

News Release



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Agriculture

Cattle Population - December 2006

The cattle population on the 1st December 2006 amounted to 19,233 heads, down 2.6 per cent over the corresponding period in 2005. 336 holdings had cattle, of which 143 were oriented to the production of milk.

Of all cattle 88.2 per cent were found on dairy farms whilst the remaining cattle were found on farms rearing cattle for meat.

Dairy cows being the most important bovine with 39.0 per cent of the total cattle stock, declined by 2.4 per cent, from 7,675 heads in 2005 to 7,494 heads in 2006.

Of all cattle farms 43.2 per cent are small, with a herd size ranging from 3 to 29 cattle on the holding. These farms had a total of 1,661 cattle or 8.6 per cent of all cattle. On the other hand, 20.2 per cent of all cattle farms were considered large with more than 100 cattle on the holding. These holdings had a total of 12,867 heads or 66.9 per cent of the total cattle stock. 89.0 per cent of all farms with a herd size ranging from 3 to 29 cattle rear cattle for meat whilst the remaining farms within this category are small dairy producers. The total amount of cattle on the non-dairy farms within this range amounted to 1,360 or 81.9 per cent of all cattle within this herdsiz. On the other hand, all farms with a herd size of 100 or more cattle are dairy producers.

On a regional level, 13,123 cattle (68.2 per cent) were found on Maltese farms. Most of the cattle on Maltese farms are found in the South Eastern District. 40.3 per cent of all cattle on the island of Malta were found in this district. The remaining 6,110 heads (31.8 per cent) were found on farms in Gozo and Comino. Cattle on the island of Malta declined by 4.6 per cent, whilst cattle on Gozo and Comino increased by 2.1 per cent over 2005 ■

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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Agriculture and Fisheries/Data](http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Website/Homepage/Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries/Data)

- >Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - >Agriculture
 - >Animal production
 - >Livestock
 - >Cattle population (annual data)
 - >Structure of rearing
 - >Cattles; total; dairy cows; other cows

For further assistance send a request from:
http://www.nso.gov.mt/adhoc/adhoc_contact_details.aspx

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Table 1. Distribution of cattle population by age and sex

| Administrative area* | Grand total | Cattle less than 1 year | | | Cattle between 1 and 2 years | | | | | Cattle greater than 2 years | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| | | Total cattle less than 1 year | of which: | | Total cattle between 1 and 2 years | of which: | | | | Total cattle greater than 2 years | of which: | | | | |
| | | | Males | Females | | Males | Females not yet mated | Heifers for slaughter | Other heifers | | Males | Heifers for slaughter | Other heifers | Dairy cows | Other cows |
| MALTA | 19,233 | 5,388 | 2,659 | 2,729 | 5,107 | 2,186 | 1,149 | 205 | 1,567 | 8,738 | 614 | 46 | 391 | 7,494 | 193 |
| Malta | 13,123 | 3,649 | 1,848 | 1,801 | 3,614 | 1,601 | 787 | 144 | 1,082 | 5,860 | 491 | 30 | 258 | 4,901 | 180 |
| Gozo and Comino | 6,110 | 1,739 | 811 | 928 | 1,493 | 585 | 362 | 61 | 485 | 2,878 | 123 | 16 | 133 | 2,593 | 13 |
| Southern Harbour | 1,887 | 547 | 268 | 279 | 500 | 220 | 111 | 19 | 150 | 840 | 70 | 3 | 39 | 718 | 10 |
| Northern Harbour | 1,865 | 503 | 214 | 289 | 500 | 188 | 122 | 23 | 167 | 862 | 64 | 3 | 39 | 746 | 10 |
| South Eastern | 5,292 | 1,525 | 847 | 678 | 1,580 | 736 | 328 | 62 | 454 | 2,187 | 202 | 12 | 93 | 1,777 | 103 |
| Western | 2,336 | 654 | 349 | 305 | 606 | 327 | 107 | 19 | 153 | 1,076 | 121 | 8 | 45 | 870 | 32 |
| Northern | 1,743 | 420 | 170 | 250 | 428 | 130 | 119 | 21 | 158 | 895 | 34 | 4 | 42 | 790 | 25 |
| Gozo and Comino | 6,110 | 1,739 | 811 | 928 | 1,493 | 585 | 362 | 61 | 485 | 2,878 | 123 | 16 | 133 | 2,593 | 13 |

