

Farm Structure Survey in Slovakia - 2007

92% of the Utilized agricultural area in Slovakia is in farms of over 100 ha.



This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Slovakia.

69 000 agricultural holdings were recorded in Slovakia in the 2007 Farm Structure Survey. 16 000 (23%) had an economic size of at least 1 ESU.

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Due to the different coverage of the FSS 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 European Size Unit (ESU). See the methodological notes for more information on the concept of ESU.

In 2007, 23% of the **agricultural holdings** (16 000) had an economic size of at least 1 ESU, compared with 13 000 in 2005 (a 23% increase).

They use about **1.9 million ha of utilised agricultural area** (UAA), an increase of 3% compared with 2005, this area represents 98% of the UAA in Slovakia and an average of 120 ha per holding (compared with 143 ha in 2005);

These holdings employed **64 000 AWUs** (annual work units), the equivalent of 64 000 people working full time; (5% less than 2005). The average AWU per holding was 4 (1.2 less than in 2005). Farms with less than 20 ha used on average 1.1 AWU, whereas farms of at least 100 ha used an average of 22.3.

They had **707 000 livestock units** (LSU) in 2007, 4% less than in 2005. The average number of LSU on farms with livestock increased from 2005 (57) to 2007 (73). In 2007 the number of farms with livestock increased 22% compared with 2005.

Amongst these **16 000** agricultural holdings:

51% made use of less than one AWU, while another 18% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
 49% used less than 5 ha, while 18% used 50 ha or more;
 72% produced for own consumption and 34% produced

for direct sales;
 25% of Slovak farms specialised in cereals, oil seed and protein crops;

15% specialised in field crops and grazing livestock combined;

13% of the holdings specialised in general field cropping;

The family labour force has increased by 24% from 2005 to 2007 and it was 20% of the total labour force in Slovakia (compared to 15% in 2005).

Amongst the sole holders:

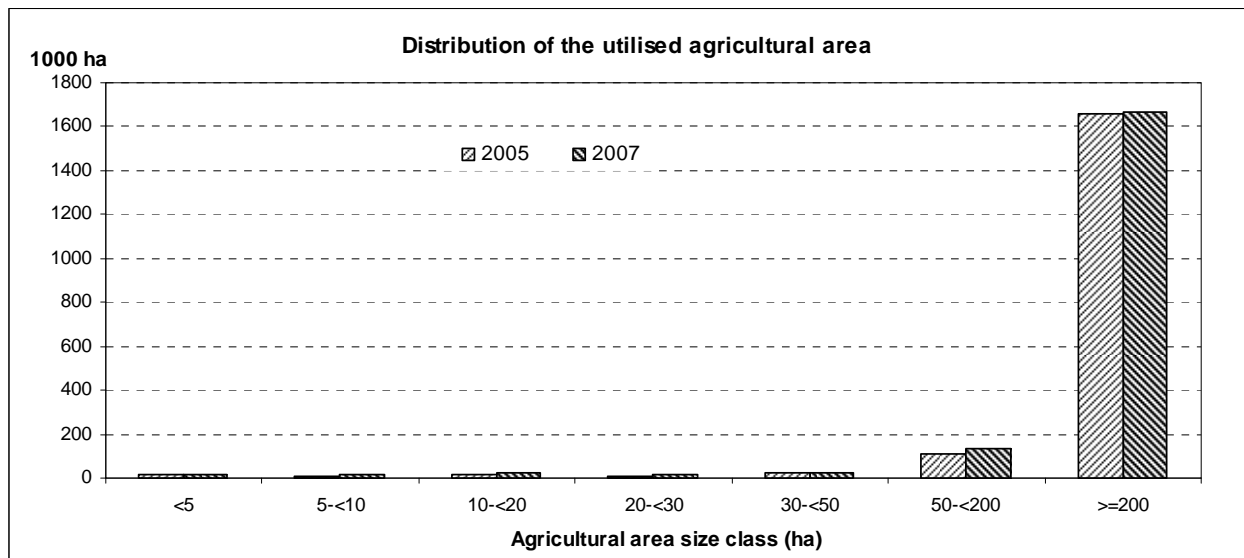
14% were women;
 50% were aged 55 or more and 7% were younger than 35 years;

6200 (39%) sole holders had another gainful activity in 2007, reflecting an increase of 47% since 2005.

