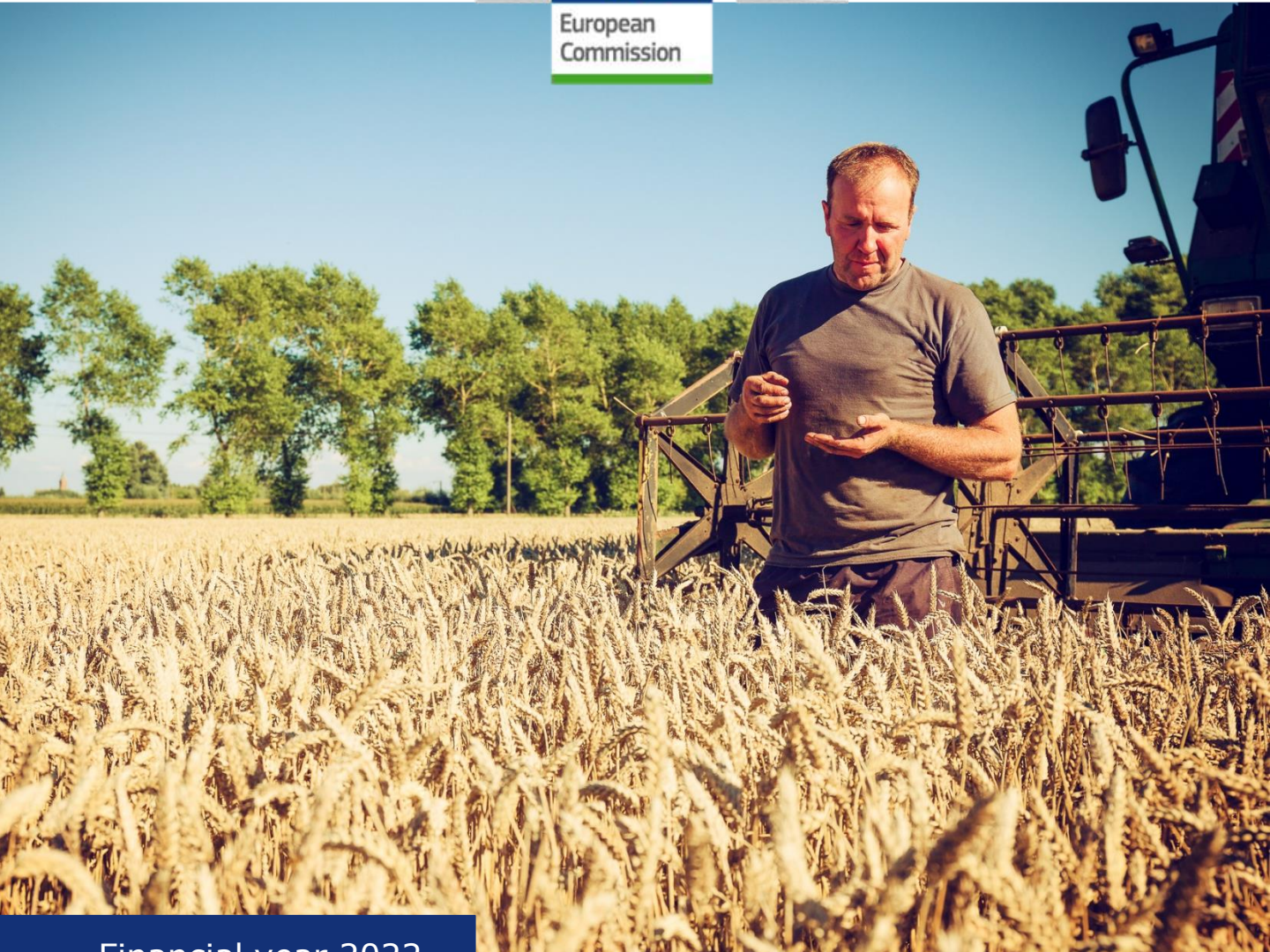




European
Commission



Financial year 2022

Direct payments to agricultural producers

graphs and figures

*Agriculture
and Rural
Development*

Manuscript completed in February 2024

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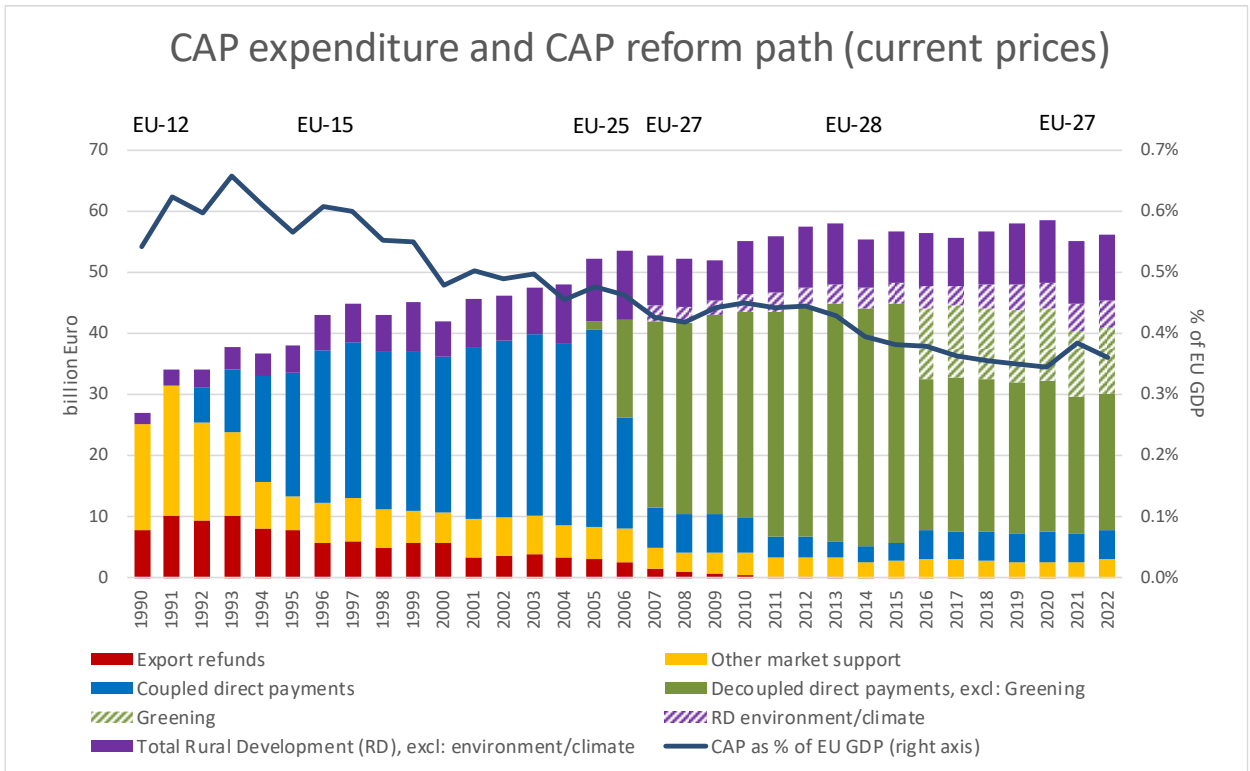
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Contact: DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Analysis and Outlook Unit

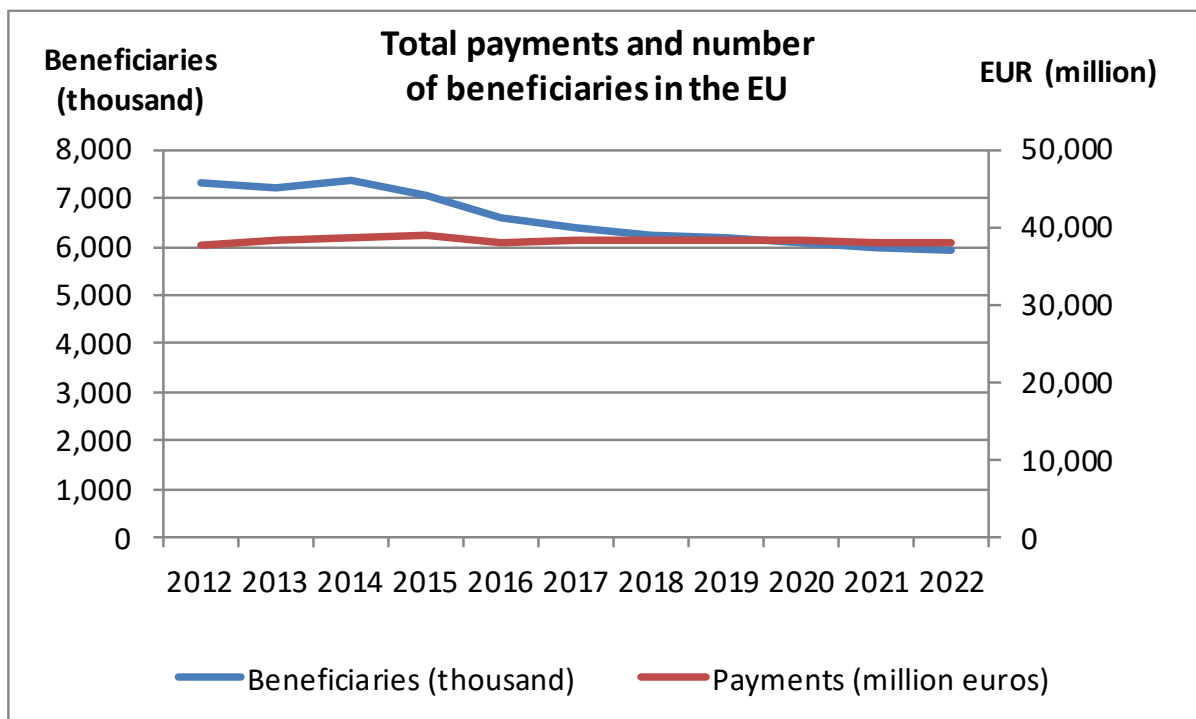
Email: agri-outlook@ec.europa.eu

Direct payments in total CAP expenditure

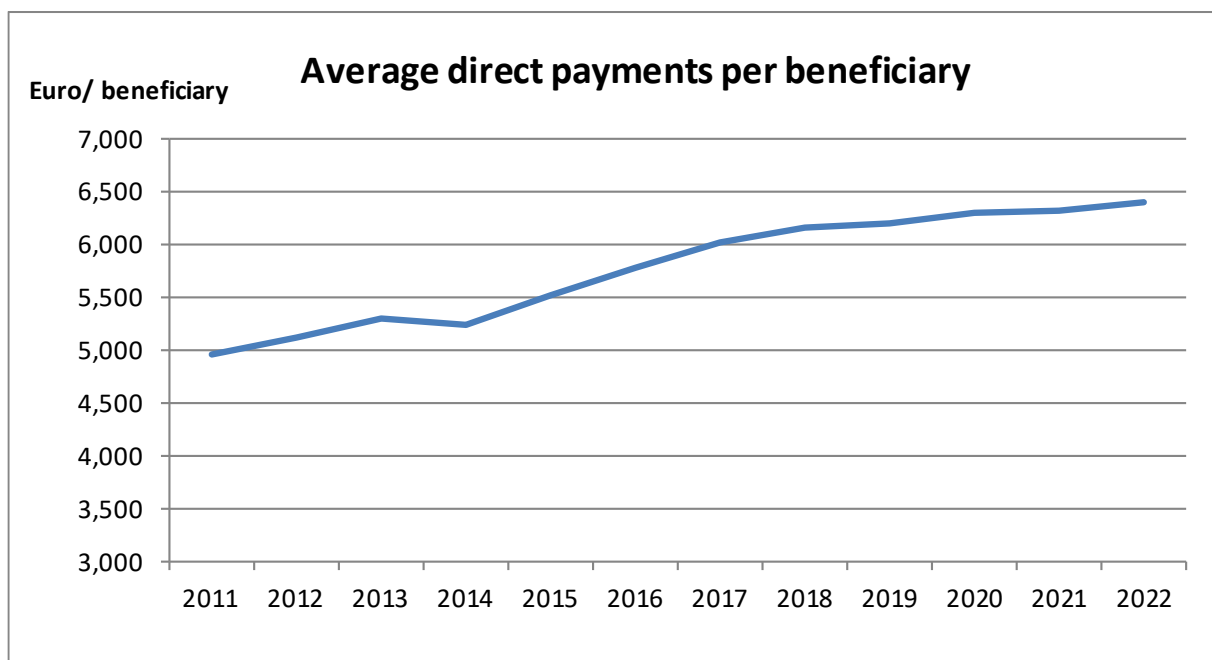


- Direct payments are a key element of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). They provide income support to farmers and promote sustainability and environmentally-friendly farming practices.
- In the financial year 2022, direct payments amounted to **EUR 38 billion** (67% of the whole CAP expenditure) and benefited **5.9 million farms** throughout the European Union.
- Payments for the environment and climate (incl. greening) now represent EUR 15.3 billion (27% of the whole CAP expenditure).

Evolution of total payments and beneficiaries*

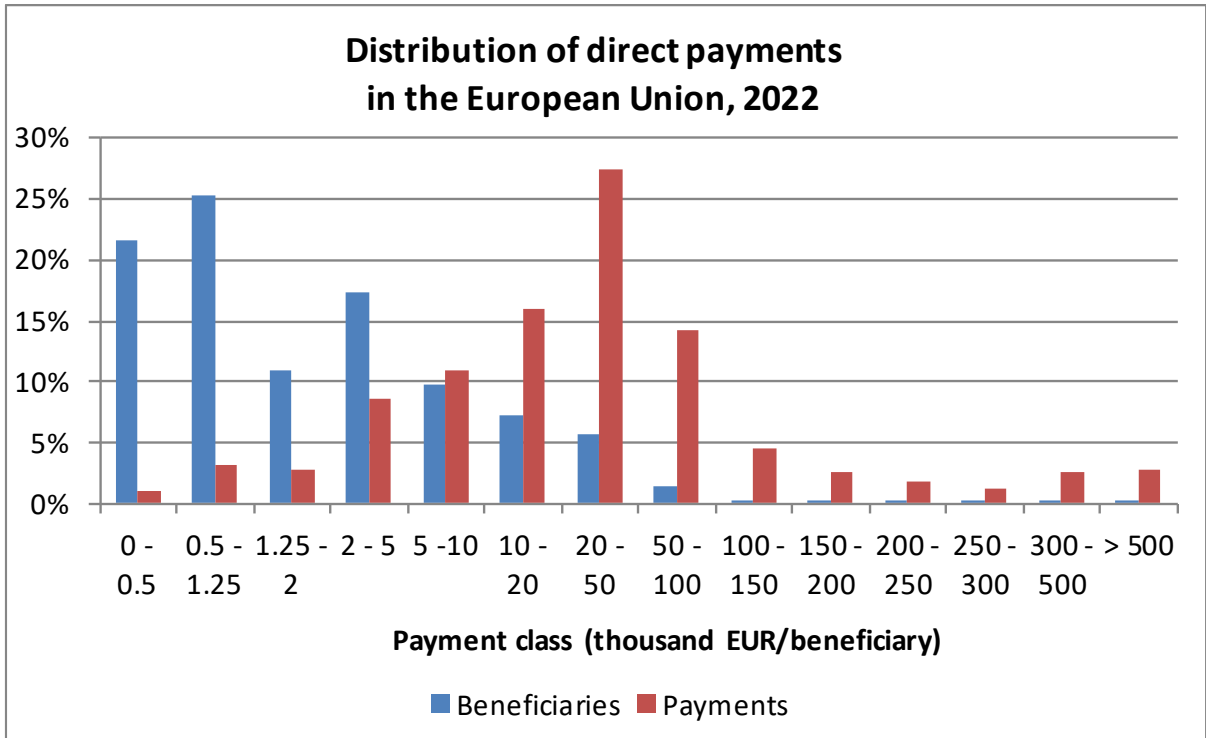


The overall amount of direct payments remained relatively constant in recent years (in nominal terms). The decreasing number of beneficiaries resulted in an increase of the average amount per beneficiary. Data are reported for the EU-27.



* **DATA SOURCE:** Data that EU countries submit annually to the European Commission on the payments made to beneficiaries of the European agricultural guarantee fund (EAGF). As a general rule, direct payments claimed for calendar year N are paid in financial year N+1 (except late payments).

Distribution of direct payments by payment class

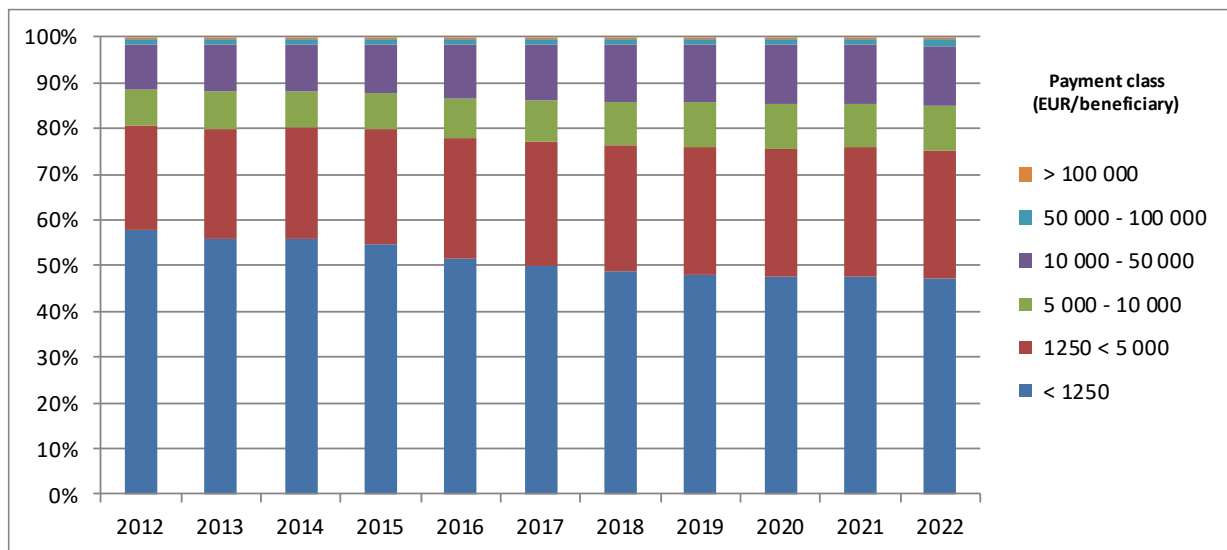


More than three quarters of the beneficiaries of direct payments received amounts below EUR 5 000 in financial year 2022. This corresponded to 16% of the total direct payment envelope.

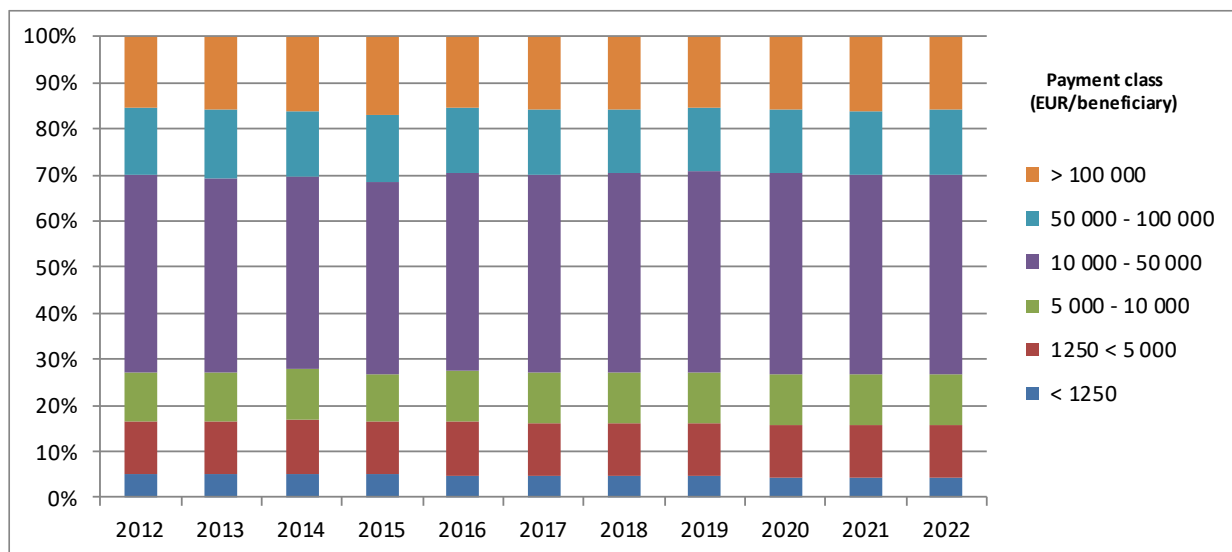
At the same time, more than half (58%) of the direct payment envelope was spent on payments between EUR 10 000 and EUR 100 000. They were distributed to 14% of all beneficiaries.

Only 0.5% of all beneficiaries received more than EUR 100 000. Together, they obtained 15.7% of the total direct payment envelope.

Distribution of beneficiaries by payment class



Distribution of direct payment amounts by payment class

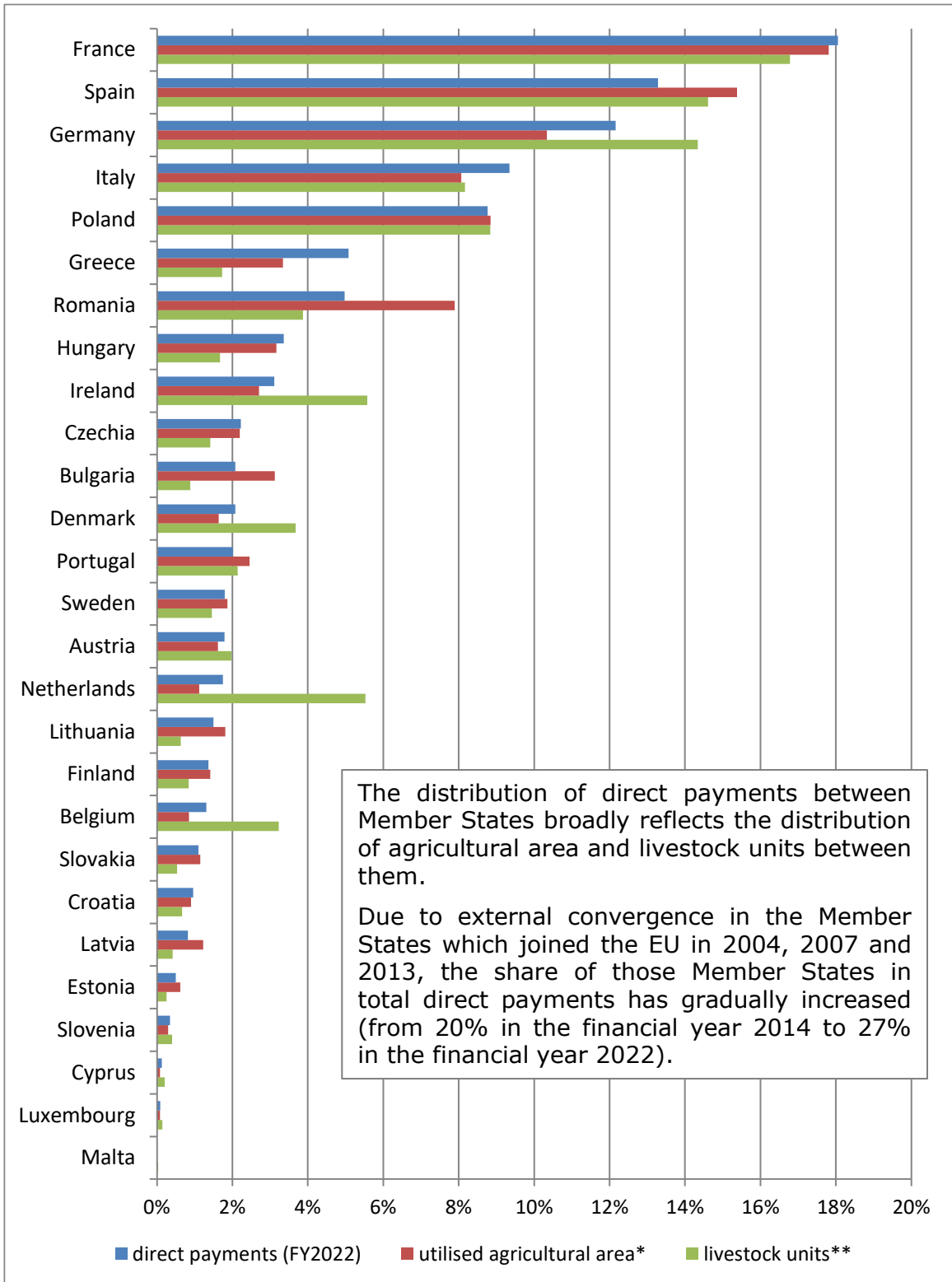


Over the last decade, the share of beneficiaries receiving very small direct payments amounts (< EUR 1 250) declined (from around 56% to less than 47%).

The main increase in beneficiaries (4.3 percentage points) took place in the next higher payment class (EUR 1 250 to EUR 5 000).

In contrast, the total amounts spent in each of the different payment classes remained constant between 2012 and 2022 (EUR 38 billion)

Direct payments, agricultural area and livestock



* source: Eurostat, annual crop statistics 2022.
 ** source: Eurostat, Farm Structure Survey 2020.

Distribution of direct payments among beneficiaries

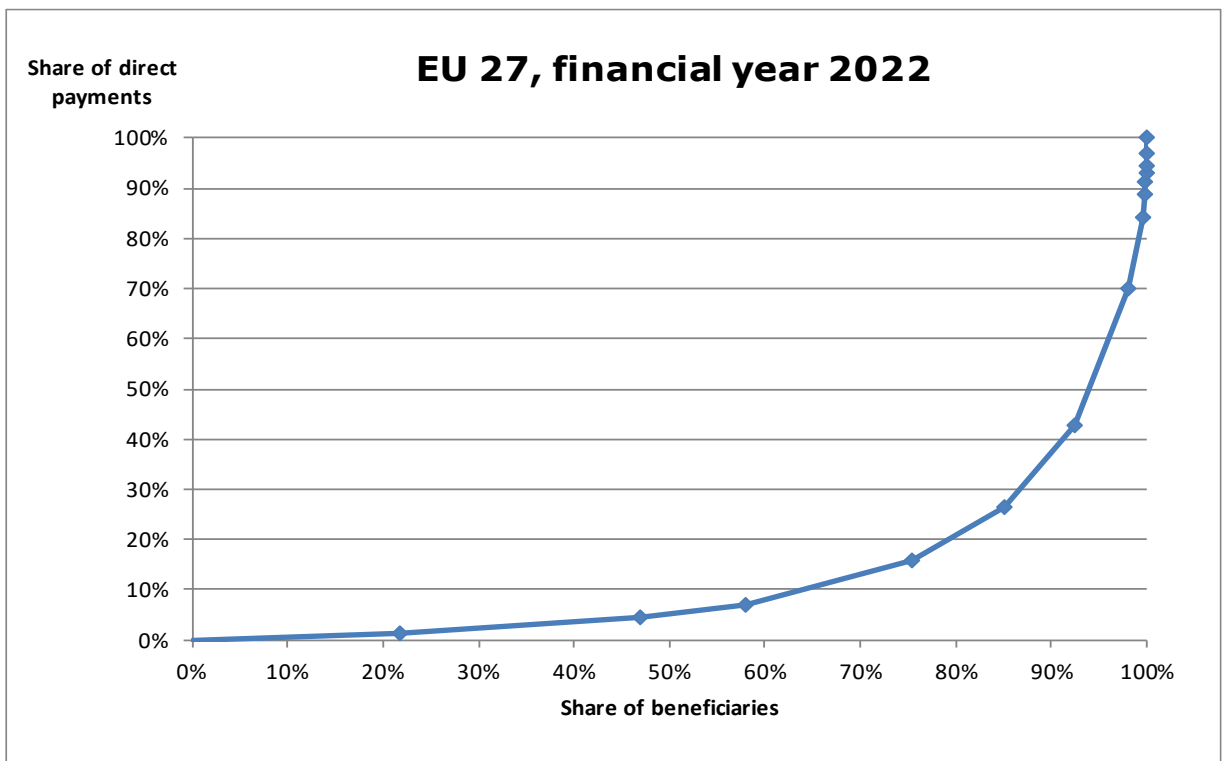
The distribution of direct payments is mainly driven by the concentration of land and the nature of the support, which is largely area-based, and subject to the compliance with notably land-based requirements (conditionality).

Very small farms (below 5 ha) represent about half of all beneficiaries but farm only 4.7% of the EU agricultural land. They however receive 5.5% of direct payments.

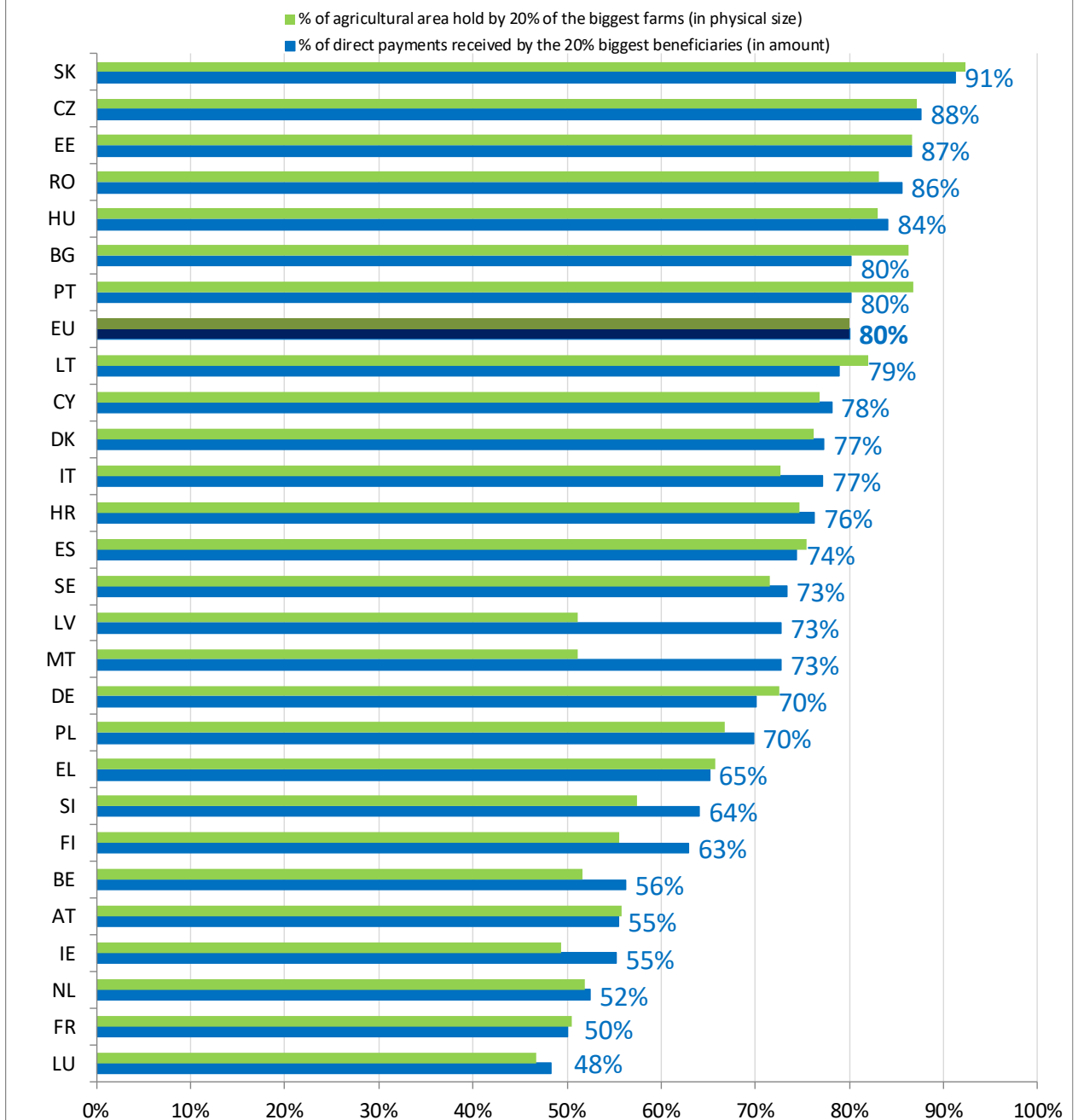
Farms between 5 and 250 ha, that can be considered essentially family, commercial farms, and that represent exactly half of all beneficiaries, receive almost three quarters of all the Direct payments. They take care of 68% of the EU agricultural land.

Bigger farm (above 250 ha) represent a fraction of the beneficiaries but take care of more than a quarter of the EU land. They receive a slightly smaller relative share of the Direct payment envelop.

Farm size class	% Beneficiaries	% Area	% Direct Payments
<=5 ha	48.4%	4.7%	5.5%
5-250 ha	50.4%	68.0%	71.6%
>250 ha	1.3%	27.3%	22.9%



Share of direct payments and land covered by 20% of beneficiaries by Member State - 2022

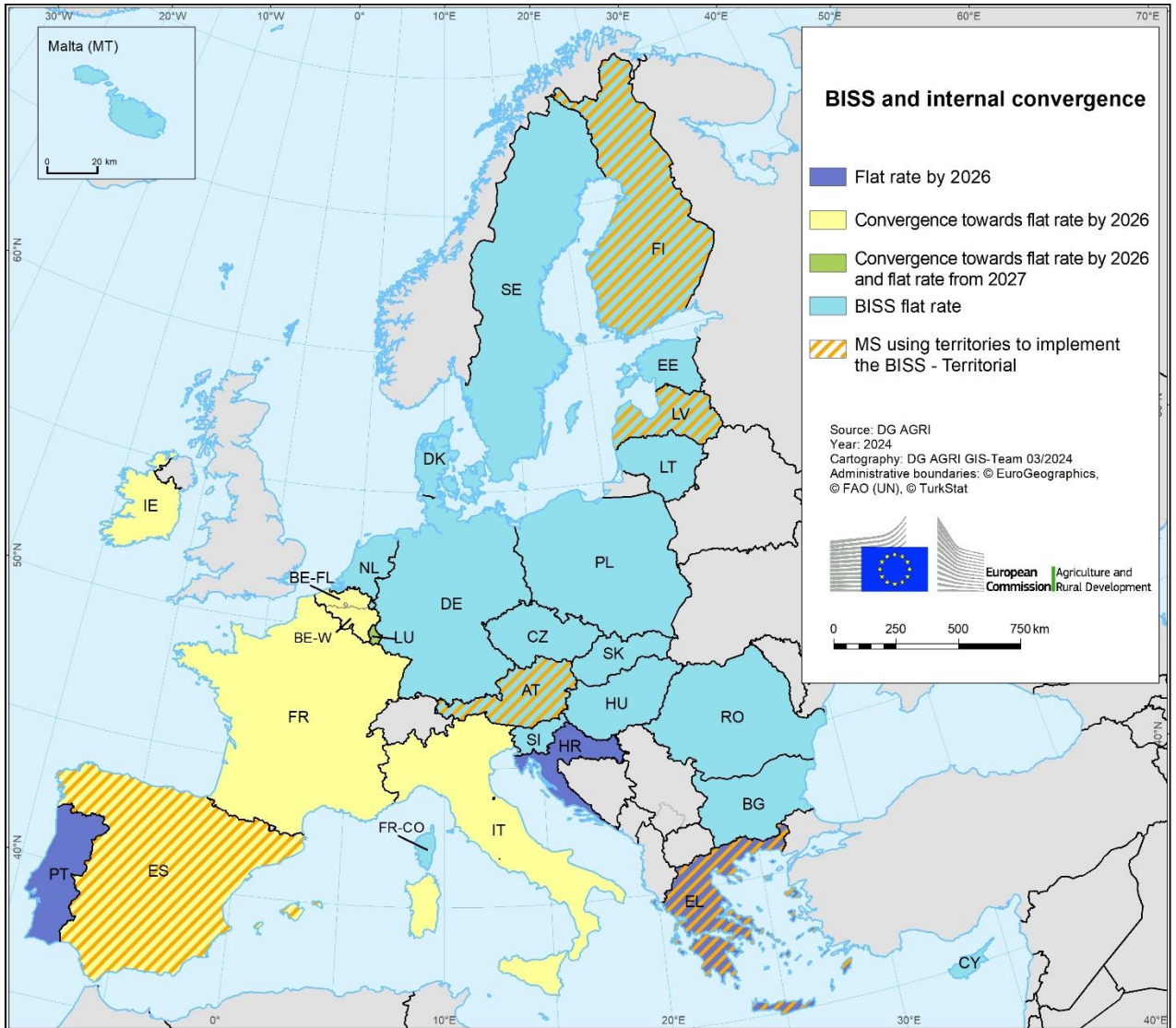


20% of the largest farms in the EU concentrate 80% of agricultural land.

