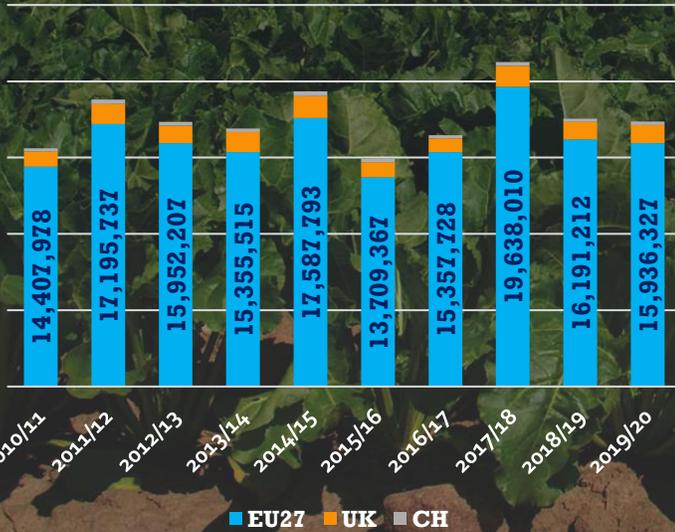


The EU Sugar Industry: Key Figures 2019/20



Sugar production over the last decade, in tonnes

Since 2010, the volume of white sugar production in the EU27 has oscillated around 16 million tonnes per year.



Harvested areas for beet sugar production, in ha

Over this time period, beet areas averaged at 1.45 million hectares while sugar yields were progressively increased.



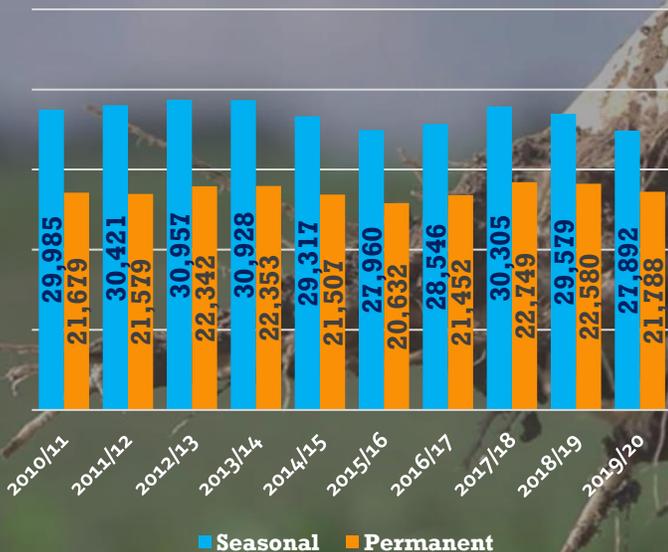
In 2019/20, CEFS members manufactured a total volume of 17.4 million tonnes of white sugar, of which 15.9 million tonnes were produced in the EU27. The areas were sown and harvested by 121,745 sugar beet growers, and CEFS members employed 27,892 people in rural areas across the EU. In the EU27, 99 sugar factories were in operation, in addition to 4 in the UK and 2 in Switzerland.

Industry employment has declined post-quota

Employment in the sugar industry (EU, UK, and Switzerland) has been stable over the years, guaranteeing highly remunerative jobs in rural areas. However, the post-quota market crisis caused a reduction of 1,000 people since the bumper crop year in 2017/18.

The number of sugar beet growers declines further

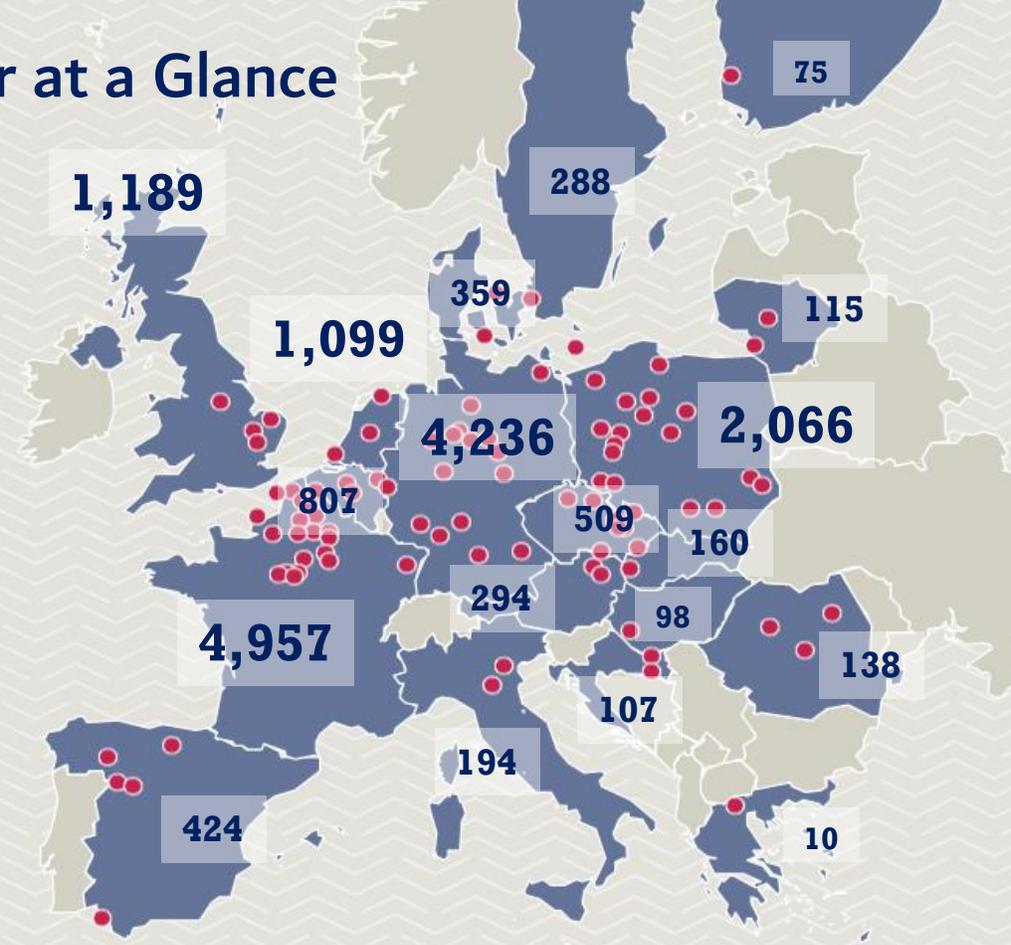
On the other hand, the number of beet growers decreased significantly, by almost 45,000 over the decade. The post-quota market environment, unfavourable weather conditions, and plant diseases continued this trend in recent years.



