

Farm structure in Greece – 2005

26% of the agricultural holdings are specialised in olive production

This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2005. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Greece. A similar publication was issued in August 2005 presenting the results of the FSS 2003 in Greece.

In autumn 2005 in Greece, about 678.2 thousand* agricultural holdings had an economic size of at least 1 European Size Unit (ESU).

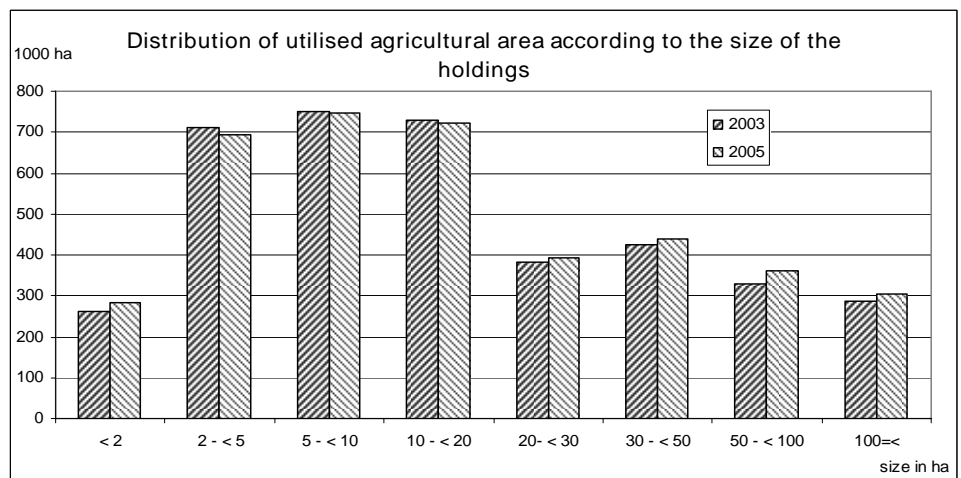
- These holdings employed 576.6 thousand AWUs (annual work units), the equivalent of 576.6 thousand persons working full time;
- they made use of about 3.9 million ha of agricultural area, which is on average 5.8 ha per holding (compared to 5.9 ha in 2003).

Among these 678.2 thousand agricultural holdings

- 67% made use of less than one AWU, while 8% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- 71% used less than 5 ha agricultural area, while 1% used 50 ha or more;
- 26% were holdings of the type specialist olives, 16% general field cropping, 13% were engaged in mixed cropping, 9% were holdings of various permanent crops combined and 9% were specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops;
- 71% of their agricultural area was situated in less favoured or mountain areas;
- 1% was organic farms;
- 4% benefited from direct investment aid.

Among the 677.7 thousand sole holders

- 28% were women;
- 55% were aged 55 or more, and 8% were younger than 35 years;
- 18% had another gainful activity as their major occupation.



Due to differences in the threshold across Member States, the total number of farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis, including Tables 1-4 and the graphs focus on holdings of at least one ESU. See methodological notes for more information on the concept of the ESU.

