

5 ANIMAL PRODUCTION

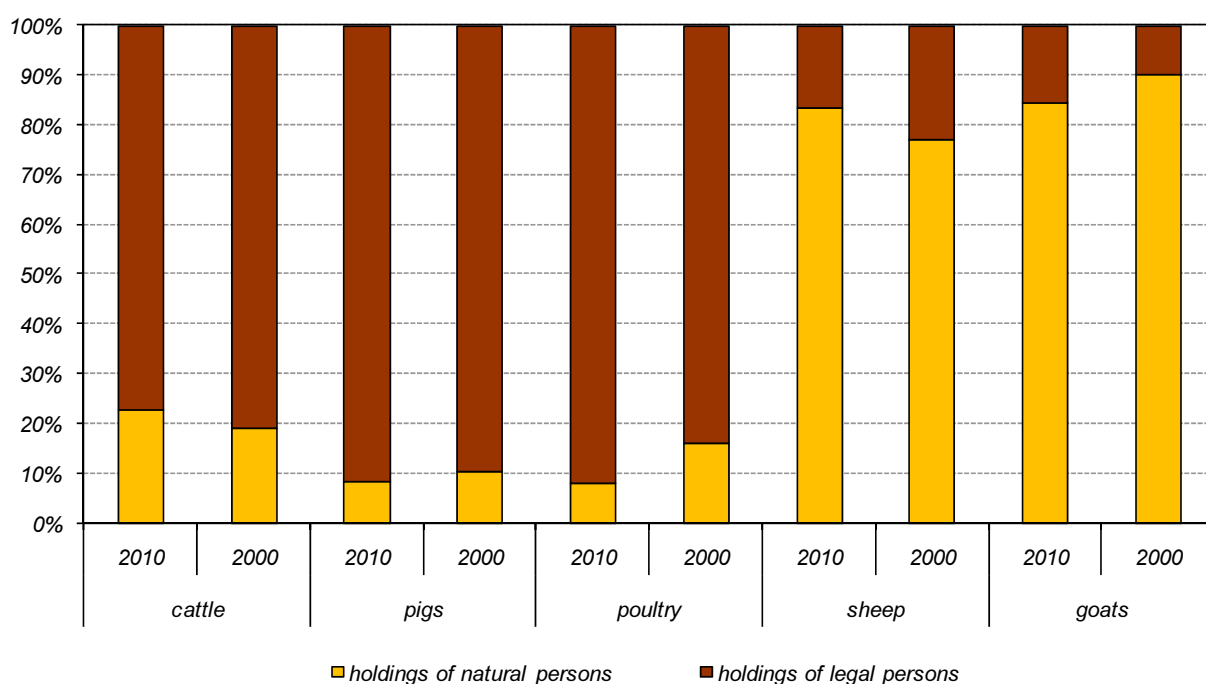
During the period 2000–2010 the number of livestock declined in all principal categories: by 14.0% for cattle, by 44.4% for pigs, and by 16.5% for poultry. Even greater decrease was recorded for the number of holdings raising animals; it was by 32.3% for cattle breeders, by 65.1% for pigs' breeders, and 51.2% for poultry breeders. It led to increased concentrations of livestock in particular agricultural holdings. During the abovementioned period, the number of heads went up by 179.3% for sheep, by 108.8% for goats, and by 49.4% for horses.

However, there were exceptions from abovementioned trends for each livestock category in particular legal forms: they were recorded for cattle in natural persons and limited liability companies, for poultry in joint stock companies, and for goats in cooperatives.

Table 6 – Basic characteristics of animal production, by legal form

	Year	Agricultural holdings, total	in holdings						
			of natural persons, total	of which agricultural entrepreneurs – natural persons	of legal persons, total	of which			
						Business companies & partnerships	of which		Cooperatives
							Limited liability companies	Joint stock companies	
Agricultural holdings	2010	22 864	19 781	15 329	3 083	2 432	1 751	649	527
	2000	26 539	23 714	19 746	2 825	1 948	1 310	602	740
Utilised agricultural area (ha)	2010	3 483 500	1 013 303	950 893	2 470 197	1 706 264	802 631	891 479	733 798
	2000	3 604 400	923 775	842 044	2 680 625	1 578 841	783 686	779 696	1 059 447
Cattle (heads)	2010	1 328 925	299 873	284 664	1 029 052	643 381	241 694	398 493	373 503
	2000	1 545 309	293 522	270 628	1 251 787	658 773	263 431	389 710	574 478
Pigs (heads)	2010	1 907 994	157 283	143 232	1 750 711	1 428 516	317 488	1 110 986	311 106
	2000	3 432 950	355 958	330 876	3 076 992	2 116 380	611 513	1 498 837	931 276
Poultry (heads)	2010	25 322 881	2 024 537	1 753 334	23 298 344	21 748 113	9 746 539	12 001 533	1 509 109
	2000	30 321 070	4 815 570	4 191 842	25 505 500	21 762 693	8 081 112	13 681 581	3 609 453
Sheep (heads)	2010	184 032	153 315	127 855	30 717	26 027	21 848	3 390	3 570
	2000	65 890	50 799	42 365	15 091	11 851	9 587	2 046	3 094
Goats (heads)	2010	16 900	14 258	10 643	2 642	2 286	2 116	169	125
	2000	8 093	7 298	6 052	795	328	317	5	367

