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A census on pig stocks showed that the pig population dropped by 2.3 per cent in 2012 over 2011.

Pig Census: December 2012

In December 2012, the pig population amounted to 45,209 heads, down by 2.3 per cent, or 1,078 heads over 2011. Increases of 8.5 and 4.8 per cent in the number of young pigs and breeding stock were mitigated by drops of 9.8 and 4.5 per cent in the number of fattening pigs and piglets.

The census revealed that 111 holdings (-4.3 per cent) were engaged in pig production. Of these, 64.9 per cent raised less than 400 pigs but accounted for 24.4 per cent of total stock, or 11,052 heads. Holdings that raised 400 pigs or more accounted for 34,157 pigs, or 75.6 per cent of the total pig population.

On a regional level, the pig population decreased by 3.6 per cent in Malta but increased by 16.1 per cent in Gozo and Comino. Overall, 41,748 pigs, or 92.3 per cent, were located in Maltese farms, with the Western District accounting for 37.6 per cent. In Gozo and Comino, the pig population amounted to 3,461 heads, or 7.7 per cent of the total stock ■



Compiled by:

Unit B3: Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics

Directorate B: Business Statistics

Further information on data:

Mr Ronald TANTI

T. +356 2599 7333

E. ronald.tanti@gov.mt

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Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**

T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

Table 1. Swine stock by type and district

Administrative area	Grand Total	Young pigs			Fattening pigs				Breeding pigs				
		Total Young pigs	of which:		Total Fattening pigs	of which:			Total Breeding stock	of which:			
			Piglets < 20 kgs	Young Pigs 20 - <50 kgs		50 - <80 kgs	80 - <110 kgs	≥ 110 kgs		Breeding boars	Covered sows mated more than once	Covered sows mated for the first time	Other sows (gilts)
MALTA	45,209	24,093	11,762	12,331	15,838	11,322	4,083	433	5,278	313	3,600	571	794
Malta	41,748	22,191	10,741	11,450	14,662	10,539	3,770	353	4,895	293	3,318	530	754
Southern Harbour	2,732	1,336	617	719	893	580	295	18	503	60	236	35	172
Northern Harbour	3,646	1,833	870	963	1,386	827	538	21	427	21	306	62	38
South Eastern	9,069	5,092	2,379	2,713	3,077	2,298	655	124	900	59	661	78	102
Western	15,714	9,094	4,231	4,863	4,842	3,437	1,307	98	1,778	90	1,240	192	256
Northern	10,587	4,836	2,644	2,192	4,464	3,397	975	92	1,287	63	875	163	186
Gozo and Comino	3,461	1,902	1,021	881	1,176	783	313	80	383	20	282	41	40

