

## AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

THEME 5 - 29/2003

#### **AGRICULTURE**

#### Contents

Correlation with gender and age ......2

Correlation with size of the

holding and farm-type ......3

Importance of gainful activities outside the agricultural holding ......4

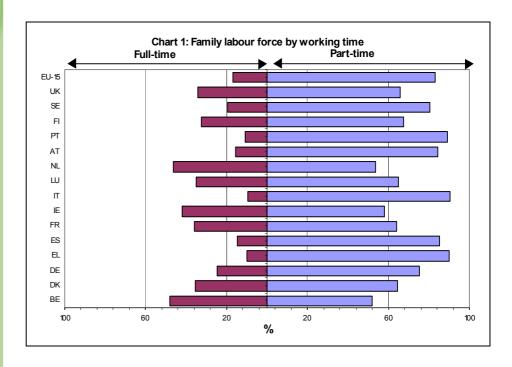
# Structure of agricultural holdings in the EU

## Part-time work on agricultural holdings

#### **Dolores Linares**

Following the 1999/2000 results of the Farm Structure Survey, within the 13.5 million persons regularly working or permanently employed in EU agriculture, more than 75% work part-time. The importance of part-time work varies widely across Member States: from 90% in Greece and Italy to less than 60% in Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, and the Netherlands.

Amongst the family labour force 83% work part-time, and 70% work less than half time. The Member States that show the largest proportions of part-time family workers are located in Southern Europe: Italy (91%), Greece (90%), Portugal (89%) and Spain (85%). In contrast, in Belgium and the Netherlands the corresponding figure is just below 55% (chart 1).



For the holders part-time work is less frequent than for the other members of the family. Around one in four holders work full-time, while only about one out of ten of the other family members (spouses and other) are engaged in full-time work on the farm.

The degree of part-time work in agriculture is highly related with the age of the working population, the gender and the size of holdings.

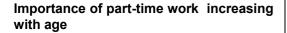


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#### Correlation with gender and age

#### Part-time work more frequent amongst women

- 90% of women work part-time (against 79% for men), and three quarters work less than half time.
- In consequence, women represent only 33% of Annual Work Units (AWUs) and the average AWU per person is 0.33 for women, against 0.42 for men. In all the Member States, without exception, this rate is greater for men.



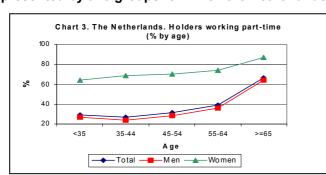
The percentage of workers in every age group is higher for part-time than for full-time workers and this difference increases with age:

- While around 70% of people under 35 years work part-time, this share reaches 80% in the age group of 55 to 64 years, and more than 90% in the age group of 65 and older.
- More than four out of ten family workers are at least
   55 years old and work part-time.

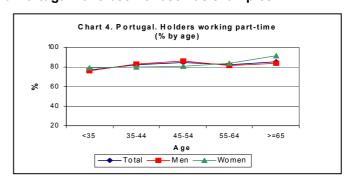


Most of the agricultural working population is located in Southern Europe, and almost one third of the EU-15 agricultural work force is Italian, Greek, Portuguese or Spanish of an age of 55 years or higher and working part-time.

In all Member States except Portugal, the share of part-time work of holders is higher for women than for men in every age class. The differences between Member States are, however, very large. The extremes can be represented by two groups for which the Netherlands and Portugal have been chosen as examples:



In the first group, the share of part-time work is relatively low until the age of 54 and there is a pronounced difference between men and women. In Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Finland and Luxembourg part-time work is around 40%-50% or lower until the age of 54. In the case of the Netherlands, until the age of 54 less than 30% of men holders work part-time, while this percentage is around the 70% for women (chart 3).



The second group is composed by Southern Member States, especially Portugal, Greece and Italy, where part-time work for women is around 80% or higher in every age class. Another characteristic feature of these countries is the small difference in the frequency of part-time work between men and women in all ages (chart 4).



