

Structure of vineyards in 2015

Over 3 million hectares of vineyards in the EU...

... of which almost 80% are for quality wine

In the **European Union** (EU) in 2015, there were 2.4 million holdings cultivating 3.2 million hectares (ha) of vineyards. The average area per holding was 1.3 ha, however with significant differences between Member States.

2.5 million hectares (78%) of vineyards were dedicated to the production of grapes for quality wine. Quality wine refers to both protected designation of origin (2.1 million ha, or 83% of total quality wine area in the EU) and protected geographical indication (0.4 million ha, or 17%).

This information, published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, comes from the results of the latest EU data collection on the structure of vineyards. This 5-yearly data collection monitors the market for grape-based and wine products as well as the production potential of vineyards in the EU.



Spain, France and Italy account for three-quarters of vineyard area in the EU...

With almost 1 million hectares of vineyards (941 000 ha, or 30% of EU total area), **Spain** was the Member State with the largest area devoted to grapes for wine in 2015, followed by **France** (803 000 ha, or 25%), **Italy** (610 000 ha in 2010, or 19%) and, at a distance, by **Portugal** (199 000 ha, or 6%), **Romania** (184 000 ha, or 6%), **Greece** and **Germany** (both around 103 000 ha, or 3% each). **Castilla-la Mancha** (434 000 ha) in Spain was in 2015 the region with the largest vineyard area, accounting for nearly 14% of the EU total vineyard area, ahead of **Languedoc-Roussillon** (239 000 ha, or 7%) and **Aquitaine** (144 000 ha, or 5%) in France.

... however more than a third of all EU vineyard holdings are in Romania

The ranking is very different for the number of vineyard holdings, with **Romania** (855 000 holdings, or 36% of EU total) registering the most, ahead of **Spain** (518 000 holdings, or 22%), **Italy** (299 000 holdings in 2010, or 12%), **Portugal** (212 000 holdings or 9%) and **Greece** (189 000 holdings, or 8%).

Largest vineyard holdings in France

The highest average area per holding in 2015 was by far registered in **France** (10.5 hectares). It was followed by **Luxembourg** (4.0 ha), **Austria** (3.2 ha), the **United Kingdom** (3.1 ha), **Germany** (2.4 ha), **Italy** and **Slovakia** (both 2.0 ha), **Spain** and **Hungary** (both 1.8 ha). In contrast, average areas below 1 ha per holding were recorded in **Romania** (0.2 ha), **Malta** (0.3 ha), **Croatia** (0.4 ha), **Greece**, **Cyprus** and **Slovenia** (all 0.5 ha) as well as **Portugal** (0.9 ha).

Main characteristics of vineyards in the EU Member States, 2015

	Area (in ha)	Top region (share in total area)	Number of vineyard holdings	Average area per holding (in ha)
EU*	3 190 459	Castilla-La Mancha (13.6%)	2 404 968	1.3
Belgium	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	59 991	Yugoiztochen (33.2%)	45 179	1.3
Czech Republic	17 689	Jihovýchod (94.4%)	18 216	1.0
Denmark	-	-	-	-
Germany	102 581	Rheinhessen-Pfalz (48.6%)	43 389	2.4
Estonia	-	-	-	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-
Greece	103 298	Peloponnisos (24.8%)	188 896	0.5
Spain	941 154	Castilla-La Mancha (46.1%)	517 615	1.8
France	802 896	Languedoc-Roussillon (29.7%)	76 453	10.5
Croatia	20 393	Kontinentalna Hrvatska (51.9%)	46 068	0.4
Italy**	610 291	Sicilia (16.8%)	299 191	2.0
Cyprus	7 781	-	14 202	0.5
Latvia	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	1 295	-	326	4.0
Hungary	65 049	Dél-Alföld (33.2%)	35 741	1.8
Malta***	618	-	1 955	0.3
Netherlands	-	-	-	-
Austria	45 574	Niederösterreich (61.9%)	14 133	3.2
Poland	-	-	-	-
Portugal	198 586	Norte (41.4%)	212 128	0.9
Romania	183 717	Sud-Est (41.5%)	854 766	0.2
Slovenia	15 806	Vzhodna Slovenija (59.0%)	30 224	0.5
Slovakia	12 054	Západné Slovensko (62.5%)	5 933	2.0
Finland	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	1 687	:	553	3.1