Statistics in focus

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

59/2007

Agriculture

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Contents

Table 1 – Labour force by size of the farms.....3

Table 2 – Agricultural holdings by size.....4

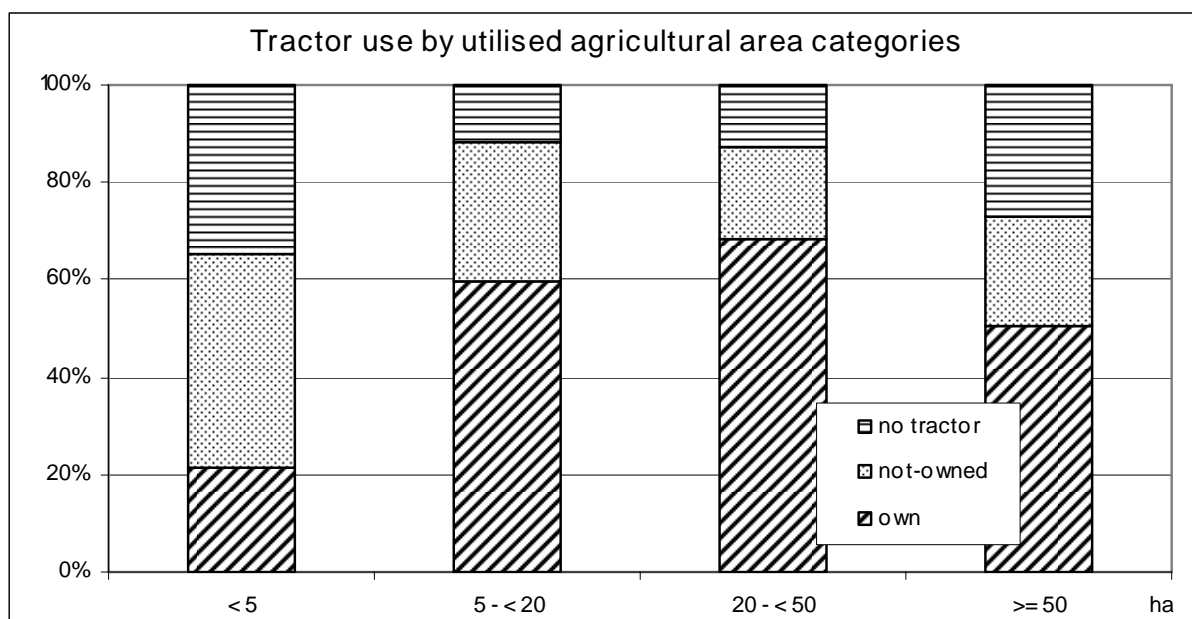
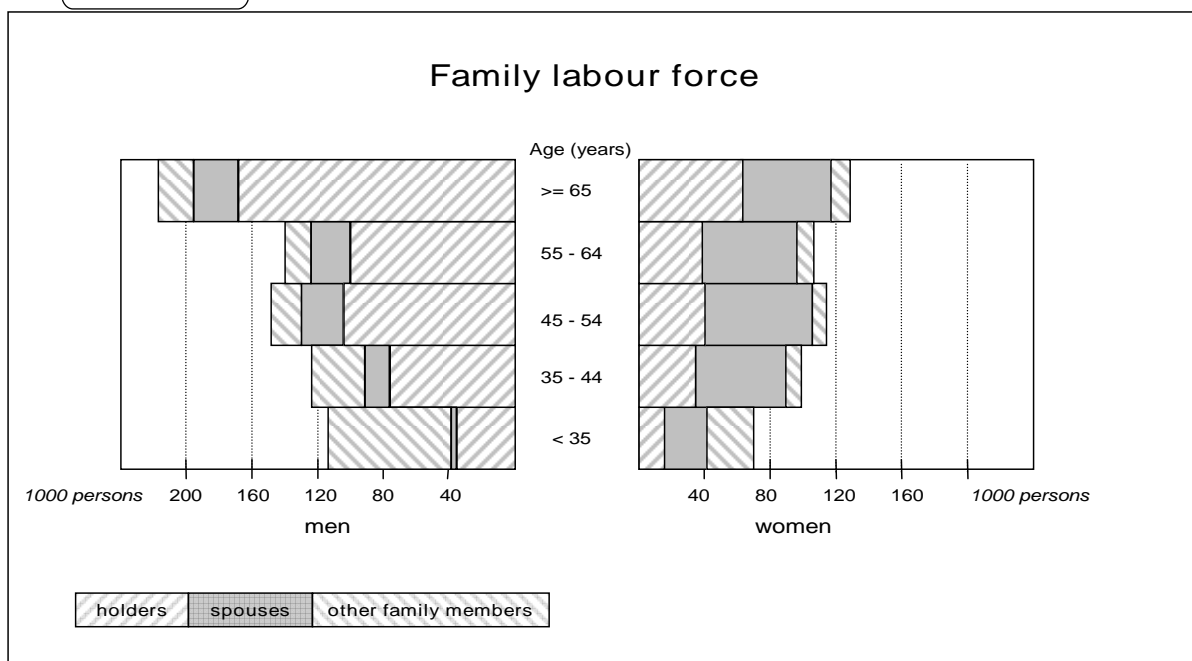
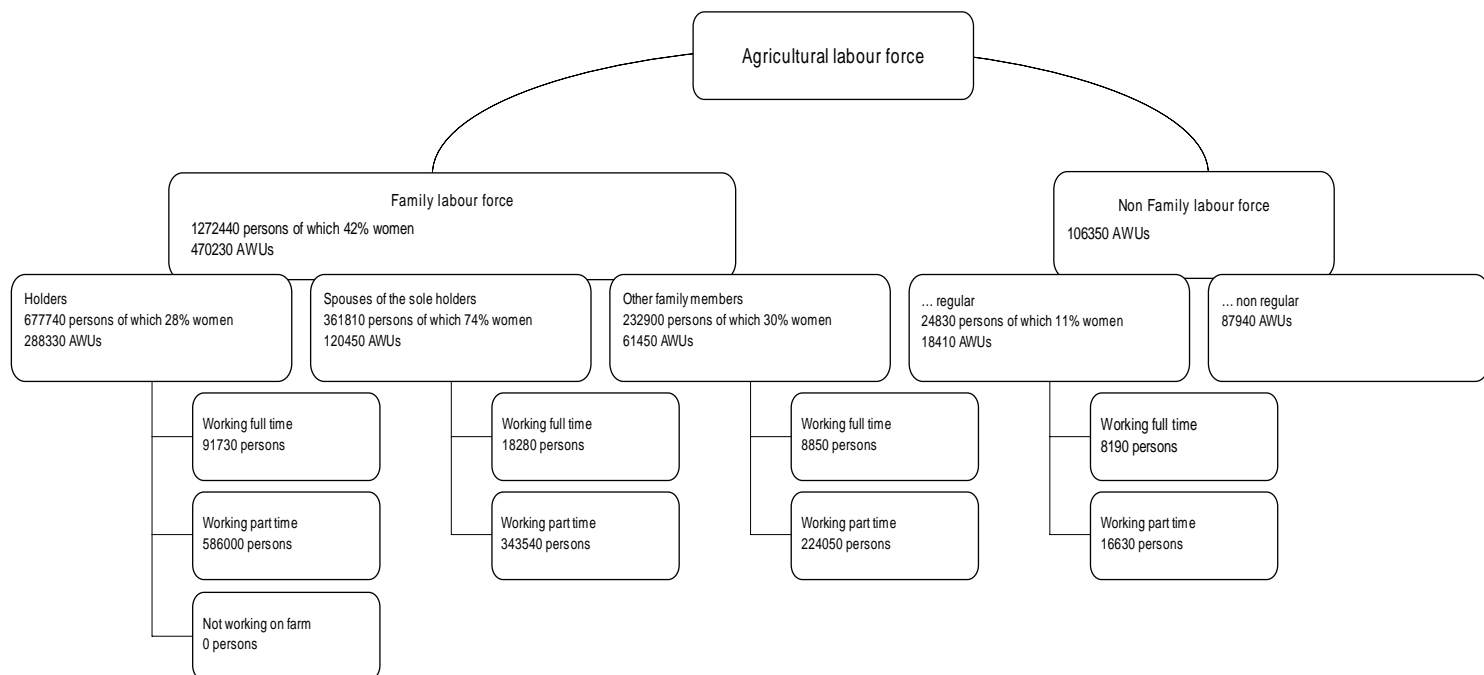
Table 3 – Land use by size of the farms.....5