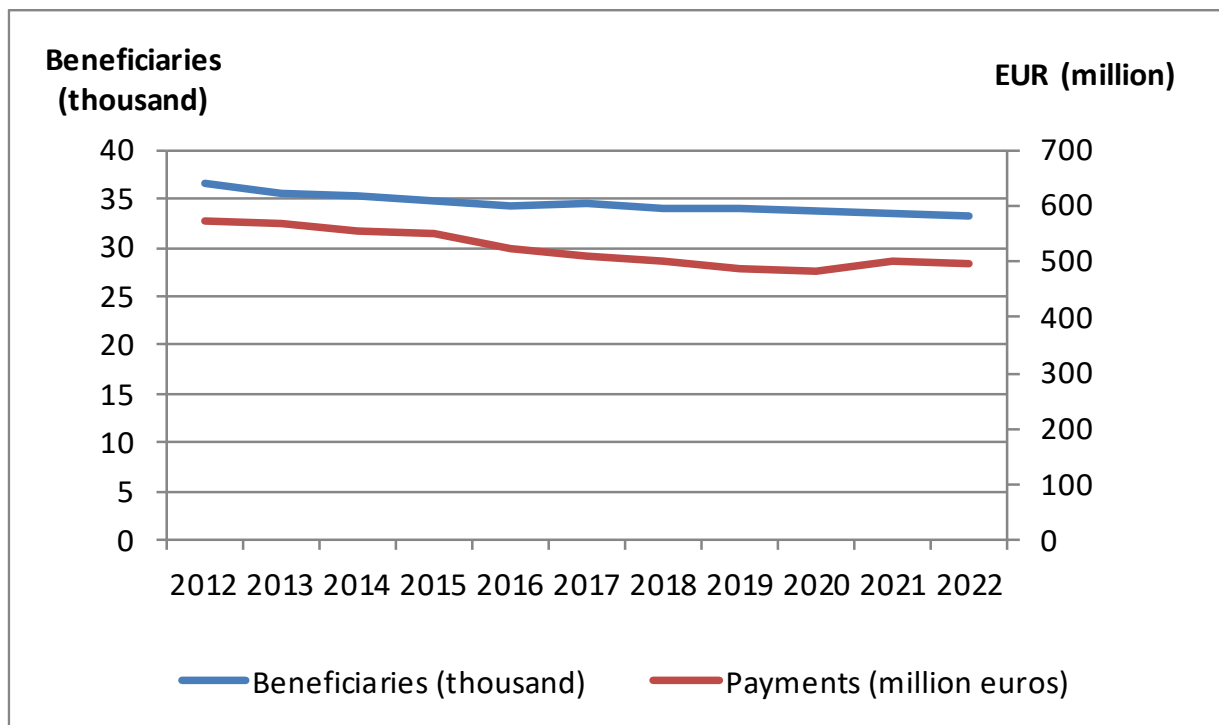
The degree of concentration of direct payments (and land) differs considerably among Member States: while in Slovakia, Czechia, Estonia and Romania the 20% biggest beneficiaries received more than 85% of direct payments, on the other side of the spectrum the 20% biggest beneficiaries in the Netherlands, France and Luxembourg received less than 55% of the direct payments national envelop.

In some countries, notably Malta and Latvia, direct payments are more strongly concentrated than land. The reverse is true in particular in Portugal and Bulgaria.

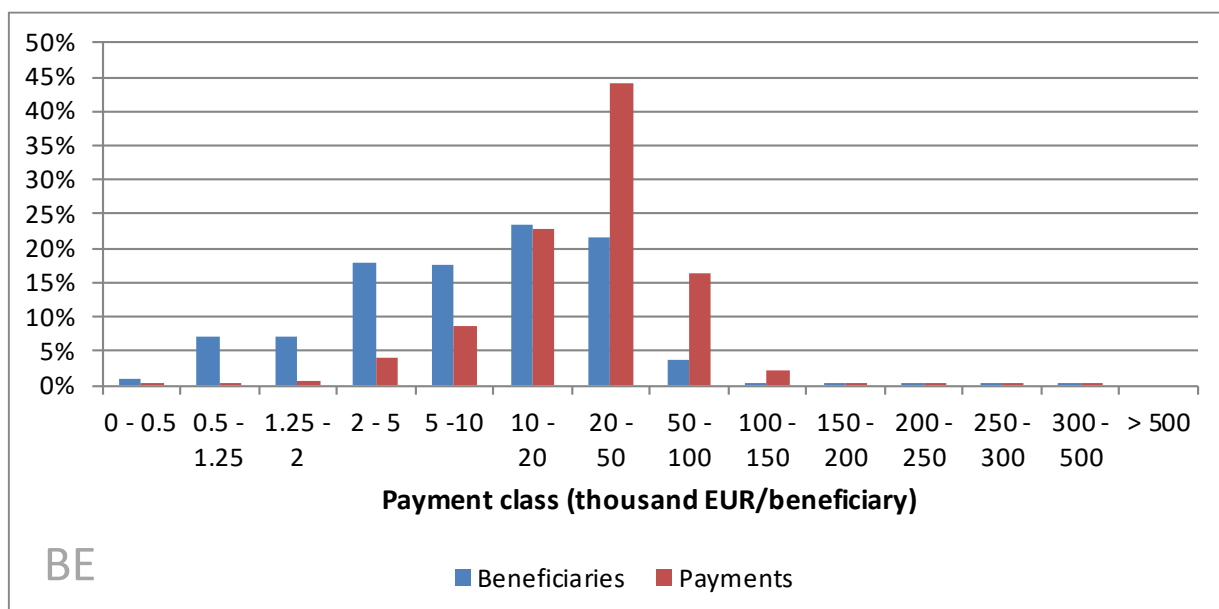
Annex: Country graphs



Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

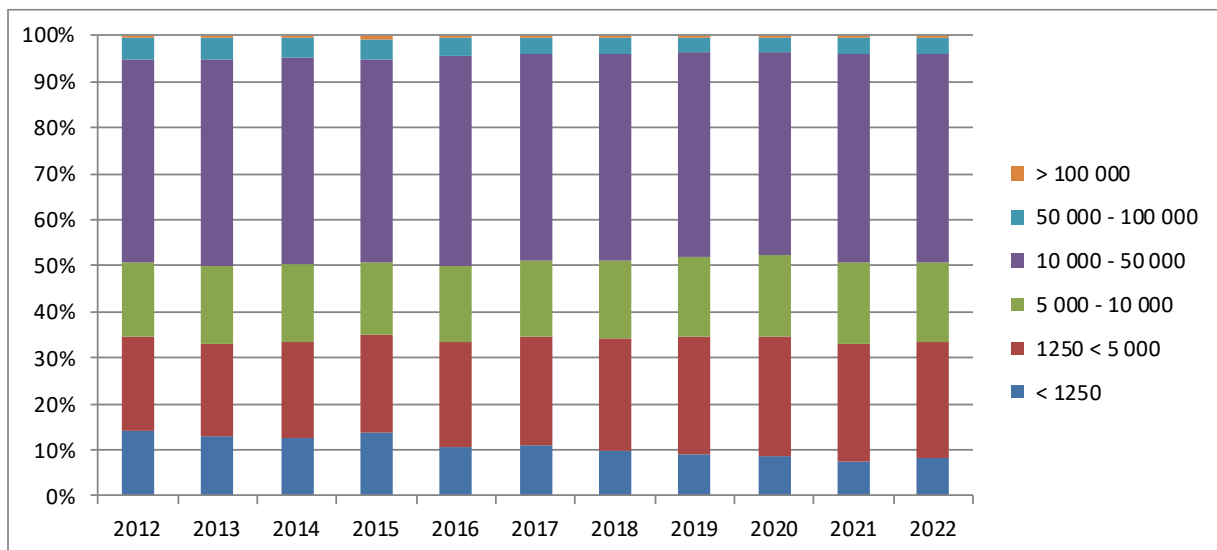


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

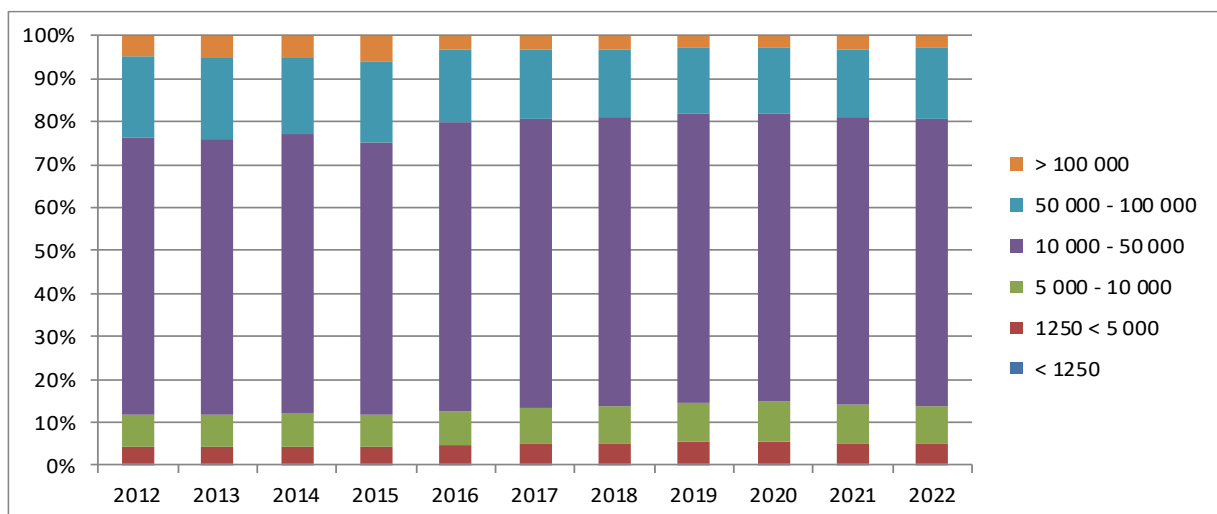


BE

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



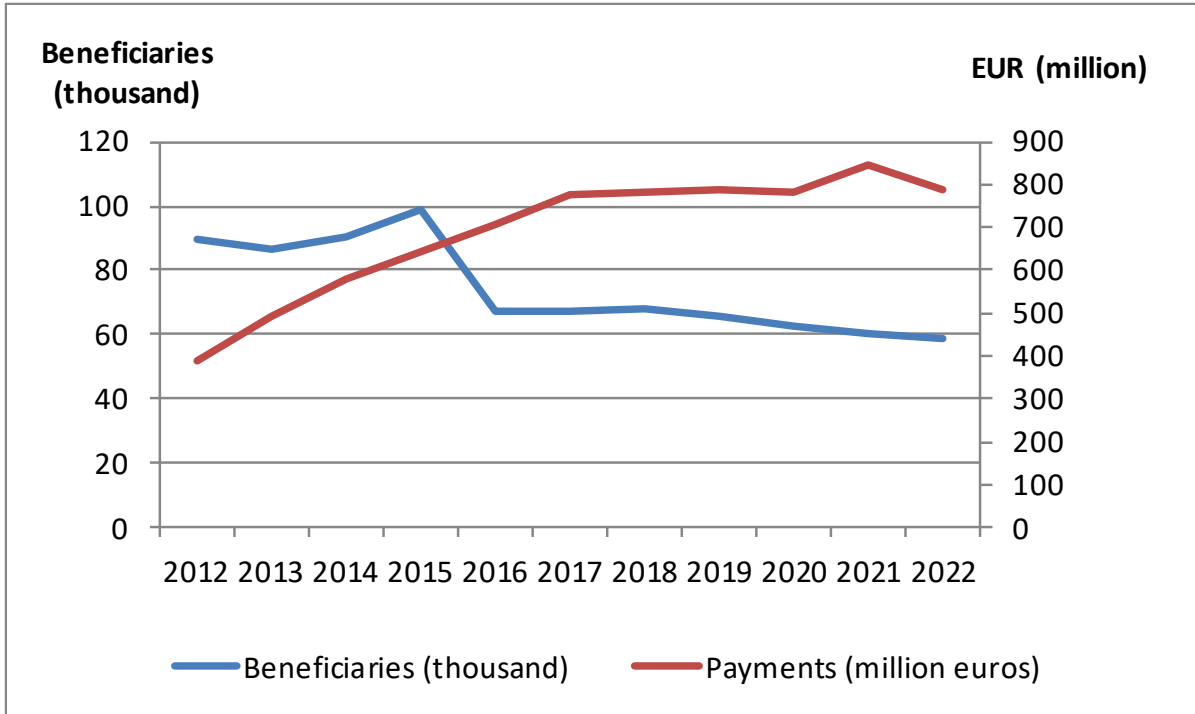
Evolution of payments by payment class



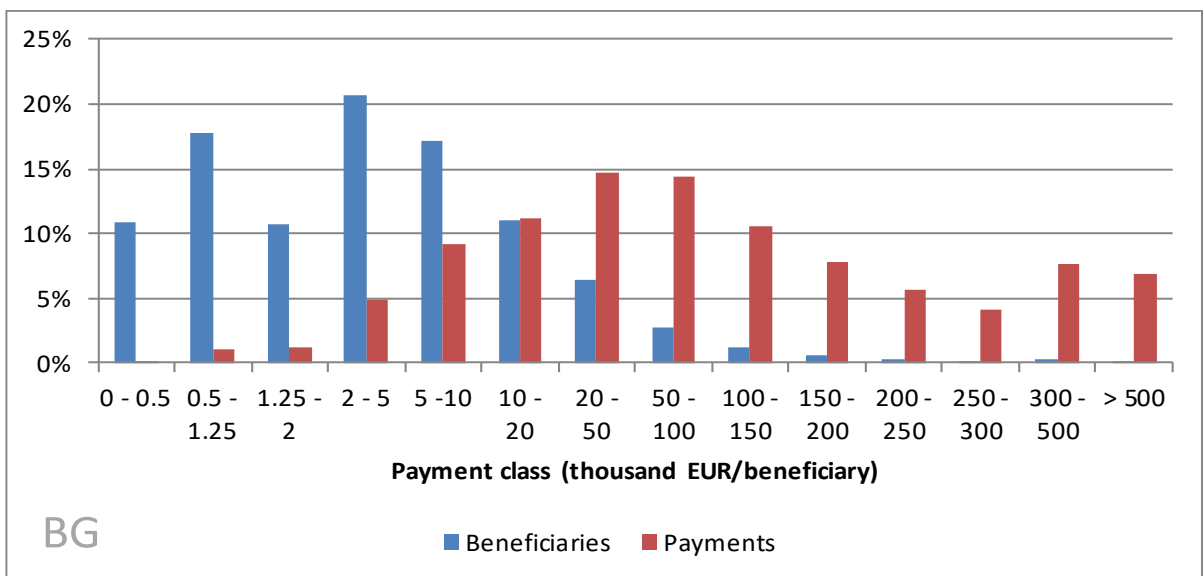
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	11.6%	0.8%	1.0%
5-250 ha	87.9%	95.0%	95.7%
>250 ha	0.5%	4.1%	3.3%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

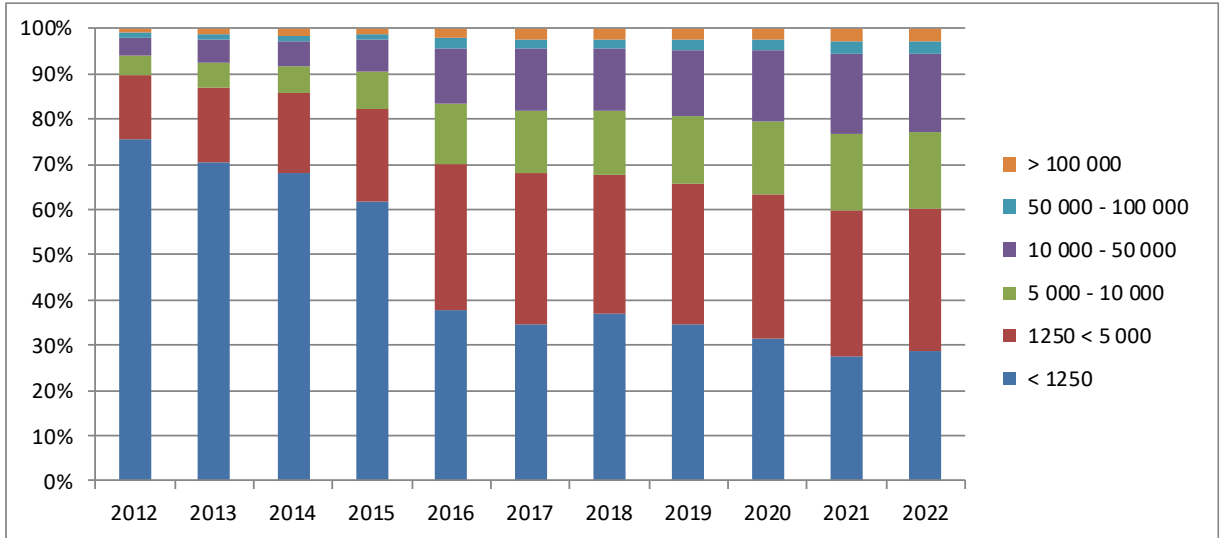


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

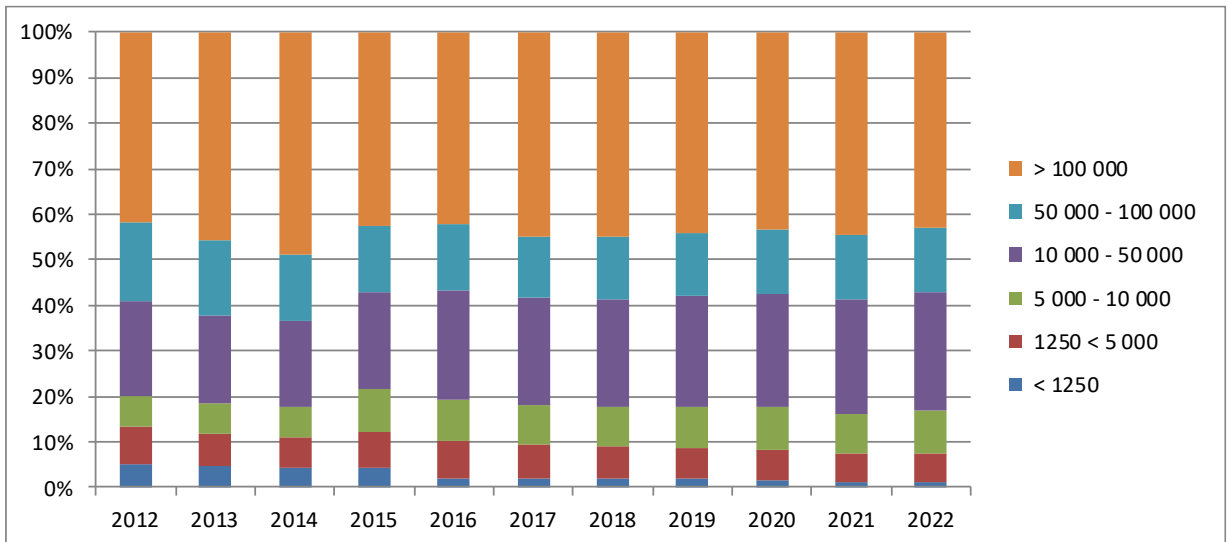


BG

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



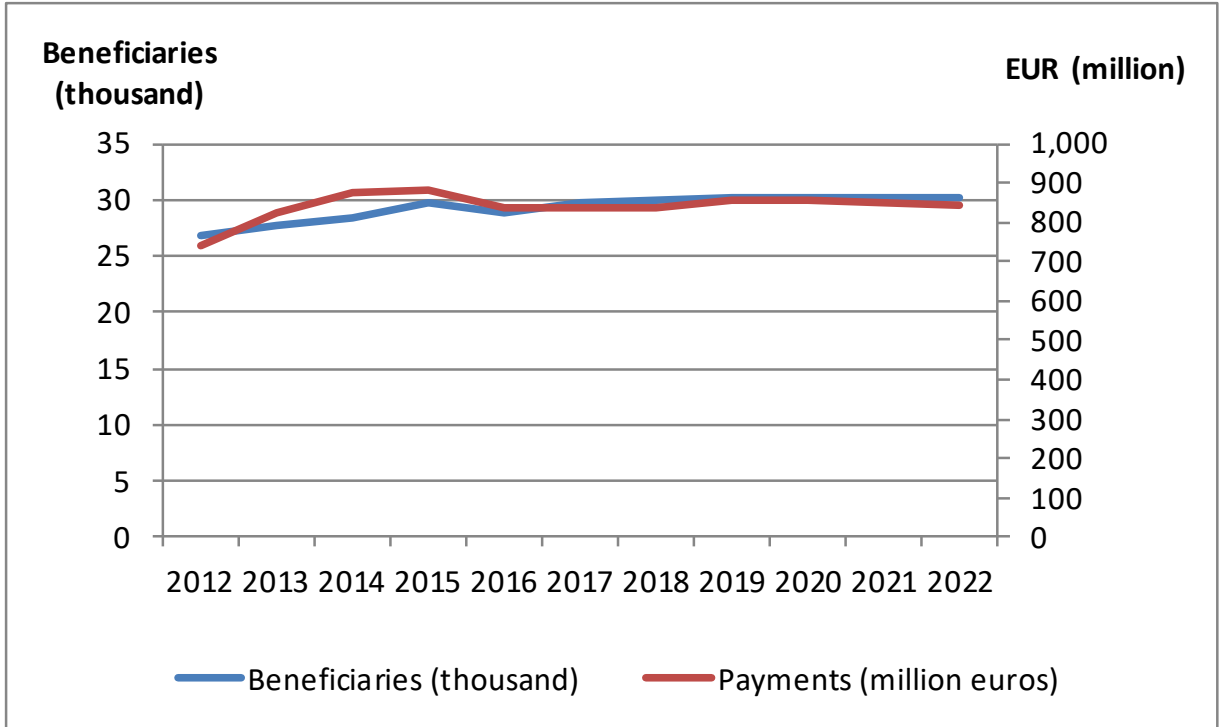
Evolution of payments by payment class



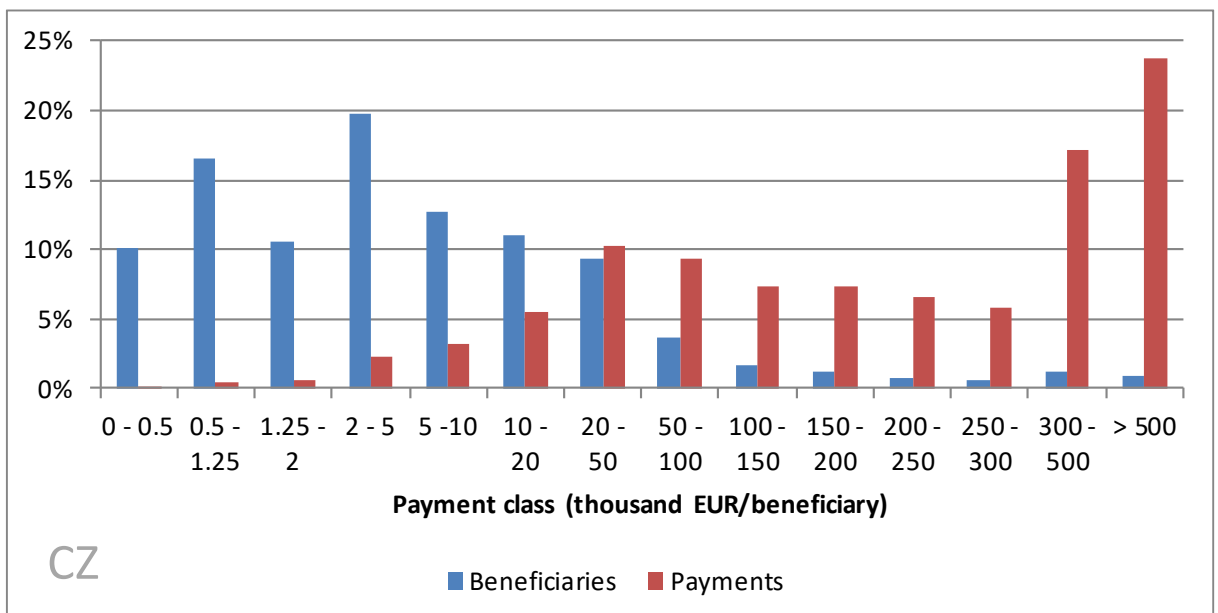
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	36.1%	1.2%	3.3%
5-250 ha	57.9%	31.2%	39.2%
>250 ha	6.0%	67.6%	57.4%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

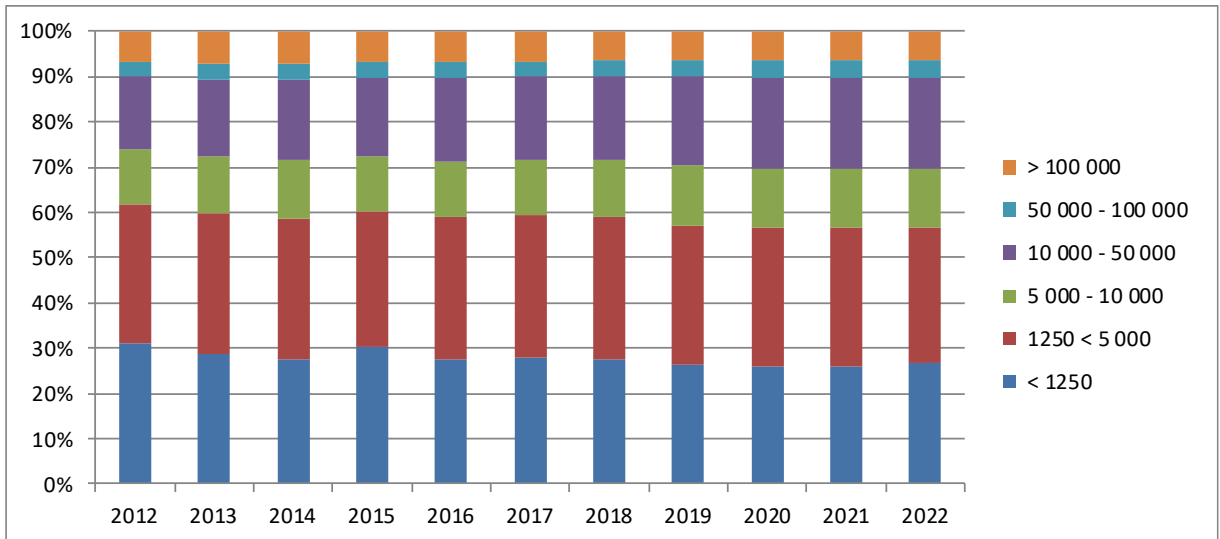


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

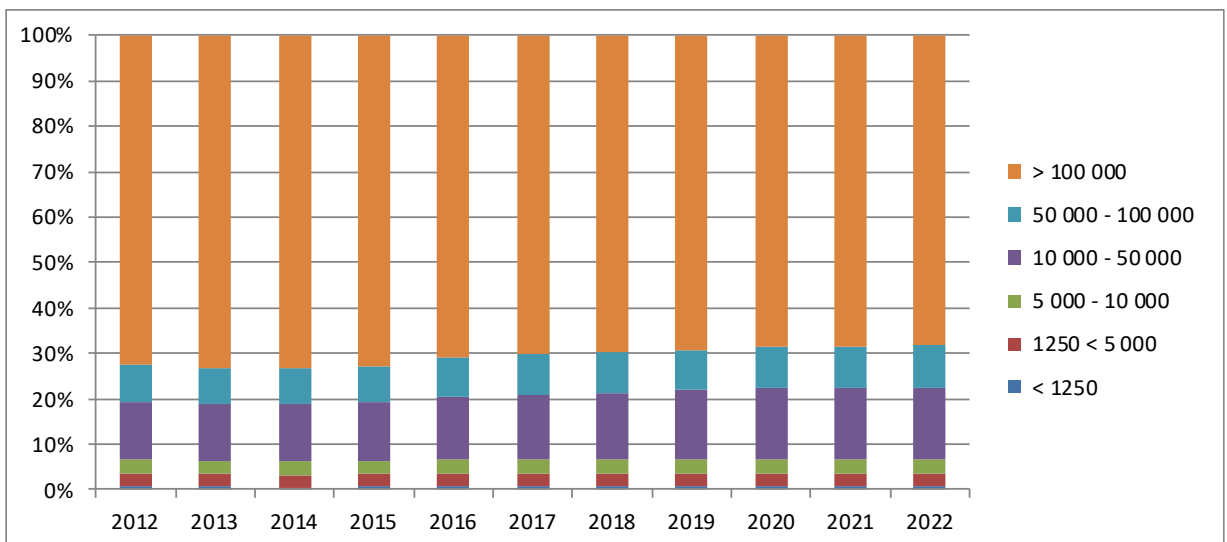


CZ

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



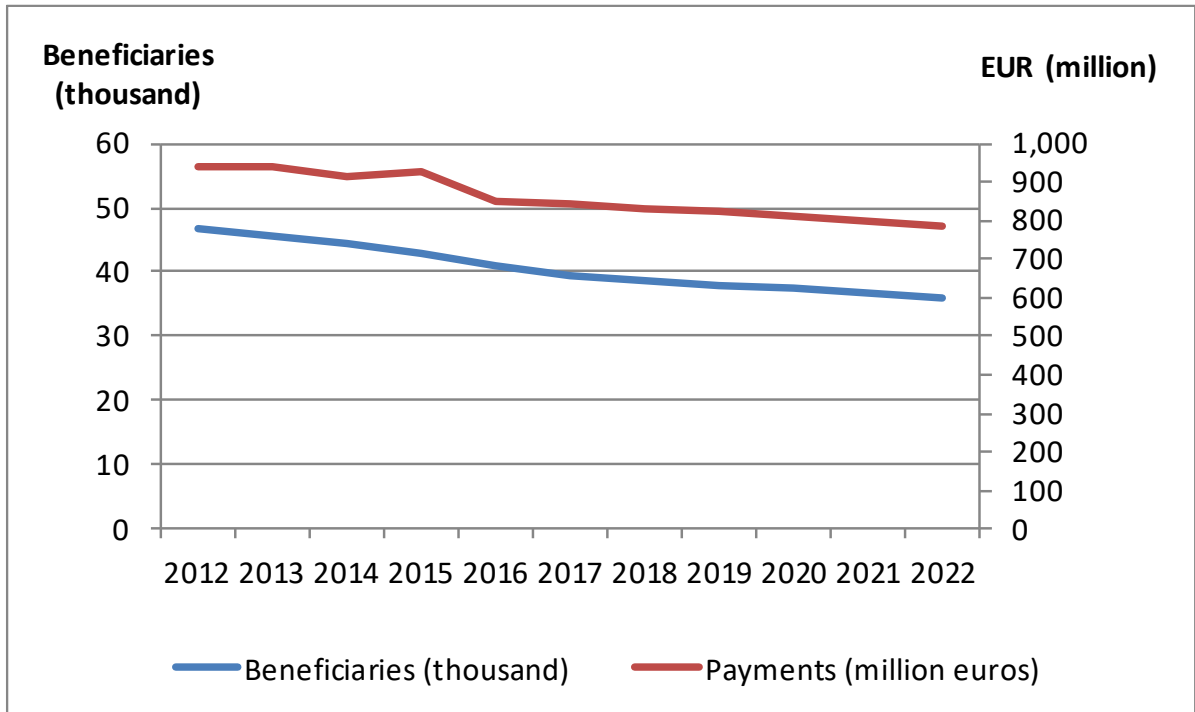
Evolution of payments by payment class



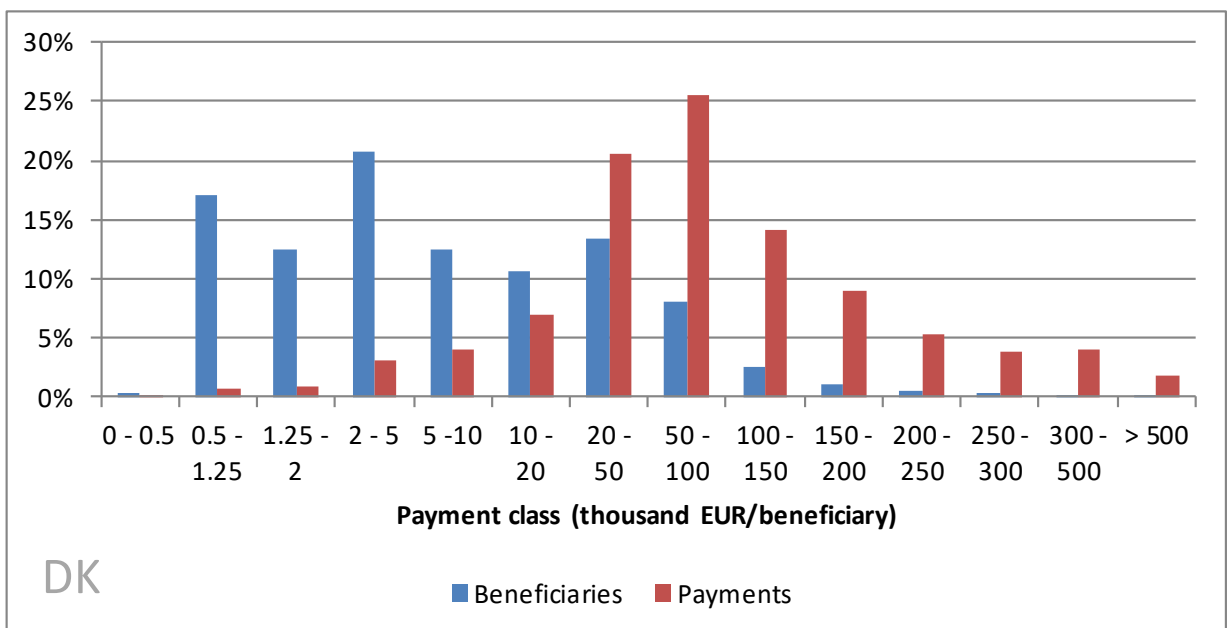
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	23.6%	0.6%	0.5%
5-250 ha	67.2%	24.9%	24.6%
>250 ha	9.2%	74.5%	74.9%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

