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The cattle stock in 2014 went down by 2.2 per cent to 14,883 heads when compared to 2013.

## Cattle Census: December 2014

According to the data from the Bovine Register, cattle stocks on 1 December 2014 fell by 2.2 per cent, or 337 heads, compared to a year earlier. Bovines aged less than one year increased by 4.3 per cent. In contrast, bovines aged between one and two years decreased by 15.9 per cent and those over two years by 13.6 per cent. Cows, representing 44.4 per cent of the total cattle stock, registered an increase of 2.8 per cent.

Last year, 281 holdings were engaged in cattle rearing, of which 120 were involved in the production of milk. These dairy farms accounted for 13,561 heads, or 91.1 per cent of the total stock.

The majority of cattle farms had between three and 29 heads on the holding (39.1 per cent), amounting to 1,086, or 7.3 per cent of the stock. In contrast, 56 cattle farms are classified as 'large', each with at least 100 heads. Such farms comprised 10,091 heads, or 67.8 per cent of the total stock.

On a regional level, 10,002 heads of cattle were located in Malta and 4,881 in Gozo and Comino. In the Island of Malta, the South Eastern District accounted for the largest number of heads ■

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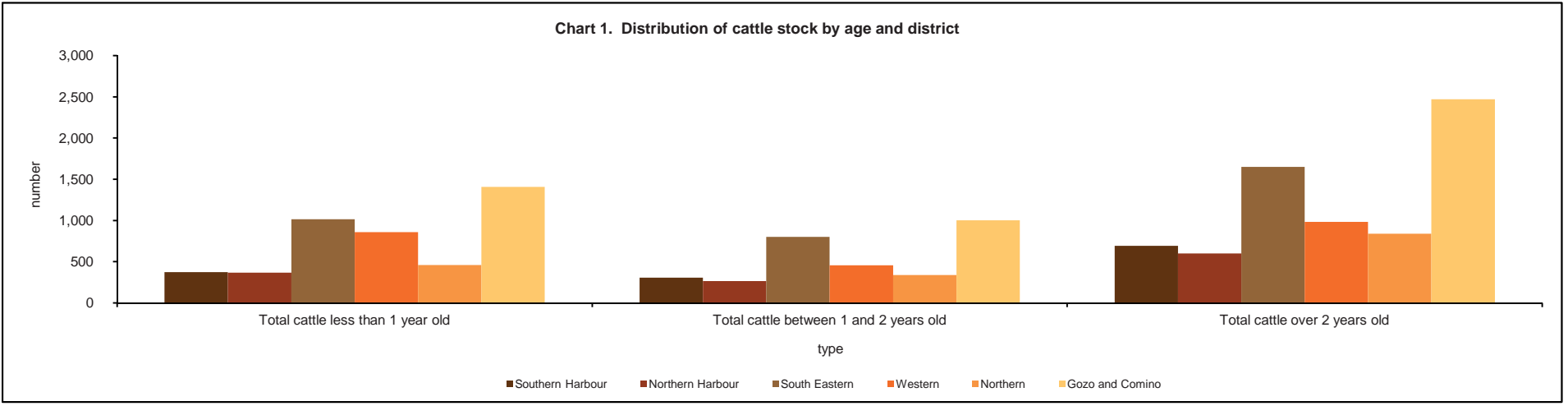
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Table 1. Distribution of cattle stock by age and sex: as at 1 December 2014

Administrative area	Grand total	Cattle less than 1 year old			Cattle between 1 and 2 years old					Cattle over 2 years old					
		Total cattle less than 1 year old	of which:		Total cattle between 1 and 2 years old	of which:				Total cattle over 2 years old	of which:				
			Males	Females		Males	Females not yet mated	Heifers for slaughter	Other heifers		Males	Heifers for slaughter	Other heifers	Dairy cows	Other cows
<b>MALTA</b>	<b>14,883</b>	<b>4,483</b>	<b>2,024</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>3,165</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>7,235</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>6,502</b>	<b>102</b>
Malta	10,002	3,076	1,501	1,575	2,162	736	621	94	711	4,764	100	94	249	4,223	98
Southern Harbour	1,370	373	200	173	305	112	84	13	96	692	31	14	36	600	11
Northern Harbour	1,232	368	162	206	264	70	84	12	98	600	10	11	31	543	5
South Eastern	3,466	1,016	508	508	800	345	196	32	227	1,650	36	35	85	1,441	53
Western	2,298	859	456	403	456	109	153	20	174	983	14	16	52	889	12
Northern	1,636	460	175	285	337	100	104	17	116	839	9	18	45	750	17
<b>Gozo and Comino</b>	<b>4,881</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>2,279</b>	<b>4</b>