* see methodological notes

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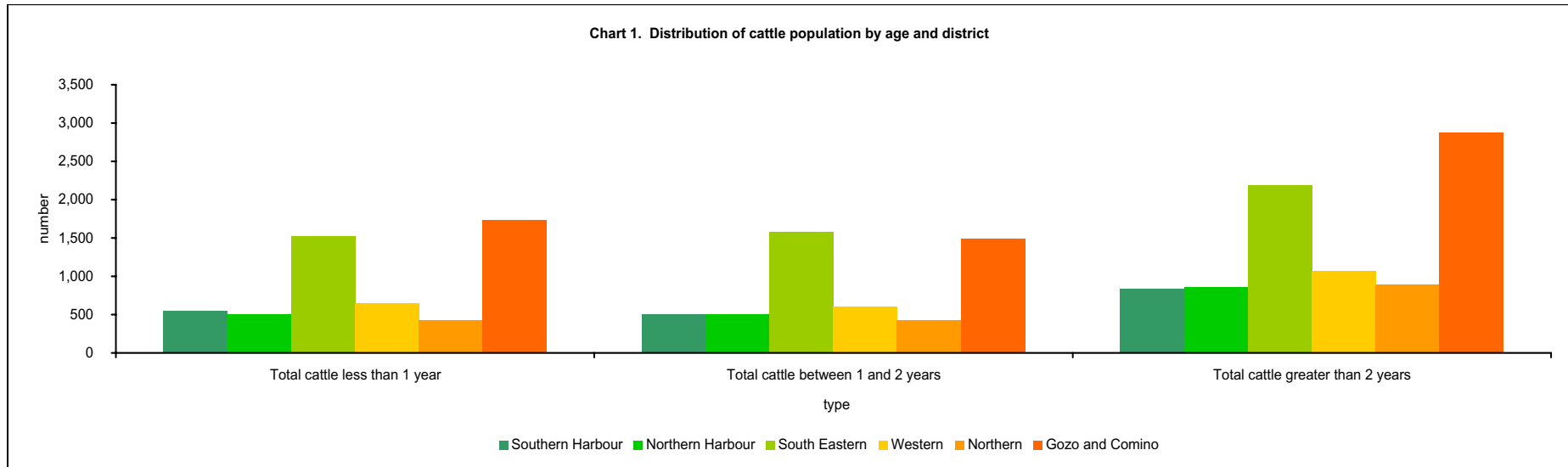


Table 2. Distribution of cattle farms and heads by herd size

| Administrative area* | Size class of cattle | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Total | 1-2 | 3-29 | 30-49 | 50-99 | >=100 |
| MALTA | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 336 | 46 | 145 | 30 | 47 | 68 |
| <i>Number of cattle</i> | 19,233 | 72 | 1,661 | 1,115 | 3,518 | 12,867 |
| Malta | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 283 | 43 | 136 | 27 | 32 | 45 |
| <i>Number of cattle</i> | 13,123 | 67 | 1,580 | 1,008 | 2,395 | 8,073 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 53 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 15 | 23 |
| <i>Number of cattle</i> | 6,110 | 5 | 81 | 107 | 1,123 | 4,794 |

* see methodological notes

Table 3. Distribution of dairy farms and dairy cows by size class of dairy cows

| Administrative area* | Size class of dairy cows | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Total | 1-2 | 3-29 | 30-49 | 50-99 | >=100 |
| MALTA | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 143 | 2 | 42 | 38 | 42 | 19 |
| <i>Number of dairy cows</i> | 7,494 | 3 | 671 | 1,488 | 2,838 | 2,494 |
| Malta | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 100 | 2 | 33 | 23 | 31 | 11 |
| <i>Number of dairy cows</i> | 4,901 | 3 | 500 | 891 | 2,123 | 1,384 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | | |
| <i>Farms</i> | 43 | | 9 | 15 | 11 | 8 |
| <i>Number of dairy cows</i> | 2,593 | | 171 | 597 | 715 | 1,110 |