Graph 5 – Share of holdings on livestock totals, by legal form



Raising of cattle

In 2010 there were 1 328 925 heads of cattle in more than ten thousand agricultural holdings. Compared to 2000, the cattle number went down by 14.0% and the number of their breeders fell by 32.3%. It resulted in increased average number of cattle per holding by 28 heads to 132 heads.

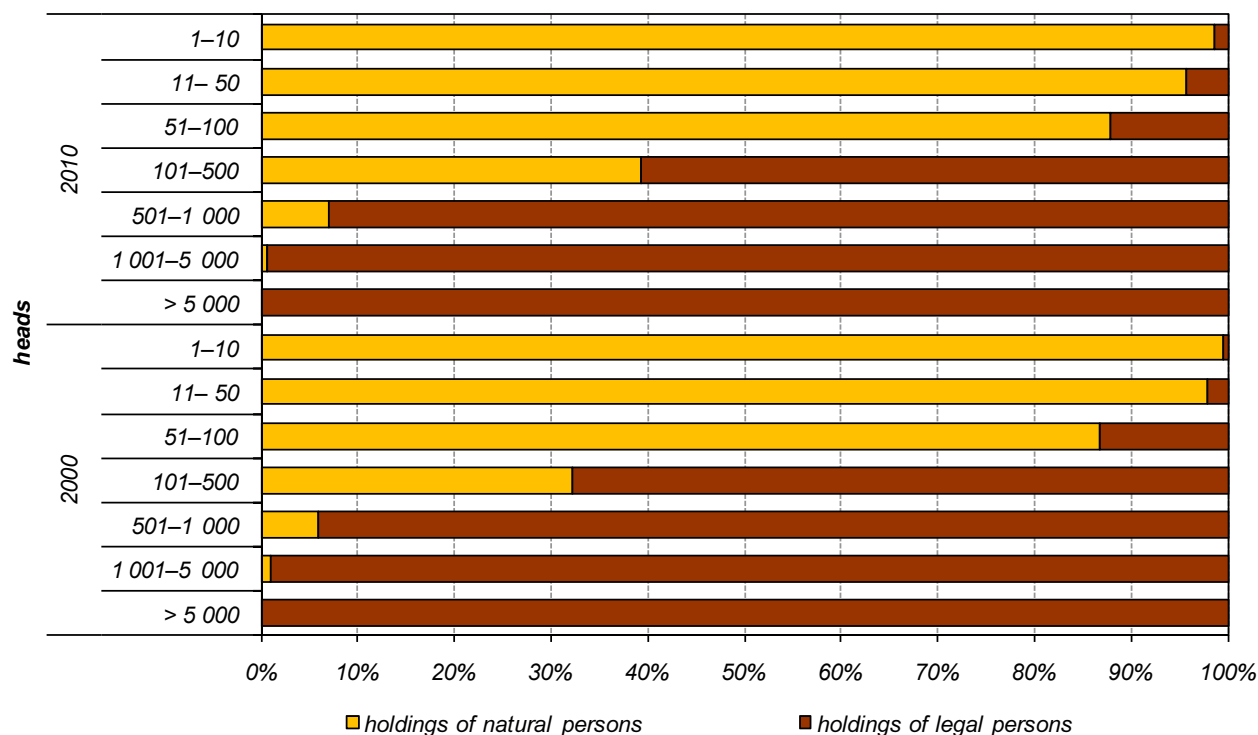
More than three quarters (77.4%) of cattle were kept in holdings of legal persons, remaining 22.6% belonged to holdings of natural persons. Since 2000 this share changed to the benefit of natural persons' holdings by 3.6 percentage points. In holdings of natural persons the number of cattle increased by 2.2% and the average number per holding went up by 14 heads to 36 heads. On the contrary, in holdings of legal persons the number of cattle heads declined by 17.8% and the average number per holding went down by 80 heads to 622 heads.

The largest share on the number of cattle in holdings of legal persons is represented by joint stock companies (38.7%), which are the only legal form that recorded an increase (by 2.3%) compared with 2000. They are followed by cooperatives with 36.3% share on the cattle number. Cooperatives recorded the largest plummet of 35% during the last ten years which caused loss of their leadership in cattle production.

