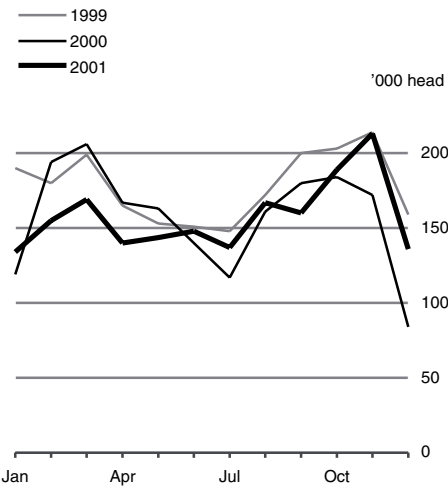




## Livestock Slaughtering

### December 2001

#### Cattle slaughtering



	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
	'000 head		
<b>Dec 2000</b>	83.5	300.4	213.9
<b>Dec 2001</b>	136.4	219.5	258.2
<b>% change</b>	+63.4%	-26.9%	+20.7%
<b>Jan-Dec 2001/2000</b>	+0.4%	-5.2%	+4.1%

#### Cattle slaughtering up 0.4% in year.

A total of 1,893,300 cattle were slaughtered in 2001, an increase of 0.4% on the corresponding 2000 figure. Over the same period, pig slaughtering increased by 4.1% and sheep slaughtering decreased by 5.2%. *See Table 1.*

The cattle figure for January-December 2001 includes 278,014 head slaughtered under the terms of the Purchase for Destruction Scheme. This scheme ran from 1 January to 30 June 2001. *See Background Notes.*

A comparison of December 2001 and 2000 figures shows that (*see Table 1*):

- Cattle slaughtering increased by 63.4%.
- Sheep slaughtering decreased by 26.9%.
- Pig slaughtering increased by 20.7%.

EU cattle slaughtering figures for the periods January to September 2000 and 2001 show that overall numbers decreased by 8.1%. France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom recorded decreases of 5.2%, 5.9%, 8.2% and 11.3% respectively. *See Page 4.*

*For more information contact Keith McSweeney at 021-453 5311 or Alan Finlay at 021-453 5334.*

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road  
Dublin 6  
Ireland

Skehard Road  
Cork  
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414

Tel: +353-1 498 4000  
Fax: +353-1 498 4229

Tel: +353-21 453 5000  
Fax: +353-21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: <http://www.cso.ie>

Director General: Donal Garvey

Enquiries:

Statistics  
Sales

Agriculture Section, ext 5338  
agri@cso.ie

Information Section, ext 5032  
information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office  
The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

**Table 1 Livestock Slaughterings**

Category	Year	Unit	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cattle	1999	'000	189.8	179.9	198.5	165.4	153.2	151.1	147.8	171.8	199.9	203.1	213.7	158.7	<b>2,132.9</b>
	2000		119.0	193.5	205.7	166.8	163.3	139.6	117.3	160.8	180.0	184.3	171.9	83.5	<b>1,885.7</b>
	2001		134.2	154.7	169.4	139.9	144.0	148.3	137.2	167.0	159.6	189.3	*213.3	136.4	<b>1,893.3</b>
Sheep	1999	'000	264.8	224.9	289.9	347.5	407.6	505.2	457.6	436.6	420.9	422.1	368.7	377.6	<b>4,523.4</b>
	2000		258.9	214.8	203.5	252.6	466.8	487.1	444.6	426.1	345.2	336.0	380.6	300.4	<b>4,116.6</b>
	2001		258.6	238.5	157.1	273.8	*411.2	*346.7	*399.5	*456.3	388.0	*408.3	*346.9	219.5	<b>3,904.4</b>
Pigs	1999	'000	296.1	295.8	319.2	292.8	272.8	280.8	291.7	287.9	288.7	283.7	320.7	257.4	<b>3,487.6</b>
	2000		292.6	276.8	272.8	243.1	277.5	247.3	252.2	281.6	251.2	254.4	281.0	213.9	<b>3,144.4</b>
	2001		254.1	249.6	296.9	260.0	259.7	290.5	263.8	274.6	301.6	290.8	*274.7	258.2	<b>3,274.5</b>
Cattle	1999	'000	58.5	54.5	58.4	49.0	45.8	45.2	44.5	52.3	61.0	61.6	64.8	48.2	<b>643.8</b>
	2000	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	35.2	59.0	61.7	50.3	49.3	42.2	35.6	50.1	56.8	57.6	53.5	25.6	<b>576.9</b>
	2001		41.9	47.2	50.8	42.3	43.7	46.6	42.4	51.1	49.5	57.9	*65.1	40.9	<b>579.4</b>
Sheep	1999	'000	5.3	4.5	5.8	7.0	8.1	9.9	9.0	8.8	8.5	8.5	7.4	7.5	<b>90.3</b>
	2000	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	5.2	4.4	4.2	5.1	9.3	9.6	8.9	8.6	7.0	6.9	7.7	6.0	<b>82.9</b>
	2001		5.2	4.8	3.1	5.5	8.2	*6.8	7.9	9.1	7.8	8.2	6.9	4.4	<b>77.9</b>
Pigs	1999	'000	21.6	21.2	23.0	20.5	19.1	20.1	21.0	20.7	20.6	20.5	23.2	18.2	<b>249.7</b>
	2000	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	21.2	20.1	19.5	17.5	20.0	17.7	17.9	20.2	18.1	18.4	20.5	15.3	<b>226.4</b>
	2001		18.6	18.4	21.7	18.9	18.9	21.0	19.0	19.9	22.1	21.3	*19.9	18.6	<b>238.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Carcass weight

\* Revised

## Background Notes

- Introduction** This release gives details on the number and carcass weight of cattle, sheep and pig slaughterings. These figures include slaughterings 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 slaughterings in meat export premises for cattle and sheep are received from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development 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 slaughterings 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.
- Purchase for Destruction Scheme** The Purchase for Destruction Scheme was a scheme introduced by the European Commission to counter the build up in cattle stocks arising from market uncertainty generated by BSE related issues on continental Europe.
- Numbers slaughtered under the Purchase for Destruction Scheme: January 2001 37,388; February 2001 74,722; March 2001 57,127; April 2001 41,808; May 2001 33,218; June 2001 33,751.
- References** Comparable livestock slaughtering results from EU member states are contained in the European Statistical Office (Eurostat) publication *Monthly Statistics of Meat*.

**Cattle Slaughtering**

'000 head

---

Country	Jan-Sep 2000	Jan-Sep 2001	% change
<b>European Union</b>	<b>20,463</b>	<b>18,810</b>	<b>-8.1%</b>
Austria	497	520	4.6%
Belgium	612	612	0.0%
Denmark	462	449	-2.8%
Finland	271	256	-5.5%
France	4,249	4,029	-5.2%
Germany	3,300	3,106	-5.9%
Greece	219	206	-5.9%
Ireland	1,446	1,354	-6.4%
Italy	3,332	3,060	-8.2%
Luxembourg	19	26	36.8%
Netherlands	1,706	1,167	-31.6%
Portugal	321	281	-12.5%
Spain	1,859	1,797	-3.3%
Sweden	384	363	-5.5%
United Kingdom	1,786	1,584	-11.3%

---

Source: New Cronos database, Eurostat