

# MARKET NEWS for pig meat



Market analysis

21 May 2024

Week 21

## MARKET SITUATION

**Europe:** Legs are being traded at increasing prices this week. Other cuts are being traded at unchanged or slightly rising prices.

**UK:** Sales are stable.

**Markets outside Europe:** Good demand, with contracts being signed at increasing prices.

## Slaughtering in Denmark

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

	Week 17	Week 18	Week 19	Weeks 1-19 2024:23
Carcase weight >110 kg	13,618	10,958	8,564	+51.8%
Carcase weight <110 kg	297,622	254,287	185,496	-8.1%
Total	311,240	265,245	194,060	-6.1%



USA

## Futures

Chicago (\$ per 100 lbs carcase weight)	Lean Hog			Pork Cutout		
	17/5	10/5	Change	17/5	10/5	Change
<b>2024</b>						
Jun	96.50	98.38	-1.88	103.50	104.90	-1.40
Jul	100.05	101.45	-1.40	107.95	108.20	-0.25
Aug	99.48	100.58	-1.10	108.30	108.55	-0.25
Oct	83.98	84.70	-0.72	94.55	94.80	-0.25
Dec	76.75	77.03	-0.28	90.90	90.73	0.17
<b>2025</b>						
Feb	80.85	81.10	-0.25	93.73	93.55	0.18
Apr	85.00	84.90	0.10	97.00	97.00	0.00
May	89.00	88.93	0.07	103.60	103.60	0.00
Jun	95.00	94.83	0.17	104.60	104.60	0.00
Jul	95.73	95.60	0.13	106.35	106.35	0.00
Aug	94.80	94.48	0.32	106.68	106.68	0.00
Oct	79.20			92.93		

Conversion factors:  
1 lb = 0.4536 kg

1 \$ = DKK 6.8808
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EU

### 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 and North Macedonia.

Countries	Period 27 April-5 May		Year to date 1 Jan - 5 May		2023		2022	
	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar
Estonia				4	2	53		57
Latvia		5		258	8	730	6	913
Lithuania		15		242	3	439	16	302
Poland		19		715	30	2,744	14	2,152
Italy				641	17	1,047	4	277
Ukraine			9	8	37	9	7	2
Czech Republic		1		8		56		1
Romania	2		38	95	740	292	329	465
Hungary		6		188		407		550
Bulgaria			1	447	3	322	2	387
Slovakia		1		62		546	5	550
Serbia			30	69	991	213	107	146
Moldova			2	6	19	6	14	3
Montenegro				1				
Bosnia-Herzegovina			19	41	1,508	22		
Croatia				39	1,124	11		
North Macedonia			3	33	15	41	30	9
Kosovo					9	4		
Belgium								
Germany				77	1	899	3	1,628
Sweden				1		60		
Greece			3	14	6	2		
Albania				2				
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>4,513</b>	<b>7,903</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>7,442</b>



CHINA

### Agriculture Minister under investigation for potential corruption

China's Agriculture Minister, Tang Renjian, has been removed from the leadership roster on the ministry's website and is under investigation for potential corruption, reports Reuters.

According to the analysts who spoke to Reuters, they do not expect the minister's removal to cause major changes to China's food security goals, but it may delay their implementation.

China has drawn up self-sufficiency targets for a number of food products. Earlier this year, China's Agriculture Ministry reduced its target for the number of sows in the country from 41 million head to 39 million.

The latest pig population census from the end of March put the country's sow population at 39.92 million.



**UK**

### **New law bans the export of live pigs for slaughter and fattening**

In the UK, a new law banning the export of live pigs for fattening and slaughtering came into effect on 20 May. The export of animals for breeding and competition is still allowed.

In a press release from the British Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Environment Secretary Steve Barclay said:

"We're proud to have some of the highest welfare standards in the world. Our new law makes use of post-Brexit freedoms to deliver one of our manifesto commitments and strengthens these standards even further by preventing the export of live animals for slaughter and fattening, which we know causes animals unnecessary stress and injury."

British animal welfare groups have expressed strong support for the new legislation.



