every growing season. In Brief 141, we provide forecasts on maize production in South Africa.

Figure 1. South Africa 2024 Maize production forecast.



Data source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

Figure 2. South Africa 2023 Maize production forecast.



Data source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

In 2024, maize production in South Africa is projected to reach 12,451,714 metric tons (MT), corresponding to a 15% increase over 2023 production levels. The highest maize producers are expected to be the Eastern and Northern districts such as in Thabo Mofutsanyane (Free State), Gert Sibande (Mpumalanga), Lejweleputswa (Free State), Fezile Dabi (Free State), and Ngaka Modiri Molema (North West), with production levels estimated at 1,478,499 MT, 1,279,689 MT, 1,093,728 MT, 991,601 MT, and 722,693 MT, respectively. In comparison, lower production values are observed in the City of Cape Town (Western Cape), John Taolo Gaetsewe (Northern Cape), Nelson Mandela Bay (Eastern Cape), Buffalo City (Eastern Cape), and eThekweni (KwaZulu-Natal), with production of, respectively, 3,488 MT, 4,154 MT, 4,595 MT, 4,955 MT, and 9,762 MT.

Moreover, the most significant maize production increases in 2024 are expected in different areas such as Lejweleputswa, Ngaka Modiri Molema, Fezile Dabi, Thabo Mofutsanyane, and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati (North West), with increases of respectively 180,437 MT, 156,391 MT, 143,070 MT, 140,744 MT, and 117,014 MT. These correspond to changes of 16%, 19%, 15%, 11%, and 20%.

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Annex – 2024 South Africa Maize Production Forecast at District Level

Provinces	Districts	2024 Production (MT)	2023 Production (MT)	Difference (MT)	Change (%)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	29914	21524	8389	39%
Eastern Cape	Amathole	44626	45603	-977	-2%
Eastern Cape	Buffalo City	4955	5606	-651	-12%
Eastern Cape	Cacadu	96990	70918	26072	37%
Eastern Cape	Chris Hani	78126	40543	37584	93%
Eastern Cape	Joe Gqabi	44887	21523	23364	109%
Eastern Cape	Nelson Mandela Bay	4595	3459	1137	33%
Eastern Cape	O.R.Tambo	23044	21812	1232	6%
Free State	Fezile Dabi	1093728	950658	143070	15%
Free State	Lejweleputswa	1279689	1099251	180437	16%
Free State	Mangaung Thabo	210444	173054	37390	22%
Free State	Mofutsanyane	1478499	1337755	140744	11%
Free State	Xhariep City of	509361	392347	117014	30%
Gauteng	Johannesburg	10558	7931	2627	33%
Gauteng	City of Tshwane	131279	111551	19728	18%
Gauteng	Ekurhuleni	147514	133458	14055	11%
Gauteng	Sedibeng	120810	107264	13545	13%
Gauteng	West Rand	176370	156942	19428	12%
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	44084	34882	9202	26%
KwaZulu-Natal	eThekwini	9762	8826	935	11%
KwaZulu-Natal	iLembe	33649	33480	170	1%
KwaZulu-Natal	Sisonke	81430	79963	1467	2%
KwaZulu-Natal	Ugu	40888	39254	1634	4%
KwaZulu-Natal	Umgungundlovu	81054	83691	-2637	-3%
KwaZulu-Natal	Umkhanyakude	70823	69041	1782	3%
KwaZulu-Natal	Umzinyathi	55879	49453	6426	13%
KwaZulu-Natal	Uthukela	74932	62269	12663	20%
KwaZulu-Natal	Uthungulu	49162	47293	1869	4%
KwaZulu-Natal	Zululand	77466	67068	10398	16%
Limpopo	Capricorn	48906	41497	7409	18%
Limpopo	Mopani	98430	88240	10191	12%
Limpopo	Sekhukhune	142958	118574	24384	21%
Limpopo	Vhembe	46952	46084	869	2%
Limpopo	Waterberg	102613	85283	17330	20%
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	316897	300294	16602	6%
Mpumalanga	Gert Sibande	1392905	1278823	114083	9%
Mpumalanga	Nkangala	722693	651017	71675	11%
North West	Bojanala	382196	330949	51246	15%
North West	Dr Kenneth Kaunda Dr Ruth Segomotsi	662279	577482	84797	15%
North West	Mompati Ngaka Modiri	708187	590831	117357	20%
North West	Molema	991601	835210	156391	19%
Northern Cape	Frances Baard John Taolo	127935	112623	15312	14%
Northern Cape	Gaetsewe	4154	2341	1812	77%
Northern Cape	Namakwa	61595	54251	7344	14%
Northern Cape	Pixley ka Seme	197516	152942	44574	29%



Northern Cape	Siyanda	145950	125833	20116	16%
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	59002	36225	22777	63%
Western Cape	Central Karoo	11750	7209	4542	63%
Western Cape	City of Cape Town	3488	1764	1724	98%
Western Cape	Eden	41798	24269	17529	72%
Western Cape	Overberg	24900	11271	13629	121%
Western Cape	West Coast	52491	38577	13914	36%
Total		12451714	10788010	1663704	15%

MT (Metric tons): 1 MT is equivalent to 1,000 kilograms.

Change: refers to the relative difference and is calculated as (2024 prod – 2023 prod) divided by 2023 prod.

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