

MARKET NEWS for pig meat



Market analysis

23 December 2024 Week 52

MARKET SITUATION

No information is available because of the Christmas holiday.

Slaughtering in Denmark

Weekly slaughtering figures for pigs and sows as reported to the Danish Classification Control Service. The figures exclude culled pigs.

	Week 46	Week 47	Week 48	Week 49	Weeks 1-49 2024:23
Carcase weight >110 kg	12,312	12,999	12,367	12,208	+28.4%
Carcase weight <110 kg	289,265	306,273	304,868	315,437	-2.1%
Total	301,577	319,272	317,235	327,645	-1.0%



USA

Futures

Chicago (\$ per 100 lbs carcase weight)	Lean Hog			Pork Cutout		
	20/12	13/12	Change	20/12	13/12	Change
2025						
Feb	85.93	85.60	0.33	92.48	93.65	-1.17
Apr	90.53	89.75	0.78	93.58	94.75	-1.17
May	94.35	93.13	1.22	100.18	101.35	-1.17
Jun	102.10	100.93	1.17	107.05	106.70	0.35
Jul	101.93	101.05	0.88	107.20	106.03	1.17
Aug	100.48	99.83	0.65	107.53	106.35	1.18
Oct	82.53	82.43	0.10	93.78	92.60	1.18
Dec	73.58	73.60	-0.02	90.13	88.95	1.18
2026						
Feb	76.70	76.65	0.05	89.28	88.10	1.18
Apr	79.88	79.70	0.18	89.95	88.78	1.17
May	83.25			96.55		
Jun	91.05			101.90		

Conversion factors:
 1 lb = 0.4536 kg
 1 \$ = DKK
 7.1813



African Swine Fever

According to the EU Commission's reporting system for the outbreak of disease, outbreaks of ASF have been reported for the following countries, plus Serbia, Ukraine, Moldova, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Albania, Montenegro, and North Macedonia

Countries	Period 12 Dec - 18 Dec		Year to date 1 Jan - 18 Dec		2023		2022	
	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar
Estonia		7		33	2	53		57
Latvia		66	7	923	8	730	6	913
Lithuania		8	8	529	3	439	16	302
Poland		54	44	2,056	30	2,744	14	2,152
Italy			31	1,174	17	1,047	4	277
Ukraine	1		68	13	37	9	7	2
Czech Republic				27		56		1
Romania	7	16	212	173	740	292	329	465
Hungary		14		420		407		550
Bulgaria		41	1	624	3	322	2	387
Slovakia		7	1	153		546	5	550
Serbia	4	1	301	93	991	213	107	146
Moldova			13	6	19	6	14	3
Montenegro				1				
Bosnia-Herzegovina			33	38	1,508	22		
Croatia			6	39	1,124	11		
North Macedonia			3	42	15	41	30	9
Kosovo					9	4		
Belgium								
Germany		53	10	861	1	899	3	1,628
Sweden				8		60		
Greece		1	5	19	6	2		
Albania				3				
Total	12	268	743	7,235	4,513	7,903	537	7,442

GERMANY

Status: six months after African Swine Fever in Hessen

After six months of African Swine Fever in Hessen, the state's agriculture minister, Ingmar Jung, recently summarised the current status.

Since mid-June, when the disease was first confirmed in the state, 1,975 dead wild boar have been found and tested, of which 578 tested positive.

Mobile and permanent fencing was erected when the first incident occurred to prevent any further spread.

The minister is aware that controlling the disease is a long-term project and that new cases can arise outside the contained areas. But so far, efforts to control the disease have been successful and restrictions have been lifted across a large area.

All in all, the minister believes that efforts to control the virus have worked well and should serve as a model for other German states.

 **GERMANY**
Pig census from November 2024 shows stable German pig population

Last week, the Germany authorities published the preliminary figures for the German pig population from November 2024 compared to one year ago, which show a stable development.

The preliminary figures from 3 November 2024 put the total population at 21,184 million head, 0.2 per cent lower compared to one year ago. The corresponding census one year ago put the total population as 0.7 per cent lower than the previous year, whereas in 2022 and 2021, there were declines in the total population of 10.1 and 8.9 per cent respectively.

The breeding population at +0.3 per cent is largely unchanged from last year. The population of breeding sows and pregnant sows is 0.3 per cent lower than one year ago.

The number of pig farms continues to fall, albeit at a slower rate than shown in the previous censuses. Finisher farms fell from 3.4 per cent from 13,640 to 13,180, while sow farms fell from 4.2 per cent from 5,230 to the current 5,010.

1'000 head	November census		
	2024	2023	% change
Piglets	6,280.4	6,410.7	-2.0
Pigs under 50 kg	3,748.6	3,831.6	-2.2
Finishers over 50 kg	9,736.4	9,566.4	1.8
Breeding pigs	1,418.9	1,414.9	0.3
- Breeding sows	1,395.8	1,399.9	-0.3
- - Pregnant sows	1,001.8	1,004.7	-0.3
- - - Pregnant gilts	162.6	164.5	-1.2
- - - Other pregnant sows	839.2	840.2	-0.1
- - Dry sows	394.0	395.3	-0.3
- - - Young sows	170.1	166.1	2.4
- - - Other sows	223.9	229.2	-2.3
- Boars	i.o.	15.0	
Total	21,184.3	21,223.6	-0.2

 **GERMANY**
Decline in cattle population

Contrary to the pig population, the cattle population continues to decline. Preliminary figures from November 2024 show that the cattle population which stands at 10.5 million head, is 3.5 per cent down on one year ago.

