



5% of European employment

Since the most recent enlargement, the economic weight of agriculture varies from 0.3% to 5.1% between Member States.

In 2007, agriculture contributed an average of 1.2% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the European Union. However, the differences between individual countries are great, ranging from approximately 0.3% in Sweden, the United Kingdom and Luxembourg, to over 5% in Romania. France occupies a median position with 1.5% of its GDP generated by gross value added from agriculture.

The differences are much greater when it comes to employment in agriculture: less than 2% of total employment in the United Kingdom and Luxembourg, but over 20% in Bulgaria, Greece and Romania. Generally speaking, agriculture plays a greater role in the new Member States of the Union.

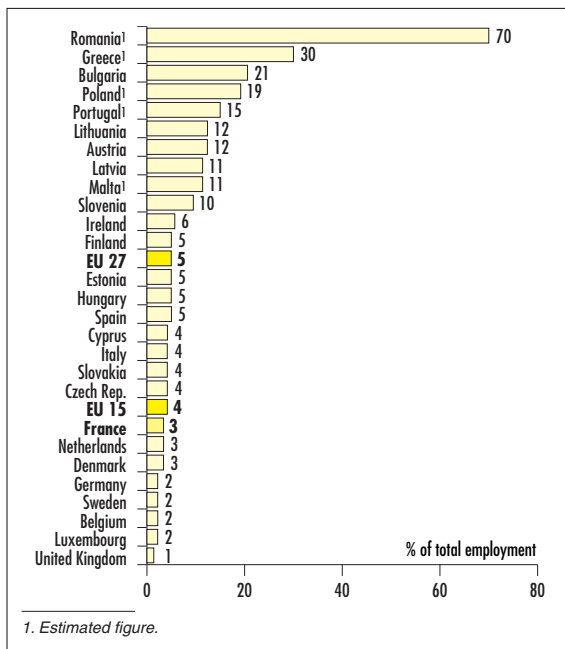
Definitions

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): This national accounts concept provides an all-inclusive measurement of the productive activity of a country. GDP is the sum of all the goods and services available for final application plus the foreign trade balance. GDP is also equal to the sum of the value added generated in all sectors of the economy.

Value-added at base price is measured as the difference between, on the one hand, the value of goods and services produced, including product subsidies, less tax on the products and, on the other, the value of intermediate consumption.

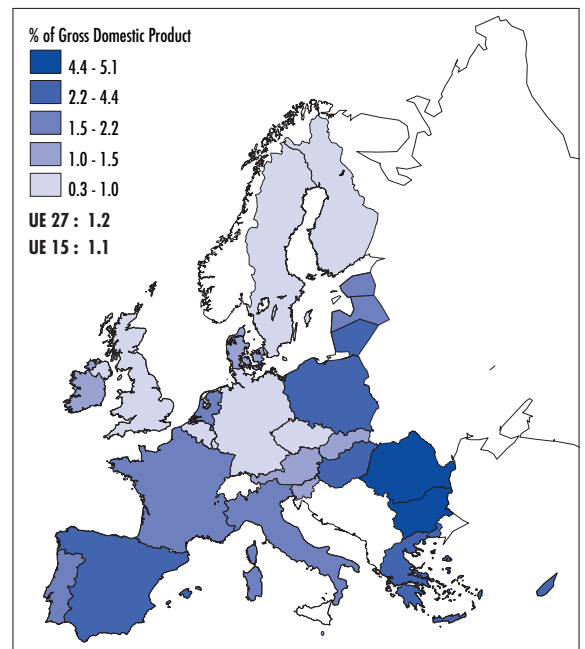
More statistics on page 22.

Agriculture's contribution to total employment



Source: Eurostat - Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2006

Agriculture's contribution to Gross Domestic Product



Source: Eurostat 2007