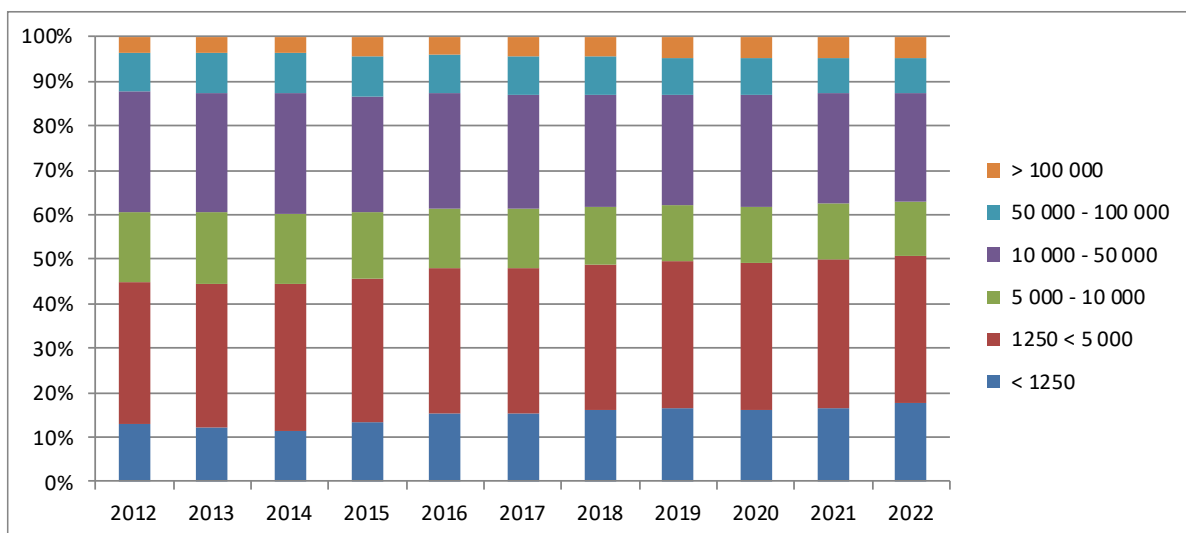


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

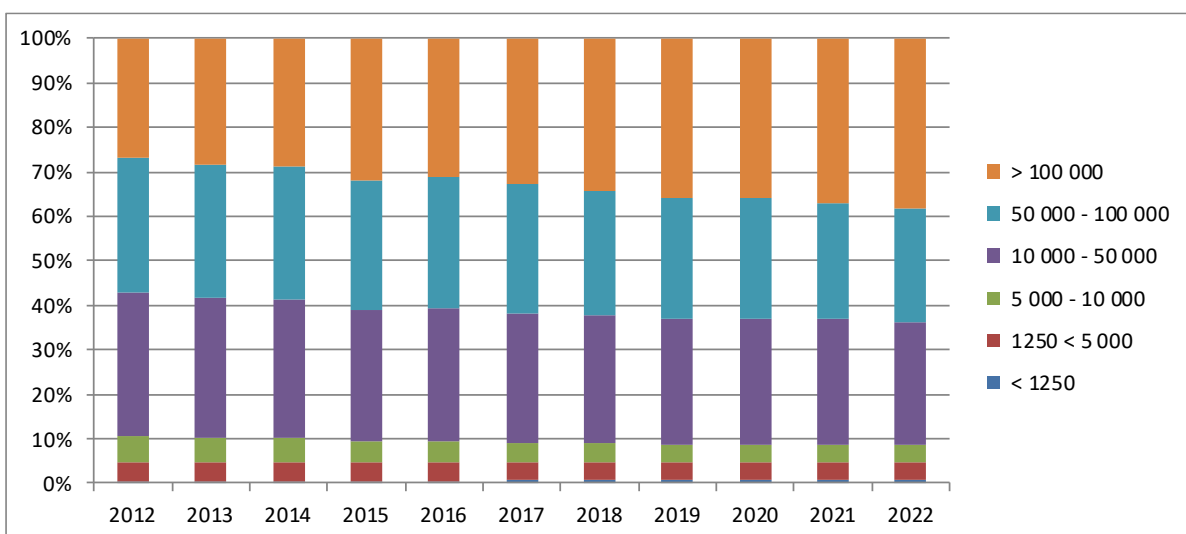


DK

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



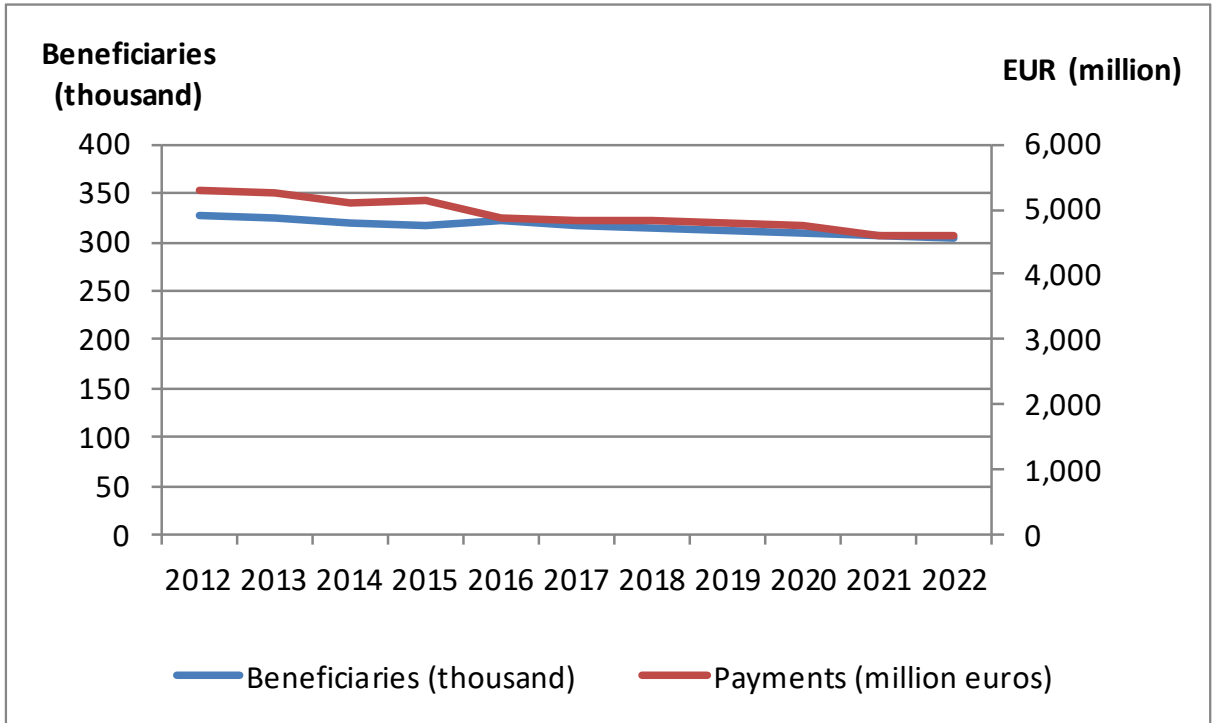
Evolution of payments by payment class



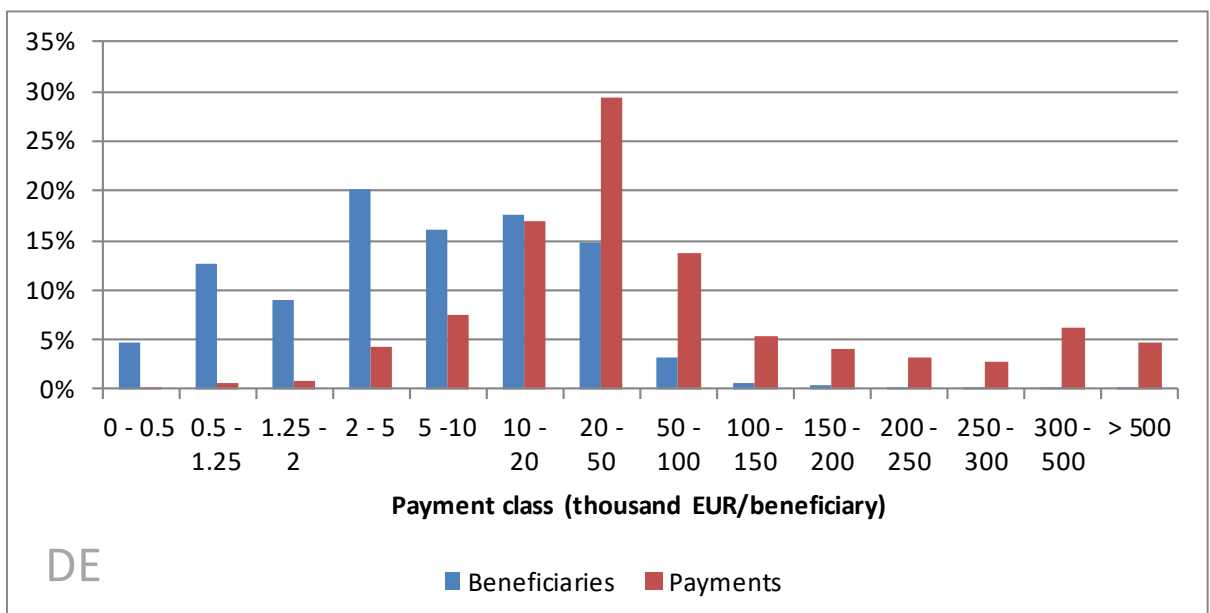
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	19.6%	0.9%	0.9%
5-250 ha	72.8%	48.9%	50.6%
>250 ha	7.6%	50.2%	48.4%

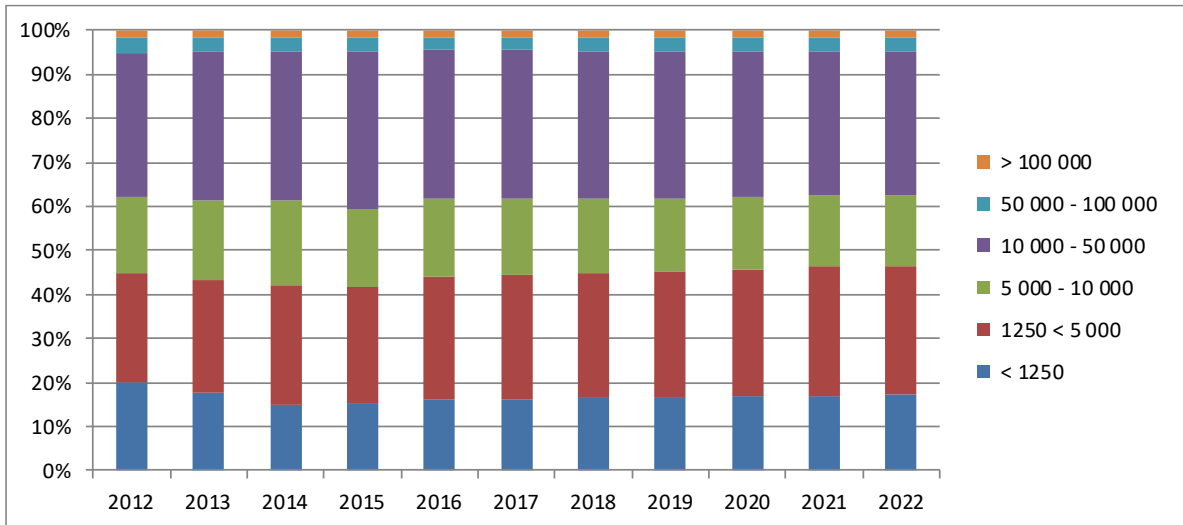
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



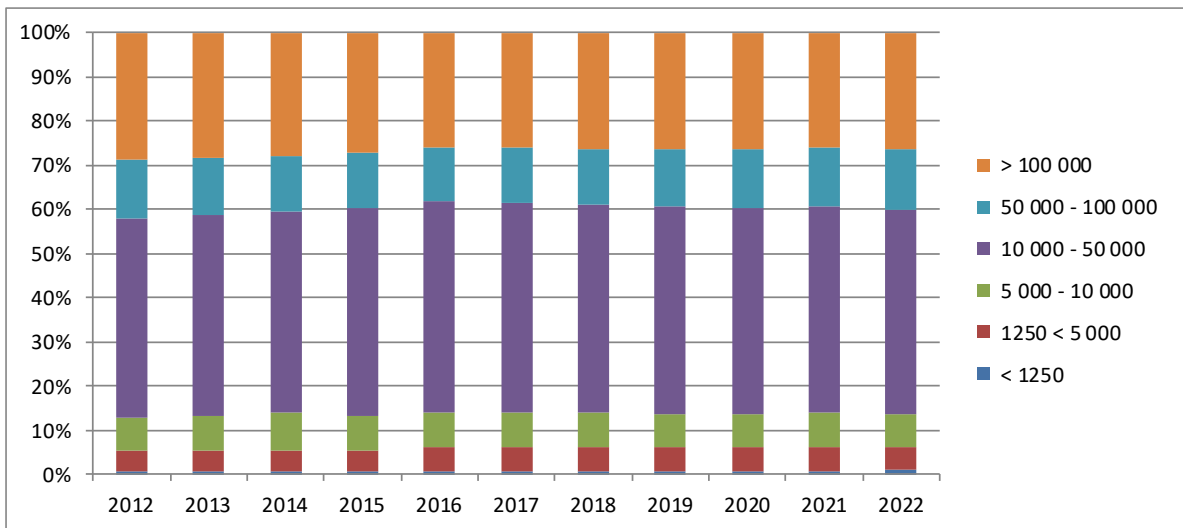
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



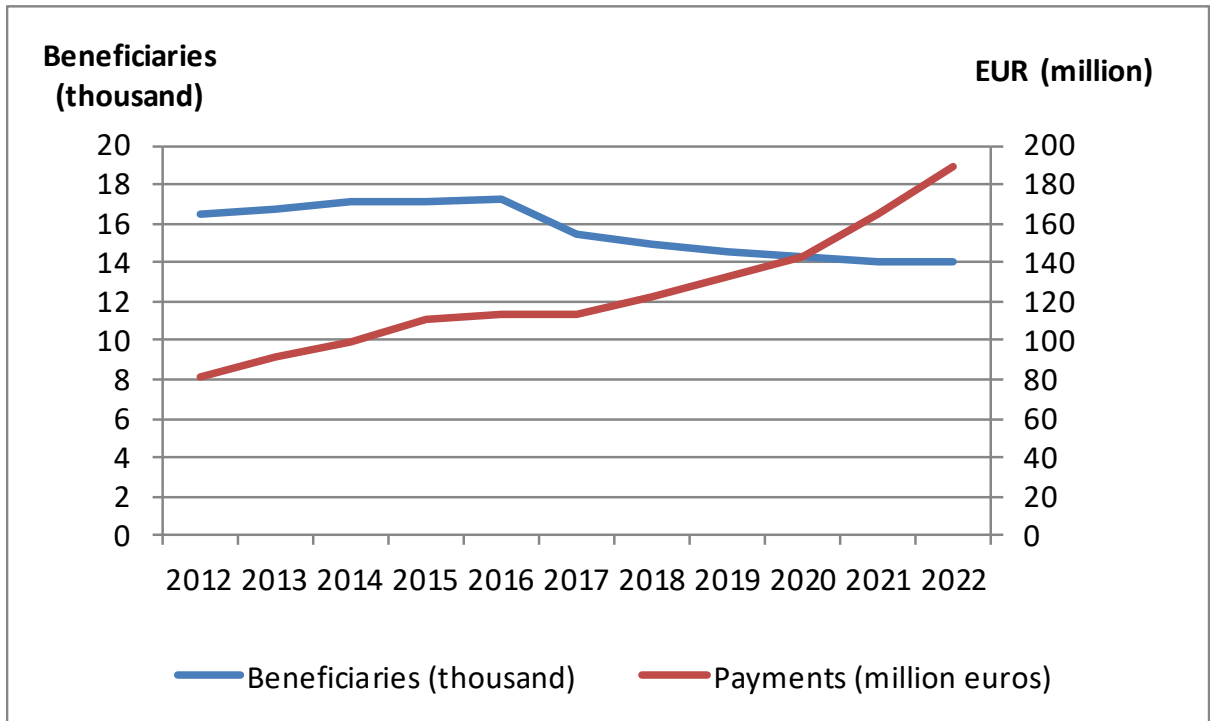
Evolution of payments by payment class



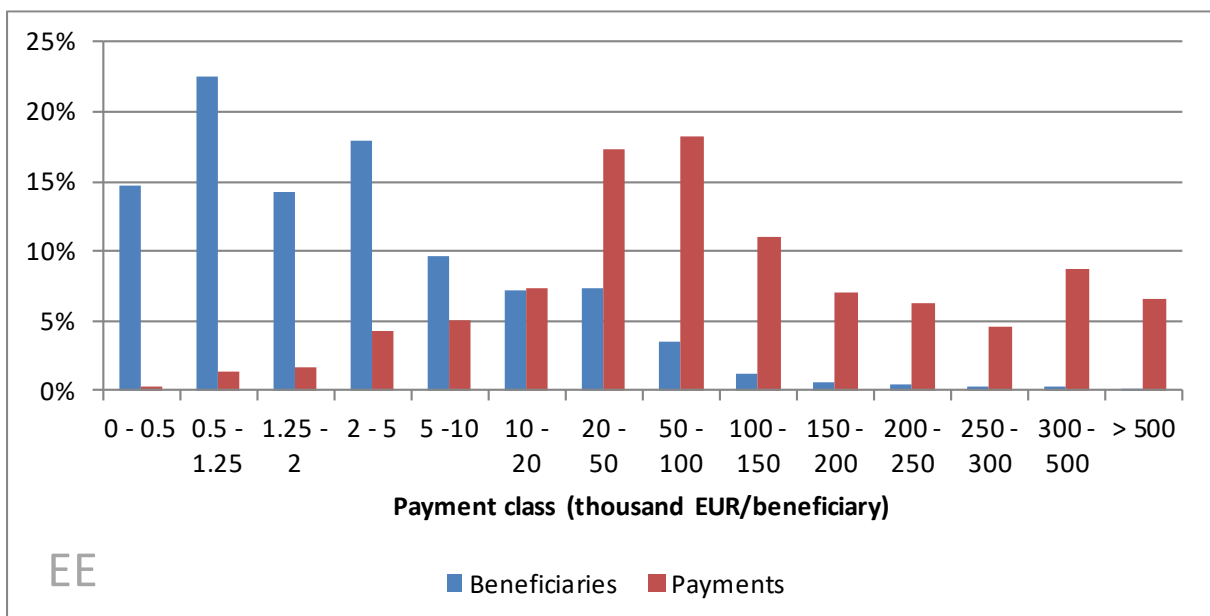
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	21.1%	1.1%	1.2%
5-250 ha	75.8%	62.7%	65.0%
>250 ha	3.2%	36.2%	33.8%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

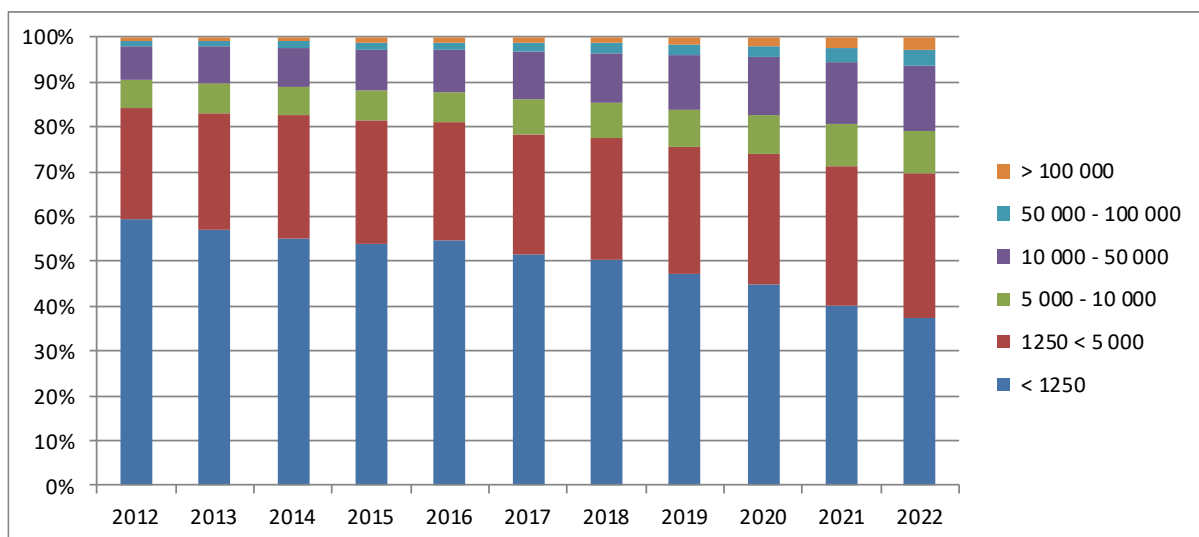


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

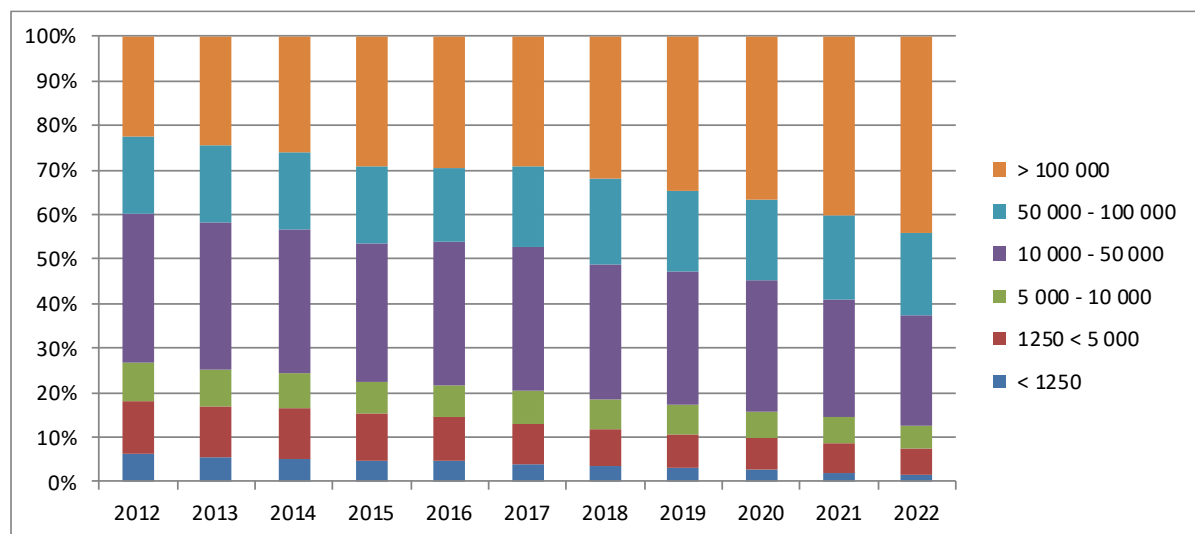


EE

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



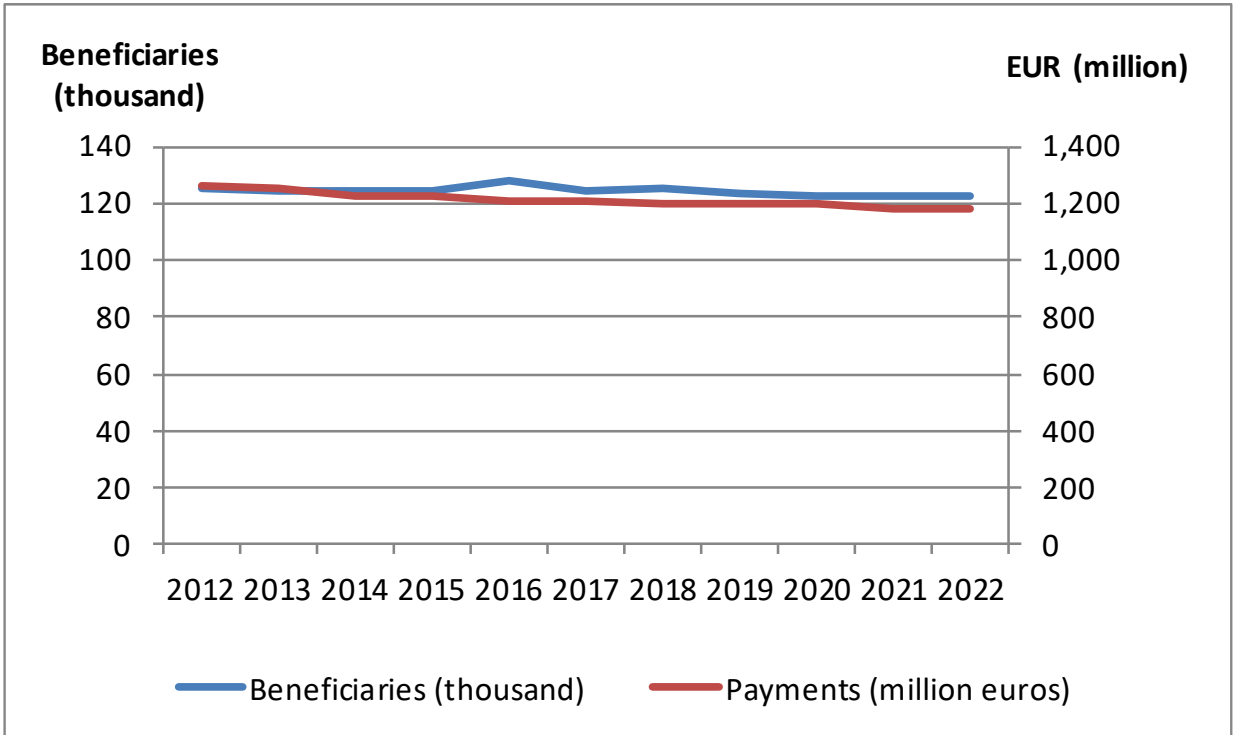
Evolution of payments by payment class



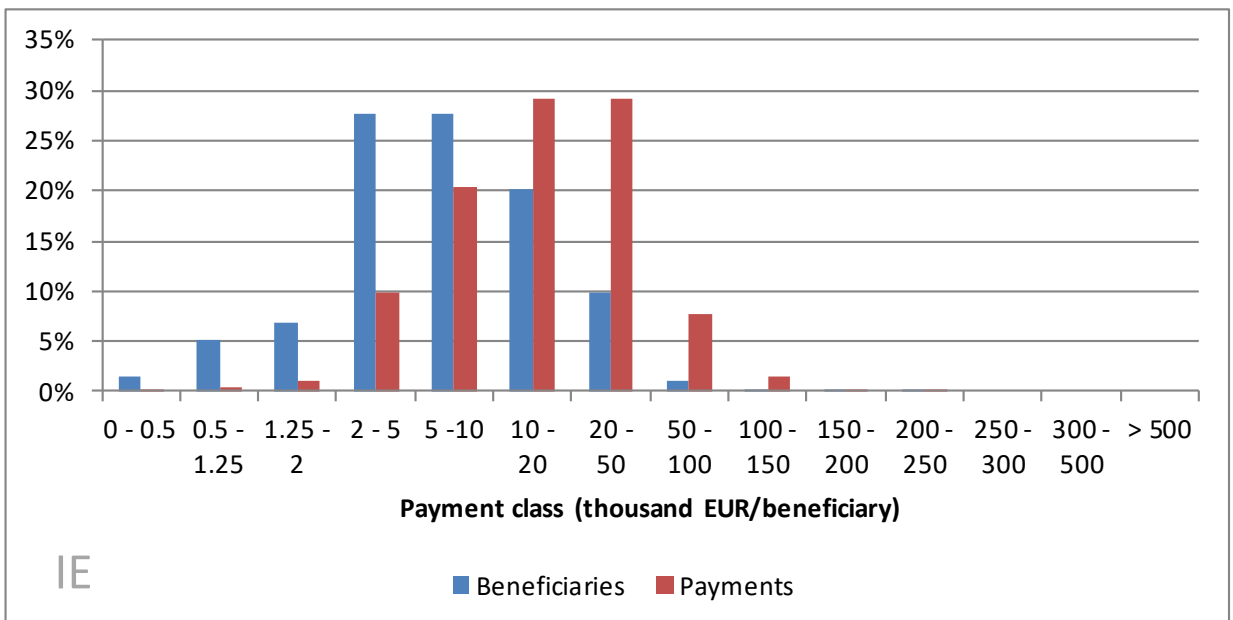
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	30.0%	1.2%	1.2%
5-250 ha	63.3%	35.1%	35.7%
>250 ha	6.7%	63.7%	63.1%

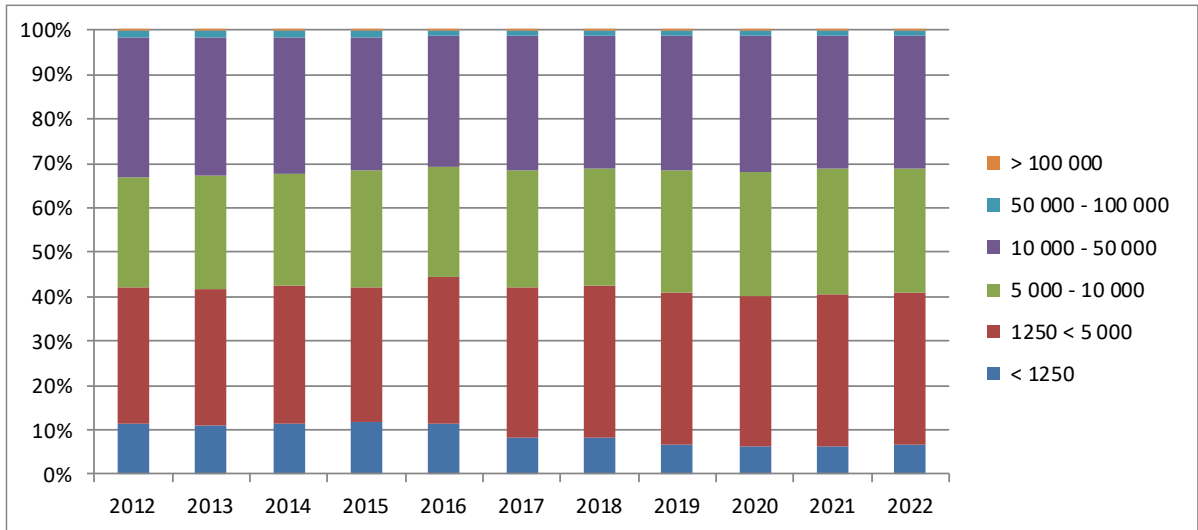
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



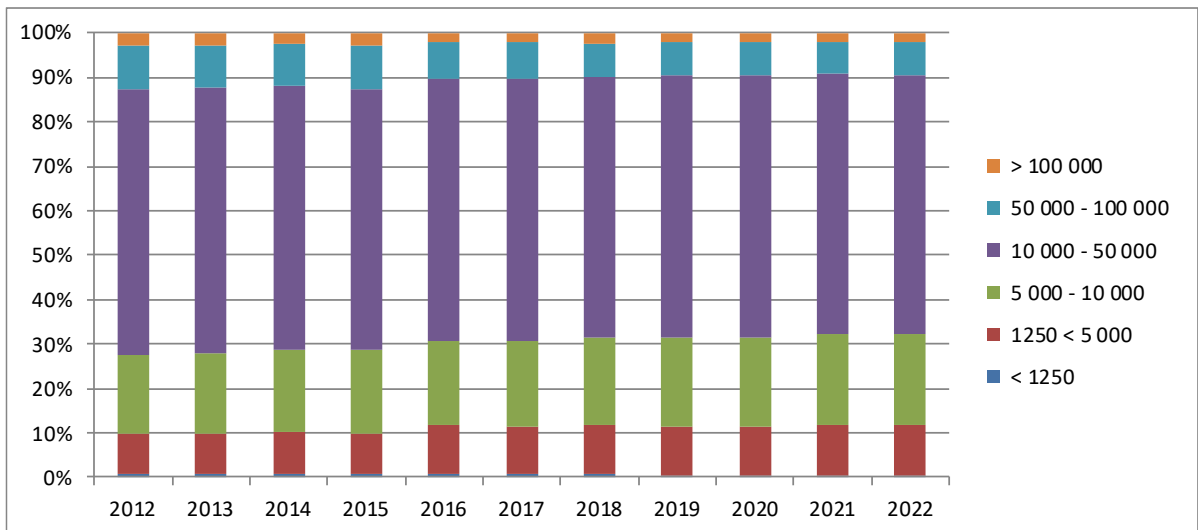
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



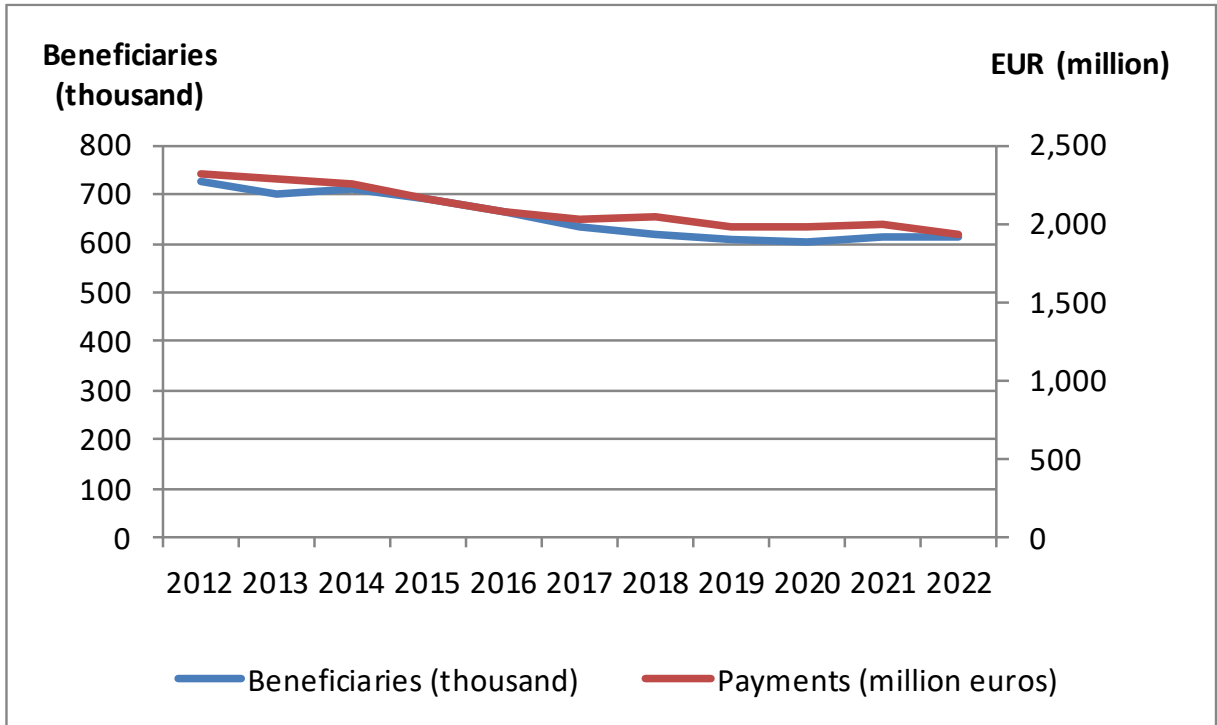
Evolution of payments by payment class



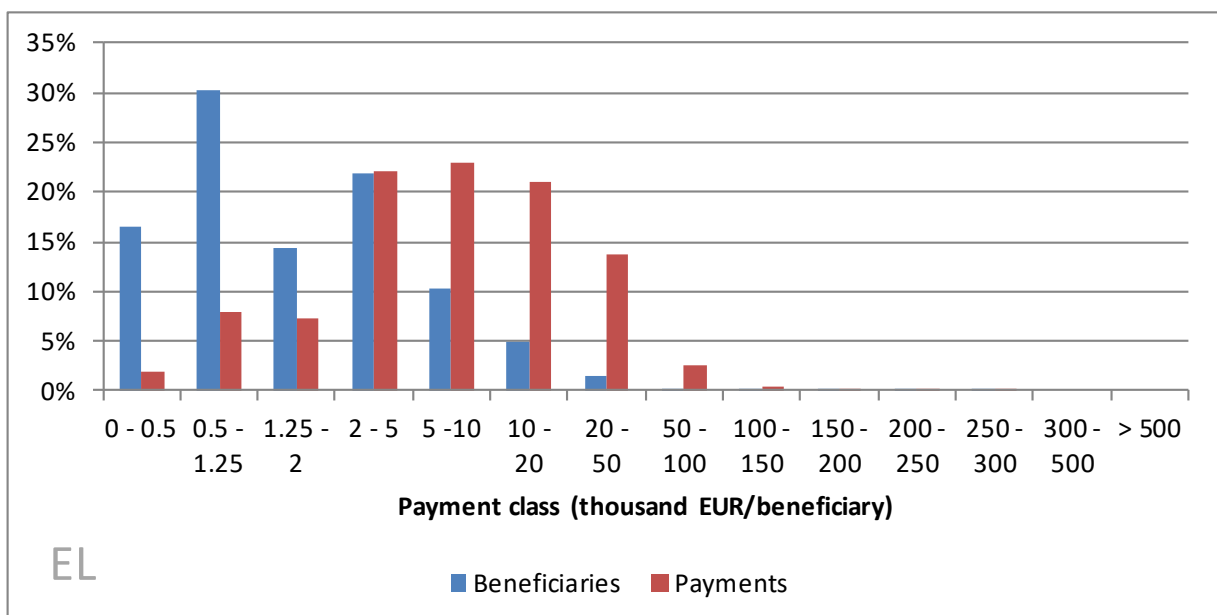
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	8.7%	0.4%	0.5%
5-250 ha	90.8%	95.5%	95.8%
>250 ha	0.4%	4.0%	3.8%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