* see methodological notes

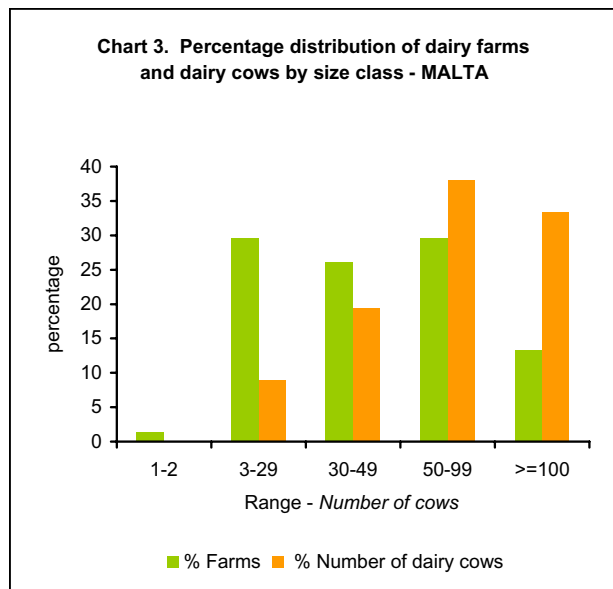
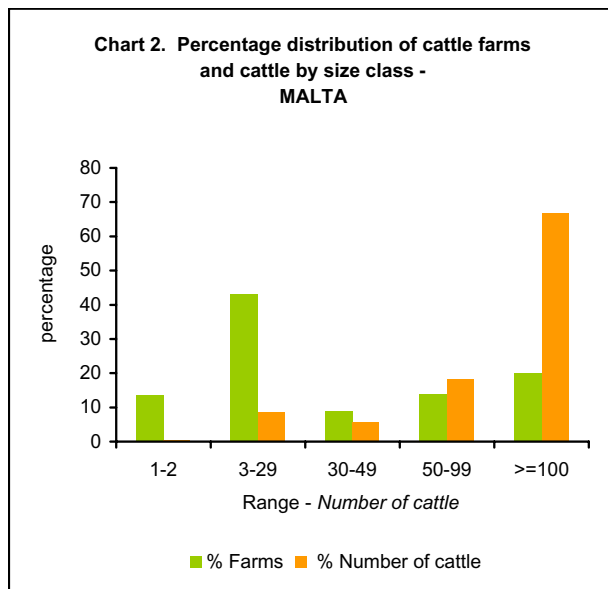


Table 4. Distribution of farms and cattle by type of farm

| Administrative area* | Total number of cattle farms | of which: | | Total number of heads | of which: | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | dairy farms | other farms | | dairy cows | other cattle on dairy farms | cattle on non-dairy farms |
| MALTA | 336 | 143 | 193 | 19,233 | 7,494 | 9,479 | 2,260 |
| Malta | 283 | 100 | 183 | 13,123 | 4,901 | 6,018 | 2,204 |
| Gozo and Comino | 53 | 43 | 10 | 6,110 | 2,593 | 3,461 | 56 |
| Southern Harbour | 32 | 14 | 18 | 1,887 | 718 | 1,006 | 163 |
| Northern Harbour | 47 | 17 | 30 | 1,865 | 746 | 874 | 245 |
| South Eastern | 114 | 36 | 78 | 5,292 | 1,777 | 2,282 | 1,233 |
| Western | 58 | 17 | 41 | 2,336 | 870 | 1,016 | 450 |
| Northern | 32 | 16 | 16 | 1,743 | 790 | 840 | 113 |
| Gozo and Comino | 53 | 43 | 10 | 6,110 | 2,593 | 3,461 | 56 |