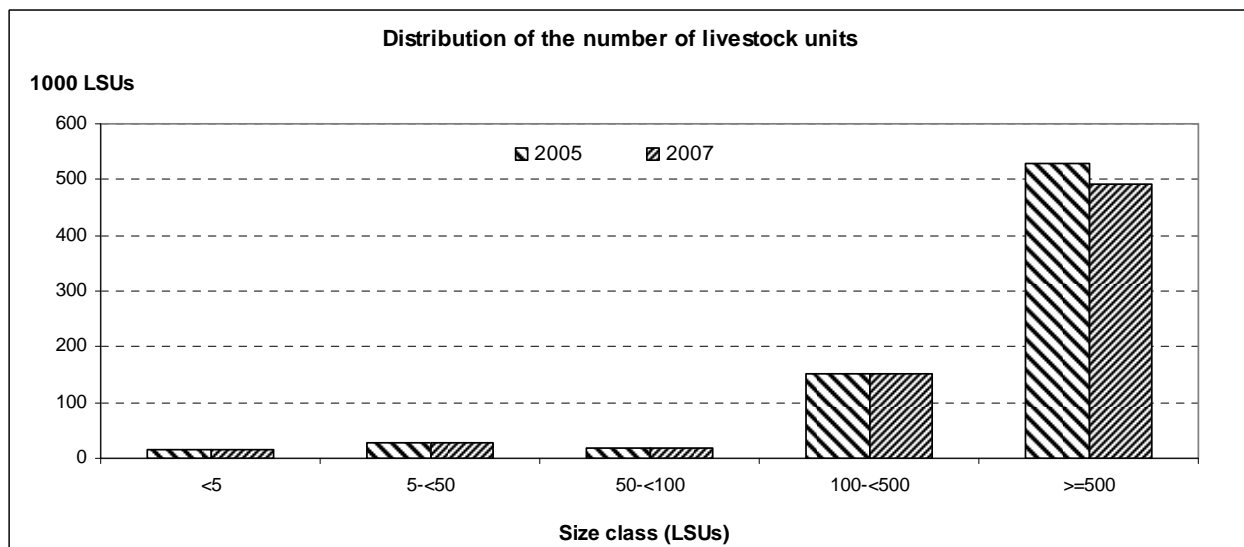
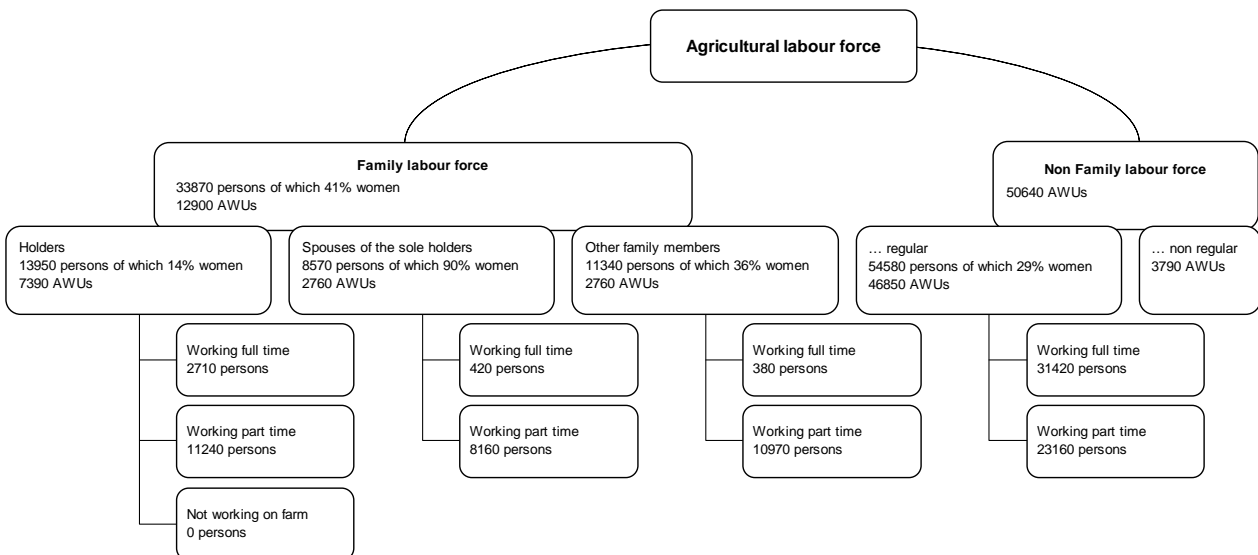
In Slovakia in 2007, only 9% of the agricultural area was farmed by its owners.

