

Livestock Statistics 2024

Tirana, 23 June 2025: In 2024, livestock in Albania has marked several significant changes in structure and production, compared to the previous year.

Cattle

The number of cattle has increased by 3.3 %, from 263 thousand heads in 2023 to 272 thousand heads in 2024. However, the number of cows has recorded a decrease of 3.5 %, dropping from 232 thousand to 224 thousand heads.

Sheeps

The total number of sheep in 2024 has decreased by 2.5 %, from 1,206 thousand to 1,177 thousand heads, compared to 2023. The milked sheep, as the most representative category, have recorded a more pronounced decline of 3.8 %, from 1,006 million to 968 thousand heads.

Goats

In 2024, were registered 615 thousand heads goats, reflecting a decrease of 3.9 %, compared to the previous year (640 thousand). Within this category, the number milked goats has decreased by 2.2 %, from 512 thousand to 501 thousand heads.

Pigs

The largest decline has been recorded in the pig category, with a decrease of 9.4 %, from 115 thousand to 104 thousand heads. Within this category, the number of sows has decreased by 9.6 %.

Poultry

Although the total number of poultry has recorded a slight decrease of 0.6 %, from 7,031 thousand to 6,992 thousand, the number of hens has experienced a more pronounced decline of 6.6 %, dropping from 4,877 thousand to 4,557 thousand.

Equidae

The number equidae has decreased from 67 thousand to 58 thousand heads, representing a decline of 12.2 %.

Beehives

The number of beehives has increased by 13.2 %, from 519 thousand beehives in 2023 to 587 thousand beehives in 2024.

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Milk

The total milk production has decreased by 2.7 %, dropping from 900,569 tons in 2023 to 876,688 tons in 2024. Cow's milk remains the primary source, accounting for 84.9 % of the total, followed by goat's milk at 7.7 % and sheep's milk at 7.4 %.

Meat

The production of meat in live weight has decreased by 3.8 %, from 135,483 tons to 130,334 tons.

Eggs

Although 894 million eggs were produced in 2023, in 2024 production has slightly decreased to 888 million, with a change of -0.7 %.

Honey

Honey production has increased by 5.4 %, from 5,633 tons to 5,940 tons.

Main livestock heads by prefecture, 2024

The regions with the highest numbers for cattle breeding for the year 2024 are Fier with 14.8 % and Korça with 11.3 %, of the total number of cattle.

The largest concentration of sheep is in the Vlorë district with 29.3 % and in the Gjirokastër district with 14.5 %, out of the total number of heads.

Also, in the Vlorë and Gjirokastër districts, there is the highest concentration of the number of livestock with 25.6 % and 14.0 %, compared to the total number of heads.

The highest number of pigs in the category is recorded in the Lezhë district with 51.6 % and in the Shkodër district with 24.2 %, compared to the total number of heads.

For more information and to see the detailed tables, visit the database on the official INSTAT website:

[Livestock Statistic](#)

Methodology

The livestock statistics for 2024 are based on administrative information collected by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The collection, processing, and publication of livestock statistics and livestock products are based on:

- Law No. 17/2018 "On Official Statistics";
- Law No. 30/2022 "On the Approval of the Official Statistics Program 2022 – 2026;

Implementing classifications and definitions according to the relevant EU regulations; Regulation No. 1165/2008 regarding livestock and meat statistics; Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1242/2008 on the typology of Agricultural Units.

Livestock data are collected for the number of animals for breeding from the farmers and livestock productions, Experts of extensions collect the data and compare them with the data from the veterinary service which conducts the matriculation and vaccination of animals (process is ongoing), Veterinary service in the moment of vaccination conducts the animal inventory in commune level, Specialists of extension also collaborate with private veterinarians, These veterinarians provide different services at the farmers such as (disease control, death and births of animals, slaughtering, vaccinations etc.), In the end the specialists of extension compare the data from the three sources, Data for the agricultural and livestock products produced by the farmers are also collected from the specialists of extension, For the yields of productions the information is collected from the most representative farms in commune level, The data collected are sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development where the specialists of crop and livestock production do the estimations comparing the data collected from the field with the data of the farms during the previous years,

The Ministry of Agriculture uses three sources of information for the data collection:

1. Experts of extension which are part of the Agricultural Directories
2. Veterinarian Service in regions
3. Private Veterinarians

Definitions

“Agricultural Household” is a single unit both technically and economically not necessarily continuous parcels of agriculture and livestock production which has a single management by one person or group of persons and which undertakes agricultural activities, for crop and animal production,

Livestock units are also considered the households with livestock orientation where livestock breeding is done without possessing agricultural land so that the land does not appear as an integral element of the unit,

The Cattle Unit, abbreviated as LSU (Livestock Unit), is a reference unit that facilitates the aggregation and comparison of livestock of different species and ages, through the use of specific coefficients initially set based on the nutritional requirements for each kind of animal, the reference unit used to calculate livestock units (= 1 LSU) is the equivalent of one dairy cow producing 3,000 kg of milk per year, without concentrated feed additives,

Livestock and poultry - covers all domestic animals irrespective of their age and location or the purpose of their breeding, Non-domestic animals are excluded from the terms unless they are kept or raised in captivity in or outside agricultural holdings, including holdings without land,

Classification

Classification of animals is done by: species (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses), by age, sex and economic destination, Poultry covers domestic fowls, guinea fowl, ducks, geese and turkeys,

Meat live weight production

The estimate for the production of meat live weight is carried out for each type of animals, Calculation of meat live weight production is based on the calculations made by the livestock movement, in the number of culled cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry by slaughtering categories, and the average live weight for slaughtered heads by type and categories of slaughter,

Main rules for data collection

Livestock number refers to 1 December 2024.

Farmer is asked for all animals that he possess, Information is obtained only for the number of animals that the agricultural holding possesses.

All livestock bought from other units during the year are included.

All livestock sold to other units during the year are excluded.

Livestock births are the animals which are born during the last 12 months.

Livestock born dead are not included.

Losses of livestock during the year, Losses of animals during the year, eating from wild animals or natural causes are not counted.