



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

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CAP POLICY, ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS DIVISION

Northern Ireland Agri-Food Sector

Key Statistics June 2017



Agriculture, Fishing & Forestry



Northern Ireland Agri-Food Sector
Key Statistics
June 2017

Key Facts on
Agriculture,
Fishing and Forestry

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DAERA

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Table 1: General economic data

	NI	Scotland	Wales	England	UK	EU 27
GVA per head (£, 2015)	18,584	23,685	18,002	26,159	25,601	19,402 ¹
Population ('000, 2015)	1,852	5,373	3,099	54,786	65,110	504,279 ^P
Area (sq. km)	13,562	77,910	20,736	130,308	243,269	4,306,539 ²
Population Density (per sq. km, 2015)	137	69	149	420	268	117
Bank Base interest rate (% , June 2017)					0.25	
RPI (% change, April 2016 - April 2017)					3.5	
Unemployment rate (% , Quarter 1 2017)	5.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.6	7.9

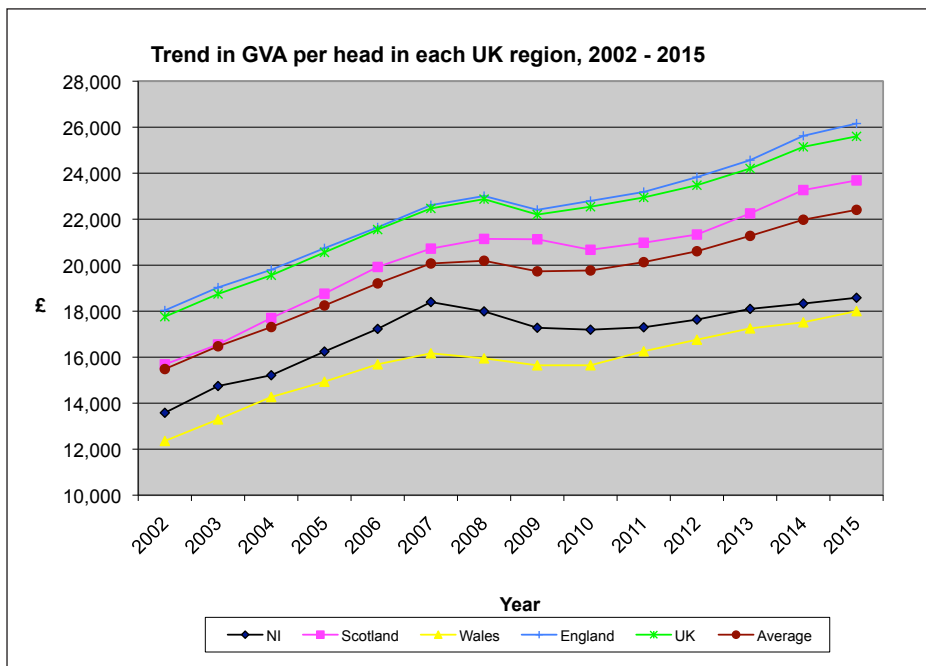
Unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted and taken from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). EU27 figure from Eurostat.

GVA - Gross Value Added (at basic prices)

RPI - Retail Price Index

1. 2013, 2. 2012 P. Provisional estimate

Figure 1 - Trend in GVA per head in each UK region, 2002 - 2015



Note: GVA is in current basic prices

Figure 2 - Population per 100 ha of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA), 2015

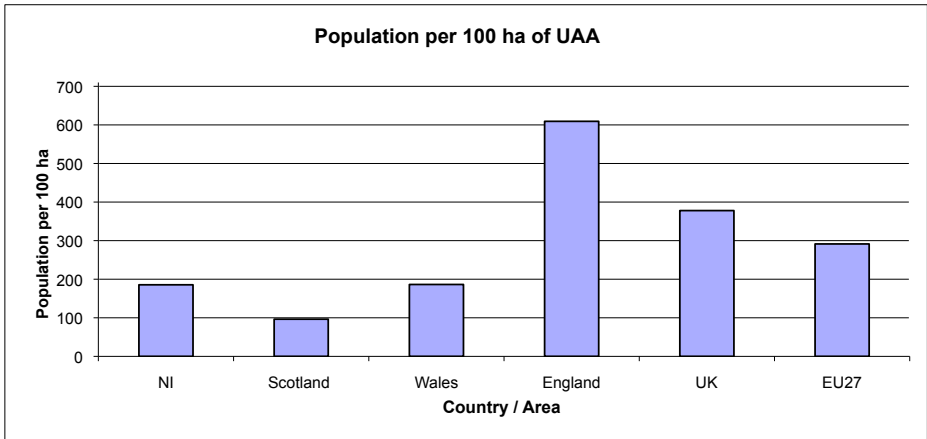


Table 2: Agriculture: general data, 2016

	NI	Scot	Wales	Eng	UK	ROI	EU27
Share of total GVA (%)	1.2	0.9 ¹	0.7 ¹	0.5 ¹	0.5 ¹	1.7 ¹	1.7 ²
No. employed in agriculture forestry & fishing ('000)	25	47	32	250	354	108 ⁴	9,437
Share of employment (%)	3.0	1.8	2.2	0.9	1.1	5.3 ⁴	4.2
Number of farms ('000)	25	52	34	107	218	140 ²	10,684 ²
Average farm size (Ha)	41	120	45	85	80	33 ²	16 ²
LFA (% Agricultural area)	69	86	80	18	50	75 ³	51 ³

1. 2015, 2. 2013, 3. 2007

4. CSO Quarterly National Household Survey, 1st quarter, 2017

Due to National Accounting principles, GVA figures do not include Single Farm Payment

Source for UK employment data (SIC 2007, main job) - Labour force survey (2016)

Table 3: Agriculture in NI: structural adjustment, 1996, 2006 and 2014-2016

	1996	2006	2014	2015	2016
Number of farms	32,630	26,739	24,228	24,907	24,528
Average farm size (Ha)	32.7	38.5	41.1	40.1	41.3
Total farmers and workers	62,494	49,952	47,864	47,979	47,712

Table 4: Agri - food sector GVA and employment, 2016

	NI		UK	
	£m	% of GVA	£m	% of GVA
Gross value added¹				
Agriculture	410	1.2	8,196	0.5 ³
Food and drink processing	735 ²	2.1 ²	25,548 ³	1.6 ³
Employment	'000 persons	% of total employment	'000 persons	% of total employment
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	25	3.0 ⁴	354	1.1 ⁵
Food and drink processing ⁷	15 ⁶	1.7 ⁴	407	1.3 ⁵

1. GVA figures are at basic prices.

2. Size and Performance of the NI Food and Drinks Processing Sector, Subsector Statistics, 2015 Provisional estimate. This includes an estimate of the value added of those food and drinks processing businesses with a turnover of less than £250,000.

3. UK agriculture % of GVA is 2015 figure. UK GVA food and drink processing are 2014 figures

4. % of total LFS employment (836,000 in NI at 2016)

5. % of total LFS employment (31,473,000 in UK at 2016)

6. Please note that the 95% confidence interval for this figure ranges from 11,000 to 19,000

7. Includes SIC 2007 10.11 - 11.07

Table 5: Distribution of farm outputs in NI and share of UK totals, 2016

Enterprise	% of NI total		NI output as % of UK output	
	Gross output	Gross Margin	On farm employment	
	%	%	%	%
Dairy	25.7	36.2	20	13.7
Cattle	24.2	28.3	53	15.4
Sheep & wool	4.1	5.3	14	6.3
Pigs	6.9	3.6	} 4	11.1
Poultry & eggs	19.5	7.9		12.1
Cereals & oilseed rape	1.5	3.3	} 9	1.1
Potatoes	1.1	2.1		2.7
Horticulture	5.9	10.0		3.2
Others	11.0	3.3		3.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100	7.6

Source: Aggregate Agricultural Account. Employment data from June 2016 Agricultural Survey.

Table 6: NI food and drink processing sector - gross turnover, value added, employment by subsector, external and export sales, (Provisional 2015)

Subsector	Gross turnover	Value added	Employees ¹	External ² Sales	Export Sales ³
	£m	£m		£m	£m
Animal by-products	60	15	119	55	30
Bakeries	293	95	3,461	130	75
Beef and sheepmeat	1,265	140	4,752	1,040	255
Drinks	424	110	1,349	235	200
Eggs	134	20	342	95	15
Fish	76	15	519	65	30
Fruit and vegetables	314	70	2,484	210	60
Milk and milk products	1,008	85	2,159	700	485
Pigmeat	312	35	1,352	185	70
Poultrymeat	710	150	4,513	640	135
Total	4,596	735	21,048	3,355	1,355

1. Full - time equivalents. This is an estimation of the total direct employment in the sector, as some workers are provided by employment agencies and not shown in these figures. The July 2016 edition of the Size and Performance publication presented an initial estimation of agency employment in 2015 at 2,509 full-time equivalents.

2. Sales outside NI

3. Sales outside UK

Source: Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector, Subsector Statistics, 2015 provisional estimates. These figures exclude an estimate of those food and drinks processing businesses with a turnover of less than £250,000. Provisional estimates for 2015 have been estimated by adjusting the 2014 baseline largely on the basis of information available within DAERA. Provisional estimates for 2015 will be updated in the next version of the publication 'Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector, Subsector Statistics', which will be published in July 2017.

Figure 3 - Gross turnover and full time equivalent (FTE) workforce by food processing subsector, NI (Provisional 2015)

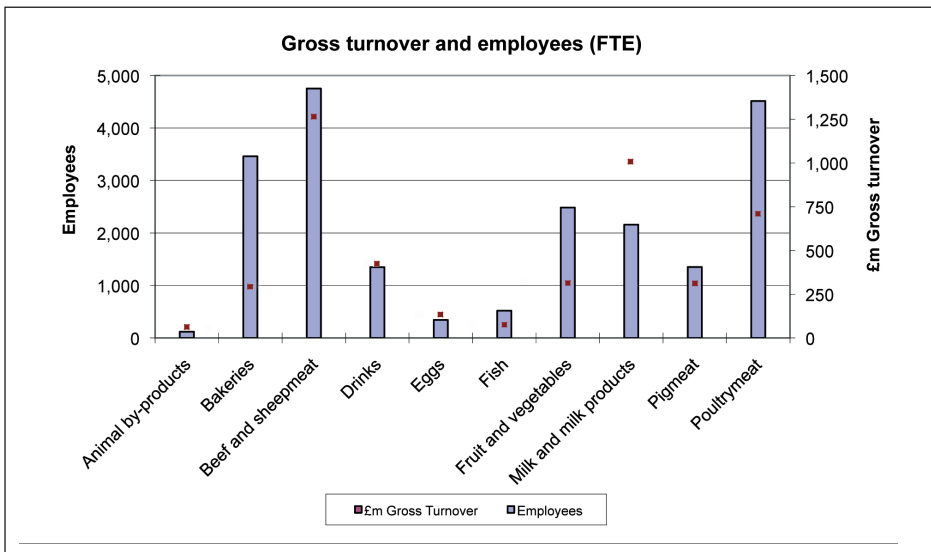


Figure 4 - Proportion of gross turnover by subsector, NI (Provisional 2015)

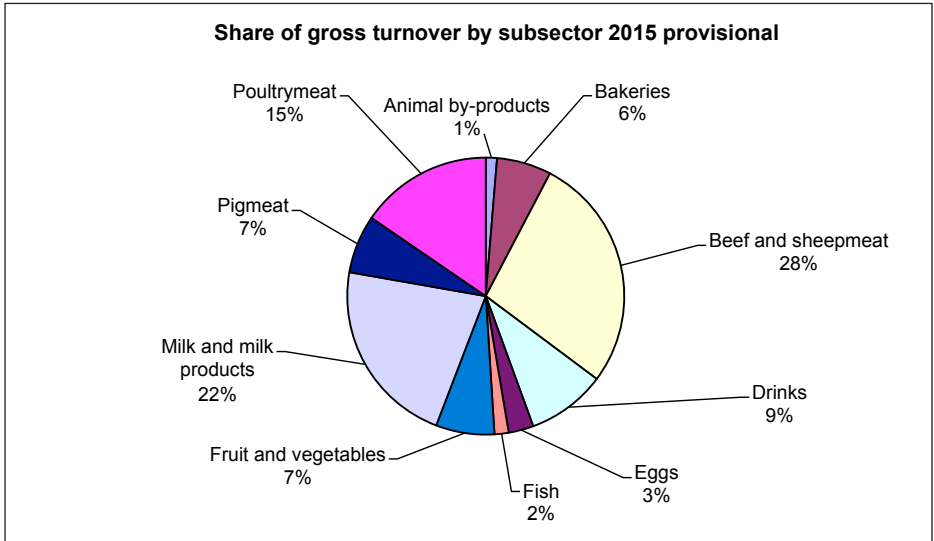


Figure 5 - Proportion of employee jobs by Industry section, December 2016

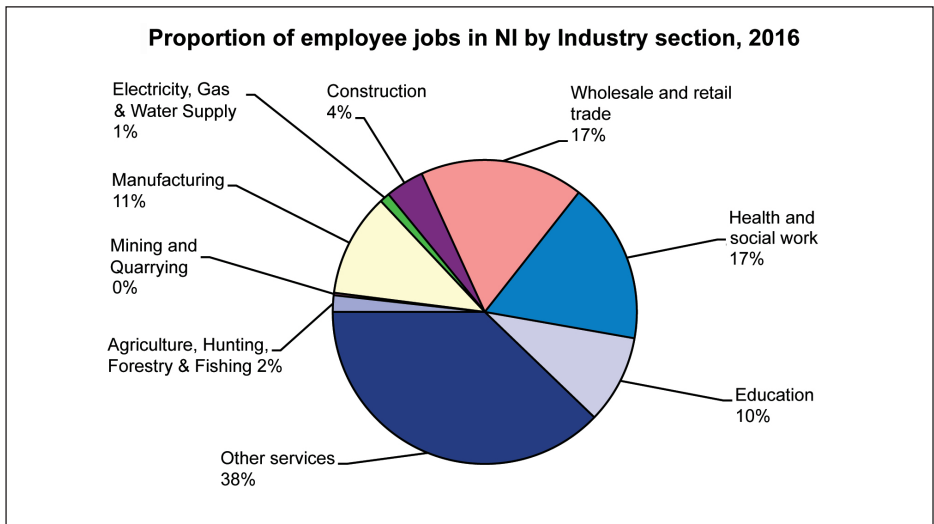


Table 7: Total income from farming, NI and UK, 2016

	NI	UK
Total income from farming (£)	£244m	£3,610m
% change on previous year :		
Current prices	22%	-6%
Real terms	21%	-8%

Source: Aggregate Agricultural Account

Note: For an explanation of the change in TIFF in NI and UK see Chapter 1 of the Statistical Review of NI Agriculture 2016 and Chapter 3 of Agriculture in the UK 2016.

Table 8: Average income¹ by type of farm, NI, 2014/15 and 2015/16

	Net farm income ²		Farm Business Income ³		Cash income ⁴	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
Type of farm:						
Cereals	20,060	16,284	26,996	22,658	49,594	44,286
Dairy	46,844	14,139	45,175	11,925	75,909	44,242
Cattle & sheep (LFA)	8,846	9,720	15,315	16,837	25,665	30,527
Cattle & sheep (Lowland)	7,022	4,291	16,325	13,456	28,349	24,927
Mixed	15,877	4,064	28,309	15,340	59,508	27,447

Source: Farm Business Survey in Northern Ireland 2014/15 and 2015/16

1. Based on information gathered from farms over 0.5 Standard Labour Requirements

2. The calculation of net farm income assumes that all farms are tenanted: net farm income therefore represents the return to the principal farmer and spouse for their manual and managerial labour and on the tenant-style capital of the business.

3. Farm Business income is the return to all unpaid labour and to their capital invested (inc land and buildings) in the business

4. Cash income is the difference between total receipts and total expenditure

Note: Farm typing methodology has changed from 2011 and is now based on Standard Outputs. Further information can be found in the farm income publication. www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics

Table 9: Net farm Income, Farm Business Income and Cash Income for dairy, LFA cattle & sheep, and mixed farms throughout the UK, 2014/15 and 2015/16

	Dairy		LFA Cattle & Sheep		Mixed	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
Net farm income						
England	69,100	27,100	6,400	9,800	7,500	3,200
Wales	58,119	19,605	10,584	11,236	-	-
Scotland	70,694	2,120	20,581	12,980	1,099	-9,779
NI	46,844	14,139	8,846	9,720	15,877	4,064
Farm Business Income						
England	83,800	43,900	14,600	19,000	21,600	18,400
Wales	70,180	32,812	22,133	21,867	-	-
Scotland	68,932	1,884	27,547	20,893	11,918	2,264
NI	45,175	11,925	15,315	16,837	28,309	15,340
Cash income						
England	116,400	90,800	26,500	32,300	45,800	47,800
Wales	90,772	60,387	34,264	33,915	-	-
Scotland	101,943	41,391	43,154	42,425	40,439	34,388
NI	75,909	44,242	25,665	30,527	59,508	27,447

Source: Farm Business Survey in Northern Ireland 2014/15 and 2015/16

Note: All regions define farm types using Standard Output Methodology. All regions use 2010SO averages.

Note: England figures to nearest £100

Table 10: Number of farms in the UK by size & country - June 2016

	Business size (SLR) ¹				Total
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large / Very Large	
Farms					
NI	18,651	2,938	1,238	1,701	24,528
England ²	68,073	15,107	8,009	15,664	106,853
Scotland	42,042	3,076	1,876	4,902	51,896
Wales ³	25,434	3,198	1,896	3,598	34,126
Total	154,200	24,319	13,019	25,865	217,403

1. Standard Labour Requirements

2. Figures which relate to commercial holdings only as defined by EU regulation

3. Excludes holdings with a SLR of zero

Table 11: Percentage distribution of farms in the UK by size & country - June 2016

	Business size (SLR)				Total
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large / Very Large	
Farms (%)					
NI	76	12	5	7	100
England	64	14	7	15	100
Scotland	81	6	4	9	100
Wales	75	9	6	11	100
Total	71	11	6	12	100

Table 12: Number of farms in NI by size and type - June 2016

Business type	Business size (SLR)				All sizes
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	
Cereals	225	31	13	6	275
General cropping	406	40	16	44	506
Horticulture	98	50	33	99	280
Pigs	51	26	32	65	174
Poultry	191	216	104	81	592
Dairy	290	741	620	1,043	2,694
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	12,775	1,163	232	155	14,325
Cattle and sheep (Lowland)	4,216	544	116	93	4,969
Mixed	305	103	60	102	570
Others	94	24	12	13	143
All types	18,651	2,938	1,238	1,701	24,528

Source: June 2016 Agricultural Survey

Note: Farm Business type methodology has changed from 2011 and is now based on Standard Outputs. Further information can be found in the Census publication. www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics

Table 13: Crop areas and livestock numbers, NI, 1996, 2006 and 2014 - 2016

	1996	2006	2014	2015	2016
Livestock ('000 head)					
Cattle					
Dairy cows	281.1	284.7	294.2	311.5	317.1
Beef cows	315.4	276.7	254.9	260.3	269.7
Total cattle	1,759.4	1,689.3	1,567.3	1,608.9	1,664.6
Sheep					
Breeding ewes	1,341.6	991.1	910.6	938.6	955.2
Total sheep	2,753.1	2,070.5	1,922.9	1,989.7	2,023.0
Pigs					
Female Breeding pigs	68.8	37.4	42.8	45.6	46.4
Total pigs	638.1	386.6	517.1	569.7	601.1
Poultry					
Laying flock	3,136.4	2,187.7	3,044.6	3,174.1	3,550.0
Broilers	9,006.2	13,367.1	13,614.2	14,273.1	14,459.2
Crops ('000 hectares)					
Cereals	43.4	33.6	34.2	32.9	33.4
Potatoes	8.8	4.7	4.2	3.6	3.7
Horticultural crops	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Notes: From 2005 onwards, cattle figures were derived from APHIS

From 2007 onwards, poultry figures were taken from the Northern Ireland Bird Register Update

From 2013 onwards, pig figures derived from the Northern Ireland Annual Inventory of Pigs

Figure 6 - Trend in dairy and beef cow numbers, NI, 2001 - 2016

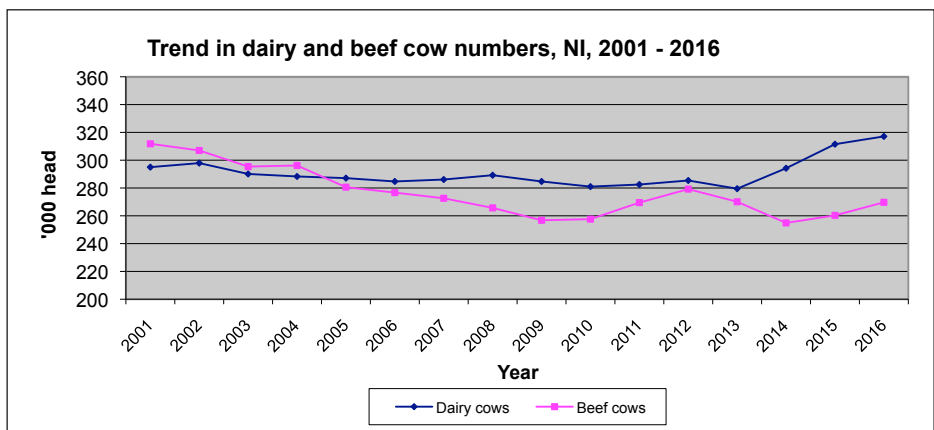


Table 14: Average size of enterprise, NI, 1996, 2006 and 2014 - 2016

	1996	2006	2014	2015	2016
Average livestock numbers (per herd/flock)					
Dairy cows	47	69	86	88	90
Beef cows	18	17	17	17	18
Total cattle	63	73	78	79	83
Ewes	114	115	103	101	100
Total sheep	230	237	213	209	206
Sows	35	105	121	144	158
Total pigs	298	855	1,175	1,628	1,784
Total poultry (farms with more than 500 birds)	24,003	28,989	28,849	28,819	29,753
Average cropping areas (ha)					
Cereals	10	12	14	14	15
Potatoes	5	7	8	7	8

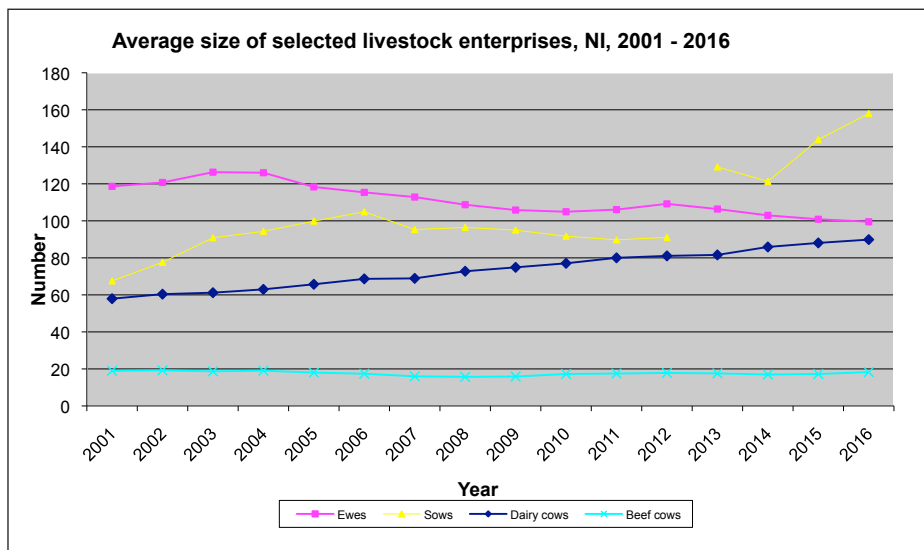
Source: June Agricultural Survey

Notes: From 2005 onwards, cattle figures were derived from APHIS

From 2007 onwards, poultry figures were taken from the Northern Ireland Bird Register Update

From 2013 onwards, pig figures derived from the Northern Ireland Annual Inventory of Pigs

Figure 7 - Average size of selected livestock enterprises, NI, 2001 - 2016



Note: From 2013 onwards, pig figures derived from the Northern Ireland Annual Inventory of Pigs

Table 15: Number of farmers and workers, NI, 1996, 2006 and 2014 - 2016

	1996	2006	2014	2015	2016
Farmers, partners & directors:					
Full-time	22,710	17,981	16,206	16,637	16,233
Part-time	17,204	14,013	12,894	13,431	13,571
Total	39,914	31,994	29,100	30,068	29,804
Spouses	6,810	6,285	6,279	6,084	6,410
Other workers					
Full-time	3,432	2,531	3,485	3,463	3,209
Part-time	3,110	2,347	4,081	3,971	4,215
Casual/Seasonal	9,228	6,795	4,919	4,393	4,074
Total other workers	15,770	11,673	12,485	11,827	11,498
Total agricultural labour force	62,494	49,952	47,864	47,979	47,712

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Figure 8 - Full - time labour on NI farms, 1996, 2006 and 2014 - 2016

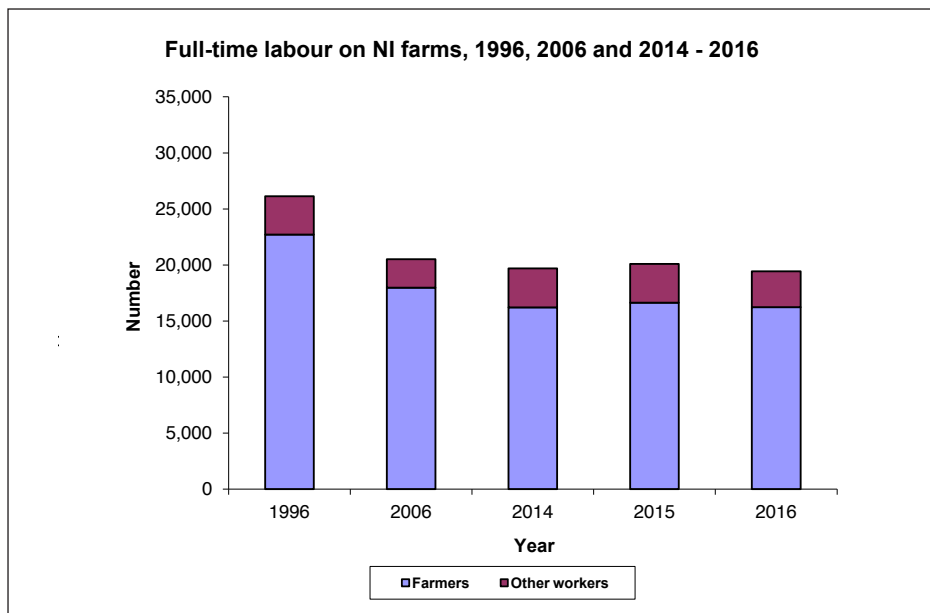


Table 16: Liveweight and estimated value of recorded landings of fish into NI, 2013 - 2016

	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)
Total wet fish	9,348	5,603	12,324	7,936	10,253	6,078	13,606	9,459
Total shell fish	11,801	18,975	10,689	20,352	12,248	22,111	10,672	22,581
Total fish	21,149	24,578	23,013	28,288	22,501	28,190	24,279	32,040