**BRAZIL**

### **12,600 pigs perish in the floods in Rio Grande do Sul**

The severe flooding in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul has cost the lives of 12,600 pigs, reports Reuters. However, with a pig population of almost 5 million pigs, the number of dead pigs as a direct result of the flooding is limited.

It was announced a couple of weeks ago that 12 poultry slaughterhouses and five pig slaughterhouses had been affected by the shortage of pigs for slaughter due to flooded roads, etc.

According to the state's pig producers' organisation, 30 farms have been directly hit by the floods. However, the floods have also indirectly caused losses for a number of farms due to blocked roads and limited access to feed and drinking water.

The Brazilian Animal Protein Association, ABPA, states that the floods have also had a negative impact on the export of pig meat from the major Brazilian port in the state, Rio Grande. It normally ships 9 per cent of Brazil's total pig meat exports but has been affected by blocked roads and train lines to the port terminal.



**RUSSIA**

### **Export of Russian pig meat to China remains in its infancy**

Russian exports of pig meat to China remain in their infancy, according to statements from the chair of the Russian Union of Pork Producers (RUPP), Yuri Kovalev, who is quoted in Pig Progress.

According to Kovalev, it would be a good start if 15,000-25,000 tonnes of Russian pig meat were to land in the Chinese market by the end of this year. Earlier this year, a Russian official stated that the outlook was for 30,000-35,000 tonnes of pig meat to be exported to China this year.

So far, only three Russian companies have been approved for pig meat exports to China, with exports primarily limited to by-products.

A Russian trade mission visited Beijing in April and held meetings with the Chinese authorities. At meetings in Beijing, the mission emphasised the need to expand the list of items for export.

RUPP hopes that the structure of exports will change in the future so at least 50 per cent will come from various cuts of meat.



**USA**

### **USDA forecasts rising American pig meat production in 2025**

Last week, the USDA published their latest Outlook Report with their forecast for the production of various meat types in 2024 and 2025.

As regards pig meat, the USDA continues to expect that U.S. production for 2024 will be 2.4 per cent higher than in 2023. For 2025, the USDA expects a further rise in production of 1.2 per cent.

The table below shows the USDA's outlook for quarterly pig slaughtering (in million lbs) in 2024 compared to 2023.

Pig meat million lbs	2023	Outlook 2024	% change 2024:23	Outlook 2025	% change 2025:24
Q1	7,071	7,094	0.3	<b>7,180</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Q2	6,593	<b>6,690</b>	<b>1.5</b>		
Q3	6,490	<b>6,820</b>	<b>5.1</b>		
Q4	7,148	<b>7,460</b>	<b>4.4</b>		
Hele året	27,302	<b>28,064</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>1.2</b>

The table below shows the USDA's outlook for U.S. production of various meat types in 2024 and 2025.

As can be seen, a decline in beef production is expected in both 2024 and 2025. However, a rise in pig meat and chicken production is expected for the two years under review.

Million lbs	2023	Outlook 2024	% change 2024:23	Outlook 2025	% change 2025:24
Pig meat	27,302	<b>28,064</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Beef	26,967	<b>26,595</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>25,120</b>	<b>-5.5</b>
Chicken	46,387	<b>46,805</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>47,550</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Turkey	5,457	<b>5,214</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>5,320</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Lamb and mutton	131	<b>135</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>-1.5</b>



## USA

### Clemens Food acquires processing company in Pennsylvania

The major pork integrator, Clemens Food, the U.S.'s fifth largest pig slaughterhouse, has acquired the processing company, Kunzler & Co., in Pennsylvania.

The purchase means that Clemens acquires three pork processing plants from Kunzler – one plant in Lancaster and two in Tyrone. Kunzler is a 123-year-old family-owned business. It sells processed products such as hot dogs, bacon, ham products, etc and has an estimated annual turnover of USD 150 million.

Clemens Food is also a well-established family business founded in 1895. It employs a workforce of 5,000. The company says that it has the same values as Kunzler and has no plans to market Kunzler's products under other brands than the current ones.

Clemens has made a name for itself by – unlike other major pig slaughterhouses in the U.S. – declaring its support for the new Proposition 12 legislation. The company has invested considerable capital and time in upgrading the company's facilities and in training pig producers so that production can meet Proposition 12 legislation.



