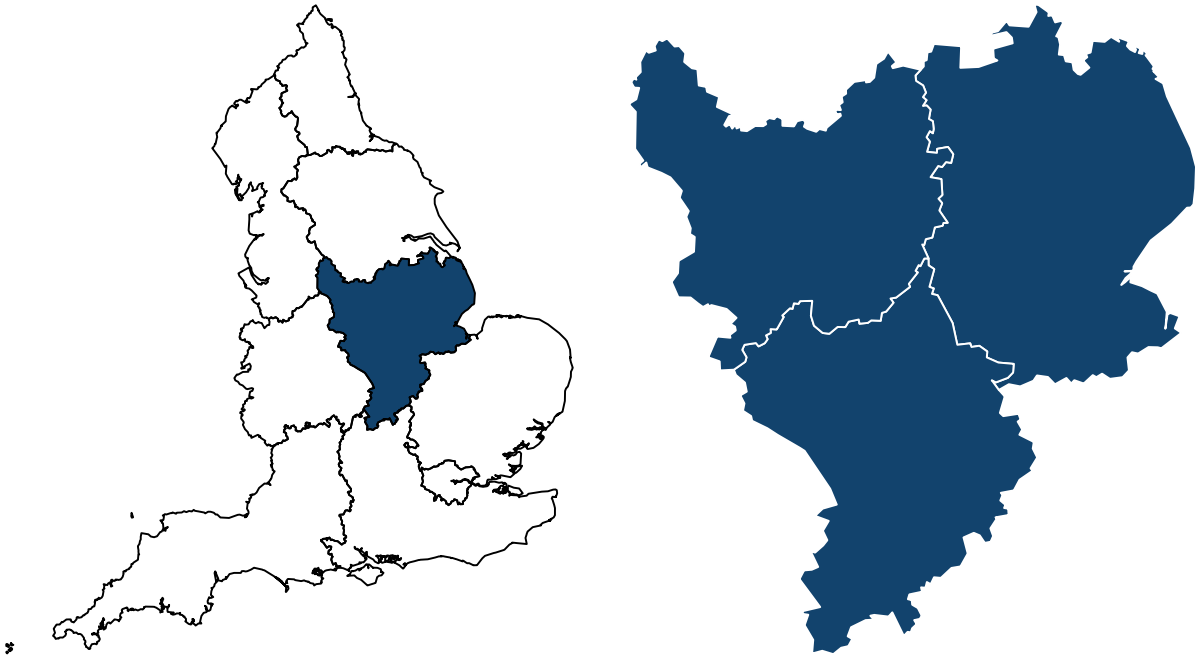
Agricultural facts: East Midlands region

30 October 2025

Section 1: Key statistics

Figure 1.1: A map of England with the East Midlands region highlighted



Source: Office for National Statistics, Open Geography Portal

The East Midlands region comprises Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

