

News Release



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Agriculture

Pig Survey - December 2006

The total pig stock amounted to 73,683 pigs, an increase of 0.9 per cent over 2005.

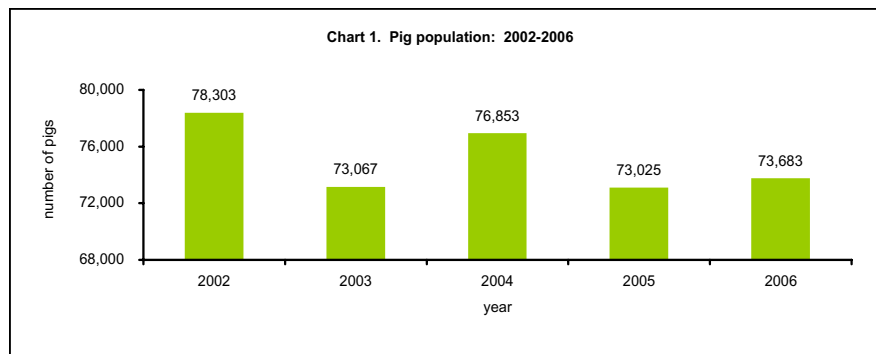
During the end of 2006 a comprehensive pig head count was undertaken. The reference date of the head count was the 1st December, 2006. The total pig stock as at 1st of December 2006 amounted to 73,683 pigs, a rise of 658 pigs (+0.9 per cent) when compared to the 73,025 pigs which were registered in 2005. The total number of pig farms recorded in this year's survey amounted to 154.

Although the number of pigs recorded increased slightly, the pig population declined by 5.9 per cent when compared to 2002, when 78,303 pigs were recorded. Likewise to 2004, 2006 showed an increase over the previous year.

All categories except fattening pigs registered declines when compared to the 2005 pig survey. An increase of 11.7 per cent was registered in the 'fattening pigs' group. All other categories registered declines, ranging from 1.1 per cent for the breeding stock to 5.9 per cent for piglets.

On a regional level, 69,051 pigs (93.7 per cent), were found in Malta, an increase of 0.5 per cent over 2005. The number of pigs in Gozo and Comino increased by 7.6 per cent from 4,303 pigs in 2005 to 4,632 in 2006.

Minor variations in the size structure of holdings were noted when compared to 2005. Whereas, in 2005, 28.2 per cent of all holdings had between 200 and 399 heads, the share of medium-sized pig holdings fell to 27.3 per cent in 2006. In addition, the share of small pig holdings (1 to 199 pigs) decreased from 34.0 per cent in 2005 to 33.7 per cent in 2006 ■



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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Agriculture and Fisheries/Data](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&code=sdg.ag.11)

- >Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - >Agriculture
 - >Agricultural products
 - >Animal production
 - >Livestock
 - >Pig population (annual data)
 - >Structure of rearing
 - >Pigs; total; fattening pigs; sows

For further assistance send a request from:
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Table 1. Swine stock by type of pig 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 between 20 and 50 kgs		between 50 and 80 kgs	between 80 and 110 kgs	> 110 kgs		Breeding boars	Covered sows mated more than once	Covered sows mated for the first time	Other sows (gilts)
MALTA	73,683	39,042	18,341	20,701	26,315	18,144	6,830	1,341	8,326	489	6,295	849	693
Malta	69,051	36,362	16,842	19,520	25,027	17,332	6,520	1,175	7,662	433	5,816	764	649
Gozo and Comino	4,632	2,680	1,499	1,181	1,288	812	310	166	664	56	479	85	44
Southern Harbour	5,785	3,091	1,270	1,821	2,090	1,176	901	13	604	41	430	65	68
Northern Harbour	9,056	4,792	2,225	2,567	3,316	2,674	554	88	948	62	744	78	64
South Eastern	14,930	8,510	3,613	4,897	4,740	3,549	1,107	84	1,680	102	1,230	204	144
Western	24,034	12,656	6,223	6,433	8,682	5,489	2,331	862	2,696	161	2,014	265	256
Northern	15,246	7,313	3,511	3,802	6,199	4,444	1,627	128	1,734	67	1,398	152	117
Gozo and Comino	4,632	2,680	1,499	1,181	1,288	812	310	166	664	56	479	85	44

