



Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

The harvested area under vineyards in 2023 was 28.4 thousand hectares, and the grapes produced were 147.8 thousand tons.

In 2023, the area under vines in agricultural holdings, including vines in production (abandoned, with the possibility of restoration incl.) and young vines, not yet in production, were 32 178 ha.

28 402 ha were harvested, which is 0.2% less than the previous year. Due to bad climatic conditions, no production was harvested from 1 084 ha of vineyards. The relative share of the harvested area under red wine varieties was 61% of the total harvested area under wine grape varieties, and under white wine varieties – 39%.

Young vines, not yet in production, represented 2% of the vineyards in farms.

According to Executive Agency on Vine and Wine data, the newly planted vineyards were 253 ha.

The grapes produced in 2023 were 147 804 tons, 9% less than the previous year. 42% of the grapes were produced in the Yugoiztochen region, and 36% in the Yuzhen tsentralen region.

The average yield of wine and dessert grape varieties was lower compared to the previous year, by 8% and 9%, respectively. For wine grape varieties, the highest average yield was recorded in the Yugoiztochen and Severoiztochen regions, and for dessert grapes – in the Yugoiztochen and Severen tsentralen regions. Compared to 2022, the average yield of wine and dessert grape varieties in the Yugozapaden region was significantly lower, by 34% and 43%, respectively.

Of the grapes produced, 7% were for direct consumption, with the remaining amount intended for processing.

Table 1

Area by agricultural holdings location – harvest 2023

Statistical zone, statistical region	Total area* hectares	Harvested area hectares
Bulgaria	32 178	28 402
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	18 234	15 866
Severozapaden	2 722	2 066
Severen tsentralen	1 554	1 106
Severoiztochen	2 811	2 382
Yugoiztochen	11 147	10 312
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	13 944	12 536
Yugozapaden	2 271	2 013
Yuzhen tsentralen	11 673	10 523

* Total area – vines in production (incl. abandoned area with the possibility of recovery) and young vines not yet in production

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrostistics Department, Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

Figure 1

Relative share of harvested area and vineyards in production by statistical region

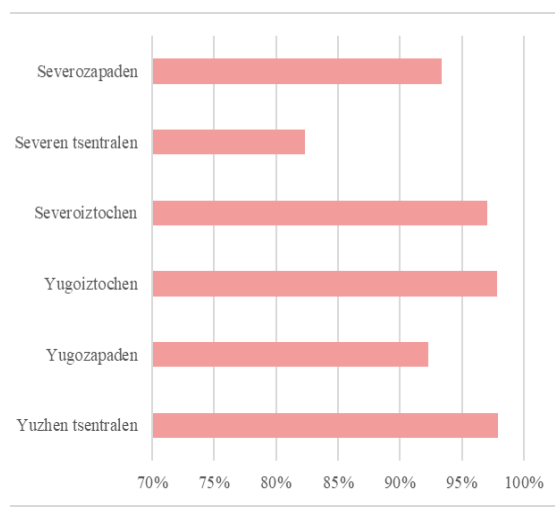


Table 2

Harvested area by statistical zones and regions – harvest 2023

(hectares)

Statistical zone, statistical region	Wine grapes	of which		Table grapes	Total vineyards
		red grape varieties	white grape varieties		
Bulgaria	26 217	16 076	10 141	2 185	28 402
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	15 029	6 631	8 398	837	15 866
Severozapaden	2 023	1 280	743	43	2 066
Severen tsentralen	1 039	424	615	67	1 106
Severoiztochen	2 302	615	1 687	80	2 382
Yugoiztochen	9 665	4 312	5 353	647	10 312
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	11 188	9 445	1 743	1 348	12 536
Yugozapaden	1 886	1 717	169	127	2 013
Yuzhen tsentralen	9 302	7 728	1 574	1 221	10 523

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrostistics Department, Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

Table 3

Grape production by statistical zones and regions – harvest 2023

(tons)

Statistical zone, statistical region	Grape varieties				Vine Trellis	Total grapes produced
	Wine grape varieties	Table grape varieties	Total grapes produced from vineyards	Relative share		
Bulgaria	135 409	12 298	147 707	100%	97	147 804
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	83 298	5 058	88 356	60%	.	.
Severozapaden	6 952	167	7 119	5%	.	.
Severen tsentralen	4 460	309	4 769	3%	.	.
Severoiztochen	13 108	349	13 457	9%	.	.
Yugoiztochen	58 778	4 233	63 011	43%	.	.
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	52 111	7 240	59 351	40%	.	.
Yugozapaden	6 342	443	6 785	5%	.	.
Yuzhen tsentralen	45 769	6 797	52 566	35%	.	.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrostistics Department, Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