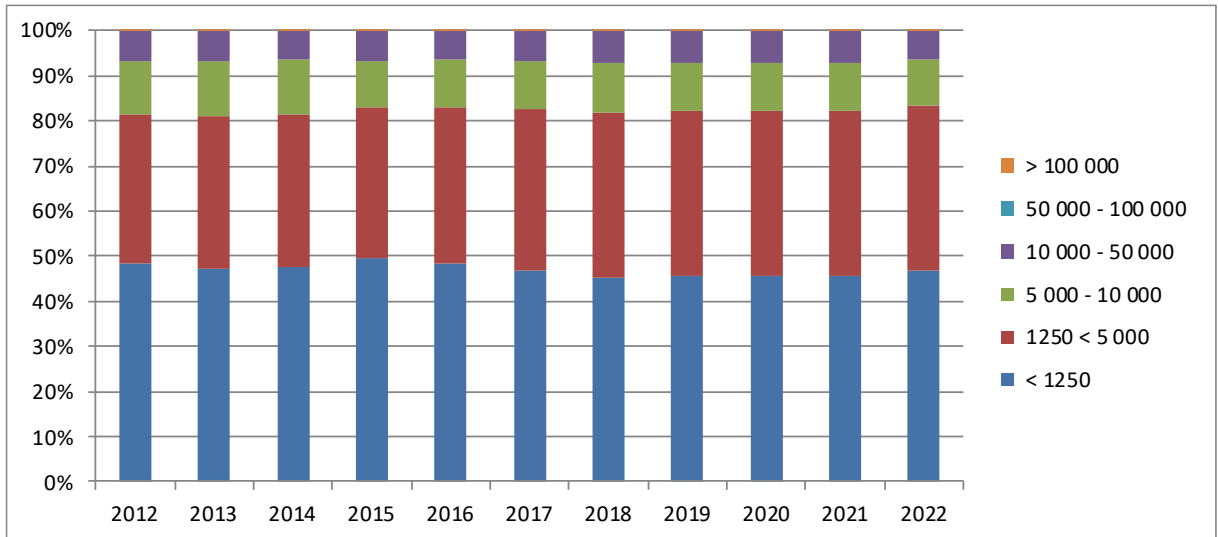


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

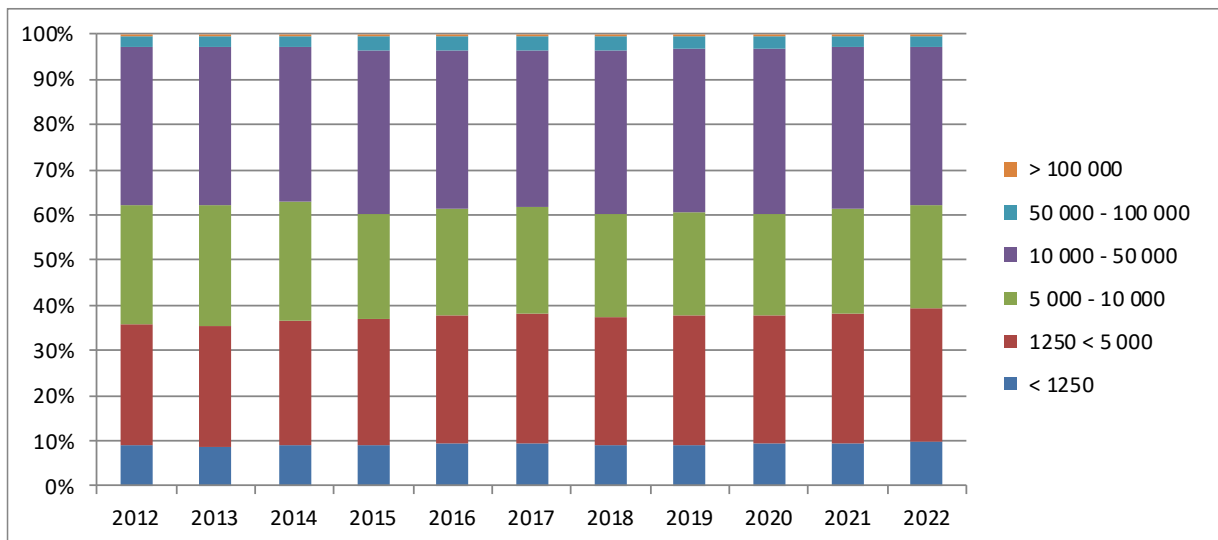


EL

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



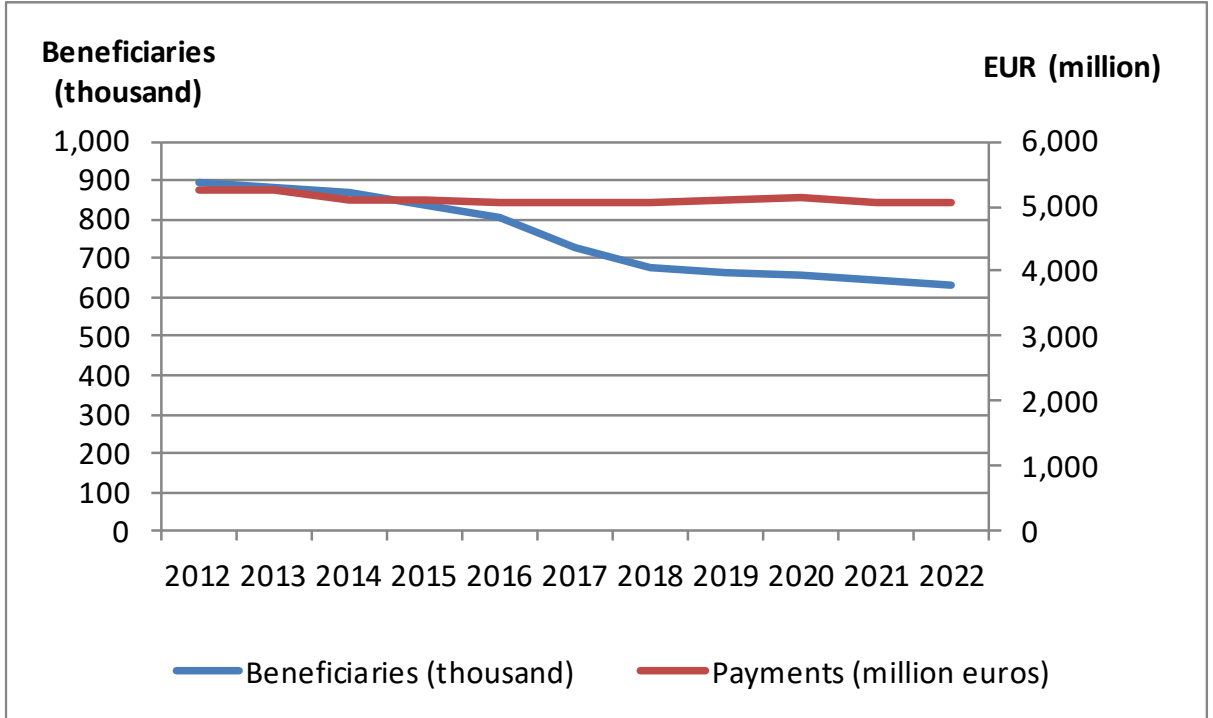
Evolution of payments by payment class



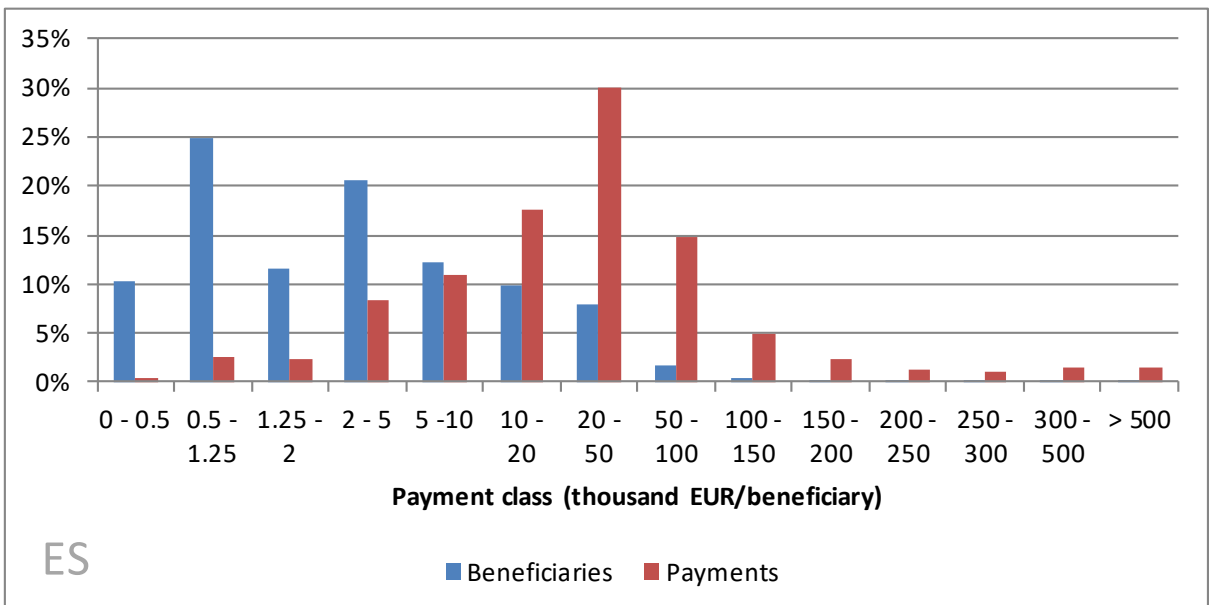
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	68.9%	21.1%	24.7%
5-250 ha	31.1%	78.6%	75.1%
>250 ha	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

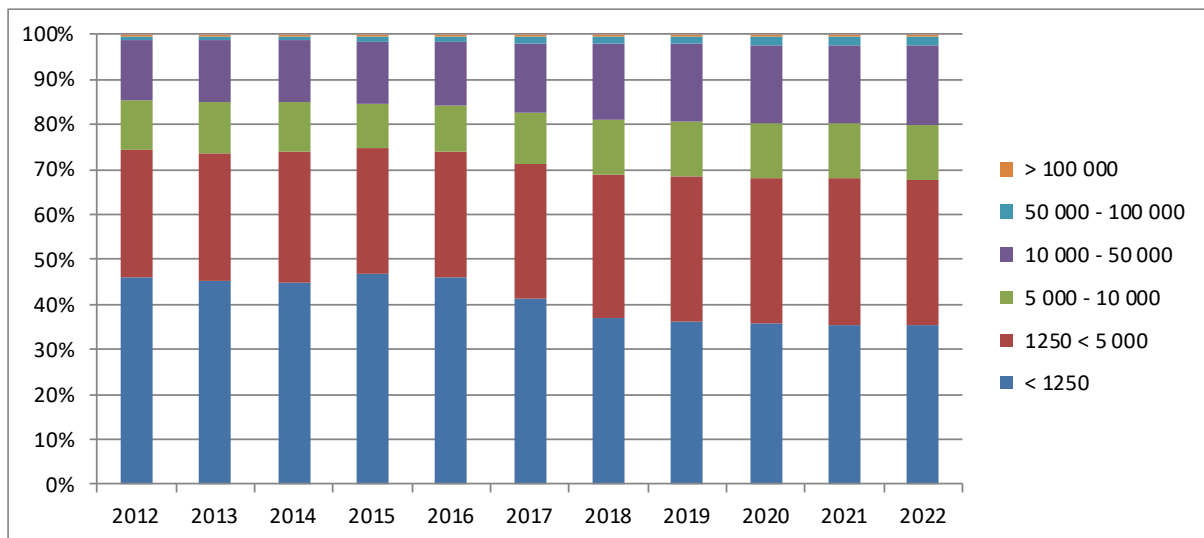


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

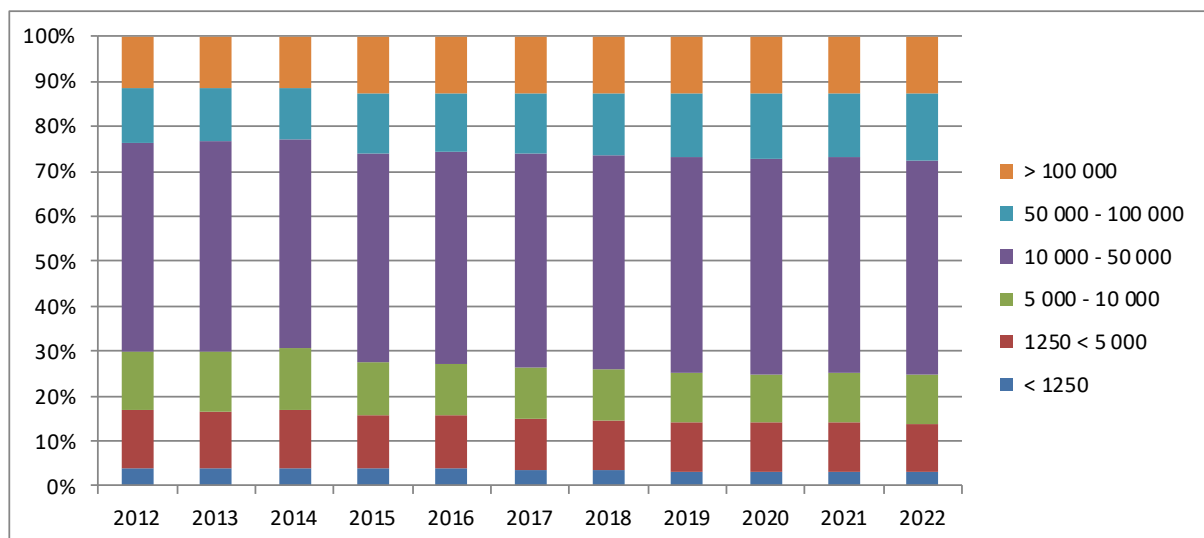


ES

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



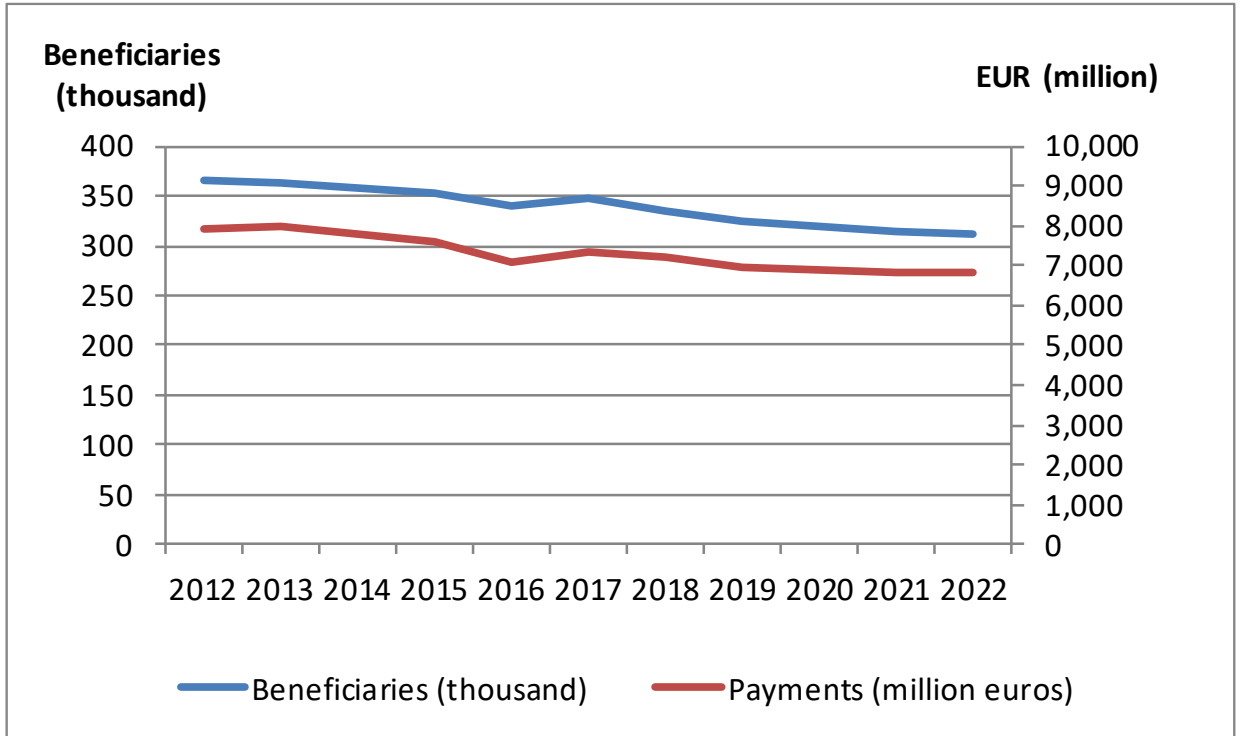
Evolution of payments by payment class



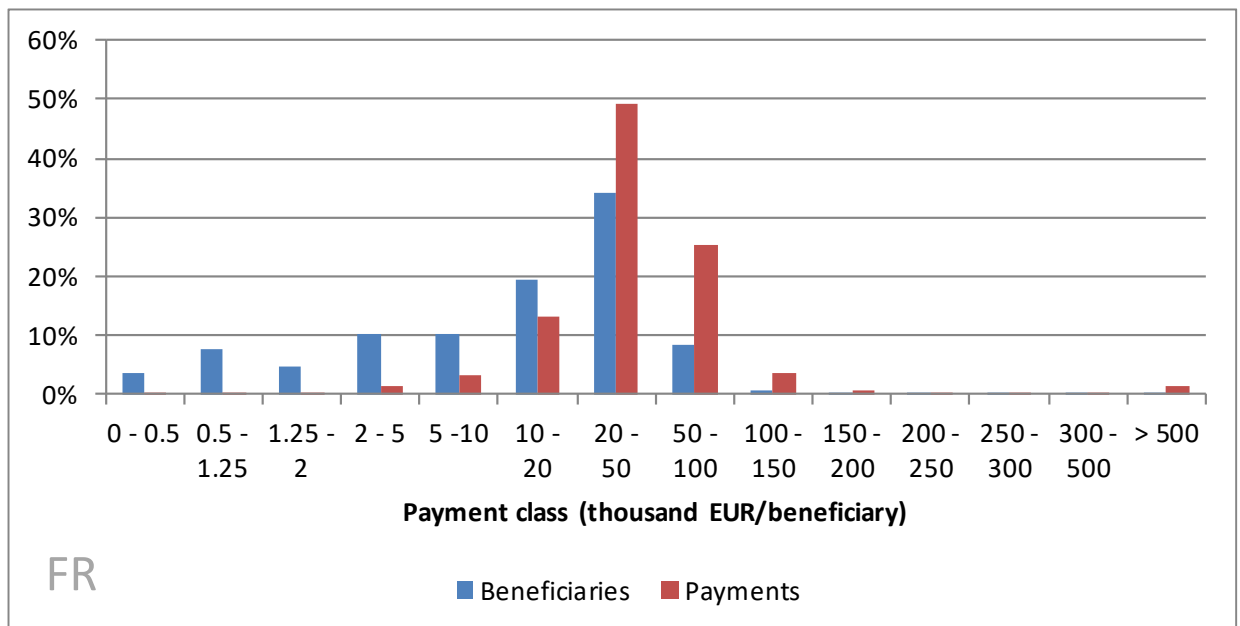
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	39.7%	3.0%	5.5%
5-250 ha	58.2%	68.6%	73.5%
>250 ha	2.0%	28.3%	21.0%

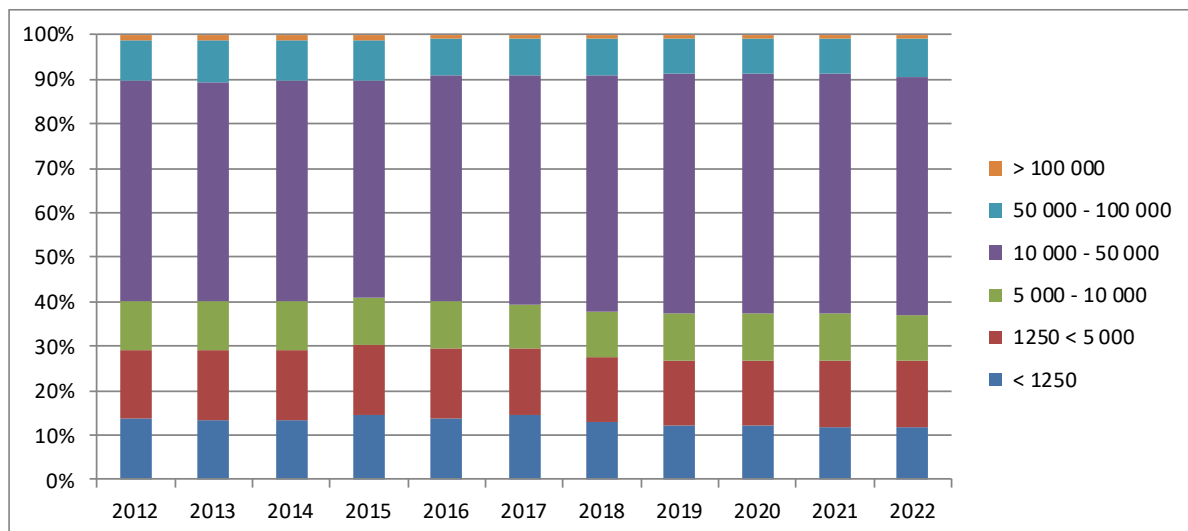
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



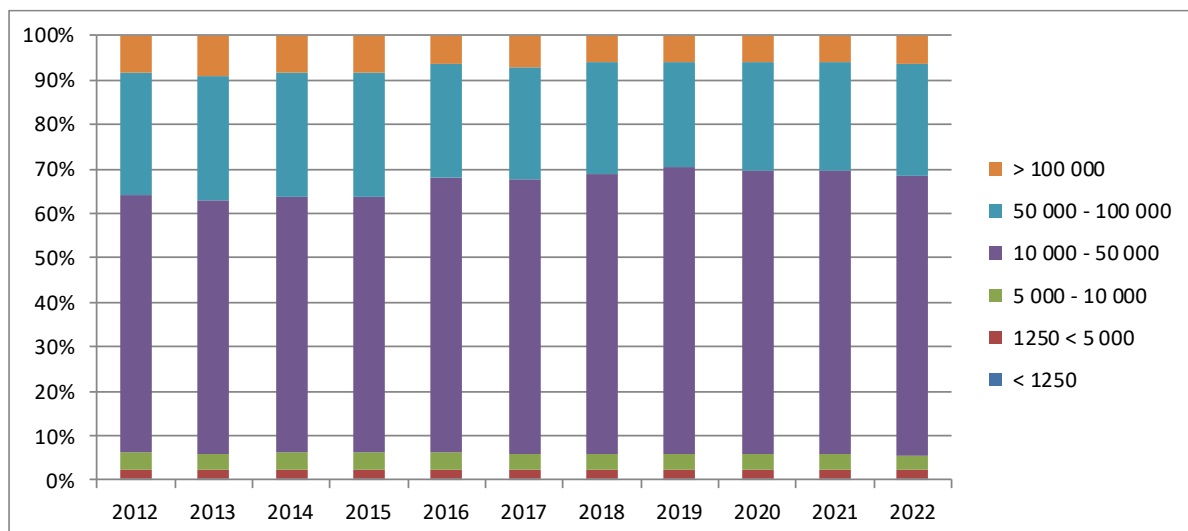
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



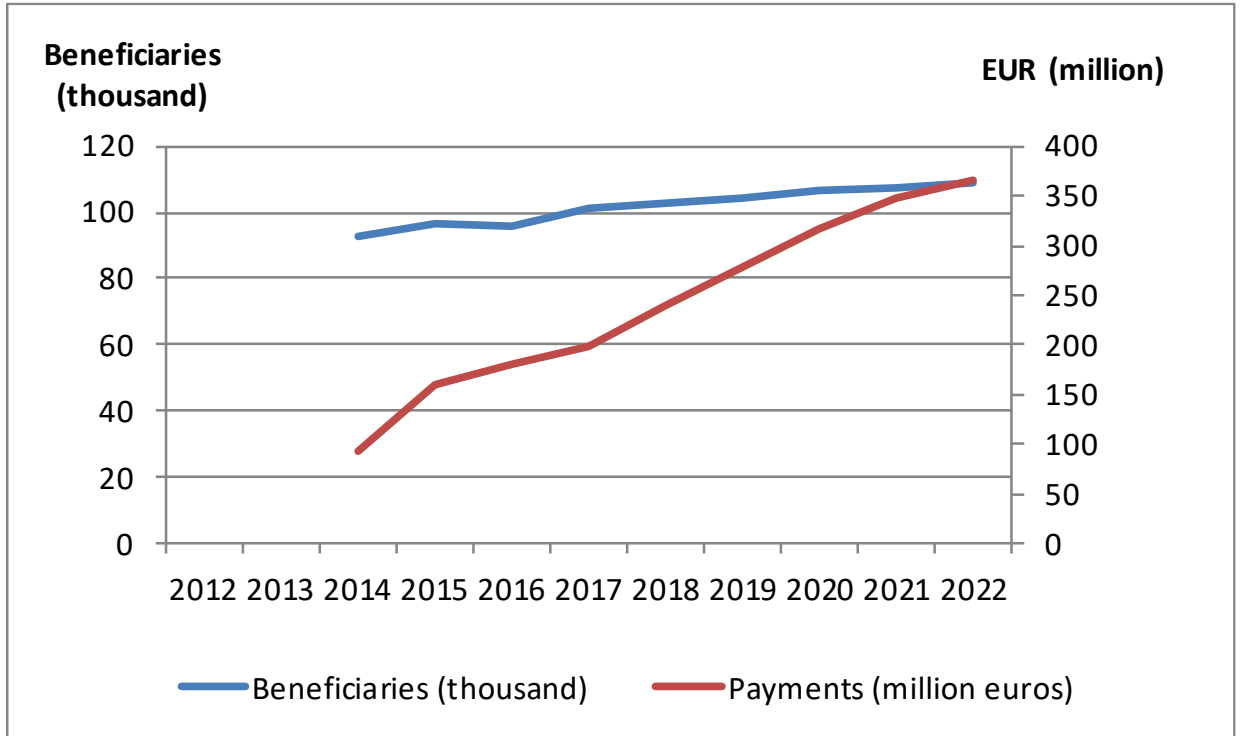
Evolution of payments by payment class



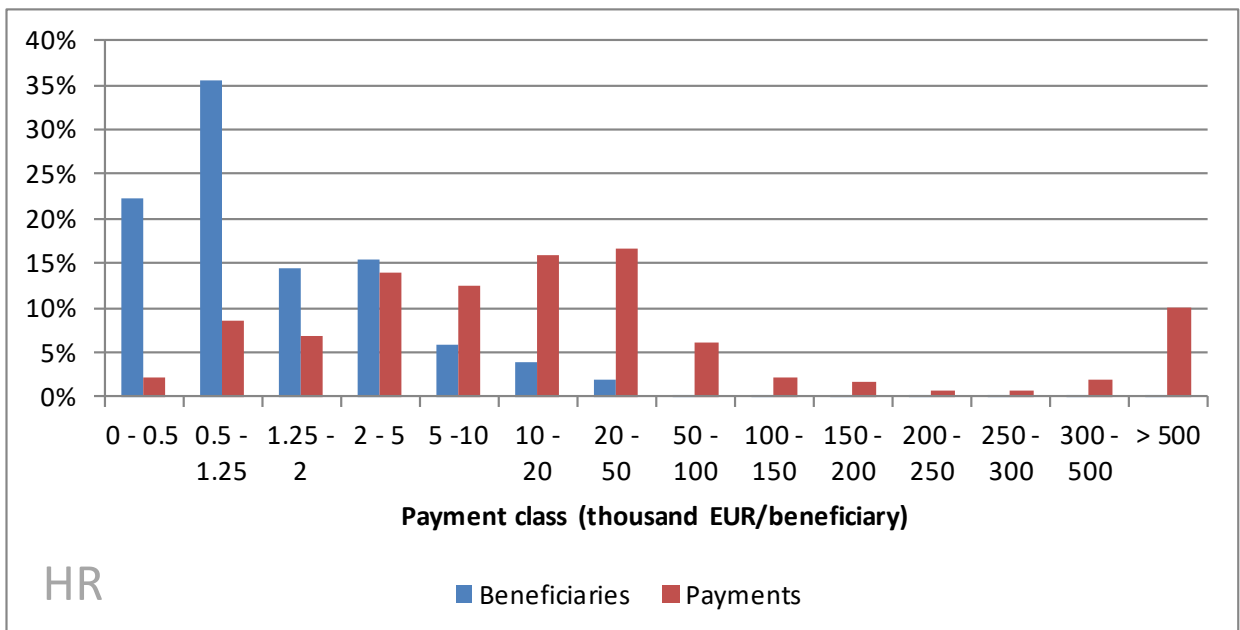
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	10.0%	0.3%	0.4%
5-250 ha	84.9%	79.7%	81.5%
>250 ha	5.1%	20.0%	18.1%

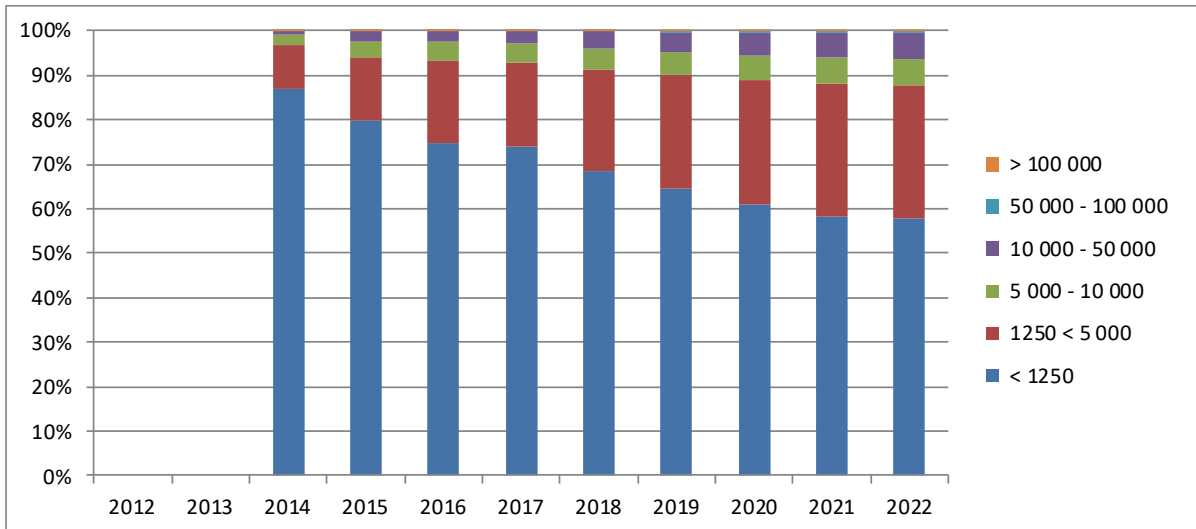
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



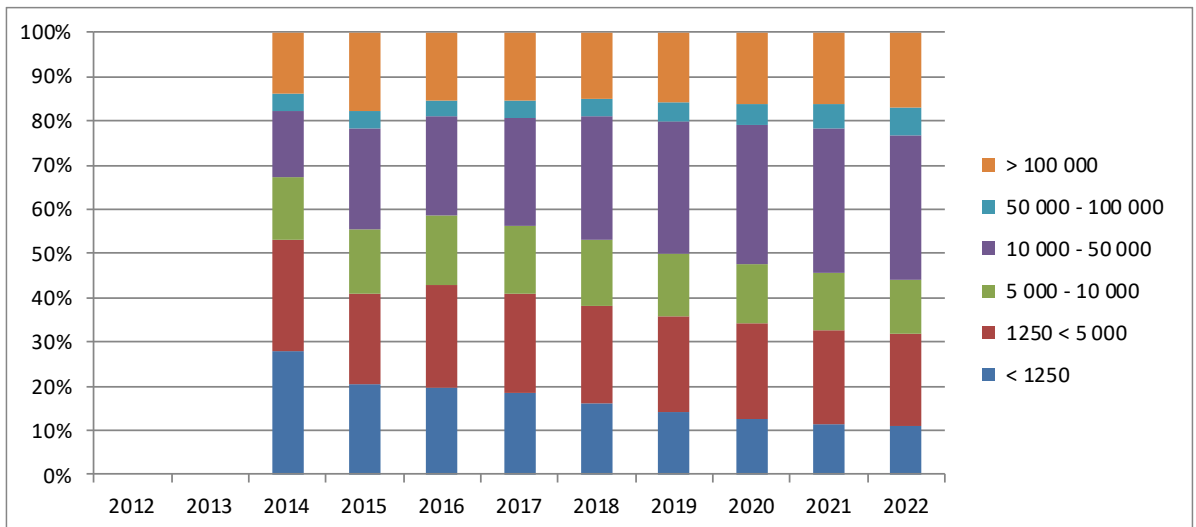
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



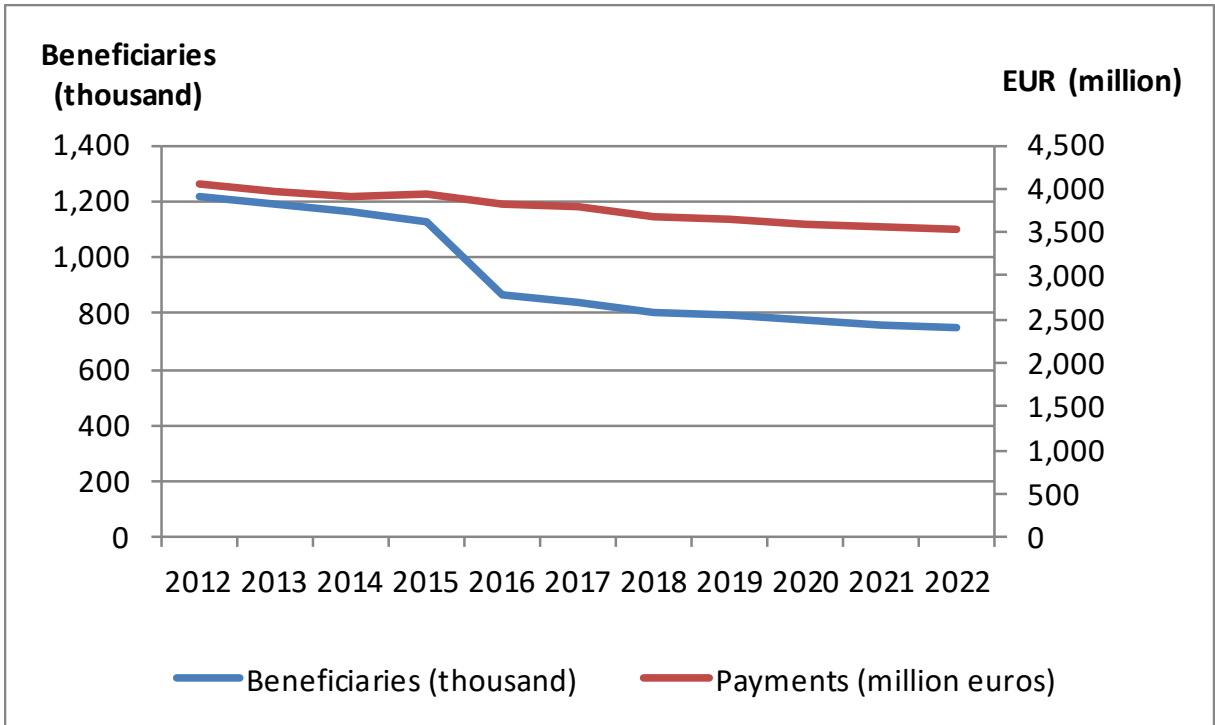
Evolution of payments by payment class



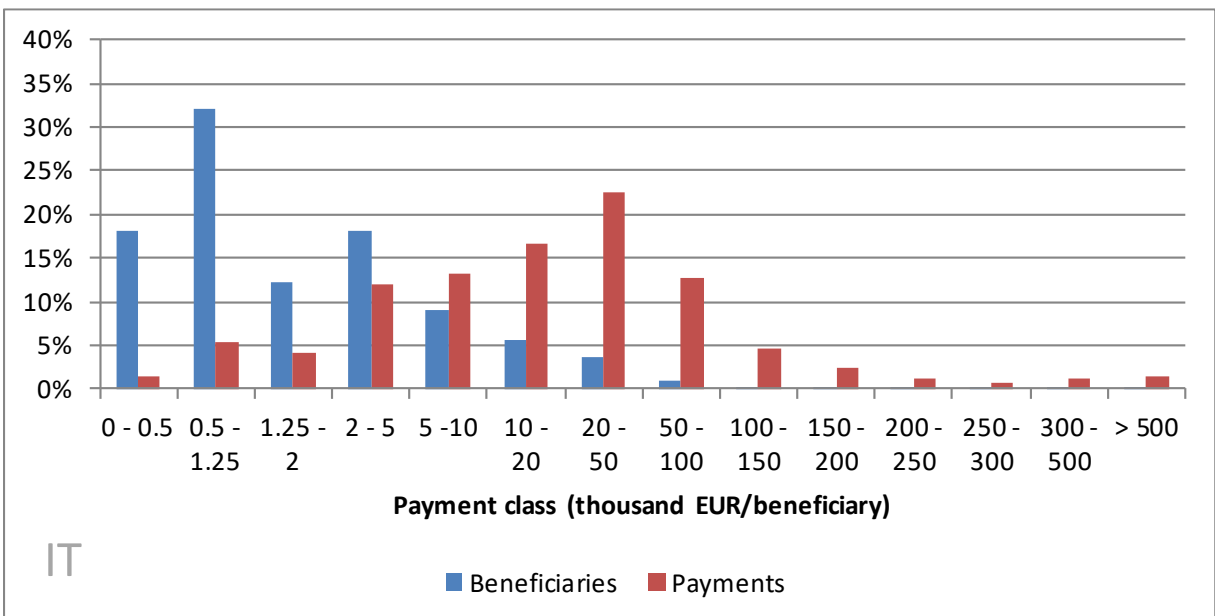
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	63.9%	14.9%	14.3%
5-250 ha	35.8%	68.8%	68.5%
>250 ha	0.2%	16.3%	17.1%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

