

Milk and Dairy Products Survey

Metadata Referenciale në format Euro SDMX Metadata Structure
(ESMS)

Metadata Referenciale

1. Contact	2
2. Metadata update	2
3. Statistical presentation	2
4. Unit of measure	4
5. Reference period	4
6. Institutional mandate	4
7. Confidentiality	5
8. Release policy	5
9. Frequency of dissemination	6
10. Accessibility and clarity	6
11. Quality management	7
12. Relevance	7
13. Accuracy and reliability	8
14. Timeliness and punctuality	9
15. Coherence and comparability	9
16. Cost and burden	10
17. Data revision	10
18. Statistical processing	10
19. Comment	12
Annex	12

1. Contact	
1.1. Contact organisation	Institute of Statistics, INSTAT
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Livestock and Fisheries Statistics Sector, Directorate of Agriculture and Environmental Statistics
1.3. Contact name	Erinda Sulstarova
1.4. Contact person function	Head of Livestock and Fisheries Statistics Sector
1.5. Contact mail address	St. Vllazën Huta, Building 35, Entrance 1, Tirana, ZIP Code 1017 Tirane
1.6. Contact email address	esulstarova@instat.gov.al
1.7. Contact phone number	+(355) 4 2222411 / +(355) 4 2233356
1.8. Contact fax number	+(355) 4 228300
2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	09.07.2025
2.2. Metadata last posted	09.07.2025
2.3. Metadata last update	09.07.2025
3. Statistical presentation	
3.1. Data description	<p>The Milk and Dairy Products survey is a statistical survey carried out at enterprises that collect and process milk in the territory of the Republic of Albania. The main objective of the annual milk survey is to provide complete information on the amount of milk collected (all types of milk) and dairy products.</p> <p>Information is also provided on the average fat and protein content in the collected milk.</p>
3.2. Classification system	<p>The definitions are in accordance with Eurostat regulations and decisions : Commission Decision No 97/80 / EC, that defines which sets out the provisions for the implementation of Council Directive No 96/16 / EC, on statistical surveys of milk and dairy products.</p> <p>Other classification used in Milk Statistics and Dairy Products are :</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 “ON LIVESTOCK AND MEAT STATISTICS” • NACE Rev.2 - Statistical classification of economic activities
3.3. Sector coverage	<p>Statistical information covers data on enterprises operating in the field of milk collection and processing in NACE 10.51. Raising of dairy cattle I NACE 01.41 and Raising of sheep and goats 01.45 by classification of economic activity NACE Rev.2</p>
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	<p>Manufactured quantities of dairy products. The data represent the sum of all dairy products produced during the reference year.</p> <p>Drinking milk: is milk produced for consumption in packages of 2l or less/more. It includes raw milk, processed milk, semi-skimmed milk, skimmed milk.</p> <p>Pasteurized Milk: Milk that has been exposed briefly to high temperatures to destroy microorganisms and prevent fermentation.</p> <p>UHT Milk: Ultra-high temperature processing (UHT), ultra-heat treatment, or ultra-pasteurization above 135 °C (275 °F).</p> <p>Buttermilk is residual product (may be acid or acidified) of the processing of milk or cream into butter.</p> <p>Cream: a fat layer that it is formed naturally on the surface of milk. Obtained from the surface of milk to or extracted from milk by the process of centrifugation. The cream has a high fat content (typically over 10%). It includes direct consumer cream, which contains more or less than 29% of milk fat.</p> <p>Acidified milk products include yoghurts, drinkable yoghurts, sour milk, acidified milk and other fermented products.</p> <p>Butter and other yellow-fat products are products with a milk fat content equal to 82% by weight of the product, maximum water content of 16% and maximum dry non-fat milk material content of 2%.</p> <p>Cheese shall be a fresh or matured, solid or semi-solid obtained by coagulating skimmed milk, semi skimmed milk, cream, whey cream, or buttermilk alone or in combination by the action of rennet or other suitable coagulating agents.</p> <p>Soft cheese: cheese in which the MFFB when refined is in general not less than 68 %.</p> <p>Semi-soft cheese: cheese in which the MFFB when refined is in general not less than 62 % and less than 68 %.</p> <p>Semi-hard cheese: cheese in which the MFFB when refined is in general not less than 55 % and less than 62 %.</p> <p>Hard cheese: cheese in which the MFFB when refined is in general not less than 47 % and less than 55 %.</p>