The EU Sugar Sector at a Glance

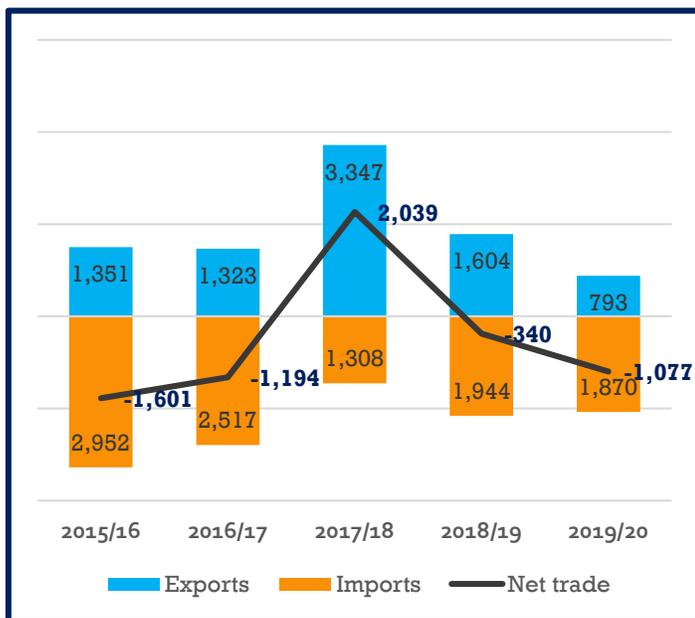
EU white sugar production in 2019/20 per member state ('000 tonnes)

Sugar is produced in 18 member states, and in the UK and Switzerland. CEFS has 38 members, comprised of sugar-producing companies and national associations across the EU. We represent 95% of all beet sugar producing companies in the EU, UK, and Switzerland. This map indicates the locations of EU and UK sugar factories.



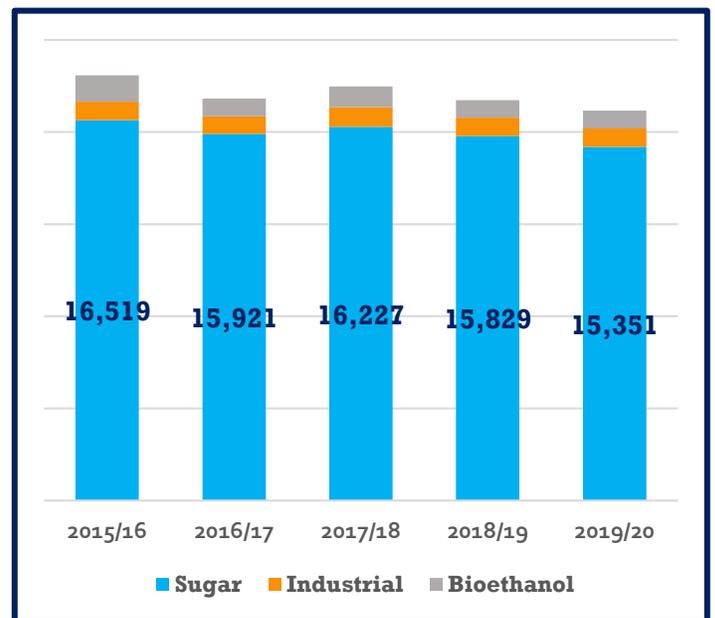
The EU's sugar trade deficit, in '000 tonnes

The EU sugar market has historically been marked by a trade deficit. In this regard, the 2017/18 bumper crop year displays an anomaly when the sector reached a surplus. EU white sugar exports halved during 2019/20 compared to the previous year, which sets a worrying trend for the future.



Sugar consumption in the EU, in '000 tonnes

The consumption of sugar as such has been slightly decreasing in the EU for many years. In 2019/20, this figure was almost 1 million tonnes less than two years before. The volumes dedicated to industrial uses and bioethanol production have remained stable over the last years.



Sources: European Commission, Sugar Balance Sheet

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