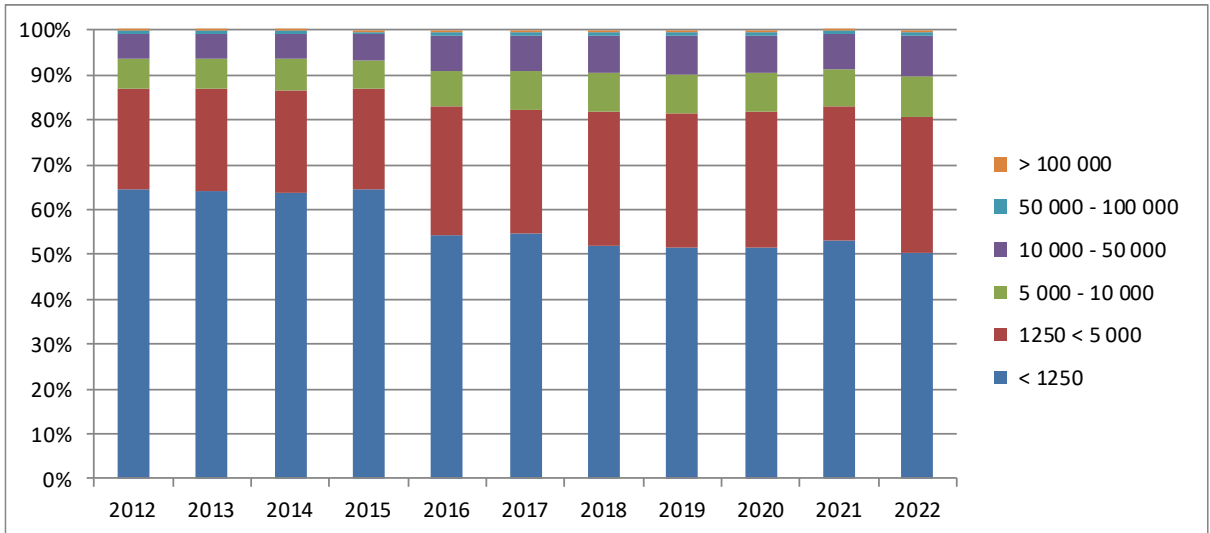


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

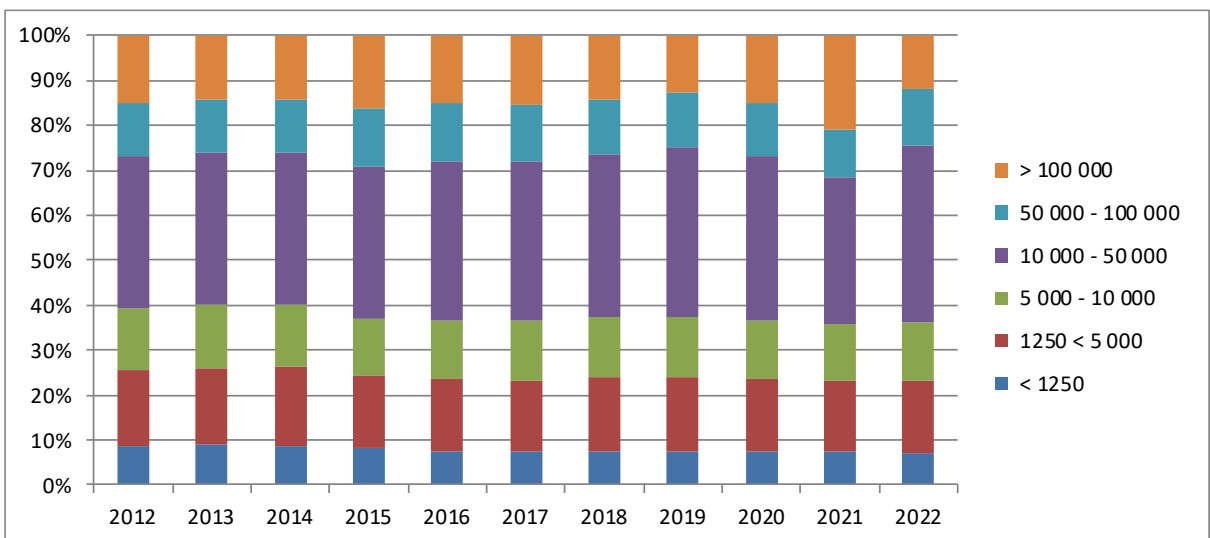


IT

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



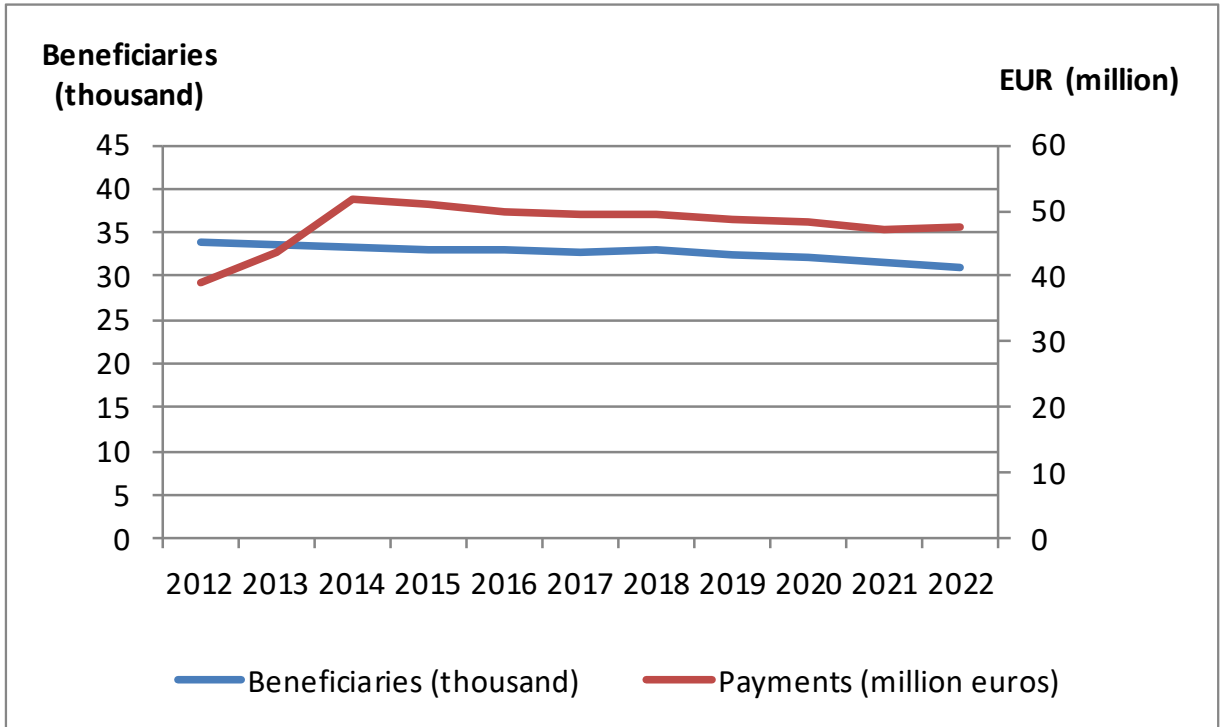
Evolution of payments by payment class



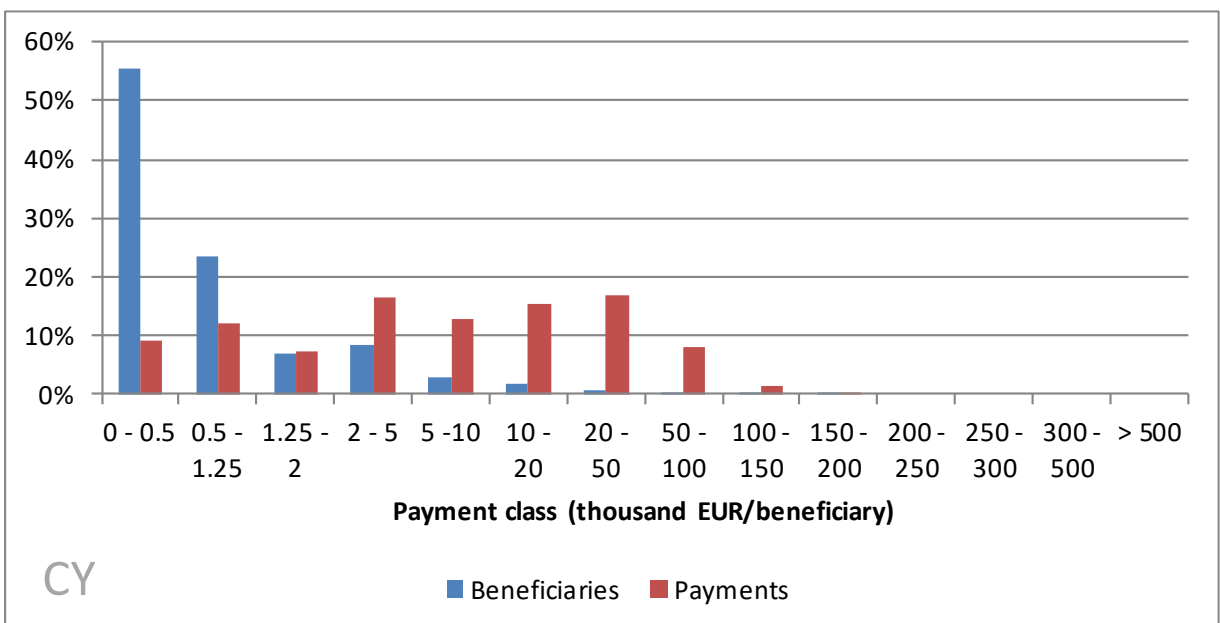
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	54.6%	9.2%	9.5%
5-250 ha	45.1%	82.5%	82.0%
>250 ha	0.3%	8.3%	8.5%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

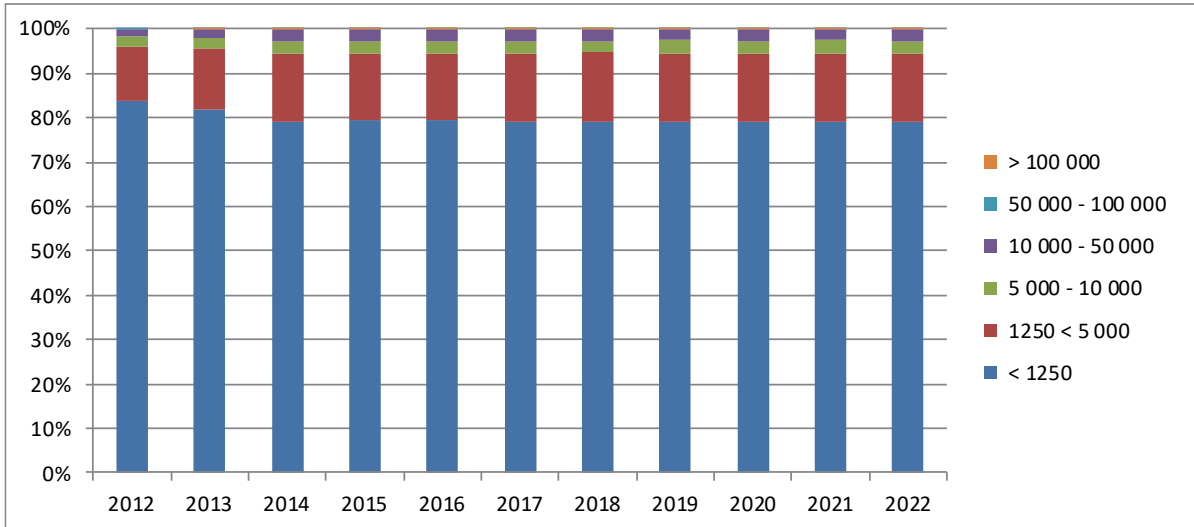


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

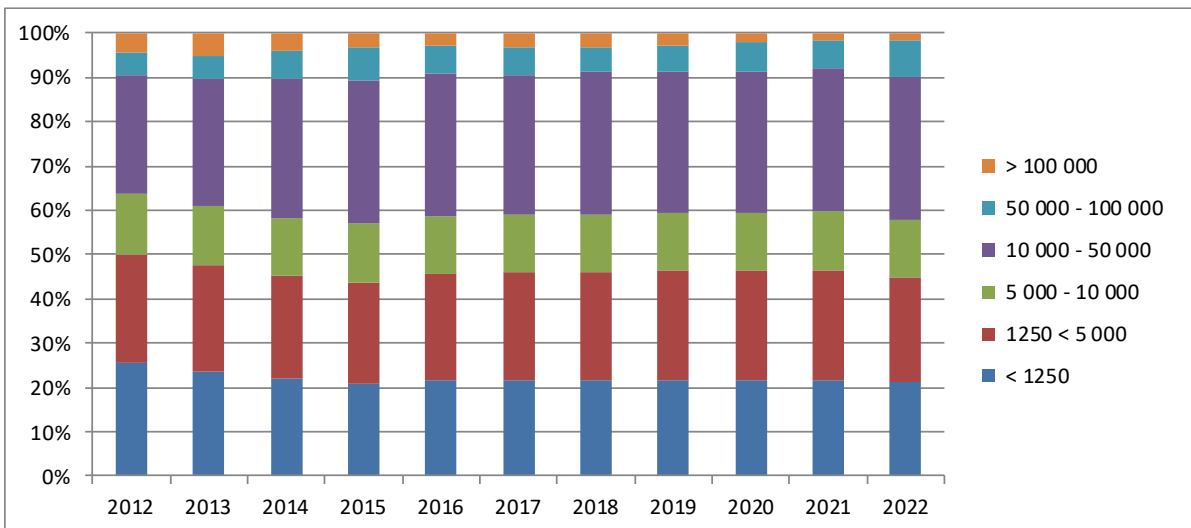


CY

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



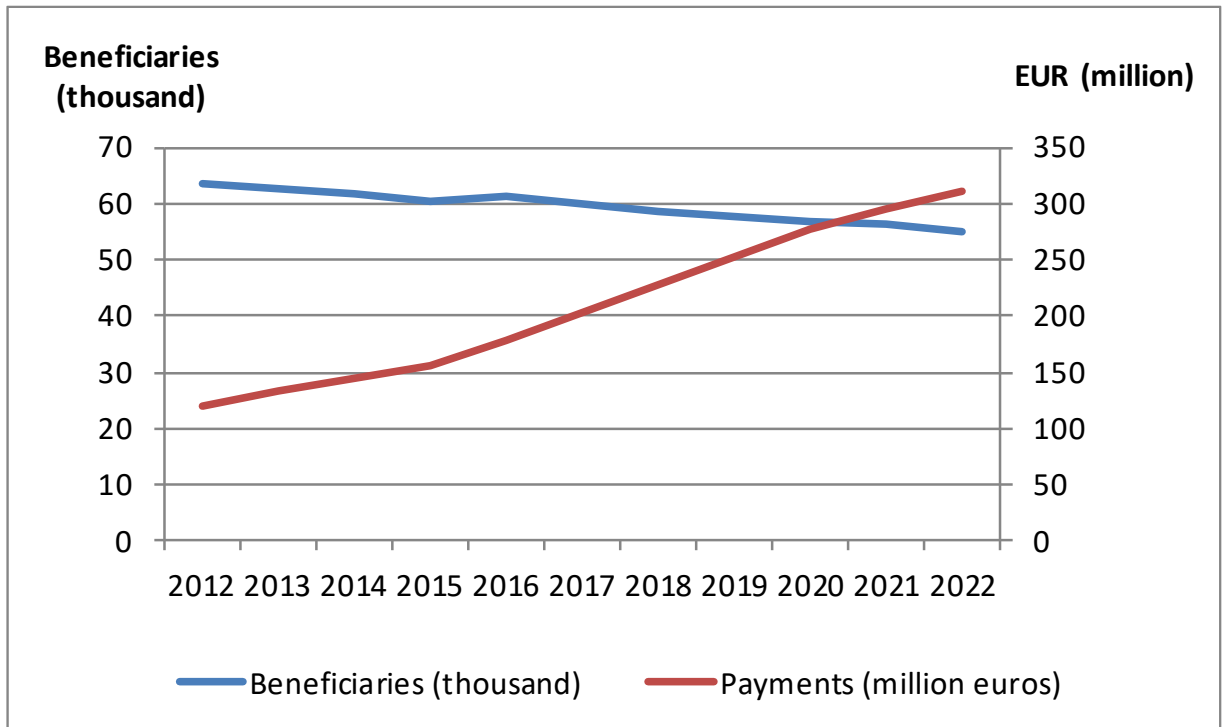
Evolution of payments by payment class



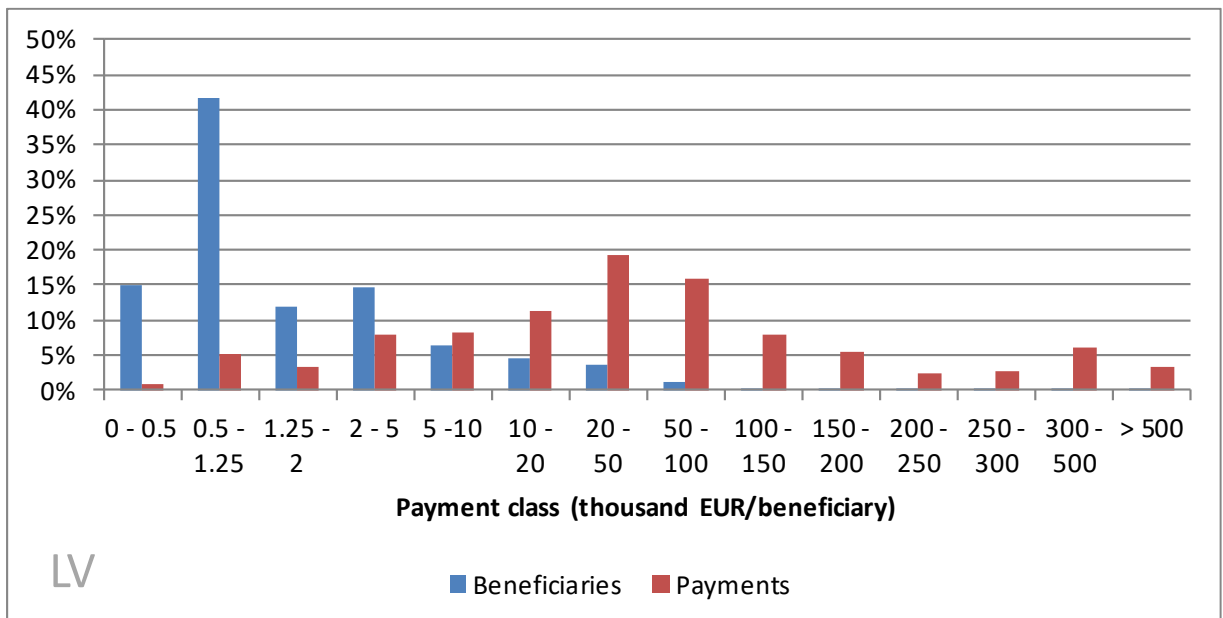
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	84.3%	27.4%	27.0%
5-250 ha	15.6%	70.5%	71.1%
>250 ha	0.0%	2.1%	1.9%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

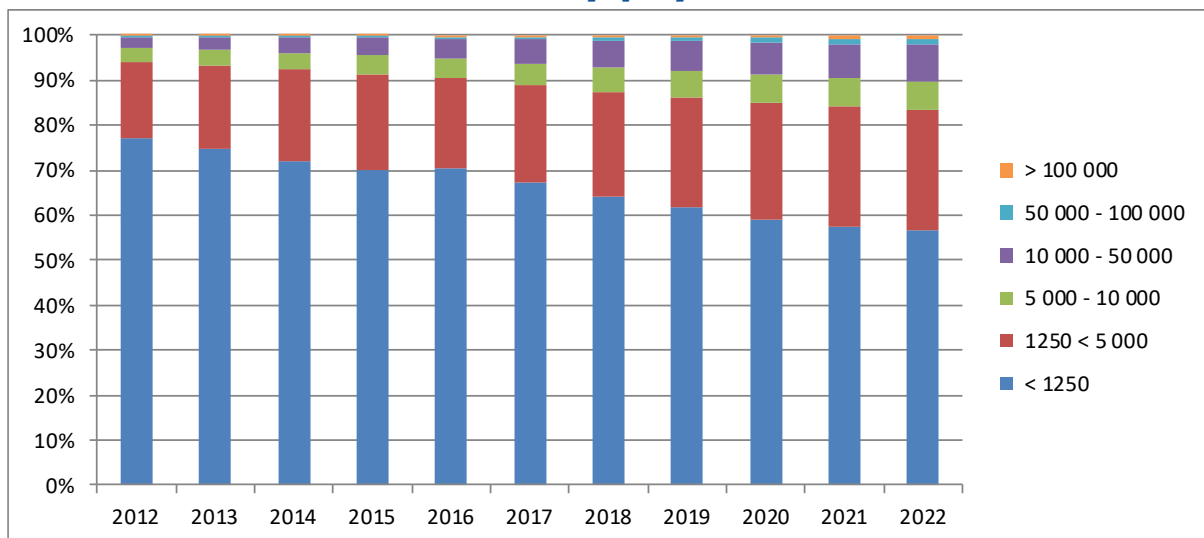


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

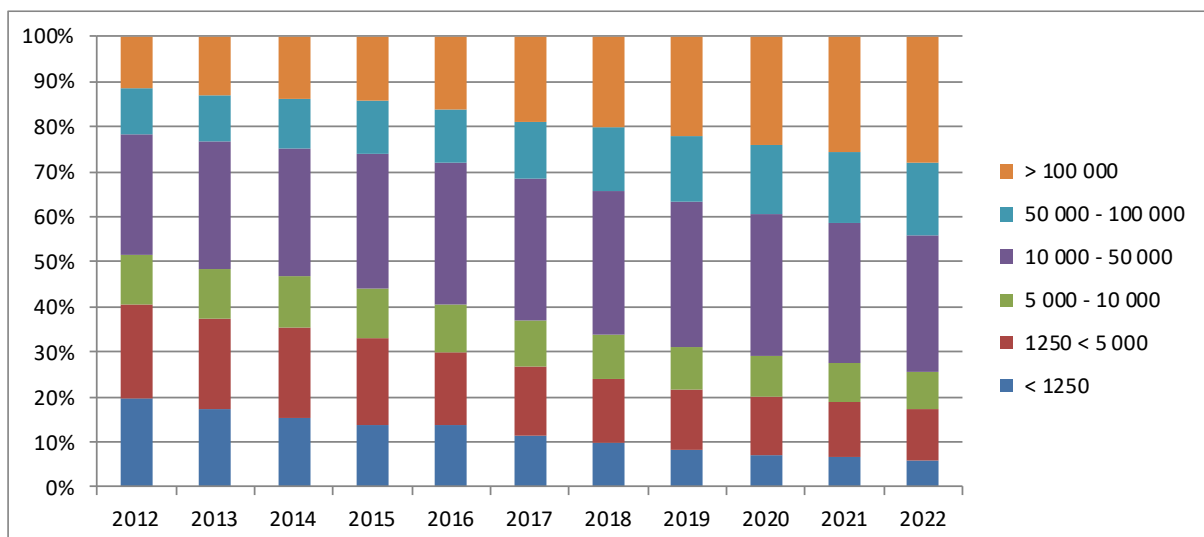


LV

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



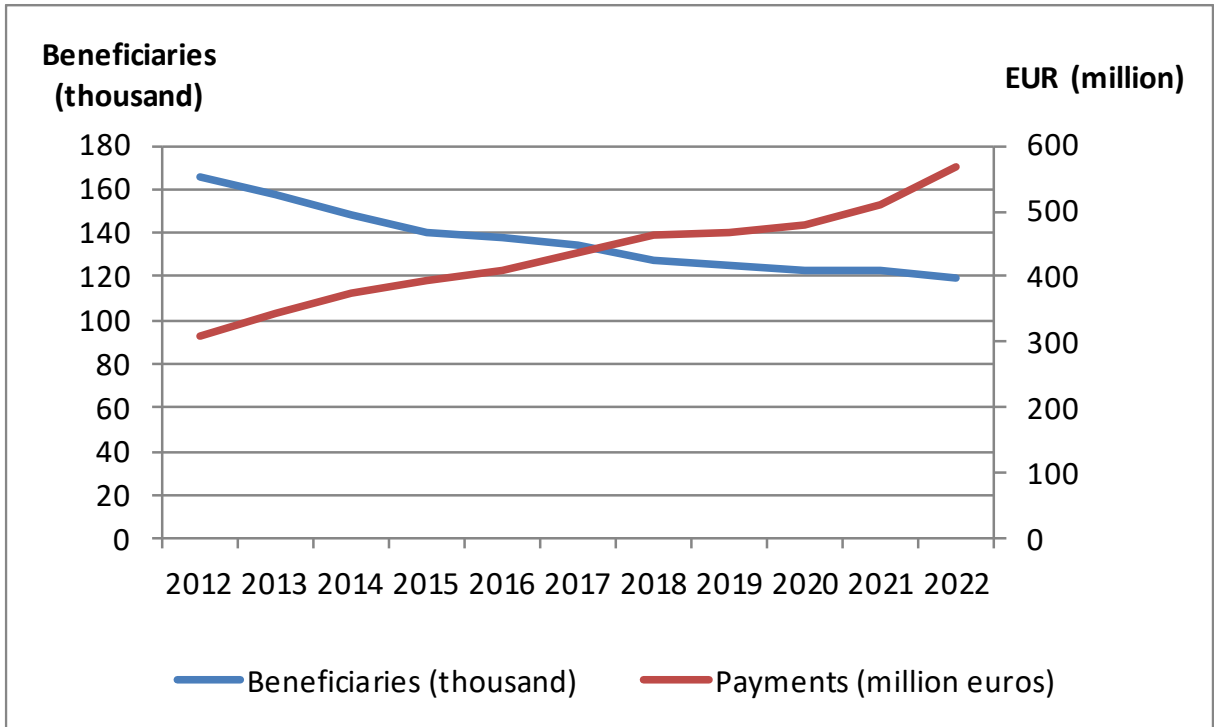
Evolution of payments by payment class



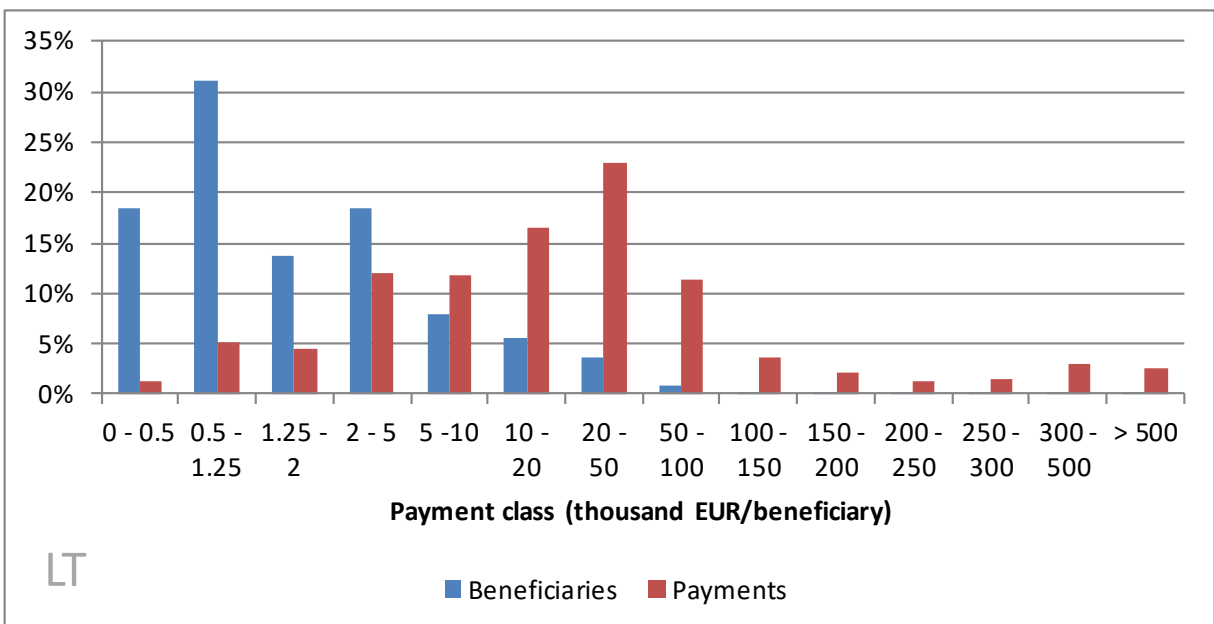
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	43.1%	3.4%	3.5%
5-250 ha	54.4%	49.1%	49.4%
>250 ha	2.5%	47.5%	47.2%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

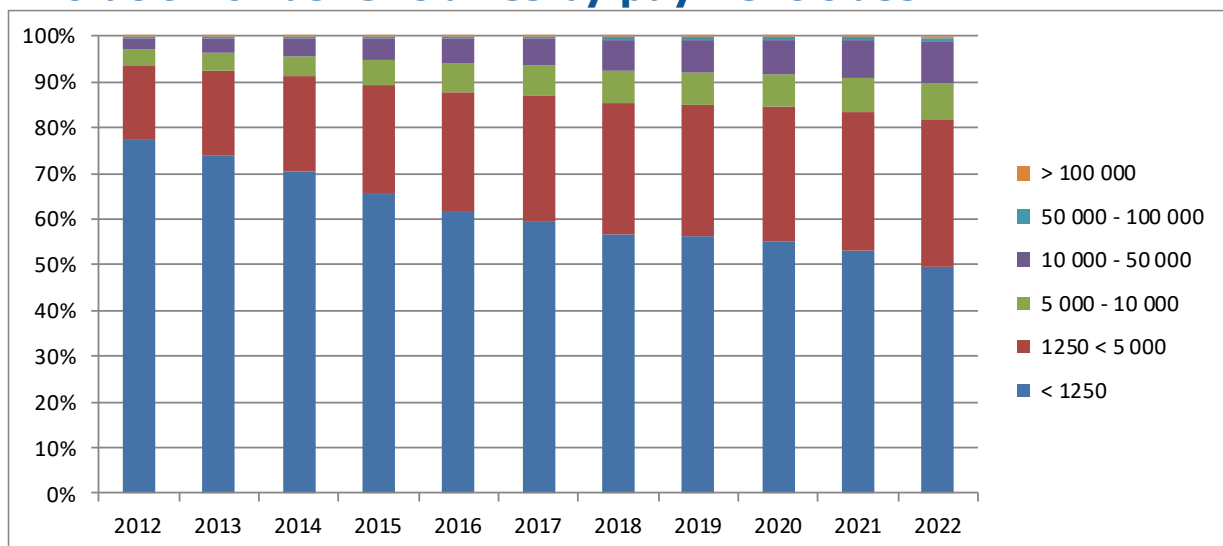


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

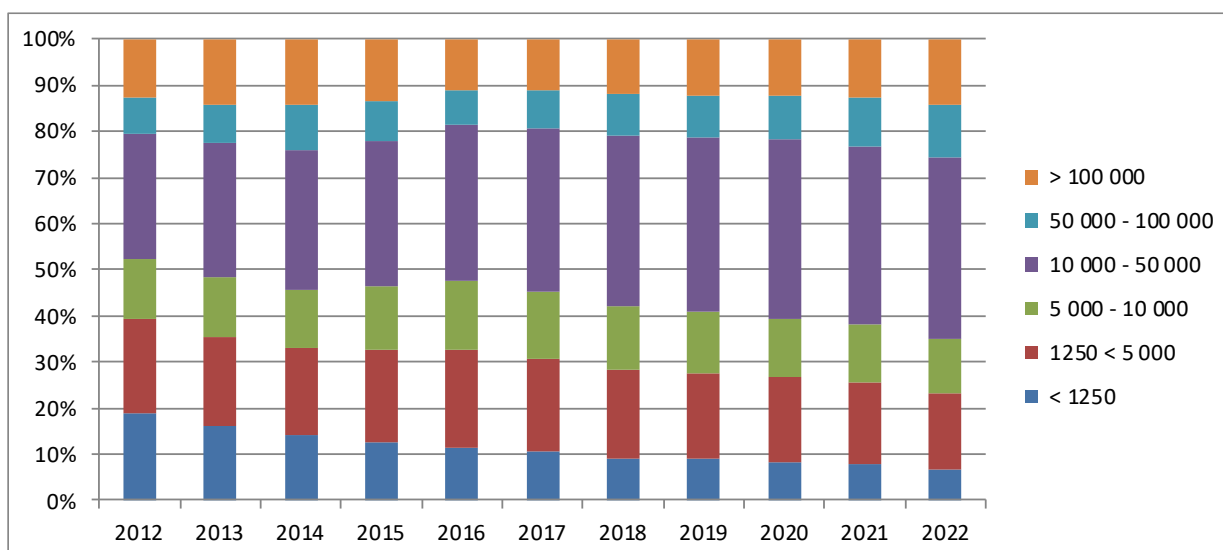


LT

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



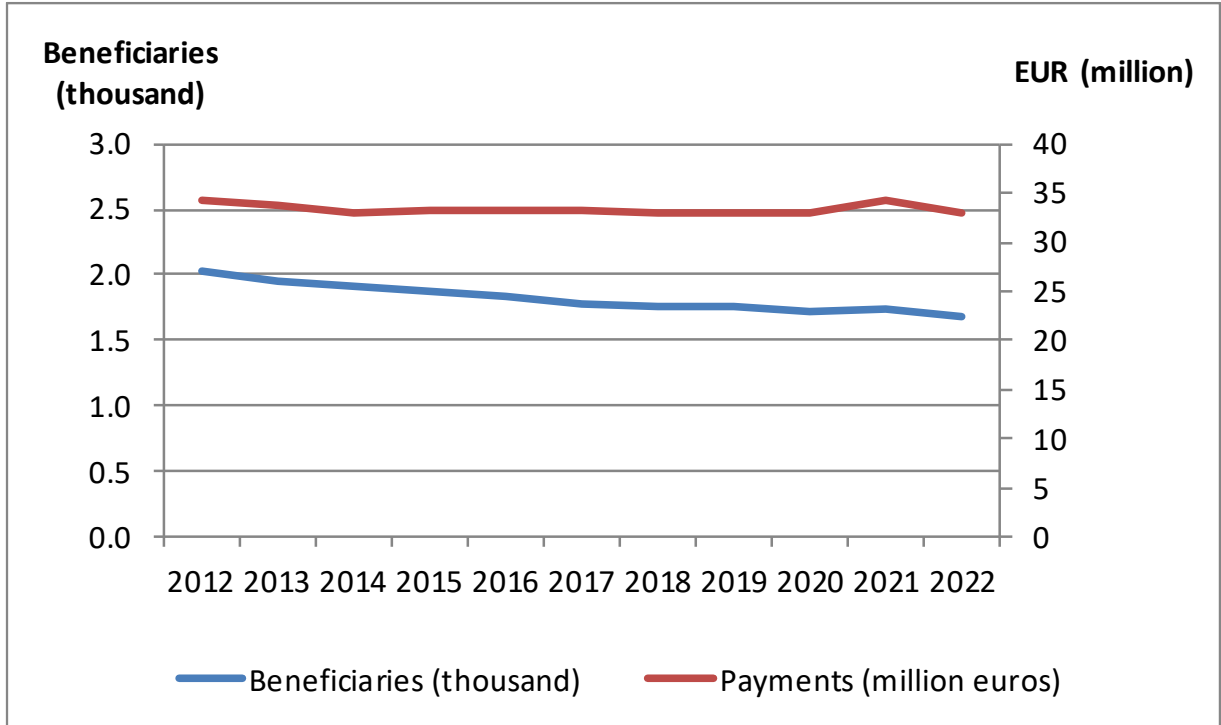
Evolution of payments by payment class



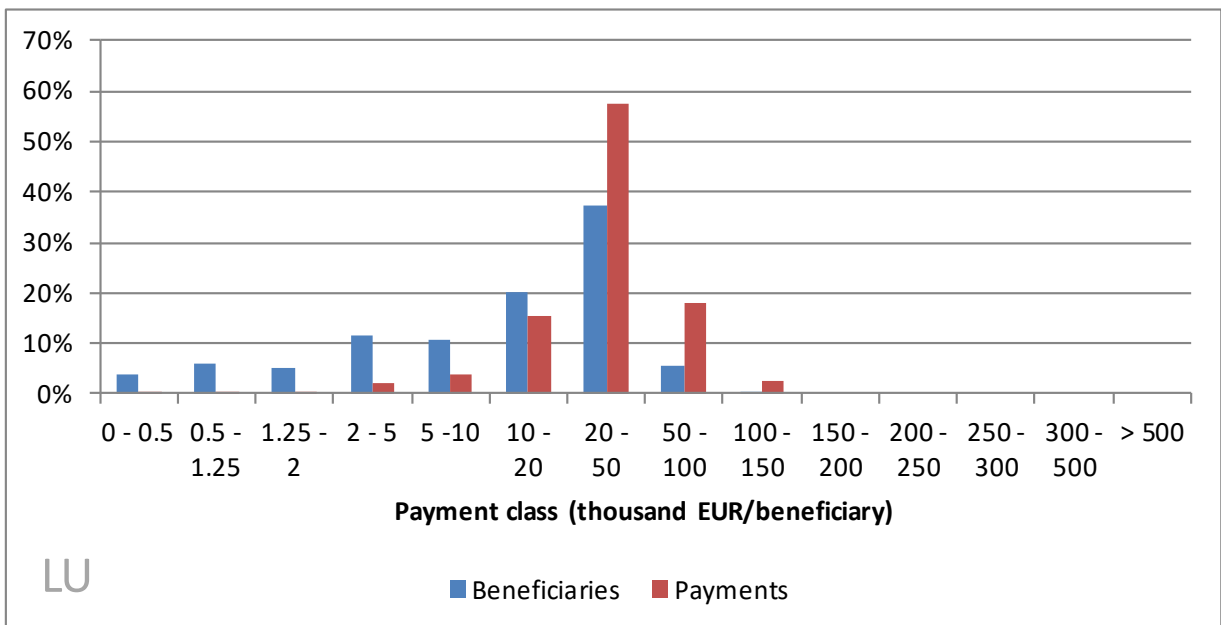
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	47.2%	5.0%	6.0%
5-250 ha	51.3%	60.9%	65.2%
>250 ha	1.5%	34.0%	28.8%