Chart 2. Number of swine by type and district

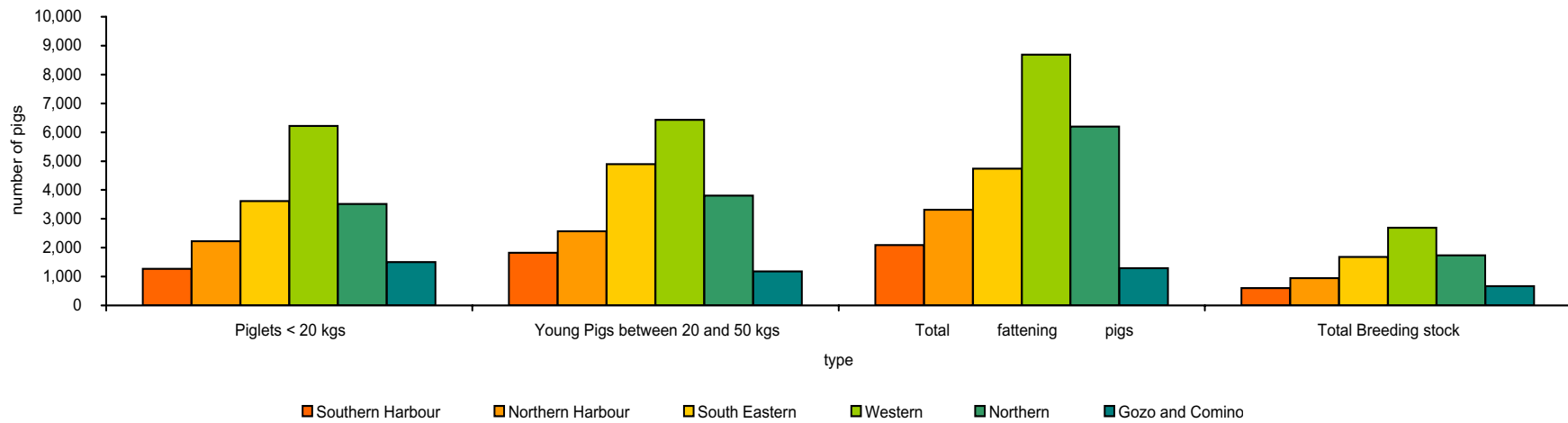


Table 2. Number of pigs and holders by size class

Administrative area	Total	Number of pigs					
		1-9	10-49	50-99	100-199	200-399	>= 400
MALTA							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	154	1	8	12	31	42	60
<i>No. of animals</i>	73,683	8	202	922	4,853	12,338	55,360
Malta							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	140	1	7	11	28	38	55
<i>No. of animals</i>	69,051	8	158	825	4,452	11,269	52,339
Gozo and Comino							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	14	0	1	1	3	4	5
<i>No. of animals</i>	4,632	0	44	97	401	1,069	3,021

Ranges 400-999 and >=1000 pigs have been grouped to respect confidentiality

Table 3. Number of sows and holders 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>	154	14	3	30	58	30	19
<i>No. of sows</i>	7,841	-	13	424	2,004	2,062	3,338
Malta							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	140	14	2	27	50	30	17
<i>No. of sows</i>	7,233	-	8	382	1,738	2,062	3,043
Gozo and Comino							
<i>No. of holdings</i>	14	0	1	3	8	0	2
<i>No. of sows</i>	608	0	5	42	266	0	295

Ranges over 100 sows have been grouped to respect confidentiality

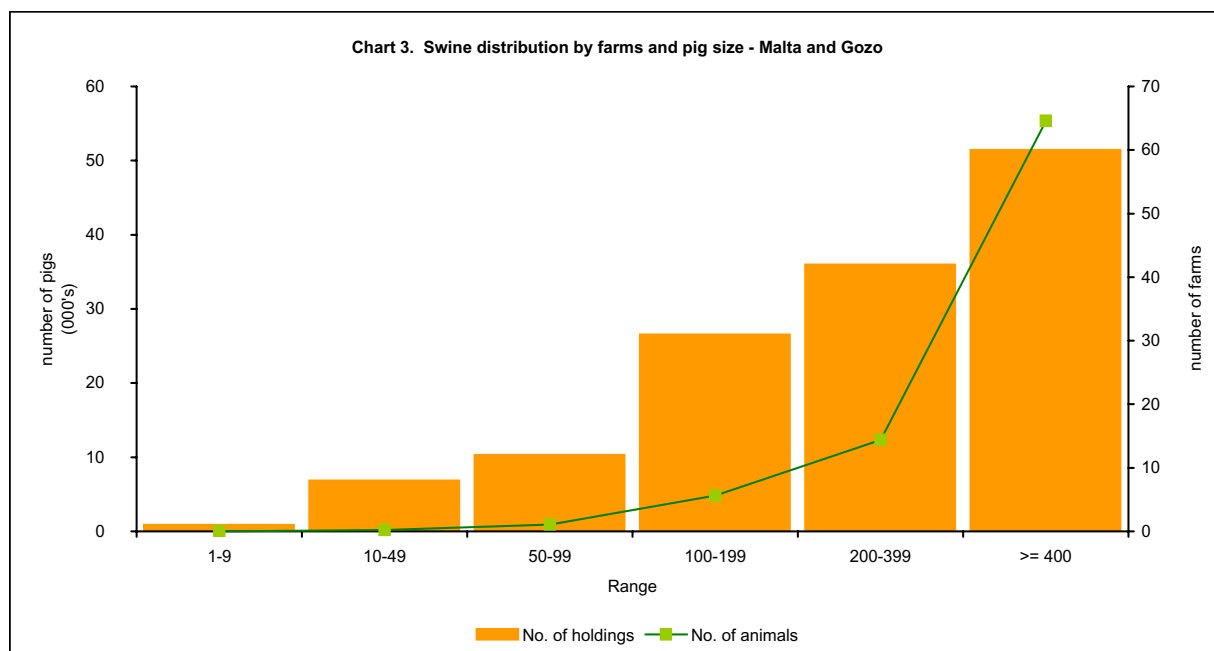
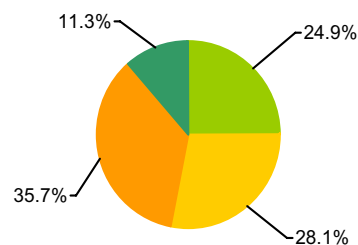


