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POLICY AND ECONOMICS DIVISION

Northern Ireland Agri-Food Sector

Key Statistics June 2008



Agriculture, Fishing & Forestry



Northern Ireland Agri-Food Sector
Key Statistics
June 2008

Key Facts on
Agriculture,
Fishing,
and
Forestry

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Table 1: General economic data

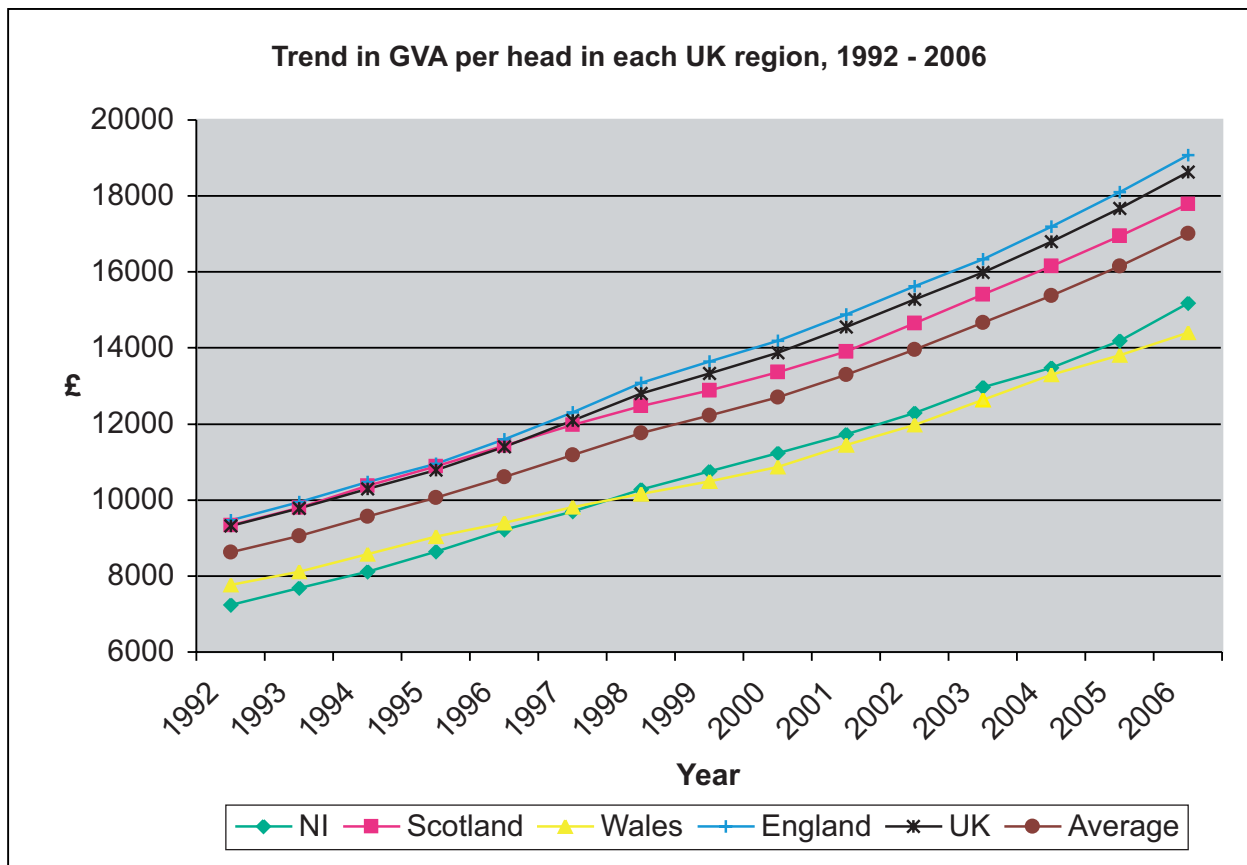
	NI	Scotland	Wales	England	UK	EU 25
GVA per head (£, 2006)	15,175	17,789	14,396	19,082	18,631	N/A
Population ('000, 2006)	1,742	5,117	2,966	50,763	60,587	463,646
Area (sq. km, 2006)	13,576	77,925	20,732	130,281	242,514	3,976,372
Population Density (per sq. km, 2006)	128	66	143	390	250	117
Bank Base interest rate (% , May 2008)					5.0	
RPI (% change, May 2007 - May 2008)					4.2	
Unemployment rate (% , Quarter 4 2007)	4.2	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.0	7.2

Unemployment rates are unadjusted and taken from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). EU25 figure from InfoBase Europe.

GVA - Gross Value Added (at basic prices)

RPI - Retail Price Index

Figure 1 - Trend in GVA per head in each UK region, 1992 - 2006



Note: GVA is in basic prices

Figure 2 - Population per 100 ha of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA), 2006

