

**Documentation of statistics for
Ownership of agricultural land in Denmark 2020**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics Ownership of agricultural land is to show how the Danish agricultural land is distributed. The statistics are published for the first time with statistics for the years 2020-22.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics show on an annual basis the number of owners and how the ownership of Danish agricultural land is distributed by the nationalities of the owners, regions, type of owner, gender, age and size.

2.1 Data description

The statistics show number of owners and area distributed by nationality of the owners type of ownership, age gender and size of area.

An ownership describes persons or enterprises possessing a given specific property (in Danish abbreviated into BFE). A given specific property (BFE) includes one or more plots of land having the same BFE number and is registered by the cadastre authorities.

Agricultural land here is defined as land where agricultural activity is carried out in the form of growing crops, and which is included in the EU's agricultural support system of crop subsidies.

Ownership of Danish agricultural land thus refers to a private person, an enterprise or another group of owners who possess fully or partially over a given specific property located in Denmark, which is used for the cultivation of crops covered by EU's agricultural support system of crop subsidies from the register of the Ministry of Agriculture. The same property might have more than one owner, and an owner can own several properties. This means that there usually are more ownerships than owners and properties.

2.2 Classification system

The statistics use the classification on [Regions, provinces and municipalities](#).

2.3 Sector coverage

Agriculture

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Ownership of Danish agricultural land: Ownership of Danish agricultural land refers to a private individual or an enterprise having full or partial control over a given real estate property located in Denmark, which is used for the cultivation of crops covered by the EU's agricultural support. The same property can have multiple owners, and an owner can control multiple properties, which means there can be more ownerships than owners and properties.

2.5 Statistical unit

The unit is an ownership understood as a person or an enterprise owning a property or parts of a property with a unique BFE number. A person or enterprise might own more than one property or parts of properties. Thereby there will be more ownerships than owners.

2.6 Statistical population

All owners of agricultural land in Denmark.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark

2.8 Time coverage

2020-22

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

The fields registered in IACS (Integrated Agricultural Control System) are merged with the land plots from the cadastre authorities, the owner list, The Civil Registration System, The Central Business Register and address registers whereby the nationalities of the owners can be determined. The owners can be both private persons and enterprises.

2.11 Reference period

December 31st for the year in question.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The Act on Statistics Denmark, section 6. The register based unemployment statistics is not covered by any EU regulation.

2.14 Cost and burden

These statistics are based on administrative data. There is thus no direct response burden in relation to compiling these statistics.

2.15 Comment

Other information can be obtained by contacting Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

The IACS register (Integrated Agricultural Control System) is combined and merged with the Business Register and address registers whereby the owners nationality can be determined. The owners can be both private persons and enterprises.

3.1 Source data

The data is collected from several register: The Integrated Agricultural Control System (IACS), which is a register of the farmer's applications for crop subsidies with number of hectares distributed by a number of crops. The register has a list of the fields used for agricultural activity with cultivation of crops. IACS is kept by the Ministry of Agriculture. The land is registered in the cadastre system which is kept by The Danish Geodata Agency. Also the owner list, which describes the ownership of real property, is kept by The Danish Geodata Agency. The information on the owners is collected from The Civil Registration Register (CPR) and additionally The Central Business Register and address registers.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Annual.

3.3 Data collection

Data for the statistics is collected via a system-to-system solution.

3.4 Data validation

There is no data validation since the register information is assumed to be reliable.

3.5 Data compilation

The base for the statistics is IACS, the farmer's applications for crop subsidies. The registered fields are linked to the property where they are located. A property can either be owned by one more persons or one or more enterprises. If the property has more than owner the land is distributed proportionally by owner shares. Via CPR (person number) or CVR (business number) the nationality of the owners can be determined. For enterprises the ownership is investigated og possible its owners to identify ownership through natural or legal owner. First is sought for a natural owner and next for a legal owner. Are more owners found the land is distributed proportionally by owner shares. Is no foreign ownership identified in CVR in the second part of the search the nationality will be set to Danish. For owners where the nationality is unknown a category "nationality unknown" is established.

3.6 Adjustment

Not relevant for the statistics.

4 Relevance

The statistics fulfil a need in particular for The Ministry of Agriculture to know the amount of agricultural land owned by non Danish citizens and enterprises.. The statistics will presumably also be interesting for political parties and the press.

4.1 User Needs

The users are the Ministry of Agriculture, political parties and the press.

4.2 User Satisfaction

Not yet known.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant for these statistics.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics include all land in possession of farmers applying for crop subsidies. Very little agricultural land is cultivated in Denmark without support subsidies. The source data are collected from The IACS register (Integrated Agricultural Control System), which also is used as a source in the farm structure survey, and includes as good as as all agricultural land in Denmark and is see as a reliable source.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The statistics include all land in possession of farmers applying for crop subsidies. Very little agricultural land is cultivated in Denmark without support subsidies.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The statistics include all land in possession of farmers applying for crop subsidies. Farmers not applying for subsidies are the thereby excluded. However, they are estimated to possess no more the 10-20.000 hectares out of a total Danish area of 2.6 million hectares of agricultural land.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

No quality assessment is available so far regarding the statistics.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

There are no revisions of these statistics.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics will be published 14 months from the reference time December 31st.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics are published 14 months after the reference day December 31st.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are published as planned.

7 Comparability

The statistics are comparable with the farm structure survey, but the figures for the agricultural area are not exactly identical in the two statistics. This is due to fact that the statistics include all land cultivated by farmers applying for crop subsidies whereas the farm structure survey as main rule only include farm of at least 5,0 hectares. The units in the two statistics are not the same. The statistics on ownership of agricultural land includes the landowners which could be farmers men not necessarily are.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

There is no similar statistics in other countries.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics are comparable back to 2020.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The statistics are comparable with the farm structure survey, but the figures for the agricultural area are not exactly identical in the two statistics. This is due to fact that the statistics include all land cultivated by farmers applying for crop subsidies whereas the farm structure survey as main rule only include farm of at least 5,0 hectares. The units in the two statistics are not the same. The statistics on ownership of agricultural land includes the landowners which could be farmers men not necessarily are.

7.4 Coherence - internal

There are inconsistencies in the statistics.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published in Statbank Denmark and the News letter "Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik" (in Danish only),

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.4 News release

First news release "Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik" is published 30th April 2024.

8.5 Publications

No publication apart from the Statbank Denmark and the newsrelease "Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik".

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank Denmark in the following tables: EJJORD1

8.7 Micro-data access

Anonymous data can be made available for researchers and others according the normal practice of Statistics Denmark.

8.8 Other

Nothing to remark.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) for Statistics Denmark is applied.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

No table cells with less than five observations are published.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Nothing to remark.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The statistics belong with the division of agricultural statistics. The colleague responsible for the statistics is Karsten Larsen, tel. 3917 3378, e-mail kkl@dst.dk

9.1 Contact organisation

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N/A