## USA

### Largest pig producers

With the American Successful Farming as the source, the table below shows America's largest pig producers (measured according to the number of sows), i.e. with more than 25,000 sows.

Together, these pig producers – with more than 25,000 sows – have 69 per cent of the country's breeding population, states Successful Farming.

Moreover, this is the first time since 2010 for a decline in the total number of sows to be seen among the U.S.' largest pig producers. The decline of 17,348 sows – corresponding to 0.4 per cent – should be seen against the background of 2023 being an economically tough year for U.S. pig producers.

According to calculations from Iowa State University, U.S. pig producers on average lost USD 31.47 per pig in 2023.

Sows	Producer	2023	2022	Absolute change
Søer (stk.)	Producent	2023	2022	Absolut ændring
1	Smithfield/WH Group	810.000	885.000	-75.000
2	Triumph Foods, herunder: - Christensen Farms 140.000 - Hanor Company 82.500 - Allied Producers 67.585 - Eichelberger Farms 62.500 - New Fashion Pork 57.000	409.565	403.304	6.261
3	Pipestone System	390.682	330.070	60.612
4	Seaboard Foods	336.000	364.000	-28.000
5	Iowa Select Farms	250.000	250.000	-
6	JBS USA	239.358	246.000	-6.642
7	Carthage System	180.400	180.400	-
8	Prestage Farms	175.000	180.000	-5.000
9	AMVC Management Services	168.000	155.000	13.000
10	The Maschhoffs	135.000	150.000	-15.000
11	Clemens Country View	115.421	105.000	10.421
12	Pillen Family Farms	78.000	78.000	-
13	Schwartz Farms	73.500	73.500	-
14	Tyson Foods	73.000	77.000	-4.000
15	Holden Farms	72.000	72.000	-
16	Reicks View Farms	62.000	62.000	-
17	Wakefield Pork	56.300	56.300	-
18	Brenneman Pork	50.000	43.500	6.500
19	Hord Family Farms LLC	45.000	30.000	15.000
20	Fine Swine	40.000	33.000	7.000
21	Protein Sources	39.000	43.000	-4.000
22	Tosh Farms	38.000	37.000	1.000
23	Standard Nutrition Services	38.000	38.000	-
24	TDM Farms	35.000	35.000	-
25	Sietsma Farms	35.000	36.500	-1.500
26	Livingston Enterprise	35.000	35.000	-
27	Suidae Health & Production	34.000	27.500	6.500
28	Cooper Farms	33.200	34.300	-1.100
29	Cactus Feeders	33.000	33.000	-
30	Great Plains Management	31.000	31.000	-
31	Kalmbach Feeds	27.500	27.500	-
32	VMC Management	26.450	29.850	-3.400
<b>Total</b>		<b>4.164.376</b>	<b>4.181.724</b>	<b>-17.348</b>

In addition to the U.S., Smithfields' sows are also distributed across Mexico, Poland, and Romania while Pipestone also has sows in China and Mexico.

