

In the fourth quarter of 2015, meat production and producer value decreased by 8.2 and 11.9 per cent respectively over the same quarter in 2014.

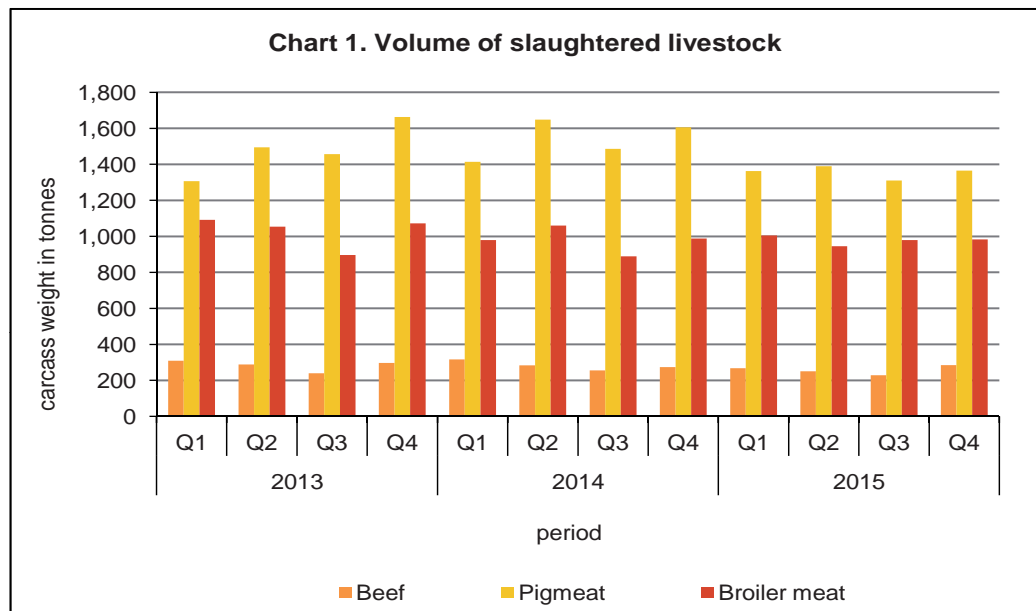
Meat Production: Q4/2015

Meat production in the fourth quarter of 2015 amounted to 2,633 tonnes, down by 8.2 per cent over 2014. This was due to drops of 15.0 and 0.5 per cent in the production of pigmeat and broiler meat respectively. This was partially offset by an increase of 4.0 per cent in the production of beef (Table 2).

Lower pigmeat production resulted from a 14.3 per cent drop in the number of slaughtered pigs. Slaughtered broilers decreased by 37,334 heads, leading to a drop in the production of broiler meat, despite an increase of 6.2 per cent in the average carcass weight. The increase in beef production was due to a 4.5 per cent rise in the number of slaughtered cattle (Tables 1 and 4).

Producer Value

The producer value of animals slaughtered at licensed slaughterhouses amounted to €5.5 million, 11.9 per cent less when compared to the fourth quarter of 2014. This was a consequence of decreases in the producer value recorded for pigmeat, beef and broiler meat by 18.2, 4.1 and 1.4 per cent respectively (Table 3) ■



Compiled by:

**Unit B3: Environment,
Energy, Transport and
Agriculture Statistics**

**Directorate B: Business
Statistics**

Further information on data:

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

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

Livestock	October-December (Q4)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Cattle	1,079	999	1,044	45	4.5
Pigs	19,672	18,159	15,567	-2,592	-14.3
Broilers	595,883	598,148	560,814	-37,334	-6.2

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

Type of meat	October-December (Q4)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Beef	296,514	274,236	285,091	10,855	4.0
Pigmeat	1,662,726	1,605,165	1,364,476	-240,689	-15.0
Broiler meat	1,072,518	987,843	983,165	-4,678	-0.5
Total	3,031,758	2,867,244	2,632,732	-234,512	-8.2

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

Type of meat	October-December (Q4)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Beef	871,434	810,742	777,233	-33,509	-4.1
Pigmeat	3,940,661	3,804,241	3,111,005	-693,236	-18.2
Broiler meat	1,988,283	1,673,956	1,649,735	-24,221	-1.4
Total	6,800,378	6,288,939	5,537,973	-750,966	-11.9

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

Type of meat	October-December (Q4)			Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014
Beef	274.8	274.5	273.1	-0.5
Pigmeat	84.5	88.4	87.7	-0.8
Broiler meat	1.8	1.7	1.8	6.2

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

Type of meat	October-December (Q4)			Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014
Beef	2.9	3.0	2.7	-7.8
Pigmeat	2.4	2.4	2.3	-3.8
Broiler meat	1.9	1.7	1.7	-1.0

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:**
 - **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 skinned, 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 and having its head, feet, neck, heart, liver and gizzard removed.
5. The carcass's average price and weight are used for the compilation of monthly output price and volume indices.
6. The producer value of meat production excludes any subsidies on the product.
7. Total meat production does not include slaughtered rabbits.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Environment_Energy_Transport_and_Agriculture_Statistics/Pages/Meat-Production.aspx

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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&code=sdg12.2.1)

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