

# APPLY IT TO AG!

Your Directions to Ag Connections

# THE COST OF FOOD

**Objective:** Understanding how the price of crops impacts the price of food.

## Materials:

- American Farm Bureau's Food and Farm Facts book
- A copy of the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service data on the average price received for wheat found here: [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts\\_and\\_Maps/Agricultural\\_Prices/pricewh.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts_and_Maps/Agricultural_Prices/pricewh.php)
- A copy of the Bureau of Labor Statistics average price data for whole wheat bread found here: [http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/APU0000702212?data\\_tool=XGtable](http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/APU0000702212?data_tool=XGtable)
- Computer (with spreadsheet application) access.

## Directions:

- By circling your response, predict how much the price of bread in the store is related to the price a farmer receives for his/her wheat: a lot, some or not much.
- Turn to page 18 of the Food and Farm Facts book.
- Using a spreadsheet, create a data set for the average April prices for both wheat and bread for the years 2009-2019 and represent this data on a line.
- Analyze the two representations and compare the results to your earlier prediction about the relationship between the price of bread and the price received for wheat.
- Calculate the average cost of the wheat as a percentage of the price of a loaf of bread, assuming that one bushel of wheat is used in 90 loaves of bread.

## Ag Connections:

- Why does the price of wheat fluctuate? What other factors might influence how much the store charges for bread?

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- How does this affect the average person?

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**Learn More!** Get your copy of *The Man Who Fed the World* at [dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau](https://dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau)