

SUMMARY QUALITY REPORT FOR USERS

FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY, YEAR 2016

- General** The Farm Structure Survey (FSS) is a wide-range, periodic statistical procedure aiming at collecting objective and quantitative information in order to determine the basic characteristics of the structure of agricultural holdings in Greece. The FSS had been carried out in 1966/67, 1977/78 and since 1983 it was conducted every 2 years, except for the census years 1991, 2000 and 2010. From 2010 onwards, it is conducted every 3 years, i.e., it was conducted in 2013 and 2016 and was co-funded by the European Union.
- Scope** The FSS aims at collecting statistical data on the number of agriculture and livestock holdings at national, regional and local level, on the characteristics of those holdings as regards their legal form, type of tenure, structure (type of crops, livestock and poultry, farming techniques, etc), as well as on the utilized methods of agricultural production. The data are necessary for drawing National and Community policy in the Agricultural Sector. Furthermore, these data fulfil national and international needs and obligations, as well.
- Legal framework** The legal framework for the FSS is set out in National and Community Legislation. The survey was conducted concomitantly in all European Union Member States in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) 1166/2008. The 2016 FSS was conducted pursuant to the Decisions of the President of ELSTAT 6184/Γ2-492/4.7.2016 (Government Gazette No 2193/B/15.7.2016) amended and corrected in Government Gazette No 716/B/8.3.2017.
- Reference period** The reference period of the 2016 FSS data as regards crops, labour force and other characteristics was the cultivation period from 1st October 2015 to 30th September 2016. The reference date of the survey data as regards livestock was 1st November 2016.
- Methodology – Coverage** The sampling method used for this survey was the one-stage stratified random sampling.
- The sampling unit is the agricultural, livestock or mixed holding (a unified unit both in terms of technical and economic perspective, which is run by a unified management body and produces agricultural products) which:
- a) has at least 1 stremma of utilized land, or
 - b) has at least 0.5 stremma of greenhouses, regardless of the production type, ownership, or the location of the holding, or
 - c) has animals of its own and more specifically at least: one (1) or more cows or two (2) or more other "large animals" of any type and age (oxen, horses, donkeys, mules), or five (5) or more "small animals" (sheep, goats, pigs) of any age and type, or fifty (50) or more poultry birds, or twenty (20) or more hives of "domestic" or "European" beehives or five (5) or more ostriches, or
 - d) cultivates mushrooms.
- The statistical frame of FSS is the Farm Register which is generated from the Agricultural Census. Furthermore, the Farm Register is periodically updated from administrative sources (Registers of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food and the Ministry of Finance, specifically on New Farmers and Organic Farming), as well as the agricultural surveys conducted by ELSTAT.
- The stratification was based on the Department (NUTS3), the Type (techno-economic orientation of production) and the Economic Size of the holding. In each

stratum the sample has been selected with equal probabilities by systematic random sampling from the population of holdings belonging to this stratum.

The final sample size was 93,485 holdings, corresponding to more than 12% of the total of agricultural and livestock holdings of Greece.

Survey Organisation and Quality Control The personnel necessary for the implementation of the survey, the processing and the presentation of the data consisted of ELSTAT staff, as well as enumerators properly trained by ELSTAT on data collection. The data of the 2016 FSS were collected with face-to-face interviews with the owners of the agricultural holdings, on the basis of a specially designed questionnaire.

After the collection of the questionnaires, logical and completeness checks were performed. Then the data, by means of OCR (optical character reading), were entered into the electronic database. The OCR software was used also for the preliminary validation of the data. Then the data were exported in ELSTAT's database for further validation according to Eurostat's validation rules. During the quality control phase, which followed, major differences were investigated and corrections were attempted at holding level, mostly by identifying abnormally high or low values. At this stage, some follow-up interviews were also considered necessary, resulting in a number of questionnaires being completed by phone interviews. There are detailed manuals describing the various tests and control procedures and only ELSTAT employees with sufficient experience are authorised participate in the data validation and quality control process.

Finally, the results of the 2016 FSS were compared with the results of other surveys and with the available administrative data in order to identify the longitudinal trend and to assess the results. In cases of variables where large variations were detected, in depth analyses were carried out in close cooperation with the regional statistical offices and the former Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

Data Publication The FSS data are available for the following years: 1983, 1985, 1987, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2013 and 2016. Furthermore, census data are available for the years 1991, 2000 and 2009. Data, for 2000-2016 are available in electronic form, while for the rest of the years the data are available in hardcopy. Sole responsibility for this publication lies with ELSTAT.

Reference More information concerning the results of relevant surveys and the implemented methodology can be found on the webpage of ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr) at: Statistics>Agriculture, Livestock, Fishery.