

THEORETICAL ASPECTS OF THE FOOD SECURITY

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The national researchers interpret the term "food security " in different ways. Very often, they understand food security as full provision of the country with food on the basis of national production, without any imports. Alternatively, the issue is often discussed as a necessity to increase an extent of state regulation of agricultural sector, referring to the difficult situation in agricultural sector and growing dependence on imports. Naturally, the above-mentioned aspects are very important characteristics of the food provision in Ukraine.

According to the concept of Maxwell and Frankenberg, the food security can be defined as an ability to buy the food for keeping healthy and active vital functions of a human in any given period of time.

Specialists of the Ukraine's National Institute for Strategic Research define the food security as a "level of sufficient provision of people with food products, which guarantees the social and political stability in society, stable economic development, survival and development of nation, individuals and families" [1].

Malnutrition is the most dangerous for the human health; it appears if a person lacks the food with the necessary quantity of calories and nutrition elements. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), every year about 800 million people in the world starve or suffer malnutrition. Ukraine is not reported among the countries where the famine and massive malnutrition takes place. However, the problem is that .Ukrainian people grew poorer and became unable to buy the relevant products for keeping the healthy way of life. This is about the possibility to buy and consume the products containing the necessary quantity of calories, vitamins and nutritive elements

The level of foodstuffs consumption in households in quintile groups (20 percent of population) according gross revenue per head in 2008 year in relation to the physiological standards of consumption is shown in Table 1.

Table 1

The level of foodstuffs consumption in households in quintile groups (20 percent of population) according gross revenue per head in 2008 year in relation to the physiological standards of consumption

Indexes	Physiological standards of consumption	20 % of population					the group of people whose total rate of one person is lower than living wage
		first group	second group	third group	fourth group	fifth group	
meat and meat products	80	0,50	0,68	0,77	0,87	1,07	0,47
milk and milk products	380	0,53	0,68	0,74	0,79	0,90	0,50
eggs	300	0,68	0,80	0,80	0,88	0,88	0,64
fish and fish products	20	0,90	1,20	1,32	1,44	1,68	0,84
sugar	38	0,92	1,07	1,11	1,17	1,23	0,85
vegetable oil and other fats	20	0,90	1,08	1,08	1,14	1,20	0,84
potato	125	0,79	0,83	0,83	0,80	0,80	0,78
vegetables	160	0,54	0,66	0,73	0,76	0,85	0,51
fruits, berries, nuts, vine	90	0,31	0,41	0,48	0,59	0,79	0,28
bread and bakery products	110	0,97	1,08	1,08	1,06	1,06	0,95

Source: calculated on the basis of information of the Ukrainian Committee on Statistics [Ошибка! Источник ссылки не найден.]

When taking political decisions as to development of special food security programs, it is important not only to take into account the danger of malnutrition, but also to define the social groups which need the government support most of all, тобто організувати соціально-адресну допомогу.

References:

1. Economic Security of Ukraine: Core Issues And Ways of Achievement / V.T. Shlemko, I.F. Binko: Monograph. - Kiev,,: NISR, year 1997. - page 144.
2. [http:// www.ukrstat.gov.ua](http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua)

