

## **2. STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BROKEN DOWN BY ECONOMIC SIZE CLASSES**

*As mentioned in previous chapter, the Community typology enables classification of agricultural holdings into 14 economic size classes. For the purposes of this evaluation, the classes were merged into three basic groups of economic size. The analysis covers small-scale holdings (economic size class I.-V.), medium-scale holdings (economic size class VI.-IX.) and large-scale holdings (economic size class X.-XIV.). Results of the Farm Structure Survey concerning economic size structure of holdings are given in Table 3.*

*The majority of Czech agricultural holdings belong to the small size classes (62%). The medium size holdings represent 31% of the total number. The smallest proportion is formed by large-scale holdings (7%). Nevertheless, the substantial part of the Czech agricultural production is concentrated within the group of large-scale holdings, which covers 65% of utilised agriculture area and 78% of animal production (in livestock units<sup>1</sup>). The opposite is represented by small scale holdings (mostly natural persons), which involve the largest number of the holdings, but utilise only 5% of the agricultural land resources and rear approximately 4% of the livestock. In detail, the highest number of holdings belongs to economic size III (4 625 holdings), followed by economic size IV (4 521 holdings) and economic size V (3 013 holdings). The smallest proportion is formed by economic size XI, which covers 269 holdings with 1% share on total number of holdings.*

*The Farm Structure Survey results confirm dependence between the economic size and legal form of the agricultural holdings. The majority of natural person holdings belong to small economic size classes (economic size class I-V). On the contrary, the share of large-scale natural persons is very low (1%). The opposite economic size structure is formed by legal person holdings with more than half of large-scale holdings (54%). Approximately 38% of legal person holdings fall into the medium size classes. Remaining 8% represent the small size legal persons, for which in many cases the agricultural production is not their principal orientation.*

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<sup>1</sup> Livestock units were calculated according to Eurostat methods.

**Table 3: Structure of the holdings broken down by their economic size**

<b>Economic size class</b>	<b>Agricultural holdings, total</b>		<b>Holdings of natural persons</b>		<b>Holdings of legal persons</b>	
	<b>Abs.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Abs.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Abs.</b>	<b>%</b>
<i>I</i>	1 565	6.0	1 563	6.7	2	0.07
<i>II</i>	2 513	9.6	2 505	10.8	8	0.28
<i>III</i>	4 625	17.7	4 572	19.6	53	1.82
<i>IV</i>	4 521	17.3	4 442	19.1	79	2.72
<i>V</i>	3 013	11.5	2 917	12.5	95	3.29
<b>Small (I.-V.)</b>	<b>16 237</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>16 000</b>	<b>68.7</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>8.18</b>
<i>VI</i>	2 873	11.0	2 749	11.8	123	4.26
<i>VII</i>	2 426	9.3	2 246	9.6	180	6.21
<i>VIII</i>	1 987	7.6	1 582	6.8	405	13.98
<i>IX</i>	851	3.3	461	2.0	390	13.46
<b>Medium (VI.-IX.)</b>	<b>8 137</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>7 038</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>1 098</b>	<b>37.91</b>
<i>X</i>	411	1.6	138	0.6	273	9.42
<i>XI</i>	269	1.0	50	0.2	219	7.57
<i>XII</i>	367	1.4	38	0.2	329	11.35
<i>XIII</i>	459	1.8	18	0.1	441	15.22
<i>XIV</i>	302	1.2	2	0.0	300	10.35
<b>Large (X.-XIV.)</b>	<b>1 808</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1 562</b>	<b>53.91</b>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>26 182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23 284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2 898</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Not including non-classified holdings

Concerning regional distribution of the holdings, there are not significant differences in the economic size structure among particular regions (with the only exception of Hl. m. Praha). The largest share of small holdings occurred in Zlínský Region (80%), Liberecký Region (74%) and Moravskoslezský Region (70%). Medium sized holdings form the largest proportion in Vysočina Region (40%), Středočeský Region and Ústecký Region (39%). The highest share of large-scale holdings is typical for Pardubický Region (10%), Olomoucký Region (9%) and Středočeský Region (9%). In absolute numbers, most of small sized holdings were situated in Jihomoravský Region (2 623 holdings), that covers more than 16% of all small agricultural holdings in the Czech Republic. Most of large-scale holdings occurred in Středočeský Region, where 299 large farms were registered. These holdings shared 17% of the total number of large holdings in the Czech Republic.