

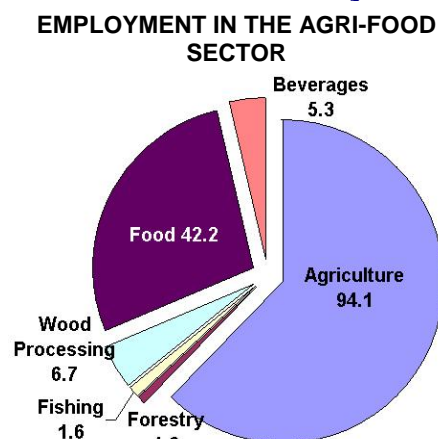
Fact Sheet on Irish Agriculture - December 2009

Headline Developments Since Previous Release (July 2009)

CSO Output, Input and Income in Agriculture 2009 – Advance Estimate (Section C).

A: Role of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Food in Irish Economy

Key Indicators for Primary and Agri-Food Sectors		
Relevant Year in brackets.	Primary Sector ¹	Agri-Food Sector ²
% of GVA at factor cost (2007)	2.5%	6.6%
% of employment (2009-Q2)	5.0%	7.5%
% of exports (2008)	6.0%	10.0%
Notes:		
(1) Primary sector taken to comprise Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Primary production).		
(2) Taken to comprise primary production along with food & drinks and wood processing sectors (excludes tobacco).		
Source: CSO and DAFF. All data are estimates.		



Source: CSO, QNHS Quarter 2, 2009

B: Public Expenditure and Agriculture Related Payments

Total public expenditure on the agri-food sector by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was approximately €3.56 billion in 2008. DAFF payments in 2008 totalled over 2.6 billion in 2008 (full details outlined in Table below).

Expenditure and Payments in Agriculture, 2008			
Public Expenditure on Agriculture, 2008		Payments to Farmers by DAFF, 2008	
	€m		€m
EU -of which	1458.8	Single Payment Scheme	1298.8
Single Farm Payment	1298.8	Area Based Compensatory	255.8
Premia/Arable Aid	0.8	REPS	312.4
Export Refunds	14.3	Sugar Beet Growers	62.8
Sugar Restructuring	149.2	Suckler Cow Scheme	31.7
Sundry Other Measures	1.8	Disease Eradication Schemes	27.7
Other Market Supports	-6.1	Installation aid and others	10.0
Voted Expenditure -of which	1798.5	Direct Payments (excl Forestry)	1999.2
Rural Development	626.2	Plus Forestry premia	73.8
Structural funds	462.1	Total Direct Payments	2073.0
Fisheries	26.1		
Food Safety and animal health	219.1	Other Payments (Grants etc)	
State Bodies	246.9	Farm Waste Management Scheme	413.7
Forestry	125.5	Early Retirement Scheme	45.6
Research and Training	36.8	Forestry Planting & related grants	43.2
Other	45.8	Other farm grants	31.0
Administration	303.2	Total Other Payments	533.5
Total Voted Expenditure	2101.7	Total DAFF Payments	2606.5
Total Public Expenditure	3560.5		

Source: DAFF.

C: Estimates of Aggregate Agricultural Output, Input and Income

- The CSO's advance estimate of operating surplus in agriculture in 2009 is €1,619.7 million (full details outlined in Table below).
- In 2009, direct payments, net of levies, accounted for 117% of operating surplus.
- Beef and milk production currently account for 66% of agricultural output at producer prices (excl forage).

