



Agricultural output

In 2002 the estimated value of livestock and livestock products was 6% lower in the Republic of Ireland than in 1997 and was 10% lower in Northern Ireland. Cattle and milk products accounted for around three-quarters of the value of livestock and livestock products in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The total estimated value of crops, fruit and horticulture generally increased in the Republic of Ireland between 1997 and 2002. In 2002 the total value of this produce in the Republic of Ireland was 20% higher than it had been in 1997. However, in Northern Ireland the total value of crops, fruit and horticulture was 5% lower in 2002 than in 1997.

Land use

Of the total area dedicated to crops, fruit and horticulture, barley accounted for the largest proportion in 2002 (42% in the Republic of Ireland and 54% in Northern Ireland). In comparison with 1997 the total area under grass in 2002 was 2% lower in the Republic of Ireland and 2% higher in Northern Ireland.

Livestock numbers

The Republic of Ireland accounted for around 80% of the total number of cattle and around three-quarters of the total number of sheep on the island of Ireland throughout the period 1997 to 2002. However, Northern Ireland had around 55% of the total number of poultry over the same period.

Employment in agriculture

Between 1997 and 2002, the total agricultural labour force in the Republic of Ireland decreased by 15% to around 240,000. Of these, 95% were family workers and 5% were regular non-family workers.

The total agricultural labour force in Northern Ireland in 2002 was just over 54,000, a decrease of 12% since 1997. Three-quarters of the Northern Ireland agricultural labour force in 2002 were either farmers and partners or spouses of farmers, with other workers accounting for the remainder.

In the Republic of Ireland in 1997, employment in agriculture represented 10% of total employment compared with 7% in 2002. In Northern Ireland the relative fall in employment in agriculture was less marked, from 6% of total employment in 1997 to 5% in 2002.

Table 6.1a Estimated value of output of livestock and livestock products in the Republic of Ireland

	(€ millions)					
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Livestock and livestock products						
Cattle	1,389.9	1,385.0	1,330.7	1,378.0	1,257.9	1,168.1
Pigs	338.4	284.4	253.3	299.3	347.5	300.1
Sheep and lambs	231.1	214.0	198.0	203.4	285.8	202.2
Poultry	161.1	154.6	149.8	139.4	152.2	150.6
Milk	1,414.5	1,431.2	1,408.7	1,447.0	1,567.7	1,415.1
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other livestock and livestock products	145.1	164.2	180.5	203.3	184.2	238.0
Total¹	3,680.1	3,633.4	3,521.0	3,670.4	3,795.3	3,474.1
Subsidies less taxes on products	658.6	736.7	593.2	740.7	573.2	760.4
Total including net subsidies on products	4,338.7	4,370.1	4,114.2	4,411.1	4,368.5	4,234.5

Source Central Statistics Office

¹ At producer prices (excludes subsidies and deduction of taxes). Figures for 1998-2001 were revised in June 2003 on publication of final 2002 figures.

Table 6.1b Estimated value of output of livestock and livestock products in Northern Ireland

	(Stg£ millions)					
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Livestock and livestock products¹						
Cattle	380.8	326.0	325.0	332.6	338.9	371.4
Pigs	102.7	68.8	59.5	52.3	62.6	58.7
Sheep and lambs	81.2	77.2	68.6	66.5	65.4	59.3
Poultry	111.2	107.3	98.4	97.8	106.9	115.4
Milk	319.3	297.0	301.5	302.7	351.7	292.3
Eggs	24.1	21.8	20.6	24.5	22.4	24.2
Other livestock and livestock products	8.0	7.6	7.7	8.5	8.3	8.0
Total including net subsidies on products	1,027.4	905.7	881.4	884.8	956.1	929.3
of which, subsidies (less taxes) on products	214.3	188.7	186.5	186.6	186.4	200.7

Source Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Includes subsidies (less taxes) on products.