	<p>Fresh cheese: product obtained from sour milk from which most of the serum has been removed (e.g. by draining or pressing). Also includes curds (other than in powder form) containing up to 30 % by weight in the form of sugar and added fruits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes fresh whey cheese (obtained by concentrating whey and adding milk or milk fat).
3.5. Statistical unit	The statistical unit observed is the Enterprise.
3.6. Statistical population	Milk and dairy product statistics include all enterprises active in Albania, of all legal forms, from the Statistical Register of Enterprises (closed year), which collect and process milk by NACE Rev.2 economic activity, respectively at NACE 01.41, 01.45 and 10.51.
3.7. Reference area	Milk and Dairy Production covers the whole territory of Albania.
3.8. Time coverage	Statistical data on Milk and Dairy Products date back to 2014.
3.9. Base period	Not applicable.
4. Unit of measure	
4.1 Unit of measure	The measuring unit used is Ton, Kilogram, Percentage (%).
5. Reference period	
5.1 Reference period	The Reference Period for Milk and Dairy Products refer to calendar year 01 January 2024 - 31 December 2024.
6. Institutional mandate	
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements	<p>The legal basis for collecting agricultural and livestock statistics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Statistical Law • Official Statistics Program 2022-2026 • Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 “ON LIVESTOCK AND MEAT STATISTICS” <p>Classifications and definitions according to relevant EU regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Directive 96/16/EC, on statistical surveys of milk and dairy products • COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1242/2008 on Typology for Agricultural Holdings • NACE Rev.2 - Statistical classification of economic activities

6.2. Data sharing	Milk and Dairy Products statistics are transmitted to EUROSTAT via eDAMIS platform.
7. Confidentiality	
7.1. Confidentiality - policy	<p>The data collected are considered as strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes and scientific research in accordance with the national Statistical Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, date 10.03.2018 and the Law no. 124/2024, "Personal Data Protection", Article 31 of the Law on Official Statistics clearly define that all statistical information collected by INSTAT are confidential and may only be used or published in such summary tables that do not identify the information of the unit. The direct identification is called when a statistical unit is directly identified by the name, address or any officially recognized identification number. When data processing is performed in such a way as to enable the data subject to be identified, the data must be coded immediately so that the entities are no longer recognized.</p>
7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	<p>Albanian Institute of Statistics protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units. Albania Institute of Statistics takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by Albania Institute of Statistics if and only if:</p> <p>a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation, in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or</p> <p>b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.</p> <p>The confidential data that are transmitted to Albania Institute of Statistics are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task. Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the staff working in Albania Institute of Statistics. The responsibilities of this staff are to recommend on: which detailed level the statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible; the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users; the access granting to researchers on confidential data for scientific purposes.</p>
8. Release policy	
8.1. Release calendar	<p>Announcements regarding the distribution of statistics are published in the publication calendar, which is available on the website. Notifications and delays are pre-announced in this calendar. In the case of delays, the date of future publication shall be specified as well as the reasons for the delay.</p>