Table 4. Distribution of pig population by administration area: 2002-2006

Year	Piglets (<20 Kgs)			Young pigs (20-<50 Kgs)			Fattening Pigs (>=50 Kgs)			Breeding Stock			Total Pig Population		
	MALTA	Malta	Gozo & Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo & Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo & Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo & Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo & Comino
2002	18,901	17,515	1,386	21,356	20,043	1,313	30,252	28,780	1,472	7,794	7,209	585	78,303	73,547	4,756
2003	18,351	17,190	1,161	21,534	20,345	1,189	24,996	23,012	1,984	8,186	7,475	711	73,067	68,022	5,045
2004	19,881	18,607	1,274	21,807	20,559	1,248	26,660	25,058	1,602	8,505	7,715	790	76,853	71,939	4,914
2005	19,489	18,355	1,134	21,565	20,500	1,065	23,549	22,187	1,362	8,422	7,680	742	73,025	68,722	4,303
2006	18,341	16,842	1,499	20,701	19,520	1,181	26,315	25,027	1,288	8,326	7,662	664	73,683	69,051	4,632
%03/02	-2.9%	-1.9%	-16.2%	0.8%	1.5%	-9.4%	-17.4%	-20.0%	34.8%	5.0%	3.7%	21.5%	-6.7%	-7.5%	6.1%
%04/03	8.3%	8.2%	9.7%	1.3%	1.1%	5.0%	6.7%	8.9%	-19.3%	3.9%	3.2%	11.1%	5.2%	5.8%	-2.6%
%05/04	-2.0%	-1.4%	-11.0%	-1.1%	-0.3%	-14.7%	-11.7%	-11.5%	-15.0%	-1.0%	-0.5%	-6.1%	-5.0%	-4.5%	-12.4%
%06/05	-5.9%	-8.2%	32.2%	-4.0%	-4.8%	10.9%	11.7%	12.8%	-5.4%	-1.1%	-0.2%	-10.5%	0.9%	0.5%	7.6%

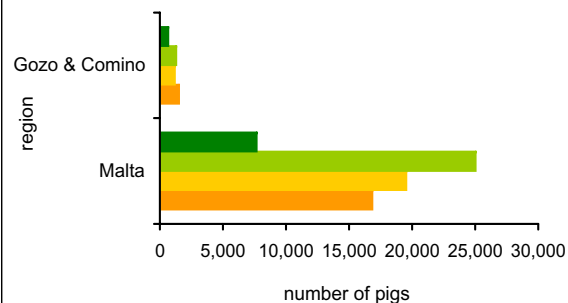
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Chart 4. Percentage distribution of pigs by category



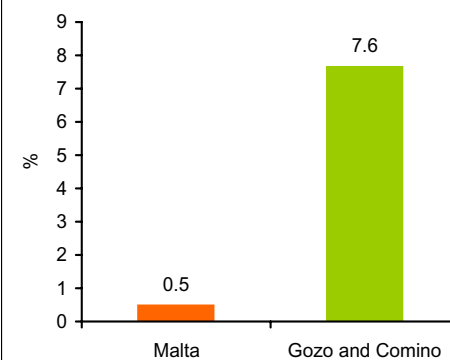
■ Piglets ■ Pigs 20-<50 Kgs ■ Pigs for fattening ■ Breeding pigs

Chart 5. Percentage distribution of pigs by category



■ Piglets ■ Pigs 20-<50 Kgs
■ Pigs for fattening ■ Breeding pigs

Chart 6. Regional annual percentage change of pig stock



Methodological Notes

1. The pig survey is carried out every year and is in accordance to **Council Directive 93/23/EEC** of 1 June 1993 on the statistical surveys to be carried out on pig production.
2. The survey is carried out once a year and census date is 1st December.
3. The small amount of pig breeders does not allow a sample survey to be carried out, hence, a head count on all farms is carried out.
4. In order to obtain livestock numbers, a postal survey is undertaken, and a response rate of 97.5 per cent was achieved. Non respondents are contacted by telephone and every effort is done to contact every farm on the register.
5. The data in this release are final and are not, normally, subject to revision.
6. 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, Għaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.
- Western:** Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.
- Northern:** Għargħur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.
- Gozo and Comino:** Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.