* see methodological notes

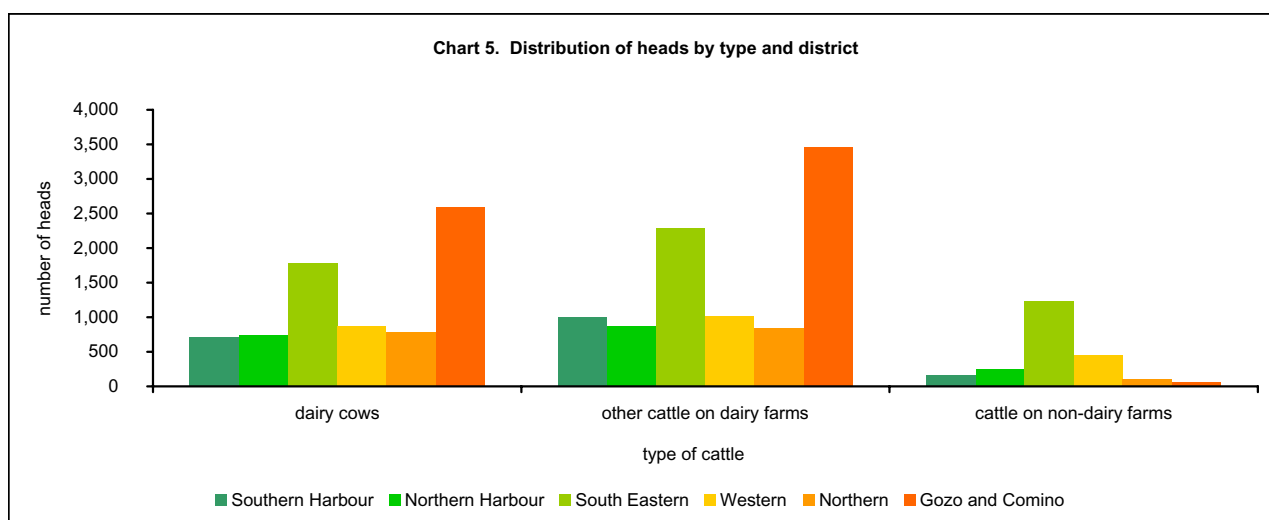
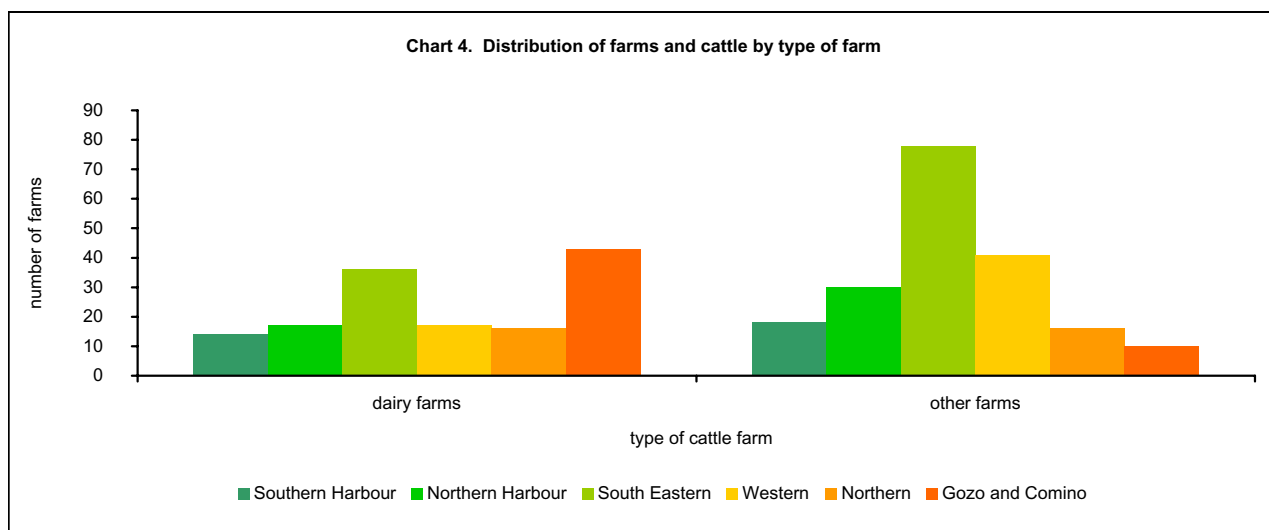


