



~ Methodology ~

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

LEGAL BASIS

Data on the number of livestock and livestock production in Republika Srpska are provided through the “Annual Farm Survey – Animal Production”, a survey implemented in accordance with the following:

- Work Plan of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics,
- Statistical Programme of Republika Srpska for the period 2026–2029 (Decision of the Republika Srpska Government No 04/1-012-2-4593/25, “Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 4/26),
- Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 85/03), and
- Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning livestock and meat statistics.

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

AIM AND CONTENT

Data on the number of livestock and livestock production on farms in Republika Srpska as on 1 December 2025 were obtained through the “Annual Farm Survey-Animal Production” (GIPG-S).

The survey has been conducted since 2017, in accordance with Eurostat’s recommendations and standards and it has fully replaced the previous methodology of collecting data on animal production of family farms, which was based on estimates made by municipal officials.

OBSERVATION UNITS

Observation units are farms (family farms and farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs) engaged in livestock breeding.

COVERAGE

The survey was carried out based on a random representative sample covering 3.6% of family farms located in the territory of Republika Srpska that are engaged in livestock breeding.

The “Register of Farms”, established on the basis of the results of the Census of Population 2013, was used as the sample frame. This register is regularly updated based on available administrative and non-administrative data.

In addition to the farms selected into the sample, the survey also covers all farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs, which belong to the pre-defined target population.

Upon extrapolation, the data collected through the survey serve as the basis for monitoring livestock statistics in Republika Srpska

METHOD AND PERIOD OF DATA COLLECTION

In the “Annual Farm Survey – Animal Production”, the data for 2025 were collected through interviews with farm household members, using the CATI method (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing). The survey is conducted annually and it was implemented between 1 and 15 December 2025, based on a random representative sample of family farms and all farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs, which belong to the pre-defined target population. The data on number of livestock by type and category refer to the situation on 1 December 2025.

PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL DATA

Only aggregate data on the number of livestock and livestock production for the level of Republika Srpska are published, based on the survey results. Confidential data are protected pursuant to Articles 25 and 27 of the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 85/03) and in accordance with the Rules of protection of confidential data.

LEVEL OF DATA REPRESENTATIVENESS

Data on the number of livestock obtained through the survey are representative for the level of Republika Srpska.

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND STANDARDS

“Annual Farm Survey” fully complies with Regulation EC No 1165/2008, which regulates surveys in the field of livestock statistics (including the number of livestock). Thus, the data obtained through the survey are internationally comparable.

ORGANISATION OF THE STATISTICAL ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENTING THE STATISTICAL ACTIVITY

Responsible producer of data on the number of livestock on farms is the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.

Farms from the sample are surveyed by the operators through computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI method); this process is centralized, being carried out at the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics in Banja Luka. The operators have to attend the training and, in their work, they must act in accordance with the instructions for survey implementation and the instructions given during the training. The interviewing and controlled data entry last 15 days. Final control of the material, weighting, formation of output tables with assessment of features and publishing are performed at the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics in Banja Luka.

OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE DATA

Reporting units (farms) must submit data to the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics pursuant to the Law on Statistics.

METHODOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS

QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaires for family farms (GIPG-PPG/S) and questionnaires for farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs (GIPG-PL/S) are used for the implementation of the “Annual Farm Survey – Animal Production”. The questionnaires can be found at the official website of the Institute, in the section [Agriculture and fishery questionnaires](#).

METHODOLOGICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Methodological instructions for the “Annual Farm Survey – Animal Production” implementation for 2025 are available at the Institute’s official website, at: [Methodological documents](#).

PUBLISHING

Preliminary data on the number of livestock by individual type and livestock production are published on 14 February of the current year, in the regular statistical release [“Number of livestock and animal production”](#).

Final and detailed data on the number of livestock and livestock trade by species and category are published on 15 October of the current year in the [database](#) available at the website of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.

BREAKS IN TIME SERIES

Since 2017, the data on number of livestock are obtained through a regular statistical survey conducted based on a sample of farms engaged in livestock breeding. Before 2017, the data on livestock production of farms was based on estimates made by municipal officials. Changes to the methodology of data collection have caused a break in time series. Thus, the data on number of livestock collected based on two different methodological approaches are not comparable.

According to the appropriate methodology, a revision (correction) of the time series of data on the number of livestock for the period 2010–2017 was done. Revised and final data on the number of livestock, for the period 2010–2025, were published in the database on the Institute's website, in the Agriculture section.

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Last updated:

15 February 2026