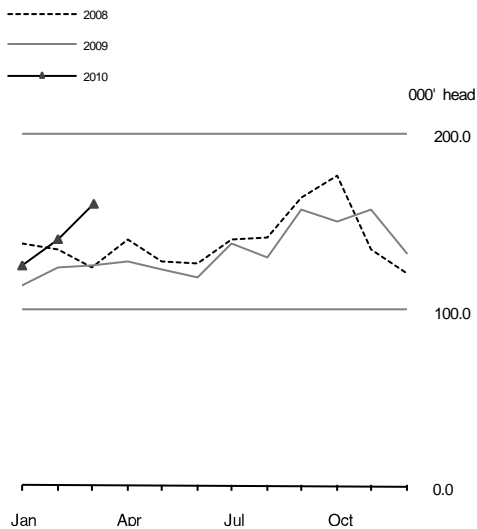




23 April 2010

Livestock Slaughtering March 2010

Cattle Slaughtering



	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
	'000 head		
March 2009	125.8	172.9	208.9
March 2010	160.5	175.1	230.5
% change	27.6%	1.3%	10.3%
Jan-Mar 2010/2009	17.3%	-12.8%	3.7%

Cattle slaughtering up 27.6% in March

The number of cattle slaughtered in March 2010 was 27.6% higher than in March 2009. *See Table 1 and graph.*

A comparison of March 2010 and 2009 figures also shows that

- ◆ Sheep slaughtering increased by 1.3%.
- ◆ Pig slaughtering increased by 10.3%.

The number of cattle slaughtering in January-March 2010 was 17.3% higher than the corresponding 2009 figure. Over the same period there was a decrease of 12.8% in sheep slaughtering and an increase of 3.7% in pig slaughtering.

Comparing January 2009 to January 2010, Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Italy recorded decreases in cattle slaughtering of 7.3%, 3.9%, 1.9% and 0.1% respectively. *See page 4.*

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Table 1 Livestock Slaughtering

Category	Year	Unit	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cattle	2008	'000	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	head	114.1	124.5	125.8	127.5	123.3	119.0	138.1	130.6	157.3	150.6	157.6	132.0	1,600.3
	2010		126.0*	140.8*	160.5										
Sheep	2008	'000	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	head	210.7	172.1	172.9	195.2	202.9	241.7	259.0	282.6	274.1	254.1*	236.7*	228.0*	2,729.9
	2010		161.6*	147.6*	175.1										
Pigs	2008	'000	233.4	226.0	207.6	226.8	215.1	206.0	224.4	200.6	219.6	222.5	211.9	183.8	2,577.6
	2009	head	213.6	188.4	208.9	203.5	184.0	196.8	208.2	191.8	204.5	200.6	210.9	209.5	2,420.8
	2010		200.9	202.4*	230.5										
Cattle	2008	'000	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	tonnes ¹	36.6	40.3	40.6	41.2	39.6	38.3	44.4	41.5	50.4	48.3	50.6	42.4	514.2
	2010		41.1	46.1*	52.3										
Sheep	2008	'000	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	tonnes ¹	4.2	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.9	5.2	5.7	5.6	5.1	4.7	4.5	55.1
	2010		3.2	2.9*	3.5										
Pigs	2008	'000	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	tonnes ¹	17.4	15.3	16.8	16.4	14.9	15.8	16.7	15.4	16.6	16.4	17.2	17.0	196.0
	2010		16.8	16.9	19.3										

¹Carcass weight

* Revised

Background Notes

- Introduction** This release gives the number and carcass weight of cattle, sheep and pig slaughtering. The figures include slaughtering 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 slaughtering 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 slaughtering 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 slaughtering 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-09	Jan-10	% change
European Union	2,261	:	:
Austria	56	:	:
Belgium	68	63	-6.7
Bulgaria	2	2	-16.3
Cyprus	3	:	:
Czech Republic	24	21	-13.9
Denmark	40	40	-1.5
Estonia	3	3	-20.4
Finland	23	20	-12.7
France	415	399	-3.9
Germany	318	295	-7.3
Greece	20	19	-3.0
Hungary	11	8	-20.9
Ireland	114	126	10.4
Italy	341	341	-0.1
Latvia	8	6	-20.9
Lithuania	13	11	-14.0
Luxembourg	2	2	-8.4
Malta	0	1	50.9
Netherlands	160	144	-10.3
Romania	8	7	-13.0
Poland	114	87	-23.6
Portugal	35	32	-9.1
Slovak Republic	5	5	-15.1
Slovenia	10	9	-6.9
Spain	183	:	:
Sweden	44	40	-8.7
United Kingdom	242	237	-1.9

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

:not available