The FSS 2007 registered more farms with other gainful activities (OGA) than in 2005, an increase of 93%. They represented 16% of the holdings in Slovakia in 2007. The main category of OGA is contractual work (using production means of the holding) covering 5% of Slovak farms.

The major decrease in the livestock figures was mainly due to the 3% reduction in the number of cattle, which accounts for more than half of the Slovak LSU, and pigs (-17%). Other types of livestock increased in the country: sheep (+12%), goats (+33%), rabbits (+56%) and beehives (+41%).



Description of the labour force in Slovakia



*LSUs = Livestock Unit

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU*)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Total labour force										
1000 annual work units	12.7	2.4	1.5	46.9	63.5	9.3	11.8	1.5	41.0	
Family labour force										
1000 persons	28.6	2.4	1.2	1.7	33.9	6.3	27.1	0.3	0.2	
1000 annual work units	9.8	1.2	0.7	1.2	12.9	2.4	10.1	0.2	0.2	
Non-family labour regularly employed										
1000 persons	3.6	1.6	0.9	48.5	54.6	7.9	2.1	1.4	43.2	
1000 annual work units	2.6	1.0	0.7	42.5	46.8	6.0	1.5	1.2	38.1	
Non regular non family labour force										
1000 annual work units	0.2	0.2	0.2	3.2	3.8	0.8	0.2	0.1	2.7	
Holding managers	1000	11.7	1.3	0.7	2.1	15.8	3.8	10.8	0.3	1.0
- women	(%)	15.2	13.2	14.7	9.9	14.3	15.2	14.5	16.1	8.9
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	55.8	31.6	22.8	8.8	46.0	48.1	49.8	8.6	3.7
- 50 % and over	(%)	30.9	28.4	28.4	17.7	28.8	21.5	32.7	19.2	16.5
Sole/main holders	1000	11.4	1.1	0.6	0.8	14.0	3.2	10.5	0.1	0.1
- women	(%)	14.5	12.5	15.8	12.3	14.3	16.4	13.7	15.0	15.2
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		5.4	15.3	16.3	12.3	7.1	12.0	5.4	15.0	15.2
- from 35 to 44 years		14.3	23.0	22.1	24.2	15.9	22.4	13.7	27.8	26.3
- from 45 to 54 years		25.3	32.2	33.0	34.9	26.7	30.2	25.5	36.1	37.4
- from 55 to 64 years		27.2	20.6	22.4	22.6	26.2	23.5	27.2	18.0	21.2
- 65 years and over		27.7	8.9	6.3	5.9	24.1	11.9	28.2	2.3	0.0
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	57.0	35.7	27.4	24.1	52.2	58.2	51.0	16.5	36.4
- 50 % and over	(%)	31.6	32.1	34.0	48.8	32.7	26.0	33.4	36.8	160.6
- with another gainful activity ¹	(%)	43.7	42.5	36.7	13.3	39.2	45.2	40.8	16.1	2.9
- as a main occupation		37.9	31.1	23.9	9.4	32.9	34.4	35.6	11.4	2.2
- as a subsidiary occupation		5.8	11.5	12.7	3.9	6.3	10.8	5.3	4.7	0.7
Spouse of sole holder	1000	7.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	8.6	1.4	7.0	0.1	0.0
- women	(%)	90.6	85.5	77.7	83.8	89.5	82.4	91.1	81.0	87.2
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		6.1	12.2	14.6	10.8	6.9	11.0	5.9	12.7	20.5
- from 35 to 54 years		46.5	58.2	62.8	69.7	48.7	59.3	46.3	68.3	69.2
- 55 years and over		47.5	29.7	22.6	19.5	44.4	29.7	47.8	19.0	10.3
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	79.7	67.8	59.5	46.5	76.9	80.1	76.9	27.0	41.0
- 50 % and over	(%)	17.0	24.1	25.5	28.6	18.2	13.8	18.9	36.5	28.2
- with another gainful activity	(%)	42.5	50.8	54.0	42.4	43.4	58.6	40.4	36.5	35.9
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding	1000	9.8	0.7	0.3	0.5	11.3	1.7	9.5	0.1	0.1
- women	(%)	37.6	28.2	24.4	23.8	36.0	36.3	36.2	23.5	27.2
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	90.4	75.4	63.4	41.3	86.4	82.9	88.2	23.5	35.8
- 50 % and over	(%)	8.5	18.3	21.8	25.0	10.2	9.6	10.0	40.8	11.1
- with another gainful activity	(%)	66.1	51.0	43.9	40.5	63.3	56.9	64.9	27.6	46.9

