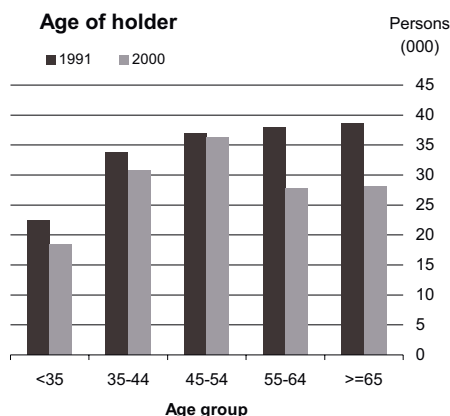




Agricultural Labour Input 2000



	Farms	Persons	Annual work units
		'000	
1991	170.6	312.7	253.1
2000	141.5	257.9	171.7
change	-29.1	-54.8	-82.0
%	-17.0	-17.5	-32.3

Fall of 55,000 in number of persons working on land

In 2000 there were 141,500 farms, 257,900 regular workers (family and non-family) and a total labour input of 171,700 annual work units (AWU). The average farm size was 31.4 hectares and the average labour input per farm was 1.2 annual work units.

These results are taken from the June 2000 Census of Agriculture. Compared with the last Census of Agriculture, in 1991, the results show that :

- ◆ The number of farmers fell from 169,900 in 1991 to 141,300 in 2000. There were decreases of more than 10,000 in the number of farmers in the 55-64 and 65 and over age groups. *See Table 2 and graph.*
- ◆ The number of persons working one annual work unit (1,800 hours) or more fell by 74,000, from 181,600 in 1991 to 107,500 in 2000. The number of persons working less than a quarter of an annual work unit on the farm increased from 28,500 to 59,000. *See Table 3.*
- ◆ Average labour input per farm fell from 1.5 annual work units to 1.2 over the period. The total volume of labour input on farms fell from 253,700 annual work units in 1991 to 171,000 in 2000. *See Table 4.*

Full details of the June 2000 Census of Agriculture will be published later this month.

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Table 1 Farms classified by farm size

Farm size	1991	2000	Change	
	'000	'000	'000	%
Total	170.6	141.5	-29.1	-17.0
< 5 ha	19.2	11.7	-7.5	-39.0
5 - < 10 ha	24.1	16.7	-7.4	-30.7
10 - < 20 ha	48.3	34.3	-14.0	-29.0
20 - < 30 ha	31.0	25.0	-5.9	-19.1
30 - < 50 ha	28.4	29.6	1.2	4.3
50 - < 100 ha	15.7	19.5	3.8	24.4
>= 100 ha	3.9	4.6	0.7	18.0
Average farm size	26.0	31.4	5.4	20.8

Table 2 Family farms¹ classified by characteristics of holder

Characteristics of holder	1991	2000	Change	
	'000	'000	'000	%
Total	169.9	141.3	-28.6	-16.8
Males	153.5	126.2	-27.2	-17.7
Females	16.4	15.1	-1.3	-8.0
Age				
<35	22.4	18.4	-4.1	-18.1
35-44	33.8	30.8	-3.0	-8.8
45-54	37.0	36.3	-0.7	-1.8
55-64	38.0	27.8	-10.2	-26.9
>=65	38.7	28.0	-10.6	-27.4
Annual work units ²				
< 0.25	11.3	18.7	7.4	64.9
0.25 - < 0.50	13.9	17.2	3.3	24.0
0.50 - < 0.75	16.0	16.2	0.2	1.1
0.75 - < 1.00	12.0	11.1	-0.9	-7.5
1.00	116.6	78.1	-38.5	-33.0

¹ Farms run by commercial concerns or institutions are excluded from this table² 1 annual work unit = 1,800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum

Table 3 Family and regular non-family workers

persons

Worker characteristics	1991	2000	Change	
	`000	`000	`000	%
Total	312.7	257.9	-54.8	-17.5
Males	219.4	187.7	-31.7	-14.5
Females	93.3	70.3	-23.0	-24.7
Age				
<35	80.0	74.2	-5.7	-7.2
35-44	58.2	50.7	-7.5	-12.8
45-54	59.3	56.1	-3.3	-5.5
55-64	57.8	40.2	-17.5	-30.3
≥65	57.5	36.7	-20.8	-36.2
Annual work units ¹				
< 0.25	28.5	59.0	30.5	106.7
0.25 - < 0.50	35.8	39.3	3.5	9.8
0.50 - < 0.75	39.1	32.3	-6.8	-17.3
0.75 - < 1.00	27.7	19.8	-7.9	-28.5
1.00	181.6	107.5	-74.1	-40.8
Family workers	299.3	243.6	-55.7	-18.6
Holder	169.9	141.3	-28.6	-16.8
Spouse	72.1	45.1	-27.0	-37.5
Other family workers	57.3	57.2	-0.1	-0.2
Regular non-family workers	13.4	14.4	0.9	6.8

¹ 1 annual work unit = 1,800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum**Table 4 Total labour input including non-regular workers**annual work units¹

Category of worker	1991	2000	Change	
	`000	`000	`000	%
Total labour input	253.7	171.7	-82.0	-32.3
Family and regular non-family workers	245.2	163.9	-81.3	-33.2
Males ²	179.6	127.3	-52.2	-29.1
Females ²	65.6	36.6	-29.1	-44.3
Family workers	234.2	155.9	-78.2	-33.4
Holder	142.9	105.8	-37.2	-26.0
Spouse	53.0	25.2	-27.8	-52.5
Other family workers	38.2	25.0	-13.3	-34.7
Regular non-family workers	11.0	8.0	-3.1	-27.8
Non-regular labour input ²	8.5	7.8	-0.7	-8.2
Average labour input per farm	1.5	1.2	-0.3	-20.0

¹ 1 annual work unit = 1,800 hours or more of labour input per person per annum² 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.

Census of Agriculture Further methodological notes will be given in the June 2000 *Census of Agriculture Main Results*.