Table 4 – Livestock by size of the farms.....6

Table 5 – Subsistence farming.7



Greece 2005 – Holdings of at least 1 ESU



Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU*)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 = <		0	0 < - < 5	5 - < 50	50 = <
Total labour force									
1000 annual work units	316.7	196.8	48.1	15.0	576.6	205.4	227.2	123.1	20.9
Family labour force									
1000 persons	878.1	322.3	57.2	14.9	1272.4	557.7	540.0	156.4	18.4
1000 annual work units	269.3	155.1	35.1	10.8	470.2	155.3	191.8	108.7	14.5
Non-family labour regularly employed									
1000 persons	10.0	8.5	4.4	2.0	24.8	9.1	4.2	6.3	5.1
1000 annual work units	7.2	6.3	3.3	1.7	18.4	6.2	2.6	5.1	4.5
Non regular non family labour force									
1000 annual work units	40.3	35.4	9.7	2.6	87.9	43.9	32.8	9.3	1.9
Holding managers (1000)	481.2	161.9	28.2	7.0	678.2	314.8	280.9	74.0	8.5
- women (%)	26.2	17.3	11.4	8.9	23.3	26.4	22.7	14.2	8.7
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	72.2	41.3	19.0	5.9	61.9	75.1	62.6	9.6	4.6
- 50 % and over(%)	20.2	34.5	35.6	23.2	24.3	20.3	28.9	25.5	12.6
- with a basic agricult. training only (%)	3.7	10.4	18.3	17.9	6.0	5.4	5.2	10.0	20.5
- with a full agricultural training (%)	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.0
Sole/main holders (1000)	480.9	161.8	28.1	7.0	677.7	314.6	280.8	74.0	8.4
- women (%)	30.6	24.4	17.6	12.6	28.4	32.1	27.4	18.5	13.0
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	5.7	11.0	17.3	18.4	7.6	7.5	5.3	15.5	19.2
- from 35 to 44 years	14.3	20.5	24.4	29.7	16.4	17.6	13.0	22.8	28.0
- from 45 to 54 years	20.8	22.3	25.1	26.4	21.4	21.8	19.8	24.8	27.9
- from 55 to 64 years	20.9	19.7	19.4	18.0	20.5	20.0	21.1	20.6	17.3
- 65 years and over	38.4	26.5	13.8	7.5	34.2	33.2	40.9	16.3	7.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	72.2	41.3	19.1	5.9	62.0	75.2	62.6	9.6	4.7
- 50 % and over(%)	20.3	34.5	35.7	23.4	24.3	20.3	28.9	25.5	12.9
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)	25.2	14.5	10.0	8.7	21.9	28.5	18.6	8.9	4.7
- as main occupation	21.9	9.6	4.1	2.4	18.0	25.1	14.4	4.3	1.7
- as a subsidiary occupation	3.3	5.0	5.9	6.3	3.8	3.4	4.1	4.6	3.0
Spouse of sole holder working on the holding (1000)	247.1	93.9	16.7	4.2	361.8	147.2	163.1	46.2	5.3
- women (%)	73.1	74.3	79.7	84.3	73.9	67.9	76.8	81.0	85.5
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	6.7	11.8	19.3	23.4	8.8	8.2	6.6	16.4	24.4
- from 35 to 54 years	42.4	49.1	54.7	55.8	44.9	47.4	40.5	50.7	57.8
- 55 years and over	50.9	39.1	26.0	20.8	46.4	44.3	53.0	32.9	17.9
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	81.7	63.3	51.6	37.6	75.0	85.4	77.8	38.0	25.4
- 50 % and over(%)	15.2	28.9	34.3	39.0	19.9	13.1	19.6	40.8	38.4
- with another gainful activity (%)	21.2	17.8	13.6	11.2	19.9	26.8	16.5	11.2	7.9
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding (1000)	150.1	66.7	12.4	3.7	232.9	95.9	96.0	36.2	4.7
- women (%)	31.1	28.5	23.4	23.6	29.8	30.1	30.2	29.1	22.9
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	89.3	75.0	63.9	47.9	83.2	90.8	87.4	57.5	38.8
- 50 % and over(%)	8.6	19.6	25.4	31.4	13.0	8.3	11.1	28.5	31.8
- with another gainful activity (%)	46.8	33.8	22.3	19.8	41.3	47.6	43.6	22.6	12.4