Key statistics for the East Midlands region

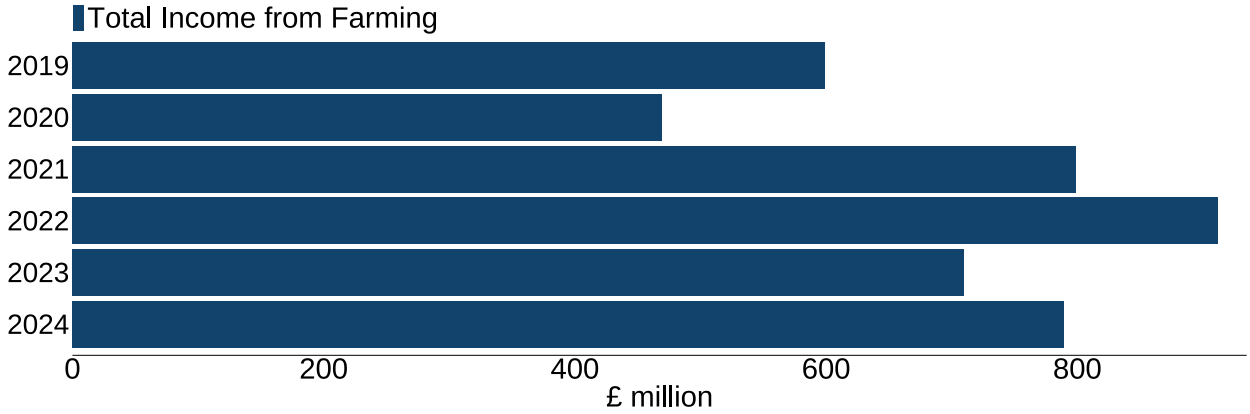
- Total Income from Farming[1] in the East Midlands in 2024 was £789 million, an increase of £80 million (+11%) from 2023. This was a result of a decrease of £134 million (-6.6%) in total crop output, an increase of £76 million (+5.5%) in total livestock output and a decrease of £132 million (-5.8%) in intermediate consumption (Source: Total Income from Farming for the regions of England).
- In 2024, the largest contributors to the output[2] value (£3.8 billion) were fresh vegetables (£548 million), poultry (£534 million), wheat (£394 million) and plants and flowers (£333 million). These commodities accounted for 48% of the output (Source: Total Income from Farming for the regions of England).
- The average farm size in 2024 was 102 hectares (Table 1.1). This is the third largest average farm size of all the English regions and larger than the English average of 87 hectares.
- The predominant farm types in 2024 were grazing livestock (35% of the region's holdings) and cereal (25% of the region's holdings) farms (Figure 1.7).
- In 2023/24 (covering the 2023 harvest), the average Farm Business Income[3] across all farm types was £37,300 per farm, which was a decrease of 68% from 2022/23 (Figure 1.9).

[1] Total Income from Farming (TIFF) is the net income to farms once costs have been accounted for, so is calculated as "outputs & subsidies" minus "inputs & costs". More information on aggregate agricultural accounts can be found on GOV.UK.

[2] Output is the total value (at market prices) of commodities produced without considering production costs or any additional income received through subsidies. More information on aggregate agricultural accounts can be found on GOV.UK.

[3] In simple terms, Farm Business Income (FBI) is the output generated by the farm business minus total farm costs. More information on Farm Business Income can be found on GOV.UK.

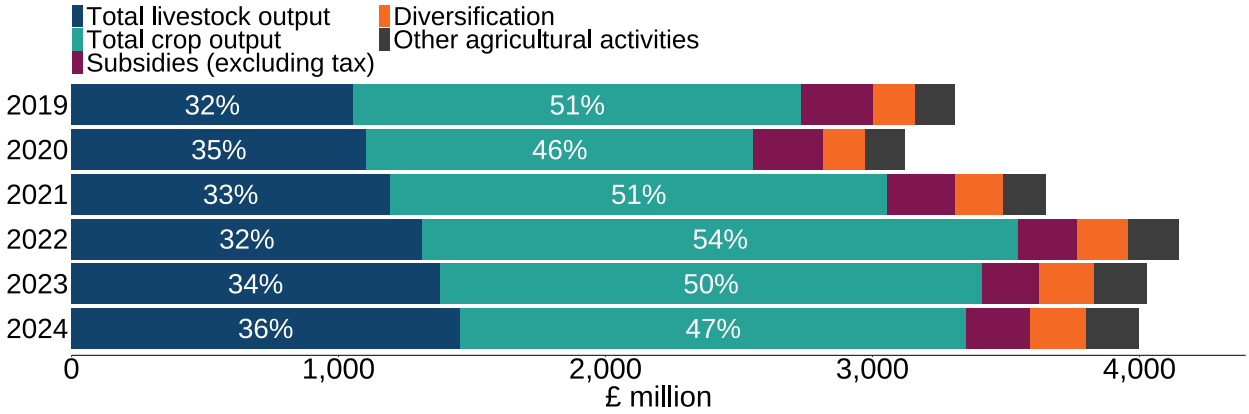
Figure 1.2: Total Income from Farming from 2019 to 2024 in current prices (£ million)



Year	Total Income from Farming
2019	599
2020	469
2021	799
2022	912
2023	710
2024	789

