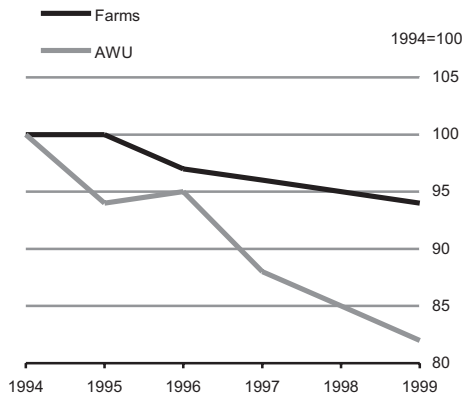




Agricultural Labour Input 1999

Farms and annual work units



	Farms	Persons	Annual work units
		'000	
1998	146.3	275.1	200.2
1999	143.9	270.0	191.7
% change	-1.6%	-1.9%	-4.2%

Labour input on farms down 4.2%

There was a decrease of 8,500 (-4.2%) in the number of annual work units (AWU) worked on farms from 200,200 in 1998 to 191,700 in 1999. The average labour input per farm dropped from 1.4 AWU in 1998 to 1.3 AWU in 1999. *See Table 4 and graph.*

There was a decline of 2,400 (-1.6%) in the number of farms from 146,300 in 1998 to 143,900 in 1999. The average farm size also fell from 29.5 hectares (ha) to 29.3 ha. *See Table 1.*

A comparison of the 1998 and 1999 results shows that :

- ◆ The number of holders fell from 146,200 in 1998 to 143,700 in 1999. The decrease in persons aged under 35 years accounted for most of this decline. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ There was a decrease in the number of regular workers (family and non-family) working one annual work unit from 134,700 in 1998 to 127,000 in 1999. *See Table 3.*

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Table 1 Farms classified by farm size '000

Farm size	1997	1998	1999
Total	147.8	146.3	143.9
< 5 ha	11.1	11.0	11.3
5 - < 10 ha	18.4	18.0	17.3
10 - < 20 ha	40.1	39.5	38.7
20 - < 30 ha	29.1	28.8	28.5
30 - < 50 ha	28.2	28.2	27.9
50 - < 100 ha	16.6	16.7	16.3
>= 100 ha	4.2	4.1	4.0
Average farm size	29.4	29.5	29.3

Table 2 Family farms¹ classified by characteristics of holder '000

Characteristics of holder	1997	1998	1999
Total	147.6	146.2	143.7
Males	134.5	132.3	130.7
Females	13.1	13.9	13.0
Age			
<35	17.7	17.1	15.8
35-44	28.7	27.9	27.5
45-54	35.5	35.0	35.2
55-64	33.4	33.5	32.3
>=65	32.3	32.6	33.0
Annual work units ²			
< 0.25	11.1	10.8	11.9
0.25 - < 0.50	13.6	14.2	14.3
0.50 - < 0.75	14.0	14.4	15.0
0.75 - < 1.00	11.1	11.2	11.2
1.00	97.9	95.7	91.3

¹ Farms run by commercial concerns or institutions are excluded from this table

² 1 annual work unit = 1800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum

Table 3 Family and regular non-family workers

'000 persons

Worker characteristics	1997	1998	1999
Total	281.9	275.1	270.0
Males	201.0	197.1	193.6
Females	80.9	78.0	76.4
Age			
<35	83.2	79.0	75.3
35-44	49.6	48.3	47.0
45-54	57.1	55.9	56.7
55-64	48.6	48.7	47.0
>=65	43.4	43.3	43.9
Annual work units ¹			
< 0.25	49.1	48.5	51.5
0.25 - < 0.50	38.1	37.4	37.6
0.50 - < 0.75	33.0	32.9	32.5
0.75 - < 1.00	21.9	21.7	21.3
1.00	139.8	134.7	127.0
Family workers	268.0	261.6	257.0
Holder	147.6	146.2	143.7
Spouse	54.4	50.6	49.9
Other family workers	66.0	64.9	63.4
Regular non-family workers	13.9	13.5	12.9

¹ 1 annual work unit = 1800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum

Table 4 Total labour input including non-regular workers'000 annual work units¹

Category of worker	1997	1998	1999
Total labour input	205.8	200.2	191.7
Family and regular non-family workers	197.2	191.4	183.6
Males ²	149.8	146.3	140.3
Females ²	47.4	45.2	43.3
Family workers	188.3	183.0	176.1
Holder	122.1	120.4	116.7
Spouse	33.9	31.1	29.8
Other family workers	32.3	31.6	29.5
Regular non-family workers	8.9	8.4	7.5
Non-regular labour input ²	8.6	8.7	8.1
Average labour input per farm	1.4	1.4	1.3

¹ 1 annual work unit = 1800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum

² No sex breakdown of non-regular labour input is available

Background Notes

Coverage The estimates cover all farmwork undertaken on the farm. This includes time spent on the organisation and management of the farm but excludes housework.

Persons are included if they are aged 15 years and over and did some farmwork in the year ended 31 May.

The holder is generally the owner of the farm. The spouse of the holder is included if he/she did any farmwork on the holding during the year. Other members of the holder's family include children, uncles and cousins.

Regular non-family workers who were permanently employed on the farm during any part of the year are included.

Annual work units The amount of time spent working on the holding is estimated by multiplying the number of weeks worked in the year by the average number of hours worked each week. Holidays and sick leave are excluded.

One annual work unit (AWU) is defined as 1,800 hours or more per annum (see Commission Decision 89/651/EEC).

Time worked by casual, contract and relief workers was estimated in terms of person-days. This labour was converted to annual work units on the basis of 1 person-day being equivalent to 8 hours.

The number of farms in the State is estimated by applying grossing factors to each active farm returned in the June sample survey.

EU Agricultural labour input, 1997¹

Country	Number of farms	Average farm size	Annual work units ²
European Union	6,989,130	18.4	7,023,200
Austria	210,110	16.3	177,630
Belgium	67,180	20.6	79,100
Denmark	63,150	42.6	97,930
Finland	91,440	23.7	125,710
France	679,840	41.7	958,080
Germany	534,410	32.1	656,840
Greece	821,390	4.3	597,270
Ireland	147,830	29.4	202,310
Italy	2,315,230	6.4	1,798,090
Luxembourg	2,980	42.5	5,040
Netherlands	107,920	18.6	208,660
Portugal	416,690	9.2	519,800
Spain	1,208,260	21.2	1,098,980
Sweden	89,580	34.7	81,760
United Kingdom	233,150	69.3	416,000

¹ 1997 is the latest published EU Farm Structures Survey results.

² Excludes time worked by contract workers.

Source: New Cronos database, Eurostat