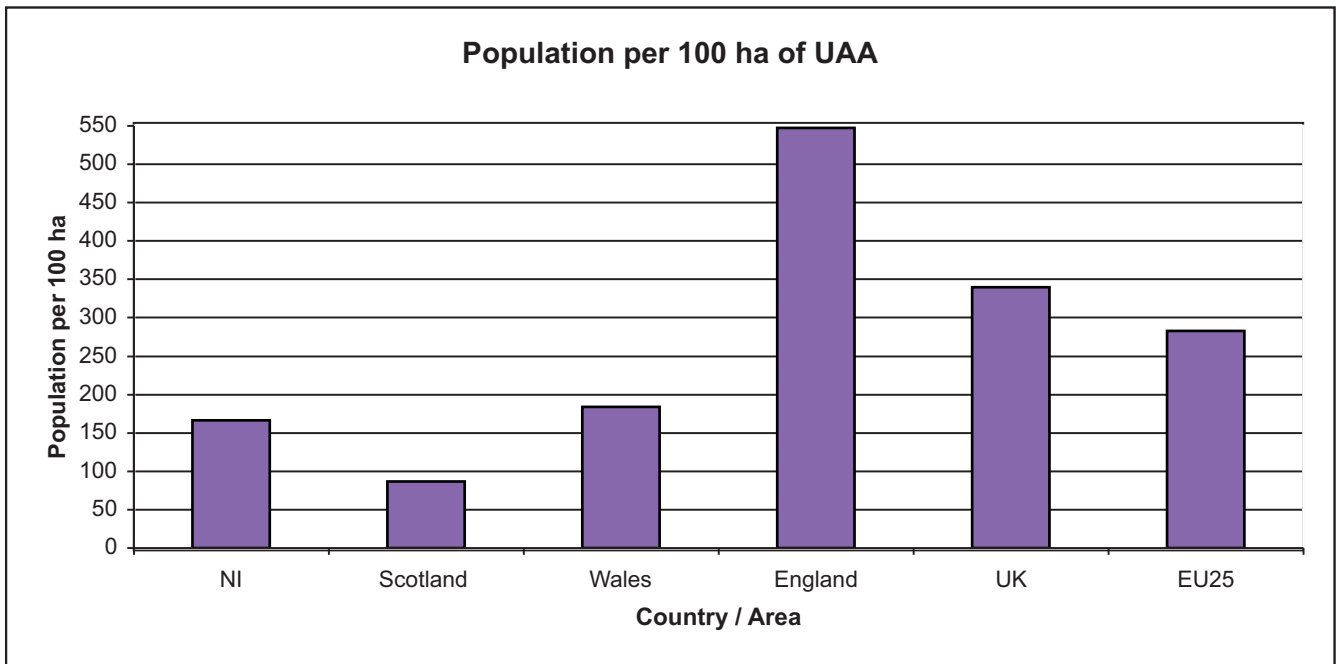


Table 2: Agriculture: general data, 2007

	NI	Scot	Wales	Eng	UK	ROI	EU25
Share of total GVA (% , 2007)	1.3	0.7 ¹	0.3 ¹	0.4 ¹	0.5 ¹	2.3 ¹	N/A
No. employed in agriculture forestry & fishing ('000, 2007)	26	45	24	301	397	121.7 ²	N/A
Share of employment (% , 2007)	3.4	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.4	5.9 ²	N/A
Number of farms ('000 June 2007)	26	51	38	208	316 ¹	133 ³	9,688 ³
Average farm size (Ha, June 2007)	39	121	38	45	55 ¹	32 ³	16 ⁴
LFA (% Agricultural area, June 2007)	70	86	79	16	45 ¹	63 ³	44 ⁴

1. 2006

2. ROI National Household Survey, Quarter 3, 2006

3. 2005

4. 2003

Due to National Accounting principles, GVA figures do not include Single Farm Payment

Source for UK employment data - Labour force survey (Quarter 4 2007)

Table 3: Agriculture in NI: structural adjustment, 1987, 1997 and 2005-2007

	1987	1997	2005	2006	2007
Number of farms	36,960	32,118	27,064	26,739	26,146
Average farm size (Ha)	29.2	33.3	38.0	38.5	38.8
Total farmers and workers	66,142	61,877	51,073	49,952	49,974

Table 4: Agri - food sector GVA and employment, 2007

	NI		UK	
	£m	% of GVA	£m	% of GVA
Gross value added ¹				
Agriculture	353	1.3	5,753	0.5
Food and drink processing	495 ²	1.9 ²	21,148 ³	2.0 ³
Employment	'000 persons	% of total employment	'000 persons	% of total employment
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	26	3.4 ⁴	397	1.4 ⁵
Food and drink processing	18.3 ²	2.4 ⁴	412	1.4 ⁵

1. GVA figures are at basic prices

2. Source: DARD Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector, 2006 Provisional estimate.

3. UK 2004 figures

4. % of total LFS employment (777,000 in NI at Q4 2007).

5. % of total LFS employment (28,775,000 in UK at Q4 2007).

Table 5: NI food and drink processing sector - gross turnover, value added, employment by subsector, external and export sales, (Provisional 2006)

Subsector	Gross turnover	Value added	Employees ¹	External Sales ²	Export Sales ³
	£m	£m		£m	£m
Animal by-products	17	5	162	15	5
Bakeries	181	65	2,986	55	30
Beef and sheepmeat	602	85	2,878	360	40
Drinks	278	70	1,249	130	105
Eggs	33	5	144	25	5
Fish	76	20	761	55	30
Fruit and vegetables	154	40	1,778	90	30
Milk and milk products	599	80	2,393	400	225
Pigmeat	171	30	1,451	90	30
Poultrymeat	384	95	4,572	290	50
Total	2,494	495	18,372	1,510	550

1. Full - time equivalents

2. Sales outside NI.

3. Sales outside UK.

Source: DARD Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector, 2006 Provisional estimate.

Provisional estimates for 2006 have been estimated by adjusting the 2005 baseline, largely on the basis of information available within DARD. Provisional estimates for 2006 will be updated in the next version of the publication 'Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing sector', which will be published in July 2008.