Table 6.2a Estimated percentage distribution of output of livestock and livestock products in the Republic of Ireland

Output	Percentages					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Livestock and livestock products						
Cattle	38	38	38	38	33	34
Pigs	9	8	7	8	9	9
Sheep and lambs	6	6	6	6	8	6
Poultry	4	4	4	4	4	4
Milk	38	39	40	39	41	41
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other livestock and livestock products	4	5	5	6	5	7
Total¹	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source Central Statistics Office

¹ At producer prices (excludes subsidies and deduction of taxes). Figures for 1998-2001 were revised in June 2003 on publication of final 2002 figures.

Table 6.2b Estimated percentage distribution of output of livestock and livestock products in Northern Ireland

Output	Percentages					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Livestock and livestock products						
Cattle	37	36	37	38	35	40
Pigs	10	8	7	6	7	6
Sheep and lambs	8	9	8	8	7	6
Poultry	11	12	11	11	11	12
Milk	31	33	34	34	37	31
Eggs	2	2	2	3	2	3
Other livestock and livestock products	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total¹	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Includes subsidies (less taxes) on products.

Figure 6.1 Estimated percentage distribution of output of livestock and livestock products, 2002

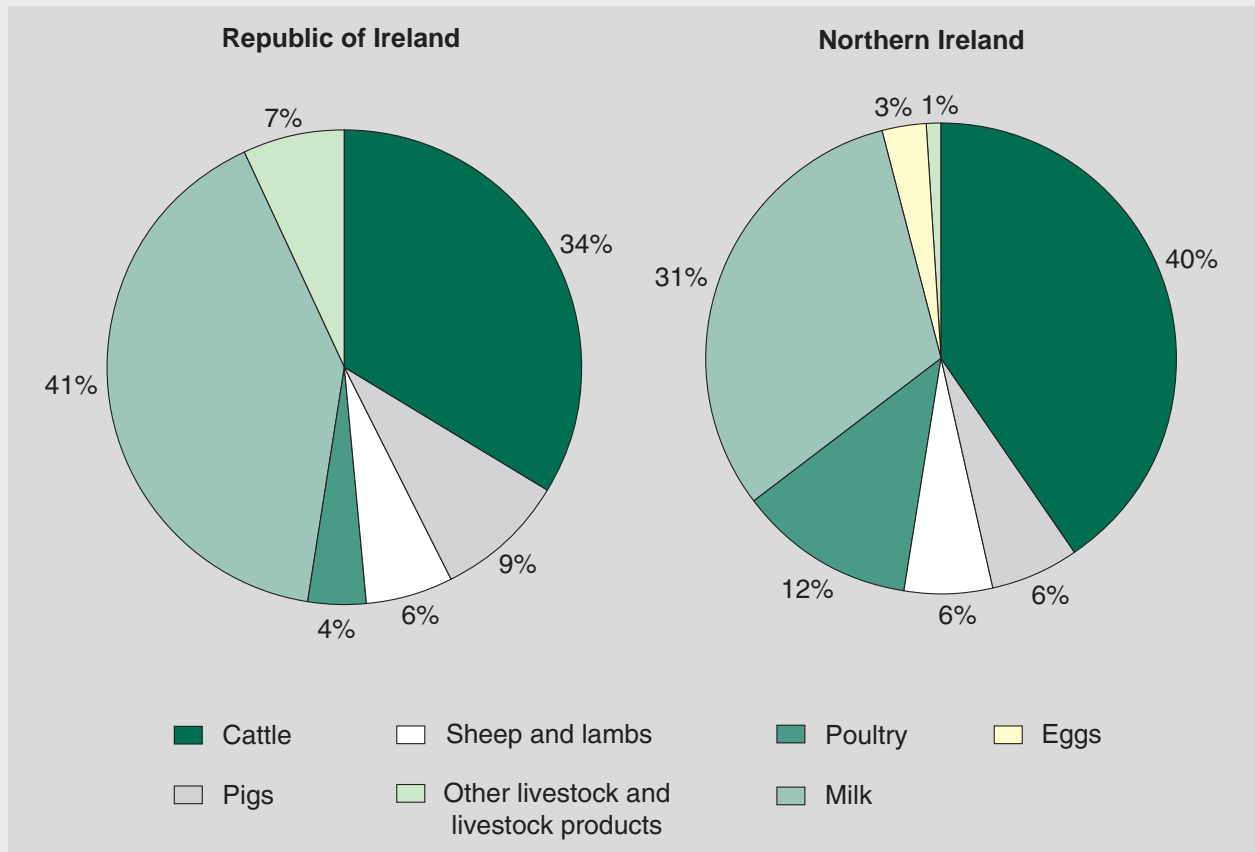


Table 6.3a Estimated value of output of crops, fruit and horticulture in the Republic of Ireland¹