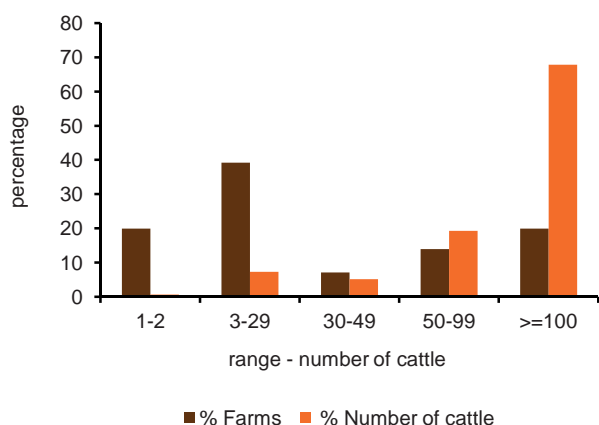
**Table 2. Distribution of cattle farms and heads by herd size: as at 1 December 2014**

Administrative area	Size class of cattle					
	Total	1-2	3-29	30-49	50-99	≥100
<b>MALTA</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>281</b>	56	110	20	39	56
<i>Number of cattle</i>	<b>14,883</b>	87	1,086	759	2,860	10,091
<b>Malta</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>235</b>	52	101	19	28	35
<i>Number of cattle</i>	<b>10,002</b>	80	1,019	711	2,021	6,171
<b>Gozo and Comino</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>46</b>	4	9	1	11	21
<i>Number of cattle</i>	<b>4,881</b>	7	67	48	839	3,920

**Table 3. Distribution of dairy farms and dairy cows by size class: as at 1 December 2014**

Administrative area	Size class of dairy cows					
	Total	≤2	3-29	30-49	50-99	≥100
<b>MALTA</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>120</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>17</b>
<i>Number of dairy cows</i>	<b>6,502</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>1,145</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>2,238</b>
<b>Malta</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>83</b>	5	25	19	23	11
<i>Number of dairy cows</i>	<b>4,223</b>	7	485	732	1,544	1,455
<b>Gozo and Comino</b>						
<i>Farms</i>	<b>37</b>	3	4	10	14	6
<i>Number of dairy cows</i>	<b>2,279</b>	5	91	413	987	783

**Chart 2. Percentage distribution of cattle farms and cattle by size class: MALTA**



**Chart 3. Percentage distribution of dairy farms and dairy cows by size class: MALTA**

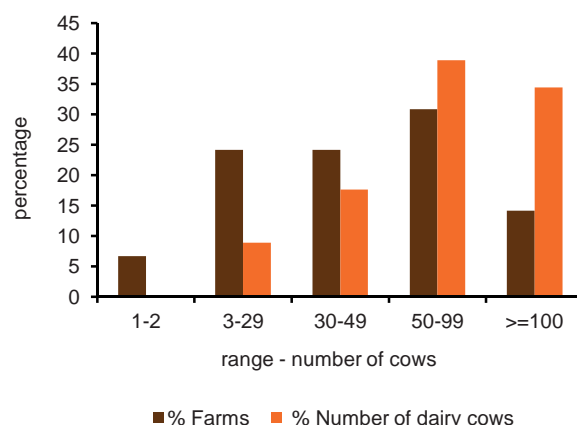


Table 4. Distribution of farms and cattle by type of farm: as at 1 December 2014

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
<b>MALTA</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>14,883</b>	<b>6,502</b>	<b>7,059</b>	<b>1,322</b>
<b>Malta</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>10,002</b>	<b>4,223</b>	<b>4,496</b>	<b>1,283</b>
Southern Harbour	23	11	12	1,370	600	616	154
Northern Harbour	34	11	23	1,232	543	589	100
South Eastern	104	30	74	3,466	1,441	1,334	691
Western	41	15	26	2,298	889	1,195	214
Northern	33	16	17	1,636	750	762	124
<b>Gozo and Comino</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4,881</b>	<b>2,279</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>39</b>