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Only holders who are also farm managers

": not available

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Holdings										
- total number	1000	11.7	1.3	0.7	2.1	15.8	3.8	10.8	0.3	1.0
- by legal personality of the holder	(%)									
- sole holder		97.8	88.4	83.4	36.3	88.1	82.7	97.8	52.2	10.3
- legal person		2.2	11.6	16.6	63.7	11.9	17.3	2.2	47.8	89.7
- group holders		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- by employed labour force	(%)									
- under 1 AWU		62.0	40.7	30.0	7.5	51.4	56.6	55.1	6.3	1.2
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU		30.9	40.7	41.8	16.0	30.1	23.6	35.2	15.3	3.9
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU		5.0	9.9	14.1	9.5	6.4	6.2	6.7	12.9	2.2
- 3 AWU and over		2.2	8.8	14.1	67.0	12.0	13.7	3.0	65.1	92.6
- by economic size	(%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU		96.8	64.8	25.6	4.2	78.4	63.2	92.4	9.4	0.2
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU		2.1	24.3	36.8	6.7	6.1	11.9	4.2	15.7	2.0
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU		0.6	8.2	29.6	22.2	5.5	11.1	2.3	45.9	7.6
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU		0.2	2.4	7.2	23.5	3.8	8.2	0.8	19.2	16.4
- 100 ESU and over		0.4	0.4	0.8	43.4	6.2	5.6	0.3	9.8	73.9
- by type of farming (top 5 + 'other')	(%)									
... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops		18.3	49.8	46.1	39.2	25.0	45.9	18.9	23.1	10.4
... field crops – grazing livestock combined		16.3	8.7	5.8	16.3	15.2	0.8	19.2	11.0	29.6
... general field cropping		13.4	15.5	13.7	7.5	12.8	20.4	11.1	3.1	3.5
... specialist dairy farming		11.4	3.3	3.5	9.3	10.1	0	13.0	10.6	18.4
... various crops and livestock combined		10.5	0.9	0.6	0.8	8.0	8.8	8.4	0.8	1.8
Other types of farming		30.0	21.7	30.4	26.8	28.9	24.0	29.4	51.4	36.4
- by farming methods	(%)									
- organic farming		0.1	0.7	2.1	7.0	1.2	0.7	0.4	12.5	8.4
- irrigating		2.6	6.8	8.4	9.9	4.2	11.4	1.3	2.0	8.9
- with crops under glass		3.6	1.3	0.8	0.7	2.9	5.3	2.3	0	0.6
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production:	(%)									
Tourism		0.3	1.9	3.0	3.0	0.9	0.9	0.6	2.7	4.0
Handicraft		0.4	1.8	1.4	1.4	0.7	1.1	0.4	0	2.2
Processing of farm products		1.1	3.1	4.7	8.8	2.5	3.8	0.9	7.5	13.1
Wood processing		0.3	1.5	2.4	1.5	0.7	0.8	0.5	2.4	1.3
Aquaculture		0.1	0.3	0	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0.5
Renewable energy production		0.1	0.8	2.6	13.5	2.1	3.1	0.2	4.3	18.2
Contractual work		1.1	6.5	11.2	20.7	4.7	7.1	1.8	14.1	24.3
Other gainful activities n.a.e		5.3	17.4	20.6	32.6	10.6	17.5	5.2	33.3	37.8

