

**Documentation of statistics for  
Slaughter Animals and Meat Production 2017 Month 02**

## **1 Introduction**

The purpose of these statistics are to show changes in the size and value of total production of animals for slaughtering and meat analyzed by use. The statistics have a long history and the key figures covering the past 100 years are comparable. During the 1920s and 1930s the statistics were improved, and since the Second World War statistics achieving complete coverage have been compiled.

## **2 Statistical presentation**

The statistics on slaughtering of animals cover all slaughtered animals by Danish slaughterhouses distributed by cattle, pigs, sheep and lambs, poultry, horses and game. The statistics are broken down by category of animals. To this is added the external trade statistics providing data on live animals. The statistics provide information on the number of slaughtered and live animals exported and meat production (the quantity of edible meat in kg). The figures on production only cover meat for human consumption. The statistics also provide data on a wide range of prices and price quotations.

### **2.1 Data description**

The statistics on slaughtering of animals cover all slaughtered animals by Danish slaughterhouses distributed by cattle, pigs, sheep and lambs, poultry, horses and game. The statistics are broken down by category of animals. To this is added the external trade statistics providing data on live animals. The statistics provide information on the number of slaughtered and live animals exported and meat production (the quantity of edible meat in kg). Statistics on livestock received by offal destruction plants are also compiled, but are excluded from the figures covering production and slaughtering as the figures on production only cover meat for human consumption. The statistics also provide data on a wide range of prices and price quotations. For example, average prices per kg slaughtered weight and the sales value in DKK million for each category of livestock. The information is given in the form of totals and time series - for main products data compiled monthly or otherwise quarterly and annually. Data on actual quantities are given, and prices and values are estimated and are included in the product value of agriculture. The current statistics attach importance to the circumstance that quantity and price data are disseminated monthly and/or quarterly. Monthly data are disseminated via Stat Bank Denmark and quarterly via the publications "Jordbrugets prisforhold" and "Animalsk produktion".

### **2.2 Classification system**

The statistics on slaughtering of animals cover all slaughtered animals by Danish slaughterhouses distributed by cattle, pigs, sheep and lambs, poultry, horses and game. The statistics are broken down by category of animals. To this is added the external trade statistics providing data on live animals. The statistics provide information on the number of slaughtered and live animals exported and meat production (the quantity of edible meat in kg).

### **2.3 Sector coverage**

Agricultural sector.

## **2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions**

Poultry Meat: Meat from poultry (slaughtered chickens, hens, ducks, geese and turkeys).

Sheep and Lamb Meat: Meat from sheep and lamb.

Horse Meat: Meat from horses.

For Exports of Live Animal's: Export of live animals (pigs, cattle, sheep, lambs and poultry).

Beef and Veal: Beef and veal from all categories of cattle.

Slaughtering of Animals at Producers: Slaughtering of animals at producers not at a certificated slaughterhouse.

Production of Meat: The production of meat is estimated on the basis of the number of slaughtered animals and average slaughtered weight for each category of animals. The total production of meat comprises meat from recognized slaughtering and the production of edible offal.

Carcass: The term carcass means the body of an animal after slaughter and dressing.

Slaughterhouse: The term slaughterhouse means an officially registered and approved establishment used for slaughtering and dressing animals of which the meat is intended for human consumption.

Carcass Weight: The weight of the slaughtered livestock's cold body.

Pork: Meat from all categories of pigs (pigs, sows, boars, pigs for slaughtering, young female pigs etc.).

Game Meat: Meat from game.

## **2.5 Statistical unit**

The units are number of animals, the average slaughter weight and the average price per kilo of the animal. The production are in million kg and the sales value are in DKK mio.

## **2.6 Statistical population**

All livestock in Denmark, as horses, cattle, pigs, sheep and lambs, poultry and game.

## **2.7 Reference area**

Denmark.

## **2.8 Time coverage**

There are data from 1990 for the yearly data and from 1995 for the monthly data.

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

The units are number of animals, the average slaughter weight and the average price per kilo of the animal. The production are in million kg and the sales value are in DKK mio.

## **2.11 Reference period**

01-02-2017 - 28-02-2017

## **2.12 Frequency of dissemination**

These statistics are published monthly, quarterly and annually.

## **2.13 Legal acts and other agreements**

Law on Statistics Denmark §8 secures the legal ground for collecting the data.

The statistic falls under EU Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics.

## **2.14 Cost and burden**

The response burden is very low as the data are collected from mainly existing sources.

## **2.15 Comment**

Other information is available please contact Statistic Denmark.

## **3 Statistical processing**

The statistics on slaughtering of animals cover all slaughtered animals by Danish slaughterhouses distributed by cattle, pigs, sheep and lambs, poultry, horses and game. The statistics are broken down by category of animals. To this is added the external trade statistics providing data on live animals. The statistics provide information on the number of slaughtered and live animals exported and meat production (the quantity of edible meat in kg). The figures on production only cover meat for human consumption. The statistics also provide data on a wide range of prices and price quotations.

### **3.1 Source data**

The primary data are collected from a wide range of sources. The important data providers are public institutions, trade and industry organizations (Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark) and specifically selected private business enterprises (Danish Agriculture and Food).

Data on external trade are extracted from Statistics Denmark's external trade statistics. The data sources applied are outlined in item 1.2 Statistical Concepts.

### **3.2 Frequency of data collection**

In preparation.

### **3.3 Data collection**

Statistics Denmark compiles statistics on meat with regard to slaughtering of animals on the basis of figures from the Danish Food Industry Agency and the Danish Agriculture and Food (Danish Agriculture and Food is a joint professional and administrative unit for the sector of Danish pork, beef, poultry meat and eggs) providing information on the total number of slaughtered animals at Danish slaughterhouses and abattoirs, while exports of slaughtering of live animals are compiled in the official Danish external trade statistics, supplemented by information from duty funds in agriculture. Slaughtering of animals at producers is roughly estimated.

### **3.4 Data validation**

All data are controlled with former data.

### **3.5 Data compilation**

#### **Production of meat**

The production of meat is estimated on the basis of the number of slaughtered animals and average slaughtered weight for each category of animals. The total production of meat comprises meat from recognized slaughtering and the production of edible offal.

The production with regard to poultry meat is compiled as ready-to-cook weight.

The production of edible fat, which is not contained in the production of meat, is also compiled.

Game and rabbit meat are excluded from the statistics on production and production value of meat, the production of game corresponds roughly to the consumption. The importance of the production and consumption of rabbit meat in Denmark is very low.

#### *Prices and values*

The value of slaughtering is in Denmark compiled on the basis of the quantities produced and the average producer prices that have been achieved. Furthermore, amounts from any schemes with direct payment to the producer on the basis of the production are also included. After 1995, EU grants for cattle and sheep are excluded from the calculation of production values. For exports of live animals, export values (fob) minus costs involved in the sale and transport of animals are applied.

## **Beef and veal**

The production of beef and veal comprises recognized slaughtering at slaughterhouses and abattoirs, exports of slaughtered live animals and slaughtering at the producers. The total number of slaughtering at slaughterhouses and abattoirs is compiled by the Danish Meat Association.

In connection with the weekly data reports forwarded by the Danish slaughterhouse to the Danish Meat Association, comprising 100 pct. of recognized slaughtering, Statistics Denmark receives information on the number of slaughtered animals as well as slaughtered weight the selected groups of animals. On 1 January 1974 and 1 January 1994, the grouping of animals for slaughtering and the definition of slaughtered weight was changed in accordance with EU Council Directives (73/132/EEC) and (93/24/EEC) and Commission Decisions (73/262) and (94/433). The latest amendment as of 1 January 2009 (EU Regulation (EC) Nr. 1165/2008) has only resulted in minor changes.

Animals under 300 kg live weight are regarded as calves. Until 1994, this limit was 220 kg.

During the period 1974-1993, kidneys and kidney fats are included in the weight of carcase, while they are in the period prior to and after 1974-1993 included in edible offal and edible fats, respectively. Edible offal, i.e. livers, hearts, kidneys, tongues, midriffs, head meat, tails, omentum and sweetbread are estimated to reach about 7 pct. of the slaughtered weight.

For exports of live cattle for slaughtering, the meat production is estimated on the basis of the live weight of the animals and a from the slaughtering at the slaughterhouses percentage of the slaughtering for each category of animals in question.

From 1995 live imports for slaughtering has been offset.

The production of edible offal is estimated in the same way as slaughtering at the slaughterhouses.