Results of Agricultural census 2010 allow classification of holdings into groups by the cattle number combined with legal forms of the holdings. In total 68.1% of cooperatives and 68.0% of joint stock companies preferred size categories of 501–1 000 heads and 1 001–5 000 heads, while limited liability companies in 50.2% focused on size group 101–500 heads. More than four fifths of holdings of natural persons raising cattle kept them in groups up to 50 heads. The largest proportion of cattle was kept in holdings with 1 001–5 000 heads and accounted for 40.0%. Almost one quarter of cattle belonged to holdings with 500–1 000 heads.

The number of cows decreased in comparison with 2000 by 43 550 heads to 549 587 heads; their share on the total number of cattle rose from 38.4% in 2000 to 41.4% in 2010. In 2010 more than two thirds (69.3%) of agricultural holdings kept dairy cows, less than one third focused on suckler cows. In comparison with 2000 the share of dairy cows went down by 14.4 p. p. and the total milk production declined despite its increasing yields. During the last ten years, raising of dairy cows was influenced by farmers' milk prices oscillation near the profitability limit. On the contrary, raising of suckler cows was supported by subsidies from both national and European Union sources.

Graph 6 – Shares of holdings by legal form in categories by cattle number per holding



Raising of pigs

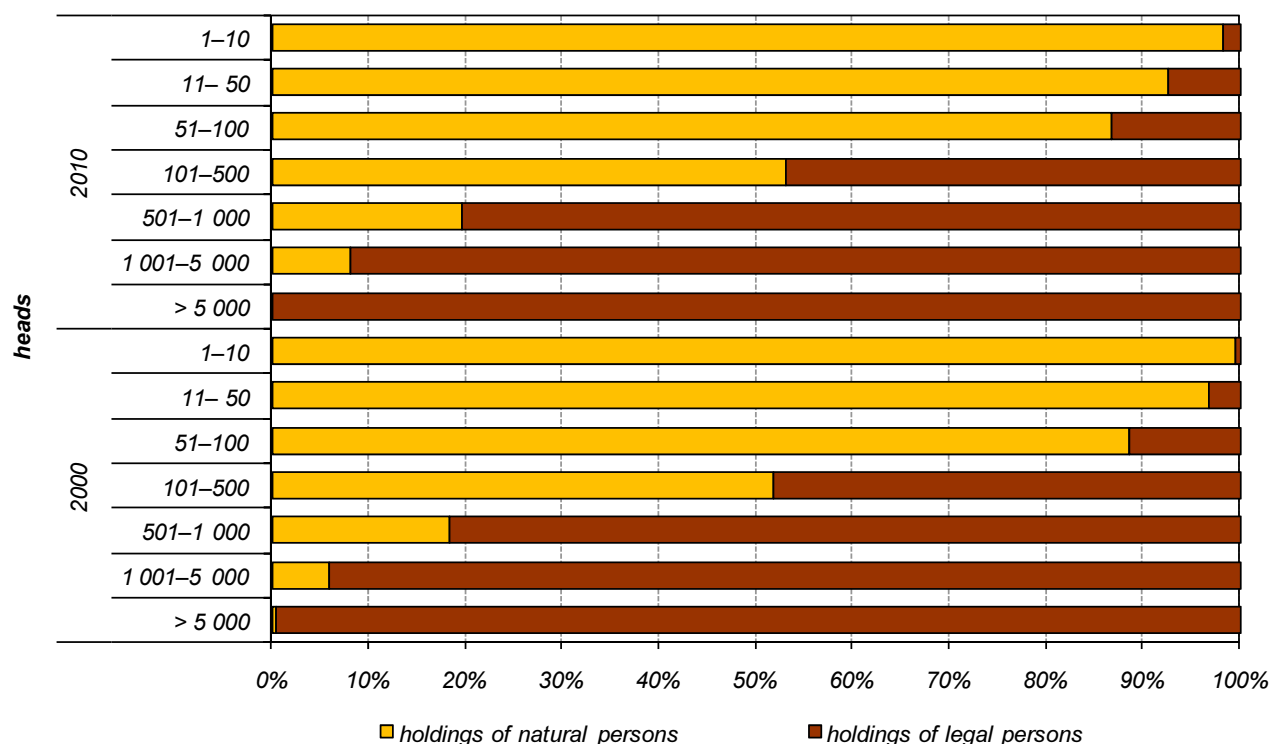
In total 1 907 994 pigs were kept in agricultural holdings in 2010; compared with 2000 their number dropped by 44.4%. The farmers cease their production step by step as they are not able to compete with producers from abroad. The share of domestic pigmeat on the total consumption constantly declines in connection with increased import of both live pigs and pigmeat and with plummeted domestic productions.