	(€ millions)					
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Crops						
Potatoes	53.6	105.1	120.2	58.4	98.8	95.8
Barley ²	92.7	84.3	106.8	114.2	105.3	73.1
Wheat ²	59.4	51.5	48.5	63.0	57.8	61.0
Oats ²	7.9	7.3	8.8	7.9	6.7	7.6
Sugar beet ²	70.7	74.4	72.9	74.9	75.1	72.1
Turf	28.0	22.0	24.1	22.5	26.5	27.8
Other crops ²	36.9	36.1	44.2	46.2	48.6	50.6
Fruit	9.6	15.5	8.4	7.1	16.0	22.9
Vegetables	59.3	61.4	60.4	75.7	84.6	75.5
Mushrooms	101.9	106.7	111.4	114.8	115.6	137.7
Total	520.0	564.3	605.7	584.7	635.0	624.1
Subsidies less taxes on products	110.4	123.4	122.6	103.1	112.5	116.3
Total including net subsidies on products	630.4	687.7	728.3	687.8	747.5	740.4

Source Central Statistics Office

¹ Figures for 1998-2001 were revised in June 2003 on publication of final 2002 figures.

² At producer prices (excludes subsidies and deduction of taxes).

Table 6.3b Estimated value of output of crops, fruit and horticulture in Northern Ireland

	(Stg£ millions)					
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Crops						
Potatoes	16.7	25.4	33.0	17.3	21.2	23.9
Barley ¹	22.8	19.2	20.9	19.8	19.2	14.3
Wheat ¹	6.3	5.9	2.7	4.1	3.1	5.2
Oats ¹	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.3
Sugar beet	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turf	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other crops ¹	4.8	7.2	8.1	8.0	9.2	6.9
Fruit	9.8	6.0	5.4	5.4	6.9	3.0
Vegetables	10.2	10.8	10.1	14.6	15.6	14.9
Mushrooms	30.4	30.5	30.0	27.6	28.8	27.6
Total	102.5	106.4	111.8	98.5	105.4	97.1
of which, subsidies (less taxes) on products	9.0	8.6	8.5	8.2	7.8	8.2

Source Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Includes subsidies (less taxes) on products. Includes Arable Area Payments but excludes set-aside payments.

Table 6.4 Area of agricultural land under crops, fruit, horticulture and grass

Thousand hectares

Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Crops, fruit and horticulture						
Wheat	93.9	83.8	68.1	78.0	84.9	102.7
Oats	20.6	19.4	20.2	16.8	16.8	18.8
Barley	189.8	190.7	192.0	182.3	182.0	176.0
Vegetables for sale	4.7	5.1	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.0
Fruit	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.9
Potatoes	18.2	18.5	17.5	13.5	14.3	15.4
Other crops, fruit and horticulture	85.3	88.8	97.2	105.3	112.1	105.8
Total	414.3	408.1	401.0	401.1	415.5	423.4
Grass	3,543.3	3,560.4	3,552.9	3,535.4	3,531.4	3,476.9
Crops, fruit, horticulture and grass¹	3,957.6	3,968.4	3,953.9	3,936.5	3,946.9	3,900.3
Northern Ireland						
Crops, fruit and horticulture						
Wheat	6.9	7.1	3.3	5.0	4.1	7.2
Oats	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.4	2.4
Barley	36.4	34.8	35.7	32.6	32.8	28.4
Vegetables for sale	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Fruit	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5
Potatoes	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.7	6.7
Other crops, fruit and horticulture	3.2	4.0	4.0	3.6	5.0	4.9
Total	59.7	59.1	56.5	54.0	54.0	52.6
Grass	825.1	830.6	838.1	829.4	840.1	843.7
Crops, fruit, horticulture and grass²	884.8	889.8	894.6	883.4	894.1	896.3

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Republic of Ireland figures include set-aside land and exclude rough grazing.

