

The observation of wineries started at the beginning of the 18th century in Hungary, the second and third censuses on vineyards were implemented from 1960 to 1965 and in 2001. In 2001 Hungary fulfilled the obligation of implementing a decennial basic survey as EU Member State.

The Council Regulation (EEC) 357/79 on statistical surveys of areas under vines commits the Member States of the EU having at least 500 hectares open air vineyards on their territory to carry out a basic survey of them. The aim of the survey on areas under vines was to gather data, information on area of plantation, year of planting, type of plantation, exposure and topographic characters, space system, row width and plant spacing, vine cultivation method, support system, use of rootstock, area by varieties, vine status such as kilter, cultivating standard, supporting reconstruction, productivity.

In Hungary the wine communities are responsible for operating an administrative wine Register, according to the Hungarian rules data of admin register can be transferred to the Statistical Office at individual level in a form suitable for identification.

In 2009 two administrative and one statistical data sources constituted the frame of the survey. The wine register covered 85 percent of the vine areas, additionally, data regarding vine areas planted after 2001 were provided by the Ministry of Agriculture. In case of vineyards not covered in admin records a sample survey was conducted (based on the vineyard census of 2001). In line with the requirement of the EU regulation the sample was selected with maximum 1 percent sampling error at 68 percent confidence level.