8.2. Release calendar access	The calendar of publications is available on INSTAT website.
8.3. User access	<p>In line with the article 34 of Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, INSTAT disseminates statistics on INSTSAT website and other media for simultaneous access, respecting professional independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably. The following dissemination channels are used to release the results of Balance of Electricity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Website – online release; 2. Written requests, (by mail or email); 3. Special publications; 4. Data request, section available for external users
9. Frequency of dissemination	
9.1 Frequency of dissemination	Statistics on Milk and Dairy Products are published on an annual basis.
10. Accessibility and clarity	
10.1. News release	The press release contains information about the main Milk and Dairy Products indicators. The Milk and Dairy Products Press Release is published online on the INSTAT.
10.2. Publications	Results for Milk and Dairy Product Statistics are published in the publication " Milk and Dairy Products ", " Statistical Yearbook ". Users can find the results on the INSTAT website.
10.3. On-line database	Data on Milk and Dairy Product Statistics are published on INSTAT official website, database section.
10.4. Micro – data access	Micro data is not public to the user as a consequence of confidentiality. Aggregated data is the only type of data provided to external users. Although micro data are not published, they can be accessed pursuant to Article 34 of Law no. 17/2018.
10.5. Other	Users can submit other specific Milk and Dairy Product Statistics requests through a dedicated data requests section.
10.6. Documentation on methodology	A brief explanation of user definitions, key concepts and methodological explanations is published in the press release and publications. Additional information is provided to internal users when needed. The INSTAT page has a section on methodology on Milk and Dairy Product Statistics.
10.7. Quality documentation	Sector of Livestock, Fisheries and Environment Statistics documents the

	entire process and procedures for internal purposes.
11. Quality management	
11.1. Quality assurance	<p>INSTAT is committed to ensure the highest quality with respect to the compilation of statistical information. In accordance with the Statistics Law, INSTAT use statistical methods and processes in compliance with internationally recognized scientific principles and standards conduct ongoing analyses of the statistics with a view to quality improvements and ensure that statistics are as update. In performing its tasks it follows the general principles of quality management from the European Statistics Code of Practice. INSTAT declares that it takes into account the following principles: impartiality, quality of processes and products, user orientation, employee orientation, effectiveness of statistical processes, reducing the workload for respondents.</p>
11.2. Quality assessments	<p>The data of Milk and Dairy Products survey are compared with data from previous years to see if there is any data coherence or significant changes. In case of changes, data from other available sources are used to confirm the situation of cases where large differences of behaviour of one year with other years are encountered.</p>
12. Relevance	
12.1. User needs	<p>Users of Milk and Dairy Products are divided into internal and external users.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ External users: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public administration institutions; • Universities; • National and international non-profit organizations; • Businesses; • Researchers, students and other similar groups. ➤ Internal users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directorate of National Accounts; • Directorate of Economic Statistics; • Directorate of Population and Social Statistics; • Directory of Sectoral Statistics. <p>who use Milk and Dairy Products statistics as input to their work.</p>
12.2. User satisfaction	<p>INSTAT conducts the User Satisfaction Survey every year, the results of which will be published on the INSTAT website at the link: User Satisfaction Survey.</p> <p>The 2024 survey results show that the overall quality of the topic “Milk and Dairy Products” (Livestock Statistics) was rated 3.83 (76.6%) on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good).</p>

12.3. Completeness	<p>The completeness of the Milk and Dairy Products Survey data for 2024 is judged by comparing the quality and quantity of indicators covered by INSTAT with those of the regulations followed. Based on the data transmitted the completeness of Table B is estimated at 99.03 % (205 cells sent / 207 cells required).</p> <p>The level of completeness of the indicators at aggregated and detailed level is in full compliance with the "Council Directive 96/16 / EC of 19 March 1996 on statistical surveys of milk and dairy products".</p>
13. Accuracy and reliability	
13.1. Overall accuracy	<p>Overall, the data is checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the data. Where changes occur, the survey data is checked with alternative sources, if any. When there is no information from alternative sources, INSTAT corrects or confirms the data using emails or by calling the respondents.</p> <p>Measures taken by INSTAT each year, to increase response rates or to reduce the impact of nonresponse by imputing them are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data are collected directly from the enterprise. • Data are collected by using PAPI method with face to face interviews using tablets. • The enumerators staff is trained how to handle difficult respondents. • Due to the lack of an address system, it is often difficult for enumerators to find enterprise. For this reason, INSTAT staff, via email addresses or phone number, contacts the person responsible for completing the survey and receives more information on the location as well as the date and time of the meeting. • When this enterprise refuses to respond to interviewer, an official request in particular is directed for the president of enterprises and signed by INSTAT director general. • A formal request is also sent to other companies that agree to respond only if the information is formally requested. • The enterprises are invited to contact the Statistical Office in case of questions and always qualified staffs are available to answer the enterprises calls.
13.2. Sampling error	Not applicable as it is not a random selection. exhaustive list of enterprises.
13.3. Non - sampling error	<p>The response rate is 97,62 %. Actions to reduce non-response include sending informative reminder letters to respondents, phone calls, sometimes medium or large enterprise visits.</p> <p>In case of unit non-response, some evaluation methods are used prior to imputation: based on last year's record, based on the production trends of this unit from the beginning of the current year to the end of this year, or based on the trend of previous years of this enterprise. Unit non-response rate for</p>

