

5. Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2025 – Economy

Recently the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying released Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics (BAHS) 2025 on National Milk Day (November 26).

Introduction to BAHS 2025

BAHS 2025 is India's most authoritative statistical compendium on livestock, dairy, poultry and related infrastructure. Published annually by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (MoFAHD), it provides data crucial for policymaking, international reporting and sectoral planning. Survey Methodology – Based on the Integrated Sample Survey (ISS) conducted across three agricultural seasons –

1. Summer,
2. Rainy, and
3. Winter (March 2024 – February 2025).

Provides national and state-level estimates on production of milk, eggs, meat, and wool, along with information on contributing animals and associated infrastructure.

Applications – Used for –

1. Policy formulation
2. Programme evaluation
3. Target setting
4. International submissions (FAO, OIE)
5. Academic research
6. Budget planning and state allocations

Strengthens evidence-based planning, essential for doubling farmers' income and improving nutritional security.

Sector-wise Production Highlights

Milk Production

India's Global Position – India remains the world's largest milk producer, surpassing all major dairy economies (e.g., USA, China, Pakistan).

Production Growth – 2024–25 – 247.87 million tonnes, 2023–24 – 239.30 million tonnes, Growth – 3.58%. Continues the upward trend driven by crossbred cattle and dairy cooperatives.

Per Capita Milk Availability – Increased from 319 g/day (2014–15) to 485 g/day (2024–25). This is a key indicator for nutritional security, especially for rural households.

Top Milk Producing States & Shares – Uttar Pradesh – 15.66%, Rajasthan – 14.82%, Madhya Pradesh – 9.12%, Gujarat – 7.78%, Maharashtra – 6.71%. → Together – 54.09% of India's milk output.

Species-wise Contribution – Crossbred cattle – 4.97% growth, Indigenous cattle – 3.51% growth, Buffaloes – 2.45% growth. Buffaloes remain crucial due to higher fat content preferred in Indian dairy.

Egg Production

Global Position – India ranks 2nd globally in egg production, after China.

Output & Growth – 149.11 billion eggs in 2024–25 Growth – 4.44%, higher than 2023–24's 3.18%

Per Capita Availability – Rose from 62 eggs/year (2014–15) to 106 eggs/year (2024–25).

Top Egg Producing States – Andhra Pradesh – 18.37%, Tamil Nadu – 15.63%, Telangana – 12.98%, West Bengal – 10.72%, Karnataka – 6.67%. → Together – 64.37% of national egg output.

Production Systems Share – Commercial poultry → 125.98 billion eggs (84.49%) Backyard poultry → 23.13 billion eggs (15.51%) Backyard poultry play a major role in nutrition, women's income, and rural livelihoods.

Meat Production

Global Position – India ranks 4th in global meat production.

Production – 10.50 million tonnes, a growth of 2.46% vs previous year.

Species-wise Contribution – Poultry meat – 5.18 million tonnes (~50% of total meat) Continuous rise due to lower cost, shorter production cycle and high demand.

Top Meat Producing States – West Bengal – 12.46% Uttar Pradesh – 12.20% Maharashtra – 11.57% Andhra Pradesh – 10.84% Telangana – 10.49% → Together – 57.55% of India's meat output.

Wool Production

Total Production – 2024–25 – 34.57 million kg, 2.63% growth.

Top Wool Producing States – Rajasthan – 47.85% Jammu & Kashmir – 22.88% Gujarat – 6.22% Maharashtra – 4.75% Himachal Pradesh – 4.30% → Combined share – 85.98%.

Rajasthan's dominance is due to sheep-rearing pastoral communities (Raikas, Maldharis) and arid climate.

Infrastructure Indicators (as per BAHS 2025) – Veterinary institutions (dispensaries, hospitals, polyclinics) Artificial insemination centres Gaushalas and cattle shelters Government farms (cattle, poultry, sheep) Frozen semen stations and breeding infrastructure Data on livestock markets and disease control infrastructure Global trends in livestock population and productivity These indicators help inform schemes like – NADCP (National Animal Disease Control Programme) Rashtriya Gokul Mission National Livestock Mission Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

Livestock Sector Growth – Macroeconomic Perspective

GVA Expansion – Between 2014–15 and 2023–24, livestock GVA grew by ~195%. This growth is far above the crop sector, reflecting diversification of rural incomes.

Share in Agricultural GVA – Livestock contributes 31% of the Agricultural GVA (2023–24). Essentially, 1/3rd of agricultural value now comes from animals, not crops.

Contribution to National GVA – Livestock sector consistently accounts for 5.5% of India's total GVA. Acts as a stabiliser during droughts and crop failures because livestock earnings are less climate-sensitive.

Export Performance – Livestock product exports reached ₹66,249 crore in 2024–25. Growth driven mainly by –

1. Bovine meat (buffalo meat)
2. Edible offal
3. Processed meat products
4. Value-added dairy items

India is one of the world's biggest exporters of carabeef, which faces strong demand in Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia.

Overall Importance of the Livestock Sector

Economic Importance – Major source of income for small & marginal farmers, who own 70% of cattle. Helps in risk mitigation during crop losses.

Nutritional Security – Animal-source foods (milk, eggs, meat) are vital for reducing –

1. Protein deficiency

2. Child undernutrition
3. Micronutrient gaps

Directly connected with POSHAN 2.0 and health outcomes.

Employment & Social Impact - Provides 8% of rural employment, particularly to women (especially dairy).

Environmental Considerations - Challenges include -

1. Methane emissions
2. Water use in dairy
3. Need for sustainable fodder systems

BAHS supports climate-smart livestock planning.

Source - <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2195097&ref=official-press.com®=3&lang=2>