## DENMARK

### Denmark's pig meat exports January-February 2024

Tonnes	By-products	Live pigs	Processed Canned	Bacon	Cuts	Sausages	Total	Per cent
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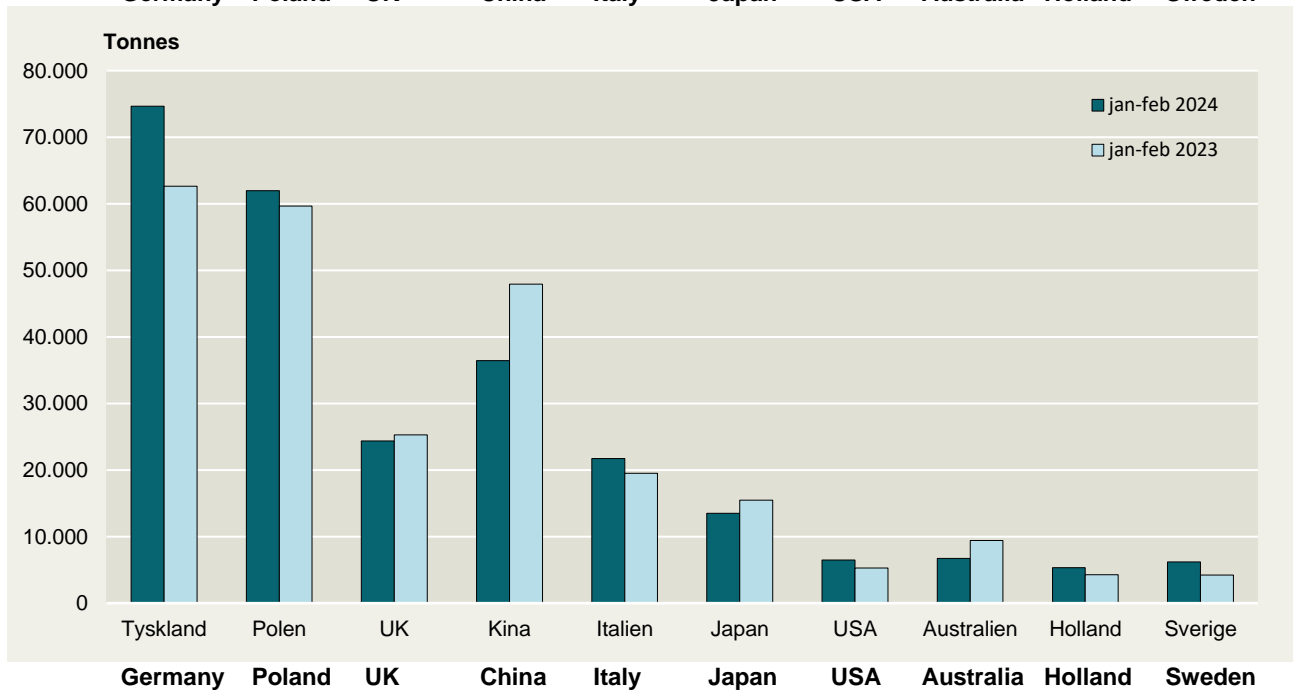
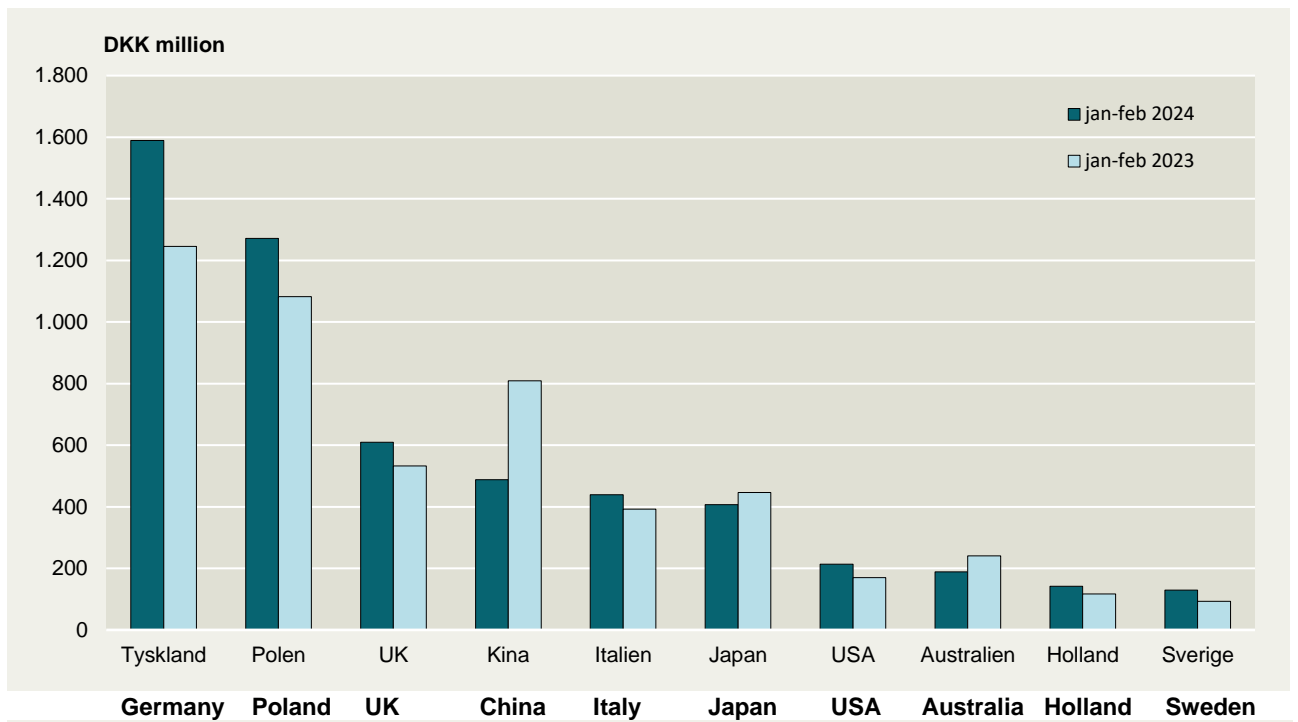
					Whole and half pigs/sows				
Germany	2,870	36,806	1,458	13	12,952	19,717	866	74,681	23.9
Poland	298	36,358	3	2	20	25,291	2	61,974	19.8
Italy	470	2,949	56	17	79	18,075	58	21,703	6.9
Holland	1,213	2,749	76	2	0	1,974	168	6,182	2.0
Sweden	1,777	5	213	359	1	2,314	666	5,334	1.7
France	426	161	201	31	0	3,039	130	3,989	1.3
Romania	49	126	28	0	0	3,704	1	3,908	1.2
Spain	1	1,922	210	0	0	886	374	3,393	1.1
Other EU countries	2,719	2,762	543	533	0	13,421	602	20,580	6.6
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>9,823</b>	<b>83,839</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>13,052</b>	<b>88,419</b>	<b>2,866</b>	<b>201,745</b>	<b>64.5</b>
China	25,783	0	32	0	0	10,603	35	36,452	11.7
UK	485	9	1,832	9,321	488	10,406	1,834	24,375	7.8
Japan	217	0	1,008	0	0	12,073	220	13,518	4.3
Australia	74	0	81	0	0	6,578	9	6,741	2.2
Philippines	2,816	0	327	0	0	3,507	0	6,650	2.1
USA	781	0	1,432	0	0	4,104	175	6,492	2.1
Malaysia	117	8	55	0	0	3,102	0	3,282	1.0
South Korea	230	0	348	0	0	2,030	37	2,646	0.8
Taiwan	576	0	16	0	0	1,143	16	1,751	0.6
Other 3rd countries	1,326	1,321	2,190	270	0	2,938	998	9,044	2.9
<b>3rd countries, total</b>	<b>32,404</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>7,321</b>	<b>9,591</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>56,483</b>	<b>3,325</b>	<b>110,951</b>	<b>35.5</b>
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>42,228</b>	<b>85,178</b>	<b>10,109</b>	<b>10,549</b>	<b>13,541</b>	<b>144,902</b>	<b>6,191</b>	<b>312,696</b>	<b>100</b>

