

ICPSR 9777

Wheat Trade and Wheat Prices in France, 1486-1913

Description

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Bibliographic Description

ICPSR Study No.: 9777

Title: Wheat Trade and Wheat Prices in France, 1486-1913

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<http://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR09777.v1>

Scope of Study

Summary: This collection presents a historical survey of the price and quantity of wheat produced in different localities in France. The purpose of the study was to examine price trends of a major food commodity within an important agricultural market in Western Europe and, in particular, to measure the correlation between wheat price fluctuations and demographic fluctuations in France. Prices and quantities of wheat were recorded, either fortnightly or monthly, by local officials in the major wheat-growing areas and subsequently relayed to higher levels of the French government. These tables of information were finally copied and maintained by the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture and ultimately deposited in the French National Archives.

Subject Term(s): agricultural markets, agricultural production, agricultural zones, commodities, demographic fluctuations, food production, historical periods, markets, price fluctuations, price trends, public officials, trade, trend analysis, trends

Geographic Coverage: France, Global

Time Period: • January 1486 - December 1913

Date(s) of Collection: • September 1986 - June 1987

Universe: All wheat markets in France for which prices and quantities sold were recorded by the French administration in the nineteenth century.

Data Type: aggregate data

event/transaction data

survey data

Data Collection Notes: These data are stored in a machine-readable tabular format with blanks used to separate elements within the tables. The files containing these data also include instructions for reading the tables.

Methodology

Sample: A representative sample of wheat markets covering every part of France, with the exception of Alsace-Lorraine, were chosen. After eliminating those with imprecise or incomplete information, 53 markets comprised the final list. The northern half of France is more heavily represented since wheat production is more extensive there than in the south. Usually one market per "departement" (administrative area), either that of the largest city or of the center with the largest quantity of sales, was chosen for inclusion in the collection. In addition, several large ports, such as Cherbourg and Dieppe, and other cities, such as Chateaudun and Albi, were also included.

Data Source: Archives Nationales (Paris): F*11 1779-2678, F*11 2887-2984

Access and Availability

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Original ICPSR Release: 1993-02-14

Version History: The last update of this study occurred on .

2006-01-12 - All files were removed from dataset 4 and flagged as study-level files, so that they will accompany all downloads.

Dataset(s):

- DS1: Quantities of Wheat Sold on Specific Markets in France, 1825-1885
- DS2: Wheat Prices in France, 1825-1913
- DS3: Monthly Market Wheat Prices in Toulouse, 1486-1913