² Northern Ireland figures exclude set-aside land and rough grazing.

Table 6.5 Livestock numbers for selected categories

Description	<i>Thousands</i>					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Livestock						
Cattle	7,533	7,640	7,387	7,037	7,050	6,992
Sheep	8,132	8,312	7,926	7,555	7,330	7,210
Pigs	1,700	1,819	1,787	1,722	1,741	1,770
Poultry	13,433	13,147	12,697	13,961	12,603	12,709
Horses and ponies	72	73	76	70	71	73
Goats	15	15	14	8	8	8
Northern Ireland						
Livestock						
Cattle	1,731	1,767	1,719	1,677	1,679	1,685
Sheep	2,880	2,987	2,909	2,741	2,526	2,324
Pigs	697	653	490	414	386	388
Poultry	15,608	15,171	15,048	15,376	14,348	16,862
Horses and ponies	10	10	10	10	10	10
Goats	4	4	4	3	3	3

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Figure 6.2 Livestock numbers for selected categories, 2002

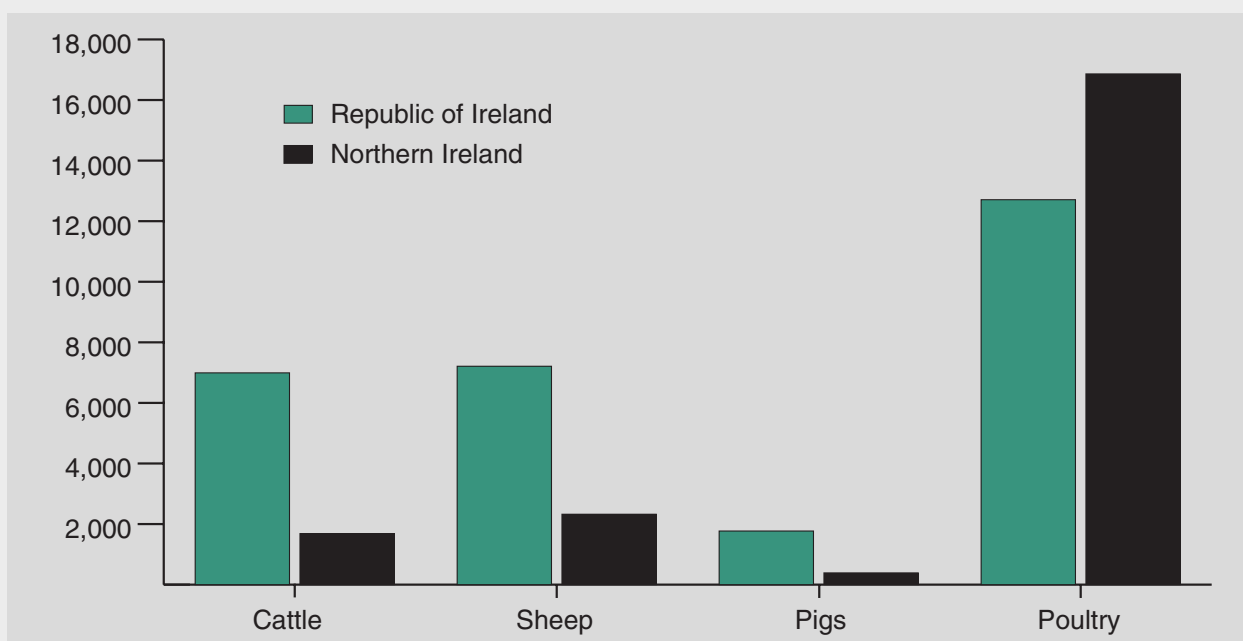


Table 6.6 Agricultural labour input (persons)

