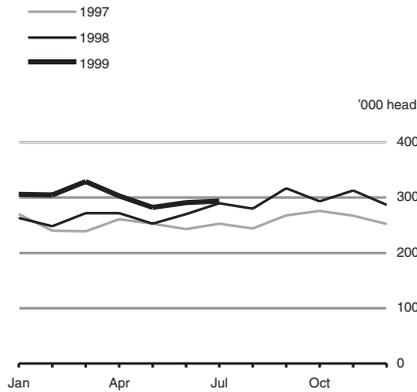


Livestock Slaughterings July 1999

Pig slaughterings



	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
	'000 head		
Jan-Jul 1998	1,079.9	2,247.0	1,866.9
Jan-Jul 1999	1,155.7	2,406.7	2,109.8
% change	+7.0%	+7.1%	+13.0%
Jul 1999 / Jul 1998	+1.6%	-2.4%	+1.4%

Pig slaughterings up 1.4% in July

The number of pigs slaughtered in July 1999 was 1.4% higher than in July 1998. *See graph.*

The number of cattle slaughterings in January-July 1999 was 7.0% higher than the corresponding 1998 figure. Over the same period, pig slaughterings increased by 13.0%, while sheep slaughterings were also up by 7.1%.

A comparison of July 1999 and 1998 figures shows that (*see Table 1*):

- ◆ Sheep slaughterings decreased by 2.4%.
- ◆ Cattle slaughterings increased by 1.6%.

EU pig slaughtering figures for the periods January-March 1998 and 1999 show that with the exception of the UK and Greece, that the number of pig slaughterings increased throughout the EU, with increases for Ireland at 20.1%, Spain at 13.7% and Germany at 12.3%. *See Page 4.*

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Table 1 Livestock Slaughterings

Category	Year	Unit	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cattle	1997	'000	170.7	153.9	160.8	164.7	143.9	105.5	126.1	130.6	174.0	178.8	176.3	114.9	1,800.2
	1998		181.9	163.5	183.6	178.1	119.0	111.9	141.9	143.5	151.3	169.8	206.5	155.0	1,906.0
	1999		*186.5	*176.1	*194.3	*162.4	150.1	*142.2	144.1						
Sheep	1997	'000	205.9	169.5	201.8	315.1	394.0	386.1	436.1	370.2	399.3	345.7	260.7	281.2	3,765.6
	1998		237.1	182.6	254.2	310.9	391.5	413.1	457.6	407.6	362.0	347.6	372.1	330.3	4,066.6
	1999		*245.3	*214.4	*277.5	*335.9	410.4	*476.4	446.8						
Pigs	1997	'000	270.3	240.1	238.8	260.9	252.7	242.9	252.9	243.5	268.4	275.9	266.9	252.1	3,065.4
	1998		262.8	248.3	271.5	271.7	252.6	269.9	290.1	279.6	317.2	293.1	313.0	286.9	3,356.7
	1999		*306.4	*304.6	*329.1	*302.5	*282.2	*290.7	294.3						
Cattle	1997	'000	56.1	47.8	49.2	51.3	45.1	31.9	39.3	41.9	56.3	57.6	55.9	35.2	567.6
	1998	tonnes ¹	59.0	51.4	57.6	55.0	35.3	33.2	42.9	44.1	46.4	52.5	65.2	47.1	589.7
	1999		57.6	*53.4	57.0	48.1	45.0	42.5	43.5						
Sheep	1997	'000	4.5	3.7	4.3	6.6	8.1	8.0	9.0	7.7	8.3	7.2	5.6	6.0	79.0
	1998	tonnes ¹	5.1	3.9	5.3	6.4	8.0	8.4	9.2	8.3	7.4	7.2	7.6	6.8	83.6
	1999		5.1	4.5	5.8	6.8	8.3	9.6	9.0						
Pigs	1997	'000	19.7	17.3	17.2	18.7	18.3	17.1	18.0	17.3	19.2	20.1	19.1	17.9	219.9
	1998	tonnes ¹	18.9	17.7	19.4	19.3	17.9	18.9	20.3	19.7	22.5	21.3	22.8	22.5	241.2
	1999		*22.3	*21.8	23.7	*21.1	20.1	20.8	21.1						

¹ Carcass weight

* Revised

Background Notes

- Introduction** This release gives details on the number and carcass weight of cattle, sheep and pig slaughtering. These figures include slaughtering at both meat export and Local Authority premises. Estimates for on-farm kill of sheep and pigs have also been incorporated.
- Export licensed factories** Information on the number of slaughtering in meat export premises for cattle and sheep are received from the Department of Agriculture and Food on a monthly basis. Average carcass weights of cattle are taken from the Department's Beef Carcass Classification Scheme. Average weights of sheep are based on information obtained directly from the export factories by the CSO.
- Numbers and weights of pigs slaughtered in export-licensed factories are based on a monthly CSO survey of all such premises.
- Local Authorities** The CSO conducts a monthly survey of all Local Authorities in the State. All slaughtering in premises over which inspection controls are exercised are included.
- The CSO estimates the carcass weight of cattle and sheep slaughtered under Local Authority control. These estimates are reviewed on a regular basis with butchers and abattoirs.
- Calves** Calves are included with cattle.
- Carcass weight** For cattle, the carcass weight is defined as the weight of the slaughtered animal's cold body after being skinned, bled and eviscerated and after removal of external genitalia, the limb at the carpus and tarsus, head, tail, kidneys and kidney fats and the udder.
- For sheep, the carcass weight is defined as the weight of the slaughtered animal's cold body after being skinned, bled and eviscerated and after removal of the head, feet, tail and genital organs including the udder. Kidneys and kidney fats are included in the carcass.
- For pigs, the carcass weight is defined as the weight of the slaughtered animal's cold body either whole or divided in half along the mid-line, after being bled and eviscerated and after the removal of the tongue, bristles, hooves, genitalia, flare fat, kidneys and diaphragm.
- References** Comparable livestock slaughtering results from EU member states are contained in the European Statistical Office (Eurostat) publication *Monthly Statistics of Meat*.

Pig Slaughterings

'000 head

Country	Jan-Mar 1998	Jan-Mar 1999	% change
European Union	49,483	53,428	8.0%
Austria	1,340	1,427	6.5%
Belgium	2,771	2,982	7.6%
Denmark	5,339	5,552	4.0%
Finland	512	546	6.6%
France	6,520	6,967	6.9%
Germany	9,916	11,139	12.3%
Greece	539	537	-0.4%
Ireland	783	940	20.1%
Italy	3,368	3,494	3.7%
Luxembourg	31	38	22.6%
Netherlands	4,451	4,866	9.3%
Portugal	1,119	1,207	7.9%
Spain	7,817	8,891	13.7%
Sweden	934	934 ¹	0.0%
United Kingdom	4,043	3,908	-3.3%

¹ CSO estimate

Source: New Cronos database, Eurostat