Figure 3 - Gross turnover and full time equivalent (FTE) workforce by food processing subsector, NI (Provisional 2006)

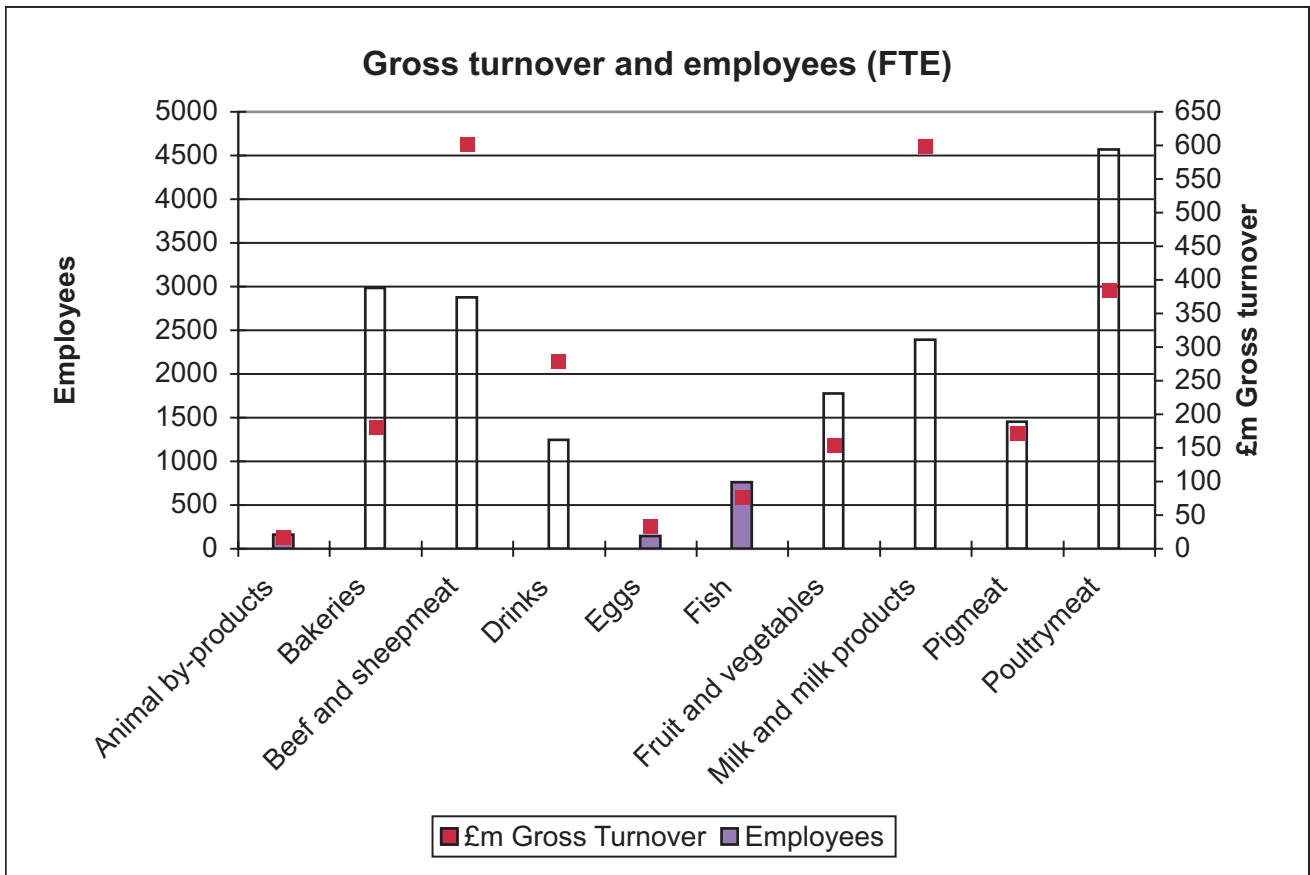


Figure 4 - Proportion of gross turnover by subsector, NI (Provisional 2006)