Description	<i>Thousands</i>					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Holder	147.6	146.2	143.7	141.3	139.4	136.3
Spouse	54.4	50.6	49.9	45.1	44.5	40.7
Other family workers	66.0	64.9	63.4	57.2	54.3	50.0
All family workers	268.0	261.6	257.0	243.6	238.1	226.9
Regular non-family workers	13.9	13.5	12.9	14.4	14.6	13.1
Total agricultural labour input (persons)¹	281.9	275.1	270.0	257.9	252.6	240.1
Northern Ireland						
Farmers and partners						
Full-time	22.4	22.5	21.5	20.5	20.2	19.7
Part-time	16.8	16.3	16.1	15.4	15.8	14.8
All farmers and partners	39.2	38.8	37.6	35.9	36.0	34.5
Spouses of farmers	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.2
All other workers ²	15.6	15.2	14.6	14.9	13.9	13.5
Total agricultural labour input (persons)	61.9	61.1	59.3	57.8	56.4	54.3

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Figures do not include casual/non-regular workers.

² Figures include casual/seasonal workers.

6 AGRICULTURE

Table 6.7 Employment in agriculture as a proportion of total employment

	<i>Percentages</i>					
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Agriculture as a proportion of total employment	10.3	9.0	8.5	7.8	7.0	6.9
Northern Ireland						
Agriculture as a proportion of total employment	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.5	4.9	5.0

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment*

Figure 6.3 Employment in agriculture as a proportion of total employment, 1997-2002