	<p>2024 is 0,87%.</p> <p>In case of item non-response, missing variables are requested by phone call. Technical errors are faced with automatic checks that are included in the data editing process. Many controls are performed automatically with human interaction. There are very detailed charts to check each respondent at the product level and to find possible discrepancies. There are some aggregate controls done as well. The data are checked at different levels of collection first by the persons responsible for specific activities, then by supervisor and by head of the responsible unit.</p> <p>Over-coverage occurs when the selected enterprise is surveyed in a particular activity and during the interview process it is no longer subject to survey or the status of the enterprise has changed, it is no longer active.</p> <p>The over-coverage rate on Milk and dairy product survey for 2024 is 3.03%.</p>
--	---

14. Timeliness and punctuality

14.1. Timeliness	<p>Results of Milk and Dairy Products are published on INSTAT website 190 days after the end of the reference period (T+190 days). The reference period of Milk and Dairy Products statistics is December 31st, 2024.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2024</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>7/9/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Time lag</td><td>190</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2024	Date of publication	7/9/2025	Time lag	190		
Reference period	12/31/2024								
Date of publication	7/9/2025								
Time lag	190								
14.2. Punctuality	<p>The data of Milk and Dairy Products are disseminated according to the publication calendar. The publication of Milk and Dairy Products has been punctuality in time to 100% of publications carried out over the years.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2024</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of announcement</td><td>7/9/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>7/9/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Time lag</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2024	Date of announcement	7/9/2025	Date of publication	7/9/2025	Time lag	0
Reference period	12/31/2024								
Date of announcement	7/9/2025								
Date of publication	7/9/2025								
Time lag	0								

15. Coherence and comparability

15.1. Comparability - geographical	Data on Milk and Dairy Product Statistics are comprehensive; they are produced at the country level.
15.2. Comparability - over time	Statistical information on Milk and Dairy Product Statistics is collected in the same way dating back to 2014, providing a comparability of 11 years ($CC2=J_{last}-J_{first}+1=11$). Data is constantly monitored to ensure comparability over time.
15.3. Coherence - cross domain	Published data related to the Survey of Milk and Dairy Products can be found in these related areas such as: Annual Survey in Agriculture or administrative data from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Despite the similarity of the indicators produced by these indicators, it should be noted