* EU data are estimated

** 2010 data instead of 2015

*** 2009 data instead of 2015

: Data not available

- not applicable (less than 500 hectares of vineyards)

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Largest area for quality wine under protection of designation of origin

In 2015, **Spain** and **France** together accounted for about two-thirds of the total quality wine area in the EU. In every Member State with vineyards except **Romania**, grapes for quality wine made up the largest share of the total vineyard area. All or almost all the vineyard area was dedicated to grapes for quality wine in **Germany**, **Luxembourg**, the **United Kingdom**, the **Czech Republic** and **Slovenia**.

Among quality wine, grapes under protection of designation of origin (PDO) prevail over protection of geographical indications (PGI) in a vast majority of Member States except **Greece**, **Cyprus** and **Bulgaria**. Overall in the **EU**, more than 80% of the quality wine area is for PDO (82.9%) and less than a fifth for PGI (17.1%).

Quality wine vineyards in the EU Member States, 2015

	Area dedicated to quality wine (in ha)	Share of quality wine / total area	Quality wine, of which:	
			PDO	PGI
EU*	2 495 955	78.2%	82.9%	17.1%
Belgium	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	36 702	61.2%	41.8%	58.2%
Czech Republic	17 653	99.8%	99.3%	0.7%
Denmark	-	-	-	-
Germany	102 543	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Estonia	-	-	-	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-
Greece	54 190	52.5%	26.8%	73.2%
Spain	899 303	95.6%	92.4%	7.6%
France	677 407	84.4%	75.1%	24.9%
Croatia	18 546	90.9%	100.0%	0.0%
Italy**	317 694	52.1%	:	:
Cyprus	6 798	87.4%	6.4%	93.6%
Latvia	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	1 295	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Hungary	63 381	97.4%	100.0%	0.0%
Malta***	440	71.2%	:	:
Netherlands	-	-	-	-
Austria	45 439	99.7%	100.0%	0.0%
Poland	-	-	-	-
Portugal	174 434	87.8%	72.4%	27.6%
Romania	50 968	27.7%	64.2%	35.8%
Slovenia	15 688	99.3%	100.0%	0.0%
Slovakia	11 850	98.3%	96.1%	3.9%
Finland	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	1 685	99.9%	93.3%	6.7%

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Methods and definitions

The data source is the European statistics on the structure of vineyards, covered by Regulation (EU) No 1337/2011. Structural statistics on wine-growing are collected by Eurostat every 5 years. The data collection covers the area, the number of holdings as well as other indicators such as the type of wine production and specialization of holdings, the size class of the wine-growing holdings, the age of vines and the main vine varieties.

Data production threshold:

Only EU Member States having a minimum planted area of 500 hectares (ha) of vineyards are included in the data collection. This means that a total of 18 EU Member States (out of 28) are covered in this data collection. Moreover, holdings producing exclusively table grapes are excluded from this data collection.

Area under vines includes areas in production, not yet in production as well as areas producing material for vegetative propagation of vines. It does not include abandoned areas which are no longer in production and have not been harvested for at least eight years. Other utilised agricultural areas (other than under vines) are not taken into account for size classification.

Protected designation of origin (PDO) designates the name of a product which must be produced within a determined geographical area using recognised and recorded know-how. All products with PDO status must be produced exclusively with grapes from the area in question.

Protected geographical indication (PGI) designates a product with a quality, reputation or other specific features that can be attributed to a determined geographical area. All products with PGI status must be produced with at least 85% of the grapes coming from the area in question.

Country notes:

At the time of publication, 2015 data for Italy and Malta were not available; consequently data from the previous data collection were used instead for these Member States.

For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to agricultural statistics.

Eurostat [database](#) on agriculture.

Eurostat [metadata](#) on vineyard statistics.

Eurostat statistical book "[Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics](#)" (2016 edition).

Eurostat [Statistic Explained article](#) on wine-growing statistics

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