*LSU = Livestock unit

Slovakia – 2007

Table 3 – Land use by size of the farms

":" not available

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Area	(1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	54.7	55.9	61.2	2824.0	2995.7	415.2	198.3	91.8	2290.3	
• H. Other area	2.9	15.6	10.0	1077.8	1106.3	49.7	6.8	3.7	1046.1	
Wooded area	0.9	15.0	9.4	1017.6	1042.9	44.2	3.2	0	995.5	
• Agricultural area	51.8	40.3	51.1	1746.1	1889.3	365.5	191.5	88.1	1244.3	
- D. Arable land	38.2	29.4	33.3	1233.0	1333.8	324.1	123.4	46.9	839.3	
Cereals	29.6	21.4	23.1	710.9	785.0	220.4	82.8	26.2	455.7	
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	12.1	7.9	9.5	325.3	354.7	94.0	35.1	11.0	214.5	
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0	0	0	3.6	3.6	1.3	0	0	2.2	
<i>Rye</i>	0.4	0.3	0.2	20.1	21.0	3.4	2.0	0.7	15.0	
<i>Barley</i>	10.0	6.6	6.5	186.6	209.7	59.5	24.5	7.0	118.7	
<i>Oats</i>	1.3	0.9	0.9	19.7	22.8	2.9	4.5	1.4	14.0	
<i>Grain maize</i>	4.7	5.3	5.4	142.2	157.6	56.2	14.4	5.3	81.6	
Dried pulses	0.2	0.1	0.2	13.4	13.9	3.7	1.3	0.6	8.3	
Root crops	2.7	0.8	1.4	25.9	30.7	8.2	3.7	0.4	18.4	
<i>Potatoes</i>	2.5	0.7	1.0	6.7	10.8	4.7	3.0	0.3	2.8	
<i>Sugar beet</i>	0	0.1	0.4	18.5	18.9	3.3	0.4	0.1	15.1	
<i>Fodder root</i>	0.2	0	0	0.7	0.9	0.2	0.4	0	0.4	
Industrial crops	1.7	3.5	5.6	227.8	238.6	69.1	18.9	9.5	141.1	
<i>Tobacco</i>	0.1	0	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.1	0	0.3	
<i>Hops</i>	0	0	0	0.3	0.3	0	0	0	0.3	
<i>Cotton</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Rape and turnip</i>	1.1	1.9	3.2	151.6	157.8	41.6	12.3	7.0	96.9	
<i>Sunflower</i>	0.4	1.3	2.0	61.5	65.2	23.0	5.5	1.9	34.8	
<i>Soya</i>	0	0.2	0.1	7.5	7.9	1.8	0.6	0.4	5.1	
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	1.3	1.0	0.6	4.9	7.8	6.1	0.7	0	0.9	
<i>outside</i>	1.3	1.0	0.6	4.9	7.7	6.1	0.7	0	0.9	
<i>under glass</i>	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	
Flower and ornamental plants	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0	0	0	
<i>outside</i>	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	
<i>under glass</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Forage plants	2.0	1.9	2.0	236.0	241.9	11.2	13.2	9.4	208.2	
Fallow land	0.5	0.6	0.4	13.0	14.4	4.5	2.7	0.8	6.5	
- E. Kitchen garden	0.7	0	0.1	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.9	0	0.1	
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows	10.8	9.6	15.8	496.4	532.6	28.4	65.5	40.8	397.9	
- G. Permanent crops	2.0	1.3	2.0	16.5	21.8	12.9	1.6	0.4	7.0	
Fruit and berry plantation	0.9	0.5	0.8	7.0	9.2	5.4	0.9	0.2	2.7	
Citrus plantation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Olive trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Vineyard	1.1	0.8	1.2	9.2	12.2	7.2	0.6	0.2	4.3	
Ratios										
Agricultural area per holding	(ha)	4.4	31.6	70.7	812.9	119.3	95.2	17.8	345.4	1290.7
Agricultural area...	(%)									
... own farmed		78.0	45.3	34.3	5.5	9.1	14.6	35.4	11.0	3.3
... in less favoured or mountain area		65.5	63.0	66.4	75.2	74.4	51.8	80.0	89.0	79.1
... organic farmed		0.2	0.7	2.0	4.8	4.5	1.3	3.0	13.5	5.1
... irrigated		1.8	3.5	3.5	2.0	2.1	5.4	0.6	0.3	1.4