Source: Marine and Fisheries Division, DAERA

Figure 9 - Estimated value of recorded landings of fish into NI, 2007 - 2016

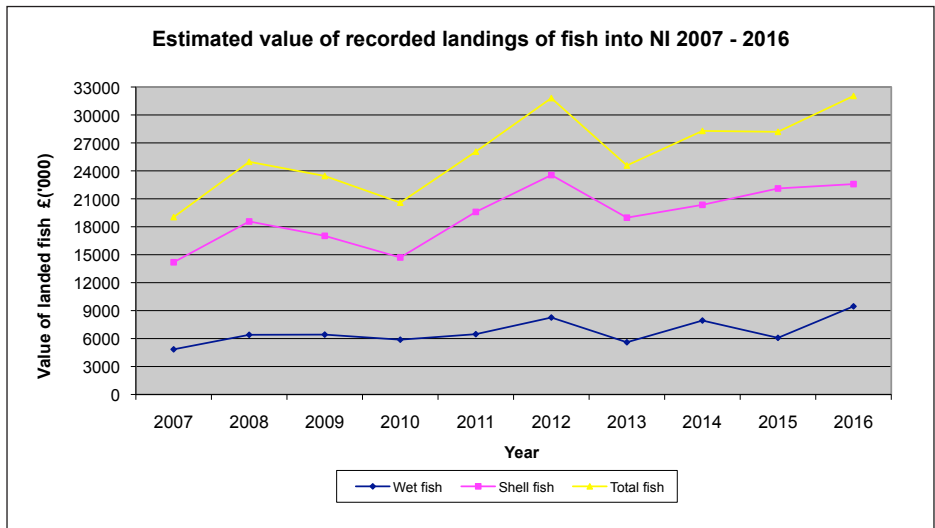


Table 17: Employment in NI fishing industry, 2013 - 2016

	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Catching	675	139	683	149	708	151	700	175
Processing and marketing	460	170	463	175	484	232	516	241
Others	110	37	104	44	112	46	113	47
Total	1,245	346	1,250	368	1,304	429	1,329	463

Source: Marine and Fisheries Division, DAERA

Table 18: Area of woodland throughout the UK by forest type, 2016

	Conifers ('000 HA)	Broadleaves ('000 HA)	Total ('000 HA)	% of Total Land Area in Forestry
United Kingdom	1,615	1,545	3,160	13.0%
England	340	966	1,306	10.0%
Scotland	1,059	377	1,436	18.4%
Wales	150	156	306	14.8%
Northern Ireland	66	46	112	8.3%

Source: Forestry Commission

Table 19: Number of farms using agricultural contractors in 2013

	Very Small	Small	Med/Large	All
Hay/Silage Making	13,534	2,155	1,825	17,514
Crop Harvesting	1,009	368	646	2,023
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	7,497	1,416	1,607	10,520
Other field work	2,472	581	689	3,742
Milking	53	97	265	415
Sheep shearing	4,118	806	493	5,417
Other livestock work	971	196	196	1,363
Hedge cutting	11,191	2,020	1,796	15,007

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2013, NI

Table 20: Percentage of farms using agricultural contractors by business size in 2013

	Very Small	Small	Med/Large	All
Hay/Silage Making	72	70	67	71
Crop Harvesting	5	12	24	8
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	40	46	59	43
Other field work	13	19	25	15
Milking	0	3	10	2
Sheep shearing	22	26	18	22
Other livestock work	5	6	7	6
Hedge cutting	60	66	66	61

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2013, NI

Table 21: Number of farms using agricultural contractors from 2005-2013

	2005	2007	2010	2013
Hay/Silage Making	18,849	18,015	16,787	17,514
Crop Harvesting	2,300	1,979	1,932	2,023
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	11,004	10,500	10,257	10,520
Other field work	3,953	3,749	3,613	3,742
Milking	653	599	443	415
Sheep shearing	4,551	4,432	3,877	5,417
Other livestock work	1,554	1,474	1,178	1,363
Hedge cutting	14,840	14,705	13,905	15,007

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2013, NI

Further information

1. Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), www.daera-ni.gov.uk
www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics

Agricultural Census in N.I. 2016 publication (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-726-3)

Statistical Review of N.I. Agriculture 2016 publication (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-755-3)

Size and performance of the N.I. Food and Drinks Processing Sector publication 2014
(ISBN no. 978-1-84807-619-8)

EU Farm Structure Survey 2013 (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-569-6)

Farm Incomes in N.I. publication

Food consumption and expenditure information

Fisheries statistics

Forestry statistics

2. United Kingdom

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), www.gov.uk/defra
www.gov.uk/government/collections/agriculture-in-the-united-kingdom

GOV.UK statistics release calendar
www.statistics.gov.uk

3. Republic of Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, www.agriculture.gov.ie
www.agriculture.gov.ie/

Central statistics office Ireland, www.cso.ie
www.cso.ie/en/statistics/agricultureandfishing/

Official Statistics Ireland, www.statcentral.ie
www.statcentral.ie/viewstats.asp?type=Agriculture%20and%20Fishing

4. European Union

Eurostat, www.ec.europa.eu/eurostat
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/agriculture/overview>

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