

Average Farm Business Income (FBI): England 2016/17

These results are sourced from the 2016/17 Farm Business Survey (which covers the 2016 harvest and 2016 Basic Payment*). Figures are for March/February years with the most recent year shown ending February 2017. The data shown here are averages and within each year there is a wide range of incomes across farms.

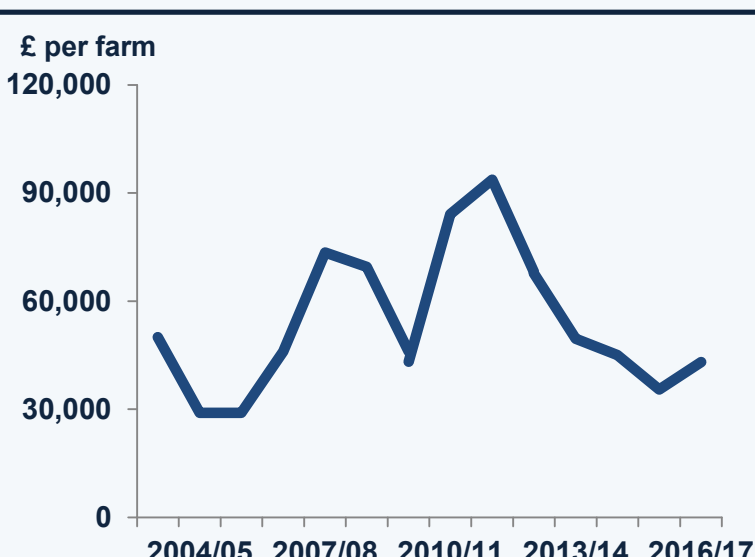
* Across all farm types the Basic Payment was 19 percent lower than in 2015/16 due to the weaker pound at the end of September 2016 when the exchange rate was set. Estimates have been made for some farms where full payment details are not yet available.



Cereals

£43,100 per farm

22%



Despite firmer prices for cereals and oilseed, crop output was lower, driven by reduced yields and a shift to lower value/ lower yielding crops (e.g. barley, pulses).

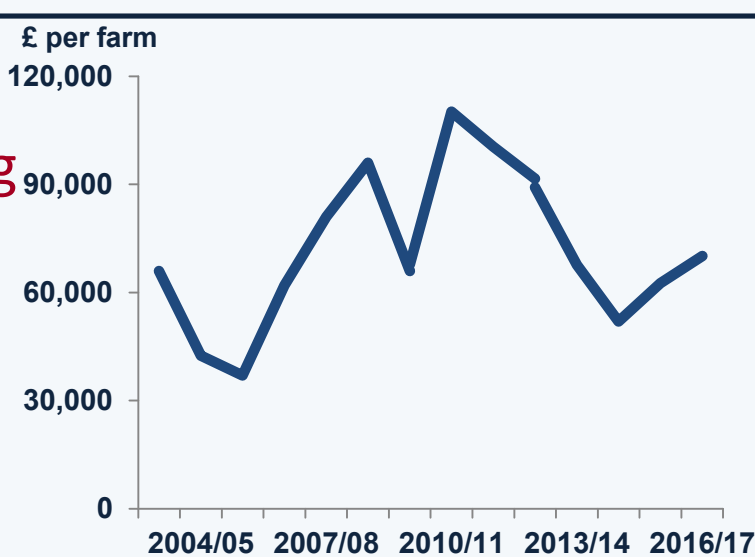
Variable costs were substantially lower with smaller falls in fixed costs



General cropping

£70,100 per farm

12%



Lower output for wheat, pulses and oilseed rape was largely offset by increases from potatoes and energy crops.

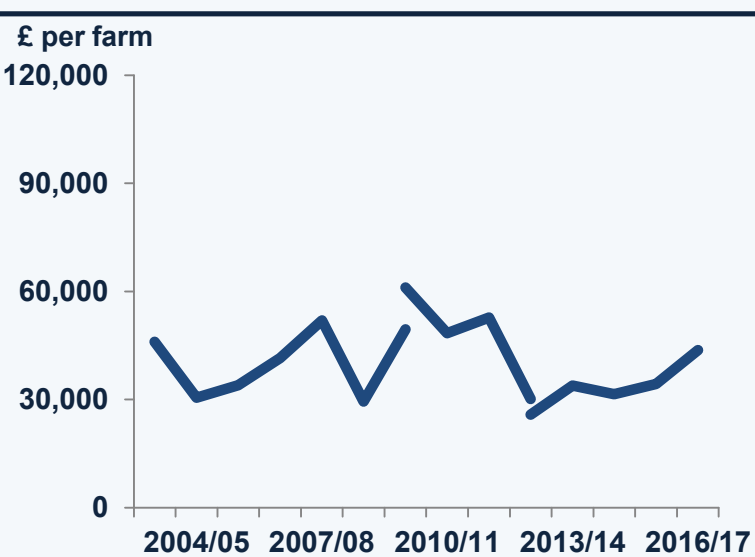
Substantial reductions for fixed costs, notably labour and building depreciation.