Table 5. Distribution of bovine population by age and administrative area: 2003-2006

| Year | Bovines less than 1 year | | | Bovines between 1 and 2 years | | | Bovines greater than 2 years (excluding cows) | | | Cows | | | Total bovine population | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino |
| 2003 | 4,909 | 3,329 | 1,580 | 4,938 | 3,369 | 1,569 | 486 | 307 | 179 | 7,607 | 5,173 | 2,434 | 17,940 | 12,178 | 5,762 |
| 2004 | 5,467 | 3,741 | 1,726 | 5,372 | 3,753 | 1,619 | 734 | 512 | 222 | 7,835 | 5,387 | 2,448 | 19,408 | 13,393 | 6,015 |
| 2005 | 5,625 | 3,916 | 1,709 | 5,245 | 3,621 | 1,624 | 1,040 | 803 | 237 | 7,832 | 5,418 | 2,414 | 19,742 | 13,758 | 5,984 |
| 2006 | 5,388 | 3,649 | 1,739 | 5,107 | 3,614 | 1,493 | 1,051 | 779 | 272 | 7,687 | 5,081 | 2,606 | 19,233 | 13,123 | 6,110 |
| %04/03 | 11.4% | 12.4% | 9.2% | 8.8% | 11.4% | 3.2% | 51.0% | 66.8% | 24.0% | 3.0% | 4.1% | 0.6% | 8.2% | 10.0% | 4.4% |
| %05/04 | 2.9% | 4.7% | -1.0% | -2.4% | -3.5% | 0.3% | 41.7% | 56.8% | 6.8% | 0.0% | 0.6% | -1.4% | 1.7% | 2.7% | -0.5% |
| %06/05 | -4.2% | -6.8% | 1.8% | -2.6% | -0.2% | -8.1% | 1.1% | -3.0% | 14.8% | -1.9% | -6.2% | 8.0% | -2.6% | -4.6% | 2.1% |

* see methodological notes

Chart 6. Percentage distribution of cattle by category

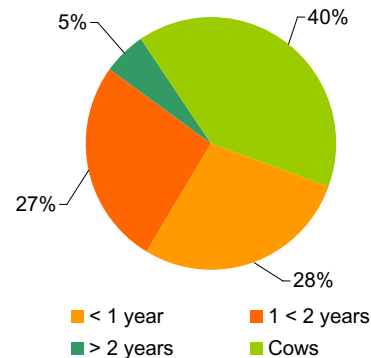


Chart 7. Distribution of cattle by region

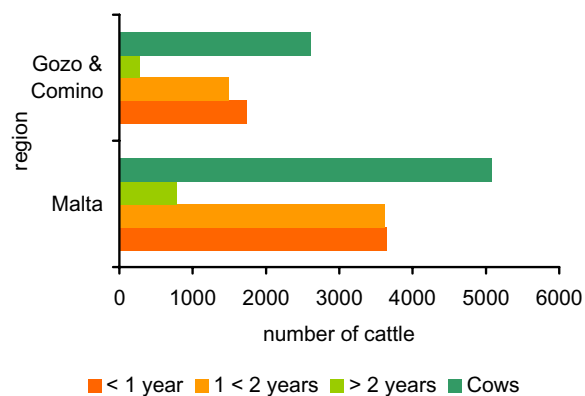


Chart 8. Regional annual percentage annual change of cattle stock

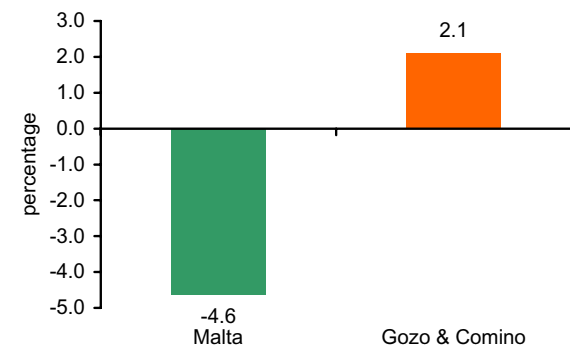


Table 6. Distribution of cattle population by category and administrative area: 2004-2006

