



**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	<b>1,664.9</b>
	2009	head	114.1	124.5	125.8	127.5	123.3	119.0	138.1	130.6	157.3	150.6	157.5*	132.2*	<b>1,600.5</b>
	2010		125.9												
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	<b>2,919.1</b>
	2009	head	210.7	172.1	172.9	195.2	202.9	241.7	259.0	282.6	274.1	254.2	236.8*	228.4*	<b>2,730.5</b>
	2010		165.3												
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	<b>2,577.6</b>
	2009	head	213.6	188.4	208.9	203.5	184.0	196.8	208.2	191.8	204.5	200.6	210.9*	209.6*	<b>2,420.8</b>
	2010		201.0												
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	<b>537.3</b>
	2009	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	36.6	40.3	40.6	41.2	39.6	38.3	44.4	41.5	50.4	48.3	50.5	42.5*	<b>514.3</b>
	2010		41.1												
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	<b>58.7</b>
	2009	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	4.2	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.9	5.2	5.7	5.6	5.1	4.7	4.5*	<b>55.0</b>
	2010		3.3												
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	<b>202.4</b>
	2009	tonnes <sup>1</sup>	17.4	15.3	16.8	16.4	14.9	15.8	16.7	15.4	16.6	16.4	17.2	17.0	<b>196.0</b>
	2010		16.4												

<sup>1</sup> 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-Nov 2008	Jan-Nov 2009	% change*
<b>European Union</b>	<b>26,325</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>:</b>
Austria	626	632	1.0
Belgium	736	718	-2.5
Bulgaria	92	21	-77.5
Cyprus	17	:	:
Czech Republic	250	245	-2.0
Denmark	456	416	-8.9
Estonia	62	38	-38.6
Finland	259	245	-5.4
France	4,628	4,512	-2.5
Germany	3,504	3,420	-2.4
Greece	236	237	0.4
Hungary	115	105	-9.0
Ireland	1,544	1,468	-4.9
Italy	3,481	3,490	0.3
Latvia	107	83	-22.1
Lithuania	206	171	-17.0
Luxembourg	26	23	-11.2
Malta	5	6	11.3
Netherlands	1,735	1,837	5.9
Romania	960	107	-88.8
Poland	1,571	1,455	-7.4
Portugal	404	407	0.6
Slovak Republic	72	55	-23.1
Slovenia	117	112	-4.6
Spain	2,271	2,027	-10.7
Sweden	412	458	11.1
United Kingdom	2,433	2,420	-0.5

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.