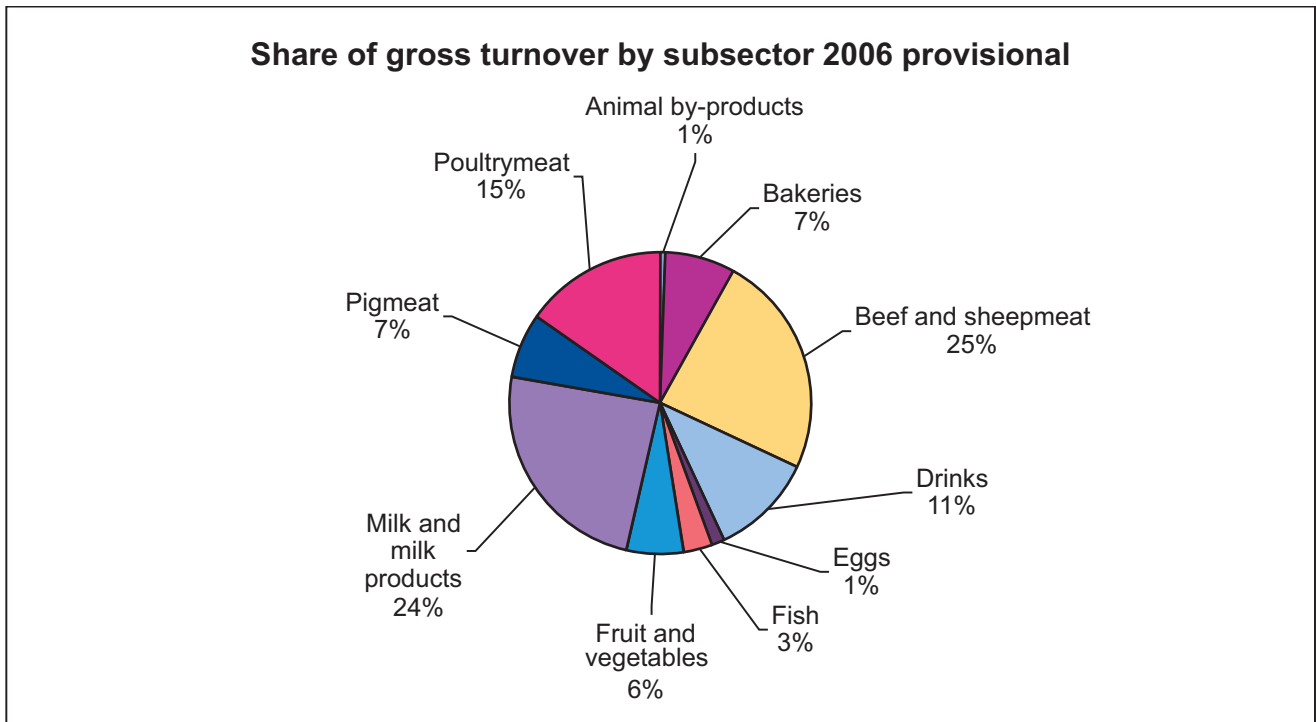


Figure 5 - Proportion of employee jobs by Industry section, September 2007

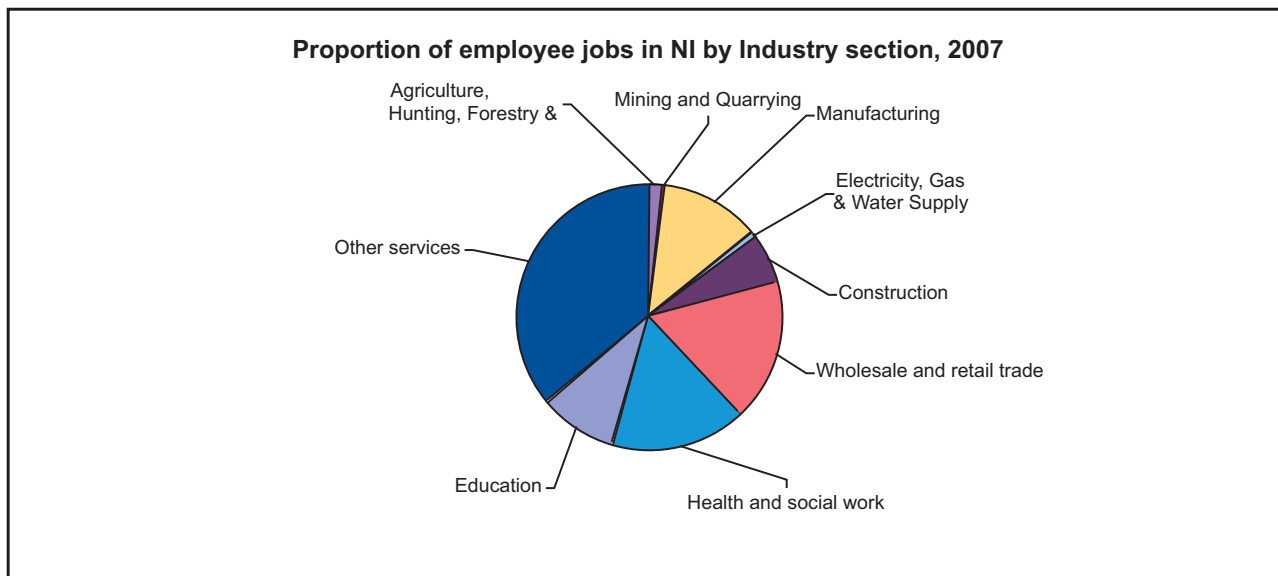


Table 6: Distribution of farm outputs in NI and share of UK totals, 2007

Enterprise	% of NI total			NI output as % of UK output
	Gross output	Gross Margin	On farm employment	
	%	%	%	%
Dairy	34.1	57.7	22	14.8
Cattle	22.2	13.8	53	16.5
Sheep & wool	3.4	3.4	13	6.5
Pigs	5.5	2.8	} 3	9.3
Poultry & eggs	14.2	2.4		10.8
Cereals & oilseed rape	3.3	5.6	} 9	1.7
Potatoes	1.7	2.9		3.2
Horticulture	5.2	8.2		2.6
Others	10.3	3.3	6.1	
Total	100.0	100.0	100	7.8

Source: Aggregate Agricultural Account. Employment data from June 2007 Agricultural Survey.

Table 7: Total income from farming, NI and UK, 2007

	NI	UK
Total income from farming (£)	£233m	£2,538m
% change on previous year :		
Current prices	46%	10%
Real terms	40%	6%

Note: The large increase in provisional TIFF in NI for 2007 can be attributed to several factors, firstly, improvements in milk and cereal prices, secondly, increases in the volume of beef and milk production; and thirdly, improved productivity. The positive impacts of these factors were partly off-set by a large increase in feed costs.

Table 8: Average income¹ by type of farm, NI, 2005/06 and 2006/07

	Net farm income ²		Farm Business Income ³		Cash income ⁴	
	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07
Type of farm:						
Cereals	366	5,035	7,325	13,174	24,155	27,326
General cropping	-913	14,227	14,499	29,530	23,780	41,672
Dairy	24,864	21,623	31,327	27,261	44,853	42,790
Cattle & sheep (LFA)	4,820	5,673	11,347	12,561	22,221	20,082
Cattle & sheep (Lowland)	-2,907	906	7,008	10,678	20,537	16,602
Mixed	6,170	15,022	9,109	18,154	22,305	31,279

Source: Farm Business Survey in Northern Ireland 2005/06 and 2006/07

1. Based on information gathered from farms over 0.5 Standard Labour Requirements

2. The calculation of net farm income assumes that all farms are tenanted: net farm income therefore represents the return to the principal farmer and spouse for their manual and managerial labour and on the tenant-style capital of the business.