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

* LU = Livestock Unit

¹ Refers only to holders who are also farm managers.

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 =<		0	0 < - < 5	5 - < 50	50 =<
Holdings									
- total number (1000)	481.2	161.9	28.2	7.0	678.2	314.8	280.9	74.0	8.5
- by legal personality of the holder (%)									
- sole holder	99.9	99.9	99.7	99.1	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.9	97.7
- legal person	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.3
- group holders	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- by employed labour force (%)									
- under 1 AWU	77.8	45.4	22.5	6.9	67.1	79.8	69.5	11.2	2.3
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	18.3	38.0	47.4	47.8	24.5	16.0	24.8	59.0	32.8
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	3.3	13.0	20.8	31.7	6.6	3.1	4.5	25.3	42.1
- 3 AWU and over	0.6	3.6	9.3	13.6	1.8	1.2	1.2	4.5	22.8
- by economic size (%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU	88.6	32.7	2.9	2.1	70.8	79.3	74.8	27.3	0.5
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU	8.5	41.1	22.7	7.9	16.9	12.5	16.3	39.1	4.4
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU	2.6	24.1	57.4	50.3	10.5	6.7	7.8	31.2	55.5
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU	0.3	2.0	16.2	33.9	1.7	1.3	1.0	2.3	35.1
- 100 ESU and over	0.0	0.2	0.8	5.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.5
- by farm type (%)									
- specialist olives	32.0	13.7	3.2	1.8	26.2	36.9	21.4	1.7	0.0
- general field cropping	11.2	25.6	31.9	11.8	15.5	15.9	18.6	3.7	0.3
- mixed cropping	13.0	12.3	7.8	3.7	12.5	8.6	18.6	7.9	0.4
- various permanent crops combined	10.5	6.9	1.3	1.3	9.2	9.6	11.0	1.3	0.0
- specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops	6.0	16.4	17.6	13.3	9.0	10.7	9.5	1.0	0.1
- other types of farming	27.3	25.1	38.1	68.2	27.6	18.3	21.0	84.5	99.2
- by farming methods (%)									
- organic farming	0.9	2.5	2.8	6.9	1.4	1.7	0.9	2.0	3.4
- irrigating	60.3	72.5	71.3	58.9	63.7	60.9	68.1	59.9	52.4
- with fixed irrigation equipment	35.3	39.3	36.6	32.1	36.3	36.6	38.8	27.0	23.4
- with crops under glass	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	0.9	0.6
- benefiting of direct investment aids	2.6	5.8	11.7	15.4	3.9	4.8	2.0	6.1	10.0
- using a tractor (%)	65.2	88.2	87.1	73.2	71.7	70.6	73.0	71.5	69.4
- with their own tractor	21.2	59.8	68.6	50.6	32.7	28.8	35.4	38.0	42.1
- using a combine harvester (%)	19.5	58.5	66.8	45.9	31.0	25.1	33.8	43.9	44.2
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production (%)	1.1	3.1	8.5	12.4	2.0	1.4	2.0	4.2	5.4
- tourism	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
- handicraft	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- processing of farm products	0.5	0.9	2.1	5.2	0.7	0.5	0.4	2.6	3.7
- wood processing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- aquaculture	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- renewable energy production	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- contractual work	0.4	2.1	6.4	7.1	1.1	0.8	1.4	1.5	1.6