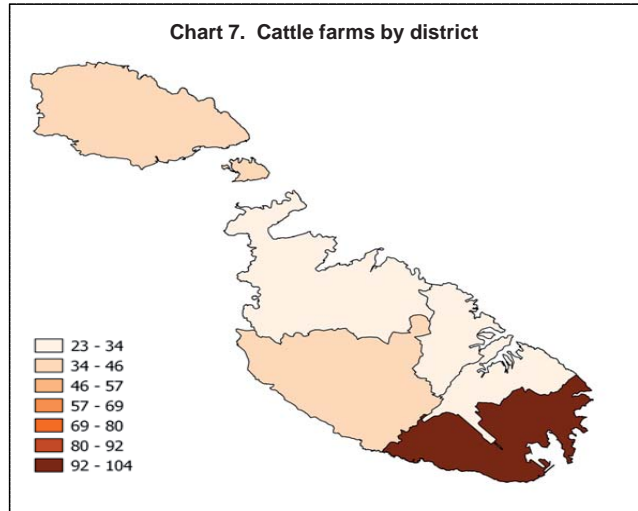
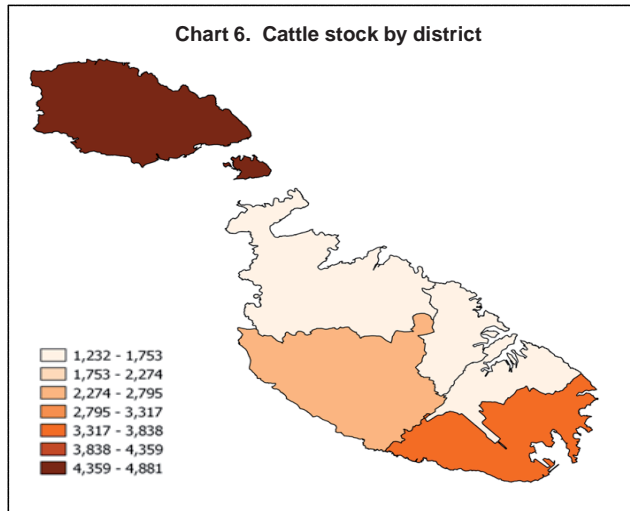
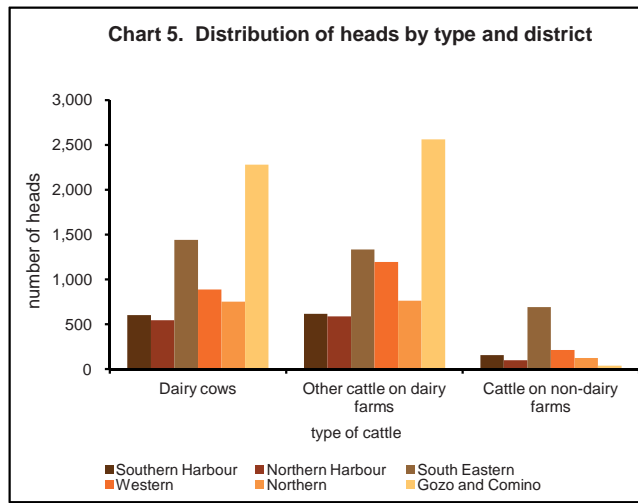
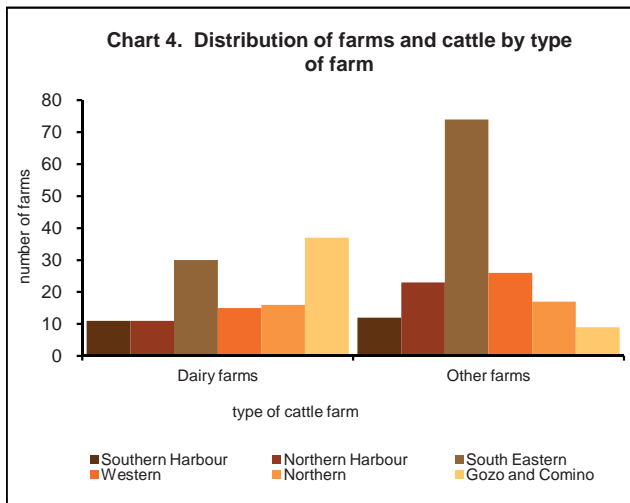


Table 5. Distribution of bovines by age and administrative area: 2011-2014

Year	Bovines less than 1 year old			Bovines between 1 and 2 years old			Bovines over 2 years old (excluding cows)			Cows			Total bovines		
	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
2011	4,473	3,074	1,399	3,494	2,349	1,145	692	492	200	6,415	4,198	2,217	15,074	10,113	4,961
2012	4,841	3,278	1,563	3,668	2,542	1,126	664	471	193	6,420	4,233	2,187	15,593	10,524	5,069
2013	4,300	2,752	1,548	3,763	2,539	1,224	730	530	200	6,427	4,220	2,207	15,220	10,041	5,179
2014	4,483	3,076	1,407	3,165	2,162	1,003	631	443	188	6,604	4,321	2,283	14,883	10,002	4,881
%12/11	8.2%	6.6%	11.7%	5.0%	8.2%	-1.7%	-4.0%	-4.3%	-3.5%	0.1%	0.8%	-1.4%	3.4%	4.1%	2.2%
%13/12	-11.2%	-16.0%	-1.0%	2.6%	-0.1%	8.7%	9.9%	12.5%	3.6%	0.1%	-0.3%	0.9%	-2.4%	-4.6%	2.2%
%14/13	4.3%	11.8%	-9.1%	-15.9%	-14.8%	-18.1%	-13.6%	-16.4%	-6.0%	2.8%	2.4%	3.4%	-2.2%	-0.4%	-5.8%