#### Correlation with size of the holding and farm-type

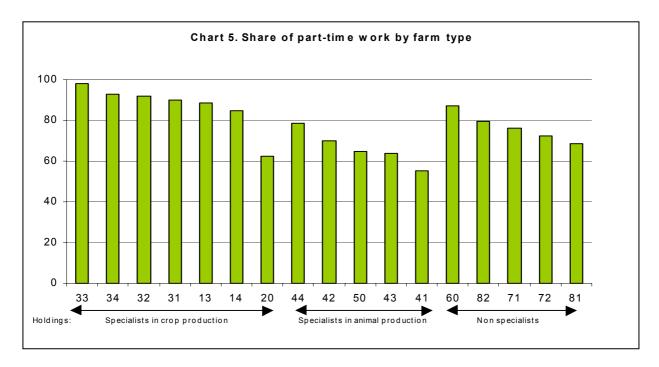
#### Part-time work more important in smaller holdings

- More than 60% of the part-time family workers are to be found in holdings with less than 5 ha, and more than 90% of the work on these holdings is part-time.
- As expected, the largest shares of part-time workers in small holdings is observed in Greece, Spain, Italy and Portugal (see table below).

Part-time family work in holdings with less than 5 Ha.																
	EU-15	BE	DK	DE	EL	ES	FR	ΙE	Ţ	LU	NL	ΑТ	РТ	FI	SE	UK
% of part-time work	93	72	58	91	94	89	89	72	96	84	59	95	90	87	96	85
Share of the total part-time workers	63	37	3	25	77	61	41	8	81	23	30	35	80	11	11	24

#### Part-time work is more important in permanent crops and mixed cropping.

 Chart 5 shows the importance of part-time work by farm-type (see page 7 for an explanation of this concept and the description of the classification codes)



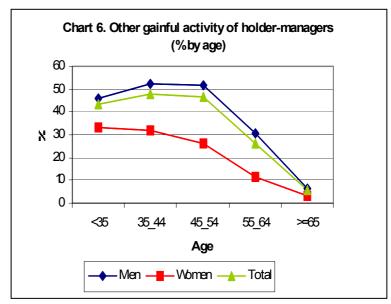
- It appears that 90% of the work on holdings specialised in vineyards (type 31) is part-time, and this share is even higher on holdings specialised in fruit and citrus fruit (type 32) 92%; in olives (type 33) 98% and in various permanent crops combined (type 34) 93%. In mixed cropping (type 60) the share is still a considerable 87%. These farm types are mainly located in the Southern European Member States, where the share of part-time work is the highest.
- The lowest rate appears in holdings specialised in horticulture (type 20), in dairying (type 41) and in granivores (type 50) where around half of the family labour force works part-time. Here the differences between Member States are also very large. For instance, in Austria more than 80% of people working in holdings specialised in dairying are part-time workers, whilst in Denmark this rate is around 30%.



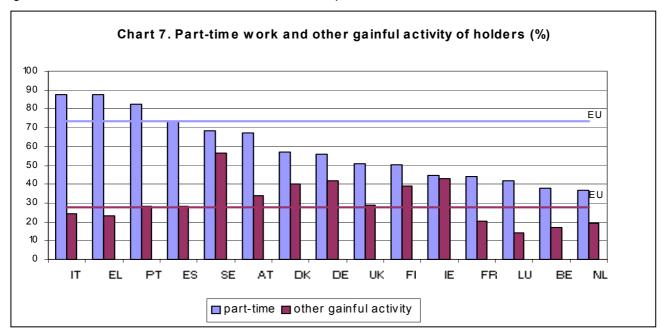
#### Importance of gainful activities outside the agricultural holding

#### Other gainful activities are more frequent amongst young holders<sup>1</sup> (chart 6):

- Whilst for holders of all age groups combined, the average proportion of people performing exclusively agricultural activities on the holding is seven in ten, for those with less than 35 years this ratio turns out to be only 56%. In other words, almost half of the holders aged less than 35 have another gainful activity. For the other age classes (35 and higher) it is only about one guarter.
- Amongst the holders, men are more often engaged in another gainful activity than women (share of one third compared to one sixth).
- If we only consider holders whose main activity is outside the holding, the proportion of men exercising another gainful activity is almost twice as high as that of women. Denmark and Sweden are the only Member States where this proportion is higher (and significantly so) for women.