	that methodological differences exist between the data.
15.4. Coherence - internal	The internal consistency of the data is checked before being finalized. The relation between the variables and the coherence in the various series are also checked.
16. Cost and burden	
16.1 Cost and burden	The staff involved in the preparation of the Milk and Dairy Product Statistics in the Livestock and Fisheries Statistics sector are: 3 employees at the central offices of INSTAT, Regional Offices staff, 17 in total, Interviewers, 29 in total, 1 controller and operator and 1 IT employee.
17. Data revision	
17.1. Data revision - policy	<p>Revision policy of is done in accordance with general Revision Policy and Errors Treatment Policy introduced by INSTAT in the links below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision Policy; • Errors Treatment Policy.
17.2. Data revision - practise	<p>If the authorities that send information on Milk and Dairy Product Statistics to INSTAT will report changes in the information provided through tables, this data will be updated and published in the forthcoming publication accompanied by an explanatory note to the user.</p> <p>No reviews of data on “ Milk and Dairy Product Statistics ” for 2024 have been conducted, subject to this report</p>
18. Statistical processing	
18.1. Source data	<p>Survey is the only source of data collection. The population under study for the Annual Milk Survey and Dairy Products for 2024 contains 462 enterprises, which have been exhaustively surveyed. The enterprises in question are all legal forms and types of ownership and that collect and process milk by economic activity based on NACE Rev.2. From this exhaustive list of enterprises, 344 enterprises resulted active.</p> <p>The data collection instrument includes direct interviewing with paper questionnaires.</p>
18.2. Frequency of data collection	Milk and Dairy Products data are collected on annual basis. The process of data collection is carried out over a month, from February to March, throughout the country.
18.3. Data collection	The data required for the Annual Milk Survey and Dairy Products are provided by all registered entities that carry out milk collection and

	<p>processing (cows, sheep, and goats) by interviewing the responsible person who has access to the economic data of the enterprise. (Economist, financier, director / administrator / president of the company).</p> <p>Important phase in the preparation for data collection is the preparation of all the necessary materials and the preparation of data entry software, preparation of questionnaires. Should be identified the enterprises to be interviewed, the sample is divided among enumerators; the enumerators are selected and trained. At the training the enumerators receive the prepared materials such as guideline of questionnaire, enumerator's tasks, list of economic activity, notification letter for enterprises, a laptop and a training on how to complete a questionnaire via laptops taking into account technical computing issues, etc.</p> <p>The interviewers involved in this process should be communicative and very clear about the objective and information required in the survey. They should recognize and clarify the interviewee enterprise on the law of confidentiality, which protects their data declared to INSTAT and that this data will be used for aggregate purposes only for statistical purposes.</p> <p>Everything reported by enterprises is recorded in the data collection process. In case of lack of clarity, the reporting unit is contacted. In case of non-reporting, an official letter signed by the head of the Institution is sent to the reporting unit. The enumerator is required to behave ethically in the event of refusals by enterprises. In case of rejection by the subject, the interviewers should insist on obtaining the required information or seeking the support of the audit staff. If, even after these efforts, the undertaking still refuses, the interviewer shall state the reason for the refusal.</p>
18.4. Data validation	<p>In terms of data validation, data editing procedures generally refer to micro level or otherwise enterprise level editing.</p> <p>1. Data editing in data entry program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of incoming questionnaires, Completeness checks, valid values checks, range checks, logical control of the questionnaire. The number of incoming questionnaires should be equal with the number of distributed questionnaires in the prefectures; • Individual checks are done for the cases of refusal and no contacts; • The answered active enterprises are checked for coherence of data given in different sessions of questionnaire. <p>Control of some questions through information that can be found from individual contact of enterprise.</p>
18.5. Data compilation	<p>When compiling data collected annually on "Milk and Dairy Products" processing entities, we check the internal consistency of data (including consistency with other sources) and consistency with data from previous periods. In case of major discrepancies, the data is checked by contacting the reporting units.</p> <p>For the data compilation there are two basic procedures:</p>

	<p>1. Quality of data There are applied some rules for analyzing quality of data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematic control of the questionnaire - Logic control of the questionnaire's data; • Comparison of time series data · Comparison of data with other years; • Analyze of huge deviations from average. <p>2. Treatment of non-response considered as all cases of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-contact; • Full refuse; • Partial refuses (for different tables and indicators). <p>For non-response cases, logical corrections should be made where information can be extracted from other variables and priority is given to further contacts with enterprises to collect missing information. Data is statistically edited with appropriate imputation procedures such as: logical imputations, average imputations, historical imputations, etc.</p>
18.6. Adjustment	Not applicable.
19. Comment	
Annex	