From 2015 slaughtering at the producers has been estimated to reach 4,000 units by Statistics Denmark. About 1,500 bulls and bull calves, about 1,000 heifers and cow calves and about 1,500 cows. This results in a total of 1.0 mio. kg. In the period 2005 to 2014 slaughtering at the producers has been estimated to reach 6,000 units by Statistics Denmark. About 2,000 bulls and bull calves, about 2,000 heifers and cow calves and about 2,000 suckler cows. This results in a total of 1.2 mio. kg.

### *Prices and values*

Average prices of cattle for slaughtering at the producer and the price quotation for cattle for slaughtering and breeding cattle are provided. For exports of live cattle, the export value (fob) is applied as 20 pct. for breeding animals and 7.5 pct. for slaughtered animals are deducted.

For slaughtering in Denmark, the value is estimated separately for each individual category of animals by applying prices to the producers and weighing of these prices in relation to the classification of animals. Moreover, the amounts, which have been paid directly to the producers on the basis of production, are included. In addition to the direct settlement, a deferred payment has usually been granted.

From 2005, the EU reform implies that most existing premiums have been changed to the one-off payment scheme. The only production-dependent EU grants from 2005 are the male-animal premium, which is reduced by 25 pct. in relation to the 2004 level. The premium values are given in Statistics Denmark's annual publication Landbrug "Agricultural Statistics".

## **Pork**

The production of pork comprises recognized slaughtering at slaughterhouses and abattoirs, exports of live slaughtered animals (including piglets) and slaughtering at producers.

Data on the total number of slaughtering at slaughterhouses and abattoirs are reported by the Danish Veterinary and Foodstuffs Directorate, which are distributed by the following categories: pigs, sows, boars, pigs for slaughtering, young female pigs, for producers (pigs which are to be returned to the producer) and discarded pigs.

Data on the stock of pork are forwarded to Statistics Denmark 4 times every year.

Data on average settlement weights are submitted by the Federation of Danish Pig Producers and Slaughterhouses. The settlement weight reflects the weight of the warm carcase converted into cold slaughtered weight, which accounts for 98.2 pct. of the settlement weight. The slaughtered weight excludes edible offal.

The production of pork, exclusive of edible offal, is estimated on the basis of the average slaughtered weight and the number of pigs. The production of edible offal which comprises livers, hearts, kidneys, tongues and midribs is estimated as 4.25 pct. of the slaughtered weight until 2004 and after 2005 4 pct. is applied.

Data on imports and exports of pigs and pork are compiled by means of extracts from Statistics Denmark's official external trade statistics, supplemented by information from duty funds in agriculture.

For exports of live pigs for slaughtering, the meat production is estimated on the basis of the live weight of the animals and an average exercise rate of 79 pct., which is inclusive of edible offal. The live exports of pigs comprise mainly piglets. In 2007, exports reached 81 pct.

The number of slaughtered animals at the producers is roughly estimated by Statistics Denmark and comprises home slaughtering only, as the slaughtering for own consumption, which on behalf of the producer is carried out at the Danish slaughterhouses, is included in the statistics on slaughtering compiled by the Danish Veterinary and Foodstuffs Directorate. From 2005 the number of slaughtered animals at the producers is fixed at 24,000 pigs annually (corresponding to 1.8 mio. kg of meat), while the number was previously fixed at 220,000 pigs (corresponding to 16.5 mio. kg of meat).

### *Prices and values*

For slaughtered pigs the price quotation of the cooperative slaughterhouses is given, which is a weighted average fixed on a weekly basis. The price quotations are fixed per warm kg of slaughtered weight (settlement weight). Within the weight interval 50 - 109.9 kg of slaughtered pigs paid is settled from a basic price quotation with a varying fixed weight interval (about 70 pct. of the slaughtered pigs), and outside the weight interval of the basic price quotation, weight reductions are undertaken. Prices for pigs are regulated in accordance with the meat percentage. In the case of pigs with a sickness file, allowance for deductions is taken. In addition to the price quotation a deferred payment is usually granted.

The average of price quotations for slaughtered sows, breeding pigs and piglets are given for producer prices of pigs.

For exports of live pigs, the export value (fob) is applied, as 15 pct. is deducted from this value for covering the costs involved in sale and transport of the animals.

For slaughtering in Denmark, the value is separately estimated for 7 groups of animals. The value of slaughtered pigs and sows is estimated on the basis of the average settlement prices to the producers, inclusive of supplements of deferred payment, which are calculated by the Federation of

Danish Pig Producers and Slaughterhouses.