*LSU = Livestock unit

":" not available

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms		Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Total livestock	(1000 LSU)	153.9	17.8	13.1	522.4	707.3	0	45.9	17.7	643.7
of which grazing	(%)	11.4	30.5	43.1	71.0	56.5	:	66.6	76.6	55.2
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)									
Equidae		1.7	0.6	0.4	2.7	5.4	0	3.2	0.4	1.8
Bovine animals		18.2	5.4	5.3	461.7	490.5	0	25.8	12.3	452.4
Under 1 year		5.6	2.1	1.8	132.2	141.7	0	7.5	3.8	130.4
From 1 to less than 2 years		3.1	1.2	1.1	97.6	102.9	0	4.2	2.2	96.5
Dairy cows		8.1	1.1	0.8	161.5	171.6	0	9.4	1.7	160.6
Other cows		0.6	0.7	1.1	33.5	35.8	0	3.2	3.5	29.2
Other bovine animals 2 years and older		0.8	0.3	0.4	36.9	38.5	0	1.5	1.1	35.8
Sheep		22.1	13.0	17.3	284.2	336.7	0	83.8	45.9	206.9
Goats		3.2	0.5	0.4	3.8	7.9	0	5.0	1.5	1.4
Granivores										
Pigs	(1000 heads)	189.4	17.5	10.5	548.6	765.9	0	46.2	13.9	705.8
Piglets < 20 kg		42.1	2.7	1.9	156.6	203.3	0	6.9	3.1	193.2
Breeding sows		15.7	1.3	0.8	54.6	72.4	0	3.8	1.5	67.1
Other pigs		131.6	13.5	7.8	337.4	490.2	0	35.5	9.3	445.4
Poultry	(million heads)	9.0	0.8	0.4	1.8	12.0	0	0.2	0	11.8
Broilers		5.9	0.5	0.2	1.1	7.7	0	0	0	7.6
Laying hens		2.9	0.3	0.2	0.7	4.1	0	0.1	0	4.0
Other poultry		0.2	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0.2
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	10.2	0.1	0	3.6	13.9	0	9.3	3.5	1.1
Beehives	(1000)	48.1	0.7	0.2	0.3	49.2	22.2	26.9	0.1	0.1
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)									
Equidae	(head/holding)	2.3	5.6	5.8	11.0	4.7	:	3.3	7.5	14.5
Cattle	(head/holding)	3.4	14.2	25.4	426.3	69.4	:	4.2	78.6	561.3
Dairy cows	(head/holding)	1.6	5.2	9.1	235.4	28.9	:	1.8	31.8	266.3
Other cows	(head/holding)	5.0	5.1	11.1	66.7	42.0	:	7.4	34.4	90.4
Sheep	(head/holding)	22.1	93.2	152.1	510.3	185.8	:	59.3	450.1	699.1
Goats	(head/holding)	4.6	8.5	14.0	35.6	8.9	:	6.1	43.3	32.7
Pigs	(head/holding)	26.2	42.7	77.4	1071.5	92.3	:	5.9	169.6	1857.4
Breeding sows	(head/holding)	14.1	6.6	11.1	147.6	41.4	:	2.7	26.5	225.3
Other pigs > 20 kg	(head/holding)	18.8	34.2	62.1	673.4	61.1	:	4.7	113.6	1181.6
Rabbits, breeding females	(head/holding)	11.4	7.6	3.7	512.1	15.1	:	10.1	1750.5	375.0
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	0.4	1.5	4.1	11.5	0.6	:	0	0.6	83.0
Broilers	(1000/holding)	17.9	20.5	67.3	69.3	20.6	:	0.1	12.0	172.9
Beehives	(hive/holding)	39.9	28.3	18.7	26.5	39.4	61.7	30.5	17.8	16.5