| Category | 2004 | | | 2005 | | | 2006 | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Administrative area* | | | | | | | | |
| | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino | MALTA | Malta | Gozo & Comino |
| Cattle total | 19,408 | 13,393 | 6,015 | 19,742 | 13,758 | 5,984 | 19,233 | 13,123 | 6,110 |
| Bovines less than 1 year old | 5,467 | 3,741 | 1,726 | 5,625 | 3,916 | 1,709 | 5,388 | 3,649 | 1,739 |
| Calves for slaughter | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other calves | 5,467 | 3,741 | 1,726 | 5,625 | 3,916 | 1,709 | 5,388 | 3,649 | 1,739 |
| Male | 2,635 | 1,835 | 800 | 2,733 | 1,915 | 818 | 2,659 | 1,848 | 811 |
| Female | 2,832 | 1,906 | 926 | 2,892 | 2,001 | 891 | 2,729 | 1,801 | 928 |
| Bovines aged between 1 and 2 years | 5,372 | 3,753 | 1,619 | 5,245 | 3,621 | 1,624 | 5,107 | 3,614 | 1,493 |
| Male | 1,940 | 1,364 | 576 | 2,260 | 1,607 | 653 | 2,186 | 1,601 | 585 |
| Female | 3,432 | 2,389 | 1,043 | 2,985 | 2,014 | 971 | 2,921 | 2,013 | 908 |
| Female for slaughter | 175 | 121 | 54 | 201 | 134 | 67 | 205 | 144 | 61 |
| Other female | 3,257 | 2,268 | 989 | 2,784 | 1,880 | 904 | 2,716 | 1,869 | 847 |
| Bovines of 2 years and over | 8,569 | 5,899 | 2,670 | 8,872 | 6,221 | 2,651 | 8,738 | 5,860 | 2,878 |
| Male | 238 | 184 | 54 | 552 | 465 | 87 | 614 | 491 | 123 |
| Female | 8,331 | 5,715 | 2,616 | 8,320 | 5,756 | 2,564 | 8,124 | 5,369 | 2,755 |
| Heifers | 496 | 328 | 168 | 488 | 338 | 150 | 437 | 288 | 149 |
| Heifers for slaughter | 47 | 28 | 19 | 72 | 52 | 20 | 46 | 30 | 16 |
| Other heifers | 449 | 300 | 149 | 416 | 286 | 130 | 391 | 258 | 133 |
| Cows | 7,835 | 5,387 | 2,448 | 7,832 | 5,418 | 2,414 | 7,687 | 5,081 | 2,606 |
| Dairy cows | 7,835 | 5,387 | 2,448 | 7,675 | 5,273 | 2,402 | 7,494 | 4,901 | 2,593 |
| Other cows | - | - | - | 157 | 145 | 12 | 193 | 180 | 13 |

* see methodological notes

Methodological Notes

1. The cattle survey is carried out every year and is in accordance to Council Directive 93/24/EEC of 1 June 1993 on the statistical surveys to be carried out on bovine animal production.
2. Information on the cattle survey has been entirely compiled with information from the bovine register, which is under the control of the FVRD at the civil abattoir.
3. Certain categories can not be directly compiled through the Bovine register and so specific co-efficients based on the last three annual surveys have been taken into consideration.
4. The data are published by the NSO and can be obtained directly from the NSO website <http://www.nso.gov.mt>

NUTS classification

The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) is a common classification that is used to provide a single uniform breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics with regard to the European Union. It was adopted on 26 May 2003 by means of a Regulation¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹ (EC) No. 1059/2003

| NUTS levels | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Administrative area | I (National) | II (National) | III (Regional) | IV (District) | V (Locality) |
| MALTA | x | x | x | x | x |
| Malta | | | x | | |
| Gozo & Comino | | | x | | |
| Southern Harbour | | | | x | |
| Northern Harbour | | | | x | |
| South Eastern | | | | x | |
| Western | | | | x | |
| Northern | | | | x | |
| Gozo & Comino | | | | x | |

COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS - NUTS level V

Southern Harbour: Valletta, Birgu, Isla, Bormla, Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa, Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xgħajra.

Northern Harbour: Qormi, B'Kara, Gżira, Ħamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

South Eastern: Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Ghaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.

Western: Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

Northern: Gharghur, Mellieħa, Mgarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.

Gozo and Comino: Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xgħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.