3. Farm Business income is the return to all unpaid labour and to their capital invested (inc land and buildings) in the business

4. Cash income is the difference between total receipts and total expenditure.

Table 9: Net farm Income, Farm Business Income and Cash Income for dairy, LFA cattle & sheep, and mixed farms throughout the UK, 2005/06 and 2006/07

	Dairy		LFA Cattle & Sheep		Mixed	
	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07
Net farm income						
England	27,070	22,895	11,773	6,111	17,387	17,623
Wales	21,800	22,300	10,200	8,100	10,900	14,500
Scotland	21,318	33,459	11,685	11,347	14,372	20,521
NI	24,864	21,623	4,820	5,673	6,170	15,022
Farm Business Income						
England	36,605	33,603	15,840	10,786	33,276	27,430
Wales	30,600	36,800	18,400	18,000	19,500	12,800
Scotland	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NI	31,327	27,261	11,347	12,561	9,109	18,154
Cash income						
England	46,403	45,424	25,044	21,002	45,038	38,060
Wales	46,800	45,200	27,700	29,300	30,400	37,000
Scotland	48,391	54,490	32,690	28,337	38,842	39,715
NI	44,853	42,790	22,221	20,082	22,305	31,279

Source: Farm Business Survey 2005/06 and 2006/07

Table 10: Number of farms in the UK by size & country - June 2007

	Business size (SLR) ¹				Total
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large / Very Large	
Farms					
NI	19,990	3,367	1,363	1,426	26,146
England	161,673	21,486	9,860	15,147	208,166
Scotland	41,031	3,558	2,204	4,526	51,319
Wales	28,630	3,868	2,312	3,408	38,218
Total	251,324	32,279	15,739	24,507	323,849

1. Standard Labour Requirements

Table 11: Percentage distribution of farms in the UK by size & country - June 2007

	Business size (SLR) ¹				Total
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large / Very Large	
Farms (%)					
NI	76	13	5	5	100
England	78	10	5	7	100
Scotland	80	7	4	9	100
Wales	75	10	6	9	100
Total	78	10	5	8	100

1. Standard Labour Requirements

Table 12: Number of farms in NI by size and type - June 2007

Business type	Business size (SLR) ¹				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All sizes
Cereals	392	46	18	11	467
General cropping	123	52	20	36	231
Horticulture	122	57	28	77	284
Pigs and poultry	273	135	68	71	547
Dairy	694	1,212	774	939	3,619
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	13,374	1,185	241	123	14,923
Cattle and sheep (Lowland)	3,874	467	104	52	4,497
Mixed	458	173	71	77	779
Others	680	40	39	40	799
All types	19,990	3,367	1,363	1,426	26,146

Source: June 2007 Agricultural Survey

1. Standard Labour Requirements

Table 13: Crop areas and livestock numbers, NI, 1987, 1997 and 2005 - 2007

	1987	1997	2005	2006	2007
Livestock ('000 head)					
Cattle					
Dairy cows	288.8	279.2	287.1	284.7	286.1
Beef cows	220.7	323.9	280.6	276.7	272.6
Total cattle	1,539.1	1,731.0	1,712.7	1,689.3	1,643.5
Sheep					
Breeding ewes	1,030.1	1,384.1	1,027.3	991.1	957.3
Total sheep	2,093.5	2,880.1	2,145.1	2,070.5	2,024.0
Pigs					
Female Breeding pigs	73.1	72.2	36.7	37.4	37.0
Total pigs	706.9	696.7	405.1	386.6	410.5
Poultry					
Laying flock	3,309.6	2,648.9	2,319.2	2,187.7	2,394.0
Broilers	5,662.2	8,994.9	12,525.7	13,367.1	11,861.3
Crops ('000 hectares)					
Cereals	53.8	45.8	36.2	33.6	34.2
Potatoes	12.7	7.8	4.5	4.7	4.8
Horticultural crops	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Notes: From 2005 onwards, cattle figures were derived from APHIS

Figures for poultry were taken from the Northern Ireland Bird Register Update in 2007.

