



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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## PRESS RELEASE

### LIVESTOCK SURVEYS (Pigs - Bovine animals - Sheep - Goats): YEAR 2019

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the results of the Livestock Surveys (Pigs, Bovine animals, Sheep and Goats) for the year 2019.

According to the livestock surveys results, the changes in the number of animals and the number of holdings, which are observed for the period 2018-2019, are as follows.

The number of bovine animals decreased by 2.2% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of bovine animals amounted to 530,061 in 2019 compared with 541,845 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 1a).

Accordingly, a decrease of 1.9% is observed in the number of bovine animals-breeding holdings in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of bovine-breeding holdings amounted to 13,584 in 2019 compared with 13,844 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 2a).

The number of pigs increased by 1.6% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of pigs amounted to 733,154 in 2019 compared with 721,390 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 1a).

A decrease of 1.7% is observed, on the contrary, in the number of pigs-breeding holdings in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of pigs-breeding holdings amounted to 16,195 in 2019 compared to 16,473 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 2a).

The number of sheep decreased by 0.03% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of sheep amounted to 8,427,196 in 2019 compared with 8,429,654 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 1b).

A decrease of 0.9% is also observed in the number of sheep-breeding holdings in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of sheep-breeding holdings amounted to 83,856 in 2019 compared to 84,651 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 2b).

The number of goats decreased by 1.2% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of goats amounted to 3,580,042 in 2019 compared with 3,624,719 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 1b).

**Information on methodological issues:**

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Finally, a decrease of 0.9% is observed in the number of goats-breeding holdings in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of goats-breeding holdings amounted to 64,286 in 2019 compared with 64,898 in 2018 (Table 1, Graph 2b).

According to the afore-mentioned livestock surveys results, the number of bovine animals per holding decreased by 0.3% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of bovine animals per holding was 39.0 in 2019 compared with 39.1 in 2018 (Table 1).

The number of pigs per holding increased by 3.4% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of pigs per holding was 45.3 in 2019 compared with 43.8 in 2018 (Table 1).

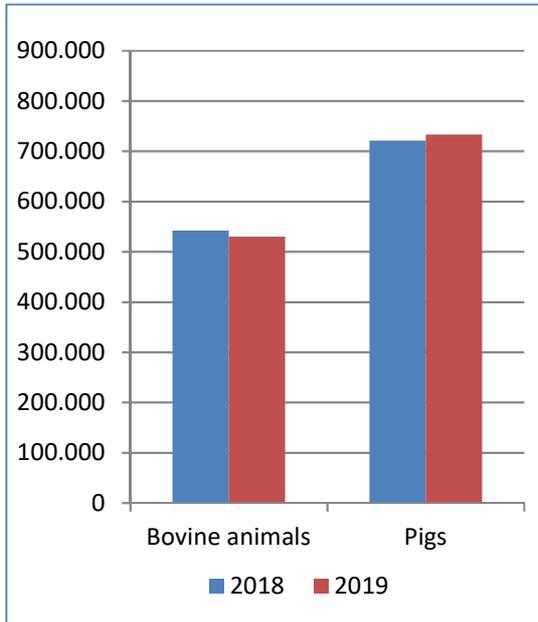
The number of sheep per holding increased by 0.9% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of sheep per holding was 100.5 in 2019 compared with 99.6 in 2018 (Table 1).

The number of goats per holding decreased by 0.3% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the number of goats per holding was 55.7 in 2019 compared with 55.9 in 2018 (Table 1).

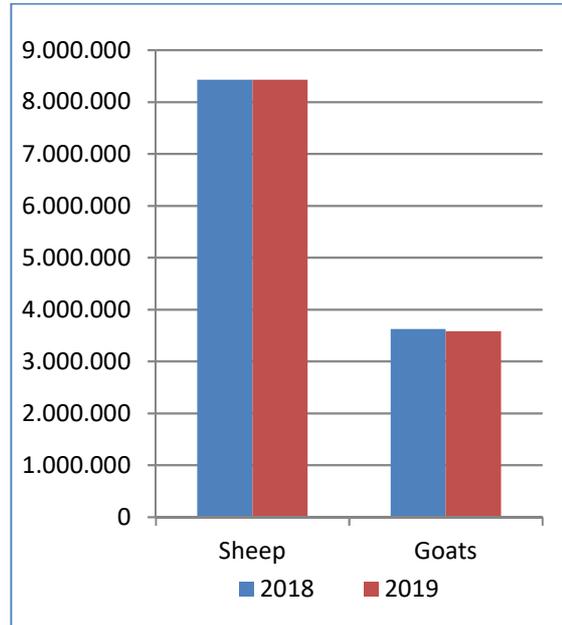
**Table 1: Number of animals and holdings, 2018 - 2019**