Horticulture

£43,800 per farm

27%



Higher output from flowers, bulbs and nursery stock.

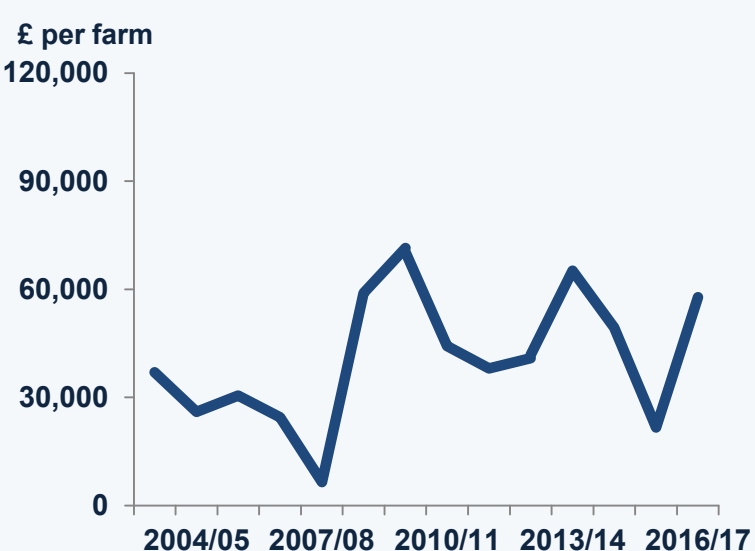
Input costs also increased but to a lesser extent.



Pigs

£57,800 per farm

167%



Despite firmer prices, the output from pigs fell due to reduced throughput. Reduced costs, associated with this fall in production led to a net increase in average incomes.

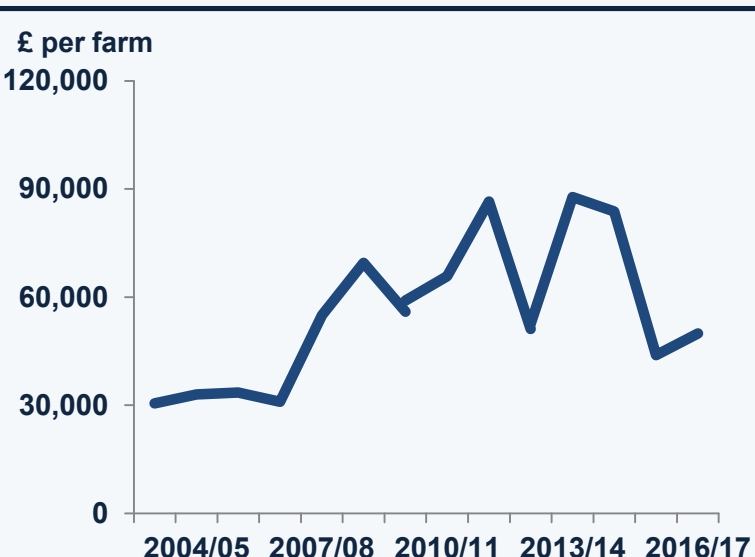
Note: some of these changes are due to an increased proportion of contract rearing farms within the sample.



Dairy

£50,000 per farm

14%



Lower output from milk (driven by a fall in milk prices and the volume of milk produced) was offset by increased output from the beef enterprise.

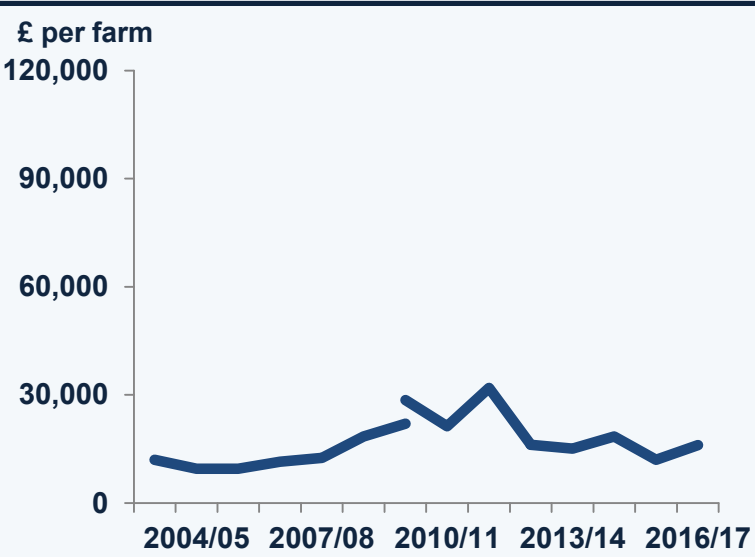
Both variable and fixed costs were lower.



