

MARKET NEWS for pig meat



Market analysis

26 February 2024

Week 9

MARKET SITUATION

Europe: Legs and other cuts are being traded at largely unchanged price levels this week.

UK: Sales are stable. Day-to-day trading is showing slightly increasing prices.

China: Very quiet trading continues. **Japan:** demand is stable. **Other Asian markets:** demand is subdued.

Slaughtering in Denmark

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

	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 1-6 2024:23
Carcass weight >110 kg	19,691	19,111	17,519	+66.0%
Carcass weight <110 kg	274,685	270,475	274,904	-21.8%
Total	294,376	289,586	292,423	-18.9%

USA

Futures

Chicago (\$ per 100 lbs carcass weight)	Lean Hog			Pork Cutout		
	23/2	16/2	Change	23/2	16/2	Change
2024						
Apr	87.20	82.23	4.97	93.23	91.50	1.73
May	90.85	88.85	2.00	99.35	97.63	1.72
Jun	99.38	97.75	1.63	105.85	104.13	1.72
Jul	100.20	98.63	1.57	107.60	105.88	1.72
Aug	99.63	98.08	1.55	106.73	104.88	1.85
Oct	84.43	83.98	0.45	98.53	96.68	1.85
Dec	76.15	75.95	0.20	91.98	92.00	-0.02
2025						
Feb	78.80	78.73	0.07	94.80	94.83	-0.03
Apr	81.95	82.20	-0.25	100.65	100.68	-0.03
May	88.20	88.40	-0.20	107.25	107.28	-0.03
Jun	91.83	92.45	-0.62	109.98	110.00	-0.02
Jul	92.25	93.50	-1.25	111.73	111.75	-0.02

Conversion factors:
1 lb. = 0.4536 kg

1 \$ = DKK
6.8806

CHINA

Futures

Dalian (Yuan per kg)	Pigs					
	4/12	11/12	18/12	26/12	30/1	Change 30/1-26/12
March 2024	13.52	14.22	14.42	14.05	14.12	0.07
May 2024	14.60	15.25	15.36	15.28	14.89	-0.39
July 2024	15.72	16.23	16.33	16.15	15.84	-0.31
September 2024	16.94	17.29	17.33	17.06	16.77	-0.29
November 2024	17.30	17.39	17.33	17.21	16.85	-0.36
January 2025					16.88	

Conversion factors:
1 Y = DKK 0.9560
1Y = EUR 0.13

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 10 Feb-17 Feb		Year to date 1 Jan - 17 Feb		2023		2022	
	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar
Estonia				3	2	53		57
Latvia		11		100	8	730	6	913
Lithuania		1		84	3	439	16	302
Poland		16		240	30	2,744	14	2,152
Italy		85		245	17	1,047	4	277
Ukraine	1		4	2	37	9	7	2
Czech Republic				1		56		1
Romania	2	10	15	66	740	292	329	465
Hungary		8		86		407		550
Bulgaria		7		193	3	322	2	387
Slovakia		8		24		546	5	550
Serbia	1	2	20	15	991	213	107	146
Moldova				1	19	6	14	3
Montenegro				1				
Bosnia-Herzegovina	4	8	10	26	1,508	22		
Croatia		4		10	1,124	11		
North Macedonia	1	18	1	29	15	41	30	9
Kosovo					9	4		
Belgium								
Germany		4		34	1	899	3	1,628

Sweden						60		
Greece	1	3	2	8	6	2		
Albania		1		1				
Total	10	186	52	1,169	4,513	7,903	537	7,442

CANADA

Pig census 1 January

Last week, the authorities in Canada published the results of the pig census conducted on 1 January 2024.

The census shows a 1.0 per cent decline in the total population. This covers a decline in the piglet and finisher population of 0.9 per cent while the breeding herd fell by 2.3 per cent.

'000 head	1 Jan 2024	1 Jan 2023	% change 2024:2023
Breeding herd	1,215.7	1,243.7	-2.3
Piglets and finishers	12,549.3	12,661.3	-0.9
Total	13,765.0	13,905.0	-1.0

The decline is most significant in the east of the country where the pig population in Quebec fell by 4.8 per cent. However, the population in Manitoba in central Canada increased by 2.4 per cent.

There were 7,000 pig farms in Canada on 1 January 2024. This is a decline of 2.2 per cent compared to one year ago when the number of pig farms stood at 7,160.

Canadian pig slaughtering rose by 1.0 per cent to 10.9 million in the second half of 2023.

Exports of live pigs from Canada amounted to 3.4 million in the second half year 2023. This is a rise of 7.4 per cent compared to the same period the previous year, reports Statistics Canada.

CHINA

Sow population 6.9 per cent lower than one year ago

The sow population in China continues to fall.