	2018	2019	Change (%) 2019/2018
<b><i>Number of Animals</i></b>			
<b>Bovine animals</b>	541,845	530,061	-2.2
<b>Pigs</b>	721,390	733,154	1.6
<b>Sheep</b>	8,429,654	8,427,196	-0.03
<b>Goats</b>	3,624,719	3,580,042	-1.2
<b><i>Holdings</i></b>			
<b>Bovine animals</b>	13,844	13,584	-1.9
<b>Pigs</b>	16,473	16,195	-1.7
<b>Sheep</b>	84,651	83,856	-0.9
<b>Goats</b>	64,898	64,286	-0.9
<b><i>Number of animals/holding</i></b>			
<b>Bovine animals</b>	39.1	39.0	-0.3
<b>Pigs</b>	43.8	45.3	3.4
<b>Sheep</b>	99.6	100.5	0.9
<b>Goats</b>	55.9	55.7	-0.3

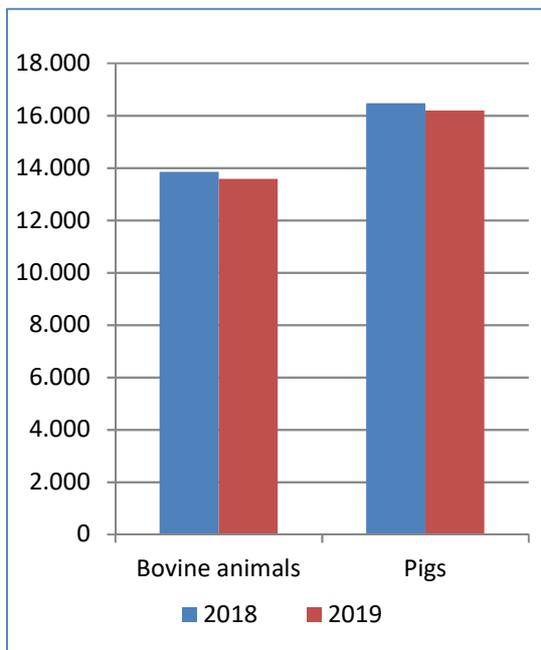
**Graph 1a: Number of bovine animals - pigs  
2018-2019**



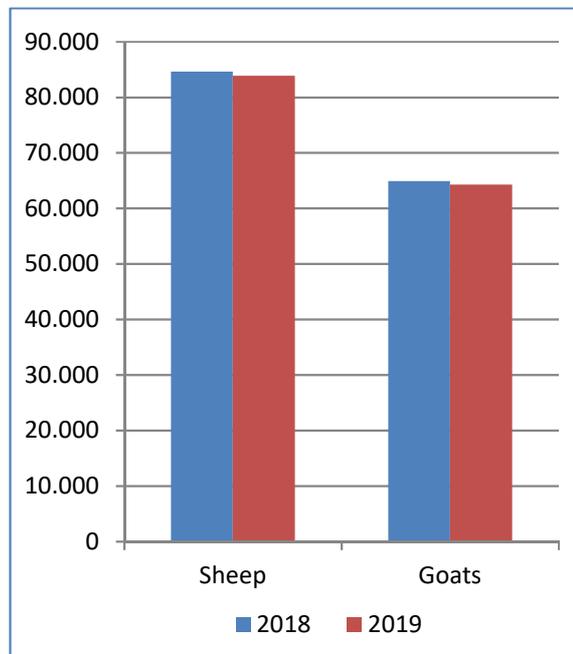
**Graph 1b: Number of sheep - goats  
2018-2019**