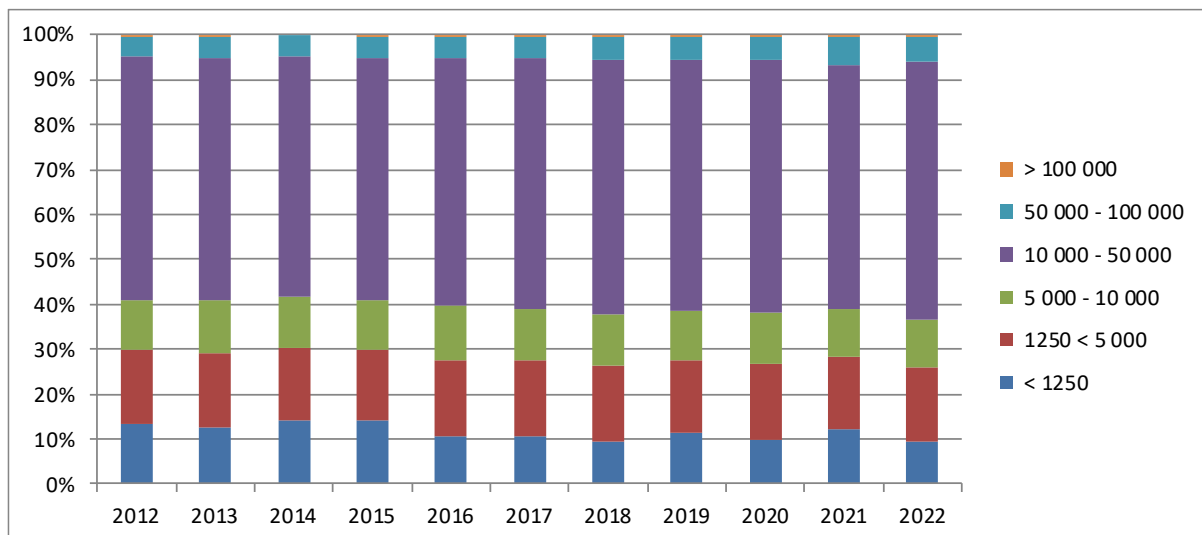
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



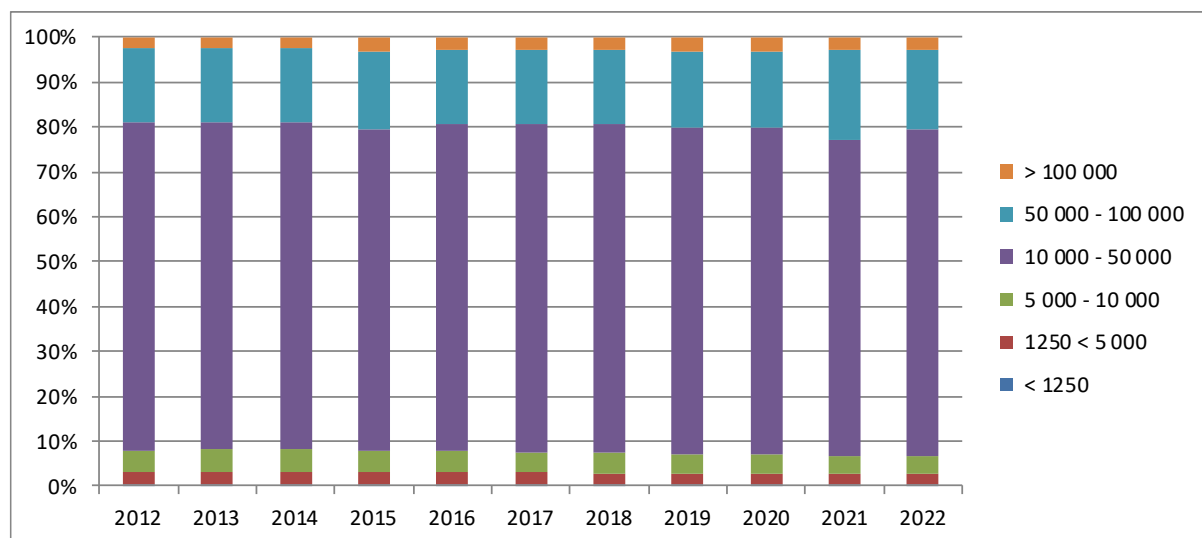
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



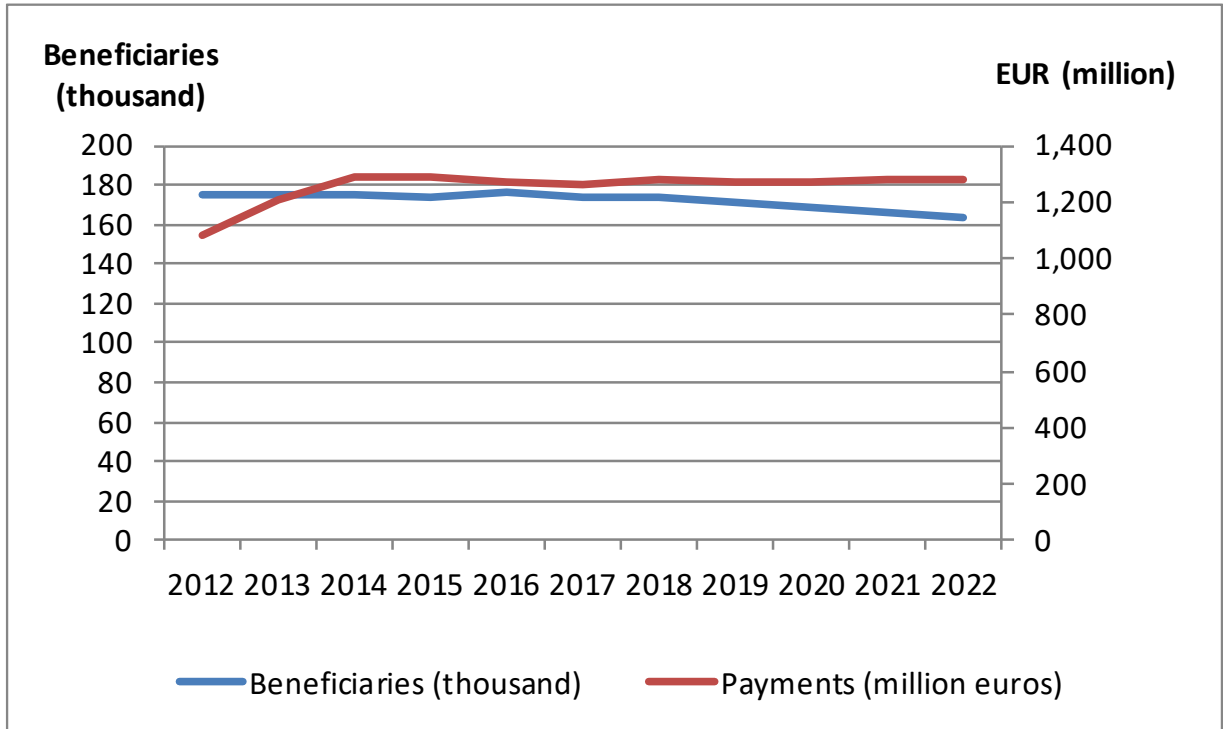
Evolution of payments by payment class



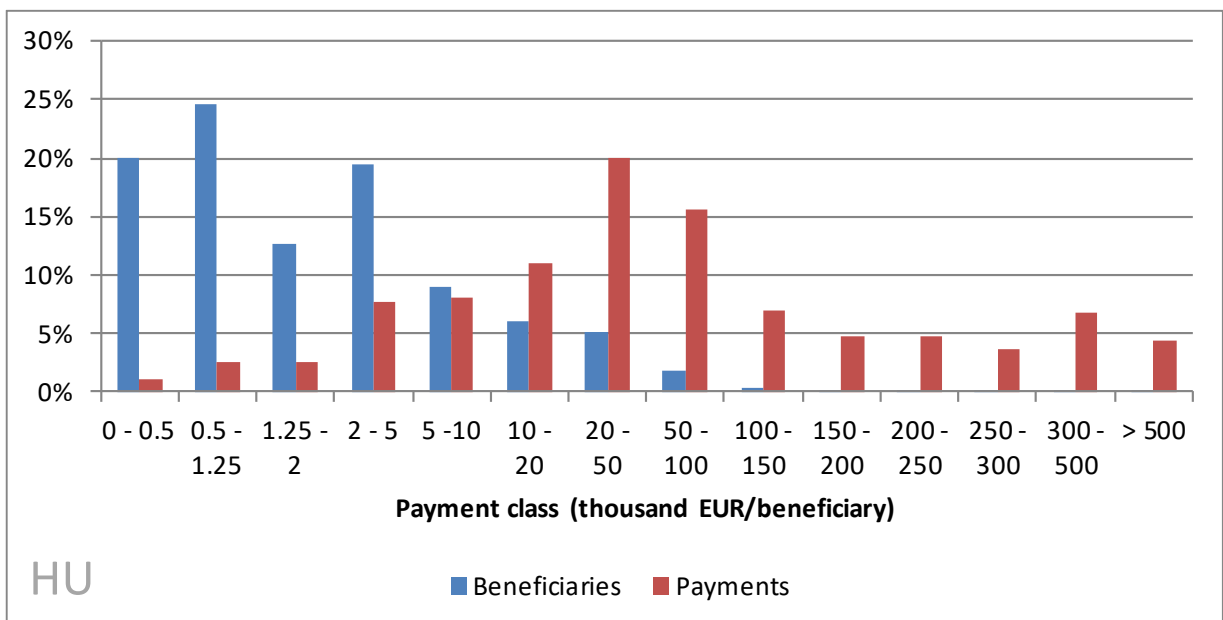
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	11.1%	0.4%	0.4%
5-250 ha	86.9%	90.9%	90.8%
>250 ha	1.9%	8.7%	8.7%

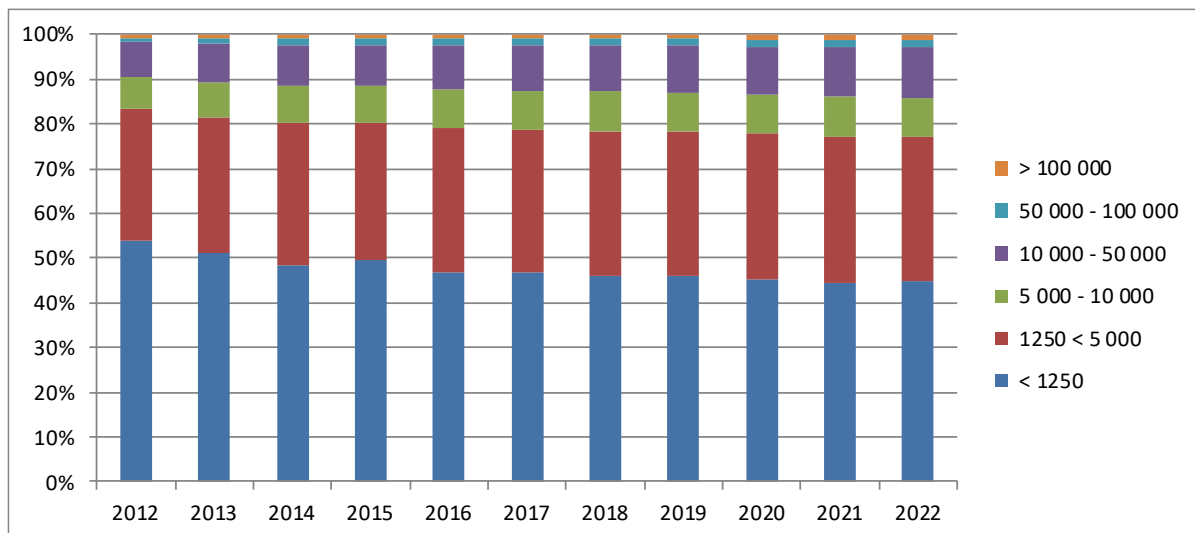
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



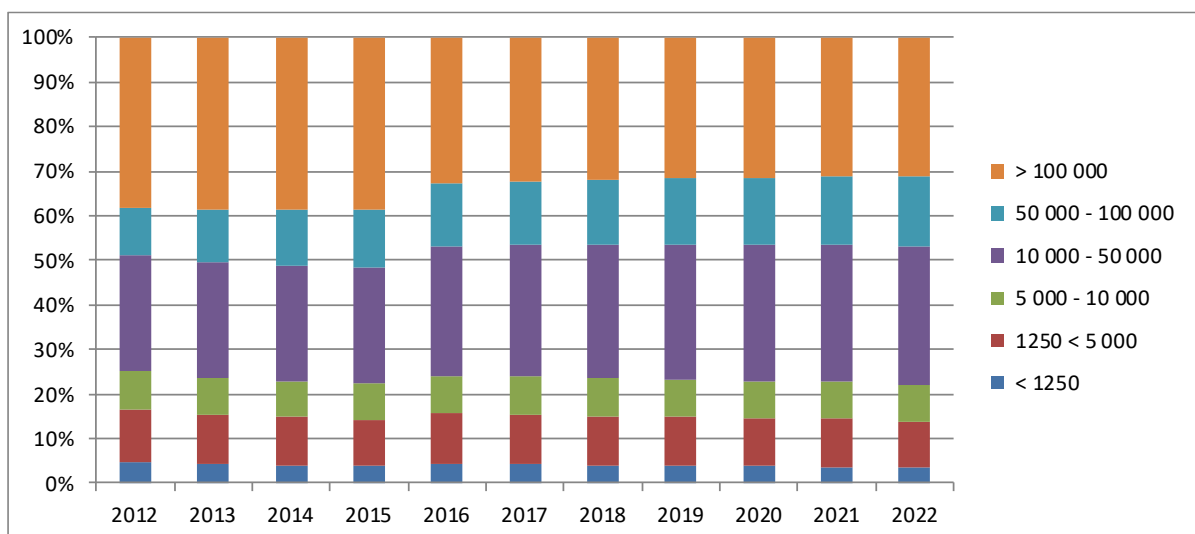
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



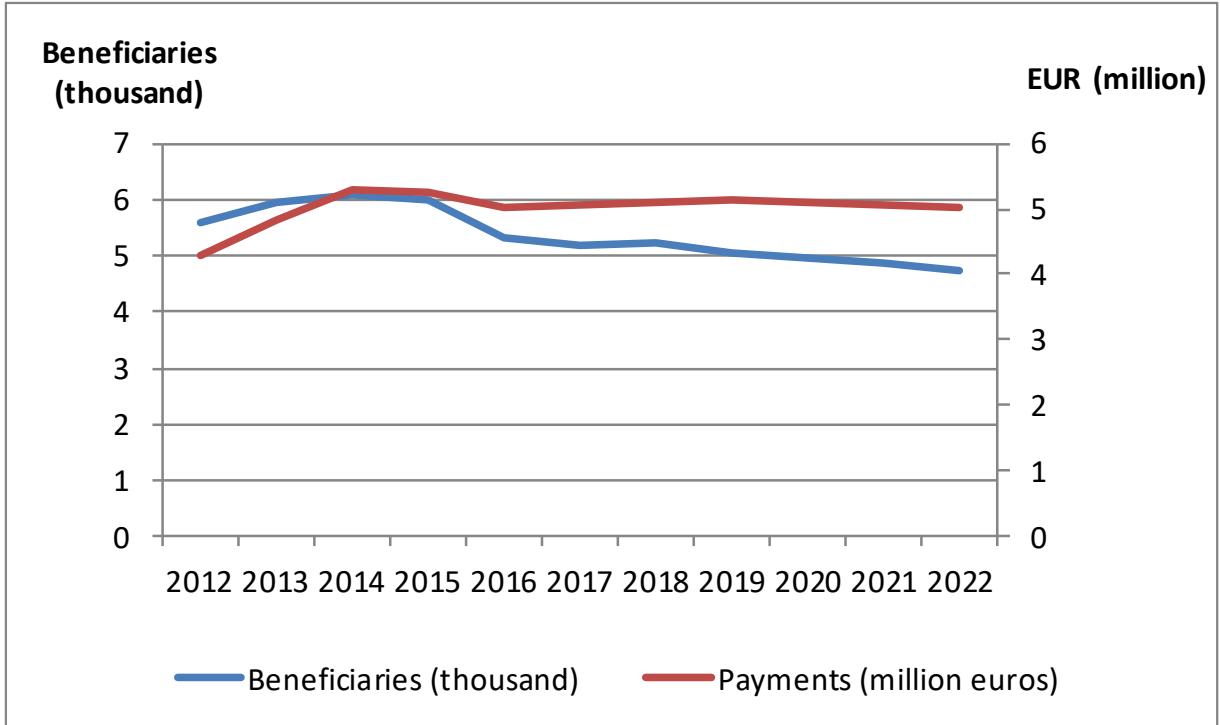
Evolution of payments by payment class



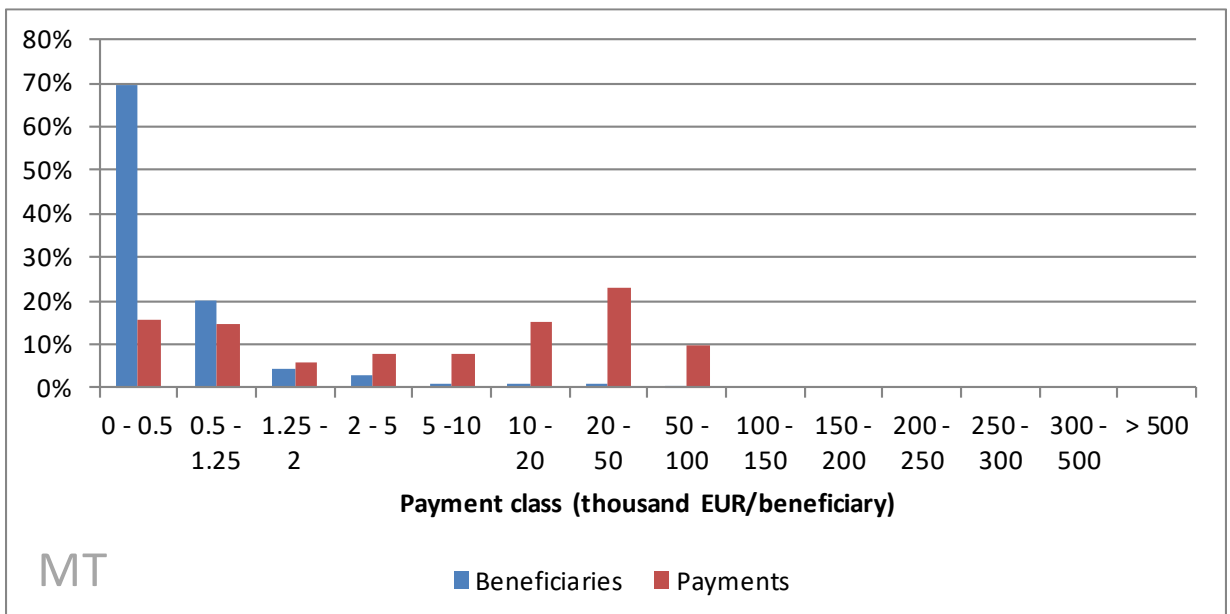
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	42.8%	3.4%	3.6%
5-250 ha	54.9%	56.3%	54.4%
>250 ha	2.3%	40.3%	42.0%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

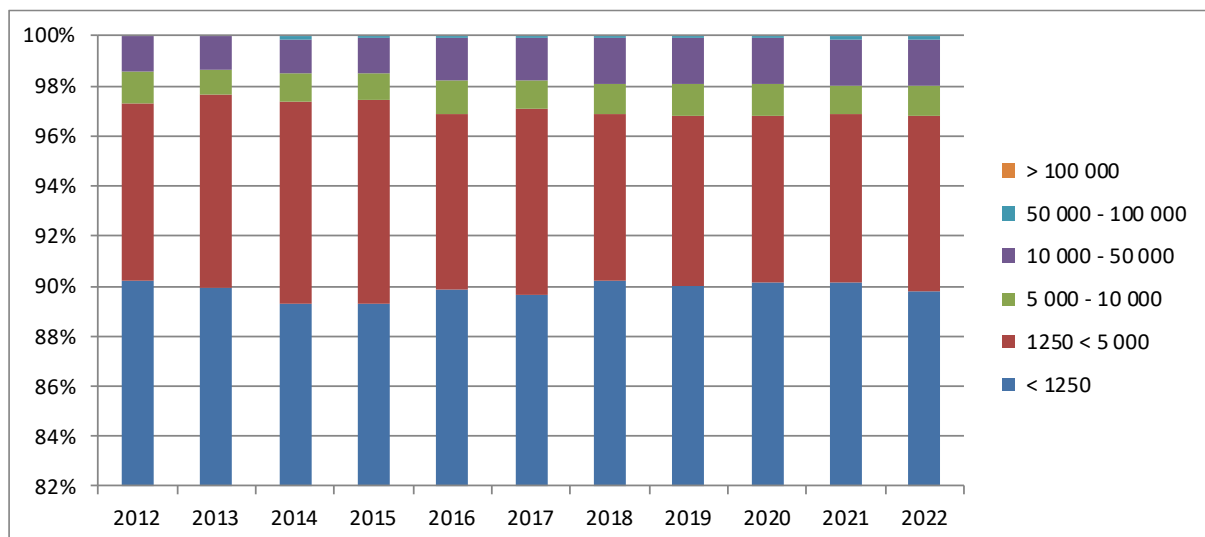


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

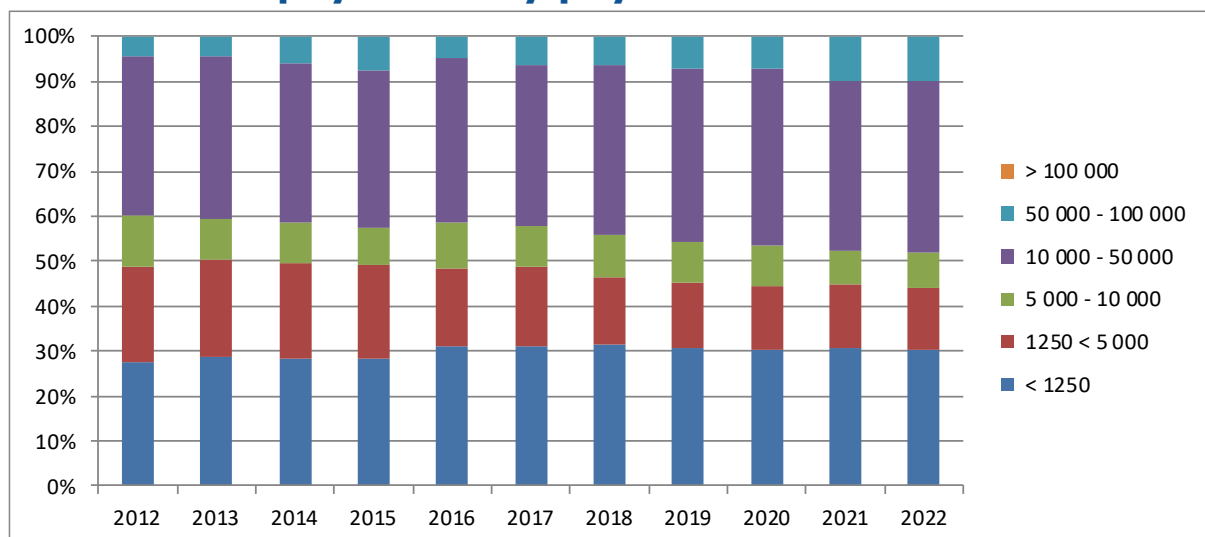


MT

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



Evolution of payments by payment class

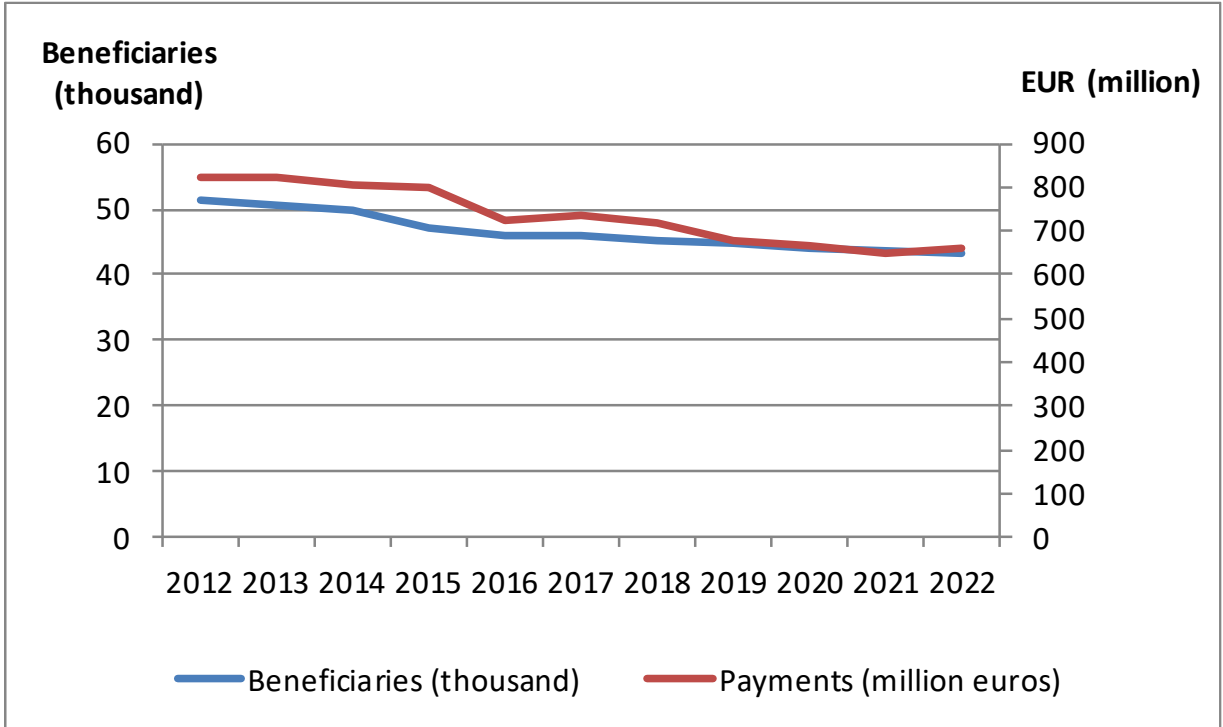


Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

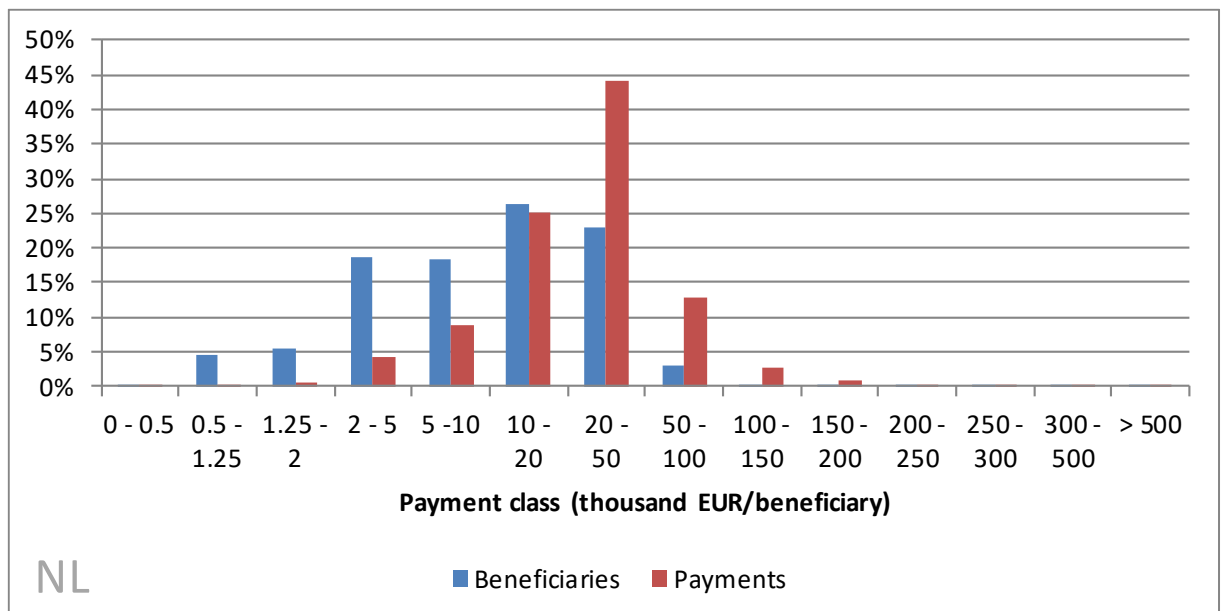
Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	96.2%	81.0%	75.9%
5-250 ha	3.8%	19.0%	24.1%
>250 ha			

The Netherlands

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



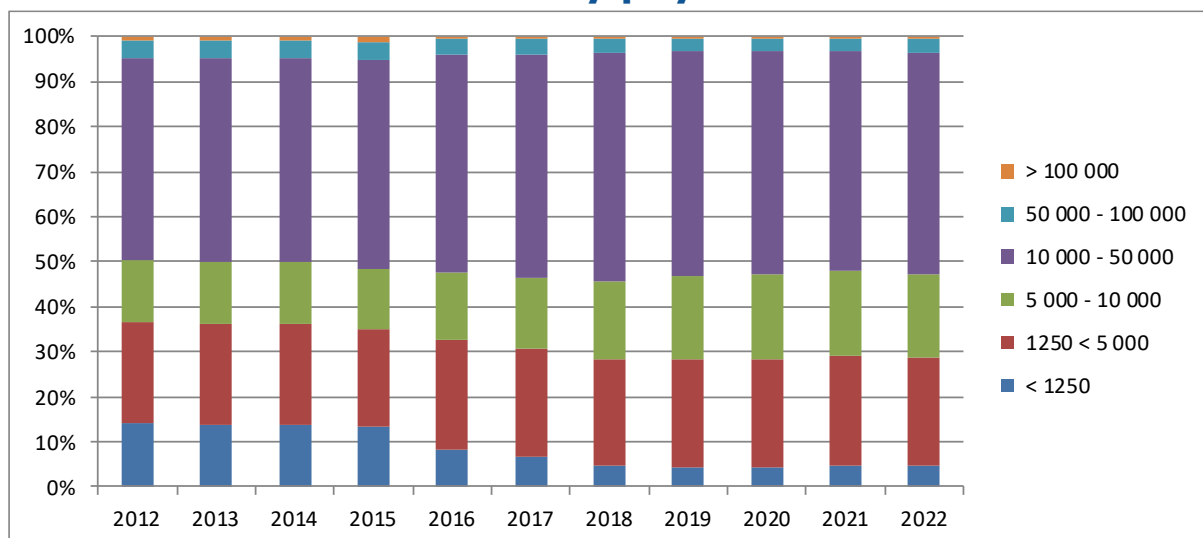
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



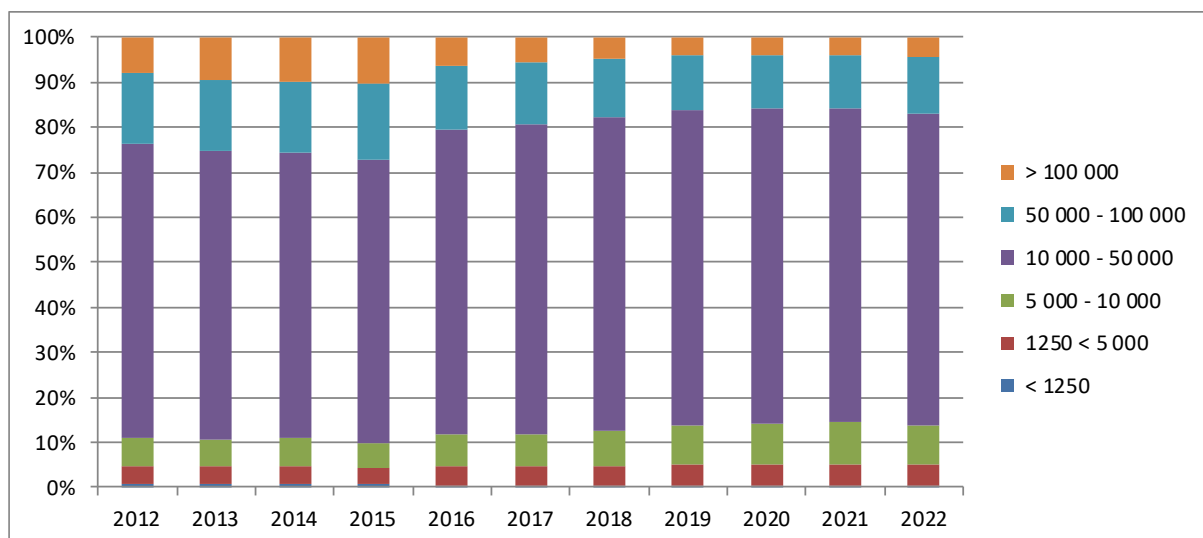
NL

The Netherlands

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



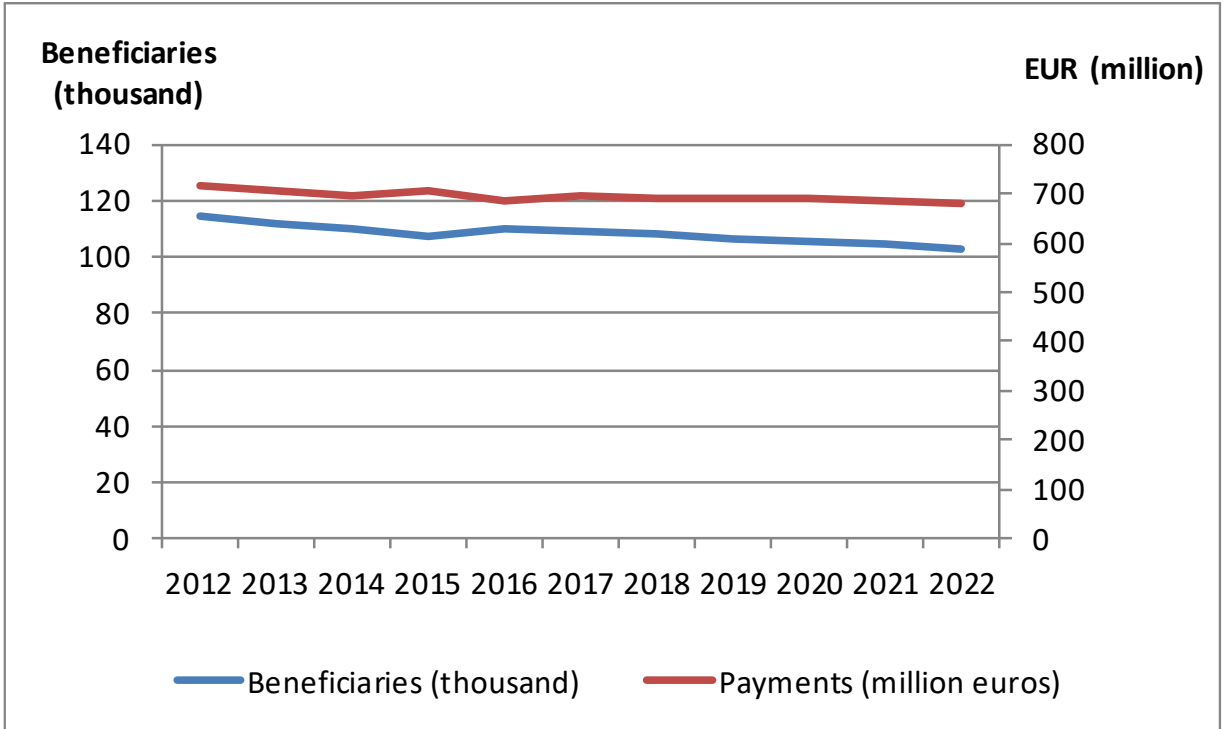
Evolution of payments by payment class



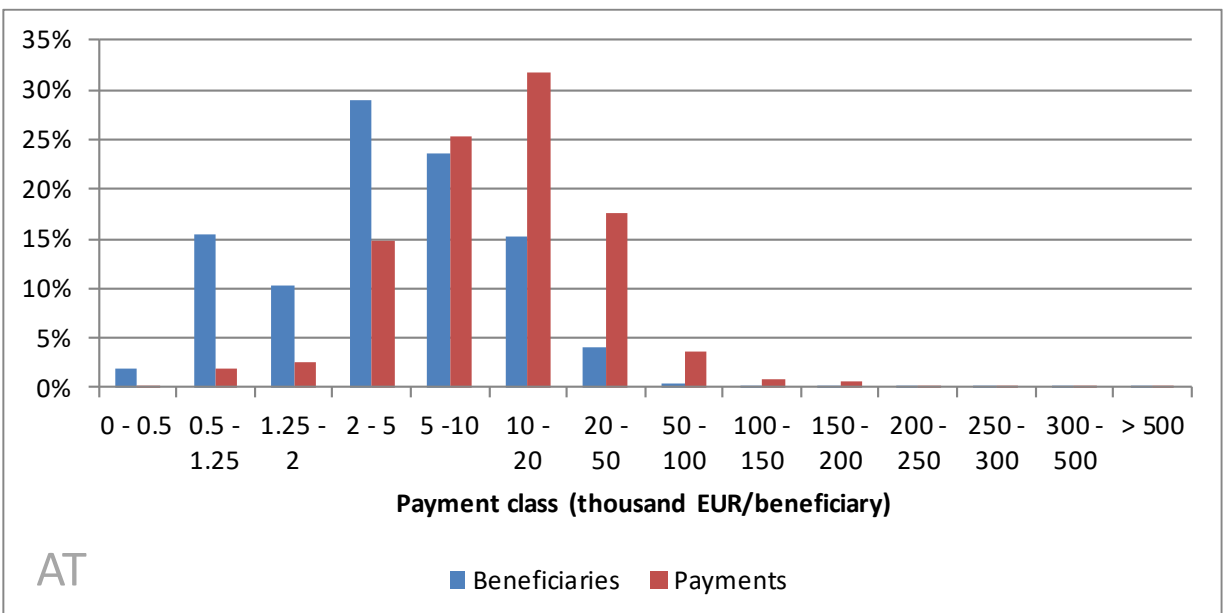
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	9.0%	0.7%	0.7%
5-250 ha	90.4%	94.0%	94.1%
>250 ha	0.6%	5.3%	5.1%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