Figure 6 - Trend in dairy and beef cow numbers, NI, 1993 - 2007

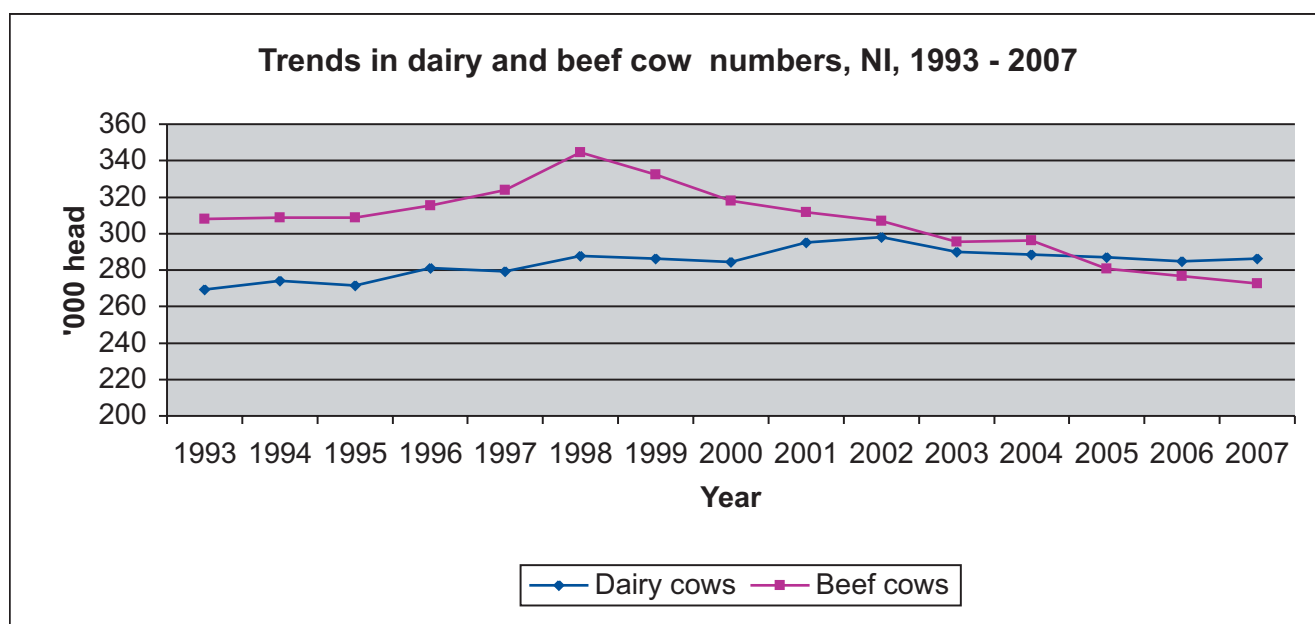


Table 14: Average size of enterprise, NI, 1987, 1997 and 2005 - 2007

	1987	1997	2005	2006	2007
Average livestock numbers (per herd/flock)					
Dairy cows	40	48	67	67	69
Beef cows	12	18	16	16	16
Total cattle	48	64	74	73	74
Ewes	92	120	118	115	113
Total sheep	177	246	243	237	234
Sows	17	37	100	105	95
Total pigs	153	316	925	855	838
Total poultry (farms with more than 500 birds)	18,769	22,237	28,968	29,079	28,281
Average cropping areas (ha)					
Cereals	8	10	12	12	13
Potatoes	3	5	6	7	7

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Notes: From 2005 onwards, cattle figures were derived from APHIS

Figures for poultry were taken from the Northern Ireland Bird Register Update in 2007.

Figure 7 - Average size of selected livestock enterprises, NI, 1993 - 2007

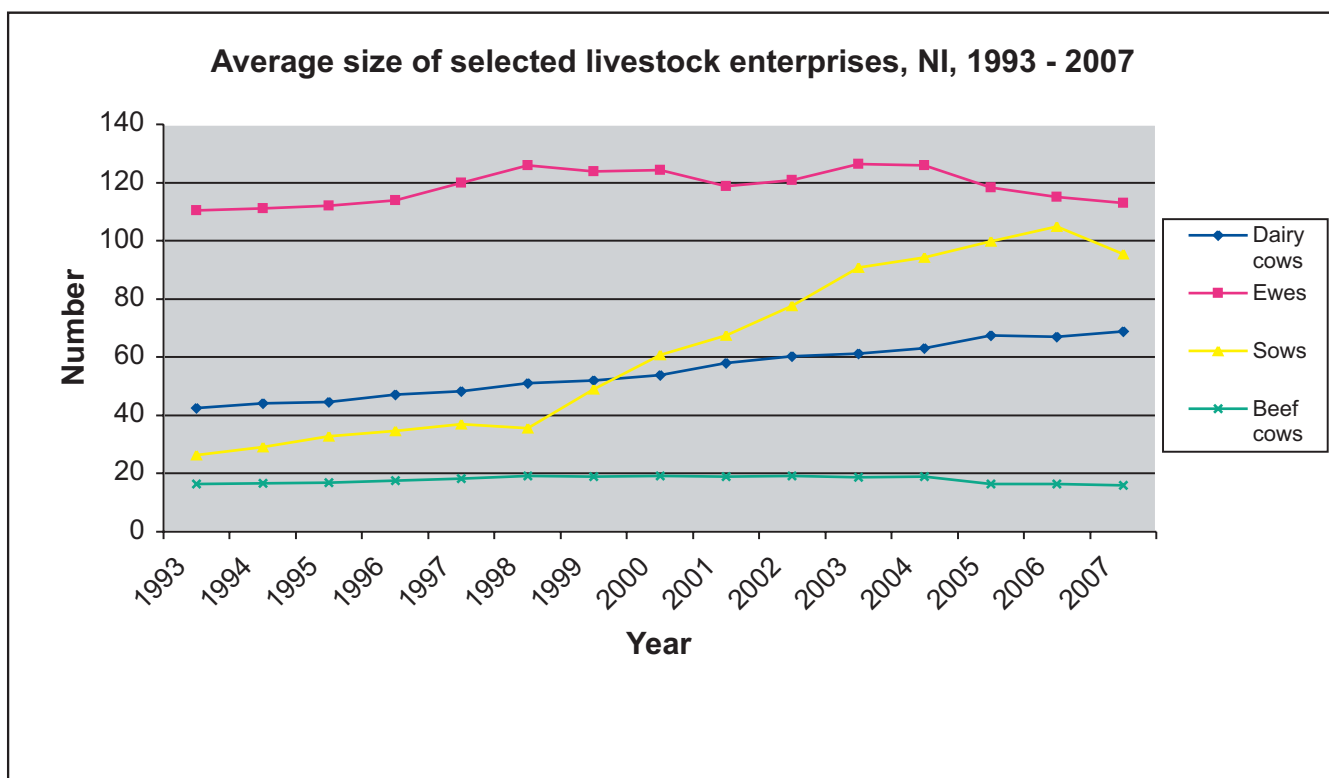


Table 15: Number of farmers and workers, NI, 1987, 1997 and 2005 - 2007

	1987	1997	2005	2006	2007
Farmers, partners & directors:					
Full-time	28,750	22,409	18,159	17,981	17,185
Part-time	14,756	16,828	14,367	14,013	14,022
Total	43,506	39,237	32,526	31,994	31,207
Spouses	5,999	7,001	6,186	6,285	6,345
Other workers					
Full-time	5,804	2,981	2,553	2,531	2,946
Part-time	3,263	3,088	2,514	2,347	2,696
Casual/Seasonal	7,570	9,570	7,294	6,795	5,780
Total other workers	16,637	15,639	12,361	11,673	11,422
Total agricultural labour force	66,142	61,877	51,073	49,952	48,974

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Figure 8 - Full-time labour on NI farms, 1987, 1997 and 2005 - 2007