In connection with settlement the deductions that have been made are adjusted. Furthermore, the amounts, which have been directly paid to the producers on the basis of the production, are included.

### **Poultry meat**

The statistics show data on the total number of slaughtering at the poultry slaughterhouses in units and ready-to-cook weight in addition to a classification of the categories: slaughtered chickens, hens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Ready-to-cook weight is analogous with the slaughtered weight of the other species of animals.

Statistics on slaughtering and production (ready-to-cook) of poultry meat at the authorized poultry slaughterhouses and sales on the domestic market, exports and stock changes are compiled by the Danish Poultry Council, which prepares production statistics on the basis of data reported from each individual poultry slaughterhouse. The data reported concerning slaughtering, production and exports are distributed by the different species of poultry. Imports of live poultry meat are compiled by Statistics Denmark in the official external trade statistics.

Data on the slaughtering of poultry at the producers are from 2005 and are estimated at 1.4 mio. kg annually by Statistics Denmark and comprise own consumption of the producers as well as sales directly to the consumers. The figure was previously 5.1 mio. kg.

Statistics on exports and imports of slaughtered poultry distributed by meat of hens and chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys and slaughtered offal are also compiled by Statistics Denmark. The quantities stated are the actual exported quantities in terms of product weight.

#### *Prices and value*

Data on weekly price quotations for slaughtered chickens are collected, which are fixed weekly by private poultry slaughterhouses. The quotation excludes supplements and deductions. For exports of live poultry, the export value (fob) is applied, as 15 pct. are deducted from this value for costs involved in sale and transport of the animals.

For slaughtering in Denmark, the value is estimated separately for groups of poultry (chickens for slaughtering, hens, ducks, geese and turkeys) on the basis of producer prices of the cooperative poultry slaughterhouses (quotations + supplements deductions) and a weighing in relation to the classification. These prices are per kg of live weight, but are converted to apply for the ready-to-cook weight in which the production is estimated.

### **Sheep and lamb meat**

Slaughtering and meat production comprise partly slaughtering at slaughterhouses and abattoirs partly exports of live animals for slaughtering. Slaughtered animals for consumption by the producers are excluded from the figures. About 65 pct. of the slaughtering is carried out in the second half of the year.

The production of sheep and lamb meat is estimated on the basis of data reported by the Danish Food Industry Agency concerning slaughtering of sheep and lamb and by duty funds in agriculture concerning exports of live animals.

#### *Prices and value*

The value of slaughtering in Denmark is estimated on the basis of the slaughtered value and price quotations for sheep and lamb (sales value ex farmer) fixed by the Danish Livestock and Meat



Board. For exports of live animals, the export value (fob) is applied as 15 pct. are deducted from this value for costs involved in sale and transport of the animals. The value of sales of wool is roughly estimated. The ewe premium is excluded from the sales values, in 2006 the ewe premiums reached DKK 5.7 mio and in 2007 DKK 4.9 mio.

**Horse meat** The total production of horse meat comprises recognized slaughtering in Denmark and exports of live horses for slaughtering. The production of meat from slaughtering in Denmark is estimated on the basis of the total number of slaughtered horses and foals and an overall fixed average slaughtered weight for horses and foals of 300 kg per animal. For exports of live horses for slaughtering, the meat production is estimated on the basis of the live weight of the animals and a slaughtering rate of 48 pct.

#### *Prices and value*

The value of slaughtering in Denmark is estimated on the basis of a fixed average live weight of 625 kg per animal and price quotations for horses for slaughtering by the Danish Board of Horse Slaughterhouses. For exports of live animals, the export value (fob) is applied as 15 pct. are deducted from this value for costs involved in sale and transport of the animals.

### **3.6 Adjustment**

The last data can be provisionally, so there can be some small adjustment in these.

## **4 Relevance**

The purpose of these statistics are to show the size and value of the production of animals for slaughtering and meat production.

### **4.1 User Needs**

The most important users are particular EU, DG-AGRI, the ministries, the farmer's organizations, but also students and interested people in general.

### **4.2 User Satisfaction**

There are no examination of the uses satisfaction, but the impression is, that most users are satisfied with the statistics.

### **4.3 Data completeness rate**

The statistics follow the requirement in the i EU-regulation 1165/2008 Statistically over livestock and meatproduction.

## **5 Accuracy and reliability**

The calculations of prices and values are based on partly actual prices on account and partly estimates of the expected deferred amounts paid out by the producer cooperatives and are not realized until the end of the year and thereby may give rise to minor time lags.

