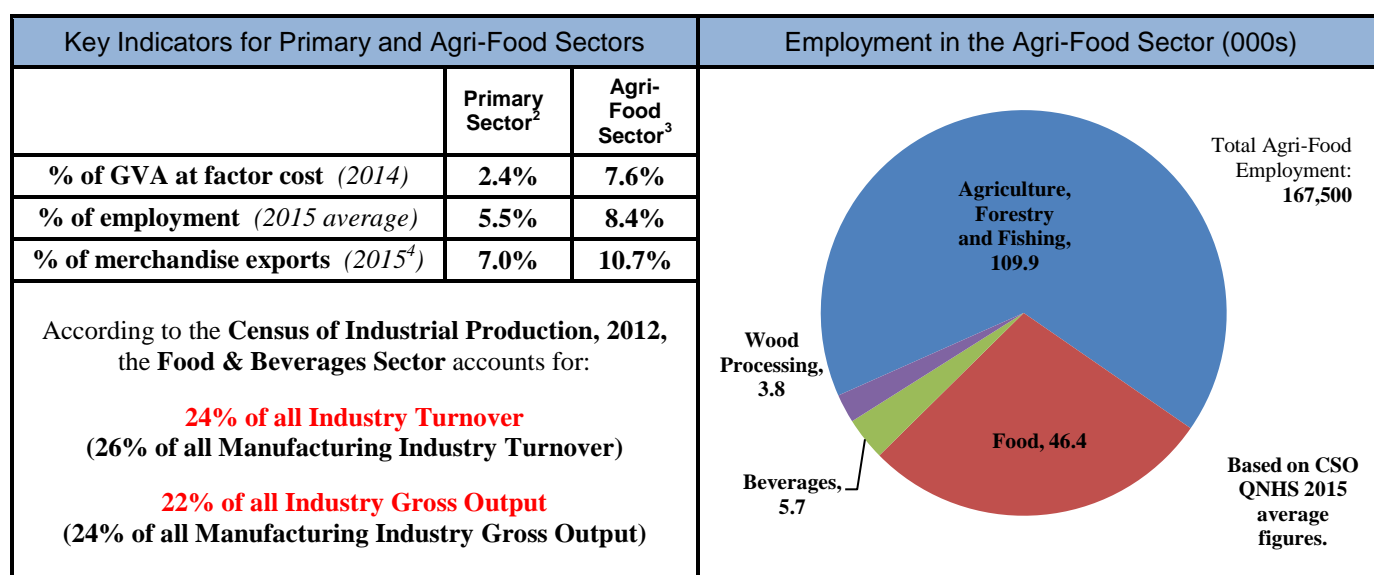


Fact Sheet on Irish Agriculture – January 2017¹

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



B: Public Expenditure and Agriculture Related Payments

Total public expenditure on the agri-food sector by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine was more than **€2.3 billion** in 2015. DAFM payments to farmers in 2014 totalled **€1.6 billion**, including Single Farm Payment, Rural Development, Structural and Forestry payments.

DAFM Expenditure on Irish Agriculture, 2015	
1 January to 31 December 2015	€m
EAGGF Guarantee direct expenditure	1,075.0
Direct Payment Scheme/ Single Farm Payment	1122.0
Grassland Sheep, Burren Life, Beef Data Programme	11.0
Export Refunds	0.0
Intervention/Aid to Private Storage*	13.0
Other Market Supports	5.0
Super levy	-71.0
Other	-5.0
Voted Expenditure (excluding Administration)	1,044.5
Rural Development*	373.3
Structural Measures*	40.5
State Bodies	197.9
Horse and Greyhound Fund	68.0
Animal Health	72.3
Research and Training	24.6
Market Support Costs*	89.2
Forestry and Bio-Fuels	104.1
Fisheries	23.1
Food Aid / World Food Programme	20.0
Other	31.5
Administration	220.1
Total Voted Expenditure	1,264.6
Total DAFM Expenditure	2,339.6

* Total initial payments from the Vote - EU-funded elements recouped to the Vote subsequently.

¹ For further statistics on Irish agriculture, see [D/AFM Annual Review and Outlook 2015/2016](#)

² Primary sector taken to comprise Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

³ Comprises primary production, food, beverages (& tobacco for GVA only) and wood processing sectors. Source: CSO and DAFM.