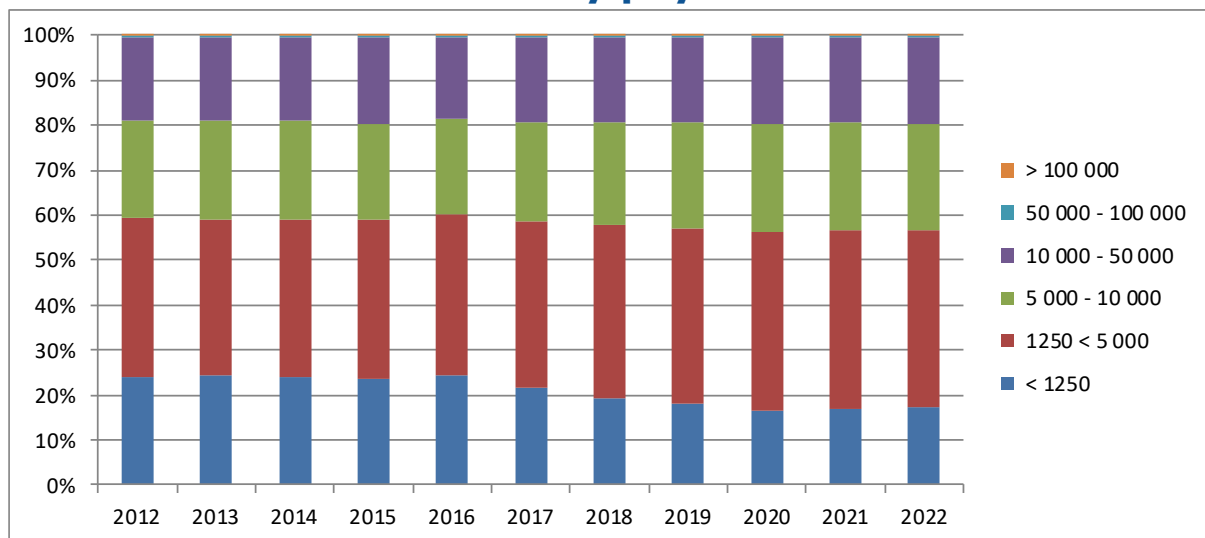


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

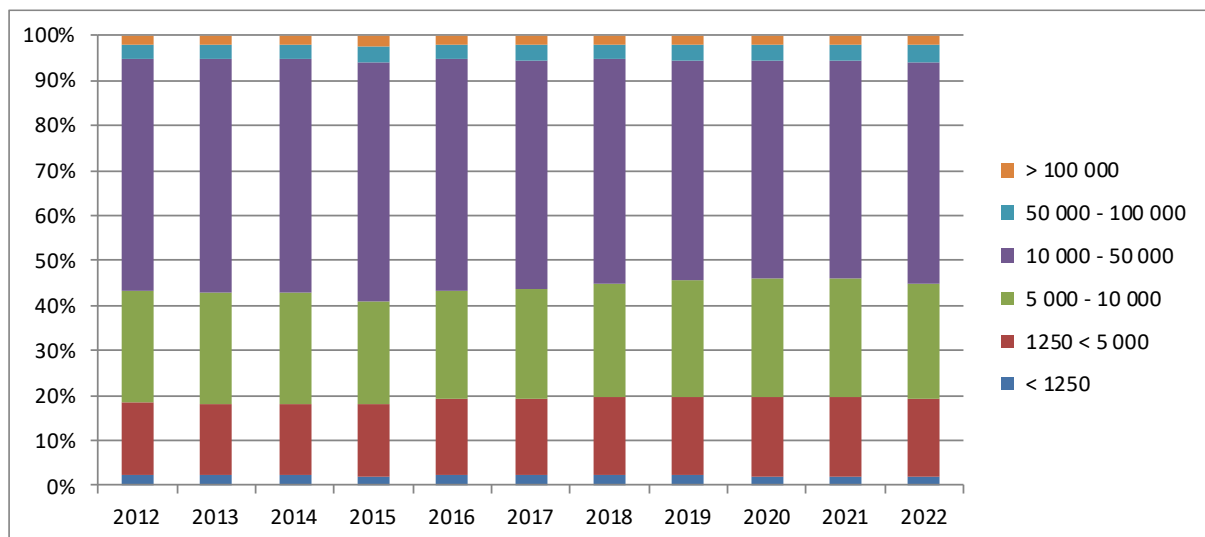


AT

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



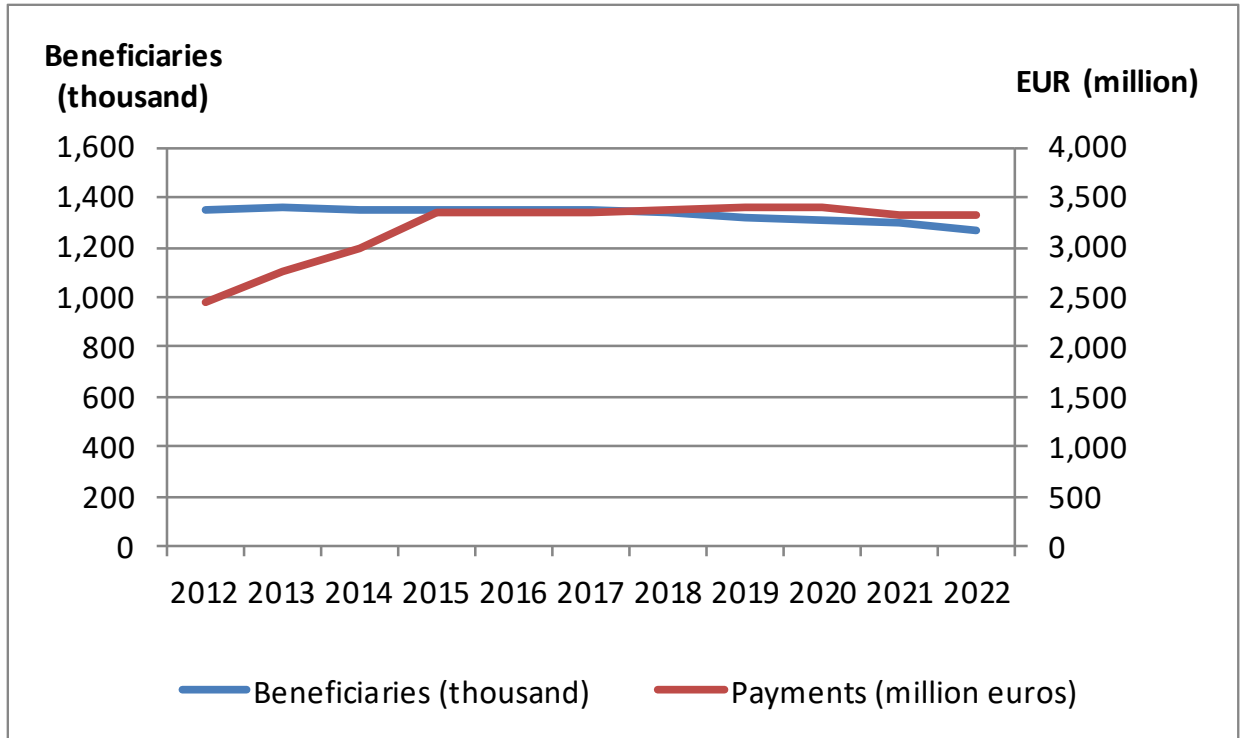
Evolution of payments by payment class



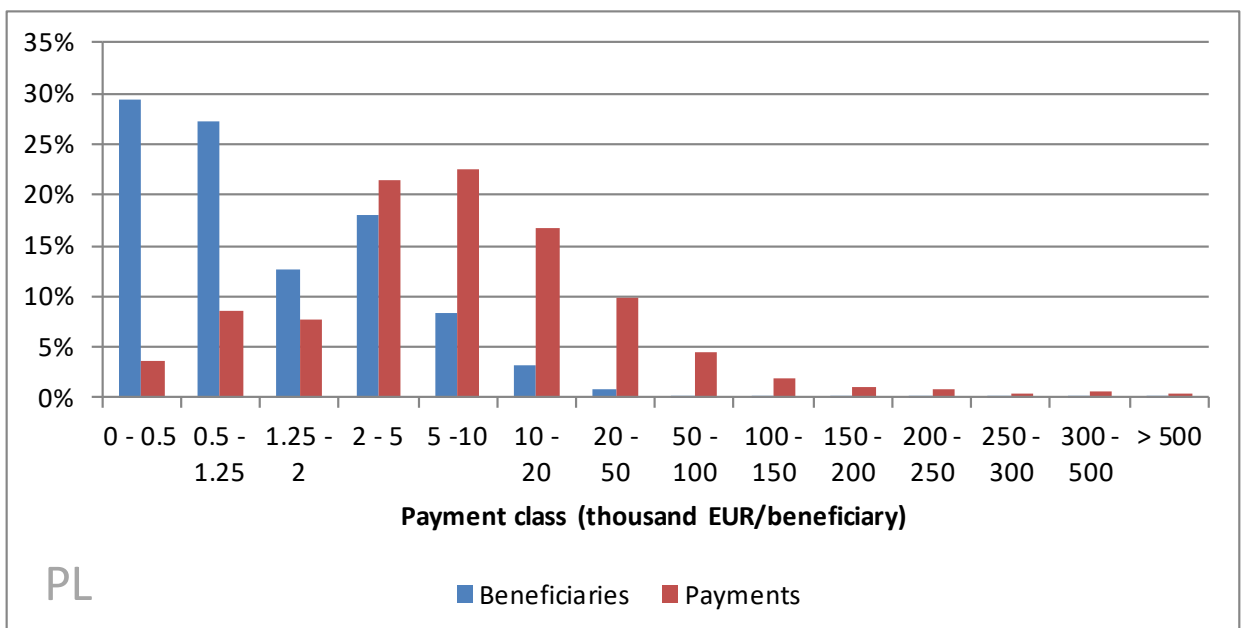
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	20.5%	2.8%	2.8%
5-250 ha	79.3%	93.6%	93.8%
>250 ha	0.2%	3.6%	3.4%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

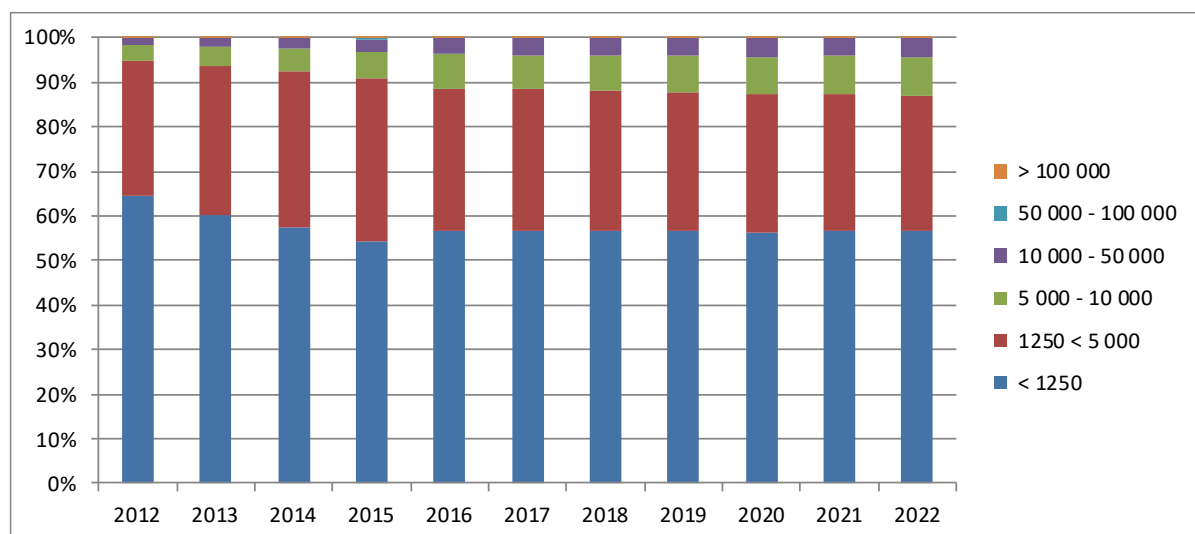


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

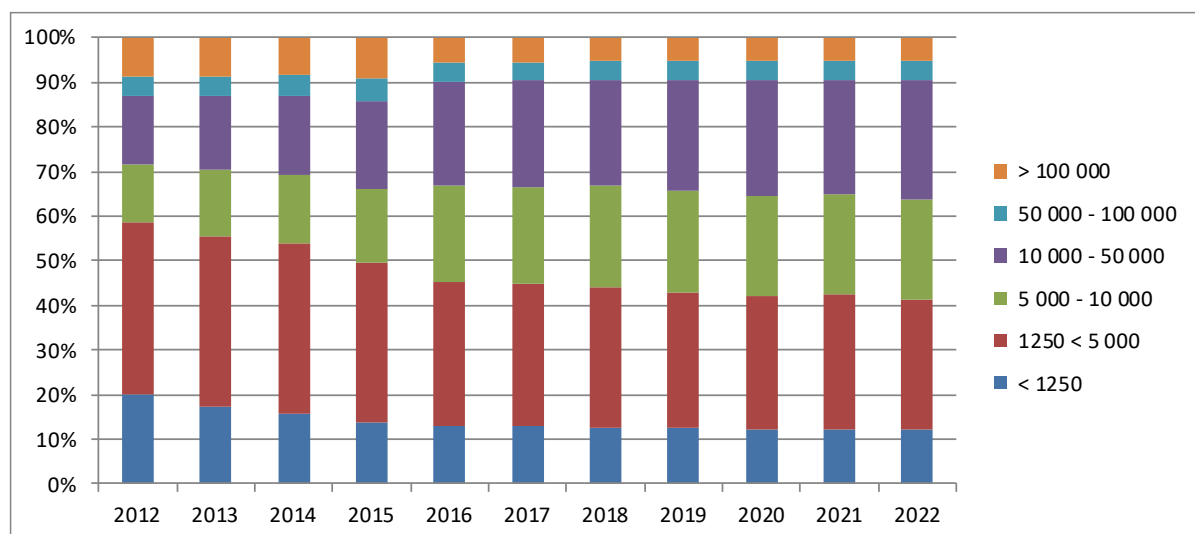


PL

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



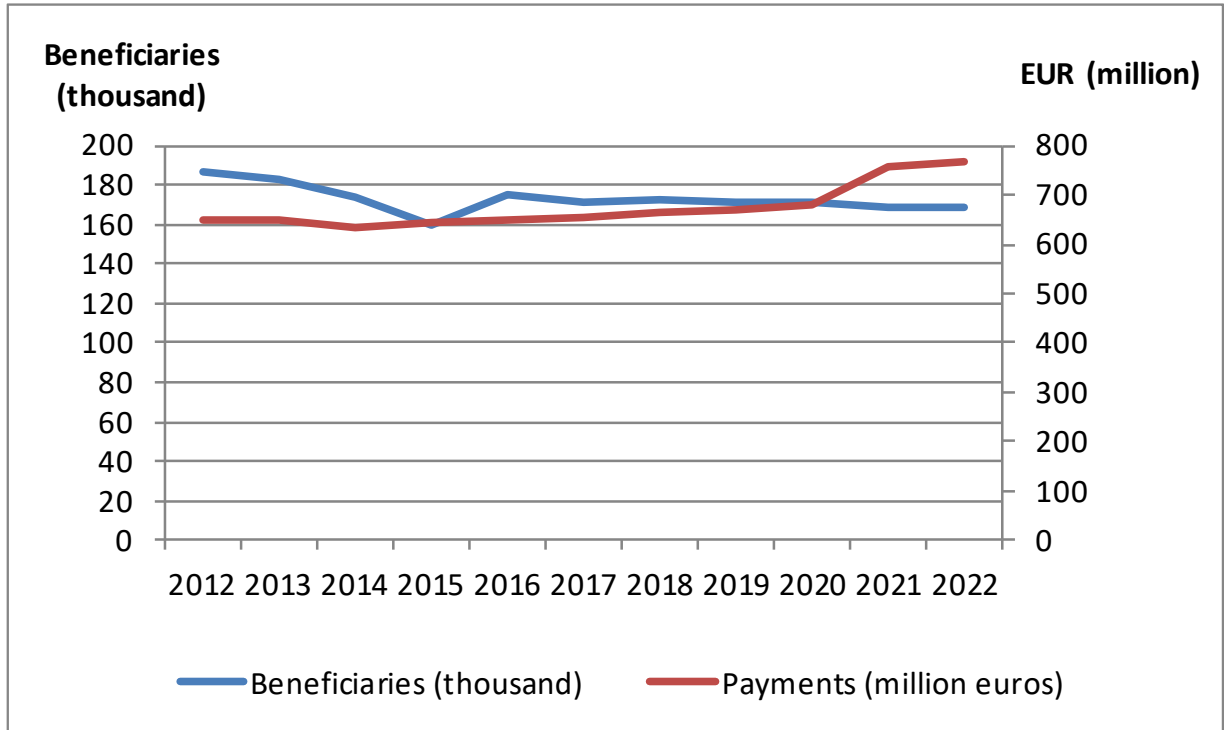
Evolution of payments by payment class



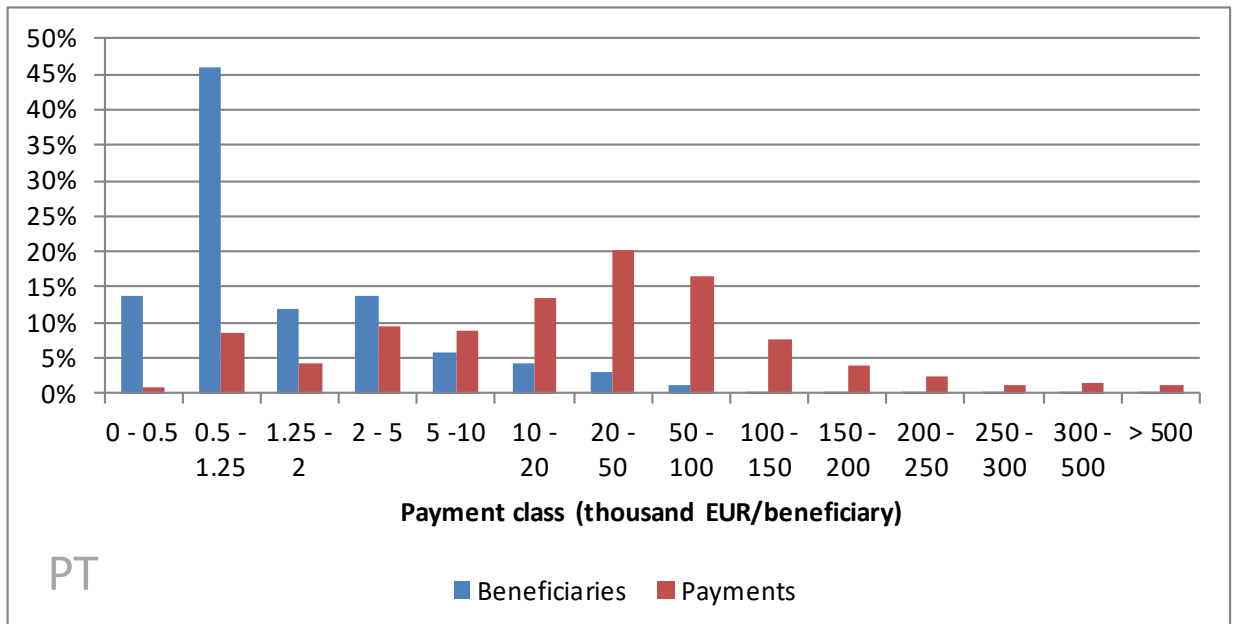
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	50.9%	11.7%	10.1%
5-250 ha	48.8%	77.1%	80.5%
>250 ha	0.2%	11.2%	9.5%

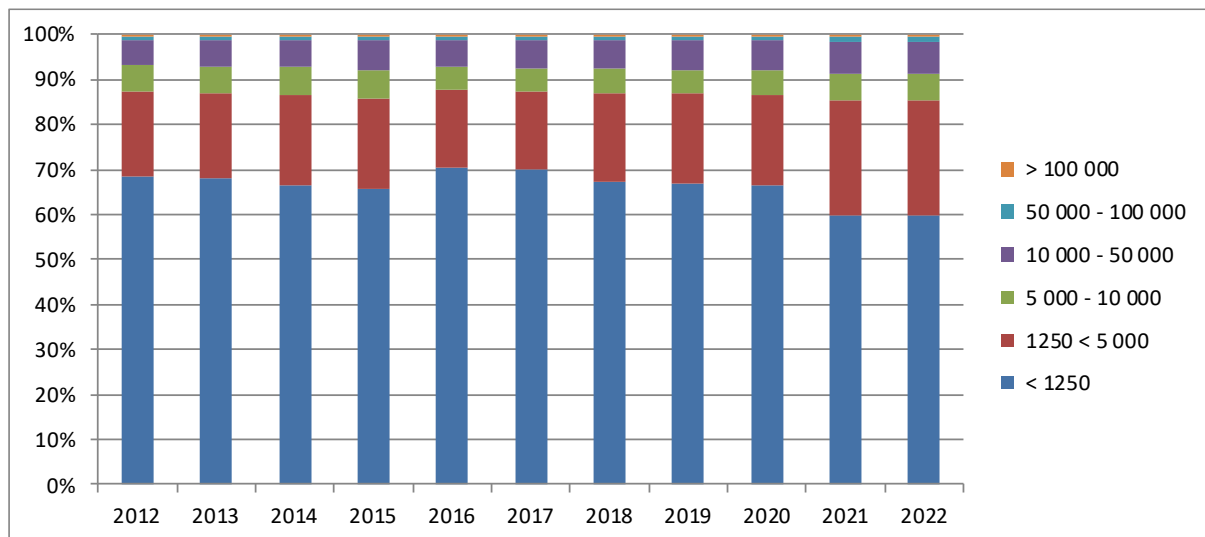
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



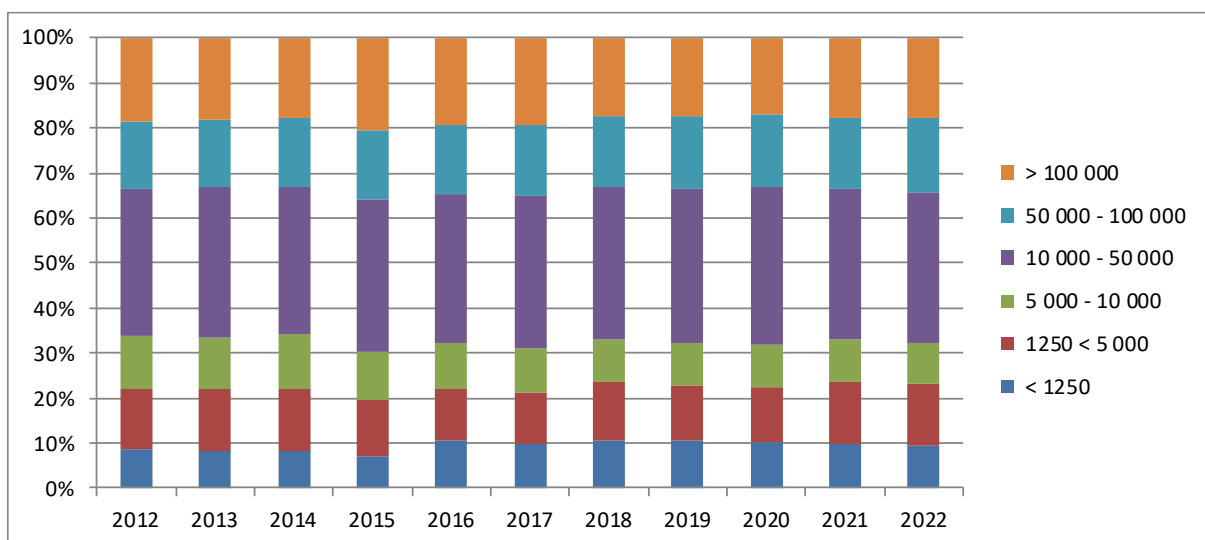
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



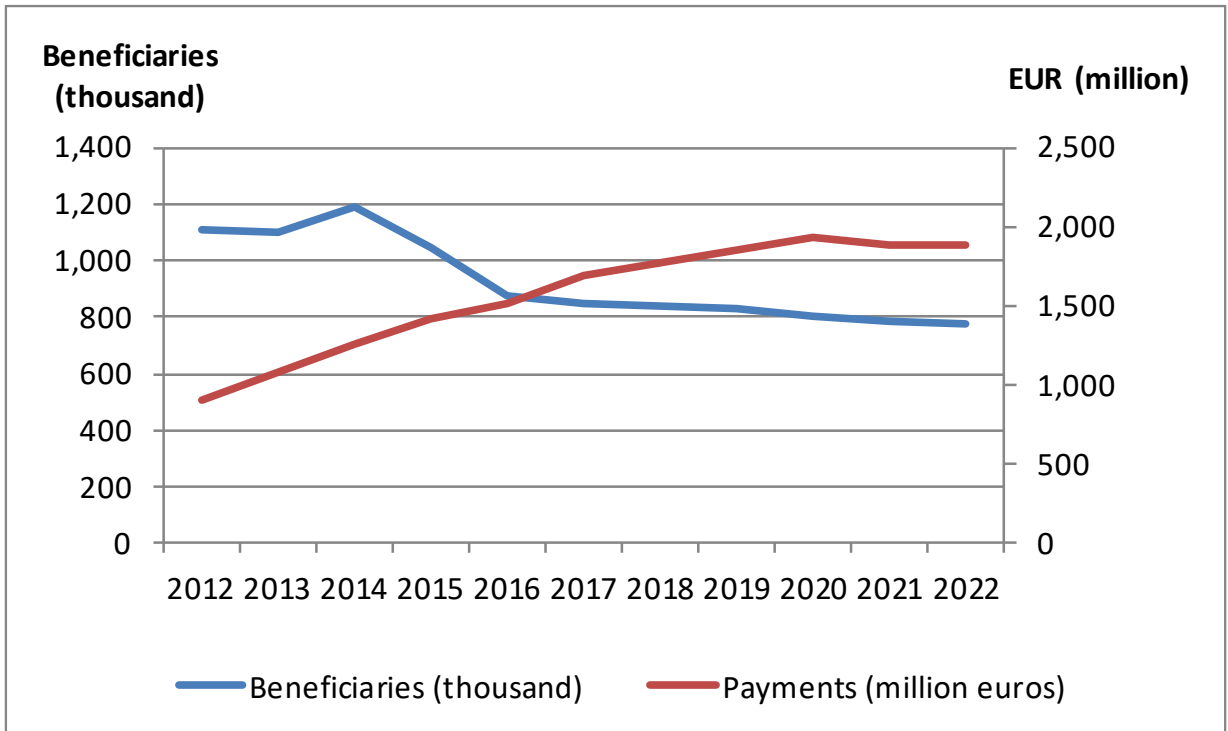
Evolution of payments by payment class



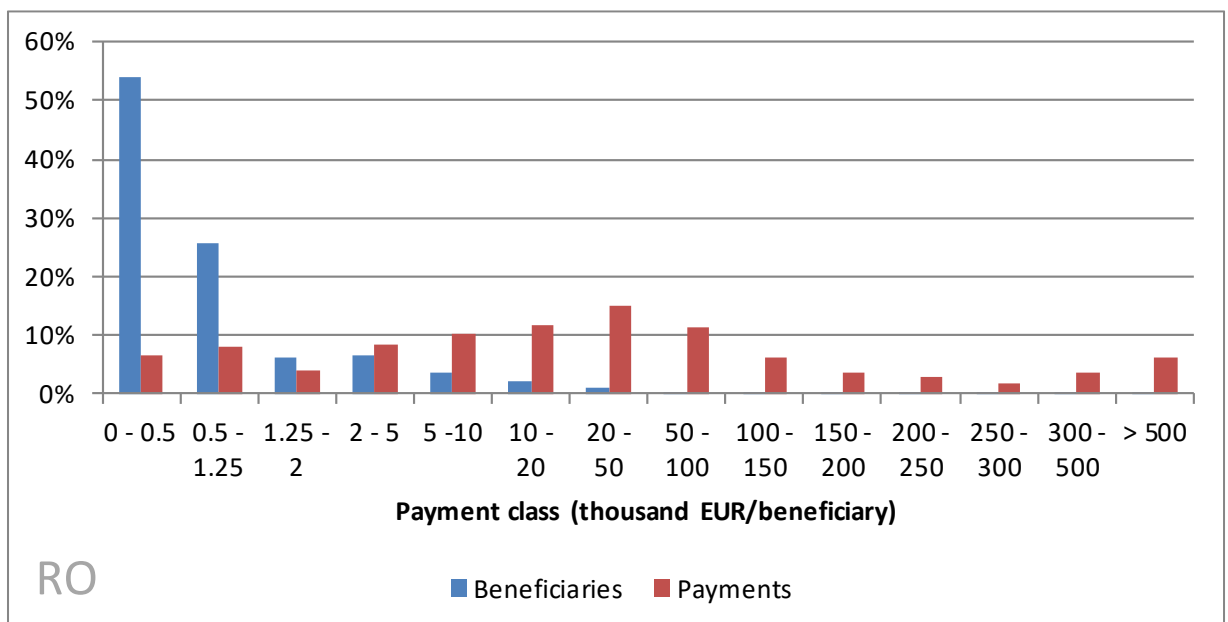
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	64.7%	6.5%	13.4%
5-250 ha	33.7%	50.2%	54.4%
>250 ha	1.6%	43.4%	32.2%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

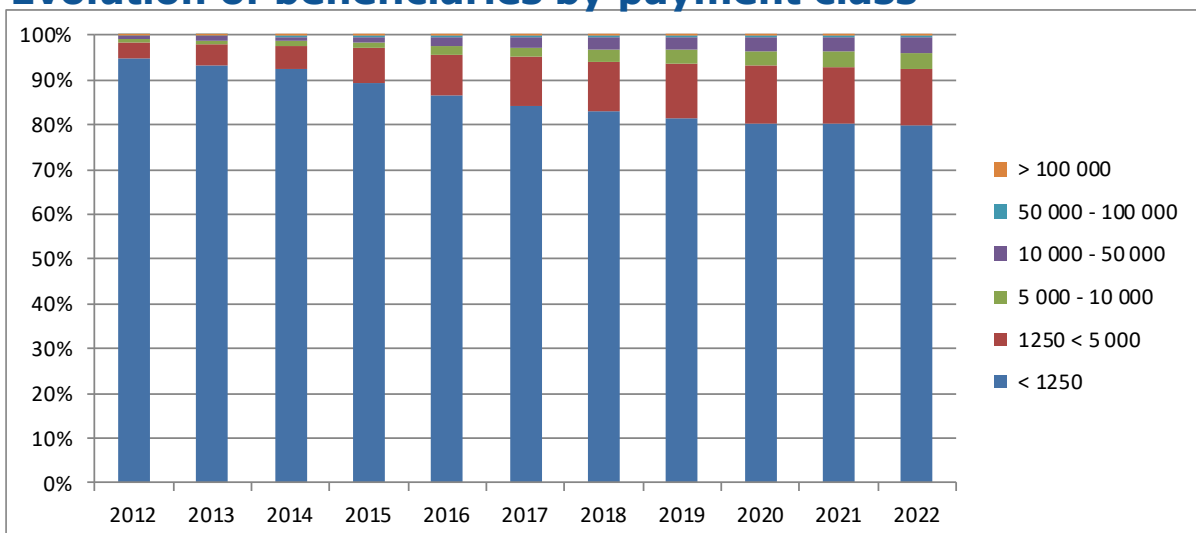


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

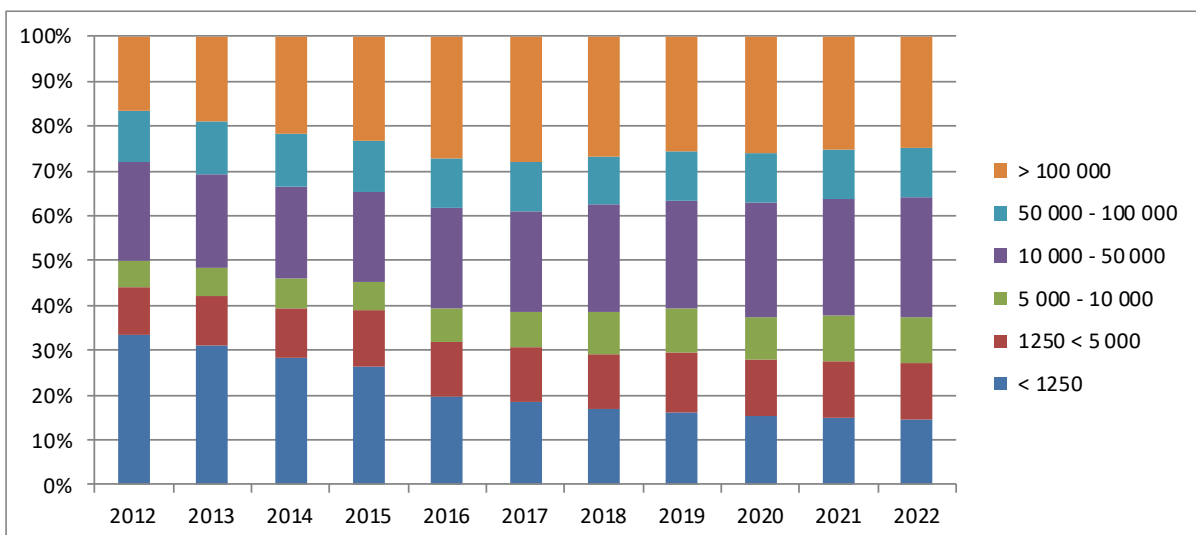


RO

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



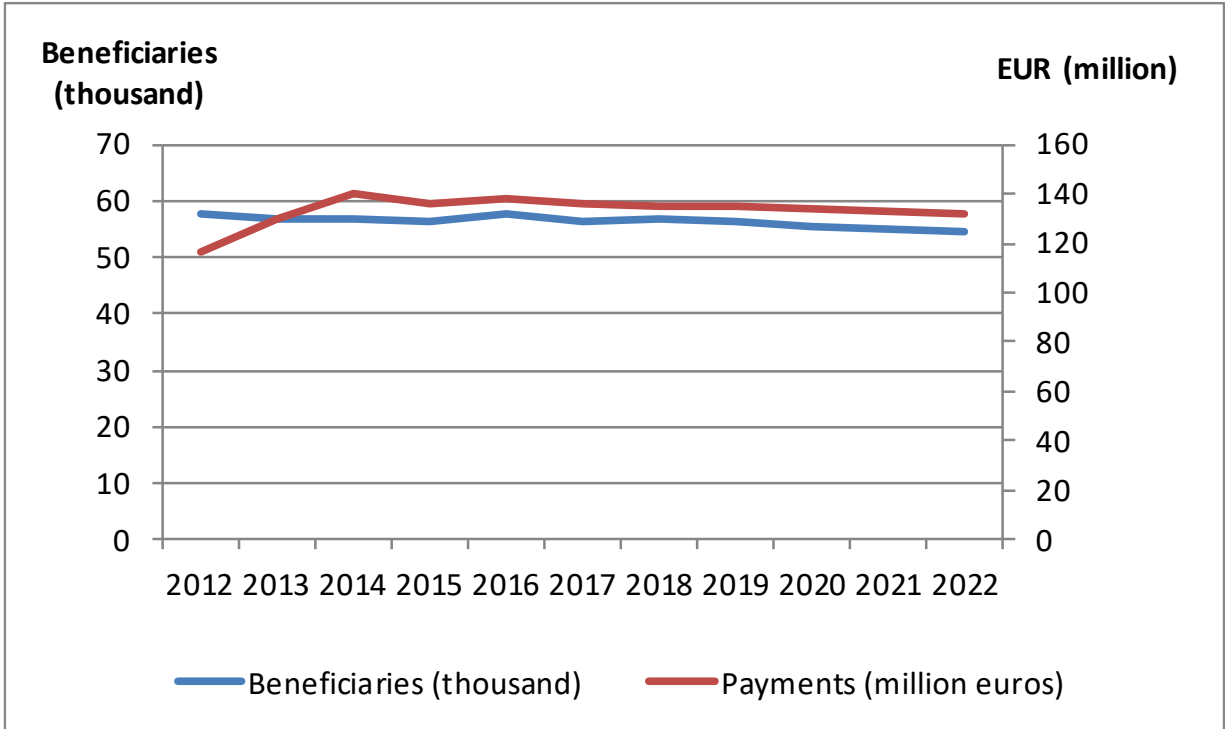
Evolution of payments by payment class



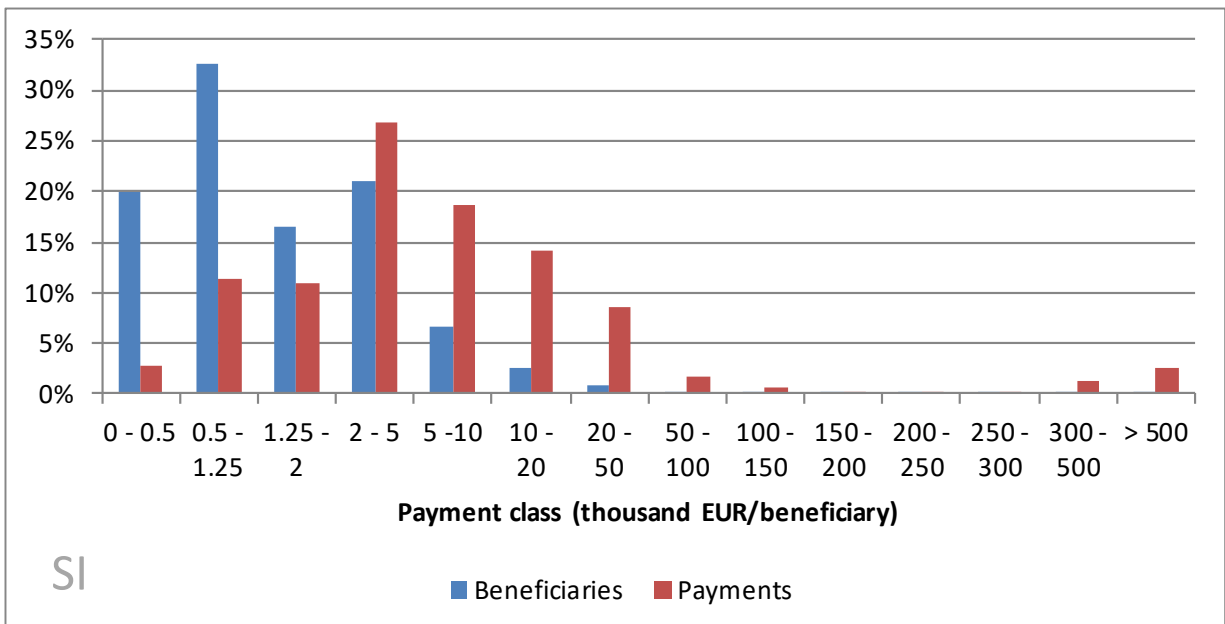
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	72.1%	13.0%	12.0%
5-250 ha	27.1%	44.9%	50.1%
>250 ha	0.8%	42.1%	37.9%