According to Reuters, which quotes figures from China's Agriculture Ministry, China's sow population stood at 40.67 million at the end of January. This is a fall of 6.9 per cent compared to one year ago.

USA

Secretary of Agriculture calls for action against Proposition 12 in California

At a Congress hearing last week, the US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack called for Congress to pass legislation that could repeal California's higher animal welfare legislation, the so-called Proposition 12.

According to Vilsack, the Californian legislation is causing chaos in the U.S. meat market.

The pork industry previously called on Congress to repeal California's Prop 12 through federal legislation. The Biden administration also supports such legislation.

However, U.S. media are doubtful whether a majority can be found in Congress to block the new Californian legislation.

 **BRAZIL**
Pig slaughtering increased by 1.5 per cent in 2023

Figures from the Brazilian authorities show that Brazilian pig slaughtering in 2023 rose by 1.5 per cent to 56.8 million.

Increased carcass weight triggered an increase in tonnage of 2.3 per cent to 5.3 million tonnes in 2023.

Pig meat exports for 2023 totalled 1.2 million tonnes – a rise of 9.8 per cent compared to 2022.

This resulted in largely unchanged consumption of 4.1 million tonnes in the Brazilian domestic market, which correspond to around 20 kg per inhabitant.

 **GERMANY**
German pig slaughtering fell by 7 per cent in 2023

With AMI as the source, the following table shows the development in Germany's pig slaughtering for 2015-2023.

Total German pig slaughtering in 2023 fell by 7 per cent to 43.9 million, which means the unbroken downward trend in slaughtering since 2016 continues. The fall was particularly marked in 2022 and 2023 when slaughtering fell by 9 and 7 per cent. In the previous years, slaughtering fell by 2-3 per cent.

The fall in slaughtering in 2022 and 2023 can exclusively be attributed to a fall in German domestic pig production. Following a sharply downward trend from 2016, the number of imported finishers increased slightly in both 2022 and 2023.

Year	Total slaughtering	German finishers	Imported finishers	% imported
2015	59,435,349	55,161,102	4,274,247	7.2
2016	59,480,468	54,826,352	4,654,116	7.8
2017	58,408,370	54,471,535	3,936,835	6.7
2018	56,895,229	53,669,851	3,225,378	5.7
2019	55,194,809	51,872,797	3,322,012	6.0
2020	53,376,865	51,088,245	2,288,620	4.3
2021	51,874,641	50,717,566	1,157,075	2.2
2022	47,169,097	45,929,635	1,239,462	2.6
2023	43,871,667	42,390,786	1,480,881	3.4
% change 23:22	-7.0	-7.7	19.5	

German pig meat production in 2023 totalled 4.2 million tonnes – a decline of 6.8 per cent compared to 2022.

German beef production in 2023 rose by 0.6 per cent to almost 1.0 million. German poultry production rose in 2023 by 1.4 per cent to 1.6 million tonnes.

Overall, German meat production thus fell by 4.0 per cent to 6.8 million tonnes in 2023. In 2016, production stood at 8.25 million tonnes.

Pig meat exports fell by 19 per cent in Jan-Nov 2023

With the EU Commission as the source, the following tables show EU pig meat exports by category, importers and exporters for January-November 2023 compared to the same period in 2022.

Exports are stated in product weight and include the UK as a third market country.

By category

Tonnes	Jan-Nov 2023	Jan-Nov 2022	% change 23:22
Live pigs	53,066	50,853	4
Fresh/frozen	1,841,594	2,578,304	-29
Bacon	210,472	215,970	-3
Processed	407,802	438,699	-7
By-products	1,245,406	1,337,117	-7
Total	3,758,340	4,620,943	-19

Importers of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Nov 2023	Jan-Nov 2022	% change 23:22
China	1,062,436	1,367,629	-22
UK	799,870	789,460	1
Japan	294,051	370,286	-21
Philippines	257,539	384,195	-33
South Korea	202,795	265,702	-24
Vietnam	108,842	84,995	28
USA	83,689	113,194	-26
Australia	74,041	120,351	-38
Ivory Coast	73,312	91,336	-20
Serbia	64,665	73,147	-12
Hongkong	60,548	69,102	-12
Others	676,552	891,546	-24
EU-27	3,758,340	4,620,943	-19

Exporters of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Nov 2023	Jan-Nov 2022	% change 23:22
Spain	1,180,626	1,446,085	-18
Holland	640,931	773,257	-17
Denmark	555,646	790,154	-30
Germany	302,901	364,289	-17
France	237,106	270,815	-12
Poland	217,391	272,124	-20
Ireland	194,035	227,072	-15
Belgium	119,857	115,407	4
Italy	88,007	90,083	-2
Austria	46,287	54,316	-15
Others	175,553	217,341	-19
EU-27	3,758,340	4,620,943	-19