In terms of age classes, other gainful activities are more frequent amongst younger women. For men, it is the
age class of 35 to 44 where these activities are more important.



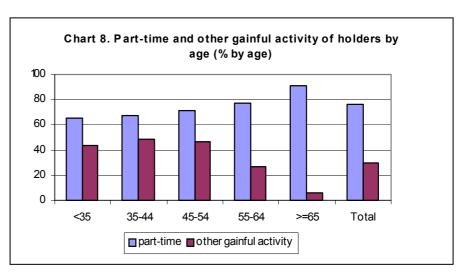
For most of the MS, there is no apparent direct link between the proportion of part-time work and that of other gainful activities. As displayed in chart 7 for holders, the two proportions are close in Sweden, Finland, Germany, Denmark and Ireland. For all the other Member States, the percentage of holders undertaking part-time work is at least twice as high as that of holders with another gainful activity.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Here we consider the holders that are managers

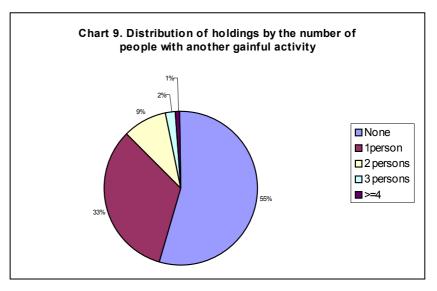
 At the same time (from the age of 35 on) the relevance of the other gainful activities declines with age, while that of part-time work increases (see chart 8).

Since in the Southern European Member States the proportion of the old population is very high, it is not surprising that the biggest differences appear in these countries: in Portugal, Italy and Greece whilst more than 80% of holders work part-time, less than 30% have another gainful activity.



### When the holdings are classified according to the number of persons with another gainful activity, the findings are:

- In 45% of holdings there are at least one person with another gainful activity; on one third there is one and in the remaining holdings there are at least two persons working outside the farm.
- 41% of holdings have only one worker and, on 31% of these, the worker has another gainful activity.
- 40% of holdings have 2 persons working. Between them, 48% have at least one person with another gainful activity and on 12% the two persons have another job outside the holding.



Holdings by the number of persons working and the number of persons with another gainful activity (%)												
Number of people in the		Nur	Number of persons with another gainful activity									
holding	Total	0 persons	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	>=4 persons	% of holdings					
Holdings with 1 person	100	68,75	31,25				40,63					
Holdings with 2 person	100	51,78	36,41	11,82			40,28					
Holdings with 3 person	100	31,96	37,34	23,13	7,58		11,82					
Holdings with 4 person	100	23,23	24,96	30,09	16,62	5,09	5,31					
Holdings >= 5 persons	100	17,54	16,65	19,47	22,47	23,87	1,96					
Total	100	54,14	33,42	9,48	2,22	0,74	100					



