

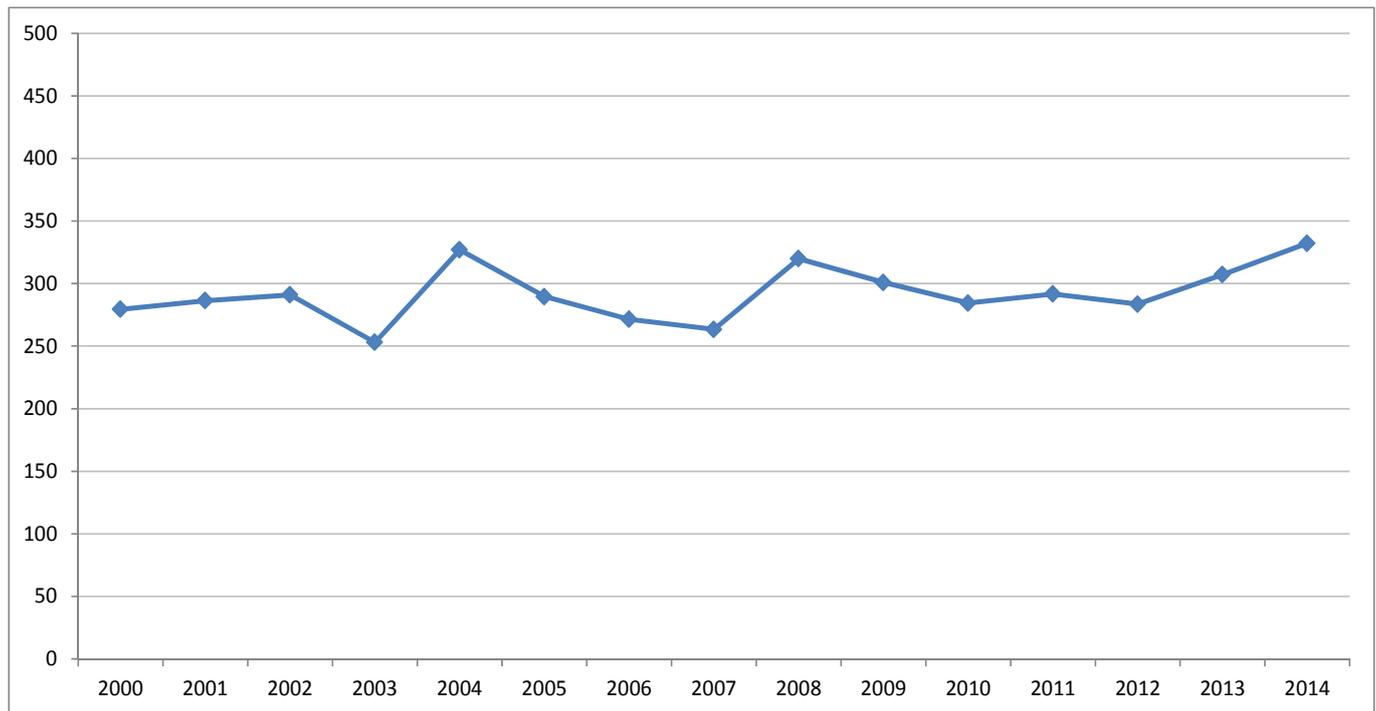
Statistical book on agriculture, forestry and fishery

A statistical portrait of agriculture in the EU

In the **European Union** (EU), the Member State contributing the most to the value of agricultural production was **France** (accounting for 18% of the EU total), followed at a distance by **Germany** (14%), **Italy** (13%), **Spain** (10%), the **United Kingdom** (8%), the **Netherlands** (7%) and **Poland** (5%). Together, these seven Member States represent around three-quarters of total EU agricultural output.

This information is issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, on the occasion of the publication of its statistical book on agriculture, forestry and fishery. This publication is divided into seven chapters, providing facts and figures about farm structure, agricultural accounts and prices, agricultural products, agriculture and environment, forestry and fishery production. As 2015 marked the abolition of dairy quotas, this year a whole chapter is also dedicated to 30 years of quotas in the milk sector in the EU.

Harvested production of cereals in the EU, 2000-2014
(in million tonnes)



France, largest producer of cereals in the EU

In the **EU**, the record amount of 331.7 million tonnes of cereals (including rice) was harvested in 2014. With 72.7 million tonnes, **France** remained by far the largest producer of cereals in the EU, followed by **Germany** (52.0 mn t), **Poland** (31.9 mn t), the **United Kingdom** (24.5 mn t), **Romania** (22.1 mn t), **Spain** (20.6 mn t), **Italy** (19.4 mn t) and **Hungary** (16.5 mn t). In terms of value, cereals represent 13% of total agricultural output in the **EU** and account for 25% of **EU** crop production.

Cereals production up compared with longer-term average despite reduction of the cultivated area

Compared with 2013, the harvested production of cereals rose in 2014 in a vast majority of EU Member States, with the highest relative increases being registered in **Slovenia** (+41.9%), **Cyprus** (+41.7%) and **Slovakia** (+38.0%), followed by **Estonia** (+25.2%), **Austria** (+24.4%), the **United Kingdom** (+22.5%) and **Hungary** (+20.9%). In contrast, the largest decrease was observed in **Spain** (-19.0%), ahead of **Greece** (-8.2%) and **Croatia** (-6.1%). At EU level, the harvested production of cereals increased by 8%, while the area of cultivation remained globally the same.

Over a longer time period, production of cereals in the EU has varied between a low of 253 million tonnes in 2003 (a year of severe drought) and a high of more than 330 mn tonnes in 2014 (a year with very favorable weather conditions).