## 2023

Tonnes	By-products	Live pigs	Processed Canned	Bacon	Whole and half pigs/sows	Cuts	Sausages	Total	Per cent
Germany	2,319	28,489	1,660	26	11,379	17,794	963	62,631	20.8
Poland	734	32,764	3	0	0	26,152	3	59,656	19.8
Italy	345	3,116	53	9	55	15,859	83	19,521	6.5
Sweden	1,296	58	301	231	2	1,715	668	4,271	1.4
Holland	1,112	1,521	73	2	0	1,386	131	4,226	1.4
Romania	66	156	40	0	0	3,844	0	4,107	1.4
France	457	113	164	38	0	2,943	156	3,871	1.3
Spain	55	1,667	181	23	0	1,267	241	3,433	1.1
Other EU countries	1,993	2,490	520	328	187	9,255	600	15,373	5.1
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>8,379</b>	<b>70,375</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>11,624</b>	<b>80,215</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>177,089</b>	<b>58.8</b>
China	25,551	0	47	0	0	22,287	47	47,932	15.9
UK	455	7	1,469	9,049	772	11,769	1,775	25,296	8.4
Japan	288	0	738	0	0	14,192	272	15,491	5.1
Australia	0	0	106	0	0	9,324	0	9,430	3.1
USA	692	0	1,191	11	0	3,231	179	5,303	1.8
Philippines	2,099	2	82	0	0	1,355	20	3,558	1.2
South Korea	65	0	268	0	0	2,512	38	2,883	1.0
Taiwan	255	3	18	0	0	2,223	17	2,516	0.8
Malaysia	105	0	86	0	0	2,212	0	2,402	0.8
Other 3rd countries	1,823	627	1,268	233	1	4,469	739	9,159	3.0
<b>3rd countries, total</b>	<b>31,333</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>5,272</b>	<b>9,293</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>73,574</b>	<b>3,088</b>	<b>123,971</b>	<b>41.2</b>
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>39,712</b>	<b>71,014</b>	<b>8,268</b>	<b>9,949</b>	<b>12,397</b>	<b>153,789</b>	<b>5,932</b>	<b>301,061</b>	<b>100</b>