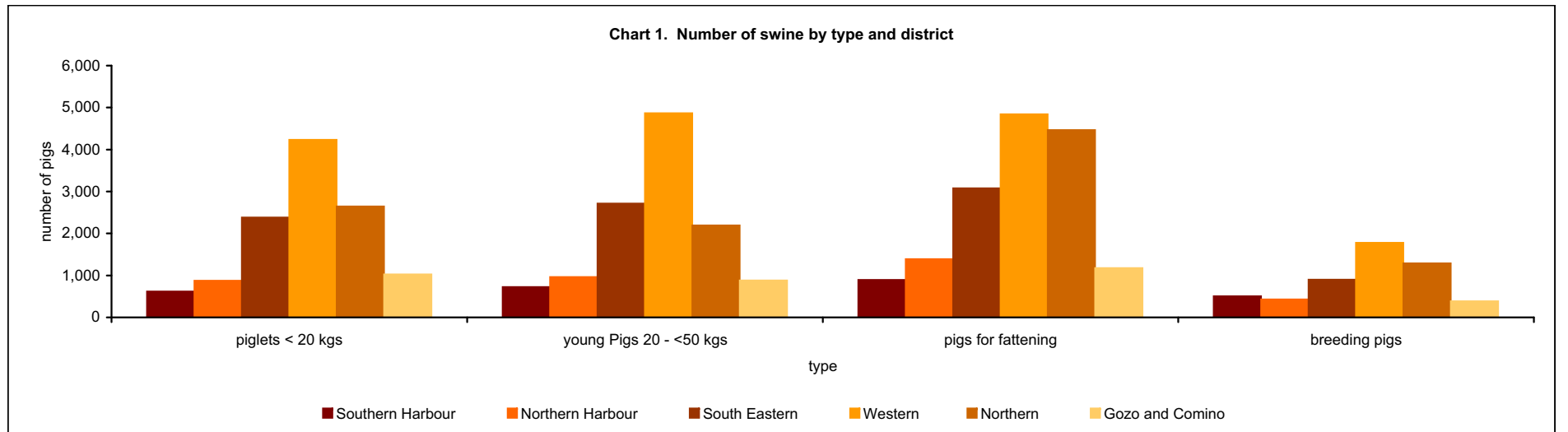


Table 2. Number of pigs and holdings by size class

Administrative area	Total	Number of pigs					
		1-9	10-49	50-99	100-199	200-399	≥ 400
MALTA							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	111	1	11	13	28	19	39
<i>No. of pigs</i>	45,209	8	347	918	4,106	5,673	34,157
Malta							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	99	1	11	11	24	16	36
<i>No. of pigs</i>	41,748	8	347	798	3,629	4,710	32,256
Gozo and Comino							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	12	-	-	2	4	3	3
<i>No. of pigs</i>	3,461	-	-	120	477	963	1,901

Table 3. Number of sows and holdings by size class

Administrative area	Total	Number of sows					
		0	1-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	≥ 100
MALTA							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	111	5	14	24	40	17	11
<i>No. of sows</i>	4,965	-	84	323	1,342	1,147	2,069
Malta							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	99	4	13	20	36	15	11
<i>No. of sows</i>	4,602	-	77	271	1,192	993	2,069
Gozo and Comino							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	12	1	1	4	4	2	-
<i>No. of sows</i>	363	-	7	52	150	154	-