*LSU = Livestock unit

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular Labour force	(1000 pers)	212.4	123.9	88.4	58.3	41.7
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	87.5	27.7	59.8	31.7	68.3
Holder with...	(1000)	66.9	53.0	14.0	79.2	20.8
... at least 65 years		22.0	18.7	3.4	84.8	15.2
... another gainful activity		29.2	23.0	6.2	78.7	21.3
Number of sole holdings	(1000)	69.0	53.1	15.8	77.0	23.0
... producing mainly for own consumption		64.0	52.6	11.4	82.2	17.8
... producing mainly for direct sales		13.0	7.7	5.3	58.9	41.1
SGM	(1000 ESU)	496.9	20.3	476.5	4.1	95.9
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	1936.6	47.3	1889.3	2.4	97.6
... own farmed		213.0	41.0	172.0	19.2	80.8
Livestock	(1000 LSU*)	747.2	39.9	707.3	5.3	94.7

*LSU: Livestock unit

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (SOSR), in collaboration with its eight regional offices and the municipalities implemented the survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Slovakia. The FSS 2007 was the third survey after the last Farm Structure Census in 2001 (FSC 2001). It was carried out using a combination of exhaustive (among the registered units, and the unregistered units with at least 1 ha) and sample survey (for the unregistered holdings under 1 ha). The reference period was from the calendar year of 2007, except for livestock, which had a reference day: the 31st December.

All technical and economical independent units with autonomous management and producing agricultural products were included in the group of farms providing they fulfilled one the following criteria: UAA of at least 0.5 ha; area in intensive crops at least 0.15 ha; area of vineyards at least 0.05ha; having at least 1 cattle or 2 pigs, or 4 sheep or 4 goats of 50 heads of poultry; or having at least 100 fur animals, 100 rabbits or 5 beehives.

Amongst the farm register, the statistical register, and other external registers a population frame of around 75 500 holdings was used for the FSS2007. The exhaustive strata made up 39% (29 000) of the holdings while the other 46 000 were sampled using stratified random sampling based on the eight geographical regions. A total number of around 8 500 (19%) units were sampled.

Altogether about 38 000 questionnaires were issued. The non-response rate was 0.4%. The percentage of farms that had either ceased their activities or did no longer have agriculture as their major activity was of 16%, and 6% did not reach

the defined thresholds. So although the return rate was of 99.6%, the percentage of farms with a complete questionnaire was 78% (29 500 holdings).

Between FSS 2005 and 2007 "maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental conditions" (GAEC) became an agricultural activity and the concerned land has been included in the agricultural area. In Slovakia it covers close to 50 800 ha, 98% in holdings with at least 1 ESU.

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 a 1200-euro SGM).

An Annual work unit (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Slovakia it is 1800 hours (225 working days of 8 working hours per day).

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

► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Website of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (Štatistický úrad Slovenskej Republiky) <http://www.statistics.sk>

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 (available on request)

Further information

Data: [Eurostat Website: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat)

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Agriculture



Structure of agricultural holdings

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