Top 10 importers of Danish pig eat measured by value

Country	Jan-Feb 2024		Jan-Feb 2023	
	Value in DKK million	Tonnes	Value in DKK million	Tonnes
Germany	1,590	74,681	1,246	62,631
Poland	1,271	61,974	1,083	59,656
UK	610	24,375	533	25,296
China	488	36,452	809	47,932
Italy	439	21,703	393	19,521
Japan	407	13,518	446	15,491
USA	213	6,492	170	5,303
Australia	188	6,741	241	9,430
Holland	141	5,334	117	4,271
Sweden	130	6,182	93	4,226
<b>Top 10 total</b>	<b>5,477</b>	<b>257,453</b>	<b>5,129</b>	<b>253,757</b>
Other countries	1,297	55,243	1,123	47,303
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,774</b>	<b>312,696</b>	<b>6,252</b>	<b>301,061</b>




**JAPAN**
**Development in pig meat storage**

The table below shows the development in pig meat storage in Japan until the end of March 2024.

Tonnage	Own production		Imported amounts		Total storage
	Fresh	Frozen	Fresh	Frozen	
End January 21	368	22,065	8,872	151,259	182,564
End February 21	353	22,522	8,912	152,487	184,274
End marts 21	444	23,660	11,726	146,154	181,984
End April 21	483	25,110	9,922	149,121	184,636
End May 21	415	25,437	9,863	149,760	185,475
End June 21	414	24,876	9,688	152,751	187,729
End July 21	428	23,498	11,381	149,262	184,569
End August 21	397	22,491	10,986	154,587	188,461
End September 21	433	21,495	11,242	154,249	187,419
End October 21	460	20,899	10,587	150,861	182,807
End November 21	428	21,176	11,010	143,741	176,355
End December 21	561	22,351	9,240	136,436	168,588
End January 22	463	22,763	11,477	142,569	177,272
End February 22	471	22,690	12,061	143,974	179,196
End March 22	623	23,378	12,410	143,684	180,095
End April 22	529	21,703	12,601	157,379	192,212
End May 22	390	22,052	8,210	168,749	199,401
End June 22	469	20,684	11,364	180,913	213,430
End July 22	500	20,479	10,554	189,497	221,300
End August 22	495	19,870	12,013	195,953	228,331
End September 22	351	19,020	10,493	193,979	223,843
End October 22	808	18,890	9,606	186,501	215,805
End November 22	1.015	17,736	13,653	181,903	214,307
End December 22	1.159	18,657	10,793	174,620	205,229
End January 23	814	17,724	11,067	177,599	207,204
End February 23	782	19,123	11,214	177,907	209,026
End March 23	1.016	19,216	12,909	176,663	209,804
End April 23	1.070	19,503	12,096	191,949	224,618
End May 23	1.047	19,146	14,590	209,312	244,095
End June 23	978	18,608	13,751	211,457	244,794
End July 23	969	19,789	11,542	208,525	240,825
End August 23	867	29,165	13,596	204,108	238,736
End September 23	1.045	20,407	9,463	194,014	224,929
End October 23	930	18,759	10,827	181,985	212,501
End November 23	945	19,209	13,058	171,195	204,407
End December 23	1.437	19,944	11,764	158,356	191,501
End January 24	549	20,287	13,292	159,880	194,008
End February 24	578	20,861	12,454	153,232	187,125
End March 24	614	22,503	12,269	153,850	189,236