

20 February 2015 | 1100 hrs | 035/2015

In the fourth quarter of 2014, meat production and producer value declined by 5.4 and 7.5 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding period in 2013.

## Meat Production: Q4/2014

In the fourth quarter of 2014, meat production went down by 5.4 per cent to 2,867 tonnes as a result of decreases in the production of broiler meat, beef, and pigmeat, of 7.9, 7.5 and 3.5 per cent respectively (Table 2).

Lower beef production resulted from a 7.4 per cent drop in the number of slaughtered cattle. Slaughtered pigs decreased by 1,513 heads, corresponding to a drop in the production of pigmeat (Table 1). The drop in broiler meat resulted from an 8.2 per cent decrease in the average carcass weight, although the number of slaughtered broilers underwent a small increase (Table 4).

### Producer Value

The producer value of animals slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses went down by €0.5 million (-7.5 per cent) to €6.3 million over the comparative period in 2013. This came about because of lower producer value regarding broiler meat, beef and pigmeat, by 15.8, 7.0 and 3.5 per cent respectively (Table 3) ■

Compiled by:

**Unit B3: Agriculture and  
Environment Statistics**

**Directorate B: Business  
Statistics**

Further information on data:

**Mr Ronald TANTI**  
T. +356 2599 7333  
E. ronald.tanti@gov.mt

Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.  
The advance release calendar may be consulted at [www.nso.gov.mt](http://www.nso.gov.mt)

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](mailto:nso@gov.mt)

**Table 1. Livestock (in heads) slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses**

Livestock	October-December				
	2012	2013	2014	change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
Cattle	1,229	1,079	999	-80	-7.4
Pigs	19,473	19,672	18,159	-1,513	-7.7
Broilers	647,654	595,883	598,148	2,265	0.4

**Table 2. Carcass weight by type of meat (Kgs)**

Type of meat	October-December				
	2012	2013	2014	change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
Beef	335,355	296,514	274,236	-22,278	-7.5
Pigmeat	1,619,785	1,662,726	1,605,165	-57,561	-3.5
Broiler meat	1,138,300	1,072,518	987,843	-84,675	-7.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,093,440</b>	<b>3,031,758</b>	<b>2,867,244</b>	<b>-164,514</b>	<b>-5.4</b>

**Table 3. Producer value by type of meat (€)**

Type of meat	October-December				
	2012	2013	2014	change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
Beef	1,048,538	871,434	810,742	-60,692	-7.0
Pigmeat	3,718,537	3,940,661	3,804,241	-136,420	-3.5
Broiler meat	2,139,623	1,988,283	1,673,956	-314,327	-15.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,906,698</b>	<b>6,800,378</b>	<b>6,288,939</b>	<b>-511,439</b>	<b>-7.5</b>

**Table 4. Average carcass weight by type of meat (Kgs)**

Type of meat	October-December				
	2012	2013	2014	change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
Beef	272.87	274.80	274.51	-0.3	-0.1
Pigmeat	83.18	84.52	88.40	3.9	4.6
Broiler meat	1.76	1.80	1.65	-0.1	-8.2

**Table 5. Average carcass price by type of meat (€)**

Type of meat	October-December				
	2012	2013	2014	change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
Beef	3.13	2.94	2.96	0.0	0.6
Pigmeat	2.30	2.37	2.37	0.0	0.0
Broiler meat	1.88	1.85	1.69	-0.2	-8.6

## Methodological Notes

1. Monthly data with regard to cattle and pig slaughtering are provided by the abattoir under the responsibility of the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change. Data on broiler slaughtering are provided directly by private licensed slaughterhouses. Data sets are finalised after actual data are collected from all active licensed slaughterhouses.
2. Slaughterhouses provide data on the number of heads slaughtered, carcass weight, and the average carcass price per kilogram.
3. Data in respect of meat production are presented in terms of carcass weight.
4. **Definitions** (as per Eurostat glossary):
  - **Pig carcass weight**  
The weight of the slaughtered pig's cold body, either whole or divided in half along the mid-line, after being bled, eviscerated and having its tongue, bristles, hooves, genitalia, flare flat, kidneys and diaphragm removed.
  - **Cattle carcass weight**  
The weight of the slaughtered cattle's cold body after being slaughtered, bled, eviscerated and having its genitalia, limbs at the carpus and tarsus, head, tail, kidneys, kidney fats and udder removed.
  - **Broiler carcass weight**  
The weight of the slaughtered broiler's cold body after being bled, plucked and eviscerated. It includes poultry offal (tail, feet, neck, liver, heart and gizzard), with the exception of *foie gras*.
5. The carcass's average price and weight are used for the compilation of monthly output price and volume indices.
6. The data are compiled on a monthly basis but disseminated quarterly.
7. The producer value of meat production excludes any subsidies on the product.
8. Total meat production does not include slaughtered rabbits.
9. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Metadata: [http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources\\_and\\_Methods/Unit\\_B3/Agriculture\\_and\\_Environment](http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Agriculture_and_Environment)

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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](#)

Data Navigation Tree

Database by themes

>Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

>Agriculture (agri)

>Agricultural production (apro)

>Livestock and meat (apro\_mt)

> Meat production (apro\_mt\_p)

Tables by themes

>Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

>Agriculture (t\_agri)

>Agricultural production (t\_apro)

>Livestock and meat (t\_apro\_mt)

For further assistance send a request form:

<http://www.nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Pages/Request-for-Information.aspx>