Chart 8. Percentage distribution of cattle by category

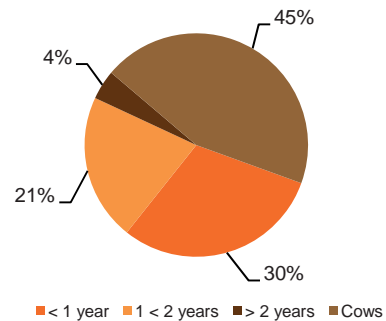


Chart 9. Distribution of cattle by region

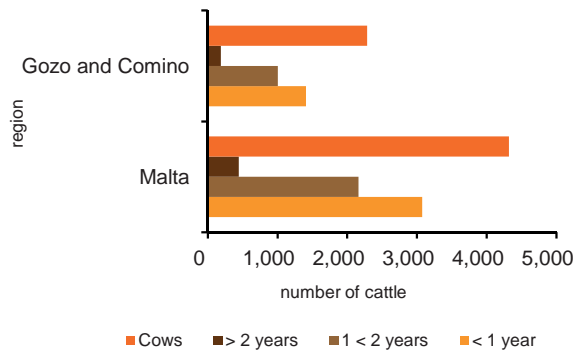


Chart 10. Regional percentage annual change of cattle stock

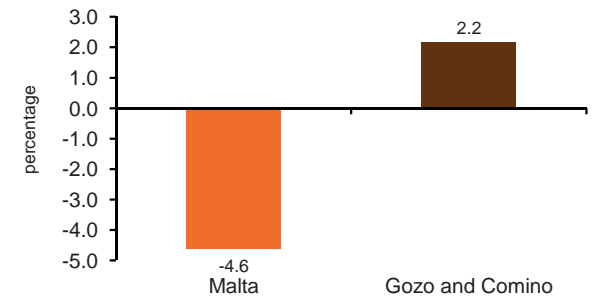


Table 6. Distribution of cattle stock by category and administrative area: 2012-2014

Category	2012			2013			2014		
	Administrative area								
	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino	MALTA	Malta	Gozo and Comino
<b>Cattle total</b>	<b>15,593</b>	<b>10,524</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>15,220</b>	<b>10,041</b>	<b>5,179</b>	<b>14,883</b>	<b>10,002</b>	<b>4,881</b>
<b>Bovines less than 1 year old</b>	<b>4,841</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>1,563</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>2,752</b>	<b>1,548</b>	<b>4,483</b>	<b>3,076</b>	<b>1,407</b>
Calves for slaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other calves	4,841	3,278	1,563	4,300	2,752	1,548	4,483	3,076	1,407
Male	2,262	1,595	667	2,076	1,329	747	2,024	1,501	523
Female	2,579	1,683	896	2,224	1,423	801	2,459	1,575	884
<b>Bovines aged between 1 and 2 years old</b>	<b>3,668</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>3,763</b>	<b>2,539</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>3,165</b>	<b>2,162</b>	<b>1,003</b>
Male	1,276	955	321	1,232	898	334	1,008	736	272
Female	2,392	1,587	805	2,531	1,641	890	2,157	1,426	731
Female for slaughter	146	102	44	146	104	42	134	94	40
Other female	2,246	1,485	761	2,385	1,537	848	2,023	1,332	691
<b>Bovines aged 2 and over</b>	<b>7,084</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>2,380</b>	<b>7,157</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>7,235</b>	<b>4,764</b>	<b>2,471</b>
Male	164	127	37	222	177	45	129	100	29
Female	6,920	4,577	2,343	6,935	4,573	2,362	7,106	4,664	2,442
Heifers	500	344	156	508	353	155	502	343	159
Heifers for slaughter	136	99	37	136	100	36	129	94	35
Other heifers	364	245	119	372	253	119	373	249	124
Cows	6,420	4,233	2,187	6,427	4,220	2,207	6,604	4,321	2,283
Dairy cows	6,320	4,136	2,184	6,333	4,129	2,204	6,502	4,223	2,279
Other cows	100	97	3	94	91	3	102	98	4

## Methodological Notes

1. The Cattle Census is carried out every year in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1165/2008. The reference date is 1 December 2014.
2. The information for this exercise has been compiled on the basis of records from the Bovine Register, which is under the control of the Veterinary Regulatory Directorate at the Civil Abattoir.
3. Certain categories cannot be directly compiled from the Bovine Register and therefore specific co-efficients based on the Census of Agriculture of 2010 are used.
4. The data in this release are final and are not normally subject to revision.
5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=15>

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