Source: Total Income from Farming for the regions of England

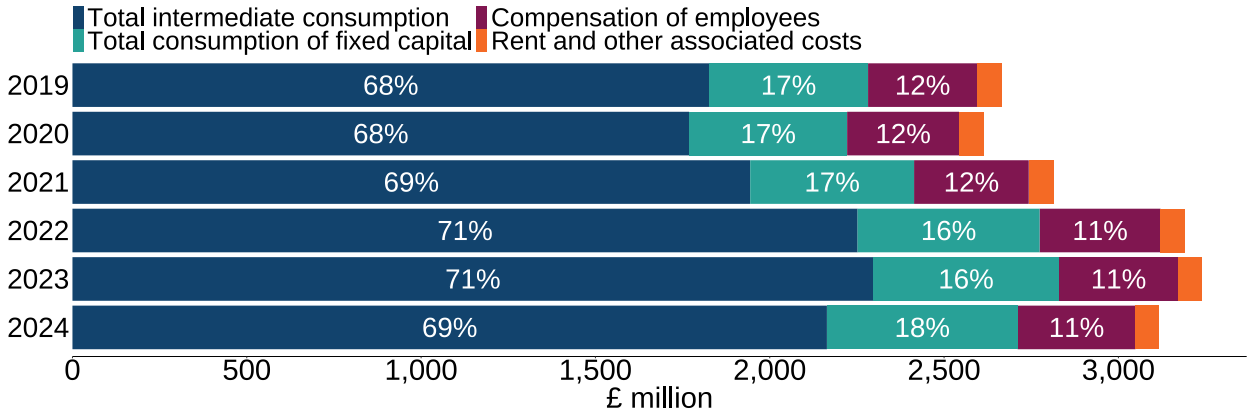
Figure 1.3: Outputs and subsidies split by percentage from 2019 to 2024 (£ million)



Year	Total livestock output	Total crop output	Subsidies (excluding tax)	Diversification	Other agricultural activities
2019	1,055 (32%)	1,679 (51%)	267 (8.1%)	156 (4.7%)	153 (4.6%)
2020	1,104 (35%)	1,450 (46%)	260 (8.3%)	158 (5.1%)	147 (4.7%)
2021	1,192 (33%)	1,865 (51%)	253 (6.9%)	178 (4.9%)	160 (4.4%)
2022	1,314 (32%)	2,232 (54%)	218 (5.3%)	194 (4.7%)	189 (4.6%)
2023	1,379 (34%)	2,033 (50%)	212 (5.3%)	204 (5.1%)	199 (4.9%)
2024	1,455 (36%)	1,898 (47%)	236 (5.9%)	209 (5.2%)	199 (5.0%)

Source: Total Income from Farming for the regions of England

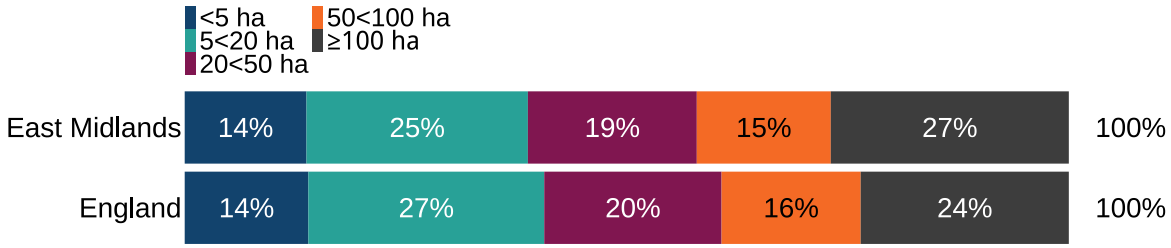
Figure 1.4: Inputs and costs split by percentage from 2019 to 2024 (£ million)



Year	Total intermediate consumption	Total consumption of fixed capital	Compensation of employees	Rent and other associated costs
2019	1,826 (68%)	456 (17%)	313 (12%)	71 (2.7%)
2020	1,769 (68%)	453 (17%)	321 (12%)	69 (2.7%)
2021	1,944 (69%)	470 (17%)	329 (12%)	70 (2.5%)
2022	2,252 (71%)	522 (16%)	347 (11%)	69 (2.2%)
2023	2,297 (71%)	532 (16%)	343 (11%)	68 (2.1%)
2024	2,164 (69%)	547 (18%)	338 (11%)	67 (2.1%)

Source: Total Income from Farming for the regions of England

Figure 1.5: Distribution of farms by size in 2024 (percentage of farm holdings)