Grazing livestock (lowland)

£16,100 per farm

33%



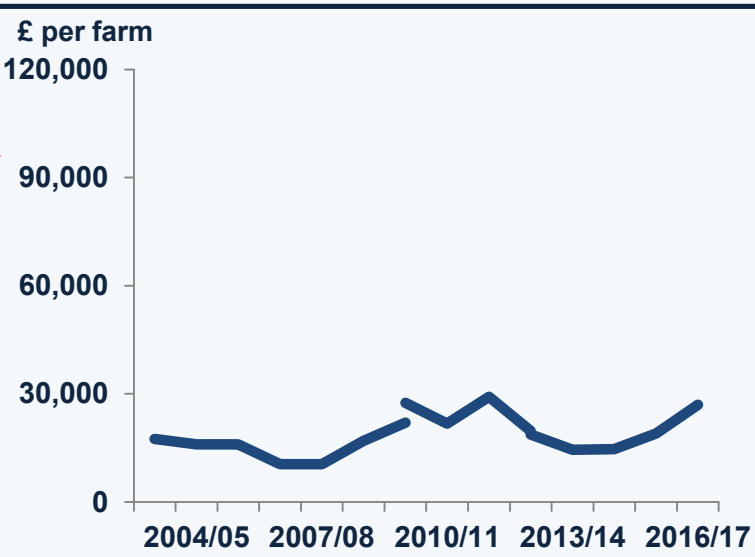
Increased output from cattle, driven primarily by an increase in the valuation change*, was only partially offset by higher input costs. Crop output was also higher.



Grazing livestock (LFA)

£27,000 per farm

42%



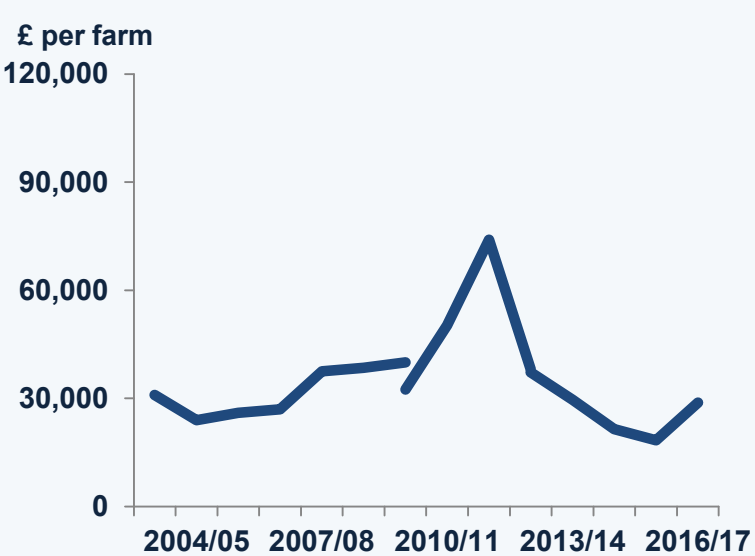
Increased output from cattle and sheep combined with a higher agri-environment and Basic payment drove incomes up.



Mixed

£28,800 per farm

56%



Increased output from agriculture, diversification and the Basic Payment were partially offset by higher costs.

There are breaks in the series shown in these charts. For 2009/10 and 2012/13. These are due to changes in the method used to assign farms to specific farm types. For each year average income has been calculated using both methods for comparability. See our website for more information.

*Valuation change:

The difference between the livestock opening and closing valuations can have a considerable impact on incomes. In 2015/16, closing valuations for the beef herd and sheep flock were lower than opening valuations, thus decreasing the enterprise output. This was reversed in 2016/17 as livestock prices were higher than the year before, thus increasing the valuation across the year and increasing enterprise output.

Source: Defra, Farm Business Survey For more information: FBS.queries@defra.gsi.gov.uk
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/farm-business-survey>

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