Output, Input and Income in Agriculture, 2009					
Main Aggregates	Value €m		Main Commodities	Value €m	% of G/O
Goods Output @ Producer Prices ⁽¹⁾	4727		Goods Output (excl forage)	3,869.9	100%
+ Contract Work	283		<i>of which</i>		
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Products)	15.7		Cattle	1489.4	38%
Agricultural Output @ Basic Prices	5025.7		Milk	1062.9	27%
- Intermediate Consumption	4090.8		Pigs	291.7	8%
Gross Value Added @ Basic Prices	934.9		Sheep	158.7	4%
- Fixed Capital Consumption	759.4		Cereals	95.9	2%
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Production)	1876.1		Others	771.3	20%
- Compensation of Employees	431.9		Forage Plants	857.1	
Operating Surplus	1619.7		Goods Output @ Producer Prices ⁽¹⁾	4,727	

Notes
 (1) Including Forage
 Source: CSO Output, Input and Income in Agriculture-2009-Advance Estimate (December 2009)

D: Estimates of Family Farm and Farm Household Income

- **The National Farm Survey (NFS)** produced by Teagasc estimates that average farm income (excluding off-farm income) decreased by 14% in 2008 to **€16,993**. Full-time farms, as defined by Teagasc, had an average farm income of €37,590, and part-time farms had an average of €7,580.
- The NFS also estimate that **79% of farmers and/or their spouses had an off-farm source of income** either from employment, pensions or social assistance. **On 40% of farms the holder had an off-farm job.**
- Special analysis of EU-SILC 2007 data shows that **farm households** have an **average total income of €56,184 or €48,708** (depending on whether a broad or narrow definition of "farm household" is utilised). These compare with a state average of €59,819.

E: Farm Structures

Farm Structures Data for Ireland		
Relevant Year	Statistic	Relevant Data
2007	Farm Holdings	128,200
2007	Average Farm Size	32.3 Hectares
2007	Family Farm Holders by Age	7% < 35; 51% > 55
2007	Total Labour Input incl non-regular workers (AWU's)	143,900
2008	Employment in Agriculture (ILO definition)	94,100

Notes
 (1) Persons employed in agriculture is based on the CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey (Quarter 2). It covers people who identified agriculture as their **primary** source of income in the week preceding the survey.
 Sources: CSO Farm Structure Survey 2007, CSO QNHS, Quarter 2, 2008

F: Land Usage & Livestock Numbers

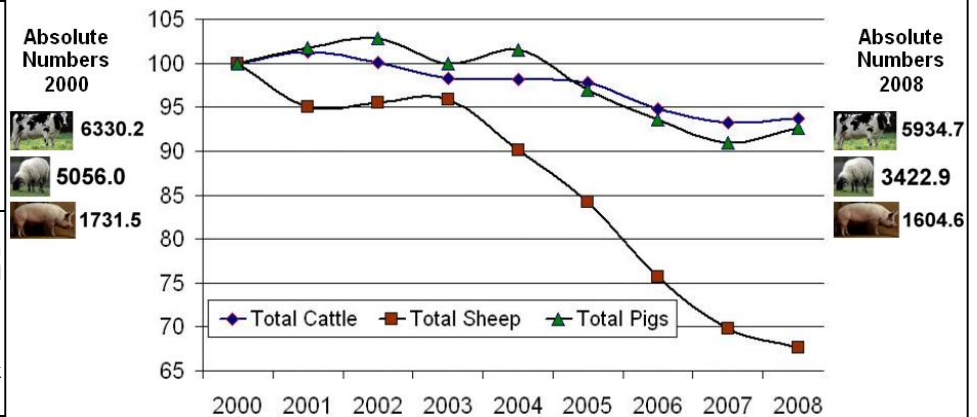
- The land area of Ireland is 6.9 million hectares; of which 4.2 million hectares is used for agriculture and a further 730,500 hectares for forestry, (see also area under crops in Table, right).
- Almost 80% of agricultural area is devoted to pasture, hay and grass silage (3.34 million hectares), 11% to rough grazing (0.45 million hectares) and 10% to crop production (0.42 million hectares).
- Average land prices in Ireland in 2008 were estimated to be €15,867 per acre. (Source: Irish Farmer's Journal Agricultural Land Price Report, 2008).