#### Labour Force by working time

		EU-15	ВЕ	DK	DE	EL	ES	FR	ΙE	ΙT	LU	NL	ΑT	РТ	FI	SE	UK
Regular Labour for	ce						<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	-	-		-		<u>-</u>			
% of part-time	e workers	79	51	56	66	90	82	55	58	90	60	54	83	87	67	78	61
Family Labour Ford	ce																
	Part time	83	52	64	75	90	85	64	58	91	65	54	85	89	68	80	66
Both genders	>0-<50%	70	41	51	64	71	75	50	38	81	23	31	66	64	53	65	51
Bour gondoro	50<100%	14	11	13	11	19	11	15	20	9	42	23	19	25	15	15	14
	Full time	17	48	36	25	10	15	36	42	9	35	46	15	11	32	20	34
	Part time	79	42		66	87	84	59	52	88	48	39	80	88	66	75	58
Men	>0-<50%	66	36		57	67	73	47	32	78	19	23	67	64	51	59	44
WICH	50<100%	13	6		9	20	11	12	19	10	29	16	13	24	15	16	14
	Full time	21	58		34	11	16	41	48	12	52	61	20	12	34	25	42
	Part time	90	70		92	94	88	73	74	94	93	81	90	91	69	91	82
Women	>0-<50%	75	49		78	77	78	54	51	86	30	46	65	64	56	78	66
VVOITICIT	50<100%	15	20		14	17	10	19	24	8	63	36	25	27	14	13	16
	Full time	10	30		8	6	12	27	26	6	7	19	10	9	31	9	18
Percentage of part-	time family w	<u>orkers l</u>	oy ag	<u>e and</u>	labo	ur for	ce ca	tegor	<u>i</u> es:								
Holders	•																
	<35 years	65	22	58	65	78	68	39	45	73	21	29	66	77	48	71	60
	35-44 years	67	26	56	60	83	72	42	46	81	25	27	64	82	50	68	55
Percentage by age	,	71	30	56	57	85	75	44	45	86	31	32	61	85	54	70	56
	55-64 years	77	32	49	55	87	77	60	41	88	55	39	73	82	57	72	55
	>=65 years	91	85	73	81	95	93	92	47	94	98	67	100	85	74	86	65
	All ages	77	39	58	60	88	79	55	45	88	45	39	69	84	54	73	58
Spouses		00	07	0.4	0.4	0.4	00	70	00	0.4	0.4	0.7	00	00	0.5	00	0.7
	<35 years	89	67	84	94	91	88	79 70	82	91	94	87	93	92	65	92	87
D ( )	35-44 years	88	72 75	80	92	92	90	72	79 <b>7</b> 0	92	93	86	91	92	63	90	84
Percentage by age		88	75	76	89	93	89	67	70 25	93	93	83	90	91	61	89	81
agc	55-64 years	91	82	71	90	94	89	82	65	95	91	85	96	90	68	89	79
	>=65 years	95 <b>90</b>	93 <b>76</b>	83 <b>78</b>	94 <b>91</b>	97 <b>93</b>	92 <b>90</b>	94 <b>77</b>	64 <b>72</b>	97 <b>95</b>	100 <b>94</b>	89 <b>85</b>	100 <b>93</b>	91 <b>91</b>	81 <b>64</b>	94 <b>90</b>	78 <b>81</b>
Other family memb	All ages	90	70	10	91	93	90	"	12	90	34	05	33	91	04	90	01
Cities family memb	<35 years		49		85	93	94	81	83	91	55	59	93	97	95		
	35-44 years		53		83	94	95	84	69	91	53	50	89	94	88		
Percentage by	-		64		87	95	94	85	68	92	60	58	87	92	87		
age	55-64 years		77		87	93	89	91	67	89	85	66	98	90	86		
· ·	>=65 years		94	••	89	93	94	96	72	93	100	82	100	94	92		
	All ages	90	64	78	87	93	94	88	80	91	71	59	95	96	93	89	68
Percentage of part-																	
i ercentage or part	1		-					_		00	100	40	00	0.4	07	00	04
	< 2 ESU	97	94	97	98	99	96	97	75	99	100	46	96	94	97	99	91
Description	2-<8 ESU	92 79	87 60	96	95 97	93	90 76	89 71	68 60	95 82	96 01	87	91 01	88	92	97	82
Percentage by ESU			69 40	92 76	87 60	81 60	76	71 50	60 40		81 55	81 64	81 71	82 76	77 52	89	70 57
200	16 - < 40 ESU		49 27	76	68 54	69 60	65 50	50	49 44	66 50	55 51	64 47	71	76 70	53	70 40	57
	40 - < 100 ES		37	42	54 51	60 45	58 57	39	44	50	51 44	47	62 52	70 70	41	48	47 45
	>= 100 ESU	43	33	31	51	45	57	37	39	39	44	42	53	70	42	40	45