Compared with the average over the period 2000-2012, cereals production in the EU was 15.2% higher in 2014, while cultivation area was 5% lower. Across Member States, the most remarkable rises of the harvested production of cereals were recorded in the three Baltic States – **Lithuania** (+72.4%), **Estonia** (+70.3%) and **Latvia** (+68.3%) – followed by **Bulgaria** (+56.9%), **Slovakia** (+49.3%) and **Romania** (+39.1%). Decreases were recorded in **Cyprus**, the **Netherlands**, **Italy**, **Spain** and **Greece**. When analyzing the time-series, it should be kept in mind that cereals production is strongly influenced by weather conditions.

Harvested production of cereals in the EU Member States (1 000 tonnes)

	Average 2000-2012	2013	2014
EU*	287 833	307 264	331 660
Belgium	2 855	3 156	3 173
Bulgaria	6 076	9 154	9 530
Czech Republic	7 257	7 513	8 779
Denmark	9 076	9 051	9 764
Germany	45 399	47 757	52 010
Estonia	718	976	1 222
Ireland	2 171	2 401	2 598
Greece	4 374	4 640	4 262
Spain	20 754	25 373	20 564
France	64 952	67 323	72 715
Croatia	2 892	3 188	2 995
Italy	20 172	18 212	19 383
Cyprus	88	52	74
Latvia	1 323	1 949	2 227
Lithuania	2 971	4 475	5 123
Luxembourg	164	173	169
Hungary	13 032	13 610	16 448
Malta	0	0	0
Netherlands	1 856	1 823	1 767
Austria	4 928	4 590	5 710
Poland	26 545	28 455	31 945
Portugal	1 221	1 364	1 335
Romania	15 866	20 897	22 071
Slovenia	542	457	649
Slovakia	3 153	3 412	4 708
Finland	3 839	4 063	4 128
Sweden	5 083	4 993	5 790
United Kingdom	21 412	20 022	24 525
Norway	1 134	965	1 168
FYR of Macedonia	541	:	626
Turkey	32 888	37 129	32 382
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 169	1 224	1 081

* The EU aggregate does not correspond to the sum of the individual Member States because of different humidity degrees (see notes).

: Data not available

0 Less than 500 tonnes

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Largest number of pigs in Germany and Spain, cattle in France, sheep in the United Kingdom

In 2014, the cattle population in the **EU** amounted to 88.4 million animals. With about 19 million animals, **France** recorded slightly more than 1 out of every 5 bovine animals in the EU (22% of the EU total), ahead of **Germany** (14%), **the United Kingdom** (11%), **Ireland**, **Spain** and **Italy** (all 7%).

With 84.2 million animals, the population of sheep in the **EU** was in 2014 almost identical to that of cattle. More than 1 in 4 sheep (27%) in the EU were reared in the **United Kingdom**, which totaled 23 million sheep. It was followed at a distance by **Spain** (18%), **Romania** and **Greece** both 11%).

For pigs, **Germany** (28.3 million swine, or 19% of the EU total) and **Spain** (26.6 million, or 18%) were by far the two Member States with the largest numbers in the EU. Of the 148.3 million pigs in the **EU**, more than a third were located in these two Member States.

In terms of value, pigs, cattle and sheep represent 17% of total agricultural output in the **EU** and account for 42% of animal production.

Number of cattle, pigs and sheep in the EU Member States, 2014 (in thousands)

	Cattle	Pigs	Sheep
EU*	88 406	148 341	84 211
Belgium	2 477	6 350	:
Bulgaria	562	553	1 335
Czech Republic	1 373	1 607	:
Denmark	1 553	12 709	:
Germany	12 742	28 339	1 601
Estonia	265	358	:
Ireland	6 243	1 506	3 325
Greece	659	1 046	9 072
Spain	6 079	26 568	15 432
France	19 271	13 300	7 168
Croatia	441	1 156	605
Italy	6 125	8 676	7 166
Cyprus	60	342	322
Latvia	422	349	:
Lithuania	737	714	124
Luxembourg	201	93	:
Hungary	802	3 136	1 185
Malta	15	47	11
Netherlands	4 169	12 065	1 070
Austria	1 961	2 868	349
Poland	5 660	11 266	:
Portugal	1 549	2 127	2 033
Romania	2 069	5 042	9 518
Slovenia	468	281	:
Slovakia	466	642	391
Finland	907	1 223	:
Sweden	1 436	1 469	589
United Kingdom	9 693	4 510	22 916
Iceland	74	37	:
Switzerland	:	1 498	:
Montenegro	94	22	204
FYR of Macedonia	242	165	740
Serbia	920	3 236	1 748
Turkey	14 245	:	31 115
Bosnia and Herzegovina	444	533	1 025

* The EU aggregate for sheep corresponds to the sum of the Member States for which data are available. This includes all Member States with a significant number of sheep.

: Data not available

The source dataset can be found [here](#) for cattle, [here](#) for pigs and [here](#) for sheep .

Geographical information

The **European Union** (EU) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definitions

The Member States deliver the data on production of cereals by either fixed or varying **humidity degrees**. However, the production aggregates for cereals are standardized to the standard EU-humidities (set at 14% for cereals). For this reason the total production at EU level is not the sum of the national production figures.

Cattle population includes buffaloes and hybrids.

Revisions and time table

Data presented in this News Release may differ from the data published in the statistical book, due to updates made after the data extractions used for the publication

For more information

Eurostat Statistical book "**Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics – 2015 edition**", available in [PDF format](#).

Also available as [Statistics Explained articles](#).

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to agricultural statistics.

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to forestry statistics.

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to fishery statistics.

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to agri-environmental indicators.

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