Dairy cows have declined by 3.3 per cent to 3.6 million head.



EU pig meat exports largely unchanged

With the EU Commission as the source, the tables below, which are based on data from Eurostat's database (Comext), show the EU's exports of pig meat by category, importer and exporter for January-October 2024 compared to the same period in 2023.

By category

Tonnes	Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	% change 24:23
Live pigs	67,377	48,837	38
Fresh/frozen	1,601,781	1,656,090	-3
Bacon	186,490	187,632	-1
Processed	362,751	356,998	2
By-products	1,196,323	1,132,922	6
Total	3,414,722	3,382,478	1

Importers of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	% change 24:23
China	920,764	958,364	-4
UK	719,163	718,629	0
Philippines	304,146	236,748	28
Japan	265,738	263,253	1
South Korea	196,633	177,907	11
Vietnam	111,098	97,936	13
USA	88,179	74,960	18
Australia	68,439	66,225	0
Serbia	67,174	56,385	0
Ivory Coast	65,519	64,826	1
Congo	45,609	45,237	1
Hong Kong	40,928	55,099	-26
Others	521,332	566,908	-8
EU-27	3,414,722	3,382,478	1

Exporters of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	% change 24:23
Spain	1,075,489	1,055,327	2
Holland	542,104	575,430	-6
Denmark	505,518	501,127	1
Germany	318,890	272,674	17
France	226,488	215,891	5
Ireland	188,682	198,701	-5
Poland	186,796	175,521	6
Belgium	116,859	108,178	8
Italy	83,143	79,995	4
Austria	42,435	41,897	1
Hungary	29,159	25,771	13
Others	99,159	131,965	-25
EU-27	3,414,722	3,382,478	1



EU

EU Commission expects fall in production and consumption of pig meat in EU until 2035

In its latest medium-term outlook for EU agricultural markets from December, the EU expects a fall in the EU's production and consumption of pig meat until 2035.

The Commission's outlook is for a 0.5 per cent reduction per year until 2035 across the EU-27.

Criticism of intensive production systems, combined with stricter legislation and limited opportunities for increasing exports out of the EU are seen as contributing factors to the production decline. Although African Swine Fever is expected to remain an issue, the Commission does not expect any major and uncontrolled outbreaks.

Pig meat exports are expected to stabilise after 2035.

Consumption of pig meat across the EU is also expected to fall by 0.5 per cent per year until 2035. This is attributed to health, environmental and social factors.

The table below shows the EU Commission's outlook for the EU's market balance for pig meat until 2035.

Carcase weight, 1,000 tonnes	Average 22-24	2025	2030	2035
Net production	21,277	20,711	20,469	20,083
Pig meat imports	112	109	95	88
Pig meat exports	3,310	2,909	2,961	2,972
Consumption	18,079	17,910	17,604	17,198
Consumption per inhabitant (kg)	31.3	30.9	30.5	30.0

As regards beef, the EU Commission expects a continued fall in production until 2035, which will be driven by sustainability issues and more rigorous legislation. Consumption is also expected to fall due to less supply and relatively high prices.

As regards poultry, the Commission expects production to continue to increase, albeit at a lower growth rate than in the previous decade. Production and consumption of poultry is expected to benefit from the healthier image that poultry enjoys and the relatively lower price.



USA

New head of House Agriculture Democrats

Angie Craig, who represents Minnesota, has been selected as new 'ranking Democrat member' on the House Agriculture Committee for the 119th Congress.

According to U.S. media, her election could have a direct impact on the U.S. pig industry for years to come. Her experience from the farming state of Minnesota will bring a practical, agriculture-based perspective to the table. However, the media point out that producers should remain alert to the fact that policies such as environmental regulations and labour standards are likely to be raised under her leadership.



USA

Pig producers disappointed about politicians' failure to reach Prop. 12 solutions

The National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) has again expressed their disappointment that Congress has not adopted a new five-year Farm Bill and put forward solutions to the Californian Proposition 12 legislation.

"After years of losing money and forcing family bleed farms out of business, we needed certainty to make decisions yesterday. Congress's complete regard and inability to adequately provide assurance for producers is sure to make this a bleak holiday season for many farming families," said NPPC's President Lori Stevermer.

According to Stevermer, Prop. 12 means higher operating costs, greater uncertainty and increased consumer prices. Despite the fact that producers have repeatedly raised their concerns, Congress has failed to provide a solution to these critical issues. Instead, Congress has announced its intentions to pass a one-year extension of the 2018 Farm Bill, denying new programmes or funding.

The NPPC, the rest of the US pork industry and the Biden administration have repeatedly called on Congress to pass legislation that could change the consequences of the current Prop 12 law in California.

Prop 12 was adopted by referendum in California. It bans California from selling pig meat from pigs not born and bred in accordance with the state's animal welfare regulations.