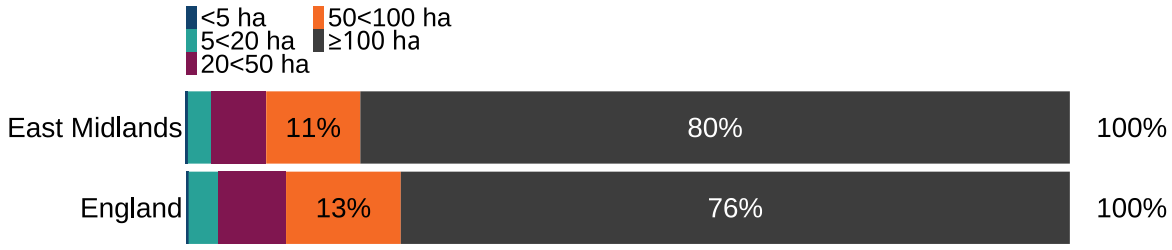
Region	<5 ha	5<20 ha	20<50 ha	50<100 ha	≥100 ha	Total
East Midlands	14%	25%	19%	15%	27%	100%
England	14%	27%	20%	16%	24%	100%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. “ha” means “hectares”.
2. Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 1.6: Distribution of farms by size in 2024 (percentage of farmed area)



Region	<5 ha	5<20 ha	20<50 ha	50<100 ha	≥100 ha	Total
East Midlands	0.3%	2.7%	6.2%	11%	80%	100%
England	0.3%	3.4%	7.6%	13%	76%	100%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. "ha" means "hectares".
2. Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 1.1: Land use in 2024

Measure	East Midlands	England
Total farmed area (thousand hectares)	1,165	8,877
Average farm size (hectares)	102	87
Rented (% of farmed area)	33%	32%
Arable (% of farmed area)	71%	55%
Permanent pasture (% of farmed area)	21%	33%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. Arable includes arable crops, uncropped arable land and temporary grass.
2. Rented land must be rented for at least one year.

Table 1.2: Crop areas in 2024 (thousand hectares)

Crop	East Midlands	England	East Midlands as % of England
Wheat	269	1,402	19%
Barley	146	849	17%
Oilseed rape	47	250	19%
Field veg	20	73	28%
Sugar beet (not for stockfeed)	24	103	23%
Hardy nursery stock	3.8	11	36%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. Crops displayed are those more predominant in the area.
2. Further data notes on crops can be found below the relevant tables in the statistical dataset for England's regional breakdown of the structure of the agricultural industry at June.

Table 1.3: Livestock numbers in 2024 (thousand head)

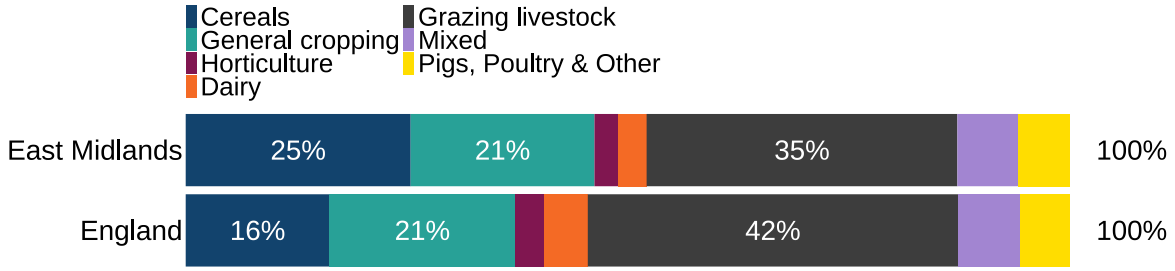
Livestock	East Midlands	England	East Midlands as % of England
Cattle	417	4,752	8.8%
Dairy herd	65	1,046	6.2%
Beef herd	62	570	11%
Pigs	295	3,680	8.0%
Sheep	1,148	13,831	8.3%
Poultry	23,061	128,581	18%
Table chickens	16,828	87,924	19%
Turkeys	834	3,123	27%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. Livestock displayed are those more predominant in the area.
2. Cattle numbers relate to commercial holdings only.
3. Sheep numbers include lambs.