⁴ 10.8% (€12bn) comprises exports of primary unprocessed products, food & beverages whereas Bord Bia (Section G) covers Food & Beverages only

C: Estimates of Aggregate Agricultural Output, Input and Income - CSO

- The CSO's [Advanced Estimate](#) of operating surplus in agriculture in 2016 was **€2,591 million**, increasing by 3.5% from €2,503m in 2015.
- Beef and milk production currently account for 68.3% of agricultural output at producer prices (excluding forage).
- The Value of other subsidies less taxes on production is estimated to have increased by 10% from €1,402m in 2015 to €1,542m in 2016.

Output, Input and Income in Agriculture, 2016					
Main Aggregates	Value €m		Main Commodities	Value €m	% of G/O
Goods Output @ Producer Prices ⁽¹⁾	6,920.4		Goods Output (excl forage)	5,950.7	100%
+ Contract Work	348.0		<i>of which</i>		
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Products)	-0.3		Cattle	2,307.6	38.8%
Agricultural Output @ Basic Prices	7,268.1		Milk	1,754.5	29.5%
- Intermediate Consumption	4,944.1		Pigs	462.2	7.8%
Gross Value Added @ Basic Prices	2,324.0		Sheep	240.0	4.0%
- Fixed Capital Consumption	744.2		Cereals	232.8	3.9%
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Production)	1,541.5		Others	953.6	16.0%
- Compensation of Employees	500.3		Forage Plants	969.7	
Operating Surplus	2,591.1		Goods Output at Producer Prices ⁽¹⁾	6,920.4	
¹ Including Forage					

Source: [CSO Output, Input & Income in Agriculture - 2016 Advanced Estimate](#)

D: Estimates of Family Farm and Farm Household Income

- The 2015 [National Farm Survey \(NFS\)](#)⁵ Results from Teagasc showed that **average Family Farm Income** (which excludes off-farm income) **was up 5% in 2015, at €26,303**⁶.
- The 2015 NFS data indicated that on **50% of farms the holder and/or spouse had an off-farm job. On 77% of farms the farmer and/or spouse had some source of off-farm income be it from employment, pension or social assistance.**
- The CSO's [Farm Structures Survey 2013](#), estimated the average **Standard Output** of an Irish farm as **€35,912**. Standard output is the average monetary value of agricultural output at farm-gate prices.

E: Farm Structures

Farm Structures Data for Ireland		
Relevant Year	Statistic	Relevant Data
2013	Farm Holdings	139,600
2013	Average Farm Size	32.5 Hectares
2013	Family Farm Holders by Age	5.9% < 35; 52.7% > 55
2016 ⁽¹⁾	Employment in Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing (CSO)	109,300
¹ Persons employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing is from the CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS), Q1 2016. It covers people who identified this sector as their primary source of income in the week preceding the survey. Sources: Farm Structures Survey 2013 ; CSO QNHS, Q1 2016		

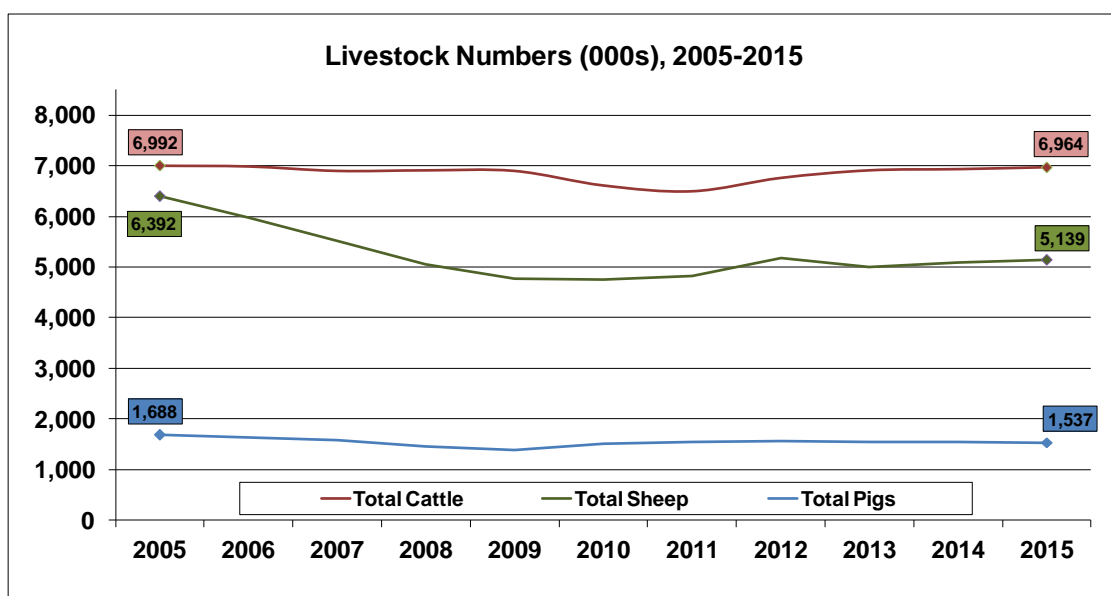
⁵ Only farms with a Standard Output of more than €8,000 are covered by the [National Farm Survey](#).