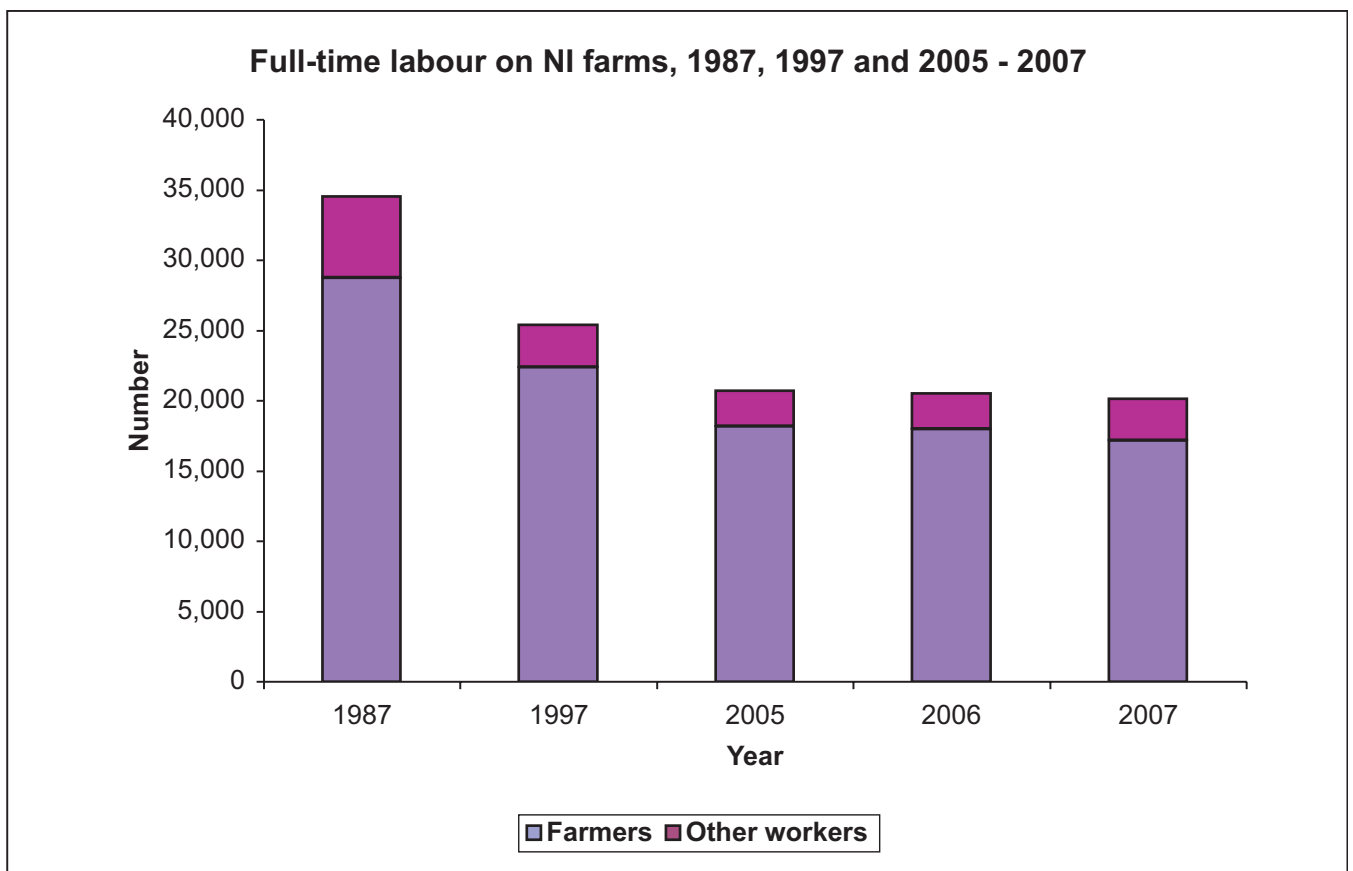


Table 16: Liveweight and estimated value of recorded landings of fish into NI, 2004 - 2007

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)	Tonnes	£ ('000)
Total wet fish	7,481	5,424	8,956	5,606	9,041	6,615	8,216	4,844
Total shell fish	6,189	8,753	5,991	9,212	8,109	13,231	8,792	14,190
Total fish	13,670	14,177	14,947	14,818	17,150	19,846	17,008	19,034

