

4 Summary information on agricultural holdings in 2020

The presented outputs of the Integrated Farm Survey show summarized grossed-up data for 28 909 agricultural holdings (24 648 holdings of natural persons and 4 261 holdings of legal persons), which reached defined threshold values in 2020.

Table 1 Agricultural holdings in years 2000–2020⁵⁾

Holdings	Variable	2000	2020	Index (%) 2020/2000
Agricultural holdings, total	Number	39 082	28 909	74.0
	Utilised agricultural area (ha)	3 623 929	3 493 609	96.4
	Average utilised agricultural area per holding	93	121	130.3
	Labour force, total (persons)	241 743	176 815	73.1
	Labour force, total (AWU)	174 262	95 372	54.7
Holdings of natural persons	Number	36 198	24 648	68.1
	Utilised agricultural area (ha)	943 182	1 042 605	110.5
	Average utilised agricultural area per holding	26	42	162.3
	Labour force, total (persons)	81 359	61 815	76.0
	Labour force, total (AWU)	45 887	30 205	65.8
Holdings of legal persons	Number	2 884	4 261	147.7
	Utilised agricultural area (ha)	2 680 746	2 451 004	91.4
	Average utilised agricultural area per holding	930	575	61.9
	Labour force, total (persons)	160 384	115 000	71.7
	Labour force, total (AWU)	128 375	65 167	50.8

The number of agricultural holdings decreased by more than one quarter (–26.0%) compared to the 2000 survey. The number of holdings of legal persons increased almost by a half (+47.7%). This growth concerned especially limited liability companies (+112.8%); on the contrary, a significant decline affected the number of cooperatives (–33.7%). The number of holdings of natural persons decreased almost by a third (–31.9%).

In total 3 494 thousand hectares of agricultural area were utilised in 2020, i.e. 44.3% of the total area of the Czech Republic, compared to 46.0% in 2000. The total UAA decreased by 130 thousand hectares during the last 20 years. The possession of the agricultural land changes in the course of time: since 2000 holdings of natural persons gained (+10.5%) while holdings of legal persons lost (–8.6%) certain part of the UAA. The most significant loss was recorded for cooperatives (–40.8%). Holdings of natural persons held 29.8% of the UAA in 2020 compared to 26.0% in 2000.

There was also a major change in the ownership type: while in 2000 almost all utilised agricultural land was rented (92.0%), in 2020 agricultural holdings owned 27.3% of the UAA. Holdings of natural persons owned one quarter of the UAA in 2000 (27.1%) and nearly one half (44.8%) in 2020; in holdings of legal persons the share of own land rose from 1.3% in 2000 to 19.8% in 2020.

The average area utilised by one holding in the Czech Republic in 2020 accounted for 121 ha. The average area of a holding of natural person grew by 16 ha to 42 ha (+62.3%) since 2000. The average area of a holding of legal person dropped by 355 ha to 575 ha (–38.1%) during the same period.

The labour force totals decreased by 65 thousand persons (–26.9%) to 177 thousands persons during the period 2000-2020. Expressed in Annual Work Units, the labour force decline was even more significant; there was a decline by 79 thousands to 95 thousands AWU (–45.3%). Labour force loss occurred both in holdings of natural persons (–20 thous. persons) and in the holdings of legal persons (–45 thous. persons). The labour

⁵⁾ Results of 2000 survey were recalculated according to threshold levels used in the Integrated Farm Structure Survey 2020.

force irregularly employed on the basis of contracts for work or contracts for services increased in 2020; although it declined in holdings of natural persons (-3.5 thous. persons), it grew in holdings of legal persons (+11.5 thous. persons).