### **5.1 Overall accuracy**

Detailed statistics are compiled for quantities of slaughtering. The data on prices and values may be subject to minor time lags.

### **5.2 Sampling error**

Not relevant for these statistics.

### **5.3 Non-sampling error**

In preparation.

### **5.4 Quality management**

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

### **5.5 Quality assurance**

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

### **5.6 Quality assessment**

Detailed statistics are compiled for quantities of slaughtering. The data on prices and values may be subject to minor time lags.

### **5.7 Data revision - policy**

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

### **5.8 Data revision practice**

There is a negligible difference between provisional and final figures.

## **6 Timeliness and punctuality**

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

## **6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results**

The monthly tables in Stat Bank Denmark are compiled the 15 every month and the figures is from the previous month. As an example data from January month are publish the 15 March.

## **6.2 Punctuality**

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

## **7 Comparability**

Every month and year figures are submitted to the statistical office of EU, Euro stat. Data for all EU countries can be found in the [Eurostat database](#) The statistics are produced following the principles of an EU regulation, so the results are comparable.

### **7.1 Comparability - geographical**

Every month and year figures are submitted to the statistical office of EU, Euro stat. Data for all EU countries can be found in the [Eurostat database](#) .

### **7.2 Comparability over time**

For main results long data time series can be compiled. Over the years minor definitional changes have been made, e.g. kidneys and kidney fats are now classified to edible offal. However, it will be possible to conduct some calculations on the basis of a common denominator.

### **7.3 Coherence - cross domain**

The trade organization, e.g. Danish Slaughterhouses compiles comprehensive statistics and some statistics are published by business enterprises.

### **7.4 Coherence - internal**

In preparation.

## **8 Accessibility and clarity**

New month figures for slaughtering of pigs and cattle are published in Statbank Denmark, for slaughtering of poultry every quarter and yearly figures for all. Annual figures are included in [Statistical Yearbook](#) and [Statistical Ten-Year review](#) Old data are included in yearly publication [Landbrug](#) (Explaining, methodological text is in Danish only) and [Landbrugsstatistik 1900-1965](#)

### **8.1 Release calendar**

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

## 8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

## 8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 9:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published. Theme publications etc. may be published at other times of the day. The National Statistician can decide that such publications may be released before their official publication time, e.g. to the media and other stakeholders.

## 8.4 News release

There are not an individual press releases for this data.

## 8.5 Publications

Annual figures are included in [Statistical Yearbook](#)

## 8.6 On-line database

See emnesiden [Animalskproduktion](#) and emnesiden [Priser og prisindeks for jordbrug](#).

Publish in Stat bank Denmark.

- [ANI41: Slaughterings and production of cattle by category and unit \(month\)](#)
- [ANI51: Slaughterings and production of pigs by category and unit \(month\)](#)
- [ANI61: Slaughterings and production of poultry by category and unit \(quarter\)](#)

Year tables:

- [ANI4: Slaughterings and production of cattle by category and unit \(year\)](#)
- [ANI5: Slaughterings and production of pigs by category and unit \(year\)](#)
- [ANI6: Slaughterings and production of poultry by category and unit \(year\)](#)

Annual figures are included in Statistical Yearbook and Statistical Ten-Year review.

## 8.7 Micro-data access

There is no micro-data access.

## 8.8 Other

Data for all EU countries can be found in the [Eurostat database](#).

### **8.9 Confidentiality - policy**

In the compilation of data, the confidentiality policy of Statistics Denmark is followed [Datafortrolighedspolitik](#).

### **8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment**

In the compilation of the figures, the confidentiality policy of Statistics Denmark is followed. [Datafortrolighedspolitik](#).

### **8.11 Documentation on methodology**

See various passages in the yearly publication Landbrug. [Agriculture](#) (Explaining, methodological text is in Danish only).

### **8.12 Quality documentation**

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

## **9 Contact**

The administrative placement of these statistics are in the division of Food Industries. The person responsible is Mona Larsen, tel. + 45 39 17 33 99, e-mail: [mla@dst.dk](mailto:mla@dst.dk)

### **9.1 Contact organisation**

Statistics Denmark

### **9.2 Contact organisation unit**

Food Industry, Business Statistics

### **9.3 Contact name**

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### **9.4 Contact person function**

Responsible for the statistics

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