There were 679 holdings of legal persons raising pigs; their share on the total pig number was 91.8%. On average 2 578 heads were kept in one holding of legal person. Compared with 2000, the average number of pigs per holding went up by 485 heads; it was caused by decrease of the number of pig breeders by more than one half. Among particular types of holdings of legal persons, the majority of pigs belonged to joint stock companies (63.5% of heads), more than one half was kept in holdings without agricultural land. In comparison with 2000, the most distinct plummet was recorded in cooperatives (-66.6%), while the modest one in joint stock companies (-25.9%).

While in 2000 there were ten thousand holdings of legal persons keeping pigs, in 2010 their number plummeted to one third. The number of pigs in holdings of natural persons went down by more than one half to current 157 thousand heads during the last ten years. Therefore, the average number of pigs per holding grew by 12 heads to 47 heads. In comparison with 2000, agricultural entrepreneurs – natural persons noted a decrement by 188 thous. heads (56.7%), and in other types of holdings of natural persons by 11 thous. heads (44.0%).

More than one half (55.8%) of pigs out of the total number was recorded in holdings keeping more than 5 000 heads per holding; almost one third of pigs (32.1%) was concentrated in groups of 1 001–5 000 heads per holding. No significant changes occurred in shares of particular size groups between 2000 and 2010. However, there were distinct differences among legal forms. Limited liability companies kept 56.1% of their pigs in the largest size group (5 001 and more heads); this share was even three quarters (75.5%) for joint stock companies but only 14.0% for cooperatives. Among cooperatives size group of 1 001–5 000 heads (with 71.6% of heads) prevailed.

Graph 7 – Shares of holdings by legal form in categories by number of pigs per holding



Raising of poultry

The poultry totals amounted to more than 25 million heads in 2010. There were 5 429 holdings raising poultry in the Czech Republic with on average 4 664 heads of poultry per one holding. More than one half of poultry was kept in holdings without agricultural land.

Holdings of natural persons prevailed among poultry breeders ((5 167 holdings, i.e. 95.2%) but they shared only 8.0% of the total poultry number. On the other hand, there were only 262 holdings of legal persons raising poultry; but they covered 92.0% of the poultry totals.

During the period 2000–2010, the number of poultry decreased by 16.5% and the number of poultry breeders dropped by one half. Among holdings of natural persons, the decline amounted to 58.0% for the poultry totals and even 76.1% for hens. In holdings of legal persons, the total poultry number went down by 8.7% but number of hens only by 0.3%. The number of poultry kept in cooperatives fell by more than one half to 1 509 109 heads; another largest decrement by 12.3% was noted in joint stock companies. On the contrary, limited liability companies recorded an increase by 20.6% to almost ten millions heads despite decreased number of farmers by about one fifth; in this case, the average number per holding rose from 49.6 thousand heads to 77.4 thousand heads.

In both holdings of legal persons and natural persons, an increase of the poultry shares was recorded among holdings with more than 100 thousand heads in comparison with 2000. The shares went up by 17.6 p. p. to 49.4% in holdings of natural persons and by 11.0 p. p. to 80.6% in holdings of legal persons.

Results of Agricultural Census 2010 showed that shares of particular poultry species on the total poultry number did not change distinctly during the last ten years. Breeding of chickens predominated: out of the total poultry number, there were 60.4% of chicks for fattening, 23.9% of hens, and 10.9% of chicks for breeding. Other poultry species were represented by turkeys and ducks: each species shared 1.5% of the total number. In 2000, raising of chicks for fattening prevailed (63.8%) followed by hens (21.8%) and chicks for breeding (8.9%). However, shares of other poultry species in 2000 were higher, especially for turkeys (2.9%) and ducks (1.6%).

Raising of sheep and goats

The number of sheep and goats recorded the highest increment among all livestock categories in the last ten years. Number of sheep rose by 179.3% to 184 032 heads and number of goats by 108.8% to 16 900 heads. There were 4 194 sheep breeders and 1 412 holdings raising goats. While number of holdings dealing with sheep raising went up by 45.1%, number of goat breeders dropped by 28.4%.

In the Czech Republic, raising of both sheep and goats was concentrated in holdings of natural persons. Natural persons involved 91.6% of sheep breeders and 90.6% of goat breeders; they kept 83.3% of sheep and 84.4% of goats. In comparison with 2000 there is a positive trend in number of these species among holdings of legal persons.

The largest share of sheep in holdings of both natural and legal persons was kept in groups of 101-300 heads; it accounted for 27.4% and 23.4% out of the total number, respectively. However, size group up to 50 heads prevailed among holdings of both legal forms. There were 80.9% of such holdings among natural persons and 70.0% among legal persons. Sheep raising in concentrations above 800 heads per holding was represented by only few holdings of both legal forms.

As for raising of goats, size group up to 10 heads per holding prevailed in both holdings of natural persons (76.4% of holdings) and legal persons (58.6% of holdings). Livestock concentration higher than 300 heads per holding was recorded only in four holdings of both legal forms.