Figure 1.7: Distribution of farms by type in 2024 (percentage of farm holdings)



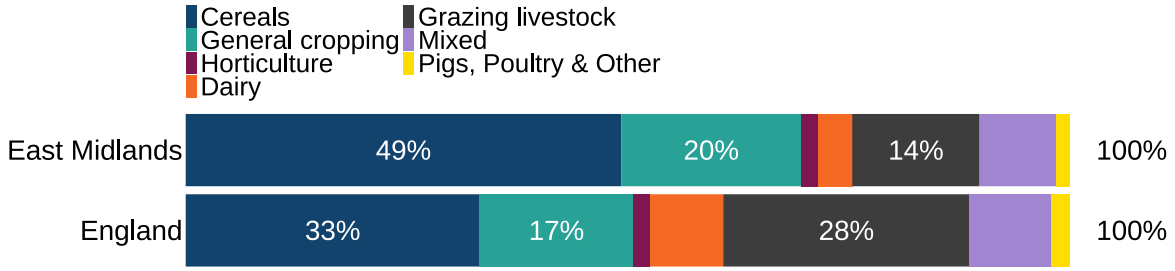
Region	Cereals	General cropping	Horticulture	Dairy	Grazing livestock	Mixed	Pigs, Poultry & Other	Total
East Midlands	25%	21%	2.7%	3.2%	35%	6.9%	5.8%	100%
England	16%	21%	3.3%	4.9%	42%	7.0%	5.6%	100%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.
2. “Other” refers to unclassified farm types.

Figure 1.8: Distribution of farms by type in 2024 (percentage of farmed area)



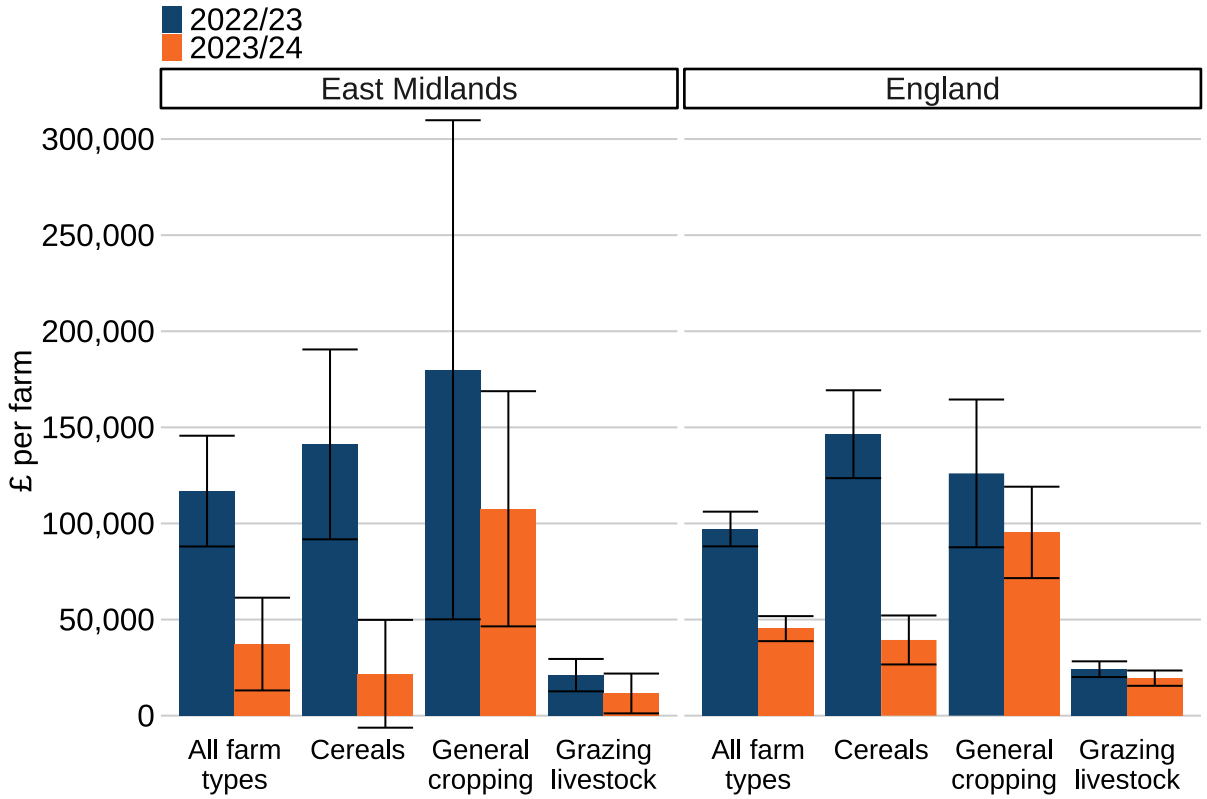
Region	Cereals	General cropping	Horticulture	Dairy	Grazing livestock	Mixed	Pigs, Poultry & Other	Total
East Midlands	49%	20%	1.9%	3.9%	14%	8.7%	1.5%	100%
England	33%	17%	1.9%	8.3%	28%	9.3%	2.0%	100%