Table 4

Average yield of grapes from vineyards – harvest 2023

(kg/ha)

Statistical zone, statistical region	Average yield of vineyards	
	Wine grape varieties	Table grape varieties
Bulgaria	5 165	5 628
Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	5 542	6 043
Severozapaden	3 436	3 884
Severen tsentralen	4 293	4 612
Severoiztochen	5 694	4 363
Yugoiztochen	6 082	6 543
Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	4 658	5 371
Yugozapaden	3 363	3 488
Yuzhen tsentralen	4 920	5 567

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrostistics Department, Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

Table 5

Distribution of grapes produced (tons)

Total grapes produced of which for:	147 804
<i>Direct consumption</i>	9 767
<i>Processing of which for:</i>	138 037
Vinification – industrial*	100 803
Vinification – non-industrial	35 112
Other products	2 122

* Executive Agency on Vine and Wine (EAVW) data

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agrostistics Department, Production of grapes and wine – harvest 2023

The wine produced non-industrial was 168 695 hectoliters.

Methodological notes**Purpose:**

The survey purpose is to establish the harvested area under wine and table grape varieties, the production and average yield of grapes, the production distribution, as well as the amount of wine and other grape and wine-based products produced non-industrial.

The survey data is used to prepare analyses and programs in the sector. It is provided to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF), the National Statistical Institute (NSI) scientific and industry organizations Eurostat, FAO etc. and serves to make management decisions in the agrarian policy implementation at national and community level.

Regulations:

- Regulation (EC) No. 543/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/1557;
- Statistics Act;
- National Statistical Programme.

Object of survey: agricultural holdings that grow vines.

Research method: the survey is sampled and conducted online (farms can provide the necessary information by filling in the questionnaire electronically) or by interviewing the farmers. The sample is random stratified and based on data from the 2020 farm census. New holdings established after 2020 were added. A threshold is applied above which all units are exhaustively surveyed. The data on newly established vineyards and industrially processed grapes is obtained from EAVW.

Conducting method: the survey is carried out by experts and employees in the regional directorates Agriculture.

Geographic scope: the survey covers the territory of the entire country. Data at the statistical region level is presented by the agricultural holdings location, not by the vineyard location.

Reference period: crop year 2022/2023.

Questionnaire: includes administrative data on farm identification and questions about the area under vines by types and by purpose of the grapes, produced grape quantity from vines and trellis, wine and other grape and wine-based products produced non-industrial.

Statistical indicators surveyed:

Harvested area – the area from which the produce was harvested. It may be equal to or less than the planted area after excluding all non-productive area (e.g. young vines, not yet in production).

Production – volume of harvested produce, incl. post-harvest losses and waste. The quantities used directly on the farm and distributed on the market, expressed in weight units of the main product, are included.

Average yield – a result value calculated on the basis of production and harvested area i.e. the harvested production per unit harvested area.

Confidentiality: in order to ensure the confidentiality of individual data some of the indicators are published in aggregated positions or replaced by the sign "C" (confidential data). These are the cases when: there are less than 3 holdings in the considered category or when one of the holdings in the considered category covers more than 85% of the activity in this category.

Availability of statistical information: the results of the survey conducted by the Agrostatistics department are published on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food at the address:

<http://www.mzh.government.bg/bg/statistika-i-analizi/izsledvane-rastenievadstvo/danni/>

The information is provided to Eurostat and published in the NSI statistical yearbook and statistical directory.

The statistical regions cited in the publication are in accordance with the requirements of the general classification of territorial units for statistical purposes applied in the European Union (NUTS), according to Regulation (EU) No. 31/2011.

Statistical regions, on second (NUTS 2) level, are as follows:

Severozapaden: Vidin, Vratsa, Montana, Lovech, Pleven;

Severen tsentralen: Veliko Tarnovo, Gabrovo, Ruse, Silistra, Razgrad;

Severoztochen: Varna, Dobrich, Targovishte, Shoumen;

Yugoiztochen: Burgas, Sliven, Stara Zagora, Yambol;

Yugozapaden: Blagoevgrad, Kyustendil, Pernik, Sofia-cap., Sofia region;

Yuzhen tsentralen: Kardzhali, Pazardzhik, Plovdiv, Smolyan, Haskovo.