- other gainful activities n.a.e.	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Size of the farm	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 =<		0	0 <- < 5	5 - < 50	50 =<
Area (1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	1121.8	1527.3	856.4	681.5	4186.9	1424.8	1383.5	1114.8	263.8
Other area	146.9	59.8	25.5	16.3	248.6	99.6	97.7	40.2	11.1
Wooded area	19.7	15.9	9.9	2.6	48.1	21.1	17.7	8.3	0.8
Agricultural area	974.9	1467.4	830.9	665.2	3938.4	1325.2	1285.8	1074.7	252.7
Arable land	350.8	948.8	540.1	187.9	2027.6	809.3	787.0	364.2	67.1
Cereals	183.9	556.4	325.4	122.0	1187.6	485.0	443.3	218.0	41.4
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	18.8	43.6	26.4	15.0	103.9	38.0	42.3	19.3	4.2
<i>Durum wheat</i>	90.4	303.7	206.0	70.4	670.5	328.7	253.6	71.9	16.2
<i>Rye</i>	2.2	7.6	4.9	1.2	15.9	3.3	5.0	6.6	1.0
<i>Barley</i>	12.7	33.1	18.9	12.6	77.4	13.6	23.8	34.2	5.9
<i>Oats</i>	10.3	32.8	15.1	7.0	65.1	6.1	18.1	36.6	4.3
<i>Grain maize</i>	45.3	125.7	47.6	12.9	231.5	80.2	94.9	46.9	9.5
Dried pulses	2.7	4.7	2.8	1.5	11.8	4.3	5.1	2.1	0.3
Root crops	8.2	27.4	19.8	3.8	59.2	25.1	28.2	5.4	0.5
<i>Potatoes</i>	5.5	9.4	4.9	0.9	20.7	6.8	10.2	3.4	0.2
<i>Sugar beet</i>	2.6	17.9	14.9	2.9	38.5	18.2	18.0	2.0	0.2
<i>Fodder root</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Industrial crops	79.1	198.4	101.0	18.2	396.8	189.0	183.6	22.0	2.2
<i>Tobacco</i>	25.4	20.2	4.5	0.8	51.0	21.3	23.4	5.8	0.5
<i>Hops</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Cotton</i>	52.4	175.2	94.8	16.8	339.2	165.0	156.9	15.6	1.7
<i>Rape and turnip</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Sunflower</i>	0.7	2.0	1.2	0.6	4.6	1.7	2.4	0.4	0.0
<i>Soya</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	17.9	26.6	10.9	2.3	57.6	27.5	24.1	5.8	0.2
<i>outside</i>	15.0	25.6	10.6	2.0	53.2	25.4	22.2	5.4	0.2
<i>under glass</i>	2.9	1.0	0.3	0.2	4.4	2.0	1.9	0.4	0.0
Flower and ornamental plants	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0
<i>outside</i>	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
<i>under glass</i>	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Forage plants	33.9	86.6	53.1	21.6	195.2	35.8	54.4	86.7	18.2
Fallow land	24.3	47.3	26.0	18.2	115.8	40.4	47.1	24.0	4.3
Kitchen garden	8.8	2.8	0.5	0.1	12.2	2.7	7.6	1.8	0.1
Permanent pasture and meadows	35.4	138.3	229.6	450.2	853.5	0.0	72.3	606.4	174.9
Permanent crops	579.9	377.5	60.7	27.0	1045.1	513.2	419.0	102.4	10.6
Fruit and berry plantation	62.3	44.7	6.1	1.6	114.8	64.1	42.3	7.7	0.6
Citrus plantation	33.9	15.9	1.4	0.3	51.4	27.4	21.1	2.6	0.3
Olive trees	428.1	272.6	46.3	21.8	768.8	367.2	309.7	83.2	8.8
Vineyard	52.3	42.1	6.3	3.0	103.7	50.3	44.1	8.5	0.8
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding (ha)	2.0	9.1	29.5	94.9	5.8	4.2	4.6	14.5	29.6
Agricultural area... (%)									
... own farmed	90.2	68.7	45.8	37.0	63.8	68.5	73.0	52.0	43.1
... in less favoured or mountain area	60.3	66.4	77.4	88.2	70.9	58.2	66.5	87.9	87.9
... organic farmed	0.8	1.7	1.6	3.9	1.8	2.2	1.0	1.7	4.8
... irrigated	39.3	41.3	29.9	8.7	32.9	43.6	41.5	14.8	10.4