Source: Fisheries Division, DARD

Figure 9 - Estimated value of recorded landings of fish into NI 2003 - 2007

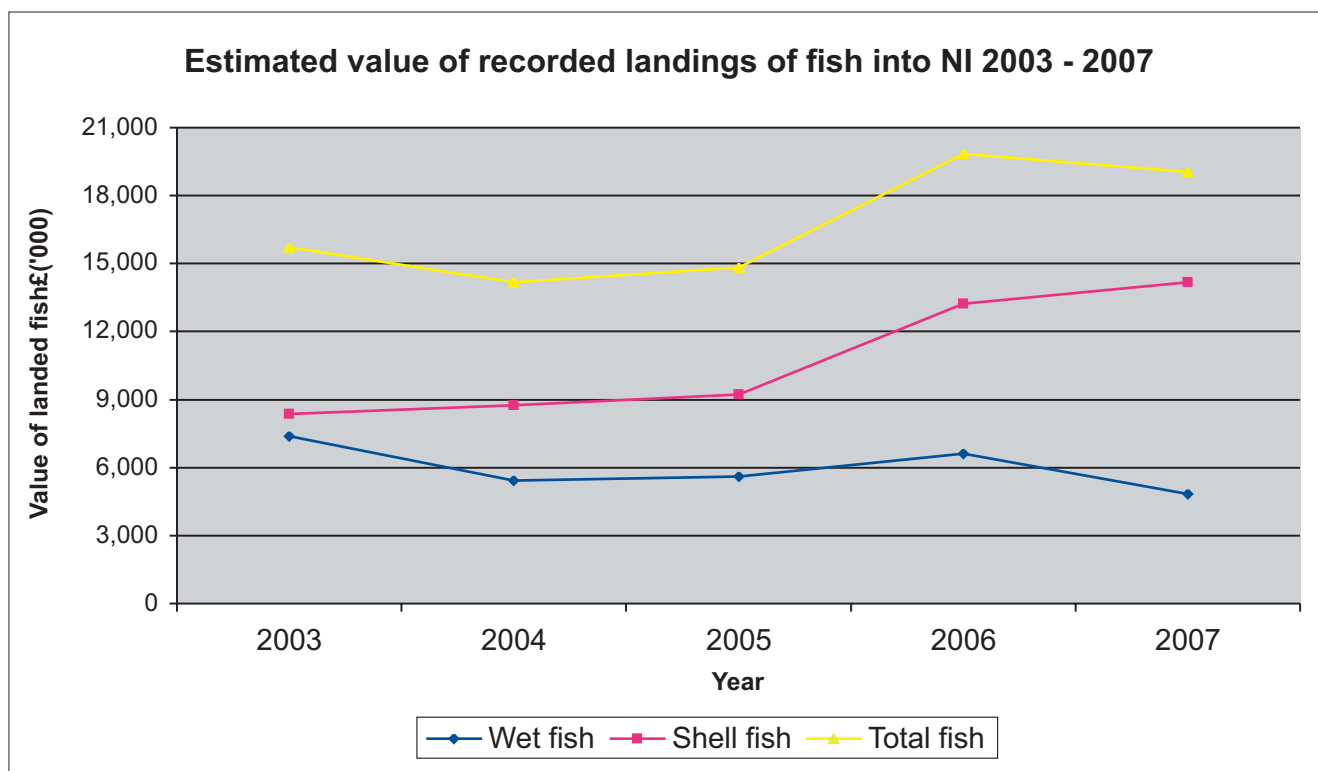


Table 17: Employment in NI fishing industry, 2004 - 2007

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Catching	535	84	514	55	547	66	557	101
Processing and marketing	762	120	754	193	634	192	530	165
Others	136	23	133	19	138	24	116	20
Total	1,433	227	1,401	267	1319	282	1203	286

Source: Fisheries Division, DARD

Table 18: Area of woodland throughout the U.K. by forest type, 2007

	Conifers (’000 HA)	Broadleaves (’000 HA)	Total (’000 HA)	% of total farmed area in forestry ¹
United Kingdom	1,640	1,197	2,837	16.2%
England	367	757	1,124	12.0%
Scotland	1,048	293	1,341	23.9%
Wales	158	127	285	19.0%
Northern Ireland	66	21	87	8.5%

Source: Forestry Commission

¹ Total land area used in calculation is area farmed from June Survey, 2006

Table 19: Number of farms using agricultural contractors in 2007

	Very Small	Small	Med/Large	All
Hay/Silage Making	8,538	6,681	2,796	18,015
Crop Harvesting	334	808	837	1,979
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	4,611	3,798	2,091	10,500
Other field work	1,499	1,426	824	3,749
Milking	42	103	454	599
Sheep shearing	1,588	2,246	598	4,432
Other livestock work	683	572	219	1,474
Hedge cutting	6,503	5,617	2,585	14,705

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2007, NI

Table 20: Percentage of farms using agricultural contractors by business size in 2007

	Very Small	Small	Med/Large	All
Hay/Silage Making	67	72	67	69
Crop Harvesting	3	9	20	8
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	36	41	50	40
Other field work	12	15	20	14
Milking	0	1	11	2
Sheep shearing	12	24	14	17
Other livestock work	5	6	5	6
Hedge cutting	51	61	62	56

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2007, NI

Table 21: Number of farms using agricultural contractors from 2000-2007

	2000	2003	2005	2007
Hay/Silage Making	19,566	19,028	18,849	18,015
Crop Harvesting	2,227	2,398	2,300	1,979
Spreading slurry/fertilisers etc	10,854	11,623	11,004	10,500
Other field work	3,035	4,228	3,953	3,749
Milking	519	635	653	599
Sheep shearing	4,345	4,679	4,551	4,432
Other livestock work	1,362	1,701	1,554	1,474
Hedge cutting	10,724	14,874	14,840	14,705

Source: EU Farm Structure Survey 2007, NI

Sources of more detailed information

1. DARD website, www.dardni.gov.uk or DARD library

Statistical reports main page

<http://www.dardni.gov.uk/index/dard-statistics/statistical-reports.htm>

Agricultural Census in N.I. 2007 publication (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-032-5)

Statistical Review of N.I. Agriculture 2007 publication (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-033-2)

Size and performance of the N.I. Food and Drinks Processing Sector publication 2005 (ISBN no. 978-1-85527-987-2)

EU Farm Structure Survey 2007 (ISBN no. 978-1-84807-039-4)

Farm Incomes in N.I. publication

Food consumption and expenditure information

Fisheries statistics

Forestry statistics

2. DEFRA website, www.defra.gov.uk

Agriculture in the U.K publication

<http://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/publications/auk/default.asp>

3. Central statistics office Ireland website, www.cso.ie

R.O.I. Agricultural data

<http://www.cso.ie/statistics/Agricultureandfishing.htm>

4. Department of Agriculture and Food (ROI) website, www.agriculture.gov.ie

Compendium of Irish Agricultural statistics, 2006

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/index.jsp?file=publicat/compendium2006/listoftabs.xml>

5. Eurostat website, www.ec.europa.eu/eurostat

EU Agriculture and fisheries information

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page?_pageid=0,1136206,0_45570467&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

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