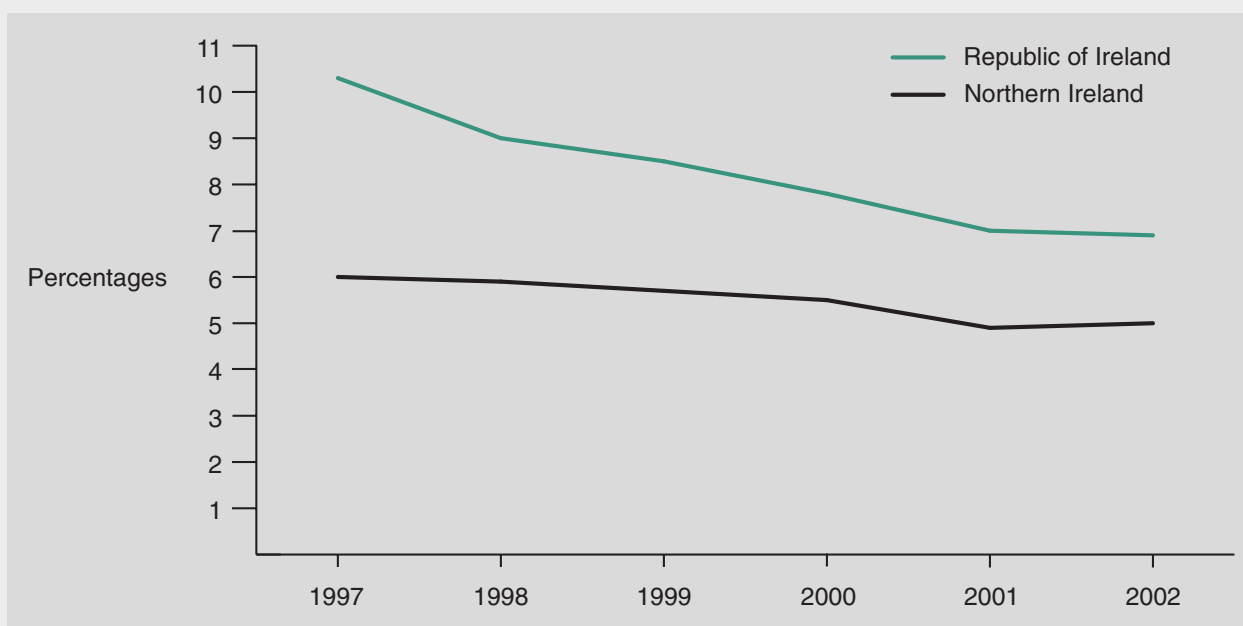


Table 6.8 Sea fish landings by species

Tonnes and thousands

Species	2000		2001		2002	
	Tonnes	Value	Tonnes	Value	Tonnes	Value
Republic of Ireland (€)						
Demersal	36,772	65,330	43,020	95,176	39,993	78,682
Pelagic	206,576	65,912	223,740	79,375	173,085	63,973
Shellfish	29,528	57,789	31,760	79,061	32,087	67,228
Total fish landed	272,875	189,031	298,521	253,612	245,165	209,883
Northern Ireland (Stg£)						
Demersal	6,041	6,360	6,112	6,662	6,654	7,221
Pelagic	9,721	1,502	10,076	2,070	6,323	1,270
Shellfish	7,881	9,990	7,009	10,240	7,164	9,707
Total fish landed	23,643	17,852	23,197	18,972	20,141	18,198

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Technical Notes

Tables 6.1a, 6.1b, 6.2, 6.3a and 6.3b

In the Republic of Ireland, gross agricultural output (goods output at producer prices) represents that part of total agricultural production which is sold off farms or consumed in producers' households (including produce given as gifts or as wages/benefits in kind) during the year of inquiry (i.e. the calendar year). Also included are changes in stocks of livestock and certain crops between the beginning and end of the year. Certain inter-farm transfers (production of forage plants) are also included in the value of output.

In Northern Ireland, output represents the estimated value of home-produced sales, including inter-farm transfers and on-farm use. It includes the value of subsidies on products, the sale value of store animals imported from the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain and finished in Northern Ireland, and the value of produce used in farm households. Stock change estimates are included within the individual output and input items.

Any comparisons in values across time do not take account of inflation.

The following definitions apply to NI livestock and livestock products output value:

- ◆ *Cattle* includes Suckler Cow Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Beef Special Premium, Beef Deseasonalisation Premium, Extensification Supplement, Beef Marketing payment schemes (parts 1, 2 and 2a), Agrimoney Compensation, Flagged Suckler Herd Payments, BSE related supplements, receipts from the Over Thirty Months Scheme and Calf Processing Aid Scheme.
- ◆ *Pigs* include Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
- ◆ *Sheep and lambs* include Sheep Annual Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance and Agrimoney Compensation.
- ◆ *Poultry* includes shipments and exports of non-breeding birds.
- ◆ *Eggs* include eggs for processing, duck eggs and shipments and exports of non-breeding hatching eggs.
- ◆ *Other* includes breeding livestock shipped and exported, horses, wool, deer and minor livestock products.

In both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, net subsidies on products is subsidies on products less taxes on products.

Table 6.3a and 6.3b

In the Republic of Ireland, 'other crops' includes nursery plants, bulbs, tubers, ornamental plants, cut flowers, Christmas trees (excluding loppings), perennial plants, grass seed, products from the wild, plant by-products, other vegetable products, oilseed rape, flax, hop cones and pulses.

In Northern Ireland, 'other crops' output values include hay, straw, flax, linseed, oilseed rape, mixed corn, protein crops, lawn turf, flowers and associated Arable Area Payments.

Table 6.6

In Northern Ireland, two changes were made to the labour section of census forms in 1997 and 1998. Full-time work was more precisely defined as involving 30 hours per week or more and casual work as covering less than 20 weeks per year. Also, the categories of workers changed from 'family' and 'hired' to 'paid' and 'unpaid'. Consequently, trends in individual categories should be interpreted with care. For example, these changes are believed to have resulted in some workers previously returned as 'family' workers being recorded as partners in the new format.

Table 6.7

Employment in agriculture includes employment in hunting, forestry and fishing.

NI agricultural manpower statistics (as used by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in aggregate labour statistics) refer to the count of employees and self-employed workers in agriculture. The self-employed count includes farmers and partners who work full-time on their farms; the employee count includes all other workers except part-time farmers and partners and spouses. Northern Ireland figures exclude those who did not state the industrial classification of their employment.