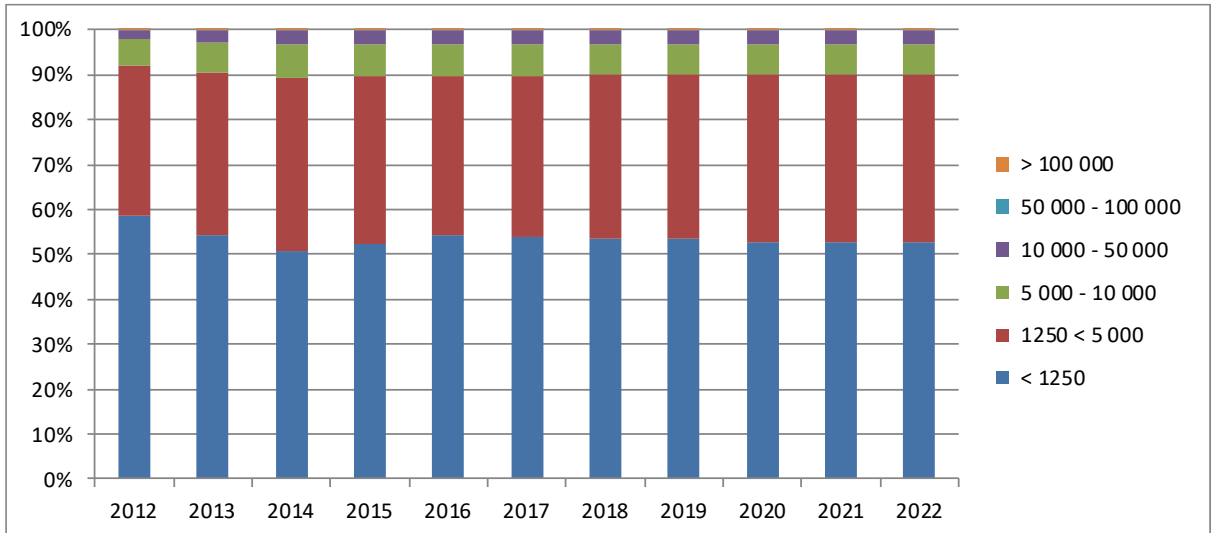
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



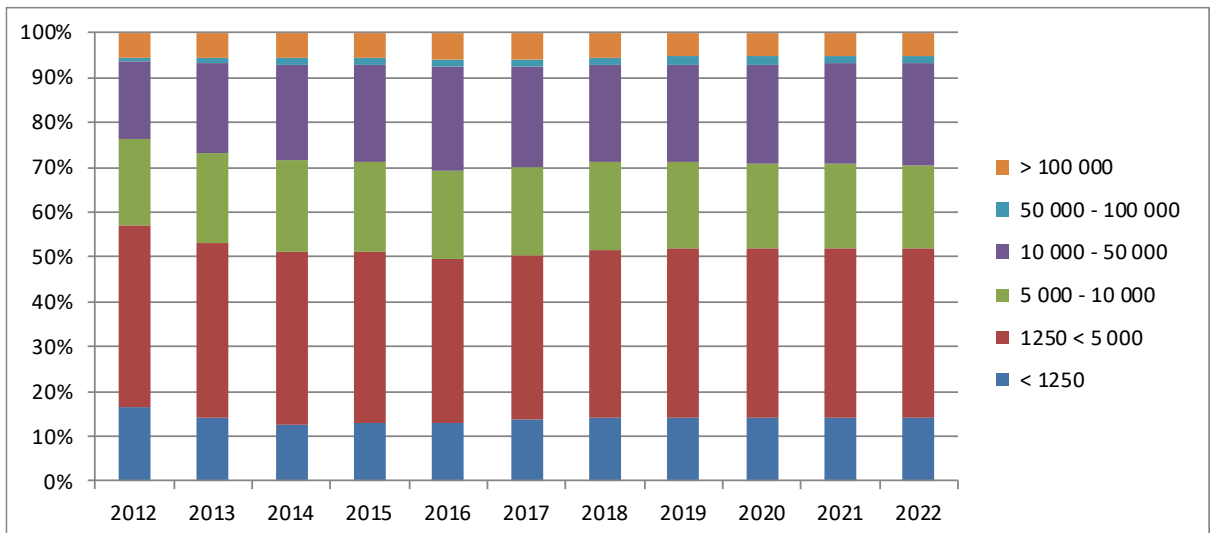
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



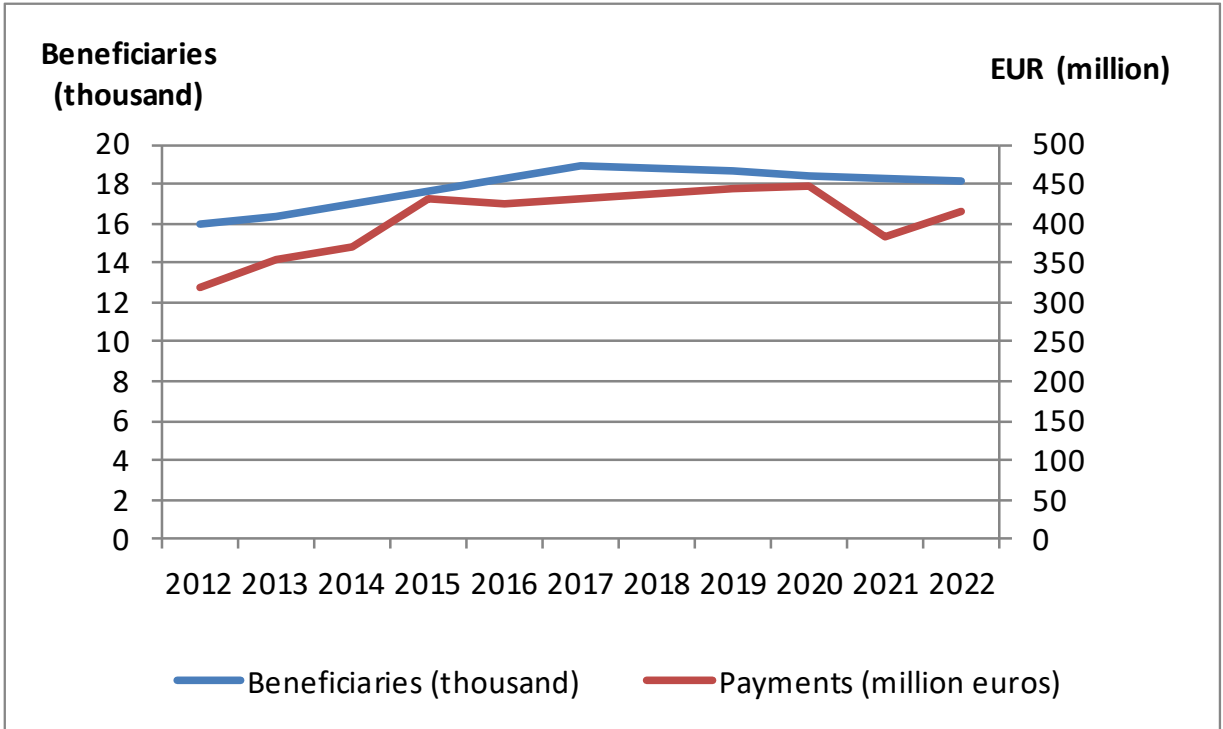
Evolution of payments by payment class



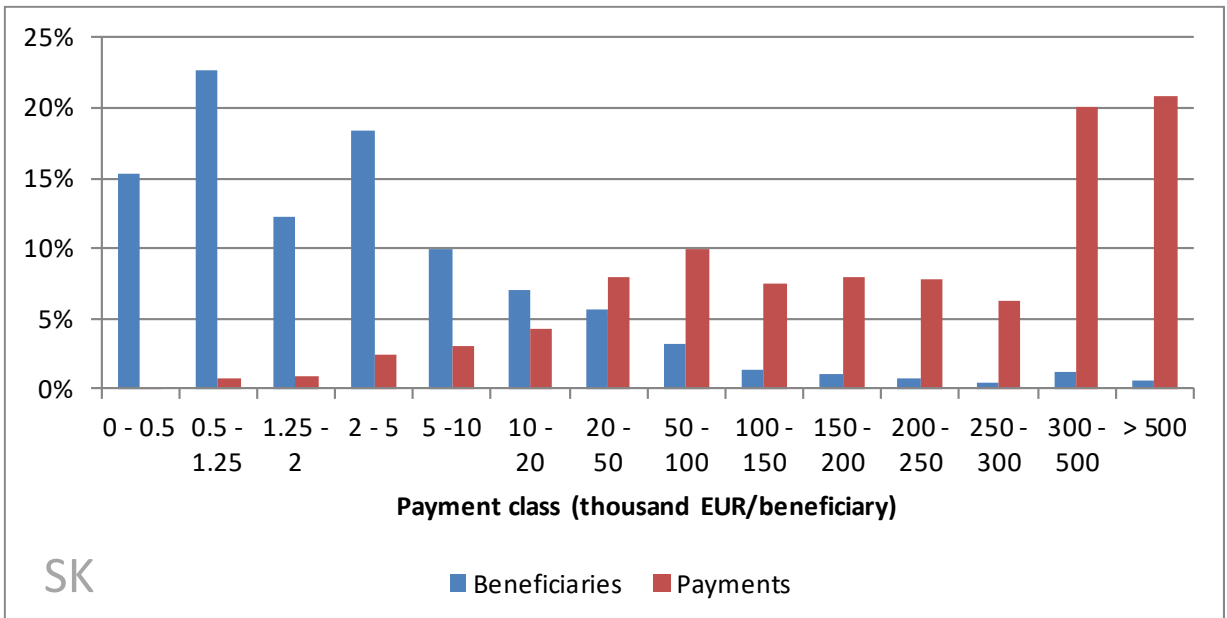
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	53.4%	18.4%	15.6%
5-250 ha	46.5%	76.7%	78.8%
>250 ha	0.0%	4.9%	5.6%

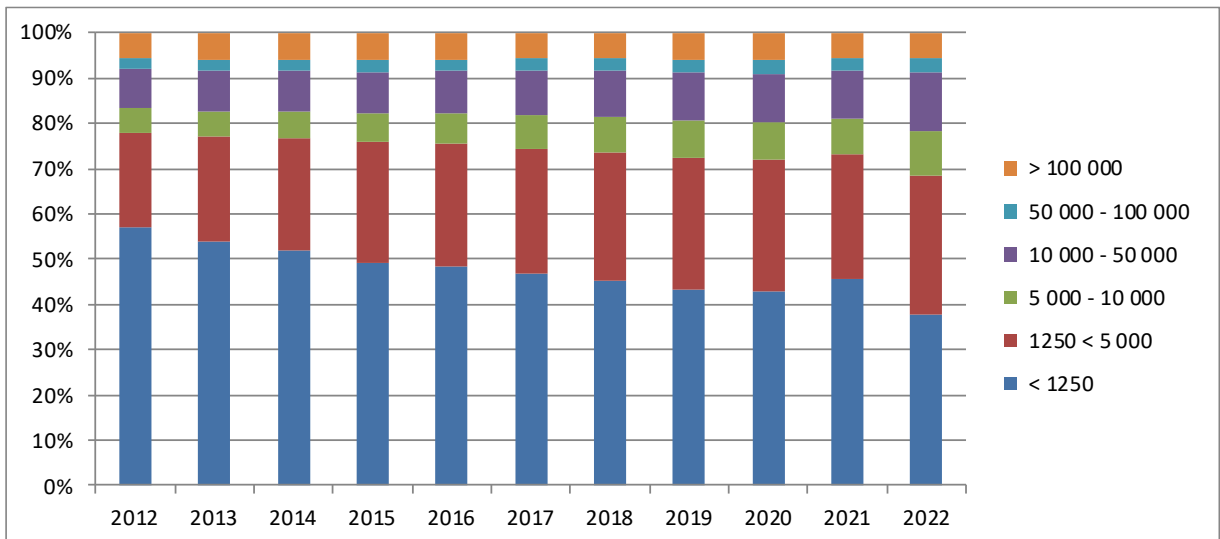
Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments



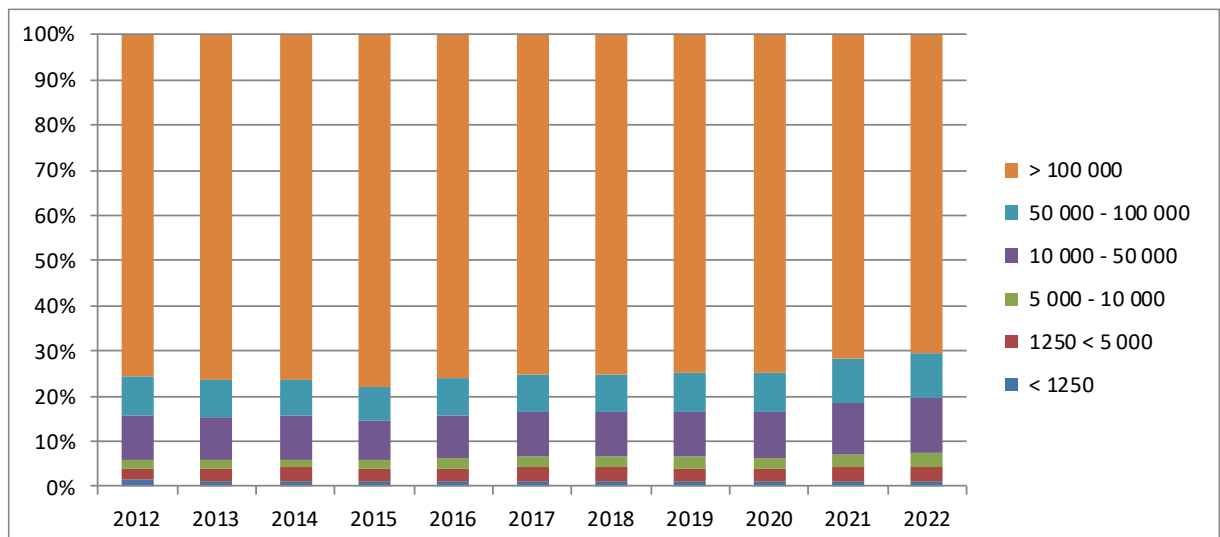
Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class



Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



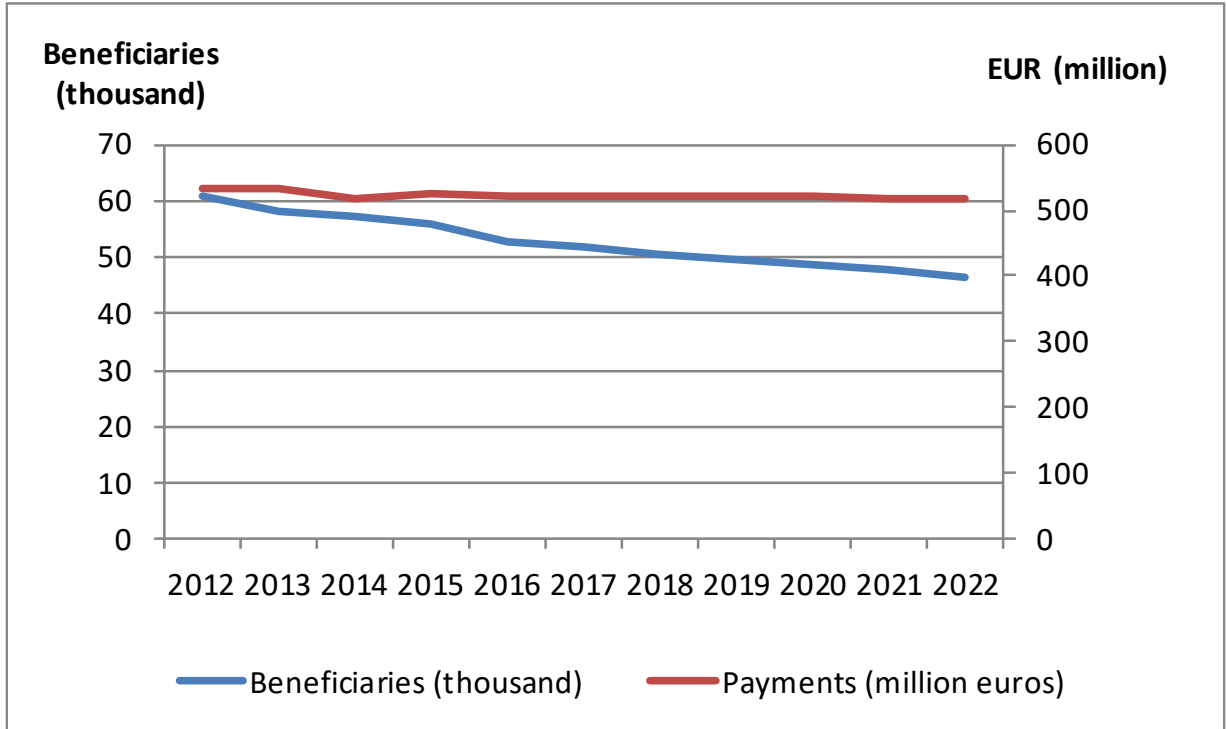
Evolution of payments by payment class



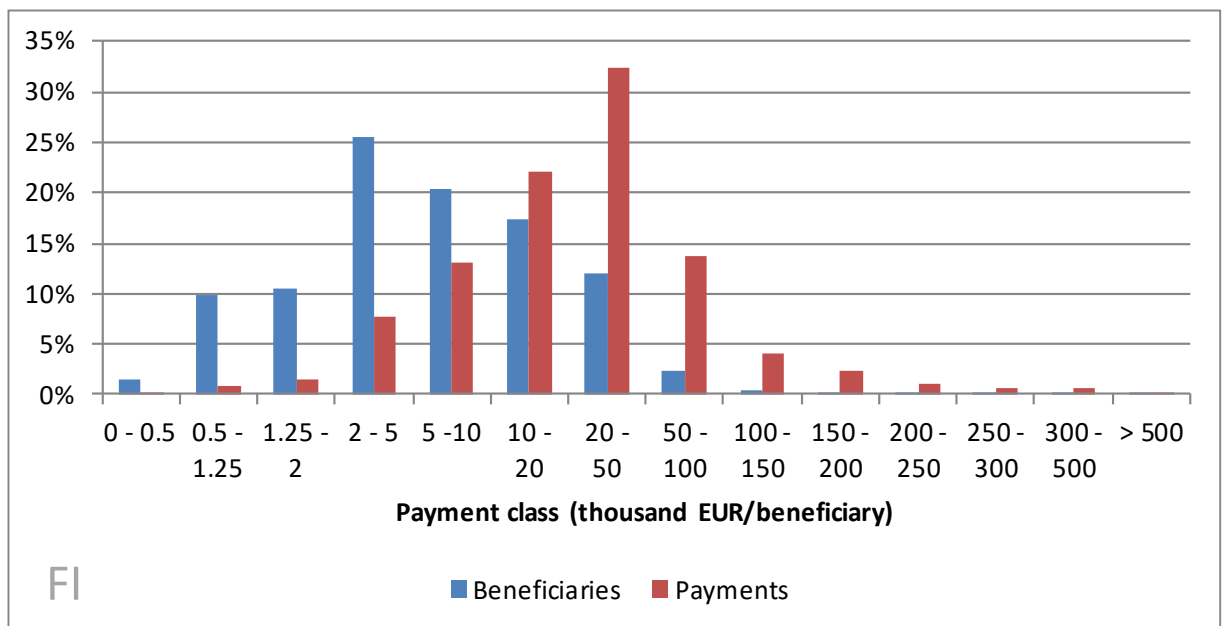
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	36.6%	0.9%	1.1%
5-250 ha	54.7%	18.8%	19.6%
>250 ha	8.7%	80.3%	79.2%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

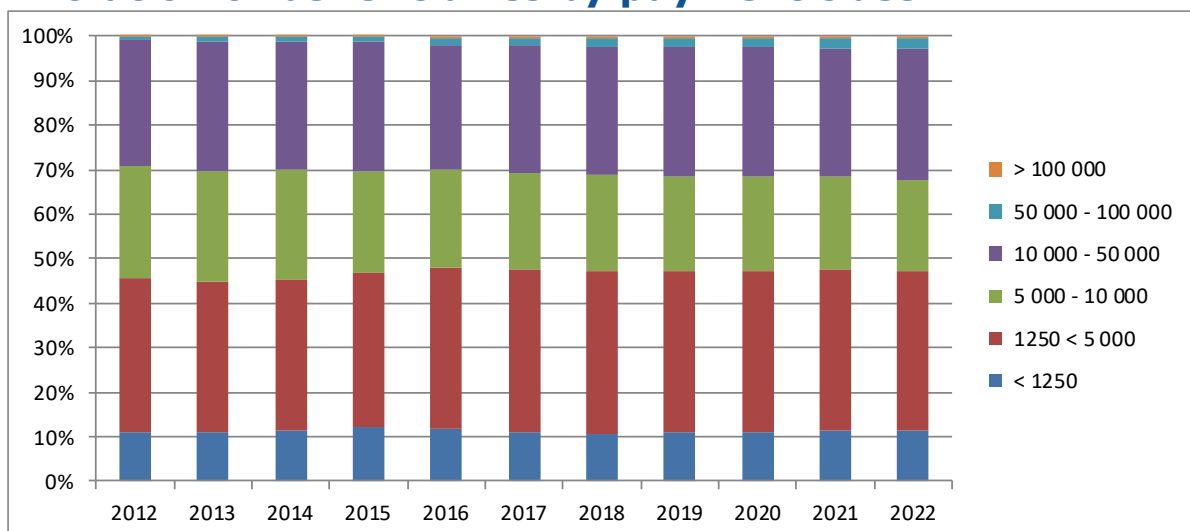


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

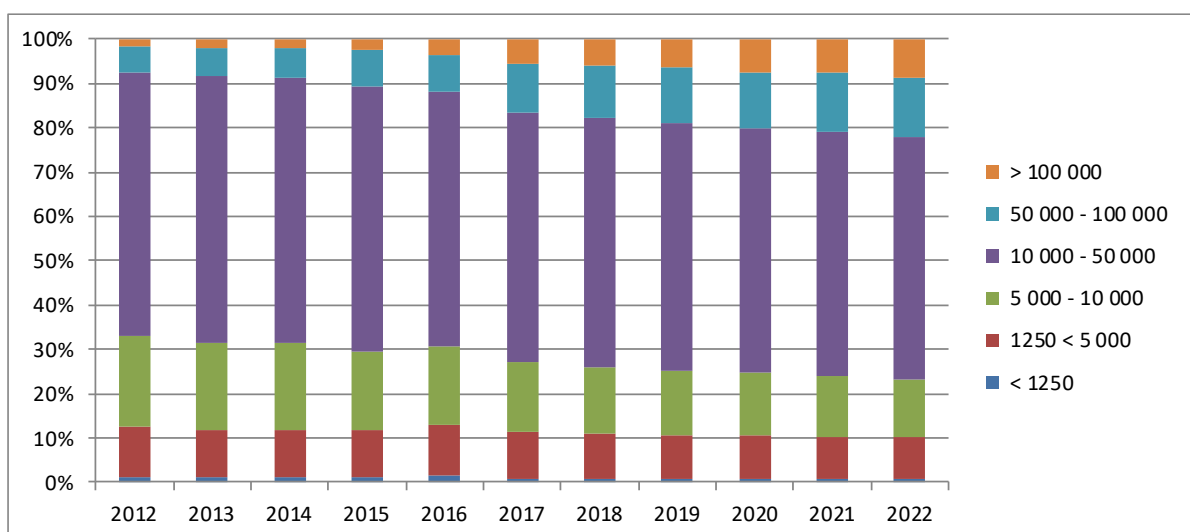


FI

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



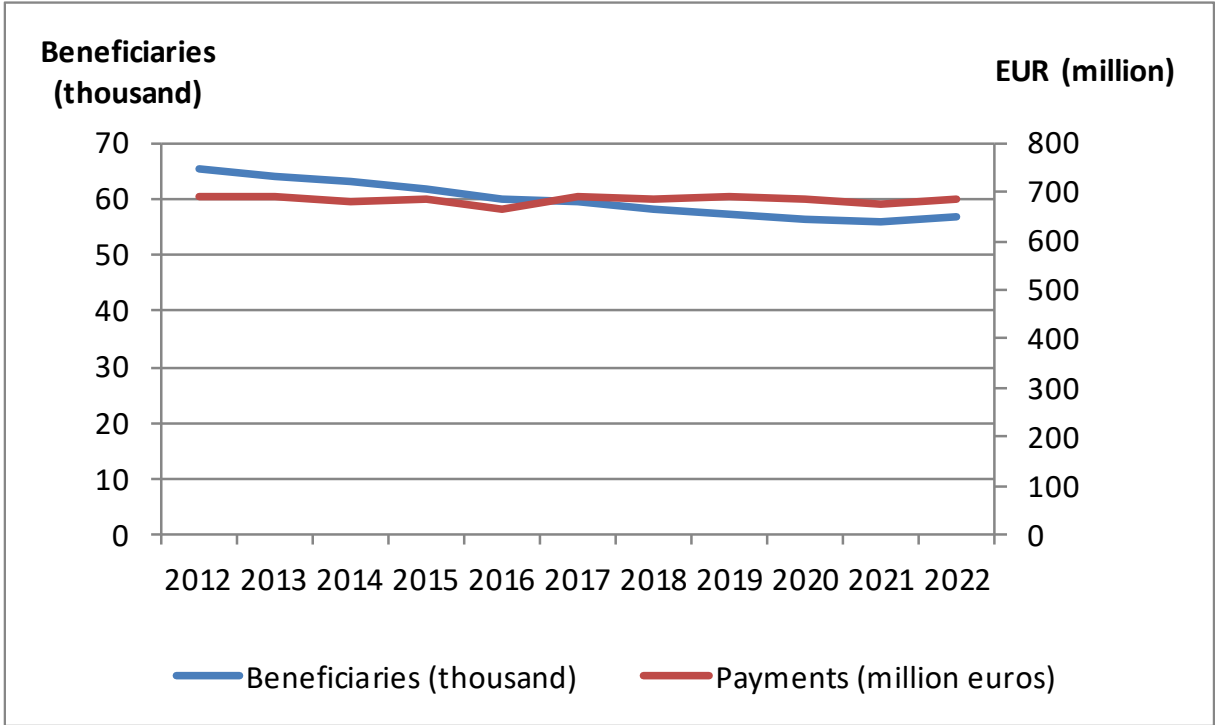
Evolution of payments by payment class



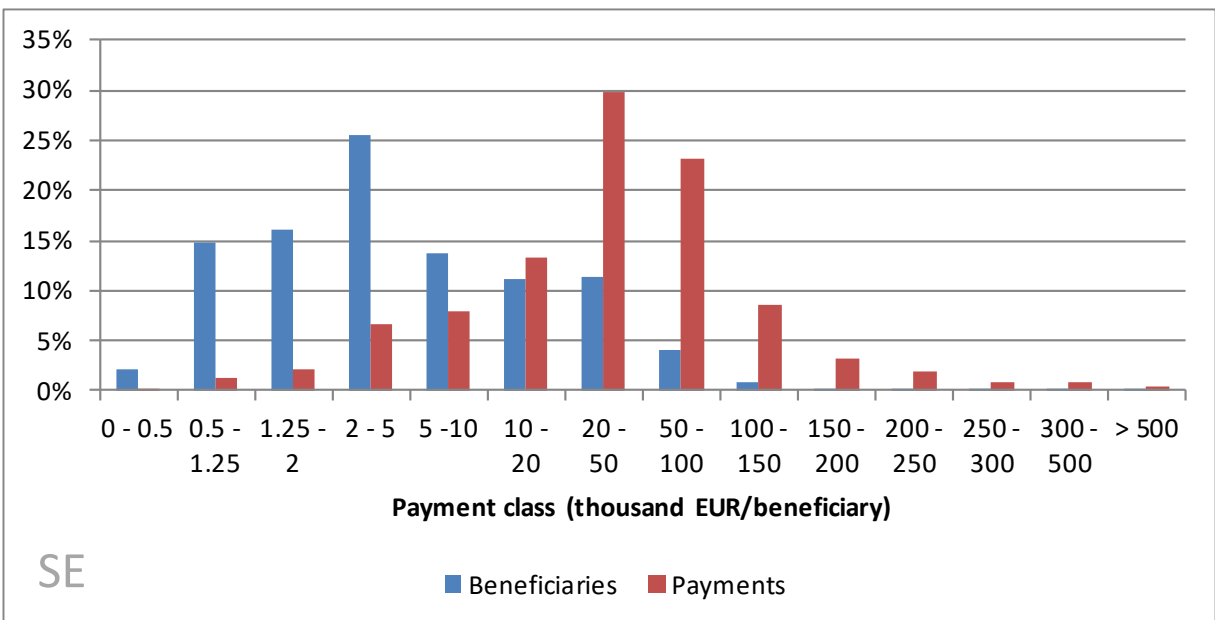
Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	4.2%	0.3%	0.2%
5-250 ha	94.3%	89.4%	88.1%
>250 ha	1.5%	10.3%	11.6%

Evolution of total beneficiaries and payments

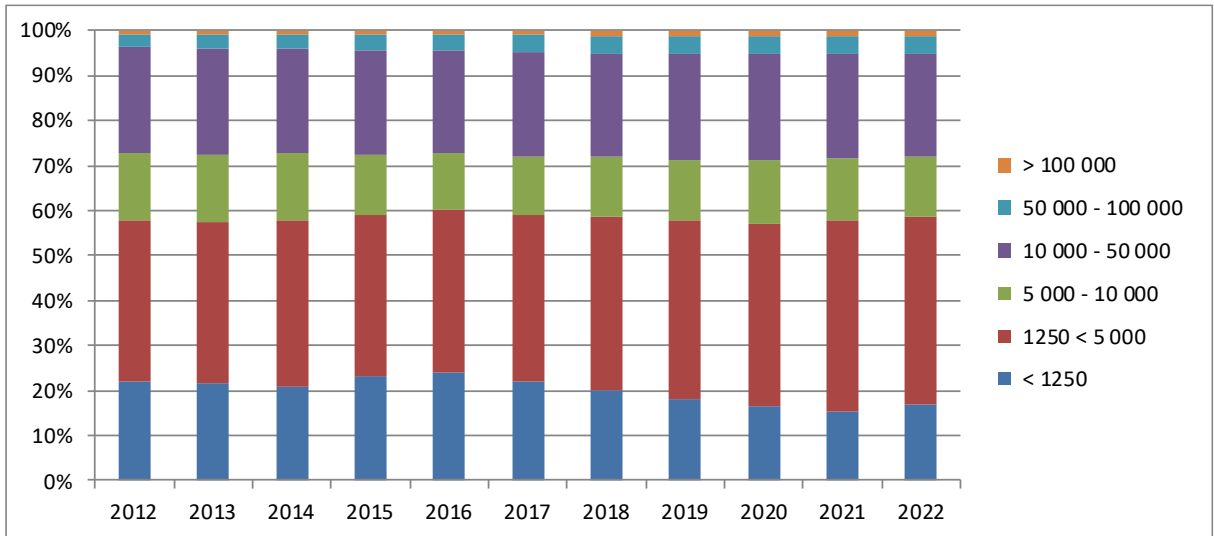


Distribution of beneficiaries and payments by payment class

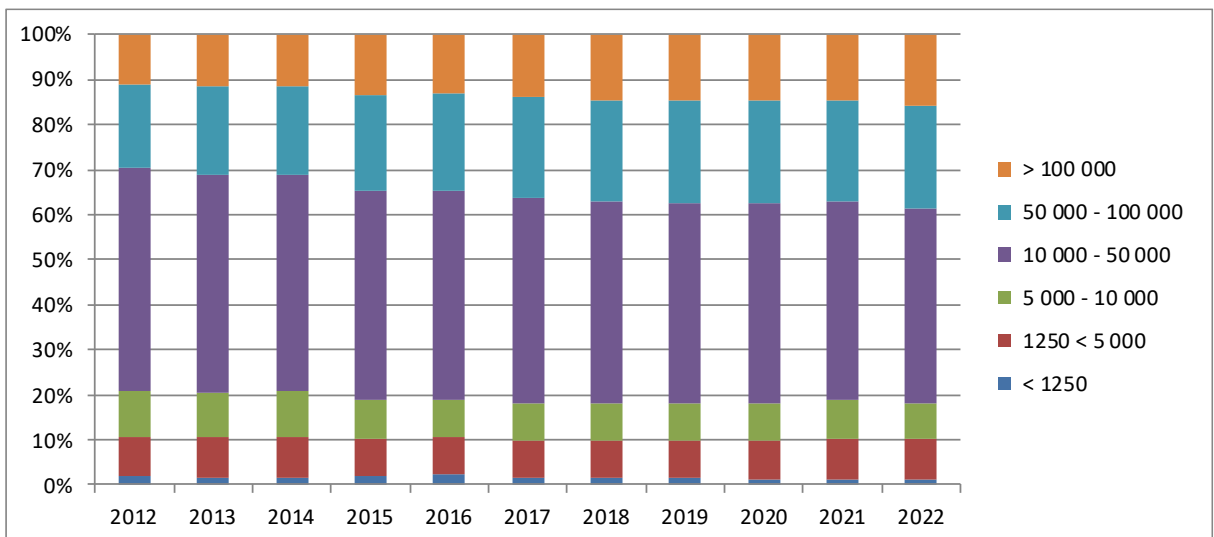


SE

Evolution of beneficiaries by payment class



Evolution of payments by payment class



Beneficiaries, area and payments by size class

Farm size class	Beneficiaries	Area	Direct payments
<=5ha	8.9%	0.7%	0.7%
5-250 ha	87.0%	66.5%	66.9%
>250 ha	4.1%	32.7%	32.4%