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Size of the farm	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)		
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 = <		0 < - < 5	5 - < 50	50 = <
Total livestock (1000 LU)	1062.0	802.4	369.6	246.9	2480.9	261.8	1287.8	931.4
of which grazing (%)	64.0	84.6	89.8	93.9	77.5	59.4	93.1	61.0
Grazing livestock (1000 heads)								
Equidae	17.9	10.5	3.5	1.8	33.7	15.7	14.8	3.1
Bovine animals	269.0	295.7	104.2	55.4	724.3	16.3	267.3	440.7
Under 1 year	86.4	89.5	34.9	16.8	227.7	7.3	93.4	127.0
From 1 to less than 2 years	44.8	49.1	18.9	11.3	124.2	2.5	46.3	75.3
Dairy cows	48.9	85.2	26.3	7.4	167.9	2.8	62.8	102.3
Other cows	78.1	59.0	20.7	16.7	174.5	3.2	54.2	117.1
Other bovine animals 2 years and older	10.7	12.8	3.3	3.1	30.0	0.4	10.5	19.1
Sheep	2829.2	3243.0	1776.2	1191.7	9040.1	896.0	6739.1	1405.1
Goats	1953.1	1326.2	785.2	730.4	4794.9	428.5	3274.8	1091.6
Granivores								
Pigs (1000 heads)	656.7	237.7	95.4	43.0	1032.9	66.9	240.9	725.1
Piglets < 20 kg	221.0	94.5	34.9	16.2	366.6	26.6	105.8	234.2
Breeding sows	82.5	36.4	14.5	6.6	139.9	8.1	46.0	85.9
Other pigs	353.3	106.8	46.1	20.2	526.4	32.2	89.2	404.9
Poultry (million heads)	24.4	6.6	1.4	0.4	32.8	7.4	2.9	22.5
Broilers	17.6	4.1	0.7	0.1	22.4	2.9	1.3	18.2
Laying hens	6.3	2.3	0.6	0.2	9.4	4.1	1.4	4.0
Other poultry	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.3
Rabbits, breeding females (1000 heads)	159.1	68.8	13.8	3.8	245.5	184.5	55.3	5.7
Beehives* (1000)	547.9	179.2	29.4	9.6	766.1	252.8	73.6	5.8
Average size of herds**								
Equidae (head/holding)	1.4	1.7	1.8	2.2	1.5	1.2	1.7	4.0
Cattle (head/holding)	27.5	30.1	39.8	63.3	31.4	3.0	19.5	111.0
Dairy cows (head/holding)	13.7	17.5	24.5	32.3	17.3	1.6	10.1	59.4
Other cows (head/holding)	19.3	17.8	19.4	32.6	19.5	2.0	10.5	53.8
Sheep (head/holding)	43.9	75.3	156.3	270.2	73.3	14.0	122.3	352.6
Goats (head/holding)	29.8	40.5	94.2	185.4	43.4	6.4	82.4	292.3
Pigs (head/holding)	31.2	14.7	22.3	30.0	24.0	2.8	14.3	370.7
Breeding sows (head/holding)	13.7	7.1	8.6	9.0	10.3	1.9	5.8	59.0
Other pigs > 20 kg (head/holding)	23.8	9.6	14.7	18.9	17.4	2.0	7.3	258.1
Rabbits, breeding females (head/holding)	5.3	6.3	6.9	6.2	5.6	5.0	8.8	10.2
Laying hens (1000/holding)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Broilers (1000/holding)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	7.9
Beehives (hive/holding)	73.3	64.7	56.4	54.9	70.1	48.7	42.7	38.8

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

* Bees are not taken into account when calculating Livestock Unit, there are 112.2 thousand hives on holdings with 0 LU.