#### Percentage of part-time family workers by farm type

		EU-15	BE	DK	DE	EL	ES	FR	ΙE	ΙT	LU	NL	ΑТ	PT	FI	SE	UK
	13	88	77	87	88	98	86	70	63	94	83	76	90	86	90	90	64
	14	85	59	72	72	91	81	54	58	90	80	62	77	90	86	93	59
	20	62	41	34	54	74	62	42	47	71	40	43	55	80	69	61	54
	31	90			84	94	93	73		93	72		87	94			85
	32	92	64	73	87	97	92	72	62	93		57	88	94	91	84	82
	33	98				98	97	97		99				99			
	34	93	48	38	73	93	93	65	48	94	0	47	75	96	80	70	59
	41	55	40	33	64	50	44	39	44	50	52	45	84	73	40	46	41
Farm type	42	70	67	89	89	60	66	66	64	66	76	66	86	86	60	87	72
	43	64	37	33	67	53	51	41	47	58	54	54	80	80	48	54	51
	44	78	89	91	92	54	67	77	61	88	94	75	94	86	82	93	75
	50	65	43	39	71	65	65	51	47	66	67	54	78	90	47	57	65
	60	87	45	65	80	88	85	70	50	92	75	52	79	88	76	75	59
	71	76	39	39	73	70	69	77	53	76	53	52	83	86	52	68	52
	72	72	38	46	67	90	72	59	51	87	62	52	78	91	48	62	67
	81	68	48	71	74	64	63	51	54	70	70	66	82	84	64	85	55
	82	80	44	47	72	78	79	78	61	86	75	53	80	91	50	80	61

#### > METHODOLOGICAL NOTES -DEFINITIONS USED

Time worked on the holding: working time actually devoted to agricultural work for the holding, excluding work in the households of the holder or manager. Full-time means the minimum hours required by the national provisions governing contracts of employment. If these do not indicate the number of annual hours, then 1800 is to be taken as the minimum figure (225 working days of 8 hours per day).

Other gainful activity: every activity other than the activity relating to agricultural work on the surveyed holding, carried out for remuneration (salary, wages or other payment, including payment in kind, according to the service rendered). These include gainful activities carried out on the holding itself (camping sites, accommodation for tourist, etc.) or on another agricultural holding as well as activity in a non-agricultural enterprise.

**Major occupation**: The activity declared by the respondent as being his main activity. Normally an activity that occupies more time than relating to the agricultural work done for the agricultural holding under survey.

**Subsidiary occupation**: Any other activity of a respondent who declares the agricultural activity of the holding under survey to be his main activity. Normally an activity, which occupies less than relating to the agricultural work done for the agricultural holding under survey.

Farm type: is based on the share of each production (wheat, dairycows, vineyards...) in the whole agricultural activity of the farm, measured by the standard gross margin. The SGM is calculated as the difference between the standard value of the production and the standard amount of certain specific costs (mainly proportional specific costs). Depending on the amount of details required, the types of farming are divided into five levels of classification. The first two levels are the following:

1 Specialist field crops 13 Specialist cereals, oilseed and protein crops

14 General field cropping

2 Specialist horticulture
20 Specialist horticulture
3 Specialist permanent crops
31 Specialist vineyards
32 Specialist fruit and citrus fruit
33 Specialist olives

34 Various permanent crops combined

4 Specialist grazing livestock 41 Specialist dairying

42 Specialist cattle-rearing and fattening
43 Cattle-dairying, rearing and fattening combined
44 Sheep, goats and other grazing livestock

5 Specialist granivores 50 Specialist granivores
6 Mixed cropping 60 Mixed cropping

7 Mixed livestock holdings 71 Mixed livestock, mainly grazing livestock

72 Mixed livestock, mainly granivores

8 Mixed crops-livestock 81 Field crops-grazing livestock combined

82 Various crops and livestock combined

**9 Non-classifiable holdings** 90 Non-classifiable holdings



## Further information:

#### Databases

NewCronos, Theme 5

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