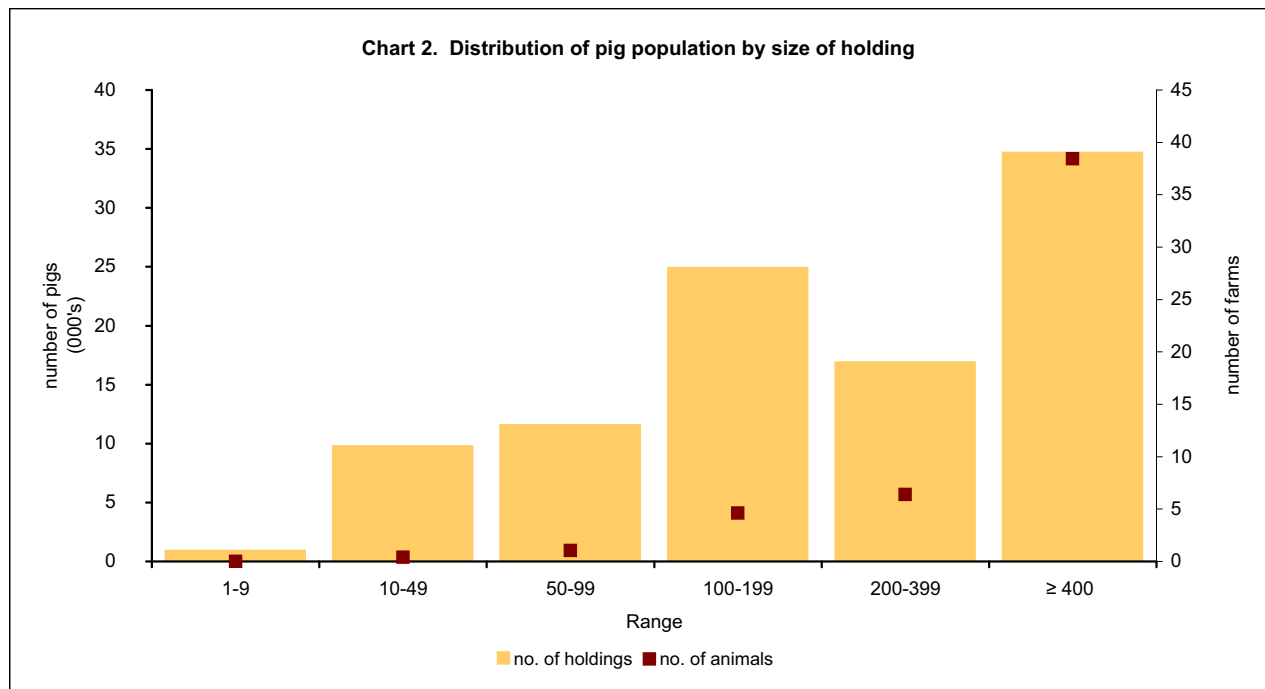


Table 4. Distribution of pig population by administrative area: 2009-2012

Year	Piglets (<20 Kgs)			Young pigs (20 - <50 Kgs)			Fattening Pigs (≥50 Kgs)			Breeding Stock			Total Pig Population		
	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino
2009	16,170	14,892	1,278	18,556	17,679	877	23,923	22,608	1,315	7,269	6,672	597	65,918	61,851	4,067
2010	18,413	17,072	1,341	17,649	16,807	842	27,631	26,019	1,612	6,890	6,457	433	70,583	66,355	4,228
2011	12,316	11,300	1,016	11,370	10,679	691	17,567	16,621	946	5,034	4,706	328	46,287	43,306	2,981
2012	11,762	10,741	1,021	12,331	11,450	881	15,838	14,662	1,176	5,278	4,895	383	45,209	41,748	3,461
%10/09	13.9%	14.6%	4.9%	-4.9%	-4.9%	-4.0%	15.5%	15.1%	22.6%	-5.2%	-3.2%	-27.5%	7.1%	7.3%	4.0%
%11/10	-33.1%	-33.8%	-24.2%	-35.6%	-36.5%	-17.9%	-36.4%	-36.1%	-41.3%	-26.9%	-27.1%	-24.2%	-34.4%	-34.7%	-29.5%
%12/11	-4.5%	-4.9%	0.5%	8.5%	7.2%	27.5%	-9.8%	-11.8%	24.3%	4.8%	4.0%	16.8%	-2.3%	-3.6%	16.1%

Chart 3. Percentage distribution of pigs by category

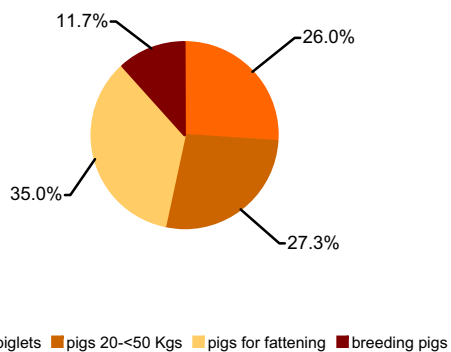


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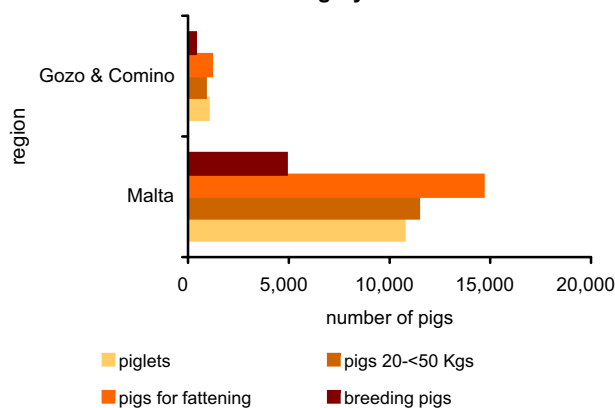
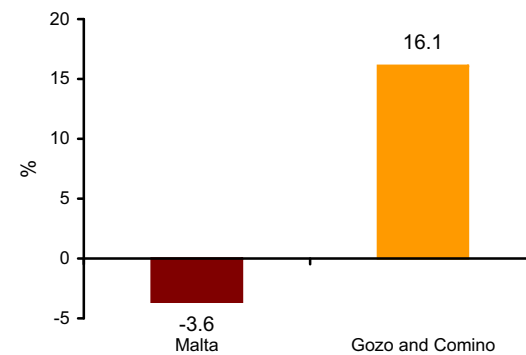


Chart 5. Regional annual percentage change of pig stock



Methodological Notes

1. The pig census is carried out every year and is in accordance with Council Regulation No.1165/2008. Census Date is 1 December.
2. The small number of pig breeders does not allow for a sample survey to be carried out. Hence, a head count on all farms is taken.
3. In order to obtain livestock numbers, a postal survey is undertaken. Non-respondents are contacted by telephone and every effort is made to contact every farm on the register.
4. The data in this release are final and are not normally subject to revision.

European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Agriculture and Fisheries/Data](#)

Database by themes

>Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

>Agriculture

>Agricultural products

>Animal production

>Livestock

>Pig population (annual data)

>Structure of rearing

>Pigs; total; fattening pigs; sows

Tables by themes

>Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

>Agriculture

>Agricultural products

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