** Number of animals of a given livestock category per holding with this kind of animal.

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular labour force	(1000 persons)	1527.0	229.7	1297.3	15.0	85.0
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	510.8	22.1	488.6	4.3	95.7
Holders	(1000 persons)	833.2	155.4	677.7	18.7	81.3
... at least 65 years old		306.7	75.0	231.7	24.5	75.5
... having another gainful activity		180.4	43.8	136.6	24.3	75.7
Number of holdings	(1000)	833.7	155.4	678.2	18.6	81.4
... producing mainly for own consumption		26.0	24.6	1.5	94.4	5.6
... producing mainly for direct sales		301.3	79.2	222.1	26.3	73.7
... using a tractor		551.8	65.8	486.0	11.9	88.1
Standard Gross Margin (SGM)	(1000 ESU)	5519.1	89.6	5429.6	1.6	98.4
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	4016.3	78.0	3938.4	1.9	98.1
... owned farmed		2589.3	75.2	2514.1	2.9	97.1
Livestock	(1000 LU)	2497.9	17.0	2480.9	0.7	99.3

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Greece was carried out in October-December 2005 on a sample basis. The previous full-scale agricultural census was conducted in 1999. The reference date of the agricultural survey 2005 was 1st November 2005 in the case of livestock, and the reference period for crop production, labour force and other characteristics was from 1 October 2004 to 30 September 2005.

The target population was all holdings included in the updated farm register after the last agricultural census in 1999. An agricultural, livestock or mixed holding is a unit, which utilises at least 0.1 ha agricultural area or at least 0.05 ha greenhouse or having at least a certain number of animals (1 cow; 2 oxen, horses, mules or donkeys; 5 sheep, goats, pigs or ostriches; 50 poultry; 20 beehives). The sample was drawn as a stratified one-stage random sample. Strata are based on the type of farming (8 classes), economic size (6 classes) and geographical location (nomos). The sample was allocated by the Neyman method. Certain strata were exhaustively surveyed, e.g. holdings with at least 38 ESU, organic livestock and mixed farms, organic crop holdings having at least 70 ha, etc. The sample size from the farm register was more than 10%: about 93 thousand holdings were selected. Additionally 1158 organic farms were taken from the administrative files of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

For each activity ('enterprise') on a farm (for instance wheat, dairy cow or vineyard), a standard gross margin (SGM) is estimated, based on the area (or the number of heads) and a regional coefficient. The sum of such margins in a farm is its economic size,

expressed in European Size Units (ESU). 1 ESU is equal to 1200 euros.

Each farm is classified in the community typology by its economic size and its type of farming, depending on the share of each enterprise in its economic size. For instance, a farm where breeding sows account for more than 2/3 of the economic size, is classified as *specialist pig rearing* (type 5011). Depending on the level of aggregation, farms are grouped into 8 to 70 types.

Annual work unit (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Greece it is 2200 hours (275 working days of 8 working hours per day).

Livestock Unit (LU) is equivalent to a dairy cow. The number of animals (number of heads) is converted into LU using a set of coefficients reflecting the feed requirements of the different animal categories.

Subsistence farming refers here to all farms below 1 ESU economic size. Note that the number of farms cannot be compared between countries due to the differences in coverage of the FSS.

► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Preliminary results, first half of 2007

Final result, second half of 2007








Website of the National Statistical Service of Greece:
www.statistics.gr

National Methodological Report – FSS 2005 (available on request)

Further information:

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