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.
2. “Other” refers to unclassified farm types.

Figure 1.9: Average Farm Business Income in 2022/23 and 2023/24 (£ per farm)



Farm type	East Midlands	England
All farm types (2023/24)	37,300 (±24,100)	45,300 (±6,500)
Cereals (2023/24)	21,800 (±28,000)	39,400 (±12,700)
General cropping (2023/24)	107,600 (±61,200)	95,300 (±23,800)
Grazing livestock (2023/24)	11,500 (±10,400)	19,500 (±4,000)
All farm types (2022/23)	116,800 (±28,800)	97,100 (±9,000)
Cereals (2022/23)	141,100 (±49,400)	146,400 (±22,900)
General cropping (2022/23)	179,900 (±129,800)	126,000 (±38,400)
Grazing livestock (2022/23)	21,100 (±8,400)	24,200 (±4,100)

Source: Defra, Farm Business Survey (regional breakdown not published elsewhere)

Notes:

1. The Farm Business Survey year runs, on average, from March to February.
2. Excludes farms with less than £21,000 of standard output.
3. Farm types displayed are those more predominant in the area.
4. Lines or values in parentheses indicate the 95% confidence intervals.

5. In a given Farm Business Survey year, the sample size for some farm types can be relatively small. This means that individual farms can have a large influence on the results, and the results should be treated with caution. See the Farm Business Income by type of farm in England publication for more information.
6. Values are rounded to the nearest £100.
7. Data correct as at October 2025.

Table 1.4: Labour force in 2024 (number of people)

Measure	East Midlands	England	East Midlands as % of England
Total labour	30,690	284,797	11%
Total labour per farm	2.7	2.8	[z]
Regular workers	6,979	65,556	11%
Regular workers per farm	0.6	0.6	[z]
Casual workers	3,264	34,309	9.5%
Casual workers per farm	0.3	0.3	[z]
% full time	49%	47%	[z]
% part time	36%	37%	[z]
% casual	11%	12%	[z]

Source: Defra, June Survey

Notes:

1. "[z]" means "not applicable".
2. Total labour includes farmers, partners, directors, spouses, salaried managers, regular and casual workers.
3. Casual workers are those usually employed for less than 20 weeks of the year.
4. Number of workers per farm calculations are averages based on the total number of farm holdings in the region.
5. Part time workers are those employed for less than 39 hours a week.
6. Percentage calculations for full and part time workers do not include salaried managers.

Section 2: Data notes

Figures are for commercial holdings as at June 2024 (unless stated otherwise). Commercial holdings are those with levels of farming activity above a specified threshold as detailed in this publication's guidance note. For further information about the June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture please visit our survey notes and guidance page on GOV.UK.

"Region" in this statistical notice refers to International Territorial Level 1 (ITL1) for England. The ITL1 regions for Greater London and the South East have been combined in this statistical notice due to the fact that London has such a small farming infrastructure.

This release contains the latest data available at the time of publishing. As a result, reference periods may vary. TIFF and FBI represent data from distinct time periods: TIFF covers January to December 2024, while FBI spans March 2023 to February 2024. As these metrics reflect different reporting periods, direct comparisons between the two should be avoided.

Section 3: Other geographical breakdowns

Defra June Survey data aggregated at other geographical classifications can be found in the Structure of the agricultural industry in England and the UK at June statistical data set on GOV.UK.

England regional data for aggregate agricultural accounts (including data at ITL2 and ITL3) can be found in the Total Income from Farming for the regions of England publication on GOV.UK.

Section 4: Contact details

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