**Graph 2a: Holdings with bovine animals - pigs  
2018-2019**



**Graph 2b: Holdings with sheep - goats  
2018-2019**

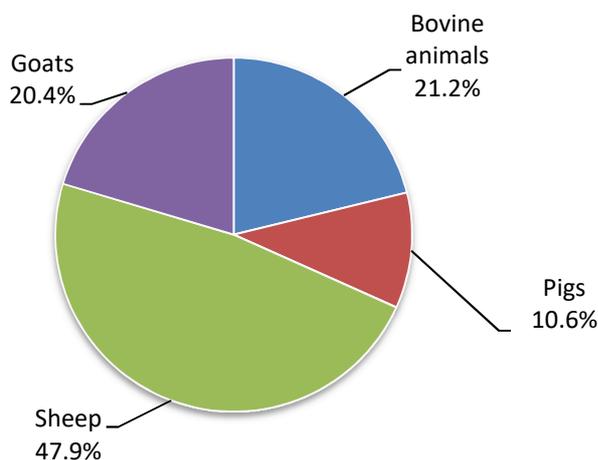


The total livestock (bovine animals, pigs, sheep and goats) expressed in livestock units (LSU)<sup>1</sup> decreased by 0.9% in 2019 compared with 2018. Specifically, the total LSU in 2019 was 1,759,168 broken down as follows: 372,268 LSU corresponding to bovine animals, 186,176 LSU to pigs, 842,720 LSU to sheep and 358,004 LSU to goats (Table 2, Graph 3).

**Table 2: Livestock units, 2018 - 2019**

	2018	(%)	2019	(%)	Change (%) 2019/2018
<b>Bovine animals</b>	389,884	22.0	372,268	21.2	-4.5
<b>Pigs</b>	179,873	10.1	186,176	10.6	3.5
<b>Sheep</b>	842,965	47.5	842,720	47.9	0.0
<b>Goats</b>	362,472	20.4	358,004	20.4	-1.2
<b>Total</b>	1,775,194	100.0	1,759,168	100.0	-0.9

**Graph 3: Percentage distribution of livestock units by animal species (Bovine animals, Pigs, Sheep and Goats), 2019**



<sup>1</sup> The livestock unit is a common unit of reference of the various classes of animals, in relation to their nutritional requirements. The amount of dietary energy needed for maintenance and production requirements (reproduction, growth, etc.) of any animal, is associated with this value. This unit is used, among other things, for the grouping of different species. The coefficients used to convert restocking animal units are as follows:

Bovine animals less than one year old	0.4
Bovine animals between 1 and 2 years old, males	0.7
Bovine animals between 1 and 2 years old, females	0.7
Bovine animals 2 years old and over, males	1.0
Bovine animals 2 years old and over, heifers	0.8
Bovine animals 2 years old and over, dairy	1.0
Bovine animals 2 years old and over, other cows	0.8
Sheep	0.1
Goats	0.1
Pigs with a live weigh of less than 20 kg (per 100 heads)	2.7
Breeding sows weighing 50 kg and over	0.5
Other pigs	0.3

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

- Generally** The Hellenic Statistical Authority conducts special surveys on bovine animals, pigs, sheep and goats for the collection of detailed data on livestock production. These surveys are conducted on a yearly basis since 1982 without interruption.
- Purpose** The purpose of the surveys is to collect detailed statistical data on livestock production. These data are necessary for the development of the agricultural policy of the country, as well as the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU. In addition, the data also cover other national and international needs and obligations.
- Legal basis** The surveys are governed by National and European Legislation (Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on livestock and meat). The 2019 Livestock Surveys were conducted pursuant to the Decision of the President of ELSTAT No 5837/Γ2-677/24.6.2019 (Government Gazette 2964/B/19.7.2019).
- Reference Period** The reference period is the 1<sup>st</sup> November of each year.
- Methodology Coverage** Sample surveys with the agricultural holding as the survey unit. The sampling method applied is the one-step stratified sampling. The holdings included in the survey are stratified as follows:
- By Region - NUTS 2
  - By size class of the holding. In each geographic area, the holdings are stratified according to their size, which is determined by the number of animals in the updated register of agricultural holdings as follows: L = 12 size classes for bovine animals and pigs and L = 10 size classes for sheep and goats.
- The holdings belonging to the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> size class are surveyed exhaustively. As regards the accuracy of the survey results, it should be noted that there are some minor sampling errors (less than 1% for Greece total) concerning the estimates of the number of animals. However, some coverage errors may also exist, concerning the number of holdings, which cannot be accurately measured by using only data from the sample.
- Data publication** The surveys' results are available since 1998, annually, in electronic format.
- References** More information about the surveys' results and the methodology followed can be found on the website of Hellenic Statistical Authority ([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)) at the link "Statistics"> Agriculture, Livestock, Fishery > Livestock/Crops Surveys > Livestock Surveys.