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# STRUCTURE OF DAIRY PLANTS, 2024

In 2024, as compared to 2021, the volume of collected milk decreased by **11.9%**, that is, by about 52 000 tonnes, while the total volume of treated milk in dairy plants decreased by **4.6%**, which means that about 27 300 tonnes less milk were treated.

Concerning individual groups of products, the production of fresh dairy products decreased by 9.4%, while the production of cheese decreased by 3.7%. The total production of drinking milk decreased by 16.9%, while the production of butter decreased by 14.1%.

## 1 STRUCTURE OF DAIRIES, BY VOLUME OF MILK, 2024<sup>1)</sup>

Classes by volume of collected and treated milk (tonnes/year)	Number of dairy plants	Volume of milk	
		t	Indices 2024 2021
Dairy plants by annual volume of milk collected			
Total	31	383 327	88,1
≤ 5 000	25	11 480	61,0
5 001 - 50 000	3	33 776	89,0
> 50 000	3	338 071	89,3
Dairy plants by annual volume of milk treated			
Total	31	568 868	95,4
≤ 5 000	25	11 480	61,0
5 001 - 50 000	3	43 172	108,4
> 50 000	3	514 216	95,7

1) See Notes on Methodology.

## 2 STRUCTURE OF DAIRIES, BY VOLUME OF PRODUCTS, 2024<sup>1)</sup>

Classes by volume of manufactured products (tonnes/year)	Number of dairy plants	Volume of products	
		t	Indices 2024 2021
Dairy plants by annual production of fresh products			
Total	24	384 255	90,6
≤ 1 000	15	6 864	70,3
1 001 – 10 000	6	19 159	77,2
> 10 000	3	358 232	91,9
Dairy plants by annual production of drinking milk			
Total	20	219 966	83,1
≤ 1 000	13	4 059	78,3
1 001 – 10 000	z	z	z
> 10 000	z	z	z
Dairy plants by annual production of powdered dairy products			
Total	z	z	z
≤ 1 000	z	z	z
> 1 000	-	-	-
Dairy plants by annual production of butter			
Total	11	5 416	85,9
≤ 100	8	450	143,3
> 100	3	4 966	82,9
Dairy plants by annual production of cheese			
Total	24	31 546	96,3
≤ 100	15	1 033	71,9
101 – 1 000	5	1 269	101,4
> 1 000	4	29 244	97,3

1) See Notes on Methodology.

## NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

### Sources and methods of data collection

Data on the structure of dairy plants are taken over from the Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food – the Central Laboratory for Milk Quality Control (SLKM). The data collected that way refer to the number of dairy plants by the volume of collected and treated milk and the volume of groups of products obtained. At the same time, data on the volume of collected and treated milk and the volume of produced dairy products are collected.

The Laboratory processes the collected data and submits them, according to previously defined deadlines and in suitable form, to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for further processing.

Data on the structure of dairy plants are collected triennially.

The methodology for carrying out the survey on milk and dairy products is based on the Methodological Basis for Gathering Data on Milk and Dairy Products Statistics (NN, No. 42/13).

### Coverage and comparability

There are about forty dairy plants operating in the Republic of Croatia for which the SLKM makes analysis of purchased milk and from which it collects data on the production. The coverage includes industrial and registered small dairy plants, and since 2010 also agricultural farms and small cheese factories registered as processors and buyers of milk.

### Confidentiality

Aggregate data from which individual reporting units can be identified (due to a small number of units, the dominance rule or secondary confidentiality rule), in accordance with the Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20 and 155/23), Instruction on the Protection Rules and Methods for the Dissemination of Official Statistics of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, and the Instruction on the Method of Protection of Confidential Statistical Data in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, are treated as confidential and are, therefore, not published.

### Definitions

**Collected milk** comprises the volume of milk collected directly from agricultural farms.

**Treated milk** comprises the volume of milk used for the manufacture of dairy products in dairy plants.

**Fresh products** comprise drinking milk, buttermilk, cream, fermented products (yoghurts, yoghurt drinks and other), milk-based drinks and other fresh products.

**Drinking milk** comprises raw milk, whole milk, semi-skimmed milk and skimmed milk containing no additives.

**Powdered dairy products** comprise products obtained by eliminating water from cream, all kinds of milk, buttermilk and fermented products.

**Butter** includes traditional butter, melted butter, butter oil and similar products containing more than 80% of milk fat.

**Cheese** includes fresh or matured, hard or semi-hard products, obtained by coagulation of milk, cream, buttermilk or other products.

#### Abbreviations

t                      tonne  
z                      data are not published for confidentiality reasons

#### Symbols

-                      no occurrence  
≤                      less than or equal to  
>                      greater than

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