F: Land Usage & Livestock Numbers

- The land area of Ireland is 6.9 million hectares (2014), of which 4.4m hectares is used for agriculture and a further 0.73 million hectares for forestry.
- 81% of agricultural area is devoted to pasture, hay and grass silage (3.6 million hectares), 11% to rough grazing (0.5 million hectares) and 8% to crops (including cereals, see across), fruit & horticulture production (0.36 million hectares).
- The average land price in Ireland in 2015 was estimated to be €8,194 per acre. (Source: Farmers Journal Agricultural Land Price Report, 2015).

Area Under Certain Crops	
	000's Hectares
Cereals	292.4
<i>of which</i>	
Wheat	65.3
Oats	23.4
Barley	202.8
Potatoes	8.5

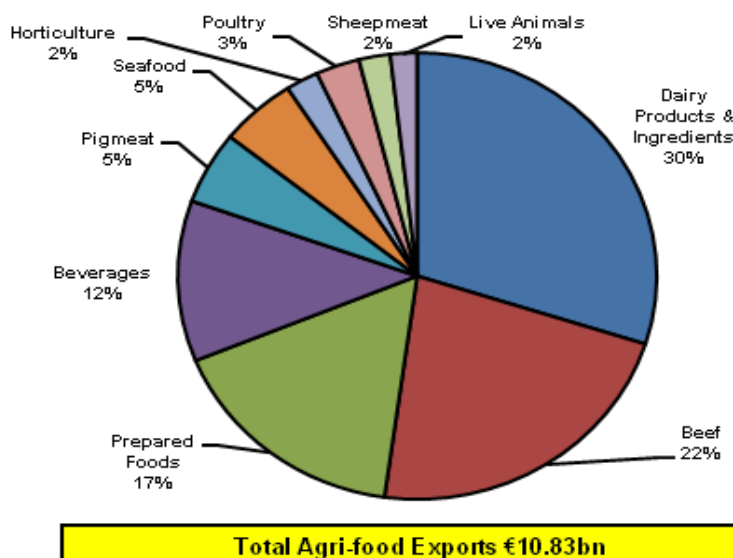
[CSO Crops & Livestock Survey, June 2015 - Final](#)



CSO June Crops & Livestock Surveys (latest, [June 2015 final](#))

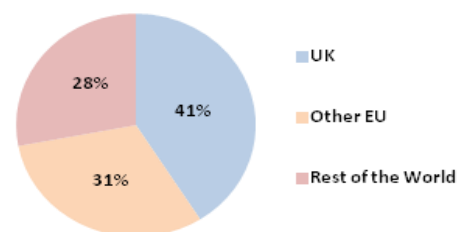
G: Self-Sufficiency and Exports⁴

[Bord Bia](#) estimates that in 2015 Ireland exported **€10.83 billion** worth of Food & Beverages, a result in large measure of Ireland's high level of self sufficiency in many products.

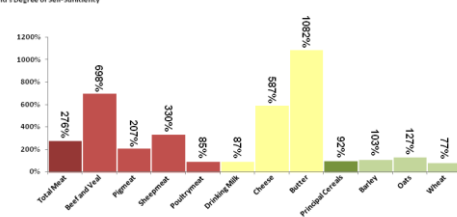


Source: Bord Bia

Food & Beverage Export Destinations



Ireland's Degree of Self-Sufficiency



Source: CSO Supply Balances (data 2011/12/14)

H: Commodity Price Trends

