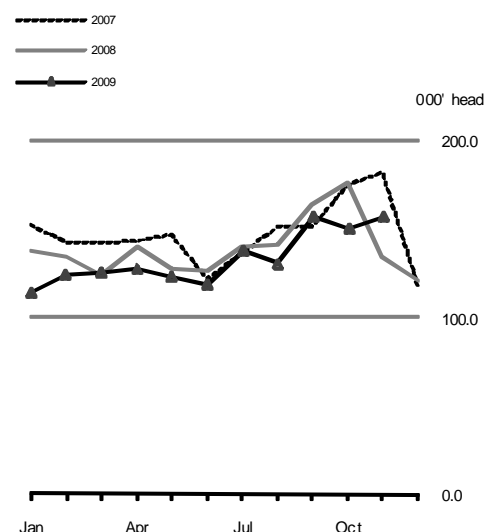




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Livestock Slaughterings November 2009

Cattle Slaughterings



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Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414(ROI)
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000 Tel: +353 21 453 5000
Fax: +353 1 498 4229 Fax: +353 21 453 5555

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

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to
Business Sectors: Agriculture and Fishing

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

Statistics	Agriculture Section, ext 5333 agri@cso.ie
Sales	Information Section, ext 5021 information@cso.ie

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	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
	'000 head		
November 2008	134.4	238.1	211.9
November 2009	157.1	236.6	209.2
% change	16.9%	-0.6%	-1.3%
Jan-Nov 2009/2008	-5.0%	-5.3%	-7.7%

Cattle slaughterings up 16.9% in November

The number of cattle slaughtered in November 2009 was 16.9% higher than in November 2008. See Table 1 and graph.

A comparison of November 2009 and 2008 figures also shows that

- ◆ Sheep slaughterings decreased by 0.6%.
- ◆ Pig slaughterings decreased by 1.3%.

The number of cattle slaughterings in January-November 2009 was 5.0% lower than the corresponding 2008 figure. Over the same period, there was a decrease of 5.3% in sheep slaughterings and a decrease of 7.7% in pig slaughterings.

Comparing the periods January to September 2008 and 2009, Germany, France and the United Kingdom recorded decreases in cattle slaughterings of 3.3%, 2.4% and 1.1% respectively. During the same period, Italy recorded an increase of 0.1%. See page 4.

For more information contact Morgan O'Donnell at 021-453 5333 or Jane O'Brien at 021-453 5536

Table 1 Livestock Slaughtering

Category	Year	Unit	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cattle	2007	'000	153.5	143.3	143.5	143.8	147.0	122.8	137.1	152.0	152.1	175.4	182.6	118.1	1,771.2
	2008	head	137.2	134.5	123.7	139.7	126.8	126.3	140.4	140.6	164.2	176.6	134.4	120.5	1,664.9
	2009		114.1	124.5	125.8	127.3	123.5	119.0	138.1	130.6	157.2*	150.5	157.1		
Sheep	2007	'000	217.2	168.6	196.9	230.5	294.5	273.6	301.2	392.1	342.1	362.7	252.5	231.8	3,263.7
	2008	head	212.4	175.7	189.5	211.2	244.6	248.8	273.2	269.7	302.0	276.1	238.1	277.8	2,919.1
	2009		210.7	172.1	172.9	195.2	202.9	241.7	259.0	282.6	273.4*	254.9*	236.6		
Pigs	2007	'000	235.5	222.4	226.6	210.6	230.7	205.4	216.4	219.7	209.9	221.0	232.4	184.3	2,614.9
	2008	head	233.4	226.0	207.6	226.8	215.1	206.0	224.4	200.6	219.6	222.5	211.9	183.8	2,577.7
	2009		213.6	188.4	208.9	203.5	184.0	196.8	208.2	191.8	204.5	200.5*	209.2		
Cattle	2007	'000	50.1	46.9	46.6	47.2	48.8	40.7	45.0	49.8	50.5	57.5	59.6	38.1	580.8
	2008	tonnes ¹	45.3	44.0	40.3	45.2	41.3	40.9	45.0	45.4	53.1	56.4	42.3	38.1	537.3
	2009		36.6	40.3	40.6	41.1	39.7	38.3	44.4	41.5	50.4	48.3	50.4		
Sheep	2007	'000	4.4	3.4	4.0	4.7	5.9	5.5	6.1	7.9	6.9	7.3	5.1	4.6	65.8
	2008	tonnes ¹	4.3	3.5	3.8	4.3	4.9	5.0	5.5	5.4	6.1	5.6	4.8	5.5	58.7
	2009		4.2	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.9	5.2	5.7	5.5	5.1*	4.7		
Pigs	2007	'000	18.7	17.9	18.2	16.8	18.3	16.1	16.8	16.9	16.2	17.1	18.2	14.1	205.3
	2008	tonnes ¹	19.0	18.1	16.3	17.8	16.7	16.0	17.4	15.6	17.0	17.3	16.8	14.4	202.4
	2009		17.4	15.3	16.8	16.4	14.9	15.8	16.7	15.7	16.1*	16.5*	17.2		

¹ Carcass weight

* Revised

Background Notes

- Introduction** This release gives the number and carcass weight of cattle, sheep and pig slaughterings. The figures include slaughterings at both licensed meat export and Local Authority licensed premises. Estimates for the on-farm kill of sheep and pigs have also been incorporated. The collection of monthly slaughtering data for cattle, sheep and pigs is governed by Regulation (EC) No. 1165/2008.
- Export** The number of slaughterings in meat export premises for cattle, sheep and pigs is received from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on a monthly basis. Average carcass weights of cattle are taken from the Department's Beef Carcass Classification Scheme. Average weights of pigs are based on information obtained directly from the export factories by the CSO. Average weights of sheep are derived through consultations with industry experts.
- 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, sheep and pigs slaughtered in premises under Local Authority control. These estimates are reviewed on a regular basis with butchers and abattoirs.
- Calves** Calf slaughterings 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.

Cattle Slaughterings

'000 head

Country	Jan-Sep 2008	Jan-Sep 2009	% change*
European Union	16,389	:	:
Austria	502	:	:
Belgium	599	582	-2.9
Bulgaria	59	16	-72.2
Cyprus	14	19	38.0
Czech Republic	203	198	-2.2
Denmark	364	306	-15.8
Estonia	49	30	-39.2
Finland	206	197	-4.3
France	3,764	3,673	-2.4
Germany	2,805	2,714	-3.3
Greece	193	:	:
Hungary	96	88	-7.9
Ireland	1,233	1,160	-6.0
Italy	2,814	2,817	0.1
Latvia	86	66	-23.9
Lithuania	163	137	-15.6
Luxembourg	20	19	-6.9
Malta	4	4	9.6
Netherlands	1,399	1,484	6.1
Romania	777	84	-89.2
Poland	1,304	1,181	-9.4
Portugal	324	334	3.2
Slovak Republic	59	46	-22.3
Slovenia	92	86	-6.7
Spain	1,872	1,676	-10.5
Sweden	337	368	9.1
United Kingdom	1,935	1,913	-1.1

Source: Eurostat website <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> and national data

:Not Available

*Note: A new EU regulation on livestock and meat statistics (Regulation EC No.1165/2008), confining the monthly collection of slaughterings to licensed premises only, came into effect on January 1st 2009. Therefore, for those countries where domestic/on-farm slaughterings constitute a relatively large proportion of total slaughterings, the data for 2008 and 2009 slaughterings may not be directly comparable.