Area Under Certain Crops	
	000's Hectares
Cereals	292.2
<i>of which</i>	
Wheat	82.6
Oats	19.8
Barley	185.7
Potatoes	12.9
Source: CSO June Crops and Livestock Survey, 2009 Provisional	

Chart (Right): Livestock Trends 2000-2008: Livestock Numbers¹ and Index²

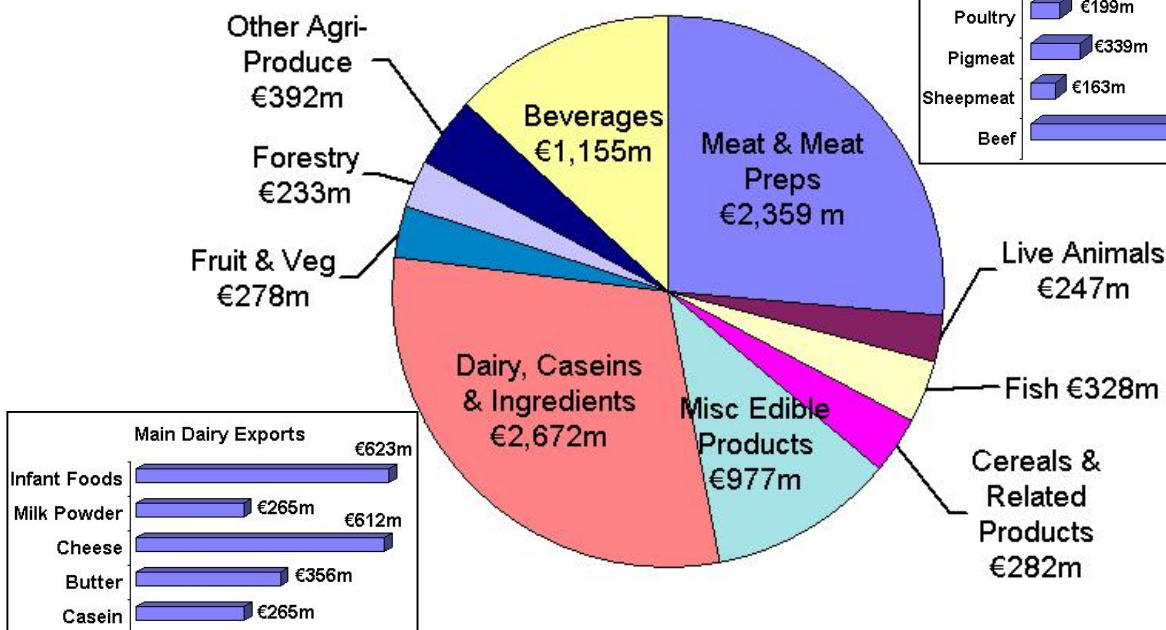
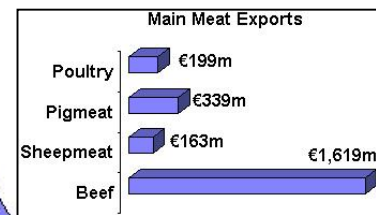
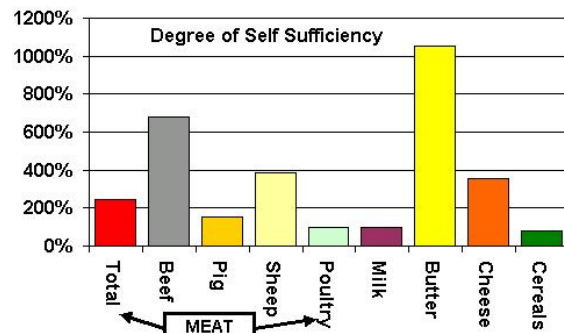
Chart Notes:

(1) Absolute figures denoted in thousands of heads for 2000 and 2008.
 (2) Stock index (Base: 2000=100) can be read from left hand axis.
Source: CSO December Livestock Survey, 2000-2008.



G: Self-Sufficiency and Exports

Ireland is self-sufficient across a range of agriculture produce (See chart right). In 2008 it is estimated that Ireland exported approximately **€8.9 billion** in agri-sector exports, detailed in charts below (Source: DAFF estimates based on CSO data).



H: Commodity Price Trends

